

THE NEIGHBOURHOOD MESSENGER

NEWSLETTER OF THE ADOLPHUSTOWN-FREDERICKSBURGH HERITAGE SOCIETY

Issue Number 31

December 2024

Boundaries

This year marks the 240th anniversary of the landing of the United Empire Loyalists on our shores. These refugees from the American Revolutionary War arrived with the promise of being settled together in the same township as the families with whom they had made their exodus from the newly independent United States. Before the allocation of land could take place, however, boundaries of the

townships required some adjustment to ensure that all families belonging to a specific group could live together in the same township. Within the townships, families were granted lots, and soon the boundaries between lots began to shape the landscape. Whether looking inward from township boundaries or across lot boundaries, families have forged friendships, loyalties, and a sense of community. The last 240 years have seen disagreement over boundaries and jurisdiction, but also many unifying moments, such as the Bicentennial of the Loyalists' arrival celebrated 40 years ago—engaged in with great enthusiasm by the residents of Adolphustown and Fredericksburgh. Several articles in this issue celebrate these milestones, taking a look at the boundaries that define us—as citizens and neighbours.

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

A Glimpse of the Past



AFHS Photo

Unknown couple near St. Alban's Church, late 1910s
The man is holding a post hole auger.

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!

The Story of Phebe Jane Allison [1831-1846]

Susan Wright

In 1784, two Allison brothers, Joseph and Benjamin arrived in Adolphustown. A third brother, Jeremiah joined them later and finally settled in Sophiasburgh.

Benjamin and his wife, Phebe Jane Davidson, later moved to Marysburgh Township, Prince Edward County, where his third child, Cyrus Richmond Allison was born on October 2, 1799.

Cyrus began travelling as an itinerant preacher with the Methodist Church. Starting in Hallowell, he continued throughout the Quinte area and beyond in the following years. In 1830, he married Eve Hoover, born September 4 1809, a daughter of Henry Hoover and his wife, Jane Huff who had settled on the Bayshore Road in Adolphustown.

Their lives were not easy. They were often stationed at missions in remote areas, at times hundreds of miles from their families, unable to find suitable accommodations, fighting storms and sickness and far from medical aid when needed. Reverend Allison often trudged through the snow on foot.

On May 14, 1831, they were blessed by the arrival of their first child, a daughter, Phebe Jane.

Although often sickly as a child, 'Jane' survived and appeared to blossom. She learned to read at an early age, and was very observant of her surroundings and of her religious upbringing.

The Family of Reverend & Mrs. Allison

1. Phebe Jane Allison (1831-1846)
Died at the age of 15
2. Mary Ann Allison (1833-1880)
Married John K. Appelbe
3. William Henry Richey Allison (1836-1904)
Married Anna M. Roblin
4. Cyrus Ryerson 'Tity' Allison (1840-1845)
Died at the age of 5
5. Sarah Elizabeth Allison (1843-1929)
Married Henry Wm. Branscombe
6. Cyrus Richmond Allison (1845-1874)
Married Harriet Ann Murdoff
7. Phebe Jane 'Jennie' Allison (1849-1935)
Married i. Roderick S. Roblin
ii. John Drewry
8. Charles Benjamin Allison (1852-1927)
Married Emma Crandall

Seven other children were born to Reverend and Mrs. Allison over the following years: Mary Ann on August 29, 1833; William Henry Richey on April 27, 1836; Cyrus Ryerson "Tity" on March 16, 1840; Sarah Elizabeth on September 17 1843; [a second] Cyrus Richmond in 1845; [a second] Phebe Jane "Jennie" on September 18 1849; and Charles Benjamin on September 25 1852.

Reverend Cyrus died on July 1, 1869 at the age of 69, his wife, Eve on November 13, 1892, aged 83 years. Both are buried in Glenwood Cemetery in Picton.

DEATH OF THE REV. C. R. ALLISON.

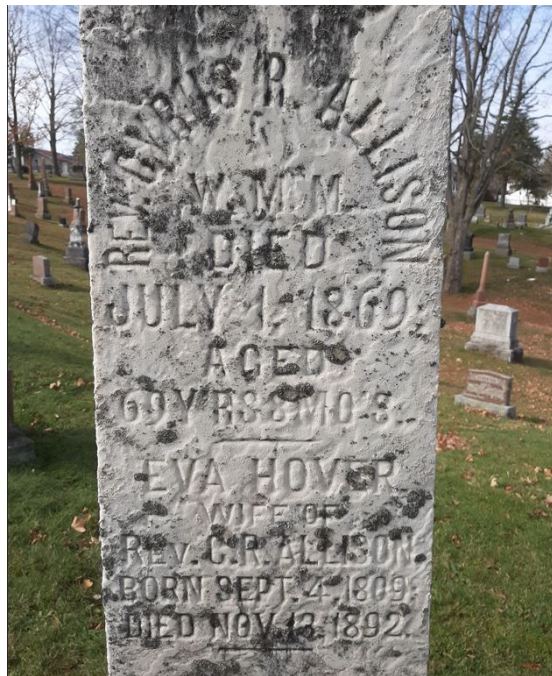
We learn, in a note from Rev. N. R. Willoughby, of Picton, the following particulars respecting the death of Bro. C. R. Allison. An earlier notice of Bro. Allison's death would have appeared in the *Guardian*, only we had received no particulars:

"During the entire of the past Conference year, Bro. Allison has been very feeble, and at times a great sufferer; yet, in May, he was sufficiently vigorous to take an active part in the business of the District Meeting. He was very desirous of meeting his brethren in the Annual Conference. He also purposed attending the closing exercises of the Female College, Hamilton, in which a loved daughter was to have a part. In both cases his hopes were frustrated.

"He was taken very ill on reaching Toronto. After a few days he went to the home of his daughter, Sister Appelbe, near Oakville, from which he returned to Picton, accompanied by his wife and several of his children. He took his final farewell of earth on the morning of the 1st of July. He was quite in expectation of the end; and he gave to his beloved ones, and to the Church in general, full assurance that he was in Christ Jesus.

The Chairman, Bro. Sanderson, assisted by several other ministers, conducted the funeral services on the afternoon of Saturday, the 3rd instant."

Christian Guardian
July 21, 1869



The Late Mrs. Eva Allison.

Mrs. Eva Allison died at the residence of Dr. H. W. Branscombe, Picton, on Sunday last. Mrs. Allison had lived with her son, C. B. Allison, Picton, and during a brief visit with her daughter, Mrs. Branscombe, was seized with the illness of which she died. She was relict of the late Rev. Cyrus Allison, a pioneer of Methodism of the Bay of Quinte district. In Mrs. Allison he had a partner whose noble and heroic nature well qualified her to sustain him in his arduous work. She was a woman of disciplined mind and refined christian character, and throughout life was ardently loved. The funeral took place on Tuesday and was very largely attended. The floral decorations were beautiful and in excellent taste. The bearers were: David W. Allison, Henry H. Allison, Cyrus R. Allison, Adolphustown; Charles B. Allison, H. W. Branscombe, W. H. R. Allison, Q. C., Picton.

Weekly British Whig
November 24, 1892

Phebe Jane

Quotations taken from "Memoir of Miss P.J. Allison"

"In appearance she was all that was interesting and lovely. A little above the middle height (sic), rather of the slender form and very graceful and easy in all her moves. Her features were round and delicate, her hair a beautiful brown and her eyes a bright blue; and bespoke intelligence where ever they turned. She was neat and precise in her dress, without ever asking for, or wearing the least thing gaudy, or inconsistent with the views of the plainest Christian. She was kind to all with whom she associated and particularly to the aged, sickly and infirm; any of whom she never wished to pass even by the high way without contributing in some way to their relief. She was also very benevolent. Never appearing more delighted than when she had an opportunity to give or could persuade others to do so. She would often ask when her parents were subscribing or giving 'can't you do a little more.'

She was industrious. Never unemployed and seldom ever from a child triflingly employed. She never engaged in those innocent amusements (such as making play houses, dressing dolls, &c.,) which so generally interest the minds of children. She was generally employed in either literary pursuits or domestic economy; and often both at the same time. Hence knitting to her was a favorite employment as she could have her book spread open before her and thus her mind and hands be fully employed. In this she greatly excelled as she could execute the finest ornamental work in this art.

She was affectionate to all, but particularly to her relations and such as she believed to be true Christians. Her pleasing disposition seemed to strengthen as she increased in years and was strikingly manifested on several occasions during the last few months of her precious life.."

In 1836, young Phebe Jane began attending the Upper Canada Academy (later Victoria College) in Cobourg, where, among other studies, she received her first music lessons on the piano, and, according to her instructors, *"such was her rapid progress, that in the course of one month, she had obtained a better knowledge of the rudiments of the science, than pupils generally acquire in a full term."*

During the next few years, the family again was travelling through the area. By 1843, they were living in Bath, but were not satisfied with the schools there, so enrolled Phebe Jane at the Cobourg Ladies' Academy, run by Mrs. Maria Hurlburt. Mrs. Hurlburt writes: *"In January, 1843, your dear daughter , Phebe Jane was again placed under my superintendence in the Cobourg Ladies' Academy. Her studies during this year were English Grammar, Arithmetic, General History, Analysis of Words, Composition, Natural History and natural Philosophy."*

In October of 1844, Phebe Jane and her younger sister, Mary Ann, went again to the Ladies' Academy in Cobourg. Further from Mrs. Hurlburt: *"Her studies at this time were Watts on the mind, Rhetoric, Ecclesiastical History, Physiology, Geology, Astronomy, Smellie's Philosophy and Composition."* She continued to excel at her music as well. By May of 1845, she had completed the *"studies of the Third Department."*

September of 1845 found Phebe Jane and Mary Ann at the academy. In a letter home, written September 11, 1845, Phebe Jane admits her homesickness and requests more letters (and some money) from home and closing with: *"Please give our love to Papa, W.H., Tity, Sally and Ellen."* The sisters soon returned home to Sidney at the end of the term.

