

The Pioneer Times

NEWS VEHICLE OF THE CLOYNE & DISTRICT HISTORICAL SOCIETY



View of Skootamatta Lodge from the lakeside in the mid 1950s. The lodge was built in the 1920s, as a summer home for George Pearson Sr., who owned a radio company in Indianapolis, Indiana and later Chicago, Illinois. In 1950 Bill Machan's grandfather Herb Machan and his father Merrill Machan, purchased the site from the Pearson family to operate as a tourist lodge. *Photo: Bill Machan Album, CDHS flickr website.*

■ IN THIS ISSUE

Volume 18, #2 Fall/Winter 2020-21

DIRECTOR and COMMITTEE REPORTS

President's message	2
Museum Bookstore	3
Museum Committee Report	3

FEATURES

The History of Skootamatta Lodge.....	4-7
Northbrook Medical Clinic cont'd	8-10
A Journey Into The Past cont'd	10-12

WE LOSE FRIENDS

Gordon Sparks	11
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EVENTS

Museum exhibit photos.....	12
CDHS events	12



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Cloyne & District Historical Society
"Preserving the Past for the Future"

The Pioneer Times

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2002 and 2012 Recipient

President's Message

Hello to our members, patrons and friends! I want to express the appreciation of our Board for your continuing participation and support. We could not accomplish all that we have without you.

In my spring newsletter we were looking forward to our Annual General Meeting and then Covid-19 struck and changed everyone's plans. We have been unable to have meetings and we miss seeing you.

The Board has continued to meet via Zoom. We hired three students this summer as we determined that we had sufficient work for them even if we were not able to open the museum. We did open the museum in mid July and though it was a shortened season things went very well.

A requirement for opening was to have a health and safety policy in place. Carolyn McCulloch, Catherine Grant and Ken Hook were the group who took on this project and prepared it for Board approval. Our thanks to them and for Carolyn obtaining the necessary supplies and training the staff in the protocol.

There had been much discussion about our need for more storage space as the number of artefacts continues to grow. This fall we installed a lovely little building at the north-east corner of the museum. This will give us the option of rotating exhibits or putting together special ones for certain occasions.

We look forward to a better year in 2021 when we hope to be able to have meetings again and greet one another in person.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

Stay safe and healthy.
Shirley Sedore, President 🌸



Museum Book Store

The Book Store had a different look this year. Because of our "COVID-19 No-Touch Policy", we posted a synopsis of each book. Then we displayed the actual merchandise in a display case. Our sales were not as robust as in previous years due to the decrease in the number of visitors.

We also have some good news. We have replenished books that were previously not available, and now have a history book for every part of our catchment area.

Here are some great ideas for your Christmas giving:

Flinton

Billa Flint, King of Hastings County 19.00

The Swamp Rat Ballet..... 18.00

North Frontenac

Away Back in Clarendon and Miller20.00

Historic Tours of North Frontenac.....20.00

The Lodges of North Frontenac 50.00

Denbigh

This was Yesterday.....20.00

Bon Echo

The Denison Years 17.00

The Sunset of Bon Echo.....25.00

The Mazinaw Experience25.00

The Rock 7.00

The Good Echo (Fiction)30.00

Cloyne

The Skootamatta Ozone Ball (Fiction)25.00

This is a limited list of books available. Visit our website at www.cloynepioneermuseum.ca for a full listing. The Museum is closed for the season, so call Carolyn McCulloch @613 336-6858 for free local delivery. ✂

Museum Committee Report

The Pioneer Museum was open from July 13 until September 7, Labour Day. There were 566 visitors this year, just over a quarter of the previous year. Donations at the door were slightly over \$1000.

Three students were hired again this year and ran the Museum and conducted Archiving from June 22 until August 31. Rebecca Delyea worked her fourth summer,

Josie Heyman her second and this year they were joined by Shana Johnson for her first summer. The Museum was staffed by Historical Society members for the last week of opening.

Twenty-five artefacts were donated this year. One collection included a chair and settee made by the sons of Johnny Bey, plus other items from Wilfred Lessard's (historian and writer from Flinton) home and a long-held family cottage on Skootamatta Lake. There was coverage of this donation in the Frontenac News when descendants of Johnny Bey came for a visit. Other acquisitions this year included a new shed, located on the north side of the original section of the Museum and storage units from the Museum of Healthcare in Kingston.

