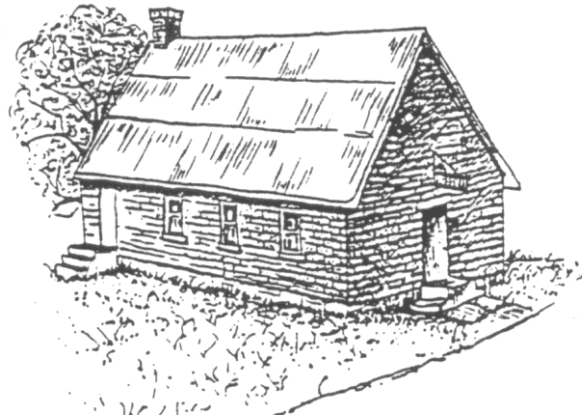


## **THE GOULBOURN NEWS**



**Produced by: The Goulbourn Township Historical Society (GTHS)**

**Issue #1-June 1998**

### **MUSEUM NOTES**

**Donna Keays-Hockey, Curator**

The Goulbourn Museum opened for the season on Sunday, May 31. This year's exhibits include a one room school house display, as well as a display of World War 1 artifacts. These are primarily from the Black Watch Battalion. Also, a number of war letters written by soldier Sefton Stewart to his family back home in Richmond, are on display.

We had approximately forty people visit the Museum on opening day. This seems to be about the same number of visitors we have had on opening day in previous years. We had hoped for a better turnout since we had excellent coverage in both the Stittsville News and in the Sunday Best column of the Ottawa Citizen. Perhaps, the storm watch for the Ottawa area, on Sunday, had something to do with the lower than expected numbers. Thanks go to John Curry, who gave an excellent talk on the school sections of Goulbourn.

Barry Roberts, a volunteer, and myself have spent a considerable amount of time arranging artifacts in the Annex building. They are now divided into broad subject categories and placed together on the shelves. Eventually we will catalogue each item with a shelf number, so it can be easily retrieved. Next, we intend to arrange the photographic collection, in

a manner that allows for easy retrieval and protects the photograph. This collection is probably the Museum's most valuable asset.

A small reference collection has been set up in the Annex building for genealogical research, as well as for general inquiries about the history of the township. A number of reference books are available for consultation; these include local history, the graveyard studies and some genealogical information. A number of assessment rolls are available, but as these are fragile, they are not located in the reference area.

We have seen a tremendous amount of interest from the public in the area of genealogy. We also receive a large number of inquiries concerning local history. This is an area that the Museum could expand upon, as it provides a valuable resource for the community.

We continue to have school groups come to visit the Museum. They often combine their visit with a graveyard tour. The two events work well together as they both provide relevant historical information on the township.

Bee Griffiths and I gave a talk at Holy Spirit School for one hundred and fifty students. We believe it went well and we are always surprised at just how responsive the students are to these talks. We have to allow a rather large allotment of time for their questions and comments.

John Curry, Anton Wytenburg and myself have attended a large number of Canada Day planning sessions. The Historical Society colouring contest has been placed in the local papers. On July 1, I will be running a historical treasure hunt in the Village Square Park. This seemed to work well last year. I hope to have Bee Griffiths and Virginia Notley to assist with this event.

We have also arranged to borrow a tent from the township so that the Historical Society can set up a table and sell books and other items. The tent will provide us with some shade. We will be looking for some volunteers to work at the table. As well, I would like to set up a small craft area with some historical pictures for children to colour.

We will be looking for volunteers to come to the Museum on Sunday afternoons, over the course of the summer. It is a good idea to always have

two people at the Museum. It is obviously safer and as well allows one person to help researchers or retrieve items on the Annex side. As well, members of the Historical Society tend to be very knowledgeable in township history and genealogy. They quite often provide Museum visitors with interesting information or leads on their research inquiries. It is, therefore, very useful to have Historical Society members at the Museum during the operating hours.

## **LOOKING BACK**

Did you know.....

Jane Barrett's new book "Daughter of the Regiment" is being specially made available to us (GTHS) from Mrs. E. Vanghan and that any extra copies will be for sale. The book is about Maria Hill, one of Early Richmond's most interesting settlers.

(GTHS Newsletter October 1977)

Did you know.....

That Richmond's 160th Birthday was in 1978.

(GTHS Newsletter November 1977)

Did you know.....

