



## MHS Fall walking tour series sells out

### Interest remained high

Milton Historical Society's Fall Walking Tour series proved to be a hit with Miltonians young and old, selling out its four consecutive Sunday run through the month of September.

Aided by great weather and a number of local citizens who clearly wanted to temporarily escape the clutches of the COVID-19 pandemic, the Society had to turn away potential registrants for the Fall Walking Tour. Local residents who attended indicated they did so because they wanted to get together with some fellow Miltonians and participate in a safe activity, get a little outdoor exercise in the process and learn something more about the history of their great home town.

As with past tours, each week focused on a specific area of Old Milton, including Main Street, Martin Street, the Mill and Victoria Street neighbourhoods and Victoria Park Square and area. Each participant also received a booklet highlighting the historic area walked.

The 2021 Walking Tour will include Spring and Fall series at a price of \$10 per historic area toured, including booklet.



The Walking Tour series resumed in the fall. There was some initial doubt that residents would participate during this pandemic. However, using as many precautions as possible, all tours were sold out.

## Gourmet & Spirits postponed to 2021

The ongoing Pandemic was cited as the reason the Milton Historical Society has decided to postpone its popular Gourmet & Spirits nights until late April 2021.

The society was encouraged in the summer as the number of new cases of Covid-19 in Halton fell significantly. And its members felt the same selling out two nights (of reduced seating) at La Toscana Restaurant.

However, in September as the number of new cases rose significantly, a decision was reached to cancel it for 2020 with the intention of holding it sometime in 2021 when the situation might be improved.

## THANKS

Thank you so much for being such a devoted and hardworking volunteer group in furthering our efforts for the Milton Historical Society! Your dedication is essential to the work that we do and we cannot do it without you. We can't thank you enough, and hope to see you again soon!

Although our group is battling the pandemic, we're thankful that our volunteers have stood by us as we try to make sense of all of this.

# Blacksmith open house draws very well

By Bruce Carlin

The Waldie Blacksmith Shop held an Open House on Saturday August 15 to promote the Fall blacksmith course offerings. Interested parties were invited to register beforehand online for the demonstrations. During each 30-minute session the blacksmiths demonstrated the techniques used to turn a bar of steel into a decorative “J” hook.

There were a total of six demonstrations held for 32 visitors. The event was a great opportunity for the public to see real blacksmiths working at the forge. It was also an opportunity to put into place new health and safety measures dur-

ing the Covid-19 pandemic including the use of masks, hand sanitizers and leather gloves.

The Open House went well and resulted in new registrations for our Fall course schedule as well as the sale of some completed blacksmith hooks and potentially some outdoor demonstrations.

Registrations for our Fall blacksmith courses have been good and we have already held three Beginner courses and some one-to-one studio sessions.

Thanks to our two blacksmith instructor teams for their work with the students!

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## Milton Historical Society seeks Community Fund Grants

Milton Historical Society recently made three submissions to the Town of Milton's Milton Community Fund for one-time financial grants to help maintain the Waldie Blacksmith Shop, the only privately-operated museum in urban Milton and home of the community's only professionally-maintained historical archives.

Society President John Challinor II, assisted by Treasurer Sue Paul and Past Presidents Mandy Sedgwick and Marsha Waldie, made detailed submissions related to a thorough exterior and interior re-painting of the Shop, the replacement of all windows in the Shop and the replacement of the current patio-stone walkway with a concrete sidewalk.

If successful, the submissions will make the Shop a more attractive, safe and energy-efficient venue for all Miltonians to visit.

The Society is expected to receive the Community Fund's decisions regarding its three requests in January 2021.

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## MHS receives assistance from federal government

Milton Historical Society has received a one-time, \$5,000 grant from the Government of Canada's Museum Assistance Program, developed to help the culture, heritage and sports sectors across the country cope financially during the COVID-19 pandemic.

The Society will use the funds to offset significant operating budget losses it has incurred in 2020 as a result of having to dramatically reduce its revenue-generating programs and services to the community.

As Milton's only privately-operated, urban museum and the sole source of professionally archived, historical information about the community, the Waldie Blacksmith Shop and the Society play a vital role in connecting Miltonians to their past, explained John Challinor II, President, Milton Historical Society.

"We want to thank Canadian Her-

itage Deputy Minister H  l  ne Laurendeau and the staff of the federal government's Department of Canadian Heritage for acknowledging the financial difficulty that vital local history-focused museums like the Waldie Blacksmith Shop and local historical organizations like the Society were having during the global COVID-19 pandemic," said Mr. Challinor.

"Complemented by the other measures the Society's Board of Directors have taken during 2020 to protect the blacksmith shop and the organization financially for the future, the one-time \$5,000 grant will help us prepare for that strong re-entry, post-pandemic."

The final quarter of 2020 will feature blacksmith classes, the popular monthly Speakers Series presented on video and distributed to the community via Youtube and the use of the Society's archives by appointment only.



This safe belonged to a jewelry stores on Main Street since the 1870s. John Duignan moved it to the front of this business.

# Member preserves 150-year-old safe

## Moves one-ton safe into his business

By Mike Boyle

John Duignan has safely preserved a large part of Milton's history.

Very large in fact. About 2,200 pounds.

John was aware for some time that a very old safe was residing in the back of a neighbouring business next to his Main Street insurance company.

When that business was going through renovations, he was offered the massive safe for free – if he could get it out of the building. So, using a pickup truck and then a tow truck, John managed to get the safe through the back door, out onto Mary Street, around to Main Street and then through the front door of his downtown insurance business.

The safe is special. All indications are that it was built in 1871 by The Goldie & McCulloch Co. Ltd., Galt, Ontario.

Research is a little vague but in 1894, the estate of Charles White sold his jewelry business to Emile Marchand. And along with the business, came the safe. Emile Marchand and his son Marcel operated Marchand Jewellers until 1966 when the business was sold to Ross Brancier, then of Hamilton.

Mr. Duignan has surmised that Mr. Marchand painted over the name of Charles White, although, no one is sure exactly. And it's not yet clear, if the safe was made for Mr. White or someone else although it was certainly located in the same spot in the shop.

Nevertheless, Mr. Duignan was determined to save the safe and display it in the front lobby of his business. It's visible



John used a pickup truck and a tow truck to move from the back of a neighbouring business to his business next door.

from the sidewalk.

"What we're trying to do, is preserve Milton's history before it's all thrown out," said Mr. Duignan.

The safe itself was made in Galt. The locking mechanism was made by Sargent & Greenleaf, of Rochester, New York. Incidentally, Sargent & Greenleaf is still operating although now it's based in Kentucky.

The inside of the safe contains a number of compartments. It is believed the safe itself is constructed with a thick metal frame filled with concrete. After it was set down, Mr. Duignan tried to open it. Initially it wouldn't open, but after some convincing, he was able to pry it open to reveal its contents.

Fortunately, his building was constructed with very thick timbers and is able to support the weighty safe. "The floor did a little wobble when the safe was lowered," said Mr. Duignan.

## BUSINESSES Of Our Past

# Marchand family handled Milton's needs for 72 years

By Mike Boyle

For 72 years, when Milton residents had jewelry needs, they went to Marchand Credit Jewellers downtown.

