

Firm celebrates 75th birthday

J.B. Mackenzie left his mark on Acton, Georgetown

John Boyd Mackenzie was born on the Esquesing-Nassagaweya Town Line, just south of Acton, in 1876. He farmed with his father and eventually started a carpentry and contracting business in Acton which resulted in the opening of a carpentry shop and planing mill in 1900.

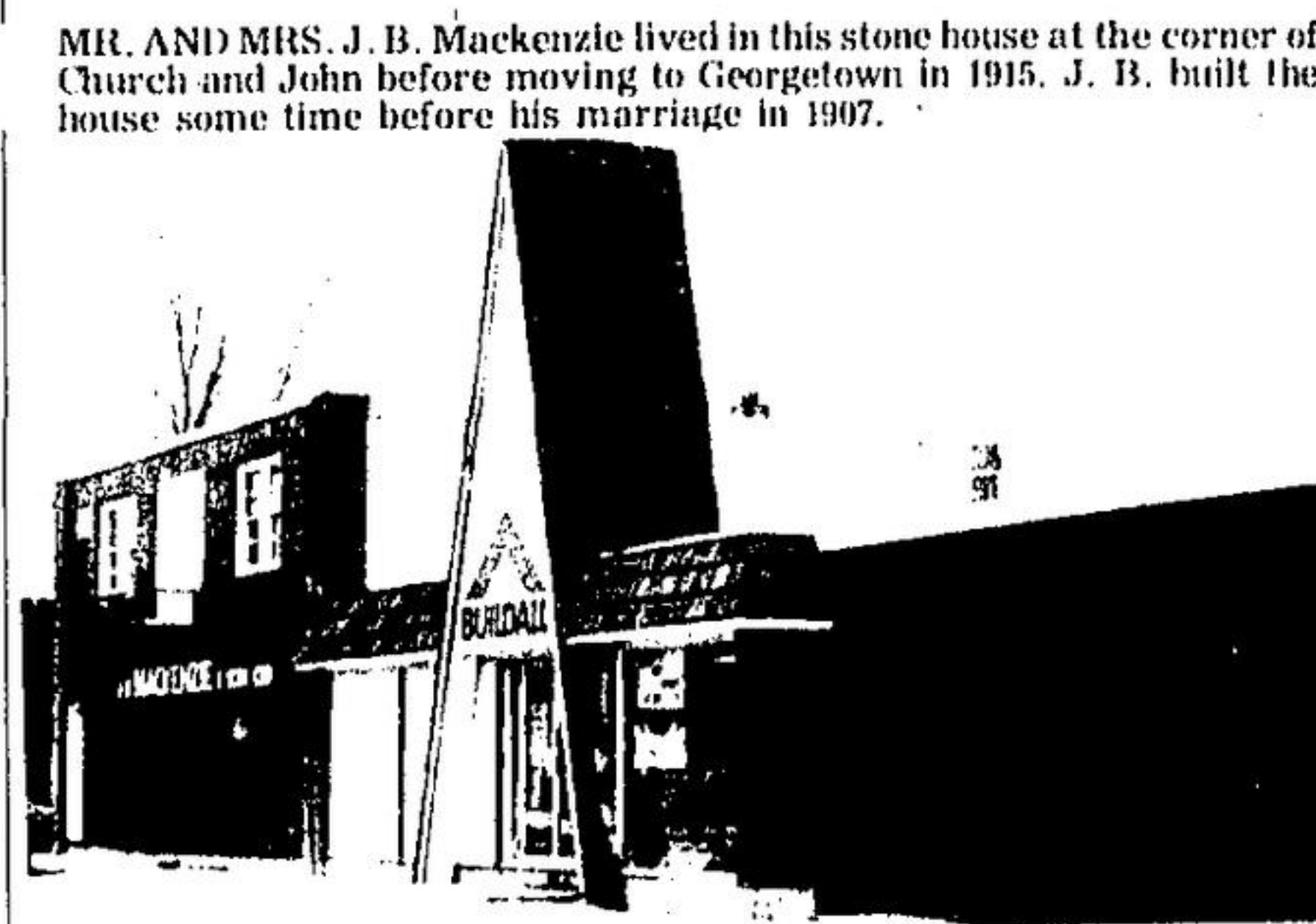
It was 1909 when J. B. Mackenzie bought out the planing business in Georgetown of H. P. Lawson, who was the subject of the most recent article in this series. The original stone planing mill still stands at the corner of James and Draper Streets and now comprises part of the present J. B. Mackenzie Lumber site.



MR. AND MRS. J. B. Mackenzie lived in this stone house at the corner of Church and John before moving to Georgetown in 1915. J. B. built the house some time before his marriage in 1907.

