

# THE NEIGHBOURHOOD MESSENGER

NEWSLETTER OF THE ADOLPHUSTOWN-FREDERICKSBURGH HERITAGE SOCIETY

Issue Number 3

September 2012

## Harvesting the Past

With the winding down of the hectic activities of summer, fall brings the opportunity to relish the bounty of the season. One of the more elusive commodities to become more bountiful as autumn and winter

arrive is personal leisure time. For some of us that extra time can allow us to pursue our interest in family history, or to research the provenance of our home or some artefact in our possession. Often the inquiry into the past is made through traditional avenues of research: thumbing through pages of church documents, poking around in our local libraries and archives, or combing through land registry records. In recent years, however, many of us have turned to the Internet to access the wealth of data now online. Genealogical sites abound, as do extensive how-to guides for researching your family tree. In this issue of the *Neighbourhood Messenger*, we are focusing on some of the less well documented strategies for unearthing the stories behind the places and things of the past.

### 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:	John Gordon
Secretary:	Kathy Staples
Treasurer:	Stan MacMillan
Book Director:	Peter Cameron
Webmaster:	Susan Wright
Newsletter Editor:	Jane Lovell

### Our Meetings

The Society meets every fourth Wednesday in the month at the South Fredericksburgh Community Centre at 6.30 p.m. All welcome!!

### Our Website

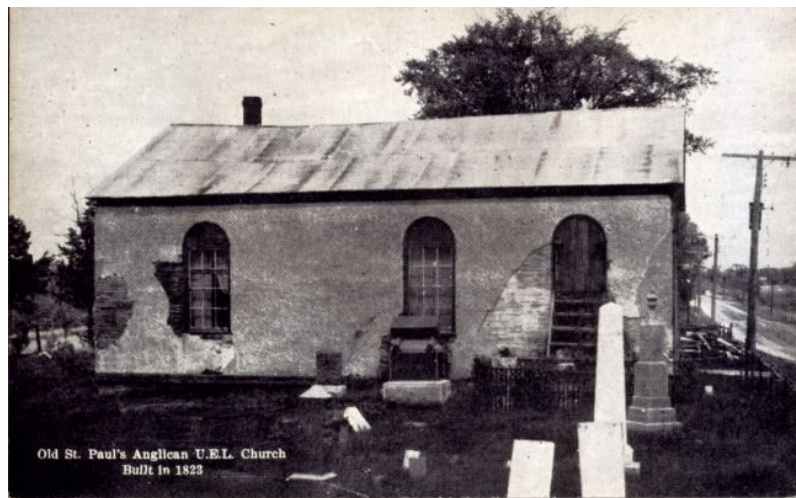
<http://www.sfredheritage.on.ca/>

### Contact Us

If you have questions or suggestions regarding any aspect of the Society, including *The Neighbourhood Messenger*, or anything else of interest to you or to the Society, 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)

## A Glimpse of the Past

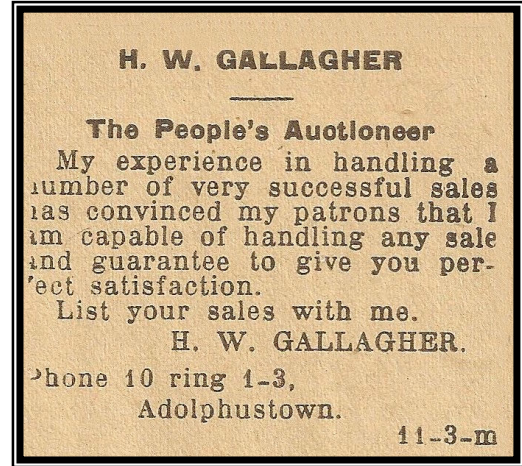


Postcard courtesy of Angela Cronk

**St. Paul's Church, Adolphustown, circa 1940s. The church was dismantled in 1997, restored and re-assembled near Demorestville in Prince Edward County.**

Do you have an interesting photo of people, places or events that show things as they were in the past? Let us feature it here!

Events Calendar	
June 4 – November 30	<b>Marine Museum of the Great Lakes at Kingston</b> Kingston War Ships 1812 - 1814
September 23	<b>Macaulay Heritage Park</b> Food Farming & The War of 1812 – 1 p.m.
October 2	<b>Napanee District Community Foundation</b> 100 Mile History Fundraiser –7 – 9 p.m. Held at the Napanee Golf & Country Club
October 24	<b>AFHS AGM at South Fredericksburgh Hall</b> Roast Chicken Diner 6 p.m. Followed by "This Old House – What Secrets Does it Hold" presented by Shelley Respondek of the County of Lennox and Addington Museum & Archives
December 2	<b>Macaulay Heritage Park</b> A County Christmas Past 1850s Decorations, Food and Merriment
December 8	<b>Ameliasburgh Historical Museum</b> Christmas in the Village 1-4 p.m.



