Our Goal

Is to serve as a communicator for researching and tracing the families of the Eastern Townships of Quebec. Thank you for your interest in our newsletter.

The ETQC e-letter is published twice a year to inform our readers of sources that are available for research in the Eastern Townships.

It is hoped to help our readers to be more aware of the collections that are already published or will be published in the near future.

Your feedback is appreciated so we know if we can make a difference in the search for your Eastern Township Ancestors.

Different families will be featured from different counties and when possible a picture will be included in the ETQC e-letter.

Laverne Aitchison – laverne “at” treereacher.ca

(Please change the “at” to @ when sending e-mail)

Historical Sketch of the Eastern Townships:

Source: Men of Today in the Eastern Townships
http://archive.org/stream/menoftodayineast00morruoft#page/n0/mode/2up

The settlement of the Eastern Townships may properly be divided into four periods.

- Immigration from the New England States, beginning about 1793, though a few families came before that date, and continuing on from some twenty years.
- Immigration from the Old Country by way of Quebec, beginning in 1814, following the Peninsular War and the first overthrow of Napoleon.
- British Immigration in the 1830’s, largely from Scotland, promoted by the British American Land Company and other organizations.
- The gradual influx of French-Canadians from the parishes bordering on the townships and from other parts of the Province.

The real pioneers were the hardy men and women who came from the New England States. They penetrated an unknown and trackless wilderness, abounding in wild animals, and inhabited by Indians more or less friendly. Some came through a desire to live again under the British flag but the great portion were attracted by the free lands available. The pioneers from the south settled in the border counties now known as Missisquoi, Brome, Stanstead and Compton.

The British settlement phase in the Eastern Townships spanned from 1820 to 1850 and consisted of those escaping the Napoleonic Wars, an economic recession in England, overcrowding in Scotland, and a potato blight in Ireland. The British American Land Company (BALC) played a significant role in attracting British citizens to the region by publishing settlement pamphlets that boasted of the great lifestyle of the Eastern Townships. They did this because they wanted to ensure that the area would be English and loyal to Britain, instead of French or American.

The final phase of settlement in the Eastern Townships was that of the French Canadians during the 1850’s, which is sometimes referred to as the “French Invasion.” Due to overcrowded seigniorial lands in the rest of Quebec, many French Canadians migrated south to the northern Eastern Townships of Drummond, Arthabaska, and Megantic first as summer farm labourers and later as colonists.
Compton County, QC
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Compton_County,_Quebec

Compton County is an historical county in southeastern Quebec, Canada on the western flanks of the Appalachian Mountains on the US-Canadian border. It is in the Estrie (Eastern Townships) region of the province and was named in 1793 after a town in Surrey, England by British officers who were convinced of the agricultural potential of the area. The county seat is Cookshire, Mount Megantic (altitude 1111 m) has an observatory operated by the Université de Montréal at its peak, which is accessible only from an adjacent county. In the early 1980s the County was dissolved, most of it becoming part of the MRC de Le Haut-Saint-François except for the southern portion which went to MRC de Cooticook.

Source: ETRC – Bishop’s University (Fonds)
http://www.etrc.ca/fonds/p094-aeneas-mcmaster-fonds.html

The fonds contains source material mainly on railway development and settlement in Clinton, Hampden, Ditton, and Marston townships in Compton County from 1876 to 1888 and on the role of the Glasgow Canadian Land and Trust Company, managed at the time by Aeneas McMaster. The fonds consists of letters sent to McMaster from 1873 to 1888 by businessmen and shopkeepers, municipal councillors or mayors, employees of the Glasgow Canadian Land and Trust Company, men in search of work, and settlers; letters signed by McMaster; and a few other documents. The fonds are comprised of the following series: Railway Companies (1876-1888), Settlement (1873-1876), Municipal Affairs (1876-1881), Miscellaneous Documents (1875-1881) and Correspondence (1876-1882).

(Author note: Previously known as the McMaster Papers.)

