

THE NEIGHBOURHOOD MESSENGER

NEWSLETTER OF THE ADOLPHUSTOWN-FREDERICKSBURGH HERITAGE SOCIETY

Issue Number 33

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Connections

The number of connections between people, places, and events uncovered when researching our local history is astounding. At nearly every turn, one topic or story is related to another—linked through family relationships or simply by details that are either touched upon or more fully addressed in earlier articles in the *Neighbourhood Messenger*.

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 Director:	Joan Reynolds
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

In this issue, several articles illustrate how these connections come to light when exploring new material—those “Ah, that reminds me!” moments that reveal the interwoven nature of our community’s past. We have taken the opportunity to look back, referencing earlier newsletter articles, AFHS publications, and other local histories to provide deeper context, additional details, and a more comprehensive commentary.

This issue also introduces the new column **Feature Article from our Website**. In each issue, this column will highlight one of the hundreds of articles and other information to be found on our website.

A Glimpse of the Past



Photo: Carolyn Allen

1956

Skating on the Adolphus Reach in front of the Allen and Allison farms.

Judith Allen, Rose Allen, Lucille Allen, Peter Allen,
Alan McGillivray.

Standing in front of Rose is Linda Allen.

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!

Lace 'em Up! – Skating on the Bay

Jane Lovell

With the townships of Adolphustown and Fredericksburgh almost completely surrounded by water, it is not surprising that once freeze-up arrived in the Bay of Quinte, the whole community was eager to make use of the vast expanses of ice on the waters adjacent to their farms.

As noted in the [February 2014 issue](#) of the *Neighbourhood Messenger* (page 8), iceboating was one of the earliest winter pastimes to take advantage of the frozen bays. Although its heyday came at the turn of the 20th century, devoted sailors still venture onto the ice whenever conditions permit. Such opportunities are infrequent, however, as iceboating demands the rare combination of thick ice and a snow-free surface. This snow-free ice was also perfect for the *potkukelkka*, the Scandinavian kick-sleigh introduced to the area in the 1960s and '70s by the Finnish cottage community on Bass Cove ([February 2015 issue](#), page 14).



Photo: Carolyn Allen

David Allen, Peter Allen and A.C. "Ace" Allison

January 28, 1950

It was skating, however, that was the community's most popular and enduring winter pastime. As illustrated in the photograph featured as our **Glimpse of the Past**, the Allen family took full advantage of a huge expanse of a snow-free ice just off shore to lace up their skates and take to the ice. And a few years earlier, mirror-smooth ice tempted the Allen boys to test their skills at kite skating, while "Ace" Allison's hockey stick suggests that hockey was popular too.

Skating did not require vast stretches of snow-free ice—anyone could clear the ice in front of their property for a leisurely skate or a pickup game of hockey. And skating on the bay wasn't the only option—skatable ice could be found on ponds and streams and flooded lowlands.

In the [February 2014 issue](#) of the *Neighbourhood Messenger* (page 5), Ross Morton recalls:

As a child, I thought the frozen bay a wonderful playground. A skating rink was located in front of our farm and there were reasons why this site was selected. The shoreline was well defined allowing easy access to the ice and the waterfront was not too far from our house. There were six children in our family and some of our neighbours had several children of skating or snow-shovelling age. The rink was crowded Saturday and Sunday afternoons and often at night when it was illuminated by the light of a blazing rink-side

bonfire. People came from the surrounding districts and some even skated from across the bay to participate. A game called, “Shinny” was played and it didn’t matter the number of skaters on a side. For the most part the basic rules of hockey were followed but there was no heavy body checking.

In [Voices](#), Judy Smith relates:

People swam and skated on Big Creek. I would skate from my parents' farm right out to the mouth of Hay Bay. My parents always warned me about all of the chopped water holes.

And in [Voices Volume 2](#), Judy tells how Richard Hill remembers:

The mill pond [at Big Creek] was a skating rink and party place in the winter and a swimming hole in the summer.

In his 2013 book *Buggies Bees and Christmas Trees — Growing up in Adolphustown*, Merton Davis recalls skating for great distances on the snow-free ice of the bay as well as on nearby ponds and creeks:

When I was a teenager [in the 1940s], a group of us went skating at the Bay at night, with only the stars and the odd light on shore to guide us. It was highly exhilarating and, if we had known, very dangerous. While we were skating a fair distance from the shore, a pressure crack went down the bay with a sound like thunder. Feeling the ice drop beneath our feet, we raced to shore. The next day there was open water along the cracks. The water could be over 100 feet deep in that area.

We used to skate on the pond west of the drive shed and sometimes from field to field along the creek across the road. ... One time, I was skating by myself on the pond on a very cold day and broke through the ice, getting thoroughly soaked. Getting to the house was a challenge because my clothes froze solid within minutes. I remember Mother removing my icy armour in the kitchen and wrapping me in a blanket to get warm.

Our winter sports were unorganized. ... There was a lot of ice, but no hockey teams. We could bat horse ‘buns’ around the ponds. We had skates, but little time to play. Once in a while, the water would freeze smooth in the Bay, and it seemed as though we could skate forever.

Sometimes spring thaw or unusual winter weather would create opportunities to skate in surprising places. Such was the case in the 1940s when ice on the yard meant that the Smith children could skate almost directly from their front door.



Photo: Judy Smith
Helen, Lyle, Jesse, and Edith Smith
1940s

Rinks were also built on land, including a commercial rink in Adolphustown.

ADOLPHUSTOWN SKATING RINK.

The formal opening of the rink took place Saturday evening, Dec. 31st. The management of the rink have made many improvements this season for the accommodation and comfort of their patrons by placing a fence around the ice surface, also by making the dressing rooms warm and comfortable. Season tickets can be secured from the Secretary, R. J. Allison.

Napanee Beaver
January 11, 1911

The location of the Adolphustown Skating Rink is unknown. The fact that season tickets were being offered seems to indicate that the rink was not on cleared ice on the bay (which could not be guaranteed to endure for the entire season), but instead was a newly fenced area of flat land flooded with water to create the ice surface. The mention of improvements, including warmed dressing rooms, likely indicate that 1910-11 was not the first year of operation for the rink. This is confirmed by the text of a season ticket found during the 1997 dismantling of St. Alban's Parish Hall, formerly St. Paul's Church ([February 2025 Supplement](#) to the *Neighbourhood Messenger*). One of a number of artifacts were discovered within the building, the ticket was inscribed, in part, with the following:

Adolphustown Skating Rink

Season Ticket 1907-1908

Adolphustown Rink Co.

D.W. Roblin President W.H. Duffet Secretary

It is unknown how long the Adolphustown rink was in operation, but by the 1930s two other managed rinks became draws for the nearby communities.

In his 2014 book *Tales from the Township*, Ross Morton recalls:

In the 1930s, a rink was constructed on the Frank Ham property, a mile west of the Conway Store. Work was done to level a surface and then the creek water was diverted to flood the prepared ground. Perimeter boards, overhead lights, and a heated shack provided comforts not available on the open bay ice.

In [Two Centuries in Sillsville](#), Don Hough relates:

Some time in the early 1930s during the Depression the Hayburn Young People's Society decided to build a skating and hockey rink. ... George Dickson, with his platform truck went north to the Denbigh region, I think, and brought out sufficient rough lumber to make the boards to enclose the rink. The Y.P.S [Young Peoples Society] paid for the lumber, and the boys levelled a spot close to the bay shore, on Lot 4 West, and erected the boards and poles at the sides from which electric lights were strung. The Dicksons provided a building, a stove in it, and wood for the stove. This made a comfortable place to put on skates, or to get into to warm up, when the weather was severely cold.

