







365 Historical Facts

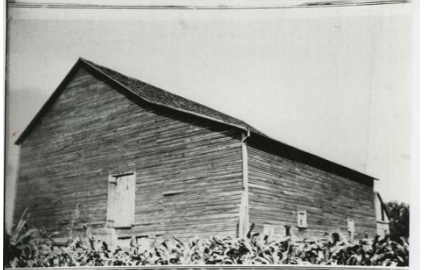

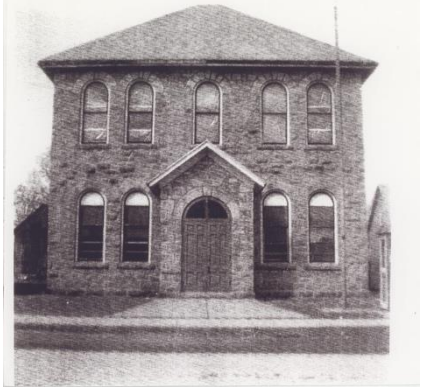


 Celebrate Our Local Heritage










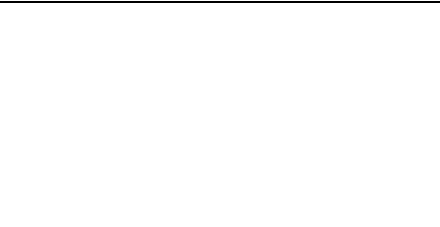

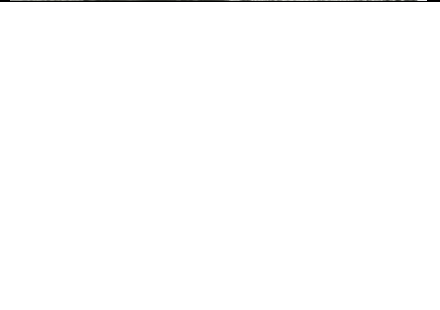

Township of
Leeds and the
Thousand Islands

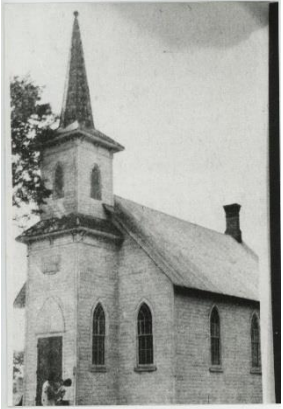




January 2017


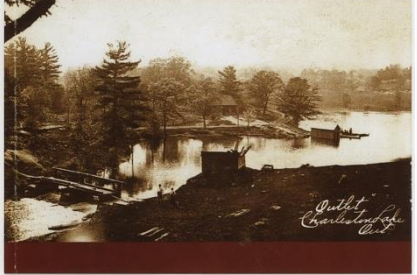


DATE	POST	IMAGE
1	Happy New Year! Please join us in kicking off Canada's 150th birthday as we post daily for the next 365 days in recognition of our township's history.	
2	<p>This photograph, from the early twentieth century, shows W.G. Johnston in front of his store on Prince Street in Lansdowne. Some items that he sold included footwear, groceries, and general fire insurance. This building was torn down in 1967. It stood at 1090 Prince Street.</p> <p>(Information collected from tihinitoricalsociety.org. Image courtesy of the Leeds and Thousand Islands Archives)</p>	
3	<p>Did you know? The Lyndhurst Bridge is reputedly the oldest bridge in Ontario. The bridge was erected in 1856-1857 and built with local field stone. Next time you are in Lyndhurst, take a moment to stop and read the historical plaque erected by the Ontario Heritage Foundation.</p> <p>(Image courtesy of the Leeds and Thousand Islands Archives)</p>	
4	<p>This photograph shows the Marble Rock Cheese Factory. Before serving as a cheese factory, the building was used for a grist mill operated by Thomas Dickson who came from Scotland in 1865.</p> <p>(Information collected from tihinitoricalsociety.org. Image courtesy of the Leeds and Thousand Islands Archives)</p>	
5	<p>Here is a photograph of the Grand Trunk Railway Station in Lansdowne, built in 1904. The station was a busy place, with as many as eight trains stopping per day. Large quantities of farm produce, including cheese and cattle, were shipped from the station.</p> <p>(Image courtesy of the Leeds and Thousand Islands Archives)</p>	

