



recollect

News from the Millbrook and Cavan Historical Society

History
MILLBROOK AND CAVAN HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Spring 2024

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Blocks and Blooms is back in 2024! We can't wait to see you there.

LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

We meet on the traditional territory of the Haudenosaunee, Huron-Wendat, Anishinabewaki and acknowledge with thanks their stewardship of this land throughout the ages.

History MILLBROOK AND CAVAN HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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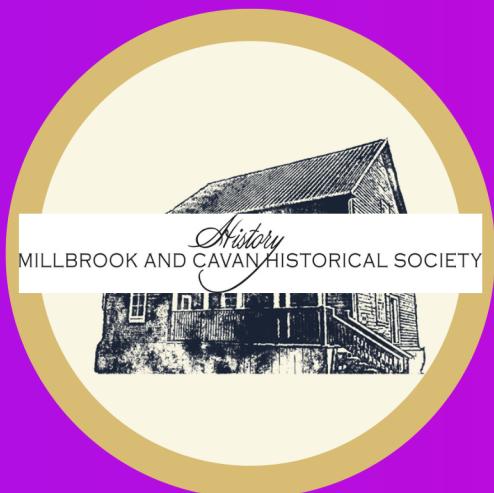
PETER RAMSAY
DIRECTOR

MANDATE

The purpose of the Millbrook & Cavan Historical Society is to bring together individuals interested in the diverse historical aspects of Cavan Monaghan and to research, record, retain, preserve, and present historical information pertaining to the area.

The objectives of the Society include:

- Recalling the past and preserving the present.
- Maintaining a community repository for artifacts and written records of historical interest to Cavan Monaghan.
- Encouraging the study and research of the history of Cavan Monaghan and heritage-based learning, and developing volunteer opportunities for individuals.
- Securing and preserving an accurate account of the historical, architectural and archaeological heritage of Millbrook and Cavan.
- Advancing education by improving the public's understanding and awareness of the history of Cavan Monaghan by hosting events, displays, exhibitions and performances, supporting programs offered by the society, and by producing educational material.
- Preserving objects and structures of historical significance.



MCHS is now on Instagram!

*Support heritage conservation in your community
by following us and sharing our content.*

 [mchistoricalociety](https://www.instagram.com/mchistoricalociety)



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A LETTER FROM THE MCHS BOARD

We wish to take a moment to appreciate our volunteers; they keep MCHS running!

When you're just bursting with pride, it's hard not to show off what you've got. That's what has inspired us to put together Blocks and Blooms 2024. We want people to come and breathe in the history, find joy in our gardens, and marvel at the artistry of quilting. Saturday, June 15 will be a day of celebration and a day of discovery.

It will also be a day when we have the opportunity to welcome both neighbours and visitors to Millbrook and the Township of Cavan Monaghan. We look forward to being hosts for the day. This day long tour of heritage properties and distinctive gardens, along with the Airing of the Quilts – an exhibit of quilts both traditional and exuberantly contemporary – has a fourth purpose. It serves as a fundraiser for MCHS.

Committed to being accessible, MCHS has not increased membership fees in over a decade. We have also kept our expenses for guest speakers at an extremely modest level, and have been conservative in our planning. Our spending on updating technology that would enhance our presentations, and also provide us with equipment such as a laptop to help with access to our database and archived collection, has been nil. Yet, MCHS is growing in visibility by leaps and bounds thanks to our wonderful volunteers and willing guest speakers. Our Board has made some truly inspired choices and decisions on projects and programs that have brought innovation and energy to MCHS.

Whenever we bring people together, we have a chance to raise awareness of what MCHS provides to the community. Perhaps not as visible, but absolutely key to our mandate is the work that volunteer Kim McLeod has been doing to sort, organize and catalogue the collection. It is housed in a secure area of the library, in filing cabinets, numbered archival boxes, bankers boxes and on bookshelves. Kim has developed indices and finding aids so that both library staff and the general public have access to information stored in our archives. The final steps are to load the catalogue onto the MCHS computer with "Read Only" capability for the public and hold a training session for library staff.

