

HISTORICAL SOCIETY

OF

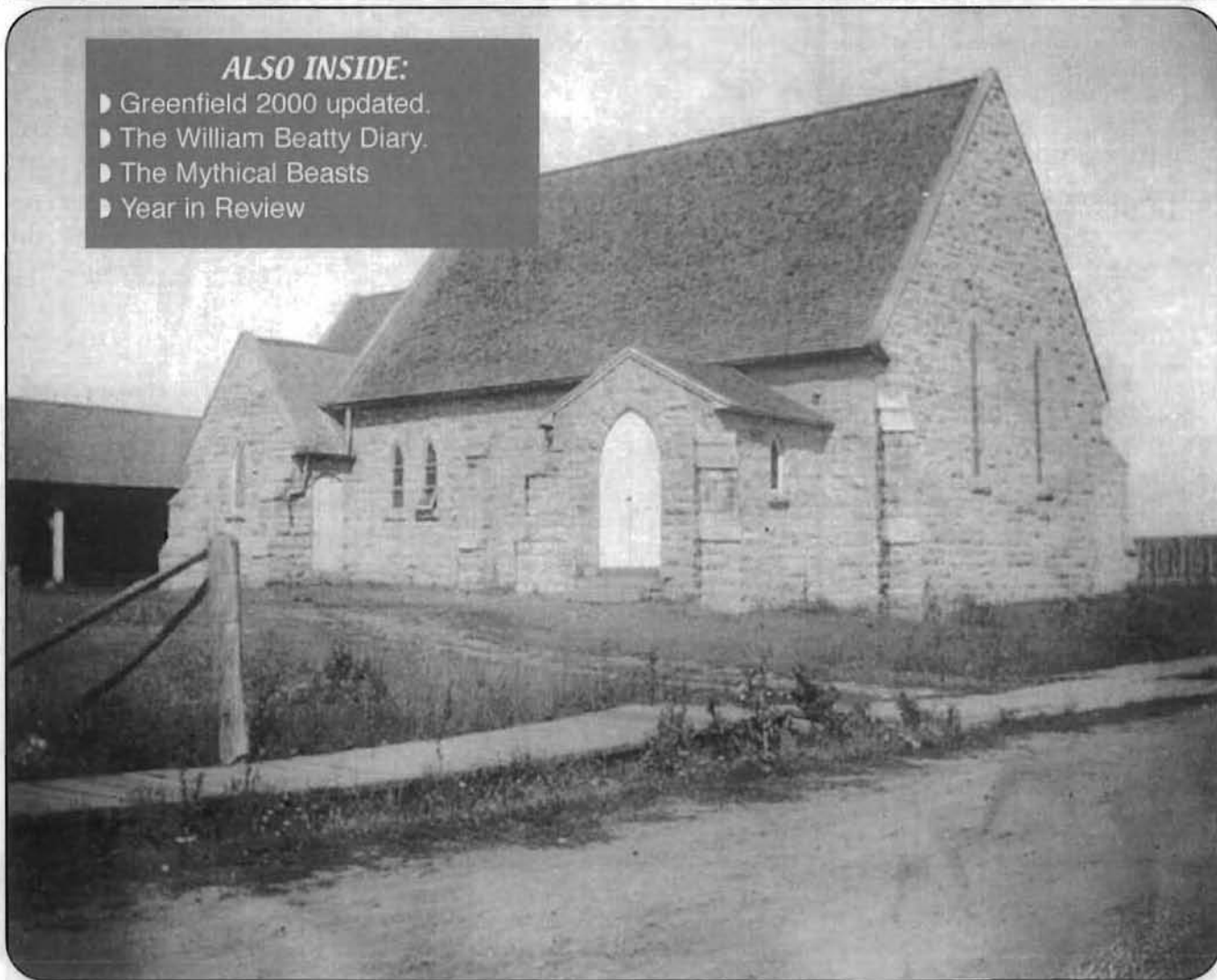
FRONT OF LEEDS AND LANSDOWNE

THE WESTON'S OF LANSDOWNE - See Pg. 8.

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NEWSLETTER

Number 14, FALL/WINTER 2000

\$2.50

PRESIDENT'S
MESSAGE

This newsletter marks our ninth year as a Society. The last year has been a successful and interesting one.

