

Canadian Horticultural Societies Collection

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Title:

Canadian Horticultural Societies Collection

Dates:

1857-2011

Physical Description:

105.4 cm of textual records

History:

Horticultural societies have played an important role in the beautification movement, which aimed at making towns and cities tidier and more aesthetically pleasing as a means of fostering good citizenship, social remedy, and morality.

From the late 1880s to the 1920s, Canada was characterized by rapid industrialization, urbanization, and immigration. Existing social welfare institutions, often municipal in scope, were unable to cope with the social ills that these changes elicited. In response, Canadians, especially those of the middle class, became engaged in social reform. Horticultural societies were a product of this reforming zeal with the earliest founded in Toronto in 1834.

Societies were organized by men who were interested in amateur and commercial growing of fruit, vegetables, and ornamentals. Women were society members but did not hold official positions until the 1920s.

Several provinces have adopted a Horticultural Society Act, which outlines criteria that groups must meet in order to be considered a society. In return, authorized societies are given funding from the provincial government.

Horticultural societies still exist today; its members continue to beautify cities and towns for all to enjoy.

Scope and Content:

This collection consists of yearbooks; annual reports; newsletters, handbooks; prize lists; constitutions and by-laws; board of director information; lists of presidents; correspondence; a newspaper clipping; programmes; show announcements; booklets; emblems; publications; hand-written notes; a petition; rules and regulations; proceedings of an annual convention; show books; bulletins; pamphlets; articles; a presentation; and member lists.

Source of Acquisition:

This is an artificial collection, meaning that its materials were collected over time by different users, rather than being acquired by a single donor. The records' original order and provenance have been lost.

Language:

The material is in English.

Restrictions:

There are no restrictions on access.

Inventory:

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|-----------------------------|--|
| Series 1
2017.2.1 | Ancaster Horticultural Society –1993-2008–0.1 cm of textual records–Series consists of the monthly newsletter <i>Floriculture</i> and programmes. These documents are in box 1. |
| Series 2
2017.2.2 | Arnprior Horticultural Society –1935–0.1 cm of textual records–Series consists of an annual handbook. This handbook is in box 1. |
| Series 3
2017.2.3 | Barrie Horticultural Society –1959-1987–9.9 cm of textual records–Series consists of a newspaper clipping, newsletters, and year books. These documents are in box 1, 2, and 12. |
| Series 4
2017.2.4 | Bowmanville Horticultural Society –1984–0.1 cm of textual records–Series consists of a yearbook. This yearbook is in box 2. |
| Series 5
2017.2.5 | Bronte Horticultural Society –1971, 1976–0.1 cm of textual records–Series consists of two programmes. These documents are in box 2. |
| Series 6
2017.2.6 | Burlington Horticultural Society –1976-2004–9 cm of textual records–Series consists of a newspaper clipping, newsletters, and flower show programmes, and photocopies from Burlington Public Library. These documents are in boxes 2 and 3. |
| Series 7
2017.2.7 | Calgary Horticultural Society –1909-1955–0.2 cm of textual records–Series consists of photocopies of the society's constitution and by-laws, list of presidents, and correspondence. These documents are in box 3. |
| Series 8
2017.2.8 | Camrose Horticultural Society –1920–0.1 cm of textual records–Series consists of a photocopy of a prize list. This list is in box 3. |
| Series 9
2017.2.9 | Claresholm Horticultural Society –1928–0.1 cm of textual records–Series consists of photocopies of prize lists. This list is in box 3. |