The father and son combo ran the shop at 220 Main Street from 1894 until 1966, and served its residents faithfully. The business still lives on indirectly. It was purchased by Ross Brancier, whose family continues to operate Brancier Jewellers, now on Louis St. Laurent Boulevard in the Sobeys Plaza.

The story of how Emil Marchand came to Milton and then operated the store has many turns.

Born in Switzerland in 1866, Emil Marchand came to Canada when he was 10 and settled in Kitchener (then Berlin), where he learned his trade. He worked for a store in Kitchener before opening his own in Preston (Cambridge), Ontario.



Ad from September 1928

Gold and Silver Watches which I will sell at astonishing low prices. I have also just received a beautiful line of Silverware, suitable for wedding presents, which must be seen to be appreciated. You will also find in my store a nice line of Engage-



Marchand Credit Jewellers was a mainstay on Main Street before selling to Ross Brancier in 1966.

ment Rings and other beautiful articles, too numerous to mention. Whether you buy or not, no trouble to show the goods.

"Repairing of all kinds of watches, clocks, jewellery, etc., neatly done on short notice. All work guaranteed."

His workmanship appreciated, Emil Marchand was awarded the contract to install and service the clock in the then new post office in 1912. Emil and his 11-year-old son Marcel carried all the parts up the tower. Since few residents owned watches or clock, the Post Office clock set the time for many people.

As well, it was the Marchands' duty to maintain the correct time for the clock and the CPR train station, which was then located trackside on Court Street. Twice a week, he carried a pocket watch to the station to make sure the train station clock was accurate.

"The engineers on the CPR used to double-check their watches with that clock," said Marcel in 1966. "They said that was the only clock between Toronto and Windsor which kept perfect time."

Emil Marchand passed away in 1928 and, a few years later, his son Marcel took over the business. He ran the business until 1966 selling to Ross Brancier. Just two years later, Marcel died in his 67th year.



Marchand Credit Jewellers purchased a safe, likely from the previous jeweller. Inside the door, Marcel Marchand scratched his name when he was 15. He ran the business until 1966.



Hidden on the northwest corner of Derry Road and Walkers Line, DeForest Cemetery honours the DeForest family as well as other families. Most were United Empire Loyalists or their ancestors.

# DEFOREST CEMETERY

## Rural cemetery honours many United Empire Loyalist families

By Mike Boyle

Almost every Milton resident who heads westbound out of town, has at one time or another passed the DeForest Cemetery on the north side of Derry Road just west of Walkers Line.

DeForest Cemetery is a pioneer cemetery within the town of Milton which traces its roots to the DeForest family, United Empire Loyalists, who left the United States in a hurry after the American War of Independence.

Over time, DeForest family members were buried in this small cemetery and in 2015, which the financial resources from the Town of Milton, and some other assistance, it was properly restored.

The history of this cemetery begins in 1600 when three DeForest brothers, all Huguenots, came to New Amsterdam, N.Y., from France. As French Protestants, they were escaping their country which viewed their religion with hostility. Settling in the New York area, some of their descendants picked the wrong side in the American Revolution.

As Loyalists, Issac DeForest and his son Abraham were imprisoned. They escaped detention however, only Abraham survived, crossing into Canada near Niagara-on-the-Lake.

Abraham DeForest made his way to Nelson and was initially given 200 acres of land. Born in 1769, he was 26 years of age when he married Elizabeth. They're children were also granted land in the area many years later.

Within this cemetery is buried Abraham and Elizabeth DeForest, their children and their spouses, as well as a number of others. The Burlington Historical Society researched

this cemetery a number of years ago and didn't learn if this was intended to be an Anglican cemetery, one for the DeForest family exclusively or one for local residents. It was built on lands that at one time belonged to the DeForest family though.

Over the years, the cemetery fell into disrepair. Groups from the Milton Historical Society, the United Empire Loyalists Society of Canada, and a paranormal group approached the Town of Milton about restoring it.

In 2015, at a cost to the Town of about \$45,000, the cemetery was cleaned up and restored.

Among those buried here are:

Abraham DeForest died 1842, aged 75

Elizabeth DeForest, his wife, died 1849, age 80

Simon DeForest, died 1861, age 72

John DeForest, died 1867, age 76

John Harris, died 1860, age 67

Elizabeth Harris, his wife, died 1838, age 39

William Campbell, died 1886, age 75

Ann Finney Campbell, his wife, died 1858, age 43

Isabella Campbell, died 1903, age 79

Frank Campbell, died 1900, age 35



Many markers have showed signs of age. However, Simon DeForest's headstone is quite clear.

# Richard VanWyck Laughton passes away

## Milton historian authored blog on Milton soldiers

Richard VanWyck Laughton, author of the Great War Soldiers of Milton blog, passed away as a result of pancreatic cancer on August 30, 2020. He was in his 69th year.

Mr. Laughton's work both complemented and deployed research from the popular book co-written by local historians John Challinor II and the late Jim Dills in 2005, entitled, *Milton Remembers World War I And The Men And Women We Never Knew*.

The investigations into World War I by Msrs. Laughton, Challinor and Dills stemmed from Milton Historical Society's Milton Remembers initiative, which began in the early 1990s with the book authored by the late Ken Lamb in 1995, entitled, *Milton Remembers World War II*.

Mr. Laughton is survived by his wife of 44 years, Olga; his four daughters (including triplets), Melissa, Tessa, Jennifer and Edwyna; and his grandchildren Evan and Cole (twins) and Sophie and Riley (twins).

He is the former owner of the Pollutech Group of Companies, now based in Oakville and Sarnia. Following retirement, he assisted his daughter, Tessa, with her business, Laughton Training and Sales riding academy in north Burlington.

Funeral services were held on September 4, 2020, at McKersie-Kocher Funeral Home. The family has requested donations in Mr. Laughton's memory be made to either the Pancreatic Cancer Canada Foundation or to Milton District Hospital.



Richard Laughton passed away August 30. He was the author of a blog about Milton's soldiers.

## Did You Know? Halton Registry Office

The first Registry Office to be built was on the corner of Court and Main Streets and the first registrar to be installed was Thomas Racey, in 1857. The building was moved to the corner of Pearl and Bruce Streets, across from the Public School.

### Town Hall *previously the Halton County Building and Gaol*

The surroundings of the County Buildings in the early days must have presented a very different picture for that of today. Victoria Park, where the fine Memorial to those who gave their lives during two World Wars, occupies a prominent position and is a credit to the town of Milton and the County as a whole.

But for years this piece of land was seeded down with grain of one kind or another. We surmise it was sown and harvested with the aid of prisoners from the gaol.

These are excerpts from *Halton's Pages of the Past*  
by Gwen Clarke



## Local resident's name appeared on Canada's gas coupons

Esquiesing-born George Cottrelle was appointed Oil Controller for Canada in 1940, a job which involved rationing gas and oil throughout the country. Prime Minister Mackenzie King called it the "toughest job in Canada". Cottrelle's name was on all the certificates.

It wasn't all tough work for George. A banker by trade, he was involved with financing Maple Leaf Gardens' construction and became a director with the NHL's Toronto Maple Leafs. His name is on the Stanley Cup!

## Edwin Franklin Earl 1855-1931

Mayor, Fire Chief, Politician

Edwin F. Earl came to Milton from Kilbride, Ont. He married Mary A. Houston, also from Kilbride.

