



Exploring **20** The Past
1992 *Years* 2012



The McNeil Barn Photo from Society files

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Presidents Message



**Freda White -
President**

Greetings from your new president. We have an excellent executive and I look forward to serving as your president. A thank you to Connie Burns, our Past-president. Her continued support of this year's executive is very much appreciated.

The Archives is doing well. Photographs have come in from the Sheffield and Harvey families of Lyndhurst; the Tye family of Seeley's Bay; and Landon and Mooney of Ivy Lea. The Archives is always looking for stories and pictures.

If you have material to donate, or lend for scanning, contact Pierre Mercier at 659-3785 or cell 329-1343. I want to encourage everyone to write names and information on the back of their pictures. It is so important for those who inherit them.

Winter – Spring 2013 Meetings - 7:30pm, in the Lansdowne community Building

February 18 – Show and Tell featuring heritage clothing. Bring your best duds.

March 18 – 46th Productions. This is a rental company which supplies costumes, especially military, for stage and movie productions.

April 15 – Ted Hewitt will present "Photography – Ever Changing."



MEMBERSHIP FEES (Canadian Funds Please)

General (Family) - \$15.00 Association - \$20.00 Corporate - \$30.00

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

LTI Historical Society Executive 2021 – 2013

President	Freda White	Committee Chairs	
1st Vice President	Glennda Olivier	Communications	Bill Boulton
2nd Vice President	Pierre Mercier	Programme	Willie Lacelle
Secretary	Rebecca Webster	Membership	Connie Burns
Treasurer	Debbie Desloges	Social	Marion McKay
Members at Large	Mary Robertson, Tyler Deschamps, Karolyn Massey		

NEWSLETTERS

As our newsletter binder was growing large, we have decided to split it into two.

Back copies of our newsletters are available for \$2.50 each

Copies 1 through 20 are now available in a three ring binder. Cost \$62.00

Copies 21 through 37 - Cost \$54.50 - Binders with all copies 1-37 are still available. Ask for price.

Due to the weight and high cost of postage, if these have to be mailed, postage will have to be added.

Also available now is a binder with a coloured cover insert or the coloured cover insert alone.

Ask the Executive for prices.



T H E W A R O F 1 8 1 2 *Notes from the Editor:*

For most of this year the 200th anniversary of the War of 1812 has been “commemorated” by television, written articles and re-enactors. This will probably continue through 2013 and maybe later.

This local area was relatively quiet. Most of the action in British North America took place in the Niagara – Lake Erie area.

Some of the action in this area included:

- 1) The raid on Gananoque,*
- 2) The Brown’s Bay wreck,*
- 3) Bridge Island Mallorytown (Chimney Island),*
- 4) Forsyth’s raid on Brockville,*
- 5) Fort Wellington Prescott,*
- 6) Chrysler’s Farm Morrisburg.*

In this issue I have assembled several articles which reflect on the war in this area.

THEN and NOW 25 King Street E, Lansdowne



This was probably one of the oldest houses in Lansdowne, built before 1860. It was directly across the track from the first GT station. It was purchased in 1863 by John and Edith Weston who operated a hotel here – Weston’s Sussex House.

On December 29, 2012 it was destroyed by fire.

Our sympathy goes out to Paul and Christine Trafford on the loss of their home.

THEN
25 King Street E, Lansdowne, 2008
From Society Files

NOW
December 29, 2012
Photo by Bill Boulton



Heritage Organization Grant

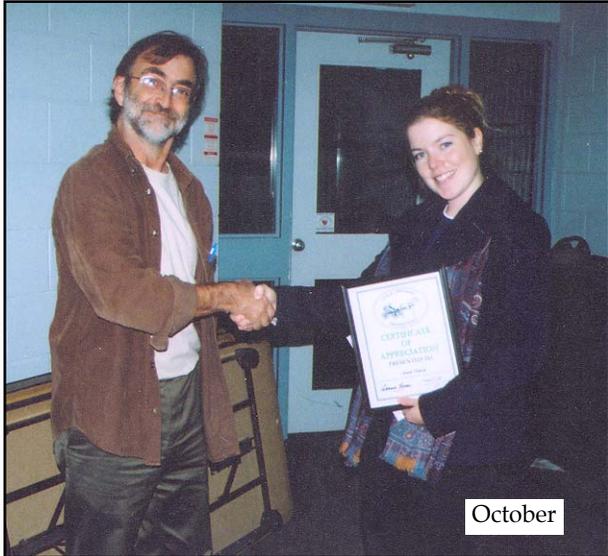
The Historical Society made an application to the Provincial Ministry of Culture for a Heritage Organization Development Grant. Our application was approved, and we received \$1,545.00 This grant will be used to cover the cost of preparation and distribution of our Newsletters.

