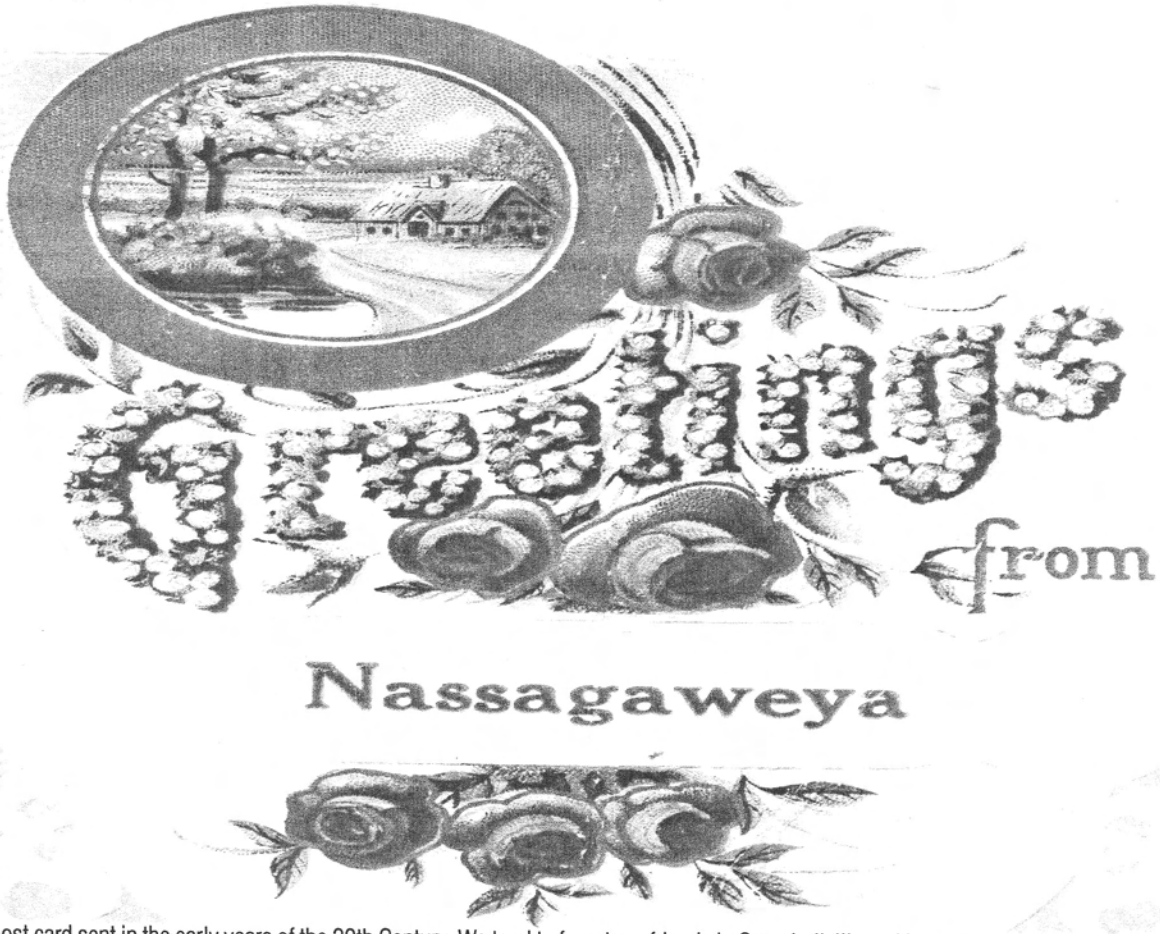
The Journal

Published by the Milton Historical Society

Volume 15 Number 3 December12, 2000

Visit our website at www.hhpl.on.ca/sigs/mhs/index.htm



A beautiful post card sent in the early years of the 20th Century. We tend to forget our friends in Campbellville and its environs. In the coming year we'll try to have another card or two from there. (They're just so rare though!) I really love the name Nassagaweya. You're instantly identified as a local if you can wrap your tongue around this Chippewa name which translates as 'between the two waters or streams'. Season's Greetings to all our friends. Have a happy and safe holiday.

IN THIS ISSUE:

GENEALOGY WORKSHOPS

WALDIE GADGET ANSWER

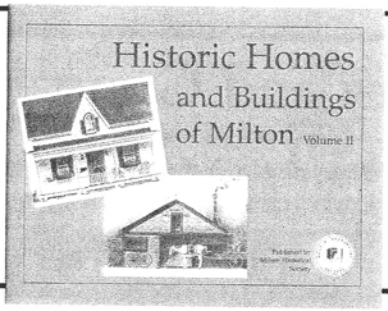
WALDIE BLACKSMITH SHOP TO RECEIVE $75,000.00

POST CARD CONTEST ANSWER & CHALLENGE

HISTORIC HOMES VOL. 2 BOOK LAUNCH

M.H.S. MEETING SCHEDULE

VOLUME 2



AVAILABLE

ELIMINATE BARRIERS IN FAMILY HISTORY RESEARCH!

Workshops begin Jan. 2001

Select any one or all six Saturday family history workshops. Each workshop is 2 hours in duration: Starting at 11 AM sharp, breaking at 12 noon for lunch, then 1:30 to 2:30 PM.

The $10.00 fee includes a complete workshop, plus all materials, beverages, snack, a box lunch and taxes

Jan 13, 2001 – Beginning a Family History Project. Topics include: where to begin; finding information; recording your findings; identifying sources; enlisting the help of others; sharing information. Workshop Leader: Rick Roberts

Jan 20, 2001 – Using Maps For Family History Research. This workshop explains and visually illustrates the importance of maps for family history research. Learn how to use maps to point the way to important and often missed research resources. Workshop Leader: Fawne Stratford-Devai

Feb 3, 2001 – Proving Your Sources. Topics include: Locating and using primary sources, secondary sources, hearsay, preponderance of evidence. Evaluating the records that you have. Workshop Leader: Kathie Orr

Feb 10, 2001 – Using Family Tree Maker Software. An Interactive workshop detailing how to use the program effectively as a research tool as well as for recording information and printing charts reports and books. Plenty of opportunity for questions and answers. Workshop Leader: Rick Roberts

Feb 17, 2001 – Genealogy Research in The 21st Century. This session is designed to help researchers identify and balance the electronic and physical information and resources available, in order to make the most of them. Workshop Leader: Fawne Stratford-Devai

Feb 24, 2001 – Researching in Upper Canada (Ontario) Before 1867. Topics include: Using Census and assessment rolls, Church Records; Court Records, Land Records, using newspapers and microfilm. Workshop Leader: Kathie Orr

Who Should Attend?

If you are considering family history research and want to know how to get started.

If you have encountered a "roadblock".

If you want hands on, interactive assistance to reach your research goals.

If you are looking for methods and resources for finding your early Ontario ancestors.

If you want to find out more and better ways to use Family Tree Maker Software.

If you would like to find out how to use electronic resources, such as the internet and data bases, to advance your genealogy.

THEN... try one of our new and informative family history research workshops!

CALL NOW TO REGISTER!

1-800-361-5168

(905-875-2176 from greater Toronto Area)
9AM to 6PM Mon to Fri; 9-5 on Sat.
OR

GlobalGenealogy.com/workshops

Global History and Genealogy Shoppe

Directions: Use Exit 320 off Highway 401 (Milton, Highway 25); turn south on Highway 25and continue past Steeles Avenue until you dead-end at Main St.. Turn left on Main St. and then make an immediate right hand turn onto Charles Street. Our parking lot is the first one on the left hand side of the street (free). More free parking is available across the street.

13 CHARLES STREET, MILTON, ONTARIO

HOMES OF MILTON BOOK LAUNCH AND SIGNING





The Saturday, November 11th book launch and signing at the Harrop Restaurant was a huge success. Sales were brisk. At the rate they're going they won't last long! The authors and contributors to the book were on hand and no doubt were suffering from writer's cramp at the end of the session. The books are available at local retail stores or through the MHS. Priced at $20 and printed in modest numbers, Volume II would make a treasured gift. If it is any indication, Volume I is no longer available and much sought after. Don't be disappointed - order yours today!



Author, Author! Above, left to right, Alex Cooke, Marsha Waldie, Konrad Richter and Ken Lamb. Top left, Jim Dills oversees Alex Cooke and Marsha Waldie. Top right, left to right, Ken Lamb, Brian Williams and Jim Dills.

Calendar of events

Upcoming M.H.S. Meetings

December 21, 2000 Something a little different this year for our Christmas get together. Cider and hors d'oeuvres at the Harrop Restaurant at 7:30 pm.

January 1, 2001 Plan to attend the Mayor's Levee at the Milton Town Hall from 1:30 to 3:30 pm. This year's highlights will be an art show and photo display. Bruce Carlin will have on hand photos chronicling the past year's events in the year 2000. The display is slated for inclusion in the Millennium Time Capsule. View it now or it's going to be a bit of a wait to see it again!

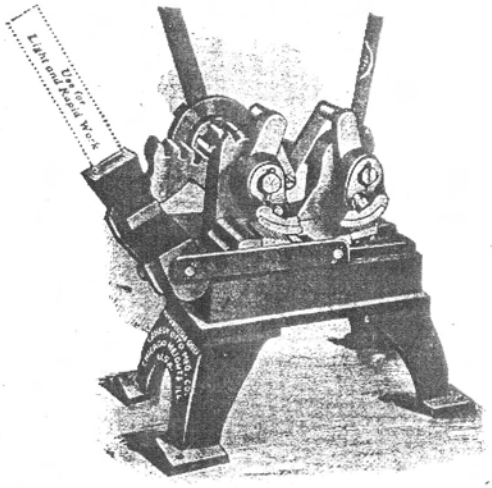
January 18, 2001 October's meeting with Jim Dills' ghostly theme proved immensely popular. January's meeting is a must attend with noted author Ron Brown as the featured speaker. The author of many fascinating historical books will be familiar to most readers. One of the most popular is 'Ghost Towns of Ontario'.

February 15, 2001 The topic is still to be decided but that's no problem as we'll let you know in advance.

February 18th, 2001 The annual Milton Heritage Awards are being presented at Milton District High School from 1:30 to 3:30 pm.

THE WALDIE WHATCHAMACALLIT CONTEST #1 ANSWER

No. 1½ WESTERN CHIEF TIRE & AXLE SHRINKER



This Shrinker is far superior to any other hot-metal Shrinker on the market and is guaranteed to operate with one-half the labor of any shrinker of equal capacity.

The Shrinking Lever Pulls toward the machine, not away, as is the case with other makes and with a powerfully arranged gearing a light man can operate this shrinker to its full capacity.

The bed has an open and shut movement of 1-5/16 inches. The jaws are machine-cut Tool Steel properly hardened. Size of jaws 4½ inches wide, and will shrink from the smallest to 4 x 1 R. E. Tires and 1¼ square axles.

