

HISTORICAL SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

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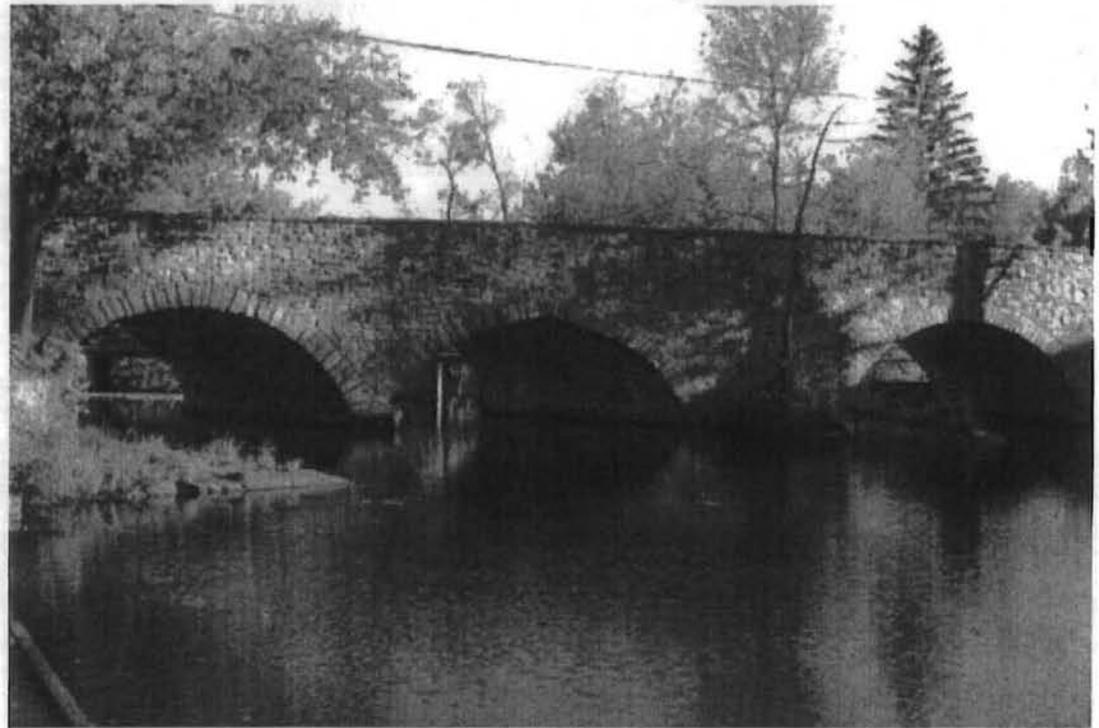
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John Bracken 1883-1969 (Pg. #7.)

Olivet United Church (Pg. #10)



The Lyndhurst Bridge built in 1857 - (Photo Courtesy Art Shaw)

INSIDE

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PRESIDENT'S
MESSAGE

Once again I hope you enjoy our newsletter. Bill has tried to focus in this issue on the rear part of the township. I would like to thank him and also Ted and Pat Hewitt for all their hard work in putting it together. Also I would like to thank Bruce Foley for taking over for me. Thanks too for the cards and for thinking of me.

We are always looking for stories and pictures for the newsletter and if you have anything you would like to share please let us know.

ALAN LINDSAY- PRESIDENT *Alan Lindsay*



Heritage Organization Grant

The Historical Society made an application to the Provincial Ministry of Culture for a Heritage Organization Development Grant. Our application was approved, and we received \$344.00. This grant will be used to cover the cost of preparation and distribution of this Newsletter.

We wish to thank the Ministry of Culture for this assistance.

LEEDS and THOUSAND ISLANDS HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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The Gilbert Ancestry of John Bracken of Ellisville

John Bracken's family can be traced back to Thomas Gilbert who was born in England in 1582. His wife Lydia was tried as a witch in England. Their son Jonathon born in 1618 was the first to come to America and his wife Mary Wells was described as being more deserving to be known as a witch than Jonathan's mother.

Jonathon's g-g-grandson, John, born in 1759, came to Canada in 1795 and settled near Lyndhurst. He applied for a pension for his service in the American Revolution. It was denied for some time but was later granted. He died in 1852. His wife was Ann Eaton. John and Ann are believed to have nine children one of whom was William 1787 - 1862. William married Mary Ann Franklin 1798 - 1894 and had a family of thirteen children. Mary Ann was born in Ireland and was Catholic, Her husband being Protestant. On William's death the priest refused to bury him so Mary Ann and her children left the church.

Their son William Jr., 1830 - 1910 married Ann Ennis, 1839 - 1903, and they had six children: William, Albert, Alberta, Charletta, Eurette, George, and Harrison Franklin. Alberta married Ephriam Bracken and they were the parents of John Bracken who was born in the tiny log house near Ellisville and who later became leader of the Conservative Party.

EDITOR'S NOTES

Drawing together the material for the Newsletter is a major job. The last two issues have covered areas I am not as familiar with, nor do we have much file material for them. It could not have been done without the assistance of many people.

Thanks to: Art Shaw for the Bracken article and his help in general
The librarians at Escott and Lyndhurst for material.
The Municipal Heritage Committee (formerly LACAC) for permission to use material from their photo album.
To the Council of Leeds and 1000 Islands for permission to use material from
"The Rear of Leeds and Lansdowne The Making of Community on the Gananoque River"
Frances Bryan for the Olivet Church material.

Watch for the fall and winter issue. Is there Civil War gold buried in the township? Did Frank James visit the area? Is there a connection? I don't have answers, just questions.

Does anyone have pictures or stories of Dinny Noonan? Dinny was one of the great characters of the Outlet.

