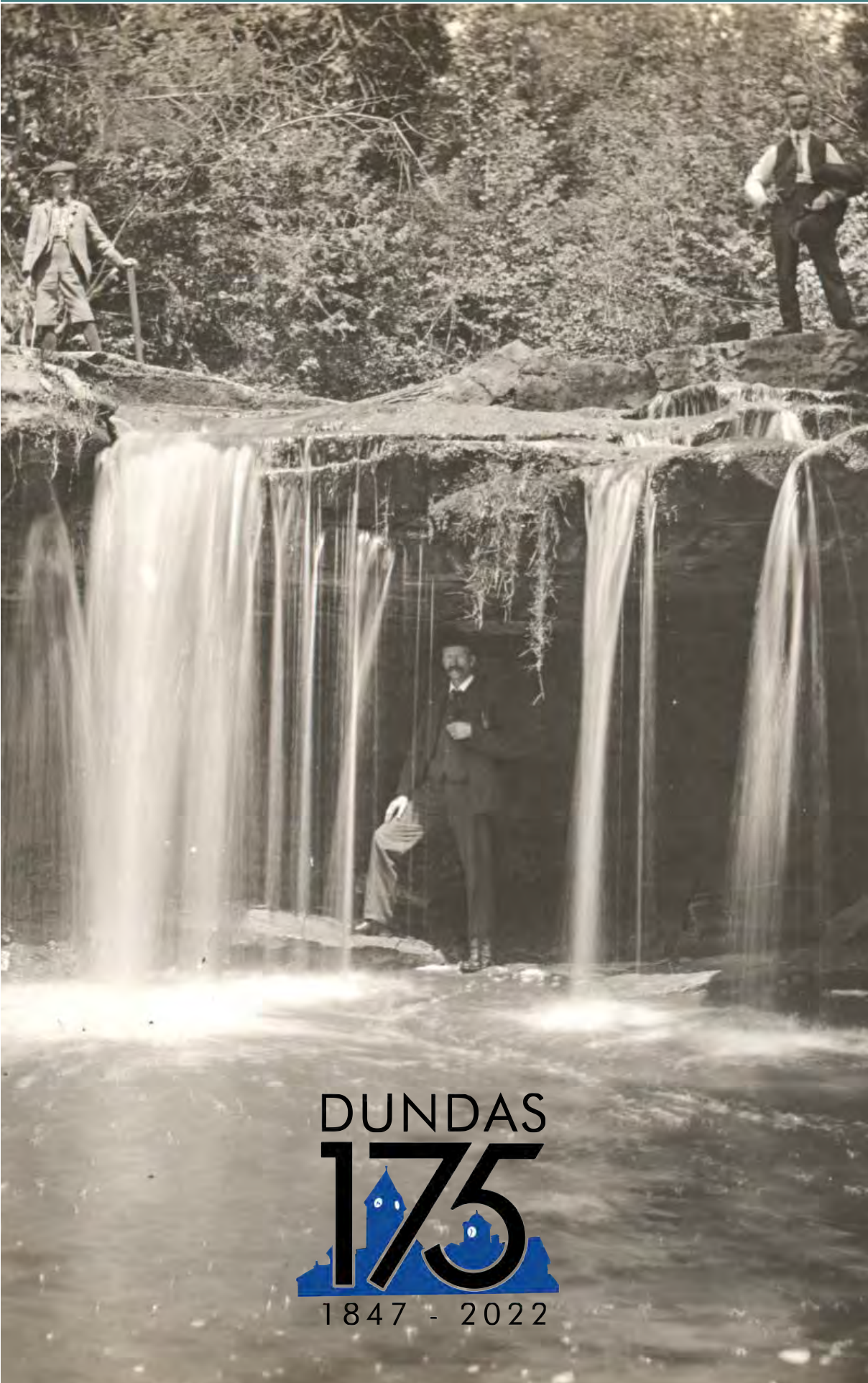




DUNDAS
MUSEUM &
ARCHIVES

UPDATE

SUMMER
2022

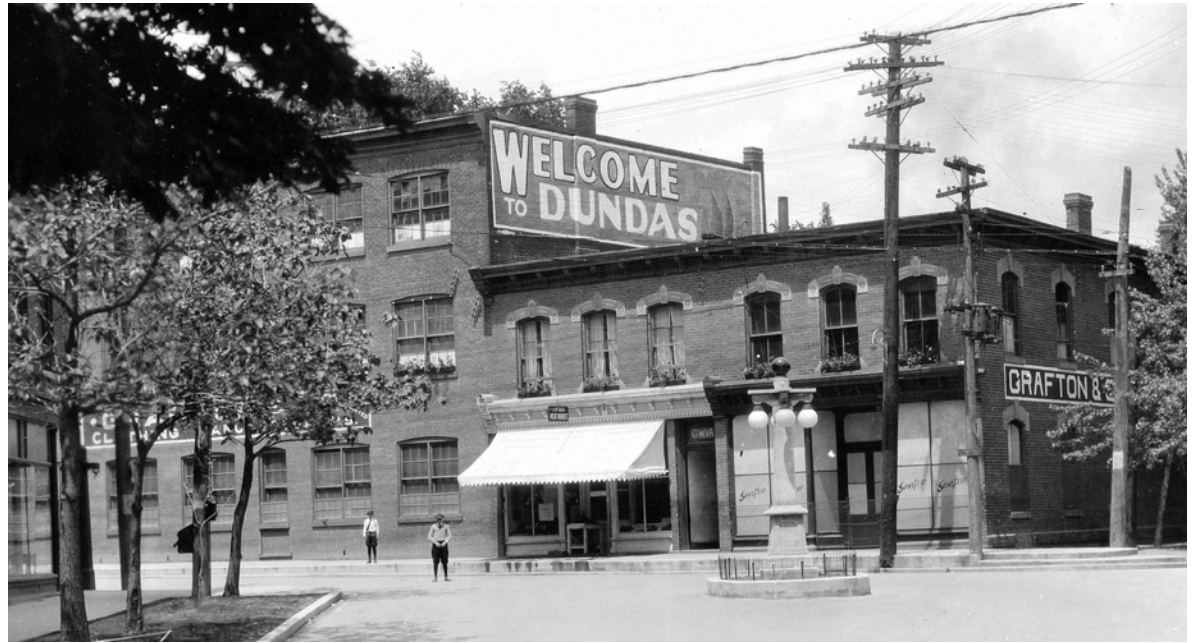


Photographer James Bertram. Near Borer's Falls, c. 1900-1920

WHAT DUNDAS MEANS TO ME



DUNDAS
MUSEUM &
ARCHIVES



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WELCOME TO DUNDAS

The sign painted on the side of the Grafton building from 1929 was a perfect entry point to the town and serves equally well to welcome you into the galleries of the Dundas Museum and Archives. As we celebrate the 175th anniversary of Dundas' incorporation, this community's welcoming spirit endures.

During this noteworthy anniversary year, we're asking folks to reflect on what Dundas means to them. Many have taken up this challenge and submitted wonderful stories, poems, and images on why this community holds a special place in their heart. I hope you'll consider submitting your own at dundas175.ca today.

For me, my Dundas journey began in 2009 when I first opened the doors to the original Museum for a visit ahead of my job interview for Collections Manager. As I nervously peered up the stairs towards the galleries, I was greeted by the warm, welcoming smile of our late volunteer Al Unwin. Despite being an "out of townner," I always felt welcome here from that point forward.

One of the first community events I attended in Dundas was the street festivities of Kraft Hockeyville celebrations. Just walking down the street towards the arena, the pride and excitement of the people was infectious! And although, throughout my time here, the town has existed as a community within a larger city, it is undeniable that it will always be "distinctly Dundas."

As we celebrate the 175th anniversary year, the Museum continues to be a welcoming place to gather, learn, and discover the objects and stories that make this place so unique. Thank you so much for your continued support, and I hope we will see you out to visit the Dundas 175 exhibition soon!

