

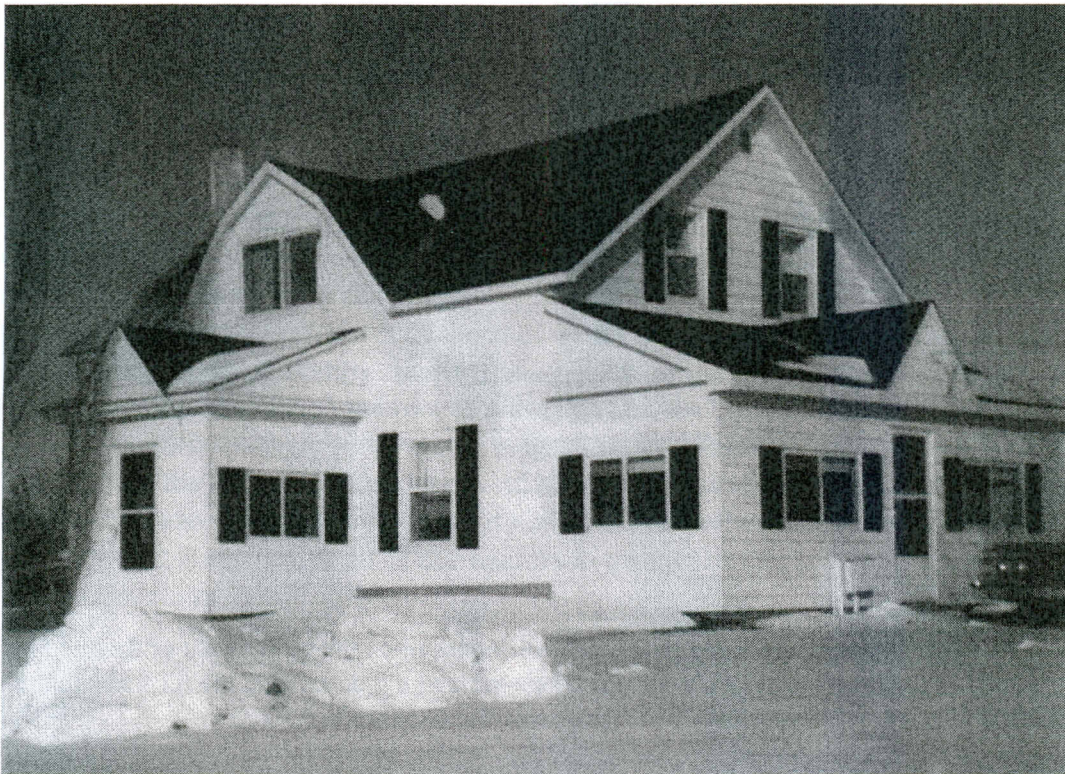
HISTORIC GLOUCESTER

Quarterly Newsletter of

*The GLOUCESTER HISTORICAL SOCIETY
and The GLOUCESTER MUSEUM and ARCHIVES*

VOLUME 1 NO. 2

Sept 2000



The Dunlop House on River Road as it appeared in 1981

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COVER PHOTO:

The cover photo shows the Dunlop House on River Road as it was in 1981. In the Carleton Saga there is a picture of the house with the front and side areas as porches rather than enclosed as in this photo. The house as it now stands is different yet again, with some of the add-ons removed.

About the wooden bicycle (see front cover) -

In 1898 James Blair, a 17-year old who lived in Gloucester on the present site of Ritchie Feed & Seed store off Innes Road, built himself a wooden bicycle which he rode all over the farm and to the Byward Market in Ottawa. This amazing bicycle is now in the Gloucester Museum.

Historic Gloucester is published quarterly by The Gloucester Historical Society and The Gloucester Museum and Archives. It is intended as a Newsletter to members of the Society to provide interesting articles on Gloucester's past and to keep them informed of new acquisitions by the Museum, publications available, upcoming events and other items of general interest. Comments and suggestions regarding the Newsletter are always welcome.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

The fateful year 2000 is drawing to a close and Gloucester, as a political entity, will soon depart. We, the Board members of your Society, know how strong your roots in this community have been and how you wish to retain them.

City Council and their staffs have had a busy year making sure that all that can be done for a smooth transition to the new City of Ottawa is accomplished before they lose the power to act. Our Society has no such constraints, as we are a group of dedicated people, who have the freedom to continue supporting the identity of Gloucester for as long as we wish.