A big thank you is due for the effort of the Covid team of Ken Hook, Catherine Grant and most especially, Carolyn McCulloch who oversaw making the Museum safe for the staff and visitors this summer.

Thank you!

Wendy Hodgkin ✂



LtoR: Summer students Shana Johnson, Rebecca Delyea and Josie Heyman followed Covid-19 protocols to keep museum staff and visitors safe. *Photo: Ken Hook*

History of Skootamatta Lodge by Bill Machan



Skootamatta Lodge as it appears today from the back. *Panorama photo: Ken Hook. This photo is on flickr in 3 Albums, the Pearson - Skootamatta Lodge - Halperin Album, Bill Machan and Ken and Cathy Hook Albums.*

In August of 2020 Ken Hook had the pleasure of accompanying Bill Machan on a tour of the former Skootamatta Lodge for some exterior photography. Bill lives next to the 'Lodge' property which is currently owned by the Halperin family. Bill shared his boyhood memories years ago during his presentation to the CDHS. The following is from Bill's presentation.

There is a piece of property, approximately 20 acres in total, on lovely Skootamatta Lake. I was told the word Skootamatta is Algonquin for 'sparkling waters'. The property was originally owned by George Pearson Sr., who owned a radio company in Indianapolis, Indiana and later Chicago, Illinois. On this property is a cluster of log and stone buildings, which form the main living spaces, and as well, there are 3 cabins and a boat and pump house. Originally there was also a large 'ice house' as well as a wood shed/workshop. But sadly, these 2 buildings have since fallen down. ARO (Alfred Ross Osborne) was the 'quarterback' of the construction and Jim Meeks was the Lead Builder. Edward Flieler did the stonework.

The buildings were built back in the 1920s, as a summer home for the Pearson family and continued that way, until 1950 when my grandfather Herb Machan and my father Merrill Machan, purchased the site from George Pearson. The earliest picture I have of what we called 'the lodge' is dated 1954 at which time I was 10, and that is the time this tale of Skootamatta Lodge begins.

It was a wonderful place furnished with oriental rugs, Hudson Bay blankets in all the bedrooms. The beds were high off the floor and were handmade birch bark frames, made by the Bey family, a Mohawk family who lived in the area. There were many big fan-back Rattan chairs, custom furniture, along with a number of hand made chairs made again, by the Bey family. On one of the 35 foot high walls, in the main room, was a mahogany sailboat with a 6 foot mast and sail. It was the kind used in those ponds in England where they race these models. There were many coal oil lamps, a bear rug, along with a wolf rug, enough Willowware china and crystal shakers and matching silverware, to feed about 20 people. There was even a player piano in the 'stone room' along with many rolls of music to be played. And just a number of real neat things that filled this little 10-year old's mind.

It is hard to imagine the work and hardship endured to build and furnish this complex, when sinks, toilets, 2 huge cistern tanks, lights, furniture, all appliances, just about everything, had to be transported by some kind of a boat or barge from the Trail's End boat landing. And then around what is known as Osborne Point and down the shore, about a half mile or more to be unloaded and taken uphill to the site.

The shoreline then, did not resemble what it does now, because there was no road, which limited the number of 'pioneers' that would or could, build along a shoreline that was boat or foot access only. Along the north shore where

the Cotés are now, Archie Meeks had a number of green boathouses, along with a number of green flat bottom boats he would rent. Since there was no road to the 'pre lodge property' I presume the Pearsons rented boats from Archie to transport items, as well as themselves, until the Pearsons purchased boats of their own. So envision boats of some kind, travelling from the landing around what is called Mike's Island, and into a bay where they could land at the 'King's Landing', which is a spot near where Bev and Joe Scott live now. From there, their choice was either walk, or take a cart ride, drawn by horse, up to their property. Or they could take the longer boat ride from the



Pearson cottage (later Skootamatta Lodge) on the left, Moore cottage on the right, 1926. Photo: Bill Machan

landing, around Osborne Point, down the shoreline to their property site. And it would have to be done rain or shine, windy or calm. But George couldn't have minded it, as he purchased most of that north shore. And he, Bill Lazalle, Ross Osborne and, eventually I believe Harold Ballard, joined the gentleman's group of large land purchasers. Over the years, they sold off limited numbers of lots. But on the shore, where Kent Farrow has his current cottage, George used to have a big green two story building that sat up on the flats overlooking the sandbanks, which were at the time, about 30 feet high. They have pretty much grown over now, and are lined with cottages. But in George's building, he stored lumber, china, some furnishings and other items, until they were ready to take to the building construction site, or for furnishing the finished residence. On this north shore, near the landing there also used to be T. A. Wilson's Saw Mill. But it was gone at my time, or just not in my memory bank.

