

Remember the Corman House

Stoney Creek Historical Society

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

NEWSLETTER

Oct. 2005

Edition #36

Circulation 325 copies

GOOD-BYE TO A LANDMARK

The Gage Homestead at Stony Creek To be Remodeled
Its Present Owner Will Demolish One Half of it and Make Other Changes
The Interesting Story Attached to the Big Building

Hamilton Spectator, October 17, 1896

Travelers who journey to Niagara Falls or the villages and towns between, on the Queen's highway, cannot fail to have noticed, a short distance west of Stony Creek and to the south of the road, a long, rambling sort of wooden structure which would not present an appearance of habitation, were it not that the surroundings of vineyards, apple and peach trees and other products of luscious fruit show that man is somewhere very near, and that in all likelihood, he is to be found in the big wooden building before mentioned. That frame structure, odd as it looks, has a history, and a lively one, the chief events being connected with the great battle of Stony Creek in 1812. In and around that house occurred some strange events, such as have, not infrequently, changed the whole course of a country's history.

That big, wooden house, 84 years ago, was the homestead of James Gage and the scene of the repulse of the American soldiers under Gen. Winder by Col. Harvey and his small force of Britishers and faithful Indians. But for that setback for the American troops, Canada—or this part of it—might have been a northern hump on the back of the American republic, geographically speaking. In those days of guerilla warfare the face of nature on all sides of the Gage farm presented a different aspect from what it does to-day. Then, the road wound around to the south of the big wooden house and Gage's store close by, while the present roadway had not evolved from the cedar swamp that spread itself to the north. Because of these things, Gage's home was picked by the

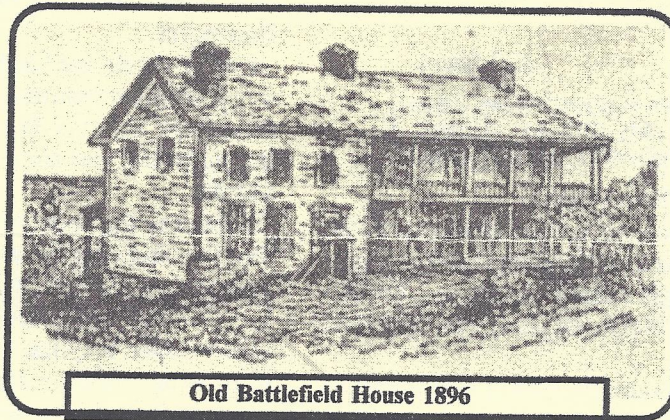
American officers as being both commodious and comfortable and also commanding an excellent view of the surrounding country. True, nature took a rise out of it a little to the south, but the hill failed to have the compensating comforts of a home, and the Yankees were not dwellers in tents, especially when they could get such a nice cosy place like Gage's, with the concomitant of having plenty to eat.

It is an old, old, story, familiar to many, that lingers round and about the old homestead of the Gage's. The winds that whistled under the eaves, along the big verandas and round the chimneys tell it; the floors and the stairways tell it, and the surrounding

landscape bears mute testimony to the stirring events of that time. One day the Americans came along, and Gen. Winder and his officers took possession of the Gage house, turning the owner and his family into the cellar. One night, when the Yankees least expected it, the British and the Indians came down upon them. The Indians, with their yells and war whoops, made the Americans fear several tribes of red men were upon them, and they fled in double quick order. Among the possessions of the Yankee officers were some saddle bags, containing gold—silver on a 16 to 1 basis did not trouble them in those days—and James Gage, with an eye to business, threw the saddle bags down a well, a little to the south of the house.

When the Americans got over their scare they returned to the house and called upon Gage to tell what he had done with the saddle bags; but Gage was not giving anything

continued on page 5



Old Battlefield House 1896

NEW MEMBERS:

We are happy to welcome to our membership
Sharon Lipsit,

*This Newsletter
is sponsored by
Frances Lawson*

THE PRESIDENT'S CORNER:

The Stoney Creek Historical Society is dedicated to increasing an appreciation of Stoney Creek history and to preserve its heritage and culture for future generations. We try to do this by speakers at our meetings, newsletters and museum displays. Many thanks to those who contribute so generously and we hope that more of you will find time to collect and forward information or artefacts, photos etc. for our archives.

The House Tour Committee has decided not to hold our December House Tour this year. The last two years were very difficult to acquire homes for viewing. If anyone or someone you know would be willing to participate in this event in future years please contact any member of the executive. Also we welcome any suggestions for program speakers or articles for our newsletter.

