

THE PORT RYERSE JOURNAL

Volume 1 Issue 1

July 1994

RYERSE-RYERSON FAMILY ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER COMMEMORATIVE EDITION

Family Gathering Celebrates 200th Anniversary

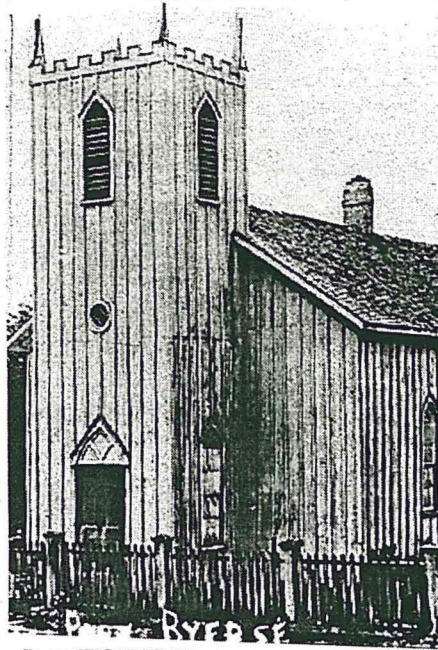
Coming from all over the United States and Canada, descendants of the brothers Samuel Ryerse and Joseph Ryerson are gathering this weekend for a gala celebration of family.

The normally quiet little village of Port Ryerse, the location of their early settlement, will be alive with activity from Saturday morning through Sunday afternoon when members of the clan will gather for their annual reunion and smorgasbord. This year's gathering will mark 200 years of the family in Upper Canada. Special events have been planned in a joint effort by the Port Ryerse Historical and Environmental Association and the Ryerse-Ryerson Family Association. Special family highlights include a family tree nailed to the side of the Ryerse barn as well as the long awaited Ryerse-Ryerson Family History.

For a full schedule of weekend activities, see page 4.

Joseph Ryerson Descendants to Join the Festivities

His brother Samuel chose to use the shorter version of the name *Ryerse* after he arrived in Upper Canada. The younger Joseph, however, continued to use *Ryerson* and we're glad he did for it's an easy way to determine from which brother you are descended. We're happy to welcome descendants from both brothers at this years festivities. However you spell it, we're all cousins and proud of it.



Memorial Church - Port Ryerse

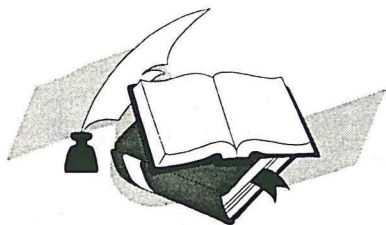
Ryerse 1794 Arrival Not a Happy One

After surviving the rigors of a difficult journey from New York, the Ryerse family arrived in Canada weary but full of hope for their new venture.

Leaving his wife and baby with 'Doctor Troyer,' who lived further up Long Point Bay, Samuel Ryerse and his 12 year old son returned to 'Ryerse Creek' intending to build a log house as quickly as possible. Soon after their arrival, however, they were both taken ill with 'Lake Fever.' Taking what shelter they could from a shanty, open in front like an Indian camp, the two remained sick and alone for three weeks, looking after each other as best they could.

Frantic at hearing nothing from her husband, Sarah Ryerse prevailed upon Dr. Troyer's son to take her in his canoe in search of her husband. Approaching Ryerse Creek, she soon found her loved ones recuperating from their illness.....roasting a turkey over a bright fire. Having tortured her mind with all sorts of horrors - snakes, Indians, wild animals etc., she would remember that reunion as one of the happiest moments of her life.

Dr. Ramsay W. Gunton, a fifth generation descendant from Samuel Ryerse, explains "Lake Fever" as what we commonly know as **malaria**. Niagara, the region through which the Ryerse family traveled to reach the Long Point District, was described in early writings as "a hotbed of malaria." It may have been there that Samuel and his son were bitten by the mosquito which transmitted this disease. Dr. Gunton described the symptoms as a high fever, headaches and shaking chills, a sequence repeated in cycles for about ten days. He added, "normal strength usually returns in a week or so."



From the Editors Desk

Hello! and a hearty welcome to all of you who have come to the fantastic celebrations planned for this year, the 200th anniversary of the Ryerse-Ryerson Family in Upper Canada. I hope everyone will have a great time at this, the 40th Annual Ryerse-Ryerson Family Reunion and at all the other planned events over this weekend. I'm looking forward to meeting all the new and old faces of our many family members.

