Forest History Society of Ontario

Forestory

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Contents

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If you have articles, photographs or images, interesting facts, web links, personal reflections or events that would be suitable for this newsletter, please contact the editor.

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Please provide your comments to the editor on items or themes you would like to see in the newsletter.

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Chairman's Message: Hei from Jyväskylä – A Forest City

It would be great to say that spring has sprung, but that is not true up here in Finland's Lake District, at least not by the time of writing this piece (20 April). I have the privilege of being a visiting professor at the University of Jyväskylä (UofJ) in south-central Finland, and my family and I are enjoying all that this experience has to offer. It is astounding to see signs of forests and forestry everywhere you look. The railway yard has a constant stream of freight trains transporting birch and pine logs to mills, the municipality's tree cover is substantial, there are tracts of forest scattered around the city through which numerous hiking trails wind, and wood is a prominent feature in most buildings. This is the right place for a forest historian to be working!

One of the highlights so far has been the opportunity to deliver a talk to a recent meeting of the Metsähistorian Seura ry, or the Finnish Forest History Society (FFHS). The meeting was held at the UofJ and was attended by about thirty folks. My Finnish is very limited – although I have learned that 'tarjous' means 'sale' at the grocery store! – but I learned this much about our sister organization here in Suomi. It is well supported by the government, which also funds the operation of a forest history museum. Although we do not enjoy such privileges here in Ontario, like the FHSO the FFHS publishes a high-quality journal. The FFHS is also working towards having Finland recognized as a UNESCO site for the degree to which it represents a "forest country." Clearly, forest history is a subject that is appreciated right around the world, or at least in its more northerly quarters.

The FHSO has enjoyed another wonderful year, and some of these accomplishments are detailed in my report about our annual general meeting that was held in February 2017. Undoubtedly at the top of our accomplishments was celebrating the recent investiture of Ken Armson, our founding chairman and guiding light, as an Officer of the Order of Canada. We are so grateful for all that he has done and continues to do for our organization. In addition, we have made tremendous progress on the project to help the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry (OMNRF) celebrate Ontario's 150th anniversary, specifically by researching and writing roughly one dozen historical essays about various aspects of the OMNRF's activities over the last fifty years. Scott Miller and Alicia Boston, both graduates of Laurentian University's MA History program, have been diligently working on producing these documents, and I have been intimately involved in editing and facilitating them. Scott has also continued his superb work as editor of our journal, *Forestory*. This issue will represent the final one he will oversee as editor, however, as he is heading off to pursue other interests. We believe we have found a new editor, and her identity will be revealed in the next edition of the journal.

By the time this edition of *Forestory* reaches your computer or mailbox, the FHSO would have been involved in another international forest history event. In April 2017, Quebec City is playing host to a joint meeting of the (American) Forest History Society and representatives from the four Canadian forest history societies, including our own. Dave Lemkay, an FHSO board member, graciously agreed to attend the event on our behalf, and we look forward to hearing all about the proceedings in the next issue of *Forestory*.

It is easy to lose track of time here because the days are getting so long (thank goodness for thick curtains!), but it is time to wrap this up. Kiitos for your continued support of the FHSO, and here's wishing you a safe and healthy spring and summer!

Mark Kuhlberg

Editor's Message

For nearly two years, I have had the pleasure of serving as the Editor of *Forestory*. During this time I have learned much about Ontario's forests and the people who have devoted their lives to recounting its past and shaping its future. It has been an enjoyable experience which has allowed me to both sharpen my skills as a researcher and writer and to connect with people from different walks of life through our mutual interest in the province's history in general and its rich, vast forests in particular.

Unfortunately, this will be the last edition of *Forestory* that I oversee as Editor. Shortly after graduating from Laurentian University's Master's in History program in October 2016, I was fortunate enough to secure a full-time job with the federal government. For that reason I feel as though I will not be able to give this journal the attention that it deserves, and have therefore informed Dr. Mark Kuhlberg that I will be passing the torch on to whomever he chooses as my successor.

Thank you to everyone who has taken the time to read and/or contribute articles to *Forestory* during these past few years. Although I never got the chance to meet any of you in person, I always greatly appreciated your enthusiasm and insight. I wish all of you the best of luck in your joint effort to preserve and promote Ontario's forest history.

Scott Miller

Ontario Hydro's Landscaping and Tree Planting Program to Reduce the Visual Impact of Their Facilities

By: Tom Griffiths, R.P.F.

Introduction

Back in the 1970s Ontario Hydro was planning for a massive expansion of its Transmission Lines and Stations network. There was increasing public resistance mounting particularly against the utility's plans to build extra-high-voltage lines (500 kilovolts) from Lake Erie to London and the Greater Toronto Area (GTA), and from the Bruce Nuclear Station on Lake Huron to the GTA and eastward to Kingston and Ottawa.

The transmission towers were to be about 160 feet (50 meters) high and would occupy a right-of-way 250 feet (76 meters) wide for a single double-circuit tower and 425 feet (130 meters) for two double-circuit towers. The extensive public outcry forced the Ontario government to appoint a public commission to look into the policies, practices and procedures Ontario Hydro had undertaken to plan, acquire and build its transmission facilities. The commission was chaired by Omond Solandt and was subsequently called the Solandt Commission. Ontario Hydro examined its existing practices and made significant changes to appease the populace. One of the changes was to improve the appearance of its existing facilities by planting trees to ameliorate the visual impacts of its transmission rights-of-ways and stations.

Pre-1970s Transmission Vegetation Management Policies

All vegetation that could potentially contact power lines and structures and cause power outages or fires was treated or removed. On rights-of-way, this entailed cutting or spraying all the woody vegetation on the power corridor, removing all the trees on the sides of the corridor that could contact the powerlines and at stations cutting the grass frequently and clearing the stoned areas of all vegetation. Some facilities had been landscaped in the 1930s, but all the trees and shrubs were removed during World War II as authorities were concerned the tree cover could conceal enemies who would bomb or destroy station superstructure. Ontario Hydro's Forestry Department was responsible for all vegetation maintenance on the existing transmission network. New transmission facilities were designed and located by engineers. Forest clearing was undertaken by Hydro's construction forces.

Post-1970s Transmission Vegetation Management Policies

Increased public perception of Ontario Hydro's operations dictated changes regarding vegetation management activities. Environmental awareness increased in the 1960s (e.g., Rachel Carson's book *Silent Spring*) and the Ontario government responded by introducing new environmental legislation in the late 1960s and early 1970s (e.g. the *Pesticides Act* and the *Environmental Protection Act*). The upshot was, for example, that forestry workers who applied pesticides were now required to take additional training and to be licensed. Ontario Hydro management responded by introducing new environmental and forestry policies to mitigate the impacts of its facilities.

Spruce trees east of Highway 400 at Finch Avenue, Toronto, planted in 1972

Spruce, Pine and White Birch screening Richview Transformer Station from Highway 401 near Highway 427, Toronto. Planted in 1971

Ontario Hydro Initiatives Undertaken in the 1970s to Improve its Environmental Performance and Lessen the Visual Impacts of its Facilities

1. **Introduction of a selective vegetation control program**
   Prior to 1970 all woody vegetation on rights-of-way under power lines was eliminated either by chemical or mechanical means. This new initiative meant that only the plants that could eventually grow into the lines were removed and low growing vegetation would be left to occupy the lands. Smaller amounts of chemical pesticide were used and the visual impact was improved.
2. **Introduction of multi-disciplinary professional teams to site new power corridors**
   In the 1970s environmental consultants and natural resource professionals were retained to assist the engineers who laid out new power lines and transmission stations.
3. **New transmission line selective clearing policies**
   Selective cutting replaced clear cutting on new transmission line projects. Hydro's Forestry Department took over this task from the Construction Department. Professional foresters and experienced forestry trades staff managed the design and implementation of the selective cutting process. Where these projects occurred in townships with less than 15% forest cover an equivalent acreage was reforested.
4. **Existing transmission right-of-way and station landscaping program**
   The organization was undertaking a huge expansion of its transmission network in the 1970s and was aware that the appearance of its existing facilities was not going to be helpful in obtaining the go-ahead for the required new projects. The Forestry Department convinced senior management that a large-scale tree planting/landscaping program could be undertaken that would yield immediate results. Details are outlined below.

Ontario Hydro's Transmission Right-of-Way and Station Landscape Upgrading Program

J.E.F. (Jack) Winter (BSc F, University of Toronto, 1949), Ontario Hydro's Chief Forester at the time, was a true visionary. He convinced Hydro's executive that large transplanted trees could immediately lessen the visual impact of their transmission facilities. To accomplish this the Forestry Department did two simple, distinct things:

1. Utilizing an overhead projector we overlaid a profile view of the Richview Transformer Station (located at the junction of Highways 401 and 427) with a graphic of 6- to 10- foot- high trees; and
2. We took Hydro's senior executive team in a motorcade along Hwy 401 to the Richview site where Forestry Department staff were standing where the proposed trees were to be planted, to show the executives how effective the tree plantings would be in screening the station.

These actions were a success and, in 1972, the (then) Hydro Electric Power Commission of Ontario approved the multi-million dollar Right-of-Way and Station Tree Planting Upgrading Program, to be completed in six years.

A plan was quickly developed to accomplish the program; stations and right-of-way road crossings were categorized as high, medium or low impact sites with early efforts focused on locations in high public profile areas. To expedite the process, Forestry staff designed many of the tree planting sites utilizing a helicopter. The company purchased a fleet of tree spades to dig transplant candidates. The first two sites planted were the aforementioned Richview station and Bermondsey Transformer Station and its associated right of way, located on Bermondsey Road south of Eglington Avenue in Toronto. Large trees were purchased originally from landowners near Pontypool, northeast of Oshawa and from various locations in Simcoe County. Austrian pine, Colorado spruce and white birch were early preferred species.

This program as well as the new policies to landscape all new transmission stations and selectively clear new transmission lines significantly reduced the visual impacts of these facilities.

Austrian Pines at Bermondsey Transformer Station, Toronto, planted in 1971

Vermeer model TS 66 tree spade on a Go-Tract muskeg tractor with a 24 foot (7 m) white birch tree

The Harburn Wells

By: Peter Hynard, R.P.F.

In 2012 while timber cruising a 4,000-acre property in Haliburton County, I stumbled on a forgotten piece of natural history known as the Harburn wells. The Harburn wells are a series of natural boreholes drilled into a bedrock-knob landform, high above the valley floor of the Little Drag River. They sit quiet and undisturbed in a remote forested location, well off the beaten track. Little is known about them and they are rarely visited.

