# Acton Creamery featured in new book

The Acton Creamery at 11 Main Street North, Acton



Early Canadian Bottle Works, Darren Spindler



The former building of the Acton Creamery at 11 Main Street North, Acton, now a fitness studio in 2013

# ACTON CREAMERY

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A 1941 Advertisement

# Delivery of a 'daily dose of dairy goodness' included can and dipper and plastic jugs

For those who remember the clip clop of the Acton milkman's horse, the sharp clink of (now collectable) bottles, and the milk box, thumbing through the pages of Make Mine Dairy is a cool, refreshing walk down memory lane.

The Acton Creamery (now home to Staying Alive Fitness on Main Street North) and its succession of owners is one of 65 Ontario dairies featured in Paul Huntley's Make Mine Dairy, his latest book about the dairy industry.

The full-colour, 350page book was edited by former Acton resident Carol Murphy, who also supplied memorabilia that of the town - dairies were big employers because all of those bottles had to be hand washed lots of times before they mechanized," Murphy said on Sunday, adding the milkmen and their horses were a staple of everyday life in many towns.

"You could set your watch pretty well by them. The horse knew where to stop, and if the milkman talked too long, the horse went on to the next stop," Murphy said.

Originally milk was delivered door-to-door and ladled into the customer's own container by the milkman with a dipper. Demands for increased sanitation led to bottles, and paper and waxed cartons for milk appeared in the 1930s and 1940s. The plastic milk jug was in most homes by 1970s the beginning of the end of home delivery.

Through the years, several dairies operated in Acton including Masales Jersey Dairy, Watson's Dairy and Cloverdale Dairy. In his book, Huntley traces the origins of Acton Creamery that advertised under the banner of "Bring Your Cream to Us." It was founded in 1916 by Morris Saxe, who took a butter-making course at the University of Guelph. He took on a partner, L. Rubinoff and then left Acton to open the Georgetown Cream-

Hubert Mann and Perry Watson purchased the business in 1919, renaming it the Acton Creamery & Dairy Co. In 1920 Harold Wiles replaced Mann, and in 1921 the creamery moved to Mill Street from Willow Street. Its exact location is uncertain.

The business went through several more ownership changes over the years - a poultry division was added in 1936, a second level was added to the store in 1950, and a milk bar opened in 1951.

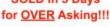
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