

Remember the Corman House

Stoney Creek Historical Society

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

NEWSLETTER

October 2002

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Saltfleet Crisis In 1949

Says Reeve C.D.Banting Stoney Creek News Thursday, August 26th, 1948

The present population of Saltfleet Township can be estimated at approximately 10,000 people. To many of our people this municipality means a vast area extending on the north along some eight miles of lake front, from Hamilton to east of Winona, and south over a large section of the mountain top, including Vinemount. Tapleytown and Mount Albion. To many it means hundreds of fruit orchards vineyards, mixed farms and scores of small communities, each with its cluster of suburban homes.

Large Area.

Because of the broad stretches of Saltfleet and its scattered development, problems peculiar to one section of the Township are often unknown or of no interest to the rest of the municipality. However, in some instances a problem confronting one particular area will have an effect on the entire Township. Such, a problem to-day is rearing its head in the Western section and it is bound to have a lasting effect on every parcel of real estate in Saltfleet.

Real Problem

Farm owner, home owner, and businessman alike, will for years to come, be required to carry on, ever-increasing or decreasing load in taxation, depending on the road the Township chooses to travel in the months that lie ahead. There, is real cause to sit down, every last ratepayer in Saltfleet and give some very serious thought to a problem that is now common to us all and may-well be the major crisis in our Township's history. We must recognize it as such and take positive steps along the road which will lead us to lower taxation and better living.

Hamilton Influence

The critical condition we are now facing is brought about mainly by the City of Hamilton - by its proximity and expansion aims of certain City officials who look possessively, deep into the western reaches of Saltfleet., A gradual series of annexations have brought Hamilton to the Red Hill Creek they are included in the recent annexation award handed down by the Ontario Municipal Board in favour of Hamilton and later settled by agreement after a Saltfleet objection had been filed. Even as we

NEW MEMBER:

We are happy to welcome to our membership

The new owner of Queenston Stationery Salam Zoghaib

complete this most recent annexation settlement it can be assumed with little doubt that new blueprints for the annexing of another large area of our Township are being studied in Hamilton

Must Keep Outlet

It is of tremendous importance that Saltfleet maintain access to the waters of Hamilton Bay for ultimate sewage disposal, for the loss of such an outlet would require costly processing of waste before releasing it into the lake in time to come, whereas the Bay provides a natural settling basin and prevents contamination of Lake Ontario waters. Our only access to the Bay is the Red Hill Creek and further annexation by the City would cut us off entirely from this channel.

Hamilton Overflowing

Hamilton is bursting its seams and those seams are on the Saltfleet side. Building Lots in the city are all but exhausted, the West is built solidly to the Dundas marsh and on the south, home building appears to have reached the saturation point with, heavily travelled roads over the mountain presenting a barrier to the desires of home builders. Being water locked on the north, there is but one easy course for the flood of new homes which threaten to reach an all time high, in construction in the near future. Add this prospect to, Hamilton's, requirements large industrial tracts to, accommodate the surge of new industries being attracted to the city by its Industrial Commissioner, and Hamilton's desire for more Saltfleet territory is obvious.

Property Values In Danger

Our Western Township butting on Hamilton's industrial flank is fertile for the growth of a new shack town which invariably springs up over night on the fringes of an industrial city. Lack of improvements make for cheaper land and lower taxes and township land usually means a spot where many temporary "dwellings may be built free from city building restrictions. All these advantages for the "tar-paper hacienda" dweller and only a few minutes from the factory.

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THE PRESIDENT'S CORNER:

"Hamilton's Battlefield Park" ?? Give me a break!
The site where the American invasion was turned back,
June 6, 1813, where British and local Militia as well as
Americans died, was and will continue to be "The Battle of
Stoney Creek", a turning point in the war of 1812.

As a long time flag waver for this area, I was shocked when I picked up an advertisement for Hamilton museums and historic sites, reading that the Stoney Creek name had been removed. When Bartonville was taken over by Hamilton years ago its name ceased to exist. Recently signs for Stoney Creek had been taken down but fortunately replaced after citizens complained.

Is it Hamilton's hidden agenda to discontinue the historic names of Ancaster, Dundas, Waterdown and Stoney Creek for us to be known only as Hamilton? The added costs of the Provincial Government's forced amalgamation to rebuild Hamilton's infrastructure is being borne by the suburban tax payers. This is outrage enough, we should not be loosing our identity as well. Citizens need to be vigilant and make a lot of noise to their local politicians to retain our historic names. Reeve C.D. Banting's concerns in 1948 were well founded.

Ron Place

JANUARY MEETING DATE CHANGE:

With the first Wednesday in January 2003 being New Years Day, we have moved this meeting only to Wednesday January 8th 2003

REPORT FROM BATTLEFIELD HOUSE

by Marnie Hutchinson

Despite the sometimes-extreme heat, summer at Battle-field House has been a busy time for staff and volunteers. We hope that everyone managed to keep cool, and through travel and holidays, was able to appreciate and take advantage of our rich Canadian heritage.