On the first of November, 1845, her younger brother, Cyrus, then just five years of age, was taken very ill. He died five days later. Phebe Jane wrote a sketch of her young brother's life for the *Christian Guardian*.

For the Christian Guardian - CYRUS RYERSON ALLISON
(excerpts)

The subject of the following sketch was the second son of my now afflicted parents, the Rev. C.R. and Mrs. E. Allison. He was born at Consecon, March 16th, 1840 and departed this life, November 6th, 1845; consequently aged five years, seven months and twenty-one days.

The question now proposed was: - Where shall his lovely remains be deposited till raised by the last trumpet!... but as many of our dear relatives are buried in Adolphustown and probably many more will be, it was finally resolved to take the corpse of my dear brother to that place... arrived at Adolphustown in the evening [Saturday] where we found many of our kind friends and anxious relatives waiting our arrival at the wharf. We took the lovely clay of my dear little brother to my much-respected uncle Joseph B. Allison's where we remained through the night. The next day, Sabbath the 9th, an appropriate sermon was preached by the Rev. J. Black, Superintendent of Bath Circuit. We were then called to take the last view of what was dearer to us than a thousand worlds – the remains of my dear and ever-to-be-remembered little brother. We kissed the lovely clay; took the last look and then bid the dear child farewell till the last day.

In December of the same year, Phebe's younger sister Sarah became ill. After attending a meeting at Frankford, and returning home during one of the coldest nights of the winter, Phebe herself became sick as well. Sarah became much worse, and her other sister, Mary Ann, also suffered from "*a severe attack of the inflammation on the lungs.*" Their illnesses continued throughout the winter, her sisters slowly recovering.

In February, the family went to visit friends in Adolphustown, but, finding that the measles were prevalent there, they returned home. Phebe continued to fail until May, when it appeared that she was improving.

Phebe again wished to visit her friends in Adolphustown, so on May 25th, her parents started out, Phebe Jane accompanying them in the carriage. After a stop in Hillier, they proceeded to Adolphustown where they arrived at her uncle's, Joseph B. Allison, on June 1st. Her health continued to rally, but, it was soon evident that she was sinking. She visited with her friends, the family of Mr. S. Wright, where a Dr. Hayward attended her.

"She continued better till July the 4th, when a circumstance took place, which affected her considerably. Her youngest sister (Sarah Elizabeth) of whom she appeared passionately fond, fell from the water bench into the Bay and was not discovered till life was nearly extinct. This shock

appeared too much for her feeble state, as she made an effort as weak as she was to go to the dear child's rescue. It was through Phebe Jane that it was first known that her beloved sister was in the water and she firmly believed that she was moved by an unseen agency to be instrumental in communicating the fact and it certainly appeared to be the case."

From this time, she grew worse; there was little hope of her continuing.

On the day of her death, she said, "I am sure, that my dear little brother is in heaven, and I had rather go and be with him than to live any longer here."

She died peacefully on the 17th of July, 1846 at the age of 15.

"In the largest assembly that ever met in Adolphustown on a like occasion, her remains were then placed by the side of her dear brother's, whose sudden death so much affected the dear girl's mind but a few months before."

Biographical.

PHEBE JANE ALLISON.

Adolphustown, July 28th, 1846.

To the Editor of the Christian Guardian.

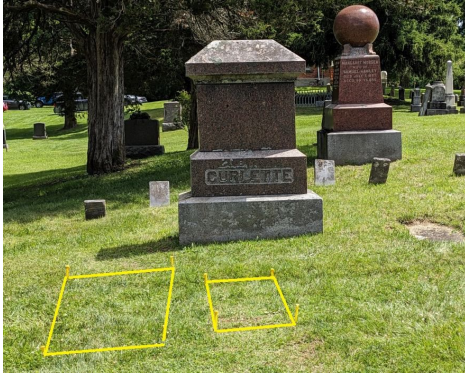
DEAR SIR,—It becomes my painful duty to record the death of our eldest daughter—our much-beloved, and never-to-be-forgotten dear Phebe Jane. After a protracted illness of seven months, she died in great peace at her respected uncle's, Mr. Samuel Coat Haver, in Adolphustown, on the 17th inst. She was of a serious and pious turn of mind from a very early period, particularly since she was ten years old; but notwithstanding this, and her greater attention to her eternal interest since the death of her youngest brother, (which took place near nine months ago, an obituary of whom was written by the now grieved child)—it was not till within a short time of her death that she obtained those clear manifestations of the Divine favour which enabled her to rejoice in prospect of soon leaving this vale of tears, and being with Christ, which she then felt would be far better. Thus this blooming, and to us at least, lovely flower was cut down—aged fifteen years, two months, and three days. She was consigned to the tomb, by the side of her dear brother, on Sabbath, the 19th inst., after an appropriate discourse, by the Rev. Asahel Hurlbutt, was delivered to the largest congregation that ever assembled in Adolphustown on a similar occasion. May her sorrowing friends ask and have an interest in the prayers of the pious, that they may be sustained under this most severe of all earthly afflictions.

Yours respectfully,

C. R. ALLISON.

Christian Guardian

August 5, 1846



Location of newly detected grave sites

A later letter written to her parents by Lazarus Gilbert, after Phebe's death, mentions the death of a friend of the Allisons, Mrs. Mary Ann Curlette. Mary Ann was the wife of Edward Curlette, and had been present at Phebe's death, and had attended her funeral. She had requested that when the time came, she be buried near Phebe Jane. The Curlettes are buried in St. Alban's cemetery, Adolphustown.

We have no burial records for Phebe and her younger brother, Cyrus. Nor have we (so far) been able to find any gravestones. However, this past summer, while dowsing in St. Alban's, we did detect two graves to the west of the Curlette stone, one the approximate size of an adult, the other a child. It is possible that these are the grave sites of Phebe Jane and her brother.

Transcriptions included in "Memoir of Miss P.J. Allison":

"The once lovely tenement, lies now inactive, in the old general and family graveyard of Adolphustown. And the sacred spot (to her parents at least) where her peaceful remains are slumbering, is pointed out by a marble slab, on which is engraved an emblem of a weeping willow, and the following inscription and verse:"

"The marble slab which is placed to mark out the spot where the earthly remains of this dear child reposed, has the following inscription and verse engraved upon it."

SACRED

To the Memory of
CYRUS RYERSON

Much beloved and Second Son of
Rev'd C.R. and Mrs. E.

ALLISON

Who was born at Consecon, P.E. District,
March 16th, 1840
And died in Sydney, Victoria District,
November 6th, 1845
Aged 5 Years, 7 Months and 21 Days.

And O, dear Cyrus thou art gone,
Beloved boy, and can it be?
That now to us remains alone
Our unavailing grief for thee,
Yet, when we trace thine upward track
To where immortal spirits reign,
We do not, dare not, wish thee back,
Back to this world of care again.

SACRED

To the Memory of
PHEBE JANE

Eldest and Much Loved Daughter of
REV'D C.R. AND MRS. E. ALLISON
Who was born in N. Gwilliamsbury
Home District, May 14, 1831, and died
In Great Peace, in Adolphustown,
July 17, 1846
Aged 15 Years, 2 Months and 3 Days

(For strength of mind; studious habits;
extensive information;
Loveliness of manner; benevolent
disposition, and prospects
Of future usefulness, she was never
excelled.)

This is the second lovely child
Within the nine months past,
Death has removed from our embrace
By his relentless grasp.
But let him lay our children low,
In heaven we'll meet again,
And there we'll see & there we'll know
Both Cyrus dear and Phebe Jane.

Farm Fences – Past and Present

Duncan & Ruth Hough

At the time of settlement, the townships were completely covered with forest. The first surveyors, in the fall of 1783, slashed blazes through the woods, to designate lots to be assigned to the coming Loyalists. These blazes became the lot lines and are amazingly accurate even today.

As the land was gradually cleared, it became necessary to keep cattle and other stock on individual properties.

LINE FENCES were built along property lines. These were a shared responsibility of the property owners. Often the total length was divided into sections based on similar topography. If the two land owners stood facing each other across the line, the section on each man's right was his to maintain. This was generally accepted, but if there was disagreement over the need for a fence or its condition, "fence viewers" appointed by the township, could adjudicate the matter. There was a cost for this service, so most disputes were settled mutually.



Junction in Dickson-Hough Line Fence
The Dickson section is split rail (standing, at right in the photo above, and collapsed in the right-hand photo) between two Hough barbed wire sections.

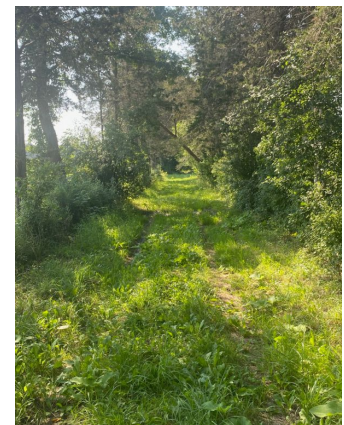


CROSS FENCES were needed within the farm to separate fields so some could be cropped to wheat, while others were used for hay or pasture. Most wood lots were pastured so they had to be enclosed as well.

