

THE NEIGHBOURHOOD MESSENGER

NEWSLETTER OF THE ADOLPHUSTOWN-FREDERICKSBURGH HERITAGE SOCIETY

Issue Number 30

April 2024

Community in Transition

Much of our local history has involved strong community ties. When the area was first settled, it was absolutely essential that the new arrivals work together to establish themselves in their new homeland. Initially it was a question of survival, when neighbours helped one another clear land or build shelters. Soon, community activities involved an aspect of pleasure in being in one another's company and a sense of pride in accomplishing the task at hand. Gathering around the table after a barn raising or bringing in the harvest allowed for the free exchange of ideas and local news.

Our Society

Members of the Adolphustown-Fredericksburgh Heritage Society have a common desire to deepen our knowledge of the history of our community. In researching and capturing aspects of our past, we seek to preserve, promote, and share our rich local heritage.

Our Executive

| | |
|-----------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| President: | Angela Cronk |
| Vice President: | Frank Abbey |
| Secretary: | Marg MacDermaid |
| Treasurer: | Jane Lovell |
| Webmaster: | Susan Wright |
| Book Directors: | Joan Reynolds Elizabeth Vandenberg |
| Communications Director: | Jane Lovell |

Our Meetings

The Society meets on the third Monday of the month 5-8 times a year at the South Fredericksburgh Hall at 2p.m. Check for the next meeting on our website.

All welcome!!

Our Website

<http://www.sfredheritage.on.ca/>

Our Facebook Group



Contact Us

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

- Angela Cronk, President (373-8888)
angelacronk@gmail.com

Having fun together was often tied to a good cause. Such was the case during the Great War when just about everyone participated in a dizzying number of social activities to raise money for the Red Cross. Competitive euchre parties, baseball games and hockey matches, dances, concerts, recitals, plays, "Moving Picture Shows", lectures, afternoon teas, and garden parties all played a part in very successful campaigns for supporting the men at the front and their families at home.

... Continued on Page 2

A Glimpse of the Past



Photo: Judy Smith

Lennox & Addington District Women's Institute Annual Meeting

Attended by 189 and held at the Adolphustown United Church to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the Adolphustown Women's Institute

1951

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 to members of the Adolphustown-Fredericksburgh Heritage Society.

Membership to the Society is free. 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 clicking [HERE](#).

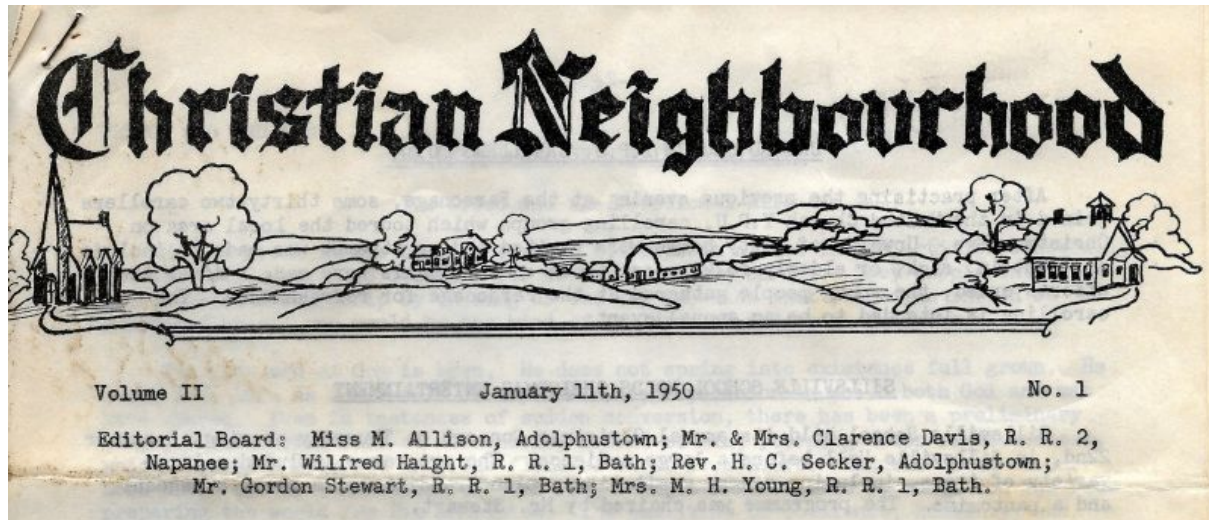
If you are not currently an AFHS member, please consider becoming one!

Community in Transition continued

Jane Lovell

Faith, self-improvement, education, and charity played a big part of every day life, with churches and schools taking leading roles. Other groups such as the Women's Institute, Boy Scouts and Girl Guides, 4-H Clubs, and Masons and other fraternities and service clubs provided fellowship and a sense of belonging—all while working towards the goals these organizations had established to better themselves, their community, and beyond.

The *Christian Neighbourhood* was a newsletter established in 1949 by the churches in Adolphustown and South Fredericksburgh. Published monthly, and later bi-monthly, it was delivered to all households in the two townships and ran until 1991. Its content morphed over the years but always contained a calendar of upcoming events, and reported on what was happening in the community.



The editorial board of the *Christian Neighbourhood* in 1950 included the ministers of the Anglican and United Churches.

Reverend Hubert Charles Secker served as rector of the Anglican Parish of Adolphustown and Fredericksburgh from 1943 to 1951.

Gordon Kennedy Stewart was the student minister appointed to the Adolphustown Pastoral Charge of the United Church in 1948. He left the charge in 1953 after receiving his Doctor of Divinity from Queens University. In a 1953 manuscript on the history of the United Church in the area he muses:

As a student serving this charge, I seem to be the only unordained person appointed alone to the area since William Losee.

* William Losee (1757-1832) was a Methodist circuit rider in the northern United States and Upper Canada. In 1791, Losee rode the Kingston circuit (of which Adolphustown was part), preaching at the homes of the early settlers in the township.

A Snapshot in Time: 1950

The twelve issues of the *Christian Neighbourhood* for 1950 show just how much was on offer to the residents of Adolphustown and South Fredericksburgh at the time.

In addition to weekly church services and Junior and Senior Sunday School classes held in Adolphustown, Dorland, Hayburn, Sillsville, Conway, and Sandhurst, church organizations met regularly. The Senior and Junior Anglican Women's Auxiliaries (W.A.) and United Church Women's Associations (also W.A.), St. Alban's Guild, the Senior and Junior Anglican Young Peoples' Association (A.Y.P.A) and the United Church Young Peoples' Union (Y.P.U) dominated the events calendar. Meetings were held throughout the community, in church and town halls and in the homes of members, to transact the business of these groups, but also to plan events and activities to raise funds for various causes. Often the meetings were followed by a potluck lunch or dinner, and certainly afforded ample opportunity for socializing.

Also appearing regularly in issues of the *Christian Neighbourhood* were events hosted by the Adolphustown and South Fredericksburgh Community Club, the Conway-Sandhurst Home and School Association, and the Music Club for children studying musical instruments.

Here are some of what there was to do throughout the year in 1950:

Plays:

- Finding rehearsal space for plays put on by the Community Club was challenging, resulting in many a rehearsal taking place in members' living rooms. The practice in cramped quarters paid off, however, when the inaugural performance of the three-act comedy *You Can't Sometimes Always Tell*, held in Sillsville Hall, sold out, prompting a second staging the following evening. In all, 350 people attended the two performances, resulting in proceeds of \$153, \$75 of which was pledged to the *Christian Neighbourhood* to contribute to publication costs. "Lunch was served to the cast by members of the Editorial Board of the *Christian Neighbourhood* after the play and then a dance was held with the "Gaylords" supplying the music."

The play, "You Can't Always Sometimes Tell", is a brisk and beguiling farce in three acts, intended to furnish laughter from beginning to end. The entire action of the play takes place in the present, in the living room of the Lyster's summer-resort home.

The cast of characters is as follows:

| | |
|--|--------------------|
| Mrs. Anne Lyster, a frivolous society matron..... | Mrs. Bob Dalzell |
| Phoebe Lyster, her charming daughter..... | Miss Helen Smith |
| Juliet Lyster, Anne's youngest daughter..... | Miss Miller |
| Westbrooke Walker, engaged to Phoebe..... | Bob Dickson |
| Mrs. Imogene Walker, Westbrooke's mother..... | Mrs. Bob Dickson |
| Charles Caldwell, Anne's self-confident nephew..... | James Smith |
| Albert Salmon, who occupies the cottage next door..... | Albert Steers |
| Martha Green, a newspaper reporter..... | Mrs. Mark Christie |
| Private Jim Blake, in love with Phoebe..... | Gary Smith |
| Carrie Dearborn, who arrives unexpectedly..... | Mrs. Albert Steers |
| Aurora Riley..... | ? |

The main plot of the play revolves around the two fond mothers who put their heads together with the result of the engagement of their son and daughter. Things might have worked out but for the untimely arrival of Private Jim Blake and the sure-fire planning of Cousin Charlie and the young sister, Juliet. Chaos ensues with the help of Martha, Carrie, Aurora and Mrs. Salmon. The players will not reveal the identity of Aurora Riley, feeling she must be seen to be appreciated.

Christian Neighbourhood
January 11, 1950

The play went on to be performed in Bath and North Fredericksburgh, with the Men's Quartet, accompanied by piano, singing between acts. The final performance played to an audience of 150 at the Lodge Hall in Stella on Amherst Island. The evening was sponsored by the Y.P.U. Lunch was served to the cast and a dance followed.

- A play was presented at Sandhurst Parish Hall under the auspices of the Junior A.Y.P.A. of Sandhurst and Adolphustown; the players and production crew were from the Bath A.Y.P.A. "Refreshments were served afterwards to the players and hot dogs and coffee were sold. Members of the cast and their friends enjoyed dancing after the play. The proceeds were satisfying and a donation from the local Junior A.Y.P.A.'s share will be given to *Christian Neighbourhood*."

Concerts:

- Adolphustown United Church held a concert in the church hall featuring guest soloists from Bath and Kingston, a piano solo, and the Girls' Choir. A pie social concluded the evening.
- A recital by members of the Music Club was held at Conway Church.
- "All school children under Mrs. McTavish will put on a concert in the stadium, Kingston, in the aid of Manitoba Relief fund. Adults 35¢."
- A Joint Christmas Concert was put on by the children of four area schools.
- Sillsville School Christmas Concert was held in Sillsville Hall.
- Thirty-two carollers from the Y.P.U. toured the area in groups on New Year's Eve. "Upwards of forty homes were visited and an attempt was made to include all shut-in, sick, or elderly folk. ... After their efforts ended, the young people gathered at the Parsonage for refreshments."
- The Choral group of the Community Club presented a Christmas Cantata at Conway United Church.