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



YEAR IN REVIEW 2011-2012

FROM THE SECRETARY'S ANNUAL REPORT



October

October 17, 2011

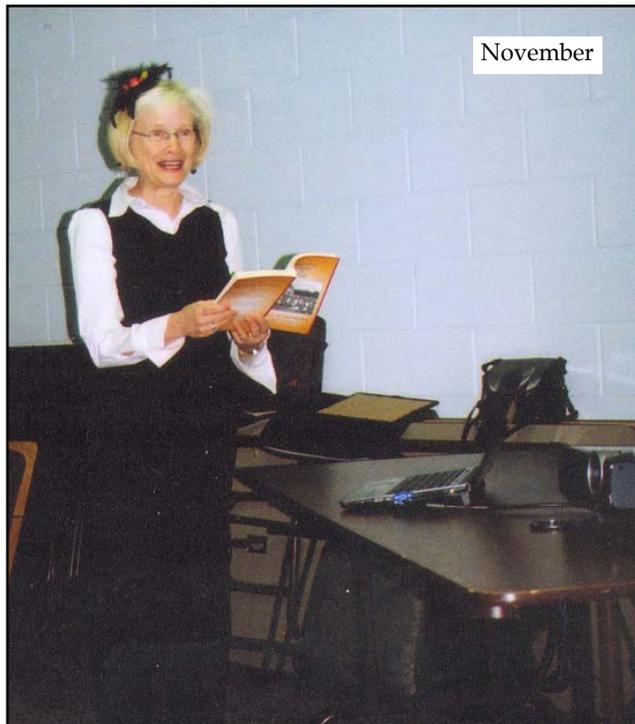
Casey Sharpe spoke of the work of the Cataraqui
Regional Conservation Authority
Photo by Bill Boulton



September

September 19, 2011 – Alan Lindsay talked
of the early settlers in the township.

Photo by Bill Boulton



November

November 21, 2011 – Joy Forbes told Tales Of A
One Room School.

Photo by Bill Boulton



January

January 16, 2012 – Brian Phillips talked about the
Carnegie Brothers of Rockport

Photo by Bill Boulton



YEAR IN REVIEW 2011-2012

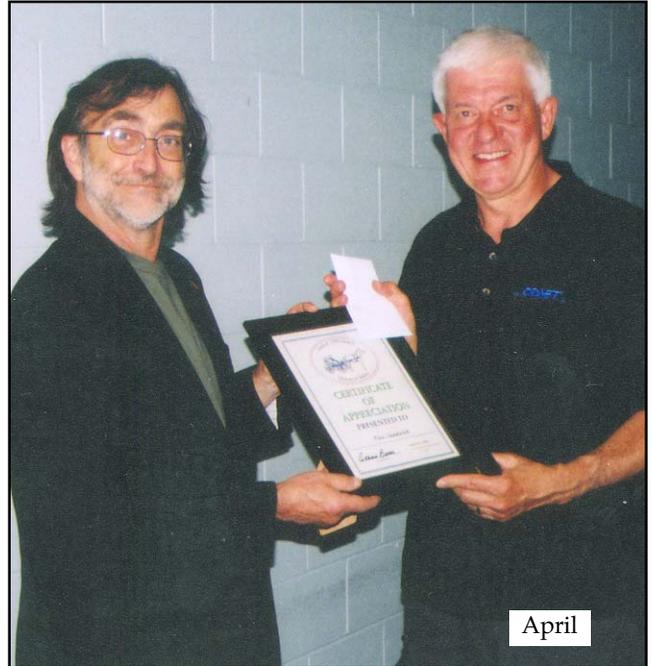
FROM THE SECRETARY'S ANNUAL REPORT



February

February 20, 2012 – Show and Tell featuring Kitchen Tools.

Photo by Bill Boulton



April

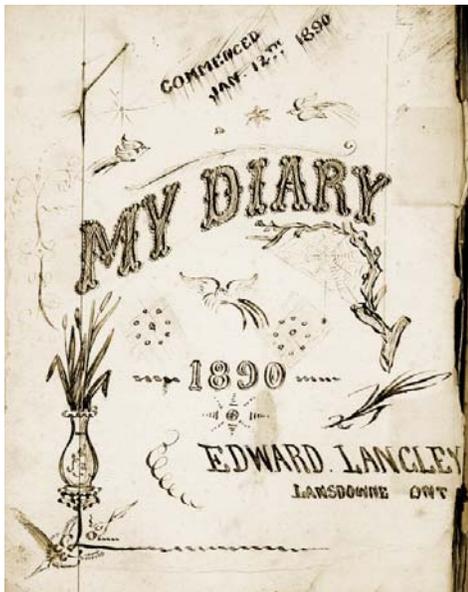
April 16, 2012
Phil Chadwick proved that Tom Thomson Was A Weather Man.
Photo by Bill Boulton



March

March 19, 2012 – Amy Whitehorn took us on a Tour of Rock Shelters In Charleston Lake Park.

Photo by Pierre Mercier



MY DIARY - EDWARD LANCLEY - 1890

*This diary was recently given to us by Byron and Martha Landon.
It belonged to a hired man working for Byron's grandfather
at the farm on Fairfax Road.
The writing is beautiful, almost a work of art.*