MEMBERSHIP FEES



General (Family) - \$10.00 Association - \$10.00 Corporate - \$25.00
Our membership term is Sept. 1 to Aug. 31
Memberships available at any meeting or by cheque to:

LTI HISTORICAL SOCIETY
Box 332 Lansdowne, Ont. KOE 1L0

NEWSLETTERS



Back copies of our newsletters are available for \$2.50 each
Copies 1 through 20 are now available in a three ring binder.
This makes a nice gift. Cost \$57.00

LYNDHURST - HISTORIC FURNACE FALLS

By 1795, it was known that the big falls on the Gananoque river had all the resources needed to develop an iron smelter. Wallis Sunderlin, an ironmaster from Tinmouth, Vermont, received assent from the Executive Council in 1800. The Lansdowne Iron Works was completed by 1802 being the first in Upper Canada. Sunderlin was granted 1200 acres to supply fuel for the blast furnace. The furnace produced domestic cast iron items, pig iron, and wrought iron. The village that grew up around the smelter was known as Furnace Falls.

Concurrent with the building of the furnace, Able Stevens and Matthew Howard built the "Furnace Road" to Kingston Mills (now Hwy. 15). Sunderlin built the first saw mill in the township in 1803 and a grist mill in 1808. In 1811 the smelter and mill complex was destroyed by fire. Sunderlin died that year and his family moved back to the U.S.A. amid rumours that the forge had been making weapons for American sympathizers in Canada.

In 1804 Ephrim Jones, a wealthy resident of Agusta and member of the Legislative Assembly bought a quarter share of the iron works and saw mill and took a mortgage on the adjacent land. After 1811 Jones owned the water power and town site, however, he died in 1812. With the outbreak of the war of 1812, no effort was made to rebuild the furnace. No buildings are known to survive from this period.

In 1828, Jones' sons Charles and Jonas (both members of the Legislative Assembly) built a saw mill, a grist mill with two runs of stones, a merchant shop, and a fine house here. This coincided with a boom in settlement of the farm lots in the Rear of Leeds and Lansdowne township. Furnace Falls became the centre of the community. The mill complex was leased to successive operators until 1868.

In 1846 the village was renamed Lyndhurst in honour of John Singleton Copley, Lord Lyndhurst.

A carding mill was built at the south end of the village about 1853 by Henry Green. Its dam created the lower mill pond in the middle of the village.

In 1868, John Roddick and Henry Green purchased the mills, land, and water rights from the Jones estate. The 1828 mills were in poor repair, so both men built new mills and dams on opposite sides of the river such that Roddick used the water going through the west arch of the bridge and Green, the east. The centre arch acted as a spillway.

Lyndhurst prospered during the late 19th and early 20th centuries. Every acre of land in the township worth clearing was in farm production. The farmers depended on the village merchants and tradesmen. Over the years the business section contained two hotels, several merchant shops, tailors, tinsmiths, harness maker, carriage and wagon makers, a brick yard, granite quarry, milliner, cooper, shoemaker, several blacksmiths, two cheese factories, a steam saw mill, and three churches, in addition to water powered saw mills, grist mills, shingle mill, and carding mill with dye house.

The Brockville, Westport and Sault Ste. Marie Railway was built in 1884. Lyndhurst Station (about 2 miles east of the village) became the arrival point for factory goods. At first it was a boon to the local merchants and industry but gradually factory goods and mail order catalogues bypassed the local businesses. Telephones and automobiles added to the effect.

In 1911, a dynamo was installed in Roddick's mill to supply electricity to Lyndhurst and area. It was purchased and closed by Ontario hydro in 1929. The great depression, the second world war, and later urbanization took the vitality away from Lyndhurst. By 1952 even the railroad ceased to be viable.

Lyndhurst is somewhat different today. The continuation school closed in 1960. The public school moved to Sweet's Corners in 1973. In 1982 the local Toronto Dominion bank closed. June 1985 saw the focal major business block in the village destroyed in a \$250,000. fire

From "A Walking Tour" prepared by the L.A.C.A.C. committee in 1992

THE LYNDHURST BRIDGE

In 1800 the Executive Council of Upper Canada granted Wallis Sunderlin the rites to build an iron furnace at the falls on the Gananoque River. Part of his agreement stated: "build a Bridge across the Head of the Falls . . . , said Mill and Bridge will be of great use to the public at large." The bridge was completed by May 1801. This bridge obviously often need replacement. When Nicholas Sliter returned from the War of 1812, he was given a \$200. contract to build a new bridge at Furnace Falls.

This need to replace the various wooden bridges, and the collapse of a stone bridge over the Gananoque River at Lyndhurst in 1851, give some suggestion as to why a larger village did not develop here before 1860. Various frame bridges failed to withstand the spring freshets. There was a fear of the village being flooded if the mass of a stone bridge collapse into the river. Tradesmen and entrepreneurs did not want to risk their capital by setting up here only to loose it in a flood.

Construction of the permanent stone bridge took a couple of years, and was completed in 1857, and drew skilled masons and tradesmen to build it. Folk lore holds that it was designed by William Saunders, then lessee of the mills, and John Roddick, his apprentice and later owner of the mills. Its technology and appearance are like the ancient bridges built since Roman times throughout Roddick's native Scotland. It

was in continuous service from 1857 until 1986 when it was rebuilt.. Despite the fact that it was designed for horse drawn vehicles and cargo, it withstood the loads of modern semi-trailer gravel trucks of 70 tons.



THE LYNDHURST BRIDGE

In May 1982 a ten-metre section of the north wing of the Lyndhurst bridge collapsed into the river. It was rebuilt, but engineers predicted that vibration from heavy trucks and water seeping and freezing between the stones forcing them apart, would ultimately cause its collapse. County Council regarded the old bridge as being far short of provincial standards. Figures ranged from \$750,000. to replace the bridge to \$1,200,000. to rebuild the existing bridge. Thus the fate of the oldest bridge in Ontario was in jeopardy.

