

# Students issue planning study of Rockwood

Three students from the Department of Landscape Architecture from the University of Toronto spent several months in Rockwood gathering material for a planning study. Pat Griffin, Rod Kent and Al Regehr lived in the old C.N. station which they used as a base for their studies and made many friends during their stay.

The result of their studies was released recently in the shape of a bound booklet called Stage One — A Rockwood Planning Study.

The Free Press obtained permission to publish the material in the study and it is hoped a portion can be published each week.

The following is the first article:

## 1A. Introduction

This publication is the result of a final design problem done by three University of Toronto students in the Department of Landscape Architecture. The intent of this publication is to provide some background information to the community, sharing what we have learned and done, to better enable the community to decide in the future of Rockwood; how it could be planned, what it could be like, and to explain how we arrived at our conclusions.

As students of Landscape Architecture, we are critical of what we see, yet very optimistic in recognizing the potential, the strengths and the weaknesses of Rockwood, to which long-time residents of Rockwood have become accustomed.

In this report, we will outline the object of our study, summarize the history of Rockwood, itemize our impressions of Rockwood, its character and the life-style of the village, and what these have to do with the future of Rockwood.

We will talk a lot about the character of Rockwood and its life-style, because we feel these are its most unusual and desirable

qualities when compared to the surrounding towns and the city. By the character of the village, we mean those qualities which when put together give a distinct image of the village. Just the same as you know a person by his size, his personality, his likes and dislikes, his appearance and his temperament, you can know a community by its size, its appearance, its physical assets and liabilities, its ambitions and its temperament. The lifestyle of Rockwood, as anywhere, encompasses all the things that have to do with how one lives. The cost of buying and maintaining a residence, the cost of living, the physical appearance of the surroundings, how busy one's time is, what one does for earning a living, what one does in the time when one is not working. We will go into more detail about character and lifestyle in Section IV — "Our Impressions of Rockwood".

We will then define the problems or issues, and things to be considered in planning the future of the village and develop a set of criteria on which we feel the planning of Rockwood should be based.

Finally, we will propose alternative solutions based on these criteria as examples of what might be done.

This report is to be considered as an interim report, because the study has been divided into two parts, this being the first part. The next part will continue with the planning process, and will consist of the following five steps.

1. Establish a working relationship with the municipal government and core group of citizens in order to get opinions and suggestions after discussing the three optional plans.

2. Either make any modifications to the best plan, or synthesize the best elements of the three plans into one new plan, as a result of the discussions, suggestions and opinions received.

3. Presentation of the interim report and final design plan to the community in a public meeting.

4. Prepare an official plan from the design plan.

5. Make any necessary additions or modifications required to the existing zoning by-laws to suit the official plan requirements.

## 1B. Objectives

The primary objective of this study then, is to suggest guidelines for the physical development of the village of Rockwood, in order that the quality of life in the village may be preserved and enhanced.

The purpose of such guidelines is to provide criteria by which every proposal involving the physical environment of the village may be judged. The development of such criteria as a basis of judgement is more important than the creation of a detailed plan which is bound to become rapidly obsolete. However, for illustrative purposes, one plan will be recommended which abides by the criteria.

Any proposal affecting the physical environment of the village whether for roads, sewers, zoning, parks, or whatever, is bound to have its pros and cons. These pros and cons must be carefully weighed in order to achieve the optimum solution or that which confers the best balance between advantages and disadvantages. The guidelines, or criteria, are intended to provide a basis of judgment of the relative merits of any proposal.

The guidelines, of course, must assume that most of the townspeople hold certain values in common. A basic assumption of this study is that the inhabitants of the village value, and would like to enhance, the following:

1. The natural beauty of the setting of the village, and the surrounding countryside.

2. The attractiveness of the village as a collection of buildings and open space.

3. The preservation of physical assets which have historical significance and reflect the links of the village and its past.

4. The strengthening of a feeling of community which preserves privacy and individuality.

5. The maintenance of a feeling of tranquility, while avoiding a feeling of stagnation.

6. The attainment of an increasing level of economic prosperity for the village and its inhabitants.

7. The establishment of a high level of municipal service to the inhabitants of the village.

Clearly, the future of Rockwood will involve many difficult decisions in which a balance between these objectives will have to be sought. It must be kept in mind that a decision to do nothing is still a decision. Nevertheless, objectives such as the seven listed will only be achieved if there is a conscious community determination to attain them, and to avoid steps which lead away from them.

(Continued Next Week)

# Grandmothers' meeting at Rockalong W.I.

The July meeting of the Rockalong Women's Institute was held in No. 8 community centre.

Mrs. J. D. McNabb, convener of this grandmothers' meeting, was in charge of the program. The roll call was answered by a goodly number each one giving an interesting item about their grandmothers. A number of readings were given, and Mrs. Max Milne, a special guest, gave two of her favorite readings.

Mrs. Margaret Nelson conducted an interesting number contest won by Mrs. Harvey Bayne.

The highlight of the evening was pictures shown by D. B. Barnett of Arkell of their trips to the west coast, England and Scotland.

The 4-H club program was discussed and there will be further announcements regarding it in September.

Mrs. W. Patterson and Mrs. Norman Harris as lunch committee served a very lovely lunch. Mrs. S. Trousdale moved a hearty vote of thanks to all taking part and especially the lunch committee. There will be no August meeting, they will meet again in September.

# Won't change road

The road through Lowville is to remain untouched, except for "minor repairs and maintenance" Halton County Council ruled Tuesday in rejecting \$423,000 project that would have diverted the Guelph Line around the north Burlington hamlet.

