

Remember the Corman House

Stoney Creek Historical Society

P.O. Box 66637, Stoney Creek, On. L8G 5E6

NEWSLETTER

February 2008

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WINONA SCHOOLS

From Winona Centennial 1867 - 1967

Wow -Away back in 1816 Schools were few and far between. Often they were only log cabins set down in the bush, with very little to attract the pupils except Reading, Writing and Arithmetic. Teachers were almost impossible to get. Often a retired army officer was the only one whose personal training, was army discipline. Seats consisted of plank benches along the walls, no desks, books were scarce and very little paper to write on. Bark was used, later slates and slate pencils. Blackboards came to be the main method of teaching.

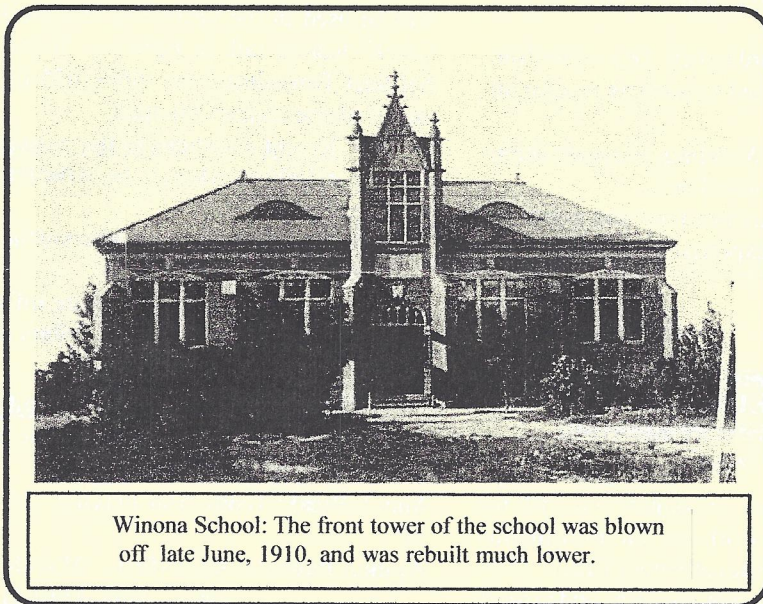
In 1816 Winona, then called Ontario, had a school near the Fifty Road on No.8 Highway, then known as the Upper Road. There were seven or eight houses in this vicinity. This was the only school in the area. It was built of logs 12 by 20 ft. in size, with benches on both sides, a table in front and a heavy birch stick handy. The first teacher was D.C. Forward. He must have been around for a long time, the record shows he was here in 1830. The originators of the school were Levi Lewis and Ananias Smith. Others joined later in the plan.

There is record of a certificate, signed by Mr. Forward, dated January 1st., 1834, it was given to Sylvester Smith, and reads as follows, "This certifies that Sylvester Smith by diligence and attention to his studies merits my approbation." In those days the pens were quills made from the wings of goose or any large bird, the ink was made from boiling the maple bark.

The schools were privately owned and operated. The teachers got very little in the way of money, and lived with people whose children they taught.

In 1841 a Municipal Act was passed making it possible to assess taxes on the rateable property, so the public schools were started. A very fine description of the school at Winona

was given by Miss Gertrude Smith, also a diagram of it and location. "The school was built at the corner of Winona Road and No.8 Highway, in 1866, and forms part of the present buildings. It was brick, and had four rows of double desks, two pupils at each seat. These desks were made of Walnut, and had good seats. There was a platform across the front end, and a blackboard all the way across and above. There were double seats on both ends of this platform, and one in the centre, for the



Winona School: The front tower of the school was blown off late June, 1910, and was rebuilt much lower.

teacher. There were two entries and a room that was full of odds and ends. At one time it housed a long stick and all the pupils were very conscious of its presence. There was a big box stove at the south end of the room, for burning wood. There was a woodshed at the backend where there were water closets, one for girls, one for boys. Also a big long stoop across the south end of the building.

The trustees at this time were, George Lewis Sr., C.P. Carpenter and Egbert Smith.

Some of the teachers employed were, James Foran, a middle aged man, Margaret Dewitt, a tall healthy looking woman, and a very fine teacher.

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NEW MEMBERS:

We are happy to welcome to our membership Sarah & Hugh Kellogg, Elaine & Don Metcalf, Michael McDonald, Marguerite Taylor.

*This Newsletter
is sponsored by
Tom Munn*

THE PRESIDENT'S CORNER:

We are now well into the new year and I wish all readers the very best for 2006.

How important is our Heritage? Have you noticed how quickly some of it disappears?

In the past, many historical homes and buildings have been demolished in Stoney Creek in the name of progress and development. I wonder if it was always necessary. Recently one of our oldest homes owned by Mr. J. Taggart on #8 Hwy. was destroyed by fire. This is a great loss to the family but also to Stoney Creek.

What I find very saddening and fearful is the amount of vandalism being carried out at our famous Battlefield House. This site is a vital part of Stoney Creek and must be protected.

