

GATINEAU VALLEY HISTORICAL SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

Apr — May 2004

Box/C.P. 1803 Chelsea PQ J9B 1A1 (819) 827-4432

Number 2004-02

Coming Events

Monday, April 19, 7:30 PM
Chelsea Community Centre

***GVHS Archives Show and Tell: Selections
from the Gladys Cross Payne Collection.***

Photos from the GVHS Image Bank's most recent acquisition will be displayed. Come and help us identify some of the photos. (See Page 8 for further detail about this impressive collection)

Monday, May 17, 5:30 PM
Heritage Hall, Low, Quebec

GVHS Annual Diner
Guest Speaker: Wayne Rostad

The Gatineau Valley Historical Society is pleased to welcome back **Mr. Wayne Rostad** to the Gatineau Hills, as our special guest to the GVHS Annual Diner, this year being held in the Heritage Hall in Low.

Wayne Rostad's career has always been an interesting combination of singing, songwriting and broadcasting. He began in radio in 1969, working as an all-night disc jockey in Smiths Falls, Ontario. Back then, music and songwriting were quiet, personal pursuits. *(continued on next page)*

Ticket Information

The cost for this year's diner will be \$25 for a three course roast beef meal, supplied by Labelle Catering. To purchase tickets:

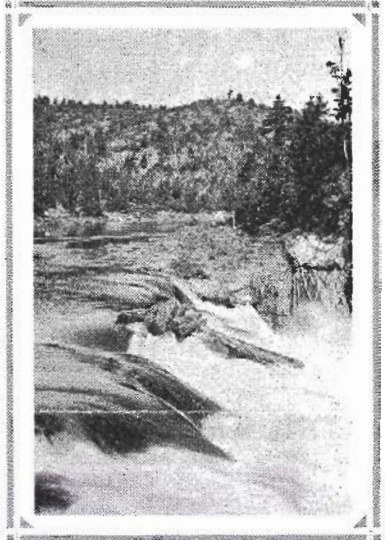
GVHS Members, please call Rene Nielson at 827-1845. In Low, tickets are available at the Municipal Office (422-3528). In Wakefield, call Ernie Mahoney at 459-1180.

Up to Low!

Everybody's talking about something frightening and exciting. Somebody's going to build a dam. Right here. And the falls will disappear And I'm very worried about it.
(from Mary Ann Alice, by Brian Doyle)

The Paugan Dam, constructed between 1926 and 1932, changed many aspects of the community of Low and surroundings. "That dam put Low on the map. Many a farm would have a new team, new buildings, even, after the dam was built," Nellie McLaughlin (née Foley) remarked. She remembered the church picnics held south of the Paugan waterfall before the dam was built and when Kate Hickey told her of the plan to build a dam, "I thought it was the greatest fish story I ever heard. (Kate) showed me the place. We saw a lot of people taking a look at it. There was really just a trickle of water; you wouldn't believe it could have all that power."

The Gatineau Power Company was incorporated on March 11 1926 by the International Paper Company, then the world's largest paper producer, which had established Canadian International Paper (CIP) in 1919. The company's mandate was to exploit the hydroelectric potential of Quebec's rivers and streams. In 1921, they acquired the Riordon Pulp and Paper Company, a Montreal concern that had recently bought the Gilmour and Hughson holdings in the Gatineau. It also owned valuable water rights on the Gatineau River. The company planned to construct hydroelectric plants on three sites on the lower Gatineau: a 35 meter drop at Paugan Falls, a 30 meter drop at Chelsea Falls and an 18 meter drop at Farmer's Rapids.