This is the culmination of several years of work, and of course it is ongoing, as the collection grows. Continuing the work of scanning our local newspaper collection as well as new acquisitions has been the work of volunteer Dan Bourgeois, who has also been coordinating with Kim to organize the archives. It is Dan who finds the nuggets from the news of bygone days that are featured on our social media platforms, newly refreshed Website (thank you Bruce Gazley!) and newsletter.

Completing the project to enable access to the collection is an achievement to be celebrated. Our Blocks and Blooms fundraiser will allow us to boost that access with a dedicated laptop. It will also pay for more archival boxes and materials so that we can safely and responsibly preserve the records we receive. That's what we do.

--Celia Hunter, MCHS President



UPCOMING MCHS EVENTS

Visit www.millbrookcavanhs.org for more details or follow us on Facebook and Instagram.

April 19, 2024

An Evening with Archaeologist Tom Mohr



Where: St. John's - Ida
When: 7pm - 9pm

Archaeologist Tom Mohr shares tales from his field experience in Peterborough County as a certified archaeologist. This event is a unique experience, not to be missed!

May 16, 2024

Annual General Meeting



Where: Millbrook Legion Hall
When: 7pm - 9pm

In addition to our Annual General Meeting, we will be joined by Brian Beaver who will be elaborating on the history of Alderville First Nation and his approach to researching his first book on that subject.

June 15, 2024

Blocks and Blooms 2024



Where: Cavan Monaghan
When: 10 am - 4 pm

Give the gift of a unique experience this Mother's Day! It's the perfect day trip. Tour at your own pace the picturesque Township of Cavan Monaghan. Visit distinctive gardens & heritage properties, and enjoy the beauty and artistry of new and heirloom quilts on display.

DISCOVER WHAT'S NEW



CM Libraries

Read. Learn. Connect.

Find out what's happening at your local library branch.

Our Grant has been Extended!

We have great news! We are extending our Seniors Community Grant until June! We are excited to be able to continue to host more workshops so that participants can come together to share their stories. We have a few more workshop ideas, so keep an eye on our social media pages in the coming weeks and months. In the meantime, we are accepting stories! If you have a story that you would like included into our final copy, please contact Courtney at tutor@cmlibraries.ca

Funding for this project is provided by the Ontario Government.

Armchair Travel

Join us at the Millbrook Branch for a travel PowerPoint by Jim Chaplin! See the beautiful views of Newfoundland from the comfort of your chair and learn something new about the island!

To support the Millbrook Food Share, we ask that you bring either a financial or a non-perishable food item.

Where: Millbrook Branch
When: Wednesday, April 17th
Time: 1:00-3:00pm



Did you miss our last Armchair Travel? We brought out our new VR headsets so that participants could fully immerse themselves in different areas of the world.

The VR headsets will be available again after Jim's presentation, and who knows? We might even have some games available for participants to try.

Memoir Writing Workshop - part 2: Jan Stirling-Twist

Memoir writing can be a wonderful way to connect meaningfully with ourselves, each other, and the wider community; we all have unique life stories to tell.

Join us in welcoming back Jan Stirling-Twist to our Millbrook Branch for another Memoir Writing Workshop!

Biography of Jan Stirling-Twist:

My work with seniors as a story-teller, drama therapist, and intergenerational arts programmer in dementia care taught me to cherish even the tiniest of narratives as they emerged. Now senior myself and the grand-daughter, niece, and daughter of loved ones who lived with Alzheimer's dementia, I have a vested interest in memory as muse, and the written word as embodied memory. I write to remember and to remind, and to leave something of myself behind.



