

MISSISQUOI MUSEUM - PAST EXHIBITS

Two Sides to every Story: The Rebellion comes to Missisquoi - 2011

On December 6, 1837, a skirmish between 80 Patriotes and 300 Missisquoi volunteer militiamen occurred at Moore's Corner (St. Armand).

This was the only battle that occurred in this region during the Rebellion but it was unique because despite its majority of English speaking inhabitants at the time, a large percentage of people in Missisquoi were in favour of the Patriote cause resulting in an unusual situation among the communities in this border region.

Dust to Dust : The Abandoned Graveyards of Missisquoi County in Crisis - 2010

There is a growing concern in Quebec for our vast and varied religious heritage. Regardless of language or denomination, cities, towns and countryside are populated by empty, or seasonal, or much diminished churches, many of which have old cemeteries attached to them. There are also many rural cemeteries that never had a church nearby or that have lost their church building with the passage of time.

In Missisquoi County, the heritage or abandoned graveyards are unfortunately slowly crumbling and disappearing from the communities. The exhibit brought to the visitor's attention the plight of the abandoned graveyards and the looming crisis that municipalities, heritage groups and families face with the loss of those sacred sites.

Down by the Bay: 400 Years of the Use and Abuse of Missisquoi Bay - 2009

In 1609 Samuel de Champlain came down the Richelieu River and into Lake Champlain to claim the region for France. The year 2009 marked the 400th Anniversary of his visit to the region and it marked the 400th Anniversary of recorded activity at Missisquoi Bay.

The exhibit looked at the uses and abuses of Missisquoi Bay over the past 400 years and the rich history that could be found along its shoreline.

To the Rescue! The History of Firfighting in Missisquoi County - 2008

The exhibit told the story of Missisquoi County's Volunteer Fire Companies from the 1800's and into the 20th Century and showed how 19th Century ideas of citizenship and public services shaped the practice of firefighting. Firefighting technology and equipment has changed over the years but not the willingness to serve and protect the communities of the region. The exhibit featured the museum's collection of firefighting equipment including clothing apparel, speaking horns, fire pumps, a fire wagon, fire buckets and photographs.

The Immigrant's Trunk - 2007

The people who settled in Missisquoi County came with trunks and bundles of belongings to establish new lives. Each immigrant group came with their own unique experiences and history. The United Empire Loyalists came to escape persecution because of their loyalty to the British crown; Irish immigrants came to escape discrimination and the rampant poverty of the 1840's Potato Famine. German, Swiss and Italian immigrants came in the 1950's in search of economic opportunities.