

Fruit and vegetable display at CNE about 1903 *City of Toronto Archives*

### *In this issue -*

Fall Programme & Walk	1
Heritage News	2
50 Years Ago	3
North Toronto Memories	5
WorthWhileWebsites	6
Heritage Calendar	7



Yonge Street at Wanless Avenue, 1922 *City of Toronto Archives*

## Fall Programme

*Join us at 7:10 for refreshments.*



### Wednesday, 28 September, 7:30 p.m. TORONTO'S CHINATOWNS 1850-2011: A HISTORIC AND DEMOGRAPHIC OVERVIEW

Come and hear about the history of Toronto's Chinatowns. Discover new facts about the community and how it has changed over time. This illustrated talk will be presented by urban planner **Harvey Low**.

### Wednesday, 26 October, 7:30 p.m. THE WELL-TEMPERED LISTENER

Join **Mary Willan Mason**, daughter of composer Healey Willan and pianist Gladys Hall, as she shares her memories of growing up in the Deer Park area in the 1920s and '30s. She will read from her book *The Well Tempered Listener: Growing Up With Musical Parents*. Copies of the book will be available for purchase.

### Wednesday, 30 November, 7:30 p.m. TORONTO IN 1834

Take a journey back in time to Toronto in 1834. Learn about the early settlement of York and how the town evolved into the city of Toronto. **Norie Jacobs'** presentation will be supported by drawings from the period, and given from the perspective of a person actually living in 1834 projecting to an audience of the future...2011.

### Fall Walk

Sunday, 2 October, 2:00 p.m.  
(rain or shine)  
**BEDFORD PARK/  
TEDDINGTON PARK**

**Meet in front of St. Leonard's Church, 25 Wanless Ave. (one block north of Lawrence, east side of Yonge St.).**

The walk will feature St. Leonard's Church, Bedford Park United Church, Bedford Park School (100th anniversary year), the Bedford Park Theatre and older homes in the Bedford Park area east of Yonge.

The Society meets at the Northern District Library, 40 Orchard View Boulevard (one block north of Eglinton, just west of Yonge) at 7:30 pm on the last Wednesday of each month from September to November & January to May. Programmes are free and are open to the public. Our co-sponsor is the Northern District Branch of the Toronto Public Library.

### Goderich Heritage Buildings Hit by Tornado

On 21 August, historic Goderich's two heritage conservation districts—West Street and Main Square—were badly damaged by a tornado. Goderich has been called “Canada’s Prettiest Town,” with over sixty heritage properties listed as significant sites. The Goderich Harbour has been identified as a potential Cultural Heritage Landscape.



The Heritage Canada Foundation (HCF) and the Architectural Conservancy of Ontario (ACO) are assisting the town of Goderich in assessing heritage conservation options. ACO is also collecting donations.



Information: Rollo Myers  
1-877-264-8937 or 416-367-8075 ext 201  
manager@arconserv.ca  
<http://www.arconserv.ca/>



Former Locke librarians Lynda Moon & Barbara Myrvold, with former Branch Head Helen McNeil, at the unveiling of the Heritage Toronto plaque.

*A. Grenzebach*

### Commemorating George H. Locke Library

On 10 September, Heritage Toronto unveiled a plaque recognising the historical significance of the George H. Locke Memorial Library, on Yonge Street at Lawrence. The library has served the community since 1949. It was named for George H. Locke, Toronto Public Library's Chief Librarian from 1908 to 1937.

The event was celebrated by a Heritage Toronto walk, *Lawrence Park: A Garden Suburb*, conducted by former Locke librarians Lynda Moon (NTHS President) and Barbara Myrvold.

#### Local History and Genealogy blog

<http://torontopubliclibrary.typepad.com/local-history-genealogy/>

*Memories of Locke Branch* by Barbara.

### War of 1812 Interpretive Centre

The Ontario Heritage Trust will open a temporary interpretive centre on the site of Ontario's First Parliament Buildings. The former car dealership building still standing at Front Street and Berkeley will be adapted to house interpretive exhibits to commemorate the bicentennial of the War of 1812. The centre will open on 17 February, 2012, at the beginning of Heritage Week.