P094 - Aeneas McMaster fonds. - 1873-1888. –
Aeneas McMaster married Elisabeth MacIndoe on 4 July 1854 in Barony, Lanark, Scotland and emigrated to Canada in 1874. In 1875, Aeneas McMaster was appointed Director of the Glasgow Canadian Land and Trust Company, a private settlement and forest development company operating in Clinton, Hampden, Ditton, and Marston townships in Compton County, among other places. In 1876, McMaster was Mayor of the Municipality of Hampden, which had been formed in 1874 and was comprised of Hampden Township and the town of Scotstown. The same year, he became a member of the board of directors of the Compton County Agricultural Society No. 2.

BOOK - History of Compton County and Sketches of the Eastern Townships, District of St. Francis, and Sherbrooke County [Quebec]
Compiled by L.S. Channell
Originally published by L.S Channell, Cookshire, 1896
This edition published by Global Heritage Press, Milton 1999 (CD 2009)

After more than 100 years, this book is still considered an essential resource for those with an interest in the early settlement history of Compton County, and its founding families. Filled to the brim with biographical sketches, firsthand accounts, and historical records from a wide array of primary and secondary sources, The History of Compton County will continue to delight readers and researchers for centuries to come.

Hardcover…..$49.95 (Canadian Dollars) or Book on CD ……..$19.95 (Canadian Dollars)

**Does not include shipping and handling for either product**
I was born the year Ida died. I would have liked to have known her as we all have dreams of the dead and I think this is a gift from Ida. She said she could feel the pain of her twin sister Ada.

Ida read tea leaves for 25 cents and she was good at it as she could read the people. Although she could not see the road from her house she could tell if someone was walking up the path. Ida would rock in her chair and smoke a pipe which scared my sister Elizabeth. Ida took care of her grandsons and made them go to school. She would take in family members to live in her home. The day her grandson Campbell died she looked up to the sky and said “One of my grandsons is not coming back from the war; and she was right. Campbell Riddle died on Nov 24, 1943 in Ortona, Italy.

Campbell and Walter, his brother, was in another part of the battle. Their brother Ken heard Campbell calling him for help. He ran towards the voice and then behind him there was a loud blast where he had been standing. It was when he got back that he realized Campbell was dead but he had saved him. Another time Walter heard Campbell calling him and he followed his voice which saved his life again by moving from that spot.

The four brothers, James, Walter, Kenneth and Campbell Riddle, followed their grandfather, James Harold Riddle’s footsteps in the war. James H. Riddle was in the Fenian Raids at Eccles Hills in Quebec. He was a sharpshooter and won many medals for his good work.

Contact:
Bonnie Riddle  bonnieriddle@videotron.ca
Barbara Riddle  5671bj@videotron.ca
Dear Laverne,

I wrote Pennie Redmile asking her for suggestions on who I might be able to help me with some old photos that were found in an album of a Bell/Booth ancestor, and she suggested I write you. I know you also do newsletters about the Eastern Townships.

I have quite a few photos some taken at the Waterloo Photo room, some at Wheeler Photo in Richfort, and a couple in Cowansville.

Here's one of a Dora Wallen of Granby. Do you know if there's a family there with that last name or any information. I may not be reading the Wallen right as it is written a certain way. The picture on the right is James Alonzo Kennedy of North Shefford. It was clearly marked with his name and I know there are lots of Kennedy's in Granby. I believe Alonzo's mother is Elizabeth Bell, sister to my 2ggrandfather Horatio.

I have a lot more pictures that aren't identified as of yet.

About the picture I sent you of the little girl. Turns out her last name must be Mullin and not Wallin. It was hard making out the first letter and I automatically thought it was a W. I looked in ancestry and found this 1881 census of Mullins in Granby.

1881 Granby Census
Mullin, John age 31 Irish Catholic Occupation: Merchant
Mullin, Mary age 25 Irish Catholic
Mullin, Dorothy age 2
Mullin, Joseph age 6 mos
Mary Ann McGill

I wonder if she was called Dora when she was small and this is her. There was another census where she is called Helene Dorothy. Thanks for the info on William being a brother to Sarah. A cousin and I remember doing the Latimers that we do have but no siblings’ just spouses.