Our Society will be having historic displays throughout the year at Erland Lee Museum. We will be glad of any assistance.

Heritage Day is taking place Saturday Feb. 18 at Hamilton city hall. It is an interesting day and volunteers receive an award at 12 noon.

Our volunteer this year is Wendy Walkling, in appreciation for the help she gave us at the House Tours.

I hope you enjoyed our Christmas bus tour and a special thanks to Bill Mitchell for his expertise and patience in organizing these events.

Bill O'Reilly

ERLAND LEE (MUSEUM) HOME

by Michael Gemmell

The Erland Lee Museum, in conjunction with the Historical Society, has begun work on an information pamphlet detailing "the Historic Sites of Stoney Creek". This short work will be used to help educate residents and visitors to the area about the many heritage properties in our community. Focusing mainly on properties in the old city of Stoney Creek designated under Part IV of the Ontario Heritage Act, the booklet will also include some material on the old "west Saltfleet" area, from Centennial Parkway to Parkdale Avenue, Hamilton. The pamphlet is expected to be ready by June 2006.

Sarah Linfoot, a history graduate, has been hired with funds provided from the Historical Society, to assist the museum in preparing the pamphlet. Sarah has been helping with special events and other museum work while research is being conducted.

The museum nominated Marilyn Sharp and Swadesh Sachdeva for the 2006 Hamilton Heritage Volunteer Awards. Both Women's Institutes members have served on the museum's volunteer committee for five or more years, helped organise special events, and contributed in numerous ways to the heritage site. The awards will be presented at Hamilton

City Hall on Saturday February 18, 2006 at 12:00 noon.

Curator Michael Gemmell recently contributed a chapter about Stoney Creek to the new book, "Vanished Hamilton". As part of the museum's annual Heritage Week activities, he will be giving a talk, "By the Banks of the Old Stoney Creek", based upon that work on Saturday February 25th, 2006 at 1:00 pm. Slides and pictures of old Stoney Creek will be used to highlight the history of settlement along the banks of the waterway. This history talk is free and takes place in the museum. You are invited to bring your own memories or photos to share in a relaxed post-talk discussion.

The Erland Lee Museum recently received research information about the Jones family in Stoney Creek, the Lusse family of Vinemount, and the Millen family of Fruitland. **This material has been added to the museum's photograph database, which recently exceeded the 1000+ photo mark.** Special thanks go to Don Jones, Rob Jones, John Nugent, and Mary Byrne for their contributions. Some of this new material will be used in the upcoming "By the Banks of the Stoney Creek" history talk in February. If you have old photos of Saltfleet Township from 1860-1975 that you would like to share, please contact Michael.

Recent donations to the museum, now on display:

- c.1900 corn broom from the Parker family of Stoney Creek
- 1926 photo of past masters of the Wentworth Masonic Lodge

Visit www.erlandlee.com for more information about the museum's special events and exhibits or call 905-662 - 2691.

Upcoming events at the Erland Lee Museum:

Heritage talk - "By the Banks of the Old Stoney Creek" February 25.

March Break: Teddy-bear making March 13, 15, and 18th.

Annual Pancake Breakfast March 25.
(snow date- April 1)

Murder Mystery dinner April 21.

Doors Open Hamilton May 6-7.

LAND RECOMMENDATIONS, 1795 -1796

From the Ontario Register Volume 2 - 1969

In the last decade of the eighteenth century Upper Canada vied with Kentucky and the Ohio Valley in attracting settlers. Most prospective settlers in Upper Canada could easily obtain grants of two hundred acres for themselves and, in some cases, additional grants of family lands. As part of the process of obtaining the grant, the settler was required to appear before a magistrate giving some particulars of his background after which he took the oath of allegiance. At that time the magistrate gave the applicant a written recommendation for a grant. These recommendations became part of the records of the Heir and Devisee Commission, and they are now preserved at the Public Archives of Canada in Ottawa.

**DESIGNATED PROPERTIES
in STONEY CREEK:**

NASH-JACKSON HOUSE
(known as "Grand View")
77 King Street West

The Nash-Jackson House, known as "Grand View", represents a significant part of the history of the Township of Saltfleet and provides insight into two of the earliest families of the area. This house was moved from its original site at the north-east corner of King Street East and Nash Road in the City of Hamilton (within property formerly known as Lots 26, 27 and 28, Concession 3, Saltfleet Township) on November 7, 1999 to Battlefield Park in order to preserve it.

The house, as it is today, was built in 1818 or 1819 in grand Georgian style which was favoured during this period. The Classical Revival porticos were installed about 1930. William Gage Sr. (1744-1820) and Susannah Jones Gage (1751-1821) emigrated to Upper Canada circa 1789 and probably took up residence and began improvements upon Lots 26, 27 and 28, Concession 3, Saltfleet Township about that time.

On July 8, 1794, William was granted title to those 600 acres. A small wooden structure was built on the site about this time but was removed in the early 1900s. Susannah's sister, Mary, arrived in Upper Canada about 1790 with her two children James and Elizabeth and received a land grant for the present day site of Battlefield House. Samuel Nash Sr. (1777-1850) arrived in Upper Canada about 1800 and in 1810 he married Susannah Gage (1788-1833).

