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Henry Porter Cooke 1884-1936

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Introduction

The Fourth Dimension

Length, width, up and down, forward and backward. This last dimension is time - the fourth dimension. This page under construction hopes to provide a history of people, business and buildings of Kenora and its constituent towns and villages. Biographies, stories, pictures and information on various buildings and business are appreciated by the author and may be sent to jretson@shaw.ca. Please provide information as to date of photo and desired credit. Major sources are given at the end of this page.

Acronyms and Abbreviations


Note

The city of Kenora dates from January 1 2000. On that date the Constituents communities of Kenora, Keewatin and Jaffray Melick were amalgamated into the new City under the name of Kenora. That name for one of the towns dates from 1905 when the Council of Rat Portage requested and received a name change from Rat Portage to Kenora. The name is said to be a composite, Ke from Keewatin, no from Norman and ra from Rat Portage.

The Town of Rat Portage was first incorporated under legislation of the Province of Manitoba. [Norman][Keewatin]
People of Kenora

**Edward Joseph Alcock 1896 -**

Edward Joseph Alcock, son of George Henry Alcock and Emma Frances Barker was born Dec 10 1896. He is listed in the 1901 Census in Rat Portage along with a number of siblings:

- Ethol M Alcock b. Oct 9 1883
- George F.H. Alcock b. Apr 10 1885
- Sadie L. Mar Alcock b. 21 1887
- Francis E b. Alcock Jan 31 1893
- Amy F. Alcock b. Jan 5 1895
- Clifford W. Alcock b. Born Sep 20 1900

Attestation Paper is dated May 19 1915 Service No: 439209 Rank: Private Regiment/Service: Canadian Infantry (Manitoba Regiment) Unit: 52nd Bn. Age: 21 Date of Death: 26/07/1917 Casualty Type: Commonwealth War Dead Grave/Memorial Reference: II. C. 27. Cemetery: Barlin Communal Cemetery Extension

Reference Great Canadian War Project at

His brother William Henry Alcock also listed See
(http://www.canadiangreatwarproject.com/searches/soldierDetail.asp?Id=77019)

**George Henry Alcock 1862 – 1932 and Wife Emma Frances Barker 1883.-**
George Henry Alcock, son of Joseph Alcock and Sarah Jane Belch was born in Belleville, Ontario March 6 1862.

They lived first in Faraday, Hastings County, Ontario and then moved to Carsdale, Saskatchewan.

He moved to Kenora in 1895 or 1896. Shortly after he moved to Jaffray and Melick where he carried on a business of farming and dairy.

Emma Frances Barker was born in Bethnal Green, Middlesex, England on July 21 1864.

They married in Faraday,

Hastings, Ontario, on January 1 1883.

They had several children:

   Ethel May Alcock born October 30, 1883. She married William Robert Saunders in Winnipeg Dec 29 1909

   George Frederick Hedley Alcock born April 10 1885

   Sadie Laura Alcock born March 21 1887 married Alfred Harry Smith

   Charles Arthur Alcock born January 7 1890. He died January 18 1892

   Bertha Eliza Alcock born 28 Apr 1891

   Emma Frances Alice Alcock born January 5 Jan 1893. She married Percival James Hall December 11 1912

   Amy Florence Alcock was born January 05 Jan 1895 William James Price

   Joseph Edward Alcock born December 10 1896 in Rat Portage He served in World War and died of injuries sustained in the war in France July 26 1917.

   William Henry Alcock was born October 25 1898 in Rat Portage. He died February 05 1924 as a result of a construction injury.
Clifford W Alcock born September 20 1900 in Rat Portage. He married Elvira Jordas Stevenson

Cecil Albert Stanley Alcock was born August 23 1902 in Rat Portage

Gertrude Maud Alcock was born March 11 1904 in Rat Portage

John Wesley Alcock was born March 19 1906 in Rat Portage. He married Mary Louise Barnard November 19 1927

George served on the council and was a Reeve of the municipality of Jaffray and Melick. He was a member of the Pequonga Masonic Lodge, Orange Order and United Church. He died in Kenora on October 27 1930.

Ernest Frederick Angood 1889-1970

Earnest Frederick Angood, son of Frederick Angood and Harriet Boyden was born on 15th Oct. 1889. He shared early life with many sibling:

Frederick Angood b. abt. 1867
Emma Angood b. abt 1869
George Angood b. abt. Dec 1870
Eliza Angood b. abt. 1869
Caroline Angood b. abt.1878
Louisa Angood b. abt. 1878
Kate Angood b. abt. 1881
Nellie Angood b. abt. 1884
Mabel Angood b. abt. 1886
Fredi A. Angood b. abt. 1887
Elsie Maud Angood b. abt. 1889
Hebert Angood b. abt 1890
Harold Angood b. 27 Mar 1892

All including Ernest were born in Chatteris, Cambridgeshire near Peterborough, England. Some emigrated to Australia and some to Canada.
Stan Clark, son of Charlie Clark in "The Peterborough Boys in Kenora 1910-1918 recounts the immigration of Ernie and Charles Clark to Canada in the summer of 1910. They traveled by Great Northern train to Liverpool and then boarded the Empress of Britain for a 10 day journey to Quebec City. The Governor General of Canada, Earl Grey was a 1st class passenger Montreal. Angood and Clark were 3rd class passengers who shared quarters with 32 separated from the next 32 by only a big canvass sheet.

The two boarded a train for Winnipeg where on their arrival their accommodation was a mattress on the floor of Immigration Hall. In Kenora they stayed at the YMCA. For a time he stoked and fired up the boilers on the S.S. Keenor. He commenced employment with the CPR in Kenora as a wiper in 1910. In 1920 he was promoted to engineer at which he was employed until his retirement on November 1 1954.

In World War 1 he joined the 52 Battalion of the Lake Superior Regiment and spent four years in the trenches, receiving a military medal for his duties in the war.

He returned with his war bride Florence Waites. They had three children,

- Margaret Angood m. W.H. Clipperton
- Joyce Angood m. George Weeks
- Brian Angood

He was instrumental in the founding of the Great War veterans' Association (Canadian Legion). He was an active member of the Locomotive Engineers and the Peguonga Lodge. He was a member of Knox United Church and he and his wife were responsible for the development of the Church's Christian Education Centre.

Frank Joseph Ap'John 1853 - 1905

Frank Joseph Ap'John was born in Montreal Quebec in September 26th, 1853. He received his early education in Quebec. He moved to Winnipeg for a period where he was employed by the Gazette as the Editor. He married Agnes Stackhouse, daughter of James O. Stackhouse and in 1880 moved to Rat Portage. They had 4 children

- Fanny Ap' John 07 Jul. 1885 Rat Portage
- Frank James Ap' John 05 Nov. 1887 Rat Portage
- Mary Ap' John 17 Nov. 1890 Rat Portage
- Olive S. Ap' John 17 Jul. 1898 Rat Portage

They lived on Second Street North for a number of years before moving to Tunnel Island in 1900.

Frank Ap' John practiced as a conveyor and Notary Public until 1885. Shortly after the settlement of the boundary dispute, the office of Registrar of Rainy River was created and
filled by Frank Ap'John. Subsequently he was also appointed the local Master of Titles, Registrar of the High Court and Clerk of the District Court.

Frank served as secretary of the Board of Trade in 1894. He was a member of the Hospital Building Committee in 1895. He was a prominent member in the Masonic Lodge. He and his family were members of the Anglican Church.

Frank Junior, their only son in 1910 passed his Bar exams at Osgoode Hall and was admitted to the bar. He was the first native of Kenora to complete his legal studies and take up practice in his home town. He practiced in Partnership with HAC Machin. He was killed during World War 1 in France (See http://www.canadiangreatwarproject.com/searches/soldierDetail.asp?ID=4271)

**Ernest Appleton 1869-1944**

Mr. Ernest Appleton, son of George and Sarah Appleton was born in 1869 in London England. He came to Canada in 1886 at age of 17.

He came to Rat Portage around 1890 from Winnipeg to open a branch of the A. McDonald Wholesale Grocery. Later, with partner Mr. John Partington, he organized and managed the King Cash Grocery business. When this business was sold out he went into the Real Estate and Insurance.

He became active in YMCA work in Kenora. He was Honourary president of Junior Chamber of Commerce. In 1909 was president of the Children's Aid Society.

He married Edith Lindell on October 2 1897 and had one child Phyllis on March 29 1901. Edith died on October 2 1924 and Phyllis in 1951.

He subsequently married Marie Isabella Gladys Brydon on November 1931.

He went to Osaquam to operate a tie mill for D.L. Mather from 1915 to 1931.

He returned to Kenora in 1931. In November of that year he marred Isabelle Brydon of Kenora.

He held various government positions, such as Local Registrar of the Supreme Court of Ontario, Clerk of the Division Court and Clerk of the Subjugate Court of Ontario.

He was the first secretary of the Stone Boat Company. He was secretary of the Bar Association of Kenora District. He was a member of the Board of Trade serving as President in 1939, a treasurer of the Red Cross Society, secretary of the Lake of the Woods Club and member of the Anglers Club. He owned his own boat named "Ernie".

In 1936 he played a prominent part in preparing the booklet "The Centennial Review".

He was the 19th president of the Rotary Club for the Rotary year 1937-38.

He died on May 21 1944 at the age of 71.
William LeBaron Baker 1848-1888

William LeBaron Baker was born in London, England in 1848 and emigrated to Canada, first to Nova Scotia, then on to Rat Portage in 1879. He married Isabella Jane McCulloch (b. 1848, Halifax NS) in Halifax, Nova Scotia on September 11, 1872 and had at least one son and daughter before moving to Rat Portage in 1879,

James McCulloch Baker b. 13 Aug. 1874, Halifax County, Nova Scotia, died presumably before 1881

Helen Jean Baker b. 10 Dec 1875, Halifax County, Nova Scotia Married Allan McLennan died before 1911

Four more daughters were born in Rat Portage

Minnie S. Baker b. 3 Jun. 1879, Rat Portage, married Peter Goldthorpe

Alice Maude Baker born 19 Nov 1881, Rat Portage

Isabella C. Baker b. 19 Nov. 1881, Rat Portage (First twin births recorded in Rat Portage)

Winnifred Oliver Baker b. 29 Feb. 1881 Rat Portage, married John William Walker and died in Fort Frances 26 Jan 1954.

Harry Payson Baker b. 8 Aug. 1886, d. 21 July 1888

Two more sons Robert and Allan were born and died presumably between 1881 and 1891.

The family moved to Rat Portage in 1879 where he established the Baker & Co. General store and managed the store known as "One Price Cash Store" selling everything from pins to stoves.

William Baker came to work shortly after each morning and was always last to leave at night. He did his own booking, helped wait on people when needed. He wrote his own advertisements putting them in envelopes and sending them to customers with their parcels.

He arranged for delivery of his goods to his customers. He had Louis Hilliard send a team of pintoes that he kept at the hotel twice a week Mr. Hilliard's father in law Mr. McGinnis drove the team and Agar Fitzgerald delivered the parcels. He had three clerks working for him:
Fred Canniff in charge of dry goods, John Dalziel in charge groceries and Mr. Pugsley. In time Canniff left to work for Jacob Hose in Keewatin and was replaced by a Mr. Kyle Baker paid for Kyle family to move from down east to Rat Portage. When William Baker died in 1888 Kyle was made manager of the store which was sold to Smith Brothers and subsequently became a cafe, pool room, tin shop and taxi office and later being torn down and the lot made into part of a park.

Before the Canadian Pacific Railway got their trains running Mr. Baker was agent for the Express Company. He was also agent for the powder Company.

Mr. Baker and Frank Gardner were responsible for the early schools established in Rat Portage. They made personal appeals for funds to carry on their work.

Mr. Baker was the first Reeve of the Township of Rat Portage in 1883.

Mr. Baker died 20 Dec 1888 in Rat Portage. His wife in Rat Portage on 18 Oct 1902.

George Barnes 1854-1935

George Barnes was born in Wellington, Prince Edward County on the Bay of Quinte in September 1854 (According to January 8 1939 newspaper report on the occasion of his death and the 1911 Census, June 9 1901. He first came to Rat Portage in 1871 via the Dawson trail when Rat Portage was only a Hudson Bay Post.

He spent a couple of years running the Maline Portage Stopping House, North of the Rainy River before moving back to Belleville where he settled for a time. In 1873 he moved to Belleville, then to Toronto where he remained until 1876. In 1876 he moved to Parry Sound to work with the Parry Sound Lumber Company.

In Parry Sound he married Miss Fanny McMurray in 1878 in Parry Sound, Ontario and after she died and after she died, he married her sister, Sarah McMurray, by whom he had four children

Fanny Hazelton "Hazel" Barnes b. 11 May 1886 in Rat Portage

Winnifred Barnes 09 Apr. 1892 in Rat Portage

Fannie Barnes b. 19 May 1896 in Rat Portage

George McMurray Barnes 04 Aug. 1898 Rat Portage

In 1880 he moved to Rapid City Manitoba where he owned land and farmed until 1882 when he moved to Rat Portage.

In Rat Portage he resided in a house on the west side of Matheson Street and worked as the tie and wood inspector for the CPR. When the CPR office was closed he had a one story building build on Hennipen Lane and operated a grocery store.
In 1886 he closed the grocery store and used the building as a home. He and his brother Howard opened the K Furniture store on Second Street. His business extended to all areas of Rainy River and Lake of the Woods District. The Town's first undertaking parlour was ran in the back of the store. In 1897 he sold to Horn and Taylor.

He served on the Town Council in 1886 and was elected mayor in 1895. He was unseated as a result of accusations on "corrupt Practices" and D.H. Currie served for the remainder of the year until a new election was called. He was re-elected in this election in 1896. During his reign several parks were created including, Kenora Park on Town Island, Central Park and the Park South of the Lake of the Woods Cemetery afterwards occupied by the Paper Mill. The site of the Kenora General Hospital was purchased and the hospital built.

He served on the first board of the Jubilee Hospital in 1897. He also served as fire chief for three years in the 1890s and was a member of the Fire Department for several years.

In 1912 he was appointed collector of customs at the Port of Kenora, a flourishing port engaged in logging, fishing and the flour industry.

He served the first Noble Grand and the first District Grand Master of the Gold Hill Lodge. He was greatly revered by that fraternal order and was instrumental in its early growth.

He moved from Kenora to Edmonton for a short time before ending up in Toronto. He died by a January 7 1935. His second wife predeceased him by a few years.


Ralph Bateman
Ralph Bateman, son of Collingwood Bateman and Mary Sugden and was born 21 Mar 1880 in Goole, Yorkshire, England. He immigrated to Canada in March 1905 settling in Ottawa. He married Olive Ellen McCrury or McCreery in Ottawa, June 10 1908.

He moved to Kenora by 1911 where he began a 37 year career with the Keewatin Lumber Company and its subsidiaries.

On January 15 1916 He enlisted with the 94th battalion in Kenora. He was given the rank of Lieutenant. He went overseas on June 28th 1916. Once in England, he was transferred to the 17th Reserve Battalion. In October 1916 he went to France and served with the 52th Battalion. After discharge from 3 months of hospitalization with "trench fever" in August 1917 he joined the Canadian Forestry Corps and was taken on to Company 130. By October 1918, he was appointed 2nd in command. In April 1919, he became its Commanding Officer. He returned to Canada as Captain Bateman in July 1919

Upon his return to Canada, he resumed his position at the Keewatin Lumber Company. He was put in charge of the old Rat Portage Company. He was put in charge of their new office building on the lake front overseeing the rapidly expanding box manufacturing business. In 1923 he moved to the Winnipeg office of the Company.

He returned to Kenora in 1936 as manager of the paper mill from 1936 to 1944. When he died in May 3rd 1947 he was the resident vice president of the Ontario Minnesota Pulp and Paper Company.

He was a member of the Kenora Board of Trade. He was a member of St Alban's Cathedral.
He was a member of the Masonic Lodge associated with the Builder's Lodge of Ottawa.

He was an active member of the Kenora Rotary Club and president in 1941-42.

**William John Beatty 1868 -1930**

Doctor W.J. Beatty, son of Francis Joseph Beatty and Sarah Ann Honeyford was born about Avening, Ontario in 1865. He married Annie Grieves on 20 Oct 1888 in Hamilton, Ontario. They had three children,

- Elizabeth Beatrice Beatty b. 12 Jan 1889 at Collingwood, Simcoe, Ontario d. 05 Apr. 1979 at Minneapolis, Minnesota
- Mary N Beatty b. Abt. 1891 d. 09 Jun. 1909 Toronto, Ontario
- Frank William Beatty b. 28 Apr. 1892 at Silverbrook, Ontario d. 05 Mar 1977 at Victoria, British Columbia

William John Beatty, was one of the earliest Doctors located in Keewatin. Associated with him were Dr. Leclair, Dr. Evin or Erwin D. Baker, D. Kemp, Dr. Fisher, Dr. D.M. Baker
and Dr. Glen Davidson. (See, Ed Sweet, Keewatin Reflections; History of Keewatin 1873-1973)

Dr. Beatty graduated from Medical School in 1896. He open his practice in Keewatin in 1897. Before long, he opened a hospital. Behind the hospital was a windmill that pumped water from the lake into a tank in the top story.

He was involved in the creation of the park that bears his name Beatty Park

Doctor Beatty died on 23 Aug. 1930 in Kenora, Ontario.

A Rocque Francis Beaudro 1884-1960

Rocque Francis Beaudro, son of Joseph Beaudro and Sarah Leger, was born on February 29, 1884 in Red Lake Falls, Minnesota. In 1887 at the age of three, his family moved first to Fort William, Ontario and then Rat Portage. As a child, "Roxy" took a passionate interest in hockey and other sports such as rowing and rowed and baseball.

The local hockey team "The Thistles" had developed a winning team and won the 1902-03 Manitoba and Northeastern Hockey Association title and issued a challenge for the famed trophy of senior hockey, the Stanley Cup. Roxy, who had just turned 19 years of age, played right wing in the March 1903 challenge series against the Ottawa Silver Seven. In 1906 Roxy and the Kenora players went pro. In 1907 the Thistles challenged the Montreal Wanderers. In 1907 he scored the Stanley Cup game winning goal. He retired at the end of the hockey season. In 1982 the 1907 Kenora Thistles team was named to the Northwest Ontario Sports Hall of Fame.

Roxy married Mabel Louise Goodman in 27 August of 1907 in Winnipeg, Manitoba where he moved but subsequently moving on to Cochrane, Ontario where his son Earl Laurier Beaudro was born in 09 Jan 1909.

Roxy took on a job as an accountant for the government. In 1915 he enlisted in the Canadian Army and played with the 28th Battalion's Royal Fusiliers In early February of 1917, the order came to be shipped overseas and Roxy saw extended combat duty during the war. Following the war he raised a family living at various times in Winnipeg, Cochrane, and Thunder Bay, and then Toronto.

Roxy Beaudro died on February 10, 1960 in Barrie, Ontario after a short battle with cancer. He was 75.

Source Note Kenora Thistles: Our Hockey heritage, Bowes Publishing Limited

Genealogy Note: Roxy's father's name and family name appears at various times on census and other records indexed as Beaudre or Biadio.
Charles Wiggins Belyea 1857-1919

Charles Wiggins Belyea, son of William Benjamin Belyea and Mary Elizabeth Jane Whelpley, was born in New Brunswick November 19 1857. He arrived in Rat Portage in 1884.

He married Phebe Jane Brundage. They had four children:

- Edith H. Belyea born Jan 7 1886
- Gertrude L Belyea born Aug 31 1887
- Helen M. Belyea born Jun 16 1893
- Clifford C. Belyea born Jun 2 1895

He came to Rat Portage as inspector for CPR telegraphs with responsibility to maintain telegraph wires. He subsequently worked as a linesman on the CPR. Later he was engaged in the insurance business and as well an agent of the Marine Department.

In 1906 he was appointed mining recorder at Kenora. In 1914 he was appointed Marine and Fisheries Agent for the District.

He served as Councillor in 1892, 93, 94,96,98,99,1901,1904,1905, and as Mayor in 1907.

He was a member of the first Rat Portage band formed in 1886. He was a member of the curling Club.

He belonged to the St. Alban Cathedral.

He served on the Board of Directors of the Western Algoma Brick company.

He was chair of the Board of Education. He held high offices belonged to the Board of Trade.

He was a member of the Pequonga Masonic Lodge and a county master of the Orange Lodge.

He was a long serving Board member of the Jubilee Hospital since its inception in 1897 with the exception of two or three years until his death on September 26 1919 at the age of 62

Margaret (Begg) Mitchell

For every famous pioneer whose success is supported by volumes of historical document, there were untold thousands of ordinary pioneers who sought to make a better life in what is now Canada. Though their struggles were not, on the whole, imprinted on the nation's
collective memory, such pioneers made contributions far out of proportions to their position. There are untold numbers who should receive recognition for their goodness, their hard work and at times their sacrifice and compassion. Two such pioneer that I would like to sing the praises are Catherine (Spence) Beggs and her daughter Margaret (Begg) Mitchell.

Catherine's father was George Spence (1773-1859) who came from the Orkneys. Her mother, a Cree woman Catherine Tchi-Tchit. George was possibly born around 1773 was an officer of the Hudson Bay Company and in later years, Sheriff of the York Factory District. It isn't known when George ceased to be an employee of Hudson Bay but it may be that he was part of the advanced party to prepare for settlers of the District of Assiniboia and Lord Selkirk's Settlers. George and Catherine were married on May 2 1828 at St Johns (Winnipeg) in the first Anglican Church built in the area. They moved to Mapleton just north of the Fort at Lower Fort Garry. George Spence died in 1859 and Catherine in 1865.

Margaret (Begg) Mitchell's father, Charles Robert Begg was born in Haddington, Scotland in Feb 14 1814 and was engaged by Hudson Bay on May 12 1831 on Wyre Isle, Sandwick, Orkneys and arrived at Montreal. For 5 years he worked in the company's Northern department as a labourer. He participated in the historic Arctic Discovery Expedition and after the expedition in 1840 became a crew member of a sloop which brought him to Lower Fort Garry. In 1841 he was assigned to the Red River District. In 1844 at about 30 years he met and married the 21 year old Catherine Spence, eldest daughter of George and Catherine Spence on May 16 1844.

Soon after their marriage Charles was promoted to Sloop Master and was sent to work in Lake Superior in the Company's Southern Department. Catherine and Charles moved around Northern Ontario including 10 years at the Pic River Post. They had a total of 9 children of which the fourth, Margaret Begg was born on January 10th or 11th 1852.

In 1862 Charles decided to move his family back to the home community of his wife Mapleton where they built on River Lot 5. Unfortunately their house was flooded out and the family returned to Pic (Red River). In 1865 Charles retired from Hudson Bay Company and returned to Mapleton. There, Margaret met and married George Mitchell.

George Mitchell was born around 1849 in Coventry, Warwickshire County, England. He was involved in the battlefield of the Louis Riel Rebellion and almost died. His wife Margaret found him and carried him to her home some distant away.
George and Margaret came to Lake of the Woods about 1879 first at North West Angle. She served as a nurse to Doctors during the construction of the CPR and afterwards. "She was not a graduate nurse by profession, but was according to instinct". She looked after many expectant mothers in her own home. Her Mother Catherine Beggs also assisted in bringing many Rat Portage Babies into the world.

George and Margaret had five Children:

Jessie Catherine Mitchell b. 28 Jun 1873 North West Angle, Lake of the Woods

Florence 'Flora' Mitchell b. 1 Jan 1878, Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada

Minota Mitchell b. 1 Jul 1883 Rat Portage

William Mitchell b. 08 Aug 1885 in Rat Portage. He served almost 4 years overseas in World War 1. He joined the staff of the newspaper in 1901 and except for the war years, worked with Miner and News until his retirement. It is currently believed that he married Margaret Mildrum Irvine overseas, although I cannot confirm this. Similarly I believe he had one son William and one Mrs. Robertson but don't know which Mrs. Robertson this was. Hopefully a reader will be able to help out with additional information.

Marian Mitchell b. 19 Dec 1887 Rat Portage, Kenora, Ontario, Canada

In Rat Portage, George served as an accountant with J.K Brydon until his death in 1893. He was one of the gang who helped decorate the Devil's head in the Gap.

In 1894 Mrs. Mitchell and her elder children built a home at 402 Second Street South. Three generations lived there subsequently. Mrs. Mitchell died in Vancouver in 1944 at the age of 1944.

William Moore "Bill" Benidickson 1911 - 1985

William Moore Dickson, son of Christian Benidickson and Gertrude Moore was born April 8 1911 in Dauphin, Manitoba. He attended public school in Dauphin, Kelvin High School in Winnipeg and Humberside C.I. in Toronto. He returned to Winnipeg to study at the University of Manitoba where he graduated with a B.A and LLB. He married Agnes Richardson November 29 1947.

During World War 2 he served with the R.C.A.F. achieving the rank of Wing Commander.

In 1937 he was called to the Manitoba Bar and shortly after the Ontario Bar. He practiced law in Kenora. He was a member and Life member of the Kenora Legion. He was Honourary Solicitor of the Kenora Trades and Labour Council.
He was elected to the House of Commerce for Kenora Rainey River in 1945 and re-elected 1919, 1953, 1957, 1958, 1962, and 1963 as a Liberal-Labour Member. He held the position of Parliamentary Assistant to the Minister of Transport Jan 4 1950 to September 13 1953, Parliamentary Assistant to the Minister of Finance October 14 1953 to April 12 1957. He served as Chief Financial critic for the Liberal Opposition from 1957 to 1963. He was appointed Member of the Privy Council April 22 1963, Minister of Mines and Technical Services April 22 1963 to July 6 1965 and called to the senate July 7 1965.

His father was born in Iceland and he was chosen to represent Canada as Canada's official representative at the inauguration of the new president of Iceland in July 1952. In 1960 he was elected vice president of the Canadian branch of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association.

His wife, Agnes was a member of Winnipeg's prominent Richardson family and later served as Chancellor of Queen's University. He died April 1 1985


August P. Bergman 1879-1940

August Bergman was born in Lulea, Sweden in July 1879. He learned the building trade in Sweden.

He immigrated to Canada in 1910. He was employed by the Keewatin Lumber Company at the Norman sawmill.

In 1916 he formed a partnership with Godfrey Nelson under the firm name Bergman and Nelson.

He married wife Ida and they had 6 children:

Svea
Charles
Gunnard Jun. 1907
Herbert Oct. 1909
Nils
Robert

He died July 12 1940.

Dr. James Beveridge
Dr. Beveridge was born in Nova Scotia.

A proud supporter of the Acadia Axemen, Dr. Jim Beveridge completed his under grad at Acadia University 1971 in Nova Scotia and upon completion of his BSc. decided to work for his M.D. at Queen's University.

He specialized in Family Medicine, Obstetrics and C-Sections, Cancer Chemotherapy, Palliative Care and Pain Management at the Lake of the Woods District Hospital Medical Office. His office was located at the Paterson Medical Clinic, 45 Wolsley Street Kenora, Ontario P9N 3W7.

Dr. Beveridge enjoys golfing, boating, skiing, reading and playing bridge.

Dr. Brian Bowerman

Dr. Brian Bowerman was born in Sarnia Ontario. He graduated in 1984 from the University of Manitoba, with a BSc and MD. He has a general practice of Medicine located at Paterson Medical Clinic, 45 Wolsley Street Kenora, Ontario P9N 3W7 and has also served at Minaki Nursing Station, and Birchwood Terrace Nursing Home.

Dr. Brian Bowerman decided on Kenora because of its proximity to Winnipeg, Manitoba. He finds that Kenora is special in that it is surrounded by nature and maintains a small town feel. His hobbies include computers, cycling and cooking.

Ruth Bowiec

Ruth (Tait) Bowiec was born and grew up in Kenora.

In October 1968 she approached Stuart King, then owner of the Kenora and Miner and News with the suggestion that she be hired to be the papers first Social Columnist. She was hired the next day on a 6 month trial basis at the sum of $33.00. Her salary was doubled to $66.00 by the end of the month.

She has received several awards for her column and news coverage which often was the first item read by her fans.

In May 1985 she received the Edward Dunlop Award of Excellence for a six part series on Immigrants to the Kenora area during or prior to the Depression years.

The Lake of the Woods Museum presented their "We're proud of You" Award for outstanding coverage of every aspect of social, sports, organizational, and group events during the course of her career.

The Ontario Provincial Police honoured her with an Award of Merit certificate for her coverage of provincial police work in the Kenora area.

She retired in 2004 after 35 years of service.
She served on the Ontario Seniors Board of Directors representing Kenora Seniors.

She served as a volunteer for The Kenora Alzheimer Society, the Hospital Foundation, the Lake of the Woods Museum, Kenora Crime Stoppers, and the Kenora Retired Railroaders.

She was a member of the Kenora's Accessibility Advisory Committee, Hospital Auxiliary and active in her Church.

Her "Tea with Ruth Bowiec" auction items were a perennial favorite at Annual Rotary Actions assisting to raise money for various Rotary projects in the Kenora area.

References “35 Years as a Social Columnist in Common Ground: Stories of Lake of the Woods” Common Ground Committee Lake of the Woods Museum

**Arthur Cyril Boyce 1867-1942**

Arthur Cyril Boyce, son of Reverent John Cox Boyce and Mary Anne Blick was born 12 Sep. 1867 in Wakefield, Yorkshire, England.

He received his early education in private schools in Wakefield, York and Carlisle England.

He came to Canada in 1884 and worked in a law office in Port Arthur. He was called to the Bar in 1890. He carried on a practice at Port Arthur for two years.

He met Victoria Machin, sister of Harold Machin and the two were married 14 October 1891. They had 4 children:

- Cyril Delamere Boyce b. 21 May 1894 Rat Portage
- Victoria Muriel Boyce b. 30 Nov 1898 Rat Portage, m. Frederic James Hanna, 05 Sep 1925, Carleton, Ontario
- Sybil Folford Boyce b. 06 Mar 1900 Rat Portage, m. Ernest Gladstone Britton, m. 15 Sep 1924, Carleton, Ontario, Canada
- Daphne Borden Boyce b. 06 Aug. 1906 Rat Portage, m. Norman Macdonald Anderson

The Boyces moved to Rat Portage in 1893. He practiced law in Rat Portage for 11 years. Later George Draper joined to form the partnership of Boyce and Draper. In 1895-96 he served as honourary vice-president of Rat Portage's first hockey team.

In 1903 Mr. Boyce and his family moved to Sault Ste Marie. There he entered a firm know as Kehoe, Boyce and McPhail.

Boyce ran as a conservative in 1896 and 1900 and eventually got elected as a Liberal-Conservative in 1904 was elected to the House of Commons as representative of Algoma West. He was re-elected in 1908 and 1911.
In 1906 he was appointed a King Councillor. In 1910 he was appointed Chancellor of the Diocese of Algoma. In 1913 a honourary Doctor of Civil Law was conferred on him by Bishop's College in Lennoxxville, Quebec. In 1914 he was elected to the Fellow Royal Colonial Institute. From 1917 to 1927 he was a member of the Board of Railway Commissioners. He was a member of the Board of Governors at Trinity College in Toronto. He held the Rank of Honourary Lieutenant-Colonel with 51st Sault Ste. Marie Rifles.

He practiced law in Ottawa.

A.C. Boyce died in Toronto 4 August 1942.


John Brenchley 1859 - 1942

John Brenchley, was born in England around 1959. He came to Rat Portage around 1882. He was a "fitter" mechanic employed by the CPR. He became president of the western Brick Company in 1893. He served on the Rat Portage Town Council in 1897 and from 1919 to 1923. He served as mayor from 1924 and 1925. He died in Kenora around 1942.

James Westropp Brereton 1830-1911

Captain James Westropp Brereton was born in 1830 in Bantry Bay, Ireland. He emigrated to Montreal in 1876 with his wife Ursula Caroline Elizabeth Harnett and their children David Leslie Dean Brereton 1865 -1920, Richard Ralph Brereton 1866- James William Henry 1868 and Robina (Ina) Elizabeth Margarettta Brereton (Glass) 1874-1956. The family moved to Toronto in 1877 an then on to Winnipeg. He divorced his first wife in 1888 and married Hannah Francis Lucas from whom he was separated from in 1897.

From 1878 to 1884 he was Dominion Commissioner of Police from Winnipeg Eagle River and then Winnipeg to Rat Portage.

He acquired a piece of land on Coney Island

John Thomas Brett 1886 - 1941

John Thomas Brett, was first born son of George Thomas Brett and Margaret Cullen. There was a George Thomas Brett who died in Vancouver on 22 Feb. 1951.

John Thomas "J.T." was born 9 Sep 1886 in Simcoe County, Ontario. On Nov 27 1895, he married Catherine Ellen Ronan born January 1 1872 also in Simcoe County. They had 3 children

Harry Joseph Brett b. 22 Mar 1907 in Rat Portage

James Albert Brett b. 23 Dec 1909 in Rat Portage
John Thomas Brett b. 1917 married Agnes Geraldine Mulcahy in Pembrook August 18 1940

In 1887 he moved to Rat Portage where he became engaged in grocery and feed business store located on Second Street between Matheson and Chipman St. The Business became largest dealer in flour, feed and provisions - latter he established business known as Brett Elevator Company. He served on Town Council 1908-1911, Mayor of Kenora 1912-14. He was a strong supporter of Laurier and the liberal party.

He was a Charter member of Rotary Club, and held attendance record for many years. He was president of the Kenora Rotary Club in 1927-28. He was President of trade and served on Board of Education.

He was instrumental in the establishment of the pulp and paper business. Construction of mill began in 1921 and began operating in 1924.

He spent his summers at summer cottage at Point Alymer. He is believed to have passed away August 8 1941.

George Nelson Brunsel 1872-1938

George Brunsel, son of Mr. and Mrs. Angus Brunsel was born in St Clement (Selkirk?) Manitoba on Feb 17 1872 (17 Feb 1873?). He came to Rat Portage in 1879. He operated the first boat building company in Rat Portage with his brother Neill located on the lakefront between Main and Matherson Street. Between 1899 and 1904 the company build many boats including the Daystar, the Wanderer and the Helen S. The business ended with a fire in October 1904. In 1906 it was purchased by Robert J. Parrott. Subsequently the business was operated by Gus Anderson 1929, who in t urn sold to J.W Stone in 1934.

George went to work for Parrott Boat Building Company until he joined the 141st Battalion in 1916. He served overseas with the 48th Bull Moose Battalion returning to Kenora in 1919. Following the war he was employed by J.W. Stone Boat Company until his retirement in 1939. In the early years he took part in all the boat races. He also spent time at his camp in Clearwater Bay which is now Pye's Landing. They lived at 801 Fourth St. North

On 07 Aug. 1897 he married Agnes H Neill in Rainy River Ontario. They had 8 children:

- Margaret Elizabeth Agnes Brunsel b.09 Nov 1899
- George Neil Brunsel b. 02 Mar 1902
- Helen Louise Brunsel b. 29 Mar 1903
- Alice May Brunsel b. 21 Mar 1905
- Ethel M Brunsel b. Jan 1909
- Heywood B Brunsel?
Raymond Brunsel  
Marguerite Belle Brunsel b. 19 May 1911  
George passed away 13 Sep 1947 in Keewatin, Ontario

John Kerr Brydon 1847-1930  
John Kerr Brydon was born 28 Jun. 1847 in Dunfirmline, Scotland. He settled first in Toronto. He moved to Rat Portage in May 1882.

He opened an office in the Masonic Hall block and established himself as a solicitor, conveyancer and notary Public.

In 1883 he had a house built on the North side of First Street South.

He married Mary Charlotte Compton in York, Ontario in 10 Aug. 1886. She was born 30 Jun. 1850 in York, Ontario. They had three children.