"James Alonzo Kennedy is the son of Robert Kennedy and his 2nd wife Elizabeth Bell. His 1st wife is Fanny Mary Ashton with 4 children and 4 children with Mary Elizabeth. I believe Robert is the son of John Kennedy b. 1776 and Ellen Rae from Granby. They are buried at Pinewood Cemetery."

The 4th child I have for Robert and Elizabeth Kennedy is Samuel Horatio Kennedy b. Oct 29, 1859 no death date and buried at North Shefford, 8th Range of Shefford Township. I have his wife listed only with initials M.E. and one child for them Evelyn Florence Kennedy b. June 1898 d. April 10, 1899 also at North Shefford Cemetery.

A few months ago a descendant of Robert and Fannie Ashton and I communicated and I did give him the picture of James Alonzo and he in turn sent me a picture of 4 of the children of Ellen Kennedy b. Jul 1842 married to John Talbot, she's the dau of Robert and Fannie.

I was glancing over the newsletter and there's a lot of good information in there. A lot to learn about the different towns. I love the covered bridge and photos. I was doing a little digging into covered bridges when I learned my ggrandfather John Bell was an architect and covered bridge builder in Vermont and Canada. I went as far as getting a hold of the President of Covered Bridges in Canada.
Later I would like to find out more about the Latty and Byrnes family. I think they lived in Granby. I only have about three of the Byrnes. Eleanor married to James Latty b 1800 and their dau Eliza Jane Latty b. Feb 1839 and Thomas Byrnes m. Eliza with son Johnston William Byrnes b. Dec 1831. There is a Mary Bynes my 3ggrandmother b. 1793 d. 1870 who married Richard Booth b. 1780 d. 1871. They were living in Granby with their son William. Though there's a death certificate for both they have never been found in any of the cemeteries.

Here is a couple more pictures at least one is labeled and the other is unknown taken in Cowansville at J. Jackson photography. I sent the one from Cowansville to Mr. Racicot who runs the historical center but he could only send me something on J. Jackson but not the lady in the picture. These pictures were taken from a Bell/Booth album so its' possible some are relatives or friends.

The photo on the right is Ida L. Farley of Arthabaska taken in Danville. Ida’s middle name is Louise. I believe her parents are Clarinda Ketzback and William Farley. It is not her that is buried in the St. John's Anglican cemetery.

On Thu, Dec 24, 2009 at 12:44 AM, Paul and Ethel paulethel.dessert@comcast.net wrote:

I started researching Bessy Booth's family again recently when I found her parent's James H. Booth and Mary Ramsay living in Hampden MA with Bessy's four other siblings in the 1880 census. It included four brothers Leroy 23, Frederick W. 20, Albert 17, and Levi 13, most working at a cotton mill, and two granddaughters of James and Mary who are Minnie 11 and Sarah 9. Still not clear to me who the parents are of Minnie and Sarah. Bessy has a sister. I'm curious about Eliza Booth b. Sept 1853 no husband with an illegitimate daughter Susan Isabelle b. April 29, 1871 bap Aug 11 1871 in Waterloo. I guess it needs more researching for answers. A few of the names I wish I had more information from Granby are James Latty, b. 1800 m. Eleanor Byrnes, (sister to my 3 ggrandmother,) some Kennedy's m. Bell's, Neil's married to Booths, and so forth. Ethel

ENNIS  Pamela Cosgrove  25 Jan 2012
Source:  http://genforum.genealogy.com/cgi-bin/pageload.cgi?Ennis,Quebec::ennis::1631.html

