

IT'S ABOUT TIME...

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE PORT HOPE ARCHIVES

PROPERTY RESEARCH PROJECT

Have you ever wondered who lived in your home before you, who cooked in your kitchen, what your home looked like in the past, or even how the land was used? Volunteers at the Port Hope Archives have been busy in the last few months with our new Property Research Project which will assist you in answering these very questions.

Property research is one of the most common requests we see at the PHA. Many homeowners are interested in researching their homes, hoping to find clues about its history. With such an interest in property research in Port Hope, the archives Board of Directors and volunteers expressed an interest in starting a project that would provide homeowners with a starting point in researching their property's history.

This project is meant to be a starting point for homeowners who may be interested in continuing the research the volunteers have been working on. Volunteers have assembled some information, allowing homeowners to continue the project on their own (with help from us of course!)

Volunteers are compiling information from local history books, from the Archives "Let's Make History" project and from the archives photograph collection. The date the house was built, architectural styles and features and the history of the ownership are all pieces of information the volunteers are searching for.



Port Hope Archives Volunteer and Board Member,
Evelyn Conn working on the Property Research Project.

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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

Marielle Lambert, Chair
Marie Jones, Vice-Chair
Peter Hunt, Treasurer
Dave Doherty, Secretary
Barbara Coleman
Evelyn Conn
David Elliott
Stephanie Wright
Adam Ross

The Port Hope Archives is a registered charity.

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PROPERTY RESEARCH PROJECT CONTINUED

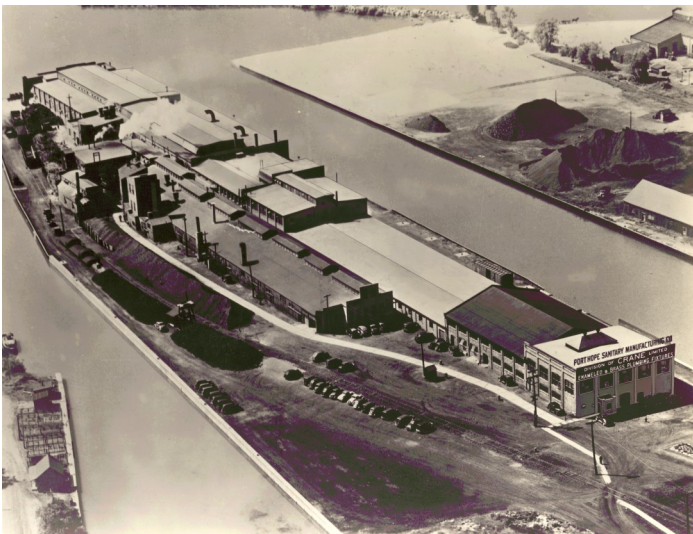
Once the volunteers have finished researching properties within Port Hope they are also interested in updating our reading room files on other topics as well. Schools, churches and businesses throughout the municipality are all priorities of Port Hope Archives volunteers.

Evelyn Conn, Marie Jones and Lauren Clancy have been busy working on this project together on Thursday mornings. They have been enjoying this project because it has given them the opportunity to learn about specific homes in Port Hope, but also the general history of the Municipality as well.

Would you be interested in helping the PHA volunteers out with this project? If you have completed research on your home, consider donating photocopies of your research. If you have not yet completed this research, you can still help out by completing a "Let's Make History" project form (contact us for further details). Any information and photographs (current or historic) would be great additions to our Property Research Project!

CHANGES TO THE READING ROOM AT THE PORT HOPE ARCHIVES

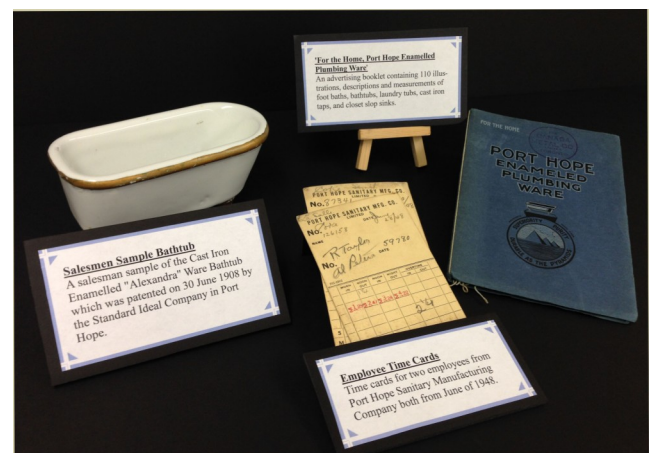
If you have not visited the Reading Room at the Port Hope Archives recently, you will notice a few changes; the main change being a new display case. The Canadian Fire Fighters Museum has loaned the PHA a new exhibit case, allowing us to display some of the artifacts and paper documents that are a part of the archives collection.