The wells are as mysterious as they are spectacular. There are ten or eleven in all, clustered together on about an acre of hillside set in an Algonquin-like landscape. They range in size from about three feet in diameter to about three metres. All of them are perfectly round and perfectly cylindrical and all of them have been bored into a solid bedrock knob of Precambrian gneiss.[1]

Although the surrounding property is all private, the wells themselves are on a tiny parcel owned by the Municipality of Dysart et al. The municipality obtained the wells years ago in trade for a section of road allowance with the landowner at the time.

The location is remote. There is no road or trail to the wells and there are no signs indicating their presence. Finding the wells would require a local person familiar with them to guide you there.

The wells were not always this remote or this obscure. As the crow flies, they're located just 200 metres from the historic Peterson Road and one kilometre from the historic settlement of Harburn. The Peterson Road is one of the early colonization roads that brought settlers to the area in the 1860s and Harburn is one of Haliburton County's early settlements. Today, only parts of the Peterson Road still exist and nothing remains of the old community at Harburn.

Figure 1: Three of the Harburn wells.

[1] Gneiss is a hard, crystalline metamorphic rock that was formed deep in the Earth during the Precambrian era. Often mistaken for granite, gneiss is the most common bedrock type in the Central Gneiss Belt, which extends from about Minden to Parry Sound.

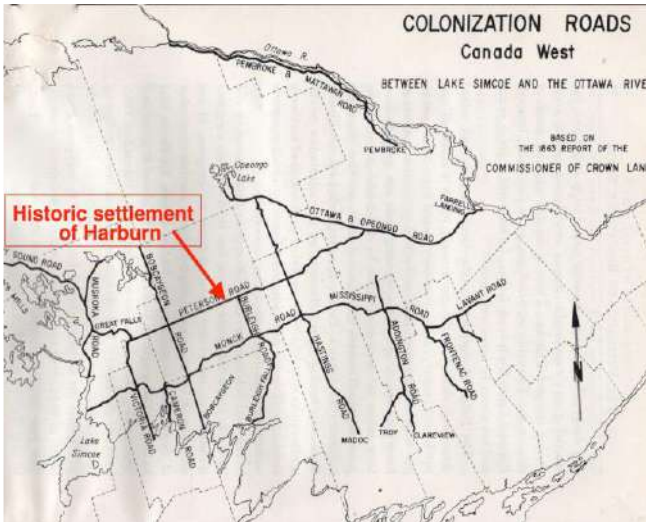


Figure 2: Map showing the early colonization roads and the location of the Harburn settlement.

Figure 3: An old stone fencerow on the outskirts of Harburn. Little else remains of the settlement.

The question of course is, "*how were the wells formed, and when*?"

That's not an easy question to answer as apparently no study has been made of them and no scientific information exists. While the wells were once classified by the Ministry of Natural Resources as an "Area of Natural and Scientific Interest", a search at the MNRF region, district and area offices revealed nothing. An Internet search turned up a Ministry of Northern Development and Mines website showing the Harburn wells on their database but the website indicated no information on the wells other than their name and location.[2] The MNDM database referred to the wells as "kettles" and speculated that the bedrock was marble, while all of the other fields were filled with "no data."[3] A search at the Dysart et al. office revealed only the survey plan that was made when the wells were acquired. Local resident Jack Roberts, who was born in Harburn and attended the old one-room school there, toured the wells with me but he declined to recount the local theories. All he would say is that the wells had been cleaned out once and that they were "deep."

Despite the lack of scientific opinion, there are clues to their origin. Natural boreholes like this are known to occur where water action swirls boulders in a bedrock depression, eventually wearing a hole. Like the Harburn wells, boreholes created in this way have a trademark cylindrical shape. The closest known natural borehole to Harburn is located near Kinmount, about 40 km to the southeast.[4] The Kinmount borehole lies directly in the discharge path of post-glacial Lake Algonquin and, like the Harburn wells, is on a glacial scale.

Contemporary examples of natural boreholes can be found in modern riverbeds, albeit on a lesser

[2] http://www.geologyontario.mndmf.gov.on.ca/gosportal/gos?command=mndmsearchdetails:mdi&uuid=MDI31E01SW00041

[3] The wells are not kettles. The term "kettle" refers to lakes and other waterbodies that are formed when calving icebergs are buried in sediment and leave behind a shallow depression on melting.

[4] The landowner has asked that the location not be published.

scale. You may have seen one yourself. The photos in Figures 6-8 taken on the Gaspé Peninsula (next page) show a number of boreholes at various stages of construction, with one of them holding the still-unrounded boulder that is doing the work. It takes little imagination to see how this could occur on a glacial scale during glacial times.

If we accept the premise that the Harburn wells are of glacio-fluvial origin, the answer to the question ***when?*** is pegged at the time of ice-melt, about 9,000 years ago. They could not date from an earlier ice age as each ice age obliterates all evidence of its predecessors.

Figure 4: one of the wells (left); and Figure 5: one of the boulders that did the work.

But exactly ***how*** were they formed? The bedrock knob holding the Harburn wells overlooks an ancient post-glacial riverbed that would have had the power to drill such holes. The old riverbed can be traced past the wells by following the glacio-fluvial deposits that run from the south end of Haliburton Lake down the present-day Little Drag River valley to Drag Lake. It appears that dirty meltwater coming off the Algonquin Dome flowed down this route on its way to post-glacial Lake Algonquin.

The wells occur at a former set of rapids where the raging river was forced to narrow-in between hills that rise 200 feet above the valley floor (see map at right). At an elevation of 1,350 feet, the wells themselves are well above the riverbed but evidence of glacial water-scouring can be found on the surrounding hills right to the present-day 1,400-foot mark. Below the rapids, the riverbed fans out into a deep, stratified outwash of sand and gravel.

This being the case, it appears that the wells were formed in the usual way. Debris cleaned out of the wells years ago and pitched down the hill contains the rounded gneiss boulders that likely did the work.

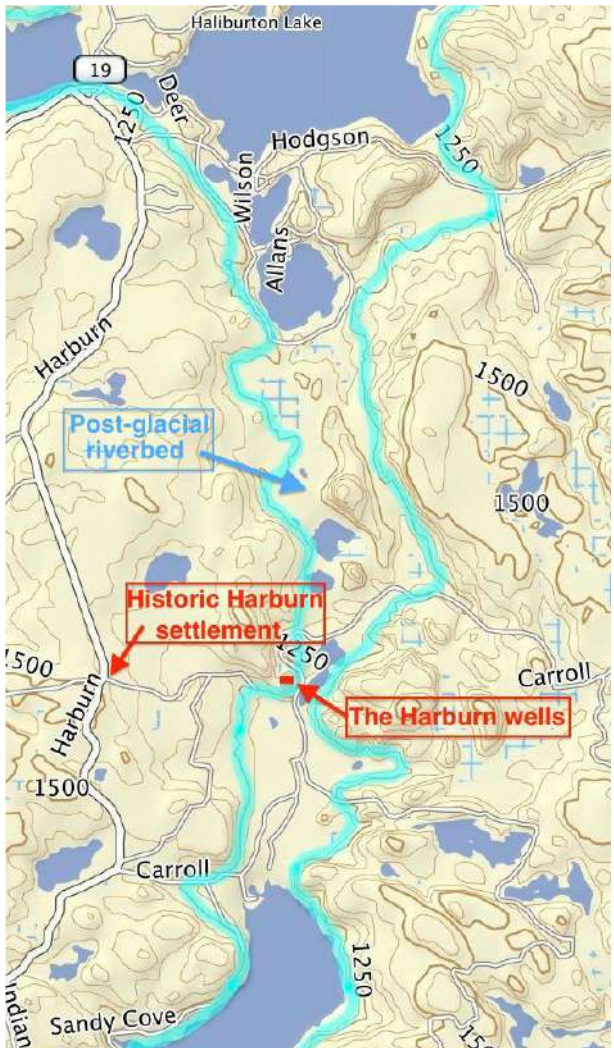
Can the Harburn wells be visited? The answer is a qualified “yes”. Seven of the best wells are on public land but three or four of the lesser wells are on private land. The property belonging to the municipality includes a footpath route that would allow you to reach the wells without trespassing but the route is unmarked.

Figures 6, 7 and 8: These photos were taken on the York River on the Gaspe Peninsula in the summer of 2016. In the centre photo, four natural boreholes are being drilled in the bedrock in a series of holes not unlike those in Figure 1. In the photo at right, four more holes are in various stages of construction. Zooming in on the upper hole will show a rock that is being swirled around in the hole when water levels are higher.

You will need a guide. ***Do not follow the directions on the MNDM website.*** They were written in 1980 and are out-of-date. Nor should you use the website GPS coordinates. Doing so will result in your trespassing on private land not belonging to the municipality.

Local naturalist Barry Martin of Yours Outdoors (http://www.yoursoutdoors.ca) offers guided tours of a number of local attractions, including the occasional tour to the Harburn wells. You can reach Barry at http://www.yoursoutdoors.ca/contacts. Ask for the date of his next tour. If enough people call, he'll schedule one soon.

Care should be taken when visiting the wells. They are unmarked and unfenced. It would be difficult to extract a child or pet who strayed too close and fell in.

