HASTINGS COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Still Searching for a Permanent Archival Site

Much of our history has been spent looking for a suitable archival site. For example:

1. Ian E. Wilson (then Archivist of Ontario and now Librarian and Archivist of Canada) visited the Society twenty years ago and encouraged members in their search for suitable quarters. He is shown with Past President John Andersons.

2. Hugh O'Neill (Ontario cabinet minister and local MPP) joined with the Belleville Public Library in welcoming the Hastings County Historical Society to its new archival location in the Corby Library's Canadiana Room. The government provided funds for the Society's filing system. (June 8, 1986)

3. Hugh McMillan (an archivist at the Ontario Archives) spoke to the Society twenty years ago. He was thanked by past presidents Bernard Wright and John Anderson (seated).

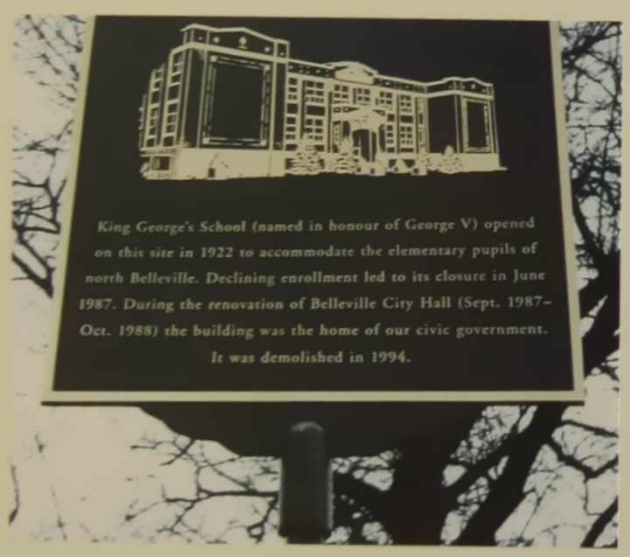
4. The Archives Relocation Committee
(with Society members Mary Jane Throop, Orland French, Dick Hughes, and Sharon White) met with Hastings County representatives (Dave Panabaker and Margaret Walsh) at the Hastings Heritage Centre early in the summer of 2007. Representatives of Belleville (Pat Culhane and Garnet Thompson) and Quinte West (Terry Cassidy and Craig Desjardins) also attended.

VHJ 22
1.01

HASTINGS COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

HCHS

Some you lose . . .



Some buildings have not survived, for example, the original Hastings County Court House, Belleville Collegiate Institute, King George Public School and the Cablevue Building (although the first floor façade of the last does survive.)

NW22
1.02

HASTINGS COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

HCHS

HASTINGS COUNTY MUSEUM

in Glanmore, a Victorian mansion

257 BRIDGE ST., BELLEVILLE, ONT.

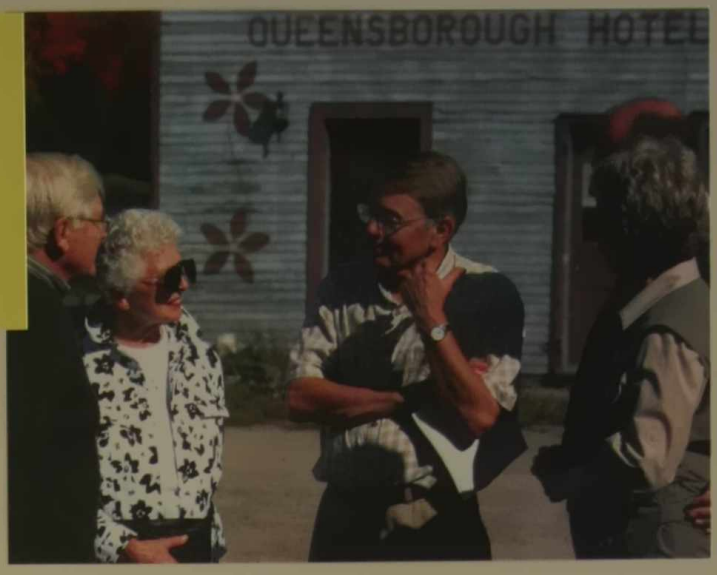
For a dozen years, the Society operated the Hastings County Museum (on behalf of the County of Hastings and the City of Belleville) in what is now known as Glanmore National Historic site of Canada (owned and operated by the City of Belleville

N0122
1.03

HASTINGS COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

HCHS

Celebrating FIFTY Years of History 1957-2007



C.W. (Bill) Hunt's Society Tours

Clockwise from top right:

- Bill Hunt and tour members at the Queensborough Hotel
- Lonsdale Mill
- MacRae Farm at Lonsdale with very early farm buildings
- Lonsdale School

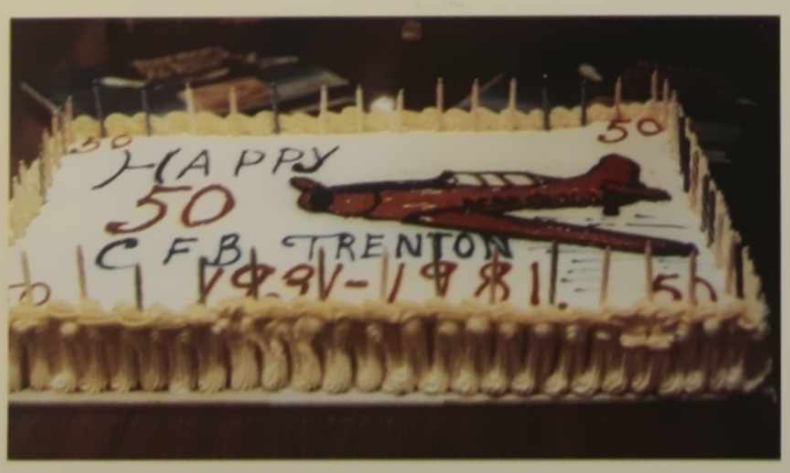
V&V 22
1.04

Banquets: Past & Present & Occasion Cakes

In the 1980s, many of the annual meetings were preceded by banquets in the Dining Room of the Quinte Living Centre. Annual Banquets were revived in the early 2000s.

Do you recognize the participants?

Many meetings have been highlighted by special occasion cakes: for example, our celebration of CFB Trenton's 50th anniversary (1981) and Susanna Moodie's birthday in 1985, with the authors of *Moodie: Letters of a Lifetime* and students of Susanna Moodie Elementary School present.



Nevzz
1.05

HASTINGS COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

HCHS

Celebrating FIFTY Years of History . . . The Hastings County Historical Society 1957-2007

Homes of the Society have included:

- The Hastings County Museum on Church Street in the former Land Registry Office, opened in the summer of 1961
- The Hastings County Museum on Bridge Street East (now known as Glanmore National Historic Site) opened in the summer of 1973
- The Hastings Heritage Centre in the former Thurlow Town Hall

Hastings County Museum
Belleville

Parts of the Society's Archives also have been located elsewhere, including:

- A linen closet at 236 George Street, Belleville
- The Canadiana Room of the Corby Public Library
- Sir James Whitney School

Nov 27
1.06

HASTINGS COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

HCHS

Executives of Past Years

A great many people have volunteered their time and talents to serve on the Society's executive. These are a few of those people.

1988 *Top*
Standing: John Anderson, Jack Bradford, Janet Hoyer, Beth Green, Jean Williams, Les Lennox, Adele Dibben
Sitting: Bernard Wright, Chester Hull, Marion Fisher, C.W. (Bill) Hunt

2004 *Middle*
Standing: Mike Shaw, Orland French, Diane Sule, Doug Knutson, Pat Press, C.W. (Bill) Hunt
Sitting: Vera Morton, Hazel Lloyst Shaw
Absent: Lewis Zandbergen

2006 *Bottom*
Standing: Doug Knutson, Bruce Bedell, Vera Morton, Bill Kennedy
Sitting: Mike Shaw, Orland French, Diane Sule
Absent: Lewis Zandbergen

YOU
can be in the 2008 picture.

Ask how.

Newzz
1.07

Hastings County Historical Society

Meeting 8:00 p.m.
Tuesday 19th March 1991
Quinte Living Centre
Coffee 7:30 p.m.

SPEAKER - JANE ERRINGTON
Associate Professor
Canadian and American History
Royal Military College of Canada

TOPIC - WOMEN IN EARLY UPPER CANADA

1860

VISITORS
MEMBERS
NEW MEMBERS
WELCOME

Stately Home on Bridge Street, Belleville - Courtesy Design Perfect

Hastings County Historical Society

MEETING

Tuesday 21 May 8:00 p.m.
Coffee 7:30 p.m.
Quinte Living Centre
Belleville

SPEAKER
Elizabeth Mitchell
Information Services Librarian
Belleville Public Library

"Treasures of the Canadiana Room"

The Hastings County Historical Society
P.O. Box 1418, Belleville, Ontario K8N 5J1

11

Outlook

The Hastings County Historical Society Newsletter

Outlook is published monthly for the Friends and Members of the Hastings County Historical Society. It is edited & produced by Joe VanVeenen. Anyone wishing to submit articles or information can contact the editor at 613-969-0001, between 9-5, or visit him at Design Perfect Communications, 121 Dundas St. East, Belleville, Ont.

This Newsletter is printed on better than 50% recycled paper

Take Note & Don't Forget
The next meeting is
Monday, February 18th
at 8:00 p.m.
Heritage Day Coffee 7:30 p.m.
Quinte Living Centre,
Belleville

Historic Quinte

The Billa Flint Home
Senator Billa Flint
1805 - 1894

This building, erected in 1835, was the home of Billa Flint. Along the shore once stood his saw mills, flour mills, wharves, and stonehouses. His business enterprises contributed to the economic growth of Belleville and many communities throughout Hastings County. Senator Flint was mayor of Belleville in 1866 and became one of Canada's first Senators in 1867.

Library resources

Elizabeth Mitchell, information services librarian, spoke of the treasures available in the Canadiana Room at Belleville Public Library at a recent meeting of the Hastings County Historical Society. She brought with her some of the results of research done in the Canadiana Room, including published books, family histories and student reports. Resources available include county and city directories, records of births, marriages and deaths, census returns, assessment rolls, obituaries and copies of The Intelligencer on microfilm. Mrs. Mitchell has a copy of the resulting report in duplicate to the library, providing data for future researchers.

Included in material donated during 1990 were the family papers of the Bleecker family, land records of the Homan family, and McCullough family papers from 1813 to 1900.

Archives

Three workshops were held in the Canadiana Room of the Belleville Public Library, where the Historical Society's Archives are filed, with the exception of the Picture Archives which are located in the Society's office at the Museum and the City Hall records located at Sir James Whitney School. Attending the workshops were Gerry Boyce, Marian Fisher and Beth Green.

Society plans archive centre

Historic Building Gets New Lease On Life

The former Liddle Tailor Shop, on the corner of Pinnacle Street and Dundas Street in Belleville, will be saved. The building is being renovated into a "brew pub" which will feature homemade draft beer and hearty German food.

Alice Paine receives from President Jack Arthur a Good Citizenship Award

NEXT MEETING

Tuesday April 16,
8:00 p.m.
Coffee 7:30 p.m.
Quinte Living Centre,
Belleville

Speaker
Andre L. Philpot, Reeve of Marmora. Author of A Species of Adventure

Topic
Historic Marmora Iron Works.

Visitors, Members, and New Members welcome

1991

The Hastings County Museum is open Tuesday through Sunday 1:00 - 4:30 p.m.

For more information please contact the Hastings County Museum at 962-2329.

QUINTE

1991

Vicki Benn knows a lot about folk medicine.

Folk remedies filled a need in their times

By JACK EVANS
The Intelligencer

The Intelligencer Saturday, February 23, 1991

Benn was speaker for the Hastings County Historical Society's Heritage Day program in the Quinte Living Centre this week.

Given the lack of properly trained doctors in Canada, folk medicine was "an important need at the time," says Benn, referring particularly to the period 1820 to 1870. Among other hazards, those years saw several plagues of cholera in much of Canada.

Many of the potions, teas, ointments and poultices used were not just fickle concoctions. Like some of the more reliable patent medicines, also popular at the time, they were from herbs, plants, barks, fruits or vegetables which had proven their value over many centuries of observation to both people and animals.

In fact, Benn agreed to one questioner, many of the same plant sources are still used in modern medical prescriptions and for exactly the same purposes.

But faith and magic also played important roles in 19th century medicine. In fact, Benn and her audience agreed that tender, loving care, and a sense of being genuinely fawned over probably had as much to do with getting better as any treatment.

One substance which seems to figure prominently in both treatments and preventive medicines was garlic — plenty of it. The same applied to onions.

Getting into magic were remedies involving transferring a health problem to another object or an animal. One common example was treating arthritis with a potato, which was supposed to absorb the pain.

Spices, such as ginger, cloves and cinnamon, knowledge of which and often samples of which, were brought from Europe, also played a role in concoctions.

More obscure, but commonly practised for treatment of whooping cough was giving a child "the breath of a horse," a treatment some members of the audience even recalled having been used on them.

Benn said she is continuing her study of folk medicine, hoping to collect as many memories as possible by senior citizens "before all is lost."

But old-fashioned, or new-fangled, when it comes to sickness, Benn referred to an old folk saying: "Nothing cures like time and love."

