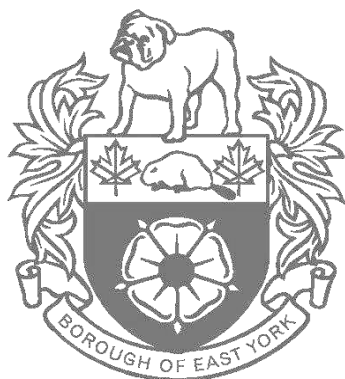


East York Tidbits

Stories About East York Presented by the East York Historical Society

MR. EAST YORK



Perhaps several individuals deserve the title Mr. East York for their lengthy and significant service to the community. One such individual is Arthur Wyatt. The June 1969 issue of the East Yorker newsletter dubbed him Mr. East York for good reason.

Arthur was one of 14 children of English parents, born on August 6, 1880 in a log cabin on the west side of Don Mills Road, near what is now Overlea Boulevard. When he was 3 years old, his family moved to what is now the intersection of Coxwell Avenue and O'Connor Drive. He attended a school that was located on Rivercourt Boulevard and later he attended the old Plains Road School.

He married in 1905 and moved to a frame cottage at the corner of Gamble Avenue and Logan Avenue. He worked for several years for East York Township maintaining roads. Afterward, he worked for the Davis Brick Yards (better known as the Toronto Brick Company).

He enlisted in the First World War in 1916 and spent 3 years overseas. After the war he returned to the brickyards until his retirement in 1939.

Four of his sons went overseas in the Second World War. All returned home. But in 1945 his son Gordon died in Toronto as a result of his wounds suffered during the war.

Known by his many friends as "Archie" he was a life member of the Todmorden Legion Branch No. 10. He sold his house on Gamble Avenue in 1969 to make room for an apartment development. In that same year life brought Archie back to his childhood roots. He purchased a house on Fairside Avenue, near the intersection of Coxwell Avenue and O'Connor Drive, the spot he spent his childhood and the spot his family farmed 85 years earlier.

Archie died in 1976 in Sunnybrook Hospital at the age of 96. He is buried at Pine Hills Cemetery on Birchmount Road in Scarborough. He is the great uncle of the Society's

president, Martin Rainbow. Archie's great grandson, Mark Niezen, a long time East Yorker remembers Archie as a jolly old man, full of life, who always had a smile on his face and a cigar in his mouth.

**Prepared by John Michailidis
June, 2006**

The East York Historical Society is dedicated to preserving and sharing information about East York's rich past. The Society meets 5 times a year usually on the last Tuesday in January, March, May, September and November.

INTERESTED IN THE EAST YORK HISTORICAL SOCIETY, CONTACT Martin Rainbow, President, 416-757-4555, email mrainbow@rogers.com
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