

Historically Speaking

The Newsletter of the Cobourg and
District Historical Society

February 2015 — Issue 271

Historical Atlases for Ontario

Peter Wilson, the guest speaker at our February meeting, was born in Belleville, Ontario on a snowy November morning. He lived there during his early years and then was off to Trent University for a degree in Culture Studies. Following this he studied Communications and Business Law at Ryerson. Of late, he has been involved with producing family histories for neighbours.

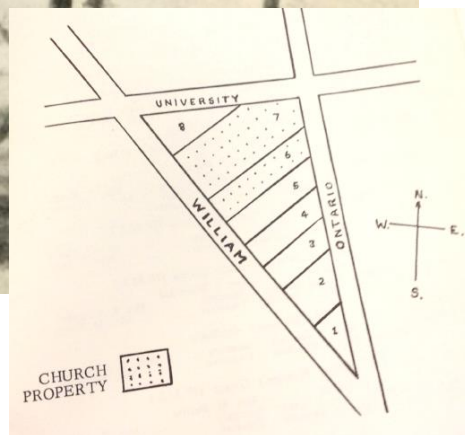
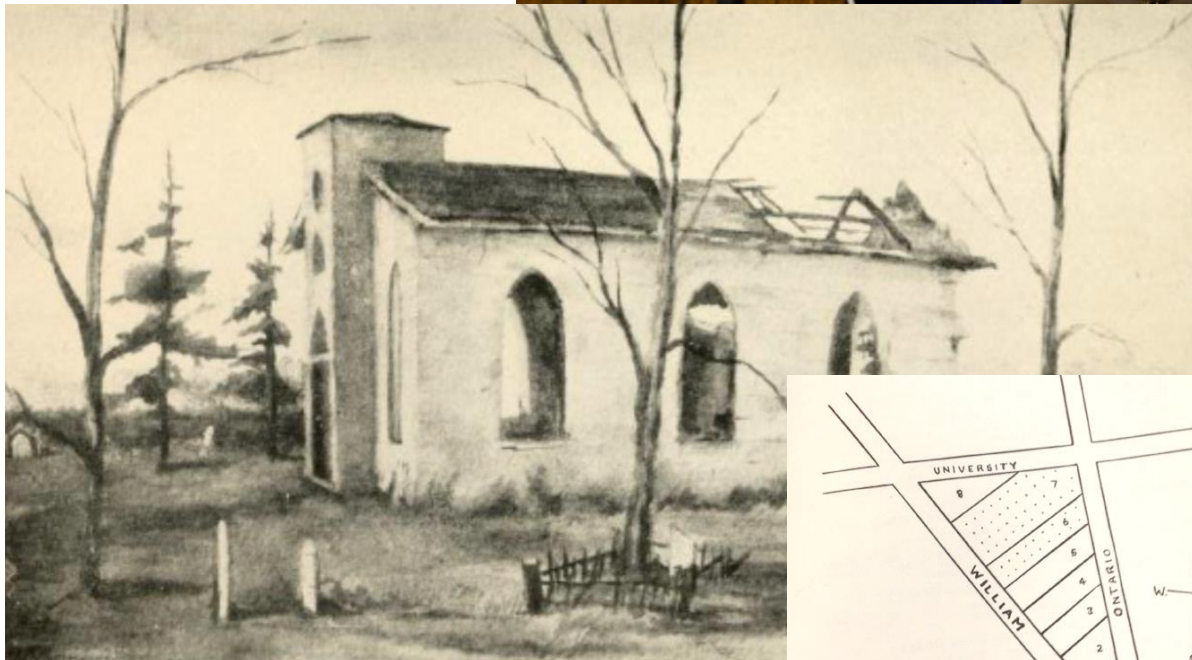
Peter passes his days pursuing two projects: building a college for the skilled trades and publishing historical atlases. This presentation will enlighten us on these impressive atlases. Dating to about 1878, they are a story of the day but continue to be used by historical researchers and genealogists throughout Ontario. The detailed maps identify local towns and townships including roads, rivers, cemeteries, churches and farmhouses. The pen and ink drawings record elected officials and prominent people in the county, landmark buildings, important institutions and much more. Peter, through Fifth Line Press, is currently producing a new atlas for the Counties of Northumberland and Durham.

