

## **CIHC** **Canadian Industrial Heritage Centre**



### **Special Interest Articles:**

- *Waterous  
Engine Works*  
pg. 2.
- *The Inside Story  
of 66 Mohawk*  
pg. 3

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## **We're On our Way!**

### **Welcome to our dream Just imagine....**

...the resurrection of a hidden treasure that was once covered and surrounded by deteriorating buildings and environmental chaos. Imagine the future... a vibrant active Museum and Learning Centre where citizens remember, tourists come to be amazed and children learn about Canadian Industrial Heritage using the technology of today partnered with the machinery of days gone by. Imagine Brantford Ontario Home of the Canadian Industrial Heritage Centre! Imagine college and university accredited courses in the

## **CIHC NEWS**

We have already established a strong identity in the community and have had many interviews appear in the newspaper and television media. The *Brownfield Series* by Expositor reporter Michael-Allen Marion has helped to keep the site in the forefront of everyone's attention.

Meanwhile, we continue to acquire some amazing artifacts through donations. Recently John Waterous donated a wonderful collection of archives and wooden molds from the *Waterous Engine Works Company*. Bill Cockshutt has purchased and donated an 1877 *Brantford Gang Plow*. Jennifer Dunkerson our resident "Museum Curator-Advisor" is busy working on our funding proposals and our collections policies.

We are talking with both Federal and

soon-to-be-lost arts of the past. Imagine learning how to restore and rebuild antiques and attending fascinating lectures or presentations as history comes alive for all that attend!

We're on our way to making this vision a reality. On July2, 2002 Brantford City Council unanimously approved Heritage Designation of the Timekeepers Building at 66 Mohawk. Our incorporation as a not-for-profit organization is in process, we already have artifacts waiting for display, and our first membership drive has begun!

\_\_\_\_\_ **Donna Stewart, Co-Chair CIHC** \_\_\_\_\_

Provincial Government representatives to communicate our work and dream across the land. The Honourable Jane Stewart, MP and Minister of Human Resources Canada has been very supportive, as is Dave Levac our Provincial Member of Parliament. The City of Brantford staff in all departments assists us whenever and wherever they can through the cooperation of our Mayor Chris Friel and his amazing assistant Josie Mannen.

***We welcome individuals, organizations  
and especially industry to get involved!***

***For more information contact: The  
Canadian Industrial Heritage Centre  
Committee at PO Box 23055 Brantford ON  
N3T 6K4 or call Donna Stewart at 519-752-  
9858 or email me at  
[dmstewart@bfree.on.ca](mailto:dmstewart@bfree.on.ca).***

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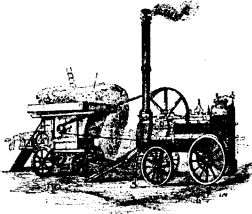
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**Welcome to our Dream!**



## Curator's Corner *By Jennifer Dunkerson,*

Do you have an artifact that played a part in the story of Canadian industry? Is it a tool, a piece of equipment, a patented product, or a uniform? It might also be a bill of sale, a record of employment, a supplies order, or an assembly line photograph.

These kinds of artifacts and archival materials have value to a museum organization. We're dedicated to preserving Canada's industrial past and are looking for people like you to help us gather a collection of distinction through personal, permanent donations of your industrial treasures.

When considering an artifact donation please keep in mind the following helpful suggestions:

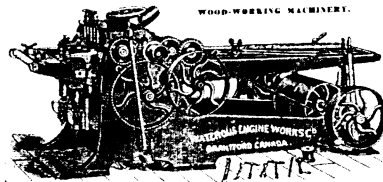
- Be prepared to tell us as much as you know about each artifact. Usually we are seeking answers to the commonly asked questions: Who, What, Where, When, and Why?

- Make sure that no one else in your family wishes to have each artifact. We feel that it is very important that a family retain its collective heritage for as long as possible.
- If you wish to retain a record of each artifact take a photograph of it against a plain, dark background.
- If an item is broken, torn or otherwise damaged do not have it fixed. Let us take a look at it first; we wish to retain as much of each artifact's originality as possible and we have our own sources for special repairs if necessary.
- If you wish to receive a tax receipt in the amount of the value of your donation, it is your responsibility to obtain an appraisal prior to donating an item.