- Series 10**
2017.2.10 **Deep River Horticultural Society**–1984–0.2 cm of textual records–Series consists of a yearbook. This yearbook is in box 3.
- Series 11**
2017.2.11 **Dundas Horticultural Society**–1965–2 cm of textual records–Series consists of booklets, show announcements, and newsletters. These documents are in box 3.
- Series 12**
2017.2.12 **Dunnville Horticultural Society(s)**–1979–0.5 cm of textual records–Series consists of an anniversary booklet. This booklet is in box 3.
- Series 13**
2017.2.13 **Elora and Salem Horticultural Society**–1953–0.3 cm of textual records–Series consists of a yearbook. This yearbook is in box 3.
- Series 14**
2017.2.14 **Etobicoke Horticultural Society**–1962-1973–2.3 cm of textual records–Series consists of yearbooks. These yearbooks are in box 4.
- Series 15**
2017.2.15 **Flamborough Horticultural Society**–1989–1.6 cm of textual records–Series consists of a photocopy of an article, two copies of a publication, a note about the society’s emblem, and newsletters. These documents are in box 4.
- Series 16**
2017.2.16 **Fort William Horticultural Society**–1965 & 1968–0.2 cm of textual records–Series consists of prizelists. These lists are in box 4.
- Series 17**
2017.2.17 **Georgetown District Horticultural Society**–1971-1994–0.2 cm of textual records–Series consists of newsletters and show schedules. These documents are in box 4.
- Series 18**
2017.2.18 **Greater North Bay Horticultural Society**–1969–0.9 cm of textual records–Series consists of flower show schedules and a 1994 yearbook. These documents are in box 4.
- Series 19**
2017.2.19 **Guelph Horticultural Society**–1964-1997–6 cm of textual records–Series consists of annual issues. These documents are in box 4.
- Series 20**
2017.2.20 **Hamilton Horticultural Society**–1857-1936–0.2 cm of textual records–Series consists of a photocopy of correspondence and petition for an Act of Incorporation, a yearbook, and hand-written notes. These documents are in box 4.
- Series 21**
2017.2.21 **Hensall and District Horticultural Society** –1992–0.2 cm of textual records–Series consists of a yearbook. This yearbook is in box 4.
- Series 22**
2017.2.22 **High Park Horticultural Society**–1941–0.1 cm of textual records–Series consists of a photocopy of correspondence, and handwritten notes. These documents are in box 5.

- Series 23**
2017.2.23 **Horticultural Societies (general)**—n.d.—0.1 cm of textual records—Series consists of report about the history of horticultural societies. This document is in box 5.
- Series 24**
2017.2.24 **Huntsville Horticultural Society**—1964, 1967—0.2 cm of textual records— Series consists of yearbooks. These yearbooks are in box 5.
- Series 25**
2017.2.25 **Iroquois Falls Horticultural Society**—1977—0.1 cm of textual records—Series consists of a supplement to the show book pamphlet, and a prize tag. These documents are in box 5.
- Series 26**
2017.2.26 **Kemptville Horticultural Society**—1966-1968—0.2 cm of textual records—Series consists of prize lists. These lists are in box 5.
- Series 27**
2017.2.27 **Kingsway-Sunnylea Horticultural Society**—1964-1972—1 cm of textual records—Series consists of yearbooks. These yearbooks are in box 5.
- Series 28**
2017.2.28 **Kirkland Lake and district Horticultural Society**—1984—0.1 cm of textual records—Series consists of a photocopy of correspondence, and handwritten notes. These documents are in box 5.
- Series 29**
2017.2.29 **Lakeshore Horticultural Society**—1986—0.1 cm of textual records—Series consists of rules and regulations. This document is in box 5.
- Series 30**
2017.2.30 **Leaside Garden Society**—1992-1999—2.3 cm of textual records—Series consists of yearbooks. These yearbooks are in box 5.
- Series 31**
2017.2.31 **London Horticultural Society**—1995-2004—0.5 cm of textual records—Series consists of the *Hortigram* newsletter. This newsletter is in box 5.
- Series 32**
2017.2.32 **Markham Garden and Horticultural Society**—1996, 2001—1 cm of textual records— Series consists of yearbooks and correspondence. These documents are in box 5.
- Series 33**
2017.2.33 **Manitoba Horticultural Association**—1961, 1980-1984—1.5 cm of textual records—Series consists of proceedings of the annual convention. This document is in box 5.
- Series 34**
2017.2.34 **Milton and District Horticultural Society**—2000—0.1 cm of textual records— Series consists of a newsletter. This document is in box 5.
- Series 35**
2017.2.35 **Mount Hamilton Horticultural Society**—1961, 1980-1984—3.5 cm of textual records—Series consists of newsletters and a programme. These documents are in boxes 5 and 6.
- Series 36**
2017.2.36 **Newcastle Horticultural Society**—1977—0.1 cm of textual records—Series consists of a show book. This document is in box 6.