... Young people gathered almost nightly, and on week-ends, to skate and play hockey, and got much enjoyment from the rink. After the original erection by the group, much of the work fell on the Dickson family, also the cost of the electricity. However, they seemed willing to provide it as a community service, which continued for many years. This was a centre of a community for several square miles, in the winter, for several decades, before hockey became centralized in the Napanee Arena.

Kenneth Dickson spent countless hours, especially when he lived on Lot 4, flooding, clearing snow, and caring for the rink. He would come home from the midnight shift, and flood the rink so the ice would be in good shape for the younger people of the area to use that afternoon or evening.

Graham Robertson adds:

I am not sure when it was built but it seems to me I remember reading an article in *The Christian Neighbourhood* about how a group of the local men levelled the ground and built the original rink. It was located next to the shoreline, north of the Dickson house and barn. It was abandoned for a number of years then in the late '50s it was reactivated by brothers Ken and Bob Dickson with some help from local volunteers. Ken and Bob spent many hours watering and maintaining the ice. The rink had lighting and there was a small shed at the west end of the rink with a wood stove. The shed served as a place to get warmed up and for the kids to put on their skates and maybe a pair of shin pads if they were lucky enough to have them. The kids from South Fred and Adolphustown schools used to compete on weekends and sometimes at night. I believe it was sometime in the '70s that it was abandoned again, the boards and lighting taken down.

From Ross Morton's [*The Life and Times of a One-Room School*](#):

One rural school seldom competed against another in a team sport. Whenever it did, it was usually left to the pupils to organize.

A hockey game was proposed between teams from the Parma and Conway schools. A couple of the students made arrangements to play Saturday at 1:00pm. The site was to be on the ice of the Bay of Quinte more or less in front of the Conway school. Since the game was to be played in our district, it was left to us to prepare a rink. Our team members agreed to arrive early and clear the snow. We even anticipated getting in a little practice before the big game.

The day of the game was sunny but very cold with a brisk wind. The swirling snow formed drifts as it moved unrestricted across the ice. We selected a spot in Spearing's Cove because it already had a stretch of clear ice. We proceeded to push the snow further to the side until a rink surface was formed. We searched the shore line for loose rocks to be used as goal markers.

A shin pad could be fabricated from an Eaton's Catalogue by splitting the book along the spine and placing a section beneath the socks. An elastic band cut from the inner tube of a car tire held everything in place. These home-made shin pads, a hockey stick and skates were the full extent of our equipment.

The team from Parma school soon arrived. They had walked more than two miles through the woods and fields to get from the second concession to the first. ... Final score Parma 9 — Conway 1.

...

Community To Aid Sports

NAPANEE — The community club of South Adolphustown and South Fredericksburgh have sponsored the public schools of that community to teach them rules in hockey and ball so that they might have sport activities in years to come.

Ken and Bob Dickson of Sillsville, RR 1, have built an open air arena at a cost of 700 dollars and the community club donated \$150 to its fund.

The club members pick up the children on Saturday mornings and drive them to the Dickson's arena to play hockey. They take them home after the game.

They have three games every Saturday morning.

This club is holding a dance at Sillsville Hall this Friday in aid of funds for sports.

Whig Standard
March 11, 1957

In winter the ice-covered bay was our playground. The Sunday hockey game held in front of our place attracted skaters from the local hamlets, including those from across the bay as well as from the neighbouring farm families. If the rink became crowded the playing surface was simply enlarged. My first skates consisted of straight blades fastened with screws to the soles of leather work boots. Once spring arrived the blades were removed and boots used as originally intended.

In the early spring the snow on the ice often became flooded with rain or from water seeping through the cracks during a period of warm weather. As a result, this formed vast stretches of snow ice. ... My favourite sport at that time of year was to fasten a bran sack over two poles and fashion a rough sort of sail, and to be carried along by the wind while on skates. It was possible to go very fast and with a little practice in tacking, to cover miles of the ice surface.

Conway remained a favoured location for skating.

Peter Warwick remembers that:

Bert Graham had a rink at Conway. One field over north of the general store. [It] was there in 1963.

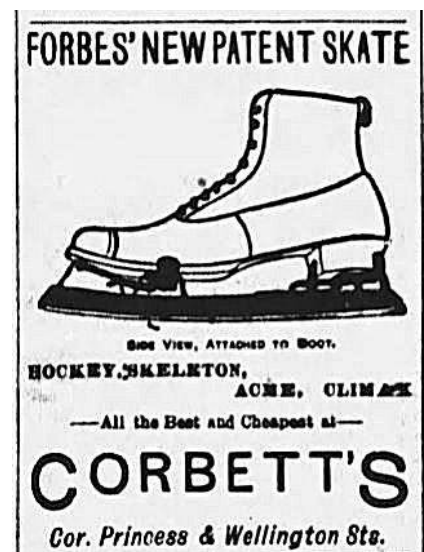
Mike Graham adds:

Bert Graham was my father. Our rink was fantastic. That's where we learned to skate and play hockey. At the west end of the rink, my father had built a change hut with a potbelly stove and benches to sit on while you tied your skates. It was awesome. We used it through the '60s until my father died in a car accident in 1969. I do remember my parents having a skating party in the winter for lots of neighbours. I was quite young [then], but those memories are strong from skating parties to barn dances there were lots of fun times.

While clearly fondly remembered by many who still live in the area, skating on the frozen waters of the Bay of Quinte, the many small ponds and streams nearby, or on purpose-built rinks, is mainly a thing of the past. But not completely. There are some who still take advantage of the expanses of snow-free ice on the bay, or who go out to shovel the ice just in front of their properties to enjoy skating with children or grandchildren or for casual games of pick-up hockey.



Kingston Daily News
December 4, 1891



Daily British Whig
February 12, 1892

Clippings

DORLAND

Dorland, Dec. 31. — The favorable weather and roads on Christmas Day contributed to the pleasure of the many family parties which took place.

Skating parties are quite popular. The lack of snow leaves the ice in good shape.

Napanee Beaver
1943

HOCKEY

The first hockey of the season opened at Adolphustown on Saturday last, on the Davern & Jorden rink, when Bath came up full of life, but went back in different spirits. The game was a real treat to watch at times. The score was 3 to 1 in favor of the home team. Had the ice been real good, it would have been 33 to 1 as Adolphustown has a fast forward line, with Davern and Prout; also Gallagher was in on top of the Bath goal-tender all day. Then you take back on the defence are two stars, Reid Roblin and Ray Allison. Ray is as good as ever on his old tricks, as he scored the first goal. Bath could not get by this pair. Fattie Young tried to get through, but it was a stone wall for him. It should have been a whitewash, but it looked a little better for Bath to go home. The line-up was as follows: Goal, Ham; defence, Roblin and Allison; forwards, Prout, Gallagher and Davern; subs., Jorden, Allen and Dean.

Special Correspondence.

Deseronto, February 21. — The Adolphustown hockey team played a return game here on Monday, the 14th, and were defeated by the local invincibles to the tune of 7 to 3. The Adolphustown team showed a marked improvement since the last game, and they are a team to be reckoned with in the future.

The line-up:

Adolphustown. — Goal, R. J. Allison; point, A. Wright; cover-point, J. Duffett; rover, H. Duffett; centre, P. Allen; right wing, J. White; left wing, R. Cooper;

Daily Standard
February 21, 1910

Napanee Beaver
January 21, 1927

Sillsville

A hockey team has been formed including most of the teen-aged lads under the supervision of Hugh Sharpe.

Pupils of Sillsville school are having an extended holiday due to an explosion in the oil burner. A considerable amount of damage was incurred and the school interior has to be completely re-decorated.