Scan the QR code to register

Where: Millbrook Branch
When: Wednesday, May 8th
Time: 1:00-3:00pm



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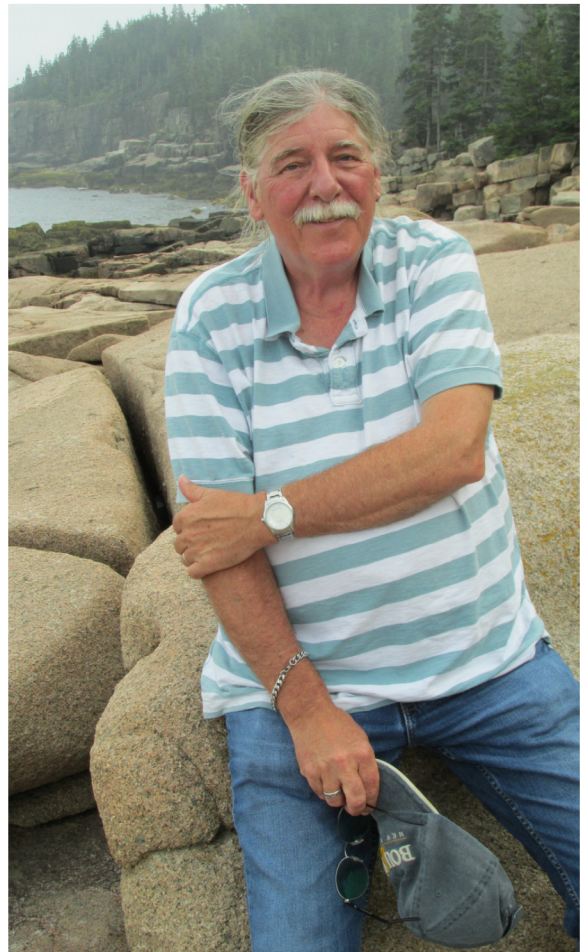
INTRODUCING ARCHAEOLOGIST TOM MOHR

Tom Mohr will join MCHS at St. John's Ida on April 19th, 2024 at 7 pm.



MCHS sat down with archaeologist and President of the Peterborough chapter of the Ontario Archaeological Society

Tom Mohr is an archaeologist certified in Ontario. He pursued studies in archaeology at U of T and has been volunteering in the field and with the Archaeological Society of Ontario for the past 25 years. Tom's love of digging into the past began with a love of history and culture that was fostered by his parents from an early age through various trips to different heritage sites. He now shares his love of history through a passion for archaeology which he enjoys because ethical archaeology is an inclusive, respectful practice that can challenge the colonial record of "facts." Tom has given a number of public talks over the past two-and-a-half decades with a focus on archaeology in Peterborough County and Ontario. To learn more about the Archaeological Society of Ontario, please visit: <https://ontarioarchaeology.org/>.



TOWNSHIP OF
CAVAN MONAGHAN



**2023/2024 Season
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BLOCKS AND BLOOMS IS BACK!

The celebration brings together the beauty of gardens, heritage architecture, and quilt-making on June 15th, 2024. This is an event not to be missed!

Blocks and Blooms is a celebration of beautiful gardens, heritage properties and both heirloom and contemporary quilts, all on exhibit on Saturday, June 15, 10am-4pm. This is a self-guided tour, so ticket holders can visit the featured locations at their own pace and in whatever order they choose. The variety of venues will make this day a crowd-pleaser for sure.

The tickets, at \$20, are in the form of a booklet that includes descriptions of all the sites and a map. Four of the 11 gardens are located just outside Millbrook's core, and each is unique in its setting and horticulture. At the Community Garden in Millbrook, gardener Jill Williams will be on hand to discuss cottage gardens and saving seeds.

Championing our heritage architecture is a key part of what MCHS does, and this tour will highlight some of our most iconic properties. The guide will take our visitors by some of our most beautiful homes and includes indoor tours of two designated heritage residences as well as the Old Fire Hall Museum and the former Town Hall where Nexicom will have some of their vintage collection on display.

Along the route and in our downtown core, a spectacular display of quilts will celebrate the artistry of this craft. The Airing of the Quilts is a traditional rite of spring when the practical quilts that family members snuggled beneath through the long months of winter are freshened up in spring breezes. We have grown this tradition into a glorious exhibition of both contemporary and heirloom quilts. They each have a story to tell. The tour guide will also invite participants to note the barn quilt blocks described on the

Cavan Monaghan Barn Quilt Trail website (cmbqt.com), many of which are located in Millbrook.

This is the third time that MCHS has held this event. In 2015 and 2018, we partnered with the Millbrook & Area Garden Club. This time around we are the sole organizers and began planning last year, reaching out to gardeners, homeowners, and Kate deKlerk of the Quilter's Bolt in Millbrook. Kate, Glen Spurrell, Mary Preston, Rachel Finnie and Celia Hunter have been working as a team to launch this fundraiser and look forward to tickets going on sale in mid-April.

