

Vol. 5– May 2014

H.E.I.R.S. newsletter

Harrow Early Immigrant Research Society



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Harrow & Colchester South
Community Centre (Arena Bldg.)



Inside this Issue...

May Meeting:

Oxley Estates Winery, Annual Director Elections & Final Meeting before Summer

Newsletter News!

Welcome to the May issue of the HEIRS newsletter.

Great information is included in this issue on the early settlers in this area, where they first resided and why, and how land was provided to them based on their loyalty and “battle readiness”. Read this in Part Two of our history section.

Hope you will take a bit of time out of your spring to attend our May meeting. Each one is unique, a lot of work to organize, but rewarding for those you can hear and see the presentations in person. **This one should be especially entertaining!**

Our yearly dues rise to \$25 in May, due to higher postage costs. Help HEIRS by receiving your newsletters by e-mail. **Full colour, high resolution PDFs you can read & save for reference.**

May Meeting

When: Thursday, May 22nd, 1:30 PM

Where: Oxley Estates Winery, 533 County Road 50 (near Colchester)

The May meeting of HEIRS will be at the Oxley Estates Winery on County Road 50, between Ridge and Erie Roads. The winery outing will cost \$7 per person, to cover the cost of the refreshments.

As usual, we begin at 1:30, and will hold the annual election of directors. Les Hodgkins has decided to retire from the board of directors, so we will be looking to find a replacement for him (even though he is one of a kind!)

We encourage anyone interested in helping to guide our group to put their names forward. At social time, we will enjoy a cheese tray, beverages and a vegetable tray, and members have the option of buying a glass or bottle of wine to enjoy. We will be on the patio, or if the weather is inclement, in the upper meeting room.

As always, the public is welcome to join us.



On Thursday, April 24, HEIRS met to hear Stephanie Pouget-Papek, curator of the Park House Museum in Amherstburg. She outlined the history of the house back to 1796, and the varied plans she has for the museum now.

New exhibits are featured every few months, and have included such diverse topics as the Loyalists, Pioneer Life, both World Wars, a Victorian Christmas, a Victorian Murder Mystery, tin-smithing and more.

Displays are not static but change frequently, so that something new is always offered. The goal is to be self-sustaining, and less dependent on government funding. The Park House Museum is a lesser known area attraction, but is proving to be a treasure in our midst, offering learning and fun for all ages.



BROCK'S CABIN

On March 29 of this year, a fundraiser dinner was held at the Canadian Historic Vehicle & Village Museum on the Arner Town Line. The goal was to raise enough money to furnish & establish the log cabin on the premises which was donated by Amherstburg.

The cabin is circa 1812, and will be used to represent the cabin once occupied by the child of Alamay Malawice & Sir Isaac Brock. Alamay was a black cook from Ghana, not a slave, & worked at the best hotel in Amherstburg in 1812, when Brock was there to meet with Tecumseh & Fort Detroit fell to the British forces. The child, Esther Malawice Banks, became the foundation for the Banks family, which has a long history here in Essex County. HEIRS was represented by Directors Chris Carter (who spoke at the occasion), and Ted Steele.

Among the speakers was Elise Harding Davis, a well-known local historian & previous presenter at our HEIRS February meeting & a descendant of Esther Malawice Banks herself. The committee was pleased with the amount raised, & will continue with activities to bring this project to fruition.



