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The Log Cabin at The Guild, Scarborough

Historical and

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February 1993 marked the official beginning of the research concerning the log cabin at The Guild. Much had been written and spoken about the cabin for several decades prior to that time but, to anyone involved in the heritage business, the earlier accounts had a false ring — far too facile, much too glib.

As Curator of the cultural property at The Guild, I considered it my responsibility to launch some kind of scholarly investigation into the cabin's early history. This type of research is a legitimate and worthwhile museological exercise in itself. The secondary objective is to dispel all the misconceptions and "charming stories" which have surrounded this building for many years. The fact that the cabin already had been designated under the Ontario Heritage Act made the project all the more urgent. Our hope to have its restoration included in the City of Scarborough's bicentennial celebrations in 1996 has spurred us on.

This publication represents only the first part of our project. As the restoration or conservation of this interesting little building comes to fruition, the second part, chronicling the completion of our project, will be published.

Regardless of what we can prove or disprove about the cabin, it remains a

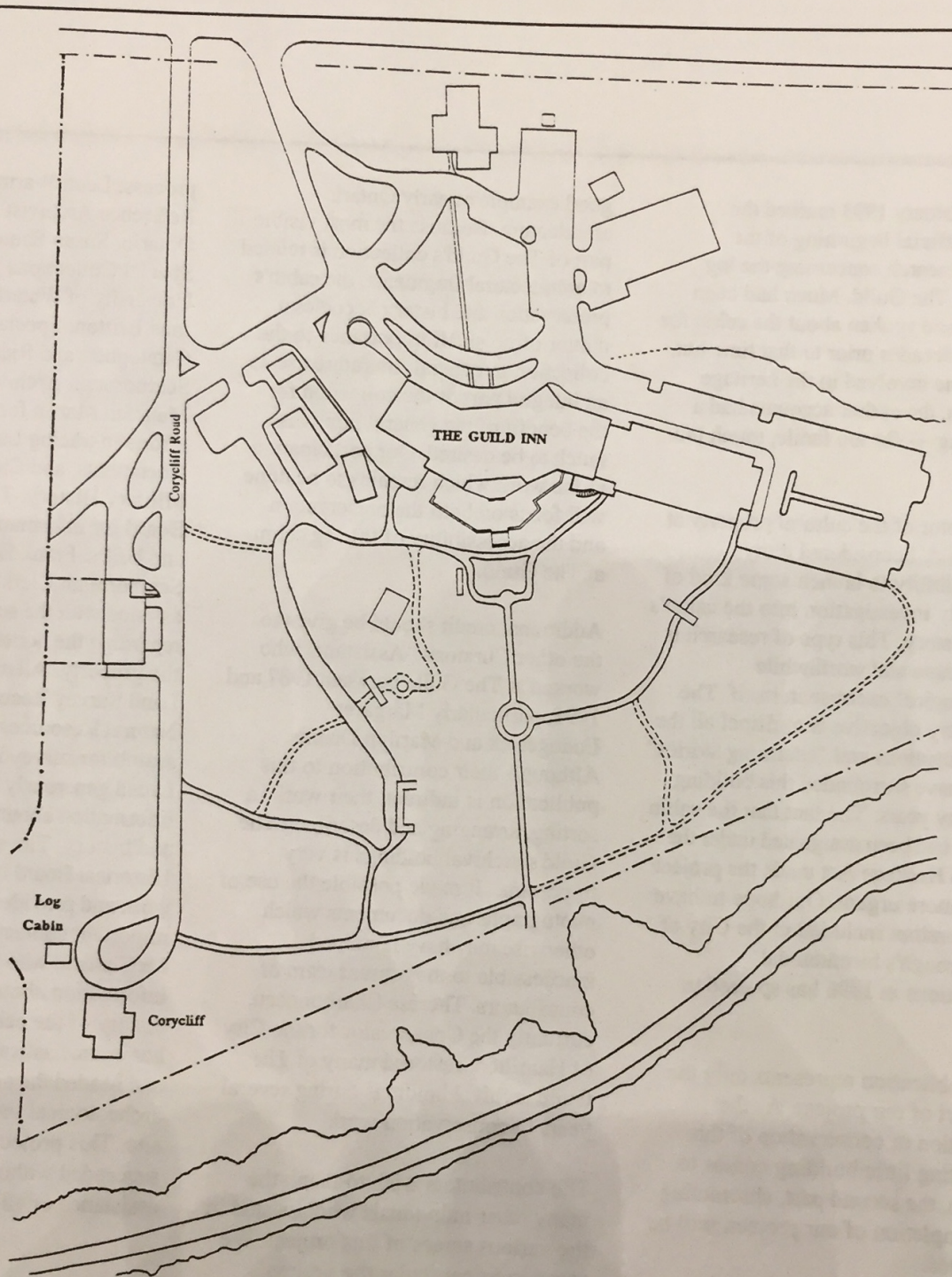
good example of early Ontario architecture. Because the most visible part of The Guild's collection is related to architectural fragments, the cabin's preservation and history becomes a matter of no small importance to the collection in general. Its future use as an integral part of the collection for the benefit of the general public is much to be desired. Our participation in the work which remains to be done will focus on both the preservation and the accessibility of the log cabin at The Guild.

Additional credit should be given to the other Curatorial Assistants who worked at The Guild between 1987 and 1991, particularly Margaret Endugesick and Marilyn Dennis. Although their contribution to this publication is indirect, their work in sorting, arranging and describing The Guild's archival holdings is very important. It made possible the use of photographs and documents which otherwise may have remained inaccessible to the present team of contributors. Thérèse Charbonneau, currently the Conservator for the City of Hamilton, restored many of The Guild archival holdings during several years of conservation work.

The contributors wish to thank the many other individuals who assisted in the various stages of this project. We mention in particular the tireless assistance of staff of the several archives consulted during the research

process: Leon Warnski, Senior Reference Archivist of the Archives of Ontario; Susan Saunders Bellingham, Special Collections Librarian of the University of Waterloo Library and Jane Britton, Special Collections Cataloguer; and Rick Schofield of Scarborough Archives. We thank Maureen Martin for her time-saving efforts in tracing Land Registry Documents, and Carl Benn, Curator, Military History, Toronto Historical Board for information on the military and UELs. Frank Edwards of the Scarborough Clerk's Department assisted with the search for documents regarding the heritage designation of the property. Allan Day of the Crown Land Survey Records, Ministry of Natural Resources assisted with the search for surveyors' notes, and John Ladell generously discussed information about surveying practice and history. The staff of the Toronto Historical Board have encouraged our work and provided us with several important contacts, including Michael McClelland who has volunteered information about the architectural history of the cabin. Dr. Martha Latta has enthusiastically taken up our cause and headed the preliminary archeological investigations on the site. This project could not have succeeded without the generous assistance of all of these individuals

Grace Ryan, Editor
Scarborough, November, 1995



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Illustration 1. Map of the grounds of The Guild, showing location of the log cabin.

In the south-eastern section of the City of Scarborough, Ontario, there is a property of some 35 hectares known as The Guild. The central part of the property contains a parcel of land of about 10.5 hectares which, at the time of writing is enclosed by a green chain link fence. Within this "core" stands The Guild Inn, several other buildings and an outdoor collection of sculpture and architectural fragments. The core is flanked on the east and west by wooded lots maintained in their natural state. The upper part of the property stands on the edge of the Scarborough Bluffs, giving a spectacular view of the Bluffs and of Lake Ontario. At the foot of the Bluffs is the lower part of the property consisting of a narrow shoreline.

The Guild lands encompass Lots 12, 13, and 14 of Concession C of Scarborough Township. It is in the southern part of Lot 14 that the log cabin at The Guild stands (Illustration 1). A description of the cabin itself and of the research done on it recently may help to correct the misinformation associated with this historic structure.

Physical Characteristics

The log cabin at The Guild as it exists today is a single room, one-and-a-half storey structure, built almost entirely of round logs, rising eight logs high. The cabin has two doors, one situated in the centre of the north wall and one in the centre of the south wall. There are two windows in the lower storey, one on the south side beside the south door, and one on the west side. The upper half storey is a loft, which contains a window at the west end, directly above the lower storey window. The roof is gabled, and it is believed that originally it was clad with cedar shingles, as cabins were typically roofed in this manner¹; modern cedar shingles cover the roof today.

A brick fireplace with a stone hearth floor is situated within the walls of the structure at the east end. The bricks are relatively uniform, with slight variations in size, and made of red clay; the exterior of the fireplace has been whitewashed.

Log Cabin Typology

Comparisons with other log cabin architecture were made to narrow the field of research. In addition, we have attempted to compare features of the cabin that are likely to be original, such as logs, hardware used in construction (nails, hinges, etc.), tool marks (where present) on the wood, joints and beams, fireplace construction and brickwork, chinking material (original), and other above-ground features. It may be difficult in some cases to determine what is original and what is not; fortunately, some records of modifications to the structure do exist.

Walls

The cabin is constructed of round logs, which are joined at the corners by square notching (Illustration 2). This type of keying of logs consists of log ends cut square and laid on top of each other. Square notching is the "neatest form of round log construction"², as it allows the logs to intersect precisely at the corners. However, there is nothing to prevent the log ends from sliding apart. In the past, 'tie logs' were often laid across the front and back walls at storey height. These logs were seated between the top two courses of logs in the wall. In this way, the tie logs served as floor joists for the upper storey and also held the walls together³. The ceiling joists of this cabin are secured to the north and south walls by seating them between the two uppermost logs, with the ends visible, a common method of securing ceiling joists⁴. This