*(continued on page 5)*

*"We're dedicated to preserving Canada's industrial past and are looking for people to help us gather a collection of distinction."*

## Waterous Engine Works



This historic Brantford company was founded in **1844** by P.C. VanBrocklinn who created a foundry for making stoves, plows and, later, threshing machines.

In 1848 Charles H. Waterous Sr. bought into the business and in 1864 the firm's name became C.H. Waterous

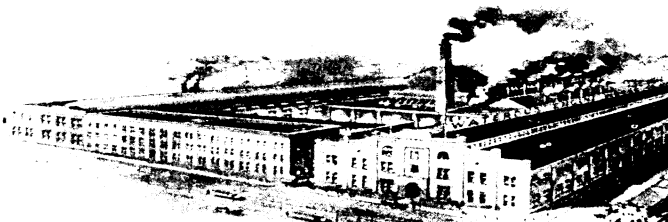
& Co. In 1874 the company became Waterous Engine Works Co. Ltd.

Through the **1880's** the product line diversified to include saw-mill equipment as well as steam engines (which began production in the late 50's to serve the booming oil well industry).

Also in the late '80's Waterous introduced the first band mills into Canada and in support of the new mills organized a school for filers at the factory during the winter months.

By **1905** the company was employing 350-400 mechanics and had annual gross revenues of \$400,000. Products now included heavy machinery, engines, boilers, saw mills, stone crushers, steam and road rollers, fire engines and ladders, hose wagons, hook and ladder trucks in many styles, sizes and shapes.

Excerpted from *"The Sampler: A Book About Brantford"*



## The Inside Story on 66 Mohawk *By Bill Cockshutt*

There is nothing magic in this address unless you know that it was the location of the Head Office of an important farm equipment maker. It represents a vigorous manufacturing company at the beginning of the Twentieth Century, which along with many similar enterprises made Brantford a great Industrial City. This address was the heart of The Cockshutt Plow Company from 1903 to 1962. And it represents a place where many hundreds, even thousands of workers were able to earn a living to support their families.

The company began in 1877 as a small foundry and blacksmith shop on South Market Street operated by James G. Cockshutt to make top quality steel plows. First Ontario farmers, and then Western Canadian farmers, recognized these plows were tailored to their needs.

The *J.G.C. Sulky*, was the first riding plow designed and built in Canada, and became famous as the most popular plow for breaking prairie sod. The popularity of the *J.G.C. Riding Plow* enticed farmers to buy the company's other products and it grew very quickly.

As the market expanded, so did the Market Street plant until there was no longer any room for expansion. So Cockshutt Plow purchased 23 acres on Mohawk St. and in 1903 built a huge new state-of-the-art factory. On opening day it was the largest single factory in Brantford, and the largest plow factory in the Dominion of Canada.

Until 1910 Cockshutt continued to expand

and dominate the plow business in Canada. It purchased the Frost & Wood Co. of Smith's Falls, a maker of haying and harvesting equipment, as well as the Adams Wagon Co., producers of carriages and wagons. Twelve furrow plows for steam engines were the key product as were wartime supplies during the First World War, 1914-18.

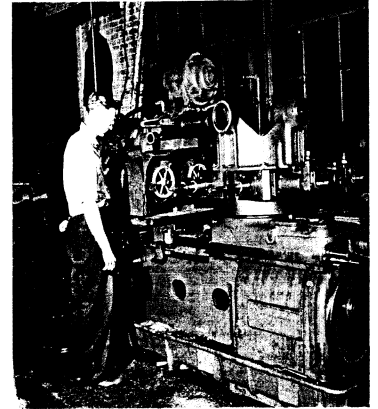
Tractors were added in the late twenties, and moisture conserving Tiller Combines for the drought years of the thirties. When the Second World War began virtually the entire factory was converted to make a range of wartime products from artillery shells to wings and landing gear for planes. New buildings were erected and dedicated to making fuselages for Mosquito bombers. For the first time many women were employed in various skilled jobs, setting a pace for other companies to follow.

When peacetime came, Cockshutt introduced the first modern tractor designed and built in Canada. It was equipped with another world first, the *Live-Power-Take-Off*. *Harvester Combines* also joined the long list of farm machinery made here, supplying a countrywide network of branches and dealers.. Cockshutt farm implements were sold world wide, and most of them were made in this factory complex.

In the late fifties, the company was sold to Oliver, a division of *White Motor Company*. For a short time White continued to operate from these buildings making product for their U.S. and Canadian companies. Unfortunately that company went into receivership and eventually all of the 66 Mohawk St. complex fell into the condition you see today.