In 1894, he was appointed as Milton Fire Chief serving for many years in that position. Edwin was elected to Milton Town Council and was its reeve as well as Halton County Warden.

Mr. Earl became the mayor of Milton in 1917 and was a community minded person serving in a number of Milton's organizations and town committees, such as the baseball club, Order of Foresters, Board of Health and Railways/Legislation committees.

Mary and Edwin are both interred in Evergreen Cemetery.



Edwin Earl

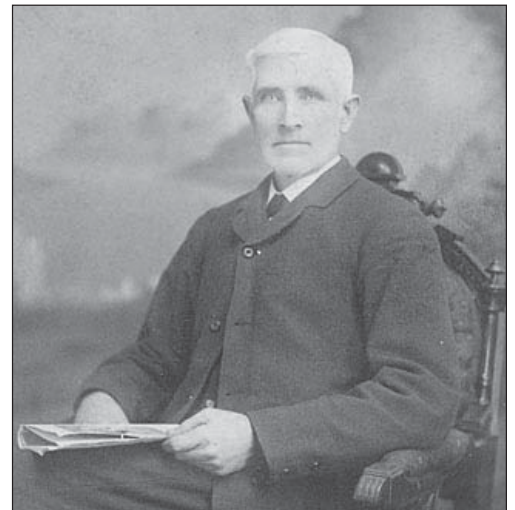
## Robert Troop Hill 1819-1890

Farmer, Merchant

Robert T. Hill was born in Allegheny County, New York, U.S.A. His family came to Canada about 1829, taking up property just northwest of Milton settling in what is known as Peru.

He married Eliza Huffman who was the daughter of Henry and his wife Catherine, whose grandfather was Christopher Huffman, a Loyalist. Robert and Eliza had 11 children. Robert operated a sawmill a Peru along the 16 Mile Creek and also farmed in the area.

He and his wife are interred in Milton Evergreen Cemetery.

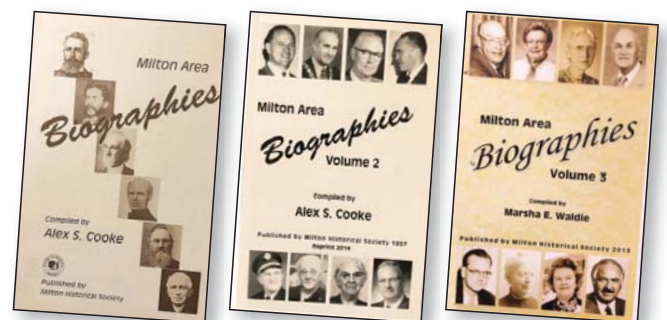


Robert Hill

### Biography books bring history to life

There are three books available through the Milton Historical Society which profile a large number of persons who made significant marks and helped build Milton and area.

The three separate volumes of Milton Area Biographies provide more detail about a number of residents.



# Love of arts and history drew Nancy to Milton

## Nancy Cuttle

### Town / Regional Liaison

Facing her husband's impending retirement in 2002, Nancy Cuttle realized her Etobicoke home wasn't where she wanted to enjoy their next life adventure.

She recalled the drive west on Highway 401 she made a long time ago as a student of the University of Western Ontario. The Escarpment beckoned her. Many years later, she found Milton, drove around and finding herself in the gazebo at Victoria Park, recognized the atmosphere she was seeking.

"I wanted to live in a town that cared about its history," said Nancy.

So began Nancy's involvement with the town.

Though she studied sociology at university, her parents' love of the arts, and in particular her mom's painting skills, drew her to painting.

As her family moved back and forth across the country, living in Saskatoon and Toronto, and then as she and her husband began their family, to Prince George B.C. and back to Toronto, painting and sculpture became a constant for her.

With that in mind, Nancy looked for a distinct home in Milton where she could have a studio. She found a heritage home on Woodward Avenue, and built her studio to fulfill her passions.

She joined the Milton Historical Society Board and quickly got involved in a number of its projects. Among them were chairing the St. Paul's Save the Sanctuary, the Flag and Fan initiative with John McDonald, the MHS 35th Anniversary Dinner, the P.L. Robertson Celebration Dinner and the ongoing MHS Revitalization Project.

Nancy also got involved with the Town of Milton initially joining a task force looking into the feasibility of an arts and entertainment centre (which became First Ontario Arts Centre Milton). As a volunteer, she was a key designer for the Holcim Gallery and Arts Studios, writing operational procedures for

the gallery.

Nancy is also very involved with Fine Arts Society of Milton (FASM). She's been a board member since 2004. She was also involved with the organization of Milton Studio Tours. Nancy was the construction design and project manager for the 33-foot mural donated to the Milton District Hospital. "Milton's Nature Warms the Soul" created by artist Tina Newlove hangs high up in the new hospital reception area. With a passion for collaborative projects, Nancy was the concept creator and project manager for the CFUW's

(Canadian Federation of University Women) Milton chapter and FASM's installation of five eight-foot pillars celebrating 100 women trailblazers who played a key role in Milton's development over the past 100 years.

Titled 100 Years/100 Women, the large display involved pho-

tos and biographies of those featured. It was first displayed at the Holcim Gallery before finding a permanent home at Country Heritage Park.

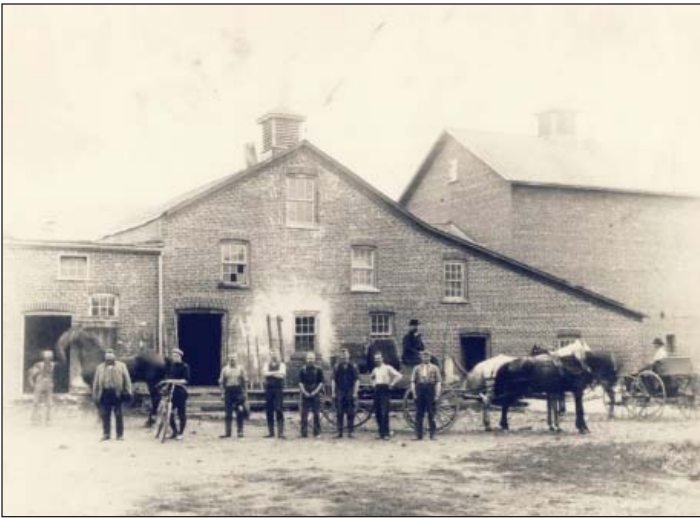
Nancy discovered her passion for sculpture in 1995. She learned quickly taking classes from professional artist/teachers at the Etobicoke Art Group and attending Summer Courses at Haliburton School for the Arts for 20 years.

Among her accomplishments was "Home Economics, A Celebration of Canadian Women in the 20th Century" displayed in the Hall of Honour at Parliament Hill in Ottawa in 2001. That project consumed three and a half years of her life. Former MP Jean Augustine, the first Black female member MP, was instrumental in getting this to Parliament Hill for a one day exhibition. Breaking many precedents, Nancy said that was the first and last time anything of that magnitude was displayed there.

From a family of three girls; a mother of two daughters, both teachers; Nancy has three grandchildren ... all girls. Perhaps that explains her passion for women's issues!



Nancy Cuttle



Workmen and members of the Brain Family at the main building of the Brain Brewery complex. In 1877 there were 10 men and 40 horses employed.