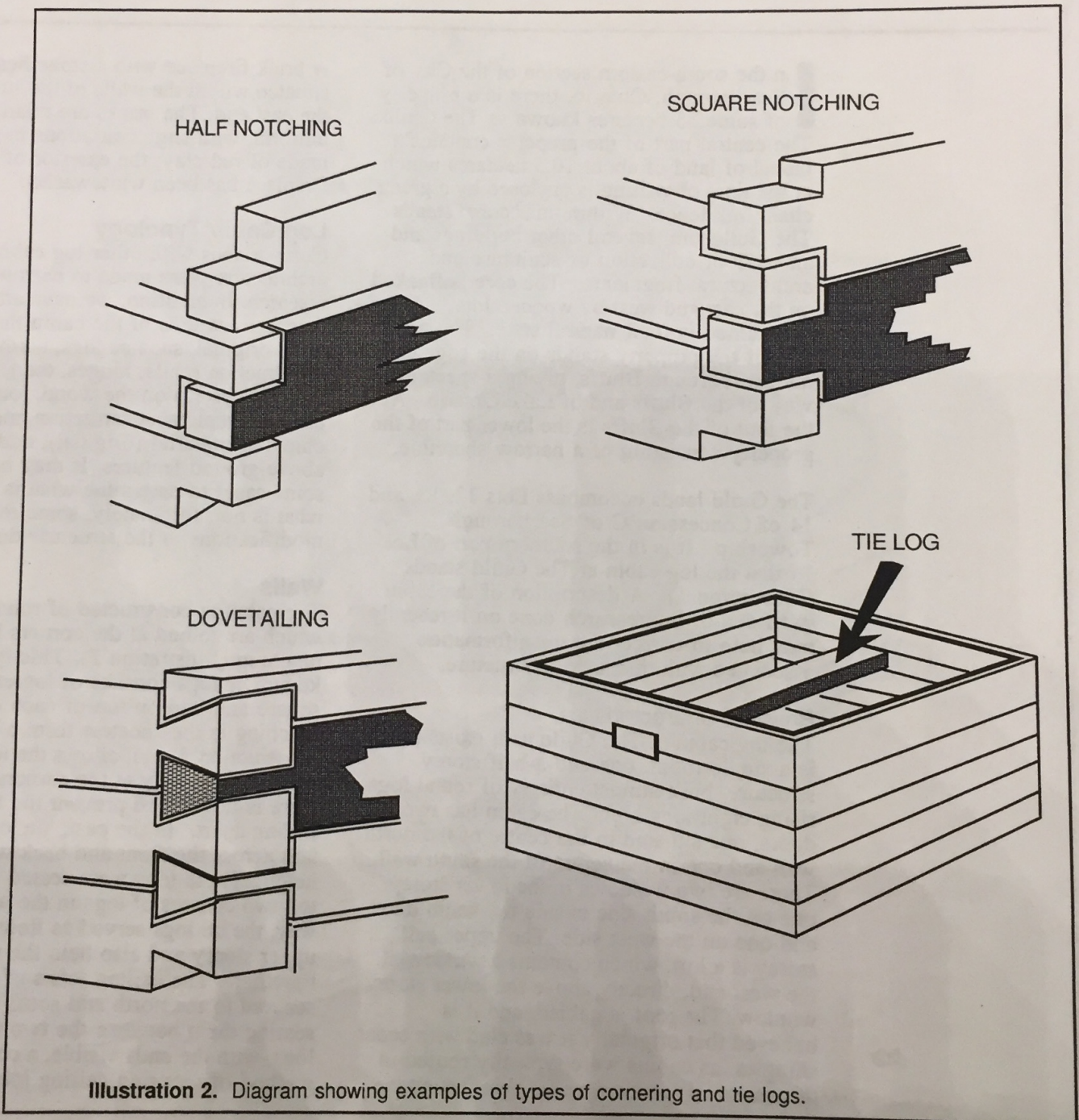


Illustration 2. Diagram showing examples of types of cornering and tie logs.

method also allows these joists to act as tie logs (see Illustration 2).

Since square notched keying requires little technical skill, it is interesting to consider why less skilled construction methods were utilized for a building which would be required to provide shelter from the harsh Canadian climate. Ritchie remarks that log buildings were often notable for their poor construction⁵, largely due to limited time and means to build better structures:

Log buildings were quick to erect, especially since very often the logs lay about ready to use, having been just cut down to clear space for the settlement, but they were essentially temporary. ... a settler who planned, as most did, to build a permanent house of lumber, stone or brick as soon as he could afford it was not likely to lavish care on a log building.⁶

Bomberger agrees with the statement that log cabins were generally constructed poorly. He makes a distinction between log houses and log cabins:

"Log cabin" generally denotes a simple one, or one-and-one-half story structure, somewhat impermanent, and less finished or less architecturally sophisticated. A "log cabin" was usually constructed with *round* rather than hewn, or handworked, logs, and it was the first generation homestead erected quickly for frontier shelter. "Log house" historically denotes a more permanent, *hewn*-log dwelling... of more complex design.⁷

Round logs tend to require more chinking material than squared logs, which fit together more snugly and produce a securer structure⁸. However, "chinking... could compensate for a minimal amount of hewing and save time if immediate shelter was needed"⁹. Several different kinds of material were utilized for chinking log cabins:

Generally though, it is a three-part system applied in several steps. The chinking consists of two parts: first, a dry, bulky, rigid blocking, such as wood slabs or stones is inserted into the joint, followed by a soft packing filler such as oakum, moss, clay, or dried animal dung. Daubing, which completed the system, is the outer wet-trowelled finish layer of varying composition, but often consisting of a mixture of clay and lime or other locally available materials.¹⁰

Rempel notes that it was common to chink the walls of a log building with "'slats and moss' which means that the logs were probably round... Squared logs require less chinking"¹¹. While the present Portland cement chinking of the cabin at The Guild was applied in 1984, an undated archival photograph (pre-1965) shows evidence of wooden slats placed between the logs and covered with mortar (Illustration 3).

It was common for the bottom logs to rot due to continual contact with the ground¹², so it is likely that the bottom course of logs, which are squared timbers, are replacements of the original logs. "Climate and intended permanence of the structure were the primary factors affecting foundation construction. The earliest log cabins, and temporary log dwellings in general, were the most likely to be constructed on... log

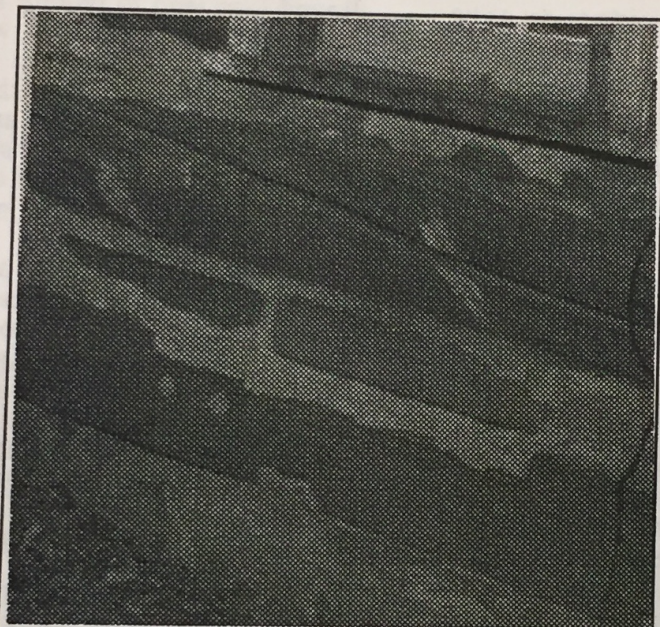


Illustration 3. Detail of photograph of cabin, showing wooden slats inserted in chinking.

sleepers set directly on grade"¹³. Eric Sloane mentions the use of such a hewn sill on barns and other vernacular log buildings¹⁴.

Further evidence that the bottom course of logs on the cabin at The Guild are replacements is the existence of notches for floor joists. On three sides of the cabin, the notches appear on the lower surface of the logs opening downward (see Illustration 3 - bottom). But on the west side, the notches appear on the upper surface of the logs, opening upward. In addition, these logs are not keyed with square notching, like the upper courses, but rather half-notching, the simplest method of fitting logs together at the corners (see Illustration 2). Half-notching requires that half of the ends of the log be removed and the next log, whose ends are also half-notched, be laid on top. This

method does not require as much skill on the part of the builder¹⁵, and allows squared timbers to fit together neatly, forming a level course of logs.

A pair of peg holes (see Illustration 3), filled with cement, appears on this bottom course of timbers on both the north and south sides of the cabin. The existence of identical pairs of holes on two of the timbers suggests that the timbers may have been obtained from the same structure. These replacement timbers certainly are not original to The Guild's cabin, the peg holes having no visible purpose because they are not aligned on both sides of the building.

Dimensions

The cabin has an interior length of 6.5 metres and an interior width of 4.8 metres. Rempel notes that the log houses built for the Queen's Rangers at Niagara were 6.1 by 3.0 metres internally¹⁶. The dimensions of the cabin at The Guild are larger than those of structures known to have been built by the Queen's Rangers; therefore, it seems unlikely that, as indicated in the Heritage Designation, the cabin was built by them¹⁷. In addition, it is unlikely that the cabin was a military structure, because such military buildings were constructed of squared logs so that the logs fit together better and required less chinking. Dovetailed corners (see Illustration 2) were used for more secure joints. In general, military structures were built more solidly than the cabin at The Guild.

If one compares the interior and exterior dimensions of the cabin (exterior length 6.8 metres and width 5.3 metres), it can be calculated that the log walls vary in width from 15 to 25 cm. The ceiling height of the cabin (2.1 metres above the present plywood

floor) and the placement of the ceiling joists on top of the seventh log, with irregularly sized and spaced ceiling joists, are also consistent with what Rempel considers typical early Ontario construction¹⁸. A typical ceiling height for an early Ontario cabin is 2.1 to 2.4 metres¹⁹.

Finishes

Evidence of tool marks can be seen on the exterior and interior surfaces of the logs. Tool marks can be found also on the interior timbers, particularly on the ceiling joists. All but one of the six joists have been squared by means of an axe or adze, but the central beam remains rounded, perhaps due to its smaller girth. On the interior of the south wall, near the southeast corner, the top two courses of logs remain rounded, with some of the original bark still clinging to the logs. It is probable that these logs, like the central ceiling joist, remained rounded also due to their girth.

The interior of the log walls are not squared, but rather merely flattened. Bomberger notes that, in the case of simple cabins, the interior face of logs often was given a flattened surface or simply left exposed²⁰. It was not uncommon to square the interior walls of a log building in order to facilitate the attachment of boards or panelling to "finish" the room²¹. The recent use of nails as a method of attaching objects to the interior walls makes it difficult, if not impossible, to determine whether panelling was applied to the walls by examining the presence or absence of regularly spaced nail holes. Interior finish of log buildings varied, and often walls were merely whitewashed or plastered²². In The Guild's cabin, traces of whitewash still cling to the ceiling joists. The hearth was also whitewashed at some time.

It is not known whether the present window frames of the cabin are original or replacements. However six-paned, double sash windows were a common feature of 19th century Ontario log cabins²³. Glass was expensive, often having to be imported from Europe or the United States, so panes were small²⁴, usually possessing a standardized measurement of 17.8 by 22.9 cm²⁵. Double sash window frames, with 17.8 by 22.9 cm panes, are in place in the cabin today, which may indicate that they are indeed original.

Fireplace

It is interesting that the chimney is situated entirely within the walls of the structure. Rempel notes that in Ontario, chimneys were usually built of brick or local stone, with hearths of stone or brick and chimneys entirely inside the walls²⁶. Early log houses possessed fireplaces roughly 1.2 to 1.8 metres wide; later log buildings frequently had no fireplace at all, because wood stoves were in common use as a more fuel-efficient form of heating²⁷. The fireplace in the cabin has an interior width of 1.56 metres, and an interior height of 1.26 metres. The use of brick for the construction of hearths occurred in the earliest settlements in Canada²⁸, and is evident in other structures in Toronto. In the York Assessment Rolls for 1807-1809, buildings of round log construction tend to be classed as single fireplace dwellings, which belonged to the poorer citizens²⁹.

Around the hearth, the fabric of the bricks can be seen where the whitewash has been worn away. The bricks are a uniform red clay, and of relatively uniform size. The mortar used to construct the fireplace is unusual, and probably original. The "mortar" is a friable material, yellow-grey in colour, with sandy inclusions. It is possible



Illustration 4. Photograph of upper chimney in loft.

that the builder of the fireplace utilized a softer homemade mortar in place of a harder, commercially available mortar or cement.

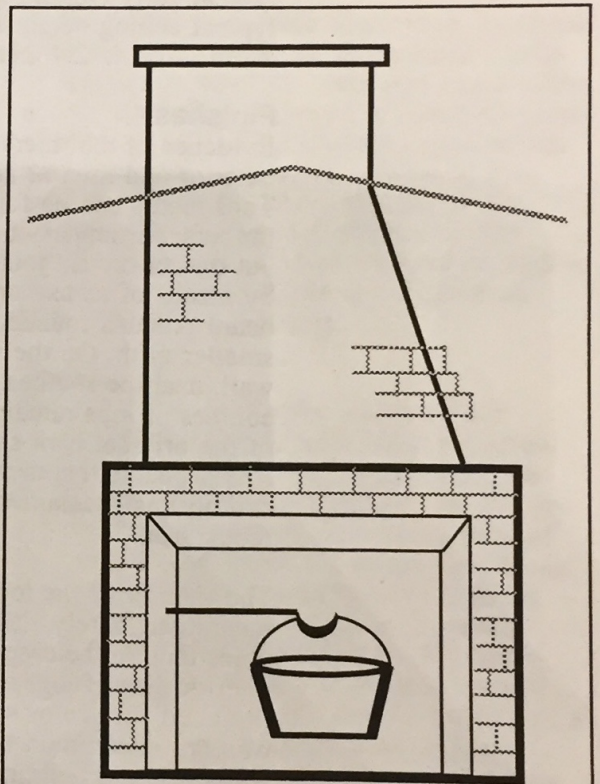


Illustration 5. Diagram of fireplace & chimney.

