

Remember the Coman House

Stoney Creek Historical Society

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

NEWSLETTER

October 2004

Edition #33

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STOREKEEPER'S DAUGHTER RECALLS GENERAL STORE:

Stoney Creek News September 2, 1981

When Thelma Millen (now Felker) walked into her father's general store on King Street in her growing-up years, she hoped she wouldn't have to weigh coffee or pump molasses.

Of all the duties she performed in the store, those were the two she disliked. "I always enjoyed selling," said Mrs. Felker in a recent interview. "But you know how molasses gets cold in the winter and then it's harder than ever to pump, and to fill up those jars the customers brought with them".

On entering the store, you would note the stairway about three quarters of the way back that led to a partitioned part of the room above, where the Canadian Order of Foresters met and the Gun Club held its oyster suppers.

In another section at the top, the stove pipes were stored while under the stairway stood large containers of the hated molasses arid cans of coal oil.

TABLE WAS PILED WITH CLOTHING :

In the middle of the store stood a long table piled with overalls, shirts and other assorted dry goods and under it were stacked pots, pans and various cooking utensils.

At the back of the store clustered shoes, boots and rubber boots. Sugar and flour were scooped from large bins, and coffee was ground then weighed according to the customer's orders.

"I was always hoping no one would come in and ask for a pound of coffee," said Mrs. Felker. "I just hated doing that."

On her way through the store, the young Miss Millen might note the spittle around the cuspidor.

"One customer just couldn't. hit it so I made a sign reading "If you can't hit the cuspidor, don't spit on the floor," she said.

Of the merchandise in the store, perhaps the most attractive to the young girl was the case of hair ribbons with drawers that pulled out to reveal the varied colors under glass covers.

NO PRICE TAGS WERE NEEDED:

No price tags were on any article, as none were needed. They were all in the hands of the seven members of the Millen family who served the customers and made change from a box behind the counter.

A special day was Wednesday when Miss Millen climbed into the horse-drawn cart and made the long trip to Winona to pick up orders. Back at the store the next day, the stairway was lined with orders which were scrutinized to make sure coal oil wasn't too close to butter and lard.

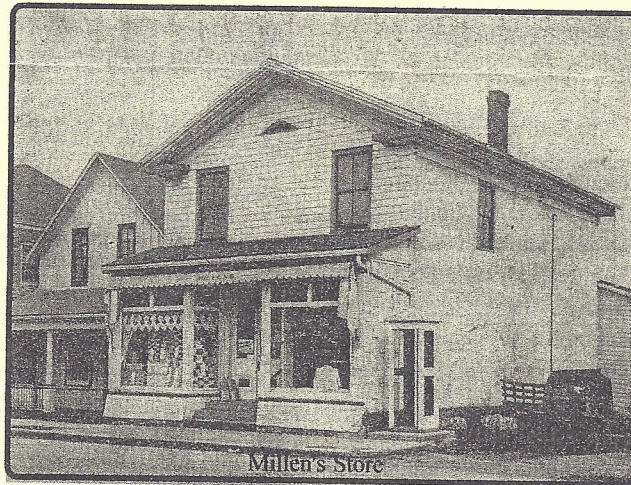
Friday saw the cart loaded for the trek to Winona. Many of the customers were employees of E.D. Smith & Sons who were at work at the time of delivery. "They'd leave the money on the table. We'd leave the order and the change," said Mrs. Felker.

"In those days, people were honest. Now you don't dare leave your door unlocked."

STORE BUILT IN LATE 1700s:

The store, built in 1791 or '92, saw many storekeepers, among them Isaac Corman. From 1822 to 1899, part of it became a post office. Mrs. Felker's father bought it in 1903 and after his death in 1937 her mother and then her brother kept the business going until it was sold in 1971.

Continued on page 3



Millen's Store

NEW MEMBERS:

We are happy to welcome to our membership
Kathleen Newcomer, Carol A. Williams,

*This Newsletter
is sponsored by
Harry & Marion Brown*

THE PRESIDENT'S CORNER:

I trust that our members and readers enjoyed the summer season and are now enthused to begin your fall and winter various activities.

Our house tour committee has been working diligently in preparing for the tour Sunday December 5. We are fortunate to have all older homes on display this year.

I am surprised and pleased with the number of inquires we receive each year from people who are searching for their ancestors or locating history about their homes in Stoney Creek. With modern technology this research is fairly simple. If you wish to do this you will be pleased with how much historical information you receive from libraries and the internet. I was recently able to locate a parcel of land in Alberta that was homesteaded by my grandfather.