My grandmother, Edna Winifred Ennis, was born in Chicago 21 May 1891/1892 and married my grandfather, Herbert A. Anderson in Chicago in 1913. Grandpa took grandma back to White Cloud, Mi. where they lived the remainder of their lives. We were always told that grandma's side of the family was French Canadian. According to her death certificate her father was William Ennis born in Canada and mother unknown. Her mother died when Edna was young. I found a Mary Isabel Ennis that died in Chicago on the 13th of January 1897 at St. Luke's Hospital and buried in Oakwood's Cemetery. I also found a birth of a daughter to Mary Isabel Barrett and William Ennis in Chicago on the 21 May 1891. I believe they are my grandma's parents. One of my cousin's traced William Ennis to the Anderdon Reservation in Canada. I believe William was born in Montreal, Quebec. One census states he immigrated to the U.S. in 1882. In 1920, I found William living with his sister, Emily. He never remarried and moved around after my grt-grandma died. One of my aunts remembers staying with her grandpa (William) when he lived in a boarding house. She also said his occupation was a lather which matches the census. The William I found died 17 Feb 1931 in Cook Co., Ill. His occupation was a lather and last known address was living in a boarding home. I'm looking for information on Ennis families from Montreal, Canada. William was born about 1858. If Mary Isabel Barrett is my grandma's mother, she may have been born in New York or Canada.
TOWNSHIPPERS’ DAY

– Scheduled for Saturday, September 15, 2012 – also provides an opportunity to get to know the host town that helps to organize the big day. This year, for the first time ever, T-Day will take place in the historical town of Farnham!


THE STORY OF WEST SHEFFORD
The Story of West Shefford (ID 23)
Winona Lawrence Matthews
Price: $30.00 plus s/h $5.00

BROME COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY
Established in 1897 we offer a museum and archives.

Arlene Royea, Managing Director
Brome County Historical Society
130 Lakeside, Knowlton, QC
J0E 1V0
450-243-6782
bchs@endirect.qc.ca
http://www.bromemuseum.com/

Monday, December 12, 2011 4:52 PM
Subject: Re: CEMETERY PUBLICATIONS

My name is Brenda Wilson Birch. I am an amateur family researcher & I’ve been compiling books of all the cemeteries in Missisquoi & Brome County, Quebec, Canada. I’ve completed 6 books that include all of the cemeteries in St. Armand, Twp, Frelighsburg Twp, Dunham Twp, (book 1 & 2 ) & Stanbridge Twp. (book 1 & 2). I’m also completed my 1st. book in the Brome County series that includes the Protestant & Catholic Cemeteries in Knowlton, QC. Each book has clear plastic front & back covers, a map of the particular Twp. or County & the family names are listed in alphabetical order. I’ve included many names & dates not found in other cemetery lists that I have extracted from original church records. Have also included found maiden names, parents names, complete dates & some marriage dates. My books can be purchased through me, the Stanbridge East Historical Society, the Brome County Historical Society or the Quebec Family History Society in Montreal, QC. The prices range in price from $25.00 to $30.00 each plus a fee of $8.00 for shipping. These books would make great gifts & be very helpful tools in building the families of Missisquoi & Brome County, Quebec.

My format is sort of similar to Kathy Brock’s books though mine are standard letter size & printed in the landscape setting. (Kathy & I have met in person some years ago & she used a photo I took for her on one of her books)
My cemetery books are quite easy for me to put together since I was born in Knowlton, Brome Co, & came to live in Frelighsburg, Missisquoi Co. later in my life. I'm very familiar with the family names that I find in the cemeteries & church records.
I firmly believe my books would be a great working tool for anyone that is researching their ancestors & families. In the event of those that purchase a book & might one day visit the area the map on the back inside covers would be very useful in their search.
Your publication has been extremely interesting & informative; I look forward to each publication.
Thank you for responding to my e-mail & your interest in adding my books to your list of publications.

Brenda. My home e-mail is: brenda.w@sympatico.ca

Brenda Wilson Birch
Frelighsburg, QC
It was not realized at the time but the conflict with the United States was the first step toward the ultimate union of the provinces of British North America. The war had, in effect, forced the provinces to co-operate with one another in the urgent matter of defence.

As the Canadian historian, Arthur Lower, says: "It therefore does not seem too far out to say that the War of 1812 is one of the massive foundation stones of modern Canada".