We once again had the fortunate opportunity to hire three summer students. The hard work and enthusiasm of these students resulted in several projects being completed. These include an exhibit to be installed in Queen's Park in September on Queen Elizabeth's visit to Battlefield House in 1959, the inventory, repair and production of our reproduction historic clothing collection and the development of educational programmes. Our thanks to Andrea, Enzo and Wes and best wishes as you return to school in the fall. Speaking of fall, it is most certainly just around the corner. We hope that you and your family will be able to join us for one or all of the following fall and Christmas events.

Antique Doll and Teddy Bear Exhibit September 28 to December 31

A nostalgic exhibit of childhood treasures. Presented in co-operation with the Stoney Creek Antique Doll and Teddy Bear Club.

Spirit Walk, Saturday, October 26

Fun and fright for the whole family. Take a walk by candlelight of the grounds where the Battle of Stoney Creek was fought and where a ghostly presence resides.

Nash-Jackson House Fundraising Fashion Show Sunday, October 27

Luncheon and fashion show of men and ladies' clothing modelled by local celebrities. Historic fashions from Westfield Heritage Centre.

Holiday Season Visitor Hours

Saturdays, November 23 and 30, December 7,14 and 21"1:00 pm-4:00 pm"Cross the threshold of the 200 year-old Gage homestead to experience the sights, smells and sounds of an early 19th century Christmas.

Breakfast with St. Nicholas Saturday, December 7 Old-fashioned holiday fun. Children will enjoy a pancake breakfast, thrill at a visit from St. Nicholas, make a holiday craft and take a tour of Battlefield House, decorated for Christmas.

Stoney Creek Historical Society Christmas House Tour Sunday, December 8

Tour some of Stoney Creek's historically and architecturally significant homes, including Battlefield House, all beautifully decorated for the holidays.

Gingerbread House Workshop Saturday, December 14 Children will decorate their own pre-made, homemade gingerbread house to take home. Includes a tour of Battlefield House, decorated for Christmas.

For more information on these and other events, contact us at 905-662-8458.

ERLAND LEE (MUSEUM) HOME

(Celebrating 30 years: 1972-2002) by Michael Gemmell

The museum is entering the home stretch of our 30th Anniversary year. A celebratory tea was held in August to commemorate thirty years as a heritage site, and a new exhibit opened about the last thirty years as a museum. Visitor attendance increased for the fourth consecutive year, as many people have discovered the Lee's unique combination of Women's Institutes and Stoney Creek community social history.

The heritage site recently unveiled a "Friends of the Erland Lee Museum" program. This annual membership program offers discounts to the museum's programs, early bird notices, an insider's newsletter on what happening in the museum, and free regular admission to members. Copies of the Friends of the Erland Lee Museum application are now available.

The museum also has a new web page: home.interlynx.net/e/erlandlee/main.html and email address (erlandlee@interlynx.net).

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Saltfleet Crisis

Such a development has a devastating effect the property values of those home proud taxpayers who have now established good, attractive residences in that section. Many of these substantial citizens are employed in east Hamilton industry and would be forced to endure an undesirable development or sell out move farther from their work in the eastern township.

Shack Towns Costly

The effect of such a "mushroom shack development" on the entire Township of Saltfleet would be a very costly one, as small homes of this type cannot be assessed sufficiently to pay even a percentage of educational costs. The cost of educating one child in Saltfleet at present is about \$65.00 which represents the full proceeds of a \$2000.00 assessment, leaving nothing for other township charges debenture payments or county rates. But many of the "shacks" in such a development cannot be assessed even for \$2000.00 and in many cases not one but several children attend township schools from one house.

Education Costs Rise

Education costs are presently mounting at such a rate that much concern is being felt by the council who must levy for the necessary funds. The School Board have complete charge of spending the funds which the Township Council collects, but theirs is a most difficult task in that increasing costs are in evidence in school sections throughout the province and the influx of new residents demands more accommodation from the Board. About two-thirds of the tax dollars paid by Saltfleet rate-payers goes towards the education of our students. Each, time an area is annexed from Saltfleet less over-all remaining assessment is left to carry increased burden of school charges for the "mushroom "development" on the "fringe"

Building Will Flourish

Saltfleet is in for a tremendous surge of building, that cannot be questioned; it cannot be stopped." Further annexations by the City of Hamilton are planned at this moment, that can be stopped.

We in the Township of Saltfleet, face a crisis which may well determine the prosperity of our municipalities for the next generation.

I have given much consideration to the problem that is so vital to you and me and our young families upon whom the wisdom or error of our judgement will find it's balance, and I offer a solution which I believe to be sound. My formula however, may be improved upon considerably or revised upon better suggestions which may come to my attention from you the ratepayers and every idea that may add to our future security will be received and acted upon.

