
THE CABOOSE



NEWSLETTER OF THE CUMBERLAND TOWNSHIP HISTORICAL SOCIETY (CTHS)

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Editor's ramblings (by Jeannie Smith)

Once upon a time, long ago, there lived storytellers who told past tales to their children's children. Nowadays, people have little time to retain their folklore. Sometimes, friends reminisce and share "Remember when...?" stories. Oftentimes, eager children recount daily experiences to adults who are too busy to listen. History is the retelling of the past. Most stories deserve to be told; some occasionally become idle gossip! The interpretation of events changes from teller to teller and many stories become quite exaggerated and entertaining! I do not presume to be a historian, nor do I have patience to conduct proper research. I am a teller of stories. Please invite me (or write me) to hear your stories. CTHS membership is growing and your help is required. Send articles or scanned photos for The Caboose. Volunteer to help with the Navan Fair. Join the Heritage Fair Committee. Contribute ideas to preserve our heritage. Research and document your family history. Let's make the CTHS a treasure trove of Cumberland's history!

Our Society

The Cumberland Township Historical Society (CTHS) was founded in 1986. We are a non-profit, volunteer and community-based organization whose goal is to preserve Cumberland Township history.

Our newsletter

The Caboose is published six times each year by the Cumberland Township Historical Society.

Our Executive

- Jean-François Beaulieu, President
- Randall Ash, Vice-president
- Robert Serré, Treasurer
- Jeannie Smith, Secretary and Newsletter Editor
- Verna Cotton, Director
- Dan Brazeau, Director
- Martin Rocque, Director

Our address and local history room

Cumberland Branch
Ottawa Public Library
Local History Room
1599 Tenth Line Road
Ottawa, ON K1E 3E8

Our World Wide Web address

www.cths.ca



Who cut the cheese?

I was introduced to cheese curds in 1966 when my pal Marian and I toured the back roads of Cumberland Township – two newly licensed drivers in old cars borrowed from Marian's Dad's garage (John Watson's Esso). We were two little mischievous muffs, eating our curds along the way to adventure. The roads twisted and turned about concessions and corners to reveal old buildings that had fallen into ruin and new dwellings that anticipated a prosperous future. Our travels took us back in history past haunts of folk long gone and we recounted stories told to us by our fathers who had also been pals.



Martin Cheese Factory (Innes Road at Frank Kenny Road)

(Cont'd on page 3)


Next meeting of the CTHS

Our next meeting will be held on Wednesday, September 3rd at the Cumberland Branch of the Ottawa Public Library (at the Ray Friel Centre). For those of you who weren't able to attend the Annual General Meeting last May, come out and meet the new executive, meet other members, and learn about the plans we have to make the Society even better! And be sure to bring a friend along. Light refreshments, as always, will be served.

Society calendar...

For more information on these and other upcoming events, please contact any member of the executive committee.

August 9 th and 10 th	Come visit the CTHS at the Navan Fair.
September 3 rd	CTHS general meeting; 7pm at the Cumberland Public Library (in the Ray Friel Centre). Come see an informative video of the Cumberland Heritage Village Museum.
November 5 th	CTHS general meeting; 7pm at the Cumberland Public Library. Guest speaker is John Kenny. Mr. Kenny, nephew of Frank Kenny, will share some fascinating stories of local history.



The Navan Fair was started in 1946 as a showcase of agricultural excellence and to this day is regarded as one of the premier events in the Ottawa Valley.

August 7th to 10th, 2003

Visited our local history room lately?
 Have you ever spent time looking through the shelves of material in the CTHS room at the Library? Be prepared to spend a good part of the day researching. Time flies quickly when you become absorbed in history! Over the years, dedicated volunteers have documented, written and organized material. You will find information on Cumberland families, churches, groups, maps, clubs, sports, businesses as well as scrap books, newsletters, newspaper clippings and various historical references.