Land Registry Office Instruments and Deeds (1868 - 1947)

The Ministry of Consumer and Commercial Relations (M.C.C.R.) informed us in 1988 that because of space limitations it intended to destroy all original land documents from 1868 to 1948 in all Land Registry Offices, replacing the data with microfilm. We protested to the Ministry, along with many others, and a hold was put on this action pending further consultation and review.

You Win Some, You Loose Some...

By: Beth Green

Heritage Belleville has recently designated two Historic buildings. The Lemming Catalog property, and the former Liddle Tailor Shop on Pinnacle street near Dundas Street. Sears will be incorporating the house into its new daycare centre for its employees, preserving the historical mid-1840's facade into the design. The new owners of the Liddle building are busy renovating it into a new life as a brew-house and pub (see photo on front page), with adjoining shops. Lois Foster, Chair of the Historical Society's Building Research Committee, supplied the research necessary for the designation procedures.

Kudos to the Heritage Belleville Committee for their ongoing efforts to preserve, through Historical Designation, many worthy old buildings in Belleville. Have a look at the Billa Flint house, looking quite splendid, though lonely, on the riverside on Coleman Street.

Watercolour depiction of Meyer's Mill, Station St., Belleville - Courtesy Design Perfect

The **Heritage Belleville Committee chair, Kay Manderville (Councillor)** is also on the Moira River Conservation Authority Committee to find a use for the stone building on Station Street, the last of the many industrial buildings which lined the banks of the river on "Mill" (Station) Street in the last century. Although the Chamber of Commerce has had to withdraw its plans to develop the property, Councillor Manderville reports that "other options are being pursued."

1991

HASTINGS COUNTY MUSEUM

257 Bridge St. East
Belleville, Ontario
K8N 1P4

When a sea route to China was discovered in the early Sixteenth Century vast quantities of porcelain travelled to the west as ballast in holds of trading ships.

Chinese Export Porcelain a guest exhibit from Parks Canada follows a fascinating story of Chinese Export porcelain from its manufacture in China to its discovery at many historic sites across Canada. Come and enjoy the many styles and patterns of the Chinese export porcelain trade.

"Glanmore", the Hastings County Museum, is pleased to present from Environment Canada, Canadian Parks Service, The Chinese Porcelain Exhibit from Jan 20 to March 23, 1991.

MEETING

Tuesday 17 September 8:00 p.m.
1991

Tweed Playhouse

SALUTE TO THE VILLAGE OF TWEED
ON ITS' CENTENNIAL

Two illustrated presentations on 10 historic buildings and artifacts by Rodger C. Greig and Evan Norton

Nov 22
1.08

Prepared by Jennard Wright

Tearing Down Our History

From The Toronto Star

In the seven years since her death, the house had never felt so strange, so oddly threatening. It was empty, and yet that night he heard footsteps. Upstairs, downstairs, along the maze of dusty corridors he shone his flashlight. And then suddenly he reminded himself that policemen don't believe in ghosts.

A policeman regularly checks this house, once home to a legendary 19th-century lumber baron. But this time he knew, somewhere down inside where our sixth sense lives and so often sends an eerie message quivering along our spine, that the footsteps didn't belong to anything living.

The Police Station at Market Square, built in 1850, was once Belleville's town hall and market building.

Old houses can do that to you - especially when they're a century and a half old, have 35 rooms, no electricity and it's the middle of a wet and windy night. Charm, romanticism, the memories you can almost feel alive within their walls are part of the allure of old buildings. That, and the sense of our own past they convey. But those are not things to which dollar signs may be attached, and so, too often, we tear down our history.

One old mansion may not seem like a big deal, but sadly this is not an issue of just one place.

"Ours is one of the worst heritage building preservation records of any western nation," says Alec Keeler, president of the Toronto region branch of the Architectural Conservancy of Ontario.

Social Time

HASTINGS COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

More Archive Angels

They are *(top to bottom)*:

- Gerry Boyce
- Marion Fisher
- Katharine Mills & Beth Green
- Luella Parkhurst, Ruth Boyce & Adele Dibben

YOU
can be an
Archive
Angel.

Ask how.

Nov 22
1.09

HASTINGS COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

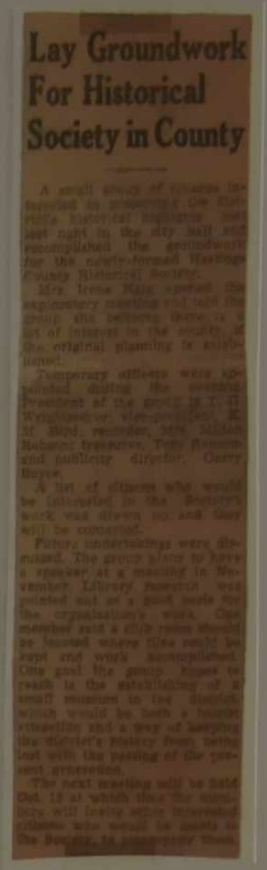
Celebrating FIFTY Years of History 1957-2007

1957 … A Year of Firsts

October 1, 1957

CJBQ/*Intelligencer* celebrity Irene Haig chaired a meeting in Belleville City Hall's Council Chambers to establish the Society and elect an executive. Antique dealer Tom Wrightmeyer agreed to serve as the first president.

Belleville's Recreation Commission under Lloyd (Red) Doran donated the advertisements for the meeting.


Lay Groundwork For Historical Society in County

A small group of citizens interested in promoting the establishment of a county historical museum met last night in the city hall and accomplished the groundwork for the newly-formed Hastings County Historical Society.

Mrs. Irene Haig, owner of the aggregatory meeting will tell the public the purposes formed, a list of interest in the society, and the original planning is settled upon.

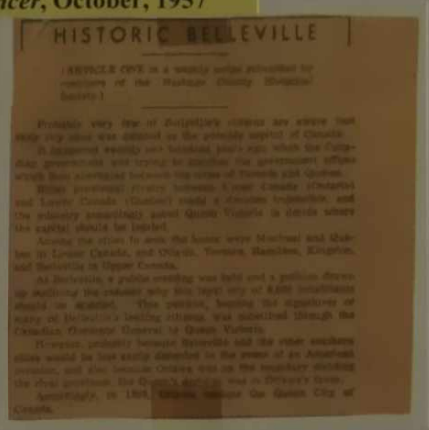
Temporary officers were established during the meeting. President of the group is T. H. Wrightmeyer, vice-president E. M. Reid secretary Miss Hilda Bellamy treasurer, Tom Fenwick and publicity director, Carey Boyce.

A list of citizens who would be interested in the Society's work was drawn up and they will be contacted.

Future undertakings were discussed. The group plans to have a speaker at a meeting in November. Library research was pointed out as a good basis for the organization's work. One member said a club room should be located where city relics could be kept and work accomplished. Otto said the group hopes to reach the establishing of a small museum in the district which would be both a tourist attraction and a way of keeping the district's history from being lost with the passing of the present generation.

The next meeting will be held Oct. 15 at which time the executive will bring office proposals. Citizens who would be interested in the Society are invited to attend.

The Society's first article in the *Intelligencer*, October, 1957


HISTORIC BELLEVILLE

ARTICLE ONE in a weekly series presented by members of the Hastings County Historical Society.

Probably very few of Belleville's citizens are aware that their city once was capital of the populous region of Canada.

A thousand recently and hundred years ago when the Canadian governments were trying to decide the government offices which were alternated between the cities of Toronto and Quebec.

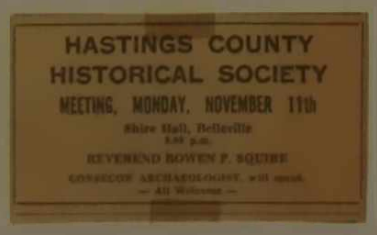
When provincial rivalry between Upper Canada (Ontario) and Lower Canada (Quebec) made a decision impossible, and the country seemed about ready to dissolve, Queen Victoria in London where the capital should be located.

Among the cities to seek the honor were Montreal and Kingston in Lower Canada, and Ottawa, Toronto, Hamilton, Kingston, and Belleville in Upper Canada.

A committee of cabinet members was appointed to study the problem and a public meeting was held and a petition drawn up in Belleville to support the claim of that city.

This petition, bearing the signatures of many of Belleville's leading citizens, was submitted through the Canadian Governor General to Queen Victoria.

However, probably because Belleville and the other smaller cities would be too easily attacked in the event of an American invasion, and also because Ottawa was on the boundary dividing the rival provinces, the Queen decided, and on October 3, 1857, Ottawa became the future City of Canada.


HASTINGS COUNTY
HISTORICAL SOCIETY
MEETING, MONDAY, NOVEMBER 11th
Shire Hall, Belleville
8.00 p.m.
REVEREND BOWEN P. SQUIRE
CONSECON ARCHAEOLOGIST, will speak.
— All Welcome —

HISTORICAL SOCIETY TO HEAR REV. B SQUIRE

A Survey in Consecon by the Archaeologist's Digest," will be the theme of an address to be delivered before the Hastings County Historical Society on Monday, 11, by Rev. Bowen P. Squire, Consecon archaeologist. The meeting will be held in Shire Hall at 8 p.m.

A semi-retired Baptist minister, Mr. Squire has devoted much time in recent years to uncovering evidences of early Indian habitation on the farm near Consecon which he purchased in 1943.

Together with Mr. Malcolm Cummings of Belleville he has discovered artifacts that date as far back as the Laurentian period, between 8,000 and 10,000 years old.

Ontario intelligence readers were acquainted with Mr. Squire's work first in its illustrated article that appeared in the Sunday Globe in June 1960.

November 11, 1957

The Reverend Bowen P. Squire of Consecon was the Society's first guest speaker. A semi-retired Baptist Minister, artist and avid archaeologist, he spoke on his archaeological activities in Prince Edward County.

He later donated a dozen paintings of local historical interest to the Society. These are currently displayed in the lower level of Glanmore National Historic Site.

This picture appeared in the *Toronto Globe and Mail* on July 7, 1960.

Once again, the City's Recreation Commission paid for the advertisements.

Find Indian Remains at Trenton

—Whitehead.

Rev. Bowen Squires of Consecon measures the femur of a 300-year-old skeleton of an Indian male found in an excavation for a cottage at Carrying Place, four miles south of Trenton. Mr. Squires, who is a historian and archeologist, estimates the man was 5 feet 8 inches tall.

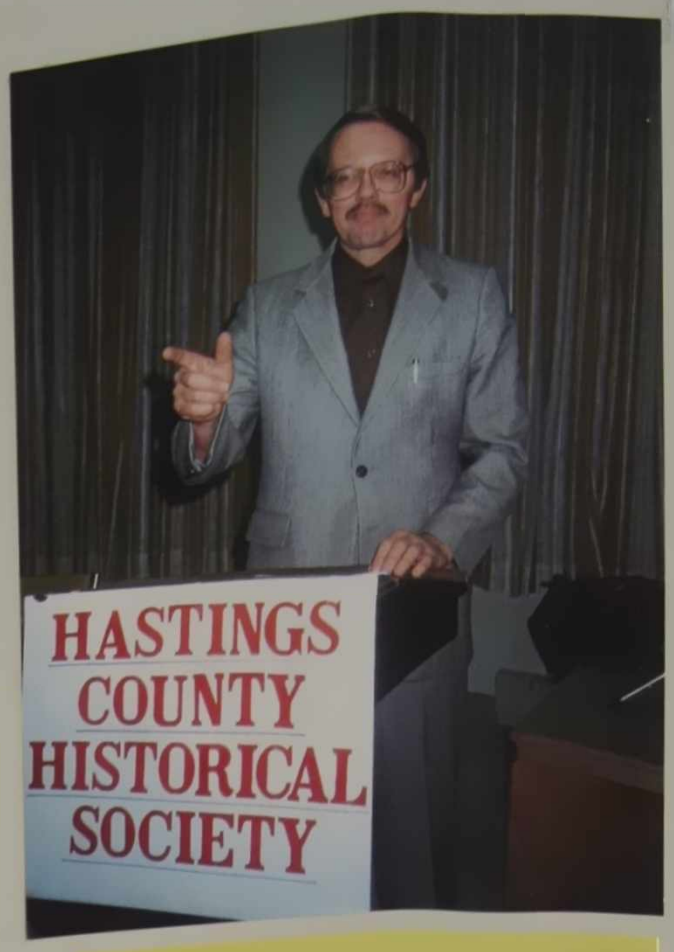
Nov 2nd
1.10

HASTINGS COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

HCHS

Celebrating FIFTY Years Of History 1957-2007

Personalities at Historical Society Meetings 1983-1986



These general meetings of the Society were all held in the Main Auditorium of the Quinte Living Centre at 370 Front Street, Belleville. Earlier, meetings were held in Shire Hall (now demolished), the Corby Public Library Gallery, Glanmore, and other locations.

Clockwise from top right:

- C.W. (Bill) Hunt, 1983
- Mayor George Zegouras, Nick and Helma Mika of Mika Publishing, 1985
- Susanna Moodie Birthday Party, 1985:
  Left to right: Fan Finkle, Eva Barlow, Jane Hull
- Elaine Preston, 1985
- Eugene Lang, 1985

NW22
1.11

HASTINGS COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Members and friends of the Society gathered in the Quinte Living Centre Auditorium to celebrate the 50th anniversary. Presidents – Past and Present – outlined the Society's eventful history as Doug Knutson photographed the event.