Kingston Whig
January 8, 1953

HAY BAY, Jan. 5.—There is good travelling on the bay now, also good skating and ice boating.—Mr. Rendell is ill with bronchitis.

British Whig
January 7, 1897

TWO YOUNG WOMEN ESCAPE DROWNING NEAR CONWAY

Two young Adolphustown women, Miss Joan Punchard and Miss Edith Smith, had a very narrow escape from drowning in the Bay of Quinte, near Conway, one day last week.

The two young women had skated across the Bay and on their return to the Adolphustown shore, broke through some thin ice when about a mile from the shore. Both girls were wearing heavy station wagon coats, and other heavy winter garments, but managed to crawl up on the ice.

Miss Smith got to safety first, but every time Miss Punchard attempted to get out of the water the ice broke away, plunging her back into the icy water. Being a very strong swimmer she was able to swim around until Miss Smith found a place where the ice was strong enough to pull her friend out of the water.

Both girls were nearly exhausted by their experience, and with great difficulty made their way to Tarry Hall, but not before their clothing was frozen solid. When they arrived at Tarry Hall, they were given assistance, which prevented serious results from their frightening experience and exposure.

The water where the girls broke through the ice is estimated to be 100 feet deep. If they had not both been good swimmers, they would undoubtedly have been drowned.

Napanee Beaver
February 1951

ADOLPHUSTOWN & FREDERICKSBURG

Jan. 22.—A young man named Dafee, about 19 years of age, started from South Fredericksburg on Saturday morning to skate across Hay bay, got within a few rods of the opposite shore, went through and was drowned. He was seen to go under, but it was impossible to rescue him. He shot under the ice, and his body was not found until after several hours of hard labor.—Rev. W. R. Young, of Wellington, preached anniversary sermons in the Methodist Centennial Church, Adolphustown, on Sabbath last; congregations large.—The front bay has kept open until the present, rendering communication with the Prince Edward and Picton shore extremely difficult. Mr. and Mrs. Young were brought across from Glenora on Saturday in an open boat.—Rev. Mr. Ash crossed Hay bay from Gosport to Adolphustown on Tuesday, the 15th, with his horse and buggy.

Weekly British Whig
January 24, 1889

Clippings continued

DROWNED, In Carnahan's Bay, Adolphustown, on Sunday evening, the 2d inst. Henry Wood, son of Mr. John Wood, of Sophiasburgh, and Owen and Philip Roblin, sons of Mr. Owen Roblin, of Adolphustown, informed that the lads were crossing the Bay on skates, and unfortunately broke through the ice. Their bodies were found on Monday morning, within three feet of each other.

Upper Canada Herald
December 11, 1827

HOCKEY.**Adolphustown and Bath.**

On Saturday, February 25th, Bath was a-hum with people to witness the game between the veterans of Adolphustown and the local team. All thoroughly enjoyed a game fast from start to finish. The visitors had the advantage in experience and weight, Dr. Duffett, Parker Allen, Reid Roblin staring for Adolphustown. The local team played in their usual style setting the pace and carrying it through to the end.

Roblin found the net in the first period which ended score 1-0 Adolphustown. The second opened Northmore scoring for Bath, later Duffett got away for a goal making the score read 2-1, Adolphustown.

The third period with the home team still on the aggressive forcing the visitors to more defensive tactics. G. Mellow and Northmore carried the puck the full length of the rink, Mellow scoring the final goal, game ending 2-2.

Owing to Adolphustown refusing to play over time, the game was declared in favor of Bath. Exceptional fine work was done by both goal tenders. The game was one of the fastest played here this year.

Adolphustown—Goal, A. Kirk; defense, W. Pollard and Reid Roblin; centre, Dr. Duffett; wings, Parker Allen and Alex. Allen; subs, Ed. Gallagher, Wm. McCrudden and Howard Smith.

Bath—Goal, H. Calver; defense, A. Putnam and M. Mellow; centre, E. Young; wings, G. Mellow and H. Northmore; subs, W. Hoselton and C. Mott.

Referee—F. Neilson, Stella.

Napanee Beaver
March 3, 1922

**SOUTH LENNOX
LEAGUE GAMES****Bath 11, Hayburn-Hawley 5**

On Saturday, Jan. 10, Bath defeated Hayburn-Hawley by a score of 11-5, which does not indicate the play. With one of their best forwards tending goal and another absent, the losers were quite handicapped but fought hard. L. Hoselton led the victors with four and with Young, Hawley and Rickey also scoring for Bath. Bob Dickson played a nice game for Hayburn-Hawley.

Whitfield and Molton of Conway, carried the whistles.

Bayview 8, Conway 3

Bayview, playing their usual smart game, won on Monday, Jan. 12, as they defeated Conway 8 to 3. Baker and Clifford played well for Bayview with Punchard and Frank Morton standing out for Conway. "Jakie" Young, H. Allison and E. Morton also played well.

Doug. Rickey and A. Young officiated.

...

Odessa 7, Hayburn-Hawley 4

Odessa continued undefeated to take a hard fought game from the Hayburn-Hawley lads, 7 to 4 on Bath ice. Odessa's fast-passing attack gave them an early lead. Newman, Powley and Johnston for Odessa, stood out as did Huyck and the Dickson brothers for the losers. Several penalties were handed out in the last period.

Young and Rickey handled this game.

...

Bath 5, Conway 2

Bath were lucky to win over Conway in a hard-fought game Friday, Jan. 16, at Bath. Shortly after the start of the third period, Conway scored one to take the lead two to 1, which they held until about five minutes remained, when Ross Young took a pass from Hawley, while Whitfield was serving a penalty, to tie the score. Northmore scored immediately to make it 3 to 2 and Hawley and Young each rapped in another to make it 5 to 2. Bath pressed hard all night but the Conway defense held until near the last.

Young, Hawley, Rickey and Northmore played effectively for Bath, while Whitfield, E. Morton, H. Allison and E. Wright fought hard for Conway. The two goal-tenders, Punchard and Shillington, both deserved to win.

Powley of Odessa and Bob Dickson of Hayburn, handled the game.

...

Napanee Beaver
January 21, 1948

The Dickson Rink and Other Skating Tales

Duncan & Ruth Hough

The Dickson rink was located behind the Dickson barn on Lot 4, Concession 3 South Fredericksburgh in Hayburn, within a few feet of Hay Bay. My first recollection of the rink was going along with Dad (Don Hough) on a Sunday afternoon where he and his friends played a game of hockey. John Dickson and I were allowed to have a mini game in the corner of the ice. At some point, a couple of the players slid into us and Bob Dickson and Dad decided we should leave the rink. Not a great start to our hockey careers!

However, John and I and many of our families and our friends spent hours and hours on the rink, mainly Friday and Saturday nights and Sunday afternoons. I recall that a couple of hours on Sunday were reserved for skating. We boys could hardly wait to get back to hockey. I remember a Hawley-Sillsville school game on a Saturday morning. As a younger pupil, my participation was minimal. However, Hugh Sharpe, our coach, had outfitted us in the PINES team sweaters. That was a thrill! John Dickson remembers how he and his brother Paul sat on the snow banks outside the boards, watching games against teams from other communities.

Hockey on the rink for us teenagers was really shinny. There was no recorded score, no time restrictions, no fixed number of players, and no referees. There were no actual goalies. Players took turns guarding the goal, especially if someone needed a bit of a rest. There were no face-offs, no off-sides, no icings, no line changes. If one team scored a goal, they retreated to centre ice and the other team brought the puck up the ice. However, there were a number of "understood" rules, which were generally adhered to; no checking, no tripping, no high sticks, and "keep the puck down".