Contact us

If you have any questions or suggestions regarding any aspect of the Society including The Caboose, our local history room, or anything else of interest to you or to the Society, you may contact any member of the executive by phone or by email:

- Jean-François Beaulieu, President (833-2245) jeanf@storm.ca
- Randall Ash, Vice-president (833-3207) randall2620@rogers.com
- Robert Serré, Treasurer (749-0607) belser@magma.ca
- Jeannie Smith, Secretary and Newsletter Editor (833-2877) gsmith2877@rogers.com
- Verna Cotton, Director (835-2490)
- Dan Brazeau, Director (834-8336) danbrazeau@rogers.com
- Martin Rocque, Director ((819)776-3890) martin.rocque@sympatico

CTHS Membership
 It's not too late to add your name to the CTHS membership list.
 Send \$10 cheque to
 CTHS
 c/o Jeannie Smith
 Box 27
 Cumberland ON K4C 1E5

What's on at the Heritage Village Museum...

The Cumberland Heritage Village Museum is located just east of Cumberland Village at 2940 Old Montreal Road (Queen Street), Cumberland, Ontario. If you plan to visit the museum more than once you can get a yearly family membership for only \$25. Regular admission is \$5 for adults, \$3 for students and seniors.



July 19	Firefighters Day
Aug. 30 & Sept. 1	A Corny Weekend
Sept. 12, 13, 19, 20	Shades of the Evening
Oct. 11 to 13	Harvestfest
Oct 12	Ottawa Marathon
Dec. 13, 14, 20, 21	An Old Fashioned Christmas

For more information call 613-833-3059 or visit the museum website at www.musecumberland.com.

Who cut the cheese? (cont'd)

We maneuvered the 90-degree corner sharply as we headed east off the Fifth Line, along Wilhaven then south down Canaan Road passing abandoned farms. Dairy farming was the main industry of Cumberland Township in the 19th and early 20th centuries. William Empey was cheese maker in Canaan before Marcel Belanger took over the factory.

Our old wreck squealed into Sarsfield and Marian and I stopped to get poutine (fries and curds) at the chip wagon by the hotel. We continued east and pulled into Albert Belanger's Cheese Factory to buy real curds before we veered south to Vars. Jack Kyle (his sister Bella married Garnet Hamilton, father of Erwin and Forest) had

a cheese factory on the southwest corner of Devine and Frank Kenny. We made a u-turn and headed back home via Navan.

Navan had three cheese factories. Thomas McWilliams and a Mr. Smith found time to make cheese in

a building across from Bradley's store. Another cheese factory was on the east side of Herb Deavy's shed. We continued along the North Road, past Christie's farm where there had been another cheese factory on the north corner of Wall. We turned east at Innes and noticed the remains of the Martin cheese factory on the northwest corner of the 7th Line (Frank Kenny Rd.). We drove north, turned at Martin's Corners and arrived in time to taste Mabel Watson's cooking.

John Searson Martin was awarded the contract to make cheese in the Township of Cumberland, December 13, 1902. John travelled from his home in Navan to the factory that he built until he married in 1906. Then he went to dairy school in Kingston and returned to Cumberland and purchased land, once owned by Col. Petrie along the west side of the 7th line from the old highway to Innes, in 1910.

Evaniste Chartrand, W. H. Cox, Vachon, Thos. McWilliams, John Minogue, Thomas Wilson, Issac Hodges, William J. Edwards, James Spratt, Thomas Armstrong, John Deavy, John J. Byrnes, Thos. Spratt,

Joseph Scharf, Sam Byrnes, Henry Watchorn, John Watchorn, Joseph Legault, Prosper Rancourt, Regis Huot, and Benom Huot all hauled milk to the factory. John Martin, a protestant, was expelled from the Orange Lodge for marrying Ella McCaskell, a Roman Catholic from Vankleek Hill. Her older sister Jane (Jennie) married John Findlay, Allan Findlay's grandfather, and lived on a farm to the south. The oldest, Sarah, married Ernie Waters (Waters Road). The couple was blessed with eight children – Edna, Donald, Stuart, Margaret, Maurice, Laura, Everett and Dalton.

After Edna was born in Kingston, 1907, they returned to Cumberland and lived in the back of the cheese factory. Later, they moved into a small log house.

Tragedy struck twice! The house burned in 1920 and



Arial view of the modern Denrob (Dessaint) dairy farm – Colonial Road, Sarsfield, Ontario

the large family moved into Kelly's, to the north, until a large two-story dwelling was built. In 1923, John died of pneumonia. Don took over the farm. Marcel Belanger taught Stuart to make 100% first grade cheese. Stuart passed on the art to Maurice when he

opened up a garage in Cumberland and Maurice supervised Dalton (Dolly) and Everett who became cheese makers.