THIS IS THE END OF THE EDWARD LANCLEY DIARY

- Aug. 1** Drew in 13 load eleven of which were put into a stack next to one, back. Borrowed Mr. Roots horse & I raked. We have only a little more to cut & expect to have all done tomorrow 170 loads in already Eleven o'clock this evening our cheese factory burnt up. We hurried up to the place but could do no good, five cheese were saved also a lot of wood belonging to the cheese maker Mr. Root. After it burned down some we began to carry water & throw on the spot where we supposed the cheese to be, & by this means we saved some of them partially burnt. It was proposed that a meeting be held in the school house to see about erecting another factory.
- Aug. 2** Finished cutting all meadow in the forenoon. Drew in 10 loads today. Commenced harvest with a few rounds on the S.E. corner field (Barley) field there on McKee place the pitman broke and put a stop to that days work. A meeting was held in the school house five patrons were elected as a building committee in whose hands all business transactions were put. It was decided that we should draw our milk to the Deerlick factory until a new factory has been erected.
- Aug. 3** Church in the evening, good attendance. Mr. Farrlie preached a beautiful sermon on the Parable of the Prodigal Son Luke XV chapter. Notice was given out that Sacrament will be dispensed in Lansdowne the first Sunday in September. Oscar started for Athens, 1 o'clock.
- Aug. 4** I drew milk to Deerlick factory for the first time. Raked after windrows until nearly noon. Oscar returned 11:30, and in the afternoon we unloaded one load of hay and drew in two loads of barley. The binder went steady all afternoon, At tea time a heavy shower passed over this section which put a stop to harvesting for the day. Rain is needed, everything is drying up & garden produce seems to be a failure, A meeting is to be held in Mr. Tho. McDonald, for further arrangements about site for factory which is supposed to be opposite the old site on E.J. Landon. Mr. W.McConnell to build it.
- Aug. 5** Drew one load of hay, put some on both the stacks and the rest in the shed. It rained nearly all day. We cleaned a grist of wheat 32 bushels. Intend to go to Lyndhurst to-morrow.
- Aug. 6** Binder going all day! Stooked 230 Barley and 30 Oats. The wind blew moderate all day and the bundles dried fast. Showers were all around in the afternoon.
- Aug. 7** I arrived in Canada four years ago to-day. I ran the binder for the first time, cut field of oats on McKee place opposite the "Home" barn & commenced Barley in flat at home. I drew in one load on account of something being wrong with the machine. Gananoque first Civic Holiday. All went but myself. Meeting in the schoolhouse about building a "Union Factory" on the place. A Lawyer has to be seen before anything can be done as some people taking their shares out from the Joint Stock Company.
- Aug. 8** Drew in seven Loads, Hay. Topped out the stacks and commenced building another at the barn. I reaped the field in. East of the old well on E. j's & finished barley on the flat at home. A large fire was visible out back somewhere in the Back Concessions. It seemed to be a barn or stacks for the smoke was very black. We are getting the haying finished by degrees. It is slow work. There is a lot of stoking to be done which must be time consuming.

(Continued on Pg. #7)



MY DIARY - EDWARD LANCLEY - 1890

(Continued from pg. #6)

- Aug. 9** Finished haying, stoked up the field of wheat behind the barn at home. I reaped remainder of oats at the flowing well, field of 2wheat back of the barn at home, commenced field of wheat opposite black cherry tree on E.J's. Clouds hung around all day and thunder could be heard in the distance. This evening a light rain is visible all round the south and south-east. The papers contain long accounts of damage done by lightning, many lives have been lost.
- Aug. 10** About half past ten it commenced to rain and came in small showers until Church time which was a little after eleven. We did not have a bad attendance considering. Our Pastor Mr. Fairlie has been preaching from the Parables in St. Luke to day sermon was "The rich man and Lazarus, Luke XVI 19. We all enjoyed it very much. Mr. Fairlie's sermons are so plain. The first lesson was from Ecclesiastes VIII. The writer of the above chapters has been trying to make himself happy but comes to no conclusion until the last chapter.
- Aug. 11** We ground the knives of the binder, as we were done. Mr. Smith and Jhn. Quinn came up to help us draw in. We commenced drawing from barley field and drew it all in before ten but 20 stooks. We then drew from oats and barley from north of cross fence. Quinn and I stoked up the Barley on flat at home before dinner. Erastus cut wheat field on his own farm. Mr. Fitzpatric Dunlop came from Arnprior to work for us. The sun went down quite warm looking, this morning was like fall. Drew in eight loads. The first load combined 35 stooks, the next 30,30,30, 34, 31, 30, 30. Total 240 stooks.
- Aug. 12** Started binding in the upper place, cut the first field. "Fitz" and I stoked up all the forenoon, barley, oats and wheat. We drew in five loads of black oats, 35, 35, 35, 35, 25 stooks, 165 stooks altogether. Erastus went down to Mr. Smiths to bind his wheat. We drew in the oats after supper what took me all afternoon Thursday August 7th.
- Aug. 13** Erastus is still binding at Mr. Smiths. In the morning we changed the fork from the big shed into the barn and put up the new ropes. We drew in the rest of the oats, two loads of 35 stooks each, and two loads of barley from the flat at home 64 stooks. We also cleaned the field of wheat back of the barn at home 120 stooks, and one load from E. Js, 20 stooks, 240 stooks on ten loads. We had to pitch off the last as we broke a pulley belonging to the horse fork & it put us back. E.J. returned evening.
- Aug. 14** Oscar went down to the shop to mend the pulley. Fitz and I unloaded two loads of wheat into the West mow in the barn. Drew in 4 loads of wheat and four of barley. We put 4 loads over the hay in the big barn on McKee Olace. Commenced drawing in on Donevan Place, 2 loads of Barley from the first field. Mr. McDonald has commenced to draw the lumber for the new cheese factory which is opposite the old site. The clouds look as if we were going to have rain but it did not come here.
- Aug. 15** Beautiful clear morning a cool north wind blowing. Erastus went to Lansdowne & brought home 86 pounds of twine "Red Capt". I raked the wheat field & drew in one load of rakings. We had a great deal of bother with the pulley. Erastus finished cutting the white oat field on McKee Place. In the afternoon Oscar and I went up to Donevan Place and drew in three loads (two of stooks). The men were looking at the site for the factory and were drilling for water, the ground being too hard they did not get too far down.
- Aug. 16** We clipped around the two barley fields, and gathered in the rakings (one load). Erastus cut the field of barley below the ledge on the home place. The barley crop being not very good there we intended to save it for the grain seed, from there he cut the field at the house on McKee Place. Oscar and I pulled peas back on McKee place, we cut two ridges and a little piece. Oscar went up to the Donevan farm and cut piece for the factory.
- Aug. 17** Cloudy and looks somewhat like rain. I started for Lansdowne early. Malcolm and I went down to Mr. Cross' at the river. It commenced to rain as soon as we arrived which made it very unpleasant, however we managed to row up to Sugar Island, the wind blew very hard. Coming home we passed an Indian camp with three performing bears. I went to St. John English Church. Mr. Young preached an excellent sermon on "Faith", the text being in the chapter of Pauls Epistle to the Hebrews.
- Aug. 18** Oscar and I pulled peas all day. Erastus finished binding the fields around the house, at noon he drew the binder over to the bridge. After dinner he went up to the Donevan place, where he bound the field in front of the house. The drill was supposed to be at the factory to-day to drill the well. Mr. Lappan dug a well about 4 feet into the ground and then he struck thee rock. Erastus went to Lansdowne in the evening. Sold the cow (Daisy) to Mr. Thomas Burns Lansdowne.

