



# THE NEIGHBOURHOOD MESSENGER

NEWSLETTER OF THE ADOLPHUSTOWN-FREDERICKSBURGH HERITAGE SOCIETY

Issue Number 22

April 2020

## Tough Times

Adolphustown and Fredericksburgh have seen their share of tough times. Great sorrow and privation greeted the first settlers as they arrived on our shores, from the burial of a child who died en route to their new home, to the desperate first few years spent eking out a living with little support and meagre supplies.

### **Our Society**

Members of the Adolphustown-Fredericksburgh Heritage Society are your neighbours, your friends, your family. We are new to the area or have lived here all our lives. Some of us are descendants of the Loyalists who settled the shores of the Bay of Quinte. We all share a desire to deepen our knowledge of the history of our local community and to share our passion with others.

### **Our Executive**

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

### **Our Meetings**

The Society meets on the third Wednesday of the month 5-8 times a year at the South Fredericksburgh Hall at 6:30p.m. Check for the next meeting on our website. All welcome!!

### **Our Website**

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

### **Contact Us**

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

- Angela Cronk, President (373-8888) [angelacronk@gmail.com](mailto:angelacronk@gmail.com)
- Jane Lovell, Newsletter Editor (373-0199) [jane.lovell@kos.net](mailto:jane.lovell@kos.net)

We have endured the cholera epidemic of the 1830s, the loss of dozens of children in the wave of diphtheria that arrived here in the late 1870s, and of young men during the world wars. The staggering loss of life around the world was echoed here during the Spanish Flu pandemic of a century ago. While not costly in lives, the Great Depression of the 1930s caused immense hardship, with many struggling, and some failing, to keep their farms.

Apart from this brief noting of these past tragedies, and acknowledging the anxiety and worry of our current uncertain times, this issue of the *Neighbourhood Messenger* will not dwell on the great calamities of our past. Instead, this issue is devoted to the fruits of investigations afforded to us by this unexpected gift of free time.

## A Glimpse of the Past



Photo: Stephen Sawford

Christina Farley Fretts feeding her ducks on the Fretts' farm  
West Half of Lot 23 of the Third Concession in South Fredericksburgh  
The pond was located on the south side of Huyck Street

Undated

**The Neighbourhood Messenger** is an electronic newsletter distributed exclusively to members of the Adolphustown-Fredericksburgh Heritage Society.

A lifetime membership to the Society costs \$5. 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 sending a cheque for \$5 made payable to the Adolphustown-Fredericksburgh Heritage Society, c/o Stan MacMillan, 8225 Loyalist Parkway, R. R. # 1 Bath, Ontario, Canada, K0H 1G0

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

## The Haight Farm a Century Ago

Duncan & Ruth Hough

Wilfred Laurier Haight attended the Ontario Agricultural College in Guelph from 1906 to 1910, graduating with a Bachelor in Agricultural Science, specializing in Farm Operation and Management. One of a class of seventeen, he may well have been the first OAC grad from the county.

Times were changing. Agriculture was moving from a subsistence to a commercial basis. New technology such as gasoline engines and expanding markets for cheese, butter and eggs gave opportunities for farming to become a business as well as a livelihood.

In 1911, Wilfred began farming on the West Half of Lot 2 of the First Concession of Fredericksburgh Additional, half a mile west of Conway on a farm owned by his future father-in-law, George Phippen. In 1912, he was joined by his brother Harold. The brothers farmed together, buying the farm in 1914. The partnership was dissolved in 1917, when Harold moved west to a farm on Lot 15 in the First Concession in Adolphustown.

Wilfred kept detailed Day Books of events on the farm, but also precise information on costs and returns for the business.

### Milk Production 1911-1913

Month	For Month of	Value per cow lbs.	Total	To Butter	To Cheese	Net Due
1911	Jan	25.93	22.12	22.12		
1911	Feb	25.93	22.12	22.12		
1911	Mar	25.93	22.12	22.12		
1911	Apr	25.93	22.12	22.12		
1911	May	25.93	22.12	22.12		
1911	Jun	25.93	22.12	22.12		
1911	Jul	25.93	22.12	22.12		
1911	Aug	25.93	22.12	22.12		
1911	Sep	25.93	22.12	22.12		
1911	Oct	25.93	22.12	22.12		
1911	Nov	25.93	22.12	22.12		
1911	Dec	25.93	22.12	22.12		
1912	Jan	25.93	22.12	22.12		
1912	Feb	25.93	22.12	22.12		
1912	Mar	25.93	22.12	22.12		
1912	Apr	25.93	22.12	22.12		
1912	May	25.93	22.12	22.12		
1912	Jun	25.93	22.12	22.12		
1912	Jul	25.93	22.12	22.12		
1912	Aug	25.93	22.12	22.12		
1912	Sep	25.93	22.12	22.12		
1912	Oct	25.93	22.12	22.12		
1912	Nov	25.93	22.12	22.12		
1912	Dec	25.93	22.12	22.12		

Milk Statements 1911 & 1912

Quoted from the Day Books: "Milk wagon starting April 8, 1911." The Phippen cheese factory, half a mile east of Conway was the likely destination. At the time, milk was shipped seasonally from April to November. Cows were bred to freshen (calve) in the spring. Peak production was early summer on lush pasture and declined into the fall. The price of milk was dependant on the selling price of cheese and varied month to month and year to year.

## Milk Shipments 1911

Wilfred noted that production was from 10 cows with 4 calves raised (drinking milk) and two houses supplied with milk.

In each of the next two years 10 cows were milked. Shipments were 41,540 lbs in 1912 and increased to 48,620 lbs in 1913. Payments increased to \$435.19 in 1912 and \$474.53 in 1913, even though the price per hundredweight dropped. The Haight brothers were becoming better farmers!

Month	lbs. of milk	price/cwt	Payment
April	2,543	\$0.87	\$22.12
May	6,034	\$0.79	\$47.66
June	8,152	\$0.83	\$69.29
July	6,885	\$0.87	\$59.89
Aug	5,989	\$1.03	\$61.68
Sept	5,128	\$1.23	\$63.08
Oct	5,217	\$1.23	\$64.16
Nov	1,736	\$1.25	\$21.45
<b>Total</b>	<b>41,684</b>		<b>\$409.33</b>

## Buying the Farm

In his Day Book for 1914, Wilfred wrote "Commenced farming on March first of above year on Lot 2, west Half, Additional, 97 —s more or less. Amount paid for farm \$4000." Included in the price was a house, outbuildings, livestock, machinery and crop stored.

*Stock on hand April 1st 1914*  
*Market value.*

1	gelding 6 years old weight	
1	mare 3 " " "	
1	" 13 " " "	
1	" 23 " " "	
1	colt 2 " " Hackney	
1	" 2 " " Percheron	
1	" 1 " " "	
1	" 11 months " Hackney	
7	cows all ages	
2	heifers 2 years old	
3	calves 1 " "	
4	" 2 weeks old	
130	fowls S.C.W.L.	

Stock on Hand April 1, 1914

*Machinery on hand April 1, 1914*  
*sale value*

1	7 ft Massey Harris Binder (2 yrs)	
1	6 " McCormick mower	
1	12 " " Rake	
1	2 horse corn cultivator	
1	4 " 2 furrowed plow	
1	gang plow	
1	disc drill 13 discs	
1	single plow	
1	tanning mill	
1	stone boat	
1	water trough	
2	sets harness	
2	wheelbarrows	
1	m. fl. separator 200 lbs	

Machinery on Hand April 1, 1914

## Building a Modern Barn

Coincident with the transition to commercial farming, buildings were being modernized. The conventional post and beam barns were being replaced by larger, higher, more capacious structures. In *Two Centuries in Sillsville* Donald Hough recounts that three barns (Robertson-Cuthill, Sharpe-Grunenfelder and Elliott) were built by the same builder in three successive years around 1912. Similar barns went up in Fredericksburg in the same era.

