



Dedicated to Preserving our Heritage Resources

2652 Gideon Drive, P.O. Box 47, Delaware, Ontario, N0L 1E0

Phone: 519-518-5590

Email: middlesexcentearchives@gmail.com

Website: www.middlesexcentearchive.ca

*Happy 10th Anniversary
Middlesex Centre Archives
2013-2023*

Summer/Fall 2023



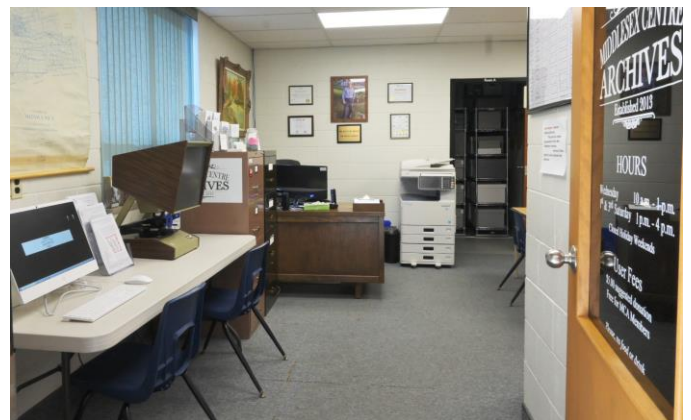
New Gardens and new handicap door entrance (*Thank you Middlesex Centre*)

Work at the Archives continues at a busy pace. We had many visitors researching family history, land records and just about any topic you can imagine if it pertains to Middlesex Centre. Our Outreach to local events has continued with displays at the Poplar Hill Picnic on June 10th, at both Bryanston's and Mount Brydges' Canada Day Celebrations, and at Ska-Na-Doht's 50th anniversary celebrations on August 13th. On Saturday, September 9th, visit us at the Middlesex Centre's 25th anniversary celebrations at the Wellness Centre in Komoka.

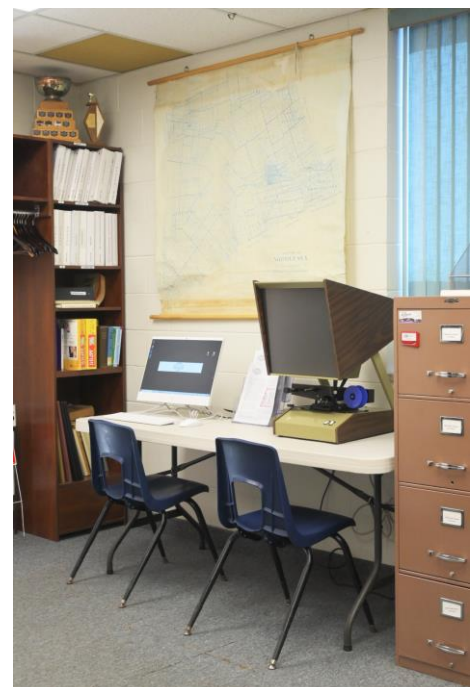
For our own Tenth Anniversary celebrations, MCA hosted an Open House on August 19th. We welcomed new visitors, as well as regular visitors and supporters. For this event, the Archives had a new look. The huge map cabinet was moved to the Annex. This gave room for a table for the donated microfilm reader and visitors' computer. With the various microfilms and MCA files on the computer, the Archives now has even more resources for researchers.

In the Archives, the walls had become a repository for various paintings and portraits. In other words, we had no other place to store them! To preserve them, some were put away in proper storage in the Annex. Do drop in to see our new look. Browse the

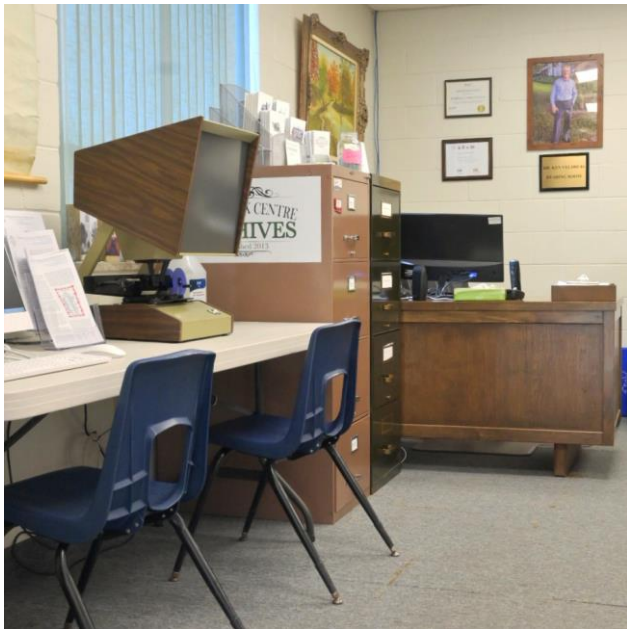
Ken Veldhuis Reading Room resources. The Archives really is a treasure trove for researchers of any kind.



Our new entrance and door signage



Researcher's Computer, Microfilm Reader and Open Files Cabinets



Dr. Ken Veldhuis Dedication Portrait and Award Certificates



Dr. Ken Veldhuis Reading Room Resources

Volunteers Needed!