One of our members, Dorothy Reid, a genealogist does a thorough job on family history. Also I would like to thank Michael Gemmell for the research he does and particularly for the history about our house tour homes.

Bill O'Reilly

ERLAND LEE (MUSEUM) HOME

by Michael Gemmell

The summer was spent cataloguing hundreds of artefacts after volunteers completed the unification and overhaul of the Erland Lee Museum's computerized artefact collections database last fall. Because the computer system was now unified, summer students were finally able to catch up on backlog of missing and out of date reports. This summer our student, Meaghan, catalogued over 1000 under-recorded artefacts.

The museum also hired a student to scan hundreds of pictures, newspaper clippings, and notes from the Women's Institutes Tweedsmuir histories in the museum's collection. Some newspaper clippings in the Community beach, Winona, and Stoney Creek Tweedsmuir histories were crumbling from age and to preserve the pictures, summer student John spent most of June and July saving the pictures and then "cleaning them up", adding them to our other database of historical photos (which was last year's project). Some of these photos are now available on line through Heritage Canada's Virtual Museum of Canada. This project will continue throughout the winter with volunteers carrying on the mammoth task of saving our old pictures and newspaper scrapbooks. Two exhibits were made using this material during the year and another is planned for 2005.

EVENTS

October 1-31, 2004

12th Annual Local Art Show and Sale

Over 100 works of art from local artists on display and for sale in the museum.

New Artists Welcome.

Please call the museum (905 662 2691) for information and to obtain application packages.

November 2 - December 23, 2004

"A Fruit Filled Centre"

Our new exhibit on the history of Winona officially opens November 1st. A preview of this exhibit was featured during the Harvest Lunch and at Winona Peach Festival in August. Explore "John Willson's Winona" and discover the one of modern Winona's success stories: the Illic family and the historic Winona Store.

December 1 - 23

Victorian Country Christmas in the City

The museum is decorated for Christmas with a new theme annually. Admission remains \$4.00 for adults. \$2.00 for children (includes Christmas craft for children).

December 5

Stoney Creek Historical Society's 13th Christmas Tour

1:00 - 6:00 pm. The museum is part of the local Christmas House Tour. December 12th, 18th, and 19th ONLY - 7:00 pm

Evening Candlelight Christmas Tour of the Lee Homestead

Take a tour of the Gothic Revival home by candlelight and experience the comforts of a romantic country Christmas. *One tour per evening- Limit 15 tickets.* Pre-registration required. \$4.00 admission for ALL AGES includes a Christmas treat

CHEYNE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH:

Submitted by Harold Parker.

In 2004 Cheyne Church in Stoney Creek was 160 years old.

Reverend George Cheyne was born in Aberdeenshire, Scotland in July 1802. He was ordained by the Presbytery of Strathbogie, July 1831 and was sent to the Presbytery of Toronto. His first charge was Amherstburg where he began his duties as minister. The parish was an area of 100 miles which he covered on horseback. The stipend paid was one hundred dollars per annum. In July, 1843, because of failing health he was transferred to Saltfleet and Binbrook.

Continued on page 9

December Bus Tour:

Our December meeting will consist of a bus tour. Friday December 10th is the day. The tour will take in the R.S. McLaughlin Estate and Cullen Gardens, both sites will be decorated for Christmas. Tickets \$52.00 each which includes a buffet dinner at Cullen Gardens.

For tickets call Bill Mitchell at 905-664-4576.

**STOREKEEPER'S DAUGHTER
RECALLS
GENERAL STORE:**

continued from page 1

It is now an office building containing business premises of Lyle Peterson, Accountant on the corner of Mountain Avenue and King Street.

But, before it was sold, the old store had been modernized to become a self-serve. Gone was the camaraderie it once contained when men swapped news and opinions on politics.

"I remember Burton Corman asking my father if he thought he should run for reeve and my father said "yes" said Mrs. Felker. It led to a long public life for Mr. Corman, and the incident demonstrated the close affiliation of Stoney Creek residents back in the days of the old general store.

**Historic Old Niagara Mill Defying
Ravages of Time Likely to Yield to Man**

*Cairn Will Mark Site of Improvised Hospital During
War of 1812 on Banks of Four Mile Creek
(Submitted by Juanita Mitchell)*

Grey and weather-beaten with many a wound of time and circumstance, the old Pickard grist mill on the four Mile Creek, Niagara haven in the War of 1812-14 for the wounded in minor engagement it stands, on the Chaplin Farm-Meadowbrook near the little village of Virgil. Marked contrast it is to the trim new barns close by. Scarcely beautiful in its old age, but commanding respect because of its long and honourable history, the building stands, its axe hewn beams, riveted with pins of oak, still holding out against the assault of years.