Wilfred and Harold, aspiring to be progressive farmers and having seen progress over the three previous years, decided to build a modern barn. In the fall of 1913, they started construction of a new barn on the bay-side of the road. Measuring 40' by 60', it was built into a small hill, allowing the livestock to come and go from the lower level. A barn bridge gave access to the barn floor in the centre of the second level. Beneath the barn bridge was a milk room. This stayed cool in summer helping keep milk sweet.



Rear of barn with livestock access



Front of barn with barn bridge

On the right of the barn floor was a granary and on the left a large well-lit area for laying hens.

Above, on both sides, were large mows for hay and straw storage. The most striking and modern feature was the wide open space in the mows. Steel trusses on the walls supported the high hip roof, giving lots of room for crop storage.



Hen house with laying boxes



Mow area showing metal trusses

Under the roof was a track on which ran a carrier and horsefork which allowed hay to be lifted from a wagon on the barn floor up and into the mow.

Siding was steel as was the roof. Sky lights and ventilators made the mows pleasant. Sliding doors could be opened for aeration. The trusses, roofing and siding were ordered from the "Metal Shingle and Siding Company LTD." of Preston, Ontario for \$646.98. The steel arrived by boat at the Conway wharf, addressed to "Haight Bros."

Form 70

The undersigned hereby agrees to pay at maturity, at the Northern Crown Bank of Norance on a certain draft or Bill of Exchange drawn by the undersigned by Metal Shingle Siding Co Ltd Preston dated January 10 1914 payable at Sight after for the sum of \$ 646.98

And the undersigned hereby authorizes and empowers the Manager of THE NORTHERN CROWN BANK, Norance, or any other officer of the said Bank, as the Agent and Attorney of the undersigned, to accept the Draft or Bill of Exchange above described, in the name and behalf of the undersigned.

Dated at Norance Ont, the 16 day of January 19 14

W. S. Haight  
H. H. Haight

Bill for trusses, roofing &amp; siding



HAIGHT BROS. on truss

Lumber was purchased from the Rathbun Co. of Deseronto. The basement walls were concrete mixed on site using sand from the nearby shore.

The stable could accommodate 15 cows, as well as young stock and the farm horses. A litter carrier on an overhead track saved labour in moving manure from behind the stock. It lowered for filling, then could be cranked higher and pushed along the track to the manure pile outside, then dumped. Prior to this technology, manure was pitched into a wheel barrow, which was then pushed up a plank and dumped on the pile. Progress!



Litter carrier and track

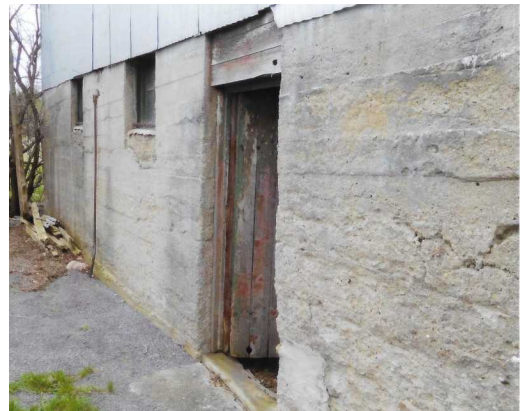
Wilfred's accounts are evidently detailed. In addition, is a note: "In itemizing the opposite columns, only the actual cash paid out has considered. The utilization of such materials as were present in old buildings, our own work or that of Uncle G [George Ham?] which was considerable, board of men, sand obtained from our own shore, none of which has been charged in this statement. However, they amount to a very considerable sum in only known."

### Building a Silo

16	
Expense Account for Buildings	
1915	Erection & maintenance
Sept	Silo Construction
	Labor "hired" 9.25
	Sand 1.65
	Cement 19.80
	Use of rings & machinery 20.00
	Lumber & milling 34.00
	Expenses in hauling 5.00
	for nails 2.50
	To Blacksmith 1.50
	" Bolts 1.50
	" sawing hoops 2.00
	<u>97.20</u>
Beside the above we furnished	
1400 ft of pine not charged.	

The following year, 1915, a silo was built at the front of the barn. The concrete base supported a circular tube of tongue and groove wooden staves held together by metal hoops. It stored finely chopped stalks, husks, and ears of corn. Once fermented, the silage made excellent feed for the cows.

Cost of building the silo



Concrete foundation showing the irregular form-work and sequential pours

Steel stanchions held the cows in place. With many windows and high ceilings, the barn would have been a pleasant place for the livestock as well as for the Haightes.

15	
Expense Account for Buildings	
Erection & maintenance	
1913	BARN
	Cement 69 bbls @ 1.90 131.10
	Lumber 9983 feet 268.83
	Steel 647.00
Oct	Labor 200.00
To	Glass & sundries 13.50
Dec	Dash 2.40
	Nails 3 1/2 kegs 8.50
	Sand 3.00
	Cow stalls 51.00
	<u>1324.83</u>

Cost of building the barn

## Tile Drainage

Through his studies at OAC, Wilfred had learned about the benefits of tile drainage, Using plans and surveys from OAC, the brothers tiled some of their land. Wilfed's Day Books record the process.

### 1916

"The wettest spring in memory of the oldest"

**May 7** - "South Field [approximately 20 acres] 515 tiles connecting up the tile from the barn and silo"

**June 8** - "The land is just soaking, trenches we had almost complete for the tile have caved in, in many places, had to give up Digging"

**June 12** - "The college surveyor is here and he and Harold are surveying the farm for tile drainage"

**Aug. 12** - "Unloaded 5000 tiles from boat at Conway"

**Sept. 20** - "The ditching machine arrived yesterday and started at G. Phippens today dug across farm once"

**Nov. 6** - "The traction ditcher came Thurs starting work Fri. Morning. At 11A.M. Sat. casting broke which stopped operations, had 118 rods dug, laid and covered that night.

**Nov. 12** - Have the ditching all competed but 60 rods. The tile is an average depth of 23". The soil proved too stony below that"

**Nov. 19** - "The ditchers came back Mon. 13<sup>th</sup> and finished our ditching. One line went all right, the other was very stony and have not got it completed yet as it had to be finished by hand. Moved ditcher to Hams and men went home morning of 14<sup>th</sup>. Unloaded boat of tile Wed. and Thurs. Have the dam and ditch completed around the head of the garden. Aprox. 500 rods dug and laid"

### 1917

**Mar. 26** - "Tile are working, finally Land draining well"

Based on the account, it is hard to determine just how many acres were done, but tile being one foot long and the estimate of 500 rods dug and laid suggests that roughly 10,000 feet were laid—a huge year's project.

## A Modern Water System

In 1917, another improvement was introduced. A well was dug several hundred yards south of the barn, halfway to the lake. Located over the well, a windmill pumped water to a tank in the mow of the barn above the stable. From there, water flowed by gravity thorough piping to water bowls accessible to each cow and horse. All bowls were on exactly the same level. A float in a small tank kept each bowl full of water, giving livestock access to water at all times. Water did not have to be carried to each animal, nor did animals have to be released to go for water.

Expense Acc. for Water Works 1917	
mill - piping and attachments	327.60
Labor 3 days	7.50
Additional attach.	4.50
Labor completing trench & digging well	32.00
addit. attach.	4.25
	<u>375.85</u>
Sold 400' - 1" pipe	68.75
	<u>307.85</u>

Cost of water system

The Hights made immense strides to establish a progressive farm over a seven year period. We appreciate Wilfred's attention to detail as recorded in his Day Books. Thanks to Debbie Haight, his granddaughter, for her enthusiasm in providing information from these books and showing us the barn.

## Then and Now

Jane Lovell



Post 1905

AFHS Photo



2018

Source: Google Street View

### 9369 Loyalist Parkway East Half of Lot 9 Fredericksburgh Additional

Originally granted to Joseph Pringle in 1797  
Burial site of Colonel Hazelton Spencer  
Owned by the Van Dyck family for over 150 years (1815-1968)

The original Crown grant for the 100-acre East Half of Lot 9 went to Joseph Pringle in 1797. Over the next nearly two decades the lot passed through the hands of John and then Benjamin Spencer, sons of Hazelton Spencer, before the title was transferred to Arent Van Dyck in 1815. Hazelton Spencer had acquired the abutting 200-acre Lot 8 in 1805. Two years after his death in 1813, both Lot 8 and the East Half of Lot 9 were sold by Hazelton's son Benjamin.

