

# THE CABOOSE



NEWSLETTER OF THE CUMBERLAND TOWNSHIP HISTORICAL SOCIETY (CTHS)

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May 2005

## Editor's ramblings (by Jeannie Smith)

Without the motivation of Randall Ash, the opportunity to be awarded The Canadian Heritage Information Network grant of \$5,000 would not have enabled the CTHS to purchase a scanner, projector and laptop computer, and to tell the story of the shooting of OPP Constable Harold Dent which occurred June 20th, 1940, at the Navan Train Station. Verna Cotton rounded up photos from Helen Burns, Eileen Vaillancourt, Wanda McWilliams, Ross Bradley, and Eric Smith. Jeannie Smith interviewed Gladys Eggert, Gladys Sharkey, Helen Deavy and Allan Findlay. Jean Francois Beaulieu researched newspapers. Bob Serré edited the story line composed by Randall Ash. Dan Brazeau completed the technology for the Virtual Museum of Canada Website, "Community Memories". Martin Rocque transferred the story into a book format.

### **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**

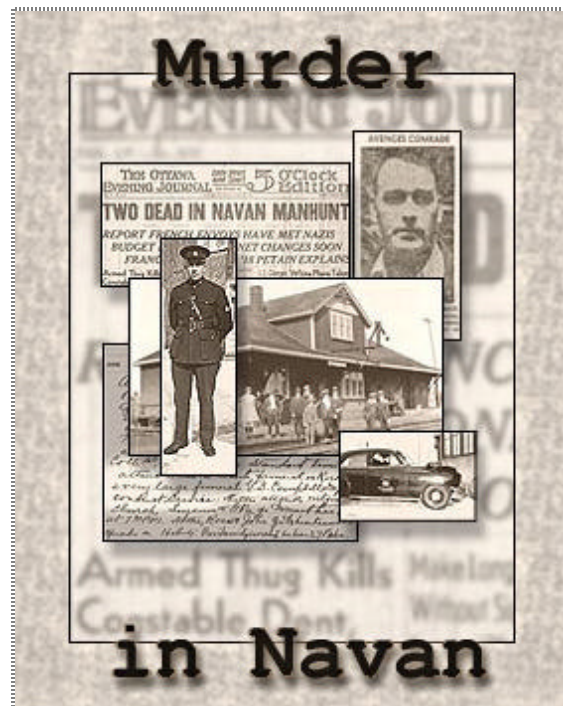
Cumberland Branch  
Ottawa Public Library  
Local History Room  
1599 Tenth Line Road  
Ottawa, ON K1E 3E8

### **Our World Wide Web address**

[www.cths.ca](http://www.cths.ca)



A round of applause goes to the CTHS Executive Members Jean-Francois Beaulieu, Randall Ash, Bob Serré, Verna Cotton, Dan Brazeau, Martin Rocque and Jeannie Smith. Please consider serving on the new executive, which will be chosen at the AGM on May 4th. Bob Serré has decided to leave the executive. His dedication and enthusiasm have contributed to the success of the CTHS and his knowledge and energy to research Cumberland's history is gratefully appreciated. Thanks a million Bob!



## MURDER IN NAVAN

Friday, April 29th,  
7pm to 10pm  
St. Mary's  
(Anglican) Hall  
Navan, Ontario

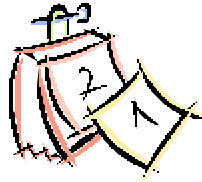
(Free admission)

### **Next meeting of the CTHS**

Our Annual General Meeting will be held on May 4<sup>th</sup> at the Cumberland Library on Tenth Line Road (at the Ray Friel Centre). Bob Serré will present "Early Settlers of the Lower Ottawa Valley Whose Ghosts Still Haunt Me." Be sure to bring a friend along. Light refreshments, as always, will be served.

## Society calendar

For more information on these and other upcoming 2005 events, please contact a member of the executive committee or visit our website at [www.cths.ca](http://www.cths.ca).