Though built in 1800 it was not by any means the first mill in the district of the Four Mile Creek, along which were strung at one time some 25 or 30 mills.

There is nothing left of this first mill but nine years later the present building was built in 1800 by one Benjamin Pickard, Township of Niagara, County of Lincoln. It was erected on the Four Mile Creek on lot 193 on the Military Reserve. Contained one run of stone which was brought from Eusopas, in the State of New York.

The ground wheat was carried to the top of the mill by the miller in a sack, and was poured in a cooler and from thence it ran down into the bolt for separating the flour, bran and the shorts, there being in those days no elevators for carrying the meal to the top of the mill.

The machinery was all made of wood, the wheels and shafting, there was not an iron wheel in the whole mill. The mill is built of very heavy timber, all of the posts and beams are fourteen inches square as well as the sills, the girths, studding and braces are all hewn out, not one piece of timber is sawn, the sills and posts are of white oak, and all the other is white wood.

During the war of 1812-14, when the Americans had possession of Fort George and Niagara, there were several skirmishes in or near the town, out at the Ball Farm and the Cross Roads, (now Virgil), the wounded all being taken to the mill, which was used for a hospital for some length of time.

At this time the Americans went out from Fort George and were met by the militia who were lying in wait for them, but were too few in number to hold their own, and had to retreat farther into the country, and in order to do so quickly, they threw over 100 American muskets and bayonets which they captured into the mill pond to prevent them from falling into the Americans again.

As was the custom in pioneer times a graveyard was situated on the farm and there many of the first settlers including Benjamin Pickard was buried. Subsequently a number of bodies were taken to St Catharines for re-interment. When the late Mr. Chaplin took over the property he engaged a man to clean the place up. The man did, not wisely but too well for when Mr. Chaplin came to inspect the results of his labours he found that all the stones which marked the graves of the pioneers had been neatly piled in a great heap. No possible means remain now of identifying any grave. Still when the land is plowed fragments of old stones come to the surface.

None of the old Pickard family are now in the district.

2003 EXECUTIVE ELECTIONS:

The Stoney Creek Historical Society general meeting and elections will be held Wednesday January 5, 2005.

The following offices are open for nomination

President, Treasurer, Corresponding Secretary.

Members are invited to submit names to fill these positions. You may contact Bill Mitchell at 905-664-4576 to have your name or your choice of names included on the slate.

MEMBERSHIP DUES:

A difficult decision by the executive, after months of debate, reviewing costs such as room rental, newsletter printing and postal costs, an increase in our membership dues is necessary. Room rental has increased, printing costs for the May 2004 newsletter were \$165.00, postage to mail 55 copies to members was \$28.00.

Since the rebirth of the Stoney Creek Historical Society in 1986 membership dues have remained the same. It has been decided that a change is to be made as of January 2005.

Single membership \$ 10.00.

Family membership \$ 18.00.

Business/ Institution \$ 25.00.

Membership paid before December 31 2004 will be renewed at the current rate as indicated on page 9 of this newsletter. It is with sincere hope you, the membership will understand the necessity for this move.

FROM THE PAST:

Wentworth Historical Society Minutes

1908 -1948

MAY 19, 1915

The Saltfleet Historical Society held its annual meeting in the Parish Hall when members were elected for the present year. Election of Officers as below, proposed, seconded and carried.

Hon. President - Senator E.D. Smith

President - Rev. Cannon Davies

Vice President - Mr. W.E. Corman

Sec. Treasurer - Mr. J.H. Jones

Executive Committee - Mr. J.B. Davies, A.R. Millen, A.C. Springstead, Olive Nash, L.L.D. Evans, Dr. J.W. Green, John Gardner, A. Beare, John Clough, Erland Lee, Miss Field.

Past year balance - The Sec. Treas. for year 1914 reported a balance on hand of \$10.77 & interest to date making a total of \$11.21 which will be carried for'd for the present years business.

Auditors: It was proposed and seconded that Mr. A.R. Millen and Mr. J.H. Jones be appointed auditors and on examining the account of the Sec'ts books, found them correct and in order.