In 1970, Wayne moved on to Kingston, Ontario, where he became a television news anchor. At the same time, he began entertaining in local coffee houses, performing some of his original compositions. Even then, Wayne's songs reflected a passion for people, their lives and activities. *Two years later, he left radio and television and moved to a cabin in Quebec's Gatineau Hills to pursue his entertaining and songwriting interests full-time.*

Wayne returned to broadcasting in 1975 as Music Director for CKBY-FM in Ottawa, moving on a year later to CJCN Radio, in Grand Falls, Newfoundland as Program Director, all the while continuing to entertain on weekends. In 1978, Wayne returned to his Ottawa Valley roots and in 1979, released his first musical album, *Writer of Songs*, which earned him two Juno Nominations and won an RPM Big Country Award as Most Promising Male Country Singer in Canada.

That same year, he accepted an invitation to host CBC Ottawa's *Country Report*. The rural lifestyles show quickly became a local hit, winning several Ottawa ACTRA Awards. In 1987, *Country Report* evolved into a national series, *On The Road Again* with Wayne Rostad. In its 15-year broadcast history, *On The Road Again* has won four Gemini awards for Best Lifestyle Series in Canadian Television. Wayne himself has been honoured with no less than seven Gemini. Wayne maintains, however, that his greatest reward is the devotion of his *On The Road Again* viewers. Each week, for fifteen years, fans have faithfully tuned in to watch his show!

Musically, Wayne has, to date, released three solo albums of original compositions: *Writer of Songs*,

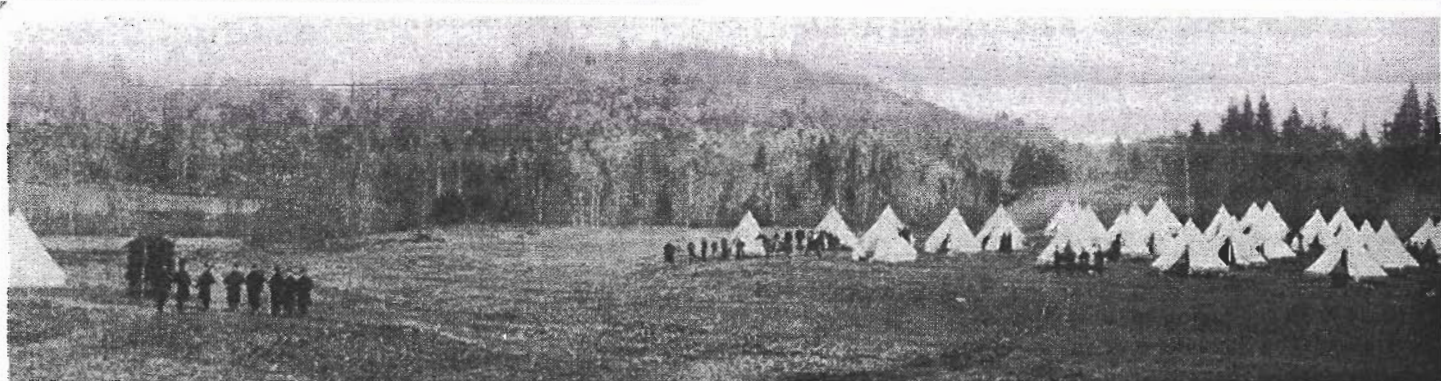
Again and most recently, *Storyteller*, a CD celebrating the people and places encountered on his *On The Road Again* travels.

Wayne has engaged in charitable works throughout his career. In February 1998, he spear-headed and co-hosted Power Aid Live, which generated more than \$6 million for the Ice Storm Relief Fund. He regularly co-hosts the Children's Miracle Network Telethon in Ottawa, helping raise over \$3 million annually for the Children's Hospital of Eastern Ontario. He is also the host of the University of Ottawa Heart Institute Telethon, which raises in excess of \$3 million annually as well. In addition, he has co-hosted Easter Seals Telethons, both in Winnipeg and Toronto and has helped host fundraising telethons in Halifax, Charlottetown and St. John's Newfoundland, just to name a few.

Back home, Wayne Rostad's Gatineau Clog was, for fifteen years, one of Canada's most successful annual outdoor music festivals and raised close to a half-million dollars for community hospitals and service organizations.