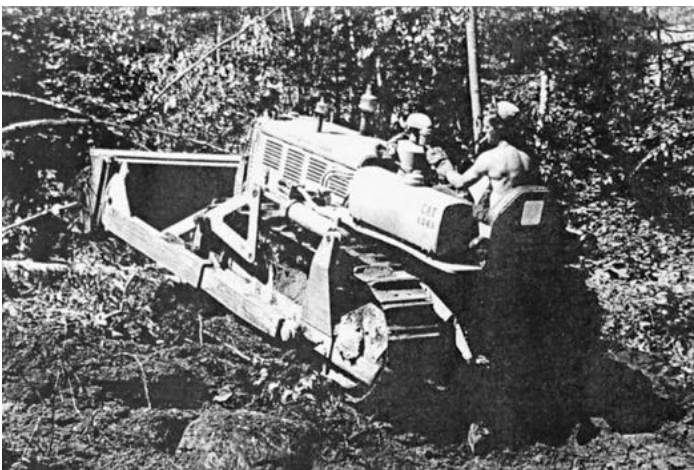
About a half mile out from the landing, is an island known as Mike's Island. On that island was a cottage that became the Post Office for the lake region. The cottage was later towed away on the ice due to environmental problems. But until then, cottagers would go by boat, from their cottage somewhere on the lake, to the island, to pick up their mail. I have wondered why the mail would originally emanate from the mainland, then be transported to an island for pick up, instead of the boaters simply picking their mail up at the mainland, in the first place. But I guess Mike Schwager, who was the Post Master, and who the

island is named after, must have won the contract to handle the mail. When we owned the lodge, I can remember the smoldering remains of the only neighbouring cottage, which belonged to the Moore family, who were also from Indianapolis and friends of George Pearson. One of their sons was Clayton Moore, who would later become the Lone Ranger. Fast forwarding a little, the lodge is currently owned by the Halperin family which they use as a summer home. They have a recording of their conversation with Clayton, that they had after they purchased the 'lodge'. The Halperins are also responsible for the work that was done to preserve the original Moore boathouse.

Leaving this history, pre 'lodge' time line behind, while the Pearsons must have been enjoying their wonderful life, north of 7, my Grandfather and my Father, owned the Machan Lumber company in Kingston. Dad had been drawing rough cut lumber from the Thompson Lumber company in Eganville, hauling it down 41 highway to Cloyne. There, the rough-cut lumber was re-sawed at Potter's Saw Mill, which was situated on Benny's Lake, which is located across from the Cloyne Post Office today. Note: Muriel Vanness says the sawmill was named Potter & Lee – situated where Cloyne Village Foods (Shell Station) is now. They put the logs in the other side of the lake and floated them across and up a chute to the mill. Harry Meeks worked for them. Then Dad took the lumber onto Kingston. During his driving, I presume he learned of the availability of the Pearson property being for sale, from his friend and hunt camp member, Art Dunbar. Art, together

with Don Little, owned the Shell gas station, which is now the Petrocan station, in Kaladar (*Ed. Note: it is again a Shell Station*). So, in and around 1950 my grandfather and my father purchased the property and decided they were going to operate it as a tourist lodge. Sounds exciting right? But first they had to overcome the fact that there still was no road access. My Dad struck a deal with Manion in Plevna. They could have the road construction business, on the provision that when their bulldozer was not in use, Dad could use it to hasten the construction of the road. There is a picture of Dad, with no shirt on, plowing away some of the road burden. I guess back in the 50s there were no blackflies, mosquitoes, deer flies or horse flies, so he was able to work without his shirt.

