



## *Historic Gloucester*

Newsletter of the

**GLOUCESTER  
HISTORICAL  
SOCIETY**

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**WATERS OF RIDEAU RIVER CONTINUE TO RISE** - These cars are cautiously negotiating the Russell Road which is covered with 15 inches of water just north of Hurdman's Bridge in Overbrook. Some of the families in these houses have been forced to move out. Photo by T.V. Little

*Ottawa Journal, April 10, 1947, p. 17*

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## President’s Report

By Glenn Clark

We have just experienced yet another calamity with the recent ice storm that knocked out hydro for thousands of people and caused further tree damage. As if last May’s derecho storm was not enough. Yet, there is great hope with summer temperatures in the forecast. Truly, typical of Ottawa. Winter one day, and summer the next.

I am pleased to announce our Annual General Meeting, on the topic of Blossom Park history and it will take place at the Sawmill Creek Swimming Pool on D’Aoust Street in Blossom Park. Further details are provided later in this Newsletter. This is a topic dear to my heart, as a life-long resident. It has never been covered before. It is hard to believe that this neighbourhood was first subdivided in 1911 and therefore has 112 years of history. The meeting will take place on Saturday, April 22, 2023 at 2:30 p.m. I hope you will join us.

I am also pleased to announce a new post card series on the topic of Gloucester bridges. As you may recall, our first post card series honoured the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the First World War and focused on Gloucester participants in that war. The entire series of five cards is still available to anybody interested. We have already printed the first card in the new bridge series, which features a very interesting and historic photograph of the humpback bridge that formerly crossed the CPR rail line on today’s Riverside Drive north of Heron Road and near Vincent Massey Park.

Additional bridge photos are now being selected for further cards in the series to be printed later this year. If you have any vintage pictures of bridges within the original boundaries of Gloucester including Rideau River crossings, we would love to hear from you. One topic of particular concern is the future of 1898 CPR bridge at Hurdman’s Bridge. Will it be restored, or will it be replaced? A historic photo of this bridge would be a great addition to the new post card series and a reminder of merits of preserving our railway heritage. All cards printed so far will be available free of charge at our Annual General Meeting.

This newsletter revisits Overbrook with even more detail on the history of the neighbourhood. This new story focuses on buildings on the old Russell Road (now North River Road), most of which have been demolished for the Rideau River Park many years ago. I hope you enjoy it.

I also wish to extend a big thank you to Brian McGovern who recently donated the original two signs from the Carlsbad Springs railway station. If you want to see them, please come to our office for Doors Open during the first weekend in June.

One last thing, please consider joining me for my 2023 Jane’s Walk, which will take place on Saturday, May 6<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 a.m. departing from the Rockcliffe Lookout on Sir George-Étienne Cartier Parkway.

Now, lets look forward to the gentle breezes of spring, a burst of flowers and the coming summer.



## Overbrook Revisited

By Glenn Clark

### Overbrook Public School – The First Few Years

A stone mounted on the front of Overbrook Public School reads ‘1916’ and the plan was to open the school in September of that year, but it didn’t happen. As a result of a number of construction and supply chain delays, the school actually opened on April 9, 1917, the day after Easter [Ottawa Citizen, January 5, 1917 p.6]. A teacher was hired based on that date [Ottawa Journal, March 28, 1917 p.13].

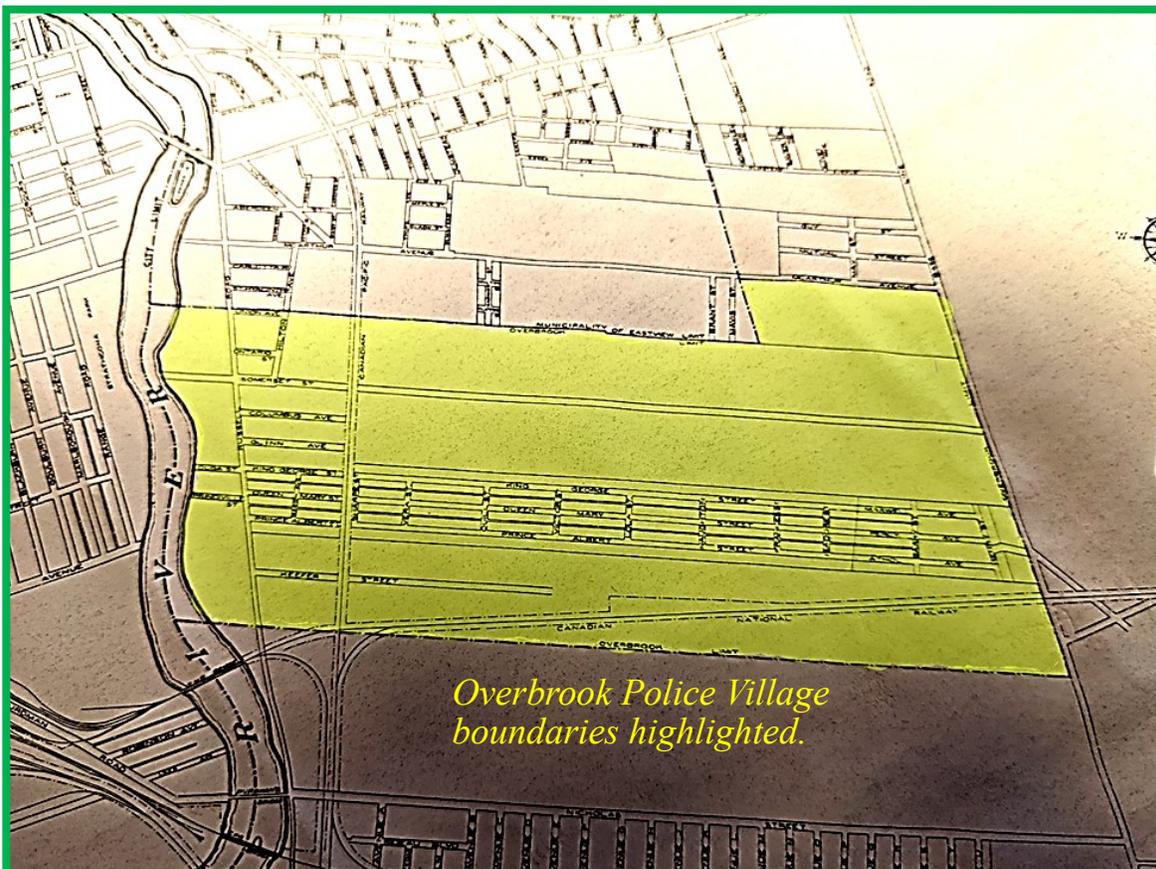
The school also didn’t open with its own board of trustees but instead it was an annex of Eastview Public School and shared the same school board. Eastview Public School was originally Gloucester School Section Number 25, at least until Eastview was incorporated as a village on December 11, 1908. In those days, each school section had its own Board of Trustees.

Overbrook Public School finally became a self-governing school on February 15, 1922 and became its own school section. Overbrook became the ‘new’ Gloucester School Section Number 25.

