

# ESQUESING HISTORICAL SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

P.O. Box 51, Georgetown, Ontario, Canada L7G 4T1

[www.esquesinghistoricalsociety.com](http://www.esquesinghistoricalsociety.com)

Vol. 45 No. 5

January-February 2021

## A GREAT SKATING CARNIVAL

### **Largest Attendance on Saturday Afternoon and Evening Ever Seen at an Acton Rink**

Saturday was a gala day at the new rink. The weather was rather doubtful for assuring the best of ice, but its mildness was more conducive to attracting spectators.

In the afternoon a hockey match between the club of the Toronto office of Beardmore & Co., and the employees of the firm here, was quite a feature. The game was not very exciting as the Acton crowd rather outclassed the Toronto aggregation, but it had plenty of interest. The score was 6 to 3 in favour of the local boys. After the game supper was served to the Toronto hockeyists and their followers by the rink management.

The carnival in the evening was however, the 'big feature.' The whole town, countryside and neighbouring towns [were there]and ...

The spectators' benches and stands were crowded to capacity and fully two hundred appeared in costume on the ice. The costumes were elaborate and of every description imaginable.

The list of prizes awarded was as follows:

Best Ladies' costume -Mrs. N.H. Garden; Mrs. Harry Tucker



The renovated Beardmore Clubhouse at the foot of Frederick Street opened in December 1920 and this photo of the ice surface is from *Vintage Acton*. The Maria Street bridge is in the background.

Best Gentleman's costume -Fred Maddock; N.H. Garden  
 Best Costumed couple -Fred Maddock & Mrs. Ed Maddock; Mr. and Mrs. L. B. Shorey  
 Paul Jones – John McGregor and Miss Williamson  
 Moccasin Dance -George Benton and Miss Betty Lowrie  
 Senior race -G. Farlow; J. Morton  
 Intermediate race – Will Kaley; Laird McDonald  
 Junior race -Wilrose Reid; Russell Ross  
 Ladies' race -Lottie Mason; Hazel Mason  
 Girls' race – Jean Kennedy; Helen McDonald

The fancy skating by Mr. Jack Cawthra of Toronto, was of a class seldom seen and the skate waltzing by him and Miss Macdonald of Toronto was excellent.

During the evening fireworks were displayed and coloured searchlights and candles used in a pleasing lighting scheme. An excellent eight-piece band from Toronto furnished the music for the skaters and dancers until 11:15.

The moccasin dance was an innovation that seemed quite popular, although it is said that those who used rubbers instead of moccasins had much drier feet after their evening's indulgence.

-Acton Free Press, 3 February 1921

## Concert and Dance

A grand concert and dance in the town hall, Glenwilliams, on Friday next, January 28<sup>th</sup>, under the auspices of the Georgetown and Glenwilliams Co-operative Society Ltd. Come and have a good time. Popular prices, adults 25c, children 15c, members' children free.

## Local News Items

-Bigger and better than ever – “The Minstrels,” Feb. 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup>

-Coal delivered in Georgetown \$17.00 per ton -John McDonald

-Have you tried our mixed fudge, also our mixed chocolates -Madge's Candy Shop

**Always Up-to-date** - The Georgetown Creamery has just installed the Heath patent process for hygienic manufacture of Creamery Butter. This is the second plant in Ontario to install this system. Mr. Saxe has one of the best and most complete butter making plants in the country. A new office and storeroom are now being completed in connection with his creamery here.