46  
THE subscriber has for sale a valuable tract of Land, situated in the first concession of the township of Fredericksburgh, additional, (being part of the Homestead.) For further information enquire of  
B. C. SPENCER, Administrator.  
Fredericksburgh, O.A. 31, 1814. 39  
ADVERTISEMENT

*Kingston Gazette*

According to advertisements for lots for sale some years later (see next page), it was **Lot 8** that boasted a fine "Mansion House," the previous home of the famed Colonel Spencer. It is curious, then, that Hazelton Spencer is buried near the shore on the East Half of **Lot 9**.

From notes taken by William Canniff between 1864 and 1866, recording an interview with Abram [Abraham] Diamond:

*Remembers Major Spencer of Fredericksburgh. He died just at the breaking out of the war of 1812. Was at his funeral. He was buried in plain dress. The funeral was quite large. Was about 16 then. He was buried on a knoll, on his own place lot No 9., 1st concession, Fredericksburgh Additional. It was in the winter. He was well in years. ... A middling sized man.*

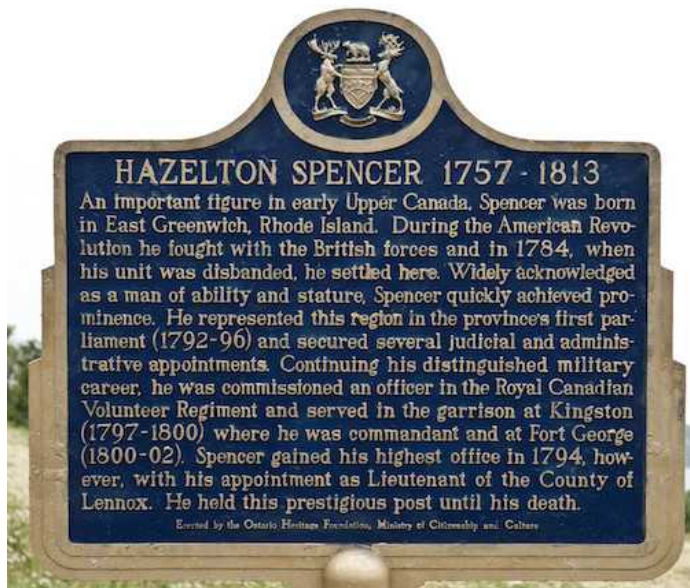
## For Sale,

**T**HAT Elegant farm No. 8, first Concession township of Fredericksburgh, 28 miles from Kingston, (containing 200 Acres,) formerly occupied by Colonel Spencer, and known by the name of the Mansion House. It contains about 50 acres of land under improvement, an elegant frame house 2 story high with 2 barns and other buildings. Persons desirous of purchasing may enquire of the Subscriber on the premises, or to D. Hagerman Esq. at Bath.

JOSEPH BERGERON.

Fredericksburgh, Sept. 8th, 1818 15

The Spencer Burial Ground can be seen as a small circle of uncut grass in the aerial view of the East Half of Lot 9. The site is marked by an Ontario Heritage Foundation plaque erected along the Loyalist Parkway directly north of the burial plot.



When Arent Van Dyck acquired the East Half of Lot 9 in 1815, he had owned the West Half of the lot for four years. Later deeds for the transfer of these two halves of the lot among family members show that as early as 1836 there was a well-established farm on the West Half. Conditions on the deed included a lifetime reserve on:

*“the dwelling house, Smokehouse, Wagon house, barn and the Yards, to them belonging and also the Garden Spot”*

No buildings are mentioned on any deeds concerning the East Half of the lot.



Source: Google Satellite View

The house at 9369 Loyalist Parkway is visible at the top left

The 1860 *Map of the United Counties of Frontenac, Lennox and Addington, Canada West from actual Surveys under the Direction of H. F. Walling* shows the locations of the houses on the two halves of Lot 9, with the house on the East Half towards the eastern boundary of the lot. The two houses are also shown on the 1878 map in the *Illustrated Historical Atlas of the Counties of Frontenac, Lennox & Addington*, this time with the house on the East Half shown on the western side of the lot, where the current house is located.

While it is evident that there was a house somewhere on the the East Half of Lot 9 by 1860, it is unknown when the first house and barns were erected.

What is known for certain, however, is that the house currently on the East Half of Lot 9 is “new”. Built in 1905 to replace an earlier house destroyed by fire, the new Van Dyke house was one of the first in the area to be constructed of ornamental concrete blocks, manufactured on site. The “state of the art” design included running water, piped via windmill from the lake to cisterns in the basement of the house and in the loft of one of the barns.



1860



1878



AFHS Photo

A fire in 1903 destroyed the house that preceded the current one. The undated photo of that house, left, shows a drive shed attached to the rear. The shed survived the fire and was moved to the far west of the property, where it remains today. One of the timbers in the structure bears the date March 26, 1842. While the timber may have been re-purposed from an earlier building, it most likely indicates the age of the drive shed. It is unknown when the house was built, but a date in the 1840s is a possibility.

The photo to the right is attributed to the Van Dyke farm. It is unknown whether the structure stood on the East or West half of the lot. It is also unknown when the photograph was taken, but considering how the children are attired, the shot was likely taken sometime between 1900 and 1920. Almost always the first dwelling to be erected by settlers was a log cabin—a temporary structure to house the family until a “proper” house could be built. Once the family moved into the new house the cabin would have been repurposed as a shed or barn. It is tempting to imagine that the log cabin in the photo is the original dwelling house. However, if it were the original, it would be more than 100 years old and would likely show more serious signs of aging or deterioration on the ends of the logs than is apparent in the photograph.



AFHS Photo

**Thanks to Judy and Bill Peters for access to their collected history of their property**

## Clippings

### The Wages of Sin.

During the past year Police Magistrate Daly has received many complaints concerning the actions of a number of daughters of the night, who have carried on and advertised their disgraceful calling in a most public manner. Private warnings were laughed at, and finally the question was asked, who was running the town, the orderly or disorderly element? The magistrate determined to settle the matter for himself, and on the evening of Saturday, 4th inst., gave Constable Huff orders to round up everything that he could find that came under that head. As a result of his labors, Mrs. Orvey (Duck) Lynn, Hattie Smith, Ida May Storms and Mary Carr were placed in care of Gov. Vanluven to await trial—the first on a charge of keeping a house of ill-fame, and the three latter with being inmates. The trial took place last Friday morning, and lasted till pretty well along in the afternoon. Mr. W. S. Herrington appeared for the prosecution and H. M. Deroche, Q. C., for the defence of the prisoners. Mrs. Lynn seemed to feel her position most keenly, and much sympathy was expressed for her, she having three small children. Those charged with being inmates did not seem particularly concerned over the affair, being able to laugh or cry as a good or bad point was brought out in the evidence. The hearing was held in the town hall, which was about two-thirds filled, the excuses of some to account for their presence being quite ingenious. The two young men from Deseronto, who were arrested in the house, testified as to the soliciting on the street, and admitted that from hearsay and their own experience, the house was undoubtedly one of ill-fame. A number of our townsmen had also been summoned. The constable reports some amusing incidents in this matter. Though some of them had been loud in their complaints they were not disposed in any way to help remedy the evil, and were emphatic in their ignorance of everything relating thereto. They breathed a little easier, however, when informed that they were not expected to have any knowledge of what went on inside, but simply to prove that rags containing men were constantly stopping at the house, and that the inmates were guilty of disorderly conduct and using obscene language on the street. In the end the magistrate held the charge fully proven, and Mrs. Lynn was given 90 days in jail, Hattie Smith and Ida May Storms 60 days, and Mary Carr two years in Mercer reformatory. The prisoners set up a terrible uproar when the sentences were imposed.

Continued...

