

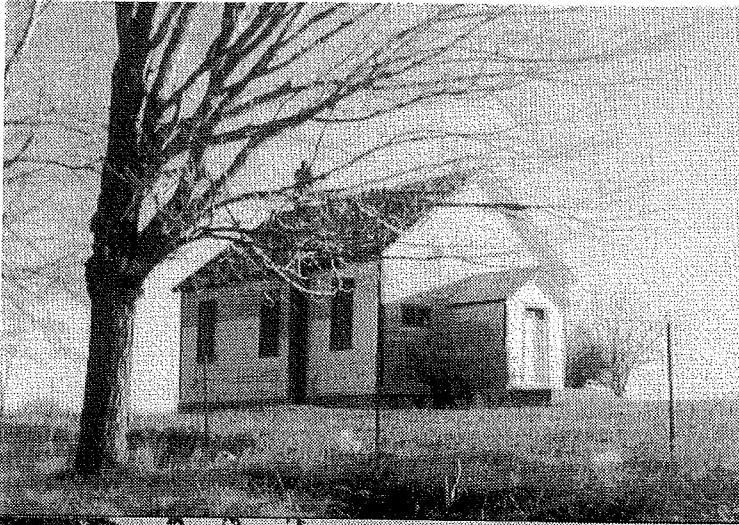
# HISTORIC GLOUCESTER

Quarterly Newsletter of  
*The GLOUCESTER HISTORICAL SOCIETY*  
and *The GLOUCESTER MUSEUM and ARCHIVES*

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VOLUME 1 NO. 1

JUNE 2000



Limebank School  
While Still in Use  
And Just Before It  
Was Converted Into  
A Private Dwelling