-Georgetown Herald, 26 January 1921



EHS00221

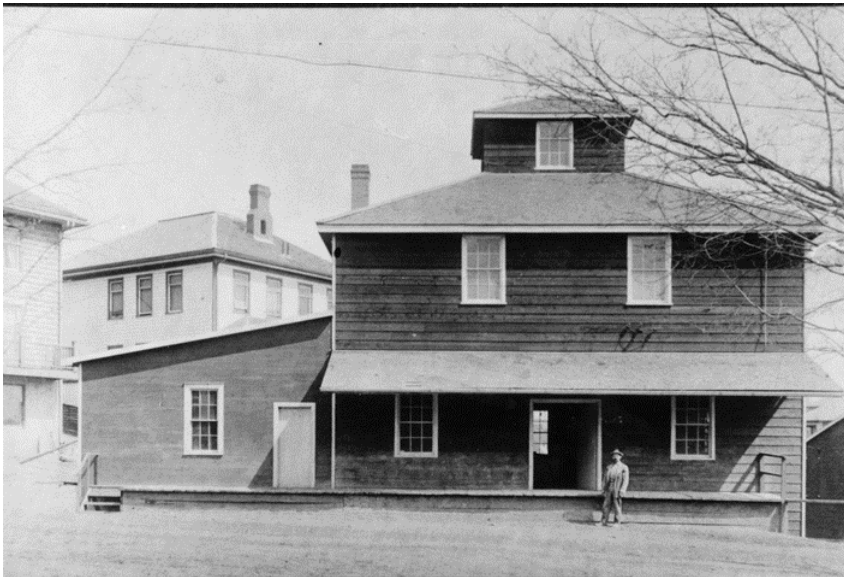


## The New Wonderland

A glance over the programme submitted for the patrons of the New Wonderland gives ample proof that the management is securing the very best films available for the pleasure and instruction of Acton people. Every week specials are given which appeared in the best shows in Toronto a week or so previously. Mr. Gregory deserves credit for his discerning enterprise. -AFP 3 Feb. 1921



This photo of muddy Mill Street, Acton, shows the Wonderland Theatre on the left. EHS14998



Wilf Bessey stands in front of his flour and feed mill on Guelph Street.

**Automobile SKATES**

C.C.M. heat treatment gives glass-hard running edge combined with a tough core which makes blades practically unbreakable. Heavily nickel-plated over copper to prevent rust. Made in Canada

Used by World's Champions  
The famous "FALCONS" who won the Olympic Amateur Hockey World's Championship at Antwerp last spring—with one exception used Automobile Skates. The entire American Olympic Team, winners of second place, were also equipped with Automobile Skates.

Made of Special Automobile Steels

Now is the time to select your Automobile Skates for Xmas, while our stock is complete. Our prices range from \$2.00 upwards. Come in and inspect them. We also have a fine line of Hockey Sticks, Pucks, Straps and Ankle Supports

When You want a Battery for your Daylo we have it.

**R. H. Thompson & Co.**

(see 1921 advert to the right). The houses behind are on Mill Street. EHS00637

## Georgetown Flour & Feed Mills

We handle the Best Grades of Flour and Rolled Oats  
A Full Line for all Poultry Needs  
Laying Mash, Grit, Oyster Shell, Poultry Food, Etc.  
A Full Stock of Bran, Shorts, Stock Foods,  
Mola Feeding Molasses at 40c. a gallon  
Baled Hay and Straw always on hand.

**WE DELIVER ANY PLACE IN TOWN**  
Glen Williams—Tuesday's and Friday's Only  
**CHOPPING and ROLLING AT LOWEST RATES**

**W. C. BESSEY**

PHONE 195

GEORGETOWN

## Georgetown Elevator!

A FULL STOCK OF  
Flour and Feed, Baled Hay and Straw  
Always on hand

Highest Market Price Paid for Grain.

**Robert Noble Limited**  
Norval, Ontario

## Livingstone's Bakery

MAIN STREET

## Specials for Saturday

MILK BREAD  
CURRANT BREAD  
CREAM ROLLS  
CREAM PUFFS

**A. LIVINGSTONE & SON**

Phone 55 - - - Georgetown



## ***ESQUESING HISTORICAL SOCIETY*** **SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS**

EHS meetings for 2021 have been cancelled for the winter and Spring.  
We will try to re-book our speakers as soon as feasible.

### **Your EHS Executive:**

Stephen Blake	905	877-8251	President
Steve McNamara	519	856-1242	Treasurer
Karen Hunter	905	877-7363	Secretary
J. Mark Rowe	905	877-9510	Archivist
Jan Raymond	905	877-9172	Social
David Borrett	905	702-0737	Membership
Ray Denny	905	877-3890	Publications
Dawn Livingstone	905	877-6506	Consultant

All inquiries can be sent  
to:

[esquesinghs@gmail.com](mailto:esquesinghs@gmail.com)

### **INVITE YOUR NEIGHBOUR TO BECOME A MEMBER!**

## **Ontario Township Papers Now Available at FamilySearch**

Through an agreement with the Archives of Ontario, FamilySearch is making Ontario's Township Papers available on their website for free.