Suppers:

- Five hundred people were served in five sittings at St. Alban's Guild Fowl Supper held at the Parish Hall. "A decided success."

FOWL SUPPER AND BAZAAR

Wednesday, October 18th, under auspices St. Alban's Guild, Adolphustown. Adults \$1.00; Children under 12, 50c. Obtain supper tickets at Town Hall. Dance from 9 to 1.00. — Rolston's Orchestra. Admission 50c each. 40c

Napanee Beaver
October 11, 1950

- Sillsville Sunday School Supper was served in Sillsville Hall, followed by a game period. Surplus funds raised were donated to the Sick Children's Hospital.
- A Weiner Roast hosted by the Senior A.Y.P.A was held at the Allison home along the Bayshore Road.
- The Sillsville United Church held a Harvest Dinner in the Town Hall.

ADOLPHUSTOWN

Adolphustown, Oct. 23. — The fowl supper and bazaar sponsored by St. Alban's Guild and held on Wednesday evening last, was a decided success. It was attended by many from Picton, Napanee and Kingston, as well as the surrounding district. The bazaar and fish pond were held at the Town Hall. Following the supper in the Parish Hall, a dance was enjoyed with Rolston's orchestra of Picton providing excellent music. The proceeds to date are \$590.

Napanee Beaver
October 25, 1950

Teas:

- A “Blossom Tea” was held at Conway Church by representatives from all the area's women's church organizations for their members.

Cards & Games:

- Frequent afternoon and evening euchre games were hosted by the Women's Institute, St. Alban's Guild, and the Senior A.Y.P.A. at Adolphustown Town Hall or at the home of one of the members.
- Community Club meetings during the fall and winter were followed by games nights, where the participants could choose to play euchre, bridge, cribbage, canasta, crokinole, Chinese checkers, darts, etc. “Silver collection. Ladies please bring refreshments. Everyone welcome.” Meetings of the Community Club were planned “for your enjoyment... and if there is any particular type of programme in which you are especially interested, won't you please mention it to any of the executive?”

Picnics:

- The Home & School Association held a picnic for school and pre-school children. “Swimming, ball, plain fun. Mothers welcome.”
- Adolphustown United Church Sunday School held its annual picnic at Outlet and Sandbanks Parks in Prince Edward County. The Sillsville Sunday School picnic took place at Lake Ontario Park in Kingston.
- With free admission and all welcome, over 200 adults and more than 160 children participated in the Community Club Picnic, held at Ross Wannamaker's farm along the shore of the Bay of Quinte on Highway 33.
- “Many families, with their friends, ate lunches along the bay shore and under the many shade trees. The swings erected near the booth proved very popular with the younger children. The big tent, loaned by the Agricultural representative in Picton, served as a booth and was a very busy spot all day. All children on the grounds were treated to a free “soft” drink.
- During the morning, four local schools competed in the softball tournament, the Dorland team was the final winner of the silver cup, donated by the Community Club.

Races and contests for all ages were held during the afternoon, [with] cash prizes for all children's races.” In addition to the children's races, there was a Gent's Race, Thread & Needle Race, Shoe Race, Gentlemen's Potato Race, Baby's Nipple Race, and a Slow Bicycle Race. Other contests included ones for Youngest Baby, Oldest Lady, Oldest Gentleman, and Largest Family. There was a Bean Guessing Contest, and seventeen Gate Prizes were also given out.

Several former hardball players from the district represented the “Old Boys” as they challenged “The Pines” of the local Bay of Quinte League to a ball game in the afternoon. The Pines were victorious. “The smaller children enjoyed a merry scramble for peanuts to end the day's activities.”

**Bay of Quinte Baseball League
1950 Season**

The Pines was the only local men's baseball team. They played against Bath, Deseronto, and the Gibbards and Lions teams from Napanee. By mid-July. The Pines and Gibbards were tied for third place, with The Pines having won one of its first five games, tied one, and lost three.

Parties:

- An afternoon Valentine Party was held by the Women's Institute at Adolphustown Town Hall. The Junior A.Y.P.A. hosted an evening Valentine Party at Sandhurst Parish Hall.
- An evening St. Patrick's Party was put on by the Adolphustown United Church W.A. in the Sunday School room. "The audience enjoyed a programme of Irish music and songs by the Community Club choir and men's quartet, and piano solos and readings. ... Following the programme, ... the ladies served lunch."
- The Community Club held a Halloween Party in the Sillsville Hall. Prizes were awarded adults and children for best costumes. "Contests, stunts, and table tapping filled in the remainder of the evening. Lunch was served at a late hour."

Table Tapping is a type of séance in which participants sit around a table with their hands placed on it. The alphabet is spoken aloud and the table tilts at appropriate letters, thus spelling out words and sentences in response to some question. The process is similar to that of a Ouija board.

- Two days later another Halloween Party was held at Sillsville Hall, this time hosted by the Y.P.U. The seventy or so participants were greeted by a ghost who led them through the darkened and appropriately decorated hall, past a witch and another ghost. Once the lights went on, there was a costume parade and a games period. At the close of the evening, sandwiches, cookies, home-made candy, and Freshie were served.

Bazaars:

- Sillsville United Church held a Cooked Food Sale.
- Adolphustown United Church hosted a "Bazaar and Entertainment" where the entertainment consisted of piano solos and duets, "a vocal number from the Girls' Choir, and community singing. Tarts and tea brought the evening to an end."

Socials:

- A Hobby Show and Box Social was presented by the Community Club and held at Adolphustown Town Hall. Auctioneer: Jack Roblin
- An Ice Cream Social was hosted by the Sillsville W.A. at the Sillsville Hall. "The programme included recitations, musical numbers, and a one-act play presented by the [visiting] Morton W.A. Following the play, ice-cream and cake were served to all. Local W.A. ladies operated a bazaar stall, cold drink counter, and fish-pond before and after the programme and did a brisk business."

Lectures & Demonstrations:

- The Woman's Institute presented a lecture and film on "Food that Healthy Children Like" at Adolphustown Town Hall.
- A debate to "Resolve that Individualism is the Hope of the Nation" was held by the Community Club at Adolphustown Town Hall. The team of Dick Daverne and Bob Allison won arguing the affirmative.
- "The Lennox and Addington Federation of Agriculture, the Crop Improvement Association, and the Provincial Department of Agriculture, [sponsored] a demonstration day of land drainage techniques ... at the farm of Mr. J. Stuart Palmer, on Highway 33, three miles west of Conway and five miles east of the Glenora Ferry." The day was hailed as being "as important and instructive an event for the farmers as was ever held in our community."

- "Here we saw the Buckeye tile drainage Machine, a Jeep digger, a Little Wonder tiling machine, the Mole Drainer and the Martin Ditcher as well as several Bulldozers and graders, all in action. Several speakers gave us instructive addresses during the afternoon. The general theme gathered from their addresses was the proven value of tile-draining our farms for better productivity.

The local lads all worked hard to assist in this successful day. Not to be forgotten are the ladies who aided in the booths and provided meals. Some of the local farmers have taken advantage of the machines being in the district to have work done."

Sports:

- Red Cross Swimming lessons were available in Bath.
- The Conway Junior Softball team for boys sixteen years of age and under was newly organized for the season. The team played against Junior teams from Morven and Millhaven. Home games were played on Fred Wright's field.

South Fredericksburgh
Boys Softball Team
1981

Photo: Judy Smith



Camp:

- The several Y.P.U groups of the area attended a weekend camp at Hayburn Church. "Planned, and in large measure, organized by the young people themselves, ... the camp was in session Friday evening and all day Saturday and Sunday, with the young people returning to their homes each evening. About twenty young people from Adolphustown and Bath pastoral charges were in attendance throughout, with larger numbers present on Friday evening (including visitors from the Bay charge) and Sunday. Meals for the campers were provided by the Hayburn Women's Association."
- The day's program included "talks and discussions, sports, swimming, and music, closing with campfires on Saturday and Sunday evenings. On Saturday evening the campfire programme included skits and talks by young people who had attended Young People's or C.G.I.T camps during this summer."

Other:

- "Local children attended the Church Vacation School which was conducted in Bath [for a week at the beginning of August], under the auspices of the Bath United and Anglican Churches and the Adolphustown United Churches. Local children were transported to the school each morning through the co-operation of Mr. Victor Brooks, Maj.-Gen. E.M. Schmidlin, and Mrs. Bess Campbell. The Tarry Hall station-wagon was driven by Mr. Albert Wilson. The return trip was largely provided for by the bus operated in connection with the Red Cross Swimming and Water Safety classes."

- “In all, over 150 children attended the Vacation School and participated in a program including Bible Study, recreation, music, and hand-craft. During the afternoon the majority of the children were released to join in the Red Cross Swimming and Water Safety classes. ... Work during a period of handwork ... ranged from paste and paper work for the little tots to coping-saw work and rope splicing for the older boys.”
- News Flash: “Four local boys, John Elliott, Bobby Grooms, John Creighton, and Bob Rousseau, exhibited at the Ottawa Winter Fair. Bob Rousseau entered the [4-H] Calf Club and a obtained a first-class award. The other boys were three of a group of four representing Lennox and Addington County, in the Swine Club. Bobby Grooms was not able to exhibit owing to limitation of the transport space. John Creighton won the grand championship and John Elliott the reserve championship. The boys from this County won second place as a group.”

No mention was made in the 1950 issues of the *Christian Neighbourhood* of meetings and activities held by the various 4-H Clubs, Girl Guides, or Boy Scouts, all of which were very active during the 1950s and '60s.

**4-H Dairy Club
Napanee Fair
1981**

Photo: Judy Smith



Masonic meetings were also missing from the event calendar in 1950. Many dedicated and enthusiastic members of the Freemasonry fraternal order could nonetheless be found throughout Adolphustown and Fredericksburgh. St. James Lodge was established in Fredericksburgh in 1796, the seventh lodge to do so in Ontario. Meetings were held in a Masonic Hall built in South Fredericksburgh, likely in the Fredericksburgh Town Plot (Sandhurst). Within two decades it was

Filius

Viduæ, No. 189, Adolphustown, has not met for ten months, owing to internal difficulties. The dormancy arises from the fact that a P. M. suspended without regular trial, was very properly reinstated by the D. D. G. M. The members took umbrage at the restoration and declined to sit with the restored brother. The official action being correct, the Lodge should meet with regularity—if not discipline must follow. The action of the contumacious brethren does not certainly harmonize with those who claim to be exemplars of brotherly love, and are supposed to respect constituted authority. It is to be hoped that this rift in the clouds, in Prince Edward, may be dispelled, and the severed friendship of the “Widow’s Son” soon restored.

