



ESQUESING HISTORICAL SOCIETY

2025 ARCHIVAL REPORT

John Mark Rowe, Archivist

ACCESS

IN-PERSON: Georgetown Branch of Halton Hills Public Library, 9 Church Street, Georgetown – during regular Library hours.

ARCHIVES FINDING AID: <https://www.archeion.ca/esquesing-historical-society> (Also available on Halton Hills Images)

PHOTO COLLECTION: <https://vitacollections.ca/HaltonHillsImages/search> This represents 24% of the collection. Searches can be requested at esquesinghs@gmail.com

LOCAL NEWSPAPERS: <https://news.haltonhills.halinet.on.ca/search>

EHS WEBSITE: <http://esquesinghistoricalsociety.com/>

ARCHIVAL ACTIVITIES

Halton Hills Library has hired a new Local History & Digital Archive Coordinator, Cheryl Cousins-Reid. She will be our connection for all things archival at the Georgetown branch going forward.

Karen Hunter has completed a complete updated inventory of the EHS Archives and it is available to be consulted on the *Halton Hills Images* website. Search the Archives at home and note the finding aid number. When you attend the library, present the number(s) and the staff will find it for you to use in the History Room. All file numbers begin with MG.

Austin Foster, a student with Heritage Halton Hills, devoted some time each week to the Archives and has scanned the six volumes of the Ashgrove Tweedsmuir Histories. He concluded his position on April 11th. Local History & Digital Archive Coordinator, Cheryl Cousins-Reid arranged for archivist Mark Rowe to be filmed telling three different vignettes based on items in our archives.

The Town of Halton Hills placed a plaque for the Barnes Family Cemetery at 61 Halton Hills' Drive. It reads:

Barnes Pioneer Cemetery

“War of 1812 veteran Christian Barnes and his family had a homestead here from 1820 to 1867. Over the years, family members were laid to rest on this knoll, facing the morning sunrise. When using the greenspace, please treat this burial site with appropriate respect.”

Ray Denny posted a photo essay on the EHS website to mark the 50th anniversary of the Esquesing Historical Society.

The EHS accepted Mohawk College student, Olivia Attrado, over the summer to work remotely on adding images to Halton Hills Images from our collection.

2025 ACCESSIONS

Donations were made to the EHS Archives this year from Karen Hunter, Georgetown; Doug Brock, Georgetown; David Clayton, Georgetown; Rob Quinton, Town of Halton Hills; Jim Dixon, Brampton; Patricia Smith, Upper Credit Humane Society Thrift Shop, Georgetown; Ray Denny, Limehouse; Jamie Marchant, Georgetown; Edward Tooke, Georgetown; Kendrie Richardson, Halton Region Museum; Scott Brooks, Acton; Mike Harley, Acton; Steve Blake, Georgetown; Steve McNamara, Rockwood; Karen Kranendock, Dublin Women's Institute, Acton; Halton Hills Public Library; Simon Wilson, Dundas; Rob Burnett, Callandar; Glenda Benton, Georgetown; Mark Rowe, Glen Williams; Bonnie Hayes-Courchene, Georgetown; Brenda Snow, Georgetown; Dan Arsenault, Caledon; Nancy Pundsack, Glen Williams.

EXTENT OF HOLDINGS

Textual – General Collection MG1 -11:	80.3 metres (263' 5")	
Textual – Maps & Drawings MG12	6.73 metres (22' 1")	(5 drawers)
Textual – Newspaper Collections:	40.6 metres (133' 4")	
Acton Monthly, Acton Tanner, New Tanner, Acton Free Press, Acton Voice, Independent/Free Press, Halton Hills Weekend; Georgetown Herald, Georgetown Leader, Georgetown Gemini, North Halton Compass, Halton Hills This Week, Conservator, Toronto Daily Mail, Halton New Era, Canadian Champion.		
Photographs	9.35 metres (30' 8")	
Negatives	18.87 metres (61' 11")	
Slides	0.15 metres (0' 6")	
TOTAL SHELF SPACE	=	156 metres (511' 9")
Cartographic Collection -MG12:	245 items	
Architectural Drawings:	162 sets	
Photographic Collection:	29 907 images (processed)	+ 482 images
On-line records -Halton Hills Images	7047 images uploaded	
DVD / ZIP photo files (indexed):	846 items	
Portable Hard Drives	3	
Framed photographs / paintings	28	-included in photo collection

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

For the first time our Archive Finding Aid provider sent us analytics for 2025. While the general statistics match our website statistics in the following report, this report includes the top 65 file searches. The top ten were AVRO, A.V. Roe Canada, Malton; Pigeons and Pet Stock, Feather Francier; Hydrological investigations; Opening of Glen Williams Public School; \$350 promissory note from Mason & Risch Ltd. To W.W. Scott, Limehouse; Acton District High School; Judge James Black well-known in area; Remember when...Acton Tanners were a hockey power in the Ontario Hockey Association; Stull; 100th Anniversary of Georgetown Lawn Bowling.

