

It's About Time...



NEWSLETTER OF THE PORT HOPE ARCHIVES

"FILING" AWAY AT THE EARLY HISTORY OF NICHOLSON FILE COMPANY

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Over the past few months the PHA has been approached by several patrons for information on the old Nicholson File Co. factory. While most Port Hoppers are aware of the history of the building on Cavan Street, a question begs to be asked: Do they know how the building got there?

Let's start at the beginning: Frederick Outram was born in England to George Outram and Sarah Hunt on 4 Sep 1846. The family immigrated to Montreal where George and Frederick began working for file manufactur-

ers named Kinmonds, before creating their own firm.

In 1882 Outram was partners with his father in a Montreal-based metal file manufacturing company. It was during this time that he developed specifications and received a patent number for a file cutting machine. The patent papers helped Frederick in moving his file factory to Ontario, and they have found a permanent home at the Port Hope Archives.

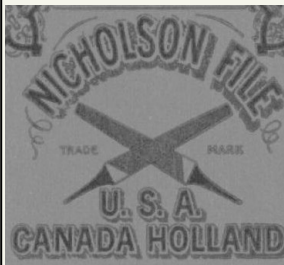
After re-locating several times, Outram saw enormous potential in Port Hope and decided to open Globe File Manufacturing on the site of the old Beamish Mill, on the bank of the Ganaraska River. It was with the

promise from council of 10 tax-free years of operation, that Outram built his factory in 1888.

Frederick Outram lived out his days in Port Hope, in his home on Brown Street. He died on 6 Sep 1922, just days after his 76th birthday. He along with most of the Outram family are buried in Union Cemetery.

In 1901, Globe File Manufacturing Co. merged with Nicholson File Company; a Rhode Island-based manufacturer looking to expand its operation. The Nicholson File Company was founded in 1834 by William Thomas Nicholson (1834-1893) and existed until 1972, at which time the company was bought out by Cooper Tools (now Apex Tool Group).

For more information on Nicholson File Company or other Port Hope businesses, contact us.



Nicholson File label, from shipping box (PHA 2011.10)



One of the many photos of factory employees. Nicholson File workers, 1902 (PHA 2008-15-1-3021)

NEWS FROM THE COLLECTION

Late in 2011 we received an exciting military collection originally belonging to the late Edwin Albert Osborn. It was transferred to us after the death of his wife Gladys, by their niece. The collection includes Osborn's military documents, artifacts (including medals), and photographs; and provides a near-complete record of one Port Hoper's quest to serve Canada during World War II.

Edwin Albert Osborn (1920-1984) was born in Perrytown, ON to Lillian E. Osborn, 30 Oct 1920. Before the war Edwin worked for Crane Manufacturing, where he returned after the war (in addition to a stint at Eldorado). He was a Gunner in the 22nd Light A.A., Royal Canadian Army. Serving for the duration of the war he spent time in the United Kingdom, France, Belgium, Holland, and Germany. After returning home he married Gladys M. Warder (1917-2010), the couple had no children. Edwin died in 1984 at the age of 64, and is buried in Ward 2's Knoxville Cemetery.



Edwin Albert Osborn during active service, 1939-1945 (PHA 2011-44-3-4760)

ARCHIVIST'S MESSAGE

Erin Walsh, B.A.H., M.I.S.T

Spring is a time of new beginnings; buds start to bloom, grass starts to green, and researchers re-emerge and enter the archives.

This year is setting up to be yet another exciting one in terms of donations and acquisitions. So far we're on par with previous years' donation numbers, receiving some really neat items.

Early on in February we graciously accepted

an interesting collection from the Estate of M. Jacqueline Rosevear. The fonds consists of school notebooks, photographs, and even a 1966 Port Hope Voters' List for those avid genealogists among us!

The PHA has also been offered the chance to network more within the local archives community; through a generous invitation to join the Durham Region Area Archives Group. The group will host joint

events throughout the year, with the first being in Oshawa on April 4th (as a part of Archives Awareness Week). This is just the start of what we hope will be a great partnership!