P.M. = Past Master D.D.G.M. = District Deputy Grand Master

proposed that a second lodge be established in Richmond near Napanee to be more accessible to Masons in the north of the township. Union Lodge received its warrant in 1812. The Fredericksburgh lodge ceased its work around 1830 and it wasn't until 1867 that a lodge with the curious name of *Filius Viduæ* (Widow's Son) was established in Adolphustown. By 1872, the Adolphustown lodge had 23 members. With D.W. Allison installed as Grand Master, the 1879 roll had shrunk to 18, and within less than a decade trouble was brewing, as reported in the 1886 *Proceedings: Grand Lodge of A.F. & A.M. of Canada*, left.

Adolphustown's Filius Viduae lodge was closed in 1888, having been dormant for three years and with only five members remaining. The drama was not yet over: The lodge's warrant could not be procured "as it was being held by the landlord of the Lodge room, who refuses to surrender it until the arrears of rent have been paid". The problem with the warrant had still not been resolved three years later.

Maple Leaf Lodge in Bath was established in 1860 and became the lodge to which several generations of men from Adolphustown and South Fredericksburgh belonged. It remains active today.

The Times They Are A-Changin'

Bob Dylan 1964

It is very possible that the snapshot of the area provided by the issues of the *Christian Neighbourhood* from 1950 represents a high point in community engagement in our townships. The enthusiasm exhibited in establishing both the *Christian Neighbourhood* and the Community Club the previous year demonstrated a thirst for interaction with others, often in aid of some worthy cause. This was a common sentiment in the period just after the Second World War, when optimism and prosperity followed the privation of the war years and the Depression before that.

While many gatherings and events continued to be held well into the 1960s, there was a steady decline in interest and participation. Advances in technology and increased wealth meant that televisions entered the homes of many families and it became easier to travel to urban centres for entertainment. It was no longer necessary to "make your own fun", and with women entering the workforce in greater numbers, there was less time to plan and hold meetings and events.

For many reasons congregations became smaller, eventually forcing churches to close. In addition to the loss of a place to worship, came the loss of the associated Sunday Schools and church organizations. Of the six churches hosting events in 1950, two closed in 1967 and a third in 2018, leaving only three in operation today, none of which retains active youth or women's groups. Also significant was the loss of space within churches in which to meet or to hold social gatherings. Perhaps the most keenly felt loss was that of Sillsville Hall. Once a well-used venue for many church-supported and secular activities, the widening of the road in 1968 resulted in the hall being removed. The Adolphustown Parish Hall continued to provide a large gathering space into the early 1980s. Rarely used, if at all, after 1986, it was taken down in 1997 and re-erected in Prince Edward County.

Women's Institutes soon met the same fate as the churches' women's groups. Established in 1901, the Adolphustown Women's Institute was one of the last to close, just a year shy of what would have been its 95th anniversary. In total, six Women's Institute branches had operated in Adolphustown and Fredericksburgh. Today, only the Hay Bay branch remains active.

Many of the one-room schools had been closed by 1950, leaving only four schools serving the two townships. A new two-room school was built in Sandhurst in 1958. It was expanded in subsequent years and eventually accommodated all the children in the townships south of Hay Bay. The Sandhurst school itself was closed in 2011, and the remaining children were sent to the school in Bath.



Photo: Judy Smith

Judy Smith and Phyllis Reynolds
at the 85th anniversary of the
Adolphustown Women's Institute
Held at the home of Kathy Staples

1986

While there is no doubt that over the past seven decades community engagement has dwindled, the period has not been without bursts of intense community activity. There was much excitement and flurry in marking and celebrating the big milestones in the history of our townships, from the 1964 Centennial of the separation of the Counties of Lennox and Addington from Frontenac, through Canada's Centennial in 1967, to the 1984 Bicentennial of the arrival of the United Empire Loyalists and the founding of Adolphustown and Fredericksburgh townships. In addition, the residents of South Fredericksburgh were very involved in planning and fundraising for the building of the South Fredericksburgh Community Hall in 1980.

Sports have often been the “glue” of a community, and indeed, for a time, served that function in our townships. When the South Fredericksburgh Recreation Committee was formed in 1973, its focus was baseball. The sport had a long history in Adolphustown and Fredericksburgh, with both men's and women's teams forming in the 1890s, and perhaps earlier, to participate in various leagues throughout the Quinte area. Played by school children and several men's teams, baseball found a home for a time at the Morton Ball Field, built by Ross and Geraldine Morton on the field adjacent to their home on the Loyalist Parkway. By 1977, the Recreation Committee was successful in securing municipal support for a Town Ball Field to be built adjacent to the Municipal Building, now part of the current sports fields at the South Fredericksburgh Community Hall. The work of the Committee soon expanded to involve other sports, including badminton and a highly successful competitive table tennis program for both adults and youth. Filling the void left when the Community Club folded in 1964, the Recreation Committee also held Bingo games, horseshoe throwing contests, bike pokes, dinners, dances, and field days. However, in step with other community organizations in the townships, interest in organizing and participating in the programs sponsored by the Recreation Committee waned. It is unclear when the Committee ceased to operate but it certainly did not survive the amalgamation of Adolphustown and Fredericksburgh into the Town of Greater Napanee in 1998.

What is a Bike Poke?

A friendly ride along country road, you can just poke along. It was an excellent opportunity for the family to go riding together, As you passed a series of check points, you were handed a playing card. The best poker hand won prizes, but ribbons were awarded to everyone.

Christian Neighbourhood
September, 1976

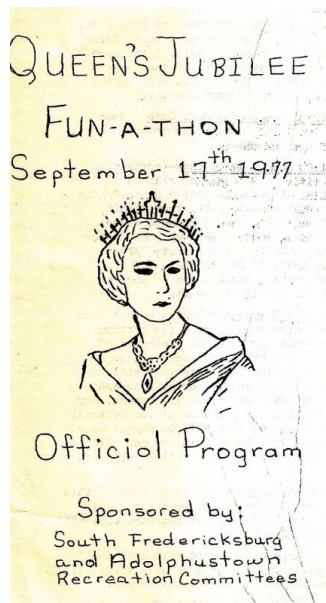
The most significant blow to community gatherings was the COVID-19 pandemic of 2020-2023. With very limited ability to meet in person during those years, some organizations lost whatever momentum they had managed to retain up until then, and have now ceased holding community events. Others, however, have resumed the work they had previously undertaken. Such is the case of St. Paul's Church in Sandhurst which is once again holding monthly Sunday Brunches in the Parish Hall. St. Alban's Centre continues to hold musical and other events along with an outdoor community dinner. And then, of course, there is the AFHS which has held roast beef and fish fry suppers for most of the past two decades. Over the years, the AFHS has incorporated lectures and displays into the evening. Now re-focusing on encouraging people to mingle and catch up with neighbours or to meet others for

the first time, lectures have been discontinued in favour of including even more displays and artifacts to spark conversation. Add draws, a cash bar, and great food, and our dinners have proven to be fun and a great way to focus on the heritage of our community.



Draw items from the 2023 AFHS Heritage Dinner
at South Fredericksburgh Community Hall Attendance: 153

And a final look back at a day in the life in Fredericksburgh and Adolphustown – Year: 1977



SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

11:00 a.m. - Pet Parade - Ribbons for pets with: 1/the longest ears, 2/the shortest ears, 3/the longest tail, 4/the shortest tail, 5/the most regal look, 6/the best costume, 7/the longest distance from home, 8/the largest size, 9/the smallest size, 10/who is most unusual.

11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. - Tee Ball Game - Game between the two local teams whose members are six years of age and under.

12:00 noon - 1:00 p.m. - Horse Show - (restricted to non-competitive and beginning riders)
Classes: 1/Line Class-Walk, Trot & Halt, 2/Line Class, with Adult aboard; walk, trot & halt, 3/Mounted Class; Walk, etc, 4/Mounted class; Walk, trot, Canter, Halt; 5/Pick-up game at the trot, 6/Musical Chairs at the trot; 7/Post Office at the trot; 8/Potato Race.
As in the Pot Parade, entries can be made at the Field on the day of the event.

12:30 p.m. - Ball Tournament begins - Each team must have, at least, nine players (no maximum number) four female players and 6 players of Pee Wee age (12 years old) and under. Tees will be used for all batters and each game will be of no more than one hour in length. Although teams will be roughly organized in advance, any one wishing to play may register at the Officials Booth before 12:30 and they will be placed on a team. Draw which will be made in advance will be posted on grounds and captains will be notified in advance.

11:30 - Food Booth opens - all items sold at this Booth will cost 25 cents each. Drinks and cold items will be sold all day, but Hot Dogs will not be sold after 3:30 p.m.

1:00 - 2:00 - Bingo - Each card will cost ten cents per game and winner of each game takes all. Games will be played in the Township Burns.

1:00 - 7:00 - Jubilee Art Exhibit - These entries

will be prepared by the Public School Students of our two Townships on the theme of the Queen's Jubilee. The Judge is Mrs. Ruth Brooks and the exhibits will be on display in the Council Chambers.

1:30 - 3:00 - Races and other events - Entries received in the Race area for the following events; Races for boys 3 to 5 years old; 6 & 7 8 & 9; 10 to 12: Races for girls in the same age group; Open events for all ages - Three-legged race, Egg & spoon Race, Shoe Scramble & more.

2:00 - 4:00 - Customized Car Show - A display by members of the two car clubs of Napanee.

2:30 - Horse Shoe Pitching begins - Entries can be made at the Horse Shoe Pits. This tournament will continue until an overall winner is declared.

3:00 - 4:00 - Bingo - Second Hour

3:30 - 4:30 - Tug of War - Featuring the Grand Challenge between the Township Councils of South Fredericksburgh & Adolphustown...The winner to receive the Municipal Challenge Trophy. There are three more draws planned.

4:00 - Remote Control Air Show - This will be a demonstration of remote control model airplanes by David Faskin and others. Spectators are urged to stay well clear of landing and control area as these planes are capable of flying in excess of 100 kph.