Photograph of the Canadian Sanitary Manufacturing Company, Port Hope 18 July 1940. (PHA 996-17-1-373).

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

www.flickr.com/photos/porthopearchives



Currently, the case features an exhibit on the Standard Ideal Company/Port Hope Sanitary Manufacturing Company which was brought to Port Hope by Hiram Thomas Bush in 1903. Be sure to stop by the Port Hope Archives to read more about the company in Port Hope and have a look at the photographs and artifacts. Some of the artifacts including employee time cards, advertising booklet's and even a salesmen sample bathtub.

ARCHIVIST'S MESSAGE

Summer has finally arrived! Isn't it nice to hear the birds chirping, see the flowers blooming and feel the sun shining? Warm weather also encourages researchers and so we are expecting to have a busy summer here at the PHA.

We would like to welcome Stephanie Wright and Adam Ross to the Port Hope Archives Board of Directors. Stephanie and Adam have excellent ideas and we are excited to have them as part of the PHA team.

Spring has been an eventful season. On May 4th we participated in the World War One themed Heritage Fair hosted by the Port Hope and District Historical Society. On June 8th, the Friends of Wesleyville Village hosted their annual Country Market and Nature Fest which we also attended, with a display on Harold Reeve.

Summer will continue to be an exciting time of year. As July continues and August and September approach, we will be preparing for our fall events. Volunteer's have already begun pricing items for our annual yard sale which will take place on September 6th 2014 (we are now accepting donations). We will also be participating in the Fall Fair on September 12th, 13th and 14th.

I wish everyone a safe and enjoyable summer and I look forward to seeing you here at the archives or at one of our upcoming events.

LEAH-ANN

"Old books exert a strange fascination for me -- their smell, their feel, their history; wondering who might have owned them, how they lived, what they felt." Lauren Willig

NOTES FROM THE CHAIR

Perhaps it is the year, who knows, but it seems to be a year of change. The first change you may notice is that we have decided that we need to reach out more to our community organizations & we will be posting significant dates & events for other groups in Port Hope such as Dorothy's House, ACO Port Hope as well as the Canadian Fire Fighters Museum along with others in our newsletters from now on. We feel it is important to support as many groups & organizations in the community as we can, now more than ever.

We have welcomed two new board members, Stephanie Wright & Adam Ross who have brought with them great ideas for future projects, so stay tuned for that.

We have also changed the reading room around and added a showcase which will allow us to display artefacts we have in the collection. You should try to visit & check out our display of the Port Hope Sanitary Company including the newly acquired salesman sample bathtub, which we were able to acquire with money from the John Bennett Memorial Acquisition Fund.

Finally a very significant change is the date of our greatly anticipated annual Yard Sale. We have always had the sale on the same weekend as the All Canadian Jazz Fest here in Port Hope, but when the organizers of the Jazz Fest decided to change the weekend hoping for better, more reliable weather, we decided to change with them and move our yard sale to the new Jazz Fest weekend. Please circle September 6th on your calendars & don't forget us if you are cleaning out your closets etcetera, we greatly appreciate your donations!

They say change is a good thing, sometimes it is & sometimes it isn't, however I think the changes we have made are very positive & I hope you agree.

MARIELLE

HERKIMER'S FUR TRADING CABIN AT SMITH'S CREEK

In June, 1793, 27 pioneers stood watching the boat sail off leaving them standing on the shore of Lake Ontario at the Ganaraska River. The loyalist settlers turned to Lawrence Herkimer whose fur trading post was the only cabin for 100 miles of dense forest in either direction along Lake Ontario.

Herkimer (sometimes Herchmere) knew several native languages and he was accustomed to travel in the wilderness. He had been fur trading with the Ojibwas for almost six years at the Ganaraska River by the time the first settlers arrived. Herkimer's cabin was situated at the edge of a First Nation village - called Smith's Creek by the fur traders - of about 300 Ojibwas people. The substantial log cabin had two rooms, one for the store and one room to live in.

