



Vol. 24 No. 4
1 April 1997

James Warren
Editor

THE BROTHERS ISLANDS

For our April meeting we welcome Stewart Renfrew of Queen's Archives, who will reveal some interesting stories about the three islands which lie between Amherst Island and Lemoine Point, the lighthouse and Hughie the Hermit. Stewart received his MA from the University of Leeds, examining varying Shakespearian texts to determine those most likely to reflect accurately the bard's original language, the originals having burned in the fire at the Globe.

The meeting is on Wednesday 16 April at 7.30 pm in the Wilson Room of the Central Public Library at 130 Johnson Street. Friends and strangers are always welcome, including refreshments afterward.

Note that our Executive Meeting is on 9 April in the Athabaska Room Officers Mess in Fort Frontenac at 7.30 pm.

ELIZABETH BARDON IN MARCH

Guest speaker Elizabeth Bardon presented a most interesting talk about infant feeding practices since World War II using research techniques which are rarely applied to historical studies. Since documentary evidence did not exist, she built a team of 150 mothers, interviewed them individually, then codified the results, providing insightful anecdotal material to enrich her story. She was also a most engaging speaker, sparking a lively question period afterward.

We regret that only fourteen(14) people attended, despite reasonably good weather, hardly a generous response to our guest or to Jennifer McKendry who provided plentiful refreshments.

FAREWELL TO MEMBERS

We note with deep regret the passing of Life Members Phil Quattrocci and Neil Davis. Phil was such a lively spark at our meetings, always ready to propose new ideas and enterprising projects. Our deepest sympathy is extended to both families.

DR. KEN RUTHERFORD BURSARY

Queen's Department of Geography has initiated the "G.Kenyon Rutherford Bursary" for undergraduates, on the basis of academic standing and financial need, to a student entering a third or fourth year of a geography program. The objective is \$5000 to which the Ontario government will match, dollar for dollar, any donations given prior to 31 March 1997.

If you would like to donate, please attach the form which appears at the end of this newsletter to your cheque or pledge, for which charitable receipts will be issued. Mail to Leigh Kalin, Office of Advancement, Queen's University, Kingston, ON K7L 3N6. Enquiries to (613) 545-2060 ext.5646.

SAVE LAND REGISTRY BOOKS!

To help save Ontario's original land registry documents from government's intention to destroy them, please read the APOLROD bulletin at the end of this newsletter.

QUEEN'S ARCHIVES LECTURE

Queen's Archives announce their fifteenth annual Archives Lecture: "A Queen's Spirit of Substance: Lorne Pierce and his Alma Mater", presented by Dr. Sandra Campbell, Department of English, University of Ottawa. The date is Thursday 17 April 1997 at 3:30 pm in the Lecture Theatre, Room 102, Humphrey Hall, Queen's Campus. A reception and display of archival documents will follow in Kathleen Ryan Hall (the archives reading room). If attending, répondez s'il vous plaît à 545-2378.

NUTSHELL HISTORY OF KINGSTON

James Warren (your ever-humble servant) announces the latest historical vignette, the sixteenth, in our series of true tales of Kingston history. This one is not a tale, however, but a chronology of key events in Kingston from 10,000 BC to 2000 AD, replete with illustrations and a map of the New Kingston. Think of it; all this on a four-page leaflet for only \$1. They are selling like hotcakes. At our last meeting, 14 were sold to the 14 people present.

In the spirit of an April Fool (your ever-humble servant) there is one error which I challenge you to find. This will be corrected in future printings, but think of the investment value of having one of the few copies in error. Furthermore, considering the changing position of Pittsburgh Township, our first copies will show one version of our new city. Future editions will attempt to reveal future borders to the east of Kingston.

APOLOGIES FROM THE EDITOR

In our March THEN, we misnamed the editor of Historic Kingston. He is, of

course, Donald Redmond, whose latest contribution is Volume Forty-Five.