In October 1996, singer, songwriter, entertainer, broadcaster and public speaker, Wayne Rostad, became an author. McClelland and Stewart launched Wayne Rostad, *On The Road Again* in hardcover. The book details his travels in Canada, the people he has met along the way and amusing behind the scenes anecdotes about the making of the television series, *On The Road Again*. The book became a best-seller.

Home for Wayne, his wife Leanne and son Josh, is a farm near Ottawa



"My father was a soldier at the Battle of Brennan's Hill. He was a bugler. He came here with the soldiers that time when they came to collect the taxes. He got the soldiers up in the morning with his bugle. He liked it so much around here that when he got older he came up here and started to be farmer."

(Mary Ann Alice)

2004 AGM

February 16, at the Wakefield Mill Inn

President's Message:

Good evening faithful members.

This is the second time that the society has convened a meeting in this building. Many of you who were volunteers when this was part of the Historical Society museum, will appreciate that this building has come a long way and of course only for the good! Bob Milling will be telling us later what it took to transform this place from what it was to what it is now. We can look forward to that.

In the meantime, I would like to give you a brief report on your Society. There have certainly been some changes last year as you are all aware. Bob Phillips left us in August. He was one of the most vocal supporters that the Society has ever had, aside from owning a couple of community newspapers. His Ottawa Citizen column gave a great boost to the work of the Society. Rest in peace old friend. By the way, in this year's Up the Gatineau!, you will find a tribute to Bob. I hope it brings back memories.

Over the past year, the work of your society has proceeded a pace, with a very dedicated Executive Committee providing guidance to the various projects that are under way,

Of course the heart and sole of the society revolves around the Archives, under Jay Atherton. He has a wonderful staff who are willing to give you guided tours of the Archives, located under the Chelsea Library. The Image Bank has a great appetite for photos to be scanned into the system. So if you have photos of historical interest, please bring them in to be added to our collection of over 4000 images. The Genealogical Center is up and running with microfiche from a number of cemeteries that can be of great assistance to the people going family research.

Of course the Annual Auction will be held again this year as the main fundraiser for the Society. Watch for it in August and put aside treasures that you no longer need for donation to the Auction. As you may have noted, the Newsletter with editor Marc Cockburn, is getting bigger and better. My thanks to him... and he welcomes your material.

Before I close, I must thank members of the Executive who have been faithful through the five years I have served as your President. Certainly Carol Martin, Jay Atherton and Dave Castleman have made my life very easy. Before I close, I would like to report that the famous valley son and CBC personality Wayne Rostad will be the guest speaker for the Annual Dinner, May 17, Heritage Hall in Low.

Once again, its been very rewarding to serve the Society, and I won't be far, so that I can still help where I'm needed.



Photo of Pat Evans and Ernie Mahoney at their weekly meeting in Wakefield. Presented to Ernie at the AGM, in recognition of his many years of service and support for the work of the Historical Society. (Photo by Adrienne Heron.)

Election of Officers:

The Chair of the Nominations Committee presented the committee's nominations. Jay Atherton moved and Jim Fitzgibbon seconded the adoption of the report, which was approved unanimously by those present: The new Executive Committee for the year 2004 will be:

President (2 years):	Marc Cockburn (Wakefield)	Directors (1 year)	Allan Richens (Gleneagle)
First Vice President (1 year):	David Castleman (Larrimac)		Michael Cooper (Wakefield)
Second Vice President (2 years):	Lois Wilson (Alcove)		Carol Martin (Kirk's Ferry)
			(2 years) Fergus Maclaren (Tenaga)
			Anita Rutledge (Wakefield)

AWARDS: Presented at the 2004 AGM

Certificates of Commendation

- **WAKEFIELD MILL INN:**

Robert Milling & Lynn Berthiaume, Innkeepers.

In appreciation for their effort in maintaining and incorporating heritage value in the design and rehabilitation of the Wakefield Grist Mill and MacLaren House.