May 4 <sup>th</sup>	CTHS Annual General Meeting. The Cumberland Township Historical Society will be holding its annual general meeting at the Cumberland Public Library on Tenth Line Road.
May 27 <sup>th</sup>	Following the business portion of the meeting, Robert Serré, our Treasurer and former Editor of The Caboose, will be giving a talk entitled " Early Settlers of the Lower Ottawa Valley Whose Ghosts Still Haunt Me." After more than six years of research into the early history of Cumberland Township, Robert has answered a number of questions, but many others continue to puzzle him, and he will be sharing with us the juiciest tidbits concerning the almost forgotten men and women who ventured into the Lower Ottawa Valley <u>before</u> Philemon Wright founded Hull in 1800. This promises to be an intriguing and entertaining segment of our meeting.
May 28 <sup>th</sup> and 29 <sup>th</sup>	FOOD AID. Wyatt Mc Williams and John Bradley have organized a Telethon / Awareness / Education Event at the Canadian Agriculture Museum on the grounds of the Experimental Farm, to provide hamburger for the Food Bank. CFRA will be broadcasting live on location. There will be a BBQ hosted by the City of Ottawa, a farm equipment display, entertainment and plenty of other things to see do.
June 4 <sup>th</sup>	Heritage Power Show, Cumberland Museum
June 12 <sup>th</sup>	Doors Open Ottawa Annual Memorial Service Dale's Cemetery, Cumberland 2:30 pm;
June 26 <sup>th</sup>	Annual Memorial Service, St. Mary's Anglican Church, Navan 2:00 pm Annual Memorial Service, The Wilson Cemetery, Navan, 2:30 pm S.S.#10 School Day, Cumberland Museum
July 17 <sup>th</sup>	Firefighter Day, Cumberland Museum Fall Conference on British Isles Family History "Celebrate your Anglo-Celtic Roots"
Sept. 23 - 25	British Isles Family History Society of Greater Ottawa, Library and Archives Canada ( <a href="http://www.bifhsgo.ca">www.bifhsgo.ca</a> )

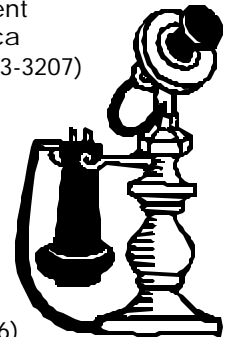
### Visited our local history room lately?

You'll find past issues of local Cumberland newspapers, The Courier and The Communique, as well as newsletters from other local historical societies.

## Contact us

If you have 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 (841-0424) [jeanfb@sympatico.ca](mailto:jeanfb@sympatico.ca)
- Randall Ash, Vice-president (833-3207) [randall2620@rogers.com](mailto:randall2620@rogers.com)
- Robert Serré, Treasurer (749-0607) [belser@magma.ca](mailto:belser@magma.ca)
- Jeannie Smith, Secretary and Newsletter Editor (833-2877) [gsmith2877@rogers.com](mailto:gsmith2877@rogers.com)
- Verna Cotton, Director (835-2490)
- Dan Brazeau, Director (834-8336) [danbrazeau@rogers.com](mailto:danbrazeau@rogers.com)
- Martin Rocque, Director ((819)776-3890) [martin.rocque@sympatico.ca](mailto:martin.rocque@sympatico.ca)



## Recommended books for budding genealogists

- In Search of Your Canadian Roots: Tracing Your Family Tree in Canada: by Angus Baxter ISBN:0771010990 Published: September 1999 by McClelland and Stewart
- In Search of Your British & Irish Roots: A Complete Guide to Tracing Your English, Welsh, Scottish and Irish Ancestors: by Angus Baxter ISBN:0771010745 Published: April 2000 by McClelland and Stewart
- Unpuzzling Your Past: The Best-Selling Basic Guide to Genealogy: by Emily Anne Croom ISBN:1558705562 Published: July 2001 by Betterway Books
- For a Free copy of Tracing your Ancestors in Canada: by L.St. Louis-Harrison and M.Munk contact the National Archives Genealogy Reference Desk at (613) 996-7458 (toll free 1-866-578-7777, Canada and U.S.A.) or download in Adobe Acrobat format from [www.archives.ca/04/0420\\_e.html](http://www.archives.ca/04/0420_e.html).