The factory operated daily from late May to early November closing due to cold weather and lack of milk supply. Farmers let cattle go dry because there was no market for fluid milk. Patrick O'Toole won the contract to ship milk and was paid three times the price received by farmers who hauled to the cheese factory. He could afford to buy commercial feed to keep up his quota and truck the milk to a small Ottawa dairy. Work was scare in the dirty thirties and the Martin Boys laboured in Algonquin Park lumber camps in winters for \$35 a month. They ate a lot of cheese but their cholesterol was low because they burned off the calories.

10 lbs of milk made 1 lb of cheese. 600 lbs were made each day. The milk cans were dumped into a 30-gallon tank. Mrs. Martin and her daughters scoured the vats clean with baking soda and scrubbed the aprons white by hand. The men's aprons became

very greasy as they leaned over the vats. Everything was done by hand.

The Martins made a meager existence, receiving 1-1/4 cents, sometimes 2 cents for a pound of cheese. They were on the job by 5:15 am to get the steam up to sterilize cans, then laboured until 5:00 at night. In the contract, the farmers had to haul milk to the factory and once a week, cart the cheese to the wharf to be loaded onto boats and shipped to Montreal for grading. Rae Loew Mitchel (Vars) had a grandfather from Russell – Mr. Mitchel – who was a cheese inspector. Wooden crates held a 90 lb cheese. Some cheese was coloured with vegetable dye (2 1/2 oz per 1000 of milk) but most people preferred the natural white cheese. Families ordered cheese in September for winter in 90 lb rounds and by spring the acids would change it from mild to aged and the mould would just be cut off and the cheese enjoyed.

Cheese is dried out curd, the curds are processed, packed and compressed and drained. Farmers took the drainage whey for animal feed or it was dumped into Cardinal's Creek to create a messy stink!



The Martins sold the factory to the Tessiers in 1946. Casselmans had a cheese factory in Orleans across from the Catholic church. By the late fifties, farmers shipped milk to Ottawa. Albert Belanger's factory in Sarsfield closed operations in 1972. Dairy counters in stores now display cheeses from all over the world. Machines have replaced men and altered the art of cheese making. Marian and I recently toured the back roads to Vankleek Hill. On the way home we picked up some curds at L'Original and laughed as we recalled past escapades.

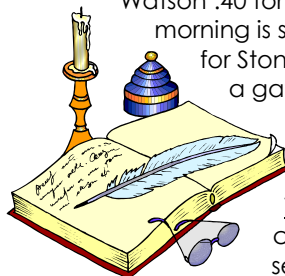
Written by Jeannie Smith after interviewing Everett Martin and Doreen Watson

L'agriculture occupe une place prépondérante dans l'histoire de l'Est ontarien. Cette industrie faisait vivre de nombreux secteurs secondaires. Parsemées dans les rangs, plus précisément "à tous les deux coins", les fromageries de l'Est ontarien connaissent une évolution spectaculaire au vingtième siècle. C'est une période de stabilité et de dépendance, c'est-à-dire que le nombre de fromageries dépend largement de la production laitière. Elles croissent en qualité durant les années 1950, les années de transition. L'évolution technologique, surtout l'efficacité du transport routier et la mécanisation de la production laitière, ainsi que l'implication du gouvernement ontarien, entraînent la fermeture des petites fromageries de rang.

(Isabelle Chartrand, article de 1994 fourni par Albert Bélanger)

Diary Dialogues by Jeannie Smith

Wed. July 12, 1939. Fine day. Orangeman's Day Lovely and cool after rain, mail letters. Pay John Watson .40 for coal oil. Put fire in range, the morning is so cool. S. Anderson pays rent for Stonehouse \$15. Light \$1.78. Quite a gathering from Vars, Navan, Leonard, Bearbrook and Blackburn in the village.



Thurs. Aug. 22, 1940. Quite cool for time of year. Carry several pails of water from

Spratts (across from Stonehouse, now building at the museum). Cut most of the lawn with mower. Go to Post Office for a.m. mail. Susie takes Nettie and I out to Alice and Eldred Hayes. Nice visit, see dear baby Douglas Hayes, then go to Victoria Burch's she gives us apples and flowers to take home. Mr. Lawson works in garden today. Cousin John Nelson Dunning and daughter Helen call late in evening.