LANE FENCES were needed to facilitate moving cattle from the farmstead to selected fields or woodlots and to move machinery and produce to and from the fields. These were built adjacent to the line fence. It was common for the line fence to be flanked by two lane fences, one on each property.

A one-hundred-acre farm measures 6600 feet long by 660 feet wide. This would require roughly 6500 feet of line fence, maybe 5,000 feet of cross fence, and 5,000 feet of lane fence. That total comes close to three miles of fence! All that fencing occurred over many, maybe a hundred years, involving technical changes. Early fences were very basic using materials from the farm or obtained locally.

Stumps, uprooted by oxen and lined up in a row with poles between them formed a basic fence. Stones gathered while the land was being cleared or plowed could form a fence to enclose cattle. Gates could be several poles



Lane Fence on left
Line Fence on right

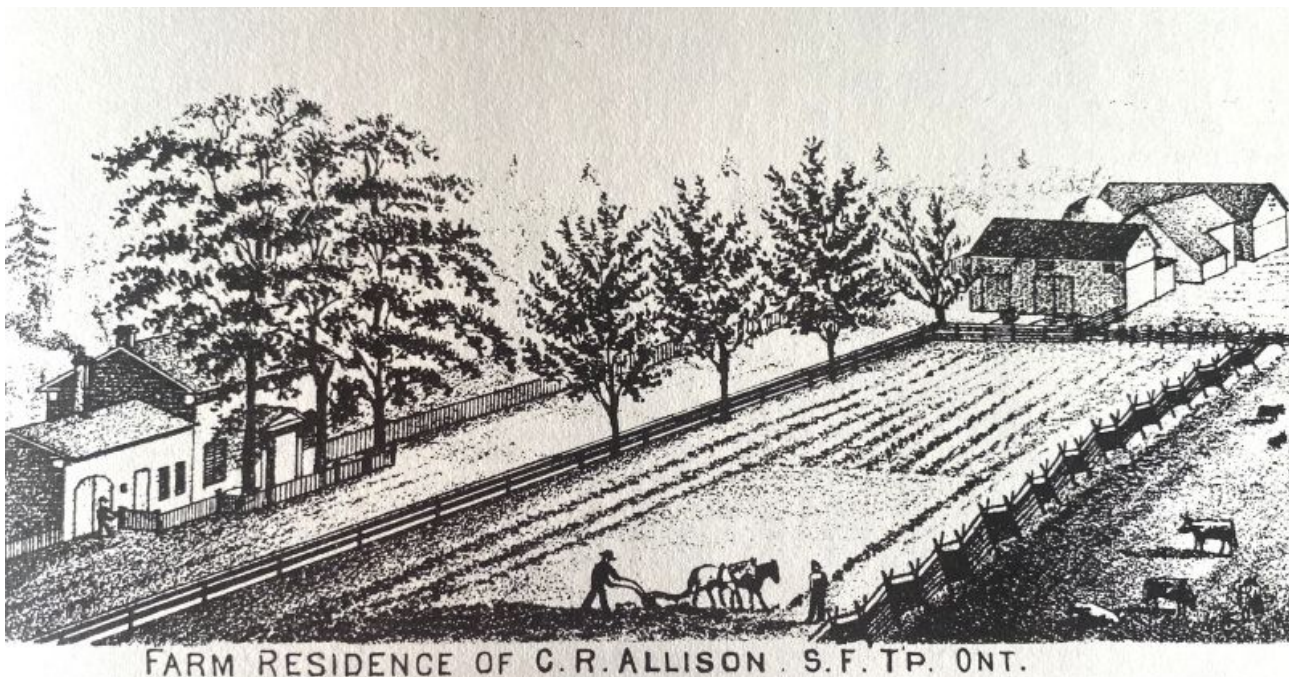
stretched between double posts. Dry stone walls, such as the Dafoe/Sexsmith wall featured in the [February 2015 issue](#) of the *Neighbourhood Messenger*, required a massive amount of labour and a great deal of stone. I only know of two in our area, but they are common on Amherst Island.



Split rail fence

Rail fences built with white cedar either with poles or large trees split into four to six rails are not now common locally, but still frequently seen in the northern townships where white cedar is plentiful. It is long lasting since it is naturally rot- and insect-resistant. Several different styles of fence were built depending on the availability of trees, labour, or depth of soil. Rail fences need a huge amount of wood. It requires 840 feet of fence to enclose one acre. A six-rail-high fence needs roughly 600 rails and over 200 supporting posts. Several years ago at an event at O'Hara's Mill near Madoc, two older men were demonstrating rail splitting with mauls and wedges. They admitted they were not efficient but guessed that younger skilled men might produce 30 rails per hour. That would not include cutting, trimming or hauling trees to the site. Rail fences can last for many years. However, in case of a ground fire, the whole fence can go up in flames.

All of these early fences used local material and needed huge amounts of labour. Only a few examples of these fences survive locally. What kind of fences were common in this area before wire became available? I checked some of the pictures in the 1878 *Meacham's Atlas*. The pictures, I am sure, have been sanitized with pristine picket or plank fences around the homesteads, but rail fences around the fields. Rail fences must have existed locally long before 1878. My guess is that as wire became available, the rail fences were gradually taken out and maybe used for firewood or occasional fence posts.



Source: Meacham Illustrated Historical Atlas of Frontenac, Lennox and Addington Counties , 1878
Lot 3 Concession 2, South Fredericksburg Additional

In the 1860s, the Bessemer Process of steel making allowed the production of durable, malleable wire. Fence wire was first patented in 1863 with barbed wire appearing in 1874. Over 1600 variations of barbed wire have been patented since, according to the "Devil's Rope" Museum in McLean, Texas.

The introduction of barbed wire in the western American range lands resulted in “Range wars” and the privatization of grazing land. Fortunately here, barbed wire was embraced as a progressive method of fencing, even though it had to be purchased.



Barb on wire / Two kinds of barbed wire / Barbed wire on steel post

Wire fences needed posts. Red Cedar posts were long-lasting and readily available. The white outer ring eventually decayed underground, but the red centres survived almost forever. These posts became a cash crop for farmers with a red cedar wood lot. The story goes that when my great-grandfather bought his first car, there was an additional charge of \$35 for the optional heater. The solution was to deliver 35 red cedar posts to McFarland Motors in Napanee.



Weathered red cedar post



Pokes: Large and small

Barbed wire fences were generally effective as long as there were five strands and they were kept tight. However, smaller or more aggressive animals could possibly get through. “Pokes” were attached around the animal’s neck to make it tougher to escape.

Several years later, woven or “Paige” wire became available. This wire had many more horizontal strands and also had vertical stays every few feet. It was better fence but came at a higher cost. Various brands were available. Some had the lower wires at closer spacings to thwart calves and sheep.



End and brace posts

Building a wire fence was a major job. Digging the post holes, generally a rod (16½ feet) apart, and setting the end and brace posts were the most time consuming jobs. Then the wire was tightened using block and tackle and stapled to the posts.

Once built a new fence required little maintenance. However, older fences required more attention. “Fixing Fence” usually done in the spring



Woven wire pierced by tree



Wire fence stripped from post –
only staples remaining

meant splicing wires broken by wild life, falling branches, or frozen snow dragging down the wires. Staples might have loosened or posts might have been tipped by cattle looking for greener grass.

So, what happened to all the fences? Most modern dairy farms keep their cattle in barns or restrict them to limited areas where they are fed. The need for most cross and lane fences is eliminated. Beef producers generally restrict the herd to designated pastures and do not fence cropped acres. As farms have become larger, the amalgamation of adjacent farms has made line fences less necessary. As crop production acres have increased, the use of large modern equipment has made small fields inefficient. Fence rows have been removed along with whatever old fence was still on site.



Google Earth view of South Shore Road east of Hayburn showing original lot boundaries defined by Line Fences and divided into smaller fields by Cross Fences (to the right), and enlarged fields (to the left) where Line and Cross Fences have been removed.

There are still a number of older fences still in good repair. However, modern fencing usually involves electric fence. Posts are wood, metal, or fibreglass with insulators to carry the special high-tensile wire. A charger (often solar) produces a sharp charge that commands the respect of the cattle. These fences are quicker and simpler to install. Exterior fences are four to five wires. Interior fences are one to two wires. Once cattle respect the fence, they stay confined.

Apart from the sentimental value (even for some who have fixed fence!) old fences have one real benefit. Old fence lines still delineate property lines, especially in wood lots. Old wires may protrude from trees. There may still be a few old posts. End posts carrying multiple wires of varying types can indicate the junction of properties. These sites have probably never seen a modern survey. These fence remains can ensure that timber harvest or hunting is done on the right property. These fences are still on duty after many years.