## If you're Irish, come to Canada

Eighteen-year-old Annie, oldest of eight Corry children, left County Tyrone, Northern Ireland, in March 1927 to work in Saskatchewan. She lived with her uncle, Tom Elliott, for three years. While on vacation in Ontario, Annie met Clifford Neely, a farm boy who lived in Leonard. His Irish ancestors had emigrated from Drumduff, County Tyrone. The couple were married in 1932 and raised their children Jim, Jack, Marilyn, Sam and Linda on the Neely farmstead. Returning to Ireland in 1954 to attend her sister's funeral, Annie got to know her youngest brother John, born in 1927.

The gift of music abounds in the Corry Family. Annie loved to dance and at age 13, John played the accordion, trumpet and drums in the Blue Star Dance Band. For fourteen years, he played bagpipes in the Pipe Band. John first heard Hank Snow's "On the Sunnyside of the Rockies" from a gramophone disc sent by Annie and this, as well as postcard pictures of RCMP, sparked his interest in Canada. John can still hear his mother crying as Annie walked down the long laneway of the Corry Farm in Ballantrain in 1954 to return to her family in Leonard. That year, Bill Corry got the notion to join his sister in Canada and he got a job driving the grader for Cumberland Township.

John married Eileen Kerr, from Six Mile Cross, County Tyrone, June 11, 1955 and they ran a poultry and dairy farm. In 1963, John visited Canada to attend a Plowing Match near Toronto. At that time, Ireland was not the industrious country that it is today, and government controls made farming difficult. John, Eileen and children, Alex, Jack, Geoff and Gwen, emigrated in May, 1965 and lived with Annie and Clifford Neely for a month. They rented their farm in case they wanted to return to Ireland. The Corrys arrived at Leonard on a Wednesday and by the following Tuesday, John secured a job at the Experimental Farm. He was offered a position on the farm of Mrs. Moffatt who lived near the Coburns but the call from Mr. McCooye to work with animal

research was more favourable. During the two winters that John was laid off from the Woodroff Complex, he worked on snow removal for the Township of Cumberland.

The Corrys rented a house from Roger Villeneuve in Sarsfield before buying 100 acres of farmland that had first belonged to the Lacroix and then the Prudhomme Families. Immigrants could only bring out 300 pounds annually from Britain. John made \$47.50 per week and managed to save \$750 to pay Mrs. Prudhomme, a widow with small children, the down payment. The farm cost \$15,000. Garry was born in 1967, then in 1975, John and Eileen built a new house and sold the old farmhouse to Betty and Ed Harry.

The Corrys quickly assimilated into the community. John played music with Allan Findlay, Earl Casey, Les Deavy, Lawrence Morrow and musicians at Metcalfe and Russell. John still entertains with The 'Moonlighters' Band (Allan Findlay, Earl Casey, Ernie Mayer and Jeannie Smith). Eileen was offered a job as enumerator by Eldon Kinsella, the Township Clerk at the Leonard Offices, and has continued to work on municipal and federal elections to this day! The Corry children attended Meadowview Public School in Navan and participated actively in sports. John and Eileen met many people as they attended their children's hockey and ball games, became involved with Trinity Anglican Church at Bearbrook, The Cumberland Home Support Group as well

as the Bearbrook Community Centre.

John and Eileen have no regrets about leaving their homeland. They welcomed the challenge of honest, hard work and whole-heartedly committed their lives to their family, church and community. Times were hard, but a zest for life, a sense of humour and a high degree of integrity, have enabled the Corrys to be productive, proud members of the Cumberland community.

Forty years ago, Eileen told John, "It's my duty to go wherever you go." The strong bond of love between this couple is still very evident. The Corrys continue to support each other for better or worse, in sickness and in health and they cherish each and every day that the Good Lord has granted them on this side of Heaven.



The Corry family. Left to right: John, Eileen, Geoff, Gwen, Alex, Jack and Garry (July 1972).

## Address by The Honourable Wm C. Edwards

CTHS Member, David Chamberlin, possesses the booklet "Address by The Hon. Wm C. Edwards to the Rockland Employees on the 23 August 1919 when they celebrated the 50th Anniversary of the Founding of the Firm of W.C. Edwards & Co." Following are edited portions. To view the entire address in English or in French go to our Website ([www.cths.ca](http://www.cths.ca)) and look under More History.

