

Brant County War Memorial



Unveiling And Dedication Of
Seven Bronze Statues

Saturday, Twelve September 1992

At 1400 HOURS

Especially Remembering The

75TH ANNIVERSARY OF VIMY RIDGE

50TH ANNIVERSARY OF DIEPPE

AND

ALL NAMES INSCRIBED ON THIS CENOTAPH

BRANT COUNTY WAR MEMORIALS COMMITTEE

PADRE
JAMES (CHRIS) MORGAN

PARADE MARSHAL
AMOS DOUGLAS, CD

Order of Service

NATIONAL ANTHEM : O Canada HMCS STAR BAND

INVOCATION :

HYMN : Remembrance TELEPHONE CITY MUSICAL SOCIETY

*Be with us, Lord, as we our homage pay
To those who gave their lives for freedom's sake.
In many lands their crosses proudly stand;
Such was the price their duty did demand.*

*The peace we have is ours through constant care.
Our trust in arms leads only to despair.
Guide us, O Lord when we must take a stand
To place our country's future in your hand.*

*They left us freedom which we still enjoy,
A gift so precious man must not destroy.
Show us, O Father how we best can serve,
A world to live by faith and not by nerve.*

*We need a peace which comes through faith and prayer.
Lord give us courage, we must not despair.
Forgive us, Lord, if we forgetful be,
For time alone can cloud our memory*

G. Chandler

SCRIPTURE : Psalms 18 - 19

UNVEILING

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

*O Lord God Almighty who rules the Nations of the Earth,
remember we pray thee, our country and it's peoples.
Safeguard the liberties which our comrades won by Sacrifice,
and give to all the people the beauty of your gift.
These seven Bronze Statues.*

THE MARK OF THE MAKER

*God as creator, Engineers
things delicate and grand;
rainbows, stars, and mountain peaks,
a newborn baby's hand;
the quasar's pulse, the rhythmic tides,
spheres and polygons;
the cheerfulness of chicadee's,
the elegance of bronze.*

*Nothing is simply "good enough"
That God has brought to be.
To each statue is given a special touch
of loving artistry;
each careful stroke, each loving touch adds all,
each person, place, and power and thing,
A signed original.*

*And now in the name of the " Father and Son and of the Holy Spirit " who brings to our remembrance
all that " Jesus " has said, we dedicate these seven bronze statues in the name of our beloved brothers,
sisters and comrades who have gone before us. Amen.*

LAST POST BUGLER, FRED NICHOLAS

LAMENT PIPER, BRUCE GRAHAM

REVEILLE

ACT OF REMEMBRANCE

*"They Shall Not Grow Old
As We That Are Left Grow Old;
Age Shall Not Weary Them Nor The Years
Condemn.
At The Going Down Of The Sun And In The
Morning
We Will Remember Them."*

RESPONSE : "WE WILL REMEMBER THEM."

RIFLE VOLLEY : Korea Veterans Unit # 13

PLACING OF OFFICIAL WREATH : BRIG-GEN.W.DENIS WHITAKER DSO, CM, ED, CD

HYMN : O GOD OUR HELP IN AGES PAST

*O God, our help in ages past,
Our hope for years to come,
Our shelter from the stormy blast,
And our eternal home.
Under the shadow of Thy throne
Thy saints have dwelt secure;
Sufficient is Thine Arm alone,
And our defense is sure.*

*Time like an ever-rolling stream,
Bears all its sons away;
They die forgotten, as a dream
Dies at the opening day.
O God, our help in ages past,
Our hope for years to come,
Be thou our guard while troubles last
And our eternal home. Amen.*

INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS, CHAIRMEN & DIRECTORS

SCULPTOR , HELEN GRANGER YOUNG AOCA, MSA.

COLONEL , W.A. METHVEN, CD, ADE. C. DISTRICT COMMANDER, LONDON MILITIA DISTRICT

LIEUT./COLONEL, T.R. MARLOR, COMMANDING OFFICER, ROYAL HAMILTON LIGHT INFANTRY

LIEUT./COLONEL, D.G. THOMPSON CD, COMMANDING OFFICER, 56TH FIELD REG. RCA

SPECIAL THANK YOU TO PARKS & RECREATION AND TO THE POLICE DEPARTMENT, OF THE CITY OF BRANTFORD

HISTORIC NOTE : FRED NICHOLAS, BUGLER FOR TO-DAY, PLAYED WITH THE BAND OF THE DUFFERIN RIFLES ON 25TH MAY 1933, WHEN THE MEMORIAL WAS FIRST UNVEILED AND DEDICATED. HE WAS ALSO THE BUGLER WHEN THE GALLERY WAS UNVEILED & DEDICATED ON 2ND JULY 1956.

