



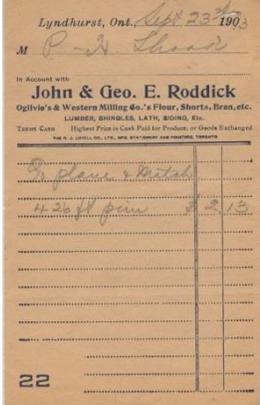
365 Historical Facts

 Celebrate Our Local Heritage

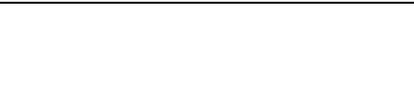


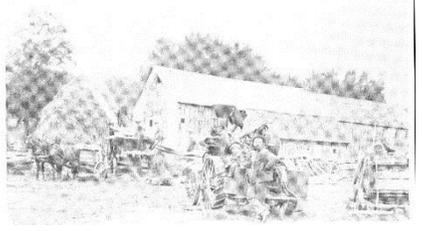
Township of
**Leeds and the
Thousand Islands**

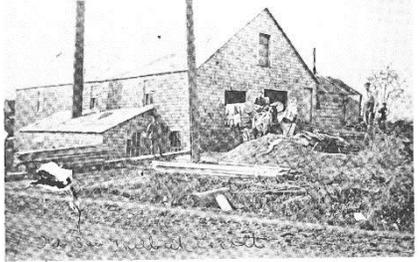
April, 2017

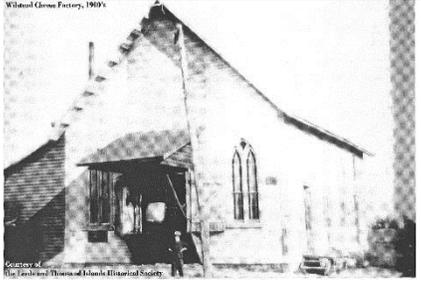
DATE	FACT	IMAGE
1	<p>Here is a photograph of Emery School S.S. #12. The school was located on Marble Rock Road on land that was granted to William Emery in 1798. The stone school was built some time during the mid 1800's. The school closed in June of 1960 and the students moved to William Hiscocks School. The building still remains today, although it has been converted into a residence.</p> <p>(Information collected from lthistoricalsociety.org. Image courtesy of the Leeds and Thousand Islands Archives)</p>	
2	<p>Here is a receipt from John & Geo. E. Roddick's in Lyndhurst from September of 1913. John Roddick and Henry Green purchased the mills, land, and water rights from the Jones estate in 1868. The mills from 1828 were in such poor state that both men built new mills and dams on opposite sides of the river.</p> <p>(Information collected from lthistoricalsociety.org. Image courtesy of the Leeds and Thousand Islands Archives)</p>	
3	<p>This photograph shows the view looking west along Highway 2 at Escott. In sight is the Methodist church on the left and Springfield House in the background.</p> <p>(Information collected from lthistoricalsociety.org. Image courtesy of the Leeds and Thousand Islands Archives)</p>	
4	<p>This photograph shows an aerial view of Lansdowne in 1920. Can you recognize any buildings?</p> <p>(Image courtesy of the Leeds and Thousand Islands Archives)</p>	