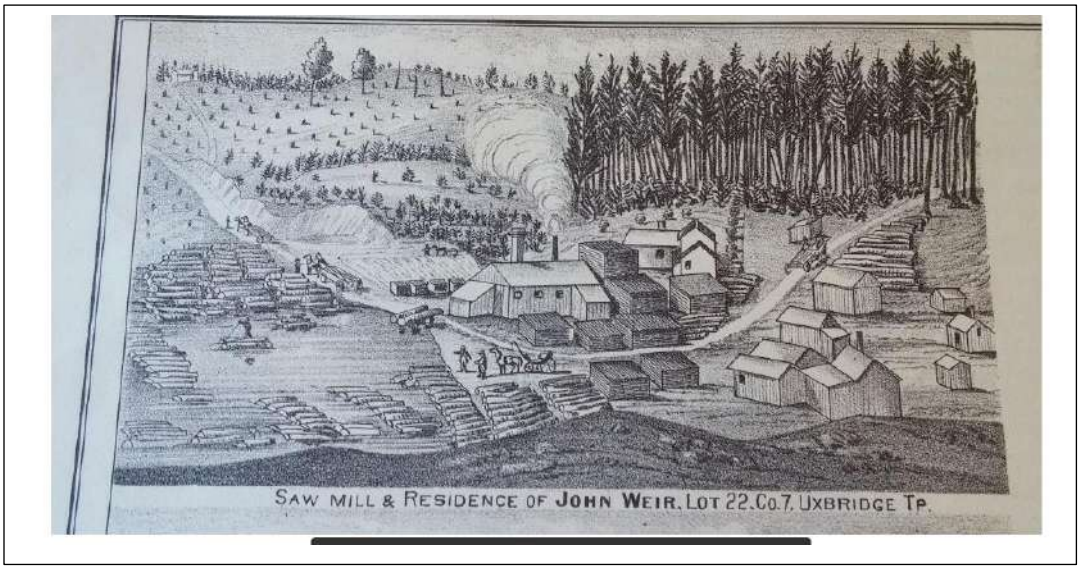


Corn, Conflict, and Culture in the Shadow of Ontario's White Pine Forests: An examination of several hundred years of forest history in the vicinity of Wind Reach Farm, Ashburn, Ontario, in the Region of Durham and Beyond

By: Patricia Baldwin

Historical research surrounding the Wind Reach Farm in the town of Ashburn, Ontario has uncovered evidence that there has been a marked change in the area's forest type during the past few centuries. More specifically, pre-settlement maps created through old survey records from 1809 have shown that the area's forests once consisted of maple-beech forests on the east side of Lynde Creek which traversed the property to a pine-oak forest on the west side.

This disruption in forest type would indicate that this land was once used by Iroquoian tribes for corn cultivation, where fire was used to suppress forest growth. Additionally, there is speculation that because oak can withstand recurring fires, these trees were able to survive when Indigenous people used fire to manipulate their environment. Given the fact that a number of late Iroquoian archaeological sites exist nearby, with still other sites at a greater distance where Indigenous people most likely cleared the land for agriculture, hunting and gathering, this forest change is quite probably due to previous land occupation by Canada's Indigenous peoples.



One local archaeological site in nearby North Pickering, known as the Draper site, was studied in the 1970s prior to carbon dating. Early land survey records from 1797 noted the presence of a large white pine (*Pinus strobus*) forest with exceptional tree heights. This information was used to estimate the time of Indigenous people's disbursement from the site. These trees were all harvested and used for naval construction after that survey so it is not possible to determine their exact age. The archaeologists therefore compared *Pinus strobus* of the same recorded heights grown in areas with similar climate and geographic conditions, and determined that the Draper site was 250 years old at the time of discovery. Carbon dating has now indicated that the Draper site's white pine, some as tall as 49 metres, were probably closer to 275 years old.

The first Iroquoian-speaking populations are known to have arrived in the larger area known as historic Wendake between A.D. 1300 and A.D. 1600. This geographical area was located north of Lake Ontario. It included the Trent Valley and the peninsula between Lake Simcoe and Georgian Bay. A 2015 archeological report lists them as Ancestral Wendat. By the time of European contact these tribes had amalgamated into the Huron confederacy of four allied nations. The Attignawantan (Bear) and the Attigneenongnahac (Cord)[1] were the first two nations to join in an alliance in the mid-fifteenth century. It was not until about 1590 that the Trent Valley nation, Arendahronon (Rock), joined the alliance. Around 1610, the Tahontaenrat (Deer) were the last nation to be admitted into the confederacy. They came from the north shore of Lake Ontario and are considered to have been amalgamated from early groups in the modern Durham and York regions (including Toronto).

At least one Ancestral Wendat archaeological site, Macleod, located approximately 21 kilometres south, dates to A.D. 1450, while the nearby Uxbridge ossuary has also been dated A.D. 1490. The newly discovered Joseph Picard site and Yashista sites (which were found during a survey in advance of the construction of the 407 highway in north Whitby) have been dated to the first half of the fifteenth century. The Picard find has been radiocarbon dated to A.D. 1450. The two sites are ancestral Huron-Wendat. Later Ancestral Wendat sites show a progression to larger and more sedentary communities with maize crops possibly reaching 50% of the dietary needs. Generally, Iroquoian-speaking groups were known to grow corn, beans, squash, sunflowers and tobacco.

The Macleod site, within 16 kilometres of Wind Reach, shows evidence of Chenopod cultivation (probably Chenopodium berlandierii) as well as maize. Chenopod was a grain similar to quinoa, but it may have been used as a green vegetable. Charred seed remains also included Pin Cherry, Sumac, bramble (raspberries and blackberries), Black-nightshade, beans, and knotweed.

The Mantle site, also within Durham Region, further discovered the following collected plants: strawberry, cattail, spikenard, a small grass, purslane, black nightshade, hawthorn, plum, ironwood, erect knotweed, elderberry, pincherry, cleavers, delta seed, grape, peppergrass, knotweed/sedge, amaranth, bardyard grass, pokeweed, and serviceberry. Macrobotanical sampling also found evidence of cucurbit/squash for food, tobacco for ceremony, and sunflower for hair and body oil.

These early Wind Reach area farmers were thought to have either formed the Arendahronon (Rock) or Tahontainrat (Deer) nations or contributed to either of these tribes. Evidence found at sites from the era, including the Uxbridge ossuary, indicate that exit from the area was due to violence rather than the usual agricultural soil depletion. Migration was thought to have occurred either to the east or to the northwest in the mid-to-late fifteenth century. The village in this Uxbridge area was believed to have supported a population of 1,200 people. Once this population relocated to a new village site, they are thought to have still travelled and used the area for hunting and gathering or ritual practices.

It is believed that Iroquois (Haudenosaunee) from south of Lake Ontario eventually expanded their hunting grounds into the former Wendake lands on the north shore of this lake. By the mid-seventeenth century, small villages at the mouths of several tributaries to Lake Ontario were being used by the Iroquois for hunting parties, especially for beaver and fur. From 1610 to 1650, the French

[1] Although the name Cord does not represent a particularly powerful image in our society, many of Canada's first people considered all plants, animals, and people as deserving of great respect. The cord most likely used by this tribe would be from the leatherwood shrub, (*Dirca palustris* L.), which is native to forests in the Carolinian region to the south, and in the southern sections of the Great-Lakes St. Lawrence forest region where the Attigneenongnahac lived within the Wendake territory. Leatherwood bark is very light, supple and strong. It was widely used as a medicine as well as cord, despite it having an extremely acrid resin, and a bitter poisonous glucoside. The Potawatomi name for the plant means "dead person."

missionaries in the region considered the region south of Lake Simcoe and north of Lake Ontario to be no-man's land used only by raiding parties from the north or south areas. Thus, the forest was able to return to fertility over the years when there was no full-time human occupation or use. The Mississauga gradually replaced the Iroquois, becoming their allies by the early 1700s. Fur trading settlements by the French were located at the mouth of the Humber River and the Rouge Rivers, and thus the Lynde Creek area, where Wind Reach is located, was largely ignored as a primary venue for transportation. The French largely exerted control over the fur trade in this area and worked to protect those rights. Beaver had become extinct south of Lake Ontario by 1671.

Although the Ancestoral Wendat abandoned their former settled territory due to tribal conflicts, they may have returned to maintain open spaces, using fire for occasional hunting excursions for a number of years. And the Iroquois, who hunted in the area when the French first arrived, were displaced by the Ojibway who engaged the Iroquois in a 100-year war from about 1649 to 1749. The Mississauga were descendants of the Ojibway who conquered the Iroquois (Haudenosaunee) in the year of 1759. However, none of these groups appear to have had any significant impacts on forest cover.

A 1927 historical account of unknown origin describes the arrival of Mississauga in the nearby Uxbridge area where there were "large pines." They used the land for hunting and defended the property from the Cayuga tribe to the north and the Chippewa tribe to the south, retaining the area for hunting and fur trapping purposes. An early sketch of the John Weir saw mill on a nearby Uxbridge property shows a well-established coniferous forest in the 1800s. One might guess that these pine trees could have been upwards of 370 years old if the Ancestral Wendat left in 1500 as the archeological report indicates. The date of this sketch is unclear, but it would have to between 1828, (when John Weir arrived in Canada) and 1870 (when the mill burned down).

The surrounding Maple-Beech forests encountered by European settlers first arriving in 1832 has been described as being primeval and unbroken. A Colonial Indian Agent by the name of Conrad Weiser described the forest as follows: "The wood was so thick, that for a mile at a time we could not find a place the size of a hand, where the sunshine would penetrate, even in the clearest day."

In 1797, surveying began for the benefit of a new Ontario County. A large stand of eastern white pine was located about 21 kilometres away from Wind Reach Farm along the west bank of the West Duffins Creek, now part of north Pickering. The surveyor, Jones, reported eastern white pine at heights averaging 48 metres tall; the tallest white pine in Ontario in 2010 was only 45 metres tall. In the 1800s, white pine giants could reach up to 70 metres. The tallest known specimen was recorded by William Douglass in a 1760 publication as being almost 76 metres.

In 1789, the British colonial government instituted a policy whereby it sold cutting licenses for timber found on unsettled land that had been reserved for the Crown. However, corruption and graft within the administration meant that revenues were minimal. Lumbermen would make a partial payment for land, remove the most valuable timber for the navy or themselves, and then forfeit the land. These same lumbermen where subjected to piracy by their neighbours. Conflict in the Ontario County was sometimes brutal and that, along with other political grievances, lead a rebellion in Upper Canada in 1837. This had occurred just a few years after John Butler first settled in Ashburn in 1834. The rebellion was largely supported in the Pickering and Uxbridge areas.

