

Seeley's Bay

and

DISTRICT



1967 PROFILE

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SEELEY'S BAY and DISTRICT HISTORICAL PROFILE

COMPILED BY THE
SEELEY'S BAY
CENTENNIAL
CO-ORDINATING COMMITTEE

1867 — 1967

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The Rideau Canal (1832)

The picturesque 126-mile Rideau Canal is one of the many tourist summer attractions in Ontario. It is part of the Golden Triangle . . . from Kingston to Ottawa via Rideau to Montreal via Ottawa River and back to Kingston via St. Lawrence.

This canal was built over 130 years ago as a transportation route for military personnel and supplies from the Ottawa River to Lake Ontario. It was never used for this purpose, but was used as a commercial canal, opening a hitherto inaccessible area of south eastern Ontario. However, with the development of other means of transportation, commercial traffic and the canal declined and was slowly replaced by recreational traffic, which has increased very rapidly in the last few years.

The Rideau Canal was built when Canada was a British Colony. It cost Britain about \$4 million. It took Colonel John By and his Royal Engineers almost six years to complete it. The Foundation Stone was laid by the Governor-General, Lord Dalhousie. There is a rise from the Ottawa River to the "Height of Land" at Newboro of 283 feet and a drop from Newboro to the Cataraqui River of 154 feet. This fact accounts for the 47 locks in the Rideau Canal chain. Each lock is 133 ft. x 34 ft. and is built from stone. They dug five miles of canal, deepened shallow places and made new waterways where it was necessary. One of the greatest engineering feats was the construction of the huge horseshoe dam at Jones' Falls where there are also four locks.

The Rideau Canal was completed in 1832 and on May 29th the "Pumper" the first steamer to make the trip through the canal was locked through the first lock at Ottawa. Several dignitaries, including Colonel John By, were aboard for the trip to Kingston.

The Rideau Canal was maintained by the Imperial Government of Britain until September 1853, when the Provincial Government of Upper Canada took over the maintenance of the canal. After Confederation, control of the Rideau came under the Department of Public Works. Later the Department of Railways and Canals, and now the Rideau Canal is under the administrative head of the Department of Transport.

This Canal remained through the years much the same as the engineers left it. In 1966, however, a proposal to electrify the locks and have a push button control system was implemented at Newboro. Plans for the immediate future include a re-location of the Rideau Canal headquarters at Smiths Falls instead of at Ottawa, and electrification of the locks at Chaffey's Locks which is in progress.

Picturesque Places In The Township

Black Rapids Bridge—

A rock cut.

Grippen Lake Beach—

Always on the property owned by Sweets' and was bought from the crown. An old school house bought for dance hall was burned down in 19—. This property is now owned by Dr. George Scott, Kingston.

Beverley Lake (Municipal Park)—

Was on the farm owned by Les Kendrick. He left it to the municipality as he had no heirs. It has been improved a good deal by Lyndhurst Recreation Committee.

Cranberry Lake Brass Point Bridge—

Brass Point Bridge was built in 1887. The first man to swing it was Martin Webb from September to November. Then Henry Knapp took over for 32 years. Terry Carlo now operates it.

Murphy's Narrows—

Entering Murphy's Narrows from Seeley's Bay — high banks rise on either side of a very narrow channel — Here is the famous turtle slide.

Echo Bay—

On leaving Murphy's Narrows and entering White Fish Lake, one turns due west — enter deep Bay and proceed slowly to the far side of the bay. On any quiet summer's evening echoes reverberate on all directions.

Jones Falls—

This is one of the most beautiful spots on the Rideau Canal with its four locks and great horseshoe dam and power plant. Here is located the well known Kenny Hotel with its private pool that really needs no introduction to boating enthusiasts.

Lyndhurst Bridge and Dam—

At the entrance to the village of Lyndhurst a stone bridge was built in 1857, as well as a new dam in 1961 to control the waters off Beverley Lake.

Rock Dunder and Dunder's Mate—

Two huge mountains of rock at the entrance to Morton Creek. They require an afternoon to climb and once there provide a great view of the surrounding countryside.

Olivet Church and Cemetery—

One of the prettiest rural churches in the district. Located at the junction of Highway No. 15 and Black Rapids road.

Haskins Point—

Where the new 2-car ferry operates by a hand chain cross the Rideau. This is Seeley's Bay's swimming spot. The channel of the Rideau Canal runs directly past here.



Cenotaph at Lillies Cemetery, near Seeley's Bay, built after World War II

Important Buildings Past and Present

PAST

Old School—erected in 1849—brick—on the property of Richard Murphy.

First Community Hall—Lawrence Stafford's house.

Coleman's Hall—building on the R. Stanton's property.

PRESENT

Fire Hall

Rideau House

The Mill

New Teepee— at the Centennial Park

Legion Hall



Seeley's Bay Fire Hall built in 1951

The Centennial of Confederation

1867 — 1967

From a romantic land with tales of trappers and raw frontiers to a country of boundless wealth and prosperity, is the accomplishment of the Canadian people in 100 years.

Most nations were born in the fierce clash of arms and have, we are told, been the better for it. That is a myth. Why must a nation write her charter when the battlefields are strewn with the torn and maimed bodies of men? Our country should be proud that she had her natal hour around a table where men of sense wielded the pen, and made hopes into realities.

In this Centennial Year we look back with pride, and forward with faith. Sir John A. Macdonald was part prophet and part gambler; he conceived a big nation, strong and free, and left it to succeeding generations to fill in the details. We have not failed the Founding Fathers. Our nation stands today at the peak of her power—her people enjoy a solid prosperity such as no preceding generation has known.

Will Canada be able to avoid the pitfalls into which other nations and empires have fallen—when their coffers were full, and their frontiers secure? There is a proverb, "Perpetual sunshine makes a desert".

Looking back, one feels that we may have lost some wonderful things: the old friendliness and charm that brought people together ... to mention just one.

Our social life now is divided and broken up into groups.

Some children of this century will never know the delight of the old fashioned home with a glowing fire and ... most likely three generations living in that home; a group of neighbours in for the evening, and an old clock chiming the hour to break up the fun, stories and laughter.

But there are gains, too. The revolt among today's youth must be seen in this light. They are eager and impatient, not prepared to accept things as they are: impatient with war, hunger and illness, and want to see them ended the world over. They sense a good world and insist that its vast riches be used for the good of all.

An inspired poet of Israel sensed something vital lying back of the common life when he sang "Blessed is the nation whose God is the Lord; and the people whom He hath chosen for His own inheritance".

When the human heart is set only on power, luxury, pleasure and personal enjoyment, it corrupts and betrays everything of true value. There is nothing quite so sad as a nation that has given herself over to the god Mammon.

The Canadian pioneers were simple people with a simple faith; one of their main intents was to glorify God. This ideal endowed them with a faith and daring. In life and in death they were unashamed and unafraid.

May this be our challenge in 1967.



Hayden Stanton Public Dock and Loading Ramp

The Origin of the Name Seeley's Bay

The only record of any family by the name of Seeley is that of two brothers, Joseph and Justice Seeley, who came to Augusta Township in the late 1700's. They were United Empire Loyalists and came here from the United States so that they might remain loyal to their homeland — England.

One of these men is thought to have come with his family to the western, densely-wooded corner of the Township of the Rear of Leeds and Lansdowne about 1800. Stories vary widely as to where the Seeley family actually lived at first. Many say that they built a teepee out on what we call Haskin's Point. This property, according to the records (lot 2 Con. 8) was bought by Samuel Haskins from the Crown, 200 acres, in 1840. Here began the first trading (store-keeping) center in Seeley's Bay. The Indians were the only customers at first, but gradually white settlers came.

Records have been found to substantiate the fact that in 1825, John Seeley purchased 200 acres of land in lot 4 Concession 8 around the Bay. The sum of one pound for example was paid by the Seeleys for land that is presently owned by Dr. S. Webb. Older residents agree that the Seeleys lived for a time in "Coleman's orchard", which would be known today as the area behind Mr. Jerry Down's Motel. Seeley's Bay may have once been called Coleman's Corner.

Later, the Seeleys built a dwelling from logs on what we now call the "Municipal Parking Lot", and which burned and was rebuilt. The Raven family lived in this house for a long time. It deteriorated to the point that it eventually became unfit for a residence. Part of this property was purchased in 1964 for the sum of \$500.00 plus legal fees, for a parking lot for anyone using the loading ramp or dock.

Many of our older residents recall stories about "Granny Seeley", who operated the first actual store here on the Raven property. According to their stories, Granny Seeley was of slight build, rather humorous and quick on her feet. No one remembers any names of Seeley children, or for that matter whether there were any children at all. The Seeleys apparently lived out their lives as pioneers of Seeley's Bay most unobtrusively. They were buried in small plot used as a cemetery on the property now owned by George Roantree. However, not even a slab of stone can be found to mark their graves, as any semblance of a cemetery has long since disappeared.

Interesting Historical Anecdotes

The land on which our Seeley's Bay Centennial Park is located is part of Lot 3, Concession 7. It was sold by the Crown to Roger Savage in April, 1824. It was later sold to Wm. Gilbert (third owner) the 24th of February, 1829. He was the great-grandfather of the Honourable John Bracken, formerly of Seeley's Bay, who will officially open our park on July 20, 1967.

Seeley's Bay has had the distinction of sending three men from the same farm land and house into politics.

Wm. Richardson owned land, now the present farm of Ralph Stanton, and represented Leeds County in the Provincial house from 1878-1883.

John Bracken grew up on this farm, and became Premier of Manitoba for twenty and one half years from 1922 to 1942.

Hayden Stanton grew up from his boyhood here on the same farm, and represented Leeds County in the Federal House from 1953-1960.



Cenotaph at Lyndhurst. This monument was erected after World War I

A Brief Synopsis of Lyndhurst

(Once called Furnace Falls)

The village of Lyndhurst is steeped in history as far back as the late 1700's. Here was built the first Iron Foundry in Upper Canada (Ontario) in 1801. It was built by Mr. Willis Sunderlin, from Vermont. Iron ore from a mine up on Beverley Lake was smelted in a furnace here and the resulting metal was cast into bar iron, or articles needed by the settlers for their farming and cooking. Such things as mill irons, ploughshares, pots, kettles and hammers were made. This foundry was burned in 1811 and was never rebuilt.

Dr. James Scholfield and Samuel Barlow were joint owners with Mr. Sunderlin for a while. In a newspaper clipping we read about the unveiling of the field-stone cairn in a fenced enclosure in Lyndhurst commemorating the "Lansdowne Iron Works", as a site of national importance. It marks the birthplace of the manufacturing of iron in Upper Canada. (Erected Wednesday, July 31st, 1935). After the dedication ceremony a cold meat supper was served for 35c.

A saw mill, a bridge over the Gananoque River and a furnace stack were built, as well as arches of stone and frame for more buildings were constructed here by 1801.

After the destruction of this mill by fire, (which incidentally was located where the Harvey Mill stood). Mr. Sunderlin went back to Vermont.

Lyndhurst had at least one brickyard owned and operated by a Mr. Wiltse about 1879. It was located down by the water where Mrs. Anna Harvey's house stands. Brick from here was used to build the Lyndhurst Riverside Hotel and the Bryce White Store (where Wing's Bait Store is now). The brick mill was also built of this brick, as well as the brick blocks of Athens constructed by Fred Pierce.

Lumber mills have held a place of prominence in Lyndhurst, too. They have been owned and operated by Mr. Hall Harvey, Mr. Dave Wilson and Mr. Donald Tye.