In any event, the road was completed to the Pearson property. The township took over the maintenance of the road, and we were open for business as the Skootamatta Lodge. It was advertised in *Field and Stream* and *Outdoor Life*, as a lodge that accommodated 16 guests and included wonderful meals. And while running a lodge was a change in the life of my parents, it was the start of my life. A change, I am so thankful for. My family owned and ran it for about 3 years or maybe four. We did indeed serve a wonderful meal cooked by a wonderful man named Lornie. We had waitresses serving, led by Isobel Woods. Although my family sold the lodge after that time, fortunately for me, we took it back again, as the new owner defaulted on the payment. We then kept it as our summer home for about 2 years or maybe 3. It was later bought and resold many times. Two of the other owners were the Cassidy family, who also owned the Flying Dutchman Motel near Oshawa. And Ted Cornyea was another owner, and he



Merrill Machan helped with construction of the first road into the Skootamatta Lodge. *Photo: Bill Machan.*

owned the Tweedsmuir Hotel in Tweed. But just as many times as it has been bought and sold, it also has been looted that many times by thieves. The buildings did have power, plumbing and there was a septic tank. The power came from a Delco system, which was a 6-cylinder Chev engine, that I started with a crank. When the last light was turned off, it would automatically shut the Delco system off.

The water came from the lake and was pumped up hill into two huge cisterns that when filled, would gravity feed the toilets, sinks and bathtubs. And the septic tank was buried into the ground in the woods behind the building. We even had a telephone that when cranked, we could communicate from the boat house to the main building.

To operate it as a lodge, we would remain in Kingston at our home, until approximately May, when I would leave school and finish my year at the school in Cloyne, which is now the Cloyne Motor Inn. And then I would return home when school again started up in September. That by itself, was an experience for me, leaving a brick school in Kingston for a wooden school with 2 or 3 grades all in one classroom, and fighting with some of the local kids, each recess as 'that city kid'. I am lucky that some of the Tully kids were friends, to help me. The Tullys were some of the great people in my life. Ernie and Florence Tully had about 5 or 6 sons and 1 daughter. Their home was a regular holding spot for me at the end of the school day, as well as a place for many dinners, until my parents could come to pick me up. Although there was some sort of a school bus, it would only go as far as the Tully's, because it could not make it back up one of the hills that Dad had to leave in place. Dad would also take Ernie sometimes, by boat, down the lake to Killer Creek where Ernie would jacklight a deer or bear, he needed in order to feed his brood at home. Ernie was a great friend. Another regular and friend was Arnold Flieler. He gave me my first airplane ride in his float plane. He would land at the lodge, taxi to the dock and take any of the tourists up for a sightseeing flight over the area. Another person who entered my life was Walter Meeks, who was a frequent guide for us and I am so thankful he got me interested in fishing and I even eventually learned to guide for many of the American tourists we had.

So here was my new life, a wonderful ranch like home, on 'sparkling waters', didn't have to do any work, with a cook that made all my meals, as well as packed a lunch for me

when I went fishing, which was about every day. I had a friend who was a fishing guide, show me some pointers, I had a 16' square stern Peterborough canoe of my own with a 10 horse Martin motor on it, along with an Irish Setter, who rode up front as ballast, and I could fish all day. Life was grand. Jumping back to some of the people who entered my life. As I mentioned one of the buildings on the property was our 'ice house'. This is where we stored big squares of ice cut from the lake. I understand that George himself used to carry these chunks uphill to the ice house, during his time. But in my day, it was Leo and Elburn Meeks who cut and carried the ice. Elburn is long gone, survived by 'young Ab' as he is known. But Leo is still very much alive and is a great person to get to know, if you have time. The ice was kept in the ice house, under layers of sawdust and was needed for the fridges, or more accurately the 'ice boxes', which were insulated cupboards, ill conceived, as the ice would eventually melt and invariably leak all over the floor. Close to the lodge lived families such as the Carlyes, Stevens, Obornes, Lazalles, Rutlands Schwengers, Ingrams, Dunbars, Sowdens. Other names you might remember were Professor Jones, Stan Hughes, Bill Sowers, and Dr. Wylie. I remember going into Cloyne in one of our old panel trucks, to Bob Wise's General store, which was where the new school is now, in Cloyne. And Wise's store was kind of next to what was then, another general store owned by Watson and Gibson, who had bought it earlier from Ezra Wheeler, then called Wheelers. More recently it was owned for years by John Grand and now owned by Mike and Stephanie and called Finnegan's General Store. At the lodge, we did not have a liquor license, but there was another wonderful person, an OPP officer by the name of Gord Stout. He and other officers would put a blitz on for drunk drivers on 41 and 7. Some liquor would be confiscated, and it, and the officers would end up at the lodge for a great Saturday night party in the Stone room, with the many songs being played on the player piano. As long as there was some liquor left in each bottle that was confiscated, it could still be used as evidence of the arrest or seizure. Some of these parties included entertainment by whatever musical group had been playing that night at the Northbrook Hotel, owned by Joseph Bolton. When their gig was up on a Saturday night, up to our lodge they came, and the parties would look pretty professional. Gord and Joe were also great friends of our family. Harry and Betty Meeks were other friends of our family and I can remember Harry telling me about him working on building Highway 41 through

