

IT'S ABOUT TIME...

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE PORT HOPE ARCHIVES

A "SPEEDY" HISTORY OF HIGHWAY 401

In August we received an exciting donation of Port Hope postcards, and other paper ephemera. Among these postcards was one which I found of particular interest: "Greetings from Scott's Restaurants and Texaco Service Centre," c1960s.

Space-ship themed service stations once dotted the mighty 401 corridor. They have now all but been replaced by more contemporary "OnRoute" centres. However, images such as the one below live on to document the early days of the transportation giant.

The King's Highway 401 (or Macdonald-Cartier Freeway) was first proposed in 1938 as an efficient way to move large concentrations of traffic across Southern Ontario. With such a grand plan in place, it is not surprising that the 401 took over 20 years to complete.

December 1947 saw the opening of the first section in Toronto with subsequent lanes opened across the rest of Ontario. The 401 was officially completed on 11 Oct 1968.

The highway was built with a focus to alleviate congested areas first, in a patch-work pattern. The section from Toronto eastward to Wesleyville was completed by December 1960, with the area from Port Hope to Brighton completed the following Spring (June 1961).



Greetings from Scott's Restaurants and Texaco Service Centre Postcard, c1960s (PHA#2013-34-3-4988)



Opening of Highway 401 through Port Hope, Michael Wladyka and Jane Hutton, 1961 (PHA# 995-20-4-1307)

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

History of Highway 401	1
Collection Updates	2
Remembering J. Boughen.....	2
Archivist's Message	3
Notes from the Chair.....	3
From the Photo Database	4
Insert:	
Tales of a Co-op Student	5

PORT HOPE ARCHIVES

17 Mill Street North
Port Hope, ON L1A 2T1
porthopearchives.com
archives@porthope.ca
905-885-1673

HOURS

Tue-Fri 1-5pm
1st Sat 9am-1pm (Oct-May)
Other times by appointment

MANDATE:

The Port Hope Archives exists to collect and preserve archival materials which illustrate the growth and development of the Municipality of Port Hope or which pertain in whole or in part to activities within the geographic boundaries of the Municipality of Port Hope.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Pam Robinson, Chair
Marielle Lambert, Vice-Chair
Peter Hunt, Treasurer
Dave Doherty, Secretary
Barbara Coleman
Evelyn Conn
David Elliott
Marie Jones

The Port Hope Archives is a registered charity.

#83789 8675 RR0001

REMEMBERING JOHN BOUGHEN

We at the Archives mark the passing of John Boughen earlier this summer. A long-time member of the PHA, his family is deeply rooted in this community, and he was devoted to the history of the region. His knowledge and interests spanned a wide range of subjects: from agriculture and farming methods to early settler patterns to family histories and municipal development. His involvement with the Archives traces back to our early roots, and his most recent project of seeing an historical plaque erected at the site of Bletcher's Inn was one we supported wholeheartedly. Over the years, he donated many items of significance to our collection, and we are heartened and proud to know part of his legacy to the community lives on here.

Above all, he was a kind and generous man, who often dropped by the Archives to share information, discuss his on-going projects, or just to have a good chat. We are stricken by his passing, and extend our deepest sympathies and thoughts to the Boughen family.

- Contributed by Pam Robinson, PHA Chair

UPDATES FROM OUR COLLECTION

The PHA recently received a very interesting donation of Scout badges, they paint an interesting picture of youth groups/organizations in Port Hope in the late 20th century.

The collection includes: Kiwanis International; Port Hope District; Pine Ridge Cobourg District; Cobourg District Spring Camporee, 1973; Queen's Silver Jubilee Scouts Canada, 1977; Wolf Cubs Diamond Jubilee, Hope Mill, 1976; 1st Perrytown Scouting 10th Anniversary, 1987; Port Hope District Cub Camp, 1975; and Scout Calendar Sales Collection ("I am a salesman for Scout Calendar" Ribbon, Scout Calendar Star Salesman Patch, Calendar Sales Tips Card).