The hall was cleared, the commitments made out, and the girls are now "out of sight." The two young men from Deseronto appeared to be thoroughly ashamed of themselves, and as they are very respectably connected, we withhold their names, confident the warning words of the magistrate will have a lasting effect. The one that escaped from Constable Huff was arrested in Deseronto last Saturday night, brought to Napanee, and let go on bail. All three were remanded till yesterday, and further remanded till the 23d.

Now that the law has been set in motion we hope the town will be thoroughly purged of this class. There are others who are being closely watched, and as soon as sufficient evidence is available they will be prosecuted.

*Napanee Beaver*  
September 17, 1897

### Attempted Highway Robbery.

Saturday night last, 25th ult., Mr. Robert W. Denison, of North Fredericksburgh, accompanied by two lady friends, was returning home from Napanee, about 10 o'clock in the evening. As they were near the grove east of Mr. Stanley File's farm, three men suddenly confronted them, one grabbing the horse by the head and another demanding their money or their life. Mr. Denison made a pretence of giving his pocketbook, and as the man approached to take it, he grasped the fellow by the throat and gave him a violent push backwards. The third man tried to pull one of the ladies from the buggy, but the other lady struck the horse with the whip causing him to break from the man who was holding him and to get out of the reach of the villains, one of whom called to the other to shoot. After such attempts as this, it is high time that all suspicious characters prowling around should be arrested and compelled to give an account of themselves.

—Haines & Lockett are selling the best long boots in town.

*Napanee Beaver*  
October 1, 1897

Clippings courtesy of Susan Wright

To see more old newspaper clippings check out the Articles page on our website:

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

## Early Schools in the Area, Part 1 - Before 1825

Susan Wright

### Early Adolphustown Schools

Tracking down information on the first schools in Adolphustown has proven to be quite difficult. Records are not easily available, and what we do know has been gathered mainly from various tidbits of information, most taken from the memories of the older residents in the latter half of the 19th century.

The first school mentioned is that of Mr. Lyons, a young Methodist who came to Canada in 1788 and began teaching somewhere on the north shore of Hay Bay in Adolphustown township. No further information on this school has been uncovered.

In 1799, Mrs. Carnahan opened a "Sylvan Seminary For Children" in Adolphustown. Mrs. Carnahan is the first recorded female teacher in the province. This is most likely Sarah O'Neil-Carnahan (1752-1806), wife of U.E. settler Joseph Carnahan (1750-1810). It is recorded that both Joseph and Sarah were schoolteachers. The Carnahans lived in the western end of the second concession in Adolphustown, Carnahan's Bay was named after them.

In May 1827, Joseph's eldest son, Moses, placed an ad in the *Upper Canada Herald* in Kingston, offering the property for sale.

Early Adolphustown census records show Joseph with a wife and six children in 1794. By 1800, Joseph and Sarah are listed separately. Neither appear in 1801, but Joseph does again appear in 1802 and through until 1809, although with no wife or family mentioned.

Surprisingly, Joseph's daughter Elizabeth, in petitioning for land in 1807, has used "her mark" rather than a signature. We would naturally assume, that as the daughter of teachers, she would have signed her name.

At this time, the only requirement for those who wished to teach was that they had to pass an exam before one of the commissioners and receive a certificate confirming that they were "adequate". Government policy also excluded "schoolmasters from the States, lest they should instil republicanism into the tender minds of the youth of the Province."

In 1802, a Mr. McDougall taught in a log school house on the south shore of Hay Bay. The exact location has not been confirmed. The school may have been in Adolphustown or Fredericksburgh.

The same year (1802), a letter from Thomas Dorland states that "there is a schoolhouse on Number twenty five in the sixth Tear." "Sixth tear" refers to the north side of Third Street in the Village of Adolphustown (today Hwy 33). Lot 25 was on the western edge of the village. This building may have been the one used by Mrs. Carnahan, or it could have been built as a new village school. Again, no further records have been discovered.

**NOTICE.**



**FOR SALE**, and immediate possession given, between 90 and 100 acres of Land, in the 2d concession of the Township of Adolphus Town, directly in rear of the Village; 58 acres of which are held under a Lease from Government for 21 years from November last—60 acres are in a high state of cultivation. On the premises there are a comfortable Log House (squared) 32 by 22 feet—a large Frame Barn, with Sheds, Outhouses, &c. &c. &c.—Also an excellent Well and Spring, with a Stream running through the premises—a good Garden, neatly enclosed, and a young Orchard, consisting of a variety of Pear, Apple, Plumb, and Cherry trees, and a Pine and other Groves.

All which, with the Stock and Farming Utensils, will be disposed of very low.

For terms, apply to Henry Cassady, Jun. Esq. of Kingston, or to

**MOSES CARNAHAN,**  
Adolphustown.

February, 1827.

Henry Ruttan (1792-1871), son of Loyalist William Ruttan and his wife Margaret Steel, started school in 1799 and continued there until he relocated to Kingston in 1806. He states:

"At seven years of age I was one of those who was educated by Mrs. Carnahan, who opened a Seminary for Children. From there I went to Mr. Jonathan Clark's School, and then to Mr. Thomas Morden's - lastly to Mr. William Faulkner, a relative of the Hagermans. Dilworth's Spelling Book and the New Testament were the only two books used by these schools. About five miles distant was another teacher, whose name I do not recollect. After his day's work was over in the woods, but particularly in the winter, he was ready to receive his pupils. My two elder brothers always went to school on snowshoes, which they deposited at the door, ready for their return. By moonlight it was considered a healthful and exciting excursion, especially when the girls joined the group."

Canniff Haight, in his book *Country Life in Upper Canada* mentions his father's schooldays in the Hay Bay area of Adolphustown:

"The old school house, where my father (Shadrack Ricketson Haight 1798-1840), I believe, had got his schooling, was hoisted on runners, and, with the aid of several yoke of oxen, was taken up the road about a mile and enlarged a little."

We do know there was a school in Adolphustown in 1811. The teacher was Arent Van Dyck. The location of this school house is unconfirmed. It may be the school mentioned previously that was located on the western end of the village (Lot 25), or, it may refer to what is known as "The Old U.E.L. Schoolhouse" that was located east of where St. Alban's church stands today.

In 1811 the subscribers (families supporting this school) and the number of children of each were as follows:

Thomas Dorland (1); Philip Dorland (1); Willet Casey (3); Isaac Brown (1); Ursula McWhirter (3); Jonathon Allen (3); William Ruttan (1); Henry Hoover (2).

Amey Allison-Gunsolus (1819-1908) recounts her parents' experience:

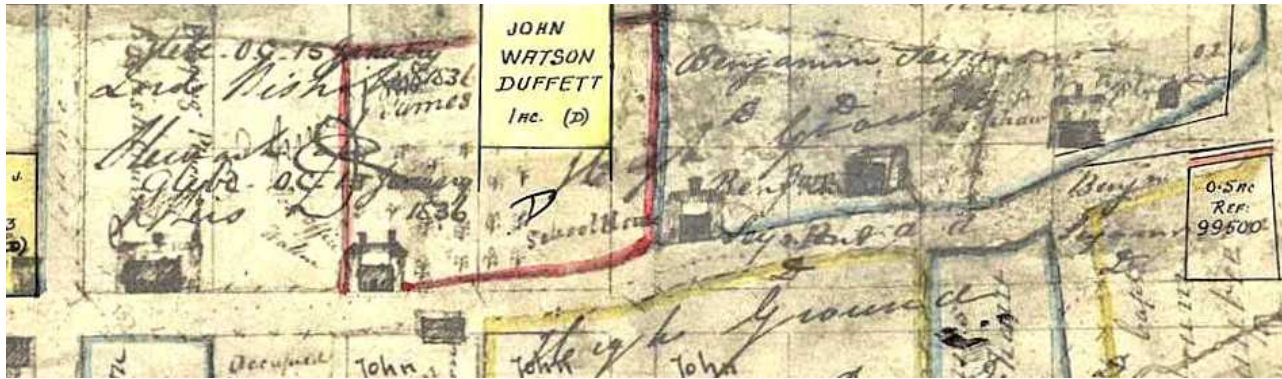
"In my father and mother's time, and their schoolmates Colonel Peter V. Dorland, Colonel Samuel Dorland, Samuel Casey, Thos. Casey, the Ruttans and others being the second generation of the U. E. L.'s got their first days of school here, and Artie Vandyck, the grandfather of Henry Vandyck of South Fredericksburgh, was their teacher and walked from where Henry Vandyck now lives, around by the Bay shore fully four miles every day to school."