4 Upcoming Events

THE CHATHAM-KENT BLACK MECCA MUSEUM
Presents the 15th Annual
JOHN BROWN FESTIVAL
Celebrating Early Black Professionals in Chatham-Kent
&
The 160th Anniversary of the Provincial Freeman
becoming a weekly newspaper

Festival Schedule

Friday May 2, 2014: Admission: Free	Saturday May 3, 2014 Admission: \$30.00 before May 1, 2014 \$40.00 after May 1, 2014 Tickets include a catered lunch
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7:00pm Scattering of seeds:
Breaking the Ice:
The Story of Mary Ann Shadd

9:00am Registration
10:00am Welcome
10:30am Guest Speaker: Melissa Shaw
11:30am Dramatic Performance: Leslie McCurdy
12:00pm Lunch
1:00pm Guest Speaker: Heather Ioannou
2:00pm Vocal Performance
2:30pm Walk Back in Time
3:30pm Closing

Coffee, Tea and Desserts
to follow

Wish Centre
177 King St. E Chatham, ON
To register please contact: blairnewby@hotmail.com or 519-352-3565
For more information, please contact: blairnewby@hotmail.com



BBQ

May 3rd, 2014

Time: 1:00 - 8:00
2410 Central Ave.
(Caribbean Center)

Cost: \$12.00

Menu: Fish, Chicken & Pork

For More Information Call: Robbie @ (519) 945-0213

Eat-In or Carry Out



**Windsor West Indian
Association
Presents**

**Mother's Day
Brunch**

May 11th, 2014
12p.m. – 6:p.m.
Tickets
Adult \$15.00
Children \$8.00
Caribbean Centre
2410 Central Ave.

For tickets call
519-250-8827 or 519-979-0311

THE HOUR-A-DAY STUDY CLUB
80th ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION
LUNCHEON

SATURDAY MAY 24TH, 2014 11:30A.M.

GUEST SPEAKER:
SHANTELE BROWNING-MORGAN
GOVERNOR GENERAL AWARD WINNING TEACHER-
WINDSOR-ESSEX COUNTY DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

CIOCIARO CLUB OF WINDSOR
3745 N. TALBOT RD., OLDCASTLE, ONTARIO

FOR TICKET OR SPONSOR/DONOR INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT MARIUM AT 519-560-7511
OR ghidi46@yahoo.ca
TICKETS: \$50

The Amherstburg Echo.

AMHERSTBURG, ONTARIO, FRIDAY, JUNE 4, 1914.

Week No. 2474

100 ACRES FOR SALE.

In well wooded, beautiful Territory, about a mile from Amherstburg, 100 acres of land, with good buildings. For further particulars call 2004, am.

FALLS BROS., Agts.
Amherstburg

LIME FOR SALE
IN
CARLOAD LOTS.

THE SOVEREIGN BANK OF CANADA.

HEAD OFFICE, TORONTO, ONT.

Branches in all principal cities of Canada and the United States.

SAVINGS BANK DEPARTMENT

HARROW BRANCH.

C. A. BUCHANAN,
Manager.

AMHERSTBURG BRANCH.

M. I. LAKE,
Manager.

BURK BROS.

THE
POPULAR
TRADING
HOUSE.

3

Special

May 8

Clark and McDonald made a raid on Pelee this week, introducing the Ford.

Russell Wright has joined George Wright as partner in their blacksmith and horseshoeing business in Henry Herdman's shop.

May 15

Heavy rain and water back up and flooded the county from a foot to several feet deep for miles in the Richmond drain, Marshfield area. Over 100 acres of oats were submerged. Several homes were surrounded by water.

James Drummond has put his livery ahead by purchasing a five passenger Ford from McDonald, Son & Clark, the vehicle to be used in his business.....TAXI !

June 9

The School Board has hired Mr. Pennington, architect, and this will get the plans for the new continuation school in good shape, and in the hands of the Department of Education. Local contractors can be secured to put the building up in a couple of months.

June 12

Oliver Airhart's ice creamery has an electric fan. Lewis Quick has rented the small store in the Adams Block for an ice cream parlour, and he has installed a Vernor's Ginger Ale outfit.

The evaporator building went up in flames right after it was sold to Marshall Enderby. (This place had been known as the leading "blind pig" in the town.)

June 19

The ladies of the Women's Institute are agitating for a horse watering trough in Harrow.