November 8, 1918, marked the fiftieth anniversary of the commencement of operations of the firm here. On the 8th day of November, 1868, a cold, bleak morning, I embarked on the steamer Caroline, of the Ottawa Forwarding Company, at Thurso, where I had been formerly employed, and debarked at Rockland, having to-day a population of 4,000, with well-maintained streets, concrete sidewalks, three churches, three schoolhouses, one of which is a high school, numerous stores and shops, and comfortable homes, many which are the private properties of the employees. The firm sold properties to the employees at nominal prices and lumber was supplied at low cost and on easy terms of payment, to facilitate houses being built. The firm also built a number of houses to rent to employees. With two sawmills and men employed here, in Ottawa and other places, great progress and development have been made.

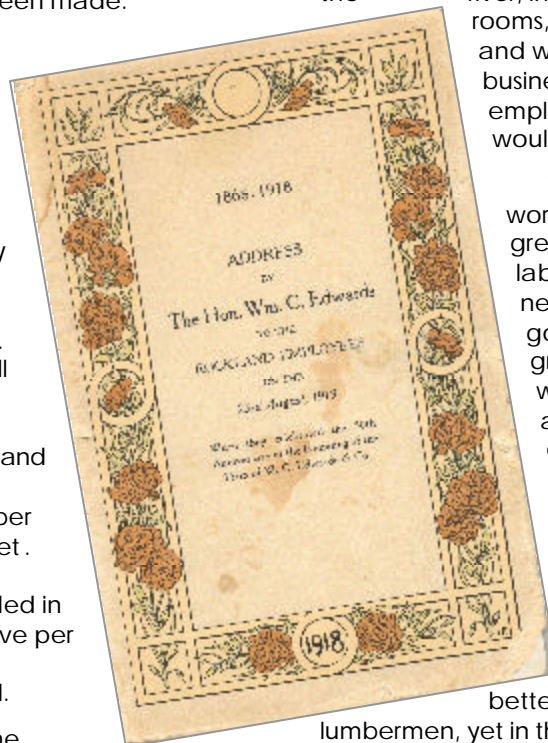
I arrived at McCaul's Point, (Rockland), single-handed and alone. The James McCaul family and the Way family were the only occupants. My only tools were two pick-axes and three spades. The first employees were William Way and Magloire Larivière, and with my own hands and their assistance I dug and prepared the foundation for the first mill erected in Rockland. The erection of the frame of the mill was carried out by contract with James Erskine. The machinery was obtained in Montreal and Ottawa, and the mill went into operation in May, 1869, and the total quantity of lumber cut that season was three million feet. The W.C. Edwards & Co, Limited, is among the few who have succeeded in the lumber business, only three to five per cent engaged in lumbering on the Ottawa River have been successful.

The successful lumbermen of the



Ottawa River possessed no capital (money) except individuality, physical and mental capacity, courage, determination, and practical knowledge of the business, character and honesty. These qualities are the basis of all the business of the world and are the major portion of the capitalization of all industry.

Some of the earliest employees were: Laurent Pouliotte, William Erskine, Louis Lamoureux, Telli Lepine, William Way, Magloire Larivière, Ovillon Boulerville, Antoine Bissonette, Jules Boileau, Adolphus Pilon, George Marion, George Fairfield. Mathias Leroux, Samuel Campbell, Napoléon Dehaitre, Amede Laviolette, Xavier Giroux, Camille Larose, Xavier Couillard. No matter how constant, energetic and skilful I might have been, how helpless I would have proved without the labourers, who have been my constant aid. For many years I worked side by side with the employees, for there was no department in which I did not engage with my own hands, from the cutting and hauling of the logs in the woods to driving the streams and manufacturing and shipping the lumber, and there was no employee in any single operation of the business, in the woods, on the river, in the mills, boiler-houses or engine-rooms, whose place I did not fill for days and weeks at a time. At no time in my business career have I ever asked an employee to do anything whatsoever I would not do myself.



