



Heritage News

Celebrating Over 200 Years of History

The Newsletter of the Mississauga Heritage Foundation Inc.

Summer 2005
Vol. 18/Issue 3

Inside...

President's Message	pg. 2
Miigwech Friends!	pg. 3
Guess who's coming to dinner?	pg. 4
Meadowvale Village 25th anniversary celebration	pg. 5
Heritage Kite Fly	pg. 6-7
Doors Open Mississauga	pg. 8
Take A Hike!	pg. 8
Credit Indian Reserve	pg. 9
Richview/Willow Grove Cemetery Restoration Project	pg. 10
Sandford Farm House Fate	pg. 11
Heritage Matters	pg. 12

The "Maanjidowin" of Mississauga

By Katherine Gutierrez, Project Coordinator



Photo courtesy Mississaugas of the New Credit

The "coming together" of cultures, the "gathering" of individuals, the "Maanjidowin" of the people... Such phrases come to mind as the month of August approaches. "Maanjidowin" is the Ojibwa word for the "gathering", and is also the theme of our huge event to celebrate Over 200 Years of History in Mississauga.

August 2nd, 1805, marks the beginnings of the city we know today as Mississauga. Treaty 13A was signed between the Mississaugas and British officers. On Tuesday, August 2nd, 2005, MHF along with the Mississaugas of the New Credit First Nations will celebrate the 200th anniversary of the signing of Treaty 13A, the precursor to major immigration to Mississauga. To commemorate such an important historical event, we invite all of you to the "Maanjidowin Feast", held at the Waterside Inn in Port Credit, just steps away from the Government Inn where the treaty was originally signed. Tickets will be available to the public at a cost of \$75 each. This "themed" dinner will feature fife and drummers, as well as a play entitled "The Inn Keeper and the Treaty". Written by Eric Gibson, this play is an historical interview with Major Thomas Ingersoll, the inn keeper of the Government Inn at the time of the signing of Treaty 13A. Take advantage of the sights of Port Credit, the smells of a specially themed feast provided by the

Waterside Inn, and the sounds of traditional fife and drums, and join us in celebrating the origins of our common heritage which bonds all individuals in the city of what we know today as Mississauga.

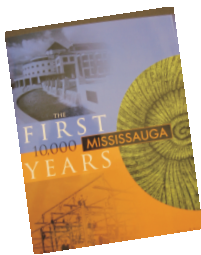
From sunrise to sunset, the "Maanjidowin" takes over Mississauga. This free, fun-filled, family event will take place in J.C. Saddington Park in Port Credit, just south of the lighthouse, on Saturday, August 6th, 2005. This historical, once-in-a-lifetime opportunity, celebrates Over 200 Years of History in Mississauga in which the whole community should participate, as we are what makes up Mississauga.

The day begins at early dawn, when an Elder from the First Nation community will lead a sacred sunrise ceremony to open the day. The Marketplace then opens to the public at 10:00 am, where unique arts and crafts vendors, as well as exhibitors from the Mississauga community will enrich and inspire the lives of all. New and exciting designs in the form of jewellery, clothing, and wooden crafts will be available for everyone to see and purchase. Native crafters will be onsite to provide traditional arts and crafts for the public. Exhibitors include different community groups within Mississauga, such as the Mississauga Firefighters, the Peel Environmental Network, and the Mississauga Sports Council just to name a few. While the 'Marketplace' may become a focal point at the Park, other activities will also be occurring. Continuous entertainment will be provided throughout the day. *Cont'd on page 4*



Photo courtesy Mississaugas of the New Credit

Mississauga the First 10,000 Years



Purchase your copy from the Foundation's Heritage Gift Shop at the Robinson Adamson Grange

This hardcover book is only **\$44.95.**
\$35.00 for members
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President's Message

By Marian M. Gibson, MHF President

The Foundation has completed the year with its AGM at The Grange on May 26, bringing to a close a very busy period of heritage activities. It has been good to meet so many of you at many of these - the Kite Fly last June, the Open House and the Haunted Mississauga lecture and Spirit Tour through the new heritage conservation district of Old Port Credit Village in October. Our fund raising annual Winetasting and Silent Auction in November and the MHF Heritage Showcase which continues to grow, in February. Especially, we were all thrilled to move into the Robinson Adamson Grange last December, and while continuing our normal heritage activities, programs and initiatives, we have also been settling into and shaping what we do in our new home.

As I welcome returning Board members for the coming year, Vice President Scott Mair, Secretary Barbara O'Neil, Treasurer Paul Smith, Directors Greg Carraro, Louroz Mercader, Meera Mody, Jennifer Rockburne, Tom Urbaniak and Veronica Zafir, I give an especially warm welcome to our new Directors, Jacqueline Thomson and Don Hancock. I note with pride that they are invigorated and ready to begin the next phase in MHF's evolution of heritage stewardship.

Already our thoughts and ideas have explored what we do, or should be doing, as the Mississauga Heritage Foundation, an independent volunteer group within this community, and this is stimulating our energies to strengthen the heritage service we



Haunted Spirits, 2004
Photo courtesy, MHF

deliver to the citizens of Mississauga. This re-evaluation of our work has been an exhilarating experience and has brought forward some refreshing thoughts and preliminary plans for our future work.

There is great excitement around our very special celebrations for the Maanjidowin Feast on August 2 and the Maanjidowin Family Day on August 6. Tickets for the Maanjidowin Feast are now available at \$75.00 each and can be purchased by calling the Foundation office at 905-828-8411. On the Saturday, Family Day, you are invited to take a step back in time over more than 200 years of the history of this area. There is no entrance fee, you will receive a special souvenir gift to commemorate the Bicentennial of the signing of Treaty 13a between the Mississaugas and the British, and there will be a wonderful array of things to see and do. What's more, there will be special foods - meats, fruits and vegetables that reflect what would have been available here in 1805, - available for you to taste and enjoy.