By conserving the fundamental character of the original buildings, by making additions visually compatible, and by illustrating Wakefield's local history through the use of photographs drawn from the GVHS Image Bank, the Wakefield Inn continues to serve as an essential historic place in the community.

- **LES TROIS ÉRABLES (WAKEFIELD):**

Jim Fitzgibbons and Joanne Hunter, Hosts

In appreciation for their dedication in conserving and incorporating heritage value in the operation of "The Maples" as a Bed and Breakfast.

Through their effort to maintain architectural integrity in recent renovations, by displaying the building's social meaning through the use of photographs drawn from the GVHS Image Bank, and by marketing Society publications, Les Trois Érables continues to tell the significant stories of the community.

- **WAKEFIELD GENERAL STORE:**

The Nesbitt Family

In appreciation for their effort in incorporating heritage value in the reconstruction of the Wakefield General Store.

By including some of the original building's character-defining materials, forms, and elements in the design of the new store, by recalling the store's historic associations and meanings through the use of photographs drawn from the GVHS Image Bank, and by marketing of Society publications, the new Wakefield General Store has maintained its function as one of the community's historic meeting places.

- **DÉPANNEUR M & R (OLD CHELSEA):**

In appreciation for the effort made in marketing the Society's publications, and especially for the outstanding display of the complete works of the Society. The initiatives undertaken have contributed to the fact that M & R was the leading dealer of the seventeen retailers of GVHS publications.

- **ALEXA PRITCHARD:**

In appreciation for her support for the Society, in particular, her recent donation to the Archives of an

extensive published genealogy of the Maxwell family, *Anselm Maxwell & his Celtic Connections 1822*.

This book was researched and written by Alexa Pritchard and Mary Gail Wilson. These two authors also provided the GVHS Archives with a copy of an earlier work, *The Wilsons of Denholm*. Both books contain valuable genealogical information, forming a marked addition to the sources available for family history research in the Gatineau Valley.

Award of Honour

- **DOUGLAS COWDEN:**

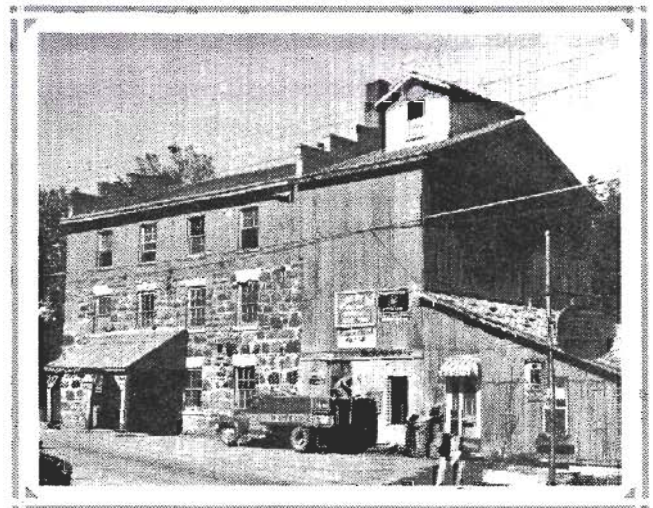
For his many contributions to the work of the Historical Society since its founding in 1962. Mr. Cowden has been instrumental in the identification and improvement of what is now the Chelsea Pioneer Cemetery in Chelsea, containing the graves of members of the Alexander family—in particular Bertha Alexander and her husband, Private Richard Rowland Thompson, recipient of The Queen's Scarf of Honour for valour during the South African War.

Honorary Life Membership

- **ERNIE MAHONEY:**

In recognition of his many years of service and support for the work of the Historical Society.

His knowledge of the history of the community, his leadership, loyalty, and positive approach in all matters have been an inspiration to all who have the good fortune to work with him.



