

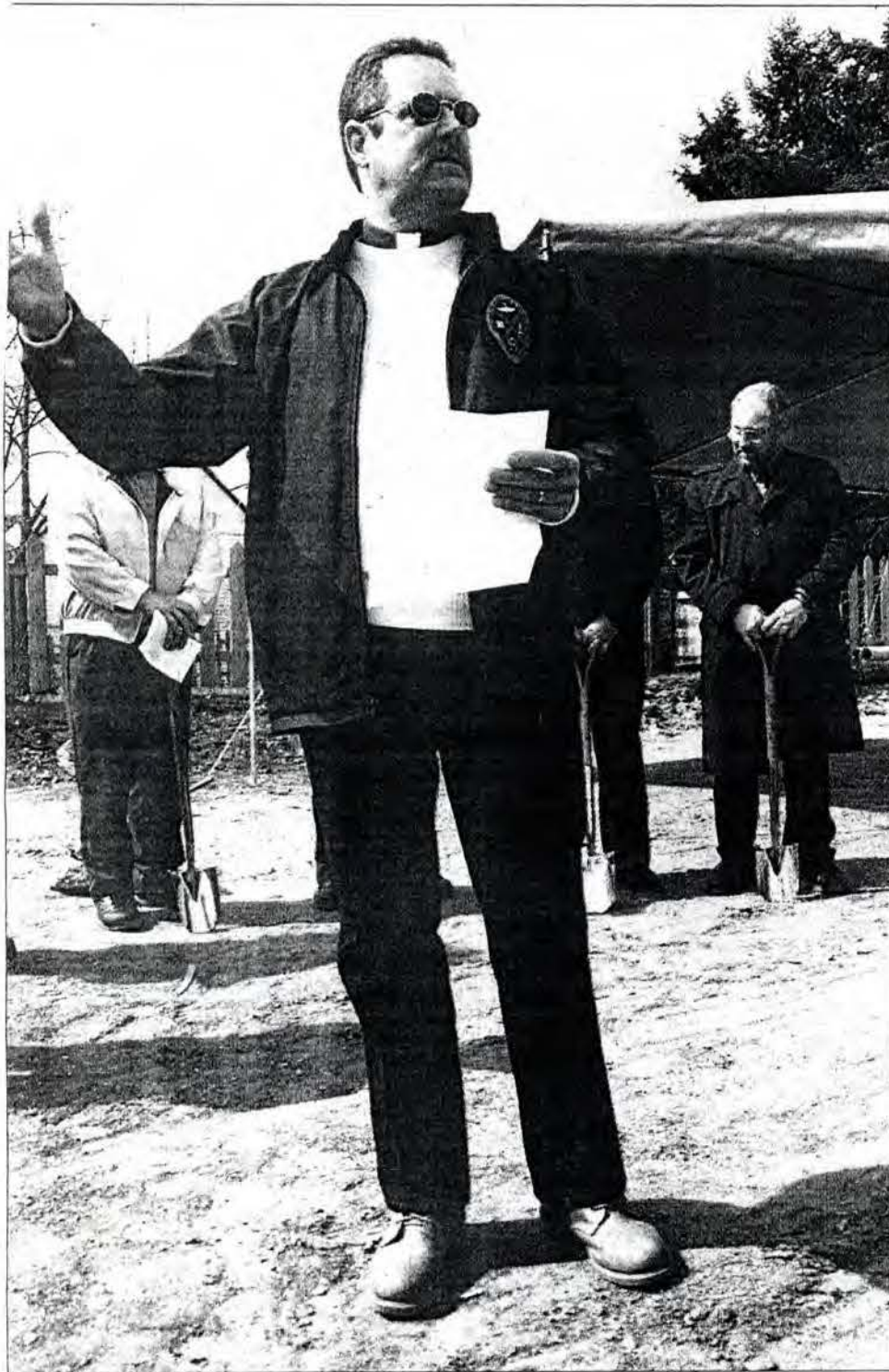
The Chronicle

Serving the communities of West Elgin • Dutton-Dunwich • Southwold • Newbury
Wardsville • Muirkirk • Duart • Clachan and surrounding areas

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Established 1993



Inuksuk to mark Galbraith homestead

By Scott Hilgendorff
The Chronicle

DUTTON — Japanese visitors have shown up on the Village Crier's doorsteps looking for it.