I look forward to meeting you at these events especially. After all, it isn't often we have a chance to celebrate a Bicentennial together. You are even invited to come in costume from any of the periods of the more than 200 years of our history, or from your own cultural heritage. This will surely add to the colour and memorable spectacle; from the Sunrise Ceremony and lighting of the Sacred Fire, to the traditional Powwow, followed by music and dancing to Port Credit's well-known group, Common Unknowns, at the end of the day.

My very best wishes for a safe, healthy and enjoyable summer to you and your family.

Write Your Memoirs Everybody Can!

Not only can everybody write memoirs, everybody should enjoy the process.

From September 28th to December 7th Gayle Dzis will present this workshop at the Grange. After working for 10 years in the Ontario School System teaching English and History, Gayle developed this Life History Writing course: "Write Your Memoirs, Everybody Can". The class format is a cross between a business meeting and a seminar.

Everybody who can write a sentence in English, who can organize a grocery list and who is willing to come to a three hour workshop once a week for ten weeks is welcome to participate. The maximum size of a workshop is sixteen. The age range is typically mid forties to mid eighties. Formal education ranges from grade six to doctorate.

Life experience plays the key role in life history writing. The cost for the workshop series is \$150.00 and is due at time of registration. Admission is on a first registered basis. To register please call the Heritage Foundation office at 905-828-8411.

Begin Your Memoirs

Enjoy the Process

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, Human Resources Development Canada, 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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Miigwech Friends!

By Jayme Gaspar, MHF Executive Director

What an exhilarating spring it has been for heritage in Mississauga. School programs, exhibits and displays at residents associations, community and partner events have kept MHF staff, board and volunteers very busy. These opportunities presented by the community to showcase research, programs and events are very much appreciated.

As we move into the warm summer months we invite you to join us at a number of events. On July 9th for the first time we will join the Mississauga News Community Picnic at J.C. Saddington Park. We will also join the Chinese community once again for the Chinese Arts Festival at the Living Arts Centre on July 23rd and 24th. We hope to see you at both of these very special events. In August, along with the Mississaugas of the New Credit we host the Maanjidowin Feast on August 2nd commemorating the signing of Treaty 13A and on August 6th we will celebrate from sunrise to sunset the over 200 years of history in Mississauga. We will also welcome former students from Erindale Public School at their reunion on August 20th (please see notice on page 5 for more information).

A Special Invitation

A special invitation is extended to our community to join the Mississaugas of the New Credit at their annual Pow wow in Hagersville on their Reserve. This event will be held on August 20th and 21st. For more information please view the Pow wow website at www.newcreditpowwow.com.

It's A Full House At The Grange!



Each year the Foundation applies for grant funding to hire students to assist in its programs. We are very pleased to welcome five students through our doors this summer. Let me introduce you to them: Meaghan FitzGibbon is continuing work on the Cultural Landscape Inventory

that we began last year, researching properties for listing on the City of Mississauga's Heritage Inventory or for possible designation.

Lindsay Cormack has taken up the enormous task of cataloguing the vast collection of documents that the Foundation has been collecting for the past few years. Once recorded in our electronic

database we will be ready to open the Resource Centre for the community. Part of this collection is our library. We encourage anyone who would like to donate heritage books to please call the Foundation.

We welcome back this year Bryan Ho as our "Educationeer". Bryan worked with us in 2004 developing the "Mississauga OnThe Homefront" World War Project. This year Bryan will be completing the Native Education Kit and developing materials for teachers relating to our early inhabitants.

Katherine Gutierrez has joined us through a Ministry of Culture grant to coordinate the Maanjidowin project, which celebrates our bi-centennial. This event promises to be an exceptional experience I hope that you will all attend both the Feast on August 2 at the Waterside Inn and the Family Day on August 6th. Please call our office for tickets to the Feast or for further information.

Our fifth student, Tanja Kosovski, has come on board as our Event Planner for the summer. Working on our Heritage Kite Fly and as an assistant to both the Education department and the Maanjidowin project, Tanja is helping to keep us all on track.

We appreciate the support of Heritage Canada, Human Resources Development Canada, and this year the Ministry of Culture in helping to further the work of the Foundation.


Community Digitization Project

For many months the Foundation has been working with the Canadiana Room of the Central Library, Museums of Mississauga and the Heritage Department at the City to develop a community heritage database. This database that will be hosted on the City ePortal, will allow viewers to search for information and images from the groups collections. It is hoped that this project will be up and running before the end of the year. Look to our October Heritage News for further information.

Osprey Marsh Project

The community of Lisgar, the Meadowvale Rotary and the City of Mississauga, officially opened the Osprey Marsh enhancement project on Saturday May 28. Through the generosity of a Trillium Grant and a donation from Meadowvale Rotary the marsh trail is now complete and includes benches and interpretive plaques. The MHF worked with the committee to develop the material for the plaques. Hundreds of residents and friends of the community joined in the annual tree planting and barbeque after at Osprey Green. The MHF joined the Mississauga Sports Council at the "Trailblazers" booth making kites for the children.

Our thanks for the tireless efforts of all those who participated on the Steering Committee, the planting day and during the Barbeque. It truly was a wonderful day. Congratulations to all!

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Maanjidowin cont'd

Métis fiddlers will amaze the audience with their talent and grace, while the First Nation lacrosse team will challenge the local Mississauga team to a match of both ability and skill. There will be a 'Children's Area' where traditional native games and old pioneer games will be provided for all children to participate.

