

ADDENDUM

1968 - 1973

WRITER'S NOTE - With the supply of copies of the Twenty Year History of the Authority exhausted, the Executive determined that a reprint should be updated, highlighting happenings extending into 1973. Hence this addendum. - TJD

1961 AGREEMENT EXTENDED

After four years' effort the Authority finally gained a four year extension to its 1961 flood control agreement of nearly \$10,000,000 with the Federal and Provincial Governments, but it left much to be desired. By 1970 most of the funds had been expended on the Wildwood, Pittock, Stratford and Mitchell dams. Under the extended agreement no new funds were added and indeed it cost the Authority \$110,250 in new money.

At its annual meeting on February 15, 1968 the Authority passed a resolution to press the Ontario Government to negotiate with the Federal Government an extension of the 1961 agreement on terms designed to lessen the existing financial burden on member municipalities.

While the Federal Government stated in 1971 its intention to carry out its obligations under the Canada Water Conservation Act, under which the 1961 agreement was signed, there were rumblings that all was not well with Ottawa.

Land acquisition for Wildwood commenced in 1961 and for Pittock the following year. The Conservation Authorities Branch approved a previously applied property purchase principle, that is to say property takings were rounded to the boundaries of the closest farm unit involved. It was not until 1966 that the Federal Government officially objected to this principle and advised CAB that only those lands that were flooded at the maximum operating level of the reservoirs concerned would be considered shareable under the agreement.

John W. Murray, chief engineer of CAB attended a February 4, 1971 Authority executive meeting. He explained that negotiations between Ontario's CAB and Canada's Inland Waters Branch had gone on since 1966 and it was finally resolved that the "surplus" lands ruled as non-shareable by Ottawa were defined by a contour equal to the elevation to the top of Wildwood and Pittock dams. The net result was that Ottawa claimed a credit of \$165,400, to be added to the funds available to the Authority under the 1961 agreement, enabling the Authority to spend a total of \$1,201,400 during the four year extension of the agreement.

Mr. Murray suggested that the Authority separate the shareable lands from the non-shareable and add the non-shareable to the existing conservation areas under a 50 per cent grant from the Ontario Government. Under this arrangement the Authority was required to raise \$110,250 over the life of the extended agreement.

Robert Rudy, Authority vice chairman and chairman of finance, pointed out that the Authority got into the situation quite innocently, as the Provincial Government had approved land acquisition plans. Under the circumstances, however, the Executive felt there was no alternative to accepting Mr. Murray's suggestion, payments to start in 1972. The annual meeting of January 26, 1972 concurred in the decision.

ADMINISTRATION

Several significant administrative changes have taken place in the past five years at both Provincial and Authority levels, and the Authority also has a new administration building.

When the 20-year history was written CAB was in the Department of Energy and Resources Management, with Hon. J. R. Simonett as minister and A. S. L. Barnes director of the Branch. In June, 1970 Mr. Simonett was replaced as minister by Hon. George A. Kerr. In July, 1971 the Department of E. and R. M. was renamed Department of the Environment. In February, 1972 Hon. A. C. Auld became minister, replacing Mr. Kerr. Two months later CAB was transferred from Environment to the newly formed ministry of Natural Resources, a combination of the former Department of Lands and Forests and Department of Mines, with Hon. Leo Bernier as minister.



Mr. Bernier

Mr. Barnes retired as Director in January, 1971 and was succeeded by Norman D. Patrick, who left in May, 1973 to become Deputy Minister to the Department of Forestry and Agriculture in Newfoundland. His successor is A. D. Latornell.

Art Latornell is well known to Authority members throughout the Province. He joined CAB in 1959, where he was head of the Land Use Section until 1962 when he became responsible for the Field Services Section, which post he left to become Director of the Branch.



Mr. Latornell

In December, 1972 CAB announced the establishment of six regional offices, to better serve the Authorities. The Upper Thames falls within the Southwestern Region, with W. H. Charlton director and Russell Powell assistant. Headquarters are in London and the office is designed to assist Authorities in developing projects, with the expertise of professional people, such as biologists, geologists and parks experts.

Because of the expanding program and the increased work load on Park Superintendent Rex Bishop the Watershed was divided into two jurisdictional districts in 1971, each with a district superintendent. Generally speaking Mr. Bishop is responsible for Authority properties in Middlesex County, with headquarters at Fanshawe and William Ravensburg, former assistant to Mr. Bishop, in Perth and Oxford Counties, with headquarters at Wildwood.