Information: [www.heritagetrust.on.ca](http://www.heritagetrust.on.ca)



## 50 Years Ago

Items from the North Toronto Herald, 1961, contributed by Alex. Grenzebach. The Herald is available at Northern District Library.

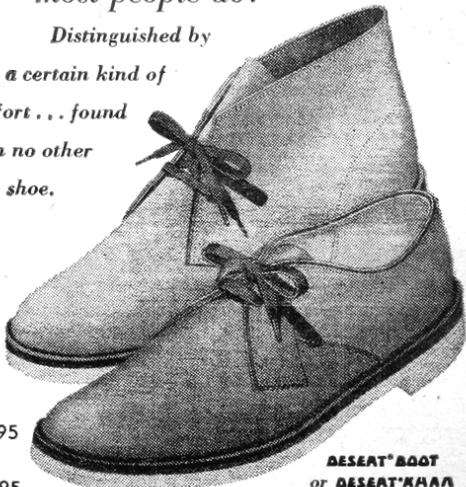
Ex-controller and mayoralty candidate Jean Newman was nominated as the Liberal candidate for Toronto Eglinton in the forthcoming provincial by-election necessitated by the death of Dr. Dunlop, the former Minister of Education in the Conservative government. There were no women in the Ontario Legislature at this time.

**NOW OPEN ...**

**Clark SHOES**  
CEDARBRAE SHOPPING PLAZA

Take your pick ...  
or take 'em both ...  
most people do!

Distinguished by  
a certain kind of  
comfort ... found  
in no other  
shoe.



13.95  
to  
14.95

**DESERT BOOT  
OR DESERT KAMA**  
in sand, brushed leather  
(genuine plantation  
crepe soles)

MADE IN ENGLAND

by **Clarks**  
Also in ... **WOMEN'S DESERT BOOTS**

The editors of the Herald pontificated that they were "glad to learn that the Ontario government intends to get tough and re-impose censorship on the motion picture industry."

It was reported that all 1962 cars manufactured in Canada would have seat belt fittings installed as standard equipment.

In July 1961, the North Toronto Lawn Bowling Club (now the North Toronto Lawn Bowling & Croquet Club) began its fiftieth successive year of bowling. Developer and ardent lawn bowler Edward B. Stockdale, who lived on Alexandra Boulevard immediately east of the ravine, laid down the original green and built a small club house in 1911 on his own property. Several members of Eglinton Presbyterian Church approached Mr. Stockdale regarding bowling for members of the congregation. In July 1912, the Club was incorporated and the property was leased from Mr. Stockdale. The yearly bowling fee was \$5 and in 1915 ladies were permitted to bowl two afternoons per week for an annual fee of \$1.



Paul Dodington's 1926 Model T Ford required some assistance to cross the finish line of the fifth annual London-to-Brighton Commemoration Tour which covered nearly 300 miles from Toronto to Ottawa. Paul is a long-time member of the North Toronto Historical Society and now lives in Muskoka where he is an expert on the "disappearing propeller boat." This Model T is still in the family and has been restored again.

*50 Years Ago continues on page 4*



Bedford Park Public School Junior Choir - City Champions at the 1951 Kiwanis Festival. Alex. Grenzebach, NTHS Membership Secretary, in first row.

Members of a North Toronto "Y" adult course ("Around Toronto in Seven Weeks") visited the Bohemian Embassy which had been founded by Don Cullen and Dave Harriman less than a year previously. They were entertained by Sylvia Fricker and Ian Tyson, "an unusually attractive young pair with magnetic appeal."

**CAMP POW WOW**  
FOR BOYS 8-14 YEARS  
7 YEAR-OLDS ACCEPTED ONLY IN THIRD PERIOD

1st PERIOD	July 3 to July 14
2nd PERIOD	July 17 to July 28
3rd PERIOD	July 31 to August 11

★ FEE IS \$12.00 PER PERIOD ★

REGISTER at the . . .