Weight, 420lbs. Price 159.50

Next Contest in January



Editor note: This issue is a bit abbreviated due to time constraints. There will be a supplement coming out in January. Past meeting highlights will be included. By then w should know what the topics are for our future meetings. And no, the editor hasn't been spending all his time digging in the Mill Pond. (It's covered in snow now and I can't dig anymore.)

Milton Post Card Challenge # 4 Answer & Challenge # 5

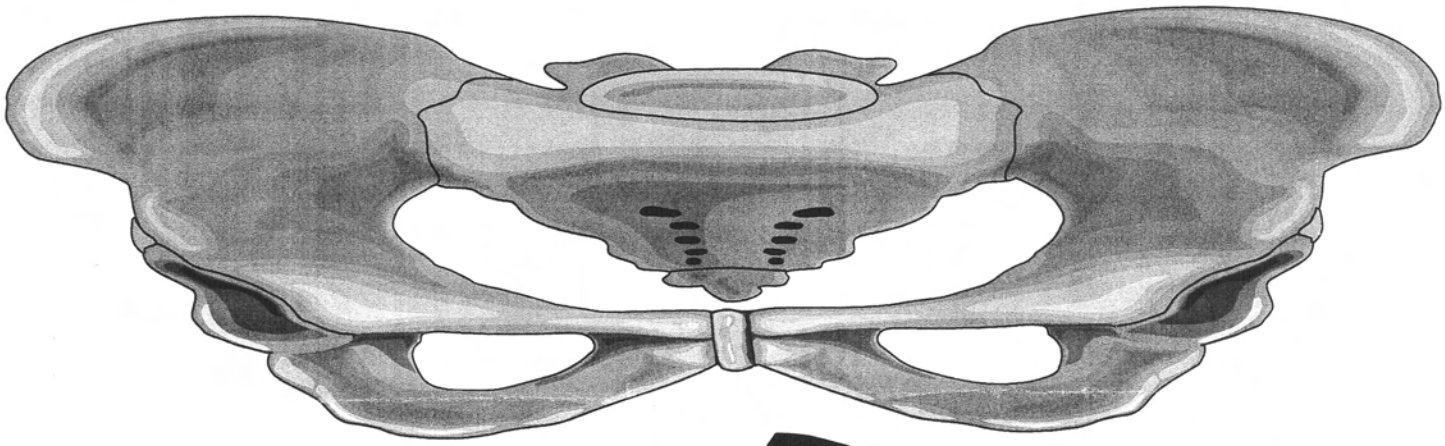


Challenge four shown above was fairly hard but a number of our members guessed correctly that this scene is on Court Street. More specifically, the photo was taken from next to the CPR train tracks looking south toward Main Street. The houses are still there and look pretty much the same. Challenge five is below. This beautiful house is sadly long gone. It should be easy for our older members to identify. The photo was taken by the same photographer. His suitcase is once again sitting on the sidewalk. Where his canine friend is in the picture is unknown. Perhaps he hadn't made his acquaintance until he reached Court Street. Have fun with this one.



Amateur Archeologists Unearth Skeletal Remains at Milton Mill Pond - Startling Findings .....

Diggers scouring the pond for artifacts were startled by the discovery of skeletal remains in early December. Several smaller bones had been discovered early in the fall but were initially ignored. However the discovery of a large pelvis got pulses racing. Was this human? The sheer size of the pelvis ruled this out unless one of Milton's early residents was the size of a sasquatch. With all the bones carefully gathered, work began on reassembly. Using old coat hangers, the skeleton is being painstakingly reconstructed. Early indications from the amateur archeologists point to a forerunner of homo-sapiens, and up until now, considered the missing link in evolution. The specimen has been dubbed homo-milkus as it is believed to have walked on all fours, grazed on wild grasses, and bellowed 'moo'. It is thought to be the common ancestor to both modern man and bovines. Experts at the ROM and in Drumheller are said to be skeptical about the findings, but would not offer on-the-record comments until they have viewed the skeleton. We'll keep you abreast of the developments as they unfold.



STOP THE PRESSES!

Waldie Blacksmith Shop to Receive $75,000.00 From the Ontario Trillium Foundation - A Great Christmas Present

Mandy Sedgwick, chair of the Waldie Blacksmith Shop Restoration Committee, received the good news that MHS's application for a grant had been accepted. Much credit goes to our archivist Gail Richardson for putting together the grant application. Marsha Waldie, it is reported, was quite startled by the news, but immensely pleased. Many thanks go to other members of the Waldie Blacksmith Committee and members of the MHS for their invaluable contributions so far. While it is true that more funds will be needed to complete the project, the $75,000.00 fro the Ontario Trillium Foundation will enable restoration work to commence in earnest. This past fall Tom Murison and Mac Phillips completed installation of shoring towers inside the smithy to ensure its survival over another winter. With the recent heavy snowfalls it was evidently a very wise decision. Good show everyone!

Why am I getting another copy of the Journal?!



Quite simply put, I screwed up. Something went horribly wrong in the copying process. Some of our subscribers will have received two page 9's but no page 6. Ordinarily this would not be a major problem. However, in this case, it would cause some confusion, since page ^ explained page 7 and 8. Most of our readers probably got a proper copy. Unfortunately we just don't know who got what. If your copy was correct please pass this additional copy to someone you think might enjoy it. Perhaps they might like to join the Milton Historical Society. For those who received a jumbled copy please accept my sincere apology. Next time I'll check things a little more carefully before they go out.

John Duignan

P.S. If people need a ride to our meetings please let us know as many of our members would be glad to help out. Remember October's meeting has a Halloween theme. Jim Dills reminded me that no bodies 'ere found in the old jail yard when the County Court House was renovated, so I stand corrected there too. In that case, there might be three ghosts at our meeting!

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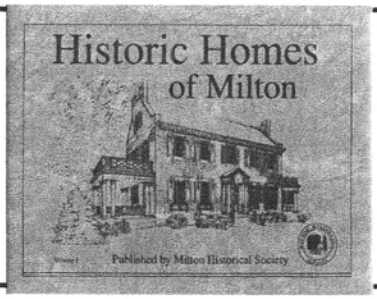


Post card challenge five is shown above. This residential street view was mailed in 1915, but which street is it? The houses are still there so it shouldn't be too hard. The photographer had the habit of leaving his suitcase on the sidewalk in front of where he was taking a picture. Whether he was absentminded or did it on purpose is unknown. At any rate his photos are readily identifiable by the ever present suitcase. The dog in the photo seems rather interested in him. (Or perhaps, in the absence of a fire hydrant, he has his eye on the suitcase?) (John Duignan Post Card Collection)

IN THIS ISSUE:

- HISTORICAL HOMES TOUR
- AN 1858 ORIGAMI PROJECT
- MILTON, DELAWARE
- PIONEER CEMETERY RESTORATION
- POST CARD CONTEST ANSWER
- MILL POND TIME CAPSULE
- HISTORIC HOMES VOL. 2 COMING SOON
- M.H.S. MEETING SCHEDULE
- MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

VOLUME 2



FALL 2000

The Journal
Published by the Milton Historical Society
September 12, 2000





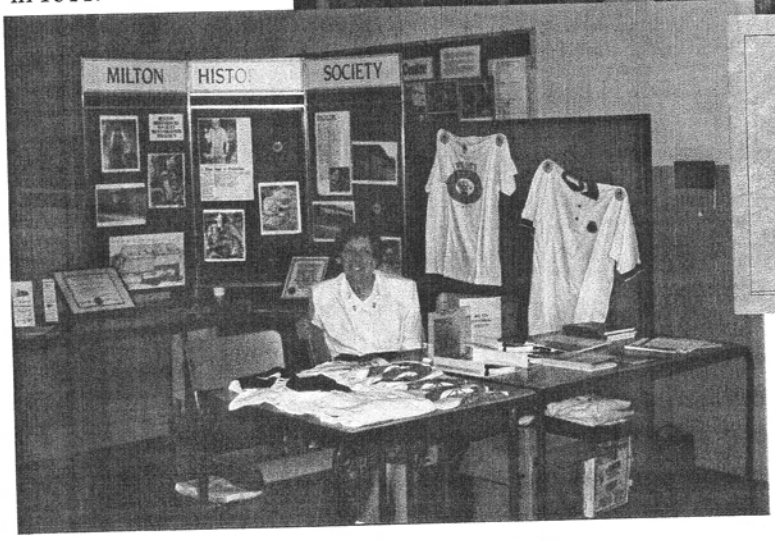


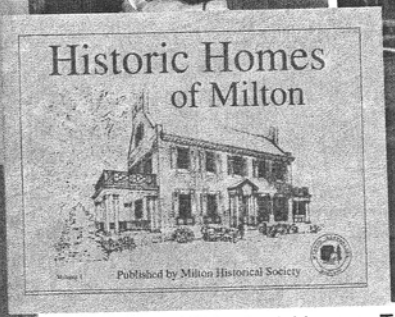
At left, long-time Knox Presbyterian Church member, Adeline Mackay, was on hand to answer questions. Middle, Don Lambert, owner of 79 Martin Street shows the original finish on pocket doors to MHS Researcher Jim Dills. At right, a radiant Gayle Waldie-Brown stands beside the exquisite stained glass window at 79 Martin Street. (photos courtesy of Bruce Carlin and John Duignan)

Below, Treasa Lamb mans the MHS booth at the Renovation Showcase at St. Paul's United Church. At right, Lorrie Ferrante welcomes guests to 226 Queen Street. Far right, Mike Ledwith dressed as Russell Clements, long time Milton postmaster who had 226 Queen Street built in 1911.









This year's Historical Homes Tour on June 10 was a smashing success with over $6000.00 raised for the Waldie Blacksmith Shop restor
Once again the weather was beautiful. Organizer Mandy Sedgwick n
that 275 tour tickets were sold. Line-ups outside of houses well after 4pm attested to the tour's popularity. Organizers and homeowners are to be

HISTORICAL HOMES TOUR continued

congratulated for their hard work. Homes featured this year were 79 Martin Street owned by Don & Marcelle Lambert, 105 Mill Street ow[illegible] by Gerri and Loris Faggion, 199 Queen Street owned by Mandy Segwick-Landry and Bob Landry, 226 Queen Street owned by Robin and Stuart Hill, 246 Pearl Street owned by Roni McWilliam and Steve Murphy and 7781 Tremaine Road owned by Megan Pallett and N. Collins. A special thank you to all of you for opening your homes up this year. They looked fabulous. Knox Presbyterian Church was also on the tour this year. Thanks to Rev. Rod Lewis and staff for participating. New this year was a renovation showcase at St. Paul's United Church. To all the homeowners, organizers and volunteers we extend our gratitude. We couldn't have done it without you. We'll see you next year!

Waldie Blacksmith Shop Garage Sale

This was the first year for a garage sale at the Waldie Blacksmith Shop on May 27th. It was a great success and we would like to thank all those who donated items for the sale. One m[illegible] junk is certainly another's treasure to be sure. I think this will probably become an annual event.