4:30 - 5:30 - Final Ball Game at Main Diamond

5:30 - 5:45 - Greetings and Presentations : Morden B Marshall will bring greetings on behalf of the County of Lennox & Addington. Mr. Doug Alkonbrack, M.P. will bring greetings from the Federal Government and present crests to teams and other participants in the summer's Minor Ball Program; the Municipal Challenge Trophy will be presented to the Tug of War Winners. Mr. Alkonbrack will present flags of Canada to each team in honour of the Queen's Jubilee. The platform will be to the rear of Township Burns.

5:45 - 7:45 - Chicken Barbecue - The cost for this delicious meal is \$3.00 per person. There is no special price for Children's meal but one meal could be shared between two young people. Tickets will be on sale throughout the day at the Officials Booth and will be limited to two hundred. Although a presentation of Fun-a-thon the chickens will be barbecued by members of the Napanee Lions Club.

7:30 - 9:00 - Local Talent Show - Local performers will show their talent under the lights of the Main Ball Diamond. Because an event like this takes planning we would ask that those planning to entertain us, contact the convener in advance. Master of Ceremonies for this event will be Ross Morton.

9:00 - 12:00 - Family Dance in Township Garage.

Fun-a-thon Committee: Bill Elliott (Chairman) 354-4138, Bob Hales 373-2209, and Mary Lynn Bell 373-2288

Event Conveners: Pet Parade - Barb Elliott 354-4138

Horse Show: Bob McCaugherty 354-3033

Ball: Allan Hamilton 373-9370, Mike Hamilton 373-2385

Art Show: Barb Elliott 354-4138

Races etc: Vince Prout 373-2275 Harold Allison 373-3317

Barbecue: Grant Hayek 354-4422

Bingo: Sharon Shelley 373-2688

Horse Shoe: Adrian Nearing 352-7499

Talent Show: Valerie Miller 373-2281

Food: Mary Miller 354-3095

Dance: Bob Hales 373-2209

Tug of War: Walter Bell 373-2288

Grounds: Reg Garrison 373-2618

Publicity: Linda McCullough 373-2618, Mary Lynn Bell

Admittance to the Grounds and participation in all events unless otherwise indicated will be granted to wearers of Fun-a-thon buttons. These are on sale throughout the community and will be on sale on the grounds.

In event of rain, all events, except the Dance, will be postponed until the following day.

***** HAVE FUN *****

The UEL Cheese Factory – The Final Years: 1948-1972

Duncan & Ruth Hough

The year 1948 was a banner year for “the Factory”. The price of cheese was high and accordingly the price of milk for cheese was \$2.60/cwt, the highest ever. One hundred and twenty producers shipped enough milk to produce nearly half a million pounds of cheese. That was more than 225 Tons of cheese or over 5,000 boxes. Money flowed into the community. Producers received \$145,000. The cheese maker, the employees, the truckers and the contractors all benefited. The Factory was a major economic asset.

At the beginning of 1949, Ruth Brooks was hired as secretary at \$35/month. She served most capably in that position and later as secretary-treasurer for 22 years until the factory closed. Evan, her husband was later appointed as her assistant to spread the work load.



Photo: Judy Smith

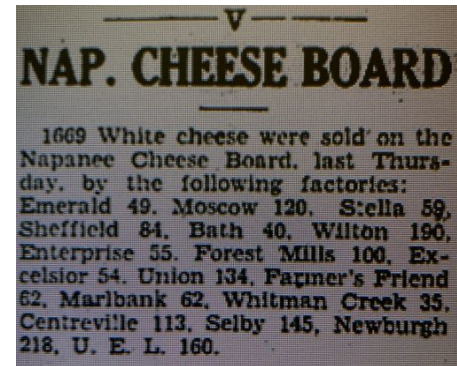
Cheesemaker Sandy Sandford
Early 1950s

In that same year, Sandy Sandford was hired as cheesemaker, a job he held for 6 years until his retirement. He was highly capable, friendly and an excellent cheesemaker.

Unfortunately, the five cent subsidy for wartime production was discontinued in 1949 and the price of milk dropped. It never exceeded \$2.43/cwt over the next 13 years and in four of those years, went below \$2.20/cwt. Producers were unhappy. The directors did their best to cut costs. Truckers went many years with no increase in pay. Upgrades to equipment were proposed, investigated, postponed and eventually canceled. Contacts were made with other factories to try to obtain used parts and equipment, often with no success.

In 1951, a deal was struck with Kraft Foods to produce 40-pound square cheese at a premium price. However, it did not prove profitable and was abandoned. At the 1961 annual meeting, it was noted that it cost 8 cents/lb. to make cheese worth 33 cents/lb. The producer's share was declining. Low prices for cheese led to changes in marketing. Historically, local Cheese Boards had been a forum for factory salesmen and cheese

buyers to negotiate prices and deliveries. UEL had participated in both the Napanee and Picton Cheese Boards.



Napanee Beaver
March 10, 1943

The Farm Products Marketing Act of 1947 authorized the Ontario Cheese Producers Association to act as an agency to handle all sales of Ontario cheese, to collect payment from buyers, and to collect licence fees. However, this took time. At the 1950 Annual meeting, it was reported that “the old cheese boards are not done yet”. In 1952, Irvine Brooks was appointed to represent UEL on the vote to be taken on whether or not cheese should be sold “under a pooling system for the season”. In anticipation of the new system, central cheese curing and storage warehouses were built, including one in Belleville in 1951. By 1960, an electronic auction system was in place in Belleville. A Dutch Clock operates as “a reverse auction”. The clock was set at an upper price, then counted down until a buyer pressed a button to purchase the lot of cheese. A flashing light indicated the buyer and the price was known. The system was thought to result in more competition among buyers.

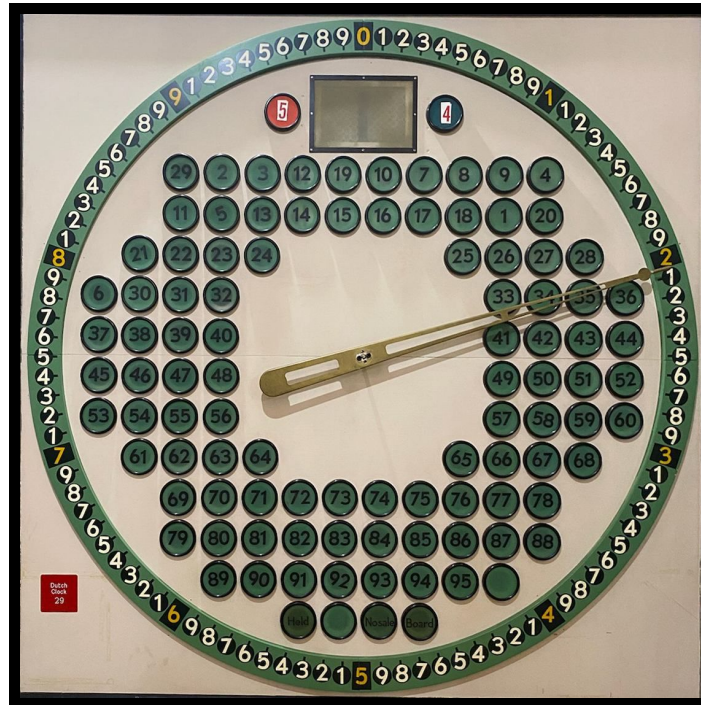


Photo: Taken at Farmtown Park, Stirling, Ontario

Dutch Clock Auction System

The hand of the large clock face shows the sale price in fractions of a cent per pound. The numbers at the centre of the clock represent buyers, and light up when a bid is made.

It may well have helped. For the period 1949-1955, the price of cheese was 29.3 cents/lb. From 1956-1963, it was 35.2 cents/lb, a twenty percent increase. The price of cheese was rising, but the price of milk was only up thirteen percent.

In 1949, 127 producers shipped to UEL. When the Newburgh Cheese Factory started a route into the Hawley and Sillsville areas, 20 shippers were lost. The UEL Board sent letter of appreciation to four producers who had remained loyal. However, the number of shippers declined as older producers retired.

In 1956, with the cheese price far too low, an alternate market appeared for some producers. The Toronto fluid milk market was nearly always short of milk in the fall and winter. Acme Farmer's Dairy in Napanee arranged to assemble and buy milk at the fluid price and ship it to Toronto when needed. The premium was significant, roughly \$1/cwt but only when the milk actually went to Toronto. Any producer wanting to enter the market had to meet fluid standards including building a proper milk house, installing a milk cooler and maintaining an approved stable. After much discussion and analysis, Hough's regretfully left UEL for the new market. It is my understanding that a few other patrons made the same decision in later years.

Although the number of shippers continued to decline, the amount of milk shipped stayed reasonably constant. It was a time of improvement in dairy production. Artificial insemination gave farmers access to better bulls who sired daughters who gave more milk. It also was easier to breed cows to freshen year-round, resulting in more winter milk. Dairy rations included more grain and supplements. Corn silage and better quality hay reduced the need to rely only on pasture to produce milk. Farms were getting larger and more mechanized, with more cows per farm. These factors allowed UEL to produce more cheese in both 1965 and 1966 than had been produced in 1949, from half the number of shippers.

After the war, there was new emphasis on “Milk Quality”. At every annual meeting, cleanliness became the theme. New regulations were introduced including twice monthly testing for sediment in the milk as it arrived at the factory. Sediment was any foreign material in the milk including dirt, manure, hair or insects. In early years when milking was done by hand into an open pail, milk was almost guaranteed to be contaminated. With mechanized milking, as long as the udder was clean, there was much less chance of contamination. In early days, milk might be filtered through a cloth into the can. Later filter pads of fine mesh gauze were more effective. Proper washing of milk cans was promoted to improve quality.

Each year Sandy Sandford emphasized that clean milk resulted in quality cheese. In a 1951 letter to her daughter, Marion Hough wrote “the government milk tester was at the factory last week and our milk was absolutely clean, not a spot on the disc. We have been getting clean returns from the factory and were pleased it was good when the inspector was there. One man’s milk was sent home. They are going to give him a second chance, but the ruling is not to send it for 15 or 30 days.” Even with continual emphasis on milk quality, in 1962, while 94.5% of the cheese sold by UEL was First Grade, the remainder was Second Grade for “flavour” and “sediment”.



Photo: Duncan Hough
Milk Strainer & Can

The UEL Factory closed in 1971. Unfortunately, the Board Minutes and Annual Statements for the last 10 years which should be with the other records at the UEL Heritage Centre Museum & Archives in Adolphustown cannot be found. We had to piece together the last years of the Factory without the insight these documents would reveal.