In April, 1972 R. D. McCall, director of operations since 1963, vacated that post at the request of the Executive. Subsequently Mr. McCall resigned, giving ill health as the reason. Secretary-Treasurer G. W. Kelly was appointed acting director. In August Mr. McCall issued a writ against the Authority, charging wrongful dismissal. The Authority is defending the action and has entered a counter claim.

Abolishing the position of director of operations the Executive appointed a resources and technical supervisor, Murray T. Kinniburgh of Sudbury, who assumed his duties January 1, 1973.

Mr. Kinniburgh is a native of Timmins and has his BA degree in geography from Laurentian University, Sudbury. Before entering university he spent three years with the Ontario Department of Highways, as engineering assistant and five years with the International Nickel Company geology department, as airborne geophysical technician. After graduation he worked for a year with the planning staff of the Ministry of Natural Resources, at Chappleau, Ontario.



Mr. Kinniburgh



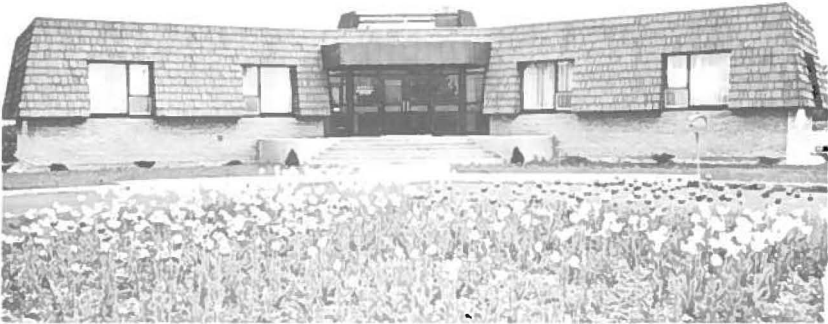
Mr. Stephen

The sudden death of Robert Rudy on July 10, 1972 necessitated changes at the Executive level. Mr. Rudy had represented Tavistock on the Authority since 1948 and had been vice chairman since 1965, as well as chairman of the finance committee and a member of the administration committee. John A. Stephen, Blanshard, was named vice chairman and K. L. Dunsford, St. Marys, chairman of finance. J. Grant Sutherland, East Nissouri, was appointed to the administration committee and Harry J. Roth, Woodstock, to the executive.

Harry G. Link, public relations officer since 1961, died March 19, 1969 and was succeeded by John G. Bell, St. Marys, who had been a member of the Authority executive from its inception in 1947 until his retirement in 1968. Mr. Bell died January 30, 1973 and the position has not been filled.

Gordon W. Pittock, a charter member of the Authority and chairman from 1955 until his resignation 10 years later, was appointed an honorary member in October, 1970.

The \$250,000 administration building, south of Fanshawe Dam, in the planning stage since 1967, was officially opened June 19, 1970. Plans for the structure were prepared by Architect D. M. Stevens, London and the contractor was William Hendricks Construction Ltd., Dorchester. The staff moved from the former administration offices at the north end of the Dam in November, 1969 and the first executive meeting was held in the new quarters December 11.



Administration Building at Fanshawe, Opened June 19, 1970

Hon. Mr. Kerr and Authority chairman Bradford shared the honor of unveiling the plaque in front of the building. Mr. Kerr was introduced by Hon. W. A. Stewart, minister of the Ontario Department of Agriculture and Food. Others participating were Authority members Robert Rudy, vice chairman; F. L. Jenkins, R. D. McCall, Director and Architect Stevens. Among the guests were Ontario Revenue Minister John White; James Lind, MP, Middlesex; Gordon Innes, MPP, Oxford; Hugh Edighoffer, MPP, Perth; Archdeacon Kenneth Bolton, MPP Middlesex South; Mayor H. J. McClure, London; Warden Ronald Crawford, Middlesex County.

FLOOD CONTROL STRUCTURES

While some progress has been made, looking to the day when the construction of major dams at Glengowan and Thamesford, and a smaller structure at Zorra Swamp will commence, the largest single flood control project undertaken in the last five years was the rebuilding of the Springbank Dam, in the city of London.

Peter T. Mitches & Associates, London, were retained as consulting

engineers and the contract was awarded to Ruliff Grass Construction Limited of Thornhill. Work commenced in 1968 and the structure was officially opened on October 8, 1969. Cost was approximately \$650,000.