The Brain family pose at the family homestead.

## Hornby once home to major brewery

By John McDonald

Hotels in Milton became an important part of the business community especially after the town was named the county town for Halton in the 1850s. Suddenly there was a demand for temporary accommodation for jurists, legal practitioners and witnesses for trials held in the courthouse. Back then it wasn't an easy drive from Milton to Oakville, Burlington or Georgetown.

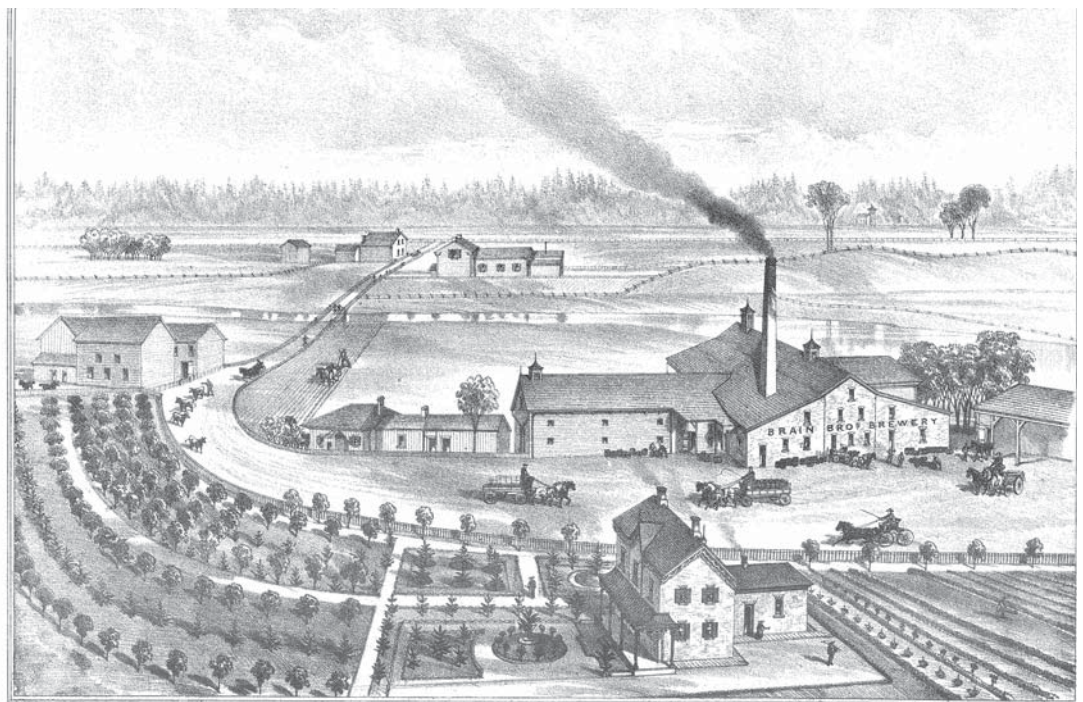
Beverage rooms in the various Milton hotels were also an important part of the business. Fortunately there was an abundance of beer readily available from a local brewery situated just to the east of town, near Hornby. Brain's Brewery was located on the Ninth Line in Esquesing Township, immediately north of Steeles Avenue.

John Brain was the son of an English farmer and part-time brewer. He left England in 1823 and went to Pennsylvania before coming to Upper Canada about 1825. After clearing the land and operating a shingle business for a short time he began a small brewing operation as a result

of requests from neighbours who knew of Brain's brewing skills from 'the old country'. The demand grew and by the early 1830s Brain had a full scale brewery in operation. By 1834 a new brick brewery could produce 5,000 barrels of beer a year. A nearby pond was the source of ice for cooling the beer during the warm months.

The brewery had its own cooper who made barrels and

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BRAIN BROS BREWERY & ESTATE, ESQUESING.

Here's a look at the entire operation as it appeared in the 1877 Halton Atlas.



This is actually an addition to the main house. It was built in 1881.



Behind the front house, is the original house which dates to 1833. There are numerous foundations around the property from buildings since demolished.

## Prohibition ended the Brains' brewery business

• Continued from previous page

kegs which would be hauled by a team of horses to hotels in Acton, Georgetown, Milton, Norval, Glen Williams, Oakville and several other settlements outside the county. In 1877 there were 10 men and 40 horses at the Brewery. Hops were abundant in nearby Glen Williams, Georgetown and Hornby.

The various temperance movements had always been active in Milton. A Temperance Hall was built on Mill Street as early as 1857.

Naturally, Brain's Brewery was always a favourite target for the local Temperance groups. In 1916 when the entire province went under prohibition the brewery closed down and didn't re-open after the 1927 repeal. The brewery was eventually sold to Messrs. Kemp and Chisholm who ran the business under the Brain name.

Although targeted by temperance groups, it should be noted the Brain family was instrumental in the building of St. Stephen's Anglican Church situated just south of the farm on Steeles Avenue.

## Boston Presbyterian Church as never seen before

MHS member Mike Miller took this composite picture of Boston Presbyterian Church on Third Line.

In Mike's words:

"It's a star trail composite image of 427 individual photographs recorded over the course of two hours that have been "stacked" together in a software program so that the points of star light blend together. I did a little light painting with a flashlight and cars passing by also contributed to the lighting of the building and gravestones. The lighter part of the image in the bottom right hand corner is from the parking lot light."





A number of residents have raised the issue of oversized homes being built in mature neighbourhoods, such as this home on Kingsleigh Court. The Town of Milton is in the process of putting together some bylaws to address this issue.

## Town of Milton preparing bylaws to protect mature neighbourhoods

By John Challinor II

Town of Milton Planning staff will be returning to Milton Council before very long with legislation that will protect the community's mature neighbourhoods from further unsympathetic renovations, demolition of original residences and construction of so-called monster homes -- housing structures that are not consistent with the architectural history, built form or development vision associated with the individual historic neighbourhoods that make up Old Milton.

Old Milton is bounded by Highway 401 to the north, Peru Road and the Canadian Pacific Railway to the west, Bronte Street to the south, Derry Road to the east and Ontario Street to the northeast.

While, over the last 30 years, Heritage Milton and Town Planning staff have worked with individual homeowners and their architects and contractors to attempt to influence a form, design and footprint that was consistent with the Old Milton neighbourhood where the new housing development was proposed, at the end of the day, the Town of Milton lacked the legislative authority to effectively protect the residential inventory in the community's mature neighbourhoods.

Town staff's pending recommendations follow more than two years of study into Old

Milton neighbourhoods, including defining their character architecturally, obtaining community input and assessing the current Official Plan and Zoning By-laws to determine if they effectively manage infill development and maintain the character of Old Milton neighbourhoods. Assessment of other mature neighbourhoods in Old Milton that have not yet been included in the first two phases of the study will occur in the months to come.

Rapid growth in Milton over the last 20 years has resulted in development pressure and significant interest in re-development in Milton's mature neighbourhoods. This has raised public concern about the future of the community's mature neighbourhoods.



Here is another part of Kingsleigh Court with a large home amid much smaller homes.

# The many transformations of Loblaws

By Mike Boyle

About 60 years ago, Oakview Developments approached Milton Town Council about building a shopping plaza on the southeast corner of Main Street and Ontario Street.

