



Trafalgar Township Historical Society

"Documenting, celebrating and preserving the agricultural heritage of North Oakville"

Fall Newsletter 2010

School House Renovations Update

Our contractor has completed all most all of our renovations. There are just some minor touch ups to do. We have paused while the Town of Oakville repairs and shingles the roof. The upstairs bathroom and kitchen are complete including the restoration of all the wainscoting and wood work, new antique hardware added, addition of a missing blackboard on East wall, ceiling repaired, and installation of new appropriate lighting. The basement has had the ceiling dry walled, has new furnace and duct work, new hot water tank and new fire doors. We will have our new sign installed in the spring. Special thanks to Mattamy for the donation to cover the cost of having our kitchenette custom made to match the existing woodwork in the schoolhouse and Trillium for the restoration grant. Thank you to John Tompa and his crew who painstakingly restored the wood and made replica trim, cupboards and doors where there were none, who went above and beyond to ensure that everything was done to the highest of standards and who persevered in the basement with the changes required to meet the changing requirements of inspectors. We appreciate all your hard work and patience!



Fall Heritage Fair

We welcomed 100 people to our fair in September. We had heritage and artifact displays, BBQ, pony rides sponsored by Mattamy, crafts, and items for sale. We raised \$150 at the fair from the sale of our booklets and photography. Thank you to Ross Wark for the photography and to Irene Saunders and Ross Wark for the historical booklets to sell. Thanks also to all the groups who came out and brought a display to share with our participants. Stuart McCulloch our chairperson was able to take some time at the event to thank Trillium's representative Bill Allison, MPP Ted Chudleigh and Jessica from Trillium for their support in making the renovations at the schoolhouse possible.



Time To Renew Your Membership for 2011

Don't forget to renew your membership. We count on this income to cover the heating and insurance costs of the schoolhouse. (\$25 for individuals & \$35 for families) made payable to Trafalgar Twp Historical Society. Send to Jane Watt, 3089 Jaguar Valley Drive, Apt. B2, Mississauga, Ont. L5A 2J1

Speaker Series

Tuesday, November 30th, 7pm at the Schoolhouse Elaine Eigl, Heritage Coordinator with Community Services for the City of Mississauga will speak on "**Built Heritage - When Buildings Are Bridges**"

Please bring Christmas cookies to share!!

Elaine is a recent graduate from the Willowbank School of Restoration Arts.

During her time with Willowbank, Elaine completed an internship project under the direction of Michael Seaman from the Town of Oakville. Elaine is currently Vice President and Collections Coordinator for the Mississauga South Historical Society. She is also a past Citizen Member of the Mississauga Heritage Advisory Committee. She resigned from the Committee when she accepted her new position as Heritage Coordinator with the City of Mississauga. Elaine brings a great deal of knowledge and passion to matters of built heritage.

TTHS Board Meetings

Our next board meeting is at the schoolhouse at 3pm on Tuesday November 16 at 3pm. Please call ahead if you are interested in attending in case we change the location due to construction. All are welcome to attend and participate in discussion. michelle@tths.ca

Palermo School House- The new one!

Ross Wark connected with the future principal of Palermo last year and provided him with heritage information. We were invited to set up a heritage display in a glass case at the new Palermo School house this fall. We have set up a nice display of our new sign, the minutes of the Trafalgar School board completed by Irene Saunders, some wooden toys and some of Ross Wark's marbles. The new school is about a 15 minute walk from our one room school house.

Recent Donations

We want to thank the following people/groups for their donations...

Trillium Foundation- This has been a long road with delay after delay with getting permits and being allowed to move forward with our dream of restoring the schoolhouse and we feel like we have been thanking Trillium for their generous donation for over a year now since we first were successful in our funding proposal. The great news is that the restoration is almost complete and we want to acknowledge the difference Trillium has made by taking a run-down building and restoring it to a building that is ready to serve the community. A leading grantmaker in Canada, the Ontario Trillium Foundation strengthens the capacity of the voluntary sector through investments in community-based initiatives. An agency of the Government of Ontario, OTF builds healthy and vibrant communities: www.trilliumfoundation.org

Mattamy- Thank you so much for providing ponies at our fair and also for covering the cost of our new kitchenette. The kitchen was handmade to match the same wood as the other existing cupboards in the schoolhouse.

Irene Saunders for the Trafalgar School Board minutes, the land grant registry information from 1807 to 1839 and the booklets she provided for sale at our fair.

Ross Wark for the photos and Trafalgar historical pamphlets that we sold at the fair.