The best remaining building is the solid red brick Head Office that stands shabby but proud, as a symbol of early Canadian enterprise. It still retains the proof of industrial success and the memories of many Brantford workers and families.

**Soon it will be a museum where we can all share in our industrial**




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"...a place where many hundreds, even thousands of workers were able to earn a living to support their families."



**Cockshutt Assembly Line**



David McKee,  
Brantford's Town Crier  
reads the  
proclamation

## Cockshutt Park Dedication Ceremony



**Cockshutt Park Re-Dedication: Donna & Dennis Stewart standing with plaque.**

With CIHC Directors in attendance, Mayor Chris Friel of Brantford re-dedicated Cockshutt Park with a special commemorative plaque provided by funding from the Cockshutt Homecoming Festival. Bill Cockshutt (a CIHC founding Director) made a speech thanking the City and noting the contribution of the Cockshutt company to Brantford's proud industrial history. *See Bill's article on page 3*

## CIHC at Tourism Centre Opening

CIHC set up a booth and brought in a special display of artifacts to help celebrate the opening of Brantford's Tourism Centre. Inside, **Art Berry** (photo at right), one of CIHC's founding Directors made sure visitors were well informed about CIHC and fascinating facts from our industrial history.



Outside Dennis Stewart (another CIHC founding Director) manned the tractor display and told people the history of the Cockshutt series of tractors.

### Meet the Directors

Donna Stewart **Chair**  
Tom Oldham **Co-Chair**  
Franke Sturgeon **Treasurer**  
Wendy Oldham **Secretary**  
  
Rob Adlam  
Art Berry  
Bill Cockshutt  
Clarence Kellam  
Ruth Lefler  
Dennis Stewart

## Eagle Place "Lend Us Your Ears" Event

In a special reception at Eagle Place, CIHC invited residents to munch corn, hot dogs and listen to great music with *The Jammers* and the "Andrews Sisters".



MPP Dave Levac talks to residents about the importance of CIHC in revitalizing the neighbourhood.

**3-year old Colin sits atop a Cockshutt 40 tractor at the CIHC display**



## Curator's Corner part 2

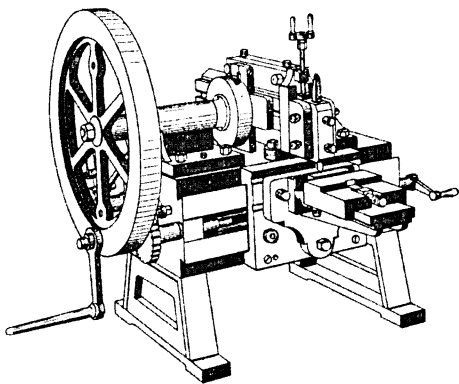
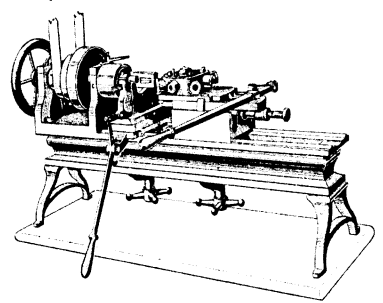
If you offer to donate an artifact to us the following steps are taken:

- A temporary receipt is issued to you acknowledging your offer and placing the artifact in our care.
- All artifacts are presented to a collections committee whose members make the decision as to whether or not to accept each artifact into the permanent collection based on an established set of criteria.
- Once accepted, a gift form is completed and signed by you, the donor, and this form serves as an official transfer of ownership. A copy of the gift form, a thank you letter, and a tax receipt (if applicable) are then sent to you. All donors will be recognized in print media such as this newsletter and, where permissible, in exhibit text and signage.
- Each artifact is then properly

documented, registered and catalogued before it is carefully stored.

At this time we are unable to guarantee that any one artifact will be exhibited permanently once the exhibits are installed in our future facility. Many, however, may be used in temporary displays or travelling exhibits as part of our current plan to promote our new museum across the country. You may rest assured that in the meantime all artifacts will be carefully looked after in our temporary storage areas.