That St. Philip's Roman Catholic Church, Richmond, has all its records from 1836 to 1969 on microfilm at the Public Archives of Canada. St. Claire's of Dwyer Hill, ("Goulbourn Chapel") has similarly safeguarded its history, with records from 1891 to 1969 also available at the P.A.C.

(GTHS Newsletter November 1977)

## **HISTORICAL SOCIETY MEETING, May 28, 1998**

Special guests were Dennis and Marg Paproski, who provided an interesting talk on their trip to China. They had some excellent video footage to accompany their discussion. John Brummell of the "Stittsville News" compiled an article describing the evening presentation, and we have included it here.

**Including Great Wall and Beijing**

**Dennis and Marg Paproski conduct tour of China at Historical Society meeting.**

Members of the Goulbourn Township Historical Society and guests were treated to a personal tour of such places as Beijing, the Great Wall, Tienanmen Square and the Forbidden City in China at a meeting in the council chambers of the Goulbourn municipal offices at Stanley's Corners last Thursday.

Welcomed by Historical Society president Anton Wytenburg, the tour guides for the trip were Dennis and Margaret Paproski of Richmond who paid a visit to China in April of this year.

Having recently returned from a trip to India and Nepal, Mr. Paproski described themselves as ardent travellers since he retired six years ago.

Through the use of photographs, souvenirs and an hour-long video shot during their trip, the Paproskis took their audience on a two-hour tour of China.

"When you talk about China, you're talking about a lot of space", began Mr. Paproski as he pointed out through the use of a map that despite travelling by plane up to two hours each between major cities, they really only explored one corner of the world's third largest country.

They began their trip with a visit to the more than 600 year old "Forbidden City" in Beijing. Mr. Paproski recounted how almost immediately upon arrival, the Chinese International Tourism System hustled their tourist party off to Tienanmen Square for their first stop on their almost three-week tour.

Through the use of the video, Mr. Paproski led the audience on a tour of the Square which houses the "Great Hall", former chairman Mao's "Tomb" and the entrance to the ancient "Forbidden City".

After visiting the city of Shanghai, China's commercial capital, Mr. and Mrs. Paproski boarded a cruise boat that took them down the Yangtse River. Of special interest to them was sailing through the "Three Gorges Region" where the Three Gorges Dam is to be built early in the next century. The Dam, a major world undertaking in which Canada is involved will help change China's dependency on coal as a means to generate hydro-electric power.

Near the end of their almost three-week trip, they visited the city of “Xiang”, capital of the first Emperor.

It was there that Mrs. Paproski said that she found the street markets selling “marvellous” produce. She also stated that she was impressed with the architecture of the city, saying it was “an esthetically pleasing blend of the old and new.”

Ending their trip with a return to Beijing. Mr. Paproski summed up the experience for the audience by saying that the two of them “were struck by the sense of optimism” that they found existed in the country. Both heartily agreed that they would not hesitate to pay a return visit to China again some day.

The evening ended with a question and answer period and a thank you by Mr. Wytenburg on behalf of the Goulbourn Township Historical Society as he presented Mr. and Mrs. Paproski with some gifts. A social hour followed the meeting.

### **A LITTLE PIECE OF HISTORY**

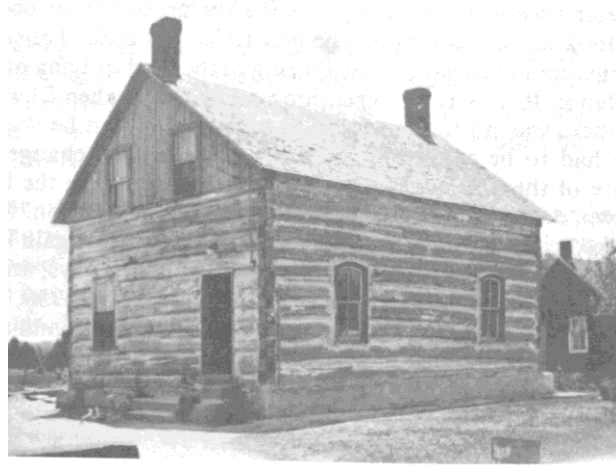
This excerpt is taken from the book “Farms and Families”. This collection was compiled by the Tweedsmuir Committee of the Stittsville Women’s Institute, whose intention was to preserve local heritage. The date at the heading of the article indicates the time when it was added to their collection.

“Farms and Families” is no longer in print and it is somewhat difficult to get a copy. We have decided to include one of the local history stories from the book, as it provides interesting reading.

