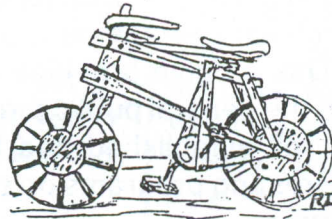

NEWSLETTER

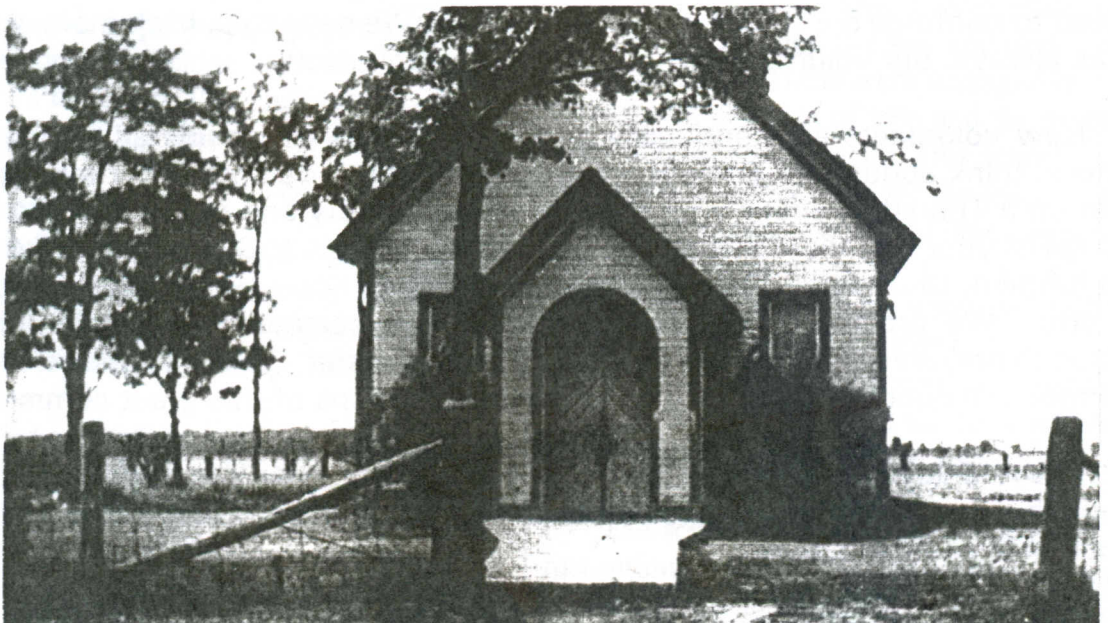
"SPRING" 1996

Gloucester Historical



Society and Museum

4550b Bank Street, Gloucester, Ontario, K1T 3W6



Featured Article
Piperville School

Message From the President

March 15, 1996

Dear Members and Friends:

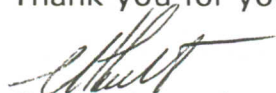
Where should the Gloucester Historical Society be heading? It is my belief that our prime task is the collection of historical information concerning the original Township of Gloucester. We will continue to collect family histories, both through family donations of papers and artifacts, and by recording of oral histories. We will also continue to update the archival management of the papers, photographs, and interview tapes in our care. This archive provides a valuable service to historians, genealogists, museologists, and the general public through the Grace Johnston History Room. The Museum is now well established and has clear, defined goals -- the curator, Deborah Scott, has interesting programs on the horizon, as you will see in the museum pages of your Newsletter.

Working on Gloucester's history is a rich and rewarding experience. The Society and the LACAC have several new articles in the works -- watch your local papers! What else should we be doing? We need to reach out to people and let them know that we care about our culture and heritage. It was easier in the days when the population of Gloucester was small and more people were born here, but because the overwhelming majority of our present population may not have experienced our past, someone has to reach out and show them the treasures of Gloucester's heritage. We need to reinforce our profile in the community. We need to publish more articles. It is, as always, our volunteers who will carry out this work.

New volunteers are continually needed. No task is considered too modest, therefore, think about your Society and help us find new volunteers. I invite you to drop in on a Thursday, speak with the volunteers on duty and become active in the workings of your Historical Society. You may also call us at 822 - 2076 and either Lillian Kitchen, Mary Boyd, Ruth Lafortune or Deborah Scott will be pleased to hear from you. We provide an excellent service to the community and will certainly continue to preserve and promote the history of Gloucester. This is your Society, and your input will benefit the present and future generations of this great community.