Tues. Aug 12, 1941. A fine cool morning. Milk the cows, separate cream. Feed the pig, go up on Clay Hill (behind school) put feed out for the cows and calf. Go to the Post Office. Sarsfield baker calls, I take 3 loaves .20, R.J. Kennedy's boy buys butter .40. Nettie and Susie go to Red Cross meeting at W. Russell's house. Bessie and Ross come (from Ottawa) about 7 p.m. with D. Ranger. They go up to McKeen's Store.

Thurs. July 22, 1943. A rainy a.m. Temp 56 above. Go to Post office. Go to river, gather wood. Pick a few quarts of red currants and gooseberries. Call on Mrs. Legault and Mrs. X. Moreau 89. Pray with her. Go for evening mail. Dr. Douglas, Anne, Suzanne, Ross, Bessie and Miss Rosemary Pelletier (Doug's nurse) all have supper together. We read 19 Psalm and pray. Carry over water for Douglas (to Stonehouse where Doug has dental office. He received extra rations of gas during the war and this way he could visit his parents as well as offer dental service to Cumberland folk) Get some ice cream at John Watson's.

Friday, August 13, 1943. A very warm day. Thunder, lightning, rain & hail storms in late p.m. and night. Nap Moreau calls to pay \$10 in advance for front room, Stonehouse. I wheel on bicycle out to near Bearbrook to see Ida Dale, Rosy Dunning and Walter Tanner. Ida goes out to Navan to see Dr. Irwin. Have dinner & supper there, read, pray, talk, leave and paper to read, wheel back to village (Grandpa was 68 years old!) arriving about 8p.m. I go over to Frank Welsh to order wood for winter, he refers me to P. Neely so I write to Mr. Neely, retire, wet and tired.

Aug. 6th, 1945. Call at Dale's pay rent for Maple Hall to Fern. \$10 for August. Weed and cultivate in garden. Walk up and down to the Minnow Creek (south of

school) pull a few weeds on way. Pick choke cherries. All eat supper under Walnut tree.

Aug. 15th, 1945. Japan surrenders.

Tues. July 27, 1948: 84 above. I go to Alex Garvock's house near wharf. I call at Minnie Huton's and Mrs. Rochon (Aurore Laframboise) on way to river. Susie & girls come for little visit and pick some berries. Go for mail at Dunning's Post Office. Receive tax notice today. Go and collect rent at C. Wilson's. Fred delivers ice (he had ice house on foundation of old Brethern Gospel Hall built by Dr. James Ferguson on corner of Old Montreal Rd and Faubert Street which burned in 1932 grass fire started at Laframboise's). I let Catherine Dunning pick 6 basket qts. of raspberries. She said she would pay Fred .35 a box. Go to Lancaster's Store for coffee .67.

Tues. Aug. 3, 1948: Carry milk for Fred from pasture near school. After dinner I walk down to Leonard Stackhouse's place. Only see the Sharkey girl. Call in at Mrs. Wm. Brynes. See Angus Wilson at his new little house. Mrs. M.T. Watson calls tonight for a visit. Stay up until 10 pm.

Wed. Aug. 11, 1948: Go with Minions and Stackhouses to Leslie Dale's funeral. Mrs. John Watson kindly brings us new corn, mashed potatoes, ginger cookies & ice cream. Fred and I have a treat. (Grandma Nettie Helmer is in hospital). Read, pray and retire.



Bessie, Ross, Cecil and Fred at Ferguson's shore

Thurs. Aug. 26, 1948: Fred & Wayne (Barnett) go to the Ottawa Exhibition. Marva (Barnett-Lagimoniere) made pie and graham cakes. Mrs. M.T. Watson calls. I see her part way home. Aug. 29. Mrs. Skelton phones for

ice. Mr. M.T. Watson is 88 years old today and quite smart. Read 103rd psalm & pray.