GOD SAVE THE QUEEN

BENEDICTION:

BRANT COUNTY WAR MEMORIALS COMMITTEE

CHAIRMAN :

• ROBERT COUNSELL

DIRECTORS :

• CLIFFORD DAVIES

• DEREK G. PITE

• JAMES CROW

• JAMES PRITCHARD

• HARRY IRISH

SECRETARY :

• THELMA FARROW

TREASURER :

• ORVAL LYONS

MEMBER ORGANIZATIONS :

• BRANT NAVAL VETS, ANAF UNIT # 341

• BRANT ARTILLERY GUNNERS

• AIR FORCE CLUB

• EX-IMPERIAL VETS.

• EX-WRCNS ASSOC.

• POLISH COMB #4

• POLISH VETS

• KOREA VETS ASSOC. #13

• ROYAL CANADIAN LEGIONS BR. # 29, BR. # 90, BR. # 461, BR. # 463, BR. # 543, BR. # 605.

HISTORY OF BRANT COUNTY WAR MEMORIAL

The first public meeting was held 27 January 1921. It was agreed that a War Memorial, would be built and that the site would be where it is today. There was some grand plan at the time for making this the corner for a Grand Boulevard on which would be built a City Hall, Opera House and other public buildings. This plan has long since been forgotten. The location of the Memorial is still the best possible in the City.

In 1923 The Brant War Memorial Association was incorporated under an Act of Parliament, with all citizens of Brant County eligible for membership. Mr. Walter S. Allward, the designer of the Vimy Ridge Memorial located in France, was engaged to design and erect the Monument at a cost of \$75,000.00. The Association agreed on the following. "THE DESIGN SHOULD BE IMPRESSIVE, SOLEMN AND SIMPLE AND OF HIGH ARTISTIC QUALITY, WHICH WILL ENSURE IT'S APPRECIATION FOR ALL TIME," this principal has been adhered to.

In 1924, a Women's section was organized and proved to be a powerful influence.

In 1926, little progress had been made in securing the necessary funds. Plans were made to option the property. In 1927, a campaign committee was appointed with an objective of \$150,000.00. In May 1927, the City Council endorsed the entire plan and promised full support. The amount subscribed by the public was in the excess of \$100,000.00 with another \$25,000.00 in debentures by the City of Brantford.

On the 23 May 1933, the monument, with the exception of the bronze statues was dedicated. A letter circulated by the Brant War Memorial Association stated that "IT IS STILL THE HOPE OF THE ASSOCIATION THAT THEY WILL EVENTUALLY BE ABLE TO COMPLETE THE MEMORIAL BY THE ADDITION OF BRONZE FIGURES TO BE ERECTED ON THE FRONT PEDESTALS." It further stated that funds were just not available. It has taken twelve (12) years rather than the hoped five (5). It was a magnificent tribute to the 701 Brant County Citizens, whose names are inscribed on the towering pylon above the words: "THEY GAVE THEIR LIVES FOR HUMANITY."

The years following 1933 gave no financial opportunity to finish the Monument with the Bronze Sculptures as originally planned. In 1946, the Second World War has now come and gone and further Sacrifices have been made. The negotiations were again entered into with W. S. Allward, but due to ill health this association was to be abandoned. Problems arose as to the artistic design and the financing of the addition of the Bronze Sculptures. At this point the plan was abandoned.

In 1954, a decision was made to add a Granite gallery at the rear of the existing memorial, on which the names of the fallen from the Second World War and the Korean War would be suitably displayed. Much co-operation from The City, Women's Section, Silver Cross Mothers, Brantford Citizens, and The Association made this possible. A design by Mr. Charles Brooks was approved and Cromar Construction Company completed the work.

On the 2 July 1956, The Remembrance Gallery was unveiled and dedicated. These words: "THEIR FIGHT WAS NOT FOR GAIN, GLORY, HONOUR OR PRIDE, BUT FOR THE FREEDOMS WE CHERISH IN DEMOCRACY - THIS IS A CITIZEN'S MEMORIAL" were said by the Honourable Ross MacDonald. There are 339 names inscribed in the Gallery.

There still remained one problem, a service station on one corner of the property. For several years offers were made and finally in 1960, Memorial Square was complete and the development and beautification could be carried out by the Parks Board.

A Resolution past by Branch # 90, Royal Canadian Legion, summed it all up. "Whereas: The Canadian Legion Branch 90, has noted with satisfaction the removal of the service station from the corner of Dalhousie and Bridge streets, adjacent to the Brant County War Memorial. Whereas: We have also noted the prompt and excellent work of the Parks Board, in landscaping the area, thereby greatly improving the appearance of the War Memorial, and the Memorial Square. Therefore be it resolved: That we congratulate the Mayor and City Council, The Brant War Memorial Association and the Parks Board, on this accomplishment which will meet with the approval of all veterans in Brantford and Brant County.