**NORTH TORONTO Y.M.C.A.**  
130 Eglinton Avenue East Telephone 481-5261

A two-week period at the North Toronto Y's day camp (under the Mt. Pleasant bridge, north of Blythwood) cost \$12.

Erskine Avenue mothers threatened to put up another baby carriage blockage to protest the volume of trucks carrying fill to Mount Hope Cemetery. The Board of Control assured the mothers that an alternate route had been found.

**6 Living Quarters for Rent**

**HOLLY TOWERS**  
Eglinton  
Subway

NEARLY  
**All Gone**

33 HOLLY ST.  
BUILT-IN PRIVATE BALCONIES  
STONE THROW TO SUBWAY  
READY TO MOVE IN  
BEAUTIFUL GARDENS AND TREES

Open Daily, 10 To 10

LUXURY LIVING, EASY LIVING  
Bachelors \$97 Up; 1-Bedroom \$125 Up;  
2-Bedroom \$140 Up; Broadloom Halls.  
Rental Department — HU. 7-3333

**H KEITH**

At the Holly Towers (33 Holly St.), bachelor apartments started at \$97 per month and 2-bedroom units started at \$140.

1961  
**UNIVERSITY**  
or  
**HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES**

We can offer you steady employment after final examinations as . . .

BUSINESS REPRESENTATIVES

Starting Salary  
\$55.00 to \$60.00  
Depending on Education

Regular Increases

Modern Offices and Equipment

Attractive Lounge and Rest Rooms

Extra Benefit Plans include Sickness

Group Insurance and Hospitalization

Apply in person during your Easter Holidays

to the  
**BELL TELEPHONE COMPANY**  
76 ADELAIDE STREET WEST

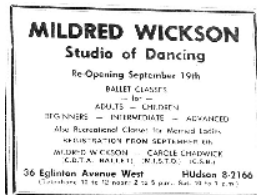
*North Toronto Memories.* More in an occasional series written by *you*, our members.

Thanks to member **Paul Dodington** of Port Carling for sharing Mary Wickson Armstrong's diary with us, and to **Ted Wickson** for giving permission to reprint an extract.

Please email your memories to dawsonbh@rogers.com, or mail to 283 Deloraine Avenue, Toronto M5M 2B2.

### *A Note From Paul Dodington*

I was interested to see the advert reprinted on the back page of your Dec. 2010 issue of Mildred Wickson's Studio of Dancing. My uncle, Gordon Dodington was married to Mildred's aunt, Helen Wickson.



About a year ago, I received some papers from Helen's granddaughter, Christine Hurlbut, and in these a photocopy of entries from the diary of Mary Wickson Armstrong. She lived on a farm near the junction of Eglinton Av. & Bathurst St.

Apparently, the Wicksons had previously established a farm there, which they named "Forest Hill," and as the ancestors had, I believe, lived in Yorkville, Forest Hill Road may have been a diagonal route to visit the parents and grandparents. The original manuscript of the diary appears to have been lost, but thankfully, someone transcribed it from the original.

The diary makes for some very interesting reading & gives many details of life in N. Toronto, as her son was an M.D. in York Mills.



York Mills, c.1908

CTA



Milking cow, North Toronto, 1908-9

CTA

### *Extracts From Mary Wickson Armstrong's 1869 Diary*

*Monday, February 1<sup>st</sup>, 1869*

Still beautiful weather. Our white cow Dolly took it into her head to go back to Brougham last night but got tired on the way and turned back. Hall was taking a load of pea straw to our dear son's York Mills this morning and met her returning. We should have missed her sadly as she gives more milk than any other cow and I am just beginning to get good sale for it.

*Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup>*

Today Old Father Winter is resuming his sway—the wind roars—the skies look threatening. Our hands ache with the cold while feeding the fowls:—but indoors everything looks bright. There is an abundance of fire wood piled under the stairs, a good fire in the parlour and the same in the kitchen where I am sitting. Papa has gone to the city on agricultural business. Donald has gone to the city with wood. Hall is bringing wood out of the bush. We have no boy at present—an outdoor hand is threshing the grain in the barn.