Despite the fact that we were unsuccessful in obtaining a Millennium Grant we have made great progress in helping to preserve Greenfield School. Bill Boulton, his committee, and the community are to be commended for their efforts as are the Grier family for letting us take advantage of this unique opportunity.

I trust you are looking forward to a year of interesting meetings and events. It is always great to get together and for those of you at a distance I hope our newsletter keeps you in touch with us and the history of the Township.

ALAN LINDSAY



PRESIDENT



COVER PHOTO

ST. JOHN'S ANGLICAN CHURCH

This picture was probably taken about 1900. Notice that Church Street has not been opened and the Agricultural Society Office has not been built.

Photo courtesy of Mary Lynne Locke

THE FRONT of LEEDS and LANSDOWNE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Slate of Officers - 2000 -2001

President-	Alan Lindsay
Vice-President-	Bruce Foley
Past President-	Bill Boulton
Secretary-	Ann Graham
Treasurer-	Nancy Langton
Member at Large-	Mary Robertson

Committee Chairs:

Communications-	Bill Boulton
Social-	Audrey Newell Ruth Chisamore
Archivist-	Yolande LaPointe
Program-	Glenda Olivier
Membership-	Connie Burns

Year In Review

From the President's Annual Report (see pg. #14)



MEMORIES OF GREENFIELD SCHOOL

My sister Edith and I lived with our grandparents, the James Wilsons in the mid 1920's.

I was the caretaker at the school for \$1.25 a week.

The teacher was Miss Nellie Taylor, grey-haired, strict but loveable.

Some of the students attending were Ken McCrea, Laura Sales, Cecil Dillon, the O'Grady family, two Grier girls, Violet Carr, Karl Burns, Marion Steacy.

The pump was in the ditch on the north east corner of the lot. If the first pail of water looked rusty, you dumped it out and kept trying.

By Clark McCready

GREENFIELD 2000 "UPDATE"

Progress on the restoration of Greenfield School has gone slower than we expected, but we are still moving along.

We counted a great deal on our Millennium Grant application for working funds. In late May we received word that our application did not meet the criteria of the program for the following reason: "Unless a building is designated an official heritage site by the municipal, provincial, federal or another authorized body, the costs associated with the restoration/preservation of the building cannot be considered for funding under the Canada Millennium Partnership Program". Because of the very restrictive nature of an official heritage designation, none of us wished to travel that route. This means that work will progress slower than planned, more work will have to be done by volunteers, and some non-essential work will not be done.

The Committee elected at the January general meeting; Joan Burns, Mary Cross, Bessie Edgley, Marilyn McDougal, Donna Dempsey and Bill Boulton: have met several times to plan fund raising and work to be done. Approximately 120 letters were sent to former pupils and teachers. The response was gratifying. Several In Memoriam gifts have been received. Thank you letters and receipts have been sent to all contributors.

In the spring we cleaned small trees and brush from the yard. Despite the wet weather, we have succeeded in applying two coats of paint to the roof and one coat to the outside walls. Civic and information signs have been erected. We owe a huge debt of thanks to the Heritage 4H Club who have taken on Greenfield 2000 as a project. They have cleaned the yard, planted flowers and kept the grass cut. They also held a yard sale and turned the proceeds over to the project, as well as donating a book in which gifts will be recorded. George Shire has donated three school desks which we hope to repair over the winter. Ted Hewitt has recorded progress on film. We thank them also.

Over the winter, the window sash will be repaired and glazed by volunteers. In the spring we will be able to reinstall them and begin work on the inside. With luck and cooperation, our Open "School" House should occur sometime next summer. In the meantime, we appreciate your encouragement, support and assistance.

CAN YOU HELP ?

Hubert H. Hamel, M.D., 37 South Meadows Drive, Appleton, Wisconsin, 54915-2349
is looking for the following family information:

My great grandfather, Norman Gardner, lived in the Leeds and Lansdowne area from about 1867 until the time of his death in 1901. He had four children. Eleanor Gardner Grey (1869), Charles Henry Gardner (1870), William Norman Gardner (1873), and George Wellington Gardner (1883). I have most of the information on my grandfather William Gardner, but hope to find out through your society, more information on the other members.



