

Victoria Park, Metcalfe, Ontario

### THE FOUNDING OF OSGOODE TOWNSHIP

Named for William Osgoode, the first Chief Justice of Upper Canada, Osgoode Township was established on lands the British acquired from the Mississaugas in the 1780's. Land for farming and a plentiful supply of white pine and white oak attracted the first non-native settlers, the families of Archibald and Catherine McDonnell and William and Ann York, who arrived in 1827. They founded the new community's first industries and institutions, and they built the first two roads in the Township, converging here at what was Baker's Corners. These roads, the Rideau Canal and railway lines between Osgoode and Bytown (now Ottawa) encouraged further settlement, and the Township was incorporated in 1850. On January 1, 2001, Osgoode Township became part of the City of Ottawa.

Ontario Heritage Foundation, an agency of the Government of Ontario

### Presidents Report - Aug/Sep 2001

We have once again had an interesting and busy summer in the historical society. We have been successful in reducing the humidity in the Museum through the addition of a dehumidifier in addition to the air conditioner. Copier paper was getting moist and the copier would not work.

#### Pioneer Day & Strawberry Social

On Saturday, July 28, we held our 25<sup>th</sup> annual Pioneer Day along with a Strawberry Social. It was again most successful with over 200 people (almost twice as many as in past years) enjoying the strawberries, cake and ice cream. Don and Shirley Lowe supplied a generous amount of delicious strawberries which everyone who had the Strawberry Social enjoyed. With perfect weather and the special events planned for the day the enthusiasm of the estimated crowd of over 400 was great.

At 1:30 PM, in the Agricultural Museum, we launched Cecil Reaney's book on the History of the Metcalfe Rural Telephone Company. Cecil dedicated many hours in researching the book and putting together an excellent display of telephone artefacts which included antique telephones, test equipment, photographs, and even a section of open wire telephone line as it existed during the time of the Metcalfe Rural. The book has over 50 pages of information, 34 illustrations, an index of names and places mentioned in the book, and complete copies of the telephone directories for 1934 and 1942. The directories include the subscribers

## Osgoode Township Historical Society & Museum

at the

Old Vernon School

## Newsletter

Volume XXVIII

No 3

Sept 2001

names along with their occupation such as farmer, cheese maker, auctioneer, et cetera.

As I write this over 75 copies have been sold. The book launch was followed by a ribbon cutting to officially open the new mezzanine level which we have added to the Agriculture Museum. The honours were done by Doug Thompson, the last Mayor of the Township of Osgoode and currently the City Councillor, Bill Porteous, Past President of the Metcalfe and District Lions Club and the Honourable John Baird, MPP, Nepean-Carleton.

At 2:00 PM activities moved to the front of the museum where, with the Ontario Heritage Foundation, we unveiled the three historic plaques honouring the original two settler families of the Township of Osgoode. (See the separate article by Ron Isaac.) This was the successful culmination of several years of determined effort by Ron Isaac.

The enthusiastic exhibitors brought out an excellent collection of antique cars, tractors, engines and other artifacts. Bruce Straby of Greely again displayed part of his extensive collection of antique mechanical record players. Bruce has been collecting for over 40 years. His collection goes back to 1887 with Thomas A. Edison's wax cylinder players and through to the robust disk record players manufactured by Edison, Victor, Columbia and Brunswick. Bruce also provided us with music for the afternoon.

The ladies of the Vernon Women's Institute had a booth where the thirsty could enjoy a cool soft drink on such a hot day.

I would like to thank all those who contributed to the success of this year's Pioneer Day.

#### Other Plans

We are planning to have an interesting display at the International Plowing Match which is to be in Navan from Sept 18 to 22 of this year. This will focus around the display of Metcalfe Rural Telephone Company along with other selected artefacts from our extensive collection.

The roots of the Historical Society go back to the fall of 1972 so 2002 will be the 30<sup>th</sup> year of operation. We feel we should be doing several special things to mark this important anniversary. To date suggestions include:

- A History of the Community of North Osgoode
- The Story of the Railways of Osgoode Township - the ones built and others that were planned but never built.
- additional volumes of Pioneer Families.
- updating many of our cemetery records.
- publishing of the 1901 Census

Any other suggestions would be appreciated!

All work of the Society is dependent on the efforts of volunteers of which we need more. There are many opportunities to put your skills to use or learn new things in helping to preserve the history of the Township of Osgoode. Please contact us through calling the museum (613-821-4062) or email oths@magma.ca or speak to any member.

