



Forestry

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Restoration of Forests and Landscapes in Ontario



Historical illustrations of pioneer properties sometimes show a presence of large white pine in the forest super story in the Durham area. Picture from Illustrated Historical Atlas 1877.

An illustration from Part 2 of *The Rewards of Planting Trees: A Forestry Tour Through York and Durham Forests*, which will appear in the Spring, 2023 *Forestry*. Part 1 begins on page 18.

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Request for Content

Do you have an interesting story to tell about some aspect of forest history in Ontario? Or are you prepared to write an article for the newsletter on some aspect of forest history? Do you know of interesting photographs, documents, websites or other items that would be suitable for inclusion in the newsletter? Do you have a comment about something you read in a previous issue? If so, contact Journal Editor, Caroline Mach, R.P.F., at editor@fhso.ca. Deadlines are April 1 and October 1.

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Chair's Message

By: Jim Farrell

I am delighted to tell you that by the time you receive your fall issue of *Forestry* our new website will be revamped and launched. You will be able to connect through the same address as our original website <https://ontarioforesthistorystory.ca/>. As part of our new look and deeper website content, we have rebranded ourselves as Forest History Ontario, although all the legal registration and incorporation documentation remains the same. Our sincere thanks go to Board member Faye Johnson, R.P.F., who very ably Chaired the Website Committee (including Amy Howitt, Sherry Hambly and me, with help from Brooke McClelland) working with the website team at Probase (Vince and Cindy Murphy) delivered an excellent product for a very reasonable cost. We will be looking at ways to bolster our balance sheet given the significant (for us) expenditure we made to update our web presence. Membership renewal notices will be going out to all current and former members in mid-November, and I encourage you all to renew and talk up Forest History Ontario (FHO) with friends, relatives, neighbours and strangers.

The fall highlight for us was the planning, hosting and delivery of a speaker's panel on forest history at the Canadian Institute of Forestry AGM/Conference September 11-14 in Sault Ste Marie. A comprehensive report is included in this edition, but the 'Coles notes' version is that we had three speakers: Al Tithecott presenting on fire management, past, present and future; Mark Kuhlberg told us about the wild and risky early days of aerial application of pesticides; and, Laird Van Damme, R.P.F. provided a thorough picture of forest tenure in Ontario from the earliest of days before European settlement through to the innovative tenure models of today. We had a standing room only crowd in the meeting room and a very enthusiastic audience. I encourage you to read the full report and download the presentations.

We have started the planning process for our 2023 AGM/speaker's panel and will be considering whether to hold another virtual or a face-to-face event for the first time since 2020. As these plans become clearer and firmed up we will be in touch with all members and those that would like to join us.

Finally, and most importantly, sincere thanks to all you dedicated members and supporters for sticking with us through some very difficult years and all the real life challenges that occupied many of us during that time. With our new website and rebranded look, we are very bullish on the near future of Forest History Ontario and good reading.

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Forest History Ontario at the CIF-AGM Sault Ste Marie September 12-14, 2022

By: Jim Farrell

Forest History Ontario (FHO) was well represented at the CIF-AGM in Sault Ste Marie in mid-September with almost all the Board Directors and many members participating. FHO organized and sponsored a speaker's panel as well as hosted a display to promote memberships and talk to delegates about forest history. This 114th CIF conference was the first face to face meeting in over two years, the last being in Pembroke in 2019 (where FHO also hosted a speaker's panel) and full registration was over 150 and with day passes and other registrant, participation was close to 200.

On Sept 13th FHO hosted one of three concurrent sessions, first thing in the morning titled, 'The past informs the future'. Moderated by Board Chair Jim Farrell, the panel included three excellent speakers and a number of shameless plugs for FHO and our soon to be released new website.

Dr. Mark Kuhlberg, Full Professor of History at Laurentian University in Sudbury and past Board Chair of FHO, presented *Saving the Appearance of the Property: Launching Canada's Aerial War Against Forest Pests in BC, 1913-1929*. This fascinating and photo filled presentation provided a very entertaining and informative look at the early days of aerial dusting of pesticides (calcium and lead arsenates) against hemlock looper in central Ontario and the lower mainland of BC.

Mr. Al Tithecott, Wildland Fire Management Consultant Wildland Fire and former Director, Aviation, Forest Fire and Emergency Services, OMNRF presented *Wildland Fire: Moving from Concepts of Normal to Embrace Risk and Resilience*. Al provided unique insights and observations grounded in over 35 years of wildfire management experience into fire incidence, extent and behaviours of the past, how these are changing and how policies also need to change. He offered examples of past fires and fire records from a number of locations across the country and building on these decades of learning, stressed new thinking for new realities.

Mr. Laird Van Damme, R.P.F., Chair of the Board, Nawiinginokiima Forest Management Corporation (NFMC), Adjunct Professor at Lakehead University and well regarded forestry professional in Ontario presented *Forest Tenure Update: Historical Perspective*. Laird provided a very comprehensive review of forest tenure models in Ontario dating back to the agreements and practices of Indigenous peoples prior to European settlement and through to the present day. While offering an excellent and comprehensive history of forest tenure models, policies and key feature over the decades he also introduced us all to Complexity Theory and the Cycle of Adaptive Change. Until this year when Temagami became the second Local Forest Management Corporation, NFMC was the only example of the new and innovative tenure model in Ontario.



Given that the FHO session was one of three concurrent sessions competing for 'bums in seats' it was very gratifying to see the excellent turnout and standing room only crowd packing the room. A clear indicator that forest history remains popular and relevant.



Records Related to Forest History in the Ontario Historical Plaques Database

By: Sherry Hambly

Introduction

The Ontario Historical Plaques program has established over 1300 historical plaques across Ontario over the past 60 years. The purpose of the program is to highlight various aspects of Ontario's history. The program is managed by the Ontario Heritage Trust. The Trust has developed a pdf database of all the plaques that describes the purpose and location of each. This database resides on the website of the Ontario Heritage Trust. It is searchable by using the "Find" function of most internet search engines. The database can be accessed through this link:

https://www.heritagetrust.on.ca/user_assets/documents/2021-Provincial-plaques-Open-data-v02-FINAL-ENG.pdf

There are several plaques that highlight various aspects of forest history. For this article the database was searched using a variety of forest related terms, as shown below:

-Forest -Lumber -Timber -Pulp	-Wood -Tree -Pine -Nature	-Conservation -Parks -Fish -Wildlife	-Hunting -Fishing -Fur
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Nearly 100 records in the database pertain specifically to forest history. There are many others where one of the words above is referenced, mostly as a general description. The records returned were put into a Word document and saved as a pdf. This pdf document has been uploaded to the website of Forest History Ontario, and can be accessed through the following link:

<https://www.fhso.ca/images/files/db-ont-hist-plaques-forest-related-fin.pdf>

Only those records that contain more specific information on forest history are listed in this document. Other records that contain the search word, but are not a fulsome record of forest history, are noted at the end of the forest history records document. There are several records related to the fur trade that mostly refer to post locations. They are not included in this document. There are very few records in the database related to hunting, fishing, wildlife, nature or conservation.

A separate document has been prepared on forest history records related to artists and writers. This article follows on page 6.

Here is an example of a record from the Ontario Heritage Trust pdf database:

Title	Plaque text	Location	County/District/Municipality	Latitude	Longitude
Alligator Tug, The	By the late 19th century, lumbering in Ontario had retreated from easily accessible waterways and movement of logs became difficult and expensive. An imaginative solution to this problem, the amphibious steam warping (or winching) tug was developed in 1888-89 by an inventive local entrepreneur, John Ceburn West. His remarkable vessel, commonly called the Alligator was driven by paddle wheels and housed a powerful winch that enabled the scow to tow large log booms cheaply and efficiently and to pull itself over land from lake to lake. West's iron foundry, West and Peachey of Simcoe, quickly	In Lynnwood Park, Norfolk Street North at Alligator Lane, Simcoe	Southwestern Ontario, County of Norfolk (District), County of Norfolk	42.840626	-80.305348

The pdf document (located on the FHO website) created for the forest history related records contains only the first two columns.

The Ontario Heritage Trust is actively working with partners to develop new plaques. Their website

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lists criteria, foci of interest and an application process. Partner (submitting) organizations are expected to contribute financially to the development of the plaques that are approved by the program.

Comment/Question

Do take some time to visit the website of Ontario Heritage Trust and review their program. Here is the link to their website:

<https://www.heritagetrust.on.ca/en/>

Then give some thought to possible forest related historical events, persons or activities that would be suitable for an Ontario history plaque. If you have suggestions, please send them to the general email of our Society – info@fhso.ca.

Records in the Ontario Historical Plaques Database on Artists and Writers Related to Ontario's Forest History

By: Sherry Hambly

Introduction

The Ontario Historical Plaques program has established more than 1300 historical plaques across Ontario over the past 60 years. The purpose of the program is to highlight various aspects of Ontario's history. The program is managed by the Ontario Heritage Trust. The Trust has developed a pdf database of all the plaques that describes the purpose and location of each. This database resides on the website of the Ontario Heritage Trust. It is searchable by using the "Find" function of most internet search engines. The database can be accessed through this link:

https://www.heritagetrust.on.ca/user_assets/documents/2021-Provincial-plaques-Open-data-v02-FINAL-ENG.pdf.

Several plaques provide information on various aspects of Ontario's forest history. The previous article (page 5) describes the broader overview and description of historical plaques related to Ontario's forest history.

This article specifically focuses on plaques about artists and writers who produced works related primarily to Ontario's forest history (most plaques relate to Ontario's natural history as opposed to forest industrial history). As an example, there is a plaque describing Tom Thompson's many paintings portraying Ontario's forest landscapes. Thompson did create a few paintings portraying some aspects of industrial forestry – e.g., his painting titled "The Alligator", but most were paintings of the natural landscape.

A database of these plaques has been created. The database contains an image of the content of each plaque, as well as links, where possible, to examples of the artistic work described on the plaque. The links/websites included in this database were selected for their assumed long term presence and reliability. The links are not intended to be biographical sources. It is assumed that the reader will pursue his/her own research, if so inclined, on biographical aspects of individual artists/writers.

The database can be accessed here:

<https://www.fhso.ca/images/files/db-ont-hist-plaques-artists-and-writers-forest-related.pdf>

The intent of this article is purely descriptive, as opposed to being analytical in nature.

Monroe Landon Guardian of Southern Ontario Forests

By: John Bacher

During his long life, from 1888 to 1980, Monroe Landon was able, through working with a close network of friends and family, to become the guardian of the privately owned forests of southern Ontario. He helped secure the adoption of the *Trees Act* of 1946, the first legislation to restrict tree cutting on private land. Landon subsequently became a full-time by-law enforcement officer and was able through great dedication stop the loss of Norfolk's forests through the expansion of highly profitable tobacco farms.