Authority Chairman Bradford officiated at the opening and others participating were Murray McCutcheon, representing CAB; Mayor H. J. McClure, London and Robert Rudy, Authority vice chairman.

An additional \$35,000 has been spent on this dam to repair damage caused by a gate malfunction during a storm in May, 1970 and a flash flood in May, 1972.

Preliminary work for the Glengowan Dam was started in 1968 by James F. MacLaren Limited, London consultants. Final engineering plans were approved by senior governments in November, 1970. On September 14, 1972, at the suggestion of CAB director Patrick, the Authority adopted Glengowan as a project and asked the Branch for permission to update the engineers' plans and to have a property plan prepared. This latter is now being done. Estimated cost of the project in 1970 was \$8,017,000 and \$58,500 has been expended so far.

In the meantime two townships in Perth County, Downie and Fullarton, found it necessary to proceed with the replacement of existing bridges. Downie replaced the Thompson bridge on the 12th line with a structure sufficiently high to adapt to the Glengowan plans when initiated and received \$12,900 assistance from the Authority, 50% paid by the Province and the other 50% to be part of the Glengowan project. Fullarton replaced the Motherwell bridge at the same level as the old one.

H. G. Acres Limited, Niagara Falls, commenced preliminary engineering for the Thamesford Dam in 1968. These plans were approved by senior governments in February, 1971. Estimated cost of the project in 1970 was \$5,736,000; spent to date \$54,600.

When the Zorra Swamp project will get the green light is still a question mark. Engineering was started by the MacLaren company in 1968 and final design was completed and filed with the Minister of the Branch in 1970. Estimated overall cost in 1970 was \$2.3 million; \$41,600 has been expended thus far.

The annual Authority meeting on March 25, 1970 voted to proceed with the project, over the objections of the city of Woodstock. The program is now in limbo, awaiting a CAB study of the entire Thames River.

It seems doubtful that the Federal Government will participate financially in further flood control projects with the Province and the Authorities, similar to the 1961 agreement. Perhaps envisioning this the Provincial Government, in June, 1971 announced a new grant structure for multi-purpose water control facilities. Under this plan all necessary lands would be purchased by the Authority, subject to a 50 per cent Prov-

incial grant; the first \$30,000 of the cost of any structure would likewise be shared on a 50-50 basis, with the remainder of the cost being borne by the Province. This, it is felt, would be beneficial to the Authority.

PARKS AND RECREATION

To meet the needs of an ever increasing recreation-conscious public important developments have taken place in the Authority's three major parks—Fanshawe, Wildwood and Pittock, and the smaller conservation areas have been adequately maintained.

Most significant changes at Fanshawe have been the installation of a single entrance control point off Clark sideroad and the erection of a new beach house.



Beach House, Fanshawe, officially opened June 25, 1973

The new entrance point, opened in 1971, has proved its worth in increased revenue and reduced vandalism. To facilitate the project the Authority purchased an adjacent 10 acres of land from E. Townsend for \$11,000 in 1970. Trees have been planted on much of that parcel. The entrance building was erected by Northside Construction Ltd., of London at a cost of \$24,800 plus \$4,581 for the automatic gates.

Northside also had the contract for the construction of the \$100,000 beach house, which was officially opened on June 25, 1973 at a full Authority meeting. Officiating at the ribbon-cutting ceremony were William Foster, assistant deputy minister Natural Resources Ministry; Ellis Dryer, assistant to CAB director; Chairman Bradford; Gordon Pittock,

former Authority chairman and Michael Haevenaars, of the construction firm. Plans for the building were developed by Michael Fallon of Advance Designs, London and Rex Bishop, district park superintendent.

To begin the 1973 season Fanshawe had 556 trailer and tent sites, as against 320 in 1968. New service buildings have been provided.

The Fanshawe Yacht Club has converted its open air picnic chalet into a club house and the rowing fraternity have erected a new building for racing shells, used jointly by the London and University of Western Ontario rowing clubs.

A new agreement was reached with the London Public Utilities Commission in 1968 covering the use of Fanshawe Golf Course. In 1971 the Commission erected a new club house on a different site and the old one reverted to the Authority.

A long standing problem was resolved in 1971 when agreement was reached with the Townships of London and West Nissouri for the official closing of the roads under Fanshawe Lake.