Doug Hughes  
President

### THE UNVEILING OF A PROVINCIAL PLAQUE

The Ontario Heritage Foundation

And the Osgoode Township Historical Society & Museum welcome you to celebrate the Township's first Settlers

**Archibald McDonell and William York**

And to unveil a Provincial Plaque Commemorating  
the Founding of Osgoode Township  
Saturday, July 28, 2001, 2 P.M.

At Osgoode Township Museum, Vernon, Ontario

#### Welcome and Opening Remarks

Emcee Doug Hughes, President, Osgoode Township  
Historical Society & Museum

#### Greetings

David Pratt, MP, Nepean-Carleton

The Honourable John Baird, MPP, Nepean-Carleton

Doug Thompson, Councillor, Ward 10, City of Ottawa

#### Historical Address

Ron Isaac, Vice-President, Osgoode Township Historical  
Society & Museum

#### Remarks from the Ontario Heritage Foundation

Marjorie Mercer, Executive Director

#### Unveiling of the Provincial Plaque

Unveiling of Local Markers to McDonell and  
York Families

#### Closing Remarks

## HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

### THE FOUNDING OF OSGOODE TOWNSHIP

In the latter part of the 18<sup>th</sup> Century, prior to the American Revolutionary War, the land north of the St. Lawrence River and Lake Ontario was the hunting territory of several First Nations, most notably the Mississaugas. At the conclusion of the War in 1783, the large number of United Empire Loyalists flooding into what is now Canada prompted the British to acquire native lands for settlement. Under the direction of Governor General Haldimand, Captain W.R. Crawford negotiated what would become known as the "Crawford Purchase" with the Mississaugas. In exchange for clothing, hunting supplies and "liquid assets," the British took over most of what would become the counties of Hastings, Addington, Frontenac, Leeds, Grenville, Dundas, Stormont, Glengarry, Lanark, Russell, Prescott and Carleton. In what would become

Carleton County, the purchase included Marlborough, North Gower, Osgoode, Gloucester and part of Nepean Townships.

Many of the first land grants in this area were made to United Empire Loyalists between 1799- 1827. Osgoode and nearby Russell Townships were surveyed in 1822. Osgoode Township was named for the first Chief Justice of Upper Canada, the Honourable William Osgoode.

Two couples, along with their families, share the title of being the first non-native settlers to the township: Archibald and Catherine McDonell and William and Ann York. In a rather strange coincidence, the McDonells and Yorks had been neighbours before they moved to Osgoode. Born in Scotland, "Squire" Archibald McDonell came to Canada as a boy in 1785 and settled in Cornwall. There he married Catherine McDonell, whose father was a Loyalist. The couple already had eight children when they left Cornwall for Osgoode, where their ninth was born. Archibald, a veteran of the War of 1812, was granted 800 acres of land, and Catherine was granted 200 acres due to her U.E.L roots.

William York, his wife Ann Embury and their nine children arrived in Cornwall in 1824 from Sussex, England. Unbeknownst to one another, both the Yorks and McDonells decided to relocate to Osgoode Township at the same time in March 1827. The McDonells settled just south of what would become Baker's Corners (now Metcalfe) and the Yorks settled only two miles away, near what is now known as York's Corners.

Osgoode Township was initially thought to be an impenetrable swamp, and it took time before potential settlers received word that it was not all swampy. Eventually, it was also realized that the geography of the terrain and its several watercourses allowed swampland to be drained. Deep forests of white pine and white oak also attracted settlers. Although agriculture was the main reason most people came to Osgoode, many found that lumbering was more lucrative. The McDonells' and Yorks' efforts to build roads towards Bytown (now Ottawa) facilitated travel, allowing new settlers greater access to the area. The roads they cleared converged at what is now the junction of Victoria and Albert Streets in Metcalfe.

The McDonells and Yorks proved to be valuable members of the growing community. The "Squire" opened the township's first store, started its first sawmill, and was its first municipal councillor. William York helped to found the first Methodist Church in Osgoode (the second church to be built in the township in 1834.

