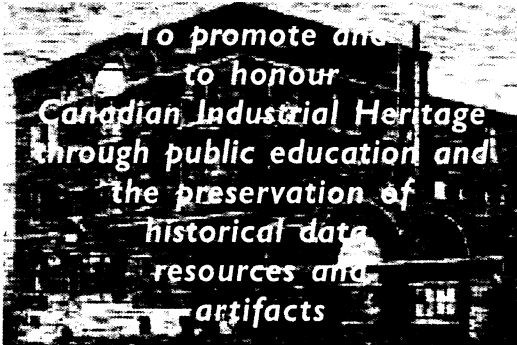


CIHC

# Canadian Industrial Heritage Centre

Volume 3, Issue 1, Spring 2004



## 2000 and 4 Ward

by Donna Stewart, Chair CIHC

Greetings friends of Industrial Heritage! We are delighted to present to you this current edition of the CIHC Newsletter. We have had a busy year having completed our Annual

Brantford. A big thanks goes out to Mike O'Byrne for his assistance with this year's event. Mike is a major heritage buff who is very involved in local heritage. We are lucky to have him aboard!

This year's dinner is entitled Fiddles & Flicks. The fiddle music of Clayton Barker will entertain folks during the social hour and then we will watch some

old Cockshutt and Massey movies during dinner. Followed by a few announcements, recognitions and some awesome door prizes, we top our home cooked meal off with dancing to the Jammers Live Band.

Jennifer has been working hard at getting our membership data base up and running. If you have not received your membership card or newsletters yet please let us know. We are still ironing out the bumps.

Congratulations goes out to Marguerite Ceschi-Smith who is running for the leadership of the Liberal party Member of Parliament as Jane Stewart retires to a new job in Switzerland! Good Luck to both!

We are still seeking a temporary location for our home and have had some offers but they all require paying rent and we just don't have the funds to do so at this time.

Therefore we encourage all members to dig deep into your pockets and support us if you can as we continue to build our dream.

Tell everyone you know, about us and get them to join with us! If you have connections to industry, speak to them on our behalf. Let's show everyone that our Canadian Industrial Heritage is worth saving!

Meeting in November and the welcoming of our Official Board of Directors that includes Rob Adlam, Vice President, Bill Cockshutt, Treasurer, Jennifer Dunkerson, Secretary, Art Greenwood, Dennis Stewart, Mike O'Byrne, Doug Baker, Peter Farrugia, Greg Brown (USA) and me, Donna Stewart President.

This is a dynamic team of individuals and professionals that include representation from Mohawk College, Brantford, and Laurier University, Brantford as well as Brant Historical Society, the International Cockshutt collector's Club both Canada and the USA, the Cockshutt Family, and a professional Museum Curator (Jennifer).

**The good news and the bad news.** The good news is that the City of Brantford claims they are now in a position to go forward with the tax sale on 66 Mohawk. The bad news is they haven't done it yet. Also there is sudden interest from a local developer in the site.

This adds a new element to our situation and we are monitoring it.

At the time of writing we are two weeks away from our plowman's' dinner to be held March 27<sup>th</sup> at the Mt. Pleasant community centre just outside of



Board of Directors Greg Brown-(USA), Art Greenwood, Dennis Stewart, Donna Stewart President, Rob Adlam, Vice President, Jennifer Dunkerson, Secretary. Absent: Bill Cockshutt, Treasurer, Mike O'Byrne, Doug Baker, Peter Farrugia.