- Series 37**
2017.2.37 **Newfoundland Horticultural Society**–2000, 2004–0.1 cm of textual records–
Series consists of a newsletter. This newsletter is in box 6.
- Series 38**
2017.2.38 **Niagara Falls Horticultural Society**–1970-1.5 cm of textual records 1990–1.5
cm of textual records–Series consists of an annual meeting bulletin and
yearbooks. These documents are in box 6.
- Series 39**
2017.2.39 **Nobleton and District Horticultural Society**–1966-1967–0.3 cm of textual
records–Series consists of yearbooks. These yearbooks are in box 6.
- Series 40**
2017.2.40 **North Toronto Horticultural Society**–1948-1996–1.5 cm of textual records–
Series consists of yearbooks. These yearbooks are in boxes 6 and 7.
- Series 41**
2017.2.41 **North York Horticultural Society**–1964-1996–8 cm of textual records–Series
consists of yearbooks. These yearbooks are in box 7.
- Series 42**
2017.2.42 **Ontario Horticultural Association**–1913-2011–15.7 cm of textual records–
Series consists of list of 1928 secretaries and presidents, a presentation about the
roots of horticultural society tradition, a pamphlet, and hand-written notes. These
documents are in boxes 7 and 8.
- 2017.2.42.1 **Sub-series 1:** Newsletters, 1981-2004
2017.2.42.2 **Sub-series 2:** Pamphlets, 1956-1990
2017.2.42.3 **Sub-series 3:** Competition Information, 1988-2004
2017.2.42.4 **Sub-series 4:** Annual Reports, 1913, 2011
2017.2.42.5 **Sub-series 5:** Presentation by Pleasance Crawford, 1994
2017.2.42.6 **Sub-series 6:** Miscellaneous, 1980s-1990s
2017.2.42.7 **Sub-series 7:** Board and Executive Members Information, 1967-2004
- Series 43**
2017.2.43 **Orangeville**–1975–0.2 cm of textual records–Series consists of a yearbook. This
yearbook is in box 8.
- Series 44**
2017.2.44 **Orillia Horticultural Society**–1964 and 1956–0.5 cm of textual records–Series
consists of yearbooks. These yearbooks are in box 8.
- Series 45**
2017.2.45 **Oshawa Horticultural Society**–1962-1991–4.5 cm of textual records–Series
consists of yearbooks. These yearbooks are in box 9.
- Series 46**
2017.2.46 **Ottawa Horticultural Society**–1911-1992–2.6 cm of textual records–Series
consists of yearbooks and an article. These documents are in box 9.
- Series 47**
2017.2.47 **Owen Sound Horticultural Society**–1970-1984–0.6 cm of textual records–
Series consists of yearbooks. These yearbooks are in box 9.

- Series 48**
2017.2.48 **Peterborough Horticultural Society**–1993–0.2 cm of textual records–Series consists of a yearbook. This yearbook is in box 9.
- Series 49**
2017.2.49 **Pickering Horticultural Society**–1975–0.4 cm of textual records–Series consists of a yearbook. This yearbook is in box 9.
- Series 50**
2017.2.50 **Prince Edward County Horticultural Society**–1983-1984–0.6 cm of textual records–Series consists of a yearbooks and programmes. These documents are in box 10.
- Series 51**
2017.2.51 **Richmond Hill Horticultural Society**–1966, 1987-1993–2 cm of textual records–Series consists of a yearbook and programme. These documents are in box 10.
- Series 52**
2017.2.52 **Riverdale Horticultural Society**–1966–0.2 cm of textual records–Series consists of a 50th anniversary yearbook. This yearbook is in box 10.
- Series 53**
2017.2.53 **Roselands Horticultural Society**–1987-2003–2 cm of textual records–Series consists of yearbooks. These yearbooks are in box 10.
- Series 54**
2017.2.54 **Sarnia Horticultural Society**–1964–0.2 cm of textual records–Series consists of a yearbook. This yearbook is in box 10.
- Series 55**
2017.2.55 **Saskatoon Horticultural Society**–1973-1974–0.2 cm of textual records–Series consists of yearbooks. These yearbooks are in box 10.
- Series 56**
2017.2.56 **Seaforth Horticultural Society**–1980–0.1 cm of textual records–Series consists of a yearbook. This yearbook is in box 10.
- Series 57**
2017.2.57 **Smith Falls Horticultural Society**–1935–0.1 cm of textual records–Series consists of a prize list. This list is in box 10.
- Series 58**
2017.2.58 **Stayner Horticultural Society**–1973-1965–1.8 cm of textual records–Series consists of flower show programmes. These documents are in box 10.
- Series 59**
2017.2.59 **Stratford Horticultural Society**–1983-2007–3.2 cm of textual records–Series consists of yearbooks, newsletters, *The Gardener*, and flower show programmes. These documents are in boxes 10 and 11.
- Series 60**
2017.2.60 **Toronto Horticultural Society**–1919-1922–0.1 cm of textual records–Series consists of a photocopy of a list of society officers, life members and annual members, hand-written notes, and an iris show pamphlet. These documents are in box 11.
- Series 61**
2017.2.61 **Thornhill and District Horticultural Society**–1987–0.3 cm of textual records–Series consists of an arrangement and display manual. These documents are in

box 11.