Economics and business major students have come looking.

Visitors' planning trips have called for tourist information about it.

Jenny Phillips of the Village Crier decided it was time to do something to help people find it.

What they're looking for, is the family farm of a Canadian-born figure who has had enormous impact in world economics and history.

Now, an unusual monument is being planned to mark the family farm near Dutton where John Kenneth Galbraith was born and lived part of his younger life before moving into the United States and settling now in Massachusetts, at the age of 94.

Phillips, a local artist and member of the tourist committee in Dutton has seen a large amount of interest in the man from students looking to retrace some of his steps to Japanese business people whom Phillips can only assume have studied some of his teachings or many books on economics.

She's become a bit of an "expert on Galbraith, herself, now spearheading an effort to have a monument and plaque installed across from the farm to help people locate it at Thompson Line, east of Willy's side road.

Galbraith's career may not be well-known to the average Canadian, but he's held numerous accomplishments in economic and political circles, particularly later in his life in the United States.

He started out as an economics and agriculture student at the Ontario Agriculture College before becoming a columnist for the Stratford Beacon and the St. Thomas Times-Journal.

He now has approximately two dozen books on economics, about six of which became best sellers, which Phillips says is particularly exceptional considering they were books on economics, a

continued on page 2

Sermon on the Ground

Kirby Breithaupt, representing the West Elgin ministerial, offers a prayer on Friday at the groundbreaking ceremony for the new West Elgin Community Health Centre. See page 3 for the related story.

Galbraith renowned for economic thought

From page 1

Galbraith, renowned for several accomplishments including helping provide economic and planning advice to several US presidents, including John F. Kennedy, has not been officially recognized for his Dutton-area upbringing.

Phillips said there are always

history buffs and even Japanese tourists coming through looking for the man's birthplace. Many are business students who have studied Galbraith's economic texts, including some who have arrived over the years in Dutton from Japan.

Phillips decided it was time an official marker of some form was

made and wanted something different than a regular cairn to mark the spot.

With the support of grants and donations, she expects to have fully raised the \$5,000 needed for the project.

The unveiling of the monument takes place at 2 p.m.

Dutton-Dunwich honours Galbraith

BY RANDY RICHMOND
Free Press Reporter

DUTTON-DUNWICH — A Inukshuk from Canada's Arctic stands out a little beside a farmer's field in warm, green Southwestern Ontario.

But then, so does the man the Inukshuk stands for — a farm boy who revolutionized economic thinking in the United States and influenced presidents and the public alike.

He's John Kenneth Galbraith.

"This Inukshuk is an appropriate monument, a giant of a figure for a giant of an individual," Dutton-Dunwich Mayor Rien Van Brenk told about 100 people gathered yesterday by a farm on Thompson Line between the communities of Dutton and Iona Station.

Galbraith was born Oct. 15, 1908 on the farm, where he stayed through elementary and secondary school days.

After getting degrees at the Ontario Agricultural College and the University of California, he entered public service in the U.S.

His influential and controversial books on economics and his high-profile appointments during several U.S. presidencies made him a household name.

At 95, the world-renowned economist was unable to attend yesterday's unveiling of the Inukshuk and accompanying plaque, now known as the Galbraith Monument.

"There are occasions in life one misses with regret, verging on sorrow," Galbraith wrote in

remarks read by his son, Alan, a Washington, D.C., lawyer.

"The land and acreage you see today had an enduring effect on my life."

