

THE NEIGHBOURHOOD MESSENGER

NEWSLETTER OF THE ADOLPHUSTOWN-FREDERICKSBURGH HERITAGE SOCIETY

Issue Number 16

April 2017

Celebrations and Commemorations

The year 2017 is a celebratory year for Canada. To mark the sesquicentennial of the confederation of Canada, many institutions and communities across the country have organized events or have participated in projects to recognize Canada's history. The Lennox & Addington County Museum's contribution to this national celebration has been the mounting of a number of special <u>exhibits</u> which highlight the various aspects of Canadian and local history over the past 150 years.

Our Society

Members of the Adolphustown-Fredericksburgh Heritage Society are your neighbours, your friends, your family. We are new to the area or have lived here all our lives. Some of us are descendants of the Loyalists who settled the shores of the Bay of Quinte. We all share a desire to deepen our knowledge of the history of our local community and to share our passion with others.

Our Executive

President: Vice President: Secretary: Treasurer: Webmaster: Book Directors:

Communications

Angela Cronk Frank Abby Kathy Staples Stan MacMillan Susan Wright Joan Reynolds Elizabeth Vandenberg Jane Lovell

Our Meetings

Director:

The Society meets every fourth Wednesday in the month at the South Fredericksburgh Community Centre at 6.30p.m. All welcome!!

Our Website http://www.sfredheritage.on.ca/

Contact Us

If you have questions or suggestions regarding any aspect of the Society, including *The Neighbourhood Messenger*, please contact one of the following:

- Angela Cronk, President (373-8888) <u>angelacronk@gmail.com</u>
- Jane Lovell, Newsletter Editor (373-0199) jane.lovell@kos.net

Not only a celebratory year, 2017 is also a year of commemoration. The devastating but pivotal Battle of Vimy Ridge was fought by Canadian troops 100 years ago this year. In their well-researched *The War Work of Lennox and Addington*, W.S. Herrington and A.J. Wilson meticulously document the deeds and deaths of men and women of the county. Several local men participated in the Battle of Vimy Ridge, including Montague Anions of Adolphustown and Continued on Page 2

A Glimpse of the Past



Photo: AFHS

Carr House in Adolphustown (no longer standing) Undated

Do you have an interesting photo of people, places or events that shows things as they were in the past? Let us feature it here!

The Neighbourhood Messenger is an electronic newsletter distributed exclusively to members of the Adolphustown-Fredericksburgh Heritage Society.

As the receipt of our newsletter is one of the major benefits of Society membership, we ask that you NOT forward the newsletter to friends or relatives. Instead, we suggest that you encourage anyone you think might be interested in receiving a copy of *The Neighbourhood Messenger* to join our Society. A lifetime membership costs \$5, and in addition to ensured e-mail delivery of the newsletter, Society membership entitles those interested in our local heritage to be kept informed of, and participate in, all aspects of Society activities.

Anyone can become a member by sending a cheque for \$5 made payable to the Adolphustown-Fredericksburgh Heritage Society, c/o Kathy Staples, 1105 - 828 Sutton Mills Court, Kingston, K7P 2S9.

If you are not currently an AFHS member please consider becoming one!

| Events Calendar | | | | |
|------------------|--|--|--|--|
| May 10 | AFHS Spring Heritage Dinner South Fredericksburgh Hall Displays from 5:30pm Roast Beef Dinner at 6:30pm | | | |
| May 13 | Adolphustown Township Hall UEL meeting, author Jennifer DeBruin, to present "Daughters of Conflict: Early British Colonial Captives brought to Canada by the French". 1:30pm | | | |
| May 15 | Napanee Library Ancestry & Beyond - 10:30am Learn to find your ancestors in census records | | | |
| May 20 | Old Hay Bay Church Season Opening Open daily 9am - 5pm | | | |
| June 10 | Gold-Wing Ranch Heritage Farmstead, 126 Deseronto Road & Deseronto Community Centre WW1 Royal Flying Corps 100th Anniversary Displays, artifacts, and stories about WW1 air training camps: Camp Rathbun and Camp Mohawk 9am - 4pm | | | |
| June 18 | St Alban's Church, Adolphustown Annual UEL Service – 2pm KAIROS Blanket Exercise Worship Service Learn about the historic and contemporary relationship between Indigenous and non-Indigenous peoples in Canada. | | | |
| June 20 | Lennox & Addington County Museum Crinolines, Carnaby St. and Chaos: Fashions of the 1860s, 1960s and Now 7pm | | | |
| June 27 | Allan Macpherson House House open for tours beginning June 23 | | | |
| July 7, 8 & 9 | Fairfield Gutzeit House, Bath Rendez-vous 2017 Tall Ships Regatta Board and tour the 11 tall ships stopping at the port of Bath, enjoy live music, historical naval demonstrations, children's activities, a craft beer garden, evening naval battle and more! | | | |
| August 27 | Old Hay Bay Church The Annual Pilgrimage Service – 3pm Speaker: Rev. Dr. Laurence DeWolfe, Toronto, | | | |

Celebrations & Commemorations

continued

Joseph Carroll and Bernard Zenoli of Sillsville. Montague Anions and Joseph Carroll were both wounded at Vimv. Bernard Zenoli participated in several other major battles and was both wounded and gassed, although it's unclear whether his injuries were sustained at Vimy. While these men returned to Canada, several other local men did not. Those who perished at Vimy Ridge include Arthur Carroll (22) of Conway, David Alwyer Forneri (34) of Adolphustown, McTaggart (25) of Fred South Fredericksburgh, James A. McTaggart (37) of Hawley, and Clarence McCabe (26) of Everett Edwin Miller (26) of Hay Bay. Adolphustown survived Vimv only to be killed at Passchendaele six months later.

One of the new tactics employed at Vimy was the extensive use of aerial reconnaissance. Photographs taken by pilots of the Royal Flying Corp were widely distributed to the units on the ground and afforded the Canadian forces detailed knowledge of the topography of the battlefield. This year marks 100 years since Royal Flying Corp established training camps in Canada. This anniversary will be celebrated this June in Deseronto at the site of one of those training airfields.

Heritage Spring Dinner

Please join us at our Heritage Spring Dinner on May 10th for our "Storytellers" event, where several members and guests will tell stories about our past.

Before tucking in to the roast beef dinner there will be plenty of opportunity to take in the many display boards and artifacts encircling the hall.

Aid have nearly completed their autograph quilt, having made the neat sum of over \$100.00, and still have to sell it.

> *Napanee Beaver* February 29,1929

A special display will feature a "Signature Quilt" made and sold by the Sillsville Ladies' Aid in 1929. As a popular vehicle for raising funds, signature quilts allowed both small and large donations to be made towards a specific cause. Residents of a community would pay a small fee (from 10 to 25 cents) to have their names embroidered on quilt blocks. The blocks were then sewn together and quilted, and the finished quilt was raffled off with all proceeds going to the sponsoring organization. The Ladies' Aid quilt is a fascinating record of our community, containing nearly 500 names and over 100 initials. Is your family among those stitched onto the quilt?