At around noon, there will be the re-enactment of the signing of the modern friendship treaty between the Mississaugas of the New Credit First Nation and the City of Mississauga. Following this re-enactment, the Pow wow will begin, which will feature festive singing, traditional drumming, and skilled dancing by the Mississaugas of the New Credit First Nation. The Pow wow opens with a flag song, also known as a Native National Anthem. Sung in Ojibwa, this song is accompanied with the raising of the Canadian flag over the Pow wow dance arbour. The drum is a symbolic instrument to the Mississaugas as it represents the Heartbeat of Mother Earth. This in turn represents the heartbeat of all First Nations, and is treated as honourable and of high regard. The Pow wow procession then offers a number of honour songs and dances which provide a tribute to the 200 year relationship between the New Credit First Nations and the people of Mississauga.



*Artists' rendition of treaty signing
Photo courtesy MHF*

Finally, beginning at sunset, live entertainment will be provided by Mississauga's own "The Common Unknowns" that will be both invigorating and soulful for all. Participating in such an event will enrich the lives of all individuals, both young and old. From unique and diverse arts and craft vendors to the assortment of different cuisines available, from traditional native rituals to cultural and ethnic varieties, the "Maanjidowin" features something for everyone, for all ages and for all interests.

For more information about the "Maanjidowin" and the schedule of the above events, please contact the Mississauga Heritage Foundation at (905) 828-8411 or online at www.heritagemississauga.com. There is no admission fee for this event, so bring all your friends, family, and neighbours and make this community event one to remember. Come celebrate "Over 200 Years of History" in Mississauga through the "Maanjidowin".



*Photo courtesy
Mississauga's of the
New Credit*

Guess who's coming for dinner !!

By Eric Gibson

MHF has scored a brilliant coup !!


I don't know how the staff has managed this, and I am mystified by the logistics involved, but Thomas Ingersoll, part of the first immigrant family to live in the local area will be joining us for the Maanjidowin Feast at the Waterside Inn in Port Credit on August 2nd, 2005. This date is the 200th anniversary of the signing of Treaty 13A with the Mississauga First Nation. Thomas Ingersoll witnessed the event, for at the time he was the tenant of the Government Inn at the mouth of the Credit River. His first-hand account of the negotiations and of the signing should be of great interest to members and non-members alike. Thomas will be travelling forward in time to be with us, and he has agreed to share his recollections of an event which is so important in the history of what is now the City of Mississauga.

Thomas is not a shy man, but he claims that he would not be comfortable giving an after-dinner speech. Fortunately though, he has agreed to be interviewed by an MHF volunteer. I have the honour of being that interviewer, and I don't think that I am giving too much away if I tell you that Thomas will be given a little surprise during the evening. He will be introduced to a real-life descendant who will tell him how some of his progeny became moderately famous in the 19th and 20th centuries.

The "play", for lack of a better term, is in production, and the cast, with the exception of Thomas's descendant, are all MHF volunteers. The story that Thomas has to tell will be of interest to local history buffs and we hope that it will be equally fascinating to those who know little of what happened here 200 years ago. So, join us at the Waterside Inn on 2nd August. Details of ticket prices and availability can be found elsewhere in this newsletter.

Interest shown in the preparation of the play leads me to believe that there is a small core of thespians and would-be thespians among the members of MHF. I propose, therefore, that anyone who is interested in forming a group to look at the possibility of staging further productions contact me via the office. If there is indeed interest, then we can meet to talk about it.

The Grange Players, perhaps?



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Meadowvale Village Offers Glimpse Into Heritage

By Paula Wubbenhorst

Heritage enthusiasts and Meadowvale Villagers alike braved the muggy weather this June 11th to celebrate the **25th Anniversary of the Meadowvale Village Heritage Conservation District!**

Set against the backdrop of the grand Gooderham Estate, the opening ceremonies kicked off the afternoon with speeches, song and strawberry shortcake. Guests proceeded to explore the laneways of the Village and the interiors of the historic church and community hall. The latter venue housed local art, history displays and a book signing by Kathleen Hicks.

Historic streetscape photographs, set at the same vantage point from whence they were shot, allowed viewers to compare old and



Mayor McCallion, Jim Holmes and Councillor Carlson cutting the cake

activities included a barbecue, paper kite making and face painting.

Visitors delighted in the eclectic and historic character of the quaint hamlet, while Villagers shared stories and memories. All who partook in the day's festivities caught a glimpse of Mississauga's unique and varied past.



Opening Ceremonies at Rotherglen School c. 1990 (MHF)

new. Clydesdale horses and wagons quite literally transported riders back to a pioneer pace. Playing historic mill owner Francis Silverthorn, MHF Board Member Tom Urbaniak vividly animated a stroll through the streets. Another walking tour group was afforded a surprise visit to some extraordinary private gardens. Other outdoor



Dignitaries taking the first wagon ride

Support the Meadowvale Village Interpretive Plaques

We are excited to be involved in a community commemorative and interpretive plaquing program. Examples of this work can be seen at the St. Lawrence Park in Port Credit commemorating the St. Lawrence Starch Company, at the former Cooksville Brickyard, in the newly opened Cooksville Public Library, along the Culham Trail commemorating the history of the Barber Brothers' Mill, and at Osprey Marsh, in Lisgar. Our latest series of interpretive panels are designed to commemorate Meadowvale Village, Ontario's first Heritage Conservation District. The interpretive panels will be placed in a new setting at the redesigned park and conservation area at the North end of Second Line West. The only challenge facing us is raising the necessary funds to create and mount the panels, and it is in this regard that we ask our membership and friends to support the Meadowvale Village Interpretive Plaques. Supporting partners, companies and individuals will receive recognition on the individual plaques. For more information, please contact the Mississauga Heritage Foundation at 905-828-8411.