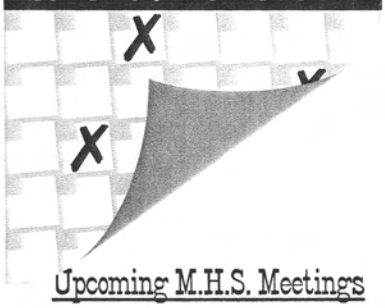
Past M.H.S. Meeting Highlights

April 20, 2000 Margaret Sclorke of Landscape Garten gave a talk about Victorian and heritage garden design. I'm sure all our green thumbs drank in the info and had spectacular gardens this past year.

May 18, 2000 Jim Dills gave a presentation with overheads about Sarah and Victoria Streets. It was a most interesting talk peppered with unusual and amusing anecdotes. Given the night's popularity I 'm sure we'll have Jim do some more streets. Right, Jim?

June 15, 2000 Our pot luck dinner this year was at the home of our Program Director Mirella Marshall at 8350 Fourth Line. After s[illegible]g down to a delicious dinner and dessert area resident and former long-time MPP Jim Snow spoke about the area's history.

Calendar of events



Upcoming M.H.S. Meetings

September 21, 2000 Restoration expert Tom Murison who has been examining the Waldie Blacksmith Shop will present his findings so far. Some of the information will prove very startling. Plan to attend.

October 19, 2000 Our meeting will have a decidedly Halloween flavour to it. Three men were hanged in the jail yard next to Hugh Foster Hall. Two bodies were found during renovations, but where is the third? Perhaps he'll make an appearance. It's ghost night at October's meeting, so bring all your hair raising tales. For skeptics, bring your best pumpkin recipe. (Ghosts tend to get hungry!)

November 17, 2000 Historic lighting will be the night's topic. It should prove enlightening and perhaps electrifying. (The editor shouldn't probably make jokes here having managed to zap himself a few times!) We'll let the pros tell us how to do it properly.

Christmas Pot Luck Time, date and place are to be announced. This year some people wondered if we should alter format a bit and go to a restaurant? We'll be asking your opinions at upcoming meetings. Let us know what you think.

All meetings are at Hugh Foster Hall starting at 8 pm unless otherwise noted.

M.H.S. WHO'S WHO

2000 EXECUTIVE

PRESIDENT - Helen Comber
PAST PRESIDENT - Bruce Carlin
SECRETARY - Vacant
TREASURER - Gloria Brown
MEMBERSHIP - Sue Paul
PROGRAM - Mirella Marshall
WALDIE RESTORATION - Mandy Sedgwick
RESEARCH - Jim Dills
PLAQUE PROGRAM - Marsha Waldie
GENEALOGY - Lois Knight
PUBLICITY - Dorrie Murdoch-Greig
LIAISON - Audrea Lear-Costigan
JOURNAL EDITOR - John Duignan
ARCHIVIST - Gail Richardson,
SPECIAL EVENTS - Bruce Carlin
PUBLICATIONS - Ken Hassard
LACAC LIAISON - Konrad Richter
SOCIAL - Jessie Hamilton
TELEPHONE COMMITTEE - Carolyn Goodall, Lou Bradley

Help Wanted-Our Secretary Position is Open

FREE BOOKS!

Now that I have your attention, starting at our October meeting we will be having our first draw for a book. Those attending the meeting will each receive a ticket entering them in a draw for one of our publications. Volume 2 of Historic Homes of Milton is due out soon so it could be that. I don't play the lottery because of the odds. These odds though, aren't hard to beat! Plan to attend. You could be a winner!

VOLUME TWO HISTORIC HOMES OF MILTON

In time for Christmas we are anticipating the release soon of the second volume of Historic Homes of Milton. Many people have been working hard on this book including Marsha Waldie, Jim Dills, Ken Lamb and Konrad Richter. We've all been waiting for this next installment and I'm sure it will be dandy.

(Hey guys, is that a good enough plug for the book?!)

The Journal
Published by the Milton Historical Society
September 12, 2000



It's a quiet, almost forgotten corner, on the bank of the Sixteen Mile Creek valley, but it's Milton's Pioneer Cemetery on Bronte St. and this fall it got some long-needed and welcome attention. Names like Tock, Pattinson, Turnbull, Dempsey, Moser, Patton, Downie speak now from weathered inscriptions. Thomas Thompson whose hotel still stands on Main St. and Dempsey's who built the property across Main Street are among those remembered in the stones. Their origins were counties of Ireland, shires of Scotland or areas of England. The town's first doctor, James Cobban, is recognized in a now-solid pylon. The first burial, Thomas Harrison in 1824, is recorded on a metal monument as is his widow, Elizabeth, who was the first school teacher and who died 43 years later. The two dozen erect stones, arches, pillars and high-rising pedestals that mark the last resting place of early Miltonians got new foundations and were set solidly upright recently. The Town of Milton undertook the project under the guidance of Doug Thompson and now the cemetery is worth a visit. This fall's major project required substantial new cement foundations under the few remaining vertical stones. Jim Strain's Creative Memorials got involved and shared their restoration skills recognizing the need. Town funding for the substantial foundations brought the whole project to a conclusion. The metal fence, installed as a result of 1928 work of the John Milton Chapter of the I.O.D.E., is still in place after several straightenings. Still sound is the lengthy cement area where stones were re-assembled from a pile at the rear of the property in 1986. Milton Historical Society's Val Grimshaw led the co-operative effort to accomplish that. Discussions with the Historical Soc in 1995 on the foundation work required to save the remaining upright stones was shelved for lack of municipal funds. This year interest on the part of the municipality was renewed and an important part of Milton's history was preserved. (photos courtesy of John Duignan)



ALEX COOKE

Our good friend Alex Cooke is staying at the Heritage House in Guelph. Alex had a little bout of ill health a while back. We're glad to report that he's feeling much improved and had his desk and papers brought to him from Milton. The author of the two volumes of Milton Area Biographies is a real trooper. You can drop Alex a line at Heritage House, 2113 Gordon St., Guelph, N1L 1G7. The phone number is 519-822-2006.

GLOBAL FAMILY HISTORY FAIR 2000
October 14 & 15, 2000

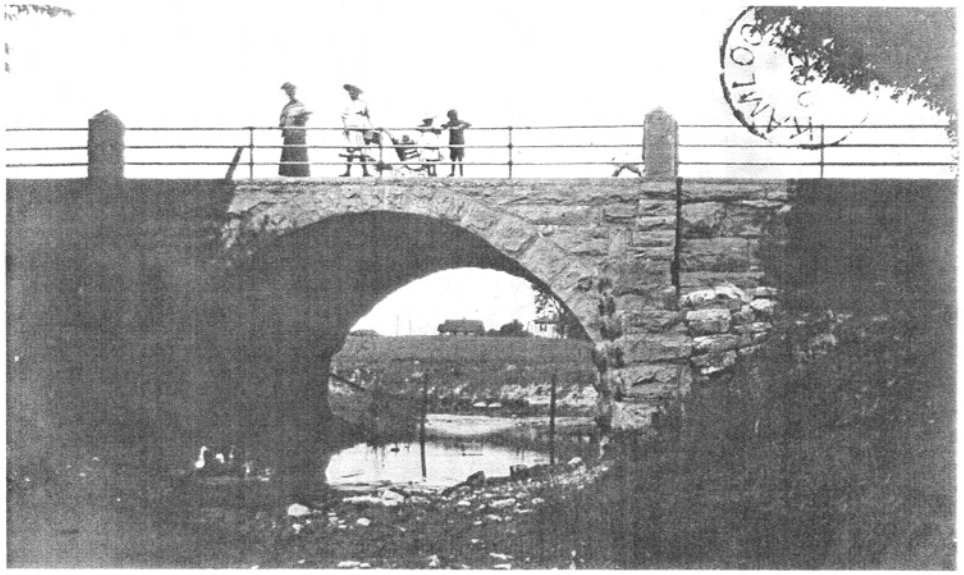
"The second annual Global Family History Fair will be held on the 80 acre grounds of the Country Heritage Park (formerly known as the Farm Museum) in Milton. Terrific speakers, thirty-two workshops, guided tours through authentic buildings, museum access, military re-enactors, costumed interpreters and lots of vendors with new and used books, research materials, maps, archival supplies, software, CDs and much more!"

AS OTHERS SEE US

submitted by MHS member Marie Sutcliffe

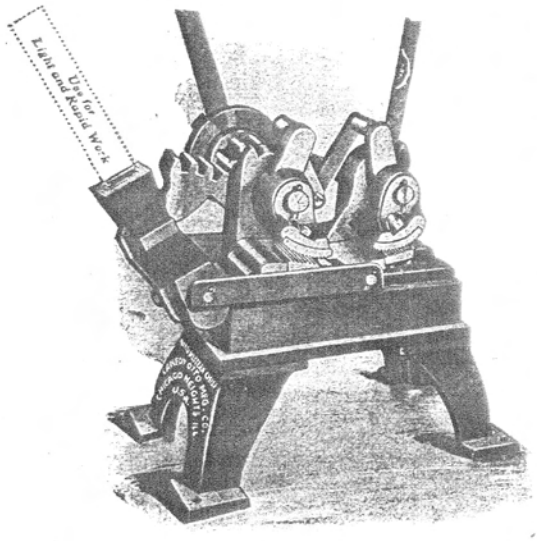
There were the Scots Who kept the Sabbath And everything else They could lay their hands on.
Then there were the Welsh Who prayed on their knees and on their neighbours.
Thirdly were the Irish Who never knew what they wanted But were willing to fight for it anyway.
Lastly there were the English Who considered themselves A self-made nationThus relieving the Almighty Of a dreadful responsibility.
(From the winter issue of "Yesterday's Foorprints", newsletter of the Alberta Genealogical Society)

Milton Post Card Challenge # 4 Answer



Last issue's post card contest was fairly easy. We all knew the bridge crossed the 16 Mile Creek. But where was this photo taken? This card was sent to Kamloops, B.C. on October 7, 1907. The sender proudly notes that this is "a view of the new arch bridge over creek on Main Street". The bridge is just a bit west of Millside Drive. The view is looking north with the C.P. R. tracks in the distance. I didn't even attempt to take a present day view as things have changed so much that there would be little to compare. (Also I didn't feel like taking a bath in the creek - those channelized banks are pretty steep and slippery!) Contest winners will receive a box of china, glass and pottery fragments from the Mill Pond. (As they say, 'some assembly required'.) Jigsaw puzzle enthusiasts will be delighted. The editor quickly tired of trying to piece things together. You get all the pieces I couldn't figure out. If you find you're missing something, just head on down to the pond with your shovel!

THE WALDIE WHATCHAMACALLIT CONTEST #1



What in the world is the gizmo to the left for? The Waldie Blacksmith Shop is full of such perplexing gadgets. At our October 19th meeting at Hugh Foster Hall, Marsha Waldie will tell us what it is. There will be a prize awarded if anyone in attendance can correctly guess what the contraption is or was for. (It sure looks like you could hurt yourself pretty badly if you didn't know what you were doing!)