One of the ways the Gloucester Historical Society is dealing with the transition is through our affiliation with the Council of Heritage Organizations in Ottawa (CHOO). CHOO/COPO (COPO is French for CHOO) represents most of the heritage groups in the Ottawa/Carleton region, 57 at last count representing over 12,000 members. These groups include historical societies, local museums, genealogical societies, archeology, heraldry, some social groups, and more.

Since the establishment of the Ottawa Transition Board, CHOO/COPO has made representation to this board, and has had members appointed to Transition Teams dealing with the structure and programs for the new city. CHOO/COPO will next make itself known to the new Council and appropriate members of the staff of the new city. It will work to protect current heritage organizations, programs and funding.

CHOO/COPO is strongly in favour of protecting the identities and heritage accomplishments of the current communities and municipalities in the new city of Ottawa. Your Society will continue to work closely with CHOO/COPO and other allies to accomplish these important objectives. I encourage all of our readers to contact us and help to preserve the identity and history of Gloucester.

Guy H. Legault
President

PART 2 - LIMEBANK SCHOOL SS#12

BY Guy Legault

(To follow this discussion you will need the chart in the feature articles of our last newsletter, Volume 1, No 1, of June 2000)

What do you see in the information printed in the chart? Here are some insights based on what you see, plus some additional context from Canadian History.

The school was poor, as can be seen from the fact that teachers were not always paid, or payment was late, especially in the early years. (This encouraged councils to hire young women, who were fresh out of school themselves, and could live at home until they found a husband.)

The fact that they hired only young women also explains why there was such a high turnover of teachers. Women were expected to marry and have families. That took precedence over any job they might have had while so waiting.

Thus, the chart tends to corroborate information available in the history and literature of the early 1900s. What it also shows is why the situation changed after 1928.

Those of us who experienced the Great Depression, or were raised by parents who had been through those times will know the reason. Notice that there were only two teachers between 1928 and 1942, and the salary of Peninnah Sloan, in the Depression years of 1928 to 1937 was reduced every year she served that school. There were few marriages in those years and the Second World War, which followed, also reduced the availability of potential husbands.

The Second World War did improve salaries throughout Canada, but note that this did not appear to apply to teachers. The school still remained poor, as attitudes toward staffing of small country schools had not changed. Their primary purpose was to educate the next generation to fear God and be loyal to king and country. The intent was not to produce scholars, but good, solid, hard-working citizens.

The year 1946 shows a new trend, which this document cannot confirm, indicating the beginning of major changes in our schools. This chart and the documents from which it was created are a start from which a more comprehensive article about the school could be written. Other information in the documents show how poor the school was and how the committee dealt with maintenance and improvements to the building, and for teaching aids. There are no minutes of their deliberations, but one can sense that the trustees were dedicated, if not skilled in administration.

But, the purpose of this article was to show how historians can discover new information from simple sources and link to more comprehensive studies in Canadian history. What looks like a jumble of papers can reveal insights about a community, which can often breach the bounds of that small place.

MUSEUM CURATOR'S CORNER

by Jennifer Busato

As we find ourselves facing the last months before the City of Gloucester enters a new era, it is important to reflect on this year to celebrate it as one of change, opportunity and growth, both for our Museum and our community.

January 1 brought the first great opportunity when the Museum became part of the City of Gloucester. This change symbolizes a heightened awareness of the importance of preserving our heritage. Together, the Museum and the City have worked closely to bring this awareness to the community throughout the 150th anniversary celebrations.

Together, we have presented the community with a commemorative calendar; the historical booklet, *Gloucester: the proud legacy of our communities*; *In Focus*, an exhibit that illustrates the change in our community by juxtaposing historical and contemporary photographs; and the James Blair exhibit that was presented at the 150th community picnic, showing the life of our local inventor. Finally, a photograph exhibit documenting the legacy of our surveyor, William Ogilvie, will be unveiled by the end of the year.

