

Camps Mohawk & Rathbun in Grania's Era

Grania being the heroine in Frances Itani's *Deafening*



During World War One, airmen from Britain were trained at Camps Mohawk and Rathbun near Deseronto. These pictures reflect some of the activities associated with camp life. Most of the pictures are from an album donated by W.A. Demsey. C.W. (Bill) Hunt is preparing a book on these camps.

(top to bottom, left to right)

1. (HC-0026)
2. (HC-0029)
3. This pilot may have been the one who walked away from this crash near the Grand Trunk Railway (CNR) line.
4. (HC-0066)
5. (HC-0067)
6. The Last Post, Deseronto Cemetery (HC-0027)
7. Water sports (HC-0025)



Ontario School for the Deaf in Grania's Era

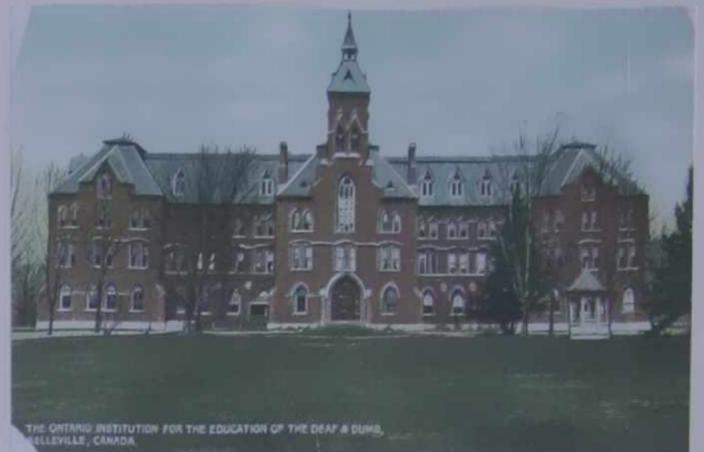
Grania being the heroine in Frances Itani's *Deafening*



Ontario School for the Deaf, Belleville
The inscription reads: "This is the original building (now demolished). The new building was erected immediately in front of this after which the original building was pulled down".



Dear Sir,
Please extend to the Members of the County Council an invitation to visit the Institution at such a time during their present session as may suit their convenience. If you will inform me at what time they will come, I will meet them and conduct them through the different departments of the Institution.
I am Sir,
Very truly yours,
W. J. Selwyn
Principal
Lo. A. H. Wood Esq.
Warden Co. Hastings
Belleville.



DEAF AND DUMB INSTITUTE. OPENING CEREMONIES.

Of all the evils which, under various forms and divers names, afflict humanity, there is none which so quickly or so deeply affects the sympathy of the beholder as the lack of the senses of hearing and speaking, which are known to us as deafness and dumbness. Other natural or accidental deficiencies, such as insanity, blindness, or deformity of person, are also powerful magnets to attract the sympathy of the person who possesses all the faculties allotted to man. But the idiotic has his periods of sanity, when he can hold communication sensibly with his fellow mortals, and when insane he is not aware of any deficiency in his existence. The blind man can hear and talk understandingly, if he cannot see. But the poor deaf and dumb human being! Placed by nature in a low scale of existence in many particulars—for he lacks many of the finer instincts of the lower orders of animals—he passes through life, if uneducated, with all the feelings, all the passions of intellectual man, but with no possible means of communicating intelligibly with those of his kind to whom he is a stranger. The unwearying efforts of philanthropic men have provided means of educating these stricken ones, which means are generally made use of by parents who are so unfortunate as to have children afflicted in the manner spoken of; and in no country in the world are superior facilities presented for the prosecution of the interesting work of educating deaf mutes, to those offered in Ontario, and in which the Government lends so powerful a helping hand. Proof of this statement is offered in the erection, by the Government of Ontario, of the magnificent building dedicated to this purpose, which stands a short distance beyond the limits of the town, the formal opening of which, and its dedication by the Lieut.-Governor of our Province, we are now called upon to chronicle.

