

MORTON CEMETERY

From a copy at the Registry Office in Brockville we have the following information: November 1891-- a cemetery lot of approximately one acre purchased from B. N. Henderson by the trustees of Morton Presbyterian Church for \$100. Length of frontage 228 feet on south limit of lot and 191 feet deep. The location of this property is Lot 1, Concession 5 in the township of South Crosby.

For many years, there was no caretaker for this cemetery and by the early 1950's the grounds had become in a deplorable condition.

In February 1950, a public meeting was called to discuss ways of improving the cemetery property. However, due to an exceptionally bad storm very few people were able to attend this meeting.

It was decided to get a list of names of interested persons to contact for donations to cover support and upkeep of the cemetery.

In June 1955, a public meeting was held in Morton United Church at which time the late Mr. A. L. Campbell

gave an informative talk outlining the ways in which the Elgin Cemetery had been recreated and suggested ways that might help in getting the work started on the Morton Cemetery.

A new committee was formed, composed of the following: Burt Hudson, Harry Roantree, V. A. Somerville, Clifford McFadden, R. G. Ducette, Burt Simpson, Hubert June, Herbert Burtch, and Burns Simpson.

At a later meeting it was decided to hold an outdoor memorial service at the cemetery on July 3, 1955. The attendance at this service was very gratifying so it was decided to continue this custom each year. The Sunday chosen for this service was the second Sunday in July. This year will be the twenty-fifth annual service and will be held on July 13, at 2:30 P.M. Only once during these years did the service have to be terminated due to inclement weather.

When the Morton United church was closed in 1969 and the building sold, the steeple was removed and the bell taken to the cemetery. It was installed in a small roofed structure just inside the gates. The inscription says, "This memorial to the pioneers of Morton Church was erected in appreciation of their lives of dedication and service."

In 1973, an additional acreage of land was purchased adjacent to the original cemetery lot. This new lot was dedicated at the annual memorial service in July 1973.

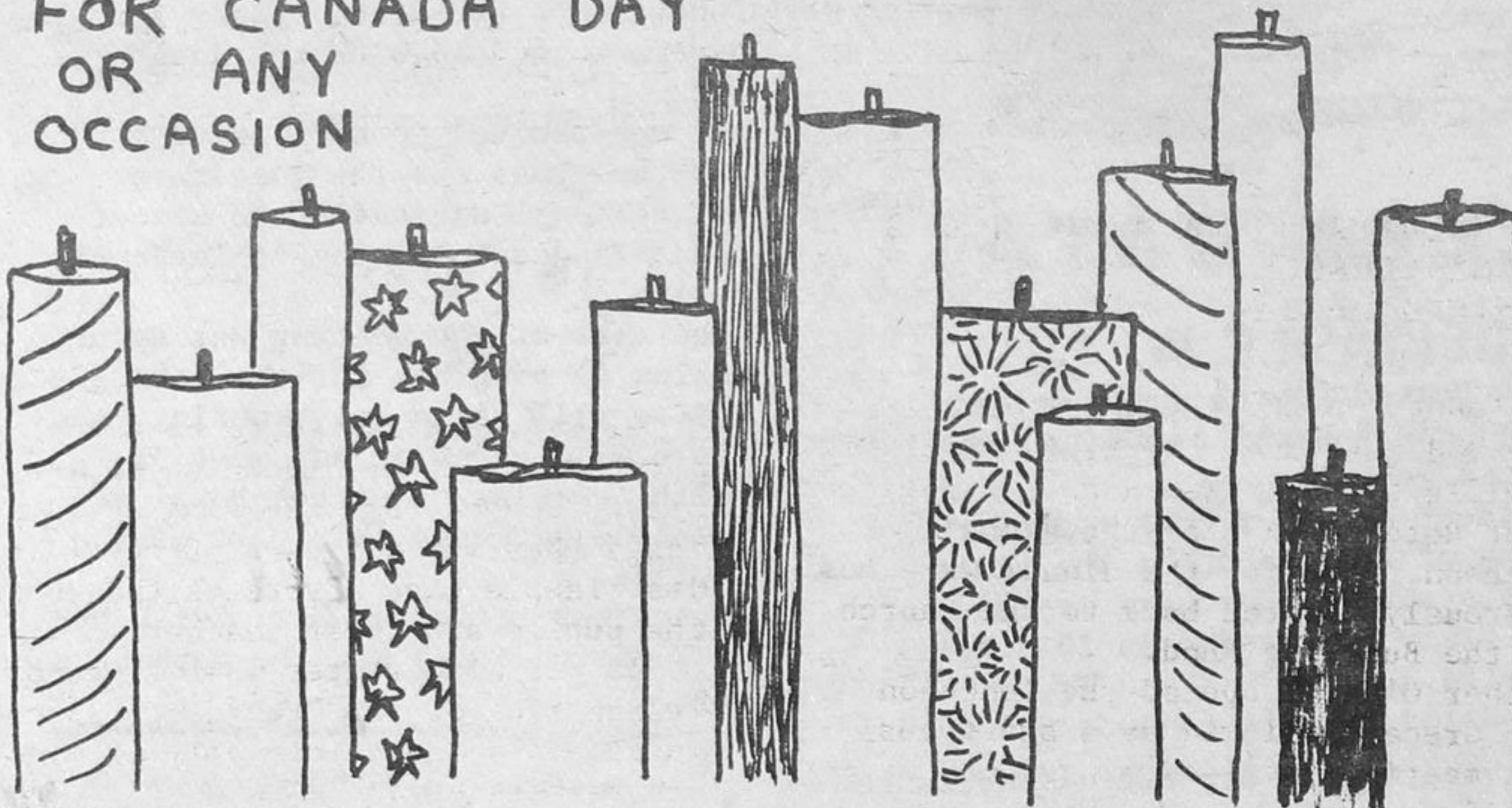
Submitted by
Helen Burtch

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