GREENFIELD SCHOOL 1923

Back Row (left to right): Edith McCready, Clark McCready, Mary , Annie and Gerald O'Grady
Front Row : Eleanor and Agustin O'Grady

(Photo courtesy Clark McCready)

THE WILLIAM BEATTY DIARY

June 14, 1877 Drew gravel out of the foundation of the new English Church. Ad had the team, Wallace and me worked with the shovel.

Sept. 4, 1877 I went to a bee for to get sand for the Church of England.

Feb. 28, 1878 Ad and Geordy went to a bee to draw stone for the new Church of England on A.Cornett's place. There were 33 teams. They got a good deal done. The roads all a slop, it was a warm day. The stone was got on Wm. Armstrong place. They had to draw them round.

June 13, 1878 Went to the laying of Corner Stone of the St. John's Church. It was laid by the Deputy Grand Master of the Free Masons. There was a good many there. They had dinner in the grove, 50 cents a person.

June 26, 1879 I went to a strawberry festival in the Show Grounds for the Church of England.

St. JOHN'S ANGLICAN CHURCH

From Society Files

The first Anglican Church in the Township was the Old Stone Church at the corner of County Road 2 and Prince Street. It was built in 1838 of sandstone from the Armstrong quarry. It was served by a number of ministers under the Bishop of Toronto. In 1852, the Rev. John Carroll was appointed incumbent of Christ Church, Gananoque. He also ministered to Lansdowne for twenty years. In 1875 a separate parish of Lansdowne was created with Rev. R.L.M. Houston appointed as the first incumbent.

The village of Lansdowne Station was growing around the railway station, so it was decided to build a new church in that expanding community. In 1877 land was purchased from Alexander and Mary Cornett for \$25.00. The cornerstone was laid by the Masonic Brethren on June 13, 1878. The contractor was Mr. Henry Young, assisted by Mr. Monteith. The stone came from the Armstrong quarry and was cut in the "Bold Rock Front" style. It is the only building in the area using this unique style. Cost of the building was \$3,000.00, with Mr. Young receiving \$600.00 for all the woodwork.

Additional land was purchased over the years from Samuel John Johnston to enlarge the church lot. He also sold the rectory lot to the church in 1889 for \$100.00. The Memorial Parish Hall was constructed in 1961.

For many years the church held its annual picnic on Weston Island.

THE BEATTY FAMILY OF LANSDOWNE *by Alan Lindsay*

Walter Beatty and his wife Isobel Rabb came from Scotland with their family and settled north of Caintown where descendants still live. Their sons William and John married sisters Ellen and Margaret Armstrong. Both sons farmed with their father until his death in 1860. In 1861 William purchased the farm on the east side of Prince St. north of King St. in Lansdowne Village from James Foster and moved his family to Lansdowne in April 1862. He built the house owned for many years by Harold and Gladys Johnston where the family lived until William's death on June 28, 1897. Ellen passed away Jan. 18, 1893.

Children of William and Ellen Beatty

- Walter** 1836-1911 mar. Elizabeth Curtis 1836-1920 - children: Jean, Ann, James, John
(Walter was MPP for Leeds and a noted surveyor - lived in Delta)
- John** 1837-1864
- Ellen** 1839- mar. Walter Scott of Glen Tay (Perth) - 3 children
- David** 1842- mar. Elvira Hicock - 3 children - (was a dentist in Parry Sound)
- Adam** 1844-1925 mar. Abigail McNeil 1845-1923 - (lived in the present Presbyterian manse in Lansdowne)
- Isabella** 1846-1875 mar. Sylvester Hicock - (lived in Nebraska - after her death her children Jessie 1873 and Philo 1875 came to live with their grandparents - both died young possibly of TB)
- Janet** 1849-1934 - unmarried (lived with her parents and then Dr. Beatty)
- William Rabb** 1851-1905 died Revelstoke BC - (at one time MPP for Parry Sound)
- George** 1853- mar. Annette Bannerman - 3 children (lived in Calgary)
- Dr. Elizabeth Rabb** 1856-1939 M.D.
- Mary Braden** 1858-1859
- Mary Jane** 1862- mar. James Dickson - 6 children

Dr. Elizabeth Rabb Beatty graduated in medicine in 1884 from Queen's University one of the first three women to do so. She served as a Presbyterian medical missionary in India for seven years. On the way to India she met Lady Dufferin, wife of the Governor-General of Canada, and together they worked towards improving the lives of the women there. Returning to Canada because of ill health she made her home in the large brick house that was built on one of her father's lots across from the fair ground in Lansdowne. In 1940 a plaque to her memory was unveiled in the Church of the Covenant by her sister Mrs. Dickson. The Historical Society has a copy of William Beatty's diary that outlines the daily activities of this family from the 1840's to the 1890's. It also records local activities and the growth of Lansdowne Village.



