



Archives
of Ontario

THE THRILL
OF DISCOVERY

The Death of Brock at Queenston Heights, ca. 1908
Charles William Jefferys, Government of Ontario Art
Collection 619871. Reproduction of a watercolour on paper

Annual Report

2011-2012 Fiscal Year

Acquisition Highlights

TED AND ELEANOR KONKLE FONDS, F 4610

Donated by Eleanor Konkle

Ted and Eleanor Konkle were the artists responsible for creating and designing the Eaton's "Christmas story" windows for the T. Eaton Company's College Street Store in Toronto from 1953 to 1963.

LEAVENS AVIATION INCORPORATED FONDS, F 4626

Pioneers in the recreational aviation field, the Leavens Brothers developed a business that first offered charter flights and then expanded to include operating an Air Observer School (AOS) as part of the British Commonwealth Air Training Program. After serving the aircraft and aerospace industry for over 80 years, Leavens Aviation Incorporated closed in the fall of 2011.

ONTARIO FOREST INDUSTRIES ASSOCIATION FONDS, F 4624

This is the primary provincial trade association representing lumber interests from small, family-owned businesses to large multinational corporations.

MULTICULTURAL HEALTH COALITION FONDS, F 4638

Documenting efforts to promote cultural sensitivity and responsiveness in health care across Ontario, and ensuring that all persons, regardless of racial or cultural background, had equal access to it.



Ted and Eleanor Konkle with conceptual drawing and figurine of a piper piping for the 12 Days of Christmas display
Ted and Eleanor Konkle fonds, Scrapbook, 1954-1960
p.85 (F 4610-1-0-1), Archives of Ontario

Over 50 collections were processed and made available. These include new acquisitions and backlog collections that weren't previously available through the Archives Descriptive Database (ADD).

In 2010, a temporary moratorium was placed on the annual transfer of government records because of anticipated tobacco litigation. Due to these holds, the transfer continued to be partially restricted.

Processing Highlights

- Multicultural History Society of Ontario (MHSO) textual records series
- Colonization Roads records (mostly 19th century records)
- Ontario College of Pharmacy fonds
- Douglas Carr fonds (an Ontarian who travelled the world by bicycle in the 1930s)



Eero Jussila and Matti Vimperi, New York mine
Photographer Unknown. Multicultural History
Society of Ontario fonds, 1929
F 1405-15-109, MSR10975-15, Archives of Ontario

Preservation Work

OUR CONSERVATION SUCCESS STORIES INCLUDE:

Flattening, re-housing and repairing over 6,000 Ministry of Natural Resources Aerial Flight Line maps, bringing the total treatment of this collection to 8,300 items. These records are one of the top five most frequently retrieved records by the public.

Conservation treatments of over 200 orders, consisting of humidification, tear repair and mould remediation. Five parchments were also successfully treated.

Developing eight policies and procedures, including a new procedure for assessing private acquisitions for mould and pests.

Implementing a comprehensive collections emergency response and recovery plan, making our disaster preparedness the best it's ever been. Disaster team members are currently being fully trained, and disaster kits have been placed in strategic locations in the building.



