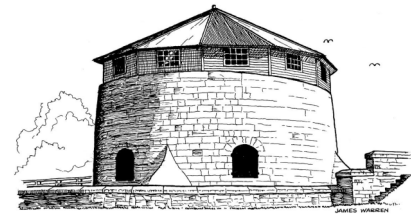


Limelight

Newsletter of the Kingston Historical Society

Kingston Ontario Canada

Volume 21 no 9 ISSN 1488-5565



December 2019



Wednesday, 4 December 2019, 6:30 pm

Annual Awards Ceremony and Gala

The Renaissance Event Venue Upper Salon

285 Queen Street

\$10. each cost defrayal requested

This month's meeting, Announcements	1	President's Message, About Us	2
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It is noted with regret, the death of Dr. John Fotheringham, 7 October 2019, a long-time member of the Kingston Historical Society.

It is noted with regret, the death of Sherrill Dunlop-Donaldson, 3 November 2019, a former member of the Kingston Historical Society.

It is noted with regret, the death of Margaret Gibson, 3 November 2019, a former member of the Kingston Historical Society.

It is noted with regret, the death of Desmond O'Meara, 5 November 2019, a long-time member of the Kingston Historical Society and President from 1998-2000. He was predeceased by his wife Margaret, 19 July 2019.

THE KINGSTON HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Established 1893

LIMELIGHT is published nine times a year, September to May.

Please forward submissions to the Editor betty.andrews@gmail.com

Reprinting of articles from the Limelight must be accompanied by an acknowledgement of the Society, the issue and date. Photo credits and by-lines must be retained.

The KHS gratefully acknowledges the support of its sponsors in producing Limelight.

2019-2020 KHS Executive Council

President: Warren Everett Vice President: Joe Brites Past President: Peter Gower
Treasurer: Peter Ginn Secretary: Don Richardson Editor, Historic Kingston: Peter Gower
Editor, Limelight: Betty Andrews Director, Murney Tower: Tabitha Renaud Webmaster: Peter Gower
Membership Chair: Paul Van Nest pvannest@cogeco.ca

Councillors: Vincent Durant Duncan McDowall Alan MacLachlan
Tabitha Renaud Anne Richardson Paul Van Nest John Whiteley

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www.kingstonhistoricalsociety.ca



The Kingston Historical Society gratefully acknowledges the support of the Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Sport.

KHS meetings, featuring speakers on topics of historical interest, are held on the third Wednesday of the months from September to May, except in December when an awards ceremony and gala is held. There are two annual events: the celebration of the life of Canada's first Prime Minister John A. Macdonald held at his graveside in the Cataraqui Cemetery National Historic Site on 6 June, the date of his death in 1891; and the Society's Canadian Heritage Dinner in February. Historic Kingston, the journal of the proceedings of the Kingston Historical Society, is published annually.

**AS OF JANUARY 2020,
KHS MEETINGS WILL BE HELD
AT THE KINGSTON FRONTENAC
PUBLIC LIBRARY, CENTRAL
BRANCH, 130 JOHNSON ST.
ROOM #1
AND WILL START EARLIER:
GATHERING AT 6:30,
MEETING AT 7 PM**

President's Message

Warren Everett

The busy holiday season will soon be upon us and in the midst of this is our annual Holiday Social on Wednesday, 4 December, held again this year at the Renaissance Centre on Queen Street. Each year we hold this event as an occasion, not only to gather together in a relaxed atmosphere and share the holiday spirit, but to present the Kingston Historical Society Awards to those who have given long and exemplary service in support of the historical heritage of the Kingston region. This is an important event for the Society and I urge you to attend. As in past years we will be seeking a donation at the door to offset the costs.

The 15 January 2020 meeting will be held in the main branch of the Public Library in Meeting Room #1 located on the second floor.