The WESTON'S of LANSDOWNE By Pat Mulholland

John and Edith Weston emigrated to Canada sometime between 1857 and 1861. We know this because their first daughter Eliza was born in England and they are listed on the 1861 Lansdowne census. At the time of the census they were living in a one story log house and John was listed as a engineer, age 35; Edith age 31, and Thomas age 2. Eliza had died prior to this time.

Records show that on September 30, 1863 the Westons purchased a large white clapboard house with shutters from James McKelvey and his wife for \$500. This house stood directly across from the first Grand Trunk railway station and was used as the family home and a hotel for railway travellers. It is believed to have been the first hotel in Lansdowne.

Although John had limited education he was a good business man. Records show that he ran several businesses simultaneously. Besides one or more general stores, he had a tavern in his hotel and sold wood to the Grand Trunk Railway. Edith was actively involved in the business as her name is found on legal documents as early as 1866. This may have been because she could write her name and John couldn't, or perhaps due to John's ill health.

Other references state that the township council met at Weston Hotel in 1864 and that tavern licenses of \$20.00 were issued to John for the years 1864, 66 and 67. John's business endeavors were mentioned in two directories: The Fuller's Directory of 1866-67 states that John had a general store; and the 1866 Mercantile Agency Reference Book for the British Province listed that John Weston's store had fair credit. In October 1864 the Lansdowne Agricultural Society held their first fair on land partly owned by the Westons.

The 1871 census listed the family as: John 46, hotel and storekeeper; Edith 41; Thomas W. 12; John R. 8; Edith 6; Ida M. 3 and Mary Eleanor 1. Facts about John are sketchy. One story that has survived emphasizes John's love of a practical joke. At the time of the Fenian Raids, John overheard some men bragging about what they would do to the Fenians if they suddenly appeared. Undetected by the group, John went home for his shotgun and fired it off behind the railway station where the men were sitting. This broke up the meeting as the would-be-heros headed for cover.

John died on September 25, 1875 after a lengthy illness and was buried in Ebenezer Cemetery. His will was witnessed by two local business men, Robert Werry and G. Deane. In his will John left the bulk of his estate to Edith, and \$100. to each of his five children. The boys were to receive their share at age 21, the girls at 18.

It was not easy to be left a widow with five children to support, but Edith was a live-wire with determination to match her red hair. Records show she actively bought, sold and mortgaged land to increase her financial worth. One of her acquisitions was the purchase of 24 village lots on the south side of the railway tracks for \$250. each. She sold all but two to William Snider for \$750. each twenty-three years later. The lots on the corner of Prince and Railway Streets were sold for the same price to Ai E Haffie who ran a store and ice business there.

Edith was a member of the Conservative party and a follower of Sir John A. McDonald, Canada's first Prime Minister. In fact, she campaigned for him before Confederation in 1867, even though one of her friends was the wife of the local Liberal Candidate. One day when Edith was going to collect interest on her holdings, she invited her friend to accompany her. Not until they returned did the lady notice that there was a banner draped across the back of the buggy urging people to vote for the Conservative candidate. It was rumoured that the woman never spoke to Edith again.

(Continued on pg. #9.)

The Weston's of Lansdowne (Continued from page 8)

Edith was very strict with her children. She believed children should be seen and not heard. They had to toe the mark and were expected to eat everything on their plates. The children were not allowed to dance, but they did play games and cards except on Sunday. On the "Day of the Lord" they had to memorize the brief prayer of the day and recite it perfectly.

