



Heritage News

Celebrating Over 200 Years of History

The Newsletter of Heritage Mississauga

Fall 2008
Vol. 21/Issue 3
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Celebrating The Native History of Mississauga at the 2008 Heritage Ball

By Darrel Carvalho, Heritage Ball Chair

Heritage Mississauga, one of Canada's most respected civic heritage organizations has a mandate to research, record, and communicate Mississauga's heritage. Over the years, we have developed extensive educational programs, prepared ground-breaking publications (such as the recent, highly acclaimed *Mississauga: The First 10,000 Years* and *In the Footsteps of the Mississaugas*). As well, we have promoted diversity, raised funds for local landmarks, and advocated for the preservation of architectural and natural heritage.

Annually, the Board works with various communities in Mississauga to identify and fund a heritage conservation project. The project to be funded will be the beneficiary of this our second Annual Heritage Ball. We are pleased to announce that proceeds from the 2008 Heritage Ball will construct a commemorative garden honouring the Mississaugas of the Credit, who had a settlement on the lands where the Mississaugua Golf and Country Club is located. It is therefore also appropriate that the Ball will be held at this elegant venue on Saturday, November 15, 2008.

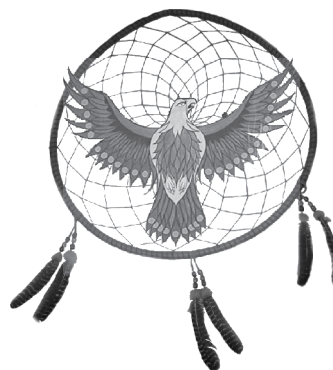
Late last year we were called with the news that the Ontario Heritage Trust plaque honouring the Mississaugas of the Credit and the Village settlement built on the Golf Club site between 1826 and 1847 and located at the entrance to the Mississaugua Golf and Country Club was missing and presumably stolen. It would have been very unfortunate if the memory of the earliest settlers - the First Nations people, was erased by this unthoughtful act, hence the replacement of the plaque was imperative and became the worthy cause for this year's Heritage Ball.

The Ball will be a Black Tie event and will include dinner and dancing. The event will bring together politicians, businesses and other heritage enthusiasts in the community to raise funds to support Mississauga's heritage projects. We appreciate the support of our Honourary Patron the Honourable Lincoln Alexander, former Lieutenant Governor of Ontario. Mr. Alexander is currently the Chairman of the Ontario Heritage Trust, the province's lead heritage agency. He was appointed Chair in April 2004 and is passionate about heritage conservation in Ontario. We are also delighted that Mayor Hazel McCallion is our honourary guest at this event and welcome our Master of Ceremonies Publisher of the Mississauga News, Mr. Ron Lenyk, a dedicated supporter of the preservation of heritage in Mississauga.

Tickets are \$250.00 and can be purchased by calling Heritage Mississauga office at 905-828-8411 ext "0". Also call us if you are interested in arranging sponsorship for the Ball, or assisting with our planning and preparations for the event, or call our offices to volunteer for one of our projects or committees.

At Heritage Mississauga, we recognize that successful execution of our mandate requires the support and commitment of our community at large. To date, the Board, numerous volunteers, university and high school students, and our professional staff have been working to showcase Mississauga's rich and varied heritage. We intend to build connections, alliances, partnerships with all organizations and community groups who are interested in preserving heritage. To volunteer and/or get a further look at our work, please stop by our offices at the Robinson - Adamson House (The Grange) at 1921 Dundas St. West, Mississauga or contact us via our website (www.heritagemississauga.com).

At the Grange, Heritage Mississauga provides a public Heritage Resource Centre dedicated to local Mississauga and Peel Region history. Also located in The Grange, is the Debbie Hatch Discovery Centre, an exhibit space that hosts four exhibits yearly on unique topics of our history. To any of you, who are interested in preserving Mississauga's heritage, join us, volunteer and be part of a growing organization that will make future generations of Mississauga proud in years to come. We would love to have you on board!



SPECIAL EVENTS

September

13-Streetsville 150th
20-Trafalgar Family
Day
27-Doors Open
Meadowvale

October

29- Haunted
Mississauga

November

15-Mississauga
Heritage Ball
30- Santa Claus Parade

December

6 -Carolling/48th
Birthday Celebration

President's Message

By Barbara O'Neil

Summer Celebration & Business Update

As this issue of Heritage News goes to press, we are days away from our Strategic Planning meeting, which, in addition to your responses to the survey included in this newsletter, will confirm our organization's direction and priorities for the next 3 years.

Please take a few minutes to complete the member survey inserted in this newsletter

And either mail or fax it to us at the Grange before September 30th. (Both address and fax numbers are noted on the survey form). We value the opinions and ideas of all our members and will use your input to help build our business plan for 2009.

June was a busy month for Heritage Mississauga. We participated in celebrations of **Clarkson's 200th Anniversary** and hosted our first **Aboriginal Day** on the same weekend. A stretch of Lakeshore Road was closed in Clarkson to accommodate a variety of events and exhibits such as our Heritage Showcase and a heritage fashion show. City TV anchor Francis D'Souza, himself a long time Clarkson resident, was MC for the anniversary event; despite the rain, thousands attended. Congratulations to the Clarkson 1808 Celebration Committee.



Heritage Displays at Clarkson's 200th, HM

The following day, HM hosted 225 guests for **Aboriginal Day** at the park in front of the Grange. This time, the weather cooperated as we partnered with the Métis Nation of Ontario and the Mississaugas of the New Credit to present our first Aboriginal Day. Starting with the building of a sacred fire, the event included a traditional sunrise ceremony and naming ceremony.

Two teepees were installed on the lawn. Story telling was offered by Elder Joseph Paquette and Elder Gary Sault. Entertainment included drumming, as well as music by the Métis Fiddlers Quartet. An advance mailing of promotional postcards to nearby homes attracted neighbouring residents to displays of Métis artifacts and furs, sash weaving, and buckskin beading. We received several "What's your Mississauga Story?" submissions and signed up new members. An authentic beans and bannock meal was served to invited guests. Thank you to all who worked to make Aboriginal Day a major success!

At the Board's request, **our historian Matthew Wilkinson recently narrated a tour of heritage points-of-interest across the city.** Directors and guests visited Erindale, Cooksville, Port

Credit (Mississauga's 2nd heritage conservation district), Clarkson, Streetsville and Meadowvale (Mississauga's 1st designated heritage conservation district). Matthew's in-depth knowledge of area history and the personal stories of local leaders really added to our appreciation of the sites.



Bus Tour Participants, HM

Throughout the summer, Heritage Mississauga board and committee **members have been busy bringing a number of long-planned initiatives to fruition.** By the time you read this, our new brochure detailing expanded services and donor benefits packages will be in circulation. An awareness advertising campaign will be underway, with multiple ads in Goodlife magazine, the Mississauga News, the Booster, the Streetsville Village Times, the Port Credit Village Times, and SNAP newspaper. An exhibit honouring Pioneer Cemeteries will open at the Grange in early October. We invite you to drop by and pick up a brochure, view our awareness campaign efforts, browse our exhibit and have a coffee.

All our programming couldn't be realized without the help of many volunteers. We'd like to acknowledge **our newest committee members:**

- joining THIN (The Heritage Information Network): Barb Murck, Dorothy Tomiuk, Elham Abughosh
- joining the Heritage Ball subcommittee: Bonnie Crombie, Sue Ryan, Raphleta Taylor
- joining M & M (the marketing and membership committee): Dilys Patterson and new board director Meriel Simpson.

Finally, the efforts of Darrel Carvalho's **Heritage Ball committee deserve special attention.** We are actively seeking corporate sponsors, ticket sales promoters and purchasers. While not everyone may wish to attend the event, you may know of someone who may be interested, or know of a potential sponsor who we can approach. Please don't hesitate to call us with this information-our goal is to not only sell out the ball again, but to create a waiting list for next year!

HERITAGE NEWS is a publication of the Mississauga Heritage Foundation Inc. The Foundation (est. 1960) is a not-for-profit organization which identifies, researches, interprets, promotes, and encourages awareness of the diverse heritage resources relating to the city of Mississauga. The Foundation acknowledges, with thanks, the financial assistance of the City of Mississauga, the Ontario Trillium Foundation, the Department of Canadian Heritage - The Heritage Canada Foundation, Community Foundation of Mississauga, Canada Summer Jobs, the Ministry of Culture, Dufferin Peel Catholic District School Board, Peel School Board and Career Essentials which, together with its members, donors, sponsors, and volunteers, help to preserve Mississauga's heritage in its many aspects. Articles, contributions, comments, advertisements, and letters to the Editor are welcome. Please contact us at: Mississauga Heritage Foundation, 1921 Dundas St. W., Mississauga, Ontario L5K 1R2, phone: (905) 828-8411 or fax: (905) 828-8176, or E Mail: info@heritagemississauga.org. You can also visit us on our Web page: www.heritagemississauga.com

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Streetsville Celebrating 150 Years!

