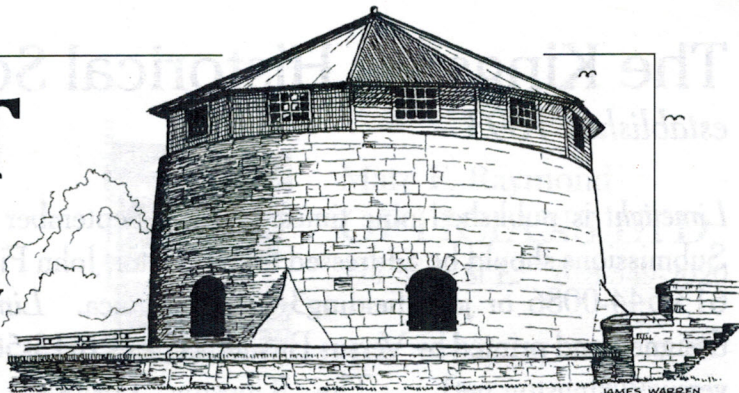


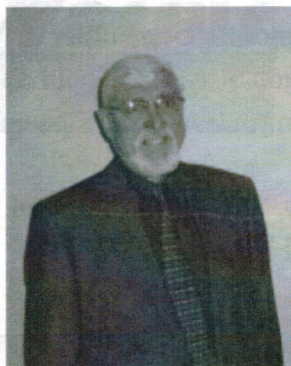
LIMELIGHT

Newsletter of the
Kingston Historical Society

vol 12 no 9 December 2010 ISSN 1488-5565



A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT



The festive season is upon us and the KHS is holding its annual Yule gathering in the Officer's Mess at historic Fort Frontenac on Wednesday, December 8. It promises to be a very unique affair. Yes we shall have our refreshments and social times. However the highlights of the evening will be our KHS Annual Awards and a book launch.

It has been, on this occasion, the tradition for our Society to recognize individuals and/or organizations in our community who have in exceptional fashion and extraordinary ways contributed to the preservation and celebration of the heritage and history of Kingston and its environs. This year our recipients will be honoured for their singular and remarkable dedication to the furtherance of the history of

Kingston and Canada.

The second highlight of the evening will be the book launch of Ged Martin's book: *Favourite Son? John A. Macdonald and the Voters of Kingston 1841-1891*. Many will remember that Mr. Martin gave the June 6th address in 2009 at the Cataraqui Cemetery. He will be returning to Kingston for our awards evening and will be present for this launch to chat about his experiences researching and he has agreed to sign your copy. It should be noted that this book has been published under the auspices of the KHS and its Publications Committee.

With both the KHS Awards and a book launch occurring that evening, it guarantees to be a most enjoyable commencement for the holiday season and one that should not be missed.

* * * * *

A special congratulations to Hazel Fotheringham, the editor, and Jennifer McKendry, the designer, for their diligence and creativity in the production of *Historic Kingston 2010 Volume 58*.

* * * * *

The KHS Council and I wish you a joyous and happy holiday season with family and friends and may this New Year bring newly found prosperity, happiness and delight into your life.

In this issue...

President's Report	1
Masthead & Announcements	2
Annual Sir John A Dinner Announcement	3
Proposed Cataraqui River Trail	4
Book Launch	5
Speakers' Corner	6
Our Sponsors	7
Christmas Party Notice/Membership Renewal	8

Alan MacLachlan

NEXT MONTH

Wednesday, 19 January 2011, 7:30 PM

**"Kingston's Wartime Ship Building Industry,
1939-1945: An Update"**

Prof. James Pritchard, Queen's University

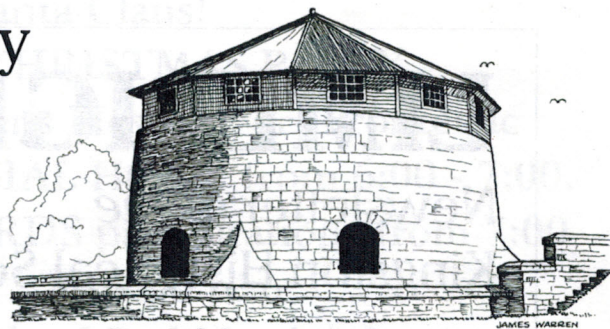
Wilson Room, Kingston Frontenac Public Library, Johnson St. at Bagot

Refreshments All Welcome

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 613-544-0086 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.