Up until this point, only one teacher had been engaged despite the existence of two classrooms in the original 1916 building. When it became a self-governing school, they were finally considering the use of the second classroom and to hire a second teacher. There were 40 to 50 students at the time [Ottawa Citizen, February 15, 1922 p.2]. A two-room addition was planned in 1923, bringing the school to four classrooms [Ottawa Citizen, July 17, 1923 p.5].

### Overbrook Police Village Boundaries

Since the Time-Line History was published, the question was posed about the original boundaries of the Overbrook Police Village. The answer was provided by Ottawa city maps from 1936 and 1940. Overbrook included Lots 8 and 9, Junction Gore which covered the area from Stevens Avenue in the north to Wright Street in the south. The western boundary was the Rideau River and it ran as far east as St. Laurent Boulevard, then Base Line Road. There was a further addition to the north-east where Overbrook extended around the eastern boundary of Vanier, to include a small portion of the south half of Lot 7, Junction Gore. This reached as far north as McArthur Avenue. Please see the following map with the Overbrook Police Village shown in light green.



*Overbrook Police Village boundaries highlighted.*

## **Wandering Down Old Russell Road**

**Note** – Russell Road numbering was not consistent over time. Numbers appear to have been adjusted on a couple of occasions in the 1930s and 1940s. This has made it difficult to accurately identify locations when reviewing city directories and the newspaper archives.

### **1036 North River Road (formerly 194 Russell Road) – More about the Overbrook Community Hall**

As previously mentioned in the Time-Line History, the hall opened on February 15, 1923. The property had been purchased by John S. Nicholson, William Lafleur and Andrew Kirkwood on behalf of the Overbrook Police Village from James C.S. Wolff and wife on August 17, 1922. Two mortgages were taken totalling \$1,600 to build the community hall with the mortgagor being Mary H. Nicholson (née Jensen). Mary was an immigrant from Denmark and was not related to John S. Nicholson, who was born in Fitzroy Township. The hall operated as Overbrook Community Hall Company Ltd.

Upon the death of Mary Nicholson on November 15, 1930, the mortgages were still not fully repaid. This led to complications and the hall passed to the ownership of Joanna McQuentin effective February 1, 1931. A dispute arose concerning this ownership which lasted until April 21, 1937, when the Supreme Court of Ontario ruled in favour of Ms. McQuentin. In order to recover ownership of the hall, it was necessary for John S. Nicholson and William Lafleur to pay Ms. McQuentin \$1,850.

Over the years, the hall served various community purposes. It was noted as a dance hall in 1938 and it housed various businesses including the Oscar Renaud Barber Shop during World War II. On February 1, 1947, the hall was sold to Michael Lackner for \$4,200, who ran various businesses but best known as Lackner Enterprises, an auction house.

The building was sold to His Majesty the King on March 16, 1948 for \$7,800, a sizeable profit for Mr. Lackner. Michael Lackner continued his businesses at this location until the end of 1960. Described as a one-storey frame building, a tender required it to be removed or demolished by May 8, 1961 [*Ottawa Citizen*, March 20, 1961 p.37].

### **1048 North River Road**

This was a house originally built for Joseph Boucher in 1912. Mr. Boucher died on July 16, 1921 following a long career as a contractor. Before his retirement in 1903, he was a member of the contracting firm Keating, Biggs, Wilson and Boucher, which built almost all the bridges for the Canada Atlantic Railway. Angus MacDonald took over the residence in 1917, and eventually sold the house to His Majesty the King on September 15, 1951 as part of the Rideau River Parkway Plan. Unlike most of the other buildings on the west side of North River Road, this house still exists today.

### **5 Olga Street, just west of North River Road**

This was the former John S. Nicholson house dating back to 1911. Mr. Nicholson was one of the founders of the Overbrook Police Village. He sold the lot and house to the Federal District Commission on January 13, 1954. Mr. Nicholson, described as a pioneer of Overbrook, died on October 13, 1957. His residence at the time of his death was located at 160 Prince Albert Street. He had been a Gloucester township councillor and a member of the Overbrook Public School board [*Ottawa Journal*, October 15, 1957 p.25]. A tender required that the house be removed or demolished by June 30, 1962. It was described as a two and half storey brick veneer duplex with a garage [*Ottawa Citizen*, May 12, 1962 p.44.].

### **1058-1060 North River Road (formerly 210, 212 Russell Road)**

Formerly the site of **René's Sundries** until the end of 1959, it became the **Quebec Foods of Canada** (wholesaler) owned by Nick Zaine in 1960 and 1961. It was a National Capital Commission tool house in 1965 and 1966 and the building was demolished by 1967.

John S. Nicholson and Charles R. Leduc originally took out a mortgage for \$2,100 on July 1, 1922, to build a store and residence. John S. Nicholson became the sole owner on October 13, 1931 and the mortgage was fully paid on October 3, 1946.

When the building was completed in 1923, this became the residence of John S. Nicholson, a tinsmith, but was quickly rented out to Robert and Ethel Mattman for their residence, the Overbrook post office and grocery store. This lease arrangement continued until 1927, when the Mattman's

moved to a new building at 1066 North River Road. 1058-1060 North River Road later became the original location of **Morin's Store** from 1938 until they moved next door (1062 North River Road) in 1945. This is when **René's Sundries** was founded, first operated by René Charles Desautels and following the sale of the business on April 6, 1946, by Arthur Dugal. The building was later sold to Mr. Dugal on October 4, 1946 who in turn sold it to Her Majesty the Queen on May 29, 1952 as part of Rideau River Parkway plan.

**BULK SALES ACT.**

**In the Matter of RENE CHARLES DESAUTELS, carrying on business under the style and firm name of "RENE'S SUNDRIES", 212 Russell Road, in the Village of Overbrook, in the County of Carleton.**

**And in the Matter of THE BULK SALES ACT.**

NOTICE is hereby given that the said Rene Charles Desautels, carrying on business under the said style and firm name of "RENE'S SUNDRIES", has made a sale in bulk of all his assets to Arthur Dugal, of the City of Ottawa, in the County of Carleton.

NOTICE is further given that all creditors of the said Rene Charles Desautels and/or Rene's Sundries are required to file their claims together with particulars thereof, duly verified, with the undersigned on or before the 27th day of April, 1946, after which date the proceeds of the said sale will be distributed among the persons entitled thereto, having regard only to claims of which notice shall have been received.

DATED this 6th day of April, 1946.  
**LAFLEUR & AUBIN,**  
 Barristers, etc.,  
 45 Rideau St.,  
 OTTAWA, Ont.