At this time, the original road turned south at 'Coyle's Corners' (Lot 11 Fredericksburgh Additional) and continued around on what is now the Bayshore Road. It wasn't until 1818 that what is now Hwy 33, was opened between Coyle's Corners and Adolphustown village. The Van Dycks lived on Lot 9 Fredericksburgh Additional, suggesting that the trip was more than the four miles she has stated.

By 1817, it was reported that Adolphustown had three schools. None were officially recorded in Fredericksburgh. However, there were apparently fourteen in the adjoining township of Ernesttown.

### **The Old UEL School in Adolphustown**

The UEL schoolhouse appears on a very cluttered map from 1823. The school is marked in the centre of the image on the next page, just above the road, where the red and blue lines meet. The street to the far left is the current UEL Park Road, and the road curving to the north at the far right is where County Road 8 now meets Hwy 33. The right side of the orchard depicted just to the left of the School House label is the current location of St. Alban's Church.



Source: Archives of Ontario

#### Adolphustown Town Plot 1823

Records from the same year inform us that Henry Meade taught at this school from June 1 to December 1, 1823, and that he had 33 students.

Subscribers and number of children were:

W.V. Dorland (1); Lazarus Gilbert (2); Jonathon Allen (3); J.W. Watson (1); Noxon Harris (2); Peter V. Dorland (2); Samuel Dorland (1); Michael Rutter (1); Jacob Lazier (1); Caroline Ranney (3); Job Deacon (1); Samuel Casey (2)

In 1824, the Macdonald family moved to Hay Bay. It was then that young John A. Macdonald attended the old UEL School. The teacher at that time was a Mr. John Hughes, apparently a "well-educated Englishman."

In his book, *An Anecdotal Life of Sir John Macdonald*, E.B. Biggar describes the old school attended by John Macdonald:

"The wiry lad, with his sisters, Margaret and Louise, walked night and morning from Hay Bay to the school at Adolphustown, a distance of three miles. The school house was a little wooden structure, built by the original settlers, the U.E. Loyalists. Though the only one in the township, it was but sixteen feet long or thereabouts, with two windows on each side, filled with seven by eight inch window panes. The old school is now used as a granary, and near to it there still stands the oak tree - now grown to a patriarchal size - upon whose limb the boy used to swing with his sisters and their companions.

There was but one board desk in the school house, and that ran round three sides of the room. The teacher's desk was at the vacant end, and a pail of water in the corner was about the only other piece of furniture in this temple of learning, which was presided over by a crabbed old Scotchman known as Old Hughes. Hughes had an adroit method of taking a boy by the collar and giving him a lift off his feet and a whack at the same time."

Parker Allen of Adolphustown remembers:

"A little east of the UEL Memorial church are still to be seen the ruins of the old school house where the Macdonalds, Caseys, Trumpours, Dorlands and Harris, Ruttans, playmates of mine, went to school. It being the only school in the Township, some scholars had to come for miles. Geo. Hughes, an English scholar was the first teacher. He must have been a man of worth for we had pupils from Brockville & Kingston & Picton. After Hughes I think Burns was the next teacher."

Amey Allison-Gunsolus of Adolphustown remembers:

"the schoolhouse... only a short distance from the U.E.L. Memorial Church to the west of it and that the first teacher's name that taught in this school when I first went to school was a Mr. Hughes. He was considered the best teacher far and wide, and many persons came to this school from a distance on account of his superiority over other teachers. The late Sir John A. Macdonald attended the school. J.J. Watson, Parker Allen, Mrs. Watson, Mrs. Allen Vanalstine and Joseph Allen, Mrs. Pull, Mrs. Garner, Thos. Rennie, Jas. Rennie, Bessie Rennie, Caroline Rennie, Mrs. Captain Chambers, John E. Dorland and sisters, Jas. Dorland, Thos. Dorland, John Dorland, Jane Ann Dorland, the family of Peter V. Dorland, Gilbert Wilson, Stephen Casey and sister, Mrs. Thos. Wilson of Kingston were all my schoolmates at this school."

### Early Fredericksburgh Schools

Again, few early records are available, although it is recorded that a Mr. Jonathon Clarke taught a school in Fredericksburgh in 1786. Shortly after the Grist Mill at "Apanee Falls" was erected, a school was started in what was then known as Clarkville, just south of the Napanee River, part of Fredericksburgh township. This is said to be one of the earliest schools opened in the province.

#### **CAUTION !**

A person of the name of CYRUS CO. SY., of small stature, light complexion, and sandy coloured whiskers and locks, supposed to be about thirty years of age, was employed as a school-master in April and May last, at Fredericksburgh, in the Midland District, and province of Upper Canada. He proved to be so indiscreet and passionate, that on the 16th of May, he beat one of the children of the school, a daughter of the subscriber, of the age of six years, to such a degree, under the pretence of punishing her for looking off her book, that her health was seriously effected, she was confined a considerable time, and for several days her life was thought by the surgeons who attended her to be in danger. A warrant was issued against him by two neighbouring magistrates, and he has absconded. Considering him to be a dangerous person, I think it my duty to publish this statement of facts, as a caution to all persons who may be applied to by him, against employing so unsuitable a person to instruct and govern a school.

**GEORGE SILLS.**

*Fredericksburgh, June 10, 1817.*

In June of 1817, a notice appeared in the Kingston Gazette signed by George Sills of Fredericksburgh, who was obviously unhappy with the treatment his daughter had received at school. George Sills lived at Conway. The child he refers to was most likely his daughter Flora. She was born in September of 1810, and would have been six at the time. We have not found any further records of the teacher mentioned, nor do we know where this school was located, although it was probably somewhere in the front of Fredericksburgh, possibly in or near what we now know as Conway.

In the fall of 1817, another notice appears in the same paper signed by Robert McDowall (the Presbyterian Minister), William Crawford, and John Church, all of Fredericksburgh, stating that a school is open in the school house near John Camps, with a Mr. Burns teaching.

#### **THE TRUSTEES**

**O**F the School in the front Concession of Fredericksburgh, give public notice, that the said School is opened, in the school house near John Camp's, under the instruction of Mr. Burns, who teaches Reading, Writing, English Grammar, Arithmetic, Geography, the Latin and Greek Languages, &c.

**ROBERT M'DOWALL,  
WM CRAWFORD,  
JOHN CHURCH.**

*Fredericksburgh (H. 20, 1817. 12W4*

In 1847, S.S.#2 (Sandhurst) built a [new] school house in the village of Fredericksburgh (now Sandhurst), on lots 21-22, south of George Street. The trustees petitioned the government for title to the land. It was described as "the lands whereon the school is erected, and which have been occupied solely for school purposes for upwards of thirty years."

This would suggest that the school that opened in 1817 was located on this lot - the same lot where the former school building sits today.



AFHS Photo

**Sandhurst School S.S.#2 South Fredericksburgh 1989**  
**There has been a school building on this site since 1817**

In 1856, the Minister of Education published a report on the schools in Upper Canada for the previous year. Included in the report was a list of schools in each township and when they were established.

Surprisingly, the report states that by 1825, four schools had been established in Adolphustown, and 15 in Fredericksburgh. We are not currently aware of any records showing the locations of the individual schools.

Schools Established	Adol	Fred
Before 1816	2	6
1817	-	2
1818	-	2
1819	1	1
1820	-	1
1821	1	-
1822	-	1
1824	-	1
1825	-	1
Total # of Schools in 1825	4	15

## A Deed

Jane Lovell

I recently received a wonderful box of old letters and photographs, all connected in some way with Camp Le Nid. The camp was established on Ruttan's Point north of Adolphustown in 1886 and provided a summer getaway for a group of college friends and their families. Among the six students who founded the camp were W.S. Herrington of Napanee and C.I.T. Gould of Oshawa and later of Baltimore. Herrington essentially managed the camp but Gould was a devoted participant, attending most years during the sixty years the camp was in operation. In researching the camp I made the acquaintance of Gould's grandson—someone who visited the camp as a teen in the camp's final years. It was through this connection that the magical box appeared, the result of a downsizing of the family home.