Five years after the arrival of these first settlers, there were 15 other families in the township. The early settlers are known to have heard terrible thundering sounds as they cleared their properties. They eventually realized that it was Colonel John By and the Royal Engineers setting off explosives as they built the Rideau Canal just 20 miles away. Following the completion of the Canal in 1832, the population of the area increased steadily. The two railways that crossed the township, the New York Central line and the Ottawa-Prescott line, also brought more people to the area, beginning in the 1840's. Osgoode Township was incorporated on January 1<sup>st</sup>, 1850.

On January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2001, on the 151<sup>st</sup> anniversary of its incorporation, Osgoode Township became a ward of the newly amalgamated City of Ottawa.

Submitted by Ron Isaac

## THE ONTARIO HERITAGE FOUNDATION

The Provincial Plaque Program is the Foundation's oldest and best-known heritage conservation activity.

The Ontario Heritage Foundation, a not-for-profit agency of the Government of Ontario, is dedicated to preserving, protecting and promoting Ontario's heritage for all of us to enjoy now and for others to experience in the future.

Ontario's heritage is important to us all. You can help preserve our heritage by getting involved with conservation efforts in your own community or by making a gift of support.

The Ontario Heritage Foundation welcomes gifts of cash, heritage conservation easements and provincially significant properties such as buildings, artifacts and natural sites. We also welcome supplies and services to assist with the restoration, furnishing and operation of our properties and programs.

Your gift at this time has even more impact as it will be matched by the Government of Ontario through the Heritage Challenge Fund. The matching funds will be placed in an endowment fund for the future.

For more information about the provincial plaque and local marking programs, or to learn more about the work of the Ontario Heritage Foundation, or to receive our free newsletter *Heritage Matters*, or to be added to our mailing list, please contact the Marketing and Communications Unit at:

Ontario Heritage Foundation  
10 Adelaide Street East, Suite 302  
Toronto, Ontario M5C 1J3

Note: Cathayn Dixon and Gordon Pim from the Heritage Foundation were in attendance at the unveiling

## UNVEILING OF PROVINCIAL PLAQUES THE YORK FAMILY

(The plaque reads)

The family of William and Ann York, along with the family of Archibald and Catherine McDonell, were the first white settlers in Osgoode Township. William (1775-1850) and his wife Ann (1773-1866) settled on Lot 21, Con 9, near what is now York's Corners in March 1827. They were



Union Cemetery Metcalfe Ont

attracted by the abundance of white pine and oak, as well as fertile soil for farming. The Yorks held the first ecumenical church service in their home in 1832 and helped found the first Methodist Church in 1834. York built a road from his farm to connect with McDonell's road, which he then helped to extend north to Bytown (now Ottawa) allowing the settlers to

avoid the long journey to the St. Lawrence River for supplies. The Yorks had eight children, most of whom stayed in Osgoode Township and contributed to its growth and success.

*Erected by the Township of Osgoode Historical Society and Museum. Assisted by the Lions Clubs of Osgoode Township, The Union Cemetery Board and the Ontario Heritage Foundation.*

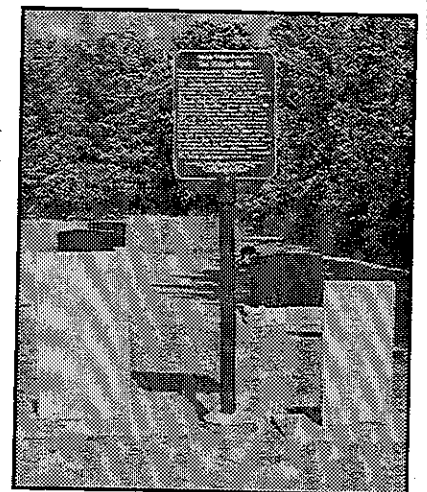
## YORK DESCENDANTS IN ATTENDANCE

- ✓ F. Robert York, Val des Monts, Que.
- ✓ Ms. Nancy York, Shawville, Que.
- ✓ Mrs. Verna York, Osgoode, Ont.
- ✓ Mr. Ross Taylor, Osgoode, Ont. - Great, Great Grandson of William York
- ✓ Hugh Latimer, Russell, Ont. - Great-Great-Great Grandson of William York

## THE McDONELL FAMILY

(The plaque reads)

The family of Archibald and Catherine McDonell, along with the family of William and Ann York, were the first white settlers in Osgoode Township. The McDonells, attracted by the huge stands of white pine and oak, settled on Lot 25, Con. 8 on the banks of the Castor River, just south of present day Metcalfe in March, 1827. Col. Archibald



St. Catherine of Siena Cemetery, Metcalfe, Ont

McDonell (1780-1853) served during the War of 1812 and for his military services was granted 800 acres of land. His wife Catherine (1791-1869), a daughter of a United Empire Loyalist was granted 200 acres. The family had many firsts in Osgoode: Archibald was the first magistrate, Catherine gave birth to the first baby, and they built the first log home, the first saw mill, the first framed building, the first store, and the first road. They provided land for the first Catholic Church. Archibald served as Colonel of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Battalion Carleton Militia. The McDonells had thirteen children, some resided in the township taking an active part in community life, others spread out across the country.