Please join us!

The doors of the South Fredericksburgh Hall at 2478 County Road 8 will open at 5:30 p.m. to allow the the viewing of the displays and artifacts depicting life from bygone eras. Dinner will be served at 6:30 p.m. Tickets are \$18 and are available from Kathy Staples at kathystaples0@gmail.com or (613) 767-3100.

Featured Event

This year marks a century since the Royal Flying Corp began operation in Canada. To satisfy Britain's growing need for trained airmen and for training facilities, the Canadian government agreed to establish several training sites in southern Ontario. Built and put into operation in 1917, two of these facilities were at Deseronto: Camp Rathbun and Camp Mohawk. This June, the site of Camp Rathbun and the nearby Deseronto Community Centre will once again throng with airmen as it hosts a celebration of the Royal Flying Corps in Canada. The RCAF, the Department of National Defence, the Aviation Museum of Canada and the Air Force Museum of Canada will all be on hand to participate in the event. In addition to having RFC artifacts on display, the Aviation Museum will be giving a presentation telling the story of women's contributions in support of the Pilot Training Program.

AFHS

The Neighbourhood Messenger

April 2017



The site of Camp Rathburn is now the Kimmett family farm. The Kimmett family will be displaying pictures, artifacts and sharing the stories of the two Deseronto Camps.

The details of the event and of the varied history of the Kimmett farm can be found on the farm's <u>website</u>.

The AFHS has been invited to participate in the event. We will be setting up our book table at the Community Centre and will have new WWI-themed displays on view. Drop by to take in the day and to learn of our aeronautical past!



The Gould family of Baltimore and the MacPherson family of Toronto, visitors at Camp Le Nid just north of Adolphustown, inspect the damage done to the aeroplane attempting to land at the Camp on the 8th of August 1918.

Mary Gould and her beau Lt. Ronald M. Craigmyle of the Royal Flying Corp, the presumed pilot of the downed craft.



Photos: Mary Purnell Gould

Obituary: Seniors Violently Lost

Duncan & Ruth Hough

Suddenly and violently on June 20, 2016, about 8:45 p.m. the Mellow-Windover barn east of Sillsville and the White-Magee-Hough barn to the west were destroyed by 150 -175 Km./Hr. winds.

These 2 barns are most likely the oldest structures in Sillsville. The oldest, the Mellow-Windover barn on Lot 9 Concession 2 in South Fredericksburgh, was pushed off its foundation and flattened. It is known to have been on the property in 1866 when Samuel Mellow rented and then bought the farm from the Church of England. This would make it over 150 years old.

In 2015 Brian Windover updated the barn with new steel siding and new doors. Only a week before the storm he had repaired the stone foundation. The story of that barn is told in the <u>October 2015</u> edition of the *Neighbourhood Messenger*.





Photo Erin Windover

The other elderly South Fredericksburgh resident, the White-Magee-Hough barn on Lot 4 Concession 2, lost the entire roof and upper end walls.

Mellow-Windover Barn before and after storm



Photo: Debi Stalker



White-Magee-Hough Barn before and after storm

Winds were so strong that a section of the roof roughly 20' by 15', -- strapping, rafters and steel -- was carried 319 m (as measured by Environment Canada) straight east. It destroyed a large hickory tree directly across the road from the Hough houses. Fortunately, it did not hit hydro lines, vehicles, machinery or the residences.



Hickory Tree destroyed by section of roof

This barn was not quite as old. It does not show up in the 1878 Meacham's Atlas. Donald Hough in *Two Centuries in Sillsville* reports that John White bought the farm in 1873 and speculates that the barn was built during his ownership. An indication of the age of the barn is the horse fork and trolley. It was manufactured by the M. T. Buchanan Company of Ingersoll, Ontario and runs on a 4" by 4" hardwood track. The company started in 1877 and continued for 30 years or more. However, after 1890, steel track became common due to extra strength and precision.



Buchanan Hay Trolley



Another way to date old buildings is by checking the nails used in construction. In this case, all the $3\frac{1}{2}$ " nails used on the siding were type "B" machine-made iron-cut nails. After 1890, most nails were made of soft steel wire. The only modern nails in the barn are part of recent repairs.

The large 5" spikes used to hold rafters to plates or to mount the horse fork track are blacksmith-made. The heads are not uniform. The taper of the point is not consistent and shear marks are very evident. It would seem that these were produced locally.

Cut nails





5" spikes

The collective indicators would point to the barn being constructed n the 1880s, roughly 125 years ago.

This barn was unique to the area having never housed livestock. The homestead for that farm was on Hay Bay at the extreme north end of the farm. Only about 20 acres of work land were near the main buildings. The 40 most productive acres were at the south end of the farm nearly a mile away. Accordingly, the barn was built to the south so that hay and grain could be stored there at harvest, avoiding the slow, time-consuming trip to the main buildings. Then, when time was more available, produce could be moved home. Of course, this did mean handling everything extra times. Robert Magee remembers hauling loads of loose hay down to the barn at the Bay.



Photo: Debi Stalker

The barn was 50' wide by 34'deep and 34' to the peak. Two bay mows (floor to roof) were on either side of a 12' barn floor. Large doors allowed horse drawn loads of hay to be pulled straight



through the barn. A well along the west fence provided water for horses. The roof supported was by plates running the length of the barn. held up by posts angling outwards. This left a wide open space for filling the mows.

White-Magee-Hough Barn before and after storm

The Neighbourhood Messenger

Up under the roof was mounted the hardwood track on which ran the Buchanan trolley mentioned earlier. To move loose hay from wagon to mow, a large fork was pushed into the load of loose hay, points on the fork were closed and the bundle of hay was lifted to the top of the barn by a horse drawn rope. The fork engaged the trolley which moved along the track and over the chosen mow. A trip rope released the hay and men in the mow spread out the bundle. The trolley was pulled back to centre, the fork lowered and the procedure was repeated. When it came time to move the hay home, it would be hand pitched out of the mow to the wagon below.

In the N.W. corner of the barn was a small 12' by 19' granary. This would hold roughly 600 bushels of grain from threshing time until needed at home.

bushels of grain. The mow above was used for storage of hay or straw.

The exterior of the barn was unchanged during its lifetime. However, in the 1950s, the lower 3 walls on the east side were replaced by cement block walls. A mow floor was installed over that section creating storage for 2500



Horse Fork

On the west side, the bay mow was converted to an area for a seed cleaner and machinery storage. Sliding doors replaced the original swinging doors.



Rafter

An interesting discovery was the materials used in construction. All the posts, plates and even the large (10" by 12' by 34') beams are poplar. We expected pine. Whether poplar was chosen for cost or availability is a good question. The siding is pine as well as the braces. The pins holding mortises and tenons are oak. The rafters are poplar and ash, 22' long poles, not always straight.