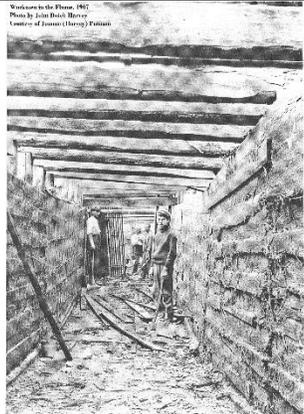
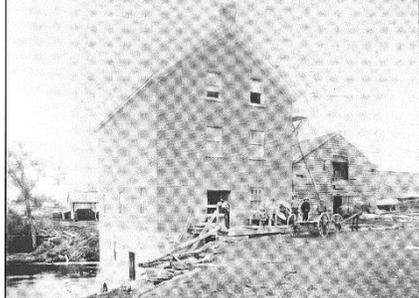
<p>5</p>	<p>This photograph, taken in 1948, shows members of the Lansdowne Section Crew near Lansdowne Station.</p>	
<p>6</p>	<p>Here is a photograph of Tilley School S.S. #18. The school was built around 1860 on land provided by William Gowan. Originally called Gowan School, it was renamed Bowell after the near-by post office, and finally Tilley. Due to a declining attendance, the school closed in 1939 and the students were moved to nearby schools. In 1954, Tilley School reopened after the student population was too big for Rockfield School S.S. #20. Tilley School closed in 1963 and the building was later demolished.</p> <p>(Information collected from Itihistoricalsociety.org. Image courtesy of the Leeds and Thousand Islands Archives)</p>	
<p>7</p>	<p>Here is a photograph of La Rue Creek. In the background to the left is the Billa La Rue House. Billa La Rue and his family came to Canada in 1784 and settled at the creek. La Rue's saw mill and grist mill were some of the earliest in the region and were important in the lives of early settlers. The sturdy log house is also one of the region's oldest homes and still stands and is lived in today. Billa La Rue built locks in the creek so that he could bring logs up to his sawmill.</p>	
<p>8</p>	<p>Here is a photograph of students in front of the Escott School S.S. #17 in June of 1960.</p>	

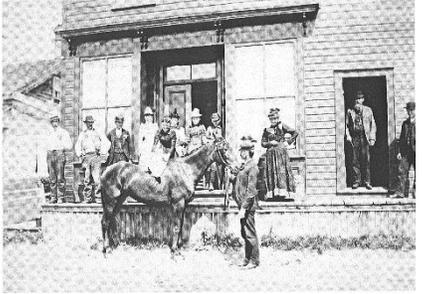
<p>9</p>	<p>This photograph shows Poole's Boarding House on Grenadier Island. The building served as a summer retreat house until it was sold to Jim Poole, who ran it as a boarding house for many years. Jim's son, Fred, took over and ran it as a boarding house into the 1950's. The building was left vacant and eventually torn down in 2001</p>	
<p>10</p>	<p>This photograph shows horses entering W.T. Weeks Sawmill in Escott. As you can see, horses are drawing logs to the mill. The timber at this point in time was probably 2nd or 3rd growth pine or oak. There was a pond behind the mill where basswood logs used for cheese boxes were soaked to remove the bark.</p> <p>(Information collect from Leeds and Thousand Islands Municipal Heritage Committee and image courtesy of Anne Hunt)</p>	
<p>11</p>	<p>Wilstead School was located just east of the cheese factory at the northeast corner of Hwy. #2 and Cliffe Rd. IT was built in 1887. The school closed in June 1960 with the opening of the new Hiscock's School. It was used as a private home until it burned in November 1965. There was an earlier school on the site built sometime prior to 1887.</p> <p>(Information collected from Leeds and the Thousand Islands Municipal Heritage committee and image courtesy of Leeds and Thousand Islands Historical Society)</p>	
<p>12</p>	<p>This photograph shows Lyndhurst Main Street. This early view of Lyndhurst was taken from the hill at the east of the village, looking towards the bridge. It was taken early on a sunny morning circa 1880. Several of the buildings still remain, such as the blacksmith shop first on the right, and the house with the 2-storey veranda on the left. The light coloured roof at the far end of the street on the left is Henry Green's brick store built in 1876 now Wing's Live Bait and Tackle.</p> <p>(Information collected from Leeds and the Thousand Islands Municipal Heritage Committee and image courtesy of Tommy Connell)</p>	
<p>13</p>	<p>In 1913 the Pentecostal church under Rev. Clarence L. Cross established a campground on land donated by George Reed. At first meetings were held in a tent.</p>	