GATINEAU VALLEY HISTORICAL SOCIETY
SOCIÉTÉ HISTORIQUE DE LA VALLÉE DE LA GATINEAU
FINANCIAL STATEMENT
 01 Jan 2003 — 31 Dec 2003

I Revenue:

Bank Balance 01-01-03 Royal Bk A/C 5097654			
Union Mission Church	3,346.11		
Operating	<u>103.32</u>	Total:	3,449.43
Memberships			3,775.38
General Donations (incl. 1K for <i>Wakefield Revisited</i> and 730 mem Bob Phillips)			2,055.01
Publications			3,427.71
Bank Interest			314.64
Chelsea Nearly New Sale			650.00
Annual Dinner—Wkfld Mill, 9 Jun, (81@ 38 and 3 guests)			3,078.00
Archives			418.00
Auction			4,938.50
GIC Cashed 18-01-03			5,421.61
Grant- Que Culture & Communications (<i>Wakefield Revisited</i>)			2,000.00
GST & QST Rebate (02)			<u>2,478.93</u>
		Total:	\$32,007.21

II Expenditures:

Administration:			
Office Supplies	81.67		
Telephone	571.08		
Bank Fees	93.26		
PO Box	86.27		
Magma Communications (www.gvhs.ca)	422.12		
QAHN	25.00		
West Quebecers	25.00		
OGS Gene-O-Rama 2003	<u>23.50</u>	Total:	1,327.90
Publications—UTG, Books			2,755.14
Newsletter			1,510.57
Archives			1,592.79
Meetings -Advertising (incl. 100 Rent)			220.09
AG Meeting			44.80
Annual Dinner — (3,222.31 Food + 153.25 Misc + 285.26 Ads)			3,660.82
Remembrance Day — (181.10 + 285.95 Ads)			467.05
Pioneer Cemetery			447.08
Wkfld Promotion Ad			201.29
Donation — Wakefield Cenotaph			1,000.00
GST & QST Rebate — Wakefield Cenotaph			1,788.58
Que Inspector General — Name Change			65.00
Auction (incl. 816.90 Ads)			1,851.94
Bk — Wakefield Revisited (1K Donation, 2K Grant, 3,162.50 Loan)			6,162.50
Cda Premium Bond			511.50
Bank Balance 31-12-03 Royal Bk NC 5097654			
Union Mission Church	3,346.11		
Operating	<u>5,054.05</u>	Total:	\$32,007.21

III Long Term Investments:

Cda Premium Bond Series P35 maturing 01 Dec 2013	30,000.00		
Cda Saving Bond maturing 01 Nov 2007	8,000.00		38,000.00
Book Loan — <i>Wakefield Revisited</i>			3,162.50
Royal Bk GIC maturing 18 Apr 2004			<u>8,560.84</u>
		Total:	\$49,723.34*

*Includes Que Government grants of \$4.9K for publication of "In Memory of Chelsea's Historic Cemeteries" and \$2K for GVHS 40th Anniversary Project. Note: The above does not include fixed assets and inventory of publications.

IV Financial Assets -Summary:

Date	Bank Balance	Long Term Assets	Total
01-01-1999	12,798	40,494	53,292
01-01-2000	4,579	45,494	50,073
01-01-2001	3,440	43,984	47,424
01-01-2002	5,813	37,853	43,666
01-01-2003	103	38,042	38,145
01-01-2004	5,054	49,723	54,777

Publications

Up the Gatineau!

In June, at our Annual Dinner (held at the Wakefield Mill), we recognized the seven authors who had contributed to Volume 29 of *Up the Gatineau!*, and were especially pleased that “cover girl” **Alice Lee Hudson** was present. The Lee family’s photograph of their 1915 Model T Ford included Alice and two of her brothers; the family’s trip to Edmonton and back was the subject of an article written by her father. Members present at the dinner received copies of the publication, while those unable to attend received theirs by mail.

Carol Martin was awarded the **Arthur Davison Prize** for her article on “Private Richard Rowland Thompson’s ‘Chelsea Connection’: Bertha Alexander and the Alexanders of Chelsea,” published in Volume 28. Stay tuned (until our dinner, in May this year) to learn who will receive this prize for Volume 29!