Visages du passé (par Robert Serré)

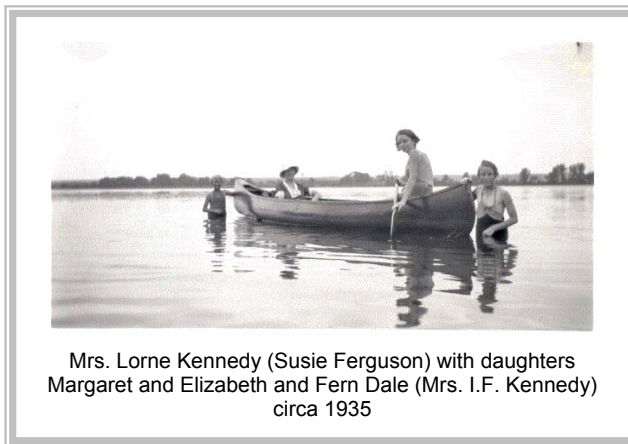
En 1815, l'évêque de Québec, monseigneur Plessis, a Onésime-Jacob Boucher est né le 28 décembre 1833 à Lotbinière, sur la rive sud du fleuve Saint-Laurent entre Bécancour et Lévis. Fils de Pierre Boucher et de Julie Pagé, il faisait partie de la septième génération des descendants de Marin Boucher qui, originaire du Perche, avait épousé Julienne Baril en France en 1611, pour ensuite émigrer en Nouvelle-France.

Ordonné prêtre séculier à Ottawa le 17 juin 1860, à l'âge de 26 ans, l'abbé Boucher a d'abord été vicaire de la paroisse Saint-Eugène-de-Prescott en 1860 et 1861. À cette époque, la mission catholique de Cumberland était desservie par l'abbé

Gustave Ébrard. Lorsque l'abbé Ébrard a été envoyé à Wakefield en 1861, c'est l'abbé Boucher qui l'a remplacé. Le Père Boucher a commencé par rétablir le presbytère qui avait été bâti à Cumberland vers 1856 par l'abbé François Michel. Ensuite, il a fait construire dans le village une grande chapelle en bois, que Monseigneur Guigues est venu bénir le 15 octobre 1862 sous le nom de Saint-Antoine-de-Padoue.

Cumberland comptait alors un tiers environ de catholiques et deux tiers de protestants. En plus d'avoir la charge des fidèles du canton de Cumberland, le Père Boucher visitait régulièrement les catholiques de Clarence Creek dans le canton de Clarence et ceux d'Embrun dans le canton de Russell.

Toujours est-il qu'un incendie a détruit la chapelle de Cumberland vers 1866; selon la tradition orale, ce sont des protestants fanatiques qui auraient causé cet incendie. Le Père Boucher a décidé d'abandonner ce milieu peu accueillant pour faire de Clarence Creek le nouveau centre de son ministère. Il avait alors 33 ans. Endurci par maintes épreuves, il jouissait d'une santé de fer, et visitait ses paroissiens l'été comme l'hiver, malgré l'état pitoyable des chemins. Dans l'Histoire de Saint-Jacques d'Embrun, publiée en 1910, on raconte qu'après la messe de minuit à Clarence Creek, il chaussait ses raquettes pour aller célébrer la naissance du Christ avec les gens de Sarsfield. Le Père Boucher a été curé de Clarence Creek jusqu'en 1875.



Mrs. Lorne Kennedy (Susie Ferguson) with daughters Margaret and Elizabeth and Fern Dale (Mrs. I.F. Kennedy) circa 1935

Cette année-là, il a été envoyé à la paroisse Saint-Bernard de Fournier, où il a été curé jusqu'en 1882. D'après le Dictionnaire biographique du clergé canadien-français, publié en 1910, l'abbé Boucher a passé quelque temps dans une chartreuse, monastère européen de moines cloîtrés, en 1882. Ce même ouvrage mentionne qu'il a été curé de la paroisse Saint-Thomas de Lefavre de 1882 à 1885. Dans son Histoire de la province ecclésiastique d'Ottawa, publiée en 1897, le Père Alexis de Barbezieux raconte que le Père Boucher s'est retiré à la chartreuse d'Angleterre en octobre 1885. Ce monastère avait été bâti quelques années auparavant à Parkminster (Sussex). C'est là que l'ancien missionnaire de Cumberland est mort, en 1890, dans la paix solitaire d'une communauté de moines chartreux, à l'âge de 57 ans environ. Il avait connu la vie ardue des missionnaires ambulants de la vallée de l'Outaouais au cours d'une période particulièrement mouvementée de son histoire, et il s'était dévoué corps et âme pour ses paroissiens.