*Erected by the Township of Osgoode Historical Society and Museum. Assisted by the Lions Clubs of Osgoode Township, St Catherine of Siena Cemetery Board and the Ontario Heritage Foundation*

## McDONELL DESCENDANTS IN ATTENDANCE

- ✓ Mr and Mrs Herbert L MacDonell, Coming, N.Y.
- ✓ Mr and Mrs Robert MacDonell, Bolivar, N.Y.
- ✓ Mr Jack Bawden, Rochester, N.Y.
- ✓ Ms Heather E. MacDonald, Amprior, Ont.

Submitted by Ron Isaac

**TOWNSHIP NAMES****McKEOUGH-KEOUGH-KEHOE-COUGH-CAUGH**

I have not determined, as yet, the year James Keough, his wife Catherine Ryan and his family - Thomas, Cornelius, Julia, Catherine, James, Timothy left County Tipperary, a countryside of great natural beauty with high mountains and wide fertile valleys - and settled on the Prescott Road. The 1851 Agricultural Census for Osgoode shows James Cough on the S 1/2 lot 9, Con 4; Thomas on N 1/2 lot 8, Con 6; Cornelius on E 1/2 lot 9, Con 5. On June 17, 1856, James got NE 1/2 lot 9 from the Crown for 18 pounds 15 sh; on March 28, 1873, Cornelius got E 1/2 lot 24 from Adam J Baker and wife Janet for \$450; on May 15, 1875, Thos bought W 1/2 lot 2, Con 7 from James Quail for \$800 - property Thos deeded to his son James in 1894 for \$1.00. Thos remained on lot 8, Con 6.

1) Thomas (1811-May 1, 1902) married Elizabeth Shanahan: Mary m Patrick Daley; Catherine (twin) m Michael Daley; James (July 18, 1850-1911) m June 19, 1883 Mary Jane Keaney d/o John Keaney and Liza Fenning - 4 children: Thos (1885-1965), Jack (1889-1957), Patrick (1892-1937) - all un m, Ellen (Jenny) (Feb 23, 1894-1977) m Martin Gavin - no ch; Patrick Nov 14, 1851-May 1, 1941) m Feb 19, 1889 Joanna Fenning d/o Patrick Fenning and Ann Guilfoyle - 5 ch; Mary (dec 8, 1889-1985); Thos (1891-1967) m Feb 20, 1917 Catherine O'Brien d/o Richard O'Brien & Margaret Dolan and had 6 ch - Mary, Joanna, Catherine, Thomas, Brian, Clinton, Mary Margaret (Thomas' son Ricky is a well-known hockey player, first with the Leafs, now with Pittsburg); Harriet (1892-1895); Patrick m June 23, 1925 d/o Patrick Shanahan & Catherine Stackpole, Julie Ann (Apr 6, 1889-July 19, 1961). Patrick m 2<sup>nd</sup> Mae Mulligan, and had a dau Anne Elizabeth b 1896 m Nov 24, 1925 John Fenning s/o Alex Fenning & Mary Malone. Son John lives in Ottawa. Patrick farmed lot 8, con 6. John b Jan 20, 1852. Thomas sold Hemlock bark which was used in tanning leather; and saved ashes for potash.

2) Cornelius b 1815 m Bridget Hassett and had 9 children: Mary b 1843, James 1845, Wm 1847, Thomas 1849, Patrick 1851, Timothy 1853, Cornelius 1855, Sarah 1857, Catherine 1859. Little is known of this family. Cornelius was a widower in 1871. His will (Sept 1, 1873) reads "I bequeath to my fourth son Timothy my farm on condition he support my 2 spinster daughters, Mary and Sarah and my youngest son until he learns a trade. Patrick m Catherine Devereaux (Deverix) and had 2 children. The brothers Thomas and Cornelius moved to Minneapolis, Minn.