September 13, 2008 • 10 am - 4 pm

• Food Tasting • Pony-Horse & Wagon Rides •

**FREE
Family Fun**

• Live Bands • Vintage Cars •

• Quilt & Historic Displays •

• \$18.58 Specials • Tours • Children's Activities •

www.villageofstreetsville.com

THE VILLAGE OF STREETSVILLE
A PROUD MEMBER OF THE
MUSSELSBURG HISTORIC SOCIETY



Take a stroll
back in time.

TAKE A STROLL BACK IN TIME

On September 13th, between 10 am and 4 pm, Queen Street will be closed to traffic for the safety and enjoyment of 25,000 participants walking, biking, and strolling. Being a family-oriented celebration, there will be activities for all ages.

Daily activities will also include a blacksmith demonstration, guided walking tours of the Village and Credit River, BBQs, Farmer's Market, afternoon tea, book signings, story time, Vintage Car Show, Anniversary cake, and unveiling of commemorative panels. An old-fashioned double decker bus will be available to shuttle people from the GO Station and to various stops. Parking will be available at the GO Station.

The celebration will wrap up with an evening outdoor dance at the Royal Canadian Legion. Streetsville's own 16 piece Big Band will be playing tunes from days gone by. Mark your calendars for our final event of this year of celebration - Clown Street Festival on October 4th.

For further details, please visit www.villageofstreetsville.com



Haunted Mississauga 2008

"The Spirits of Jalna" at Benares

Heritage Mississauga will bring its 7th Annual "Haunted Mississauga" evening to Benares Historic House on Wednesday, October 29th, 2008. Partnering together, Heritage Mississauga and the Museums of Mississauga will invite visitors to wander the halls of Benares and meet the "spirits" of Jalna, Mazo de la Roche's beloved characters from her award winning Whiteoaks of Jalna novels. Meet with characters such as Renny, Meg, old Gran Adeline, Eden, Piers and Wakefield Whiteoak, amongst many others.



The evening will also include an introduction to the Whiteoaks of Jalna series and Mazo de la Roche, followed by guided tours of Benares Historic House where visitors will get a chance to interact with characters inspired by the Jalna series.

The evening will run from 7:00-9:30pm, with tours at 7:00pm, 7:30pm, 8:00pm and 8:30pm (schedule to be confirmed).

Ticket Price: \$5 for members of Heritage Mississauga and/or the Museums of Mississauga, and students, \$10 for non-members \$3 for youth (under 14) and seniors. Space is limited! Please call Heritage Mississauga at 905-828-8411 to confirm attendance or for more information.

MISSISSAUGA SYMPHONY GIANT ANNUAL USED BOOK SALE

FROM: 6:00 PM, Thurs. Sept. 18, 2008

TO: 2:00 PM, Sun. Sept. 21, 2008

****During Mall Hours****

Over 50,000 books sorted into 48 categories!

PLUS, old and potentially rare books, comics, records, CDs, DVDs, tapes, games and puzzles

**FOUR DAYS OF
GIANT BARGAINS
AT the Sheridan Centre,
on Erin Mills Parkway,
just north of QEW**



DON'T MISS IT!!

**All proceeds go to
Orchestras Mississauga**

The Lost Hamlet of Whaley's Corners

By Nicole Mair

Picture this: it is the mid-nineteenth century and you are travelling north on Town Line - modern Winston Churchill Boulevard. The road is made out of wooden planks, worn smooth by the continuous travels of horse-drawn wagons and stagecoaches. On either side of the road there is nothing but farmland and trees as far as the eye can see. The occasional farmhouse dots the landscape, perhaps it is made of logs cleared from when Toronto Township, present-day Mississauga was nothing but bush. Eventually you come to a crossroads, and a toll gate comes into view. You know you have reached the small community of Whaley's Corners, located at the present day intersection of Winston Churchill Boulevard and Steeles Avenue.



1877 Historical Atlases of Peel and Halton

The history of Whaley's Corners goes back to the beginning of the nineteenth century, before too many early settlers had arrived to start new lives in Canada. According to William Perkins Bull, the famed Peel historian, in the early 1800s, a wealthy American syndicate purchased land at Whaley's Corners in order to set up a small colony of American citizens. The project was quickly abandoned however, possibly due to losses suffered in the War of 1812. This land was sold off to private citizens, including many United Empire Loyalist settlers, particularly those who had originated from the North of Ireland. One of these settlers was William Whaley, after whom the crossroads community came to be named.

The Whaley family originally hailed from England; they fled to County Armagh, Ireland, during the Cromwell regime. William Whaley and his family emigrated from Belfast, Ireland to the state of Delaware in the United States, before taking up land at Whaley's Corners in 1819. By April of 1822, William had cleared 5 acres of his 100 acre property, fenced off his land and built an 18x20 foot house. He had 200 acres in Esquesing Township in Halton County and 100 acres in Toronto Township. He would become integral to the commercial and physical growth of Whaley's Corners.

William Whaley and his first wife had seven children: George, David, John, Sarah, Emma, Eliza and Agnes. There are no records of Whaley's first wife; however, there is record that William Whaley remarried Mary Ann McCracken, a widow who lived from 1810 to 1890. One resident recalled that when his children were growing up William Whaley used to ride along the road in his gig, a two wheeled carriage pulled by a single horse, wearing a silk hat and acting like a refined gentleman, like his father before him. William Whaley died in May of 1869, and was interred at St. Stephens Anglican Church in Hornby. Mary Ann McCracken Whaley received the house, a tavern and half an acre of land upon his death, located on the Esquesing Township side of Winston Churchill. William Whaley's son, John Whaley, built his house at Whaley's Corners out of logs he cut down from the bush. The first crop he grew on his farm was likely corn. He would take his produce to Toronto by wagon from Whaley's Corners. John Whaley was married to Ann Wiggins, who was born in Ireland.

The couple had five children: William, Jack (also recorded as John A.), Robert James, Hannah E. (also recorded as Harriet C.), and Annie M. Whaley. Hannah E. Whaley, who married Alfred J. Bell, used to have an old spinning wheel when she was living with her parents. Her father and brothers would take the sheep down to the water's edge near Churchville, 20 to 25 at a time, to wet and shear them. There are stories of when John Whaley would be coming home from another farm and wolves would be chasing after him, he would keep the wolves away with a torch lit from a flint.

Robert James Whaley, son of John Whaley, also lived at Whaley's Corners, along with his wife Florence Johnston. By the early 1900s, Robert Whaley's farm was the only thing left to indicate that Whaley's Corners had ever existed. In August of 1933, while driving his buggy home from his son Gordon Whaley's house, Robert Whaley was hit by a westbound CPR train at the Hornby railway crossing and killed. He was buried in the Mount Zion cemetery. Twenty years later in 1953, Gordon Whaley was killed in a truck accident near the McLaughlin farm. His wife Lena MacMillan Whaley worked for AVRO Canada in Malton and continued to work there until its close in 1959. She rented out the farm in 1969, before eventually moving to Brampton.

For many years Whaley's Corners had a gossip column in the Streetsville Review. In the column were reports on many local happenings, including Alexander Kent's barn raising on June 5th, 1894, in which a 60x30 foot barn was raised by the community. The column also included reports on Whaley's Corners very own boys football team. The team was named the Victorias.

There was a plank road that ran down the Town Line, present-day Winston Churchill Boulevard and it was said that a stagecoach used to travel down it. There was a toll gate on the plank road right at the corners. The toll gate was operated by William Alexander. He charged a ten cent toll, according to Mrs. Bell, daughter of John Whaley. William Alexander had a hut on the corner near the toll gate so no one could pass without his notice. He married Miss McCoy who, according to family tradition, had brought a set of dishes with a pink willow pattern with her from Ireland.

The school at Whaley's Corners was a log schoolhouse built in 1832, located on John Whaley's farm, near the west corner of Winston Churchill Boulevard and Steeles Avenue. The school was listed under the Chinguacousy County, present-day Brampton. By 1888 it was known as the Victoria Union School Section, S.S. 21. One of the early teachers at the school was a Miss Bollard, who lived in Toronto Township. Another teacher was a J. Black, who taught 32 students at the school in 1851.



Victoria School, HM

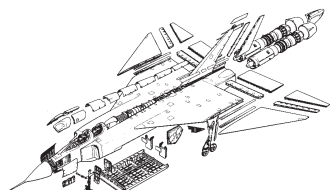
Before a school was established at the neighbouring village of Churchville, children from that community also attended the school at Whaley's Corners. In 1888 a new school was built, and was located on the south side of Steeles Avenue and to the east of modern Winston Churchill Boulevard.

Continued in the February 2009 issue of Heritage News.

Flying Into History: The “Firsts” of the AVRO Arrow

By Matthew Wilkinson, Historian

Dates through 2007 into 2009 mark a series of 50th anniversaries for the legendary AVRO Arrow. October 4th, 2007, marked the 50th Anniversary of the Roll-out of the AVRO Arrow; March 25th, 2008, marked the 50th Anniversary of the First Flight; and looking ahead, February 20th, 2009, will mark the 50th Anniversary of the cancellation of the CF-105 Arrow program. All of these anniversaries commemorate significant milestones in the story of this famed Canadian aircraft, and we will continue looking at different aspects of its remarkable story in the Heritage News. This article will explore some of the “firsts” or technological achievements attained by the AVRO Arrow program. The program truly was innovative for the aeronautics industry, and set new directions and specifications for airplane development. In the 1950s A.V. Roe Canada emerged as an industry leader, and their greatest achievement was arguably the short-lived Arrow.