Murney Tower

Operated by the Kingston Historical Society

The 2019 season saw the installation of new panels on the barracks level of the Tower. The new panels are a great use of the space as they are tall and easy to move. The carronade was moved in preparation for the Indigenous panel and soundscape which was researched and designed by Dr. Terri-Lynn Brennan and made possible by the Community Foundation for Kingston and Area. Translations were by winTranslation. In preparation for the season staff acquainted themselves with tourism in Kingston. The MOP (Museum Orientation Pass) is back this year and the staff were thrilled to explore all of the partner institutions. The staff visited The Military Communications and Electronics Museum and received a tour from one of their senior guides which gave them ideas on how to engage visitors. Additionally, the 1000 Islands Cruises invited Murney Tower and other tourism staff to attend a sunset dinner cruise so they would be able to provide an authentic recommendation to visitors to Kingston. The staff greatly enjoyed these outings. They provided a chance for them to experience Kingston in a new way, to be better ambassadors of the city to visitors and to get to know one another.

The new Murney Tower committee has members Tabitha Renaud, Vincent Durant, Peter Ginn, Warren Everett, Don Richardson, David More and Tanya Scott.



**Please renew
membership
now!**

KINGSTON HISTORICAL SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION/RENEWAL Membership dues are as follows (please check one) - \$50 for an individual - \$60 for a family - \$25 for a student - \$60 for an institutional - \$300 for a sponsor. Please speak to Membership Chair Paul Van Nest, 613-544-6802 or email membership@kingstonhistoricalsociety.ca

Additional donation: The Society would sincerely appreciate any additional donation that you may wish to contribute to the Society. Amount: \$ _____

Send this completed application form, along with a cheque made out to the 'Kingston Historical Society':
Kingston Historical Society, Box 54, Kingston ON K7L 4V6

You can also register on-line from our webpage and pay with MasterCard or VISA:
www.kingstonhistoricalsociety.com > Membership

Membership includes the annual journal 'Historic Kingston' and 9 issues of the newsletter 'Limelight' as well as a discounted fee to selected special events. Some sponsors also offer discounts.

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I agree to receive my Limelight online _____

STILL STANDING: Looking at Regional Architecture with Jennifer McKendry

It seems ironical that Dr Edward H. Horsey, 1838-1890, son of architect Edward Horsey, 1809-1869, retained in 1881 Joseph Power of Power & Son architects to design his brick house at 157 King St East at Lower Union. But his father was deceased and his architect brother Henry Horsey, 1830-1911, was presumably too busy with his projects in Ottawa. Edward Jr and his siblings grew up in Elizabeth Cottage, 251 Brock St, designed by their father.

A graduate of Queen's medicine in 1860, Edward Jr worked as a doctor in many locations, including Lanark County, Montreal, Washington during the American Civil War and Chicago, where he died in 1890. His body was brought back to Cataraqui Cemetery for interment in the family plot. He and his wife Frances used to return to Kingston for summer visits and, in 1881, they were included in the city census. They bought the land in August of that year and Power called for the building tenders. In the city directories of the '80s, they were living in their new Kingston house but, in the spring of 1889, sold it for \$12,500 to Queen Victoria as a residence for the Commandants of RMC. In 1969, Queen Elizabeth sold it to Queen's University.

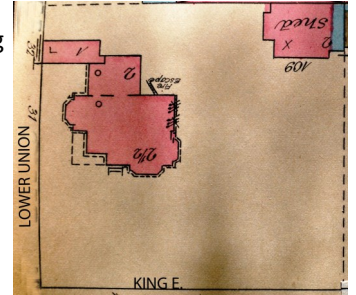


Fig.1

One wonders if Joseph Power was secretly pleased at its new use for the Commandant, given that Robert Gage, a rival for government projects, had designed just such a house (now known as the Hewitt House) on the grounds of RMC in 1875 -- but it was sharply criticized and the Commandants preferred 157 King East. Certainly, it was an impressive building due to its height, complex shapes (fig. 1, 1892 fire insurance plan) and large well-fenced lot. Furthermore, it was unusual due to the use of yellow brick, described at the time as "white brick with Ohio sandstone." Horsey must have admired a recently built neighbouring house, 49 King St East, also in yellow brick and by Joseph Power in 1879 in a more or less similar style.

Even with the loss of the upper part of the tower (fig. 2, 1904, coll. McGill University), it still commands attention.

Photos by Jennifer McKendry



For 114 years, the Lennox and Addington Historical Society has continued the goals established many years ago. Local residents, who expressed an interest in preserving the history of Lennox and Addington County, read with interest the following Notice in the Napanee Beaver, May 3, 1907:

"I have been requested to call a meeting for those interested in the history of the province, and more especially those who are interested in the history of Lennox and Addington".