Read more:

**TODAY, HERITAGE MINISTER JAMES MOORE SAYS:**
"The War of 1812 was a defining moment in Canada's history and had the English and French militias and Aboriginal Canadians not worked together with British military forces, the American invasions would not have successfully been repelled.

"Without the War of 1812, Canada as we know it would not exist"
Genealogy blogs

Why Read a Genealogy Blog?
A blog, short for "web log" is basically an easy way to post new information online quickly, in an easy to read format. When a new article or tip is posted, it is sent automatically to anyone who has subscribed to the blog. By subscribing to one or more genealogy blogs you can easily keep up with the latest techniques, tips and databases from the leaders in the genealogy field with a very small time investment. Genealogy blogs are also a great source for locating genealogical data, enlightening discussions and much more.

Keep up with what is new in genealogical research!
These blogs are written by some of the most capable genealogists.

**Genealogy Blog Finder** blogfinder.genealogue.com/
A directory and search engine for genealogy blogs on the Web.

**Community Heritage and Family History** - Calgary Public Library
**Brenda Dougall Merriman**
**CanadaGenealogy, or, 'Jane's Your Aunt'** - M. Diane Rogers
**Olive Tree Genealogy Blog** – Lorine McGinnis Schulze
**Prairie History Blog** – Regina Public Library
**The AncestrySearch Insider** – Dealing with Ancestry and FamilySearch
**Anglo-Celtic Connections** – John D. Reid
**Eastman's Online Genealogy Newsletter** - Dick Eastman
**Genealogy Canada** – Elizabeth Lapointe
**Ancestral Notes** – EJ Bradt
**Janet the Researcher** – Janet Iles
**Genealogy blog** – Leland Meitzler

**Think Genealogy** – Mark Tucker
**Steve’s Genealogy Blog** – Stephen Danko
**Dear Myrtie** – Pat Richley-Erickson
**GeneaBloggers** – Thomas MacEntee
**Librarians Helping Canadian Genealogists**
**Climb Family Trees** – Elise C. Cole
**Ancestry.com blog** – Hosted by Ancestry
**Kimberly's genealogy blog** – Kimberly Powell
**Genetic Genealogist** – Blaine Bettinger
**Shades of the Departed** – online genealogy magazine
**Geneamusings** – Randy Seaver

**Family Tree Magazine's 40 Best Genealogy Blogs**

**Cyndi’s List - Blogs for Genealogy**
www.cyndislist.com/blogs/
Cyndi’s List of Genealogy Sites on the Internet. Follow Cyndi; |
About Cyndi; | FAQs. Google. Custom Search. HOME - CATEGORIES ... Blogs for Genealogy ...

**Genealogy Blog - GeneaNet**
genealogyblog.geneanet.org/
GeneaNet, The Free Collaborative Genealogy Database
**Search Genealogy Records** www.genealogybank.com/
Millions of newspaper articles, obituaries and government document
PUBLICATIONS

We have included a listing of available books for sale. For ordering purposes, a contact has been provided next to the publisher’s name. Please be sure to ask about shipping and handling. The editor of this newsletter is not responsible for orders.

NEIL BROADHURST - AUTHOR  broadhurst@shaw.ca
Protestant Marriages of the District of Bedford, QC 1804-1879

KATHLEEN BROCK - AUTHOR  www.qths.ca
Protestant Births & Baptisms, Shefford County, Quebec 1880-1899 $35.00
Protestant Marriage Index, Shefford County, Quebec 1880-1899 $40.00
Protestant Death & Burial Index, Shefford County, Quebec 1880-1899 $40.00

COLBY CURTIS MUSEUM/STANSTEAD HISTORICAL SOCIETY
http://www.colbycurtis.ca/eng/archives.html
1825 Census, Stanstead County $10.00
1861 Census for Stanstead Township and Stanstead Plain $25.00
Marriage Contracts/Contrat de marriage from/de 1840-1950 at/a Stanstead - Stanstead Historical Society $20.00
Forest and Clearings – The History of Stanstead County, reprint – H.B. Hubbard $38.00
Wills/Les Testaments – from/de 1840-1950 – at/a Stanstead $20.00

