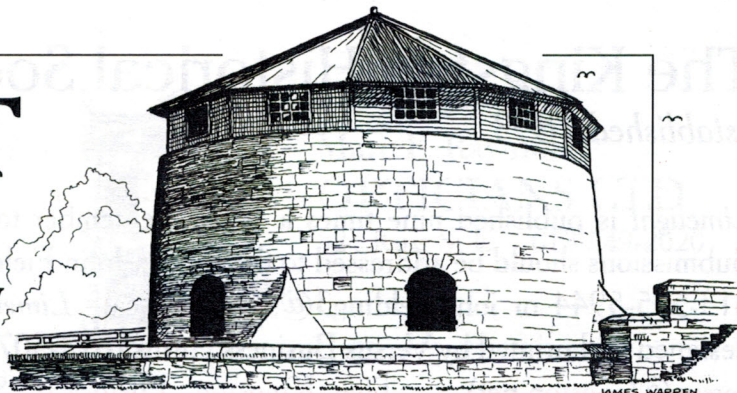


LIMELIGHT

Newsletter of the
Kingston Historical Society

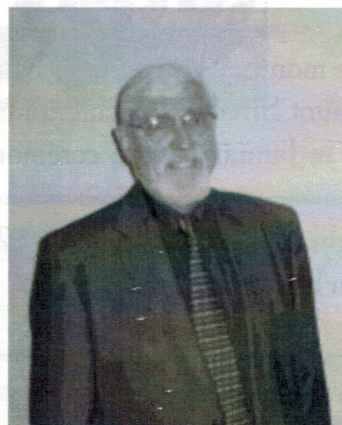
vol 12 no 5 May 2010 ISSN 1488-5565



A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

May and June are almost upon us and the activities of both the Society and also its members loom large and wonderful. Our program chair, Edward Grenda, again has organized another informative presentation for May, which is "The Kingston Prize - The Portrait Competition" and will be delivered by Julian Brown. The Kingston Prize, which began in 2005 is a biennial national competition for contemporary portraits of Canadians by Canadian artists.

In September, Robert Andrews will speak on "The Forgotten Year, 1760: The End of the Seven Years War in North America" which is most appropriate as this is the 250 anniversary of its quietus in this hemisphere.



Two of our members, Donna Ivey and Norma Kelly have been the driving force in having the music dedicated to Sir John A. Macdonald published. Many will recall that several years ago we were introduced to the music at a recital in Memorial Hall as one of our monthly meetings. The book launch for *The Sir John A. Macdonald Music Book* is on Sunday, 16 May, at Bellevue House National Historic Site from 2:00 – 5:00 p.m. with many of the pieces being performed for your enjoyment.

The Commemoration Service of the death of our first Prime Minister will be held at the Cataraqui Cemetery on 6 June, at 1:30 p.m. William (Bill) Glover, a maritime historian whose interest has been in 20th century Canadian naval history, has titled his address "Macdonald and Naval Defence".

Peter Ginn and Jennifer McKendry have been doing double duty for the Society with informative articles and superb photographs for Limelight for many issues and events, which are appreciated by all of us. Please note that the details for the Autumn Excursion will be made at the May meeting. And now enjoy the sights, scents and sounds of the vernal season.

Alan MacLachlan

THIS MONTH'S MEETING

Wednesday, 19 May, 7:30 PM

Portraits, Prizes and History

Julian Brown

(Co-founder of The Kingston Prize)

Wilson Room, Kingston Public Library, Johnson St. at Bagot

Refreshments All Welcome

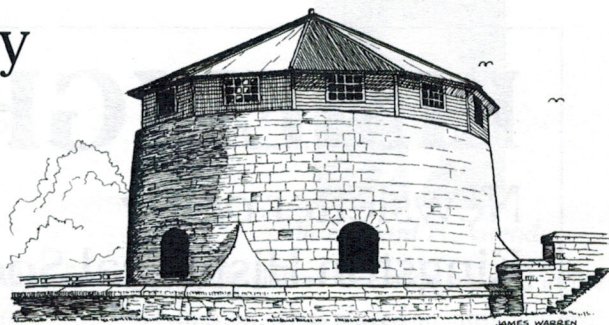
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The Kingston Historical Society

established 1893

Limelight is published nine times a year - September to May. Submissions should be addressed to the Editor, John Fielding at 613-545-5944 or john.fielding3@sympatico.ca. *Limelight* is designed and printed by Versus Business Forms (613-507-7667 versus@kingston.net). The Kingston Historical Society (KHS) gratefully acknowledges the support of our sponsors in the production of *Limelight*.