*Napanee Express*  
August 19, 1924

## Feature Event: This Old House – What Secrets Does it Hold?

The Adolphustown-Fredericksburgh Heritage Society is holding its Annual General Meeting October 24. We are pleased to have the Archivist at the County of Lennox and Addington Museum and Archives in



Napanee, Shelley Respondek, as our guest speaker. In her talk on how to discover the history of your house, Shelley will lay out the steps to be taken in researching your home or property, and will also touch on how to use various sources to glean information about local businesses. Land records are obvious initial documents to consult, but other sources such as fire insurance maps, voter's lists, directories, and assessment rolls can provide a myriad of additional information. Shelley will illustrate how to locate and interpret the various source documents though a case study of a property in our own back yard.

Please join us on October 24<sup>th</sup> for dinner with neighbours and fellow Society members. The evening's agenda provides not only an opportunity to lend support to the AFHS, but also allows you to catch up with neighbours and friends over a locally provided meal. And what better way to conclude the evening than by discovering what you need to know to unearth the secrets of your home or of some local building or business in your neighbourhood?

Location of buildings and the names of property owners appear in the 1878 Illustrated Historical Atlas of the Counties of Frontenac, Lennox and Addington.

Details on how to purchase tickets to follow via e-mail.



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

As the receipt of our newsletter is one of the major benefits of Society membership, we ask that you NOT forward the newsletter to friends or relatives. Instead, we suggest that you encourage anyone you think might be interested in receiving a copy of The Neighbourhood Messenger to join our Society. A lifetime membership costs \$5, and 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 Kathy Staples, 304 Staples Lane, Napanee K7R 3K7.

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

## Another Local Heritage Event: The 100 Mile History Fundraiser

The Napanee District Community Foundation is a locally run foundation that distributes grants and scholarships to various community organizations serving Lennox and Addington County. This fall's fundraiser focuses on local history and the AFHS has been invited to participate.

We will be setting up a display table and have donated a number of our publications for the live auction. In addition to the auction, the program includes music provided by John Hall, Curator of the Canadian Piano Museum in Napanee, and refreshments highlighting local produce. The guest speaker is Orland French, Past President of the Hastings County Historical Society and the author of *Lennox and Addington* and *Heritage Atlas of Hastings County*.



Photo courtesy of Chris Seeley

**Auction Item: Framed print from a rare original farm equipment poster.**

Location: Napanee Golf & Country Club, 201 County Road #8, Napanee

Date: October 2, 2012

Time: 7-9 p.m.

Admission: \$20

Contact for tickets: Diane at the NDCF office, 613-354-7333 or email

[info@ndcf.ca](mailto:info@ndcf.ca) or the website [www.ndcf.ca](http://www.ndcf.ca)

## Tragedy, Scandal, and the 1858 Fee for a Tavern License

All of the above can be found amongst the pages of the Adolphustown-Fredericksburgh Heritage Society website. An amazingly rich source of local historic data, the website contains not only census information, voters lists, birth notices, marriage announcements, and obituaries, but it also has hundreds of newspaper articles and transcriptions of such things as Crown deeds lists, assessments, and account books. There are hundreds of family photographs and transcriptions from the over 3700 grave markers to be found in our 35 area cemeteries. The site search feature can allow you to find, for example, when someone was born, who they married, where they lived and with whom, what their telephone number was, what they did for a living, when they died and where they were buried. They may even be mentioned in a newspaper article or two, fleshing out the who they were and their standing in the community. While content of the AFHS website is exclusive to people and places in Adolphustown and Fredericksburgh and vicinity, links are also provided to specific local family sites and historical and genealogical organisations and institutions just beyond our borders, as well as to more general genealogy sources.

Whatever you are searching for, a troll through our website will undoubtedly be a fruitful first step!



*May 8: By cash from E. Howard for tavern License £4.0.0*

Entry from the 1858 Account Book for South Fredericksburgh Township

## Neighbourhood Search

Visitors to the AFHS website are encouraged to leave comments or submit questions. Every effort is made to provide responses from amongst the executive of the Society. There are instances, however, where it is appropriate to solicit input from our wider membership. What better way to do that than from within our newsletter? Beginning with this issue we will periodically include a Neighbourhood Search section as a sort of bulletin board for our members and others from the community at large to post queries or requests concerning the past in Adolphustown and Fredericksburgh.

The following query was received through our website:

I am a descendent of the Gordenier families who settled in your area. I have searched on your website for any photos, but to no avail. I was wondering if any of the direct descendants had any old photos they could share by means of e-mail. There are many names and was hoping I could get some more information. The name is now spelled Gordaneer, and I have no idea when in changed or for what reasons. On ancestry we have traced the family back many centuries and it is very informative. The branch in Fredricksburgh is close to us and it would mean so much.