- Series 62**
2017.2.62 **Tweed Horticultural Society**–1988–0.2 cm of textual records–Series consists of a yearbook. This yearbook is in box 11.
- Series 63**
2017.2.63 **Vespra Horticultural Society**–1967–0.1 cm of textual records–Series consists of a yearbook. This yearbook is in box 11.
- Series 64**
2017.2.64 **Westway Horticultural Society**–1964-1993–1 cm of textual records–Series consists of yearbooks and bulletins. These documents are in box 11.
- Series 65**
2017.2.65 **Winnipeg Horticultural Society**–1965-1974–2 cm of textual records–Series consists of international flower show booklets. These documents are in box 11.
- Series 66**
2017.2.66 **Woodstock Horticultural Society**–1976–0.4 cm of textual records–Series consists of an annual flower and vegetable show rules and regulations. These documents are in box 11.

Individual Histories

Ancaster Horticultural Society

The Ancaster Horticultural Society was established in 1961.

Barrie Horticultural Society

The Barrie Horticultural Society was formed in 1874.

Bomanville Horticultural Society

Founded in 1893, the Bowmanville Horticultural Society was reorganized in 1965 with 57 members. The society's most notable projects have included: a 1929 planting at the Civic buildings and Memorial Plot, a weekly store window contest, various cleanup bees, and a home beautification contest.

Bronte Horticultural Society

The Bronte Horticultural Society was formed in 1925. In 1995 the society began planting and maintaining the gardens at Sovereign House Park.

Burlington Horticultural Society

The Burlington Horticultural Society was established in 1919 with 365 members. The following year it held its first flower show. Some of the society's earliest members included Rev. George Tebbs, Paul Fisher, Fred Ghent and Spencer Smith. From its inception until 1942 the society was responsible for maintaining public parks, until the town's Parks and Recreation Department took over. It then switched its efforts to hosting flower shows (although some years they were not done). In 1979 the Civic Rose Awards began. Then, in the 1980s the society worked on a major project, the Honour Roll of Trees, where they listed and catalogued over seventy imported and native trees.

Camrose Horticultural Society

The Camrose Horticultural Society formed in 1913; its first flower show was in 1919.

Cloverleaf Horticultural Society

The Cloverleaf Horticultural Society was founded in 1944. The first meeting was held at the Queen Elizabeth Public School under the direction of its first President, J.H.L. Morgan. The 1945 Yearbook indicates an initial membership of 100. Today, Cloverleaf is well known for its monthly flower shows, guest speakers, annual plant sale, and garden tours.

Cobourg Horticultural Society

The Cobourg Horticultural Society was organized in 1868. Its secretary, Major H.J. Snelgrove, was the Ontario Horticultural Association's first Vice President. He then became its president in 1908 and 1909. The society reorganized in 1929 before going dormant. It became active again in 1964, carrying out many gardening initiatives like the 1967 planting of mop-head maple trees along Main Street and in Maple Leaf Park (in co-operation with the Victoria Hall Restoration Committee and its Canadian Armed Forces Base). Currently, the group advocates sound environmental practices and provides educational opportunities for its members.

Deep River Horticultural Society

The Deep River Horticultural Society was formed in 1949 with 33 members. By 1967 the society had 666 members. Shortly after, a five year project was initiated, involving the planting of 1600 trees and shrubs. In 1970 it assisted with the town's 25th anniversary by supplying forty-two hanging baskets and twenty-four flowering boxes.

Dundas Horticultural Society

The Dundas Horticultural Society was reorganized in 1957 with 101 members; it had earlier origins beginning at the turn of the century. Its first flower show was held in 1915. Many trees were planted during the 1920s. Notable projects have included plantings at senior citizens' homes and at the war memorial, and the planting of large rose beds.

Dunnville Horticultural Society

The Dunnville Horticultural Society was founded in 1929. Mr. William H. Wingfield was the first president and Charles Bilgar was the first secretary. In 1938 the society began beautifying rural schools. The first public tree planting was in 1940. In 1947 school children received over 1,000 flower seed packets as a means of getting youth interested in horticulture, as well as to assist with beautification efforts. The society's largest flower show took place in 1950 with 505 flowers and 96 vegetable entries. Monthly meetings were first initiated in 1953. A Junior Horticultural Society was formed in 1968. In 1975 the Trillium Award for home beautification was introduced.

Elora and Salem Horticultural Society

The Elora and Salem Horticultural Society was founded in 1850, making it one of the oldest in the province. Its official flower emblem is the peony. The society currently supports tree and flower bed plantings, various landscaping projects, student bursaries, and youth fall fair competitions.

