MABEL VICTORIA GUTZEIT UE

Inducted 2017 September 9

Mabel Victoria Fairfield was born in Belleville in 1880 to David Fairfield and Caroline Werden, and descendant of loyalists William Fairfield Sr. and Captain James Fulton.

Her father worked as an auctioneer in Belleville and her mother a seamstress. Her husband William Henry Gutzeit was a musician and both Mabel and William were residing in Toronto on their marriage in 1911. He graduated as a doctor of music and was an accomplished organist, composer and choir director in Toronto for many years. After their marriage they lived at 184 Bathurst Street in Toronto. By 1921 they were living at 35 Willcox in Toronto.

In the 1920s, Mabel became actively involved in the United Empire Loyalist Association of Canada through the Toronto branch and was made a life member in 1933. During the Loyalist Sesquicentennial celebrations in 1934, she was a member of the Ladies Committee for the UELAC and convenor of the entertainment at the event held over several days at the auditorium of the Canadian National Exhibition.





In 1938 they purchased the historic family home in Bath, built by William Fairfield Jr. in 1796 and resided there for many years. They had a very active social life in Bath, holding many musical events and collecting antique paintings and furniture for their home. Dr. Gutzeit died there in 1949.

When the Bay of Quinte Branch UEL was formed in 1956, she was made an honorary vice-president, along with Adelaide McLaughlin. She donated several items to the UEL Museum in Adolphustown. In 1961 she bequeathed

her home in Bath and its contents to the St. Lawrence Parks Commission to be a provincial park and museum. Some of her papers on the family history were donated to the Lennox and Addington Historical Society. Mabel died in 1968 and was buried in the family plot in Belleville Cemetery.

Mabel Gutzeit was inducted into the Loyal Americans Hall of Honour by our President Peter Johnson at our branch meeting on September 9, 2017.

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