



Bailey's Bulletin

Volume 19 Issue 1

January 2015

A publication of the Hamilton Mountain Heritage Society
Founded September 1996

Our Society's logo was designed by Jim Elliott, who was a retired graphic artist and charter member of the HMHS. We are proud to display this logo on the masthead of our newsletters and stationery.

Bailey's Bulletin is named in honour of the Reverend T. Melville Bailey, who was a proud Mountain resident and founder of the HMHS.

Bailey's Bulletin is published three times per year.

Century Manor Task Force 2

A group of local heritage supporters led by Pat Saunders, a member of our society's executive, recently formed a task force to save Century Manor.

The High Victorian institutional building built in 1884 is the last remaining 19th century building of the Hamilton Psychiatric Hospital. A previous task force disbanded after they succeeded in having the building designated under the Ontario Heritage Act in 1997.

The provincial government owns the building, through Infrastructure Ontario, and will not allow access inside to assess its condition.

The task force aims to ensure Century Manor is saved from demolition by neglect and restored for the future.

For more information contact Pat Saunders (p.saunders@rogers.com) and join the "Save Century Manor" group on Facebook.

(Photos taken July 2014)



The Friends of Beaverdams Church

In 2013 the Hamilton Mountain Heritage Society held two meetings with topics related to the Battle of Beaverdams in the War of 1812.

Beaverdams Church, one of the oldest surviving Methodist churches in Ontario was built in 1832 in the village of Beaverdams about 5 km from the battlefield. Regular services in Beaverdams Methodist Church ended in the 1890's. The church and cemetery were designated under the Ontario Heritage Act in 1994, and the United Church donated the property to the City of Thorold in 2010. The building was in need of \$400,000 - \$800,000 in repairs but unfortunately the city could not budget the money needed.

In September 2014, The Friends of Beaverdams Church, a group of volunteers, was able to come to an agreement with the City of Thorold to transfer ownership of the church and cemetery to them for the sum of \$2. Before the transfer volunteers were unable to do simple repairs due to the city's liability rules. The friends obtained charitable status in October 2014 and are now actively working on raising the funds to restore the church.

The transfer of Beaverdams Church is an interesting model for heritage groups in Hamilton to study as they fight to restore publicly owned properties on the mountain such as Auchmar, Century Manor, and Chedoke House.

For more information see www.friendsofbeaverdamschurch.com



Photos taken February 2012



Upcoming Programme Dates

Meetings of the Hamilton Mountain Heritage Society, unless otherwise noted, are held at Olivet United Church, 40 Empress Avenue on the third Thursday of January, March, May, September and November. Occasionally special meetings are arranged in buildings of historical interest. All meetings begin at 7:30 pm and visitors are most welcome.

January 15, 2015 Prints Across the Mountain

Gary Evans will be presenting images from his book *Prints Across the Mountain*.

March 19, 2015 Trains of Hamilton

Ken Adamson will be speaking about the history of railways in the Hamilton area.

May 21, 2015 To be announced, watch our website and Facebook page for details

HMHS Memberships

The annual membership fee for the Hamilton Mountain Heritage Society is \$20 for an individual or family. The membership year is January to December and 2015-2016 memberships are now due. See Sandra at the next meeting to purchase or renew – or submit your fee to our mailing address.

Membership forms are available at: www.hamiltonheritage.ca.

Test your “Mountain Memories”

Canada Post has announced that home mail delivery on the Mountain will end this year and be replaced by community mailboxes.

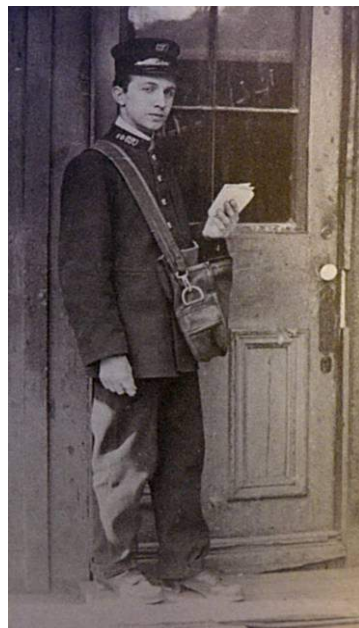
Home mail delivery on the mountain initially covered the area from Fennell Avenue to the brow. Two postmen picked up letters and parcels from the main Post Office at John and King Streets.

Harry Hardcastle (pictured at right) covered the west mountain and would likely have used the Hamilton Street Railway and the James Street Incline to get to his route. Tom Monogue covered the east mountain and would have used the HSR and the Wentworth Street Incline. Both mailmen began their routes at the top of their respective inclines, when their mailbags were heaviest.

In what year was home mail delivery introduced on the mountain?

- a) 1902 b) 1912 c) 1922

The answer is on the last page of this newsletter.



Upcoming Events

The Taoist Tai Chi Society of Hamilton Winter Soup Fest



Saturday February 7th
12:00 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.
86 Hester St.

33rd Annual Winterfest in Gourley Park Sunday February 8th 12 p.m. – 2 p.m.

A fun-filled afternoon for families with horse and wagon rides, obstacle course, games, face-painting and more.



Burlington Historical Society Great Gorge Railroad by Robin McKee



Monday February 9th at 7 p.m.
Burlington Central Library - 2331 New St.

Heritage Comes Home Heritage Fair and Heritage Awards

Hamilton City Hall, 71 Main St. W.
Saturday February 21, 2015
Starting at 11 a.m.



PO Box 60506
RPO MOUNTAIN PLAZA
Hamilton ON L9C 7N7
hamiltonheritage1@gmail.com

www.hamiltonheritage.ca



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June Outing

Sunday, June 14th, 2015 is the date for the Hamilton Mountain Heritage Society's annual bus trip.

The trip will include a steam train ride on the South Simcoe Railway in Tottenham, lunch at Rich Hill United Church, a tour of k2 MILLING and a surprise stop.

The cost per person is only \$55.00.

Tickets are limited so please see Tom Allan soon to reserve your spot! thomaseallanrogers.com 905-575-9326