Celebrating 50 Years . . .
October 16, 2007

Robin Jeffrey
1970

Judie Preece
1975-1976

Bob Brennan
1980

Jack Arthur
1990-1991

Bernard Wright
1992

Elizabeth Mitchell
1995-1997

Carson Cross
1998-1999

Society Director Sharon White read greetings from Tom Ransom (1965-1966), Frank Foley (1971-1972), John Anderson (1988-1989) & Leona Hendry (1993-1994).

Gerry Boyce
1958-65; 1973-1974; 1981-87
Presented with 'Mr. History' Plaque by President Orland French

Orland French
2002-20??

NW22
1.12

HASTINGS COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Celebrating FIFTY Years of History 1957-2007

1961- 1962 … Displays

The Hastings County Museum at 236 Church Street offered a variety of special displays.

Curator Dorothy Sargent displayed one of the rifles from Cliff Smith's collection.

Santa Claus helped to open the Christmas displays. They featured collections of playing cards, toys, magic lantern shows by Tom Ransom and puppet shows arranged by Rodger Greig.

N0022
1,13

HASTINGS COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Celebrating FIFTY Years Of History . . .

1958 . . . Fair Days

The Society's first major display was under the Grandstand at the Quinte Exhibition.

Among items displayed in 1958 were maps, artifacts, newspapers and pictures. One sign invited donations of pictures. As of 2007, more than 50,000 pictures have been donated. The largest collections have come from Mika Publishing & the *Quinte Weekly News*.

A similar display was held in 1959. Both displays were well attended and several visitors took out memberships costing one dollar.

Volunteers who took turns staffing the 1958 display included Ernie Pigden, Gerry Boyce (president), Tom Ransom (treasurer) and Bev Boyce.

NW22
1.14

Awards to Writers 1984-1987

From top to bottom:

Lois Foster presenting certificate to Steve Geneja, 1985

Jack and Bernice Parrott with Lois Foster, holding a copy of her research into the Parrott family farm, etc., 1984

Jack Bradford presenting certificate to Frank Buckley for his history of Belleville General Hospital, as Lena Dearborn holds the book, 1986

Adele Dibben presenting certificate to Jean Townson, 1985

Les Lennox presenting Jean Williams with a certificate, with Education Committee Chair George Super in background, 1987

Over the years, the Society has recognized many writers for their efforts.

NW22
1.15

HASTINGS COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Celebrating 50 Years . . .
October 16, 2007

Cake-cutting participants (left to right, with dates for presidency) were Bernard Wright (1992), Bobbie Geneja (daughter of first president Tom Wrightmeyer), Gerry Boyce (1958-1965, 1973-1974, 1981-1987), Elizabeth Mitchell (1995-1997), Judie Preece (1975-1976), Bob Brennan (1980), Carson Cross (1998-1999) and Orland French (2001-2xxx). Also present for the celebration, but missing from the picture, were Robin Jeffrey (1970) and Jack Arthur (1990-1991).

Views of the Celebration by Doug Knutson
Clockwise from top left:
1. Bobbie Geneja, daughter of first president Tom Wrightmeyer, pointing proudly to her father's picture.
2. Lee Jourard, John Geen, Bill Hunt and Bob Brennan in thoughtful discussion
3. Eleanor Carleton Moult and Marion Fisher in front of the displays.
4. Carson Cross presenting a clock plaque to President Orland French
5. John Lowry, the Rev. John Uttley and other guests checking out the displays

Nov22
1.16

HASTINGS COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

HCHS

Celebrating FIFTY Years Of History . . .

Picture Archives at the Hastings Heritage Centre

As of 2007, the Society has more than 52,000 photographs, negatives, drawings and other artwork in its archives. The largest collections are from Mika Publishing and the Quinte Weekly News (published in Belleville from 1986 to 1992).

Clockwise from top right

- **Orland French and Sharon White**
- **Adele Dibben and Marion Fisher**
- **Dick Hughes and railway photo display at the Quinte Mall**
- **The Original Team: Marion Fisher, Betsy Boyce and Mary McConnell**

Nov 22
1.17

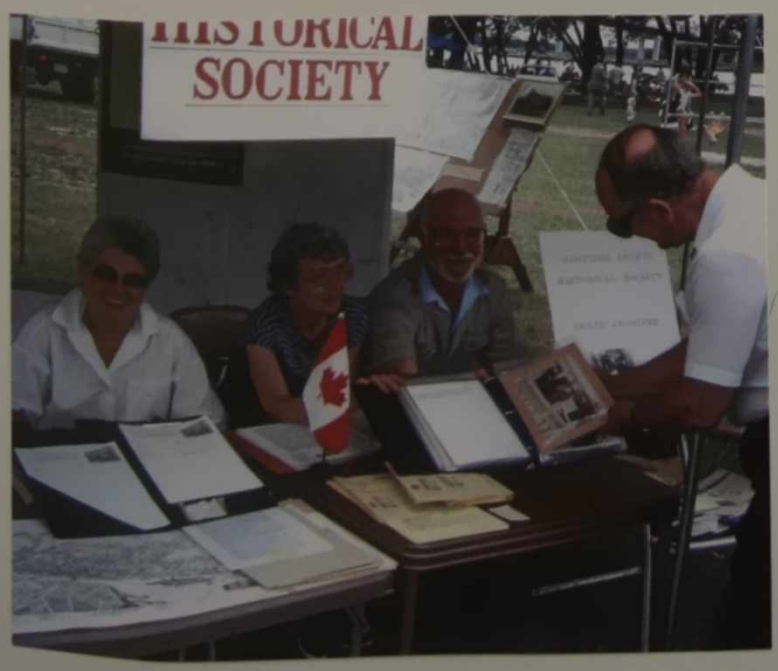
HASTINGS COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

HCHS

Fair Days and Later
1958-1990

Early in 1958, the Society's first public display was arranged in a window near the Four Corners. That summer, the Society sponsored a display under the grandstand at the Quinte Exhibition. Many of the articles were on loan. Volunteer hosts included Bev and Gerry Boyce, Ernie Pigden and Tom Ransom. Visitors included Harry Price, CNE president, who was very impressed, as indicated in this clipping from *The Intelligencer*..

Later displays included Canada Day 1987 (staffed by Elaine Preston, Adele Dibben, Dr. George Pearce and others) and a 1990 Heritage Day display at the Bayview Mall (staffed by Bernard Wright, Marion Fisher and others).



Fall Days
1.18

HASTINGS COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

HCHS

Recognition

Throughout its history, the Society has recognized other organizations and individuals and has been recognized by them.

Above: In August 1976, the Society co-sponsored a provincial plaque commemorating the Hastings Road. Society participants included Pat Bennett (president), Marten Lewis (Glanmore curator) and Gerry Boyce (speaker).

Left: At its Annual Meeting in Sudbury in 1983, the Ontario Historical Society presented the Scadding Award to our Society "for outstanding contribution to the local society movement" in Ontario. Society president Gerry Boyce then presented a "Good Citizen Award" and copies of the Society's newest book to OHS President Heather Broadbent and Executive Director Dorothy Duncan.

Below: In May 1986, the Ontario Government presented Volunteer Service Awards to several Society members including Gerry Boyce, Alice Deline, Greg Gordon and Betsy Boyce. Many other Society volunteers have been recognized at these annual presentations.

Over the years, the Society has actively worked with schools and sponsored programs for students. In the first year of operation for the Hastings County Museum on Church Street, we welcomed the entire student body of Moira Secondary School on a single day. In the 1980s, thanks in large part to the efforts of George Super and Janet Hoyer, we presented awards for artwork, essays, and models. In May 1987, Director Ann Rowe made presentations to Sherri Ellis and Jason Miller. Recently, we have worked closely with Joe Stafford and his students at St. Theresa Secondary School.

Nov 22
1.19

HASTINGS COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

HCHS

Celebrating FIFTY Years of History 1957-2007

Early Society Tours 1960-1986

The Shannonville Mill was at the centre of the controversial Turton Penn Lease. This dispute between the Canadian Government and the Mohawks of the Bay of Quinte is nearing resolution; however, other local Native land claims remain.

Clockwise from top right:

- **Shannonville Mill, 1960**
- **Madoc Art Centre, 1963**
  (left to right) ? Dorothy Sargent, Art Cole, Mrs. Cole, ? ? T. Dane Martin, ? ? Priscilla Cadwell, ? Roy Cadwell, Helen Sulman
- **Black Creek Pioneer Village, 1986**
  (left to right) Leona Riggs, Katharine Black, Sylvia and Ron Buskard
- **Railway Tour to Cobourg: Barnum House at Grafton, 1964**
- **Tyendinaga Territory with Lennox and Addington Historical Society, 1960:**
  W.A. Dempsey and Dr. Ethel Dempsey in foreground

Nov 22
1.20

HASTINGS COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

HCHS

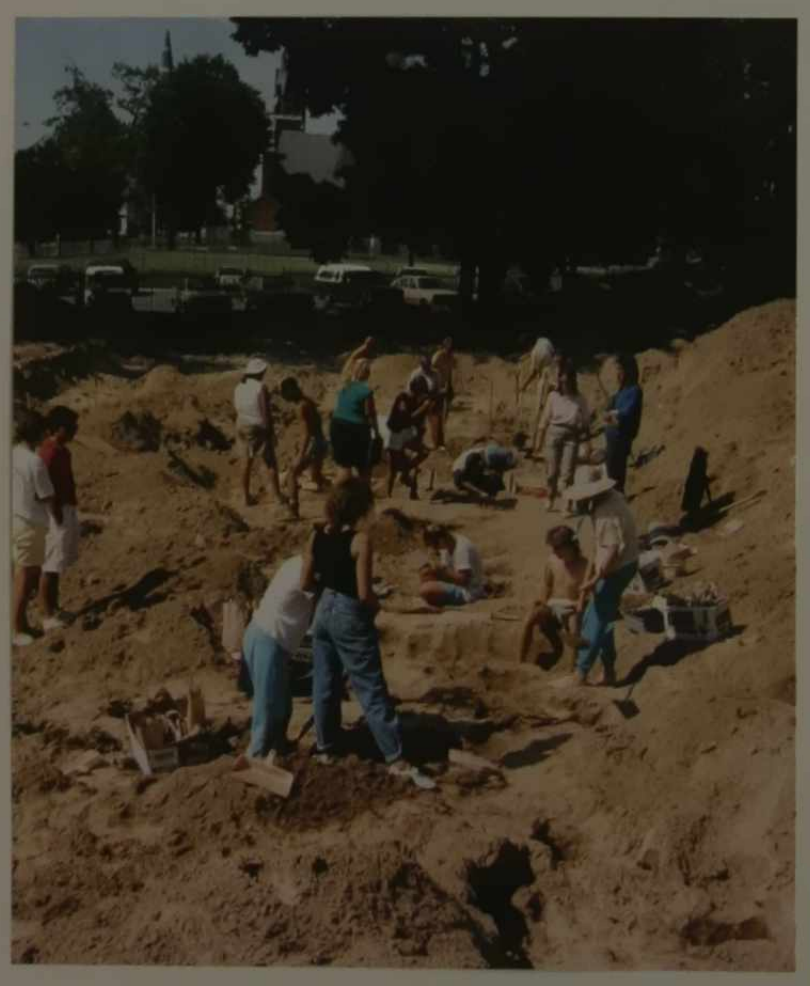
Some Society Contributions

Top to Bottom (LEFT)

1. Celebration of the Centennial of Belleville's Corby Rose Park, 2005, coordinated by Cindy and Tim Fort
2. Tours by Lois Foster of the Corby Bake Shop and residence under Greenleys Book Store
3. Displays for Belleville Winterfest and Canada Day celebrations, (including checker tournaments) in conjunction with Heritage Belleville

Top to Bottom (RIGHT)

4. Open Houses (including one honouring former Archive Angel Joan Douglas)
5. Pictures for books such as the 2006 *Heritage Atlas of Hastings County* (edited by Orland French, seen presenting copy to Sharon White for Hastings Heritage Centre)
6. Support for the St. Thomas' Church Archaeological Project, 1989-1990
7. Cooperation with school groups including Joe Stafford's Renaissance Club at St. Theresa Secondary School, 2006



NW22
1.21

HASTINGS COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

HCHS

Celebrating FIFTY Years of History 1957-2007

Displays at the Hastings County Museum 1961-1964

Clockwise from top right:

- First Display at Museum, September 1961
- T.S. Ransom at Museum Sales Desk, 1964
- Wool winder and pioneer coverlets, September 1961
- Lumber Display with picture of Gilmour Lumber Mill at Trenton, Summer, 1962

NW22
1.22

Opening the 1st Museum
August 9, 1961

This was a great day in the Society's history as members and friends celebrated the opening of the Hastings County Museum in the former Hastings Land Registry Office.
Steel shutters and doors in the 3,000 square-foot building protected the Society's archives, local displays, and the City's Couldery Collection of fine furniture and paintings.

OPENING CEREMONIES 2 p.m.

Chairman . . . . . Mr. Gerald Boyce, President of the Hastings County Historical Society

Greetings from the County of Hastings. . . Warden Harleigh Hamilton (ABOVE)

Greetings from the City of Belleville . . . Mayor A. McLean Haig (LEFT)

Greetings from the Town of Trenton . . . Mayor James MacDonald

Greetings from the Province of Ontario . . Mr. Clarke Rollins, M.L.A.

Following the official ceremonies, the museum will be open to the public until 5 p.m. and again in the evening from 7 to 10.