It has been suggested that the fireplace was not in place in the building originally, but was an addition by a subsequent resident. This suggestion is difficult to support for a number of reasons. Primarily, it is difficult to believe that if the building was to be occupied year-round, the residents could survive a Canadian winter without a form of heating. Since fireplaces preceded the introduction of wood stoves as a source of

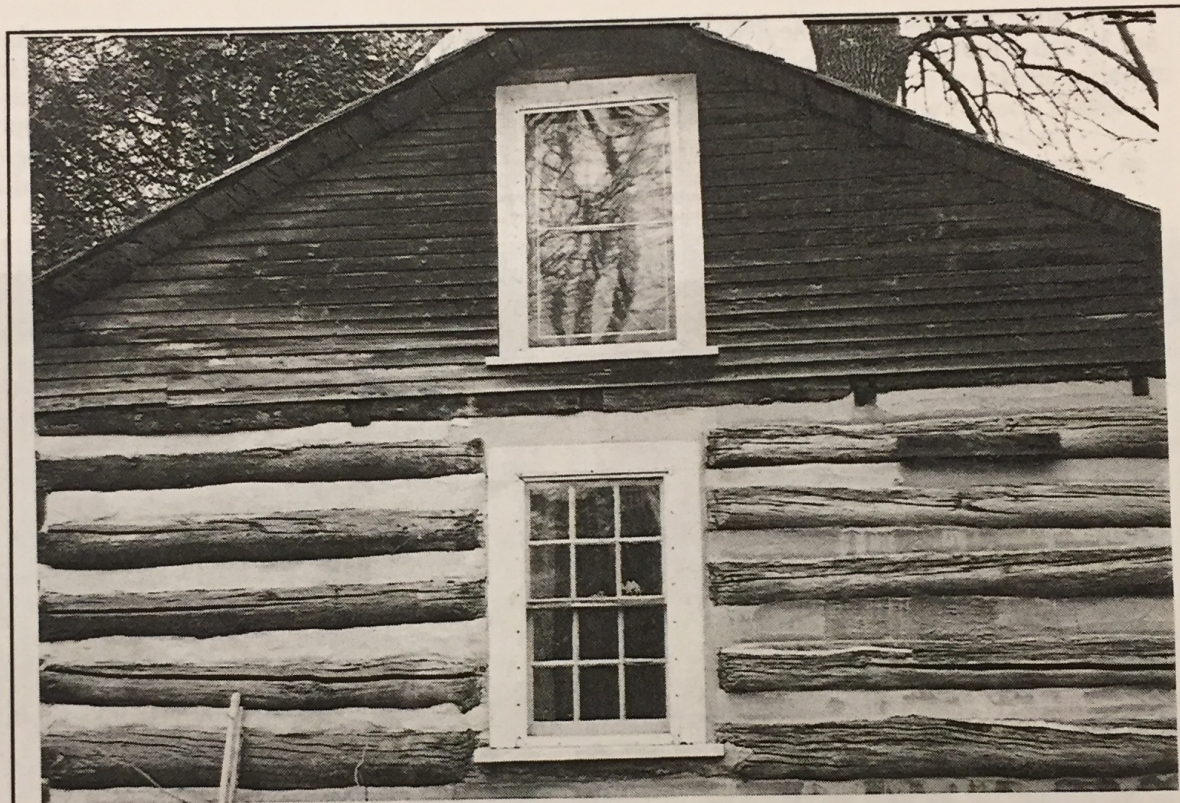


Illustration 6. Photograph of west side of cabin, showing notching along top log for gable supports. 1995

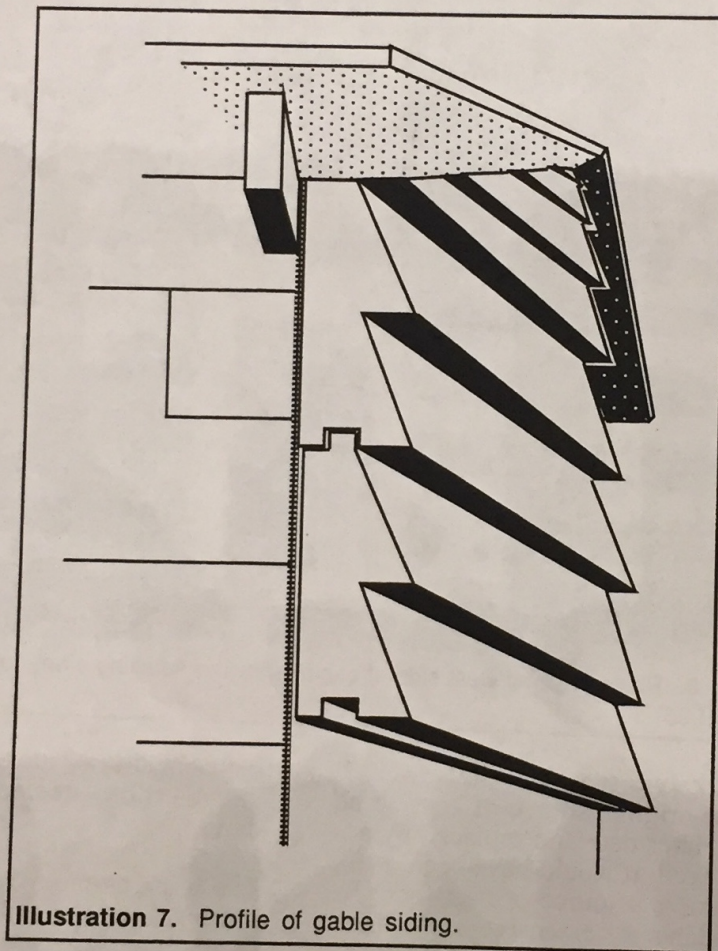
heat, it is unlikely that a wood stove would have been the original source of heat, to be removed at a later date and replaced by a fireplace. As well, it would have been necessary to have a source of heat for cooking. Evidence of extensive use of the fireplace, indicated by the amount of soot clinging to the bricks, suggests that the fireplace was used over an extended period.

In addition, the simple construction of the fireplace, particularly in the type of mortar used to hold the structure together, suggests that the fireplace is original; presumably a

better quality of mortar would have been utilized if the fireplace was added at a later date.

The brick chimney extends into the loft. The north side of the chimney extends in a regular course, while the south side exhibits irregular brick construction, with the south side of the chimney being wider at the bottom and narrowing towards the top to emerge from the roof again in a regular course (Illustration 4). This photograph of the chimney in the loft exhibits a distinct line within the brick on the south side of the

chimney, which suggests that the irregular appearance on that side resulted from later alteration, and the chimney originally would have been rectangular throughout



(Illustration 5). The reconstruction of the chimney at the loft level may have been the result of a widening of the fireplace.

Upper Storey

The roof of the cabin is the gable type, with gable ends boarded up and cedar shingles

over the roof boards. The roof boards are sawn planks, likely modern replacements. As mentioned previously, the present shingles are replacements, but the original use of

cedar shingles is consistent with this type of building³⁰. Boarding up the gable ends of cabin roofs was a fairly common practice³¹. The topmost logs on the east and west sides of the cabin are notched to carry the five vertical supports for the gable siding boards (Illustration 6). On the west side, the presence of such a notch directly below the upper storey window indicates that the window is a later addition, because the gable support would not have been so placed if a window were located there originally.

Wooden siding covers the gable ends; this siding is sawn so as to allow water to run off the siding without settling in the joints (Illustration 7). It is not known whether this siding is original or a replacement and, if so, when the replacement was made. The profile of the siding suggests that its manufacture required some degree of technical skill; however the use of sawn timber does not preclude that the siding is original.

Bomberger notes that "[r]oof framing members and floor joists were either hewn from logs or of milled lumber"³².

The floorboards of the loft are also sawn, 8.9 cm wide, joined tongue-and-groove, and are likely original. Rempel notes the use of sawn lumber for floorboards in log construction, as well as the use of tongue-and-groove planks in interior finishing members³³.

Roof trusses are constructed of sawn timber, although one beam on the north side of the roof retains an uneven shape, suggesting that it was only partially sawn, and perhaps is original. There are eight roof trusses, the ends of which protrude on the exterior of

the building. Wooden eavestroughs are attached to the north and south sides of the roof by means of wooden brackets nailed to the protruding ends of the trusses. These eavestroughs are known to be a later addition because they do not appear in an early photo of the cabin (Illustration 8).

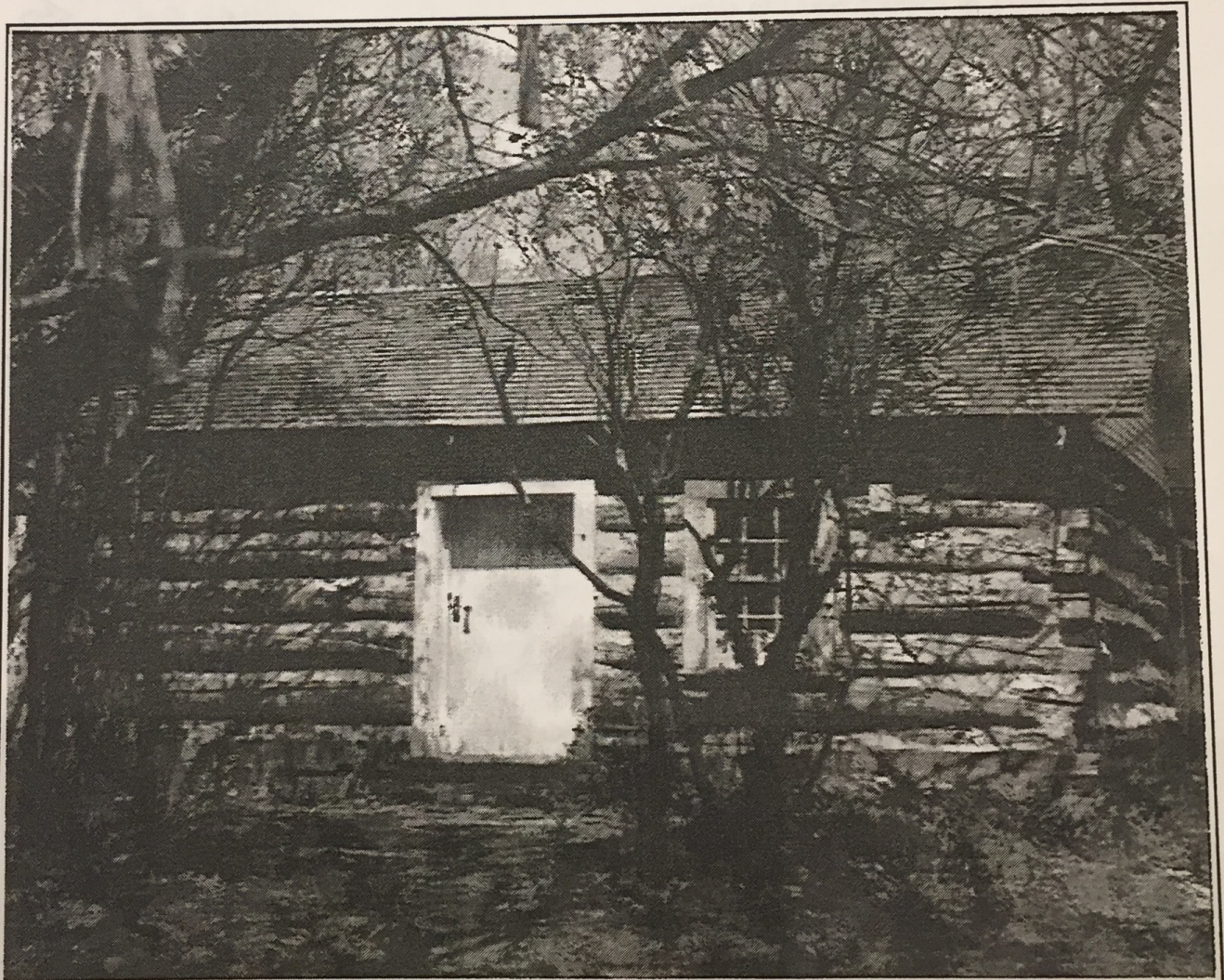


Illustration 8. Photograph of south side of the cabin, showing eaves. Undated.