Eastern white pine was an ideal wood for shipbuilding. Very light, strong, and easy to cut and shape, early pioneers loved white pine for its economic value and thus resented the British Crown's reserve. The military, however, wanted the strongest and fastest ships and were in competition with the French, Spanish and Dutch for Baltic masting materials. Illegal logging abounded and in the United

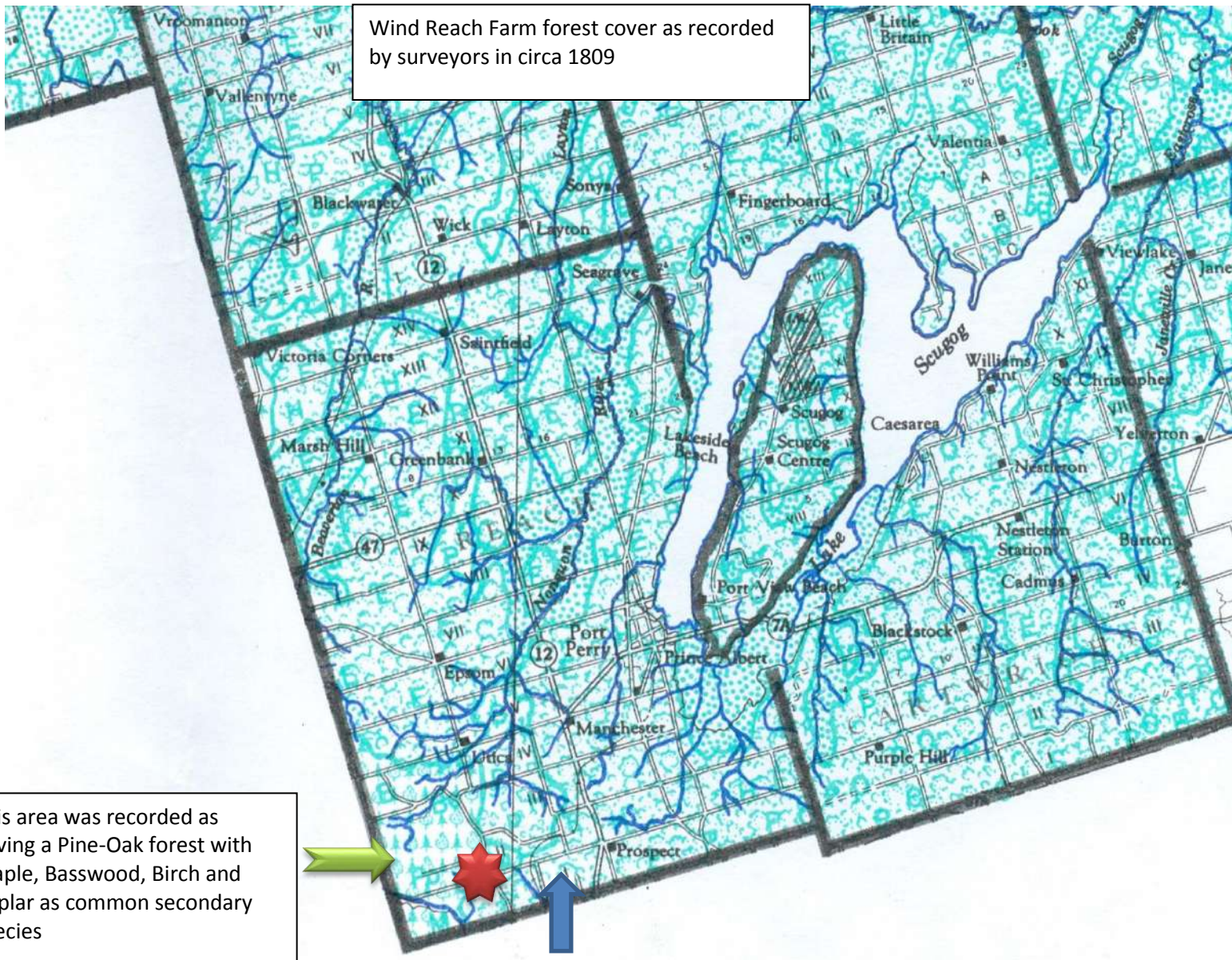
States, colonists and British authorities had clashed in skirmishes dubbed “The White Pine War” and “The Pine Tree Riot.” In Canada, ship building had already begun on Carleton Island in the 1780s. By the 1790s, ships for the British Navy were being built in Kingston.

The forest in the Durham area was home to valuable timber in the form of pine. But, while the white pine was a military gold mine, the rest was considered to be an enemy to the largely impoverished pioneers arriving in these lands. English-Canadian author Catherine Parr Trail, who settled on land east of Ontario County in the nineteenth century, once wrote “every rood of land must be cleared of the thick forest of timber that encumbers it before an ear of wheat can be grown: that, after the trees have been chopped, cut into lengths, drawn together, or logged, as we call it, and burned, the field must be fenced, the seed sown, harvested, and thrashed before any returns can be obtained.” In a letter date 25 October 1832, Trail described the pines in her Peterborough area home: “The pines are certainly the finest of trees. In point of size there are none to surpass them. They tower above all the others, forming a dark line that may be distinguished for many miles. The pines being so much loftier than the other trees.” Her letters give some idea of what the farming would have been like in the vicinity of Wind Reach Farm. Indeed, sketches of historic homes show pines reaching above the forest canopy in the super story of the early forests of Ontario County.

The early Ashburn residents were largely of Scottish origin. These early emigrants may have arrived in North America as a result of the Highland Clearances that took place in Scotland during the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries. Small-scale farmers were displaced from their lands as aristocratic landowners moved from small scale agriculture to large-scale sheep farming.

In clearing the land, a large number of asheries were established by the pioneers in the area, and hence the village was named Ashburn. For residents who were low in cash, potash provided a means of income. Potash could even be used to pay bills in eastern Ontario during this era.

Wind Reach Farm has been an active farm since the 1800s when the Tink family first arrived in 1875. They were British immigrants who followed the local trend of livestock farming. The property appears to have continued as an active farm, although it is now under land use restrictions due to its location within the Oak Ridges Moraine. It also exists within the Green Belt. Will the eastern white pine ever again attain their previous heights in these environmental reserves? This probably won’t be known until the year 2030 or so.



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A History of Logging or Skidding Round the Bend

By: Iain Barr (UNB ’58)

Logging in North America dates way back to the year 1000, when Leif Ericson and a bunch of his Norse buddies came in his stripe-sailed ship with shields and horned helmets, and grabbed off a couple of trees. Another lot tried it in 1347, but they got wrecked.

Nothing much happened after that till someone finally got a sawmill going in Maine in 1634. Logging was pretty primitive. Big husky colonists would prowl around till they found a tree growing near a river. After chopping it down, they chucked it into the water in the hopes that someone would fish it out before it got washed out to sea.

In 1666 things got organized. Talon, a French bigwig, told the settlers to go cut some trees for the French shipbuilding trade. By 1670 they had managed to fill three ships, which promptly set sail for the French West Indies. The big export drive was on. While the settlers were all sitting around sharpening their axes and congratulating each other on their good fortune, time was a-wasting. First thing they knew, it was 1763 and the Treaty of Paris had signed them all over to the British. In the midst of the ensuing confusion, General Murray snuck over in his scarlet coat and reserved most of the timber in the name of the Crown. He was kept pretty busy running around carving broad-arrows in all the best trees.

The Americans soon got tired of this and in 1776 they revolted. Canada remained loyal to the Crown and was rewarded by getting big fat naval contracts for timber. She got bigger and fatter ones when Napoleon blockaded Norway and Sweden in 1806. Also, in 1806 some logs washed down the Ottawa River. This was credited to Philemon Wright, who ran around the Ottawa Valley organizing people to cut down trees. He did pretty well considering that he never managed to get a crosscut saw there till 1875. In 1826 the R.N. contracts were all torn up because it was found they had a monopoly. This was considered unconstitutional, even for Britain.

Things got pretty dull for a while until Canada and the U.S. started monkeying around with the Customs’ Duties. The object of the game was to tax the other country out of existence. This was getting out of hand and way above table stakes, so in 1854 they signed a Reciprocity Treaty. This was a kind of do-as-you-would-be-done-by arrangement. The point now was to let everything through duty-free. This began to pall after a while and, besides, both countries found that duties were pretty

handy for padding the petty cash. In 1888 they called the whole thing off, slapped the taxes back on again and began keeping an eagle eye peeled for smugglers. This was obviously very democratic and constitutional as it let everybody play instead of just the governments.

By this time the timber in the east was getting all moth-eaten and worn out, so around 1850 everyone went west. When they got there, the trees were all too big for the fancy paraphernalia they had lugged in from the east, so they had to go back to being primitive. This led to Paul Bunyan and his big Blue Ox, Babe, and so was a good thing. The immediate effect of the oxen was to give the men something to swear at. This got so bad they had to use horses instead. By the time the horses were worn out, someone had made a steam engine. This was called a “donkey engine” because people ran about tying logs to a long cable that was tied to a donkey. Then someone would shout “hi-ball” and the donkey would start sucking in the cable like spaghetti and pretty soon it would have pulled all the logs in. Then they would take the donkey somewhere else and start all over again.

Eventually people got used to it, which took all the fun out of it, so they added a new dimension to it by doing the whole operation up in the air or on a converted ski-tow. This was called “high-lead logging” because the leads to which the logs were tethered were usually just out of reach. The loggers also started playing with trains in odd moments. These were specially geared to sound like they were doing more work than they actually were. The whole point of this was removed when they brought in diesel power. This was not nearly so likely to blow up as steam power and made everyone lazier than ever. They even refused to make skid-roads. They said that the diesels were so powerful that they could make their own skid-roads while they were skidding the logs. Someone found an old grader blade lying around and stuck on the front of the tractor to give it something to push with. First thing he knew, he had invented the bulldozer. This led to all the bickering and quarrelling between the engineers - who thought they had invented it – and the foresters. This is called friction and is very important. By this time it was almost today and they were logging faster and faster and pretty soon there will be no trees left and everyone will be knee-deep in sawdust. This will make everyone primitive again so that history can repeat itself and so will be a good thing.

Reprinted from “The Fiftieth Anniversary of the Faculty of Forestry, University of New Brunswick: The First 50, 1908-1958” (2008): 72-74. With permission from the Faculty of Forestry and Environmental Management, University of New Brunswick and the gracious help of Maureen Levesque.

Art in the Park

Haliburton Sculpture Forest

For more information visit http://www.haliburtonsculptureforest.ca/

The Haliburton Sculpture Forest, in Glebe Park near the village of Haliburton in the Haliburton Highlands of Ontario, Canada, is a unique outdoor collection of sculptures by Canadian and international artists. The trails in the Sculpture Forest—for walking and bike riding in spring, summer and fall and skiing in the winter—provide changing perspectives of the forest and the sculptures in each of the seasons.

The Sculpture Forest experience, which is unstructured and unscripted, is ideal for families looking for an interesting outing, for those who enjoy outdoor trails, and for people looking for a unique artistic experience.

There is no charge for admission in spring, summer or fall but donations are always welcome.