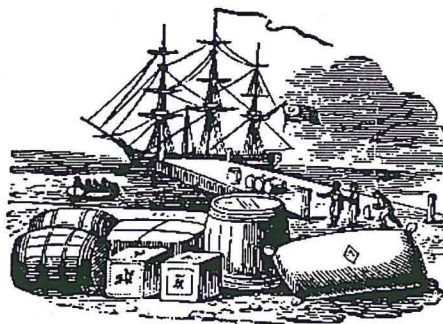
I am pleased to announce that the Ryerse-Ryerson Family Association plans to publish regular editions of the family newsletter, now called *The Port Ryerse Journal*. You hold in your hands the first official, (complimentary) copy of the journal. We hope you like the new format. It's amazing what computers can produce these days! We plan to print up-dates on family information and reports on continuing research in Canada, the U.S. and Holland. We will be happy to announce new births as well as death notices of family members. There will be a column for family queries and if you have a family story or legend, we would be happy to include it in a coming issue. We welcome all suggestions for family topics you'd like to read more about. (Contact the editor: **Thomas Ryerson, Box 262, Ingersoll, Ont. N5C 3K5.**) We'll do our best to keep it interesting and informative.

The Port Ryerse Journal is not intended to be a profit-making venture. The small annual subscription rate is designed to cover printing and mailing costs only. You will receive one more issue in the fall of 1994 and plans call for three issues in 1995. If the number of subscriptions is sufficient, we will increase that to four per year. We look forward to receiving your subscription as soon as possible. Our ability to produce interesting issues that you won't want to miss depends upon the number of "cousins" who join our family association.

Please use the coupon included with this issue and send your subscription to the above address as soon as possible. Thanks for your support,

Thomas

The Port Ryerse Journal



"The Port"

(1922 comments by Geo. J. Ryerse, grandson of Col. Samuel Ryerse)

"There was quite a large trade done at Ryerse...the chief outward shipping point and later where most of the goods came in for Norfolk County. There were a number of vessels built at Port Ryerse, including a large three-master which required a good deal of work before they got her out in deep water. After the harbour was improved and dredged out, trade boomed for a time. About 1870, seven million feet of lumber went through Port Ryerse. I remember that year very well, when everywhere the streets were filled with stuff of various kinds. All about the Harbour was filled with lumber. The side of the hill back of the store was filled with spars and lumber was piled up on the road to Vittoria and toward Simcoe. It was also a great shipping point for grain. There were warehouses on the east side of the harbour to hold the grain and it was said that on one day there were 150 teams there at one time to unload grain. When the railroad went to Port Dover, that stopped the whole thing....now it is not much more than a summer resort. I have known the loss of sixty buildings in the village, chiefly by removal, but there were losses by fire as well...."



DID YOU KNOW??

- that the new Ryerse-Ryerson Family History is now available?
- that it lists nearly 6000 of your cousins, aunts, uncles and grandparents?
- that it traces your ancestry back to the year 1574?
- that there were only 500 copies printed??

GET YOUR COPY TODAY at the Family Reunion
or order from the Ryerse-Ryerson Family Assoc.
Box 262, Ingersoll, Ontario, Canada N5C 3K5



We are proud to unveil the new family "logo" in this commemorative issue of the family newsletter and to introduce you to the artist who conceived & designed it - a talented young member of our own family, Maureen Jane Jones. Maureen is a 6th generation descendant of Col. Samuel Ryerse through his son, Samuel Jr.

Maureen has studied art at Sheridan College, Oakville, Ont. and has a special fondness for Canadian artists. She does custom handpainting of original designs on sweatshirts and has done such unusual requests as Star Trek's USS Enterprise as well as birds & animals. She has a deep appreciation for Native art & culture and attends many of their festivals to see their pottery, baskets, jewelry and to enjoy their music & dancing. "I find their legends spellbinding," she remarked.

For this logo, Maureen chose the crest from the family coat-of-arms, "a swan rousant" or a swan rising. We think it is an especially good choice - enhanced by her stylized flair. Printed in color, it will have a green background.

Maureen is also responsible for the colorful design on the T-shirts which will be available at the Bicentennial family reunion. That design shows graphically how the old nearly-withered tree from the coat-of-arms has leafed out and become solidly rooted to represent our flourishing family. Adding a dash of color are the flags of Europe representing our varied heritage. The bottom row shows the Canadian and American flags representing the present generation. We feel these shirts will quickly become collectors items, thanks to Maureen's skillful art work.



Kool Sla - A Family Favorite

Our Dutch ancestors brought a favorite warm weather recipe with them from Amsterdam. As soon as their kitchen gardens began to produce, cabbage was a favorite crop which they soon turned into a salad we call coleslaw.

♥♥♥♥♥♥♥♥♥♥♥♥♥♥♥♥

Coming Features: Be sure to join our newly organized Family Association. You won't want to miss these features in coming issues of the **Port Ryerse Journal** - -

- The Ryerse family & Slavery
- Family Legends & Facts
- How our ancestors celebrated holidays

Also in the works is a video tape showing the early houses, churches and burial grounds of our family members. Further information in a coming issue of **The Port Ryerse Journal**.