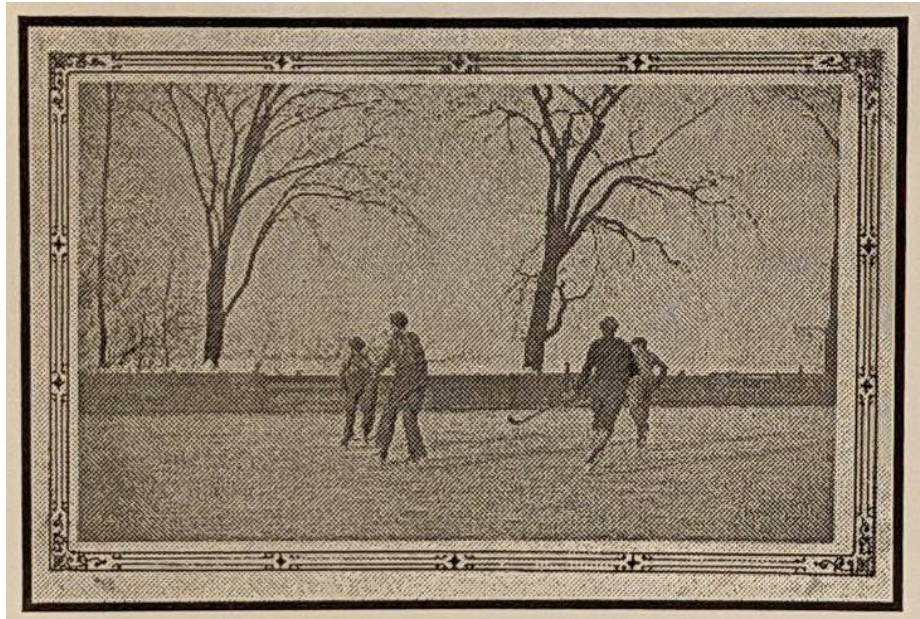


Photo from [Hayburn, 1911](#)

A game of shinny at Dickson's Rink Undated (possibly 1930s)

Games on Friday and Saturday nights started as soon as several players arrived and got their skates on. As more skaters appeared the teams got bigger. Unless the weather was really cold, and a break had to be taken to warm up in the "Shack", the game went on for several hours until the numbers declined. Players came from Hawley, Sillsville, Hayburn, Parma, Dorland, Conway, and Sandhurst. There might be only a dozen or maybe over thirty. The "Shack" was a small retired chicken house with a wood stove in the centre and benches along the walls. It was adequate but very crowded if the weather was cold.

The rink operated from late December to late February, depending on the weather. A heavy snow fall, 1-2 feet, was necessary for a base. The snow was packed down with a tractor, then flooded multiple times. Cold weather was necessary to give a solid ice base. Rough spots had to be trimmed off before more flooding was done. My recollection is that the ice surface was really pretty good.

Ken Dickson, who his nephew John describes as someone who really loved hockey, used a gas-powered pump situated on the ice of the bay to flood the rink. He used over 200 feet of plastic pipe

and needed several hours to flood the rink. The pump was stored in the warm dairy barn up at the road. The pipe had to be meticulously drained three times of every bit of water, so no ice could interfere with the next flood. John remembers Ken insisting that this be done. In later years, Ken invented a method of flooding using a drum of hot water mounted on a sleigh.

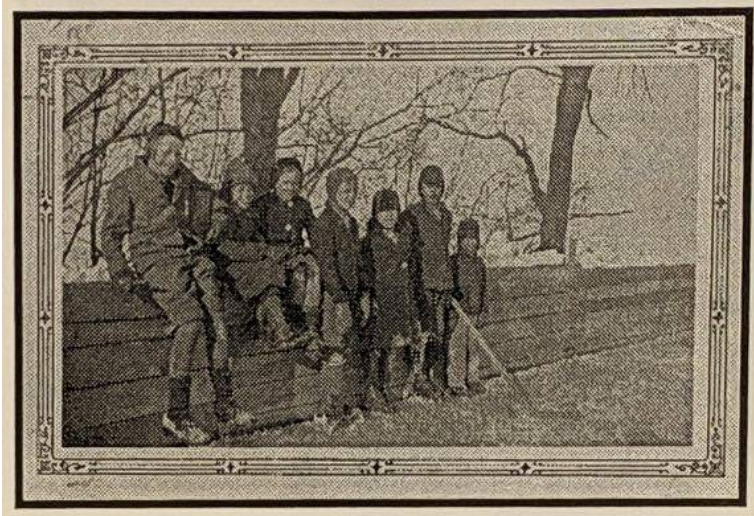


Photo from [Hayburn, 1911](#)

At Dickson's Rink

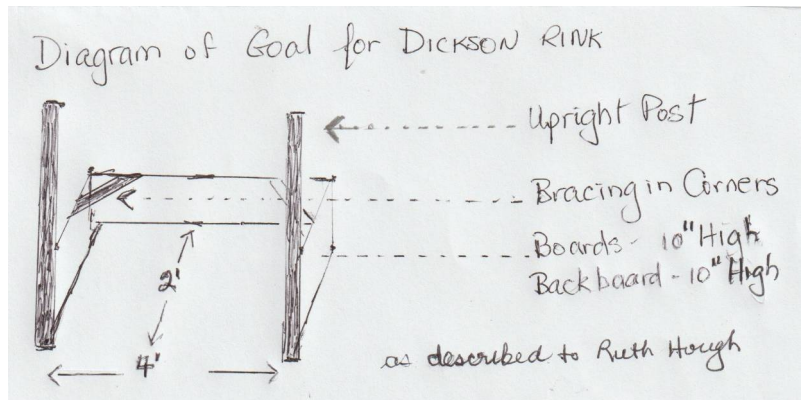
**Dorothy Magee, Nora Magee, Frances Magee, Bob Dickson,
Dalton Wagar, Walter Wagar, Beverly Wagar**

1930s

Snow had to be cleared from the rink, which was roughly 175 feet long and 75 feet wide. Bob Dickson had a loader on his Allis Chalmers WD-45 tractor. If the amount of snow was significant, a section of boards was removed. Bob could corral the snow and dump it over the boards. Ken worked at Alcan and had fabricated a large number of scrapers from scrap aluminum. These scrapers in the hands of keen teenagers finished the job. Also, it was the rule that before everyone left at night, the ice had to be scraped so Ken could flood if necessary.

Ken built goals, which were 2 foot by 4 foot boxes of 10 inch lumber, with the front open. At either side of the open front, there were upright boards which served as "posts". Only a shot that hit the plank on the back of the goal counted. That helped keep pucks down.

Whenever Ken was present, (and that seemed nearly always) he played along with us. He was a bachelor in his mid 50s who had played hockey all his life. A fairly slight man, he was a superb skater and seemed tireless. He was an excellent passer and without knowing it, was a mentor to us teenagers. "Pass the puck" kept the "puck hogs" honest and allowed the lesser players a chance to participate. As more people arrived during a game, he would assign them to the teams, keeping things competitive. In all the hours we spent at the rink, neither John nor I can recall a "scrap". I do remember a few times that Ken, with a few words, cooled things off. He served as the unofficial referee sometimes warning "Keep the puck down". Ken even gathered up any broken sticks left at the rink. When we returned, those sticks would be there, repaired with rivets or tape or splints for anyone to use.



Most players wore minimal equipment, maybe only shin pads that might have been handed down from our fathers. A few wore elbow pads and very few had real hockey gloves. Some wore leather helmets. But neither John nor I can recall any serious injuries. We all had a few bruises.