On 14 November 1960 a special meeting was held in the City Council Chambers to hear a Resolution to disband the Brant War Memorial Association. The Charter was surrendered.

On 24 April 1987, it was first decided that something should be done about the War Memorials in Brant County. Through the years of neglect, time and weather had taken it's toll. In September 1987 all Ex-Service Organizations within Brant County met with the idea of naming a new committee. It was agreed that the name would be Brant County War Memorials Committee. Each organization was asked to contribute some funds to start the ball rolling. The summer of 1988 was spent cleaning and pointing Paris, Burford, and The Brant County Memorial; The St. George Memorial received a revised date plaque which included Korea, and Korea was corrected on the Brant County Memorial. Necessary silicone was put on to protect the surface against further discolouration. The lighting was also updated. With this work completed, the Committee's sights were set on the big one. The finishing of the Brant County Memorial with the Bronze Sculptures.

On 8 December 1988, The Brant County War Memorials Committee was incorporated with the Province of Ontario, Number 793984. On the 17 January 1990, the Committee applied and received a Charitable Foundation Number from Revenue Canada 085-1691-52, which enables the Committee to issue receipts for Income Tax purposes.

A contract was signed with Helen Granger Young of Winnipeg, to design, sculptor and supply the Bronze Monuments. Three (3) Males representing Members of the Royal Canadian Navy, Canadian Army, and Royal Canadian Air Force. Four (4) Females representing a Nursing Sister of the Royal Canadian Medical Corps, Womens Royal Canadian Naval Service, Canadian Womens Army Corps and Royal Canadian Air Force - Womens Division. At a cost of \$370,000.00 including installation and GST, completion is scheduled for the fall of 1992. Final payment is due 15 November 1993. The Ex-Service Veterans Organizations of Brant County, have been the main source of funding. The City of Brantford and the County of Brant have made token grants. Citizens of Brant County as well as Ex-Service Associations from across Canada have also been quite generous with donations. Federal and Provincial Governments have offered very little support or assistance. Parks and Recreation Brantford have been very supportive with changes such as walkways, lighting and landscaping.

As of 12th August 1992, \$253,200.00 has been paid towards the completion of the project.

The 12th September 1992, has been set aside as the day of Unveiling and Dedication. A Bronze Plaque, with these words will be unveiled at the same time:

THESE SEVEN BRONZE STATUES, ARE DEDICATED TO THE MEMORY OF ALL BRANT COUNTY CITIZENS WHO MADE THE " SUPREME SACRIFICE" AND TO COMMEMORATE OUR LOCAL ARMED FORCES VETERANS WHO DID SO HONOUR THEIR COMMUNITY, THEIR COUNTY, AND THEMSELVES FOR THE CAUSE OF PEACE AND FREEDOM.

The Bronze Statue of The Nursing Sister is to represent two (2) Brant County Nursing Sisters who died due to the enemy action in the 1st World War. As well as all other Nursing Sisters who made the Supreme Sacrifice. Nursing Sister K. Maude Macdonald, Died 19 May 1915, German Air Raid #1 ,Canadian General Hospital in France. Nursing Sister Dorothy M. Baldwin, Died 31 May 1918, German Air Raid, on # 3 Canadian General Stationary Group Hospital in France.

There were 46 Canadian Nursing Sisters killed in the 1st World War due mainly to enemy action. We do not have the figures for World War II as the Womens Casualties were lumped together. There were a total of 73 Women who died due to enemy action in WWII, a large portion of those would have been Nursing Sisters.

VETERANS DOING THE UNVEILING:

NURSING SISTER STATUE: **RCAMC NS Reta Moffatt** who graduated from Brantford General Hospital 1929, served on many ships on the Mediterranean and Atlantic from 1942-1947, caring for the wounded and later War Brides and their Children.
RCAMC NS Eileen Burt

NAVAL STATUE: **Ross McKinley, Hugh Simon, RCN Veterans**

ARMY STATUE: **Robert Counsell, Harry Irish, ARMY Veterans**

AIRFORCE STATUE: **Peter Valachos, Ralph W. Shellington, RCAF Veterans**

WRCNS STATUE: **Madeline Stinchcombe, Mina Morgan, WRCNS Veterans**

CWAC STATUE: **Mary Ireland, Doreen Newton, CWAC Veterans**

RCAF, WD STATUE: **Marion Lester, Lillian Rutherford, RCAF, WD Veterans**

UNVEILING PLAQUE: **James Crow, Derek Pite, BCWMC Directors**