Graves Decoration: Mr. J. Gardner, President of the Veteran's Association stated that the Veterans intend decorating the graves at Stoney Creek on Sunday June 6th. It was moved by J.B. Davies and seconded by J.W. Green, that the Veterans attend a Memorial service at the church. CARRIED.

It was proposed by W.E. Corman and seconded by Mr. J.B. Davies, that the Historic Society take part in this service. CARRIED.

Sports: It was proposed by Mr. J.H. Jones & seconded by Mr. A.R. Millen, that we decide for this year to hold sports for the school children of the Township omitting adult sports. CARRIED.

Finance Committee: It was moved, seconded and carried that the following members be elected as the Finance Committee - Mr. Erland Lee, Mr. Geo. Millen, Mr. R.H. Dewar, Mrs. Mahoney, Bartonville, Mr. A.R. Millen, Mr. O. Nash, Rev. Cannon Davies, Miss Howlett, Fruitland Sc., Miss Field, Stoney Creek Sc., Miss H. Corman, Beach Sc. CARRIED.

Sports Committee: It was proposed, seconded & carried that the following members be elected as Sports Committee - Convenor - Mr. J.H. Jones, Dr. Green, John Clough, Mr. Johnston, Winona, Mr. H. Coleman, Mr. Springstead, Mr. O. Nash, J.B. Davies, Mr. H. Corman, Mr. Degro, Mt. Albion, R.R. 1 Barton, Mrs. McDermott, Mrs. Stewart, Red Hill school, Miss Howlett.

Grounds Committee: It was proposed, seconded and carried Rev. Cannon Davies, Mr. W.E. Corman, Mr. J. Moore, Mr. Beare, Mr. Springstead act as grounds committee.

Music - Proposed, seconded, carried. Mr. Green, Mr. Corman, Mr. J. Gardner make enquiries as regards to engaging a band

for the celebration & report at next meeting for consideration.

Speaker - Rev. Cannon Davies moved to invite a good speaker to address the children on the history of this event. The members leaving the matter entirely for him to do so.

Printing & Advertising - This matter being left for Mr. J.H. Jones to make arrangements and report at the next meeting.

Flag - It was proposed by Mr. Green that we renew the flag on the Soldier's Plot and it was the intention of the members to do so at the earliest opportunity.

War with Germany - It was proposed by Mr. Erland Lee that we take notice of all residents of the country killed in this battle for any memorial that may be erected for them at a later date. CARRIED.

Fees - The members fees were collected as under -

Rev. Cannon Davies	.25	Mr. Moore	.25
Mr. J. Gardner	.25	Mr. W.S. Patterson	.25
Mr. W. Green	.25	Mr. A.E. Coleman	.25
Mr. W.E. Corman	.25	Mr. Beare	.25
Mr. Elvin Corman	.25	Mr. J.H. Jones	.25
Mr. Arthur Corman	.25	Mr. Albert Corman	.25
Mr. A.R. Millen	.25	<u>Total Amount</u>	<u>\$ 3.25</u>

Adjourn - After a pleasant meeting it was proposed by Mr. Moore and seconded by Mr. Green, that we adjourn until Monday May 31st. at 8.30.

W.G. Davies, President

THROUGH THE GARDEN OF CANADA

From Winona Centennial 1867 -1967

In The Beginning

For years the land lying beneath the bluff of the Niagara peninsula has been far famed as The Fruit Garden of Canada. For years people have come from all parts of the country to visit and view the great garden in all its glory. Up to the time the Hamilton, Grimsby & Beamsville Electric Railway began operations, in October, 1894, there was no convenient way of taking the trip cheaply and comfortably. To C. J. Myles and some other business men of Hamilton, is due the credit for the enterprise that found its result in the completion of the road from Hamilton to Beamsville, a distance of 23 miles, all the way through the great and rich garden. Skirting the heavily wooded bluff on the one side and the blue waters of Lake Ontario on the other, with groves and fruit

farms along either side all the way, the road at once became immensely popular with the pleasure seeking public. Its equipment is well nigh perfect, its time-tables most convenient and its officials most obliging and attentive. The traveller stopping over a couple of hours in Hamilton, can by street car, make prompt connection with the H.G. & B. cars, and "do" the fruit garden trip in time to continue his regular journey without any alteration in his holiday pro-gram. It is well worth his while. There is no time during the year, from early spring, when blossom covered trees fill the air with fragrance, till late fall, when frost tinted foliage adds new beauty, that the trip is not enjoyable.