Before proceeding, however, to narrate the events in connection with the opening ceremonial, it may be as well to take a glance at

Oct 19 1870
New Advertisements.

THE OPENING OF THE
Deaf and Dumb Institute,
BELLEVILLE.

A GRAND Demonstration on the occasion of the opening of the Deaf and Dumb Institute, will take place at Belleville on
THURSDAY, OCTOBER 20,
Under the auspices of
THE LIEUT.-GOVERNOR,
And members of the
Executive Council of Ontario.

PROGRAMME.

The Lieut.-Governor and Party will arrive by train from the West at 11 o'clock, when a procession will be formed at the Depot, composed of a Guard of Honor from the 15th and 49th Battalions, with Bands of Music, the G. T. R. Rifle Company, the Fireman and Citizens, and will proceed to the Institute. After Luncheon, addresses will be presented to the Lieut.-Governor by the Warden and Mayor, on behalf of the County and Town.

The Institute will then formally be opened. An inaugural speech from the Hon. B. Flint, The Lieut.-Governor, and Members of the Executive will also deliver addresses.

Luncheon may be procured on the ground.

A PUBLIC HOLIDAY

Has been proclaimed by the Mayor of Belleville.

A. E. WOOD,
Warden County of Hastings.
ALEX. ROBERTSON,
Mayor, Belleville.

God Save the Queen.
Belleville, Oct. 11th, 1870.

Originally known as the Deaf and Dumb Institute and now as Sir James Whitney School, the Ontario School for the Deaf in Sidney Township played an important role in Itani's novel.

These pictures feature the beginning of the school in 1870 and the main building.

1. Invitation to the opening in 1870 (courtesy Katharine Mills)
2. Early view (Ontario Archives L500/HC-6104)
3. Postcard circa 1908 (HC-2845)
4. *Intell* items, October 1870 (HC-Mika Collection)
5. Ad for steamboat of the type that carried students from Deseronto to the boat landing at the school (HC-Mika Collection)
6. Title page from a pamphlet, circa 1900 (HC-5073B)

THE ORIGINAL "DAY OF QUINTE STEAMBOAT ROUTE"
ESTABLISHED 1818.
The Weekly Line to Deseronto, Picton and Kingston.
Fast and Steady Upper Saloon Steamer
"HERO"
C. B. NEWBORN, Master.

TIME TABLE.

Quinte Harb.—Leaves Belleville Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays at 8 a. m.; Deseronto 7.30 a. m.; Picton at 8.30 a. m.; and arriving at Kingston at 10.30 a. m.

Leaves Kingston at 11.30 a. m.; Deseronto at 12.30 p. m.; Picton at 1.30 p. m.; and arriving at Belleville at 3.30 p. m.

On Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays 9 p. m. leaving Belleville for Deseronto, Picton and Kingston, and returning to Belleville at 10.30 p. m.

Passengers will find the Steamer always ready with comfortable and well-furnished cabins, and a first-class table.

The Steamer "Hero" is a state-of-the-art vessel, and is the only one of the kind in the Province.

Full particulars given on application to Captains on board.

THE MATHSON CO.,
Wholesale and Retail Agents.

