

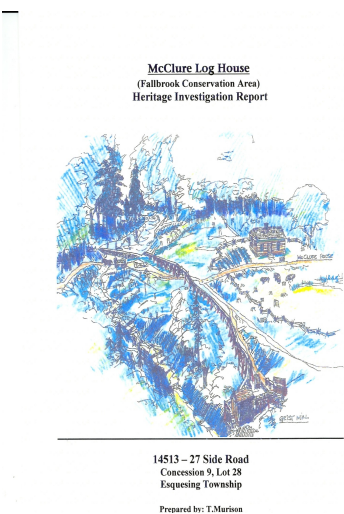
FALLBROOK HERITAGE SITE-BALLINAFAD ORAL HISTORY GATHERING



-the Ballinafad Oral History Project is near completion after a gigantic effort by the Oral history team. Over 35 elders have participated and the tapes are now being copied. We now have a living political base in Halton Hills, as well as our ancestors at Greenwood or Providence Cemeteries.



-The Credit Valley Conservation's own report done in 2007 by Ian McGillivray-some quotes- ` may be rare or unique property and has contextual value, has distinctive landscaping such that it may originally have been a landmark`, `old or original finishes are intact`, `interior appears to have many original features` (i.e. the farmhouse protecting the log cabin)`. `This building should be saved... `Friends of Fallbrook- after the HHMC refused the demolition permit to CVC on December 9, 2007, our community group consisting of Donald McKay descendents and Fallbrook farm families began to organise and contact absolutely every single person and organisation able to help. Over 200 persons receive our regular updates directly and hundreds more via our web site <http://www.electricscotland.com/index.html>- As well we have our own Scot connection – the electric Scotland website, Department of Scottish Studies, University of Guelph and the MacKay Sutherland Trust. -The Murison Report has been recognised as a milestone document proving for the first time the existence of the McClure Mill but also the unique features of the farmhouse as completed by Donald McKay, family and local artisans. These unique features were also detailed in the CVC, s own report.



-Tom Murison is currently completing the restoration to the CN Railway Park in the shadow of the CN tower. He has reiterated his commitment to the restoration of the Ballinafad monument. -Trillium application- the document of 30 pages laboriously completed by our committee over a year ago is awaiting CVC approval. The College of Management and Economics, University of Guelph is providing the business acumen so sorely missing from our group of teachers, farmers and nurses.

Bridge Report- As you see in Update 21, HHMC, at the suggestion of the Ontario Heritage Trust, commissioned a heritage report on the Fallbrook Bridge, already detailed in the Murison Report.



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Report calls for the designation of the Fallbrook Bridge.

- Silver Creek Education Center-

since the beginning of our campaign in October of 2007, it has been obvious that the soul of Fallbrook is education. More than 10,000 students visit the center every year. Aunt Rachel McKay confirms that the ``tool shed`` housing the center today is the same built by her father. It is only just that the home be reunited with the ``tool shed`` as part of the education center. - Emerson Native Archaeological Site (Scotsdale and Fallbrook Farms)-Laurentian University (Alicia Hawkins) and Ontario Heritage Trust have produced an initial report of their digs. There is no doubt of the significance of the native contribution. The significance of the Celt crofters is apparently questioned once again! Read on. - Halton Hills Heritage Committee Report- In November 2008, HHMC voted to permit their heritage committee to prepare a recommendation on the designation of the Fallbrook Site. An expert was hired and the report was accepted by the HHHC in January, 2009. We were told that it ``would respect the integrity of the Murison report``. However, even after reconsideration at our request on November 18, the HHHC's recommendation designates the mill site, log cabin and bridge but demolishes the farm house which is the visual symbol of the Ballinafad community and has protected the log structure for 130 years! After more than 2 years of intense labour by over fifty Fallbrook volunteers, the major theme of the Murison report, although accepted by all, is ignored.

The soul of Fallbrook is you. The pioneer families of Ballinafad, native and Celt. Hardy stock that endured much hardship but created a cooperative community of sharing, relative prosperity and celebration. Thanks to your contribution that history has been saved just as it was to be lost forever. But a major part of the symbol of our community, the McKay farmhouse, is not protected. It is a major deception for the Fallbrook farm families who have worked so hard. The heart of the Fallbrook project is the education of young people who benefit, without being taught, the origins of their prosperous lives. The message of community, solidarity and celebration must be heard. We have had many setbacks but now is not the time to abandon the fields to the brush and weeds. We must continue to plough, plant and harvest.

THE HISTORICAL DESIGNATION VOTE AT HALTON HILLS MUNICIPAL COUNCIL IS **MONDAY DECEMBER 7 AT 19.00**. IT IS CRUCIAL THAT ALL MAKE THEIR VOICE HEARD. WHETHER A CURRENT RESIDENT, BALLINAFAD DESCENDANT OR FALLBROOK SUPPORTER, YOUNG OR ELDER, SEND YOUR WORD OF SUPPORT BY LETTER, PHONE OR EMAIL TO-

1 Halton Hills, Halton Hills, Ontario, L7G5G2

tel-905-873-2601(ext.2342) or 877-712-2205

MAYOR RICHARD BONNETTE AND MEMBERS OF COUNCIL (mayor@haltonhills.ca)  BALLINAFAD COUNCILLORS JOAN ROBSON (joanr@haltonhills.ca) CLARK SOMMERVILLE (clark.somerville@haltonhills.ca), BRYAN LEWIS (bryanlewis@haltonhills.ca)

HALTON HILLS HERITAGE COMMITTEE, c/o M.Rowe, chairperson (ashleym@haltonhills.ca) and

DAVE KENTNER (davek@haltonhills.ca),

We, of the Friends of Fallbrook, thank you, the Ballinafad elders, for your inspiration and your efforts. You are our little heroes and you are SIGNIFICANT.

Merry Christmas to all.

Friends of Fallbrook fallbrook@live.ca or tel. 418-809-9415. For the whole story- <http://www.electricscotland.com/History/canada/fallingbrook.htm> or Google - Fallbrook Farm Heritage