



Opeongo Lines

Preserving Yesterday for Tomorrow
The Heritage Renfrew Newsletter—June 2006 Edition



A Chat with John Albert

"Jack" Quait

Vice-President of Heritage Renfrew, Dean Black, descends from a Founding Family of Admaston-Bromley and one of Grattan Township; specifically, Robert Black (1822-1883) of the former, and Catherine "Kate" Mcleod (1843-1914) of the latter. Dean has interviewed a number of people, many in their 90s. An earlier newsletter included Dean's interview with Cora Shore (nee Mcleod) who turned 96 on the 10th of February. Since then Dean took the time to interview John Albert Quait, aged 93. Excerpts from his interview follow.

John Albert "Jack" Quait was born in 1913—one year before his Grandmother Kate Mcleod died. His Grandfather Robert Black had been gone for 30 years, having died at the early age of 61 in Douglas. To date no evidence has been found that might identify how Robert Black died. Nevertheless, Jack was a son of William Quait (1867-1956) and Margaret Black (1879-1964). Margaret is buried in the Goshen cemetery but her grave marker wrongly indicates a birth year of 1897. Being a woman she probably appreciated the error.

Jack worked on the Trans-Canada highway between Pembroke and North Bay in 1931. He was a dynamite man. At the time it wasn't much more than a single lane dirt track running along the south shore of the Ottawa river. One day he discovered an unmarked cemetery just west of Mackey, Ontario, and the design of the highway was about to run straight over the graves. With some urging the Department of Highways quickly began resurveying the road, realigning its path so that it narrowly missed over-running the silent cemetery by not much more than ten feet. A new fence was erected around the site that clearly contained two adults and six children all of whom had succumbed to the influenza. Jack's memory recalled another name for the awful malady that swept the world in 1918—the "Black Fever".

(Editor's Note: I journeyed to Mackey on Monday 15 May and spoke to a gas station attendant in Rolphton. She confirmed Jack's story, and directed me to a run down and abandoned General Store (Francoeur's). She said the unmarked gravesites were now

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Are You Up for a Contest?

An Autographed Copy of Marilyn Simonds' *The Holding* Could be Yours. Read Marilyn Simonds' *The Holding* and make a case for where you think the fictional story took place.

"Evocative, haunting, seductive. Simonds writes beautifully, imbuing the landscapes she describes with luxurious detail". Or so the editors of *Books in Canada* would have us think about Marilyn Simonds' marvelous story. You be the judge, however. If you're up to it members of Heritage Renfrew are eligible to compete for \$25.00, the prize to be awarded to he or she who argues most effectively as to where he or she believes Simonds' story took place. True, *The Holding* is fictional, but like many historical fiction novels there are enough juicy details in Marilyn's account to lead the reader and sleuth down a path able to pinpoint the very acreage on where the story took place, with every page turned. If you would like to participate simply get your hands on the book, from your local library or book store or friend, read it thoroughly and present your case in written form, using best scholarly practices, argument, logic and not more than 250 words (about one page in length, typed). The Vice-President will consider all submissions and choose the winning entry by end October. The winning argument will be

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Renfrew

President's Message

Summer is nearly upon us; the end of another productive year approaches. I wanted to take this opportunity to wish all

...a pleasant, relaxing summer. Those of you planning to visit with family I wish you all the best; may your visit be rewarding and memorable. If you are looking for a good book to dive into, this summer, take up our encouraging message to read Marilyn Simonds' *The Holding*. I would also like to say that it remains the goal of Heritage Renfrew's Board of Directors to keep you informed on the activities and going's on at Heritage Renfrew. See you in the Fall...

Would you prefer to receive your newsletter electronically? Please send us your e-mail address if you would like to receive Opeongo Lines electronically via e-mail. This service is available to all Heritage Renfrew members in good standing who have an e-mail account and whose software will support receiving the newsletter. Send your request to: renfrewarchives@sympatico.ca

printed in our Christmas time newsletter, author permitting, of course. Have you read *The Holding* already?

