

Accessibility Planning

Mississippi Valley Textile Museum



MV TM

MISSISSIPPI VALLEY
TEXTILE MUSEUM



The sacred land on which Mississippi Mills is now located has been a site of human activity for over 10,000 years and is rich in Indigenous history. This land is the ancestral and unceded territory of the Algonquin Anishinaabe Nation. We are grateful to the Algonquin ancestors who cared for the land and water in order that we might meet here today.

MV TM



Making the Building Accessible

- 2007: A 5-year building restoration and renovation plan is developed using the 2005 Building Needs Assessment document prepared by Commonwealth Historic Resources Management of Perth



Making the Building Accessible

- 2008: installing drywall, track lighting, and insulation in the Wool Hall Gallery ceiling
 - \$15,000 from the Ontario Trillium Foundation
 - \$36,098 from Parks Canada's National Historic Sites Cost Sharing Program
 - \$18,500 from community donations



Making the Building Accessible

- 2011: \$32,690 from the Enabling Accessibility Fund
 - to install an accessible ramp at Museum's rear main entrance and a new accessible washroom on first floor
 - to upgrade the second-floor washroom to make it accessible
 - to increase its rear parking lot to 10 paved spaces with parking lines, concrete parking curbs, and signage
- 2013: Funds donated by the Dolgoy Family (\$8,500) allow installation of exterior lighting at all entrances, exits and, parking



Making the Building Accessible

- 2014: \$62,400 from the Ontario Trillium Foundation and \$73,029 from the Canada Cultural Spaces Fund allow construction of elevator shaft, installation of an elevator, and installation of push buttons for all doorways leading to and from the elevator
- Push buttons for all doorways have since been updated to contactless motion sensors



Making the Collections Accessible

- 2009: \$18,000 from the Museums Assistance Program to catalogue the Museum's library and artifact collection, including the purchase of PastPerfect
 - All research and artifact holdings documented, photographed, and entered into Past Perfect
- The collections are made publicly accessible on the Museum's website



Museum Artifacts

Search our collection of 3,000 artifacts

Explore our vast artifact collection dedicated to preserving the history of industrial woollen mills and the mill workers in the Mississippi Valley. We have over 3,000 artifacts ranging from textile machinery to pay stubs.

[Search Artifacts](#)

Making the Collections Accessible

- 2013: Digitization of the Almonte Gazette
 - Digital recognition software makes keyword search possible
 - The collection is publicly available on the Museum's website
 - Funds obtained in partnership with the Almonte Public Library and the Elizabeth Kelly Library Foundation
 - Funds secured from Museum & Technology Fund (\$40,733), the Elizabeth Kelly Library Foundation (\$5,181), and the Pragnell Family (\$5,004)



The Almonte Gazette

The Mississippi Valley Textile Museum is pleased to make The Almonte Gazette archive available online. This invaluable resource was digitized in 2012, creating an archive of searchable content online.

The Almonte Gazette has been an integral part of the town of Almonte's history and its contents can now be mined online for everything from council meetings to genealogical confirmation of births, deaths and marriages within the community and environs.

The Museum acknowledges and thanks the Documentary Heritage Communities Program – Library and Archives Canada – whose support made this project possible.

[Search the Almonte Gazette](#)

Making the Museum Accessible

- Captions included in all videos for the permanent exhibit
- Pedals for video playback
- Image descriptions used in social media posts
- Outreach to youth, 2SLGBTQIA+, Indigenous, Black, People of Colour, immigrant, and differently-abled folks



What's Next?

- Continue working with diverse groups and fostering new partnerships
- Focus on bringing more inclusive representation to the Museum's exhibits and within the organization
- Outreach to youth, 2SLGBTQIA+, Indigenous, Black, People of Colour, immigrants, and differently-abled folks
- Update pedals to motion sensors for video playback
- Incorporate accessibility features into new exhibits
- Redesign of the Museum's website to include accessibility tools

Please email me at m.rikley-lancaster@mvtm.ca with any questions.

MVTM