John Brydon Kerr Compton in 15 May 1887  
Robert George Howie Brydon in 25 Dec 1891  
Mary Isabel Gladdens Brydon in 17 Aug. 1888

Brydon's promoted the town's name change. The Following note appears in August 10 1901 edition of the Rat Portage Miner:

It has been suggested that when the flour milling town and the gold mining center are united the names of the two places should be amalgamated also. 'Keewortage' sounds too much like the name of a hard dermatological excrescence and 'Ratwatin' is simply ludicrous. There seems no way out of the difficulty except to call the new city 'Brydonstown' or ville or better still, Brydon'. But perhaps Mr. Brydon wouldn't like it.

Dr. Samuel Martin Burris 1904-1991  
Samuel Martin Burris, son of William Norman Burris and Ann Kerr Guild, was born on December 4 1904 in Stewiacke, Nova Scotia.

He grew up in Nova Scotia graduating from school at age 16 and headed west to Alberta. He attended and graduated from University of Alberta Medical School in 1928.

He moved to Bayfield, Huron County where he first practiced medicine. He subsequently moved to become a mine Doctor in the Patricia District and then to Sioux Lookout.

In about 1941 he enlisted with the Canadian Army and served to November 1945. He moved to Kenora in 1946.
He was active in the Kenora Armories in his early years in Kenora. He was active in his church, Knox United. He served as Chairmen of the Local School Board from around 1959.

He married Mildred Marguerite Stephens. They had four children:

- William Martin Burris, born 1941,
- Rosemary Burris, born 1943,
- Ruth Burris. 1947, Married Dr. Peter Harland
- Claire Burris, born 1949, Married Ron Noseworthy, President of the Kenora Rotary Club 2006-07

He was president of the Kenora Rotary Club 1966-67

He died March 16 1991.

Edgerton Wellington Byers 1882-1978

Edgerton Wellington Byers, eleventh child of twelve of William Byers and Sarah Ann Francey was born in Bailieboro, Township of Cavan, near Peterborough Ontario on July 11 1882.

His siblings included,

- Robert John 1863
- David 1865
- William George 1866
- James 1868
- Joseph Henry 1870
- Sarah 1872
- Mary 1874
- Jane Florence 1876
- Berta Maud 1879
- Charles Cameron 1880-1881
- Lena 1886

He married Emma Reichert in Waterloo on August 20 1904. Her middle initial on the Marriage registry is given as H. but her name as next of Kin is given as Alberta on his attestation papers. She was born in Bridgeport, (part of modern Waterloo), Ontario, in 1880, daughter of William Reichert and Lydia Huff.
By the 1911 census Edgerton and Emma were living in Rouleau, Saskatchewan. Edgerton was working as a teacher. He enlisted February 1, 1916 in Moose Jaw and was posted to the 229th Battalion based in Moose Jaw. He was discharged May 7, 1917 due to "being surplus to requirements". By the 1921 Canada census Edgerton, Emma, Caryl and a niece Gertrude Byers were living in the hamlet of Moreland, Saskatchewan. His occupation is listed as a merchant of a general store.

He taught school in Bridgeport (Waterloo), Rouleau, and Moose Jaw, Saskatchewan, Brandon, Manitoba and finally at the Cecilia Jaffrey Indian Residential School in Kenora, Ontario.

He served as a Councillor of Jeffrey Melick and then Reeve of 1937-1942; 1956-61; and in 1963.

He was President of Kenora Rotary Club in the year 1938-39 and subsequent a District Governor for District 550

He passed away on October 1, 1978 in the Pinecrest Home for the Aged, Kenora. Edger and Emma Byers are buried in Lake of the Woods Cemetery in Kenora.

Bill Calder

Widow still alive
President of Rotary 1986-87

Sir Douglas Colin Cameron 1854-1921

Sir Douglas Colin Cameron KCMG. Colin Cameron who was born June 8, 1854 in Hawkesbury, Prescott County, Ontario on 5 June 1854, son of Colin Cameron and Annie McClaren (or McLauren). He was educated at Vankleet Hill High School. He farmed in Ontario from 1871 to sometime between 1878 and 1880 when he moved to Manitoba in 1878, and worked as a contractor at Brandon. On February 11, 1880, he married Margaret Cameron Ferguson (1857-?), daughter of William Ferguson of Vankleek Hill, Ontario. They had three children: Evelyn (Nan) Cameron (b 26 Jun. 1885), Douglas Lorne Cameron (b. 6 Jun. 1888), and James Leslie Fergus Cameron (b. 7 Jul 1896).

Subsequently he moved to Rat Portage. In the fall of 1883 he formed the lumber business of Cameron & Company, later known as Cameron & Kennedy Lumber Company in Norman. In 1892, it was incorporated as the Ontario & Western Lumber Company, being renamed as the Rat Portage Lumber Company. He served as its General Manager from 1892 and president from 1894. He was also heavily involved in the forest industry in British Columbia.

In 1901 he was elected as a councillor in Rat Portage. He would later serve as the city's mayor. In 1902, he was elected a MLA of Ontario as a Liberal for Fort Williams and Lake
of the Woods defeating Conservative Thomas Smellie, 1483 votes to 1121. He lost the 1905 election to Smellie, 1536 votes to 1228. Shortly thereafter, he moved Winnipeg to better oversee his business ventures. He was defeated as a candidate for Winnipeg in the 1908 federal election losing to Conservative Alexander Haggart by 8747 votes to 6729.

Other business interests included the Presidency of the Maple Leaf Flour Mills, and directorships of the Northern Crown Bank, Manitoba Bridge & Iron Company, and the Gas Traction Company. In 1910 he was listed by the Winnipeg Telegram as one of Winnipeg's 19th millionaires.

He was a member of the Manitoba Club, St Charles Country Club and Lakewood Country Club. He served as President of the St. Andrew Society of Winnipeg from 1906 to 1908. He was a Lieutenant-Colonel with the 79th Highlanders. He was a keen horseman, his stables winning many honours at horse shows. In 1911, he lived at 65 Roslyn Road, Winnipeg. His letter-book for the years 1911 and 1912 is at the Archives of Manitoba.

He was 8th Lieutenant-Governor of Manitoba on August 1, 1911. In 1915 Cameron used his constitutional authority to call a Royal Commission of Enquiry into an ongoing scandal involving the construction costs of the province's new legislative buildings. The Commission upheld charges against Rodmond P. Robin's government by the opposition Liberals and Roblin was forced to resign. Cameron was made a Knight Commander of the Order of St Michael and St. George in the 1914 New Year's Honour List. His term in office ended in 1916. He died in November 27, 1921 and is buried in St John's Cemetery.

Sources:
Bryce, George (1906) A History of Manitoba, Its Resources and People, The Canadian History Company
The Manitoba Historical Society, Memorable Manitobans, Online
Maxwell Yorston Cameron 1904-1981

Maxwell Yorston Cameron, son of William George Cameron and Henrietta Louise Henesy was born in Kenora November 05 1904.

He married Jessie Alexandrina Mcleod in Kenora. They had at least two children William and Don Cameron

He was president of the Kenora Rotary Club in 1951 - 1952.

He died in Kenora May 17 1981.
William George Cameron 1863 - 1940

William George Cameron was born near Truro Nova Scotia on February 8 1863. He received his education in Truro before moving to Pictou NS where he learned the grocery business. He lived in Portland Oregon for a few years before moving to Winnipeg. In Winnipeg he was employed as a brakeman by CPR and a conductor working Emerson and Winnipeg.

He arrived in Rat Portage in 1883 according to David Hogoboam 1923 news story.

On December 12th 1888, he married Hattie Henesy (born October 7 1871). They had six children:

- William Cameron b. 28 June 1891
- John Cameron b. 29 Mar 1894
- Helen Cameron b. 10 Feb 1896
- Sadie Cameron b. 10 Aug. 1899
- Max Cameron b. 5 Nov 1904
- Douglas Cameron b.4 July 1911

He continued to work with the CPR until 1894. He became proprietor of the Queen's hotel in 1888 and continued until 1898. In 1898 he started a wholesale grocery in Rat Portage with Max Heap which became known as Cameron and Heap located on north side of 2nd St. S. Branches were subsequently established at Regina, Prince Albert, Dauphin, Fort William, and Nipigon. They sold the business in August 1929 to Western Grocers.

Shortly after arriving in Rat Portage he was first involved with a mine of Cameron Island in Shoal Lake which he sold to the Buffalo Syndicate. He then got involved with the Wendigo Mine.

He was president of the Curling Club in 1895.

W.G. Cameron was a member of the Town Council 1900 to 1903. He was president of the Board of Trade in 1902. He served on the Hospital Board and the cemetery board. He was a member of the Pequnga lodge, AF & AM, Gold Hill Lodge, IOOF member of the Lake of the Wood Lodge and a chairman of the Kenora District Victory Loan Committee.

He was a charter member and Chairman of the Organizing committee that led to the charter of the club in 1920.

He died in Kenora in 21 Jun. 1940.

Archibald Campbell 1863-
Archibald Campbell, son of Farquhar and May Campbell was born on 8 Jul 1863. He married Annie H Halstead 21 Oct 1888 in Kenora, Ontario.

They had 3 children

   Stewart Woodbury Campbell b. 15 Sep 1889
   Daniel H Campbell b. 4 Mar 1891
   Isabella A Campbell b. 05 Dec 1893

Archibald Campbell came to Rat Portage in 1886. In 1890 he was the owner of Rat Portage's first stationary and book store which was located in the lower part of the Hilliard House. There was a post office in the rear of the store.

In 1891 he was elected councillor along with Harding Rideout, John Nash and J. Clarkson. In 1892 he became the first mayor following Incorporation of the Town with Counsellors C.W. Belyea, D.C. Cameron. J.B. Davies, John Nash, Walter Oliver and James M Savage.

In 1899 he went into the Insurance Business for a short time.

He was treasurer of the rowing club in 1892, a member of the first band formed in 1886 and a member of the first fire brigade formed in 1888 In 1894 he became Crown Land Agent.

They moved from Rat Portage to Kansas City in 1900. Mrs. Campbell died there in October 1944 at the age of 76

References, Hylinski 1882

   Angus Carmichael 1852 - 1938

Angus Carmichael, possibly son o Hugh Carmichael and Isabella McNiven was born in Cannington, Ontario on January 15 1852.

Angus came to Rat Portage in 1882 and rented Frank Gardner's store on the North West corner of Main He carried on the dry goods business until 1900 when he sold the store. He then went into the insurance business and real estate.

He returned east in 1886 and in Toronto married Minnie Helena Simpson, daughter of George Simpson and Sarah Jane Hallowell, April 28 1886 in Toronto.

He returned to Rat Portage in May 1886 and resided above the store he had built on Main St. and Second St South. He operated a dry goods store until 1900. He went into the Insurance and Real Estate business which he operated from the Carmichael Block on Main Street. He build a home at 228 First Street North in 1889, one of the first houses north of the railway tracks.

They had three sons:

Ross McNevin Carmichael born March 8 1890, in Rat Portage, married Norah "Dora" Anne Johnson 14 Sep 1921 in Kenora Johnson.


In 1889 he joined Jacob Hose and other leading business leaders in forming the Citizen's Electric Light and Telephone Company. The company installed light and telephone systems until it was purchased by the town. He was president of the Board of Trade in 1904. He was an alderman in 1904, 1905 and served as mayor in 1906. In this position he promoted the Maple Leaf along with Sir Douglas Cameron. The Maple Leaf Milling Company was incorporated in 1905 and capitalized for one million dollars. He became the Mill's first president. Angus Carmichael served as town counsellor in 1904-05 and mayor in 1906.

Angus Carmichael was an active sportsman being a member of the Bicycle Club in 1894, a member of the Anglers' Club and President of the Curling Club in 1890-91.

Angus Carmichael was one of the oldest masters of the Pequonga Lodge, a charter member of the Lake of the Woods Lodge and a charter member of the Gold Hill Lodge I.O.O.F.

He was the first Rat Portage militia officer who held the commission as major of the Algoma Rifles and Commander at Rat Portage. The headquarters were in Sault Ste Marie. He was one of the first officers in the old 90th Regiment and in active service until 1902.

He and his wife were active members of Knox United Church. He was appointed clerk of the Session in 1884 and retired after 50 years. He was active in getting the First Presbyterian Church built.

Angus Carmichael died in Kenora on 30 Jul 1938

Reference: Alexander Fraser, A History of Ontario, Volume 11, The Canadian History Company, Montreal, 1907 818

David Canfield

David S. Canfield born and raised in Jaffray Melick.

Prior to being mayor he was a loader operator at the local paper mill.

Formerly the mayor of Jaffray Melick

Canfield was elected mayor of the newly amalgamated city in 2000.
Served as the mayor of Kenora, Ontario from 2000 to 2006. In the 2006 municipal election, Canfield was defeated in his re-election bid by Len Compton. He was re-elected to a new term of office in 2010.

He has served on the following Provincial Committees:

- Northwest Ontario Smart Growth Panel Ministers Committee for Ontario’s Hunting Strategy for the future
- Municipal Rep. for Provincial Forest Technical Committee Ministers Council for Forest Sector Competitiveness
- Northern Ontario Value Added Committee to restructure FEDNOR
- Chair of Ontario Moose & Bear Allocation Committee (OMBAC)

Mayor Canfield has served on the following Regional Committee Northwestern Ontario:

- One of the founders and President of the Northwest Forestry Council Vice
- President of N. O. M.A. for five years representing Kenora District Member of the Northwest Forestry Coalition, lobbying to make changes to save the forest industry.
- Member of Northwest Regional Recovery Committee

Along with Grand Chief Leon Jourdain was the founder of the Common Land Common Ground working group. A joint committee of First Nation Chiefs and Northwest Ontario Mayors working together on issues of common interest.

**Frederick Wallace Canniff 1864- 1943**

Frederick Wallace Canniff, son of James Partridge Canniff and Eliza Elizabeth Wallace was born in Cannington, near Belleville, Ontario 7 August 1864. On New Year’s Day 1 Jan 1902, he married Emily Howard. They had one child Frederick Howard Canniff born in Kenora on 6 Oct 1904.

Fredrick came to Rat Portage with the CPR. He was the first night operator with the railway.

In 1886 he was hired by William LeBaron Baker in the One Price Cash Store. He left to manage a store for Jacob Hose and Coates in Keewatin. In 1889 he left to operate a book and Stationary business in Rat Portage. Subsequently he was joined by Joseph Johnson and drugs were sold in the store as well under the name Canniff and Johnson. He subsequently sold his interest to Johnson who was joined by his brother Lowry Johnson and the business was renamed Johnson's Pharmacy.

In about 1899 he left for Phoenix, B.C. where he had a hardware business but with the Boer war he left to go to Fort Frances with Herbert Williams.

In 1904 he returned to Rat Portage entered into a Partnership of Hose and Canniff, with Jacob Hose. He managed the store after Hose died in 1907.
In 1920 he sold out and retired but was back in business a year later with J.P. Williams in a partnership known as Canniff and Williams. He sold out his interest and retired for good in 1927.

Frederick Canniff was a member of the Keewatin Masonic Lodge and Gold Hill Lodge I.O.O.F. He was a member of the Anglican Church.

He owned a small camp on an Island in Golf Course Bay.

He died in March 1943.

George Raymond Carmichael 1893- 1981

George Raymond Carmichael, the son of Angus and Minnie Helena Simpson, was born March 12 1893 in Rat Portage.

In 1908 at the age of 15 years he enlisted in the Lake Superior Regiment. He attended the Royal School of Infantry at Fort Osborne Barracks and qualified as a Lieutenant in December 1915. He went over with the 94th Battalion embarking from Halifax on June 16 on the Olympic. In England he was transferred to the 32 Reserve Battalion on July 18 and then subsequent on August 31, to the Royal Flying Corps. He trained in Scotland and flew reconnaissance missions in France and Belgium.

In September 1917 his airplane was attacked by enemy aircraft, his observer wounded and the airplane damaged but he was able to land the plane in France. Following the incident, he was granted a 3 month leave in Canada and the remaining service were based in Toronto with the Royal Flying Corp.

Back in Kenora he remained active in the military affairs. In 1922 when the Kenora Light Infantry was organized under Colonel Schnarr, George Carmichael was one of the first called back to serve. He commanded the Kenora Light Infantry. In 1930 he worked hard to get a new armoury. In 1936 when the militia was changed from infantry to artillery he reorganized the 40th Medium Regiment including the 16th, 17th and 18th Batteries at Kenora, Fort Francis and Port Arthur.

During World War Two he was a member and Vice Chairman of the Department of National Board involved with the administration of the National Resources Mobilization Act, Division D, and Port Arthur. He was also Chairman of the Industrial Survey Board Division D.

He promoted the Lake of the Woods Military Institute and served as its president. He was a honourary life member of the Royal Canadian Legion and of the Woods United Services Institute.

Following World War one he returned to Kenora and joined his father's insurance business.

He married Lillian May Nelson on August 8 1923 in Peterborough Ontario and they had three children:
Nancy Carmichael born August 9 1927 Married Bruce McEown, Died Nov 8 1979

Angus Milville Dixon Carmichael born July 25 1934, Wife Marion, Died January 1 2011

George Terrance Carmichael born August 9th 1935, Married Lorraine Keefe, Died May 26 2012

George was a member of the Committee who organized Old Home Week in 1936, and a member who organized the Kenora Jubilee in 1952. In 1952 he was president of the Junior Chamber of Commerce. He was President of the Kenora Kinsmen Club. He was a past master of the Lake of the Woods Masonic Lodge No 445. He was a trustee of the Knox United Church.

He was Mayor of Kenora from June 1948 to the end of 1951.


Herbert C. Carpenter 1872 -

Herbert Carpenter, son of Sherrif Carpenter and Annie Carpenter was born October 16 1872

Herbert Carpenter served St. Albans for 41 years as Organist and choir director. Hundreds local of Kenora children were taught by him during his lengthy teaching career.

Earnie Carter, son of Ernest Leslie Carter and Jessie R Carter of Winnipeg, Manitoba, was born there on October 1879. He moved with his family to Kenora Ontario when he was 4 or 5. He received his education in Kenora before attending business college in Winnipeg at the age of 17 years. He worked for the British Empire Grain Company for 5 years before returning to Kenora. He worked for his father’s Real Estate and Insurance Company. In 1934 he joined the Kenora Paper Mill Ltd which later became the Ontario-Minnesota Pulp and Paper Company. He commenced as assistant cashier and worked other positions until 1943 when he was sent to Fort Frances to set up a new office for the Company. He returned to Kenora in 1950 to become the office manager and comptroller until he retired in June 1 1974. He then took on the position of resident manager of then Kenora Shopper's Mall.

He married Gladys Tompkins on June 3 1935. They had one child, Harry L. Carter, born April 22 1937.

He served as a member and chairman of the Board of Education in Fort Frances. He was appointed to the Lake of the Woods District High School and served as Chairman from 1957 to 1961.
He served as town councillor from 1963 to 1965, mayor from 1966 to 1971 and then a councillor again from 1972 to 1977.

He was the inaugural chairman of the Board of Police Commissioners for Kenora in 1970-71. He was a member of the Hydro Commission He was president of the Kenora District Municipal Association. He was a member and a chairman of the Kenora Recreation Centre. He was a member of the Industrial Board, the Kenora Publicity Board, the Museum Board, the Library Board, and the Lake of the Woods District Hospital Board.

He was a member of the Tri-Municipal Committee, chairperson of the Provincial Government Advisory on Commercial Fishing in North Western Ontario vice-president of the Ontario's Mayor's and Reeves Association, President of the Chamber of Commerce, President of both Kenora and Rainey River District Music Festivals a member of the Retarded Children's Authority, a member of the Mississippi Parkways Commission.

John Kenneth Chambers

John Kenneth Chambers
Son Peter Chambers
Daughter Brenda
Postmaster
President of Kenora Rotary Club 1978-79

Thomas William Chapple 1853 – 1926

Honourable Thomas William Chapple, son of Captain William and Eutychia Randall (McNaughton) Chapple, natives of Devonshire, England, and St. Andrews, Scotland, respectively, was born February 10 1853 in Kilkenny, Ireland.

His father, a regimental surgeon-major in the Second Dragoon Guards, Queen's Boys died in May, 1858, at Lucknow, India in a military siege. The family who had been living in London England departed the same year for Canada and established their home at Newcastle, Durham County, Ontario.

He commenced his study of law in 1876, with J. E. Farewell, K.C., of Whitby, and was called to the Bar of Ontario in 1882.

In 1882 he married Lucy Ann French, daughter of Milton French of Oshawa. They had one son,

In 1884 Judge Chapple moved to Uxbridge, Ontario where practice as a barrister until 1898. For many years he served as secretary of North Ontario and West Ontario Reform Associations. In 1892 he received the nomination of the Liberal party for North Ontario for the Legislative Assembly and was elected in his riding in the general election of 1894.

In 1898 he moved to Kenora where he presided as a judge of the Rainy River District Court for 28 years.

Judge Chapple was interested in promoting education. In Uxbridge he served as a Chairman of the Board of Education. He served as the first chairman of the Kenora High School Board.

Judge Chapple was a member of the Gold Hill Lodge, IOOF, district deputy grandmaster of the Masonic Order, and member of the Lake of the Woods Lodge A.F. & A.M. district deputy of the Ancient Order of United Workmen and a high councillor of the Independent Order of Foresters.

He was a strong Presbyterian and subsequent an Elder in the United Church. He died 13 Nov 1926.

References:

Fraser, Alexander, A history of Ontario: its resources and development (1907) 1860-1936 Volume: 2, Toronto: Canada History Co. Call number: AMY-0015 Robarts - University of Toronto Pages 806-808

Hylnski, Sharon et al. (1982) Early Settlers of Rat Portage, Kenora Public Library Call Number 971.311 HLY

Ellen / Helene /Helena / Hélène (Collin) (Charbonneau) Charbonneau

When you read the early papers of Rat Portage you seldom see a married women referred by their given name but rather by their husbands’ name. Such is the case with Mrs. Joseph Charbonneau. The additional problem with this name is the variation of spelling of her name. It is highly unlikely that her French spelling of Hélène attached to her before she left Ireland with her parents to St. Jerome Quebec. She married Joseph Felix Charbonneau possibly in Winnipeg on 18 Nov 1880. The name "Charbonneau" appears in both the 1901 and 1911 Census in Rat Portage - Kenora but it is believed that the original and more common spelling of the name as "Charbonneau" both preceded him and followed the children. It no longer appears in the Kenora of 2012. Children:

Benson (Census) Vincent (WW1 Attestation papers) Charbonneau b. 20 Aug. 1880

Ernest Charbonneau b. 20 Dec 1881

John William Charbonneau b. 17 Mar 1883 married Marie Eva Giguere

Margaret Charbonneau b. 20 Feb 1884, married George Moshier
Helene Charbonneau b. 09 Nov 1886, married David Dickson Cossor
Amelia Charbonneau b. 15 Apr. 1889, married John Dunne
Mary Louise Charbonneau b. 1890, Solomon Guy.

In addition to having and raising her own, Helene served as a midwife in early Rat Portage. The infant death rate was very high in Rat Portage as elsewhere at the time, where no hospitals existed and little available help for women in trouble. She served well for about a dollar a day, with compassion and care and no doubt was a great comfort to pioneering women in Rat Portage. She passed away in 1918.

James Clarkson 1857 - 1910
James Clarkson was born in 1857. He married Lucinda Martha Seymour (born 10 Sep 1856 in Penetanguishene, Simcoe, Ontario) in August 4 1880. They had 4 children:
  Margaret Anne Clarkson b. 29 Jul 1883 in St. Boniface, Manitoba
  Stanley Seymour Clarkson b. 23 Mar 1885 in St. Boniface, St. Manitoba
  Ida May Clarkson b. 9 Jan 1889 Rat Portage
  John Gordon Clarkson b. 31 Mar 1891 in Rat Portage
He was a town Counsellor in 1884, 1885, 1890, and 1891
He died in 16 Aug. 1910 in St. Boniface, Manitoba, Canada

Henry Porter Cooke 1884-1936

Henry Porter Cooke, son of Henry Hamilton Cooke and Catherine Elizabeth Bennis Bolster was born 4 January 1884 in Uxbridge, Durham County, Ontario, Canada.

He received his education in Uxbridge public schools and then proceeded to University of Toronto where he graduated with a BA and an LLB. He was called to the bar in 1908. He practiced law with the law firm of Sharpe and Cooke until World War 1.

On 19 August 1911 he married Hazel Margaret Jane Vicars. They subsequent had two children,
  Marian Ellen Cooke b. 08 Dec 1913 d. 09 Nov 2003
  Norah Muriel Cooke b. 15 Aug. 1918
The British army established a military post where the museum at Exhibition Place, Lakeshore Boulevard East Toronto, ON is presently located, in 1840-41 to replace aging Fort York. Known as the New Fort, it consisted of seven limestone buildings around a parade square, and a number of lesser structures. In 1893 the fort was renamed Stanley Barracks in honour of Governor Lord Stanley. Canadian forces assumed responsibility for the post in 1870 and garrisoned it until 1947. Cooke trained at the Barracks and served with
the 34th regiment. He further trained at Petawawa in 1911 and enlisted on went overseas in 1916 with the 116th Battalion. He returned home on sick leave and was placed in charge of the Military Service Act in Kingston. After coming to Kenora he was promoted to Lieutenant- Colonel and took over the command of the Kenora Light Infantry which he retired from in 1932.

In April 1919 he moved to Kenora and opened his practice of Law. In December 19 1921 he received his King Councillor. In 1922 he was appointed Crown Attorney and Town solicitor.

In 1931 he assumed command of the Kenora Light Infantry as Lieutenant -Colonel and retired from position in 1932.

In Kenora he was a member of the Kenora Rotary Club and served as president in 1935-1936.

He was a Master of the Masonic Order.

He was an active member of the Board of Trade, a Director of the Kenora Golf and Country Club, the Kenora Legion and a honourary solicitor of the Children's Aid Society.

Henry Porter Cooke died 22 April 1936 in Kenora.

Abraham Coppleman 1896- 1958

Abraham "Abbie" Coppleman, son of Samuel Coppleman and Maggie Rosen was born May 14 1896. He was a furniture store owner.

He married Yhetta Gertrude Shragge

He was President of the Kenora Rotary Club 1945-46

He died June 19 1958 in Vancouver, B.C.

Henry "Harry" Cornish 1873-1947

Harry Cornish was born in England and arrived in Canada in 1881 at the age of 8 years. He married Martha Mary Etta Callander on October 24 1900 in Cameron, Manitoba. They had one daughter Netta Marie Cornish born December 31 1900 and who died February 4 1915.

He was Keewatin Town Councillor in 1907-14 and Mayor from 1915-20.

His occupation in the 1921 census is given as Flour Shipper. He was the General Superintendent of Lake of the Woods Milling.

He was President of the Kenora Rotary Club 1930-31.

He moved to Oak Bay British Columbia in 1935. He died there on January 12 1947.
Herbert Thomas Cossey 1871 – 1947

Herbert Thomas Cossey, son of Thomas Robert Cossey and Mary Elizabeth Harrison, was born in Ormesby St. Margaret, Norfolk, England. He had been engaged in with his father in yacht and boat building in England before coming to Canada. His father arrived from Toledo Ohio where he had been engaged with W. Lake in the construction of motorboats. Father Thomas Robert Cossey arrived in Kenora in 1905.

In Canada Herbert Thomas Cossey first went to Prince Albert where he build the 120 foot stern wheeler "Alberta" for the Hudson Bay Company. Later it was brought down the Saskatchewan River through Lake Winnipeg and the Red River where it wound up its career making excursions to River Park. In Kenora he built many boats for cruising Lake of the Woods including, the Erin, Calypso, Hostalingia, Raven, Ramona, Nahmeaka, Condon and the Ariel.

He left Kenora in 1926 to Gravenhurst District where he carried on his trade until his retirement in 1945.

He married Rose Annie Lake in April 13 1893 in Yarmouth, Norfork, England and emigrated to Canada with 4 children, two others having died in infancy. He had a total of 10 children:

- Ruby Rose Cossey b. Aug. 1895 Norfork, England d. 1968 Huntsville, Ontario, Canada
- Basil Wilfred Cossey b. July 1900 Norfork, England d. July 1900 All the above were born in Norfork England
- Donald Wilfred Cossey b. Apr. 1902, Greater Yarmouth, Norfork, England
- Lillian Helen May Cossey 31 Mar 1906 Kenora, Ontario d. 1985
- Stanley Thomas Cossey b. 04 Jan 1909 Kenora, Ontario d. 06 Oct 1971 North Vancouver, BC
- Douglas Jack Cossey b. 28 Jul 1911 Kenora, Ontario d. 27 Oct 1969 Orillia, Ontario, Canada
- Gordon Nelson Cossey b.1918 Kenora d. 2003 in Ladner, BC, Canada

Herbert Thomas Cossey died on March 24 1947 at the age of 75 at his home in Gravenhurst.
(More Research required on Children and business in Kenora)

Stan Cox
Constable
Kenora Rotary Club 1981-82
Janet Clarissa Crooks 1865-1951

Picture courtesy of and used with permission of Dale Nutley, descendant of Miss Crooks

Janet Clarissa Crooks, daughter of Allan McAuley Crooks and Jane Johnson born November 10 1865 in Dover, Ontario, the 7th of 10 children:

Mary Jane Crooks 1852-1893
Johnson Alexander Crooks 1853-1932
Agnes Elizabeth Crooks 1855-1934
Margarets Amelia Crooks 1857-1952
Helen Augusta Crooks 1857-1952
Frances Isabella Crooks 1863
Janet Clarissa Crooks 1865-1951
Edith Maria Crooks 1868-
Catherine Louise Crooks 1872-

Her father who died the day after her marriage and two sisters were also teachers. There is a Helen Crookes listed in the 1891 Census for Rat Portage.

She applied to 22 school districts and got 8 job offers. She arrived in Rat Portage by 1883 at the age of 18 years. She was the first public school teacher in Rat Portage.

The funds for the first school were raised by standing on busy street corners and collecting donations. The funds collected were used to build a one room 50 foot log school house facing on Hennepen Lane at the rear of the present day (2013) Salvation Army. The children used land presently occupied by Ristorante Italian in 2013 as their playground. She taught
single handed until 1886 when she was joined by 18 year old Melvin Seegmillar. In the spring of 1886 they had 70 students in eight classes.

She met her husband Pierce "Pirrie" Thompson who was working for the Canadian Pacific Railroad. They married at Rat Portage on April 5th 1886. Her first child was born in Rat Portage. She moved to St Cloud Minnesota in 1887 or 1888. They had 6 children:

Nell Constance Thompson born January 13 1887 in Rat Portage, She died 1970 in Palo Alto, San Mateo, California, USA


Gertrude Mary Thompson born August 25 1890 in St Cloud, Minnesota. She died August 3 1963 in San Pedro, California.

Leonard Ramsay Thompson was born in St. Cloud Minnesota on October 18 1892. He died August 25 1970 in San Pedro California.

Ethel Marion Thompson was born on October 12 1894 in St Cloud, Minnesota. She died March 7 1996 in Tucson, Arizona

Irene Lillian Thompson was born 28 Aug 1902 Melrose, Minnesota. She died 18 Jan 2002 in Tucson, Arizona

She moved first to St Cloud Minnesota and in the early 1900's she and her family followed Pirrie's work top Everett, Washington. In the fall of 1926 Pirrie and Janet went to San Pedro near their son Leonard. Janet worked in Leonard's Medical Office from 1926 until 1944. Sister Irene worked in the office 10 years. Janet and Irene moved back to the family house in Everett in November 1944.

She died in Everett, Washington on September 24 1951

Donald Hector Currie 1860

Donald Hector Currie, son of James John Currie and Mary McLean was born on May 29 1860 in Lochaber Quebec.

He came to Keewatin from Minneapolis in April 1886. In 1887 he moved to Rat Portage as a shipper for the Lumber Company.

He married Annie Jane Campbell of Ottawa March 2 1889 at Ferris, Nipissing District, Ontario. They had six children,

James Campbell Currie born April 18 1890 at Rat Portage, Died April 9 1917 at Vimy, Nord-Pas-de-Calais, France
Minnie Constance Currie born December 24 1891 at Rat Portage died 1965

John Erroll Currie born August 23 1893 at Rat Portage, Lived in Kenora, Managed the mill in 1916, Served as town clerk, resigning August 1920 and moved to Portage La Prairie in 1922, died 1992

Norma Currie born May 20 1895 at Rat Portage

Hector Donald Currie born April 27 1897 at Rat Portage died in 1925 lost at sea

Methuen Wendell Currie born December 1 1899, died July 28 1985 at Hamilton, Ohio, United States

He became a school trustee in 1893-94. He was a member of the town Council in 1895 and 1897. Upon the resignation of George Barnes he served the balance of 1895 as acting mayor.

In 1896-97 he was secretary-treasurer of the Western Algoma Brick Company. In 1899 he was accepted in the local agency for the Birbeck Loan and Trust Company. He was appointed assessor and collector in 1898-99. In 1906 he took over the position of Crown Timber agent.

George Curtis

Chief of Police

John Dahl

Married to Judy

96th President of Kenora Rotary Club in 2014-2915

Raymond Glenn Davidson 1896 - 1969

Dr. Raymond Glenn Davidson, son of David R Davidson and Addie May Glenn was born in Brighton, Ontario. His siblings include,

Margery Davidson born 1900

Morley Davidson born 1902

He entered Queen's University and while a medical student enlisted with the Canadian Army Medical Corps in Kingston, Ontario January 5 1916. Greater details relating to his service and health during the World War 1 may be found at http://www.canadiangreatwarproject.com/searches/soldierDetail.asp?ID=141575.

In 1921 he is listed as a medical student living with his family in Armeliasburgh Ontario. The next year he moved to Kenora to open his medical practice.
In September 1927 he married Agnes Anna McLeod, born May 1897, daughter of Donald "Dan" McLeod. They had two daughters

Maureen Davidson
Ruth Davidson

Dr. Glen Davidson served as a general Practitioner and surgeon in Kenora for over 40 years. He served as coroner in Kenora for many years.

He was active in community affairs. He served on the school board for 25 years. He was the first chairman of the Lake of the Woods Museum Board. He was a member of the K 40 Club, the Kenora Masonic Lodge, and a member of Knox United. He was an active member of the Rotary Club and President in 1936-37.

He was made a fellow of the Order of St. John by her Majesty the Queen.


Dr. John D Dean

Dr. John D. Dean practiced Dentistry as successor to Dr. C.N. Schnarr. In July 1928 he practiced from the Carmichael Block on Main St

Rotary President 1939-1945
Dentist
1939-40 Kenora Rotary President

Charles C. Delbridge 1867 - 1934

Charles C. Delbridge, was born May 28 1867 in Oxford County Ontario and moved to Rat Portage around 1890. He married Sarah Luttrell October 25 1899. They had three children,

Pearl Victoria Delbridge born Jan 10 1901
Bernice Emma Delbridge May 25 1903
Clayton Boston Delbridge May 1907

He established a livery business around 1895 which became well known throughout the town and district by providing coaches, buggies and all kinds of conveyances, day or night. Sleighs replaced the buggies in the winter time.

He served on the Town Council in 1905 and 1909. As chairman of the works Committee he laid the first cement sidewalks in 1906 on portions of Main St. Second Street and First Street. The next year he became a contractor for laying cement sidewalks. He was largely responsible for organizing the syndicate to build the Tourist Hotel in 1907.
He sold his livery business to Link and Henderson. In June 1909 he moved to Vancouver where he took a position on the Vancouver Police Commission. He died on April 28 1934.

**George Derry 1849-1924**

George Derry, née George Déry, son of George Déry and Sophie Tessier (dit LaPlante) was born on August 24 1849 in Quebec. His father George Déry from Lorette Quebec baptized his children and enumerated his children in Canadian census as Déry but when George moved to the United States the name was anglized to Derry. His siblings included,

- Annie Déry born 1850 in Lorette, Quebec
- Joseph Déry born 1853 in Lorette, Quebec
- Malvina Déry born Oct 28 1855 in Saint Raymond, Portneuf, Quebec
- Caroline Déry born 1858 in Quebec

It has not been ascertained when they met or where they married but George Derry married Delia Blanchard, born in Quebec and they first appear in a census living in North Adams, Massachusetts where they are living with her family. George worked on the Hoosac Tunnel completed in 1875.

