

It's About Time...

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Summer 2012



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NEWSLETTER OF THE PORT HOPE ARCHIVES

FLOATING IN PORT HOPE HARBOUR'S EARLY HISTORY, 1819 - 1910

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In 1819, a petition was sent to Lieutenant Governor Maitland requesting the village be designated as a "Port of Entry." This was the beginning of a long journey for the Port Hope Harbour.

The Port Hope Harbour & Wharf Co. was created in 1829. The company was chartered to build "a harbour which should be accessible to and fit, safe and commodious for the reception and shelter of the ordinary description of vessels navigating Lake Ontario."

This task was supposed to be completed by 1836. After several failed attempts to get the project going, the Town of Port Hope pur-

chased the charter from the federal government for £11,500 in 1853.

At this time, a Harbour Commission was appointed by the Town. Members of the Commission included: E.P. Smith, R. Armstrong, J. Ross, W.M. Smith, F. Beamish, P. Robertson, and T.G. Ridout.

The newly appointed group of commissioners hired architect Frederick Cumberland (of St. James Cathedral in Toronto) to plan the new enlarged harbour; a feat which was completed by 1857. It was described as a "spacious and secure artificial harbour."

Over the next few decades the Harbour changed hands

several times. First to the Midland Railway Co. (1864), and then back to the federal government (1875).

Port Hope's Harbour was very successful through the end of the 19th and early 20th centuries; as 502 schooners and 454 steamboats moved in and out of the area in 1882 alone.

By 1903 the first permanent structures were built on the pier and the Agreement of Exchange with Standard Ideal Mfg. Co. Ltd. was signed in 1910.

If you are interested in early harbour history or have any information or documents from the Harbour's early days, please contact us!

Sources:

Taws, C. "The Harbours of Port Hope & Cobourg," 1989.

Reeve, H. "Port Hope Harbour," 1969.

Bottom Left: Port Hope Harbour Postcard, 1913 (2011-1-1-4177)

Bottom Right: View of Port Hope from the Harbour, c. 1878 (999-9-1-520)



NEWS FROM THE COLLECTION

It was 1952 when King George VI died and a young Princess Elizabeth was accessioned to the throne of England.

In May 2012, Queen Elizabeth II sent various royal relatives to commonwealth nations as a part of her Diamond Jubilee (60th Anniversary) celebrations.

Prince Charles and Camilla were sent to Canada; and while in Toronto for an overnight stay, the couple viewed fireworks at Ashbridges Bay in honour of the birthday of his great-great grandmother, Queen Victoria.

Archives' Board Member Marielle Lambert, and her husband Will, were invited to attend this special event and subsequently donated their materials to the PHA.

Thanks so much for adding this interesting and timely collection to our holdings!



Received by the PHA on 28 May 2012, the royal visit materials consist of an invitation letter, flag, and commemorative lapel pin (2012.26.1).

ARCHIVIST'S MESSAGE

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

The end of spring marked major events in both my personal and professional life; as I got married at the beginning of June, and also spoke at the Archives Association of Ontario Conference in Toronto. Speaking about a fundraising project at the annual conference is a first for a representative of the PHA; a responsibility I didn't take lightly!

I entitled my speech "Commemorating Port

Hope: the *Book of Remembrance* and *Military Contributions of a Small Town*" and it was part of the "Acts of Remembrance: Community Engagement" session.

Along with Phil Gold (Sunnybrook Hospital Archives), and Sandra Kiemele (Dundas Museum & Archives), I presented about our two recent military-themed book projects.

My talk seemed to go over fairly well as fellow archivists asked

relevant and pertinent questions, all of which I was able to answer with confidence.

A very rewarding experience, the AAO conference yielded many ideas for potential future projects for the PHA. It also served as a great opportunity for me to present the PHA to the

archival community in Ontario.

I'd love to get to represent the PHA like this again in the future... I just have to wait and see what future conference themes will be!

Have a great summer everyone ☺

Erin

PHA Archivist,
Erin Walsh,
presenting her
talk at the AAO
Conference in
Toronto, on
June 14th.



NOTES FROM THE CHAIR...

“the gift of one generation to another and the extent of our care of them marks the extent of our civilization.” Arthur Doughty, Dominion Archivist & Keeper of the Public Records, 1903 - 1935

For those of you who pay attention to such things, it's not news that the world of libraries and archives is changing. Severe budget cuts are affecting Canada's National Library and Archives even now. More and more information is being stored and delivered by technologies such as digitization, the internet, e-books, social media and the like. To be sure, there are advantages to these mediums – faster and better ease-of-use, more far-reaching access for users, less danger of destruction or loss of valuable, irreplaceable materials, and a decrease in the amount of space required to store collections. To my mind though, such technologies should be used as aids or supplementals ... not as replacements for the real thing. At the Port Hope Archives we use digitization to keep a record of our materials. We maintain a website to feature special exhibits from the collection, and post many of our photographs to Flickr so the entire world can see what Port Hope once looked like, and how it has changed ... or not, as the case may be. Yet we still keep the originals, securely stored, under appropriate environmental conditions ... safe for the community to look at now and in the future. The collection is overseen by a professional archivist, one who is trained to care for the materials, but also to respond, in person, to researchers and curious passersby. We are mandated to do this, under our agreement with the Municipality, but we do it also for the sheer love of paper, of history, of the excitement and glee of unearthing some hidden gem of knowledge about our community and sharing it with you all. I'd like to believe that Arthur Doughty would be pleased with how our community has maintained its gifts to the next generation.