Publication sales for the year 2003 amounted to \$3191.20. We are grateful to **Harold and Margaret Reid**, who manage publication sales. They bring a selection to the Society’s regular meetings and deal with telephone or mail requests. They can be reached at (819) 827-0138 or by e-mail . During the past year, Eileen and David Castleman, Norma Geggie, Mary Armitage and Carol Martin also assisted with sales at several special events, including the Annual Auction and the Gene-O-Rama conference.

As well as providing *Up the Gatineau!* to members, the Society sells it at 17 outlets (in Chelsea, Wakefield, Kazabazua and Poltimore), and markets the current issue and back issues of all volumes, along with the Society’s *Historic Map of Chelsea—1875* and several other publications.

Distribution, 2003

Boutique Santé (hospital)	Boutique Découverte	Chelsea Freshmart
Chelsea Municipal Office	End of the Line	Épicerie du Parc
Famille Charles IGA	Gerry & Isobel’s	Irwin’s Store, Kazabazua
Jamboree	Larrimac Golf Club	McClelland’s & Sons, Poltimore
Mill Stream Café	M & R Dépanneur, Old Chelsea	
O’Bonsoin Pharmacy	Wakefield Bakery	Wakefield General Store

The M & R Dépanneur in Old Chelsea received a commendation “in appreciation for the effort made in marketing the Society’s publications, and especially for the outstanding display of the complete works of the Society. The initiatives undertaken have contributed to the fact that M & R was the leading dealer of the seventeen retailers of GVHS publications.”

Other Publications and Incentives

In addition to its own publications, the Society provided an interest-free loan to **Norma Geggie** for half of the publication costs of **Wakefield Revisited / Wakefield: un deuxième regard**, her most recent publication, which offers a short history of the Village of Wakefield and the families significant in its development. The GVHS also promotes other publications dealing with Gatineau-area topics, by Society members Norma Geggie and Katharine Fletcher.

The Society’s **Newsletter**, with information about coming events and other heritage items, is edited by Marc Cockburn. Contributions from members are always welcome. For the *Newsletter*, please contact Marc at mcockburn@archives.ca. For **Up the Gatineau!** Carol Martin can be reached at the HSG address or by e-mail at 693595@ican.net.

Have you thought of buying GVHS publications as gifts? **The 1875 map of Chelsea** may help you locate a family property, or show who owned the site where you now live. In **Hurling Down the Pine**, Courtney Bond (former historian for the NCC), recounts the exciting story of logging days in the Gatineau (and the book is only \$5). Norma and Stuart Geggie’s book **The Extra Mile**, based on the journals of Wakefield’s Dr. Harold Geggie (\$10), Norma Geggie’s new books about Wakefield (mentioned above) and **A Place Apart, A Search for the Pioneer Cemeteries of the Lower Gatineau Valley** (\$8) are also available directly from the Society. These books, along with 3 soon-to-be published books by Katharine Fletcher, are available through the GVHS.

(Carol Martin, March, 2004)

Society Notes

At the February 23, 2004 Executive Committee meeting, the Board passed a motion to increase the membership fee for U.S. members to \$20 for one year, and \$35 for two years, to cover increased mailing costs. Membership fees in Canada remain the same and will be reviewed every few years. The Executive Committee also agreed on a motion to increase the price of *Up the Gatineau!* to \$7.

Please check your membership status code, which is located on the right hand side of the mailing label on the envelope of this Newsletter. If the code is 2003/12, please renew your membership by sending a cheque for \$25 (2 years) or \$15 (1 year). All paid-up members will receive the NEW volume 30 of *Up the Gatineau!* (a \$7 value, free to members).

The GVHS welcomes two new Directors to the Executive Committee:

Fergus Maclaren was born and raised in Ottawa and currently resides in Chelsea. He is a sustainable development and tourism resources management specialist focusing on community development and the conservation and use of built, natural and protected areas. Fergus has worked on tourism and heritage-related projects in western Canada and Asia. He has served previously on the Boards of ICOMOS Canada, the Calgary Heritage Authority and Arctic Circumpolar Route. Fergus is presently a Senior Consultant with the Sustainable Development and Environmental Management practice of Consulting and Audit Canada.

