

PIONER

DAYS DOWNTOWN GEORGETOWN



A turn of the century portrait of the Ashgrove lug-of-war team.

College Street, Academy Road, an enigma for many newcomers

In addition to Rev. Dade's school, Georgetown had a private school known as the Canadian Collegiate Institute. Its teaching staff consisted of two principals, Rev. H. McVicar and Thos. Connell,

H.H. Kelly, the English teacher and Wm. M. MacKay, who taught Classics. C. W. Young, James' Young's son, mentions it in one of his letters to The Herald in

"About this time, (the early 1860s), perhaps earlier, was built the Georgetown Academy, for which a site was was a large brick building and was on quite a pretentious scale for those early days. I do not recall the names of any of the staff, but the Academy was well equipped in that direction. At first the attendance was encouraging and the boarding department was full, but the life of the institution was short. It was closed within my memory and was occupied as a residence by Mr. Hope, a brother-in-law of James

A book on Halton's early remember delivering milk to

chopped out of the woods north of the Grand Trunk Station. It was a large brick building and was on quite a pretentious scale for those early days. I do not recall the names of any of the staff, but the Academy was well equipped in that direction. At first the attendance was a large brick building and like other academies of this time, had to depend on the fees paid by the pupils and was not subsidized by the municipality and the income from this source failed to keep the doors open."

The 1877 Halton County Atlas says "it is expected, however, that in a short time it will again be occupied either as an academy or a high school."

It would seem that this never happened. Perc Cleave, 90, can

four apartments that had been constructed in the old academy and Jean MacKenzie says her father tore the building down. The bricks from it were used to build three other houses on Victoria Street. A date stone in the second storey of one of these houses says 1911.

College Street and Academy Road are left, however, to puzzle newer residents to Georgetown who can't remember or never heard about the Georgetown Academy.



The Georgetown volunteer fire brigade turns out sometime around the turn of the century.

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