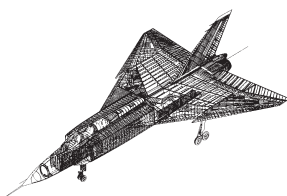


AVRO Arrow Assembly Plans, HM

In the aftermath of WWII, A.V. Roe Canada found itself in an excellent position to attract some of the best engineering minds in the world, as the end of the war saw a glut of engineers and aeronautical professionals on the international job market. A.V. Roe Canada's first design project was to develop a jet-powered transport aircraft for Trans Canada Airlines. In April 1950,

eight years before the inception of the first American commercial jet airplane, the AVRO Jetliner was born. Following on the heels of this early developmental success, AVRO Canada began to design, and ultimately develop, the CF-100 all-weather jet interceptor, an aircraft that was to become one of the most successful and longest serving military aircraft ever produced in Canada. AVRO continued to invest heavily in research and design, and each new design brought new technological innovations, which ultimately led to the design of the CF-105 or Arrow.

The RCAF stipulated that the new CF-105 had to be able to pull 2 G's at 50,000 feet at a speed of Mach 1.5. In awarding the CF-105 program to A.V. Roe Canada, the RCAF established performance stipulations that set the stage for some of the greatest design leaps in the aerospace industry, although in many ways the aviation industry was turning its attention to supersonic flight and Arrow was a product of its time, although arguably the most advanced aircraft of its time. The Arrow was eventually pushed to Mach 1.98, flying over 2000 kilometres per hour with “Spud” Potocki at the controls, and would fly up to a height of 58,000 feet. The industry change, of which A.V. Roe was one of the industry leaders, saw the redesign of many aspects of production, right from tool and dye, to alloy fabrication, to wiring and tooling. Many aspects of individual components, design, fabrication, production and assembly involved technological innovation. That being said, many of the



AVRO Arrow Skeleton, www

aviation advances that were made with the Arrow were but part of the overall maturing, international advancement and sophistication of the aviation industry, but even those involved could sense that the Arrow came to represent something more than a collection of parts that could fly. Former Chief of Air Staff Wilf Curtis explained: “In my opinion the Arrow was a product of the times. Believe it or not, it was designed conservatively, building on the available know-how. Advances were made and limits were extended. Manufacturing techniques and quality control became more exacting. Management skills and methods were learned. Thousands of people improved their abilities and pulled together. When you hear of everyday workers going into Avro early so that they could walk through the plant and see the progress of the Arrow, you can't help but be impressed. Something special was going on in Malton during those days.”

Jack Woodman, the only RCAF pilot to fly the Arrow and the official representative of the government, reported that the aircraft was performing as predicted and was meeting all specifications. The design team was confident that the Mark II Arrows, starting with RL-206 and the Iroquois engine, would surpass Mach 2 easily, and planned on hitting Mach 3 with future series. With the cancellation and destruction, we will never know what the aircraft could have achieved. There are some simple facts relating to the AVRO Arrow program: only five Arrows were ever flown, with each of the Mark I Arrows being powered by the J75 engine. The first Mark II Arrow, RL-206, was nearing completion when the program was abruptly cancelled by the Federal Government. RL-206 was to have been powered by the Orenda Iroquois engine, and was expected to have set new flight records. Even though only five Mark I Arrows ever flew, they set a new standard for design and flight performance expectations, and set new milestones in terms of “firsts” in the aeronautics industry:



RL-201 in flight, HM

A few AVRO Arrow Firsts From “Avro Aircraft and Coldwar Aviation” by Randall Whitcombs

- First aircraft designed with digital computers being used for both aerodynamic analysis and designing the structural matrix;
- First aircraft design to have major components machined by CNC;
- First aircraft to be developed using an early form of “computational fluid dynamics” with an integrated “lifting body” theory;
- First aircraft to have marginal stability designed into the pitch axis for better maneuverability, speed and altitude performance;
- First aircraft to have negative stability designed into the yaw axis to save weight and cut drag, also boosting performance;
- First aircraft to fly-by-wire (electronic signal)

For more information on the technological “Firsts” of the AVRO Arrow, please visit: www.kaap.purpleglen.com/avroarrow.html & www.avroarrow.org/AvroArrow/arrowfirsts.html or see: “The Arrow Scrapbook” by Peter Zuuring.

It Isn't Easy Being a Founding Father

By Richard Collins

Streetsville is named after a lunatic!

Timothy Street lost his tannery near Niagara Falls after retreating Americans set his town ablaze during the futile closing days of the War of 1812. He later lost his first house in Streetsville to fire. He lost a large part of his family in his lifetime, including four sons and a daughter over a seven year span. Son Joseph died just weeks after Timothy lost an election campaign. One person voted for him. Timothy surveyed the northern half of Mississauga without a penny in his pocket and he eventually lost the land that he had planned to use to pay the surveyors he hired to do the work that he was untrained to do himself.



*Street- Blain -Dracass Mill c 1920
Historic Images Gallery*

Is it any wonder the village's founding father went mad?

Timothy's problems began as soon as he moved to Canada. Timothy Sr. had served with the Royal Yorkers during the American Revolution and that should have been reason enough for Timothy Jr. to be granted free land when he decided to come to Canada.

But the King didn't just want loyal subjects. He wanted loyal subjects who were able to fill his Canadian colonies with newer generations of loyal subjects. So in 1800, the 23 year old Timothy returned to his home in Spencertown, New York and married 17 year-old Abigail Smith of nearby Hillsdale. Later that year, Timothy purchased land in St. David's in Upper Canada.

First son, Hiram was born in 1801 and with a family started, Timothy was now in a better position to apply for land. He received a grant in Markham Township, but because by now he had established himself in St. David's, he sold this lot north of York and used the money to buy more land in St. David's.

The War of 1812 started out well for Timothy. As a skilled saddler and tanner, Timothy sold supplies to the Provincial Light Dragoons. But this sweet war of prosperity turned sour in July 1814.

The last weeks of the war were going badly for both sides so, in a last ditch attempt to prevent a British advance onto their soil, American forces were ordered to set St. David's ablaze. Perhaps with more of a conscience than historians have been willing to admit, Lt.-Col. Isaac Stone took this order to mean only to destroy property of aid to the British army. Most of St. David's homes were spared. But that was little consolation to Timothy. In this time of war, his saddlery was fair game. Timothy lost his livelihood.

Looking for other ways to care for his family, Timothy heard of the recent purchase of land from the Mississauga nation and in 1818, at the age of 41, he was awarded a contract by the British crown to survey the wilderness that is now home for the 300,000 Mississauga residents who live north of Eglinton Avenue. Why Timothy applied for the job is anyone's guess. He wasn't a surveyor.

But he was an affable guy and it appears that one of his easy friends was Richard Bristol. And, in case you haven't already guessed, Bristol happened to be a surveyor.

Timothy's plan was to pay (and feed, and provide shelter for) Bristol and his men with money he hoped to obtain by selling land that he had been purchasing on speculation in Toronto, Trafalgar and Chinguacousy townships. Like many a modern day businessman, Timothy had no money. He only hoped to have it.

Timothy did have a back-up plan. He could pay off Bristol and his men with the free land the crown was willing to give him as payment for completing the surveying contract.

You'll note that the crown intended to pay off Timothy the same way Timothy intended to pay off Bristol, with land. The barter system was still the way of business in 1818. Given a choice, people preferred the security and convenience of money but in its usual absence, land was the next most negotiable commodity.

It also appears that Timothy even bartered with other merchants in St. David's, trading tanned goods to get the food and blankets he needed to outfit Bristol and his men.

While looking over Bristol's methodical surveying reports, Timothy naturally scanned his maps for lots along the Credit River. Here he could build mills.

But it wasn't that simple. Timothy did get "a" choice of lots, but he didn't get "the" choice lots. King George got to pick first. Clergy and crown reserves were selected, amounting to one-seventh of all lots and in addition to that, the crown reserved the right of approval on all lots with access to rivers.

The lots Timothy's preferred were not in Streetsville. The Credit River lay in a low, wide ravine here and while the potential for mills was still promising, the better lots were further upstream of the Credit, on more easily graded land.

Eldorado Mills and Huttonville were later established on Timothy's choice lots. So valuable was this land, and so stiff the competition for it that lieutenant-governor, Sir Peregrine Maitland reserved the right to make the decision, rather than to leave it (as would normally be done) with civil servants. To help him decide, Maitland was assisted by such fellow Anglican heavyweights as Chief Justice William Dummer Powell and Archdeacon John Strachan.

A Presbyterian with a Methodist wife, Timothy was a long shot to win the lot lottery.

After losing a bid for prime land, most men would resign themselves to the gifts of life already in their possession. But Timothy decided to leave the relative comfort and security of St. David's for his second favourite choice; Lot 5, Concession IV WHS.

Timothy arrived in 1825, with Abigail and eight children. Timothy Jr. was newborn that year - the first Street born in the village that wasn't yet called Streetsville. Timothy's first step was to build a sawmill and then, with the revenue from it, build a grist mill. Over the next years, Timothy added a carding mill and a fulling mill. He also opened a store. To make ends meet while expanding his milling enterprise, he continued to work at the trades where he had experience and genuine talent. He ran a saddlery and tannery.