Choice of materials suggests the barn was built with economy in mind. We noticed that some plates had been patched, that some tenons showed rot and that sills and lower ends of posts had been replaced. However, the barn was still square and sound. The siding, though showing its age was still in decent shape.

An interesting feature of older barns is the graffiti therein, whether it be carvings or penciled notations. On a beam that was removed to prepare the west mow for storage was a nicely carved "W" for White or "M" for Magee. (I don't remember which side was up). I took a piece of the beam containing the initial to Douglas

Magee who had grown up on the farm. In jest, I suggested that "Someone had too much time on their hands." Instantly, he replied, "You had to rest the horses!" Brian, Douglas's son, later incorporated the carving into a storage box for his mother. A wonderful way to preserve their heritage.



Photo: Brian Magee Initial incorporated into box

The Mellow-Windover barn lasted over 150 years. The White-Magee-Hough barn survived roughly 125 years. Another barn in Sillsville, only 40 years old, was totally destroyed in the same storm. Had this storm not occurred, how long might these barns have survived?

Uncredited photos supplied by Ruth & Duncan Hough

Clippings

NOTICE.

WRIGHT & INGERSOLL bave BEER for Sale at Mr. Florence Donoghue's Tuvern. Kingston, in Barrels and smaller quantities, to suit purchasers. Fredericksburg, 10th January, 1836. 57z

> Kingston Chronicle & Gazette September 30, 1837

The Tramp Nuisance.

Belleville as well as Napanee has been deluged with tramps for some weeks past, and in some instances they have resorted to violence there in houses when there was not a man around. The Intelligencer thinks the city authorities should put a stop to the visits of these wagrants and protect citizens. It says : "These ruffians sleep in the police cells over night and are turned loose in the morning to prey upon, insult and abuse the, people. We are willing to admit there are some honest tramps, but the great majority of them are what they are from inclination rather than necessity, and the sooner they are made to know this city is not their Mecca the better it will be for Belleville."

Kingston News April 16, 1897

Clippings courtesy of Susan Wright & Jane Lovell

To see more old newspaper clippings check out the *Articles* page on our website: <u>http://www.sfredheritage.on.ca/articles.html</u>

He Made a Good Haul.

Last Saturday evening a smooth-talking fakir lights lamp and climbing into his rig at the corner east of Mr. John Paisley's store announced to the quickly gathering crowd that he was ready for business. Said business was the selling of electric belts, which he stated would cure almost every aliment man was bely to. He prefaced his remarks by exhibiting two big wady of bills, saying that he did not need money, but was advertising the belts. At the beginning he told a number of jokes and did some sleight-of-hand tricks. Getting down to business he commenced selling the beits. With the first few sold he returned the money and an extra dollar with it. When he got any silver he toesed it out to the crowd to scramble for, As sales fell off a dollar or so returned with the sale price would bring on another rush. Every man who bought a belt expected to get his money back and another with it, though nothing had been said to that effect. After taking in a large sum (some say all the way from \$50 to \$300) our dispenser of electricity concluded that he had about all there was in the crowd for him, and made ready Giving the crowd one more to close up. chance to be guiled, he asked for twelve men to give him \$1 each. A number did so, and on being asked what they would do in a similar case, replied that they would keep it. The fakir said, "Well, I guess that's what I'll do," and closing his grip he jumped from his buggy and started off.) Then the trouble commenced. He was at once surrounded by the crowd and a demand made for their money. He refused to yield up, however, and a number of men, maddened at the thought of being fooled so easily, attacked him. He was struck on the nose, the blood flowing freely. He fought his way round to the Royal Hotel, being struck, kicked and punched by all who could reach hlm. On a cry being raised to "kill him," a number of on-lookers rushed in and succeeded in getting the man from the crowd and up stairs in the hotel. His assailants did not have it all their own way, however, as one with a beantiful black eye can testify. On Sanday the fakir took his departure from town. We have no sympathy for his victime; they simply went up against a man on his own game and got left. It is said that he size took a good sum out of Deseron to in the same manner.

> *Napanee Beaver* September 3, 1897

A Memoir

In her 99th year, Jeane Russell passed away on November 3, 2016 at the John M. Parrott Centre in Napanee. Jeane's son-in-law, Shane Foreman, kindly shared Jeane's autobiography, a portion of which follows.

Jeane's account of growing up on her South Fredericksburgh farm adds to understanding our local rural life during those years between the First and Second World Wars. Perhaps, like me, readers will find Jeane's understating of difficult times particularly interesting: times were "financially difficult," when her father suffered from tuberculosis; "I seemed to be the one to go there," to look after an elderly aunt in Deseronto; "I won't go into detail, but there were very difficult times for a young person." Later, as a new, young, air force wife in Summerside, P.E.I. Jeane's patience shows when she "spent the day downstairs in the lobby until Bob appeared in the afternoon." After the war, Jeane, her husband Bob (Robbie), along with Bob's brother John returned to Napanee; Jeane's description of their Russell Bros. grocery store may resonate with some of us who remember it or who recall that our parents shopped there.

Thank you to Jeane's son-in-law, Shane Foreman, of Ottawa, for permission to publish this account. Thank you also to Ross Morton of Guelph for clarifying the process of the high school entrance examinations which Jeane mentions.

Alice Carlson

Jeane Russell

Written circa 2006

I am now eighty-eight years of age, born July 11, 1918, daughter of Edward Hogeboom and Louisa (Chalmers) Hogeboom. I lived at my parents' home, with my brother, Wallace, born in 1914. Our home was on a farm in South Fredericksburgh Township, situated on the Bay of Quinte, one and a half miles west of Conway and approximately four miles east of Adolphustown.

I lived at this location through my childhood years attending the Conway Public School which was next to our farm so I had a short walk across one field and through a hole in the fence, just large enough for me! We came home for our lunch at noon, and it was a special treat for us to take our lunch to school when Dad and Mother went to the town of Napanee to do grocery shopping.

My dearest and best friend, Peggy Ham has just passed away in Scotland. We two were inseparable, and shared so many good fun times and once again more fun reliving those precious times with lots and lots of laughter.



The Hogeboom Farmhouse 2017

We had a normal farm life. We loved the animals and often helped to care for them. We always had a special dog, usually a collie. They were especially good herding the cows. We had names for each of the horses. My Dad was a great lover of his horses—of course chickens, turkeys, pigs, and so on. Wallace had several pigeons at one time. They were white with large fan-like tails. They were called fantailed pigeons, very pretty. He also at one time bred chinchilla rabbits. They were grey in colour. I was left in charge of the rabbit family and fed the big old daddy too much. Oh, Oh.

We had several chores to do, also had good times skating, playing in the snow—of course snowmen and snow angels. In summer there was baseball—mostly for the boys and great competition between some of the different areas.

