The past couple of months have been pretty busy for forest history folks across the country. We hope you enjoy the news and updates from the people and organizations working to explore and preserve the history of our forests. If you have suggestions for future content, please send them to Rebecca Launchbury at rlaunchbury@cif-ifc.org.

Don’t forget to follow @ForestHistoryCA on Twitter for links, resources, and news as it happens!

**What’s Happening in the World of Forest History?**

**Mike Rosen and Ken Armson of the Forest** History Society of Ontario led a forest history tour of Ottawa in April, as part of this year’s Ontario Professional Forester’s Association annual conference. Two busloads of foresters were toured around the city and discovered some interesting sites relating to Canada’s forest history. The first stop was the house of lumber baron J. R. Booth, the largest producer of timber in the world in the late 19th Century. Booth controlled logging rights to the entire Ottawa Valley watershed and primarily logged white pine. He was also instrumental in establishing the Canada Atlantic Railway, which had the purpose of transporting timber to his mill in Ottawa. The next stop was the Bytown Museum and Rideau Canal’s Ottawa locks. The museum explores the stories of an evolving city.
and its residents from its early days as Bytown to present day Ottawa, and houses a collection of items related to the forest industry, the founding industry of Ottawa. A particular item of interest is the “Hannam Table,” a maquette of the E. B. Eddy Mill circa 1874. In 1851, E. B. Eddy began his business making match sticks from discarded flared white pine logs. By 1870, Eddy was the largest producer of matches in the world, producing 100 million matches per day at his mill on Victoria Island. By this time, he had also diversified the product line to include clothes pegs, wooden pails and corrugated washboards. Our group later visited Victoria Island, which is a focal point of both First Nations and European activity as well as home to the Eddy and Booth Mills. The tour lead the group to two other mills, the Thompson-Perkins Mill and the Bronson Pulp Mill. In 1866, Henry Franklin Bronson partnered with his son Erskine Henry and American Abijah Weston to form Bronson and Weston Co. After their sawmill burnt down in 1900, the company abandoned lumbering and built a pulp mill on Victoria Island. The Ottawa Valley was historically a good site for pulp mills as it was surrounded by trees and had a good water supply, which was required for both energy generation and pulp manufacture. Today, the Bronson Pulp Mill is the location of the Energy Ottawa Building. Next to that is the former Thompson-Perkins Mill, now The Mill restaurant, where we enjoyed a refreshing pint at the end of the tour!

The American Society for Environmental History held its annual conference this year in Toronto on April 3rd to 6th. A highlight was president John McNeill’s address entitled, “Arnold Toynbee: World Environmental Historian?” which presented a biography of Toynbee and explored his view that the environment is an important factor in the success or failure of a civilization. Topics addressed at the conference were incredibly varied and interesting, including “The Fruits and Insects of the Early Middle Ages,” “The Forest Service at War: Exchanging Ideas Across No Man’s Land,” and “Popular Visions of Environmental Anxiety.” A post about the latter session is available at http://niche-canada.org/node/10636 and includes some cool videos. A final highlight of the conference was the Forest History Society breakfast, attended by 35 people representing organizations such as the Forest History Society of Ontario, the Canadian Institute of Forestry, and the University of Toronto. Next year’s conference will take place in San Francisco on March 12th to 16th. Info and registration at http://aseh.net/conference-workshops/2014-conference-san-francisco.

One of the purposes of the Forest History Society of Ontario is to facilitate the placing of forest history collections of importance in appropriate archives where they can be available for research and study. Recently, through the graciousness of Donald S. Macdonald, the FHSO was offered the opportunity of reviewing a collection of diaries and correspondence of his father, Donald Angus Macdonald, the third and last Dominion Forester of Canada. The collection has been catalogued and is now in the archives of the Harriet Irving Library at the University of New Brunswick, Fredericton.

This year marks the 100th anniversary of the Forest Products Association of Canada (formerly Canadian Pulp and Paper Association). Read a brief history of FPAC by President and CEO David Lindsay here: http://www fpac.ca/index.php/en/blog-full/history-of-forest-advocacy-in-canada
The Forest History Society is excited to announce they're cof developing a new documentary film about Carl Schenck and the Biltmore Forest School. *First in Forestry: Carl Schenck and the Biltmore Forest School* will be the first documentary film to examine the pivotal role that Biltmore Estate's chief forester Carl Schenck and America's first school of forestry played in American conservation history. Read more about Carl Schenck and the upcoming film here: [http://foresthistory.org/Events/SchenckFilm.html](http://foresthistory.org/Events/SchenckFilm.html)

The deadline for submitting papers for the special forest history issue of *The Forestry Chronicle* has now passed. We received some really high quality papers covering a wide range of topics from across the country. Many thanks to all the authors who have contributed, and stay tuned for what promises to be an excellent issue!

