ARTHUR GARRATT DORLAND, BA, MA, PHD, LLD
Inducted 2003

Arthur G. Dorland was born in Bloomfield on July 30, 1887 to John Trumpour Dorland and Lavina Hubbs. He had a staunch Quaker upbringing in his family. They travelled to England in 1890 where his father worked as a Quaker preacher for some time. After his father’s death, the family returned and at age 15 Arthur attended the orthodox Friends co-educational boarding school, Pickering College, located in Pickering, Ontario.

He graduated with his BA in English and History from Queens University in 1910, and taught for the next two years in Pickering College. In 1912 he earned his MA from Yale. He was married in 1912 to Ellen U. Malone, having met her while in Pickering College. He returned to Yale in 1914 to do post-graduate studies with a Currier Fellowship. In 1916 Arthur became a lecturer at Queens University and taught its first ever course in American History. In 1920 he was hired as a professor and head of the History Department for the University of Western Ontario. In 1927 he received his PhD for his thesis researching the Society of Friends. He taught at UWO in London for 36 years and retired in 1956. He was awarded his LLD from Western following his retirement. In his retirement years, he continued his historical researches and was a Fellow of the Royal Society of Canada.

Arthur was actively involved with the Society of Friends throughout his life. He set up the Quaker Collection at Lawson Library in UWO, and served as its first curator. Over the years, he served as clerk of the Canadian Yearly Meeting, Chairman of the Peace Committee, member of Pickering College Board, and contributor to the Canadian Friends Historical Society, since it was formed in 1972.

Even though most of his ancestors were Quaker and arrived in the Adolphustown area at the time of the Loyalists, he was also an active Loyalist researcher, being a descendant of Loyalist Paul Trumpour. He became a Charter Member of the Bay of Quinte Branch UELAC in 1956. From the 1960s until his death he was a regular contributor of articles to the Loyalist Gazette.

Arthur died in Toronto on June 26, 1979 and was buried in Wellington Cemetery. Following his death, the Arthur Dorland Friends Collection was established at Pickering College, Newmarket. This evolved into the Quaker Library and Archives of Canada, and the appropriately named Arthur Garratt Dorland Reference Library. His books include “A History of the Society of Friends in Canada”, “Former Days and Quaker Ways”, “The Quakers in Canada – A History”, and “A Hundred Years of Quaker Education in Canada”. He is recognized for his important contributions to history.