(Continued on Pg. #8)



MY DIARY - EDWARD LANCLEY - 1890

(Continued from pg. #7)

- Aug. 19** Oscar and I pulled three ridges of peas in the forenoon. Erastus finished wheat field up on the Donevan Place, and brought the binder down. We hitched up both teams in the afternoon intending to draw in, we had hardly got everything in running order, when it commenced to rain & continued until a little after six o'clock. Mary went out to Roberts' to pick blackberries. The Drill is at work on the well at the factory making very slow progress, the rock being very hard.
- Aug. 20** We cultivated the potatoes out back, and hoed some of them. In the afternoon we commenced the far field of oats on the farm (at home). Fitz and I pulled peas until supper time and then he went to stoking, and finished the rows we had commenced before tea. Erastus took a grist of wheat to Lyndhurst. He took out thirty bushels of wheat, and he got one thousand and fifty-five pounds of flour.
- Aug. 21** It looked like rain this morning and we commenced to draw and took in four loads of white oats, 33,33,35,32 stooks in all. It began to rain and we had to stop. Fitz and I went fishing out to Wiltsie Creek it rained nearly all the time and we got wet through. We caught quite a few small fish and one black bass & one pike. The factory seem to be going up quite fast considering the unfavourable weather, they have nearly all the frame up. The drillers struck a small stream of water yesterday after going nearly five feet.
- Aug. 22** It is too wet to do anything at harvest. So we commenced ploughing for fall wheat. I ploughed seven ridges on the barley field. The boys went out to Long Point fishing. The wind blew very cold all day and it looked very much like fall. Old Mr. Cowan died to-day to be buried to-morrow at two o'clock. The drillers are getting along quite well at the factory well. They are down nine feet and there is seven feet of water. Mrs Black around here from Athens.
- Aug. 23** Oscar ploughed all forenoon. I turned over the beans one load of stooks (barley). Erastus commenced binding on the east side of the road. We brought up a load of barley with us at dinner time. In the afternoon we drew up two loads of peas and did not get them unloaded before tea. Erastus went up to the Donevan Place and straightened up the stooks after tea. We drew in one load and stoked up a few bundles of white oats. Mr. Cowan was buried to-day. George Jarvis' dwelling house was consumed by fire 12 o'clock.
- Aug. 24** Church in the morning. Mr. Fairlie preached an excellent sermon from Luke XVIII 1-14. The text was taken from the fourteenth verse. There was not a bad turnout.
- Aug. 25** We drew in the rest of the peas after pulling two ridges and a half. We drew four loads of peas and one of oats. Erastus moved up the binder to Donevan Place and bound the oats at the barn. Mr. W. Snider of Lansdowne this afternoon.
- Aug. 26** We took the load off the new wagon and put on the three boxes, loaded up the two pigs & calf, and started for the station. I drove the cow over and put her in Thos Burns' pasture to stay until we are ready to load the car for Montreal. I ploughed out the rest of the potatoes back, Fitz split wood all day. A Party left here early to take a trip to Alexandria Bay on Mr. Carnagies "Island Queen" This being the last trip she makes this season.
- Aug. 27** It rained some during the night and it stopped harvesting for the forenoon. In the afternoon we commenced drawing the oats in the field where the house is on the McKee place. We only managed to draw in two loads before the rain came up. Erastus bound all day until the rain came. The morning we drew rails to the stacks. Fitz fenced all forenoon around where the fall wheat and potatoes are. In the evening I drew one load of rails back to the back stack. Lodge in the evening in Lansdowne.
- Aug. 28** Erastus bound all day up on the Donevan Place. Oscar and I pulled peas all forenoon in the orchard. In the afternoon we straightened up the oat stooks (back) at home and drew in one load of barley from the back flat forty stooks and one load of fourteen stooks barley & twenty-one oats. There two hundred and fifty stooks of white oats on eleven acres. The day was beautiful and warm. Towards evening the sky cleared off and the sun went down. Mr. Marshall visited here.
- Aug. 29** We went up to the Donevan Place and drew in sixty stooks of wheat and sixty-two of oats. Erastus bound the field of oats behind the barn. Moved the boiler into the new Factory. In the afternoon We drew in fifty-four stooks of oats from the back field at home. It commenced to rain about four o'clock and we did not get any more done at harvesting. I ploughed on the barley ground (on McKee place) from six o'clock. Measured lot for Factory nine rods by four and a half.

EDITORS NOTE: This being the last of Edward Lancelley's Diary we hope you have enjoyed it over these past newsletter issues.





