

Working together, bringing  
Toronto's past into the future

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Summer 2017



Toronto Historical Association

## PRESIDENT'S REMARKS

Summer is a comin' in! By the time you read this most of July will have zipped past us and we'll be complaining of the heat of August, then crying as the CNE starts signalling the return to school for kids and 'back to work' for most. Before you know it we'll be right back complaining of the cold dreary days of Fall and Winter and pining for summer again. We can't win... In the mean time, we have much to do to promote the great history of Toronto and its unique place in our lives and that of Canada, especially as we continue Canada150 celebrations throughout 2017. The T.H.A. and its member groups have much to tell to the people of Toronto and its visitors of the great and small histories of our town, the legacy we have for future generations to celebrate and contemplate and the places and people, structures and natural resources that we must preserve and protect if we are to understand our city and how it came to be.

I commend all our groups and their people for the hard work done to tell our stories and to keep in the minds of the public the things that are important to the continuity of our city's growth and development. No activity or event is less important than another and we need to be bringing our stories forward to as many people as possible. With all of us working together, we can tell our stories to more and more people and change perspectives on who we are and what we've done or hope to do. Understanding is knowledge and knowledge gives us depth and a richness of spirit.

I quote William G. Dever, Biblical Archaeologist and expert on Syro-Palestinian archaeology:

"...all history matters since it provides perspective. Understanding the human past is the only way we have of knowing who we are and what we can hope to be. The past is prologue..."

Paul Federico



## Issues:

Finally there is movement on a number of important heritage related fronts. The OMB overhaul is fully underway and with it the promise of greater control at the local level over the impact of development on issues of heritage, the preservation of structures and natural legacies. We continue to make our concerns known to all appropriate levels of government and expect that, in the future, more collegial efforts will result in positive heritage results for preservation and retention.

The Province has finally announced a request for developers to come forward with proposals to revitalize, revamp or otherwise recreate the public space known as Ontario Place. We anxiously await the flood of ideas and subsequent glossy drawings, maquettes and other displays showing how this resource can, once more, be of benefit to the people of Toronto and the wider public. Watch for upcoming news.

## Check your Groups:

Make sure your Committees and Board of Directors have not forgotten to submit your T.H.A. dues for 2017/18 and updated contact information as to who to send information to, who is the delegate to the T.H.A. , changes to websites, e-mails or other contact information.

## BRICKS:

Yes! The rumours are true! We still have a few authentic Don Jail Heritage Bricks left. Perfect for propping the back door open on hot days to let the summer breezes in, or, blocking the door to keep out bugs and rain and raccoons. It's not too early to consider one for your Thanksgiving centrepiece or a birthday, anniversary or, shall we say?- Christmas present? Place your order at [info@torontohistory.net](mailto:info@torontohistory.net)

## Social Media is the New Thing!

Our T.H.A. Twitter account continues to gain followers. Make sure you are one. Not only is it a source of current events and activities, it is a forum of information on Toronto history worth searching. This is the perfect place to announce upcoming events, displays, exhibits, talks, walks or other activities. Send us your information.

Our Website continues its revamp, but, just because you don't see the new look just yet, doesn't mean you can't contribute information, articles, photographs or other heritage related material for use on the site. We need stories of Toronto's history. Your group can tell about someone, something or someplace special within your organization. Release your inner Hemingway.

We have a Youtube channel and we need content! Get out your smart phone, strap on that GoPro, let loose your secret Spielberg or Cameron. You don't need to go Michael Bay/Transformers big, but a short video on local history or an interesting facet of Toronto's heritage will attract new adherents to the cause.

For information on the needs and parameters for these media outlets contact: [editor@torontohistory.net](mailto:editor@torontohistory.net)

## EVENTS Summer 2017

As always there are too many to announce and time delays may make some 'stale dated'. Check out member groups websites, and other contacts for timely material.

### July 15

Trethewey Airfield [Trethewey Model Farm] Plaque Unveiling. It will be placed at the west end of the "Wishbone" by the Canadian Aviation Historical Society [Toronto Chapter] . ALL WELCOME. This is a unique part of Toronto history unknown to many and well worth our support. Jane Street and Eglinton Avenue area was once home to one of the earliest airfields in Canada and the RCAF Squadron which served there was known as the "City of Toronto" Squadron [now the 400 Squadron].

### La Société d'histoire de Toronto

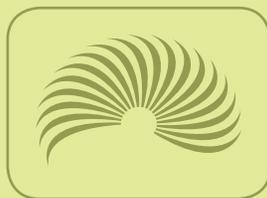
"Sur les pas de George Brown" La Société d'histoire de Toronto is giving a walking tour in partnership with Heritage Toronto which means you will be able to choose between a tour in French or a tour in English. Saturday July 15 starting at 1:30 PM at St. Lawrence Hall:157, King Street East.

For more information: [smth7631@rogers.com](mailto:smth7631@rogers.com)

### Tollkeeper's Cottage Museum

Opening hours for the **Tollkeeper's Cottage Museum**, starts at 11 a.m. and ends at 5 p.m.  
Website: [www.tollkeeperscottage.ca](http://www.tollkeeperscottage.ca).

Please forward your activity or event to: [editor@torontohistory.net](mailto:editor@torontohistory.net).



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