*Ottawa Journal, April 9, 1946 p.19*  
*How René's Sundries got its name*

### **1062 North River Road (formerly 214 Russell Road)**

On September 4, 1944, Andrew Morin purchased Lot 13 and 14, Plan 361 from the Township of Gloucester. A mortgage was taken out on September 20, 1944, to build a store. This was known

as **Morin's Grocery Store**. By 1948, it was re-named **MacLean's Market** (which was for sale in June 1949) and through most of the 1950s, it was known as **Overbrook Servicenter Grocery**. Mr. Morin sold the building to the Federal District Commission on January 22, 1954, as part of the Rideau River Parkway project and to clear the riverfront. Andrew J. Morin died in a car accident on Montreal Road near Orléans on September 21, 1956. The grocery store business was for sale in December 1959 and in 1960 through 1962, it was **Electronics Unlimited**. Tenders for demolition were due on July 12, 1963. It was a two-storey brick veneer building with a ground floor store and a second-floor apartment. The Morin residence was located at 5 Prince Albert Street from 1919 until Mr. Morin's 1956 death.

### **1063 North River Road (formerly 351 Russell Road)**

This was the residence of Mrs. Helen Doherty which was destroyed by fire on August 13, 1931. The house had been originally built by Thomas H. Adams in 1918. The house was not rebuilt following the fire, and the property was lost to tax arrears on October 1, 1936. It was turned over to the Township of Gloucester and eventually became part of Riverside Memorial Park.

The home of Peter D. O'Neill located at 3 Queen Mary Street was also destroyed in the same fire and was also lost to tax arrears on October 1, 1936. The house had originally been built in 1914 for Francis Xavier Laderoute, the founder of Overbrook. The lot was resold by the Township of Gloucester to Victor F.R. Fabricius on October 5, 1938 who took out a mortgage to build a new house on the fire site.

### **1066 North River Road (formerly 206, 220-222 Russell Road) – More about the Overbrook Post Office**

The post office had its beginnings elsewhere. The first postmaster was John Sedvall from April 14, 1919 until September 8, 1920, and the post office was located at 39 Queen Mary Street. This was followed by Clinton E. Pharoah from February 5, 1921 until May 18, 1922. The location of the Post Office (and a grocery store) was on the east side of Russell Road. The specific location has not been identified. This may have been the same grocery store operated by Robert F. Mattman. Mr. Mattman then became the postmaster on January 3, 1923 who relocated to 1058 North River Road sometime that year.

# Overbrook Fire At Early Hour Is Spectacular

**Two Houses Destroyed,  
Others in Danger. Help  
Sent By City. Reflection  
Seen For Miles.**

The residences of Mrs. Helen Doherty, 351 Russell road, and of Peter D. O'Neill, Queen Mary street, Overbrook, were destroyed in a spectacular fire which broke out shortly before two o'clock this morning. The loss it estimated at about \$8,000, partially covered by insurance. A number of other residences narrowly escaped destruction.

Hundreds of people rushed to the scene from Ottawa and the surrounding district, having been attracted by the vivid reflection from the blaze.

## Calls For Help.

Calls for assistance were sent to the Eastview and Ottawa fire departments, and a truck from No. 5 station and Deputy Chief John Bradley were sent to the scene.

Volunteer firefighters with a small stream operated from a pump at the Rideau river, and the city firemen fighting with chemicals, put up a brave fight in preventing the spread of the fire to other homes. The one in most danger was that of Detective Sergeant Fred Syms, of the R.C.M.P.

The blaze, as far as could be ascertained, started in outbuildings at the rear of the Doherty home. Alf Perch, a roomer in the Doherty home, was aroused to discover the buildings at the rear of the house a mass of flames. He aroused the other occupants and all were able to get out safely. A considerable portion of the contents was also saved. With Mrs. Doherty there resided two daughters, Phyllis and Della.

The Doherty home was a two-storey brick veneer dwelling on the east side of the Russell road, just north of Queen Mary street. Outbuildings extending from the rear were at right angles to the frame dwelling of Mr. O'Neill, on the north side of Queen Mary street. Mr. O'Neill possibly was the most unfortunate fire loser, his insurance having run out just recently and had not been renewed. Mrs. Doherty estimated her loss at about \$5,000, partially covered by insurance, and Mr. O'Neill estimated his at \$3,000.

## Origin Not Known.

Mrs. Doherty could not account for the origin of the fire. She said that sometimes boys have slept in the shed where the fire is believed to have started, and she said that she had warned them against the practice. She did not know if anyone had been in the building last night.

Telephone services in the area were completely cut off as the cables strung past the houses were burned down. The Syms residence situated across the road from Mr. O'Neill's was scorched and part of the contents which were placed in front of it were damaged by heat and water. Mr. O'Neill had a portion of the ground floor of his home rented as an ice cream parlor to E. Parisien. The latter suffered little loss as his stock of soft drinks was carried from the building, as were the contents of Mr. O'Neill's dwelling.

The Post Office and grocery store then relocated 220-222 Russell Road from 1927 to 1950. Robert F. & Ethel M. Mattman purchased this location as an empty lot on August 31, 1926 and took out a \$2,000 mortgage to build a house and store.

The new location likely was ready sometime in 1927 and was operated by Mr. Mattman until his sudden death on January 26, 1928, from accidental electrocution at his place of employment, Costello, Crowe and Bellamy at 378 Bank Street [*Ottawa Citizen*, January 27, 1928 p.14]. His widow, Ethel continued the business and post office until June 29, 1938. Ethel remarried on September 28, 1938 to Henry Wallace Giles.

The Post Office and grocery was then taken over by William Banning who remained in the position until April 16, 1943. His son, Ross, was lost at sea on October 15, 1941 when the S.S. Vancouver Island was torpedoed by a U-boat off the west coast of Ireland. 105 lives were lost and there were no survivors. Ross was an assistant steward in the merchant navy [*Ottawa Citizen*, April 3, 1943 p.26]. Mr. Banning Sr. passed away on April 8, 1947.

From 1943 until 1947, the post office and grocery were operated by Mrs. Alice Gareau and from 1947 until closing in 1950, by Hector Gagnon. Mr. Gagnon sold the property to His Majesty the King on May 28, 1948 for \$12,900. The grocery store also closed with the post office in 1950. Mr. Gagnon then opened a barber shop at the same address, which was in business for many years. In the mid 1950s, this was also an outlet for Eastview Cleaners before relocating across the street to 1075 ½ North River Road in 1958.

The building still exists.

### **1070 North River Road (formerly 224 Russell Road)**

An empty lot was purchased by René Cleroux on January 22, 1938, and a \$500 mortgage was taken to build a house. Mr. Cleroux sold the house to His Majesty the King on February 23, 1948 for \$8,500 as part of the Rideau River Parkway plan. Described as a two-storey feather edge (similar to clapboard) dwelling, it was to be removed or demolished by May 8, 1961 [*Ottawa Citizen*, March 20, 1961 p.37].



*S.S. Vancouver Island*

**1075/1075 ½ North River Road at Queen Mary**

This location has an interesting history. Although, best known for a long-lived confectionery, there was another business at the same address years earlier that was subsequently demolished.

The lots at the corner of Queen Mary Street and then Russell Road were sold by Lola L. Laderoute to John F. Sedvall on March 27, 1929, who immediately mortgaged the property to Imperial Oil Limited to build what became known as the **Overbrook Service Station**. The business clearly was not successful as Mr. Sedvall had turned over the property to Imperial Oil Limited on January 21, 1931. The service station appears on a 1933 air photograph but was already closed in 1932 according to the city directory for that year, and the site was again vacant on a 1938 air photo. Imperial Oil sold the property to John Epps on June 24, 1942, with a 'covenant re the sale of gasoline'. There had been a \$2,000 mortgage in 1929 to build the gas station but the 1942 re-sale of a vacant lot had fallen to a mere \$125.