The timing of Landon's impact on the landscape in the mid-1950s is revealing of the cultural differences over trees and forests between the dominant Euro-Canadian culture in Ontario and that of its Native peoples. Similar restrictions began to be imposed on the New Credit Ojibway and Six Nations Territory in part because of the shock of seeing the widespread desertification close by in Norfolk County. It erupted in the mid-19th century.

The desert sands marching across Norfolk County in the mid-19th century were used by the pioneering Mohawk Confederacy Chief, George Johnson, (Tekahionwake) to warn his people about the dangers of deforestation. He turned his condolence ceremony, where he was raised up to be one of the 50 successors of the founders of the League of Peace, to underscore the danger of marching sands.

In the conclusion of the sacred chant known as the Hai, Hai Johnson warned his community of being buried in spreading sands. He believed his fellow chiefs may have inherited the titles of their ancestors but "not their mighty intellects", since "in the flourishing region which they left, nothing but a desert remains." [1]

Unusual circumstances created the environment where Monroe Landon would be the driving force to bring legal protection to most of southern Ontario's forests, outside of reservation boundaries, which are on private land. The key people were his New Jersey loyalist family, who founded the farm where he was raised and a Guelph business magnate and accomplished botanist, James Goldie. Landon's youthful passion for plants was also encouraged by a paternal grandmother who had a passion for cooking with herbs. [2]

Monroe Landon, from his youthful rambles through Norfolk with Goldie focused on thirty square miles "of rather inaccessible marsh and wildlife sanctuary", along the shores of Lake Erie on and around Turkey Point. Every year Goldie would go to his father's farm, and the two would explore Turkey Point. They found it presented "an opportunity for interesting study of the varied plant life in the process of being established on land". [3]

What Monroe Landon learnt on his explorations with Goldie was later praised by a long-time colleague in his conservation efforts, author Harry Barrett. He was awed at how Landon "conversed as a boy with the pioneer founder of the Long Point Company... absorbed the accounts of the virgin forest and marshes as told by the early hunters, trappers and pioneer farmers." [4]



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Soon wed 65 years



Mr. and Mrs. Landon (Harold B. Stewart Photo)

The Simcoe Reformer, Tues., Dec. 9/75.

A well known and popular Simcoe couple will soon mark their 65th wedding anniversary.

Mr. and Mrs. Monroe Landon, Norfolk St. S., Simcoe, will be at home to their friends on Sunday, Dec. 14 from 2 to 5 p.m. and from 7 to 9 p.m. on the occasion of their 65th wedding anniversary.

Mrs. Landon is the former Eva Brook Tillman. She was born in Jersey City, N.J., and is the daughter of the late Peter and Emma Tillman. Mrs. Landon has one sister, Mrs. E. E. Lauer (Dorothy) of Dunnville. Mrs. Landon's interests have included membership in the St. Paul's Ladies' Aid and the Governor Simcoe Chapter Imperial Order Daughters of the Empire.

Mr. Landon was born in Simcoe. He is the son of the late Zebulon and Alison B. Landon. A retired farmer, Mr. Landon is a well known naturalist, who is an authority on botany in this area. He has been a practical botanist for many years and is the author of a detailed booklet called Vascular Plants of Norfolk, which provides a guide to anyone seriously interested in the flora of the north shore of Lake Erie. In the 1930s an orchid growing in the Turkey Point marsh was named after Mr. Landon.

Mr. and Mrs. Landon were married on Dec. 14, 1910, in Rahway, N.J., by Rev. Stachel. They have six children, Robert Monroe of Simcoe; twins, James Peter, R.R. 3, Simcoe, and Thomas

Zebulon of Simcoe; Alex Tillman of Listowel; Mrs. Leslie Marshall (Eva Monroe) of Stoney Creek and Mrs. Joseph Bodnar (Mary Lucinda) of Simcoe. There are 18 grandchildren and 16 great grandchildren.

In 1892 Monroe Landon's father specialized their family's farm around purebred Jersey cattle. In addition to using his herd for dairy purposes, Jersey cattle were bred for sale to other farms. Around 1901, following his matriculation from Simcoe Collegiate, his father gave Monroe responsibility for the 230-acre dairy farm.

For about a decade before he attended the Ontario Agricultural College in Guelph in 1903 Goldie and Landon traversed the 750 square miles of Norfolk County. One of the relics of the past grandeur of its forests that they discovered where desert sand now blew was a stump of a white pine that was six feet in diameter at Goldie's breast height. They found evidence of the survival and decline of the Kentucky coffee-tree, which is now designated as a threatened species in Ontario. Mature trees had been cleared away and the species was holding on through seedlings.

Goldie and Landon encountered a few black gum, but found that the redbud had vanished, although documentation was dug up that it was recorded in nearby Kent County in 1871. They documented how a wildflower, the Dragon's Mouth, was disappearing. Likewise vanishing was the Showy Orchid. (*Orchis spectabilis*).[5]

In 1903 Landon enrolled in a three-year veterinary program at OAC to assist his new responsibilities of running his father's Jersey cattle herd. His studies did assist him in being a successful farmer. He was for decades President of the Ontario Jersey Association. He won competitions for his cattle exhibited at the Canadian National Exhibition and the Royal Winter Fair. [6]

While passing course requirements, formal studies seemed dull in comparison to the botanical investigations with his old friend Goldie, who was retired from milling. He lived in this time in an impressive Guelph mansion, with a menagerie of swans and peacocks. But the biggest excitement was the return to Ontario of a former OAC undergraduate student, Judson Clark, who had recently graduated with a doctorate in Botany from Cornell.

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In 1903 Clark had become the Chief Forester of Ontario. Landon became an important guide for him on a photographic journey of Norfolk County's forests, where he was accompanied by a McMaster University botany student, Edmund Zavitz. Clark's companion, who he was instructing in photography, would become a lifelong friend of Monroe Landon. Their bond would soon be reinforced by Zavitz's opening of a tree nursery and later teaching at OAC.

Landon nurtured in Zavitz, who was born and raised in Niagara, a profound love for the flora and fauna of Norfolk County. He persuaded his friend to have a cottage on Lake Erie. Later Zavitz became a part time resident through purchasing what was originally a hobby farm, which later became a full-time occupation for one of his sons, Dean.

In their tour of Norfolk County what stunned Clark and Zavitz was the contrast between the beauty of the spectacular old growth forests, and the barren desert landscape surrounding them. This contrast they saw most evidently in the remarkable Backus Woods, now owned as a sanctuary by the Nature Conservancy of Canada. (NCC). Right past the property line was barren wasteland, which under Zavitz's guidance would eventually become a restored forest, operated by Norfolk County.[7]

When Zavitz and Clark toured Norfolk, they were travelling during a supportive Liberal Party government. Its Minister of Agriculture, John Dryden, would soon be Zavitz's father-in-law. Provincial elections soon changed this supportive environment. The new government became dominated by sceptics of the new scientific discipline of conservationist forestry. Zavitz would soon remedy this by a tour of desert wastelands for his most prominent critic. This was the Minister of Lands, Forests and Mines, Frank Cochrane. The impact of the tour resulted in the approval of widespread purchases of land for what is now protected as the St. Williams Crown Lands and Turkey Point Provincial Park. [8]

Zavitz persuaded the province to pass the *Counties Reforestation Act* of 1910. Its passage resulted in the creation of a Reforestation Committee for Norfolk County a year later that Landon chaired. In his great wastelands report of this period, Zavitz calculated how reforestation could be financed by a modest increase in municipal taxation, called a mill rate. Landon, however, could not persuade the Norfolk councilors to follow this approach. A play was later written about divisions in the county on the reforestation issue at this time. It was based on a presentation to council which was angrily rejected.[9]

The play about debates on Norfolk Council is a folk memory of the early conservation battles in Ontario. That it exists is reflective of the memories of Landon's struggles encouraged by his successful marriage. In 1910 Monroe Landon married Eva B. Tallman, originally of Rahway, New Jersey. They had six children, all of whom became part of married relationships with children.

The satirical play records Monroe Landon's bitter battles with Norfolk County Council between 1915 and 1921. Then he chaired the County Reforestation Committee, but it could not persuade the council to do any reforestation for seven years. His frustrations during these years were over time recalled to his children and grandchildren and were the basis for the satirical play. Alex Landon and



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his wife Doris joined Monroe Landon in forming the Norfolk Naturalists in 1961. Their son Zeb remains an active member. [10]

Within his extended family of children and grandchildren Monroe Landon was able to be an enthusiastic teacher who promoted a love of nature. He told a government committee of inquiry into Ontario's forests how, "I have always been a student of Nature, by reading and study". In sad contrast he found most farmers were "obsessed with increased production". This turned their lives into ones "of desperation." He advocated that teachers do for their students what he did with his own family. This was that they "study the locality and take classes into the fields and woods and open to their minds the wonders of nature." One success he had was in teachers making Arbor Day a major event.[11]

Landon had more success with Norfolk County council following the new incentives provided to municipal governments to undertake reforestation with the election of the United Farmers-Labor government of 1919. It was led by a friend of Zavitz, E. C. Drury.

Under Landon's leadership as Chair of its Reforestation Committee, Norfolk County, made its first purchase of land for reforestation in 1922. By 1947, still under Landon's leadership as Chair of its advisory committee, a County Forest system of 746 acres had been established. [12]

To build up support for forest protection and reforestation Monroe Landon founded, in 1928, the Norfolk Chamber of Commerce and served as its President for 13 years. One of its priorities was to build up popular support for the reforestation programs of the St. Williams Reforestation Station founded by Zavitz. Landon led a Reforestation Committee of the Chamber of Commerce, which encouraged farmers to use government programs to reforest parts of their lands. Through the committee he set up display booths at horticultural shows and County Fairs. [13]

Monroe Landon's life changed dramatically after April 26, 1937, as a result of the Great Thames River Flood. While the flood had a major impact on several Thames watershed communities, the most dramatic was in London, where 1,100 homes were damaged when a fifth of the city was inundated.

Zavitz and his team of foresters and former employees (some of whom, most notably Al Barnes, had been recently fired through political pressure) and their circle of friends, all were energized by the Thames disaster. They knew it provided an opportunity to educate the Ontario public about the consequences of deforestation. They were determined to prevent a narrow engineering approach to flooding problems. This had recently been applied by the Grand River Commission created in 1932. It was narrowly focused on dam construction and reservoirs.

