

CULTURAL MOMENT

ARMY JACKET OF JOE RAFTIS

This army jacket belonged to Joe Raftis of Arthur, who served in Canada, England, France, Holland and Germany in WWII with the Lorne Scots of Canada.

The Lorne Scots (Peel, Dufferin and Halton Regiment) were formed September 14, 1866 and are a Primary Reserve infantry regiment of the Canadian Army. It is part of Land Force Central Area's 32 Canadian Brigade Group. The Lorne Scots deployed a great number of units in the Second World War as headquarters defense and employment platoons, and since 1945 and have had many soldiers deploy as individual augmentees to overseas missions tasked with peacemaking operations in the Middle East, Golan Heights, Namibia, Cambodia, Cyprus, the Former Yugoslavia and Afghanistan.

This piece of history can now be viewed in the archives at the Arthur & District Chamber of Commerce office.

Arthur is known as being "Canada's Most Patriotic Village," as during the Second World War the population of Arthur was approximately 890. 126 men and women of the community enlisted in the Canadian Armed Forces meaning that 1 out of 7 residents were in uniform during WWII. By the end of WWII a total of 338 residents had enlisted from the Arthur community and 25 had been killed in action. This enlistment rate was the highest percentage for a community in Canada.