Prior to the official opening, Society members T. Dane Martin and Bev Boyce readied display cases for the Couldery Collection.

NOV 22
1.23

HASTINGS COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Celebrating FIFTY Years of History 1957-2007

Minutes & Money . . 1957

Hastings County Historical Society

October 1, 1957.

A small group of people met in the City Hall Council Chamber on Tuesday evening, October 1, to discuss the possibilities of proceeding with the organization of a Historical Society for Hastings County.

The meeting was called to order by Mrs. J. Haig, who stated that she felt there was considerable interest throughout the county, if the organization could be once established.

It was moved by Mr. J. Haig, and seconded by Mr. T. G. Wrightmeyer, that a slate of officers be appointed from the group present, to carry on for the time being. Carried.

The temporary slate of officers appointed were- President, Mr. T. G. Wrightmeyer; Vice-President, Mr. K. M. Bird; Secretary, Mrs. M. Robson; Treasurer, Mr. T. Ransom; Publicity Director, Mr. G. Boyce.

It was agreed that we charge a membership fee of $1.00, to help defray some small expenses in connection with advertising, and also because it was felt it might have a psychological value.

Mrs. Haig said she felt sure Mr. Doran of the Recreation Committee would be willing to assist the group, handle a mailing list, etc. The names of several other people and organizations in the county were suggested as being likely to be interested in the formation of the Society.

It was reported that some old books and papers belonging to the late Mr. W. C. Mikel are at present stored in the basement at the Public Library. Miss Campbell and Mr. Boyce agreed to go and sort through them to see if they contained anything of value to the Historical Society.

It was decided to hold a meeting at Shire Hall on October 15, at which time plans were to be made for a public meeting in November. Two suggestions were made for a possible speaker in November - The Rev. Squire - of Consecon, or Mr. Claude Young, of Wellington.

After some further informal discussion, the meeting was adjourned.

Minutes recorded by Veva Robson & Finances by Tom Ransom

HASTINGS COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY
CASH BOOK

TREASURER

① T.S. RANSOM OCT. 2, 1957 –

SPENT

1957				
OCT.	18	QUINTE HISTORICAL SITES ASS'N dues for 1 year.	1	00
NOV.	11	NEWSPAPER AD (1956) MRS. ROBSON	4	26
DEC.	2	NEWSPAPER AD (1957) J. BOYCE	3	48
DEC.		CASH BOOK (TSR)		90
JAN.	25	POSTAGE (BOYCE)	1	86
FEB.	1-8	DISPLAY CARDS FOR FRONT ST. EXHIBIT, ETC.	1	50
FEB.	10	1 COPY "PICTONS 100 YEARS"	1	50
			14	50

RECEIVED	$	33.00
SPENT		14.50
BALANCE TO END 1957 OF FEB. 1958	$	18.50

RECEIVED

1957				
OCT.	2	JACK HAIG	1	00
	2	MRS. J. HAIG	1	00
	2	K.M. BIRD	1	00
	2	MRS. ROBSON	1	00
	2	MISS CAMPBELL	1	00
	2	MRS. BADOUR	1	00
	2	MR. G. BOYCE	1	00
	2	T.G. WRIGHTMEYER	1	00
	2	T.S. RANSOM	1	00
(1958 FOR ASST. PRIZES)	2	MRS. S.C. GENEJA	1	00
OCT.	15	WM. WATSON	1	00
	15	MRS. WM. WATSON	1	00
	15	BERT LOADER	1	00
	16	MRS. K. LOADER	1	00
	15	MRS. K. BIRD	1	00
	15	MISS N. MERRY	1	00
	15	DARBY YOUNG	1	00
	15	HELEN KEELER	1	00
	15	MRS. G. WILLIAMSON	1	00
	15	MR. E. DENYES	1	00
OCT.	23	P. TILL	1	00

RECEIVED

1957				
NOV.	11	HELEN FRALECK	1	00
	11	MRS. R.H. MARTIN	1	00
	11	DR. W.A. PAUL	1	00
	11	MRS. W.A. PAUL	1	00
	11	MRS. HOWARD GRAHAM	1	00
	11	MRS. G. BOYCE	1	00
	11	E. POTTER	1	00
	11	MRS. E. PONTON	1	00
	18	DR. R. SCOTT	1	00
DEC.	27	LEE JOURARD	1	00
	27	MR. W.E. BOYCE	1	00
	27	MRS. W.E. BOYCE	1	00
1958				
JUNE	2	E.J. CHARD STIRLING	1	00
	2	C.S. CHARD STIRLING	1	00
	2	D.W. RODGERS STIRLING	1	00
	28	GERALD BOYCE LIFE MEMB.	25	00
JULY	10	E.N. MOGDEN	1	00
	10	MRS. E.N. MOGDEN	1	00
	4	MISS H. FARLEY (10)	1	00

NOV 22
1.24

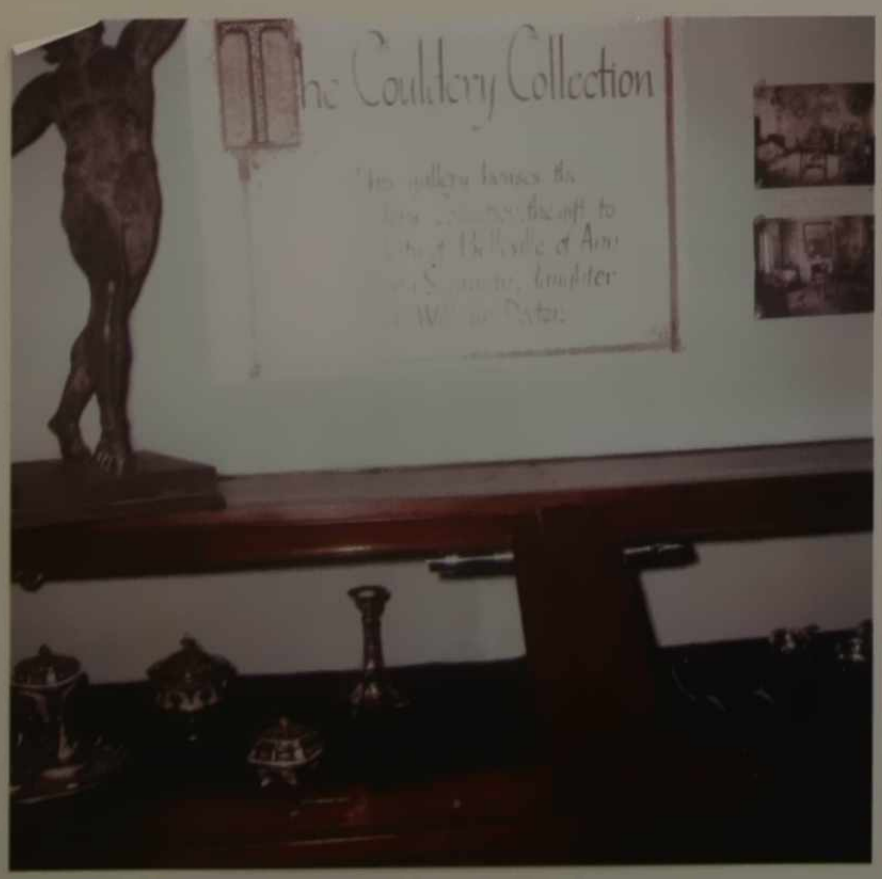
HASTINGS COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

HCHS

The Couldery Collection On the Road & at Home

Rodger Greig and Tom Ransom prepared a display for a show at the Belleville Armouries in 1963.

The display featured the collection's credenza and other furnishings and paintings. In 1963, the City of Belleville's annual contribution to museum operation was $450, the exact amount the city had been paying to store the collection in Trenton.



Other pictures include a newspaper clipping showing Tom and Gerry unpacking part of the collection after its arrival from storage and part of the collection as it appeared for the first time in public in display cases donated by Tom Wrightmeyer, first president of the Society and an antique dealer.

Nov22
1.25

localnews

■ **BELLEVILLE:** To be headquartered at former Irish Hall on Church Street

New community archives in sight

LUKE HENDRY
The Intelligencer

A new community archives is at last in sight.

Belleville council announced last April the city was buying the Irish Hall on the north end of Church Street for $285,000 and, in co-operation with Hastings County and the Hastings County Historical Society (HCHS), creating a new archives facility there.

The city will take possession of the building late in July. Delegates from all three met this week to discuss plans, creating a rough draft of how space will be used.

It means there's now a clear vision of how the much-sought, often-debated archives will look when they open, likely in January 2010.

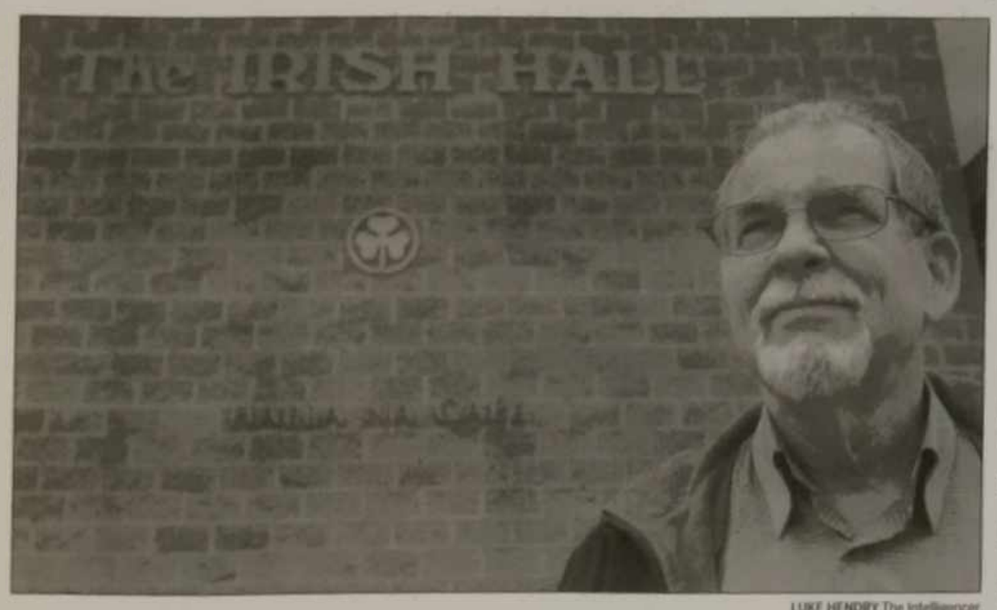
Asked Thursday for his reaction to the plans, HCHS president Orland French laughed, saying a single word: "Finally."

"It's been a long grind ... looking at various buildings and options," added French.

The quest for a new archives building began early in the decade, with the HCHS considering part of the former Belleville Collegiate Institute and Vocational School, the new Belleville Public Library and the former east-end library as possible options.

"Although at first we were upset about not having space in the new library we can see now that it would've been very restrictive," said French. "There would've been no room to expand."

Now, however, there appears to be room to expand both into the Irish Hall's lower floor — if municipal records are ever relocated — or possibly expand the building itself.



LUKE HENDRY The Intelligencer

Orland French, president of the Hastings County Historical Society, stands outside the Irish Hall Thursday. The society, city hall and Hastings County have determined a basic plan for converting the building into a community archives centre.

And more room may well be needed, he said.

"As soon as we get a proper building with a professional archivist I'm sure lots of material will be offered to us."

That follows a trend at other archive centres, he said: once a suitable building is in place, everyone from residents to organizations and government tend to donate items for preservation and reference.

The renovated hall's bottom floor will be reserved for storage of city records, though not necessarily archival material. The larger second floor will house the society's archives and a staff work area.

A meeting room and archivist office will occupy the mezzanine.

Jim Pine, the county's chief administrative officer, has been handling talks for the county. He was out of town and couldn't be reached for comment Thursday, but Steve Hyndman, his city hall counterpart, said all partners are happy with the deal.

"I think everybody understands the importance of recording and properly storing and protecting our archival material," Hyndman said.

"We have an opportunity to put something in place that's going to serve everybody very well, and at long last create something that's going to give archival material its due recognition.

"As documents get older they deteriorate with age — actually, that's true of all of us," he said, laughing.

"We're going to operate the archives as a joint operation shared between the county and the city," said Hyndman. "We will share the expenses in terms of operating the archives on a proportional basis, probably pretty close to 50-50. The building itself is going to do the job very nicely for the next 10 to 20 years."

Hyndman said the city and county must still work out some details of their partnership but that such collaboration isn't uncommon and no problems are expected.

The society, meanwhile, is preparing a fundraising campaign. French said it has healthy cash reserves but will still need help.

"We would be responsible for outfitting it as an archives," said French. The society will need, for example, shelving and computer equipment. The electronics may be bought before the move because it could still be used at the archives' current home, the Hastings Heritage Centre in Cannifton.

"Project 100 will pretty much cover our computer costs," French said. The project raised $10,000 from 100 donors each contributing $100.

That will help the society scan its photos into digital format, eventually making them available via the Internet.

"We have more than a million pictures," French said. "That's a tremendous resource."

The centre will also mean easier, more efficient public access to the society's holdings, he said.

French said more cash donations will be sought. Once photos are available digitally, he said, he hopes to secure a donated big-screen television to be placed in a public venue.

It would be used to screen historical photos and advertise the society, he said.

Funding is also needed for more immediate uses.

"We would like an archivist to be in place to oversee the move," said French.