This spurred locals to organize in protest. In 1984 Art Shaw rounded up volunteers to form a township LACAC. Protest picnics, petitions, letter writing campaigns and demonstrations were held. Township Council received heavy lobbying from the newly formed Friends of Lyndhurst Bridge. Finally the township designated the bridge a heritage structure under the Ontario Heritage Act in January 1985.

The only argument left for Counties Council was the cost factor. This was blown out of the water in August 1985 when the Ontario Ministry of Culture and Recreation made a grant of \$90,000. toward restoring the bridge. As it turned out, when the bridge was restored and strengthened with a concrete interior frame, the cost was significantly below estimates. The final irony was the fact the chairman of the Counties road committee, Reeve Gordon Leadbeater, had to host the unveiling of an Ontario Heritage Foundation plaque for the Lyndhurst bridge.

Thus the protests of local residents saved this unique structure which continues to draw tourists, artists and photographers.



This article was prepared using material from *The Rear of Leeds and Lansdowne, The Making of Community on the Gananoque River and the Heritage Photo album of LACAC.*

(Above) THE LYNDHURST BRIDGE
Photo by John Buick Harvey 1905
courtesy Joanne (Harvey) Putnam
Used with the permission of the Municipal Heritage Committee

(Left) CHARLES STREET, LYNDHURST circa 1912
Photo by John Buick Harvey.
Courtesy of (late) Miss Madeline O'Connor
Used with the permission of the Municipal Heritage Committee

LONG POINT CHEESE FACTORY

Cheese production was developed by local women in their farm dairies before 1840. This process was laborious. Milk was heated in a wash boiler over a fire, cut into curd with a butcher knife, pressed by a lever arrangement in a wooden mold. Even at this, the 1851 census reports 3,338 pounds of cheese made in the Rear of Leeds and Lansdowne. It was not until Pitt W. Strong established a cheese factory at Farmersville (Athens) in 1864 that cheese factories in the true sense appeared on the local scene. In 1861 there were no cheese factories in the township, but by 1891 there were 9, and 6 more within two miles of the township boundaries.

The cheese factory pictured is the first one built in 1902 at Long Point, by Byron Stringer and Ernest McCready from "down Front". (Byron Stringer later operated a bakery in Lansdowne. Ernest McCready homesteaded in western Canada before retiring to Lansdowne).

In this factory the cheesemaker's quarters were above the factory. The primitive accommodations for cheesemakers provided above some factories was one reason the cheesemaker was often a young unmarried man with few ties in the community, but who appreciated the fact he did not have to pay room and board out of his salary.

The factory at Long Point was unusual for having a dance hall along with the cheesemaker's quarters above the factory. This, along with the school, which was also used for religious services, made this the social centre of the community.

Art Shaw recorded this incident:

Dances at the factory attracted a lively crowd who square danced to the music of the Gavin Bros., Chris Weeks and Orange Warren. On one occasion a participant was showing off his speed in step dancing. Admirers crowded around, caught up in the spirit of the affair, until suddenly a joist under the floor broke with a loud crack. The music stopped and the crowd scattered to the four walls in fear the whole building was falling down, but it didn't.

The social mixing in this dance hall prompted one cheesemaker, Lester Russell, to marry Frances Cross. This factory burned in 1921 and another was erected on the same sight.

The importance of cheese as a new cash crop for the local farmers is evident in this factory sending two wagon loads of thirty cheese each to Lyndhurst station each week for shipment by train to Brockville. There the products of 125 cheese factories in Leeds county were auctioned by a marketing board.



This article was written with assistance from the Municipal Heritage Committee album, and The Rear of Leeds and Lansdowne - The Making of Community on the Gananoque River.

LONG POINT CHEESE FACTORY
Picture taken on day factory opened
April 22, 1902
Unknown photographer
Courtesy of Merton Moorehead
Used with the permission of the
Municipal Heritage Committee

SAVE-A-TAPE PROGRAM

BALDREE'S - YOUR INDEPENDENT GROCER and A & P - DOMINION - SAVE-A-CENTRE

Please give your tapes to any executive member, bring them to a meeting, or drop them in the mail to us.
The Society receives a donation from the companies on a percentage basis.

Both A & P and Baldree's in Gananoque now have provided bins for depositing your cash register tapes as you leave the store. Please deposit them into the bin marked L.T.I. Historical Society.

JOHN BRACKEN 1883 - 1969 *by Art Shaw*

John Bracken ascended from a Seeley's Bay farm boy to professor at the University of Saskatchewan, Principal of Manitoba Agricultural College, Premier of Manitoba, and leader of the Progressive Conservative Party of Canada. In 2001 The LACAC for Leeds & 1000 Islands erected a plaque to commemorate his birthplace near Ellisville in the rear of Leeds Township.

The Brackens first came to Canada about 1818 when John and his wife Margaret (Warren) followed Margaret's father to Upper Canada from Sangerfield in the Mohawk Valley of New York. John died suddenly in 1831 leaving his wife with 5 children. Their descendants prospered in the area and the original Warren property is still in their name.

Ephraim Bracken, a grandson of John the pioneer, married Alberta Gilbert in 1881 and bought 50 acres of land in Lot 15 in the 8th Concession of Leeds, including a log cabin that was probably built by Uriah Shook, the original grantee from the Crown. John Bracken, their first child and the subject of this account, was born in the log cabin on June 22, 1883.