<p>6</p>	<p>This photograph shows a barn near Ebenezer that was built in 1812 with the help of British soldiers. The barn served as oldest in Ontario until it was torn down in the mid 1980's.</p> <p>(Information collected from tithistoricalsociety.org. Image courtesy of the Leeds and Thousand Islands Archives)</p>	
<p>7</p>	<p>Edwin Putnam's general store and bakery in Seeley's Bay circa 1905. The building was sold to Mr. Putnam in 1902 by Samuel Gorsline, a local tailor.</p> <p>(Image courtesy of the Leeds and Thousand Islands Archives)</p>	
<p>8</p>	<p>This photograph shows the Lansdowne Town Hall on King Street. In February of 1890, a petition was signed by 227 ratepayers calling attention to the need of a public hall in Lansdowne. By April, a site was purchased for \$250 and in May, Hugh McKay was contracted to build the town hall for \$3650. The construction of the town hall was completed by 1891.</p> <p>(Information collected from tithistoricalsociety.org. Image courtesy of the Leeds and Thousand Islands Archives)</p>	
<p>9</p>	<p>In 1801, the Lansdowne Iron Works was founded by Wallis Sunderlin on the Gananoque River. The iron works allowed for the development of a small industrial community called Furnace Falls. In 1827, several mills were established by Charles and Jonas Jones of Brockville. The settlement was renamed Lyndhurst by 1846 and the Lansdowne Iron Works was designated a National Historic Site of Canada in 1932.</p> <p>(Information collected from wikipedia.org)</p>	
<p>10</p>	<p>There is evidence of humans living within the Thousand Islands area as early as 9,000 years ago. The Iroquois Confederacy tribes camped as well as hunted in the Thousand Island area between 700 BCE and 1600 CE. The local waterways such as Wiltse Creek and the Gananoque River were used as travelling routes.</p> <p>(Information collected from thecanadianencyclopedia.ca and gananoque.com)</p>	

<p>11</p>	<p>Here are some photographs of the Wilstead General Store. The store was operated by Hugh and Jill Dandy when it closed in 1974. Unfortunately, the building had been insulated with pine needles and caught fire in March of 1975.</p> <p>(Information collected from tithistoricalsociety.org. Images courtesy of the Leeds and Thousand Islands Archives)</p>	
<p>11 (2)</p>		
<p>12</p>	<p>This photograph, circa 1895, shows a busy scene in front of the Lansdowne General Store on King Street. During this time, the store was owned and operated by Henry Campbell Mulvaugh and W.J. Cavanaugh.</p> <p>(Image courtesy of the Leeds and Thousand Islands Archives)</p>	
<p>13</p>	<p>Do you know how Marble Rock got its name? In the early 1800's, English settlers named the area after a huge ridge of marble granite that runs along the Gananoque River. In the past, Marble Rock was a thriving community. Throughout the 1800's, there was a store, tavern, post office, saw and grist mill, cheese factory and school.</p> <p>(Information collected from tithistoricalsociety.org)</p>	
<p>14</p>	<p>This photograph from the early twentieth century shows Charlie Ferguson of Dulcemaine with his threshing machine.</p> <p>(Image courtesy of the Leeds and Thousand Islands Archives)</p>	
<p>15</p>	<p>Here is a photograph of the Tilley Cheese Factory, built in 1906.</p> <p>(Image courtesy of the Leeds and Thousand Islands Archives)</p>	

<p>16</p>	<p>This photograph shows three men in front of T.G. Tilton's shop in Lansdowne. The shop specialized in roofing, plumbing, tinsmithing, repair work, and furnaces. (Image courtesy of the Leeds and Thousand Islands Archives)</p>	
<p>17</p>	<p>Camp Hyanto, an Anglican church camp just outside of Lyndhurst, has recently celebrated its 70th year of operation! For more information, check out their Facebook page at facebook.com/CampHyanto/ "We, who sleep beneath the pines, sleep well."</p>	
<p>18</p>	<p>One of the earliest and most successful dairy farmers in the township was John Chapman whose stone house still stands at the north end of Seeley's Bay. In 1871, his farm produced 800 pounds of butter and 300 pounds of cheese. (Information collected from visitseeleysbay.ca)</p>	
<p>19</p>	<p>This photograph, circa 1911, shows a one-horse carriage crossing the Outlet Bridge over Wiltse Creek. (Image courtesy of the Leeds and Thousand Islands Archives)</p>	
<p>20</p>	<p>In 1882, George Taylor of Lansdowne was elected to the Canadian House of Commons for the electoral district of Leeds South. Mr. Taylor was elected seven more times until he was summoned to the Senate of Canada to represent the senatorial division of Leeds, Ontario in 1911. Mr. Taylor sat in the Senate until his death in 1919 after serving in Parliament for 37 years. (Information collected from wikipedia.org)</p>	
<p>21</p>	<p>This photograph shows the Lansdowne Volunteer Fire Department's first fire truck in 1958. (Image courtesy of the Leeds and Thousand Islands Archives)</p>	