I have enjoyed my year as President of the Gloucester Historical Society and Museum but intend to step down as President and remain as an active board member and continue to head LACAC.

Thank you for your past support.


Guy H. Legault
President

The Featured Article
PIPERVILLE PUBLIC SCHOOL

(The following was condensed from an article
written by Mr. Harold Vodden.)

1875_ A meeting was held at the home of James Brown in Pipersville. No school provided service for the many families who lived in the area, and the meeting was held to discuss the building of a schoolhouse.

Before the evening ended, the Piper family offered to donate land on the corner of Hall's Road and the Ninth Line and P.S. #20 was launched.

Mr. Switzer was given the contract to clear the bush, remove stumps and debris and to build a one room school.

Logs were used for construction, with a board roof overlaid with shingles. The interior was sheeted with v-joint pieces of lumber. Sturdy desks built from 2 X 4's for legs and 1 x 1 1/2 lumber for the tops ran in two rows to the back of the room. Each provided space for 8 pupils who sat on long benches behind each desk. The teacher's desk was also built very sturdily, with a hinged top that could be lifted, with storage space for the teacher's books. This desk had a lock.

Blackboards were boards painted black, and hung on spikes in the wall. One was portable with legs built to stand or lean against the wall. The school had four windows.

Total cost of the building was \$145.00.

Mr. Abel Piper built a board fence around the school grounds. The boards ran horizontally and were nailed on posts every six feet. A dug well in the south-west corner of the yard sported a large red wooden pump which provided all the necessary water for the school.

The first trustees were Mr. James Brown, Mr. Wes Harrison and Mr. Francis Stewart. Miss Jennie Stewart was the first teacher and received a salary of \$300.00 per year, and she boarded at the home of the William Danceys.

In 1899, the trustees felt that a new school was needed, and construction began on May 1st 1889. It was ready for occupancy by September 1900.

The new building was of frame construction, 24 x 30 feet, with a porch on the front, double doors and two small windows, one on each side. Three large windows on each side and two smaller ones on each side of the porch gave good light to the interior.

A page wire fence was built and a large iron gate led to the school grounds from the South side. A number of elm and maple trees lined the fence.

The fence was white with grey trimmings. Four slate blackboards ranged along the front of the interior, and a box stove was installed. Desks were made to seat two pupils, and the seat and desk were in once piece. These were arranged in three rows, the legs of iron and the hinged seats and desks of wood. This school contained a lighter desk for the teacher, a library, a cupboard and medicine cabinet, and a number of maps along the walls. The inevitable wood box, water pail and stand completed the furnishings.

A septic sanitation system was installed in 1938, washrooms were added, electricity was installed in 1950 and in 1959 a new Beach furnace was installed.

The school was closed as a teaching institution in June 1959. Mrs. May Byers was the last teacher at P.S. #20.

Condensed by Ruth Lafortune
March 1996

*From the Curator's Corner:
Happenings at Musée Gloucester Museum*

As the days grow longer and the sunshine grows warmer, the Museum is gearing up for what we hope will be an exciting year in which we do our best to reach out to members of the Gloucester community.

During the past few months, a considerable amount of work has gone into revitalizing the exhibits in our gallery. While the artifacts were reorganized and additional text was added to "A Woman's Work Is Never Done", the dairy exhibit was also expanded to depict a barn setting. As well, a Victorian style Christmas display was mounted to help celebrate the holiday season. Currently work is under way on an exhibit intended to introduce museum visitors to Gloucester through an interesting assortment of objects, facts and photographs. This exhibit is being made possible through the assistance of Museum Technology student Kathleen Conibear, who talks about her experience elsewhere in this Newsletter.

By far the greatest emphasis this year will be placed on developing the kinds of "Outreach Programs" which will take the museum out to the people of Gloucester. Included in our plans is an outreach education program for students in Gloucester schools. In order to ensure that the services we provide are relevant to our audiences, I will be meeting with teachers to determine their interests and needs.