Young John started school in Ellisville in 1888, but the next year Ephraim and his family moved to Seeley's Bay. John grew up and went to school in Seeley's Bay. In 1897 he attended Brockville Collegiate, traveling to Lyndhurst to catch the train to Brockville. After managing his father's farm for a few years, in 1902 John enrolled at the Ontario Agricultural College in Guelph, graduating in 1906 as Bachelor of Scientific Agriculture. Within days of returning to Seeley's Bay he accepted a job with the Dominion Seed Branch of the Department of Agriculture, and boarded the Rideau Queen at the wharf in Seeley's Bay, on his way to Ottawa.

He was posted to Winnipeg as the Manitoba representative, where he engaged in educating farmers about growing crops in the short arid prairie summers, and about crop diseases. In the spring of 1907 he accepted an offer by W. R. Motherwell, the Minister of Agriculture for Saskatchewan, as Superintendent of Fairs and Institutes and Secretary of the Saskatchewan Stock Breeders' Association.

Bracken was married on his 26th birthday, to Alice Bruce, a college friend from Guelph.

(Continued on Page 8)



*Go to Page 9 for
information on Historic
Plaque Unveiling*

Photo By Lynn Shaw

John Bracken - 1883 - 1968 *(Continued from Page 7)*

The University of Saskatchewan was begun that same year, being the first in Canada to incorporate a College of Agriculture. Bracken was appointed professor of Animal Husbandry. While the University was being built at Saskatoon, he and Alice traveled to USA to visit agricultural colleges and attend conferences. In the fall of 1910 he began his duties as professor, which he followed for 10 years. During that time sons were born, beginning with John in 1911, Douglas in 1913, Gordon in 1916, and George in 1918.

In 1920 he accepted the position of Principal of the Manitoba Agricultural College, and moved back to Winnipeg.

July 19, 1922 was an election day in Manitoba. Bracken didn't even vote. The United Farmers of Manitoba won 24 seats out of 41. The UFM was a political reorganization of the former Manitoba Grain Growers Association, and had entered candidates from each of their union locals without ever choosing a leader. Just after midnight that night, they called John Bracken by telephone to ask him to be their leader, which meant Premier of Manitoba. There were 2 other prospects as well, and all 3 said no. But after 3 persuasive meetings and Alice's agreement, Bracken capitulated.

John Bracken remained premier of Manitoba for 20 years, being re-elected with consecutive majorities in 1927, 1932, 1937 and 1941. He was a cautious, low key, non partisan, politician with decidedly liberal leanings. The austerity measures he introduced in 1922 in order to overcome the deficit became known as "Brackenism", and when the UFM abandoned politics, his followers were known as "Brackenites" for a time, before adopting the name "Progressives". Various crises in his career led on 2 occasions to temporary alliances with the Liberals.

In 1928 an attempt to harness the Seven Sisters Falls for hydro generation, brought to a head the issue of the federal government retaining control of natural resources in the western provinces. A conference between Bracken and Prime Minister Mackenzie-King quickly resulted in the transfer of the province's natural resources retroactive to 1870, accompanied by a cheque for \$4.7 million.

In the 1930s, while the rest of Canada dealt with the economic crash, the prairie provinces also had to contend with consecutive droughts from 1930 to 1936. Bracken's representations to Ottawa on the precarious state of western provincial finances distinguished him as both western spokesman and centralist champion. His claim that social benefit costs should be assumed by Ottawa in return for redistribution of certain tax fields resulted in the Rowell-Sirois Royal Commission on taxation, whose report in 1940 supported Bracken's view but was shot down by Ontario's Mitchell Hepburn and a few other premiers.

In November 1941 Senator Arthur Meighen, former leader of the Conservative Party of Canada, came to Winnipeg to ask Bracken to stand for leader of his party at the upcoming convention. The idea was more stupendous than the UFM offer in 1922, because the Conservatives were the antithesis of everything Bracken had stood for politically. He did not say yes, but he did not say no. Meighen returned to Ottawa and was himself re-elected leader in the convention.

But Mackenzie-King undermined the Conservatives by passing legislation for conscription, after holding a plebiscite on the issue. By stealing this plank from the Conservative platform, he tipped the scales in the by-election in York South, and Meighen was defeated by the CCF candidate.

A second leadership convention was scheduled for Winnipeg in December 1942, to which a list called the Port Hope Proposals was to be presented, that would move the party toward the left. Bracken continued to be seen as a possible leader who could increase their base beyond Ontario, and the Port Hope proposals appealed to him, but he asked for a concession in the form of a name change to the "Progressive" Conservative Party, to assure his political friends that he had not abandoned his old principles. The convention demanded that he run without condition or drop out. He won on the second ballot, after which they voted unanimously to change the name.

John Bracken - 1883 - 1968 *(Continued from Page 8)*

From the first, his low-key style, non-specific policies, and "co-operative criticism" of the Liberal government were not the Conservative style. Contrary to expectations he did not contest a seat in the house in 1943, instead touring the country to get to know the regions and their people and problems, while R.B. Hanson was the leader in the house.

The war had ended before Mackenzie-King called another federal election in June 1945. The Liberal government survived but lost 57 of its 184 seats, the PCs gained 28 to 68, the CCF gained 21 to 29, and Social Credit was up 3 to 13. Bracken won a seat in Neepawa Manitoba, which was one of only five Conservative seats outside Ontario.

In the House of Commons for the first time, Bracken appointed 10 committees of caucus to specialize in one particular ministry or field of administration, act as critics of government policy in that field, and offer constructive alternatives. This was the Canadian precedent for the "shadow cabinet" that is still used by every opposition party. But his lack of skill in speaking and debating proved to be an even bigger handicap than he has anticipated. His speeches were too long and his points were lost in the plodding ramble. As by-elections were lost in Halifax, York/Sunbury NB, and Kelowna BC, dissatisfaction became apparent in the party. He was persuaded to resign in 1948, when Ontario Premier George Drew was chosen to replace him.