♥♥♥♥♥♥♥♥♥♥♥♥♥♥♥♥

From the Mailbag



gemeente Amsterdam

January 3, 1994

To: The **REIJERSE** family,

I send greetings and wish you a fantastic family celebration.

Yours Sincerely,

mr. Ed. van Thijn, Mayor
City of Amsterdam
Holland

Schedule of Events for

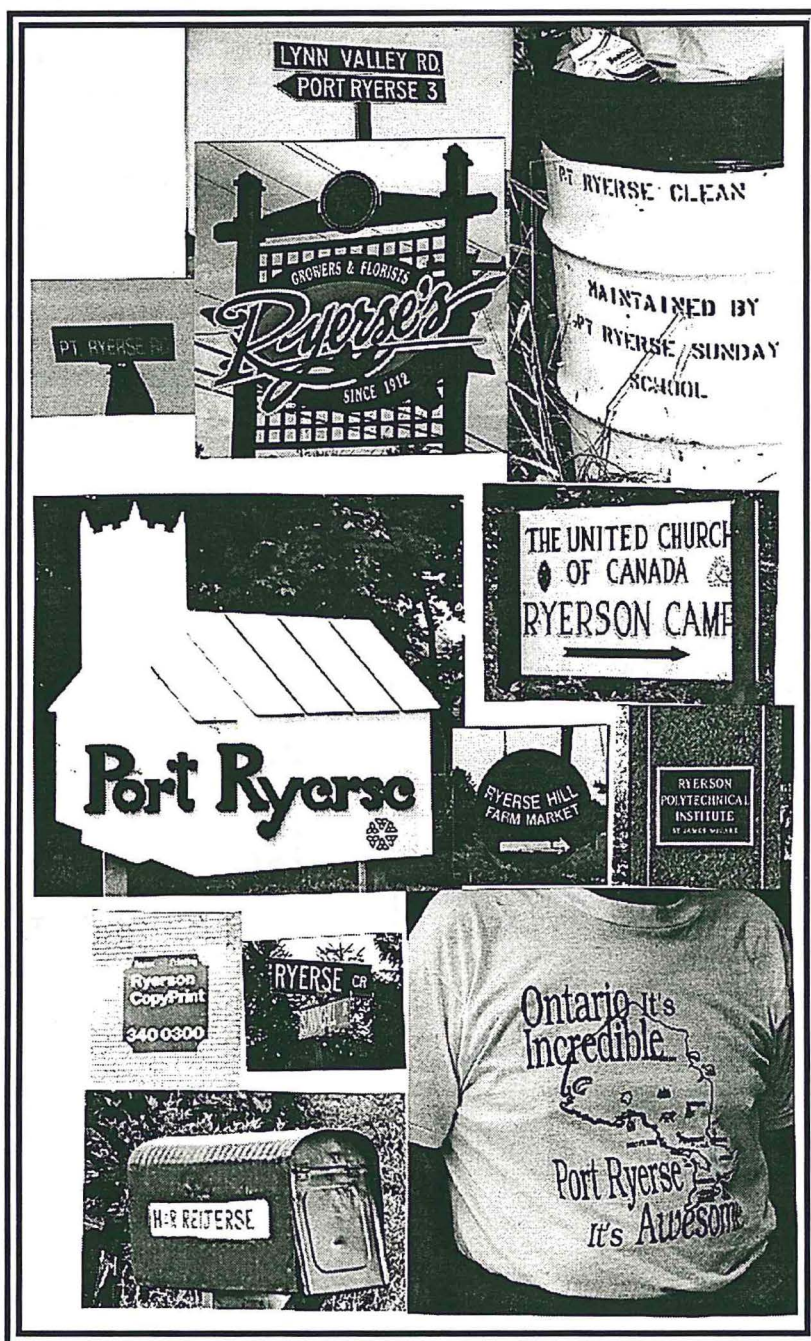
Bicentennial Weekend

Sat., July 9, 1994

- 8-10 am Pancake & Sausage Breakfast
- 10 am Registration
- 11-6 Exhibits at Church
- Noon Encampment - Militia at Ryerse Park
- 1-3 pm Beach Regatta - fun for all ages
- 1-4 pm Special Exhibit Cantelon Paintings
- 5-7 pm Fish Fry
- 7:30 pm Children's Play of Early Days
- 8-11 pm Family Dance

Sun., July 10, 1994

- 10 am Re-enactment Ryerse Arrival
- 11 am Wreath laying Dedication
- Noon Ryerse-Ryerson Reunion
- 1 pm Smorgasbord
- 3 pm Militia Demonstration
- 3:30 pm Kids Game Hour
- 4:30 pm Tug of War Challenge
- 5 pm Closing Ceremonies
- 7 pm Church Service at Memorial Church



The Port Ryerse Journal

Volume 1 Issue 2

November 1994



Fantastic! Impressive! Awesome! Memorable!