He said the HCHS will have to raise funds to pay wages for that period, which he estimated at three to four months starting in September. The county and city will fund that salary afterward.

lhendry@intelligencer.ca

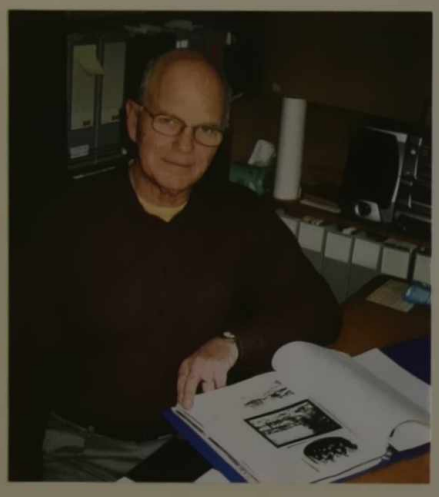
Nov 22
1.26

HASTINGS COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

HCHS

Celebrating FIFTY Years of History 1957-2007

Archive Angels at Work in the Hastings Heritage Centre



Clockwise from top right:

- Bobby Jo Morris and Mary Jane Throop
- Katharine Mills and Beth Green
- Luella Parkhurst and Ruth Boyce
- Marney Black and Diane Sule
- Bill Kennedy

Nov22
1.27

HASTINGS COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

HCHS

Celebrating FIFTY Years of History 1957-2007

Celebrating Authors 1983-1991

THE MCINTOSH-RIDLEY HOUSE
45 South Front Street

The McIntosh-Ridley House on Front Street was highlighted in *Belleville's Heritage Volume 2* and also on the special cake celebrating the publication.

Clockwise from top right:

- **Penny Gordon and Harry Mulhall celebrate *The Intelligencer* (founded 1834), 1984**
- **Mike Peterman, Carl Ballstadt and Elizabeth Hopkins celebrate *Susanna Moodie: Letters of a Lifetime*, 1985**
- **Betsy Boyce, Sheldon Godfrey, Beth Green, Lois Foster and Marion Fisher celebrate Godfrey's biography of George Benjamin, founder of *The Intelligencer*, 1991**
- **Beth Green, Mary McConnell, Elaine Preston, Mary Hall, Shirley Birchard and Lois Foster celebrate the launching of *Belleville's Heritage Volume 2*, 1983**

N1128
1.28

HASTINGS COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

HCHS

Tom Wrightmeyer
1957-1958

Gerry Boyce
1958-1965
1973-1974
1981-1987

Tom Ransom
1965-1966

Rodger Greig
1966-1967

Ed Buckley
1967-1968

Hastings County Historical Society
Presidents, 1957-2007

Tom Wrightmeyer	1957-1958
Gerry Boyce	1958-1965
Tom Ransom	1965-1966
Rodger Greig	1966-1967
Ed Buckley	1967-1968
Bob Porter	1969-1970
Robin Jeffrey	1970
Frank Foley	1971-1972
Gerry Boyce	1973-1974
Judie Preece	1975-1976
Pat Bennett	1976-1979
Bob Brennan	1980
Gerry Boyce	1981-1987
John Anderson	1988-1989
Jack Arthur	1990-1991
Bernard Wright	1992
Leona Hendry	1993-1994
Elizabeth Mitchell	1995-1997
Carson Cross	1998-1999
Hazel Lloyst	2000-2001
Orland French	2002-

NOTE: To be included for a year, a president must have served at least two months in that year. Annual meetings have been held in May, January and November. On some occasions, a president carried on for one or more months beyond his/her elected term until a successor was named. In early years, the president and other executive members were elected directly by the general membership at the Annual Meeting. More recently, the president and other officers have been elected by the directors who had been elected by the general membership at the Annual Meeting.

Can You Supply a Picture ?

Bob Porter
1969-1970

Robin Jeffrey
1970

Frank Foley
1971-1972

Judie Preece
1975-1976

Pat Bennett
1976-1979

Bob Brennan
1980

John Anderson
1988-1989

Jack Arthur
1990-1991

Bernard Wright
1992

Leona Hendry
1993-1994

Elizabeth Mitchell
1995-1997

Carson Cross
1998-1999

Hazel Lloyst
2000-2001

Orland French
2002-20??

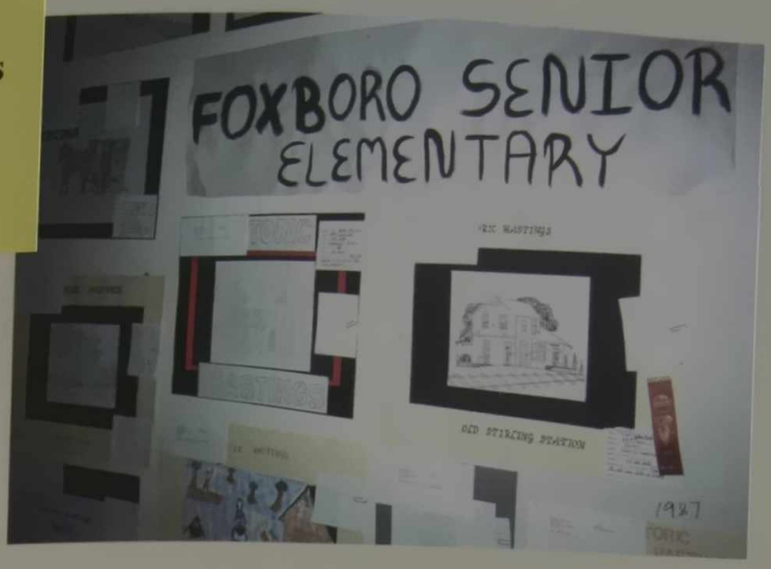
Nov 22
1,29

HASTINGS COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

HCHS

Celebrating FIFTY Years of History 1957-2007

Award Winning Artwork by Hastings Students



Clockwise from top right:

- **Foxboro Senior Public School, 1987**
- **Kerrie Widdifield, Foxboro Senior P.S.**
- **Cheryl Stewart, Foxboro Senior P.S., 1983**
- **Taryl Kramp, Madoc Public School, 1985**
- **Lucinda Donaldson, Trenton High School, 1984**

Nov 22
1.30

HASTINGS COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Heritage Buildings . . . Are they still there?

Without the efforts of the Hastings County Historical Society and its members, these historic buildings and monuments would not be there:

4. The Stone Building on Station Street
In the 1980s, a Society committee (Bob Brennan, Greg Gordon and Don Kellaway) was responsible for arranging for essential repairs that kept the building from collapsing. Later, the Quinte Construction Association carried out a major renovation.

5. The 'Riverboat' House
Bridge Street West
Working with the Architectural Conservancy of Ontario, the Society persuaded Brian Magee and Teddington Ltd. to purchase and renovate this important building.

6. The Billa Flint House
Coleman Street
Thanks to the discovery by Lois Foster of our Building Structures Committee that the office for the former lock/hardware company on this site had been the home of noted 19th century Belleville businessman and politician Billa Flint Jr., Brian Magee and Teddington Ltd. preserved the structure.

7. The Filliter Building
Front Street
Slated for demolition to provide more access to Riverfront parking, this building was saved after Society supporters and Heritage Belleville lobbied city council. Today, Boretski Family businesses occupy the historic building, an important part of the Front Street façade.

Nov 22
1.31

HASTINGS COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

HCHS

Hastings Heritage Centre
Official Opening
September 10, 2001

George Benjamin and Susanna Moodie (aka Lee and Eleanor Jourard) were on hand to welcome guests as the Hastings Heritage Centre opened its doors (actually lifted the bar on the toll gate on the front steps). President Hazel Lloyst Shaw and Quinte West Councillor Ron Hamilton were among the dignitaries participating.

The function of the Heritage Centre is to "Serve the Public". Researchers in 2007 included genealogists from the Cobourg Probus Club and researchers from the local Children's Aid Society (celebrating its centennial in 2007.

NW22
1.32

HASTINGS COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

HCHS

Celebrating FIFTY Years of History 1957-2007

Archive Angels at the Hastings Heritage Centre

Clockwise from top right:

- **Archive Angels modelling their new shirts, 2006**
  (left to right) Luella Parkhurst, Gerry Boyce, Katharine Mills, Marion Fisher, Lois Foster, Bill Kennedy, Mary Jane Throop, Bobby Jo Morris, Marney Black
- **Beth Green**
- **Archive Angels and Advisors, 2001**
  *(left to right)*Rona Rustige (Glanmore), Marion Fisher, Mary McConnell, Katharine Mills, Marcia Lovering, Adele Dibben, Mary Jane Throop, Betsy Boyce, Lois Foster, Beth Green, Luella Parkhurst
- **Archive Angels, 2001**
  *(left to right)*Luella Parkhurst, Adele Dibben, Lewis Zandbergen, Gerry Boyce, Lois Foster

NOV 22
1.33

Celebrating FIFTY Years of History . . . The Hastings County Historical Society 1957-2007

Chris Malette, City Editor, 962-9171, ext. 211

INTELLIGENCER PHOTO BY LUKE HENDRY

Orland French is president of the Hastings County Historical Society. He is shown here in the cramped, musty aisles of the current Hastings County archives in the former Thurlow municipal office.

April 3-8 is Archives Week in Ontario, but Hastings has little to celebrate say archivists

Our archives — history without a home

By Orland French
SPECIAL TO THE INTELLIGENCER

Anyone who has lived in a house for more than a couple of decades knows how much personal "archival" material can gather up. Photos, letters, deeds, certificates, legal documents, important family papers. Where to store it all for future generations?

Imagine, then, the amount of historically significant material which has accumulated in the homes of all the people who have lived in Belleville and Hastings County over the past 225 years. Where to store it all?

A public archives centre would be a good place, if we had one.

Since the first week of April is Archives Awareness Week, I'd like this historically significant area to be aware that we don't have an appropriate archives for our community records.

The Hastings County Historical Society, thanks to the meticulous work done by historian Gerry Boyce and a host of volunteers, maintains a reasonable archives in the Heritage Centre in the old Thurlow Township Hall. We're doing the best we can in an antique building designed for other purposes, and our collection is steadily growing. Want to see for yourself?

Visit us during our Archives Awareness Open House on Monday, April 3, from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m at 154 Cannifton Rd. North in Cannifton. (Special presentations on "What is an Archives?" are planned for 2 p.m. and 3 p.m.)

The Society's archives had a humble beginning in 1957 when they occupied a linen closet in an upstairs apartment on George Street. At times they have occupied space at the Belleville Corby Public Library, the Hastings County Museum on Church Street, Glanmore and Sir James Whitney School.

After the Society acquired space in the former Thurlow Township Hall on Cannifton Road, the paper files were moved from the library (2003) and the picture collection from Glanmore (2004) as the Society consolidated its collection.

However, the building not only lacks the controlled atmospheric amenities of a proper archives but is also a haven for homeless mice, bats and voles. And, as our collection grows, we are gradually being squeezed for space. It is with sad delight and reflection that we gaze with envy on new archival facilities constructed in other municipalities, particularly in a number of counties in central and western Ontario.

The wonderfully named Grey Roots Centre in Grey County, near Owen Sound, is a model combination of an archives and heritage museum. The same in Peel County, and Dufferin, and Halton. Simcoe County, with its strong innate interest in history, operates a large and publicly financed archives centre, open daily, next to its museum just north of Barrie.

We, on the other hand, were unable to secure even a modest 2,000 square feet in a brand-new library building in the heart of Belleville. Even though, we are told, the library will have plenty of unused book space for years to come, there was no space for an archives. Some specialists in archives suggest that archives and libraries are not a good mix, but this message has been ignored in Ottawa where the national library and national archives have amalgamated as Library and Archives Canada.

We are not alone in our search for a new facility. Stuff gathers. The Archives of Ontario, the largest provincial archives in Canada with a collection valued at more than $400 million, has called for proposals to create a 90,000-square-foot archives in a new or renovated structure.

It's obvious that the Historical Society cannot afford to construct or lease a new archives centre on its own. We simply don't have the money. Yet we provide a public service as the keepers of the treasury of archival material that has built up over 200 years in Hastings County.

Our collection of photos (more than 50,000), letters, maps and other documents are the Society's private collection but available to the public. That's the point of preserving them. We also house City of Belleville and Hastings County archival documents which have been turned over to us for safe-keeping.

At the moment, we are negotiating with the City of Belleville and the County of Hastings for a new home. Those municipalities, in turn, have a need for an appropriate records storage and retention centre to meet the demands of the municipal act. Last year, consultants were brought in to conduct a needs assessment study of our requirements. None of the three parties scored particularly well for their current storage facilities.

The current corporate business plan under discussion at city hall proposes the construction of a new archives and records storage facility sometime through 2007-2009. A renovated Memorial Arena is suggested as a possible location. Well, maybe, but this solution should be approached with caution.

Well-intentioned people will suggest historic structures as appropriate locations for the archives. Yet archivists will tell you that a modern environmentally controlled box building in an industrial park is preferable to a drafty, leaky historic old building. We've already got that, thanks.

Too often, the current library building has been mentioned as a good home for the archives. No, it isn't. If it isn't good enough for a library, it isn't good enough to preserve the permanent, historic records of this community. It is an old stone building, bastardized by unflattering (read hideous) additions over the years, with multiple levels of floors and water running through the basement. If we wanted running water in the basement, we'd stay where we are in Cannifton.

If we wanted to think really big in this community, and I include Hastings County, we would be dreaming of a Heritage Centre which would incorporate the archives and a heritage museum. Tourism focused on heritage and history is a growing business yet we lack a historical centre or museum which presents a comprehensive window on our heritage.