Support the Heritage Library

Do you have old books that are in need of another home? Do you have history or heritage related books that are gathering dust? We invite you to support the Heritage Library and Resource Centre at the Mississauga Heritage Foundation. We are continuing to build a small community resource library at our office in The Grange / Robinson-Adamson House, located at 1921 Dundas Street West. Books in our library are available as a public resource and MHF members are able to sign books out. It is our hope that the Heritage Library will aid in the discovery of local Mississauga, Peel, Ontario and Canadian History. It is also a wonderful way to remember and honour individuals, as books donated to the Heritage Library can be identified with a bookplate signifying either "In Memory Of ..." or "Donated By ...". We invite you to visit the Heritage Library and Resource Centre, and to help it grow! For more information, please contact Matthew Wilkinson at the Mississauga Heritage Foundation at 905-828-8411 x29, or email history@heritagemississauga.org.

Thank you for your support!



Erindale Public School Reunion

Former students of Erindale Public School (S.S.#4) are planning a reunion for past students and teachers. The reunion will take place on:

Saturday August 20th, 2005, from 1pm to 5pm



The venue for the reunion will be the former school, known as Springbank, and currently home to Visual Arts Mississauga, located at 3057 Mississauga Road. For more information, or if you would like to help, please contact Mary (Barker) Wilkinson at **905-279-5295** or email: delamary@rogers.com

The 2nd Annual Heritage Kite Fly

A wonderful success!

By Nat McHaffie

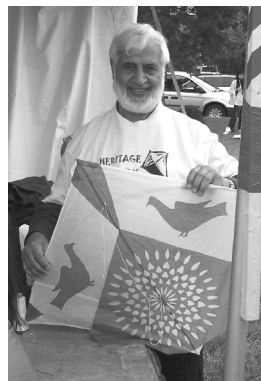
The skies were gray and the wind was fickle but over 2,000 people came to the second annual Heritage Kite Fly on Father's Day. They launched kites from around the world and the sky suddenly wasn't grey anymore. It was full of colour and pattern and the joy of flying kites.

The light wind barely lifted our big Rokkaku carrying the name of our festival sponsor, Erin Park Lexus Toyota, but music, thanks to sound equipment from Long and McQuade, soon provided a special event atmosphere.

Chinese families brought hand painted beauties in dozens of shapes: a large fan with peonies dragged a smaller fan for its tail: a red carp swayed forever upstream: a pair of neon orange swallows darted at each other: birds, butterflies and dragons fluttered everywhere.

Indian fighter kites twitched so high that they became tiny and we had to check the length of their flyer's lines to be sure that no one went over our 450 foot height limit. In the afternoon, jets landing at Pearson seemed so close that the height limit felt very real.

In a row of gaily decorated tents, our special guests demonstrated the designs and techniques for making traditional kites. Here we saw cultural heritage very much alive and being passed on to the



Maqsood Khan (left) holds a hand-made fighter kite. Takeo Maekawa (top) displays a Japanese Rokkaku.

next generation of Canadians. Above, Takeo Maekawa shows a Rokkaku kite that he and his wife have made and painted. Takeo started the day shaving bamboo with a big stiff blade for a sharply bowed, rectangular Edo kite.



Down the line of tents, Karen Shibuta and Edlyn Alvarez made rare circular Hawaiian kites. Complex cut tissue paper decorated Richard Hale's Jamaican Mad Bulls and Maqsood Kahn's big Pakistani fighters. Visitors were soon flying the Chinese

butterflies that they had made with Wendy Wen and delicately balanced Indian fighters made with Dinesh Shah. In the afternoon, one of our visitors stepped in to show us how to make the kites from her childhood and I added a new shape to my collection of traditional designs.

Alexander Graham Bell designed the tetrahedral kite in Canada as a platform for his experiments in the principles of flight. This unusual multifaceted design is a fascinating geometric like no other. The "North American" tent team, guided up by Eric Gibson, and assisted by a team of



The tetrahedral takes flight.



Jim Tam and P.J. Caletti from Erin Park Lexus Toyota, and the MHF staff display the kites of our Heritage Kite Fly sponsors.

MHF volunteers, built and assembled a sixty four-cell, multi-coloured beauty from plastic straws and tissue paper. And after many adjustments it flew!!

The Toronto Kite Flyers brought the best of modern kites to the north end of the field. Colourful line laundry and Celtic decorations competed for space with huge kites from New Zealand and a French designed rotating Bol. Several two and four string kites



Eric Curtis of the Toronto Kite Flyers.

tested the strength of their flyers even in such a light wind.

Beyond the Heritage Mississauga display, teenaged members of MYAC, the Mayor's Youth Advisory Committee, made tyvek Della Porta kites with children. This design from 16th century Italy proved to be a reliable flyer for many children running everywhere.

Special thanks to our sponsors Erin Park Lexus Toyota and Rogers Cable Television for generously supporting this event.

The Ontario Trillium Foundation has generously provided the grant that has supported, among several MHF programs, the Heritage Kite Fly through which Heritage Mississauga has expanded its cultural heritage network.



MYAC volunteers making kites with kids.

My two year Trillium grant contract is almost over so, at this time, I would like to express my heartfelt thanks and deep appreciation to the many volunteers and people of Mississauga who have extended their friendship and joined me in my wonderful time with the Mississauga Heritage Foundation.