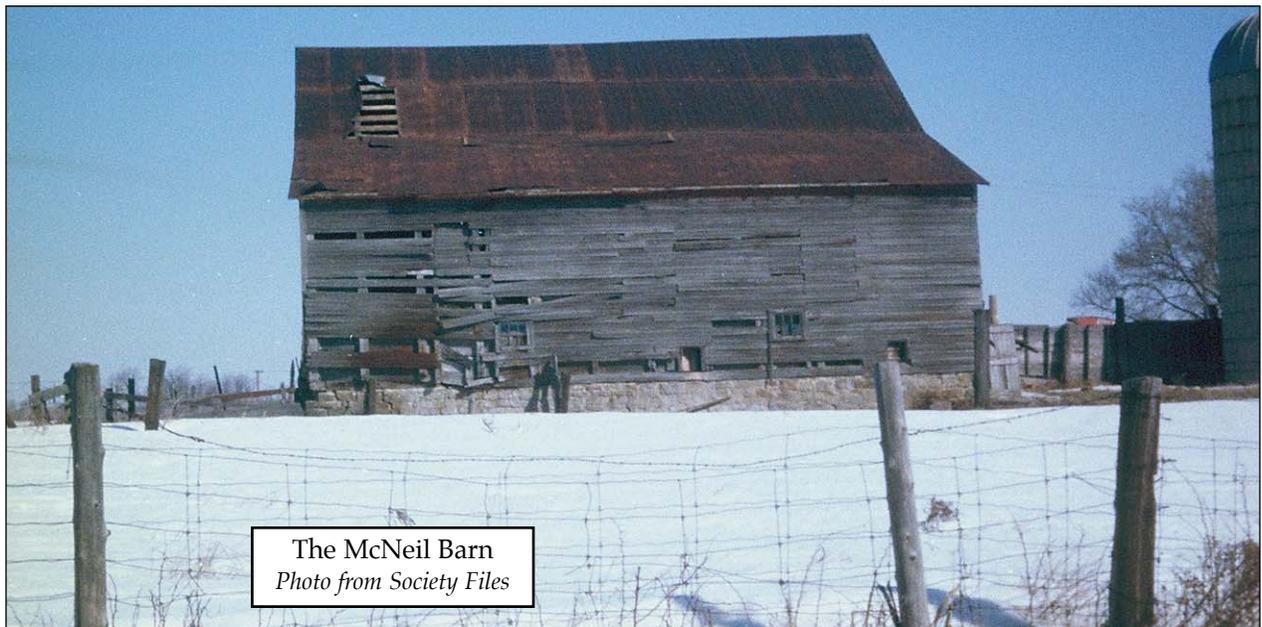
OLDEST BARN IN ONTARIO NEAR LANSDOWNE by Ernest G. Cook

The oldest barn in Eastern Ontario is still standing, in good repair only a couple of miles west from this village out on the Kings Highway as one travels from Lansdowne towards Kingston. The building is just beyond the Landon homestead, and beyond the Lansdowne Cemetery which adjoins the Homestead. The barn is on the right of the Highway as one travels towards Kingston.

The American tourists, leaving the International bridge road, have but a short distance to go on the highway before they reach this place.

There is an interesting story told of the raising of this barn, by E.E. Johnson, a merchant of the village and a historian in his own right. "It was in the year 1812 the war of that period was just breaking. A settler by the name of McNeil had taken up land on that concession and had made sufficient clearings so that he needed a larger barn. During the winter of 1811-1812 he got out the timber and had it all hewed by hand. It was mostly clear pine timbers, and they had been perfectly "framed" by the carpenter who had charge of erecting the building. Plans had been made for the "Raising" next day, and the women folks had baked up a large supply of food to feed the hungry pioneer settlers when they had completed their task of hoisting the timbers into place. Everything was in readiness when the sun went down that June day. As Mr. McNeil looked down the road he wondered what was making all the dust in the highway. It was the coming of a company of His Majesty's troops. As they came in front of the home the commanding officer stopped his company and sought out Mr. McNeil, with a request; "Sir, I have the honour to represent the King and request that you permit my company to have shelter for the night." Mr. McNeil was on a spot; he did not want a company of soldiers snooping about the place with all the food baked up for the morrow, and he didn't want to offend the officer in command. He told the officer of his plans for a big raising the next day, and did not see how he could have a detachment of troops about. "Just leave it to me" said the officer "and your barn will be raised in no time on the morrow, if we are permitted to be sheltered here for the night." The officer seemed to insist on the plan and Mr. McNeil gave in. The soldiers spent the night on the McNeil farm. Next morning they were lined up by the commanding officer and told of their duties which must be well and truly performed. With plenty of men the barn was raised in record breaking time. The timbers fitted perfectly and wooden pins were used to hold them together. So well did they do their work that Mr. McNeil invited the soldiers to be seated at the improvised tables and the mountains of food was placed before them. So well was the work done that the barn stands today, square and upright. Members of the McNeil family no longer work in or about the 129 year old building. Conley Jack who now has the property states the barn will last another century at least."

*This article appeared in the Watertown Daily Times about 1940.
The barn was torn down about 1990. The property is now owned by Nancy Geekie.*



The McNeil Barn
Photo from Society Files



THE WAR OF 1812

By H. Wm. Hawke

The War of 1812, between Britain and the United States centered on the borders of Canada and its southern neighbor. The settlement of Gananoque was situated on the waterway upon which military troops and supplies were transported to the Lakes westward, and there was cause to be concerned. One of the first skirmishes of the War occurred within its confines.

Late in September, 1812, a raid was made on the small hamlet by an American detachment under Captain Benjamin Forsyth, who had been led to believe that a large quantity of ammunition and other war material was stored in a British depot here, and was not thought to be heavily guarded.

