



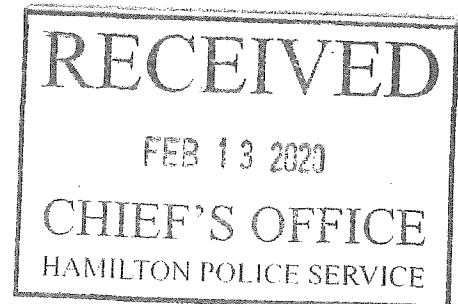
HAMILTON POLICE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

155 King William Street, Hamilton, ON

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4.5(j)

February 10, 2020



Kyle Vermeulen and Ryan Howatt
Hamilton Police Service
155 King William Street
Hamilton, ON L8R 1A7

To PSB for info.

MF 616
13 Feb 2020.

Dear Kyle & Ryan,

On behalf of the Board of Directors of the Hamilton Police Historical Society and Museum, I would like to thank you for transporting the 1856 No. 2 Police Station cornerstone from the Ontario Police College to the Hamilton Police Historical Society and Museum on February 7, 2020.

The No. 2 Police Station was a stone structure erected in 1856 at the north-west corner of James and Stuart Streets in Hamilton and served as a combination fire and police building. The Station was torn down in 1929/1930.

Recently, our Board members were discussing the whereabouts of the No. 2 Police Station cornerstone, but sadly we did not know where one of our earliest artifacts had gone. It wasn't until we came across a 2004 article written in "The Association" magazine by Darryl N. Buckle (retired Police Constable and former Hamilton Police Historian) that lead us to the location of the cornerstone at OPC. The cornerstone was taken to the OPC in 1985 because the museum lacked a permanent location for it.

Darryl Buckle's article went on to talk about our first designated Hamilton Police Historian, Bill Croft (retired Sergeant) who joined the Hamilton Police in 1935; retiring in 1964. Bill spent a great deal of time and effort researching the No. 2 Police Station. From a 1957 article in the Hamilton Spectator, he learned that workmen demolishing a house unearthed a stone bearing "No. 2 Police Station 1856" that was used as a bottom step in a row of stairs leading to the doorway of an old house near Spring Garden. It is believed the stone was taken there after the old No. 2 Station was wrecked in 1929 or 1930 to make way for the expansion of the CNR tracks. Bill Croft located several former police officers who recalled the No. 2 Police Station and he also created a fine drawing of the Station using his artistic talents.

We appreciate the assistance of Sergeants Michael Donaldson and Ken Putt, along with your efforts to return the 1856 No. 2 Police Station cornerstone to Hamilton to be displayed at the

Hamilton Police museum where it will provide others with an opportunity to learn about our rich history. The cornerstone has had quite the history in the last 164 years of which you have now been a part of.

On behalf of the Board of Directors, we wish you all the best in your policing career.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'P.C. David Kerkhof', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

P.C. David Kerkhof, President
on behalf of the Board of Directors of the
Hamilton Police Historical Society and Museum, Inc.

Copy to: Chief of Police Eric Girt, Hamilton Police Service
Sergeant Michael Donaldson, Recruiting
Sergeant Ken Putt, Ontario Police College
Darryl Buckle, former HPS Historian
Human Resource, Hamilton Police Services