

ACTON

200

1825-2025

*Celebrating the Bicentennial
on the settlement of Acton!*

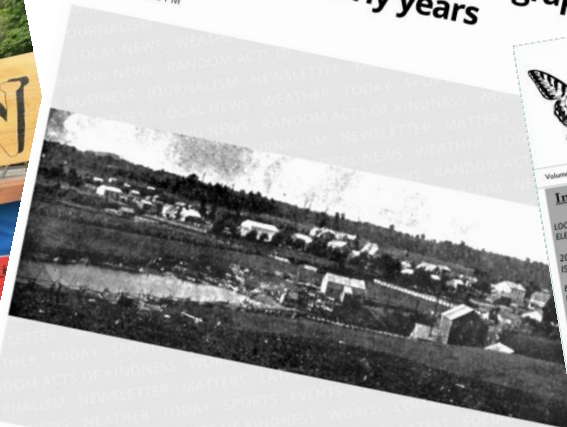
**VINTAGE
ACTON**



HALTONHILLSTODAY .CA

REMEMBER THIS? Rare photograph sheds light on Acton's early years

Scott Brooks
Apr 30, 2025 2:55 PM



The earliest known photo of Acton looking north towards Fairy Lake and the mill in 1854. Supplied photo

Listen to this article
00:03:46

This year marks 200 years since brothers Rev. Ezra, Rev. Zenas and Rufus Adams first settled the area we know today as Acton.

When looking back on a community's history, it's quite rare to actually see how it appeared during its early years as photos have been lost over time or were simply not captured. But in Acton's case,



The Acton Monthly

Covering the happenings of Acton

May 2025

Volume 3, Issue 7

Inside this issue:

- LOCAL 2023 FEDERAL ELECTION RESULTS 2
- 2025 ACTON FALL FAIR IS THE "GOAT" 3
- BITS & PIECES OF ACTON NEWS 7
- WISH TO RECEIVE TRAFFIC CALMING MEASURES 8
- HISTORICAL SPOTLIGHT: FILMING IN ACTON 10
- COUNCILOR ELECTED AS INCOMING CLM PRESIDENT 12
- ACTON COMMUNITY CALENDAR 15

Pickleball Charity Tourney this June in Acton

The Halton Hills Pickleball Association (HHPA) is gearing up for its 2nd Annual Serve It Up Charity Pickleball Tournament, set to take place on Saturday, June 14th at the pickleball courts in Prospect Park.

Building on the success of last year's event—which raised over \$6,000 for the Georgetown Hospital Foundation—this year's tournament will support the Acton Food Share and Georgetown Bread Basket, two local food banks working tirelessly to help families in need across Halton Hills.

Acton has been chosen to be one of the 10 Small Towns across Canada to be featured in the upcoming season 11 of the show.

Stand up Comedian and Actor Jimmy Harris will be meeting with select Acton residents and businesses during the TV show. The episode will be focusing on Acton's historical past and thriving present day, as part of the show's theme.

"The tournament is about more than just the game—it's about the Halton Hills community coming together to make a real difference," says Gin Cooper, Director of Communications, for HHPA.

The HHPA welcomes local businesses and residents to get involved by donating prizes for the draws, sponsoring the event, or cheering on the players.

For more information or to get involved, you can send an email to info@haltonhillspickleball.ca.

CBC's 'Still Standing' coming to Acton this May

After months of being under wraps, it has been finalized that the CBC Television Series 'Still Standing' is coming to Acton in May.

Stand up Comedian and Actor Jimmy Harris will be meeting with select Acton residents and businesses during the TV show. The episode will be focusing on Acton's historical past and thriving present day, as part of the show's theme.

The stand up comedy performance that wraps up the episode will be taped on Friday, May 2nd at the auditorium inside Acton High.