**COME to Overbrook Service Station, Russell Rd., for dependable repairs, low charges, oil 30c. battery charging 75c. J. F. Sedvall. 77**

*Ottawa Citizen, September 17, 1929 p.7*

A mortgage was taken out by John Epps and wife on November 2, 1942, to build a house at 2 Queen Mary Street which appears on a 1945 air photograph. The house and lots were then sold to Mrs. Sadie Zaine on August 15, 1947 for \$9,000. Michael Zaine was Sadie's husband, and he operated a restaurant at 327 Rideau Street, which was also the family's previous residence.

Michael Zaine died on September 15, 1950, and by 1955, son Joseph opened a drycleaning depot running out of the family home known as **Superior Service Store**. In 1956, the city established zoning by-laws for Overbrook, which limited the location to residential use. The drycleaning business was grandfathered. When a building permit application was submitted to expand the building, it was assumed to be an expansion of the 'legal' drycleaning business. The new extension faced North River Road (then Riverside Drive) with a new address of 1075 Riverside Drive.

Instead of expanding his existing business, Joseph Zaine opened the **Queensway Variety Shop** (also known as Queen Mary Variety Store and Zaine's Store) in 1958. At about the same time, the drycleaning business became a branch of **Eastview Cleaners**, also within the building extension at 1075 ½ Riverside Drive. The new confectionery business created considerable controversy in 1960 and 1961 when the zoning violation was discovered. There were a number of attempts to close down the 'illegal' business, but it remained in operation for several years.

**Prosecute Store Owner**

Prosecution of a Queen Mary road store owner to force him to close an addition to his building which the Planning Board says was built unlawfully was ordered by Board of Control Tuesday.

The action against Joseph Zaine, 2 Queen Mary road, was recommended by the Planning Board. He will continue to be allowed to operate a variety store but must close an addition rented as a dry cleaning depot.

Opposing the prosecution, Controller Tardif said the city changed zoning in the area for a supermarket two years ago and felt similar action should be taken to exempt the Zaine property.

"I hate to prosecute this man," said Mayor Nelms, "but I'm not going against the recommendation of the Planning Board."

*Ottawa Journal, March 23, 1960 p.3*

## Michael Zaine Of Overbrook Dies

Native of Damascus, Syria, and resident of Ottawa for the past 17 years, Michael Zaine, of 2 Queen Mary road, Overbrook, died in hospital on Friday following a lengthy illness. He was 67.

Mr. Zaine was born at Damascus, Syria, and came to Canada 50 years ago. For more than 30 years he was proprietor of a confectionery store at Joliette, Que., and Montreal.

He retired 17 years ago and since that time had resided in Ottawa. He was married in Joliette in 1916 to the former Sadie Solhany, who survives him.

Mr. Zaine was a member of St. Elijah's Syrian Orthodox Society.

Besides his wife he is survived by three sons, Joseph, Nicholas, George, all in Ottawa; two sisters in Syria and one in Brazil.

In addition he is survived by four grandchildren.

The body is at McEvoy's, from where service will be held to St. Elijah's Orthodox Church on Monday at 2 p.m.

Interment will be made in Beechwood cemetery.

The store was for lease in June 1974 and the property was sold to Mike & Jamile Keldane on July 10, 1975. The Keldane's took the business in a different direction when the drycleaning business closed and was replaced by **Chef's Home Pizza** in the latter 1970s. The house, grocery store and pizzeria business were put up for sale in the winter of 1984 and the store for rent in May 1984. The land transfer finally took place on October 12, 1984 to Doctor Sarkis Chalhoub, a family physician. The Queensway Variety Shop lasted until 1986 and Chef's Home Pizza until 1987. Both were vacant the following year and have now been converted to residential use.

Both Joseph Zaine and brother Nick served with the Royal Canadian Navy during World WWII.



Stoker "Nick" Zaire

**1076 North River Road (formerly Russell Road)**

A vacant lot was acquired by Marcel Cleroux on August 16, 1938, which Mr. Cleroux mortgaged in order to build a house. The house was sold to His Majesty the King on April 13, 1948 for \$8,650 as part of the Rideau River Parkway Plan.

Described as a 1½ storey feather edged dwelling, a tender was issued for removal or demolition by August 18, 1961 [*Ottawa Citizen*, June 26, 1961 p.37.

# City Stand Means Store Must Close

By Paul Dubois  
Citizen Staff Writer

Mayor Nelms' vote last night resulted in City Council upholding a Board of Control decision not to re-zone an area of Rideau Ward from residential to commercial use.

The block concerned is bounded by Queen Mary Street, Riverside Drive, Prince Albert Street and Marion Avenue.

Application to re-zone that area was submitted by Joseph Zaine, proprietor of a confectionery store and dry cleaning depot, both located near the intersection of Queen Mary Street and Riverside Drive. The confectionery store will now have to be closed.

## Favor Change

Both Rideau Ward aldermen, J. D. Wentzell and R. J. Groves, were in favor of the change in zoning. They presented a motion to that effect. If approved, their motion would have reversed a Board of Control decision. However, the motion was defeated by Mayor Nelms' vote.

Before the proposed change was submitted to a council vote, Mayor Nelms and Con. Paul Tardif "summarized" the situation.

It was said that Mr. Zaine operated the dry cleaning depot at the time the area was zoned for residential use some four years ago. The zoning bylaw permitted Mr. Zaine to continue operating his dry cleaning establishment—having done so prior to the re-zoning.

Mr. Tardif explained last night that after the residential zoning bylaw had gone into effect, Mr. Zaine had applied for and been granted a permit to build an addition to the quarters occupied by the dry cleaning depot.

"But as it turned out, the addition was used as a confectionery store," Mr. Tardif said. "It's still

being used as such. And it's illegal. Now council is asked to legalize something that has been operating illegally."

Ald. Wentzell pointed out that 90 residents in the immediate area of the confectionery store had signed a petition calling for City Council to let the store "stand".

Con. Tardif informed council that Mr. Zaine had already been fined in local court for flouting the city's zoning bylaw.

## No Fine

Ald. Wentzell remarked Mr. Zaine had not been fined for any contravention of the city's building bylaw. "That can be arranged," said Con. Tardif. "Yes . . . make a note of that," Con. Hamilton said, looking at Mayor Nelms.

Following tabulation of the council vote, it was pointed out that Mr. Zaine could still seek Ontario Municipal Board approval for his suggested re-zoning of the area. "But he would do so without the support of a favorable council vote," one alderman remarked.