Beverley Gordaneer Hogan

If you can help Beverley or if you have a query of your own that you'd like to appear in a future issue of the *Neighbourhood Messenger* please contact Kathy Staples at [kathystaples0@gmail.com](mailto:kathystaples0@gmail.com).

## AFHS News

Angela Cronk

This has been a busy few months for our group!

This year the AFHS entered a float in the Bath Canada Day parade. Since it was a year celebrating our local heritage with the 200th anniversary of the War of 1812, the society chose to recognise the first windmill erected in Ontario, built in the 1790s and fortified during the war of 1812. At the site of the windmill the local militia were protecting our land as the Americans launched their attack rounding the western end of Amherst Island. Grant Hyuck suggested that our float commemorate the windmill, and along



Photo courtesy of Angela Cronk  
AFHS Float in Bath's Canada Day Parade

with assistance from a few other members he put together an amazing replica of a windmill and a cannon. We had several of our society members, relatives and friends join us (many of whom were 'decked out' in period costume) on the float and with Grant at the helm driving the tractor, we won the award of Best Adult Float! What a great day!

Our society was also present at the park with a booth set up to demonstrate many of the tasks we have undertaken to assure the our historic past never be forgotten. There were many photos displayed along with the several books written by local authors/historians. It was a pleasure to speak to so many people who were interested in searching for their own family history, and to be able to offer them direction to locate more family history. Internet communication has greatly enhanced our ability to search our roots and we were pleased to be able to assist with this endeavour.



Photo courtesy of Angela Cronk  
AFHS Float Team: Bud Holly, John Gordon, Angela Cronk, Grant Hyuck, Peter Cameron, Judy Smith  
Absent: Ted Davie



Dedication of Windmill Plaque  
Malcolm Smith and Jane Lovell

On July 23, we held a ceremony at 7499 Loyalist Parkway, on Howard Shaw's front lawn to view the commemorative plaque where Upper Canada's first windmill was built in the 1790s. There are a few references to this in some local history books and Gwendolyn M. Smith researched and wrote a book about the windmill in 1993. We were fortunate to have her son, Malcolm Smith, join us from Winnipeg to officially unveil the plaque. Following this, we gathered at the South Fred hall for refreshments.

Ted Davie deserves a huge thank you for planning, ordering and erecting this handsome memorial plaque! We also are fortunate to have the full cooperation of Mr. Shaw who is very pleased to have this on his front lawn. Thanks to Peter Cameron and his son for their assistance, too!



Our July meeting was held at my home where we enjoyed a social time afterward with some pot luck treats and refreshments. We then had an invitation from Ruth and Duncan Hough to hold our August meeting at their farm in celebration of their farm's 125<sup>th</sup> anniversary. The Houghs shared the history of the farm (with an array of photos as well) and told how farming has developed over the years. The perfect summer evening was complete with a display of old farming implements, a wagon ride into the fields and cake and ice cream before gathering in their dining room for our meeting. Many thanks, Ruth and Duncan for your hospitality and enriching our area with your family history!



**AFHS Members Tour the Hough Farm**

**Then and Now**

**Kathy Staples**



**circa 1984**  
**Photo courtesy of Kathy Staples**



**2012**  
**Photo courtesy of Kathy Staples**

The location of the house in the photo circa 1984 was a mystery until recently. Society members were polled and the house was eventually identified as the house that sits on the land originally deeded to Philip Dorland. The house is very old. It has some tin ceilings and was used for many years as a tenant house. The 2012 shot shows a sympathetic restoration of the house to its original lines.

## The Loyalist Tiles of St. Alban's - Rare Artistic Treasure

Diane Berlet

St. Alban the Martyr Anglican Church, Adolphustown, Ontario, was built in 1884 as a memorial to United Empire Loyalists. The interior of the church is encircled by an exceptionally beautiful tile frieze consisting of sixty-four tiles bearing inscriptions commemorating early Loyalists. The tiles have long been valued for their historical significance as testimony to lives of early Loyalists but it was only recently, when work was begun on a book to compile biographies of the individuals memorialized, that the intrinsic artistic value of the tiles themselves came to be appreciated.



Photo courtesy of Graem Coles

Over the course of three years (2009 -2011) the sixty-four biographies of the Tile People were carefully compiled using many sources including the archives at the United Empire Loyalist Cultural Centre and Museum in Adolphustown and archives and libraries in Napanee, Wellington, Bath and Kingston. Many reference books were consulted including two books published only after the research had begun. Personal correspondence with descendants and Internet searches yielded previously unpublished information which could be added to the biographies. As the biographies slowly took shape it was decided that the book should include information about the building of the church as well as a section dealing with the tiles as an art form.