They are filed alphabetically, and can be found at the following links:

- <https://www.familysearch.org/search/catalog/185567?availability=Family%20History%20Library> (Abinger to Haldimand)
- <https://www.familysearch.org/search/catalog/2759321?availability=Family%20History%20Library> (Hallowell to Zorra)

In order to access them, you must sign into or create a free account with FamilySearch. Please note that these records have not yet been indexed or transcribed, but hold a wealth of information, so is worth it for any researcher to check them out!

• Patent Plans (the original grant from the Crown to a property owner) can be found at <http://www.archives.gov.on.ca/en/about/patent-plans.aspx>

• County atlas maps from the 1870s – 1880s can be found at <http://digital.library.mcgill.ca/CountyAtlas/searchmapframes.php> The Halton County Atlas can also be found in the History Room



## **Society Notes**

### **INTERNET CONNECTIONS**

<http://esquesinghistoricalsociety.com/> Note the new website address. Send your e-mail to [esquesinghs@gmail.com](mailto:esquesinghs@gmail.com)

### **EHS NEWSLETTER**

John Mark Rowe prepared this newsletter. Submissions welcome. Please consider an electronic newsletter sent to your e-mail address. Not only will you save the Society postage, you get to see the colour pictures!

### **MEMBERSHIP**

We currently have 68 members for 2020. Our membership year runs from February. It is time to renew your membership for 2021. The individual membership rate is \$20. The family or institution rate is \$25. The EHS is still very happy to accept personal cheques from our members. Please note that all cheques must be made payable to "Esquesing Historical Society", fully spelled out. Membership fees can be mailed to our post box or dropped off at the home of any executive member (see previous page).

### **CANADIANA ON-LINE**

<http://online.canadiana.ca/search>

### **ARCHIVES OF ONTARIO**

[www.archives.gov.on.ca](http://www.archives.gov.on.ca)

### **EHS ARCHIVES**

The Halton Hills Public Library has now closed again for the second lockdown, but our Archives were used by Heritage Halton Hills student Chirag Putney and also volunteer Amelia Harkins during the months it was open.

Mary Baxter, a student from Mohawk College, needed a COVID-friendly placement to finish her library course. She offered to add photos and descriptions to Halton Images. She was able to add 261 images and descriptions over the course of her term. The majority of her additions were for the Scotch Block / Mansewood. She also increased our photo offerings for Crewson's Corners, Churchill, Speyside, Milton Heights, Union, Ashgrove, Limehouse, Ballinafad, Hornby,

Norval and Stewarttown.

The Society received a considerable number of requests often asking for copies of items in our Archives. The executive has been busy keeping up over the period between lockdowns.

The public can search the EHS Archive Finding Aid at:

<https://www.archeion.ca/esquesing-historical-society>

### **HERITAGE HALTON HILLS**

Heritage Halton Hills student Chirag Putney has recently been working on making the EHS map collection accessible to the Town planning department. Quite a number of map links were discovered and shared and the EHS has added them to our webpage.

### **HALTON-PEEL OGS**

<https://haltonpeel.ogs.on.ca/>

All winter 2021 meetings will be virtual.

### **DEVEREAUX HOUSE**

Ann Lawlor at [ann@deverauxhouse.ca](mailto:ann@deverauxhouse.ca)

### **HALTON HILLS SPORTS MUSEUM**

<http://haltonhillssportsmuseum.blogspot.ca/>  
The Museum is currently closed. The Hall of Fame Gala was cancelled. The Museum has cancelled the 2021 Hall of Fame Awards and Gala.

### **L.M. MONTGOMERY MUSEUM**

The L.M. Montgomery Museum & Literary Centre, Norval, had some wind storm damage to contend with in November.

### **STREETSVILLE HIST. SOCIETY**

The Leslie Log Cabin at 4415 Mississauga Road is closed until further notice and all meetings for 2020 were cancelled.

### **BRAMPTON HIST. SOCIETY**

Heart Lake Presbyterian Church at 7:15.  
All meetings are postponed.

### **MILTON HISTORICAL SOCIETY**

The Society meets in the Waldie Blacksmith Shop at 16 James Street at 7:30 p.m. on the 3rd Thursday of the month.

Milton ran four sold-out walking tours in September of 2020.