Kevin Puddister
Curator & General Manager



WELCOME, ERIN!

My name is Erin and I'm this year's Young Canada Works summer student! I just finished my first year at Dalhousie University. I major in history with a specialization in costume history. I'm still learning about museums and how they work, but there are some very cool projects planned for this summer! I'll be working in the collection, doing inventory and processing, as well as keeping up with the technical side of things. I'm super excited for this summer and am enjoying the job so far!

CONGRATULATIONS, MARLEY!

Marley Beach has been hired as our new Administration and Marketing Coordinator! Many of you know Marley from her four years working with the Dundas Museum in various capacities. She has a background in hospitality and administration, as well as a BA in history and anthropology. We are delighted to have her officially starting in her new position, and look forward to the energy and new ideas she brings to the role! Next time you're at the Museum be sure to stop by and say hello.



2022 SPRING EDITION MADE IN DUNDAS BOX



Thanks to the support of the Dundas community, we managed to spend over \$5,000 with local businesses, as well as raise \$1,500 for our award-winning education program!

Now that you've had a taste (literally or metaphorically), please continue to patronize these fabulous businesses throughout the year! And stay tuned for the next edition of our Made in Dundas Box, coming December 2022!

A special THANK YOU to all our vendors!

- The Old Bagel House
- The Cookie DOH Factory
- Pinbones Fish Market
- Beanermunky Chocolate
- French Revolution Bakery
- Mickey McGuire's Cheese
- Dundas Valley School of Art
- Carnegie Gallery
- Natural Bella
- Green Ash Decor
- Weirs Lane Lavender
- The Kitchen Witch



STAFF

Kevin Puddister
Curator & General Manager

Severine Craig
Collections Manager & Assistant General Manager

Kelsey Haas
Archivist

Marley Beach
Administrative & Marketing Coordinator

Anna Patterson
Education, Events & Volunteer Coordinator

Austin Strutt
Exhibitions Coordinator

Erin Pottruff
Collections Technician

Museum Attendants
Victoria Caravaggio
Richard Griffin
Kaya Ryszczak

ARCHIVES

THE FIRST STRIKE IN DUNDAS?



In June 1879, the *True Banner* reported a strike at the Dundas Cotton Mills Company. In the preceding weeks, at least 95 people from 18 families traveled from England to Dundas to work at the Cotton Mills, the company having advertised and paid their passage. However, after an initial warm welcome in Dundas, the immigrants soon found there was not enough work for them. Those who did work found the wages lower than expected. This inconsistency led the group, called the "Stockport Cotton Operatives," to strike in early June.

B.B. Osler (counsel for the Cotton Company) sent the *True Banner* a copy of the February 1879 requisition for workers sent to the Government Agent in England. He also sent the Cotton Company's formal proposal to the striking workers, as well as the workers' reply. The *True Banner* published all three on June 19th, 1879. The Company's position was that the workers were expecting more than what the requisition had offered. The copy provided to the newspaper specified that the Cotton Company was looking for hands to work in the Card Room and Weaving Room and would prefer those hands belong to young women. There was

the potential of work for younger children aged 11-13, provided they arrived with their families. The very end of the job ad reads: "if in order to procure the hands we require we would require to take men the heads of families, we would endeavor to find them suitable employment and in this direction would prefer, if possible, an experienced weaver overlooker." Most of the workers who arrived in Dundas expecting work at the Mill were indeed the male heads of families, who felt deceived.

The *True Banner* reported that on Friday, June 13th, the Town Council held a special meeting to determine how best to help these families who, by this time, were unable to afford food. They carried a motion to provide temporary support to the affected workers and to form a committee to investigate who was at fault for the workers' deception. If the committee found the Company to be at fault, they would be responsible for repaying the Town for supporting the workers. The *True Banner* does not publish updates on the strike past June 19th. However, Roy Woodhouse writes in his "Historical Dundas" column nearly 100 years later that, within a year, the Cotton Mill's business had improved and finally employed everyone who had immigrated.