Staff workshop on disaster recovery,
December 2011

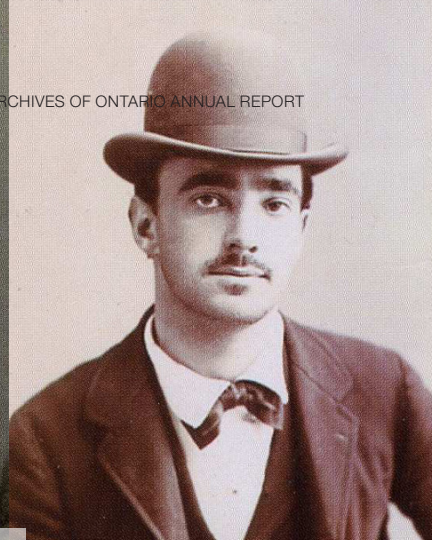
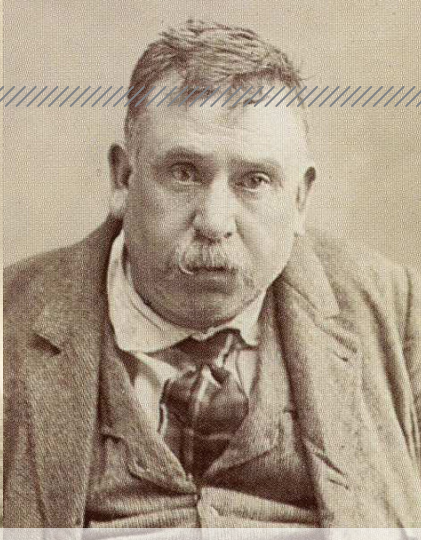
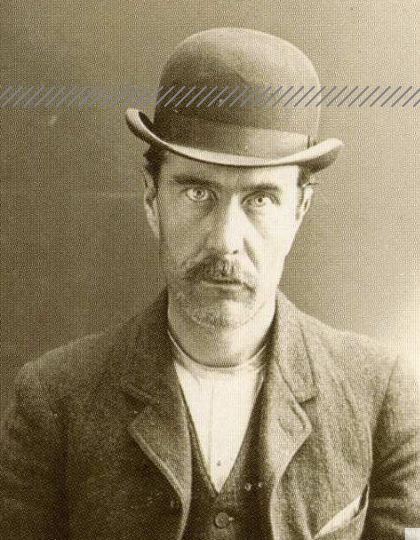
Events, Exhibits and Educational Programming

Women of Record

Presentations by Archives staff, hands-on interaction with our collections, and tours of our state of the art facility made up the *Women of Record* event, designed to celebrate Women's History Month. Held in partnership with the Herstories Café event series, we used a diverse range of our records to explore the vital role Ontario women have played in shaping the province.

ca. 1940
Victory Bonds Poster
Archives of Ontario War Poster Collection
10016084

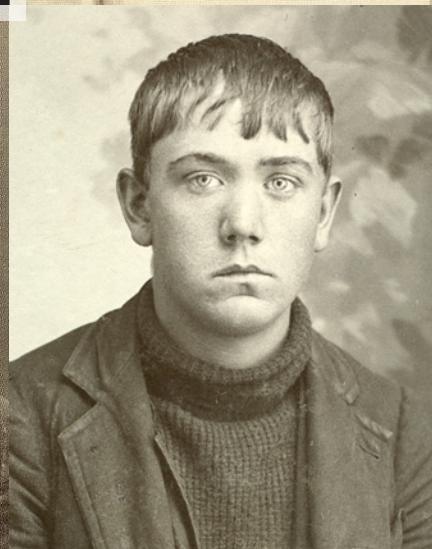




Arresting Images

Featuring 100 historical mug shots dating from 1886 to 1908, we were pleased to host *Arresting Images*, an award-winning, bilingual travelling exhibit from the OPP Museum. For the first time in our history we displayed original materials from our library to complement the exhibit. We also delivered an exhibit-related speakers series led by Archives staff, OPP Museum staff, and members of both the York University and Toronto arts community.

Images courtesy of The OPP Museum





Heritage Fairs

As part of our commitment to make Ontario students champions of the Archives and the province's history, we took our hands-on, curriculum-linked educational workshops on the road. A long-standing partnership with the Ontario Heritage Fairs Association allowed us to deliver our *Introduction to Primary Sources* programming to nearly 400 students at regional heritage fairs in Sudbury, St. Catharines, Kingston and Toronto.

Outreach Officer Stewart Boden and Ontario Heritage Fair participants at the Niagara Catholic Regional Heritage Fair



War of 1812 Bicentennial Preparations

Using the themes of identity and diversity as a springboard, we will be delivering exciting programming and events to commemorate the War of 1812 bicentenary.

Activities include a speakers series, an onsite exhibit featuring key treasures from our 1812-related collections, educational programming, articles for *Spacing Magazine's* Toronto, Ottawa and Montreal blogs, and a Twitter feed directly quoting diary entries from our fascinating Ely Playter collection (twitter.com/ElyPlayter1812).