### **OAKVILLE HISTORICAL SOCIETY**

<https://www.oakvillehistory.org/>

All activities are suspended.

**NASAGIWEYA HIST. SOCIETY**  
[info@nasagiweyahistoricalsociety.com](mailto:info@nasagiweyahistoricalsociety.com)

All meetings are postponed.

**TRAFALGAR HISTORICAL SOCIETY**

All events at former Palermo Schoolhouse,  
2431 Dundas Street West, Oakville are  
cancelled.

**TERRA COTTA HALL**

Terra Cotta Community Hall rentals: Contact  
Kathy Atkinson at

[terracottaeventbooking@gmail.com](mailto:terracottaeventbooking@gmail.com)

**COVID HISTORY**

While I'm sure you're sick and tired of  
reading about COVID, documenting history  
as it happens is very important. Luckily  
Halton Hills Public Library took on the task  
and has many photos available. Search  
"covid" on Halton Images or Halton Hills  
newspapers and you'll see their collection to  
date.

**LOCAL DIGITAL RESOURCES**

Our Digital World, host of Halton Hills  
newspapers, Halton Images and Halton News  
hosts newspapers from across Ontario. You  
can start searching at:

<https://ourdigitalworld.net/>

**BARBER HOUSE TO BE CONDO**

The Streetsville Historical Society reports in  
their Fall 2020 newsletter that the William  
Barber house at 5155 Mississauga Road is to  
be converted into four condominium units as  
part of a larger condo development of the  
grounds. Many readers will remember it as the  
Old Barber House Restaurant. William Barber  
was one of the four Barber brothers who came  
to Georgetown in 1837. They expanded to  
Streetsville in the 1850s.

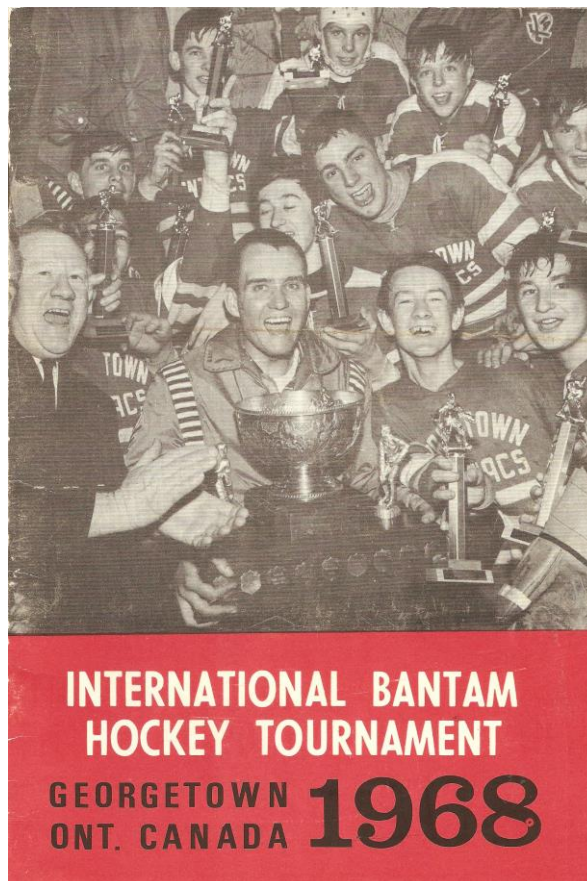
**ON-LINE EXHIBITION**

Be sure to visit the excellent on-line exhibit  
about a Georgetown citizen, assembled by the  
Halton Hills Public Library. RSM Henry  
Thomas Shepherd MBE (1895-1960) explores  
the life of this outstanding citizen. It uses  
text, photographs, newspaper clippings and  
audio files with external links as well, to tell  
his story. You can access the exhibit at:

<https://images.halinet.on.ca/558/exhibit/1>

A park at Dayfoot and Main Street will be  
named in his honour.

**FROM OUR ARCHIVES:**



This item located at: MG7 B12

**28 MARCH 1968 – HERALD**

**Pop. Drops 800 Bantams Return Home**

It was only fitting that Georgetown's thrill  
filled international Bantam Hockey  
Tournament had a script-writer's finish.  
Detroit Myr Metal, A Division Champs and  
Richmond Hill North End Cleaners, the best  
of the B crop went into an overtime period  
before the motor city captured the Grand  
Championship, with a 6-5 decision.