Kelsey Hass
Archivist

COLLECTIONS

COLLECTING CRAZY QUILTS

Crazy quilts became popular in the late 1800's, identified by the irregular shapes and random fabric, pieced together with beautiful embroidery. The concept was highlighted at the 1876 Centennial Exposition in Philadelphia, during which a crazy quilt was located at the entrance to the Japanese Pavilion. The fad became so popular that silk manufacturers sold their scrap silk and even cigar and cigarette manufacturers put tobacco silks inside their packaging to be used for their customers' "crazy" creations.

The quilt below was created by a member of the Woodley family of Dundas, likely Mary Maria Woodley, who lived from 1864 to 1931. You can see the beautiful detail in the stitching as well as a few extra special patches added to the quilt.

Severine Craig

Collections Manager

& Assistant General Manager



2022.003.005

EXHIBITIONS

WHAT'S NEW AT THE MUSEUM?

In the Pirie House Gallery:

The Central Ontario Art Association returns to the Museum to exhibit their annual juried show, *Perspectives*, juried this year by the DVSA's Katherine MacDonald. Stop by to see a variety of styles and subjects!

On now! Until July 23rd

In the First Gallery:

The Community Curator case currently holds *A Family Tree in Glass*, prepared by George Liebold. It presents his family's collection of gorgeous pressed glass, and ties those items to his family's history and heritage in the Hamilton - Dundas region.

On now! Until Sept. 10th

In the Feature Gallery:

The DMA has worked with the **Dundas 175** organizing committee to collect memories from community groups, institutions and individuals. The results were combined into a collage of images, text, and artifacts to capture Dundas' spirit and legacy: *What Dundas Means to Me*.

On now! Until July 2nd

Q & A

with Exhibitions Coordinator

AUSTIN STRUTT

Q: *Why did you choose a collaborative approach, rather than a retrospective, to mark the town's 175th anniversary?*

A: For a few reasons, a collaborative approach seemed like the only way to go for this exhibit. The culture and community of Dundas is so rich, varied, and unique, that I couldn't possibly do justice to all its aspects in just one exhibit. Asking people to share their stories was a way of ensuring that the diverse experiences of the community would be reflected in ways I never could have thought of on my own. Nobody can summarize what makes Dundas so unique better than Dundasians themselves. Also, the Museum is always looking to collect Dundas stories, and all the submissions that come in for this show will be preserved in our archives. In this way the exhibit is not just looking back at the past, but also looking forward to the future.

This approach was inspired by the wonderful 1984 book, *What Dundas means to me* by Phyllis Kraemer and Anges Tassie, which features a collection of amazing images and quotes by Dundas residents. It's a precious time capsule of the year it was published, and my hope is that the submissions for this exhibit will serve as a similar record of Dundas in its 175th year.

Q: *What is your favourite part of the new exhibit?*

A: My favourite part of the exhibit are the wonderful quotes we received from people describing what Dundas means to them. We've had so many responses, and they are all so genuine, witty, and meaningful that it is impossible to pick a favourite. However, I will single out those submitted by a whole class of students from Dundas Central. Their teacher, Rob Bell, encouraged them to include drawings alongside their quotes and the resulting collage of artwork is just amazing! My favourite artifact on display is the massive Collins Hotel register book (1899-1900). It is filled with all the signatures of hotel guests, as well those visiting for functions, and full pages of local advertisements.

Q: *Have you included your own memories in this exhibit? If not, what does Dundas mean to you?*

A: I hope to include a quote for myself alongside quotes from the rest of the Museum staff, a bit later in the summer. I appreciate how daunting a question it is to answer! To me, Dundas is a magical sort of place, where the sense of community is so strong, and the shared memories so vivid, that the past can come to life in a fullness of detail that is exceptionally rare in the practice of local history. I can walk down King Street today and know exactly who owned what business in 1850. I know what building used to be a butcher shop, or a printer's press, and where the turn-of-the-century Travel Club met each week. Sometimes when I find a picture of a soldier from the old 77th Regiment, I can look through the Museum's collections and see his name listed on a dinner invitation to the Central Hotel, and then find his medals displayed at the Legion. If you dream of being a time traveler, then Dundas is about as close as it gets.