## Little Corvettes Wonderful Says Stoker "Nick" Zaine

**Tells of Waking Up in Irish Hospital After His Craft  
Downed One Dive Bomber, Damaged Another.**

"We shot down one dive bomber and damaged another before our corvette was hit, and that's the last I remembered until I woke up in hospital in Ireland," Stoker Nicholas Zaine, Royal Canadian Navy, home on furlough after 14 months' service with the British navy, told *The Citizen* yesterday. His corvette captured a German submarine and later was itself dive-bombed.

The 21-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. Michael Zaine leaned over the table in his father's small restaurant at 327 Rideau street and said earnestly, "You know I love the life on a corvette. I was on a destroyer before and I liked that, too, but those little corvettes are wonderful. Then can really stand the sea, and boy, they can take it!"

### Action Stations!

Nick, the only Canadian in a British crew, has been on convoy duty for many months. His first taste of real action came when his little craft was attacked in the Mediterranean by German dive bombers. Things happened pretty fast, he said, and after one bomber was shot into the sea and another was badly damaged, he believes the corvette must have received a direct hit. He lost consciousness and was taken to an Irish hospital where he remained for three months suffering from a broken and badly lacerated arm in which 56 stitches were taken, three broken ribs and a broken collar bone.

"An American surgeon fixed my arm in spite of the fact that they believed I'd lose it, and it's O.K. now except that it's a little shorter than the other one and it still bothers me some. I was lucky to get out alive, anyway. 22 of the crew were killed," he said.

The little corvette's capture of a German submarine before being put out of action itself, is Nick's favorite story, perhaps because he brought home a German seaman's coat which is now one of his most treasured possessions. "We caught the sub napping about dawn one morning in February in the Bay of Biscay," he explained. "She was lying there on the surface when we spotted her. She started to put up a fight but we shot across her bow and the captain

surrendered. We went along-side and a prize crew from our corvette went aboard and brought back the prisoners. They were young and a fine looking bunch. The wireless operator who wore this coat was about 17 or 18 and very blonde. When I asked him for it he was quite willing to give it to me."

### Surprise for Mom

This is Nick's first visit home for 14 months. "Mom was pretty surprised when I walked into the store the other day," he said, "because she had not heard from me for two months and I didn't let her know I was coming. I wanted to surprise her, and I did, alright. I just walked in and said, 'Hello Mom!'"

Mr. and Mrs. Zaine are pretty proud of their son, and well they might be, for he's no "gold fish bowl sailor." He's been around. He's visited Newfoundland, the British Isles, Iceland, Gibraltar and West Africa, and when his furlough is over he says he'll be eager to get back to his girl friend of the sea, Miss H.M. Corvette. While ashore, though, he's pretty busy with a "landlubber" lassie who he confessed he had a date with right after the interview.

Nick's brother is a sailor, too. He's Able Bodied Seaman Joseph Zaine of the Royal Canadian Navy, who was also home on leave. In fact, Nick just missed him by a few days. "We enlisted here in Ottawa about three years ago," he said. "One day we were walking along the street and saw the poster 'Join the Navy.' Joe said to me, 'Nick, I feel like doing it.' I told him I did, too, so we did, and here we are! All Syrians love the navy, anyway, you know," he grinned. Then he said seriously: "My 17-year-old brother, George, wants to enlist, too, and I'm afraid he will. I guess Mom worries a lot about it. We're her only sons and she hasn't any girls. I tell her to keep her chin up. She's wonderful!" he said proudly.

Nick had high praise for the members of the Women's Naval Auxilliary. "They're doing a swell job sending us parcels, and we appreciate it. When we're at sea we want lots of cigarets, magazines and candy, and it's great to get parcels at ports all over the world," he said.

### 1078 - 1082 North River Road (formerly 252 – 254 Russell Road)

On June 16, 1947, the property, then vacant, was acquired by Eugene Robert who built two stores and a dwelling, which became 252 and 254 Russell Road. On July 15, 1947, Robert leased the property to Joseph R. Gougeon for 10 years at a price of \$12,000. As part of the Rideau River Parkway plan, Mr. Robert sold the property and building to His Majesty the King on November 24, 1947 for \$12,550. Subsequently, the residence and stores were rented out.

The first business at 252 Russell Road opened as **Lou's Lunch Room, Taxi and Barber Shop** in 1949 [*Ottawa Citizen*, May 13, 1949 p.7]. The barber shop closed by July 1950 when the barber chair was for sale. It became **Ab's Tea Room** in 1951 and the **Riverside Tea Room** by 1954. It remained in business until around 1972. This was the first restaurant operated by Halim 'Al' Ferris Saikali starting around 1952, who became a well known Ottawa restaurateur with the opening of Al's Steakhouse at 327 Elgin Street in 1967. It remains an Ottawa institution to this day.

The second business at 254 Russell Road opened as **Thelma's Self Serve Washeteria** also known as **Thelma's Bendix Club**, a self serve laundry in 1950. In 1952, it became '**Graphic Designs**' and in August 1952 through 1953, it was **H and L Sales Appliances**. In 1954, it became the **Riverside Meat Market**, which remained in business until early 1970. It had filed for bankruptcy in September 1969.

At the start of the 1970s, the residence at 1082 North River Road (then Riverside Drive) was leased by Norman and Georgette Saikali. Norman, a father of six, was a chef at Jimmy's Restaurant on Bank Street. On June 1, 1971, Norman was involved in a scuffle with a 14 year old girl at Hog's Back Falls. Mr. Saikali, a non-swimmer, was pushed into Devil's Hole and drowned. An inquest followed.

The building was demolished around 1975.

### 1084 North River Road (formerly 230, 258 Russell Road)

George Prest purchased this empty property on March 12, 1941 and afterwards took out a mortgage on March 9, 1942 to construct a building. Once completed, this became the location of the **Prest Meat Market**. By 1948, it was known as the **Overbrook Market Grocery** operated by Albert & Laurette Press (Prest). On May 10, 1949, the property and building was sold to His Majesty the King. George Prest died on May 20, 1951, and the business passed first to Elias & Massadi Saikali later in 1951 and then to Massad & Eva Shaheen from 1952 until the end of the decade. The Shaheen's experienced a tragedy when their son James Massey was killed in a helicopter crash during late July 1955 while serving in Alaska as a private with the 537 engineers of the United States Army. He had previously been an assistant mathematics professor at Tri-State College in Angola, Indiana [*Ottawa Citizen*, July 26, 1955 p.31]. A tender was issued for a building described as 2-storey brick veneer to be removed or demolished by July 7, 1961 [*Ottawa Citizen*, May 19, 1961 p.51].

### 1087 North River Road

A Sunday School of the Christian and Missionary Alliance was first established in Overbrook as a branch of the Gospel Tabernacle on Bank Street in 1926. The current church site was purchased on August 31, 1929 for \$225. The church known as the Overbrook Gospel Tabernacle was built between 1929 and 1931 and the first pastor, Reverend Robert Moore began his charge on December 11, 1932. The original church was destroyed by fire on March 19, 1949. A new larger church was dedicated by Reverend Nathan Bailey on February 24, 1951 also with a new name, Riverview Community Church, but it remained a part of the Christian and Missionary Alliance. Later in the 1950s, it became known as the Overbrook Alliance Church and it closed on September 27, 1964 with plans to build a new larger church on Smyth Road, under the name Alta Vista Alliance Church. The church was sold on August 31, 1964. Since then, it has been River Road Gospel Hall. The church had a substantial renovation including an extension towards North River Road in 2018.