After the Thames Flood, Landon joined with another OAC student of Zavitz, Robert Putnam, editor of the Farmers Advocate, to launch the Ontario Reforestation and Conservation Association (OCRA). The OCRA, together with Men of the Trees founded by Barnes, would organize spectacular events. Among these were veteran parades focused on tree plantings in support of two basic objectives both achieved in 1946 through provincial legislation. These were the *Conservation Authority Act* (which encouraged reforestation on a watershed basis), and the *Trees Act*. The *Trees Act* permitted, for the first time, controls on tree cutting on private land. [14]

With the creation of the ORCA Landon became involved in conservation advocacy throughout southern Ontario. He took part in its Field Day tours and Men of the Trees rituals. This led to a revealing tribute from Hebert Arthur Richardson, who would in 1946 become the first provincial supervisor for the Conservation Authorities Branch. Richardson wrote how, "to his many friends from one end of the province to the other he is best known as an enthusiastic and forward-thinking conservationist." [15]

While plunging into his ORCA leadership role across Ontario, Landon undertook one of his most significant accomplishments in Norfolk County. This was his purchase of a 138-acre natural area, predominately old growth forest. This forest, after 73 years of management by his family, was

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acquired in 2009 by the Nature Conservancy of Canada (NCC), as the Monroe Landon Woods. It is considered to have one of the best stands of tulip trees in Canada and contains specimens of the endangered American chestnut. The woods have a ground cover dominated by broad bench fern. Monroe Landon Woods provides habitat for the southern flying squirrel and a variety of rare bird species such as the Acadian flycatcher, Louisiana waterthrush and the hooded and cerulean warblers. [16]

On the eve of the Second World War Monroe Landon became aware of the new local problem of forest loss through the expansion of tobacco farms. When the St. Williams Reforestation Station had been established in 1905 the local agricultural economy was depressed. Buckwheat was one of the few crops that could be established on shifting sands. Purchasing land for County Forests and the St. Williams Station was a rescue plan for farmers facing ruin. This had all changed by 1937 when the ORCA was launched under his leadership and a tobacco craze had erupted.

The basic premise of the ORCA was that the extent of forest cover needed to increase. Its founders believed a more heavily forested landscape could safely absorb precipitation to prevent flooding catastrophes. Despite the purchases of existing forests and other natural areas (including savannahs rich in colourful lupines) and reforestation of abandoned farmlands no net increase in natural cover had been achieved in Norfolk since 1905. The same small percentage of natural cover on rural lands of around 15 percent had been merely maintained.

During the tobacco boom Landon expressed dismay at the wanton greed that wounded his beloved County's landscape. He was shocked how farmers sought to "crop every acre of their own land and are removing hedgerows, or fencerows which protect against wind damage, and help conserve moisture." [17]

Large areas of forest were removed both to use for tobacco planting and low-quality rough pasture. A study in 1958 by the newly formed Big Creek Conservation Authority found that 793 acres of woodland had been lost to agriculture. Some of this took place where previous model demonstration forests "changed hands", being acquired by more pecuniary owners. Stream sedimentation from erosion on deforested lands polluted pristine trout streams since greater silt loads were generated by higher stream volumes in the spring. [18]

Monroe Landon was alarmed in 1947 that many of Norfolk County's private forests were being destroyed by arsonists to avoid protections about to be imposed under the new tree protection by-law. He urged that the Fire Marshall of Ontario investigate suspicious blazes. Landon advocated that provincial laws be amended so that "those who fail to report or assist in fire suppression be liable to fine or made responsible for damage." [18]

At the age of 62 Monroe Landon made a significant mid-life career turning point. It was not he however, who was in crisis, but the privately owned forests of Norfolk County, being subjected to mysterious fires set by the greed of a highly profitable tobacco industry. He made the decision to turn his farm over to the management of one of his sons, Ken.

The threats to the county forests, he concluded, needed a full time, paid, tree by-law enforcement officer, and he, who had trampled over all of Norfolk, was obviously the man for the job. Norfolk County was the first municipality in the province to make use of the *Trees Act*. This was achieved by by-Law Number 84, passed on January 23, 1947.[19]

In turning over the farm, Monroe Landon did not just pass on a dairy and Jersey breeding operation. He also turned over an important botanical side line of this operation. His farm grew perennial flowers and wildflowers. When he turned it over to Ken 500 species of plants grew in its greenhouses. He compiled his own herbarium of the plants of Norfolk County, and assisted in collections held at OAC, McMaster University and the University of Toronto. His research was the basis for the booklet, *The Vascular Plants of Norfolk County*, which was published in 1960 by the Big Creek Conservation Authority. One of his accomplishments was to have an orchid named in his

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honor, *Cypripedium landoni*. From the botanical skills of his father, Ken Landon turned the farm into the nursery for his Simcoe flower shop [20]

Monroe Landon took his job as a forest protection warden quite seriously, keeping a careful diary of his patrols. His critical success was in obtaining a conviction. This involved a fine and a requirement that the damaged land be reforested under his supervision. To obtain a conviction, a public trial was held before a Justice of the Peace. At the trial Landon calmly presented his evidence for the destruction of the forest on a farmer's land. In his defense, a lawyer flamboyantly gestured and loudly argued that no one had been seen cutting the trees on his client's land. When the Justice announced Landon had won, the farmer surprisingly complimented him for defeating his arrogant and highly paid Toronto lawyer. [21]

When Monroe Landon died most of his dreams for ecological restoration in his native county had been achieved. He helped spark the massive ecological restoration of its landscape that had been degraded to deserts and brought in legislation to protect existing forests.

Under Monroe Landon's guidance forest cover had been increased to 25 per cent. This is the best situation in a historic Ontario County operating under the 1848 Baldwin Act for municipal government in Canada's most biologically diverse Carolinian life zone. Only the Native Reservations of Walpole Island and Six Nations whose forests were guarded by laws protecting forests on their location tickets had a comparable level of forest cover. Given the significance of seven generations to Native communities in Ontario it is revealing that Landon's descendants are the seventh generation since his great grandfather, Dr. Robert Landon (a physician), established a home near Simcoe in 1786.

It is a testament to Monroe Landon's positive legacy how his descendants built upon his achievements. During his tenure as a forest warden Landon was able to convince rural estate owners and farmers to respect the law, but had more challenges with quarry owners and subdividers. He and the efforts of other conservationists, notably the Welland County Warden and future provincial legislator Mel Swart, were frustrated by requirements for ministerial approval under the *Trees Act*. The provincial government rejected requirements that tree cutting in subdivisions be delayed until plans were completed and registered. [22]

In the late 1980s, after Monroe Landon's death, urban pressures increased in Norfolk and its Field Naturalists urged that stronger legislation be passed to protect forests on private lands. This cause was successful. In 1993 tree protection on private lands fell under the *Municipal Act*, which allowed for stronger legislation by municipal councils than had been permitted under the *Trees Act* of 1946. [23]

In his eight-decade quest to protect Ontario's forests Monroe Landon resembled the wise Haudenosaunee Confederacy Chiefs that exhibited the wisdom of the "Good Mind." This has provided the basis for massive investments in Norfolk by the Nature Conservancy of Canada (NCC) to protect and enhance its natural areas. It would be appropriate if Norfolk County were renamed Landon to honour his achievements.

Endnotes

1) Horatio Hale, "The Iroquois Book of Rites", Chapter Four: Condolence and Installation", in "Iroquois Book of Rites" (Philadelphia, D.G. Brinton, 1883)

2) Arthur Herbert Richardson, "Introduction to The Vascular Plants of Norfolk County" (Simcoe: Big Creek Conservation Authority, 1961).

3) Ibid.

4) Monroe Landon Tribute in Waterford Agricultural Museum Hall of Fame.

(Continued on page 13)

(Continued from page 12)

- 5) Richardson, loc.cit, Monroe Landon, "Vascular Plants of Simcoe County". (Simcoe: Big Creek Conservation Authority, 1961), passim.
- 6) Richardson, loc.cit.
- 7) Report of the Chief Forester of Ontario, Ontario Sessional Papers, 1904, passim: Judson Clark's only report to the provincial legislature of his brief tenure as Provincial Forester, records the trip he and Zavitz and contains Zavitz's first published photos of desertified landscapes.
- 8) Harry Barrett, "They Had a Dream: A History of the St. Williams Forest Station", (Port Rowan: South Walsingham Heritage Association, 2008), p. 64.
- 9) Edmund Zavitz, "Report on Wastelands of Southern Ontario," (1908), 6-10.
- 10) The play on the early debates of Norfolk Council on reforestation was told to me by Dolf Wynia. Some of the intensity of these debates was recalled by OAC President David Creelman, when speaking to an OAC Alumni event.
- 11) Monroe Landon, "Brief and Testimony to the Royal Commission on Timber", Public Archives of Ontario, RG 18-125, B 249519.
- 12) Bruce M. Pearce, "Norfolk's Reforestation Story: The St. Williams Forestry Station", in Historic Highlights of Norfolk County (Port4 Dover, self-published, 1973), 215-220.
- 13) Edmund Zavitz, "Report of the Forestry Branch, 1929," in Ontario Sessional Papers, 1929.
- 14) Arthur C. Richardson, "Conservation for the People", (Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 3-16.
- 15) Richardson, "Introduction to Vascular Plants of Norfolk County", loc.cit.
- 16) Press Release Nature Conservancy of Canada re purchase of Monroe Landon Woods, October 4, 2009,
- 17) Monroe Landon, "Brief and Testimony to the Royal Commission on Timber," loc.cit.
- 18) Conservation Authorities Branch, Department of Lands and Forests, 1963, "Big Creek Conservation Report", 82, 84,
- 19) Barrett, "They Had a Dream", 105, 106.
- 20) Landon, loc.cit, 4-10.
- 21) Barrett, loc cit, 106.
- 22) Minutes of Welland County Conservation Committee, 1959, Monroe Landon had a major influence on Welland County, making a presentation to its council, and having its Warden, Mel Swart meet with Zavitz at St. Williams.
- 23) Seasons Magazine articles on Trees Act and successor, 1988-1993,

R.P.F.s and the Restoration of Sudbury's Forests

By: Michael Rosen, R.P.F., Cert. Arb., Adjunct Professor, UBC

The restoration of Sudbury's forests is one of the planet's great environmental stories. An industrially ravaged landscape returned to forest with community help, within a generation - and it all started with the work of R.P.F.s. The OPFA profiled this story at its AGM in Sudbury in April of this year and in July dignitaries gathered in Sudbury to celebrate the planting of the City's 10 millionth tree as part of its restoration efforts, which started officially in 1978. Prime Minister Justin Trudeau and British primatologist/anthropologist Jane Goodall were there. Celebrated members of the Sudbury community were also there. But what about professional foresters, were they part of this forest restoration story?

