



## Archives Unveils Commemorative Exhibit:

### ***“White Pine College: Gillies Mill and the Village of Braeside”***

The Arnprior & McNab/Braeside Archives is proud to present a new online exhibit developed with the support of the Virtual Museum of Canada’s Community Stories Investment Program.

#### **For release on or after June 26, 2020:**

The 150th anniversary of the establishment of the Gillies’ Bros. Lumber Mill is upon us. There is no better time than now to commemorate the mill’s history and that of its relationship to the people of the Village of Braeside. Referred to as ‘White Pine College’, the mill was a viable alternative to higher education for the hundreds of young men who worked there over the years. Almost no trace of the mill remains today, but the community’s memories of it are still strong.

The need for a commemoration of this important local history has resulted in the creation of an online exhibit, hosted by the Virtual Museum of Canada. Archivist and exhibit curator Laurie Dougherty conceptualized a virtual exhibit to tell the story of Braeside and Gillies Mill and began conducting oral history interviews and researching the history of the mills in 2014. Summer students and volunteers assisted the archivist over the next five years to create an engaging exhibit featuring vivid photographs and audio clips from the interviews. At the Arnprior & McNab/Braeside Archives’ AGM this past February, a preview presentation of the exhibit given by Dougherty, packed the room with people who remembered working at the mill and were eager to share their memories.

The Virtual Museum of Canada, managed by the Canadian Museum of History with the financial support of the Government of Canada is the largest digital source of stories and experiences shared by Canada’s museums and heritage organizations. It is with their generous support that this long dreamt-of exhibit could become a reality.

See the exhibit here: [http://www.virtualmuseum.ca/community-stories\\_histoires-de-chez-nous/white-pine-college-gillies-mill-braeside\\_scierie-gillies/](http://www.virtualmuseum.ca/community-stories_histoires-de-chez-nous/white-pine-college-gillies-mill-braeside_scierie-gillies/) (After Friday only)

Accompanying materials, such as an interactive map of Braeside as well as a timeline of events are available on the Archives’ website, here: <https://www.adarchives.org/learn-explore/exhibits/white-pine-college-gillies-mill-and-the-village-of-braeside/>

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