Robert Serré

(version révisée d'un article paru dans l'édition de juillet 1999 du bulletin The Caboose)

Readers' corner

Last month's issue of The Caboose awakened old memories of Cumberland. With the stories and pictures of river travel maybe the newsletter should have been re-titled "The Quarterdeck."

Captain Johnson, one of those steamboat captains lived in Cumberland for a while. He was married to Mary Christina MacLaren, d/o Constable Peter MacLaren. As a boy I can remember reading the Logbook of his ship. I can't remember the name but I do recall some of the cargo. Mail, tanned hides, highwines and other spirituous beverages. I had to ask Mrs. Johnson what were highwines. I had visions of special wines for long stemmed glasses until she explained that it was what they called brandy.

Another riverman in town was Nap Moreau. He lived in a little house on the old right-of-way that led to Ferguson's Shore. Nap went fishing in the late evening or early morning for barbotte and then sold them, fresh, door-to-door. My mother would never cook or eat barbotte from the Ottawa River. You see, Nap had another river occupation. He was always finding bodies in the spring. They were of persons who had jumped or fallen in to the river in Ottawa/Hull or had gone thro' the ice. The slack water at Cumberland seemed to be a collection point.

The spring and early summer saw great booms of logs being towed by river tugs, and later in the season a crew of men in pointer boats would sweep

the shores looking for strays that had escaped the booms. And usually once during the summer Mr. Paquette, who ran the ferry, would organise a "Moonlight Excursion" up river. It was an adult affair so we never got to enjoy it. Summer on the river at Cumberland. Swimming, boating, fishing and picnics. It was a wonderful time.

Peter Anderson. Peter lived in Ferguson's Stone House in the 1940s.

John Archibald Cameron (son of Susanna), Thurso, Quebec, was a lumber merchant. His son, John Allan Cameron, was connected with the W. Cameron Edwards Lumber Company in Rockland, Ontario. W. Cameron Edwards was the nephew of John Stuart Cameron (baptised Kirkhill) who owned the General Store in Cumberland. John Stuart Cameron's family was from Loch Eil. His sons were cousins to my Grandmother, Catharine Sutherland Cameron (1854-1949) Lot 21-4 Finch, and her sister, Ann Sutherland(Cameron) 1869-1962, carried on a correspondence during the 1880s with John Stuart Cameron of Cumberland along with correspondence from her mother to John Stuart Cameron, Margaret MacMillan Sutherland(1832-1912). I have copies of letters. Margaret MacMillan Sutherland was a cousin to John Stuart Cameron's wife.

Also, there was an Alexander Cameron(b. c 1794) who owned a farm near Cumberland, Ontario, whose grandfather, John Cameron(b c 1747), was from Glenloy (Inveruiskavouline-MacGillonie). Alexander Cameron's mother was Isabel Cameron from Clunes.

Margaret Cameron, Long Sault



STEAMER EMPRESS. FROM CAMERON'S HILL. CUMBERLA

Thanks to David Chamberlin for the photo of The Empress Steamer taken from the top of Cameron's Hill (just south of present Cameron Street and Old Montreal Road). David's maternal grandfather was Harvey Dunham Cameron, born at Cumberland 3 Aug. 1877. His father was John Stuart Cameron, born Glengarry County 28 March, 1820 to John Cameron and Elizabeth McNair who hailed originally from Fassifern, Scotland and came to Cumberland by way of Glengarry Co. about 1832.



The Cumberland Women's Institute

The Cumberland Women's Institute recently presented a digital copy of its Tweedsmuir History Book to the Cumberland Township Historical Society in memory of Lorna Farmer Clendenan. Some of you may well ask: What is the Women's Institute? What is a Tweedsmuir History Book? Who was Lorna Farmer Clendenan?

The Women's Institute was founded with the aim of improving the living conditions of women and their families, mainly through monthly meetings at which health, safety, money-making and other concerns of rural women could be addressed. The first branch was formed at Stoney Creek, near Hamilton, Ontario in 1897. The concept quickly spread throughout Canada and eventually to many parts of the world. "The Associated Country Women of the World" was organized in 1933 and still serves a useful function. Many women in Canadian branches now have an urban background, but share the concerns of the rural women. Visitors are always welcome at Institute meetings.