They had a total of at least 6 children,

- George Derry (first of two Georges) born 1870 in North Adams and died very young
- Rose Derry born 1871
- Arthur Derry
- Joseph Derry born October 3 1876 in North Adams, Massachusetts (See Below)
- George Derry Jr died at the age of 16 years in April 1900

George Derry and family arrived in Rat Portage in 1877 from North Adams, Massachusetts, according to the news article on his death as well as an article by David Hogoboam published in 1923. He was engaged with the CPR handling the new explosive nitroglycerin on the construction of the railway. He worked 1877-78 in Rat Portage before moving to Vermillion Bay ultimately returning to Rat Portage where Delia died on Feb 19 1900.

According to Through the Kenora Gateway, page 77 the George Derry family arrived in Rat Portage in 1879 on the steamship "Lady of the Lake" on the same ship as the Governor General Lord and Lady Aberdeen in 1879.

He had been friends with Frank Gardner and was living with him by the 1901 census.
Subsequent to the death of his first wife he married Catherine Janet MacDonell born 1871. They had two daughters, Donnell born in Kenora in 1906 and a second daughter.

George Derry was a close friend of Frank Gardner. They became involved in mining buying a property on Scotty’s Island on which the mine was located. In July 1899, they sold it to the Ottawa Gold Mining and Milling Company. George Derry did some bush work for Mr. Gardner. He ran some camps during the winter months, putting out cordwood for the steamboats and for the Sultana mine. When he got older Mr. Derry was employed by the town, working at the pump house in Lakeside.

When Mr. Gardner's wife died George Derry's wife Catherine looked after his children, particularly the two youngest.

He died in July 1924 at 74. In his reporting his death, the Kenora Miner and News indicated,

The late George Derry was a man whom it was a pleasure to know. Of exceptional sterling character he was always kind, generous and thoughtful and of him it may be said his word was a good is his bond. Thought of a reserved and quiet temperament, it was a real pleasure to talk to him of the early days here, for to him its hardship always had a humorous.

Joseph Derry 1876 - 1958

Joseph Derry, son of George Derry née George Déry, and Delia Blanchard was born October 3 1876 in North Adams, Massachusetts. George and Delia traveled from their province of birth, Quebec to work on a project in the United States and Joseph was born while living there with George Derry and family arrived in Rat Portage in 1877 from North Adams, Massachusetts, according to the news article on his death as well as an article by David Hogoboam published in 1923. He was engaged with the CPR handling the new explosive nitroglycerin on the construction of the railway. He worked 1877-78 in Rat Portage before moving to Vermillion Bay ultimately returning to Rat Portage where Delia died on Feb 19 1900.

According to Through the Kenora Gateway, page 77 the George Derry family arrived in Rat Portage in 1879 on the steamship "Lady of the Lake" on the same ship as the Governor General Lord and Lady Aberdeen in 1879.

His mother (Delia Blanchard) died on February 19 1900 when Joseph was 24 years of age.

He married Frances McKeown on September 2 1897. They had two children

   Frances Irene Derry, born August 27 1898 in Rat Portage, married Joseph Cyril Antoine Ouellette Kenora Rotary 1942-43
   Stanley Joseph Derry born November 30 1902 in Rat Portage. He died February 1 1942.

Joseph was the owner of the Bijou theater (in 2013 the Bijou Streak house). In 1914 he bought the property where the Hilliard Opera House was located after it burned and following the death of Mr. Hilliard in 1914 and moved his theater to this
location. On December 5 1914 the Palace Theater was opened (in 2013 the Wind and Water Interior building also known as the Bergman building -See below.) It closed its doors on November 9 1950 when Mr. Derry opened the Paramount Theater next door, in 2013 Century Cinema.

326 2nd St. S. Palace Theater -Bergman & Nelson-Bergman Building-
Son Stan and wife operated the business with Bert Johnson as the projectionist.
Joseph Derry was the sixth president of the Kenora rotary Club serving in 1924 -1925
Joseph Derry died December 7 1958.

Dr. Rhonda Diamond

She was born in Manitoba.

Dr. Rhonda Diamond graduated from University of Manitoba (BSc) and then Queen's University graduating in 1993. She has a Family Medicine at Paterson Medical Clinic at 45 Wolsley Street Kenora, Ontario P9N 3W7 and Obstetrics at Lake of the Wood District Hospital.

She came to Kenora for the good scope of practice it has to offer. She finds the best thing about Kenora is the beautiful lake where she is able to take part in many water activities.

George Herbert Draper 1873-1922

George Herbert Draper, son of George Draper and Elizabeth Booth was born in Listowel, Perth County, Ontario, July 3, 1873. He attended school in Listowel and the collegiate institute of Owen Sound.

He commence the study of law in the office and under the" direction of W. A. Dowler, K.C., of Tilsonburg. Later his preceptor was A. C. Macdonell, the Dominion member from South Toronto. He was called to the Bar in 1898 and began practice in Listowel. He came to Rat Portage in 1898 and entered into partnership with Arthur C. Boyce, in the firm known as Boyce and Draper. This partnership continued until January, 1902 or 1903 when Boyce moved to Sault Ste Marie. Mr. Draper continued alone until he sold his practice to J.A. Kinney and moved to New York. He has a distinctively representative clientage, connecting him with much important litigation, and represented a number of American companies operating in this district. Aside from his law practice he is connected with different commercial and mining institutions and is also a partner in a big ranching company.

In 19 February, 1902, Mr. Draper married Lillian M. Sinclair, a daughter of Laughlin C. Sinclair and Lillian Tilson of Tilsonburg, Ontario. They had two daughters:
Lilliam Amelia Draper b. 30 Nov 1902 Rat Portage, m. Alexander Stanley Fergusson
Margaret Sinclair Draper b. 05 Mar 1907 Kenora; m. Louis Frank Jansen

Mr. Draper is an adherent of the Presbyterian Church and in politics a Conservative.

Around 1916 he made his headquarters in Washington.

He died in 15 April 1922 in Tilsonburg, Ontario

Fraser, Alexander, A history of Ontario: its resources and development (1907) 1860-1936
Volume: 2, Toronto: Canada History Co. Call number: AMY-0015 Robarts - University of Toronto Pages 821-822; Early Settlers of Rat Portage, 1981-82 Summer Project, Kenora
Library Call number 971.311HLY page 418

Andrew Albert Dodds 1902

Andrew "Andy" Albert Dodds, son of William Henry Dodds and Myra Pearl Bruce was born November 17 1902 at Pinewood, Rainey River. William Dodds had been involved in the camp business and along with Ernie Calvert, Mike Ament and three others went to Toronto on behalf of camp operators in 1925. As a result the Outfitters and Guide Association was formed subsequently changing its name to Kenora District Camp Owners.

Andy Dodds married Myra Pearl Bruce in Sioux Lookout, Kenora County, Ontario on July 12 1926.

In 1937 Andrew "Andy" Dodds bought land near the old Keewatin Golf Course for a tourist camp. The camp ultimately consisted of ten housekeeping cottages, a store, boats and beach. The camp was maintained during World War II by serving flying instructors from Shiloh who came from New Zealand and Australia. The camp was depended on fishing and was sold in 1974 because of poor fishing and high operating costs. Mr. and Mrs. Dodds retained a portion of the land to retain their house called "Thornhaven" because of hawthorn bushes.

He served as Rotary President in 1965 - 1966.

Harry John "Jack" Donley -1948

Harry John Donley was born in Toronto. He attended De LaSalle School and St. Michael's College. He graduated from Osgoode Hall in 1929.

He practiced law in Kenora. In 1944 he represented one of 4 accused in a grisly murder which has become known as the Hot Stove Murder in Flanders Rainey River. Three were executed and Donley's client received 16 years. In 1945 he was appointed King's Counsel. He subsequently was appointed Judge of the Rainy River District.

Donley was a member of the Kenora Board of Trade, a Grand Knight of the Knights of Columbus and President of the Kenora Golf and Country Club. He was involved in the Kenora Light Infantry.
He married Marion Hamilton Clarke November 29 1930. They had one child, Mary Ann Donley Married Favreau He died in October 1948

George Drewry 1861- 1945

George Drewry, son of Edward A. Drewry and Elizabeth Starkey was born in St. Paul, Minnesota on October 12 1861. In 1878, he went to Winnipeg to join his brother who was engaged in the brewing and malting business.

In 1883, he came to Rat Portage where he began his own wholesale liquor business. He also had a branch in Keewatin and Rainey River, as well as numerous outlets throughout the district. Drewry had owned the Lake of the Woods Brewing Company in 1903 and was a successful local businessman. There is a replica of George Drewry’s office at the Lake of the Woods Museum which includes his classic roll top desk.

Mr. Drewry was President of the J.W. Stone Building Co.

He was also president of the Kenora Board of Trade.

He left his name on "Drewry Drive".

Frederick Alfred Dubois 1880-

Frederick Alfred Dubois 4th child of Joseph Dubois and Angelique Jolicoeur was born January 4 1880 in Sault Sainte Marie. He attended school there.


Frederick James Bernard ("Buster") Dubois b. 17th August 1913, baptized on August 19th. M. Lenora Langner, d. 2003

Kathleen Dubois d. May 2012

Margaret Rose Dubois, b. 21 Jul. 1914, m. George Arthur Richard Langner 12 Aug 1936, d. 16 Jul. 2009

Arnold Dubois

He was assistant chief of the Fire Department in Sault Sainte Marie before arriving in Kenora. He arrived in Kenora in October 1917 to become Kenora's first paid fire chief from 1917 to 1946. Eventually he was appointed assistant Fire Marshall for the Province of Ontario. His son B. Dubois also acted as chief from 1969 to 1978.
He was a member of the Knights of Columbus, director of the Kenora Agriculture Society, member of the Kenora Board of Trade, president of the Kenora Lawn Bowlers Association, member of the Canadian Legion, and member of the Kenora Curling Club.

Writing of Chief Dubois in Lake of the Woods, History & Heritage, page 26 Stuart King indicates,

Fire Chief Dubois lived for his work; teaching and preaching prevention to his capable staff which included Reg Davie, Keith Affleck, Earnie Chandonet, son Buster, Harold Shead and others. He talked "shop" at home when I boarded with the family stressing the need for a meaningful safety code.

He died July 23 1946 in Kenora

Mark Duggan

Mark Duggan, son of Gerry Duggan was born and grew up in Kenora. He served as Manager of Inn of the Woods. He attended Confederation College.

He married Donna Duggan and had two children

He served with Sunset Country Tourism for several years before becoming General Manager and Director of sales with Best Western Lake Side Inn. He served as Station Manager with 89.5 The Lake Radio Station. He served a brief period as Tourism Director for the City of Kenora.

He was president of the Kenora Rotary Club 1993-94

Helene (Struchynski) Dubenski 1917-2013

Helen (Struchynski) Dubenski, daughter of Michael and Sabina Struchynski was born on June 21 1917. She married Paul Dubenski.
She gave generously of her time to many associations including The Kenora District Festival of the Arts, Home and School Associations, Ukrainian Women's Association of Olha Kobylianska, Ukrainian Literacy Society Choir & Orchestra, The G-Clef Choir, Pinecrest Home for the Aged, St. Joseph's Hospital Auxiliary, Trillium Toastmistress International and the Liberal Ladies Association.

She served on the Separate School Board Trustee for 21 years. She served town and City of Kenora Council for 25 years and as Deputy Mayor for two terms.

She lived in good health to her 96th year passing away on October 14 2013.

Augustus Frederick Dulmage 1846-

Augustus Frederick Dulmage was born in Camden East Twp., Lennox & Addington Co., ON, Canada, in around 1846 His wife Elizabeth Ann Oliver came from Napanes was born April 14 1851.

He is believed to have come to Rat Portage in 1884

According to an article in the Kenora Daily Miner in 1929 on the occasion of Mrs. Dulmage death, the family moved from Orillia, West to Winnipeg in 1860 and settled in Winnipeg. After a short stay there Mr. Dulmage got employment with the Rat Portage Lumber Company and was stationed at Fort Frances. In the fall of 1883 he moved to Rat Portage. Shortly thereafter he secured the appointment of Crown Tiber Agent.

Their children born sometimes in the 1870s or 1880s are

Rhoda Jane Dulmage
James Stillman Dulmage b. March 3 1872
Flora Maude Dulmage
George Augustus Dulmage
Glen Oliver Dulmage b. August 29 1877
Claude Archibald Dulmage
Alexander Dulmage
Louise Emma Dulmage

Frederick Goode Dulmage b. August 3 1881 in Winnipeg, Manitoba, Goalie for 1894-95 Kenora Thistles, Original member of the 1896 Rat Portage junior Thistles which beat the Senior Thistle Team, 1903-04 Thistle First Club to challenge for the
Stanley Cup, subsequently played goalie for Fort Williams in the New Ontario Hockey League from 1908 to 1911. He died March 1974 in Medicine Hat, Alberta.

Claude Dulmage b. July 29 1884

5 of the Children survived Mrs. Dulmage (Elizabeth Ann Oliver) in 1929: Mrs. Philbin with whom she resided, James employed at Minaki, Alex resident in Winnipeg, Glen Resident in Grand Forks, North Dakota and Fred in Medicine Hat.

A newspaper article in 1929 indicates that Mrs. Dulmage was a descendent of the Anaka Jann family who came from Holland and were among the early settlers of New Amsterdam (New York).

Clarence Joseph Norman Dusang

Clarence Dusang, son of Albert James Dusang and Caroline Laura Gill was born November 13 1919 in Kenora. He married Margit Olive Hegseth. They had one son Dale.

He worked at the Daily Reminder a daily mimeograph newspaper started by Herb Hauck of Fort Frances in 1934. He enlisted in the army in World War 2

He died February 1 1988

Joseph Pattulo Earngey 1870 - 1939

Joseph P. Earngey, sixth and youngest child of Joseph Earngey and Mary Graham was born February 9 1870 in the township of Chinguacousy, near Brampton in Peel County, Ontario. His other siblings included Lizzie, Kate, Maggie, Thomas R. and William. He learned his printing trade and newspaper in Brampton. He taught in the Industrial school in Mimico. He had a short stay in Deronto before returning to Brampton.

He came to Rat Portage in 1897.

He married Anna Cecelia Kelly in York (Toronto) on January 2 1900.

He started a newspaper in the building that subsequent became the town office on the west side of Main St. South (in 1914 100 main St. S.) with upstairs and machines in the basement. He spent seven months in 1901 in Rossland B.C. as Editor of the Rossland Miner. His wife and possibly Miss Kelly (possibly her sister) ran the business in Rat Portage in his absence. He bought "The News", the forerunner of the Kenora Daily and Miner in 1904. He continued as owner of the paper until his death in May 1939.

He was active in civic and fraternal affairs in the community. He was a member and President of the Board of Trade, a member for several years of the Jubilee Hospital, a member of the Lake of the Woods Club, The Golf Club, Lake of the Woods Masonic Lodge, and a board member of the Kenora Rotary Club.

He served as town councillor form 1911 to 1914 and mayor of Kenora from 1915 to 1918.
He was an active member of the Conservative Party and served as its President. In 1926 he was elected to the Ontario Legislature and served to 1929. During his term the road from Fort Frances to Kenora was started. Due in part to his strenuous efforts the old jail was turned over to the Dominion Government for an armoury. He also worked strenuously for the construction of the Kenora Paper Mill.

While to the author's knowledge he never had any children of his own, he brought joy to many in various ways including the giving of free Christmas shows in the local theatre. Following his death on May 26 1939 and funeral, children lined the lane ways of the Lake of the Woods Cemetery for his burial, with tributes paid by the attendance of several organizations and individuals as reported in his paper on May 30 1939.

Dr. Albert Henry Edmison 1860-1934

Dr. Albert Henry Edmison, son of William Alexander Edmison and Abigail Morgan was born in Roseneath, Ontario 20 Sep 1860 and came to Rat Portage in the 1880s. In 1901 he is listed in the census as resident at Rat Portage and his partner Dr. Laidlaw live at the same residence.

He married Eva Elizabeth Richards on 12 Nov 1890 in Rat Portage. They had 4 children:

- Nora Edmison b. 03 Mar 1897
- Ruth Edmison b. 11 Oct 1898
- Alexander Edmison b. Jan 1904
- Marie Edmison b. Feb 1905

He died in Kenora on 11 Feb 1934

Captain Frank Edwards 1879 - 1945

Frank Edwards was born in England in 1879. He came to Canada in 1903. In 1912 he was appointed Justice of Peace for the District of Kenora.

In 1920 he was appointed Indian Agent at Kenora.

The Kenora Town Council founded the Lake of the Woods Museum in 1964. In that same year, the Land Titles building was transferred from the Province to the Town and served as the first museum. When the museum was established, the collection centred on the artifacts of Captain Frank Edwards, an Indian agent in Kenora from 1920 until his death in December 1945.

Richard Hingston Elliott 1893-1959
Richard Hingston Elliott, son of Arthur Elliott and Minnie Barrie was born October 31 1893 in Montreal, Quebec. He operated a bakery shop on the south east corner of Second St. South and Matheson St.

He married Ruby Isabella Jackson July 21 1925 in Kenora.

Children:

- Ester Veronica Elliott born April 20 1926
- Ruby Cardwell Elliott born February 19 1928
- Richard Bryce Elliott born June 6 1930, married Marlene Smallwood
- Carol Ann Elliott born January 6 1940

Irish Confectionary (Later Bryce's Bakery presided over by Shorty Elliott in his white apron) Lorne Hamilton 1983 page 22

Mervyn "Merv" Ronald Farrow 1937-2013

Mervyn Ronald, son of Ron Farrow and Rose Farrow, formally of Dryden was born on Sept. 11, 1937.

He married his wife Joan in 1961. They had three children.

He drove a taxi, worked in a funeral home, and trained as a pilot in the Royal Canadian Air Force before deciding to become a teacher. He taught at Riverdale School in Fort William, and Central School and Gron Morgan School in Port Arthur, ON. He was an Education Counsellor for a short time for Indian Affairs.

He moved to Kenora, ON to work for Confederation College heading up the development of campuses in Kenora, Dryden, Red Lake and other smaller northern communities.

He and his family moved to Zambia for two years where he was a supervisor for colleges there. After moving back to Canada, Merv taught English and Science at Lakewood School in Kenora.

He founded the Academy of Technical and Vocational Training in Kenora.

After retirement he spent much of his time in Mesa, where he enjoyed playing bocce and shuffleboard.

From his obituary:
He had a sense of wonder about life and living things; he delighted in teaching his students about the natural world. He was well known for the exotic animals and specimens that filled his classroom.

He was Kenora Rotary President 1974-75

He died on Nov. 18, 2013 in Mesa, Arizona.

David Thomson Ferguson 1861 - 1911

David Thomson Ferguson, son of John Ferguson and Elizabeth Binning was born in Collingwood, Ontario, June 1 1861. He arrived in Rat Portage before 1891.

He married Jean Anderson Nisbet Mackenzie 10 Feb 1886 in Rat Portage. They had the following children:

  John Binning Ferguson b. 10 Jan 1887, Rat Portage
  Malcolm Mackenzie Ferguson b. 26 Jul 1888, Rat Portage
  Dorothy Madeline Ferguson b. 1890, Rat Portage
  Jessie Nisbet Ferguson b. 29 Jul 1892, Rat Portage
  Marvin Seaforth Ferguson b. 13 Jan 1895, Rat Portage
  Kenneth Gordon Ferguson b.04 Aug 1901, Rat Portage
  David Athol Ferguson b. 14 May 1904, Rat Portage

He built a block on the West side of Main St. S. in 1896 where he operated his watch and jewelry Store. The second armory was in his basement. He later went into partnership with an Atkinson and later Atkinson bought him out.

He died 02 Sep 1911 in Victoria B.C. but was buried in Kenora.

William A. Ferguson 1867 - 1920

William A. Ferguson, son of John Ferguson and Elizabeth Binning was born in Collingwood, Ontario, June 4, 1867. His parents of Scotch descent, became early residents of Collingwood, where the father engaged in the milling business until his death.

He was first employed in a Jewelry store by C. W. Colman of Toronto, with whom he remained for two years. He worked at the business in different places before 1891, when he came to Rat Portage and worked for his brother David. T. Ferguson for seven years. At the end of that time he established business on his own account and now carries a fine line of jewelry of all grades in order to meet the general trade. His patronage has constantly grown, as he has put forth earnest effort to please his patrons, who have recognized also his unflattering adherence to a high standard of commercial ethics.
On 09 Sep 1898 Mr. Ferguson was married to Miss May Arnold of Rat Portage. They had three children,

- William Clarence Ferguson b. 20 Jan 1903 Rat Portage
- Francis Stuart Ferguson b. 28 Feb 1906 Kenora
- Robert Arnold Ferguson b. 18 Aug. 1910 Kenora

Mr. Ferguson belonged to the Ancient Order of United Workmen and to the Presbyterian Church.

William Ferguson died in 1920 in Calgary, Alberta, Canada

Fraser, Alexander, A history of Ontario: its resources and development (1907) 1860-1936 Volume: 2, Toronto: Canada History Co. Call number: AMY-0015 Robarts - University of Toronto Pages 813

Colonel Ashton Thomas Fife 1871 - 1957

Ashton Thomas Fife, son of Dr. Joseph Alexander Fife and Elizabeth Jemima Fletcher was born in Hastings, Otonabee Township, Peterborough County, Ontario, January 6 1871.

In addition his parents the family included,

- William Fletcher Fife born August 31 1869, died August 2 1942 in Roland Manitoba.
- Joseph Harold Fife born March 24 1872, died September 14 1904 in Vancouver, B.C.
- Alice Louisa Olivia Fife born September 1877 died January 1 1954 in Kenora.

He received his education in Peterborough, Ontario and was employed ware business with the J. H. Ashtown Company before coming to Kenora in 1892. His sister Alice arrived in Rat Portage in 1893. His father Joseph died in 1902 and his mother Elizabeth came to Kenora in 1905.

Ashton commenced his hardware merchant career in Peterborough with the Ashdown Hardware Company and came to Rat Portage to work for that company. In 1906, he opened his own store, at 106 Main St. S. as A.T. Fife Company, selling heavy hardware and building supplies. As the lumbering and mining industry grew he expanded. He opened stores in what is now Thunder Bay, Keewatin and Nipigon.

During World War 1 the company served the elevators at Thunder Bay and imported cables and chains from Britain, selling them to the ships on the Great Lakes. Over the years the
store sold merchandise ranging from saddles, mining equipment, typical hardware supplies and small appliances. The store continued to operate for over a hundred years by members of the Fife family. Ashton’s grandnephew, Bill Fife, began working in 1957 taking over as manager in 1969. The store was sold in 2003.

Ashton began a connection with military in Peterborough with the 57th Regiment Rangers in 1887. By 1889 he had been promoted to Sergeant. In Kenora he became a member of the 98th Light Infantry. He signed his Officer’s Declaration paper with the 141st battalion in Kenora on April 24 1916. He served most of the war in the Canadian Forestry Corps as a Lieutenant. For more details with respect to his military career see http://askgen.ning.com/group/kenora-great-war-project/page/fife-ashton-thomas.

Joseph A Fife, a cousin to Ashton Thomas Fife of Kenora had lived and worked in Kenora for a period and moved to Fort Williams in 1909. At least by October 1919 Dr. Crawford McCulloch, then governor of the 19th District of the International Association of Rotary Clubs, delegated Joseph Fife to make a survey of Kenora area to ascertain the possibilities of establishing a local Rotary Club. On October 13th 1919 on a second visit to Kenora when he met with a number of Kenora citizens who showed an interest in forming a club. A report was sent to the International Association of Rotary Clubs at Chicago by Joseph Fife and in February 10, 1920 the first Rotary Meeting was held in Kenora. The Club was chartered on March 20, 1920 and the first part of the meeting was chaired by Joseph Fife. In the absence of the first elected local President John Goldie being absent, Joseph turned the gavel over to Vice President Ashton Fife. Later the same year Fife became President when Goldie moved east.

Upon his return from the war Ashton was chosen as candidate as Liberal Candidate losing to Heenan and served as the president of the Liberal Riding Association.

He served as mayor of Kenora in 1926-27.

He was chairman of the Advisory Board of the Salvation Army.

He was a member of Knox United Church, a member of the Pequoonga Lodge no 414 A.F. and A.M. Golden Chapter no 90, a Shriner and a noble of Khartum Temple.

He died at Mount Park Hospital, St. Petersburgh on March 26 1957. His funeral was held at Knox United Church in Kenora and he is buried in lake of the Woods Cemetery in Kenora.

Thomas Stoddard Agar FitzGerald 1873 - 1966

Thomas Stoddard Agar FitzGerald, or simply Agar FitzGerald as he was known in Rat Portage was born 4 Mar 1873.

On 7 Feb 1912 he married Sylvia Lucille Wiggle in Essex County, Ontario. They had at three two children

Gerald Fitzgerald b. 24 Apr. 1917 Kenora
Alice Agar Fitzgerald
Living FitzGerald Kenora, Ontario
He delivered parcels for William Baker. He died 7 May 1966.

Charles Flett

Charles Flett b. Oct 1850 married his wife Mary b. abt 1857 and had the following children
Charles Flett b. abt 1873
Jane Flett b. abt 1875
Andrew Flett b. abt 1876
Mary Ann Flett b. abt 1878.
Alexander Flett b. abt
Hector Flett b. Sep 1887
Charles Flett b. abt 1890
Milander Flett b. Jun. 1901

He is listed as a fisherman in Rat Portage in 1901.

John M. Denton Fraine 1881 - 1951

Denton Fraine, son of Samuel Fraine and Mary Bellah, was born in St Thomas, Elgin County on January 22 1881. His father was a tailor. He had several siblings including Mittie, Harry, Jennie, May, and Hattie.

He married Bertha Grace Squance in Bethlehem, Northampton, Pennsylvania on June 28 1902. They had one three children

John "Jack" Norman Fraine
Denton Fraine
Mrs. C. Powles of Nelson

He commence work with the CPR as a brakeman in Medicine Hat in 1904 and then conductor. In 1916 he moved to Nelson BC as Assistant Superintendent and a year later in the same position in Calgary and Superintendent in 1923. In 1926 he moved to Revelstoke as superintendent and in 1929 became superintendent in Kenora. He remained in Kenora from 1929 to 1946 when he retired to Vancouver BC.
How well I remember J.D. Fraine, CPR superintendent, standing on the station platform, his watch in outstretched hand as he clocked the arrival and departures of passenger trains. (Stuart King)

In Kenora he was a horticulture enthusiast developing the CPR Depot gardens to a point of recognition across Western Canada. He was active in the Kenora Agriculture Society. He was a member of the Lake of the Woods Club. He took an active interest in Amateur sports and his son was a member of the Junior Thistles. He was an expert Bridge player.

He was president of the Kenora Rotary Club in 1933-34.

He died in Vancouver on January 3 1951.

Jack "J.R." Fraser

Jack "J.R." Fraser is believed to be James but I have had difficulty figuring out which James. Fraser played five games for Thistles during the 1903-04 season, four as a rover and one replacing Billy McGimsie at center, scoring one goal. Fraser later played for the Thistles' interleague rival Brandon Wheat Kings, potting 10 goals in the 1906-07 season and squaring off against his former club in a two game Stanley Cup playoff. The following year Fraser played for another rival, the Portage La Prairie Plains, scoring 8 goals in 9 games before moving back east to play for various clubs, including the Nipissing Mines, Waterloo Colts, and the legendary dream team, the Renfrew Millionaires. Fraser may have died in 1942.

I would appreciate any additional information any one can provide me with this individual.

Israel Gagne 1863

Israel Gagne was born in Thurso, Quebec on December 9 1863. He married his wife Anna E.M/ who was also born in Thurso Quebec. There is some evidence that he arrived in Rat Portage as early as 1880. By 1901 they had three children

- Angeline Gagne born February 1 1898 in Rat Portage who died November 22 1905 and is buried in Lake of the Woods Cemetery.
- Lucie Gagne born March 18 1899 in Rat Portage
- Elise Gagne born October 6 1900

Subsequent children included

Zaida Laura Gagne born 1904-05 in Rat Portage, married John Arthur may 30 1925 and other children.
Thaddeus Anthony "T.A." Gadbois 1858-1915

Thaddeus Anthony "T.A." Gadbois was born in November 1858, New York and baptized in Williamstown, Ontario Dec 6 1858. His family is listed in a 1900 census as having arrived in the United States in 1885. He was the First Postmaster in Rat Portage in 1882 and held the position until 1886. He was appointed Clerk of the County Court in August 1883. He served as a town counsellor in 1884 and 1885. In 1886 he was Reeve of the Township of Rat Portage.

He married Marguerite Andrews Fishleigh in 16 Nov 1880. While her husband had the distinction of being the first postmaster of Rat Portage his wife had the distinction of being the first red Headed women in town. They had at least six children

- Thad J. Gadbois Jan 1883 in Canada
- Marie Gadbois Jun 1884 in Canada
- Gustavus Clarence Gadbois 13 Aug 1886 in Illinois
- Minota Gadbois Nov 1887 in Illinois
- Harold Bowie Gadbois May 1890 in Illinois

He died in 1915 in Hennepin, Minnesota, United States.

Reference: Nelson, Kathryn, A Political History of Kenora,

Frank Gardner 1848-1937

Frank Gardner, son of William Gardner, Glasgow, Scotland and Mary Mc Kerrow, Edinburgh, Scotland, was born 31 Mar 1848 in Perth County, Ontario. He moved to Winnipeg in 1875 after spending five years at a lumber camp in Black Rivers, Quebec. He next moved to Fort Frances where a canal was being built to overcome the Falls of Rainy River.

On Oct 17 1876 Frank moved as a merchant trapper and trader of furs to Keewatin arriving before the CPR. In a quote originally taken from "Keewatin Reflections" Frank indicated:

My First appearance on the Lake of the Woods was in September 1875. At that time there were no settlers on any part of the lake. The Upper portion of Rainy River on the Canadian side, from the Big Forks to Fort Frances was sparsely settled. The first men to settle there coming in about 1873 or 1874. In October 1876, I settled at Keewatin, on the North shore of the Lake of the Woods. At that time I was the only inhabitant. I did a little trading in furs. Work on the Canadian Pacific Railway in that neighbourhood started the following spring, and the village of Keewatin had its beginning that same summer, Rat Portage now Kenora, began about 1879 or 1880.
In Keewatin he built his first house known as the Matchet Point Log House. This was the first business where he established a trade with the Indians. He also boarded the first crew working on the Mill in the winter. The members of the firm were John, Frank and William Gardner. The business was started in Keewatin in 1876 and subsequent moved to Rat Portage in 1879. He stated that only one other person Dr. Hanson started in Kenora with a cabin on the site now occupied by the Kenrica Hotel.

The business called John Gardner & Co and included Wholesale and Retail Dry Goods, Clothing, Boots and Shoes, and Groceries on Main Street subsequently known as the Doner Building. Four years later, in 1883 he sold out to Angus Carmichael and went into freighting and touring logs from Rainy River to Kenora.

Mr. Frank Gardner was the builder of the large passenger and towing steamboat, the "Algoma", which is now owned by Mr. John Gardner, the senior member of the above firm. ("Prominent Business Houses of Rat Portage" in The New West, Winnipeg, Manitoba, 1888). In 1889 he bought the business back from Carmichael and amalgamated into the firm Gardner, Rice, McLeod.

Frank Gardner served on the town council in 1883 and 1906 with William Baker as Reeve. He also served on the Board of Trade. He started the first education in Kenora and worked hard collecting fees to help the school.

In 1890 and 1895 he was president of the Citizen Electric Light and Telephone Company. He put in the water work system.

He was active in the Curling Club 1889, Rowing Club 1890 and in 1894 he commencing 1894 he became issuer of liquor licenses.

Frank Gardner married his wife Sadie McDonell b. 1876 and had 4 daughters and two sons

- Mary Gardner b. May 1903
- Margaret Gardner b. 15 Nov 1904 d. 1930
- John Gardner b. 05 Sep 1906 died in infancy
- Frank Gardner b. 05 Nov 1909 d. May 1913
- Catherine Gardner b. 05 Nov 1909
- Bernadette Jeannette Gardner b. 27 Feb 1912
- Sadie died July 1914.

Frank died in St Joseph Hospital 31 Jan 1937 at the age of 89 years.

William Robert Housten Gerrie 1855-1927

William Robert Housten Gerrie, son of William Gerrie and Marguerite Housten was born November 2 1855 in Eastern Ontario. He married Christena Drysdale b. 30 Jun. 1858 in Rat Portage, in 1891.

He came to Rat Portage in 1884. He was involved in construction business and was also the Town building inspector. He was an active member of Board of Trade.

He was also active in Knox United for 15 years as choir leader and secretary treasurer of the Church Sunday School. He was a member of the town council in 1887-88 and in 1895. He died February 12 1927 as a result of shock and excitement brought about by fire which broke out in his residence the same morning.

John "Jack" Goldie 1870-1945

John Goldie, son of David Goldie and Elisabeth Easton was born October 25 1870 in Ayr, Waterloo County Ontario.

His siblings included, George, William, Herbert, James and Annie.

He married Florence Margaret Donaldson June 28 1905 in Waterloo, Ontario. She predeceased him on February 15 1944 in Victoria, BC.

They had two children:

Hugh McCullock Goldie born June 06 1906 in Ayr, Waterloo County

Elizabeth Goldie 1912 in Kenora

In 1911 they were living in Ayr, Waterloo County and by 1919 they had moved to Kenora. He was employed at the Lake of the Woods Milling Company where he rose to the position of Superintendent.

Jack Goldie was the first president of the Kenora Rotary Club which was chartered March 20 1920. In August 1 he went back east for his company

John "Jack" Goldie died March 01 1947 in Victoria BC and was buried in Ayr, Waterloo County Ontario.
William Greenwood 1852-

William Greenwood was born at Salford, near Bristol England on March 16 1852. He resided in London Nephroma 1915 until his death in 1925. And for some time before emigrating to Canada in 1892. In Canada he took up a homestead at Whitemouth for two years before moving to Rat Portage.

The 1901 census gives his occupation as constable. Later he went into the Dairy business. In 1922 he sold his farm to the Kenora Golf club.

In 1904 he was elected as an Alderman for the West Ward

He served as President of the Kenora Agricultural Society from 1915 to his death in 1925.

He married Eleanor Ann Shattell and had at least 15 children of whom 10 survived him:

- William Greenwood born Jun 14 1878
- Alfred L. Greenwood January 16 1880
- Arthur Greenwood Oct 16 1881
- Eleanor (or Eleinoy) born March 3 1883
- Annie Greenwood born Apr 16 1885
- Jessie Greenwood born December 26 1886
- Gertrude Greenwood born Sep 29 1888 died 1904
- Harold Greenwood born Feb 9 1890
- Ralph Greenwood born Dec 22 1891
- Elisabeth Greenwood born Jul 13 1893
- Henry Greenwood born Jul 13 1893
- Edith Greenwood born Apr 16 1895
- Frank Greenwood born Jun 13 1897
- Grace Greenwood born Jun 13 1897 died before 1901
- Jack Greenwood born 1898 died 1898
John Robert Gunne 1870-1935

Dr. John Robert Gunne, son of Robert Gunne (1822-1900) and brother of William James Gunne was born 20 February 1870. He went to Dauphin in 1893, where his father was a Dominion Land Agent. For the next few years he was the only doctor in the community and answered calls from as far away as 50 miles. In 1903 he was elected to the Manitoba Legislature representing the Dauphin constituency. In 1905 he moved to Kenora and went into a medical partnership with his brother, J. W. F. Gunne. Later deciding to specialize, he made two trips to Europe, in 1905 and 1910, where he took postgraduate work in London and Vienna. On his return, he practiced medicine at Winnipeg with A. W. Moody, later returning to Dauphin where he organized a medical clinic, working there until his death. He was married twice, first on 8 April 1903 to Christina Malcolm (?-1922) and later to Maizie Parker in 1928. He died at Dauphin, Manitoba on 5 June 1935 and was buried there. (Source Manitoba Historical Society)

Dr. William James Gunne 1859 - 1950

Dr. William James Gunne, son of Robert Gunne (1822-1900) and brother of Dr. Robert Gunne, was born in Florence, Ontario, 19 Dec 1859. He came to Rat Portage in 1884 and worked as a clerk and accountant in the store of the late Angus Carmichael.