Mackenzie was responsible for the building of many residential and commercial buildings throughout both Acton and Georgetown. His first contract in Georgetown was to remodel the livery stables on Mill Street for John A. Willoughby. This building is now the present home of the Georgetown Branch of the Royal Canadian Legion.

Mackenzie was responsible for the erection of the two buildings which formerly served as theatres in both Georgetown and Acton. The old Gregory Theatre in Acton, which was situated where the present A and B Supermarket is, and the Mackenzie Building which housed the Roxby Theatre in Georgetown, until the 1958



MACKENZIE LUMBER has been in business in Acton since 1900. He bought out a planing business in Georgetown in 1909.

When one considers J. B. Mackenzie owned both the Acton and Georgetown mills when only 37 years of age, he must have been an ambitious young man. A colorful example of his determination is depicted when the sub-contractors responsible for the placing of the large post office clock in Acton were having difficulties. J. B. came on the scene and offered to do the job. He was able to raise and set the new clock into position by using a series of pulleys and ropes hitched onto his bluff "P".

Two brick houses stand on the corner of Victoria Street, built by H. B. Mackenzie from the remains of the old Academy. Mackenzie was responsible for the erection of the two buildings which formerly served as theatres in both Georgetown and Acton. The old Gregory Theatre in Acton, which was situated where the present A and B Supermarket is, and the Mackenzie Building which housed the Roxby Theatre in Georgetown, until the 1958

years and contracted additions to many of the local schools. For a number of years the Mackenzie firm manufactured a small incubator which was operated by a coal-oil burner. This item could be found on chicken farms from coast to coast during the earlier part of this century. In 1907 John Mackenzie married a Rockwood girl, Eliza McQueen, who taught primary classes in Acton. They resided at Church and Main Streets in Acton in a cement block house, which J. B. erected some time before marriage, until moving to Georgetown in 1915.

The Mackenzie firm, certainly one of the oldest in the area, has always been a family concern. J.B.'s four children have all had an interest in their father's business. Daughter Jean served for many years as book-keeper, while brother Sam, although semi-retired, is still active in the store and office. Marjory the youngest daughter, a dietitian, always gave a helping hand at home. Upon returning from the RCAF in 1945, the youngest son Ken managed the Acton branch until his death in 1950. The business has been affiliated with Allont and Buildall Building Supplies since 1960 and is now managed by J.B.'s grandson, Sandy Mackenzie. J. B. Mackenzie served many years as a school trustee, water commissioner, member of Georgetown council and as mayor of Georgetown from 1930 to 1933. This was, of course, during the Great Depression and the days when municipal councilors weren't "on salary".

John Boyd Mackenzie died the day after Acton Fall Fair in 1947. He loved to visit the annual fairs in the area and renew old acquaintances. J.B. is remembered for his high integrity which is typified in one of his favorite sayings, "A deal isn't a good one unless it works for the two people concerned." He had several sub-contractors who worked for him over the years who accepted his fee without question, knowing that it would be fair and equitable. The integrity of the business speaks for itself when one considers this article appears on the 75th anniversary of the founding of the still thriving firm of J. B. Mackenzie and Son.

78. AUCTION SALES 78. AUCTION SALES

AUCTION SALE

OF HOUSEHOLD FURNITURE, APPLIANCES, GLASS AND CHINA, 2 POWER LAWN MOWERS, 1 ELECTRIC, 1 GAS, ASSORTMENT OF OFFICE SUPPLIES, MISC. ETC. IN MILTON AT THE FAIRGROUNDS IN THE AGRICULTURAL HALL.

SATURDAY, FEB. 22 AT 11 A.M.

2 pc. chesterfield suite; Duncan Phyfe table with 4 chairs; blond buffet and dining table combination; the table folds right out of sight into the buffet; coffee and end tables; 7 pc. kitchen suite; wrought iron patio set; wrought iron fern stand; round coffee table; locking gun rack, glass front; occasional chairs; chrome student desk and chair; table lamps; 5 pc. bedroom suite with box spring and mattress; utility table; single continental bed with brass headboard; 4 small children's chairs.

APPLIANCES AND MISC.: Frigidaire fridge with cross top freezer; Frigidaire automatic clothes dryer; Moffat 30" electric stove; heavy duty automatic washer, like new; Thor wringer washer; Fletchwood combination TV and stereo; floor polisher; Sunbeam electric lawnmower; Gas power lawnmower; electric hairdryer and all other small electric appliances; girls and boys bicycle; assortment of office supplies; glass and china; pots and pans and other regular household items.

Terms are cash or cheque with identification. Preview from 9.30 day of sale. Lunch available. Hall Directors or Auctioneer not responsible for accidents.

