

Merrickville and District Historical Society

Archival Update, Summer 2013



Just a couple of items that we have in the archives that I thought might be of some interest to you. The first three are shoes which I might add don't look too comfortable, but at least they did have something on their feet. And the other two are work tools. All of the descriptions are from the original archive registration files.

Small boot, leather, brown

A small leather boot for a child. There are 14 lace holes and the lace ends are capped with metal (one is missing). The toe is reinforced with a small piece of leather with floral imprints along its edges. The sole is nailed on with tiny nails – their heads being visible. The boot would just cover the child's ankle.

Measurements Length – 15.5 cm, Width – 6 cm, Height 12.2 cm.



English Clog

worn in London England in 1904. Made of clog, metal, nails and leather

An old leather brown clog with a thick wooden base with nails and pieces on the heel and upper sole. The simple design is secured with two metal pieces and fit together, one with a clasp and the other with three slots. On the side of the wooden sole there is writing in pencil that reads "English Clog, worn in ...In London England 1904". Where it indicates an area, that is illegible.

Measurements, Length – 21.5 cm, Width - 7 cm, Height – 10.5 cm



Tap Shoes

Tap Shoes – Finnigan, Glasgow, green ties, leather, and size six.

A pair of brown leather tap shoes with green corduroy ties that loop through metal enforced holes. They appear to be about a size 6 women's judging from the width. On the bottom of both sides of the shoes there is an imprint saying "Finnigan Glasgow". A wooden heel is topped with a flat piece of what appears to be brass to tap.

Measurements, Length – 23.2 cm, Width – 7.8 cm Height - non registered.



Shingle Shaper.

Made entirely of metal, bevelled blade for shaping handle on one end, spike at the other end. Does anyone have any idea just how this works?

Measurements – Length – 38 cm, Height 15.5 cm



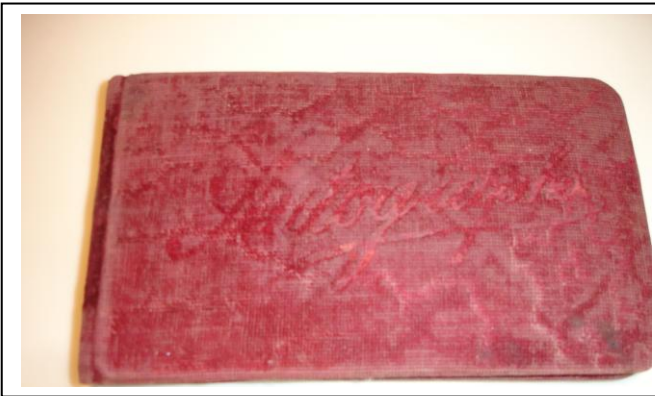
Stone/Brick Work Tool

A tool used presumably for bricklaying or stone masonry. It has a wooden handle and a rectangular base with a raised edge on the bottom running parallel with the longest sides. This is the edge used probably with the mortar between bricks and stones.

Length - 24.2 cm, Width - 4.8 cm, Height - 8.2 cm



Recently we were fortunate to acquire a few items from the estate of the late Alice Hughes, courtesy of her daughter Nancy Dulmage. Most of the documentation is being sorted and digitized by Mary Kate Laphen at the Merrickville Library but the society did get their hands on a few pieces ahead of Mary Kate handing over any duplicate material to the Archives. One of those items was a beautiful Autograph book belonging to a Miss Mabel Clara Burchill. She was born in 1882 and died at the age of 32 on October 8th 1919. It is a wonderful little book, it is red, and cloth bound and has 30 pages, a number of which are loose as the binding has deteriorated. It has some lovely quotes from family and friends and I will list just a few as the writing in most cases has faded and would not photograph very well.



January 10, 1900, To Mabel.
If you ever get a husband. And he is a clipper. Just make him acquainted. With the toe of your slipper.
Your friend, Edith Burchill, Montague

Jan 7th 1900
The older the tree. The harder the Bark. The older the girl. The harder to spark. Your Uncle Tommy.
Merrickville, Mar 1, 1899.

When the Golden sun is setting. And your mind from care is free. When of others you are thinking. Will you sometimes think of me. Howard Wylie

Wolford Jan 7th 1902
When we are old we'll smile and say. We had no care in younger days. But twill be false twill not be true. I've this much care I care for you.
Thomas Maloney, Rolla N. Dakota

Merrickville Ont. August 5th 1900.
May you have a pleasant trip. In your little bark canoe. Sailing down the river. With just room enough for two.
From a friend. Alberta Holliston.

Oct 19 1904 Dear Mabel
Remember me. Whenever you see. A lot of old maids. At the quilting – bee
Ethel Lillian Bigford, Merrickvile, Ont.

In response to my request for filing cabinets, I am pleased to say that our member, Bill Stevens has kindly donated a three drawer lateral cabinet, complete with hanging file folders. This took a little manoeuvring around as it was rather heavy and had to be taken into the archive room down and around some stairs, but where there's a will as they say. Also I did say that I would be scouring the village sidewalk sale held back in May, and lo and behold I acquired a bookcase. These two new acquisitions have now allowed for the filing of many documents (still in need of labelling) and display of books to create a small but interesting library.