*"City  
Postured  
for Tax Sale  
of  
66 Mohawk St"*

### Special Interest Articles:

~ Donna's Message pg 1

~ Jennifer Bringing Artifacts to Life pg 2

~ Kidsfest 2003 pg 2

~ Annual Meeting pg 2

~ Heritage Workshop pg 3

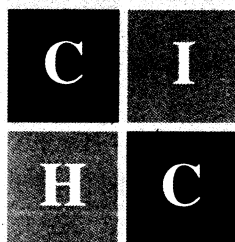
~ Heritage Tour pg 3

~ Mike O'Byrne Monument pg 4

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Volume 3, Issue 1



## Memories and Anecdotes Bring Artifacts to Life.

By Jennifer Dunkerson

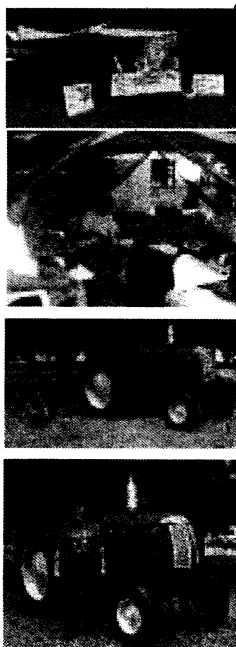
Collections take on many different forms. While we are used to collections being made up of three-dimensional artifacts there are, in fact, other kinds of collections to be had. Artifacts are only as good as the background information that accompanies them into a collection. The common questions surrounding an object of interest are the classic W-5: who, what, where, when, and why? For many museums, an artifact, no matter how old or unique, is of little value if there is no information as to its origins or the people who utilized it. As a result, we have to collect the stories, memories and anecdotes to bring our artifacts to life! Accumulating the information is a form of collecting in and of itself.

Recently, the CIHC was given two pages of handwritten reminiscences by a long-time Brantford resident, Ruth Menhennet. Ruth has given us a glimpse of life on Crandall Street in Eagle Place in the late 1890s and early 1900s that is a wonderful snapshot of the neighbourhood surrounding the

industrial core of the Mohawk/Greenwich Street area. Ruth writes of memories she had as a little girl of her grandparents store that was frequented by the workers at Adams Wagon Works and children from the Mohawk Institute. They sold work clothes and basic supplies as well as penny candy and ice cream. Her grandfather built a bike rack outside his store for the factory workers to park the bikes they rode to get to work and many of the workers patronized his store in appreciation for his gift. These are the memories that help to illustrate our history beyond the limits of artifacts themselves.

As the CIHC continues to search for a space to exhibit and provide a venue for those tangible links to the past, we are limited as to the number of artifacts we can collect and store at this time. However, we do have an unlimited capacity for the stories, the memories, and the anecdotes. If you have a story to tell, whether short or long, we would love to hear about it. Write it down, type it up, record it, dictate it; it does not matter to us – but we do want to collect it. History is the story of people and it is people from whom we need to hear it told!