At the urging of Lady Tweedsmuir, wife of Lord Tweedsmuir, Governor General of Canada, 1935-1940, the Women's Institute Branches have gradually put together "Tweedsmuir History Books" which document local history. The Navan W.I. Formed in 1932 has done a great job of documenting Navan's history, largely due to the efforts of Verna Cotton. The Cumberland W.I. Branch was formed in 1937 and Tweedsmuir History Curators were first chosen in 1971-two school teachers, Blanche MacMillan and Mary Cameron.

Our 'Book' has been a work-in-progress for over thirty years. A glance at the Table of Contents gives one an idea of the subjects dealt with so far: family histories, churches, cemeteries and schools as well as some Branch activities.

Lorna Farmer Clendenan was a member of the Cumberland Branch of the Women's Institute from 1986 until her sudden death in March 2003. She grew up in the historic "Cameron House", a fine stone house built in the 1860s on the south side of Old Montreal Road (before you head east down the hill into Cumberland Village). After she and her husband, Mel, had lived in many other places, they moved back to this Cumberland house in 1975 when her father, Carleton Farmer, moved down into the village. Lorna was very involved in the life and work of St.

Mark's Anglican Church (which also dates from the 1860s). For many years she worked in various capacities at the Cumberland Township Museum. Lorna was a Cumberland history enthusiast.

The first meeting of the Cumberland Women's Institute took place on July 26th, 1937 at the home of Mrs. M.V. McArthur (the present home of Joan Barnett Lancaster). Mrs. George Smith, Navan District President, presided. Mrs. Ernest Taylor was elected President and Mrs. Malcolm MacEachern Secretary/Treasurer. The 12 Charter Members included:

- Mrs. Archie Edwards (Bertha MacEachern)
- Mrs. Alpine Fraser
- Mrs. R. C. MacEachern
- Mrs. John Minogue (Minerva Spratt)
- Mrs. M. V. McArthur
- Mrs. James Hayes
- Mrs. Ernest Taylor (Annie Garvock)
- Mrs. Malcolm MacEachern
- Mrs. William McGuire
- Mrs. George Fraser
- Miss Margaret Garvock
- Miss Minerva Minogue (Mrs. Wilson, still living in Timmins, Ontario)

Written by Cumberland WI Curator Elizabeth Alexander

Yesterday's farms

Dairy farmers shipped milk to Ottawa dairies in the 40s and 50s. Here are the names of families who owned farms along Old Montreal Road from the NRC to Cumberland Village (thanks to Myles Edwards of Cumberland for providing this list).

- Neil Sorely
- Hopkins
- Don Sorely
- Lemays
- Percy Kenny
- Leo McNeely
- Duford
- Vinette Brothers
- Doug Taylor
- Arthur Charbonneau
- Robert Russell
- Henry Cardinal
- Fergus Minogue
- Alcide Rollin
- Norman Edwards
- Lester Edwards
- Hector MacMillan
- Jim MacMillan
- Carleton Farmer



Can you help us to identify the families who owned farms from Cumberland to Rockland?



Doug Ferguson and pals hoisting sail on the Ottawa River at Cumberland Village

Cumberland Village

I've travelled o'er mountains, through valleys and
wildwood
And sailed far away o'er the deep rolling sea:
But of Cumberland Village, dear home of my
childhood
My heart ever filled with fond memories shall be.

That dear little hamlet that nestles so cosy
At the foot of the hill where tall maples grow
Where June's warm sunshine makes earth fair and
rosy
And the Ottawa's waters so peacefully flow.

There the sweet briar rose, the lilac and fruit tree
Adorn the dooryard of each simple home
And the people within are as happy as could be
The dwellers of mansions with portals and dome.

And the little brick church standing back from the
street
There we children on Sundays were want to repair,
When we all joined in singing the old hymns so
sweet
And the good village blacksmith exhorted in prayer.

And the place by the wharf where we used to go
swimming
Though far, far away I still seem to see.
And the green mossy bank where we sat idly
dreaming
Under the shade of the old willow tree.

In fancy I see the moonlight on the river
And our boat gliding swiftly and gaily along
With the sounds of our voices in laughter and song.

Afar have I travelled to gather earth's treasures
But I feel I would give all that I own
To see once again the Ottawa River
And Cumberland Village
My dearly loved home.

E. McCallum