Ken died relatively young. Without him, the rink no longer existed. Attempts were made to revive it, but there just wasn't time to do it all. So, it is just memories for 2 generations of players- but what amazing memories! Thanks Ken!

Appreciation is extended to John Dickson

“IDEAL ICE”

An extended cold snap in December, with no wind, is the perfect recipe for “IDEAL ICE”. Several really cold days and nights build enough ice to support skaters. The ice is absolutely smooth and may be clear enough for skaters to see the fish below. From the shore, the whole rink is out there in front of you. Skating on big “IDEAL ICE” is exciting! The toes of the skates cut in more than on artificial ice and the glide is smoother. Strides can be longer and the pace faster. For the skater, the far shore becomes the goal. A head wind might be a problem but a tail wind adds to the thrill. The skaters can go anywhere they choose as long as they avoid the tips of points of land, islands and creek mouths where the ice may be thinner.

One possible obstacle may be a pressure ridge caused by expanding ice as it freezes deeper and deeper. I have gotten a “soaker” on one skate from a small crack next to a ridge. However, when the skater searches along the ridge they may find a cake of ice tipped up like a ramp. Using this ramp, the skater may vault across the ridge, hopefully landing on their feet. Excitement!!!

When the ice is really cold skaters will hear a “BOOM” almost like a rifle shot and will see an internal crack shoot forward within the ice. On a cold night, skaters can simply stand still and hear constant loud booms in every direction, as the freezing ice expands.

“IDEAL ICE” lends itself to games of tag, races, or hockey. However, in the case of hockey, a missed pass or shot will result in an extended skate to retrieve the puck. The rule was “If you shot it, you go get it”!

I have had a number of memorable excursions on “IDEAL ICE”: Sillsville School to Benn’s Point, Hayburn to the North Shore of Hay Bay, from the 3rd concession across to Sherman’s Point and also to the east end of Hay Bay, Sandhurst part way to Cressy and Black River Lake in Nova Scotia.

“IDEAL ICE” is just that. After snow falls or a thaw floods the ice, the ice can still make for good skating. However, it likely will be bumpy or have soft “snow ice” spots. It is never as good. “IDEAL ICE” rarely occurs, but when it does, skaters should take full advantage of it!



Photo: Duncan Hough

“IDEAL ICE” at the Hough Quarry

Ruth Hough, Paul Stauffer, Duncan Hough, Leah Stauffer
2016

THE HOUGH QUARRY



Photo: Duncan Hough

Clearing the ice at the Hough Quarry
2025

The quarry was created in 1967 to provide aggregate for the building of County Road #8. It filled with water the next winter to the depth of about 12 feet. It is a great supply of water as well as a pool in the summer and a rink in the winter. It is roughly 200 feet by 350 feet.

Most but not all winters we have a rink. A few times there was never enough ice to be safe. Other times when heavy snow covered the ice, water seeped up from below and resulted in terrible ice. The quarry is totally surrounded by trees. This shelters us from the

wind, but allows snow to settle on the ice. It is important that we clear the snow quickly to prevent water from below from flooding the snow. Fortunately, an ATV with a plow solves the problem with shovels finishing the job. Last winter, we had 6 weeks of ice—probably a record.



Photos: Duncan Hough

A game of shinny at the Hough Quarry
2025

We have enjoyed having guests over for skating and hockey games, some involving 3 generations of players.

And Before We Could Lace 'em Up...

There was strap 'em on! Some of those early skates have been preserved by families who, for more than a century, have taken pleasure in skating on the ice in and around the Bay of Quinte—"ideal" or otherwise.



Photo: Judy Smith

Skates belonging to Judy Smith's
mother-in-law Margaret Smith
(1898-1984)



Photos: Duncan Hough

Skates belonging to Duncan Hough's grandparents Harold and Marion Hough
(1890-1975) and (1894-1983), respectively

Gravestone Cleaning at McDowall Cemetery

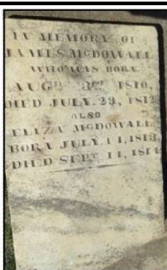
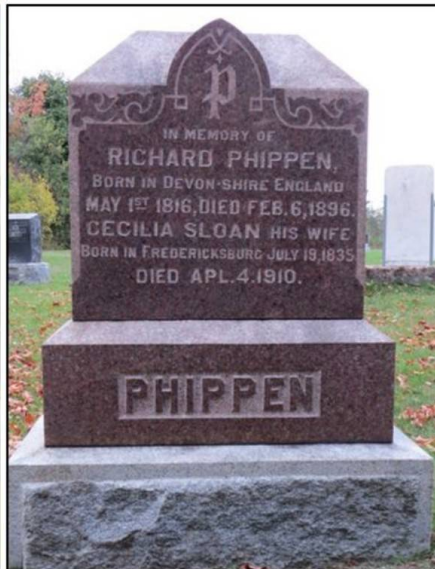
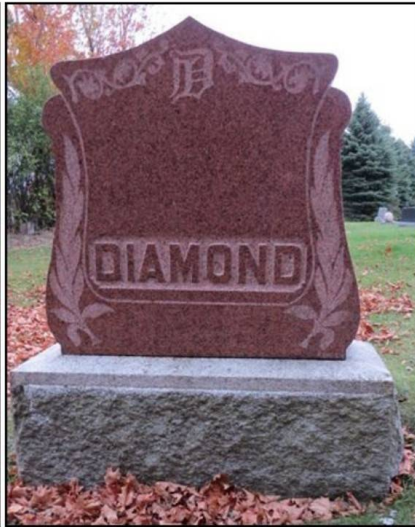
Susan Wright



Gravestone Cleaning Tips

- Make sure you have permission from the cemetery.
- For newer stones, plain water and a soft brush and/or a plastic scraper will usually remove most of the moss and lichen.
- For older stones, make sure the stone is stable, with no flaking, cracking, or chipping.
- Use **D/2 Biological Solution** (no substitutes), lots of water, soft brushes, plastic scrapers, wooden toothpicks or skewers to clean out any engraving.
- **DO NOT USE** household cleaners, bleach, vinegar, wire brushes, metal scrapers, or pressure washers.
- A Google search will provide a number of links to videos and information showing the proper way to clean the stones.





Numbered Townships & Other Connections

Jane Lovell

Some time ago I was given a number of documents belonging to the family of W.S. Herrington.

Walter Stevens Herrington (1860-1947) was born in Ameliasburgh township in Prince Edward County, and after pursuing a law degree in Cobourg and Toronto, settled in Napanee where he practised law. Keenly interested in history, Herrington was a founding member and Honorary President of the Lennox & Addington Historical Society. In addition to being a frequent contributor to the Society's publication *Papers and Records*, he was also an author of a number of books including his comprehensive 1913 *History of the County of Lennox and Addington* and *The War Work of the County of Lennox and Addington* (1922).

Among the Herrington documents given to me was a small booklet written in 1920 for the Royal Society of Canada entitled *Some Notes on the Minutes of the Town Meetings of the Township of Sidney*. This caught my eye because Sidney Township was where the family of Reverend Cyrus Richmond Allison was living when their young son Cyrus Ryerson died. Cyrus and his sister Phoebe Jane were the two children reportedly buried in St. Alban's Cemetery and whose unmarked graves are believed to have been found, as documented in the [December 2024 issue](#) of the *Neighbourhood Messenger* (page 2).

Another article in that issue (page 17) was about the 1784 founding of our townships, noting that Cataraqui Townships Numbers 3 & 4, or Third and Fourth Towns, were soon named Fredericksburgh and Adolphustown, respectively. It was with great interest, therefore, that I learned that Sidney was also one of the numbered townships, and shares some fame with Adolphustown for having established early municipal governments.