Another way in which we will be broadening our scope is by developing travelling exhibits which can be displayed at various locations in the community such as arenas, libraries, seniors' and community centres. More specifically, the museum is looking at producing an exhibit on Sports in Gloucester later this year. We are also hoping to research and assemble a display on Fire-fighting in Gloucester to coincide with the opening of the new Fire Hall next door to us on Leitrim Road.

Finally, the museum will continue to participate in community events by offering displays and hands-on activities such as those we recently presented for Heritage Day at Place d'Orleans. Both the "What's It?" contest and the colouring picture of James Blair's amazing home-made wooden bicycle generated interest and enthusiasm amongst older and younger visitors alike.

So as you can see, there is no end of meaningful projects for the museum to undertake! Rather, our limitations are in the areas of "manpower" and funding. For this reason, the Museum will no doubt be appealing to you for assistance in various forms as the year progresses. In this regard, I would encourage you to consider how much preserving Gloucester's heritage means to you, and how you might translate that meaning into tangible support.

Sincerely,

Deborah Scott.

Artifacts Recently Received by the Gloucester Museum:

The Museum gratefully acknowledges the following donations of artifacts to its collection:

Mr. George Green

Assorted hand tools

Miss Hope Hughes

Wedding gown, ball dress, hiking boots, crib, Christmas decorations

Algonquin Student Undertakes Internship at Gloucester Museum

I recently had an opportunity to intern at the Gloucester Museum for three days per week during the month of January, as part of the requirement for my second year in Algonquin College's Museum Technology course. I really enjoyed working with Curator Deborah Scott and with various members of the Gloucester Historical Society. While I worked in the museum, I did research for an upcoming introductory exhibit tentatively called "Did You Know ... Facts About Gloucester". The research was interesting and challenging because I had to make use of a wide range of resources, primary and secondary, in order to secure the required information. I was able to write a research paper during my internship from the information I found and hope to volunteer enough in the future to construct the exhibit. Thank you Gloucester Historical Society and Museum for this great learning opportunity. I really enjoyed it and only regret I hadn't had more time here.

K. Gibson

!!! WANTED !!!

Artifacts, photographs, recollections and/or other kinds of information pertaining to the following topics:

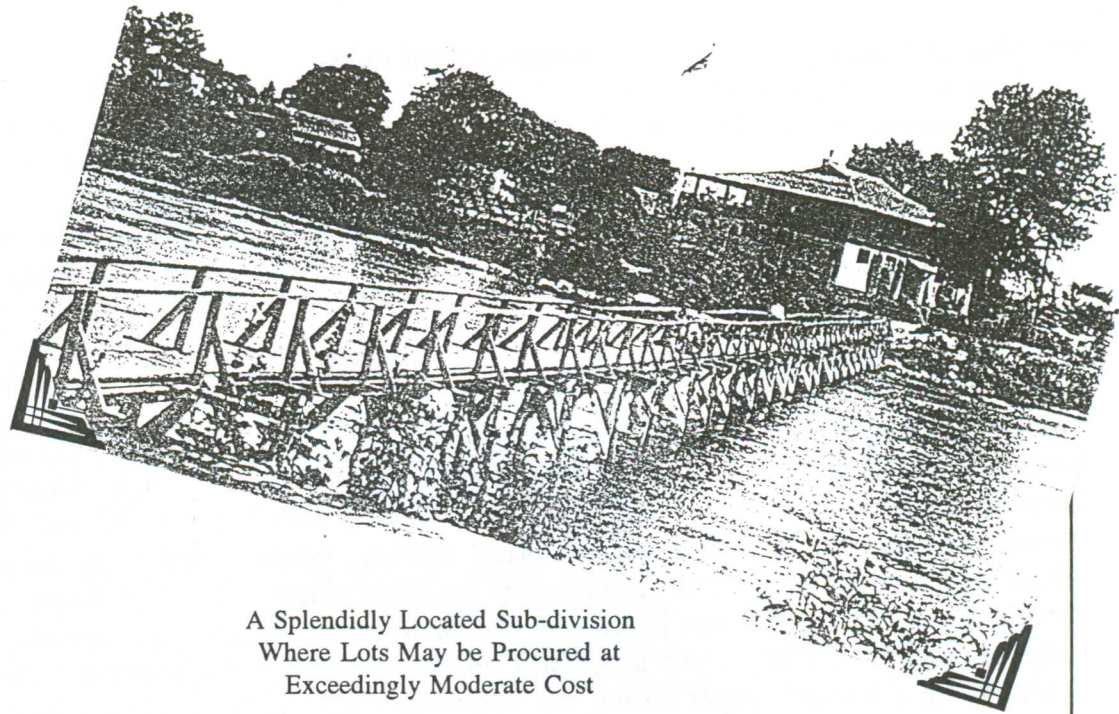
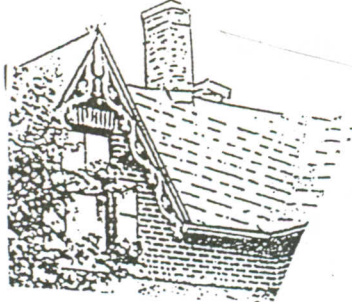
The Mer Bleue