Cont'd pg. 7

Hugh O'Neil Fragments

By Alan Skeoch

"Humpty Dumpty sat on a wall
Humpty Dumpty had a great fall
All the King's horses and all the King's men,
Couldn't put Humpty together again."

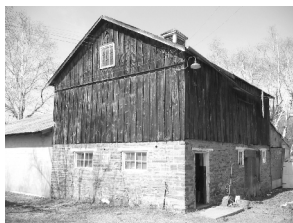
This nursery rhyme came to mind as I wandered through the Hugh O'Neil homesite shortly before its demolition. The new owner did a rare thing. He gave city Heritage people the right to rescue whatever fragments they considered significant. I was invited along as a kind of expert witness to identify fragments of Hugh O'Neil's fruit farming past. What I found was more than I had bargained for. I found evidence of an eccentric life, evidence of a man who shaped his world to his own liking and fine living be damned. Hugh was a very wealthy man. He could have built a mega house to outshine any such grand home in Mississauga. But he chose to live as his parents had lived in a frame farm house suffering from neglect of time. The house could barely be seen from Mississauga Road for lilacs and box hedges and other plants that had once been controlled had taken over with Hugh's permission. He could do as he wanted behind this shield of green abandon. And he did.

On the front porch was an old rocking chair, idly moving in the spring breeze. A chair and a porch long unused with floorboards bent with age rather than use. Hugh was a back of the house kind of man. The back door opened directly into his kitchen. And it also opened into a past long gone a cast iron sink rusting and sinking into a wooden countertop beneath which were a pile of tinware pots and pans. Opposite was the electric stove, festooned here and there with old grease. One door hanging open. A piece from the Great Depression but still in use.

Atop the kitchen counter were four pieces of stone. Incongruous tiny things which on closer inspection turned out to be two stone arrow fragments, a chipped stone spear point and a small skinning knife that fit the palm of my hand like a fine glove. Pieces that Hugh had



O'Neil House



O'Neil Barn



O'Neil Farm Building



O'Neil Farm Old Stove



O'Neil Farm Workers Cottage

found in his orchards no doubt, for at one point his family lands ran down to the west bank of the Credit River where now, Erindale University stands. Like most farmers his hawk-like eyes picked out tiny anomalies like these pieces dropped by an Ojibwa or Neutral hunter perhaps thousands of years ago. Hugh had tucked them away in his knife drawer, perhaps to admire now and then.

There were a lot more fragments to his life, some of which have no clear explanation thereby allowing the inventive mind to make its own context. The chair, the house, the sink, the stove, the aboriginal fragments, the tangled garden - all of these drew me in like a moth to a flame. All our lives have such fragments. Fragments that future generations might interpret correctly or incorrectly. (Images courtesy of Alan Skeoch)



O'Neil Farm Remnants



O'Neil 2 seat outhouse

Founding Father cont'd. . . .

In short time, Timothy owned, leased or received in grants, a total of 20 hectares of land that constituted most of the village of Streetsville, such as it was at the time. Israel Ransom was granted permission to open a post office in the growing village in 1829 and to him fell the customary responsibility of naming the post office. He decided on the only logical choice at the time; "Streetsville".

But soon there was a new name in town. John Beaty opened a grist mill a short distance downstream from the Street mills. When it opened in 1838, Timothy was confronted with a competitor with years of experience as a miller. Beaty's arrival couldn't have come at a worse time. Creditors were banging at Timothy's door. He needed money and he needed the help of his sons to keep the mills running. But then, unexpectedly, Charles died.

During a court-appointed investigation into Timothy's finances, the judge discovered a list of failed business transactions, revenue from the mill misplaced and lot after lot of land still unsold. Timothy was officially declared a "lunatic". Had it not been for the support and recognizance of his family (what little of it that he had left) Timothy would likely have been committed to an asylum.

While Abigail cared for her ailing husband, the surviving sons (Erastus, John and Stephen) were forced to sell off every piece of land granted, purchased or leased in their father's possession. The money from this close out sale was needed to keep the mill complex running.

Timothy Street died in Streetsville, at age 70. He had only lived in Streetsville for 22 years, less than his 24 years as an American, or his 25 in St. David's, but these years were Streetsville's most prosperous.



Timothy Street Home, HM

Searching for the Mississauga of the Credit River: The Departure

By Meaghan FitzGibbon (Curator of the Erland Lee Museum)

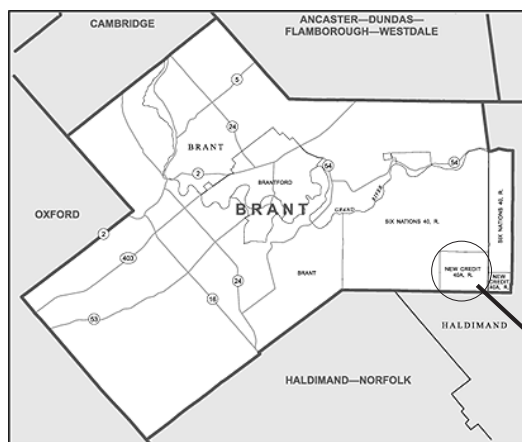
In several past issues of the *Heritage News* I have been sharing my findings about the Mississauga Nation who made the Credit River area their home. I have discussed the Treaties they signed with the British government, the village they lived in, and how the Treaties I researched related to their lives and home at the Credit River. In this last article I will discuss how those treaties attributed to their decision to leave the Credit River and move to the Grand River in 1847.

As early as 1840, the Mississaugas decided to leave the Credit River because of white encroachment and because they could not secure title to the land on which they were living. New locations were discussed including Muncey Town and the Saugeen River near Owen Sound. These locations did not pan out for various reasons, such as the suitability of land and the lack of Government support. The Mississaugas were running out of time. They had already given the land to the government to sell and J.S. Dennis had already surveyed the land. It was at this point that the Six Nations offered them land on their reserve on the Grand River. The Six Nations remembered "that when their fathers came down from the Mohawk River" the Mississauga had given them "the Tract they now owned." This was a reference to the 1784 Treaty which provided the Six Nations with land at the Grand River.

Even before the Mississaugas officially accepted the Six Nations' offer, the Government was preparing to sell the lands around the Credit River. A notice appeared advertising an auction of the "Mississaugas of the Credit land at Port Credit" including the "Mill Block, Park and Town Lots," which was to take place on Tuesday April 27th 1847.

In 1847, 266 people left the Credit River for the Six Nations Reserve. Not all the Mississaugas left the Credit River that year. When the 1851 census was taken, only twelve "Indians" were still living in Peel County. Eleven people, designated as such were found living in the southern portion of Toronto Township but not necessarily within the one mile on either side of the Credit River. It is impossible to know if the eleven people were part of the Mississauga First Nation. One exception, however, was a man named Lawrence Heckmere (Hackamor). It is likely that he is Lawrence Herkimer, the brother of William and Jacob Herkimer. Lawrence was a widower living with his son David. His wife, Mary was listed as having died in the year 1851 from water on the brain. Lawrence and David were also listed in the 1851 Tuscarora Census. Being listed in two censuses can happen. Also, living in Toronto Township, according to the Census, were the Fonger family and James Brant. Beside their names, the enumerator noted that "these Indians about to remove to the Grand River." Therefore, 266 Mississauga First Nations may have left in 1847, but this was not all of the Mississaugas that lived in Toronto Township at the time and more continued to leave after 1847.

My placement with Heritage Mississauga as the First Nations Treaty researcher was an amazing experience. I will look back on this internship as one of the highlights of my university career. I would like to thank Heritage Mississauga for creating this position and for allowing me to use its Heritage Newsletter to share my experience and my discoveries.



Editor's Note: Meaghan's full research report is available at Heritage Mississauga's Resource Centre.

New Credit Reserve

"The HOT BOX Project" **Memories of the Mississauga Train Derailment and Evacuation,** **A community art installation project** **November 2009** By Sonja Hidas

What is the "Hot Box" Project

November 2009 will be the 30th anniversary of the Mississauga Train derailment and evacuation. The "Hot Box" project is a Multi-art community project that will reflect on the stories and history of the Mississauga Train Derailment and evacuation.



Derailment Aftermath, HM

These memories will be expressed through multi-art disciplines. The core of the project is an installation by Sonja Hidas. The first installation will be located at The Grange, home of Heritage Mississauga. The second installation will be at the Living Arts Centre's visual gallery and a third location will be at The Art Gallery of Peel's community art gallery. Events will be presented in collaboration with Suzanne Carte-Blanchenot, out-reach coordinator for the Art Gallery of Mississauga. The "Hot Box" is a conceptual art project by Sonja Hidas and supported by its connectors.

Installation description

In the first part of the project, I am asking for submissions from Mississauga residents about their experiences of the Mississauga Train Derailment and Evacuation. Submissions that are received through the "Hot Box" Project as well as historical documents will be the main theme of the installation. The installation will be a place for the public to interact, relax and reflect. The installation is a process art project and with each letter I receive new ideas are put forth to mold and shape the project.

Artist comment and contact information;

Each story I receive has a unique identity and an emotional connection to the City of Mississauga. I have chosen this project to connect to the people and artists of my community. I look forward to celebrating the "Hot Box" Project with you in November 2009.