Based on the Census Record for 1819 it appears that the present Georgian style home was constructed about 1818 or 1819 by Samuel Nash. Samuel and Susannah had two sons and four daughters. Samuel Nash Jr. (1822-1892) married Anna Catherine Munn (1830-1909) in 1850 and occupied the house with their five sons and four daughters. During the 1870s or 1880s a one and a half storey structure was added to the eastern portion of the house and the multi-pane windows in the main house were replaced by simpler ones. After his father's death, Joseph Williamson Nash (1859-1925) married Catherine Elizabeth Macdonald and occupied the house along with his mother and his sister Ada Nash. Anna and Ada lived in the west half of the house while Joseph and Catherine occupied the east wing along with their only daughter Jennie Leone (1900-1996). With the death of Anna Nash in 1909, the original dwelling/kitchen was demolished and replaced with a two-storey porch.

In 1927 Jennie Leone Nash married Angus Jackson and occupied the house with their three children Catherine Rosemary, Roger Nash and Owen Angus. About 1930 the 'gingerbread' porches at the front of the house were replaced by the Classical Revival porticos that exist today. Jennie Leone Jackson continued to occupy the home until her death.

The house was then donated by the family to the City of Stoney Creek.

Important to the preservation are the brick chimneys at the east and west gables of the main house, the bevel siding and shutters, as well as the porticoes, entrance doors and sidelights at the main entrance and east wing addition.

WINONA SCHOOLS

Continued from page 1

She was a sister of J. W. Smith, and an aunt of Howard Smith. A. M. Smith a lame man, with a violent temper, was not liked and retired. He was not related to any of the other Smiths. Mrs. John Henry Biggar, a grey haired woman, who lived near the school was an excellent teacher, and taught there for many years. She was there as late as 1874.

J.F. Kennedy, Charles Roberts, Mr. Vail and Margaret Geddes were all teachers here. Miss Gertrude Smith says in her writings, "Mr. Foran, the teacher, used to watch the pupils who were not working, and would snip their ears." She also says there were 40,000 bricks used in the building, and the suppliers would not reduce the price because of the quantity.

Some of the names of the pupils of this new school were as follows.

Victor Harvey, Mary Harvey, Rebecca Harvey, Agnes Geddes, Margie McNeilly, Egbert Smith, D. Smith, Cecil Smith, Gertrude Smith, Robma Bedell, Willie Gibson, Tom Lawrence, Jack Lawrence, Frank Lawrence, Elizabeth Oliver.

A record of those attending Winona School 1866 to 1874. Mr. John Henry Biggar, teacher. Victoria Chambers, Martha Carpenter, Josephene Carpenter, Ellen McNeilly, John O. Carpenter, Alexander Foran, Ernest D. Smith, Thomas Foran, Willie Gibson, Elizabeth Oliver, Tom Lawrence, Jack Lawrence, Frank Lawrence, Robert Wilson, Edgar Henry, Murry Pettit, George Rilet, Oscar Groveror, Victor Harvey, Mary Harvey, Rebecca Harvey.

In 1874 we see we get some new scholars. Agnes Geddes, Barbara Geddes, Sarah Foran, Jeff Foran, Robena Beddel, Bathsheba Beddel, Libbie Smith, Thomas Carpenter, Frank Carpenter, Margaret Harvey, William Harvey, Josephine Norton, John Norton, Andres Lewis, Will Lewis, Katie Marlatt, Birdie Marlatt, Maggie McNeilly, Jessie Beamer, Jack Whittaker, Tom Whittaker, Cecil Smith, Joel Lee, Tom Tallman, Egbert Smith, Clara Smith, Jennie Smith, Mary Wood, Julia Wood, Tom Wood, Fred Henry, Frank Henry, James Bedell, Ada Bedell, Sara Bedell.

Teachers to follow in the 1874 group were J.F. Kennedy, Charles Roberts, Mr. Vail and Margaret Geddes. In about 1868 the school was enlarged, and two teachers employed.

As I have told you, this account was written by a young lady who was a pupil here about a hundred years ago.

FROM THE PAST:

Wentworth Historical Society Minutes
1908 -1948

May 22nd. 1916

Saltfleet Historical Society

Report of Committees

Sports - Dr.Green reported on the committee for Sports & gave the additional names, Miss Hewlett, Miss Corman, Miss Hughill, Miss Field, Miss Chuttick, Miss Smith, Miss Thompson, Miss Hunt, Miss Ritchie, Mr O.Nash, Mr.W.B.Johnson, Mr.Hopkins, Mr.Clough, Mr.Wells, Mr J.H. Jones.

Finance - Mr.Chittick reported for finance and gave the additional names, Miss Field, Mr.Erland Lee, Mr. Geo.Millen, Cannon Davies, Mr.A.R.Millen, Mr R.H.Duir, Mr.Wells, Mr.S.Nash, Mr.A.Bear, Mr.W.E.Corman, Mr.John Lee.