The Holding tells the story of two women struggling to eek out a living in the wilderness somewhere in eastern Ontario—one arrives from Scotland with what remains of her family in 1859; the other arrives 130 years later, settling very near to the same property as the first. Simonds does a wonderful job portraying the physical, social and mental burdens bestowed upon women rather unfairly by the ambitious men they serve. Well researched and beautifully written this haunting, disturbing story provides us with some remarkable insights into the kind of life pioneer settlers endured in the 19th century.

Can you figure out where the story takes place? How precise can you be? There are plenty of clues. Your knowledge of the geographical, socio-cultural and political attributes of our region will need to be brought to bear, in solving this important mystery. If you are interested in stating your case turn in your submissions by the end of October 2006. Illustration used with permission of the author.

RESEARCH:

For those wishing to do research at Heritage Renfrew we have the following aids to help you in your research: The census records for Renfrew County from 1842 to 1901; Census records for Pontiac County from 1842-1901; Census records for Lanark County from 1851-1901; Family histories of local residents which were researched and donated by members; Church records on microfilm, St Francis Xavier Church, Renfrew, Our Lady of Angels Wilno Church; St Patricks Church records which are in binders from 1846 to 1908; Esmonde Roman Catholic Church records up to 1910; We have cemetery recordings for cemeteries local and some for the surrounding area; We have the Ontario Marriage records for Renfrew County done from 1869 to 1890; The books written by Carol McCuaig which have a lot of information on families who settled in this area and who also came into this area from other counties; The Renfrew Mercury from 1871 to 2004 on microfilm; Les and Aldene Church's BMD's from the Renfrew Mercury from 1871-1926; You can order in microfilms from the National Archives for research. It saves going down to Ottawa to do the research where the cost of parking is very dear indeed. There is no parking at the National Archives building; There are many reference books some purchased and some donated that are very helpful for research; There is also the IGI series on Microfiche of families all over the world with baptisms, marriages on them; Land Records also on Microfiche.

(See "Research" on page 3)

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Heritage Renfrew Meetings

Won't you join us? Heritage Renfrew meets on the first Tuesday of each month, July and August excepted, at 7 p.m. in the Heritage Room at the Renfrew Archives, 770 Gibbons Road, National Archives of Canada facility (off O'Brien Road). You will be a welcomed addition to our team of Renfrew historians and genealogists. Share with us your research interests. We will be pleased to include your interests in our quarterly* newsletter. re stories and questions, share successful research experiences and advice. The accumulated experience amongst members of Heritage Renfrew is remarkable. See you soon?

("Nunney" continued from page 4)

woman adopted Claude and sent him to school and allowed him to work on neighboring farms for pocket money. Life was not as kind to his brothers and sisters. One of his brothers, George, drowned in the Jock River, near present day Barrhaven. A sister, Eve, was sent to Montreal as a domestic and disappeared from the public record. Eventually, the practice of receiving these child emigrants attracted serious critics, including Charlotte Whitton, famous former mayor of Ottawa, and James S. Woodsworth, leader of the Co-operative Commonwealth Federation. In 1924, Woodsworth told the House of Commons: "We are bringing children into Canada in the guise of philanthropy, and turning them into cheap labour."

So how could it be that a rootless child sent across the Atlantic to a foreign country could end, so tragically young, as one of the greatest war heroes of our nation? And even more pressing, how could the government of

(See "Nunney" on page 5)

Membership Expiration Notification: Subscribe to *Opeongo Lines* for the new year! Subscriptions for the calendar year are **\$10.00 (\$15.00 outside of Canada)**. With subscription comes membership and membership gives you: the latest Heritage Renfrew news updates in *Opeongo Lines*, access to microfilm & microfiche collections held at Heritage Renfrew, including Census Records, Local newspapers (Renfrew Mercury, Renfrew Advance and the Renfrew Weekender), Land records, Birth, marriage & Death excerpts from local papers and other sources, general information, maps, and Cemetery transcripts & reference books.