We had lots of uncles, aunts, cousins and exchanged family times with them, also the many friends. I remember going to a cousin's home for Christmas near Napanee. We had what was called a sleigh box with straw on the floor. It was on a large sleigh drawn by a team of horses. We had warm bricks to keep our feet warm and heavy furry blankets and coats and scarves over our faces. We made one stop to warm our feet, I remember, but I must add that that delicious turkey dinner and the lovely Christmas Day was worth it all.

I tried my Entrance Examination (this was to enter the high school in Napanee) at the age of eleven in Bath.* The following year I spent at the country school in Conway, studying the four departmental subjects for the first year of high school which I obtained in Napanee so at the age of twelve I began my schooling at this school.

*A student from an elementary school had to apply to try the high school entrance exams—one could be refused. Three weeks to a month later, the results were published in the Napanee Beaver and Napanee Express weekly newspapers. The elementary school teacher, in addition to teaching junior and senior grades, could teach the requisite four subjects of the first year of high school.

At that time, the students from outlying areas were driven to town by the family, and rented a room at a private residence where we were allowed the use of the kitchen stove and table. We took a supply of food for our week from home, except for perishables, milk and meat. The different families took their turn at transporting us, Monday morning and Friday afternoon after school—sixteen miles.

The term Form was used at the Napanee Collegiate Institute (NCI) instead of grades. When we reached 3rd Form (at least when I did) there was a daily bus to take us to school. This ended our "city life."

At the time of my 4th Form year, my father had become seriously ill with pneumonia. After spending time in Kingston General Hospital, he was diagnosed with tuberculosis and was transferred to the sanatorium at Mt. Hamilton. As a result, we were experiencing a financially difficult time on the farm. My brother was at home to help my mother and a hired helper with farm work. Meanwhile, my aunt, Mrs. Thomas Chalmers of Adolphustown, was having a problem to find a person to be with her elderly mother in Deseronto, so I seemed to be the one to go there.

It was a good arrangement as I was able to attend Deseronto High School while I lived with Mrs. Hall that year. I won't go into detail, but there were very difficult times for a young person as Mrs. Hall became seriously ill. However, after surgery in Kingston Hospital, she recovered.

I attended Napanee High School for 5th Form and received my Senior Matriculation. This year I travelled by the school bus daily from Conway to Napanee.

The following year I spent with an elderly couple who lived on Bridge Street. They were in poor health in need of someone to be with them. I must have met the requirement, and for a very small amount, I stayed with them for one year at least, so became quite experienced in pie-making while I was there. They resided in a large older two-storey brick home which I cared for—did the laundry in an antique washing machine, cooked the meals, rubbed backs, and all of the many household duties you could imagine.

I was accepted into Hamilton General Hospital in 1938 for nurses' training so with my savings I bought material for my first uniforms which we had to supply. My mother sewed them. We wore pink with white caps and full aprons which had a small white bib attached. After a few months, we wore blue and white stripes. While we were in pink uniforms we were called "pink caps." The striped uniforms had stiff white

collars, bibs and cuffs—along with black hose and shoes. In our senior year we wore a black stripe on our caps. We were so proud of them, but sad to say there are no caps worn now.



Photo: Shane Foreman Jeane Hogeboom 1941

Then there was work and study for three years. [While in training, Jeane met Jane Alton, from Lucknow, Ontario.] . . . She and I were in the same class. She came home with me to visit the family at Napanee, so that is how Wallace and Jane met. . . . I graduated in June, 1941, and actually completed training in September, 1941. Two classes had the graduate exercises together at that time. I did some general duty nursing at the hospital followed by private nursing in homes and the hospital.

I returned home after working for a time and was married to Robert Russell of Napanee, my sweetheart from high school days. We were married October 16, 1943, at St. Mary Magdalene Anglican Church by Archdeacon Dumbrill.

The wedding was followed by a dinner at the La Salle Hotel in Kingston. Everyone attended the theatre in the afternoon, followed by an evening meal back at the motel. The family and wedding attendants were all present at the train station to bid us Good Bye, Bon Voyage, and the rest. Can you imagine!

Bob was stationed at Mon Joli, Quebec in the RCAF so we were on our first journey at 7:30 pm October 16, 1943. The following day we arrived in Mon Joli with our worldly goods—one trunk full! Bob's friends gave some help to move into an apartment that we had rented from one of the boys who was away. It was very nice, and really special, as it was our very first home, until we had a posting to Prince Edward Island, Mount Pleasant, on the western tip of the island. I really wasn't unhappy about this as Mon Joli was almost totally French-speaking people and buying groceries had presented a problem.

We travelled to P.E.I. by a large ferryboat—all of the windows darkened—arrived at Borden, P.E.I. and continued on an ancient-looking train to Summerside. The train was fueled by coal and lighted by coal oil lanterns—sort of spooky.

We arrived at Summerside sometime during the evening. Bob had to continue further to the training station, so I was taken to a hotel for the night. The hotel was full except for the top floor, which didn't have a very plush appearance. The floor slanted considerably. I can remember it well. In the morning I quickly vacated the room and spent the day downstairs in the lobby until Bob appeared in the afternoon.

We then went apartment hunting—no luck anywhere. We contacted the "Y" and were given a name and address to check out. That was another unforgettable experiences. The landlady, a widow with two children was a very difficult person. We had a small room and very sparsely furnished. We weren't allowed to have any food there. Some crackers and honey stashed away seemed to be most delicious. We had our breakfast there at her home. The first couple were the lucky ones as we could have the first two cups of coffee (a very small pot). Water was added after each serving, and the rest of the breakfast was very skimpy. There were two other couples. One of the wives from Saskatchewan was really sobbing and said, "I've never slept on a straw mattress before." We were lucky in that respect as we were in the next category but still not too good!

After a short stay at this home, we re-located to a very lovely place. It was a fairly new home owned by a couple who had a son serving overseas, and his mother and father were so kind to us, hoping in return someone would treat their son in the same manner. They would bring in a snack to us in the evening. Also we kept our food for noon lunch in their refrigerator. Bob would arrive home in the

afternoon with the other two couples. We went down in the town to a restaurant where we all purchased meal tickets, so this worked out very well.

We attended the Baptist Church with the family. Bob loved to sing and sang in their church choir and occasionally solo. I did some twelve-hour nursing at the Summerside Hospital and some private homes so kept busy much of the time. We were happy living here with Mr. and Mrs. Ellis for thirteen months and thoroughly enjoyed every day, met many friends and joined in most of the family activities as we would have in our own homes.

... During our stay in Summerside, Bob contracted measles on Christmas night and spent the required time in the infirmary. Then in a few months he decided to have scarlet fever. I could go out to visit him by the Air Force bus when he had the measles but not when he had scarlet fever. It damaged his ear drum and also affected his heart. I went to visit him on New Year's Eve when he had the measles. It was a bad choice as the boys were extremely happy on that night and of course we had to make several stops when they weren't so happy. I never saw so much snow—like driving through tunnels.