Grounds - Mr. Clough reported that Mr.Hopkins willingly gave consent to make any use required. Seconded by Dr.Green.

Music - Mr.Moore reported the Stoney Creek Brass Band will be pleased to play during the afternoon for a sum of \$10.00 & if any funds are left in hand that a further sum of five dollars be paid to them. This was agreed to by Mr.Chittick and seconded by Mr.Dale.

Motions - Motions being put for the respective committees it was moved and seconded that they be adopted as named.

Starters and Judges - It proposed that the following act as such. Dr.Green, Mr.Hopkins, Mr.Wells, Mr.G.W.Millen, Mr. Chittick, Mr.O.Nash, Mr.Dale, Mr.Clough, Mr.A.Bear, Mr. Springstead.

Sports - It was proposed by Dr.Green & seconded by Mr.Chittick, that we run the same Programme for 1916 as run for 1915 adding a Tug of War for the different schools to take part of eight a side up to the age of 14 yrs to be picked by the teachers.

Songs -The usual Patriotic songs were arranged for & the meeting adjourned until Monday May 29th.

AUTOMOBILE FIRSTS:

THE FIRST WOMAN DRIVER - 1891:

The first woman to drive a car was Madame Levassor, wife of one of the partners in the Paris motor manufacturing concern Panhard et Levassor, but better known by her former name Madame Sarazin. After the death of her first husband, Madame Sarazin had acquired the French and Belgian rights of manufacture for the Daimler gas powered engine. The following year she married Emile Levassor, and the patent rights passed to her new husband's manufacturing firm. They began manufacturing cars under their own name in 1891, the year Madame Lecassor learned to drive. The earliest evidence of her becoming a chauffeuse is a photograph of her at the tiller of a Panhard car, dated 1892.

Executive Elections 2006

The annual meeting and general elections were held January 4, 2006 at the Stoney Creek City Hall .

The following members are your Executive for 2006

President,	Bill O'Reilly
1st vice president,	Bill Mitchell
2nd vice President,	Michael Gemmell
Treasurer,	Judy Green
Recording Secretary,	Harriett McInnes
Corresponding Secretary,	Anna Orr
Directors,	Jim Reid, Mary Lewis, Greg Armstrong.
Programing	Malcolm Hughes.

Malcolm takes over from Margaret Hughes who has helped us out for the past two years. Thank -you Margaret for looking after our past programing.

We also want to thank Cheryl Gemmell for her work as Recording Secretary, a job well done. Cheryl will retain her position as Archivist for the society.

MARRIED:

*Augustus Jones wedding announcement
in the Upper Canada Gazette May 12 1798.*

At the Grand River about 3 weeks since, Augustus Jones, esq. deputy surveyor, to a young lady of that place, daughter to the noted Mohawk warrior TERRIHOGAH.

“At each kind glance may their souls unite,
While loves soft sympathy imparts
The tender transport of delight.
Which beats in individual hearts.

JANET PELL:

I am sorry to report the death of a long time member of the Historical Society. Janet Pell passed away Sunday December 25th. Predeceased by her husband John, who was also a long time member.
Our thoughts go out to the Pell family.

THROUGH THE GARDEN OF CANADA

From Winona Centennial 1867 -1967

Part 5

Where We Get Our Power

Perhaps the traveller has been wondering where we generate power to speed ourselves along over the smooth rails. Here we have it, just beyond the battle field at the Village of Stoney Creek. You may get off here and examine with your eyes if you will, but do not touch. There are the great engines which drive the enormous dynamos, ceaselessly running from the beginning of day to beginning of day, sending the mysterious electric current over the wires from end to end of the line. At Stoney Creek, also, the adventurous spirit will find food for adventure climbing up the ravine over which the railway passes. On the next page is the basin of the first fall away up the mountain side and again a view of a lower fall. The mountain side is heavily wooded, and wild flowers, ferns and mosses abound.

CANADA'S 1911 CENSUS:

The following message from Ian E. Wilson, Librarian and Archivist of Canada, was extracted from the July-August edition of an e-newsletter sent out by Library and Archives Canada every two months.

submitted by Dorothy Reid

Some 7.2 million men, women and children were enumerated on June 1, 1911. The release of the 1911 census records will provide a fascinating glimpse of these Canadians at a critical time in our history—a window on how they lived and worked, where they came from, their religions, and the languages they spoke. This is an exciting time for genealogists, family historians, students, and any Canadian who wishes to gain a better understanding of who we are and where we came from. In the decade between 1901 and 1911, over 1.8 million men, women and children arrived on our shores from every corner of the globe to begin a new life in Canada and to lay the foundations of the multicultural society we have today. For the vast majority of these new arrivals, the information in the 1911 Census is the only documentation we have. These records—totalling 135 reels of microfilm—provide peoples' names, their occupations, their year of birth, but more importantly, these records tell their stories.

By making these records available, through a unique partnership with Statistics Canada, we are allowing Canadians to explore their own past, and in so doing, to explore the history of our country. We are a nation that values historical research and inquiry, and these records are fundamental to a society trying to understand its own history. By preserving these records, we acknowledge their profound importance as a testament to our past; by making them accessible online, we underscore our commitment to making Canada's heritage available to the vast majority of Canadians.