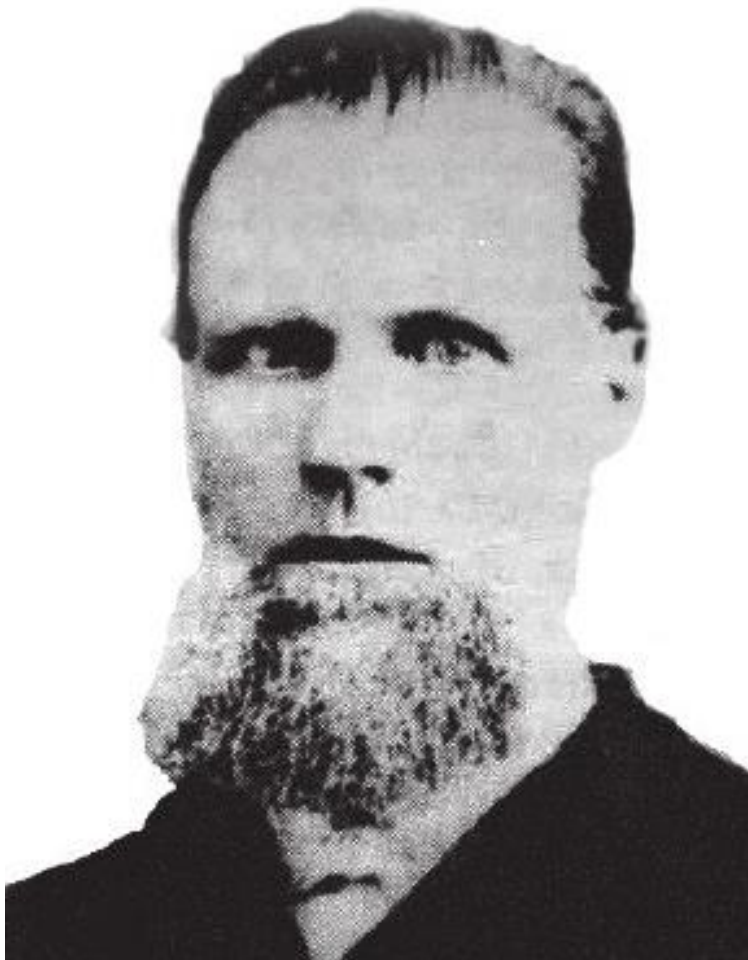
Be sure to read this edition's 'Historical Spotlight' to learn about Acton's historic ties to the film industry on page 16.

Find your copy of The Acton Monthly at these locations:

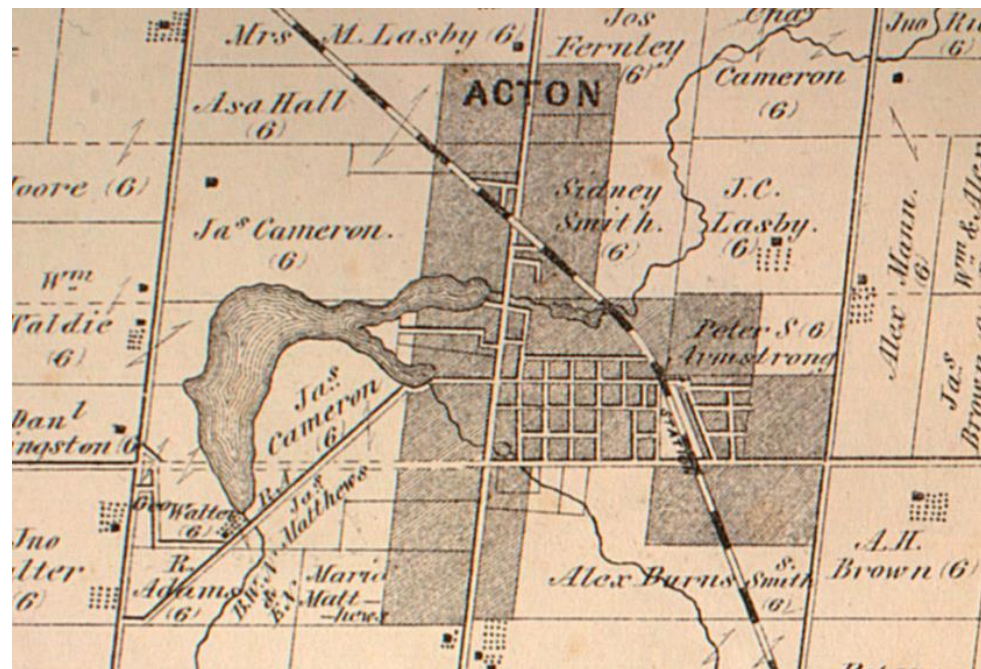
- Hillview Active Living Centre, Acton
- Dollar Stretcher Daze
- Holland Shop
- Acton Optical
- Downtown Acton BIA Office
- Bank of Montreal
- Vineland
- Willow Lane Natural Foods
- And many more across town!