Kingston Historical Society

Box 54, Kingston, ON K7L 4V6
kingstonhs@gmail.com
www.kingstonhistoricalsociety.ca

Executive

Alan MacLachlan, *President*
Edward Grenda, *Past President*
Gordon Sinclair, *Vice President*
Ted Huber, *Secretary*
John Whiteley, *Treasurer*

Councillors

Alicia Boutillier
Cheryl DesRoches
Dorothy Farr
Peter Ginn
Jeremy Heil
Ross McKenzie
Douglas Petty

Hazel Fotheringham, *Editor, Historic Kingston*
Warren Everett, *Chair, Murney Tower Committee*
John Fielding, *Editor, Limelight*

Public Open House



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

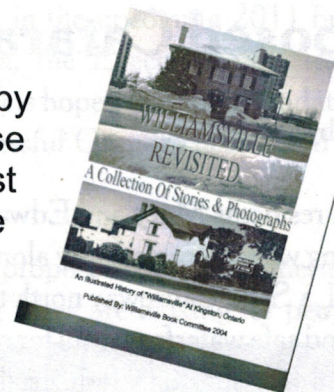
Members of the public are invited to attend a public open house on Tuesday, Nov. 30 at 6:30 p.m. in Memorial Hall, City Hall, 216 Ontario St., to learn about progress to date on the Cultural Heritage Management Plan for Kingston City Hall National Historic Site. The open house will begin with a presentation on the chronology of City Hall by Jennifer McKendry at 6:45 p.m., followed by a staff update on the numerous studies and reports that will feed into the Cultural Management plan and a question and answer session.



FRONT ELEVATION OF THE CITY HALL

Williamsville Revisited is available again

The ever-popular *Williamsville Revisited* has been reprinted by the Kingston Historical Society and is available for purchase exclusively at Novel Idea, 156 Princess Street, Kingston. First assembled and published by the Williamsville Book Committee in 2004, it has been reprinted by the Kingston Historical Society four times. Get your copy at Novel Idea while they last!



11th Annual Sir John A. Macdonald Dinner



Our guest speaker for this year's Sir John A. Macdonald Anniversary Dinner on Tuesday, January 11 2011, will be Mr. Graham Fraser, Commissioner of Official Languages. His talk will be:

“Treat them as a nation”: Sir John A. and the French fact in Canada

The dinner will take place at the Senior Staff Mess at the Royal Military College. Please gather in the Mess any time after 6:00PM to meet our guest. The dinner will commence at 7:00PM. The cost for the dinner will be \$45.00 for Society members and \$50.00 for guests of members. Please fill out the tear off portion below and send it along with your payment.



Sir John A. Macdonald Anniversary Dinner, Tuesday January 11, 2011

Name(s): _____

Member(s) _____ Non-Member(s) _____

Phone Number: _____ email: _____

Food Allergies: _____ Vegetarian: _____

Remarks: _____

Amount enclosed: _____

Mail Reservations & Cheque to:
Sir John A Macdonald Dinner, 253 Willingdon Ave, Kingston, ON, K7L 4J2

Proposed Cataraqui River Trail

Prepared by Mary Farrar

Kingston residents Mary and Edward Farrar and Kathy Horton have been exploring the possibility of a pedestrian and cycling waterfront pathway along the west side of the Great Cataraqui River. This 8 km trail, which will extend from the La Salle Causeway north to Kingston Mills, will be a great asset to Kingston as it will provide a beautiful, healthy and safe waterfront trail for residents and tourists alike. In addition, it will provide a magnificent venue for the celebration of Kingston's industrial history and its clean-up, its often forgotten Native history, the history of the Rideau waterway, Kingston's railways, oral histories from the Swamp Ward, and the work of Thomas Burrowes, as well as the wonderful eco-system that is the wetland. The proposed trail would tie in with the proposed Third Crossing creating a walking and cycling loop on the east side of the Great Cataraqui River that would return to Kingston via Highway 15. A second longer loop would extend all the way to Kingston Mills and from there head east to also tie in with Highway 15 and then back to Kingston. A trail like this has been in the minds of interested citizens for as long as 40 years and now is the time to make it a reality.

