



THE UPDATE

YORK PIONEER AND HISTORICAL SOCIETY

www.yorkpioneers.org

P.O. Box 45026,
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Toronto, ON

Celebrating 220-year-old Scadding Cabin

Two centuries and more! In 1794, the squared logs that would become John Scadding's cabin were first put in place. Two centuries and 20 years later, the York Pioneer and Historical Society decided to throw a party for the house and invited Toronto to celebrate!

Brian Ashton, president of the Board of Directors of the Canadian National Exhibition, Viviana Laperchia, a director of Heritage Toronto and local councillor Mike Layton participated. The Fort York band marched over to the Cabin to add colour and music to the event. To appropriately mark the legacy of the cabin, the York Pioneers donated \$220 and 220 feet of lumber to Habitat for Humanity. Enloe Wilson, Manager of Faith and Community Development, Habitat for Humanity, Greater Toronto Area, thanked the Pioneers on behalf of the charity.

Habitat is using the lumber to build new townhouses in Brampton. The celebration of the cabin is helping to shelter a new generation in the GTA.



Cabin-shaped gingerbread cookies made by Alxio Portales of "Passion for Desserts" were a big hit with our guests, visitors and volunteers.



Marking the Cabin's 220th birthday with four members of the Fort York Band are, left to right, Brian Ashton (President of the CNEA), YPHS archivist John Marshall, Enloe Wilson (Habitat for Humanity), city councillor Mike Layton, Viviana Laperchia, director, Heritage Toronto, YPHS vice-president David Raymond and YPHS board member Patricia Robertson.

Photo: Audrey Fox

See more Cabin pictures on pages 8 & 9

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Left: Board member Wendy Smith presented speaker Julia Roberts with our gift of a pewter tankard.

Annual Dinner Report

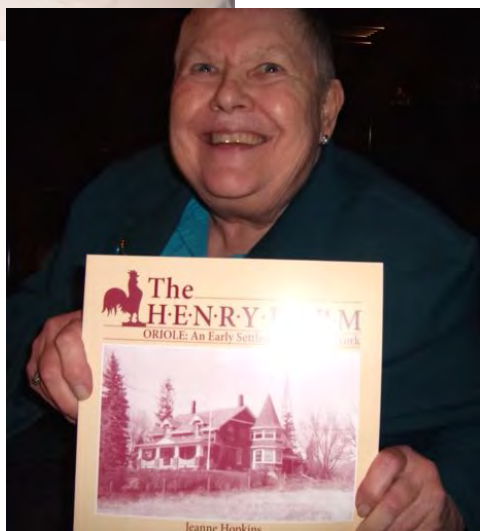
On June 1, more than 30 Pioneers and their guests enjoyed a delicious lunch at Morton's Steakhouse and an illustrated talk about Upper Canada's taverns and inns by Julia Roberts, author of *In Mixed Company*, and an assistant professor of history at the University of Waterloo. Roberts enthralled the audience with quotes from Ely Playter's diary entries about his short career as a tavern owner, and his wooing of the daughter of a nearby innkeeper. The book auction, organized by John Marshall, included a medallion celebrating Winston Churchill donated by a member of Morton's staff. The auction raised \$168.



Above: Programme Chair Micki Allen raises her glass to member Barbara Ewins, treasurer Cindy Ewins and archivist John Marshall



Above: Pioneer & YP author, Arlis Barclay and honorary life member Diane Reid discuss how the York Pioneers should celebrate the 220th birthday of Scadding Cabin. Questionnaires were circulated to each table to guide the Society's decision on how to mark the event.



Left: long-time Pioneer and author, Jeanne Hopkins, with her latest book, The Henry Farm.

You can order a copy from Jeanne for \$20 + \$5 postage. Contact her at 416-987-6619 or by email at hopkins.jeanne@gmail.com

Photos: All photos this page by David Raymont

The YPHS gratefully acknowledges the financial support of the Government of Ontario through the Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Sport.

Remembering old King George at the Cabin

On Father's Day, June 15, members of the YPHS marked King George III's birthday with music, militia re-enactors, spinning demonstrations and free cider. The weather was fine and about 30 people dropped by the cabin to watch the soldiers parade – some even bought personalized certificates to celebrate their loyalty to Upper Canada and the King.