	<p>Over the years a dining hall, kitchen and other buildings were erected. Individual sleeping cottages were built. In the early 1950's a permanent Tabernacle was built on the site. The camp ground closed in 1977, the land was sold and became Charleston Heights Cottages.</p> <p>(Information collected from Leeds Thousand Islands Historical Society Fall/Winter Newsletter 2005)</p>	
<p>14</p>	<p>This photograph shows Escott farmers bringing in the hay. By the 1860's, hay had become the most important crop in the fields of Escott township to feed the large herds of dairy cows. Butter and cheese became the most important farm products as cheese factories began to spring up across the region.</p> <p>(Information collected from Leeds and the Thousand Islands Municipal Heritage Committee and photo courtesy of Springfield House Collection)</p>	
<p>15</p>	<p>Pictured below is the Willowbank Cemetery Dead House. George Wilson of Gananoque constructed the dead house or vault at Willowbank Cemetery in a few weeks between February and March 1886. The vault was used to store bodies over the winter for burial in the softer ground in springtime.</p> <p>(Information collected from Leeds and the Thousand Islands Municipal Heritage Committee and image courtesy of Stephan Heaton)</p>	
<p>16</p>	<p>Pictured is Riverside House and the Copeland Block in Lyndhurst. The building on the left is Riverside House, the main hotel and drinking establishment of the village. It was built by R.W. Copeland circa 1876 from bricks made at Wiltse's brick yard on Jonas St. There had been a hotel on this site since at least 1803, at which time the innkeeper ran a still for the good cheer of the workers in the iron works. The adjacent commercial building with three storefronts, known as Copeland Block, was built circa 1883.</p> <p>(Information collected from Leeds and the Thousand Islands Municipal Heritage Committee and photo courtesy of Gerald Johnson)</p>	

<p>17</p>	<p>This is the Escott School that served Escott area children until the mid-1960s. It is used now as a private residence and stands just south of Highway 2 across from the newer school built to replace it in the 1960s. The 1960s school closed in 2005 and the local children are bussed to school in Lansdowne.</p> <p>(Information collected from Leeds and the Thousand Islands Municipal Heritage Committee and image courtesy of Anne Hunt)</p>	
<p>18</p>	<p>Pictured is Loney House. The house was located north of the 1000 Islands Parkway at the off-ramp leading to Highway 401 from the bridge today. It had two red barns set in an L-shape behind it. The small of the barns was moved to Wilstead. There was a spring flowing from a pipe in the large barn which ran all year round. This accounts for the wetland in this location today.</p> <p>(Information collected by Leeds and the Thousand Islands Municipal Heritage Committee and photo courtesy of Leeds and Thousand Islands Historical Society)</p>	 <p><small>Courtesy of the Leeds and Thousand Islands Historical Society</small></p>
<p>19</p>	<p>Pictured is the Lyndhurst Bridge and Flumes. This photo, taken from the upper storey of the Harvey Mill, shows the spring runoff roaring over the spillway as traffic passes peacefully over the bridge. Note that each mill had its own separate dam and spillway, with a space between where the bridge itself was the only dam. On the left is part of Roddick's saw mill and the flume leading to the turbine. On the right is the flume leading to Harvey's turbine.</p> <p>(Information collected by Leeds and the Thousand Islands Municipal Heritage Committee and image courtesy of Joanne (Harvey Putnam))</p>	<p><small>Lyndhurst Bridge and Flumes</small></p> <p><small>Photo by John Paul Harvey Courtesy of Joanne (Harvey) Putnam</small></p> 
<p>20</p>	<p>This is the W.T. Weeks Sawmill and Cheesebox factory in 1904 in Escott. In this picture you can see the cheese boxes being loaded at the mill/factory. Dairying and cheese making became major agricultural industries in Leeds County in the 1870s. Note the sawn lumber on the ground.</p> <p>(Information collected by Leeds and the Thousand Islands Municipal Heritage Committee and image courtesy of Anne Hunt)</p>	