June 26

The light company is giving the village continuous service now, and quite a number are putting in electric devices such as irons, toasters, small motors. There is some talk of extending the light service to the lake.

The Pere Marquette yard is being cleaned up for the erection of a salting station for the Heinz Pickle Company.



From the HEIRS mailbag...

We have acquired the cornerstone from old schoolhouse (SS 2, Colchester South), which was being partially torn down. Currently housed in the HEIRS library, the cornerstone is a true piece of local history. The schoolhouse is shown as it was, with the addition added in 1951. That addition is now demolished, leaving a one room building which may yet find a new use. The chimney remains also, a home for chimney swifts, a bird species on the endangered list.



Support for the Windows XP operating system has been officially withdrawn by Microsoft, and users are warned that this is now a dangerous computer system to use on the internet. HEIRS has already had Greg Harrison's Computer Centre evaluate our computers, and they will be upgraded to the more advanced, and safer, Windows 7 system soon.

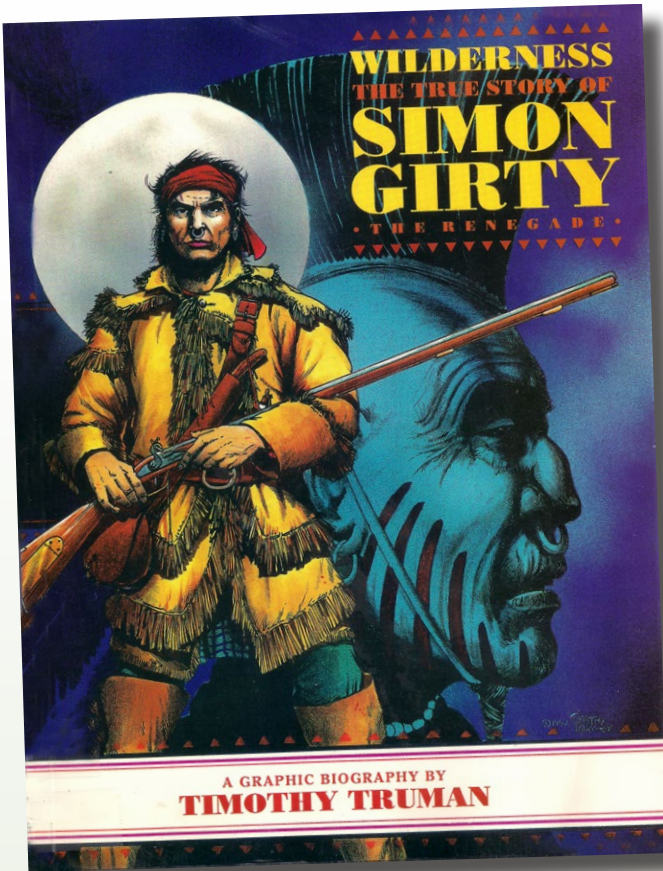
HEIRS thanks all who attended our pasta dinner in early March.

The money raised has allowed us to again hire a summer student. Andrea Leslie, who served us so well last summer, will again keep HEIRS open through the summer weekdays, and is quite capable of assisting any members who stop in or call for help.



Directors Richard Herniman & Ted Steele met with Harrow High School students on April 3rd. They shared what HEIRS has available as background information on WW1. HEIRS hopes to build strong links with their history teachers, and enjoy future interaction with the students.

President Richard Herniman met with the local Rotary Club to provide an overview of what HEIRS is all about. They were surprised how active we are in the community, and that our membership is steadily growing.. We look forward to partnering with them on local projects.



Available from the HEIRS lending library.

Wilderness -The True Story of Simon Girty the Renegade - by Timothy Truman

Timothy Truman has written a unique book on a most unique individual - Simon Girty. He chose to write it as a “graphic biography”; that is, a story in script and drawings, similar to the Classics Illustrated books we grew up with.

