



Many log homes throughout the valley were covered with "board and batten" siding to improve the appearance and cut down on drafts. Board and batten was cheaper and more available than tongue and groove lumber.

"Board and batten" house

By Harry Hinchley

Photo: Public Archives C73250

This attractive old house has often been admired, especially by visitors from out of the Valley. It originally was a log house but like many such others has been covered with board and batten siding.

There are still a good many log houses in and around Renfrew. But they do not all show log since many, like this one have been covered with some sort of siding over the logs.

This was usually done for warmth or improved appearance. Some log walls were drafty and a covering made them warmer. When lumber

was cheap and tongued and grooved lumber was not always available board and batten was a popular covering.

Now some owners are removing the siding from old log houses and getting back to the original walls. Such houses are perhaps more common in the cities where some have been fitted up as virtually show places.

In the early days around Renfrew nearly all the houses were log. Some used to be built with the roof projecting out in front to form a veranda or stoop.

The building was then often whitewashed, inside and out, with whitewash made from lime. In later

years projecting roofs were not so common but the whitewash coating was quite usual for a long time.

At first the houses were usually built of local logs. But as the country became cleared and timber scarcer logs for building used to be brought in, sometimes even by railroad.

Now the movement is the other way. Some old log houses of our area have been taken down log by log and put up again somewhere else. Fitted up inside and insulated according to modern standards such houses have made quite comfortable and attractive homes for their owners.

May 13, 1910

The world was mourning the death of King Edward VII which took place on May 6th at 11:45 pm.

The new King was proclaimed in the afternoon of May 7th. He assumed the title of King George V.

When Queen Victoria ascended the throne it took 41 days for the news to reach Canada. When King George became King it was known in Renfrew five minutes after. A few minutes later a bulletin was placed in window of the Mercury.

Renfrew flags were at half mast and many business places had draped portraits of the late King.

D H McAndrew had purchased a 25' motor yacht with gasoline engine for cruising on the Bonnechere.

Miss Dorothy Wade had returned to Montreal to resume violin instruction.

Haley's Comet was plainly visible on a couple of mornings during past week.