Trinison developments for the photographic record of 1354 Burnhamthorpe
Queries & Contributions

I represent Heritage Halton Hills, as a director with CHO (Community Heritage Ontario) and am interested in the history of the **Chisholm family farmhouse at 6th Line and Steeles**. The house is presently on the grounds occupied by the new Hydro Plant in Hornby. It is my intention to provide sufficient information to warrant first of all, listing the property in our Heritage Registry, with a view to designate at a later date. Roscoe M. Petkovic - CHO HHH roscoemp2001@yahoo.ca

I am writing to ask if the surname Temple pops up in your files. I look specifically for a **Lucy Temple** who married David Myers. Then farmed near Alberton. I was born on a farm on the Wentworth Halton county line. I do not know if the swamp at Lake Medad was in Halton or Wentworth. Of course I knew all the farmers back the road from Lake Medad - now Hidden Lake. Doris Ann Hood. Now Lemon. hlemon@jubilation.uwaterloo.ca

Shirley Mackay is wondering if anyone has information on the **Bronte Orange Hall** that stood on present day Lakeshore Road.
Don_shirley.mackay@sympatico.ca

Can you help me find some pictures of **Bar nine**. I worked there as a kid. It was located at the top of the hill at Lions Valley Park. We took out trail rides along the Sixteen Mile Creek. I believe the barn was owned by Bob and Angie Ray. Thanks, Vicki

Trafalgar History Updates

North Oakville Heritage Street Names

We have received some suggestions for street names North of Dundas. If you still have this request sitting in your "to do" list then stop right now and contact us because some of these decisions are being finalized now. We are very happy to report that the following names will be used in the new Trinison subdivision at Neyagawa & Dundas thanks to the submissions made by our member Wayne Colton- Emily Cline Lane, and Hiram Terrace. In addition there will be a park with a plaque commemorating the home that was demolished and the families who lived there.



Sixteen School House

Please remember to check in on the Sixteen School house just West of 16 Mile Creek and South of Dundas. We are concerned about possible vandalism. A new member of the society, Ann Choate Little sent us this recent picture of the schoolhouse boarded up.



152 Caulder Avenue



We had some excitement in August when one of our members called to say a home was being demolished. We tried to get the owner to let us photograph the house but didn't have any luck. We attempted to find a home for the old wagons and sleighs on the property. The wagons and sleighs are still there if anyone has a home for them we can put you in touch with the owner. We had hoped to salvage the 5 newel posts from the porch to be used in our heritage gazebo that will be built behind Palermo schoolhouse but unfortunately they were demolished.

Bronte Park Buildings

We have been told by June Hitchcox of the Oakville Historical Society that the building we are concerned about at Bronte Creek Provincial Park is now being boarded up. We want to thank Joyce Savoline for immediately responding to the concerns of the Historical Societies.

St Luke's Church Palermo

St Luke's contacted us in September to review their plans for expansion. We were concerned that the church was going to be moved from its present location. The church is indeed going to be moved and will now be facing new Bronte Road on their existing lot. Unfortunately there is no way to keep the church in its present location and be able to expand the church to accommodate the growing neighbouring community within its doors. Through discussions with the church we have come up with a compromise that will reflect the history of the original location of the church facing Dundas. There will be a walkway coming from Dundas towards the church with a trellis that mimics the front entrance of the church.

1354 Burnhamthorpe Road West

The developer for this property invited us out to have a look at the barn and arena. The outside boards on the barn appear to be newer than the interior structure and we don't see any reason to keep the barn. We are hoping that as barns are demolished in North Oakville that the developers will donate the boards and funds to restore the barn just west of the Palermo schoolhouse on the Glenorchy Conservation area. It is too early to start collecting barn boards now but in the next year or so this is what we will start recommending. The developer of this property is going to save some of the larger boulders from the foundation so we can re-create the garden edging at the Palermo schoolhouse as it once was. The arena on the property is a newer structure and there is no use in saving it but it is a very interesting structure and we would love to hear stories from anyone who participated in horsing events at the arena so we can have a historical file on the arena.



Trafalgar War Memorial Plaque

Our request to keep the original Trafalgar memorial plaque in Trafalgar has been successful. We hope to have the plaque on display at the School House next year.

Heritage Events Around Halton

- Wed. 10 November the Esquesing Historical Society presents- **Clay Products Industry in Halton & Peel**. Dr. W.D. McIlveen will discuss the extensive brick making industry. Knox Presbyterian Church Main & Church Sts, Georgetown, 7:30 PM

- Sat. 27 November the Halton Regional Museum presents **-Historic Christmas Feast \$125** Rebecca at 905-825-6000 x 27 for tickets
- Sunday December 12th **Christmas Tea and Tour at Oakville Museum at Erchless Estate.** 1:30-3 and 3-4:30PM \$5 plus HST RSVP- register on IRIS

Irene Saunders taped interviews in 1994 of Frank and Hazel Chisholm as they shared stories at the kitchen table. Irene has pulled out the information regarding Frank's grandfather and great grandfather in response to the query in the newsletter last season about the Chisholm farm house. In addition we will be featuring for the next year the Trafalgar Twp Original Land grants that have been transcribed by Irene Saunders. THANK YOU IRENE!