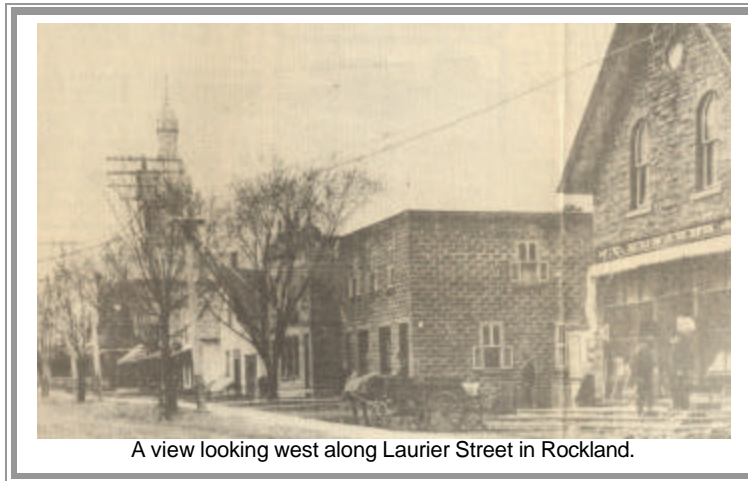
This very close intimacy with the working man instilled in me the greatest possible regard for honest labour, and throughout my life there never has been a time I would not go farther to take off my hat to greet an honest, conscientious workman than any other class of any community, from the highest dignitaries in the land downwards, and none it gives me greater pleasure to meet than a worthy old employee.

While at no time in my knowledge of the lumber business have any class of workmen in the world been better treated than the Ottawa lumbermen, yet in that period some changes have

taken place. For instance, the sawmills, which now operate ten hours per day in the sawing season, operated twelve hours per day when first I embarked in the business; and since that time improved mill construction has greatly lessened the laborious character of the operations. No lessening of hours could take place in the operations in the woods, for the reason that in this northern altitude for five or six months in the year we have but a few hours of daylight in which to labour. I worked for the greater part of my life from fourteen to sixteen hours per day.

One material change is in the board of the men in the woods. In my early days, port, bread, pea soup, beans and to some extent beef and potatoes constituted the rations. To-day the menu exceeds that of the average households and hotels in the land. The health and well-being of the men are best served by the old-time rations and open fire cambouse shanty.

I want to refer to the changed world conditions caused by the terrible war which has just terminated, and offer you my candid advice. The war is over so far as the destruction of human kind is concerned, and the loss to the world in life, property and wealth is so enormous that it is beyond computation. The world will recover, but not on the basis on which it is now operating. An economic war of the most aggravated and serious character, resulting from the terribly bloody war that has just ended, is now taking place and when it will terminate neither I nor any other that I can think of can offer any opinion of value. Canada, like every other country involved in the war, is enormously impoverished, and our excessive interest liability is appalling. For nearly five years the active, wealth-producing manhood of the civilized world was transferred from wealth production to the most effective and appalling means of life and wealth destruction, and the womanhood and the old men and boys of the world enlisted, not as an army of wealth producers, but as an army of producers of food, clothing and munitions of war to maintain the conflict of destruction. The world is enormously depleted in the every-day wants of human kind, and consequently every human requirement is excessively dear, and will continue to get dearer until industry overtakes the enormous world shortage.



A view looking west along Laurier Street in Rockland.

The remedy is to labour, produce, economize and trade. Of the several countries engaged in the war, the United States is the only country that is in a liquid position so far as payment is concerned, but each country has its labour, its natural resources and its means to produce, and until the world settles down and makes up its mind to go to work and produce, not only will no forward step towards recovery be made, but the world will steadily become poorer.

If disarmament, prohibition and world free trade were proclaimed, mankind would prosper as never before, and the peace of the world would be guaranteed.

The unfortunate popular idea that there are amassed enormous fortunes, in an article called money, that can be and ought to be distributed among mankind, is a most unhappy fallacy and delusion. The property and labour of the world

constitute its wealth, and with abnormal cessation of labour property soon loses its value. Based upon gold, which has an authorized value, bank circulation is established and is used to facilitate exchanges of the products of labour in individual countries, and the exchanges of the surplus products of the labour of the various countries are facilitated and carried out through banking bills of exchange. Actual money cuts but a very small figure in the world's affairs. Labour is the great factor in production of the world's necessities, and confidence and credit are the mainspring and primary foundation of all industrial and business operations. The present aspect of the world's affairs is all in the direction of a most serious limitation of production and the positive destruction of confidence and credit, and with the wheels of production and commerce thus clogged there can be but one outcome, namely, starvation—a condition which must soon overtake the world if the terrible industrial strife now raging doesn't cease and normal conditions of production and cost of living are not restored.