Canada has a longstanding history of making historical census and other records available to the public. Over the past decade alone, Library and Archives Canada (LAC) has placed a considerable number of databases and digitized documents online, offering researchers of all kinds the chance to document an individual, a family, or a whole community. These include the national census records for 1901; the census of the Prairie Provinces, 1906; Home Children, 1869-1930; South African War service records, 1899-1902; and the Canadian Expeditionary Force attestation papers from 1914-1918.

At LAC, researchers can also find information online about books and newspapers, historical resources that, when combined with census records, provide a much broader picture of how an individual may have lived—indeed, how a whole community may have lived.

Census returns are of primary interest to family historians and genealogists because they are fundamental to the kind of research they undertake, and they can be supplemented by further research into a wide variety of resources held by LAC, as well as provincial, municipal, and other libraries

and archives. Academic and professional historians, social scientists and students also benefit from the availability of these records. Census information is also extremely important for any serious biographical work.

The census records were made available on July 21, and can be viewed online at www.collectionscanada.ca/archivianet/1911/index-e.html.

BUS TOUR - DECEMBER 9TH.

Our December bus tour was another great success thanks to Bill Mitchell who put the trip together again.

Leaving Battlefield Park at 1.00 pm we traveled to Chippewa where the tour of Willowbank began, then a surprise stop at the Harry Oakes estate, on to "Oh Canada Eh" for the dinner theatre. After a fun filled performance and a good supper we headed along to view the Niagara Falls Light show before returning to Battlefield park at 11.30pm. I enjoyed the day and hope all of the group did as well. A belated Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to all.

GRANDMOTHER'S DAY:

Grandmother, on a winter's day
Milked the cows and fed them hay.
Slopped the hogs, saddled the mule,
And got the children off to school.

Did the washing, mopped the floors,
Washed the windows, did the chores.
Cooked a dish of home-dried fruit,
Pressed her husband's Sunday suit.

Swept the parlour and made the beds,
Then baked a dozen loaves of bread.
Split the firewood, then lugged it in
Enough to fill up the kitchen bin.

Cleaned the lamps and put in some oil,
Stewed some apples, in case they spoiled.
Cooked a supper that was delicious,
Then after washed up all the dishes.

Fed the cat and sprinkled clothes,
Then mended a basket full of clothes.
Then opened the organ and began to play:
WHEN YOU COME TO THE END OF
A PERFECT DAY.

From the Kawartha bulletin Feb. 1999

On September 29 1829 the London England Bobbies started police service?

GORE GAZETTE:

Ancaster - January 1827

The Capitalist, Merchant and the Manufacturer.

The subscriber offers for sale his valuable property, well known by the name of ALBION MILLS, which consists of upwards of 400 acres of land, the soil of which is of an excellent quality, and nearly 200 acres of it in high state of cultivation; with a never failing stream of water running throughout the whole premises.

There are on the premises the following buildings, an extensive Grist Mill, with two pair of stones and all the necessary machinery for merchant and country work; also a Saw Mill, both of which are in excellent order and in full operation; a new Stone Distillery, with all the necessary appendages, and a Distiller's House; a Blacksmith's Shop and House; an Ashery; two houses for millers; three Dwelling Houses for tenants and labourers; well furnished, (with shed and stables) and lately occupied as an Inn; a Merchant's Shop, with cellars; an extensive Storehouse; a Cooper's Shop; a Waggon House; a large two story Dwelling House, with kitchen and cellars, quite new and well finished; an extensive Barn, Stables and Sheds, &c. &c.

There is an excellent Salt Springs on the premises, two excellent Gardens, and an extensive bearing Orchard of the best apples, pears, plums, cherries, &c. also the English white grape vines which have produced abundance of fine grapes for several seasons past.

The above described premises are handily situated, commanding an extensive view of Lake Ontario, and the opposite shore to a considerable distance below York and of the vessels passing to and from the Burlington Bay Canal. They are in an uncommonly healthy as well as a well settled and wealthy part of our country.

WESTFIELD VILLAGE:

by Robt Winniger

Maple Syrup Time, Taste of Spring -Sundays March 6, 13, 20, 27, & Good Friday, March 25, & Wed. March 16, & Thurs., March 17, of the March Break.

Friends of Westfield Plant & Bake Sale - Saturday, May 7, 8.00 am.

Doors Open - Open House - Saturday and Sunday, May 7 & 8 12.30 pm. to 4 pm. Take-a -behind the scenes tour of artifact collection.

Victoria Day and the United Empire Loyalists - Join American Revolutionary War Soldiers during a day of living history.

Westfield Heritage Village Hour Open Sundays and Holidays April 6 to October 26, 12:30 - 4 pm.

featuring hourly tours, restaurant and gift shop.