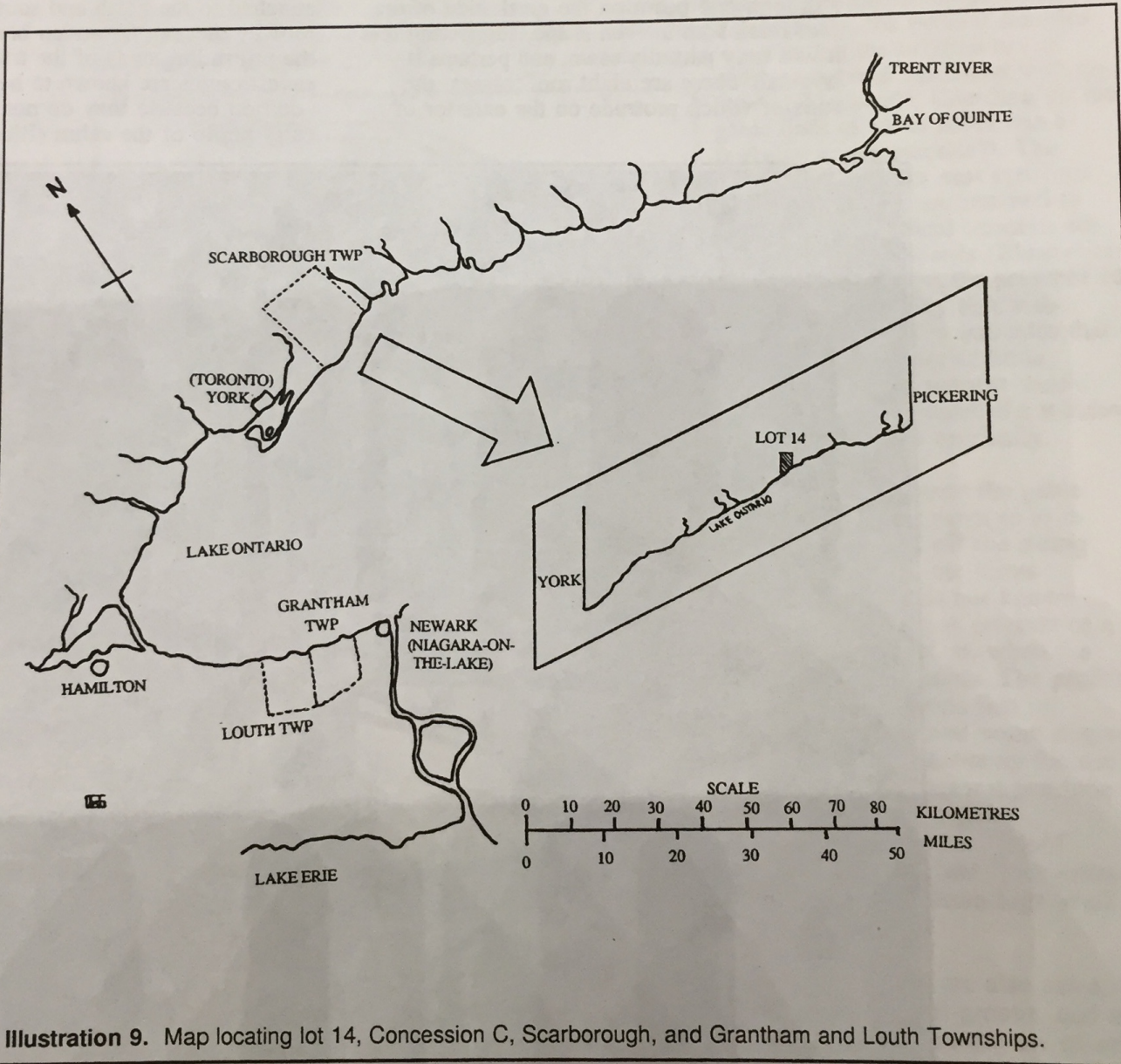


Illustration 9. Map locating lot 14, Concession C, Scarborough, and Grantham and Louth Townships.

An exhaustive examination of land records has been performed in an attempt to determine who was the builder of the cabin. While the land records usually do not indicate buildings on a site, other comprehensive research has made it possible to determine who was likely *not* to have built the cabin.

Augustus Jones

Augustus Jones was a surveyor in Upper Canada in the late eighteenth century. According to long-standing legend, Jones and his survey crew, commissioned by Lieutenant-Governor John Graves Simcoe to survey the lakeshore, cut down trees on what is now The Guild property and built the log cabin as a field headquarters for their survey activity in Scarborough (previously Glasgow) Township in the late 1790s.³⁴ The township had been renamed in 1793 by Elizabeth Simcoe, wife of the Lieutenant-Governor, for the "High Lands" (the Bluffs) reminded her of the cliffs of Scarborough in Yorkshire, England.³⁵

It has been said that the log cabin property was the perfect site for a survey base, since it is located at roughly the east-west centre of Scarborough Township, and at the water's edge³⁶. According to legend, Augustus Jones' survey crew would have travelled from York (Toronto after 1834) by water to the cabin site, and would have lived in the cabin while working on the survey, travelling to town on weekends or whenever necessary. In past literature, the members of the survey crew have variously been referred to as axemen of Butler's Rangers³⁷ or as men of the Queen's Rangers.³⁸ Alternatively, the Rangers were said to have been present merely to protect the survey crew.³⁹ In actuality, very little of this tale of Augustus Jones' association with the cabin rings true

once the primary sources have been consulted.

Records suggest that Augustus Jones was born in the 1750s or 1760s. He began working as a survey chain bearer in 1787 and was appointed a Provincial Deputy Surveyor of Upper Canada in 1789. In 1791 he replaced Philip Frey as Deputy Surveyor in the District of Nassau and was paid at the rate of 7 shillings and 6 pence per day.⁴⁰

On 22 February 1791 Augustus Jones was instructed, not by Lieutenant-Governor Simcoe⁴¹ but by the Surveyor General's Office in Quebec, to "engage ten chain bearers and axe men on the most reasonable terms they can be had ... to survey and mark the front lines of a row of townships" on the north side of Lake Ontario, from the mouth of the River Trent (at the head of the Bay of Quinte) to York, and "to carry the side lines of each township back one mile well marked"⁴² (Illustration 9). He was cautioned "to pay a very strict attention to economy in the whole service and dismiss the hands as soon as they can be spared." For this job, accounts submitted to the Surveyor General's Office indicate that the survey crew worked for 79 days straight, from 1 July to 17 September 1791, running the front lines of the eleven townships. Jones' field notes indicate that the township line was run in a total of only 5 days, from 7 September to 11 September.⁴³

Jones' accounts also tell us that he had a crew of eight men on this job: two chain bearers, four axe men, one flagman, and one extra man who was hired later in the summer⁴⁴. It is certainly possible that this survey crew included Rangers, for military personnel were often assigned to road construction or land surveying duties.⁴⁵ If this were the case,

these men would have been *Queen's* Rangers, who were stationed at York, rather than *Butler's* Rangers, who were stationed at Niagara. Such men would have had extensive experience in building log structures, because the quick erection of shelter was one of a soldier's primary tasks when on the move. However, the details of the cabin at The Guild do not correspond with those of structures known to have been built by military personnel. In particular, these structures were consistently constructed of squared logs, whereas almost all of the logs of The Guild's cabin are rounded. Also, military builders would have used dovetailed joints at the corners for stability, rather than square notching (see Illustration 2).

In addition to payment for the members of the survey crew, Augustus Jones' accounts include payment to John McEwen "for the use of his batteau to transport provision for the surveying party."⁴⁶ Traditionally, survey crews carried all of their own food and equipment with them into the bush, and used tents for shelter. Their equipment included a compass and axes for cutting paths through the forest to permit the chain-bearers to lay out their measuring lines.⁴⁷ To indicate the boundaries between townships, Jones would mark a chosen tree with a series of notches and blazing before proceeding to the next township.⁴⁸ The crew would work constantly until the job was done; they did not stop for "weekends", nor would they routinely return to town during the course of a survey expedition. Jones' reputation as an exceptional surveyor survives to this day, both in terms of quantity of land covered and speed of surveying.⁴⁹

In 1793 Jones was instructed to lay out the concession lines of Glasgow Township.⁵⁰ Jones and a survey crew completed the task

from 15 August to 22 August 1793 — a total of only eight days. Once again, the speed with which this survey was completed is testimony to Jones' organizational skill. His field notes from the 1793 Scarborough survey contain the following passage, which documents that his survey crew lived in tents during this expedition:

[York, August 1793:]
Tuesday 13.

Sent the Batteau + men down to the High Lands to bring up Mr. Grant's Tent and Baggage.

Wednesday 14.

Went from Mr. St. John's to the Beginning of the High Lands between York and Scarborough.⁵¹

It is clear from the accounts which Jones submitted to the Surveyor General's Office for other surveying jobs over the years that he and his crews routinely lived in tents while on survey expeditions. Several of his accounts list a £1 charge for tents.⁵²

Considering all of the foregoing information, we can conclude that the log cabin was *not* built during the survey of the 1790s. It is irrelevant that the cabin site (on Lot 14, Concession C) is at roughly the mid-point of Scarborough Township, since the survey of 1791 involved a much broader area (from the Trent River to York). The speed with which the surveys of both 1791 and 1793 were conducted does not support the theory that effort would have been expended to build a log cabin for the crew, particularly when the Field Notes specifically mention tents, which would have been much more practical and economical. Furthermore, water access for men and equipment would have been extremely

difficult from this cabin site, since the Bluffs are over 122 metres high at this point.⁵³ A much more convenient access point to the water would have been found further east where the Bluffs taper off. All of these factors lead to the firm conclusion that Augustus Jones or his crew did not build the log cabin at The Guild.