Practical Plan

I. Setting Up Of A Planning Board. This should consist of keenly interested citizens who are prepared to work relentlessly towards the zoning of the entire township into various

categories such as residential, industrial, commercial farm. etc., etc.

- 2. Entirely New And Revamped Building Code. Much difficulty has been encountered in passing all effective code due to the drastic, housing shortages. An effort is 'being made at present to formulate a satisfactory code to work in conjunction with the proposed Planning Board and the final code will necessarily work in with such a Board's zoning set-up.
- 3. Establishment Of A Township Water System. Present estimates for such a system stand at \$500,000 and the consultant engineer is of the opinion a system could be placed in operation in 1949. A water area would be established below the mountain with service from Red Hill to Winona in the area. Exemptions are to be provided for farm frontages.

More detailed information will be made available soon with a finalized plan. It is proposed to keep the ratepayers fully informed and to place a By-Law before the voters this fall. The effect of a water system would be, far-reaching and the out-lay should be realized as an investment rather than an expenditure. A better class of home building would be encouraged and more strength given to the building code. Shack builders will not be likely to invest in improved land (serviced with water) and the general trend would be towards better homes and higher assessment on new building.

Light Industry Wanted

Apart from the investment realization in better houses that "pay their way", the greatest advantage to be gained from water service would be in attracting light manufacturing and clean smokeless industry. Many British and other firms are seeking locations in this area and there is little doubt that Saltfleet, with its fine network of highways, railroads accessibility to water transportation, and its ideal geographic location in relation to American and Canadian centres, would become the home of many new plants which would be located in a zone apart from residential areas. The establishment of some millions of dollars in industrial assessment would solve the problem of mounting educational costs and would relieve much of the tax load now carried almost in its entirety by residential and farm real estate.

Better sites Sought

Hamilton sees in Saltfleet what many of our own people have not looked for - a lay-out superior in many ways to Hamilton for the development of tax-relieving industry. Saltfleet cannot continue for many years without satisfying the ever mounting cry for water which is emanating from thousands who are are handicapped by the lack of fresh, clean water in their homes and farms. Is it not logical that serious consideration be given to the water plant?

This formula for the security of Saltfleet's future I submit to you whom I am privileged to serve.

Your -comments, Criticisms, or opinions are heartily welcomed

NOW is the time to check further annexation of Saltfleet lands by Hamilton.

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ERLAND LEE (MUSEUM) HOME

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Upcoming events:

October is our 10th Annual Local Artist Show and Sale, featuring 100+ works from over 35 artists in the Hamilton-Wentworth area. All manner of mediums will be on display, from oils to acrylics to paper tole' and sculpture. Our milestone 10th show will be complemented by a reopening of the model train exhibit, located in the 1873 fieldstone basement, for the month of October only. All the art is for sale, and featuring many talented artists from Stoney Creek like SCHS member, Doug Mays. The event runs from October 1-31, with regular hours and admission.

In November, in conjunction with the Historical Society's monthly meeting topic, quilts, the Lee offers a Quilt Documentation Workshop. Come and learn how to prepare a history on your prized heritage quilt. Conducted by Judy Lyons, Lee volunteer and SCHS member, and her quilting guild volunteers, this series of short stations will take you through the process of discovering your quilt's history, how to care for it, and document the information for cataloguing at the Erland Lee Museum for the benefit of future generations. You may come at any time 10-3, on November 22 or 23rd. Completing the workshop takes about 1.5 hours. There will be a minimal cost (under \$10) to pay for materials.

December sees the return of Christmas at the Lee, as the home will be decorated for the festive season in late Victorian splendor. After dusk, the grounds of the museum will be decorated again with sparkling Christmas lights to complement the gingerbread trim. With luck, Mother Nature will give us a dusting of snow to complete the outdoor effect! Make a take-home Christmas ornament and enjoy a warm drink in the carriage house as part of your tour. We also have a selection of seasonal Christmas crafts starting November 1st in the museum's gift shop. Regular hours, plus special extended open hours, Sunday, December 8, 15 and 22, from 6:30 - 8:30 pm. Admission is \$4.00 from December 3-22.

Sunday December 8, the Erland Lee Museum will be part of the 11th Stoney Creek Christmas House Tour (see elsewhere in this issue).

The single biggest challenge currently facing the 1897 birthplace of the Women's Institutes is the replacement of the heritage cedar roof, a \$25 000 project. The Society generously donated \$500 towards the cause earlier this year, and the museum thanks you for all your support given in 2002. Special thanks to our volunteers, particularly Shawn Starchuk of Stoney Creek, and to our summer student, Meaghan FitzGibbon of Stoney Creek, who is entering the University of Toronto this fall to study history. Anyone interested in the museum or volunteering is welcome to call 905 662 2691. We look forward to serving you in 2002-2003.