*"At Kidsfest  
August 2003  
Mohawk Park  
Brantford"*

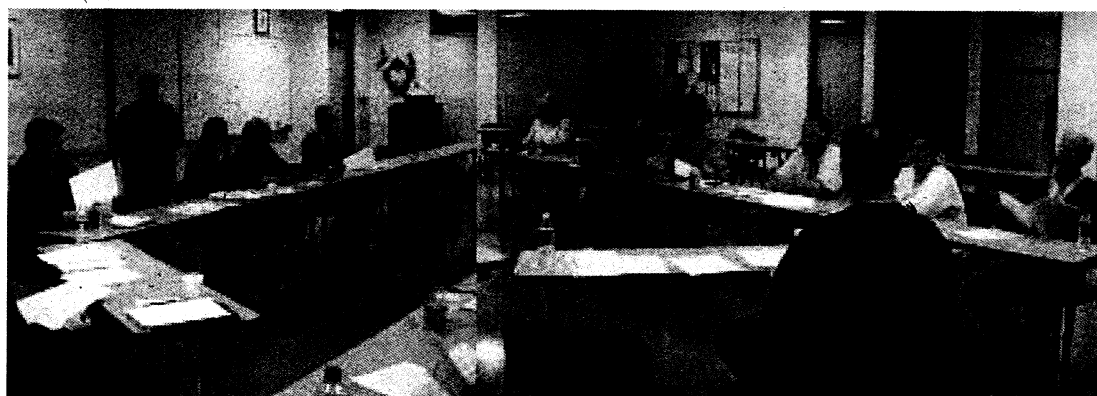


*A Proud Owner with  
His Model 40 Tractor*



Bill Cockshutt  
at Kidsfest 2003

## Annual General Meeting November 17, 2003



Annual Meeting Held at Brantford Police Station Community Room



CIHC Display Table



Donna Presenting Meeting Agenda



Members enjoy a Comment From Art



Donna presents Art with Gift of Appreciation



Donna presents Ruth & Wendy Gift of Thanks



Ruth Autographs her Latest Book for Janice

# Heritage Workshop and Tour

## Grand River Heritage Workshop

by Donna Stewart

We were busy this past while attending shows and events that created more awareness and one of the highlights was the Grand River Heritage Workshop held at Paris ON February 16/04. This was an amazing gathering of folks who have a passion and dedication to saving our heritage. Our own Dr. Peter Farrugia was a keynote speaker in the morning session and he presented a fantastic pictorial history of our local industrial heritage with an emphasis on Cockshutt. Peter did an excellent job on promoting the CIHC as well. Many people visited our booth and new contacts were made. One of those contacts turned out to be Anthony Butler of the Made in Hamilton Heritage Project. He invited us to join his organization for a heritage tour of old factory sites in Hamilton ON.

## Hamilton Heritage Tour

by Donna Stewart

On February 28 six of us had the pleasure of attending this tour. What a wonderful day that turned out to be. With Tony as our guide, nearly a full bus of spectators enjoyed an oral history of Hamilton with a wonderful visit to a recently restored Cotton Mill where the current owner treated us to wine,

*"A wonderful visit  
to a recently  
restored  
Cotton Mill"*

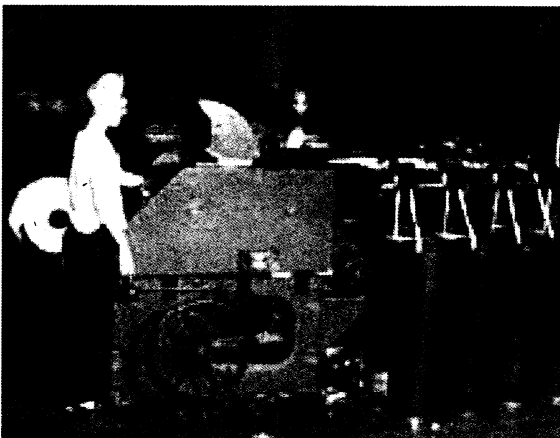
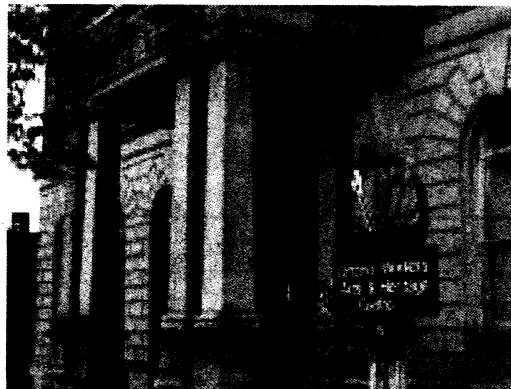


Photo of activity at Cotton Mill in early 1900s

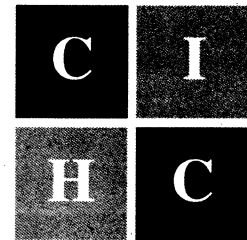
beer, sodas and deli sandwiches while we wandered around in the 104 year old building that was built in 1900 for Cosmos Imperial Mills Limited. The current owners are a group from British Columbia, Toronto and Texas. Our host was Hal Spradling who with his big 10 gallon hat, cowboy boots and southern drawl charmed us with his hospitality. I discovered that Mr. Spradling has some storage facilities in the Brantford area and is in town nearly once a week. We exchanged information and I plan to arrange a meeting with him soon to pick his brain.

Our next stop was the Workers Arts & Heritage Centre – a wonderful museum that honours the industrial workers of our past. With a large emphasis on Steel production as Hamilton is the steel city, these hands on interactive displays were excellent! The museum is housed in the old Customs house on Stuart Street down by the bay. What great inspiration we got from this experience.