William Osterhout

Another reputed builder of the log cabin is William Osterhout, a farmer who is said to have settled on the property in Scarborough in 1796 with his family and to have built the log cabin in order to fulfil his settlement duties.⁵⁴ Settlement duties for land grantees at the time required the building of a cabin of certain dimensions and the clearing of five acres of land within one year of a land grant.⁵⁵ Nevertheless, William Osterhout was both a Butler's Ranger and a United Empire Loyalist, and sources suggest that there was leniency with regard to settlement duties for such individuals. In 1783, Governor Haldimand had set up a scale of grants for Loyalists and discharged soldiers which freed them from fees and exempted them from settlement duties.⁵⁶ This policy leads us to remain sceptical that the cabin was built to fulfil Osterhout's settlement duties.

Furthermore, the facts surrounding the life of William Osterhout locate him firmly in the Niagara area, and *not* Scarborough, during the years 1796 to 1805, when he held title to the Scarborough property. Osterhout had apparently immigrated to Upper Canada from the Mohawk Valley, New York State in the early 1780s.⁵⁷ He was a member of the Butler's Rangers, disbanded in Niagara on 24 June 1784.⁵⁸ From 1784 until 1791, Osterhout lived in various areas in the Niagara District. His name appears on a Muster Roll of 1785, listed as a settler

between the Four Mile Creek and the head of Lake Ontario.⁵⁹ William Osterhout was also included on the list of Loyalists victualled at Niagara, Murray's District, 14 December 1786.⁶⁰ On 25 October 1791, he was deeded land in Grantham Township in Upper Canada, which he retained until 1807⁶¹ (see Illustration 9).

From Niagara, William Osterhout petitioned His Excellency, John Graves Simcoe, for a land grant for himself and his wife, Elizabeth, on 21 May 1796⁶². In 1797 he is still listed on the United Empire Loyalist Roll in the Niagara District⁶³. It was not until 8 July 1799 that Osterhout finally received a Patent for Lot 14, Concession C in Scarborough, in response to his petition from 1796.⁶⁴ It appears that petitioners had no say in the location of the land they received⁶⁵, which would suggest a reason why the Osterhout family received property in Scarborough, so far from their Niagara residence.

On 10 May 1805 (six years after receiving the land grant) Osterhout, listed as a resident of Louth Township, sold the property to Alexander McDonell of York.⁶⁶ This sale is the first recorded transaction on the Abstract Index to Deeds for this property. No specific mention is made in the 1805 document of any building on the property. This is not unusual, although it is unfortunate for the historian who is looking for information about buildings. Land transfer documents traditionally were concerned only with the *land*; it is rare that further information is included.

No records can be found to support the theory that Osterhout resided in Scarborough during the years of his ownership of the land there. In fact, an 1805

"census" of Scarborough does not include the Osterhout name at all.⁶⁷ Yet the Minute Books of Council from Louth Township clearly list William Osterhout as Road Master and then Path Master in Louth in 1800, 1805, 1811, 1813 and 1815.⁶⁸ Furthermore, Osterhout continues to be involved in land transactions in Grantham and Louth Townships from 1806 onward.⁶⁹ On 3 April 1816, William Osterhout made his Will in Louth Township, Lincoln County, identifying himself as a farmer there, and he died a year later in Louth.⁷⁰

It is clear from all of this information that William Osterhout never settled in Scarborough, but rather lived as a farmer in Lincoln County. Particularly because of his privileged status as a United Empire Loyalist, it is possible that his settlement duties for the property in Scarborough were waived, and it is likely that he never set foot on Lot 14, Concession C, Scarborough Township, nor built the log cabin there.

Alexander McDonell

After William Osterhout, the next name to appear on the Abstract Index to Deeds for the log cabin property is Alexander McDonell. He held title to the property from 1805 until 1834. It will be useful to trace the history of this colourful and powerful individual in order to assess whether he is likely to have been the builder of the log cabin at The Guild.

There are several Alexander McDonells in the history of Upper Canada in the early nineteenth century. This particular Alexander was born in Scotland and immigrated to the Mohawk Valley, New York State in 1773. He was a Lieutenant in Butler's Rangers in 1790 and was appointed by John Graves Simcoe as Sheriff of the

Home District in 1792⁷¹ (Illustration 10). He held the office until 1805. In 1796 McDonell owned a house in Newark (Niagara-on-the-Lake), although he moved to York in 1797⁷². On the sale document for the purchase of the log cabin property in Scarborough from William Osterhout on 10 May 1805, McDonnell is listed as a resident of York.⁷³ 1805 was also the year of Alexander's marriage to Anne Smith in York and the year he was elected Speaker of the House of Assembly. He was summoned to England in 1811 by the Earl of Selkirk and returned to Canada a year later and was given the rank of Colonel. During his military duties in 1813 he was captured by the Americans and taken to prison in Lancaster, Pennsylvania where he remained until he was paroled in 1814. In 1815 he superintended the Perth Settlement (located near Ottawa), and in 1816 he was in temporary residence at Niagara.⁷⁴

Finally, in 1818 Alexander McDonell returned to York and built a substantial residence on the north east corner of Adelaide and John Streets, which remained a social centre of the town for many years.⁷⁵ McDonell's political and social connections ensured his place among the élite of York society and his name is associated with many local and provincial events, including the erection of St. Paul's Church on Power Street in York in 1821 (he later became treasurer of the congregation), as well as his appointment as Inspector of Licences for the Home District in 1828 and, most prestigiously, his appointment to the Legislative Council in 1831.⁷⁶

On 31 October 1834, the Honourable Alexander McDonell, recorded as a resident of the City of Toronto, Home District, sold the log cabin property to Duncan Cameron,

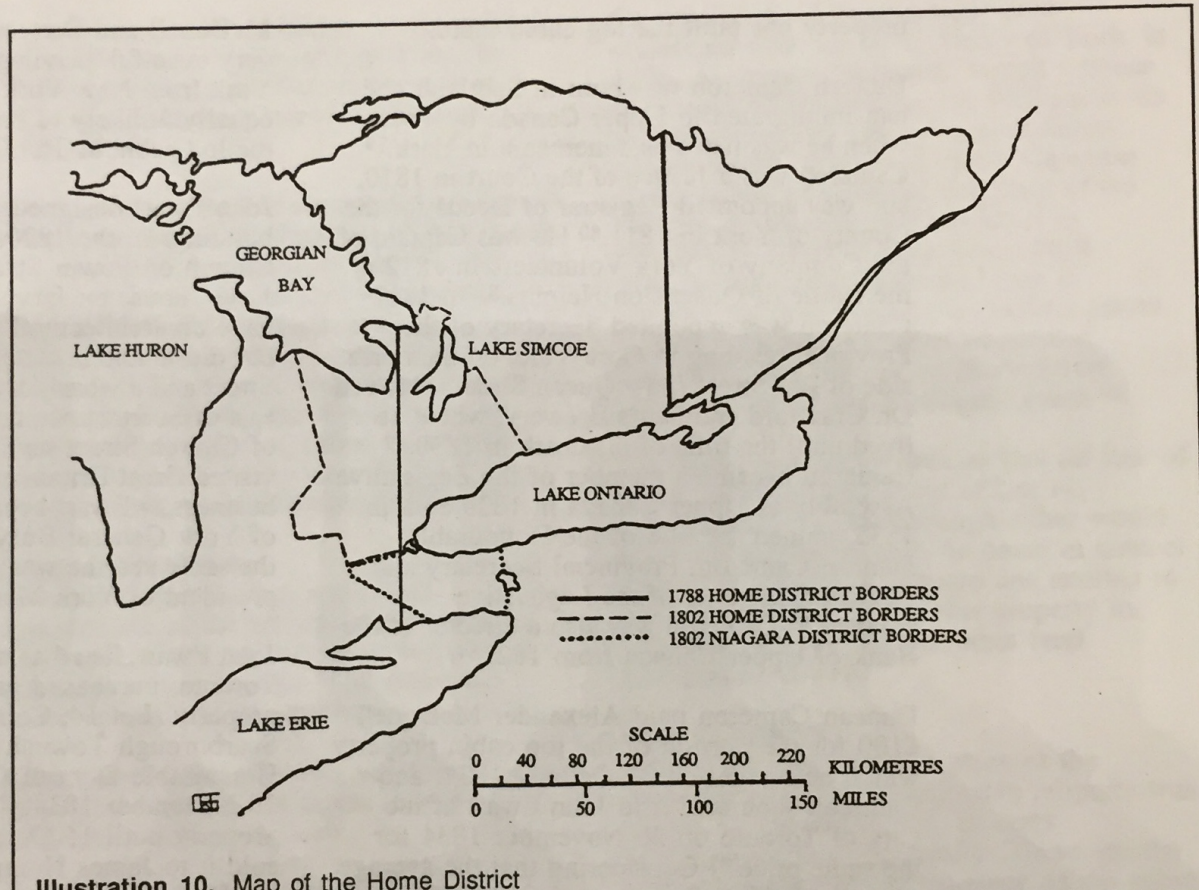


Illustration 10. Map of the Home District

also of Toronto.⁷⁷ This property had been merely a small part of McDonnell's land holdings. Upon his death on 18 March 1842, Alexander McDonnell had amassed over four thousand hectares of prime land across Ontario.⁷⁸ It is clear that McDonnell was a wealthy and powerful political figure who resided in York and would probably not have built a one-room log cabin in Scarborough as his residence. Historical records do not tell us whether the log cabin was extant on the property at the time of McDonnell's purchase of the land in 1805, nor even at the time of its sale in 1834.

However, we may conclude that McDonnell did not build or live in the log cabin at The Guild.

Duncan Cameron

The third name on the Abstract Index to Deeds for the log cabin property is that of Duncan Cameron, who held title to the land for a less than a month. A brief investigation of the life of this individual will demonstrate that he belongs in the same category as Alexander McDonnell: that of an absentee landowner, and probably a land speculator who neither lived on the Scarborough

property nor built the log cabin there.

Duncan Cameron was born in Scotland and had immigrated to Upper Canada by 1801, when he was listed as a merchant in York.⁷⁹ Cameron was a Justice of the Court in 1810, and was appointed Registrar of Deeds for the County of York in 1811.⁸⁰ He was Captain of the Company of York Volunteers in 1812 at the Battle of Queenston Heights.⁸¹ In 1817 Cameron was appointed Secretary of the Province, residing in Gore Vale, on the north side of Lot Street (now Queen Street) between Dr. Crawford and Farr's Brewery, where he lived until the time of his death in 1838.⁸² Cameron became a member of the Legislative Assembly of Upper Canada in 1820 and, in 1833, gained the title of the Honourable Duncan Cameron, Provincial Secretary and Registrar, Member of the Legislative Council.⁸³ Cameron was also a director of the Bank of Upper Canada from 1822⁸⁴.

Duncan Cameron paid Alexander McDonell £100 for the portion of the log cabin property which he bought on 31 October 1834, and Cameron soon sold it to John Ewart of the City of Toronto on 20 November 1834 for the same price.⁸⁵ Considering that the average price for land in Scarborough in the mid-nineteenth century was £1 per acre⁸⁶, these transactions were "good deals", supporting the theory of land speculation for property which the owners never intended to occupy but merely traded on paper. Clearly, Duncan Cameron, with his limited time of ownership of the Scarborough property, as well as his social status and his established residence in York, was not the builder of the log cabin on The Guild property.

John Ewart

The fourth owner of the log cabin property was John Ewart, who, like Alexander

McDonell and Duncan Cameron, also led a very eventful, privileged life after moving to York from New York City in 1819.⁸⁷ He is equally unlikely to have been the builder of the log cabin at The Guild.