Thank you for your great co-operation. New members most welcome.

Bill O'Reilly

ERLAND LEE (MUSEUM) HOME

by Michael Gemmell

This has been the *Summer of the Renovation* at the Women's Institute birthplace. In addition to doing much-needed repairs these past eight months, the museum has also attempted wherever possible to improve our historical accuracy at the same time.

In the winter, the home received a new electrical service, uniting several older corroded panels into one. The empty (and ugly) 1960s hydro meters on the back of the house were removed, and the wood replaced and repainted.

Three porches were repaired this summer.

The front porch, which was a 1970s reconstruction, had a new set of clubs crafted and installed along the roofline.

The west porch and north side of the gift shop have suffered in recent years from poor drainage, creating wood rot. This summer the porch roof had gutter reconfiguration done to improve drainage, leaks patched, and a new storm door built to replace the rotten 1950s door. The door was designed to conform better to the historical windows on the west side of the house.

At the same time, our major summer project was a complete reconstruction of the gift shop north wall foundation, which had rotted. It was exciting to discover during the 6-ft deep excavation of the walkway that the gift shop was in fact an original 1860s woodshed. Research through the family diaries revealed that Abram Lee (Erland's father) had pushed the woodshed up against the house in 1873 and attached it and the excavation confirmed this. New drainage pipes, weeping tile, and gravel were installed. Our gardeners,

Joan and Gord McLean, also did a super job building a new garden box in the area, keeping the wet soil away from the new foundation.

The east porch was the other large project, suffering relatively the same problems: poor drainage, roof leaks, and wood rot. The contractor, J. Walker, rebuilt the porch to the original design, based upon historical photos from the Lee family. He also exposed the east porch/parlour door, which had been walled up since the 1930s. This fall, the old door will be restored and will become the museum's new (old) fire escape door.

Some minor repairs were also done, with wood floor boards being repaired and reconstructed inside the museum, painting, and a couple of air conditioner units purchased to improve climate control inside the museum.

The museum also provided selections from its local history photo database to the Village Restaurant for their new dining room. Almost 200 photos of old Saltfleet Township, mainly from the 1940s and 1970s, were added to the database this summer, including two of the 1973 opening of the Village Restaurant.

This fall, the Erland Lee Museum volunteers will be featuring a reprise of our **Murder at Edgemont: A Murder Mystery Dinner** on Saturday October 22nd. Somebody's going to die during dinner, with clues in the Gothic Revival home. Tickets: \$25.00

On **Sunday October 30th**, from 1-4 pm, come to a **Special Preview Opening** for our annual **Local Art Show**. The 13th annual show officially begins November 1 and runs until Nov. 30th. For one month, come and see a variety of original oils, watercolours, acrylics, pastels, sculptures, and photos from many local artists, on display in the museum's 1873 carriage house. Pick up that unique Christmas gift for "starving artist" prices. Call to get your art in! This is a non-juried show. It is designed to help showcase undiscovered talent in our community.

And in December, enjoy a **Country Christmas...in the City**. The museum will be decorated with help from local florists and designers, and offering special **Extended Candlelight Hours on December 11, 18, and 23**. The museum will be open until 8:00 pm those nights.

Also coming in December...a new temporary exhibit: **Textile Connections**

This is the story of Stoney Creek's past in clothing, as told by the people who lived it. A display of 19th and early 20th century personal clothing, each piece with its own unique tale to tell, linked together by geography and history. The museum is looking for items on short-term loan for this exhibition, which will run until April 2006. Please call 905 662 2691.

2005 Income Tax Receipts

Canadian members income tax receipts for the year 2005 will be distributed with the February 2006 newsletter.

**DESIGNATED PROPERTIES
in STONEY CREEK:**

**BATTLEFIELD HOUSE, PARK AND
MONUMENT
77 KING STREET WEST**

Battlefield House was constructed about 1796, first as a rough-hewn log house, and later as a storey-and-a-half frame house, it was the home of the widow Mary Jones Gage and her two children, James and Elizabeth, who had journeyed to the area from New York State in 1790. On June 5, 1813, the Gage residence was forced to become the headquarters for the invading American troops who had occupied the house. Generals Winder and Chandler and a force of several thousand U.S. soldiers marching toward the capital at York had camped there for the night. During the evening a 19 year old local lad, Billy Green, warned the British forces at Burlington Heights and successfully led a party of about 700 British regulars under the leadership of Col. John Harvey in a night attack on the U.S. troops.