Cloyne for \$.35 cents a day. Back over at the Trail's End landing was another great old friend named Harold Maybe, who had a little tuck shop and some cabins for rent. There was only one other such place on the lake, and it was in what is now Pickerel Bay, and was owned by Stan Hughes and called Hughes Landing. Both are a great part of my memory, for both sold ice cream and candy, as well as gas for the boats. At the upper end of the lake, at a spot called Air Force Bay, was a large one story cottage that was used as a location for the military to learn how to live off the land and hone their training. It was a source of different fun for me, especially when I found a trap door in the floor, where below, they had a bin, about 4' x 4', full of canned goods, jams, Jack and Jill peanut butter, laughing cow corned beef and different crackers. If I wanted to stay fishing late at night, or camp out all night, a can of corned beef for myself and Molly, my Irish Setter, and a quick blast from their CO2 fire extinguisher, gave me ice cold water or pop. With their food, and occasionally a parachute or a tarp, I was set for the evening. And there I went, no life preservers as we now know them, but then, they were simply a cushion that floated, or a wrap around thing with large cork blocks in it. No running lights on the canoe, an over powered motor on it, a big red dog standing up front, and I would end up camping overnight under a tarp, at the ripe age of 10 and loving every minute of it. Over my 75 years I have forgotten many things, but very little about the people and minutes I have spent on 'sparkling waters' at Skootamatta lodge. Heather and I have lived for over 30 years, on a piece of the property, that my Father severed off the lodge property. And we appreciate everything we have 'north of 7' and are particularly thankful for our medical clinic, the Tobia's pharmacy, the wonderful caring staff at Pine Meadow, and at Foodland, and Nowell Motors, Smart's Marina, our other Gas stations and building supply stores, and in particular, all the still living wonderful people that live here 'north of 7'. And for me, particularly, my childhood spent at that piece of heaven called Skootamatta Lodge.

This article with more photos is at the CDHS website:
www.cloynepioneeremuseum.ca under 'Items of Interest'.

Additional photos are on flickr:
www.flickr.com/photos/cdhs/

THE FLYING DOCTORS IN NORTHBROOK

THE NORTHBROOK MEDICAL CLINIC PART TWO

by Jane Scott

Interview with Dr. James Berry, a physician participating with the Northbrook, Ontario Satellite Medical Clinic during the 1970s.

Dr. Jim Berry, a 1958 graduate of Queen's University was born in Kingston, Ontario, the son of Dr. Nathan Berry, one of four remarkable brothers who became physicians and were raised near Seeley's Bay, north of Kingston. For Jim, although raised in Kingston, the family farm remained a touchstone throughout his life.

Dr. Richard Milne spent his summers at a farm near Parham. He was rebuilding an abandoned farm house with no telephone or electricity and became known to the residents of Parham. Dr. Milne initiated a medical clinic because the area was in great need of local medical care. The Parham Medical Clinic was held 2-3 times a week in the Minister's manse. Eventually, Dr. Peter Bell established a rural practice in Sharbot Lake which included the Parham area. Dr. Milne and the group of physicians at the Parham Clinic decided there were other communities which needed closer medical care, those with no resident physicians. Northbrook was chosen.

Ken Douglas of Northbrook was the contractor who built the Clinic (*Ed. Note: the second clinic*). Jim met Ken and his wife Elaine, a wonderful couple during his visits and invited them to his home in Kingston. Eventually, Ken and Elaine moved to a new home in Wellington.