For \$5 per month, subscribe to The Acton Monthly to never miss the latest edition! Send an email to actonmonthly@gmail.com

HOLLAND SHOP
European Deli
Since 1955
Acton, Ontario
519-853-0950
Cold Cuts, Cheese, Gifts & Gift Baskets



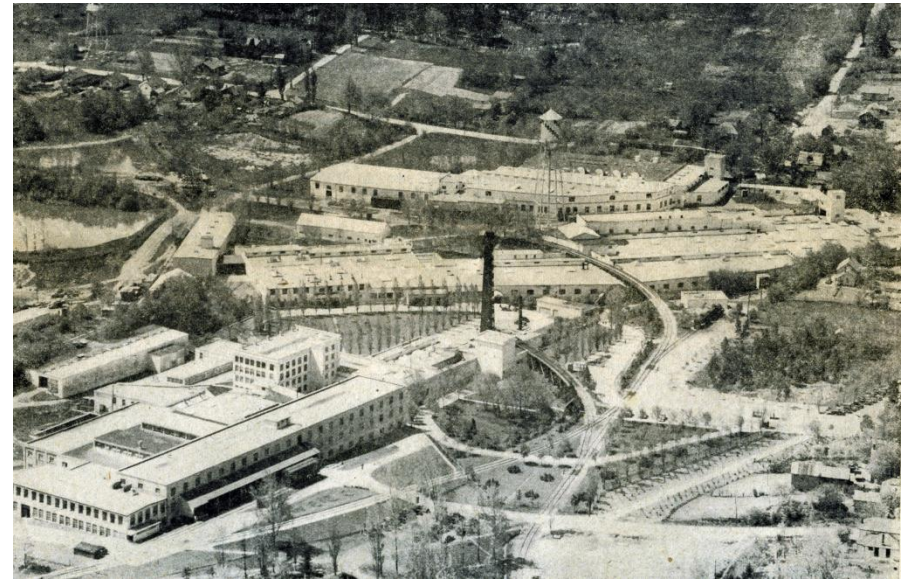
Rev. Ezra Adams



Map of Acton, from Halton County Atlas 1877



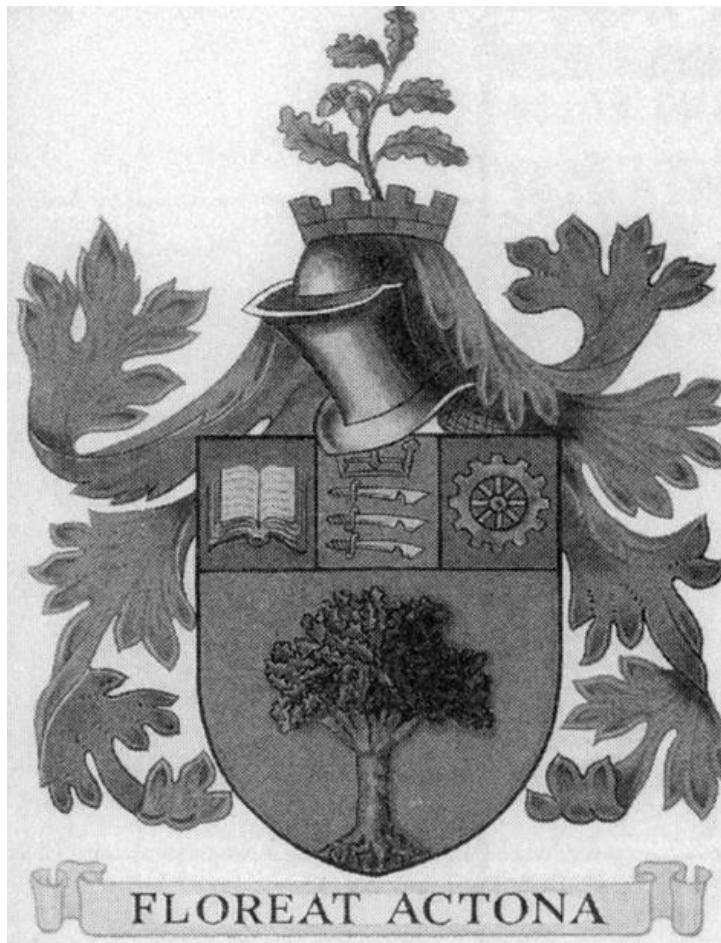
A view of Fairy Lake, looking east towards
the Mill – 1899



The Beardmore Tannery – 1959



The Acton Grand Trunk Railway Station – 1900



It's Halton Hills and Hill's Halton

In a cliffhanger election race for mayor, Tom Hill, reeve of Esquew, edged out Bill Smith, mayor of Georgetown, by 129 votes, to become the first mayor of the northern town with the new name of Halton Hills.