And the fact that Mark Howe whose  
dad is still building NHL records, was the  
game hero with four goals, including the  
winner and selected the tournament's most  
valuable player was also story-book material..

Fred Harrison and Harry Levy jointly  
directed the week and months of  
preparation...

"To collect, preserve and publicize the history of Esquesing"

# A Time Without Turkeys



Beatrice Hilts, age 86, cooking at Ballinafad United Church turkey supper in 1967. EHS03062

Catching sight of a flock of wild turkeys can be a real delight. The flashy springtime strut of iridescent toms (male turkeys) is as captivating for us as it is for the hens. Come winter, the silhouettes these prehistoric-looking birds cast against fields of freshly fallen snow is postcard worthy.

These creatures are a common yet charming feature of our rural landscape. With tens of thousands of wild turkeys now roaming Ontario, can you believe there was a time without them?

Although native to the region, the eastern wild turkey was considered locally extinct by 1909. Unregulated hunting, the cutting of native forests and development brought the population to zero. The turkeys we see roaming our

countryside today are the descendants of thousands of birds relocated from the United States in the 1980s as part of the Ministry of Natural Resources rehabilitation program.

Wild turkeys are important for ecosystem health and balance. They'll eat just about anything they find on the forest floor, from tree nuts, seeds and berries to mosses, ferns and bulbs, and even snails, insects and small amphibians. They're a traditional feature on our holiday dinner tables, and enjoyed equally by owls, foxes and coyotes. They also provide economic



and recreational value through hunting-related activities.

Turkeys enjoy landscapes with diverse plant species, including forested areas, wild fields and agricultural lands. These areas provide good nesting habitat and varied year-round food sources.

If you'd like to see more turkeys on your property, preserve the natural biodiversity of your woodlots and meadows. Plant trees that produce fruit, like native oaks, to ensure good food sources are available.

Sincerely,

*Your Countryside Stewardship Team*

<https://mailchi.mp/a7db5e4c8bc0/a-time-without-turkeys?e=0ca74bace6> 25 Nov 2020

## Wind storm produced tornado that passed through Glen Williams, Georgetown

### Twister covered 3.7 kilometres

by Herb Garbutt

Independent Free Press

Saturday, November 21, 2020

Last Sunday's wind storm that brought down trees produced a small tornado that passed directly through Glen Williams. The rare November tornado was confirmed by Northern Tornadoes Project (NTP), a Western University-based group that works to detect and document tornadoes across the country.

Based on damage patterns, NTP said the tornado touched down near Trafalgar Road, passed across Johnson Crescent, McCullough Crescent, Banting Road, Ruddell Crescent and the northern part of Joycelyn Crescent. It then crossed Highway 7 and followed a path along Wildwood Road. It crossed the intersection of Wildwood and Confederation Street in Glen Williams before dissipating near the end of Joseph Street in Glen Williams. Most of the damage reported was trees falling and some roof damage to houses. The tornado was classed as an EF1 (on the Fujita Scale which goes from EF0 to EF5), producing winds of 135 km/h, with a maximum width of 360 metres, according to NTP. It was the 41st tornado recorded in Ontario this year.





# GRAND Opening Day!

AT  
"Regent Hall,"  
ACTON.

**J. C. HURST**

opens his new store to-day for  
business. May 8th, 1878.  
In "Regent Hall" will be found  
all the latest novelties in

Fancy and Staple

**Dry Goods**

Ladies' and Gentlemen's  
Furnishing Goods,

Hats, Caps, Boots and Shoes.

CHOICE NEW SEASON TEA, VERY CHEAP.

**TAILORING A SPECIALTY!**

In this department will be found the latest designs and patterns in SCOTCH, CANADIAN, FRENCH and ENGLISH TWEEDS and COATINGS, and best of Trimmings. Spring and Summer Fashion Plates just received from New York

This department will be under the able management of MR. GEO. E. ADAMS, a first-class cutter. Perfect fitting garments guaranteed. Suits from \$8.00 to \$30.00, and got up on short notice.

**J. C. HURST.**

Acton, May 8th, 1878.