All small cheese factories (not just UEL) struggled in the 1950s and 1960s. Fluid milk was priced highest, then manufacturing milk (butter, powder, condensed), and then cheese milk. Canadians at that time were not huge cheese consumers and the British Market was gone. Costs were rising for labour, repairs, cleansers, and cheese boxes. Levies for Unemployment Insurance, Canada Pension Plan and Workman’s Compensation appeared on the ledger. There were fees for cheese grading and to the Cheese Marketing Board. Aging facilities and equipment were a regular concern. In 1961 alone, a new boiler and related equipment cost over \$3,000 and a new well and plumbing cost \$780. Cheesemakers, especially good ones, were hard to find and demanded fair payment. One cheesemaker was entirely unsatisfactory. He produced poor cheese, was fired but refused to leave the house.

Another concern of the Board was governance. In 1956, they consulted a lawyer for advice on how to deal with shareholders who no longer shipped milk. Ultimately, it was determined that only shareholders who shipped milk to UEL could act in any capacity for the company.

The formation of the Ontario Milk Marketing Board (OMMB) changed the system of buying milk. The milk board paid producers, then sold the milk to the factory. This simplified bookkeeping and testing milk for fat percentage. The board allocated “production quota” to producers and also allocated “plant quota” to processors. We shall see later that this was a significant issue.

In the 1960s UEL lost money several years but made a small profit in others. But it was evident the dairy system was changing. It was expected that in only a few years all producers would be required to have a milk house and a milk cooler. Milk would be handled in bulk and cans eliminated. This would require major investments at the farm and also at the factory. Factories would be expected to handle bulk milk, install water treatment equipment, and potentially a pasteurizer. Small producers and small factories just could not justify the expenses. They would exit the industry.

This is exactly what occurred in Lennox and Addington County in 1971. According to an article in the December 1, 1971 issue of the *Napanee Beaver*, the number of producers declined from 478 to 401 a decline of 14%.

Several of the larger factories in the county including Forest Mills, Selby, and Newburgh closed that year. The UEL Factory stopped accepting milk on November 30, 1971. This was not unusual, as winter milk was regularly directed to Pet Milk in Napanee. In a December 8 article in the *Napanee Beaver* there was speculation that UEL would close permanently, but no decision had been made.

The decision was made at a shareholders meeting on January 5, 1972. Thirty of the sixty-two shareholders were present. By a vote of 16 to 14, it was decided to close the business, to dispose of the assets and distribute the proceeds to the shareholders.

Accordingly, an auction was held on January 29, 1972.

AUCTION SALE

A 7-Room Frame House & Lot, Butter & Cheese Plant and Equipment, Office Equipment, Woodlot

AT THE

U.E.L. BUTTER & CHEESE PLANT

DORLAND, ONTARIO

SAT., JAN. 29, 1972

9:30 A.M.

12,000 LB. STAINLESS STEEL CHEESE VAT & NOW AGITATOR TWO 15,000 LB. STAINLESS STEEL CHEESE VATS & AGITATORS & NEW CANVASS VAT COVERS. DELAVAL VACUUM TANK CAPACITY FOR 25 TONS. CHEESE, DELAVAL 2,000 GAL. CONDENSING HOODING TANK, DELAVAL STAINLESS STEEL ELECTRIC CORD MILL, DELAVAL ELECTRIC SEPARATOR & CLEANER, 25,000 LB. CAPACITY VACUUM WHEY PUMP & 2 H.P. ELECTRIC MOTOR, DELAVAL AUTOMATIC CAN WASHING, WITH 2 H.P. ELECTRIC MOTOR, STAINLESS STEEL MILK PAIL, WITH BRUSHES & ELECTRIC MOTOR, SET OF TOLUIDO DIAL SCALES, 155 LB. CAPACITY SET OF TOLUIDO REC. FAC. COUNTER SCALES, SET OF BEAM SCALES, DELAVAL FRANK LEST STEEL STARTER TANK, CENTURY CHEESE PRESS TWO DOUBLE STAINLESS STEEL HYDRAULIC CHEESE PRESS, 50 TONS CHEESE HOOPS, 13 1/2 IN. STEEL CHEESE HOOPS, 80 STAINLESS STEEL SQUARE CHEESE HOOPS, NEW CARBONADO CHEESE CARTONS, ABOUT 100 WOODEN CHEESE BOXES (small) 2 DELAVAL STAINLESS STEEL WATER PUMPS & MOTORS, 2 DUBO DOUBLED ACTION PRESSURE PUMPS, HEAVY DUTY PRESSURE PUMP & TANK PUMP, PUMP & TANK, 10 GAL. HOT WATER TANK, UNIVERSAL BRONZE SEARATION UNIT, NO. 2045-L, WITH 2 H.P. ELECTRIC MOTOR, STAINLESS STEEL MILK TITING PUMP, 2 MILK TITERS, FORCE PUMP, WITH 7 H.P. ELECTRIC MOTOR & 500 FT. OF 2" PIPE AND 500 FT. OF 1 1/2" PIPE AND 13 STAINLESS STEEL BURNER AIR COMPRESSOR, 1200 LB. STAINLESS STEEL TANK, 6 CASES OF GLASS MILK SAMPLE BOTTLES, STEEL TANK, 3,500 LB. CAPACITY, STEEL TANK, 2,000 GAL. CAPACITY, 700 GAL. STEEL WATERS TANK, STEEL HOLDING TANK, STEEL WASH TANK, NAPANESE AUTOMATIC ROSSERLO H.P. & 1,000 GAL. OIL TANK, SET OF STEEL CAN ROLLERS, 7 SETS OF DAIRY SCALES, ABOUT 200 FT. OF 1 1/2" STAINLESS STEEL PIPE, 40 FT. OF 2" STAINLESS STEEL PIPE, 4 STAINLESS STEEL 3" ELBOWS & STAINLESS STEEL 1 1/2" ELBOWS, FOUR SWAY STAINLESS STEEL VALVES, STAINLESS STEEL CUP FORK, STAINLESS STEEL COLD PAIL, PIPE WRENCHES, PIPE VICE, BENCH VICE, OTHER TOOLS, JACULARI REPAIRATOR, 2 WRENCHES, WARNING MACHINES, 31 STEEL FENCE POSTS, 30 800 ROLL OF BLANK PAGE WIRE FENCING, 18 FT. STEEL GATE, ALUMINUM H.P. STEP LADDER, 40" PINE RANGE BOARDS, FARMER BACKS, STEEL LEADERS, PRESSURE HOSE, CHEESE, CHEESE BARS, CHEESE BARS, BLUE TELLING MACHINE, CHEESE TABLE, CHEESE CART WITH STEEL TOP, NO. OF ELECTRIC MOTOR, LAMINAR FLOW, SET OF TAPS & CYLES, LOTERAMP SCUM MILK POWDER, MILK REPLACER, SALT, OFFICE EQUIPMENT, OAK FILL TOP OFFICE DESK & CHAIR, UNDERWOOD ELECTRIC ADDING MACHINE, BANGSTON MANUAL ADDING MACHINE, HUSKAREY CASH REGISTER, LARGE FIRE-PROOF SAFE & FOLDING CHAIRS, QUANTITY OF OTHER ARTICLES NOT LISTED.

AT THE SAME TIME AND PLACE, A 7-ROOM STUCCO HOUSE, WITH FULL BASEMENT, CISTERN, OIL FURNACE, HARDWOOD FLOORS, BUILT-IN CUPBOARDS, GOOD WELL, ABOUT 1/2 ACRE OF LAND. LARGE STUCCO CHEESE FACTORY, ABOUT 5,500 SQ. FT. OF FLOOR SPACE, WITH REINFORCED CONCRETE FLOOR, STEEL ROOF, GOOD WELL, STEAM HEAT, H.D. HYDRO SERVICE, ABOUT 1/2 ACRE OF LAND. THIS FACTORY WOULD MAKE GOOD APARTMENTS, 28 1/2 ACRES, MORE OR LESS, WOODLOT, LOT NO. 21 TOWNSHIP OF ADOLPHUSTOWN. THESE PROPERTIES WILL BE OFFERED FOR SALE AT 2 P.M., SUBJECT TO RESERVE BID. THESE PROPERTIES CAN BE PURCHASED SEPARATELY OR ALL TOGETHER. TERMS ON REAL ESTATE ARE 10% DAY OF SALE, BALANCE TO BE PAID WITHIN 60 DAYS. EVERYTHING MUST BE SOLD AS FACTORY IS CLOSED. LUNCH AVAILABLE.

DONALD REYNOLDS, President - Tel: Dorland 373-9333
RUTH BROOKS, Secretary & Treasurer - Tel: Dorland 373-9727

-TERMS: CASH-

H. BRUCE SNIDER, Auctioneer, DIAL: 386-3806, ODESSA

OWNER & AUCTIONEER NOT RESPONSIBLE IN CASE OF ACCIDENT
(Printed at the Napanee Office, Napanee, Ontario)

Source: L&A County Archives

UEL Factory Auction Sale Bill

Details of property to be sold, below

AT THE SAME TIME AND PLACE, A 7-ROOM STUCCO HOUSE, WITH A FULL BASEMENT, CISTERN, OIL FURNACE, HARSOOD FLOORS, BUILT-IN CUPBOARDS, GOOD WELL, ABOUT 1/2 ACRE OF LAND. LARGE STUCCO CHEESE FACTORY, ABOUT 5,500 SQ. FT. OF FLOOR SPACE, WITH REINFORCED CONCRETE FLOOR, STEEL ROOF, GOOD WELL, STEAM HEAT, H.D. HYDRO SERVICE, ABOUT 1/2 ACRE OF LAND, THIS FACTORY WOULD MAKE GOOD APARTMENTS, 28 1/2 ACRES, MORE OR LESS, WOODLOT, LOT NO. 21 TOWNSHIP OF ADOLPHUSTOWN. THESE PROPERTIES WILL BE OFFERED FOR SALE AT 2 P.M., SUBJECT TO RESERVE BID. THESE PROPERTIES CAN BE PURCHASED SEPARATELY OR ALL TOGETHER. TERMS ON REAL ESTATE ARE 10% DAY OF SALE, BALANCE TO BE PAID WITHIN 60 DAYS. EVERYTHING MUST BE SOLD AS FACTORY IS CLOSED. LUNCH AVAILABLE.

CLOSING UEL CHEESE FACTORY AT DORLAND

United Empire Loyalist Cheese Factory at Dorland will close permanently.

