



It's About Time...

NEWSLETTER OF THE PORT HOPE ARCHIVES

PATIO TIME! A BRIEF HISTORY OF BREWERIES IN PORT HOPE

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While not everyone indulges in a cold brew on a hot summer's day, everyone knows someone who does. Beer has a very interesting history, one which did not skip over Port Hope, Ontario.

According to Ian Montagnes' book *Port Hope: A History*: "Brewing and distilling were for many years two of Port Hope's principal industries." The history of brewing and distilling in Port Hope is long and varied. It highlights the journey from the beginnings of brewing in the region, to the major breweries where many get their favourite summer beverage now.

After the initial settlement of the area, individuals such as John David Smith were more than happy to take on the second-rate grain from local farmers to make whisky and beer with the water from the Ganaraska and underground springs. In fact, Montagnes

notes that by 1844, a fledgling Port Hope (of only 2000 people) already had 5 distilleries and 1 brewery!

According an article in the Port Hope Evening Guide, 10 Mar 1978: "John T. Williams [father to the famous Col. A.T.H. Williams] operated a brewery in 1817 along the west side of what is known as the Brewery Lane which ran south from Walton Street, just west of what later became the St. Lawrence Hotel, built in 1853."

Other prominent names in the Port Hope brewing industry included: Molson, and Winslow and Ambrose. The former, Thomas Molson, operated a four-storey frame mill, but is known to have owned a distillery and brewery, and is thought to be related to the famous Montreal-based brewery family.

By 20 June 1874 the Messrs.

Winslow and Ambrose had their brewery work in full swing on Cavan Street. In that evening's edition of the Weekly Guide a tour of the facilities was detailed. The brewery, then called the "Highland Spring Brewery," consisted of various buildings and had a capacity of 5000 barrels, or nearly 2500 gallons daily, production value! The water was supplied by natural spring, and energy came from a steam engine, built by Nicholas & Company, also of Port Hope.

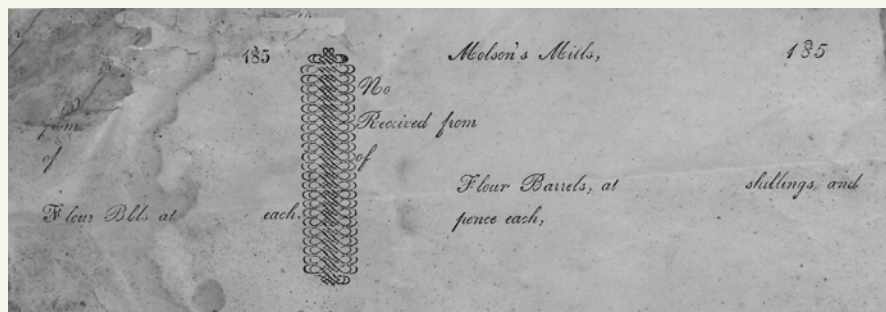
So, it seems, that brewing and distilling in Port Hope was a past-time for the fairly well-off and prominent town residents in the middle of the 19th century. That is until the turbulent time of prohibition hit our little town.

*Continued on page 2...

Below:

Molson's Mills
Receipt, mid-1800s,
blank.

From Furby Papers,
PHA 2008-6-1-25



BREWERIES, CONT'D

In 1885, a vote was undertaken by the United Counties of Northumberland and Durham wherein the council decided to disallow the sale of alcoholic beverages. This movement was due to a federal temperance act, and ended up resulting in the closure of half of Port Hope's taverns. After this type of action on the part of the government, the last remaining brewery of a once thriving industry was the Ambrose & Winslow Brewing Company. The building on Cavan Street had many lives after this stage as well, including: Port Hope Brewing & Malting Co., Canadian Cannery, and Stein Packers. Just as with everything else in the history of Port Hope, while breweries would come and go, it was the buildings with the true story to tell.

**Sources:*

Montagnes, Ian. "Port Hope: A History." Ganaraska Press, 2007.

Port Hope Evening Guide, 10 March 1978.

Port Hope Weekly Guide, 20 June 1874.



Ambrose & Winslow Brewing Co., also known as Port Hope Brewing & Malting Advertisement ca. 1910

PHA 2001-21-1-1091

ARCHIVISTS' MESSAGE

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

Summer, Summer, SUMMER has arrived at last! Finally, the season of boating, fishing, camping, cottaging and sunshine is here for all to enjoy!

Summer is a time to get out there, have some fun, and do some research, maybe down at your friendly neighbourhood archives **wink wink, nudge nudge**

I'm here all summer long to assist researchers with all their queries; whether your interest is local history, genealogy, photography and local art, or land records (for those who just haven't gotten around to filling in your Let's Make History form yet). We've got it all, so make a point to stop on by this summer!

In recent months we received some really neat donations of records from the papers of Dr. Wallace and Hazel Horn to more Land Registry Index books for property history buffs. Our catalogue is searchable from our reading room computer, as well as several other resources available on our website.