Calling all volunteers - we need your help!

MCA is actively seeking dedicated individuals to join us in our mission to preserve the history of Middlesex Centre. If you would like help make a difference in your community, we want to hear from you!

Knowledge of local history isn't a requirement – we will train as needed! If you love history, getting to meet new people and helping a non-profit organization, please get in touch with us.

Our current need is in OUTREACH. What is outreach? Well, for MCA, this includes working at community events such as Fall fairs, Canada Day, and other places we have the opportunity to be present. You will be paired up with another volunteer and the shifts are usually 2-3 hours long. Duties would include talking about the Middlesex Centre Archives, giving out our information and

encouraging them to check out our display(s) if applicable. Outreach opportunities may also include helping at our annual Heritage Fair or being present during our open house events. If you really like research and helping researchers, we are also seeking folks interested in helping in our Reading Room on Wednesday mornings and Saturday afternoons.

Contact us today to learn more about this exciting volunteer opportunity.

Volunteer application forms are available online at www.middlesexcentearchive.ca



Volunteers at work

Cemetery Tour

MIDDLESEX CENTRE ARCHIVES

CEMETERY TOUR

Saturday, October 28
10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Tickets:
\$20 MCA Members
\$25 Non-Members

Tour includes:

- Bus transportation to three Middlesex Centre Cemeteries;
- Knowledgeable tour guides;
- Coffee and tea at lunch.

Registration and Payment due by October 18

Join MCA Archivist Krista and local historians as they walk you through history - from the grave!

MCA is pleased to host our first Cemetery Bus Tour on Saturday, October 28, 2023. The tour begins in Delaware

at 10 a.m. and will finish in Delaware at 4:30 p.m. Participants will visit three historic cemeteries in Middlesex Centre, with knowledgeable tour guides. There will be time to explore and ask questions. You never know who or what you'll find!

Cost is \$20 for current MCA Members and \$25 for non-members.

Price includes bus transportation to all sites. Please bring a bagged lunch. We will be eating our lunch at Poplar Hill Baptist Church where they will serve coffee and tea.

There are a limited number of tickets and registration/payment is due by October 18th.

Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Krista at the MCA's email.



Look for the Middlesex Centre Archives' booth at the Ilderton Fair and drop by and say "hello". Bring your questions. Archivist Krista will be there on Saturday.

Archivist Corner



Wow, what a Summer!

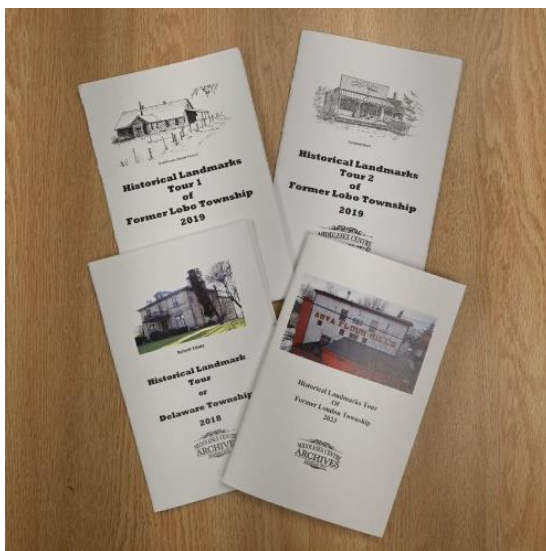
Since the last instalment of our newsletter a lot of great things have been happening at MCA. There has been no shortage of jobs for our dedicated volunteers. Our team has processed several collections this Summer, including the

Middlesex 4-H Association, Delaware Lions Club, Ferguson/Hughes and the Marsh family fonds. Our shelves have really filled up in the last few months – and it's wonderful!

One of the greatest changes to take place this Summer was the reorganization of the Dr. Ken Veldhuis Reading Room. As many of you know, when MCA began ten years ago, the Archives at the Delaware Community Centre served as the space for everything – processing, research, board meetings and more! It's a small space, which led to the rental of the Annex. Now that most of the "work" has been moved to the Annex, the Reading Room can become more focused on serving the public and researchers. This Summer we welcomed researchers from across the province and even a brave genealogist from San Diego! It is our hope that more researchers will find their way to Delaware to explore our collections for their projects.

We look forward to attending the Ilderton Fall Fair and hope you'll pop by and say "hi".

*Congratulations to the Municipality of
Middlesex Centre on 25th Anniversary
1998-2023*



Historical Landmark Tour Books

With all the special events happening in 2023, we have not forgotten the 2024 calendar. Look for it coming soon!!

Have you got your copy of the Landmark Heritage Tour books? There are 4 available – *Delaware Township, Lobo Township Books 1 and 2, and London Township*. Cost is \$10 each and available at Arva Flour Mill, Floral Temptations and the Archives. What a great way to see our beautiful, scenic Municipality of Middlesex Centre and all the Fall colours!

The Archives will have this amazing new, unique, Ontario-made, heavy steel (10 gauge) fire pit for sale at the Ilderton Fair with all proceeds going to the Archives. Great for the backyard or cottage!!! Imagine the shadows cast from the burning embers.