Farm life introduced him to hard work, the economics of supply and demand and the pain of spending hours behind a horse and plow, Galbraith noted.

"I have been for a lifetime a willing refugee from hard manual toil."

Acknowledging he was not a religious man, Galbraith nevertheless concluded his remarks with "God bless you now and for all time."

Besides his three sons and other family members, yesterday's celebrations drew farmers, townspeople, politicians and diplomats.

Galbraith's ideas were uniquely American, but "owe so much to Canadian roots and this community in particular," said Morgan Hall, vice-consul at the U.S. consulate in Toronto.

Galbraith was also celebrated for continuing to support the library, seniors home and medical centre in Dutton.

"He has never, never forgotten to support this community," said master of ceremonies Don Page.

After the ceremony, Galbraith's family posed at the Inukshuk for dozens of photographs.

"It is just wonderful to come back and meet people who feel he is part of the family," said son James, himself a noted economist and writer.



MIKE HENSEN The London Free Press

SONS ATTENDED: The three sons of noted economist John Kenneth Galbraith, Peter, left, Alan, and James were on hand in Dutton-Dunwich yesterday when their father was honoured.



Sons of John Kenneth Galbraith unveiled the Inuksuk monument to their father from left: Peter, Allan, Jamie.

don page m.c.



Steve Peters MPP.

Bring greetings-



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C.

John Wilson Warden of Elgin

don page m.c.



Rin Van Brank Mayor
of Sutton & Lennoxville



Mary Lou McMillan don Page m.c.
(Head Librarian of the
Sutton Library)

Galbraith statue unveiled

BY PATRICK BRENNAN
TIMES-JOURNAL STAFF

DUTTON-DUNWICH

— Dutton-Dunwich paid tribute to a famous native son Saturday, a man who loved the farm of his boyhood days and who eventually became a world-renown figure.

Saturday's one-hour ceremony, attended by about 100 friends, peers, neighbours and politicians, saw the unveiling of an inuksuk statue to John Kenneth Galbraith. The ceremony took place at the family homestead on Thompson Line, just outside Dutton. An inuksuk

is an Inuit statue built from stone, meaning life of person.

Born in Dutton-Dunwich, Galbraith, now 94, worked on the farm as a boy before completing his high school education and moving on to the Ontario Agricultural College in Guelph, Ont. He later studied at the University of California, Berkeley and joined the faculty of Harvard University in 1934.

Galbraith administered price controls for the U.S. during the Second World War and went on to become a celebrated economist and statesman, serv-

ing as advisor to many presidents. Under President John F. Kennedy, he became U.S. ambassador to India and even as an American citizen, became the first non-resident of Canada to be awarded the Order of Canada.

"Even though he has lived many years in the U.S., he has never forgotten to support this area," said Donald Page, a former chairman of the Toronto Stock Exchange.

"We honour a great Canadian and American who has done so much to shape discourse and public policy," said Morgan Hall, U.S. vice-consul general.

Hall said it was partly Galbraith's boyhood days on the farm which gave him the foundation to pursue a career as an economist.

"It is here where one can discern the theory of his thoughts," he said. Watching his father, Galbraith saw how the farm could be well-managed on sound economic principles.

Rien Van Brenk, mayor of Dutton-Dunwich, reflected on the Galbraith's family deep roots and one of his books, *The Scotch*.

"Although much has changed since he wrote that book, we are proud one of our citizens has gone on to have such an impact in economics," he said.

Van Brenk noted Galbraith credited his early access to the Dutton library as an influential factor in his life.

"This exemplifies what's possible when you have the desire to learn," he said.

One of Galbraith's sons, Allan, delivered remarks prepared by his father, who was unable to attend the ceremony.

"The land and country you grace today had an enduring effect on my life," he said.

"My first introduction into economics was on the farm, working behind horses," he said. "I learned nothing is so praised as hard work."