The children had a pet goat which pulled them in a sleigh in the winter and a wagon in the summer. One Sunday morning the goat found its way into the church after the Westons were seated. The goat walked up the aisle and stopped at the Weston's pew. The child sitting at the end was sternly told by Edith to take the goat out. The embarrassed child pushed and pulled the stubborn goat out of the church. Choosing to ignore the comedy, the minister droned on as young and old shook with silent laughter.

On October 6, 1878, Edith married James Binns of the Town of Brockville, a section foreman on the railroad, a widower with a son George. The witnesses were William Wallis and Cecilia Spence. What happened to Binns is a mystery. He was listed in the 1881 census but not the 1891. Mrs. Paul Moore, an old time resident of Lansdowne in 1972, said she could dimly remember her dad telling about some unpleasantness which divided the village. Lena Clement, Edith's granddaughter, can recall hearing Binns referred to as a scoundrel.

Prior to Edith's second marriage, Tom, the eldest son, left home and started working for the Grand Trunk Railroad. After a five year internship he became a Class Engine man on January 1, 1883. John, four years younger, left home in the early 80's to travel for the W.H. Comstock Company, a patent medicine company located in Brockville. He later requested and received his share of Edith's estate before she died so he could establish a bookstore in Potsdam, N.Y.

Alma, Edith's oldest daughter, was a very pretty and talented young lady. She learned to play the organ, and the 75th Anniversary booklet of St. John's Church lists her as one of the former organists. She was very stubborn and there was friction between her and Edith. It was a relief for all when Alma went to Brockville to attend collegiate and board at the Continental Hotel. After graduation, Alma went to Montreal to work as a tutor and companion.

Ida also went away to school where she learned fancy stitchery, china painting and piano. In 1890 she joined her brother in Potsdam and worked in his bookstore. When it was Mary Eleanor's time to attend collegiate, she went to Perth to live with the Wilson family who operated the Hick's House Hotel. One of her classmates was Walter Walker who she later married.

Edith was bedridden for the last few years of her life and cared for by her youngest daughter Mary Eleanor. On May 10, 1895, Edith was so frail that she could only take a few drops of brandy from a feather. At this time Rev. Charles Young and John Redman, a local shopkeeper, were called to witness her will. Edith was so weak she signed with her mark rather than her familiar bold signature. She died on May 20 at the age of 66 with Bright's disease. Edith's sons Tom and John were appointed executors of her estate, and Ida inherited the house as her portion. After her death, the family donated a clergy chair and dish to St. John's Church in memory of their parents.

Four months after Edith's death both Alma and Mary Eleanor had married and moved away. Ida returned to Lansdowne for her summer holidays until 1903 when she sold the house.

At the time of his death, John had been dealing with the Government to buy an Island called Garrett's Point. Edith completed the transaction in December 1875. People at the time wondered about this purchase by a widow with five young children. When Edith first went to the island, Indians were still camping there in the summer. As well, it was occupied by a squatter by the name of Garrett. For the first year the family camped in tents until a cottage was built in 1876-77. One of the original cottages still stands on the Island, now known as Weston's Island. The island is still owned and used by decedents of John and Edith Weston.

Pat Mulholland who wrote this article, Eleanor C. Moulton and Mary Lynne Locke who supplied pictures, are all great-granddaughters of John and Edith Weston, granddaughters of Mary Eleanor.

(Continued on pg. #10)



John and Edith Weston

*(Photos courtesy of
Eleanor C. Moulton)*



**The oldest cottage on Weston Island,
built about 1880.**

*(Photo courtesy of
Bill Boulton)*



**Sussex House Today, now the home of
Paul, Christine and Amanda Spafford**

*(Photo courtesy of
Bill Boulton)*

Weston's Hotel "Sussex House"

← *(Photo courtesy of
Mary Lynne Locke)*

HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF FRONT OF LEEDS AND LANSDOWNE
Newsletter #14 FALL/WINTER 2000