**CROWN PATENTEES
OF SALTFLEET TOWNSHIP:**

By Mabel Burkholder and T. Roy Woodhouse

Continued from May newsletter

The names and registration dates were copied from the County Registry Office by Mabel Burkholder, and elaborated by T. Roy Woodhouse:

CONCESSION EIGHT

NAME	Lot No.	Pt. of Lot	Acres	Registered
Thomas Butler, Jr. (of Niagara).	1to3	All	300	Feb.10, 1807
Rene Augustin, Comte de Chalus (Niagara)	4to6	All	300	May15, 1807
Peter Ball et. al. (of Niagara) - Quetton St. George	7,11	All	200	June 26,1812
8, 9, 12, 13 -4 lots		All	400	Dec. 14, 1807
Alexander Wood	10	All	100	July 6, 1807
James Crooks (of Niagara) (1791)	14,15	All	200	May 24, 1809
James Davidson 16, 22, 23 - 3 lots		All	300	May12, 1807
John D. Servos (of Niagara) —	17,18	All	200	Mar. 9, 1807
Jean Louis Vicomte de Chalus (Niagara) .—	19to21	All	300	May15, 1807
Alexander Milmine (about 1796)	24 to 26	All	300	Aug.9, 1806
Elizabeth Murray 27, 28, 31-3 lots		All	300J	Jan.16, 1805
James Darickson (1794)	29, 30	All	200	Dec.31, 1798
William Davis (1790)	32, 33	All	200	Mar.10, 1797
Elizabeth Murray (dai-i. of Lt., 84th Reg't.).	34	All	100	Oct.23, 1806

This concludes the reporting of the Crown Patentees of Saltfleet Township

The "Gore Gazette" was published at Ancaster from 1827 to 1829.

HISTORICAL SOCIETY QUERY POLICY:

Members may submit 2 free genealogical queries per year. Queries should be typed or printed clearly on separate pages 8 1/2" x 11", 50 word limit.

Non Members must remit a fee of \$5.00 per query. which will be dated when received and printed in the order received as time and space allow.

Please include Name, Address, Postal Code and phone number.

LOYALISTS AND PIONEERS:

PETTIT

Charles Pettit, son of Nathaniel and Elizabeth (Heath) Pettit, was born near Trenton, N.J., about 1730. He married Mary Smith and came to Canada with a number of Loyalist families in 1787. He settled in Saltfleet and the first map of that township shows his name on Lots 13 and 14, Concs. I and II.

In searching for records of Charles we find his name on several early documents. On a Land Board meeting, Nassau, 31 March, 1790, when he was appointed a Commissioner of Roads. On a petition for land sent from The Forty to the Government, dated 29 July, 1794, and on a petition to Governor Simcoe, dated 12 October, 1796, praying that the provisions that had been borrowed during the 'Hungry Years' might be paid for in the same kind as borrowed or in flour, wheat or other produce and at a more moderate price than was charged when lent. He built his house, evidently a sizeable one, before 1798 as, in that year, John Heckewelder and Benjamin Mortimer, Moravian missionaries, travelling from Bethlehem, Pennsylvania, to Fairfield, Upper Canada, mention staying at Charles Pettit's house. In their diary they describe staying at Charles Anderson's at The Forty (Grimsby) and continuing on their journey westward: May 17. We breakfasted at Pettit's five miles from Andersons. Though the country continued to be full of farms; yet we saw no towns. Near this place the principal road turns off to the north to the city of York (formerly called Toronto). The descendants of Charles Pettit state that they have no record of where their ancestor was buried. However, in recording the churchyard of St. Andrew's, Grimsby, we found his name on Lot 6, Range VI. There is no stone erected to his memory but his son, John Charles, and his daughter, Rachel, were buried here. Also his name in his own handwriting is on a subscription list, dated 1805 for the purpose of erecting a fence around the burying ground. Charles was evidently a member of the Anglican church as some of their services were held at his house around the turn of the century. Therefore one may assume that Charles and his wife, Mary, lie buried in St. Andrew's churchyard and that he died sometime between 1805 and 1808, as his name does not appear on the voters' list of the latter date. Children of Charles and Mary Pettit, who came to Canada:- Jemima, born 1761 in Sussex County, N.J. She married John Biggar of Saltfleet, died 1812 and was buried in St. Andrew's churchyard, Grimsby. John Charles, son of Charles and Mary Pettit, was born near Newton, New Jersey in 1762. He married Martha, daughter of James and Elizabeth Biggar and they came with other Loyalist families to Canada in 1787. They settled in Saltfleet, and according to their descendants, their land stretched from beyond the top of the hill to the lake, Lot 4 in the 1st and 2nd Concessions, Lots 4 and 12 in the 3rd Concession. The deed of the land reads

--Saltfleet, Lincoln County. John Charles died in 1835 and was buried in St. Andrew's churchyard, Grimsby. His wife, Martha (Biggar) Pettit died 10 December, 1828, while visiting with her daughter's family at Niagara. She was buried in the Clement. burying ground, Niagara township.

Note:- A plaque in memory of John Charles Pettit, Loyalist, was placed on the north wall of St. John's church, Winona, by descendants, 7 Sept., 1947.