Etobicoke Horticultural Society

The Etobicoke Horticultural Society was founded in 1925 with 200 members. Throughout its history it has donated books to the library, as well as peonies and lilies to James Garden. Currently, its objectives are to promote interest, involvement, and education in horticulture and the environment as a means of beautifying and proving enjoyment to the people of Etobicoke.

Flamborough Horticultural Society

The Flamborough Horticultural Society was founded in 1939 with 91 members.

Fort William Horticultural Society

The Fort William Society was founded in 1948 with 270 members. Fort William and Fort Arthur became one city in 1970. After that, the Thunder Bay Historical Society was formed with an initial membership of 314. One of its major contributions to the beautification of the city was plantings at the Canadian National Institute for the Blind building, Homes for the Aged, Thunder Bay Horticultural Society Dedication Garden, Magnus Theatre, and the Community Auditorium.

Georgetown District Horticultural Society

The Georgetown District Horticultural Society was re-organized in 1955 after 11 years of dormancy. The society's current objectives are to encourage improvement in horticulture by holding meetings and lectures in order to connect horticultural theory with practice; by holding exhibition and awarding premiums; by promoting the circulations of horticultural periodicals; by encouraging the improvement of home and public grounds; by promoting outdoor and public beauty; and by importing and distributing seed.

Greater North Bay Horticultural Society

The Greater North Bay Horticultural Society was founded in 1921 (its name at this time was the Greater North Bay Horticultural Society). In 1924 membership fees were established at \$1. By 1928 the society boasted 232 members. One of its major projects included the installation of a fountain in front of the Pro-Cathedral of the Assumption. It officially dissolved in 1942; it was reinstated in 1962 with its current name. Its current mandate is "to encourage horticulture and related activities among its members and the greater public."

Guelph Horticultural Society

The Guelph Horticultural Society was organized in December 1851, receiving its charter in 1900. One of its first large initiatives was to plant shade trees along Waterloo Avenue. Many of these trees still exist, and are well over 100 years old.

Hensall and District Horticultural Society

The Hensall and District Horticultural Society was founded in 1983, under the leadership of Eileen Rannie. It is responsible for planting the town beds. The society's emblem is the pansy.

Huntsville Horticultural Society

The Huntsville Horticultural Society was founded in 1925 with the mission of promoting horticulture in the Town of Huntsville. It has been involved in initiatives like: maintaining the garden at the Huntsville Public Library; helping the Parks Department plant the gardens at the Brunel Locks and the Summit Flag Garden; and maintaining the Veterans Memorial Garden. It is currently responsible for purchasing and planting flowers for twelve raised beds, fourteen planters and three gardens within the town.

Iroquois Falls Horticultural Society

The Iroquois Falls Horticultural Society was formed in 1917. A.H. Hanlon played a major role in the society's founding. In 1932 a "Beautiful Baby" contest was held. Another early project was the rental of lawnmowers.

Kemptville Horticultural Society

The Kemptville Horticultural Society was formed in 1899.

Kingsway-Sunnylea Horticultural Society

The Kingsway-Sunnylea Horticultural Society was organized in 1947 with 92 members. Its original name was the Kingsway Horticultural Society with "Sunnylea" added in 1957. One of the society's major projects includes the beautifying of the grounds at the Kipling Acres Home for the Aged.

Kirkland Lake and District Horticultural Society

The Kirkland Lake and District Horticultural Society was formed in 1934.

Leaside Garden Society

The Leaside Garden Society was formed in 1986 with eight members.

Markham Garden Society

The Markham Garden Society was organized in 1920 with 58 members. In its early years, a trial rose garden was sponsored in the early years with bushes from California, Ireland, Great Britain and Canada. The group disbanded in 1941, only to reorganize ten years later. Its members have done plantings at municipal offices, fair grounds, the library and parish hall, and in hanging baskets along Main Street.

Milton and District Horticultural Society

The Milton and District Horticultural Society was formed in 1909 with a membership fee of \$1. That same year, a “Good Citizen Pledge Card” was issued to members as a means of promoting both the society and civic beautification. In 1910 F.H. Deacon, a successful Toronto stockbroker and son of R.S. Deacon, former Mayor of Milton, gave the society three sterling cups to be used for its annual competitions. In 1910 it boasted 80 members, and this number grew to over 100 by 1915. By 1928 this number swelled to 327 members. The Society went dormant in 1941 and reorganized again in 1950 with 113 members.