Another big event coming up is our Annual Spring Open House, settling into its new slot in early May. On May 12th, from Noon to 4pm come on out for a visit and a snack and ask myself or a volunteer a question or take a little

tour! Everyone is welcome so bring a friend! More details to come.

As a final note, the main article in this edition was suggested by a researcher at the beginning of the year. If you have any suggestions for newsletter topics please feel free to contact me at 905-885-1673 or email archives@porthope.ca.

Happy Spring!

ERIN

INTRODUCING D.R.A.A.G. . . .

In the spring of 2011 a group of Durham Region - based archives and local history organizations decided to create a group where they could share ideas and host events for the local community. And so the Durham Region Area Archives Group was born!

The group's mandate on their website reads as follows: "The Durham Region Area Archives Group (DRAAG) is an advocacy and support group for the history of Durham Region. The group, made up of Durham's archives and libraries, works to promote and preserve the shared documentary heritage of Durham Region."

Given that Port Hope used to be part of Durham Region, the group, known as D.R.A.A.G., extended an invitation to the Port Hope Archives (and our archivist) to become members. As of February 2012, the PHA is now a repository listed on the website, and joins them on their journey to become an official chapter of the Archives Association of Ontario.

We will also assist with archives awareness events in the Durham Region area (including here in Northumberland). The first such event is occurring in Oshawa on Wednesday April 4th from 2-8pm. It will focus on *Preserving YOUR Family History* with booths on every topic from digitization, to document preservation, to conducting genealogical research. Hope to see you there!

For more information about D.R.A.A.G. and future events, check out their website:

<http://durhamregionarchivesgroup.com/>

UPCOMING EVENTS

Sunday March 25th:

Port Hope & District Historical Society Fair at the Lions Centre, 29 Thomas Street,
10am – 4pm

Wednesday April 4th:

Preserving YOUR Family History hosted by the Durham Region Area Archives Group at the Northview Branch of the Oshawa Public Library, 2-8pm

Saturday May 12th:

Port Hope Archives Annual Spring Open House at 17 Mill Street North, 12-4pm.
Come visit your local archives! Ask our archivist a question and enjoy tours & free refreshments! Hope to see you there!

CHECK OUT OUR WEBSITE!
WWW.PORTHOPEARCHIVES.COM

PORT HOPE ARCHIVES

17 Mill Street North
Port Hope, Ontario
L1A 2T1

Phone: (905) 885-1673
E-mail: archives@porthope.ca
Website: www.porthopearchives.com
Twitter: www.twitter.com/PHArchives

Our 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.

Donations:

All donations of \$25 or more are eligible for a tax receipt.
The Port Hope Archives is a registered charity.
Charitable Registration
#83789 8675 RR0001



Board of Directors:

Pam Robinson, Chair
Marielle Lambert, Vice-Chair
John Bennett, Treasurer
Dave Doherty, Secretary
Inga Belge
Barbara Coleman
Evelyn Conn
Deanna Moses

HOURS:

Tuesday to Friday 1:00pm—5:00pm
1st Saturday (October to May) 9:00am—1:00pm
OTHER TIMES BY APPOINTMENT

From the Photo Database ...

Port Hope Lawn Bowling Club, c. 1910

PHA 997-40-1-1414



This photo and others can be found in our Flickr photostream:
www.flickr.com/photos/porthopearchives

Description: Black and white photograph of the Port Hope Lawn Bowling Club, taken c. 1910. *Partially identified* on verso: A.E. Fulford (back, 4th from left); George Garnett (rear, 5th from left); Bailey Thompson (rear, 11th); Hank Rosevear (right front); Dr. Powers (front, stooping). "All very conjectural."

An all-male lawn bowling club was formed c.1900 in Port Hope, originally with four greens. A second club was opened for ladies in 1936. Before this time the club was also expanded to include eight greens. It continued to operate using grant funding, located behind St. Paul's Presbyterian Church at Pine and Walton Streets.