

GATINEAU VALLEY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Winter Newsletter

~ Upcoming Meetings ~

Monday, January 17, 2011 @ 7:30 pm
Chelsea Community Centre, Old Chelsea, QC

CENTURY HOMES OF CANTLEY



Cantley is one of the fastest growing municipalities in Quebec, but it also contains many beautiful century homes. This past summer provincial funding was made available for a private consultant to photograph many historic structures in the MRC des Collines and post them on a website. Lifelong Cantley resident **Bob McClelland** was responsible for providing information about that community's oldest houses such as the Milks House (pictured above). He will share stories and pictures of

some of Cantley's historic and most interesting homes and his family's connection to how the community got its name.



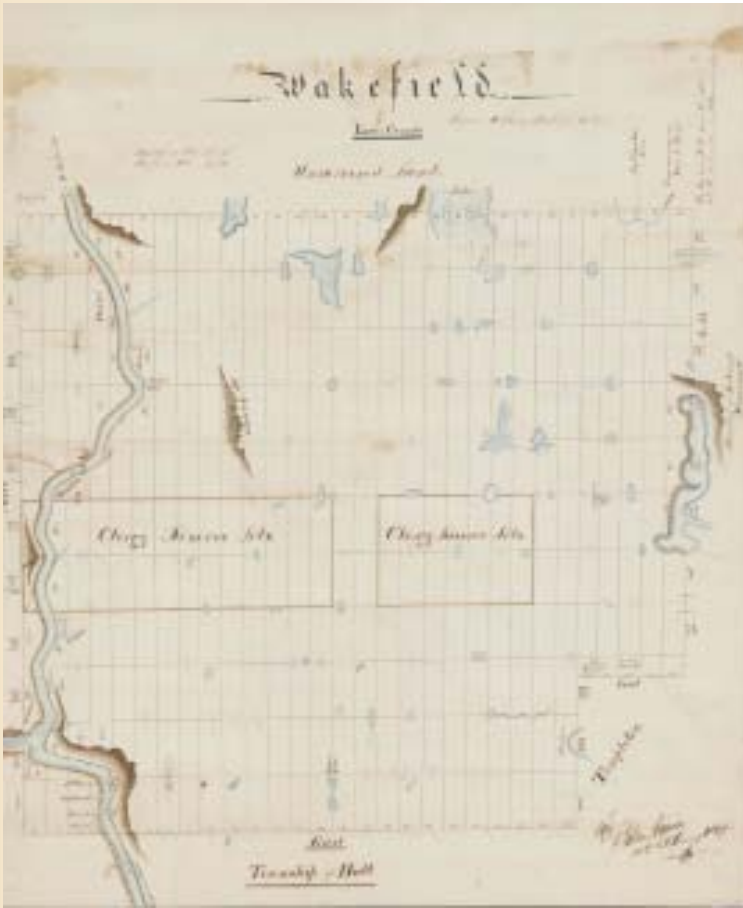
Monday, February 21, 2011 @ 7:30 pm
Chelsea Library, Old Chelsea, QC

GVHS ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING AND ARCHIVES OPEN HOUSE

Join the Society Archives volunteers for a presentation of some of our recent and favourite acquisitions of digital images and records pertaining to the Gatineau Valley. We will also preview planned changes to the GVHS website, including the creation of an online Local History Research Centre which will make some of our archival tools and digital resources available over the internet.

Also, the Society elections will be held and our annual reports distributed. (Nominations for the Society's Executive will be accepted up to February 14, 2011 contact info@gvhs.ca). Refreshments will be served.





Monday, March 28, 2011, 7:30 pm
 Church of the Good Shepherd,
 693 Riverside Road, Wakefield, QC.

PUTTING WAKEFIELD ON THE MAP!

Society President and LAC Map Archivist, Marc Cockburn, will present a multi-media tour of archival maps, plans and images which tell the stories of the community since Wakefield first appeared on the map over two hundred years ago.

The GVHS March meeting will be an opportunity to connect with our colleagues and members of the Fairbairn Heritage Centre to support their ongoing efforts to transform the Fairbairn farmhouse into a regional heritage facility, which will both preserve and display the rich history of the Gatineau Valley.

Monday, April 18, 7:30 pm, GVHS Meeting, Chelsea Library, Old Chelsea Rd.,
ROBERT HYNDMAN: A TALK ON HIS LIFE BY DAUGHTER BRYDIE HYNDMAN AND
EXHIBIT OF SELECTED WORKS AND MEMORABILIA.

More information in the March newsletter.

~ FEBRUARY IS HERITAGE MONTH ~

Fairbairn House Events

Monday, February 21 - Heritage Day luncheon at Tulip Valley Restaurant featuring presentations of personal "heritage minutes". A "new" annual event!

Thursday, February 24 - Fairbairn House Fundraising Gala at the Wakefield Mill. An elegant evening, four-course dinner with wine, and music by noted musician John Geggie, with compère Rob Clipperton of CBC radio fame, and an exclusive silent auction of regional art.