According to contemporary reports, the American contingent consisted of 70 riflemen and 34 militia. They landed without opposition at Sheriff's Point, a short distance west. On their proceeding toward the village, they were met by a party of 60 British Regulars and 50 Canadian Militia, drawn up in battle order, and heavy volleys were poured upon them. However, this did not deter their progress, and the Americans forced the Canadians to retreat. On reaching Gananoque, the defenders rallied but were again compelled to flee. Forsyth then broke up the bridge, and came to Colonel Stone's house. They ransacked the dwelling, and a random shot hit Mrs. Stone in the hip, causing a wound which, although not serious, resulted in life-long lameness. It is related that Mrs. Stone was alone in the house with her maid servants, the Colonel being absent on official business, and had a considerable amount of gold in her possession, which she threw into a barrel of soap, thus saving it from the enemy.

Official records in the Archives of Ontario disclose that four Canadians were wounded in this skirmish, although the American account claimed that, "a number of dead were left lying upon the field, and some prisoners were taken." The Americans set fire to the Depot, which they found to be scantily supplied, and after committing other depredations returned to their boats.

The Forsyth Raid brought to the Government the need for better defence of Gananoque, and resulted in Charles McDonald being commissioned to build a Blockhouse upon a slight eminence on the east bank of the Gananoque River, about three hundred yards from its mouth; a site which commanded the King's Road bridge as well as the harbor on the St. Lawrence. This was accomplished in 1813. This wooden blockhouse was mounted with two twelve-pound carronades (cannons), two fours, and one three-pounder. It was demolished in 1859, and evidently had not had military use for many years. It is said to have been occupied as a residence. When it was razed, the timbers were found to be sound, and were utilized in local dock work, and as sleepers under lumber piles.

After the Forsyth Raid and the erection of the Blockhouse, Gananoque seems to have been undisturbed by any further military or marine action. The War still deeply concerned the residents, and the Colonel's correspondence and annotations reveal considerable activity in matters such as road building and improvement, protection, and particularly in matters of loyalty and sedition.

Loyalty to the Crown had been a vital tenet in the Colonel's earlier days, and continued to be until his demise. He had been appointed in February, 1812, by Major-General Sir Isaac Brock, "A commissioner for the District of Johnstown to carry out provisions of an Act which had been passed by the Legislative Assembly of the Province entitled 'An Act for the Better securing of this Province against all Seditious Attempts, or to disturb the Tranquility thereof.'" Much of the Colonel's time and energy was devoted to this task, and his intense loyalty was displayed in a succession of Inquiries, Warrants and Commitments during the remainder of his life culminating with his death in November of 1833.

So, we find that although Gananoque was the scene of one of the first skirmishes of the War, the enemy made no further attempt to infest the village, rather their attentions were focused further east on the St. Lawrence waterway, where it narrows considerably, and where the essential river route could more easily be interrupted. However, their attempts were feeble, and the lines were kept relatively clear. The major battles, of course, would be fought on the lower Great Lakes and the Niagara region Major-General Brock would lose his life and would forever become known as the "Hero of Upper Canada."

From Historic Gananoque, by H. Wm. Hawke, Mika Publishing 1974



AFTER THE RAID

This item recounts an incident which occurred after Forsyth's September 21, 1812 raid on Gananoque.

Two soldiers who had been wounded managed to crawl as far as a thicket of cedars facing Stone Street. Mrs. Collings and her daughter were on their way to the store. The daughter heard groans coming from the woods. She sought the cause, and found the wounded soldier. They helped him to their log house which was not far away, where the mother nursed him back to health. She drew double rations while he remained under her roof, and was awarded a pension for life.

From the Frank Eames files, "Gananoque Garrison" #3065 in Queens University Archives, Kingston



FIGHTING TO A DRAW **The War of 1812**

Contributed by Orland French

The following is a brief and sassy description of the War of 1812 as contained in a book titled War of 1812, originally published sometime between 1828 and 1854, and reprinted in 1964 as part of the Canadian Heritage Series by Baxter Publishing Company, Toronto. Major-General Sir Isaac Brock, Commander of His Majesty's British and Canadian Forces in North America, was killed in action at Queenston Heights, Niagara, on October 13, 1812.

"From reading descriptions of the War of 1812 ... one gets the impression of a confused and rather purposeless conflict. Great Britain certainly fought unwillingly. Throughout the war a principal aim of the British government was to stop or limit the fighting, or to at least arrest it temporarily even if by doing so strategic advantages were occasionally forsaken.

The ultimate American aim – to cement the independence it had won some twenty-five years earlier by eliminating finally the threat of colonization on the North American continent – was reasonable enough. Some new states which had gained their freedom in recent years had been attempting to do very much the same. But the Americans went about it half-heartedly and clumsily, and they never took advantage of the popular forces which that grand design, had it been clearly revealed, might have brought to the surface."

"So, the war became very much like a contest between a powerfully built boxer swinging wildly and hitting mostly air, and a nimbler one, content to duck or parry blows and keep his adversary off balance. After a good deal of chasing around the ring, and to the booing of the gallery, such a fight might end in a draw. The British-American War did end that way after almost three years of just such inconclusive fighting."

Copied from Outlook Volume 18, Number 1, January 2013 Hastings County Historical Society. Used with permission



DEATH OF A CENTENARIAN

From the Gananoque Reporter, October 5, 1889

Mr. John G. Loyd, who died in Leeds, near Gananoque, last Saturday, and was buried in Willow Bank Cemetery on Monday, was undoubtedly the longest-lived man ever known in this vicinity, he having been born in May 1784, and was therefore 106 years and 4 months old at time of his death.

In April 1883, when he was within one month of 99 years of age, he was confined to bed by a slight ailment, and we went out to see him. We found him quite strong and talkative, and with a clear recollection of events in his earlier life. In fact he could tell of occurrences of fifty or sixty years ago, and give names and dates, with much more exactness than he could of things that transpired later on in his lifetime. Some events in his domestic affairs which took place ten or twenty years previous to our interview, had passed completely from his memory. And others recalled with difficulty, and only when remembered in connection with something brought out by the conversation.

