



March, 2011

New Flickr Sets Published

The Elgin County Archives continues to expand its presence on Flickr.com with new additions to its popular photostream at www.flickr.com/photos/elgincountyarchives.

New sets have been published recently featuring:

1. Architect Neil Darrach (1850-1926), who was responsible for the design and construction of numerous iconic St. Thomas and area buildings, including six designated cultural heritage properties – Wellington Street School (1898), St. Thomas City Hall (1898-1899), Elgin County Court House (1898-1899), Southern Loan & Savings Company Building (1899), St. Thomas Public Library (1903) and Church of Christ (Disciples)/ Princess Avenue Playhouse (1906).
2. St. Thomas Public Utilities Commission/ Hydro-Electric Commission of St. Thomas. 2011 marks the centenary of the introduction of hydro-electricity in the City of St. Thomas (March 24, 1911). St. Thomas was the first city in Ontario to sign a contract for hydro, following the establishment of the Hydro Electric Power Commission of Ontario in June, 1906. The contract was signed by St. Thomas Mayor George Geddes and City Clerk W.B. Doherty in the presence of Hydro Chairman Adam Beck in a public ceremony held May 4, 1908.

Watch for new sets celebrating Belmont's 50th anniversary as an incorporated municipality and the 75th anniversary of the Elgin County Library, along with sets focusing on the history of Scott Street School, St. Thomas and Balaclava Street School, St. Thomas, both of which are closing at the end of this school year in June, 2011.