*Thursday, July 1<sup>st</sup> – Dominion Day*

This is a beautiful cool day and indeed we have had very little else this summer. I am entirely alone, sitting in the front hall, but there are innumerable sweet sounds all around: the chirping of the grasshoppers, the whirring of the other insects, the whistle of the robin, the shrill crowing of the cocks, the sound of the workmen across the road sawing and hammering as they put the last touches on Mr. Simmers' new brick house interest me as I write. I

*Diary continues on page 6*

*Diary continued from page 5*

hear endless exclamations of delight too, from the holiday folks passing as they catch the first view of our pretty garden: a group all standing up on their carriage crying out simultaneously: “Isn’t it lovely; did you ever see anything like that; look at the roses.” And one girl walking a little ahead called to the rest of her party “We didn’t know it was summer, did we, till we got up here...”

My dear son and Mrs. Armstrong are at a picnic at Eglinton. We were invited, but we could hardly leave our grounds unwatched as a temptation to strollers, so Papa and I took our lamb and green peas with a plum-pudding quietly alone. One man went down to the city with a load of clover, another was ploughing, the other two I think were hoeing. The first two were at merrymaking last night so I suppose they work today to make up for it. I have allowed my girl to go to the Island this afternoon as we did most of our work yesterday and Papa will go to the Horticultural Gardens tonight – he has gone across to the Hazel Dell fields just now to sow some turnip seed and gather a few early peas for market. Brother Sam has gone up to Eglinton too. The Band of the Queen’s Own passed up about noon. Sam came up here and took tea. He had not felt well enough to go to the picnic but went down with Papa to the Gardens.

*Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup>*

Was my party day, and we had a capital time – my dear daughter-in-law, Mrs. Armstrong, came in the morning and we were all ready to receive our guests at five. We certainly had the best table laid out I ever saw in a private house. The roses were splendid and the bride cake excellent “the red ripe strawberries contrasted beautifully with the snowey blancmonges [*sic*]...”

*Saturday 10<sup>th</sup>*

Papa has just brought in a basket of strawberries off our own vines—first fruits, thank God, almost as large as those we bought for our party and a beautiful flavour.

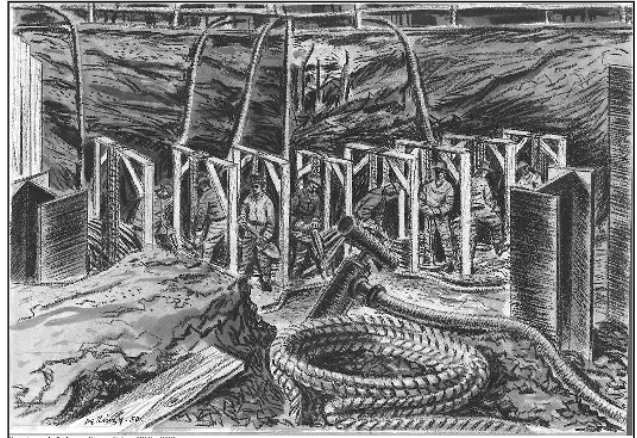
**READ MORE!**

***Seven Eggs Today: The Diaries of Mary Armstrong, 1859 and 1869.*** ed. Jackson Webster Armstrong  
Life Writing Series, Wilfrid Laurier University Press, 2004

## *Worth While Websites*

<http://www.toronto.ca/archives/acquisitions-derinzy.htm>

***Drawings from the Underground: the Subway Art of John DeRinzy.*** Online exhibit of watercolour and charcoal drawings by John DeRinzy, created between 1949 and 1950, depicting the construction of the Yonge Street subway line.



*First lift excavation : men digging under wooden frames supporting construction cables and utilities,*

<http://www.toronto.ca/archives/maps.htm>

City of Toronto Archives is putting scanned maps online, including (oh joy!) Goad’s Fire Insurance maps in glorious colour.

<http://www.whatwasthere.com/default.aspx>

***What Was There*** lets you upload historic photos, and position them in Google Street View. A “fade” function lets you spend hours time-travelling from past to present and back.

