

Historical Society Annual**Past year reviewed and officers selected**By VAL GRIMSHAW
Past President MHS

Milton Historical Society began 1983 with a special event. It arranged, staffed and decorated Milton's first Mayor's Levee, held in the Council Chambers. About 150 people came to pay their respects and chat to the Mayor and councillors on a one-on-one basis. Your president, in a letter to the Mayor and Council members, outlined the procedures for such an event.

Another special occasion arose for the Society on January 10, when it presented a brief to council outlining the reasons Milton should have a Local Architectural Conservation Advisory Committee, or LACAC, as it is more commonly called.

After five years of trying to interest Council we were finally successful, and it received their approval. Don Hayward was named chairman, Valerie Grimshaw vice-chairman, Mr. Len McNeil, a director.

The Society is well represented on this committee on which there are five other people—Bob Zsadyani, Milton planner, Blanche Hinton representing council; Michael Clements, secretary and a lawyer; Marion Adams, housewife; June Andrews, past president of the Campbellville Historical Society and Doug Hill, an industrialist.

April 21 the society welcomed Mr. Carlos Venton who is the architect commissioned to restore the original Milton Court House and

Jail into the new home for the Milton council and administration. Mr. Venton gave a lively explanation of the problems faced by restoration architects and explained how the new design will blend with the existing structure.

June 16 meeting was hosted by Consumers Glass, Milton plant, where our members were given a tour by plant personnel and shown the complete process of bottle glass manufacturing.

September was our busiest month. On Sept. 10, the Society held its second House Tour. It proved to be quite successful and we were able to put \$1800 into our cemetery restoration fund which now stands at \$2500. Tour guides were invited back to the President's home for an hour of socializing.

Right on the heels of the house tour came the Festival of Countries. Again, the Canadian pavilion was arranged and manned by the Historical Society. It is always one of the most interesting of the pavilions and the feed-back we received is very good indeed.

November 17 saw our most successful meeting of the year with more than 100 persons in attendance for our "P.L. Robertson Night". Special thanks are due to Len McNeil and Jim Dills for bringing together many people that were associated with the founding, history and development of this local industry. The archival material on the history of the company appeared

from personal collections and completely overwhelmed us in its volume.

The year ended successfully on Dec. 14 with our Christmas party. A film, "Old Fashioned Days Coat" was shown and afterwards we were given the special treat of hearing the Madrigal Singers perform.

Plaquing of Homes

Since your president initiated the plaquing of heritage homes, three years ago, the Society has plaqued 26 homes, 3 buildings and one church—a total of 31 heritage properties to be done so far.

We owe a great deal of gratitude to Mel Robinson for his research of these properties at the Registry Office. I have personally visited all the properties and wrote stories for the Champion.

Your Society is also involved in the preparation of the Halton Heritage Committee being sponsored by the Halton Region Museum. Jean Butts, our secretary, has been writing history for a driving tour which will become part of a tour booklet being prepared by all the Societies in the Halton Region.

Yours president is also involved, on behalf of the Society, in the Milton Bicentennial Celebration Committee and is acting as promotion and publicity chairman for that committee.

Each organization in Town has been invited to participate and produce something special for the event. The Milton Historical

Society is one of the few who has a definite plan for the occasion. Under the direction of Don Hayward, the Society is having a scale model made by local high schools of the mill, the millrace and the town hall, as it all must have looked at the time of its incorporation 126 years ago.