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I thought readers might be interested to see first hand what many researchers refer to as primary source material. These may include newspapers of the day, personal diaries and correspondence. In this case it is an 1858 letter from Joseph McElroy of Oakville to Edward Martin of Milton, one of the owners of the mill at the time. The John White mentioned in the letter was a Reformer (no relation to today's party) who represented Halton for numerous years as a Member of Parliament before and after Confederation. In the early days letters were folded and sealed with the address written on the back of the letter. While stamps were introduced in Canada in 1851, their use was optional for many years afterwards. Postage could be prepaid or paid by the recipient. In this case postage was three pence. The decimal currency we know today wasn't introduced until 1859. Even after that, currency in common circulation was a combination of British, American and Spanish coins and notes. This is noted in the letter. The letter is post marked July 27, 1858, in Oakville, Canada West, and marked as received the same day in Milton, Upper Canada. Obviously the Milton post office was using an old stamp. Same day delivery! Three pence went pretty far in those days I guess. Although the handwriting is fairly legible I will translate for the reader. Some letters have horrible penmanship, misspelled words and unusual terms or turns of phrases. Some letters I have given copies of to Jim Dills in the hopes he might discern the hieroglyphics. Unfortunately some words have us completely baffled.

The letter to Mr. Martin at Milton Mills, Canada West reads as follows:

"Mr. Martin

Sir

I have the 28th of June forwarded a note on Mrs. Widow Jarvis amt,ing to Eleven dollars and seven york shillings which I traded to Mr. John White for two Barrels flour you will understand that it was forwarded to Mr. White in Toronto he was to send me an order he did not do so but I seen him last friday Evening and he told me that he left an order three weeks ago for me to get it please let me know as soon as this comes to hand if you have instructions to that effect or do you know anything about it if it is for me in Milton I will go for it or if it is convenient I would like to get it at Bronte station

Yours

Joseph McElroy
Oakville, CW
July 26th 1858"

I know I am not great at punctuation, but Mr. McElroy no doubt wins the prize here. Apart from that though, he was much more literate than many letters I have seen. I wonder if Mr. McElroy got his flour? All this trading about with notes, while common for the day, would have been rather nervous. Reading between the lines, I think Mr. McElroy was a bit concerned as well. Page seven and eight are reproductions of the unfolded letter. Readers are invited to test their origami skills to produce the neatly folded letter shown above.

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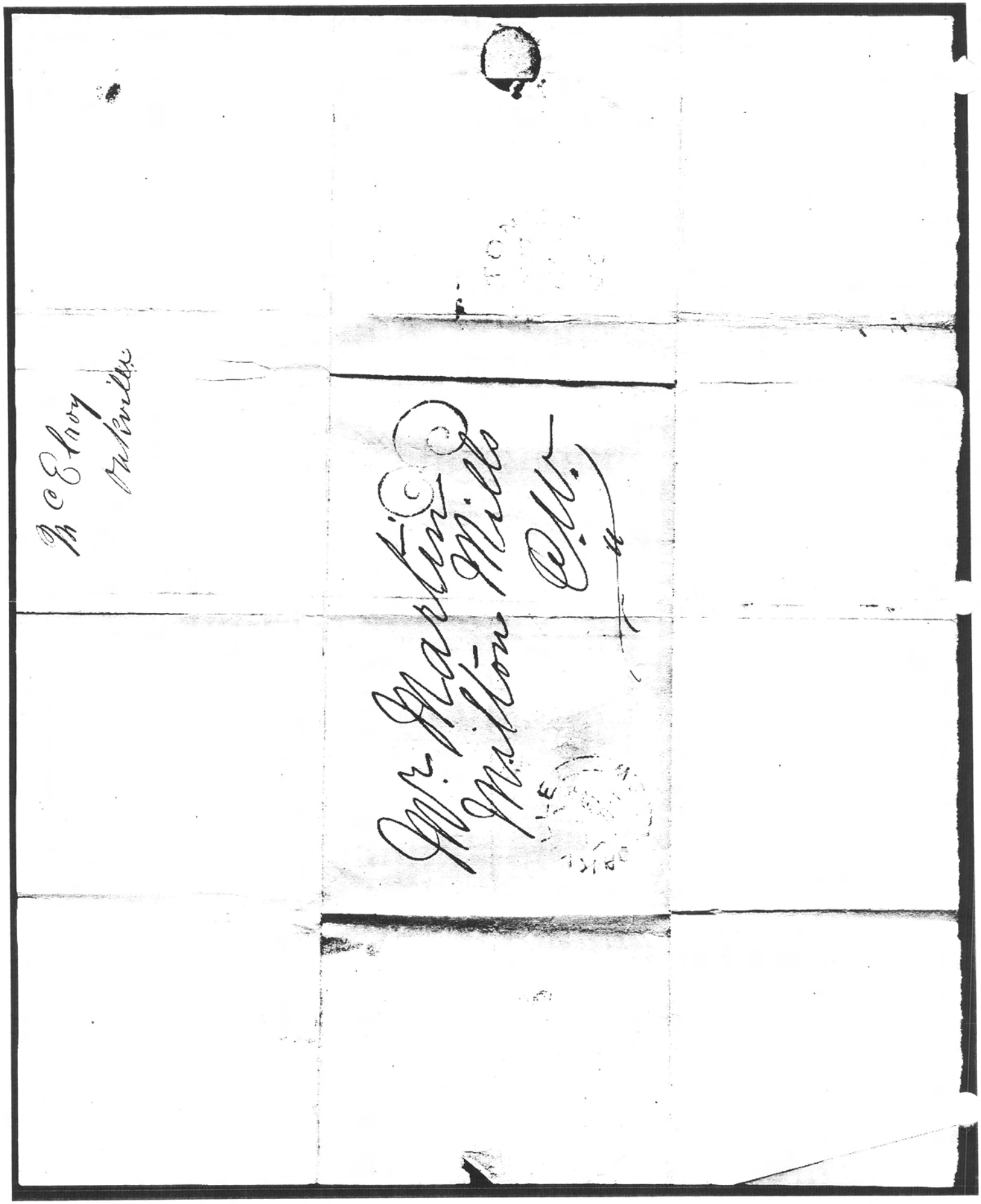
Mr Martin

Sir I have the
28th of June forwarded a note
on Mrs Widow Jarvis amounting to
Eleaven dollars and seven york
shillings which I transfer to Mr.
John white. for two Barrels flour
you will understand that it was
forwarded to Mr. white in Toronto
he was to send me an order he
did not do so but I seen him
last Friday Eveging and he
told me that he left an order
three weeks ago for me to get it
please let me know as soon
as this Comes to hand if you
have instructions to that effect or
do you know anything about it
if it is for me in milton I
will go for it. or if it is
Convenient I would like to get
it at Bronty station

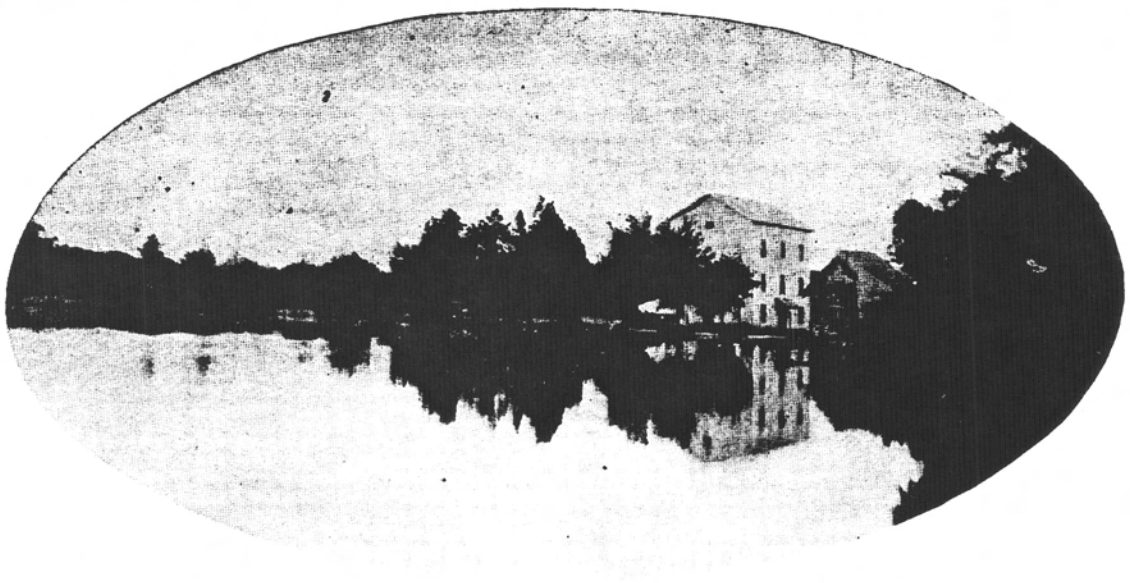
Yours

Joseph McElroy
Oakville C.W.
July 26th 1858

The Journal
Published by the Milton Historical Society

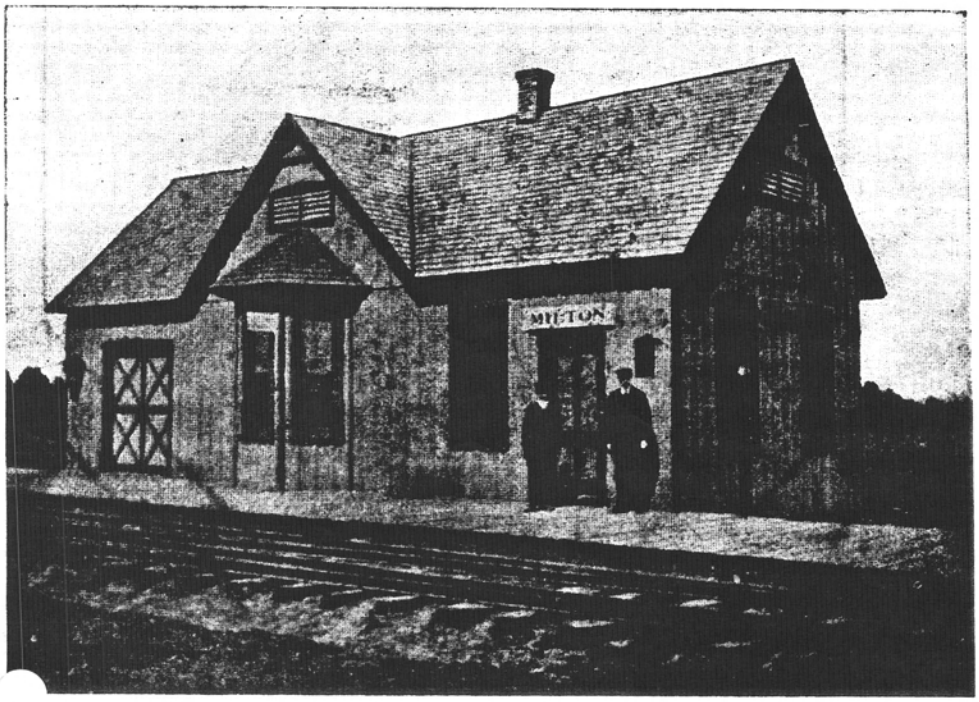


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Mill & Lake, Milton, Del.

