

THE RIGHT
HONOURABLE

VINCENT

MASSEY, CHANCELLOR

Vincent Massey ⁽²⁾



Vincent Massey (1887-1967) is remembered chiefly as the first Canadian-born Governor General of Canada, but he had many other accomplishments. He and his wife Alice were “inseparable, each an essential support to the other” from their marriage in 1915 until her death in 1950. **They made a significant contribution to the life of Canada through their years of public service and philanthropy.**

NORTHUMBERLAND COUNTY ROOTS: THE MASSEY MANUFACTURING COMPANY

In 1802 Daniel Massey, Vincent’s great-great-grandfather, moved his family from New York State to a farm in Haldimand Township, just north of Grafton, Ontario. **Daniel’s interest in farm machinery resulted in a farm implement business in nearby Newcastle** which prospered greatly, especially under Vincent’s grandfather, Hart Massey.

Hart Massey was a staunch member of the Methodist Church who believed in providing financial assistance to worthy causes. He funded, for example, the construction of Massey Hall in Toronto, which opened in 1894. **Hart’s estate enabled the family to establish the Massey Foundation in 1918**, which has provided financial support to a wide range of projects.

Success caused both the Company, which became “Massey-Harris” in 1891, and the family to move to Toronto in 1879. **Vincent was born in his parents’ home on Jarvis Street on February 20, 1887.**

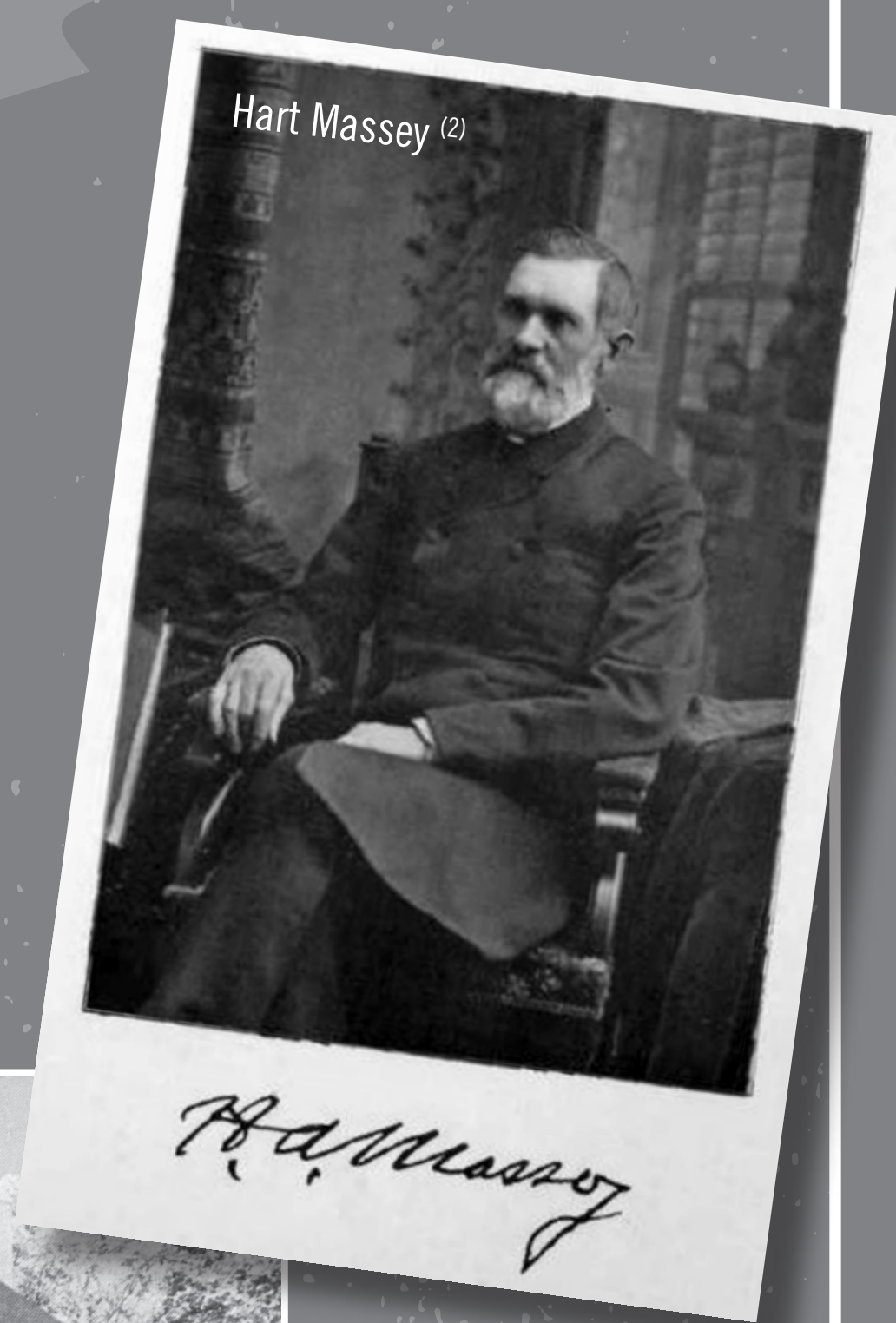


Alice Massey ⁽²⁾

THE EARLY YEARS 1906-1918

From 1906 to 1910 Vincent attended University College at the University of Toronto. From 1911 to 1913 he studied at Balliol College at Oxford University in England. In the fall of 1913, he was appointed Dean of Residence at Victoria College and as a special lecturer in modern history at the University of Toronto. **To honour his grandfather, Vincent developed plans for *Hart House***, an imposing student centre in the heart of the University of Toronto campus, which opened in 1919.

Vincent and Alice were married in 1915 and in 1918 purchased *Batterwood*, a magnificent 45 acre property just north of Port Hope, at Canton. Over the years they expanded the estate to include approximately 400 acres.



Hart Massey ⁽²⁾



Batterwood ⁽²⁾