He had previously agreed to run again in the 1949 election in Brandon Manitoba, but his loss was a relief, and he retired to his farm near Manotick.

In his retirement he bred Jersey cattle, championship Palomino horses, and alfalfa, winning ribbons in all fields. He returned to public service in 1954 to chair a commission to study the sale of liquor in Manitoba, and in 1958 to inquire into the distribution of boxcars and movement of grain in western Canada.

He died on March 18, 1969, and was buried at Rideauvale Cemetery in Kars.

CREDIT : *The above account is condensed from the book, "John Bracken, A Political Biography" by John Kendle, University of Toronto Press, 1979.*

Photo caption from Page 7:

On Sept 22, 2001, a ceremony was held to unveil an historical plaque to mark the birthplace of John Bracken near Ellisville. The cost of the plaque was divided between the LACAC for Leeds & 1000 Islands, The Ontario Heritage Foundation, and the Bracken family. A large contingent of Bracken descendants were on hand from as far away as Winnipeg.

The people are (L to R):

Velma Kelsey, councilor for LTI; George Bracken of Smiths Falls, nephew of John Bracken; Gordon Bracken of Toronto, 3rd son of John Bracken; Art Shaw, chair of LACAC; Kathleen Burtch and Dan Roantree, LACAC members.

The cabin in which John Bracken was born is seen in the distance, just above Kathleen's head.

(Photo by Lynn Shaw)

OLIVET UNITED CHURCH



OLIVET UNITED CHURCH

Photo from "The Centennial of Olivet United Church"

Canada's rural churches are a silent testimony to the faith our pioneers had in God and the future of their new country. Methodism enjoyed major expansion in the late nineteenth century. Revival services in the 1860s and 1870s, together with a rivalry between Methodist Episcopal's and Wesleyan's led to the construction of six churches within a dozen years in the Rear of Leeds and Lansdowne Township. One of these landmarks on Highway 32, near the Ellisville Road, is the Olivet United Church. This picturesque white frame church, with its tall spire pointing upward to the sky, has been calling people to worship for the past hundred years.

Before 1875, the area was served by a Methodist Mission with services held in the Brady School, later called the Berrytown School, at the foot of the Big Hill. Services were also held for some time in a church,

which was just a brick shell, at Ebenezer, (near the junction of Highways 15 and 32). Still another meeting place was in Blair's Schoolhouse at Ellisville.

The Elgin Circuit supplied the ministers some of them from 1869 to 1874 were:

Rev. John A. Dowler, Rev. Wm. Craig, Rev. Brock Rose and Rev. John H. Stewart.

In 1875, it was thought a regular minister could be supported and Rev. James E. Werden was the first minister. His salary was \$250., board \$100., keeping horse \$65., travelling expenses \$10. Seeley's Bay and Olivet each paid \$10. Ebenezer on Highway 15 - \$60.40 and the mission grant the balance. Rev. Werden had a short ministry, dying of tuberculosis at age 32.

Rev. Nathab Austin who followed conceived the idea of building a central church and the site of Olivet was chosen. The brick church at Ebenezer was sold for \$100. which was turned over to the building fund.

The land for the church was donated by William J. McKinley and David A. McKinley. The stone for the foundation was quarried and drawn by teams of horses by a bee. The timber was donated and drawn by the same means. The building contract was let to Mr. John Chapman. The building was to be 28 x 40 feet, walls 15 feet, tower in front 9 x 9 feet surmounted by a spire and weather vane. An accident occurred when the spire was erected. Mr. Myron Sly fell to the ground when a scaffold broke. He landed on a sand pile and was badly hurt. William Carley was thrown to the roof and was unhurt.

(Continued on Page 11)

OLIVET UNITED CHURCH *(continued from Page 10)*

Gothic windows were installed, the walls were given three coats of plaster, pews were put in, and the church painted both inside and out. Workers received \$1.00 a day or worker and team \$2.00 a day.

Building operations began about the first of June 1877, and were completed before December 23, 1877. Rev. Austin gave the name 'Olivet' to the church for it was on the Mount of Olives Christ loved to meet with His disciples. Dedication services were held on Sunday December 23, 1877. Three services were held, Rev. W. T. Jolliff of Gananoque preaching in the morning and evening, and Rev. E. Warden in the afternoon. There was a large congregation.

On Wednesday December 26, a Tea Meeting was held with George Taylor, Reeve of Gananoque, as chairman. The Gananoque choir rendered excellent music. An appeal was made to the people for subscriptions to cover the remaining debts. These were cheerfully given and almost the entire amount was provided with the exception of a small sum which was later subscribed.

In February 1878 it was found necessary to place a mortgage on the property for \$405. This loan was obtained from the Ontario Building and Savings Society of Kingston with interest at 8% payable. If they defaulted for one month, the mortgagee could take possession of the church to rent or sell as he wished. When the amount was reduced to \$100., two members paid it off and lifted the mortgage.

About this time a financial statement was printed and showed that the Minister received \$530. annually, of which Seeley's Bay contributed \$114., Olivet \$116. and the Missionary Society granted \$186. At the end of the year there was a deficit of \$166.35. The next year the deficit was only \$45.38

The furnishings for Olivet Church at this time consisted of two chairs and a table. A chandelier and side lamps were bought with the proceeds of socials held in various homes. Admission was 10 cents. Such was the Methodists love of regulations and austerity that when women of the Olivet congregation hosted socials at their homes to raise funds for furnishing their church, no hostess was allowed to serve more than one kind of sandwich and two kinds of cake on pain of having a fine imposed for such vanity. In 1879, it was decided to hold a harvest dinner at Olivet, adults 30 cents, children 20 cents. This netted \$60.60.