He informed us that his Father was a German, one of the Hessian soldiers who came with the British Army to America under General Burgoyne during the Revolutionary war. After the war the soldiers were discharged. Deceased's Father married an American girl whose Father had been scalped by Indians, and they removed to Kingston. His mother's maiden name, and her native place could not be remembered, if he ever knew them; nor the locality of circumstances beyond the bare fact of his maternal grandfather's tragic death.

Deceased was born in a small house which stood upon the site of the old crystal palace, on the Exhibition grounds, Kingston, and lived there till he was two years old, when his Father moved down just this side of the County line between Frontenac and Leeds, and settled upon Lot "A", latterly known as the Coy farm, in the immediate vicinity of which deceased has always lived. We reproduce below some of what we published in 1883, as it is nearly seven years now since it appeared, and probably will be of interest to those who did not read it at that time, or have forgotten it.

In 1821 Mr. Loyd was married to Miss Jackson, with whom he lived happily 49 years, and raised a family of 7 sons and 3 daughters, most of whom are still living. In his younger days he followed the lumbering business, and engaged in taking rafts to Quebec. Afterwards he purchased a barge or "Durham boat" and did a freighting business on the St. Lawrence until driven out of it by the advent of steamboats, then a new and curious craft. Before this, however, in 1812, he was employed in the saw mill here; and during the war was called out to defend Gananoque from an attack of the Americans. He with all other available men was marshalled on the open ground at the South end of the Bridge; the enemy landed at Lindsay's Point and came down by a path through the woods. The home guard had only a few rounds of ammunition, and as they caught sight of the enemy coming upon them they fired every shot they had, and then ran for it. One American was killed and several wounded. None of the Villagers was killed, and only one wounded. The object of the attack was the capture of Col. Stone, who was wanted in the States for previous transactions; but he got out of the way in time, and was not secured. When the home guard broke ranks most of them ran across the bridge and escaped in the woods, but Mr. Loyd and ten others took refuge in a building nearby, used as a hospital, where they were all taken prisoners, and sent to Sacketts Harbor. Mr. Loyd within a few weeks was transferred to Ogdensburg, where he was taken sick with the measles, and suffered much hardship.

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(Continued from Pg. #12)

DEATH OF A CENTENARIAN

He did not have proper care, no bed to lie upon, no medicine and very little to eat. One day he addressed a note to the officer in command, which was delivered by the sentinel, and an interview with the General brought about. The General was a humane man, and seeing Mr. Loyd's condition, released him from the gaol on his word of honor that he would not escape. Mr. Loyd then secured board with an acquaintance in the town, and enjoyed comparative comfort until sent home, two months afterwards, on parole. He also did garrison duty one winter at Kingston during this war; and for his service was about seven years ago granted a pension of \$20 a month, which has since been increased to \$25. During the Rebellion of 1837 he was called out and ordered to Prescott; but when his Company got as far as Lansdowne they were met by a messenger with orders for their return home to be disbanded.

Mr. Loyd's first remembrance of the country here is that of a dense wilderness in every direction, with only blazed tracks through the woods. Besides his father's there were only two houses between Gananoque and Kingston; one of them was Mr. Franklin's, 13 miles West of here, on what is now called the middle road; the other was about the same distance West, but on the river bank. Gananoque contained one small log house, and a better one occupied by Col. Stone, who was building a saw and grist mill on the West side of the Gananoque River; Sir John Johnston (who also owned Sir John's Island) afterwards built two similar mills on the East side of the River. The only house East of Gananoque for 14 miles was a small shanty at the mouth of Legge's Creek, occupied by a man named McGowan. Before the grist mill was built here, Mr. Loyd's father had to get his grinding done at Larue's mill, down near Escott and going to the mill was quite an undertaking. A horse, if one was to be had, or an ox was used, and failing either of these the bag was carried afoot. One bag was all that could be taken at a time; as provisions to be eaten by the way, and fire-arms for protection from wild beasts and Indians, had also to be carried. When all was loaded, the man took a solemn farewell of his family, and departed; often being gone for several days or a week, as the mill was slow to grind and easily put out of repair; so waiting for the grist was tedious and uncertain. Once, when living on the farm now occupied by Mr. Jas. Henderson, Mr. Loyd's house, barn and contents, including a sleigh and a grindstone, the latter a valuable article and hard to get, were burned while he was away from home, entailing severe loss on himself, and much hardship on his wife who had one small child at the time. He explained his reasons for thinking the fire was caused by enemies with whom he was at variance. His sheep had to be carefully guarded and penned securely near the house; and even then the wolves would manage to break in and devour the choice ones. One night he lost 14 sheep and lambs by wolves. His pigs also could only be raised by careful watching. The squealing of a pig was the signal for all hands to run with clubs and rescue it from the fatal embrace of a pork-loving bear, and generally the bear succeeded in getting off unharmed, but sometimes a stubborn fight ensued and the pig was recovered. Indians were a terror to the settlers, but mostly on account of their reputation. Mr. Loyd only remembers once when actual blows were come to with them, this was before he was married. Five aborigines entered his father's house and demanded food which could not be given them without depriving the family of all they had, the Indians then proceeded to help themselves, and despite the efforts of the male members of the household, were likely to take what they wanted and do bodily injury besides, when Mr. Loyd's mother suddenly grasped a large iron poker and laid about them so justly as to soon drive the intruders out of the house, which was then barred, and defended with guns.