He graduated from Trinity College and first practiced medicine at Cockberry, Manitoba. There he met and married Alzina Evelyn Livingstone, daughter of William Gay Livingstone of Glenboro. They married in 1888 and had three children

- Dr. Livingstone Gilbert Gunne b. 11 Jan 1890 in Glenboro
- Dorothy Gunne b.29 Jan 1893 m. Mr. Green
- Kathleen Gunne b. 31 Oct 1900 m. Mr. Lewis

They moved to Rat portage where Dr. Gunne worked with Dr. Scovil as CPR Doctors.

Doctor Gunne was chairperson of the First Old Age Pensions Board for Kenora District. He served on the local CNIB Board, Director of the General Hospital Board, Health Board and Board of Trade. He was honourary president of the Kenora Rowing Club and involved with District Football League and Tennis Club.

He instructed classes for the CPR and the local high school. He passed away 16 August 1950.

Dr. Clayton Hammett

He received his BSc., M.D (Queen's University 1998), C.C.F.P. (University of Toronto 2000 University of Western Ontario, 2001. F.R.A.C.G.P. Monash University. He practices Family Medicine at the Paterson Medical Clinic, 45 Wolsley Street Kenora, Anaesthesia &
Emergency Medicine at the Lake of the Wood District Hospital Medical Office, Other Communities: Sioux Narrows Nursing Station Schools.

Dr. Clay Hammett practiced in Pambula, New South Wales and Sioux Lookout until moving back to Kenora in 2007. He enjoys teaching and is involved with N.O.S.M. in a variety of ways. His interests include windsurfing, tennis, soccer and performing arts.

Dr. John Hammett

Dr. John Hammett was born in Toronto and graduated from University of Toronto in 1968. He moved to Kenora in 1989 to have a change from Southern Ontario. He holds a M.D., MHSc. F.P.F.P Specialty. In addition to his Family Medicine practice at the Paterson Medical clinic he is an Inquest and Investigating Coroner and has served at Sioux Narrows & Minaki Nursing Stations, Kenora District Jail and Kenora Area Health Access Centre (KAHAC).

Dr. Thomas Hanson 1846-1913

Marcel Dubroy in A History of the General Practitioner 1879-1957 indicates that Dr. Thomas Hanson was the first Doctor to practice in Rat Portage. Dr. Hanson, son of Dr. Henry Hanson and Catherine "Jane" Moore was born 10 Sep 1846 in London, Ontario and attended the local med school. He worked in the Harper Hospital in Detroit and then served in the Union Army in the American Civil war as a surgeon from 1861 to 1865. After the war he returned to Selkirk, Manitoba and then Winnipeg where he was hired by CPR.

He was sent to Cross Lake where he was stationed until, at age 33, he and his family traveled to Rat Portage. He arrived in Rat Portage on September 30 1879. During the construction of the CPR (1879-1884) he was CPR Doctor in the construction camps from Rat Portage to Hawk Lake. He had the first Drug store in Rat Portage. He sold it to W.D. Coate.

He delivered the first white baby born in Kenora.

He served the Department of Indian Affairs as Medical Officer in the District from 1886 to 1913. During the summer months he traveled to the Reserves by huge canoes, paddled by hired natives. In the winter he traveled by dog sled.

Doctor Hanson moved into Rat Portage and located around the present Kenrica Hotel site and subsequently built a home for himself at 709 Second Street South. There no hospitals at the time and operations were carried out on the Hanson dining table. Hanson himself would quarantine himself with patience with smallpox and diphtheria in a building on the south side of Ninth Street North for months.

Marcel Dubroy reports that Dr. Hanson was a big man, six foot, 200 pounds
Thomas Hanson married Carline F (Pruden) Larson b. 22 Jan. 1852, daughter of Peter Pruden and Susette Josephte Gothiver Jolicoeur. He had 7 children and two step daughters.

By Father Ryor Larson:

Mary Rosaline Larson 1870
Blanche Larson 1873 m. Max Kirkpatrick 26 May 1898
Rhoda Jane Hanson b. 18 Feb 1877 Manitoba, m. Richard Wilmot Gardner 02 Apr 1902, Rat Portage
Thomas Henry Hanson b. 13 Mar 1879 Manitoba
Christina Hanson b. 15 Jan 1881 Rat Portage, m. John Warren 25 Jan 1905 Rat Portage
Helen Gertrude Hanson (Nellie) born 17 Nov 1884 at Rat Portage m. Kenneth Raymond Weeks, Rat Portage
Irene Hanson b. 4 Oct 1885
Sybil H. Hanson b. 13 Dec 1892 Rat Portage, M. Louis Leo Cromwell, Rat Portage
Jack Orville Pruden Hanson b. 22 Jun 1894, Rat Portage

Dr. Hanson died September 13 1913.

References: Early Settlers of Rat Portage, Page 386-387, Through the Kenora Gateway, Page 124-6, Dubroy, Marcel A History of the General Practitioner 1879 - 1957

Charles Hayes 1969-70

High School teacher in charge of commercial side
Rotary President 1969-70
Married to Bernice Clemmens

Maxwell Kirkpatrick Heap 1870-1941

Maxwell Kirkpatrick Heap, son of James Heap and Jean Heap was born May 3 1870 at Lindsay Ontario. He married Blanche Larson, the step daughter of Dr. Thomas Hanson and Carline F (Pruden) Larson May 26 1898.

He came to Rat Portage in 1895 as a bookkeeper for Lake of the Woods Fishing Company operated by his uncle F. Colcleugh of Selkirk Manitoba. He became associated with W.G. Cameron in 1895 and with Cameron and Heap Wholesale Groceries in 1897 or 1898 located on north side of 2nd St. S. Branches were subsequently established at Regina, Prince Albert,
Dauphin, Fort William, and Nipigon. They sold the business in August 1929 to Western Grocers. After the sale of the business he moved to Vancouver where he died in February 11 1949.

**William Eddie Heath 1890-1957**

William Eddie Heath was born in Portland Ontario on October 28 1890.

He married Marie Martha Giquere in Keewatin May 18 1916. They had one daughter Phillis.

He was Captain of the Kenora Volunteer Fire Department under Chief Baxter. In 1917-1918 he was assistant chief under Fire Chief Fred Dubois.

He was employed by R.W. Ferrier who owned a grocery store.

He formed a partnership with Mr. R. Neale to operate Neale and Heath Grocery. He bought out Mr. Neale in 1932 and operated the Heath's Grocery

He was president of the curling Club (1921-22).

He was a member of the I.O.O.F lodge.

He died October 27 1957.

**Louis Hilliard 1851-1914**

Louis Hilliard was born 21 Sep 1851. He immigrated to Canada from Norway in 1870 according to the 1901 Canadian census. He married Annie X (b. 7 Nov 1863)

They had at least 3 children:

- Charles E. Hilliard b. 20 Aug 1882
- Laura B. Hilliard b. 6 Jul 1894
- Harold A. Hilliard b. 26 Nov 1889

**Rat Portage Miner and News - September 6, 1904**

Excerpted from a letter written to the editor by a visitor to Mr. Hillard's farm which was located in Jaffray, about 2 miles from downtown Rat Portage (now Kenora).

Mr. Hilliard has 180 acres, 70 of which are under cultivation, and he claims 40 acres more of swamp land which is already drained and will be cleaned up this fall. Some of it that I saw was from one foot to eighteen inches of beautiful black mould, with clay subsoil.

His crop this year consists of 48 tons of hay, 9 acres of wheat, several acres of barley, and a quantity of vegetables of all kinds. He has 250 hogs and some turkeys and chickens, and he
tells me that in 1903 he sold 37,000 pounds of pork, and since he started clearing off his land he has taken over eight thousand cords of wood of it. Still, when you talk of farming in this district, the majority of our citizens look at you as if your mental health would be improved by a sojourn to Selkirk. I do not claim to be a practical farmer, but when I see what Mr. Hilliard's farm proves, I cannot help but call the attention of the business community to the possibilities of this section in an agricultural way. I have met a dozen men who question the fact of Mr. Hilliard making his farm pay, but that is no doubt owing largely to the want of knowledge of what he is doing, and confidence in our soil. Thirty-seven thousand pounds of pork at 7c, amount to $2,590. Wages for the pork alone would not be over $480. The hogs will pasture on clover for three months out of four, which is one month to harden them on grain. The life of a pig should be about four months, and they should weigh about 125 pounds, to make the best pork. Mr. Hilliard showed me one so that has two litters this year - one of twelve and one of eight. That is, twenty from one, and Mr. Cameron tells me his company buys about five carloads of pork every year. The CPR, the eastern farmer, and the pork packer gets all, and we sit here and do not make an effort to get any settlers onto our lands.

Howard Fenwick Holmes 1878- 1917

Howard Fenwick Holmes son of Daniel Holmes and Charlotte Hoyt was born in 18 Apr 1857 at Petitcodiac, New Brunswick. He married his wife Maud Marion English in 5 Jun 1878 in Woodstock New Brunswick. At their marriage in 1878, HF was living in Victoria Co, New Brunswick while Maud was living in Woodstock, NB. They came to Rat Portage in 1882. He became a Town Counsellor in 1883 and 1884. He opened his hardware business on Main St. in 1890. He was a member of the First Electric Light and Telephone Company in 1890.

In 1894 he became agent for Hamilton Powder Company. This company was created in 1862 to buy the assets of the former Canada Powder Company, which had formed in 1852. Their major product was black powder, used for blasting. In 1878 the company was purchased by Dr. Thomas C. Brainerd, a U.S. businessman in the black powder industry. In order to provide the massive amounts of explosives needed to build the Canadian Pacific Railway, a new dynamite factory was opened in McMasterville, Quebec. Other black powder plants were acquired in Quebec and the Maritimes and, in 1890, the company opened the first explosives plant in the far west, near Nanaimo, British Columbia. In 1910 Hamilton Powder and Dominion Cartridge merged with the Acadia Powder Company, Ontario Powder Company, Standard Explosives Company, Western Explosives Company and Victoria Chemical Company to form the Canadian Explosives Company (CXL). During the 1920s they diversified into paint and varnish, coated fabrics and plastics, and in 1927 they changed their name to Canadian Industries Limited. Canadian Industries Limited, also known as C-I-L is a Canadian chemicals manufacturer. Products include paints, fertilizers and pesticides, and explosives. It was formed in 1910 by the merger of five Canadian explosives companies. It is currently a subsidiary of Imperial Chemical Industries.
He lives on Water Street, right behind the Museum. (McDonald's Directory of Rat Portage and the District of Rainy River, 1894.)

He sold his Rat Portage Hardware Co business, located on the west side of Main Street to C.E. Neads around 1897.

In 1901 he is a contractor. He apparently became estranged from Maud sometime after 1901, the last record of them living together, he had his left arm amputated and he may have suffered from alcoholism.

Maud died 25 April 1907 and is buried in Portage Vale Kings County, New Brunswick.

There is a record of him arriving in Buffalo, New York on 6 Nov 1913 but may not have been permitted entry. Another record has a Howard Fenwick dying in Jackson, Florida 20 April 1917.

Henry Edward Hook 1864–1947

Henry (Harry) Edward Hook, son of John and Sarah Jane Morehouse, was born in Liverpool, Lancaster County, England, December 11, 1864. (His birth date according to 1901 census was Dec 11 1865 but Dec 11 1864 according to Baptism records on Jan 20 1865 he was born on 11 Dec 1864).

He was educated in public and private schools in Liverpool, England. He entered the cattle business for three years, then entered a retail meat store in Liverpool where he learned the retail business.

In 1882, at the age of 18, he left England for Winnipeg, Manitoba. Subsequent he moved further west to Brandon and later to Whitehood, where he took up land. In 1886, he returned to Winnipeg and then to the mountains to work in the snow blockades. He secured employment in a logging camp for a brief period before heading to the Kootenai country where he assisted in putting in the branch line between Arrow Lake and Nelson, BC. For a time he was in the survey department. Later he clerked for a brief period in Winnipeg.

In 1892 he came to Rat Portage to assume the management of a store for Andrew Gibson. In 1897, he embarked in business on his own account in a shop in Norman, opening a butcher shop which he conducted for a year. He then received a proposition to become a partner in a store at Rat Portage, after which the partners conducted both business enterprises, one at Norman and the one at Rat Portage (Second Street South). In 1900, he bought out his partner's interest and carried on the business as Hook & Co., dealing in groceries and meats. He sold his business to A. Leo Murray.

He was a director in the Western Ontario Fish Company and a stockholder of the Gallagher-Holman-LaFrance Company of Winnipeg, acting as manager of its plant in Kenora. He also held investments in mining property.
In 2 June, 1897, he married Harriet Eleanor McGinness (or McGennis), a daughter of John and Matilda McGinness of Stillwell, Dakota. He had the following children:

- Annie Irene Hook b. 19 Apr 1898, Rat Portage, m. V. Patrick
- Douglas Edgar Hook b. 13 Sep 1899 Rat Portage
- Keith Edward Hook b. 17 Jul 1905, Kenora
- Ethel Marion Hook b. 25 Aug 1907 Kenora, m. Mr. McIntyre
- Audrey Hook b Kenora m. J. Fraine

Prior to marrying he boarded at the Hilliard House and subsequent on marriage took up residence on 3rd St. N.

Mr. Hook was an active Liberal and became the first vice-president of the Liberal Association. He was a member of the Kenora Board of Trade, the Church of England and the Kenora Hockey Club.


**Captain Frederick Thomas "F.T." Hooper 1851 - 1924**

Captain Frederick Thomas Hooper, born 23 Nov 1851 in England, came west from Peterborough in 1873 to Fort Frances. He installed machines for the work on the construction of the Mackenzie Canal at Fort Frances. He returned east the same ear to finish his training as a machinist.

In 1876 he returned to Fort Frances and took out his Lake Captain papers and operated a streamer on the Rainy River and Lake of the Woods. He made his home at Rat Portage at this time. He handled transportation on the lake during the busy construction period of the CPR. In 1882 he was captain on D.L. Mather's boat.

He married Mary Sarah O'Sullivan, daughter of James O'Sullivan and Sarah Lewis. They had 8 children

- Charles Thomas Hooper (Tom) b. 24 Nov 1883 (See Below)
- May Kathleen Hooper (May) b. 14 Sept. 1885
- John Hooper (jack) b. 03 Oct 1888
- Isabella Helens Hooper (Isabel) b. 19 Dec 1890
- Fredrick James Hooper (Jim) b. 28 Dec 1892
Captain Hooper was a member of the Masonic Lodge.

Captain Hooper died in Kenora on 03 Jan 1924. His wife in 6 Jun 1935.

**Charles Thomas Hooper (Tom) 1883 - 1960**

Charles Thomas Hooper's oldest son of Captain Tom Hooper was born in Kenora on 24th Nov 1883. He played hockey as a lad and was a member of the Junior Thistle team that challenged the senior thistle team in January 1896 and soundly beat the senior team. In 1896 along with 13 year old Tommy Phillips joined the Senior League. By 1901 the team rose to the top of the Manitoba and Northwestern Hockey League. Playing with the Rat Portage Thistles in their first season a challenge was issued for the Stanley Club. In 1907 along with Roxy Beaudro, Tommy Phillips and Billy McGimsie, the Thistles won the Stanley Cup.

He died in Vancouver B.C. on 23rd Mar 1960.

**James Jackson Horn 1873-1954**

James Jackson "Big Jim" Horn, son of Alexander Horn and Janet Jackson was born Nov 26 1873 in Carleton Place, Ontario. His siblings included,

John Alexander Horn born October 13 1871 married Sadie McRitchie, died July 10 1931 buried in Lake of the Woods cemetery, Kenora

Minnie Maud Horn born March 31 1876, married Edwin Devlin, died Vancouver September.

He married Frances "Fanny" Mary Smith April 5 1899 in Portage La Prairie. They had two children,

John Melvine Horn born 1900 in Portage La Prairie, Manitoba, died 1975

Marion J. Horn born 1910 died 1990

He joined the CPR as an operator in Collander Ontario. He was an agent at Shoal Lake in 1901, and dispatcher at Fort Frances from 1901 -1905. In 1906 he became Chief Dispatcher at Kenora. In 1909 he was appointed Train Master. In 1910 he was transferred to Winnipeg as Acting Inspector of Transportation. In 1911 he returned to Kenora as Chief
Dispatcher. In 1912 he returned to Winnipeg as Inspector of Transportation. In 1913 he became chief Inspector in Kenora and Train master in Ignace in 1915. Between 1919 and 1929 he was supervisor in Kenora. In 1929 Mr. Horn became Superintendent at Revelstoke, BC until he retired in 1938. He then moved to Vancouver.

He was a charter member of the Rotary Club and became President in 1921-22. He was a member of the Pequonga Lodge No 414 A.F. & A.M. and Gold Hill Lodge No 261.

He enjoyed fishing and took an interest in filming motion pictures for his own use. He died in January 16 1954 in Vancouver BC.

References: Early Settlers of Rat Portage V. 1 Page 154

Algeron Sydney "A.S." Horswill 1862-1927

Algeron Sydney Horswill, was born on February 1st 1862 in Leamington Spa, Lancashire, England. He married Amy Vivian Partington, (born May 20th 1867 in Manchester, Lancashire, England) He married in Selkirk, Manitoba, Canada in 1885.

They had a large family of which all but the last child were born in Rat Portage:

Richard Sydney Horswill born Nov. 2, 1884 in Rat Portage, Kenora, died Jan 1886 in Rat Portage.

Algeron Thomas Horswill born Oct 26 1887 in Rat Portage; married Margaret Pearl McGregor, died Mar 18th, 1965 in Castlegar, BC

Alfred Stanley Horswill born Mar 12 1891 in Rat Portage, married Irene Evelyn Danforth, died July 3rd 1979 in Nelson, BC

Eva Violet Gersnell Horswill born April 20 1892 in Rat Portage, died January 19 1975 in Ladner, BC

Amy Vivian Horswill born October 14th 1894 in Rat Portage; married Robert Morrow March 2nd 1915 in BC; died June 12 1920 in Nelson, BC

Mary Louise Horswill born Feb 6th 1897 in Rat Portage; died October 15 1964 in Vancouver, BC

Leslie Wyatt Horswill born January 27 1899 in Rat Portage; died Feb 1900 in Rat Portage

Edward Allan Cecil Horswill born February 18 1902 in Rat Portage; died July 22nd 1965 in Vancouver, BC
Hugh Vernon Horswill born December 29th 1905 in Rat Portage; died December 24 Dec 1994 in Trail, BC

John "Jack" Partington Horswill born June 17th 1910 in Nelson, BC married Margaret Anne Hipperson

He was a sawyer when he first came to Rat Portage. Later he and his wife opened a confectionary on Main St.

Around 1895 he went into the grocery business on Matherson Street erecting the J & B Grocery Block

He was the last Mayor of Kenora under the Name "Rat Portage" before it changed its name to Kenora. The name Hudson's Bay Company adopted for their post located on Old Fort Island on the Winnipeg River was Rat Portage, a rough translation of the Ojibwa name Waszush Onigum. This name was adopted by the community that grew up around it. The first suggestion of a name change came in a public meeting in 1892 followed by a local poll held by the local newspaper where 103 voted to retain it while possible alternatives, including Sultana, Norman, Sabaskong, Island City, Island Park, Pequonga, and Lakeside garnered a total of 173 votes. Strong feelings were expressed and the idea was dropped.

In 1902, the issue was raised with Imperial, Portage Falls, Goldwater, and Kenora presented for public approval.

In 1904 the Town Council gave the first reading of a bylaw to change the name at an October Council meeting and a week later, the name Kenora was chosen. The name was derived by combining the first two letters of Keewatin, Norman, and Rat Portage. Credited with inventing the name was given to Mrs. Matt Brown and Miss Hall. When the decision of the meeting was reported to the town, there was an instant uproar. A petition against the change was circulated in the town and sent to the Lieutenant-Governor in Toronto, whose approval was required to make the name change official.

The issue in the municipal election held on January 2, 1905. In that election, Mayor Algernon S. Horswill was re-elected, as were three of the 1904 Councillors. Added to the slate were C.C. Delbridge, who was opposed to the name change, and William Robertson and W.W. Scott, whose position on the name issue seems to have been pro-change. The Lieutenant-Governor required a resolution from the new Council confirming the former's Council's resolution regarding the name change. A special Council meeting was held and the confirming resolution was passed. At an April 10, 1905, town meeting held in the fire hall, once again, indignation was expressed with the name change. When Mayor Horswill was asked to explain the actions of the previous Council in passing the name by-law, he explained quite calmly that they had been within their rights to do so, since they were the elected representatives of the people

Less than a month later, without the voter's input, Kenora was officially declared the new name of the Town, by ratification of the Lieutenant-Governor. A large crowd assembled for another town meeting on May 25th gathered to express indignation. The Mayor was allowed
to defend the actions of himself and the Council and he did so. When he was finished, there was applause and the name "Kenora" remained.

In 1908 A.S. Horswill moved to set up another business in Nelson BC. There he was once again elected a Town Counsellor. He died on May 25 1927 in Spokane, Washington, USA. His wife died on Jul 7th 1944 in Nelson, BC

Source for Name Change:
Rat Portage Becomes Kenora, Lake of The Woods Museum Newsletter, Vol. 15 No.1, by Lori Nelson,

Jacob Hose 1853-1907

Jacob Hose was born in Wisconsin, US in 1853. He married Adelaide Emily Lucas at Kenora in 20 Jan 1888.

Hose Hardware Building as it appears in 2012

He arrived in rat Portage in 1881 and started his hardware business known as the Tin Shop in a log Cabin. In 1883 he erected the store occupied by R.J. Husband. In 1898 he build the large brick building (corner of Main St. South and Second St. South).

In a few years with deteriorating health and increasing business he took Mr. Canniff into the partnership of Hose and Canniff.

In 1890 he erected the first amusement hall on the southwest side of Main St. known as Music Hall,

If ever Rat Portage erects a statue to the memory of the man who fostered and fed amateur dramatic art, that emblem in reticent store must represent Mr. Hose. Talk about kindness and good nature! Any local troupe could use the Music Hall every night for months free of charge, and Mr. Hose would supply the fuel and light. He did this not only for the dramatic club, but for the minstrels, and in fact for everybody in town who wanted to get up an entertainment. Indeed it is not going too far to say that there was a period in our early history when we thought the music hall belonged to the people. (Oct 4 1901)

Hose owned the point of land known as Kendall Point. He and his wife had no children. Eventually 4 of his sister Mary Kendall and her husband William's 5 children inherited the land.

On October 3 1906 Louis Hilliard agreed on the sale of the lot of land where the Hilliard House had burned down to Clayton Delbridge for $11,000 and on November 26th the same year Delbridge sold the lot to Jacob Hose and Joseph Johnson for $23,000. (Georgina Johnston page 269)

Mr. Hose died suddenly July 11 1907. Mrs. Hose moved in with her sister Mary Frances (Lucas) Kendall. She died 21 years later on 11 Feb 1928.
Fred Albert Hudson 1863 - 1932

Fred Hudson, son of Robert "Bob" Hudson and Mary Jane Little was born in Lyn, Ontario on December 05, 1863. He arrived at Rat Portage in 1889.

In 1894 he married Estella May Fleming (born Aug 17, 1869, Michigan, USA, died Jan 15, 1931, Winnipeg, Manitoba) on Mar 21, 1893 in Rat Portage. They had two children,

Gordon Milford Hudson January 5, 1894 in Rat Portage, died July 10, 1959 in Winnipeg, Manitoba.

Clifford Ross Hudson born July 9, 1896 in Rat Portage, died Jul 10, 1959 in Winnipeg, Manitoba.

He worked in the construction business with William R. Gerrie for 5 years before starting a business in partnership with William Scott, known as Scott and Henderson. This company built many buildings in Rat Portage including the Imperial bank (Johnson's Pharmacy 2014). He worked with Scott and Hudson until a disastrous fire of 1915 which destroyed the factory, wood, machinery stock and tools. The business was underinsured covering only $6000 of the estimated $35,000 loss.

He served as fire chief of the fire Brigade in the 1900 until 1915. The brigade was an entirely volunteer organization. He started evaluating losses for people after fires. In 1909 he was building instructor.

He served on Town council in 1901 to 1904.

He was active in many sports activities in the town. In the summer he rowed and was horse racer owning the famous horse “Chestnut Harry”. In the winter he was an active curler and was granted a honourary life member. He managed the Kenora Thistles and was manager at the time of their Stanley cup in 1907.

In 1916 he moved to Winnipeg. Fred Hudson died May 7, 1932 in St Boniface, Manitoba.

References; Hylnski 1982; Kenora Miner and News Kenora Thistles Our Hockey Heritage

John Wesley Humble 1851 - 1939

John Wesley Humble (J.W, Humble) was born in London Ontario on 22 Sep 1851. His father Thomas Humble was one of the pioneer farmers in Middlesex County, Ontario and J.W. Humble was brought up and worked on the farm until the age of 20. In 1871 he took up employment with J.S. Watson of Township of Brudenell, Renfrew County. He learned telegraphy and became a store clerk and telegraph operator. He was a graduate of Oxford University, England where he learned bookkeeping. He remained in Mr. Watson’s employment until December 1878.

In March 1879 he arrived in Winnipeg. In April 1879 he was engaged by the contractors of section B of the CPR which extended from Rat Portage to Eagle River. He worked until the
construction was finished and then entered the employment of Frank Gardner of Rat Portage. In 1883 he was a clerk in McKinnon Brothers. General store with Angus Carmichael.

In 1885 he went into business for himself and took over the wine and spirit business of the Gare Estate on the corner of main Street and First Street South until 1899 when he sold it to E.R. Welsman.

The 1888 publication "The New West", Winnipeg, Manitoba, gives the following description of J.W. HUMBLE's business of “Wholesale and Retail Wines, Liquors and Cigars, Main Street, Rat Portage"

Prominent among the honorable and substantial business houses of this city is that of Mr. J.W. Humble, dealer in wines and liquors, who has been established in business here since 1885, during which time he has built up a large and lucrative trade, which extends to all parts of the surrounding country. The premises occupied are fitted up in a neat and attractive style, and a large and complete stock of imported and domestic wines, brandies, whiskies and cigars is carried. In addition to a prosperous local patronage, the house enjoys an extensive outside trade. Mr. Humble's honorable business principles have won the esteem of the trade, and he is popularly considered a leading merchant in his line.

He married Martha Malissia Ross, daughter of William Ross and Margaret Carswell on 25 Dec 1889 and had three children:

Florence Margaret Humble b. 11 Dec 1890 at Rat Portage, Ontario

George E. Humble, b. 1892, died 15 Jan 1897

William Garnet Humble b. 18 Mar 1894 at Rat Portage, Ontario

Mr. Humble was very active in the community of Rat Portage. He was a member of the Rowing Club member and Board of Trade in 1890. In 1895 he was a member of the Hospital Finance Committee. He was a member of the Finance Committee and on the Board of Directors of Western Algoma Brick Company in 1896. He was President of the Library Board, and on the local board of Health, Chairman of First Board of Jubilee Hospital in 1897.

Between 1893 and 1896 he erected three blocks on or near Main St.

In 1902, he was appointed Sheriff for the District of Rainy River which lasted until he retired in 1931. He died in Kenora in 1939.

Fredrick Dufferin Jackson 1874- 1944

Fredrick Dufferin Jackson, eighth child of Robert Jackson and Jane Riggin was born in Perth County near Strathford in 15 Aug 1874. He came to Rat Portage around 1898 and opened a bakery business with brother William at the foot of Matheson Street.
He married Edith Lye on 12 Sep 1900 at Stratford, Ontario. They had 7 children,

Edna Irene Jackson b. 26 May 1901 at Rat Portage d. 13 Feb 1902 at Rat Portage

Alma Edith Jackson b. 21 May 1902 at Rat Portage, m. David Francis 14 Aug 1928 d. 19 Jun 1981 lived in Medicine Hat

Frederick Herbert Jackson b. 25 Jul 1903 in Rat Portage m. Letta Violet Ray 10 Jun 1931 d. 15 Dec 1990

Robert Edward Jackson b. 25 Apr 1905 in Perth County m. Nattie Fisher d. 06 Mar 1956

Gladys Marion Jackson b. 03 Sep 1906 at Stratford, Perth, Ontario m. Mr. Douglas

Charles Gordon Jackson b. 05 May 1908 at Stratford, Perth, Ontario d. 15 Sep 1963

Harold Walter Jackson b. 23 Jun 1915 m. Annie Jane Duncan d. 01 Feb 1988

In 1904 the Bakery moved to 129 Main St. subsequently owned by the Campbell Brothers.

Three children were born in Stratford between 25 April 1905 and 5 May 1908 and the last in Winnipeg on 23 June 1915. His obituary indicates he moved further west to Winnipeg in 1918. In Winnipeg he was a member of the IOOF. He returned to Keewatin in 1924 where he farmed outside Keewatin. He died 21 September 1944.

Charles Wilbur Jackson 1979-1936

Charles Jackson, tenth child of Robert and Jane Riggin was born 15 Sep 1879 near Stratford, Perth County Ontario. He was the third of the Jackson brothers to join the Bakery Business in Rat Portage in 1901. The business subsequently moved to Main Street in 1904.

He was a member of the Pequona Lodge, the Kenora Board of Trade, Gold Hill Lodge, I.O.O.F. charter member of the Kenora Rotary Club and an ardent member of the Kenora Golf Club.

He resided above the Main Street store with his first wife Anna (Matheson) and their four children - Roberta Jean (September 26 1907), Patricia Evelyn (March 17 1909), Edgar Charles (August 3 1912) and George Matheson (February 7 1915). Anna died during childbirth on Feb 7, 1915. In 1909, Charlie purchased two lots (11 & 12 King St) on Coney Island and built a cottage in 1911 that became a focal point for the family's gatherings.

Charlie married Christina Gladys Craig of Keewatin, ON, on Feb 27, 1918. They had two children, Marjorie and Douglas (twins) on April 26, 1921. They purchased a house on First Street North in 1921 where they lived until moving to 506 First St South in 1925. He passed away on May 16, 1936, leaving sons Edgar and George to run the family business until 1968 when the business was sold to two employees, bakers Robert Giles and Oswald Clark. Up until the Lake of the Woods Milling Company Flour mill burned down in 1967 they had had
the exclusive right to sell white and brown bread in the Kenora area. They had the commercial accounts as well and delivered bread to the various commercial establishments in the area.

Their nephew Randy Jackson, subsequently opened up a bakery shop in 1984 Sunset Country Donuts and sold it in 1997. He subsequently became the Manager of the Roy Thompson and Massey Concert Hall in Toronto for 8 years from August 2000 before retiring. He was a talent musician and President of the Lake of the Woods Historical Society. He contributed substantial information with respect to the Jackson family who came to Kenora.

William "John" Jackson 1872 - 1924

William John Jackson, the seventh child of Robert Jackson and Jane Riggin was born on Maple Willow Farm in Strathford, South Easthope Township, Perth County, Ontario in 23 Mar 1872.

He married Annie Mary Cardwell (born 12 Jan 1877) on 28 Feb 1900 and had the following children:

Ruby Isabella Jackson b. 26 Feb 1901 m. Richard Hingston Elliott 21 July 1925 in Kenora

Florence May Jackson b. 20 May 1902, Rat Portage d. June 1929 Teacher at East Windsor

Thomas E Jackson b. 19 February 1904 Rat Portage d. May 1965

Ida Kathleen Jackson b. 19 Feb 1904 (Twin to Thomas) Rat Portage m. Roscoe H. Brown 23 Sep 1960 d. 24 Jan 1964 in Detroit

William J Jackson b. 3 Aug 1906 Stratford, m. Edith d. 1984 Kenora

He came to Rat Portage in 1898 and opened a bakery business with brother William at the foot of Matheson Street. In 1904 they moved to 129 Main St. in property subsequently owned by the Campbell Brother. He passed away July 30 1924.

Roger Jeal 1982-83

Minister of a Church of Christ in Norman

President of Kenora Rotary Club in 1982-83

James Alan Johansen 1940 - 2013
James Alan Johansen, son of Tom and Edith Johansen was born August 20 1940 in Chicago Illinois. Jim was born in Chicago, IL in 1940. At the age of 10 he began coming to Sioux Narrows, ON with his parents where they built a cabin on Lake of the Woods. He was smitten with Canada. After completing his education at Illinois Wesleyan and Northern Illinois Universities he immigrated to Sioux Narrows. He married Coralee (Cory) approximately 1972.

He was a natural entrepreneur and immediately established Woodland Resort. He and his wife developed the resort to include a dining room where Jim became quite famous for his Wednesday night B.B.Q. ribs. He also took various contracts with Confederation College.

In 1972 he and Cory opened the first Blue Heron Gift Shop in Sioux Narrows. Buying and selling was in his blood. In 1977 they opened the Blue Heron (Kenora) in the old fish market. Two stores in Minaki and "Johansens" in Kenora followed. His real passion was tourism and he chaired or sat on numerous committees such as the Chambers of Commerce of Sioux Narrows & Kenora, LOWBIC, Tourism Kenora, Kenora Publicity Board and was a president of the Kenora Rotary Club, 1995-96. His last commitment was heading the committee to organize the opening of "the Northern Ontario Sport Fishing Centre" in Sioux Narrows. He was the ultimate event planner and very artistic. He was a motivator and leader and had enough ideas to fill three lifetimes. He will be remembered by many as "the greeter" at the Blue Heron. He enjoyed 10 years of retirement. In 1982 he suggested that every Canada Day that First Avenue South be closed on July 1 every year so that he could hold a street party. Since then, it has grown into one of Kenora's popular summer festivals.

James Lowry Johnson 1871-1961
James Lowry Johnson son of James Johnson and Anne Sanderson was born January 31 1871 in Omemee (Near Peterborough) Ontario.

In 1891 at age 20 he came to Kenora to establish Johnson Pharmacy with his older brother Joseph.

He married Margaret May Phillips September 6 1906.

They had four children:

James Lowry Johnson born July 15 1907. He married Margaret MacDonald, They had 4 sons David, Doug, Ian and Jimmy.
Margaret Evelyn Johnson born April 2 1910. She married Les Ingo. They had three children, Ken, Brian, and Marilyn.

Lawrence Phillip Johnson was born about He married Eleanor Ducasse “Julianna” Toole. They had 8 children, Terry, Larry, Paul, Eleanor, Mary Pat, Billy, Elizabeth and Kevin

Mercelline Johnson was born about 1914. She married Art Piggott. They had a child Jimmy.

He was president of Kenora Rotary Club 1949-1950.

Lowry Johnson died in Kenora in 1961 at age 90.

**Lawrence Phillips Johnson 1912 - 2003**

Lawrence "Larry" Phillips Johnson, son of Lowry Johnson and Margaret May Phillips was born July 30 1912. He married Eleanor Ducasse Toole known as "Julianna". They had eight children, Terry, Larry, Paul, Eleanor, Mary Pat, Billy, Elizabeth, and Kevin.

Both Larry and Julianna studied at University of Toronto. Larry studied pharmacy.

He was president of Rotary 172-73.


Larry

**Henry Richard Victor Kantola 1928 -2008**

Henry Richard Victor Kantola was born April 13 1928 in Kenora Ontario.

He acquired the GM Dealership in Kenora.

Kenora Rotary President 1977-78

He died September 14 September 2008

**William Glenfield Kendall 1853-1931**

William Kendall, son of John and May Kendall was born in Battlesbridge, Essex, England on September 23 1853. He was employed as a CPR railway engineer.