Glanmore is an excellent museum and national historic site depicting a particular period of prosperity in a select slice of society. There are impressive special interest museums (agriculture in Stirling, military in Trenton) and fine local museums in Tweed, Bancroft and Madoc. But nowhere is the complete story of Quinte/Hastings available for our own residents and for visitors.

A heritage museum and archives centre is a dream which others have accomplished. A more realistic immediate possibility is that the City of Belleville, the County of Hastings and possibly other municipalities could start towards this goal by combining their resources to create a records retention and archival centre.

Meanwhile, we're doing the best we can to secure and preserve your historical documents with limited resources in a humble old building.

SUBMITTED PHOTO

Peel Region's archives are housed in this handsome limestone edifice — the former county jail.

SUBMITTED PHOTO

Halton Region houses its archives in this century old barn that has been given a $2 million upgrade.

SUBMITTED PHOTO

Haldimand Norfolk's archives and museum is housed in this brown barn board structure.

SUBMITTED PHOTO

The Dufferin County Museum and Archives, located on Highway 10 near Shelburne, houses archives and agricultural artifacts in a silo.

Nov 22
1.34

HASTINGS COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

HCHS

Celebrating FIFTY Years of History . . . The Hastings County Historical Society 1957-2007

INTELLIGENCER PHOTO BY W. BRICE MCVICAR

Sharon White, a professional archivist, goes through old photograph books at the Hastings County Historical Society's Heritage Centre in Canniffon. Councillors from Belleville, Quinte West and Hastings County were invited to the site Thursday in an effort for society members to show the need for a new building.

Heritage Centre not conducive to preserving historical documents: French

Hastings' history needs a home

By W. Brice McVicar
The Intelligencer

Orland French's mood reflected the building he stood in early Thursday afternoon — gloomy, a little run down and not very impressive.

French, president of the Hastings County Historical Society, was one of many of the society's members who patiently waited for local politicians to visit the society's headquarters in Canniffon. An open house at the Heritage Centre was intended to showcase the need for proper archive space in the region but instead it turned out to be a long session of members talking amongst themselves.

The society extended an invitation to 16 politicians from Quinte West, Belleville and Hastings County to visit the site but only two — Coun. Garnet Thompson from Belleville and Quinte West Mayor John Williams — showed up.

"To say that I'm unimpressed would be an understatement," French said. "I guess the lesson of it all would be that we've got a long way to go."

It's a battle the society is accustomed to fighting as the drive for appropriate space has been underway for a number of years. The 1,400-square-foot building on Canniffon Road North is small, damp, cramped and in no way appropriate to house historical items.

French said the summer months are particularly tough at the centre as humidity levels increase adding to the possibility that important documents could be damaged. Add problems of mice, bats, spiders, "rivers of water flowing through the basement" and more and you've got a need for a new building, he said.

"The historical records of Hastings County and the City of Belleville are here. It's not good. It's not good at all."

Sharon White, a professional archivist and a director with the Historical Society, said the city is overlooking an important law when it comes to the records housed in the building.

"The new Municipal Act does require municipalities to have ongoing responsibility for their records and provide access to them," she said. "People can access them here but this is not adequate to providing public access."

White said when one considers the importance of the documents the society looks after, there is no reason a more suitable location could not be found. She said there is a chance some of these papers could be damaged due to the state of the building.

"I'm not from this area but when I came here I was inspired by the history and heritage. It'd be great if all of that was available to the public," she said.

French said he, too, had been hoping to do some inspiring, but he was hoping to inspire politicians to think about a new location for the society. A better facility would not only permit the society to properly handle and store all materials, but it would also result in an expanded collection as people would be more comfortable handing in materials.

The lack of attendance at the open house, French said, was indicative of something else which is missing.

"There's a lack of interest. I think the potential is there, you just have to have the will," he said.

Thompson, who visited the centre only moments after the open house began, said he knows the facility is not appropriate.

"I'm here because of the value the society is providing. I don't think we're conscious of the value they're always providing," he said.

Thompson said the collective councils need to discuss the necessity for a new building.

"We need to look at whether we can provide a different building for them but that has to be in conjunction with the county and Quinte West."

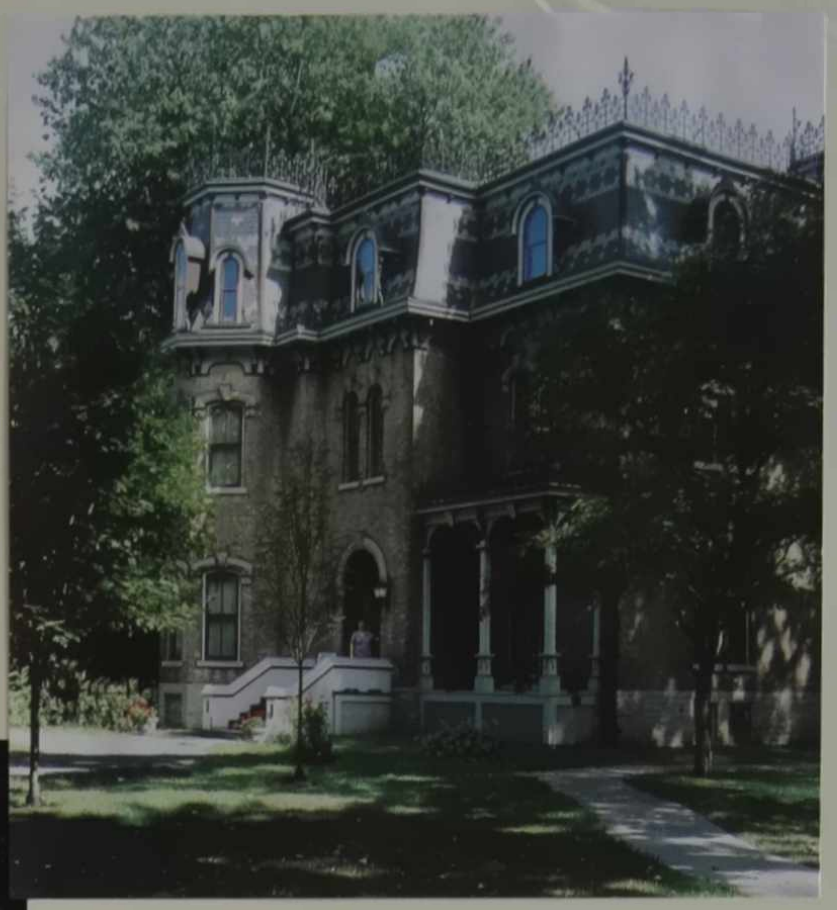
INTELLIGENCER PHOTO BY W. BRICE MCVICAR

Belleville city Coun. Garnet Thompson was one of two local politicians who attended an open house at the Hastings County Historical Society's Heritage Centre in Canniffon on Thursday. Organizers noted the turnout among politicians was next to nil despite 16 invitations being extended.

1.35

HASTINGS COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Heritage Buildings . . . Are they still there?



Without the efforts of the Hastings County Historical Society and its members, these historic buildings and monuments would not be there:

1. **Glanmore National Historic Site**
   Bridge Street East
   Under the leadership of President Robin Jeffrey, the Society persuaded the City of Belleville, the County of Hastings and Parks Canada to arrange for the purchase of Glanmore to serve as the new Hastings County Museum.

2. **McIntosh-Ridley House**
   South Front Street
   The Society fought to prevent demolition, persuaded City Council to designate the property, and helped find a buyer. Compare the 2007 view with the 1983 view with Rodger and Mary Greig. Rodger described it as potentially "Belleville's most beautiful building".

3. **The Loyalist 'Log Cabin' Monument**
   Corner of Front and Dundas streets (c.1985 and 2007 views)
   The Society overcame opposition from several groups and persuaded City Council and the Parrott Foundation to preserve this historic 1924 monument. Compare the current view with the earlier view.

NEWZ
01.3b

HASTINGS COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

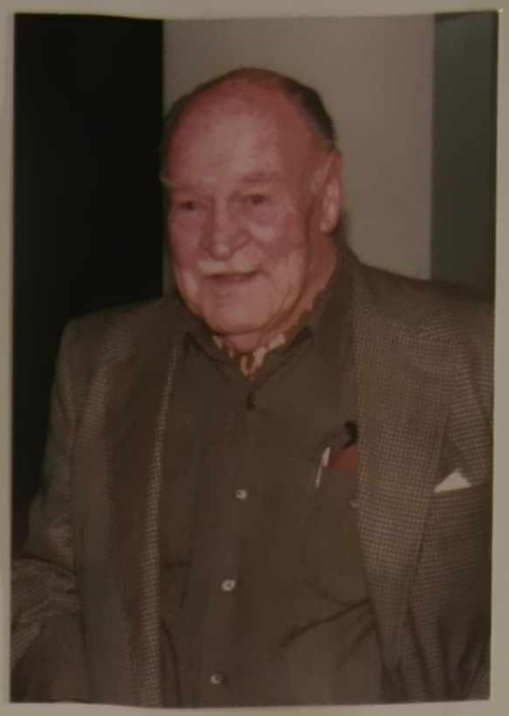
Our First Executive

On October 1, 1957, Irene Haig chaired the meeting in Belleville City Hall Council Chambers that elected the society's first executive.

Although Irene chose not to run for any office, she could be regarded as the principal founder of the society, since she publicized the need for a society through her column in *The Intelligencer* and her regular radio program on CJBQ, the "Voice of the Bay of Quinte" then at 1230 on the dial.

Moreover, she helped arrange the financing for the ads announcing the meeting. The City's Recreation Commission (under the direction of Lloyd 'Red' Doran) picked up the tab.

Her husband, John Haig, was another strong supporter of the society in its early years.



Tom Wrightmeyer
This Belleville antique dealer agreed to serve as the first president.
Below, he is shown with his infant daughter, Bobbie, now a life member of the Society.

Irene Haig
Known in the media as Harriett Stevens, she could be regarded as the Society's Founder.

Ken Bird
The first vice-president of the Society, he was An elementary school principal.

It is interesting to note that members of the first executive were all acclaimed to office. There were no hard-fought battles to win election.

The same has been true since 1957. There have been no bitterly fought contests between members running for office. In fact, a few individuals were not even members when they were elected. However, they joined immediately thereafter.

"A lethargic meeting of a dozen people interested in the formation of a Hastings County Historical Society to-night at City Hall. Afterwards, coffee with Ransom, reviewed some photostat surveys of early Belleville, etc."

from the journal of a participant at the founding meeting, Tuesday, October 1, 1957

Gerry Boyce
The first public relations officer, he was a teacher at Quinte Secondary and remains active in 2007 as the Society's Heritage Advisor.

Veva Robson
The first secretary of the Society, she later wrote a history of Victoria Avenue Baptist Church.

Tom Ransom
The first treasurer of the Society, he was a Belleville surveyor and, later, a professor in a community college. In 2007, he lives in retirement in Toronto.

MNJ22
1.37

Archive Angels

Marney Black
Genealogical Records

Laurel Bishop
Library

Gerry Boyce
Planning and Pest Control

Ruth Boyce
Special Collections

Adele Dibben
Picture Archives

Donna Fano
Scanning and Photography

Lois Foster
Land Records and Genealogical Research

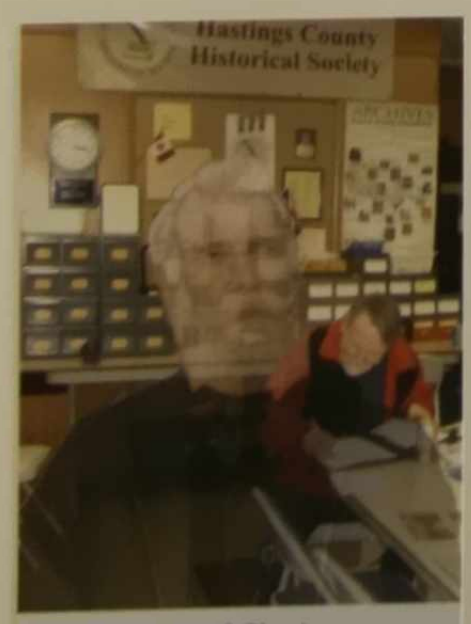
Lorna Garbutt
Intell Negative Collection