And remember, any artifact donated to us now will be studied and appreciated by our committee members who will be conducting research and formulating a plan for the innovative, interpretive exhibits and educational programs that will be offered at the *Canadian Industrial Heritage Centre*



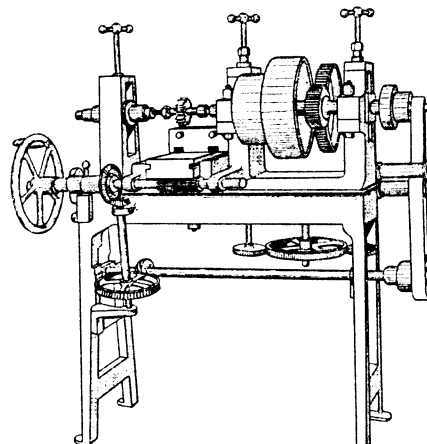
### 19th Century English Machine Tools

Above is a **Nasmyth shaper**, c. 1850, invented in 1836. The cutter reciprocates horizontally to produce surfaces formed of straight-line elements.

In the upper right of this page is a **Robbins and Lawrence turret-lathe** c.1855. The octagonal turret can carry eight tools to be used in turn.

Below is the **Howe milling machine**, c. 1848. This was the first milling machine manufactured for sale in England.

Photos and captions from "A History of Technology", Volume IV, Oxford University Press, 1958



*"Our plan is to provide innovative, interpretive exhibits and educational programs at the Canadian Industrial Heritage Centre."*

## **Canadian Industrial Heritage Centre**

P.O. Box 23055  
Brantford, Ontario  
N3T 6K4

### **Volunteer Now!**

**Current Committees  
include:**

Artifacts/Archival

Site Restoration

Fundraising

Promotion & Public  
Relations

**Fax us at**  
**519-757-1815**

### **See Our Potential!**

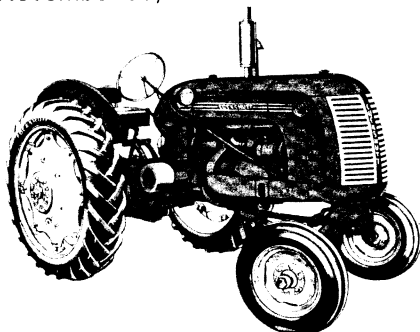
Check out a new industrial  
museum in the UK

**[www.ingenuity.org.uk](http://www.ingenuity.org.uk)**

## **Membership Benefits!**

By becoming a member of The Canadian Industrial Heritage Centre you will be one of the founding members of a national museum and learning center. You will help Canadians build a living legacy to our heritage!

Limited Time Introductory Memberships are only \$15.00 for Individuals and \$25.00 for Families and will be good until November 30, 2003.



**The Cockshutt 30 with "Live Power Take Off"**

Part of CIHC's Mobile Tractor Historical Display available for special events.

Cockshutt was "first in the field" with fully independent live PTO, free of any external, cumbersome mechanical contraptions. It was developed early in 1945 by a brainstorming group of engineers headed by Maurice "Mac" McCurdy.

### **CIHC Oral History Project!**

We're gathering memories from people who worked in industry and recording them on tape and video. That way, future generations will hear first hand what it was like to work and live in Canada's industrial past.

We are delighted to welcome Virginia McKendry, on board. She is Assistant Professor of Contemporary Studies at Wilfred Laurier University, and her interest is in Industrial Visual Culture and the History of Manufacturing.

**Call us now at 519-756-8228, ext 5706 to be part of the oral history project and share your memories of our industrial past!**

With our first newsletter (a great collector's item) and a membership card to carry in your wallet, you can spread the word. Ask others to join you in making a difference in the preservation of our industrial heritage!

Membership will include free admission to the museum when it opens and an invitation to attend our annual meeting as well as the Plowman's Dinner at reduced price! You will be notified of special offers available only to members via our newsletter!

Don't forget that as a member you will have the right to vote at our annual meeting for Directors and on other issues brought to the membership!



### **NEWS ALERT!**

Just as we were going to print we learned of the devastating fire at 347 Greenwich, site of the **old Massey Verity Works**. The site is a close neighbour to our proposed building reclamation at 66 Mohawk. This event dramatically highlights the fragile and even volatile situation facing our historical industrial sites.

It is absolutely urgent to take action on abandoned factory sites (brownfields)! Everybody must come to the table - each level of government, private industry, individual citizens - all who care for the well-being of communities. We must act now before our history is lost for good!

Make your voice heard today on this issue: contact **Jane Stewart MP** at 519-751-2566, **David Levac MPP** at 519-759-0361 and **Brantford Mayor Chris Friel** at 519-759-4150.