The factory usually closes for the winter but this time it will remain closed and the shareholders have voted to cease operations.

The factory began 74 years ago and was owned and operated by its patrons, the producers who sold milk to it. There were about 60 of them but only half of them showed up at a meeting last week in Adolphustown to decide the matter. The decision to close was carried by a vote of 16-14.

President was Donald Reynolds, of Dorland. Adolphustown Township Reeve Joseph Shelley, a shareholder for over 30 years, said the notice calling the meeting did not make clear that a vote on the factory's

fate would be taken. If it had, he contended, more would have turned out and the vote would have had a different result.

President Reynolds said the factory had been ordered to make extensive renovations, including new pumps and a new stainless steel tank as well as a system to chlorinate all water used.

Factories at Wilton and Amherst Island are the only ones left in Lennox and Addington County.

Napanee Beaver
January 12, 1972

The sale included the factory, the house, the woodlot and all the equipment and supplies. It was a very large sale reported to be attended by 1,000 people. The best equipment was purchased by cheese factories in Black River, Wilton, Madoc, Forfar, Stouffville and Amherst Island. Locals purchased a variety of items. The sale ran from 9:30 AM to 5:30 PM. Quoted in the February 2, 1972 issue of the *Napanee Beaver*, Don Reynolds, chairman of the board, said "Most of the day I was holding up items for buyers to see and by the end of the day, I was so tired, I wished somebody else would hold me up for a change". Bids for the house and factory building did not meet the reserve but were sold later.

12,000 LB. STAINLESS STEEL CHEESE VAT & NEW AGITATOR; TWO 10,000 LB. STAINLESS STEEL CHEESE VATS & AGITATORS; 4 NEW CANVAS VAT COVERS; DELAVAL VACUUM TANK, CAPACITY FOR 20 100-LB. CHEESE; DELAVAL 3,000 GAL. COLDWELL HOLDING TANK; DELAVAL STAINLESS STEEL ELECTRIC CURD MILL; DELAVAL ELECTRIC SEPARATOR & CLEARIFIER, 50,000 LB. CAPACITY; VIKING WHEY PUMP & 2 H.P. ELECTRIC MOTOR; DELAVAL AUTOMATIC CAN WASHER, WITH 3 H.P. ELECTRIC MOTOR; STAINLESS STEEL WASH TANK, WITH BRUSHES & ELECTRIC MOTOR; SET OF TOLEDO DIAL SCALES, 125-LB. CAPACITY; SET OF TOLEDO ELECTRIC COUNTER SCALES; SET OF BEAM SCALES; DELAVAL STAINLESS STEEL STARTER TANK; CENTURY CHEESE PRESS; TWO DOUBLE STAINLESS STEEL HYDRAULIC CHEESE PRESSES; 50 STEEL CHEESE HOOPS; 13 10-LB. STEEL CHEESE HOOPS; 50 STAINLESS STEEL SQUARE CHEESE HOOPS; NEW CARDBOARD CHEESE CARTONS; ABOUT 100 WOODEN CHEESE BOXES (new); 3 DELAVAL STAINLESS STEEL WATER PUMPS & MOTORS; 2 DURO DOUBLE ACTION PRESSURE PUMPS; HEAVY DUTY PRESSURE PUMP & TANK; SUMP PUMP & TANK; 80-GAL. HOT WATER TANK; UNIVERSAL REFRIGERATION UNIT, NO. 204F.S., WITH 2 H.P. ELECTRIC MOTOR STAINLESS STEEL MILK TESTING PUMP; 2 MILK TESTERS; FORCE PUMP, WITH 7 H.P. ELECTRIC MOTOR & 500 FT. OF 2" PIPE and 500 FT. OF 1½" PIPE AND 13 RAIN-BIRD SPRINKLERS; BRUNNER AIR COMPRESSOR; 1200 LB. STAINLESS STEEL TANK; 6 CASES OF

GLASS MILK SAMPLE BOTTLES; STEEL TANK, 3,500 LB. CAPACITY; STEEL TANK, 2,000 GAL. CAPACITY; 700 GAL. STEEL WATER TANK; STEEL HOLDING TANK; STEEL WASH TANK; NAPANEE AUTOMATIC BOILER, 50 H.P. & 1,000 GAL. OIL TANK; SET OF STEEL CAN ROLLERS; 2 SETS OF DAIRY SCALES; ABOUT 200 FT. OF 1½" STAINLESS STEEL PIPE; 40 FT. OF 2" STAINLESS STEEL PIPE; 4 STAINLESS STEEL 2" ELBOWS; 6 STAINLESS STEEL 1½" ELBOWS; FOUR 3-WAY STAINLESS STEEL VALVES; STAINLESS STEEL CURD FORK; STAINLESS STEEL CURD PAIL; PIPE WRENCHES; PIPE VICE; BENCH VICE; OTHER TOOLS. McCLARY REFRIGERATOR; 2 WRINGER WASHING MACHINES; 31 STEEL FENCE POSTS; 30 ROD ROLL OF 8-LINE PAGE WIRE FENCING; 14-FT. STEEL GATE; ALUMINUM 8-FT. STEP LADDER; 40 2" PINE RANGE BOARDS; PAPER RACKS; STEEL LEADERS; PRESSURE HOSE; CHEESE CLOTH; CHEESE BANDAGE; METHYLENE BLUE TESTING MACHINE; CHEESE TABLE; CHEESE CART WITH STEEL TOP; NO. OF ELECTRIC MOTORS, (various sizes); SET OF TAPS & DYES; LOTEMP SKIM MILK POWDER; MILK REPLACER; SALT. OFFICE EQUIPMENT: OAK FLAT TOP OFFICE DESK & CHAIR; UNDERWOOD ELECTRIC ADDING MACHINE; REMINGTON MANUAL ADDING MACHINE; McCASKEY CASH REGISTER; LARGE FIRE-PROOF SAFE; 6 FOLDING CHAIRS; QUANTITY OF OTHER ARTICLES NOT LISTED.

Source: UEL Heritage Centre Museum & Archives

Details of contents to be sold from UEL Factory Auction Sale Bill

| | | |
|------------------------------|------------------|-------|
| 2" Pipe | Jerry Rutten | 2.00 |
| 4" Padlock for agitator | | |
| Paul Hails | Jack Baker | 2.00 |
| Heat Bulb & Cord | Bary Shelley | 2.50 |
| 6 Cheese Cutters with blades | Ryfferson Cheese | 30.00 |
| Elec Cable | Life Armstrong | 1.00 |
| Knife | Gordon Shettles | 3.50 |
| Paint Pan | Roll Bruce | 5.00 |
| 2 Exp Cords | Maurice Ballhorn | 50.00 |
| | | 43.00 |

| | | |
|---------|--------------------|--------|
| 2" Pipe | Jack Roblin | 3.00 |
| 2" Pipe | Don Reynolds | 50.00 |
| 2" Sink | John Kerr | 6.00 |
| 2" Sink | Glen Snider | 75.00 |
| 2" Sink | Jack Harshman | 50.00 |
| 2" Sink | Ron Stone | 225.00 |
| 2" Sink | Black River Cheese | 200.00 |
| 2" Sink | Norman Brooks | 75.00 |

| | | |
|---------|------------------|--------|
| 2" Pipe | Empire Cheese | 22.00 |
| 2" Pipe | Norman Brooks | 2.00 |
| 2" Desk | Ryfferson Cheese | 5.00 |
| 2" Desk | Mr Anderson | 225.00 |
| 2" Desk | Ernell Huff | 15.00 |
| 2" Desk | Mr Adams | 2.00 |
| 2" Desk | John Kerr | 1.00 |
| 2" Desk | Dave Sharpe | 2.00 |
| 2" Desk | Mr Beaulieu | 5.00 |
| 2" Desk | J. Smith | 3.00 |

Source: UEL Heritage Centre Museum & Archives

Bruce Snider's auction notes:.. Buyers included other cheese factories as well as local farmers

When the finances were being calculated, two very significant assets help raise the payout to shareholders. The plant quota was saleable and was very attractive to the larger plants who hoped to stay in business. Small factories were given provincial grants to allow them to pay off their debts, without impacting the owners. In the case of UEL, the assets were as follows:

| | |
|----------------------|-----------------|
| Land----- | \$4,981 |
| Buildings----- | \$13,400 |
| Equipment----- | \$10,358 |
| Supplies----- | \$389 |
| Quota----- | \$25,074 |
| Closing out grant--- | \$18,420 |
| TOTAL ----- | \$72,622 |

According to notes written on the back of a wooden frame in which Dick Daverne displayed his share, each shareholder received \$1,157. Some shares were held by the descendants of original shareholders. Others had been transferred maybe even several times to successive owners. In all the transfers recorded, I never saw any share traded for more than \$25.00.

The closure of the Factory was unfortunate, but was the result of many factors beyond local control. At one time there were factories in nearly every community in the Quinte Region. UEL was the third last factory in Lennox and Addington County. Only Wilton is still operating today.

The Factory left a real legacy. Over 75 seasons, it was an accessible market for local milk. This was most important when milk could only be drawn a few miles by horse and wagon. At the end, milk was sourced from Sillsville, Conway, Adolphustown areas and even from Cressy across the ferry.

Financially, the Factory injected money into the farm community. In the twenty-three seasons from 1948-1971, I estimate that at least three million dollars was paid out to patrons. The payout over the early years would have been less but was still a major part of farm income.

Above the milk payments, money went into the community for supplies such as salt, cheese boxes, cleansers, equipment, ice, fuel, and casual labour for repairs. Milk drawers, first by horse and wagon and later by truck, earned income. Some of the men who hauled milk in later years were Orison, Harvey, and Don Benn, Lorne Wannamaker, Leo Mack, and Lyle Smith.

The Factory hired local labour. The Board hired the cheesemaker who hired two to three workers to help make the cheese. Over 75 seasons, the total labour would exceed 150 man-years, based on an 8 month season. Ruth and Evan Brooks served as Secretary-Treasurer for 22 years. For a small community the Factory was a significant employer.