Murney Tower by James Warren

KHS holds monthly talks or events, usually at 7:30 pm on the third Wednesday of the month, September to May, usually in the Wilson Room of the Kingston Public Library on Johnson Street at Bagot Street. Special annual events include a dinner and talk honouring the birthday of Sir John A. Macdonald in January and a ceremony marking his death in June.

New members are welcome! Membership rates are \$40 individual, \$50 family, \$50 institutional or \$25 student. Memberships include *Historic Kingston*, published annually by The Kingston Historical Society.

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The Kingston Historical Society gratefully acknowledges the financial support of the Ministry of Culture of the Government of Ontario

History-Related Meeting Announcements

The Kingston Branch of the Ontario Genealogical Society will meet in the Wilson Room of Kingston Frontenac Public Library, 130 Johnson St., Saturday, May 29, 2010 at 10 a.m. John Fielding will talk about finding a Home Child's relatives who remained in England - and meeting their descendants. Visitors welcome. For further information, visit our website www.ogs.on.ca/kingston

Kingston and District Branch of the United Empire Loyalist Association of Canada are holding a dinner meeting on Tuesday, May 18, at the Donald Gordon Centre, 421 Union Street, Kingston, 5:30 pm for 6:00 pm dinner. After-dinner speaker will be Dr. Carl Bray, speaking on "The Loyalists' Attitudes to Building and Urban Design". Dr. Bray is an Adjunct Professor at Queen's University, in the School of Urban and Regional Planning as well as the Department of Geography. He is a heritage planner and landscape architect who specializes in the assessment, planning and development of cultural heritage resources. Price is just \$26 including taxes and gratuity. Visitors are welcome to attend. Tickets must be purchased in advance - please contact Carol Davy, 613-546-2256.

The Kingston Branch of the Ontario Genealogical Society will have an outing on Saturday, June 19th to Wolfe Island with visits to the cemetery and new museum, then lunch. Take 9:30 a.m. ferry from Kingston. Further info at www.ogs.on.ca/kingston

The Kingston HISTORICAL SOCIETY

invites you to remember

Sir John A. Macdonald

on Sunday, 6 June 2010

with an event that combines commemoration, pageantry, history and conviviality in a special outdoor setting.

Please join us on Sunday, 6 June. At 1:30 p.m. in Kingston's Cataraqui Cemetery to remember Canada's first Prime Minister Sir John Alexander Macdonald who died on this day in 1891

This annual commemorative ceremony features members of the Fort Henry Guard, the Royal Canadian Mounted Police, Bellevue House Staff in period dress, as well as many dignitaries and representatives of local organizations who will lay wreaths at the grave. The guest speaker for this, the 119th graveside ceremony commemorating the death of Sir John A. Macdonald will be Dr. William Glover whose career has included destroyer service on both the Atlantic and Pacific. He held staff appointments with both the Chief of Maritime Staff and Lieutenant-General, now Senator Romeo Dallaire. He was a member of the academic faculty at Royal Roads Military College for five years and also taught at RMC. Dr Glover is an independent maritime historian and has written about the Royal Canadian Navy and navigation on Canada's west coast and in Hudson's Bay. His address is titled "Macdonald and Naval Defence."

Before and after the ceremony, all visitors are welcome to tour the historic and picturesque Cataraqui Cemetery (972 Purdy Mills Road off Counter Street). Refreshments will be served in the outdoor chapel following the ceremony. We look forward to seeing you, your family, and your organization or group.

In case of severe weather conditions, the event will take place in Christ Church Parish Centre, 990 Sydenham Road.