Fire-fighting in Gloucester

Sports in Gloucester

Please contact the Gloucester Historical Society and Museum at 822-2076.

From The Attic



A Splendidly Located Sub-division
Where Lots May be Procured at
Exceedingly Moderate Cost

The attention of the investing public, as well as those in search of a home, is directed to the possibilities offered by "Overbrook Annex," the well and favourably known property where lots are now being offered for sale by Mr. F. X. Laderoute.

This admirably located property which is situated near the Rideau River, across from Strathcona Park, had had erected upon it within the past year over twenty new houses, and many others will be completed during the present year. Sidewalks are already laid through the property, and every resident of Overbrook already enjoys the regular conveniences, such as city water, electric light, telephone service etc., and as further evidence of its possibilities as an investment proposition the Ottawa Tennis club has leased property in Overbrook for a term of 40 years, and the owners have reserved a public school site, right on the property, where a school will be erected as soon as the residents want it.

Overbrook Annex is easily reached from the end of Laurier Avenue by means of a foot bridge across the river. Thus, it will be readily seen, is in easy access of the business sections of the city.

Lots are now selling as \$6 per foot frontage and many wise investors who bought similar lots at this figure a year ago have resold their purchases at \$10 and \$12 a foot. The terms of payment are exceedingly easy - only \$10 down and \$1 per week until paid.

Anyone wishing to see the property should communicate with the office of the selling agent, Mr. Laderoute, Queen 2376 or 2389, when arrangements will be made to convey such parties to the property by auto or Mr. Laderoute's salesmen will arrange to meet those interested on the property.

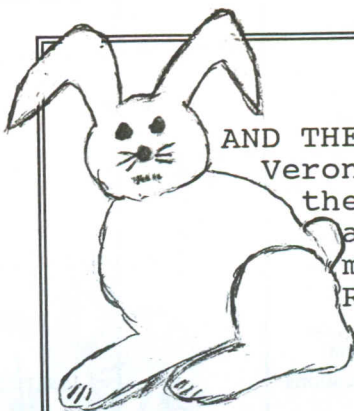
Plans and full information regarding the lots supplied by F. X. Laderoute, Bank Street corner Queen.

Heritage Day Exhibit 1996

Volunteers from the Gloucester Historical Society and the Gloucester Museum were at Place d'Orléans on Sunday Feb. 19th. This year they were joined by members of the Gloucester Local Architectural Conservation Advisory Committee (LACAC), and by Councillor Frank Cauley who dropped by and stayed for awhile.

Shoppers stopped to ask questions and have a chat with the volunteers. The Museum table had a hands on display of artifacts, which proved popular. There were balloons and a colouring handout for the children. It was a day enjoyed by all involved.

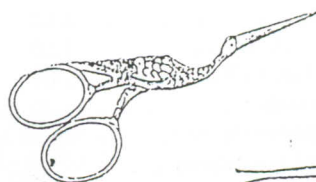
A thank you is extended to the Gloucester Arts Council for the use of their large display panel.



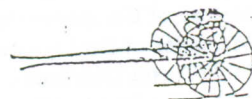
AND THE WINNER IS.....
Veronique Ouellete was the lucky winner of a handsome bunny, made by Jacqueline Rawes, a GHS Board member. The draw was held at our Heritage Day Exhibit on Sun. Feb. 19th.

?? GUESS WHAT ??