In the ensuing skirmish both U.S. generals were captured and the invading forces put to flight as they retreated to Fort George. The Battle of Stoney Creek is regarded by many historians as a significant turning point in the War of 1812 as it marks the furthest extent of American advance into Upper Canada during the conflict.

At various times, Battlefield House has been funded by the Women's Wentworth Historical Society and the Niagara Parks Commission.

Stylistically the Battlefield House represents the Georgian colonial home. It is a two-storey frame structure of uncluttered design with symmetrically balanced windows and door openings. Atypical of the Georgian style are the twelve over twelve multi-paned sash windows with flat window heads. The steep roof, large chimney and verandah are other noteworthy features. Important to the preservation of the Battlefield House are the original features of all four facades, including the verandah, the original windows, shutters and doorways, the roof and chimneys.

Battlefield Monument

On June 6, 1913, the stone monument erected at the site by the Dominion Government to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the battle, was dedicated.

The monument is unique in Canada. It has a height of 30.5 meters and is constructed of Queenston limestone. The architect of the monument was Mr. Edward Rastrick of Hamilton and it is a copy of the Nelson Monument, Calton Hill, Edinburgh. It was completed in 1913. Important to the preservation of the Monument are the original stone facades, entrances and windows. Also important to preservation is the Interior stairway which allows visitors access to the top of the tower, as does the interior staircase. The monument is unique in Canada. It has a height of 30.5 meters and is constructed of Queenston limestone. The architect of the

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**SOMETHING NEW AND EXCITING IS IN THE
WORKS:**

Talks have been underway for several months regarding a display area agreement for the Stoney Creek Historical Archives and Artefacts. Talks are going very well but details cannot be divulge at this time. We have quite a number of items that we intend to make available for the enjoyment of the public. However! It would improve our rotational system to have a larger inventory, either by donations to, or on loan to the Stoney Creek Historical Society for this purpose. Items donated or loaned would show a plaque as being *(on loan or donated by any family to the Stoney Creek Historical Society.)*

I'm sure there are items tucked away in attics or storage areas that would make a terrific showing of earlier days in Stoney Creek. Our society would also benefit greatly in our quest to preserve and teach about our history. If you can help in this way, your hidden treasures would be greatly appreciated by not only the society but the public at large who crave the information of their great great-grand parents and beyond. Please contact President Bill O'Reilly at 905-662-2248

REPORT FROM BATTLEFIELD HOUSE

Events:

Twilight Tales Lantern Tour - Saturday October 29 - 7.00 pm.

Pre-registration is required

Gingerbread House Workshop - Saturday December 10. 10.00 am. To 1.00 pm.

Pre-registration is required

**H. G. & B Railway Clips:
1895**

On July 19, 1895, the newspapers reported the first serious accident to happen on the H.G.&B. About 5.30 in the evening at Lewis Creek near Stoney Creek, car number 17, in charge of Motorman Middaugh and Conductor Claude Randall running east, came in contact with a cow. Mr. Smith, owner of the cow, sued the railway claiming the car was doing 35 miles per hour but witnesses in the car said 15 m.p.h was more to the speed and praised efforts of the crew. Needless to say, the company won damages from the farmer.

FROM THE PAST:

*Wentworth Historical Society Minutes
1908 -1948*

May 15th, 1916
Saltfleet Historical Society

The meeting for June 6th, 1916 celebration was held in the Parish Hall Monday, May 15th and it was decided to hold the Field Day sports as usual.

Proposal - It was proposed by Mr. J.H. Jones and seconded by Mr. J.C.Moon, to hold the sport on Saturday June 3rd. Carried.

Place - Moved by Mr. Jones and seconded by Mr. A.Beer, that Dr. Green and Mr. J. Clough meet Mr. Hopkins and endeavour to get his consent for the use of his field adjoining the Methodist Church.

Convenor of Sports - Moved by Mr. J. Clough and seconded by Mr. Chittick, that Dr. Green be appointed Convenor of Sports and to pick his committee.

Convenor of Finance - Moved by Mr. Moore and seconded by Mr. J. Clough, that Mr. J. Chittick be appointed Convenor of Finance and to pick his own Committee.

Speaker - Moved by Mr. Moore and seconded by Mr. S. Nash, that Cannon Davis procure the speaker for the day and also arrange the vocal programme.