Ernest Finlayson

By: John Bacher

Born on March 28, 1887 and dying in mysterious circumstances in a fierce Ottawa blizzard in February 1936, one Canada's greatest heroes of conservation, Ernest H. Finlayson, is barely known outside a narrow area of professional foresters and historians. It is difficult to calculate his impact, but it was that of a veritable power house for the wise conservation of nature from unthinking human exploitation. His protective force was exercised not only by his own distinguished career in the Canadian Forest Service, but through his considerable influence on his half-brother, William, who for eight years served as Ontario's Minister of Lands and Forests.

The Finlayson brothers may have come from Brantford, but both were raised in downtown Toronto. They developed a great love and passion for the forests of northern Ontario through recreational activities such as camping and canoeing. The pollution and grime of Toronto in those days was evidenced from the clouds of smoke seen rising from the city from any photograph taken from Lake Ontario during the era. This compelled them to listen to what contemporaries, influenced by the then famous writings of Jack London, termed "the call of the wild."

A tribute in the University of Toronto's 1912 year book is revealing of Finlayson's reverential attitudes towards the natural world. It found that, "After a somewhat obscure juvenile stage at Jarvis Collegiate and in business, he joined the Class at 1910 at the school. Having spent two years here, 'the call of the wild' became so persistent that he changed his course to Forestry."

What became the most significant decision in Ernest Finlayson's life - propelled by his love of the northern Ontario's forested landscape - was the decision to become one of the first students to enroll in the University of Toronto's Faculty of Forestry. Like other prominent foresters, such as Edmund Zavitz and John White, Finlayson took his forestry studies in his thirties as a mature student. He began university studies in applied sciences, and achieved training as an engineer before switching to the Forestry Faculty.

In the Forestry Faculty, he was praised for his leadership abilities. He served as President of the student Forestry Club. Among its members was another future conservation champion, Ernest C. Manning, who would earn distinction as the founder of British Columbia's provincial parks system. Finlayson's leadership talents would be witnessed by a decade long distinguished career as the director of Canada's national forest service.

The University of Toronto Forestry Faculty at this time was shaped by the vision of its founding Faculty Dean, Bernard Fernow, and his wife, Olivia. While they had five children of their own, they still were able to view the students as part of a big, extended, loving family. Every Sunday, the devoted couple had a meal and social get together for forestry students. During these rituals, Fernow would with great passion and expertise play the piano. The drama and poignancy of these events was increased by informal exchanges of the news. This would be increased by the understanding that hundreds of deaths could be prevented by the simple application of the basic principles of forestry they were studying.

The motivational power of his studies served Finlayson well when, in 1911, immediately upon graduating, he was charged by the Canadian Forest Service (CFS) to be an inspector of fire ranging

in Alberta. His determination and effectiveness in this area resulted in promotion a decade later to the CFS's head office in Ottawa.

Like most government foresters at this time, Finlayson was impressed at the determined effort that railways were putting into fire suppression. He found that these companies' patrol forces were effectively working to ensure that fire-protective appliances were used, lignite coal avoided, tie burning properly supervised, fire guards maintained and rights of ways cleared.

The zeal of the private railways to follow fire prevention regulations contrasted sadly with the attitudes towards logging slash adjacent to roads by the provincial governments of western Canada. Finlayson found that nearly every provincial road through a forest was a fire trap. Brush and slash were piled on side of roads at the risk of igniting a fire before decaying.

Finlayson was most concerned that government neglect for fire safety would encourage contempt by farmers. Their fires to clear land had a terrible record of getting out of control throughout the continent, causing most of the city of Chicago, for instance, to go up in smoke.

Regarding the fire danger in western Canada, Finlayson wrote that:

> One of the greatest difficulties in promoting a proper regard for the law is the deficiency in the fire laws of the three provinces, under these laws it is almost an impossibility to get an offender convicted and properly punished, owning to the loose interpretation of the law by rural judiciaries. It is hoped, however, that the legal departments of the provinces will awake to the necessity of efficient, up-to-date legislation, so that the forestry officials will not be so handicapped in their campaign to reach an ideal, to secure a proper observance of the intentions behind all fire laws … [the] prevention of fires.

Finlayson urged the adoption of the fire permit system to regulate farmers' burning, based on the law that British Columbia passed in 1912. This was based upon the recommendations of the newly appointed Chief Forester of British Columbia, H.R. Macmillan, who had served as his predecessor in Alberta. Under the *British Columbia Fire Act*, fires could only be set by farmers to clear lands in dangerous seasons from April to November under terms of a permit approved by a forest ranger.

Regarding the provinces' of Saskatchewan and Manitoba, Finlayson's advocacy had quick success by 1917. However, Alberta still resisted regulation. He prophetically warned that recent wet years had lulled Alberta of the dangers that would hit when droughts came.

This situation arrived in the summer of 1919. The fire disaster of 1919 confirmed Finlayson's warnings. Some seven million acres were impacted by what was termed "a veritable inferno." Indigenous families deep in the forest were "totally wiped" out. Wild fires dangerously crept near the provincial capital of Edmonton. Eleven Indigenous peoples died in the fire and more suffered permanent burn scars. The entire town of Lac La Biche was incinerated, with 300 people made homeless. Casualties there were prevented only by hundreds of people staying inside the lake for protection from being burned.

Despite the 1919 conflagration, the Alberta government of Liberal Premier Charles Stewart still refused to pass the legislation that Finlayson had requested to restrict burning by farmers. The unpopularity of this view in face of grave dangers was seen by the massive scale of its defeat in the 1921 provincial election. All of its members were defeated, the entire legislature being dominated by the United Farmers of Alberta (UFA) and its Independent Labour Party allies.

One of the first UFA government priorities was to amend the Alberta *Fire Act*. The amendments gave federal forest service rangers the status of ex officio forest guardians. In 1922 some 17 persons were

convicted for violating the law. With violators finally being punished, Finlayson concluded that the law "now seems to be working pretty well."

Out of respect for his successful determination to rescue the west from the curse of settler fires, "Fin," as he was called by his colleagues, was the forest service's delegate to the imperial forestry conferences. Great Britain had organized these meetings after the First World War. In this capacity, Finlayson organized the Imperial Forestry Conference in 1923. The conference in Temagami, Ontario, illustrated the power of aircraft to detect permit violators, and to detect and suppress fires. Both Finlayson and his close friend and professional colleague, Edmund Zavitz, regarded innovation in the use of aircraft as Canada's key contribution to the broader goals of Commonwealth forestry.

A press account in 1923 recognized how, "Although a comparatively young man, Mr. Finlayson is a popular and respected figure in his profession and one whom it is generally viewed as well qualified in the manner of technical training, experience and balanced judgment to carry on the rapidly widening operations of the federal forestry staff."

After ending the western fire crisis with respect to the threat posed by farmers, Finlayson moved on to tackle the remaining big fire danger in the west. This was achieved through the publicity generated by the Royal Commission on Pulpwood on which he served as Secretary. As a result, fire prone slash clean-up was achieved on Crown lands logged throughout western Canada. His appointment as Director of the Dominion Forest Service in 1925 was a recognition of the critical role he played in ending western Canada's fire crisis.

A year into his becoming director of Canada's national forest service, Finlayson's half- brother William was elected to the Ontario legislature, and by virtue of his service in the governing Conservative Party, was able to become Minister of Lands and Forests in 1926. To help in this role, Ernest gave William a crash course in forestry. He was able to serve as Minister for 8 years under the Conservative governments of both Howard Ferguson, and his successor, George Henry.

William Finlayson was able to institute a number of important conservationist reforms. He always championed the advice of conservationist foresters such as Edmund Zavitz within the cabinet. One success was under his leadership was the growing ecological restoration of southern Ontario. This was epitomized by the launching of the massive Larose Forest between Ottawa and the Quebec border. With fire dangers finally suppressed, the former provincial forest reserves became Provincial Forests, offering for the first time recreational opportunities. This network of Provincial Forests was expanded beyond the existing reserves. The new network of Provincial Forests were protected from agriculture.

Under the leadership of the new Deputy Minister of Forests, Frederick Noad, there was a massive firing of provincial foresters. Most disastrously, in parts northwestern Ontario lands were removed from the restrictions on farmers' burning. This resulted in the Fort Francis fire of 1936, resulting in 20 deaths, and an entire village being burned down.

The backlash against conservationist reforms in the 1930s hit the achievements of both politician William Finlayson and public servant Ernest. The pattern was basically the same. Politically motivated pressures caused controls that restricted farmers burning crops to be eased. In the case of William, it was caused by a backlash that led to a change in the governing party. Ernest's demise was triggered by the transfer of federal Crown lands to provincial jurisdiction.

With his astonishing record of success in surmounting very difficult challenges to Canada's forests, Finlayson became director of the Department of the Interior's Forest Service in 1925. What is so tragic is that the successes that earned him this appointment would be thrown away primarily by the

intrigues of the very Alberta politician who the electorate massively repudiated in 1921, Charles Stewart.

Stewart continued to live in Alberta but was able to enter the House of Commons as a member of the federal Liberal Party in a safe seat in Quebec. This position gave him enormous political power as the only Liberal cabinet minister from Alberta. He used this ministerial post to successfully lobby for the transfer of western Crown lands to the Prairie Provinces, including the forest reserves directly administered by the federal forest service. In contrast to the majority of Crown lands where slash controls were only recently introduced, the forest reserves, since their creation in 1899, had long been a model of ecologically sustainable logging. They were administered by professional foresters, avoiding both slash debris and clear cutting, through the use of diameter limits.

Ernest Finlayson, in after the transfer of 1930 was completed, had a second sad experience of having to witness the folly triggered by Charles Stewart's ecological illiteracy. From 1912 to 1921 he witnessed the consequences of Stewart's refusal to accept his advice for fire control regulations. From 1930 until his death six years later, he viewed the consequences of provincial governments giving in to settler's demands to move to northern forests in the wake of the dust bowl. Settlers' fires typically burnt forests down all around Prince Albert National Park in Saskatchewan, a former forest reserve, rescued from provincial control in the brink of time before the Crown lands transfer.

While Ernest Finlayson strove to create a new role for the forest service based on research during the Conservative government of Prime Minister Richard Bennett, his demise was triggered in 1936 by a federal government reorganization orchestrated by the newly returning Prime Minister, Liberal William Lyon Mackenzie King. The Department of the Interior, which held two critical land based conservation agencies, Forestry and the Parks Service, was abolished. It was replaced by a ministry without a conservationist mandate, the Ministry of Mines and Resources, in which both Finlayson and the Parks Service director, J. B. Harkin, were demoted. Following the reorganization's announcement, Harkin retired. Finlayson's response, the development of an illness then diagnosed as amnesia which led to his death shortly thereafter, was more tragic.