The meeting begins at 7:30pm on Tuesday, February 24. Everyone is encouraged to arrive early to enjoy coffee, tea and cookies. Take this opportunity to reconnect with members you haven't seen recently, catch up with friends, and introduce yourself to a new member. This is a meeting not to be missed. Visitors are welcome.

Our Previous Meeting

Forgotten Cemetery: The Facts Exhumed

Carla Jones, Secretary for CDHS, presented the fascinating details of her research into the history of an almost forgotten Cobourg cemetery on the east side of Williams Street a short distance south of University. As part of her quest to exhume the history of the cemetery Carla consulted a diverse selection of sources including church records, older local residents and even a book of drawings and poetry by the local author Carrie Munson Hoople that was published early in the last century. Not only did we learn about the cemetery but we also learned about the schism between the Church of Scotland and the Free Church of Scotland, ownership of church properties in Canada, the travel hardships of early ministers and much more. If you missed Carla's presentation her slides are on the CDHS website.



Future Meetings

Our remaining meetings for 2015:

Tuesday, March 24 Ken Willcocks <i>The Restoration of an Ore Car: The Cobourg Connection</i> Victoria Hall, 7:30pm	Tuesday, April 28 Annual General Meeting <i>Photo Quiz: How Well Do You Know Cobourg?</i> Victoria Hall, 7:30pm
Tuesday May 26 Tea, Tipples and <i>Long Lost Letters</i> with special guest James Cockburn Meet at 66 King, Cobourg, 7:00pm (Note the different venue and earlier than usual starting time)	

We Have a Website!

After several false starts over the last few years the Cobourg and District Historical Society has a website! Due to John Draper's work you can now go to <http://cdhs.ca/> to get details of coming events, copies of newsletters, links to a variety of history related resources and much more. The site dynamically changes how pages are displayed to make optimal use of the user's screen. For example, when viewed on a smartphone the display is quite different from when viewed on a desktop monitor. Current content includes the audio recordings from the Trillium funded project to interview military veterans, a searchable copy of the *County of Northumberland Directory for 1870-71* and all issues of *Historically Speaking* since 2010. Please thank John for his great work, explore what is there now and let us know what you would like to see added to the website.



The Chosen One

On October 22nd, 1964 a red maple leaf made a permanent mark on Canada. On this day, 50 years ago, the Flag Selection Committee voted on and chose the now famous Maple Leaf design as our new flag. The vote was unanimous in favour of the Maple Leaf design and it was sent on to Parliament.

The Flag Selection Committee was appointed by Prime Minister Lester B. Pearson in mid-September 1964 to find a new Canadian flag. The flag used at the time, the Red Ensign, was only unofficially Canada's, having never been publicly approved by the royal family or government.

To manage this multi-party committee, Pearson appointed Leeds MP, John Ross Matheson. Matheson had been advising the Prime Minister with regards to a new flag since 1963 and had already put forth a design as early as May of 1964. It was Matheson who had the single maple leaf design put forth to the committee out of the thousands of designs they looked at. Matheson eventually convinced the committee to vote for the maple leaf design.

Elizabeth II, Queen of Canada, proclaimed the new flag on January 28, 1965 and it was inaugurated on February 15 at an official ceremony held on Parliament Hill in Ottawa, in the presence of Governor General Major-General Georges Vanier, the Prime Minister, other members of the Cabinet, and Canadian parliamentarians.

You can read more details of the adoption of our new flag at <http://www.50yearsofourflag.ca>

Below are a few of the flags which have flown over portions of what is now Canada:



Membership Matters

New Members

We would like to welcome Ann O'Connor, Ken Wren and Wendy Wren who have recently joined CDHS.

Membership Renewal

CDHS memberships are from April to April. It would be appreciated if you were to renew your membership early. If you have not renewed prior to our Annual General Meeting in April you will not be able to vote in the election of officers. A membership form is attached to this newsletter if you received it by email. The form can also be downloaded from our website at http://cdhs.ca/images/CDHS_Membership_Form_2015.pdf.

Please mail your dues and membership renewal form to Alma Draper, 10 Madison Street, Cobourg, ON, K9A 5R2 or bring it to the next meeting.

Look Through Your Bookshelves

This season we will once again feature our popular sale of history-related books. Please look through your bookshelves for any books you no longer want and make room for others you may want to buy! Your generous donations will assist with our historical society's operating costs.