As it turns out, R.P.F.s made a huge contribution, especially at the very beginning. While logging (or "timbering" to use the lexicon of the era) began in a small way in the 1850s, it was the completion of the CPR line in 1884 that accelerated the timber harvest. The existing forest was principally pine - white, jack and red, logged for various markets, which contributed to many wildfires from the residual slash. Soon after, significant finds of copper and nickel opened various mines in the Sudbury area - Sudbury soon became the "Nickel Capital of the World." Trees left after the extraction of lumber or pulp were clearcut for the infamous "roasting yards" - two-metre-deep piles of trees, football fields in size, in which the newly-mined rocks were roasted to burn off the sulfur before refining. The roasting yards soon gave way to enclosed factories all of which produced sulphur dioxide (SO_2) and sulphuric acid (H_2SO_4). This combination of timbering, burning, mining, roasting and smelting gave Sudbury the acidified "moonscape" that it was famous for, complete with bare, black rocks. Sudbury politicians were (at first) delighted that NASA astronauts chose Sudbury in the early 1960s to practice their manoeuvres because it so closely resembled the moon. However, this recognition backfired as Sudbury gained a negative reputation for this ugliness. A new Official Plan in the early 1970s affirmed that restoring forests around the City would be a priority for environmental and recreational reasons.

Foresters, academics, and others were already looking at solutions in the 1960s to the highly acidic/heavy metal "soils" unable to support plant, animal, or fish life - of the 330 lakes in Greater Sudbury, only one supported fish, the others all rendered lifeless. Some of the first research into the extent of smelter pollution's effects on trees was done by **Alan Gordon, R.P.F.** who was with the Research Branch of the Department of Lands & Forests in 1960.

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CANADIAN JOURNAL OF BOTANY. VOL. 38, 1960

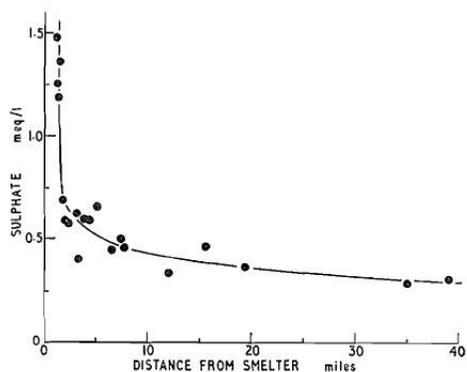


FIG. 1. Sulphate concentrations in surface waters at various distances NNE. and N. of the Falconbridge smelter (curve fitted freehand).

Research was encouraged and financed by the provincial ministries in cooperation with the City, the universities and others working together to refine species choice, liming/fertilizing concentrations, and planting techniques. This included the planting of grasses to raise the pH, take up some of the heavy metals and lower the temperature of the bare, black rock.

The Ontario Ministries of Natural Resources (OMNR) and Environment (MOE) played a large role, and it was OMNR foresters in the late 1960s who first began the field trials to

(Continued on page 15)

(Continued from page 14)



Sudbury Then and Now: 1979 (above) and c. 2009 (below)



look at how to get trees to grow in the “moonscape”. **Ed Kraker, R.P.F.** was one of the first to implement field trials as a Management Forester for OMNR, he was later deployed to southern Ontario. **Jim McCready, R.P.F.**, just beginning his career in Sudbury, took over these projects. Jim began the trend of having an R.P.F. on Sudbury’s VETAC (Vegetation Enhancement Technical Advisory Committee) an influential technical committee that recommended proposed actions to Sudbury Council. Eventually other R.P.F.s became involved, including **Jukka Heikurinen, R.P.F.** who introduced paper pots from the nursery at Thessalon and who was responsible for much of the seedling allocation to Sudbury in the early days. The containers were planted deeper than bare root - the heavy metals concentrated in the top centimetres of the soil proved to be a real detriment to regeneration (the earliest plantings were with jack pine because of its resistance to air pollution and heavy metals). Eventually planting with other species of trees became easier as air quality improved due to the construction of the famous Inco “Superstack” in 1972 to disperse the acidic pollution over a much larger area, diluting its effect (sulphuric acid is now recovered and the Superstack is slated for removal). Eventually, John Negusanti (a forester

previously affiliated with OPFA who worked for OMNR and MOE) completed a number of early trials and participated on the VETAC committee at its earliest iteration in 1975 (until present!). Negusanti remembers experimenting with Japanese paper pots, OLA, and bare root stock in the 1975 era in the Skeed area. He insisted on seeding the areas with grass in addition to lime fertilizer, prior to tree plant. **Ray Franklin, R.P.F.** and **Harry Struik, R.P.F.**, OMNR foresters, continued these trials and programs and representation on VETAC. Struik was very innovative in his use of photogrammetry and wrote a paper still used today, *Photo Interpretive Study to Assess and Evaluate Vegetational Changes in the Sudbury Area* (Struik 1974). **David Balsillie, R.P.F. (Hon.)** a researcher for the Ministry of the Environment went to the Sudbury area in 1971 as an assistant plant pathologist looking at the impacts of air pollutants on trees and soils in northern Ontario. He produced a number of papers including his presentation, [*Problems of Regeneration of Stressed Ecosystems at the 71st meeting of the Air Pollution Control Association*](#) (Balsillie 1978).

Prof. Keith Winterhalter of Laurentian University became the lead academic on the site and began formal research trials beginning in the 1970s. Bill Lautenbach, a City of Sudbury Planner was a major municipal player in the greening efforts. Although many trees were planted both by OMNR and the mining companies before that, the Regional Municipality of Sudbury chose 1978 as its baseline year for when its serious greening efforts began under the *Sudbury Environmental Enhancement Program* (SEEP). Today, the Sudbury area is a model of forest restoration. Ten million trees planted by the municipality, with many other trees planted by the mining companies (now Vale and

(Continued on page 16)

(Continued from page 15)



Sudbury Then and Now: 1979 (above) and c. 2009 (below)



Glencore). Approximately 3,400 hectares of land were limed and grassed. Liming, fertilizing, grass seeding, and tree planting are all done on an operational level, with the participation of citizen groups and the private sector. Fish were raised and released into Sudbury lakes including brook trout, not seen there for 50 years. The release of other species-at-risk such as peregrine falcons and Trumpeter swans were exciting developments in the restoration story.

The famous VETAC committee is still very active under the leadership of Prof. Peter Beckett (involved since the 1970s!) and includes foresters. The retirement of **John Vining, R.P.F.** saw the appointment of **Tim Lehman, R.P.F.** who eventually became a part of the committee. At present, **Marc Hébert, R.P.F.** and **Marc Nellis, R.P.F.**, professors at Sudbury's Collège Boréal are also part of VETAC, involving their students in trials and plantings, including growing trees in the College nursery and working with the Glencore company on restoring mine tailings and gravel pits. Hébert is a co-author on a recent article, [*Tree restoration and ecosystem carbon storage in an acid and metal impacted landscape: Chronosequence*](#)



Sudbury Then and Now: 1981 (left) and 2008 (right)

[*and resampling approaches*](#), (Preston et al, 2020). He is also conducting trials in the use of pulp sludge and wood ash in acidified soil treatment. The entire Sudbury program is now like a well-oiled machine with great participation by public and private sectors, yet R.P.F.s were there at the beginning — seeing the challenge and seeking solutions, and continue to be part of the current and future advancements. Today, increasing the biodiversity of many of the sites is a priority. This includes trying to introduce southern/hardwood trees, planting more shrubs, and actually

(Continued on page 17)

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transferring sections of forest floor from off site development projects to create understory. One has only to look at the before and after photos to realize the staggering progress - no one thought such a difference could occur in such a short period of time.

And most of those efforts were led by and managed by R.P.F.s.

References

1. Balsillie, David, Peter Beckett, Marc Hébert, Jukka Heikurinen, Jim McCready, John Negusanti, Marc Nellis, *Personal Communication*, August 2022
2. Balsillie, D, 1978. **Problems of Regeneration of Stressed Ecosystems**. Presented at the 71st meeting of the Air Pollution Control Association.
3. City of Sudbury, 2022. **Regreening Program**, 2022. <https://www.greatersudbury.ca/live/environment-and-sustainability1/regreening-program/>
4. 1978-1984, **Annual Report, Regreening Program**, City of Sudbury
5. Preston, M. et al. 2020. ***Tree restoration and ecosystem carbon storage in an acid and metal impacted landscape: Chronosequence and resampling approaches***, *Forest Ecology and Management*, Vol. 463. May 2020. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.foreco.2020.118012>
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The Rewards of Planting Trees A Forestry Tour Through York and Durham Forests

Friday June 17, 2022

Part 1 York Region

In 1938 the Counties of York and Durham held a Forestry Field Day. It involved a driving tour to various forest and tree sites in and around the Oak Ridges Moraine of these two Counties. This tour and accompanying Program was one of many used to promote the reforestation efforts around central and southwestern Ontario in that time period. Although the author is not mentioned, most of these tours were written by, or produced under the supervision of, Arthur Herbert Richardson

In 2022, after 84 years, we plan to follow in the footsteps of that tour as closely as possible. We will travel by bus to many of the sites as well as sites that explore the Indigenous history and the forest industry.

Terry Schwan, R.P.F. (Ret.)
Ed Borczon, R.P.F. (Ret.)
Patricia Baldwin, B. Sc. F.

Other Contributions to this program include Danijela Puric-Mladenovic, PhD, Assistant Professor, Daniels Forestry, U of T.; Colin MacDonald, R.P.F. York Region Forest; Phil Davies R.P.F. and Cory Byron R.P.F., Durham Regional Forest; and Ken Elliott, R.P.F.

We are grateful for the contributions of Doug Drysdale Forest Manager in the mid 1950s; Keith Folker Forest Tech in the 1970s; and Dave Puttock, R.P.F., present day Manager.

This tour is hosted by the Forest History Society of Ontario and made possible by the generous support of our sponsors, The Regional Municipality of York, and the Ontario Woodlot Association.

Editor's Note: This is a complete reproduction of the first part of the program from the June 17, 2022 tour. Part 2 will follow in the spring, 2023 issue of Forestry.

PROGRAM AND TOUR



York County
and
Ontario County

Forestry Field Day



AUGUST SEVENTEENTH
1938

PROGRAMME. (Standard Time)

11:00 A.M. Registration. Pine Grove, Vivian Forest.

12:30 P.M. Luncheon - Jos. Rennie, Chairman.
Address of welcome - The Chairman.
Greetings from:

Col. W.P. Mulock, M.P.
Morgan Baker, M.L.A.

Address - Dr. G.J. Christie, President,
Ontario Agricultural College.

2:00 P.M. Tour of Vivian Forest in sight-seeing trucks.

3:00 P.M. Leave on tour to Uxbridge Forest in private cars.

6:00 P.M. Banquet, Music Hall, Uxbridge.
Chairman - C.P. King.

7:30 P.M. Address of welcome - The Chairman.
Greetings from:

Hon. Gordon D. Conant, K.C.
J. Frank Kelley, M.L.A.
E.J. Zavitz, Provincial Forester.
W.H. Porter, London.

Presentation of gavels to Wardens -
A.W. Richardson.

Replies from:

Warden Lyman Gifford,
Ontario County.