Milton Historical Society member, Mike Ledwith, recounted to me a most interesting story a while back which I think our readers will enjoy. As many will recall, Mike was Mayor of Milton during its 100th Anniversary year in 1957. Through his connections as a member of Rotary, the Mayor of Milton, Delaware, was invited to attend our celebrations. He was shown a grand time and was put up at Hawthorne Lodge on Tremaine Road. As a special honour for our guest, Hand Chemicals crafted a special fireworks shell which, when deployed, unfurled a small American flag which floated gracefully to the ground. Heartily impressed, the Mayor invited Mike to Milton, Delaware, where he was returned the favours as an honoured guest. Mike noted that he was made a judge of a colourful pageant. I'm not sure if anyone was dressed as a chicken since Milton, Delaware, at the time was the state's chicken capital. All in all Mike had a great time. His story also ɜ the old editor here a nice segue into Milton post cards. The view above of the mill and lake in Milton, Delaware, could easily pass as Milton, Ontario. The similarity in mill construction is downright eerie. The view below of the railroad station is rather similar to the old CN station that now serves as a tourist information centre on Highway 25.



ailroad Station, Milton, Del.

Milton, which is about 96 miles from Washington D.C., is located on the Broadkill River. First settled by English colonists in 1672 the community finally decided on the name Milton in 1807. Like our Milton the name derived from locals' fondness for the poet John Milton. Originally a ship-building community Milton prides itself as a tourist destination with its many" gracious Victorian and Colonial houses which have been restored to their original splendour" . Milton is also proud of its natural amenities. Along with recreational opportunities along the Broadkill River, there is Wagamon's Pond and Diamond Pond which offer some of the best freshwater fishing in the state. With a population of about 1,417, Milton, Delaware, sounds like a cozy little place much like our own Milton 50 or so years ago.

Milton Mill Pond Time Capsule



Well, dredging is finally underway at Milton's Mill Pond. People passing by the pond this summer marveled at the stand of vegetation that grew up to a height of five and six feet. With the success of all the pick-your-own fruit farms in the area it was thought that the Town of Milton had created a pick-your-own rice paddy. Personally I was half expecting to see Forrest Gump trudging around the pond looking for "Charlie". While 140 years worth of sediment buildup produced a bumper crop, many may ask what else lay hidden in the muck?. Many who know the editor were not surprised to see him ankle deep in the mud surveying the situation. Were there valuable riches being uncovered? (Were there any bodies, I feared?) So far there has been no pot of gold. While there has not been anything of monetary value unearthed, numerous pieces of pottery, glass, china and metal have surfaced. And by pieces I mean pieces, for it seems early Miltonians seemed to discard their garbage wherever they dug a hole. The original size of the Mill Pond of the mid and late 19th century was smaller than what we see today. It is speculated that as the pond silted up, the level of the water was raised to keep a good flow for the mill. Prior to that however, a good portion of the north section of the pond was dry land. In those days there certainly was no garbage pickup as we know it today. What couldn't be burned in the stove was buried in the back yard. As such the pond has yielded a few mini dumps full of discarded and broken household items. From an historical perspective these items give us an insight into the life of earlier Milton residents. For example numerous pieces of plates, soup bowls and a fruit bowl have been identified as The Gothic pattern manufactured by Beech and Hancock, potters in the Stoke-on-Trent area of Staffordshire, England, who operated from 1857 to 1876. Similarly many pieces of pattern glass, and blue willow ironstone can be traced by origin and time period. In effect, there are many little time capsules in the Mill Pond, each shedding a little light on Milton's past. It should prove interesting and enlightening. In the meantime, where'd I leave the Krazy glue?

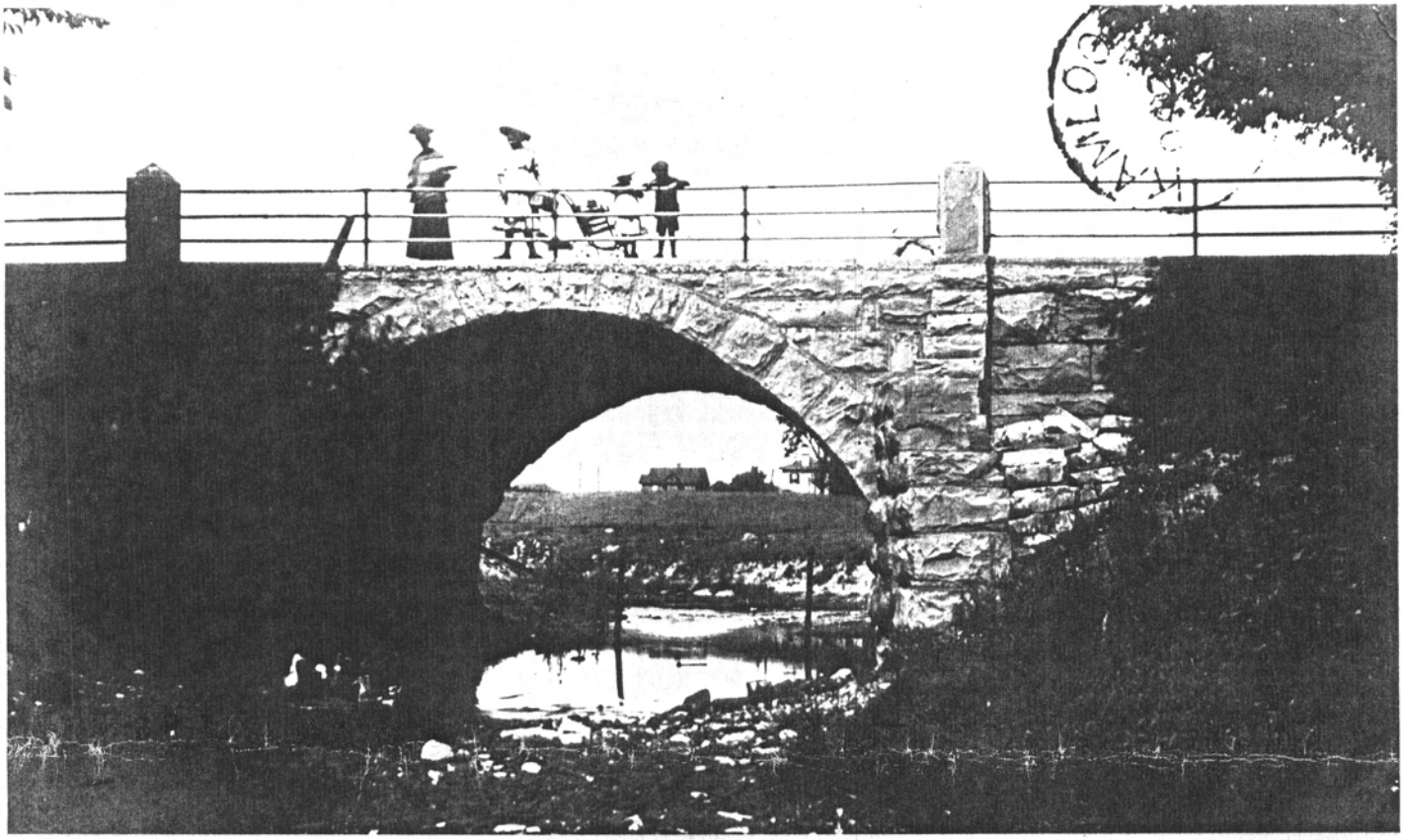
THANK YOU!!!!!
THANK YOU!!!!!
THANK YOU!!!!!

A great big thank you to all those who renewed their memberships for 2000. At $7 for individuals or $10 for families, membership in the Milton Historical Society is a bargain. If you know of anyone who might like to join please call Sue Paul at 878-0657 or write P.O. Box 85, Milton, Ontario L9T 2Y3. Renewing your membership now will ensure that you continue to receive future issues of 'The Journal'. While the labour is free, cost of paper, copying and postage need to be covered to keep this newsletter rolling.

The Journal

Published by the Milton Historical Society

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"A River Runs Through It!" Okay, would you believe a creek? The family on the bridge is certainly proud of Milton's new bridge shown on this card postmarked 1907. The family below the bridge thinks it's just ducky too! It's not much of a challenge to guess that it's the 16 Mile Creek. Post card challenge four is to identify where this bridge was. Good luck. The answer to our last post card challenge is inside. (John Duignan Post Card Collection)

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HISTORICAL HOMES TOUR

June 10, 2000

LIFE IN THE 1500'S

Submitted by Gloria Brown, M.H.S. Treasurer

Life was not as romantic as "Shakespeare in Love" might denote. Here are some realities: before she married William Shakespeare, Anne Hathaway's house was a three bedroom cottage with a small parlour which was used only for company. The kitchen served as the main family room. In this small space lived 27 people. There were no indoor toilets. There was no internal heating except for the kitchen fireplace, whose heat was the byproduct of cooking. (Only the parlours and bedrooms of the wealthy had fireplaces.)

Mother and father shared one of the bedrooms - as heads of the household they were the lucky ones. Anne shared a queen-sized bed in the girls' bedroom with her two sisters and six servant girls. They didn't sleep



lengthwise as we do, but all laid on the bed crosswise. (They were small in stature: women only grew to about 4'8".) The lumpy mattresses were made of straw packed into a sheet. Aside from stems poking through the sheet into tender flesh, the straw was also home to biting insects; thus the phrase, "Sleep tight (e.g. firm, not lumpy), don't let the bedbugs bite."

At least the women had a bed! The men's bedroom was shared by her six brothers and 30 field workers. They didn't have a bed. Everyone just wrapped up in a blanket and slept on the floor.

Most people got married in June. Why? Well, they took their yearly bath in May (enabled by the warm weather), so they were



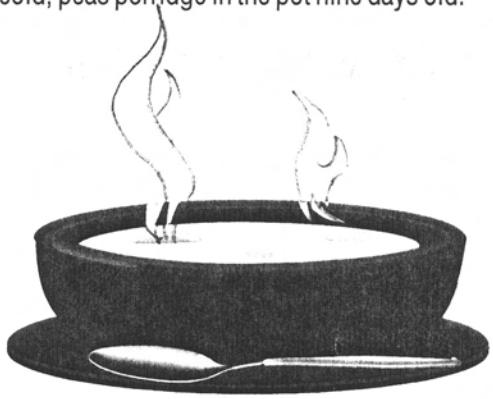
still smelling pretty good. The yearly bath took place in a big tub. The man of the house would get the privilege of the first bath in clean water, then all the other sons and men, then the women and finally the children. Last of all, the babies were bathed. By then the water was so thick you could actually lose something in it. Thus the saying, "Don't throw the baby out with the bath water."