In in the weeks before his death, Ernest Finlayson would walk in Ottawa's forests for comfort. However, on the last day of his life there was a raging blizzard, which may have caused him to accidentally stumble into the Ottawa River (if his death was not a deliberate suicide). Although he died in a time of understandable despair, the federal forest service Finlayson championed would be revised through political pressure by conservationists such as Sir William Mulock, who worked with Grey Owl in his national park refuge.

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Remembering John “Jack” Flowers

Mr. John “Jack” Flowers, age 92 years, passed away peacefully on Wednesday, December 14, 2016 in Thunder Bay Regional Health Sciences Centre.

Jack was born on March 12, 1924 in Cobalt, Ontario to Frederick and Jane Flowers. Jack married his love, Doris on September 11, 1948. They had 63 years together and after five years are reunited.

During World War II, Jack joined the Air Force to help protect his country. After he was discharged he graduated from the University of Toronto and became a Registered Professional Forester. Jack held many different roles with the Ministry of Natural Resources.

Jack had many adventures in his life, including trips and continuing his education at the University of Toronto when he was in his 40's. Despite his many trips out of town for work he was a dedicated family man with a strong Christian faith. When Doris became sick with Parkinson's disease and Dementia, Jack spent every waking hour caring for her. He set a very high standard for his family to follow. He was an incredibly strong, intelligent and independent man with a huge heart.

Jack spent many years working with the village of Bunkpurugu in Ghana trying to improve their quality of life. Recently he was awarded the Naakuukni Award for Exemplary Life in recognition of his outstanding contributions.

Jack is survived by his son Don (Laurie); daughter Debbie (Larry): grandchildren Sarah (Jonathan) Armstrong, Erinn (John) Antoniak, Blake Rathje (Jen Kis) and Kiirsti (Brad) Stilla; great grandchildren Miles and Lee Antoniak and Letti Stilla; twin sister Isabel Flay; and numerous nieces and nephews.

The family would like to thank all of Jack's caregivers at Thunder Bay Regional Hospital, Thunder Bay Paramedics, Superior Eldercare, and The Nurse Next Door. Special thanks to Dr. Hassan, Dr. Anderson, nurses in ER and ICU and finally his nurse Rita. Your care and professionalism was exemplary.

Additional Comments on Jack Flowers and His Career as a Forester in Northern Ontario

Ken Reese

In the 1970s Jack was working in Sudbury. He drove a Citroen vehicle. This particular model had hydraulic jacks that could raise the chassis for better clearance on the bush roads. The Citroen had to be brought to Toronto for servicing, which brought Jack into head office more frequently.

One day he brought into the office his new pocket calculator for which he had paid some $600. We had just paid $2600 for a new Olivetti desk calculator, one that had to have a thick felt pad underneath to reduce the noise in the office as it ground out the sums. We were very proud of our brand new machine that was used to keep score on the provincial nursery inventory. We could not believe Jack's claim that his little "toy" could do everything our new thumping monster could do. The field guys were always trying to upstage the head office guys. Times were changing; so have the prices.

Jack was very inventive and he played a key role in the development of scarifiers in a period when the Ontario Department of Lands and Forests (DLF) was doing regeneration work. In Beardmore, the DLF gradually progressed from dragging rocks behind bulldozers that had a hole drilled in them for a cable attachment, to 45 gallon drums filled with concrete into which pieces of railroad track had been inserted, to finally the water filled shark-finned barrels made from the Trans Canada pipe that lay behind each pumping station. Jack also played with his version of a mechanical tree planter, but did not achieve success in this endeavour.

Dolf Wynia

I remember Jack Flowers well because he was my "supervisor" for 13 years or so. I put the title "supervisor" in quotation marks because I never felt like Jack was one. We were always on the same page and respected each other's work and I believe he worked like that with all his other staff. It was a very positive work environment for me and I believe most of the foresters around him.

Jack was always full of new ideas and spent a lot of time developing needed scarification equipment and other technologies. I am sure that one can still find a few rusted monster devices around the region that did not work, as memorials to his efforts. Together with head office (Ken Reese) there was something new in the nursery business every year and sufficient money to try and build it.

I believe Jack was there at the peak of forest regeneration activities in the North Central Region. We also had a large spruce budworm outbreak and consequently there were control program that Jack was involved with. Jack was fully dedicated to his responsibilities as the Forester for the North Central Region, and many of the forests there stand as witness to the efforts of him and his team.

Jack was very supportive of the Canadian Institute of Forestry and its activities.

Personal Recollections

My Senior Forest Ranger Summer of 1968

By: Garry Paget

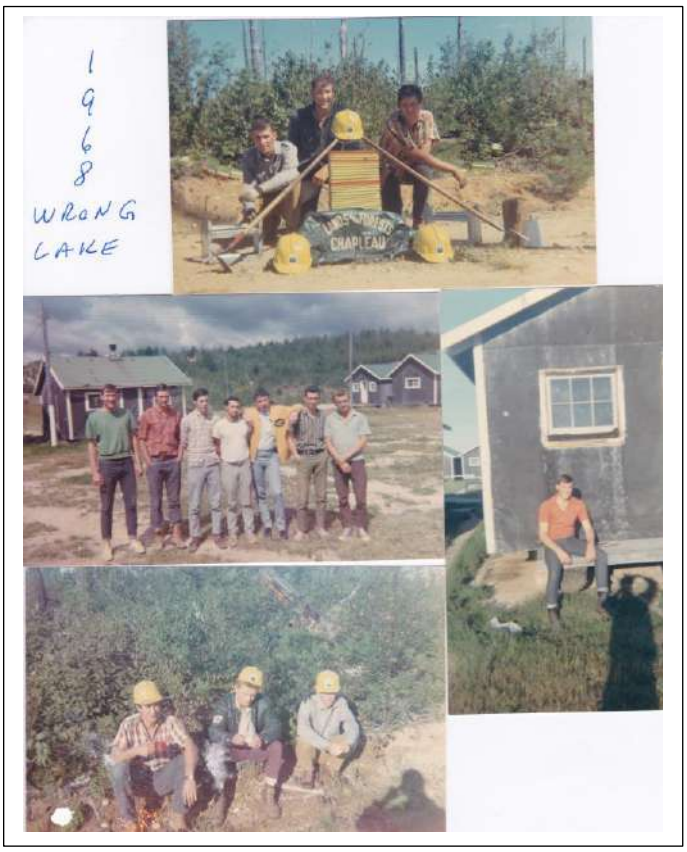
During this time in my life I was applying for the Regular Officer's Training Plan (ROTP) at Royal Military College (RMC) in Kingston, Ontario. The application process had begun in 1967. At the same time, Paul Hellyer was merging the Armed Forces and, as I had applied to the Royal Canadian Air Force (RCAF) to fly fighter jets, there was no guarantee that I would get that chance. I turned RMC down when it was offered. I was 18 and just about to start my summer as a Senior Ranger (SR) at Wrong Lake Camp. Because of my desire to fly, I had started to see myself behind the controls of a DH2T Turbo-Beaver as a bush pilot. I almost stayed on with the Ontario Department of Lands and Forests (DLF) to chart a new course for my life. In the end, I headed to the University of Waterloo (Math/Physics/Warrior Hockey) before commencing a career in Air Traffic Control in 1971.

Author's note: A continuation of a previous two-part article featured in Forestory titled my "Summer of '67 as a Junior Forest Ranger." In July 1968 I once again climbed aboard a train in Brockville and headed for Chapleau via Ottawa. The call of the north had once again been responded to as I relived, for the past year, my previous summer at Barclay Bay Camp on Missinaibi Lake.

Robert is waiting as the train pulls into the Chapleau station. "Where have you been?" he asks. "We thought you were coming in 2 days ago." My message, that I was delayed until Thursday as I dealt with university offers, had evidently not gotten through. We exchanged a warm handshake and climbed into a DLF pickup truck.

Chapleau looks the same. And so it should, as it was only 12 months earlier that I'd glimpsed these streets for the first time. The Redwood Restaurant beckons as the smell of food wafts into the cab. I feel at home. The green and white DLF pickup heads to "the Point" so I can check-in and get the required information registered in my file. "The Point" is situated along the shore of the Chapleau River, which provides a strip for various types of amphibious aircraft, including the Department's "Turbo Beaver," to land, dock and depart. I watch the Department's DH2T (CF-OEI) as it settles onto its floats and proceeds to tie up at the DLF dock after landing.

With preliminaries taken care of, Robert then steered the pickup along a familiar route, out into the late afternoon of Thursday, 4 July 1968. Again, it wasn't long before we were surrounded by bush. For those who've never had the pleasure of experiencing this environment, a blanket of calm descends upon the soul. And the feeling is so heavy it's as if you could cut it with a knife. Home again! The drive is soothing until a log truck rounds the corner. To drive these logging roads, with overloaded log trucks barreling in the opposite direction, throwing stones and dust and hogging all the available gravel, is something that needs to be experienced. It reminds you of the danger, too, as these are logging roads and we use them at our own risk. But it's part of the whole, without which, we'd have nothing.



Nonetheless, we survived the trip and as we exited the main road and made the familiar climbing right turn, the camp sign came into view. Up over the top and the camp, which is not visible from the road, appeared in full view - below the sand dune - spread out like a buffet!

It felt good to be back. While I didn't reside at this camp the previous summer, we did visit numerous times, making it friendly territory. One of the first to greet me is Jerry McAuley. I can still see his big smile. Gerald ("Jerry") McAuley is a Chapleau Cree and a large man. One of the few things bigger than Jerry is his smile. He is a humble and a wonderful person.

This summer I've been hired on to plant trees and this will take up 60-80% of my working hours. It is a routine somewhat different from that of my junior year. As I think back I know there were Junior Rangers (JRs) at Wrong Lake but I don't recall any JRs at Barclay Bay Camp in 1968. Other duties will include but are not limited to: repairing washouts in the road; occasional cleaning the Missinaibi Park bins and sites; fishing; and baseball. As Seniors we were on our own during the weekend as long as we were back for work on Monday morning. As such we enjoyed a weekend or two in town at the local dances. In the "it's a small world" vein I met and worked with two people I'd meet on the ice that fall when I attended the University of Waterloo: George Swanson with the Waterloo Warriors and Doug Van Wyck of the Kitchener Green Shirts.