*

This spring we welcomed David Elliott to our Board. As a member of a long-standing Port Hope family and business, he has brought some new energy to our group and has some great ideas for extending our community outreach.

*

Finally, a hearty round of congratulations to our Archivist, Erin Walsh, who not only got married a few weeks ago, but postponed her honeymoon in order to make a presentation at the Archives Association of Ontario annual conference on our recent book projects. Now that's dedication!

Pam Robinson

CHECK OUT OUR WEBSITE!
WWW.PORTHOPEARCHIVES.COM

PORT HOPE ARCHIVES

17 Mill Street North
Port Hope, Ontario
L1A 2T1

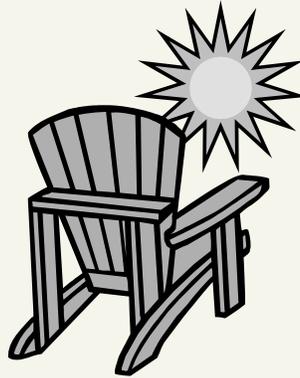
Phone: (905) 885-1673
E-mail: archives@porthope.ca
Website: www.porthopearchives.com
Twitter: www.twitter.com/PHArchives

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
David Elliott
Deanna Moses

HOURS:

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

**FOR CHANGES TO OUR HOURS IN
SUMMER WATCH OUR WEBSITE!**

From the Photo Database ...

Nicholson File Employees Fishing, c. 1905

PHA 2008-16-2-3041



Description: Black and white photograph of Nicholson File Company Ltd. Employees fishing at Corbett's Pond, c. 1905-1910. On reverse, left to right: ? , Frank Keeler (carpenter, Nicholson File), Mrs. Frank Keeler, ? , Mrs. Mullineau, Mrs. Reed.

Port Hope was originally founded as a First Nations' Fishing Village. It was known by many names, including: Ganarasche, Pemetascutiang, and Cochingomink, before being named "Smith's Creek" in 1790. By the time the town was re-named Port Hope, the Ganny and its plentiful fishing were a major part of its history, and still are to this day!

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

It's About Time... Insert

Welcome to new Board Member David Elliott!

This spring our empty board chair was filled by a new and enthusiastic member, David Elliott!

David is involved in Port Hope's business community through the historic "Elliott Insurance Services" on Queen Street.

Elliott Insurance is a business first built by local businessman, farmer, and land registrar: John Ashley Richard Elliott in 1919, and has been a part of Port Hope's downtown ever since.

David comes to the PHA full of ideas, energy, and a tangible link to Port Hope's past. He's already brought many great ideas to the table.

We look forward to working with David on many projects in the future and are thrilled he has joined our team here at the Port Hope Archives!

Welcome David!



Good-bye to Bob Sculthorpe

On March 13th the Port Hope Archives lost a long-time archives member and friend, Robert J.W. "Bob" Sculthorpe.

His wife, the late Alice King Sculthorpe, was one of the original group of supporters in the development of an archival facility for Port Hope.

Along with being the owner of RE Sculthorpe Ltd. Chevrolet dealership, Bob was also involved in the Port Hope & District Hospital Board, Port Hope Rotary Club, Architectural Conservancy of Ontario, Ganaraska Region Conservation Authority, Baltimore Hills Equestrian Club, Hope Township Planning Committee and the Capitol Theatre.

His enthusiasm for the town and "Port Hope" spirit will be sorely missed.

Rest in peace Bob.

MANY THANKS TO GILMER'S HOME HARDWARE BUILDING CENTRE PORT HOPE FOR THEIR GENEROUS SUPPORT IN HELPING US REPLACE OUR OLD DEHUMIDIFIER THIS MAY!



IT'S TIME TO START THINKING ABOUT...

**PORT HOPE ARCHIVES' ANNUAL
YARD SALE!!**

**CLEAN OUT YOUR ATTICS, BASEMENTS AND
GARAGES! DONATIONS OF GENTLY USED ITEMS
WILL BE ACCEPTED AT THE ARCHIVES (17 MILL
ST. N.) STARTING SEPT. 4TH**

*PLEASE NO MAGAZINES, ENCYCLOPAEDIAS, CLOTHING, COFFEE MUGS,
TOILETRIES, ROMANCE NOVELS, OR SMALL APPLIANCES*

UPCOMING EVENTS

September 14-16th:

Come visit our historic and informative booth at the *Port Hope & District Agricultural Society's Fall Fair*

Saturday September 22nd:

Ready for a great deal? Have some "stuff" you'd like to donate to a good cause? Contact the PHA at archives@porthope.ca or 905-885-1673 for more information on the *Archives' Annual Fundraising Yard Sale*

Saturday September 29th:

Photograph Scanning "Walk-in Clinic" a Culture Days event! Pop by the Port Hope Archives from 9am-12pm to ask how to preserve your family photographs or have a couple scanned for **FREE!** Just bring a USB drive or blank CD, 1-3 photos and yourself!