# George Prest Overbrook Merchant Dies

*Ottawa Citizen, May 21, 1951 p. 23*

George H. Prest of Overbrook, owner of the Overbrook Market and Grocery Store, died last night after a long illness. A native of Kansas City, Mr. Prest came to the Ottawa district as a child. He was 62 years old. He died at the home of his son, Albert Prest, 91 Glinn Avenue, Overbrook.

He was a son of the late Camille Prest and Delima Bergeron.

He was a member of Notre Dame of Presentation Church and of the Sacred Heart Society of that church.

Surviving is his second wife, the former Laurette Leblanc. His first wife, the former Ida Seguin, died in 1944.

Six sons and five daughters

survive. They are:

George, Emile and Albert of Overbrook; Rene of Montreal; Leo and Francois of Ottawa; Mrs. Augustin Clermont, Wrightville; Miss Bertha Prest and Mrs. Maurice Bilodeau, Ottawa; Mrs. J. B. Murdock, Quyon, Que.; Mrs. Edgar Villeneuve, Eastview. There are 12 grandchildren.

Joseph Prest of Ottawa and Pierre Prest of Eastview are brothers and Mrs. Blanche Boyden of Ottawa is a sister.

The funeral will be held Wednesday from Gauthier Funeral Home to Notre Dame of Presentation Church, where requiem high mass will be chanted at 8 a.m. Burial will be in Notre Dame Cemetery.

## 1125 North River Road – The Other Post Office

This was the final site of the Hurdman's Bridge Post Office starting in 1954. It closed under that name on April 18, 1959. The Post Office continued until at least 1974 as Ottawa sub station 48. It was operated by Hector & Idola Pigeon throughout these years. Idola Pigeon had been the postmaster at its previous location, 1271-1273 Riverside Drive, immediately south of Tremblay Road since January 31,

1945. They were forced to relocate when their building was slated for demolition in 1954 for the construction of the new Hurdman's Bridge.

## 328 Russell Road (south of Presland Road)

Charles Weatherall, a native of Nottingham, England, immigrated to Canada in 1912. He purchased a lot at 43 Prince Albert Street (Lot 147 Plan 318) on March 19, 1913, a property that was retained until it was sold by his estate on September 27, 1950. Following the

# Overbrook Tabernacle Destroyed

In a fire which broke out shortly after 4 o'clock Saturday afternoon the Gospel Tabernacle at the Russell road and Prince Albert street in Overbrook was almost totally destroyed and Kenneth W. Opperman, pastor, and his wife whose living quarters were at the rear of the one-storey frame structure, were rendered homeless.

Both Mr. and Mrs. Opperman were absent when the blaze broke out in the living quarters and while definite cause of the fire is still unknown, faulty electric wiring is believed to have been responsible.

The interior of the structure was badly damaged by the flames and smoke and water were responsible for the remainder of the damage which, according to adherents, will necessitate complete rebuilding of their place of worship.

Mr. and Mrs. Opperman have been given temporary shelter by friends with whom they will reside until the Tabernacle has been rebuilt.

Members of the Gloucester township fire brigade under Chief John Brown, assisted by Overbrook volunteer firemen under Traverse Hyde, president of the Overbrook Fire Commission, were quickly on the scene and through their combined efforts were able to prevent the building from being entirely razed.

# MOTHER AND CHILD ARE BADLY BURNED

Mrs. Chas. Weatherall's Clothing  
Took Fire When Lighting Fire  
With Coal Oil.

Mrs. Elizabeth Weatherall, of Prince Albert street, Eastview, and her three-year-old son Arthur, lie in the Protestant General Hospital, severely burned and may die, as the result of Mrs. Weatherall having at 6.30 this morning attempted to use coal oil to light the morning fire.

The latest report from the hospital this afternoon is that both patients are "severely burned" and at the time the information was given the hospital authorities could give no definite statement one way or the other as to the probable outcome of the injuries of mother and son.

Mrs. Weatherall is the wife of Chas. Weatherall, a machinist employed at the mechanical transport assembling plant in Eastview.

The story current in Eastview today regarding the unfortunate happening is that Mrs. Weatherall had placed some paper in the kitchen stove and had poured some coal oil on to it. When she touched a match to the oil-saturated paper it flared up, igniting her clothing.

The three-year-old son Arthur, it is said, was nearby at the time and when he saw his mother's clothing afire ran toward her and caught hold of her in a hugging fashion. His clothing was also ignited and he like his parent was severely burned.

A hurry call went forth for ambulances and a rumor was current in the city that an explosion had taken place. The patients were removed to the Protestant Hospital.

*The Weatherall mother and child were badly burned, and would eventually die*

# Riverview Community Church

*The Christian and  
Missionary Alliance in Canada*

Russell Road and Prince Albert St.  
OVERBROOK

On March 19, 1949, the Overbrook Gospel Tabernacle was destroyed by fire. After many months of consecrated labour we take pride in dedicating the "Riverview Community Church" to the glory of God.

It is God who has supplied for our need. To God we give all the glory.  
It is God who has given the needed strength.

From the ashes of the old, there has arisen a completely new and modern church building—a commodious church auditorium—an up-to-date Sunday School auditorium—a splendid provision for a church nursery—and a six-roomed modern apartment to be used as a parsonage.

You are invited to look through the building immediately after the dedication service, and see "what great things the Lord hath done for us".



## Dedication Service, Sunday, February 25<sup>th</sup> 2.30 p.m.



Rev. Ralph Hobson

Reverend Nathan Bailey will speak at all services on Sunday.

11.00 a.m. — "How to Go to Church."

2.30 p.m. — "This Above All"

7.30 p.m. — "It Is No Secret What God Can Do."

Reverend Mr. Bailey will minister Sunday through Friday. Mr. Bailey was pastor of the Ottawa Gospel Tabernacle for a number of years. He is now the District Superintendent of the Christian and Missionary Alliance for the Eastern and Central Canadian District.



Rev. K. W. Opperman,  
Pastor.

Reverend Ralph Hobson will minister to us from March 4 through 18. Mr. Hobson is formerly of Ottawa. He was for some years a pastor in Saint John, New Brunswick. He was also rector of the Family Altar Hour which was heard over three Maritime stations. Reverend Mr. Hobson is the founder and present pastor of the Park Street Alliance Church in Peterborough. His ministry has a special emphasis to youth. He is the present director of Youth for Christ in that city.

Listen each weekday at 4.00 o'clock to radio station CKOY for the subject of the evening. We are grateful to the station manager for this courtesy.



Rev. Nathan Bailey

### We Are Sincerely Thankful

- To the Lord who has bountifully provided for our needs.
- To our contractor who did his work at a more than reasonable rate.
- To the men of Overbrook and Ottawa who gave unstintingly of their time in voluntary labour.
- To our electrician who did the installation gratis.
- To our plumber who did the installation gratis.
- To those who assisted so kindly in the planning of the church.
- For the prayers of all concerned with this God ordained project.
- For the gifts of the Lord's people in supporting this effort.