Programme - Proposed by Mr. Clough and seconded by Mr. S. Nash that the programme and arrangements for same be canvassed by Mr. Jones.

Music - Moved by Mr. Chittick and seconded by Mr. A. Springstead that Mr. Moore be convenor of the Music Committee adding the name of Mr. Fred Tims to assist and S. Jones to arrange for the Bugle Band.

Duties - It was moved that Dr. Green, Mr. J.Chittick, Mr. J.H. Jones proceed with their duties and report at the next meeting to be held Monday May 22nd. also that the Secretary purchase a flag and have ready to hoist on the Soldiers Plot on that day.

Fees - Eleven members paid fees of 25 cents and the meeting adjourned until Monday May 22nd.

J.C. Moore

WESTFIELD VILLAGE:

by Rob Winniger

Friday and Saturday, October 28th & 29th , -
Haunted Historical Halloween 6.30 to 9.30 pm.

Saturday December 3rd, 10th and 17th,
5.00 pm. To 9.00 pm. - Opening ceremonies and
Fireworks.

Sunday December 4th. 11th.
Christmas Table - 4.00 pm. To 9.00 pm. -

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

featuring hourly tours, restaurant and gift shop.

Executive Elections 2006

The annual meeting and general elections will be held January 4, 2006 at the Stoney Creek City Hall beginning at 7.30 pm.

The following offices are open for nominations:

1st vice president, 2nd vice President,

Recording secretary, (3) Three Directors.

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 at 905-662-2248 to have your name included.

CHOCOLATES:

In 1822 John Cadbury opened a tea and coffee shop in Birmingham, England. He expanded into chocolate manufacturing, and in 1853 became purveyor of chocolate to Queen Victoria. In 1861 his son Richard Cadbury hit upon the idea of increasing sales of Valentine's Day chocolate sales by packaging Cadbury chocolates in the world's first heart-shaped candy box.

THROUGH THE GARDEN OF CANADA

From Winona Centennial 1867 -1967

Part 4

The Historic Battlefield

The gong rings and as our car speeds on the beautiful Reservoir Park is lost to view and we find ourselves rushing past the populous little Village of Bartonville and down grade into the valley of the Red Hill, so called from the color of the earth along its sides. Over the ravine we speed upon stone foundationed, steel bridgework, and to our right spreads out the great Albion ravine mighty indentation in the mountain side. Up the hill again and along the main travelled road with mountain towering on one side and sandy beach glistening on the other, we pass the famous Stoney Creek battle ground where many Canadian heroes fell in defence of their homes and country.

Farmers plough the soil that was once watered with their blood, and ever and anon when seasons are dry and the plow furrows deeply, the bones of dead soldiers are unearthed. The old Gage homestead in the upper corner is a relic of the war time, and it is on the spot pictured below that it is proposed to erect a monument in memory of the dead heroes.

This part of the H.G.&B. route is one that deeply interests the historically inclined and there are those living in the vicinity of the battle field who are well versed in the anecdotal history of the famous battle. The old folks whose fathers took part in the scenes of those early times never tire of telling the now almost legendary tales they heard told when as children they sat at father's knee with some new found relic of the battle in hand, hearing the oft told stories o'er again.

The Wentworth Historical Society has a fine lot of relics from the battle field.

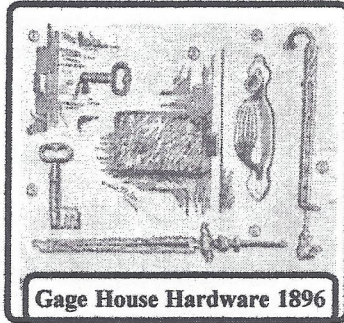
GOOD-BYE TO A LANDMARK

Continued from page 1

away—not even information. To draw the valuable knowledge from Gage, the officers adopted a most approved American method of getting what was wanted; they tied a rope round Gage's heels and hauled him, head downwards, to a hook in the ceiling of one of the rooms. This was done three times, and Gage has left the statement, for the benefit of posterity, that on being run up the third time he was just about to tell where he had put the saddle bags, when the cry of: "Here comes the British," fell upon his inverted ear. The Yankees dropped him in a hurry and he was left in possession of the gold. Such were some of the events that transpired in and near the big wooden house near Stony Creek.