We had assumed that the patterns and individual inscriptions of the St. Alban's tiles had been hand painted but during the course of our research we learned that they are in fact encaustic tiles. They are rare examples of an ancient art form that had a brief revival in the mid-19th century, and it was during this revival period that the St. Alban's tiles were ordered. By the end of the 19th century production of such tiles had virtually ceased because of the artistic demands and high cost of this labour-intensive art form. For ordinary decorative tiles the decoration is painted on using glazes, resulting in a pattern that can wear away easily. With encaustic tiles the patterns are achieved by embedding coloured clays into carved indentations in an unfired tile. The clay composition is then covered with a clear glaze and fired at high temperatures. The term encaustic stems from a Greek word meaning burnt in. Such tiles can only be produced in a studio employing artisans with exceptional molding skills and a knowledge of the colors different types of clays will produce when fired. The result is patterns, and in the case of the St. Alban's tiles also inscriptions, which are integral to the tile itself, producing durability as well as beauty. No paint or colouring, which could fade or wear off, is involved in the process of making encaustic tiles.

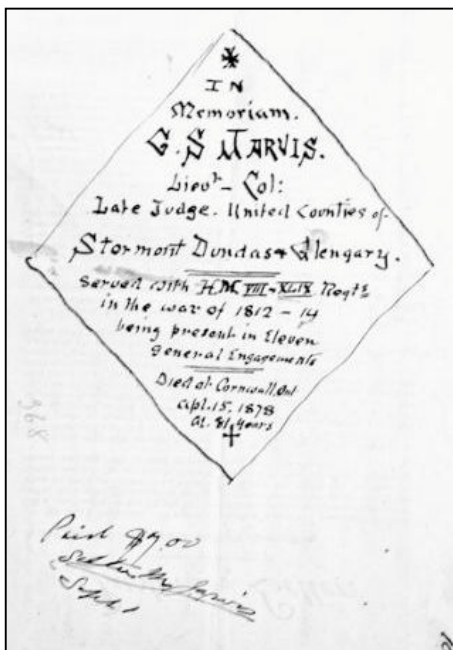
Researching the St. Alban's tiles was possible because Rev. Forneri, who oversaw all aspects of the building of the church in the 1880's, kept detailed records. All the original order forms for the tiles were in these records and with the help of tile experts from the Royal Ontario Museum and the Architectural



and Ceramic Society of the United Kingdom we were able to identify the source of production of the St. Alban's tiles as a studio and factory founded by Herbert Minton in Stoke-on-Trent, U.K. in 1788. A trip to Stoke-on-Trent and visits to the Gladstone pottery works and the Stoke City Archives yielded a wealth of information about the 19th rebirth of encaustic tile production. Herbert Minton, one of the best known ceramic and porcelain makers of his time, spent five long years in research at his pottery in Stoke-on-Trent in the 1840's attempting to produce inlaid tiles, endeavoring to replicate handmade medieval tiles created in the 13th Century. Twenty-four patterns such as fleur-de-lys and other Christian symbols were copied from the floor of the Chapter House in Westminster Abbey that had been laid with encaustic tiles that had been made by hand, probably by Cistercian monks, about 1252. Artistic designers created molds of patterns found in the Westminster tiles and, under Minton's supervision, trials were carried out until the method of creating inlaid patterns and lettering in the encaustic tiles manufactured at his works was perfected. There was a lot of trial and error as, when a tile was dried and fired, the clay of the pre-cast main body of the tile and clays used to fill the inlaid pattern indents tended to contract at a different rates. The inlaid patterns could then either shrink and fall out or expand and cause the main body of the tile to crack. Minton began to experiment with coloured clay slips of differing consistency to fill the designs and inscriptions and to apply lustrous glazes to the tiles to enhance the natural colours of various clays. His research was finally rewarded and beautiful tiles with inlaid patterns based on the medieval Westminster tiles, became available. The Minton tile works received many commissions to create tiles for a plethora of neo-gothic churches being built in the United Kingdom at the time. Minton received a commission for the refurbishment of the great Temple Church in London and used tiles patterned on the 13th century Westminster tiles for that project. Minton tiles were also used to restore damaged areas of the Chapter House Floor of the Abbey.

In 1889 Reverend Forneri was able to order from the Minton family tile works the first thirty-three tiles for the sixty-four tile wall frieze he envisioned as encircling the interior of the church. The hand made tiles bearing inscriptions to honour United Empire Loyalist who had settled in Canada from Nova Scotia to Detroit were carefully packed and shipped from Stoke-on-Trent to Adolphustown. The tiles were all

sponsored by descendants of the Loyalists who paid seven dollars for a buff tile and twelve dollars for a blue tile. This sum covered the production cost of the tile, transportation by land and sea and installation in the church. Reverend Forneri intended it to be a wall of honour to the Loyalists. We know the details of his efforts to contact descendants, the cost of each individual tile and all the shipping details because Reverend Forneri kept meticulous records of his efforts. He used an old church ledger and entered carefully scripted details in columns, headed, Bride, Groom and Witness. His precious scrapbook is carefully preserved in the Anglican Church Diocese office in Kingston, Ontario.