He married Mary Frances Lucas, daughter of Francis Lucas and Hannah Frances Duffett on August 31 1888 in Rat Portage. They had five children,

Ivan Lucas Kendall born May 9 1890

Marvin Kendall born Jun 10 1891
Jennie Kendall born Sep 4 1892
S. Bessie Kendall born Dec 7 1893
Reuben Duffett Kendall born Aug 28 1895

In 1888 he bought 3 lots from Elizabeth Smith on Second Street South and in 1895 built a brick house on the north east corner of Second Street South and Fifth Avenue S. The family lived in the house until the last of their children died in 1983. In the mid-1950s the eastern portion of the property was sold to the First Baptist Church.

In 1987, Curtis and Barbara Sprague purchased the property and in the 1990s renovated the property and in 1997 opened it as the Kendall House Bed and Breakfast.

His wife predeceased him on July 20 1920. He died October 29 1931

Emma Kems

Emma Kems, daughter of Henry Kerns and Augusta Schultz was born July 5 1853 in Hamburg Germany. Her parents died when she was quite young and she moved to Manchester England. There she worked as a private secretary to a tea merchant.

She immigrated to United States sometime before 1875 and in 1882 she married Herman Ebers in Galvestone Texas. Herman Ebers had earlier emigrated from Hambery Germany himself in 1868 at the age of 16 years. It is not known whether she had known him in Hamburg or only made his acquaintance in the United States. He was a school teacher and Minister. He was also a founding father at Industry Texas. Herman died in 1880 leaving her three children:

    Alice Lulu Ebers born 14 Jan 1876 in Galveston, Texas, USA. She married John George Baker in Kenora
    Florence Ebers born February 9 1877
    Thomas Ebers born February 9 1877 died very Young
    Hermann Aphonse Ebers born March 18 1880

She died in Kenora on September 17 1940 in 1880

Reference "The Life of Emma Kems" in Common Ground: Stories of Lake of the Woods 2010

Stuart King 1914

Stuart King, fifth child of Clarence King and Ina was born in 1914.

His father had been editor of the Brandon Times until the Paper was shut down and an insurance agent in the 1920s.
Stuart King left home early and in 1933 came to Kenora as a Winnipeg Free Press agent selling newspapers. On his 22nd birthday he bought a second hand book store on Matherson Street next to Tilly's Drug Store for $300. He secured the wholesale magazine agencies of McFadden Publications and Crowell Colliers supplying stores with Liberty, True Detective, Colliers, True stories and other magazines. Through boys and girls developing routes about 500 Liberty magazines were sold weekly.

On September 16, 1937 he married Ruth Kennedy in Keewatin.

For 15 months in the early 1940s he set up a carrier delivery service. In 1934 Herb Hauck of Fort Frances moved to Kenora and started a daily mimeograph sheet he called the Daily Reminder. It is believed to have been the first daily paper in Canada to be printed by the offset method — originally on ‘foolscap’ 8 1/2” x 14” size. Advertising dollars declined with the war and the equipment at the Daily Reminder was aging. The Daily Reminder had developed a scandal sheet image and had been threatened with several libel suits. In December 1942 Herb Hauck approached King with the suggestion that he purchase the Daily Reminder for the price of $5000. King worked hard as owner, publisher, editor, salesman, and circulation chief. He ran the paper until 1947 when due to poor health he sold the Daily Reminder to Clarance Dusang. Clarance Dusang had been involved with the Daily Reminder before the war and returned to it following the war. It published until 1960 when Stuart King, who owned the Miner and News at that time, bought out Dusang.

After bowing out of the publishing field with the Daily Reminder, King took up a partnership with Clarence Tilly with Patricia Drugs on Main St. for two years. In 1950, he joined Norwesto Communications Ltd as a small investor and assistant to the president.

On November 1, 1951 he took a three month’s option to purchase the Kenora Miner and News. Ultimately eight people became involved in the proposed purchase from the owners of the Miner and News, then Percy Williams and Harry Donley. They were A. M. Brown, Earnie Fortier, Jack MacDonald, Al Sherrett, Doris Lang, Dr. R.G. Davidson, Ambrose O’Flaherty and Tom Saul. All but Doris Lang were local Rotarians. At that time women could not join the Rotary Club. Al Sherrett was the editor of the newspaper. On January 13, 1953 all but Earnie Fortier sold out their shares to Stu King who within a few years bought the remaining shares to become the sole owner of the company. In 1960 Stu King also purchased the Daily Reminder from Clarance Dusang.

In 1951-1952 along with A.M. Brown, Ernie Fortier, Jack McDonald, Al Sherrett, Doris Lang, Dr. R.G. Davidson, Ambrose O’Flaherty and Tom Saul, he bought the Kenora Miner and News. In 1953 he bought out all but Ernie Fortier and entered into an agreement to buy out Fortier which he did over the next three years. In November 1973, he sold the newspaper to Bowes Publishers Ltd.

In 1955 he purchased Kenora Radio Station CJRL. Subsequently CKDR in Dryden was opened.
He joined the Kinsmen Club before World War 2 and in 1948 served on the national committee as expansion chairman.

Stu had an active involvement in Rotary Club serving as its President in 1968-69.

He died February 6 2007 in Kenora.

James Arthur Kinney 1877 1947

James Arthur Kinney, son of James Kinney and Malina Johnson was born at Gore Bay, Manitoulin Island, Ontario on 4 June 1878.

Following studies at Osgood Hall he moved to Kenora between 1905 and 1907 and established his practice of Law. He was legal advisor to the Diocese of Keewatin and subsequently appointed Chancellor of the Diocese a position he held until his death even after moving to Gore Bay.

In 19 Jul 1911 he married Anne Clifton in Hallowell, Prince Edward, Ontario. They had 4 daughters:

Billie Kinney
Margaret Kinney
Doris Kinney
Mirium Kinney

After several years he assumed duties as Magistrate a position he held for over 20 years.

James Kinney was President of the Kenora Board of Trade,

He was president of the Kenora Rotary Club in 1934-1935. He was president of the Masonic Lodge of Kenora and a member of the Legion, Kenora Branch

He moved to Gore Bay in 1944. He received his King's Councillor in February and was appointed Crown Attorney and Clerk of Peace for Manitou Island. Chairman of the Advance Appeal for the District of Manitoulin

James A Kinney died February 18 1947 in Gore Bay.

Ida Florence (Knight) Machin 1878 - 1950

Ida Florence (Knight) Machin, daughter of William Knight and Annie Penton was born May 1878 in South Africa. Ida's father William Knight had made a fortune mining diamonds and gold in South Africa. She grew up in South Africa and developed a passion for prospecting.
William and Annie had four children: Arthur Albert, Ida Florence, and Bertha Alice, known as Birdie, all born in South Africa; and Otto Algernon, born 1891 in Lewisham, England. The children had a private education, Ida and Bertha attending a school in Clapham, and Arthur a boarding school in Beaconsfield. There he met Harold Machin, the youngest son of the Reverend Charles Machin, a missionary living in Canada. Harold was often a guest at social events at the Knight family home, Horner Grange (See pictures of house and Knight Family at http://www.fownc.org/newsletters/no61.shtml).

Harold returned to Canada after his schooling and entered Osgoode Hall Law School in the early 1890s. He was part of the first Canadian Contingent to fight in the Boer War and became a Captain in the African Constabulary. Whilst serving in the African Constabulary he married Ida in Cape Colony.

They had two daughters,

Ida Annie Knight Machin b. 08 Dec 1903 in South Africa

Barbara Machin 1914

The couple returned to Canada, where Harold established a law practice, became a Member of the Canadian Parliament and Ida and Harold carried on their mining interests in Canada, owning a large, profitable gold mine.

They lived in a mansion on what is now Machin Drive. When Horner Grange was sold, the contents - draperies, linen, silver, china, fireplace mantles, furniture, and even the cornerstone from the house - were sent to Ida and Harold's house in Kenora. The unique collection arrived in three box cars at a special siding constructed by the Canadian Pacific Railway in Kenora.

Harold died in 1931. Ida and her two daughters, Barbara and Ida Ann, carried on with their mining interests in Canada. Her daughter, Barbara held her miner's licence from 1 April 1932, and on 1 April 1971. She was presented with an Honorary Permanent Miners Licence.

The contents of Horner Grange were moved in 1936 to Ida's new home in Shoal Lake. They were transported by barge, a trip that included a nightmare passage through rapids in a sixty foot barge. Their oldest daughter, Ida Annie Knight Machin, died 6 years after Harold, in childbirth and Ida took her 5 day old daughter to Kenora.

In 1938 the family Ida, Barbara and the grand-daughter moved permanently to Shoal Lake and the house in Kenora was left in charge of a housekeeper. The Three women lived in a log cabin at Gold Point farm Shoal Lake. Ida died in 1950 and Barbara sold the home in Kenora and carted up the remaining silver, china and furniture to Gold Point farm.
Some of the collection from Horner Grange was sold over the years but many articles are now in the Victorian Parlour, Lake of the Woods Museum, Kenora. Barbara died in 1978. She never married.

Gustavus Adolphus Kobold 1862-

Gustavus Adolphus Kobold or better known as G.A. Kobold or familiarly as Chris or "Cris". Born in Ontario in 14 October 1862, son of Leopold Kobold and Wilhelmina Vollrath, he moved to Rat Portage, Ontario around 1880. There he operated a butcher shop. On 11 October 1882, he married Helene W. Appleby of Cobourg, Ontario.

She died sometime before November 1900, when Kobold sold his shop and moved to Winnipeg where he became associated with his father's butchery. On 14 October 1901, he married again, to Emma Rachel Johnstone of Winnipeg.

In Rat Portage, he purchased John Gardner's Butcher Shop next to the Hilliard House in 1880 and operated the business as Kobold & Bro. The business expanded and prospered until November 1900 when he moved to Winnipeg where he took charge of father's business. A man named Squire purchased the building for a meat market. The Building was later occupied by Ham Wong's Restaurant and subsequently again as Cecil Cafe.

G.A. Kobold was one of founding members of Gold Hill Lodge no 261 in November 1887. He was a keen duck hunter, a member of hockey club and president of Senior Thistle Hockey Club in 1894. He was the Manager of Lacrosse Club around 1897 and an avid member of the Kenora Rowing Club. He was a member of the first Electric Light and Telephone Company in 1890, and President of the Old Timers' Association in 1900.

On 12 December 1904, he and his brother Victor C. Kobold built the Dominion Theatre in Winnipeg, and operated it until March 1909 when they leased out the business.

In May 1906 he was on the founding Board of Directors for the Happyland Park Company, along with Frank H. Pippen, J. H. Anderson, R. M. McLeod, William Blackwood, W. O. Edmounds, and D. E. Sprague. The firm operated an amusement park in Winnipeg for several years.

In 1910 he opened a real estate business in an office at the corner of Portage and Main, buying and selling city and farm land. In November 1910 he helped to found the first Rotary Club in Winnipeg, and served as its first president.

In September 1912, he and his wife moved to Los Angeles, California, intending to spend winters there and summers at their cottage on Lake of the Woods.
Walter Kostantin 1928-2012

Walter Kostantin, son of John and Nelli Kostantin was born in Fort Williams. He had at least sisters Alice Siddal, Stella Tozer and a brother Michael.

He was educated at Port Arthur Collegiate (PACI). He was then part of the first graduating class for Mining at Lakehead Technical Institute (University) of Thunder Bay.

His wife Anne.

Walter was President of the Kenora Rotary Club 1979-1980.

He was a member of the Knights of Columbus 4th Degree. He served on the Board of The District of Kenora Home for the Aged, the Kenora Municipal Non-Profit Housing Corporation. He served as Chair for fourteen years for the Community Care Access Centre (CCAC).

Walter was also a lifetime member of the Loyal Order of Moose and The Quarter Century Club.

Walter was a Jaffray Melick councillor.

He died at the age of 84 in Kenora in the early hours on Wednesday, February 22, 2012.

Rudolph. "Rudy" E. Kron 1955-56

President of Kenora Thistles that went to Japan 1952

Father John was coal dealer. Kron's Transport. Son Rudy took it over as Kron's Transport

Rudy had three sons Bob, John (Still live in Toronto) and Grant

William Ernest "Bill" Kyle

Doctor in charge of Radiology Department in Lake of the Woods Hospital.

Married Eleanor Johnson

He was Kenora Rotary President 1999-2000

Dr. Albert A Laidlaw (Partner of Dr. Edmison)

Henry Langford 1867 - 1901
Henry Langford, son of Alexander Langford and Permelia Rowena Rich was born April 4th 1867 in Sarnia, Ontario, Canada. His Father Rev. Dr. Alexander Langford moved his family around a number of towns where young Henry attended various schools. In 1887 he graduated from Victoria University with a BA and began his studies in law at the offices of Messrs. Fraser and Fraser London and Hartley Dewart Toronto. He was admitted to the Bar in 1891.

He came to Rat Portage in 1891 and entered a Partnership with James Robinson until Robinson was elevated to the Bench. He then took in Mr. Cooper. In 1894 he was appointed Crown Attorney. In 1897 he entered a partnership with W. J. Moran in a law firm styled, Langford and Moran.

In 1895 he married Jeanne Davidson on December 26 1895 in Coburg, Ontario. They had one child Mary Elizabeth Langford born Apr 12 1897 in Rat Portage.

He was choir leader of the Zion Church choir. He was a member of the Lake of the Woods Lodge A.F. & A.M and the Gold Hill Lodge I.O.O.F. He served on the Royal Jubilee Hospital Board. He was a member of the Curling and Rowing Clubs.

Henry Langford died on April 13 1901 following a bout of pneumonia.

**Robert Georgeson Laurenson 1845 - 1906**

Robert Laurenson, was born at Laxfirth, Nestling, Scotland 24 May 1845 and came to Canada in 1864. He married Elizabeth Parrott (Perrault) and had three children:

- Catherine Laurenson b. 28 Feb 1875 northwest Angle, m. David Bowhey Valentine 17 Jan 1903 in Rat Portage, d. 6 Nov 1909 Kenora.

- Elizabeth Laurenson b. 1877, d. 15 Aug 1892 Rat Portage

- Agnes Laurenson b. 1887

Catherine married David Bowley Valentine in Jan 17 1903. She had three children before the marriage

- William Laurenson b. 02 Sep 1893 He took on the name of his step father after he married his mother and died of an illness Aug 27 1917 which he caught as a World War 1 soldier in France. He was ship back to Canada and died in Hamilton, Ontario www.canadiangreatwarproject.com/searches/soldierDetail.asp?ID=23482


- Robert Laurenson b. 02 Jun 1899
She gave birth to David Alvin Valentine on 2 Sep 1903. She died 6 Nov 1909. Her husband David Bowhey Valentine subsequent married Mary Ann Begg daughter of John Begg and Juliet Sturgeon. He went on to become Chief of Police in Transcona Manitoba.

Robert Laurenson signed a contract with Hudson Bay on 9 Feb 1864. He was in charge at the Hudson Bay Post in North West Angle 1874 to 1875 and for a short time in the summer he was in charge of the Post at Rat Portage. He was in charge of the Post in Rat Portage from 1875 to 1878.

He died 04 April 1906. He left his name on Laurenson Lake and Laurenson Lake, His obituary published in the local Kenora paper reported that he" died penniless in a little house up on the Rideout Estate", Mr. Laurenson was well known in these parts as he was one of the first inhabitants of old Rat Portage and at one time trading in furs with the Indians. The town in view of the fact that he deceased had no near relatives, undertook the burial of the body which was interned in the Lake Of The Woods Cemetery yesterday.

How very sad.

**Peter Lawton**

Manager of Kenora Municipal Telephone Company.

He was president of the Kenora Rotary Club in1996-97

**Jack Lepine 1922**

Jack Lepine was born in Quebec. He travelled out to British Columbia before the railway was built where he prospected and mined. He was one of the earliest settlers and prospectors on Lake of the Woods. He came to the Kenora area in the 1880s settling on an Island on the lake. He made a living trapping and hunting. He lived for a short time in the District jail there being no other place to accommodate him. He became ill and moved into the St Joseph's Hospital where he died in November 1922 (Nelson 1978)

**David Shannon Lillico 1954-20**

David Shannon Lillico, son of Francis (Frank) David Lillico and Jean Marion Shannon was born on May 5, 1954 in East York (Toronto), Ontario. He had two brothers Ian and Randy. He married his wife, Valerie Jane Oldford, December 27 1984. They had two sons, Shawn and Patrick.

He moved to Kenora with his family in 1966. He graduated from Beaver Brae High School and later attended Technical College in Thunder Bay. He secured employment with Bell Canada in 1976 until his death.
Over the years David was involved in many community organizations. He was a member of the Red Lake Kinsmen for ten years. He returned to Kenora 1991 moving to 3 Bunny St. Sept. 21 1991

Upon returning to Kenora he became an active member of KACL and SEAC. David was an avid spokesman for those that couldn't speak for themselves. He was not afraid to stand up for what he believed in. He served 5 years as President of the Kenora Association for Community Living a tribute to his commitment to serving his fellow man and a commitment to respect all. Also a tribute to including all in the decision making process and respecting the voice of all. He also served many years as treasurer of the Association. He inspired the Association to adopt and work towards an inclusive community.

David loved the outdoors, hunting and fishing. He especially enjoyed his time on the Winnipeg River with his boys. After a brief illness, at the age of 57 David passed away at the Lake of the Woods District Hospital on Tuesday, September 6, 2011 with his family by his side.

James A. Link 1877

James A Link, son of James Link and Jane Turner was born February 27 1874 in Stormont Ontario. He arrived in Rat Portage in June 1887. He married Annie Johnson November 22 1899. They had three children William (Bill), James (Jim) and Abbie.

He was employed by Rat Portage Lumber Company for 21 year. In 1908 he bought half in the Henderson Brothers and Fuel Business. They started out with 13 horses and up to date equipment. As an extra service they offered a delivery and pick-service of baggage to or from the service station. They bought the business of C.C. Delbridge Livery and Sales Stables and moved to Second Street in 1913. The business was known as Link's and Henderson.

In May of 1925 they provided the town with an ambulance that they made available any time day or night.

Following a fire in the business in 1928 Henderson sold his interest to Link

Link added an Ice Business by 1931. In 1933 he brought in a bus to run a route between Kenora and Keewatin and special trips throughout the District. In 1939 the business was incorporated and known as J. A. Links In 1939 he also added a new addition to accommodate more cars.
James Link served on the town council for nine years.

He was active sports enthusiast. He was an active member of the rowing club, winning many races between from 1894 and 1896 in Lake Minnetonka. He trained the Thistle Hockey team that challenged for the Stanley Cup in 1906 and the team that won it in 1907. In summer he was an avid horse racer.

He moved to British Columbia and was still living in 1953.

**William Durie Lyon 1825 - 1893**

William Durie Lyon, son of John Lyon and Mary McKechnie was born June 1825 in Blantyre, now a part of Glasgow, Scotland.

He immigrated to Canada settling in the Equesing Township in Ontario.

His wife was Mary McKechie Lyon and they had at least 7 children:

- John Lyon b. 1855, Milton, Ontario
- Margaret Lyon b. 1856, Milton, Ontario
- Catherine Lyon b. Mar 1858 in Milton, Ontario. 30 Dec 1874 at Milton, Ontario
- Mary Lyon 1861
- William Lyon b. 1863, Milton, Ontario
- Flora Rachel Lyon b. 29 Apr 1867 Milton, Ontario
- Annie Elizabeth Lyon b. 19 Sep 1872 Milton, Ontario

He worked in a store in Streetville. He moved to Milton where he clerked in a store owned by Matthias Teetzel. In 1856 he was a member of a mercantile firm of White, Martin and Lyon in Milton.

In 1867 he established an extensive lumbering business at Michael's Bay on Manitoulin Island with John White and George Brockitt Abrey.

He served on the Town Council of Milton. He then served several terms and presided as Warden for two years.

He served as Liberal MPP for Halton Riding from November 2 1875 to April 25 1879.

He was appointed Stipend Magistrate for Rainey River in 1879. He settled initially in Fort Francis and then made his home in Rat Portage.
His wife refused to come to Rat Portage remaining in Milton. Only the younger son William ever came to Rat Portage. His other son John took his own life.

One of his concerns while in Rat Portage was the whisky peddling going on the lines during construction days.

Before incorporation the affairs of unincorporated areas were managed by Magistrates appointed by the Crown. Duties covered every facet of the town - hiring the constables, paying them ordering their supplies and supervising their duties. He bought land from the Hudson Bay Company for $150 per lot for a court house and jail on Matherson Street. He began sidewalk and street improvement. He assessed timber standards and set timber limits. He was in charge of business licenses. She served the town until his death October 10 1893.

**Colonel Harold Arthur Clement Machin 1875 - 1931**

Colonel Harold Arthur Clement Machin, son of Charles John Machin and Emma Mary Louisa Biddlecombe was born 9 May 1875 in Rochester, New York, USA.

He received his education in a boarding school in Beaconsfield, England where he met Arthur Albert Knight, brother of his future wife. He was often a guest at social events at Horner Grange (See pictures of house and Knight family at http://www.fownc.org/newsletters/no61.shtml). The building is now used as a girl’s school called Sydenham School. Furniture from the home was sent to Harold and Ida’s house in Kenora and then subsequently in their new home in Shoal Lake. Many articles of this house are now in the Victorian Parlour, Lake of the Woods Museum, Kenora, Ontario.

He was involved in the 1896-1900 Canadian gold boom. In 1908 the couple went to Northern Quebec to prospects for copper. He was President of the Kenora Mines Limited. In 1910 he reopened the Mikado Mine and over Regina Mine. The Mikado mine was situated south of Bag bay on Shoal Lake and was one of 4 principal mines of the Lake of the Woods area.

He came to Kenora around 1900. In 1902 he was called to the Ontario Bar and established his practice in Kenora.

He married Ida Florence Knight of England and South Africa in 1902. They had two daughters,

- Ida Annie Knight Machin b. 08 Dec 1903 South Africa
- Barbara Machin 1914

Machin was a conservative most of his political career and was the Provincial Representative from 8 June 1908 to 23 September 1919. In 1908 he ran in the newly created Electoral District of Kenora in 8 June 1908 defeating Liberal Andrew E. Annis 1078 votes to 847. In 1911 he defeated Liberal John T. Brett 1179 votes to 733. In 1914 he was acclaimed. Machin was a fierce opponent of Conservative premier William Howard Hearst’s Ontario Temperance Act. He
became a prominent member of the Citizen's Liberty League formed in 1919 to oppose prohibition in Ontario. He quit Conservative Party and ran as an independent in the 1919 election. He was defeated by labour candidate Peter Heenan:

Peter Heenan 1870 Labour
Machin Harold A.C. 895 Independent
Alfred Pitt 610 Conservative
Fife, Ashton T. 405 Liberal

Colonel Machin had a distinguished military career. In the Boer, he held the rank of Lieutenant and Captain in the South African Constabulary. Private to Staff Sergeant - 2nd Special Service Battalion, Royal Canadian Regiment (1st Canadian Contingent, South Africa). Saw actions at; Sunnyside - 01 Jan, 1900. Padeburg - 18 to 26 Feb, 1900. Poplar Grove - 07 Mar, 1900. Driefontein - 10 Mar, 1900. Hout Neck - 01 May, 1900. Vet River - 05/06 May, 1900. Zand River - 10 May, 1900. Pretoria - 04 Jan, 1901. 1901 - Commissioned as a Subaltern, South African Constabulary. 1902 - Promoted to Captain, South African Constabulary. Served in the Orange River Colony until the end of the war in May 19, 1905 - Resigned in May, retaining his rank. He received the Queen's Medal (South Africa) with 4 clasps and King's medal (South Africa) with 2 clasps.

Mr. Machin was one of the first to offer his services in World War 1 and organized the 94th Battalion which he commended on their trip overseas. He served in France with distinction. The history of the 94th Battalion is set out at http://www.94thbattalioncef.ca/history.htm:

While the formation of the 94th "Overseas" Battalion was not officially authorized until 22 December, 1915 when General Order No. 151 was published, the people of North Western Ontario had known that the Battalion was being formed since the 25th of October when the Fort William Times Journal published the news that the Kenora - Rainy River Regiment had been ordered to form a new Battalion for overseas service, under the command of Lieutenant Colonel Arthur C. Machin, the Member of the Provincial Parliament for Kenora. Colonel Machin had served in the Boer War with "C" Company, 2nd Special Service Battalion of the Royal Canadian Regiment of Infantry and later as a Lieutenant in the South African Constabulary. Recruiting began immediately, and on November 4th, 1915, in Port Arthur, 19802, Sergeant Frederick Charles Cornwall signed his Attestation Papers becoming the first of 1,385 men to join....

The next seven and a half months were spent trying to organize an effective military unit, and in spite of all the confusion which had been built into the system by the machinations of the Minister of Militia, Sam Hughes, they managed to get the job done and, I might add, done very well. At first, those men from towns where there was a Militia unit and an Armories, lived and drilled in barracks, but in towns and cities such as Fort William, the men lived at home or in hotels and drilled where ever they could find a space large enough for their purposes. There were no uniforms, weapons, or even office supplies. Most of the officers were learning their duties at the same time as the men, and it was very fortunate that a number of the enlistees had previously served in the British Army so as Non Commissioned Officers they were able to teach the men the basics of military life and how to live under military discipline. As the weeks went by, things began to change for the better and the men began to look like soldiers. On December 4th, 1915
the first uniforms arrived and were issued. On December 11th, "A" Company, which was living in the Port Arthur Armories, was issued wash tubs and washboards. On the 29th of December, the first shipment of rifles arrived and were distributed to the various companies, each receiving enough for one squad at a time to drill with them. There was no note as to when enough were received to issue one to each man. On January 27th, the renovations to the Steel Plant in the west end of Fort William were completed and the men of "B" Company finally moved into barracks. The atmosphere there was greatly improved on the 18th of February, when the bathing facilities were completed with 6 bath tubs and 1 plunge tank. The people of North Western Ontario adopted the men and made sure that there was always something being done to entertain them. They organized dances, parties, teas, sporting events, and concerts and set up reading rooms. They cheered the battalion's hockey team which competed in the Lakehead Senior Hockey League and almost won the championship, losing out to the "Fort Williams" in the final game of the season. They attended battalion church parades and inspections, cheered the men on route marches, listened to concerts given by the excellent brass band, and turned out to view them training to "Storm the Hun trenches". The 94th was truly, the battalion of the people. On May 25, 1916, the men of "C" and "D" Companies from Kenora and Fort Frances were moved to the Lakehead and on June 9, 1916, the Battalion left for Valcartier, Quebec for "Summer Camp" as it was called. For two hundred and five of these men it was the last time they were to see their families and friends. The 94th trained at Valcartier for a period until June 13th when they sailed from Halifax for England on the RMS Olympic. Although the 94th remained a battalion on paper until July 27th, 1918, with an office at East Sandling, it actually ceased to exist on July 13th, 1916 when it was broken up and the men were transferred to the 17th and 32nd Reserve Battalions to be used as replacements for casualties in front line units. The band's instruments were "disposed of." and the resulting funds were disbursed. I have not been able to learn what actually happened. The 94th did gain some measure of fame because of the story that is that it was broken up as a result of a coin toss. Apparently two battalions sailed to England on the Olympic, and it was decided that one of them would go to the front and the other would be broken up. Colonel Machin made the wrong call.

The local newspaper report:

Kenora, 27 May, 1916 KENORA UNIT 94TH LEFT THURSDAY -------- AN IMMENSE CROWD GATHERED AT STATION TO SAY GOODBYE WILL REMAIN IN PORT ARTHUR FOR SHORT TIME The Kenora detachment of the 94th Battalion left Thursday morning in command of major Schnarr in a special train. The boys in Khaki assembled at the Armories and headed by the combined bands of Kenora and Keewatin paraded to the station followed by an immense throng of citizens. The men presented a splendid appearance ant it was the general expression that they compared very well with any of the other contingents that have left here for overseas service. The men entrained as soon as they arrived at the station. As the 94th is expected to leave for Valcartier in the course of a couple of weeks, and none of the men will likely have the opportunity of visiting their home here again before going overseas, there were many affecting scenes of farewell. It was marvelous, however, to see the manner in which the mothers, wives, sisters and sweethearts bore up when saying goodbye. They did all they could to cheer the men rather than depress them reserving for themselves the culmination of departure until after the train had left. In fact many of the wives and relatives of the men refused to go to the train, the parting scenes being held in the sanctity of their own homes. How nobly
the women of Kenora and Keewatin are meeting the sacrifice has been amply evidenced on the occasion of the departure and anyone who was at the station on Thursday could never for one moment question the duty owing to the dependents of these gallant fellows.

Machin's record during World War 1 is recorded at http://www.94thbattalioncef.ca/officers.htm:

Rank: Lieutenant Colonel, he was from Kenora. Battalion Commanding Officer. Transferred to 32nd Reserve Battalion, 18 Jul, 1916. Transferred to Canadian Pay Office, 21 Aug, 1916. Made CO of the 1st Canadian Labour Battalion, In 1917, he was assigned by Major General Sir John Wallace Carson to "put a stop" to the large numbers of Canadian soldiers who were getting married in England. On 3 September 1917 a Military Service Council, acting directly under the Minister of Justice, was created "to advise and assist in the administration and enforcement" of the Act relating to Contentious Objectors". On 15 Jun, 1918 its duties were taken over by the Military Service Branch of the Department of Justice and he was appointed Director of that Office. ACPF - RG 150, Accession 1992-93/166, Box 5827 - 21

He died at his summer home on Shoal Lake on October 13 1931 after a lengthy illness. The District of Machin, Ontario, is named in his memory.

**Dr. Allan Scott Macdonell 1856-1901**

Doctor Allan Scott Macdonnell, son of Donald David MacDonell and May Chisholm, was born in Glengarry County, Canada West (Ontario), Canada in 1856.

He came to Winnipeg as a 20 year old and worked first as assistant to Dr. Blanchard and then Dr. Good. He moved to Rat Portage in 1884.

In 1885 he set up an office over W.D. Coates Drug Store on Main St.

He married Isabelle MacDonald 09 Nov 1898 in Rat Portage he 42 and she a widow 35. He died of Heart failure 5 March 1901 after a severe attack on pneumonia

**Lloyd Mack**

President of Kenora Rotary Club in 2008-09

**William "Bill". M. Marr 1958-59**

Had a garage cross from post office and son had a marina foot of Matheson St. Marr's Marina

**D.J. Mason 1946-47**

Doctor in 1930 Office above what is now King's Furniture.

**J. "Jack" D. MacDonald**
Ken's Storage

Wife Belle

Joined Rotary 17 04 1945

Carter's Motors limited 1953

**John F. MacGillivray 1870 -**

John F. MacGillivray, son of Farquhar MacGillivray and Jane Mary MacFarlane, was born August 20 1870. His parents were both of Scottish ancestry. His father, Farquhar, was born in Williamstown, Ontario. His wife was from Montreal. Farquhar was employed as a clerk at the House of Commons, according to his obituary, where he had a long career on the staff of the House of Commons, retiring in 1903 at the age of 70. They had 4 children:

- John MacGillivray b. 20 August 1870. Ottawa, Ontario
- Archibald D.F. MacGillivray b. 09 Aug 1874 Ottawa d. 28 Mar 1885 Ottawa, Ontario
- Edmund MacGillivray b. 01 Mar 1876 Ottawa, Ontario
- James Alexander Farquhar Grant MacGillivray b. 10 May 1880 Ottawa, Ontario. Died 15 April 15, 1917, Vimy Ridge

In March 1885 brother Archibald died of Whooping cough and in June 1885, Mrs. MacGillivray died of Consumption. They were buried in Beechwood Cemetery, Ottawa. Grant was living at home with his father for both the 1891 and 1901 censuses, with no occupation listed, and he was still living there in February 1907, when his father died of pneumonia at the age of 74. Farquhar was buried in Beechwood Cemetery beside his wife and son.

John arrived in Rat Portage on December 31 1896 and his brothers followed after. Edmund arrived in 1911. After his father's death Grant headed out west, possibly spending some time in BC, and when he enlisted in the army in May 1916 he was living in Kenora, Ontario.

Brothers, Grant and Edmund enlisted in World War 1 in Kenora on the same day, 10 May 1916, Grant's birthday. They joined the 94th Battalion, a local unit that was based in Port Arthur. A note on Edmund's Attestation Paper says he was discharged at Valcartier on 25 June 1916 and he re-enlisted for Home Service in Canada. Grant fought and died in the battle at Vimy Ridge (See further information at http://www.canadiangreatwarproject.com/searches/soldierDetail.asp?ID=50120)

John was a Barrister and set up his law practice in the Nicholson Block after arriving in Kenora. In October 1900 he moved to the Humble Block. He became Crown Attorney for the District of Kenora, replacing P.E. Mackenzie as Crown Attorney when the latter moved to Saskatoon. He was appointed K.C in April 1910. In December 1918 he moved to Toronto where took up the position of Taxing Officer.
He was also a dedicated supporter of the Kenora Thistles hockey team and served as their secretary in 1907 when they won the Stanley Cup. He was a member of the Kenora Rotary Club.

**David Low Mather 1854-1947**

**John Mather 1827-1907**

John Mather, son of James Mather and Jean Low, was born 29 Oct 1827 in near Montrose, Craig Parish, Scotland. His father was a contractor and builder.

He was apprenticed to his father as a youth. He subsequently worked as assistant engineer on the Montrose - Aberdeen railway.

He subsequently managed a saw milling and ship business in Montrose.

John Mather died 10 June 1907.

His wife Jean Jane Low b. 24 Jun 1824, predeceased him on 08 Jan 1906 in Ottawa. He had three sons and two daughter, one of whom predeceased him:

- Robert Addison Mather b. 19 Nov 1851, d. 18 Oct 1925 Vancouver BC
- Ann Weir Mather b. 30 Mar 1853, Scotland, d. 11 Apr 1870 Chelsea, Quebec,
- David Low Mather b. 17 Mar 1855 d. 1947 Winnipeg, Manitoba
- Jemima Jane Mather b. 27 Jul 1857, d. 13 Sep 1933 Ottawa, Ontario
- Alan Gilmour Mather b. 27 Nov 1862, d. 13 Dec 1954 Ottawa, Ontario


**William McCarthy 1848-1913**

William McCarthy served in the defence of Canada during the Fenian Raids. He subsequent went west via St. Paul with Colonel French who established the Northwest Mounted Police. He was present at Edmonton and other places when Mounted Police Posts were established.

He came to Rat Portage around 1881. He served on the Town Council in 1884, 1887, 1894 and was mayor in 1898-1900. He was a prominent conservative in the area.

He married widow Viola (Valsada) Halstead and had two sons John and William as well as raise her four step daughters

- Annie Halstead 1868 (Mrs. Annie Campbell)
Mr. McCarthy was one of the first farmers in Rat Portage squatting on the North side of Coney Island. In 1812 had a frame building where he took in tourists. When the boundary dispute was settled he applied for title but John A, MacDonald had given all the islands to Mr. Mather of the Keewatin Lumber Company. He purchased a building on the south west corner of Main St. and Second Street and moved to town. They took in summer borders with his wife and daughters doing the work. They kept adding to the house and called it Russell House.

**James Nelson McCracken 1861-**

Who was the town counsellor called J. McCracken in 1885-1886 who became the Reeve in 1887-1888 according to James Duffus, in A History of Politics in Kenora, 1976. In early Settlers of Rat Portage it is said to be John McCracken who was married to Annie Bunting and had three children Nelson, Arthur and Ida.

I will throw it out that it was James Nelson McCracken born in Ontario in 1861. His wife, Annie Ethel Bunting who possibly was born in 1867 in New Brunswick. Their marriage certificate have them married in Rat Portage on May 10 1889.

Hopefully others may be able to help out on this one.

**Samuel Charles McGimsie 1847 - 1936**

Samuel Charles McGimsie, son of John and Janet McGimsie from Scotland was born 30 Apr 1847 in Kingston, Frontenac, Ontario, Canada. He moved to Rat Portage in 1882.. He was involved with the construction of the CPR and subsequently went into the Contracting business first in partnership with Mr. R.E. Dorsett and then on his own.