While my first year as a JR was all new and exciting, this year I'm a "veteran" and, as such, nothing really stands out in my mind as much as everything did from the first year. This is also, I believe, because I was already so familiar with the area. Had I been placed in a new location I'm sure the memories would have been many. I do recall we played a lot of baseball with the camp staff, SRs, and JRs.

One memorable and somewhat unnerving moment remains forever etched in my vision. I was running my planting lines through a draw, up to a 10 foot ridge and then reversing my course. The brambles were sticking to my sleeves as I made my way through the thickets. Approaching the ridge I suddenly heard a crashing of brush coming from the far side. I had not been over the ridge so I did not know what was there; but I was about to. I knew I was the only SR in this immediate section and, as such, would not have expected another in my area. And besides, it seemed like a lot of noise for one person to make. I froze where I was and waited.

In slow motion the head and shoulders of a huge bull moose rose up over the edge of the ridge about 50 feet in front and slightly off to my right. With its five to six foot rack, it was a stunning picture! It was all over in about 20 seconds. A slow look around and it descended the opposite slope and disappeared.

I realized, in hindsight, I had done the correct thing. But I also had the favour of the wind, whatever it was, blowing towards me. The moose did not know I was there. And that was a good thing as there could have been two scats involved with this encounter: one of me running out of there (don't know how successful that would have been), and another of what was left in my pants!

After what seemed like 5 minutes, having heard nothing further, I continued my planting line but in a reverse heading and left the area. Once was enough. I didn't even mention it to the guys as I recall my thinking was they wouldn't have believed me. To this day this is only the second time I've told this

story. And I'm getting that tingling feeling in my arms again. Somewhere along the west side of the road between Wrong Lake and Missinaibi Lake ("Big Miss"), and if my other seedling grew, there is a spot void of any jack pines, where this memory continues to reside!

With summer's end I returned to Brockville, packed and prepared to head off to the University of Waterloo. And, while I've returned to the area a number of times, nothing matches these first two summers where I spent my late teens in the Chapleau District #69 bush, around Missinaibi and Wrong Lakes. The memories and experiences have stayed with me forever and will continue to do so, for as long as I'm alive.

Species: White Spruce




The white spruce (*Picea glauca*) usually stands between 24 and 30 metres in height. It typically lives between 250 and 350 years, but some of these trees have lived for up to a century. Its needles are about 2 centimetres long, and are bluish green or green in colour, with a whitish powdery, waxy layer. Cones from the white spruce are 5 to 7 centimetres long and are light brown. Wood from the white spruce is used to make wood pulp and lumber. They are also grown as Christmas trees. The white spruce is very common in northern Ontario, but can also be found in the more southern reaches of the provinces. The white spruce tolerates shade, a range of moisture levels, and can grow in almost any soil type. The white spruce is sensitive to frost damage when young and should be planted in a protected area. It can survive in a range of soil and moisture conditions. Bark, branches, buds and seeds from the white spruce are a meal for deer, rabbits, porcupines, birds, and small rodents.[2]

[2] "White spruce," *Government of Ontario*, https://www.ontario.ca/page/white-spruce (accessed 5 May 2017).

Museum/Archives Corner

ROYAL ONTARIO MUSEUM - TREES FOR TORONTO

WHAT IS “TREES for TORONTO”?

“Trees for Toronto” was launched by the Royal Ontario Museum (ROM) and the City of Toronto in connection with the expansion of the Museum in 2007. The purpose of “Trees for Toronto” is to plant trees in Queen’s Park and to create a tree identification and awareness program for Toronto.

As part of the “Trees for Toronto” program,

- Trees native to Ontario have been planted throughout Queen’s Park
- Interpretive signs and tree identification plaques have been installed in the Park
- Online tree species fact sheets are being developed for the trees of Toronto park by park

For more information, see the ROM’s “Trees for Toronto” website:

https://www.rom.on.ca/en/collections-research/centres-discovery/biodiversity/trees-toronto

Sylva Recap

The Ontario Department of Lands and Forests published for many years a journal known as "Sylva." The purpose of this journal was to highlight changes in policy, individuals, and the comings and goings of staff. Sylva contains nuggets for forest history that will be selected for each edition of the journal. The following was provided by Sherry Hambly.

Reforestation by G.H.U. Bayly
Reprinted from Sylva Volume 3:38-40, 1952

Although in the past the attitude of the people of Ontario has been one of exploitation and indifference toward related forest values such as soil and water conservation, the educational work carried out by various far-sighted groups, among others the Department of Lands and Forests, is gradually bringing about a reversal of this attitude.

Prior to 1879, little thought was given to the effect that the destruction of the forests would have on the future timber supply of Ontario. During that year, however, the Fruit Growers' Association of Ontario, in their report, called attention to the necessity for husbanding our timber resources, and for farming communities to engage in the judicious planting of forest tress.

In 1900, a forestry committee was appointed at the Ontario Agricultural and Experimental Union and in 1902 this association recommended that the Department of Crown Lands be requested to provide material to reforest certain areas of waste land in Ontario. By 1904, the Ontario Government decided to undertake the establishment of a forest nursery at the Ontario Agricultural College, and a year later, a Department of Forestry was started with lectures on forestry and extension work with farmers.

In 1905, the free distribution of trees to private landowners started with a distribution of 10,000 trees – nine years later the distribution of trees reached the half million mark. By 1939, the distribution was between 15 and 16 million trees, and by 1950 the distribution amounted to almost 20 million trees.

In 1908, field work in forestry was transferred from the Ontario Agricultural College at Guelph to South Norfolk, near the village of St. Williams, and the policy of establishing Provincial Forest Stations in areas containing large tracts of sub-marginal land was inaugurated.

At that time, the public was sceptical of the possibility of re-establishing forest cover on these worn out, blow-sand areas. To-day, however, the Norfolk Provincial Forest of approximately 4,000 acres has a magnificent young forest of pine and other trees, and the station maintains a small saw-mill which utilizes the thinnings from the improvement cuttings. The material produced in this mill is used in the forest nursery for shipping crates and repairing local buildings. In addition, the forest nursery at St. Williams has provided many millions of trees for distribution.

In 1922, two new Forest Stations were established, one at Midhurst near Barrie (2,200 acres) and one at Orono in Durham County (700 acres). Both followed the pattern set for the earlier station in Norfolk. They were in the vicinity of large areas of poor, sandy soil which had proved a failure for agricultural purposes.

The station at Angus (now headquarters of the forest tree seed work), was established in 1923, and the station has a capacity for processing approximately 25,000 bushels of cones. The most recent

Forest Stations were established in 1946, and are located at Kemptville (1,500 acres), and Fort William (400 acres). Both nurseries at these two stations commenced distribution of trees in 1950.

Following the creation of a forestry department at the Ontario Agricultural College in Guelph, and the early efforts in reforestation which were directed to the improvement of farmers' woodlots and supplying of forest planting stock for private landowners, the larger problem of reforesting waste land was undertaken. In 1911, the Ontario Legislature passed the Counties' Reforestation Act, later known as the Municipal Reforestation Act and recently incorporated into the Trees Act. Under this Act, municipalities may purchase land, carry on development, and either enter into an agreement with the Crown to manage the area or carry out the planting and care of the area themselves without assistance.

Although this legislation was passed in 1911, it was not until 1922 that advantage was taken of its purpose, when Simcoe County secured 1,000 acres (now known as the Hendrie County Forest), for reforestation purposes. Since that time, 18 additional Municipal Forests have been established. In addition, several conservation authorities have been established, some of which, including the Ganaraska, have entered into agreements to have their forests managed by the Crown.

Forests have also been established by a number of urban municipalities which have carried out a reforestation programme in connection with lands protecting their water supply. Such a project was undertaken by Guelph as early as 1909.

A considerable amount of valuable educational work in reforestation has been carried out for a number of years through the media of demonstration woodlots, tree planting activities through schools, scouts and other interested groups, meetings with juvenile and adult farm organizations, service clubs and county councils. An important development in creating public interest in reforestation has been the placing of Zone or District Foresters throughout the Southern portion of the Province. These trained men (there are now 26 in that portion of Ontario), are available to render personal assistance to interested parties in dealing with their forestry problems – and in many cases a personal contact and inspection of the ground is essential for the success of a reforestation project.

Although the reforested area will in the future pay good dividends, there are many other benefits to be gained which are impossible to estimate in dollars and cents. Included among them are the covering of exposed land on watersheds to help keep wells and springs of adjacent territory from drying up, and the establishing of cover for game birds and animals.

Books / Articles / Web Sites or Other Resources

1. **Canada – US NAFTA Lumber Trade Disputes**

Canada and the United States (US) have been involved in lumber trade for well over two centuries. From the beginning there have been issues with the trading of this commodity. The inclusion of lumber as part of the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) was supposed to settle these disputes. But since the inception of this agreement in the 1980's there has been an almost continuous litigation related to lumber. The issue is once again back in the news with the US instituting tariffs against Canadian lumber (Spring, 2017).

A large part of the issue arises from the different forest ownership models in each country. Canadian wood comes almost entirely from Crown-owned land, whereas US wood is mostly from private land. These differences make it challenging to equitably measure the cost of wood production and thus price for the wood.

Ontario, along with British Columbia and Quebec, is a key player in these disputes.

Wikipedia has an overview of the history of the NAFTA lumber issue, along with a number of references, and can be found here:
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Canada%E2%80%93United_States_softwood_lumber_dispute .

The Parliament of Canada Library contains a short overview of the disputes:
http://www.lop.parl.gc.ca/content/lop/ResearchPublications/tips/tip98-e.htm '

The key player (The US Lumber Coalition) on the US side also has a web page where they present their case and a history of the disputes:
http://www.uslumbercoalition.org/doc/dispute_history.pdf .

The current issue of The Forestry Chronicle (2017, 93(1): 9-16) has an article discussing the trade dispute
http://pubs.cif-ifc.org/doi/abs/10.5558/tfc2017-005 .

2. **Tony Rotherham and K.A. Armson. The Evolution of Forest Management in Canada: Management Paradigms and Forest Tenure Systems. Forestry Chronicle, Vol. 92 (4): 388-393.**

This article describes the evolution of forest management and forest tenure from pre-settlement times to the present, and recommends changes for the future.

3. **Paul Leet Aird. Logging and Rafting Square Timber in Ontario and Quebec for Shipment to Great Britain circa 1870 to 1908. The Forestry Chronicle, Vol 92 (4): 394-400.**

Professor Emeritus Aird provides a one page description of the rise and fall of the square timber trade along with eleven half page sized photographs illustrating the square timber industry.