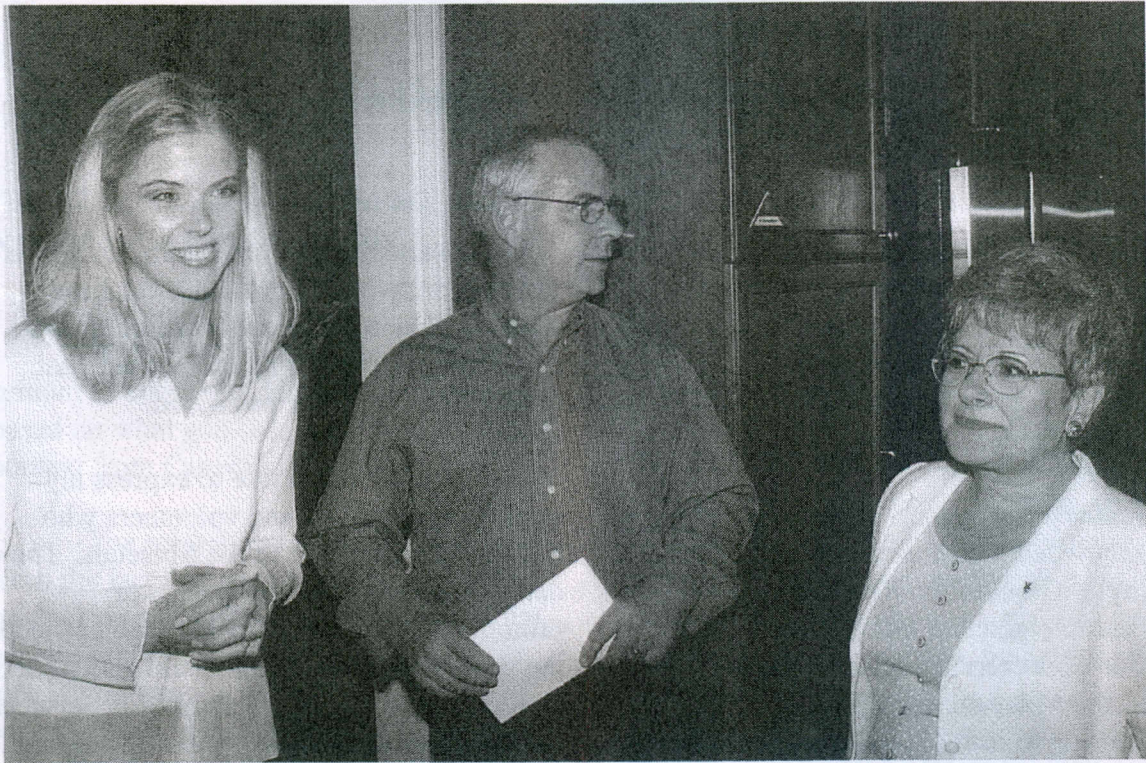
This year, I have decided to use photographs as our artifacts. For each exhibit and special project we have uncovered and collected remarkable images that tell the story of the people who have lived in our community and shaped its unique identity, creating a heritage that we can call our own.

In another aspect of our photograph exploration, we have created a database which will be available to researchers who are looking for visual records of our past. Reproductions can be requested.

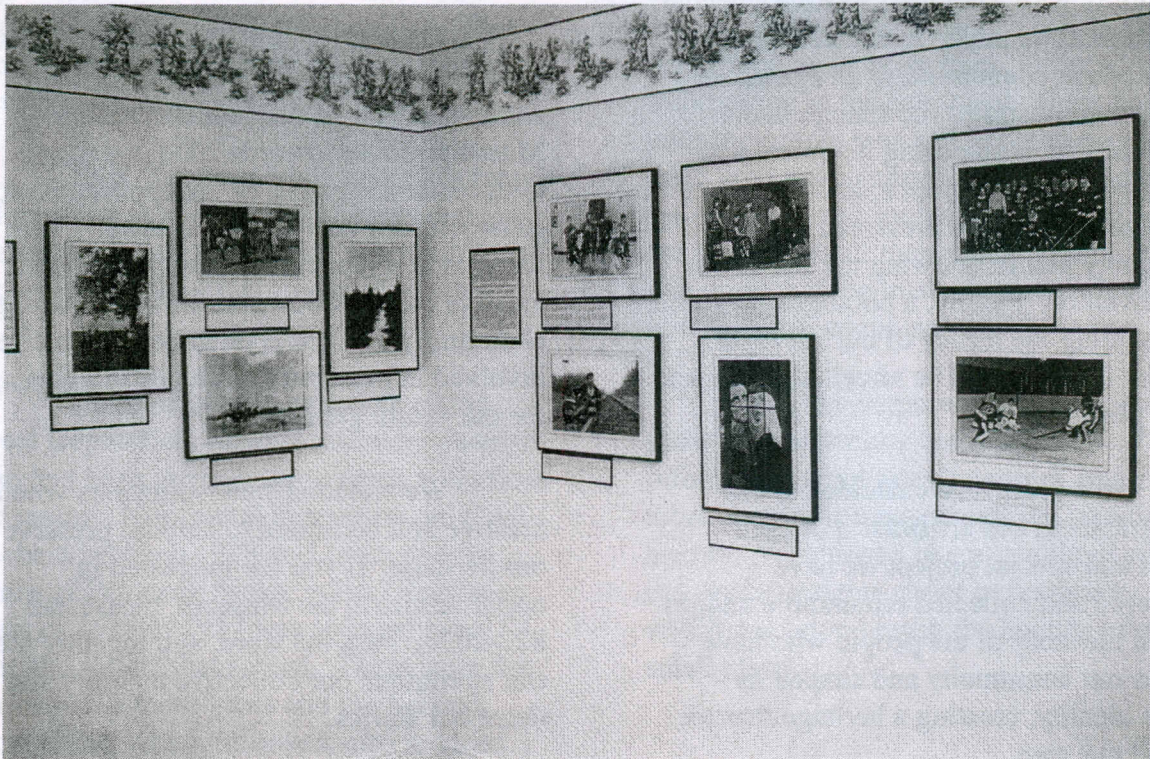
Now, I would like to express my gratitude to the staff and volunteers who have worked with me at the Museum. Their dedication to the common cause of promoting our community heritage has led to the success of our year. I would also like to thank the staff at Lux Photographic Services who have worked closely with the Museum to create the photographs for each exhibition. It is through their work that we can learn to appreciate the true art of black and white photography.