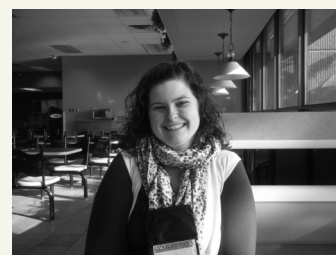
In addition to facilitating research requests, I'm going to spend the summer preparing for Estival Port Hope, the fall fair, our Annual Yard Sale, and supervising volunteers who are assisting with our digitization and Archives 2.0 project (using Flickr, Facebook and Twitter to share our collection with the world!).

In Mid-June I attended the Annual Archives Association of Ontario Conference in Barrie. The focus this year was on photograph collections and using social networking in archives. For more on our current photograph database project see page 4.

The conference, hosted by the Simcoe County Archives was held at Georgian College in Barrie. I carpooled with the Archivist from the Cobourg & District Historical Society Archives. We attended several sessions varying from Digitization & Reference Services to Managing Archival Photograph Collections. We also represented Northumberland County Archives at the banquet

eating across from the Keynote speaker.

Overall, the Spring has been excellent! Here's hoping Summer's even better for the PHA!



PHA Archivist, Erin at the AAO Conference in Barrie, June 16-18.



Simcoe County Archives, Barrie, ON

1, 2, 3 STRIKES YOU'RE OUT...

Unidentified Port Hope Baseball Team, dated 1890.

PHA 995-20-4-1364



... At the old ball game! Along with soccer, one of the most common uses of parks in the summer is baseball! And Port Hope embraced the baseball craze fairly early on. In fact, by the mid-nineteenth century towns in Southern Ontario were playing what was known as the "New York Game." According to www.histori.ca: "As the game spread on both sides of the border, many of the best players in the new leagues were Canadian. The Guelph Maple Leafs and the London Tecumsehs were among the best teams in North America in the 1870s."*

As the photograph to the left shows, Port Hoppers have always had a love for what is known as "America's Game," clearly this means it is Canada's game as well. Though this image is unidentified, it shows a group of men partaking in a favourite past-time of many

North Americans. Teams were created at one time or another for businesses in Port Hope, including: Nicholson File Factory, and the Port Hope Brewing Company (Ambrose & Winslow).

Currently, several leagues exist in our community. Adults and children, men and women alike, can still enjoy baseball and softball in fields throughout the Municipality of Port Hope. Make sure we all continue to "Root, Root, Root for the home team!" As our Port Hoper baseball fanatic ancestors did over 100 years ago!

*"Sports in Canada: Baseball"

<http://www.histori.ca/sports/baseball.html>

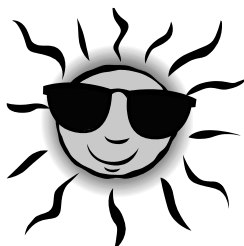
Note: Port Hope proudly claims to be the current home of Paul Quantrill, who played for several seasons as part of the Toronto Blue Jays, and many other teams. (http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Port_Hope,_Ontario)

NOTES FROM THE CHAIR...

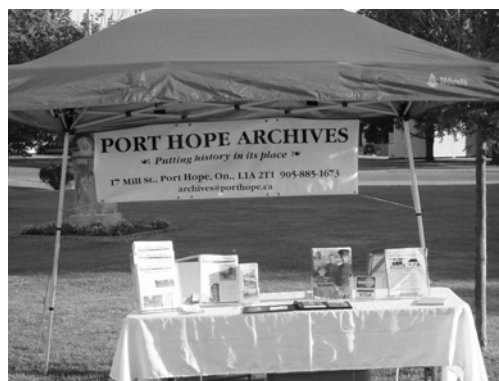
It feels like summer has been here for some time, but its just starting! If you haven't managed to pop in and see our new archivist, Erin Walsh, please do so. You will see many positive changes to the archives.

We are still collecting our Let's Make History questionnaire. We've had a number from both urban and rural areas of the Municipality. But, the overall response is much less than we anticipated. If you haven't filled out one yet please take time to do so. It will only take a few minutes. Information and forms are available on the website.

The Archives is open throughout the summer. Don't forget to check our booth out at **Estival**



Charles Taws
Chair



CHECK OUT OUR WEBSITE!
WWW.PORTHOPEARCHIVES.COM

PORT HOPE ARCHIVES

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

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.

HOURS:

Wednesday to Friday 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. -
Saturday 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

*We are closed EVERYDAY from 12 p.m. to 1 p.m.

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:

Charles Taws, Chair
Pam Robinson, Vice-Chair
John Bennett, Treasurer
Don Sellar, Secretary
Barbara Coleman
Dave Doherty
Marielle Lambert
Deanna Moses
Donna Strong

**For changes to our hours in
summer check our website**

Upcoming Events

*Catch us at these events
in the coming months!*

- ⇒ Estival! Port Hope
July 31st to Aug. 1st
- ⇒ Port Hope Fall Fair
September 17-19th
- ⇒ Annual Yard Sale
September 25th

Our Photograph Database!

