

King's Colourful History

Museum Treats

The King Township Museum is closed now while contractors work toward the reopening date, so here are a few highlights from the museum's past.



In 1972 the very young King Township Historical Society (KTHS) envisioned a place to keep and display historical treasures culled from village and farm attics to commemorate life in pioneer times. In the 1970s when some of York County surplus schoolhouses went on sale, Kinghorn, with roots back to 1847, was bought by the KT Council. The Society leased it at a modest rate; volunteers furnished it with examples of early household items, clothing and farm implements as well as blackboards and students' desks.

The original one-room school has two add-on rooms, one allocated for storage, the other for display and meetings. The property offers a park-like setting for the little church that was trucked from upper Jane Street to sit next to the school, and then the decrepit King railway station came, thanks to money raised by energetic volunteers led by the late John Manson.

KTHS withdrew from rental, and in 2000 the Township appointed a board of management to steer its role as King's cultural centre; it was updated with a heating system and lavatories. Many lively events entertained township residents such as a "Settlers' Day" gala, a costumed Strawberry festival, a fundraising Trunk Sale, a Victorian Christmas tea and a Black History saga on Walter Rolling. In 2004 the restored station drew crowds celebrating its official opening; to everyone's delight, toe-tapping band music set the scene for hometown excitement. So just wait for more fun this fall when we can again enjoy our museum!

Courtesy of King Township Historical Society