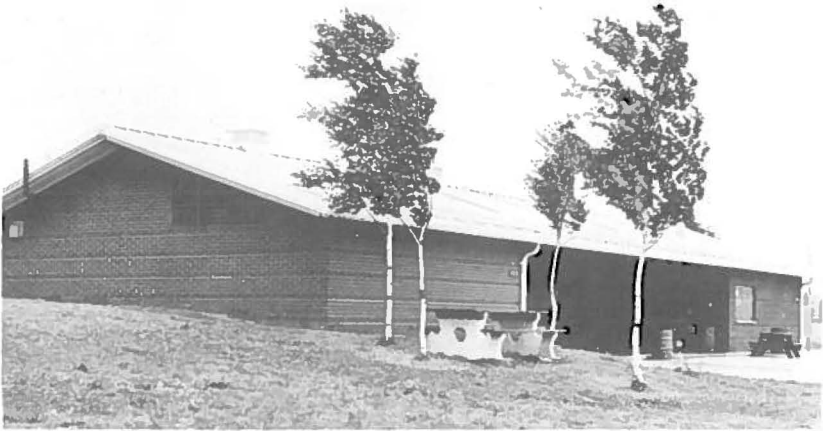
This spring (1973) District Superintendent Rex Bishop presented plans for further long-term development at Fanshawe, including the recovery and sale of gravel from a 31-acre plot. The plan envisions a third beach; enlarging the trailer camp and Pioneer Village, which would involve moving the Cricket Club from its present site to the south side of the Lake; a winter sports area, with toboggan slide and junior ski hill, skating areas, winterized coffee shop and toilet facilities. The executive has approved the plans in principle and the value of the gravel is now being investigated.

Since 1968 the public entrance to Wildwood has been relocated and paved and the internal road system altered. The pavilion, completed in the fall of 1967, was extended in 1971 and the north side of the picnic shelter enclosed.

The Trailer and tent site, opened in 1968 with 62 units, now has 380. Two service buildings have been erected, as well as one picnic shelter. The workshop compound has been extended and more buildings added.

A new marina building was erected in 1968. The power boat harbor has been extended and deepened and a new boat-launching ramp built. A foot bridge spanning the boat harbor was erected in 1971. In the interests of safety a motor patrol boat has been purchased for the Lake and a boom constructed in the bathing areas.

The 24 cottage sites on the north shore, the limit allowed by CAB, are all under licence of occupation.



Combined Change House, Picnic Shelter and Snack Bar at Wildwood

This year an experiment is being carried out with group camping, at the request of the Festival City Travel Aires of Stratford. A site of about 10 acres has been laid out between the public entrance and the Wildwood Nursing Home to accommodate campers who come in large groups and who like to remain together.



Beach House and Snack Bar at Pittock, opened in 1969

Development of the Pittock recreation area commenced in 1968 and has been confined to the north shore, except for the construction of a beach house on the south side which is still not in operation. Eight districts benefitting: Woodstock, Beachville, Ingersoll, North, East and West Oxford, East Zorra and Blandford contributed \$27,000 toward the initial development budget. During the year two beach houses and a workshop were constructed; a trailer camp site laid out and provision made for the Oxford Sailing Club.

Admission to the north shore development was charged for the first time in 1969, the same year as the trailer-tent camp was opened with 58 units. Expansion has continued with extended beach, picnic, parking and road facilities and the erection of a picnic shelter. It is expected that consideration will be given soon to development of the south shore, in co-operation with the city of Woodstock.

A knotty problem at Pittock has been the speed limit for motor boats. As an experiment no governor on speed was set for 1968. After a thorough study of the situation it was determined by the Authority in 1969 to set the speed limit at 10 miles an hour. Exception is made on a yearly basis to accommodate races staged by the Toronto Outboard Racing Club.

For some years the Authority has made provision for snowmobiles outside the three major parks proper and this subject is under constant review.

One new rural Conservation area, located west of Lambeth, has been added to the 12 previously established. Known as Westminster Centennial Park and consisting of 17 acres, it was created by Westminster Township, as a Centennial project. In 1970 Westminster handed it over to the Authority for development, under a 99-year lease.

The rural conservation areas continue to attract large crowds and every effort is made to keep them attractive. Capital improvement programs have been carried out in a number of areas and recreation facilities increased. New washrooms have been constructed at Shakespeare and Embro and a combined washroom and change house at Harrington.

The emergency spillway at Dorchester Dam was reconstructed in 1971. Kirkton, Harrington and Shakespeare ponds have been cleaned out and chemically treated for weeds. A picnic shelter was built at Fullerton this year.

