



# NEWS FROM THE CATHEDRAL Archives & Museum

THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF ST. JAMES • TORONTO, ONTARIO • WINTER 2006

## Exhibit now showing: "Early Years, the Birth of Public Education in Ontario"



*Jarvis Collegiate Institute – then and now. Pen and ink drawing by W.J. Thompson, circa 1888, courtesy Toronto Public Library, JRR 2811, Repro T12294*

THE exhibit on the birth of public education in Ontario now showing in the Archives and Museum was opened February 9, 2006 by The Honourable James Bartleman, Lieutenant Governor of Ontario, and Okill Stuart, descendent of the first principal.

Jarvis Collegiate Institute opened on June 1, 1807 in the home of the Rev. George Okill Stuart, then-Rector of this Church. The Cathedral's Archives and Museum Committee in concert with the Bicentennial Planning Committee and staff of Jarvis Collegiate Institute planned this exhibit as a kick-off to a year of celebrations marking the 200th anniversary of Jarvis Collegiate. It is Toronto's oldest school and was the first to receive public funding.

Set in a background that embraces hostilities between the imperialistic powers of Britain and France over the North American colonies, the exhibit starts in the period just prior to the American Revolution. It focuses on particular people involved, and follows the movement of those loyal to the Crown to Upper Canada. The Rev. John Stuart, father of George Okill, has been described as being the Father of the Anglican Church in Upper Canada. This exhibit looks at him also as the Father of Education: he opened the first school in the province at Kingston in 1785 with funding received from the Governor of Quebec. He succeeded in obtaining additional funding for secondary education from Simcoe after the latter's installation as Lieutenant Governor in 1792.

Attention turns to the founding of the Town of York in 1793, early attempts to provide schooling here, and the eventual passage of the *Public School Act* of 1807. The Act called for the opening of grammar schools in each of the eight districts in the province. The school now known as Jarvis Collegiate opened as the Home District Grammar School for York.

### Lieutenant Governor of Ontario at opening ceremonies

The Hon. James K. Bartleman was sworn in on March 7, 2002 as the 27th Lieutenant Governor of Ontario, following his retirement after 35 years in Canada's Foreign Service.



Mr. Bartleman served most recently as Canadian Ambassador to the European Union. He was previously High Commissioner to South Africa and Australia, Ambassador to Cuba, Israel and NATO, as well as Assistant Secretary to the Federal Cabinet and Foreign Policy Advisor to the Prime Minister.

Born in Orillia, he grew up in Port Carling, a member of the Mnjikaning First Nation. During his time in office, His Honour has been pursuing

three priorities: reducing the stigma of mental illness, supporting anti-racism initiatives, and encouraging Aboriginal young people.

His Honour holds six honorary degrees and is the recipient of a number of honours and awards, including the National Aboriginal Achievement Award for Public Service in 1999 and the Phi Delta Kappa

Educator of the Year Award in 2004. The Lieutenant Governor is the author of three best-selling books. His first, *Out of Muskoka*, won the Ontario Historical Society's Joseph Brant Award in 2003. His Honour donates all book royalties to the causes he is promoting as Lieutenant Governor. □

## Thank you!

### WE ACKNOWLEDGE THE CONTRIBUTIONS THAT HAVE MADE THIS EXHIBIT POSSIBLE

The Royal Ontario Museum  
The Toronto District School Board Sesquicentennial Museum  
Dominion Store, Market Square  
The Toronto Catholic District School Board Archives  
The City of Toronto Museums and Heritage Services, Culture Division  
The City of Toronto, Culture Division, Market Gallery  
The Anglican Church of Canada, General Synod Archives  
The Anglican Diocese of Toronto Archives  
The Ontario Institute for Studies in Education Library, University of Toronto  
St. George's Cathedral, Kingston  
Upper Canada College  
Kingston Collegiate and Vocational School  
Cornwall Collegiate and Vocational School  
Jarvis Collegiate Institute  
Archives of the City of Aberdeen, Scotland  
Exeter Grammar School Old Boys, Exeter, England  
University of Trinity College Archives  
The Anglican Diocese of Ontario Archives  
Queen's University Archives  
Rogers Communications Inc.  
... many individuals too numerous to list!

The exhibit follows the school's story in the context of Toronto's development through the 19th century to 1924, when the school moved to its present location at the southeast corner of Jarvis and Wellesley Streets.

The involvement of St. James' Cathedral in the growth of the school was to continue for many years. The second principal was the Rev. John Strachan, the first Board was composed entirely of parishioners, and our first Dean, the Rev. Henry James Grasett, served as Chair of the Board for close to 40 years until his death in office in 1882.

The exhibit will be open from 1– 4 pm every Sunday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday from February 12 to March 23, 2006. It will remain in place until June, 2006 to enable organized groups and schools to visit by appointment. Call Nancy Mallett at 416-364-7865, Ex. 233. For information about Jarvis Collegiate Institute's Bicentennial Celebrations, visit [www.jarvis2007.com](http://www.jarvis2007.com)

## Welcome!

### THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF ST JAMES

#### Archives & Museum



65 Church Street,  
Toronto, Ontario,  
Canada, M5C 2E9

The Archives & Museum is located on the 2nd floor of the Parish House at the southeast corner of Adelaide Street East & Church Street.

