



Opeongo Lines

Spring

2015

Heritage Renfrew Preserving Yesterday for Tomorrow !

Library & Archives
Canada,
Home to
Heritage Renfrew
770 Gibbon Road
Renfrew, Ontario
K7V4H4



President Message's

Hours of Operation

Monday and Wednesday
From 1 pm to 3 pm
Closed all Holidays.

Special Request Appointments
maybe considered after
contacting one of the
Executive members of
Heritage Renfrew

General Meetings are held on
the First Tuesday of each
Month from 1:00 pm to 3:00
pm

Website -
www.heritagerenfrew.ca

E-mail address -
heritagerenfrew@gmail.com

Greetings,

Now that summer is fast approaching, researchers are planning trips to the local Archives and small town libraries hoping to find missing information and stories to add to their family trees. Heritage Renfrew looks forward to meeting these visitors in our research room. Each year we add new information to our collections.

We thank Olga Lewis who has provided us with a reader friendly translated copy of the Mt. St. Patrick Church record book.

New collections are being processed for viewing and new information is being added frequently to up-date our new web-site. (www.heritagerenfrew.ca)

Work continues on photo digitizing. Volunteers are always needed to help with this job and other projects that need to be completed. We are happy to have a co-op student working with us.

Details are still in the works for the fall bus trip. Those and more information will follow in the next newsletter and can be found on web-site as well.

Special thanks to Peter Clark, local news the we reporter, for his extensive coverage of Heritage Renfrew.

Have a happy and safe summer, President, Darlene Mask

Heritage Renfrew Executives 2015

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President	Darlene Mask	613-432-6242	myddmask@sympatico.ca
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Membership Chair	Earl Martin	613-432-4412	emartin23@cogeco.ca

Directors

Mary Hass	Joyce Laird McBride
Pat Patterson	Doug Fraser
Audrey Green	

Honorary Directors

Stella Laviolette	Irene Rekowski
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Past President Advisory Committee

Dave Lorente	Kay Gollinger Lorente	Marge Lindsay
Jim MacGregor	John Steele	Audrey Green
Dean Black	Doris Humphries	Mary Hass

Friendly Reminders

Membership Expiration Notification
Subscribe to Opeongo Lines for the New Year
Subscriptions for the calendar Year 2015 are \$15:00
Outside Canada \$20:00

Do not forget our Fall bus trip - Eganville Area - September 17,2015
Watch for details !

Queries Etc.

If you have information on these people, contact info@heritagerenfrew.ca

Johana O'Brien, of Ferguslea, married 1873 to David Braceland

Jane McGonegy, daughter of Robert McGonegy and Margaret Shaw, married to Robert Cotie

Henry Kuseler, Arthur Henry Kuseler (Cruise)

Michael McHale from Admaston or Douglas who had a serious bush accident after 1912

John Sargent, born in Ireland 1792 and died and buried in Renfrew, where? and Matthew Sargent and his wife Janet Pepin from Arnprior area.

Peter Phillips, oldest Eganville Resident, died 1902, and wife Janet Campell, Storie family connected

Johann Friedrich Gorr 1815-1897, Heinrich August Gorr 1861-1997, Hermann Heinrich Gorr 1881-1936,

Lila Elizabeth Gorr 1920-1983

Added Donated Family Tree's

Violet Budd

Imbleau French connection added to Imbleau family file

John Lindsay 1864-1930

Ferguson Clan 1818-1996

Nathaniel Wright and Christine Ferguson

Philemon Wright, Orange Wright and Lucy Wyman

New Books on Shelf

Heart and Soul by Joan Finnigan

I come from the Valley

Membership Report -2015

Life members total -----	26
Regular -----	31
Complimentary -----	10
Total -----	75



Another of Renfrew's landmark buildings was torn down January 2015 to make way for the expansion of a Mac's Milk Store and Gas Bar. A history of this store and former buildings on this site will be of interest we are sure to the readers of the Renfrew Mercury.

The property is lot 2 on Raglan street which was part of the McLean Farm and which Xavier Plaunt became owner in the 1840's. In February of 1848 Xavier Plaunt sold the property to Duncan Ferguson for the sum of 12 pounds. In 1849 Duncan Ferguson sold the property to Roderick Ross, for 150 pounds, who, in turn sold the property in 1850 to Christine Morely for 200 pounds. In 1854 James Miller held a deed in trust granted by Roderick Ross size of the lot 74 feet for 25 pounds. In April of 1872 George James Ross sold the property to Robert Stewart for \$600. In January of 1881 Thomas New sold the property to Patrick Devine for \$1750. At this time a wooden store was on the property.

There were several fires that destroyed the buildings that were on the lot during the early years, in 1866 the first fire of some magnitude destroyed Mrs. McAdams Hotel which stood on the lot as well as Archy Thomson's blacksmith shop, and next to Mrs. McAdam's was the Carswell store which had earlier been owned by the McWilliam brothers.. Some of the outbuildings of the Dominion Hotel were also affected.

Seven years later on practically the same spot another disastrous fire which claimed three lives, this was in 1873 when the new brick building built by Mr Ferguson and rented to the British Bank of North America, and the Tierney Bros. Hardware store, also the Groves Hotel, and James Carswell's store and residence.

In 1893 another fire which destroyed the store of Patrick Devine and there was considerable damage done to the Dominion House stables and storerooms as well. After the fire Patrick Devine built the store which was torn down in January of this year. Patrick Devine had working for him a nephew Matthew Devine who inherited the store after Patrick's death in 1894.

In 1894 E.J. McGarry came to Renfrew and went into partnership with Matthew Devine in the new store. Mr. McGarry was born in Drummond Township near Perth. The partnership lasted for 16 years, and then Mr. McGarry felt that he wanted a rest from business and sold his interest in the business to on Joseph Legree from Dacre. Mr Legree had prospered in the village of Dacre with a store there. In 1910 Matthew Devine and Joseph Legree decided to enlarge the business. They had a very attractive show window display done and made another move placing their goods so that the eye of customers would be attracted. That was done by adding to their store space in the store south of them. That was done by throwing into the main store a doorway and fitting the space up with ample shelving for their mercantile supplies. Later Mr McGarry went into business with David Barr in the Barr Block and once again was in the hardware business.

After the death of Matthew Devine, Joseph Legree bought Mr. Devine's interest in the store and continued to operate the hardware business until 1944, when it was sold to Mr. J. Charles Roberts of Montreal. The business will continue to be conducted in the Legree block

In 1958 J. Charles Roberts and wife bought the property down on Raglan street formerly occupied by the Pentecostal church. He moved his business there and operated the store in that location for only a few years.

In 1969 Douglas Stringer in agreement with Gregory Green, Hubert Agnel and Gerald Utronki carried on a business in part of the building for Jamieson and Glove T.V. They were there for several years. The building also housed the business of some other tenants for some years.





Heritage Renfrew shows their appreciation to Peter Clark, local newspaper reporter and photographer for his support over the years

Heritage Renfrew Board of Directors—2015



Back Row—Joyce McBride,Doug Fraser,Jim MacGregor,Pat Patterson,Pat Bridges,Earl Martin,Mary Hass -Front Row—Darlene Mask,,Dulsie Bootland, Audrey Green