The bridge in Lyndhurst was built in 1857. It has three arches and was built of local sandstone from a ridge near Long Point. Several wooden structures had spanned the Gananoque River at the falls here before the stone one was built. The bridge was built by John Roddick, who was only an apprentice to William Saunders—a mill-wright who drew the plans. The structure is a masterpiece from every point of view and its life seems to be as endless as that of the river which runs below it. In 1961 the new 80 ft. long dam below the bridge the bridge across the Gananoque River was officially opened.

The old cemetery on the hill at the eastern end of the village was the burial place of the early settlers who laid the foundations of this community. Some of the stones date back to the 1820's.

The Lyndhurst fair was held on land that D. Jones received from the Crown in 1805. In 1892 W. Copeland purchased it. Mr. Copeland also owned the Riverside Hotel. The fair was not held after 1917.

A GLIMPSE OF THE STORY

Education in Seeley's Bay Schools

The first school was a little log building erected about 1839, on land now owned by Gordon MacPherson. It was formerly the Geo. Tye farm, but in 1839 was the Hulburt property. The first teacher was Miss Angeline Chapman.

Some years later the school was moved to the village and classes were held in a brick building on what is now the property of Gerry Down. This building stood beside the Anglican Church and Town Hall (Lawrence Stafford's house).

About this time School Sections were formed in the township. In order to have the school as near to the centre of this section (No. 8) as possible, a brick building was erected in 1849 on the property owned by John Chapman, now owned by Mr. and Mrs. Richard Murphy.

A larger school became necessary, so in 1876 a two-storey frame building was built to replace the small brick school, and classes were held in it for about 53 years (1876-1930). It was located on the corner of Ephriam Bracken's farm, and in 1872 was deeded to the School Board.

The Continuation School was first held in the Masonic Hall (1924-1930).

In 1930 the public and continuation schools were combined and the present four-room stucco building was built. In 1957 a Grade I room was opened in the basement to accommodate an increased enrolment. A new wing was built and opened in April 1964, the Grade ones being transferred to their new quarters.

When Rideau District High School was built at Elgin in 1960, the Continuation School was transferred there, and Seeley's Bay became a Centralized Public School combining pupils from Ellisville, Lakeview (Hills'), Berryton, and Browns' schools, which were closed.

On October 1, 1966, the basement room was re-opened due to the large attendance, the school consisting of six teaching areas at present.

The teaching staff at present (1967) is as follows:

Principal—Mr. Winston Cross	Grades 7 and 8
Teachers—Mrs. Earl Chapman	Grades 5 and 6
Mrs. Leslie Moulton	Grades 3 and 4
Mrs. Vera Maxwell	Grade 2
Mrs. Arnold Tye	Grade 1
Mrs. Cecil Welch	overflow class in basement

Lyndhurst—Records date from 1851.

1st school, frame—Mrs. R. Gamble's home.

1860—2nd school, brick—24' x 36'—Cost \$800, demolished, classes held in St. Luke's hall, teacher Andrew Gray, until new school was built.

1892—3rd school, brick, 2 rooms—Cost \$1,455.00. J. B. Harvey, engineer, and first teacher in Senior Room.

1936—4th school, cement block, present school.

Long Point, 1842—Log building near Joe Singleton's machine shed.

1862—Stone, cost \$378.00, on Michael O'Connor farm.

1863—First teacher Elizabeth Moore, salary \$83.00 per year.

1871-73—Teacher Duncan Cameron Horne, a Scotsman, salary \$177.00. Buried at St. John's, Leeds, a unique memorial erected.

Soperton—Prior to 1866—rough board building. 1866—frame.

Oak Leaf—First school called "Irish Street". First school—log.

2nd school—frame.

1850—3rd school—frame

1887—4th school—brick.

Washburn—Stone building.

1871—Land bought from M. Washburn. Original school burned August 1922. Rebuilt and opened December 1922.

Hill School—(later called Lakeview).

1867—approx. Log house across from Geo. S. Hill's gate. 2nd school—Land and timber donated by Joshua Hill. Henry York was the first teacher.

Berryton—Called Bradys' School at one time. Used for church services while Olivet was being built.

Ellisville—1st school near Glenn Bracken's gateway, either on land now owned by P. Leadbeater or Glenn Bracken. 2nd school—present location, nearer road. Sheet and batten exterior. Unpainted. Approx. 50 years ago moved back on lot, put on wall, clapboarded, porch built, and painted.

Other schools in township being: Brown's, Sweets' Corners, Briar Hill, Woodvale and Short Point. Many of these communities bear the name of prominent citizens in each particular area.

Continuation—(Secondary)

1922—Lyndhurst was opened. First teacher, Miss Edna Hanna, Prescott. United Church Hall was renovated for classrooms.

1924—Seeley's Bay opened with Miss Florence Barrington as teacher in Masonic Hall. As the enrolment of these schools increased, extra space and extra teachers were necessary, and increased teaching areas were provided as they were needed.

Rideau District High School was built in 1960, one mile east of Elgin, at a cost of over \$600,000. At present there are about 500 students and 28 teachers. Mr. Gearing is the principal now. He replaced Mr. McLeod in 1964, who was appointed an inspector by the Department of Education.

Doctors

The village of Seeley's Bay and the surrounding district have been very fortunate during the past century in having a Medical Doctor in their immediate vicinity. These included:

Dr. Bowen—Built house owned by John McKinley.

Dr. Christie—Built house and office now occupied by Dr. Webb.

Dr. Gardiner—Raised in village and educated at local school. Built house owned by Manford MacPherson in 1896.

Dr. Donoven—went to Oshawa.

Dr. Elliott—occupied the MacPherson house about 1910.

Dr. F. S. Young—1912, died in 1947.

Dr. Belfie—1913, left in 1915.

Dr. Elmer Brown.

Dr. Stanley Brown—Wife Blanche Shook of Seeley's Bay. Practiced in house owned by Geo. Fleming. Went to Detroit.

Dr. Tom Wills—1923, local boy from Leeds.

Dr. Morgan—1925

Dr. Cornell—1950, lived in house now owned by Ford Wills

Dr. Hewitt—1944-1951

Mr. Thompson—1950, left in 1953. Practiced in the Roy Burch house.

Dr. Stanley Webb—1954-

In January, 1920, the village school was closed for one week because of an epidemic of measles.

In January and February of 1924, there was an epidemic of scarlet fever in this district. The school was closed for some time. It was fumigated and all books and papers were burned.

Religions

Anglican Churches of Leeds Rear

ST. PETER'S—St. Peter's Anglican Church in Seeley's Bay, belongs to the Parish of Leeds Rear, in the Diocese of Ontario. The first Anglican Church here was opened April 27, 1878, under the rectorship of Rev. A. H. Coleman. It was a small brick building on the McKinley lot, opposite the present home of Dr. S. Webb.

In 1898 under the direction of Rev. Wm. Moore, the present church building was begun. There was considerable controversy over the location as at that time the area was very low and swampy. However, the church was completed and opened for worship on August 12, 1899, with Rev. J. W. Forster as rector.

By December 1909, under the rectorship of Rev. E. Croly, payment of the church was completed, but it was not until October 23, 1913, when Rev. W. H. Smith was rector, that St. Peter's Church was consecrated by the Rt. Rev. E. John Bidwell, Bishop of Kingston and Coadjutor Bishop of Ontario.

During the years that followed brick abutments were added to strengthen the walls. The interior design was not according to accepted ecclesiastical design, and when Rev. G. E. Graham was rector, the seating arrangement was changed from three rows of seats with two side aisles, to the present arrangement with a centre aisle.

The church in the heart of the village has been kept in good repair, with modern heating, lighting and carpeting added in recent years.

There are two other churches in the Parish, St. Luke's, Lyndhurst, and St. John's Leeds.

St. Luke's Church was built in 1882 on a hill sheltered by towering pines, overlooking the village of Lyndhurst, and the Diocesan Camp Hyanto, on the Lake. This summer camp for boys and girls of the diocese, is appropriately named as Hyanto means, "He who sleeps beneath the pines sleeps well".

St. Luke's is a very beautiful edifice of red brick construction, and through the years has been kept in excellent condition. The pulpit and other furnishings were hand hewn and are silent tributes of the devotion and careful planning of those early settlers.

The large brick rectory, home of the parish priest, standing to the west of the church, was built in 1906. Prior to that, the rectory was a frame building across the street.

Before 1882, services were held in a building (in front of the present church) which was a combination school, church and meeting house.

Mrs. Francis Codd, wife of one of the first ministers, was responsible for organizing the Lyndhurst branch of the Women's Auxiliary. This branch was one of the first three formed in Canada. Last year in 1966, Lyndhurst A.C.W. celebrated its 80th Anniversary with appropriate services.

ST. JOHN'S: St. John's Leeds is the oldest of the three churches in the parish, being built in 1849 and 1850, due to the efforts of the late Edward Green, Esq. The church was built by subscription and in the early days boasted an averaged attendance of 120, drawing its members from a radius of several miles. Often the church was filled to overflowing and the people would drive their open spring wagons as closely as possible to the open windows so they might take part in the service, though forced to stay outside.

St. John's has been well cared for through the years and is still a beautiful country church with a well-kept cemetery around it. In 1951 while the late Rev. Robt. Booth was rector, the 100th anniversary was celebrated with appropriate services.

This is a list of some of the men who ministered to the people of the churches of Leeds Rear:

1850—Rev. N. Watkins	1921—Rev. S. E. Morton
1868—Rev. C. T. Denroche	1929—Rev. J. A. Poston
1868—Rev. Geo. Jacobs Low	1935—Rev. G. Graham
1882—Rev. John Osborne	1940—Rev. P. G. Reynolds
1884—Rev. Francis Codd	1947—Rev. Robt. Booth
1888—Rev. J. W. Forsythe	1957—Rev. James Schaffter
1890—Rev. Wm. Moore	1960—Rev. G. Phillips
1898—Rev. J. W. Forster	1960-1963—Layreaders
1902—Rev. G. Metzler	Mr. L. Taylor
1903—Rev. W. J. Fitzgerald	Mr. G. Spence
1907—Rev. E. H. Croly	Mr. H. Murray
1910—Rev. W. H. Smith	1963—Rev. F. C. Whittington

The Roman Catholic Church

Council number 591 of the Catholic Women's League of St. Barnaby's parish, Brewer's Mills, was organized September 13th, 1931. At the request of the pastor, the Rev. F. D. Hyland, the ladies of the parish attended a meeting after mass. Father Hyland, who was at that time Honorary Diocesan Chaplain, introduced Mrs. M. Bohan and Miss Agnes Doolan, Diocesan Organizer. The aims and purposes of the Catholic Women's League were explained and Father Hyland exhorted all present to become members. Under the guidance of Mrs. Bohan and Miss Doolan the first executive was appointed. Miss Doolan congratulated the newly elected officers and wished them success in their endeavours. She explained to each the duties and responsibilities of her office and urged all to be faithful to the work entailed therein. A vote of thanks was extended to Mrs. Bohan and Miss Doolan and the meeting adjourned. Fifty-eight members were on the roll for the years 1931-1932.

The new council took over the care of our church while at the same time performing the duties recommended for members of the C.W.L. In May 1937, Father E. A. Bryne succeeded Father Hyland at Brewer's Mills. Many of the same activities were continued. Euchre parties and turkey suppers were held to assist financially. On several of Father Bryne's anniversaries we honoured him with a dinner and presentation. Father Bryne passed away suddenly on January 7th, 1966, in the 29th year of his appointment to St. Barnaby's. Our council now in its 36th year has had three directors, Father Hyland, Father Byrne and now Father Hendrikx.