In 1875, he married Susan Charlotte George who was born 05 Apr 1856 in Cobourg, Northumberland, Ontario, Canada.

They had 4 children

Janet Margaret McGimsie b. 22 Jun 1878, d.12 Jun 1940 Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada

William George McGimsie (See below)

Susan Adelaide McGimsie b. 22 Oct 1883 died 11 Aug 1886
Samuel Charles McGimsie b. 4 Aug 1887. He served in World War 1 with the 183rd Battalion of Winnipeg. In 1920 he was appointed Tax Assessor for the Town of Kenora. He married Mildred McDonald and had one daughter Jenny McGimsie (Marshall). He then married Mrs. Monty Mackenzie. He died in Vancouver 5 May 1970.

Samuel Charles McGimsie Sr. served on the Town council in 1889. He was an active supporter of the Liberal party. He was a staunch member of the Methodist church. He died 22 Nov. 1936 in Kenora.

**William George McGimsie 1880 -1968**

Born 07 Jun 1880 known as Billie, was born in Woodsville, Ontario but moved with his family to Rat Portage when only one. As a youngster he was a member of various church groups and school teams that played hockey. His father build the Princess Rink in 1896 and installed it with electric lights to be used by the senior league. Billie and his younger brother along with other local boys made the rink their club house. In 1896 he was a member of the Junior Thistles that took on and defeated the Senior Thistle team. In the 1903 games first challenge for the Stanley Club McGimsie scored three goals. In the 1907 Stanley Cup game he contributed to the win. He was elected to National Hockey League hall of fame in 1960. He died at age 88 in Calgary, Alberta, October 28 1968. (Source Kenora Thistles: Our Hockey Heritage, Bowes Publishing Limited)

**Captain Robert Sutherland McKenzie 1843-1933**

Robert Sutherland McKenzie was born on the ocean between the straits of Belle Isle and Quebec, on the 22nd of May, 1843, his parents, at that time were en-route for the Province of Quebec. (Fraser (1907) History of Ontario Pages 819-821) (Other records record birth at Lochaber, Papineau, Quebec, and many subsequent records indicate birth was around 1844).

The father Donald McKenzie was born in Ross Shire, Scotland, and the mother, Isabelle in Cromarty, Scotland. Mr. McKenzie was a mechanical engineer and brought to this country the first passenger engine operated between Montreal and Quebec. He afterward followed his chosen calling in the North Nation Mills at Quebec, superintending the machinery up to the time of his death by drowning in August, 1845.

Robert Sutherland McKenzie, was the youngest of six children, five sons and one daughter. He was educated in the public schools of Quebec and Ottawa at the age of twelve years he a job in a mercantile house, and was employed as a salesman until twenty-one years of age. He took part in 1866 at the Fenian Raid, being a lieutenant in the Ottawa Garrison Artillery.

In 1866 he embarked in business of men's furnishings and tailoring goods, in Ottawa. In 1870, he turned to the steam boating and forwarding business on the Ottawa River, until 1884, when he sold out and entered into business relations with a contractor on the construction of the Canadian Pacific Railroad. In this connection he built round houses at Chapleau, White River and Schriber.
He was chosen by Dominion Government to arrange a settlement with the Duck Indians shortly after Second Riel Rebellion in 1885.

In the spring of 1886 he went to British Columbia, building the round houses at Donald, Beaver, Roger's Pass, Albert Canyon, Kamloops and New Westminster, returning to Ottawa in January, 1887. He was afterwards engaged in building twenty railway stations between Smith's Falls and Montreal. In the spring of 1887 he built the round house at Revelstoke.

In the fall of 1887 he was appointed Indian agent at Duck Lake, Saskatchewan, North-West Territory, by the Dominion government, serving in that capacity until 1900, when he was transferred to Port Pelly, Saskatchewan. In 1903 he was transferred to Rat Portage. The Cecelia Jaffray Indian Industrial School was opened in the year of his arrival and he took great interest in all its affairs.

He has remained as Indian agent for twenty years in charge of the Rat Portage and Savanne agencies, with supervision over two thousand Indians.

On 1 Aug 1886 Mr. McKenzie was married to Miss Elizabeth (Lizzie) A. McDonald, a daughter of the late John McDonald of Ottawa, who was government slide master for thirty-seven years on the Ottawa River. They had at least four children: Robert William, who was an inspector of ties for the Canadian Pacific Railroad. Florence; Eva Harriet; and Donald John Charles, who died at Hankow, China, where he was officer in the Imperial customs service. Early Settlers of Kenora give the names of children as William, Clayton, Charles and a daughter who became Mrs. Joseph Ritze. I cannot figure if Clayton was McKenzie's son or step son.

After his first wife died he married his sister-in-law Hattie MacDonald widow of Lizzie's brother William (maiden name Hattie Clair Farr) on 30 Oct 1913 in Cuyahoga, Ohio.

After his retirement in 1921 he continued to live in Kenora until 1926 when he moved to California. He later moved to Rock Island Illinois where he died in April 1933 at age of 89.

Mr. McKenzie was a member of the Masonic fraternity and a Presbyterian. Fraser in 1907 indicates that "Few men have more intimate knowledge of the west, its conditions, its development and its possibilities, and to a considerable extent he has aided in its development, while in official service he has also made a record that makes him a most worthy and valued citizen."

Fraser, Alexander, A history of Ontario: its resources and development (1907) 1860-1936 Volume: 2, Toronto: Canada History Co. Call number: AMY-0015 Robarts - University of Toronto Pages 819-821

Christopher Hugh Mckinnon 1889 After 1954

Chris McKinnon, son of Angus McKinnon and Catherine Jane McRae was born in Rat Portage in 1889. He grew up in Rat Portage. He played with the Kenora Thistles and in the Allan Cup games of 1913-14.
In 1912 he went into business with James Ronan and remained with him until 1932. Subsequent he went into business with R. Foster until 1939.

In 1939 he was appointed Mining Recorder for the District of Kenora.

He was president of the Kenora Rotary Club in 1953-1954.

He served several years on the Kenora Library Board and School Board.

**Hugh Bathgate McKinnon 1885 - 1944**

Hugh Bathgate McKinnon, son of William A MacKinnon and Clementine Geary, was born in Rat Portage on April 21 1885.

He married Edna DeGagné Jan 25 1911.

He joined the Canadian Pacific railway as an engine wiper in 1901 and by age of 21 became one of the youngest railway engineer at the time.

McKinnon was an unsuccessful provincial Liberal - Labour candidate at the Kenora riding in the 1926 election. He was first elected to Parliament in the Kenora-Rainy Federal riding in a by-election on 24 September 1934. He was re-elected in 1935 and 1940.

McKinnon died at his Ottawa residence on 10 April 1944, before completing his term in the 19th Parliament. He was survived by seven children besides his wife.

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**William Alexander McKinnon 1851-1911**

William Alexander McKinnon was born around 1851 and left Shebandowan in 1879 on their way to Brandon, Manitoba. They crossed the Portage into Maligne's Lake where their canoe capsized and they lost their supplies. The continued across Rainy Lake and Lake of the Woods on their way to Brandon, Manitoba. In Brandon they started a dry goods store. After their business was destroyed by fire they decided to return to Rat Portage where they were attracted by the lake.
William and his brother started a store on Main Street. In 1881 they hired Bill Lyon, and subsequently for a short time J.W. Humble before he opened up is liquor store. Around 1883 the brother’s partnership was wound up and brother Angus returned east. William carried on the business for a few years before it was sold by public auction. He worked other jobs such as book keeping after the business was sold.

He married his wife Clementina (Bathgate?) and lived in the Rideout House until their frame house was finished on First Street South. Latter they moved to third Street South. They had 4 children

Beatrice McKinnon b. 1884

Hugh Bathgate McKinnon b. April 21 1885

Monica (or Marion) Isabella McKinnon b. 1890

Jim McKinnon who was still young when Mrs. McKinnon passed away and he was brought up by a family named Galligan.

Mr. McKinnon was a town councillor in 1894. He Died on February 20 1911.

Reference: Early settlers of Rat Portage

Donald "Dan" McLeod 1868 - 1947

Donald "Dan" McLeod, son of Farquahar and Jessie McLeod was born January 1 1868, Bexley Township, near Peterborough, Victoria County, Ontario.

He married Alexandrina Sutherland June 3rd 1896 in Keewatin, Ontario. They had six children

Agnes McLeod Born May 1897 married R.G. Davidson 1936-37 (Kenora Rotary President)

Jean McLeod born January 1899 Married F.J. Kelly

Jessie Alexandria McLeod January 29 1901, married Maxwell Yorston Cameron (1950-51 Kenora Rotary President)

Donald Margaret McLeod January 6 1906 married Laurence Archer Toole (1947-48 Kenora Rotary President)
He left home at the age of 15 years arriving in Keewatin in 1883. He acquired a job with the Canadian Pacific Railway construction crew working on the Winnipeg -Rat Portage portion of the railway. Shortly afterwards he went to work for the Keewatin Lumbering and Manufacturing company starting at the bottom on the "green chain" piling lumber as it came out of the sawmill. He worked on bush camps as Camp clerk keeping track of supplies and payroll records. When he was 21 he was sent to Northern Minnesota for the winters as a timber cruiser. In time he worked his way up to camp supervisor. In the summers he would return to Keewatin, where he worked in the sawmill. In 1903 he became supervisor of the lumberyard. In 1906 he was still going to the work camps and was responsible for several camps at the south end of Lake of the Woods. Following the fire of the mill in 1905 most were out of work. Backus and Brooks bought the Keewatin Lumbering and Manufacturing Company in 1906, renamed it the Keewatin Lumbering Company, rebuilt the sawmill and kept Dan as logging superintendent. In 1907 he was appointed the General Manager of the company. He was appointed Vice President of the company and general manager of the Kenora Paper Mill when it opened in 1923. The Company became the Minnesota and Ontario Pulp and Paper Company on January 8 1941. Dan retired at age 73 in 1943 at age 75.

Throughout his life Dan was active in community affairs. He joined the IOOF in 1895. He joined the Keewatin Masonic Lodge at age 21 (1889) and remained with it for another 58 years. He joined the Kenora chapter in 1914. He was a member of the Board of Trade in 1920 and subsequent president and the Board of Education in 1921-22. He was a charter member of the Kenora Rotary Club in 1920 and President in 1923 - 1924. He was a Mayor of Keewatin.

In reporting his death, the local newspaper described him as a Pioneer of the District Lumber Industry and a "tower of strength in any project organized for town and district improvement". He died February 26 1947.

A plaque in his honour was placed on the waterfront described him,

DAN McLeod: LOGGER AND LUMBERMAN, LARGER THAN LIFE BOTH IN SIZE AND CHARACTER, WAS TRULY ONE OF OUR OUTSTANDING PIONEERS.

Further information may be found in Don Cameron, "Dan McCleod: The Man Behind McLeod Park" in Common Ground Stories of Lake of the Woods, page 188-200.
Rory McMillan

Rory McMillan is a lifelong resident Kenora where he attained his early education. He attended Lakehead University and University of Manitoba graduating with a Master of Social work - Administration. He is married to Glenda McMillan. He has been employed by the Ministry of Community and Social Services in Kenora as a Program Administrator. He also has been an occasional instructor at Confederation College ion Kenora. He has served as a Kenora Town and City Councillor for over 16 years. In October 2014 he received the most votes of the elected 6 councillors. He chaired the Corporate Services Committee. His interests include community volunteer work, reading and music.

Charles Edward McMurdie 1854-

Charles Edward McMurdie born 31 Jul 1854 in Lambeth, Surrey, England is reported by D. Hogoboam as arriving in Rat Portage in 1877, He married Catherine Sullivan (b. 9 Jun 1854 in Peterborough, Ontario) in 1881 Erie, Pennsylvania. He had 5 children:

Marie Josephine McMurdie b. 12 Jul 1882 Erie Pennsylvania d. 25 Sept. 1895 Rat Portage
Gertrude Catherine McMurdie b. 07 Jan 1884 Rat Portage d. 16 Nov 1959 Kenora
Charles Leo McMurdie b. 20 Oct 1885 Rat Portage d. 30 Jun 1968 Los Angeles, California
Edward Alphonse McMurdie b.17 Sept. 1887 Rat Portage, 29 Sept. 1918 France
Joseph Francis McMurdie b. 19 Mar 1891 Rat Portage d. 25 Dec 1948 Kenora

George McPherson, Sen. 1814-1891

George McPherson, son of Andrew Barton McPherson and Marie Binisi Okijikokwe Ikwesens (most common spelling) (Alternative, Marie Binisi Okipikive Kewasens) was born near the Ottawa River possibly on 10 Aug 1814.

His father worked for the North West Company starting around 1803 which was amalgamated with Hudson Bay in 1821. He worked in the Grand Lac area, Temiskamingue district northwest of Montreal. George was one of at least 10 children born to the couple between 1803 and 1831.

George attended school in the Cornwall area where his grandmother Mary McPherson lived.

In 1830 he returned to Grand Lac. He was hired by Hudson Bay in 1831 and worked in the Temiskamingue district until 1836.

In 1837 he was rehired by Hudson Bay Company and worked in the Albany District. He spent time in Moose Factory, Lac Seul, Fort Albany and Osnaburg House. He was in charge of the Osnaburg House Post from 1843 to 1856.
He married Isabelle Okewakumekekwa on 3 Jul 1842 at Martens Falls House, ON. They had the following children:

- Margaret McPherson 04 Oct 1839 Martin House Falls, Rupert’s Land
- Mary McPherson 23 Nov 1841 Martin House Falls, Rupert’s Land, d. June 1856, buried in St. Andrew's Church cemetery, St Andrew's Manitoba
- Andrew McPherson 07 Dec 1836 Martin House Falls, Rupert’s Land d. 11 Aug 1855 Fort Albany, Ontario
- Jean George McPherson 03 Oct 1845 Osnaburgh, Ontario

His first wife died sometime before 1850. He married Margaret Ademar 4 Jan 1850 in Osnaburgh.

He retired in 1856 due to ill health and spent two years living in Fort Alexander and the Red River Settlement.

The Hudson Bay established a Post first on Old Fort Island, Kenora in 1836. George McPherson was rehired by the Hudson Bay Company in 1858 and was sent to this post. In the summer of 1861 the store was moved to a site on what would later become northeast corner of First St. South and Main. In 1869 the Hudson's Bay Company surrendered its vast land holdings to the government. At Rat Portage, the Company retained a 50 acre plot which was increased after a company request in 1872 by 640 acres.

In 1870 George McPherson welcomed Colonel Wolseley of the Wolseley's Red River Expedition to Rat Portage. Captain G.L. Huyshe who accompanied Wolseley wrote of George McPherson, the Hudson's Bay Company factor:

Mr. Macpherson, the official in charge is a Scotch half-breed, a quiet, gentlemanly, elderly man, who had received a good education in Montreal. He has for 13 years been buried alive at this post! Is it not a most extra-ordinary thing, that men of education can be found to stand a life like that, utterly cut off from the rest of mankind, receiving news from the outside world only once or twice a year, to all intents or purposes dead or sleeping? I ventured to question Mr. Macpherson on this subject and he replied simply that he had long since ceased to feel anything of the kind; he had is little farm and his wife and family, and was quite happy and contented. Mr. Macpherson had a few acres of wheat, barley and potatoes, some pigs and cows, and a number of mangy-looking pariah dogs. These dogs are of all sizes and colours, nasty-looking brutes, but very useful. They do all the winter work, galloping for miles over frozen snow, dragging small sledges. (Through the Kenora Gateway, Lake of the Woods Writers Group -Kenora Centennial Committee)

In 1871 George Senior retired from the Hudson Bay Company.
In 1879 there were 13 men at the post under George McPherson. At this time the settlement consisted of nothing but the post and two other one-story log shanties. Through The Kenora Gateway (Page 43) Questionable

George opened a private training post at Northwest Angle beside Harrison Creek following his retirement. The Post provided both supplies and overnight accommodations. A map showing the location of this trading post prepared by A. Campbell and W.J Twining of the US Northern Boundary Commission may be seen in Robertson & McCracken's Magical, Mysterious Lake of the Woods at page 111. The post was located at the end of the Dawson Road.

In September 1873 the services of George McPherson were secured as interpreter for negotiations which were ultimately consummated in Treaty 3. A report of the negotiations and the treaty are reported in a book by Alexander Morris.

George died at Sabaskong on Lake of the Woods in Sept 1891 and is buried in LOW Cemetery beside his wife, three daughters and an infant grandson.

The Following obituaries were provided by Becky Johnson:

The Late George McPherson It was our painful duty last week to chronicle the death of Mr. Geo McPherson, but as the news was received just before going to press we could not do more than give it a brief notice. The deceased was one of Nature's noblemen, a native of this country, born on the Ottawa, his father being in the Hudson's Bay Co's service. He was educated at Brockville, Ontario and afterwards entered that Co's service, being at Moose Factory and other points. He had charge of the old post location on Millers Island, and later removed to the present site of the Co's house, where he built the first house erected in Rat Portage. Nearly twenty years ago he left their employ and went into trading on his own account. Later he was appointed Indian Agent for the Lake of the Woods reserves, which position he held till about two years ago, when he was superannuated. He was born in 1814 and was 77 years of age. He held the highest respect and esteem of a wide circle of friends, and was especially beloved by the Indians far and near. He leaves a son and daughter to mourn his loss.

The Late Geo. McPherson

Last week one of the oldest inhabitants in this portion of the district passed away in the death of the late Geo. McPherson. He has occupied a prominent part in the history of Rat Portage and for the past number of years has held the position of Indian Agent. He was a native of the country and was born in the year 1814 and was consequently in his 77th year. He had charge of the old Hudson Bay Post when it was located on Miller's island in the Winnipeg River and was factor of the company here at the time of the removal of the post to the present site of their large stone building. Early in the seventies he left the employ of the Company and went into trading on his own account and continued this for a few years when he was appointed Indian agent over the Lake of the Woods Reserves. He held that position until about two years ago when he was superannuated and was succeeded by Mr. Pither, who was transferred from the Fort Frances agency. He remained on the superannuated list until last summer when upon the death of Agent McCracken Mr. McPherson was appointed to pay treaty on the reserves of his old agency, Mr.
Pither taking the duty of paying on the Fort Frances reserves. The funeral was largely attended and took place on Saturday last to Union Park Cemetery. The deceased was well known by all the oldest inhabitants and of late years has been residing on what was known as McPherson's island near the traverse and his place was a principal stopping point for all either going or coming across the lakes, especially during the winter months. He was highly esteemed and among the Indians was looked upon as their best friend. Messrs. Matheson and Lyon have been named as the executors to his will, and the deceased leaves a son and a daughter.

Sources:
Becky Johnson;
Morris, Alexander (1880) The Treaties of Canada with The Indians of Manitoba and the North-West Territories including the negotiations on which they were based, reprinted 1991 by Fifth House Publishers, Pages 44-76, 320-327

**Alexander McQuarrie 1852-**

Alexander McQuarrie, son of Archibald McQuarrie and Ann Docherty, was one of three brothers who acted as Town Counsellors of Rat Portage. He was born on February 3 1852 in Nova Scotia, and moved to Goderich, Huron County, Ontario before 1859. He married Salome Headley on March 20 1879 in Goderich and had his first child shortly after. He had a total of at least 5 children:

- Paul Headley McQuarrie b. 1 Jun 1879
- Sidnham Charles McQuarrie b. 11 Jun 1880
- Grace H. McQuarrie b. Mar 1883, d. 26 Mar 1883
- Malcolm Keith McQuarrie b. 17 Aug 1884
- May Bierl McQuarrie 16 May 1889

He arrived in Rat Portage possibly in 1882 and worked with his older brother in a grocery business called the McQuarrie Brothers. He served as Town Counsellor in 1896, 1898, and 1900.

**John McQuarrie 1850-**

John McQuarrie, son of Archibald McQuarrie and Ann Docherty, was one of three brothers who acted as Town Counsellors of the young Rat Portage, incorporated in the Province of Manitoba. He was born in 1850 possibly in Margaree, Cape Breton, Nova Scotia, Canada. He moved with his family from Nova Scotia sometime between 1852 and 1859 to Goderich, Huron County, Ontario, Canada.

He served on the first council in Rat Portage along with Fred Bulmer, Frank Gardner, H.F. Holmes with William L. Baker as Reeve.
He was the first sheriff in the year 1885 to 1886. His brothers who also were counsellors of the Town were Malcolm and Alexander.

**Malcolm Doherty McQuarrie 1847-**

Malcolm Doherty McQuarrie, son of Archibald McQuarrie and Ann Docherty, was the oldest of three brothers who acted as Town Counsellors of Rat Portage. He was born on 19 September 1849 possibly in Margaree, Cape Breton, Nova Scotia, Canada. He moved with his family from Nova Scotia sometime between 1852 and 1859 to Goderich, Huron County, Ontario, Canada. He arrived in Rat Portage in 1882. He started a grocery store on the east side of Main Street. After the CPR finished he sold alcohol along with the groceries. He was a member of the Town Council in 1888.

He initially lived on Matheson Street and then moved into W.R. Juries house on Main St. North. On April 30 1872 in Huron County Ontario, he married Caroline Halliday, b. 15 May 1847, Lanark, Ontario. He had at least 9 children. From the 1891 Census they were listed as,

- Alexander McQuarrie b. 1873
- Isaac Halliday McQuarrie b. 1875
- Hector McQuarrie b. Abt. 1877
- Annie Elizabeth McQuarrie b. 26 May 1879
- Archie Malcolm McQuarrie b. Abt. 1880
- Edna May McQuarrie b. Abt. 1882
- Mamie Salome McQuarrie b. Abt. 1884
- Caroline Flora McQuarrie b. Abt. 1886
- Gregor Grant McQuarrie b. Abt. 1887

November 19 1883 Manitoba Attorney General came to Rat Portage to throw some weight on the sovereignty issue. In the mid-afternoon Mr. Malcolm McQuarrie who sold liquor under an Ontario licence was summoned to appear before Manitoba Police Magistrate Breeton to answer the charge of selling liquor without a license.

At the Council meeting that night a resolution was put forward,

Moved by Councillor Gadbois, seconded by Councillor Alexander, that the Attorney-General be instructed to take the necessary action, under the advice of the Council to Prevent Messers. Holmes, The Reeve, and Councillors Stubbs, Chadwick, MacDonald and Baker from interfering with this corporation, and with the government and management of the town

The Council voted 3-2 McKinnon and Kobald voting Nay

McQuarrie disregarded the summons and a strong armed force of the Ontario police was placed in and outside of his store to protect him from arrest.

Attorney -General threatened to bring out the Field Battery from Winnipeg to maintain order. At the
Frank Ranover Miclash 1953

Frank Miclash was born May 16, 1953 in Kenora Ontario. He served as a Liberal member of the Legislative Assembly of Ontario from 1987 to 1999.

Miclash was educated at the University of Manitoba, receiving a certificate in education, and later worked as a teacher. He was elected to the Lake of the Woods District Hospital board in 1985, and served as a commanding officer of the Navy League Cadet Corps.

He was first elected to the Ontario legislature in the 1987 provincial election, defeating New Democrat Doug Miranda by just over 1,000 votes in the Kenora constituency. The Liberal Party won a landslide majority in this election; Miclash was served as a parliamentary assistant in 1988-89. Miclash defeated Miranda a second time by 331 in the 1990 election. Miclash served as chief opposition whip in 1991-92, and was easily re-elected in the 1995 election.

The province's boundaries were radically altered in 1996, such that Miclash's Kenora riding was merged with the Rainy River of NDP leader Howard Hampton as Kenora—Rainy River. Hampton won the election by just over 3,000 votes.

Miclash worked for three months as a manual labourer on the Grace Anne luxury yacht following his defeat. He was subsequently appointed to the province's social benefits tribunal by the Progressive Conservative government of Mike Harris and he continues to serve on that body. He owns a fishing camp and a bed-and-breakfast inn.

Chris H. McKinnon

1953-54 Mining Recorder Government Services

Imperial Oil

Joined Rotary 10/02/1920

Donald Thomas McLeod 1924-2009

Donald "Don" Thomas McLeod, son of Norman McLeod and Louise was born June 22 1924 in Vancouver, BC. Don was youngest of four children Margaret Wilton McLeod, John "Jack" McLeod, and his twin sister Mary Lee.

He attended schools in West Vancouver and completed his education at the University of British Columbia. His studies were interrupted by services in the Royal Canadian Airforce during World War 2.
In 1946 while traveling to Kenora to spend a holiday vacation he was asked to "temporary" fill a position at the Kenora Town Hall and remained 43 years progressing to Clerk, Treasurer and Chief Administrative Officer.

Don married Catherine McLeod in Kenora. They had one child Donald in 1969.

Don was a community builder serving in many community services. He was President of the Rotary Club in 1983-84. He was president of the Kenora Thistles. He was secretary and president of the Kenora Golf and Country club. He was a member of the selection committee of the Northwestern Ontario Sports hall of Fame. He was a member of the vestry, Rectors Warden, and finance Committee of the Diocese of Keewatin and St. Alban's Cathedral.

Don loved the Lake of the Woods spending the summer months at the family cottage on Isle Petite. He loved hunting in the Whiteshell. In retirement he enjoyed Alaskan cruises talking with fellow passengers and crew of diverse backgrounds.

Don was a friendly greeter at Rotary, at the Recreation Centre and around town and was fondly remembered long after his death on September 30 2009.

**Jessie Alexandrina (Mcleod) Cameron**

Jessie Alexandrina (Mcleod) Cameron, daughter of Donald "Dan" McLeod and Alexandrina Sutherland was born January 29 1901 in Rat Portage.

She married Maxwell Yorston Cameron in Kenora, Ontario.

They had at least two children, William and Don Cameron

In the 1930 Jessie Cameron started a choral group called the G Clef Choir. During a Week in 1936 this group performed on the stage of the Thistle Rink. The group was subsequently directed by Gladys Whitehead and then Tattie McLeod.

She died January 15 1999 in Kenora, Ontario.

**Robert "Bob" McMillan 1936-2011**
Robert "Bob" Alexander McMillan, son of Walter and Jean McMillan was born on June 2nd 1936 in Regina Saskatchewan. Other siblings included Wally, Eileen and Isabelle.

He married Joanne his wife of 54 years in 1957. They had three children:

Cathy McMillan married Rick Roy, Children Ryan, Christine, Michelle and Melissa

John McMillan married Charlene; son Luke

Brian McMillan married Cheryl, Children David and Devon

While in Kenora he was employed by TransCanada as Manager.

He was president of the Kenora Rotary Club in 1984-85.

Bob was caring, fun loving, generous and loved to spend time with family and friends. He was loved his family deeply and was loved equally by them. Family times were treasured by Bob as was every game of golf with wife Joanne and their friends. Bob was a very special person that meant so much to each family member.

After a brief illness he died in Kelowna on June 26th 2011.

James Risk Mercer 1883 - 1969


The family commenced living in Kingston Ontario. William died on April 2 1894. In 1901 the wife, Anna, James Eleanor and Elise were living in Montreal. Jim married Annie May Small on August 19 1914 and he described his residence on August 18 1914 as Montreal.

He joined the Rotary Club between its Charter meeting and July 1921 when he is described as Chairmen of the Rotary Boys' Committee.
He was secretary of the Club for three years prior to his term as president of the Club 1928-1929.

In Kenora he was employed as Secretary of the YMCA. He passed away September 16 1969.

**A. Leo Murray 1890-**

Leo Murray was born in Rat Portage on May 14 1890. He enlisted on January 20 1915 and saw service overseas. Upon returning from overseas in 1919, he opened a store on the Murray block which had a fire in May 1927. He reopened his grocery store on the North West corner Matheson and Second St. S. on June 29 1927 bragging of the most modern equipment. He also owned a large chicken farm in Clearwater Bay. He retired in 1945 after 26 years and sold his business to Robert Jackson, a former employee.

Mr. Murray served as a Kenora Alderman from 1930 to 1934. He was an active member of the Kenora Rowing Club and President of the club in 1933 and 1950. He was a member of the Kenora Lodge no 74, B.P.O Elks. He was President of the Canadian Legion from 1935 to 1939 and again in 1944.

**Robertson Pierce Murphy 1858-1940**

Robert Pierce Murphy was born in Andover New Brunswick August 27 1857 or 1858. He farmed there until 1881. He married Susan Ada Donnelly in Andover New Brunswick prior to moving to Rat Portage in 1882.

He founded his cartage business on Sep 14 1882 with a two wheeled cart and the first horse brought to Kenora. The firm expanded in 1897 with brother Herman Sherman Murphy known as Murphy Brothers which developed into the largest teaming and transfer business in the district. The firm expanded to cope with construction work on the various camps on the lakes in the early years and in winter hauled heavy machinery across the ice to various construction sites.

In 1928 the business sold to John Kron and son.

His wife first wife died in May 30 1915 after a 13 month illness. He remarried again in 1917 to Emily Ann Lodge. They had one daughter Roberta (Mrs. R. Ongman) and one son Ray.

Mr. Murphy was a member of the first band formed here in 1886 and in later bands. He was a member of Gold Hill Lodge, I. O. O. F, Golden Chapter, Royal Arch Masons, and Pequona Lodge A.F. & A.M. He passed away in 1940

The dates on his headstone are "Aug.27, 1857 - Sept.14, 1940”.

His wife died 30 May 1915:

Death of Mrs. R. P. Murphy
After an illness extending over the past thirteen months Mrs. R.P. Murphy passed away at her home Sunday morning. It had been known for some time that she could hardly recover but nevertheless the announcement of her death came as a shock to her many friends.

The late Mrs. Murphy was born in Andover, N.B. Shortly after her marriage at that place, she removed with her husband to Winnipeg. In 1882 they came to Kenora and have made their home here ever since. She was therefore one of the old timers, and prior to her long illness took a keen interest in the welfare of the town. She was devoted to her home, and also found time to give active service to her church in which she will be greatly missed. Besides her husband, she leaves three brothers and two sisters, Joseph Donnelly, Fort Fairfield, Maine, James, Three Lakes, Wisconsin, Mrs. John de Marchant and Miss Lillian Donnelly, who has been here for the past six weeks.

The funeral took place yesterday from her late residence to Lake of the Woods Cemetery and was largely attended.

(Kenora Miner and News, Wed., June 3, 1915.)

**John Nash 1848- 1914**

John Nash was born in Thurso, Quebec. In 1869 he went to California for the 2nd gold rush. He arrived in Canada arriving in Norman in 1883. He became a Sawyer for Cameron and Kennedy Mill. He became a timber explorer and was engaged in this capacity by the Hardy Government of Ontario in 1900 when they made extensive explorations in the country to the north.

Mr. Nash was a member of the Town Council in 1888, 89, 91, 92 and 1893.

He was appointed local agent of the Department of Marine and Fisheries and held the position until his death.

He married Mary Lydia Dycie and had two daughters,

- Maud Nash b. 13 May 1884
- Florence Nash b. 28 Apr 1889

He died June 6 1914.

**Robert Daniel "Bob" Nault 1955 -**

Robert Daniel "Bob" Nault 1955, was born November 9, 1955.

He grew up in Kenora and commenced employment with the CPC.

He entered the political arena first as city councillor in Kenora, Ontario from 1985 to 1988. He was first elected to the House of Commons as the Liberal representative for Kenora-Rainy River.

He served as Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Labour (Human Resources Development) from September 1995 to February 1996. He served as Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Employment and Immigration (Human Resources Development) from February 1996 to July 1996 and Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Human Resources Development from July 1997 to July 1998.07.15

Nault served as Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development (Canada) Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development in the cabinet of Jean Chrétien from 1999 to 2003. He introduced a comprehensive program of reform and financial accountability measures for First Nations.

Currently, Mr. Nault provides advisory and consulting services to high-technology firms, First Nations, and major public sector organizations.

**John H. Neale 1871-1934**

John H. Neale was born on March 4 1871 in Totbury, Gloucester, England. He immigrated at the age of 17 years to Canada in 1888. He arrived in Rat Portage in 1890. He married Isabel Ann Sherrington on December 25 1896 and they had one daughter. He was first employed by A Bishop in the grocery business and later by Mr. Heath. He subsequent formed a partnership with Mr. Heath for 15 years and subsequently bought him out.

He was a member of the Kenora Board of Trade.

He was a very active member of the Masonic Lodge and Past Master.

He retired from his business after a serious illness and died in December 23 1934.

**Earl Arthur Nelson 1922-2013**

Earl Arthur Nelson son of Godfrey Nelson and Judith P. was born August 19, 1922 in Dryden Ontario. He moved with his family to Kenora in 1924.

He married his wife of 58 years, Mitsuko Oshiro on November 20, 1954.

They had four children, Patrice, Kathryn, Lori, and David Nelson.

When World War II broke out, he enlisted in the RCAF and served his country as a pilot. Upon his return from overseas, he attended the University of Manitoba and in 1950 graduated with a
degree in architecture. He studied, traveled and worked in Europe but eventually returned to Kenora where he established his own architectural firm, Earl A. Nelson Architect.

At First Baptist Church the foundation was laid for Earl’s lifelong love and commitment to hid Christian faith. He was a man who honoured God. He enjoyed having his yard filled with family and friends. He never hesitated to pick up a hitchhiker and occasionally offer him his couch. He never said no to a plea for help if it was within his ability to give. He forgave easily.

Along with Mitsi and their children, he sailed the lake every summer, and he enjoyed sailboat racing with his family as crew. His passion for flying continued after the war and he spent as much time as possible in the air, being one of the founding members of the Kenora Flying Club. He loved a casual game of golf, played tennis and hockey, curled, cross-country skied, played a wicked game of croquet, and in his later years, enjoyed a good game of pool with his friends at the Seniors Centre.

He also was involved in the community in many ways, most notably as a Rotarian for 58 years, and served on the hospital board, the library board and the school board among others.

He loved lemon pie, gingersnaps and pickled herring (not all together); showed his love for Mitsi in romantic ways; and in the words of his daughter-in-law Laurie, “grew his own friends”—his kids. He built forts and skating rinks for his children, grandchildren and all the neighborhood kids; never shied away from trying something new, whether it was making Swedish thin bread or playing the harmonica. He was always singing, though he couldn't really carry a tune; offered a wise word when asked; at age 80 broke his arm playing hockey with his grandson; and loved to tell jokes but rarely remembered the punch line. He enjoyed a fine meal but considered his special goulash, a combination of pork and beans and whatever, just as delicious. He instilled a love of travel in his children; had an unerring sense of direction; and had more firsthand knowledge of the reefs on the lake than most. He was a peacemaker.

He died January 10, 2013

Keith Nelson

83th President of Kenora Rotary Club in 2001-2002

Nels Godfrey Nelson 1884-1957

Godfrey was a partner in the contracting firm of Bergman and Nelson which partnership was formed in 1916.

His family established themselves first in Lakeside and then purchased the family property on Tunnel Island where his son Earl lived most of his 90 years.

He married Judith Pauline Noréus December 14 1907 in Kenora, Ontario.

They had 5 children
Dora Nelson m. Everett Carlson
Ruby Nelson m. Earle Hooper
Irma Nelson m. Roy Anderson,
Rolph Nelson
Earl Arthur Nelson

**Robert Wallace Neilson**

R.W. Neilson was born in Kilmarnock, Scotland June 11 1871. He came to Canada in 1904. He resided a few months in Toronto and then moved west to Brandon, then Winnipeg and Wawanesa and then Keewatin in 1911. In 1917 he moved to Kenora.

He married Sarah Isibell Irving September 18 1900 and they had three children,

Ella J. Neilson born June 1901
Irving A. Neilson born June 1903
Robert J. Neilson born April 1905

He married Mary Emma Kennedy in Winnipeg on September 18 1909.

He operated a Ladies Wear Store. He was a member of the Kenora Board of Trade and Chairman of the Civic Affairs Committee of that board. He was Vice chair of the Ontario Branch of the Ontario-Manitoba Tran-Canada Highway Association. He was Chairman of the Diamond Jubilee celebrations. He was a member of the Town Council in 1924.