Mount Hamilton Horticultural Society

The Mount Hamilton Horticultural Society was founded in 1927. Until 1930 it was known as the Hamilton Heights Society. At the first meeting, a fifteen member executive committee was elected. Harry Nelson was its first president; Harry Pooke was the first Secretary-Treasurer. Throughout its history, the society was involved in several large beautification projects including plantings at Mounthaven School, Hillfield College, Mount Hamilton Cemetery, several local churches, libraries, St. John’s Ambulance Headquarters and a strip of land along Sherman Avenue. It is unique in the sense that it has its own medal and badge, an idea initiated by Keith Anderson in 1955.

Newcastle Horticultural Society

The Newcastle Horticultural Society was formed in 1914. The first president was Dr. J. Butler.

Niagara Falls Horticultural Society

During the First World War, garden competitions were held in Silvertown to encourage crop production for the war effort. This initiative inspired Henry J. Moore, head gardener of Queen Victoria Park, and George Emery, Head of the City Parks Department, to organize the society in 1917. It was involved in many beautification projects throughout its history including: plantings at Fairview Cemetery and Lundy’s Lane Historical Museum; tree planting at Coronation Park for Queen Elizabeth II’s coronation in 1953; and the planting of hundreds of trees along Niagara streets. It was also involved in extensive plantings at public schools for thirty years, and then in 1957 it switched its focus to sponsoring community gardens. In 2006, it began sponsoring Schools in Bloom, funding each participating high school.

Newfoundland Horticultural Society

The current Newfoundland Horticultural Society was reformed in 1962. Its origin, however, is much older and newspaper accounts indicate that a similar society existed in the mid 1800's.

North Toronto Horticultural Society

The North Toronto Horticultural Society was founded in 1926 with 13 members. By 1935 its numbers grew to 135 members. In addition to other beautification projects, the Society created a Memorial Grove, with a Norway maple planted on school grounds for each of the 13 students who died during the Second World War. Its current mission is “to increase our knowledge of all

aspects of indoor and outdoor gardening as well as floral design in a friendly environment conducive to good fellowship, and the generous sharing and open exchange of information and ideas.”

Ontario Horticultural Association

The Ontario Horticultural Association (OHA) was founded in 1906 with sixteen delegates attending the first meeting in Toronto. Its constitution stated that any horticultural society in the province would be eligible for membership upon a yearly payment. Delegates of societies were and are allowed to vote at the annual meeting. The primary objectives of the Association were to advance the interests, promote the welfare, increase the usefulness and supplement the efforts of all societies. Today, the formation of OHA societies is controlled by the Agricultural & Horticultural Organizations Act, 1990. Currently, it boasts 30,000 members in 270 societies in 19 districts across the province. Its individual societies spend time working on community beautification projects, planning and implementing sustainable environment projects, and giving seminars.

Orangeville and District Horticultural Society

The Orangeville and District Horticultural Society was formed in 1969 with 151 members. Public plantings have included the hospital and fair grounds. The Society’s current motto is, “gardens are for sharing.”

Orillia Horticultural Society

The Orillia Horticultural Society was founded in 1888. Originally, it was closely associated with agriculture; early flower shows focused on fruits and vegetables, as well as flowers. The society’s current objective is to “stimulate the advancement and interest of gardening, development of home grounds, further civic beautification, aid in protection of forests, wildlife, etc...”

Orono Horticultural Society

The Orono Horticultural Society (Durham County) was organized in 1921. It was in co-operation with the Forestry Department on several reforestation projects in the area. Junior Gardeners, under Mrs. Fairbrother’s care, originated “Jinks the Junior Gardener” crest, setting an example for most other junior clubs in the province. The Society’s flower emblem is a rose.

Oshawa Horticultural Society

The Oshawa Horticultural Society was founded in 1909. In 1961 it had a membership of 384. The Society ran into difficulties in the 1920s and went dormant. In 1951 it reorganized. Its major projects have included plantings at the Community Horticultural Park and Hillside Manor.

Ottawa Horticultural Society

The Ottawa Horticultural Society has been in continual existence since 1892, although its origin dates back to 1854. The first meeting was held on March 9, 1854 and was chaired by Mayor Friel at Town Hall. Society members were primarily involved in hosting garden shows, until enrollment dwindled and it went dormant in 1859. There was a renewed interest in the Society in 1892, with its first meeting organized in 1893. Its members were instructed in gardening, and assisted with the beautification of Ottawa, with initiatives like taking care of City Hall gardens in 1902. During the First World War it formed a Vacant Lot Association and instructed members on how to grow food for the war effort. It was also involved in therapeutic horticulture initiatives at St. Vincent's Hospital, Abbotsford House, and the Rehabilitation Centre.