CELEBRATE THE COMMUNITY OF DUNDAS!

DUNDAS
175
1847 - 2022

What
Dundas
means
to me

A NEW EXHIBIT OF
DUNDAS TREASURES
VISIT AND SHARE
YOUR DUNDAS STORY!

MAY 28th - SEP 10th AT THE DUNDAS MUSEUM



EVENTS

A RECORD-BREAKING MADE IN DUNDAS FAMILY FESTIVAL!

More than **600** of you came out to enjoy the festivities during Made In Dundas - a record for this event, and any event in the Museum's history! We hope everyone had as much fun as we did. Thank you again to our amazing volunteers, who were involved in planning, set up and take down, as well as the event itself. Thank you also to our sponsors, guests and vendors, who made such a fabulous, fun day possible.

We can't wait to do it again next year, and hope to see you there!



COMING SOON:

WEAVING 101 with EMMA ENRIGHT

Date: Saturday, July 9th

Time: 10am - 12pm

Price: \$50/person



This workshop will allow the opportunity to learn a new skill, develop techniques like warping the loom, developing tassels, and incorporating unique materials within a design concept. After this class, participants will be able to develop and take home a small textile weaving that they have created. Recommended for ages 10 and up.

Spaces are extremely limited- email to reserve yours today!
marley@dundasmuseum.ca

NEW ART EXHIBITION: HEARTH with Holly Fedida and Paula McLean

Opening July 27th in the Education Centre Gallery

Holly Fedida: Invested in the intimacies of observation and the objects we hold close, Fedida uses painting and drawing to imagine different possibilities for the still-life genre, creating pictures in which objects can become active protagonists.

Paula McLean: Her work explores the way the mind creates meaning through the representation and constant re-arrangement of abstract forms derived from distorted scans.



@h_fedida

@pa__ula

Hoping to travel, but not sure where?



The Irish Grandeur Tour Includes:

- Roundtrip airfare
- 10 nights on the Emerald Isle
- Admission to all museums and stops, including the Guinness Storehouse, the Jameson Whiskey Distillery, Belfast Titanic Museum, Killarney National Park, the Giant's Causeway, and more.
- An experienced guide from Royal Irish Tours with you every step of the way!

Join our upcoming webinar with
Turnkey Travel & Royal Irish Tours!

Wednesday, June 29th
7 pm

To register for the webinar, email
jennifer@turnkeytravel.ca

A portion of proceeds from each ticket sold will go towards supporting the Dundas Museum!

**H.G. Bertram
FOUNDATION**

The DMA is grateful for the support of our
FRIENDS of the MUSEUM
as well as these major contributors:



Do you have an idea for a Community Curator exhibit?

Past examples include:

- *Finding Hazel: A project on the 1918 pandemic in Dundas with Rob Bell's Grade 5/6 class from Dundas Central.*
- *Kaga & Dundas: The history of the twin cities, and a display of Hinamatsuri Dolls.*
- *Dundas Hockeyville: Paul Robb's collection of artifacts, images and video from the 2010 Dundas Hockeyville Campaign (Below).*



To apply, please email an exhibit proposal to
Exhibition Coordinator Austin Strutt, austin@dundasmuseum.ca

NEW EXHIBITION

COAA 2022



MAY 17 - JULY 23 2022

A JURIED EXHIBITION OF ARTWORK FROM
THE CENTRAL ONTARIO ART ASSOCIATION



**DUNDAS
MUSEUM &
ARCHIVES**

VISIT THE DMA

Tuesday: 10:00 am 4:30 pm
Wednesday: 10:00 am 4:30 pm
Thursday: 10:00 am 8:00 pm
Friday: 10:00 am 4:30 pm
Saturday: 1:00 pm 4:00 pm
Sunday: Closed
Monday: Closed

CONTACT

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Dundas, L9H 1X8

905.627.7412

✉ mail@dundasmuseum.ca

🌐 dundasmuseum.ca

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