The Heritage Renfrew web-site is new! Visit us at www3.sympatico.ca/renfrewarchives/ and tell us what you think. We look forward to your comments and suggestions.

completely grown over but that they were somewhere just west of the General Store in the field that runs along the north side of the Trans-Canada highway. I took a photograph of an old tractor saddle (see below), w^h facing west, precisely on the spot the g^o attendant described. She was right about another thing, too. The gravesites had completely disappeared.

Jack was born in Brule Lake, deep in Algonquin Park. His father, William, worked for the Barnet Lumber Company from Renfrew. When the war came Jack joined as a Provost Marshal (Military Policeman) in the Royal Canadian Air Force. He graduated from his training course in 1943 and was posted to Whitehorse, where the RCAF had established facilities to support the air movement of supplies over the Arctic to Russia. By the time the war ended Jack was in Vancouver where he was discharged.

Jack eventually came to Pembroke and worked at the local gaol as a guardsman. Even at 93 years old it is astonishing to see the robustness in character and physique that has never really left him. After two or three years in Pembroke he moved on to work at Petawawa where he worked in the Ambulance section then in the Quartermaster division.

Jack remembered Uncle "Dunc" Duncan MacGregor. Duncan had married Jack's sister. Uncle Dunc used to travel up from Renfrew each Sunday in his Model T Ford, in the very early 1920s. The trip would take all morning to get to "Lower Town" - that part of Pembroke lower on the Ottawa River where the Mirkamichi Hotel used to be located. At the time Jack was only seven or eight years old, living with his Mother and Father in the basement of the Hotel.



Margaret Quait nee Black (1879-1967), daughter of Robert Black (1822-1883) and Catherine Kate Mcleod (1843-1914) and her husband William John Quait (1867-1956). The photo was taken near Pembroke, Ontario circa 1950.

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We have two reader printers to assist you in printing out information from microfilms. Cost of print outs is 25 cents for each copy; We have microfiche readers also as well as microfilm readers without the print out facility; We are open to the public two days a week, Tuesdays and Thursdays and a volunteer should be available to assist you; On Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays you can make an appointment with one of the following volunteers and come in and do your research then. Olga Lewis 432-6958 Joyce McBride 646-2375, Martin Munhall 432-2225. We welcome you to our facility and hope to see you there.

CEMETERIES:

Castleford Union \$9.00, Goshen Cemetery \$15.00, Sand Point Cemetery \$6.00, Flat Rapids Cemetery \$6.00, St Alexander's Cemetery R.C. \$8.00, Hillcrest Public & Lakeside \$9.50, Our Most Precious Blood Cem. \$8.00, Springtown cemeteries \$8.00, Malloch Road Cemetery \$30.00, White Lake Cemetery \$20.00, North Horton Cemetery \$12.00, Haley Cemetery, \$10.00, Rosebank Cemetery \$15.00, Admaston Public Cemetery, \$12.00, St Andrew's Cemetery \$10.00 Opeongo Road Cemeteries \$12.00 Mt St Patrick Cemeteries \$12.00 Plus Mailing cost of 3.50 for first publication and 1.50 shipping and handling cost. Plus mailing cost of 1.50 each for additional items purchased.

The Role of the Book along the Bonnechere River— A History of the Library at the Second Chute

"A History of the Book along the Bonnechere" is the title of a project under consideration by the Renfrew Public Library and members of Heritage Renfrew. Do you know of an anecdote in your family history, about the Family Bible, about books or about the Mechanics' Institute and, later Public Library established in Renfrew? If you would like to contribute to this historical account of the book's place and role in and for settlers of the Bonnechere Valley from the Fifth Chute to the Ottawa River, the Vice-President would like to hear from you. The goal will be to publish an history in time for the 150th anniversary of the incorporation of the Town of Renfrew, in 2008. Your family history could be part of this important recollection.