Editor Donald is seeking more economical printers for our annual publication. This year, the cost has risen alarmingly. Its 300 copies cost \$4980 + tax + postage = \$5808.60 or \$19.36 a copy, one reason our membership fees must be so high.

PUBLISHING POLICY

On 12 March, our executive council approved a new policy statement prepared by the Publishing Committee. One highlight is that the Society will no longer undertake to finance or publish unsolicited books. In the past, these have not proven a successful venture, partly because we have neither the publishing nor the marketing expertise.

Under its new definition, 'publications' will embrace Historic Kingston, THEN newsletter, historical vignettes, Society stationery and business forms, Murney Tower brochure and posters, books which we sponsor, graphics (posters, maps, illustrations), reprints of historic photographs, our slide collection, projector and slide cabinet and the design, production, installation and storage of exhibitions. Many of these activities have been carried out by Jim Warren anyway, an extension of his professional career as a product/graphic/interior/exhibition designer and general dog's-body.

ELIZABETH COTTAGE

The charming Regency Gothic building that graces 251 Brock Street at Clergy is in poor repair and needs our financial help. Built in 1841-1843 by Edward Horsey, it remained the family home until 1955, when it was donated



as a home for retired gentlewomen who were obliged to give up their own homes. Much of the original furniture remains. If you would like to help preserve this charming structure, please call Isobel Trumpour at 542-4447 to offer your kind bounty.

HOUSEKEEPING THE ATTIC

President Joe Boucher, Margaret Burdsall and Jim Warren explored the attic of Queen's Archives where we have been allowed to store our own archival material. This treasure trove has accumulated over the 104 years of our existence as a Society, including the minutes of a meeting held in City Hall in October 1893, a month before we were officially founded. It is a curious room, tucked under the sloping roof of a dormer, lit by a large fan window overlooking the quadrangle to the south.

Currently it is crowded and untidy, its contents inaccessible to any but the most adventurous. It contains books, minutes, files, maps, artifacts from Murney Tower, tables, chairs, our ancient computer, framed pictures, exhibition material, old wooden card filing cabinets and an epidiascope of monumental proportions. We propose to put the place in order.

FRIENDS OF PHIL AND ROSE

We were pleased to learn from their president, Annamaria Bamji, that the Societa Dante Alighieri have established "The Friends of Phil and Rose Quattrocchi Bursary" at Queen's University. This bursary will be awarded every year to a deserving student enrolled in the Italian Department or the Art History Department. In addition to Phil's enthusiastic efforts to promote gardens in Block D, the Winter Festival, the waterfront walkway and the Folk Arts Festival, his spirit did much to keep Italian culture alive in the hearts of both new and old generations.

We are also pleased that his wife Rose receives her share of the honours for her great support to Phil's activities and to all those unsung contributions that every mother makes to her family, her husband's career and the community.

If you can help, please send your donations to Queen's University, Office of Advancement, Kingston, Ont. K7L 3N6, or call Linda Kemp at 545-2216. A tax receipt will be issued.