To contact Sonja Hidas please phone: 416-305-7985 or Sonja@sonjahidas.com

Mississauga's Hidden Treasures

By Sandra Ceccomancini

As a summer student in charge of revising and creating self-guided heritage tour brochures of Mississauga, documenting and uncovering the historical significance of a building or house that you might walk by everyday is a large part of my job. I have researched the former villages of Streetsville, Port Credit, Clarkson, Meadowvale, Dixie/Cooksville, and Malton. With most of the villages I knew many of the historical sites visually, if not a small part of their story, except when it came to Malton. After researching Malton and discovering its historical charms, I now consider old Malton to be a relatively undiscovered treasure of Mississauga.

When discussing my job with friends and family almost all of them kept asking "Malton is in Mississauga?" This was usually followed by "I thought it was part of Brampton or Toronto?" I understand this response since Malton does seem different than the rest of Mississauga. It is geographically quite far removed from the core of Mississauga and City Hall, it does not seem as "green" as the rest of Mississauga with its large and visible industrial identity, and its past is not as visible as other Villages in our city. However, this is part of the charm of Malton, making the effort and time to discover its vibrant past.



Tomlinson-Johnson House, Malton,
Historic Pictures Gallery

Concealed by the airport and industrial sites of Malton today is the agricultural past of the village. In 1854, with the introduction of the Grand Trunk Railway through Malton, the village became a prime shipping centre for agricultural produce. As a result, there were plenty of farms and farming families in the area.

In addition, Malton's wartime past is impressive, as most people know and associate Malton with the airport. The airport began in 1937 and became an asset to Canada during the Second World War in terms of manufacturing.

After the war, Malton of course became the home of the legendary Avro Arrow. Despite being taught in elementary school about the Avro Arrow, I do not remember any mention that this impressive airplane was manufactured in Mississauga. Learning this fact was exciting and made me appreciate the history of Malton even more.

Victory Village is also another charm of Malton. Passing through the streets, it is easy to identify the area as one that had a purpose. It also feels as though one has stepped onto a stage production of a wartime movie with all the houses similar in their simplistic style. The area was developed during the Second World War to provide housing for the airport industry employees. It is hard to imagine another place in Mississauga that was built with



AVRO Arrow rollout, www

such purpose and intent. I am pleased with my discovery of Malton and suggest any of Heritage Mississauga's Tour Brochures as a great way to discover the history of our City.

For more information on the free heritage tour brochures, please contact Heritage Mississauga.

From the Heritage Resource Centre

By Matthew Wilkinson

The Heritage Resource Centre at The Grange continues to be a busy and productive place. In particular, the summer of 2008 has seen our office become a regular beehive of activity, with a record 7 students working with us through a variety of summer placement grant programs.



Zofia, Vanessa, Sandra, Nicole,
Andrea, Sharifa
(Michael not shown), HM

Nicole Mair, who is working with us for her third summer, is our Assistant Historian and is focused primarily on developing and editing content for a future book publication on Mississauga's lost villages. Nicole is entering her fourth year at the University of Toronto.

Zofia Krivdova is spending her second summer with us, and is researching and documenting Mississauga's military fallen and developing biographies from Mississauga's cenotaphs. Zofia will be returning for her second year at York University in the Fall.

Sandra Ceccomancini spent the academic year with us in connection with the internship program at the University of Toronto at Mississauga, and this summer has worked with us to develop new and revised heritage tour brochures. Sandra will be attending the University of Western Ontario in the fall in pursuit of her Masters degree, having just completed her Undergraduate Degree from UTM.

Andrea Kennedy is conducting property research focusing on documenting cultural histories of heritage properties in our city. Andrea finished her second year of post-secondary study and has transferred to York University where she will be entering her third year of studies.

Sharifa Khan is undertaking the arduous task of reorganizing and cataloguing our heritage library and working with our new database. Sharifa is entering her fourth year at the University of Toronto.

Vanessa Gouveia is focusing on event planning and marketing this summer, and is working primarily on the Heritage Ball, amongst other projects. Vanessa is attending York University and will be entering her fourth year in the fall.

Michael Chyczij is entering his third year as an Anthropology student at the University of Toronto and is undertaking a research study into cultural life at the Credit River Mission between 1826 and 1847.

In addition to the work of our students, the Heritage Resource centre has seen a steady increase in the number of inquiries. We have a new microfilm machine, and have limited land record abstracts available, census records, and Perkins Bull family files. We also offer access to ancestry.ca and Toronto Star Pages of the Past. We invite you to visit the Heritage Resource Centre at The Grange. It is our hope that the Heritage Resource Centre will aid in the discovery of Mississauga, Peel and Ontario heritage. For more information, please contact Heritage Mississauga at 905-828-8411 x 29, or email history@heritagemississauga.org.

Britannia Farm Development Proposal: Farm is the Last of its Kind

By Matthew Wilkinson

The future of an intact Britannia Farm remains cloudy, and ultimately unlikely. The Britannia Farm is the last relatively intact 200-acre farm within the limits of the City of Mississauga. Located northwest of Bristol Road and Hurontario Street, and stretching from Hurontario Street to McLachlan Road. Undeniably, the property is prime real estate within our city. The Peel District School Board has reached a tentative agreement to lease a portion of the property for development for tenure of 99 years. The agreement calls for the relocation and restoration of the farmhouse, Gardner-Dunton House and Conover Barn, and educational programs on the property being expanded. The development would start south of the Old Britannia Schoolhouse, run southward along the Hurontario Street corridor, and wrap around to Bristol Road. Approximately 85% of the property will remain undeveloped.



The Peel District School Board will lease the southwest portion of the 200-acre Britannia Farm to a developer for the construction of as many as eight high-rise office buildings. The remaining 168 acres will be used for outdoor education.

In the heritage community, at large, the announcement has been met with disappointment, as it was hoped that future planning for the farm would work with its existing contextual fabric. Public visions for the property have ranged from developing a "historic building preservation area", a public central park, and even revert to a working farm, amongst many other ideas over the years.

The farm lot was deeded to the children of Peel County by the Crown, under King William IV, in 1833, for the support and maintenance of a school and for the advancement of education in Toronto Township. The rent from this School Reserve was used over the years to support the local school section and education

Britannia Farm Plan, courtesy Mississauga News

throughout Peel County. Over the years the trusteeship of the farm property passed to the Peel District School Board.

Part of the farm property had been severed in the past for the old Britannia Schoolhouse and for the building of the Peel Board of Education offices. In addition the existing 1852 one-room Britannia Schoolhouse, the property boasts several other heritage landmarks and



Britannia Schoolhouse HM

features: the original farmhouse on the property, built circa 1865, was built in a traditional storey-and-a-half style; the circa 1832 Gardner-Dunton House, a large Georgian-style dwelling, was relocated to the property in 1990; the Conover Barn, relocated to the property from the Clarkson area and in place of the original barn on the property; the sugar bush, the last of its kind in Mississauga; and the remnant right-of-way of the long defunct radial railway, one of the last places in Mississauga where this rail route is still evident. Also, even though the individual structures and landscape features are independently significant, the contextual setting of the entire property is also a significant heritage asset to the City of Mississauga, truly the last of its kind in our city.

According to Board Chair Janet McDougald, the agreement allows the development company to apply for rezoning of the property in anticipation of building 850,000 sq. ft. of office space on 31.67 acres of the farm property. According to McDougald, the Board desired "to preserve this beautiful jewel in the middle of the City but we require long-term stable funding so students can better use it" and "it's a wonderful facility but it's underused for the value it could be producing for students." The plan to build offices is just the latest in a long line of proposed projects for the farm, since active farming came to a close in the 1990s. "It all comes down to money, ultimately," McDougald stated. "We've tried numerous things for the farm but there's nothing in the (educational) funding formula that really covers it."

Time will tell what the future holds for the Britannia Farm. Needless to say, all eyes will be upon the property. Regardless, it does not appear that the Britannia Farm will remain intact in the coming years.

Special thanks to John Stewart and the Mississauga News for the article: "Board to add eight high-rise offices to farm" by John Stewart, published on April 10th, 2008.

www.mississauganews.com/article/12996



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In Memoriam

By Jayme Gaspar Executive Director

It is with great sadness that I bring the news of the passing of three members of our heritage community.

On June 5th we said goodbye to Board of Director member John Wouters. His passion for history came alive when he talked about his life growing up in Dixie. The arena, the fun he had with his friends and memories of working with his father in the community. He spent many years with the Mississauga Board of Trade and was an avid golfer and Member of the Mississauga Golf & Country Club. He was a wonderful supporter of the work that Heritage Mississauga does and could be found talking to visitors at our booths and was always willing to lend a hand wherever needed. We will miss his recollections and stories of days gone by.



Very shortly after the loss of John we were once again learning of the passing of one of the heritage communities long time advocates Mr. Norm Potts on June 13th. In his 90th year Norm was still supporting the Streetsville Historical Society as its President after 12 years in office and was awarded this year a Lifetime Achievement Award by the Ontario Heritage Foundation. Just before his passing Heritage Mississauga was truly blessed with the opportunity to record many of his stories in an interview. He was a true heritage hero in our community and will be missed.