(Editors note) The Pettit family of Saltfleet history covers 23 pages and is much too large for this publication.

Anyone interested in the family can read about them in book #7 of the Annals of the Forty.

THE FAIRGROUNDS

Saltfleet Then and Now

In 1891 Saltfleet had Fair Grounds on the J. K. Lottridge property which was on the south side of King Street west of Gray Road.

The women of the district dressed in suits and pretty hats drove their well groomed Hackney horses hitched to sulkies. Some women drove democats or buggies in the competition while others competed on riding horses. All competing did not win prizes because there were great differences as to the way each handled her horse. It all made for a community effort and was fun.

Then there was the handicraft show held in the drill shed near the New Mountain Road with its entrance just east of the creek. The prizes were small but they were all cash. Mrs. Alva E. Jones of Fruitland had much of her work on display and won many top prizes of a dollar for each. These were Work Ornamental, Fancy Knitting, Sofa Pillow, Fancy Tidy, Afghan, Drawn Work and Kensington Painting.

There was an Agricultural Society in Saltfleet and fairs were held each year. The Prize List of 1891 at the Eighth Annual Exhibition held in Stoney Creek on Thursday and Friday, October 1 and 2, listed the following: 1. Horses, 2. Cattle, 3. Sheep, 4. Pigs, 5. Poultry, 6. Grain and Seeds, 7. Roots, 8. Dairy Products, 9. Fruit, 10. Farm Implements, 11. Ladies' Work, Useful, 12. Ladies' Work, Ornamental, 13. Flowers. In the eighty-three years since that fair the products of Saltfleet have undergone a change.

According to a communication received from the House of Commons in Ottawa the official spelling of Stony Creek was without an "e" until August 1st, 1927. From that day it was spelled with an "e" and became officially Stony Creek.

There is no official date as to when a post office was opened in Stony Creek except that it was prior to 1832.

DID YOU KNOW:

from the Day Tripper, autumn 2005

Ruthven, (the historic site along the Grand River near Cayuga) was originally name Inkermanville, after a Crimean battle.

MEMBERS BUSINESS/INSTITUTION DIRECTORY:

Appraiser*Quiltmaker*Lecturer	Judy Lyons	1231 Hammond St. Burl.	905-639-2441
Britannia Cleaners	Ed Strecker	17 King St. E.	905-662-4971
Chamber of Commerce	Dave Cage	21 Mountain Ave. S.	905-664-4000
Comic1 Books	Tom Laing	Elm/King Plaza	905-664-3777
Watercolours by Doug Mays	Doug & Angela Mays	3 MacDui Dr.	905-643-4541
Elm Grocery & Deli	Rick/Mario/Sonia	44 King St. E.	905-662-7900
Erland Lee Museum Home	Michael Gemmell	552 Ridge Road	905-662-2691
Evans Flower Shop	Karen Evans	5 King St. West.	905-664-3712
Forsyth Hagar Accounting	Anne Forsyth CGA	42 King St. E. Unit#2	905-662-2848
Picture Palace	Joanne Wynhofen	19 King St. E.	905-662-4014
Queenston Stationery	Salam Zoghaib	38 King St. E.	905-664-3360
Royal Canadian Legion	Branch 622	12 King St. E.	905-662-4171
Spera House Antiques	Lyn & Brent Jukes	228 Ridge Road	905-662-9339
Winona Garden Shoppe	Georgina & Jeff Beattie	1381 Highway 8	905-643-2161

PLEASE MENTION THIS DIRECTORY WHEN YOU SUPPORT OUR MEMBERS!

GROUNDHOG DAY:

From the Old Farmer's Almanac:

Traditionally, February 2 marks the halfway point of winter and the day to prepare for spring planting. Farmers often relied on weather lore to determine the weather for the next six weeks. If an animal came out of hibernation on this day and saw its shadow, winter would continue.

For centuries, farmers in France and England looked to a bear, in Germany, they kept their eye on the badger. In the 1800s, the legend was brought to America by German immigrants to Pennsylvania. Finding no badgers there, they adopted the New World's species - the groundhog - to fit the lore. The most famous four-legged forecaster may be Pennsylvania's Punxsutawney Phil, who has announced spring's arrival since 1887. His accuracy rate is believed to be 100 percent.

Groundhog Wiarthon Willie began making weather predictions in 1956. His predictions were 90 percent accurate. Since 2000, his successor, also called Wiarthon Willie, has been making predictions with the same degree of accuracy.

DID YOU KNOW?

It was the accepted practice in Babylon 4000 years ago that for a month after the wedding, the bride's father would supply his son-in-law with all the Mead he could drink. Mead is a honey beer and because their calendar was lunar based, this period was called the honey month or what we know today as the honeymoon.