Hill topped the poll with 3651 votes, Smith came second with 3522, Phil Siddall came third with 1923 and William F. Hunter trailed with 1818.

It was a two man race all the way, with Georgetown Councillors William F. Hunter and Phil Siddall failing to take one poll.

Sweep wards
In his home territory of Esquew Tom Hill took

every poll by a wide margin. He repeated his victory in Acton, to make a clean sweep of Wards 1 and 2.

In the Georgetown area Hill Smith ran strongly, winning every poll in Ward 4, and 10 out of 16 in Ward 3.

The factional issue did not stand up in Ward 3 where Tom Hill took six polls handsly.

The predictions of a ten per cent turnout, based on a lack lustre campaign, and supposed apathy, were proven wrong by the 48.7 per cent voter turnout. With 20,000 eligible voters, 10,024 cast their ballots.

Concede defeat
Both Bill Smith and Phil

Siddall conceded defeat at 10:45 p.m. Mr. Siddall said he would not run again.

Late in the evening, Bill Smith said, "I'll had to lose, I lost to a good guy." He said he planned to spend a lot more time with his family and get to know them all over again.

Mr. Smith pointed out he had been in the "rat race" for 12 years, and looked forward to a little peace and quiet. His wife, Marianne, looking radiantly happy, for a defeated candidate's wife, said, "It will be great to have him home for a change."

Mayor elect
Mr. Hill, who may become known as "Bill of Halton Hills", remarked, "I'm glad

it was a good clean campaign with no animosity among the candidates. Somebody had to win, and I'm glad it was me," he added.

The newly elected mayor of the north said his first aim was to unite the three towns into one.

Despite the larger area covered in this election, the results were in by 10:45 p.m., the earliest in many years.

Phil Siddall commented after his defeat, Monday night, "I'll never run again unless there seems to be a real demand. Now I'll return to my eight, six and four year old children who have missed a lot over three years I've been in municipal politics."

Mr. Siddall congratulated Tom Hill on his victory, saying he was glad he pulled so many votes in Georgetown, so he could be "truly the mayor of the whole new town."

Halton Hills is the name chosen by the voters for the town, which will include Acton, Georgetown and Esquew.

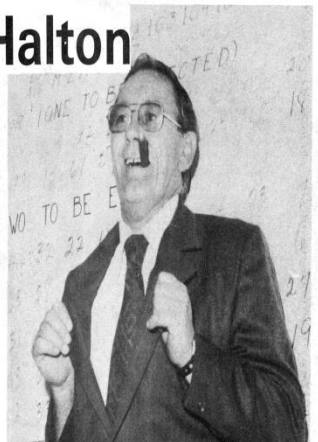
Halton Hills was the choice of 3960 voters, followed by Esquew with 2881 supporters, and North Halton with 2574.

From the number of votes cast for mayor, it is obvious 589 people did not vote for the new name of the northern municipality.

The result — the vote was a surprise to many who had freely predicted a runaway victory for the old name of Esquew. Prior to the election the name of the town was discussed in informal groups more than the merits of the candidates.

Not surprisingly, Esquew was the favorite name in Esquew, (Ward 2), winning every poll. In contrast, Acton did not choose the name in any poll. North Halton won five out of the seven polls, with the remaining two going to Halton Hills.

Georgetown endorsed the name of Halton Hills overwhindmly.