We have been fortunate in having fine outstanding ladies as members. Each president chosen has given generously of time and energy during her term of office. In 1962 we were very pleased that Mrs. Arnold Mangan, a Past President of our council was selected to the Diocesan Executive as Treasurer and is now in 1967 completing her second year as second vice-president. We also took pleasure in the fact that a former member of our parish, Mrs. Bernard McNamee of St. Mary's parish, Kingston, rose up to become Diocesan President and Provincial Treasurer before retiring again to parish level.

Our first president was Miss Mary Deane, followed by

Mrs. James O'Neil, Mrs. Bernard Murphy, Mrs. William Murchie, Mrs. John Shortall, Mrs. Charles Mangan, Mrs. Dennis V. O'Hearn, Mrs. J. A. Webb, Mrs. Wilfred Murphy, Miss Mary Doyle, Mrs. Frank Jefferies, Mrs. Arnold Mangan, Mrs. Richard Mangan and Mrs. Lambert O'Meara, who is at present in her second year of office.

The history of our parish goes back beyond 1842. In those days the needs of the people were cared for by priests from Kingston. One of the first recorded is a Father Lawlor. He was followed by Father Bennett, Father Burke, and Father McNulty. Because there was not yet a church, it was customary to celebrate mass, and administer the sacraments in homes of the parishioners where convenient. In 1842 under the guidance of Father McNulty a log church was built, the site of which is only a short distance from where our present church stands. After the log church was completed the priests of Kingston still cared for the spiritual needs of the people. Following Father McNulty, it is recorded that Father Vaughn, Father Dowd, Father Foley and Father McDonald came to Brewer's Mills as often as possible.

In the spring of 1850, Father Rassiter, who was pastor at Gananoque took charge of the mission at Brewer's Mills. At first, mass was celebrated only once a year, then later it became possible to have a monthly mass. Other priests who came from Gananoque in the years that followed were Father Walsh, Father O'Connor, Father Howard and Father Gauthier.

In 1872 the log church, now too small, was closed and the present stone church 60' x 40' was built under the supervision of Father Gauthier of Gananoque. He was later to become Archbishop Gauthier of Kingston.

On April 14th, 1874 Brewer's Mills was proclaimed a parish. A parsonage of brick two stories high with a kitchen of wood attached to it, was built. Other necessary buildings—stable, etc. were added. As stated in the record of the day the whole property was then enclosed by a substantial wire fence. Later the sacristy, also built of wood was added to the church. Next a stone tower with a belfry was added. The bell was donated by Mr. Michael Tierney, the father of the present Tierney family. Indeed there are many families in the parish today whose grandfathers and great-grandfathers worked long hours in the building of this church. They were justly proud of it and this attitude still prevails because the people of Brewer's Mills have a deep feeling of pride and affection for their parish.

Since 1874 the following priests have made St. Barnaby's their home for varying periods of time—Father D'essunhac, Father Brennan, Father Quinn, Father Carey, Father Connolly, Father Traynor, Father Crawley, Father Keeley, Father Hyland, and Father Byrne. Under the supervision of our present pastor, Father Hendrikx considerable renovations are taking place in our church in compliance with changes evolving from our ecumenical council. We also hope to begin construction of a new parish hall in the not too distant future.

United Church, Seeley's Bay

This church came into being in June 1925 when the Methodist, Congregationalists and the Presbyterians united.

The parent church here in the Seeley's Bay district was the Methodist Church. It dates back in Canada to the Little Blue Church down near Johnstown—in Leeds County—and to Barbara Heck (who died in 1805) who was the mother of Methodism in North America.

The first Methodist services in the district of Seeley's Bay were held at the Brady school. Later called Berryton School, this building is now used as a residence. At that time (1850) this district was a "Mission charge" and circuit riders were sent out from Elgin to hold services and "win souls for God".

On the 28th of May, 1861, Truman Russel deeded a 1½ acre lot to the Wesleyan Methodist Church, and a brick church was built immediately. This was on the present farm of Lawrence Leadbeater. Services were held here in this unfinished church for 10 to 12 years before it burned.

A cemetery (adjacent to the church) on the present property of George Roantree was being used, when the church was located here. However, after the church burned down, some of the graves were moved to other cemeteries. The remaining graves have long since lost their markers and today no trace of a cemetery can be found.

After the first church burned, services were held in the Community Hall (present home of Lawrence Stafford) until the new church was built in 1876 on the present location, at a cost of \$1,350.00. It was also on a part of the Leadbeater farm. It was 46' x 30' with a spire sitting on a ten foot square tower. This is the same church we use at the same time albeit with many improvements and two major additions. In 1949 the basement was put under the church and in 1962 a Christian Education Room and more Sunday School space in the basement were added as well as washrooms.

The Manse:

It was built in 1890 at a cost of \$600.00. A well was drilled in 1949 and in 1952 a bathroom was added. In 1960 a new oil furnace was installed.

OLIVET—Circuit riders on horseback or snowshoes visited this district and established missions. Olivet was included with the Seeley's Bay Mission, which held services over at the Brady School in the Berryton community. Mr. Dowler was one of the earliest of these circuit riders.

After the Seeley's Bay church had been built on the Leadbeater farm there were enough families to support a church at Ebenezer (junction of 15 and 32 highways) on the property of the late Fred Wills. This church was a brick structure, but was never completed inside. Services were, however, held here for a few years.

In 1876, when Rev. Nathan Austin was sent to the charge as a full-time minister it became apparent that a more central church was needed and the site at Olivet was chosen. Wm. J. and David A. McKinley each donated a quarter acre of land. The church was built by John W. Chapman and dedication services were held in December 23, 1877. It was a frame structure—28' x 40' with a 9' base spire. The brick church at Ebenezer was sold for \$100.00 and the money helped to pay for Olivet Church. Rev. Austin chose the name for the church.

About 1885 an Episcopal Methodist church was built at Eatonville on the present farm of Mr. Gordon MacPherson. In a very few years they joined with Olivet and turned the church into a parsonage. However, in 1889 when Rev. Geo. Reynolds came to the charge, he found it unfit for a dwelling—and a new parsonage was built in 1890 in Seeley's Bay.

Two major additions—a chancel in 1899 and a basement in 1950 as well as many improvements through the years have kept the church in good condition.

Beautiful stained glass picture windows have been placed here in memory of loved ones as have many of the other furnishings. The beauty of this little church attracts many visitors as well as American tourists in the summer.

The cemetery at Olivet has grown to its present size through several additions of land as well as work bees of levelling and straightening headstones. The cemetery began in 1877 when the church was built.

Large pine trees and many cedars line the driveway through the cemetery. Many of these have been replaced through the years.

A large 10 acre addition was bought from the Department of Highways, who planned construction buildings as well as a gravel and salt depot here. This, as well as the lots purchased on either side of the Ellisville Road (Black Rapids Road) have been donated by Dr. Will Berry, Dr. Frank Bracken and Dr. Alvah Chapman. Many, many other donations have been made to the cemetery over the years.

Annual memorial services have been held here at Olivet since 1954.

LYNDHURST—An Episcopal Methodist Church was established in Lyndhurst in 1843, according to W. H. Leavitt's History of Leeds and Grenville. It had an average attendance of 80. It was a frame structure located on what is now the Anglican Church lawn. The old concrete foundation measuring 40' x 40' can be seen today. This building was used as a church, a school as well as a community hall. Harry Sheffield's father attended school in this building.

According to W. H. Leavitt, a new Episcopal Methodist Church was built at the Oakleaf Road (Concession 11 on the back of lot 11) in 1843. The minister was Rev. H. S. Allen and the congregation numbered about 45. It was called Mount Pleasant.

A new frame church was built in Lyndhurst about 1881. It is the present United Church Hall and Sunday School building. (It used to be called Wesley Hall). It was the Methodist (Episcopal) Church, and the land was bought for \$100.00 from Mr. John Roddick and Mr. Henry Wing.

The parsonage was the present home of Mrs. James Danby.

The Presbyterians held services in the Orange hall (now the home of Mrs. Richard Gamble) before building a brick church across the road. The Presbyterian congregation dwindled and eventually had to suspend services in Lyndhurst. On July 20, 1920 the Methodists bought the Presbyterian church for \$800.00 and have worshipped in this lovely building ever since.

The old frame church across the street was used for classes for the Continuation School, but after 1937 when the new Continuation School was built it was turned into a hall and Sunday School Building.

Improvements have been made to the United Church through the years, the most important of which has been the addition to the church of the Choir Hall. A new oil furnace was added and it has been completely redecorated.

The Ladies' Society (Ladies' Aid) of the Methodist Church was organized in 1910 and remained active until they merged with the Women's Missionary Society to form the U.C.W. in 1962.

A cemetery was started in Lyndhurst in 1875 called the Lyndhurst Methodist Episcopal Cemetery. It was an acre in size and was purchased from Mr. Henry Green.

LIST OF MINISTERS OF THE SEELEY'S BAY PASTORAL CHARGE

Circuit Riders—

- 1867-71—Rev. John A. Dowler
Assistants: Rev. Chas. Craig and Rev. Brock Rose
- 1871-74—Rev. J. H. Stewart
Assistants: Rev. George Squire, Rev. John Holmes and Rev. Samuel Ellery.
- 1875- —Rev. James E. Worden. He was the first regular minister. Rev. Chas. Coolidge assisted for 6 months.
- 1876-79—Rev. Nathan Austin. He built Seeley's Bay, Olivet and Lyndhurst Churches.
- | | |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1878-80—Rev. E. Elliott | 1910-14—Rev. C. J. Curtis |
| 1880-84—Rev. C. E. Dobbs | 1915-18—Rev. J. A. Waddell |
| 1886- —Rev. E. Olivant | 1918-22—Rev. G. W. Dustin |
| 1887-89—Rev. F. W. A. Meyer | 1922-25—Rev. C. B. Mac- |
| 1889-91—Rev. George E. Reynolds | Lachan |
| 1892- —Rev. Geo. S. White | 1925-39—Rev. H. S. Cooke |
| 1893-95—Rev. Job Roadhouse | 1939-45—Rev. H. J. Latimer |
| 1895-99—Rev. Thomas Brown | 1945-52—Rev. S. A. R. Delve |
| 1899-03—Rev. Wm. Service | 1952-53—Rev. G. W. Dustin |
| 1903-07—Rev. Thomas Meredith | 1953-60—Rev. Wm. E. Sunter |
| 1907-10—Rev. Manley Brundage | 1960-66—Rev. Fred Miles |
| | 1966- —Rev. A. C. Coles |

Standard Church, Seeley's Bay

In April, 1923, the Standard Church was started in Seeley's Bay. It was started by Rev. R. C. Horner and the carpenter was Mr. Ernest Kenny. Land for this church was bought from Mr. Hurlburt and was a frame structure. It has always been painted white. Before the church was built services were held in Roy Burtch's present house (store part). Two evangelists helped to start the church here—namely B. Caldwell and M. Eastman.

Before 1923 Rev. Horner held services in a building located where Ralph Greene now lives. This church was used for 26 years. It divided itself into two churches—the Holiness Movement and the Standard Church. It was started about 70 years ago, in 1897. Before this church was built, tents were used for meeting places. A Miss Eli and a Miss Cross were evangelists who held services in the tent the years before the church was built. A Mr. Hollingsworth looked after the tent and seats.

Rev. Ira Smith was also a carpenter and he helped build the church at Berryton. The first station minister was Rev. Lindsay.