PIONEER VILLAGE

The Pioneer Village, within Fanshawe Park, opened in 1959, continues to expand physically and through increased patronage. Extension of the period for school bus tours of the dam and Village from May to September, instead of June only, was a factor in boosting attendance.

The Miller home, moved from Wildwood to the Village in 1961, was fully restored and furnished in 1968 and the home of the famous London artist, Paul Peel, which came in 1963 was restored in 1972.

A new display barn has been completed and outfitted with exhibits of farm machinery, typical of the pioneer era. A carpenter shop, more than a century old, once owned by William Caverhill of Lobo Township, has been added to the blacksmith shop, a gift of Mr. Caverhill's grandson, John.

In 1968 Dr. Wilfrid Jury, one of the Village's staunchest supporters and largest contributors, turned over to the Authority his entire collection of Canadiana, which had been on loan for some years. At Dr. Jury's request Chairman Bradford was appointed his agent in Village matters. In 1972 Dr. Jury, who was a London representative on the Authority for 10 years, was appointed an honorary member and chairman of the Village sub-committee of the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board.

Another valuable acquisition to the Village is a Sunday buggy, completely refurbished, presented by Joseph Jeffery, OBE, QC, of London. Plans are under way to erect a log school house.

In 1969, when Mr. and Mrs. J. D. Hossack of Embro took over management of the Village, the general store was enlarged and stocked with goods that find a ready sale. Mr. Hossack, who had been Embro's representative on the Authority for nine years, died March 6, 1970, but Mrs. Hossack continues to mind the store.

Coming to the Village this year (1973) will be the 100-year-old Jury home in Lobo Township, given to the Authority by its owner Murray Manson. Dr. Jury contributed \$2,000 toward the cost of removal to the new site.

Due to the initiative of R. J. Flinn QC., our solicitor, the Authority is now registered as a charitable organization under the Income Tax Act, classifying donations to the Village as tax deductible.

HOSTS BIENNIAL CONFERENCE

The Authority had the honor of hosting the 13th biennial Ontario Conservation Authorities Conference in London, September 18 to 21, 1972 and it was regarded as highly successful. Most of 38 Authorities in the Province were represented and total registration was nearly 400.

Using the theme, "Conservation-Everyone's Business", the program embraced a wide variety of subjects in the conservation field. The sessions were held chiefly in London's spacious Centennial Hall. Through workshops and panel discussions everyone was afforded the opportunity to express his or her views and the addresses, given at the plenary sessions, were very worth while.

Colin G. Caswell, of the Junction Creek Authority, and chairman of the Committee of Authority Chairmen, was general director of the Conference, with N. A. Bradford as host chairman.

Among the speakers at Conference luncheons and dinners were, Hon. Leo Bernier, Minister of Natural Resources; Hon. W. Darcy McKeough, former Provincial Treasury Minister; E. M. Biggs, deputy minister of the Department of the Environment; Walter Q. Macnee, deputy minister of Natural Resources; J. A. Kennedy, chairman of the Ontario Municipal Board; Norman D. Patrick, director of CAB; Mayor Jane Bigelow and Controller E. A. Blake of London.

September 20 was devoted to a tour of the watershed, with Leonard N. Johnson, CAB Liaison officer with UTRCA, as tour organizer. An outdoor barbeque was held in the Wildwood recreation area.

NOTES

-More than a million trees have been added to the four million previously planted.

-SWEEP (Students working in the environmental enhancement program) and Winter Works Programs, initiated and paid for by Senior Governments in 1971 and 1972 respectively, are providing work forces for general maintenance, tree cutting and some construction on the Watershed.

-Channel improvements and erosion control programs have been carried out in Ingersoll, St. Marys, London and on Cedar and Medway Creeks.

-Between 350 and 400 acres of flood plain land in London have been purchased under Scheme 43 for that city's proposed parkway along the Thames.

-R. J. Flinn, Authority solicitor is now preparing a new fill, construction and alteration to waterways regulation to conform with CAB's new definition of a regional storm. Up-to-date mapping proceeds as finances permit.

-New park regulations have been enacted, with Government approval, providing law enforcement officers with more authority to maintain order.

-In a joint effort, undertaken by the Ministry of the Environment and the Ministry of Natural Resources, a study of the Thames River basin is being made, with a view to minimizing pollution and improving water quality.

-A new color film of the Watershed is now in the course of preparation. This should be valuable as a public information vehicle.

-Contract for phase 3 of the Mitchell channel improvement program has been awarded to McLean-Foster Limited, St. Marys for \$291,269.00 and work should be completed this year.