Still, Galbraith admitted he developed a resistance to manual labour, preferring working with the written word.

Dutton-Dunwich road crews closed off part of Thompson Line to accommodate the overflow crowd.



John Kenneth Galbraith's sons, Peter, left, Allan and Jamie stand in front of the inuksuk monument to their father, unveiled Saturday on at the family homestead in Dutton-Dunwich. (T-J photo)



Peter - Allan - Jamie



Talbot Bi-Centennial

The week of celebrations began with the unveiling of the Inuksuk monument in honour of John Kenneth Galbraith. Over 100 people attended including dignitaries such as the Vice Counsel of the United States, Susan McConnell who presented greetings from the Prime Minister, Steve Peters MPP, Rien Van Brenk, John Wilson, Warden of Elgin, Maura Bredhall, University of Guelph. A Video of this event is available through Jenny Phillips.

May 21st was the official anniversary of Col. Talbot's landing in 1803. This was celebrated at a dinner held on the lawn of St. Peter's Anglican Church. Over 200 attended in period costume. Representatives from five pioneer families were presented - Crane, Patterson, Littlejohn, Page and Backus.

Friday, May 23rd was Education Day at the Backus-Page House. 1,214 students attended, some local and others coming from as far away as Aylmer, London, St. Thomas, Delaware and Strathroy. Guided by 60 volunteers in period costume the students visited 27 demonstrations and an additional 20 trades people in Sutler's Row. They made candles, played the fife, marched in the band, shot a cannon, danced with an English fiddler, watched native dancers, learned how to spin wool, helped set up an old printing press, participated in military drills, visited Col. Talbot's grave, and learned the craft of a war surgeon in the 1800's - to list but a few.

Saturday and Sunday events were open to the public. The main

feature was a re-enactment of a raid by the Americans on Col. Talbot's settlement in 1812. The battle between the American and the British troops was presented by more than 200 soldiers and officers in full panoramic view on the slope behind the Backus-Page House.

The Tyrconnell Heritage Society, including some WUC members, can claim a huge success with this venture. They have produced a Photo CD containing 175 spectacular re-enactment shots for those who might wish to have a memorable keepsake of the event. It is available through Leta West (\$10).



In addition to 46 panorama shots of the battle, the CD contains 43 military pictures (uniforms, canon, fife & drum band), 11 domestic (period costumes, food preparation), 12 sutlers (cobbler, weavers, soap & candy making, baking, baskets), 18 trades (undertaker, barrel maker, surgeon, candles, blacksmith, flint maker), 14 encampment (tents, battle preparation, cooking, relaxing), and 31 walk-about (visitors, transport, committee, etc.).

With the capability for full-screen viewing of the images on home computers, and reproduction of selected photos in snapshot form, this photo CD will have increasing value as an educational resource as time goes by.



Alan Page MPP

Morgan Hall, Vice-consul at the U.S.A. consulate in Toronto brings greetings.



Alan², Peter³, James Galbraith⁴, Maura Bredhall University of Guelph.



Alan², Peter³, James Galbraith and Morgan Hall, Vice-consul at the U.S.A. Consulate in Toronto



Left to Right

1 Ron Galbraith - Bill Galbraith (son)

2 Alan Galbraith - John Ken Galbraith (son)

3 June Rumble - Catherine Galbraith (daughter)

4 Jerry Galbraith - Bill Galbraith (son)

5 Jamie Galbraith - John Ken Galbraith (son)

6 Ann Crosby - Catherine Galbraith (daughter)

7 Peter Galbraith - John Ken Galbraith (son)

In front Neil & Muriel McCallum.

& CLASSIFIED

JAN 13/03

Talbot settlement celebrates 200 years

OPINION

PETER GEIGEN MILLER



COUNTY VOICES

Anybody who thinks Canadian history is boring should tune into the Talbot Settlement bicentennial celebration being held this year throughout Southwestern Ontario.