List of ministers:

Rev. Jas. Armitage	Rev. N. Slack
Rev. Wm. Wager	Rev. G. Nussey
Rev. Wm. Winters	Rev. R. Robertson
Rev. L. Tomilson	Rev. G. Oldford
Rev. F. Hill	Rev. F. Dunning
Rev. J. B. Pring	Rev. H. Stobart
Rev. S. Lindsay	Evangelist, M. Holbrook
Rev. G. Oldford	Student minister, A. Armstrong
Rev. G. Kelly	Student minister, E. Craig
Rev. R. Schamehorn	Rev. J. B. Pring

Present Supply—Layman—W. Henderson

Baptist Church

In the early days there was a Baptist Church at Lillies Corners ($\frac{1}{2}$ mile from Junction of 15 and 32 highways). This church was built in 1848 on land owned by J. Merrill, George Shook's grandfather. Samuel Weatherhead Haskins built the church. Services were held here for some time until the congregation dwindled and services were suspended. The church building was later used as a dwelling.

The cemetery here dates back to the early 1800's. We walked through trying to locate the earliest date on the stones, and were alarmed to find most of the old stones (thin slabs) were either broken or badly crumbled, many of which were not legible. The earliest date we found marked the burial place of Morris Savage, aged 17 years, 9 months, who died in October 1811. No other stones were found dating from 1811 up to the 1830's. This seemed rather a strange thing.

This is a non-denominational cemetery, and has been thus for a number of years and is maintained solely by the generous support of a few interested people. It is the hope of those in charge of this cemetery that a perpetual system may eventually be set up.

Manufacturing

LUMBERING—All the industries at first were born out of necessity. Logs were needed for homes and wood was needed for fuel for the stone fireplaces and also for furniture—tables, chairs, beds, etc. Therefore lumbering in its various stages was the first industry in this densely wooded district. A few of the old log cabins that our ancestors built and lived in are still to be seen today—a case in point—Mr. John Bracken's home on the Ellisville road.

Gradually the lumbering industry became such a thriving one here, that thousands of cords of wood and logs as well as many other products were shipped to other places by way of the newly built Rideau Canal (1832).

First saw mill in the Seeley's Bay district was operated by a Mr. Phillips on what we know today as the Municipal Parking Lot near the dock. This mill was destroyed by fire. Another mill was built by David Collinson. Across the street another mill was owned and operated by Wm. Bracken and Alva Chapman. In 1912 Charles Hartley purchased it and at the present time it is owned by his sons Norman and John Hartley. On Monday, June 30th, 1947 this mill was completely destroyed by fire and was rebuilt and back in operation the following year. At the present time it is under a five year lease to a lumber company—Veenlo Co. Ltd., whose headquarters is in Brockville. About 9000 feet of lumber is fed through the mill in a 10-hour period. It is operating on a 24-hour a day basis and employs approximately 25 men. Many improvements have been added to these buildings recently.

Johnny Stevenson operated a sash and door shop in a stone building in front of Frank Johnson's home. He also repaired sleighs and other things.

TANBARK—This was a thriving industry in this district at one time. In the winter quantities of Hemlock trees were cut and brought out of the woods. They were left until May or June at which time the bark was peeled off and sent to tanneries. It was used to tan hides. It took approximately eight months to tan hides in the early days. Today with modern chemicals a hide can be tanned within a few days.

ASHERIES—One of the first industries of Seeley's Bay was an ashery. The first ashery here was located where Hartley's Mill now stands. Potash was made from wood ashes in large iron pots (hence its name Pot Ash). It was used for bleaching and making soap and was in great demand in Britain where much of our local potash was shipped by way of the Rideau Canal. Soap was made by the farmer's wife for family use in the early days.

A second ashery was located on the Johnson Brady farm where large maples were cut and drawn by oxen into great piles to be burned for the ashes they produced. Large quantity of Maple trees were found in this area. The ashes were not allowed to get wet as this spoiled the potash.

BAKERIES—The first bakery in Seeley's Bay was established by W. W. Williams where Rev. H. S. Cooke now lives. It was later sold to Mr. E. Putnam. The Putnams moved the bakery to the present location of Sweets Red and White store. Another bakery was located where Ford Wills now lives. It was run by a Mr. Alford. It was also known as Russell's Hotel and Stables. Later large bakeries were established in the towns and by mass production ran the small local bakeries out of business. As a result Seeley's Bay has not had a bakery for many years.

BRICK MAKING—A small brick yard was started by a Negro across from the ashery. It was only in operation a short time and was closed down.

Soon another brick yard on a much larger scale was opened by Mr. Thomas Moore. Later this yard was sold to Charlie Beers who operated it successfully for a number of years. Instead of the customary logs, clapboard and heavy stones, brick was steadily increasing its popularity to the prospective home builder in this area. Because the demand for brick was so great Mr. Moore again entered the brick making industry. His new brick yard was located on the Lambert Serson property. Later Mr. Moore retired and sold out to Mr. A. Neale, who also made and sold tiles. The clay used in the making of bricks and found in the Seeley's Bay district was second to none.

MINING—Mica, copper, lead have all been mined in our district, but none has proved of lasting importance, and once the surface mineral was used up the industry discontinued.

In 1875 on the property of David Townsend at Black Rapids the tall chimney for the lead mine was erected. This is a landmark today, which tells its own story. Cornish miners were brought out to work the underground, while local people worked on the surface during the three years the lead mine was in operation.

Quartz was also mined in this area during World War II on the farm of Mr. Jack Steele.

Pink granite was quarried on the farm of Mr. Silas Brown on Straw Hill Road for many years. A little quarrying is done here yet and the quality is good.

Services

STORES (Places of Business)

If buildings could talk — what a story would be told about our village over the one hundred and sixty years since the first white settlers came here.

The first place of trade in the district may have been a teepee the Seeley's built out on what we now call Haskin's Point. However, we have no facts to substantiate this belief. We do know, however, that Ithamar Haskins owned the property out on this point and ran a store in a log cabin there for some time. Tenants also ran a store some time later.

One of the earliest stores to be run where the village proper developed, was operated by Granny Seeley. Jim Moore ran "The Little Red Store" where the Municipal Parking lot is now.

It is virtually impossible to find accurate dates and (or) all the names of people who kept a business in or near Seeley's Bay. So, with this apology, we proceed:



Seeley's Bay in 1867 — population 150

1 church—Wesleyan Methodist	Herron, Mrs. E.—milliner
Anglin, Jane—general store	Heron, John—whitesmith
Bell, Guy—blacksmith	McKinley, George—general merchant
Chapman, John—lumber	Palmer, Jas.—cooper
Coleman, Wm.—postmaster	
Gilbert, Wm.—wheelright	

Lyndhurst in 1867 — population 100

Cheetam, Mrs.—milliner	Saunders, Jas.—millwright
Cheatham, R.—blacksmith	Stafford, John C.—carpenter
Cook, R.—blacksmith	Struthers, Calvin—(J.P.)
Curtis, Wm.—hotel keeper	Welch, Michael—waggoner
Kidder, Daniel B.—milliner	Wing, George—Chairs
Lee, C.—cooper	Wing, Jas.—cabinetmaker
Lee, Robert—boots and shoes	
Saunders, Roddick — general merchant, flour grist, carding, fulling mill	

SEELEY'S BAY in 1885

SEELEY'S BAY—A village on the Rideau canal, in Leeds township, Leeds County, 36 miles west of Brockville, the county seat, 22 north-east of Kingston, and 11 north of Gananoque on the G-T Ry, its nearest railway and banking point. It contains Methodist and Episcopal churches and a public school, and ships grain, lumber, live stock and wood. Stages daily to Kingston, fare 75 cents, Newboro' fare 75 cents, and Lyndhurst, fare 25 cents, and twice a week to Ellisville, fare 25 cents, and Gananoque, fare 50 cents. Population, 300. Telegraph, GNW. Mail daily. W. W. Williams, postmaster.

Beers Charles E., brick mnfr.	Kenny Wesley, shoemkr.
Blackaby John, shoemkr.	Leith W., blacksmith
Bowen G., physician and druggist	Likely Arthur, pumpmnfr.
Chapman Wm., Hotel	McKinley J. H., general store
Collinson David, saw mill	Moon Thomas, brick mnfr.
Gainsford Wm. C., general store	Mott Henry, Hotel
Gilbert Edward T., general store	O'Neil James, hotel
Gilbert Wm., carriage mkr.	Palmer James, cooper and pumpmkr.
G N W Telegraphy Co.	Sly Alexander, blksmith
Hawkins G. & R., general store	Smith Zebulon, cooper
Johnson Norton, cabinetmkr.	Tierney James, general store
Johnston Wm., harnessmkr.	Williams Wm. W., General Store
	Young Myles, blksmith

Edward Gilbert operated a general store where Mrs. Ken Stafford lives. His son, Chancy Gilbert, kept a general store where Frank Doyle now lives. Later, Mrs. Ken Stafford, his daughter, kept a store here for some time.

Mr. Billy Burns ran a general store on the main street. George & R. Hawkins operated a general store beside the old Anglican Church—behind Jerry Down's Motel. Later, Mr. Hawkins bought out Billy Burns store. Mr. Hawkins built a wharf for which he drew 200 loads of hard heads from Tommy Imerson's farm.

James Tierney ran a general store where Melvin Johnston lives. Fred Young ran a general store here for some time. J. A. Steacey operated this later. It was purchased by Jim Simpson and Wellington Willis and later Art Numan did business here. Alfred Kenny (township clerk for years) operated a small store here for many years.

Higginson McKinley ran a general store here. His son, Champ McKinley took over this business for a number of years before he sold to Ray Hartley, who in turn sold to Robert Coleman, who built this store into a tourist resort, which he and his wife operated for some time. Jerry Down bought this business, and it is now called "Jerry's Motel and Diner".

Richardson's operated a general store where Sweet's "Red and White" is now located. At one time it was a tailor shop owned by a Mr. Gorslin. Mr. George Cheetam bought this business, but he later traded it for a house to Mr. Edwin Putnam, who operated it for some time. In 1938, Raymond Sweet bought this store and later in 1946, his son, Ralph, took over this business. A locker plant was added and when it became obsolete was taken out. A modern laundromat was built in 1960. Now operating under the "Red & White", this village store meets all the requirements of a modern up-to-date grocery store.

Hulberts operate a store where Jack Cameron's live now.

Norton Shobk operated a store where Roy Burtch lives.

Henry Dean owned and operated a store on the main street (near where Fire Hall is now) for years. He sold to Ken Bolton and later the store burned. Mr. Ken Bolton operated a State Farm Insurance office here for a few years. Later, Henry Dean built another store (the present home of Ray Sweet). It was sold to Garfield Johnson, later to James Johnston, and in a few years to Bill Perry, who operated a general store here for a few years.

Mr. Norton Johnson was a cabinetmaker, and an undertaker. He operated a furniture store and undertaking parlour for many years where Pete Clark's shop is now located.

Mr. Ab. Sly operated an undertaking parlour and furniture store in Seeley's Bay in 1916 before moving to Lansdowne. It was located where the present Post Office is, and at that time was owned by Saul Metcalfe.

Mr. Wellington Willis operated a dry goods store where the post office is for many years.

Mr. Bill Steacy and John McKinley operated a hardware and plumbing business here for thirty years.

Emerson Baxter operates a plumbing business in the village at the present time.

Gray's Sports Centre began as a barber shop in 1925, when Tom Gray came to Seeley's Bay. His son, Sandford, now operates the business that started out in a small shop about ten feet square. Hardware, boats and boating equipment, electrical appliances.

