

Preserving, promoting, and developing Wellington North's unique cultural resources to build a vibrant community and a prosperous economy.

## CULTURAL MOMENT FOR AUGUST 14<sup>™</sup> CELEBRATES ARTHUR CENOTAPH

## Arthur's Beautiful War Memorial

The following is a re-print of an article, exactly 100 years ago today, from the August 14, 1923, issue of the Toronto Daily Star titled "Arthur's Beautiful War Memorial". If you would like to read more about all the work that went into building the cenotaph, former Advertiser columnist Stephen Thorning wrote a column titled

"Arthur War Memorial unveiled in 1923", which can be found on the Wellington Advertiser website.

"In the town of Arthur, on the Owen Sound and Hamilton highway (modern-day Highway 6) twenty-five miles north of Guelph, stands a war memorial, which for originality of design and beauty of conception is not excelled by any in the province. Arthur evolved something of its own to mark its respect and love of the boys it knew who never came back.



This beautiful cenotaph is made of field stone selected from the countryside about Arthur. It stands in a beautiful little park in the centre of the town. The centre motif is a wall twenty-one feet long and eight feet high in which is set a handsome marble cross and on the cross is an inverted sword of bronze and the victor's laurel wreath. Two tablets bear the names of the fallen while two other tablets bear the names of those who served overseas from the community. Two flanking walls at an angle are twelve feet long and two feet high. Before the cenotaph beneath the symbolic sword is a tomb. The whole scheme will be backed by dark evergreen trees. The actual construction of the memorial was entrusted to Eddie Doherty, a man well up in years, and a master mason, who scoured the countryside for the stones desired, which were contributed by the people. The architectural design was by Walker and Gibson. Lieutenant-Col. Gibson of this firm is himself an old Arthur boy and commanded some of the Arthur boys overseas."

The tablets to the fallen bear the following names: Edward Arnold, Stanley Brocklebank M.C., Andrew Battle, Alf. Bond, John Bowman, Walter Burton, James Cantlon, Robert Chambers, Arnold Cole, Alex Dunbar, Harry Fessey, Norman Galloway, Donald Gibson, Frank Gleeson, Alex Graham, Samuel Green, Wesley Green, Leo Griffin, Roy Haldane, Jas. Hanson, Ira Hathaway, Elwood Hewitt, Joseph Howson, Robert Malette, George Milne, Herbert McDougall, Gordon McTaggart, Isaac Ritchie, Patrick Scholes, Ivor Small, Wallace Small, Harvey Small, Connor Smith, Henry Tarney, Louis Tucker, Howard Tucker, Howard Washburn, Milton Waters, George Woodcock. – Photograph by G. Jean Adair, Arthur"

Submitted by Tim McIntosh, Wellington North Cultural Roundtable