3) Julia b. c 1820 m Patrick Melampy. Can any reader give information on this family? Many of whom moved to Pittsburg, U.S.A. from the Prescott Road. Mary b Dec 25, 1851; Michael (1859-Mar 23, 1884); Margaret b Dec 11, 1860; Morris.

4) Catherine m Thomas O'Rourk (Rourk) and lived w 1/2 lot 13, con 4: John, Timothy, James, Mary Ann, Catherine, Margaret, Johanna, Catherine, Thomas. More on this family later.

5) James (1825- May 4, 1886) lived with his parents

and remained unmarried.

6) Timothy (c1832-Sept 21, 1864) m in South Gloucester Feb 1, 1857 Jane Skiffington, d/o Michael Skiffington & Mary Hughs. He and his wife and children lived on with his aging parents. The unfortunate incident brought tragedy into this family and took the life of Timothy. The Russell County Agricultural Exhibition was held at Metcalfe on Sept 21, 1864 and Timothy, a non-drinker, stopped at the store to get some 'sweeties' for his 4 small children. A brawl was in process at the 4 corners - Baker's Corners, and he stopped to break it up, but was hit over the head with a stick of cordwood. He was taken into the store, a Doctor called and he was taken to his home on the Prescott Road where he died that night at 11 o'clock. The next day an inquest was conducted by Coroner Patterson. The Jury men were: James Cangle, James Duncan, John McEvoy, Andrew Doyle, Paul Shanahan, John Turner, James Heney, John O'Doherty, John Dealy James Marshal, Patrick Dewan, Francis McGee. After many witnesses were heard, the verdict was that Timothy Keough had come to his death by blows from a stick and whipstocks. Three men were charged with murder, but after hearing conflicting evidence, all were acquitted. On the headstone in the Gloucester Cemetery, the inscription reads: "Killed by an Unknown Assailant." Later, his widow Jane and the four children James, Mary, Catherine, and Ann, ages 1 to 7 years at the time of their father's death moved to Boise, Idaho. The property was left with the father-in-law, James Keough.

Compiled by a great-great-grandson of James Keough and Catherine Ryan -

Michael Daley

**PLACE NAMES IN OSGOODE TOWNSHIP****MURPHY'S LEAP**

In the year 1858 Jack Murphy's so called leap took place on the Bytown Prescott Stage Route in Concession 3. The leap was not a voluntary one and he should not be given credit for having performed a great feat by virtue of special prowess. A big windstorm blew down a large elm tree which stood near the road. When the tree fell, its great roots were pulled out of the ground leaving a big hole. It became necessary to cut the trunk about half way up the tree in order to clear the road. Murphy and others were cutting the tree, and just as the trunk was about to be severed, Murphy stood up on the trunk side. When the trunk was finally severed, the weight of the great roots caused them to sink suddenly into their cavity. The trunk on which Murphy was standing, shot into upright position hurling Murphy, as from a catapult, forty feet through the air. He landed with the axe still in his hand. He was rather shaken up but was alright in a few days. For many years the spot became known as Murphy's leap and also a sort of meeting place for the young men of the district.

Michael Daley

## IN SEARCH OF THEIR ROOTS

submitted by Archivist Michelle LaChance

Family names researched in the Month of May, 2001 - Phair, O'Brien, Hughes and Blanchfield. 102 names were recorded in the Guest Book.

June 14 - 114 names recorded. Families researched - Sheldrick, Logan, Harris, Gall, Gillissie, Herbert, McEvoy.

July - 392 people recorded in the Guest Book. Families researched in house - Burns, Downey, Guilfoil, Harby, Campbell, Kilfoyle, Phair, Fisher, Watson, Sheldrick, Dalgleish and Telford, Gillissie and Keegan.

### E-MAILS

From: Dixie Lee English <dixiee@ix.netcom.com>  
Subject: ENGLISH, William & Catherine

Do you happen to have any information on William B Abt. 1802 Kilkenny Co., IRE and his wife Catherine b. unk. Castlecomer, Kilkenny Co. Ire?

William and Catherine arrived in Bytown/Ottawa in 1821. Wm was an Engineer for Canada, 1829 appeared to be working on the Rideau Canal ...he was brought home dead from work one day, (this was sometime after June 1829). Catherine died later the same year, of grief it was thought. They left three sons orphaned, William b 1822, John Wallace b 1823 and Edward b 1825.