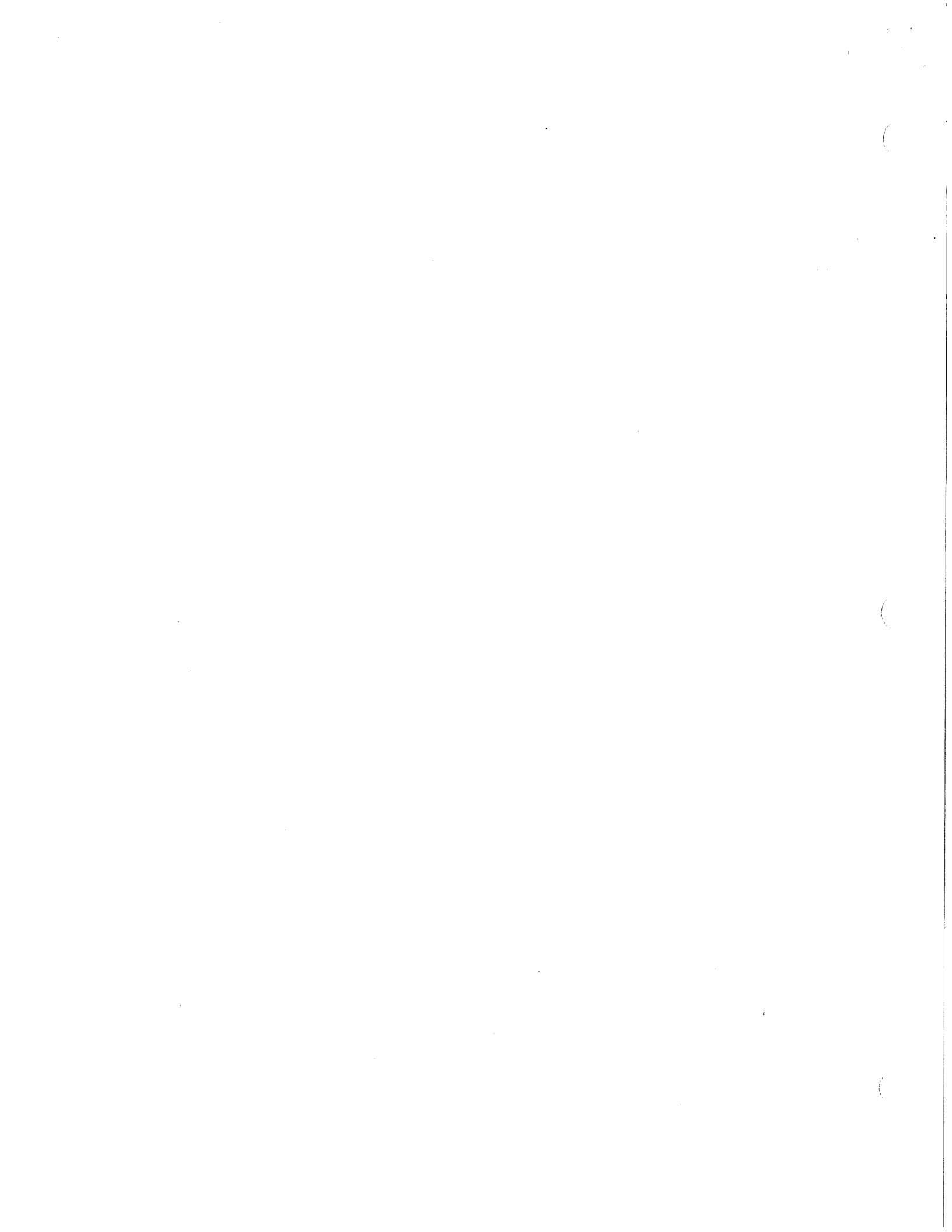


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*COVER PHOTO: The Limebank School is situated at the western end of lot 25S, Concession 111, Rideau Front, Gloucester, Ontario. The original 1/4 acre site was officially severed from the Robert Gamble farm on June 24, 1875. But, a map published in 1863 by H.F.Walling shows that a school existed on the site at this earlier time, on the Gamble land. Additional land was added to the school property in 1954 and 1963, and severed again from the Gamble family property. There is no record of the building of the school. The available account books for the school, covering the period 1902 to 1948 show expenditures for maintenance only. The school was likely built shortly after the acquisition of land in 1875, as a replacement for an earlier building owned by the Gambles. The school closed in 1963.*

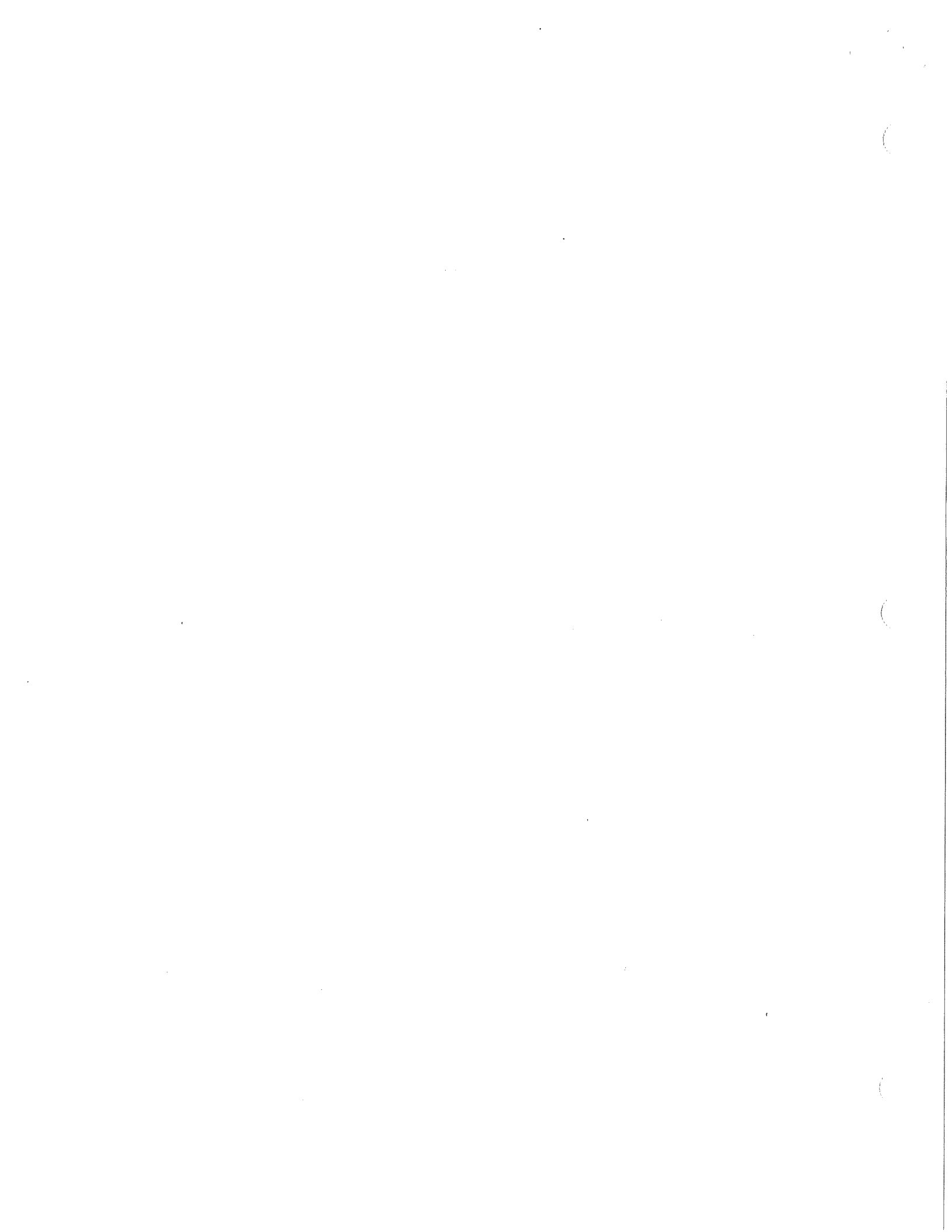
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**About the wooden bicycle (see front cover) -**