....were just a few of the adjectives being used to describe the gathering at Port Ryerse on July 9-10 celebrating the 200th anniversary of the arrival of Capt. Samuel Ryerse and his family in Upper Canada. Coming from all across North America, descendants of Capt. Ryerse as well as inhabitants of "The Port" gathered for a two day event that will never be matched in our life-time. Beginning with a pancake and sausage breakfast on the lawn of Memorial Church, a look at the memorabilia exhibits and the Cantelon paintings of early Port Ryerse, the pace soon quickened with the Beach Regatta for children (young & old!) down on the beach. Over 550 "cousins" and friends enjoyed a fish fry and then finding a place to sit on the grassy knoll opposite the church, were delighted with the Port Ryerse children's play entitled "Spirits of the Past." The evening was topped off by a rousing street dance with music provided by local talent for a crowd that had grown to nearly 800 people.

The highlight of the weekend began on Sunday morning with the re-enactment of Capt. Samuel Ryerse's arrival at the mouth of Ryerse Creek (Young's Creek). Lloyd Ryerse played the part of his famed Loyalist ancestor whose loyalty to the British Crown brought him to these shores. In this re-created version, however, he was met on the shore by the Norfolk Co. Militia, a native Canadian (played humorously by Tom Drayson), Gov. John Graves Simcoe and Lady Simcoe (played regally by Woody Lamb and Jean Barrett) and a large crowd of amused descendants and inhabitants. The group then made their way up to the Memorial Church where a wreath was placed on Capt. Ryerse's grave and an impressive monument was unveiled to commemorate this outstanding Bicentennial event. Some of the afternoon events included the Ryerse-Ryerson family picnic, the cutting of the cake by 98 year old Pansy Ryerse using Capt. Ryerse's sword, demonstrations by militia members, the Tug-o-War Challenge between family members and Port Ryerse residents, and finding yourself on the family tree which was nailed to the old Ryerse barn -- all of which definitely made this a "I'm sure glad I came" event!

BRAVO! BRAVO!

A standing ovation is due the members of the committees who planned such a memorable event and so we applaud the Port Ryerse Historical and Environmental Assoc. and the Ryerse-Ryerson Reunion '94 Committee. While we don't have the space here to identify each member, we do want to mention several outstanding contributions which might otherwise go unnoticed.

- To those who designed and installed the monument - the millstones and anchor were an inspired idea.
- To Bob Ryerse who expertly steered the complicated planning of this event - even to the placing of the "porta-johns!" Good job!
- To Vern Ryerse who worked so hard to prepare "Ryerse Park" for the big yellow tent! Thanks!
- To Maureen Jones who did such a beautiful job with the family T-shirts. They're great!
- To Tom Tucker who made sure there were enough funds to pay for it all. Nice work!
- To David Avery who came through with the delicious 3' x 5' cake and who spent hours cleaning up Col. Sam's sword so that it could be used in the cake cutting ceremony! Nice job!

Sincere thanks to everyone for your superb efforts.



Col. Sam comes ashore at Port Ryerse



From the Editors Desk

Welcome to the second edition of the Port Ryerse Journal. Response to our efforts has been great. I'm proud to report that we have over 50 subscriptions to this first mailing. Plans are in the works for three more issues to come in 1995. We invite contributions of articles for future issues from our readersstories, memories, family traditions or queries. This is a "family" newsletter and we welcome material from the "family."

My special thanks to everyone who helped make the family reunion such a great success. Everything ran like clockwork. I was very impressed by the turnout. We had relatives from as far away as Ohio, Georgia, Calif., Oregon, B.C., the Maritimes and even from the United Arab Emirates. All 500 name-tags were handed out. People were still arriving even after they ran out!

It's been three months since the launching of the Family History book. The response has been wonderful. We are now accepting orders from libraries. Please keep the additions and corrections coming in. It is the only way to keep this work current. There are still a few copies of the book left. If you'd like a copy, please contact us at the address below.

The Port Ryerse Journal

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RYERSE-RYERSON Family Assoc.

Box 262, Ingersoll, Ontario

Canada N5C 3K5

Subscription rate \$10 yr.

Submissions welcome.

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From the MAILBAG

Here are a few selected comments that we have received about the new book. We welcome your letters.

"I am so thrilled with my book I can't put it into words."

Rita Ryerson, Warren, MI

"The book is wonderfully laid out and easy to follow."

Ethel M. Fleming, Etobicoke, Ont.

".....just fantastic. It will take months to scratch the surface."

Delbert Musgrave, McMillan, MI

"We are enjoying the book very much, it's very well done and nicely bound."

John & Madge DeFields, St. Williams, Ont.

"What an undertaking! I for one, am very grateful for this tremendous effort."

Doreen Ludwig, Cincinnati, Ohio

"(I) am thrilled with the book. Thanks for all your hard work!"

Barbara McCorkell, Tillsonburg, Ont.