JULY - DECEMBER 1900
 NOTES from the DIARY of JOHN QUINN

- July 1 - 7 Warm and dry. Exchanging work with Owen Sullivan. Finished putting wire on road fence and drew rales away. Butchered a hog. Bought a barrel of salt \$1.30. Helping to fit up the picnic grounds over in Mr. Horton's grove. Drew a load of cheese to Lansdowne.
- July 8 - 15 The Orange Men marched to the Presbyterian Church at 2:30, 60 strong. It rained all day. Finished the fence and hung the gates. Helping to prepare the Fair Grounds for the 12th July. Went to Elgin to the Orange Celebration. Went to Gananoque with a grist of wheat, 6 bushels.
- July 16- 21 Martha went to work at W. Shipmans. Commenced haying. Had Mr. Heaslip helping me with hying.
- July 22- 28 Very hot. Went out to Warburton to church. Got my life insured with the Orange Lodge. Mr. Heaslip helping with haying at \$2.00 a day. Mr. Patric O'Grady died.
- July 29- Aug 4 Lizzie and I went down to see Martha. Heavy hail storm. Finished haying, 23 loads. Brought binder home and put it together. Cut 4 acres of oats.
- Aug. 5 - 11 Mary came home from Kingston on a visit. Very hot, 112 and 108 in the shade. Drawing in barley and wheat.
- Aug. 12 - 18 Got the Grey horse shod allround. Heavy thunder storm. Finished cutting grain. Went to Elgin.
- Aug. 19 - 25 Mary and I was out to Uncle Edds in Carleton Place. Helping Mr. Patience draw grain. Sowing grass seed. Went to Lansdowne. Terrible hot day.
- Aug. 26 - Sept. 1 Went to Lansdowne and broke the pole out of the wagon. Thrashing with W.B. Warren at T.A. Websters, Will Heaslips, Skiler DeWolfes and Tony Moorheads. Did not work today, I got my hand cut last night Very hot 130 in the shade.
- Sept. 2 - 8 We went to Jublie and Warburton School. Went to Sand Bay to attend District T.L. Martha came home. Putting out minure. Thrashing at Algje McKays, Fred Moddlers, Albert Moors and Wess Cliffe.
- Sept. 9 - 15 Lizzie came home. Went to doctor. Sick, unable to work all week.
- Sept. 16 - 22 Terrible thunder storm, Ruttles and Warts barns burnt. Helping Roll Johnston fill silo. Went to Lindhurst Fair. Thrashing at J.B. Wilsons, B. Boyces and Jack Emeries.
- Sept. 23 - 29 Thrashing at Tomas Heaslip 517 bu., Nathanel Webster 975 bu., Dashel Dodds 647 bu., William Dodds 937 bu. and William Leaths 440 bu.
- Sept 30 - Oct 6 Mr. Samual Heaslip died. Thrashing at Jos Ellots, Dan McDonalds, George Crosses, N. Crosses, and J.B. Landons. Lansdowne Fare Tue. to Thur. Goss Haskins died.
- Oct. 7 - 13 Took Martha to Uncle Edd Summerses. Thrashing at Iry Moors, L. Crosses, Will Landon, Ferman Crosses and Steven Finelys. Fixing granery and digging potatoes. Went to Elgin. Paid taxes \$12.50.
- Oct. 14 - 20 Went to Uncle Edds and brought Martha home. Commenced to plow. Thrashed 837 bu. at home. Mrs. Pat McNamee died.
- Oct. 21 - 27 Plowing. Signed a note to D. Darling for \$50.00 Drew a load of cheese.
- Oct. 28 - Nov. 3 Plowing on Keating place. Martha went to work at Willie Grahams. Helped Mr. Haslip butcher a pig. Cheese sold at 10 1/8.
- Nov. 4 - 10 L.O.L. # 26 made a Church parade to the Methodist Church, 45 present. Went to Gananoque to the L.T.B. Supper. Provincial election, Tailor had 449 majority. Very blustry, first snow, ground frozen hard.
- Nov. 11 - 17 Rev. Mr. Simson died. Brought home the young cattle. 2 below zero, 3" snow. Sleighs out. Old Mr. Duglas died. Thrashing at Hue Linches.
- Nov. 18 - 24 Plowing on Keating Place, Mr Heaslip helping at \$1.50 a day. No frost in ground, but 3" of snow. Got a pair of rubber boots, \$3.00.

(continued on Page #12)

SAVE-A-TAPE PROGRAM

We are now participating in two Save-A-Tape programs. Save your cash register tapes from:

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.