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.

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*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

1999 has been a significant year for the Gloucester Historical Society. 2000 will be even more important, as our City becomes part of the new City of Ottawa.

At our Annual General Meeting we decided that the Society would continue to represent the identity and history of Gloucester. In the new city we will not feel constrained by the boundaries of the current City. Thus, depending on the period we are dealing with, we can talk about places, such as Rockcliffe Park, Vanier, New Edinburgh and Billings Bridge as part of our history. Our Constitution has been amended to reflect these changes. Copies are available at the Society, on request.

The other major news is that we no longer own the Museum. It is now called the Gloucester Museum and Archives, and has been taken over by the City of Gloucester. Thus, on January 1, 2001 it will become the property of the new city. The hope is that the new Ottawa will continue the funding previously allotted by the City of Gloucester. Nevertheless, the Society has not abandoned its child. Your Board of Directors is also the Advisory Board of the Gloucester Museum and Archives. Meetings take place in conjunction with our own board meetings on the second Tuesday of each month at 7 p.m. All are welcome to attend. We will make time for your questions, as required.

Last but not least, let me express our appreciation to Joan Scott, who has agreed to take on the important task of producing our newsletter. May she have a long and happy career. Thank you Joan. This is also an invitation to all of us to dust out attics, clean our drawers and provide new information about Gloucester for publication in the newsletter. Please write something, or provide Joan with the information she needs to write your story.

We must never allow this community, which existed under the name of Gloucester for 200 years, to be forgotten. I urge your continued support. Please find new members to carry the effort through this, our third century.

Guy H. Legault  
President

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GLoucester Historical Society - Phone/Fax 822-2076

### Board of Directors

President	Guy Legault	Members:	Bill King
Vice-President	Mary Patterson		Mary Boyd
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### GLoucester Museum & Archives

Museum Administrator	Peter Brown
Director/Curator	Jennifer Busato
Chair, Advisory Board	Guy Legault

## LIMEBANK SCHOOL

By Guy Legault

The following chart has been made up from data gleaned from two account books of the Limebank School. The building still exists on the Limebank Road, just North of its junction with Rideau Road. It has been converted into a house. The information on the chart can tell a lot about the school and its operation. What do you see in these figures? The school was poor... What else can you see? Please write or phone us with what you know about this school. In our next newsletter we will finish the article, with what we know now and your new information.