John Ewart designed many of York's buildings in the 1820s, including St. Paul's Church on Power Street (1822) and Samuel Jarvis' house on Jarvis Street (1824).⁸⁸ Ewart gave up architectural design work in 1830, but did maintain a building yard at 30 Front Street and a wharf located between Brown's, east of Scott Street, and Maitland's at the foot of Church Street in Toronto.⁸⁹ He frequently visited Great Britain and New York City on business.⁹⁰ Ewart became a life-long trustee of York General Burying Ground in 1830, the same year he was named the first president of York Mechanics Institute.⁹¹

John Ewart, listed as a resident of the City of Toronto, purchased part of the log cabin property (Lot 14, Concession C, Scarborough Township) from the Honourable Duncan Cameron for £100 on 20 November 1834.⁹² Ewart held the property until 15 October 1845, when he sold it to James Humphrys of Scarborough for £212.⁹³ In the intervening years, Ewart was a founding member of the St. Andrew's Society of Toronto in 1836, a founding director of the City of Toronto and Lake Huron Railroad Company in 1837, the president of the Toronto Cricket Club in 1840 and in 1841 was named to a board to superintend the Province's temporary Lunatic Asylum.⁹⁴ In 1843 Ewart purchased a parcel of Samuel Jarvis' land on the west side of Jarvis Street between Carlton and Maitland Streets in Toronto.⁹⁵ In this year he was also occupied with preparations for

experimental roadbed designs⁹⁶. He was a successful businessman of high status in Toronto. John Ewart died in Toronto in 1856 with a financial worth of around £100,000⁹⁷.

It is inconceivable that a man of John Ewart's wealth and social standing would have lived in a one-room log cabin in Scarborough. Although Ewart owned the Scarborough property for over a decade, there is no tangible evidence placing him on this property at any time during those years or connecting him with the residence in, or construction of, the log cabin, especially since he was involved with architectural design of more sophisticated buildings.

Interconnections

It would appear from a superficial examination of the records that Osterhout, McDonell, Cameron and Ewart were strangers to one another. The following observations suggest otherwise.

Alexander McDonell was a subaltern⁹⁸ in the same unit of Butler's Rangers in which William Osterhout served⁹⁹.

In the Legislative Assembly of Upper Canada between 1792 and 1821 there appeared six politicians surnamed MacDonell (McDonell), including the aforementioned Alexander¹⁰⁰. While Duncan Cameron was the Provincial Secretary of Upper Canada from 1817 to 1838¹⁰¹, he would have been in contact with Alexander McDonell from 1820 to 1823¹⁰².

John Ewart was commissioned to design and build St. Paul's Church on Power Street in York in 1822¹⁰³ and Alexander McDonell assisted in its erection¹⁰⁴. Three of the absentee owners of Lot 14,

Concession C of Scarborough were connected with the Jarvis family of York. In 1796, Alexander McDonell owned a house in Newark which he rented to William Jarvis for approximately two years after Jarvis' house burned down¹⁰⁵. Duncan Cameron was appointed Provincial Secretary of the Province to succeed William Jarvis in 1817¹⁰⁶. In 1824-25 John Ewart built William Jarvis' son Samuel's house in York¹⁰⁷. In 1843, Ewart purchased a parcel of land from Samuel Jarvis which was located on the west side of Jarvis Street between Carlton and Maitland Streets¹⁰⁸.

The facts cited above indicate that all four of these absentee landowners of Lot 14, Concession C of Scarborough either would have had the opportunity to come in contact with each another or assisted one another in the purchase and sale of this property in particular, and perhaps in other land transactions as well.

The Humphrys

From 1845 until the first years of the twentieth century, the log cabin property was owned by the Humphrys, an early Scarborough farming family. These are the first individuals whose presence on the cabin property (Lot 14, Concession C, Scarborough Township) can be supported by documentation of the period, and at present they would appear to be the most likely builders of the log cabin at The Guild. James Humphrys and his wife Margaret Richardson emigrated from Northern Ireland with their young son, William in 1824.¹⁰⁹ They initially stayed with Margaret's family on Lot 14, Concession D in Scarborough Township in a log cabin built by the Richardson family, but the Humphrys family soon moved to Lot 8, Concession I where they set up a tavern.¹¹⁰

1861 Canada West Census, York County, Scarborough Township

Name	Occupation	Country of Origin	Church	Age	Sex	Married or Single	Members of Family	Dwelling
Humphrey	William	Farmer	Ireland	Church of England (For All)	38	M	M	Male 4 Female 2 Log 1 1/2 Storey one family
	Maria		England		32	F	M	
	William (H.)		Upper Canada		6	M	S	
	Mary		Upper Canada		4	F	S	
	Charles (Charlie)		Upper Canada		3	M	S	
	Albert		Upper Canada		1	M	S	
<u>Non Member Residents</u>								
Anthony	William	Farmer	England	Church of England	60	M	Widower	Male 2 Female 1
Henderson	John	Labourer	Ireland	Church of England	16	M	S	
Doody	Mary		Ireland	R.C.	18	F	S	

Illustration 11. Part of 1861 Canada West Census, York County, Scarborough Township

Among other land rentals, leases, grants and purchases, on 15 October 1845 James Humphrys purchased from John Ewart Lots 12, 13 and 14 of Concession C, Scarborough, which included the log cabin property.¹¹¹ James Humphrys held this parcel of land until 30 September 1858, when he sold it to his son William.¹¹² James continued to live and farm in Scarborough,

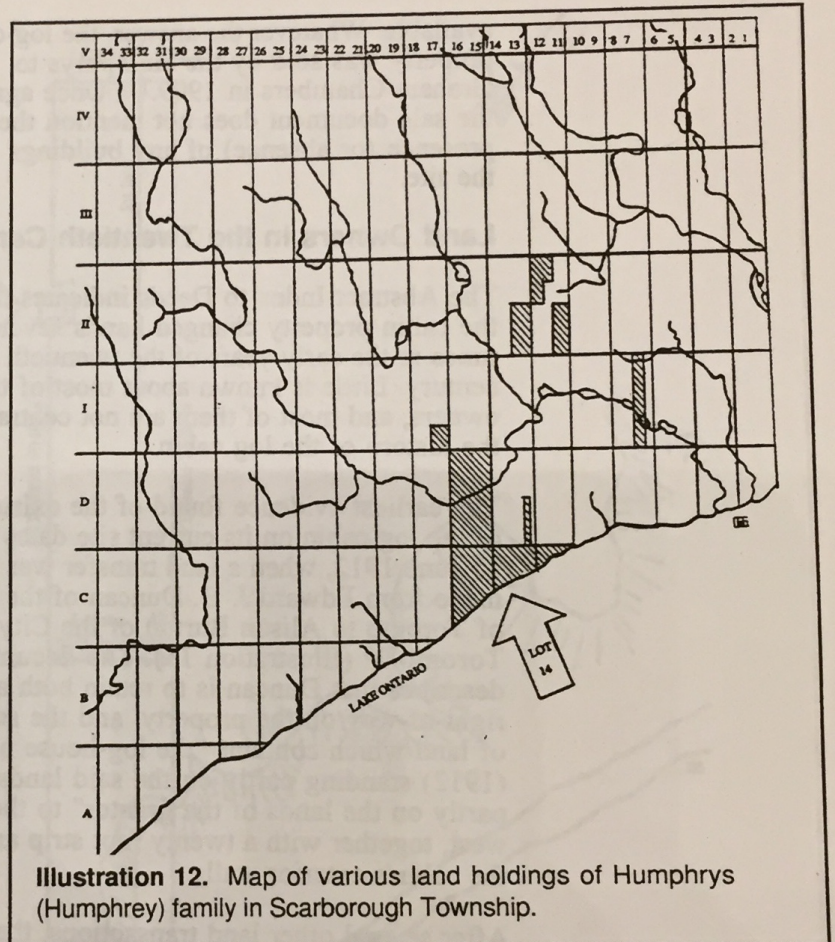
and is listed on subsequent Assessment Rolls as residing on Lot 15, Concession D.¹¹³

The earliest documentary support for the presence of a log cabin on Lot 14 reveals itself in the 1861 Census where William Humphrys, his family, and three other individuals are listed as residing in a one-and-a-half storey log cabin (Illustration 11).

This description conforms with that of the log cabin currently standing at The Guild. Although the Census does not connect individuals with specific property sites, the entries are roughly grouped within each township, corresponding to the path travelled by the census-taker in recording the information. The Census entry for William Humphrys occurs within a grouping which can be associated with the location of the log cabin property on Lot 14. Furthermore, Assessment Rolls clearly confirm William as the owner of Lot 14, Concession C, among other Scarborough properties¹¹⁴.

There are two other sources of information about the Humphrys' occupation of the log cabin which must be qualified as anecdotes, but which may provide support for the existence of the cabin in the 1850s. According to legend, William Humphrys brought his bride, Maria, to the cabin upon their marriage in the early years of the 1850s. Furthermore, Emily Humphrey, daughter of William and Maria, is recorded to have said that her oldest brother, William Henry, was born in the log cabin in 1854.¹¹⁵

However, we must balance these accounts against our knowledge of the size of the Humphrys family; William and Maria had six children between the years 1854 and 1867.¹¹⁶ By modern standards, it is difficult



to imagine a family of eight living in such a small cabin, particularly when the Humphrys were established farmers with multiple land holdings in Scarborough¹¹⁷ (Illustration 12). Perhaps the log cabin at The Guild represents the first dwelling place for the young family, or was an outbuilding for a more extensive arrangement of farm buildings on the site. This puzzle cannot be solved from the information currently

available. Whatever the answer, the log cabin property was sold by the Humphrys to Graham Chambers in 1909.¹¹⁸ Once again, the sale document does not mention the presence (or absence) of any buildings on the site.

Land Owners in the Twentieth Century

The Abstract Index to Deeds indicates that the cabin property changed hands several times in the early years of the twentieth century. Little is known about most of these owners, and most of them are not central to the history of the log cabin.

The earliest evidence found of the existence of the log cabin on its current site dates to 15 June 1912, when a land transfer was made from Edward J. B. Duncan of the City of Toronto to Alison Burton of the City of Toronto¹¹⁹ (Illustration 13). The document describes that Duncan is to retain both a right-of-way on the property, and the section of land which contains "the log-house now (1912) standing partly on the said lands, and partly on the lands of the grantor" to the west, together with a twenty foot strip around the cabin's exterior walls.

