



The CABHC Patch

News from the Community Archives

June 2017



Confederation in Hastings County

by Trevor R.J. Parsons (Summer Student)

In the years leading up to the Confederation, Hastings County was represented in the Legislative Assembly of the Province of Canada by two brothers: Thomas Wallbridge (1830-1881) in the north and Lewis Wallbridge (1816-1887) in the south. These men, united by party, were bitterly divided over the future of the country.

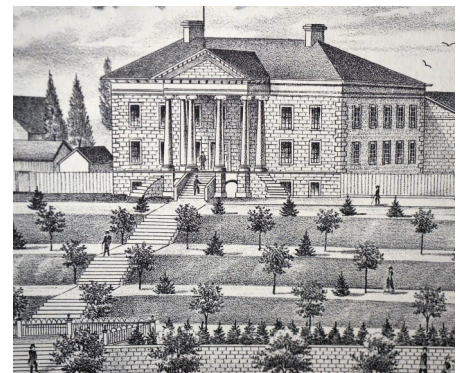


Portrait of Lewis Wallbridge, c.1865

Lewis Wallbridge, the Speaker of the House, was a supporter of the Grand Coalition that had been formed by Reform leader George Brown and Conservative leader John A. Macdonald. He desired the creation of a transcontinental nation stretching from the Atlantic to the Pacific. Thomas, on the other hand, opposed Confederation fearing the possibility of French Canadian dominance over Upper Canada.

Thomas Wallbridge was not the only prominent local to oppose Confederation; lumber magnate Billa Flint (1805-1894) was displeased with plans for separate schools, government financing of the Intercolonial Railway, and a non-elected senate.

The British North America Act received Royal Assent on March 29, 1867, thereby allowing the birth of the Dominion of Canada. On July 1, 1867, Mayor Henry Corby (1806-1881) read out the official proclamation on the steps of the Hastings County Court House in Belleville.



Hastings County Court House in 1878

Recent Additions to the Archives

2017-34 Incorporation of the Bay of Quinte Country Club, 1921

2017-35 Reverend A. N. Reid collection, 1931

2017-36 Sir Mackenzie Bowell bookmark, 1895

2017-37 Adelia Warren digitized photographs, 1936

2017-38 Needham Throop collection, 1955-1998

2017-39 Allison family railway collection, 1916-2005

2017-40 Digital Tweedsmuir histories and Hastings municipality records

2017-41 Photograph by Margaret Christie of Madoc, c.1870

2017-42 Marmora Women's institute scrapbooks and Tweedsmuir histories, 1930-1998

What's in the Display Case?

This month we are commemorating the 100th anniversary of the opening of two pilot training camps in Hastings County. In the Spring of 1917, Camps Mohawk and Rathbun began training young men to fly near Deseronto. Thousands of men passed through the two camps and we have a rich pictorial record of their activities in the archives.



CABHC: DA 2012.10 (26); DA CAMPR-06-32 and DA 2012.10 (56)
Many of the Royal Flying Corps airmen were keen photographers

New historical plaques

The Hastings County Historical Society is celebrating the 150th anniversary of Confederation in Canada and the Society's 60th birthday by installing a series of plaques around the City of Belleville. Here are the dates and locations of the unveilings. All events are at **2.00pm**.

June 14th: Fire Hall Number 2 (394 Front Street)

July 12th: Simpson's Tavern (NW corner Dundas and Front Streets)

July 26th: Griffin Opera House (65 Bridge Street)

August 9th: Belleville floods (224 Front Street)

August 23rd: Pinnacle Street Railway (Belleville Club, 210 Pinnacle Street)

September 28th: Marchmont Distributing Home (Moira and Yeomans Streets)