The Talbot Settlement saga has wonderful elements: an Irish aristocrat who gave up his privileged life to come to Canada and live in the backwoods, courageous efforts to beat back attacks by marauding Americans during the War of 1812, ordinary people enduring extraordinary hardship to settle the region.



TALBOT: Founded Talbot settlement

That hasn't happened with the Talbot Settlement, of course, and it's safe to assume not many people know much about this incredible story.

Organizers of the settlement's bicentennial celebration are determined to change

Given similar material, Americans would have created folk heroes and portrayed them in books, movies and television dramas.

That hasn't happened with the

GEIGEN-MILLER: Talbot was generous

From Page C1

"He got blisters on his hands, cut trees for his own firewood, built his own house, planted his own crops," Wells said.

Talbot also was incredibly generous, providing food, clothing, blankets and seed for

hundreds of settlers who had nothing, Wells said.

Whatever the methods, they worked.

The settlement came to stretch 260 kilometres along the north shore of Lake Erie from Long Point to the Detroit River and encompasses 29

townships.

Peter Geigen-Miller covers stories in Middlesex and Huron counties and beyond. His column runs Mondays. To offer comments or story ideas, readers can reach him at 667-4535 or at 1-800-265-4105, Ext. 4535. E-mail him at pgeigen-miller@lfpress.com

The bicentennial will celebrate the settlement's history and the people who built it, rather than focusing on the founder, Col. Thomas Talbot.

Another will be a March 29 conference at Fanshawe College in St. Thomas at which famed Harvard University economist John Kenneth Galbraith — a native of Elgin County — will be keynote speaker via video interview.

The bicentennial will celebrate the settlement's history and the people who built it, rather than focusing on founder Col. Thomas Talbot.

Not that Talbot can be ignored.

He was pivotal, an aristocrat from an Anglo-Irish family tracing its history to the 12th century.

Military service brought him to the New World in 1790 and he served for three years as an aide to Lt.-Gov. John Graves Simcoe.

After retiring from the military, he secured a land grant in the former Dunwich and Aldborough townships (Elgin County) and arrived May 21, 1803, to launch the settlement.

Talbot, responsible for settling new arrivals in the vast region, was considered autocratic by many.

He needed to be tough to succeed.

Talbot rejected settlers who didn't meet his standards and replaced those who failed to comply with requirements they live on their land and perform settlement duties.

And he demanded no more from settlers than he was willing to do himself, said organizer Rev. Nick Wells, an Anglican minister who portrays Talbot in historical re-enactments.

See GEIGEN-MILLER Page C2

Dutton Library could be named after John Kenneth Galbraith

By Scott Hilgendorff
The Chronicle

Oct 2003

The Dutton Library could soon be known as the John Kenneth Galbraith Library.

"I think there's a reasonably good chance," said Dutton-Dunwich Administrator Ken Loveland of the possible name change.

Dutton resident Jenny Phillips who organized the creation of an inuksuk monument at the area homestead of John Kenneth Galbraith presented the idea to council at a meeting this month.

Galbraith, a prominent historical figure who was raised in the former Dunwich Township, became a

groundbreaking economist and advisor to several American presidents.

He has written numerous books, all of which are available in the Dutton Library. Galbraith also provided significant support in the creation of the library about 10 years ago. The support included waiving the fees to speak at an event at the University of Western Ontario, and allowing tickets to be sold for the engagement as a fundraiser for the new facility.

The municipality owns the building that houses the library while Elgin County runs the library.

Loveland said while council is in support of the name-change, approval still has to be given by

county council, which doesn't meet again until next month.

Galbraith's 95th birthday is this fall and Loveland hopes the approval can be given in order for the name-change to occur in time for the birthday.

Loveland doesn't expect any opposition to the name change.

He said figures aren't available yet but that it would not be costly to change the name, requiring the municipality to change the signs at the building.