"The book you prepared is truly a family treasure and will give our families many hours of enjoyable reading."

Alice Gould, Oshawa, Ont.

"Just an idea for the next time. How about underlining which name people go by. For instance, my grampa Austin was William Francis Austin, (but) he was always called "Will." Ruth Laban, Ta Ta Creek, BC

"It is a great book and you must have put so much work into it. I'm really enjoying it."

Jean Huddleston, Ponoka, AB

Births

(page numbers refer to the new Family History)

Belogus, Jaclyn Leda, born Sept. 23, 1993 to Sally and Mark Belogus in No. York. (page 261)

Galbraith, William John, born Feb. 21, 1994 to Andrew and Robin Galbraith in Toronto, Ont. (page 336)

Martin, Caitlin, born Dec. 24, 1993 to Richard and Lindsay Martin in Toronto, Ont. (page 352)

Ryerse, _____ born July 1994 to Samuel and Linda Ryerse in Collingwood, Ont. (page 209)

HERITAGE HUNT WINNERS



One of the most interesting and challenging of the events that took place during Port Ryerse 200 was the **Heritage Hunt**. It took participants to historic sites all over the village searching for clues which would solve a puzzle. It also taught them many interesting historical facts along the way. The event was won by Richard and Robin (Ryerse) Barber. The prize, a framed painting of a historical Port Ryerse map by Bob Andrews, a Port Ryerse inhabitant, now hangs proudly over the mantle of the Barber home in Lavonia, Georgia.

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The RYERSE/RYERSON FAMILY ASSOCIATION

The first Ryerse-Ryerson Reunion, organized by C. Percy Ryerse and his wife Mary Matilda, was held on July 18, 1954 at their home on Black Creek land near Port Dover, Ontario, Canada. Having worked on the genealogy of her own family, Mary now turned her attention to her husband's family. Over 100 "cousins" attended that first gathering - coming from as far away as Michigan, New York, and Toronto as well as the local area. An afternoon shower could not dampen the enthusiasm and plans were made for holding an annual event.

A slate of officers was elected at the first reunion that included Percy Ryerse - President, Dr. John Gunton - 1st Vice Pres., Winnifred Baker - Secretary, Collin A. Ryerse - Treasurer and Margaret Ryerse, the unofficial family historian. Attendance over the years has ranged from 100 to 160 cousins who always enjoy catching up on family news, welcoming the newest little members to the family and sharing a wonderful picnic dinner.

Visitors to the reunion in 1958 included Rev. & Mrs. Robert L. Ryerse, their son, John and his new wife, Phyllis. During a pleasant conversation that afternoon with Margaret, Phyllis quickly got caught up in the fascinating history of her husbands family. "Someone should write this all down!" she said. "You could do it," replied Margaret. And so began a life-long commitment to gathering and recording the story of this remarkable family.

Afternoon entertainment has been varied with members taking turns providing the program. The family has been musically entertained by various talented cousins. One year the ladies were invited to try their hand at flower arranging, their efforts judged by another cousin who happened to arrive late. Dr. Gunton could always be counted on to speak to the group about Col. Sam and the early family history. One year he brought a beautiful old hand-stitched sampler showing all of his ancestors - an interesting piece of show-and-tell. Dr. Robin Harris spoke to the group about his grandmother, Amelia (Ryerse) Harris and Thomas Ryerson told the story of his ancestor, Joseph Ryerson and his five sons who all became ministers of the gospel. Phyllis Ryerse has visited the reunion several times over the years and was there in

1967 while Canada was in the middle of its anniversary year (Expo '67). Everyone arrived at the reunion in old fashioned clothing and bonnets with the men sporting beards and mustaches! Phyllis was chosen to judge the fanciest and the longest beard in attendance!

Unfortunately, the list of winners has been lost!

The Reunion has moved to several locations over the years including the Marburg Hall, Backus Mill at Port Rowan, Grand Oaks Park in Cayuga, Deer Creek Conservation Area, and the Edward Powers Ryerse home in Port Ryerse. In 1985 it finally found a permanent home on part of the original Crown Grant land which now belongs to H. Vernon Ryerse. Vern and Barbara have made us all feel very welcome. The venerable old Ryerse barn and the ancient grove of trees that have witnessed so much family history make this a very special gathering place.