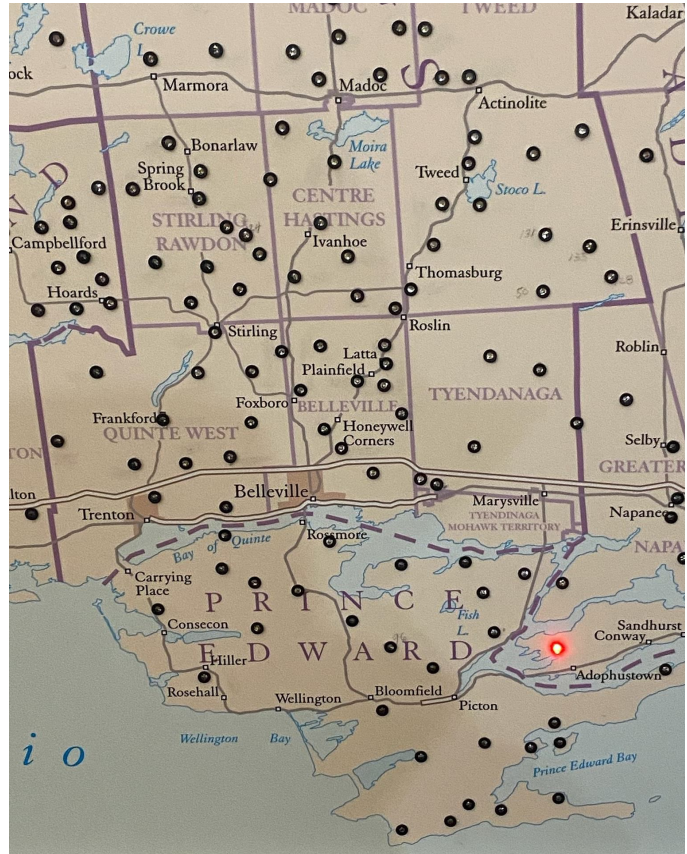


Photo: Taken at Farmland Park, Stirling, Ontario
Cheese factories in the Quinte area in 1928.
UEL is highlighted.



Photo: Judy Smith

Workers at the factory Early 1950s
Doug Reynolds, Sandy Sandford, Gary Davis, Margaret Sandford (Hawley)

Working at the Factory led several men to careers in the dairy industry. Norman Brooks started at UEL and after training as a cheesemaker spent his career at Wilton. Gary Shelley started here and obtained his seven certificates to become a cheesemaker. He made cheese at Elmwood in Prince Edward County for 6 years until it closed. Jim Donnan worked at UEL for a period of time, then returned, married Mary John and, first with his father-in-law and later with his family, shipped milk to UEL. His son Bryson worked at UEL. When it closed, he worked at Lakefield and then spent his career with the large farmer-owned Gay Lea Co-operative.

The Factory was a focal point of the Adolphustown-Fredericksburgh community. Shareholders from the townships worked together to run the business. The Governance as shown in the minutes was excellent. These men, not as well educated as we would expect today, showed real business sense in tough economic conditions. Running a successful business when your suppliers, who are also your shareholders, are under financial stress, is a real credit.

The entire story of the UEL Butter and Cheese Company of Adolphustown Ltd. has been an interesting historical study.



Appreciation is expressed to:

Judy Smith for information
and photographs

The UEL Heritage Centre
Museum & Archives in
Adolphustown for access
to UEL Factory records

Farmtown Park
Agricultural Museum in
Stirling



We have recently taken up the manufacture and sale of the

Templeton Cheese Knife

It is the greatest device for merchants retailing cheese. "Soon pays for itself,"
is the testimony of everyone who has used the machine for the past year.

**KEEPS CHEESE FRESH
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Sillsville.

[Correspondence of THE EXPRESS.]

—The new cheese factory in course of erection here is fast approaching completion and presents a fine appearance. The building is of wood, is situated on a plot of ground adjoining the town hall and will be painted as soon as completed. The directors of the company are Messrs. J. Rennie, D. G. Vandewater and S. Mullett, and no expense will be spared in making the factory a first-class one in every particular. The carpenter work has been done by Mr. G. B. Carr and sons in their usual neat and careful manner. The utensils of the factory are entirely new and are being supplied by Mr. R. G. Wright, of Napanee. Some of the presses and vats arrived yesterday, and will be put in during the week. The directors have made arrangements with Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Diamond for the manufacture of cheese during the season. Milk waggons will be put on four different routes and operations will probably be commenced on the 1st day of May.

Napanee Express
April, 1894

THE DAIRY MARKETS.

Butter—Pound prints, 21 to 23c; tubs and large rolls, 16 to 18c; inferior, 14 to 15c; creamery rolls, 25 to 26c, and solids, 20 to 21c.

Eggs—18 to 19c per dozen in case lots.

Cheese—Large cheese, old, 14 to 14½c per pound, and twins, 14½ to 14¾c; new cheese, 13½c.

Napanee Express
April 30, 1909

—On Thursday of last week Mr. N. Woodcock called a meeting of the patrons of Hay Bay cheese factory, which was largely attended. The secretary, Mr. Irvine Parks, read a statement of receipts and expenditure of last season which gave every satisfaction, and after some routine business was transacted Mr. Parks was unanimously elected secretary-treasurer and salesman for the current year, 1884.

Napanee Express
March 7, 1884

NEWS FROM THE COUNTRY

THE PINES.

The recent rains have gladdened the farmers hearts, and prospects so far are not unsatisfactory.

Last week was taken up with road work, when some much needed repairs were put upon the road.

One of the coming events will be a social at Union church, on Wednesday, 24th June, Lunch will be served by the ladies, followed by a lecture illustrated with magic lantern views, and interspersed with some choice music furnished specially for the occasion. Admission only 15 cents.

Miss Sarah Carroll has resumed her former position in Platt cheese factory.

Our milk drawer, Mr. Caldwell, is very well liked. George is a huster to get around

Napanee Express
June 19, 1896

A GOOD OPPORTUNITY FOR AN ENERGETIC MAN.—For sale or to let at a bargain, the woollen mill and cheese factory with comfortable residence attached, three-quarters of a mile from Ernesttown Station and four miles from Bath and Odessa. The property is better known as Hogle's Mill and Factory. Both factories are in good running order. To a live man possession will be given even if he has only a small capital. For full particulars apply to
JOHN HOGLE,
Bath.

Napanee Express
February 19, 1896

The U. E. L. Cheese Factory vs Chas. Brooks was an action growing out of a dispute over the allotment of milk routes. Brooks is a shareholder and neglected to send his milk to the factory as set forth in the by-laws of the company. The company sued to recover damages for this infringement of the rules. As the matter involved several intricate points in law and if persisted in would lead to protracted litigation the matter was settled by Brooks waiving all rights as a shareholder, the plaintiffs paying their own costs.

Napanee Express
February 10, 1899

Bicentennial Celebrations — Part 1

Susan Wright

1984 marked two hundred years since the arrival of the United Empire Loyalists and the founding of the townships of Adolphustown and Fredericksburgh. Extensive celebrations took place in both Adolphustown and South Fredericksburgh that year, representing a huge community effort. The newly completed South Fredericksburgh Community Hall was the site of the first big celebration of the summer.

South Fredericksburgh Bicentennial Celebrations 1984

Saturday July 14 1984

Camp Settlement Of the King's Rangers & Royal Yorkers
Log Cabin Building
Quilt Displays (Heirloom/Competitive)
Essays, Craft Demonstrations & Displays
Articles from the Loyalist List
Horse Teams
Oxen & Float with the History of Agriculture
Opening Ceremonies
Military Demonstrations of the 18th Century
(musket drill & firing; tactics,
viewing of camps, drawing lots)
Children's Costume Parade
Pork Barbeque
Costume Ball
Music by Country Roads & Old Time Fiddlers, Costume
Judging

Sunday July 15 1984

Parade from Sandhurst School to McDowall Cemetery
Outdoor Services at McDowall Cemetery & St. Paul's
Church
Ecumenical Service in Tent at South Fred Hall
(with area choirs & soloists)
Pancake Brunch
Special Music
Military Demonstrations
Displays



The festivities will begin at Sandhurst School at 8 a.m. From there, Rogers Rangers will lead a church parade down Highway 33 to McDowall Memorial Cemetery and then on to St. Paul's Anglican Church where brief outdoor ceremonies will pay tribute to Loyalist missionaries close to the spot where they are thought to have landed in 1784.

Buses will transport militia from the church to South Fredericksburgh Community Centre for a 10:30 a.m. service in a tent. The service will be preceded by a Methodist hymn sing. Music during the service will be provided by Conway Church junior and senior choirs under the direction of Susan Wright. Rt. Rev. Allan Read, Anglican Bishop of Ontario, will be guest speaker.

After the service, \$3 tickets may be purchased for a brunch in the hall provided by the United Church Men. The tickets will be available at the door and the Napanee Brass Ensemble will provide dinner music. Afternoon entertainment will include the Goodberry Sisters, highland dancers and demonstrations and drills by the military.

The 18th-century campsite will be occupied by the King's Royal Regiment of New York and the 2nd battalion King's Rangers but will be open to all.



Kingston Whig Standard
July 13, 1984



**Services at St. Paul's Church and
McDowall Memorial Cemetery, Sandhurst**



The Oxen

"The animals were christened Spot and Line by their former Perth owner, who was about to have them slaughtered when Tomkow [Tom Tomkow, Reeve of South Fred, 1984] intervened. [He] was able to persuade the provincial Ministry of Agriculture to rustle up \$2,000 to rescue them. As a result, they have since been nicknamed Duncan and Alan, after the then deputy minister. Their new home is the Ontario Agricultural College at Kemptville, where they have become a duo of travelling ambassadors for the ministry. The township enjoys the distinction of being the first to put them on summer display. Having been taught to follow their driver in previous pulling matches, they may be unaccustomed to the rear driving they will get here. Tomkow says he sincerely hopes that Duncan and Allan will not take on the dispositions of mules in the circumstances."