Rose and Phil Quattrocchi in 1945

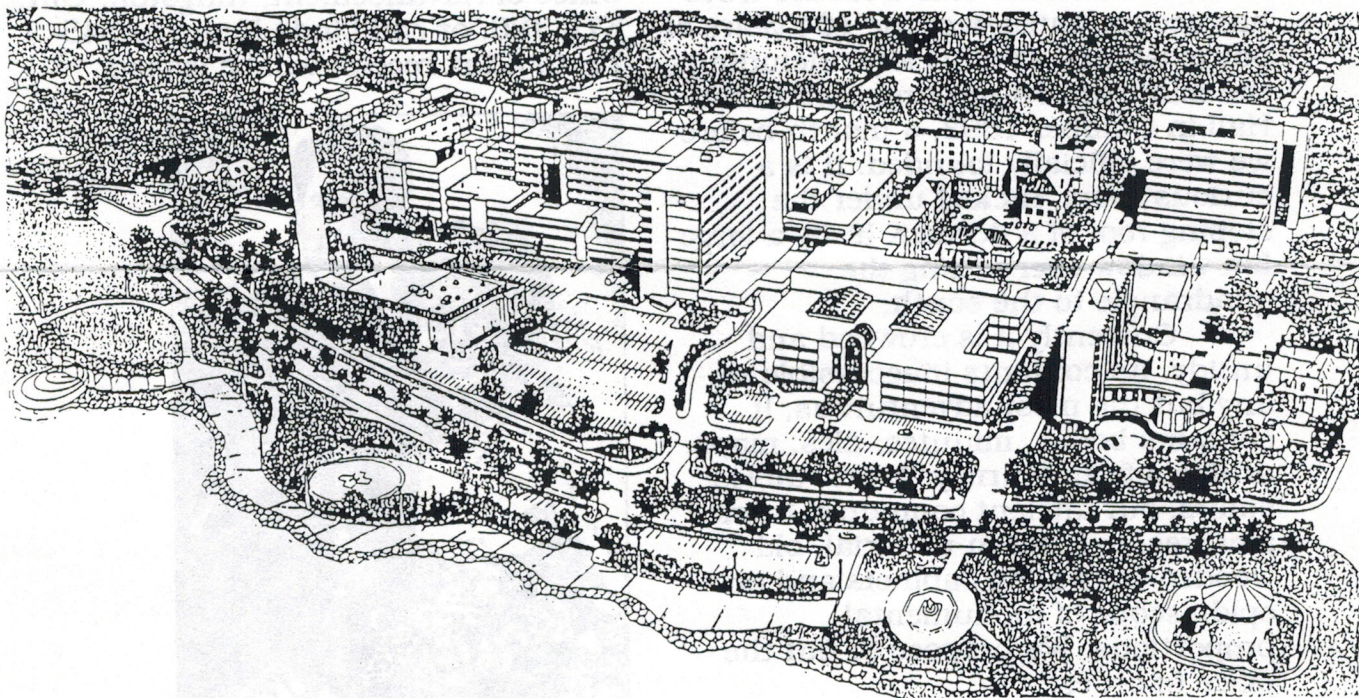
SHOULD KING STREET SHIFT?

Those who approach downtown Kingston from the west along King Street are aware of the bottleneck south of Kingston General Hospital. Here, tractor-trailers often twist and turn into the hospital's receiving dock. The emergency entrance to KGH is here, as well as the entrance to the Ontario Cancer Foundation, which seeks to enlarge its facilities.

Officials from this medical complex suggest a novel and far-reaching solution: Move King Street farther toward the lake. As you can see in the aerial view below, the shoreline would be extended southward, providing a scenic footpath at water's edge. While Murney Tower should be little affected, the Cenotaph beside it would be moved slightly to the south. By moving King Street southward, the bottleneck would be eliminated, the cancer clinic could be expanded and extensive parking could be placed closer to the hospital facilities.

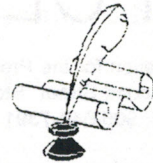
From an aesthetic viewpoint, some rare, mature elm trees might be cut down and considerable landscaping would be essential to enhance the park-like space along the waterfront.

Discussing this proposal at our March executive meeting, there was one suggestion that this project was one more attempt by Queen's to expand its empire without regard to the citizens of Kingston. On the other hand, the proposal appears to provide a more attractive waterfront access for hikers and picnickers, now obstructed by existing parking lots. Providing that landscaping was carried out promptly and with imagination, your editor suggests that the proposal has great merit. What do you think? Write your most spirited comments, yea or nea, to Jim Warren, 17 Richard Street, Kingston K7H 2J3.



APOLROD

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WE NEED YOUR HELP

We are sending you this information because we know you are concerned with preserving our heritage. The ASSOCIATION FOR THE PRESERVATION OF ONTARIO LAND REGISTRY OFFICE DOCUMENTS (APOLROD) has been formed in response to the planned destruction of Ontario's land records.