Finally, I would like to thank Mayor Cain and the City of Gloucester for a wonderful year of celebration. As the Museum moves towards 2001, we thank Gloucester for giving us the opportunity to grow with the new City of Ottawa. I look forward to a year full of new possibilities, creative partnerships, and the hope that the community will continue to become actively involved in preserving Gloucester's heritage for our future generations.

We welcome new volunteers who are creative and dedicated to helping preserve our heritage. If you are interested in opportunities at the Museum, please call 822-2076. Pass the word, and together we can strengthen our collective memory and share our stories.



Gloucester Museum and Archives Curator Jennifer Busato, Peter Brown, Acting Manager of Dept. of Recreation and Culture, with Mayor Claudette Cain at opening of *In Focus* Exhibit



A corner of the *In Focus* Exhibit held in an Urbandale Riverside model home



***In Focus* Exhibit opening on June 16, 2000, in Urbandale Homes in Riverside South**

WHAT'S IN A NAME?

With the coming transition of Gloucester into Ottawa, many street names will be changed. Let us hope that those which commemorate Gloucester pioneers and prominent citizens will not be lost in the shuffle. There are many such names still in Gloucester as well as in areas of Ottawa and Vanier which used to be part of Gloucester. Below is a partial list and we would ask anyone who wishes to add to the list to pass on to us what they know of the origin of a street name. In the next edition of the newsletter we will take a more in-depth look at why these streets bear the names that they do and who they were named for.

Let us hear from you so that we can learn more about our heritage as it is reflected in our streets before some of them disappear forever!

Here are just a few streets named for Gloucester pioneers:

Blair, Ogilvie, Innes, Kemp, Heron, Cyrville, Lester, Kilborn, Hawthorne, Wlakley, Dupuis, Billings, Duford, Sieveright, Joseph Cyr, Michael, Bowesville, Mitch Owens, Cummings, ...

THE DUNLOP HOUSE

by Joan Scott

Sitting forlornly on land overlooking the Rideau River where it has sat since 1856, perhaps contemplating what the future holds for it, is the Dunlop House. Built by James Dunlop to replace the original 16 x 20 foot cabin, the house was home to James and his wife Cochrane Richardson Dunlop. Until recently it was occupied by some of their many descendants. In 1961 Donald Dunlop sold the property but kept a river front lot on which to build a new home for his family. The developer Richcraft Homes has since purchased the original house but as of now its fate has not yet been decided.

James was a farm husbandry expert of the Scottish Lowlands south-east of the Firth of Forth where his father was in charge of the East Lothian estates of Sir David Baird. He wed Cochrane on June 3, 1833 in Haddingtonshire and three weeks later, on June 22, 1833, the newlyweds set sail for Canada. They were not, however, the first of the Dunlop clan to arrive in the Ottawa Valley. In 1821 John Dunlop settled in Ramsay Township where he built many mills. Other Dunlops followed and settled in the areas of Perth, Pakenham, Almonte, Carleton Place and Ottawa.