This past week we celebrated with family and friends the life of Betty Irene Pinchin. Along with husband Victor and their two sons Ed and Don, the Pinchin farm on Mississauga Road flourished and grew. Family was her focus. Whether with her grandchildren or great grandchildren she was always active and took great pride in her garden and home. She was a longtime member of the Mississauga Golf & Country Club and enjoyed skiing and hunting with her family. She will truly be missed in the community.



The loss of loved ones is a part of life that we all face. We are forever remembering the special stories, the traditions, the way that a parent used a phrase, the way a grandparent laughed. These memories are a very important part of our personal heritage. They shape the way we think and the actions we take in life. At Heritage Mississauga I am constantly aware of the losses we have of members in our community who have experienced life when there were few roads, or only farm fields as far as the eye could see, or for the newcomer who has turned the page on a new chapter in their family's life. Whenever I get the chance I encourage those that I meet in the community to record those stories, traditions, the laughter, for all too quickly they are only fleeting memories.

Take a moment in your busy day and write down those special moments that you share with relatives and friends. Record those stories for great grandchildren to listen to. Take photos of everyone who matters to your family. Give your family legacy a chance to be enjoyed and experienced for generations to come. For in a hundred years your life will be part of our community's history.

Streetsville Historical Society Happenings

By Jean Watt, Publicity Director, SHS

The Streetsville Historical Society began in 1970 and is a not-for-profit group. We are dedicated to preserving and promoting interest in the history of our "Village in the City". We meet on the second Thursday of every other month, except during the summer. Our first meeting of the Fall will take place in October.



When the Streetsville Historical Society meets on Thursday, October 9th, the time and location will be new. The meeting will be held at 7:30pm in the meeting room at Specialty Care, located at 4350 Mississauga Road (across from the former Pinchin Apple Orchard and the Leslie Log House).

The programme for the evening will be "Memories of Norm", and will feature memories and stories about our late president, Norman Potts. This will be a wonderful evening of warm memories, reminiscences, and laughs about a great friend of the Streetsville Historical Society.

The following meetings will be held on December 11th 2008, February 12th 2009, and April 9th 2009. We also have a spring tour in May to various historic places. Date and trip location to be announced.

We welcome new members. For information on our society please contact Jean Watt, Publicity and Program Director, at 905-826-1860, or Anne Byard, Archivist, at mbyard@sympatico.ca.

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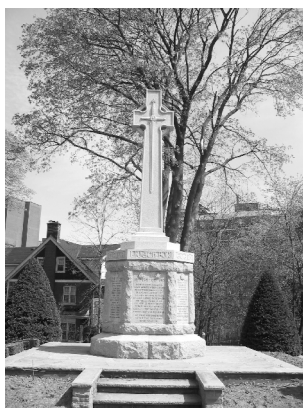
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Lest We Forget: The Mississauga Cenotaph Research Project

By Zofia Krivdova

Each year, ceremonies are held to honour those who gave their lives for their country, and these ceremonies usually focus around a local cenotaph. Cenotaphs are built as monuments to a person or a group of people whose remains are elsewhere, and there are many cenotaphs across Mississauga. Most of the cenotaphs or honour rolls in our city predate the formation of the City of Mississauga. The aim of this research project is to assemble information and biographies on the fallen soldiers of Mississauga (formerly Toronto Township), and to assemble a single list for Mississauga of former residents who gave their lives for freedom. This research project started with World War One because there are more resources currently available for public perusal. Over time, the project will focus on World War Two veterans. The first cenotaphs researched are from Port Credit, Streetsville and Malton, and there are more to follow. This is an ongoing project, and will likely take several years to complete.

The Port Credit cenotaph was initially constructed in memory of the brave Port Credit men who lost their lives during WWI. It was designed and constructed by Louis Temporale, a recipient of the Order of Canada for master craftsmanship in stone masonry. In 1946 and 1983, the names of the men who fell during World War II and the Korean Conflict were added. The memorial is located beside Memorial Park on Stavebank Road North and has been a revered landmark since its building in 1925.



Port Credit Cenotaph,
Stavebank Rd. N. HM

Probably one of the best-known and most popular men from Port Credit that fell in the Great War was Allan Barrie Duncan. He was the son of Reverend George Petrie Duncan, of St. Andrew's Manse, Port Credit, Ontario. He was awarded the Military Cross for continuing good service. Allan Barrie was a graduate of the Parkdale Collegiate Institute, and was known for his intercollegiate athletics. He was the youngest of three brothers. His brother Wallace was awarded the Military Cross for bravery at Vimy Ridge. His other brother Gordon G. Duncan was among the first Port Credit officers to enlist, together with Alex T. Thomson. He fell at Festeubert. Lieutenant-Colonel Alex T. Thomson, a son of John and Lillian Thomson, of Port Credit, Ontario, was awarded a Military Cross and Distinguished Service Order for his bravery and commitment. He was killed at Passchendale by a sniper in November 1917. His younger brother, Lieutenant Douglas Cameron Thomson, also fell at Vimy Ridge.

The Streetsville cenotaph was constructed in 1926 in memory of local veterans who died during World War I. On July 1st, 1926, this monument to Canadian courage was unveiled in the center of the Village of Streetsville. One of the many brave men from Streetsville that fell in the Great War was William Henry Clipperton. He was born in Toronto on April 10th 1886, to Wilba Henry Clipperton and Ida Maddes Clipperton. He was married to

Ena M. Graydon, of Streetsville, on August 30th 1911. He studied at Victoria College and McGill University. William was appointed a Captain in the 203rd Battalion. In the attack on Hill 70 in August 1917, he led his platoon to its objective, high up on the captured ground, when he was shot by a sniper through the throat and lung. He died two days later at the Clearing station, and is buried at the Lapugnoy Military Cemetery in France. Ena Myrtle May Graydon, married to William Clipperton, was a sister of another brave man who gave his life for liberty: Floyd Everard Graydon.

Floyd was born on April 20th, 1880 in Streetsville to Robert and Sarah Jane Graydon. He moved to, and enlisted in, Winnipeg, and died on August 28th, 1918.



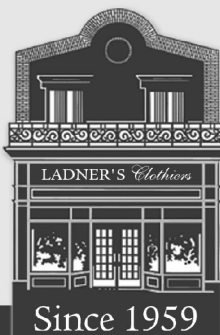
Streetsville Cenotaph,
Main St. & Queen St. HM

The Malton cenotaph was dedicated in 1978, in memory of the war dead of Malton. In 1978, the Cenotaph committee of the Malton Branch 528 of the Royal Canadian Legion unveiled this monument dedicated to the war dead of Malton and surrounding areas. The Cenotaph is located in Wildwood Park, fronting Derry Road. Robert, Arthur and George Whitehead were three brothers from Streetsville that fought and fell in the Great War. Robert and Arthur were twins, born on July 1st, 1896. Their older brother George was born on October 17th, 1892. Their parents were Robert and Elizabeth Whitehead from Toronto, Ontario. Arthur died on February 6th, 1918; George on March 30th, 1917; and Robert on July 17th, 1916.



Malton Cenotaph,
Wildwood Park, HM

There are many more cenotaphs, and cenotaph stories, from across Mississauga. Sometimes there might not be enough information for the veterans killed in the war, and therefore it is difficult gathering stories related to them. The aim is to have a list of all the Mississauga cenotaphs with names of all the men who fought and fell in the Great War. Any stories or pictures related to those who fought for freedom and died in World War One would be greatly appreciated by Heritage Mississauga and will assist us in developing a cenotaph biography list for all of Mississauga.



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Todd Ladner

This Old House: Reflections on the Distinguished Career of Sir John Beverly Robinson

By Sharifa Khan

Working at the Grange for about two months now, I have come to realize how utterly unaware I was of Mississauga's history, and, by extension, its heritage. From interesting personalities to beautiful old homes and noteworthy events, I'm dismayed at the fact that most students in Mississauga go through the education system without learning much about local history. As Heritage's summer librarian, I've had the chance to browse through an impressive selection of books on this topic, and am often amazed at what I find.

I am also particularly struck by the building in which I work. The Grange, located at 1921 Dundas St. West, is an old house with a lot of history, and depending on who you talk to, one or two ghosts. Featured in Terry Boyle's "Haunted Mississauga", the Grange is a fascinating old house. Entering into the brightly- painted display room towards the front of the house, however, one also becomes cognizant of the fact that the house is also a remarkable heritage site due to the people who once inhabited it. In particular, one is left with quite an impression of Sir John Beverly Robinson, the first owner of the Grange, whose portrait, complete with a commemorative plaque listing all his (numerous) titles, hangs in this particular room. The Grange was not intended to be a year-round residence for Robinson, however. Rather, it was to serve as his summer getaway. John Beverly Robinson, and by extension, his connection to the house, is important for a number of reasons, all of which are attached to his extensive career as both a politician and as one of Upper Canada's most accomplished jurists.

John Beverly Robinson is known today for his early accomplishments and a plethora of rulings he made as a judge, as well as his involvement in a few controversies in the Canadas at the time. Interestingly, the Grange was to act as a reprieve from this work, for however short a time. For those interested in heritage buildings, it might be of further interest to note that Robinson's father, Virginia loyalist Christopher Robinson, had a plantation in Virginia which appears to be the inspiration for the "Grange" here in Mississauga. The name seems ultimately to go back to a property the family held in England.