Warden Harry Corner,
York County.

Reforestation address:

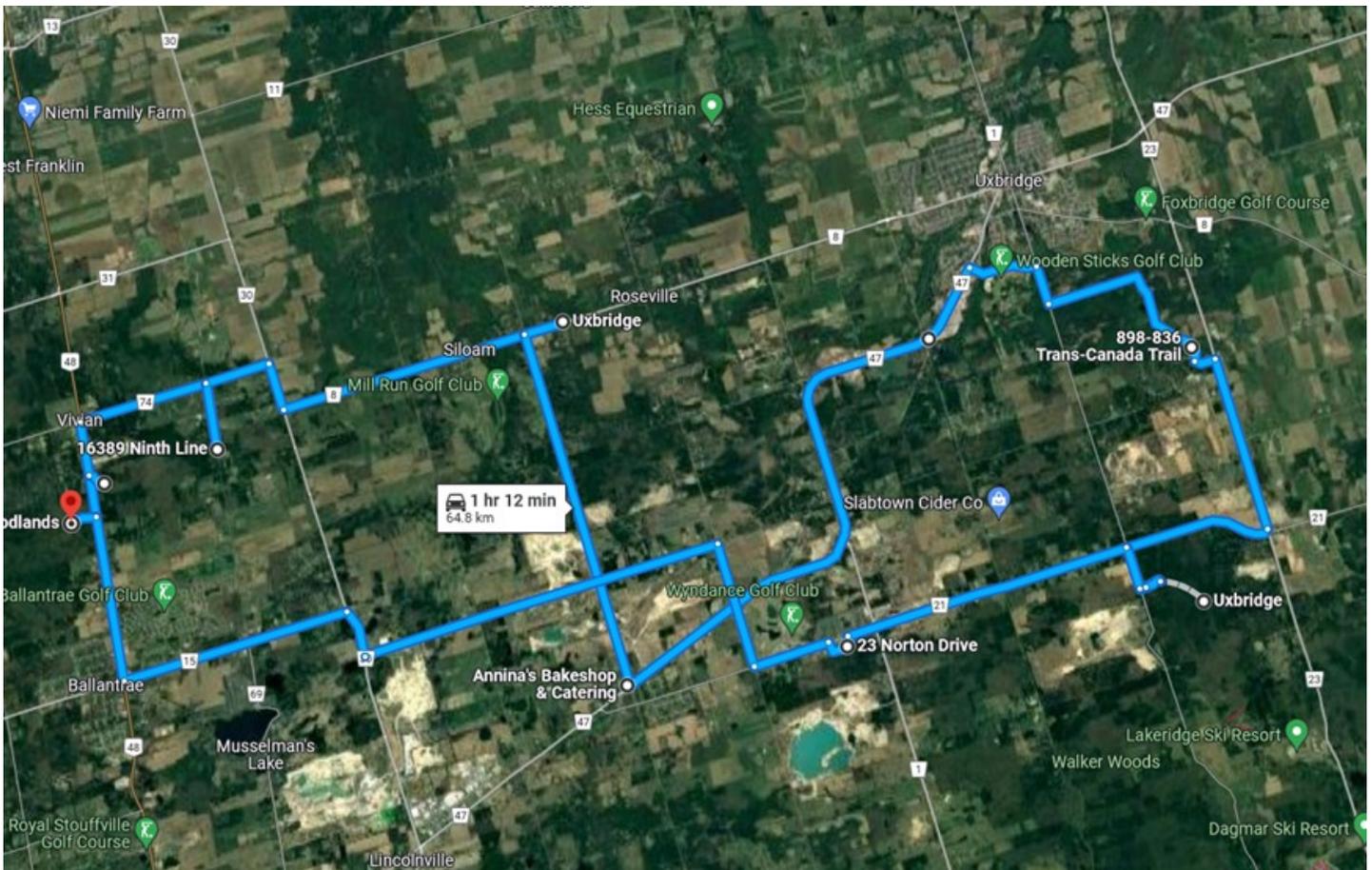
Hon. E.C. Drury, Barrie.

GOD SAVE THE KING.

Program 2022

- 9:30 Gather at Eldred King Woodland, York Regional Forest
Travel to Hollidge Tract, Bill Fisch Forest Stewardship and Education Centre
Hollidge Tract at Ninth Line
Roadside stop at Frankish property
- 12:10 Lunch at Annina's Bakeshop and Catering, Goodwood
- 13:00 John Weir mill site, Uxbridge Township
Durham Regional Forest Main Tract
Norton Tract DRF
- 15:30 Arrive back at Eldred King Woodlands

Tour Map



Land Acknowledgement

Today we will be visiting or discussing sites that were originally settled by early agriculturalists, ancestors of the current Huron-Wendat, an Iroquois speaking group. These people, which can be called Ancestral Wendat, occupied the general area from 1300 to 1600 A.D. prior to European settlement and long before any treaties were signed by Canada's native people and the British government.

The land was then used by the Haudenosaunee, also an Iroquois speaking people, for hunting and fishing purposes. The Mississauga, gradually replaced the Haudenosaunee by the early 1700's, less than a century before the first European settlers arrived. It wasn't until 1923 that a Treaty was negotiated with the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation and the First Nations of the Williams Treaties who are: the Mississaugas of Alderville, Curve Lake, Hiawatha, Scugog Island; and the Chippewas of Beausoleil, Rama, and Georgina Island. These tribes are all Ojibway speakers.

I might note that land we will visit today was surveyed by Augustus Jones, a White settler partnered with a native woman. His son, Peter Jones, became a chief of the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation. He was a man of importance in negotiating indigenous rights, well aware of the problems of land disputes between the native and European populations. His history was written in the Fall 2019 issue of *Forestry* as the "The Reverend Peter Jones: First Defender of Canada's Terrestrial Ecosystems" by John Bacher.

And with that, I hope we can better appreciate the lands we will be visiting today.

Patricia Baldwin

History of York Regional Forest

The area around Vivian was settled early in the nineteenth century. Within 100 years most of the area was barren of forest. Farming and logging had depleted the soil and left large areas in environmental decline. This was particularly evident on the sandy and gravelly soils of the oak ridges. These areas were mapped by E.J. Zavitz in his report on the Wastelands in Southern Ontario in 1908. It took to 1910 for the County of York to have some plan of reforestation adopted.

It was recognized that bird and game life was being destroyed; rivers and brooks once teeming with fish were drying up. Heavy rainfalls resulted in erosion and destructive floods and damage to transport infrastructure. Plans were developed to reforest the headwaters and banks of streams, steep hillsides and other waste places. However, the Great War sidelined these activities for its duration.

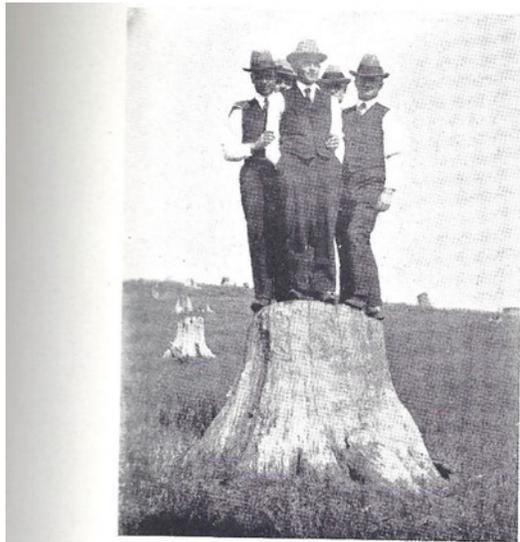
In 1920 a new committee met with E.J. Zavitz. The original plan was deemed to be impractical. The idea of community forests was adopted where the County would purchase the land and fence it and the province would supply the trees, do the planting and assume care of the forest for the first thirty years.

The provincial Agreement Forest Program was introduced in York County in 1924. The County purchased its first area for reforestation in 1922, an area of 197 acres (80 Ha) from Fred Hollidge - now known as the Hollidge tract. A second purchase of 400 acres (162 ha) was made in 1924 and the first trees were planted by the province in that year. It was known as the Vivian Forest. In total, just over 600 ha was acquired in the 1920's. Acquisition was slowed in the 1930's by the recession. However, in the 1940's and 50's almost 1,200 ha was purchased. By 2018, York Region Forest consisted of 23 properties and 2,379 ha and the Regional Forest continues to increase in size as suitable properties become available.

Initial management focused on planting rows of conifers, such as red, white and Scotch pine, to stabilize the soil. These plantations were thinned from time to time, allowing more light to reach what is called the "understory," where a mix of other trees, shrubs and plants could grow. This process began to move the Forest from areas of single-species reforestation to mixed woodlands more typical of south-central Ontario. The Region's first plan (1998-2018) successfully continued and enhanced this work, and this new management plan reaffirms and strengthens the direction it set. Today management of the York Region Forest is governed by a 20-year plan from 2019 to 2038.

The vision of the new plan is -- As the heart of the Region's natural landscape, a healthy and ecologically diverse York Regional Forest sustains its communities and inspires its people.

This Vision for the Forest will be achieved through three goals and related objectives and actions under each goal; 1) Strengthen Ecological Integrity, 2) Foster an Understanding of the Broader Benefits and 3) Inspire People.



York County Reforestation Committee taken at Vivian Forest in 1924. From left to right—Morgan Baker, W. G. Scrace, W. C. Gohn, P. W. Pearson, R. Marshall.



Four members of the 1924 Committee taken near the same spot in 1938. From left to right—Morgan Baker, M.L.A., W. C. Gohn, R. Marshall, P. W. Pearson.



Caretaker's residence, Vivian Forest.

(Continued from page 22)

The 1938 tour started at the Pine Grove picnic grounds believed to have been in the Eldred King Woodlands. For those coming from the south, by auto, the tour started at Ringwood through Ballantrae and pointed out plantations of note along the way. The next part of the tour was made on 'sight-seeing trucks each accommodating 20 people'.

Text in italics indicates text from 1938 tour.

After leaving the picnic grounds, we cross the right-of-way of the Canadian National Railways, between Stouffville and Jackson's Point. The tracks were torn up in 1928.