Don't let the charming image of a thatch roof cottage colour the reality of living in one. The roofs were created with thick straw coated with sealing agents of the day, which were hardly airtight. All the dogs and cats, as well as uninvited small animals, such as mice, rats and bugs stayed up on the beams under the thatch. This posed a real problem in the bedroom, where animal droppings would foul the bed. Thus, they built beds with posts at all four corners and stretched a sheet over the top to protect the bed linens. When it rained and the beams got wet, the animals could slip and fall; thus the saying, "It's raining cats and dogs."



The floor in these houses was tramped dirt. Only the wealthy could afford flooring; th the descriptor "dirt poor". The wealthy would have durable slate floors, which would get slippery when wet (especially in the wet and snowy winter months). So they spread husks of grain, called thresh, on the floor to keep their footing. A piece of wood at the entryway kept the thresh from migrating out to the street, and was called the "threshhold".

In the kitchen a big kettle always hung over the fire. Every morning they would light the fire and start adding foodstuffs to stew in the pot (mostly vegetables, only the wealthy got meat regularly). At the end of the day they'd leave the leftovers in the pot, which would get cold overnight; and begin adding more items on top of the leftovers the following day. Sometimes the stewpot would contain items that had been in there for a month! Thus the rhyme, "Peas porridge hot, peas porridge cold, peas porridge in the pot nine days old."



When they could get a hold of some pork, it was a festive occasion. They even had a rack in the parlour where they would bring out some bacon and hang it to show it off to company. That was a sign of wealth, and that a man "could really bring home the bacon". They would cut off a little to share with guests and they would all sit around and "chew the fat".

If you had money, your plates were made out of pewter. Some foods had a high acid content, enabling some of the lead to leac out into the food. This was especially pronounced with tomatoes; so the well-to-do stopped eating tomatoes for 400 years!

LIFE IN THE 1500'S continued

Of course, most people couldn't afford pewter: they used trenchers, a piece of wood with the middle scooped out like a bowl. Washed boards were not a priority; bugs and worms would infest the wood and the humans who ate from it. Thus, the prevalence of "trench mouth".

For travellers who had money to sleep at an inn, the bread was divided according to status. The workers would get the burnt bottom of the loaf, the family would get the middle and paying guests would get the top, or the "upper crust".

Inns also had pewter cups and lead also leached into the cider and ale. The poison would sometimes knock people out for a couple of days. It was not unusual to find a traveller knocked out on the side of the road



and believe him to be dead. Often in the course of getting someone ready to bury, the 'body' would wake up. So the practice evolved to lay the body out for a couple of days on the only available surface, the kitchen table, to see if he would wake up. The family would gather around at mealtimes to eat and drink and wait. That's where the custom of holding a "wake" came from.

Since town cemeteries were old and small, they started running out of places to bury people. So they started digging up some coffins and would re-inter the bones elsewhere and reuse the grave. As they started opening these coffins, they found that one out of 25 coffins had scratch marks on the inside. They realized they had still been burying people alive! So they created the process to tie a string the corpse's wrist and lead it through the coffin, up through the ground and tied to a bell. Someone would have to sit out in the graveyard all night to listen for the bell. That is where the saying "graveyard shift" derived. If the bell would ring they would know that someone was "saved by the bell" or he was a "dead ringer".

Be thankful that your ancestors lived through this era, paving the way for the one that you now enjoy.

Hawthorne Village What's In a Name?

by Jim Dills, M.H.S. Researcher

Mattamy Homes began selling some of the hundreds of new homes which will expand Milton, with a salute to the community's past. The firm is developing Hawthorne Village on Derry Road and historians may take some comfort in knowing something about Robert Hawthorne whose name has been applied to the area. Briefly, Robert Hawthorne was a Milton blacksmith, born in Ireland in 1823. He operated his business in the Commercial and Pearl St. area in 1853 where he built wagons and operated a blacksmith shop. He lived a few doors south on Commercial St. and was a member of the New Connexion Methodist Church. In 1871 he employed 11 people and had a wage bill estimated at $4,400. At that time, interestingly, he would have been a competitor of the Waldie Blacksmith Shop which the Historical Society is currently undertaking to restore.

The Hawthorne family sold its Milton property in 1875 and may have moved to Renfrew County.

Hawthorne Village, in the Mattamy Homes development also includes two other salutes to the past. Two of the neighborhoods in the area are named for Clarke and Beaty families.

Samuel Clarke was an Irishman, born in 1803 and a graduate of Trinity College in Dublin Ireland. He was a farmer in Trafalgar Township, was elected Warden of the Gore District 1847-49 and founded Milton's first newspaper, The Halton Journal, in July 1855. He was also the first secretary treasurer of the Halton Agricultural Society. A flag stop on the CPR track at the Fourth Line of Trafalgar was named Beaty Station until 1912. It recognized the arrival in the area of John and James Beaty when they emigrated from Ireland to Trafalgar in 1820, among the first settlers. William C. Beaty, son of John, was born on the farm in 1828 and at one time farmed 500 acres in the area. His brother James, educated at Palermo, was a lawyer and served as Mayor of Toronto in 1879 and 1880. He was elected M.P. for West Toronto from 1880 to 1887 and was supportive of the establishment of the railway which later had a station named for him. Members of the Beaty family continue to live in the area.

M.H.S. WHO'S WHO

2000 EXECUTIVE

PRESIDENT - Helen Comber
PAST PRESIDENT - Bruce Carlin
SECRETARY - Vacant
TREASURER - Gloria Brown
MEMBERSHIP - Sue Paul
PROGRAM - Mirella Marshall
WALDIE RESTORATION - Mandy Sedgwick
RESEARCH - Jim Dills
PLAQUE PROGRAM - Marsha Waldie
GENEALOGY - Lois Knight
PUBLICITY - Dorrie Murdoch-Greig
LIAISON - Audrea Lear-Costigan
JOURNAL EDITOR - John Duignan
ARCHIVIST - Gail Richardson,
SPECIAL EVENTS - Bruce Carlin
PUBLICATIONS - Ken Hassard
LACAC LIAISON - Konrad Richter
SOCIAL - Jessie Hamilton
TELEPHONE COMMITTEE - Carolyn Goodall, Lou Bradley



West End Grocery

MILTON

IS THE RIGHT PLACE to buy your

FRUIT AND PEELS

for that Xmas cake and plum pudding.

WE HAVE A FULL LINE OF

New Seeded and Sultana Raisins,
Grecian Currants,
Finest Dipped Peels,
New Figs and Dates,
Shelled Nuts,

all of which we sell at lowest prices.

To insure best results use our White Lily Flour and Apple Cider for those mince pies.

D. A. HEWGILL

PHONE 20. MILTON



133 Main Street East (now D.Turnbull C.A.) Interior of the store showing from left Ruby, Albert, Julia and Alma Hewgill. Photo below shows the exterior of the store at the corner of James and Main Street. At left is an ad that appeared in the December 18, 1919 Champion. Photos are courtesy of MHS genealogist Lois Knight.



Hewgill's West End Grocery 1911- 1920. 133 Main Street East

Milton Historical Society's genealogist, Lois Knight, provided the photos and information for this story about her uncle Bert Hewgill's, grocery store at the corner of James and Main. Daniel Albert "Bert" Hewgill was born in 1863 in Toronto Gore, Peel County. He married Julia Hannah Ward in 1894 and they had four children at Vellore, Ontario where Bert kept a grocery store. He bought "West End Grocery" from E.E.Hartley in June 1911. The photo inside the store shows Bert and Hannah with their daughters Alma (1895-1984) and Ruby (1897-1982). On October 28, 1920 the West End Grocery was sold to R.S. O'Neill, a former resident of Fort William. Bert Hewgill purchased the Red and White store Streetsville in 1922 which he owned until his death in 1942. The photo showing the exterior of the Hewgill's was taken by the photographer Henry Sherman in the late 1910's. It appears that Hewgill's also occupied the store next door, which is now the West End Smoke Shoppe at 137 Main. At the time of the photo it was only a single storey addition to 134 Main Street. It's fitting that the West End name continues to this day.

Milton Post Card Challenge # 3 Answer



The Milton Post Card Challenge # 3 was moderately difficult. The biggest clue appears in the upper middle background. The old cupola of the original Town Hall towers over the scene. The dirt road in the foreground is Martin Street. Note the poles on either side of the street. The building described as the 'Evaptor' was located approximately where the west end of Carriage Square is now. The old Post Office has not yet been constructed on the corner of Main and Martin Street. The back of the old frame stores that fronted on Main Street can be seen at right. One of these buildings was moved to the site of the Evaptor when ground was broken for the Post Office in 1914. This was for many years the site of Johnson Brothers garage before they moved to Main and Millside. As to what an Evaptor is, a major clue is the pile next to the left pole. It appears to be a pile of apples. From what I have been told, this building was for drying out fruit, thus 'evaptor'. Whether this building was moved off site or simply demolished is still to be determined. We had many winners of Contest # 3 so we have had to be a little novel in our prize distribution. The prize is a brand new state of the art Edison Diamond Amberola.. Those notified by mail that they have correctly answered Contest # 3 should head on down to Sherman's Studio to collect their prize. Hurry, as there is only one Amberola prize and the contest works on a first come basis.



A recent Sherman advertisement in the Canadian Champion of July 1, 1920. Even if you didn't win hurry on down to Hank Sherman's for a free demonstration. The Amberola comes with a built in speaker (a woofer) and requires no batteries as it is hand cranked. Perfect for picnics or if you don't have electricity yet. Contest # 4's prize could be another Amberola, so keep playing.

Just Hear The Edison Amberola

and make a careful note of its great superiority over many other phonographs or talking machines. If you will do this we feel confident that your choice when buying a phonograph will be the Edison Diamond Amberola.

You can get the widest range of music on the Edison Amberola.

3,500 Selections

to choose from, covering every class of music.

Edison Amberolas from $62 up.

Come to our store and let us demonstrate the Edison Amberola to you.