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(Continued from Pg. #13)

DEATH OF A CENTENARIAN

Mr. Loyd has smoked tobacco for sixty years and for years followed the then universal custom of drinking rum. But he never was drunk in his life, never acquired the habit of swearing, never struck in anger by any man, and never struck a man but once, when the circumstances as he relates then fully justifies the act. During all his life he appears to have been a quiet, inoffensive, hard working, honest, and virtuous man, enjoying the confidence and respect of the community, but never accumulating much worldly wealth. For a long time now he has been a consistent member of the M. E. Church, and says there is no cloud between him and the Heaven he expects soon to enter. His wife died in 1870, and since that time he has been living around among his children. At present, his son, William, has the charge, and every comfort and attention so old a man can wish for is cheerfully provided. During our conversation with him, Wm. asked him if he would like to live his life over again. "No," he replied, "I have lived long enough, and feel tired. I will be glad to rest when I am called to go."

Mr. Loyd was interviewed by D.F. Britton in 1883 for The Gananoque Reporter.



HONOURING JOHN LLOYD By Bill Boulton

On a crisp, sunny Saturday afternoon, September 15, a crowd gathered at Willowbank Cemetery to place a plaque in memory of John. G. Lloyd. The event was promoted by the Clark families, descendants of Mr. Lloyd. Mr. Lloyd is buried in the family cemetery, a private lot within Willowbank. Willowbank was a piece of the Lloyd farm, donated for the cemetery.

His parents were Johann Gotlieb Leode and Mary Cline. Johann came to America as a Prussian soldier fighting for the British in the American Revolution. He married Mary Cline, also of German descent. She had also come to America, where her father was scalped and killed by the Indians. Somehow Mary arrived on one of the islands near Kingston. Both Johann and Mary were considered United Empire



Loyalists. Mary was granted 200 acres in her own right as a U.E.L., quite unusual at a time when women had few if any rites. After their marriage they lived in Kingston for a time, where their son John was born in May 1784. He is believed to be the first child born to Loyalist parents in the city.

When John was two years old, the family moved to Lot A, on the western edge of Leeds County.

The Lloyd Gravesite
Photo by Bill Boulton



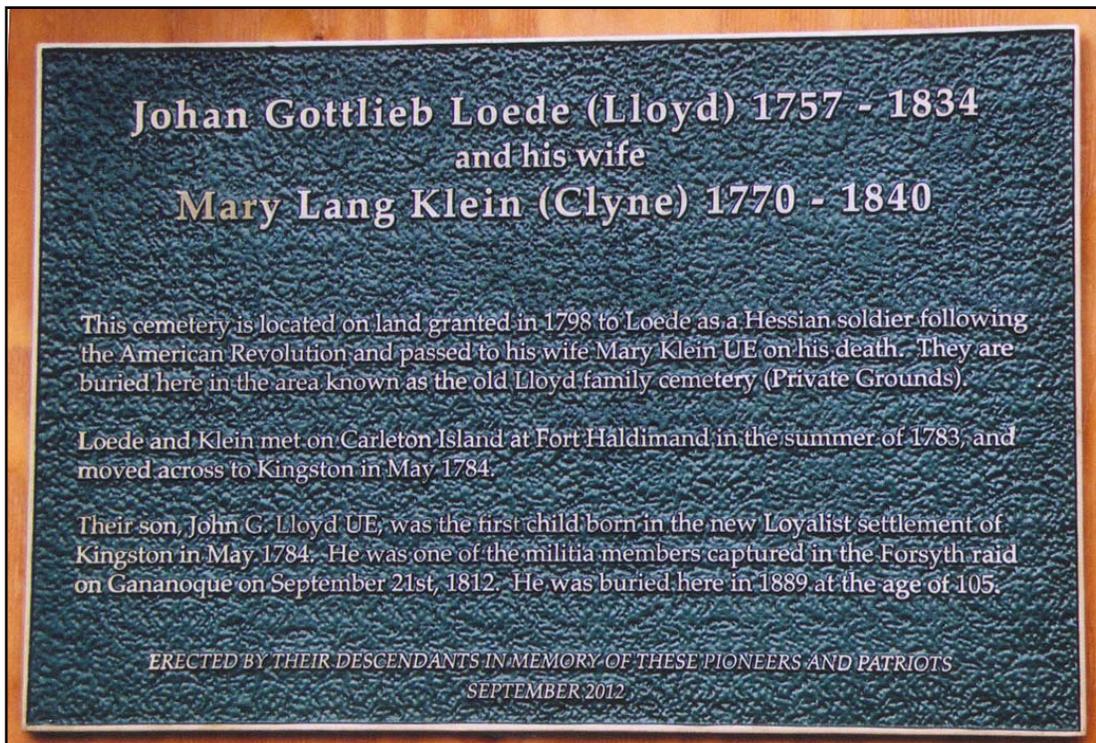
(Continued from Pg. #14)

HONOURING JOHN LLOYD



Arnold Lloyd, Ed Clark and Gary Clarke unveil the Lloyd plaque.

Photo by Bill Boulton



The Lloyd Plaque

Photo by Bill Boulton



Paid up MEMBERSHIPS as of FEBRUARY 2, 2013

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|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
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| BROWN, JACK | HEWITT, TED & PAT | OFFORD, HOSS & SANDI | |
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| BURNS, GEORGE & CONNIE | HOUSTON, WILLIAM T. | OLIVIER, BOB & GLENDA | |
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| deKROON, HENRY | LACKIE, BOB & KAYE | SCHAEFFER, JOHN | |
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| DESLOGES, DEBBIE | LONDON, YVONNE | SHEFFIELD, SHARYN | |
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