The photo of the wreaths, tent & soldiers above was taken at the Macdonald family plot in Cataraqui Cemetery in June 1891. LACC14120.

The photo on the left is by Jennifer McKendry who supplied both photos.

The Daily Whig Special Number December 1886

In last month issue of Limelight I provided a portion of Carl Fechter's reminiscences of "Churches in the City". Below is another portion covering the Apostolic Catholic and Roman Catholic churches. — Peter Ginn

Photos and illustrations provided by Jennifer McKendry

THEIR HISTORY IN A BRIEF AND VERY READABLE FORM.

Early Struggles of the Different Denominations -- All of Them Have Enjoyed Prosperity -- Greater Unity Among Them To-day Than at Any Time in Many Years.

Catholic Apostolic.

The congregation known as the Catholic Apostolic church is reported by one of its members to have been organized in 1836, on accepting and believing the intelligence that by special manifestations in Great Britain, in answer to prayer for help in the low estate of the church, God had restored to Christendom the ministry of apostles, to prepare the church universal for the second advent of the Saviour. The apostleship, consisting of twelve men, is thus declared to have been called forth by a divine voice through prophets, the latter also a ministry fallen into abeyance from the earliest ages of the Christian era. Prophecy is recognized as one of the many spiritual gifts which belong to the church of Christ by right of endowment, and its absence as marking her failure and imperfection; her greatest loss in divine ordinances as being the ministries of apostles and prophets. Other of these gifts -- gifts of the spirit of God -- are stated to be also restored, and in exercise under apostolic rule and guidance. The church on Queen street, a plain structure, was built, it is believed, in 1837. The congregation was first gathered by Rev. A. H. Burwell, a clergyman of the Anglican church, previously of Ottawa, and who died in 1849. He was succeeded by Rev. Messrs. Roberts, Cuthbert, Sterling, and Elwell, in the order named, the last of whom held the office of chief pastor for twenty years and was followed by the present minister in charge. Two of these were likewise clergymen of the Anglican communion and another of the Episcopal church of the United States. This congregation is still instructed, guided, and organized by means of that central authority, accepted 50 years since, which exists in apostles. Its faith and confidence, together with that of the same organization throughout the world, is unchanged. The appellation of "Catholic Apostolic," which the believers in a restored

apostleship adopt from necessity, is not intended to be distinctive save as merely the name of the "one church" of the Creeds without distinction of sect or party. The name alone is



The Catholic Apostolic Church, now Renaissance Event Venue at 285 Queen Street, is said by Fechter to date from 1837; if true, it is one of the oldest surviving churches in Kingston. Built in stone, it is an early example of Gothic Revival. Later occupants included the Kingston Pentecostal Tabernacle and the Kingston Scottish Rite Association.

Photo by J. McKendry, 2008

recognized, on principle, as properly belonging to that spiritual body of Christ in its earthly condition, which includes all the baptized as bretheren in the "new Covenant." Many of those who received the preaching of the evangelists, amongst whom were Messrs. William Caird and George Ryerson, when the special announcement mentioned was made in 1836, are still living members of the congregation. Several who were then near the prime of life are consequently now in advanced age. But a minority only are residents of the city. Daily worship is offered.

Roman Catholic.

The Roman catholics came to Canada with the French explorers, and one of the earliest missions was along the Bay of Quinte. In 1674 LaSalle petitioned to build a church at Fort