### Limebank School Teachers 1902-1922

<u>YEAR</u>	<u>TEACHER'S NAME</u>	<u>SALARY</u>	<u>REMARKS</u>
1902	?		
03	?	114.00	
04	?	362.60	
05	Miss Watterson	285.00	First paid in May
06	?	314.40	
07	Miss B. Needham	350.00	
08	?	375.00	
09 (to Jun)	?	218.00	
09 (fall)	Miss Florence Gamble	150.00	
1910 (to Jun)	Miss Florence Gamble	200.00	
10 (fall)	Miss Mary B. O'Connor	146.50	
11	Miss M.A. Armstrong	400.00	
12 (to Jun)	Miss M.A. Armstrong	241.60	
12 (fall)	Miss Adlaide Cuddie	118.75	Also taught at SS11
13 (to Jun)	Miss Adlaide Cuddie	356.25	
13 (fall)	L. Borthwick	190.95	
14	Nora Craig	500.00	
15 (to Jun)	Alice Watterson	299.60	
15 (fall)	Lyla M. Spratt	0	Also taught at SS11
16 (to Jun)	Lyla M. Spratt	300.00	\$311 paid Apr 1918
16 (from Nov)	Myrtle Law	97.00	
17 (to?)	Agnes Bradley	220.17	Probably started late fall
17 (started?)	Mr. Dewy McKeracher	500.00	
18 (to Jun)	Della J. Jackson	340.00	
18 (fall)	Miss Conroy	260.00	
19 (to Jun)	Mrs. Bee McKeracher	365.63	
19 (fall)	Miss O'Dair	260.00	
1920 (to Sep)	Miss Edna Hill	321.50	
20 (from Oct)	Miss M.E. Leach	400.02	Sister of Harold V. Leach
21 (to Jun)	Miss M.E. Leach	600.00	
21 (fall)	Harold V. Leach	390.00	Brother of Miss M.E. Leach
22 (to Jun)	Harold V. Leach	585.00	Later, Doctor
22 (fall)	Irene Culhane	275.00	* Source: Account Book 1902-1922

### TEACHERS 1922-1948

<u>YEAR</u>	<u>TEACHER'S NAME</u>	<u>SALARY</u>	<u>REMARKS</u>
1923 (to Jun)	Irene Culham	600.08	
23 (fall)	Alice Gardner	300.00	
24	Alice Gardner	975.08	
25 (to Jun)	Alice Gardner	600.00	
25 (fall)	Miss Shea	342.74	
26	Miss Shea	885.20	
27 (to Mar)	Miss Shea	262.60	
27 (remainder)	Miss Spratt	583.56	
28 (to Jun)	Miss Spratt	660.12	
28 (fall)	Miss Peninnah Sloan	385.26	
29	Miss Peninnah Sloan	933.75	
1930	Miss Peninnah Sloan	1074.18	
31	Miss Peninnah Sloan	1047.52	
32	Miss Peninnah Sloan	937.00	
33	Miss Peninnah Sloan	859.03	
34	Miss Peninnah Sloan	828.78	
35	Miss Peninnah Sloan	809.25	
36	Miss Peninnah Sloan	778.43	
37 (to Jun)	Miss Peninnah Sloan	466.13	
37 (fall)	Miss Della Waddell	252.26	
38	Miss Della Waddell	649.90	
39	Miss Della Waddell	680.39	
1940	Miss Della Waddell	716.26	
41	Miss Della Waddell	792.12	
42 (to Jun)	Miss Della Waddell	492.21	
42 (fall)	Miss Iris Knox	346.40	
43	Miss Iris Knox	860.45	
44 (to Jun)	Miss Iris Knox	538.50	
44 (fall)	Hazel Eastman	341.00	
45 (to Jun)	Hazel Eastman	514.53	
45 (fall)	Miss Helen MacDonald	446.70	
46	Miss Helen MacDonald	1177.00	
47	Miss Helen MacDonald	1322.00	
48	Miss Helen MacDonald	1445.10	

1950 & 1951 No records, except entries indicating Miss MacDonald still there.