It tells the complex story of Girty in an “adult” comic book style, and the author is careful to present multiple sides to the Girty personality. He does not subscribe to the “white savage” view of Girty many books have perpetrated, nor does he present Simon Girty as an all-around hero of the First Nations cause and a likeable frontiersman.

With all his personality flaws, Simon Girty was an amazing character who was at times great, at times vicious and at times a caring man. Just as the times he lived in were demanding and harsh, so he was as well... a tough survivor, a good friend to have, but a bad enemy to oppose.

Truman’s book will give a new understanding to the times he lived in, and choices that at times had to be made. Paperbound, 155-page book, full of black & white drawings, includes brief biographies of individuals, a bibliography, moviography & sources of information.

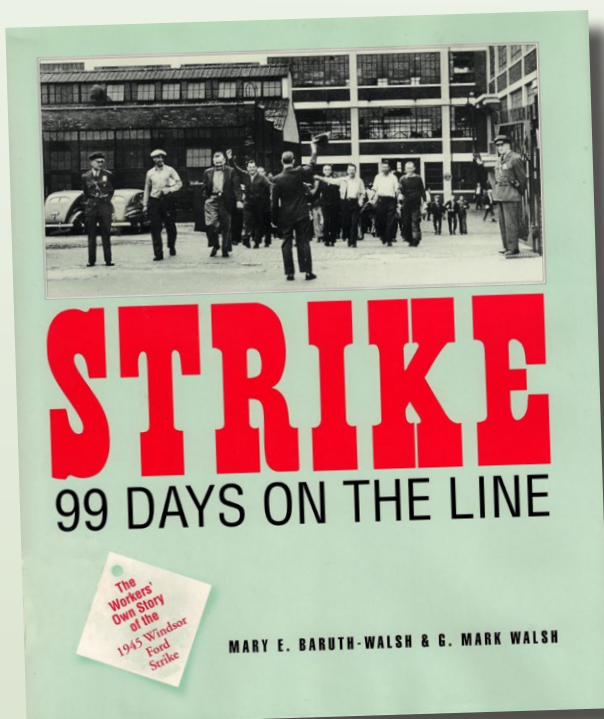
STRIKE - 99 Days on the Line

- by Mary E. Baruth-Walsh & G. Mark Walsh

This story of the bitter 1945 strike by the Ford auto workers in Windsor, Ontario, is also available from the Lending Library at HEIRS.

Beginning with 1914, the years before the UAW came to be are discussed, and the rise of unions in the 1940s is chronicled, with reasons for their creation, and the automobile companies’ resistance to the idea.

In 1945, the lines were drawn, as the UAW demanded a role in setting working conditions and wages, while the auto companies felt that the soldiers now returning home from Europe would gladly take what was offered without the need for compromise and discussion. A long and often hostile strike of 99 days was eventually settled, and the workers had, by standing together in opposition, established the Canadian Labour Movement as an important player in the economic development of Canadian industry.



Hard cover, 118 pages, most with black & white photos to illuminate the story.