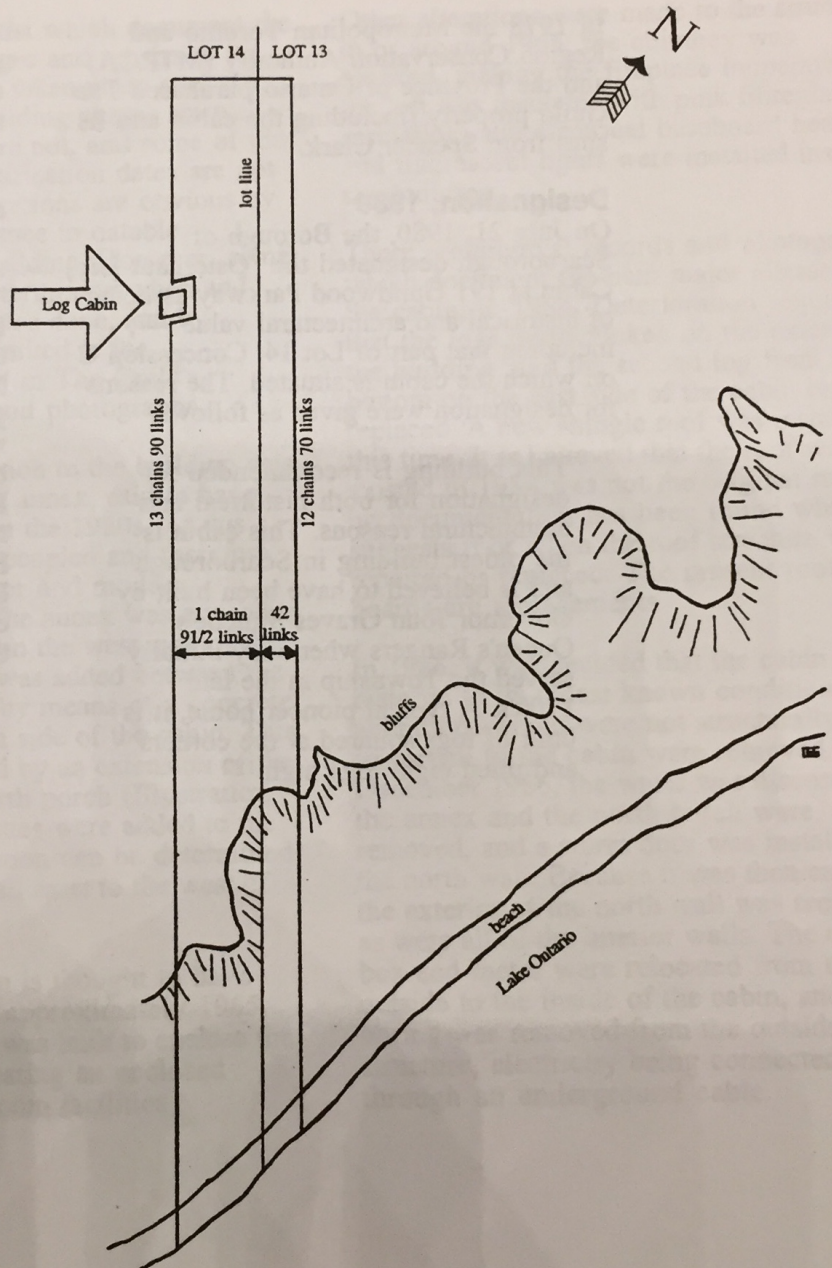
After several other land transactions, the cabin property was finally purchased in 1934 by Rosa and Spencer Clark.¹²⁰ The Clarks had established The Guild of All Arts on the surrounding property in 1932, and began receiving overnight guests almost immediately thereafter at the inn which they had established, known today as The Guild Inn. The log cabin subsequently was occupied by various visitors over the years. One of these visitors, Lucy Swanton Doyle, merits special mention. Miss Doyle resided in the cabin from the early 1950s to the late 1960s as a guest of Rosa and Spencer Clark.

Lucy Doyle had been on the staff of The Toronto Telegram from 1890 to 1930. During this time she became a well-known and colourful journalist, having worked her way up from messenger girl. In later years at the newspaper she wrote a column under the pseudonym Cornelia.

While she lived in the log cabin, Spencer Clark asked her to use her journalistic skills to investigate the history of the cabin and other features of The Guild property. Her papers, which are located at the University of Waterloo and at the Scarborough Archives, contain hundreds of rough notes about the cabin which were never compiled into a finished text. Perusal of these notes has led to the conclusion that many of the misconceptions about the cabin are the result of Miss Doyle's haphazard and very eccentric investigations. She received many visitors during her stay in the cabin. Because she was a highly entertaining conversationalist, her guests were delighted with her own personal account of the origin and history of the building.

The log cabin has been used for various activities in the later twentieth century. In 1968, the Guildcrest Studio of Arts and Crafts used the log cabin briefly as a craft studio, and in ensuing years it was used consecutively by sculptors John Byers and Elizabeth Fraser Williamson as a sculpture studio. In 1971 and 1972 the television series *The Whiteoaks of Jalna*, based on a novel by Mazo de la Roche, was filmed, in part, at the log cabin. The cabin also appeared in a motion picture made in 1975, *It Seemed Like a Good Idea at the Time*, starring Anthony Newly and Yvonne de Carlo.

Parcel of Land sold to Alison Burton 15 June 1912
Concession C, Scarborough



Gunter's Chain
Measurements:
1 link = 20 cm
100 links = 1 chain
1 chain = 20 m

Illustration 13. Map of parts of Lots 13 & 14, Concession C, Scarborough, indicating log cabin.

In 1978 the Metropolitan Toronto and Region Conservation Authority (MTRCA) and the Province of Ontario purchased The Guild property (including the cabin and its site) from Spencer Clark.

Designation, 1980

On July 21, 1980, the Borough of Scarborough designated the "Osterhaut [*sic*] Cabin at 191 Guildwood Parkway as being of historical and architectural value"¹²¹, including that part of Lot 14, Concession C on which the cabin is situated. The reasons for designation were given as follows:

This building is recommended for designation for both historical and architectural reasons. This cabin is the oldest building in Scarborough and is believed to have been built by Governor John Graves Simcoe's Queen's Rangers when they initially served the Township in the late 1700's. A typical pioneer home, it is built of logs squared at the corners and piled eight logs high.¹²²

The Borough of Scarborough obtained the above information based on an opinion of the building's architectural value given by the Scarborough LACAC, and an article written in the *Guildwood Observer* in 1976¹²³. The aforementioned article is riddled with inaccuracies, many of which have been revealed by other more reliable sources.

In 1983, responsibility for The Guild was transferred to the Municipality of Metropolitan Toronto, and the following year the Board of Management of The Guild was established to administer the property on behalf of Metro. In June of 1993, Metro Parks and Property Department was given responsibility for the grounds. To date, the Board of Management and the Cultural Department staff retain responsibility for the cultural property on the grounds, including the log cabin.

Some records exist which document the structural changes and repairs to the cabin that have taken place over the years. While some building phases are well-documented, others are not, and some of the construction and modification dates are not certain. Some modifications are obvious by their absence or presence in datable photographs of the building. However, some difficulty exists in determining when and how particular work was done, and by whom. Here we are limited to the information contained in The Guild's archival documents and photographs.

The first major alteration to the building was the construction of an annex, said to have occurred some time in the 1920s. At this time, the cabin was occupied and therefore required running water and modern sanitation facilities. The annex was a wooden addition constructed on the west side of the cabin. A connection was added between the annex and the cabin by means of a concrete walkway on the north side of the cabin. This walkway was covered by an extension of the roof, creating the north porch (Illustration 14). Washroom facilities were added to the annex, and their location can be determined by the pipes which still exist to the west of the cabin.

No other construction is thought to have occurred again until approximately 1965, when a new log wall was built to enclose the north porch, thus creating an enclosed hallway to the washroom facilities (Illustration 15).

Other alterations were made to the structure, in or around 1965: the chimney was blocked, making the fireplace inoperative; the loft was insulated with pink fibreglass insulation; and electrical baseboard heaters and fluorescent lights were installed inside the building.

There are archival records and photographs which document the next major alteration to the cabin, in 1984. Deterioration required that the logs be rechinked on the exterior of the building, and the second log from the bottom on the east side of the cabin be replaced. A new shingle roof was installed at this time. It is believed that the roof which existed in 1984 was not the original roof, but no documentation has been found which suggests if or when the roof structure was repaired or replaced. The present roof boards are replacements.

In 1986, it was decided that the cabin be restored to its oldest known condition. Any alterations which were not structurally important to the cabin were removed. In December 1986, the water was disconnected, the annex and the north porch were removed, and a storm door was installed in the north wall. Because it was then exposed, the exterior of the north wall was rechinked, as were all of the interior walls. The electrical box and meter were relocated from the outside to the inside of the cabin, and all wiring was removed from the outside of the structure, electricity being connected through an underground cable.

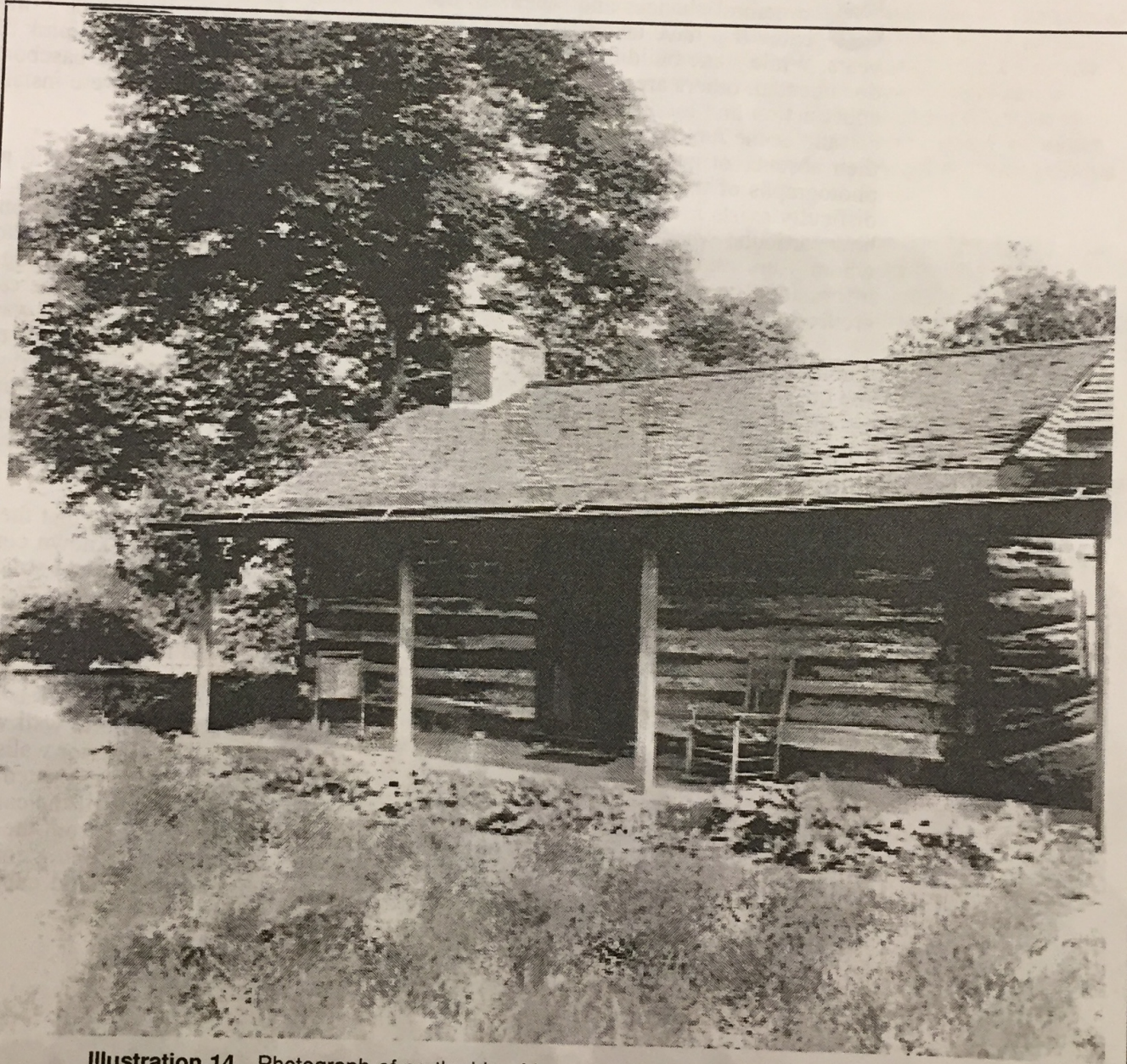


Illustration 14. Photograph of north side of log cabin, showing covered porch leading to annex.
Undated