\*Source: Account Book 1923-1948



Musée de  
Gloucester  
Museum



## IN FOCUS: 150 YEARS IN GLOUCESTER

*When: Saturday, June 17 to Saturday, September 30, 2000*

*Where: 4449 Shoreline Drive, Gloucester  
In the Riverside Model home by Urbandale  
Just off River Rd, 5 min south of Hunt Club Rd*

*Hours: Monday to Thursday, 1:00 - 8:00 pm , Saturday and  
Sunday 12:00 - 5:00 pm*

This summer the Gloucester Museum joins the City in celebrating its anniversary by presenting **IN FOCUS: 150 YEARS IN GLOUCESTER**. This unique photograph exhibition illustrates the lasting community traditions that define our rich heritage. Historical photographs capture moments in time that document a past culture, lived by our ancestors. Contemporary black and white photographs taken by local photographer and artist, Monique Geishardt, offer her artistic perspective of these historical images for the audience to interpret and enjoy. These works are carefully handcoloured by the artist, restoring this lost craft.

By sharing these images of the past and the present, it is our hope that the exhibit will inspire the audience to understand how individuals living in Gloucester, then and now, contribute to shaping our community identity. As Gloucester lives its last year as a distinct community, we leave this heritage that we have collectively built, as a legacy for future generations.

The Museum is grateful to our generous sponsors and everyone in the community who helped create this exhibit.

For more information please contact the Museum at (613) 822-2076.



**ILFORD**







Musée de  
Gloucester  
Museum



### GLOUCESTER : 150 ANNÉES EN IMAGES

**Quand :** Du samedi 17 juin au samedi 30 septembre 2000

**Où :** 4449, promenade Shoreline, Gloucester  
Dans la maison-témoin Riverside, aménagée par  
Urbandale  
Tout près du chemin River, à 5 min au sud du chemin  
Hunt Club

**Heures :** Du lundi au vendredi, de 13 heures à 20 heures, et les  
samedi et dimanche, de midi à 17 heures.

Cet été, le Musée de Gloucester se joint à la Ville pour célébrer son anniversaire en présentant **GLOUCESTER : 150 ANNÉES EN IMAGES**. Cette exposition de photographies hors de l'ordinaire fait ressortir les traditions durables qui définissent le riche patrimoine de notre collectivité. D'une part, des photographies historiques saisissent des moments d'une autre époque qui témoignent d'une culture passée, celle vécue par nos ancêtres. D'autre part, des photographies contemporaines en noir et blanc prises par la photographe et artiste de notre région Monique Geishardt présentent le point de vue artistique de M<sup>me</sup> Geishardt à l'égard de ces images historiques, que le visiteur pourra interpréter et apprécier. L'artiste a colorisé avec soin ses œuvres, faisant ainsi revivre cette technique tombée dans l'oubli.

En présentant ces images du passé et du présent, nous espérons que l'exposition donnera aux visiteurs et aux visiteuses une compréhension de la manière dont les résidents et résidentes de Gloucester d'hier et d'aujourd'hui ont contribué à façonner l'identité de notre collectivité et continuent à le faire. Comme Gloucester se trouve au seuil d'une ère nouvelle, nous confions notre patrimoine collectif aux générations futures.

Le Musée remercie ses généreux commanditaires et tous les membres de la communauté qui ont aidé à monter cette exposition.

Pour de plus amples renseignements, veuillez appeler au Musée, au (613) 822-2076.