JOHN QUINN DIARY- (Continued from page #11)

- Nov. 25 - Dec. 1 Terrible storm, snow and sleet, 7". Brought colt home. Fixed pump, cleaned stove pipes and put up box stove. Got 60 pounds of beef from Wes Johnston. Butchered 2 pigs, 300 pounds. Got Bill shod all around.
- Dec. 2 - 8 IOOE Lodge had an At Home at Lansdowne. Annual meeting of #26 Lodge. Mr .Henry Patience died. Sold two cows to Andy Robinson for \$20 each. Went to Gananoque with 6 bushel of wheat.
- Dec. 9 - 15 Went to Temperence Box Social 50 cents. Got a new overcoat and suit for \$12.00. Drove mother to Lansdowne. Paid the Journal \$3.25 for paper.
- Dec. 16 - 22 Cold and stormy. Thrashing at Robert Johnstons, Mr.Hortons,Roland Johnstons, O.W. Landons and John Heaslip.
- Dec. 23 -31 Nice warm day, snow all gone. Buggies out. Christmas day nice but cold. Got the mare shod all around. The year ends very nice and warm, little sleighing.

THE MYTHICAL BEASTS

By Bill Boulton

In a letter some time ago, member J.D.G. Steacy, a native son now living in Ottawa , included the following paragraph: "the efforts you have put forth in bringing back the stories of the blueberry patch which lay behind the Whiskey Islands in Charleston Lake . . of the great animal skeleton on the slopes of Blueberry Mountain with the legs on one side shorter than the legs on the other; the mythical beast of Leeds - the Roundhill Gopher". While I may have brought them to his mind, I had never heard of them. Have you?

Here is Mr. Steacy's answer.

These are examples of our Irish heritage. Even though life was hard for all members of the family during the nineteenth century, with immigrants literally pouring in from Ireland where most of them had little creature comforts, and less property, the cultural shock upon their arrival must have been terrific. Nevertheless, they brought their great Irish heritage - humour - with them.

The Roundhill Gopher was supposed to have lived on Blueberry Mountain and adapted to its surroundings. The skeleton, probably of a sheep, had been carefully carried up the hillside, and the bones beneath the knee removed on one side, thereby proving that this prehistoric creature evolved in a way so that it could walk around the side of the mountain on an even keel.

The great skeleton on the side of Blueberry Mountain was indeed a skeleton, and it was a big one, half hidden in the undergrowth. Its genesis, however, was more a figment of an inventive Irish imagination. As a child, it was held out to me as proof positive that mighty carnivorous beasts had roamed the township of Leeds and Lansdowne. We stood in awe of this congregation of bones. It was only many years later that the truth dawned. It was probably a cow which had wandered off and died of exposure. But, even today, mighty animals slosh their way about Mud Bay. Now, if we could only start digging.

Simple things these, from men and women who kept the ten gauge loaded to keep away the wolves and foxes, and who got out to the barn at three on a freezing morning to deliver a calf. With all of that, and more, they still had that great Irish imagination which, with a single sweep of the eye, could show you where gold deposits lay, where the bottomless lake with its own endless stories lay, and where the salmon used to come as far as the Outlet and jump the rapids (they did!).

Thank you Mr. Steacy for another journey into the memories of your "Country".

THE BRICK SCHOOL

By Bill Boulton

Lansdowne's second school has always been referred to as the "brick school". Next to nothing has been found about it. In my lifetime I have talked to only one person who remembered it. It is marked on Walling's 1861 map as being on the east side of Railway Street about 700 feet south of the railway.

William Beatty makes several references to this school in his diary. The school would have been just south-east of his property.

- June 8, 1862 Rev. M. Gearden preached in the schoolhouse today.
Jan. 12, 1864 Went to school meeting. Each pupil to pay 10 shillings per month or be fined one quarter cord of wood.
Oct. 7, 1865 Put in seven panes of glass and otherwise fixed the schoolhouse windows.
Jan. 22, 1865 Hired Mr. Hall as teacher for \$17.00 per month.
Nov. 21, 1868 Fixed the schoolhouse. Purvis and Findlay helped to put props to the back of it. H. McKay built and plastered.
July 7, 1870 Went to the schoolhouse in the afternoon to a building committee.