Before Tom Gray operated a barber shop in the house where John McKinley lives, Joe McElroy ran a barber shop in Seeley's Bay. It was located in the house where Ken Elliott lives. Later, Mr. McElroy moved to where Gus. Halliday lives, and had a basement room for a barber shop. He moved to Kingston soon after this.

Pat Simes has been barbering in Seeley's Bay for many years. At first he kept shop in the house where Melvin Johnston lives. Later he opened shop in his own home.

Mr. Oscar Johnston operated a small store next to his home for a number of years. Hammy Swain had a small "Gift & Appliance" shop where Pete Clark's shop is at the present time.

Bill Moroughan operated a butcher shop in his own home, and later had the agency for the DeLaval Milker equipment and Cockshutt farm equipment. Wm. Wright kept a harness repair shop where Mrs. W. Willis now lives.

Wm. Gilbert was a carriagemaker and operated a shop where Mrs. M. Perry lives. The carriages were painted up on the second floor. Some say Wm. Gilbert's son-in-law, Ephriam Bracken was a partner in this business at one time. Dennis Caird operated a garage and blacksmith shop where Perry's garage is.

Martin Perry operated a garage here for many years. His garage burned in 1952 and a stone block building was erected that same year. This building is presently owned by Russell Thompson, but was operated by Webb Bros. and later George Gates.

Walter Neal operated a garage on the main street where the old blacksmith shop used to be (near fire hall). Other people to operate this garage were George Kendrick, Tom Tilton, Alfred Kenny, George Graham and Norman Pollitt.

George Gilbert built a garage where Russ. Thompson's service station is now located. Some of the people to operate this garage are Chisamore Bros., Floyd Harrison, Pete Simes, Doyle Bros., Charlie Draper, Bill Draper, and now Russ Thompson. This building has recently been sold to Glenn Matthews.

Among the places of business in Seeley's Bay is a General Insurance office owned and operated by Stuart Willoughby. This business has a long story to tell. In the late 1800's, John Willis started a general insurance business. After his death, his son, Henry took over the business for a few years. Then it was passed to a brother, Wellington Willis, who kept this insurance business for many years. He added life insurance in 1914 to the general insurance. Later he passed the business to his son, Delmer, who kept the business for a few years and then sold to his brother-in-law, Stuart Willoughby in 1954. Mr. Willoughby hopes that his son, Jack, will eventually enter the business and carry it on for many more years here in the same community where it had an early beginning.

Larry Stafford owns and operates the "Rideau Marine & TV. Sales & Service". He has an O.M.C. Service Centre and is a Colour TV. Specialist.

Mr. and Mrs. Kingsley Gibson own and operate a private nursing home here in Seeley's Bay, called "Rideau Haven". With the new addition which has just commenced operating a short time ago, they can accommodate forty-two people. A staff of twelve help to keep this business running smoothly around the clock.

Building contractors in Seeley's Bay are Pete Clark and Lorne Chapman. Their names have become household words throughout the entire district. Klon Johnston was a building contractor here for a number of years.

Electrical contractors here at the present time are Russell Thompson and Ralph Greene. Mr. Jack Gilmour was an electrician in this village for many years.

The only commercial beekeepers in this district are Arnold J. Davies and Barry Davies of Seeley's Bay. This business has been operated here since 1946. About 90% of their honey is trucked to a co-operative in Toronto and is sold under the trade name of "Beekist". Bee yards operated by the Davies' are located within a twenty-five mile radius of Seeley's Bay in Leeds and Frontenac counties.

SEELEY'S BAY CENTENNIAL PARK

TO BE OFFICIALLY OPENED ON

THURSDAY, JULY 20th, 1967, at 2:00 P.M.

The Honourable JOHN BRACKEN

FORMER LEADER OF THE NATIONAL PROGRESSIVE-CONSERVATIVE PARTY AND PREMIER OF MANITOBA FOR 20 YEARS.

SPECIAL GUESTS—The Honourable JAMES A. C. AULD, M.P.P., Minister of Tourism and Information
MR. JOHN MATHESON, M.P., Parliamentary Secretary to the Prime Minister
MR. JOE PATTERSON, Centennial Representative
MR. GEORGE BROWN, Warden, United Counties of Leeds and Grenville.
MR. DOUGLAS MOORE, Reeve of Township of Rear of Leeds and Lansdowne

LIST OF EVENTS

Boat Tours on Rideau throughout all days Exhibits of Wild Life, Antiques, Paintings, etc. on display. Grounds will be raided by Indian Bands.

Thursday, July 20

9:00 a.m.—Pancake Breakfast by St. Barnaby's Church—
Brewer's Mills
2:00 p.m.—Parade with Pipe Band
3:00 p.m.—Costume Judging
4:30 p.m.—Ham Supper by St. Peter's Anglican Church—
Seeley's Bay
7-8 p.m.—Ball Games
9:00 p.m.—Fireworks Display

Friday, July 21

9:00 a.m.—Pancake Breakfast
10:00 a.m.—Sports
1:00 p.m.—Canoe Races
2:30 p.m.—Water Ski Show
5-7 p.m.—Supper—Olivet Church
9:00 p.m.—Show Boat Concert—The Show Boat Concert will
be shown from a stage on the water

Seeley's Bay Centennial Tree is the White Birch

Saturday, July 22

10:00 a.m.—Sports and Archery Display—Circle Archery Club
11:00 a.m.—Baby Judging Contest
12:30 p.m.—Firemen's Show—Parade, Firefighting Display
4:30 p.m.—Chicken Barbecue—United Church, Seeley's Bay
6:30 p.m.—Rodeo
9:00 p.m.—Centennial Ball—The Skyliners Orchestra—
Prescott Band

Sunday, July 23

10:00 a.m.—"Frontenac Saddle Club"—Horse Show
2:30 p.m.—Salvation Army Band
3:00 p.m.—Church Service—Ecumenical—in the Park
4:00-4:30—Salvation Army Band

Seeley's Bay Centennial Flowers—Zinnias and Petunias for our "Zintunia" Flower Beds

Howard Earl built a service station and small store on the west side of the highway at the junction of 15 and 32. Later Osborne Earl operated it, and then sold to Fred Botting in 1952, and in 1960 Hubert Sly bought this Texaco Service Station. Later in 1963 he demolished the old building and built a modern grocery store and garage.

Cross the highway (15 and 32 junction) Mr. Peter Simes built a garage. After a short time he sold out to Penrose Caird. Later, Morris Donaldson bought this Esso Service Station. He made the garage into a grocery store, serves meals and added a ten-unit motel.

Many years ago there was a store located at the junction of 32 highway and Berryton side road. It was owned first by John Murphy and built in the early 1930's. Mr. Elson Tye also operated it for some time. It was originally a Hornerite Church.

George Ellis opened a store at Ellisville and operated it for many years. Nelson Niblock ran this store at one time, as did Herb Mahan. Later, Homer F. Tye operated the Ellisville store for many years.

The Legend of Red Horse

Legend has it that in the very early days when Indians roamed in this area, an Indian Brave fell in love with a beautiful Indian maiden of a hostile tribe. The parents would not condone the marriage or love match, so the two lovers eloped, running away, both mounted on the beautiful roan stallion belonging to the young brave. Of course they were pursued by the angry parents and as they raced over the stoney bluffs along the lake shore, the horse stumbled and threw both riders into the lake where they drowned.

This unfortunate accident brought about a truce between the two tribes and they decided to call the lake "Red Horse". The rock where the young lovers fell to their death is still marked in red and some claim they can see the mystical forms of the riders as the mists rise over the lake in the early morn.

HOTELS

In 1867 there were as yet no hotels in Seeley's Bay—although the population here at that time was 150.

One of the earliest hotels was located where Kenneth Elliott lives at the present time. It was owned by William Chapman, who was in partnership with Wm. C. Gainford for a time. This hotel was in part a general store at one time, and was operated as a grain exchange for a while. Barley was in great demand and was shipped out to American buyers via the Rideau Canal.

Coleman's hotel may have operated at an earlier date than Chapman's Hotel. Wm. Coleman (grandfather of Robert Coleman of this village) ran a hotel on the present property of Ralph Stanton's—near the junction of Dean's Road and Bay Street.

The Metcalfe Hotel was owned and operated by Saul Metcalfe and was located where the Post Office is at the present time. It burned on the 28th of March 1903, and Mr. Metcalfe had it rebuilt in stone (Richard Kane was the mason). Later Hewitt's operated a hotel here and then for some years it lay vacant. It is at the present time part of "Rideau Haven", a private nursing home owned and operated by Mr. and Mrs. Kingsley Gibson.

Russell's operated a hotel at one time near where Ford Wills lives now. Later George Cheetam operated a livery stable from the same premises, and Stafford and Ripley operated a stage from the same place. George Cheetam also operated a hotel in the building where Roy Burch lives. Henry Mott operated a hotel in this village at one time, as did James O'Neil. Tierney's also ran a hotel.

The only hotel Seeley's Bay has had in recent years was owned and operated by Robert Coleman, who sold to Jerry Down in 1952.

LOCAL TOURIST CAMPS

Pleasant View Tourist Resort. It is located on the Point Road, and was built by Horace Wilkinson about 19..... Fred Botting bought this business and some years later sold to George Pace, the present operator.

Sunny Acres Tourist Resort. It is also located on the Point Road, and was also built by Horace Wilkinson, who later sold to Messrs. Ivan Leavitt and Robert Fleming. The latter is the present operator.

Rideau Breeze Tourist Resort—It is located on the Point Road and was built by the present operator, Harold Wheeler.

Rideau View—is owned and operated by Borden Dean.

The Maples Lodge, is owned by Mr. Gray, who recently purchased it from Jack Abrams, who bought it some years ago from Herb. Mallen.

Bay Motel—owned and operated by Morris Donaldson

Terry's Terrace—owned and operated by Terry Carlo

Hogan's Haven—owned and operated by Bob Hogan

Burnt Hills Tourists—owned and operated by Jerry Laviolette

Elm Lodge—owned and operated by Raymond Taillon

Singleton Lake Tourist Home—owned and operated by Walter Yeoman

Shawmere Tourist Lodge—owned and operated by Bill Shaw.

Marinas operate in the summer months serving the boating public, and are located at the following places:

Rideau Breeze—Seeley's Bay

Rideau View—Seeley's Bay

Terry's Terrace—Brass Point Bridge

Kenny's Hotel—Jones Falls

BLACKSMITHS—Some of the early blacksmiths in the Seeley's Bay district were Mr. Alford, Mr. Beeby, Mr. Church, Mr. Young and Mr. Lieth. Mr. A. C. Dorey, who was a blacksmith with Mr. Wm. Berry in 1900 is still a blacksmith in Gananoque at the present time. After Mr. Wm. Berry, who kept a shop on the main street here, Mr. Gordon Sly was the blacksmith. Mr. Ernest Blackman took over the business from Mr. Sly and ran the shop for some years on the main street and then moved down to his present premises. In 1945, Mr. Bill Sly operated the blacksmith shop in Seeley's Bay.

In 1880 Alex. Sly was blacksmith in Seeley's Bay. George Cheetam operated a blacksmith shop where Ford Wills now lives, as did Elmer Smith.

Later in 1924 Fred Green was a blacksmith here, and 1924 also, Dennis Caird had a garage and blacksmith shop where Perry's Garage is located. In 1927 Bill Moulton had a blacksmith shop here.

BANKING—It is thought that the Crown Bank was the first bank at Seeley's Bay. The Northern and Crown Bank amalgamated and opened in 1905 in the front part of the house where Roy Burtch lives at the present time. After a few months the bank moved to a wing in Hawkins Store (later Hulberts store) where Mr. Jack Cameron now lives. The Northern Crown Bank built the present bank in 1906 and Mr. John Dillon was the mason.