Although Robinson owned the house for a short time (his main home was located at York, present day Toronto), the importance of this figure to Mississauga's heritage in particular, and to Canadian history in general should not be understated. That such an accomplished and nationally significant individual once lived here is a telling example of the connections of various old Canadian towns to the nation as a whole. Moreover, the road which leads to the Grange carries his name, as does another local road.

As one of the most influential jurists of his time, and having quite an impressive career (Robinson was made temporary Attorney General for the duration of the War of 1812 and would also later hold the office of Chief Justice), this intriguing character deserves a review. Ultimately, the picture that emerges of Sir John Beverly

Robinson is that of a fierce loyalist and uncompromising upholder of the law. A man who desired to see Upper Canada more ingrained with, than separated from England. Also a stern legal professional, some would argue that his intense and often unwavering enforcement of the law was ultimately one of his major faults.

Due to space constraints, I will examine four main aspects of Robinson's career. Specifically, his time in government spanned three particularly controversial and high- profile events in the history of Upper Canada. As my last point will illustrate, however, Robinson is not exempt from criticism.

John Beverly Robinson was named Acting Attorney General of the province during the War of 1812, at the age of 21 (before being called to the bar). While there were speculations that such a position being granted to so young and inexperienced a man was undoubtedly due to family connections, and although this probably played a role, it is also apparent- from written accounts and the testimony of Chief Justice Powell - that Robinson was appointed largely on the basis of merit. Significantly, it should be noted that during this tumultuous period he appears to have performed well, winning the admiration and support of his superiors in legal circles. Perhaps the most controversial and high- profile task during this time was his responsibility to decide the fate of accused rebels in what is today known as the "Ancaster Bloody Assize of 1814".

This affair involved the alleged participation of men residing in Upper Canada who had committed treason against Britain by taking up arms alongside American forces during the war. While the military pushed for military rule and were anxious to make an example of suspected traitors whilst striking down and limiting the use of the law, Robinson insisted on fair trials for the accused. He declared, "I am not giving any official direction to a step which considered in the abstract, is illegal." Thus, the Acting Attorney General refused to allow military law to prevail, noting that imposing such a measure without the permission of the Assembly went against the British Constitution. Consequently, the trials took place at a more objective location. While more hawkish members of the administration, such as General Sir Gordon Drummond, who insisted upon swift punishment and guaranteed convictions, desired that the trials should take place in York (away from the Western areas of the colony where American sympathies were strong), Robinson argued that they should be held in the Niagara District. The Ancaster Courtroom, reasoned the Acting Attorney General, would provide a neutral environment. Thus, while Drummond believed the most effective way of governance in the context of these events was to strike fear into the hearts of the inhabitants, Robinson believed that a more compassionate response would ultimately win the loyalty of the people. He took this position due to his understanding of the law, and the relationship between the rulers and the ruled. That is, that the rulers' exercise of power is based on responsibility and not right over their subjects. Thus, accountability and recognition to what he saw as a social compact between these two parties was essential. As Patrick Brode notes, this philosophy is "pure whiggism" and is based on Blackstone's *Commentaries on the Laws of England*. This book advocates the idea that laws are an extension of this social compact between the ruler(s) and the ruled.

It is undoubtedly admirable that such a young man, with so little experience and very few proven credentials took such a strong stand against the military establishment during a period of war.

Continued in the February 2009 issue of Heritage News.



Sharifa Khan & Portrait of Sir J.B. Robinson at the Grange, HM

Kite Strings, Dreamcatchers and Spirits on the Move!

By Vanessa Gouveia

When I joined Mississauga Heritage two years ago as a volunteer I never thought I would ever become this involved in the goings on there. You might have seen me running around in historical costumes with my partner in crime Nicole Mair on several HM outings such as Haunted, the Mississauga Heritage Showcase and the Spirits Wine Tasting festivities that Heritage hosted. But when the opportunity came for me to join the Heritage community officially, I jumped at the chance. To me this was a dream come true. Not only would I be learning about the community I love, I would be able to do what I do best and plan bigger and better events (and not to mention be in costume and not get weird looks).



Vanessa Gouveia, Heritage Showcase, HM

Now, I had worked in events planning before and was looking forward to applying my skills here at Heritage, but now it was like I was learning everything from scratch. Basically, I was getting into the thick of it and getting my hands dirty. In the four months I was with Heritage I helped plan diverse events such as Aboriginal Day and Clarkson's 200th Anniversary in June, Doors Open and Streetsville's 150th Anniversary coming up in September (with many fun filled activities and girls in historical costumes), Haunted Mississauga in October (this year's theme is "The Spirits of Jalna") and the Annual Mississauga Heritage Ball in November.

This summer was filled with fashion shows and costumes, stress and chaos, crayons and kid pages, updating and saving, and most importantly Googling. It was on my first day of work I learned that Google was to be my best friend. I dove into working on the Heritage Ball starting in May and for days all I had on my mind was the bands, costumes, and centerpieces. For the centerpieces I was to find cedar rope (which was quite difficult as everyone I encountered thought I was troubled as it was the middle of summer and cedar is a "seasonal plant"), silver stands (that could only be "yay tall") and the hardest to find, Dreamcatchers (with a history like ours, how hard could it be to find a Dreamcatcher, right?).

On outings to the Mississauga Golf and Country Club to see the venue and the site for the new heritage plaque I became the measuring tape. When you are out there and you see the memorial garden, you can spout these facts: one rock is twelve "Vanessa's feet" by three "Vanessa's feet" by "up to Vanessa's belly button". Being a short person that does not seem like big rocks but these were bigger than me! I've seen drawings and I personally can't wait until it is built. It will be beautiful. So much thought went into every detail in this project and you won't know what I mean until you see it yourself. Make sure you get out there and see the spectacular creation once it's done.

Other days, not filled with field trips, were filled with arguing with Sam (one of the Grange's friendly ghosts), learning about Mississauga with Mary Finley, and fighting with the many mechanical devices at Heritage. There always seemed to be a

problem with this computer or the printer and the old photocopier. We all blamed it on Sam (which probably made him act out more on the equipment).

I soon became the go-to girl for figuring out the photocopier (who I humbly named Steve) and was whizzing out copies of kids' pages for both Aboriginal Day and Clarkson's 200th Anniversary. But Steve's days were numbered and I had to part with dear Steve. He was replaced with a flashier new one whom I named Stella. That way when I couldn't get her to work I could pull a Marlon Brando and everyone in the office would know that Stella was acting up again.

As summer slowly came to a close it seemed the work was endless and as I write this in my residence room forty minutes away I cannot help but smile at the memories and my time at the Grange. As a historical film arts student, learning about the past and having fun at the same time have always been an interest to me. Here at HM, everyday is filled with research, laughter and meeting new people. The time I spent here I will cherish until our paths meet again.

On another note, I hope that everyone will get to experience all that Heritage has to offer and attend some of the events in the upcoming months (no shameless plugs here!) and get to know the wonderful people that work at the Grange. These are the people that make it happen and made my summer worthwhile.

Dixie Reunion

By Matthew Wilkinson

A reunion for former Dixie area residents was held at Chudleigh's Entertainment Farm on Saturday, June 14th, 2008. Estimates put the turn out at between 700 and 1000 people, and it was a tremendous day of reminiscing, rekindling old friendships, rejoicing in the company of family and friends, and sharing recollections of old Dixie. Everywhere one looked, nametags spelt out surnames long entrenched in Dixie's past: families names like Brunskill, Chudleigh, Clarkson, Death, Hughes, Kennedy, Lever, McCarter, McCarthy, Oughtred, Pallett, Pengilley, Stewart, Tiveron and Watson, amongst many, many others. These families were not only prominent farmers and agricultural producers, but also the cornerstones of the community that grew up around them and became an integral part of the City of Mississauga. The reunion was spurred by the closure of the former Dixie Cold Storage facility, one of the last visible links to the historic village of Dixie.



Grant Clarkson and daughter Barbara, HM



Dixie Reunion, HM



Old Friends reminiscing at the Reunion, HM

Historic Madill Barn Lost to Fire

The Madill Barn: 1952-2008

By Matthew Wilkinson

Another piece of Mississauga's history was lost to fire in the early morning hours of July 6th, 2008. Benson and Marjorie Madill, long time supporters of the Old Britannia Schoolhouse, Heritage Mississauga, and many of our partner



heritage organization throughout Peel, awoke to see their historic barn completely engulfed in flames. Over the years motorists traveling along the 401 and Hurontario Street will have no doubt noticed the large white barn near the northwest corner of the intersection, proudly emblazoned with the word "Madill" across the front gable. For Ben and Marjorie, awakening to their barn burning this summer, it was an unfortunate sense of deja-vu. This is second barn they have lost to fire on their property, albeit more than 50 years apart. Ben and Marjorie still live on property, having purchased the land in 1946. Originally they owned 150 acres, and still own six acres, and up until last year Ben, at the age of 93, still farmed the property. Ben praised the efforts of the fire department in handling the massive blaze, but the loss of the barn, which was a source of pride and joy, was a shock. Ben will not visit the remains of his barn, but thankfully there were no injuries in the blaze.