While cleaning up the last of the material from Darlingside, we came across a tattered old book which had been turned into a scrapbook. Glued into it was the following article:

School Examination and Presentation Lansdown, Dec. 22, 1873.

There was an examination held to-day in the Brick School House, School Section No. 8, by Mr. William Goodbody, and as he has taught in the Section for about seven years and a half in succession, and in now about to leave, there was a very large attendance of visitors, especially of young ladies.

There was also a pretty fair attendance of pupils, and they acquitted themselves in the several branches in which they had been taught, in a manner highly creditable to both them and their Teacher.

At the close of the examination, prizes were distributed by the Teacher to all the pupils according to their several merits.

After the distribution of prizes, the pupils presented the Teacher with a very handsome Writing Desk, accompanied with the following address:-

To Mr. William Goodbody, Teacher.

We the undersigned Pupils of School Section No. 8, do hereby unanimously tender unto you a vote of thanks for your zeal and attention in conducting the School during the term of your engagement as our Teacher, and at the same time express our regret at your leaving us. And further, as a proof of our attachment to you, and our appreciation of your assiduity, moral example, and the precepts you have instilled in our youthful minds, we unite in presenting you the accompanying testimonial. We use no high flown epithets, but merely the effusions of grateful hearts, and as such we hope you will accept them, from

YOUR MUCH ATTACHED SCHOLARS

It appears that Mr. Goodbody is engaged to teach at Legge's School House for 1874.

(Records show that Mr. Goodbody did indeed teach at Legge's School in 1874, and possibly to the end of 1877).

Year In Review -

From the President's Annual Report

- Sept. 20, 1999 Carol Gorsen demonstrated the care and restoration of quilts. *(See pg. #3.)*
- Oct. 20, 1999 Members toured the Brockville Museum
- Nov. 15, 1999 Brian Porter portrayed Sir John A Macdonald *(See pg. #3.)*
- Jan. 17, 2000 Our biggest crowd of the year heard former students and teachers describe their experiences in the 20 one room schools which once operated in the township. Grade 7 and 8 students from Lansdowne District Public School had the opportunity to see the slide presentation and displays showing the former one room schools. Jessica Lynch, Ashley Doggett, Tricia Shaw, and Miranda Martin look at one of the displays.
- Feb. 21, 2000 Canon B. Purcell spoke of the Wexford Irish who settled this area
- Mar. 20, 2000 David Strong, President of the Smiths Falls Railway Museum of Eastern Ontario outlined the history and the collection of the museum. On David's left are Museum executive members Merrill Weeks and Alfred Wurtele.
- April 17, 2000 Kathleen Birch outlined the history of St. Lawrence National Park
- July 15, 2000 As part of the Township's Millennium Celebrations, the Society provided two Historical bus tours of the Township.



(Photos by Bill Boulton)



Year In Review

From the President's Annual Report



HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF FRONT OF LEEDS AND LANSDOWNE

Newsletter #14

FALL/WINTER 2000

Paid up MEMBERSHIPS as of DECEMBER 2000

LAST NAME	FIRST NAME	LAST NAME	FIRST NAME		
AKENSON	PROF. D.H.	LANDON	YVONNE	TEKAMP	WILHELMINA
ANDERSON	ANNE	LANGTON	JIM & NANCY	THOMPSON	MAVIS
ANDREWS	AUDRE	LAPOINTE	YOLANDE	TRICKEY	R. SPENCER
ASHLEY	WINONA	LAPPAN	NORMA	TRUESDELL	VAIDA
BLACKBURN	HELEN	LAPPAN	ROSE	WARREN	MARGEL
BOULTON	WM.	LAWSON	RICHARD	WATKINS	BILL
BOYD	JIM	LeBLANC	JOHN	WEBSTER	ERIC
BROWN	JACK	LEGGETT	LYNNE	WEBSTER	MR. & MRS. ROBERT
BURNS	DON & PAT	LINDSAY	ALAN	WEBSTER	PAUL & DOREEN
BURNS	GEORGE	LYNCH	CAROL	WEBSTER	REBECCA
BURNS	JOAN	LYNCH	CHERYL	WHITE	WILBERT
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Newsletter Designed & Published by
 TED HEWITT PHOTOGRAPHY & COMPUTER IMAGING CENTRE