Photos by Andy Kwan, Matthew Wilkinson, and Bryan Ho



“Open Doors and Open Minds” Doors Open returns to Mississauga

In the fall of 2005, the Doors Open program returns to Mississauga for the second time. Across Ontario, Doors Open invites visitors and residents to explore and discover hidden treasures, some of which are rarely open to the public. Province-wide, the program is considered a cultural phenomenon, and Mississauga is but one of over 40 participating communities across the province.



The first Doors Open event took place in France in 1984 and soon the idea spread to neighbouring countries. In 1991, the participating countries united the events as European Heritage Days. In 2000, the City of Toronto participated for the first time launching the first North America Doors Open event. The idea spread throughout Ontario, and in 2002 the Ontario Heritage Foundation launched Doors Open Ontario. Mississauga participated in 2003 and this year will host its second event. The hope is to make this a yearly event opening the doors of our hidden treasures for visitors to explore. On September 17th and 18th Mississauga will once again open its doors to fascinating heritage, cultural, civic, public and private sites. What makes this event so attractive is that many of the participating sites are not normally accessible to the public and that the event is free.



The Grange

We invite you to discover or revisit Mississauga's hidden treasures. This year participating sites include The Grange Robinson-Adamson House, home to the Mississauga Heritage Foundation; the Benares Historic House and Bradley House Museum, both part of the Museums of Mississauga in Clarkson; the Streetsville Gallery; the Living Arts Centre; the Mississauga Civic Centre;

the Mississauga Garden Park at Riverwood, including Visual Arts Mississauga; the Old Britannia School House; the Royal Conservatory of Music at the Adamson Estate; Blackwood Gallery at UTM and St. Peter's Anglican Church, Cemetery and Museum in Erindale. As part of the tour we will be including walking tours of Meadowvale Village Historic District -the first heritage district in Ontario and the newly designated Port Credit Historic District. More sites are sure to be added. For more information, please contact the Mississauga Heritage Foundation at 905-828-8411, or visit us at 1921 Dundas Street West; our doors are always open.

Step back into Mississauga's history with....

Cooksville: Village of the Past
Erindale: The Pretty Little Village

Verna Mae Weeks
Author

Telephone: 905-542-8615



Take a Hike!

*By Catherine Holland, Executive Director
Mississauga Sports Council*

Trailblazers launched at the May 28th Osprey Marsh Annual Tree Planting & Picnic in the Park.

The annual event is hosted by the Lisgar Residents Association (LRA) and Rotary Club of Mississauga (Meadowvale). This year the event also included the Opening Ceremonies of the Osprey Marsh Enhancement Project. Ward 9 Councillor Pat Saito and guest MPP Bob Delaney, thanked the enhancement team which included LRA and Rotary hosts, who worked together with the City of Mississauga &



Mike Toth, Chair, Trailblazers Committee and Director of Mississauga Sports Council

Heritage Foundation with generous funding from the Ontario Trillium Foundation.



MHF, Kite Making at the Picnic

The Trailblazers Team were pleased to be included in this wonderful event, taking the opportunity to launch a new Trailblazers booklet and promote physical activity on Mississauga's 180k trail system.

Maintaining healthy, active lifestyles can be a challenge. Luckily it only takes 30 minutes a day to make an improvement. Take a tip from Mississauga's Cycling Advisory Committee and "Discover Mississauga's Largest Outdoor Community Centre". Be a trailblazer and take a hike for good health.

You're worth it!

For your free Trailblazers guide visit your local community centre, Library, The Grange or www.sportsmississauga.org

Ontario Heritage Awards

Join the Heritage Foundation on Wednesday July 6th at 9:00am in the City Council Chambers as our own Tom Urbaniak and the authors of Mississauga The First 10,000 Years are honoured by the Ontario Heritage Foundation.



www.gallerystreetsville.ca

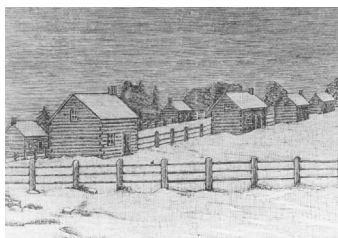
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A Lost Village: The Credit Indian Village

By Matthew Wilkinson, Historian

Our continuing research into the “Lost Villages” of Mississauga and in the spirit of the approaching Bicentennial of the signing of the “First Purchase”, we now take a look at a village with a very different history. The Credit Mission or the Indian Village, located on the site of what is now the Mississaugua Golf & Country Club on Mississauga Road, was built in 1826 under the direction of Reverend Peter Jones (Kahkewaquonaby) and the Superintendent of Indian Affairs for the Government, Colonel Givens. The money for the project came from the sale of lands within the Credit Indian Reserve, and the village originally consisted of some twenty to thirty government-built log houses. The village was located on the high grounds overlooking the Credit River, while the flat valley lands along the river were cultivated for corn, wheat and rice. An early description of the village describes: “an elevated plateau, cleared of wood, and with three rows of detached cottages, among fields surrounded with rail fences.” An 1826 census of the Credit Mission Village indicates that the village was home to some 226 Mississaugas.



*Credit Indian Village
Photo courtesy MHF*

The village grew to include a building that combined as a school, a Methodist chapel and a meeting lodge. Thanks in large part to the efforts of Egerton Ryerson, Reverend Peter Jones and his brother John, the Methodist faith became established in the village, despite government efforts to have the Mississaugas adopt the Anglican faith. Despite any misgivings, the Mississaugas soon proved that the “experiment” of creating an Indian Village was a success. They prospered, and early travellers’ accounts illustrate respect in regards to what the Mississaugas were accomplishing on their reserve, mixed however, with ignorance of the rich pre-village tradition:

“It is gratifying to perceive, that instead of the drunken and savage brawls, happiness and peace have sprung among them, good order, sobriety, and cleanliness in house and person. Their demeanor is moral, their attendance at divine worship regular, and their observance of the church service, grave and attentive.”