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Saltfleet Crisis

NOW is the time to provide for -better building in Saltfleet, NOW is the time to plan our community. NOW is the time to offset increasing educational costs.

NOW is the time to lower our taxes with industrial tax dollars. SALTFLEET IS YOUR Township. Plan to take a more active part in building a better community

Men's Clubs Praised

Five Men's Clubs are now functioning in Saltfleet. An excellent Canadian Legion Branch is expanding its operations. Homeowner's Associations are very active and Home and School groups meet regularly. Together with Farm Forums and Federations, church groups. Women's Auxiliaries, dramatic clubs, and other community clubs, these organizations have presented much constructive guidance to the ouncil of this Township. Their public spirited membership can go far in fostering a greater municipal spirit. This is your "Home Town" SALTFLEET-a name and a municipality to be proud of as we enter her 100th year as a corporation. Encourage a better, cleaner community and orderly prosperous development. Patronize our Township merchants.

Newspaper Lauded

Much credit is due to the founder and editor of this, our local newspaper, a further evidence of the progressive spirit which is becoming more evident in SALTFLEET. May every household in Saltfleet support this new venture by subscribing to it and passing on news of your community so that your neighbours in other communities will know you better. Editors Note:

Anyone wishing to voice their oppinion on this matter, write to the "Editor, Stoney Creek News." The Reeve will answer any queries in this newspaper from week to week.

NEWSLETTER: *** ***

The Stoney Creek Historical Society is pleased to have again received financial support for our newsletter from the Brabant Group.

Their continuing generosity assists in the printing of three editions a year, helping inform our 145 members and many local residents of the important historical background of Stoney Creek.

MILITIA:

The mobilization of the militia in June 1812 adversely affected the harvests although many men were allowed to return home for brief periods. Shortage of grain and the necessity of conserving supplies led to the enactment in March 1813 of the first prohibitory liquor legislation in Canadian history. The act was renewed in 1814 and finally expired ion March 15, 1815.

DESIGNATED HOME in STONEY CREEK: William Horton Jones House. 11 Manor Place.

Joseph Pefly Sr., a sergeant serving with the Butler's Rangers during the American Revolution 1 first occupied Lot 23. Concession 3, prior to 1791. H. received the Crown Patent to that parcel of 100 acres of land on July 10, 1801 and an additional 200 acre. comprising all of Lots 22 and 23, Concession 4. In 1803 the entire 300 acres were sold to John Austin and In 1820 Stephen Jones, who arrived in Upper Canada In 1797 acquired all of Lot 23. Concession 3.

That section of Lot 23 located south of present day King Street was first severed from the original 100 acres In 1844 and was eventually purchased by William A. Lottridge. The 86 acre parcel between King Street and Highway No.8 was acquired by William Horton Jones from his father Stephen Jones Jr., In 1842, although the transaction was not registered until 1851.

William H. Jones, the eldest of six children, was born In 1814. The great nephew of Augustus Jones and Mary Jones Gage. William Jones married Salome Moore (1806-1845) In 1830. His second wife was Catherine Gage (1822-1896). Finding no evidence to the contrary, it is surmised that the farmhouse on the site was likely built by William H. Jones circa 1850. William Jones played a prominent role In the community as Treasurer of Saltfleet Township from 1854 to 1878. He moved to Adamsville, Pennsylvania In 1887 where he died In 1901. William Jones had a son, William Ira Case Jones; a grandson, Ava Edgar Jones; and two spinster greatgranddaughters, Hattie and Lottie Jones.

In 1887 the 86 acres were sold by William H. Jones to John Gage Nash. The Nash family had arrived in Upper Canada circa 1800 from Bedford, Connecticut in 1801 Samuel Nash (1778-1850) was called to serve as a member of the Grand Jury at a fraud trial In York, present day Toronto. In 1810 he married Susannah Gage and settled at what is now the intersection of Nash Road and King Street East in Hamilton. The eldest son, William Gage Nash (1813-1892) married and became the father of John Gage Nash who purchased the Lot 23 parcel of land In 1887.

In 1903 John G. Nash sold that part of Lot 23 upon which the 11 Manor Place house is located to his son Oliver M. Nash. The remaining part of Lot 23 north of King Street was later granted to Oliver M. Nash by John Gage Nash In 1921. In 1927 a portion of these lands were deeded to the High School Board of the Township of Saltfleet by Margaret E. Nash, sister of Oliver M. Nash, for the construction of the original Saltfleet High School. In 1938 another portion was sold to George A. Dawson who established the Stoney Creek Dairy on that site. Various other portions of Lot 23 were sold during that era and in the 1940's the entire land parcel ceased to be owned by the Nash family. In time, parcels were sold for home building as well as the construction of Collegiate

Avenue School and the Skyway Drive-in Theatre.