<p>22</p>	<p>This photograph, taken in 1950, shows the Greenfield United Church, built in 1893. The first minister was Reverend W. J. Wood. The church closed in 1943 and was torn down in 1951. Parts of the church were used to build a house in Lansdowne. (Image courtesy of the Leeds and Thousand Islands Archives)</p>	
<p>23</p>	<p>One of the first names given to the Thousand Islands area was Manitouana, or the "Garden of the Great Spirit". This name was given by The Iroquois Confederacy tribes of Onondaga, Seneca, Cayuga, Mohawk, Tuscarora and Oneida who used the Thousand Islands area as camping grounds between 700 B.C.E and 1600 C.E. (Information collected from gananogue.com)</p>	 <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Ebenezer from air May/63</i></p>
<p>24</p>	<p>This photograph shows an aerial view of Ebenezer in May of 1963. (Image courtesy of the Leeds and Thousand Islands Archives)</p>	 <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Ebenezer from air May/63</i></p>
<p>25</p>	<p>The first steam boat appeared on Charleston Lake in 1877 and was able to carry 20 passengers. In 1884, James Greer built the "Lily Nicholson" at the Outlet and made regular 1 hour and 15 minute trips to Charleston every Saturday. In 1888, Mr. Greer built "The Outlet Queen" (pictured below), a larger boat that proved too large and too expensive to operate. The Outlet Queen was sold to a buyer in Kingston in 1891. (Information collected from tithistoricalsociety.org. Image courtesy of the Leeds and Thousand Islands Archives)</p>	
<p>26</p>	<p>This photograph, circa 1980, of Prince Street (looking north) in Lansdowne shows the Lucky Dollar Food Store. #TLTICan150 #Canada150 (Image courtesy of the Leeds and Thousand Islands Archives)</p>	 <p style="text-align: center;"><small>shows Prince Street today. The hydro poles have been</small></p>

<p>27</p>	<p>This photograph, circa 1945, shows Ray Sweet's Red and White store in Seeley's Bay. Mr. Sweet purchased the building in 1938. Throughout the years, the building was renovated and housed various businesses including a laundromat and a community newspaper. It is now Sweet's Freshmart.</p> <p>(Image courtesy of the Leeds and Thousand Islands Archives)</p>	
<p>28</p>	<p>In 1875, the Gananoque Water Power Company purchased the water rights at the Outlet. In 1877, they bought land and built a new dam. A fort was built to protect the dam in 1878. It is believed the remains of this fort were still standing in the 1920's. Pictured below is a photograph of these remains in August 1911.</p> <p>(For more information on this story, check out the Fall/Winter 2005 newsletter at tihistoricalsociety.org. Image courtesy of the Leeds and Thousand Islands Archives)</p>	
<p>29</p>	<p>This photograph, taken in 1948, shows the Selton Church two years before it was demolished in 1950.</p> <p>(Image courtesy of the Leeds and Thousand Islands Archives)</p>	
<p>30</p>	<p>This postcard from 1924 shows Prince Street (looking north) in Lansdowne.</p> <p>(Image courtesy of the Leeds and Thousand Islands Archives)</p>	
<p>31</p>	<p>Did you know? Canada was an important source of timber for Great Britain in the 18th century. Large trees were harvested and lashed together in timber rafts to be floated down the St. Lawrence River to Montreal and Quebec City. When the steamship era began and wood was needed for their boilers, further clearing of the area occurred. Luckily, some areas had unusually enlightened rules for that time; if you bought two islands, you could only cut timber on one. Meanwhile trees have made a strong comeback and the islands are largely back to their original state, thanks to a desire for conservation by the local residents.</p> <p>(Information collected from gananoque.com)</p>	