Dr. Jim Berry practiced as a General Physician from his office in Kingston, Ontario. Jim offered his services for the northern visits with Dr. Milne's group. Although flying to Northbrook from Kingston was an option, Jim preferred to travel by car. As only 40 minutes north of Kingston and with good roads, the trips were quite pleasant. Jim's love of the countryside allowed a change from his daily practice. If weather dictated an overnight stay, The Pinegrove Motel was available for \$9.00 a night!

Northbrook Clinic hours were from 9-12 pm, three days a week. For Jim, this allowed him to be back in his practice by 1:30pm. With the group of physicians available,

Jim travelled once or twice a week to Northbrook.

The Kingston General Hospital (KGH) Nursing Programme arranged for nursing students to attend the clinic for practical experience. Jim would pick up the KGH Nursing students and travel to Northbrook. One particular student has remained in his memory.

"She was a student in Northern Quebec, from a small village where not many students went on to further education. At that time, a girl 17-18 years old, married, had children and managed a household. She wanted to further her education and decided on a nursing career. She was a very keen observer, and similar to the other nursing students were present during the examination room visits. I found her to be very mature for her age; I was later told she was an outstanding student of her class. During her visits to Northbrook, she learned about Mazinaw Lake and wanted to visit the area. So one day, after the clinic, I drove her to the Mazinaw as it was a short drive."

The Northbrook Clinic was funded by the Physician Subsidy (PSI) program for three years in the form of a grant. The grant helped renovate the former community building and funded the flying in-and-out of the doctors for 3 years. The clinic was very ably managed by Tish Butson, a very capable Nurse Practitioner, during the days the physicians were not present.

She coordinated the approach to get the doctors there. A day at the Clinic involved examining 8-10 patients with everyday problems, which included important prenatal care. These mothers travelled to Napanee Hospital for their delivery. The group physicians had privileges at the Napanee Hospital which allowed them to admit and follow any residents that were referred from the Northbrook Clinic. The Clinic had medical supplies, so Jim did not have to bring his Medical bag which he carried on his home visits in Kingston. The physicians had been discussing of having specialists to visit the clinic including Dermatology. One patient needed a sigmoidoscopy, so equipment was borrowed from the hospital and Jim said it was convenient for the patient not having to travel to Kingston.

Dr. Blakeman had a summer cottage near Flinton and Skootamatta Lake and was keen on a rural practice so when the funding finished, Dr. Blakeman carried on for the needs of the area.

Jim, an educator at heart, participated in a Career Day at the Cloyne High School on the west side of Highway 41. Jim and a Social Worker from the area, informed the students about their occupation. "The only question for both of us was how much money you make". Jim's response was "Stay in school as Grade 12 is necessary for more opportunities in the future."

Jim and his wife Diane travelled to Cloyne for the Fair Day of Local Crafts. He purchased an oil painting by Mary Savigny, which hangs in the hallway of his Kingston home, which is a reminder of his memories of Northbrook and Cloyne.

by Ken Douglas with additional information provided by Tish Butson

Our recollections were triggered by Jane Scott, President of the Lennox & Addington Historical Society and notes of a discussion she had with Dr. Jim Berry of Kingston which were forwarded to me from Ken Hook, CDHS.

Tish and Doug Butson are former residents of Northbrook. Doug operated the general store and Tish worked as a public health nurse in the area. Ken and Elaine Douglas are also former residents, with Ken operating a building centre lumber yard just south of Cloyne, while Elaine was a stay-at-home mom with four sons. The four of us were very good friends and still are although Doug sadly passed away a few years ago.

Tish was the one with the extensive nursing experience and Ken owned some vacant land in Northbrook. Back in the 70s, Tish was aware of Dr. Richard Milne operating a clinic in Parham with a team of Doctors from Kingston using a church basement as the centre. Due to population growth in our area and travel distance for medical treatment, Tish met with Dr. Milne to explain the need for additional medical services in the Northbrook area. The following five events happened rather quickly:

1. Need for Dr. Milnes group going to Parham become expendable when a permanent medical service was established in Sharbot Lake.



The first clinic was located in the former Northbrook school. Tish Butson recalls that the local Lions Club paid for renovations.