Along with the photographs and letters in the box was a surprising item—a deed. It was the original 1800 Crown Grant for the 200-acre Lot 18 in the Fourth Concession of Rawdon (now Stirling) to Waite Ross, Yeoman, of Fredericksburgh. In 1808 Waite Ross also received a grant for the 150-acre East Half of Lot 4 in the Third Concession Fredericksburgh Additional. At the time of the 1800 Rawdon grant, Waite might have been living with his father Zenus Ross who had been granted a Fredericksburgh lot in 1798. However, despite their having received grants for lots in Fredericksburgh, no further record can be found of Waite or Zenus Ross for those lots.

So, it is all a bit of a mystery as to how the deed ended up in the hands of Gould, whose only connection to the area was Camp Le Nid. One possibility is that it was picked up at auction as a novelty at the turn of the last century or thereabouts.

The reason the deed might have been attractive as a novelty was the enormous wax seal affixed to the deed, and the age of the document itself—likely over a hundred years old at that point. Although broken, the two-sided seal is very impressive, with the imprints quite clear and easy to read.

Known as Great Seals, these were affixed to early deeds and other government documents

The Province of Upper Canada was established in 1791, and John Graves Simcoe was appointed as its first Lieutenant-Governor. *Robertson's Landmarks of Toronto a Collection of Historical Sketches*, 1896, transcribes the warrant accompanying the Great Seal issued to Simcoe by King George III. The warrant was addressed to Guy Carlton, who had been the Governor of the Province of Quebec prior to its partition into Upper and Lower Canada, and to an unnamed Lieutenant-Governor of the Province of Upper Canada. The fact that Simcoe is not explicitly named is curious since his appointment in September 1791 predates the warrant by six months.



**1800 Crown Deed to Waite Ross of Fredericksburgh**  
The deed is printed on a 19" x 24" sheet of vellum  
The seal is 4.5 inches in diameter and weighs 4.5 ounces

Perhaps hinted at in the impressive formal salutation, the warrant and attendant seal gave great power and authority to Simcoe.

George R. —

*To our trusty and well beloved Guy, Lord Dorchester, Knight of the Most Noble Order of the Bath, our Captain-General and Governor-in-Chief of our Province of Upper Canada in America, or to our Lieutenant-Governor in Canada or Commander-in-Chief of said province for the time being:*

Greeting —

*With this you will receive a seal prepared by our Order for the use of our said Province of Upper Canada, the same being engraven on the one side with the representation of Our Anchor and Sword upon a Calumet of Peace encircled with a Crown of Olives, two Cornucopias, surmounted by an Imperial Crown and the Union of Great Britain with this motto: - "Imperi Porreita Majestias Custode Rerum Caesar," and this inscription around the circumference, Sigill, Nos, Prov. Can, Sup, and on the reverse our Arms in a Shield with the motto, and round the circumference our Titles. Our will and pleasure is, and we do hereby authorize and direct, that the said seal be used in sealing all public instruments, which shall be made and passed in our name and for our service in and for our said Province of Upper Canada.*

*Given at our Court of St. James, the twenty-eighth day of March 1792, in the thirty-second year of our reign.*

*By His Majesty's Commander,  
Henry Dundas*

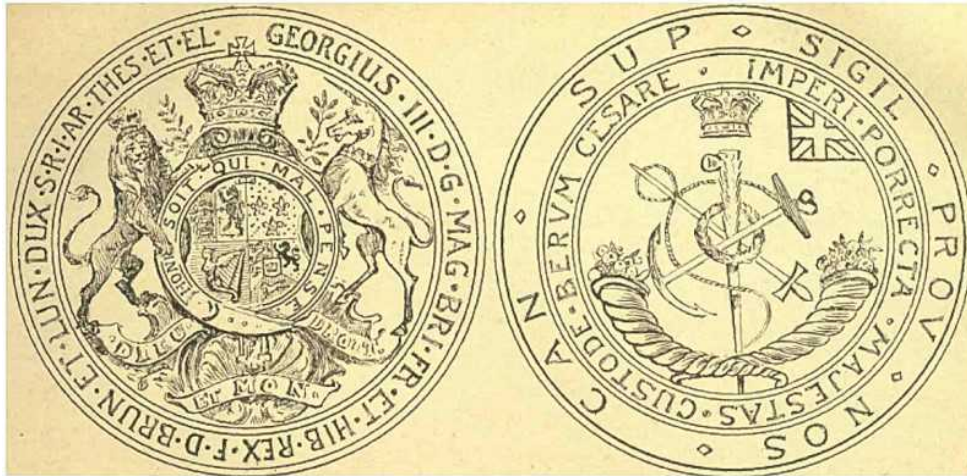
A very useful description, if over flowery to our ears, the warrant accurately describes the deed's seal. Some notes on the contents of the warrant:

- A Calumet is a ceremonial clay tobacco-pipe of North American First Nations peoples, often used as a symbol of truce or peace. It is significant that a Calumet of Peace should appear so prominently on the seal, perhaps recognizing the Crown's acknowledgement of the role First Nations peoples played in supporting the British in the American War of Independence, and the role they might play in the new provinces.
- "Our Titles": The inscription encircling the royal coat of arms, translated from Latin:  

"George III, by the Grace of God, of Great Britain, France, and Ireland, King, Defender of the Faith, of Brunswick and Luneburg Duke, of the Holy Roman Empire Arch Treasurer and Prince-Elector."

King George III was also the King of Ireland until the union of Ireland and Great Britain in 1801. It was at that time that the British monarchy also relinquished the claim to the throne of France, a claim held since the 1340s. The titles of Duke and Prince-elector of Brunswick-Lüneburg (Hanover) in the Holy Roman Empire were inherited.
- The "Union of Great Britain" is referring to the flag in the upper right sector of the seal. The flag of Great Britain, commonly known as King's Colours, the Union Jack, or the British flag, was used from 1707 to 1801. This is the flag we consider the Loyalist flag, consisting of the red cross of Saint George, patron saint of England, superimposed on the white cross on a blue field of Saint Andrew, patron saint of Scotland. It wasn't until the the 1801 creation of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland that the red cross of Saint Patrick, the patron saint of

Ireland, was added to the flag of Great Britain to create the present-day Union Flag, or flag of the United Kingdom.



Source: *Robertson's Landmarks of Toronto a Collection of Historical Sketches*  
Great Seal of Upper Canada 1792



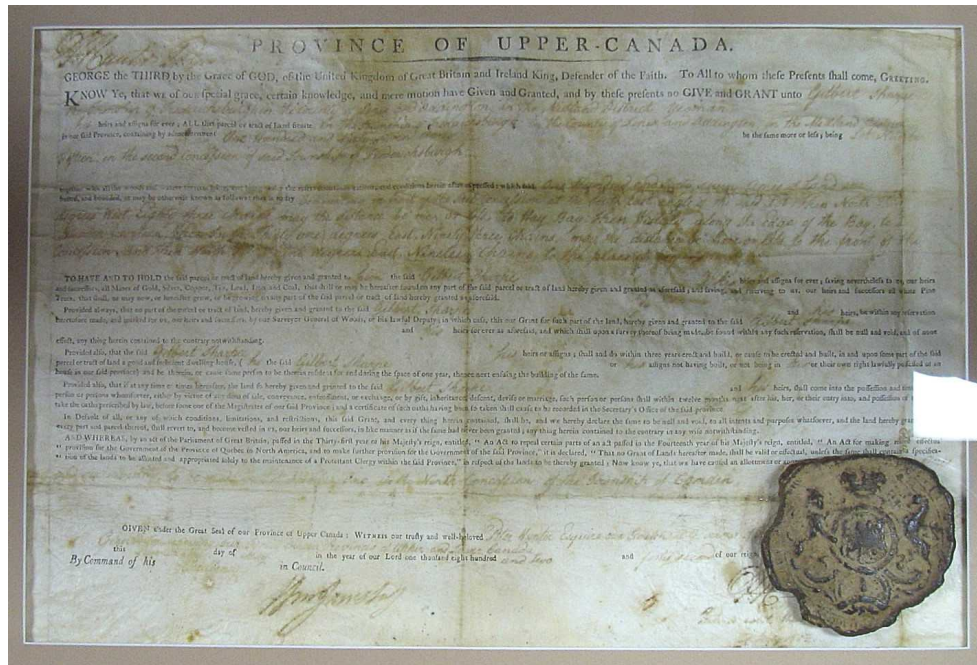
Front and back of seal on the 1800 Ross Crown deed