We also redesigned the look and feel of our very popular War of 1812 travelling exhibit, adding a second copy to accommodate borrowing museums across the province.

Major-General Sir Isaac Brock, K. C. B. (detail), ca. 1883 George Theodore Berthon, Government of Ontario Art Collection 694158. Reproduction of an oil on canvas

Spotlight: Government of Ontario Art Collection

RESTORATION PROJECT

We took on a major restoration project to repaint one of the Art Collection's outdoor public sculptures in Windsor, Ontario. *Space Composition Red* by Haydn Llewellyn Davies (1921-2008) was originally commissioned in 1978 to augment the area outside a government office building. Comprised of angled aluminum beams, the sculpture began to rust and discolour over time.

Because of its prominent downtown location, there was increased public demand for its revitalization. In August 2011, a team of professional art restorers stripped and cleaned the metal surfaces before repainting the work in the original red enamel paint – a finish often used on aircraft exteriors.

This restoration project stands as an example of best practices for the conservation and long-time maintenance of public art in Ontario.

DONATIONS

In 2011 Toronto artist and fine art teacher Eva Lewarne made a generous donation of five acrylic-on-canvas paintings. These works are a fine addition to the Art Collection, depicting familiar places around Toronto and portraying figures using a unique contemporary and expressive style.



We also received eight works by prominent Ontario artist Aba Bayefsky (1923-2001), donated by his widow and long-time donor Evelyn Bayefsky. This donation, which includes works

dating from the 1950s, portrays themes of multiculturalism and diversity. Several of the works also depict biblical subject matter, enhancing our collection of works with religious and mythical themes.

REPRODUCTIONS

Responding to increased demand for reproductions from the Art Collection – especially War of 1812-related works – we photographed over 75 artworks in high resolution. These are now available to researchers and the public for reproduction.

Recordkeeping Support

HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE YEAR INCLUDE:

Creating election transition plans for minister's office records prior to the provincial election in October.

Reviewing Schedule Review Projects (SRPs) within the 20-day standard over 90 per cent of the time. This is the first year this standard has been measured.

Managing the Series Management System database, containing over 15,000 records series approved by the Archivist of Ontario. Public body contacts are given up-to-date records series information through this application. A number of improvements were made to the database during the year to improve its functionality.

Preservation of digital archival records is a core priority.

Recordkeeping Support is providing ongoing leadership to the National Digital Preservation Working Group (NDPWG), one of the most important digital preservation collaboration initiatives in Canada.

Playing a key a key role in the development of Business Classification Schema (BCS) for 16 common functions of the Ontario Public Service. Implementation of functional classification of records will improve recordkeeping in the OPS and facilitates the implementation of an Enterprise-wide Content Management (ECM) system.

Stats

NEW COLLECTIONS (STATS BY MEDIA)

1,425

metres of textual records

177,546

new descriptions on the Archives
Descriptive Database (ADD)

40

hours of
video

11,297

maps, plans and drawings

518

GB of
electronic
records

30,239

photographs

58

documentary
art items

Stats

CUSTOMER SERVICE

We exceeded the 98.5% OPS service standards success rate for responding to Archives-related customer inquiries and processing of record retrievals.

6,763
onsite visitors

7,120
correspondence
received

28,907
items
retrieved

14,132
telephone calls

INFORMATION AND PRIVACY

Access Requests as of December 31, 2011

Received 474

Completed 446

98% were processed
within 30 days or the
extended timelines

Ministry Consultations as of December 31, 2011

Received 339

Stats

EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMMING

Hands-on workshops to over **700** students in grades 5-12.

*Professional development workshops to over **200** Ontario teachers, helping them to understand how to use primary sources, and specifically the Archives' collections, with their students.*

BUILDING TOURS

*Tours of our facility were delivered to over **800** people.*

ART COLLECTION

400 artworks moved

DIGITIZATION

Over 120,000 images digitized for the Vital Statistics digitization project.

J. J. TALMAN LIBRARY

Over **600** new titles added to the BIBLiON Library catalogue.

Over **800** periodical items were re-processed, ensuring better long-term preservation and access.