Sherman's Studio

MAIN ST. - - MILTON

16

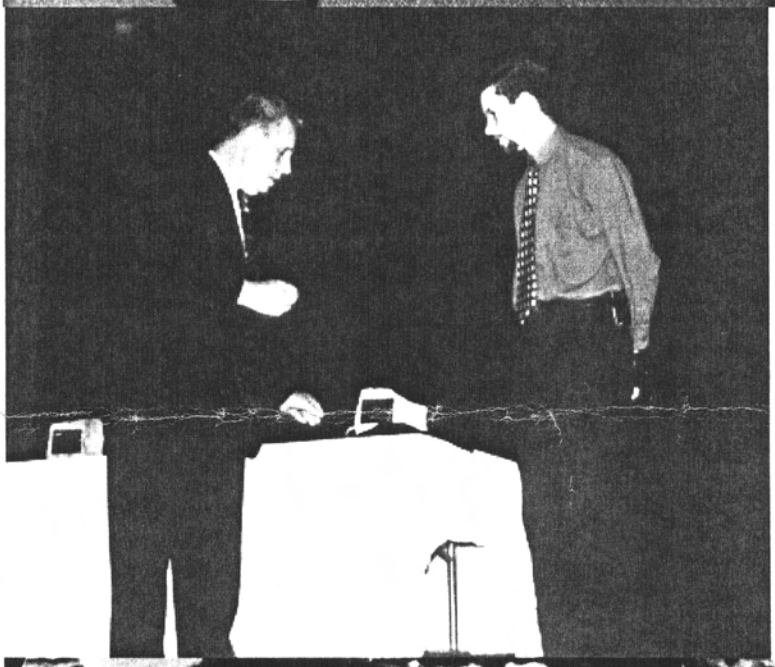


Milton Heritage Awards 2000

Hats off to Bruce Carlin, M.H.S.'s Special Events Coordinator for another bang up job. This year held in the auditorium of Milton District High School, the awards program was well attended and very entertaining. Many thanks to those M.H.S. members who lent a hand as usual. The audience really got into the spirit of the Jacqueline Smith Highland Dancers who performed between the award presentations given out by the Milton Historical Society and Heritage Milton-LACAC. The M.H.S. awards were presented to the following: John Simpson and Cindy Lunau representing the Ebenezer Cemetery Board for restoration of the Pioneer Cemetery; Educational Award to Debbie Boycott's grade 2/3 class from Brookville Public School for their Family Heritage Treasure Boxes; Visual Arts Award to Cogeco's Sandy French for producing the video, "A Different Time-Milton's Victoria Park" narrated by Jim Dills; and Writing Award to John Duignan for articles in the Milton Downtowner and M.H.S.'s 'The Journal'.

LACAC awards went to: Bob Landry and Mandy Sedgwick-Landry for Improvements to a Non-designated Historic Building for their home at 199 Queen Street; David Curk for In-fill Development Sensitive to an Historical Neighbourhood for the senior's building at 86 Ontario St.S.; and St. David's Presbyterian Church in Campbellville, the award for Improvements Made to a Designated Heritage Building for the recent addition to their church.





Above: Grade 2/3 class from Brookville Public School. Left: Cogeco's Sandy French receiving award from Mayor Gord Krantz. Below: A very unusual tombstone found Ebenezer Cemetery. (Photographs courtesy of Bruce Carlin & Elizabeth Norrington.)





Farm Museum is now Country Heritage Park

A March press release announced a new name and logo for the Farm Museum, formerly the Ontario Agricultural Museum. The new name, Country Heritage Park, it is felt will appeal to a larger segment of the population, particularly

A Farm & Country Experience
Country Heritage Park

urban residents. The new strategy unveiled is to allow visitors to experience farm and country life first hand. The press release also noted that revenues were up 17.3% over 1998. With the numerous activities scheduled at the site, along with the corporate partnerships already in place, it is felt that the future of the Country Heritage Park looks promising.

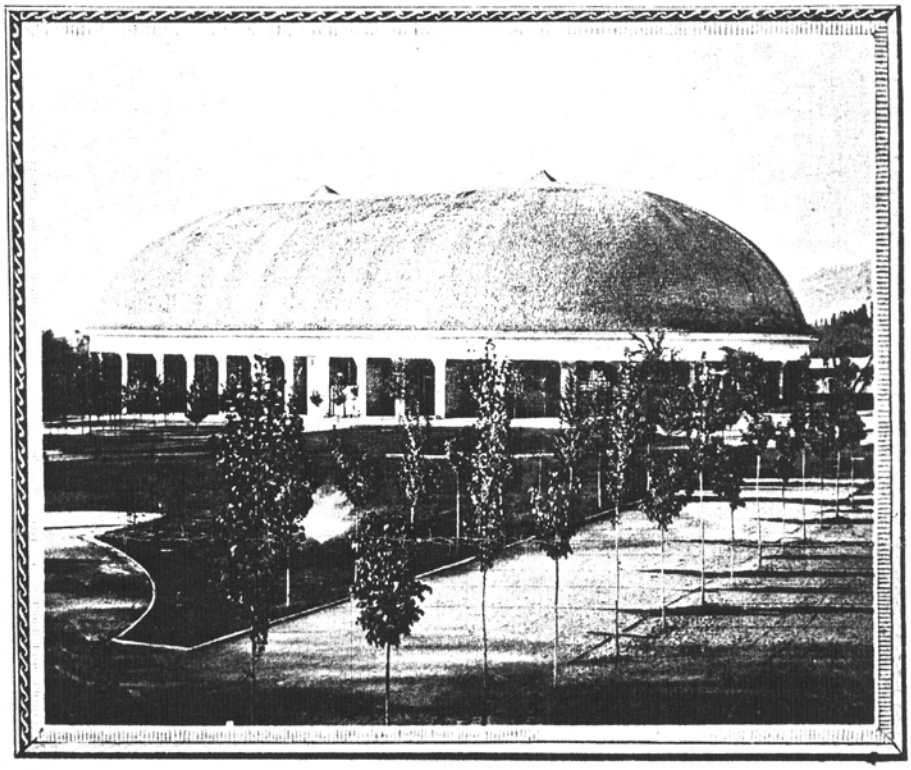
Jean Butts-An Appreciation

by Marjorie Powys

Jean Logie Butts was born at the Butts Farm, Lowville on August 26th, 1920, the only child of Burdge Gunby Butts and Florence (Moore) Butts. She and other friends from the Lowville farming community rode together in an old car to Milton High School. Jean trained as a nurse at Henderson General Hospital, Hamilton. She worked at the twelve bed Stevenson Clinic on Martin Street, Milton, the Oakville Trafalgar Memorial Hospital and the Vancouver General Hospital where she took post graduate studies in obstetrics.

When the new Milton Hospital opened in 1959, Jean became head nurse in the obstetrics department. She continued in that position until her retirement in 1983. In her retirement years, Jean enjoyed volunteer work with the Red Cross and the Halton Regional Museum, and lots of travel within Canada and overseas. Jean leaves a host of colleagues, friends and family members who remember her for her competence, her caring for the needs of others, her straightforward honesty and the constancy of her life.

A service in the celebration of Jean Logie Butts, August 26, 1920-January 28, 2000 was held at St. Paul's United Church.



MORMON TABERNACLE.

Milton-Salt Lake City Update - Catherine Racey Young

M.H.S. Genealogist, Lois Knight, has turned up the following in her latest research on the marriage of Kate Racey to Colonel J. Morris Young. Part of this research is based on work done by Lois' predecessor, Alex Cooke, in his book' Milton Area Biographies'.

The influential Racey family came to America in 1805. Thomas Racey (1791-1881) was married in 1825 to Helen Priscilla Nelles (1804-1888) at Grimsby, Ontario. She also came from a very influential family; the Honourable Abraham Nelles was her father and memeber of the U.E.L..

In 1833 Thomas became Land Registrar for Wentworth and Halton County. When the counties separated in 1853 he became Registrar for Halton County where he served until his death in 1881. He and Helen had five children and lived in Milton from 1853. Four members of the family are buried at St.Stephens Church Cemetery in Hornby because Grace Anglican Church in Milton did not have a cemetery. Colonel J. Morris Young was born in 1833 and in 1871 married the youngest daughter of Thomas Racey, Frances Walcott Racey (1847-1887). She was buried at Hillsborough, New Mexico where

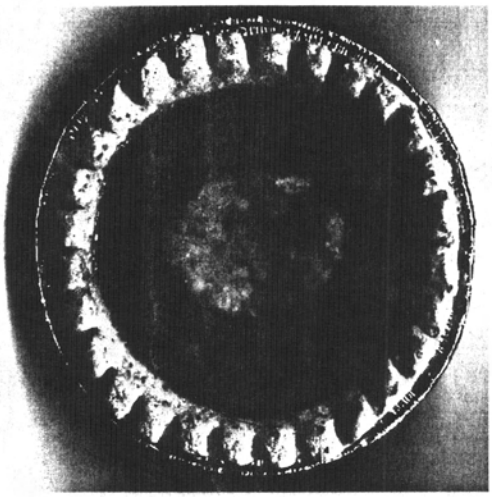
Milton-Salt Lake City continued

Young was a lawyer. He was also a Colonel in the 5th Iowa Volunteer Cavalry during the American Civil War. He married Catherine Racey (1836-1926), the eldest daughter of Thomas Racey in 1891 in Woodstock, Ontario, and they moved to Salt Lake City where they lived until his death in 1906. She then moved to Toronto and lived there until her death in 1926.

Lois notes that the family tree of Brigham Young is so large as the result of so many marriages that it is an almost impossible task to verify whether Colonel Young is related. Further research is being carried out by the Church of Latter Day Saints. The case has been sent to Salt Lake City so we should find out hopefully one way or another. It certainly is an intriguing story. Lois thinks that Colonel Young was probably a relative of Brigham Young which is what the Editor rather much concurs with. However, as all genealogists know, you need proof in writing and from two different sources in order to make any conclusions. We just need to find the smoking gun. And this may be incredibly difficult because Brigham was such a busy fellow!

It is also interesting to note that in the Champion of 1868 there was a report that five women from England had arrived in Salt Lake City to become wives of Brigham Young.

Christmas Party



Marjorie Powys' Mincemeat Tart

December 16th was our Christmas pot luck at Halton Regional Museum. The evening was filled with good food and many interesting memories of Christmas past contributed by members. A tour of the museum topped off the night.

New Year's Day Levee 2000

At right, the cake celebrating the year 2000 before being demolished by hungry guests. Below, Audrea Lear-Costigan in period dress greeted visitors. Photos courtesy of Konrad Richter & Audrea Lear-Costigan.



The New Year's Day Levee had a good turnout with over 100 people signing in. The spring-like day no doubt brought many out to view the many historical displays featuring past, present and future. Audrey Brush won the Millennium coin set for entering her prediction for the future.

Our meeting on January 20 focused on the history of Milton District Hospital. Former board members Marjorie Powys and Mike Ledwith spoke of their experiences as board members. They also covered the birth and growth of MDH over the years. Mike recalled for the audience that prior to MDH there had been the Stevenson Clinic on Martin Street which served the community admirably in spite of the building's s' comings. Bed ridden patients who needed to be moved from one floor to the other had quite a ride. Strapped in a stretcher, patients were stood up on end to navigate the stairwell. The Clinic served the

community well but the opening of the new hospital was greeted with relief by Miltonians. Mike and Marjorie noted the community's deep support for MDH through the years from the fo ing through successive expansions with impressive fund raising campaigns. Allan Halls, senior VP of the newly formed Haltonhealthcare Services spoke about the hospital's present situation and future prospects. He covered the recent amalgamation of the hospital with Oakville Trafalgar and gave his predictions for future growth.