Above: Arnie Naiman and Hannab Shira Naiman tune up to entertain visitors.



Left: Diane Reid checks for the enemy while Michael Campbell, Barry Mapes and Scott Campbell defend the Cabin

Photos: Jane & David Raymont

Marketing our Society

Twice this year we have taken our display to farmers' markets to raise awareness of our Society's work.

Below left: Stephanie Lever chats with a new member; Stephanie & Audrey Fox sold five memberships and several magazines at the very busy Wychwood Barns market during Doors Open on May 24. *Photo: Audrey Fox*

Below Right: Wendy Smith and John Marshall tended our table at the Bloor-Borden market on July 30, with help from David Raymont & Audrey Fox. A wicked rain storm didn't help attendance, yet we had fun and sold one membership and a magazine. *Photo: David Raymont*



Jean McFall (1918-2014)

by Paul Litt

Jean Lennox McFall was born in eastern Ontario on April 25, 1918. Her mother died in childbirth so Jean was adopted by one of her mother's sisters in Barrie, Ontario and raised there as an only child. It wasn't until she was a teenager that she discovered the truth about her mother and the circumstances of her adoption. When she later reflected on this phase of her life, instead of disappointment or anger she felt immense gratitude to her aunt and uncle who had raised her as their own and given her all of the nurturing and love that she could have hoped for.

Although there wasn't a great deal of money in the Lennox household in the 1920s and 1930s, Jean took advantage of everything that was offered in the small town of Barrie. Her adoptive parents instilled in her a love of reading, education and learning that she carried with her for the rest of her life. In the mid-1930s she received a scholarship to study at Victoria College in the University of Toronto. For the next four years, Jean lived life to the fullest, balancing her studies with playing for the women's basketball team and other extra-curricular activities.

During her last year at U of T, Jean needed a date for an Athletic Council banquet. A friend set her up with a young lawyer, tall, dark and handsome David McFall. David was from the small town of Bolton, Ontario and, like Jean, an only child. As well, the couple shared the same values and integrity. After marrying David in 1945, Jean would joke that she married 'history'. David was a direct descendant of the Doan family that was integrally tied to the earliest days of the 'Children of Peace' and the construction of the Sharon Temple.

David and Jean's first home after their marriage was the Victorian house on Hazelton Avenue in Yorkville which David's maternal grandparents had purchased in the 1890s. Yorkville was their home for several years – although as David's law practice began to thrive they sold the house on Hazelton and moved to a house at the end of Sheldrake Blvd. overlooking Sherwood Park [in the Eglinton and Mount Pleasant area]. The Sheldrake house seemed to be a much more suitable home for their three young sons. As Yorkville became the centre of hippie culture in the 1960s, David and Jean realized that Sherwood Park had provided their family with a much more wholesome environment!

Jean had never heard of the York Pioneer and Historical Society when David mentioned it in the early years of their marriage. David had always been a history buff. His grandfather Hughes had been a longtime member of the YPHS and David felt it would be good to join and continue the family tradition. The first meeting that the McFalls attended at College and Yonge was a shock to Jean. Everyone there was decades older than David and Jean. The Great Depression and the war years had been difficult for everyone including the YPHS. Membership in the organization had been dwindling and the society itself was in need of fresh ideas and young members like the McFalls.



Jean McFall on April 26, 2014, the day after her 96th birthday, shares a laugh with 2-year-old Keana.

Photo: Audrey Fox

[continued on p5]

David and Jean helped the society through a renaissance in the 1950s and 1960s. Other younger people began to join the society and as Canada approached the Centennial of its Confederation in 1967, there was a resurgence in nationalism and many people began to look at history through another lens. At Sharon Temple as well there was a new generation that began to recognize what a unique and important treasure this site was. During this period at Sharon, the Ebenezer Doan house was moved to the Temple grounds and a new display facility was created on the Temple grounds that freed up the Temple itself for the focused interpretation of The Children of Peace. Many weekends, the McFalls would load sons James, William and John into the car and drive to Sharon to work with other Pioneers on the reconstruction of the Doan house and other projects.