Beth Green
Special Inquiries

Bill Kennedy
Outlook Editor

Katharine Mills
Newspaper and Maps

Luella Parkhurst
Special Projects



HCHS Ghost
Archive Haunter

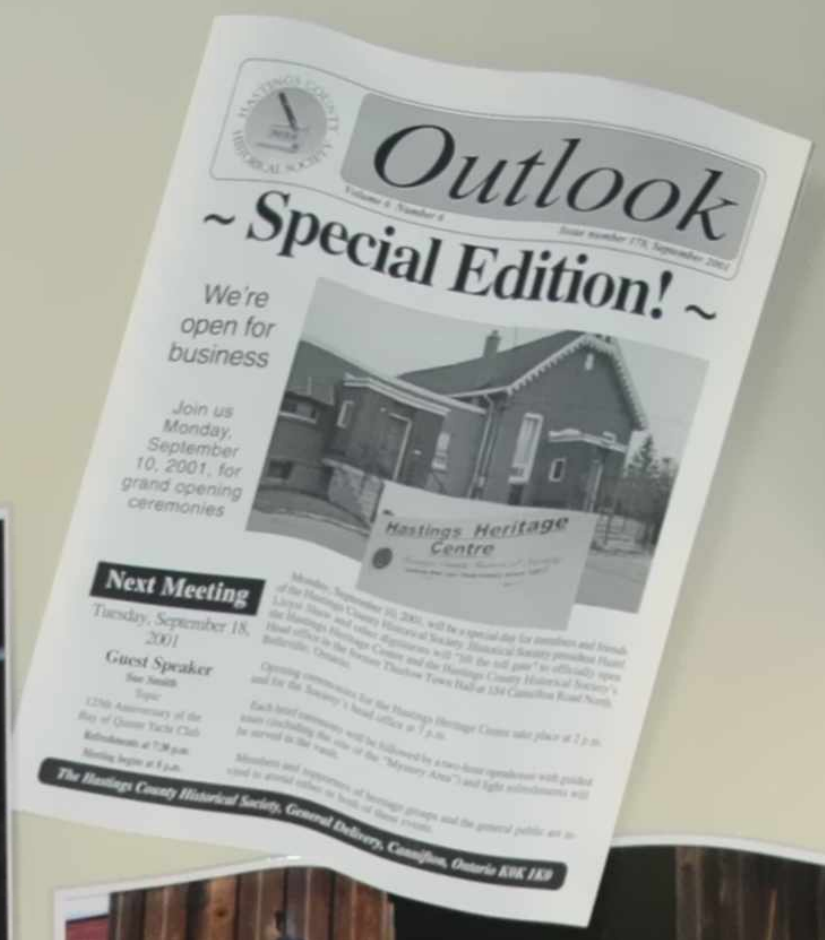
Diane Sule
Historical Society Documents

Mary Jane Throop
Planning, Accession and Cataloguing

Mousey
Paper Shredder

Nov 22
1.39

Heritage Centre Opening



Hastings County Historical Society

Outlook

~ Special Edition! ~

We're open for business

Join us Monday, September 10, 2001, for grand opening ceremonies

Hastings Heritage Centre

Next Meeting

Tuesday, September 18, 2001

Guest Speaker

Sue Smith

Topic:

125th Anniversary of the Bay of Quinte Yacht Club

Refreshments at 7:30 p.m.

Meeting begins at 8 p.m.

Monday, September 10, 2001, will be a special day for members and friends of the Hastings County Historical Society. Historical Society president Hazel Lloyd Shaw and other dignitaries will "lift the toll gate" to officially open the Hastings Heritage Centre and the Hastings County Historical Society's Head office in the former Thurlow Town Hall at 334 Camelford Road North, Belleville, Ontario.

Opening ceremonies for the Hastings Heritage Centre take place at 2 p.m. and for the Society's head office at 7 p.m.

Each brief ceremony will be followed by a two-hour open house with guided tours (including the site of the "Mystery Area") and light refreshments will be served in the vault.

Members and supporters of heritage groups and the general public are invited to attend either or both of these events.

The Hastings County Historical Society, General Delivery, Canniffton, Ontario K0K 1K0

Official Openings of the
Hastings Heritage Centre (2 p.m.) **&**
Head Office of the Hastings County Historical Society (7 p.m.)
Monday, September 10, 2001
in the former Thurlow Town Hall
Belleville, Ontario

1. Distribution of Programs/Toll Passes and Newspapers by 'George Benjamin' (founder of *The Intelligencer*) and 'Susanna Moodie' (noted author) to celebrate these official openings
2. Official Welcome and Opening Remarks from Hazel Shaw, President of the Hastings County Historical Society
3. Greetings from Governments (2 p.m.)
   - Mayor George Zegouras ..... Belleville
   - Councillor Ron Hamilton ..... Quinte West
   - Ernie Parsons, M.P.P. ..... Ontario
   - Hon. Lyle Vanclief, P.C., M.P. ..... Canada
   - Other Messages
4. Greetings from the Heritage Community (7 p.m.)
   - Jean Murray Cole, 2nd Vice President ..... Ontario Historical Society
5. 'Lifting the Toll Gate'
6. Open House with tours (including the site of the "Mystery Area") and light refreshments (served in the vault) courtesy of our sponsors

The Society thanks the **Sponsors** of these events

Essence Communications Group	44 Moira St. West
Billa Flint Publications	64 Plaza Square
Wallbridge House Publishing	246 Albert Street
Wilsons Carpetland	Highway # 62

Lee and Eleanor Jourard and The Belleville Theatre Guild

1. **Hastings County Historical Society President Hazel Shaw and the Hon. Lyle Vanclief, MP, at toll gate (left)**

2. **George Benjamin and Susanna Moodie – aka Lee and Eleanor Jourard (above)**

3. **Society President Hazel Shaw; Larry McCormick, MP; President Ian Reilly of the 7th Town Historical Society; the Hon. Lyle Vanclief, MP; and Ernie Parsons, MPP (below)**

1,40

The Hastings Heritage Centre

1. The Hastings County Historical Society leases its quarters in the former Thurlow Town Hall from the City of Belleville. The City uses the Great Hall and other areas in the building for storing its own records.

2. The floor plan shows the layout of the building. The *Mystery Area* greatly puzzled the survey team who found that their measurements did not work out.

3. The Town Hall was erected in 1873. For several years the Moira River Conservation Authority leased the northern section of the building for its offices.

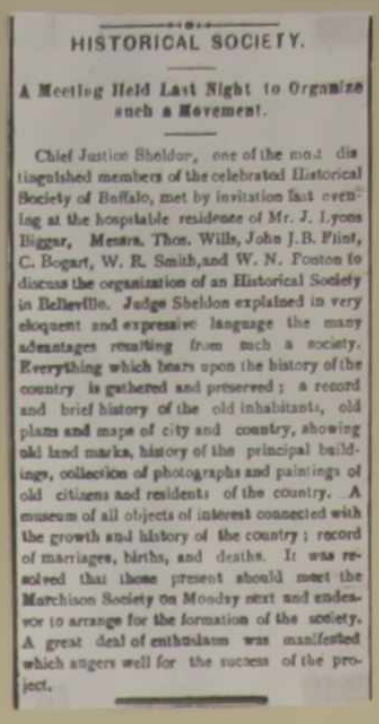
4. Volunteers look after the Society's materials in the Heritage Centre.

5. The Society also maintains extensive manuscript and clipping files in the Canadiana Room of the Belleville Public Library and picture and map collections in Glanmore.

1.41

The Hastings County Historical Society

1. There were attempts to form an historical society in Hastings County more than a century ago, as evidenced by this 1884 news item concerning the visit to Belleville of an American judge.

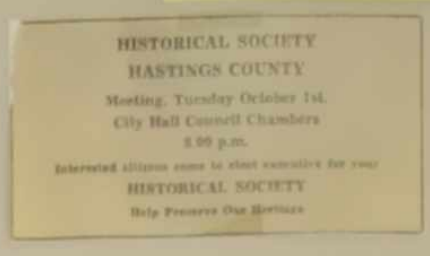


HISTORICAL SOCIETY.

A Meeting Held Last Night to Organize such a Movement.

Chief Justice Sheldon, one of the most distinguished members of the celebrated Historical Society of Buffalo, met by invitation last evening at the hospitable residence of Mr. J. Lyons Bigger, Messrs. Thos. Wills, John J.B. Flint, C. Bogart, W. R. Smith, and W. N. Poston to discuss the organization of an Historical Society in Belleville. Judge Sheldon explained in very eloquent and expressive language the many advantages resulting from such a society. Everything which bears upon the history of the country is gathered and preserved; a record and brief history of the old inhabitants, old plans and maps of city and country, showing old land marks, history of the principal buildings, collection of photographs and paintings of old citizens and residents of the country. A museum of all objects of interest connected with the growth and history of the country; record of marriages, births, and deaths. It was resolved that those present should meet the Marchison Society on Monday next and endeavor to arrange for the formation of the society. A great deal of enthusiasm was manifested which augers well for the success of the project.

2. The Hastings County Historical Society was organized at a meeting in Belleville City Council Chamber on October 1, 1957, following this ad paid for by the Belleville Parks & Recreation Department.



HISTORICAL SOCIETY
HASTINGS COUNTY
Meeting, Tuesday October 1st.
City Hall Council Chambers
8.00 p.m.
Interested citizens come to elect executive for your
HISTORICAL SOCIETY
Help Preserve Our Heritage

4. The Society has organized more than 350 public meetings and celebrations. Former Society presidents and other dignitaries attended our 30th Birthday Party in 1987

3. The Society has been active in many ways. For a dozen years after 1961, the Society operated the Hastings County Museum in the former County Registry Office on Church Street, on behalf of Hastings County, Belleville, and Trenton.

HASTINGS COUNTY
HISTORICAL SOCIETY
and MUSEUM
196 Season

Hastings County Museum
Belleville

VISIT THE
HASTINGS
COUNTY
MUSEUM
240 CHURCH ST.
BESIDE THE COURTHOUSE
BELLEVILLE ~ ONTARIO
OPEN MONDAY to FRIDAY 7~10 PM
TUESDAY WEDNESDAY THURSDAY SATURDAY SUNDAY 2~5 PM
~ SEE THE ~
COULDERY
GALLERY
OF EUROPEAN ANTIQUES
SEE THE LOCAL EXHIBITS
from ~ HOME ~ FARM ~ SCHOOL
ADMISSION ~ 25¢
CHILDREN ~ UNDER 14
WITH ADULTS ~ FREE
SEASON: AUG. 9 to DEC. 10, 1961

5. The Society led the movement to preserve Glanmore and operated the site for several years on behalf of Belleville and Hastings County.

6. This Society committee maintains our collection of almost 10,000 pictures.

1.42

1.43

Society Publications

THE REBELLION IN HASTINGS

a new look at the 1837 - 38 Rebellion in Hastings County, based on the Rebellion Losses claims of 1845

BETSY BOYCE

1987
Hastings County Historical Society
P.O. Box 1418, Belleville, Ontario
K8N 5J1

Second Edition
ISBN 0-921385-12-9

The Intelligencer Extra.

EVENING EDITION.

BELLEVILLE, FRIDAY, JUNE 1st, 1866.

The Intelligencer Extra

Reeve of Fort Erie shot

Several Wounded!

Fenians Marching on Port Colborne.

Telegraph Lines cut!

10th Royals left for the Frontier.

R. R. Bridge Burned.

Royal Artillery gone to the Front.

Fenians Plundering!

Feninas Marching on Suspension Bridge.

Since 1957 the Hastings County Historical Society has assisted in the publication of several books and pamphlets, as well as hundreds of newspaper columns. Among the publications not illustrated on this panel are *Historic Hastings* (1967), *Hutton of Hastings* (1972), and *Sidney Township 1790-1990* (1990).

THE COVERED BRIDGE AT TRENTON

GERALD E. BOYCE

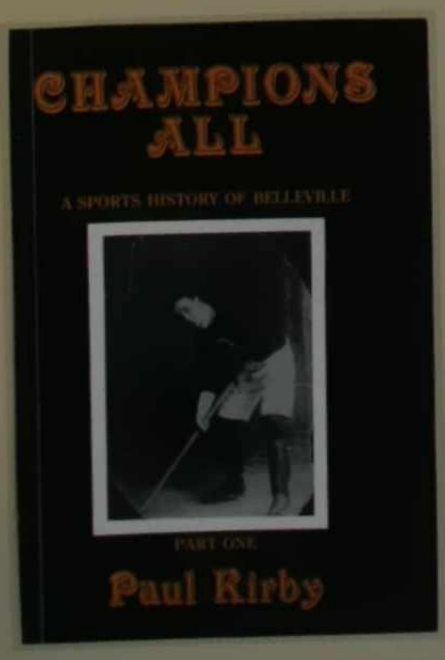
HASTINGS COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

PUBLISHED ON THE OCCASION OF TRENTON'S CENTENNIAL AS A TOWN 1860-1960

Belleville's Heritage

Volume II

published by
HASTINGS COUNTY
HISTORICAL SOCIETY



CHAMPIONS ALL

A SPORTS HISTORY OF BELLEVILLE

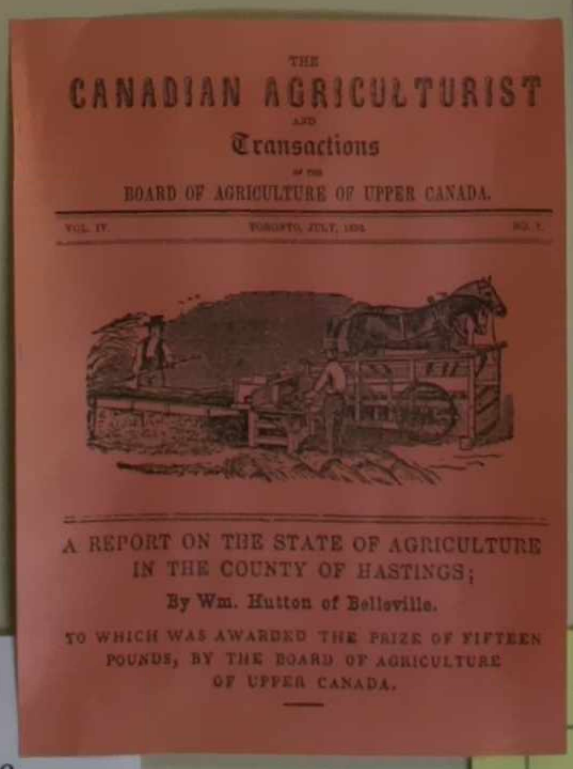
PART ONE

Paul Kirby

Belleville's Heritage

A PARTIAL INVENTORY OF OLD BUILDINGS

Published By
THE HASTINGS COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY



THE CANADIAN AGRICULTURIST AND Transactions OF THE BOARD OF AGRICULTURE OF UPPER CANADA.