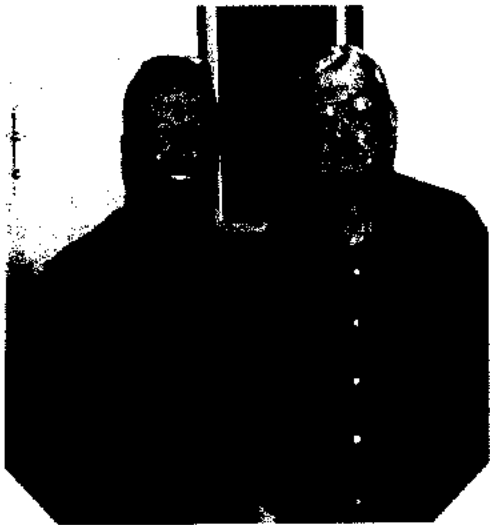
Modeled on a recently released three-volume history titled *The History of the Book in Canada*, the aim of this project will be to document the early days of the Renfrew Public Library as it evolved out of the Mechanics' Institute—a phenomenon attributable to Benjamin Franklin. Mechanics were men skilled at trades that provided support to agricultural activities that sustained early settlers. The goal was to provide mechanics like wheelwright Walter Black, who settled near modern-day Almonte in 1821 with the information and skills an industrialized economy demanded.

What did the early 1860s Mechanics' Institute in Renfrew provide our pioneer ancestors? What books were provided to enhance these skills? If you have any information we need to hear from you.

Heritage Renfrew Directors Meeting April 4th 2006

During the previous few days it was learned that the remainder of Heritage Renfrew's collection needed to be moved out of the back room and into the main HR room. Martin Munhall and others on hand did a superb job moving the rest of the material. The President offered her sincere thanks to Martin and his party who acted promptly. Cards of thanks, or sympathy, or Get Well wishes were forwarded to our friends: Martin Munhall in sympathy, Pat Patterson to get well soon, and a vote of thanks to the Mayor Her Worship Sandi Heins for her generous participation in the HR Luncheon and for flowers she presented. Finally, a huge vote of thanks went out to Shirley Mask Connelly for providing the Pol-

(See "Directors" on page 4)



Dean Quait and John Albert "Jack" Quait. The photo was taken in Jack's home in late 2004. "Jack" is the son of the late William John Quait (1867-1956) and Margaret Black (1879-1967).

Home Children (HC) Committee Report by Dave Lorente

Messages and Presentations

The total number of messages sent in 2006 to the end of April in response to HC requests was 521. Presentations delivered in 2006 included the premiere of CANSTAGE's *Homechild*, presented in Toronto, Jan 03-04-05. On May 19th a presentation will be made to the Bromley Historical Society. A presentation is also under consideration for the South Glengarry High School and the Notre Dame Cemetery in Ottawa. The presentation to the Bromley Historical Society in Osceola on May 19 will focus on recent discoveries made in and around Osceola as well as in and around Renfrew County.

Home Children Projects

The Bronze Nunney Statue has been photographed and video'd for future promotions (left). With respect to the Stamp project, Cecil Verge's Nova Scotia branch has joined our campaign. The former Parks Canada Home Children Display will be offered to the Library and Archives Canada (LAC). Sketches of proposed Statues of Canadian Home Children for Quebec City and Liverpool dock areas have been received, discussed and returned for modifications to Susan Murar. The Notre Dame Cemetery Project is tentatively scheduled for a date in August. The Governor General has been asked again for an Open Letter. The Australian contact who failed to meet with us last month has since been in touch. The Canadian Home Child Index, when complete, will include 123,000 names.