*Reverend Peter Jones
Photo courtesy
National Archives
of Canada*

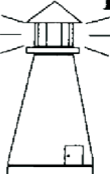
The Credit Mission prospered for many years under the guidance of Reverend Peter Jones. It grew to include some 52 family dwellings and an estimated 500-acres were cleared and cultivated. The Mississaugas used money from the sale of the Indian Lands (as originally set aside in Treaty 13A) to build and operate their own sawmill on the Credit River, and with its two saws, between two and five thousand board feet of lumber were cut daily. To help market their products, the Mississaugas built a large storehouse near the mouth of the Credit River. By the mid-1830s, the Credit Indian Village was reported as “the cleanest, neatest and most civilized of all the Indian settlements” and Native groups from around Southern Ontario visited the Credit to learn from the success of the Mississaugas.

However, time was against the Mississaugas and their prosperous village. More and more Mississaugas began to succumb to European diseases, and to pressure and hostility from encroaching non-Native settlers and government officials. By the early 1840s it became clear that “something” had to be done. Chiefs Joseph Sawyer and John Jones commenced a council meeting in 1840 to discuss the possibility of relocation. A decision regarding relocation was not reached until the winter of 1846, under the direction of Reverend Peter Jones. The Six Nations Confederacy of the Iroquois sent a delegation offering to the Mississaugas 4800 acres in Tuscarora Township. 266 Mississaugas moved from the Credit River in May of 1847. Their descendants still reside on the Six Nations Reserve south of Brantford, in a community appropriately named “New Credit”. Although not all of the Mississauga First Nations peoples relocated to the New Credit Reserve, the band membership now totals approximately 1375.

But what happened to the small village along the Credit River? As the Mississaugas left the village in 1847, some of the small cabins were used as early shelters by European immigrants. Among them was the Irish Catholic Dinan family, who fled the Great Irish Famine of 1847 and resided in the old village for a number of years. The village itself soon deteriorated and eventually vanished. The old meeting lodge and chiefs residence was the last visible structure on the site, and was pulled down in the 1950s. Today, the village and reserve is home to the Mississaugua Golf and Country Club, and an Ontario Heritage Plaque commemorates the site of the village.




*Credit Indian Village
Photo courtesy MHF*



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Richview/Willow Grove Cemetery Restoration Project and Plaque Unveiling

*By Randall Reid, Restoration
Project Coordinator*

On Sunday afternoon, June 12, 2005, about 80 people braved the heat and gathered for a memorial service and plaque unveiling to commemorate the completion of the Richview/Willow Grove Cemetery restoration project. Located within the vast Highway 427 and Eglinton Avenue interchange, over 300,000 vehicles pass the burial site daily. The original chapel and cemetery were established in the 1850s on land severed from the farm of William Knaggs. In the early 1970s the Willow Grove Burying Ground, originally located on the south side of Rexdale Boulevard, west of Kipling Avenue, in the community of Highfield, and the McFarlane family cemetery, originally located on the south side of Dundas Street, east of Highway 427, were moved to the Richview site. About \$60,000 was spent on the restoration and conservation of the monuments. Funding was provided by the Heritage Challenge Fund (administered by the Ontario Heritage Foundation), the Heritage Etobicoke Foundation, the Etobicoke Historical Society and many other smaller organizations and private individuals.



*Photo courtesy The
Etobicoke Guardian
Ian Kelso June 15, 2005*

The Richview community had early connections with present-day Mississauga. In 1852 a post office called Richview was opened. The Illustrated Historical Atlas of the County of Peel records the community thus: "Richview is a small settlement of the 6th Line, partly in the Township of Toronto and partly in the Gore, eight miles from Brampton and two from Malton." In 1886 the Richview post office moved from Toronto Township to the southwest corner of Concession III (Highway 427) and Richview Sideroad (Eglinton Avenue) in Etobicoke Township, and the surrounding community in Etobicoke assumed the Richview name.

Richview Church, formerly Union Chapel, was closely connected with other Methodist churches within Etobicoke as well as Toronto Township. The churches on the circuit varied but included at various times Sharon and Thistletown in Etobicoke Township, and Malton, Burnhamthorpe, Trinity, and Bethany in Toronto Township. In the 1950s the circuit included Sharon, Bethany and Richview. Sharon Church in the community of Highfield was closed in the mid-1950s. Due to Malton Airport expansion in the early 1960s, Bethany Church in the community of Elmbank was closed, and the cemetery was moved to Riverside Cemetery in Weston. The Richview congregation relocated to 149 Wellesworth Drive and the old church was demolished. The cemetery, however, remained in need of restoration due to damage caused by natural elements and vandalism.

In 1999, I initiated the cemetery restoration project with the support of Montgomery's Inn Museum. Some monuments required no treatment but others required extensive restoration work. Where possible, monuments that were originally positioned vertically were remounted on new bases and installed upon four-foot-deep foundations. Grave stones too badly damaged to install vertically were positioned horizontally on foundations, with a slight slant to permit water to drain from the monument. Monuments very badly

damaged and with indecipherable inscriptions were laid upon a bed of limestone filings to mark the grave site. In order to remain within budget, several McFarlane family monuments had to be omitted from the restoration project. It is hoped that sometime in the future additional funds can be raised for their restoration.