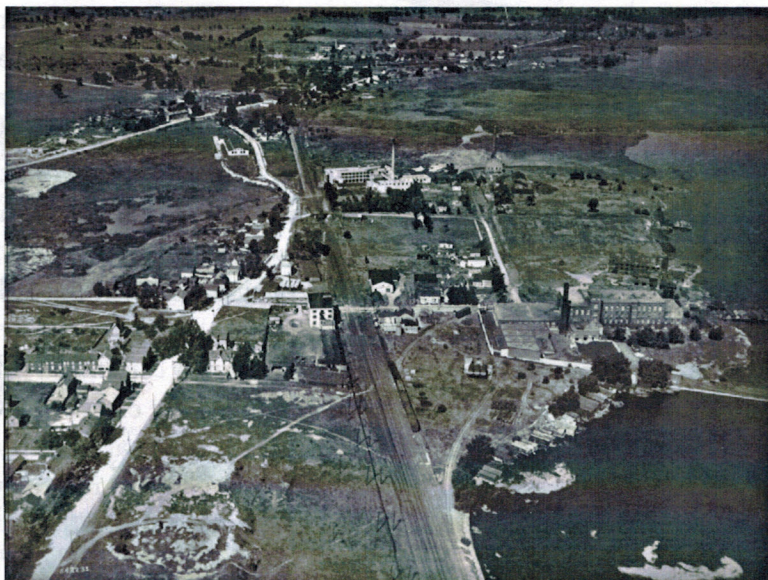
The first stage of the project involves pushing the trail through from the La Salle Causeway to Kingston Mills. A number of challenges exist but they are all surmountable. In the Farrar's vision, the second stage involves creating displays, a Native interpretive centre and a museum as centres of interest along the proposed trail. The displays would address the industrial history and its clean up, the railways, and oral histories of the Swamp Ward. Also of interest are two Native sites along the proposed pathway. In cooperation with Kingston's local Native community, the Farrar's are hoping to establish a Native Interpretive Centre at the Outer Station Archaeological Site on the shore just north of John Counter Blvd. to celebrate Kingston's Native heritage both past and present. This proposed building could also house artifacts from the site that the Cataraqui Archaeological Research Foundation would like to display. Also along the proposed trail near Kingston Mills is the 1830 house of Corporal Thomas Burrowes, the clerk of the lower section of the Rideau Locks. In years to come, his beautiful old stone house could well serve as a museum for his 115 water colour paintings that depict the history of the times so well.

This Great Cataraqui River Trail will make a new section of Kingston's beautiful waterfront accessible so that both Kingstonians and tourists alike can truly experience Kingston as one of only a few places in the world that is both a UNESCO World Heritage site and immediately adjacent to a UNESCO Biosphere. In addition, the genuinely authentic display of Kingston's heritage would be an important addition to the world heritage site.

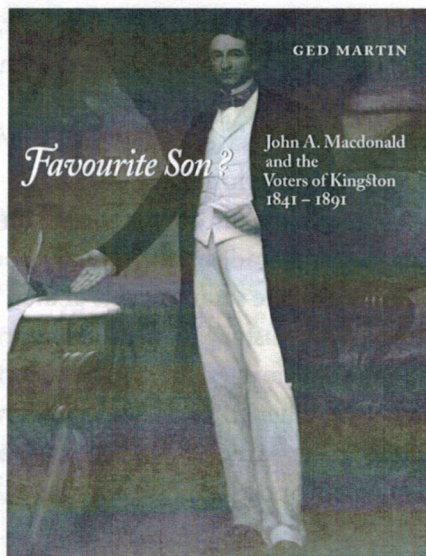
Mary and Edward spent several months last spring and summer walking the proposed path, mapping the route and researching its challenges and possibilities. Edward's background as a professor of Geophysics and his interest in land forms and maps has been a useful starting point. A number of organizations have been contacted including City staff, City councillors, the Cataraqui Region Conservation Authority, Parks Canada, the Cataraqui Archaeological Research Foundation, the Kingston Environmental Advisory Forum, the Katarokwi Friendship Centre, the Kingston Coalition for Active Transportation, the McBurney Park Neighbourhood Association, several trail associations and cycling groups as well as private land owners and interested individuals. MP Peter Milliken and MPP John Gerretsen are both supportive as are a number of local elected officials. In fact, the proposal has been met with enthusiasm from all of the organizations and individuals who have been contacted and support is building steadily.