In this period, too, Jean and David welcomed the arrival of their youngest child, daughter Anne. There was such an age difference between Anne and her three brothers that it seemed as if Jean and David were starting another family. Anne provided her parents with a great deal of joy and, in later years, she and Jean shared a special closeness.

The YPHS celebrated its own centenary in 1969 by which time the McFalls were among the most active members. Together Jean and David made a great team. David served as Treasurer of the YPHS for decades as well as two terms as President. Jean spent many years on the Committee of Management (later the Board of Directors). Most notably, Jean served as the Society's archivist and wrote several articles for *The York Pioneer*. Although it was David who descended from The Children of Peace, it was Jean who became one of the most noted scholars on the Sharon Temple and the early days of The Children of Peace.

The McFalls hosted countless meetings of the Committee of Management in their Sheldrake Blvd. home. The original layout of the house had the dining room located off the kitchen with a large window overlooking Sherwood Park. David and Jean situated their living room so it had the park view, then they converted the living room into a dining area with a wall of built-in bookcases to house their extensive collection of history and reference books.

Both David and Jean were children of the depression, raised with the mantra 'waste not, want not'. Scraps of paper and the backs of envelopes were always recycled. In the 1990s, 30 years after Bell Canada eliminated the convention of telephone 'exchanges', the McFall's black rotary dial phone still carried the number Hudson-9-4188. That said, David and Jean generously supported many charities and causes besides the YPHS.

In the early 1970s they spent considerable time and resources saving and restoring a cottage in Bolton that had been in the McFall family for the better part of a century. Today this same cottage is home to their son James and his wife Mary. They were also passionate about travel and visited places such as Russia and Iceland long before these destinations became trendy. They instilled in their children the same passion for not only history and travel but music as well. When their local Lawrence Park Community Church launched a hand bell choir, Jean was one of the first to sign up.

David's death in 1999 robbed Jean of her life mate, but she leaned on her family and handled it with her usual resilience. She sold the house on Sheldrake Blvd. and downsized to a condo in Forest Hill and still later to the Christie Gardens Retirement Residence. She maintained her keen interest in all things around her. Her family gave her immense satisfaction and she eagerly followed the lives and careers of her children and grandchildren.

Even as her short-term memory began to fail, Jean maintained her cheerful disposition and always enjoyed hearing news of the YPHS and reading the latest *York Pioneer*. The York Pioneer and Historical Society has lost one of its oldest and most valued members, but the legacy of Jean McFall lives on in the accomplishments of the YPHS and the many friendships that she nurtured along the way.

Project	Amount	Timeframe	Notes
Scadding Cabin	\$100,000	set aside for ongoing use until gone	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> these funds set aside for ongoing but larger Scadding Cabin repairs and upkeep normal maintenance and smaller items would come from regular operating funds as usual note that this is not restricted principal where only the interest is used; spending depletes the balance of the fund roof repairs done in 2013 would come out of this fund retroactively
Sharon Temple Doan House restoration	\$50,000	immediate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> recognizes our long and close association with the Sharon Temple, and the personal connections of many YPHS members to the Sharon Temple this type of restoration project closely aligns with YPHS work over many years we would request an accounting of the Doan House project
Sharon Burying Ground Association	\$25,000	immediate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> to be used for the gate restoration, property survey, and any remainder for stone repairs most of their members are also York Pioneers they are actively working and showing high levels of initiative we would request some form of permanent recognition for YPHS contribution (plaque or something similar)
commemorative events / items	\$25,000	by end of 2017	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> not specifying exactly which events or items; to be determined by Board ongoing but used over the next 3 years 150th anniversary of Confederation possible set aside some of this to commemorate the 150th anniversary of the founding of YPHS in 2019
digitizing our history	\$25,000	by end of 2017	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> high quality and easily searchable digitize the York Pioneer magazines digitize our archives digitize the Scadding Cabin artifacts (similar to an online art gallery)
outreach projects	\$25,000	by end of 2017	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> not specifying exactly which projects; to be determined by Board ongoing but used over the next 3 years improve web presence (our own website, Wikipedia) good quality video about Scadding Cabin, possibly in English and French Facebook and other social media possibly display space
Lady Eaton Fund	\$150,000	perpetuity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a fund where the principal remains untouched but the income contributes to general operating funds named for Lady Eaton who gave us Eversley Church originally, and whose name is more familiar to the average person than the hamlet of Eversley
Total	\$400,000		

AN IMPORTANT MESSAGE ABOUT YORK PIONEER FUNDS

Please carefully consider the following report and proposal for use of the money realized from the sale of Eversley Church in June 2012.