At the height of scouting in Port Hope District there were twelve (12) groups: 1st St. Mark's, 2nd Port Hope Baptist, 3rd St. Mary's, 4th St. John's, 5th Port Hope United, 6th St. Paul's, 7th Salvation Army, 8th Port Hope Welcome (later 1st Welcome), 9th Trinity College School, 10th Kiwanis (Howard Jordan School), 1st Perrytown, 1st Millbrook.



*Port Hope District Cub Camp Patch,
1975 (PHA# 2013-36-8)*

ARCHIVIST'S MESSAGE

Another summer has come and gone. While some people greet this particular change in season with great trepidation; I love the fall! I welcome the bright orange and red leaves, the influx of material donations to the collection, and the events that come with the season.

On September 13-15th weekend we hosted our usual booth at the Fall Fair. This year we chose to **match the Fair's theme, settling on "B is for..." Businesses!** We highlighted a few great videos from our oral history project and received a lot of great feedback. I always look forward to displaying all the wonderful materials in the PHA collection, and chatting about the many facets of Port Hope's amazing history with members of our local community.

The first "official" weekend of Fall saw our 8th annual fundraising yard sale. We had a great heap of donated items to sell, and this year we decided to add a BBQ into the mix! Many thanks to David Elliott and Davis' Your Independent Grocer for their very generous donations to the BBQ. I would also like to take this opportunity to recognize all of our volunteers who worked tirelessly to ensure that the event was a success, even with the rain! Special thanks go out to board member, Barb Coleman, who took the reins this year, and to whom we are eternally grateful!

And so, we at the PHA greet Fall with open arms and wonder what other delights it may bring before the dreaded "s" word makes an appearance.

ERIN

"If you don't know history, then you don't know anything. You are a leaf that doesn't know it is part of a tree." - Michael Crichton, Author

NOTES FROM THE CHAIR

As I write this, we've just finished our annual fundraising Yard Sale & BBQ. Despite the miserable weather, we surpassed our achievements of previous years. To everyone who donated goods or came out to buy items, a very big thank you. Thanks especially to all of our Board members and volunteers, who donated, picked up and priced items, and arose at an ungodly hour to get the sale up and running on a soggy Saturday morning. David Elliott came up with the idea to add in a BBQ, and has now been awarded the title of Chief Cook for the PHA. A special thanks to our Board member Barb Coleman, who organized this year's event with the deft efficiency and grace that could only have come from a retired schoolteacher.

After nine years (!!!), this summer John Bennett made good on his oft spoken threat (usually at AGM's) to give up the reins of Treasurer of the Archives. In this world, none of us is irreplaceable ... but John came pretty darn close to being so. He has guided us through many changes over the years, with a steady hand and impeccable financial sense. His devotion to the Archives was, and is, unshakeable. Quite simply, we would not be where we are today without him. He has left our finances in the very capable hands of Peter Hunt, who has made the transition seamless.

Our on-going Oral History project has elicited much praise and interest from near and far, here in Port Hope and Northumberland County, and in other regions of the province and country. I'd again urge members to remember this project as you go about your daily lives. So many memories and stories abound in this community, as I was reminded during our exhibit at this year's Fall fair. Don't be shy – tell us your story!

And finally, while on the topic of this year's Fall fair, I'd like to extend congratulations and thanks to the Port Hope & District Agricultural Society for their tremendous exhibit of local area Barns. A marvelous collection combining photographs and research, this exhibit will eventually make its home at the Archives after touring the region. Many thanks to the organizers for their exceptional work, and for donating their research to us for all to enjoy in the future.

DAM

FROM THE PHOTO DATABASE...