We had lots of fun times digging clams on the beaches, cutting the Christmas tree, clam bakes and lobster and mackerel—so good. Mrs. Ellis was a superb cook. We were invited to have dinner on Saturday's when Mrs. Ellis always made the most delicious baked beans, home-cooked rolls and scalloped potatoes. Baked beans and rolls were a tradition of P.E.I. the remainder of the beans was reheated for breakfast Sunday mornings.

It was a sad day when we left for home in Napanee, to leave our beautiful P.E.I. with green rolling hills, countryside, lots of white houses, fishing wharfs, and the friendliest folk ever in the whole world. I must mention the famous Parliament Buildings where Confederation of 1867 was signed at Charlottetown—the white sandy beaches of Cavendish, the home of Anne of Green Gables.

... Bob was discharged at the close of the war, as well as John, his brother. At this time they purchased a store from their uncle. Mr. Stanley Wales. The store was a large stone building, located on Dundas Street East, across the street from the Gibbard Furniture Factory, the corner of Dundas and Adelphi Streets. One half of the store was hardware and the other half groceries. We had the partitions removed between the two stores, changing it into one large grocery store-Russell Bros. Groceries; later on it became a Red & White Store and still later on it was IGA, but it was always called Russell Brothers. It was the first self-service grocery in Napanee, quite different from its beginning when certain items were rationed due to the War. Since there was no refrigeration, the butter was kept in the basement, which meant a trip down the stairs by means of a trap door in the rear of the store.

> Wales Block, Dundas Street East at Adelphi. In doorway: Ethel Brown, (later Russell and mother to Robert and John) and Robert Stanley Wales. To his left, in beard is Robert James Wales.

> > Photo: N-3890 LAHS Collection L&A County Museum & Archives



The cash register was a very outdated model and the orders were written on a small pad with carbon paper, at the beginning. Since then, of course, the new type of cash register and business were acquired, as well as meat display case (refrigerated) with a butcher in charge. The groceries were all displayed and accessible to customers as now. We operated the store for approximately eighteen years.

Memories of Russell Bros. Groceries

John W. Bell, writing circa 1959, declared "the Russell Bros groceries [is] at present ... the nicest grocery store in Napanee." In his Bell family history, currently part of the Herbert Clarence Burleigh Fonds, John Bell also records the following about the Hogeboom family:

"Edward Hogeboom in early manhood moved with his father and mother from Camden East to a farm at Conway on the shore of the bay of Quinti <sic>, and this was not very far from the spot where his great grandfather, William Bell, the first, had originally settled the Bell family."

Bill Daverne remembers:

Yes, that was Russell Bros. IGA. All of those windows were the front of store, there was no door at the left as there is now. The main door was at the corner to the right (East). There were 4 main aisles and 2 check-outs. The meat counter was at the back of the area behind windows on right (at front were cash registers, the shopping carts, etc.). On east wall, first aisle was produce all the way to the back.... I walked to it down Adelphi from first days I could walk in 1957.

That it had been two stores makes sense. There was a wall down the middle separating the 2 halves. They were connected by an east-west aisle down near the meat counter and another one at the front where cash registers were located. That's where I learned how to food shop, between ages of 1.5 and 5. Mom explained everything she put in the cart. I learned about cooking chocolate, spices, lard, everything. We purchased our meat from Lewis Meat Market, but not sure when that opened.

The Russell Bros store was IGA when I knew it. The Red & White store, run by Harry Taylor, was then at the NW corner of Centre and Dundas in the Campbell House block. The Dominion Store, originally not self-serve, was still located on the north side of Dundas between John and East. It was small. In about 1963 or 1964 Dominion purchased several properties on Dundas between Robert Street and Canadian Tire (now Gray's Drugs). They also purchased at least 3 houses on Robert St. which they demolished.



Napanee Beaver 6 May, 1964

The Neighbourhood Messenger



Photos: Gibbard Furniture Collection Gibbard employees line Dundas Street in front of Russel Bros to watch the judging of the Beard Growing Contest at the Gibbard factory across the road July 1964

On Dundas was an Esso gas station at the corner, beside it a propane gas watched company. them being demolished from the Loucks Brothers barber shop on north side (it was originally located in a classic barber shop setting which is now easternmost part of Royal Bank in Napanee (in between used to be Ramsay Hardware)). Dominion built the largest food store in Napanee, only demolished last year and replaced by the new health centre.

Beside Russell Bros. on Dundas the A&P was set up in a former garage and gas station. A&P opened a parking lot behind both buildings (still there) by demolishing a duplex and a red brick house that had burned.





Then and Now

Jane Lovell

The former Russel Bros. Grocery store in Napanee is the first building we have featured outside of Adolphustown and Fredericksburgh. It does, however, represent an important part of our history. Not only did it provide a livelihood for Jeane Russell and her family, but it also served as the go-to supplier for hardware and groceries for many of residents of our townships.



Undated photograph of the Wales Block that appeared in a June 14, 1991 article in the *Weekender* R.J. & R.S, Wales on either side of the left-hand doorway



2017

sleighs and to pick up provisions." When the Russell brothers bought the business they "removed the stone dividing wall and then used this open area to sell groceries. Three apartments were created out of the large single space at the second story, formerly used for storage. They also added a concrete addition to the rear for more work space and another apartment."

Hamilton adds that Bob-Jim Pybus, a local stonemason, helped build the Wales Block at a purported 25 cents a day. The inscription stone includes the initials TP below the building's name and date. The TP likely refers to Thomas Pybus who was Robert James' father. Bob-Jim's brother Thomas Pybyus Jr. possibly worked on the project as well, but is unlikely to have been tasked with carving the inscription stone, as he was only 23 at the time. All three men were listed as bricklayers or stonemasons in the Napanee and North Fredericksburgh censuses of 1901.



Well-researched details of the property appear in Jennifer A. Mohan's 1989 work done for the Local Architectural Conservation Advisory Committee. These files now reside at the Lennox & Addington Archives in Napanee.

Robert James Wales, a Napanee blacksmith, acquired the lot in 1881 but did not begin construction of the Wales Block until 1902. Wales continued to run his blacksmith business out of a building attached to the west wall of the new building, and by 1904 R.J. Wales is listed in Morrey's Directory as the proprietor of a hardware and grocery store. On the death of Robert James in 1929, his son Robert Stanley took ownership of the building. When Bob Russell returned to Napanee after the war, he and his brother John negotiated with their uncle for the business. An agreement was drawn up in 1947 and the property transferred to the hands of the brothers on the death of Robert Stanley in 1950. The Russell brothers ran the Russell Bros. Grocery for the next 20 years.