### The Church Will be Dedicated by REVEREND NATHAN BAILEY

District Superintendent

assisted by  
Controller Daniel McCann.  
The Honourable Solon Low, M.P.  
The Honourable Dr. Byerstein, M.P.  
The Chairman Ottawa Evangelical Ministerium,  
Rev. Robert W. Battles.  
The Chairman Ottawa Christian Businessmen's Committee, W. W. Rourke.

Mr. R. B. Faith, District Treasurer.  
Mr. B. F. McKechnie.  
The Mayor of South Hull, P.Q., H. Vipond.

The services will be conducted by the Pastor  
REVEREND K. W. OPPERMAN

the tragic loss of his second wife, Elizabeth Parker, and son Arthur as a result of a kitchen stove fire accident on July 5, 1916, Charles enlisted to serve in the Great War on September 5<sup>th</sup> of the same year. He had three other children, two of whom (Leonard and William) were put into care of his father, Charles Sr. in Nottingham, England while Charles served in the war. At the time of enlistment, he was described as age 36, 5 foot 8 inches, with fair complexion, light brown hair, and blue eyes. He was a motor mechanic. He served as a private in the 4<sup>th</sup> Canadian Division of Signal Corps. On August 7, 1918, he was run over by a truck in Amiens, France and suffered compound fractures of the left leg. He returned to Canada on January 13, 1919, transported on the S.S. Easequibo arriving in Halifax on January 25, 1919. He was discharged as medically unfit on June 27, 1919.

Charles later went on to become a Provincial Traffic Policeman until 1925 then he operated **Russell Road Taxi** before establishing the **Weatherall Auto Salvage** in 1929. The taxi service was based out of a house on the west side of Russell Road.

Meanwhile, Emily Schwabe purchased property from James C.S. Wolff on June 15, 1926, and opened a business known as **Russell Road Auto Salvage**. Part of this property and the business was sold to Charles Weatherall on November 5, 1929, with more land acquired by Mr. Weatherall from James C.S. Wolff in Southwest quarter of Lot 9 Junction Gore on May 15, 1934.

Charles then opened a service station known as the **Charles Weatherall Garage** on the east side of Russell Road, likely on the site of his future grand home that was built in 1938 at 1127 North River Road at the corner of Presland Road (then Keefer Street).

Between 1937 and 1939, he gradually transitioned his business from an auto salvage to a tourist operation known as the **Riverside Campsite**, which featured a variety of all season cabins. This business continued until the late 1940s.

Charles Weatherall sold 9 acres (the former tourist campsite) to His Majesty the King on November 12, 1948 for \$40,000. All the tourist cabins were removed or demolished by the summer of 1949.

Charles Weatherall passed away on January 22, 1950. His eldest son, Charles Lawrence

drowned at Cranberry Portage, Manitoba on June 18, 1952, while serving with the RCMP. He was the only son of Charles Sr.'s first wife, Eliza Ann Esment (1876-1901).

## C. Weatherall Drowned Near Flin Flon

FLIN FLON, Man., June 19.

— (CP) — Three persons were drowned yesterday at Cranberry Portage near this Northwestern Manitoba town when a small boat capsized.

They were identified as Charles Weatherall of Ottawa, a member of the RCMP, Charles Overwater of the Overwater Detective Agency in Chicago, and Dan Johnson of Winnipeg. A fourth person in the boat, Winston Soole of Winnipeg, clung to the sides until he managed to reach an island.

The bodies were not recovered.

Charles Lawrence Weatherall was born in England in 1900, a son of the late Charles Weatherall who owned the Riverside Campsite. He joined the RCMP in 1920, but resigned after two years service. He re-enlisted, however, in 1939 and since then served almost continuously with "A" Division.

Mr. Weatherall attended Ascension Church.

Survivors include his widow, the former Ethel Hunt, of Ottawa; five children, Phillip, Jack, Robert, Joan and Daphne; three brothers, John Thomas Weatherall, a flight sergeant with the RCAF at Uplands; Leonard, a captain with TCA in Toronto, and William (Bill) also of Toronto.

A History of the Riverside Campsite in Newspaper Ads and Stories

**RIVERSIDE CAMPSITE**  
 200 CARS  
**TRAILER CABIN CAMP**  
 Picnic Grounds — Shade Trees  
 ON RIDEAU RIVER — OPPOSITE STRATHCONA SWIMMING POOL

---

**OVERNIGHT CABINS**

\$1.50 — Two Persons	Swimming Platform — Diving
\$2.50 — Four Persons	Tower — Springboard — Bathing
Weekly Rates.	5c each.
(Bathing Beach)	Overbrook Bus, 5c.

Apply RUSSELL ROAD AUTO SALVAGE—R. 4102.  
 C. WEATHERAL, OVERBROOK P.O., Prop.

First Ad — Ottawa Citizen, July 17, 1937 p. 6

**For Sale**

**RIVERSIDE CAMPSITE  
 OTTAWA, ONT.**

27 cabins, on Rideau River front.  
 1½ miles from Parliament Bldgs.  
 Rented the year round. Sale in-  
 cludes all furnishings and equip-  
 ment. A real buy at a bargain for  
 energetic couple.

**MRS. A. E. WEATHERALL, Prop.**  
 Overbrook P.O., Ont.

Ottawa Citizen, January 19, 1946 p. 18

# 16 Homeless As Fire Sweeps Russell Rd. Home

Sixteen people were left homeless and damages, estimated at \$2,500, were caused by a fire of undetermined origin which swept a large one-storey frame building at the Riverside Campsite, 330 Russell road, early yesterday afternoon. No one was injured in the blaze.

Occupants of the building, a former garage converted into apartments, were able to leave without difficulty. They were Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Russell and their three children; Mr. and Mrs. W. Weatherall and their daughter; Mr. and Mrs. P. R. Waddell and their five young children, and E. L. Waddell, father of P. R. Waddell.

Most of the furniture and other personal belongings were saved. Nearby tourist cabins and a large shed were not touched by the flames. The building is owned by C. Weatherall.

Breaking out shortly before one o'clock, the fire was first noticed by Mr. and Mrs. Russell, who noticed smoke escaping from the ceiling of their apartment. They promptly notified the other occupants.

The Overbrook fire brigade was

called but the equipment was reported out of order. Volunteer firemen fought the blaze pending the arrival of the Gloucester fire brigade under Fire Chief John Brown.

A pumper and firemen in charge of District Chief J. Hurtubise were also sent by the Ottawa fire department when the flames threatened to spread to adjoining buildings. The loss is covered by insurance.

*Ottawa Citizen, January 24, 1946 p. 11*

## Fire Destroys Cabin On Russell Road

Damage of almost \$1,000 was caused when fire destroyed one cabin and damaged another at the Riverside Camp-site, 329 Russell Road, at 11.30 p.m. Friday.