He was President of Rotary 1929-30. He was a member of the I.O.O.F and Masonic Lodges. He was President of the Board of Directors of the Y.M.C.A.

He was Board Member of Knox United Church, member and president of Knox United Choir and President of the Lake of the Woods Choral Society.

He was Director of the Kenora Agriculture Society.

Robert died September 29 1931. He is buried in lake of the Woods Cemetery.

**Ernest Maitland Newman 1899 - 1986**

At the age of 18 he enlisted with the Royal Airforce on June 3 1918 and served in Canada until his discharge November 21 1918,

He returned to Portage La Prairie and went into the jewelry business with his brother-in-law. He attended night school in Winnipeg to get his papers in watch making and gemology. He worked for Birks Jewellers in Winnipeg.

He married Lillian Jane Winton in September 8 1928 in Portage La Prairie. They had two children,

Winston Kerry Newman born 16 Jan 1930 died September 9 2002

Berkely Gordon Newman born 1934

In 1939 he moved to Kenora to become manager of Breslauer and Warren Jewellers. On June 1 1940 he took over ownership and management of Rioch's Jewellers. The store was renamed Newman's Jewelers.

He retired in 1973 and sold the store to David Penner.

Ernest was active in his community. He was a member of St. Alban's Church, a member of Masonic Lodge 445, a member of Lake of the Woods Shine Club and the Kenora and Keewatin Curling Clubs.

He became a member of the Rotary Club and president in 1951 - 1952.

He died on August 6 1986 in Kenora.

Alfred Nilson

Alfred Nilson was born in Sweden. He came to Kenora in 1906. He worked as a carpenter for Scott and Hudson. After destruction of the Scott and Hudson plant by fire, he entered into a partnership with Adrian Lindstrom under the firm name Lindstrom & Nilson carrying on business as contractors.

He belonged to the Lutheran Church. He was a member of the Board of Trade

Murdoch K. Nicholson 1856-1945

Murdoch K. Nicholson was born 06 May 1856 in Mount Hope, Prince Edward Island. He came to Rat Portage in 1881.
His Tailor shop was located in a small frame building on Main St. In 1895 he moved into the Board of Trade Building on the corner of Main and Second. He build the Standard Block in 1888 which occupied his tailoring and clothing business

He served on the Town Council in 1894. He was on the board of the Jubilee Hospital in 1897. He was a member of the fire brigade in 1888 and became chief in 1900. He was also chairman of the school board in 1900

He died June 6 1945.

**Alice Maria August Ellen Nord 1879 -**

The first "European" born in the Kenora area was Alice Maria August Ellen Nord daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Ole Nilson Nord. She was born 28 November 1879. (Notes by Agar Fitzgerald, Nelson 1978)

**William Edgar Norton 1929 - 1996**

William Edgar "Ed" Norton, son of William Henry Norton and Laura Grace Reynolds was born on June 25 1929 in Sinclair Manitoba. He was raised in Crystall City, Southern Manitoba where he met his wife Anna Saunders who he married in 1951. He graduated from the Canadian Memorial Chiropractic College in 1953. They moved to Kenora. He carried on his practice as chiropractor in Kenora for many years.

His children included

Heather Norton married Ken Mahon, children Meghan and Sarah

Tammy Norton married Andre Favreau, children Graeme, Patrick and Ian

Mark Norton (Sherry) child Eric

Paul Norton (Susan) child Jodi (husband Roger Davis) their child Willie

He was a member of Kinsmen, K-40 and Rotarian, and a Charter Member of Kenora Flying Club. He was president of the Kenora Rotary Club in 1975-76. He was a town councillor from 1960 to 1964 and Mayor in 1964 to 1966. He was instrumental in extension of the Kenora Recreation Centre especially Michael Smith Fitness Centre and in securing a pool. He acted as Chairman of Swim Pool Committee and was also active in the expansion of the Hospital with the addition of Nethercutt Emergency Centre.

Of him, Don McLeod, Kenora Town Clerk, indicated,

"One of the Kenora's most young and energetic mayors I ever worked with. He was aggressive minded and a good leader with the additional quality of having a great sense of humour as
mayor. He always had a most satisfactory relationship with his councillors, staff and the people of Kenora he served so well with dedication and concern. Mayor Norton was the type of Mayor one admires as he had a strong leadership qualities and could 'get the job done' with a pleasant manner. I never heard anything negative or critical about him"

He passed away at the Health Science Centre October 18 1996 and is buried in the Lake of the Woods Cemetery in Kenora.

Ronald Noseworthy

Ron Noseworthy was born and grew up in Kenora. He attended McMaster University. Following graduation he returned to Kenora to work for the CPR. He worked in Kenora and Moose Jaw. Subsequently he went into business as Docks and Lifts. Finally he moved into the gas Station Sunset Husky on the East Highway.

He married Claire Burris. They had three children.

He joined the Kenora Rotary Club February 15 1996 and became active in World Community Service both a local and District 5550 level. He was President 2006-2007. Both Ron and Claire are Rotary Foundation Benefactors and Paul Harris Fellows. They received a special PHF when the district made them Honourary Paul Harris Fellows.

He became a Shelter Box Response Team member in 2007 and has been deployed at least nine times to give aid in several disasters, including Bangladesh, China, Haiti, Indonesia, Japan, and Turkey. He became chairman of the Board of Shelter Box Canada in 2010.

Ron has been involved as a volunteer in a wide range of volunteer leadership roles including Chamber of Commerce, Youth Drop-in Center, and Municipal Economic Development Committee.

He has been active in physical pursuits including hiking, skiing, canoeing and kayaking.

Albert Severin "Ole" Olson 1907

Clearwater Beverage Limited

Coke plant on Matherson Street.
Ed Olson was a brother

He was president of the Kenora Rotary Club in 1956-57

**Walter Oliver 1826 - 1898**

Walter Oliver was born March 28 1826 in Scotch Lake Settlement, Queensbury Parish York County, New Brunswick. He married Mary Ann Parkhurst February 21 Feb 1856 in Ingersoll Ontario. They had three children:

- Caroline L Oliver 1857 in Ontario
- Susan Oliver 1863 in Ontario
- Emma L Olive 1866 in Ontario

He came to Rat Portage from Fort Frances in 1778-79 He was a builder by trade.

He was Reeve of the Rat Portage in 1884-1885 during the bitter Ontario - Manitoba Boundary dispute. Oliver appears to have support the Manitoba side of the boundary dispute and was the target of a bitter article by the Argus newspaper on October 12 1883. He survived two terms and returned as a counsellor in 1892. He died in 22 Jun 1898

**Bruce A. J. Ormiston**

Bruce is originally from Winnipeg, Manitoba, and received his B.A. in 1969 at the University of Winnipeg, and his LL.B. at the University of Manitoba in 1972.

He married his first wife Fran. She passed away.

He moved to Kenora in 1972. He has served on various boards, including the Lake of the Woods Child Development Centre, Northwestern Ontario Crime Stoppers, Lake of the Woods Water Sustainability Foundation, Royal Lake of the Woods Yacht Club and the Lake of the Woods Museum.
Bruce was the founding President of the Lake of the Woods District Hospital Foundation. He served on Kenora Town Council for a three-year term.

He was president of the Kenora Rotary Club 1987-1988.

One of Bruce's favourite past-times is boating, with a particular love for wooden boats.

**Gerry Ouellette**

Gerald Ouellette born in Kenora

Son John Ouellette

Chartered accountant in Dunwoody.

President of Kenora Rotary Club 1976-77

Returning Officer in Federal Elections

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**Joseph Cyril Antoine Ouellette 1896 - 1878**

Joseph Cyril Antoine Ouellette, son of André (Andrew) Ouellette and Lea Côté was born August 8 1896 in Rat Portage, Ontario. He attended elementary school in Kenora and began work Cameron Heaps.

He was drafted on February 12 1918 and served in the 76th Battery Canadian Field Artillery.

He married Frances Irene Derry, September 1 1921, daughter of Joseph Derry 1924-25 Kenora Rotary President and Frances McKeon. They had 5 children, all born in Kenora:

- Stanley Joseph (Bud) Ouellette born 1922 shot down over Turin Italy in November 1943.
- Mary Leone Ouellette born 1924 married Gerry Duggan, Died February 8, 2007
- Joan Margaret Ouellette born 1927, married Dr. James Edie
- Albert Frances Ouellette born 1929 died January 28 1998
- Gerald Ouellette born 1930 Married Estelle, Rotary President 1976-1977

After the war he returned to Cameron Heap which was purchased by Western Grocers where he eventually became Branch Manager. He retired in 1953.
Joseph Ouellette served on The Kenora Town Council elected in 1920. He was a member and President of the Kenora District Chamber of Commerce. He was a member of the Knights of Columbus Council 2806. He was president of the Kenora Rotary Club in 1942-43.

He was a member of the curling club and served on the Executive of the Kenora Thistles Hockey Club when they won the Western Canadian junior Championship 1939-40 season.

He died May 28 1978

**Dr. James Paterson Paton (J. P. Paton) 1886-1968**

Dr. James Paterson Paton, son of Thomas Paton and Patterson Isabel came to Kenora in June 1912. Much of his early work was with the CPR but in the winter he made trips to lumber camps by horse and sleigh.

He practiced medicine for a total of 56 years until his death

He married Hellen Olive MacGillivray on September 12 1917 in Wellington, Ontario.

They had a least two sons James born 1917 and Thomas born 1920.

On his 50th anniversary as a physician over 500 people came to a testimonial dinner for him.

He was a member of the Kenora Rowing Club, the Kenora Lawn Tennis Club, the Curling Club, and the Golf and Country Club.

He was a member of Knox United Church.

He was President of The Kenora Rotary Club 1954-55.

He contributed substantially to Kenora District Home for the Aged.

In 1967 he received the Canadian Centennial Medal.

**John "Jack" H. Penner 1908-1983**

Jack Penner was born in Kenora in 1908.

He practiced as a Jeweller in Kenora.

He was president of the Kenora Rotary Club in 1861-62.

John H. Penner died in 1983.
Albert John Pike

He served with the OPP for 10 years.

John Pike was Chief of Police from 1939 to 1970

Charles Alfred Pitt

Alfred Pitt was born in England June 11 1871.

Arthur Raymond Pitt 1904 - 1961

Arthur Pit, son of Charles Alfred Pitt and Carrie Eliza Hames was born Pipestone Manitoba. He attended public school in Pipestone and Dryden Ontario. He attended the University of Manitoba. After completing his education he worked at the Arthur Pitt store in Dryden. In Kenora he came to work in the Kenora store in 1932.

He married Edna May Watson. They had two children, Linda Gail and Don

He was a town councillor from 1937 to 1939 and from 1942 to 1944. He was mayor in 1952 and 1953.

He was a president of the Kenora Chamber of Commerce.

He was a member of the Kinsmen and Rotary Club.

He was a Master of the Lake of the Woods Lodge, a member of the Golden Chapter, the Ledger Preceptory and Khartoum Temple and a member of the Eastern Star.

He served as a member of the General Hospital Board and General Hospital Board and General Hospital Expansion Committee. He served as Chairman of the Board of the Salvation Army.

He died in Kenora on September 23 1961. His wife survived him passing away in 1971. They are buried in Lake of the Woods cemetery in Kenora.

Earle Cameron Popham 1892 - 1959

Earle Cameron Popham the son of Edwin S. and Ella G Popham was born in Winnipeg, Manitoba on July 1 1892. He attended Central High School, Wesley College and graduated in Arts from the University of Manitoba. He enlisted with the Canadian Arm forces from 1915 to 1919. For more information on his military career see http://www.canadiangreatwarproject.com/searches/soldierDetail.asp?ID=142778.
He was called to the Manitoba Bar in 1920 and the Ontario Bar in 1924. He came to Kenora and joined Colonel Machin in practice. He was appointed Kings Counsellor in 1934 and Crown Attorney in 1936 succeeding Colonel H.P. Cooke. He was appointed County Court Judge in 1938.

He married Eleanor May Groff in Winnipeg August 24 1920. They had at least 5 children.

Joan Popham 1923- 2004

Shirley Popham 1928-1980

Ross Cameron Popham 1929 - 1935

Twins Hugh and Clark of Winnipeg

He was president of the Kenora Board of Trade, first president of the Northwestern Chambers of Commerce. He was active in both provincial and federal Liberal associations.

He was active in the Lake of the Woods Lodge, A.F. and A.M. He was D.D.G.M. of the Masonic Order for the Western District.

He was president of the Kenora Kinsmen Club and District Governor. He was president of the Kenora Rotary Club in 1941-42.

He was chairman of the WW2 Kenora Victory Loan.

He was president of the Kenora Athletic Association, honourary president of the Kenora Ski Club and a member of the Kenora Golf and Country Club.

He died in Kenora April 10 1959. His wife Eleanor died in Winnipeg 1976. They are buried in Lake of the Woods cemetery in Kenora.

**Alfred Joseph Parsons 1848 - 1937**

Alfred Joseph Parsons, son of Edmond Henry Parsons and Janet Gardner, was born on 14 April 1848 in born in Atlestone in the county of Huntington, Quebec. The Parsons family was also established in Quebec in the early ’30s and Edmund Henry Parsons was for many years editor and proprietor of the Montreal Telegram, subsequently renamed the Montreal Star.

His mother Janet Gardner was a daughter of Major T. Gardner, an officer in the Huntington Frontier Dragoons, who settled in Quebec in the early ’30s and took part in the rebellion of 1837 as a defender of English interests.

Alfred Joseph Parsons, was educated in St. Francis College at Richmond, Quebec. He left school at the age of sixteen years and for a few years thereafter was connected with newspaper work on
the Telegram and Star. He afterward devoted about five years to the lumber business, and in 1872 he went to Peru, where he engaged in mercantile pursuits for four years. Returning to Montreal in 1876 he remained a resident of that city until 1883, when he made his way westward to Winnipeg and in the same year he came to Kenora as manager of the Bulmer-Bailey & Company lumber mill. His previous experience in lumbering well qualified him for the position, which he filled until 1886, when he was called to public service, being appointed postmaster of Rat Portage, now Kenora, which position he has since filled. The duties of the office are discharged with businesslike dispatch and his promptness and efficiency have caused his retention in the position and have won for him the commendation of the general public. In 1883 Mr. Parsons was married to Miss Florence Nightingale, a daughter of the late Dr. Edward Johnstone of Sorel, Quebec. They have five children: Beatrice Janet, Cecil Harry, Harvey Lawrence, Edgar Joseph and Frederick. Mr. Parsons is a member of the Canadian Order of Foresters and of the Church of England. His interest in community affairs is that of a public-spirited citizen who gives tangible evidence of his progressiveness and loyalty in active cooperation in many movements that have proven directly beneficial to the city and county.

Fraser, Alexander, A history of Ontario: its resources and development (1907) 1860-1936 Volume: 2, Toronto: Canada History Co. Call number: AMY-0015 Robarts - University of Toronto Pages 814-815

John A. Patterson 1882 - 1932

John A. Patterson was born in Dundee Scotland in 15 Aug 1882. He married Clara Adolfina Jackson b. Abt. 1885 in Sress Isvall Sweden on 14 Aug 1914 Norman. They had one son John Alexander Patterson b. 25 Feb 1917 in Kenora. He purchased the business of John Fairbain Philbin around 1895 and carried on bakery and confectionery business "Snow Flake Bakery" from 1895 until he was appointed Postmaster at Norman in 1908. According to Early Settlers of Rat Portage, "He always had a good stock of California fruit and other fruit in season and was known for his shortbread and scones." Subsequently he was employed as a brakeman with CPR and died as a result of being scaled and injured by explosion of an engine boiler on a freight train that was a brakeman at age 50 on 22 Jan 1932.

Thomas Neil Phillips 1883 - 1923

Thomas Neil Phillips "Tommy", son of James Phillip and Marcelline Bourassa was born in Rat Portage on 22 May 1883 according to a Jan 25 1921 statutory declaration of his mother, Marcelline Phillips.

In the early 1890s a hockey team in Rat Portage was initiated by the Hardisty family, who moved from the nearby city of Winnipeg. The name of the team, the Thistles, was submitted by Bill Dunsmore, in a local contest along with a drawing of a thistle which became the team emblem as well as a symbol of the area's largely Scottish heritage. The team's colors were red on white.

The early Thistles competed with other clubs around the area including teams from Winnipeg, Brandon, and Portage La Prairie, Manitoba. In 1894, the team won twelve games competing in the Manitoba Hockey Association (M.H.A.). The early popularity of the team encouraged local
children to have pick-up games of rag-tag hockey along the lakeshore and the adjacent Laurenson's Creek. In 1895, Samuel Charles McGimsie built an indoor ice rink known as Princess Rink, complete with electric light. The rink serve as sort of a meeting place for several young teenage boys who would play pick-up games of hockey when the rink was not in official use. An unofficial "junior" Thistles team was eventually formed, and the boys began to play exhibition games in the style of their older namesakes.

In January, 1896 junior Thistles challenged their senior counterparts to an exhibition game. The result was a shocking victory for the Junior Team. Team members included Goalie Fred Dulmage, Wellington "Duke" McCannon, Tom Hooper, Roxy Beaudro, Matt Brown, Theophile "Tuff" Bellefeuille, Billy McGimsie, Si Griffis, Bill Martin, and Tommy Phillips. Over the next couple years, the boys who comprised that junior Thistles squad populated the largely abandoned senior roster, and by the turn of the century began to dominate the M.N.H.A. intermediate division.

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Playing out of the intermediate division, the teenage Thistles managed to finish tied for second place in 1899-1900, and at the conclusion of the 1900-01 season, beat the intermediate Victorias in a one game playoff to claim the M.N.H.A. intermediate championship. Games in Rat Portage were held at the octagonal-shaped Victoria Rink, the new indoor ice arena that opened its doors on November 30, 1897, located on the site of the Post Office (2012) at the corner of Park Street and First Street South.

In the 1901-02 season Tommy Phillips, who had previously ventured east to play a short stint with the senior league Montreal Shamrocks attended McGill University and play hockey in the Canadian Intercollegiate Hockey Union.

In 1903, after McGill's short four game season, Phillips had time to get on board another team before the winter was through, and did so by joining the Montreal senior circuit juggernaut. Phillips was inserted into Montreal's roster to help defend the Stanley Cup. During the summers the Rat Portage Rowing Club and the Rat Portage Alerts baseball squad were populated by the likes of Tom Hooper, Billy McGimsie, Si Griffis, Roxy Beaudro, and returning collegian Tommy Phillips.

Along with Phillips, goal tender Eddie Giroux from Toronto was inserted into the Thistles' 1904-05 starting line-up. With Phillips, the Thistles assembled one of the most formidable front lines in hockey history including Billy McGimsie anchoring center, Phillips took the Left Wing while Tom Hooper moved up and assumed Right Wing, Si Griffis in the rover position. Roxy Beaudro relieved at Right Wing. Many of the team had been playing together for nearly ten years. The end of the '05 season found the Thistles with 7 wins and only 1 loss-- celebrating another M.N.H.A. championship and the right to again challenge for the Stanley Cup. The thistles lost this challenge but returned in 1907 to win the Stanley Club and remain forever heroes in the small Kenora Town.

On January 4th 1911 Phillips married Ellen Gertrude Kilgour in Wentworth County. He became a lumber dealer but died at the early age of 40 years in November 20 1923. He is buried in Hamilton Ontario.
Robert John Nicholson Pither 1824 -

Robert John Nicholson Pither, son of Robert and Margaret Pither was born in Montreal October 29 1824. According to the Keewatin History Book Committee, (1973) The History of Keewatin, page 29 he was "one of the earliest and perhaps the very earliest settler in the Lake of the Woods District" and came to this part of the country in a birch bark canoe in 1846.

Mr. Pither was for many years agent for the Hudson Bay Company at Fort Frances, and afterword was Indian Agent, with headquarters at Pither's Point near Fort Frances. Date of first appointment as Indian Agent February 1870. His home was for many years a few yards from the site of old Fort St. Pierre, which was located two miles east of Fort Frances. Pither’s Point Park is located on the shores of Rainy Lake in east Fort Frances on Highway 11. The park was named in honour of Mr. Pither. Pither work for the Hudson Bay Co. and later as the federal government agent for local First Nations. In fact, Mr. Pither lived at the point in the late 1880’s. Mr. Pither later moved to Rat Portage and remained there until his death.

Dr. Roodal Ramchandar

He graduated from the University of Manitoba 1970. His practice was located at the Paterson Medical Clinic. He had a Family Practice as well as Anaesthesia at the Lake of the Wood District Hospital & Dr. Foster Dental Office Medical Office. He practiced from 1970 to 2010.

Dr. Rudy Ramchandar decided to set up his practice in Kenora because he thought it was a great place to practice Family Medicine. Aside from that, he also saw the doctors of Kenora provided good team work. He finds Kenora to have a certain peace and tranquility that cannot be found in large metropolitan areas and also enjoys the relative proximity to various cultural events in Winnipeg, Manitoba. In his spare time Dr. Ramchandar likes to go hiking, boating, cycling and travelling.

Colin Stanton Reid "Paddy" Reid

Born, Ireland in 1942 he grew up in Dun Loaghaire, along the coast of Ireland. He immigrated to Canada in 1957. He graduated with a Ba from the University of Toronto. He joined the Canadian army and served in the 2nd Battalion Canadian Guards as a Peacekeeper in Cypress. In 1970 he left the army and entered university full time attaining his Master’s degree at McMaster University. In 1974 he became the resident archaeologist in Kenora. He was recognized as a leading archaeologist in North Western Ontario. He died in August 2006.
When Paddy Reid retired, when asked if he made a significant contribution to archaeology in the area he indicated “I think so. When I got here in 1974 there were only 24 known sites. When I retired there were approximately 1200. There were over 500,000 classified artifacts in the Kenora lab which were shipped to the present office in Thunder Bay.”

**Dr. David John Reidiger**

Dr. David Reidiger, son of John Reidiger and Anna Peterson was born in Kenora.

He graduated from University of Manitoba School of Dentistry.

**James C. Retson**

James Clifford Retson, third child of George Clifford Retson and Grace Atkinson was born at Truro Nova Scotia on July 28 1948. He attended schools in Salmon River and Onslow and commenced post-secondary education at Dalhousie University. He completed his degree at UBC (BA Psychology) and then took a year of French Studies at University Laval. He graduated from Law at University of Toronto 1974 and Practice law in Truro first in solo practice and then in Partnership with David Curtis. He participated in many associations, boards and Commissions and activities including Truro Concert Band, Truro Boys and Girls Club, Multicultural Association of Colchester County, Multicultural Society of Nova Scotia, Truro and District Affirmative Rights, Senior Choir, Parents Without Partners Advisory Board, Police Commission, and Library Board. He served as Truro Town Counsellor from 1980 to 1982 first winning a by-election by a large plurality over his two opponents.

He returned to University to acquire a Master of Business Administration from 1982 to 1984. Subsequently he moved to Kenora Ontario.

He served as Executive Director of the Kenora Association for Community Living from August 1984 to August 2013. There he was very committed to a philosophy of inclusion and led the association then innovative alternatives including life sharing, innovative day programs that emphasized a meaningful and satisfying lifestyle over technical competence and skills. When he retired his staff presented him a cheque for $30,000 for endowment in his name the income from which went to building up the capital in the Kenora Association for Community Living, another project which he had worked on establishing during his term as Executive Director of the Association.

He served as Kenora Rotary President 2007-2008.

**Dr. Jillie Retson**

Dr. Jillie Retson was born in Truro, Nova Scotia. She grew up in Kenora attending local schools. She graduated with a BA (Anthropology) from McMaster University and a MD from University of Western Ontario 2006. She lived in Thunder Bay during her Family Medicine residency. She commenced her practice at the Paterson Medical Clinic • Kenora Medical Associates Address: 45 Wolsley Street Kenora, Ontario
Dr. Jillie Retson chose to practice in Kenora to enjoy her love of the lake. In her spare time, Dr. Retson enjoys reading, camping, curling and soccer.

She married Pieter Joubert and Richards has two children Julia and Gabriel.

James Edward Rice 1862-1950

James Edward Rice, son of Charles Marion Rice and Caroline Offutt was born on 15 Feb 1862 in Chatfield, Fillmore County, Minnesota, USA. He married Marguerite Beatrice McGuire.

They had at least 3 children:

Julia Esther Rice b. 28 Mar 1894 died young possibly at age 13 in 1907 in Calgary, Alberta

Anna Juanita Rice b. 11 Feb 1896 in Rat Portage, M. James Patrick Rice, d. 31 Mar 1969 in Seattle, Washington, USA

James Leo Rice b. 03 Jun 1898 in Rat Portage, d. 1960 in Vancouver, B.C.

He arrived in Rat Portage around 1884 and in his early years was employed by the CPR.

In 1897 he built the McLeod Block in which he located his clothing store. Mr. Thibaudeau's law office was located in the upper storey. In 1900 he became a partner of the Gardner, Rice and McLeod consisting of Gardner's General Store, Rice's Clothing Store and W.A. McLeod's Shoe Store. There was also a dressmaking and millinery department. There was an employed staff of about twenty staff. Around 1910 the Bijou Theatre occupied the main part of the Gardner General Store. In 1931 the building was rebuilt and the Imperial Bank replaced the Gardner General Store.

He was an active member of the Town council in 1899 and 1900.

By 1906 he had moved to Calgary and subsequently to Vancouver.

He died in Apr 1950 in Vancouver BC, his wife predeceased him in Vancouver on 29 Aug 1943.

Mike Richards 1985-

Michael "Mike" Richards, son of Norm and Irene Richards was born in Kenora, Ontario February 11 1985. He has two brothers, Mark and Matt. His cousin, Jeff Richards, is also an OHL graduate who played in Germany.
Growing up, he attended Beaver Brae Secondary School in Kenora, until being drafted to the Kitchener Ranger and finished up at Eastwood Collegiate Institute. Richards grew up playing minor league hockey in Kenora, Ontario. He played for the Kenora Thistles until being drafted fourth overall in the 2001 OHL Priority Selection by the Kitchener Rangers. After receiving a tip from a friend in Kenora, Rangers general manager Jamie MacDonald traveled to see Richards play on two occasions.

Richards began with the Kitchener Rangers of the Ontario Hockey League in 2001. He was a member of a dominant 2003 Kitchener team that captured the Memorial Cup and led the team in scoring during the regular season with 87 points. Following the Canadian Hockey League (CHL) championship victory, Richards was chosen as team captain. That summer, the Philadelphia Flyers selected him 24th overall in the 2003 NHL Entry Draft with the second of the team's first round picks that season.

Upon being drafted, Richards returned to the Rangers for two more seasons. In his last season of junior, 2004–05, he embarked on another Memorial Cup run with Kitchener, but despite a remarkable 28-point performance from Richards in just 15 playoff games, the Rangers were eliminated by the London Knights in the OHL semi-finals. As soon as Kitchener was eliminated, the Flyers assigned Richards to the Philadelphia Phantoms, their American Hockey League (AHL) affiliate, for their playoff run. Averaging over a point per game, he became a key part of the Phantoms' 2005 Calder Cup championship.

Richards made his NHL debut with the Flyers the following season and scored a goal in his first game on October 5, 2005, against the New York Rangers. Later in the season, he scored his first career NHL hat trick, which included two shorthanded goals, against the New York Islanders on February 8, 2006. Richards finished his NHL rookie season with 34 points in 79 games, third among Flyers rookies to Jeff Carter (drafted the same year as Richards, 11th overall) and R.J. Umberger.

Following an injury shortened sophomore season – Richards was kept to 32 points in 59 games due to stomach surgery– Richards emerged as a star with the Flyers in 2007–08 NHL season and topped the team in scoring with 75 points. Recognizing his ascent as a leader on the team, Richards was named one of the Flyers' alternate captains at the outset of the season and was signed to a lengthy 12-year contract extension worth $69 million on December 13, 2007. Shortly after signing the deal, Richards was selected to represent the Eastern Conference at the 2008 NHL All-Star Game.

As the Flyers entered the 2008 Stanley Cup Playoffs against the third-seeded Washington Capitals, Richards scored his first playoff goal on a penalty shot against Washington goaltender Cristobal Huet in game three. In doing so, he became just the second player in NHL history to score his first playoff goal on a penalty shot.

Before the start of the 2008–09 season, on September 17, 2008, Richards was named the 17th captain in Flyers history. On February 15, 2009, Richards became the first player in NHL history to score three career 3-on-5 shorthanded goals when he beat New York Rangers goalie Henrik Lundqvist in a 5–2 win. Six days later, on February 21, Richards became the first Flyer in team
history to score a shorthanded goal in three consecutive games. He finished the season second in team scoring to Jeff Carter with 80 points to go with a league-leading 7 shorthanded goals.

The 2009-10 season started successfully for Richards, scoring five goals in his first three games including his second career hat trick in the second period of the Flyers' home opener against the Washington Capitals on October 6, 2009. On February 1, 2010, Richards scored his 100th career NHL goal. The Flyers barely scraped into the playoffs, winning in a shootout in their last game of the season to secure their place. However, they then embarked on a run to the 2010 Stanley Cup Finals, a run in which Richards cemented his captaincy and scored some important goals, which eventually ended in the Stanley Cup Finals when the Flyers lost 4-3 in OT of game 6 to the Chicago Blackhawks.

Richards and Flyers prospect Rob Bordson were traded to the Los Angeles Kings on June 23, 2011. On May 3, 2012, during Game 3 of the Western Conference semifinals, Richards recorded his first career hat trick. On June 11, 2012, Richards won the Stanley Cup with the Kings, recording four goals and eleven assists in playoff games.

Richards made his international debut with Team Canada at the 2004 World Junior Championships in Finland. Despite a third period lead in the gold medal game, Canada lost to the United States 4–3.

The following year, Richards returned to the 2005 World Juniors as team captain and led Canada to its first gold medal at the tournament since 1997. Richards tallied 5 points in 6 games.

On December 30, 2009, Richards was selected to play as a member of Team Canada at the 2010 Winter Olympics in Vancouver Richards helped lead Team Canada to an 8–0 victory over Norway in the first game of the 2010 Olympic tournament by scoring one goal on February 17, 2010. He would go on to score a total of 2 goals and 3 assists in 7 games with a +5 rating. This includes an important assist on the first goal by the Canadians in the Gold Medal game where he forced a turnover, fired a shot and the rebound was put into the net by Jonathan Toews. The Canadians would win that game 3–2 in overtime giving Richards an Olympic gold medal.

To date his awards include:

Junior

Memorial Cup championship (with the Kitchener Rangers 2002–03 OHL season

Ontario Hockey League” Second All-Star Team

Professional

Stanley Cup championship (with the Los Angeles Kings) - 2011–12

Calder Cup championship (with the Philadelphia Phantoms) - 2004–05
Prince of Wales Trophy (with the Philadelphia Flyers) - 2010
Clarence S. Campbell Bowl (with the Los Angeles Kings - 2012 Stanley Cup Finals)
NHL All-Star Game - 2008
Bobby Clarke Trophy (Philadelphia Flyers' MVP) - 2007–08, 2008–09
Gene Hart Memorial Award (Philadelphia Flyers' fan favorite) - 2007–08
International
World Junior gold medal -2005
Winter Olympic Gold Medal - Vancouver 2010 Only player to hoist a Memorial Cup (Kitchener Rangers) Calder Cup (Philadelphia Phantoms) and Stanley Cup (Los Angeles Kings) as a player.

**Harding Rideout 1847-1932**

Harding Rideout was born on 29 Oct 1853 at Bayside, Charlotte County, New Brunswick. He arrived in Rat Portage in 1882 during CPR construction. He was employed by the CPR and later went into the contracting business. He build the Anglican Rectory.

In 1896 he went into the furniture business in the firm known as 'Rideout and Davidson' and later as 'Rideout and Turner'. He sold the business around 1917 and went into the Insurance business.

He was a member of the town council for years, 1889, 1890, 1891, and mayor 1908-1910.

For 15 years he served as Justice of the Peace.

He married Lydia Doten and had one child Joseph Harding Rideout b. 26 Sep 1882 in Oak Bay New Brunswick.

Harding Rideout was also a member of the Lake of the Woods Masonic Lodge, Board of Trade, Board of Education and associated with numerous community efforts and fraternal organizations

**George Mccheyne Rioch 1869 - 1944**

George Mccheyne Rioch, son of George D. Rioch and Isabel was born on 21 Jul 1869 in Hamilton, Ontario. He was working for Thompson Brothers and Forrest when he came to Kenora to establish a jewelry store for A. W. Thompson. The store was opened in his name and located in the Clouger Block (latter renamed the Lincoln Block) for 9 years. He then transferred to the standard Block for 6 years. In 1905, the Rioch Block was built for Mr. Rioch by Alex Stephen beside the then Town office and the present site of Penner's Jewellery store. On June 1 1940, Mr. Rioch sold his business to E. M. Newman and latter it was in turn sold to Dave Penner.
He married Clementina B. Patterson in Rat Portage on 18 Jan 1898.

They had one daughters, Margaret G. Rioch born September 25 1899 in Rat Portage. She never married.

He was the C. P. R. watch inspector for 40 years before his retirement.

He was a member of the Library Board. He served twenty years on the Board of Directors and was Chairperson of the YMCA. He served 23 years as chairman of the General Hospital Board. He was an elder of Knox united Church.

He was an early member of the Rotary Club. He was a pioneer member of the golf and curling club. He was associated with the rowing club.

He was a member of the Masonic and Oddfellows Lodge. He was elder of Knox United Church.

In the winter of 1890 Mr. Rioch and some other young men sent an order for some hockey sticks and a rule book so they could learn something about the game. It was his suggestion of the name Kenora Thistles that was subsequently adopted for the team. Seventeen years later in 1907, the team became the team from the smallest town in Canada to won the Stanley cup.

He died April 26 1944 in Kenora and is buried in Lake of the Woods Cemetery

**Senator John Alexander (Pete) Robertson 1913 - 1965**

John Alexander Robertson, son of Peter James Robertson and Fanny Humphrey, was born in Medicine Hat, Alberta on October 6 1913. In 1915 his family moved to Ignace and in 1932 to Kenora.

His nick name Pete came from a role he played during a school play of an individual who played a piccolo.

He managed a grocery store from 1932 to 1938. In 1938 he joined C.P.R. as a trainman. In April 1945 he became a conductor. He was a vice-president of the Brotherhood of Railway Trainmen, President of the Local 270 and director of law for the C.P. R. Credit Union.

On August 7 1941 he married Roberta Marie Roach. They had three children

- James Lawrence Robertson
- Neil John Robertson
- Joyce Margaret Robertson
He served in World War 2 in the Canadian Army Number 40 provost Corp with the rank of Corporal and Acting Sergeant from 1942 to 1944. He was a member of the Canadian Legion Branch No 12 and made a life member in March 1963.

He stood as a Progressive Conservative for Kenora Rainey River in 1958 being defeated by 217 votes to Bill Benidickson. In 1960 he was elected president of the local Progressive Conservative Riding Association. In 1961 he was a candidate for an Ontario Kenora By-election losing again. He was appointed to the Canadian senate on November 29 1962

He died in February 19 1965 at Kenora.

**James Robinson 1848 - 1910**

James Robinson was born on a farm in Halton County, Ontario on 11 Jun 1848.

He became a cadet of the Toronto Military School in 1869. He joined the Halton Rifles and made ensign in 1872. He was subsequently appointed Lieutenant and Captain.

He studied at Osgoode Hall and came to Rat Portage in 1882. He opened his law office above A. D. McDonald Store. He succeeded Judge Lyon on the bench and as part of his duties traveled extensively throughout the district.

He was the treasurer of the Province of Ontario for the District.

He was the President of the first dramatic society in 1890

He married Alicia M. Cockerell and had two children

   Elizabeth Robinson b. 30 Sep 1890

   Ruth Robinson b. 27 Dec 1895

Sources; Early Settlers of Rat Portage page 278

**Steve T. Robinson 1973-74**

Joined rotary 27/04/1959

Education Residential School W.M.S Presbyterian Church

**Billy Ross 1847**

Billy Ross was born 22 July 1847 in London Ontario. He came to Kenora (Rat Portage) with the Wolseley Expedition. He settled down in Rush bay in 1881. Ross was the first Black man in the area and claimed to "The First white man to cross the Lake of the Woods" (Nelson 1978)
Lieutenant Colonel Nelson Schnarr, son of William Schnarr and Catherine 'Katy' Zinkann was born in Tavistock, Ontario, Canada on 21 October 1868.

