

THE ERLAND LEE HOME 1973



The Erland Lee Home was bought by the Federated Women's Institutes of Ontario in June 1972 to honour Erland Lee and his wife Janet.

Adelaide Hoodless had the initial idea and the Lees were able supporters in organizing the first branch of the Women's Institute.

In August 1973 over 400 Women Institute members gathered at the old Lee home, situated on Ridge Road, Stoney Creek, for the official opening of their newly-acquired property. Since the previous year the house and grounds have received many improvements but only such as would reflect the former appearance when the family lived there. The last of the family residing there were Frank, son of Mr. and Mrs. Erland Lee, and his wife. Their daughters Mrs. R.L. Davis, Grimsby, Mrs. Frank Ryan, Oakville, Miss Alison Lee, Guelph, and Mrs. Leslie Tulk of Newfoundland, as well as two daughters of Erland Lee: Miss Marjory Lee, Hamilton, and Mrs. H.C. Freal of Stoney Creek were honoured guests at the Opening.

Greetings were brought by the Honourable Wm. Stewart, Minister of Agriculture; from Associated Countrywomen of the World by Dr. Irene Spry; the President of the Federated Women's Institutes of Canada; and the President of the Federated Women's Institutes of Ontario. Mrs. Leslie Tulk expressed the pleasure of the Lee family that their former home is now being preserved by the Women's Institutes.

Some of the original furniture is still there; one piece being the dining room table on which the original Constitution was written; and another is a sideboard. Smaller articles of that period have been donated by various Institutes, and all are on display there.

Bluewater W.I. and Shallow Lake W.I. made a bus trip to the Erland Lee Home in September of 1973.

Picture and account by Mrs. W.J. Turner March 1974.