AUCTIONEER: CHRIS. A. SCHOUTEN 878-2576 78mgp

AUCTION SALE

TO BE HELD

GEO. GRUNDY'S FARM

JUST NORTH OF THE JUNCTION OF NO. 24 & 25 HIGHWAYS AT OSFRINGE, MIDWAY BETWEEN GUELPH & ERIN, ON SAT. 22 FEB. AT 12 NOON

FURNITURE & ANTIQUES—2 pine flat back cupboards - no top doors, cherry drop leaf table, pine wardrobe - 2 doors (4' 6" x 6'8") oak teacher's desk, Waterloo World school desk, cedar chest - good one, depression cupboard, pine wood box wooden wood box, wooden churn & frame, washstand, square elm dining table, small chest of drawers, pr. pressed back chairs, 2 pine clock shelves, gun rack; small pine table, cherry hall table - spool legs, rockers, chairs & odd tables etc. MISCELLANEOUS—Several oil lamps, wooden planes, copper boiler, copper tea kettle, horse collars & harness, old road sign, glass washboard, milk cans, tool boxes - large & small, 2 mantle clocks, wall clock, flat irons, humidifier, bench saw, 1/2 h.p. motor, pr. of new boat oars, session mantle clock, 2 brass font hanging lamps - no chimneys or shades, milk glass counter top 7', early 1900 large Atlas, old electric coffee mill, gas stove (good), sealers & crocks, easel, green carpet 8' x 9' DAIRY & BARN EQUIPMENT—Universal milker complete, 2 milk strainers, strip cup, set of burdizers, horse blanket, floor scales, lantern.

PLEASE NOTE—Sales will be held the last Saturday of each month. If you have anything to consign - Antiques, furniture, Miscellaneous, Tractors or Implements please contact Geo. Grundy at Ospringe - 833-2345.

THIS SALE WILL BE HELD INSIDE A HEATED BARN. WE EXPECT MUCH MORE BY SALE TIME. TERMS ARE CASH OR KNOWN CHEQUE. NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR ACCIDENTS. LUNCH AVAILABLE.

Max Storey, Rockwood, Auctioneer 78am34

AUCTION SALE

Saturday - 12 Noon - February 22nd

OF GARAGE EQUIPMENT, AUTOMOTIVE SUPPLIES, CAR, PLUS MISC.

LOCATED AT CLAPPISONS CORNERS, CORNER OF NO. 5 AND NO. 6 HIGHWAYS. TO BE HELD FOR MR. PHIL PERRAS (FORMERLY TINY'S AUTOMOTIVE).

CONSISTING OF: (Partial List Only) - Black & Decker 11" 18" super valve refacer, Barrett brake mobile, H.D. press brake (no cylinder), Snap on vacuum fuel pump gauge and tack meter, Snap-on analyzer, 1/2" electric impact wrenches, metal parts bins - all sizes, acid tank, oil filters, spark plugs (new), bearings, mufflers, resistors, fuel pumps, rebuilt water pumps, v-belts, hydraulic lines, starters and generators, selection of rocker panels - all makes, brake lining parts, new trailer hitchers, electric chain fall, office desk and chair, McCaskey manual cash register, selection of toll lights, mirrors, nuts and bolts, etc. All above mentioned Automotive parts are brand new and fit most popular makes of cars and trucks. ALSO SELLING: 4 cylinder 1969 Austin (good shape), 1938 Ford coupe body, 534 Ford Truck V-8 engine with compressor, clutch and equip.

This sale consists of a large number of misc. new parts and equipment, many not mentioned. Owner or Auctioneer not responsible for any accidents.

Jim McCartney Auctioneer - 689-8778 Waterdown 78ma43

80 WANTED TO RENT: YOUNG man requires a furnished room for approximately 6 months in Acton area. Unusual hours. Possible availability of telephone. Contact Bob 853-1341, 1 to 5 p.m. or leave message. 80a34 5432
81 FOR RENT: NEAR Georgetown, 3 bedroom farm house, \$250.00 per month. Phone 853-1235 evenings. 81amg34 5441
HOUSE in Acton, 1 year old, 2 storey, semi detached, \$275.00 monthly. Available March 1. 877-5213. 81gm19-3972
85 APARTMENTS FOR RENT: APARTMENT for rent in the country, Everything new. Stove and refrigerator, carpeting throughout, electric heat, tower for color TV. Located junction 24 and 25 highways. Asking \$225.00 per month. All facilities included in rent. Please no children or pets. Call Erin 853-2345. 85amg 5376
2 BEDROOM apartment, all utilities included. Call 853-2043. 85alf 5416
ROCKWOOD—1 bedroom apartment, separate entrance, frig and stove included, \$150.00 per month. Immediate possession. Call Guelph 821-6404 after 3 p.m. 85a34 5456
86 REAL ESTATE: ACTON—Private, 3 bedroom bungalow with new furnace, roof and wiring. Asking \$279,900. Phone 853-2488. 86a34 5455