About 1917 or 1918 the Royal Bank took over the Northern Crown and remained here until February 28th, 1923. They operated in the present bank and Mr. Frank Dillon was the first manager. This building was sold to Mr. Wellington Willis and Miss Nellie Cockrill for \$3,000.00 in 1923.

In April 3rd, 1923, Mr. Currie opened a branch of the Bank of Toronto where Roy Burtch lives. In June of the same year the Bank of Toronto leased the bank building for one year for \$200.00. In 1928 the building was purchased by the Bank of Toronto. The name was changed to the Toronto-Dominion Bank in 1954. At one time there used to be a five-day banking week.

A new Toronto Dominion Bank is slated for completion this year in Seeley's Bay, on the lot adjacent to Manford MacPherson's house.

An interesting news item found in an old diary states that the Bank of Toronto was robbed by gypsies on the 18th day of June 1926.

SEELEY'S BAY FIRE AREA 1951)

Before 1951 all Seeley's Bay residents lived in fear of fires!

Until 1951, buckets were the only equipment available when fire broke out. Because there had been so many serious fires in the village—1949 when Hartley's Mill burned and 1950—Ken Bolton's store—to mention only two, fire fighting equipment was needed.

In 1950 a committee was formed and after a short time a fire truck was purchased at a cost of \$3500. which was raised in debentures. In 1951, another \$3500. was raised in debentures to help build the Fire Hall. A large cistern which holds about 40,000 gallons of water is located under the hall. In 1961 an emergency truck-ambulance was purchased. It is

the only ambulance within a twenty mile radius and is called out on an average of two or three times a week. In 1965 another truck was purchased by the department and last year a tank truck capable of carrying 2400 gal. was purchased. All of this equipment has been bought by the Fire Department, and the money to pay for the same has been raised by dances, bingos, and card parties.

The Council appointed John Hartley the Fire Chief in 1950, and Mr. Hartley's volunteer crew has grown from 16 men to the present 32 firemen. The Fire Area served by this well-equipped and well-trained department lies within a ten mile radius of junction of 15 and 32 highways.

The Ladies' Auxiliary of the Department have helped to raise funds to equip a kitchen, cloakroom and washrooms in the large auditorium above the fire hall.

The fire department has a two-way radio as well as walkie-talkies. When the alarm is set off by the operator of the Seeley's Bay Telephone exchange, an average of six to eight men answer the call. On weekends as many as twenty men are available should it be necessary.

Through the combined efforts of the fire department and Ladies' Auxiliary, along with one hundred percent support from the community, Seeley's Bay has one organization of which it can be justly proud.



Steamer locking through, Chaffey's Locks, Ont.

FARMING—The initial story of a farmer in this township (or for that matter country) was that of a strong back—a determined mind—a love of nature and independence. A good "helpmate" and a large family of boys was one of the greatest blessings that could befall a farmer.

The township of the Rear of Leeds and Lansdowne lies in one of the best agricultural areas in Canada (called Canada's Heartland).

After the first clearing was made potatoes, corn, and turnips were planted for food. In these early days the farmer was "Jack of all trades" — lumberjack, blacksmith, miller, carpenter and mason and seldom did he receive money for his efforts. Everything was traded to someone who had something that you wanted and who in turn wanted what you had.

Mr. Manford Ralph, Seeley's Bay centennial senior citizen tells how his father traded a load of stove wood for an old violin about eighty years ago. He incidentally learned to play on this instrument.

The farmer raised all his own food, much of which had to be dried, frozen, salted or canned to preserve it. The diet of the pioneer settlers here as elsewhere was one of boredom and unbalance.

In the late fall a beast was killed. Part of it would be traded for the services of a shoemaker, doctor or perhaps preacher or carpenter. The rest, if weather was cold enough, would be frozen or packed in barrels, or oat bins. The hide was sent to the tanner, who kept half of it and returned the rest of it when it was tanned for boots and shoes for the whole family. Candles were made from the tallow and all the scraps were boiled in lye to make soap.

The women spun the yarn, wove material, made clothing, kept a flock of hens, made bread, butter and cheese, made quilts, knitted mitts and socks, and cared for a large family as well.

The farmers' life has changed drastically; now he is highly mechanized and even specialized in many areas. He provides all the city conveniences for his wife and with few exceptions his children have the same opportunities for education as do their city cousins.

Some supplements to the farm income through the years have been: making maple syrup (which the Indians taught us to make); selling lumber of the "back forty"; and growing hops for the liquor industry.

Dairying and mixed farming have been the mainstay of this township over the years. At first each farmer only had a few cows which grazed on the open pastures and almost starved in winter. However, as better crops were planted and shelters built for them, more food was stored for the winter. Gradually the herd increased in number and butter and cheese began to appear for trade in return for spices, sugar, salt, tea and seeds.

The cheese factory was born about 1860. Soon, in every community they sprang up. About 1865, Mr. P. W. Strong started the first cheese factory in Leeds County at Farmersville, now Athens. Canada's cheese Centennial was celebrated in 1964.

In 1900, Leeds County ranked first as a cheese producing county. In 1901 Leeds County produced 13 million pounds.

In the early 1900's, in our own township, there were at least fourteen cheese factories. These were: "Gilt Edge", Seeley's Bay; "Gilt Rapids", Big Hill; "Gardiner's Factory"—below hill where George Roantrree lives; "Spring Vale" near Harold Hicock's; "Cold Glen" at foot of Willoughby hill; "Ideal" at Ellisville; other factories were located at Berryton, Long Point, Morton, Briar Hill, Oak Leaf, Soperton, and two cheese factories at Lyndhurst—one where fair grounds used to be and the other one near where Harold Webster lives now (Brezee's factory).

Several farmers would form a company—one would be the manager and each would promise to send his milk to the factory.

One such factory was the "Gilt Edge" here in Seeley's Bay. This factory is located in Lot 3, Concession 7, which was granted to Roger Savage in April 1824 from the Crown. At the time the factory was built (perhaps late 1880's) the land was owned by Mr. George Moore.

The first cheesemaker was Mr. Edgley. Mr. Albert Leadbeater was the manager, and Mr. Henry Willis was secretary for some years. In 1900, Mr. Joe McAlonan became cheesemaker here. In 1902, Mr. McAlonan and Mr. McCutchen became joint owners of the factory. Later Mr. McAlonan was sole owner, and he was one of the first in Ontario to make whey butter. After his death in 1935 and up to 1946, this factory was operated by Marjorie McAlonan and brothers, Edmund and Bernard.

During the second World War, this factory made cheese the year round, average twenty 100 pound cheeses daily.

In 1946, Mr. Jas. Walker bought this cheese factory, and after his death it was sold to Mr. Kenneth Elliott, who made cheese here for a few years and then sold to Ault Milk Co. Mr. Elliott is the manager of this milk receiving station.

Cheese production was at its height in Canada in 1903. It was sold at that time to a local merchant, who sold to a dealer in Montreal, who in turn exported it to England. At the present time any cheese made in Eastern Ontario is sold at the Belleville Cheese Exchange. The number of cows in Leeds County in 1861 was 17,000, as compared with 48,000 in 1901.

The number of cheese factories has dwindled since 1903 to the present four factories in Leeds. In our township there is only one milk receiving station which is located in Seeley's Bay. It is owned by Ault Milk Co. (manufacturer of powdered milk).

Butter factories or Creameries were slow to appear in Ontario. Cream separators came on the market in 1884 and since then the creameries increased from about 11 in Leeds County in 1881 to 120 in 1911. There are not many creameries here at the present time. The large central Cow and Gate in Gananoquo is the major one for this part of the county.

Of the milk produced in 1965 from farms in Leeds County:

CREAMERY BUTTER	36.5%
FLUID SALES	30.1
CHEDDAR CHEESE	13.4
MISC. FACTORY PRODUCTS	9.9
ICE CREAM	3.0
FED TO LIVESTOCK	4.2
FARM HOME CONSUMED	2.8
DAIRY BUTTER1
	<hr/>
	100.0

In 1966 a provincial milk market board was set up. Eventually a pool system will be adopted and a standard price will be given to all farmers. The first Leeds County Agricultural Association was formed in 1830. After this organization for the improvement of crops and cattle, came the township or rural fall fairs where farm produce, livestock, poultry and women's needlework competed for prizes. Winners, naturally entered county fairs and then proceeded to the provincial fair. Lyndhurst was one of the villages named as a fair centre for the township. School fairs were held at Sweets' Corners for many years.

Fall fairs are still held in our County—at Delta, Lansdowne and Lombardy.

Ayrshires imported from Scotland were the first purebreds in Canada. By 1850 Durham or Shorthorns were popular among stock breeders. The dairy farmer preferred a breed noted for milk production — Ayrshires, Jersey and Holsteins. Holsteins were brought to the U.S.A. from Holland about 1850. Later a large quantity of this breed was imported directly from Holland to Canada in 1883. The Leeds County Holstein Breeders' Association was started in 1929.



Some Methods of Transportation

In this district there were no roads before 1812, except Highway No. 15, which was only a "blazed trail". Paths were made through the wooded area by notching the trees with a hatchet, and in open areas worn paths were easily followed by those unfamiliar to the terrain. Such a trail was from Berryton to Seeley's Bay.

The first road in Leeds County was made in 1816 from Bastard and Kitley township south-west to Kingston Mills. The first angling south-west from Lyndhurst was probably started in 1798 by Abel Stevens. When these roads, by necessity ran through swampy, low land, logs were laid down side by side called "corduroy roads". One such road was the old road to Gananoque through the swamp.

Plank roads were also built in the early years, but they did not stand up. Gravelled roads soon became the most popular.

Before the appearance of cars (1912—first cars owned in Seeley's Bay area were owned by Champ McKinley and Wm. Bracken). (William Leadbeater also owned a car in 1912), for transportation, horseback riding was a real art, or at least horse driving on a wagon or cutter. Regular watering places along the road became so familiar to the "beast of burden", that he would not pass by without getting a drink, according to some of our older residents.

The railway supplied a real needed mode of transportation to many inland centres. But being on the Rideau Canal, Seeley's Bay recalls the nostalgia of the River Boat. The Rideau King and Queen are among the most famous.

The Buena Vista was another common sight as she loaded up at the old dock here in the Bay. She was owned by Captain John Randall. However, the last of the River Boats to ply the Rideau carrying passengers was the Ottawan in the year 1935.

The family car, that has made tourists of even the most unassuming family, put the river boats, railroads, and other means of travel out of business. We might mention here that the train from Brockville to Westport via Lyndhurst started its runs in 1888 and continued until September 1952.

In the early days of travelling from Seeley's Bay to Kingston or Westport the stagecoach was on deck to take passengers and mail. (The stage also went to Gananoque from here). The teams were changed when the stage arrived here

in Seeley's Bay and a fresh start was made towards Kingston. The first stage was owned by Stafford and Ripley. Mr. Alec Brown drove the stage for many years.

The Kingston Road was built from Toronto to Kingston and on to Montreal. It was built in stages and was not open for through traffic until 1917.

The modern macadam roads we know today were first built in 1837 on a stretch of road from Kingston to Napanee.

Modern bus service is provided between Kingston and Ottawa on a daily basis. This fact makes Seeley's Bay an excellent place for older residents who do not care to brave the increased city traffic.

When the road was built from Ellisville to Long Point according to stories told by the late Charles Pritchard, the trees were cut to make enough space for a wagon to pass. Any one who would work at this job was given 10¢ a rod.