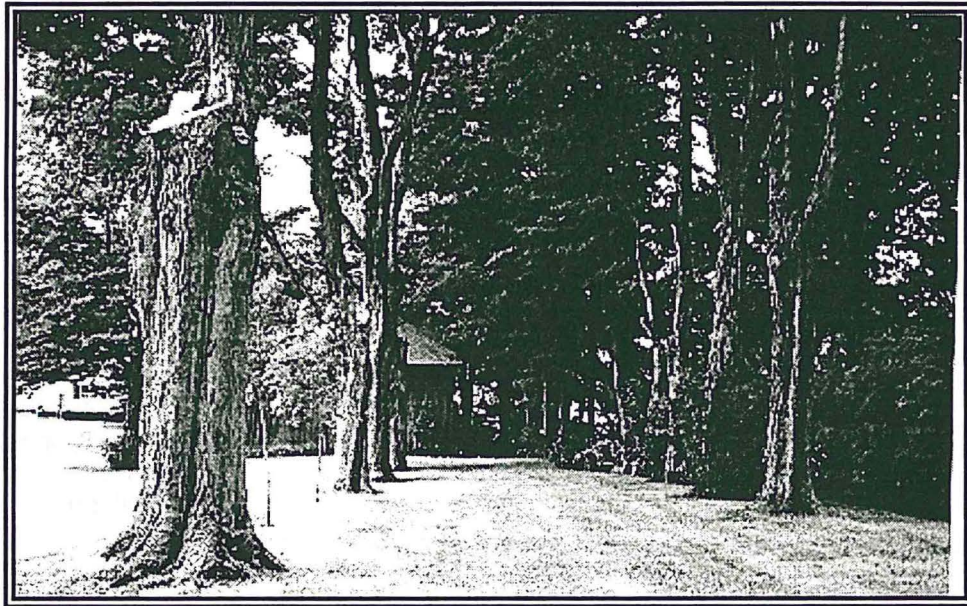
An amusing highlight of nearly every gathering has been the awarding of prizes to such categories as "who traveled the farthest," "the oldest man or lady," "the newest baby," "the longest married," "the longest hair," and "the most missing teeth!" Afternoon games and relay races keep the children happy and the "tug-o-war challenge" has become an annual favorite. Those who attend these wonderful family gatherings are always a little sad to see them end.

Our group has now been organized into an official Family Association and our newsletter, *The Port Ryerse Journal*, is being produced on a regular basis. The first issue has already become a collectors item and future issues will keep us all up to date on the most recent births and deaths as well as articles of historical interest about our family.

Many summers and many reunions have come and gone. On July 10, 1994, the 40th annual gathering of the family took place in Port Ryerse, Ont., celebrating not only the 40th anniversary of this great family gathering but also the 200th anniversary of the arrival of Col. Samuel Ryerse and his family in Upper Canada. We look forward to many future reunions with the hope that the younger generation will carry on the traditions of the past.

Past Presidents 1954-1995

1954-56 - C.Percy Ryerse
1957 - Collin A. Ryerse
1958-59 - William C. McNeilly
1960-62 - Tom Ryerse
1963-64 - George N. Ryerse
1965-66 - Robert C. Ryerse
1967-68 - Lanny McNeilly
1969-70 - David Clay
1971 - Leonard Church
1972 - Ray Tucker
1973-74 - H. Burnley Stratford
1975-76 - Eleanor Ryerse Chithalen
1977 - Peter C. Ryerse
1978-79 - R. Edwin Jones
1980-81 - James Clay
1982 - Bob Toombs
1983 - Debbie Ryerse
1984-85 - Paul Clay
1986 - Anna Gordon
1987 - Robert C. Ryerse
1988-95 - Thomas Ryerson



Ryerse Park quiet once again after the extraordinary festivities of the 1994 gathering.

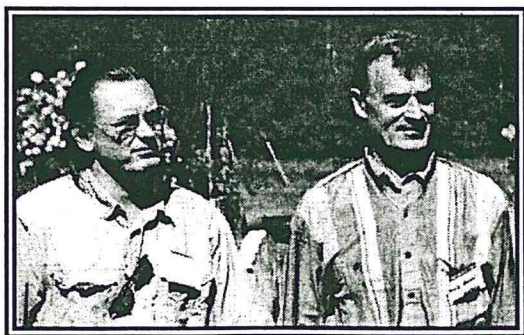
The Ryerse-Underhill Connection

by Phyllis Ryerse

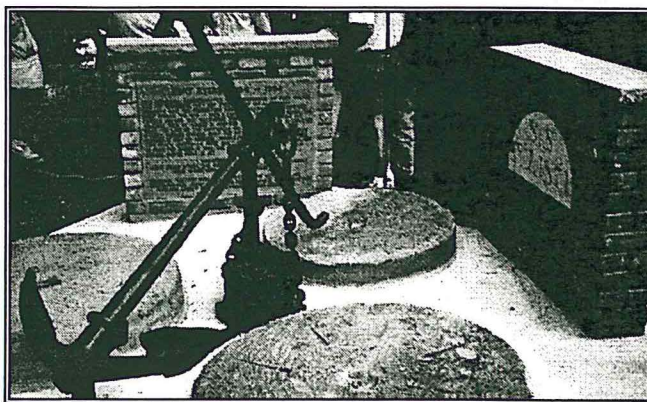
Sarah Underhill, the wife of Col. Sam Ryerse, was a direct descendant of the famous Capt. John Underhill who came to Boston in 1630 and established his home at Oyster Bay, Long Island. Some of his descendants would later cross the Sound and settle in Westchester Co., NY. Sarah's father, Bartow Underhill, leased a farm at Cortlandt Manor in the area now known as Yorktown.