The creation of the deed document involved printing a standard text on a sheet of vellum (thin calfskin parchment) and then writing by hand the particulars of the the grant. Both the printing and the writing on the Ross deed remain very legible, something quite rare among other surviving deeds. A ribbon was then laced through slits made in the bottom of the document and the seal cast to encapsulate the ribbon ends. In the case of the Ross deed, the casting ensured that it was the Royal Seal had prominence, facing forward, with the Provincial one on the reverse. This was likely done in error as the warrant explicitly states that the Royal Coat of Arms was on the reverse. The seal itself is made of a mixture of beeswax and resin and is covered in a very thin layer of paper.

Considering the awkwardness of the “dangling seals,” and the difficulty they present to an effective storage of the deed, it is surprising that any of these documents have survived. However, it is perhaps explicitly because of the seals that that documents have been viewed with considerable reverence and were well safeguarded. Certainly in Adolphustown and Fredericksburgh several deeds for original Crown grants remain as treasured artifacts.

The extensive conservation work done on the 1801 deed for Lot 16 in the First Concession of Adolphustown was featured in the [June 2015 issue](#) of the *Neighbourhood Messenger*. What is interesting about the deed for the Daverne farm is that despite being issued only a year after the Ross deed, it is made of paper, rather than vellum, and as such would have been less able to support an attached seal. Although it is difficult to see on the repaired deed, there are indeed slits at the bottom of the deed that would have allowed a seal to be affixed. No seal now accompanies the deed.

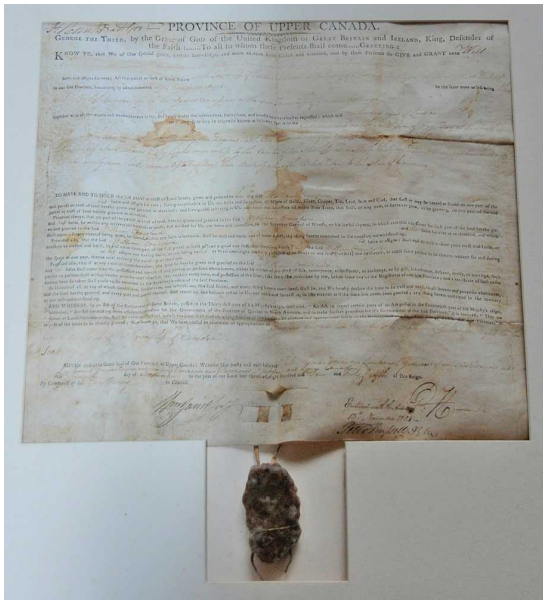
In 1802 Gilbert Sharpe was granted Lot 15 in the Second Concession of Fredericksburgh. This deed also appears to be on paper, and while its seal is not attached, it remains with the deed. This deed is interesting because it is for exactly 167 acres. Most grants were for an entire 200-acre lot or for the 100-acre East or West halves. The lot's proximity to Hay Bay and the marshes that surround it dictated the acreage of the the lot. As seen on the 1878 map in the *Illustrated Historical Atlas of the Counties of Frontenac, Lennox & Addington*, Lot 15 was comprised of small East and West quarter parcels above what is now Bennis Point Road, and a larger portion below the road. The upper East Quarter and a part of the lot below the road are still in the hands of the Sharpe family, 218 years after the original grant was issued.



1802 Crown Deed for Lot 15 of the Second Concession of Fredericksburgh



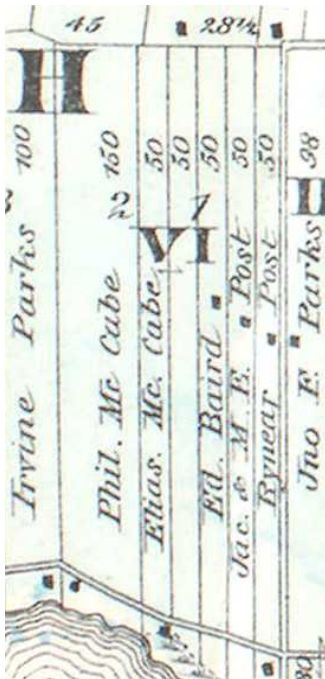
1878 Atlas map showing the Sharp Lot 15, by then reduced from its original 167 acres to 142 by the sale of the upper West Quarter to Valentine Benn in 1843



**1804 Crown Deed for the West Half of Lot 5 of the Second Concession of Fredericksburgh**

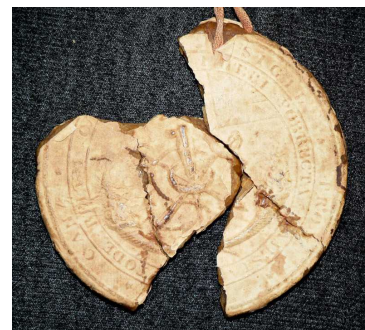
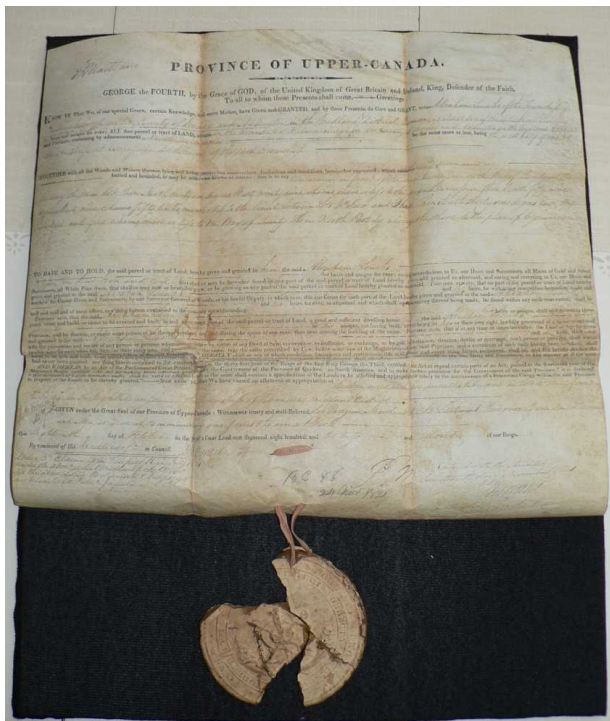
The seal, while still attached to the Crown deed for the 100-acre West Half of Lot 5 in the Second Concession of Fredericksburgh, has obviously had some calamity befall it. All that currently remains of it is a wad of wax, bearing no resemblance to the original seal. What is remarkable about this deed is that it has survived at all. Granted in 1804 to William Crawford, the lot had five other owners before it came into the possession of Duncan Henry Hough in 1886. It is unknown whether the deed accompanied the land as it transferred from family to family, or whether it came back to the farm by some other means. In any case, the land has been in possession of the Hough family these past 134 years, and the deed with its diminished seal remains a valued family heirloom.

The 1807 Crown Deed for the 200-acre Lot 2 in the Fourth Concession of Fredericksburgh Additional remains with the family of the original grantee Michael McCabe. While the deed itself is in poor condition, with the hand writing barely legible and portions of the document missing, the seal remains firmly affixed.