The site needed water and sewer services before construction could begin.

Initially, Town Council denied the request worried that a major plaza on the outskirts of the town, would negatively impact the existing downtown businesses.

However, there was push-back from a number of Milton residents with some complaining they needed to go out of town for some of their shopping. Oakview Developments went as far as to organize a petition informing Town Council they expected signatures from 80 per cent of the town's residents.

Approval for the project was complicated in that the proposed plaza would be located in Trafalgar Township. However, it needed water and sewer to come from the town of Milton, hence it needed Milton Town Council's approval.

By June 1960, Oakview resubmitted their plan and it passed by a 5-3 vote.

John Tamai, the spokesman for Oakview then, initially wouldn't commit to which stores would be accommodated, insisting that his proposals hinged on a major super-market, which by June 1960, hadn't been finalized.

Within six months, the company committed to Loblaws and by early October 1961, the grocery store opened. It was built on the northwest side of the plaza facing Ontario Street.

The plaza was later rebuilt into Milton Mall in the mid-1970s and Loblaws moved to the southeast corner of the mall. It remained there for many years until moving to the Nipissing Road plaza nearby where Winners and Shoppers Drug Mart are now located in August 1998.

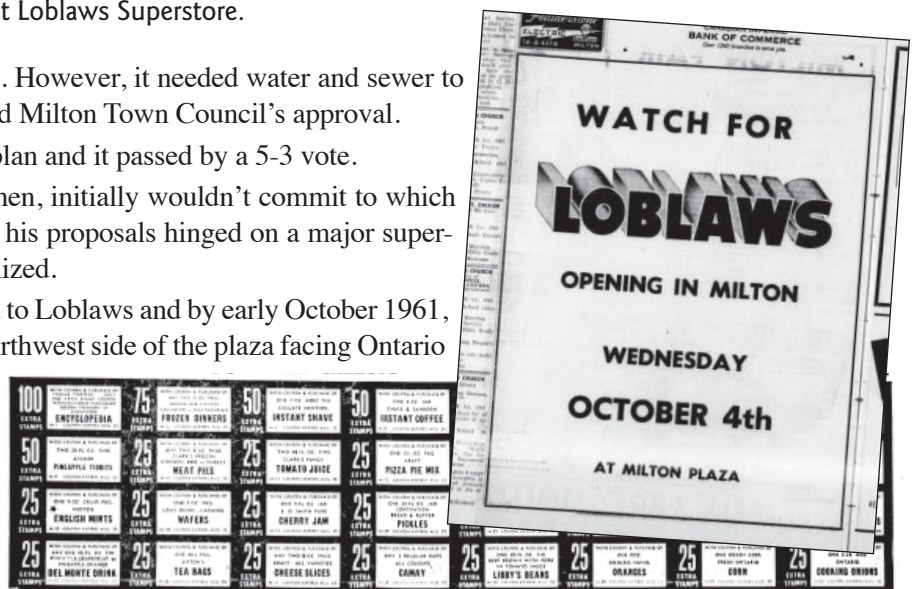
And then, it moved again in 2007 to its current location on Main Street near Thompson Road.



The original Loblaws store at Milton Plaza (now Milton Mall) in 1965.



The current Loblaws Superstore.



Loblaws offered Lucky Green Stamps on many of its purchases. Customers could get extra stamps by clipping newspaper offers. The stamps needed to be pasted into special books which could be redeemed for merchandise. The ad is from a page in The Canadian Champion in 1961.



The current building on Main Street for Knox Presbyterian Church was built in 1890.

## Knox Church to celebrate 165th anniversary

**By Marsha Waldie**

Knox Presbyterian Church is celebrating its 165th anniversary Sunday October 25, 2020.

That date is also significant in that the church will induct its new minister, Rev. Stephen Rothery, in the afternoon.

When Milton was first settled, many residents travelled to Boston Presbyterian Church in Esquesing prior to having a church in Milton.

In 1855, some members petitioned the Presbytery of Toronto to recognize Milton as a preaching station which was granted. The congregation first met for worship in Mr. Laidlaw's frame store which was located at 111 Main Street, (now a parking lot next to St. Paul's) and later at what we know as Milton Town Hall.

Their first church building was built in 1855 at 103 Martin St. (now Graceway Baptist Church) which they sold in 1891 following the construction of their new church at 170 Main St. in 1890.

The congregation has preserved many of their historic artifacts which are now on display inside the church. In 2012, the church underwent a major renovation to preserve its historic building, which had become a structural safety concern, receiving a Heritage Award from the Town of Milton's Heritage Committee.



### 2020 Board of Directors:

President: John Challinor II  
 Past President: Mandy Sedgwick  
 Secretary: Anne Fisher  
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 House Plaques: Marsha Waldie  
 Journal Editor: Mike Boyle  
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 Publications: Mike Boyle  
 Building Maintenance  
 & Supplies: Mandy Sedgwick

### Appointed Directors

Blacksmith Courses: Bruce Carlin  
 Archivists: Brenda Bousfield  
 Vic Kass  
 Town/Regional Liaison: Nancy Cuttle

### MHS Program Volunteers

**Archives:** Gloria Brown, Kaye Hogg,  
 Marsha Waldie, Anne Newell  
**Blacksmiths:** Darwyne Hourie, Megan Carter,  
 Mike Armstrong, Jon Miller  
**Web Site Master:** Jennifer Smith  
**Facebook & Twitter:** Sydney McEachern  
**Volunteer Co-ordinator:** Nadia English  
**Interpreter Smiths:** Steve Wallace, Nolan  
 Piette, Don Thomson,  
 Dave Brandow

*To contact MHS executive members, email  
 info@miltonhistoricalsociety.ca  
 or call (905) 875-4156.*

# Milton Historical Society MEMBERS

FEATURED  
MEMBER

## Fitzgerald Insurance division of Spriggs Insurance Brokerage Ltd.



Since 1934, Fitzgerald Insurance has served the town of Milton providing a wide variety of insurance to residents.

The general manager is John Duignan, who represents the third generation of his family to run the business.

A long-time member of the Milton Historical Society, Mr. Duignan's premises are filled from top to bottom, back to front, with artifacts he's recovered and uncovered throughout the town.

A visit into his business is like a trip down Milton's memory lane.

Just off the entrance, there's a cabinet filled with household goods that were

retrieved from the bottom of the Mill Pond when it was drained.

There are original Milton signs hanging on all the walls.

Inside, his staff are accustomed to handling the insurance business without being distracted by all the artifacts.

Fitzgerald Insurance Division of Spriggs Insurance Brokerage Ltd.

216 Main St. E.

Milton

L9T 1N8

905-878-2326

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

## Membership Information

We'd greatly appreciate your support to keep our mandate going for another 40 years!

We at MHS, call it History in the Making!