By May 9, 1907 the Society was organized; the Constitution was adopted June 11; the first open meeting was held October 25 and the Society was affiliated with the Ontario Historical Society March 31, 1908.

With the adoption of the Constitution the objectives were very clear: collection and preservation of historical documents and education about the importance of the past history of Lennox and Addington and the Dominion of Canada.

To fulfill these objectives, the Society found a home for an enlarging collection (an early archive) on the top floor of the Napanee Library. In 1907, a circulating letter was sent to prominent citizens to assist in the collection of materials for the Society. The requested items included maps, letters, books and newspapers. By 1913, the Society reported to the Warden and Council of Lennox and Addington that 18,000 original documents had been preserved.

The Society had a well-established tradition of publishing. The Society's Papers and Records numbered 20 volumes and the book, *The War Years*, was supplied to every school in the County. By 1954, after a period of dormancy, a concern was expressed by some citizens regarding the viability of the Society's collection. The Provincial Archives were interested in having the papers and letters. Wanting to keep the collection in the County, the Society reorganized in 1954, with Judge Gerald Smith as President. Under his presidency, the County Council granted a room in the County Memorial Building as a museum to house and display items. The museum was initially opened from 2-5 pm three times a week with volunteers from the local Women's Institutes, Chamber of Commerce and Historical Society members. However, the paper collection remained in the Napanee Library, and it was a concern to organize and catalogue the collection. Judge Smith initiated contact with the Dominion Archivist who offered to compile and microfilm the collection. By 1957, 40,000 documents had been microfilmed.

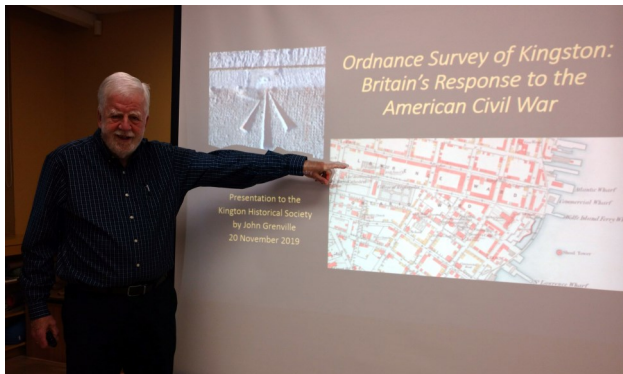
The Society has always been supportive of preservation of historical sites. The first initiative focused on Fairfield House, a Loyalist property built in 1793. The Society wished to purchase the house and the land surrounding it as an historical site. It did not acquire the site; however, the impetus was initiated with the Lennox and Addington Historical Society.

The Allan Macpherson House, located in Napanee, became the next historic site focus for the Society. A goal of \$30,000 was set to be raised for restoration. In 1967, the County acquired the House as a Centennial project, with the Society charged with funding and restoring Macpherson House. Later, the Society purchased the house from the County, and continued to support the Macpherson House until it was acquired by the County once again in 2015 along with the Society's collection.

The collection is housed in the new addition of the County Museum where it is being preserved for the future. Presently, The Society continues its program of publishing local authors, has guest speakers for the general public, and supports local initiatives.

This history attributes the information provided to Jane Foster, LAHS member. For a more complete history of the Lennox and Addington Historical Society see *Papers and Records Vol. XVI* by Jane Foster.

On November 20th, local historian John Grenville provided a perspective on Kingston's crucially strategic military situation in the 1860s. On the one hand, Britain, having acknowledged responsible government in its central Canadian colonies, was eager to extract its garrison troops from North America. On the other hand, America descended into civil war, raising fears that the conflict might spill across the northern border. The result of this tension was a final decade of Britain's active military involvement in central Canada. Grenville chronicled the alarm of the British general staff over fears of an American incursion into the St. Lawrence Valley and Lake Ontario. A master plan for the land and sea defence of Kingston was developed by Royal Engineer William Francis Drummond Jervois. It entailed extensive fortifications of both harbour and hinterland. It was also extremely expensive, involving massive construction and costly garrisoning by British troops. Anxiety over possible conflict also provoked the preparation of a meticulously executed ordinance survey map of Kingston and its environs. This was undertaken by another Royal Engineer, Honorius Sisson Sitwell, and his team of



“sappers” (military engineers) in the late 1860s. The originals of this many-sectioned map are now held at Britain's National Archive at Kew and are available for on-line viewing with copies available at the Queen's University map collection. Jervois' costly defence plan never materialized; the British would withdraw their Kingston garrison in 1871. The Sitwell map, however, survives and continues to be a boon to local heritage and history enthusiasts.