To-day the firm of W.C. Edwards & Co., Limited, is composed of Mr. Gordon C. Edwards, Mr. W.W. Humphreys, Mr. John A. Cameron, Mr. E.R. Bremner and Mr. Norman F. Wilson. I hear that land is to be laid out in garden plots, so that each household may have a garden. This, with the low rentals and favourable living conditions in Rockland, will add to the well-being of the employees. I do not know of any similar

place in Canada where better conditions, more general good-will and better understanding prevail than in Rockland. You occupy a thriving and well-ordered village, good conditions contributed by the educational facilities and the clergymen of the various denominations, who do so much to further the religious and moral welfare of the community. The population of Rockland is mostly Roman Catholic. The opening of the first church was by our late lamented friend, Father Caron. The incumbent, Rev. Father Hudon has contributed to the peace, harmony and well-being of Rockland.

May I request that the loyal workers of W.C. Edwards & Co., Limited, will never join in any movement for the lessening of production and the destruction of the peace and harmony of the world; that you will continue performing your duty towards the country to which you belong and towards your families. And for myself and for my brother I will say that each of us will ever esteem Rockland and our employees with sincerest and most kindly remembrance.

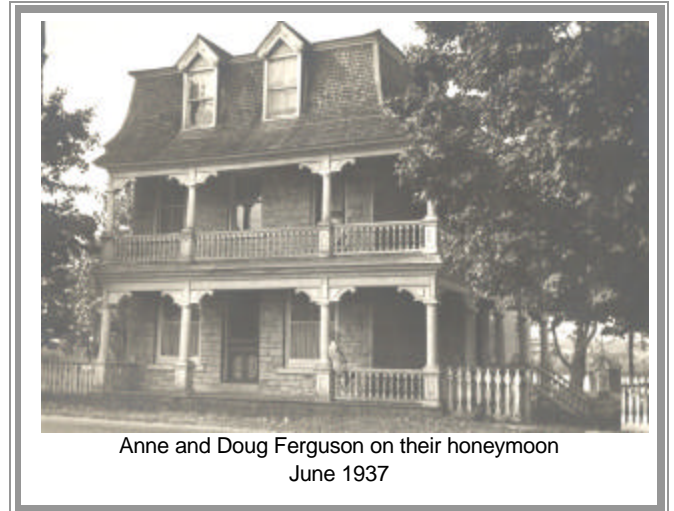
## I remember Clearview

*Peter Andersen, former resident of 'Clearview' remembers:*

I recall when Fred (Ferguson) walked us thro' the house in 1939 that it was filled with furniture and there were rugs on the floors and pictures on the walls. The large horizontal grand piano was in the front room. It was later dismantled and sat for a few years in the lower hall until Douglas Ferguson removed it to Ottawa (231 McLeod Street). One room downstairs was sort of a tack room or storage room for all sorts of boots, saddles, riding-crops, etc. while the original medical offices were still full of books, ledgers and a great assortment of surgical, dental and medical equipment and instruments. These were all cleared out when Douglas decided to open a dental office in Cumberland.



Dr. James Ferguson and grandsons Fred, James and Doug at Chestnut Cottage (1917)



Anne and Doug Ferguson on their honeymoon  
June 1937

The first tenant was Mrs. Étienne Ranger (née Georgina Lavergne, sister of Mrs. G.G. Dunning) and her son Roland. Her husband had been the farm manager for Norman Wilson and Roland continued to work there until he joined the army. The Rangers lived in the lower flat at the rear which had been the servants' quarters. Attached to that was a woodshed and garage. My parents (Sam & Mae Andersen) were the second tenants and we occupied the two upper stories. When Douglas gave up the once-a-week dental office, it was converted to a small flat and Mrs. George Walsh (née Annie Cox) came to live there. She was an elderly widow, who fitted up the little apartment to her comfort and style. Among her possessions were some treasured Hair Wreaths in very ornate box frames. These morbid craft items were constructed from locks of hair of various family members mostly deceased and were the height of Late Victorian parlour decor. I can still remember that frisson of slight horror that shook me each time I viewed these grisly works of art. There were others that were made of highly varnished seeds and seed-pods but these looked more like a squirrel's cache and were never so intimidating.