On Sept. 9-10 the Underhill Society of America held it's 102nd Annual Meeting in Fredericton, New Brunswick, Canada, the location chosen to honor their Loyalist ancestors. It was my great privilege to attend this meeting and to present to that Society, a copy of the newly published Ryerse-Ryerson Family History. This "Ryerse Connection" would provide them with documentation for 3277 new "cousins" to add to their family tree! They sat fascinated as I told them about Capt. Ryerse's experiences in New Brunswick and how he fell for the comely Sarah. A bus tour through the area where Sam and Sarah tried to make a go of it really made the story come alive. How fascinating it was to see where the 3rd NJ Volunteers managed to survive that first cold winter in huts and log cabins. A very scenic area, but one with soil unable to support the needs of those early settlers.

I learned much on this trip - about the heavy flooding of the land along the St. John River every spring and about "black flies" so thick that the best advice on how to plant a garden is just to "throw the seeds and run!" I learned about the delicacy of eating fiddleback fern, I chuckled at the stories of moose found standing in the middle of the Trans-Canada Highway and I was drawn completely under the spell of the wide and incredibly beautiful St. John River. It was a thoroughly enjoyable trip.



Underhill & Ryerse descendants, David Underhill and David Avery on bus tour of Fredericton, New Brunswick



Impressive Memorial Dedicated at Port Ryerse during Bicentennial Weekend



Pansy Ryerse prepares to cut the cake with Col. Sam's sword

CONGRATULATIONS! Newlyweds

Woods, Francis Elizabeth to Steven George McCormack on Feb. 12, 1994 at St. John's United Church, Oakville, Ont. (pg 340)

Ryerson, Sherri Lynn to Charles Cecil Ryerson on May 21st, 1994 in Hamilton, Ont. Sherri and "Chuck" are 6th cousins once removed. (pg 172)

IN MEMORIAM

O'Neill, Allan, died Feb. 23, 1994. He was the husband of Yvonne (Ryerse) O'Neill. (pg 286)

Ryerse, Mary Viola (Dougherty) died May 7, 1994 in her 79th year. She was the widow of Gordon C. Ryerse. (pg 143)

Harris, Clarence Edward died May 7, 1994 in his 85th year. He was the husband of Fern (DeFields) Harris (pg 336).

Muir, Ersula Georgina (Austin) died July 28, 1994 in her 93rd year. She was the widow of David Muir. (pg 170)

Ryerson, Thomas Arthur died Sept. 2, 1994 in his 82nd year. He was the grandfather of Thomas Ryerson, editor of this journal and the husband of Winnifred (McKitterick) Ryerson. (pg 332)



Christmas in Holland

The feast of "Sinterklaas" is the main celebration in Holland at this time of year. On Dec. 5th, the eve of the saint's day, gifts are given, especially to the children, who leave a shoe in front of the fire before going to bed. Carrots or oats are placed in the shoe. In the morning, the shoes of children who have been good are filled with sweetmeats while the shoes of the naughty ones get a birch rod for future use. Such are the traditions that our earliest Dutch **Reijersz** ancestors brought with them to New Netherlands. "Sinterklass" was soon replaced with Santa Claus and we carry on many of

the other Dutch holiday customs as well. A Dutch Christmas wish is that it will snow and the canals will freeze over for skating. That's when the vendors appear with Dutch pea soup or Dutch hot chocolate and the favorite pastry called

Oliebollen.

2 cups all-purpose flour

1 package yeast

3/4 cup lukewarm milk

1 egg

2/3 cup raisins

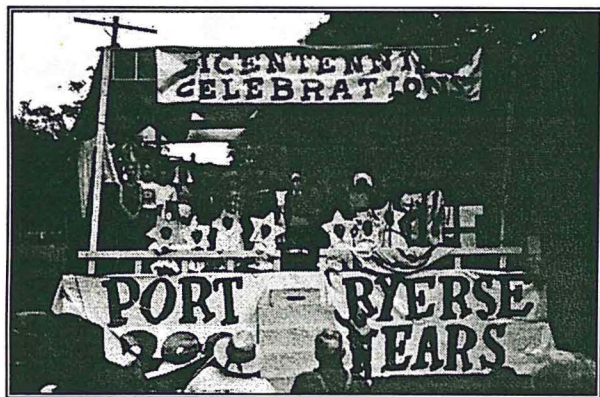
1 heaping tbsp. mixed candied fruit, chopped