Frontenac, where Recollet fathers were engaged in caring for one hundred families. In 1826 the diocese of Kingston was erected, and this city selected as the See. It is related that when Bishop McDonnell had given his allegiance to George IV, he made choice of the church of St Joseph as his cathedral. The building still stands on the corner of Bagot and William streets. The lower portion of it is used as a separate school and the upper part as a place where the young people of the congregation assemble to recite prayers to the sodality. Rev. Dr. McDonnell died at Dumfriesshire, Scotland in 1840, and was laid in St. Mary's Church, Edinburgh, until 1862, when his remains were conveyed to Kingston and now repose under St. Mary's cathedral. The bishops who have resided here since have been Right Rev. Dr. R. Gaulin, who died in Novemeber, 1857; Right Rev. P. Phalen, who died a year later; Right Rev. Edward J. Horan, who died in 1875; Right Rev. John O'Brien -- whose death occurred on August 1st, 1879. He was followed by the present prelate. St. Mary's cathedral was begun about 1842, under Bishop Gaulin and his co-adjutor Bishop Phalan. It was several years in course of construction, and was completed without fatalities. In Bishop Phalen's regime it was occupied, and since then has undergone improvements under the superintendence of Bishops Horan, O'Brien and Cleary. A lady at present in the city, aged 86 years, refers with pride to the fact that she dressed the good Dr. O'Brien after his advent into this world. She watched his future career with the deepest interest. Rev. Father Dollard, one of the parish priests, was very energetic in connection with the building of the cathedral. He was very systematic in all his



Built in 1849, St Mary's Cathedral is in Gothic Revival style. This view in John Henderson & Co.'s Kingston and Its Vicinity c1888 (coll. J. McKendry) shows its appearance at the time Fechter was writing. Shortly thereafter, it was enlarged with towers fronting Johnson Street

business undertakings. Among the parish priests known to Kingstonians, now living, are Fathers Salmon, Count Abbe De La Mott, William Fraser, Vicar-General P. Macdonald, Farrelly, Dollar and Kelly. Among the curates were Fathers Lawlor, Brennan, Neelon, Roche, Chisholm, McVeigh, Quinlan, Higgins, Cannon Tervoureen, O'Kane, Edward Murray, Charles Murray, Howard, Stafford, O'Boyle, Leonard, Corbett, McCarthy, Maddens, Walsh, and Twohey.



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"Step up to Tango" Tapas Bar & Restaurant

Donna Ivey and Norma Kelly are delighted to tell you that
Bellevue House, National Historic Site, Centre Street, Kingston



Commemorating Canada's First Prime Minister

Bellevue House was once the home of Sir John A. Macdonald, Canada's first prime minister. Restored to the 1840s period, and staffed by costumed interpreters, the house and gardens are kept much as they would have been during the time that Macdonald lived here with his wife and infant son.

is providing their majestic venue for the
launch and concert for

The Sir John A. Macdonald Music Book

Sunday, May 16, 2010, 2:00 - 5:00 p.m. Official launch ceremony 2:15 p.m.

Come and enjoy the music in the book performed by 5 singers and two pianists on the lawns under the tent while you savour tea and treats. And, tour the house "John A." lived in during 1848-1849.

Books may be purchased at that time or ordered from us now
for later shipping (price is tax included)

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KINGSTON WALKS

There has been a gap in the Kingston Tourist market. Most of us go on guided walking tours when travelling to a new city. This was not possible here. This is why I will start guided walking tours in May. A lot of effort has been put into self-guided tours of Kingston. These tours buttress the guided tours. They remain a valuable part of the visitor experience.

Choosing a theme for a guided walk is tough. We have so much to talk about in Kingston. My choice is 'Why we are here'.

Kingston began with the founding of Fort Frontenac in 1673. The beaver hat made out of felted beaver fur was THE fashion item in all of Europe for 4 centuries. Canadian furs traded with Indian tribes dominated the early Canadian economy. Following the British seizure of the Fort the ruined fort became the staging point for the settlement of the United Empire Loyalists whose buildings and ideas left such a mark on Kingston. Kingston has changed. It is no longer the British bastion. Their homes remain as testimony to a 'Loyal' past.

Our tour ends at the statue of Sir John A Macdonald – the 'father' of our country. Macdonald is much maligned in the 21st century for his drinking and use of patronage. BUT he made Canada, and as his recent biographer Richard Gwyn points out, his ability to 'herd cats' was unmatched. He is a Kingston hero!

DAILY WALKING TOURS



Speakers' Corner

The War of 1812: A Wolfe Island Perspective

(Presented by Barbara Wall LaRocque)



with Edward R. Grenda



Barbara LaRocque

Although Wolfe Island is essentially a fifty-square-mile slab of limestone situated in the St. Lawrence River three miles directly south of Kingston, it has played an intriguing geo-political role in the development of Canada as we now know it by virtue of its strategic location on the Canada-USA border. Ms. LaRocque chose to highlight various elements of the Island's history during the War of 1812, an event that will be commemorated in 2012 on the tercentenary of that war.