Phillips, who also told council the library is looking at plans to possibly expand into the basement of the building, is working with Loveland on the name change.

Tribute given to John Kenneth Galbraith

Dutton Library named after him

Oct 23rd 2003



Library manager Mary Lou McMillan, Elgin County manager of Library Services Cathy Bishop, nephews Ron and Jerry Galbraith and town crier Dave Phillips unveil the new sign for the former Dutton Library.

Dutton's library now bears Galbraith name

Oct 23rd 2003

By SUN MEDIA

DUTTON — Professor John Kenneth Galbraith extended his own honours to the Dutton/Dunwich community and library in a letter read by his nephew, Jerry Galbraith, at a special ceremony this week to officially rename the Dutton library as the John Kenneth Galbraith Reference Library.

"The honour you pay me is great. Your service to the community is much more," said Galbraith in his letter.

While the guest of honour couldn't be there, a video tape of the event was being sent by courier to his Massachusetts home, where Galbraith is awaiting the release of yet another in a series of business and economy titles he has written.

His letter, written with humour, was one of the highlights of the evening, which featured a celebration of the renaming of the library in conjunction with Galbraith's 95th birthday and the library's 10th anniversary.

"There was a sense of discovery," Galbraith wrote of his time exploring the aisles in the original Dutton library he discovered as a high school student.

The library provided a means to quench his thirst for reading that, until then, had been left parched by little resources for a young

boy growing up in a rural area.

Ten years ago, Galbraith took an active role in fundraising for the new library. As a renowned economist and political advisor to several U.S. presidents, including John F. Kennedy, Galbraith spoke at the University of Western Ontario to help raise funds for the project.

"You get an impression of just how respected and important this man is when you see all these people here," said nephew Ron Galbraith of the crowd of more than 50 people who packed the library for the event.

Representing the Galbraith family, he said the event and turnout honoured them.

In addition to the dedication of the library to Galbraith, Jenny Phillips, who organized the event through the library and Friends of the Library group, unveiled a framed photograph of Galbraith

that will be placed in the library.

The photo will be included with the collection of articles, materials and books being amassed at the library as Phillips and staff tries to put together a comprehensive collection of Galbraith memorabilia for researchers and history buffs.

In fact, the numerous visitors searching for the Galbraith homestead each year prompted Phillips to undertake a project to have an inuksuk and plaque erected earlier this year, marking the homestead and further honouring Galbraith.

Working closely with library manager Mary Lou McMillan, Phillips spearheaded the project to have the library renamed, which received full support from Elgin county council, Dutton/Dunwich council and the Elgin County Library, which operates the facility.





Oct 17 / 2006

Tribute given to Galbraith

By SUN MEDIA

DUTTON — A tribute to John Kenneth Galbraith was held Saturday at the reference library here that bears his name.

The tribute to the world renowned economist opened with words by Dave Phillips, town crier for the County of Elgin, followed by a rendition of O Canada by the Dynamo Singers, led by John Robertson, and a second song, One Tin Soldier.

The event included many guests readers and speakers, including Elgin-Middlesex-London Liberal MPP Steve Peters, Dutton/Dunwich Coun. Don Page, Brian Masschaele, manager of cultural services for the County of Elgin, Gerry Galbraith, nephew of John Kenneth Galbraith, and Alan Galbraith, eldest son of John Kenneth Galbraith.

Sixty friends and family members attended the tribute.



▲ DAVE PHILLIPS, TOWN CRIER FOR COUNTY OF ELGIN

You are invited!