Consultations have taken place over the past two years. If any member wishes to register a vote against the proposal, or to voice any concerns, please contact one of the following Board members by Saturday, October 11, 2014:

David Raymont 416-656-2954 John Marshall 416-961-4420
Patricia Robertson 416-483-3679 Fred Robbins 905-640-6781
Cindy Ewins 416-618-9084

or send an email to yorkpioneers@gmail.com by the same date.

If we do not hear from you by October 11, 2014 you will be counted as being in favour of the proposal.

Report from the Eversley Fund subcommittee (abridged)

The ad hoc Eversley Fund subcommittee (Cindy Ewins, David Raymont, John Marshall, Kayoko Smith) met in May 2014. The subcommittee was struck to review submissions regarding the use of the Eversley Fund money, and to bring forward a proposal for the use of the funds.

Eversley Fund balance is \$393,711.89, being the net proceeds of the sale of Eversley Church in the summer of 2012. For purposes of our proposal, we have rounded the Fund balance to \$400,000.

A calculated average of opinions given during the consultation process gave 43.2% “spend” and 56.8% “save”. The committee proposes saving \$250,000 (the combined Scadding Cabin and Lady Eaton funds; see explanations in the table on page 6) which works out to just under 58% saved with the remainder to be spent.

Awards and other recognition projects would continue to come from general operating funds. Other worthy projects would either come from general operating funds, or be the subject of special fundraising initiatives to finance them.

The most discussed “other worthy project” was a home for our archives. The subcommittee feels that the income from the Lady Eaton Fund would mostly cover the rental of a small space, which seems the most likely route. Any remaining cost would then come from other general operating funds.

The table of projects shown opposite [on page 6] gives details of our proposal.



Left: A belated ‘thank you’ to Heather Fear for sending along this photo of *York Pioneer* author [and Heather’s mom] Barbara Fear [right] with YP editor Audrey Fox. The photo was taken April 27 at the YP launch held at the Parliament Interpretive Centre.

Heather and Barbara came all the way from the Kingston area to attend the launch.

Photo: Heather Fear

MEMBERSHIP NEWS

New Annual Members: A warm welcome to Kathryn McClurg, Angela Misri, Jon Ennis, Tracey Toner, Margaret Proctor, Carol Umana, Morag Hegge, Michele McNally and City Councillor Joe Mihevc.

Life Members: Long-time annual member & frequent *York Pioneer* contributor, Chris Raible, has become a Life Member as has long-time Cabin volunteer, Stefanie Lem and Heritage Toronto's associate director & chief historian, Gary Miedema.

Congratulations to members Chris Raible & Wendy Smith, finalists Toronto Heritage Awards — Chris for *Mackenzie Wrote Here?* [Short Publication Category], published in the 2013 *York Pioneer*; and Wendy for her *Toronto Park Lot Project* website [Media Category]. Please attend on 21 October to cheer on Chris and Wendy!

Belated Congratulations: Provincial honours for Stouffville historian Fred Robbins

By Jim Mason Stouffville Sun-Tribune Feb 19, 2014
Stouffville historian Fred Robbins has participated in plaque unveilings. He received one of his own from Whitchurch-Stouffville council yesterday. The Ninth Line resident was honoured under the Ontario Heritage Trust's community recognition program during Tuesday's council meeting.

"He has worked tirelessly for this community for many years," Mayor Wayne Emmerson told the meeting. "The research he does is unbelievable."

Your Society needs you!

Vice-President Please consider volunteering for the position of Vice-President. Call current V-P, David Raymont, to discuss what is involved.