Builders, Port Hope High School Extension, Pine Street

PHA#995-52-5-266

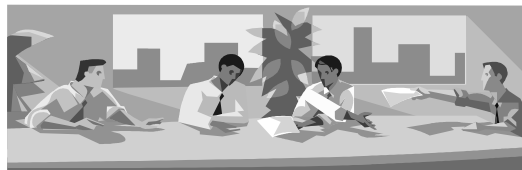
This photo and others can be found in our Flickr photostream:

www.flickr.com/photos/porthopearchives

Description: B&W photograph featuring members of a construction crew working on the 1926 addition to the old Port Hope High School on Pine Street North. Thomas Garnett & Sons, Contractors. Thomas is seated first right.

BOARD MEMBERS NEEDED

If you're interested in preserving the history of your community, have fund-raising experience, or any other skills you think might benefit the PHA Board of Directors, contact us at archives@porthope.ca, by phone: 905-885-1673, or just drop by!



PORT HOPE ARCHIVES

17 MILL STREET NORTH | PORT HOPE, ONTARIO L1A 2T1

905.885.1673 | archives@porthope.ca | porthopearchives.com



TALES FROM A CO-OP STUDENT

First, let me start by explaining what co-op is, if you don't already know. Co-operative (co-op) education is a program within schools that allows students to get involved in a fulltime work experience in exchange for extra credits. Although, for some students, this is a program to gain credits if they are lacking some to graduate. I personally chose to do this program because it could possibly open doors for new opportunities and experiences for me in the future; however close or far away that might be. When first deciding on a placement, I wanted to choose something that would help me advance in English and literature; so my first thought was the Port Hope Public Library. Finding out later my request had been denied, due to the lack of work a co-op student could fulfill, my co-op teacher suggested and placed me at the Port Hope Archives.

When I first started my placement at the Archives, I felt a bit uncomfortable and out of place. I had never done any archival work, or even been in the Archives prior to my co-op placement, so I was a bit stand-offish on what to do. My first day I did research and learned a lot about the history of the town, which made me start to relax a bit. By the end of the day I had everything done, and had fun doing it as well. I couldn't wait until the next day.

Although I haven't been at the Archives for very long, I have met a lot of people. My supervisor, the volunteers, and even the researchers have all been very helpful and friendly to me since I've started here. They have been patient with me when trying to teach me new techniques or skills, and taken time to answer all the questions I've had. I always feel a calm and welcoming 'vibe' when I step into the building, which makes me feel relaxed and not as tense. The people I work with give me a good experience being here.

Another thing I love about working at the Archives is all the history here. Everything I've seen so far is so interested and dated that I wish I could sit down and look through all of it. It has also been a great learning experience for me because of the rich history of the town. It is so cool to see how people dressed, how they got around, and what our town looked like so long ago. If you have a passion for history, then the archives is the place to be; the information is right at your fingertips.

In conclusion, my co-op experience at the Archives has been one of fun, camaraderie, and interest. At first I was a bit disappointed that I didn't get a placement at the library, because of my familiarity with the building and people, but if I wasn't accepted then I wouldn't have had the privilege of working at the Archives. The research is fun, the people are friendly, and the history is interesting. I strongly suggest people who are passionate for history, want to learn about their family or town history, or even just to browse to stop by the Archives and look around. I guarantee by the end of your time here, you will learn something new. I know I did.

**BY AMANDA LEGERE
ST. MARY SECONDARY SCHOOL**

**The Port Hope Archives had the privilege of hosting Amanda as a Summer Co-op Student from June-August 2013. We wish her the best of luck in all her future endeavours!*

"If you have a passion for history, then the archives is the place to be; the information is right at your fingertips." - Amanda Legere, 2013



“OUR MEMORIES: DOWNTOWN PORT HOPE” ORAL HISTORY PROJECT

Have you ever owned a business in Port Hope? Help us document YOUR stories of downtown Port Hope and share them with the world online - and in the archives - for future generations!

If you would like to participate in the project and have your memories recorded please contact us:

PORT HOPE ARCHIVES
17 MILL STREET NORTH
PORT HOPE, ON L1A 2T1
PHONE: 905-885-1673

EMAIL: archives@porthope.ca

WEB: www.porthopearchives.com

YOUTUBE:

<http://www.youtube.com/user/PHArchives>