Wakefield resident **Anita Rutledge** brings to the Executive Committee years of heritage knowledge, community involvement, and life experience. As a member of the LaPêche Heritage Committee, her research has led to the commemoration of a number of buildings and heritage sites in the Gatineau Valley. Anita was an active members on the former GVHS Committees for the rebuilding of the Wakefield Covered Bridge and the refurbishing of the Wakefield Cenotaph. In 2002, the Society awarded her an HONORARY LIFE MEMBERSHIP for her contributions over the years to her community (especially Wakefield)

The Executive Committee is saddened that **Eileen Castleman** has decided to step down as Secretary of the GVHS after over 10 years of service to the Society. Eileen has been an essential member of the Executive Committee by helping us maintain continuity from one meeting to the next and by creating an important record of the Committee's decisions and Society business. Eileen's presence always contributed to the pleasant atmosphere of the Executive Committee meetings. The GVHS sincerely appreciates Eileen's efforts over the years and we hope to see her continue volunteering at the Society Archives.

Eileen's replacement as GVHS Secretary is Rupert resident, **Debbie Cross**. Debbie brings many years of secretarial experience and community knowledge to Executive Committee. She is currently the Secretary of the Rupert Youth Welfare Association.

GVHS Contacts

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Allan Richens, Director and Cemeteries,
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Anita Rutledge, Director
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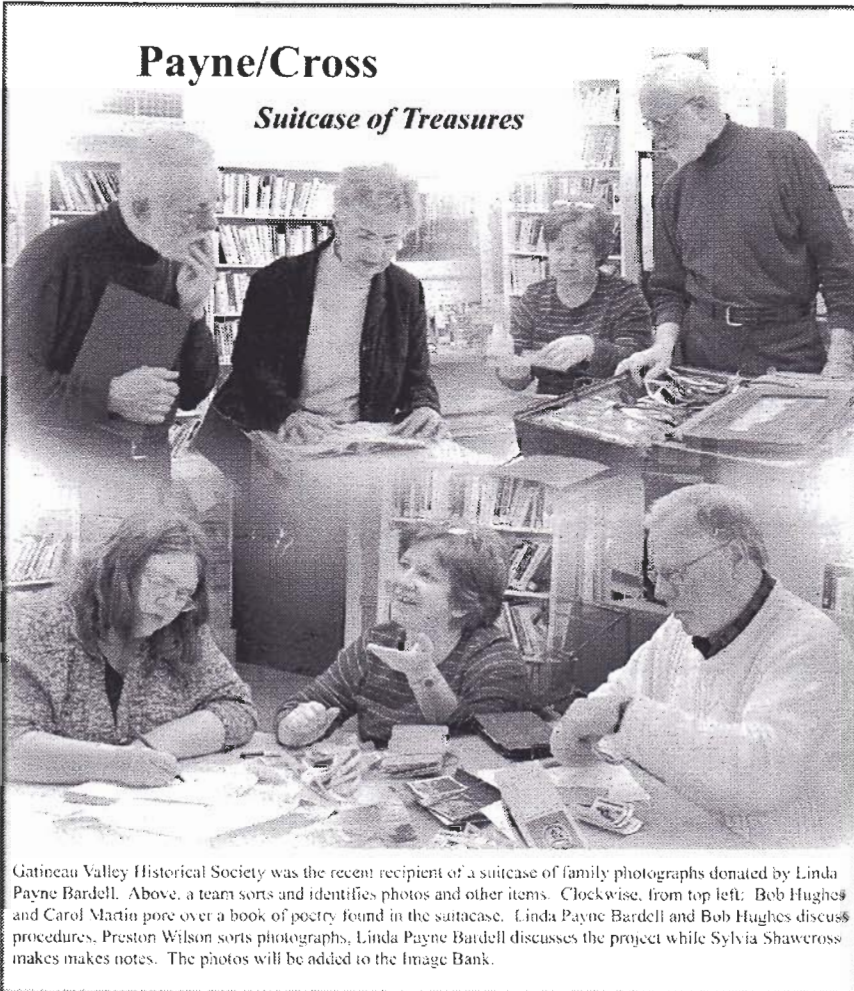
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Debbie Cross, GVHS Secretary,
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Jay Atherton, Society Archivist,
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Payne/Cross