<http://zeitag.net/ZeitagTO.html>

***See Toronto in another dimension*** app for iPhones.

<http://www.ontariohistoricalsociety.ca>

The Ontario Historical Society has launched the ***Ontario Heritage Directory Online***. This incorporates the resources of **Ontario Heritage Connection**. As well as listing heritage organisations and historical societies, the database includes information about upcoming War of 1812 bicentennial events.

*Websites continues on page 7*

<http://activehistory.ca/>

All sorts of interesting information, including podcasts of TPL "History Matters" lectures. (See *Calendar* p. 7)

<http://activehistory.ca/2011/07/like-history-theres-an-app-for-that/#more-5543>

Leading edge technology puts history on your iPhone.

<http://www.mhso.ca/tiesthatbind>

### *The Ties That Bind*

The Foundation to Commemorate Chinese Railway Workers has an interesting online exhibit, hosted by the Multicultural History Society of Ontario (MHSO).

MHSO also has the online exhibit *Chinese Canadian Women, 1923-1967*.

[www.mhso.ca/chinesecanadianwomen](http://www.mhso.ca/chinesecanadianwomen)

[http://www.flickr.com/photos/billy\\_wilson/sets/72157626507551481/](http://www.flickr.com/photos/billy_wilson/sets/72157626507551481/)

### *The Toronto Project, by Billy Wilson*

**Photography:** "The primary goal of this project is to document the diverse types of architecture that one can find in Toronto."



Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce Interior  
© Billy Wilson 2011

#### Receive the *NTHS UPDATER* by email!

Would you like us to remind you of upcoming meetings and heritage events with an electronic newsletter?

Email me at [alexg@alumni.uwaterloo.ca](mailto:alexg@alumni.uwaterloo.ca) and I will add you to the distribution list. *We will not give out your email address.*

Alex. Grenzebach

### History Matters Fall 2011 Lecture Series Toronto Public Library

This year's lectures focus on the themes of labour and environmental history in the Toronto area and beyond.

Various libraries, to 16 Nov.:

#### Imagined Futures for the Lower Don: A History of Big Ideas for a Small River

Jennifer Bonnell (University of Guelph)

Wed. Oct. 12, 7 pm

Riverdale Branch

370 Broadview Ave. 416-393-7720

#### The Making of Dufferin-St. Clair: 1900-1929

Richard Harris (McMaster University)

Thurs. Oct. 20, 7 pm

Dufferin St. Clair Branch

1625 Dufferin Street 416-393-7712

#### Labour on the March: 150 Years of Labour Parades in Toronto

Craig Heron (York University)

Thurs. Oct 27, 7 pm

Beeton Auditorium, Toronto Reference Library

789 Yonge Street 416-395-5577

#### Learning About e. coli From Walkerton

Joy Parr (University of Western Ontario)

Wed Nov. 2, 2 pm

Northern District Branch

40 Orchard View Blvd. 416-393-7610

#### Building Postwar Toronto: When Planning and Politics Collide

Stephen Bocking (Trent University)

Mon. Nov. 7, 7 pm

Annette Branch

145 Annette Street 416-393-7692

#### Producing History in an Auto Town: Oshawa After World War II

Christine McLaughlin (York University)

Wed., Nov. 16, 6:30 pm

Pape/Danforth Branch

701 Pape Ave. 416-393-7727

NOTE: talks from the 2010 Toronto Public Library History Matters lecture series are available for download in our podcast section. ActiveHistory.ca hopes to post all the upcoming Fall 2011 talks as podcasts too.

### Celebrate 75!

Lawrence Park Collegiate Institute anniversary events take place on the weekend of October 28-30, 2011.

For more information:

<https://www.lpcialumni.ca/index.asp>



## Heritage Calendar

---

*Heritage Calendar continued from page 7*

**Market Gallery**, South St. Lawrence Market, 95 Front St. E.

INFO: 416-392-7604

<http://www.stlawrencemarket.com/gallery/>

### **Mariposa: Fifty Years of Making Music**

*In partnership with York University*

**Continues to 15 October, 2011**

Celebrating the Mariposa Folk Festival's 50th anniversary. Materials featured in this exhibit are taken from the Mariposa Festival Foundation's extensive archives, which were donated to York University's Clara Thomas Archives & Special Collections in 2007.