And now it has to be announced to the world that before many days have passed, the famous and historical house will be seen no more in its present form. It is the intention of the present owner, D. A. Fletcher, to tear down one half of the building and convert what is left into a more modern structure. Hearing of the owner's intention, a Spectator representative paid a visit to the old house a few days ago. Standing as it does, on rising ground, the house's prominence brings out more plainly its venerable and nearly a century air. It has not worn a coat—that is, a coat of paint—for several years, perhaps not less than forty, and there is a decided let-me-lean-against-you style from one end to the other of the portion facing the road. The building is 70 feet long and 30 feet wide. On the north side is a piazza, running the length of the house, which is of two stories. The front of the building, which still faces south, as it did when the road ran a short distance from it, has a piazza and a veranda running along more than two-thirds of it. Years ago, a former owner, Col. Nelson, added to the single story, which was at the west end, another story, and now the front has the appearance of two houses, the western portion having a doorway with a somewhat ornate arch—as ornamentation went in those days.

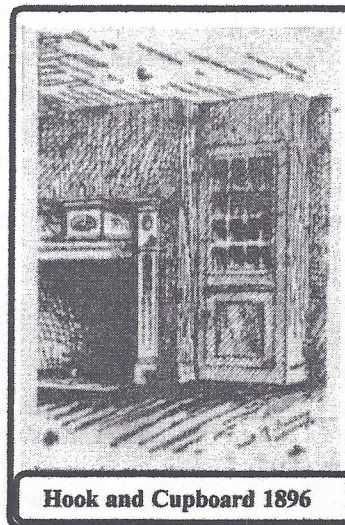
So much for the exterior. The interior is very much what would be expected from such a big structure. Taking the basement first, the visitor descends to it on big blocks of stone for steps. The earthen floor shows that many thousands of feet have passed over it, for it is hard as rock. The cellars are roomy and not so bad a place for a refuge. In the eastern end of the basement the Gages made their home, while the American officers had possession of the upper rooms and passed a pleasant time, when they were not dodging bullets. In the northeast corner of the cellar is a sort of recess, in which James Gage made his bed during the dark days of the Yankees' visit. Up-stairs are big hallways, roomy corridors



and apartments of large size. There is enough room in the corridors and halls to find room for several families. The rooms have no striking feature, and how much they have been changed since the days of the Gages cannot be told. One large room of that time is now divided into two by a partition. It was in the northern end of this apartment which was probably converted into a mess room by the officers, that James Gage was strung up by the heels to make him tell where the precious saddle bags were. The hook that held the cord is there to this day and is shown to visitors as a valuable relic.

A locksmith of nowadays would look with horror upon the locks and keys used in that house. Under the stairs in the main portion of the building is a cupboard, which has a history, and also a lock and key to make the locksmith's stout heart quail. The story that clings to the cupboard is that into it Gage was stuffed on more than one occasion, all on account of those saddle bags. When the lock was turned on him there was no hope for Gage to escape, unless some friendly hand opened the door. The case of the lock is nearly two inches across, and the bolt is big enough to be used in a bank safe. The key—well, there is material in it for several keys of the 1896 pattern. The shank is nearly an inch thick, and it is several inches long. They say the locksmith was a blacksmith; the key bears out the statement.

Although it is wood, wood everywhere in the old building, there is no likelihood that anything less than an earthquake would bring it down. One reason for its stability is that every three feet, along the whole length of the east end, a beam 12 x 12 inches is placed across the structure; while down in the cellar at one end is an immense slab of stone, a foot thick and twelve to fifteen feet long, which makes a portion of the foundation.



Another relic of the past will soon disappear with the half of the old house—James Gage's old store, which now stands a short distance away to the southwest. It is now nothing but a shell and will make good kindling wood. Along the front, over the front door, can yet be faintly seen the words: "J. Gage's Store". Some time ago they were painted out, and soon the whole concern will be blotted out.

Opposite the big house is shown the stump of a tree to which was speared by the Indians one of the American sentries. A short distance away was found what appears to be a spearhead, although it is not said it is the identical one that impaled the Yankee soldier. The famous well, in which reposed the saddle bags and their golden contents, is no more.

continued on page 6

GOOD-BYE TO A LANDMARK

Continued from page 5

Some years ago the well was filled in and now a peach tree grows over its grave.

A visit to the old home is not complete without a climb to the top of the hill at the rear, down which the Indians ran and scared off the American soldiers that night. Mr. Fletcher, the present owner of the house and land, says that with the aid of a telescope, on a fine day, Hamilton, Toronto, Guelph and St. Catharines can be seen.