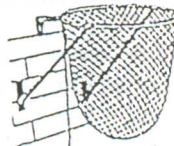
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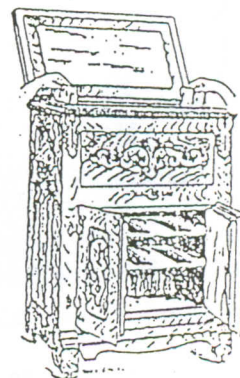
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A RELIC - ME!!!

A museum, what does it hold,
Relics of the past, and stories told
Retold, passed on from one generation to another,
Accurate in fact, enhanced by fiction.

And now, in middle years, and maybe a few more,
Standing with my children at the rail,
Seeing and explaining each instrument for their tender years,
As they eagerly await tales of olden days.

Then we move on, through the maze
Of old machinery, small gadgets and memorabilia of our country,
And stark realization that
None of this is new to me, I've seen it all in action.
Perhaps behind these rails
Should be an exhibit of people
Who remember and can tell about these machines.
"Relics of the past, Accurate in fact, Enhanced by fiction."

Then one of the group, marvelling at my intellect,
Says candidly, "Gee Mom, how come you remember all this old junk."

Ruth A. Lafortune
Carlsbad Springs

Name each item and what it cost in 1902.

1. scissors for lace - .25 to .35, 2. Dog-Cart - \$2.50
3. basketball goals - with brackets & net - \$5.00
4. baby carriage (with parasol) - \$7.80 (without \$5.30),
5. refrigerator - sizes fr. \$12.00 to \$38.00

Upcoming Events

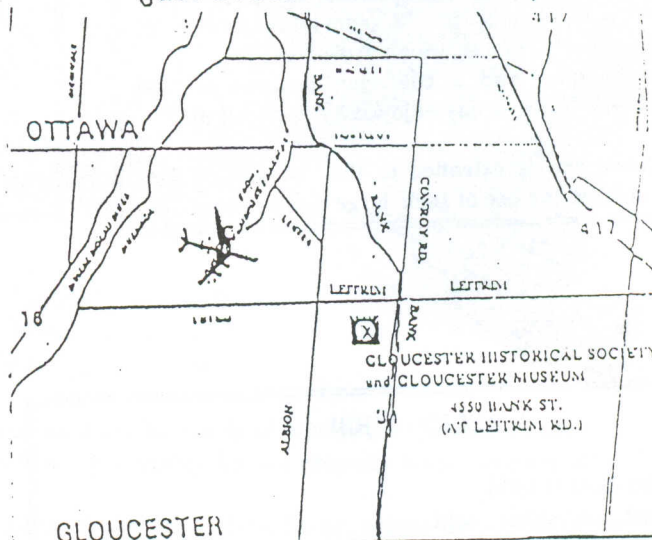
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

2 P.M. Sunday, April 14, 1996

at the MUSEUM

4550B Highway 31, Gloucester

(just South of Leitrim Road)



Please join us!

Gloucester Historical Society
Board of Directors
1995 -1996

Officers

Guy Legault	President
Mary Patterson	Vice-President
Ruth Lafortune	Secretary
Graham Ritchie	Treasurer

Board Members

Lillian Kitchen	His. Comm.
Jacqueline Rawes	Education
Albert Lafortune	Building
David Mackie	" "
Florence Ladds	Editorial
Carole Lapointe	Communications

Mary Boyd, Grace Johnston History Room.

Messages may be left
at GHS Office 822 -2076

BOOKS

Belden Atlas Maps	3.00
Blackburn-Glen Oglivie	4.00
Bowesville (A Place to Remember).....	15.00
Gloucester Memories	4.00
History of Gloucester his. Soc.	10.00
Memories of the Lockstations	4.00
Milk/Cream Distributors	10.00
60th Ann. Carlsbad/Ramsayville W.I..	4.00

Gloucester Historical Society 822 - 2076
4550 Bank St., Gloucester. Ont., K1T 3W6

Gloucester Historical Society
Société historique de Gloucester
Membership/Adhesion Application
1996

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

POSTAL CODE: _____

Memberships: \$10.00 (Yearly)

\$40.00 (Life Membership)

Mail to: Gloucester Historical Society
Société historique de Gloucester
4550b Bank street
Gloucester, ON,
K1T 3W6

Telephone: (613) 822-2076

Hours: Mondays to Thursdays (10:00 am to 5:00 pm)