Here we might mention how strict some of the ministers were in those days. On the church roll, many names were marked - Dropped - non attendance. If a member was absent for three consecutive Sundays, except for sickness, his name was struck from the roll. It has been told that some young men who were church members, attended a horse race held on the ice at Seeley's Bay. On coming off the ice, they were met by the minister who summoned them to a church trial. They were found guilty of watching a horse race on Sunday, so their names were removed from the church roll.

(Continued on Page 12)

OLIVET UNITED CHURCH *(continued from Page 11)*

In 1898 it was decided to add a chancel to the church. A quarter acre of land across the road was offered for a shed. The shed was not built then, but the land was used to tie up horses in the pines. Later another parcel of land was donated on which a shed was built. In 1933 when Highway 32 was built, another piece of land was purchased on which to set back the shed from the widened highway. The church was allowed \$250. for moving the shed and \$400. for changes to the church

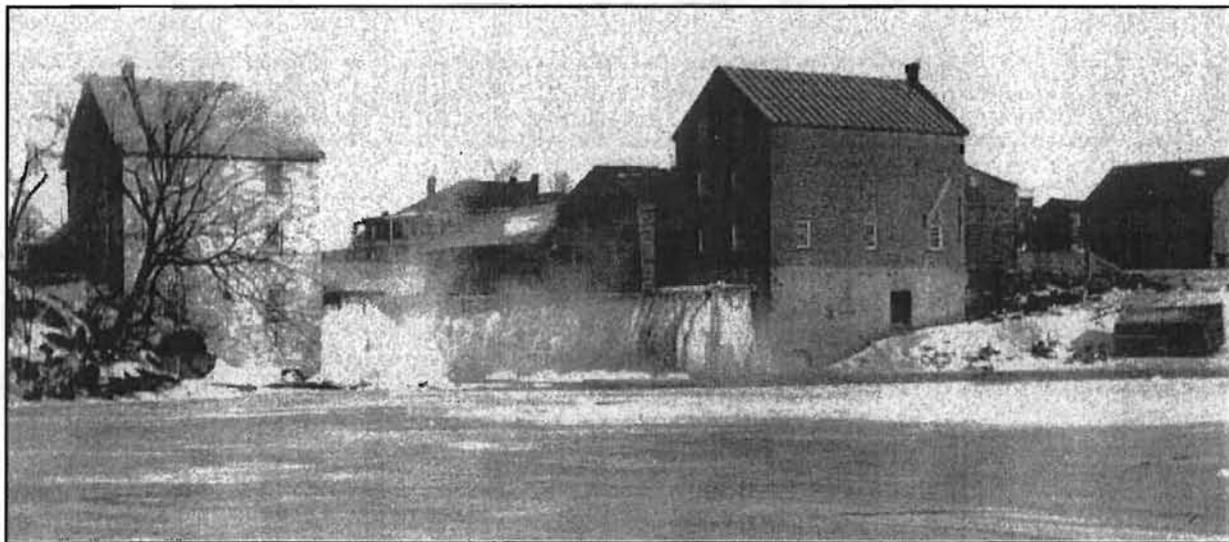
At church union in 1925, Olivet Methodist Church had become Olivet United Church. Many changes took place over the years. Hydro was installed in 1937. An electric organ was purchased in 1944. In 1949, the corner lot across from the church was purchased and cleared. A basement was put under the church in 1950. This enabled the wood stove which had heated the church to be replaced with a furnace. Tables, chairs and kitchen equipment have been added over the years. The interior of the church has been redecorated twice.

On the north and west side of the church is a well-kept cemetery. It is not known when the burial ground was first used; but probably it was around 1877 when land was donated. There is one headstone dated 1869 which may have been transferred there. The cemetery was enlarged by a quarter acre in 1927.

When Highway 32 was widened in 1933, another piece of land was bought to increase the cemetery and provide a parking lot. Further land was purchased in 1952 and 1955. Each year since 1954, a memorial service has been held in June, the proceeds from which go to the Cemetery Fund for upkeep. Many visitors remark that the Olivet is really well-kept cemetery.

Material for this article was taken from "The Centennial History of Olivet United Church - 1977"

XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX



(See Article Page #13) MILLS AT LYNDHURST
*Henry Andress would have worked in the now derelict building to the left of the new brick mill.
Photo by John Buich Harvey 1905 courtesy Joanne (Harvey) Putnam
Used with the permission of the Municipal Heritage Committee*

DIARY OF HENRY M. ANDRESS

Henry Andress was a miller who came from the Mallorytown area. His parents still lived in the area when he was working at the Lyndhurst mill. His wife, Lucy May, came from just east of Escott. His diary covers only 1860-61 when he was working in Lyndhurst.