Mr. Fletcher came into possession of the property last May and before him it belonged to the Gage, Nelson, Glover, Williams and Fisher families. Mr. Fletcher purchasing it from George S. Fisher.

Mr. Fletcher will begin the alterations this month. It is his intention to make the portion of the house facing the road the front of it. The verandas will go, and when all is finished the old Gage homestead will be little better than memory.

JOHN HURLEY:

I am sorry to report the death of a member, John Hurley, who passed away Tuesday May 24th. 2005. John had been a great help to me and the society in his recollection of the early residents of old town Stoney Creek, and where they lived where during the early 1930's. John and his brother had owned and operated Hurley Bros. garage on King St. next to the old Acacia Hotel, which had been located where the Village Restaurant is now. John had been an avid motorcyclist as well he and his brother had built an aircraft in the garage building. Our sympathies go out to his family.

ROB WINNIGER:

Two decades ago, Robert Winniger, Programme Officer at Westfield Heritage Village, initiated a project to build bridges between museums around the world towards the goal of contributing to peace and understanding. The results included the first twinning in history between a North American and Soviet Museum; the creation of a protocol between several military museums in Europe; a partnership agreement between Westfield and the National Museum of Baghdad marked by a special breakfast presentation at Westfield featuring the museum's director Dr. Donny George; initiatives now playing themselves out in Bosnia, Croatia, Serbia; and the launch of a new initiative in China. September 2005 saw a new partner entering the process, the Ecomusee d'Alsace, the largest and most innovative living history museum in France. Robert will update you on the overall peace project and take you on a exclusive tour of the French museum. He will place you on the ground floor of the unique French concept of "Ecomusee" currently taking root in the Orient in a significant way.

CROWN PATENTEES OF SALT FLEET 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 SEVEN

NAME	Lot Pt. of		Acres	Registered
	No.	Lot		
William Crooks (of Grimsby) (1792)	1 to 3	All	300	Jan.23, 1807
James Crooks (of Niagara) (1791)	4 to 6	All	300	Jan.22, 1807
Thomas F. Sampson	7,8	All	200	Nov.14, 1836
Alexander Wood	9, 10	All	20	July 6, 1807
Rene Augustin, Comte de Chalus (Niagara)	11	N ½	50	May15, 1807
Jean Louis, Vicomte de Chaltis (Niagara)	12, 13 S 1/2,	All	150	May 15, 1807
Philip Jones (1789)	14,15	All	200	Dec.31, 1798
Ebenezer Jones (1789) (Ass't. Surveyor)	16 to 21	All	600	May17, 1802
James Davidson	22	All	100	May12, 1807
Joseph Chiniquy	23,24	All	200	May12, 1807
Philip Jones (1789)	25, 26	All	200	Dec.1, 1798
Robert Isaac Dey Cray (Solicitor Gen.)	27	All	100	Aug.10, 1801
John Ghent (about 1796)	28,29	All	200	Dec.31, 1798
Thomas Ghent (about 1796)	30,31	All	200	May17, 1802
William Davis (1790)	32	All	100	Mar.10, 1797
Elizalietli Murray (daug. of Lt., 84th Regt.)	33	All	100	Jan.16, 1805
William and James Crooks (of Niagara)	34	All	75	Oct.24, 1806

Groaners:

A new teacher was trying to make use of her psychology courses. She started by saying, "Everyone who thinks they are stupid stand up".

After a few seconds, little Johnny stood up. The teacher said, "Do you think you are stupid, little Johnny?" "No, ma'am, but I hate to see you standing there by yourself".

LOYALISTS AND PIONEERS:

OLMSTED

The Olmsted family originated in England and according to family history, the first mention of them was in 1080. James Olmsted, son of Richard, was born in Essex County, England, and in 1605 he married Joyce Cornish. Later they sailed in the ship "Lyon" for America arriving at Boston in September, 1632. James, first settled at Cambridge, Mass., was received as a freeman and held the office of constable there for several years. In 1636 he removed to Hartford, Connecticut, where he was the original proprietor of a large acreage of land. He died 18 September, 1640, and his will and inventory of his estate show that he left considerable property.