Electric Fence



Remains of old fences indicating property lines



AFHS photo

Coloured pre-1900 photograph looking west into Sillsville showing road lined with wire, stone, and plank fences

NON-SLIP WIRE STRETCHER
For stretching barb or single-strand wire.
441C-180.
Price, each, without rope.....**45**
Order from Regina, Saskatoon, or Winnipeg

POWERFUL POST MAULS
Complete with Hickory Handle

Cat. No.	Weight	Price
441A-183	10 lbs.	.90
441A-184	13 lbs.	.95
441A-185	16 lbs.	1.15
441A-186	20 lbs.	1.40

POST MAUL HANDLE
441A-187.
Price.....**35**
Take third-class freight rate
Order these from Regina, Saskatoon or Winnipeg

IMPERIAL WOVEN WIRE "NEVER-SLIP" STRETCHER

Strong enough to stand any strain necessary. Grip engages firmly, but is easily moved. 5-foot handle, clamping bars 4 feet 6 inches long, all of hardwood; 8 feet of 5/16-inch tested chain. Takes third-class freight rate.
441L-171. Complete with Handle. Weight 35 lbs. Price.....**9.15**
Order this from Regina, Saskatoon or Winnipeg

EXTENSION LADDERS
Made from the best grade, seasoned, edge-grain fir. Well finished. Shipped complete with lifting rope. All made in two sections. List gives complete length of ladders. Will measure slightly less when extended.

Cat. No.	Weight	Length	Price
441L-656	50 lbs.	24 ft.	7.45
441L-657	70 lbs.	28 ft.	8.95
441L-874	80 lbs.	32 ft.	10.50
441L-658	90 lbs.	36 ft.	12.25

Take second-class freight rate
Order these from Regina, Saskatoon or Winnipeg

CELLU-GLASS FOR POULTRY HOUSES, HOT-BED FRAMES, ETC., SEE PAGE 315

VAUGHAN POST HOLE AUGER
With Handle

Cat. No.	Size ins.	Wt. lbs.	Price
441A-172	5	5	1.50
441A-173	6	6	1.60
441A-174	7	7	1.75
441A-175	8	8	2.00

Second-class freight rate

EXTENSION SHANK (Pipe Only)
441A-176. For Vaughan Post Hole Diggers. 8-foot, 1 1/2-inch pipe, with coupling. Price, per length.....**.85**
Take second-class freight rate

STEEL-CUT WIRE FENCE STAPLES

Size	10-lb.	25-lb.	50-lb.	100-lb.	1/4-inch.
Cat. No.	ins.	bag	bag	bag	keg
467A-965	1 1/2	.80	1.95	3.75	7.10
467A-976	1 1/2	.75	1.85	3.65	6.55
467A-978	1 1/2	.75	1.85	3.65	6.55

1/4-inch. Light gauge, suitable for poultry fencing. Others are heavier gauge, for field and lawn fence.

IMPROVED TACKLE-BLOCK WIRE STRETCHER
Self-locking at Any Point
441C-195. With 16-foot, 3/4-inch Manilla rope. Weight 5 lbs. Price.....**1.40**

No. 9 SOFT GALVANIZED BRACE WIRE
A bundle of this wire is handy on the farm. Takes fourth-class freight rate.
467L-980. Per 25-lb. bundle.....**1.60**
467L-981. Per 50-lb. bundle.....**3.10**
Order this from Regina, Saskatoon or Winnipeg

Order all goods on this page from Regina, Saskatoon or Winnipeg

UNIVERSAL POST HOLE DIGGERS

441A-177. No. 1 Digger. 5 feet over all. Will dig 2 feet 10 inches. Weight 13 1/2 lbs. Price.....**3.30**

441A-178. No. 2 Digger. 5 feet 10 inches over all. Will dig 3 feet 8 inches. Weight 17 lbs. Price.....**3.80**
Take second-class freight rate

IWAN POST HOLE AUGER With Handle

Cat. No.	Size ins.	Wt. lbs.	Price
441A-167	5	6	1.85
441A-169	6	8	2.00
441A-169	7	10	2.15
441A-170	8	12	2.20

EXTENSION SHANK (Pipe Only)
For Iwan Post Hole Digger
441L-166. 8-foot, 1 1/2-inch pipe and coupling. Price.....**1.15**

THE NEW COMBINATION LEVER WIRE STRETCHER
Stretcher, Splicer and Cutter
Ideal for stretching single strand wire, for splicing or cutting wire when spliced. Has 4-ft. handle and is reliably ironed.
441A-182. Lever Wire Stretcher.
Price, each.....**3.05**

BALING WIRE IN COILS
467A-895. 14-gauge, best annealed hay-baling wire, in 50-lb. coils. Price, per coil.....**3.15**
Takes fourth-class freight rate

IMPERIAL BALE TIES
14-gauge, best annealed wire. About 250 ties in a bundle. Three different lengths.

Cat. No.	Length	Weight	Price, per bundle
467A-982	9 ft. 6 ins.	42 lbs.	2.75
467A-983	10 ft. 0 ins.	44 lbs.	3.05
467A-984	10 ft. 6 ins.	47 lbs.	3.25

Take fourth-class freight rate.
Order these from Regina, Saskatoon or Winnipeg

Fencing supplies 1927 Eaton's Spring and Summer Catalogue

Clippings

Fall Into a Well.

Mrs. A. C. Davis, of Adolphustown, went out to the well on her husband's farm on Tuesday last with a tea kettle of boiling water. She is a heavy woman and the board she stepped upon gave way precipitating her into the well. She fell about twelve feet, struck the water and grabbing the pump log hung to it. The kettle in falling from her hands pointed the spout towards her and the boiling water poured over her shoulder and arms scalding her severely. Mr. Davis was happily at hand and soon rescued his wife, but in pulling her out of the well the skin from one of her scalded arms was taken off.

Daily British Whig
June 19, 1884

NOTICE.

(Canadian Mechanics want encouragement.)

THE subscribers have commenced the business of making **THRESHING MACHINES**, which they offer for sale on reasonable terms at short notice. Any person wishing to purchase a Machine can see one in operation by calling on

**LAZARUS GILBERT, &
ORIN RANNEY.**

Adolphustown, Dec. 9th, 1830.

The above named Machines are made of the best materials, and all the work is of Canadian manufacture. Purchasers of these machines will have a decided advantage of those from the U. States, as any repairs in the castings will receive immediate attention at O. Ranney's Furnace. The public are respectfully informed that the powers of these Machines have been fairly tried.—They will thresh in common wheat, and with common labour from 12 to 15 bushels per hour; and in good wheat with good attendance, from 20 to 40 bushels per hour,

Upper Canada Herald
January 19, 1831

The Early Dawn baseball club, Adolphustown, is now ready to accept challenges from any club in the county: Nelson Davis, captain; Finley Roblin, secretary-treasurer.

Weekly British Whig
June 25, 1885

BOARDING SCHOOL FOR YOUNG LADIES AT BATH,

Under the Superintendence of

MRS. BICKERTON.

In this Establishment young Ladies are instructed in the following branches of Education, viz:—GRAMMAR, GEOGRAPHY, HISTORY, WRITING, ARITHMETIC, MUSIC, FRENCH, DRAWING, LANDSCAPE, VELVET & OIL PAINTING, EMBROIDERY, and a variety of fashionable and ornamental Works. Mrs. B.'s experience as a Teacher in England, renders her well qualified to impart solid instruction, with elegant accomplishments, on a plan calculated to make study agreeable, and ensure the progress of her Pupils.

TERMS OF MRS. BICKERTON'S SCHOOL.

BOARD, including Washing, use of Linen, Beds &c. 10s. per week.

BOARD, without Washing, (the Bed, Linen, &c. being found by the Pupil,) 7s. 6d. per week.

HALF of the Quarter to be paid in advance.

COMMON Education, including Writing, Arithmetic, Grammar, Geography, History, & plain Needle Work, 10s. per Quarter.

COMMON Education, with Fancy Needle Work, 15s. per Quarter.

EXTRAS.

Music, —£2 0 0. }
French, —1 5 0. } per Quarter.
Drawing, —1 5 0. }

Velvet painting, 8 Lessons, —1 0 0.; these are sufficient to perfect a Pupil.

Oil Painting, according to agreement.

12 Weeks to the Quarter.

Bath, 18th April, 1831.

Kingston Chronicle & Gazette
April 23, 1831

Henry Storms, of N. Frederickburgh, formerly of Ernestown, having been deprived of his senses, is in the Napanee gaol to await removal to the asylum. His terrible affliction is a great blow to a large circle of relatives and friends, comprising many of the best people of the country.

Weekly British Whig
May 10, 1884

Bicentennial Celebrations — Part 2

Susan Wright

Adolphustown celebrated the bicentennial of the founding of Adolphustown and Fredericksburgh twice. Once exactly 200 years after the landing of the United Empire Loyalists at Adolphustown on June 16, 1784, and then with a much bigger four-day celebration in August 1984, just three weeks after the bicentennial celebrations that took place in South Fredericksburgh.