Loyalists of Essex County

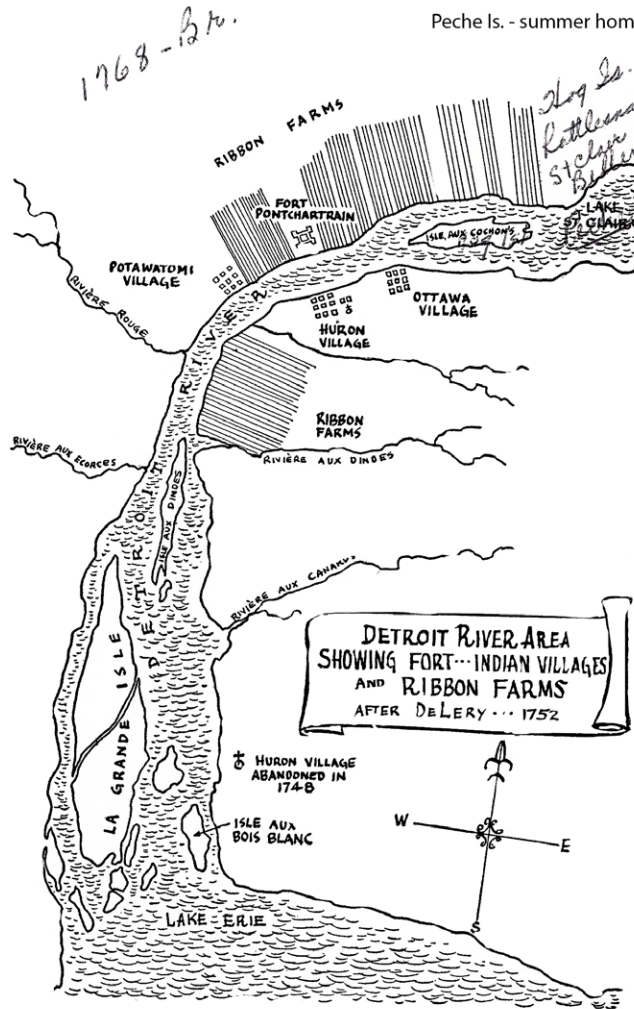
- PART TWO - article written by HEIRS Director, Ted Steele

Once McKee had a treaty with the local Indian chiefs in place, the British could think about identifying those who had fought for the crown, or suffered losses due to their refusal to join the American forces. These people were deemed Loyalists, and could file a claim for land in the newly available district.

Settlers petitioned the King for land, on the

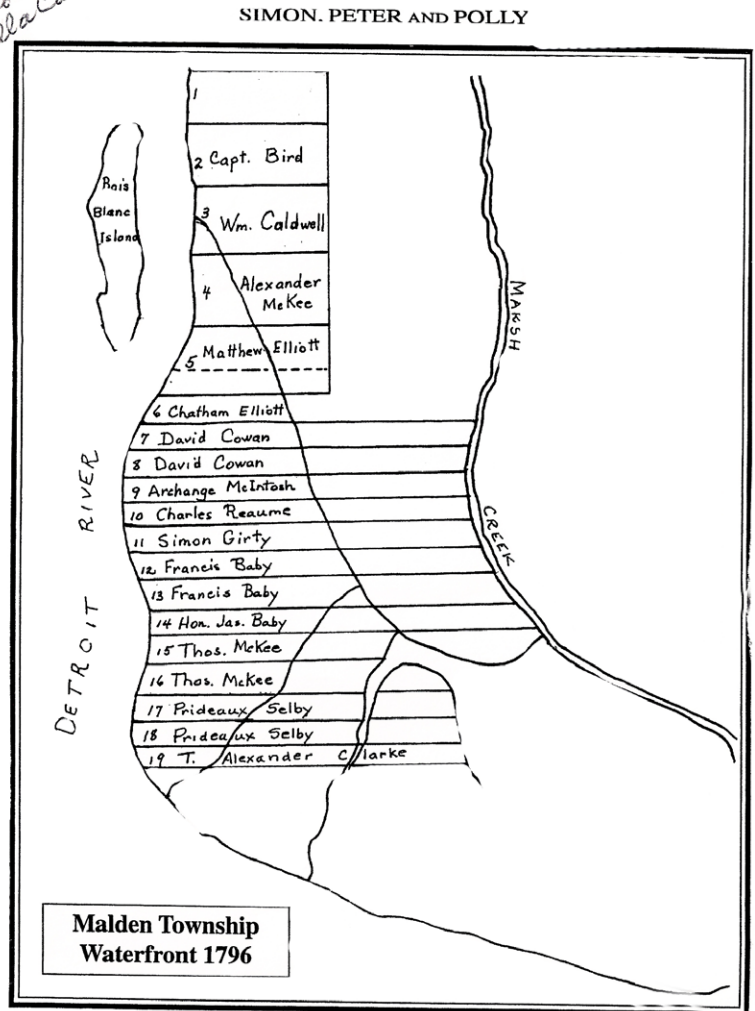
basis that they had served in the Loyalist fighting forces, or had suffered losses and damages because of their loyalty to the Crown.