The Acton Free Press

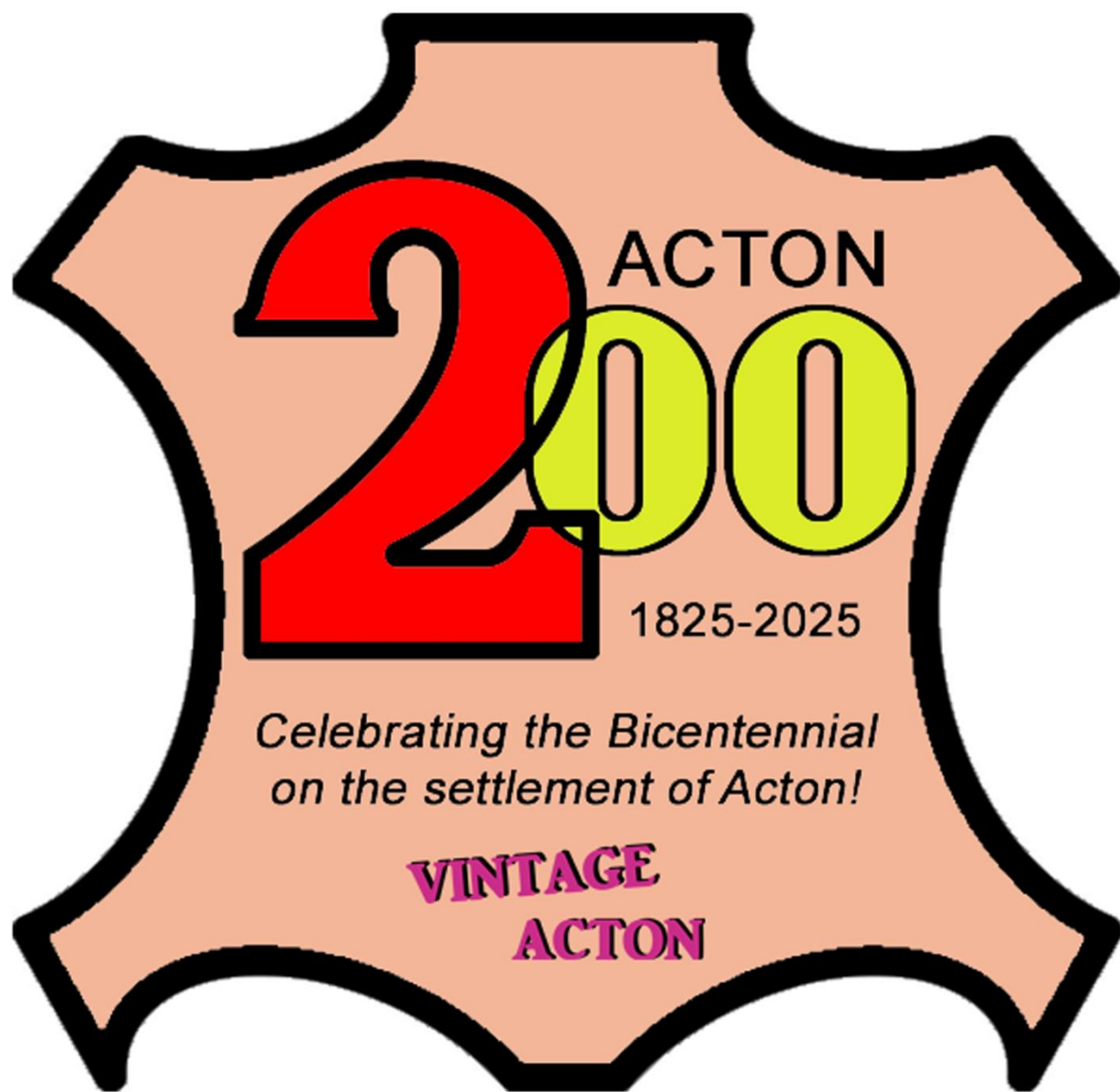
NINETEEN-NINTH YEAR NO. 14

ACTON, ONTARIO, WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 3, 1973

Sixteen Pages—Fifteen Cents

Article from *The Acton Free Press*,
proclaiming Tom Hill as Halton Hills' first
Mayor, from October 3rd, 1973

Acton Coat of Arms — "Floreat Actona"



ACTON

200

1825-2025

*Celebrating the Bicentennial
on the settlement of Acton!*

**VINTAGE
ACTON**

The Bicentennial of Leathertown

Celebrating 200 years of history since Acton's Settlement

With Scott Brooks of **VINTAGE
ACTON**

Sunday, June 29th, 7 P.M. at the
Rotary Bandshell, Prospect Park

Sponsored by:



For more info, email
vintageacton@gmail.com



Upcoming tour dates – July to Oct:

- **Sunday, July 20th at 7 P.M.:** Historic Walking Tour of Downtown Acton. Tour starts at 1 Mill St E
- **Sunday, August 24th at 7P.M.:** Gone, But Not Forgotten Part 2. Tour starts at 1 Mill St E
- **Sunday, October 19th at 2 P.M.:** Tour of Fairview Cemetery. Meet at the cemetery gates

For updates & details on events, visit:

vintageacton.com/upcoming-events



The 'Acton 200' Pin campaign, celebrating Acton while helping out those in need!

VINTAGE ACTON

Sharing Acton's history since February 28th, 2017!



Vintage Acton



@vintage_acton

vintageacton.com