The house had a very good well in the basement and there had been a coal fired heating system but it needed replacement and John D. Ferguson was unable to afford such cost at the time so we had coal burning "Quebec Heaters" installed for winter warmth. In addition there was a wood fired cooking range in the kitchen. This kitchen had been converted from the Music Room. A sink was built against an interior wall and pipes were run from the well to a hand pump. I recall that we always had to reserve some water in case the pump had dried and needed priming. Upon occasion, I would run over to Chestnut Cottage to get a small bucket filled at the old wooden pump just beside the house. Our only source of hot water came from the reservoir attached to the cookstove. There

were four bedrooms and a large storage closet on the third floor. The master bedroom had a large "Empire Style" bedroom set which my parents purchased from J. D. Ferguson. It was in the dark varnished colour of the time so my mother spent a great deal of time refinishing the set to its natural Golden Oak colour. The storage closet had a so-called 'Chemical Toilet' installed. This unit was vented into an unused flue and in addition to being emptied daily by lugging the sealed bucket down several flights of stairs, it required a daily addition of some very clinical smelling "Chemical Deodorizer". This then was our bathroom. It was mainly so that, we children would not have to face a frigid trek to the outhouse at night or in the morning. Such a service was above the norm at the time. The first indoor plumbing in the village was at the Continuation School. I remember being told by other pupils in 1938 that the school had "Electric Toilets" and when I first started classes there in the Fall of 1938, I approached these contrivances with some trepidation in case of a shock but soon learned that it was nothing more than a flush-toilet. The hazards of growing up! Every house in town was serviced by an outdoor privy. Some were stand-alone units such as the one at Clearview, while others were built-ins, as at Chestnut Cottage. Each spring every household was faced with the onerous task of emptying these privies but fortunately there was an individual known as the "Honeyman" who usually did the job for everybody.

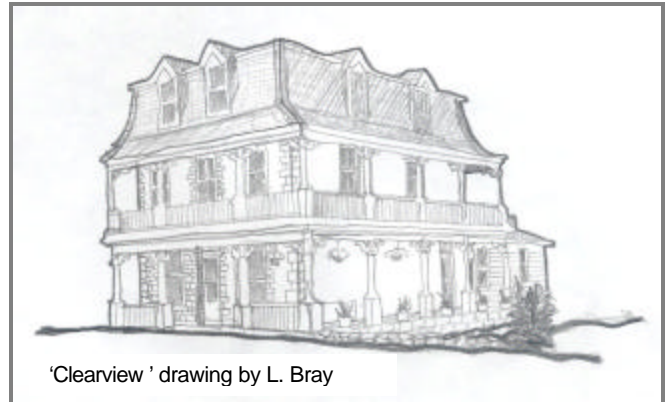
## Memories of Clearview

by Jeannie Smith

Great-granddaughter of Dr. James Ferguson

Every weekend, our family escaped the bustle of the city and headed east to Cumberland Village. The new highway, built in 1952, began at Green's Creek and our car veered left at the split off old Highway 17, and we bypassed Orléans. Six people and a dog invaded Chestnut Cottage-the tranquil domain of my grand-parents. J.D. Ferguson was an evangelist who preached the Gospel. Many residents who attended Cumberland schools in the 1940's and 1950's remember with respect John and Nettie, who held picnics, sang hymns and recited scripture.

Chestnut Cottage was built in the 1860's for my great-grandfather Dr. James Ferguson and his family. Ownership of the red brick house was transferred in 1897, when my grandparents married. There, they raised James, Bessie, Fred, Douglas and William. Grandpa's older brothers- Dr. Willie and pharmacist Cecil-and sister Susie moved to Rockland and his parents took up residence next door at the stone house.



'Clearview' was built in the 1880's by William Nelson Dunning (1840-1925), son of G.G. and Lucy Dunning. William married Maria Rice McLaurin in December 1869 and their son Peter, was doctor in Navan until his death in 1919. Maria was the younger sister of Susanna Rice McLaurin Ferguson, my great-grandmother. Dunning planned to set up a general store in this building but lacked the funds to complete the project and he and his wife moved to Riceville. Susanna, Abner, John and Maria were raised by parents Peter McLaurin Esq. and Maria Rice. William Dunning took over the job as Post Master in Riceville. Abner McLaurin, the oldest son of Peter and Maria left this post to seek his fortune in Pike's Peak, Colorado and was never heard from again. Suzanna requested that her first grandchild be named James Abner in honour of her lost brother and her grandfather Dr. Abner Rice. Dr. Rice and his wife Polly Hobart, had emigrated to St. Andrew's East, Quebec about 1815. Dr. James and Susanna Ferguson (married March 17, 1863 in Riceville) took over the mortgage of



'Clearview' in the mid 1880's. William Ferguson, father of Dr. James, was a stone mason from Vankleek Hill who had emigrated from Scotland in 1836. He died in 1884, in Cumberland, and may have offered suggestions as to how to complete 'Clearview'.