As their claims were proven (or dis-proven, in some cases), land was granted. Provision was made that each child of these "Loyalists" would qualify for a land grant when they reached maturity.



Peche Is. - summer home of Pontiac, Indian Chief

From Michigan Four Centuries - by F. Clever Bald

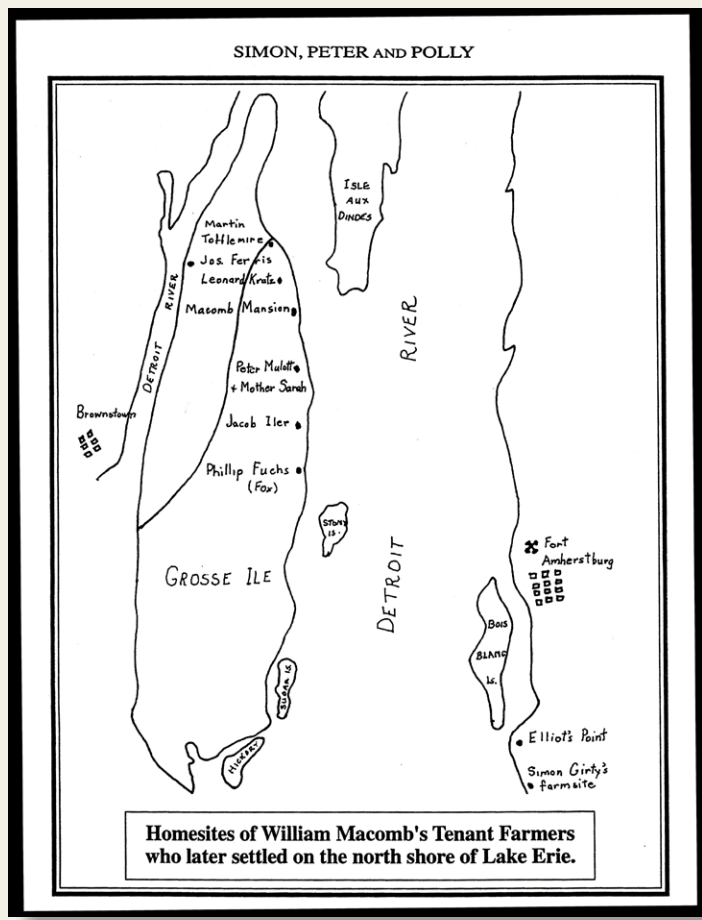


SIMON, PETER AND POLLY

Malden Township Waterfront 1796

A look at the map of Grosse Ile as included in the April newsletter, reveals some well-known names in Essex County history. Tenant farmers waiting for land included Martin Tofflemire, Joseph Ferriss, Leonard Kratz (which was anglicized to Scratch), Peter Malott, Jacob Iler, and Phillip Fuchs (later to become Fox).

In a stroke of brilliant forethought, the military officers and soldiers who had fought were given land along the Detroit River, near present-day Amherstburg. These were men like Caldwell, Bird, McKee and Girty. They ensured that land along the Detroit River and near Fort Malden was assigned to them.