Adolphustown Bicentennial Celebrations 1984

Friday August 3 1984

Children's Programme 5-8 years - sand-building contest
 Children's Programme 9-12 years - bingo
 Entertainment by Tamarack
 Opening Ceremonies
 Performance by Roberta Dewar
 Pork BBQ
 Concert by Tamarack
 Fireworks Display

Saturday August 4 1984

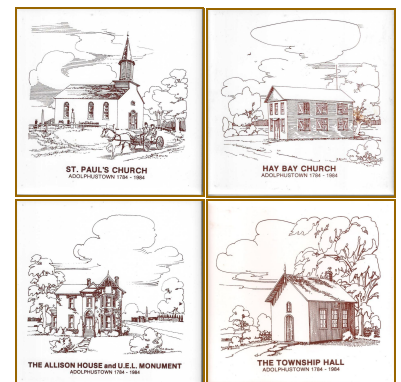
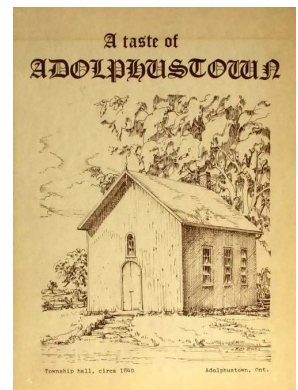
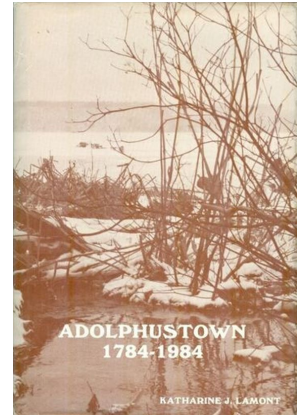
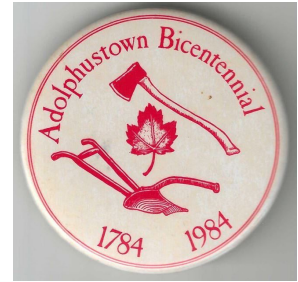
Parade from Dorland to Adolphustown Park
 Judging by Max Keeping & Helen Hutchison
 Napanee & District Pipe and Drum Band & Highland Dancers
 Fort Henry Guard Demonstration
 Ball Games
 Costume Ball & Social Hour, South Fred Hall
 Entertainment by Sweet Adelines
 Dance & Refreshments

Sunday August 5 1984

Fishing Derby
 Hay Bay Church Service, Napanee Brass Ensemble
 Napanee Square Dancers Demonstration
 R.C.M.P. Bison Band Concert
 Horse Rides, Bicentennial Films
 Brigatine Inspection
 Supper by Napanee Legion
 Ernestown Secondary School Band Concert

Monday August 6 1984

Quinte Educational Museum - display & programmes
 Napanee Bicentennial Brass Ensemble Concert
 Kingston & District Old Tyme Fiddlers Show
 Beef on a Bun



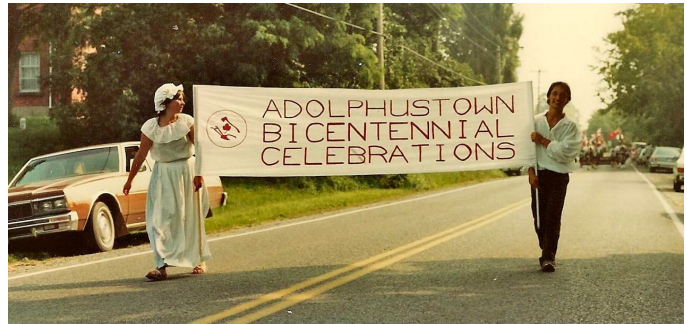
Fundraising items for sale:

**Buttons, History Book,
 Cook Book & Set of Four Tiles
 Featuring Sketches by
 Ruth Brooks**

Everyone Welcome
Plan To Attend
The Celebration
of the
United Empire Loyalists
Bicentennial
Two Hundred Years of Events
Commemorated - ON ONE GREAT DAY
Saturday, June 16, 1984
10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
ADOLPHUSTOWN PARK
Loyalist Parkway (No. 33 Highway)
Site of United Empire Loyalist Museum
Displays, Demonstrations,
Children's Activities
Horse Drawn Wagon Rides
Haldimand Balloons — Races
Bands, Drama, Square Dancers, Sailing Craft
Memorial Service at Obelisk — 11:00 a.m.
Draw for Loyalist Bicentennial Quilt 4:30 p.m.
Registration 9 a.m. (free admittance to Park and
Museum)
Picnic Lunch suggested — Bring a Lawn Chair
Activities closed 5 p.m. sharp
Bicentennial Costume Welcome

24a

Napanee Beaver
1984



Evan Brooks & United Church Float



Jack Roblin



Fort Henry Guard in UEL Park



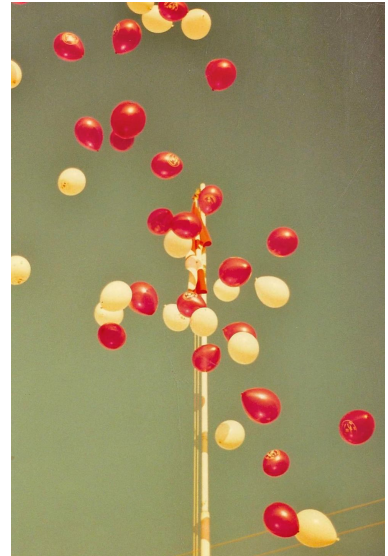
Kathy Staples & Harold Allison



Battle
Reenactment



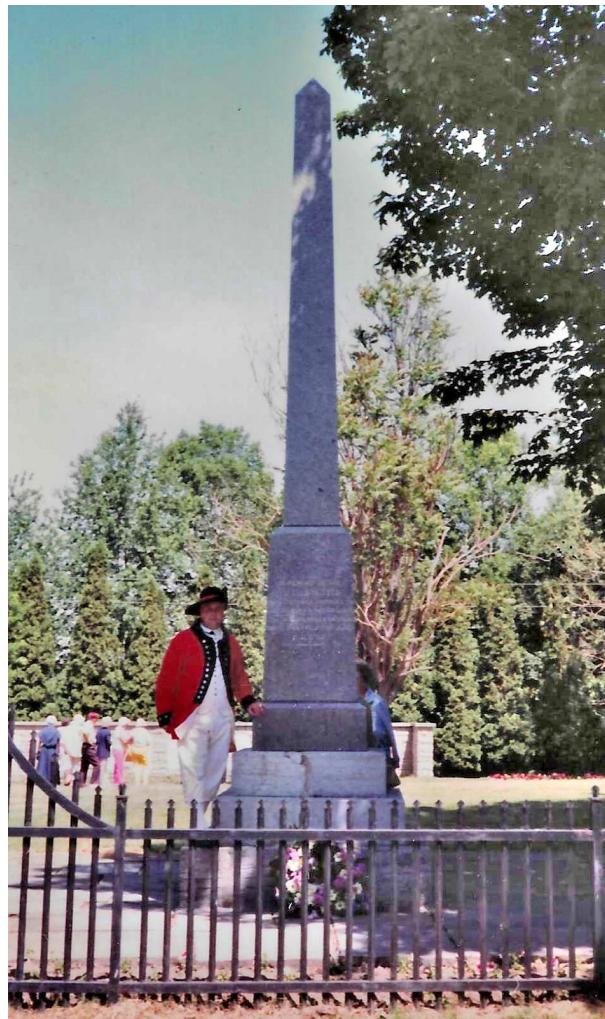
Old Hay Bay Church Float



Rosemary Kirby & Reverend David Kirby at the Old Adolphustown Township Hall

Adolphustown Bicentennial Committee:

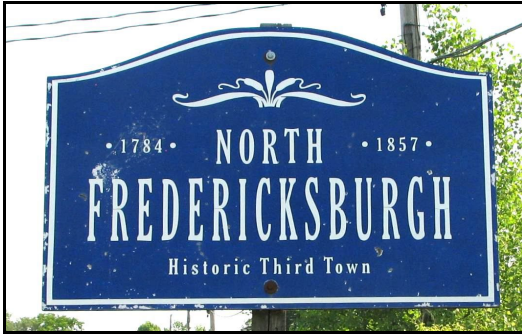
Harold Allison, Gerhard Colditz, Richard Daverne,
Pat Dickson, Eileen Ford, Allan Hamilton,
Audrey Ann Hamilton, Rosemary Kirby, Barbro
Lucas, Irene O'Brien, Phyllis Reynolds, Jack Roblin,
Mildred Roblin, Judy Smith, Katherine Staples,
Lawson Staples, Deena Streek, Barbara Wiik,
Susan Wright



Bill VanKoghnet (M.P.) in UEL Park

Then and Now

Jane Lovell

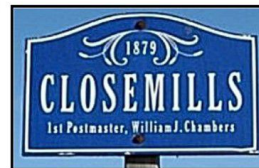
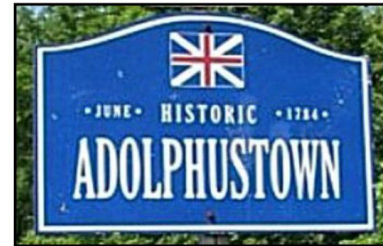
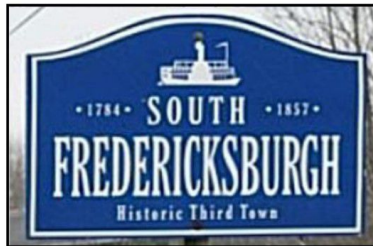
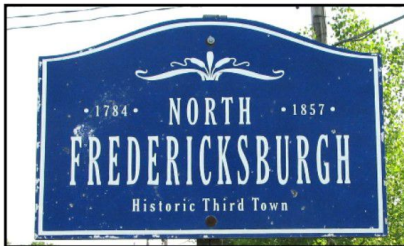


circa 2010



2024

The **Then** photo shows a sign that was put in place along River Road, South of Napanee, sometime after Amalgamation in 1998. Signs like this marked the township boundaries of Adolphustown and North and South Fredericksburgh. Also erected at that time were smaller signs identifying hamlets throughout the three townships.



These signs were eventually taken down, with the last one disappearing three decades or so after townships became part of Greater Napanee.