**DESIGNATED PROPERTIES
in STONEY CREEK:
THE INSTITUTE BUILDING
32 KING STREET EAST**

The Institute Building was built in 1901. It is a fine example of vernacular Edwardian Classicism which was a period from 1900 to 1930. It is the only commercial building in Stoney Creek of this style. Very characteristic of the Edwardian Classicism style is the recessed banding around the first storey of buildings. Every sixth row of brick is recessed which results in a channelled or banded effect.

This building which was erected at the corner of King Street and Mountain Avenue by 6 shareholders in 1901 included members of the Nash, Orr and Dickenson families and was first known as "The Institute".

Also typical of the Edwardian style are the projecting brick keystones above the windows. The rounded top front window over the doorway represents the classical influence. The parapet cornice with the round top pediment is also a noteworthy feature of the balanced front facade of the building.

A waiting room for the H.G. & B (electric) Railroad was at some point located at the west side of the first floor.

In 1940 the building was purchased by W. S. Milmine Insurance and became known as "The Milmine Building".

The first floor was originally a bank and the insurance agency was on the west side of the building. The Mountain Avenue entrance was the former Saltfleet Township council chambers (until 1967) and the police station. The second floor contained a stage and was used as a community hall for many years. The second floor was also used for church meetings in the 1950's. The third floor was used as a Masonic hall.

In 1987 the building was purchased and refurbished by the G. Heeringa family. The site was renamed "Century Square".

Important to the preservation of The Institute Building are the original features of the brick facades, the wood cornice at the roof level and the detailed wood cornice at the top of the ground storey wall. Also important are the original stone foundations.

HUNTING FOREBEARS:

I am researching my ancestors **James and Sarah Carpenter Hill** from Saltfleet, Wentworth County. James Hill born about 1822 - 1904, married Sarah Carpenter born about 1824 - 1889. They were fruit growers. If you have any information regarding this family please contact Kathleen Newcomer at kkn9955.1@netzero.net or contact Ron Place for the snail mail address.

LOYALISTS AND PIONEERS:

MILMINE

Alexander Milmine was one of the first settlers in Grimsby and Saltfleet townships. On the first map of Grimsby his name is inserted on Lots 22 and 23, Conc. VI - also on Lot 18, Conc. III. On the first map of Saltfleet on Lots 24, 25, 26, Conc. VIII. On the voters' list of 1808 his name is on Lot 24, Conc. VIII.

Alexander's wife's name was Mary. She died 19 August, 1818 and Alexander the 13th day of January, 1820. They were buried in the Lot marked with his name in St. Andrew's churchyard (Grimsby) but no birth dates were given.

Alexander Milmine, son of Alexander Sr. lived in Grimsby township. His wife's name was Hannah and their children were baptised in St. Andrew's church, Grimsby:- George, Bapt. 4 January, 1818. One may assume that he died in infancy as another son was named George.

Hannah, Bapt. 7 May, 1820. Alexander, Born 30 August, 1822.

Abigail, Born 3 November, 1825, died 1827, buried in St. Andrew's churchyard.

George, Born 16 September, 1829.

Julann, Born 8 October, 1831.

James Milmine was born in 1777. In 1812 his name was on Lot 16, Conc. III, Grimsby township. He served with the 4th Lincoln during the War of 1812 and was in the battle of Lundy's Lane. In 1818 he served as one of the overseers of roads in the Grimsby township council. He married Margaret Lutes 28 January, 1819. They had children:-

James, born 22 November, 1820.

George, born 17 June, 1824.

JuJann, Born 8 October, 1831.

One may surmise that Alexander Sr. had an older son, who married earlier and had the following children:-

Lucinda, m. Edmund Bascombe. Licence issued 13 July, 1829.

Alexander, born 1807, died 1868. He married Elizabeth Walker of Clinton. Licence issued 26 January, 1839. She was born in 1814, died 1904. They were buried in St. Andrew's churchyard, also a son James, born 1824, d. 1898. Alpheus, born about 1810, m. Hannah Kennedy 27 May, 1834.

Children:- George, Sarah, John.

Mary, born about 1812, m. Solomon Culp, Clinton. Licence issued 3rd July, 1832.

Nancy, born about 1815, m. Tilman Culp, Clinton. Licence issued 28 November, 1835.

Elizabeth, born about 1819, married Cyrus Culp. Licence issued 11 Nov., 1839.

From the Annuls of the Forty, Book #6, page # 43, 43.

