



## Trafalgar Township Historical Society

# June 2020 Newsletter

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- ❑ Explore our internet collection at [Trafalgar Township Historical Society Digital Collections](#)
- ❑ “Like” us on Facebook at [Trafalgar Township Historical Society](#)
- ❑ Follow us on Twitter [@TrafTownHistory](#)
- ❑ Contact us via email at [michelle@tths.ca](mailto:michelle@tths.ca) or phone by 905-257-6029 x101
- ❑ Visit our website to read and learn more at [www.tths.ca](http://www.tths.ca)

#### **TTHS Board Members**

Chair: Michelle Knoll  
Secretary: Robert Cook  
Treasurer: Lara Rowles  
Archivist: Ross Wark  
Jane Watt  
Syzan Talo  
Gordon Kaitting

# Society News & Updates

## Deltiology Anyone?

Note compiled by Ross Wark

The golden age of the picture postcard in Canada was the period between 1900 and 1916. These postcards represent a portrait of Edwardian Canada and its people.

Penny postcards kept people in touch with one another just as social media does today. Photographers, both professional and skilled amateurs, recorded almost every facet of life, rural or urban. Most of the cards in our Oakville-Bronte collection show street scenes, parades, and homes.

When I was a teenager in the 1950s, I did chores for two elderly women who lived around the corner from our place. When they died, I purchased (for one dollar), all of the books from their estate. In one of the books, which dates from the late 1800s, was an Oakville postcard being used as a bookmark. I kept it and soon the hunt was on!

We have approximately 210 vintage cards in our Oakville collection and 70 in our Bronte collection. Most date from 1900 to 1940. Modern cards (1975-2000) for both communities number 110.

When we attended two or three postcard shows a year, deltiology collectors were out in full force!



**Beach at Oakville, Ontario, Canada**



**Bronte, Ont., Canada**



## Fox Barn

Note by Ross Wark

This barn, photographed in 2012, was seriously damaged in a strong wind-rain storm. It was demolished in 2014. The property, located in Palermo Village, is now part of the Glenorchy Conservation Area. I took a number of photos like this one from the grounds of our Palermo Schoolhouse headquarters S.S. #2.

## Happy 100th Birthday!

Note by Ross Wark

Myrtle Tovell, long time Palermo resident now living at Delmanor, celebrated her 100th birthday on February 27, 2020! For many years she and her husband had a dairy farm on Dundas Street and Third Line. Myrtle donated a framed photograph of the farm to TTHS. A large gathering of family and friends honoured her on this momentous occasion! Best wishes! To the right is the framed photo of the Tovell property and the Elmbank Farm. Here is the link to the TTHS record:



<http://images.ourontario.ca/TrafalgarTownship/3229805/data?n=3>

## Online Resources from the Archives of Ontario

Note by A. Choate Little

I've recently been browsing through the online photographs, the educational tools prepared for young people, the paintings, sculptures, textiles and more from the Ontario government art collection, and the internet showcasing of the exhibits the Archives staff prepares. There are a lot of very interesting photographs, documents and information – I'd like to highlight just a few to get you interested too.

Here is a link to the internet version of the current Exhibit showing at the Archives. Just look at the imaginative artwork in the Exhibit title. What an illustration of the creativity in the Archives exhibit and educational staff!

<http://www.archives.gov.on.ca/en/explore/online/animalia/index.aspx>



The Archives blurb: *This exhibit explores how our relationships with animals—and the methods we've used to document these relationships—have changed over time. The ways humans have recorded, remembered, and affected other animals says as much about us as it does about them.*

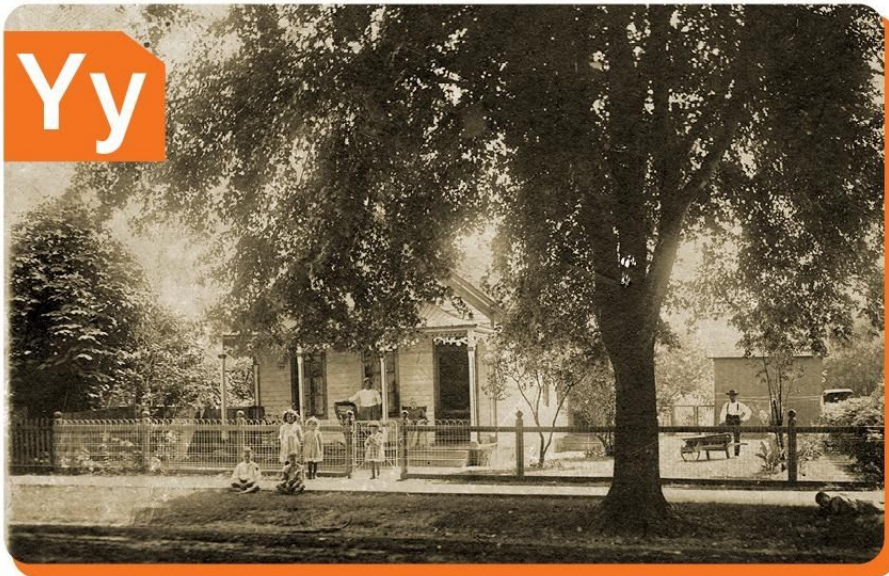
If you are working at home with young people, you'll be interested in the educational resources prepared for Grades 3, 7, 8, 10 and 12. The Themes for these Grades are:

- [Black Canadian History](#)
- [Children](#)
- [Early Ontario](#)
- [Environment](#)
- [Conflict and Change](#)
- [Interwar Years](#)
- [Diaries and Letters](#)
- [French Ontario](#)
- [Geographic History](#)
- [Politics](#)
- [Post-World War 2](#)
- [Posters and Pamphlets](#)
- [Upper Canada](#)
- [War of 1812](#)
- [Women](#)
- [World Wars 1 & 2](#)

But my favourite are the Alphabet flashcards for beginning readers. They are for all ages, in my opinion. The verso of each card has information about the photograph illustrating each letter for the older person

guiding the new reader. This is the “Y” for “Yard” card. The back of the card provides an opportunity for further information for all ages. Well done, Archives staff.

<http://www.archives.gov.on.ca/en/education/pdf/AO-FlashCards-EN.pdf>



Archives of Ontario Archives publiques de l'Ontario

Ontario 

**W**ith the passing of the Slavery Abolition Act (1833) across the British Empire, Black Americans began making their way across the Detroit River from the United States into Canada. For several decades, the Sandwich area (today part of Windsor, Ontario) became home to generations of Black Canadians.

Augustus Adams in his front yard in Sandwich, 1906 (I0024810)

Yy

Yard

Last, I'll mention the 2007 David Thompson Exhibit pages. This man played an extraordinary part in our history and most of us know only that there is a river in the Rockies named for him. Well, take time to look at the Exhibit done in partnership with Parks Canada. Thompson walked and rode the breadth of Canada, listened to and talked with ordinary and legendary people, mapped and wrote notes for many years. It must have been a hard life but overall, an extraordinary history. Here is a link to the Exhibit page: <http://www.archives.gov.on.ca/en/explore/online/thompson/index.aspx>

# Recent Donations

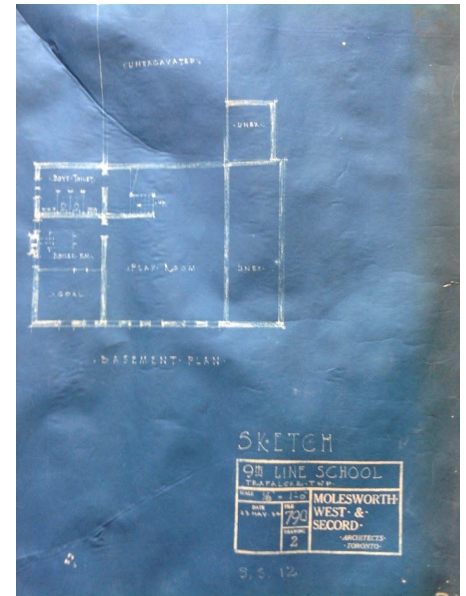
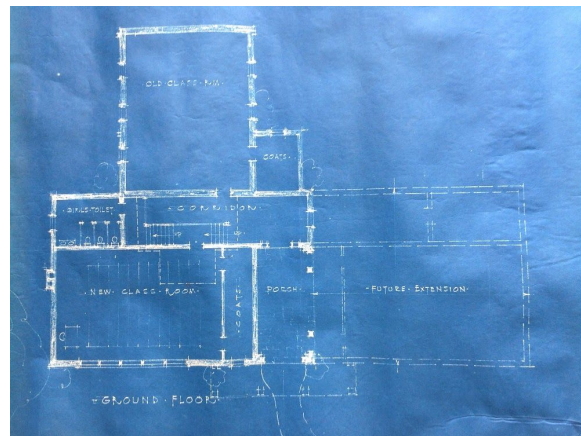
## Ninth Line Public School Blue Prints, 1934

Note by A. Choate Little

George Lyon has donated architectural drawings for the Trafalgar Township Ninth Line public school, S.S. No. 12, today called Maple Grove. The architectural firm was Molesworth West & Secord of Toronto. The drawings are dated 1934. The sketches show the exterior facades of the school, with a "future addition" included as well as the interior floor plans. Also in the set of drawings are those for the septic tank catch basins and outlets.