416-656-2954

Reviewing Accountant Our longtime reviewing accountant has retired and the Society needs someone to fill this vital role. This is a paid position.

Committee Members: Please join a committee and spend a few hours each year helping your board members. Call any board member to volunteer. We welcome you in many capacities, and for any length of time you can give.

Welcome to New Volunteers

We are very pleased that four new volunteers have agreed to work with your board members; all four came from an "ad" placed on the Volunteer Toronto website.

Wesley Ferris has agreed to step in to produce the next *Update* [expect that issue in mid-December]; and Nick Burton, Marita Hollo and Elaine Maloney are helping in several capacities. You will learn more about them in the months to come and, hopefully, meet them in person at an event.

REMINDER: Tuesday 21 October ~ Heritage Toronto Awards Night, Koerner Hall



A Presidential Gathering

Six former YPHS presidents (and longtime supporter Betty Shipley), were among the many who attended the funeral of Jean McFall on 20 June 2014.

Left: Five former presidents with, second from left, Betty Shipley. They are, left to right, Father Leo Burns, Betty, John Marshall, Paul Willoughby, Janet Watt and Paul Litt. [The 6th former president, Patricia Robertson, missed the photo opportunity.]

Photo: Cathy Willoughby



Above: YPHS V-P David Raymont [blue shirt] presented a \$220 cheque, as well as 220 feet of lumber; to Enloe Wilson of Habitat for Humanity. They are flanked by members of the Fort York Band. 19 August 2014
Photo: Audrey Fox



CNEA President Brian Ashton with YPHS board members David Raymont [above] and Patricia Robertson [right]
Top Photo: Carmela Gonsales
Below: Audrey Fox



SUMMER 2014 AT THE CABIN



West perennial border; Scadding Cabin, mid-August. Kudos to Kayoko Smith & her fellow gardener; the herb & perennial beds are flourishing!
Photo: Audrey Fox



Brian Ashton, John Marshall, David Raymont, Enloe Wilson, Vivana Laperchia of Heritage Toronto; and City Councillor Mike Layton
Photo: Carmelo Gonsales



John Marshall, David Raymont, YPHS Life Member Gerald Lee [a Playter descendant] and Patricia Robertson discuss the famous York Pioneer ox cart photo. Photo: Audrey Fox



YPHS board member, Fred Robbins, examines the Cabin garden with his mom Shirley Huntley. Photo: David Raymont



Above & Right: Spinner Sarah Gossip demonstrated her skill to Cabin visitors Photos: David Raymont

Right: Fair Ambassador Jodie Hooker [Dundalk and District Agricultural Society], represents the CNE and all agricultural fairs in Ontario. Photo: D. Raymont



Left: The Windermere Quartet; Elizabeth Loewen Andrews and Michelle Odorica on violin, Laura Jones on cello and Anthony Rapport, viola. The quartet played two pieces by Mozart – and while it's unlikely that John Scadding ever heard music by Mozart, both men were born in the 1750s – Scadding in 1754 and Mozart in 1756.

Photo: David Raymont



Above: Cabin volunteer Ruth Cameron with Hayden King, Director, Centre for Indigenous Governance and Assistant Professor, Politics and Public Administration, Ryerson University. A dozen people listened to Hayden's presentation about the Aboriginal background of Toronto-area landmarks and engaged in lively discussion about the Native culture in modern Canada.

Photo: David Raymont



Left: In green dress, Karen Millyard, a social-dance historian, consultant and director of the York Regency Society, JaneAustenDancing and 1812 Dance Canada. With her are Michael Nicholas Damato, Diane Reid, David Raymont & Stefanie Lem taking a break after a strenuous dance lesson. Photo: John Marshall

A Letter from Ireland by Carson Murphy

Since I am not a regular contributor to your newsletter, I'll take a second to introduce myself. My name is Carson Murphy and I am studying for my MA in Cultural Heritage and Museums Studies at the University of Ulster in Belfast, Northern Ireland. Now at this point you are probably wondering why on earth an Irish/British student is investigating Ontario historic house museums. Well, I am in fact Canadian, born and raised in Hastings County, with Irish ancestors, studying abroad. I contacted your organization in early July, in regards to a study I am doing on the historic house museums in Ontario for the thesis component of my MA and I was very kindly invited to submit a small article explaining what I am doing.