1861

- Jan.** 1 Jeramiah Andress came out here to day
2 J. Andress goes home. July Willcox goes out with him to Mallorytown.
5 Wesley & Charles Willcox goes after July. I go to Brockville after Mr. Saunders and he came home with me.
7 Town meeting to day.
15 Mr. Wing drew my straw.
19 Mother May, George May & Amanda came out here to day.
21 Mother May & the rest of them that came with her went home to day.
25 Betsy Stephens born a daughter.
31 Young cow with the bull.
- Feb.** 2 Cloudy all day so that the Bare couldnt see his shadow.
7 Hiram Mallory came here to dinner. Roads drifted full.
- Mar.** 3 Me & Lucy with Liza went out to Mallorytown. Snowbanks in the middle of the road 4 feet high.
11 Aliza Sheldon came here to day to work.
14 I went out to see William Bushs farm. Thought some of purchasing
17 went to Mallorytown and Hutchinsontown. Staid at O. Hutchinsons at night.
18 Went from Ozias Hutchinsons to Ira Mallorys to see him on money matters. Mother came home with me.
26 Mr. Mayhew went to Brockville after Sofiah with my Buggy.
29 Mrs. Schofield Died to day up to Mr. Russels.
- Apr.** 4 Good sugar weather.
11 Commenced to cog the large spur wheel, furrowing the provender run of stone.
14 (Not well to day)
17 We are all sick with a bad cough.
20 Sugar weather about wound up. Cows wandering About the Fields in search of food. Some ofthe Farmers commenced plowing
21 Charles Willcox takes my Buggy to take Mother out home to Mallorytown. Little Charles Willcox goes out with them.
22 Turned the cows to pasture but fed them at night.
26 Turned the Mayor to pasture.
27 Sowed cabbage seed on the Banking.
28 Buds coming out fine on the current bushes.
- May** 1 Stephen Chase Died to Day. The children is all coughing very bad.
6 John Roddick goes to Brockville with flour is going to Burgh for cards Mr Saunders sowed Black See wheat.
8 Confernace at Lyndhurst commenced to day.
12 (Sunday) Edward Webster Burries his child in Lansdowne. John Roddick starts to Montreal to Purchase goods.
14 Killed the pig weight 200
16 Planted the Corn and Potatoes.
17 William Wings child died. Samuel Andress came out to see us.
18 Counsell sits to day.
19 Me & Lucy went to Mallorytown to Fathers and heard James Avery preach.
20 Go to Gananoque to get Mill Picks tempered. Came back to George Mays stay all night.
21 Go from George Mays to Brockville. Dinner at Hannah McNishs. Started from there at 5 oclock for Home got home at ten oclock.
22 T. Burns wife Died to Day.
23 Our children bad with Hooping cough.
24 Queens Birth Day. Vanransler Bates, James & William Saunders went to Brockville to see the fire company Display.

(Continued on Page 15)

JANUARY - JUNE 1904
NOTES from the DIARY of JOHN QUINN

- Jan. 1-2 Very cold and stormy, heavy snow. Went to Lansdowne
- Jan. 3 -9 20 below zero. Township elections. Went to Frankville with Miss. H.
- Jan. 10 - 16 Drove from Frankville to Burgess. Drove to Cranworth to Mrs. Toffris. Drove to Rev. Jacksons at Pike Falls. 18 inches of snow. Drove to LumBardy and New Boyne. Was at Mr. B. Jacksons. Drove to Portland District to Andy McDonalds. Came back to Frankville.
- Jan. 17 - 23 Stayed in Frankville over Sunday owing to 2 feet of snow. Came home. Roads are terrible. 35 below zero. George summers went home. Drove to Lansdowne.
- Jan. 24 - 30 Stormy and cold, 30 below. Went to Seeleys Bay to SOT District meeting. Stayed all night. Tom Bryan helping to draw in stack of hay.
- Jan. 31 - Feb. 6 Terrible snow storm. Commenced to cut wood on Role Johnston. Cleaned up grist of wheat and fixed sleigh. Stormy with sleet.
- Feb. 7 - 13 Went to Gananoque with a grist of wheat. Bought 6 cords of wood from Frank Grady for \$9.60. Drew home 6 loads of wood.
- Feb. 14 - 20 Cold and stormy, 30 below. Drove to lansdowne. Old Mr. John Cook died. Took a grist of feed to Lansdowne, 10 bags. Drew home last of wood. Miss H. was out in pm.
- Feb. 21 - 27 Heavy rane, roads bad. Chopping wood at Role Johnstons. Mrs. Hilliard Latimore died. Went to Charlie Earls bea drawing timber.
- Feb. 28 - Mar. 5 Rane and sleet all day. Old Mrs. Nickles Hortin died. Bell Ringers had a concert in Lansdowne. Sick all day. Tom Bryan moved to Seelys Bay. Mary went to work at James Greers. Helping E. Earl saw.
- Mar. 6 - 12 Mother went down to Mr. Smiths. Jos. Steacy died. Big Rane, roads bad. Cutting wood at Role Johnstons. Colder, good sleighing again.
- Mar. 13 - 19 Took Miss. H to R. Hortons. Drew home wood. WBW sold the big mare, \$115. Orlandow Keating had an auction sale. Went to Kingston to attend Grand O.L. St. Patricks Day, am in Kingston. Drew home more wood.
- Mar. 20 - 26 Old Mrs. Donevan of Fairfax was put in vault. Got a new Steel Range Stove, \$69.00. Went to B. Johnstons bee drawing timber. Went to Lansdowne for potatoes. First buggies out this season.
- Mar. 27 - Apr. 2 Helping W.B. Warren get saw logs. Home sick 2 days. Ross Smith was married at 11 am. Very wet, roads sloppy. Miss H was out here in after noon.
- Apr. 3 - 9 Easter Sunday. Ground froze hard. Commenced to cut wood in yard. Went to Lansdowne for load of ground feed. Ross Smith got home. Had the sawing machine.
- Apr. 10 - 16 Finished sawing wood at noon, \$3.50. Splitting wood. Will Foley was sent to asylum. Wet, cold, muddy. Old Mrs Haskins was burried. Got Bill clipped. (his horse) Cleaning seed grain. Took down stove. First cow came in. Splitting wood. Took circular saw down to Rockfield for George Renolds.
- Apr. 17 - 23 Mary was home today. Finished splitting 18 cords of wood. I called on young Mrs. Smith. Terrible blizzard. Miss Webster was taken to Asylum. Tommy Moorhead was burried. Miss Webster was put in the vault at English C.
- Apr. 24 - 30 IOOF paraded to Church. Bought razor for 80 cents. Finished splitting wood. Joined the Masonic Order. Fixing and building patent fence along lane. No spring work.
- May 1 - 7 Quarterly meeting in Lansdowne. Warm spring day. Finished the fence. Took 5 hogs and 4 calves to Lansdowne. Commenced spring work. Finished sowing wheat.
- May 8 - 14 Old Mrs. McKay died. Maud was out here. W.B. Warren got hurt. Sowed 9 bushel of oats. Lizzie came home from New York.
- May 15 - 21 Sowing oats and grane. Very wet, flooded. Miss McKay went to Montreal. Lizzie and I drove to Lansdowne.
- May 22 - 28 Maud was out here. Working in mill for W.B. Warren.
- May 29 - June 4 Miss H. was out here. Planted potatoes. Big show in Kingston.
- June 5 - 11 Lizzie and I went down to John Quinns. Paid G. Warren \$1.50 for a book. Got load of lumber to fix house. Was putting on seeling in big room. Got a cow from H.C. Mulvaugh \$35. Lizzie, Miss H. and I went to Elgin
- June 12 - 18 Came home from Uncle Edds. Finished planting. Drew home lumber and shingles for barn. Went to John Bulgers raising.
- June 19 - 25 W.B. Warren and I went to Fox Borough to see an engine. Road work commenced. Howing beans and fixing barn roof.
- June 26 - 30 Mary was home. Putting floor in old barn. R.C. picnic in Lansdowne.