From Herrington's *Some Notes on the Minutes of the Town Meetings of the Township of Sidney*:

The Township of Sidney was numbered eight among the first townships laid out upon the Bay of Quinte, although as a matter of fact it was not the eighth upon the list either from the date of survey or settlement. ... Sidney was neither surveyed nor settled until 1787.

Unlike the townships on the other side of the bay, Sidney, so named after the Colonial Secretary under George II <sic>, did not long retain its numerical appellation. It is not at all unusual, even at the present day, to hear Marysburgh, Sophiasburgh and Ameliasburgh spoken of respectively as the Fifth, Sixth and Seventh Town, but I cannot recall ever having heard of Sidney called Eighth Town.

Although Sidney lags a few years behind its sister townships upon the bay in the matter of survey and settlement it is the banner township in organizing its town meetings and thus providing a means, meagre though it was for local self government. Adolphustown (Fourth Town) points proudly to the fact that on March 6, 1792, was held the first Town Meeting at which were appointed a town clerk, a constable, two overseers of the poor, three pound-masters and two fence viewers. ... There is no record of the first meetings held in any of the other townships upon the bay except the township of Sidney, whose officials have kindly placed in the hands of the writer a well preserved minute book containing the records of all the town meetings from 1790 to 1849 inclusive.

... Although the first meeting was, according to the entry [in the Sidney minute book], held on the 15th day of May, 1790, this memorandum shews that the book itself was not obtained until March 8, 1806. It is quite evident therefore that although the book contains a faithful record of all the town meetings from 1790 the entries for the first

sixteen years have been transcribed from some other original documents which have not been preserved.

... It may be argued that the Sidney meetings may have begun earlier than those of Adolphustown; but when comparing the books themselves Sidney must give way as the Adolphustown book is the real original record. It has been so regarded for at least fifty years, and I do not like to shatter a belief that has for so long been entertained; but the fact is that a close examination of the very page upon which the minutes of 1792 are written in the Adolphustown book discloses the water-mark "1796". It is quite evident from a closer scrutiny that the minutes for the first few years of Adolphustown have also been transcribed from some other documents.

....

Sidney, March 3, 1794

REGULATION FOR FENCES

1st That Fences shall be four feet Six Inches high and not exceed five Inches open for three feet high...

REGULATION FOR HOGS

2nd Hogs to run at Liberty until they Trespass through or over a lawful Fence. And Hogs to be confined from the first of May to the first of December.

... The putting of hogs upon their good behaviour under penalty of imprisonment is rather unique. ... The hog and ram appear to have been the cause of much anxiety to the early settlers and various expedients were adopted to restrain them from doing damage. In 1801 we find a regulation authorizing "any persons finding Hog or Ram within the said limited times running at large on the highways or commons to castrate them." ... In 1804 the yoke was first introduced by the following regulation "hogs to run at large till they do damage the owners thereof to pay the same and yoke them with a Crotch yoke six inches above the neck and four below."

Concerning Herrington's notes on the management of livestock: In this instance, Adolphustown preceded Sidney in addressing the issue. The first entry in the [Minute Book of Town Meetings, 1792-1849](#) records that the inaugural meeting of the Adolphustown Town Council, held on March 6, 1792, dealt almost exclusively with the management of livestock and property:

Dimentions of Hogs Yoaks <sic>, 18 inches by 24. Height of Fence, 4 ft. 8 in. Water voted to be no fence. No pigs to run till three months old. No stallion to run.

A half-century later free-ranging livestock continued to be a problem:

1843: That Hogs shall hereafter be Yoked, and either rung in the nose with wire or the gristle at the end of the nose cut $\frac{3}{4}$ of an inch.

1846: Ordered that all cattle whatsoever, except Milch Cows and young Cattle under 2 years old, be prohibited from running at large from the 1st day of May to the 15th of November, it being understood ... that every kind of cattle is prohibited the rest of the year.

1849: Ordered, That everything is prohibited from running at large.

An article on Adolphustown's early municipal government and the role its citizens played in beyond municipal politics, on provincial and federal stages, appears in the [October 2014 issue](#) of the *Neighbourhood Messenger* (page 4). An article in the [December 2024 issue](#) (page 8) illustrates the importance of fences—and yokes, known locally as "pokes".

And back to the ten numbered townships: All ten townships reside in the Midland District of Upper Canada, in the counties of Frontenac, Lennox & Addington, Prince Edward, and Hastings.



Source: Archives of Ontario

Detail: "Map of the Province of Upper Canada, describing all the new settlements, townships, &c. with the counties adjacent, from Quebec to Lake Huron. 2nd. ed., 1818"

No.	Name	Surveyed	County	Named After	Notes
1	Kingston	1783	Frontenac	King George III	
2	Ernestown		Lennox & Addington	Sons of King George III	
3	Fredericksburgh	1784			
4	Adolphustown				
5	Marysburgh				
6	Sophiasburgh	1785	Prince Edward	Daughters of King George III	
7	Ameliasburgh				
8	Sidney	1787	Hastings	Lord Sidney	Thomas Townshend, 1st Viscount Sydney, who served as the British Home Secretary in 1782 and again from 1783 to 1789, overseeing the remaining British colonies after the American Revolution.
9	Thurlow			Edward Thurlow	Edward Thurlow was a prominent lawyer and Tory politician who served as Lord Chancellor under King George III, a position he held from 1778 to 1792.
10	Richmond	1786	Lennox & Addington	Duke of Richmond	Field Marshal Charles Lennox, 3rd Duke of Richmond,

Feature Article from our Website

Susan Wright

The First Loyalist Settlement Story of Adolphustown and its Pioneers

From the 'Globe and Mail' Aug 3 1895

Written by Allan Ross Davis, [this 1895 article](#) includes information about the arrival of the Loyalists in Adolphustown, the Old Hay Bay Church, the site of the Macdonald homestead, the memorial in the Old Loyalist Burying Ground, and the two Centennial Churches.

An interesting note from the article

"The remains of those Loyalists who had been buried on Hay Bay were exhumed and reinterred in the old cemetery at the landing place."

The Author: Allan Ross Davis (1858-1933)



Allan Ross Davis
circa 19??

Born in Adolphustown on September 3rd, 1858, a son of Archibald Campbell Davis and Amy Ann Huffnail and a great-grandson of Henry Davis U.E. The Davis farm was located on Lot 16, Concession 2, Adolphustown. In his early days, he taught school at Bethany and later in Richmond Township. He graduated from McGill University as a civil engineer in 1884, the same year as the centennial celebration of the arrival of the Loyalists.

On Aug 15, 1888 he married Alice Maud Casey, (1860-1948), a daughter of Thomas W. Casey & Ann Empey. There were three children: Wilfred Ross, Eleanor, and Gordon.

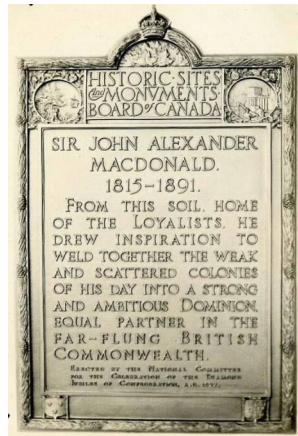
"Mr. Davis was a member of the United Empire Loyalist Society and wrote many works on U.E.L. matters, but will be longest remembered for his zeal and perseverance in bringing about the restoration and preservation of the old U.E.L. Church, built in 1792, on Hay Bay, by the Methodists of Canada." [from the obituary of Allan Ross Davis 1933]

Davis later purchased the lot where Hugh Macdonald had settled in 1824 and erected a monument and plaque commemorating the boyhood home of Hugh's son, Sir John A. Macdonald.