"I HAVE TAUGHT THEM THE GOODNESS OF KNOWLEDGE"
— C. M. Dickerson

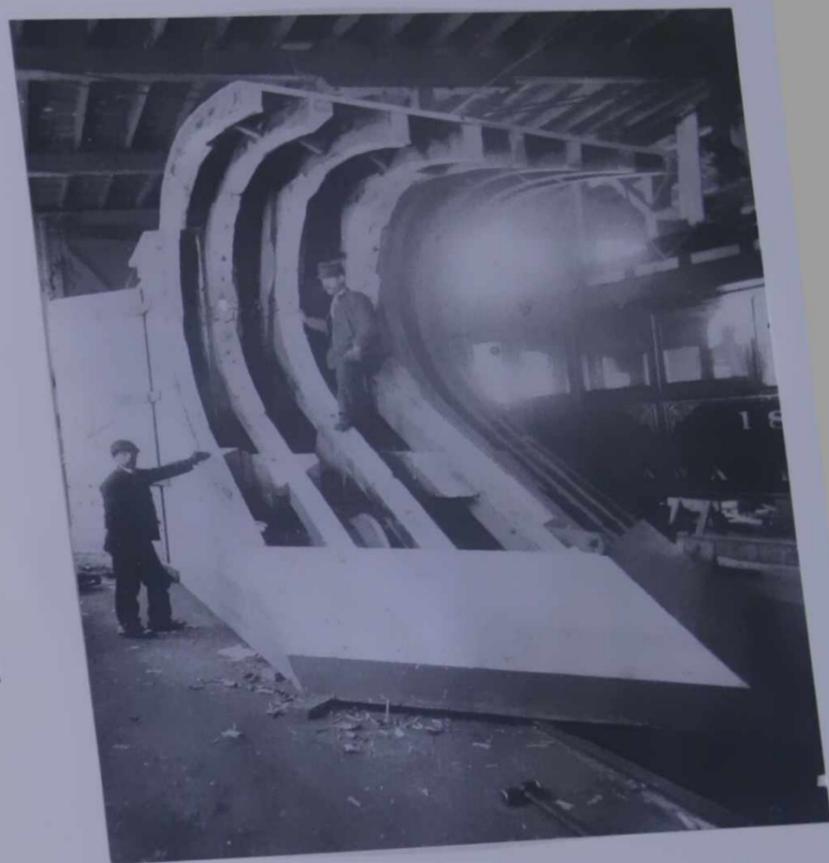


ONTARIO INSTITUTION FOR THE DEAF AND DUMB
Opened October 20th, 1870

Deseronto in Grania's Era

Grania being the heroine in Frances Itani's *Deafening*

Deseronto has experienced more than its fair share of challenges over the years. For example, a disastrous fire on May 25, 1896, destroyed much of the town, including several Rathbun Company industries. The rebuilding of the town's industrial base was a major challenge. Similarly, Grania, the young Deseronto-born heroine in Frances Itani's excellent novel *Deafening* faced a major challenge early in the 19th Century when she emerged from a bout of scarlet fever at the age of five profoundly deaf.



Industrial Deseronto (clockwise from upper right)

1. Stone Mill in Deseronto (HC-1661)
2. Snow plow manufactured in Deseronto for the Great Western Railway in front of a streetcar manufactured for the Oshawa Street Railway (HC-1667)
3. Workers in front of the Deseronto Shingle Mill (HC-1667)
4. Streetcar manufactured for the Oshawa Street Railway by the Rathbun Company of Deseronto (HC-1664)
5. Deseronto Water Front (HC-1663)



Deseronto in Grania's Era

Grania being the heroine in Frances Itani's *Deafening*



These views are typical of the scenes that would have been familiar to Grania, the young Deseronto-born heroine in Frances Itani's excellent novel *Deafening*.

(top to bottom, left to right)

1. Main Street and Post Office in Deseronto (HC-7639)
2. Bay of Quinte (?) as it was painted in 1889 (HC-1656)
3. Deseronto Post Office; Hank Howard and his express wagon and horse, talking to Evan Edwards, who used to operate the Iron Works (HC-1659)
4. Bank of Montreal, Deseronto (HC-1665)
5. English Church, Deseronto, from 1908 postcard (HC-3216)
6. All Saints Church on the Tyendinaga Territory (HC-3219)
7. Independent Order of Foresters Orphanage on Foresters (John's) Island (HC-6393)
8. Independent Order of Foresters Island Orphanage, 1900s (HC-6393)