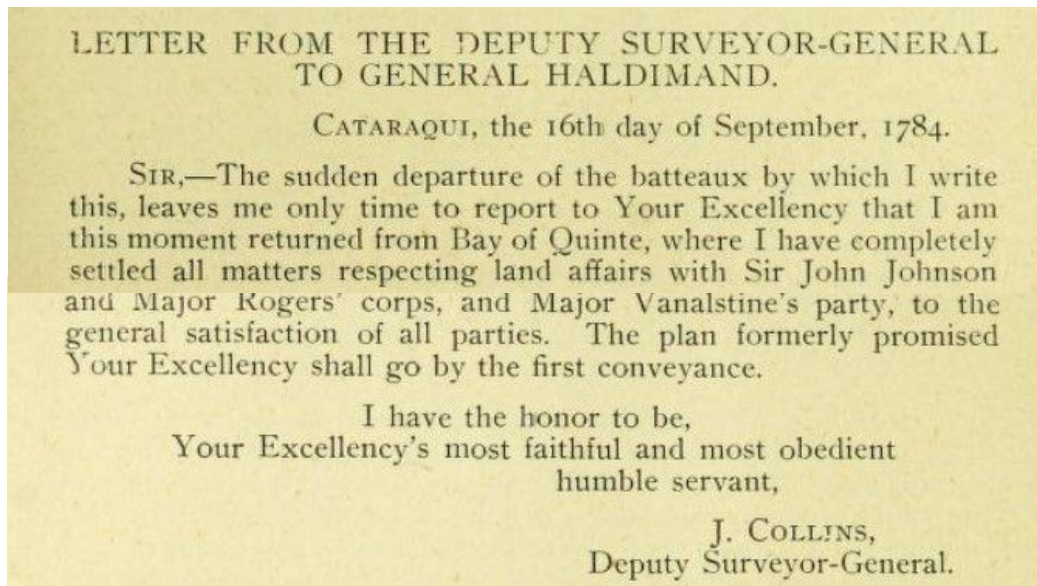
With 2024 marking 240 years since the 1784 founding of the townships of Adolphustown and Fredericksburgh, the AFHS is acknowledging this milestone by having new signs erected along municipal and county roads at the boundaries of the former townships. In a second phase of the project we hope to see the installation of new hamlet signs too.

The first of the new signs was erected in late November just south of the bridge on Centre Street in Napanee. Dated 1784, it names North Fredericksburgh as "Historic Third Town".

Third Town was established in response to the 1783 signing of the Treaty of Paris, which formally recognized the independence of the United States from Great Britain. As part of an effort to accommodate the influx of Loyalists seeking refuge under the British Crown, the "Catarqui Townships" were set up in what was then the Province of Quebec, later to become Upper Canada, and now Ontario. Laid out west from the Catarqui River, the townships were named numerically, starting with First Town, soon to become Kings Town, and then Kingston. The remaining numbered townships were

later named after the children of King George III, with Cataraqui Townships Nos. 3 & 4, or Third and Fourth Towns, becoming Fredericksburgh and Adolphustown, respectively.

Surveying of the townships began in 1783 and was completed the following year. When they arrived in June of 1784, settlers destined to take up land in Adolphustown and Fredericksburgh were met with some confusion. The survey of Adolphustown was not yet complete—something that did not occur until a full three months later. This represented a severe setback to clearing lots and building shelters before the onset of winter. A further complication was the allocation of lots within the townships. In order to allow the families of Major Rogers' disbanded soldiers to remain together in their allotted township of Fredericksburgh, the first twelve and a half lots in Adolphustown were transferred to Fredericksburgh. This resulted in Adolphustown becoming the smallest township in the province and left Fredericksburgh with a number of lots to the west known as "Fredericksburgh Additional".



Source: Proceedings of the Association of Ontario Land Surveyors, 1898

The survey of Fredericksburgh and Adolphustown townships was not declared complete until September 16, 1784, three months to the day after the settlers had arrived.

General Frederick Haldimand, the Governor of the Province of Quebec, appointed Sir John Johnson to oversee the distribution of Crown land to Loyalist settlers.

Major James Rogers and Major Peter Van Alstine led the two groups of refugees that were ultimately settled in Fredericksburgh and Adolphustown, respectively.

Most lots within the two townships front onto the Bay of Quinte, Hay Bay, or the Napanee River. This extensive access to water, facilitating easy transport of goods and timely communication over water or ice, allowed the townships to develop quickly. However, in bisecting both townships, Hay Bay proved to be a barrier for land-based transport and, more critically, community interaction. It proved to be such a barrier that in 1857 Fredericksburgh was partitioned into North and South townships. Over 140 years later, North and South Fredericksburgh were reunited as they joined Adolphustown, Richmond, and Napanee to form the amalgamated municipality of the Town of Greater Napanee.

It is unclear how long the townships were known as Third Town and Fourth Town. The 1792 agreement committing subscribers to the building of Old Hay Bay Church identifies the land on which it was to be built as Lot "No. 18, third concession, Fourth town." However, by 1799, deeds were referring to lots as being in the townships of Adolphustown or Fredericksburgh. Nonetheless, while perhaps not in "official" use, the old numbered township names continued to arise in general conversation among residents of the townships well into the 20th century.

The old numbered township names are preserved today on two memorial tiles mounted on the walls of St. Alban the Martyr United Empire Loyalist Memorial Church in Adolphustown. The Crawford and Van Alstine tiles were commissioned and put in place by the time the church held its first service in 1890. While not likely in common usage at that time, Third Town and Fourth Town were clearly names by which Fredericksburgh and Adolphustown were known, more than a century after the numbered townships were given the names we now know them by.

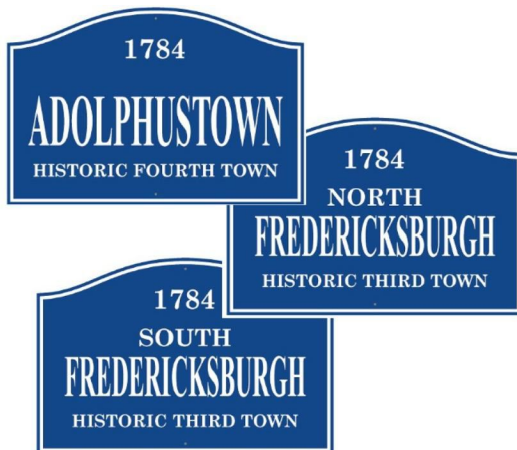


Colonel Crawford Died in 3rd Town



Major Van Alstine Commander of the 4th Town

The old names of Third and Fourth Town are being re-introduced to the citizens of the former townships on signs identifying the boundaries of Adolphustown and North and South Fredericksburgh. The eighteen new signs, soon to be erected along the municipal and county roads in the old townships, will inform passers-by about the long history to be found within the municipality. These former townships still command loyalty and pride in the role they have played in creating such prosperous rural communities.



The AFHS Community Signs Project has been made possible by the support of Atura Power, owners and operators of the Napanee Generating Station, and the Town of Greater Napanee. In-kind assistance from the Town, a generous grant from Atura Power, and prompt and supportive contributions from Town and County staff, have enabled the AFHS to use road-side signage to promote local history to residents of the municipality and to motorists and cyclists passing through.

We are more than pleased that the efforts of all parties have allowed us to implement our signs project in time to celebrate 240 years of progress and prosperity set in motion by the arrival of the refugees who settled in Adolphustown and Fredericksburgh, now part of Greater Napanee.

Atura Power
Napanee Generating Station


Greater Napanee
GREATER FOR MANY REASONS

And Furthermore....

Jane Lovell

Several paragraphs in the "Community in Transition" article appearing in the [April 2024 issue](#) of the *Neighbourhood Messenger* gave a brief history of the Masons in Adolphustown and Fredericksburgh. Soon after the issue was released, I was contacted by Allan Hamilton, the historian for the Union Lodge No.9 in Napanee, who offered several corrections and some wonderful detail about the location of the Fredericksburgh and Adolphustown lodges.

The first of two corrections: D.W. Allison was not Grand Master (G.M.) as stated in the newsletter article, but rather Worshipful Master (W.M.) of Filius Viduae Masonic Lodge in Adolphustown.

The second correction has to do with the date St. James Lodge No.7 in Fredericksburgh was established. The year 1796 appearing in the newsletter article is the date the Provincial Warrant of Constitution was issued according to Lane's Masonic Records, an online database managed by the Museum of Freemasonry in the UK. The source of the data is John Lane's 1895 *Masonic Records 1717-1894*.

Hamilton suggests a date two years earlier, citing material from J. Ross Robertson's *The History of Freemasonry in Canada*, published in 1900. Much of Robertson's comprehensive book is based on material found in the minutes of early lodge meetings. In the case of the Fredericksburgh Lodge, members of Lodge No.7 (Fredericksburgh) are listed as visitors at meetings at Lodge No. 6 (Kingston) as early as August 1794. While obviously in existence in 1794, it was not until 1797 that Lodge No. 7 was registered, along with several other newly-formed lodges in Upper Canada. It is not known why this date differs from the 1796 date of Lane's Records. Hamilton suspects that, given the time it would have taken to establish a lodge, "St. James Lodge as a group were probably meeting regularly in 1793 and possibly as early as 1792".