The barn, which was a complete loss along with all of its contents, had stood as sentinel overlooking our city since it was built in 1952, atop the stone walls of the earlier barn. The loss of this barn is lamentable on many levels, it is the loss of one of Mississauga's last remaining barns and symbols from our agricultural past, and perhaps the loss of our city's best remaining barn structure. But closer to home, the tragic loss of this heritage structure has hit the Madills hard, and by extension to the larger heritage community in Peel, who has cherished Ben and Marjorie as our own heritage heroes over the years. All of our thoughts and best wishes go out to the Madills. Although the cause of the fire remains officially uncertain, this certainly seems symbolic of modern development's relentless push to obtain more land and push our agricultural remnants into a thing of the past.

The excerpt below is taken from the Winter 2006 Newsletter from the Old Britannia Schoolhouse, published by the Friends of the Old Britannia Schoolhouse. It was originally published in The Brampton Conservator, June 26, 1952. We reprint it here in commemoration of the passing of an era.

Hoe-Down Friday Night At Madill's New Barn

*Big Dance To Celebrate Completion Of Mammoth New Building
Erected To Replace Barn Lost in Fire Last January*

The "yo-heave" of the barn raisers gives way to the shouts of the square dancers this Friday night when Ben Madill throws open his big new barn for an evening of old and modern dancing. Located on Ben's farm, five miles south of Brampton on the west side of No. 10 highway, the barn is one of the largest in the county and was built by W. E. Silk of Shelbourne.

The timber frame structure is 104 x 60 and cost more than \$15,000 not including the stone and concrete stable basement which was salvaged from the fire which destroyed the barn in January. The barn is 40 feet high from the tongue-and-groove second floor to the peak. Tongue-and-groove flooring was used to eliminate the necessity of an under floor, and at the same time keep the stable free from haydust and chaff.

The well built structure is supported by 159 rugged elm beams of various sizes. There are two hips, and throughout the design the traditional barn-building methods have been observed. Wooden dowels have been used wherever possible. The elm used in the building was gathered throughout various parts of the province and cut at Shelburne. The lumber used in the sheeting is spruce from Quebec. There is as much timber in the Madill barn as in three ordinary barns.

It took four days to raise the barn, with 25 neighbors pitching in on the pike poles and pulley ropes. A tractor was used to help raise the big beams. In the farmhouse, Mrs. Madill and a half dozen neighbours' wives worked equally hard to keep up with the appetites. A well stocked table required plenty of refills.

Mr. Silk, his son Dave, and his nephew, Alvin Silk, built the barn. Mr. Silk Sr. is a veteran barn builder, having been at it for 48 years. He learned his trade from his father and admits that the cost of barn-building today is a much more expensive proposition than it was half a century ago when many timbers could be cut from the farm. He has built more than 200 barns in his career, and recalls that his father had built as many as 20 in one year.

The best of material has gone into the Madill barn and modern ventilators and top grade roofing complete the structure. In the fire which destroyed the original barn in January, Ben Madill lost about 180 pigs, four calves and 200 chickens. The public is invited to the dance tomorrow night with admission 50 cents. Bert Gardhouse is floor manager.



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Heritage Matters

Heritage Mississauga

September 7, 10am-5pm Library Book Sale, Living Arts Ctr
September 13 10am- 5pm Streetsville 150th, Pearl St.
September 20, Trafalgar Family Day 10am-3pm Palermo Schoolhouse Dundas St. & Highway 25
September 27, Doors Open Meadowvale 11am-5pm Free

Art Gallery of Mississauga

September 7, Last day to view Explorers and Dandies in an open letter to Canada Post: Frederick Hagan and Kent Monkman and Adrian Blackwell: Model for a Public Space

Friends of the Britannia Schoolhouse

September 13, Celebrating Streetsville 150 - display and activities in the Masonic Hall on Thomas Street 10am-4pm
September 27, Doors Open Meadowvale - display and activities in the Meadowvale Community Hall 10am-4pm
November 13 & 15, Christmas Sale 10:30 am to 3 pm, in the Atrium of the H.J.A. Brown Education Centre Hurontario Street at Matheson Boulevard. Lots of unique wooden toys and other items especially chosen for Christmas giving.
November 30, Christmas Open House and Sale at The Old Britannia Schoolhouse 1- 4 pm. Visit the Schoolhouse decorated for Christmas in Victorian style with a fragrant tree, evergreen swags and paper chains and enjoy Christmas goodies and mulled cider as you browse through our unique items for sale.

Halton Peel O.G.S.

September 28, at Oakville Public Library, 120 Navy St., 2:00pm Matthew Wilkinson, Historian with Heritage Mississauga *Lost Villages of Toronto and Trafalgar Townships*.
October 26, at Oakville Public Library, 120 Navy St. at 2:00, Glenn Williams, Archival/Conservation Specialist, Carr McLean will speak on paper conservation products.
November 23, at Four Corners Public Library, 64 Queen St., East, Brampton at 2:00, J. Brian Gilchrist, Region of Peel Archives, will speak about Using Education Records in Genealogical

Mississauga Arts Council

October 20, The MARTYS: the 2008 Mississauga Arts Awards, 5:30-11pm \$75, Stage West All-Suite Hotel Theatre, 5400 Dixie Rd, 905-238-0042 mississaugaartscouncil.com
Description: - dinner, show, silent auction and awards. Celebrating excellence in the arts in Mississauga. Join us for spectacular performances by Opal, Debi Sander Walker and the Mississauga Choral Society. Hosted by James Cunningham of Just-For-Laugh fame. Cash prizes of \$1000 will be awarded to five emerging and established artists from media, literary, visual and performing arts categories. There are also two awards given out to honour citizens who have made a significant contribution to the arts community, the Laurie Pallett Patron of the Arts Award and the Beverley Ryan Volunteer Award. Winners of these categories are awarded \$500 each.

Mississauga South Historical Society

September 16, 7:30pm First United Church, Port Credit. Speaker Peter Kuitenbrouwer "Walking Across Mississauga", Contact President Eric Gibson for meeting information 905-274-0927.

Museums of Mississauga

September 13 -14, Fall Fair and Folk Festival, Bradley Museum
October 26, Tricks or Treats, Historic Halloween Fun 1-4pm, Benares Historic House, \$12 per family
October 29, Haunted Mississauga, Benares Historic House, "Spirits of Jalna" Call Heritage Mississauga for tickets 905-828-8411
December 14, Home for the Holidays, 1-4 pm, Bradley Museum and Benares Historic House, Free admission with donation to the food bank
September 28-January 31 Changing Exhibits:
200 years of Daily Life in Clarkson, Through December, Bradley Museum
The Harris Family and Clarkson's 200th Anniversary, Through September at Benares Historic House
Recreation in Mississauga, Benares Historic House

Streetsville Historical Society

October 9, Memories of Norm, 7:30 at Specialty Care, 4350 Mississauga Road, Streetsville.

**For more Heritage Matters information
please call Jane at 905-828-8411 ext "0"**

October 29, Haunted Mississauga, "Spirits of Jalna" Benares Historic House

November 15, Mississauga Heritage Ball, Mississauga Golf & Country Club. 6:30pm

November 30, Santa Claus Parade

December 6, Carolling At the Grange/48th Birthday Party 6pm

"Get Back to Simple Living"

The Museums of Mississauga



The Museums of Mississauga are proud to be hosting the Fall Folk Festival and Environmental Fair at Bradley Museum on September 13 & 14 from 11am to 4pm. Formerly known as just the Bradley Museum Fall Fair, this exciting focus change will highlight "Living Green in Mississauga". The City of Mississauga Environmental Services Unit and the Museums have teamed up to encourage companies to showcase their green products / services and to highlight what they are doing to conserve the environment. As well, our visitors can explore how the 1830's settlers were good environmental stewards. Using Bradley House, we will share how the 3 Rs Reduce, Reuse and Recycle were part of their daily life. "Get Back to Simple Living" will show us how 21st century technologies, products and services can help us decrease our eco-footprint. Our new focus compliments the traditional Fall Fair activities historic demonstrations, horse and wagon rides, kid's activities and three folk music venues throughout the site. This is a FREE event with a donation of non-perishable food item for Compass Food Bank.

2008 Santa Claus Parade: Mark Your Calendars!



By Rose Langley

It may seem early to be thinking about Christmas, but mark November 30th, 2008 in your calendars. That is the date of this year's Santa Claus Parade. It is also the first year that Heritage Mississauga will have a float in the parade.

We need your support. We are looking for anyone interested in joining the Carolling Party on the float. There will be seats available on the float to sit for the length of the parade. If you would like to be part of the float, please email Rose at rose_langley@hotmail.com.

Also, if you have an artificial Christmas tree or decorations that you can loan to Heritage Mississauga for the day, please contact Jayme at jgascar@heritagemississauga.org or call 905-828-8411. We appreciate all loans and donations and will return loaned items after the parade.

For those unable to participate on the day of the parade, we look forward to seeing you along the parade route. We would like to thank our sponsors: Paul Archambault, Frankie's Float Service for donating the tractor trailer and driver, and Allen Candy for the candycanes that will be given out along the route and for the staff who be joining us as walkers along the parade route.