Edgeworth Park

Edgeworth Park was located on Teeter Street in Teeterville and was Norfolk County's first privately owned park and museum. Henry Bartholomew was the original owner of the land. He put the property up for sale in order to settle an estate. Many local people wanted to preserve the area for public use and it was hoped this could be accomplished through community efforts. Unfortunately this didn't come about and Mr. Bartholomew began to cut down some of the valuable trees on the property. At this time James Edgeworth, a native of Teeterville stepped in and bought the land that happened to be located across the road from his ancestral home. His wish was to save the property from deforestation and to create an outdoor museum. Mr. Edgeworth began to plant trees to honour former prime ministers and early area settlers.

He also began filling the park with historic buildings such as the Mason House and the Smoke House built by John Maracle in 1810. It is believed that Mr. Maracle, on of the first persons to settle in the area, lived in the building before converting it to a smoke house. Mr. Edgeworth also constructed a roof-covered cage to house his collection of over 150 ox yokes. Both these buildings along with some of the ox yokes and other curios and antiques collected by Mr. Edgeworth are now located at the Teeterville Pioneer Museum.

The museum at Edgeworth Park was open to the public in 1929 and by 1938 it was reported that 25,000 people visited the site over the course of that summer!

Today much of the park is privately owned but it still retains many of the trees that James Edgeworth planted. The Plighting Stone and the Native Canadian Grinding Stone on display at the Teeterville Museum also came from Edgeworth Park.

James Edgeworth at Edgeworth Park in front of roof-covered cage containing ox yokes.
Teeterville, Ontario
~1930~

L to R Miss Mabel Magill, Mr. Edgeworth, Ethel Lindabury, Mr. McGill, Bob Lindabury
at Edgeworth Park – Teeterville, Ontario
Smoke house is in the background.