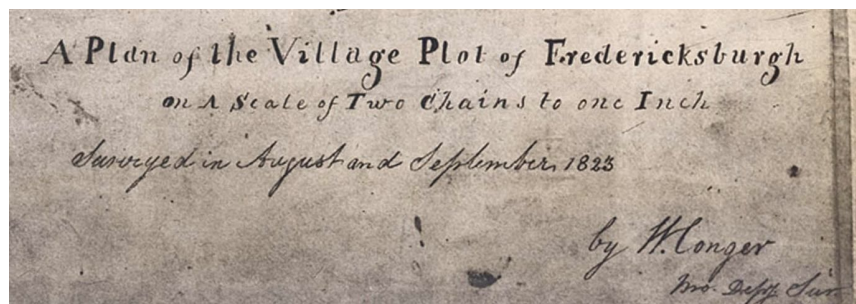
Extensive research has been done by Hamilton into both the Fredericksburgh and Adolphustown Lodges. In his paper *The Masonic Lodges of Lennox and Addington Counties: ST. JAMES LODGE 1794 – 1845* (2020, revised 2023), he discusses not only the date of formation of the Fredericksburgh lodge, but also that of its dissolution. The lodge appears in both the English Register and the Provincial Register of Upper Canada. Struck from the Provincial Register in 1845, Lodge No. 7 was not erased from the English Register until 1862 (Lane). From Hamilton's paper:

From documentation in *History of Freemasonry in Canada vol. II* St. James' Lodge ... may have gone into darkness around 1830. They definitely were not present by 1845.

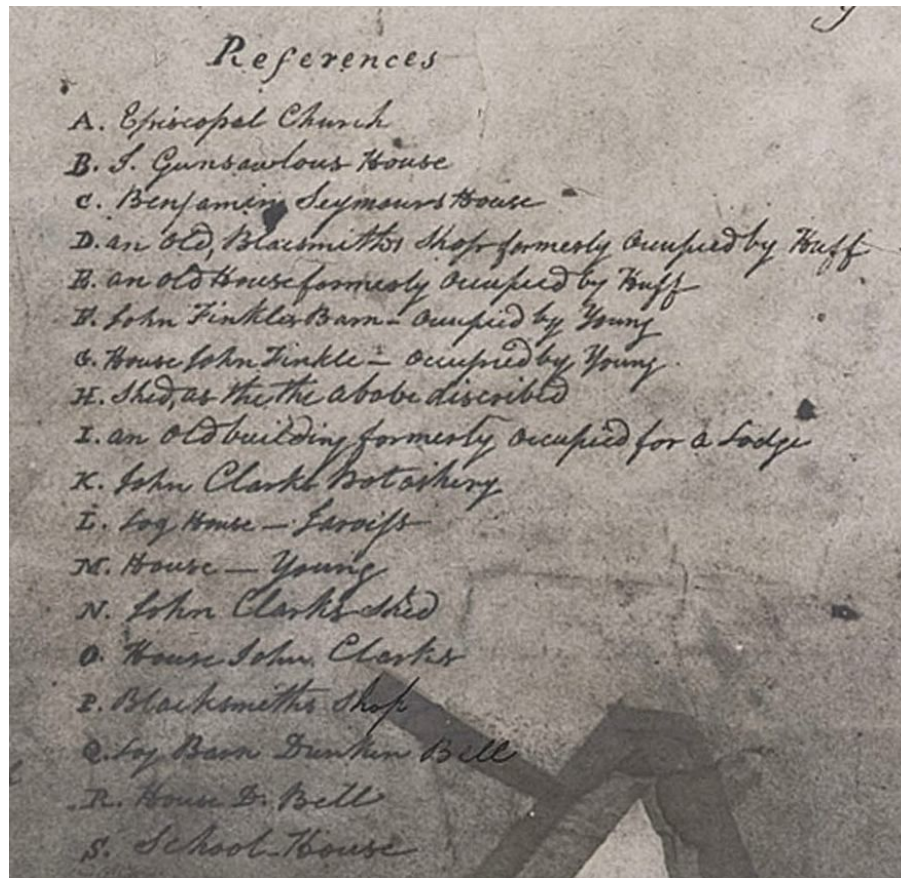
This circa 1830 date agrees with a note appearing in the Lane Record for Lodge No. 7: "Ceased work about 1830."

The most exciting revelation of Hamilton's paper on the Fredericksburgh lodge was pinpointing the location of the lodge.

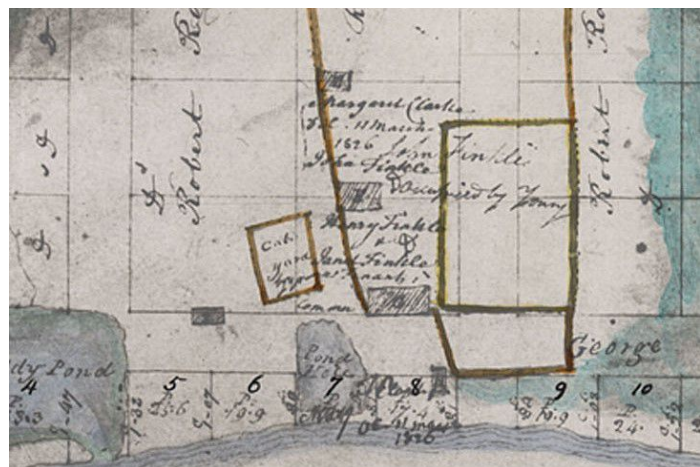
In 1823 William Conger prepared a map of the village of Fredericksburgh, now held in the Archives of Ontario (Ref: RG 1-100-0-0-1768).



On his map, Conger marked places of interest with lettered shaded rectangles, identifying them in a References list. The site marked with an "I" is "an old building formerly occupied for a lodge".



As might be able to be seen on the snippet of the map appearing to the left below, the identifying letters in the rectangles are often obscured by the shading. By the process of elimination, it is almost certain that the old lodge building is the rectangle on the north side of George Street, straddling lots 5 and 6.



The shaded rectangle on George street, between lots 5 and 6, above, was the location of the Fredericksburgh Masonic Lodge.

Today, this site would be close to where an extension of Richmond Street would meet the shore on the east side of Sandhurst Shores, and directly south of the McDowall Cemetery.

Based on the description of the lodge building on Conger's map, it is evident that the building was no longer used as a lodge, perhaps indicating that Lodge No.7 at Fredericksburgh ceased to be in operation by the time the map was drawn in 1823. It is of course possible that the Fredericksburgh Masons were holding their meetings elsewhere in the village or the township.

One last note about the Fredericksburgh lodge: On Conger's map, the nearby buildings (F, G, and H) are all noted as once having belonged to John Finkle. *The History of Freemasonry in Canada* states "The first building exclusively for Craft purposes was built in the township of Fredericksburgh <sic> by Bro. Finkle." A subsequent reference identifies Bro. Finkle as Henry Finkle. The map shows the two lots on the west side of Peel Street, north of George Street, as being owned or occupied by John and Henry Finkle. Also mentioned on the map for one of the lots is Margaret Clark. The land transfer records identify these two lots as being deeded to Clark in 1826, two years after the map was created.

From W.S. Herrington's 1913 *The History of the County of Lennox and Addington*: "...the first brewery and distillery in Upper Canada was built by John Finkle, not far from Bath..." "... his brother Henry kept for many years the only tavern between Kingston and York. ... [Henry] is credited with having built the first wharf upon the Bay of Quinte, the first brewery, distillery, and Masonic Hall in the county." Henry also built a shipyard in Bath and operated several sailing vessels. Given the prominence and likely wealth of the Finkle brothers, it would not be surprising that they erected a building in Fredericksburgh village for use as a Mason's hall. *The History of Freemasonry in Canada* goes on to state that Henry Finkle was a founding member of a new lodge in Ernestown (Bath), for which he signed a petition in 1802 and which received its warrant in 1804. The reason for establishing a lodge in Ernestown cited in the petition was "their residences, are at too great a Distance to associate with either their Brethren at Kingston, or those of Fredricksburg <sic>, without manifest inconveniency." If indeed Henry Finkle built a lodge building on his Fredericksburgh lot, it would likely have been sometime before his 1802 petition.

Hamilton also identifies the location of the Masonic Lodge in Adolphustown. In his 2017 paper *The Masonic Lodges of Lennox and Addington Counties: Filius Viduae Lodge "The Widow's Son" No.189 1867 - 1888*, he references the lodge minutes and other documents in tracking down the rocky history of the lodge. The first meeting took place in April 1867 in an unidentified "Masonic Hall", by then thoughtfully equipped with spittoons purchased just the month before for \$1.50. By May, however, a motion was passed and approved by the District Deputy Grand Master "that Filius Viduae remove to Fredericksburgh temporarily, until more suitable rooms can be obtained." With a 1868 motion seconded by John Sills "that the sum of \$1.00 per month be paid to Bro. E.H. Sills for the use of the present lodge rooms", it seems likely that the temporary location was near Conway, where the several members of the Sills family lived. The lodge was meeting back in Adolphustown by February of the following year.

FILIUS VIDUAE LODGE, FREDERICKSBURGH.		
W. Master,	W. Bro,	E. H. Smith;
Past "	"	J. Willmer;
Senior Warden,	"	Dr. Young;
Junior "	"	J. C. Chamberlain;
Chaplain,	"	J. J. Watson;
Treasurer,	"	J. B. Galt;
Secretary,	"	John E. Sills;
Senior Deacon,	"	E. N. Wright;
Junior "	"	J. N. Murney;
Stewards,	"	J. H. Harrison & P. Davis;
Dir. of Cor.	"	D. Robertson;
Inner Guard,	"	Geo. P. Sills;
Tyler,	"	D. Sills.

Napanee Standard
January 16, 1864

Hamilton picks up the story from here:

I am fairly certain to state that the brethren of Filius Viduae held their meetings in "a room above the stable of the hotel", 1884 *Arthur McGinnis, DDGM*, in the town of Adolphustown owned by William and Jane (Harris) (Gerow) Pull, originally owned and operated by Noxon Harris.