1787-1789 DETROIT RETURNS
 List of disbanded Troops & Loyalists to be settled on the North Side of Lake Erie from a Creek four Miles from the Mouth of the River Detroit to a small Creek about a Mile and a half beyond Cedar River - Detroit 1st October 1787
 (continued)

Index No.	No.	Names	Remarks
J767	87	James Girty	8 Partizan all the War
J768	88	George Girty	7 Do. Do.
J769	89	Dan ^l McKillup	1 63 Serj ^t Butler's Rangers
J770	90	Jo ^s Windal	6 Private 8 th Reg ^t a 3 years man
J771	91	Thomas Smith	30 Loyalist came into Niagara in 76 with a plan of Fort Stanwix and Intelligence
J772	92	Robert Surphlet	Do. came in with Mr. McKee
J773	93	Frederick Arnold	Do. came in since the war
J774	94	Amos Weston	Blacksmith, many years with Stedman
J775	95	John Waters	Loyalist in many years
J776	96	James Robertson	Private in Butler's Rangers
J777	97	John Little	Loyalist
J778	98	Adam Darkness	Do. in many years much persecuted
J779	99	Thomas Grubb	Do. in many years with Stedman
J780	100	- Gregg	Loyalist express in the War
J781	101	Daniel Garret	Do. Do.
J782	102	Frederick Fisher	Do. prisoner by the Indians much attached
J783	103	Thomas Alex ^r Clark	2 years from England a Mill Wright
J784	104	John Gordon	Loyalist
J785	105	John McLean	Do.
J786	106	Jacob Snyder	Loyalist
J787	107	- Harbour	Do.
J788	108	- Fox	Do. in since the War
J789	109	- Holmes	Do. Do.
J790	110	- Reynolds	Do.
J791	111	- McDunach	Do.
J792	112	- Chalmers	Do.
J793	113	Rob ^t Dowlar	Do.
J794	114	Henry Wright	Do.
J795	115	James Little	Do.
J796	116	Jacob Lans	German Troops taken with Lord Cornwallis
J797	117	Rob ^t Dennison	Volunteer to Post Vincenne
J798	118	Richard Whittle	Do. Do.
J799	119	John Libour	Private in Butler's Rangers
J800	120	Charles Dyce	Loyalist
J801	121	James Stuart	Do. sent on many Scouts
J802	122	James Rogers	Long Prisoner with the Indians
J803	123	John Prinnie	Private Butler's Rangers
J804	124	Thomas Williams	Blacksmith Indian Department
J805	125	William Cook	2 1 Warr ^t Officer Royal Artillery

If a future invasion from the US were to take place, it would most assuredly come where the river (and the border) was the narrowest.

Those Loyalists who had been farmers were given land along the shore of Lake Erie (present day Harrow, Kingsville and Leamington) or inland a bit more. Among these early families were Wigle, Tofflemire, Munger, Arner, Iler, Malott and Girty, to name just a few.

The land was heavily forested, and these Loyalists were expected to clear a number of acres per year, as well as erect a suitable house and become self-sufficient. Some land was swampy and unsuitable for farming, as well. The British promised seeds, an axe, an ox, and a few other items for each Loyalist family, but this did not always come about.

To survive, it was necessary to have good neighbours, to co-operate with them, & to share what equipment was available.

Hours of Operation: September to June (excluding December)

Tuesday & Thursday: 10AM - 3PM , Wednesday 9 - Noon. Please call for appointments for other times.

**Memberships Due: May 2014 to April 2015: \$25 per person / couple (CDN / U.S.)
Send cheque to: HEIRS PO Box 53, Harrow ON Canada N0R 1G0**

Please include your phone, fax, email, website & names you are now researching.

Non-member user fee for HEIRS Research Library, as of January 2013: \$5 / visit (+ photocopy costs).

HEIRS Newsletter

The HEIRS newsletter is published 9 times per year, in conjunction with General Meetings held on the 4th Thursday of the month, from September through June (with the exception of December).

Newsletters via Email

If you currently receive our newsletter by mail and would prefer to receive it by email, simply provide your email address to any one of our newsletter committee members. Not only will you be able to archive the full colour newsletter PDF easily on your computer, it will save HEIRS the extra handling, reproduction and mailing costs.

Special thanks to Greg Harrison at the Computer Centre in Harrow, for his ongoing support of all things technical, setting up our new equipment, and keeping things running smoothly.



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