### Corporate Memberships

- Level A:** \$100 yearly for businesses with 10 employees or less
- Level B:** \$200 yearly for businesses with 10 employees or more

### General Memberships

- Single .....\$25 yearly
- Family .....\$40 yearly
- Students .....Free (ages 12-18)

## Corporate Members

**Casa Americo Italian Bistro & Restaurant**  
(Member since September 25, 2018)

**Dr. Glen Hunter**  
(Member since January 8, 2019)

**Edward Jones Investments - David Illingworth**  
(Member since July 2018)

**Fitzgerald Insurance –**  
**a division of Spriggs Insurance Ltd**  
(Member since September 2018)

**Given Road West Communications**  
(Member since January 2019)

**Halton Region Heritage Services**  
(Member since March 2019)

**Hibbert Foot Clinic – Foot Care Specialists**  
(Member since January 2019)

**Historic Lumber**  
(Member since October 2018)

**Hudson Restoration**  
(Member since May 2019)

**Johnson McMaster Law Office**  
(Member since January 2020)

**J. Scott Early Funeral Home**  
(Member since January 2017)

**La Rose Bakery**  
(Member since July 2018)

**La Toscana Ristorante**  
(Member since June 2019)

**Ollie's Roofing Limited**  
(Member Since February 2020)

**Pressé Law – Barristers & Solicitors**  
(Member since Aug. 28, 2018)

**Roto-Static Milton**  
(Member since January 3, 2019)

**Sedgwick Marshall Heritage Homes Ltd**  
(Member since October 2018)

**Strutt Armstrong**  
**Chartered Professional Accountants**  
(Member since July 2018)

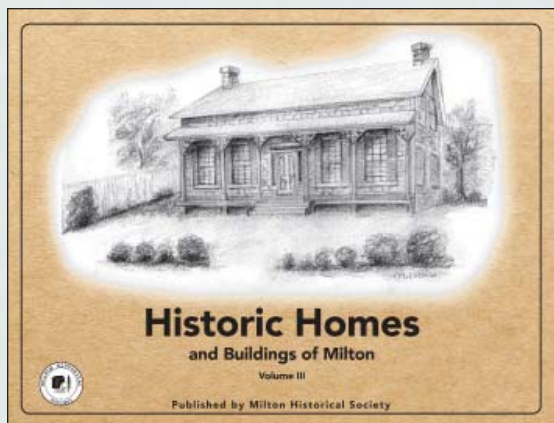
**TLC Mortgage Group**  
(Member since October 2019)

**Watada Medicine Professional**  
(Member since November 2018)

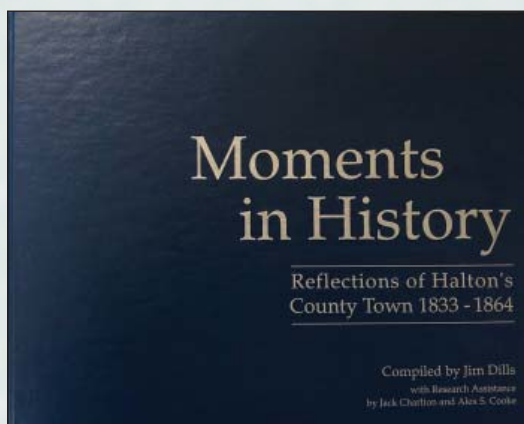
**Special thanks to our valued  
Corporate Members. Please kindly  
support their businesses.**



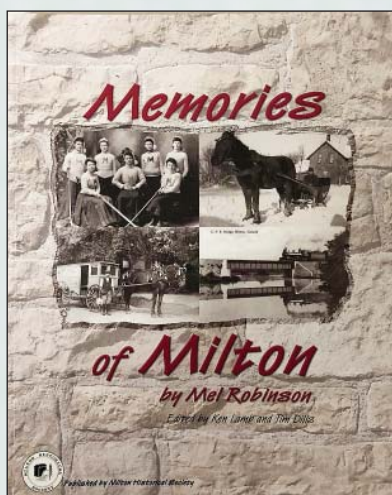
**MHS  
BOOKS  
FOR SALE**



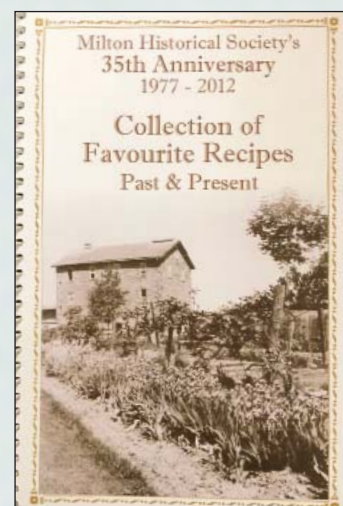
**Historic Homes Volume 3**  
\$30



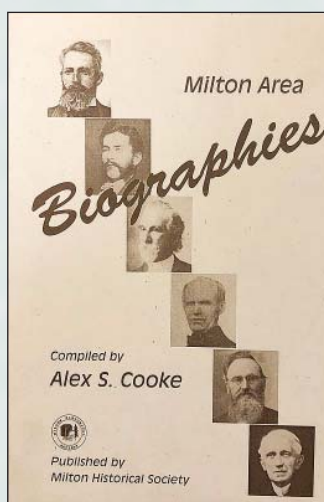
**Moments in History**  
\$15



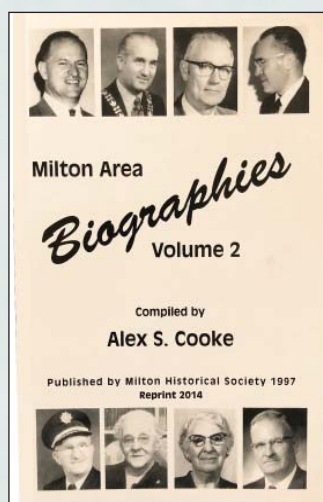
**Memories of Milton**  
\$10



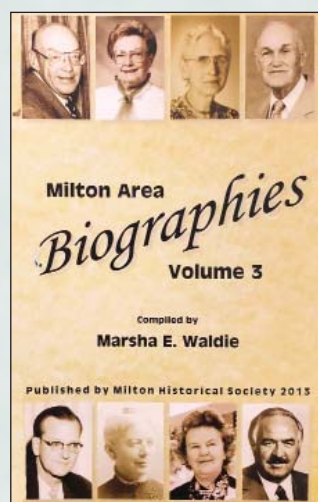
**MHS 35th Anniversary  
Cookbook - \$15**



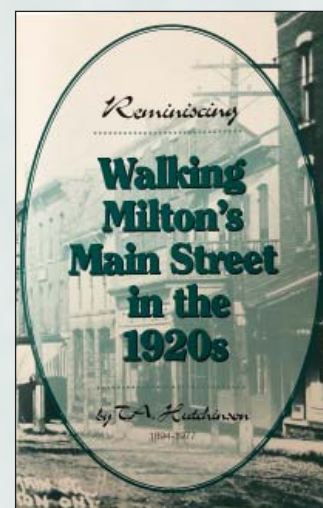
**Milton Area Biographies  
Vol. 1 - \$20**



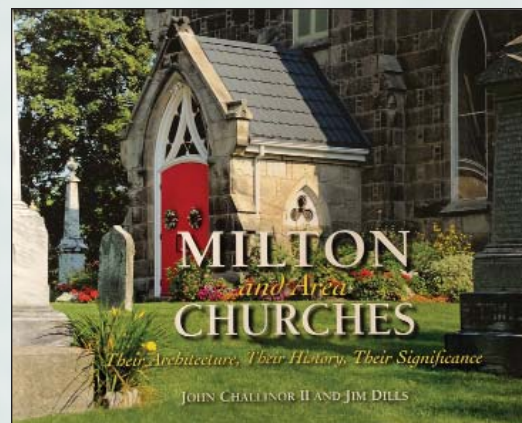
**Milton Area Biographies  
Vol. 2 - \$25**