The 1879 Adolphustown Voters List confirms that William Pull owned a 'town plot' and Lot 27 on Concession 1. The town plot was probably the Hotel/Tavern on Lot 9 according to the advertisement in the *Kingston Chronicle* August 25th, 1826. The wife of William Pull, Jane (Harris) (Gerow) Pull, was the daughter of Noxon Harris who is thought to have been the first [owner of the hotel] named The Adolphustown Hotel. Both men according to different censuses records show 'Hotel Owner' as their occupation. A [*British Whig*] article dated February 19th, 1848 states Andrew Gerow has a Tavern License in Adolphustown. The 1851 Census for Adolphustown shows Jane Gerow 41 years listed as a Widow and an Inn Keeper. William Poole (Pull) married Jane (Harris) (Gerow) in March 1853 at Adolphustown.

BY AUCTION,
WILL be sold on Thursday the 12th of October next, at the subscriber's Auction Room, positively without reserve,
LOT NO. 9,
 in the Village of Adolphustown, lately occupied by Noxon Harris, as a Tavern, containing one Acre of Land—with a two story frame House erected thereon and an excellent Well of living water—Also, an Orchard with
50 BEARING Trees
 of choice grafted fruit. Conditions of sale—1-4 of the purchase money to be paid at the time of sale—1-4 in six months—1-4 in twelve months and the remainder in two years.
 Sale to commence at 12 o'clock, noon.
JOHN STRANGE,
 A. & B.
 Kingston, 25th Aug. 1826.

The relationship between William and Jane Pull and the Masons' Lodge in Adolphustown is corroborated by several entries in the lodge minutes.

- In June 1878: "Mrs. Pull \$0.50 for washing of aprons"
- At the end of December in 1880 and 1881: "cash paid to on Rent William Pule \$25.00"



As documented in the 1884 *Proceedings of Grand Lodge of the Ancient, Free & Accepted Masons*, in June of that year, the District Deputy Grand Master (DDGM) was in Adolphustown "to perform the ceremony of laying the foundation stone of the monument about to be erected to the memory of the United Empire Loyalists, on this centennial of their landing in Canada". The associated Grand Lodge meeting was held at the Adolphustown Town Hall, but clearly the DDGM also visited the site of the Filius Viduae Lodge while there, for he later reported:

I regret to state that the rooms in which some of the lodges hold their meetings are totally unsuitable for performing the ceremonies of the craft. Filius Viduae, No. 189, hold their communications in a room over a hotel stable.

The *Proceedings* of 1886 state that the Lodge had not met in 10 months, due to the "internal difficulties". With the Lodge not meeting it is likely that rent was not being paid. The final resolution of the matter appears in the *The Proceedings* of 1890.

Filius Viduae, No. 189, Adolphustown, has been dormant for about six years; their charter being held by their landlord for rent. I wrote several times trying to secure same, but without avail. With the kind assistance of brother Aylsworth, of Maple Lodge, No. 119, Bath, I managed to get it and expressed it to the Grand Secretary.

The meetings of the Filius Viduae Lodge took place on the grounds of the hotel that stood on Lot 9, originally owned by Noxon Harris. The lot, appearing on the c1822 Archives of Ontario map (Ref: RG 1-100-0-0-26), was on the south west corner of Third Street and a road leading to the wharf on the Adolpus Reach, today's Loyalist Parkway and Adolphustown Park Road.

While no evidence remains of the meeting place of the Fredericksburgh Masons, the hotel at which meetings of the Adolphustown Masons were held survived into the middle of the twentieth century. The Adolphustown Hotel, then in use as a residence, was destroyed by fire December 20/21, 1952.



AFHS photo

One of the oldest buildings in this district was destroyed on December 20th, when the home of Mr. and Mrs. Fred Gallaher and their son, George Gallaher, was burned to the ground shortly after noon. Some contents were saved from the ground floor but nothing from the upper floor. Mrs. Victor Martin, who had been there for some time owing to the illness of Mrs. Gallaher, also lost much of her clothing. Mrs. Gallaher had been a patient in Prince Edward Hospital for several weeks and was to leave the hospital the next day. The rising wind in the evening caused the fire to flare up again so the whole village was in danger and a call for help was sent over all local telephone lines. The snow proved a protection and when shovelled on to the fire, finally extinguished it. Mr. Lorne Wannamker had the misfortune to be caught by a falling chimney while helping fight the flames and suffered a broken leg and serious bruises and was taken to Kingston Hospital. Many years ago the building was a hotel, but was now a private residence and grocery store.

Napanee Beaver
January 2, 1952



The top photograph was taken when the old Rectory building was moved from St. Alban's in 1916 to a new location to the west along Loyalist Parkway. The building to the far right of the photo, behind the tractor, is the old hotel. The building on the left side of the road with the veranda is the Adolphustown General Store. The steeple of St. Paul's church, which once sat at the south-east corner of St. Alban's Cemetery, is just visible beyond the store. The braced fence post, in front of the black shed in both photographs marks the east side of the road to the wharf, now Adolphustown Park Road.

A Curious Thing

Angela Cronk

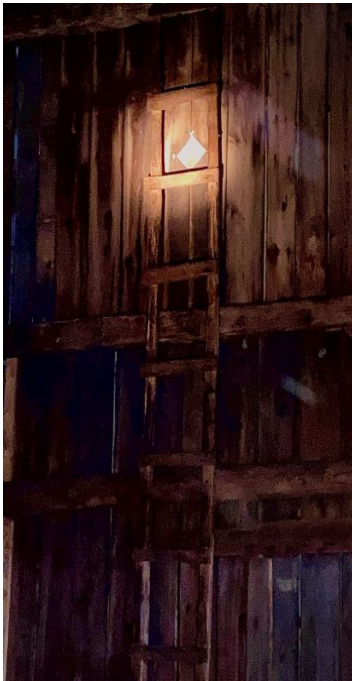


April's Curious Thing
Petersen Barn, Lot 4 Concession 3
South Fredericksburgh Additional

From Duncan Hough: The cutout symbols on the barns are known as "Diamond Crosses". They consist of four triangles surrounding the diamond or square. They appear throughout Ontario, other parts of Canada, and the United States. Diamond crosses are almost always on gable roof barns, built in the early 1800's (Ontario). They were probably installed on most early barns, but have been lost when weathered siding was replaced or covered by metal cladding.

There is no consensus for why they were featured on early barns. Suggestions have been made that they were simply decoration, for ventilation, to provide light in the mow, or to allow swallows or barn owls to access the interior. However, there may well be a deeper meaning, a combination of religion or a "hex" that protected the barn from fire. The Diamond Cross bears a close resemblance to the Maltese Cross symbol used by fire fighters world-wide. Early barns contained tinder-dry wood, were lit by lanterns, or could be ignited by fire in grass or trees. The loss of a barn in pioneer times was a major tragedy. Was the addition of a Diamond Cross an early form of fire insurance?

Four barns in South Fredericksburgh exhibit Diamond Crosses. There must be more. If anyone knows of others, please let Angela Cronk (angelacronk@gmail.com) know.



South Fredericksburgh Diamond Crosses
Left: Hough Home Barn, Lot 5 Concession 2
Centre: Covered outside by cladding, the diamond crosses are barely visible above window and top rung of ladder. Vandenberg Barn, Lot 23 Concession 2
Right: Hough Barn, Lot 2 Concession 3 Additional

The Diamond Crosses on the Petersen, Vandenberg, and Hough Lot 2 barns appear to be original. In the Hough Home Barn, the Diamond Cross is likely a replacement of the original, prepared when the siding was replaced. It is now covered with steel and can only be seen from the inside.

The information on Diamond Crosses was gleaned from
Swing Beam Barns of Niagara by Hugh W. Fraser.

Photos submitted by Duncan Hough



Submitted by Angela Cronk

What is this?

This thing stands about 10" tall.

Please contact angelacronk@gmail.com if you recognize this item. Tell us what it is called, what it is used for, during what era it was used, and anything else known 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.

AFHS News

Angela Cronk

Greetings Everyone!

This year has zoomed by and our small but mighty group has been busy. Our first event of the year was our delicious Fish Fry, thanks to Pat of Mundell's Surf & Turf. We thank our diners for supporting and enjoying this annual feast.

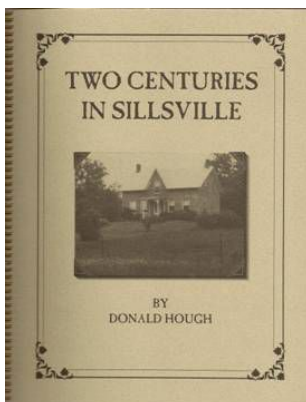
The next event was all about "witching", the ancient technique of using dowsing rods to detect water or graves. There were a number of folk (believers and skeptics) who attended our Dowsing Demonstration held in June at St. Alban's Cemetery in Adolphustown.

In September, we participated in the inaugural Napanee Culture Days which will hopefully become a regular event.

Last but not least, a brave group of volunteers attacked burrs, vines, and weeds in Carscallen and Loyst cemeteries to find hidden gravestones. Satisfyingly large piles of brush were the result of several days spent exposing some of our history at these beautiful sites.

Thanks to all of our supporters and our dedicated members!

From the Book Shelf



Two Centuries in Sillville

By Donald Hough

An extremely well detailed social history of the land and families of the Sillville district of South Fredericksburgh and covering the years from the United Loyalist settlement to 1997. Like other books published by the Heritage Committee 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.

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 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.

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