George received the drawings from Harvey Lyon, son of T.R. Lyon who had been the Ninth Line school custodian. Sometimes the Maple Grove teachers boarded with the Lyon family.

The exterior drawings have to be copied by Staples for our digital collection as the



sketches themselves are light beige on a very dark blue background which does not photograph well. While we wait to be able to do this, included here is a photograph of the basement level interior drawing and one of the first floor interior, for your information.

Between 1950 and 1970, Ontario school boards centralized the public schools in their jurisdiction. The old one or two room "S.S" (School Section) schools were closed as sleek, multi-roomed modern schools were built. Maple Grove contains both the former S.S. No. 12 building on the left as well as the "modern" addition stretching out to the right in this photograph taken in the 1960's.

<http://images.ourontario.ca/TrafalgarTownship/3633142/data?dis=dm>

The Maple Grove Public School website has a history of the school, including building remodelling dates. <https://mag.hdsb.ca/home/history>

Thank you for this donation, George and Carol.

# TTHS Queries

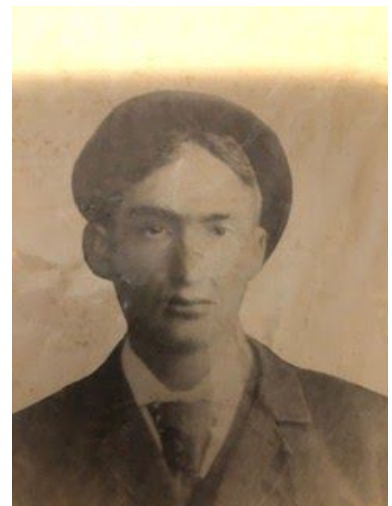
## Mystery Photo

This photograph of a young man was sent to the TTHS a few years ago with no identifying information. Do you know who this might be? What is the connection with Trafalgar Township?

The photo came in a letter from Jane Crawford, 305-800 Hilliard St., Peterborough. Ms. Crawford is not at this address and she is not identifiable with internet tools.

Her letter simply said, "Greetings, Thought you could add this photo to your collection." The studio portrait was taken by Brock & Co - Trenton, Brighton, Colborne, Marmora.

To help date the photograph, there was a John A Brock photographer in Trenton, aka J A Brock & Company, roughly 1869 to 1886 as per the website, Photographers of Ontario: <http://photographersofontario.ca/index.php?title=Category:Photographer>



## Can You Identify this Image?

Where and when did this site exist? Answers will be in the next newsletter!

Hint: Somewhere in Oakville, Bronte, or Trafalgar.



# Upcoming TTHS Events

Note: We are currently on pause due to COVID-19. An email will be sent out and a social media update will go out when we are able to restart programs again.

Dates and Times	Events
<b>Friday, August 21 from 1:30pm-3:30</b>	<b>Open House and Archives Research</b>
<b>Sat., September 26 from 10:00-4:00</b>	<b>Family Heritage Fair Desk &amp; Book Sale:</b> Heritage displays, activities and BBQ
<b>Friday, October 16 from 1:30-3:30</b>	<b>Open House and Archives Research</b>
<b>Tuesday, November 3 at 7:00pm</b>	<b>Guest Speaker Evening:</b> Halton region Claire Bennett Asst Curator - Speaking about Palermo
<b>Friday, November 20 from 1:30-3:30</b>	<b>Open House and Archives Research</b>
<b>Tuesday March 2, 2021 at 7:00pm</b>	<b>Annual General Meeting and Guest Speaker Evening:</b> Richard Jordan – topic TBD

## Open Houses - Archives Research

**Location:** Old Palermo Schoolhouse, 2431 Dundas Street West from 1:30pm to 3:30pm

All are welcome in joining us in researching family and community histories. Do you have something to donate or contribute? Bring your precious documents and artifacts to one of our open houses and we would be happy to learn about your story! We can scan your documents and add them to our archives so that others can enjoy and engage in research.

## Guest Speakers & Meetings

**Location:** Old Palermo Schoolhouse, 2431 Dundas Street West from 7:00pm to 8:00pm

All are welcome to attend our guest speaker evenings to learn more about North Oakville, Trafalgar Township through informative and interactive discussions. Light snacks and refreshments are provided.

Have an idea for a guest speaker? Please contact Michelle at [michelle@opnc.ca](mailto:michelle@opnc.ca)!