<p>21</p>	<p>Pictured is the Wilstead Cheese Factory, located on the southeast corner of Highway 2 and Cliff Road. This structure was originally built as Beth Church in 1876. The church was vacated in 1901 when the congregation amalgamated with another Methodist group. It became a cheese factory shortly after. Later uses included a dance hall and a farm machinery business. The building still stands and is used as a storage shed.</p> <p>(Information collected by Leeds and the Thousand Islands Municipal Heritage Committee and image courtesy of Leeds and Thousand Islands Historical Society)</p>	 <p><small>Wilstead Cheese Factory, 1900's Courtesy of The Thousand Islands Historical Society</small></p>
<p>22</p>	<p>Today In History in 1902, the Long Point cheese factory officially opened. This cheese factory was unique in that there was a dance hall inside along with the cheesemaker's quarters upstairs. The cheese factory burned down in 1921 and another was built on the same site. This photograph was taken on the day the factory opened.</p> <p>(Information collected from Itihistoricalsociety.org. Image courtesy of Itihistoricalsociety.org)</p>	
<p>23</p>	<p>Tingren's Store which operated until mid-1980s, was located on Hwy. 2 in Waterton just west of the village of Escott. In the 1930s, as the motor car traffic increased, so did tourism along Hwy. 2. There was a tourist resort at Tingren's as well as a lunch counter and general store as well as gas for the motoring public. For many years, the regional bus line stopped here.</p> <p>(Information collected by Leeds and the Thousand Islands Historical Society and image courtesy of Anne Hunt)</p>	
<p>24</p>	<p>This photo shows the interior of Coleman's General Store in Seeley's Bay circa 1920. The store with attached residence was converted to a hotel in the 1930s, with a court of small tourist cabins on the lawn behind. The store was phased out to provide a dining room for guests.</p> <p>(Information collected by Leeds and the Thousand Islands Municipal Heritage Committee and image courtesy of Jack Coleman)</p>	

<p>25</p>	<p>This photo was taken inside the flume leading to the Harvey Mill. The flume has been closed off and drained in order to make repairs. Note the board walls with battens on the joints to reduce the water lost through the cracks. Between the second and third workmen is the "trash rack", a barrier of vertical iron bars spaces so to catch any debris big enough to damage the turbine. Oscar Harvey is in the foreground, holding an axe.</p> <p>(Information collected by Leeds and the Thousand Islands Municipal Heritage Committee and image courtesy of Joanne (Harvey) Putnam)</p>	 <p><small>Workmen in the Flume, 1892 Photo by John Birch, Harvey (Courtesy of Joanne (Harvey) Putnam)</small></p>
<p>26</p>	<p>Pictured is the Charles Cornwall Store in Rockport. Note the large warehouse to the left. This wharf was the main steamer stop in Rockport picking up butter and cheese, cordwood and in the early years was a staging area for timer rafts being prepared for the journey down river. Today, the old store is preserved as a restaurant and Red and Breakfast.</p> <p>(Information collected by Leeds and the Thousand Islands Municipal Heritage Committee and image courtesy of Frank Fitzsimmons Collection)</p>	
<p>27</p>	<p>Pictured is the Seeley's Bay Public School 1876-1931. This two storey school house was built to replace a too small brick building east of the village. Each floor had a cloakroom and a large class room and access to the second floor was by the stairs in the short tower at the front. This school closed in 1931 when the new continuation school was completed in the village. It was subsequently demolished and the material salvaged to build a house in the village.</p> <p>(Information collected by Leeds and the Thousand Islands Municipal Heritage Committee and image courtesy of the Donaldson family)</p>	
<p>28</p>	<p>Pictured is Green's Mill (later Harvey's Mill) at Lyndhurst. The brick mill built by Henry Green in 1881 appears to be brand new in the photo. The round wooden housing for the mills stones is leaning against the front of the mill as if it may have just arrived on the wage. This is the site where the ruins of the iron smelted existed until this mill was built. The derelict building adjacent is the grist mill built by Charles and Jonas Jones in 1828. It was demolished in 1906.</p>	

	<p>(Information collected by Leeds and the Thousand Islands Municipal Heritage Committee and image courtesy of Rob Roantree)</p>	
<p>29</p>	<p>A scene at the Rockport Store in the 1880's. A young Hubert Fitzsimmons is placed on the horse by his mother, Mary Carnegie Fitzsimmons while her husband Frank Fitzsimmons steadies the horse. At this time Frank Fitzsimmons, the customs officer had an office upstairs in this store.</p> <p>(Information collected by Leeds and the Thousand Islands Municipal Heritage Committee and image courtesy of the Frank Fitzsimmons collection)</p>	
<p>30</p>	<p>Pictured is the Carding Mill at Lyndhurst. The mill, and the dam from which it drew its power, were built by Charles and Jonas Jones at the lower rapids in Lyndhurst sometime before 1837. In 1853 it was leased by Henry Gordon who installed new machinery. At that time the whole village was the property of Charles and Jonas Jones.</p> <p>(Information collected by Leeds and the Thousand Islands Municipal Heritage Committee and image courtesy of Joanne Putnam)</p>	