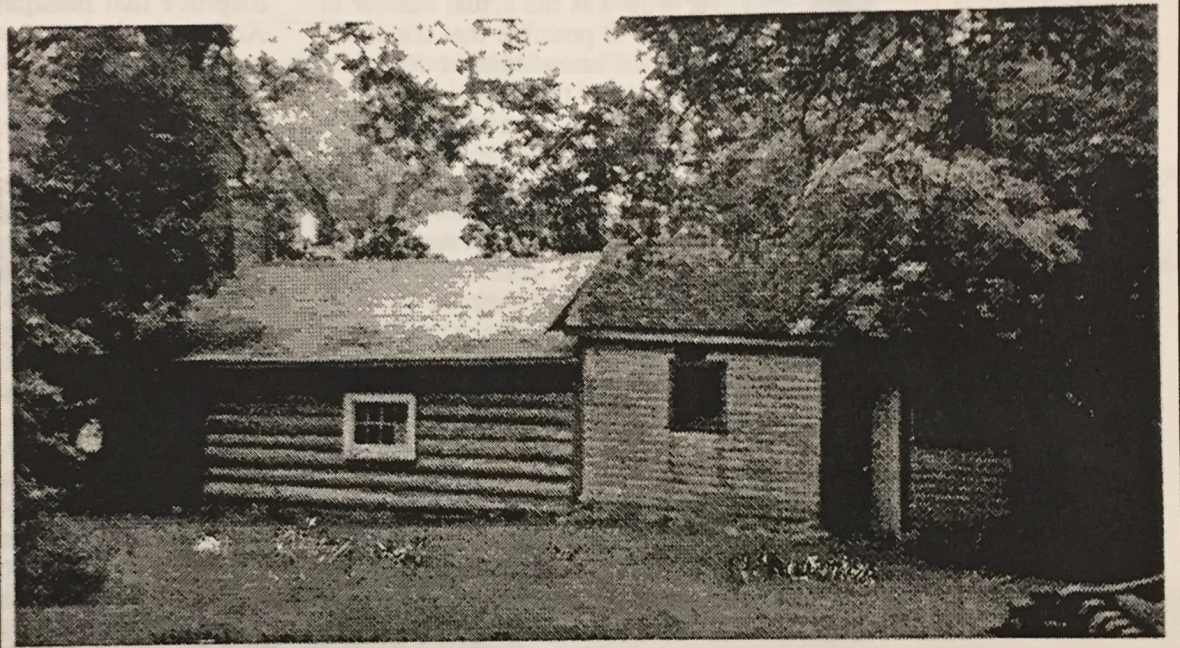


Illustration 15. Photograph of north wall showing log wall and annex prior to removal. 1985.

The next few years saw minor repairs to the structure, mainly due to deterioration and vandalism taking its toll on the building. In 1988, a padlock was installed on the outer door to deter break-ins, and in 1989, Lexan coverings were installed in plastic moulding over the glass panes, which had suffered

greatly due to vandalism. Shortly after the coverings were installed, all of the window and door frames were treated, filled and painted. The latest alteration to the structure, in late 1994, involved repairs to several shingles and the chimney flashing.

Realistically, it may be impossible to discover who was the actual builder of the cabin. It is possible that the cabin was built without the knowledge or consent of the landowner, and if this is the case, it certainly would not have been registered in any documentation of the period. Written sources from the 19th century are limited; however, these source materials can be augmented by material culture research and historical archaeology. In turn, an examination of the log cabin can be advanced not only through the examination of written historical records, but by focusing on the physical makeup of the structure and any associated objects.

What may be determined is an approximate date that the cabin was built. Using techniques of archaeology and material culture research, it is possible to examine the structure itself, as well as any associated artifacts or features (such as nails, bricks, garbage pits, etc.) inside and surrounding the building, to determine an approximate date when the cabin was erected. If a date or period can be established, it may then assist in the determination of the builder of the cabin, because one may eliminate several possible builders by virtue of the time period in which it can be proven they resided in the area.

An archaeological investigation may prove inconclusively the approximate date of the erection of the cabin. Archaeology is an inexact science, and many discoveries are open to interpretation. The limitation of this form of research is that a date for the occupation of a site can be determined only as far back as the oldest artifact recovered. For instance, the discovery of a pottery sherd which can be dated to the mid-19th century proves that there was occupation on the site

from that date onward; in itself, it does not disprove that occupation occurred earlier. Archaeological research, used in combination with the historical records, may point to a conclusive date for the building of the cabin.

The Test Pit

Generally, an investigation begins with one or more test pits dug to determine whether there are any subsurface features in the area. In the case of the cabin at The Guild, it is believed to be standing on its original site; land registry records from 1912 describe a structure on the site on which the cabin stands today.

It was determined that a test pit would be excavated at the northwest corner of the structure. Excavation began on November 18, 1994, on Archaeological Site AkGt-51, registered as part of Lot 14, Concession C, in the City of Scarborough. Representatives were present from the University of Toronto (Scarborough College), the Ministry of Culture, Tourism and Recreation, and The Guild. The excavation was led by Dr. Martha Latta of the University of Toronto Department of Social Sciences, whose report is filed with the Ministry of Culture, Tourism and Recreation.

This preliminary investigation revealed that the site was greatly disturbed over time. Modern material was found mixed in with much older artifacts. Such a disturbance of the subsoil may have occurred when concrete was poured under the bottom course of logs. It is unknown when this procedure occurred. This installation would have required the excavation of earth immediately surrounding the cabin, which would have mixed older material, located deeper in the soil, with newer material,

located closer to or on top of the soil surface.

Among the artifacts unearthed in the test pit were fragments of both window and bottle glass. Extruded steel nails of 20th century manufacture were found, likely from the numerous building phases of this century. Wrought iron cut nails found suggest a date prior to 1870¹²⁴. Several stoneware and earthenware sherds were uncovered, which represent several different types of wares (white, blue transferware, flowed blue, red) and several different periods. The existence of flowed blue transferware fragments suggests a date between 1844 and 1900¹²⁵. A white claypipe stem, pottery fragments, a woman's boot heel, and a leather covered button with a leather shank suggest that the structure was occupied at some time for domestic purposes. The discovery of animal bones and teeth (chicken, pig) suggests that livestock was housed in the immediate area. The discovery of the pig tooth is significant, for it suggests that live animals may have existed on the site, rather than simply bones discarded from a source of meat.

In the lowest level excavated, a curious feature was discovered. Upon the removal of several large, flat stones possibly used for structural support of the cabin or the porch posts, two wooden planks, resembling barrel staves, were exposed, lining a deep pit. The placement of these staves suggested deliberate human activity. The purpose of this pit, or its dimensions, could not be

determined by the excavators based on the part of the feature that was exposed. It was determined that this feature would be recorded and photographed, as it warranted further investigation.

At this point in the excavation, due to the depth of the trench and the presence of large rocks, further excavation was severely hampered. It was decided that excavation would continue at a later date, and the test pit was refilled¹²⁶.

The preceding account has summarized historical documentation from the late 18th century onwards about various individuals who have been associated with the property on which the log cabin stands. The procedure has also generated a full report on the physical description of the cabin at The Guild, including alterations, additions, restorations and repairs made in the twentieth century.

At this point in the research process, preliminary conclusions can be made about who built the log cabin at The Guild. Careful analysis of historical sources indicates that the long-standing myths which named Augustus Jones or William Osterhout builders of the cabin should be discarded once and for all as untenable. Presently, both historical documentation and preliminary archeological investigation confirm that the cabin was extant in the mid-19th century, corresponding to the time of the Humphrys' occupation of the land as farmers. Ritchie notes that the 18th century was the beginning of the Pioneer era in Upper Canada¹²⁷, but by 1867, when the earlier wave of settlement had passed: "[t]he era of pioneer building was virtually over, and substantial buildings of stone, brick, and wood had replaced the earlier log cabins"¹²⁸. The existence of the cabin in the mid-19th century seems definite, however whether it existed prior to that date has yet to be proven conclusively.

Future Research

Archaeological excavation of the site should continue, because the initial investigation revealed some features which warrant further investigation, and because evidence pinpointing a firm date of construction of the cabin may yet be found in the archaeology of the site. Questions need to be

answered about the age of the structure and its past uses; perhaps archaeology may uncover some information about the previous occupants.

Future excavation is planned around the perimeter of the structure. Due to the limited scope of the test pit, it is necessary to continue excavation in a wider area in order to come to definite conclusions. The possibility that associated outbuildings could have existed may necessitate the excavation of a large area to the north and west of the cabin.

Another area of investigation is the interior of the building, where the removal of the present plywood floor and excavation of the dirt floor underneath is proposed. A more detailed examination of interior structural components, including the fireplace, beams, joints, walls, ceiling and floor, may provide further clues to the history of the structure.

The results of future archaeological and structural investigations will augment the work already done on this project. Regardless of the precise date of its construction, the log cabin at The Guild is valuable as an example of 19th century Ontario vernacular architecture and as a part of Scarborough's rich heritage.

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1. John I. Rempel, *Building with Wood and Other Aspects of Nineteenth Century Building in Ontario* (Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 1967), p. 52.
 2. T. Ritchie, *Canada Builds 1867-1967* ([Toronto]: University of Toronto Press, 1967), p. 153.
 3. *Ibid.*
 4. Rempel, *Op Cit.* (1967), p. 53.
 5. Ritchie, *Op Cit.*, p. 88.
 6. *Ibid.*, p. 151.
 7. Bruce D. Bomberger, "The Preservation and Repair of Historic Log Buildings," *Preservation Brief# 26* (U.S. Department of the Interior, National Park Service, Cultural Resources Preservation Assistance, September 1991), p. 2.
 8. Ritchie, *Op Cit.*, p. 153.
 9. Bomberger, *Op Cit.*, p. 6.
 10. Bomberger, *Op Cit.*, p. 6.
 11. Rempel, *Op Cit.* (1967), p. 22.
 12. *Ibid.*, p. 32.
 13. Bomberger, *Op Cit.*, p. 7.
 14. Eric Sloane, *An Age of Barns* (New York: Ballantine Books, n.d.), p. 25.
 15. Ritchie, *Op Cit.*, p. 151.
 16. *Ibid.*, p. 35.
 17. Borough of Scarborough, By-Law Number 19126, Schedule "B", 21 July 1980.
 18. Ritchie, *Op Cit.*, p. 53.
 19. Michael McClelland, "Unlocking the Story of a House," lecture at the Toronto Historical Board, *Gimme Shelter: 100 Years of Residential Architecture in Toronto Series*, 9 March 1995.
 20. Bomberger, *Op Cit.*, p. 8.
 21. Ritchie, *Op Cit.*, p. 51; McClelland, *Op Cit.*
 22. Rempel, *Op Cit.* (1967), p. 51.
 23. *Ibid.*, p. 55.
 24. John I. Rempel, "The History and Development of Early Forms of Building Construction in Ontario," *Ontario History* (Ontario Historical Society), vol. LII, no. 4 (1960), p. 26.
 25. Rempel, *Op Cit.* (1967), p. 55.
 26. *Ibid.*, pp. 19, 58; Rempel, *Op Cit.* (1960), p. 6.
 27. Rempel, *Op Cit.* (1967), p. 58.
 28. Ritchie, *Op Cit.*, p. 205.
 29. Quoted in Rempel, *Op Cit.* (1967), p. 64.

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30. Rempel, *Op Cit.* (1967), p. 52.
31. *Ibid.*, pp. 22, 52.
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Culture Division



The Log Cabin at the Guild Scarborough
Historical and Archaeological Research

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