2. Dr. Milne met with his group of doctors regarding travelling to Northbrook – all were agreeable.
3. With the air strip in Northbrook, they would possibly fly in three mornings a week, instead of driving from Kingston.
4. The new K-13 school at Cloyne resulted in the Land O'Lakes Lions Club ultimately purchasing the closed school in Northbrook.
5. The P.S.I. (Physicians Services Incorporated) was dissolved with the introduction of government health care in Ontario. P.S.I. received a payout and they agreed to fully fund the fly in service for three years with the hope of providing sustainable services that could attract permanent medical service.

It was incredible how organizations and people stretching from Kaladar to Denbigh, Plevna and Flinton worked together to get the 'Fly In' Doctors program, providing a needed service in the area. However, we still had the principle piece missing – a permanent doctor. The P.S.I. funding was coming to an end. We worked diligently but eventually had to approach Dr. Copeman of the Ontario Ministry of Health to seek assistance from the 'Under Served Medical Program'.

After lengthy discussion it was the conclusion that we required a new facility that would accommodate two doctors, but who would build it? Dr. Copeman agreed to continue medical service at Northbrook during the transition.

Ken Douglas owned vacant property across the street from the medical centre, and after much discussion and because no one else would take any part of the risk, not the government, the municipality nor any organization, Ken agreed to build it.

Dr. Copeman participated in the layout plan, a couple of doctors reviewed, and the conclusion was that the centre would be very functional. Three doctors' offices with three separate examination rooms, and an emergency room were the key ingredients.

Dr. Copeman agreed to the government paying a nominal monthly rent to cover heat/AC, cleaning, snow removal, etc. until such time as a permanent doctor arrived.

The new medical centre was completed and still no permanent doctor. The Lions Club took on the responsibility of supplying furnishings and the official opening took place.

The P.S.I. grant for the 'Fly in Doctors' had expired and Dr. Copeman organized 'Locums' to provide medical ser-

vices at the original centre and then relocate to the new medical clinic until such time as a permanent doctor arrived. The definition of a Locum is a physician temporary replacement in an office or clinic while a regular physician is unable to be there due to vacation, illness, etc. The Locums provided five day a week service and agreed to set terms ranging from a month to three months or more and were paid by the Ministry of Health on a flat fee basis.

Members of the 'Get a Doctor' group continued to canvas University Medical schools and advertise in medical publications.

Finally, over a year later, the phone rang at the Douglas residence and the caller identified himself as a doctor practicing at Rocky Harbour Newfoundland, wondering if we were still attempting to attract a permanent doctor for the new clinic. Elaine was very excited and called to tell me. After hearing his name, I responded, "You sure it's not Tobin?" "No, it's Tobia and his wife is a registered nurse".

The rest is history.

A JOURNEY INTO THE PAST

by Marcella Neely *(Continued from the Spring 2020 Newsletter)*

As we enter Northbrook, we see how the Highway inspired modernization. The village of Northbrook had previously been named Beaverbrook, then Springbrook and finally Northbrook. At the turn of the century the village had a population of approximately 25 people.

From 1910 to the early 30s there was very little change. Once Highway #41 was completed some businesses began to change hands and more building was happening. By the 1950s it was quite similar to today.

Having just passed what is now the Auto parts store we see, on the east side of Hwy 41, south of Northbrook a private home that became Keith's small engine repair shop in the early 2000s. Not far is the home of Morris Reavie which had been built as Shaw Brother's Garage in the 1940s. In the 1980s it was taken over by Lemke Construction, Guide Rail & Fencing, then was briefly operated as a restaurant by Ralph Mills. Continuing North

where now there is a car wash and laundromat would have been the vacant corner of #41 and Glastonbury Rd. Turning Right on Glastonbury Rd, you would have arrived at Lemke's Dance Hall which burned down in the early 1970s.

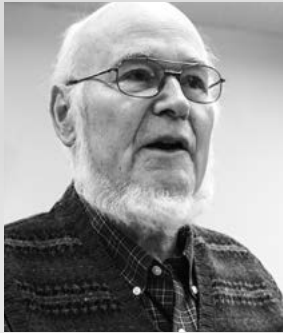
Fires were a serious threat to the area and totally wiped out entire settlements at times. In 1927 a particularly dangerous one extended from Actinolite to Henderson. In the 1940s the east side of Glastonbury Rd was victim to fire.