PAN CHANCHO

the pig with a peel

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HOMESTEAD



Canadian Heritage Dinner

Sponsored by the Kingston Historical Society



ANOTHER WONDERFUL EVENING...SAME GREAT PRICE!

This coming year we will be holding the second annual Canadian Heritage Dinner sponsored by the Kingston Historical Society. The guest speaker for this very special event is **Dr. Laura Brandon**. Her presentation is **"Paint and Paper: The Group of Seven and the First World War"**.

Dr. Brandon is a freelance writer, curator, and lecturer specializing in international and Canadian war art. She was the historian of Art & War at the Canadian War Museum. She has written and lectured internationally for nearly 40 years, curated more than 45 exhibitions, and is currently an Adjunct Research Professor in the School for Studies in Art and Culture in the History Department at Carleton University.

Dr. Brandon will speak about the artists who first exhibited as the Group of Seven in 1920. She will highlight the critical and popular success of the 1919 war art in London, England, and explain how burgeoning notions of Canadian identity, along with the artists' own experiences in World War I as soldiers, painters and commercial artists, placed the conflict at the centre of their post-war success.

Date: *Saturday, February 29, 2020*
Time: *6:00 pm with dinner commencing at 7:00 pm*
Cost: *\$70 per person*
Location: *Senior Staff Mess at the Royal Military College*

Our meal will consist of the following: pretzel buns (gluten free buns available), butternut squash soup, your choice of entrée, lemon broccoli vegetable, tea or coffee, and raspberry cheesecake for dessert. Please choose from the entrée options below on the registration form.

Entrée Options: Braised beef short rib/red wine jus/garlic parmesan mashed potatoes
Fresh salmon filet/lemon beurre blanc/wild rice pilaf
Four cheese ravioli/herbed tomato sauce/reggiano parmesan

Please fill out the tear-off portion of the registration form and send it along with your cheque to the address below. **ALL** registration forms must be received **no later than Friday, February 13, 2020.**

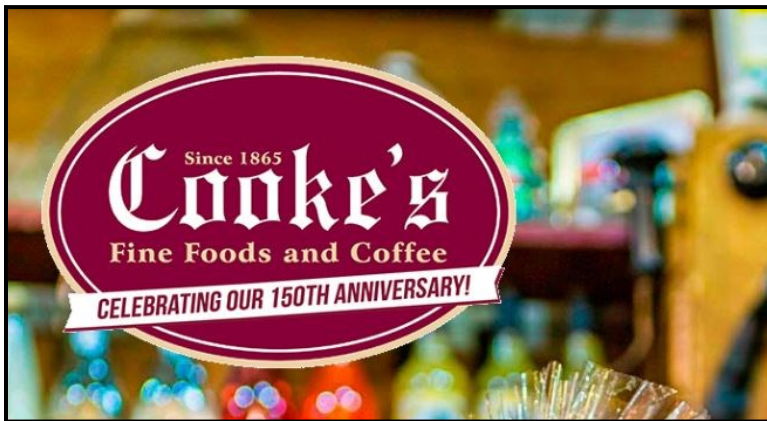
Anne Richardson Kingston Historical Society
c/o 750 Amaryllis Street, Kingston, Ontario K7P 0A9

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Anne Richardson at: richanne@hotmail.ca

NAME(S): _____
TELEPHONE NUMBER: _____ EMAIL ADDRESS: _____

Number of BEEF SHORT RIB Dinners: _____
Number of SALMON Dinners: _____
Number of VEGETARIAN Dinners: _____

AMOUNT ENCLOSED: _____
PLEASE LIST ANY FOOD ALLERGIES: _____



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