CROWN PATENTEES OF SALTFLEET TOWNSHIP:

By Mabel Burkholder and T. Roy Woodhouse

Continued from May. newsletter

In the following list, the date of the settler's arrival in Canada (meaning arrival at Fort Niagara in most cases), is shown in brackets. The date of the actual settlement in Saltfleet could be the same year, but might be a year later. These names and registration dates were copied from the County Registry Office by Mabel Burkholder, and elaborated by T. Roy Woodhouse:

CONCESSION FOUR

NAME	Lot No.	Pt. of Lot	Acres	Registered
Catharine Geale	1	All	100	Jan13,1816
Silas Smith (1787)	2to4	All	300	May17,1802
James Kerby	5, 6	All	200	Jan.19,1818
John Chisholm (about1794)	7, 8	All	200	Dec. 21,1798
Hon.Robert Hamilton	9, 10, 18,19			
	4 lots	All	400	Sept.3,1803
John Lewis	11,12	All	200	May 17,1802
Abijah Chambers (about 1796)	13	All	100	Mar.14, 1798
Charles Moore	14	All	100	June 10 1818
William Cowell	15	All	100	July 25, 1836
John Moore	16	N ½	50	June11, 1836
John Coombs	16	S ½	50	Dec.31, 1836
Mary Lee	17	All	100	Nov.18, 1844
James Lee	20,21	All	200	June30, 1801
Joseph Perry, Sr.	22,23	All	200	July10,1801
Adam Green (1787)	24	All	100	Feb.10,1797
Mary Gage (1790) (widow of John	25,26	All	200	May 6, 1796
John McDavid (or McDeade) (1792)	27	All	100	May 27, 1822
John Gage (1790)	28	All	100	Oct.8, 1803
Timothy Thomson and John Carscallen (of Fredericksburgh)	29, ,30	All	200	Jan.17, 1811
James Geddes	31	All	100	Aug.12,1818
Philip Jones (1789)	32,33	All	200	May 6, 1706
James Gage (1790)	34	All	100	May 6, 1796

**Proposed Ammendments to the Constitution of
The Stoney Creek Historical Society**

The following proposal will be submitted to the annual membership meeting Wednesday January 5th. 2005. Changes require a majority vote by membership.

The objectives of the Stoney Creek Historical Society are:

- 2.1 To record the history of our City.
To be changed to - To record and promote the history of Stoney Creek.
- 2.3 To develop a City Museum and Archives.
To be changed to - To develop a Museum and Archives.
- 2.6 To promote the interest of the City of Stoney Creek.
To be - Deleted.
This Constitution was passed on March 19th. 1987.
To be changed to - The original Constitution was passed on March 19th. 1987.

Community News

September 1926

The roadway between Stoney Creek and Tapleytown is to be widened about six feet.

**Members wishing to receive their newsletter
by e-mail should contact Ron Place at
r.place@sympatico.ca**

WESTFIELD VILLAGE:

by Rob Winniger

Events 2004

Oct 29, 30, 6:30 pm to 9:30 pm,

Tickets available at 6:00 pm

Westfield presents its Haunted Halloween

Enjoy and explore a series of fascinating tableaux depicting scenes of history, superstition and folklore just right for the Halloween season. There is something for kids of all ages.

Free popcorn courtesy of the Kinsmen Club of Burlington.

Admission: Adults \$8.50, Seniors \$7.50, Youth 6 yrs. to 12 yrs. \$4.50, and kids 5 yrs and under are free.

Free parking.

Refreshments provided by the St. George Lions Club

Westfield Heritage Village Hour Open Sundays and Holidays

April 6 to October 26, 12:30 - 4 pm

featuring hourly tours, restaurant and gift shop.



Is this the Dominion Hotel?

7 years ago, Dorothy Reid submitted to the SCHS newsletter a Toronto Star article from 1926 about a fire at the 'Dominion' hotel in Stoney Creek. The article related how Erland Lee and the infant son of Edward Millington had to be carried out of the burning building. However, no one has come forward to offer any more information about the "Dominion" hotel. The Acacia Hotel, Exchange Hotel, and Canada House are well known, but not this mystery "Dominion" hotel.

The Exchange Hotel (seen here in 1901) once sat on the south side of King Street between Mountain Ave. and Elm St., roughly where the Royal Bank is in 2004. It supposedly burned down in the 1920s.

Did the Exchange Hotel change its name between 1901 and 1926? Is this, in fact, the site of the hotel mentioned in the newspaper article?