DIARY of HENRY M. ADDRESS*(Continued from Page 13)*

- June** 1 Alexander Niblocks child Burried to day.
2 Preaching to the School House by Revermd Mr. Tuke. Rowlin Statfords child Died.
3 Set out 100 cabbage plants.
4 Me & Lucy went to the Funeral down at R. Statfords.
5 Miner Washburns child Died.
8 Convension in Farmersville Albert Richards on the reform Ticket.
9 Me & Lucy & the children went to Mrs. Lakes Funeral to the Baptist church. Elder Nickles Preach.
10 Me & the three boys went to Brockville. Bought a new harness. First time they in Brockville.
23 Charles Willcox went to Mallorytown.
26 Fily to the Horse (Curtis's) 4\$ to insure. Charles Adams Died to day.
28 Harvey, Father, Charlot & the children came out here.
30 Preaching at the School House by Mr. Luke.
- July** 3 Robert Tye child Died.
7 Had a Boof of ripe currents for the first time this year.
9 First day of the Election
10 Second day of the Election. Albert Richards of Brockville & Wm Tett of Newborow are the men thats running. Steven Andress & Elizabeth his wife came hear to day.
12 Grand Oringe Procession assembled at Delta.
13 Wm Tett Declared duly elected with a majority of 18
16 Mrs. Gordon of a Daughter.
18 Lucy & the 3 boys with little Lucy went to the Sabbath school Selebration at Sealies Bay.
21 Me, Lucy & the children went to the Quarterly Meeting up to the Babist Church. Sermon preached by Rev. John Andress
22 Mr. Stephens mowing my garden meadow.
23 Lucy and the Boys goes to pick Berries.
29 The Grate Show in Beverley. Me, Lucy & the hole Family went to it.
- Aug.** 4 Mary Simmons Died.
7 Got 2 pigs from Mr. Saunders. July, Wesley, Charles Wilcox & litle Lucy went to Mallorytown. Got the Shingle Mill Wheel and Floom dun.
8 Got one tun hay from Mr. Saundes at 8 dollars per tun.
9 New fall wheat in to grind.
11 George Holland Preached at the Old School house.
14 Mr. Booth from Charleston came to Mill with 22 Bushel. We sent our calfskin down by him to be tanned.
17 A Balief sale to Mr. Curtis & Mr. Sidney Haskins. 2 horses one for 9.25 & other 4.25
18 Me & the Hole family went down to Wm Perrys.
21 Alexander Niblock Departed this life.
25 Me and Lucy went to Hutchinsontown to George Mays & took our dinner to Turners and our supper to Fathers. Edward May has been here from England. We hear of five Funerals to day Wm Pearce, Wm Niblock, old Mrs. Findlay of Charleston, Hiram Reeds child, a Woman of Dulcemain.
- Sept.** 1 Alvin Halladas child Died. ME, Wife & the three little girls went to Ira Sweets.
5 Mrs. Sweet Born a daughter.
10 Me & Lucy went to see Mr. Derbashire & farm he wants to sell.
18 Campmeeting commence Near Whitefish.
22 We all went to the campmeeting. Old Mr. Haskins and Mr. Wiltse Drownded in Charleston Lake.
24 Campmeeting commenced in Isaac Averys Sugarbush in June Town.
29 Me & Lucy went to Campmeeting. We went from there to fathers.
30 We go from fathers to Brockville and so home.
- Oct.** 13 Heard the Jew preach up to the School House. Quarterly Meeting to the Babtist Church.

Paid up MEMBERSHIPS as of JUNE 2004

| <u>LAST NAME</u> <u>FIRST NAME</u> |
|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|--|
| ABBOTT, MADELINE | GRAY, PAUL | MOULT, ELANOR C. | <u>CORPORATE MEMBERS:</u>

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| ABRAMS, GLENN & GAIL | GRICE, LINDA | MULHOLLAND, PAT | |
| ADAMS, WINSTON & WILMA | GRIER, HAROLD & RUTH | NALON, JOHN | |
| AKENSON, PROF. D.H. | GRIER, JAMIE & TRACIE | NEAL, TOM & HELEN | |
| ANDERSON, JACK | GRIER, ROSS | NEWELL, AUDREY | |
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| ANDREWS, AUDRE | GRILLS, DIANA | NUTTALL, BEN & HILDA | |
| ARBUCKLE, DON & GLORIA | HAFFIE, JOHN | NUTTALL, JAY | |
| ARROWSMITH, BRENDA | HAIG, HAROLD | O'GRADY, CHRIS | |
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