



photo by Harry Hinchley

Log house heritage building

For many years this house stood close to the sidewalk on a busy street in Renfrew where it was seen by hundreds of citizens. Today, with the appearance slightly changed, it stands on a bush lot in the recreation country.

Most people may remember it as covered with stucco. It was only after this stucco had been removed that the original logs

were revealed — sound as the day they were hewn with broad-axes. These logs were hauled to their new site and put up again in the original order.

The owner tried as much as possible to keep to the old design of the exterior of a log house. He chinked the spaces between the logs with white mortar, he used a special log-house front door and he boarded

in the gable ends with vertical lumber which he had procured from another old log house. He specially made the windows with wooden frames and he had the sash hand made and fitted with small panes of glass, 12 to a window.

The front door of the house opens into a large sitting room, as in all old log houses. Here the floor is of hardwood lumber and the floor of the upstairs carried on six-inch red pine beams forms the ceiling. Heating is done by wood in a Franklin fireplace although there is electric heat as a stand by. Lighting is indirect but there are plenty of candlesticks ready for any emergency.

Beyond the front room the rest of the house is definitely in the style of today with enamel, stainless steel and chrome. The modern kitchen is finished in tile, built-in cupboards, table top electric stove, built in over the electric dishwasher. The upstairs bedrooms are just as might be expected in any newly-

built house of today.

This house is one man's answer to the problem of house construction. It is also a good example of the growing trend — leaving the exterior of a house, store or other building as it was and remodeling the interior to today's requirement. This is "Re-cycling."

The Upper Ottawa Valley

A GLIMPSE OF HISTORY BY CLYDE C. KENNEDY
256 PAGES, RENFREW COUNTY COUNCIL, PEMBROKE
REVIEWED BY HARRY HINCHLEY

"Great flotillas of canoes, sometimes with hundreds of Indian and French paddlers and traders, and later the traders of the Northwest Company and the Hudson's Bay Company, travelled the Ottawa. Most of the canoe traffic was simply the demand in Europe for hairs from beaver skins, used to make felt hats. But missionaries, explorers, courtiers de bois, lumbermen, scientists and settlers used the river as a highway for their quests."

So writes Clyde Kennedy of the Ottawa River in his new book "The Upper Ottawa Valley" recently published by Renfrew County Council. This interesting book is hardly a history in the usual sense of the word in that it is not quite a systematic record of all that happened in the past in the Valley but rather an informative collection of stories of special events and episodes which belong as part of our history.

Mr. Kennedy goes on: "Along the tributaries of the Ottawa, particularly the Madawaska, the Bonnechere and Petawawa rivers an ever-increasing number of today's explorers paddle ancient canoe routes, collect minerals and fossils, visit historic mill sites, search for long-abandoned lumber camps and timber mills, seek signs of the two-mile-thick sheet of glacial ice that left its abrasions on the Precambrian rocks of this scratched-up land, or view the great faults in the earth's restless crust."

If you have any claim to belonging to this band of "explorers" — or have any share in their interests you'll like the "Upper Ottawa Valley". Of it, the Ottawa Journal said "We suspect

Mr. Kennedy is challenging his readers, both resident and visitor, to learn a bit more about the fascinating history of this area, and in this way learn to appreciate more fully both our heritage and our surroundings."

Mr. Kennedy was commissioned by Renfrew County Council to write this book because of his very extensive knowledge of the Valley and its history. He has travelled the Valley from one end to the other, much of it on foot and he has made himself familiar with its most interesting features. He has interviewed local residents as well as writers, scientists and authorities from far and wide whose names are given in a chapter of credits and he has read and studied scores of books and papers the titles of which are also listed.

Few parts of Ontario have as much history as the Upper Ottawa Valley and in his book Mr. Kennedy covers many of its phases. These range from "Rocks and Seas" laid down millions of years ago to "Chalk River" and "Pioneering Nuclear Power" dealing with events of the last quarter-century.

But as pointed out by another well-known historian of the Valley, Mr. Harry J. Walker, in his introduction of the book: Limited space has allowed him (Mr. Kennedy) to present only a fraction of the historical information he has gathered but this is a fascinating fraction."

The book is printed on high grade paper and is profusely illustrated with over 200 pictures, maps and drawings, many of which are being published for the first time. The book is highly recommended as an addition to any library.