In the winter when snow quickly filled in the roads, the fence posts often provided a guide, as to direction and cutters glided easily over the top of the snow.

Seeley's Bay had an air service for the individual anytime there was need for a quick trip, when Mr. Delmer Willis lived in the village. This plane was owned by Mr. Willis and Mr. Jack Wyatt. This service was discontinued in 1963.

Many of our early families had parts of their families in the United States where jobs were plentiful and pay was good.

Before the opening of the Thousand Island Bridge in August 1938, boats would take passengers from Brockville or Gananoque to Alexandria Bay, U.S.A. As we are writing this history the 23rd day of February, 1967, the one millionth car has crossed the Thousand Island Bridge in a one year period (fiscal). The driver of the car was a retired Brockville chiropractor and former alderman, Dr. Elmer Obee.

Toll Gate—There was a toll gate at entrance to Seeley's Bay near Mr. Ian Bell's house. It cost 10¢ to pass through the gate. Doctors and preachers were not required to pay. The early teachers in the district lived there and operated the toll gate.

Communications

In the early days of settlement in the district around Seeley's Bay (1800) there was no such thing as mail service. Any messages sent, went by private messengers, or by someone travelling.

The first Canadian postage stamp was issued in 1851. It was a three penny stamp with a beaver on it. Since then Canada has had complete control of her mail services. Before this time — rates were so high in Canada that few people sent or received mail and postage stamps were unknown. A letter was written on one side of a paper, then folded, sealed with wax and addressed on the outside. It cost 9 cents for this letter to go about 60 miles or about 18 cents for a distance of 100 to 200 miles.

After the horseback rider delivery of mail, the stagecoach appeared as a mail carrier. In 1857 trains began to be used to send mail faster. Now a great deal of mail is sent by truck or bus because they were faster to and from local points. At the present time all mail going any distance goes by air and costs the same as by slower means of transportation.

Rural mail delivery began in 1908 and was delivered once a day by horse and buggy and later by car to each mail box.

The first Post Office in Seeley's Bay was run by Wm. Coleman, who owned a hotel on the present farm of Ralph Stanton. Later Mr. W. Williams ran the Post Office in a house between the present homes of Mrs. V. Rhodes and Mr. Manfred MacPherson in Roy Burtch's house. Mr. Chancy Gilbert became the next Postmaster in the house now owned by Mr. Frank Doyle. Mr. F. W. Young kept the Post Office for a while after Mr. Gilbert and then Mr. Wellington Willis took the Post Office in a store owned by the late Mr. Henry Dean. Later Mr. Willis moved across the street to a store he had purchased. His son, Mr. Delmer Willis became Postmaster for a short while and in 1953 Mr. Jack Cameron bought this building and has continued up to the present time as Seeley's Bay's Postmaster.

In 1845 there were six saw mills and three grist mills in Leeds and Lansdowne Township.

Other Methods of Communications

Some newspapers were started in Canada as early as 1840. The Brockville Recorder and Times is the only daily paper to service this area and to remain in business all these years (150 years).

The Kingston Whig Standard was founded earlier in 1810, but it was then called the Kingston Gazette. Due to the change of ownership its name was changed.

The Gananoque Reporter was founded February 15th, 1860.

The first telegraph line through this area was in 1847. Seeley's Bay had a telegraph office run by Manly Marsh.

In 1874 Alexander Graham Bell invented the telephone. Hamilton had the first telephone exchange in Canada in 1878 and by 1880 the Bell Telephone Co. was organized. Today it serves most of Canada and the United States.

The first switchboard in Seeley's Bay was installed in January, 1908 and operated by Mr. Albert Putnam. The Inverary line was installed between 1910-11 and operated by R. A. Darling. Seeley's Bay held their first telephone meeting on October 26, 1907 at the Masonic Hall, with 74 members attending. There are now approximately 1000 subscribers on the Seeley's Bay and Inverary exchanges. Some of the other chief operators besides Mr. Putnam were Mr. Ed. Nicholson, Roy Hartley, Hillyard Bryan, Klon Johnson, and our present chief operator is Mrs. Susan Baxter.

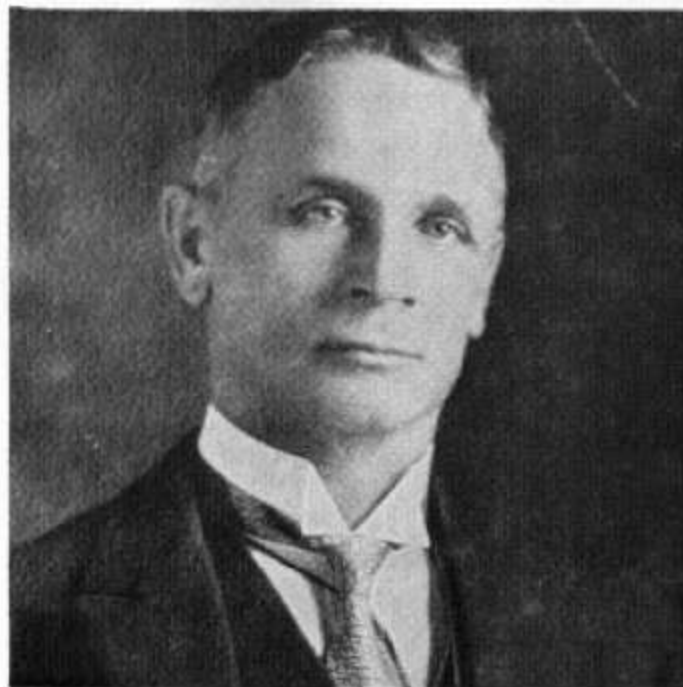
The Rural Telephone Company for the Seeley's Bay area sold to the Community Telephone Company in January 1966.

The Lyndhurst Telephone Company sold to the Bell Telephone Company in 1966.

In 1920 the radio became a household word, and in 1950 TV. was produced on a large scale.



A Native Son of Leeds



JOHN BRACKEN, B.S.A., LL.D., P.C.

- 1883—Born at Ellisville, June 22nd, 84 years ago
- 1889—Came to Seeley's Bay at 6 years of age
 - Grew up on a farm within sight of Seeley's Bay Centennial Park
 - Spent his school days in this community
- 1898 and
- 1904—Attended our own county Collegiate Institute at Brockville
- 1899—Became foreman of his father's farm at 16 years of age
- 1902—Entered Ontario Agricultural College, Guelph, at 19 years of age
- 1906—Graduated with honours four years later
- 1906—Appointed by the Dominion Government as its Manitoba Representative of the Department of Agriculture, Winnipeg, Man.
- 1907—Appointed by the Saskatchewan Government as its Superintendent of Farms and Farmers' Institutes, Regina, Sask.
- 1910—Appointed by the University of Saskatchewan as Professor of Field Husbandry at the prominent University of Saskatoon
- 1920—Appointed by the Government of Manitoba as President of the Manitoba Agricultural College, Winnipeg, Man.
- 1922—Chosen by the Progressive farmers of Manitoba to be Premier of the Province. Continued as Premier for 20½ years.
- 1942—Elected as National Leader of the Progressive Conservative Party of Canada for 5½ years.
- 1945—Elected as Member of the Canadian Parliament—4 years
- 1963—Made a Member of the Privy Council of Canada
 - Author of two books on Western Canadian Agriculture
 - Made Honorary Doctor of Laws by both the University of Saskatchewan and University of Manitoba
- 1967—Now retired, near Ottawa, but living on the banks of the same river, beside which he grew up as a boy.

List of Reeves Since 1848

The list of elected reeves for the Township of the Rear of Leeds and Lansdowne from 1842 to 1942 has been compiled for Centennial Year:

The past reeves are: 1842-1843—Thomas Sheffield; 1844-46—Hiel Sliter; 1847-49—Thomas Sheffield; 1850-57—Edward Green; 1858-59—Thomas Sheffield; 1860—James Moulton; 1861—John Kendrick; 1862—Edward Green; 1863—Jonathan Jonson; 1864—James Moulton; 1865—Thomas Sheffield; 1866—James Moulton; 1867—Thomas Sheffield; 1868—William Coleman; 1869—James Moulton; 1870—Thomas Sheffield; 1871—James Moulton; 1872—William Sheffield; 1873—William Lambert; 1874-75—James Moulton; 1876—John C. Stafford.

After the year 1876 this Township was represented by a deputy reeve: 1877—John C. Stafford; Reeve—E. C. Sliter, D.R.; 1878—William Richardson, Reeve; Jonathan Johnson, D.R.; 1879—William Richardson, Reeve; E. C. Sliter, D.R.; 1880-1—John Roddick, Reeve, John McKinley, D.R.; 1881—James Moulton, John Roddick, D.R.; 1882—John Sheffield, Reeve, John McKinley, D.R.; 1883—James Moulton, Reeve, John Roddick, D.R.; 1886—William Richardson, Reeve, John Roddick, D.R.; 1887—William Richardson, Reeve, W. J. Sheffield, D.R.; 1888—William Richardson, Reeve, E. C. Sliter, D.R.; 1889—William Richardson, Reeve, R. J. Green, D.R.; 1890—R. J. Green, Reeve, John Chapman, D.R.; 1891-94—R. J. Green, Reeve, William F. Bracken, D.R.; 1895—R. J. Green, Reeve, John Webster, D.R.; 1896—R. J. Green, Reeve, James McMillan, D.R.

According to the provision of the Act passed in 1896 to reduce the number of county councillors by which the members of County Council were elected for two years, this township was represented by Reeve only: 1897-1900—R. J. Green; 1901-06—Ephriam Bracken; 1907-08—George Bracken; 1909-11—J. D. Johnson; 1912-13—George W. Bracken; 1914—R. G. Harvey; 1915—R. J. Green; 1916-8—R. G. Harvey; 1919—J. A. Steacy; 1920-21—Johnson Frye; 1922-24—George Godkin; 1925-29—George Gardiner; 1930-32—John W. Berry; 1933-34—A. E. Collinson; 1935-38—Alford Kenny; 1939-42—Roy H. Slack.

Mr. Slack continued as reeve for two more years to 1944 then followed Wallace Johnson for 1945 and part of 1946; 1946-53—Hayden Stanton; 1954-56—Harold Webster; 1957-60—Johnson Plunkett; 1961-62—Arthur Raison, Reeve; Bert Simpson, D.R.; 1963-67—Douglas Moore, Reeve; John Mainse, D.R.; 1966-67—Douglas Moore, Reeve; John McKinley, D.R.