Eldred King Tract - Compartments 53d and 53b

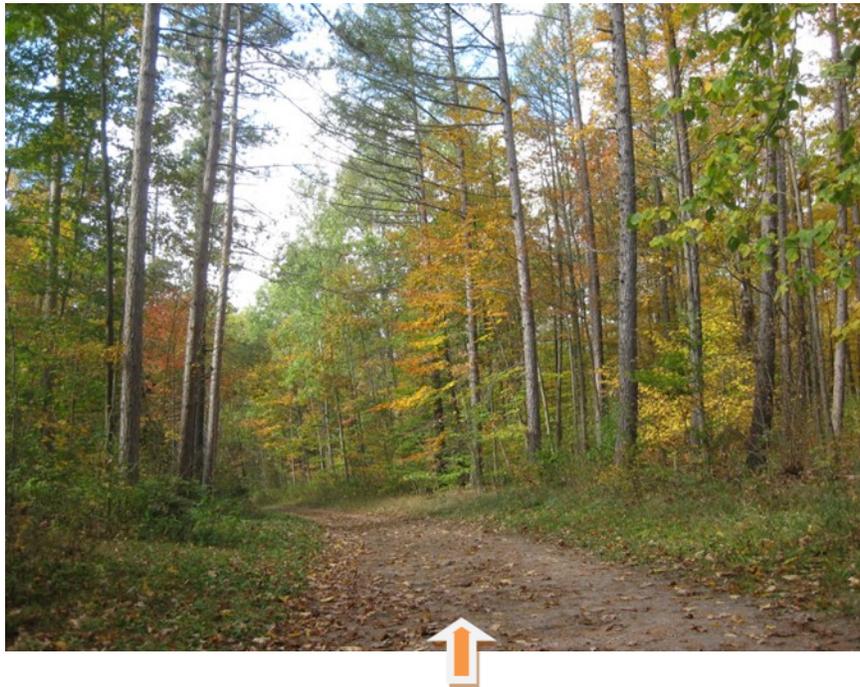


On the right you will notice an exceptionally fine plantation of European larch, while on the left there is a mixed plantation of red, white and Scotch pine, both planted in 1925.

Arrow  indicates location of photos taken in 1935 and recently.



Photo location 1935 - trees 10 years old



Same 1935 photo location - trees 97 years old

**53d: Pr & PW planted 1925
alternate rows**

Thinned in 1961, Pr pruned.
1972 research plots thinned.
Thinned in 1978, 1986 and 2014

**53b: La6 Mh4 (Bd Or) Planted 1925,
pure Le.**

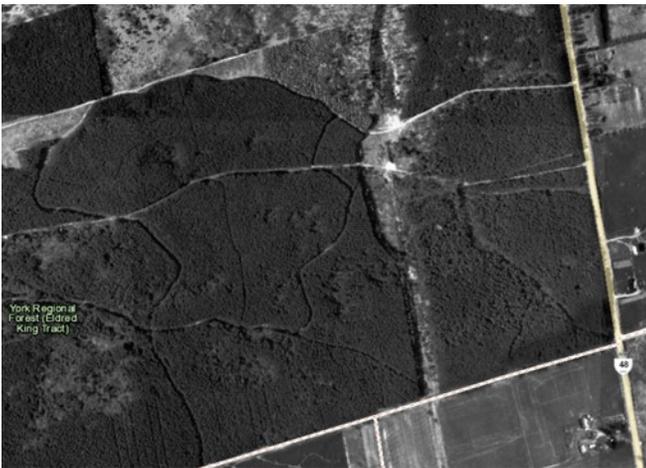
Thinned in 1964, and in 1987.
Thinned in 2014.

Eldred King Tract - Compartment 52b



52b:Pr6 Or2 Be1 Cb1 (Bd Bw Mh Pw) Pr and Pw planted in 1925 in alternate rows. Thinned in 1961, Pr pruned. 1972 research plots thinned. 1978 and 1986 stand thinned. Thinned in 2014.

Eldred King Woodlands 1970 and 2021



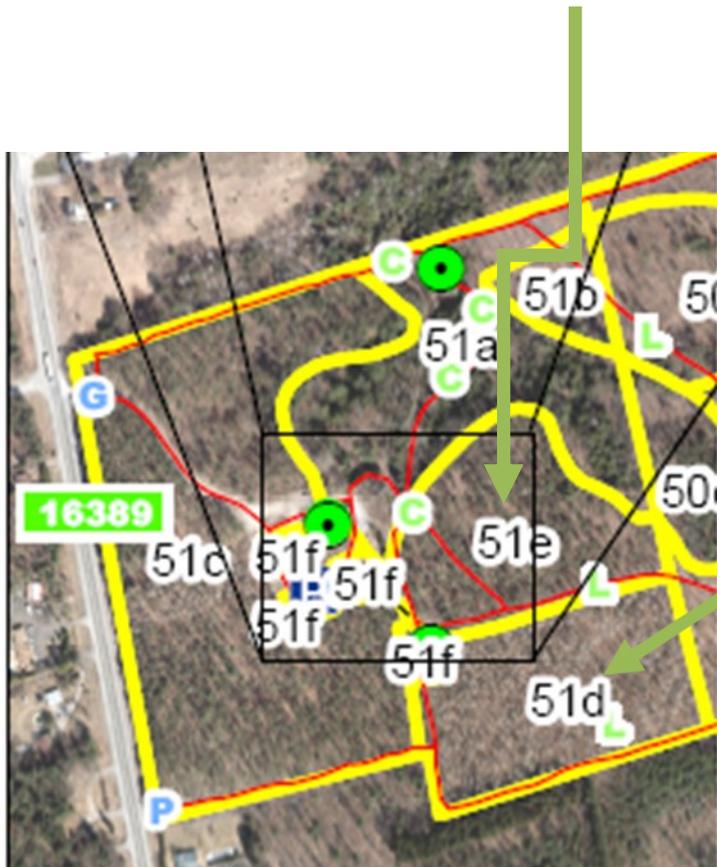
The tour continued on through the Eldred King woodlands following various roads, until....
Reaching the highway again we go north passing on our left a 60-foot wooden tower, which is used as a lookout for fire protection.

Hollidge Tract - Compartments 51e and 51d

At the bottom of the hill we turn right and enter the gateway to the caretaker's house and barn. This section in Concession VIII, Lot 28 consists of 197 acres.

Before coming to the house on our right, larch 14 years old and on our left red and white pine of the same age. In front of you now you see the caretaker's house, a comfortable frame structure which was obtained with some of the property.

51e: Pr6 Mh2 Pw1 (Aw Be Bf Bw)1
Planted in 1924, No early records of management.
Selective thinning in 1971 and 1988. Thinned in 2017.



51d: La7 Mh3 (Aw Be Cb lw)
Planted Le pure and 2 ac. and Psc in 1924. Selection thinning in 1961 and 1971.
Every second row removed in 1987.
Marked in 2005, thinned in 2006.

The original tour continued on through the Tract pointing out plantations, crossing a small stream, through a mixed forest (the original woodlot) to the Ninth Line then back around on Vivian Road to the picnic grounds. On Vivian Road the tour guide points out the hardwood forests on route as '*one of the most beautiful pieces of woodland scenery in the Province*'.

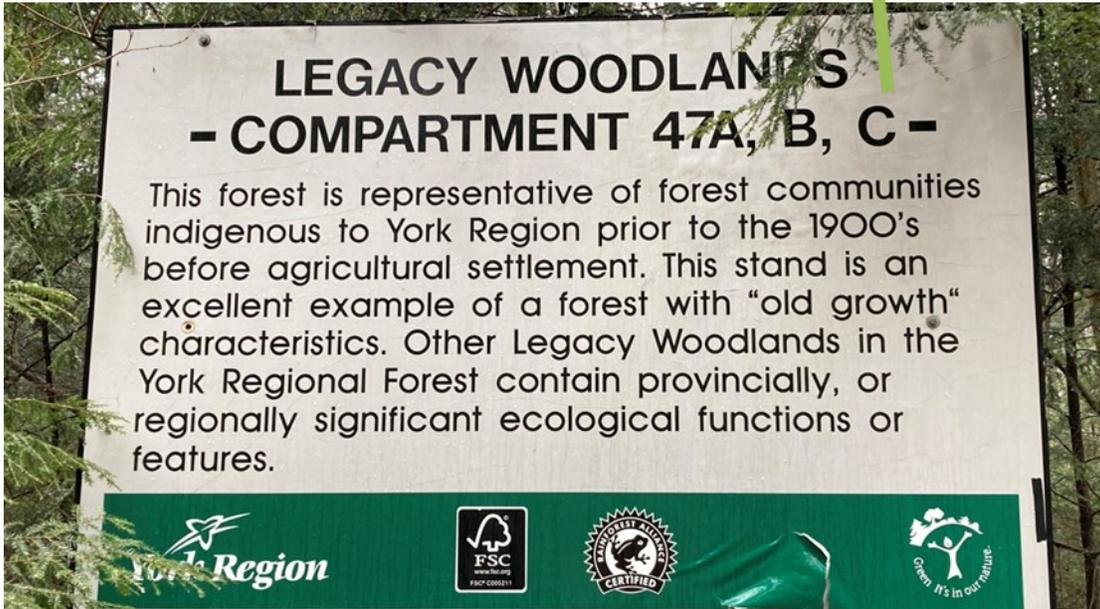
The tour resumes by auto toward the town of Uxbridge and the Main Tract, Uxbridge Forest.

Hollidge Tract - Compartment 47c



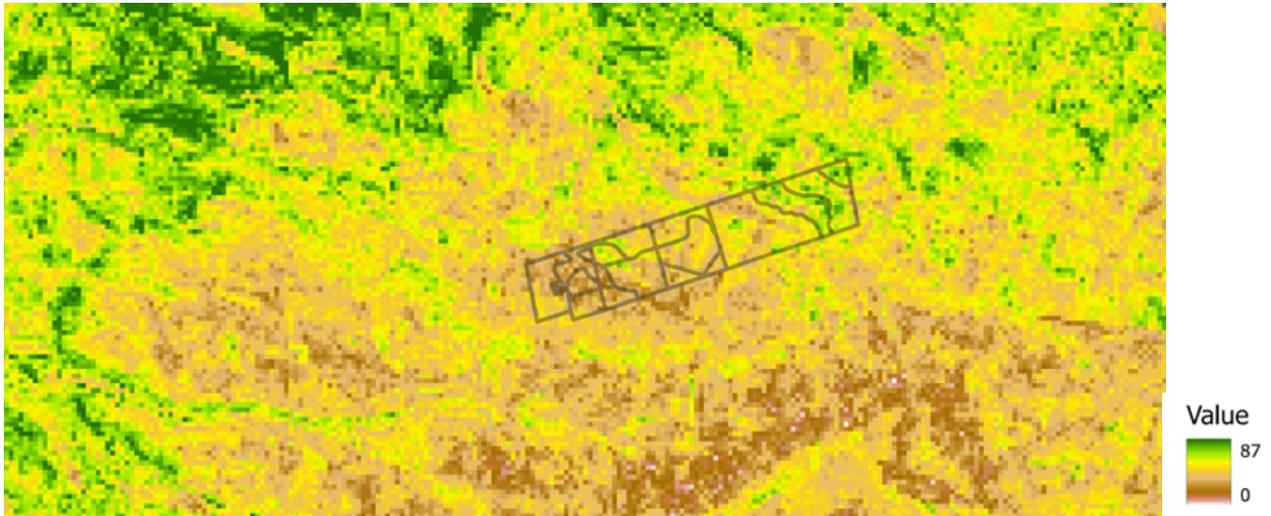
Legend

Stands	Conifer Plantation - Hardwood Regeneration	Conifer Plantation - hardwood Regeneration	Upland Mixedwood
STAND_TYPE	Conifer Plantation - Hardwood regeneration	Parking lot	Upland Tolerant Hardwood
Bottomland Conifer	Conifer Plantation - No Regeneration	Upland Intolerant Hardwood	<all other values>



Remnant Forests: Why do we need them and how to find them?