RSVP

To Jenny Phillips at
519-762-2862 OR by

e-mail at jennyphillips@golden.net

"TRIBUTE TO GALBRAITH"

Celebrating the life & writings of
John Kenneth Galbraith
1908-2006

"one of the keenest minds of the twentieth century"

A program of readings, stories, music and refreshments

October 14, 2006

2pm at the

John Kenneth Galbraith Reference Library

36 Shackleton St.,

Ottawa, Ontario

Sponsored by Friends of Ottawa-Dunwich

ANNUAL SENIORS CHRISTMAS DINNER *Dec 2nd 2006*

Wallacetown - Sunday, December 3rd was the Wallacetown Optimist Club's Annual Senior's Christmas Dinner held at South Dunwich Hall. The Optimist Club has been hosting this event for many years. So many in fact that President John McIntyre couldn't remember how many years definitively off the top of his head. "We have been hosting this event for over 15 years for sure!", commented McIntyre. This year there were 94 guests served for a ham and scallop potato dinner complete with all of the fixings. Local

resident, Peg Wheeler baked and donated all of the buns for the dinner. Every guest present donated either money or food to the West Elgin Daffodil Society's Christmas Hamper Program. Not only did they donate, but they donated very generously. After a super dinner, the guests filed in to the upstairs hall for an awesome performance by well known performer Bob Finlay of St. Thomas. Bob Finlay is well known for his involvement with the Caledonians. Finlay explained that he came from a very musical family, "even their sewing machine

was a Singer!" Finlay had the audience tapping toes, clapping hands, singing and even dancing in their seats with a wide selection of music. Finlay sang, played guitar, and keyboard to favourites both old and new. Finlay ended his set off with a medley which included; Santa Claus is Coming to Town, Rudolph, Wabash Cannonball, and Jingle Bells. Every guest present walked out with a huge smile which is testimony to the great job that the Optimist Club did again this year on the event.

-gkelly/HORIZON



SUNDAY REPORT

Old barn nearly octa-gone

One of Ontario's last eight-sided barns is quickly succumbing to time and its Elgin County owner hopes to find it a saviour.

BY ELAINE SMITH
Free Press Reporter

WEST LORNE — The wind whistles through the chinks between weather-beaten boards, and white geese trip through the pasture as Branika Savic fondly recalls playing in a decaying eight-sided barn standing nearby.

"My father bought the place in the late '50s," she said of the 19th-century curiosity. "At the time, he used it for cattle and pigs.

"It has a lot of memories for me. It was loaded with hay almost to the roof and I'd play around there and the cats would be up there, too. It was a nice playground."

Not many children have such unusual playgrounds.

Octagonal barns are rare. They were actively promoted in the late 1800s by American amateur architect Orson Squire Fowler, who maintained octagonal buildings had more space, more light and better ventilation than traditional spaces.

He also believed children raised in such environments would be "constitutionally amicable and good."

Farm publications in the U.S. and Canada picked up on the idea of more space and better ventilation, and the structures popped up throughout the countryside.

But farmers soon found much of the space wasn't usable and animal stabling was awkward, said Reg Cressman, general manager of Milton's Country Heritage Park, home to one of Ontario's few surviving eight-sided barns.

The others left standing in the province include one in Huron County and another in Horton Township near Algonquin Park.

A few dozen more are sprinkled across North America.

Without a white knight, Savic's barn will soon be but a memory.

Built in the 1890s, there are now gaps between the barn's boards and tin has been affixed to the lower level where boards have come loose. The wooden shakes on the roof have been replaced by asphalt shingles, since the shakes were beginning to fall away.

Savic would love to restore the barn, but money is an object. Unless someone offers to buy the barn and restore it to its former



SUE BRADNAM The London Free Press

MEMORIES: Branika Savic of West Lorne has fond childhood memories of playing in the eight-sided barn on her farm, but says she can't afford to preserve the curiosity. Instead, she hopes someone else can rescue the barn.

glory, she plans to tear it down, fearing it could be blown down.

"It's really close to the house and my mother is 83," said Savic. "She panics.

"Probably later this year, we'll tear it down. I don't think I want to wait another winter with the weather we have."

Just a few months ago, Savic had high hopes for the barn's future.