The heritage community in this province have been working for many years to try and persuade the Ontario government and its ministries to store and preserve the vast amount of historic land records in this province. Unfortunately in difficult economic times with a conservative government in power, the tens of thousands of cubic feet of land records are not a priority. As an Association of people who have worked with historic land documents we have come to appreciate that the history of this province and our communities are intricately linked to the history of land records in our Land Registry Offices. Unfortunately it has been made very clear to us that if local heritage groups do not come forward to take LRO documents, they will be destroyed. Before this happens, we are demanding that a complete inventory be conducted of all LRO documents before any schedule is set down for the dispersal or destruction of the land documents - and we are prepared to set to work to do the inventory!

It is the mandate of our association to work in conjunction with the heritage community, the Ministry of Consumer and Commercial Relations, the Archives of Ontario, Land Registry Offices, interested individuals and local heritage groups to safeguard and inventory pre-1955 documents currently held by Ontario's Land Registry Offices (LROs). It is our hope that an inventory of LROs will: (1) allow all interested parties a better appreciation of the diversity of records to be found in our land registry offices; (2) provide the heritage community with a complete list of exactly what needs to be preserved and (3) ensure that these vital documents (our heritage) are preserved for future generations.

While APOLROD is co-ordinating the inventory of LROs, it is not our place to set down the schedule of when and if exactly what documents are transferred to the local heritage community. The schedule for dispersal/ destruction of the pre-1955 documents is not dictated by APOLROD but is set down by the Ministry of Consumer and Commercial Relations in conjunction with the Archives of Ontario. We are simply volunteers doing what we can to inventory (document) our heritage before it is destroyed or dispersed. We are urging the Archives of Ontario and the Real Property Registration section of the Ministry of Consumer and Commercial Relations to keep all records until an inventory can be done for each Land Registry Office. When it comes to the issue of land records being transferred to the local community we are asking for a realistic time-line in which the inventory can be done and additional time for local heritage groups to review the inventory before determining what, if any of the pre-1955 records they are able to preserve.

We are beginning to put together teams of volunteers who will work together with us to inventory the Land Registry Offices in this province. We have procedures and support in place which detail what exactly has to be done. But we cannot inventory the entire province alone. For this reason we desperately need your help. We ask that you tell others about this important issue and ask for volunteers. The heritage community has shown that they are concerned with the issue and have always worked hard to document and preserve our heritage. Now, more than ever we need to pull together to save our heritage.

Please help us to preserve our heritage.

APOLROD

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Thank you for showing an interest in the preservation of Ontario's heritage. APOLROD has been formed to work in conjunction with the Ministry of Consumer & Commercial Relations, the Archives of Ontario, land registry offices, local heritage groups, and interested individuals to safeguard and inventory pre-1955 documents stored at Ontario's land registry offices.

We are encouraging membership in our association to help provide a united front and a single voice to speak for the many people who are upset and concerned about the proposed disposal of the pre-1955 documents held in Ontario Land Registry Offices. Membership fees are \$5.00 per year. If you are interested in helping to preserve our Land Records, please complete and return the membership form below.

Name: _____

Address: _____

E-Mail: _____ Phone: _____ Fax: _____

Are you willing/able to help APOLROD members with any of the following tasks:

- inventory/catalogue records in local Land Registry Offices Y / N

if Yes, which Land Registry Office(es) are you able to work in? _____

- proofread Land Registry Office microfilm Y / N

- Use your computer to assist APOLROD? Y / N

if Yes, what type of computer do you own (eg. IBM/windows)? _____

if Yes, what software are you familiar with (eg. Wordperfect)? _____

- What other genealogical/historical groups are you currently a member of:

- Have you ever worked with or researched local Land Registry Office records Y / N

if Yes, in which Land Registry Office(es)? _____

- What other ways would you be able to assist APOLROD (all suggestions welcome!)

Please complete and mail this membership form, along with five dollars, to:

APOLROD, % 251 Second Street, Stouffville, ON L4A 1B9.