Jarvis Tile Order



Delivered Tile

Note the "artistic liberties" taken by the Minton artisans when creating the tile.

Photos courtesy of Graem Coles



Aside from the St. Alban's tiles, the only other significant installations of Minton encaustic tiles now extant in North America that we have been able to identify to date are found in the parliament buildings in Quebec City and the Capitol building in Washington. If you happen to be in London taking a tour of Westminster Abbey be sure and examine tiles on the floor of the Chapter House, Minton's original source of inspiration for the St. Alban's tiles. If you are taking a tour of the Capitol building in Washington the guide will point out the rare and beautiful encaustic tile floors in some of the hallways and rooms. Pause for a moment on your tour to reflect that a similar artistic treasure can be found in a small church in Adolphustown, Ontario.

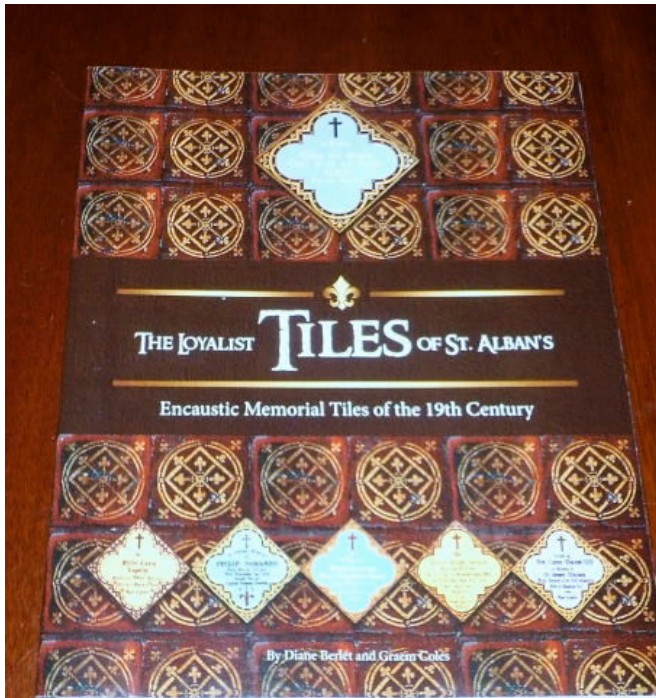


Photo courtesy of Diane Berlet

With the help of a generous Trillium grant, Diane Berlet and Graem Coles have been able to publish a book entitled the Loyalist Tiles of St. Alban's. The book includes the biographies of the sixty-four 'tile people', an individual full-page photo of each tile and a section on the production and installation of the St. Alban's tiles. The book also includes coloured illustrations of Christian symbols and other details found on the tiles of both the 13th Century Westminster Abbey Chapter House floor and those on the walls of St. Alban's for comparison. The cost of the book is \$50 and the cheque can be made payable to the Historic Tile and Book Association. All proceeds of sales will be devoted to the preservation and promotion of the tiles.

To order a copy of the book contact:

- Diane Berlet at [dianeberlet4@aol.com](mailto:dianeberlet4@aol.com)

To view St Alban's Church contact:

- Ted Davie at [teddavie@xporenet.ca](mailto:teddavie@xporenet.ca) or
- Joan Coles at [graem.coles@xporenet.ca](mailto:graem.coles@xporenet.ca)

*"History" is a Greek word which means, literally, just "investigation."*

*Arnold Toynbee*

## Clippings

### SANDHURST AND CONWAY

A grand demonstration is to held in Ontario street park on the 24<sup>th</sup> of May, the same day as the corner stone for the light house is to be laid at Sillsville. The Managers are not sparing any pains to make this a success. The principal amusement of the day will be the baseball match between the Ladies club and the Francis club. This game is to commence at 10:30 a.m., sharp. There will also be bicycle races, and the race between Young and Wiskin for the championship. Some famous speakers will be present, including a few of the cabinet ministers. Speeches to commence at 3:30 p. m. Some half dozen boats including Rob Roy, Wood-Duck and Columbia, have been engaged to carry excursionists from all points up and down the bay to this place. Admission to the grounds 25 cents.

*Napanee Beaver*  
May 18, 1897

### FREDERICKSBURG POST OFFICE

We are happy to say, the Post Office in this township, discontinued last summer, has been recently re-established, Mr. W. J. Sloan, Post Master.