The Erland Lee Museum is interested in finding out more about the Dominion Hotel (not to mention the Exchange Hotel). If anyone can offer an opinion, information, or pictures of these buildings, please contact Michael Gemmill at 905 662 2691

ONTARIO'S FIRST MOTOR VEHICLE LICENSE FORMS 1903 - 1904

(The following is from the Friends of the Archives of Ontario newsletter December 1999)

Submitted by Dorothy Reid

In 1903 an act was passed that provided for speed limits and that made provision for the registration and licensing of motor vehicles. A \$2.00 fee was to be paid to the Provincial Secretary, and a permit number was to be displayed plainly on the vehicle.

The forms for the first motor vehicle licenses, issued between Aug. 31 and 16 June 1904 were bound as a separate volume. The Ministry of Transportation and Communications transferred volume to the Ontario Archives in 1971. Each form bears the licensee's name and address with a description of the motor vehicle - model, passenger capacity, type of motor (gasoline, coal-oil, electric or steam) and manufacturer (sometimes owner). The volume was microfilmed in 1974 (MS261).

The following index, compiled by Jane MacNamara, lists licensee's name, post office and the license number.

Editors Note! *(Of the 310 entries on this file, I have listed only those pertaining to the Hamilton District.)*

Arnott, H.G., MD, Hamilton, 212 — Clendenning, W.M., Hamilton, 98 — Crown Oil Co., Hamilton, 207, 208. — Egleton, James H. Hamilton, 157. — Farmer, D. MD., Ancaster, 234. — Graning, or Gunning, SO., Hamilton, 93 — Greening, S.O., Hamilton, 65. — Gruning, S.O., Hamilton, 95. Maguin, A.W., Hamilton, 140. — Malloch, Stewart E., Hamilton, 103, 104. — Moddie, J.R., Hamilton, 107, 108. — Moodie, John, Hamilton, 67, 175. — Peat, Bath, Stoney Creek, 93. (should be Piott). Sherk, L., Hamilton, 105. — Smette, Harry, Hamilton, 205. — Toll, Edwin, N., Hamilton 130. — Wilcox, Horace W., Hamilton,

Community News August 1926

If anyone wants a big load of ashes to fill a hole, come and collect them at the rear of the Lottridge brick house any time.

LEACOCK SUMS IT UP!

*By Stephen Leacock author. "Canada. the foundations of its future"
from Stoney Creek News 150th anniversary edition June 5th 1963*

Most unfortunate of all were the quarrels of Britain and America over Maritime rights that culminated in the deplorable and fruitless war of 1812.

Of the 80,000 people of the Upper Canada of that day most were still "American," 35,000 representing Loyalists and their families, 25,000 later American settlers, and only 20,000 directly from the British Isles. Few hearts were in the war; many in secret hoped for republican victory. Per contra, in Massachusetts the war seemed wanton wickedness. Governor Caleb Strong by proclamation (July 26, 1812) called for a public fast for a wrong committed against the nation from which we are descended.

Only the bravery of the combatants redeems the memory of the fruitless struggle. It is all a past echo now. The incursions across the St. Lawrence, the spectacular fights above the gorge of Niagara, the battle of the summer evening and night among the leaves of Lundy's Lanes, the fury that committed to the flames the frame houses of York and the crude beginnings of Washington, the guns that thundered over Lake Erie never to be heard again all this now but the midst and echo of the past. The monuments that indicate for the tourist of to-day the site of these inroads and these combats mark only a soil on which the seeds of dissension have long since sprung up as flowers.

Privately printed. 1961 (Courtesy of The House of Seagrams)

MEMBERS BUSINESS/INSTITUTION DIRECTORY:

Appraiser*Quiltmaker*Lecturer	Judy Lyons	8 Douglas Pl.	905-664-4519
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
The Snackery	Carol Dushko	Elm/King Plaza	905-664-2288
Winona Garden Shoppe	Georgina & Jeff Beattie	1381 Highway 8	905-643-2161

PLEASE MENTION THIS DIRECTORY WHEN YOU SUPPORT OUR MEMBERS!

DID YOU REALLY WANT TO KNOW THIS?

If you thought History boring!!! Listen to this

More facts about the 1500s.

In those days, they cooked in the kitchen with a big kettle that always hung over the fire. Every day they lit the fire and added to the pot.