John Wallace is my g-g-grandfather who m. Jane Hannah Fry in 1834 in On/Can. Recently his elder brother was located with a family of 12 in WI. As yet I have been unable to locate Edward.

I have a great deal of documented research on John Wallace and family. If you are interested, I will send for the library. I do hope you have some information that I do not have. I have never found out who raised the boys after being orphaned.

### E-MAIL

From: Joseph J Herbert, Santa Cruz, U.S

I am a relative of Alexander Herbert (1785-1875). I am in the process of researching my family who arrived in Canada from Sligo.  
<jjherbert@earthlink.net

Answer:

Thank you for visiting our website. Our Museum does have information on Alexander Herbert and his brother Patrick who were born in Sligo, Ireland and who arrived in Osgoode Township in 1837. One of our publications in the Pioneer Families series, has their story written in it. If you are interested in purchasing a copy, it is Volume 2 and is available for \$4.25 (including postage.) Another interesting note, the story in the booklet was written by Michael Daley, who is a Director here at Osgoode Township Historical Society and is a great grandson of Alexander's brother Patrick. Michael welcomes queries from people searching Irish family roots. Hope this is useful to you.

### E-MAIL

To: Historical Society Staff:

I'm searching for my grandfather Thomas William Massey who lived in the Ottawa area in the last half

of the nineteenth century.

While reading 1861 census film I found a Patrick Massey age 64, Patrick age 34, Thomas age 12 and Paddy age 10.

These were recorded in Osgoode Township, but I could not find them in later census. I am particularly interested in the Thomas age 12, as the age and pattern of names add to my desire for more information.

I would be pleased to get information or be pointed in the right direction.

Dan Massey  
dmass@mb.sympatico.ca

Any info on the above inquiries would be appreciated.

Submitted by Michelle LaChance

## CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS

Do you have a few hours per day, per week or per month that you would like to fill by doing something you enjoy...and all for a good cause? Why not consider becoming a volunteer for the Osgoode Township Historical Society and Museum.

As a volunteer for the Museum, you learn more about the roots of the Township, and come to understand how it got to where it is today. You become familiar with the founding families, and sometimes feel that you are living their experiences by working with the tools, artifacts, equipment and documents that relate to their daily routines.

If you prefer to help in other capacities such as special events and projects or programs, we have lots for you to bite into. If you have a computer and prefer to work from home, there are several tasks which can be handled off site. If equipment restoration, carpentry or mechanics are your passion, we would be very grateful for your help.

Please take time to consider becoming involved in doing volunteer work. The rewards you reap may surprise you! Contact us at the Museum by phone at (613)821-4062, or e-mail at oths@magma.ca for more information.

Archivist/Curator Michelle LaChance

## THE KITCHEN

The kitchen is a busy spot  
Of frying pans and boiling pots  
Of stews and brews and baking buns  
And cussing when things turn out bum.

When dinner is near, things start to hum  
You better keep your distance man  
Or else the cook will swat you down.

When things turn out, her smile is broad  
But if a failure she should make  
You might end up at your own wake.

So when your gut is comfy full  
Give her credit as you should  
And if a failure she once makes  
Just creep away and calmly wait  
Till success attends on her next bake.

Raymond Leahy, Old Prescott Road

**FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK**

*It is with the utmost appreciation that I accept on behalf of all those who contribute their time and material, mailing etc. to the quarterly Newsletter. The verbal compliments of which there are many, include regards to interesting newsletter, "the donations," comments "membership fees should be higher." Excerpts from the following letter of appreciation were received June 14, 2001.*

*Michael Daley*

Brockville, Ont  
Dear Michael

We received the June issue of the Osgoode Township Historical Society and Museum Newsletter yesterday and I wish to congratulate you on its interesting information. My husband read it to me from cover to cover as I have Macular Degeneration and require magnification.

You asked for suggestions. I hope this suggestion is in order. You, I notice listed some of the early pioneers of Osgoode Township of which I have a copy. Among those listed are my Grandfather William Dempsey and some of his brothers.

Something of interest is the house which he, William Dempsey built circa 1890. At present the owners are Geoffrey and Janet Corry who live in it, beautifully cared for, along with their three children. There is an old picture of it on page 66 of my brother's book entitled "Growing Up on the Castor."