*British Wig*  
February 19, 1848

**CAUTION** - A person of the name of CYRUS COSY, 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 in discreet 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 tho't 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

*Kingston Gazette*  
June 14, 1817

Clippings courtesy of Susan Wright  
& Jane Lovell

To see more old newspaper clippings check out the *Articles* page on our website:  
<http://www.sfredheritage.on.ca/articles.html>



## Help Us Identify This:

Do you recognise this house? It is thought that the photo was taken in the early 1900s of a house in the southern part of South Fredericksburgh.



Photo Courtesy of Susan Wright

## Feedback from June's Help Us Identify This:



No feedback was received to identify the woman with the cow or the companions appearing with Amelia Allison in the winter shot.

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

## Hog Chasing

Jane Lovell

There are only a few islands in the Bay of Quinte. One of them is a twelve-acre tract of land just north of what is now known as Young's Point in the old township of Adolphustown. The island is unnamed on several pre- and post-grant maps (circa 1784), including one entitled the "Quebec Plan". By the time the island was granted (or the grant was registered) to Peter Van Alstine Dorland in 1855, however, the island was known as Hog Island. This name appears on the Township of Adolphustown map appearing in the 1878 Illustrated Historical Atlas of the Counties of Frontenac, Lennox and Addington, Ontario.



Chasing down the provenance of Hog Island has been something of a challenge.

Title searches typically start in the provincial land registry office, where all land transfers are registered. The Napanee Archives is now the custodian of the early local township Land Transfer Abstract Indexes and the transfer documents for most transfers registered between 1797 and 1958. There are one or more Abstract Indexes per township, and within an Index, transfers are registered according to Concession and Lot. All of Young's point is in Concession 1 of Adolphustown Township. Due to the proximity of Hog Island to Young's Point, one might expect that Hog Island would be listed under Concession 1. Not so. Only after scouring the index was the page found for Hog Island – inexplicably under Concession 5! (Concession 5 runs along Long Reach.)

The first entry for Hog Island lists the deed from the Crown to Peter V. Dorland in 1855. The next entry records the sale of the island from "Wm Grace et ux" to D. W. Allison in 1882 for the sum of one dollar. So, two mysteries: How did William Grace and his wife come into possession of the island originally granted to Peter Dorland, and why did they sell it for a dollar?

A privately maintained genealogical database containing information on many local families shows that Peter Dorland's daughter died a year after the birth of her daughter Bessie Maria Bogart. Bessie married William Grace in 1855 (coincidentally the year Peter registered his grant for the island). One could suppose that the island was inherited by Bessie on the death of her grandfather Peter in 1860. Bessie's husband William Grace is shown as the owner of the island on the map in the 1878 atlas.

Often a one-dollar sale price is associated with the transfer of land between family members. There does not appear to be any such relationship between William Grace and David Wright Allison. However, the transfer of title from Grace to Allison in 1882 was registered on the same date as the sale of 80 acres of the West Half of Lot 31 Concession 1 on Young's Point. Lot 31 was inherited by Peter Dorland from his father Thomas Dorland (co-grantee of lots 31, 32 and 33) in 1837, and was sold by O. T. Pruyn and W. Grace to D. W. Allison in 1882. The text of the deed for Lot 31 identifies Oliver Thatford Pruyn (of South Fredericksburgh, Sheriff of Lennox and Addington) as the executor of Peter Dorland's will, and indicates that the property belonged to Bessie according to the will dated on December 30 1859. This adds further credence to the supposition that Bessie inherited Hog Island, along with part of Lot 31, from her grandfather.



So it was that Hog Island passed out of the hands of the Dorland family as part of a larger deal, where the island was included for an extra dollar on the purchase price of a nearby property.

The deed for the sale from Grace to Allison describes the island as "...being composed of Hog Island at the mouth of Carnachan Bay in the Bay of Quinte opposite to and to the north of Dorland or Adolphustown Point in the First Concession..." This description of the island appears in all subsequent changes in title.

When D.W. Allison sold the island to Archibald and Allen Dingman in 1890, the island was described as above, subject to "a lease of the same dated the twentieth day of May one thousand eight hundred and eighty from William Grace of the Town of Lindsay in the County of Victoria Esquire to Daniel Davy of the Town of Napanee ...". It looks as if Daniel Davy leased the island in 1880 in order to establish a resort on the island. In 1881 the island was referred to as Davy's island when an article in the British Whig announced the christening of Davy's daughter aboard a boat off the island, and by 1884 newspaper announcements show that American tourists were visiting the island. Davy's Island is mentioned in the 1887 *Canadian Wheelmen's Association Guidebook*, along as a steamboat excursion destination from nearby towns on the Bay of Quinte. The 1889 *Guide to the Fishing and Hunting Resorts in the Vicinity of the Grand Trunk Railway of Canada* lists Davy's island offering accommodation at a rate of \$1 per day, with daily boats connection to Napanee, Belleville, Kingston and Picton.