The following appeared in Peter Hamilton's June 14, 1991 article in the *Weekender*. "Mr. Wales had the floor divided in half by a two foot stone wall; on the east side he sold heavy hardware -- horseshoes and items like nails and bolts which were located in kegs; the west section was dedicated to groceries: cheese in the round and may goods sold in bulk from barrels Of his businesses it was said, 'you name it, he had it'. Farmers would come from miles around to get parts for their wagons and

High School Days

I was asked about Jeane Hogeboom Russell and her high school years. I believe the name of the school THEN was THE NAPANEE and DISTRICT COLLEGIATE and VOCATIONAL INSTITUTE. In my day there were two "streams" at the Napanee High School - "Academic" from grade 9 to 13 and "Commercial" from grade 9 to 11 and I suspect the word "Vocational" was meant to reflect those taking shorthand, typing, business law, economics and such. Here are some "school building" details, and some high school experiences for rural students.



Napanee Collegiate Institute Undated

The "Assembly Hall" was on the third floor - no elevators of course. Most teachers were "winded" getting up the stairs. There was a nice hardwood gym in which the country students could play basketball during the lunch hour while the "town children" were at home. No flush toilets - the boys & girls toilets were separated by a solid wall, - i.e.: back to back. There were several rows of steps leading to a row of door-enclosed cubicles and the "droppings" from both boys & girls were into a sewer pipe - top half open - with flowing water. An improved version of the farm folks' outside two-seater, it always seemed to me.



Photo: AFHS

Form 2 Class, Napanee Collegiate Institute 1921

Ross Morton

While there was no elevator for the use of students or teachers, I believe there was a "`freight" elevator to all floors which was at the front of the school and near or next the principal's office at ground level.

Principal Jamieson, in the 3rd-floor assembly hall and filled with teachers and students, made a statement regarding "the rural students" at which time Alan Sinclair, in the row behind me, said something like, "the bloody farmers." Not thinking of the consequence and in anger, I grabbed him by the shirt/neck and was in the process of punching him but was restrained by other students. Allan and I were friends then and have remained so over these many years, but I was sensitive to the fact I was rural, as farm kids had an odour, even those with showers at home. Many town folks reeked from working at Gibbard's or the garages, and such, but those odours were apparently accepted.

Nora Daverne rode a horse through deep snow, from the Bay Shore Road to Highway 33, to meet the school bus - then a pat on the rump and the horse would head for home.

I frequently got up at 4am on a Saturday to get a FREE ride from Napanee with Harry Olhman in the large truck he owned to take milk in cans to Acme Farmers Dairy. The ride, however, was not entirely FREE as Harry would stop at our house for breakfast.

Harry Ohlman is the son of George Ohlman -- Ed

It was costly for rural folks to pay for their children at the high-school level. There are many stories of 14- or 15-yearolds renting a room in a private dwelling and getting their own meals. My parents rented a room "with kitchen privileges" in Napanee for me located in a nice brick house halfway between the Old Belleville Road and the arena and fairgrounds. The house had "running water" to the kitchen but no bathroom. Toilet was in a shed back of the house. Many in Napanee during those years did not have flush toilets - whereas "some" of us country folks did. In fact, we had a three piece bath in a large room at our farmhouse (no shower head) but the wash water supply was used sparingly.



Napanee Beaver 21 September, 1906

Edward Lloyd Killed by Milk Truck

A most unfortunate accident occurred early Monday morning at Sillsville, when Mr. Edward Lloyd was struck and instantly killed by a truck driven and owned by George Ohlman.

The accident happened at Mr. Lloyd's home just opposite the post office at the village of Sillsville, on the county road. Mr. Ohlman, who draws milk to the Acme Farmers' Dairy at Napanee, was coming to town with his morning's load of milk. He was accompanied by Durwood Garrison. Mr. Lloyd, it is alleged, was moving large lumps of mud from the road, which had been dropped by a tractor. The wheels on the left-hand side of the truck apparently struck Mr. Lloyd and passed over part of his body, killing him instantly.

Dr. Hall of Napanee, and Provincial Constable F.W. Barrett were called immediately, and investigated. An inquest will be held on Friday, May 18th, at 2:00 p.m. at Sillsville.

Mr. Lloyd was a fisherman who had lived in the Sillsville district all his life. He was 55 years of age and leaves his wife and family of ten children. One of his older sons has worked in Napanee for some years with W.H. Hunter & Son, in connection with their milk business.

> Napanee Beaver 16 May, 1934

From the Book Shelf



Two Centuries in Sillsville Donald Hough

An extremely detailed social history of the land and families of the Sillsville district of South Fredericksburgh, this book covers the years from the United Loyalist settlement to 1997. Like other books published by the AFHS, this one contains valuable information for anyone tracing their ancestors from the issuing of Crown Deeds in 1797.

The author draws on public and private documents, oral records, memories and photographs.

AFHS News

Angela Cronk

Happy Spring to all!

We are looking forward to our annual Heritage Spring Dinner on May 10th. This year a wonderful roast beef dinner will be created by Dianna Lloyd, a local resident. I hear that her homemade buns and desserts are very tasty!

If you have new neighbours, let them know about our Heritage Dinner, an interesting and friendly way to get acquainted with their new area, people, and the great heritage that is ours.

We were very pleased to be the recipient of a \$655 grant awarded by the Napanee District Community Foundation to purchase some new signs for a few local cemeteries.

Another exciting project that has had great response is the *Adolphustown Fredericksburgh Heritage* Facebook group which Susan Wright developed and is managing. There have been many positive comments posted and others are sharing photos of the past that they have found. A bonus is that there have been people and places identified by followers of the Facebook group that may not have happened without the network of people near and far to view them. Check it out!

Hope to see you on May 10th!



From the Archives

The Gretna United Church Women's Quilt Jane Foster, Manager JoAnne Himmelman, Curator



Lennox & Addington County Archives

As travellers rounded the corner at the No. 8 side road on the River Road a tall spired Methodist church designed by George Cliff, Architect, defined the community of Gretna from 1876-1967. Today, a cairn with original dedication plaque marks the site of the Church.

In 2016, the grandchildren of Edna Mary Mellow presented a 1934 fundraising quilt made by the women of Gretna United Church to the Lennox and Addington County Museum.





Photo: N-00766 LAHS Collection L&A County Archives

Photo: L&A County Museum

Elizabeth Mallabon and her sister Susan, presenting the Gretna quilt 2016

Gretna United Church, built 1876 North Fredericksburgh 1941

In the 1930s, quilting resurged in popularity as an economic necessity. Some women also discovered they could make some money from their quilting. For the United Church Women, the pieced signature or autograph quilt remained a popular fundraising activity. Donation amounts for signature fund raising quilts generally ranged from 10 cents to three dollars, with most people paying 25 cents. Businesses and some notable individuals might contribute ten dollars or more.