Using old maps and surveyors' notes, I've surmised that Herkimer's cabin appears to have been located next door to today's Port Hope Town Hall, either in the parking lot of the plaza at the corner of Queen Street and Robertson Street, or perhaps on the banks of the Ganaraska River across the street from the plaza. The forty or so wigwams were located south of the log cabin, closer to the lake.

All of Smith's Creek was solid forest right down to the lake with 'Indian trails' along the river and, according to a letter Herkimer wrote, when he purchased the cabin and all fur trading stock from Peter Smith in 1790, he cleared more land around the cabin – about 2 acres of what is now downtown Port Hope - and planted a plot of potatoes. He did not live alone in the cabin. Before the settlers arrived, Lawrence Herkimer had married an Ojibwa woman "by Indian rites". An Anglican missionary also recorded the baptisms of their three sons born at either Smith's Creek or Rice Lake.

In the summer of 1793, Herkimer gave the log cabin to a settler and moved his family & business to his other trading post on the north shore of Rice Lake. After four years there, he left his 'country wife' as many fur traders did, tragically, and married the daughter of Hon. John Kirby. Herkimer became a wealthy man with a prosperous store in Kingston and shares in Lake Ontario's first steamboat, 'the Frontenac'. A respected magistrate and justice of the peace, Lawrence Herkimer died at 52 in Kingston in 1819.

CATHARINE TOZER

UPCOMING EVENTS

Dorothy's House Museum in Garden Hill will open on 28 June 2014. This year, Dorothy's House Museum is open Saturday's and Sunday's from 10:00am - 4:00pm during the months of July and August.

Stop by Memorial Park for the ACO's Olde Tyme Picnic on August 10th 2014 from 12:00pm - 4:00 pm.

Our annual Fundraiser and Yard Sale has moved to September 5th 2014. Please see the newsletter insert for more information.

The All-Canadian Jazz Festival Port Hope, takes place September 5th, 6th and 7th 2014. Tickets are now on sale.

Don't miss the Port Hope Fair on September 12th, 13th, and 14th. The theme this year is Farming, Food and Fun.

Mark your calendars for the ACO's 49th annual House Tour on October 4th 2014. Tickets go on sale in early July.

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

905.885.1673 | archives@porthope.ca | porthopearchives.com



PORT HOPE ARCHIVES

WELCOME NEW BOARD MEMBERS

STEPHANIE WRIGHT:

Hello! I'm Stephanie Wright, and I am thrilled to be one of the newest members of the Port Hope Archives' board. My childhood was spent in Grafton and Cobourg and I returned to beautiful Northumberland County a few years ago. Port Hope has always held a special appeal for me. The abundance of beautifully maintained historic buildings was a big part of the town's draw when I returned.

In 2008, I graduated from the University of Toronto with a Masters of Library and Information Studies. My focus of study was on public library administration and archives management. Though most of my work is in marketing and social media, my small family history business, Timelines Research Co., regularly takes me to archives and other resource centres across the province. It is through Timelines that I first had the pleasure of using the Port Hope Archive, where I completed research for several clients. Last year, I had the pleasure of presenting to the Lakeshore Genealogy Society with Erin Walsh.

Joining the archive board feels like a perfect fit, and I am looking forward to learning more about its collection. Institutions like the archive are essential to Canada's heritage and social memory and I'm excited to contribute to its initiatives.


ADAM ROSS:

Hi, I'm Adam Ross and I grew up in Port Hope. I have a lot of fond childhood memories playing sports, swimming in the Ganaraska River and the lake in the summers, and enjoying life in this safe, historic and beautiful town.

I studied History at the University of Guelph and graduated with a Bachelor of Arts Degree. I worked 3 jobs after graduating in order to save up enough money to backpack Europe for 3 months to see some of the historic sites that I studied. Upon returning home I then obtained a Funeral Service Education Diploma at Humber College and began working in the family business here in town in 2007 as a licensed funeral director with my brother Jamieson.

I'm still currently working part-time at the funeral home and am training to hopefully become a firefighter. I live in town with my fiancée Julie.

I've always had an interest in Port Hope history and look forward to learning as much as I can as a Port Hope Archives member.



**IT'S TIME TO START THINKING
ABOUT...**

**PORT HOPE ARCHIVES
ANNUAL YARD SALE!**

**CLEAN OUT YOUR ATTICS,
BASEMENTS AND GARAGES! WE
ARE NOW ACCEPTING
DONATIONS OF GENTLY USED
ITEMS AT THE ARCHIVES
(17 MILL ST. N.)**

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