The terms of Davy's lease are unknown but two years after the island's 1890 purchase by Archibald and Allen Dingman, an advertisement appeared for the resort, then run by the Dingman brothers. However, it was not until Archibald and Allen Dingman transferred their interests in the island to a third brother, Dougall, that the island was legally identified to by the name by which we know it today. The deed of 1896 describes the island as previously with the following addendum: "which Island is now known by the name of Glen Island".

**YOUR WIFE ...**  
OR  
**YOUR SWEETHEART**

Should certainly ride a Bicycle, but it is your duty to see that she rides a good one.

A Wheel that does not Tax a Woman's Strength to Pedal nor a Woman's Ingenuity to Keep in Running Order is

**THE CLEVELAND**

PRICES \$75 AND \$100.

**H. A. LOZIER & CO.** SEND FOR CATALOGUE

TORONTO.

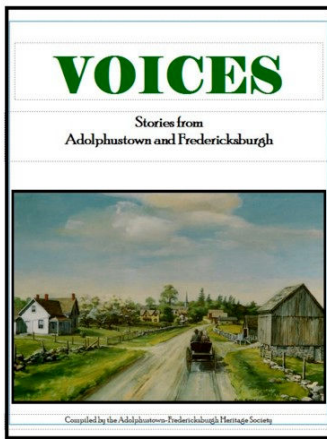
Agents - **BOYLE & SON, Napanee.**



*Napanee Beaver*  
May 14, 1897

## From the Book Shelf

Over the years the Society has published a number of books recounting the history of our community. This section normally features one of our previously published works, but in keeping with our theme of perusing and recording history, in this issue we will instead highlight a new volume currently in production.



### Voices

#### Stories from Adolphustown and Fredericksburgh

Voices is a collection of snapshots in time, where each page is a complete story, capturing some aspect of life in our community for a specific year over the decades since the area was first settled. The "stories" are varied: Some are simply a collection of old newspaper clippings, a photograph or two, and perhaps a snippet of a birth certificate – all of which when viewed together tell the story of a person or an event. Others are descriptions of how things were done in years gone by, tell the history of a place, or recount a special event from the past.

All of these stories have been submitted by members of our community. We are looking for more! Can you help?

There are lots of things that can be a seed for a story. Here are some items around which a story can be told:




- An old document:
  - Deed
  - Will
  - Letter or postcard
  - Invoice
  - Newspaper article
- An old photo:
  - Family gatherings
  - Holiday snaps
  - Community events
- An "Artifact" -- something in your possession that was part of everyday life from years gone by.

The stories can be things you know about or have experienced, or that you remember being told by a parent or grandparent. Here are just a few story ideas:

- The war years
- The farm or the family business
- Community clubs or events
- Families overcoming hardship
- Life during the depression
- Leisure time activities
- Extreme weather
- Ancestors
- Farm or property histories
- School memories



The following two pages are sample pages from Voices.

1793	<h3 style="text-align: center;">Slote's Inn</h3> <p style="text-align: center;">Submitted by: Kathy Staples</p>
	<p>1793 - From the diary of W. Hambly, L.S.  <i>Dec. 14<sup>th</sup> - Crossed back bay to Slote's and lodged.</i>          (Michael Slote, a prominent Justice of the Peace of Adolphustown, who also kept an Inn.)          W. Hambly left Kingston on Dec. 11, and went by bateau to Bath. He went on to Major Van Alstine's, before lodging at Slote's Inn. He then walked and pulled a hand sled to Cornelius Van Horne's inn as the bay was open; on to Mr. Lazier's in P.E. Co. and on to Belleville.          This took nine days.</p>
	<p>Crown Deed to Michael Slote - 100 acres          " I do hereby certify that the Lot marked B in the township of Adolphus Town appears by the original plan of Said Township to be bounded on the east by the Westernmost line of Lot number Twenty-eight, and to the Northward by a line drawn at right angles to the said Westernmost line of Lot number twenty-eight beginning at the distance of twenty chains more or less from the northernmost bank of Perch Cove and extending from thence west 31 degrees south until it strikes Little Cove.</p>
<p>On October 27, 1806, Michael Slote sold his property, dwellings house, barn, stables and outhouses, to Paul Trumpour for the sum of 550 pounds.          On June 15, 1810 John P. Trumpour, Paul's eldest son, married Elizabeth Dorland, daughter of John and Elizabeth (Ricketson) Dorland. After Paul's death, the property and dwellings went to John.          Since the original inn was made up of two regular-sized bedrooms and two small inn rooms, it is felt that the next addition was added around this time since John and Elizabeth had eight children.          John died in the house on Feb. 19, 1846 and between this time and 1893 the property remained as stated. In 1893, Simeon W. Trumpour, John's eldest son, was deeded the house and property. He was around seventy-five years old, married to Augusta Clark, and had no children.          When Simeon died on Dec. 1, 1894 the land was deeded to Thomas Nelson and Louisa (Bygott) Trumpour. Thomas was Simeon's 2<sup>nd</sup> cousin. Again, there were no children so in 1904 the land was deeded to Louisa (Bygott) Trumpour's brother Franks Bogart Bygott.          By then the old summer kitchen had been winterized, a back set of stairs led to a hired hands' bedroom. However there was no indoor plumbing or hydro.</p>	<p>The property was mortgaged, and on May 11, 1939 William E. and M. Ruth Staples purchased the 100 acres from the Agricultural Development Board. Modern conveniences arrived in the form of a bathroom, hydro and a telephone. In 1975 the property passed on to their son, W.B. Lawson Staples and his wife, Katherine. Another addition was added to the house in 1990.          The old 1790 inn, at the end of Staples Lane still remains in Staples' hands.</p>
	



