



# FALL NEWSLETTER 2023

## WHAT'S BEEN HAPPENING AT THE ARCHIVES?



### A Thriving Summer at the Archives

“Spooky and informative,” “AMAZING,” “Excellent Guide WOW!!,” and “I’m going to behave even more now!” – just a few of the comments visitors left in our guestbook over this lively past summer. Quantity matched quality, with visits up almost 140% from last summer, totaling over 2090 visitors from May to August.

### Canada Day



*Float from the 1967 Canada Day Parade in St. Andrews, P555.219, Dr. Donne Smith fonds*

Throwing open the doors of the Jail and Courthouse for Canada Day, we welcomed nearly a hundred visitors of all ages, Canadian and non-Canadian alike (including one fascinated fellow from Norway!). Our volunteer-manned booth on Water Street spread information and interest further.

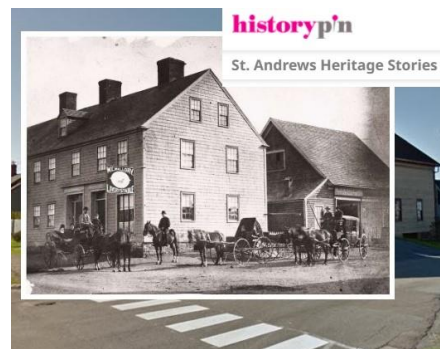
### Summer students

Keen students Sarah Burbine and Clara Wrightman-Dillon, going into Grade 12 and first-year university respectively, joined us for July and August to host tours (alongside veteran guide Austin Billingsley, our archives intern), enhance outreach, and focus on the many tasks of a cultural heritage institution.

As a result of Sarah’s work, several of our most popular videos now have hand-polished subtitles, including “Back to the Jail,” the visit of a former inmate of the Charlotte County Jail in the 1970s.



Clara drew from her experience at the Ross library to improve our own reference book collection and add numerous, well-researched “stops” to our digital tour of St. Andrews heritage, available on our website, [ccarchives.ca](http://ccarchives.ca).



# WHAT'S NEW?

## Recent donation highlights

### **John L. Williamson collection**



1.3 metres of photographs and documents from the life, work, and research of the late longtime community member and Archives supporter John L. Williamson.

### **Holy Rosary Church, St. Stephen fonds**



1.2 metres of textual records from St. Stephen's Catholic Holy Rosary Church, including confirmations, marriages, administration, and more, from the 1910s to 1960s

### **Georgianna (Greenlaw) Gleason postcard album**



An album of early 20<sup>th</sup> century postcards collected by St. Andrews' Georgianna Gleason, from as near as St. George and Second Falls and as distant as Rio de Janeiro and Japan

## New online collections catalogue

As part of our ongoing efforts to improve public access, we've brought our collections database online. This new, user-friendly system allows easy searching and browsing, with more capabilities to come. While we are still in the process of getting all records live, you are invited to have a first look now, and keep checking back!

<https://charlottecountyarchives.omeka.net/>

Our thanks to the Government of Canada Museums Assistance Program for funding this project.

## And coming soon – online photo catalogue!

An even bigger leap in our online access is also in the works, as we embark on a project to bring a major portion of our photographs into their own digital collection. By spring, online users will be able to browse thousands of our photographs from across Charlotte County, enjoying the fruits of many years of diligent scanning and cataloguing by our volunteer photo team.

We are fortunate to have received a major Documentary Heritage Communities Program Grant for this exciting endeavour, a first for the Archives.



## QUIZ TIME!

Test your Charlotte County knowledge with items from our collection! Answers at end of newsletter.



1. What building is decked out for Canada's Centennial on this photo postcard?



2. What town's school does this sharply uniformed band belong to?

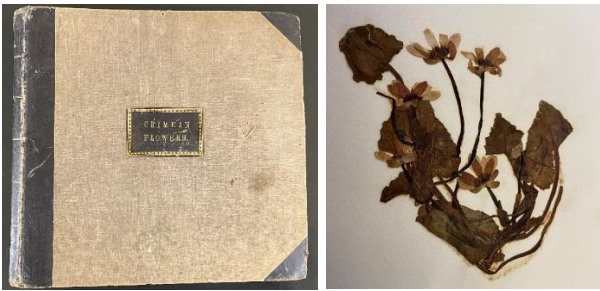


3. The island labelled "Chamcook Island" on this 1786 map is called what today?

## CONNECTING WITH CHARLOTTE COUNTY

### DID YOU KNOW?

In the spring of 1856, a young New Brunswick soldier named Fred W. Parker gathered flowers in Crimea, immediately after the end of the Crimean War, and pressed them into a book to send home to his mother in St. Andrews.



Over forty 170-year-old flowers are exquisitely preserved in an album signed “with Freddy’s love,” each with a hand-written caption of the location it was picked. One flower comes from the Valley of Death, as referenced in Tennyson’s famous poem “The Charge of the Light Brigade,” while Fred picked another from the cemetery of the Light Brigade itself.



This remarkable object testifies to the fact that even this corner of Charlotte County was embedded in the international relations of the British Empire, including its conflicts. Fred’s flowers add a deeply personal touch, particularly resonant in these days of continued strife in that same Ukrainian landscape.



St. Stephen High School students visiting the Courthouse, May 18, 2023



The hospitality and tourism students of NBCC St. Andrews who carried out our Archives luncheon in May, with instructor Jackie Cyr and Archives team members, at the Lady Dunn Dining Room, May 2023.



St. Croix MLA and Minister for Seniors Kathy Bockus (far right)) and Minister for Tourism, Heritage, and Culture Tammy Scott-Wallace (second right) visiting the Archives in August, with Board Chair Franklin Cardy and Archives Manager Anna Krentz

What do you think of our new newsletter format?

Send comments to [contact@ccarchives.ca](mailto:contact@ccarchives.ca)

## PRESERVING YOUR PHOTOS' STORIES

To you, your most treasured photos are worth thousands of words. That laughing child is your beloved niece, moments after she stole your glasses; that's your house on the first day after you signed the papers to make it your home. You know the years, the places, the names.

What happens to those stories, later? Have you taken care to store your photos in albums, to back-up and print the digital? Your camera embeds basic metadata, the date, potentially the place – make sure this information remains. Don't rely on software to identify the faces. These are the details that make photos more than images.



This image, from our collection, shows a group of young hockey players. A nice enough photo – but add the caption, “Southern N.B. Champions,” the date, 1935, the detail that this was the hockey team of the Charlotte County Grammar School. Add the names—Joe Gibson, Lester Holmes, Vernon Stinson—and the nicknames: Allison (Pickle) McNichol, Raymond (Snowball) McQuoid. Add, finally, the poignant notes added after three of these names: “RCAF- Killed.” No longer a simple image of a school team, but a poignant capture of youth still innocent of the looming shadow of war.

Little as we like to imagine it, many of our photos end up in other hands. Descendants who've forgotten the faces, collectors at garage sales, archivists. Here is what you can do for those your photos may someday interest. Leave traces of the stories. Write on your prints: names, dates, places. Tag and caption your digital images. A few words could ensure your photos' worth.

### LILA HAUGHN 1924 – 2023

Honouring Lila Haughn, devoted Archives volunteer and beloved member of our community. For decades, Lila generously gave her time and care to enriching our photograph collection, awing us all with her dedication, knowledge, and adeptness at digital data entry. Her time with us has been an incredible gift and legacy. She will be deeply missed by all.



*Photo by Vicki Hogarth, June 2023*