Assisting Scholars

Ottawa's Jackie Sharkey, Montreal's Nabila Mesbah Nabils and Scotland's Andrew Morrison remain in constant touch, as does Rev Ken Markin, Methodist Minister from Lancaster UK, who will re-visit us this summer to further research *To The Care of Godly Settlers - child migration from the new perspective of Christian Nurture*. Our July UPDATE will report on the Governor General's Open Letter and a report on our concern after Heritage Renfrew's 2007 Annual General Meeting, to be scheduled mid-January, with only the remaining special projects and UPDATES. Library and Archive Canada's new website for Home Children is directly accessible at http://www.collectionscanada.ca/archivianet/020110_e.html

Film Production

Producer Tom Shoebridge has been sent several other VHS tapes for reference material on home children for his film on SOLLOWAY. (<http://www.archives.ca>) The CBC producers of *Country Canada* have been in touch regarding the possibility of producing

a Fall program dedicated to the subject of Home Children.

Other Issues

We are preparing a letter to The Charlotte-town Guardian regarding the former Ellen Society's questionable statements. Ottawa's Cumberland Historical Heritage Museum is having a special exhibit and presentation on Home Children this month. An elementary school student from Loon Lake, Saskatchewan has won locally with her project on Home Children and will be moving up to the regional level and, hopefully, the national.



Heritage Renfrew Life Member Dave Lorente and Home Child descendant, displays the (model) Nunney Statue

Excerpts from the Ottawa Sun, 11 November 2005, by Michael Harris

From Home-boy to a Hero of WWI

According to historian Arthur Bishop, Nunney, a member of the 38th (Ottawa) Canadian Infantry Battalion, left his post at company headquarters and "scrambled through the bombardment to lead and encourage his comrades by example." That set the stage for Claude Nunney's last battle. The next day, Canadian forces attacked the Germans and Nunney was badly wounded. Refusing to leave the field, he took the lead position in front of the attacking Canadian infantry, "often 50 to 75 yards ahead" of his comrades, taking out 25 German gunners. Then Nunney was wounded a second time and died 16 days later of his wounds. He was just 25.

Nunney's war record doesn't need embellishment but history provides it all the same. He was not your average Canadian kid who

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ish Table Display at the HR luncheon. We should also acknowledge the important work of the Renfrew Mercury in covering this outstanding event.

Financially, the HR holds \$222.72 in the general account; \$85.54 in the Home Children account; \$2252.97 in the Lottery account and \$90.00 in petty cash. The \$12,000.00 Trillium Grant was allocated between one of the aforementioned accounts and the balance invested in a G.I.C. for future use.

The April 2006 Newsletter appears to have cost \$301.23 to publish and distribute. At the meeting of the HR Directors on 2 May 2006 a word of congratulations and thanks was passed by Dean Black to Olga Lewis and party on behalf of the President, Audrey Green, for the excellent job on the previous newsletter. Cost savings will have been sought with the present newsletter since it might be prohibitive to publish four newsletters per year at a cost of \$1,200.00 or so. The newsletter committee is working hard focusing on layout, pages and mailing options to see if some money can be saved.

Upcoming Events:

19 May 2006, Dave Lorente presents to the Bromley Historical Society, Osceola

16 September 2006 8:30 AM to 5:00 P
Forester's Falls Road, Cobden, the Renfrew County Plowing Match

6 February 2007, 7:00 PM: Tentative date

grew up with the support of a loving family and then went off to protect King and country when duty called. No, Claude Nunney was a "home-boy." These were Britain's tragic, poor children who were sent to the Dominions as a means of relieving slum conditions in places like East-End London. The idea was the brain child of an obscure police magistrate, Robert Chalmers, who told a committee of the British Parliament dealing with emigration: "I conceive that London has got too full of children." Chalmers suggested, and authorities later agreed, that Britain's "surplus children" be sent to Canada as farm labour. Nunney arrived here in 1905 aboard the SS Tunisian from Harron Road School, London, England. Officially, this poor, 13-year-old orphan and several of his siblings were wards of St. George's Home in Ottawa. (St. George's received its last home-children in 1934, but the building still exists across from the Grace Hospital. Today it Holy Rosary Parrish.) St. George's placed Nunney in South Glengarry County on the farm of Mrs. Donald Roy McDonald. This loving

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our country have so completely ignored the gallantry of this extraordinary person? I don't know the answer to that question but I know an amazing man who wants to do something about it.