WEBSITE USE - <https://esquesinghistoricalsociety.com/>

This past year we had about 3672 visits to the website compared to 3328 visits last year. The most popular website pages visited were: Halton Images & Records, Maps, Origin of Georgetown Street Names, Contact Us, Georgetown Manufacturing-Georgetown Herald 1913, Meetings and Events, Publications and Sesquicentennial & Century Farms. The visitors to our site were 52% from Canada, 32% from USA, 9% from China followed by Germany, the UK and others. About 46% of the visits to the web site were organic. This happens when an inquiry is typed into the search engine on the Internet and directs the user to the EHS web site. About 34% of the visits were direct inquiries to the EHS web site.

The EHS email esquesinghs@gmail.com continues to be an important source of communication for inquiries (e.g. genealogy), requests to buy publications, donations to the archives, request for digital copies of photos and the sharing of specific historic data. – Ray Denny

INQUIRES

DATE	NAME	TOPIC
Jan. 03	Bill McIlveen	Georgetown & District Naturalist Club
Jan. 06	Dorothy Kew	St. Paul's Anglican Cemetery, Norval
Jan. 07	Bill McIlveen	Georgetown YMCA

Jan. 10	Cheryl Cousins-Reid (HHPL)	Toronto Suburban Railway
Jan. 14	Molly-Claire Gillett	Elizabeth Appelbe
Jan. 22	Aaron Knutson (Town)	Gordon Alcott Arena
Jan. 22	Angela Mourao (Town)	Barnes Family Cemetery
Jan. 29	Jan Raymond	Maple Avenue Baptist Church
Jan. 29	Allan Young	Terra Cotta Tweedsmuir
Feb. 04	Laura Loney (Town)	“College View 1911” stone
Feb. 07	Jamie Marchant	Judi Starkey (artist)
Feb. 12	Jamie Marchant	Alberta (Glass) Watson
Feb. 20	William Dufour	Summer Student
Feb. 23	Harsh Padhya	11154 Winston Churchill Blvd
Feb. 28	Jamie Marchant	Acton Library Minute Book
Mar. 06	Josh Gordon	Halton Directories
Mar. 10	Wayne Ray	Toronto centenary photo
Mar. 26	Jamie Marchant	Knox Church history
Apr. 11	David Walsh	McLaughlin Family
Apr. 16	Scott Brooks	Ronnie Hawkins 1984
Apr. 21	Steve Bysouth	Prince Albert Hotel
May 05	Jean-Jerome Baudry	Heritage Designation -11100 Trafalgar Road
May 14	Barry Young	Farm of Mary Faulkner
May 21	Sylvan Naidoo	294 Maple Ave. -1854
May 23	Dolores Harms Penner	Remote student placement
May 25	Bill McIlveen	Plank Roads
May 27	Linda Cousins	Moon Landing newspapers
May 29	Roger Stopford	Glen Williams
May 29	Vanessa	James & Margaret Culligan
June 05	Jamie Marchant	Stars of the Town DVD
June 26	Bryan Stuart	1904 (1898) F.I. map of Acton
June 28	Tobias Madigan	James Grant Family
July 15	Jason Kinnard	William Johnson Kinnard
July 17	Paula Wubbenhurst, Heritage Planner	Robert Brock Barber (1852-1918) & Agnes Cobban Freeman (1863-1951)
July 25	Kevin Okimi	Headstones in Archives
July 26	John McDonald	Railways
Sept 16	Mike Gordon	Glen Cenotaph
Sept 16	Tammy-Jo Murray	Items found near SS#11
Sept 19	Ken Coker	Nelles Street, Acton
Sept. 25	Tasha Stephenson	Speyside Post Office
Nov. 09	Shirley Conley	Cummings Family 1860s
Nov. 12	Jamie Marchant	Acton Library
Nov. 17	Shawn Henderson	Victoria Lane store -G
Nov. 25	Dan Arsenault	Alfred Keith Nixon
Dec. 22	Gord Blair	William Douglas Family

The EHS keeps a record of inquiries made along with the name and digital address of the interested party, but do not publish it. If any of the above-mentioned topics are of interest to you, request contact information from the Archivist.

DISPLAYS OF ARCHIVAL MATERIALS

Use of the display case in the Local History Room of the Georgetown branch began in August 2023. In 2025 displays were mounted by Karen Hunter on the 60th anniversary of Canada's flag; 1965 Glen Williams ice flood and Local movie theatres.

The Esquesing Historical Society Archives are housed within the Georgetown branch of the Halton Hills Public Library. We are adjacent to the Local History reading room where many publications, maps and microfilm are available for viewing. We thank Andrea Arsenault and Cheryl Cousins-Reid of the Halton Hills Public Library under the leadership of Beverley King for their support and hard work on our behalf.

J.M. Rowe

Archivist

1 February 2026



29441 **GLEN WILLIAMS:** Gathered under a large tree are (L to R) Don Hancock (bicycle), Bob Addy, Gilbert Preston, Bob Heaton, Eugene Logan, Fred Dickenson, Bob Preston, Junior Beaumont, Gerry Ingles and Blake Ingles. This photo is from the Gord Preston collection.

DATE: c.1945

PROVENANCE: Doug Brock Acc. #25.02

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