## Adolphustown Village

Submitted by: Susan Wright

1887

## ADOLPHUSTOWN

DEAR MR. EDITOR, -- Can you be so unkind to your old friends in this good old village of Adolphustown, of U.E. Loyalist fame, the birth place of many distinguished men and no less than fifteen members of Parliament, and today one of the most beautiful and picturesque villages in the Province of Ontario. How did you come to permit any correspondent through malice or any other cause to say "this place had lost its charms for business," or anything else?

No, Mr. Editor, that is not the case; on the contrary this village is in every way prosperous. We have to record in the first place a first-class general store, under the management of Mr. J. Frank Chalmers, where you can buy everything that is required in the country, having a large and well assorted stock at as low prices as can be bought in Picton or Napanee, and having few expenses and buying his goods in Montreal and the best markets elsewhere.

The post office is also in a flourishing condition and I am credibly informed that the income was never greater than at the present time; that more than nine-tenths of the post office business is done upon the Bath route, and not upon the Napanee, as has been asserted.

Another industry, I may mention, that is considered a great boom to the surrounding country, is the steam saw mill, kept in full blast for a considerable portion of the season by a worthy inhabitant, Thos. F. Gibbs, jr.

In addition to this, it is the place of residence of the Rural Dean, Rev. R. S. Forneri, through whose instrumentality and the liberality of the members of the church of England, here have erected a U.E. Loyalist Memorial Church, of graceful gothic style, externally finished except the steeple, and of which the entire cost will be when finished about \$7,500.

This village is also the place of residence of the Rev. W. R. Young, of the Methodist Church, a minister held in the highest estimation by all classes of people here and wherever else he is known, and bids fair from his piety and earnestness to take an exalted position in the Methodist Church.

We have also a goodly number of retired gentlemen of wealth and respectability, and the ladies are well known for their hospitality, piety, and charity.

And, moreover, about the time of the Queen's Jubilee, a monument will be erected to the memory of the U.E. Loyalists, whose remains lie in the old cemetery, mainly through the perserving energy of a few of the remaining scions of that good old stock, therefore,

Let no rude foe with ruthless hand  
Or impious discontent,  
Mar the happiness of its inhabitants.

YOURS etc., TRUTH

P.S. A large vessel is fitting out in our harbor, and in a short space of time we shall have the daily steamers calling at our wharves. A lovely place of summer resort, and facilities for any kind of business or pleasure, and a good house of public entertainment under the control of Mr. and Mrs. Garner.

*Newspaper Clipping April 23 1887*



Thomas F. Gibbs



Rev. R. S. Forneri



Rev. W. R. Young

We are eager to include your stories and images from the past in *Voices*. If you would like to contribute a story please contact Susan Wright at [southfred373@kos.net](mailto:southfred373@kos.net).

**We want to hear *your* voice: Please consider telling us your stories!**

## A Curious Thing

Angela Cronk



June's Curious Thing

Several people recognized our last item that was displayed but the most interesting part was the variation in names of the musical instrument! Malcolm Smith was the first to respond on-line and he knew it as a juice harp that his father used to have. Our committee members also had a few different names for it - Jaw and Jew's harp. Upon investigation on Google, it was found to have been called many different names and has been used for centuries in various countries/cultures around the world.

There is a double and triple harp used in the Vietnamese culture. It has also been in Nepalese, Chinese, Austrian and Ozark history used as a mantra, in blue grass, country music and as a part of symphonic music. The mouth harp or lip's twanger can also be found in all ranges - bass, alto, tenor and soprano. You can also buy one on line with the brand name of Snoopy!!

One truly can learn something new every day!

## What is this?



Submitted by Duncan Hough

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

### **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* 4 times a year: in April, June, September and over the winter. If you have an old photograph or newspaper clipping to share, a story to tell, or an event to publicize, let us know. Submissions for the Winter issue can be sent to [jane.lovell@kos.net](mailto:jane.lovell@kos.net) anytime before the end of January 2013.

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All uncredited photographs supplied by Jane Lovell