VOL. IV. TORONTO, JULY, 1852. NO. 7.

A REPORT ON THE STATE OF AGRICULTURE IN THE COUNTY OF HASTINGS;

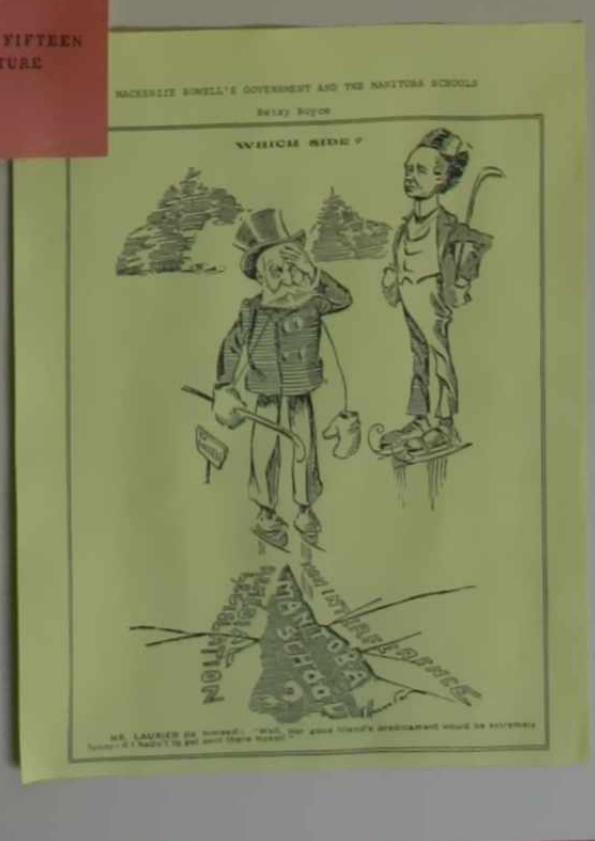
By Wm. Hutton of Belleville.

TO WHICH WAS AWARDED THE PRIZE OF FIFTEEN POUNDS, BY THE BOARD OF AGRICULTURE OF UPPER CANADA.

The Gilmour Influence

by Andrew McDonald

Hastings County Historical Society

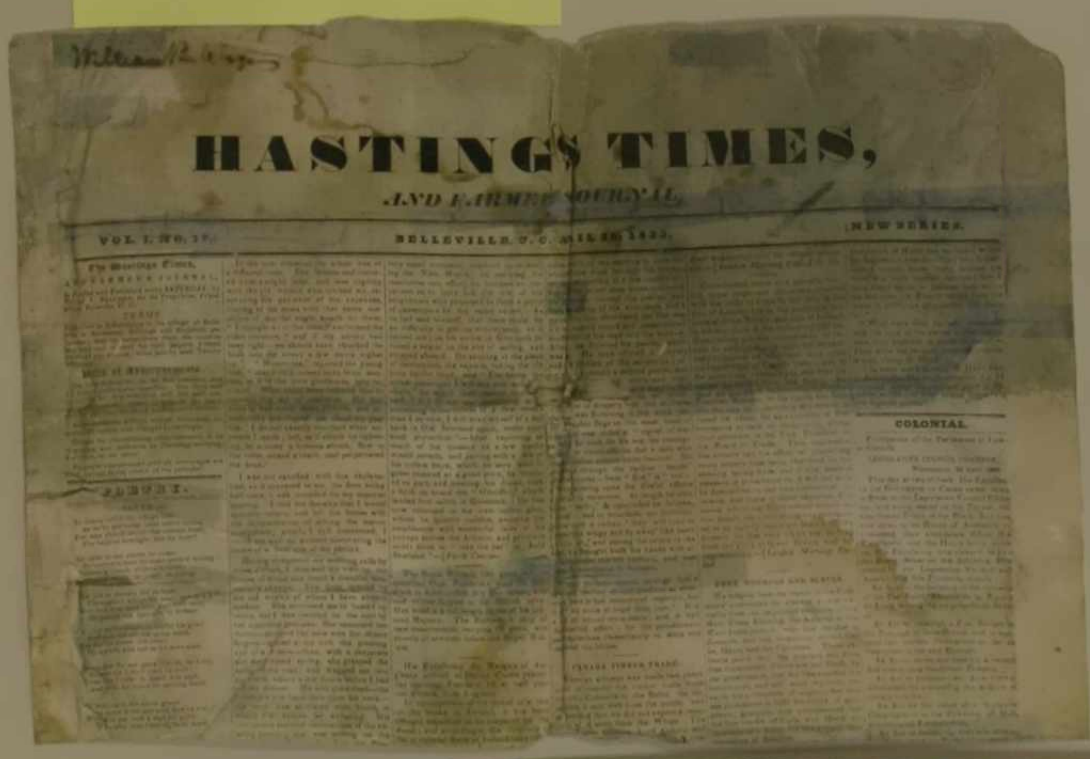


The Newspaper Collection

1. The Hastings Heritage Centre houses an extensive collection of original County newspapers. They came from the Mikas, the County Court House, the County Clerk's Office, and other donors. Many copies are not found elsewhere. Prominent local publishers included Sir Mackenzie Bowell, M.P. for North Hastings for many years and Canada's fifth Prime Minister (1894-1896).

UPPER CANADA HERALD.

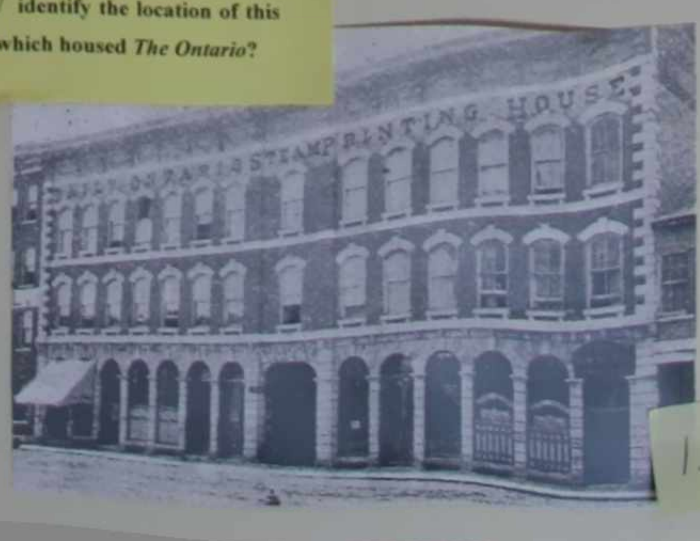
2. The *Upper Canada Herald* (Kingston) contained an ad for the Marmora Iron Works on Nov. 19, 1822.


HASTINGS TIMES,

3. The earliest extant Belleville paper is the *Hastings Times* of April 20, 1833. The ads paint a vivid picture of local life at the time.

4. The *Intelligencer* was founded in 1834 by George Benjamin, the subject of a highly readable biography by Sheldon & Judith Godfrey published in 1991.

5. *The Ontario* was another prominent 19th Century paper. It amalgamated with the *Intelligencer* in 1930. Can *YOU* identify the location of this building which housed *The Ontario*?



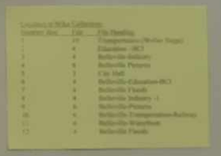
1.44

The Mika Picture Collection

Local Scenes from the collection of some 10,000 pictures highlighting Hastings County, the United Empire Loyalists, Canadian Railroads and other subjects

Pictures are arranged chronologically starting clockwise from the top left corner.

1. Weller Stage Line (York to Kingston) 1829
2. Belleville Grammar School c. 1860
3. Belleville lumber mills (west of Moira) c.1860
4. Front Street showing street railway and Rathbun Lumber Mill on island c. 1880
5. City Hall and Market Square c. 1905
6. Belleville High School c. 1920
7. Belleville Flood (Coleman & Bridge) 1936
8. Corbin Lock Company (Coleman St.) c. 1950
9. Belleville Police Station (Market Square) 1963
10. Railway Week in Belleville May 1964
11. Bay of Quinte Yacht Club c. 1975
12. Flooding in Belleville 1981



1.45

The Mika Collection

HASTINGS COUNTY
HISTORICAL SOCIETY

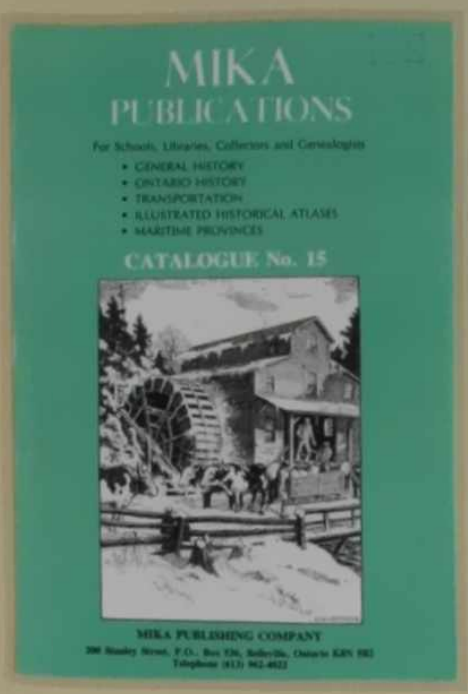
GOOD CITIZEN AWARD

TO MIKA PUBLISHING COMPANY

FOR PRESERVING & CELEBRATING OUR HERITAGE

PRESIDENT

SECRETARY


MIKA
PUBLICATIONS

For Schools, Libraries, Collectors and Genealogists

- GENERAL HISTORY
- ONTARIO HISTORY
- TRANSPORTATION
- ILLUSTRATED HISTORICAL ATLASES
- MARITIME PROVINCES

CATALOGUE No. 15

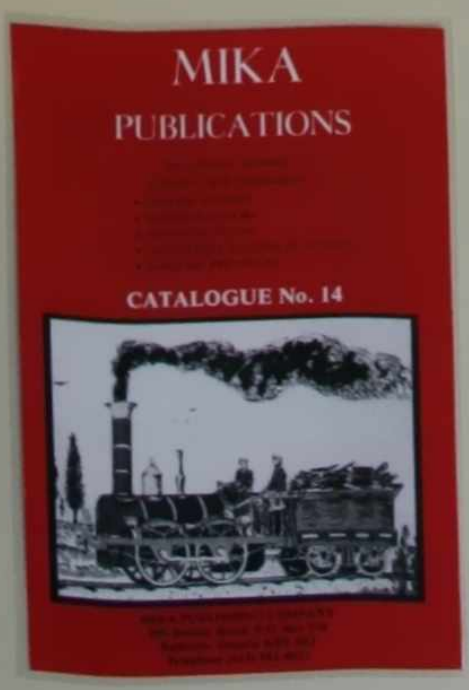
MIKA PUBLISHING COMPANY

1. The Hastings Heritage Centre houses the extensive Mika Collection of several thousand pictures, clippings, and manuscript items. The Mikas – Nick and Helma – were the founders of Mika Publishing Company and published dozens of original and reprinted local histories.

2. Illustrations in the Mikas' early books were silk-screened, a very time-consuming and expensive procedure. Their printed catalogues and book dust jackets often featured art by the Mikas and their talented associates.

3. On June 4, 1985, the Hastings County Historical Society saluted the Mikas and their author/publisher associates at a gala event. Belleville Mayor George Zegouras made a special civic presentation to the Mikas and a cake was decorated to resemble their most recent book.

4. The Society is proud to house the Mika Collection with its important information relating to local history, Canadian railroads, the United Empire Loyalists, and other topics.


MIKA
PUBLICATIONS

CATALOGUE No. 14

1.45

HASTINGS COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Celebrating FIFTY Years Of History . . .

Celebrating the History of the Historical Society 1987-2002

Clockwise from top right:

- **Founder Irene Haig (L) and Former President Pat Bennett (R), October 1, 1987**
- **Former Past Presidents celebrating, October 1, 1987** *(standing left to right):* Rodger Greig, Judie (Carty) Preece, Ed Buckley, Bob Brennan, Frank Foley, Gerry Boyce; *(seated l to r):* Irene Haig (founder), Pat Bennett
- **Former Presidents celebrating the 45th anniversary in 2002** *(left to right):* Gerry Boyce, Bobbi Geneja (daughter of first president), Ed Buckley, Elizabeth Mitchell, Frank Foley, Hazel Lloyst, John Anderson, Bernard Wright, Leona Hendry, Orland French (current president) and Carson Cross *(kneeling)*
- **Former President Gerry Boyce and City Crier Al Kelleher, celebrating the Society's 30th birthday, Oct. 1, 1987**

NOV 22
1.47

Members and Friends

A CORDIAL INVITATION to Participate in the Archival Workshops of the Hastings County Historical Society in the Hastings Heritage Centre in Cannifton

every other Monday afternoon from 1 to 4 o'clock

and a **CORDIAL INVITATION** to participate in the Society's other activities

Memberships for 2009 are invited.

President Orland French and Past Presidents celebrate the 45th anniversary of the Hastings County Historical Society in 2002

George Benjamin and Suzanna Moodie help to open the Hastings Heritage Centre