Our last stop was at a brush and bristle manufacturing company housed in a very old factory. Here we were free to wander through the work areas and see how this factory remains vital even today. All in all the day was a huge success and the people we met were fantastic.



The Workers Arts & Heritage Centre  
Visit their web site at [www.web.net/~owahc](http://www.web.net/~owahc)



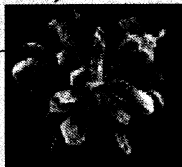
On May 15, 1872,  
Hamilton's wage-  
earners marched  
through the city,  
demanding the nine-  
hour day.



Hamilton  
Electric Light  
Advertisement



The Chipman,  
Holton  
Company Limited  
1912



Gypsum Starburst



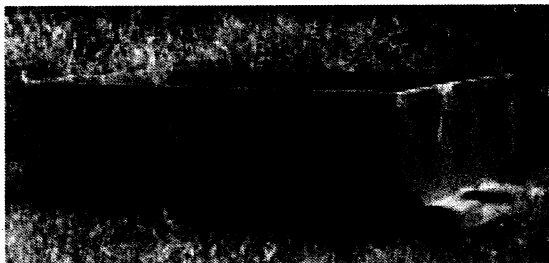
Mike O'Byrne all dressed up at the Gypsum mine

## Monument to recognize one of the first mining sites in Ontario.

By Mike O'Byrne,  
Grand River Heritage Mines Society

The Grand River Heritage Mines Society is working on what we believe will be a unique monument to recognize the local gypsum mining heritage.

In the 1790s, surveyor Augustus Jones recorded the presence of gypsum where the Nith and Grand Rivers join. In 1822, William Holme opened the first gypsum mining and milling operation. This industrial operation was then purchased by Hiram Capron, credited with founding the Town of Paris who named the community after Plaster of Paris, a gypsum product. Paris therefore has a claim of being one of the first mining sites in Ontario.



The mining society has been donated a narrow gauge ore car by the Canadian Gypsum Company and plans to restore the ore car and place it on a concrete pad at a site yet to be determined in Paris. The monument will incorporate a plaque noting the historical details as well as the various organizations and individuals contributing to the project. We are quite excited about this novel project

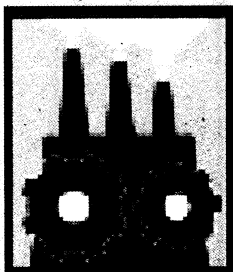
The Grand River Heritage Mines Society was founded in 1993 as the result of a few people coming together while researching the old Paris Plaster Mines south of Paris to get information for a OMB hearing. We discovered that the Town of Paris had been founded because of the beds of gypsum and the water power available at the forks of the Nith and Grand Rivers. There were many mines opened in Brant County from 1822 onward, many of them unrecorded in government reports and local histories. Gypsum ( $\text{CaSO}_4 \cdot 2\text{H}_2\text{O}$ ), then called land plaster, was mined and ground up and applied to the farmers' fields as a soil conditioner. Gypsum was also used to make stucco and plaster of Paris. Today it

is used mainly for drywall and additives in other products. We discovered from the 1851 census that, Paris with a population of about 1000, had 208 "lath and plaster" (stucco) houses, and that several people laboured in the various mines and mills, or hauled the plaster to the mills by wagons some by barge through the raceways and along the river, or using sleighs in the winter.

A monument for Heritage

### A Treasure in art.

The image on the left was provided from the collection of Ken Irwin. This is a Massey Harris add from the 1940s and was used to holster parts sales for their farm machinery.



## COCKSHUTT INTERNATIONAL COCKSHUTT CLUB Annual Meeting

August 13, 14, 15 2004  
BLUFFTON, INDIANA

Mark your calendars for our next Cockshutt spring meeting in April 2nd thru the 4th 2004 at Amish Acres in Indiana!

Canadian Industrial  
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CIHC News

**MASSEY HARRIS MACHINES  
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BEST FARM MACHINERY SERVICE IN CANADA**

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