List of Wardens Since 1848

United Counties of Leeds and Grenville

1850—O. R. Gowan; 1851—G. Sherwood; 1852—R. Peden; 1853—R. Peden; 1854—E. H. Whitmarsh; 1855—E. H. Whitmarsh; 1856—E. H. Whitmarsh; 1857—Dr. H. D. Jessup; 1858—W. Smith; 1859—Dr. H. D. Jessup; 1860—W. Garvey; 1861—W. Garvey; 1862—W. Garvey; 1863—J. Keeler; 1864—H. McCrea; 1865—J. Keeler; 1866—D. F. Jones; 1867—H. McCrea; 1868—J. Johnston; 1869—R. Fields; 1870—J. Wolfe; 1871—C. B. Crysler; 1872—R. Preston; 1873—H. McCrea; 1874—J. K. Read; 1875—S. McBratney; 1876—J. Dumbrille; 1877—T. Darling; 1877—E. H. Whitmarsh; 1878—J. Legge, Jr.; 1879—G. Taylor; 1880—J. C. Irvine; 1881—W. Stafford; 1882—T. A. Kidd; 1883—R. J. Jelly; 1884—T. Conley; 1885—J. Moulton; 1886—C. Richards; 1887—J. E. Earl; 1888—O. Bush; 1889—M. McIntyre; 1890—H. Hughes; 1891—W. Beatty; 1892—T. J. Bennett; 1893—A. Gray; 1894—R. L. Joynt; 1895—J. A. Webster; 1896—W. Wallace; 1897—J. B. Saunders; 1898—J. H. Foster; 1899—R. J. Green; 1900—A. Carson; 1901—R. J. Jelly; 1902—O. Brown; 1903—R. W. Watchhorn; 1904—G. S. Johnston; 1905—E. M. Bracken; 1906—I. C. Alguire; 1907—T. A. Kidd; 1908—J. B. McMurchy; 1909—A. E. Baker; 1910—G. Morris; 1911—J. A. Sanderson; 1912—N. Webster; 1913—E. A. Cook; 1914—H. N. Stinson; 1915—W. Holmes; 1916—A. M. Ferguson; 1917—J. W. White; 1918—D. Dempster; 1919—M. B. Holmes; 1920—E. W. Joynt; 1921—S. J. Bennett; 1922—W. Jelly; 1922—C. F. Smith; 1923—J. A. Cochrane; 1924—W. M. Hanton; 1925—W. P. Walker; 1926—G. S. Duncan; 1927—J. Robinson; 1928—R. B. Shaw; 1929—G. Riley; 1930—G. Gardiner; 1931—Dr. R. A. Patterson; 1932—R. O. Leggett; 1933—T. Baker; 1934—E. S. Earl; 1935—J. S. Williscraft; 1936—R. B. Gardiner; 1937—I. Bradley; 1938—S. T. McCann; 1939—W. E. Latimer; 1940—E. A. Conner; 1941—S. Knapp; 1942—W. J. Taber; 1943—T. C. Reilly; 1944—R. H. Slack; 1945—J. Gaw; 1946—L. B. Moore; 1947—M. Bennett; 1948—W. A. Preston; 1949—W. B. Weir; 1950—D. J. McNeely; 1951—H. E. Halpenny; 1952—H. Stanton; 1953—R. Henderson; 1954—C. E. Birtch; 1955—W. H. Finnerty; 1956—G. Mills; 1957—H. Ralph; 1958—W. S. Leeder; 1959—A. Carnochan; 1960—W. J. Bell; 1961—W. Black; 1962—J. O. Forrester; 1963—A. E. Ralph; 1964—H. McNeeley; 1965—W. E. Burchell; 1966—D. R. Ferguson; 1967—G. R. Brown.

First white settlement in Upper Canada was Fort Frontenac, established in 1673—now Kingston.

Extension of settlement was limited until after U.E.L. came in 1784.

Social Life In Our District

When the early settlers were clearing their land, planting their first crops and building a dwelling there was little or no social life as we know it. These people came to our area with few or no tools—no means of transportation and no furniture. Many came directly from Scotland, Ireland or England as very young people seeking fortunes that were supposed to be here awaiting the immigrant. Too often these rosy pictures were painted by government officials who sometimes received money or land as rewards for getting people to come out and take up land.

Gradually, when churches were established the social life hinged around its activities. Each church had its ladies society which planned dramas, organized choirs, served teas, held bazaar and quilting parties.

Oyster suppers before the turn of the century were popular (as they are now) but then oysters were sold at 50¢ a quart and a supper was served for 25¢.

The annual Christmas concert was a highlight of entertainment for the rural people. The halls were packed to the very doors, but somehow Santa Claus would find his way there.

Then in the winter there was much private partying and dancing in the halls. These dances were quite formal and the ladies came white gloved and dressed in an evening gown. They were strictly invitation affairs and the invitation had to be presented at the door.

Both Seeley's Bay and Lyndhurst boasted excellent brass bands at the turn of the century. They were in great demand at social functions, and played every Saturday night on the main streets of the villages.

Some young gentleman was chosen to carry the torch light for the band. One of the bandmasters or instructors was Bert Woods from Toledo.

Such events as barn raising, husking bees, wood chopping bees, and even auction sales were rather social gatherings, where crops were compared, and problems discussed.

Skating was a popular sport as was hockey. Seeley's Bay had several good hockey teams through the years as had Lyndhurst. Baseball has also been very popular here. Leagues have been organized for many years. Swimming and boating, also fishing have long been favourite summer pastimes. The unique location of Seeley's Bay on the Rideau Canal made it a port for famous river boats which have come and gone ever since the Rideau Canal opened up until 1935. They took passengers to Kingston and Ottawa, carried grain, lumber, potash and many other supplies to be shipped to other centres. Fishermen rowed their boats until about 1950 when outboard motors became a common thing. As first in-board boats were used by fishing guides.

Many social events that are remembered by our parents who were brought up in the rural areas are ice cream socials, strawberry socials, sugaring-off parties, Irish concerts and just the simple family picnic on May 24th, at Jones Falls.

Social life in 1967 is as complex as the story of automation. The day of the "baby sitter" is here and an excuse for a party doesn't have to exist. The number of fraternal organizations has increased as have organized sports—even for children. One family spokesman told me recently that his children were into so many organizations and league sports that he and his wife had become just the chauffeurs.

The first saw mill and grist mill in Upper Canada was built at Kingston Mills in 1782—built by Government.

Wheat was the main crop at first—however, loss of crops by insects and rust caused a turn to mixed farming.

LIST OF CENTURY FARMS IN THE TOWNSHIP OF REAR OF LEEDS AND LANSDOWNE

BERRY, Giles	McKINLEY, Hubert	RALPH, Bill
BRACKEN, George	MOORE, Douglas	SLY, Carmen
COCKRILL, Gerald	MOULTON, Hilyard	SHOOK, George
GARDINER, Wallace	MOULTON, Leslie	SIMPSON, John
LEADBEATER, Philip	NIBLOCK, John	WARREN, Orange

This list is incomplete

Fish and Wildlife

The main fish of importance to anglers in the Rideau Watershed, as well as the Gananoque Watershed (Catarqui Conservation Region) are (a) largemouth bass—by far the most important species, (b) smallmouth bass, (c) pike, as well as many others of lesser importance.

The most common mammals in the area are probably the meadow mouse, mole shrew and the white spotted mouse. Other mammals inhabiting this region may be located on a chart of Conservation of Catarqui Region.

The common birds in the region include 280 species identified within a thirty mile radius of MacDonald Park in Kingston.

Snakes common to this area include the northern water snake, Eastern garter snake, Eastern ribbon snake, Eastern milk snake, Eastern smooth green snake, Red-bellied snake, Eastern ring-necked snake and Black Rat Snake.

Common tree wood species

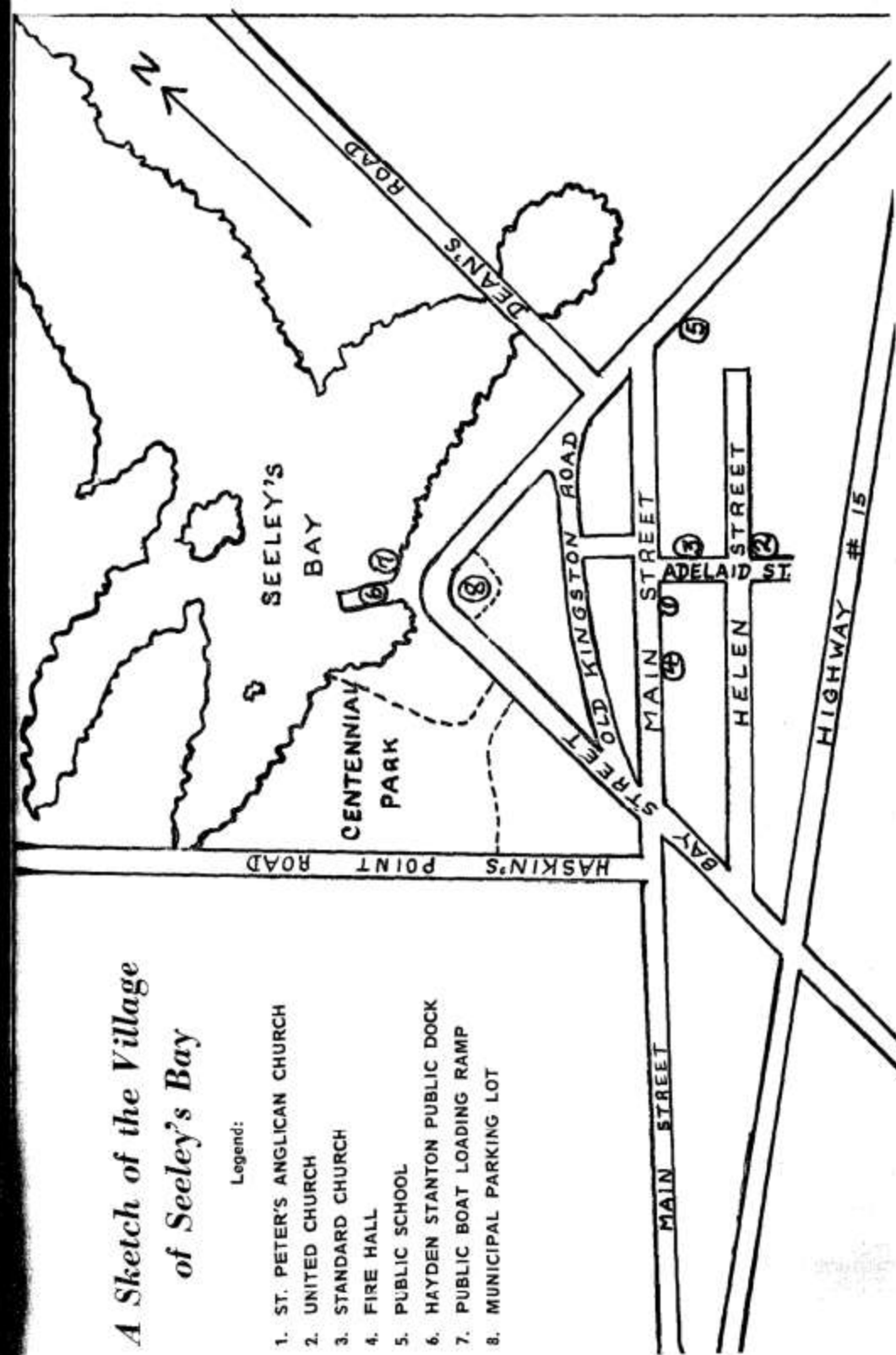
Centennial Co-Ordinating Committee

CO-CHAIRMEN.....	Mr. Robert Simpson Mr. Larry Stafford
SECRETARY.....	Mr. Barry Davies
TREASURER.....	Mr. Bert Nightingale
CHAIRMAN OF FINANCE.....	Mrs. Jack Cameron
SPECIAL EVENTS.....	Mr. Stuart Willoughby
RELIGION.....	Mrs. Elwood Sly
SPORTS.....	Recreation Association
DECORATING.....	Mr. Ralph Sweet
PRESS and PUBLICITY.....	Mrs. J. A. McKinley

A Sketch of the Village of Seeley's Bay

Legend:

1. ST. PETER'S ANGLICAN CHURCH
2. UNITED CHURCH
3. STANDARD CHURCH
4. FIRE HALL
5. PUBLIC SCHOOL
6. HAYDEN STANTON PUBLIC DOCK
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The community interest, involvement and effort which has resulted in the publication of this booklet merit heartiest congratulations.



JAMES A. C. AULD,
Minister of Tourism and
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