James Stevenson, a master carpenter, married to William Hayes' sister,

crafted the interior using fine woodwork. He kept the building plans hidden under wood shavings beneath

the staircase. Apparently, Stevenson occasionally tried to convince visitors that the exquisite wood décor was crafted without design!

The first two stories of 'Clearview' sported a large veranda on the south and east sides. The clear view of the Ottawa River to the north, especially in the late 19th century where the trees had been clear cut by lumberman, was truly marvelous. John Watson recalled seeing my Great-grandmother, Susanna, dressed in a warm fur coat, parading back and forth along the second floor veranda, watching for James to return from visiting patients. She had a music room on the second floor that housed a large piano, a harp and violins. She had studied music in Montreal and taught her children and grandchildren to play the piano and violin. Dr. James set up a clinic and surgery downstairs as well as a pharmacy in the front room.

The stone house became vacant in 1912, when Dr. James and Susanna Ferguson moved to Rockland. Their son, Dr. Willie (1864-1912), died suddenly and willed his home, Inglehurst, a red brick house just east of the Catholic Church to his parents. Willie had an office there and Cecil (1868-1944) later set up a pharmacy until the house was sold about 1933.

My Great Aunt Susie (1883-1986) and her daughter Margaret (1912-1992) lived at 'Clearview' while her husband Lorne Kennedy was overseas in World War I. After Susanna's death in 1918 and James' death in 1921, the house became empty and remained as a storage place for furniture or a guest house.

My parents Anne and Douglas Ferguson stayed there in June 1937 while visiting the family on their honeymoon. Cecil Ferguson and his nephew, my Uncle Fred, entertained at 'Clearview'. The living room walls and ceiling were majestically designed in oak. In the late 1930's, my grandfather, John, renovated the house into three apartments. The Andersens lived on



Front: J.D and Nettie Ferguson with Jeannie. Back: Doug, Anne and Suzanne Ferguson; Bessie and Ross Fraser at Chestnut Cottage (1952).



Clearview today  
(Heritage Restaurant)

the second and third floors. Mr. Andersen laid a hardwood floor in the living room. The kitchens had sinks with hand-pumps. Clearview was one of the last places in the village to get indoor plumbing in the mid 1950's! During visits to my grandparents' house next door, 'Chestnut Cottage', I would run over to Clearview, visit the Schreyers and tiptoe upstairs to see any new tenants. The apartments were rented to numerous families – Andersens, McWhirters, Thibodeaults and Betts-as a means of income for my grandparents.

During WWII my father, Douglas, established a dental office on the first floor. My parents and three older sisters lived on McLeod Street in Ottawa. Father was allotted extra rations for gas to travel to his dental clinic in Cumberland and this also enabled him to visit his parents. My Uncle Fred inherited the house when my grandfather died in 1958. He continued to rent the apartments out at a very cheap rate because they were not very well kept up. My sister Suzanne and her husband Hugh McCord moved into the house in 1965. Uncle Fred left the house to his nephews Bruce and Ian Ferguson who had been raised in Lancaster, New Hampshire where their father James Abner had practiced medicine from 1927-1988. Suzanne and Hugh McCord bought the house from cousins Bruce and Ian in 1966 and continued to rent out the two apartments on the first floor. Carpenter Gilbert Borris renovated the three apartments, covering the wall panels with gyrock, lowering the ceilings and installing new electrical and plumbing services. My mother and I moved into the back apartment in 1967, father had died in 1965. The home was sold out of the family in 1978.

It is now a treat to be served a fine meal at 'The Heritage Restaurant'. The rooms have been redecorated to welcome diners. Superb food, elegant service! My ancestors would be delighted to see 'Clearview' is still a focal point for the Village of Cumberland.