Top photo: The angelic members of the MHS preparing for choir practice.
Middle photo: Berri Smith leading his musicians through some classical selections.
Bottom photo: Ad Woodley relating the history and amusing stories about St.Paul's.
Photos: courtesy of Bruce Carlin

February 17 - St. Paul's United

The February meeting began with Berrie Smith and fellow musicians entertaining the gathering with some selections. The mix of acoustics, architecture and the classical works set the tone for the night. Jim Dills and Ad Woodley were the night's speakers. Having done a history of the church already, Jim spoke about the significance of various aspects of the architecture, particularly about the splendid stained glass windows. Long time church member Ad Woodley recalled his first impression of the church as a young farm boy. He thought it sure would hold a lot of hay! Ad noted that this was the second church constructed on this site. He recounted the history of the original Methodist Church, the Saddle Preachers, and the tual establishment of the church in Milton. Ad had some amusing stories about the trials and tribulations various caretakers had in keeping the church warm enough for the congregation in the cold winters. One minister was finally convinced that the church heating needed some serious upgrading after the caretaker, covered from head to toe with soot, paraded up one aisle and down another during a Sunday service. Long time caretaker Cliff Houston has similar stories. It would very often take all night to warm the church up for Sunday. It was certainly a very informative and entertaining evening.

MILTON PUBLIC LIBRARY

March 16-The History of Milton Public Library

Head librarian Leslie Fitch was the featured speaker. She brought along many old documents including book catalogues and subscriber lists. Her talk began with the founding of the Mechanics Institute in 1855, the forerunner of the current library. The institutes were typically the creation of the leading members of the community and relied for funding on membership dues. It was not until 1921 that Milton got its first public library. For years it was located in the basement of the old Town Hall which was hardly ideal because of the annual spring floods. The books escaped to drier turf with the library's relocation to a Main Street storefront in the mid 1960's. The library did not get its own building until 1974 when it opened its doors on the former site of the Bruce Street School. As to what the future holds, Leslie informed the audience that the library had just about out-grown its current building and it looked as though a new site and structure were required. Accompanying Leslie was fellow librarian Myra Gibbs. The display set up was most interesting with particular crowd attention spent poring over the many historical library documents.



Upcoming M.H.S. Meetings

April 20, 2000-Margarete Schlorke of Landscape Garten speaks on Victorian and heritage garden design. Hugh Foster Hall 8:00 pm.

May 18, 2000-Presentation of historic photographs of various Milton street scenes. Hugh Foster Hall 8:00 pm.

June 15, 2000-MHS pot luck dinner at Mirella and Jim Marshall's farm home, 8350 Fourth Line. Mirella will give a history of the Aikens' Family Homestead. Time to be announced.



Editor Note: Submissions and suggestions for articles are most welcome. They will eventually wind up here. Since the old editor here is not the world's best typist it would help greatly if articles were in electronic format. Address is P.O. Box 85, Milton, Ontario L9T 2Y3.

GARAGE SALE MAY 27

WALDIE'S BLACKSMITH SHOP MILTON 1865

Hey folks! Don't miss this event. MHS members are bringing their treasures to be sold off in aid of the Waldie Blacksmith Shop restoration. Location will be on James Street close to the Shop. Who knows what there will be!



Historic Homes Tour ...

Presented by

Milton Historical Society

Saturday
June 10, 2000,
10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

You will be welcomed at seven properties including six homes built between 1851 and 1911 and Knox Presbyterian Church, dedicated in 1891

PLUS New this year

For great home ideas free admission to

Renovation Showcase

at St. Paul's United Church,
123 Main St. Milton – 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

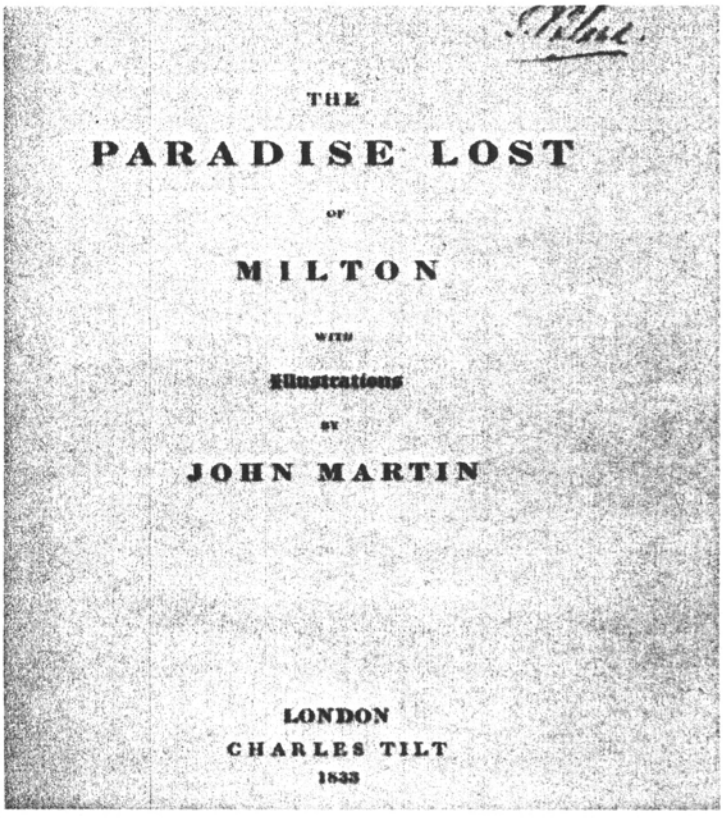
Tickets $15 and available at:

Bergsma's, Kalena Flowers, From Our Farm, Harris Stationary, Global Genealogy, Delacourt's, Peggy's of Milton, Jo'Leen's, Vincent's Art and Antiques, Campbellville





This piece should probably be titled 'Another Milton' as there are many other Miltons in Canada and the United States. I know that someone once said that 'comparisons are odious' but I find them interesting and perhaps instructive. In a previous issue of the Journal we had a brief glimpse of Milton, Nova Scotia. Some similarities were downright eerie. The two souvenir books above are interesting when compared. The mill figures prominently in both towns' history. While our Milton grew up around Martin's Mill, and the community was for a time known as Martins Mills, it derived its name not from a corruption of Milltown but from the poet John Milton. Milton, Pennsylvania, on the other hand, was named for the mill on the Susquehanna River that flows through the community. The slant on things is a bit different in the books. Our book concentrates heavily on our history while Milton, Pa.'s book is shorter on history and more development oriented. It might be the time lag between the publications. Or maybe it's the difference between Americans and Canadians. Their 'spy' or 'traitor' is likely our U.E.L. hero. I'll let you know more as I get into the book further. Of further interest is a page at right from one of John Milton's books. As many will be aware our Milton got its name because the Martins' favourite poet was John Milton. It's rather interesting that a John Martin did the illustrations for this book.. Hmm, I wonder?



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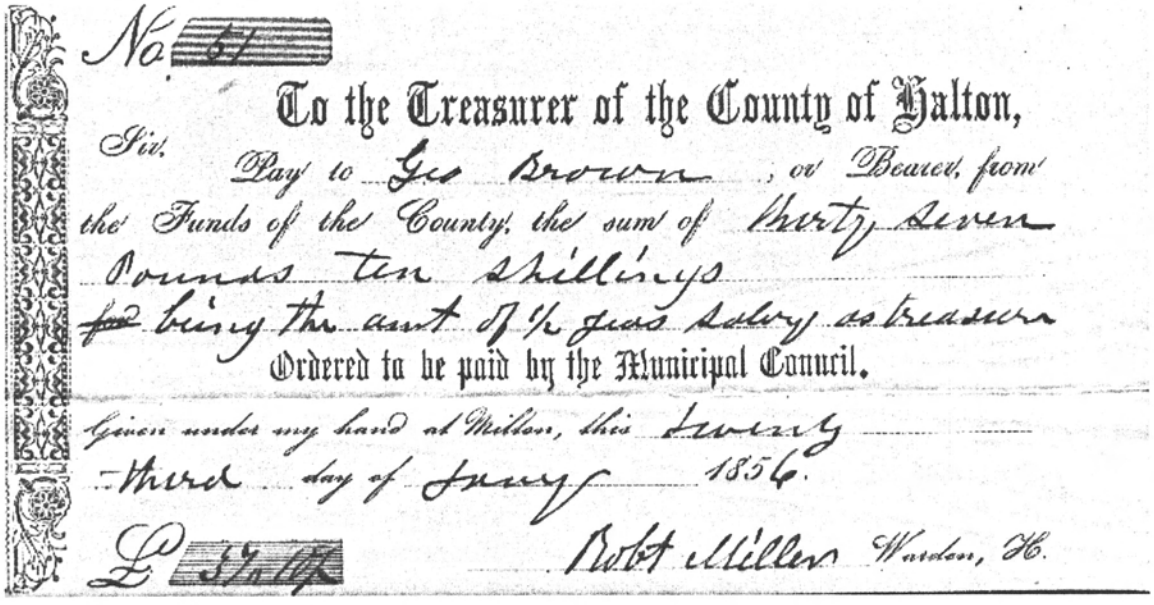
This scene was common on Saturday April 1st as distraught Miltonians lined up to pay their last respects to the Mill Pond. It was the second disaster to hit Milton in as many years with the collapse of the Waldie Blacksmith shop on the same date last year.

Milton Mill Pond Update - April 1

by Joshua Muckraker

Miltonians were shocked and deeply saddened by the news announced in a rare Saturday, April 1st, press release that after several tests of the Mill Pond sediment there was an insurmountable problem. Numerous tests were conducted by different laboratories which all showed heavy traces of an exotic element of unknown origin. Most experts were baffled. The identity of the mysterious substance was discovered only by accident when a laboratory technician fainted and was rushed to hospital. The unidentified man upon regaining consciousness complained of nausea, loss of x-ray vision and the inability to fly. His acute allergy to kryptonite solved the mystery of the unkn element. This scuttled plans to use the sediments on agricultural lands as a soil amendment because not only would they impair the growth of lettuce and wheat crops but leave the Earth vulnerable and imperil truth, justice and the American way among other things. With this in mind it was decided that the Mill Pond should be filled in.

Hey Folks, Have You Renewed Your Membership for the Year 2000??



No. 67

To the Treasurer of the County of Halton,

Sir, Pay to Geo Brown, or Bearer, from the Funds of the County, the sum of Thirty Seven Pounds ten Shillings for being the amt of ½ yeas salary as treasurer

Ordered to be paid by the Municipal Council.

Given under my hand at Milton, this Twenty third day of January 1856.

Robt Miller Warden, H.

At $7 for individuals or $10 for families, membership in the Milton Historical Society is a bargain. If you know of anyone who might like to join please call Sue Paul at 878-0657 or write P.O. Box 85, Milton, Ontario L9T 2Y3. Renewing your membership now will ensure that you continue to receive future issues of 'The Journal'. While the labo free, costs of paper, copying and postage need to be covered to keep this newsletter rolling.