In the 1930s, many people subscribed to the principle of "Waste Not, Want Not." Since buying cloth at a store for an everyday quilt was generally frowned on, many 1930s quilts recycled used materials from the rag bag. However, for this quilt, new fabric was used. Likely the muted purple and yellow cotton fabrics were donated by either *Lipson's* or the *Canadian Department Stores*, formerly the *Robinson Company*, in Napanee. Both of these company names are embroidered on the quilt, as is The Robert Simpson Company and the Kingston Whig Standard, who may have been sponsors. The twenty daisy rings display a directory of the community, as well as sponsors and political officials, including the Provincial Premier, Lieutenant Governor, the Attorney General and local members of Parliament. The women dedicated their time to piecing, embroidering, and appliqueing twenty yellow daisy rings to the purple patches. The finished quilt was then auctioned off. Edna Mary Mellow was the successful bidder for the quilt.

The following table lists all 305 names of sponsors embroidered on the quilt.

| Mrs. J. Keech | Mildred Parks | Roy Wilson | J. H. Craig | Madeline Sherman |
|----------------------------|------------------------------------|--|---|------------------------------------|
| E. H. Joyce | Kingston Whig Standard | Fred Bentley | H. B. Williams | Claire Snook |
| E. H. Joyce | P. B. Bennett | Doug Frazer | W. MacKenzie | Gordon Moore |
| F. Williams | Percy Davy | Mrs. Flossie Parks | Mac Gregor | Marie Speal |
| E. R. Root | F. Linus | Mr. & Mrs. T. Y. Mellow | D. B. Wilson | R. B. Moore |
| Mr. & Mrs. Joe Smith | Mrs. Sharpe | W. D. Graham | L.E. Doxee | Isobel Joyce |
| Dr. & Mrs. Willoughby | Mrs. Gibson | Clarence Parks | G. Niccol | Mr. & Mrs. Chas. Moore |
| H. Fitzpatrick | Mrs. E. Davis | Elzeon Coons | R. Humphery | Les Scrimshaw |
| J. S. Boyes | Mrs. White | B. Edger | W. J. Huston | Lula Thompson |
| J. M. Graham | Evalena Clark | Mr. & Mrs. Wm. Mellow | Amey Moore | Bis Edgar |
| Frank Mellow | G. S. Henry | "Lipsons Co." | Doris Rendell | Doris Loyst |
| Mrs. P. Davey | Mrs. R. Dean | Mrs. F. C. Winters | Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Francis | June Moore |
| Mrs. Ross Joyce | Mrs. J. Clark | Mrs. G. S. Reid | Mr. J Moore | Mr. & Mrs. Cliff Moore |
| Mrs. W. Hambley | Mrs. Melvin Keech | Mrs. Rebecca Yates | Mr. & Mrs. F. Rendell | Jim Andrews |
| Mrs. E. Howell | Mrs. George Moore | Mr. John Birrell | Patty Lennox | Annie & Betty Andrew |
| Ethel Smith | J. W. Clark | George Switzer | Mr. & Mrs. A. Lennox | Mrs. H. Ushers |
| Nellie Booth | Mrs. Robert Moore | - | | Dr. Graham |
| Ross Smith | Mirs. Robert Moore Harold Linus | Mrs. Annie Mellow C. David Moore | Hazel Sager | Dr. Granam Wilma Garnett |
| | | | Mr. & Mrs. V. Marten | |
| G. A. Dean | Mrs. A. Carley | Mrs. Edith Pringle Mrs. A. C. McConnell | Roy Dafoe | Lester Rogers |
| Eva De an | Mrs. J. Groux | | Mrs. R. Thompson | Carl Garratt |
| Clarence Howell | Mrs. P. Truscott | A.C. McConnell | Harry Skitch | Mr. & Mrs. E. Joyce |
| Frank Lowry | Mrs. Jos. Clarke | Mrs. W. F. Joyce | Mrs. H. Wood | Helen Joyce |
| Ross Dean | Birdie Joyce | Mrs. Jas. Doris | Vivien Benn | Rev. A. J. Wilson |
| Mrs. L. Alexander | Mrs. Dupree | Mrs. Ed Bartley | Mr. & Mrs. W. Sherman | Mrs. R. C. Best |
| Marion Howell | Mrs. Jaynes | Mrs. Herb Martin | May Evans | Beth, Ruth, Roy Bint |
| C. R. Lowry | Mrs. Gerow | J.A. Clark | Mr. & Mrs. Andrews | Mr. & Mrs. N. Mills |
| Phyllis Alexander | Clarence Howell | M. Wm. McConnell | Premier G. S Henry | Mr. W. Spencer |
| Pearl Lowry | Miss. F. McAuley | W. J. McConnell | Lieut. Gov. Herb Bruce | Mrs. C. Mellow |
| Fanny McAuley | Miss. Lake | Marguerite McConnell | Att. General Wm. Price | Mrs. Myrtle Little |
| The Ima Hambly | Mrs. M. Carpenter | Mrs. W. J. McConnell | The Canadian Department Store, Napanee | In Memory of Charles Mello 1932 |
| J. G. Oliver | Mary Hambly | Richard Clark | H. S. Colliver | Edson Wegg |
| J. Murphy | Mrs. A. A. Hambly | W. J. Booth | Hon. R. B. Bennett | Leonard Mellow |
| Dr. C. O'Conner | Mrs. C. Mills | Milton Grange | Sen. C. R. Wilson | Mr. & Mrs. Baird |
| Muriel Wamsley | Mrs. T. Thompson | James Brown | John Weese M.P. | Reb. & Mrs. Harry Mellow |
| Dr. M. B. Stratton | Mrs. John Davy | Jack Herrington | Warden G. Hawley | Fred Mellow |
| Marguerite McConnell | Bismark Edgar | Emily Merritt | Dr. G.G. Bogart | Mata Mellow |
| Mrs. P. Dean | Mr. & Mrs. Albert Sills | Mrs. Frank Clark | Dr. N. E. Berry | Eleanor Mellow |
| Ar. & Mrs. S. Perry Fraser | Eugenie Hagerman | Mrs. Ronald Miller | Dr. F. P. Lloyd | Mary Mellow |
| Leslie Wood | Albert Alkenbrack | Mrs. Stanly Joyce | Dr. Edgar Hayden | Mr. & Mrs. Frank Mellow |
| Arthur Fraser | Robert Baldwin | Mr. & Mrs. Wm. Hicks | Dr. H. Beattie | Mr. & Mrs. Wm. Gibb |
| Mr. & Mrs. Willie Bell | Mrs. A. Baldwin | Miss. Lucy Hinch | Rev. E.H. Oliver | Mr. & Mrs. H. R. Mellow |
| Mr. & Mrs. J. Hambly | Mrs. C. D. Sills | Mrs. Wilson Young | James. W. Clark | Helen Mellow |
| Dorothy Card | Gertrude Alkenbrack | Mrs. B. Sager | Robert Simpson Co. | Mr. & Mrs. Jos. H Lean |
| Mr. & Mrs. Wartman | Mrs. S. Griffith | Mrs. W. P. Miller | Joan Freeman | Mr. & Mrs. Mervin Grieve |
| Nanimo | | | | |
| | Lyla Woods | Mrs. George Switzer | P. St. Lawrence | Wilson Toner |
| F. D. March | Mr. & Mrs. J. M. Simpson | Mrs. Fred. Matthews | Mr. G.E. Day | Mr. W. C. Joyce |
| Mrs. Ross Cord | W. S. Herrington | P. W. Laidley | Mr. J. G. Day | Mrs. W. C. Joyce |
| Mr. Arthur Parrot | Mrs. R. B. Allen | Mrs. W. H. Mills | Mrs. J. G. Day | Mr. R. Crawford |
| Florence Parks | Dr. Galbraith | Mrs. Hough In Memory | Mrs. H. B. Young | Mrs. R. Crawford |
| Mr. & Mrs. I. Asselstine | Ralph Winter | Mrs. George Boyce | Morley Young | Mr. W. J. Toner |
| Mr. & Mrs. Earl Bell | Bob Lucas | Helen Babcock | G.H. Baker | Mrs. W. J. Toner |
| Mr. & Mrs. E. Purcell | Jack Stewart | Gladys Wallace | Ariel Freeman | Evelyn Fox |
| Mr. & Mrs. Lewis Fox | Bill Sweet | Mrs. I. T. White | Mrs. J. M. Roddy | Gerald Thompson |
| Miss. Laura Rockwell | Ted Bentley | J. Card | Mr. J. M. Roddy | Mrs. John Joyce |
| Rev. MacKenzie | Jack Andrews | O. D. Raddick | Mr. Frank Dawson | Gerald Joyce |
| Dr. W. P. Fletcher | Reg Dorey | J. Brady | Mr. & Mrs. C. E. Dey | Rex Trotter |
| essie Mellow In Memory | Hugh Brennen | Will. H. Boyle | Jackie Freeman | L.B. Trotter |
| Mr. & Mrs. J. P. Mellow | Geo. Blazetich | G. Switzer | Mrs. S. E. Alkenbrack | Doris Joyce |
| Mrs. Sarah Insley | -1934- | Robt. McFarland | Mrs. E. B. Barker | Jean Cormack |
| Mrs. Ralph Parks | Ron Card | A. Davis | Helen Sager | Ross Toner |
| | | | | |