Recommended by the County Road Committee Scheme D would have constructed a curving by-pass around the valley centre and included a new bridge. The proposal adopted by last year's County Council has been the subject of controversy in the community as protesters sought to have the current picturesque route maintained.

Burlington Councillor Ella Foote addressed council asking them to abandon the Lowville by-pass. She acknowledged \$54,000 had already been spent on engineering studies but maintained widening of the present route slightly and a new culvert would improve the situation. She concluded the new road was being created for the "race track people".

Deputy Reeve D. Coons, tabling a resolution to defeat the Road Committee proposal, called on council to scrap the controversial project. He suggested the people in the area were not together in what they wanted and the project would result in a tremendous expense.



**GIRLS FROM EVERY county in Ontario** attended the 4-H Club Conference held at the University of Guelph. Dr. W. C. Winegard, president of the University, in welcoming the 200 girls commended them and their leaders on the splendid program which they had been

## Eden Mills

# Church picnic at Orangeville

By Mrs. R. Wright

Bright skies on Sunday were ideal for Eden Mills Presbyterian church congregational picnic which was held near Orangeville on the Rev. D. R. Sinclair's farm. Swimming was available and the waterfalls and caves were explored by young and old before sitting down to well-laden tables, bringing an enjoyable afternoon to a close.

From Australia

Mrs. H. Fishlock arrived here by plane on Saturday from Australia to spend the next few months with her daughter Mrs. Beryl Wright and family.

Mrs. Fishlock left England in February and has spent the last five months with her other daughter and family, Mrs. Henson in Australia. She expects to return to England late in September.

Recent visits

Guest of Mr. and Mrs. George Weale were Mr. and Mrs. E. W. MacCulloch, Victoriaville, California; Mrs. Don Harvey and daughter Lenora, Scarborough; Mr. and Mrs. Garry Gordon, Clarkson; Mr. and Mrs. Carl Rohomen, Scarborough.

Barbara Link has returned home after three weeks in Scotland visiting her mother's sisters. Mrs. Janette McIntosh is home

from Niagara Falls after attending her granddaughter's wedding.

Mr. and Mrs. Don Archer and two children from Halifax are holidaying in Eden Mills with Mr. Archer's sister and family, Mr. and Mrs. McGilveray.

Mr. and Mrs. McLean are holidaying at Burlington at their daughter's Mr. and Mrs. David McDonald and family.

Little Sally was watching her mother spread cold cream on her face. "What's that for?" she asked.

"To make me beautiful," her mother replied.

The little girl watched ardently as her mother finally removed the last vestiges of cream from her face.

"Oh," sighed the little girl, "it didn't work, did it?"



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## Silverwood

# Awards for 4-H girls W.I., box social news

By Mrs. George Burt

Silver-Wood W.I. held their annual picnic at the lovely grounds of Smallwood Acres at Acton with around 35 attending, with a bounteous lunch at noon.

There were races for everyone. Under 5 years — Douglas Campbell, John Carmichael, Laura Campbell; 8 - 9 years, Brent Fry, Jim Carmichael, Scott Crawford, Brian Bombolt; 10 - 11 years, Kathy Johnston, Michael Varcoe, Beth Carmichael; 12-13 years, Barbara Burt, Judy Johnston, Beverly Appleyard.

Over 14 years, girls, Judy Casselman, Wendy Bradley, Cathy Lindsay; Boys over 14, Rick Appleyard, Bob Given, Ron Appleyard; Ladies shoe kicking, Mrs. I. Carmichael, Mrs. Marg Campbell, Mrs. G. Burt; clothes

pin race, Mrs. B. Campbell, Mrs. I. Carmichael; candy guessing, Mrs. Duffield; clock race, Mrs. Duffield.

Box social

Acton Junior Farmers entertained Norval and Palermo young folk at the home of Earl, Judy and Ross Burt. They started off with an old fashioned box social which they all enjoyed. Then a ball game was enjoyed. After dark they lit a bonfire and had pop and hot dogs and music around the fire, to end an enjoyable evening.

Forks presented

The 4-H girls were entertained at Limehouse hall recently and the girls who had completed their needlecraft course were presented with a silver fork.

Any girls who are interested in the fall project "Focus on

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# Summer trips visits in report

By Mrs. D. G. Robertson  
Mr. and Mrs. W. Nutall and the latter's mother Mrs. M. Patterson spent a week's holiday around Timagami in the north. Mrs. J. Roberts, 2nd Line, returned home on Saturday following a three weeks vacation with relatives in Prince Edward Island.

Mr. and Mrs. M. McCutcheon, Mr. and Mrs. Russell Gordier, Guelph visited with Mrs. M. Jackson.

Peter Wheatly of Vancouver is holidaying with Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Aitken.

Business trip  
Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Mann, 2nd line, have returned home following a business trip to Europe.

Mr. and Mrs. Barry Clarke and her sister Annie have returned home following a motor camping trip to Prince Edward Island.

Mrs. Carl Banas and children of Toronto visited with her sister and brother-in-law Mr. and Mrs. Vernon Stewart.

Mrs. F. Keenan, Mr. and Mrs. Bernard Keenan and Wayne of Lindsay visited on Sunday with the former's grandson Bernard and Mrs. Keenan. Wayne remained for a couple of days visit.

To Vancouver  
Mr. and Mrs. Cecil Upshall and family, 1st Line, enjoyed a motor camping trip to Vancouver, and also attended the Calgary Stampede.

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