Thomas Chisholm remembered by grandson Frank Chisholm. (1994)

The church picnics were held at the grove across from the repeater station on the Base Line (Steeles). A stage had to be built and they always had had a supper out on the lawn. They'd hire a band from Milton or Streetsville – a brass band, not an orchestra. That was Thomas Chisholm's place and there were beech trees there and wild thimbleberries. Frank's great grandfather bought the farm in 1840. His grandfather was born in 1843, and when he was married he came to the farm at the corner of the 6th line & Steeles. Before that they lived up on the 5th Line, lots 3 & 4. They had 200 acres there. The house was on one hundred and the barn was on the other. They paid \$30.00 for the lower hundred. The old house was down in the gully; an old log house. There are still lilacs there.

This is a newspaper article about my grandfather bringing water down to the farm at the corner of the 6th Line and Steeles. You see, there never was much of a water supply on that property. The water pipe started up behind the Hornby Golf Club there, back of Cliff Wrigglesworth's on the back fifty. You see, the ground there is just full of springs. The pipe ran down there and I think they were eight-foot logs with metal inserts you see. They had boring machines to bore those out. I would imagine it would be bores out about two inches, or maybe less. That farm up there is so full of springs and yet across the road on the Chisholm farm the present owner has spent money on well, but there's very little water.

When Frank and Hazel lived there they raised turkeys. He had a rack on the back of the car, and he had to draw water from Ella's all the time. There was enough to keep cows in the winter time, but you see they had to go down to the creek every day to drink.

The pipe line was put in before Frank's time. . . . probably a hundred years ago anyway. I can remember when they dug the well at the barn there. I think Frank Switzer witched that one, but it never was strong enough. You could get the odd pail of water for the house; that was all. There were several wells dug, and when Frank sold the farm he had to get water in order to sell the place. It was just drilled and the water came right over the pipe. But drilling wasn't the right thing to do.

And across the road where Ellas lived, they dug the house well, and when they went in for dinner they left the shovels in the well, and when they came back – goodbye shovels. The shovels are likely still in there for the water flowed in so fast. The water from that well came out and cooled the tank in the milk house and they never had to put in ice. They built the cooling tank so that the overflow of water would run right through and keep the milk cool.

To put the pipe in to supply water for the Chisholm farm you started by ploughing a furrow using a team of horses. And as the newspaper says, Mr. Chisholm was an energetic man. You plough the furrow each way to loosen the ground, and throw it back, and then as you get going down you split the team of horses – put a long wippletree on, you know – double tree, and you can go down whatever depth you want. You put a chain on the plough, you see, and go down six inches or more at a time. It saves digging because you can loosen it up with the plough.

Frank's grandfather never drove to church – always walked from the 6th Line over to St. Stephen's Anglican. When Frank's father, Will Chisholm went to lodge in Milton, he and Mr. Pewtress used to walk along the CPR tracks to get there.

Frank's grandfather Chisholm attended Milton Fair for the first 50 years.

1807 TRAFALGAR TOWNSHIP ORIGINAL LAND GRANTS

Name of Locatee Deed No.	Residence	Lot & Conc	Date ID	Issue Date	Trans Type	Type FG	Type of Lease/sale	Archival Reference		
								RG	Series	Vol Page
St. George Quetton Deed No.		21.22 8F	1	18070801 18060804	FG	FF		01 C14	002 088	
Clawson William Deed No.		BR 26 LONT	1 8	18070620 18070519	FG			01 C14	002 082	
Simmerman Matthias Deed No.		25 BR FT LONT	1 8	18070213 18070211	FG	MC		01 C14	002 056	
Bunting John Deed No. HC 354		9 1SDS	3	18071002 ND	FG			08 13840	001 011	
Covenhaven Samuel Deed No. HC 400		2 1NDST	3	18071217 ND	FG			08 13840	001 021	
Hill John Deed No.	Trafalgar	11 1	8	18071103 ND	L		CR	01 C112	003 039	
Clawson William Deed No.		BR Lot 33 3 SDS	1	18070613 18070519	FG			01 C14	002 082	
McCraney William Deed No.	Trafalgar	19 3SDS	8	18070630 ND	L		CL	01 C112	003 040	
McDonell Rev Alex Deed No.		26 3 SDS	1	18070627 18060315	FG	NR		01 C14	002 084	
Osyor Joseph Deed No.	Trafalgar	5 3SSDS	8	18070302 ND	L		CR	01 C112	003 036	

**Wyatt Charles B.
Deed No.**

BR 21&22 L Ont 4 1

**18070122 FG FF
18060618**

01 C14 002 054

**Curtis Daniel
Deed No.**

Barton

BR 33 4SDS 8

**18070811 L
ND**

CL

01 C112 003 041

**Allan William
Deed No. HC 308**

34&35 4SDS 3

**18070630 FG
ND**

08 13840 001 002