



Dundas County Archives Newsletter

August 2020

Volume 1, Number 2

In This Issue

- **Who does the Dundas County Archives serve?**
- **Thank you to our donors**
- **Newspaper Digitization Project**
- **Showcasing local history**

Where to find us

**5 College Street or
P.O. Box 58
Iroquois Ontario K0E 1K0**

dundascountyarchives@gmail.com

Web pages

<https://southdundas.com/residents/dundas-county-archives/>

<https://northdundas.com/town-hall/clerk/dundas-county-archives>

Phone

613 669 2169

Who does the Dundas County Archives serve?

The Dundas County Archives is jointly supported by the Township of North Dundas and the Municipality of South Dundas. Our mission is to collect, arrange, preserve and make available to researchers the records of Dundas County. While the central focus is to operate as a Municipal archive, in compliance with the Municipal Act, we do also collect documentary heritage pertaining to the businesses, community groups, individuals and historical organizations within the region of Dundas County. This becomes the collective memory of our region.

Are we open to the public?

The Dundas County Archives was closed on March 15 as a result of Public Health directives, in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. The Dundas County Archives is not yet opened to the public.

Thank you to our donors

Thank you to all our donors. Since our last newsletter, we have received a cash donation from Tom Kennedy. Thank you to Jim Jordan for continued donations to our collections. There have been numerous enquiries by email and phone. Every email is responded to assess whether the items that they wish to donate fit within our collection mandate. All donations are greatly appreciated and do help to preserve the history of Dundas County

Newspaper Digitization Project

Due to the very generous support of the Stormont, Dundas and Glengarry United Counties Council, we have been funded for our Newspaper Digitization Project. We are grateful for the financial support of the Iroquois, Morrisburg and Winchester Legions, as well as the Lions Clubs of Iroquois Matilda, Morrisburg and Mountain Township. These organizations supported the purchase of archival supplies for this project, and we are truly indebted to them. The Dundas County Archives is also indebted to Howard and Leslie Kirkby for their diligent efforts in assisting with this project as volunteers.

When are we open:

We are not yet open to the public, due to COVID 19 restrictions. As such, it is always best to contact me by email as we are not always in the building to receive phone calls

email
dundascountyarchives@gmail.com

The St Lawrence Branch of the United Empire Loyalist Association Family Research Centre is a separate Organization.

Contact Larry Empey at Larry@empey.ca or Lorraine Reoch fancylass@hotmail.ca

<http://uelac.org/st-lawrence/>

They are located within the Archives Building at 5 College Street

They are also not yet open to the public

If you have stories to tell about the history, places, the businesses and the people of Dundas County we would love to have you share it with us. That way we can add to the collective history of the region.

To date, we have scanned and digitized over 61,000 pages, or 104 boxes of historic newspapers. This has been a labour intense project, between sourcing, collecting, organizing and carefully piecing together the frail and brittle papers. The result will be an OCR (optical character recognition) searchable collection which will give access to hundreds of years of local history. Most of these papers provide information that is not available anywhere else.

Please note that these newspapers are not yet all scanned and digitized and we do not yet have access to the digital files. There will be updates as we get closer to this step of hosting the digital files to a web site.

Showcasing Local History

In an effort to showcase Dundas County history, displays have been set up every few months in the exhibit case in the lobby of the South Dundas Municipal Centre.

Currently there is a display on **Dr Marion Hillard**, (1902 – 1958), OB/GYN. She was born and raised in Morrisburg but subsequently made huge inroads in women's health on the International sphere, including the development of the PAP test. The Archives are looking for any family in the area with respect to a proposal to nominate her for the Canadian Medical Hall of Fame. If you are in her family, or know someone who is, please contact the archives. If you have any suggestions for future displays, please send an email.

While the archives have been closed, much has been done in building the local history resource collections for many topics pertaining to both North and South Dundas. These will be outlined in a future newsletter.

Recent donations of records have been processed into our collections. If you have items you would like to donate, please email and we will evaluate with you if these items fit our collection mandate. If you have essays about buildings, groups, businesses or people we would love to hear from you. It is all about building a local history for all of Dundas County.

During the shutdown, research has been conducted for individuals, as they cannot currently access the records.

There have been continuing efforts to repatriating Dundas County records from other repositories.

The work is never ending, but the goal remains the same – to collect, preserve and make available the history of Dundas County.

Susan Peters, Dundas County Archives