Announcements

Lakeshore Genealogical Society Meetings

- On Thursday, March 12, Emily Cartlidge will speak on "Property Abstracts, Tax Assessment Rolls and Council Minutes"
- On Thursday, May 14, Peter Johnson will speak on "The War of 1812 Veterans Graveside Project: Honouring Heroes"

LGS meetings are from 6:30-9:00pm in the Rotary Room, Cobourg Public Library and visitors are welcome.

Port Hope Historical Society

The Port Hope Historical Society will hold their Heritage Fair on Sunday, May 3, from 10am to 4pm at the Lion's Centre, Thomas Street, Port Hope

Brighton King Edward Community Centre

2015 Brighton History Open House & Heritage Tea

February 19-21-22

Thursday Feb 19th 6:30 –9:00

"Dance Hall Daze"

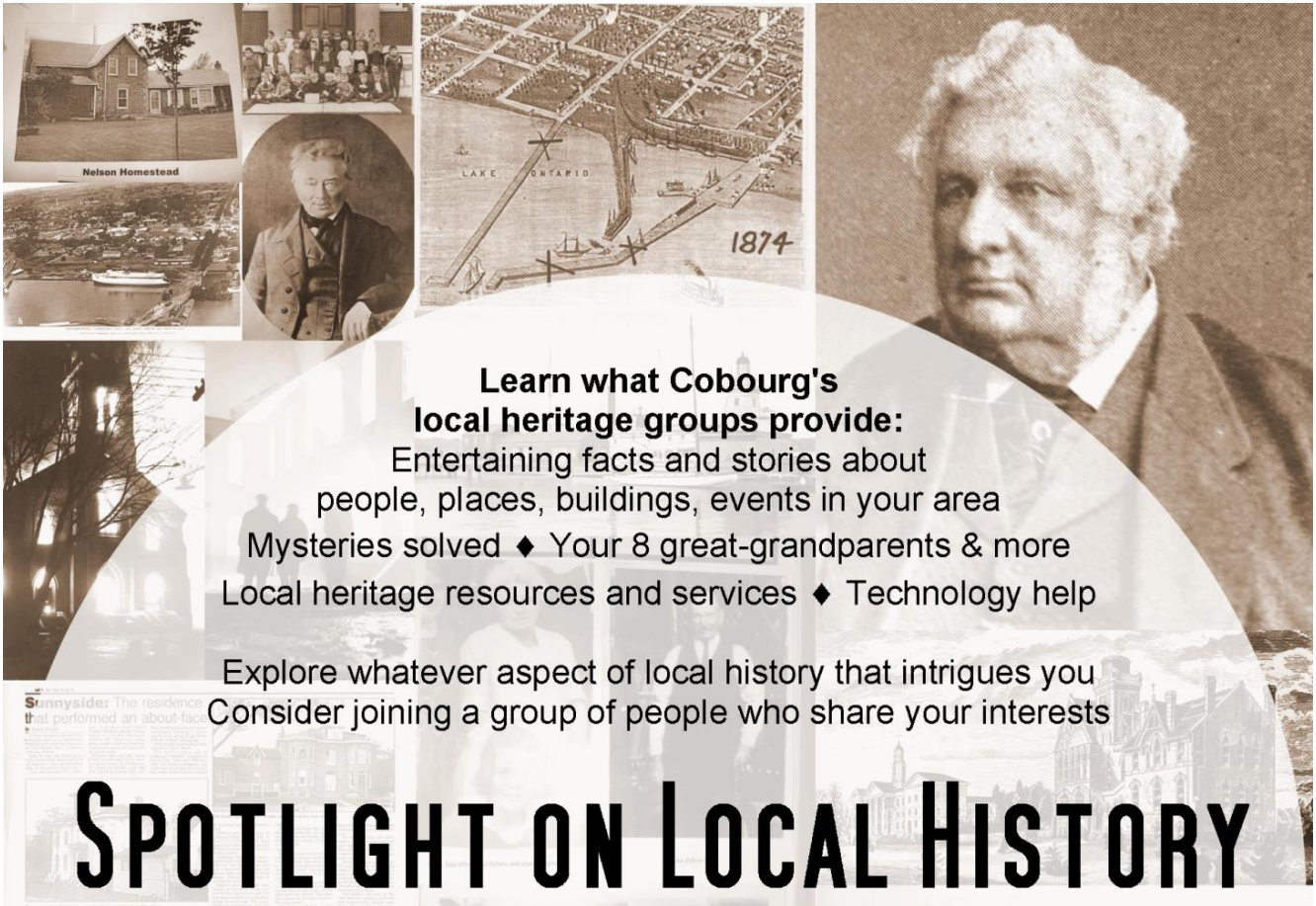
M.C. "FLETCH" (CJLX)
History : Dan Buchanan
Music: The Melodeers
Dance: Sharon McMullen, Mary McEwan & Friends