**Milton Area Biographies  
Vol. 3 - \$30**

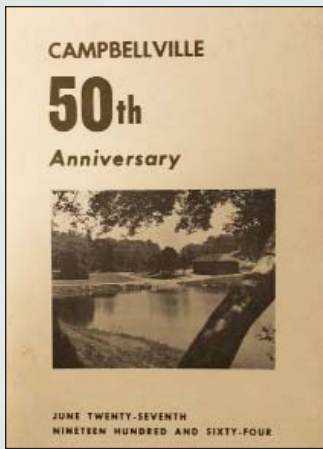


**Walking Milton's Main  
Street 1920s - \$3**

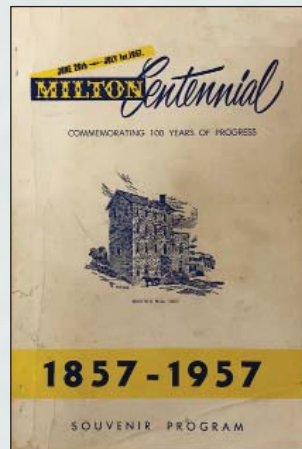


**Milton and Area Churches**  
\$40

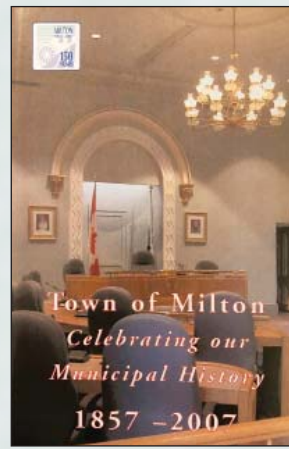
*All these books (and more) are available for sale from the Milton Historical Society's website with payment and delivery options.  
For more information, or help with ordering, please contact  
Mike Boyle at [mikeboyle539@gmail.com](mailto:mikeboyle539@gmail.com).*



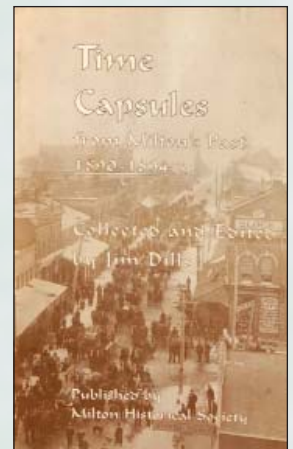
**Campbellville 50th Anniversary \$ 20**



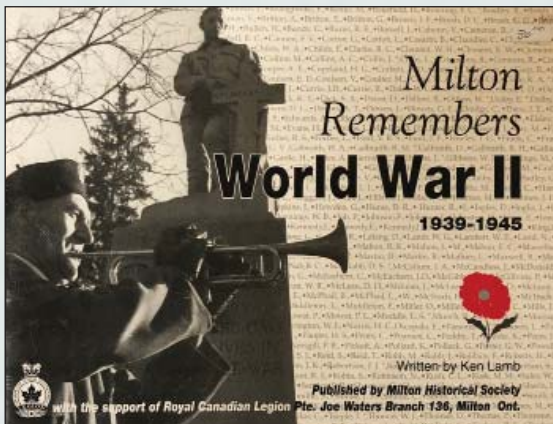
**Milton Centennial \$20**



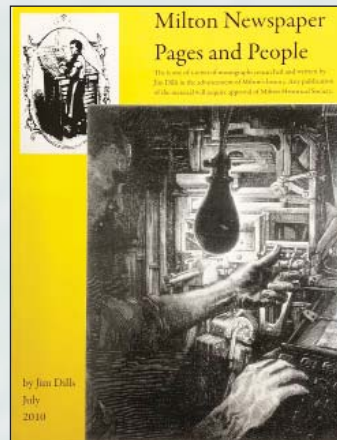
**Celebrating Municipal History \$1**



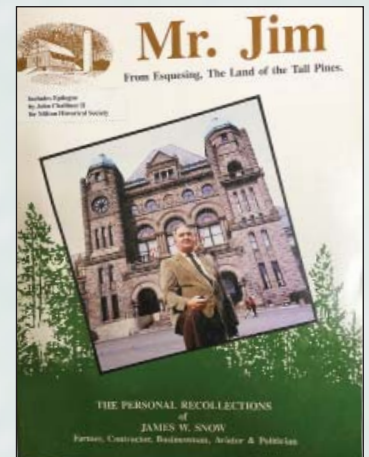
**Time Capsules \$1**



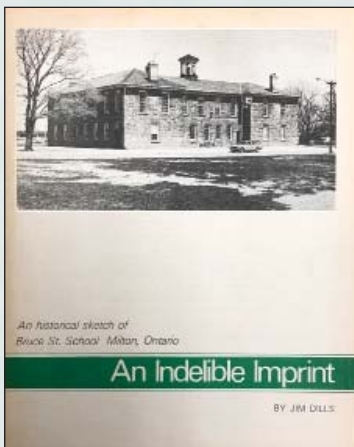
**Milton Remembers World War II \$20**



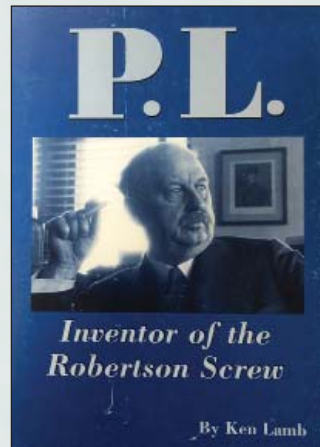
**Milton Newspaper Pages & People – \$20**



**Mr. Jim (Snow) \$20**



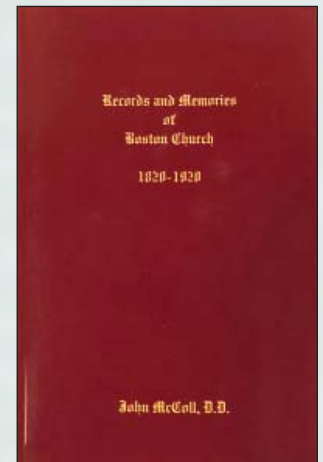
**An Indelible Imprint, Bruce Street School – 50¢**



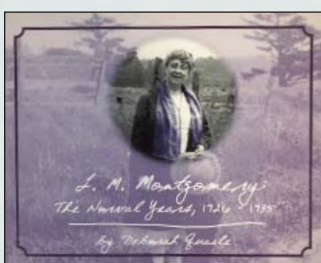
**P.L. Inventor of the Robertson Screw – \$30**



**Halton's Pages of the Past \$20**



**Records of Boston Church – \$20**



**L.M. Montgomery Norval Years \$10**



**Milton Semi-Centennial \$20**



# THE MILTON HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Preserving Milton's History for Future Generations

## MEMBERSHIP FORM

Name:	_____
Address:	_____ _____
Phone:	_____
Email (please print)	_____

### MEMBERSHIP DUES (Check categories that apply)

- ☐ New Member or ☐ Renewal
- ☐ Single \$25      ☐ Family \$40      ☐ Youth (free)
- ☐ Corporate (10 or less employees) \$100
- ☐ Corporate (11 or more employees) \$200
- ☐ Yes, as a new member I wish to receive the Journal and other e-communications.