Bert Clarke, of Arnprior, tenant of the destroyed cabin went to Ottawa Union Station shortly after 11 o'clock to meet his wife. When he returned fire had burn-

ed the cabin to the ground. Mr. and Mrs. Clarke were only recently married.

By the time the fire was noticed by C. Weatherall, owner of the cabins, it was too far advanced to be extinguished. Overbrook fire department was called and two adjoining cabins were saved.

One of the adjoining cabins was rented by three tenants who were absent at the time of the fire. Damage to this one was confined to the roof and outside walls. Mr. Weatherall said last night the cabins were not insured.

*Ottawa Journal, August 31, 1946, p.26*

## CABIN FOR SALE

Tenders will be received until 12.00 noon July 25, 1949 for the purchase of Cabin No. 9 located at the Riverside Campsite, Overbrook. Purchaser must enclose a certified cheque and be prepared to move or demolish this cabin by August 11, 1949. Highest or any tender not necessarily accepted. All tenders to be addressed to:

**H. R. CRAM,**

Secretary, Federal District Commission

291 Carling Avenue.

*The end of the Riverside Campsite  
Ottawa Citizen, July 11, 1949, p. 10*

# Desperate Families Rescued By Boat From Rideau Floods

Ontario Provincial Police were called last night to remove a widow and her 16-year-old son from their flooded trailer home near the Riverside Campsite, Russell Road, and two families were moved from homes on the Bowesville road to Gloucester township hall while the Rideau river continued its steady rise.

Called to the trailer occupied by Mrs. Mary Pelletier and her son, Joseph, police rescued them in a rowboat and took them to Red Cross headquarters, 237 Metcalfe street, where they were sheltered for the night. An estimated 12-inch rise in the water at the Russell Road had brought the swirling water over their trailer floor.

The flood was responsible for cutting off electric power during part of last evening from 15 homes along the Russell road when a big ice flow broke a Hydro pole.

Rescued with Mrs. Pelletier and her son were the family pets, "Chief", a big German shepherd dog, and a hen.

Mrs. Pelletier told The Journal living conditions at her home had been "dreadful" for the past two days.

"Monday we were completely surrounded by water and Tuesday it began seeping under the door. During the day it continued to rise. It was very cold and in the evening we were forced out.

"Joe and I spent the night sitting up about 20 yards from the highway. We couldn't sleep because it was so cold. In the morning we went back to the trailer."

Last night, in comfortable quarters at Red Cross Head-

quarters, the Pelletiers were worried about their furniture. They had piled as much as possible on to the bunks in the trailer in the hope the water would not rise higher in the night.

Out on the Bowesville road, two families, Mr. and Mrs. Armand Clerouf, and their children, Verna and Jill, and Mr. and Mrs. James Munro, with their children, Ron-George Snelling and Mrs. E. J. Ashton.

Eastview Bus Company ran a shuttle service from the CPR crossing to Hurdman's Bridge during the evening.

## Power Cut Off.

About 100 persons were drawn to the Russell road flood scene at eight o'clock when a large ice floe smashed into a hydro pole alongside the road.

The impact snapped off the pole at water level and left it suspended there while sparks and flame from the wires lit up the aid and James, five months, were moved by rowboat from their home.

The two families were taken in a Red Cross truck to Billings' Bridge town hall where Red Cross workers were partitioning the upstairs off into suitable accomodation for the evacuated families.

In charge of Red Cross work were Ian R. Johnstone and Mrs.

area brilliantly for several moments. Electricity was cut off in more than 15 homes in the vicinity for part of the evening but was restored before midnight.

Two householders on the Russell road reported the water up 12 inches since early afternoon and at midnight said water covered main floors of the two low-lying homes.

Two families at the Riverside Campsite vacated their cottages at the swelled river bank and were moved into cabins on higher ground.

## Streets Under Water.

In Ottawa South, water across the corner of Seneca street and Cameron avenue rose an estimated eight inches during the night. Harvard and Raleigh avenues as well as Warrington Drive were still inundated as well as the east end of Belmont avenue.

In the district, Winchester reported the situation had not changed. Buses and trucks were still travelling Highway 31 but the Cass bridge, north of Winchester Springs was impassable.

One farmer, Enos Munro, whose farm is on the Nation Valley road, bordering the swirling Nation River, was forced to swim his cows from one flooded barn to another on higher ground.

Twelve motor boats cruised over the flooded Oak Valley throughout the day and more than 400 persons visited the scene to see the flood. Water has inundated approximately 5,000 acres of land in the valley.

*The Big Flood of April 1947  
Ottawa Journal, April 10, 1947 p.17*

## 358 Russell Road - The Second Campsite

Fernande Cyr purchased a portion of Lot 10 Junction Gore from Jean Robertson, executor for the Estate of Isabella W. Little on May 12, 1931 for \$1,500.00. This was the property immediately south of Weatherall's Riverside Campsite.

This also became a campsite in the 1940s known as the **Cyr Campsite**, operated by Edouard and Fernande Cyr. As part of the Rideau River Parkway project, the property was sold to His Majesty the King on May 12, 1948 for \$25,420. "Cabin No. 5" of the Cyr Campsite was the last cabin tendered for removal or demolition by August 1, 1950. [Ottawa Citizen, June 23, 1950 p. 35]



## The Gloucester Historical Society Presents

# “112 Years of Blossom Park History” Hosted by Glenn Clark



**Saturday, April 22, 2023, 2:30 p.m.**

**Location: Sawmill Creek Swimming Pool  
Community Rooms  
3380 D'Aoust Street, Gloucester**

**Open to the Public, Free parking and admission, Bus Route 93 nearby  
A brief Annual General Meeting will precede the presentation**



The Gloucester Historical Society acknowledges financial assistance of the City of Ottawa

**THE GLOUCESTER HISTORICAL SOCIETY HISTORY ROOM WILL  
 BE OPEN TO THE PUBLIC  
 BY APPOINTMENT ONLY FOR NOW.  
 LOCATION: 4550B BANK STREET  
 (ENTER FROM AT LEITRIM ROAD, NEXT TO FIRE STATION)  
 FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT  
 Glenn Clark at [english@gloucesterhistory.com](mailto:english@gloucesterhistory.com) or  
 Call 613-822-2076 and leave a message.**

**Historic Gloucester** is published by The Gloucester Historical Society quarterly. 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 publications available, upcoming events and other items of general interest. Comments, suggestions and potential articles are always welcome.



*Gloucester Historical Society gratefully acknowledges  
 the financial support of the City of Ottawa.*

**To renew or become a new member, please complete this form and return it to the address below with your cheque. Memberships may also be purchased on our website.**

**Membership Form—Gloucester Historical Society/Société historique de Gloucester**  
 (Membership year runs from April 1 to March 31.)

Annual Membership - \$20.00 for one year \_\_\_\_\_ 10 year Membership \$150.00 \_\_\_\_\_

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone # \_\_\_\_\_

CITY: \_\_\_\_\_ PROV \_\_\_\_\_ POSTAL CODE \_\_\_\_\_

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