JOHN BOYD (J. B.) MACKENZIE 86 REAL ESTATE 86 REAL ESTATE Stone's Country Corner

ROLLING HILLSIDE: Partly wooded, makes a picturesque setting for this well maintained 2 storey century old home and farm buildings. 100 acres of real country living. Excellent terms. Only minutes from 401.
OLD FASHIONED CHARM: Large, beautiful shaded estate, featuring: 2 storey U shaped home and bank barn with creek winding through the lawns. All this on 100 acres of prime farmland close to Milton.
TOWERING NATIVE TREES: And pondsite would make a very secluded setting for any type of country home. 12 acres of privacy for only \$40,000.
WANTED: 100 acre farm in the Acton/Georgetown area for cash buyer. Buildings must be in fairly good condition and in freed setting.
WANTED: 15 to 25 acres with buildings (house and barn) in Acton/Georgetown area, not more than 20 minutes from GO Train station. End of May closing.

UNITED TRUST COMPANY: NEAR COBBLEHILL \$55,000. down. 4 bedroom bungalow on large fenced, nicely landscaped lot. Large modern kitchen. Broadloomed living and dining rooms. Quiet street, beautiful view.
QUEEN STREET EAST \$9,000. down. 5 bedroom brick home on beautifully landscaped large corner lot with mature trees. Eat-in kitchen, separate dining room, 2 fireplaces. Attached garage.
LAKEVIEW SUBDIVISION \$9,000 down. 4 bedroom split on large, nicely landscaped fenced lot. Across from Fairy Lake. 2 baths, large rec room with fireplace. Built in range with hood. Attached garage.
HWY. NO. 7 \$68,500. West of Acton. 3 bedroom stone home on a professionally landscaped acres. Fieldstone fireplace in living room. Separate dining room. Double garage.
COUNTRY LIVING \$69,900. East of Acton. Brick and stone custom built 4 bedroom bungalow on 1 acre lot, close to Hwy. No. 7. Fieldstone fireplace in living room, large eat-in kitchen. Full basement.
N. Pitt (519) 853-0108 or 824-5054

ALTEO CONSTRUCTION: 853-0190 or 853-1235 evenings 86ag33
FARM-ACREAGE WANTED: From 10 acres and up with or without buildings. Suitable for horses. For confidential and free evaluation please call: Inge Winther 845-7549 or Residence 853-1990. E. W. Stone Ltd., Realtor, 61 Lakeshore Rd., W., Oakville. 85amg35-5438

Church Services

CHURCHILL COMMUNITY CHURCH: Sunday, Feb. 23, 1975 11:00 a.m.—Worship and Church School. Sermon subject—"The Magnetism of Christ".
EVANGEL PENTECOSTAL TABERNACLE: P.A.O.C. 33 Churchill R.E.D. Rev. S.M. Thoman, Pastor 853-2715
THE CHURCH OF ST. ALBAN THE MARTYR: 1872—Anglican—1974 Corner Willow St. and St. Alban's Dr. Rev. Leonard Ewing Rector
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN CANADA KNOX CHURCH, ACTON: Rev. Andrew H. McKenzie, B.A., B.D.—Minister Mr. E.A. Hansen, B.A. Organist and Choir Master
UNITED CHURCH OF CANADA TRINITY CHURCH, ACTON: Rev. W. Eric Nelson, M.A., B.D.—Minister Dr. George Elliott, M.A., Ph.D. Director of Music
BETH-EL CHRISTIAN REFORMED CHURCH: (Churchill Rd. and Hwy. 7) Minister: Rev. J. Corvers
BAPTIST CHURCH: 80 Mill Street East, Founded 1842 Pastor: Mr. Das Sydney B. Sc. Pastor's Phone—853-1834
BAHA'I FAITH: You are warmly invited to attend a fireside discussion every Friday evening at 8:30 p.m. Phone 877-3497.
MAPLE AVENUE BAPTIST CHURCH: 177 Maple Ave., Georgetown (A Fellowship Baptist Church) Pastor: Rev. Robt. C. Lohnes Associate Pastor: Rev. Don Gorrie
BETH-EL CHRISTIAN REFORMED CHURCH: (Churchill Rd. and Hwy. 7) Minister: Rev. J. Corvers
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Halton Sketches



MR. AND MRS. J. B. MACKENZIE and family, on December 28, 1927. Top, Mrs. Mackenzie and J. B. Middle row, Jean and Sam. Bottom, Marjory and Ken.