

Publisher's Note

As the second volume in his prolific series, *Our Lands Speak*, William (Bill) Finlayson once again brings the past to life. This time, it is through the lives of the generations of people who settled in Queensville, Ontario. *The Archaeology of Five Queensville Farmsteads – a 19th Century Crossroads Community in the Township of East Gwillimbury, Ontario*, affords us a glimpse into what life was like for the master builders of the Sharon Temple, a unique architectural structure in Canada. We learn how they, their families, and many others who built the community and made it their home, lived.

The meticulous archaeological work that Bill and his team completed on the five Queensville farmsteads is documented and photographed, and shared with us in this book. The beautiful images of artifacts give us a fascinating look into the personal lives of the residents, including rare finds of complete or almost complete dinnerware and tableware. Special insights into day-to-day life in 1871 are revealed through entries in the diary of Ezra Doan, the grandson of Ebenezer Doan, a master builder of the Sharon Temple.

Dr. Finlayson's dedication to his craft of unearthing the past, and his passion to share his discoveries with us in the present, help ensure that the history of Ontario—its people, communities, and ancestry—remains vibrant and relevant.

Sheri Andrunyk

Publisher, Author, Speaker, Mentor

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