A small notation in the beginning of “Farms and Families” states “this material may be used, reprinted or quoted provided that credit is given to the source.”

1978

## THE DELAHUNT'S LITTLE LOG HOUSE



The Delahunt's home beside the Carp Road, built about 1871

Since we moved to our little log house at 214 Carp Road in Old Stittsville, many people have stopped at our door, looking for a meal or a bed, or a trip into town. It brings to mind the poem we learned in school. I can recall only the last line, “Just let me live by the side of the road and be a friend to man”.

All I need to do is forget the cares and worries of to-day, year 1978 and let my mind return to that day, Carp Fair 1951, when we arrived with the last of our furniture on a pick-up truck, our three children and a cat. The house felt like home in spite of broken windows which we stuffed with pillow cushions, etc. to keep out the cold and keep in the cat. I will have to describe this house from my point of view. There were two rooms, one upstairs, one downstairs and the cellar. To go into detail could make quite a story. The wooden stairs going up were slightly better than a ladder, no hand rail. From upstairs a rather scary picture, as one views this gaping hole in this one room, scary because of a young daughter who delighted in running around and around this hole.

Other little joys were not only watching but being aware of wind blowing up from the basement through cracks in the floor. As soon as Charles was away to work, I carried water from the neighbours, Mr. and Mr. Milton Potter. After heating it on the wood stove, I armed myself with mop and pail and tried to pick up the dust which threatened to choke us. The dust was the residue of gyproc wallboard that had been piled in one corner.

I began my mopping but it will suffice to say I used more than six pails of water and never wiped up one drop. The boards were so dry they acted like a sponge. It became a daily chore trying to wash, or to get enough water on the floor so that I could eventually clean it properly. I could enlarge on many things which are to us memories, but probably not of any concern to readers, such as being the proud owners of four or five chairs with no bottoms in them. This was the first job, to put bottoms in our chairs. We still have one left that didn't go into the discard with a very unique seat. There is only one like it in all of Carleton County, or perhaps in Ontario itself. Viewing our "estate" on Sunday morning, I found I could wash windows, as the banking around the house came up to the bottom of the windows. The back yard was a jungle of burrs, weeds and harness; junk, but a treasure house for two young boys who had a great time making trails through it.

Our little old shack out back, was one of which on one would ever care to have pictures, but it was all we had. I know for myself I waited until after dark to make my visit and certainly not when there was traffic going by. However armed with boxes and nails, I managed to at least get some privacy. Our well was fixed and as soon as possible we had a clothesline established. We had managed to have the house wired before we moved in but we did have to wait for a while before the hydro was turned on, at Hallowe'en. During which time we used coal-oil lamps, wash board, old sad iron, etc. to do the many household chores. It was indeed a happy day when the hydro was turned on. The story of those first few days, weeks and months in the house are to me cherished memories, but it would take pages to relate it all.

The boys walked to Stittsville to the two-roomed school. Our daughter was only twenty months old and was my constant companion during the day. Charles, working for McCoy-Bell Construction, had only the week-ends for plastering and preparing the house for winter. I was able to do some of this work during the day but not as much as I would have liked, being pregnant at the time. However, the plastering was completed before the snow came and during the winter Charles managed to do some insulating in the attic which was of great assistance in getting through the winter.

We were fortunate in having wonderful neighbours, as I mentioned the Potters lived across the road, Mr. and Mrs. Russell Baskin on one side of

us and Bill Watsons on the other, the Cyril Bennetts in their wee house next to Neils, Sloans across the road and so on, but I digress for memory runs away with me.

Our second daughter was born in March. Spring found us eager for gardening and we worked hard preparing the ground. Our back yard began to look less like a jungle. The new toilet was built. Those days it was not uncommon to have cattle grazing in the field or lying quietly at the back fence. It took time to get things under way, when Charles was working there was no time to work at home, but when he was out of work, we had to be careful of the money. One of the changes in the appearance of the house was when Charles began to take the banking away, down, down, down until he uncovered the foundation. Now the house looked more like a house and less like a cabin. But again I am lost in memory lane. Two more children were born, both boys, and many changes are taking place, people moving, etc. During 1956, Granite Concrete Co. was started. This was a partnership, my husband and Mr. Harold Currie from Bells Corners. This company continued for a period of seven years. I became the bookkeeper for the early years of Granite.

Brenda and Edith Savage spent some time with us before and after school and during the holidays. For a time I remember having six all under six years of age.