Renfrew resident, Dave Lorente, whose own father was a "home-boy" has written to both the National Capital Commission and the Canadian Heritage Department with a special request. Dave wants to see a monument, perhaps more than one, erected to honour the extraordinary valour of Claude Nunney, soldier and home-boy. Regrettably, no one seems interested.

Except, of course, Dave. On Jan. 23, 1991, Dave hosted a re-union of home boys at his own home in Renfrew. More than that, he traveled to the United Kingdom and presented a brief to the House of Commons on the subject of Britain's emigrant children. As a result of his and other people's tireless work, the British government decided in 1998 to erect monuments to Britain's emigrant children in the former receiving countries. If our new governor general wants to show the country she understands the soul of this big land, honouring a home-boy and a hero who gave all for Canada would be an excellent way to begin.

An Oasis of Heritage

Vince and Helen Pallen share an ambitious vision of an "Opeongo Heritage Park", in the Renfrew area, and they have been working hard for many years to realize their vision. To their credit that hard work has paid off. What they have accomplished is nothing less than astounding, and well worth seeing.

The Pallens took the time to present to Heritage Renfrew an exposé featuring a prized photo-album of some of the working artifacts already built. The album also included photographs depicting the construction of a large barn, a log cabin and a road way through their property. To what end, you might ask? It is their vision to place within reach of Renfrew's citizens and others along the Bonnechere some genuine and historically accurate artifacts reminding us of the way things used to be not too long ago.

The Pallen's home sits astride the original Opeongo Road. There are very few places throughout the vale of Bonnechere where one might be afforded a glimpse of the original Opeongo Road. To be sure you might believe you are driving along the Opeongo Road if you take up the roadway so marked as it weaves its way out of Renfrew eventually connecting with Highway 132 towards Dacre and Foymount. You might believe as you drive along Highway 132 climbing ever so higher into the Madawaska Highlands that you are actually traveling along the original Opeongo Road,



The General Store formerly known as "Francoeur's" sits abandoned on the north side of Highway 17, roughly in the centre of Mackey. Immediately west of the store lay an open field with the remnants of an antique tractor (see above). According to the description and directions provided to the editor an unmarked cemetery consisting of eight graves—six children and two parents, all of whom succumbed to the "Black Fever" in 1918—is supposed to be located probably within 10 meters, or so, of the tractor shown. The photograph was taken while facing west and the tractor shown is located within 10 meters of the Trans-Canada Highway.



The real Opeongo Line—flanked on each side by a thin row of trees and bush what remains of the original Opeongo Line just northwest of Renfrew is visible through this gate dividing Vince Pallen's property from that of his neighbour's. Based on the trajectory of the Opeongo Line shown, Vince Pallen's home lies directly over top of the original Opeongo Line. As we gazed through the rusting gate we sensed a horse drawn buggy from a long past century was about to pass by, as it made its way towards Renfrew. After hearing about ghosts in the Pallen's cabin we seemed attuned to the possibility there were many around us.

but such is not necessarily the case. Simply reflecting on the presence of a three or four hundred meter stretch of the original Opeongo Road lying within 100 meters of Castleford Road—a road that is commonly mis-

taken for the original Opeongo Road today—suggests that in reality much of the original Opeongo Road lay "just off the beaten path" of the modern era.