Phone: 416-364-7865 ext 233  
Nancy Mallett, Archivist & Curator

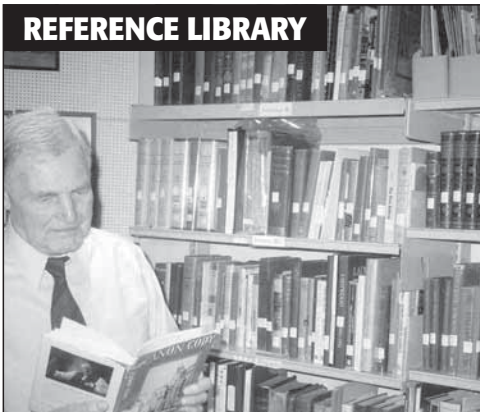
[www.stjamescathedral.on.ca](http://www.stjamescathedral.on.ca)

## RESEARCH



*Our archival collection dates back to the beginning of the 19th century. It not only tells the story of the Cathedral, but also of its parish in Toronto's Old Town. Researchers are welcome to make use of our reference library and the growing biographical files of parishioners from the earliest days of the city. We are delighted to hear from more and more descendants of those parishioners who want to share materials they have collected with us to be available for future generations.*

## REFERENCE LIBRARY



*The Cathedral Archives & Museum Reference Library presently holds 686 books on church architecture, church history, biography, early history of Toronto, Bibles, Prayer Books and Hymnaries.*

## Sixth Annual Crèche Exhibit a hit

Our Sixth Annual Crèche Exhibit drew large crowds from across the Toronto region and beyond. All ages enjoy the Crèche Exhibit. In the Visitors' Books, a child wrote, "I love it here" while another wrote, "The scavenger hunt was amazing!" Entries from adults included, "Simply stunning, eclectic and warmly human too", "My third visit this year!" and "A global thing in such a small room!" That small room welcomed 130 visitors during one day alone, and was open for a total of 24 days through December!



## Number of tour groups is increasing

We are noticing a major increase in the number of groups requesting special tours of the Cathedral and exhibits in the Archives and Museum, and extensions of those tours into the larger community.

We organized a full day's trip to several churches in Toronto's downtown to study icons with a recent request from Holy Trinity Church in Ajax who had remembered our icon exhibit. A similar tour has been requested by a church in Parkdale. We led a tour for delegates to an international conference held at St. Michael's and Trinity Colleges on the Pilgrimage to Santiago de Compostela after our exhibit on the Pilgrimage in 2004, and were pleased to welcome the Advent Group from St. Martin-in-the-Fields Church in West Toronto for an evening visit to our recent Crèche Exhibit just before Christmas.

We hope many secondary schools plan to visit our newest exhibit, "Early Days, the Birth of Public Education in Ontario", which can be combined with a tour of the Cathedral. We can prepare tea as part of the visit for those who may be interested. A small fee is charged as a way of alleviating some of the expenses.

**Regular tours offered for schools include:**

**GRADE 4, MEDIEVAL STUDIES:** A slide presentation introduces what life would be like for a child growing up in Europe during the medieval period. Students are asked to imagine being taken to the market in the town, and while there, taken into the adjacent Cathedral for the first time.

A guided tour of the present-day Cathedral stimulates imagining being such a child in medieval times. Students sit quietly for a few minutes before being encouraged to share their feelings as they entered, and how these feelings were invoked. We look at details such as the corbels, bosses, lectern, and arches, and discuss how they are the same or different from actual medieval churches shown in the slides, and then walk around for a closer look. Stories are shared about some of the things seen, such as the windows on the Slave Market in Rome, Caedmon reciting poetry at Whitby Abbey, the various crafts guilds involved in the rebuilding of the churches after the Viking invasion, and the signing of the Magna Carta.

We note the many animals found in the sculptures and stained glass, discussing the symbolism and why they might be in a particular location. The tour generally ends with children pretending that they are masons during the medieval period visiting to get ideas for a new cathedral that they have been asked to build. As masons did in those times, they make sketches of particular items they

## TOURS



want to remember. Such a program lasts for about two hours and is a good starting point for a visit to the ROM.

**GRADE 7 & 8 HISTORY:** Students of Canadian history pay particular attention to memorial plaques found on the walls of the Cathedral that trace the history of this province and country from the time of the American Revolution up to the Second World War. There are many related stories. We are developing stories on particular pews and who sat in them over the years. Students are interested in the letter of appreciation from the Japanese Community who found sanctuary in the Cathedral during World War II, and the symbol shown in the Memorial window of the Royal Regiment of Canada showing that Japan was an ally during World War I. The stone on the porch in memory of John Ridout – killed in what was regarded as the last duel in this city – is interesting, and particularly relevant today. Ridout served as a midshipman during the War of 1812 when he was just 12 years old! Such tours at this grade level can be extended out into the surrounding community,

**GRADE 11 WORLD RELIGIONS:** Programming usually involves a tour of the Cathedral followed by a meeting with the clergy for questions dealing with whatever is of concern and interest to the class.

**ART AND ARCHITECTURE.** Classes at all levels are welcome from elementary through university.

Arrangements can be made for lunches brought from home to be eaten in the Parish House or surrounding St. James' Park. Secondary School Students usually prefer to go to nearby St. Lawrence Market or one of the many restaurants in the area.