City Council recently passed a motion directing City staff to provide resources in the upcoming 2011 budget to determine the preferred route, estimated costs and timeline. Vikram Varma, the Executive Director of the Community Foundation for Kingston and Area is an enthusiastic supporter and it is hoped that the Foundation may be able to help manage the project as a public/private partnership like the successful Grand Theatre and Market Square projects.

For the next few months, Mary, Edward and Kathy will focus on publicising the proposed trail and gathering input from individuals, small groups and organizations. In addition to “friend raising” they are looking for people who might be interested in helping to research the following topics: archaeological and Native heritage along the waterway, wildlife, industrial history of the Inner Harbour, stories about the Swamp Ward, designs for waterfront trails around the world, the Wellington Street Extension, and the Third Crossing. They are also looking for help with adding information about the project on the “K7 Waterfront” website. If you would like to be involved or put on the mailing list, please contact Mary and Edward Farrar (inverarymary@yahoo.com, 613-544-1246) or Kathy Horton (kathyhorton@cogeco.ca, 613-877-4492).



View in 1924 along the west side of the Great Cataraqui River showing spread of industry and the railway from the outskirts of the city; the Woolen Mill can be seen on the right; Stauffer Library HA22_33.



Book launch at the KHS Christmas Party

The official launch of the KHS's new publication, ***Favourite Son? John A. Macdonald and the Voters of Kingston, 1841-1891***, will take place at the KHS Christmas party on the evening of **Wednesday 8 December**.

The author, **Ged Martin**, will be present to share in the celebrations.

Meet **Ged Martin** and buy your copy of ***Favourite Son?*** at the Christmas party, **Wednesday 8 December!**

Speakers' Corner

HMCS Catarauqui: Kingston's Senior Service

Presented by Chris Varley

*with Edward R. Grenda
& photos by Peter Ginn*



At the November 2010 talk hosted by the Kingston Historical Society, the Society appropriately commemorated the centennial of the Canadian Navy (1910-2010) by way of a presentation on one of Kingston's prominent military organizations, HMCS Catarauqui by Chris Varley (President, HMCS Catarauqui Association). Mr. Varley's talk was essentially an absorbing walk down memory lane with a generous number of photographs and film clips, with commentary of salient events and activities during the seventy year history of Kingston's own Navy Volunteer Reserve unit.

What is particularly notable about this history is the substantial number of Kingstonians who, at one time or another, were involved with HMCS Catarauqui and the significant roles that some of these individuals played in Kingston's social-cultural affairs during the past seven decades.

Mr. Varley initially brought attention to what is now considered to be a critical letter, dated July 21, 1939, from Commander Taylor (Director of Naval Reserves for the Royal Canadian Navy) in Ottawa to Professor Richardson at Queen's University. The letter apprised Professor Richardson that a naval volunteer reserve was being planned for Kingston and that a recommendation was being sought for a qualified person to become the Reserve's first Commanding Officer. Almost immediately, Professor Richardson recommended a promising young Kingstonian, Bill Crothers. Unfortunately, Crothers was 22 years of age, considered too young according to Navy regulations, for the Co's position. It is interesting to point out that the time-lines of the letter from Commander Taylor suggesting that Navy Command in Ottawa possessed some foreknowledge that a military conflagration was soon to erupt.

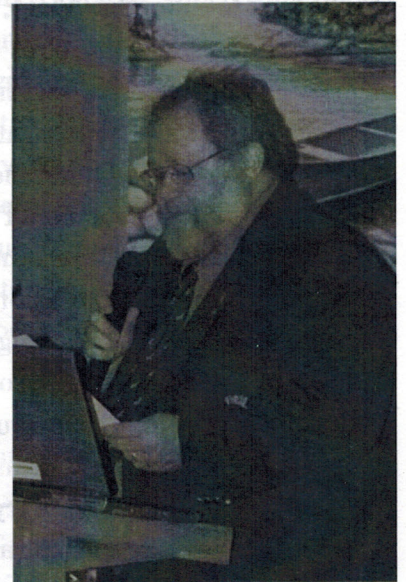
HMCS Catarauqui was formed in September 1939, and its first home of the then known Royal Canadian Navy Volunteer Reserve Kingston (RCNVR) was Richardson Feed Mill at the foot of Princess Street. There were ten original members. The first training vessel for HMCS Catarauqui was the MAGACOMA which was on loan from the Fulford family in Brockville in July 1941. The first Commanding Officer RCNVR Kingston was William Rigney who later saw active service during World War II. Rigney eventually became the final wartime CO of HMCS Catarauqui.