THE WAY IT WAS

From Fruit Growers "Descriptive souvenir" of June 1901
 HOTEL ACACIA, STONEY CREEK, ONT.,
 MURRAY NEIL, Proprietor

This hotel was built of stone. It was a solid stone structure, in fact with walls eighteen inches thick, impervious alike to cold and heat. The trolley line between Hamilton and Beamsville passed directly by the door both ways every hour. Mr. Murray Neil was the genial proprietor, who knew, how to run a house situated as the Hotel Acacia was within a few minutes ride from a large city. This was a well conducted house, and parties of ladies and gentlemen had the most cordial treatment and careful attention. A good livery service could be supplied to guests who may desire to drive up on the mountain or by the lake shore. The rates were \$1.00 per day or \$5.00 per week.

Editors Note: The original stone wall is still visible from King St. and Mountain Ave. when looking east and at the second story towards the Village Restaurant.

WHY ASK WHY?

Do hungry crows have ravenous appetites?

If a lawyer can be disbarred and clergymen defrocked, can electricians be delighted, musicians denoted, cowboys deranged, models deposed, and tree surgeons debarked?

Why is brassiere singular and panties plural?

GONE BUT NOT FORGOTTEN:

Remember....

- Putting a three-cent stamp on a first class letter?
- Filling a fountain pen with ink from a bottle?
- Forgetting to empty the tray under the ice-box?
- Going to a Friday night movie for a quarter, and taking home a dinner plate as well?
- Trying to keep the seams straight in silk stockings?
- Waxing and polishing hardwood floors down on your hands and knees?
- Bringing in sweet-smelling laundry from the clothes-line?
- Ironing cotton handkerchiefs, starching shirt collars, darning socks?
- Taking the boss's dictation down in shorthand, then transcribing the squiggly lines on a manual typewriter?
- Using a sheet of carbon paper to make a copy?
- Wearing a hat and gloves just to go shopping?
- Pumping the player piano for family sing-songs?
- Creating our own mental images as we listen to sitcoms, plays or sports on the radio?
- Cranking the wall telephone to reach the operator, hoping the party-line was not in use? Then hoping nobody's listening as we talk.

Were they the good old days' or WHAT?

September 29 1877

The first spike was driven for the Canadian Pacific Railway?

VISITORS AND NEW MEMBERS WELCOME

MEETINGS ARE HELD AT STONEY CREEK CITY HALL, COUNCIL CHAMBERS

1st. WEDNESDAY OF EACH MONTH BEGINNING AT 7.30 pm. SEPTEMBER TO JUNE

COFFEE AND REFRESHMENTS FOLLOW

Stoney Creek Historical Society

Year 2006 Executive

President:	Bill O'Reilly	662-2248
Past President:	Ron Place	662-8856
1st. Vice President:	Bill Mitchell	664-4576
2nd. Vice President:	Michael Gemmell	549-5949
Treasurer:	Judy Green	662-4065
Recording Secretary:	Harriett McInnes	643-0505
Corresponding Secretary:	Anna Orr	643-7653
Newsletter:	Ron Place	662-8856

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION \ RENEWAL \ DONATIONS

(Please print)

Date: _____

Name: _____

Address: _____ Apt.: _____

City: _____ Postal Code: _____ Phone: _____

(Please check) _____ Renewal: _____ New: _____

Membership

Family	\$ 18.00
Single	\$ 10.00
Business/Institution.....	\$ 25.00

Donation to funds

General Fund.....	\$ _____
Museum Fund.....	\$ _____
Publication Fund.....	\$ _____

Tax receipts will be issued

Membership Term January 1st. to December 31st.

Please complete application and make your cheque payable to

The Stoney Creek Historical Society
 P.O. Box 66637 Stoney Creek On. L8G 5E6

LIBRARY NEWS:

Donations to our library of family history material and information on Historical Stoney Creek are very much appreciated. This will be available to those researching their families and interests in our city.

PLEASE NOTE

Unfortunately, because of late returns and missing books, **it is no longer possible to borrow from our library at this time.**

This facility is now a reference library only and material must remain on site.

Our appreciation to **Karen & Peter Orr** for donating this library space to our society.

SteelmarketPlace

(Rear of) 1247 Highway 8, Winona.

Monday to Friday 8:30 am. To 4:00 pm.

DID YOU KNOW:

Little Orphan Annie was the first comic character born in 1924.

FUTURE SPEAKERS

Wed. Mar. 1, - Joe Hollick - Waterfalls of Hamilton

Wed. Apr. 1, - Ken Hall & John McRae - The Niagara Escarpment.

Wed. May 3, - David Auger - The Canal Lighthouse.

The math teacher saw little Johnny wasn't paying attention in class. She called on him and said, "Johnny! What are 2 and 4 and 28 and 44?" Little Johnny quickly replied, "NBC, CBC, HBO and the Cartoon network!"

Members wishing to receive their newsletter by e-mail should contact Ron Place at

r.place@sympatico.ca

Stories, News or Queries can be mailed to

Ron Place

56 Wyngate Ave.

Stoney Creek, On. L8G 1T6

E-mail r.place@sympatico.ca

Next newsletter will be issued Wed. May 03, 2006

Material deadline is Monday, April 17, 2006

Visit our Historical Society website www.stoneycreekhistoricalsociety.701.com

William & Juanita Mitchell 2005
2 Elm Dr.
Stoney Creek, On. L8G 3B4

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