Tickets will be available at Moody's in Millbrook, the Avant-Garden Shop in Peterborough, Holton Flowers in Port Hope (all cash only, please) and through our MCHS website, millbrookcavanhs.org. We are delighted to acknowledge the support of Nexicom and 4th Line Theatre, Whale Family Chiropractic, and The Township of Cavan Monaghan. We thank our advertisers and welcome the enthusiasm of our downtown businesses and organizations as well as our fabulous BIA Decorating Committee. It's going to be a great day!



History
MILLBROOK AND CAVAN HISTORICAL SOCIETY

PRESENTS

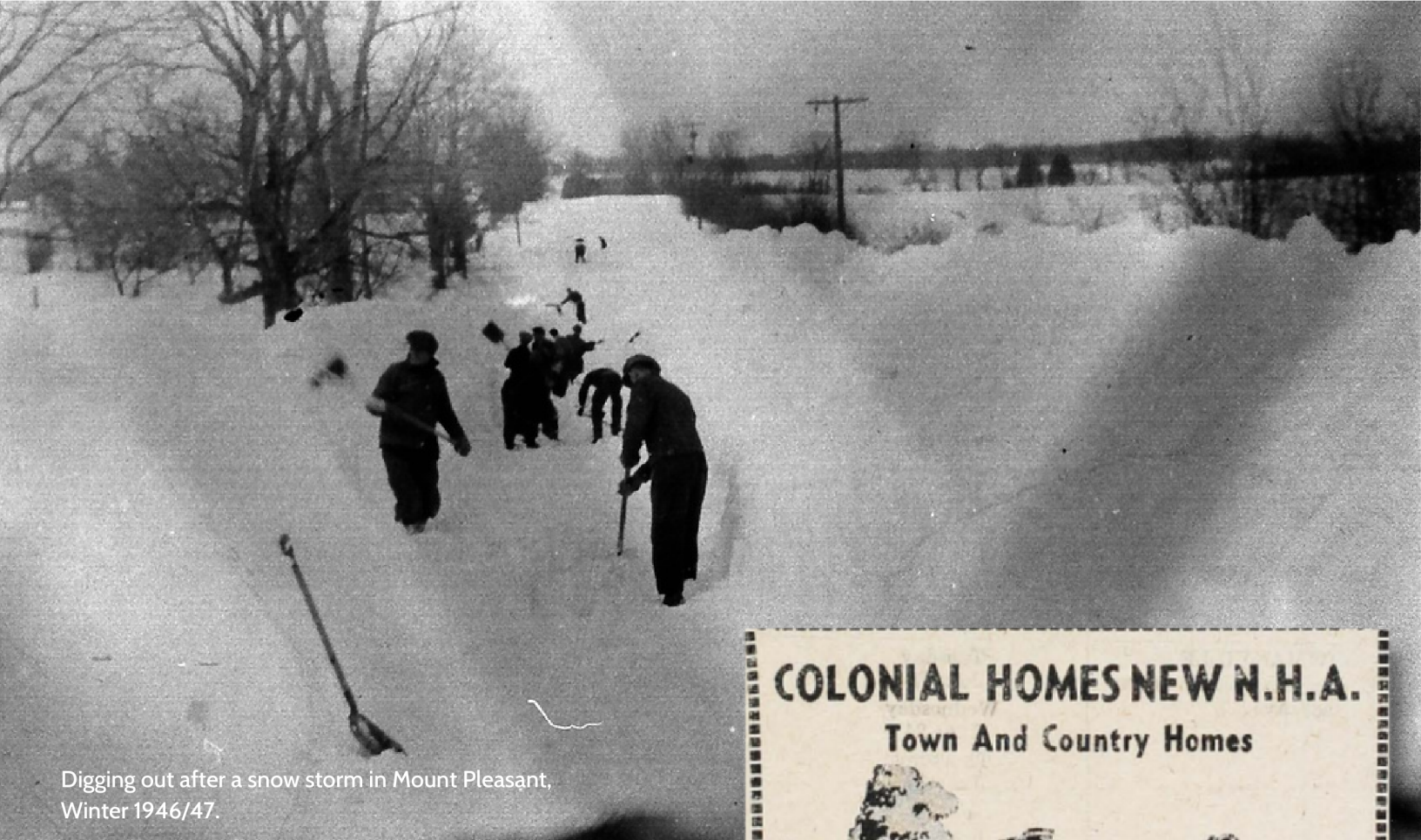


BLOCKS
Et Blooms 2024

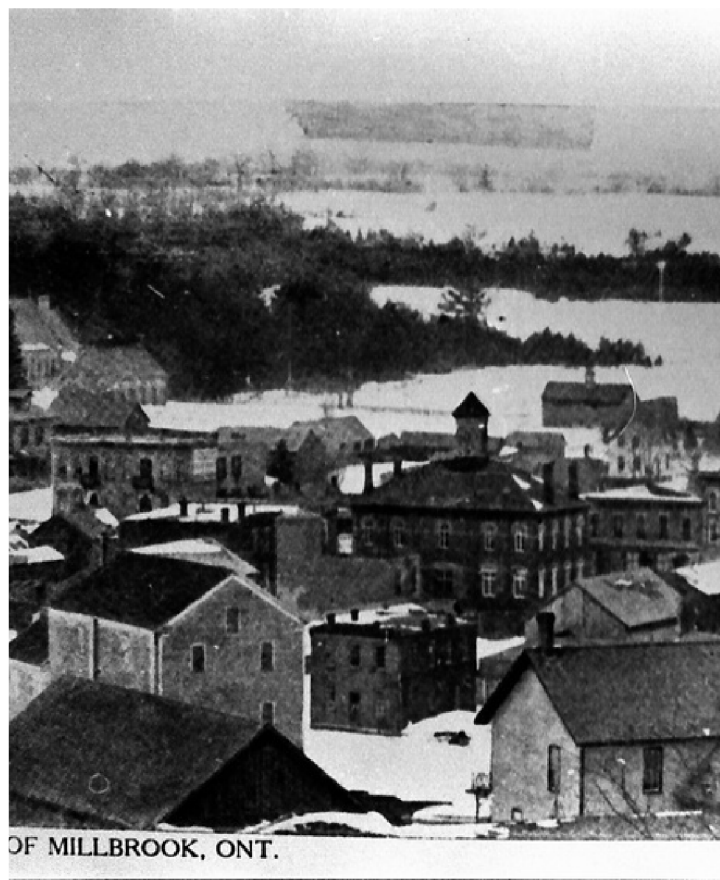
GARDEN TOUR • AIRING OF THE QUILTS • HERITAGE TOUR
SELF GUIDED TOUR - RAIN OR SHINE!

SATURDAY JUNE 15TH
10am - 4pm

Tickets are \$20 each available at:
www.millbrookcavanhs.org • Moody's Bar & Grill - Millbrook
Avant-Garden Shop - Peterborough • Holton Flowers - Port Hope



Digging out after a snow storm in Mount Pleasant, Winter 1946/47.

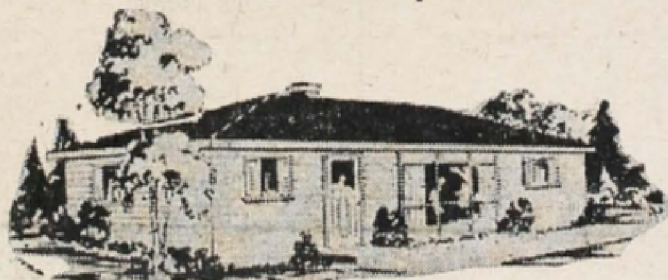


OF MILLBROOK, ONT.

View of the village taken from Medd's Mountain, circa 1899.

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History MILLBROOK AND CAVAN HISTORICAL SOCIETY

We are grateful for the support of our business community and their owners, staff, and others who provide resources that are vital to the maintenance and growth of our programs, preservation initiatives, and ability to maintain the MCHS collection. This page is not exhaustive of all of the help we have received, it is reflective of the 2023/2024 season only.



We would like to extend special thanks to the Cavan Monaghan Libraries for their ongoing support and partnership. www.cavanmonaghanlibraries.ca

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Each level of support comes with unique perks and advertising opportunities. The affordable annual fees are a way you can help preserve our local history without a time commitment. Sponsorships provide monetary support for the digitization and preservation of our collections, heritage conservation initiatives, and more!

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