My Great Grandfather and his wife, James and Mary, came from Ireland in 1840 and settled on lot 15, Concession 9 (west half) see "Growing Up On The Castor" page 6. Then in 1868, his eldest son William Dempsey purchased lot 22, Concession 11. He continued his lumbering business for the next two years during which time he paid for it in full. My mother, Mary Isabelle Dempsey named it "Elm Dale." Pertinent information is to be found in "Growing Up On The Castor."

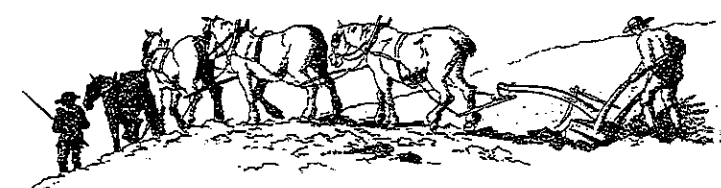
I will appreciate your comments. There is undoubtedly other worthy historical homes in Osgoode Township - ours was built circa 1890, 111 years old.

Sincerely  
Evelyn (Dempsey) Pelton

**Editors note:**

I would be remiss if I failed to comment on Pioneer Day, July 28, 2001 on - Cecil Reaney's launching of his book, "Metcalfe Rural Telephone Company Ron Isaac whose untiring efforts and dedication to achieve the unveiling and installation of three plaques commemorating the first two families in the Township of Osgoode, the McDonell's and Yorks. Alice Craig and her group serving the Strawberry Social. Bill Zandbelt and his crew for the Antique Display Doug Hughes, Master of Ceremonies and an eventful afternoon

**Michael Daley**



**PIONEER DAY BLACKSMITH**

The blacksmith who displayed his expertise at Pioneer Day was Ron Giroux of Cornwall. Ron is the master blacksmith at Upper Canada Village and a 35 year veteran of his art. He apprenticed with his grandfather who worked at the East Side Dairy in Cornwall looking after the needs of the horses. He has in his own shop both modern and historical equipment. We appreciate his coming to take part in our Antique Display

**PAST MEMBERS REMEMBERED**

It is with regret we note the passing in mid August of old time member Katie Lake. Katie is remembered as a frequent contributor of artifacts and of remuneration in the earlier days of the Society. Katie is the sister of Director Lorne Craig. A donation has been received anonymously to the Society in memory of Katie.

Donations of this kind in memory of loved ones are welcomed at the Society and are given a charitable receipt.

We also note with regret the passing of Amy Dakin who passed away on August 28. Amy was a photographer who left us with many photographs of the Township in earlier times.

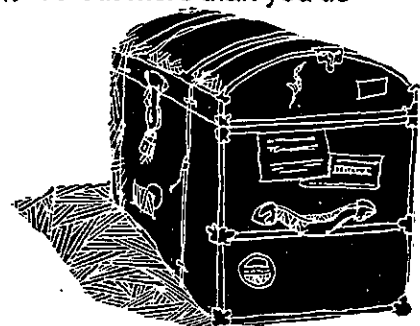
**PLANNED COMING EVENTS**

October 2<sup>nd</sup> Meeting- "Dr" Lindsay Lambert and his Magic Lantern Show.

Nov. 6<sup>th</sup> Meeting - Mr & Mrs Ron Shirtcliff, a picture presentation of "Review of Quarrier Home, Bridge of Weir, Scotland.

**YOU KNOW YOU'RE GETTING OLDER WHEN.....**

- everything hurts and what doesn't hurt doesn't work
- you get winded playing chess
- you feel like "the night before" and you haven't been anywhere
- Your knees buckle and your belt won't
- you sink your teeth into a steak and they stay there
- your back goes out more than you do



**OSGOODE TOWNSHIP  
HISTORICAL SOCIETY & MUSEUM  
NEWSLETTER**

Published quarterly at the Museum in Vernon.  
Objective is to promote, preserve and publicize history in the Township of Osgoode and to foster genealogical research. Museum & archives are free admission.

Circulation - 225 Membership \$10.00 yearly  
Editor: Michael Daley, 2100 Stagecoach Road  
Greely, Ont K4P 1M1  
Membership: Alice Craig/Harvey Linton  
Typesetter: Ann Leighton-Kyle  
Mailing Address: Box 74, Vernon, Ont K0A 3J0  
Tel: (613) 821-4062 E-mail: oths@magma.ca