---

### **Weston Village Heritage House Tour**

*Weston Historical Society*

INFO: <http://www.heritageweston.com/WebForm1.aspx>

**Sun. 16 Oct. 12:00 to 4:30 p.m.**

TOUR TICKETS: \$15 in advance, \$20 on tour day  
Weston Farmers' Market, Saturdays 8 to noon, and other locations.

Afternoon Tea at Weston Masonic Hall, \$5 at the Hall.

---

### **North York Historical Society**

<http://www.nyhs.ca/>

**Weds. 19 Oct. 7:30 p.m.**

North York Central Library  
5120 Yonge St., Room 1

**John Bessai** will show his film *C.W. Jefferys:*

*Picturing Canada.*

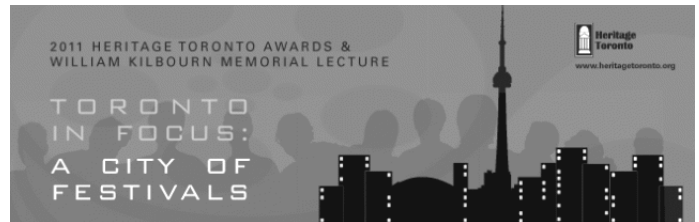
Another opportunity to see this documentary.

---

We welcome contributions from members: heritage events and achievements, brief articles and photographs of local history interest.



**Submissions for the next Newsletter by 15 Dec. to [dawsonbh@rogers.com](mailto:dawsonbh@rogers.com) or call 416-481-6622.**



### **The 2011 Heritage Toronto Awards and William Kilbourn Memorial Lecture**

INFO: <http://www.heritagetoronto.org/>

**Tues. 4 Oct. 2011**

Koerner Hall, Royal Conservatory of Music, 273 Bloor Street West

*The Heritage Toronto Awards* celebrate outstanding contributions by individuals and community organizations, as well as industry professionals and associations, in promoting and conserving Toronto's history and heritage landmarks.

Hosted by CBC Radio's **Mary Ito.**

### *The William Kilbourn Memorial Lecture* **Toronto in Focus: A City of Festivals**

Given by **Cameron Bailey**, Co-Director of the Toronto International Film Festival. He will look at how "festival-going" has changed this city, and how Toronto has gained a voracious appetite for culture.

TICKETS: HT Members \$30; General Admission \$40; Groups of 10 or more \$30 each.

**Nominees' Reception** 6:00pm, \$110. Includes complimentary hors d'oeuvres and bar, 7:30 programme. All proceeds support Heritage Toronto, and purchasers receive a \$50 tax receipt.

Tickets available from The Royal Conservatory of Music Box Office:

Phone: 416-408-0208

Online: <http://performance.rcmusic.ca/>

---

### **North York Modernist Architecture Forum "Suburbia: Heritage of the Everyday"** *Co-sponsored by the North York Community Preservation Panel*

**Thurs. 3 Nov. 7 to 9 p.m.** Refreshments from 6:30  
North York Civic Centre (Council Chamber) 5100 Yonge Street

---

## North Toronto Historical Society

An affiliate of the Ontario Historical Society, and a non-profit charitable organization.

% 129 Blythwood Road, Toronto, Ontario M4N 1A5

[www.northtorontohistoricalsociety.org](http://www.northtorontohistoricalsociety.org)

*Annual Memberships:* Seniors & Students \$5, Adults \$7, Families \$10

### **2011 Executive (\*Directors)**

*President & Programmes:* \*Lynda Moon

*Membership Co-ordinator:* \*Alex Grenzebach, 416-483-8475

*Newsletter Editor:* \*Hilary Dawson

*Treasurer:* Bill Dawson

*Members-at-large:* Don Ritchie, Doug Campbell, Ken Pon

*Past President:* John Hutchinson

*Publicity:*

*Secretary:* Donald Duncan

*Research:* Hilary Dawson

*Walks:* \*Bill Ramsay