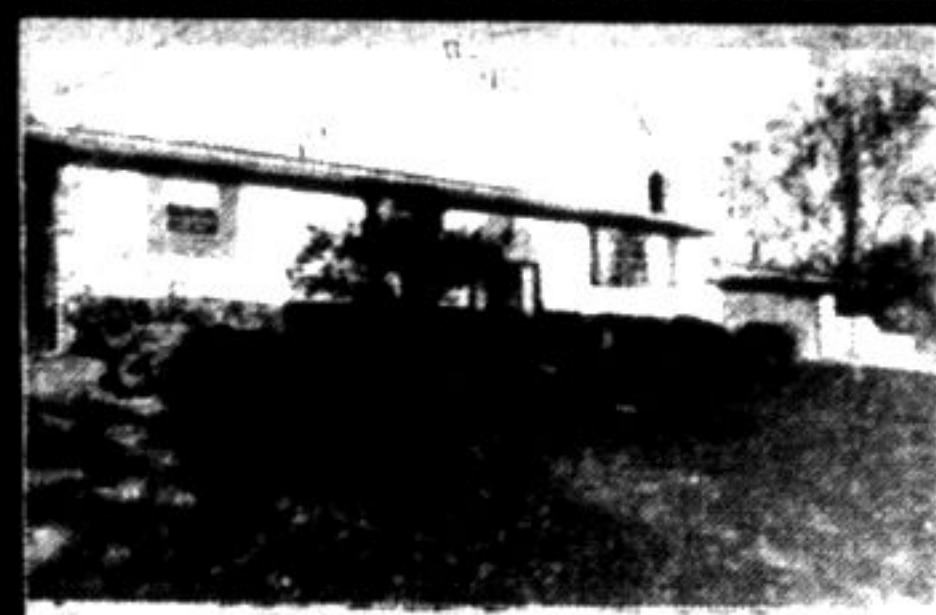
Membership for 1983 is recorded as numbering 85. Many of these are husband and wife memberships, so actually we have about 120 individual members. The fees for 1983 were family \$8.00; single \$5; student \$3.00; life, sustaining and institutional \$60.00.

The time has come to leave my post as president, and I wish my successor, Don Hayward good luck in all his endeavours on behalf of the Society. He will need your support as well as that of the executive and I know that he will not be disappointed but will find all of you to be friendly and supportive, as I have done.

The nominating committee's selections were accepted making the officers for 1984 the following: Past president, Val Grimshaw; president; Don Hayward; vice president (program), Ken Lamb; vice president (membership), Audrea Costigan; secretary, Jean Butts; treasurer, Jessie Hamilton; director research, Leonard McNeil; director special events, Robin Barbetta; director publicity, promotion, Lori Holdridge.

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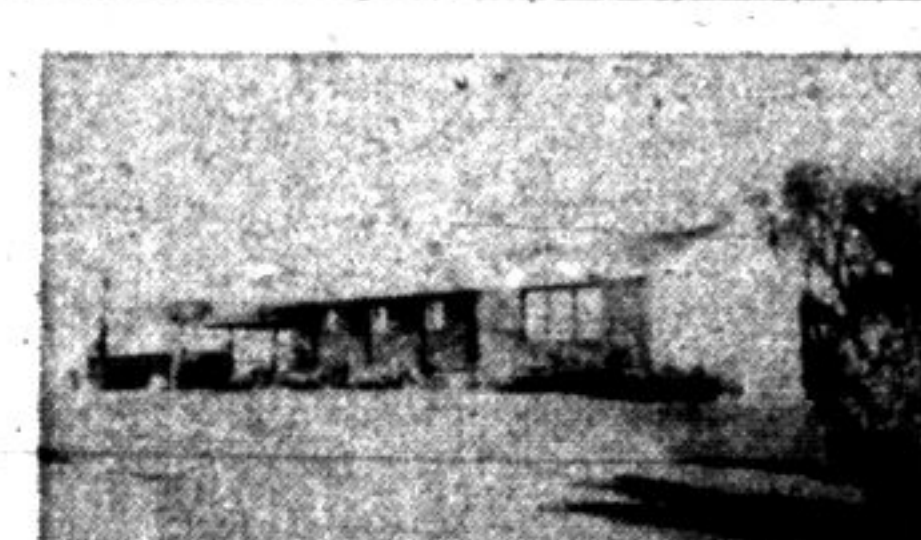
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