He died September 18, 1933 in Toronto and was buried in Mount Pleasant Cemetery, Toronto.



Macdonald Homestead
Site - June 6 1925



The Original
Homestead Plaque



Old Hay Bay Church 1912



St. Alban's "UEL" Church
Adolphustown Village c1915



Methodist "UEL" Church
Dorland c1900

Then and Now



Early 1900s



2017 (Unchanged in 2025)

2940 County Road 8 West Half of Lot 12 Concession 2 South Fredericksburgh

This lot was registered to Daniel Lloyd in 1819, and by 1855 it had been transferred to David Robertson. The Robertsons and their descendants remained stewards of the land for the next 132 years, until it passed out of the family in 1987.

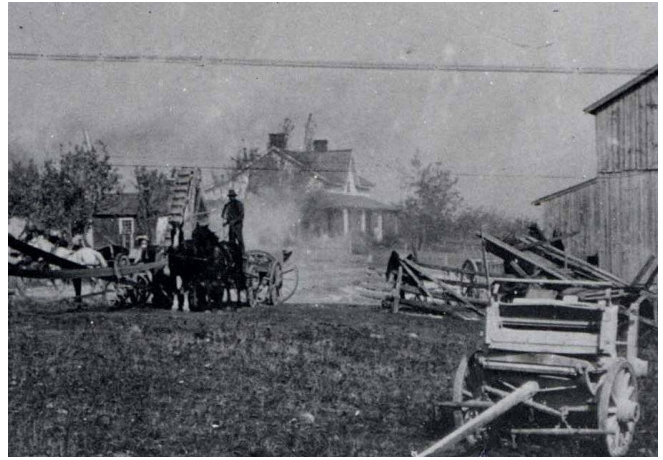
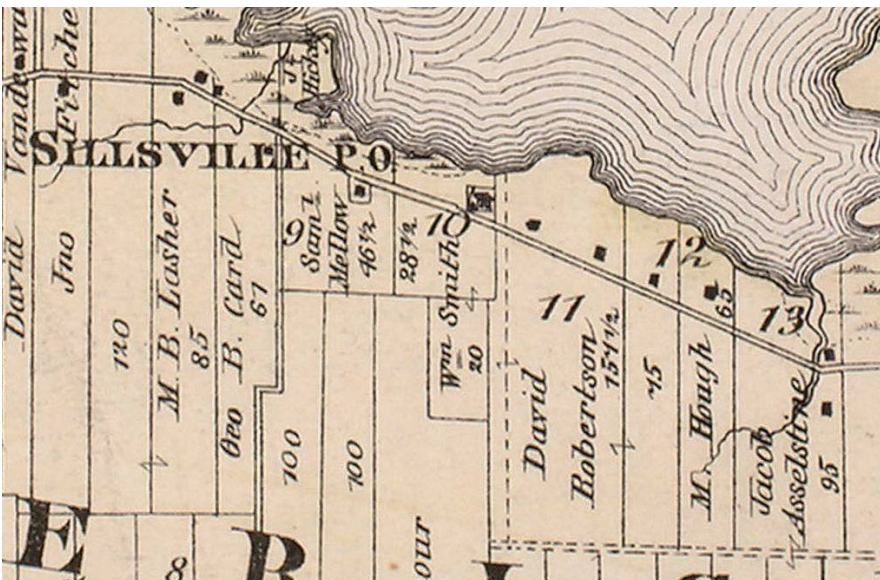


Photo: L&A County Archives N-4516

Crushing fence row "hard heads" (rocks) for gravel for County Road 8, which runs between house in the background and barn in the foreground (right).

Circa 1910

Full lots were nominally 200 acres, with half lots comprising 100 acres each. Such was not the case for many lots in our townships, which were defined on at least one side by irregular shorelines. The West Half of Lot 12 was in fact only 75 acres, and the East Half even smaller at 65 acres.



David Robinson acquired an additional ~155 acres when he purchased all of Lot 11 in 1871 enlarging his holdings to ~230 acres.

A comprehensive history of the West Half of Lot 12 and the Robertson family appears in [Two Centuries in Silsville](#).

Map: Meacham Illustrated Historical Atlas of Frontenac, Lennox and Addington Counties, 1878

Reflections

In this issue of the *Neighbourhood Messenger*, we present our second instalment of **Reflections**. For material for this column, we invite readers to share stories from the past—anything from a memorable event to everyday moments or how things were once done. Please consider becoming a contributor!

Trip to California

Lois O'Hara

I started teaching school in 1957. After missing out on a teachers' bus trip to Mexico, in 1958, I decided to visit my Great Aunt Edna Allison in California.

In 1866, JB Allison Jr. married Martha Membery. Her sister Amelia Membery married JB's better-known brother, DW Allison in 1876. JB and Martha had three children: Anna (Annie, my grandmother), Edna (who was called Ned) and Arthur. Martha died soon after Arthur was born. The Membery parents: Giles Membery and Elizabeth (nee Raymond) invited JB and his small family to live with them on Lot 21, 1st Concession of Adolphustown (down the long lane going south near the SS#1 school in the Village where Arthur Allison farmed many years).

In 1897, my grandmother, Annie Allison, married TN (called Nelse) Davis. So, Aunt Edna Allison was my Grandma Davis's sister.

When Edna was younger, she fell in love with the local teacher in Adolphustown but when he died of tuberculosis, she vowed she would never marry, and she never did.

Edna trained as a nurse at the old Grace Hospital in Toronto. Upon graduation, she did private duty nursing in several locations including Florida, but she ended her career as Matron for many years at the private Punahou School in Honolulu, Hawaii. (This is where former U.S. President, Barack Obama went to school).



AFHS Photo

Amy EDNA Kate Allison
(1879-1964)
circa 1920s

When Pearl Harbour was bombed on December 7, 1941, Edna was advised to leave Hawaii in a hurry. She chose to retire at age 62, in Palo Alto, California.

There was a major contrast in lifestyle between Aunt Edna and her sister Annie, my grandmother, but they faithfully wrote letters to each other on alternate weeks. Edna's letters were full of social activities, sometimes mentioning political tendencies, or events at the Episcopal Church. Annie's letters must have been so ordinary in comparison, telling about life on the farm in Adolphustown but she probably told news of people and events her sister would remember.

The travel agent in Picton helped me plan my trip. He suggested I fly on a plane to Chicago, take a helicopter to O'Hare airport where I could board a jet to San Francisco. Jet passenger service had just begun in the United States. The helicopter ride didn't materialize but flying by Trans World Airlines (TWA) was an experience not to be forgotten. We had real food on china dishes and stainless steel cutlery. It was thrilling to fly above the clouds and watch different cloud formations.

I had told Aunt Edna what I would be wearing so she could recognize me at the airport upon arrival in San Francisco. I remember I wore a two-piece navy dress, with a white collar, hat and gloves. This was in 1959, remember. Everything went as planned.

My two weeks in Palo Alto were filled with activities my Aunt had planned. I couldn't help but compare differences with what I was used to at home. This was my first experience eating at a glass table on a patio with gold-plated cutlery at her friend's ranch-style home. At that time the only ranch-style homes I knew of were a few recently built homes just west of Kingston.

Early in the first week, one of my Aunt's friends asked where I was from. I figured they must have all known I was a relative from Canada so I said "Ontario".

"Oh," said the lady, "you're from the suburbs of Los Angeles". I was taken aback because I had never heard of a place near Los Angeles called Ontario. Much later I learned it was a city east of Los Angeles named by someone from Ontario, Canada.

As a 20-year-old, I thought the men looked older than their age and I thought the women looked much younger, possibly from visits to the beauty salons. Aunt Edna had a bouncy, chic hairstyle. I don't think my Grandmother ever went to a hairdresser.