Danijela Puric-Mladenovic



Pre-settlement distribution of eastern hemlock (probability distribution).



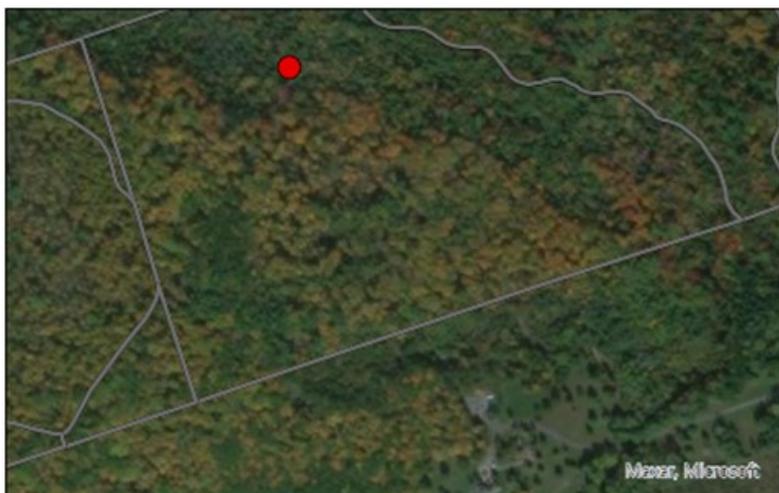
He₂ Mh₂ Cb₁ Pw₁ Bd₁ Be₁ Mr₁ Aw₁

Hemlock or Hemlock-White Pine Forests

This species assemblage was characterized by the dominance of Eastern hemlock and white pine. A sub-association, generally completely dominated by Eastern hemlock, was typical for more flat, poorly drained areas, where loamy soils might be underlain by clay. Fully stocked stands of Eastern hemlock tend to develop similar microclimates because of their dense canopy, dense shading, deep duff layer, and subsequent retention of moisture and uniformly low temperatures. Pre-settlement forest of hemlock has been described as having a thick layer of moss (5-7cm).

Eastern white pine is a common associate with hemlock on soils that tend to be of a sandy texture, well mixed with humus, moist, and well drained. On these sites Eastern white pine is often a major component along with Eastern hemlock, in topography where higher sites are dominated by white pine and lower (wetter) sites are dominated by hemlock. This association is far less common than previously due to the over logging of white pine by early European settlers in the 1800s. This association was likely interspersed with sugar maple-beech-hemlock.

Hemlock was associated with yellow birch on till plains and outwash deposits (most likely on slightly acidic soils). These are typically rich moist soils where besides Eastern hemlock and yellow birch, sugar maple, beech, basswood, and white pine can occur.



Canopy

Basswood *Tilia americana* 1.25
 Red Maple *Acer rubrum* 8
 Sugar Maple *Acer saccharum* ssp. *saccharum* 5.5
 Yellow Birch *Betula alleghaniensis* 18.7
 Eastern Hemlock *Tsuga canadensis* 10
 Black Cherry *Prunus serotina* 0.5

VSP Plot

<https://forests-settled-urban-landscapes.org/VSP/>

Ground Layer

Balsam Fir *Abies balsamea*
 Marsh Fern *Thelypteris palustris* var. *pubescens*
 White Trillium *Trillium grandiflorum*
 Eastern White Cedar *Thuja occidentalis*
 Avens Species *Geum* sp.
 Radiate Sedge *Carex radiata*
 Evergreen Wood Fern *Dryopteris intermedia*
 Eastern Hemlock *Tsuga canadensis*
 Red Trillium *Trillium erectum*
 Inland Sedge *Carex interior*
 Sugar Maple *Acer saccharum* ssp. *saccharum*
 Jack-in-the-Pulpit *Arisaema triphyllum* ssp. *triphyllum*
 Shinleaf *Pyrola elliptica*
 White Ash *Fraxinus americana*
 Mountain Maple *Acer spicatum*
 Canada Mayflower *Maianthemum canadense*
 Wild Sarsaparilla *Aralia nudicaulis*
 Common Oak Fern *Gymnocarpium dryopteris*
 Helleborine *Epipactis helleborine*
 Hairy Solomon's Seal *Polygonatum pubescens*
 Alternate-leaved Dogwood *Cornus alternifolia*
 Ironwood *Ostrya virginiana*
 Red Oak *Quercus rubra*
 Basswood *Tilia americana*
 Blue Cohosh *Caulophyllum thalictroides*
 Panicked Aster *Aster lanceolatus* ssp. *lanceolatus*
 Common Dandelion *Taraxacum officinale*
 Bluebead Lily *Clintonia borealis*
 Graceful Sedge *Carex gracillima*
 Spotted Jewel-Weed *Impatiens capensis*
 Marginal Wood Fern *Dryopteris marginalis*
 Dwarf Raspberry *Rubus pubescens*
 Foamflower *Tiarella cordifolia*
 Field Horsetail *Equisetum arvense*

Sensitive Fern *Onoclea sensibilis*

Northern Lady Fern *Athyrium filix-femina* var. *angustum*
 Canada Enchanter's
 Nightshade *Circaea lutetiana* ssp. *canadensis*
 Baneberry Species *Actaea* sp.
 Broad-leaved Toothwort *Cardamine diphylla*
 Buble Bladder Fern *Cryptopteris bulbifera*



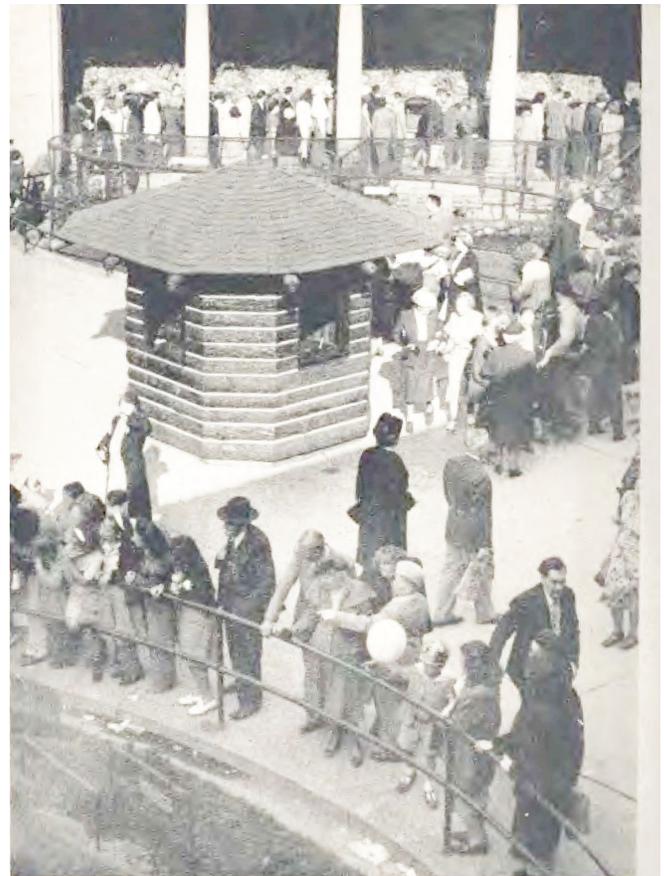
Sylva Recap

The Ontario Department of Lands and Forests for many years published a journal titled "Sylva". The purpose of this journal was to highlight changes in policy, ecology facts, information about the activities of the Department, contributions of individuals and the comings and goings of staff. "Sylva" contains nuggets of Ontario forest history. One "nugget" from "Sylva" will be selected for each edition of the Journal. The following was provided by Sherry Hambly.

Department Exhibit at the C.N.E. Editorial Reprinted from Sylva: Vol 4 (5): 14-18

The exhibit of the Department of Lands and Forests in the Ontario Government Building at the Canadian National Exhibition was an outstanding success. This statement is based on the reactions of thousands of visitors, and the laudatory reports which the exhibit evoked from press and radio.

The need for forest protection was graphically depicted by a skilfully designed forest fire scene with flames consuming the forest wealth, and beside it a set-up showing the desolation resulting from man's carelessness. The beneficial of woodlot management and the advantages of tree planting were cleverly set forth. The part forest industries play in the total economy of the Province was forcibly brought to the



Pouring through the large exhibit of the Department of Lands and Forests at an average rate of 3,927 persons per hour, huge crowds filled the exhibit daily during the time the Exhibition was open to the public
K. M. ANDRESEN



The fish tanks were a constant source of interest to young and old of both sexes throughout the entire period of the exhibition
R. D. ROBINSON

That young Ontario is deeply interested in their wildlife heritage is graphically shown by the expressions on those watching the antics of the raccoon in one of the animal exhibits
K. M. ANDRESEN



attention of the public in a graphic exhibit of fine architectural quality. An attractive miniature of a northern Ontario setting showing the possibilities of summer camp sites created a great deal of interest and elicited many enquiries. Actual photographs of aerial surveys and their interpretation were keenly scrutinized. The inner courtyard with its cages of live animals and birds, in an appealing outdoor setting, and the large variety of fish displayed in suitable aquaria were a never ending source of pleasure to the crowds of visitors. The wood carving demonstration had a wide appeal for young and old. The educational phase of the exhibit was further

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augmented by the showing of sound motion pictures in the indoor theatre as well as in the exhibit area. Well placed signs with pointed conservation messages added considerably to the effectiveness of the display. Every phase of the exhibit was staffed by experienced attendants who answered the large volume of enquiries politely and well.

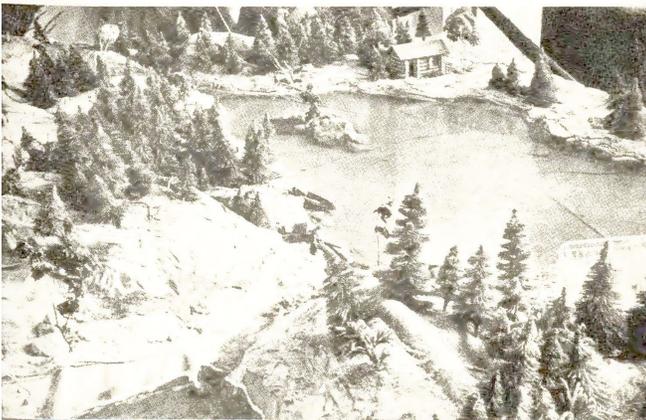
During the whole exhibition period the locale of the exhibit was a hive of perpetual motion. From an actual count, made at regular intervals each day, it was found that an average of 3,927 persons visited the exhibit every hour it was open, making a grand total in excess of 740,000.