(See "Opeongo" on page 6)



Vince Pallen completed this horse-drawn wagon in April of 2003. Today it sits astride his front lawn for passers-by to admire. The quality of Vince Pallen's sterling work is plain to see. His other work—including a stage coach and a covered wagon, along with a number of "one-horse open-sleighs" are delights to see.

("Opeongo" continued from page 5)

A man named Robert Bell is said to have surveyed the original Opeongo Road throughout 1852. The road was to be commissioned to facilitate connecting Lake Huron to the Ottawa Valley. William Lyon Mackenzie believed the best way to do so would be to populate the vast reaches of land therein. Consequently, a proper road would be needed so as to entice even more the people needed to take up land. Each would be offered 100 free acres along with the proviso that they would help maintain their piece of the Opeongo Road.

For the Pallen's perhaps it is fortunate that they can point to a piece of the original Opeongo Road, from their front porch. The allure is certainly appealing, but to make a visit to their farm even more appealing the Pallen's have been working extremely hard for a number of years researching, designing and building the sorts of things one might have expected to see as commonplace along the Opeongo Road and throughout the vale of the Bonnechere.

A large barn exuding strength and a sweet aroma of pine stands ready to receive its roof. Eventually the barn will serve as the "Stage-house" - purposely designed to receive the "Opeongo Stage Line" stagecoach Vince has constructed with care. Vince also specializes in upholstery, and he has done a beautiful job with the stagecoach's details, including a functioning brake—an important detail, says Vince, owing to the sheer weight of the stagecoach. The spoked wheels of the stagecoach match very closely those that one might expect to see on a vehicle of this era. Vince found the wheels in

Quebec, paying over \$1,000.00 for the set. The "Stage-house" measures 22 feet by 32 feet and will eventually house a number of the "vehicles" Vince has constructed. The Pallen's hope to one day add a horse-drawn School Bus; having seen photographs of one Vince is clear on how he might go about designing it.

The Pallen's are preparing to feature as a centre piece of their "Opeongo Heritage Park" the "Stage-house" and its beautiful artifacts. They have been toying with the idea for some four years, but have lived on the property since 1994. Vince only works from photographs, perhaps because it has been understandably difficult to find plans or blueprints.

When the Pallen's first moved in, and



began constructing their own driveway 6 they uncovered a portion of corduroy—an extension of the nearby Opeongo Road. Vince inspected his find and learned much about how early Pioneers tried to smooth out their journey. Vince expects to attempt doing the same thing as he contemplates construction of a roadway leading from his home to the "Stage-house" taking shape.

A log cabin entices visitors to come inside. Fully functioning and completely decorated the loft has been taken over by Vince's son and his friends who, without permission decided it would be a perfect hiding spot from where they could watch TV and play video games. A rocking chair once belonging to a much-loved and long since departed relative sits nearby, temporarily out of commission owing to a broken rocker. One day before the rocker had broken down, one of Vincent's children climbed the spiral staircase to the loft only to apologize profusely to the old man who was seated in the chair slowly rocking away. As the youngster pulled away he realized what he had seen, and has since been unable to return to the loft. Others have now seen the apparition—one witnessed the ghostly yet quite clear image of a man rocking away in the chair, while others have seen the man peering out of the window from the top floor. Nevertheless, there seems to be no cause for alarm. The man seemed intent on seeking a comfortable place to rest, but has not been seen since the rocking chair was disabled.

The log cabin was dismantled somewhere near Eganville and reassembled into a slightly smaller building on Vince Pallen's property. Today it is a fabulous example of early Pioneer architecture and a must see for all those interested in how our ancestors got along over 100 years ago. We sincerely hope Vince and Helen enjoy continued success with their endeavours. The promise of an "Opeongo Heritage Park" nearby will be

a welcome addition to the area. For the time being their log cabin and many beautifully crafted artifacts are a marvelous backdrop for wedding photos. Watch the Opeongo Line for updates on the Pallen's progress with their "Opeongo Heritage Park"