### VOLUNTEERS HELP US FORGE OUR FUTURE

We know all members have certain unique talents, skills and abilities.  
We ask you to share these, as our society relies on your active support and involvement.

These are just a few of the areas you can help the society with:

- |                                 |                                |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| • Office Support/Communications | • Graphic Artist Opportunities |
| • Special Events                | • Building Stewardship         |
| • Finance Opportunities         | • Museum Greeters              |
| • Education Opportunities       | • Archives Cataloguing & Care  |

(Please check those that interest you as listed on the back of this form)

### DONATIONS

I wish to make a separate donation to MHS in the sum of \_\_\_\_\_.

**Donations and payments** can be made on line through **PayPal** from our website.

(A tax receipt will be issued for all donations totaling \$25.00 or more)

**Note:** The Milton Historical Society has set up a foundation  
under the "Community Foundation of Halton North" (CFHN).

You can also donate through this foundation towards the Milton Historical Society.

Please contact our Society for further information.

The Milton Historical Society is a registered charity # 110041358RR0001

Please make cheques payable to Milton Historical Society Mail completed form/remittance to: The Milton Historical Society 16 James St., Milton, ON L9T 2P4
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## HELP SUSTAIN MILTON'S RICH HISTORY FOR GENERATIONS TO COME!

The Milton Historical Society was founded in 1977 to encourage appreciation of, and promote knowledge of, the historical and cultural heritage of the Town of Milton. To that end, the Society organizes popular community activities throughout the year and undertakes numerous projects including:

- The restoration and operation of the Waldie Blacksmith Shop
- The publication of books on the history of Milton
- The operation of the Cooke / Dills Archives
- Research and plaquing of Milton's historic properties
- Walking Tours of historic Milton neighbourhoods

To help fund these worthwhile projects, the Milton Historical Society is actively seeking to engage members of Milton's business community as sponsorship partners through our Corporate Membership Program. As a Corporate Member, you will not only help to support a vital and high profile local cultural organization, but you will also receive recognition and benefits including:

- Name mention in The Journal (the Society's quarterly newsletter)
- Name mention in the monthly e-Newsletter (Launching this Fall)
- Name mention on the MHS Website
- Name mention on Social Media Channels
- Name mention in Media Press Releases
- Name mention at the Speaker Forum Presentations
- Name mention at the Student Educational Class Presentations
- Name mention at the Monthly Meeting Series
- 10% off Guided Walking Tours
- 10% off all MHS Publications
- MHS Member-Level access to the Cooke/Dills Archives
- 10% off Carriage Room rental
- 10% off Blacksmith Classes (Waldie Blacksmith Shop)
- One free employee activity evening at Waldie's Blacksmith Shop
- Company presentation by the MHS President



*Note: Visit our website for more details and how to take advantage of these special offers.*

Becoming a Corporate Partner costs only \$100 for businesses with 10 employees or less, or \$200 for those with more than 10 employees. By the way, Single memberships are \$25 and \$40 for Family. These memberships are a great way to get your employees involved. We are always looking for Volunteer Support at our numerous events around town.

*Note: These prices are for a year and renewed on their anniversary date.*

Also see us around town at various events • Display at the Milton Downtown Classic Car Show • Display at the Milton Downtown Farmers Market • Float in the Milton Santa Claus Parade • Pot Luck Dinners for MHS Members • Festivities surrounding MHS Heritage Week • MHS Garage Sales (please visit our website for more details).

As a registered charity, the Milton Historical Society will be happy to issue a tax receipt for your contribution (Our registered charity # 110041358RR0001).

Please make cheques payable to Milton Historical Society. Mail completed form/remittance to: The Milton Historical Society 16 James Street, Milton, Ontario L9T 2P4

On behalf of the MHS Board, we very much appreciate your support and working together to advance our historic mission!

**Brad Collis – Community Marketing Lead**



# LET'S MAKE HISTORY TOGETHER WITH OUR CORPORATE MEMBERS



~ MHS ~  
OVER 40 YEARS  
IN THE MAKING!

- Preservation
- Education
- Recognition
- Celebration

A special thank you to all  
of our Corporate Members  
for their ongoing support.  
Please kindly support their  
businesses!

## OUR CORPORATE MEMBERS



Corporate Member	Member Since
Casa Americo Italian Bistro & Restaurant	Sept 2018
Dr. Glen Hunter	Jan 2019
Edward Jones Investments	
– David Illingworth	July 2018
Fitzgerald Insurance	
– A division of Spriggs Insurance Ltd	Sept 2018
Given Road West Communications	Jan 2019
Halton Regional Heritage Services	Mar 2019
Hibbert Foot Clinic	Jan 2019
Historic Lumber	Oct 2018
Hudson Restoration	May 2019
J. Scott Early Funeral Home	Jan 2017
Johnson McMaster Law Office	Jan 2020
La Rose Bakery	July 2018
La Toscana Ristorante	June 2019
Ollie's Roofing Limited	Feb 2020
Presse Law Barristers & Solicitors	Aug 2018
Roto-Static Milton	Jan 2019
Sedgwick Marshall Heritage Homes Ltd.	Oct 2018
Strutt Armstrong	
Professional Chartered Accountants	July 2018
TLC Mortgage Group – Staci James	Oct 2019
Watada Medicine Professional	Nov 2018

**VISIT TODAY!** [miltonhistoricalsociety.ca](http://miltonhistoricalsociety.ca)

Contact: Brad Collis, Community Marketing Lead  
[marcommguy@bell.net](mailto:marcommguy@bell.net)



**MILTON HISTORICAL SOCIETY**

16 James Street, Milton, Ontario L9T 2P2  
905.875.4156 or [info@miltonhistoricalsociety.ca](mailto:info@miltonhistoricalsociety.ca)



LET'S MAKE HISTORY TOGETHER WITH

# MILTON HISTORICAL SOCIETY

~ MHS ~  
OVER 40 YEARS  
IN THE MAKING!

- Preservation
- Education
- Recognition
- Celebration

**STEP INTO  
HISTORY!**

**WE WANT YOU!**

**Volunteer**  
Ambassadors are  
appreciated &  
Donations are  
kindly accepted



- Corporate & General Memberships
- Publications Library
- Spring & Fall Garage Sales
- Member Pot Luck Dinners
- Milton Community Events
- Heritage Educational Series
- Journal Newsletter & eNews Bulletins
- Historic Building Plaques
- Monthly Meeting Series
- Cooke/Dills Archives
- MHS Gift Shop
- Historic Walking Tours
- Carriage Room Rentals
- Blacksmith Courses
- MHS Facility Tours
- MHS Speakers Bureau

**LEARN  
MORE  
TODAY!**



**VISIT TODAY!**  
[miltonhistoricalsociety.ca](http://miltonhistoricalsociety.ca)



*Payment Options*  
• Cash • Cheque • PayPal

**MILTON HISTORICAL SOCIETY**  
16 James Street, Milton, Ontario L9T 2P2  
905.875.4156 or [info@miltonhistoricalsociety.ca](mailto:info@miltonhistoricalsociety.ca)