"If I could win the lottery, I wouldn't have any problems, I'd reconstruct it."

*Branika Savic,
on her eight-sided barn.*

"A Guelph consultant wanted to move it to the Outdoor Farm Show, but it fell through because of cost," she said.

She doesn't know how much restoration would cost, but expects it would be expensive, given the labour and special materials required. By talking about the barn, she hopes to pique the interest of someone with money to lavish on it.

"Money is tight everywhere and I can't really afford to fix it up," she said. "Even if I did, it still wouldn't be used.

"It would be nice to see it dismantled and put back to what it used to be like."

In her mind's eye, she can see the barn's lower level full of animals, its loft stacked with hay.

"I'd come home from school, come in and give the animals their water and throw 10 to 20 bales of hay down for them," she said. "There are a lot of memories."

Savic hasn't lost hope a corporate sponsor will come forward. She dreams of someone from London's Fanshawe Pioneer Village rescuing the barn. A civic employee, she's discarded the idea of appealing to West Elgin council to save the barn.

"I know, just from working here (in Dutton-Dunwich) that there's no money in municipal coffers to do something like that," she said.

"If I could win the lottery, I wouldn't have any problems, I'd reconstruct it."

July 14th 2003

Susanne Wilkins of Town and Country Landscaping, has purchased the octagonal barn from Bianca Savik, in hopes of restoring the historical landmark and architectural rarity. She is currently dismantling the barn and will be moving it to Muirkirk.

Chronicle photo

Octagonal barn is on the move

By Scott Hilgendorff
The Chronicle

An architectural rarity is being dismantled near West Lorne this month in hopes to preserve it later.

The octagonal barn owned by Bianca Savik, is one of only a handful left in Ontario and has stood on the Queen's Line property since late 1880s. It's now being taken apart to relocate it to Muirkirk, where its new owner, Susanne Wilkins, operates a landscaping business.

"This came as a surprise. This wasn't what I was going to be doing this summer," said Wilkins.

The barn can be seen from Highway 401 where hundreds of cars pass every day and Wilkins said, "I don't think I've ever driven by and not looked for the octagon barn."

Savik has been at the farm since the 1950s and used to use the barn for sheep, cattle and pigs and stored hay in the mow.

No longer in use that way, Savik said there simply wasn't any more need to keep the barn anymore and she was concerned about having to maintain it.

At the same time, knowing it was rare, she didn't want to tear it down.

"I grew up with that farm. It's always been a part of life. I'd like to see it somewhere else rather than knock it down after it's got rotten," she said.

The barn was beginning to deteriorate and Savik has spent the past several months looking for someone interested in restoring its historical significance.

"We thought if we could find someone who would want it and would restore it, they could just come and get it," said Savik.

Wilkins heard about it back in May, had

her father, Bob Spence, come back and look at it for a second opinion on whether or not she could effectively take it down and set it back up again.

She made herself wait a week to be sure she was making the right decision to take on the project and decided, "It's too important just to let go."

Savik said she was glad Wilkins was interested in the barn because Wilkin's artist mother, Marie Spence, had been commissioned several years ago, to paint a picture of the barn.

It was part of a municipal project to have paintings done of several of the area's landmarks.

"It's kind of nice that Marie's daughter is taking the barn," said Savik.

Wilkins is thinking about whether to try to put the barn in a place where the public has access to it because of its age and rarity but at the same time, it's still a functioning barn she is considering using.

Regardless, she still has to figure out how to get it back up again after they've finished taking it down and moving it.

She's had architectural drawings done and is numbering all the pieces to the drawing to help make it easier to put it back together.

The exterior came off easily for Wilkins but the roof and supports of the structure posed a harder challenge.

Working with her children and staff from the landscaping business, she's had some help with the project, but none have had experience with a project like this before.

"Ignorance is bliss. You can only deal with the next crisis as it comes," she said.

Wilkins expects it might be two years before it is restored at its new home.