All in all the exhibit was a popular one, and dearly demonstrated the value of our forest, fish and wildlife resources, and the need for their protection and wise use.



A scale model display which aroused greater public interest in reforestation, with particular emphasis on the important role of tree cover in agriculture R. D. ROBINSON

This miniature of a Northern Ontario setting stimulated thousands of enquiries as to how Crown land sites for summer cottages may be purchased K. M. ANDRESEN

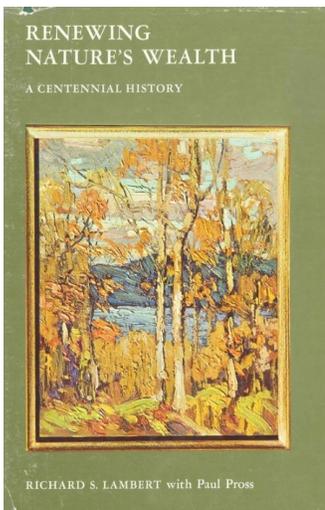


The depiction of the desolation in the wake of a raging forest fire, together with a message appealing for greater care by the people who start such conflagrations impressed the public K. M. ANDRESEN

A section of the timber management exhibit which brought home to the public the tremendous importance of the great forest industries—dependent upon well-managed forests for their future K. M. ANDRESEN



Renewing Nature's Wealth



(Lambert, Richard S. and Paul Pross. Toronto: The Ontario Department of Lands and Forests. 1967). The book cover describes this book as: "*Renewing Nature's Wealth*, the exciting story of Ontario's natural resources, is described by Premier John Robarts, in his Foreword to the book, as "much more than a history of one of the Departments of the Government of the Province of Ontario: it is a vital component of the history of Ontario", reaching back nearly 200 years to the days of the first surveyor General of Upper Canada in 1794. The book describes the impact made by a civilized people upon the primitive forest that originally covered the land, and the development of its natural resources under public administration from an early state of confusion and waste down to the modern era of conservation and scientific management."

We will provide a précis of one chapter of this book in each edition of *Forestry*.

Chapter 24: The Department and the Public (524-537)

This chapter describes the changes in the government's approach to natural resources from colonial times to the present. The initial approach was to concentrate on the disposition of land and wood resources. Little regard was given to resource management for sustainability and the resources were basically plundered. Public opinion began to change in the late 1800s through the actions of several events and individual people. The United Fruit Growers' Association, The Entomological Society and the American Forestry Congress were the early voices of a changing public opinion, with the Canadian Lumberman newspaper the primary voice of industry.

Managing forest fires was the first key point of contact between the government and the public on resource management. Concern over forest fires led to the enactment of the Forest Fire Prevention Bill in 1878. The government reinforced the bill with public education to ensure the public supported it. Even as late as 1947 it was recognized in the Kennedy Report of the Royal Commission on Forestry that public opinion was key to a more rational approach to resource management.

A significant event in the conservation movement was the American Forestry Congress of 1882, along with the Montreal sessions in the same year. These meetings led to the development of the first clerkship in forestry in the Department of Agriculture, which was later transformed into the Bureau of Forestry attached to the Crown Lands Department. The bureau focused on information dissemination. During this time enlightened minds across the broader landscape created the Canadian Forestry Association in 1900 under the chairmanship of former Quebec Premier Sir Henri Joly de Lotbiniere.

In 1903 Dr B.E. Fernow gave a well-received course of ten lectures on forestry at Queen's University. He delineated the three key ways government can assert its authority over the management of natural resources: 1) education; 2) policing; 3) ownership and management by agents of the Crown. He indicated that education was key to a strong resource management approach. In 1904 the government appointed the first professionally trained provincial forester. Subsequently, the Canadian Forestry Association requested that the Ontario government initiate the creation of a forestry school. In response, the Faculty of Forestry was established at the University of Toronto in 1907, with Dr. Fernow as the Dean.

The Canadian Forestry Association, at the request of Sir Wilfred Laurier, held the first national resources conferences in 1911. The Association continued to focus on education, with other bodies, such as the Canadian Institute of Forestry (1907) and the Ontario Professional Foresters' Association (1957) to focus on bringing professional foresters together.

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In 1949 several provincial forestry associations began to develop, including the Ontario Forestry Association. The Canadian Forestry Association focused on national forestry issues. The Ontario Forestry Association broadened its mandate to include all renewable resources. The Canadian Association launched the tree farm movement, and in 1953 The Ontario Paper Company established the first certified tree farm on their holdings on Manitoulin Island.

The Canadian Forestry Association focused on school educational activities. In 1957, the Association, along with the Ontario government and the Ontario Hydro Commission, developed and managed the Dryden High School Conservation Camp. Other schools were eventually developed, with the assistance of local forest companies, in Espanola and Marathon. The Association also worked with the Boy Scouts and Girl Guides to encourage conservation, and was a member of the Conservation Council of Ontario.

The Ontario Forestry Association, while partially funded by the Ontario government and forest industry, suffered from lack of support from larger industries, which seriously hampered its work. Although some companies did support conservation initiatives, including the Royal Bank. In addition, well known lumbermen (Ben Avery, Clark Davis, William Phipps and Gordon Godwin) were active in the Association's educational activities.

Outside of industry, most professional foresters worked for the government, and as such, were constrained in their ability to criticize government policy. Criticism did arise, however. One such critic was John C. Irwin, a professional forester who worked outside of government as a publisher. From 1935 – 1946 he conducted a relentless campaign to educate the public on sound forest management approaches. His activities included appearing before the Select Committee of the Legislature in 1940, the Kennedy Commission of 1947, giving many talks and writing newsletters and pamphlets. He focused on the wasteful practices of forest industry, garnering the ire of senior management in the government. His efforts paid off, with many of his recommendations enacted during the 1941 – 1943 reorganization of the Lands and Forests Department.

Similar to forestry, efforts were afoot in the fish and wildlife field to counter the myth of inexhaustible resources, which began with the revelations of the Fish and Game Commission of 1890. First efforts to ameliorate past wrongs were led primarily by individuals, including Jack Miner (bird sanctuary 1908) and Archie Belany (Grey Owl books and talks). Many local fish and game clubs sprang up, coalescing into the Ontario Federation of Anglers and Hunters in 1941. This association made great efforts to educate the public on better resource management. The Federation of Ontario Naturalists, a conservationist group, was active in briefing the government on recommended changes to various policies and approaches to natural resource management, especially in the area of parks and nature reserves. The Canadian Audubon Society (founded in 1948) was another organization devoted to conservation, especially through education. Francis H. Kortright founded the Canadian National Sportsman Show, which provided grants for education and research. His dream of bringing all conservation groups together materialized in 1952 with the creation of the Conservation Council of Ontario. This idea sprang from the National Wildlife Conference of 1939.

The Conservation Council saw educational activities as a primary method to improve natural resources management. In 1953-1954, they sponsored a series of lectures on conservation through the University of Toronto. These lectures were aimed at teachers, but failed to arouse much interest, even though the Department of Education recommended greater emphasis on conservation education in the 1950 report of the Select Committee on Conservation.

Conservation Authorities, starting with the creation of the Ganaraska Authority in 1946, placed education at the top of their conservation agendas. In 1959 the Toronto School Board sponsored the Toronto Island Nature and Conservation School, but the Ontario government was reluctant to recommend enabling legislation to expand the program. The Metropolitan Toronto and Region Conservation Authority took up the challenge by opening the Albion Hills Conservation School in 1963.

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In 1961, Canada and the provinces held an important conservation conference called Resources for Tomorrow. It received extensive publicity in the press and led to the publication by the Globe and Mail of the principal papers of the conference.

The Department of Lands and Resources, up to its reorganization in 1941, had taken a modest approach to “awakening and enlightening” the public on resource management. Its main avenue was through its annual report – a large, dense technical publication. One successful approach was its annual participation in the Canadian National Exhibition, starting in 1921. *(Editor’s Note: For more information on this topic, see the Sylva article on page 31)* Visitors especially enjoyed the fish and wildlife exhibits, which then drew them to the forest management, fire control and gun safety exhibits. It is thought that the success of the exhibit caused Deputy Minister Frank McDougall to actively develop the “public relations” side of the government’s work in resource management. An Information and Education Section was created and was tasked with engaging the various organizations and the public with the intent of improving the public attitudes towards resource management.

A forest fire prevention campaign, aimed at young students, was an early initiative of the new section. The section also developed a variety of materials for teachers and organizations for adults. From 1946 until 1950 the department supplied a special lecturer in each of its administrative districts for educational purposes. In 1950 it withdrew these positions and gave the responsibility to each of its twenty-two districts. This approach had an uneven result across the province.

The Conservation Information and Education section published a highly regarded monthly magazine, *Sylva*, from 1944 to 1960. Originally intended for internal use, it eventually garnered a large international audience and won several awards. In 1959, in response to opposition criticism, the government stopped publishing *Sylva* and another magazine called *Our Valley* (published by the Conservation Authorities Branch).

During its existence, the section published nearly 100 books, booklets and leaflets, along with regulations, newsletters, news releases and over forty thousand photographs. The section also answered approximately thirty thousand letters each year, as well as maintaining a library of films and exhibits for use at various events including the Canadian National Exhibition, the Canadian National Sportsman’s Show, the Central Canada Exhibition, the International Ploughing Match and the Royal Agricultural Winter Fair.

Forest History Ontario

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The mission of FHO is:

“To further the knowledge, understanding and preservation of Ontario’s forest history” and accomplish this with the following objectives:

1. To preserve forest and forest conservation history;
2. To encourage and further the development and recognition of forest history;
3. To support research and studies of forest history;
4. To support the archival preservation of records and materials relating to forest history, and
5. To promote the better understanding of forest history through public education.



Projects of the FHO

Catalogue of publications: available on the website, this catalogue includes all aspects of Ontario’s forest history and members can submit contributions.

Collections listing: Collections and materials relating to Ontario’s forest history are identified and listed on the website. FHO works with established archives such as the Archives of Ontario and several university archives in facilitating the preservation of significant collections.

Forestry Journal: FHO publishes a journal available to its members, the *Forestry*, twice a year – Spring and Fall - containing informative articles on forest history in Ontario.

Frank A. MacDougall Forest History Trust Fund: This Fund provides financial support for projects and activities that can further the knowledge and understanding of Ontario’s forest history in all aspects. All cheques should be made out to “Forests Ontario” and noted with ‘Frank A. MacDougall Forest History Fund’

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