The yellow daisies in a purple field may have been inspired by the Lenten season or by a quilt pattern published in popular magazines such as the *Family Herald*. Many women in the thirties kept scrapbooks of quilt patterns. *Eaton's* and *Simpson's* catalogues also offered materials for quilt patches.



Photo: L&A County Museum

Members of the Mellow family purchased a daisy ring in memory of Charles Mellow, son of William J. Mellow, who died January 27, 1932.

Samuel Mellow, his brother, William John, and their wives came to Canada in 1855 from Cornwall, England and located to Morven. Samuel had a dry goods and groceries store at Morven. William and Elizabeth's first son, William H. Mellow, was born there in 1857 and another son, John P. Mellow the following year. When the Addington Colonization road opened up the hinterland north of Napanee, they moved north to Kaladar. Family tradition relates that they survived mainly on turnips the first year. The howling of wolves at night frightened the voung children. After three years, the Mellows returned to the Napanee area. Loading their possessions into a sleigh, they made the trek in one day.

William J. Mellow took up farming at Gretna, a small hamlet about three miles out the River Road, where he was appointed postmaster in 1864. By

then, his family had grown to include another son, Wesley. Another son, Charles, was born at Gretna in 1868. William J. Mellow continued as postmaster until 1911 when his son, John P. Mellow took over, continuing until the post office closed in 1914.



Photo: N-13733, L&A County Archives Herbert Roy and Edna Mary Mellow on their wedding day , 18 October 1924



Photo: N-00763, LAHS Collection L&A County Archives Reverend Beckel, John P. Mellow and his wife Cinderella (nee Wagar) , Mrs. Beckel 1930

John P. Mellow's son, Herbert Roy, married Edna Mary Lean in 1924.

Herbert and Edna Mary Mellow were active members of Gretna United Church. Herbert ran a dairy farm until his untimely death in 1945.

A Curious Thing

Angela Cronk



This wonderful hand-stitched beaded bird pincushion is an excellent example of trinkets that were made by the Iroquois Natives around 1900. These were sold to tourists at the side of the road. This one is unique in that the balls at the feet are filled with emery (a grayish-black mixture of corundum and magnetite, used in powdered form as an abrasive, like a nail file) that would be used to sharpen their sewing needles.

December's Curious Thing

What is this?



This little cast iron pot is 3 inches tall, and has "THE HOME" cast on its lid. We actually do not know what it is so please contact <u>angelacronk@gmail.com</u> if you recognise the item. Tell us what it is called, what it is used for, during what era it was used, and anything else you can tell us about it.

Do you have some weird thing hanging around your home or barn? Take a photo of it and send it in – we can feature it here in a future issue.

"A people without the knowledge of their past, origin and culture is like a tree without roots"

<u>Marcus Garvey</u>

From the Attic

We are looking for old photos and documents from Adolphustown, North and South Fredericksburgh. Just about any old photograph would be of interest: photos of people, homes, farms, schools, churches, or community or family events. Even if you do not know the people or places in the photos, maybe someone else in the community does. Old publications relating to township businesses, schools and churches often contain fascinating details of life in their era.

Some items we are currently looking for:

OLD PHOTOS or Real Photo POSTCARDS:

- The Adolphustown Town Hall
- The South Fredericksburgh Town Hall at Sillsville
- The U.E.L. Cheese Factory, Adolphustown
- St. Paul's Church, Main Street Adolphustown
- The Old Store at Adolphustown
- The Old Hotel at Adolphustown
- Conway Store
- Conway Wharf
- Phippen Cheese Factory
- Fredericksburgh Train Station
- McDowall Presbyterian Church
- Camp Le Nid
- Glen Island
- Tarry Hall

CORRESPONDENCE:

- Letters or postcards bearing postmarks from local towns and villages
- Correspondence from someone serving overseas during either WWI or WWI

BOOKLET:

Constitution and Roll of Officers and Members of Camp Le Nid, 1902

If you are looking for any specific photos or documents, let us know and we will add it to our "Attic" list. **Newly** added items will be highlighted in blue!

| Contribute to | | | |
|---|--|--|--|
| The Neighbourhood Messenger | | | |
| We publish <i>The Neighbourhood Messenger</i> several times a year. If you have an old photograph or newspaper clipping to share, a story to tell, or an event to publicize, let us know. Please send submissions to jane.lovell@kos.net. | | | |
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