

Boyce, Gerry

□ PEOPLE *Intel May 30/94 p.1*

Bel-Biog (coll. item)

Dedication pays off for historian Boyce

Awarded medal from society that's rarely won

By Henry Bury

The Intelligencer

Belleville's Gerry Boyce has spent nearly 40 years trying to promote the study of Ontario's history.

His efforts have paid off, locally, with the establishment of the Hastings County Historical Society and the county's first museum, Glanmore House.

Boyce has now been honored by the Ontario Historical Society with its most prestigious award — the Cruikshank Gold Medal for 1993.

That medal is only presented on rare occasions to individuals who have performed with distinction on behalf of the provincial society. It hasn't been handed out

since 1990.

Boyce said he's particularly pleased by receiving the gold medal at the society's annual meeting in Hamilton earlier this month.

"It's the top award which the society gives out and the fact that it's not given out every year makes it that much more special," Boyce said.

Boyce is a noted historian, author and retired Hastings County Board of Education teacher.

In 1991, he was elected to his first term as city councillor.

He was one of the founding directors of the county's historical society and later served as president, adviser and director of numerous projects.



Gerry Boyce

In 1961, Boyce helped to establish the first county museum in Hastings and remains an active member of the city-county museum management board.

A decade later, he became a director with the provincial historical society and the Royal Ontario Museum.

The Canadian Historical Association presented Boyce with a certificate of merit in 1974 and the city honored him in 1988 with the cultural award.

The Ontario Historical Society, founded in 1888, is a non-profit, educational organization dedicated to fostering an appreciation for Ontario's history and preserving its heritage for people of all ages and cultural backgrounds.

It annually honors individuals, organizations and institutions that have made outstanding contributions to preserving, researching, interpreting or writing about the history of the province.