RICHVIEW CEMETERY (Plaque Text; Plaque Erected 2005)

Richview Cemetery's oldest surviving monument records the death of Ann Garbutt, who was interred in 1846, before the official establishment of this burial site. In 1853, William Knaggs sold this land from his farm for a "chapel and lot without belonging to any particular church or denomination, to be respectively devoted exclusively to religious purposes in the discretion of certain trustees," namely Mark Dawson, Robert Coulter, and William Tuer. By 1880, the Union Chapel on the site had been joined by two other local congregations. The chapel and its cemetery served Richview, a small rural community bounded by present-day Dixon Road, Rathburn Road, Kipling Avenue, and Renforth Drive. Richview consisted of farms, a post office, blacksmith, church and school.

In 1888, William and Sarah Knaggs donated additional property, south of the cemetery, upon which a new building was constructed. It was named Richview Methodist Church (later Richview United Church). The vast development of Highway 427 led to the relocation of the congregation in 1959, the demolition of the church building, and the dramatic surroundings of the cemetery today. In the 1970s the McFarlane Family cemetery and the Willow Grove Burying Ground were removed from their original sites and relocated here.

Richview Cemetery contains the graves of many of Etobicoke's founding families and their descendants, and remains today a rare surviving site within a now vanished rural community. In 2003, the site was designated under the Ontario Heritage Act.



*Photo courtesy
Randall Reid*

WILLOW GROVE BURYING GROUND (Plaque Text; Plaque Erected 2005)

The Willow Grove Burying Ground was originally located about four miles northeast of the Richview Cemetery, on the south side of Rexdale Boulevard, west of Kipling Avenue, in the community of Highfield. The original site was acquired by the Rev. William Millard from John Betteridge in the mid-1840s. In 1886, the property was conveyed to Richard O. Dixon, Robert Moody, and Thomas Gardhouse, trustees of Willow Grove Chapel, and dedicated "For a chapel and burying ground for the use of the congregation of Christians worshipping in the said chapel (not being regular Baptists), practicing baptism by immersion and the liberty of communion to all who profess faith in Christ, whether immersed or not."

In 1970, 110 bodies were removed and re-interred in the southern end of Richview Cemetery. The former Willow Grove cemetery property was then sold.

Awaiting An Uncertain Fate The Sandford Farm House

By Matthew Wilkinson, Historian

Let every dawn of morning be to you as the beginning of life, and every setting sun be to you as its close; then let every one of these short lives leave its sure record of some kind of kindly thing done for others; some goodly strength or knowledge gained for yourselves; so, from day to day, and strength to strength, you shall build up indeed, by Art, by Thought, and by Just Will ... of which it shall not be said, 'See what manner of stones are here', but, 'See what manner of men' (Quote John Ruskin, 1870)

Sitting forlorn and almost forgotten, a once majestic house at the corner of Mavis Road and Eglinton Avenue awaits an uncertain fate. Enclosed in a protected Walnut Grove, the damaged Sandford Farm House, formerly called Dulla Villa, is plainly and sadly visible to all who might drive by. We simply ask that you give pause to consider what could be. Much discussion has taken place in the past years and months between the developer, the Heritage Advisory Committee, the Mississauga Heritage Foundation, the City, concerned community residents and descendants of the family. And that discussion is ongoing. In the meantime, the old farm house sits exposed, its roof collapsed, and exposed to the elements into its seventh summer since the fire in June of 1999.



Photo courtesy, MHF

Vandals and time have wreaked havoc on the once-beautiful home, believed to have been built circa 1870, although most likely incorporating an earlier structure. The Sandford family came to the property in 1890, and owned the property until 1999. The house, even in its current state, reminds us of our not-so-distant rural past, and connects the modern subdivision to its cultural and heritage roots. The Mississauga Heritage Foundation does agree that something must be done. The house cannot continue to sit and deteriorate.

Discussions have ranged from restoration (favoured by MHF and supported by Architectural Conservancy of Ontario consultant Denis Heroux) to demolition of the structure (as proposed by the City and favoured by the developer). The stand taken by MHF is that it is never too late to act, and much is gained from preservation in terms of a sense of place and community in our vast suburban setting. Furthermore, there is a compelling economic argument to be made that preserving this designated structure will be good for property values in the development and can easily be absorbed by the subdivision's significant anticipated profits. We all wish to live in communities which we care for, and the MHF believes that a key building block in new developments is retention of cultural and physical heritage features. We just wonder, if our wish for a sense of place and community is not that dissimilar from the wishes of the other parties in the discussion, then where is the will and taking of responsibility to ensure that this 140 year-old home stands for another 140 years? The Sandford Farm House does indeed await an uncertain fate. Time and neglect may well be against us. But we are committed to working with all parties in order to find a solution.

A new law to protect heritage!

By Tom Urbaniak, MHF Director

The title may be dry, "An Act to Amend to the Ontario Heritage Act", but the significance is far-reaching. On April 28, 2005, Bill 60 received Royal Assent. Finally, we have a Heritage Act with teeth!

The original Heritage Act, passed in 1975, allowed municipalities only to delay demolition of designated properties for 180 to 270 days, or to expropriate. Municipalities now have the authority to deny demolition, subject to appeal to the Ontario Municipal Board. And for the first time the province has given itself (and not only municipalities) the authority to designate heritage properties that it considers to be of provincial significance.

The Mississauga Heritage Foundation, among others, lobbied hard for the new legislation. Following Second Reading, we proposed some amendments. One of these, taken up also by Community Heritage Ontario, was incorporated into the Bill at committee stage. It will require, in effect, that the municipal heritage committee be consulted prior to the demolition of any building on the municipal heritage register, not just the buildings that are formally designated. This has been a problem for us in Mississauga, although we negotiated with City staff last summer to ensure that this protocol would be followed. It will provide the opportunity for pre-demolition negotiations about alternatives to demolition.

Deliberations are now taking place about the regulations and guidelines that will accompany the new Act. The most contentious of these concern the circumstances under which the owner's "financial hardship" would justify demolition. The MHF has proposed some very specific criteria to try to avoid abuses.