One of the most exciting projects being currently undertaken at the Port Hope Archives is the development of a searchable database for our photograph collection (which is rapidly approaching 4000 images!). Five dedicated volunteers have spent the last several months painstakingly pouring through our photograph collection creating the metadata for entry in our brand new database dedicated exclusively to cataloguing photographs for use by researchers. All of our photos have now been entered! Phase 2 includes adding more detailed descriptions and weeding duplicates. It is our hope that the database will be completed by the end of the Fall months, at the latest. It is currently searchable in a very basic form. We'll keep everyone posted over the next few months on our progress!

Photos like the "Port Hope Life-Saving Crew" will be all searchable in our new database. Looking for an image? Come on down and test it out!



PHA 995-52-5-281

Welcome to our NEW Board Members!!!

Losing old friends, and gaining new ones...

This spring we were privileged to welcome three brand new board members to our team here at the Port Hope Archives: Barbara Coleman, Marielle Lambert, and Deanna Moses. They are replacing former board members Peter & Barbara Bolton and Jim Campbell. We would like to sincerely thank Peter, Barbara and Jim for all their hard-work and contributions to the PHA over their respective terms. Peter and Barbara are going to remain in their positions as Archives Volunteers, and we look forward to their continued participation!

Below you'll discover a bit about each of our new board members in their own words. We hope you'll welcome them and their future contributions to the Port Hope Archives.

BARBARA COLEMAN:

Hi, I'm Barb Coleman, a new member of the Port Hope Archives Board.

My husband, Bruce, and our children, Gwen and Ian reside in Port Hope. Bruce and I grew up in Port Hope, and continue to enjoy the benefits of living in a small town.

Although I am a retired elementary teacher, I continue to enjoy learning and sharing new

ideas. After graduating from Peterborough Teachers' College, I attended Trent University for two years then taught three years at an elementary school in Toronto. I returned to Trent to complete my degree and then taught one year in Thompson, Manitoba. (Cross-country skiing at -35C can be challenging !)

A few years ago, our family joined the Port Hope Archives, where I did some research about our century home. In Sept. 2008, Ian and I helped out with the Sept. Archives Yard Sale. To prepare for a family reunion I attended a workshop about tracing family history presented by our previous archivist. This workshop sparked a greater interest in becoming more involved with the Archives.

Our family is working on our "Let's Make History" project, and we encourage everyone to join this exciting archival history project in Port Hope.

At present I volunteer as a buddy reader at the Port Hope Library, and am also on the Library Board; member of the Friends of the Library; Cultural Advisory Committee; member of St. Mary's Secondary School Council; executive member of CWL and active member of Our Lady of Mercy Church.

I encourage you to visit the Archives and uncover the gems awaiting you about our community's heritage.

MARIELLE LAMBERT:

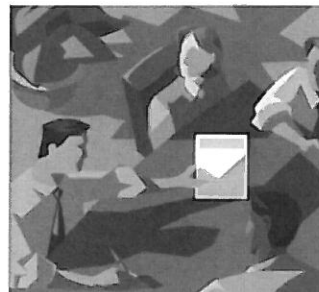
After graduating from Humber College as an interior designer I worked as an independent visual artist and showed at the Toronto Outdoor Art Exhibit & sold my work through a number of retailers including the Royal Ontario Museum.

My husband Will & I moved to Port Hope 11 years ago. Wanting to live in quiet community with heritage buildings and lots of history, we bought our circa 1875 house and have been slowly refurbishing and restoring it & live there with our 10 year old son.

I have done quite a bit of design work locally and donated my services to a recent renovation of Beyond the Blue Box. Being fully involved in volunteering in our community I have been a driving force behind Port Hope Estival!, which I am chairing for the second time.

DEANNA MOSES:

Deanna Moses joins our board as a new board member along with Marielle Lambert and Barbara Coleman. All of us at the Port Hope Archives wish to welcome her fresh perspective to our team. We all look forward to working with her during the course of her term on the board.



Keep an eye on our newsletter for upcoming board and volunteer opportunities. Or contact Erin at archives@porthope.ca to enquire when spaces will become available.

6TH ANNUAL YARD SALE

The Port Hope Archives will hold its sixth annual yard sale on Saturday, September 25th, from 8:00 a.m. until 12:00 p.m. The sale will be located next door to the Archives in the parking lot of Ron Good's Law Office, 11 Mill Street N.

We will be accepting donations from members and the general public. All donations are to be brought to the Archives by September 24th. Please contact us at either 905-885-1673 or archives@porthope.ca prior to dropping off a donation for the yard sale.

We appreciate all donations except for: clothing, encyclopaedias, magazines, textbooks, mugs, cookie tins, other items at the discretion of the Board and Archivist.

SEE YOU THERE!