This house was built by one of the pioneer families of Stoney Creek circa 1850. The house is a two story structure of timber frame construction with wood siding. The proportions and visual elements of this house are clearly Influenced by vernacular Georgian and Queen Anne architectural styles.

Although the east elevation provides the streetscape on Manor Place. the front facade of the house faces south toward King Street and until the 1950s was known as 97 King Street East. The south elevation, which contains the principal entrance, displays an Intricately detailed veranda graced with segmental arches together with decorative treillage below the roof. The roof of the veranda is supported on turned wood columns. Bracketed eaves support the shallow-pitched hip roof of the house.

The second floor has retained the original wide cut pine floor boards and the staircase from the main entrance is a fine example of the workmanship of the period.

REASONS FOR DESIGNATION:

The William Horton Jones House has been designated on the basis of the two families who have held long associations with the property: Stephen Jones Jr. and William H. Jones (1820-1887); and John G. Nash, Margaret Nash and Oliver M. Nash (1887-1940s).

Important to the preservation of 11 Manor Place are the foundation walls, veranda, eave brackets and main staircase.

LOYALISTS AND PIONEERS:

HUGHES

George Hughes came from Ireland to Canada in the early years and taught school in Saltfleet, Wentworth County. In the account of his boyhood years in that township, Peter Jones, son of Augustus Jones, the surveyor, states that in 1816 he went to school to George Hughes, an Irishman and an excellent teacher.

This brief mention of George Hughes is all we find of his history. However, we know that he died in 1824 and was buried in St. Andrew's, churchyard, Grimsby. The lot wherein he is buried is in the name of Sarah Maria Hughes, probably his wife, although there is no stone to mark her grave. Two of his children are buried here:-

William Hughes, 1798-1866, wife Charlotte, 1803-1886. Two sons-John 1841-1853; George 1847-1914. Sarah Hughes, b. about 1800, m. a Mr. Cheyne, d. 1872. Sarah had a girl's school in Grimsby.

In an account in William Nelles' account book, under date 1825, it gives the following item-In account with Miss Sarah Hughes: To cordwood X4 . 6 . 0. Settled by cash and by Betsey's schooling.

Annuls of the Forty Book #5 page #56.

Winona's War Effort 1939 - 1946

On February the 15th 1940, a number of the citizens of Winona met in the office of E.D. Smith & Sons Ltd. The Winona Patriotic Citizens Committee was formed. Later it was decided that the name be changed to the Winona Patriotic Association and to apply to Ottawa in order to obtain a charter under the Wartime Charities Act. This was granted and the Winona Patriotic Association came into existence on August 23, 1940, with the late Leon Smith as President. A clause of the charter reads as follows:

"The object of the Association shall be to raise funds from time to time by various means, to supply comforts to the members of the Canadian Active Force who enlist from the Winona area, and to assist other patriotic associations, including the Canadian Red Cross and do all such things as shall contribute to the successful conclusion of the present war."

During the six years 1940 -1946, the W.P.A. raised \$5,170.00 net by carnivals, concerts and donations. The W.P.A. also sponsored the Red Cross collections and a total of \$4,500.00 was collected. It also sponsored collections for a joint Salvation Army and Y.M.C.A. Fund, \$65.00 being collected for this and \$230.00 was collected for the Canadian Legion War Services.

The War Services Funds of the W.P.A. contributed to the Women's Committee of the Winona Red Cross \$60.00; to the Winona Institute Hall Board \$50.00; to the Canadian Red Cross Society \$505.00; to the Toronto Telegram War Victims Fund, \$100.00; to the Chinese Relief Fund, \$50.00; to the Greek Relief Fund, \$50.00: and to the Russian Relief Fund \$175.00; and the Navy League, \$10.00; Total \$950.00 On enlistment each soldier (man or woman) was given an identification disc, a sweater, two pairs of socks, a writing case and Life Savers, chocolate bars etc. 450,000 cigarettes were sent to the men and women overseas at a value of \$1,550.00. At Christmas time each year, each one overseas was sent a parcel containing food and small articles of clothing and each soldier in Canada was sent a box of chocolates, at a total cost of \$1,650.00 for the six years. 122 identification discs were given at a cost of approximately \$400.00.

Some of the outstanding items sent to the boys overseas during the war were:

On Nov. 26, 1940, 22 boxes of apples at a cost of \$49.50. All were received.

On Sept. 28, 1943, 31 boxes of 2 doz. chocolate bars at a cost of \$45.88.

On Mar. 26, 1945, 37 boxes of 2 doz. chocolate bars at a cost of \$55.50.

Hundreds of letters of appreciation were received from the boys for the many gifts they received during the war years. We gave those who had been on active service a fountain pen, suitably engraved with each one's name and from the Winona

Patriotic Association. This used the balance of the funds at the close of the war. One hundred pens were purchased at a cost of \$515.20.