**Rupert Ross**

Wife Val - Two Children.

Assistant Crown Attorney. -26 years a prosecutor in Kenora.

Author of several books and articles on Aboriginal Culture and Justice Issues including, Dancing with a Ghost, Returning to the Teachings and Indigenous Healing.

Winner of 2014 Prix Louise de Kiriline Award for best non-fiction book by Northern Ontario Author.

**Cyril Gordon Royds 1886 - After 1945**

Cyril Gordon Royds, son of Edward William Slater Royds and Mary Ann Sheppard was born September 20 1886 in Wycombe District, Buckinghamshire, England.

He arrived in Canada just after the turn of the century.

He married Kathleen Alys Pace on July 22 1914 in Edmonton Alberta. They had four children:

Peter Royds b 1915
Gerald Royds b. 1917
Billy Royds
Marion Royds

He arrived from the west in Kenora approximately 1919 and lived in Kenora for 10 years. He was active in the business community and President of the Board of Trade.

He was President of Rotary 1925-26.

Active in sports he was a member of the Kenora Lawn Tennis, a curler, and in September 1926 won the Golf Club Championship.

He was a leader in community singing. In September 1926 won the Golf Club Championship.

He lived in Kenora for 10 years, then moved to Brantford in April 1929 to take over the management of the Imperial Bank management. A letter received from the Kenora Board of Trade, indicated,

Your team-play in business development, in social service, and in recreation has been of great value and importance to the community, and we realize that in your departure, Kenora not only
looses a high class banker, but also a citizen of similar standing and one that any city in our fair Dominion would gladly claim as its own.

**Thomas A. Saul 1914 aft 1972**

Tom, son of Thomas E Saul was born in Alberta in 1914. He had moved to Winnipeg by 1935, Kenora Ontario by 1940 and lived there at least until 1975. 1972,

He was employed by Dunwoody Accounting firm in Kenora.

**Accounting Services Industrial & Publicity Board**

James Malcolm Savage 1864 - 1923

James M. Savage, possibly son of William Savage and Christina Ross was born in Quebec in September 1864 or 1865. He married Mary Ann Arbuthnot

He had two children:

   **Lottie Mary Savage**

   **Agnes Gertrude Savage** born November 29 1884 in Ste Catherine Ontario; married Thomas Otto Mackay; died November 16 1910 in Victoria

He came to Rat Portage around 1890 and was employed by the Ontario and Western Lumber Company. He joined the rowing and Curling Clubs in 1892. In 1894 he was secretary-treasurer for the company in 1894.

He quickly engaged in local politics. He was a town councillor in 1892 and mayor in 1893 and 1894. In 1894 he was elected MPP for the Provincial parliament for the constituency of Western Algoma narrowly defeating James Conmee by 8 votes. He became mayor again for part of 1897 when William Young resigned after a few months in office and again in 1898.

In 1897 he was secretary for the Coronada Gold Mining Company. The same year he was on the Board of the Jubilee Hospital.

Mr. Savage left Rat Portage in 1899 for St. Catherine, Ontario. There he was the manager of a large manufacturing plant. Next he moved to Quebec where he became a contractor. After a few years he moved to Winnipeg and went into the real estate business. In 1910 he moved coal mining on the Pacific Coast and became manager of Canadian Collieries one of the largest corporations on the coast at the time.

He died in Victoria on August 12 1923 suddenly on board a steamer.

**C. Nelson Schnarr 1868-1952**
C. Nelson Schnarr, son of Werner Schnarr and Catherine Zinkann was born October 21 1868 in Tavistock, Ontario. His siblings included, William, Mary Ann, John, Robert and George.

He came to Rat Portage in 1897. He was the first Dentist in Rat Portage. His office was located on Main St. over Carmichael's store. He married Eva Helen Margach September 28 1896 at Rat Portage. She died within a year on 3 May 1897.

He joined the Militia before the war with the 98th Light Kenora Infantry and on enlisting with the 94th Over Seas Battalion. He served in the 94th Battalion then as a Major second to Col. H. A. C Machin. He served in England with the unit and later became associated with the Dental Corp. On his return to Kenora he maintained his interest in the military associated with the Kenora Light Infantry. He continued his interest after retirement as a member of the Officer's mess and the Lake of the Woods United Services Institute.

He was an active member of the community. He was a member of the curling and Golf Club. He was the president and honourary member of the Board of Trade, District Grand Master of the Masonic Order, Member of the Lake of the Woods Lodge and a member of the Kartoom Temple of the Shriners. He was a honourary member of the Canadian Legion and for over 50 years a member of the Gold Hill Lodge, I.O.O.F. He was a charter member of the Kenora Rotary Club and a President in Rotary Year 1922-23.

He served on the Town Council for several years and in 1926 was appointed private secretary of the Honourable Peter Heenan, Ministry of Labour.

He practiced Dentistry for 27 years before he enlisted Dec 20 1915 selling his Dentistry practice to Dr. J. A. Dean and returned to practice upon his return.

He died in Kenora October 31 1952.

Dr. Simons Southmayd Stuart Scovil 1854-1927

Simmons Southmayd Stuart Scovil, son of Samuel S. Scovil and Adeline Bushe was born on 28 Nov 1854 in Portland, Leeds County, Ontario where he spent his boyhood days. He graduated in 1878 from Queen's University, Kingston. Anthony J Mclaughlin. The next year, he married 18 Feb 1879 Ellen Ursilla Mclaughlin, daughter of Anthony J and Rebecca McLaughlin.

Dr. Scovil first practiced in North Gower in the Ottawa Valley and came to Kenora in 1882. He entered into private practice and shortly after was appointed surgeon for the division.

He was appointed Health Officer in 1896 (Horan page 49)

He built his home at 303 Main Street South in 1882 where he located in the early days.

The Scovil had four children:

May Scovil b. 15 Apr. 1880 (Mrs. Persse)
Gertrude Scovil b. 8 Nov 1881 (Mrs. Chartesworth)

Jack Scovil

Stuart Scovil 17 May 1886 Rat Portage

Dr. Scovil passed away 26 Dec 1927

Melvin E. Seegmiller 1868 - 1948

Melvin E. Seegmiller, son of Jacob Seegmiller and Mary Anne was born in Goderich Ontario May 27th 1868 and came to Rat Portage in 1886, an 18 year old. He taught along with Miss Janet Clarice Crooks in a 50 foot one log school house on Hennepen Lane behind what is now the Salvation Army Citadel (2013). His salary in 1886 was $600. The two had 70 students in the spring of 1886 divided in 8 classes. Seegmiller was elementary principal from 1886 to 1895.

In the spring of 1889 the site of the Central school was purchased from the Hudson Bay Company for the sum of $1387.59 and in the fall of that year a three storey brick veneer building was erected at a cost of $5500. In 1894 an addition was added to the school with 105 students taught in two shifts. Mr. Seegmiller took over the senior class at this time but only lasted one year as he only had a class 1 certificate. In 1896 an additional four rooms were added to the Central school to give a total of 10 rooms at a cost of $17,000.

Commencing in September 1896 a high school department was set up and Mr. Roberts, a university took over the reins from Mr. Seegmiller. Two additional teachers at the school at this time were Miss McFarlane and Mr. Preston. In 1898 the central School was totally destroyed by fire.

Melvin Seegmiller became Secretary-Treasurer of the School Board in 1898 a position he held until his death in 1948.

Leaving the school in 1898 Mr. Seegmiller opened an insurance and real estate business.

He married Mary Alexandra Campbell and had two children

Frederick M Seegmiller born August 1904, died 1923

Edward Arthur Seegmiller born May 1906, died in 1950

He was an auditor for the diocese of Keewatin for 10 years.

He was a charter member of the Kenora Rotary Club and subsequent appointed a Honourary member.
He was a President and Honourary member of the Kenora Golf and Country Club, and of the Curling Club, and President of the Kenora Rink Company, the Kenora Rowing Club, and the Kenora Figure skating Club. He was one of the originator of the rink building scheme. Reference: Olson, Jim, History of Kenora Public Schools 1883-1970 1971

**Ernest Agustus Sharpe 1843 - 1912**

Ernest Agustus Sharpe, son of James Gill Sharpe and Mary Ann Fowler, was born in McCann, Cumberland County, Nova Scotia on July 9 1843. Ernest Augustus Sharpe was in Rat Portage in 1879 and worked in construction work during the building of the Canadian Pacific Railway. He was the first express agent in the area. He started the first boat livery in 1883

Over the winter of 1881-1882 he went to Galveston, Texas, and married Emma (Kems) Ebers, widow of Herman Ebers on March 16, 1882, and brought Emma and children to Rat Portage:

- Alice Lulu Ebers b. 14 Jan 1876
- Florence Ebers b. 09 Feb 1877
- Thomas Ebers b. 9 Feb 1877 Died in Infancy
- Hermann Alphonse Ebers b. 18 Mar 1880 Herman went by the name of Herman Sharpe and was one of twelve teenage boys who formed the original junior Rat Portage Thistle squad in 1896.

With Ernest she had three more children,

- Howard Logan Sharpe b. 31 Jan 1883
- Pearl Sharpe b. 6 Jun 1885
- Constance Cornelia Sharpe b. 24 Feb 1888
- Stanley James Sharpe b. January 28, 1887, d. 31 Jul 1887

Emma was a person in her own right and her story is told admirably by Ray Baker in "The Life of Emma Kems" in Common Ground: Stories of Lake of the Woods 2010.

Mr. and Mrs. Sharpe ran a boarding house in 1884 known as Bismarck House. He had a team and hauled wood and water to the house and subsequently started delivering water for 25 cents a barrel.

Mr. Sharpe served on the Rat Portage town council in 1899. He served on the Board of Education.

He built the Sharpe Block on Second Street in 1905.

He died in Kenora Ontario 1 March 1912.

Alexander Shragge 1865 - 1933
Alexander Shragge, son of Jacob Joel Shragge and Yhetta Gertrude Kamilaar was born 21 Oct 1865 in Brody, Galicia. He came to Canada with his parents in 1880 at the age of 15. The Family settled in Winnipeg.

His first job was a helper on a Red River Boat. A short time after he got a job with Hailey and Sutton Ltd at Morden, Manitoba. When the firm moved to Vancouver he accompanied the firm. He is listed in the 1891 Census in Vancouver. Shortly after he returned to Winnipeg.

In 1893 he came to Rat Portage. About 1893 he opened his Shargge's Clothing Store on Main St. The structure was small but subsequently enlarged with living quarters in the upper portions of the building.

In 1898 he married Elizabeth Ripstein. They had 4 children:

Gerald Emanuel Shragge 23 Mar 1901 Rat Portage, m. Belva Margaret English, d. 19 Jul 1977 in Sannich, BC.

Yhetta Gertrude Shragge b. 1902 Rat Portage, m. Abraham Coppelman, d. 02 Mar 1976 in Vancouver, BC

Clarence Charles Shragge b. 04 Jan 1904, Rat Portage, d. 28 Dec 1969 in Toronto

Verna Clarice Shragge b. 14 Aug 1906, Kenora, Ontario m. Samuel Kleinman d. 11 Nov 1997 Los Angelas, California

Mr. Shragge was an active member of the Board of Trade, Town Council, Pequonga Masonic Lodge, Oddfellows, and the Rotary Club. He donated a trophy for baseball in 1904 and donated a lot at Pine Portage to the Boy Scouts for their annual camp. He sponsored the dog derby which eventually became known as Shragge's Dog Derby. He Died in Los Angeles, California in 3rd April 1933.

John William Stone 1875 - 1932

John William Stone, son of John and Mary Ann Stone was born April 3 1875 in Barrie Ontario.

He married Bertha Geraldine Fitzgerald. They seven Children:

Geraldine

Charles "Charlie" Robert Strachan 1932

Charles Robert Strachan, son of Alexander Davidson Strachan and Helen Ruxton Mackie was born on October 8 1932 in Winnipeg Manitoba. He attended George V School and then Lord Selkirk High School. After school he worked for the CPR and then took on a number of sales jobs including selling insurance. He worked for 8 years as field man for Union Insurance Society.
of Canton, traveling all over Manitoba and Northern Western Ontario. He came to Kenora in January 1965 as a potential partner with Jim Sutcliffe, Tom Horsfal and Chester Scott. Within two years the Sutcliffe Insurance Agency was assumed by the partnership of Charlie, Tom Horsfal and Ches Scott which in time became the largest Insurance Agency in the District.

Charlie married June Gugulyan on July 25 1953 in Winnipeg. They had 4 children,

Jeffery David Strachan
Cary Duncan Strachan
Cynthia Lee Ann Strachan
Stephen Douglas Strachan

Charlie quickly established himself as a leading citizen in Kenora respected for his strength of character and contributions to the town. In addition to his position as President of Sutcliffe Insurance and later the Sutcliffe Insurance Group with offices in Kenora, Red Lake Sioux Lookout and Dryden he served as local representative of the Ontario Insurance Brokers Association. He served on the Chamber of Commerce as Vice President. He served on the initial Crime Stoppers Organization in North Western Ontario. He retired from active involvement in the Sutcliffe Insurance which in time was sold to Canada Broker Link.

He served for years on the Board of the Kenora Association for Community Living (formerly the Kenora Keewatin District Association for the Mentally Retarded) and two terms as President. For his lifelong service to the organization he was awarded a Honourary Life Memberships, one of only three ever awarded by the Association to 2014.

He was a member of the local Kinsmen Club served as President and was awarded a Life Membership in recognition for his service to the Club and District.

He served as Chairmen of the Lake of the Woods District Hospital Foundation.

He was a Past Master of the Masonic Lodge. He was a Stelwart of the Kenora Lochaneil Society, dedicated to preserving and honouring Scottish Heritage in Kenora.

**Harry Hartshorne Tate 1883 - After 1951**

Harry Tate, son of John Angus Tate and Harriett Ann Hartshorne was born in Cape Canso, Guysborough, Nova Scotia according to the family bible on June 6 1883. By 1911 he was living in Dominion Nova Scotia, by 1921 he was living at 225 Main St. N Kenora Ontario. He married Gertrude Rosina Smith in Winnipeg, Manitoba on September 7 1918. They had one child.

He was the bank manager at the Royal Bank of Canada in Kenora. He was President of the Kenora Rotary Club 1932-33.
He was president of the Kenora Rotary Club 1932-53. He swore an affidavit on December 4 1951 at Kenora on file with Historical Vital Statistics Nova Scotia.

He appeared on a voters list in Fraser Valley in 1963 when he was living at Chilliwack. He died January 29 1966.

**William Baldwin Thibadeau 1844-1923**

William B. Thibadeau was born in Kingston Ontario on 28 Aug 1844. He received his education at the Queen's College School, St. Hyacinth College and graduated from Queen's University in 1862 with a B.A. He proceeded to the degree of M.A. when he was called to the bar as a Solicitor. He practiced in Kingston for about 5 years.

After he moved to Winnipeg where he was engaged in active practice. In 1871 he amalgamated his practice with D.M. Walker and Rice M. Howard under the firm name of Walker, Thibadeau and Howard with Francis Evans Cornish in August 1872. Upon the Bencher's Law society coming into existence in 1871 he was appointed an Examiner for the society.

In 1876 Civil Election there was a scuffle where 4 individual including Thibadeau and Cornish were alleged to visit the home of returning officer Huggard and after some hard blows walked off with the Polling Book. They were fined $20 each.

Thibadeau continued in active practice in Winnipeg until 1891 where his residence is listed in the census of that year.

He advertised in Rat Portage as early as 1883 and ultimately moved his practice and residence there at least by 1901. His office was located above the registry office.

He served in the Queen's Rifle Company in 1861 at the time of the Trent Affair. He became a Lieutenant in the 14th Princess of Wales Own in 1865 and captain in 1866. He received the Canada General Service Medal for his involvement in the 1866 Fenian Raid (medal indexed under the name of Thibandeau) for service in 1866 and 1870 Fenian raids in Manitoba.

In 1885, As Major W.B. Thibadeau he served as second in command in the Light Infantry Battalion under Lt. Colonel W. Osborne Smith in the second North West Rebellion.

He wife's first name is Margaret and they have three children:

- Mildred Thibadeau b. about 1871
- Mabel F A Thibadeau b. 10 Oct 1874
- Gwendolin Thibadeau b. abt 1877 d. 07 May 1892

His residence in 1911 is Toronto. He may have died in Chicago, Ill on 21 April 1923.
His religion is given as Church of England and that of his wife and children, "Free Church" on census.


**William "Bill" Tomashowski 1929**

William Tomashowski was born April 5 1929 in Brandon Manitoba. He worked as a CPR engineer in Brandon, Minnedosa before coming to Kenora, Ontario around 1947.

He married Lily Bergman daughter of Richard Bergman on September 1953. They had three children

- Susan Tomashowski
- William Richard Tomashowski
- Michael Tomashowski

He served on the Kenora Town Council 1970 to 1974 and as Mayor in 1975 and 1976. He defeated Jim Davidson by 5 votes in the 1974 election, his victory be credited to the tough stand he took on the Anicinabe park issue in 1974. He was defeated in the 1976 election for Mayor by Udo Romstedt.

He campaigned in 1974 on a program of opposition for funds for expansion of the Kenora Airport and the development of a full fledge recreation program. When Winontario refuse to issue any more grants he was one of a delegation sent to talk to Leo Bernier. He was Public Works Chairman, Social Services Chairman, a member of the Recreation Management Board.

He was a member of the Chamber of Commerce. He was a member of the Fireman Union, United Transportation Union and active in Union work.

He was active on the board of the Kenora Keewatin District Association for the Mentally Retarded. While campaign chairman he raised more funds on the door to door campaign then had ever been raised before.

Reference: Nelson 1981

**Laurence Archer Toole 1905-1982**

Laurence Archer Toole, son of George Archer Toole and Eleanor Cross was born in Rat Portage on Feb 7 1905.
He married Donalda Margaret McLeod and had two Children, Catherine (Toole) McLeod and Julianne (Toole) Langley.

He was president of Standard Realty.

He was president of the Kenora Rotary Club in 1947-48.

Laurence was active in several community clubs. He was a member of the rowing club, the curling club and the Golf and Country Club. He was Chairman of the Hospital Board.

He was extremely active in pursuing the new museum.

He died October 10 1982

**George Archer Toole 1874-1957**

George Archer Toole was born in Wexford County Ireland on July 12 1874.

He arrived in Rat Portage in 1894. He worked as an accountant for Mr. George Drewry.

He married Eleanor Cross at Winnipeg, Manitoba on August 7 1901 and had two children:

Laurence Archer Toole born in Kenora, February 7 1912, married Donalda Margaret McLeod, daughter of Dan McLeod, President of Rotary, 1923-24, died October 10 1982

Eleanor Ducasse Toole (AKA Julianna) born March 27 1912, married Larry Johnson, President of Rotary 1971-72.

Eleanor (Cross) Toole died shortly after her daughter on May 12 1912. He subsequently married Catherine Lillian MacLellan on April 25th 1922.

George A. Toole worked in insurance and real estate business for a number of years. He was President of Standard Realty which he incorporated in 1908. He was succeeded by his son Laurence.

He was very active in community and civic affairs. He served on the cemetery board, the Board of Education, the General Hospital Board (17 years), the Rowing Club and the Golf Club.

He served as Kenora Mayor from 1919 to 1923. He was President of The Kenora Civic Association

He was persistent in negotiations for a paper mill in Kenora. On December 22 1920 the Bacus Tender for the English River Pulpwood was accepted opening the way for the construction of the mill. On June 6th 1922, Mr. Toole turned the first sod for the construction of the mill.
Colin Wasacase

He grew up in Broadview, Sask. As a child he attended a Presbyterian residential school in Birtle, Man. He moved to Kenora in the late 1950s. He later served as a principal in the principal of Cecilia Jeffreys School in Kenora. He served as Executive Director for Grand Council Treaty 3, and Chairman of their national assembly for many years. He acted as executive director for Ojibway Tribal Family Services.

Wasacase served on town council in Keewatin, then city council in Kenora. He has served on various Kenora Boards including Lake of the Woods Hospital Board, health unit, police, and board of education. He served as chairman of the Kenora Police Services board, Fellowship Centre and St. Andrew's United Church.

In a community that's been so bitterly divided over the years, Colin's equally respected on either side. First Nations members will remember him for his contributions to sports and culture, as well as his leadership.

He's also been known to play softball and curl at a high level.

He worked over the years with the federal government to close the institutions across the country. He's also helped Ottawa shape cultural policies for aboriginal artists and authors.

Colin Wasacase received the 2012 Ontario Senior Achievement Award as one of 20 seniors of distinction chosen by Lieutenant Governor David Onley.

He continues to serve as board chair for the Kenora Fellowship Centre (also known as Anamiewigummig, which means "house of prayer" in Ojibway). He is a Cree elder. He is invited to serve as the Legion chaplain for Remembrance Day ceremonies, as well as an elder at public functions in the community.

His sense of humour has served him well over the years. In an early day following his arrival in Kenora one day he entered a local restaurant for a meal. After waiting for a significantly long time, the waitress finally stopped and said. “I’m sorry, we don't serve Indians, here.”

Colin's reply was direct: “That's OK, I don't want an Indian. I want a hamburger.”

John (Jack) Watterson 1922 - 2010

Jack Watterson, son of David and Mae Watterson was born April 16 1922 in Joahannesburg, South Africa. He immigrated with his family at the age of 4 along with his brother Douglas and twin sister Mary. They settled in Windsor, Ontario. As a child, Jack loved to swim in the Detroit River.

He married his wife, Gloria of 51 years in 1957. They had two children,

Bruce Watterson (Wife Audrey, child Ryne)
Joan Watterson (married Harry Bardal)

Out of high school, in 1940 Jack joined the Royal Canadian Air Force and served his country for five years during World War II. His final posting was in Gander Newfoundland where he was a gunner in the Lancaster Bombers that flew missions over the Atlantic. After the war, Jack came to Northwestern Ontario to visit an air force buddy and fell in love with the area. He spent a year in Fort Frances, then settled in Kenora in the early 1950’s.

He started a career in Kenora with Zeal & Gold Department store, which inspired him to open Jack Watterson Ltd., selling fine men’s clothing. In subsequent years, he was a Transportation Officer and Purchasing Agent for the Kenora Public School Board, followed by several years as the Manager of the Kenora District Housing Authority.

Jack was very dedicated to his family and his community. He served many years in a variety of positions on the Public School Board and as a Kenora Town Councillor in 1975 and 1976. He was involved in several service clubs including Kenora Legion Branch 12, the Jaycees and Rotary.

He served as president of Kenora Rotary Club 1970-71.

He was also an avid sports fan. Growing up in Windsor, he became a life-long fan of the neighbouring Detroit sports teams, especially the Red Wings and the Tigers. During his Air Force years, he played on the RCAF basketball team. He also spent many summers umpiring local baseball games and playing baseball. In the winter, his love of hockey drew him to serving on the executive of the Kenora Thistles for several years, and more recently he could often be seen cheering on his grandson at the rink. Jack was introduced to curling when he moved to Kenora and he had a real love of the game. In later years he also took up golf and loved to spend time on the course with the Senior Men’s league. He developed a great love for Lake of the Woods and spent many enjoyable days on the lake with family and friends swimming, fishing and camping.

He passed away on Wednesday, December 1st, 2010, at home, at the age of 88

Dr. Gerry Whitaker 1903

Gerald Whitaker son of William Whitaker Elizabeth Jane Macfie was born in 1903. His parents had come to Rat Portage in 1890. His siblings included Alice, Vera, Roy and Beryl. He received his early education in Kenora and then graduated from University of Toronto in Dentistry, where his brother Roy had begun his studies. He married Bernice McKenzie.

He practiced first in Selkirk Manitoba for 20 years before returning to Kenora. He was active in hockey, and rowing and a member of the Kenora Golf Club. He and his brother Roy built the Dental clinic known for many years as Whitaker Dental Clinic now (2013) occupied by the Ho Ho Restaurant on Matherson St. He was President of the Kenora Rotary Club in 1963-64
Roy Wesley James Whitaker 1897-

Roy Whitaker son of William Whitaker Elizabeth Jane Macfie was born on April 12 1897 in Rat Portage. He received his early education in Kenora and at the age of 18 enlisted in the Canadian Expeditionary Force. He listed his occupation as "banker". He was discharged due to "chronic nephritis". He then went to the University of Toronto to study Dentistry. On April 17 1917 he re-enlisted with the Canadian Dentist Corps. In October 1917 he joined the Royal Flying Corp. In March 1918 he was discharged to the Imperial Army RFC as a Lieutenant serving with the 115 Squadron of the RAF. He was shot down over France, rescued and admitted to Hospital. In the Hospital he contacted influenza and was invalided back to Canada arriving in St. John, Newfoundland on December 24 1918.

He finished his Dentistry studies in North Western University in Chicago. While there he married Etta Velma Macmartin on December 18 1920. They returned to Kenora 3 in the Oddfellows Block. In 1947 he and his brother, Gerald built the office building on Matheson Street which was known as the "Whitaker Dental Clinic" (present location of the Ho Ho.)

Roy and Etta had two children,

William Whitaker

Vonnie Whitaker

Roy then remarried Patricia Odam. They had two sons, Byng who died of Polio in 1953 and Gerry.

Roy was active in sports playing baseball, and hockey. He served on the executive of the Junior Thistle as President.

He was a member of the masonic lodge, Shriners, Rotary Club, Curling and Gold Club.

He was president of the Lake of the Woods United Service Institute. He was chairman of the Kenora District Health Unit.

John Samuel Whiting 1859-1935

John Samuel Whiting son of John Samuel Whiting and Emily Wright, was born at Shotsham near Norwich, England on 20 May 1859.

He came to Canada at a relatively young age and for two years worked on a farm near Coburg, Ontario.

Subsequently he moved to the Kenora Area around 1878 and built his home on Treaty Island, farming and prospecting. He optioned one of his mining properties The Gold Creek to Eastern Interest in 1934.
Elizabeth Campbell of Kenora, reading from his journal, reports: "He went by 'Sam' and prior to purchasing Treaty Island, he lived out on Clearwater Bay. Aside from prospecting and mining, Whiting also was one of the area's early market gardeners. He had crops growing on several islands around the lake, and he used the produce to supply the grocer in Keewatin, and maybe others in the area, too. He was partner to Mr. Kendall (from whom Kendall Inlet Road received its name), but the partnership went sour and the dispute between the two men went to court. His family kept Sam Whiting's journals, but a copy is held by the Lake of the Woods Museum. The journals were mostly business notes - income and expenditures, etc. - however, there are some interesting little memos on life on the lake in the early days scattered through the pages.

He mentions coming home one winter night from Rat Portage across the ice to Clearwater Bay. When he arrived home it was to find that his ox, named Dolly, and his dog had fallen through some rotten ice and drowned. Upon reading this, I felt such compassion for the man. In one day he had lost his main working animal, together with which he earned most of his living, and his trusted companion. A dog would mean so much to him living alone in the wilderness.

I turned the page and read the next day's entry, which read something like, 'Skinned the ox and the dog...' So Sam was a very practical man in the face of adversity, too!"

He married Emily Louisa Mylam in St. George Anglican Church, Montreal, Quebec on Aug 20 1899 the day after arriving on the ship Tainui from England. They had 5 Children:

- Leonard Samuel Whiting b. 31 Oct 1904 in Rat Portage, d. Abt. 1990 Kenora, Ontario
- Walter Whiting
- Harold Erick Whiting b. 6 Nov 1909
- Nellie Whiting
- Dorothy Evelyn Whiting b. 24 Feb 1912; married Thomas Boucha 1940

He died 27 September 1935. He was buried on Treaty Island

**Bill Whitehead**

Possibly Policeman

President of Kenora Rotary Club 1964-65

**Sydney Charles Wilcox 1883-1969**

Sydney Charles Wilcox, son of Charles Smith Wilcox of Windsor, Nova Scotia and Emma Gertrude Thom from Quebec, was born July 26, 1883 in Windsor, Nova Scotia. He was educated in Windsor and then attended King's College where he graduated with a Bachelor of Engineering.

He married Constance Marguerite Whitman, daughter of Francis Whitman and Florence Ritchie of Annapolis, Nova Scotia on September 10 1910. They had three children:
Gertrude Whitman Wilcox was born July 16, 1911. She married Frederick Jackson July 26, 1943, Vancouver, B.C. She died in 2002 in Kenora.

Charles Tom Wilcox was born in Winnipeg in 1914. He married Daphne Gunne in 1943 in Kenora. He died in 1994.


Sydney arrived in Kenora by 1911 and sought employment with The Canadian Pacific Railway.

Sydney served as a Second Lieutenant with the 68th Regiment in Windsor, Nova Scotia. He served again in World War I enlisting January 4, 1916 in Winnipeg, was promoted to Captain and fought in France. More information with respect to his military career can be found at http://askgen.ning.com/group/kenora-great-war-project/page/wilcox-sydney-charles as well as letter written to his daughter Gertrude on June 14, 1917.

Returning to Canada, he worked with the Canadian Pacific Railway in Brandon before returning to Kenora in 1939. He retired as Divisional Engineer in 1948.

Sydney was active in his church as a member of St. Alban's serving on the vestry, as Rector's Warden, as a member of the executive of the Diocese of Keewatin and as a lay member of the Cathedral Chapter.

He joined the Kenora Rotary Club shortly after it was chartered in 1920 and served as president in 1926-27. He was the first member to receive the 30 year pin in his Rotary District.

He had a life member in the Lake of the Woods Officer's Institute. He was a member of the Kenora branch of the Royal Canadian Legion.

He was a member of the Town Planning Board and a member of the Secondary School Board.

He died August 12, 1969.

**James Percy Williams 1890 - 1956**

James Percy Williams, son of Jabez Williams (born July 29, 1858, New Buckingham, Norfork, England) and Ann Mackenzie (born May 15, 1862 St. Andrew, Manitoba) was born January 24, 1890 in Fort Frances. There were 7 children: Herbert Bruce Williams (1886-1926); Lawrence Joseph Williams (1888-1922); Ethel Ellen Elizabeth Williams (1892-1969); Rupert Jabez Duncan (1893-1973); Lucy Caroline Margaret Williams (1895-1974) and Stanley (1897-1911).

Jabez Williams worked with the Hudson Bay Company first as a clerk and later as Factor at Lac Seul.
When the Mother Annie Williams died at the early age of 37 several of the children moved to Uncle James Mackenzie including "Laurence J.", "Pearcey J.", "Ethol E.E.", "Ruppert D.", and "Lucy C." according to the 1901 Census 444 N2-3-Page 24.

Percy received his education in Rat Portage and began to work with Hose hardware.

He enlisted in the War in Kenora on May 21 1915 and was sent over to France from England on February 1916. He was injured in the war and spent time in Hospitals in England and France as well as Winnipeg after returning to Canada. He joined the Canadian Legion: British Empire Service League (Kenora Branch) October 3 1927. More information on his military history can be seen at http://www.canadiangreatwarproject.com/searches/soldierDetail.asp?ID=114750

Following the war he went back to work at Hose Hardware. In 1921 he went into the Hardware business with Mr. Fred Caniff and eventually established his own store on Seconds Street. He was publisher of the Kenora Miner and News for several years.

He married Marion Solsolist Pittman in Kenora on July 14 1926. They had four children,

- Jocelyn Williams Married J.R. Campbell
- James Douglas Williams 1929 - 2005
- Lawrence Pitman Williams 1932 - 1998
- Barbara Marion Williams 1940-2009

He served on the Kenora School Board.

He served as mayor from 1939 to 1943

He was a member of the Lake of the Woods Gun Club, a Director of the Kenora Golf and Country Club, a member of the IOOF, held membership in the Conservative Party.

He was a Honourary member of the Kenora Rotary Club.

He died in Kenora February 24 1956. He is buried in the family plot in Lake of the Woods Cemetery.

**Arthur Woods 1851-1915**

Arthur Woods, son of Russell Woods and Elizabeth Huston, was born in Kildare Township, Jolliette County, Quebec on December 16th 1851. He married Harriett Ross in Ross Township, Renfrew County, Ontario in 27 Feb 1884. They had a large family of 10 children, all born in Rat Portage:

- William "Harvey" Woods b. 7 Mar 1885
- Arthur "Lorne" Woods b. 12 Nov.1886
- John "Stanley" Woods b. 3 Jan 1889
- James H. "Ross" Woods b. 14 Jan 1892
May "Marguerite" Woods b. 2 Feb 1894
Emily "Eileen" Woods b. 12 Feb 1896
Dorothy C. Woods b. 18 Dec 1899
Victoria Woods 21 Jan 1901
"Russel" Vernon Woods b. 10 Feb 1903
"Helen" Florence Woods b. 8 Dec 1907

He came to Portage around 1883 where he and his brother Russell had a store and sold meals near the CPR Line.

He became a member of the Police force and was promoted to Chief which he served from 1887 to 1907. He served on the town Council in 1885, 86, 1908, 09 and 1910. He was Chairman of Public Works and operated the Kenora Labour Bureau. He served as a school trustee for seven years. He was also chief engineer in the fire department until the water system was installed and again in 1888.

He later became interested in Real estate and had an office on Matheson Street.

He moved his family to Winnipeg in August 1911 where he died in February 14 1915 after a two year lengthy illness.

Note: Additions to this individual may be added by sending an email with additional information to jretson@shaw.ca.

Fred Wright

He attended Crescent Heights High School

He attended and graduated with a BA in Political Science and History at the University of Calgary.

From 1975 to April 2011 (36 years) he was President of QSI Interiors Ltd., serving Winnipeg, Regina, Saskatoon, Edmonton.

His wife Marion and Fred took up permanent residence in Kenora. Since 2000, they have provided business management consulting, assisting companies understand and implement cost controls, efficiencies, time management, strategic planning and succession planning with Eagle Point Inc. Ontario

He was active in the construction trades and business organizations including, Past Winnipeg Chapter Chair, Past Chair of Conference 95 and past co-chair of Conference 2006, Construction Specifications Canada, Past Chair and member of the Board of Directors, Construction Labour Relations Association of Manitoba, Past member of the Board of Directors and member of the initial Trade Definitions committee, Winnipeg Construction Association, Past director in Winnipeg and current member of the Board in Kenora.
He was a past member of the Board of Directors, St. Mary's Academy.

He was the 95th President of Kenora Rotary Club in 2013-2014.

In 2014 he was Lake of the Woods Development Commission business development co-
chairman.

Andrew Allan Young 1876 - 1942

Allan Young, son of Robert Hamilton Young and Elizabeth Paterson was born in Scarborough, Ontario on December 1 1876. He came to Rat Portage around 1890. He carried on business with
his father until his father left for the West around 1909. He carried on business for several years.

In 1907, he married Mabel Creighton of Rat Portage and had two Children

Robert Creighton Young born October 18 1908

Paddy Young born in 1914

He was an active member of the Board of Trade, Gun Club, Anglers Club and Rowing Club.
When he retired from the Clothing business he was connected with the Singer Sewing Machine
Company and Carling's Distillery. He died in Rat Portage in the 1942.

William Young 1848-1920

William Young was born in Scotland about 1848. He came west and was located in Rat Portage
during the Construction period of the CPR. Later he went into the contracting business and later
engaged in prospecting and was one of the first discoverers of Gold in the area.

Around 1885 he was a justice of the Peace. He was Reeve in 1889, 1890 and 1891 before Rat
Portage was incorporated. In 1897 he was elected Mayor but resigned a few months later when
he was appointed Stipendiary Magistrate for the District.

He married his wife the much younger Helga at least before 1901. He left for British Columbia
around 1908 and acted as Magistrate during the construction of the G.T.P. in Northern BC.

HE passed away in Winnipeg in January 1920

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