When James and Cochrane first arrived they went to the Bathurst District, some four miles from Perth where they became acquainted with the Scottish Moodies, Eadies and Blairs who would later be neighbours in Gloucester. Realizing how poor and unproductive his land was, James decided to look elsewhere for better farm property. First he moved briefly to the McNabb settlement near White Lake, but still did not find what he was looking for. He found it in 1844 in lands listed for sale

fronting the Rideau River. The property had all that he wanted. It was close to churches, schools, mills and stores, it was on a busy waterway and the soil was rich and productive with many hardwood trees. He purchased a lot, with 80 rods of water frontage and a depth of one mile for \$2.00 per acre, from Captain Collins and, with the help of other settlers, built his first log cabin. Its roof was made of bark troughs to shed the water and the inside walls were hewn to provide a smooth surface. For some time the Dunlops had no close neighbours but George and William Eadie came in 1857 to settle on the land which their father had bought for them from the Crown in 1843 when they were still small boys. Some years later the Moodies came and in 1850 the Blairs arrived. Thus another Scottish enclave arrived, by way of Perth where they had been neighbours before.

The Dunlop clan and their related families were well connected with Scottish society. In coming to Canada James and Cochrane hoped to provide a good life for their family. They endeavoured to instill in their ten children (seven sons and three daughters) the Scottish virtues they revered and to give them a heritage they could be proud of. The Dunlops, with their Scottish neighbours, attended the little Presbyterian Church in Long Island. The long list of notable Dunlops who have descended from the original settlers and their equally long list of achievements in family and community life, are testimony to the foresight of their Scottish ancestors.

Based on information from the *Carleton Saga* and *Gloucester Glen Women's Institute Tweedsmuir Book*

**BOOKS AVAILABLE FROM THE
GLOUCESTER HISTORICAL SOCIETY:**

A History of Gloucester Historical Society
by Grace Johnson.....\$10.00

Belden Map of Gloucester, 1879.....\$ 3.00

Billings Bridge: My Village, My Life
by Gerard and Bernard Pelot.....\$20.00

Blackburn-Glen Ogilvie: Centennial History
by Anna Elliott.....\$ 2.00

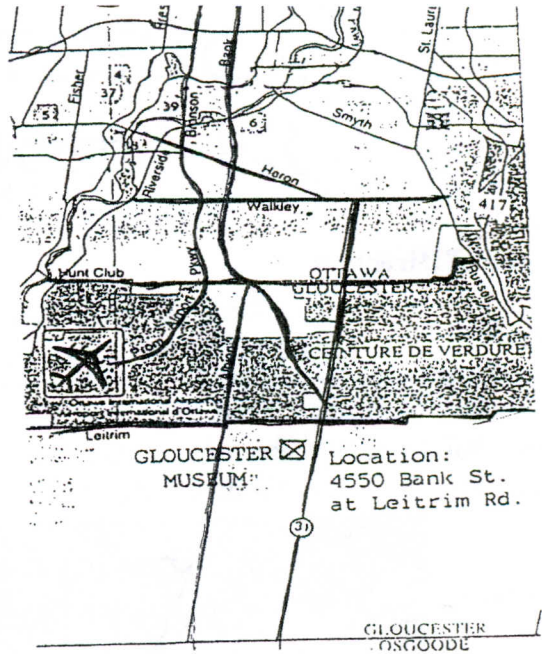
Bowesville: A Place to Remember
by Grace Johnston.....\$15.00

*Carlsbad Springs/Ramsayville Branch East
Carleton Women's Institute 1934-1994*
.....\$ 4.00

Gloucester Roots
by Lois Kemp.....\$20.00

*Milk/Cream Produce-Distributors in
Gloucester 1892-1975*
by Grace Johnson.....\$10.00

Valley Views.....\$10.00



If you have memories of life in Gloucester or stories of schools or families from early days, and would like to share them, please give us a call. Artifacts and photographs of yesteryear are always welcome additions to the Museum.

Call us at 822-2076 to talk about it!

GLOUCESTER HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Phone/Fax 822-2076

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GLOUCESTER MUSEUM & ARCHIVES

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**IF YOU HAVE NOT YET RENEWED YOUR MEMBERSHIP, OR IF YOU WISH TO
BECOME A NEW MEMBER, PLEASE COMPLETE THE FORM BELOW AND SEND
IT IN WITH YOUR CHEQUE. STILL ONLY \$10.00 PER YEAR OR \$40.00 FOR A
LIFE MEMBERSHIP!**

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Gloucester Historical Society
societe historique de Gloucester
Membership/Adhesion
2000

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

Year \$10.00
Life - \$40.00

Mailing Address: **Gloucester Historical Society**
4550B Bank Street
Gloucester, Ontario

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