**1807 Crown Deed for Lot 2 of the Fourth Concession of Fredericksburgh Additional**

Like the seal on the 1800 Ross deed, the seal for the 1821 deed for the West half of Lot 2 in the First Concession of Fredericksburgh Additional is broken. And although some of the pieces are missing, the two that remain are exceptionally well-defined—the impressions are crisp and the thin paper coverings clearly in evidence.



1821 Crown deed for the West half of Lot 2 in the First Concession of Fredericksburgh Additional

The seal was affixed with the Royal Coat of Arms correctly on the back face, but with the ribbon poorly aligned, so that the seal would have hung off-axis.

This deed, granting the 97-acre lot to Abram Loucks, was dated October 18, 1821—roughly two decades after the other deeds featured here. King George III died just a year before the granting of the lot, and was succeeded by his son George IV. This is reflected in the text of the deed with the grant being given under George the Fourth, in the second year of his reign.

The seal as seen on the 1800 Ross deed had become out of date in 1801, when George III no longer had claim to the Irish and French thrones, and when the flag on the face of the seal was no longer the flag of the United Kingdom. However, this seal continued in use until it was replaced in 1817 by one accompanying this deed.

Wilfred and Harold Haight acquired this lot in 1914. Before the Haight family, the farm had been owned by six earlier families. Quite astonishingly, not only is this original Crown deed in the safekeeping of the Haight family, but also the deeds for all the intervening transfers as well as the transfer from Wilfred to his son George in 1954. An amazing record.



Photos this page: Debbie Haight  
Deeds for the Haight farm

**Thanks to the Daverne, Sharpe, Hough, McCabe and Haight families for providing access to their original Crown Deeds**

## Help Us Identify This

This photo of an unidentified house was included in a collection of photographs from South Fredericksburgh; most from the Hawley area. It's an old tintype, which means that it was probably taken in the 1860s or '70s. A feature of tintype photographs is that they are mirror images of the scene photographed. The image below has been reversed so as to present the actual scene shot.



Photo: Stephen Sawford

And speaking of shooting—a clue to the fact that the image was reversed in the original tintype, shown below, is that unless both boys on the roof were left-handed, they would have been holding their guns in the wrong hands.

In the image above, there appears to be a body of water visible through the fence to the left at the back of the house. If the house is along an east-west road, then, based on the shadow of the chimney on the roof, the house would be facing north, on the south side of the road running past it. Despite the context of the other photos in the collection, could this photo be of a house on the north shore of Hay Bay, looking south across a narrow part of the bay?



Do you know where this house might have been?

Do you have an old photo for which you cannot identify the people, the place, or the occasion? Let feature it in an upcoming issue of *The Neighbourhood Messenger*. One of our readers might know something that you don't!

## AFHS News

Angela Cronk

Hello!

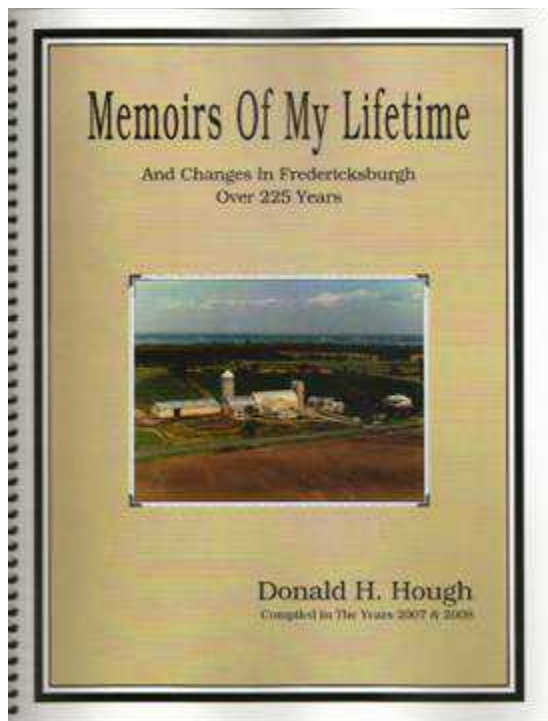
I would usually write about some things that AFHS has been involved with or about upcoming events, but life as we know it has been hugely impacted by a pandemic and there is not much to say!! So, I thought that I would share some things that I learned about another part of world history— since I have some time on my *very clean* hands.

This began when I searched for the definitions of epidemic and pandemic. Wikipedia has a very long list of the worldwide events from 1200 BC to now. Although it is an extensive list of devastation, it offered some perspective even recognizing that COVID-19 is not over yet. Here are the three worst stats: the swine flu 2009-10 had 575,000 deaths, from 1981 to now AIDS has taken 32 million people, and from 1877-1977 smallpox took 500 million. As of this month COVID-19 has killed 171,000 people and hopefully has reached its peak and the monthly numbers will be diminishing.

As usual there is still our Facebook page now with over 600 friends and there has been ongoing work (individually or electronically) on a few initiatives. Our meetings have been halted and our annual Heritage Dinner will be postponed until we can all sit side by side and enjoy friends, neighbours and food!

Stay well, Angela

## From the Book Shelf



### **Memoirs of My Lifetime And Changes in Fredericksburgh over 225 Years Donald Hough**

"In reflecting back over the almost ninety years of my life, I realize that it has coincided with the period in the history of the world during which occurred the most profound, and rapid, changes ever experienced by humanity. When I was born, in 1918, lifestyles were still similar to those of the previous century. For most people the situation remained that horses were the main source of power."

This publication includes photographs and illustrations of farm buildings, tools and machines, as well as a general history of South Fredericksburgh and many details of the Hough family history.

## A Curious Thing

Angela Cronk

### Dance Card Pencil



November's Curious Thing

There was a time when social dances were bound by strict rules of social etiquette and dance cards were a key feature of this formality. Behold a Barley Twist Pencil for one of those dance cards. Women were not permitted to ask a man for a dance so the responsibility lay entirely with the male partner to inquire of one's availability. It has even been suggested that the dance card was for her convenience from the no doubt dizzying demand of memory. Dance cards declined in popularity after 1930 when dancing became less formal; however, the phrases 'Pencil me in', "Is there room on your dance card?" and "My dance card is full" originated from this era. This delightful "curious thing" is found at the Bath Museum.

### What is this?



Submitted by Angela Cronk

Please contact [angelacronk@gmail.com](mailto:angelacronk@gmail.com) if you recognize the item. Tell us what it is called, what it is used for, during what era it was used, and anything else known about it.

Do you have some weird thing hanging around your home or barn? Take a photo of it and send it in – we can feature it here in a future issue.

## From the Attic

We are looking for old photos and documents from Adolphustown, North and South Fredericksburgh. Just about any old photograph would be of interest: photos of people, homes, farms, schools, churches, or community or family events. Even if you do not know the people or places in the photos, maybe someone else in the community does. Old publications relating to township businesses, schools and churches often contain fascinating details of life in their era.

Some items we are currently looking for:

### OLD PHOTOS or Real Photo POSTCARDS:

- The Adolphustown Town Hall
- The South Fredericksburgh Town Hall at Sillsville
- The U.E.L. Cheese Factory, Adolphustown
- St. Paul's Church, Main Street Adolphustown
- The Old Store at Adolphustown
- The Old Hotel at Adolphustown
- Conway Store
- Conway Wharf
- Phippen Cheese Factory
- Fredericksburgh Train Station
- McDowall Presbyterian Church
- Camp Le Nid
- Glen Island
- Tarry Hall

### CORRESPONDENCE:

- Letters or postcards bearing postmarks from local towns and villages
- Correspondence from someone serving overseas during either WWI or WWII

### BOOKLET:

- Constitution and Roll of Officers and Members of Camp Le Nid, 1902

If you are looking for any specific photos or documents, let us know and we will add it to our "Attic" list. **Newly added items will be highlighted in blue!**

### Contribute to *The Neighbourhood Messenger*

We publish *The Neighbourhood Messenger* several times a year. If you have an old photograph or newspaper clipping to share, a story to tell, or an event to publicize, let us know. Please send submissions to [jane.lovell@kos.net](mailto:jane.lovell@kos.net).

#### Contributors to this issue:

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