Owen Sound Horticultural Society

The Owen Sound Horticultural Society was formed in 1898. The membership fee was \$1 and 65 cents of that was sent to the Fruit Growers' Association, providing each member with a subscription to the Canadian Horticulturist. One of its members, Mrs. Robert McDowell was one of the first ladies to attend the Ontario Horticultural Association convention. In 1912 a canvass saved the Society from disbandment, and it has since flourished.

Peterborough Horticultural Society

The Peterborough Horticultural Society was founded in 1861. In 1947 it reached a membership of 596; 162 members participated in 1970. Its 1961 centennial flower show had 1,700 entries. Some of the society's major contributions to the town were the creation of a Pioneer Park, plantings at Filtration Park, and the creation of a forty-two miles scenic drive. Currently, it hosts an annual garden show, plant sales, workshops and photography competitions.

Pickering Horticultural Society

The Pickering Horticultural Society was founded in 1933. John F. Clark was the first speaker to address the society with a lecture entitled, "Continuous Bloom in the Garden." It was actively involved in planting and maintaining flower beds at Esplanade Park, Liverpool and Krosno Boulevard, and 30 planters in the Nautical Village. Its current mission is "to inspire passion, respect and understanding of gardening, horticulture, the national landscape and a healthy environment."

Prince Edward County Horticultural Society

The Prince Edward County Horticultural Society was founded in 1869. An 1875 pamphlet mentioned that the membership fee was \$1. The society went dormant in 1919 with 60 members; it reorganized in 1955 under the direction of Philip Dodds with 119 members. Since then, it has been heavily active in beautification projects including plantings at the fire hall, police station, war memorial, street planters and library window boxes. Tree planting and preservation were and

are important society objectives. Between 1955 and 1973, 85,000 tree seedlings were distributed. At an unknown date, it also circulated a province-wide bulletin in an effort to save trees from being “butchered” by utility crews. In 1981 its first yearbook was published. In 1986, the society boasted 118 members.

Riverdale Horticultural Society

Riverdale Horticultural Society was founded in 1916.

Richmond Hill Horticultural Society

The Richmond Hill Horticultural Society was founded in 1914 with 25 members. By 1960 this number grew to 247. Dr. Lillian Langstaff, one of its founding members, served on the first flower show committee. In 1953 its members cleaned up a small park near Mill Pond in order to celebrate Queen Elizabeth II’s coronation. In 1967, members planted at the Bayville Centennial Gardens. Currently it hosts a number of initiatives including, plant sales, bus trips, corn roasts, and open gate garden tours.

Roselands Horticultural Society

The Roselands Horticultural Society was formed in 1926. It currently works closely with the long-term care facility at West Park Hospital. Each year it has a plant sale, three flower shows (May, June and September) and hosts an awards dinner.

Saskatoon Horticultural Society

The Saskatoon Horticultural Society, formerly known as the Saskatchewan Horticultural and Forestry Association, was founded in 1913. Its first flower show was held in a large tent in the City Hall Square that summer, and it has held an annual show ever since (in a different location). The society developed its formal constitution in 1928. Its current initiatives include a long-running bus tour of Saskatoon gardens and a passport garden tour.

Seaforth Horticultural Society

Seaforth Horticultural Society was founded in 1972 by Mary Haugh and Rodger Whitman.

Smith Falls Horticultural Society

The current Smith Falls Horticultural Society was formed in 2004. Its predecessor, of the same name, was established in the 1890s. In 1897, the Society leased land between the Rideau Canal basin and Lombard Street to use as a public pleasure garden. It went dormant in 1961, only to be reinstated forty-three years later.

Stayner Horticultural Society

The Stayner Horticultural Society was formed in 1923. It also goes by the name of the Stayner Garden Club.

Stratford and District Horticultural Society

The Stratford and District Horticultural Society was formed in 1878.

Toronto Horticultural Society

Founded in 1834, the Toronto Horticultural Society is Ontario's oldest continuing society. Its first president was George Markland. John Beverley Robinson, John Hendry Dunn, and Col. J. Wells acted as the first vice-presidents. At this time, 36 home members, 14 members abroad and 18 corresponding members paid an annual subscription of ten shillings. By 1931 reports stated that it was the largest horticultural society in the world. One of its most notable initiatives was the creation of the Allan Gardens in 1858. These gardens were opened by the Prince of Wales (King Edward II). In 1988 the society merged with the Parkdale Society to form the Horticultural Societies of Parkdale and Toronto. Its motto is to beautify Toronto and its mission is to "beautify Toronto and bring soul and sustenance to the city through the garden."

Thornhill District Horticultural Society

The Thornhill District Horticultural Society was formed in 1910. In 1947 it had 234 members; 119 members participated in 1970.

