

LOOKING BACK

Georgetown High hits milestone

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THE INDEPENDENT & FREE PRESS

Halton Hills' Community Newspaper

Friday, November 2, 2007

Hurricane Hazel ravaged Norval

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Special pullout section



Above: An aerial photo from the early 1960s shows the Georgetown Market Centre (lower right), now the Georgetown Market Pace and Rex Heslop's subdivision property in east Georgetown.

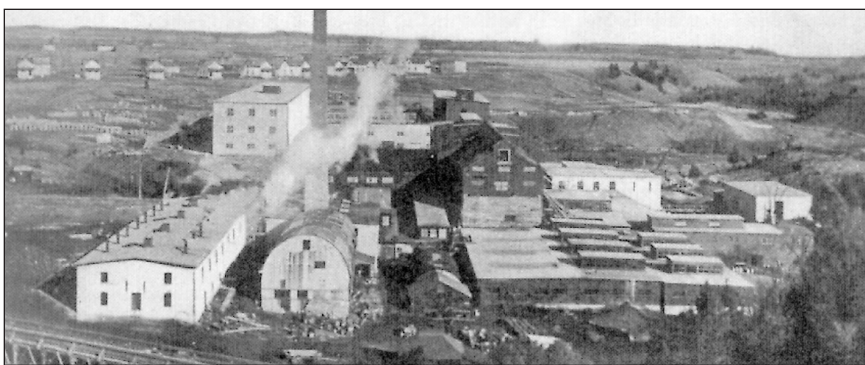
Photo courtesy John McDonald's *Halton Sketches Revisited*

Below: The historic Beaumont House in Glen Williams.



Above: The former Georgetown Dominion Gardens Seed House property where Christ the King Secondary school and a subdivision now stand.

Below: The former Beardmore Tannery in Acton.



A growing community

CYNTHIA GAMBLE
Staff Writer

'Build it and they will come' seemed to be the mantra that builders and developers of Halton Hills have followed for more than a century, and while there were boom and bust times, there was always growth.

In 1913, *The Georgetown Herald* described Georgetown, a community of 1,885 as "particularly attractive as a place of residence. It is most picturesquely situated on the rising ground on both sides of the stream that flows like a ribbon through the village. ...The number of handsome residences is very noteworthy, and new homes are being continually added. Yet there is room for hundreds of other homes— sites that are

attractive and reasonable in cost."

Meanwhile, in the early years of the 20th century, Acton builder J.B. Mackenzie added to or remodeled almost every building on the main streets of both Acton and Georgetown as well as additions to most schools, wrote historian John McDonald in *Halton Sketches Revisited*. Mackenzie's first contract in Georgetown was to remodel the livery stables in the downtown— now the home of the Legion. He was also the first builder in the area to use reinforced concrete— at the Georgetown Coated Paper Mills on Rosetta St.

McDonald writes: "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 Model T Ford."

In 1937, Georgetown celebrated the 100th birthday of its incorporation, and *The Georgetown Herald's* editorial read in part: "The development of Georgetown was due, in a very large degree, to the calibre and character of the worthy men who directed its affairs. The growth of the town, from the first, was along broad and stable lines. These men were giants in their day, and they built better than they knew. They not only built the strong foundations of business and industrial progress, but being men of versatile gifts, they gave their time and energy to the develop-

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