The final gift of this Association was an engraved silver locket to the mothers of those boys who gave their lives for their country during the war 1939 - 1946.

Total enlistments, 155; Served Overseas, 75; Killed on active service, 11; Wounded, 9; Prisoners of war, 2.

Funds Summary - Parcels, \$1,650.00; Discs, \$400.00 Donations, \$950.00; Cigarettes, \$1.550.00; Pens, \$515.20; Lockets, \$90.00.

. There was also a very active and busy group of women who sewed for the Red Cross Society each week during the war. They met in the Winona Institute Hall, which was over the building now occupied by the Red & White Store. Many hundreds of pieces of clothing of all kinds were made for Overseas Relief and money raised for Red Cross.

From Winona Centennial Publication 1867 - 1967

GRIST MILLS:

Grist mills where the wheat could be ground into flour sprang up at strategic points.

In 1792 at the first session of the Legislature of Upper Canada an act was passed "to regulate the toll to be taken in mills." It forbade any mill owner from taking more than one twelfth of any grain for grinding and *bolting. About 1800 the wheat was attacked by smut and the Hessian fly and much loss occurred.

*Bolting - To separate the bran from flour

WESTFIELD VILLAGE:

hu Rob Winnige

Haunted Historical Halloween

Bone up on your history and folklore and discover the origins and traditions of Halloween past and explore plays and presentations guaranteed to tantalize and enthrall the whole family.

*Friday, October 25th and Saturday, October 26th, 6:30 - 9:30 pm.

'Twas the Night Before Christmas

Celebrate Christmas past from the Georgian to the Modern eras and feel the warmth of the season through plays, food samples, fire works, horse and wagon rides, and a visit from Saint Nick.

*Saturday, December 7, 14, 21, 5 - 9 pm

Christmas Moveable Feast and Christmas Table.

Eat your way through a four course historical dinner and magical tour through Christmas traditions. Limited Tickets go on sale starting September 3rd.

*Saturday, December 7, 14, 21-Christmas Moveable Feast *Sunday, December 8, 15-Christmas Table

Westfield Heritage Village Hours

Open Sundays and Holidays starting March 3 to October 27, 12:30 - 4 pm featuring hourly tours, restaurant and gift shop)

FROM THE PAST:

Wentworth Historical Society Minutes 1908 -1948 MAY 5th. 1914

A meeting of this Society was held in the Parish hall, Stoney Creek, on Tuesday evening May 5th. 1914, 9 pm., President W.E.Corman presided.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and adopted. Treasurer reported total receipts to May 5th. 1914. \$27.12. March 3rd. 1913 to May 5th 1914

\$14.58
\$ 3.00
\$ 7.54
\$ 1.50
\$.50
\$27.12
\$ 2.00
\$ 3.50
\$ 7.30
\$.50
\$ 1.00
\$.70
\$ 5.00
\$14.50
\$12.62

Moved by J.W.Green, seconded by ??, that the account OD \$5.00 for wreath for Mrs.Calder be paid. CARRIED.

The committee appointed to solicit Subscriptions reported by Charles Moore that the sum of \$61.75 was collected by them and paid to Shapley Muir & Co. of Brantford for a 65 foot steel flagpole which was erected on Soldier's Plot and be presented to the Veterans Assoc. as a gift from the citizens of Stoney Creek through the efforts of this Saltfleet Historical Society. The ceremony of presentation occurred on June 6, 1913 at a service held by the Army & Navy Veterans at Soldier's Plot, Stoney Creek, during the festivities of the celebration of the Centennial of the Battle of Stoney Creek, June 6th 1813 - 1913.

Moved by Chas. Moore, seconded by G.W.Millen, that the report of the Flag Pole committee be adopted. CARRIED.

It having been decided that this Society should continue in the aims and objects as set forth, is to arouse the interest of citizens in the historic interests of this vicinity, it was agreed that we should hold regular monthly meetings during the winter months and also have an annual celebration on the Saturday afternoon nearest to June 6th. each year to commemorate the Battle of Stoney Creek and also take part in the Service of Decoration Day by the Veterans, June 7th or Sunday nearest to this date.

Moved by J.H.Jones, seconded by G.W.Millen, that this Society undertake to inaugurate a Field Day of Sports to commemorate the victory of the Battle of Stoney Creek and

its historical event on June 6th, each year on the Battle grounds. CARRIED

The following committees were appointed to carry out the above motion.

Grounds Com. - Rev.W.G.Davis - convener,

W.E.Corman, Chas Moore, J.W.Green, Elvin Corman.

Sports Com. - J.H.Jones - convener Oliver Nash

Finance Com. - G.W.Millen - convener L.L.D.Evans

with power to add to their numbers.

It was decided to meet again next Tuesday evening to finish the arrangements for the Field Day.