Whig Standard June 25, 1984



Opening Ceremonies

Tom Tomkow (Reeve of South Fred), Gwen Smith (president of UEL Association), Joan Morton (Chairman SF Committee); Bill VanKoughnet (MP), Harold Allison (Reeve of Adolphustown), James Taylor (MPP)



Building the Log Cabin

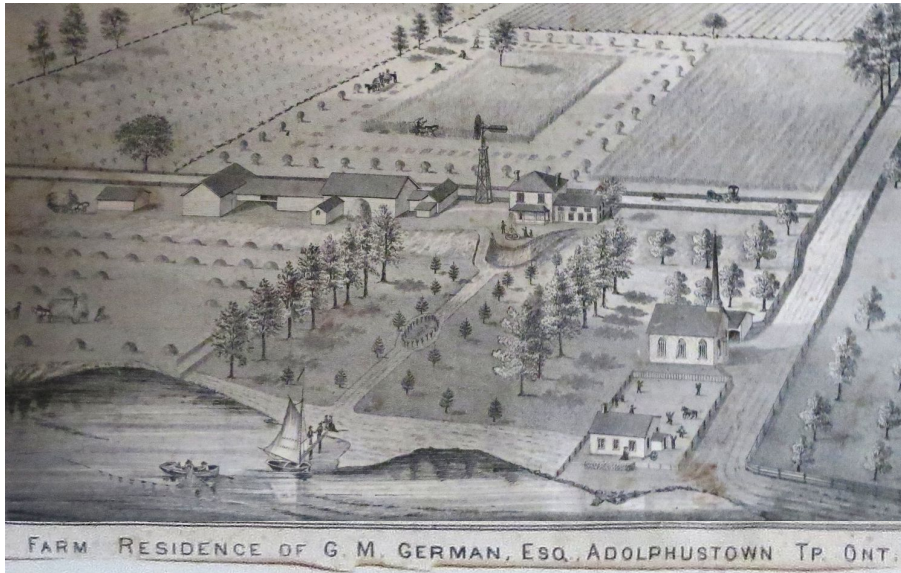


**Kings' Royal Regiment of New York
King's Rangers
Reenactment & Demonstrations**



Then and Now

Susan Wright



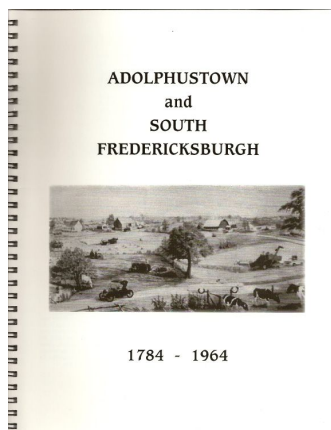
Gosport

Then: Sketch from the 1878 *Illustrated Historical Atlas of the Counties of Frontenac, Lennox & Addington*

Now: Google Maps 2023



From the Book Shelf



Adolphustown and South Fredericksburgh 1784-1964

As part of the celebration of the Centennial of the County of Lennox and Addington in 1964, the Adolphustown & South Fredericksburgh Community Club published a booklet highlighting the history of the two townships. The booklet was re-issued in 2004 by the South Fredericksburgh Heritage Committee.

See our website

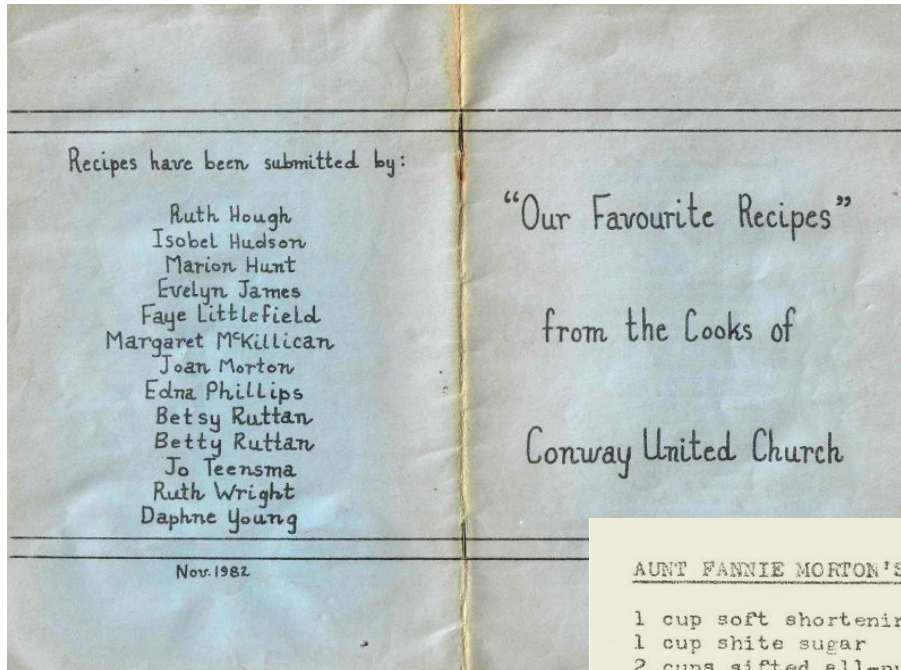
(<http://www.sfredheritage.on.ca/Books.htm>) for a full list of AFHS publications, along with a brief description of each book.

From the Kitchen

Jane Lovell

Aunt Fannie's Oatmeal Cookies

What better choice for this issue than to present a recipe from one of the many community cookbooks produced by the women of Adolphustown and Fredericksburgh.

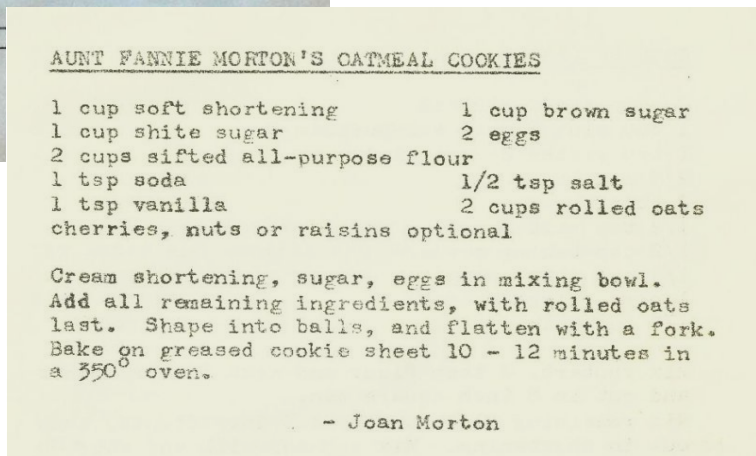


I opted for "Aunt Fannie Morton's Oatmeal Cookies" from the 1982 *"Our Favourite Recipes"* from the *Cooks of Conway United Church*. The recipe was submitted by Joan Morton. Joan (née Punchard) was Fannie Morton's daughter-in-law.

Another of Fannie's daughter's-in-law was Geraldine Morton whose daughter, Mavis Morton, still treats her family to these cookies.



My cookies, baked from a recipe possibly close to 150 years old and enjoyed by six(!) generations of the Phippen/Morton family, included $\frac{1}{3}$ cup each of chopped walnuts and golden raisins.



Always known as "Aunt Fannie's Oatmeal Cookies", the recipe came to Fannie Morton (née Fannie Edith Phippen) from her aunt, confusingly also named Fannie Edith Phippen.

Fannie Morton was profiled in the [April 2022](#) issue of the

Neighbourhood Messenger. She never knew her aunt Fannie Phippen who died at age 37, just two years after young Fannie's birth. The [June 2015](#) issue featured the Phippen/Morton house at Conway, a home to both Fannies at different times, and where Aunt Fannie's Oatmeal Cookies made many appearances.



Photo: Mavis Morton

Fannie Phippen (1856-1893)

Undated

AFHS News

Angela Cronk

HAPPY SPRING!

I hope you enjoyed this mild winter (I say that, knowing that there are many who would have preferred to have more snow to enjoy winter sports!). The AFHS has been busy with a few projects such as designing new signs to mark the township boundaries of Adolphustown and North and South Fredericksburgh. Also in the near future (when the ground dries up a bit) we will establish some work groups to clean up some of our cemeteries.

The most EXCITING event is our "FISH FRY DINNER" happening on **APRIL 27, 2024**. We were filled to capacity last year and hope for a repeat! Mundells will once again be providing the delectable feast, so make your reservations right away to secure your ticket. This is not a fundraiser for us—it is a time for friends and neighbours to share a great meal (for only \$20 all inclusive) and learn a little about this great historic area especially as this year marks the 240th anniversary of the founding of Adolphustown and Fredericksburgh townships.



To book tickets for the Fish Fry: email jane.lovell@kos.net, or text or call 613-373-0199

A Curious Thing

Angela Cronk



December's
Curious Thing

Thomas Sylvester correctly identified this as a two-hole paper punch. Creating two holes at the top of the page, this punch allowed letters and other papers to be affixed to a file folder or placed in a two-ring binder so that the pages could be flipped up.

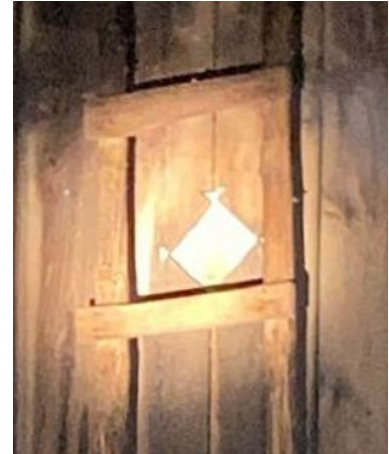
This punch does not bear any identification, so its age is unknown. The model, below left, was available from the 1927 *Spring & Summer Eaton's Catalogue*. The 1925 *Fall & Winter Eaton's Catalogue* contains an illustration of the "letter file", below right.

Two-hole paper punches remain available today.



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.

What are these things?



Inside Gable of Pre-1850s Barn

Photos Submitted by Duncan Hough

Gable of Pre-1830s Barn

These diamond-shaped cut-outs appear in two old barns in South Fredericksburgh. The series of four diamonds, above left, have small triangles cut into the siding above and below each diamond. The opening, above right, was photographed from within the second barn and shows small triangles decorating all four points of the diamond. The height of the diamond is about 8".

Please contact angelacronk@gmail.com if you know the purpose of these diamond-shaped cut-outs.



Umbrellas and Parasols

WOMEN'S UMBRELLAS

C1-4. Women's Umbrellas, covers of Austria cloth, Congo handles, untrimmed, German silver mounted, cut C1-4.....**.50 .75**
C1-5. Women's Umbrellas, covers of fine gloria cloth, best frame and rod, handles in various

FANCY PARASOLS

Our stock of fancy parasols for this season—1904 will be of the very latest New York and Paris novelties. In ordering tell us the colors you want and it will be sure to please you.

MEN'S UMBRELLAS

(Never such good qualities at low prices)

C1-8. Men's Umbrellas, covers of Austria cloth, Congo handles, untrimmed.....**.50**
German Silver Mounts, cut C1-8.....**.75**
C1-9. Men's Umbrellas, covers of fine gloria cloth, best frame and rod, handles of Congo or

1904 Spring & Summer Eaton's Catalogue

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 WWII

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 *The Neighbourhood Messenger* several times a year. If you have an old photograph or newspaper clipping to share, or a story to tell, let us know. Please send submissions to jane.lovell@kos.net.

Contributors to this issue:

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