During those years I am very happy to report the house which had but two rooms became a three bedroom home and bath, making four rooms and a hall upstairs and four rooms downstairs.

Somewhere in 1962, I began baking and taking it down to MacDougall's Appliance shop, where the baking was set on Moffatt stoves, etc. It began more or less as an advertising gimmick, but soon we became busier and when spring came we decided to set up shop in The Old Log House. As it turned out we were soon very well known and the bake shop was, I believe, a real success. The hours became longer and the work heavier. My legs couldn't keep up with the pace. It was a wonderful ten years and even now, though it has been six years since the shop closed, cars still drive in looking for the Bake Shop. This announcement appeared in Stittsville News, April 13, 1972:



## **LOG HOUSE BAKE SHOP CLOSING**

This little log house is closing its doors,  
This little old bakery will be no more,  
The baker's legs are tired and sore,  
And those long weary hours no longer a chore.

Its been pleasant I know I close with regret,  
The wonderful people, I've known and I've met,  
I'll never forget them and I'll always recall,  
My little old bake shop, sore feet and all.

Jesse Delahunt and staff

I have always been sorry I hadn't kept a log, for people were here from all over. It was not unusual to get a letter from Toronto with an order to be picked on a date two weeks hence.

During these years the changes in the Village were leaving their mark on us as well as on the community. Bradley's old store closed and Bill Neil moved away. I'm not sure if any of us will really know the influence for good, the many things he was responsible for and for which Bill Neil deserves credit.

One of the things I did learn during the baking years was some of the history of our house. We were aware that the house had been partitioned into rooms at one time for we could see the marks on the floor. Those partitions had been torn down and used for fuel through the winter. A gentleman standing in the shop one day said "I was born in this house, seventy-five years ago", and explained how the house had been partitioned. He said a mid-wife had lived here, I do not know her name, but many of the women of the area had come here when their children were born. We had been told when we moved in here that the house was one hundred years old. We can only assume that it was built directly after the big fire of 1870 because of the scorch marks on some of the beams in the basement, still quite visible. It would be nice if these walls could talk. The house has seen some history. The same old beams are still here, uncovered, the same old boards in the ceiling with the queer marks left by the saw. The beams have the rough marks of the broad-axe on them.

When we bought the house from Jim Coulter we hoped it would be our home for at least fifty years. Well, twenty-six of those years have gone. Our family of six are nearly all married and gone, the Granite Concrete Company and the Log House Bake Shop gone, but how many stories before that I wonder? I hope that one day I may find out more about this old house and perhaps just writing about it will spark someone's memory and they too will remember this house.

Mrs. Charles Delahunt

## **MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION**

To the Goulbourn Township Historical Society

Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_ First Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Town or City: \_\_\_\_\_ Province: \_\_\_\_\_

Postal Code: \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Amount: \_\_\_\_\_

Memberships in the Goulbourn Township Historical Society are \$10.00 for one year. Please make your cheque payable to "The Goulbourn Township Historical Society" and mail it to: The Goulbourn Township Museum and Historical Society c/o The Township of Goulbourn, 2135 Huntley Road, P.O. Box 189, Stittsville, Ontario K2S 1A3.

The mandate of the Goulbourn Township Historical Society is to foster an understanding of our local heritage. Meetings are held on the 4th Thursday of the month. Most meetings have a guest speaker, addressing a topic of historical interest. The Historical Society is active within the schools, speaking to children about the history of the township and showing them some of the artifacts we have on display at the Museum. The Society also participates in Township events such as Canada Day, Villagefest and the Richmond Fair.

## **COMING EVENTS**

### September 1998

The Goulbourn Township Historical Society members and the Goulbourn Museum Board are planning a get together for September. This would involve dinner and entertainment, perhaps at the Royal Albert Tea Room. An update on this will be in the next "Goulbourn News", August 1998.

### October 1998

Our guest speaker will be John Harrison, Past President of the Royal Canadian Legion, Richmond Branch 625. He will be discussing his participation in a tour of the European War Grave sites.

## **NEW MEMBERS**

Welcome is extended to:

Barry and Pat Roberts of Carleton Place

Jack MacKenzie of Stittsville

Members of "The Goulbourn News" committee are: Erskine Rivington, Hilda Moore, Donna Hockey and Virginia Notley. If you have questions or suggestions you are invited to call Hilda 838-2274 or Virginia 836-1556.
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