John Gardner, Pres. of the Army & Navy Veterans was present and invited this Society to take part at the Decoration Day Services, Sunday June 7 - 3 p.m. he also reported being invited to be present at the decoration of soldiers graves at the church cemetery at Port Maitland on May 7th and that he intended going. The Secretary, Mr.Davis, also said he had been invited to be present and would represent this Society there.

The meeting then adjourned to meet again next Tuesday evening at Parish Hall 8 p.m. All members promised to try and get others to come and join us in making our Field Day, June 6th. a success.

W.G.Davis - Sec. Minutes confirmed May 12th. 1914 W.E.Corman.

Christmas House Tour 2002:

Sunday December 8, hours 1.30 to 7.30.

The six stops will be Battlefield House - Erland Lee Museum Home - Jubilee Hall (Utter Home) Ridge Road - Vinemount Creamery Ridge Road - St. George Anglican Church Mud Road - A model home from Harp Builders. off Winona Road.

This year refreshment stops will be at Puddicombe Farms in Winona, Utter Home on Ridge Road, and The Erland Lee Museum Home.

Extra people are always needed. If you can help with the house tour give Bill Mitchell a call at 905-664-4576

LIBRARY

Members are encouraged to use our library and to consider donating copies of their own completed family histories to expand our research facility.

Our appreciation to Anna & Ed Orr for donating library space in their office at

(Rear of) Steel Market Place (Rear of) 1247 Highway 8, Winona Monday to Friday 8:30 am to 4:00 pm.

MEMBERS BUSINESS/INSTITUTION DIRECTORY:			
Anne Forsyth	9 Lake Ave. South	905-662-2848	
Richard J. Skrtich	26 King St. E.	905-662-2855	
Ed Strecker	17 King St. E.	905-662-4971	
Dave Cage	21 Mountain Ave. S.	905-664-4000	
Tom Laing	Elm/King Plaza	905-664-3777	
Rick/Mario/Sonia	44 King St. E.	905-662-7900	
Michael Gemmell	552 Ridge Road	905-662-2691	
Karen Evans	5 King St. West.	905-664-3712	
Rita Griffin-Short	Hamilton	905-524-1384	
Doug & Angela Mays	3 MacDui Dr.	905-643-4541	
Joanne Wynhofen	19 King St. E.	905-662-4014	
Salam Zoghaib	38 King St. E.	905-664-3360	
urer Judy Lyons	8 Douglas Pl.	905-664-4519	
Branch 622	12 King St. E.	905-662-4171	
Lyn & Brent Jukes	228 Ridge Road	905-662-9339	
Carol Dushko	Elm/King Plaza	905-664-2288	
David Meadows	Winona	905-643-0020	
Georgina & Jeff Beatti	ie 1381 Highway 8 YOU SUPPORT OUR I	905-643-2161 <u>MEMBERS!</u>	
	Anne Forsyth Richard J. Skrtich Ed Strecker Dave Cage Tom Laing Rick/Mario/Sonia Michael Gemmell Karen Evans Rita Griffin-Short Doug & Angela Mays Joanne Wynhofen Salam Zoghaib urer Judy Lyons Branch 622 Lyn & Brent Jukes Carol Dushko David Meadows Georgina & Jeff Beatti	Anne Forsyth Richard J. Skrtich Ed Strecker 17 King St. E. Dave Cage 21 Mountain Ave. S. Tom Laing Elm/King Plaza Rick/Mario/Sonia 44 King St. E. Michael Gemmell 552 Ridge Road Karen Evans 5 King St. West. Rita Griffin-Short Doug & Angela Mays Joanne Wynhofen 19 King St. E. Salam Zoghaib 38 King St. E. Salam Zoghaib Branch 622 Lyn & Brent Jukes Carol Dushko Elm/King Plaza	

FIRST SALTFLEET ASSESMENT:

In the first assessment of Saltfleet made in 1813 there were 102 house holders in the township. The total value of the property was assessed at ten thousand one hundred fifty one pounds. The highest assessed resident was Levy Lewis with an assessment of seven hundred, thirty pounds. In 1832 Saltfleet had: 12349 acres of wild land, - 6334 acres of arable land, - 20 one story log houses, - 72 one story frame houses with 19 additional fire places, - 8 two story houses with 12 additional fire places, - 2 grist mills, - 7 saw mills, - 3 merchant shops, - 1 horse for mares, - 254 horses three years & up, -620 milch cows, - 211 young cattle, - 18 pleasure wagons, Rateable property value 19,914 pounds, - Tax 1 penny per pound, - Rate to defray members wages 8 pounds, 18 shillings and no pence, - Amount of taxes 97 pounds, 17 shillings and 6 pence. Robert Berrie was the Clerk of the Peace, Gore District.

PROPOSED AMMENDMENT

To the Stoney Creek Historical Society Constitution.