Call Michael Cooper - 819-459- 2787 or email cooperm@wakenet.ca for more information on both these events.

~ In Memoriam ~

Del Trudeau ~ 1936-2010
Musie Brown ~ 1922-2010

Friends of Gatineau Park is looking for Board Members. Visit: <http://guidegatineau.ca/blog/1184/friends-of-gatineau-park-wants-you/> for more information.

NOVEMBER 11, 2010 - CHELSEA REMEMBRANCE DAY CEREMONY

On November 11th 2010, the GVHS once again hosted the Chelsea Remembrance Day Service at the Chelsea Pioneer Cemetery and Cenotaph.

Under a brilliant autumn sun and in the midst of regal white pines, the ceremony provided a poignant atmosphere of peace and tranquility for the community of Chelsea, some 300 strong, to take a moment to remember those past and current generations of Canadian soldiers, sailors and air personnel who paid the ultimate price for our freedom on battlefields around the world.

As in previous years, personnel of the Royal Canadian Regiment – 3rd Battalion – Mike Company (Petawawa) provided the honour-guard for the ceremony, and were joined on parade this year by the Health Services Platoon, based in Ottawa.

Chelsea residents Mr. Larry Dufour, Mr. Paul Landry, Mrs. Nancy Landry, and the Reverend Robert Sears read prayers and the List of Fallen Canadians (for 2010) during the Act of Remembrance, which was followed by a stirring rendition of the Last Post by bugler Brian Sanderson, two minutes of silence, and Lament by bagpiper Brian Mitchell.

Wreaths were laid at the Chelsea Cenotaph by Mayor Caryl Green and Harold (Harky) Milks, and at the grave of Pvt. Richard Rowland Thompson by:

- Government of Quebec - Mrs. Luce Farrell
- The R.C.R., Mike Company - Maj. Sean M. French
- Canadian Forces Health Services Group - Colonel Richard Pucci and Chief Warrant Officer David Horlick
- Canadian Forces Health Services Centre, Ottawa - Lieutenant-Colonel Gisèle Fontaine and Chief Petty Officer 2nd Class Mario Richard
- The Municipality of Chelsea - Mr. Michael Dunlop, Assistant Fire Chief
- M.R.C. des Collines Public Security - Capt. Michel Régimbald
- Chelsea Elementary School - Danika Maisonneuve and Michael Davidson
- 1st Chelsea Scouts
- Mrs. Carol Martin and Mark Cowden for Bertha Alexander-Thompson
- The Gatineau Valley Historical Society - Mrs. Mary Armitage

The ceremony was highlighted by a reading of an original and personal Remembrance Day poem by Chelsea School students Danika Maisonneuve and Michael Davidson, and they were followed by the Chelsea School Grade 5 and 6 Choir signing "We are the Lucky Ones."

At the close of the ceremony, the Society took a moment to remember long time member Mr. Douglas Cowden. A descendant of Bertha Alexander-Thompson, Doug was instrumental in bringing care and attention to Pvt. Thompson's once neglected gravesite. In his honour, Chelsea Mayor Caryl Green read Doug's poem "Just a Piece of Cloth."

Many thanks to Margaret and Brigid Phillips, John Spears, and the staff of The Grange in Cantley for hosting the reception held after the ceremony for the military personnel who attended the GVHS Remembrance Day Service.

It was a great privilege for the Society to host this Remembrance Day ceremony again this year and to be the stewards of this important war grave and historic place. We are very grateful to those who have supported our efforts to preserve this historic memorial at which we honour the present in addition to the past.

Marc Cockburn
President



Lieutenant-Colonel Gisèle Fontaine and Chief Petty Officer 2nd Class Mario Richard of the Canadian Forces Health Services Centre, Ottawa, laying a wreath at the grave of Pvt. Richard Rowland Thompson.

Photo: Bob Williams

Executive 2010-11

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Membership Fees are now due for some GVHS members.

If you have a highlighted "2010" on your mailing label, please fill in the application below and mail your fees to the address on the form.

If you receive the newsletter by email, there will be a *message in the email* saying your 2011 fees are due. Please follow the above instructions re payment.

If there is no message, then your fees are current.

ARCHIVE HOURS

Monday & Wednesday - 1:30 to 4:30

Thursday - 6:00 to 8:00

or by arrangement: e-mail - info@gvhs.ca
telephone: 819-827-6224

Chelsea Library - Downstairs
Opens January 10, 2011

Gatineau Valley Historical Society Membership Application/Renewal Form

Box 1803, Chelsea QC J9B 1A1 ~ 819-827-6224 ~ www.gvhs.ca

- *Up the Gatineau!* - our annual local history journal
- Access to our archival material
- GVHS Newsletter
- Regular meetings on local and national heritage topics

Membership Fees (per family): 1 year — \$15.00 2 year — \$25.00

New Member ____ **Renewal** ____

Name _____

Address _____

City/town _____ Prov _____ Postal Code _____

Telephone _____

Email Address _____ The newsletter will be emailed to you.

I would like to help with: Auction__ Archives__ Cemeteries__ Executive__ Publications__