4. **Lynda Donaldson, Robert J. Wilson, Ilya M.D. Maclean. Old Concepts, New Challenges: adapting landscape-scale conservation to the twenty-first century. Biodivers Conserv (2017) 26:527-552.**

This treatise describes the evolution of landscape-scale conservation concepts. The authors conclude: “We have synthesised and explored existing knowledge to provide updated, generic guidance to decision makers engaged in landscape-scale conservation planning and practice in the context of levels of environmental change and biotic consequences that were not envisaged only decades ago.”

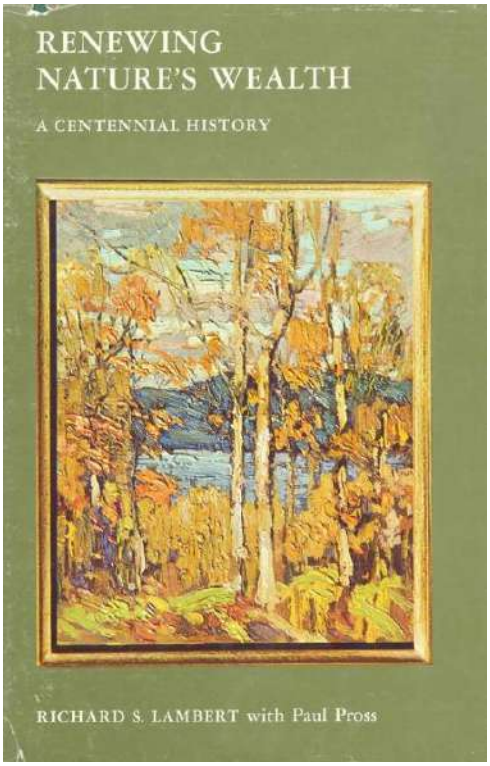
5. **Mark Kuhlberg. An American Forester, a Canadian Paper Company, and the Spanish River. Benjamin F. Avery and his Silviculture Program for Ontario. Forest History Today, Spring/Fall 2016: 14-22.**

Dr. Kuhlberg describes the progressive approach taken by Forester Avery of the Spanish River Pulp and Paper Company to manage and renew the forests for which they had tenure. While Avery managed to convince the company to think and act progressively, the Ontario government was not interested in supporting these forward thinking ideas, and with the advent of the great depression, his efforts were lost to austerity measures that were introduced.

The article is supported by a number of photographs.

The full article can be read here:
http://www.foresthistory.org/Publications/FHT/FHTSpringFall2016/Kuhlberg_Ontario.pdf .

Renewing Nature's Wealth



Lambert, Richard S. and Pross, Paul. *Renewing Nature's Wealth: A Centennial History of the Public Management of Lands, Forests, & Wildlife in Ontario, 1763-1967.* Toronto: The Ontario Department of Lands and Forests, 1967.

Although fifty years has passed since its original publication, *Renewing Nature's Wealth* still manages to offer readers valuable information on an important part of Ontario's history. The book covers a span of nearly 200 years, describing the impact made by a civilized people upon the primitive forest that originally covered the land. It also traces the development of Ontario's natural resources under public administration from an early state of confusion and waste down to the modern era of conservation and scientific management. We will provide a précis of one chapter of this book in each edition of *Forestory*.

Chapter 14: Algonquin, Quetico, Rondeau and Other Parks

Ontario's provincial parks system dates back to the late nineteenth century. In 1893, the government of Ontario created its first provincial park, Algonquin, located in the District of Nipissing, in order to appease the demands of different interest groups who wanted a public park that could serve as a forest reserve, fish and game preserve, and recreational site. Unsurprisingly, it was not long before the provincial government faced pressure to establish another publicly-owned park. Thus, in 1894, a peninsula on the north coast of Lake Erie at Rondeau Harbour was chosen as the site of Ontario's second provincial park, which was aptly named Rondeau.

The decades immediately following the First World War witnessed a modest surge in provincial park activity in Ontario. After creating Quetico Park in the northwest portion of the province in 1913, the Ontario government proceeded to establish parks at Long Point (1921), Presqu'ile (1922), Ipperwash

(1938), Sibley (1944), and Lake Superior (1944). Each of these parks had been created in response to particular circumstances rather than as part of a broader systematic planning initiative. Sibley Provincial Park, for example, came into existence after the Chambers of Commerce of Port Arthur and Fort William campaigned for its creation as a means of reducing unemployment in the area.

All of Ontario's parks were rich in natural resources, and this inevitably pushed the provincial government to enact measures that were designed to manage them prudently. By 1950, for instance, all cutting activity in the province's parks had come under the auspices of the *Crown Timber Act*, thereby allowing the Ontario government to exert tighter control over harvesting in these protected areas. Similarly, from the earliest days of Algonquin and Quetico, park rangers were hired to safeguard the lives of fur-bearing animals from the careless hunting and trapping practices that were often carried out in Ontario's parks. The Department of Lands and Forests (DLF), of course, often played a central role in overseeing the sound administration of park resources. In 1914-15, for example, the DLF, in collaboration with the Department of Game and Fisheries, began restocking lakes in Ontario's parks with fish in order to combat the harmful effects of overfishing.

The end of the Second World War ushered in a new era for Ontario's system of provincial parks. More specifically, the rapid growth of Ontario's middle class during these years meant that an unprecedented number of people had the money and leisure time to visit these parks. With a host of new pressures being placed upon the parks system, it soon became clear that the Ontario government would have to remodel its relevant policies and managerial structure. Overall, the sixty years from 1893 to 1954 (the year that Ontario passed a new *Provincial Parks Act*) was clearly "a period of slow, pragmatic development in Ontario's provincial parks" which "lacked an overall plan of development." Nonetheless, it undoubtedly witnessed the laying of important groundwork which has allowed the province of Ontario to become home to one of the finest parks systems in the world.

Report on the Forest History Society of Ontario's AGM for 2017

It is with great pleasure that I can report that the Forest History Society of Ontario (FHSO) conducted another informative and enjoyable Annual General Meeting. It was held on 9 February 2017 at the Nottawasaga Inn near Alliston, Ontario and as usual it occurred the day before Forests Ontario hosted its annual conference and general meeting.

Over 30 members were present, and their attendance contributed to making it a great event. I updated members on the continued great service performed by Sherry Hambly in terms of supporting the FHSO; she does a wonderful job as our website editor. I also described how Scott Miller has been the editor of our journal, *Forestory*, for more than a year. His work has been fantastic and has ensured that this document continues to be one of which we can all be proud. Unfortunately for us, Scott is beginning a new phase of his life and will no longer be able to serve as editor, and I explained that we were presently looking for his replacement.

At the AGM our members also received updates on many other facets of the FHSO's activities. We continue to work with various archives to facilitate the donation of historical records, and we seek to set our organization on a more stable and permanent basis by securing a grant from the Ontario Trillium Foundation. We applied for a second time in 2016, and although we were unsuccessful, we will definitely consider applying again in the future; hopefully, third time's is the charm! Our members also learned that our ranks have shrunk somewhat, and we were all made aware of the need to advertise the FHSO's good work and help recruit members. I also updated those present at our AGM on the progress we have made with the history project we are doing for the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry, details of which can be found in my Chairman's Report. In addition, the Frank A. MacDougall exhibit was discussed, and we were informed that it is being created at the Canadian Bushplane Heritage Museum in Sault Ste Marie. Our members will be informed when it is ready to be unveiled.

As always, the highlight of the meeting was the presentation delivered by our guest speaker, and this year it was one of our own. Ken Armson, recently appointed an Officer of the Order of Canada, delivered a wonderful talk on the culture of forestry and how it connects with general Canadian culture. It was well received and we are grateful to Ken for having spoken to us.

Thanks to everyone who helped make the AGM in 2017 such a success. Here's to an equally great event next year!

Mark Kuhlberg

Our committee of Canada's First Forestry Station

Interpretive Centre

would welcome your presence at the opening of our

Canada 150 exhibit

"Sawmills of Yesteryear – A Cut in Time"

Saturday June 3, 2017

1.00 to 4.00 p.m.

Opening Ceremony at 2.00 p.m.

885 Hwy. 24 S at Forestry Farm Rd.

rsvp Anne Wynia wynia@kwic.com

About the Authors

Garry Paget: A retired Air Traffic Controller who currently works as a Safety Instructor for a major Ontario training company and member of the FHSO. He was both a Junior and Senior Forest Ranger with the then Department of Lands & Forests. Garry is currently doing genealogy research and discovering some interesting history of his Paget family's connection to forestry and lumbering in Ontario.

Tom Griffiths: Registered Professional Forester and member of the FHSO

John Bacher: Historian and environmentalist from St. Catharines, Ontario; author of *Two Billion Trees and Counting: The Legacy of Edmund Zavitz*.

Sherry Hambly: After a rewarding career in various capacities in resource management in British Columbia and Ontario, Sherry is enjoying researching Ontario's forest history and helping to make it available for others to enjoy.

Mark Kuhlberg: Chair of the FHSO and Professor of History at Laurentian University.

Peter Hynard: Registered Professional Forester

Patricia Baldwin: Graduate of the University of Toronto's Faculty of Forestry. She recently returned to school following a career in the field of healthcare to study Forest Medicine.

Iain Barr: Graduate of the University of New Brunswick

Forest History Society of Ontario

Membership Form

Thank You For Your Support!

The mission of the Society is:

"To further the knowledge, understanding and preservation of Ontario's forest history" and to accomplish this with the following objectives:

1. To preserve forest and forest conservation history;
2. To encourage and further the development and recognition of forest history;
3. To support research and studies of forest history;
4. To support the archival preservation of records and materials relating to forest history, and
5. To promote the better understanding of forest history through public education.

The Society has two ongoing projects, both available on our website:

www.ontarioforesthistory.ca

The first is a catalogue of publications dealing with all aspects of Ontario's forest history. Members can submit contributions on our website.

The second is the identification and listing of collections and materials relating to Ontario's forest history. The Society works with established archives such as the Archives of Ontario and several university archives to facilitate the preservation of significant collections.

The Society publishes a newsletter, ***Forestory***, twice a year – Spring and Fall - containing informative articles on Ontario forest history.

(The FHSO has a privacy policy. Your information will not be shared or sold.)

You can initiate or renew your membership online by clicking on the link below:

http://www.ontarioforesthistory.ca/index.php/membership

Or, by filling out and submitting the form below, with your cheque, to the address listed below:

Name					
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