One branch of the family which came to Canada was descended from Lieut. Ebenezer Olmsted. He was born in 1748 in Hartford, Conn., and married to Esther Ingersoll 17 January, 1779. They had the following children:- Morse (Moss), Russel, Oliver, Edward, Benjamin, Ira, Maria, Louisa, Harriet, and Nancy.

Two of the sons, **Russel** and **Benjamin**, are known to have come to Canada.

Russel, second son of Ebenezer and Esther (Ingersoll) Olmsted, was born in Redfield, Conn., 8 December, 1780. He came to Canada about the turn of the century. He married Sarah, daughter of William Gage, 29 December, 1810, and later, 13 November, 1827, settled on a farm near Mount Albion, Saltfleet township.

Russel served in the War of 1812 with the 5th Lincoln and 2nd York Militia. He died 20 August, 1844, and he and his wife, Sarah, were buried at Stoney Creek. Children:-
Susan Gage, born 26 March, 1812, d. 7 April, 1898.

Esther, born 6 May, 1815, married Gershom Carpenter Jr., 12 March, 1834, d. 27 June, 1902.

William Ira, born 4 Jan., 1818, lived in Flint, Michigan.
Samuel Nash, born 11 April, 1820, wife's name Sarah. They lived in Ancaster township and are buried there. Sarah, b. 1821, d. 1904. Samuel died 1881.

Nancy, born 11 November, 1822, died 7 August, 1852.

Russel Jr., born 12 April, 1825, married Jane, daughter of Simeon and Elizabeth Pottruff. They lived on Lot 28, Conc. VIII, Saltfleet. Children:- William, Ephraim, Frank, Kate, Bertha, Sarah.

Andrew Thomas, born 13 November, 1827, married Mary Ann, daughter of Jacob and Jane Burkholder. Lived at Mount Albion, Lot 26, Conc. VI, Saltfleet, d. 24 March, 1901.

Children:- Jacob, William, Jennie, Ada, Hattie, Minnie and Lillie.

Morse (Moss), born 13 April, 1830, married Louisa Jane Barnes, d. 13 December, 1914. Children:- William Edmund,

James Gage, Gracia, Matilda, Ingersoll, Charles, Lawrence, Adeline Louise.

Marietta, born 10 July, 1832, died 11 January, 1854.

Mary, born about 1833, married William R. Freeman, died 1854, buried at Stoney Creek.

Benjamin Olmsted, whose name was on the assessment roll of Ancaster township in 1816, was probably the brother of Russel. **B. F. Olmsted**, whose name is on a later map on Lot 53, Conc. III, may have been a son.

A branch of the Olmstead family also settled in Norfolk County. **Stephen Olmsted**, married Mary Barber Gilbert, widow. They had three sons Daniel, James, and Gilbert, and two daughters Hannah and Ann.

William Olmsted married Jane, daughter of Moses Barber. The Olmsted history has been collected by descendants of Russel Olmsted.

Annals of the Forty Book #7 page 15 - 17

GOOD OL DAYS:

What it Cost In 1900:

A 7 shot revolver \$1.25, Bicycle \$20.00, Grand Piano \$175.00, Men's leather belt 19¢, Alligator bag \$5.00.

What it Cost In 1910:

All expense-paid trip to Bermuda for nine days \$37.50, Bottle of coke 5¢, Imported spaghetti 12¢ a box, Cigarettes 10¢ a pack, Wage for postal workers 42¢ an hour.

What it Cost In 1920:

Life insurance premium \$16.40 / year, Chocolates 89¢ a pound, Eggs 64¢ a dozen, Public School Teachers Salary \$970. /year.

What it Cost In 1930:

Christmas tree light set of eight bulbs 88¢, Electric toaster \$1.00, Motor Oil 49¢ a gallon, Washing machine \$58.00.

What it Cost In 1940:

Coffee maker \$2.00, Movie tickets 25¢ day, 40¢ night, Golf balls \$1.88 doz. Bayer aspirin 59¢. Minimum wage 30¢ /hr.

What it Cost In 1950:

Jackie Robinson's salary \$39,750.00 /year. Roll of film 38¢, Toilet paper (20 rolls) \$2.39, Corvette (1953) \$3,498. Combination 19" television/FM radio/phonograph \$495.

In 1960:

Refrigerator \$200. Polaroid camera \$100. Mercedes Benz 220s \$3300. Breakfast (two hotcakes and two strips of bacon) 33¢, Clearasil 98¢ /tube.

MEMBERS BUSINESS/INSTITUTION DIRECTORY:

Appraiser*Quiltmaker*Lecturer	Judy Lyons	602 Rosedale Cres. 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!