They ate mostly vegetables and did not get much meat. They would eat the stew for dinner, leaving the leftovers in the pot to get cold overnight and then start over the next day. Sometimes the stew had food that had been there for quite a while. Hence the rhyme, *"Peas porridge hot, peas porridge cold, peas porridge in the pot nine days old."*

Some times they could obtain pork, which made them feel quite special. When visitors came over, they would hang up their bacon to show off. It was a sign of wealth that a man could *"bring home the bacon."* They would cut off a little to share with guests and would sit around and *"chew the fat."*

Van Wagners part of early area history
From the Stoney Creek News
150th Anniversary Edition
June 5th 1963

The late Henry Van Wagner, of Saltfleet, was the second son of Dr. Henrih Van Wagner of Onisgatta, surgeon in the Hessian. regiment at the time of the American Revolution, and his wife Hannah Lampman. He was born in Albany, N. Y. May 23rd, 1788. At the age of two years, he lost his father. His mother marrying again, took him to her new home at the foot of the Heidelberg mountain.

In 1811 he married Edith Spohn, who died in 1837 leaving seven children.

Desiring a wider field for the practise of his profession of millwright than an old country afforded he visited Upper Canada in 1816, which at that time was a place of refuge for those who were opposed to the late war with Great Britain. He landed at Burlington Beach and was the guest of celebrated surveyor, Augustus Jones. Having decided to make Canada his home he returned to the States and soon after removed to Canada arriving at Stoney Creek in April 1818.

He was first employed in this country in repairing and remodelling the old fashioned mills. Among the first to engage his services were John and Elijah Secord of Mount Albion, Robert Nelles of Grimsby and the Hon. James Crooks of West Flamboro.

His opinion and advice in mill matters was solicited from far and near. He built a number of mills, surveyed the sites and planned and drafted more. His last work was the building of a flour mill for Ebenezer C. Griffin, in East Flamboro (at present Waterdown).

His second son, John Lampman Van Wagner married Elizabeth Talant Secord, daughter of John Secord who owned the first grist mill and saw mill at the Albion.

CHEYNE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH:

Continued from page 2

Before 1844 there existed near Albion Falls a community by that name, consisting of families without the benefit of a church building or clergy.

Reverend George Cheyne and Alexander Hale, a citizen of Albion Falls, applied to the Hamilton Presbytery to ordain elders. At a meeting in Albion on February, 1844, twenty nine people were added to the roll. In 1844, a church was erected on Mud Street and named Cheyne Church.

In 1914 a mission was started in Stoney Creek. It was later united with Cheyne Church, Saltfleet and Cheyne Church with its congregation was transferred to Stoney Creek. A lot was purchased on First Street and on February 5, 1919 the first annual meeting was held in the new church.

On November 23, 1975 the congregation approved a three stage development program. The first stage was completed in the fall of 1987.

Stoney Creek Historical Society

Year 2003 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:	Cheryl Gemmell	549-5949
Corresponding Secretary:	Anna Orr	643-7653
Newsletter:	Ron Place	662-8856

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

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION \ RENEWAL \ DONATIONS

(Please print)

Date: _____

Name: _____

Address: _____ Apt.: _____

City: _____ Postal Code: _____ Phone: _____

(Please check) _____ Renewal: _____ New: _____

<u>Membership</u>	
Family	\$15.00
Single	\$ 12.00
Student/Senior.....	\$ 7.00
Business/Institution.....	\$ 20.00

<u>Donation to funds</u>	
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:

Help us correct the publication "Saltfleet then and Now", and try to keep it up-to-date, it contains a number of errors. We aim to correct and record these errors as we become aware of them. We wish to have our copy at the Stoney Creek Historical Society library as accurate as possible for people doing research. A numbered, coloured dot will be placed next to the error, then recorded on a separate page at the back of the book.

PLEASE NOTE!

Material borrowed from the library must be signed out for a 3 week period then signed in on the return.

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

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

FUTURE SPEAKERS

Wed. Nov. 3, **Ian Kerr Wilson - Steam and Technology Museum Founder.**

Sun. Dec. 5, **Historical Society Christmas House Tour.**

Fri. Dec. 10, **Christmas Bus Tour, (For information, Call Bill Mitchell 905-664-4576)**

Wed. Jan. 5, **Peter Cheyne - The History of Glass.**

Wed. Feb. 2, **Alan Alexanian - The History of Rugs.**

2004 IncomeTax Receipts:

Canadian members income tax receipts for the year 2004 will be distributed with the February 2005 newsletter

Pigs were kept by the early settlers as salt pork was one of the few meats that could be preserved under pioneer conditions.

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. 2, 2005
Material deadline is Saturday, Jan. 15, 2005**

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

Steel Market Place

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