Just a little to the east and across the road, used to be Gerald Tully Trucking & Road building. Amos and Beatrice Lloyd tried to run a general store on the corner for a short while, but they also had a farm on Gun Club Rd. The Thompson store in Northbrook was too much competition and the farm took up much of their time.

During the 1930s the N.E. corner of Glastonbury Rd and Hwy 41 was the site of a general store with living quarters and a restaurant, "Glady's Cup & Kettle". The general store was owned by Billy Both. He had a White Rose gas pump on the curb and a pool hall adjacent. Until the early

We lose friends

Gordon Sparks
November 5, 2020



What a striking figure Gordon Sparks was, as he strutted into the Burns Supper and addressed the haggis. He produced this memorable event for years running, complete with Scottish Country Dancing and Gaelic cuisine.

His contributions to the Historical Society were innumerable. He was always on hand at our yard sales; he was at one time the Convenor of our Patron Programme; and helped to organize our bus tours and Christmas Luncheon.

Gordon, a retired Queen's professor, attended Camp Mazinaw as a little boy. He fell in love with the area, and returned to live both at Lake Mazinaw, and in Cloyne where he died on November 5, 2020.

He was known for his love of music, and participation behind the microphone, both at the Fiddlers gatherings and in the Community Choir. Gordon was a gentleman in every sense, and is remembered

as the tall man with the little dog, who wore so many hats.

We send our deep sympathy to his beloved wife, Sandra.

In these unfortunate times we cannot gather to celebrate his life, so *we'll tak a cup o' kindness yet, for Auld Lang Syne.*

Carolyn McCulloch



Gordon addressing the haggis at the Robbie Burns Supper 2013.

1950s a post office was in the store. There was also a used furniture store run by George Both. It seems George was able to get a license to sell beer but being quite religious he was uncomfortable and sold the business. Steve Lancaster and his partner eventually owned the location and called it "Lancaster Junction". When the building burned the old post boxes were still on the wall. It was rebuilt as a restaurant, then operated as Interior Zone Decorating then a Real Estate and Hairdressing. The Real Estate Office still occupies this building. Directly opposite Glastonbury Rd. on the highway was the Shire House which was a boarding hotel. In the late 30s and early 40s Bob and Eva Jackson operated it as the Village Inn. They had rooms, a restaurant, taxi service, and Supertest gas. It was sold to the Mordak family around 1960 for a general store.



Both Store, 1925. The building burned down in 1987. A Real Estate office now occupies the site. Photo: Ellery Thompson Album CDHS flickr Archives

Mr. Mordak applied to have the property recognized as a local landmark stating it had been a stagecoach depot and rooming house, making it of historic nature. This attempt was not successful.

A house was built immediately behind the store and the old store demolished. The Gleecoffs bought the house and it is currently the home of Charlene & Kevin Van Dusen. (As close as this home is to the road it is difficult to imagine how the Village Inn was able to fit in the space in front of it).

Next to that was a small house serving as an office for Dr. Richardson and later for Dr. Sutherland. It was torn down to extend the IGA (Foodland) parking lot.

Information for this section is primarily from John & Elaine Bolton and from Roxanne Bradshaw's 1990s Road Trip.



Village Inn (Shire House). It was sold to the Mordak family around 1960 and operated for many years as a general store. *Photo: Jean Jackson-Stout Album CDHS flickr Archives*



New to our museum in 2020 and donated by Jackie Blecker LtoR: From the family cottage of Dr. Ralph Williams of Skootamatta Lake a 4 seater sofa and chair built by the sons of Johnny Bey. From the home of her grandfather Wilfred Laurier Lessard, Flinton, a Bowler Hat which belonged to Halley Stone, Flinton's Undertaker and Casket Maker during the early 1900s, a crate with Halley Stone's initials on it, kerosene lanterns, a stone jug and a tin biscuit box. *Photos: Ken Hook*

Events - 2020/2021

General Meetings are held the 3rd Monday of the month, 1PM at the Barrie Hall in Cloyne.

Because of COVID-19 restrictions monthly meetings have been put on hold. We will connect with members monthly through email and we encourage you to check our website from time to time to see what events are proceeding. Our website address is www.cloynepioneermuseum.ca