We also believe that the new powers should be accompanied by some financial incentives, even modest ones, including grants or tax rebates to assist with intricate (usually exterior) renovations or restorations of designated properties. Start-up grants to help communities or non-profit organizations launch revolving funds also would be a powerful stimulus.

The MHF congratulates Culture Minister Madeleine Meilleur for her outstanding leadership. We look forward to continuing our work with the ministry and with our community to foster a "culture of conservation" in Ontario.

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Heritage Matters

Mississauga Heritage Foundation

July 1, Canada Day: Civic Centre 12pm-5pm, Fireworks in Port Credit and Streetsville

July 6, Ontario Heritage Award presentation Council Chambers 9:00am

August 2, Maanjidowin Feast, Waterside Inn

August 6, Maanjidowin Family Day, J.C. Saddington Park
Call 905-828-8422 for more information.

September 17-18 Doors Open Mississauga

Halton- Peel Branch Ontario Genealogical

Society September 25th 2005 at the Brampton Public Library
2:00 pm **Louise St. Denis** - Managing Director of National Institute for Genealogical Studies presents "Citing your Sources"
For more information please contact Jane Watt at 905-281-1701 or email: jwatt@ica.net

Mississauga Arts Council

Artistry At Erin Mills Town Centre

July Schedule

Jul 7/11-1pm What's On Tap Rhythm Workshop - Free
Jul 7/6-8pm Arms Length Puppets Puppet Show - Free
Jul 14/11-1pm Heritage Mississauga Early Setter Crafts- Free
Jul 14/6-8pm Liv Babra Wood Craving Demo- Free
Jul 16/11-1pm Mississauga Potters Guild Demo - Free
Jul 21/11-1pm Intuition design Kids Crafts - Free
Jul 21/6-8pm Intuition design Kids Crafts- Free
Jul 23/11-1pm Intuition design Kids Crafts- Free
Jul 28/11-1pm Arms Length Puppets Puppet Show- Free
Jul 28/6-8pm Arms Length Puppets Puppet Show- Free
Jul 30/11-1pm The Acting Studio Theatre workshop- Free

August Schedule

Aug 11/11-1pm What's On Tap Rhythm Workshop- Free
Aug 11/6-8pm Diana Lee Watercolour Workshop for kids - Free
Aug 13/11-1pm What's On Tap Tap Demo- Free
Aug 18/11-1pm Intuition design Kids Crafts- Free
Aug 11/6-8pm Diana Lee - Drawing Workshop for kids- Free
Aug 20/11-1pm Miss. Potters Guild - Hands on Demo- Free
Aug 25/11-1pm Intuition design Kids Crafts- Free
Aug 25/6-8pm The Acting Studio Theatre workshop- Free
Aug 27/11-1pm CYA Showcase Preview- Free
August 9 @ 5:30pm Mississauga Arts Council Artfully Yours @ Novotel Call 905-615-4278 to RSVP.

August 15 Tickets to the 2005 Mississauga Arts Awards (\$25) being held on October 19, 2005 at the Living Arts Centre's box office. Get a front seat on first class entertainment! Call 905-306-6000 Sign up today for the Mississauga Arts Council's MACTivities (if you don't already receive it! and why not it's free!). This weekly e-newsletter is sent out on Fridays with your weekly calendar of all your arts and entertainment events. Join the MACTivities club wendy.fairbairn@mississauga.ca.

Mississauga South Historical Society

September 20th, 2005 Meeting Texaco Room Port Credit Library 7:30pm

Heritage and You

Heritage Mississauga welcomes financial gifts to support its work. In addition, we welcome volunteer help to carry out programs, events and outreach into the community. We appreciate the support of our members, friends and donors.

Museums of Mississauga

July

July 2: "FORE! Playing A Round with the History of Golf in Mississauga" opens at Bradley Museum

July 4: Hands-On History Day Camp begins at Bradley Museum, runs weekly till end of August. Call 905-615-4100 to pre-register

July 8,15,22,29: Friday Night at the Movies. Different movies shown outdoors at Benares; 9:00 pm

July 10: Historic Demonstrations at Bradley Museum

July 17: Games Day at Benares, 1-5 pm

July 22-23: "Shakespeare Under the Stars" at Bradley Museum. 8:00 pm performance by Driftwood Outdoor Theatre Group of "The Complete Works of William Shakespeare(Abridged)"

July 24: Teddy Bears' Picnic at Benares, 11:00 am to 4:00 pm

July 31: Bradley Museum Tea Room open

August:

August 5,12,19,26: Friday Night at the Movies. Different movies shown outdoors at Benares; 9:00 pm

August 13: Theatre Unlimited Folk Concert, outdoors at Benares, 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm

August 14: Historic Demonstrations at Bradley Museum, 1:00 to 5:00 pm

August 21: Games Day at Benares, 1:00 to 5:00 pm

August 28: Tea Room open at Bradley Museum

September 17-18 Doors Open Mississauga

Streetville Historical Society

The Streetsville Historical Society, together with the Streetsville B.I.A. and Councillor George Carlson, are part of ongoing discussions and planning regarding the relocation of the Credit Valley Railway Station. Originally built in 1879, the Railway Station was relocated to its present location, at 78 William Street, in 1914. The Streetsville Historical Society hope that relocating the station for a second time will ensure its survival for future residents of Streetsville.

Membership in the MHF

Individual	\$20
Family	\$30
Senior	\$10
Schools/Students(ages 16+)	\$10
Non-profit groups	\$25
Small-Business	\$35
School Program Sponsor	\$450
Corporate	\$500

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