In March 1943, HMCS Catarauqui moved to its second home at the Wellington Street Barracks. During the same year, the University Naval Training Division Queen's University (UNTD) was founded with Lt. William Wolfe holding the distinction of being the first CO of this group.

At the conclusion of World War II, 202 officers and 3028 ratings were attested at HMCS Catarauqui. As regards casualties, two officers and 51 ratings died during the war.

Following World War II, HMCS Catarauqui figured quite prominently in the social fabric of Kingston through extensive involvement in formal balls, parades, inspections, sports, summer student programs, charity events and playing a role in the sailing events of the 1976 Olympic Games held in Kingston. An important strand in the history of HMCS Catarauqui was introduced when the HMCS Catarauqui Association was formed following the fortieth Anniversary reunion of HMCS Catarauqui held in 1979. Thereafter, HMCS Catarauqui moved on several occasions, the last move being during the early 1990's to its present location adjacent to the Kingston Military Community Sports Centre on the RMC campus.

Former Society present and former matelot, Bill Fittell, thanked Mr. Varley on behalf of the Society and commented on Mr. Varley's work to chronicle the history of HMCS Catarauqui.



Larry Brennan - Sales Representative
Royal Lepage Proalliance Realty

Independently Owned and Operated

(613) 384-1200 Office
 (613) 329-7222 Cell
 lbrennan2@cogeco.ca
 www.larrybrennan.com



Marc F. Raymond
OPTICIANS LTD
 324 King St E. 613-549-2020



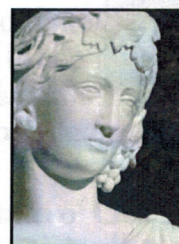
Celebrating 20 years
 of Quality & Innovation
 www.versusforms.com

* 61 Brock St
 * 613-548-7721
 * www.cookesfinefoods.com



Established 1865

IRON DUKE
On Wellington
 Heritage and Hospitality on Tap



Be a Part of History
Cataragui Cemetery
 613-546-6545 • 927 Purdy's Mill Road • Est. 1850



RESTAURANT
 68-R Princess St
 613-549-7673

"The Pig with a Peel"

PAN CHANCHO 44 Princess St 613-544-7790



Dining Room / Bar
Courtyard Terrace

69 Brock Street
613-549-5635

THE PILOT HOUSE OF KINGSTON



265 KING ST EAST
613-542-0222



GRAHAM THOMSON
REAL ESTATE

TERRY STAFFORD
BRIAN STAFFORD
 613-546-3171

for
"ULTIMATE SERVICE"

Kingston's Independent Bookstore

156 Princess Street
613-546-9799

Oscar Malan, Bookseller



331 King St East



613-531-0800

"Step up to Tango" Tapas Bar & Restaurant

Yes Virginia there is a Santa Claus!
 And for KHS members there is a CHRISTMAS PARTY
 on Wednesday, 8 December at the Officer's Mess at Fort Frontenac
 with a SOCIAL HOUR from 6:00 - 7:00.
 KHS AWARDS presentations from 7:00
 to 8:00 p.m.



Launch of Ged Martin's book
*Favourite Son? John A. Macdonald and the
 Voters of Kingston 1841-1891*
 with a special price for the evening of
 \$35.
 Concluding with Christmas snacks and
 good cheer to all!

*Santa Claus Bewildered by the Clamoring of Christmas Bell(e)s,"
 stereocard printed in 1900 (collection Jennifer McKendry).*

Kingston Historical Society Membership Form

I am renewing	
I am not renewing	
I am a new member	\$
As an individual \$40	\$
As a family or institution \$50	\$
As a student \$25	\$
I am making a donation	\$
TOTAL	\$
Payable to the Kingston Historical Society	

Name: _____

Address: _____

Optional Phone: _____ Email: _____

I give permission to publish my name in *Historic Kingston* and
Limelight Newsletter.

☐ YES ☐ NO

I am interested in receiving *Limelight* by email.

☐ YES ☐ NO

Please mail to:

Kingston Historical Society
 PO Box 54, Kingston, ON K7L 4V6

OR

Hand form and payment to a member of the
 KHS Council at a monthly meeting.

Your support is appreciated!

www.kingstonhistoricalsociety.ca