ANSWERS TO SIXTH GRADE HISTORY TESTS:

Ancient Egypt was inhabited by mummies and they all wrote in hydraulics They lived in the Sarah Dessert The climate of the Sarah is such that the inhabitants have to live elsewhere.

The Bible is full of interesting caricatures In the first book of the Bible, Guinnessis, Adam and Eve were created from an apple tree One of their children, Cain, asked, "Am I my brother's son?"

Moses led the Hebrew slaves to the Red Sea, where they made unleavened bread, which is bread made without any ingredients

Moses went up on Mount Cyanide to get the ten commandments He died before he ever reached Canada.

Solomom had three hundred wives and seven hundred porcupines.

Early Saltfleet Roads.

Saltfleet Then and Now

From the 1875 Atlas we learn that there were two roads in early Saltfleet: the old Indian trail which zigzagged along the foot of the mountain, and the lake road. The Atlas assures us that these were no more than footpaths fenced in by forest trees.

A picture of the crude state of the road at the foot of the mountain in 1796, is given by Mrs. Simcoe who described "five miles of that terrible kind of road where the horses feet are entangled among the logs amid water and swamp." On this road the horses plunged "to their knees in mud pools half full of loose logs."

It was on this trip that Governor Simcoe suggested that a road along the dry top of the escarpment from Niagara to the Head of the Lake would be an improvement.

Apparently the road had not been improved by 1801, for in that year a letter appeared in the Niagara Herald:

"I have lately had the misfortune to ride on the roads of this district, particularly through Barton and Saltfleet and esteem my escape from broken neck, legs and arms more miraculous than that of the survivors of the memorable Battle of the Devil's Hole. Besides the pains I have endured on my account, I had those of a feeling man towards distressed families in wagons breaking down, falling into deep gullies and bridgeless creeks from whence it seemed impossible to emerge - the women and children wading through these like Pharaoh's hosts through the (not Red but muddy sea.)

These roads may be the best of any for the people of the townships in which they lay, but they are not so for others, and if the inhabitants have not public spirit enough to keep them passable, the law ought to make them do it; and if there is no law existing to that end, the law makers should be convened and like jurors in cases of life and death, be not suffered to part till they agree on one."

SMALL TALK:

B.O. — Meaning Body odour:

In 1933 the Lifebuoy Health Soap Company ran a series of radio advertisements containing their new slogan: "Lifebuoy stops B~O~." A heavy two-note foghorn warning was synchronized with the "B.O.," giving the phrase a negative spin it has remained to this day.

Stoney Creek Historical Society		*	VISITORS AND NEW MEMBERS WELCOME
Year 2005 Executive		*	
President:	Bill O'Reilly 662-2248	*	
Past President:	Ron Place 662-8856	*	MEETINGS ARE HELD AT STONEY CREEK CITY HALL,
1st. Vice President:	Bill Mitchell 664-4576	*	COUNCIL CHAMBERS
2nd. Vice President:	Michael Gemmell 549-5949	*	
Treasurer:	Judy Green 662-4065	*	1st. WEDNESDAY OF EACH MONTH BEGINNING AT 7.30 pm.
Recording Secretary:	Cheryl Gemmell 549-5949	*	SEPTEMBER TO JUNE
Corresponding Secretary:	Anna Orr 643-7653	*	
Newsletter:	Ron Place 662-8856	*	COFFEE AND REFRESHMENTS FOLLOW

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.

Steel Market Place

(Rear of) 1247 Highway 8, Winona.

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

DID YOU KNOW:

Doctors in the 1700s prescribed ladybugs, taken internally, to cure measles.

FUTURE SPEAKERS

Wed. Nov. 2, - Ed Venn, - History of Stoney Creek Police Force.

There will be no December meeting at the Stoney Creek City Hall.

Wed. Jan. 4, 2006 - Rob Winniger, - Museums for world, peace and understanding. (*See Rob Winniger page #6*)

Wed. Feb. 1, 2006 - Walter Cook - History of our First Nations.

Memphis Conservative, 1-24-1878

“‘When I die,’ said a married man, ‘I want to go where there is no snow to shovel.’ His wife said she presumed he would.”

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. Feb. 01, 2006

Material deadline is Monday, January 16, 2006

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

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

Financial assistance for the printing of this newsletter has been provided by

STONEY CREEK NEWS