Prior to launching into her discussion of the 1812 War, Ms. LaRocque furnished some background on her recently published book "Wolfe Island: A Legacy in Stone" from which the basis of her talk is drawn. Her father, Charles Wall, began writing the Island's history in the mid 1970s. Mr. Wall served as a lay pastor to the Anglicans of Wolfe, Garden, and Simcoe Islands in 1930-1931. This assignment piqued his interest in the Island's history and its people that he felt compelled to undertake the enormous research that a venture of this type required. Unfortunately, Mr. Wall succumbed to cancer in 1993. Shortly thereafter, Ms. LaRocque embarked on a labour of love for six years to complete her father's work and have it published.

Ms. LaRocque briefly reviewed the ownership of

Wolfe Island following the French presence when it was part of LaSalle's seigneurie to Captain David Alexander Grant's purchase of the Island in 1795. It was at this juncture that the Loyalists, who fled the United States in 1776, were able to purchase or lease land on the Islands for their homes. By the time the Loyalists cleared trees, established homes, and started farming, the United States declared war on Britain in June 1812.

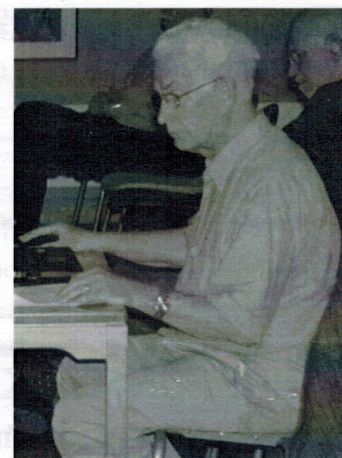
Although the area of hostilities embraced the Atlantic coast, Gulf of Mexico and primarily the Great Lakes, hostilities extended to the eastern end of Lake Ontario and along the St. Lawrence River. Hostilities at the eastern end of Lake Ontario thrust Wolfe Island into the center of a tempest. North of the Island there were the British naval dockyards and Kingston garrison. South of the Island were United States patrols at Cape Vincent and the naval base at Sachets Harbor.

It is significant that many Americans in the Cape Vincent area were intimidated by the proximity of Wolfe Island under British control and moved further inland. Even Commodore Chauncey in Sachets Harbor expressed his fear to the American government that British troops in Kingston were prepared to attack when his squadron was frozen in the ice.

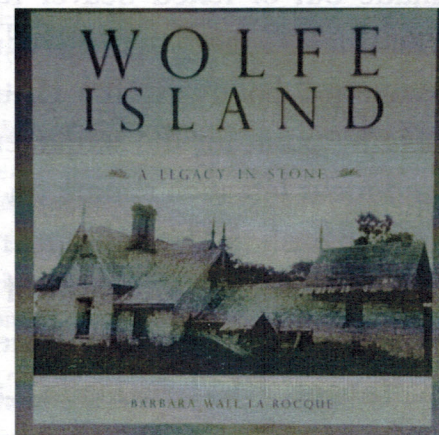
In 1812, the small Wolfe Island population was organized in such a way that every able-bodied man was a member of the local militia and expected to defend his holdings. The Island was not fortified. However, during the course of the war, there were local scouts who patrolled the Island shoreline along with a British gunboat connected with the Provincial Marine base in Kingston. The Island was periodically raided by American soldiers, but these skirmishes yielded very little if anything from a military perspective.

It was inevitable that Wolfe Islanders during the period of the war lived in a state of heightened tension. However, relief arrived by 1814 when many British troops released from the Napoleonic wars reinforced the Kingston garrison and compelled the Americans to retreat. The war ended in 1815 with Kingston barely touched and Wolfe Island slightly bruised.

On behalf of the Society, Bill Fittell (former president) thanked Ms. LaRocque and presented her with a Society pin.



Barbara was assisted by her husband, Lloyd LaRocque



Photos by Peter Ginn