The Spring 2013 issue of Forestory, the journal of the Forest History Society of Ontario, is now available online. This is a great issue themed “Forest Fire and Firefighting History.” As well as fire related articles and papers, you’ll find news, event information, book reviews and other interesting tidbits. Read the journal here: [http://www.ontarioforesthistory.ca/files/fhs_news_l_vol_4_iss_1_spring_2013.pdf](http://www.ontarioforesthistory.ca/files/fhs_news_l_vol_4_iss_1_spring_2013.pdf)

Early Canadiana Online has scanned and made available issues of *The Canada Lumberman* from 1887 to 1902. You can preview some pages for free or view the entire publication with a subscription. Either way, it's interesting to browse through the magazine and read about the issues facing the forest industry at the time, as well as forestry practices and policies. The magazine is also full of advertisements for tools, machinery and camp supplies, which nicely illustrate the technologies available during this era.


Each month the Canadian Institute of Forestry posts a historic document or photograph from our archives or those of the Canadian Forestry Association. You can view the current and past artefacts (shown below) on our forest history page at [http://cif-ifc.org/site/history_lhistoire](http://cif-ifc.org/site/history_lhistoire).
Upcoming Events

Northeast and Atlantic Environmental History Forum
University of Maine, September 28th 2013.

The Northeast and Atlantic Canada Environmental History Forum will host its second one day academic workshop to examine new approaches to the environmental history of the Northeastern United States and Atlantic Canada, focusing on the social and cultural history of the region as shaped by human interaction with nature as well as a complex natural history of geological upheaval, climatic change, erosion, and renewal.

See more information here: http://niche-canada.org/node/10637

World Congress of Environmental History
Guimarães, Portugal, July 7th – 14th 2014

Deadline for Submissions: August 31st 2013

Submissions for papers and panels are now being received for this important international meeting, to be hosted by the University of Minho and the International Council of Environmental History Organizations. The organizers welcome proposals from all disciplines that address any aspect of environmental history in any historical period. Decisions will be communicated by the end of November 2013. For information about the conference and to submit proposals, please visit www.wceh2014.org.

New Books to Check Out

A good place to Start a Wood Business
by John Munro

An account of the Grieve family's attempts to start a forestry business at Kaipokok Bay in Northern Labrador in the 1930's and 1940's.

To order, please contact the author at: munro.ja@gmail.com

Histoire forestière du Canada
De Gilbert Paille

Order here: http://www.renAUD-
Bray.com/ Livres_Produit.aspx? id=1320717&def=Histoire +foresti%C3%A8re+du +Canada%2C2CPAILLE%2C +GILBERT% 2C9782551252091

The FHABC published a biography of Alan Orr-Ewing, authored by members Gerry Burch and Mike Meagher in 2012. Orr-Ewing’s first job with the B.C. Forest Service was as a summer research assistant in 1935. By 1950 he was specializing in forest genetics and the improvement of douglas-fir. As a result of his success the program expanded to include all major commercial tree species in the province. He was recognized internationally and received the Association of B.C. Forest Professional’s first Distinguished Forester Award in 1970. To obtain a copy of Alan Orr-Ewing’s 134-page biography, please complete and mail the order form here: http://fhabc.org/Orr-Ewing_order_form.pdf.
In the Press/Further Reading

Read our latest Old Growth pieces from *The Forestry Chronicle*!

A Brief History of Canada-China Partnerships in Forestry by Ron Ayling
[http://cif-ifc.org/uploads/Website_Assets/March_April_2013.pdf](http://cif-ifc.org/uploads/Website_Assets/March_April_2013.pdf)


History of the “Forest Capital of Canada” Designation by Emily Gray

Photo caption: Whitecourt and Woodlands County, designated 2013 Forest Capital of Canada.

Swamp white oak nominated as a heritage tree in Niagara Falls

The fate of huge sycamore trees in California, from the 1800s to today

Origins of the US Forest Service motto

Genetically Engineering an Icon: Can Biotech Bring the Chestnut Back to America’s Forests?

Listening to Loggers: Stump to Dump on Vancouver Island
[http://niche-canada.org/node/10689](http://niche-canada.org/node/10689)

Forêt et représentations au Québec : histoire d’une construction sociale aux multiples facettes
[http://niche-canada.org/node/10352](http://niche-canada.org/node/10352)

The Big Tree, Forestry in New Brunswick, and the Value of Nature
[http://niche-canada.org/node/9968](http://niche-canada.org/node/9968)

Become a member of your local forest history society!

Société d'histoire forestière du Québec
[http://shfq.ca/](http://shfq.ca/)

Forest History Association of British Columbia

Forest History Society of Ontario
[http://www.ontarioforesthistory.ca/](http://www.ontarioforesthistory.ca/)

Forest History Association of Alberta
[http://www.albertaforesthistory.ca/](http://www.albertaforesthistory.ca/)