Tweed and District Horticultural Society

The Tweed and District Horticultural Society was founded in 1970.

Waterloo Horticultural Society

The Waterloo Horticultural Society was founded in 1895. In 1906 the society boasted 152 members; 1,542 members participated in 1966. Its initiatives included maintaining the beds at Memorial Park, Horticultural Park, and numerous building grounds. It has continuously sponsored events like annual flower shows, outdoor garden competitions, and junior shows.

Westway Horticulture Society

The Westway Horticultural Society was founded in 1959 with 172 members; 377 members participated in 1961; 105 in 1970. In 1971 the society donated to the Royal Botanical Gardens to help develop a new strain of California poppy. Some of its meetings were taped and shown on cable television.

Woodstock Horticultural Society

The Woodstock Horticultural Society was formed in 1883.

Relevant Websites

Ancaster Horticultural Society

<http://www.gardenontario.org/site.php/ancaster>

Bowmanville Horticultural Society

<http://www.gardenontario.org/site.php/bowman>

Burlington Horticultural Society

<https://www.burlingtonhs.com/>

Cloverleaf Horticultural Society

<http://www.gardenontario.org/site.php/clover/>

Cobourg Horticultural Society

<http://cobourggardenclub.org/>

Deep River Horticultural Society

<https://drahs.wordpress.com/>

Dunville Horticultural Society

<http://www.dunnvillehortandgardenclub.org/>

Flamborough Horticultural Society

<http://www.gardenontario.org/site.php/flamborough>

Etobicoke Horticultural Society

<http://www.gardenontario.org/site.php/etobicoke>

Georgetown Horticultural Society

<http://geohort.com/>

Greater North Bay Horticultural Association

<http://www.gardenontario.org/site.php/northbay/about/bod>

Guelph Horticultural Society

<http://guelphhort.org/index.cfm?page=home>

Hensall and District Horticultural Society

<http://www.angelfire.com/on/hensallhort/>

Horticultural Societies of Parkdale and Toronto

<http://www.parkdaletorontohort.com/>

Huntsville Horticultural Association

<http://www.gardenontario.org/site.php/hunts>

Kemptville Horticultural Association

<http://www.gardenontario.org/site.php/kemptville>

Kirkland Lake and District Horticultural Society

<http://www.gardenontario.org/site.php/kirkland>

Markham Garden Society

<http://www.gardenontario.org/site.php/markhamgs/>

Milton District Horticultural Association

<http://www.miltonhortsociety.com/>

Mount Hamilton Horticultural Society

<http://www.gardenontario.org/site.php/mhhs>

Niagara Falls Horticultural Society

<http://niagarafallshort.org/>

Newfoundland Horticultural Society

<http://nfldhort.dhs.org/>

North Toronto Horticultural Society

<http://www.gardenontario.org/site.php/northtoronto>

Ontario Horticultural Association

<http://www.gardenontario.org/>

Orangeville and District Horticultural Society

<http://www.orangevillehort.org/>

Orillia Horticultural Society

<http://www.gardenontario.org/site.php/orillia>

Ottawa Horticultural Society

<http://ottawahort.org/>

Peterborough Horticultural Society

<https://peterboroughhort.com/>

Pickering Horticultural Society

<http://www.pickeringhorticulturalsociety.com/>

Prince Edward County Horticultural Society

<http://pehorticultural.org/>

Richmond Hill Horticultural Society

<http://www.richmondhillgardensociety.org/>

Riverdale Horticultural Society

<http://www.gardenontario.org/site.php/riverdale>

Roselands Horticultural Society

<http://www.gardenontario.org/site.php/rose>

Smith Falls Horticultural Society

<http://www.gardenontario.org/site.php/smithsfalls>

Stayner Horticultural Society

<http://www.gardenontario.org/site.php/stayner>

St Lambert Horticultural Society

<http://slhorticulture.wixsite.com/accueil>

Thornhill Garden and Horticultural Society

<http://www.gardenontario.org/site.php/thornhill/>

Thunder Bay Horticultural Society

<http://www.gardenontario.org/site.php/tbhortsociety>

Tweed and District Horticultural Society

<https://tweedhort.ca/>

Waterloo Horticultural Society

<http://www.waterloohort.org/about.html>

Westway Horticultural Society

<http://www.gardenontario.org/site.php/westw>

Woodstock Horticultural Society

<http://www.woodstockhorticulturalsociety.com/index.html>

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Horticultural Society, 1896-1996 (Simcoe: Simcoe & District
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- Hamilton Horticultural Society Centennial Year Book and Garden Guide,
1850-1950 SB87.C3205H3
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