Suitcase of Treasures



Gatineau Valley Historical Society was the recent recipient of a suitcase of family photographs donated by Linda Payne Bardell. Above, a team sorts and identifies photos and other items. Clockwise, from top left: Bob Hughes and Carol Martin pore over a book of poetry found in the suitcase. Linda Payne Bardell and Bob Hughes discuss procedures. Preston Wilson sorts photographs, Linda Payne Bardell discusses the project while Sylvia Shawcross makes notes. The photos will be added to the Image Bank.

The Gladys Cross Payne Collection: *Suitcase of Treasures*

The extensive collection was donated by Linda Payne Bardell, daughter of Mrs. Gladys Payne, a fourth generation descendant of pioneer Isaac Cross who settled the Meech Creek Valley in the early 1800s.

Highlights of the collection include photographs of the construction of the landmark covered bridge on Pine Road, views of the lost village of Cascades, and a genealogical treasure-trove of portraits of early pioneer families. Gladys Payne's legacy is particularly poignant in its depiction of the daily life of the farming families of the Meech Creek Valley. The land was appropriated by the NCC in 1973 for a zoo and has since remained vacant.

The photos are being scanned for the GVHS Image Bank, a publicly-available collection of Gatineau-area historic photographs, housed in the Society's Archives in the basement of the Chelsea Library.

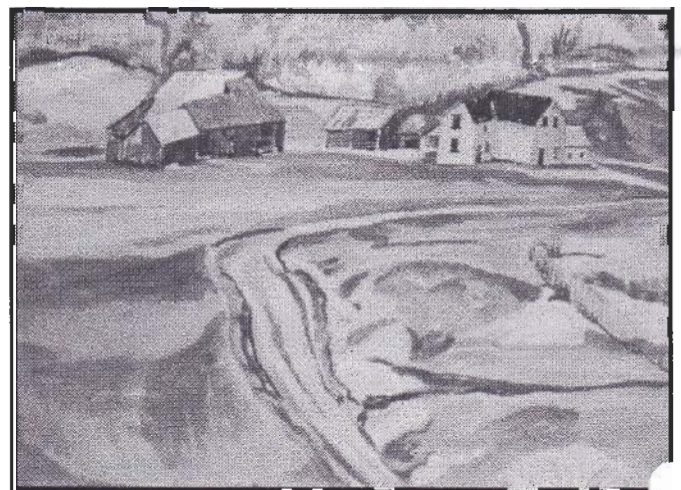
Selections from the collection will be displayed at the April 19 GVHS meeting at the Chelsea Community Centre.

La Vallee Meech / Meech Valley 1972-2002 March 21—May 28 at the Chelsea Library

Society member, Peggy Atherton opened her exhibition of Meech Valley landscapes on March 20 at the Chelsea Library.

The charming watercolours depict many of the farms that once existed in the Meech Creek Valley before the NCC began expropriating the lands in 1970's to make way for a proposed zoo, that never came to pass. In the thirty years since the land was acquired, many houses and barns have been demolished and the farm land abandoned. The Meech Creek Valley was once seen as a typical Gatineau River farming community, so Peggy's work serves to document the historical landscape of the valley.

The exhibition of 20 watercolours is accompanied by a map which shows that location of the homes and buildings depicted in each painting.



Parks Farm (formerly the Harvey and Beulah Farm), looking north. Painted by Peggy Atherton, April 1976