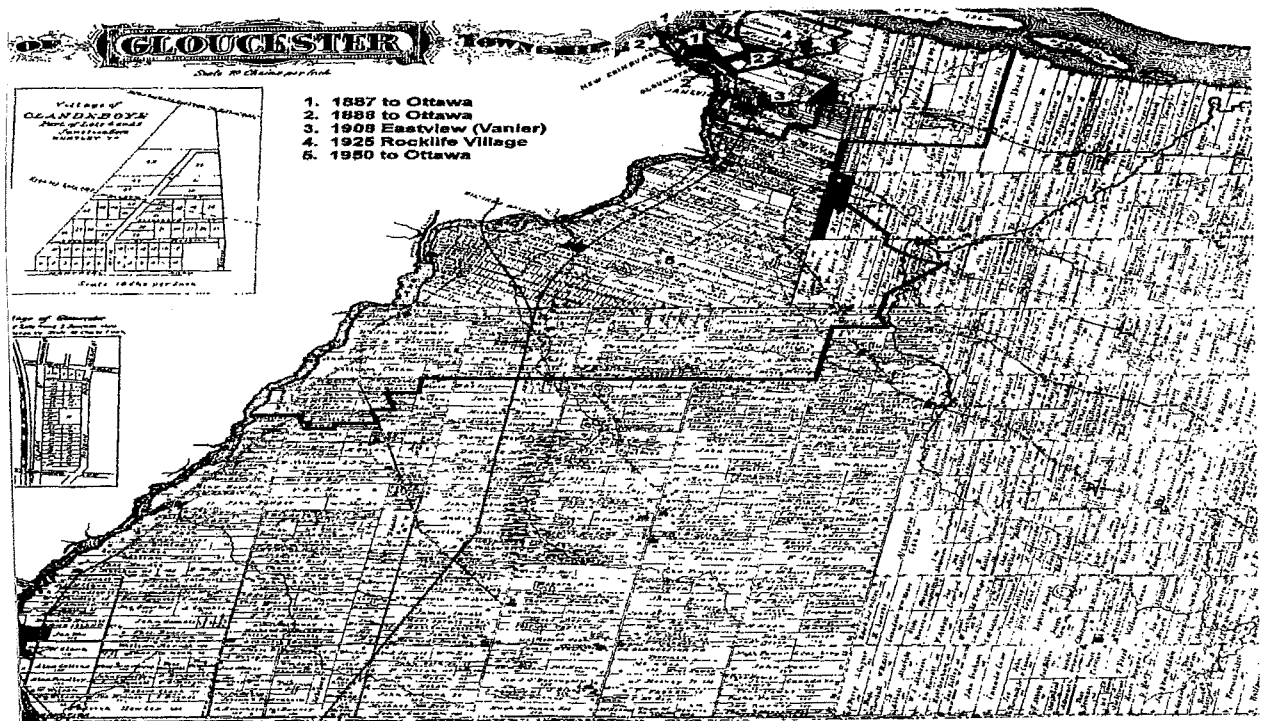


**ILFORD**



## MAP PROVIDES FASCINATING HISTORICAL INFORMATION ABOUT CITY

by Ian Hammond



Do you know what Rockcliffe Park, Clandeboye and St. Joseph all have in common?

The answer to this historical question is that each was a settlement in Gloucester Township, a century before its 1981 proclamation as a city.

In 1879, the Belden Brothers of Toronto published their *Illustrated Historical Atlas of the County of Carleton*, a richly detailed work which was compiled and drawn from their personal examinations and surveys. Historians tell us such early county atlases, often published during the living memory of many pioneers, are surprisingly accurate.

The Belden map of Gloucester Township shows that it was bounded by Cumberland on the east, the Ottawa River on the north and Osgoode Township on the south, just as today; but that its north-western border extended as far as the Rideau River - far beyond its current boundary of Blair Road.

Because of this, Rockcliffe Park, the MacKay Estate and New Edinburgh were all part of Gloucester. The village of Clandeboye lay between Montreal Road and Beechwood, in what is today called Vanier. St. Joseph remains in Gloucester, but as you may have guessed, it is now known as Orleans.

The Belden map is especially fascinating for its inclusion of all of the property lots in the township, most of them identified by owner. Prominent families whose lands bordered the Rideau River included the Billings, the Cummings and the Hurdmans, all of whom were commemorated in bridges spanning the river.

Many of today's busy thoroughfares owe their name to the properties that predated them. Heron Road in Alta Vista traverses the old Heron Estate, and Smyth Road, the address of the large University of Ottawa Health Sciences Centre, runs along the old Smith farm. The original spelling of Smith has since changed.

In 1853, Michel Cyr purchased a large tract of land which he then divided between his sons Joseph and Michel, establishing Cyrville. Their property was eventually subdivided into market garden plots to serve the growing village of Bytown. Streets in Cyrville which mark the original property lines are named after Cyr's sons - rue Joseph Cyr and the anglicized Michael Street.