My dissertation is on whether or not a 'National Trust' framework could work in Ontario uniting historic house museums, places of natural heritage and historic sites across the province in one network. In doing research for the topic, I have found that the historic house museum has been a relatively neglected area in Canadian heritage studies. So, I set about rectifying that by conducting research on 110 sites, mainly composed of historic house museums, but including the province's historic forts, heritage villages, historic mills, churches, schoolhouses, taverns, and train stations (for good measure). The results were interesting, and I hope to publish them in greater detail at a later date, but the highlights are as follows:

- Scadding cabin is the oldest 'historic house' museum in the province (congratulations!), followed by Battlefield House (c. 1900) the Bell Homestead (1910) and Sharon Temple (1918)
- Ontario's historic house museums focus mostly on male individuals (47%), prominent local citizens (34.5%), and the early settlement of the community (38.2%).
- Around a quarter of the museums with military associations are connected with the War of 1812, and/or with the UELs.
- Nearly half of our museums are National Historic Sites (48.2%) or recognized as an Ontario Historic Site (47%)
- Lastly 25% of the museums included in my study were established in the 1970s, following the interest that arose in the 1960s around Canada's Centennial celebrations (when 19% of the museums were established).

But enough statistics. The reason why I chose to do this topic of all topics is because of my own personal experience of working in the sector. I have spent seven years employed in two house museums in small communities in Ontario. Both of these properties were owned and operated by non-profits. As an employee and volunteer I was very much aware of the financial constraints that impeded the museum to hire sufficient staff, produce high quality events and interpretation, and suitably store and display the collection. These museums were successful at working well with what they had, but they were restricted in their ability to truly flourish. During my time studying for the MA Cultural Heritage and Museums Studies, I began to volunteer at two National Trust properties, Mount Stewart outside Newtownards and Castle Coole in Enniskillen. Seeing the work that the Trust did managing and operating these properties inspired me to think, "could this work at home? Could this help solve the problems of the small historic house museum?"



Continued on p.11

Now for those of you who are saying, but the Ontario Heritage Trust exists, and there's even Heritage Canada The National Trust, I realize this. But for me, neither institution quite does it for me. I really did not know that Heritage Canada existed before doing the study (and they are not set up on the same lines as the UK version), and most of the experience I have had with the OHT has been the restrictions they impose. When I took a closer look at their property portfolio of 27, I became a little more disappointed. Two of their properties are closed, and two have such restricted hours they too might as well be closed, one is in England, and a handful have been turned into offices - their property portfolio of what is actually accessible to the public shrinks. Many of the sites they own, they do not operate. This to me is not working together (though I do hope they do), but passing the responsibilities to another party. Such a practice does not sit well with me - in my books if you do not do the work for it, you should not have the credit.

Providing I have not just incensed all of you, I will say that the OHT does keep busy with the many programs and recognition ceremonies that it co-ordinates. They do play an important role in protecting and promoting Ontario's heritage, and I certainly am not arguing for their dissolution.

I know that Ontario doesn't have the grand houses of the United Kingdom and Ireland, but we do have an eclectic mix of house museums that all tell a different part about our local history, our provincial history and our national history. I believe (as my thesis would conclude) that a national trust framework, or at least a stronger network of the historic house museums of Ontario could build a stronger brand for marketing and advertising, set standards and guidelines for conservation and interpretation, and most importantly provide the expertise and financial resources in order to make such a charity work. Imagine....110 sites across the province that an annual membership could get you free access to, the pride of being part of places that are known for their high standards, and that act as top tourist destinations for the local community.

A fellow can dream can't he?

If anyone has inquiries or wants to further discuss my project, please contact me at c.murphy.1855@gmail.com

The 2015 York Pioneer

The editorial committee has received several submissions, more than enough to fill the 2015 issue.

Articles are still welcome. We are always happy to have something "in the bank" for following years.