1 tart apple, peeled, cored, minced

grated peel of 1/2 lemon

pinch of salt

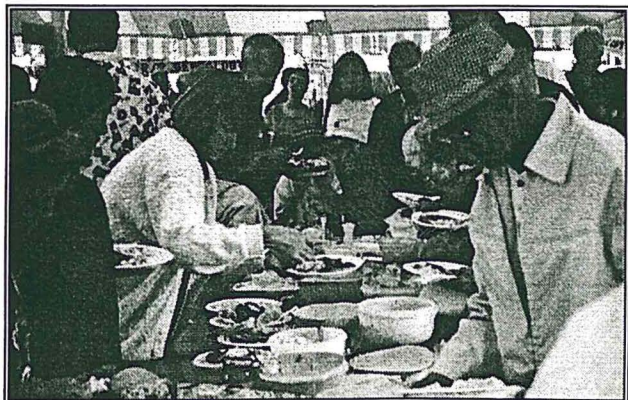
Soften the yeast; combine all ingredients. Cover and let rise one hour. Shape into balls with two tablespoons dipped in oil, and drop into deep fat (365 degrees) a few at a time. Fry until puffed and golden on both sides. Drain on paper towels and roll in confectioners' sugar. Serve warm.



Port Ryerse children's play



PULL !



Smorgasbord



Is your name in the book?



The Ryerse - Ryerson Family Association

1-272 Harris Street
Ingersoll, Ontario
N5C 1Y6



FAMILY NEWSLETTER - Volume 1 - Issue 3 - June 1993

HELLO! I have just returned from Atlanta, Georgia where Phyllis Ryerse and I were adding more information into her computer data banks. At this point we have 6000 names in the files. We feel that this is about 60% of the total information that I have accumulated in my records. I hope to have all the information I need by the end of the year, and in January 1994 we will begin the compiling and publishing process for the book.

Speaking of publications, I would like to warn all Ryerse/Ryerson descendants of HALBERT'S PUBLISHING of Scarborough. Although they advertise a Genealogy, all your getting for your money is a "how to" book. Don't be fooled by imitations!

At the bottom of this page is a PRE-ORDER form for the book, "The Ryerse-Ryerson Family History". This is in order to get an idea of the number of copies required and to help with advance publication costs. The initial printing will consist of no more than 500 copies. "The Ryerse-Ryerson Family History" will be printed and ready for distribution by July 1st 1994. If for any reason we are unable to publish by that date, an explanation of the delay will be described. At this point we don't foresee any problems, but we are aware that anything can happen. As of yet we don't have a price set, it will depend on the end size of the book, I hope that the cost will be under \$40, but please remember this will be a first class hard cover book, fully researched. It will trace the family from Holland beginning at REYER REYERSZ, then to New York, New Jersey, and the genealogy will concentrate on the families of Col. Samuel Ryerse and Col. Joseph Ryerson, great great grandsons of Reyer Reyersz. The book will be fully indexed! Although I'm aware of other publications on our family, this will be the most complete. Phyllis Ryerse began this mammoth task back in 1958, and I joined on in 1982, this book is many many years in the making.

These are exciting times. Next year will be the 200th anniversary of the arrival of Samuel Ryerse at the site of Port Ryerse. It will also be the 41st Ryerse-Ryerson family reunion, and the official launching of the book. All descendants of the family are invited to the 1993-94 reunions. This year it will be on Sunday July 11th, and next on Sunday July 10th. A detailed map is on the reverse.

The response to my October '92 plea for information was fantastic, I received about 110 letters from the family, but, as always, there are still many who have not responded. I wish you would. This mailing is going out to 800 different Ryerse-Ryerson (and related) families. I hope there is an interest in the book.

The enclosed insert for the 'Eva Brook Donly Museum' has been done as a favour to the curator there. This is where all my pre-1940 research has been done. I wanted to let you all in on what great place this is!

Once the book is published the "Ryerse-Ryerson Family Assoc." will be publishing a quarterly newsletter to make sure the history never gets out of date again. *Thomas A. Ryerson*

----- "The Ryerse-Ryerson Family History" book Order Form -----

1. I would like to order ___ copies of the "Ryerse-Ryerson Family History" which is being written by Phyllis Ryerse and Thomas Ryerson. Enclosed is the \$20 pre-publication fee for each book ordered, a total of _____. I understand that the balance cost of the book will be paid in the early spring of 1994, at which point I will have received a notice of the remaining amount owing. The price will include postage.

2. I/we will be attending the 1994 Family Reunion to be held at Port Ryerse. yes___ no___

3. I/we would like to receive accommodation information in the Simcoe/Port Ryerse area.

4. We are at this time not interested in purchasing a book, but would like to remain on the reunion mailing list. _____

Please return to "The Ryerse-Ryerson Family Assoc. 1-272 Harris Street, Ingersoll, Ont, Canada N5C 1Y6.

Don't forget to include your name & address with your order. U.S. orders please remit in U.S. funds. Please make cheque or money order payable to Thomas A. Ryerson.