**1878. SPRING AND 1878**

Mrs. O'Brien Mrs. Kent

**Wednesday November 26<sup>th</sup> 1873**

W.H. Hobden Mrs. Brown, Glen Williams

Smith Travis Mrs. Bailey

Mrs. Copeland W.H. Hobden

**Saturday Nov. 29<sup>th</sup> 1873**

Mrs. Thomas Monohan H.H. Roe

Mrs. McGraw Mrs. Thomas Monohan

Ed Thornton Miss Nixon

Mike Morgan Miss Lee

## J. C. HURST DRY GOODS STORE

### Georgetown Store Day Book

John C. Hurst was a dry goods and clothing merchant in Georgetown in 1873. The advertisement at left celebrates his grand opening in 1878 in Acton.

A Daybook is a register of sales on account and this one is from 1873 and 1874. Here is a list of names as he spelled them, some with *aide-mémoires*.

**Georgetown, Sept. 5<sup>th</sup> 1873**

John Stewart, paper mill

W.H. Hobden

Mrs. Bennett, Hotel

Miss Hammond

Henery Cole

Mrs. Hammond

Miss McKenzie, Foundry

Miss Hannah

Chris Thayer

Miss Fits at McLeods

John Lindsay per wife

Mr. Robinson, Scotch Block

**Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> Sept.**

Mrs. Campbell, sister to Mr. Higgins

Geo. Goulding

Mrs. Hunter, *new young wife*, Norval

Miss McKenzie at Hobdens

Mrs. Mitchell, Stewarttown

Mrs. Mackn, Stewarttown

Mrs. Mitchell

Mrs. Henderson, dressmaker

Mary McDonald

G. Goulding

**Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> November 1873**

Miss Fanny Sherden

W.H. Hobden

John Rutledge

Fanny Wilson

Miss Lee

Miss Nixon at Hobdens

Mrs. Goulding

Mrs. Harwood

David Butchart

Mr. Lowe

Jos. Young

Jno. Linden, Hillsburgh

G. Goulding

Adam Kennedy

Mrs. Thayer

Mrs. Walker

Toady Dundas

Miss Cindy McKenzie

Dr. Starr

Cindy McKenzie

Wm. Allan, shoemaker

Dr. Ramney

Terry Claridge

Smith Travis

Mrs. Rowan

DURING COVID LOCKDOWNS BE SURE TO SUPPORT LOCAL BUSINESSES!

Glen Williams, Ont., 22 Feb'y 1892.  
 Mr. A. J. Panabaker  
 Hooper.

In Acc't With

JOS. WILLIAMS & CO.

-- ☆ Manufacturers of ☆ --

Plain and Fancy Worsted, Woollen and Cotton Hosiery.

Terms:

Brampton Phone 395-13

Georgetown Phone 90-11



**CARNEY BROTHERS**  
 HARDWARE and  
 ELECTRICAL MERCHANTS

Norval, Ont.

Aug 26 1946

Sold to

Capitol Products Co. Ltd.

TERMS STRICTLY CASH

10% straight added to accts. unpaid after 30 days.

ACCT. FWD.

Claims for Damages or Deficiencies to be made within five days after receipt of Goods.

ORDER BOOK  
 FOLIO

Mr. & J. Dunbar



Telephonic Communication.

DESCRIPTION.	PRICE PER DOZ.	AMOUNT
East	30	4.00
		8.00

**THOMPSON**  
 AND DEALERS IN  
 Smithing, Plumbing  
 and Water Furnace Work

PHONES: Georgetown 250  
 Acton 120

Estimates furnished on all Classes of Buildings

Georgetown, Ont., July 4th. 1923

M The Glen Co. Ltd.

Glen Williams, Ont.

**THE GLEN GARAGE**

GENERAL REPAIRS & WELDING

MCCOLL-FRONTENAC PRODUCTS -- GOODRICH TIRES  
 PREST-O-LITE BATTERIES

PHONE 442-R-6

GLEN WILLIAMS, ONT.

**THE GEORGETOWN LUMBER CO., LIMITED**

GEORGETOWN and ACTON, ONT.

Everything in Lumber, Sash, Doors and Interior Finish. We also handle Hydrated Lime, Hardwall Plaster, Beaver Board, Cement and Roofing of All Kinds

Terms—Cash, 8% charged on overdue accounts.

"To collect, preserve and publicize the history of Esqueying"