The Canadian Customs and Revenue Agency <u>require</u> a change be made to the wording of the Constitution amendment made January 3, 2001

The amendment to be voted on January 8, 2003 will read

[iv] Should the dissolution of The Stoney Creek Historical Society occur, all of its debts and liabilities will be paid, any remaining cash assets, our collections of artefacts and archives will be given to the historical sites identified as charitable organizations with similar purposes which carry out their work solely within the former City of Stoney Creek.

EARLY HOMES:

After John Green established his saw mill in 1788 lumber was easier to acquire for houses. In the early eighteen hundreds many of the log houses gave way to frame and stone buildings. The frame house was the favourite of the settlers of American origin and there are still many of theses scattered throughout the township. One of the oldest examples of a frame house is the John Inglehart house built in 1808. It is on lot 1 Concession 1 of the township which is now the Conservation Area, (*Fifty Point*). The Ingleharts were one of the first Pennsylvania Dutch Loyalists families to settle in Saltfleet. Another fine example of the white frame house is the Nash residence built in 1810 on the Mohawk Trail which became the Stone Road and is now King Street. It is the home of Mrs. Angus Jackson and has always been in the Nash family. The frame houses cost from \$1000.00 to \$2500.00 to build. Some settlers did not like them because they said they were drafty.

An example of a smaller frame house is the old James Pettit home on the south side of Highway 8 near Glover's Road in Fruitland. It was built in 1819 and has been in use as a dwelling ever since and members of the Pettit family lived in it until 1966.

STUCCO HOMES:

A variety of stucco homes known as rough cast houses were also built in the early 1800's. These are still lived in homes but the majority have been disguised with modern building materials. The W. J. Hewitson home on the south side of Highway 8 was an example of a rough cast house. These houses were first covered with split lath and over the lath was the pebbly rough plaster. The Hewitson home is now a frame house. It was originally one of the Philander Barnes houses. Across the road was a very large rough cast building also owned by Philander Barnes who was an early Saltfleet resident. These houses were built before 1812. The large one was used as a tavern and stage coach house and stood on the property of Harold Hewitson until a few years ago when it was torn down.

From Saltfleet Then and Now

Stoney Creek Historical Society <u>VISITORS AND NEW MEMBERS WELCOME</u> Year 2002 Executive President: Ron Place 662-8856 MEETINGS ARE HELD AT STONEY CREEK CITY HALL, Past President: Mary Lewis 643-3665 SALTFLEET ROOM 1st. Vice President: Bill O'Reilly 662-2248 2nd. Vice President: Bill Mitchell 664-4576 1st. WEDNESDAY OF EACH MONTH BEGINNING AT 7.30 pm. Treasurer: Judy Green 662-4065 SEPTEMBER TO JUNE Recording Secretary: Michael Gemmell 662-8876 Corresponding Secretary: Anna Orr 643-7653 COFFEE AND REFRESHMENTS FOLLOW Newsletter: Ron Place 662-8856 ************************* MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION \ RENEWAL \ DONATIONS (Please print) Date: Name: Address: City: Postal Code: Phone: (Please check) Renewal: New: Membership Donation to funds Family\$15.00 General Fund.....\$ Single \$ 12.00 Museum Fund.....\$ Student/Senior.....\$ 7.00 Publication Fund.....\$ Business/Institution.....\$ 20.00 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

2003 EXECUTIVE ELECTIONS:

The general meeting and elections will be held Wednesday January 8, 2003.

The following offices are open for nomination President, Treasurer, Corresponding Secretary.

Members are invited to submit their names to fill these positions. The nominating committee will contact members prior to the meeting, or you may call Bill O'Reilly to have your name included.

In 1855 Sylvester Smith of Vinemount garnered 525 bushels of wheat and sold it at \$ 1.85 per bushel and in the following year sold a like amount at \$ 1.25 per bushel. The success of these years was shortly followed by disaster. In the autumn of 1856 the land called the Saltfleet Swamp burned. It was a tract of some 1000 acres and about 50 acres were on Sylvester's farm.

FUTURE SPEAKERS

Wed. Nov. 6, - Judy Lyons - History of Quilts, includes
A Small Trunk Show

Wed. Dec. 4, To be announced

Sun. Dec.8, - 11th Christmas House Tour - 1.30 - 7.30

Wed. Jan.8, 2003 - Dr. C.Spadoni and Cheryl Gemmell - archives and archivists.

Wed. Feb.5, 2003 - To be announced

HISTORICAL SOCIETY QUERY POLICY:

Members may submit 2 free genealogical queries per year. Queries should be typed or printed clearly on separate pages 81/2" x 11", 50 word limit.

Non Members must remit a fee of \$3.00 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.

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. Feb.5, 2002 Material deadline is Wednesday, January 15, 2002

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

William & Juanita Mitchell 2002 2 Elm Dr. Stoney Creek, On. L8G 3B4

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