Just east of Cyrville lay a number of lots belonging to the Ogilvie family. Sir William Ogilvie was indisputably Gloucester's most famous citizen and one of the noblest figures in modern Canadian history. As a young man, he won a walking marathon from Arnprior to Ottawa, beating the reigning British champion.

An explorer, surveyor and administrator, Ogilvie was responsible for defining the Yukon-Alaska border in 1887. He later served as the first Commissioner of the Yukon Territory (1898-1901) during the frenzy of the gold rush and was called on to adjudicate countless boundary disputes over mining claims. Ogilvie could have profited from this activity to become a millionaire many times over, but he was absolutely incorruptible, embodying the highest principles of public service.

*This article was originally printed in The Star, October 29, 1996. Ian Hammond is the head of the communications sub-committee of the Local Architectural Conservation Advisory Committee (LACAC) of the City of Gloucester. Anyone who has an interesting anecdote on Gloucester heritage is invited to contact Ian at 747-9794 or the Gloucester Historical Society at 822-2076. Copies of the Belden map of Gloucester Township can be purchased from the Gloucester Historical Society for \$3.*

**A number of books are still available from the Gloucester Historical Society as well at reasonable prices.**

## **HERITAGE IN THE NEW CITY OF OTTAWA**

A presentation is being made to the Ottawa Transition Board by the Council of Heritage Organizations in Ottawa to ensure that heritage resources are protected, interpreted and celebrated with respect to the diverse communities within the new city.

The Council, which represents some fifty local historical organizations, including the Gloucester Historical Society, will be pointing out the benefits of heritage. It will also highlight and explain five fundamental principles:

- 1. Heritage contributes to the quality of life and economic health of the community.*
- 2. The city is charged with heritage stewardship.*
- 3. Municipal government has a major role to play in supporting and encouraging the preservation and appreciation of heritage resources and in fostering the stewardship of our material and natural resources.*
- 4. Local community input is of prime importance.*
- 5. It is important to sustain a partnership of professional staff and volunteers.*

For a copy of the full submission call Guy Legault at 837-7334.

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***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!***

**BILLINGS BRIDGE: My Village, my Life -**  
BOOK REVIEW by Joan Scott

This is a very interesting and informative collection of personal reminiscences of twenty-six Billings Bridge "villagers". The work started out as a proposal by Father Marcel Gauthier and Germain Aubut to record the recollections of people who had lived in the parish of St. Thomas Aquinas during the first half of the century. The gathering of personal anecdotes and memories was begun in the 1970's by Father Gauthier, Eliane Pelot (mother of the editors of the book), Cecile Seguin, Jeannine Lauzon and Georgette Beaulieu. After gathering dust for many years, the data was retrieved by Gerard and Bernard Pelot who compiled it into this book.

The Pelot brothers, two of the eight children of William John and Eliane Pelot, were born in Billings Bridge where the family resided since the early 1900's. Gerard, a chartered accountant, was in management at the Canadian Broadcast Corporation's Head office. He was the founder and director of a book and pamphlet distribution service to the churches in the region for twenty-five years, and Board Chairman of L'Arche Ottawa. Bernard was a Staff Sergeant

in the Royal Canadian Mounted Police and later was with the Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development. He was also a member of the Russell Township Council for five years, including two as Reeve. He is currently a consultant in the private sector and has authored a book on the RCMP and a booklet on native rights.

*Billings Bridge* is a warm human story of life in a small, close-knit community very different from the Billings Bridge we know today. There was no electricity, no running water, no paved roads in the early 1900's. Ice houses, brickyards, lots of farms and green space dotted the landscape not too long ago. Neighbours were friends, and everyone knew everyone else in the "Village".

The book is of interest not only to those who came from Billings Bridge, once lived there, or just like to visit it, but its warm human stories have general appeal. The drastic changes over a relatively short time are surprising and the reader feels part of the community of yesterday as names and places of the past are recognized. It is certainly recommended as enjoyable reading

**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: \_\_\_\_\_

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Year \$10.00  
Life - \$40.00

Mailing Address: Gloucester Historical Society  
4550B Bank Street, Gloucester, Ontario  
K1G 3N4 Tel: 822-2076