My father, AC (Clarence) Davis, was delighted I could go to California to visit his Aunt Edna. While I was there, she invited some of my Davis relatives to meet with us for breakfast at a restaurant. At home, we weren't yet sophisticated enough to have guests for breakfast in a restaurant. We rarely went to a restaurant at all! These cousins of my father were daughters and granddaughter of Uncle Sid Davis who had moved to Manitoba. His daughters had moved to California, married and raised their families there.

Tom Barr, a young man about my age, was invited to dinner so I could meet a descendant of Sarah Ann Membery who was a sister of Amos, Maria, Fred, Martha, Walter R, and Amelia E Mmembery.

Aunt Edna contacted all of her friends to see how they could help entertain me. Neighbours brought bags and boxes of apricots from their yards, knowing it would be an exotic treat. It was also my first experience eating artichokes.

She introduced me to Joyce, a girl my age who lived across the street. I was impressed that both Joyce and her brother had wall-to-wall carpeting, and their own telephones in their bedrooms. Then Edna arranged for Joyce to borrow her father's car and drive the two of us down the coast for an overnight at Carmel-by-the-Sea. Joyce had been accepted into a training course to be an airline stewardess, but first she had to be a qualified nurse. We discussed how I would not qualify as a stewardess because I had a scar on my face from a car accident. We agreed this would give passengers the wrong psychological message about safety in air travel.



Mid-1950s postcard of Mrs. Jameison's Holiday House
Carmel, California

In Carmel, we wanted to buy some wine, but we were not yet age 21. We asked a young sailor on the street if he would buy it for us, but he declined. So we spent the evening in a motel room, drinking Coke and playing canasta. We paid a visit to Aunt Edna's close friend, Mrs. Jamieson who ran a "holiday house" (aka a B&B). Whenever Mrs. Jamieson needed her, Aunt Edna would step in and run the guest house. Mrs. Jamieson told us that the movie star Clint Eastwood was walking about the town, mingling with the citizens. I didn't know him and don't think I saw him. Clint Eastwood was just starting his acting career but would later become Mayor of Carmel-by-the-Sea.

At my Aunt's house, in Palo Alto, I slept in a Murphy bed in her living room. We would talk back and forth at night before going to sleep. My grandmother, her sister, had died about eleven months earlier. It was eerie that Edna's voice sounded just like my grandmother's but her facial features were more like her brother's, Arthur. Edna told me that she chose to leave her money to her niece Hattie Allison, Arthur's daughter and to my sister, Jean, Annie's granddaughter. I had no trouble accepting that decision.

It was a hot month in California as well as at home. I remember receiving a letter from my mother, Dorothy Davis, who said it was so hot at home in July 1959, that the farmers could not work in the fields.

One day, Aunt Edna arranged for one of her lady friends to take us in her big car to the coast. I was so thrilled I could now say I've seen the Pacific Ocean. Another day, another friend took me to San Francisco to ride on the cable car and visit Chinatown. I still have the star-shaped crystal pendant and earrings I bought as souvenirs.

Another day, I went to a movie theatre nearby and saw the movie, "South Pacific", which was newly released. I also went shopping and bought an interesting dress made in Hawaii and an unusual outfit made in Mexico.

My Aunt and her friends took me to a musical performance at Stanford University. I didn't tell them I had never heard of Stanford University. I thought it must be new. Later, I learned otherwise.

Aunt Edna enjoyed planning these events and she arranged even more activities than I have mentioned. There was something different to do every day.

One of her friends, who drove us to see the redwood forests, suggested I cancel my return ticket home to Ontario and fly to Seattle, stay overnight there and then take a bus up the coast to Vancouver for a night or two.

In Seattle, I stayed in a nice hotel but I thought the dinner prices were exorbitant. So, I ordered an appetizer and a "Scorpion" drink which had an orchid or a gardenia floating on top! Then I turned in for the night.

As the bus approached the Canadian border, I started to worry. I suddenly remembered that a few months earlier I had crossed the border in Ontario with some friends. The rules in those days said you could only claim duty-free goods every six months. What should I do? I had many purchases with me from my time in California. We were handed forms to complete before we reached the border. How likely were they in BC to check the date of my previous trip to New York State? I put down it was more than 6 months. I was wrong. Later I received an officious and threatening letter saying I better pay up – or else. I paid up. It wasn't that much money and I should have just paid the duty when crossing the border. They had a good tracking system even before computers!

The bus trip to BC sounded like a good idea but in fact, the highway was too far inland to see the coastal beauty. However, in Vancouver, I went on many scenic tours. I was surprised to see so many Oriental tourists.



AFHS Photo

I flew home from Vancouver to Toronto and took the bus to Napanee. En route, I reflected on all that I had seen. Although I had a wonderful time, I had to admit the green, green grass of Ontario, Canada looked very special to me.

I was most grateful to have had this wonderful opportunity to visit my Great Aunt Edna in California when I was twenty years old. It was a gift more valuable than any inheritance.

When Aunt Edna died in 1964, her ashes were shipped from Palo Alto, California to Adolphustown and placed in the Allison Mausoleum.

Edna Allison with her father Joseph Allison circa 1920s

**Joseph was in Adolphustown village at the time of the 1921 census,
living across the street from the house to the right.**

**Thought to be the oldest surviving building in the village, the house was profiled
on page 17 of the [November 2018 issue](#) of the *Neighbourhood Messenger*.**

AFHS News

Angela Cronk

Season's Greetings!

Time certainly passes by quickly— it seems like last week that I was writing this annual message!

This year our group has once again done a great job of “digging up” memories of times past so that we can better appreciate and remember how challenging “the good ol’ days” were.

The unveiling of the Township Signs on June 16, exactly 241 years after our townships were founded, was the finale for the first phase of our Community Signs Project, and are now a permanent reminder of our past.

Our annual fish dinner was well attended and a great way for locals to gather and share information about our beautiful area and our history.

Thanks to our small but dedicated group who strive to keep our history recorded, our cemeteries visible, and allow our “new settlers” to be aware of its amazing history.

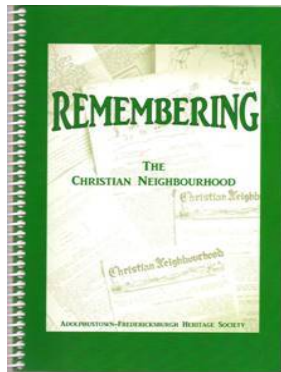


Photo: Susan Wright

Unveiling the Township Signs beside the Napanee River (installed sign above along Centre Street)

Councillor Bill Martin (Council rep on the Municipal Heritage Committee), Mayor Terry Richardson, Tom Fletcher (plant manager of Atura Power's Napanee Generating Station), Jane Lovell (AFHS)

From the Book Shelf



Remembering the Christian Neighbourhood

Compiled by Susan Wright

The "Christian Neighbourhood" started in 1949 as a local newsletter for the townships of Adolphustown and South Fredericksburgh. It continued either monthly or bi-monthly for a number of years, finally ending in the early 1990s.

During this period a number of articles on local history and events were submitted by local residents. This book is a compilation of 67 of those articles.

See our website (<http://www.sfredheritage.on.ca/Books1.htm>) for a full list of AFHS publications, along with a brief description of each book.

A Curious Thing

Angela Cronk



April's Curious Thing



No one could identify April's Curious thing. I don't know what it is either!!

What is this thing?



This thing is 31" long (detail of tip to left).

Please contact angelacronk@gmail.com if you recognize this item.

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 specific items we are 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 to or 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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Jane Lovell
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