MATTHEW FARFAN - AUTHOR  mf@qahn.org
On Lake and River - stunning bilingual book (208) pages on the history of the Eastern Townships $36.70
Cemetery Heritage in Quebec $12.00

SHARON OSGOOD NORTON - AUTHOR  http://granbynewspaperextracts.googlepages.com/
Granby & Eastern Townships Newspaper Extract 1855 - 1910 $40.00

EASTERN TOWNSHIPS GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY
http://www.genealogie.org/club/sqce/acceuile.htm
Our Society has a database of well over 2,000,000 marriages, mostly from the Province of Québec, from the beginning up to this day. This database includes most non catholics who got married in the Eastern Townships at some time. We can now supply you with family listings of all the marriages under a given surname.

For more info, quotations, orders, please get in touch with: Pierre and write subject as: Surname List

BORROWING BOOKS ONLINE FOR YOUR “eREADER”

Dick Eastman points out that most of the libraries which lend out eBooks use a service called Over Drive. You can search worldwide at http://search.overdrive.com

Note that it might take a few tries: searching for libraries in “Montreal” produced no results, but searching for “Quebec” produced McGill, the National Archives of Quebec, and the Cote St-Luc, Pointe Claire and Dollard libraries. If you don’t have one of the book reader gadgets, you can read a downloaded eBook simply on your PC.

*Tip from Connections QFHS Winter/Spring 2012 Journal by Lorraine Gosselin
Quebec and the Eastern Townships of Quebec Genealogy Websites:

Links to the Eastern Townships of Quebec
- http://www.genealogie.org/club/sgce/accueile.htm

Marlene Simmons Website  http://simmons.b2b2c.ca/
- My specialty is the English speaking Protestants of Quebec; I’m not as strong for French-Canadian records. Those French-Canadian records which I do have are largely concentrated in the counties of Brome, Missisquoi and Shefford.

Pam Waugh Website  http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~qceastwn/
- Genealogists researching the English speaking Protestant families in the Eastern Townships will find there is a wealth of information available. Church records, cemetery inscriptions, census records, etc. are available through a variety of sources. Counties Covered: Arthabaska, Brome, Compton, Drummond, Megantic, Missisquoi, Richmond, Shefford, Sherbrooke, Stanstead and Wolfe.

THE EASTERN TOWNSHIPS RESEARCH CENTRE
For further information on the Eastern Townships Research Centre, Jody Robinson may be reached at (819) 822-9600, ext. 2261, or at etrc2@ubishops.ca. Website www.etrc.ca
- The ETRC does not charge entry, membership, or research fees.
- http://www.townshipsheritage.com/Eng/Articles/Research/etrc.html

RESEARCHING YOUR "ANGLO" ROOTS IN MONTREAL
- http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~qcmtlw/

Canadian Genealogy and History Links

19th Century indexed vitals from Sherbrooke, QC newspapers
- http://andersononline.net/~ardron/

Missisquoi Historical Society:
- http://museemissisquoi.ca

Newspaper search engine for back issues of many Eastern Township newspapers, such as Waterloo Advertiser, Granby Leader, Stanstead Journal, Coaticook Observer News and Eastern Townships Advocate and the Sherbrooke Telegram
- http://news.google.com/archivesearch/advanced_search

1851/52 Canadian Census  The census planned for 1851 was not carried out until 1852, so it is variously referred to as the 1851 Census and the 1852 Census
- http://automatedgenealogy.com/census52/

Quebec 1870 notary records.
- Quebec National Archives have released some FREE, fully-indexed notarial records. Click on "Index des noms" on the left-side menu for an alphabetical listing.

1891 Canadian Census.  This new online database provides researchers access to digitized images of original 1891 Canadian census returns:
- http://www.collectionscanada.gc.ca/databases/census-1891/index-e.html

GOOGLE SEARCH ENGINE
- The Basic Search Help article covers all the most common issues, http://www.google.com/support/websearch/bin/answer.py?hl=en&answer=136861