FREE ADMISSION

Sat. & Sun 1:00 –4:00
"Then & Now"
WI Heritage Tea (\$5.00)
22 Local History Displays

 Facebook: Brighton History Open House





Learn what Cobourg's local heritage groups provide:
 Entertaining facts and stories about people, places, buildings, events in your area
 Mysteries solved ♦ Your 8 great-grandparents & more
 Local heritage resources and services ♦ Technology help

Explore whatever aspect of local history that intrigues you
 Consider joining a group of people who share your interests

SPOTLIGHT ON LOCAL HISTORY

Presented by these local historical and heritage groups:
 ACO Cobourg and East Northumberland ♦ Cobourg and District Historical Society
 Cobourg Museum Foundation ♦ Cobourg Public Library Local History Room
 Doors Open Northumberland ♦ Hamilton Township Heritage Committee
 Lakeshore Genealogical Society ♦ Northumberland County Archives
 Town of Cobourg Heritage Planning Services / Cobourg Heritage Advisory Committee

FREE ADMISSION

Saturday, February 28, 2015 - 10:30AM to 5:00PM

Sunday, March 1, 2015 - 1:00 PM to 4:30 PM

Cobourg Public Library, Rotary Room

Refreshments Served



Websites

There is an amazing variety of web sites for the history enthusiast. It seems that almost every town in Southern Ontario has a historical society, museum, archives, local history section in the library, genealogical collection or other resource. The following is a sampling of what is available:

Archeion Archives of Ontario Search Site: <http://www.archeion.ca>
Bowmanville Museum: <http://www.claringtonmuseums.com/bowmanville-museum>
Brighton Public Library Local History: <http://www.brighton.library.on.ca/localhistory.html>
Cobourg and District Historical Society: <http://cdhs.ca/>
Cobourg Museum Foundation: <http://www.cobourgmuseum.ca>
Greater Harvey Historical Society: <http://harveyhistoricalsociety.ca>
Grenville County Historical Society: <http://web.ripnet.com/~gchs>
Hastings County Historical Society: <http://www.hastingshistory.ca>
Junkin Family Group History Society (Bobcaygeon): <http://www.junkinfamily.ca>
Kingston Historical Society: <http://www.kingstonhistoricalsociety.ca>
Kingston Branch of the Ontario Genealogical Society: <http://www.ogs.on.ca/kingston/>
Lang Pioneer Village: <http://www.langpioneervillage.ca>
Lennox and Addington Historical Society: <http://www.lennoxandaddingtonhistoricalsociety.ca>
National Air Force Museum of Canada: <http://airforcemuseum.ca/en>
Niagara Historical Society and Museum: <http://www.niagarahistorical.museum>
Olde Gaol Museum (City of Kawartha Lakes): <http://www.oldegaolmuseum.ca>
Ontario Archives: <http://www.archives.gov.on.ca/en/index.aspx>
Orono History: <http://visitorono.com/history>
Oshawa Historical Society: <http://oshawahistoricalociety.org>
Ottawa Historical Society: <http://hsottawa.ncf.ca>
Perth and District Historical Society: <http://www.perthhs.org>
Peterborough Historical Society: <http://www.peterboroughhistoricalsociety.ca>
Pickering Museum Village Foundation: <http://pmvf.ca>
Port Hope Historical Society: <http://www.porthopehistorical.ca>
Prince Edward County Archives: <http://www.peclibrary.org/pecarchivess31.php>
Queen's University Archives: <http://archives.queensu.ca>
Roseneath Carousel: <http://www.roseneathcarousel.com>
Sarah Jane Williams Heritage Centre (Clarington): <http://www.claringtonmuseums.com/sarah-jane-williams-heritage-centre/>
Sharbot Lake historical documents: <http://www.bytown.net/chabot.htm>
Trenton Town Hall Heritage and Cultural Centre: <http://trentontownhall.ca>
United Empire Loyalists' Association: <http://www.archeion.ca>
Victoria County Historical Society: <http://www.victoriacountyhistoricalsociety.ca>
Whitby Historical Society: <http://www.whitbyhistoricalsociety.com>

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