

ASSOCIATION OF ONTARIO LAND SURVEYORS
REPORT OF THE BIOGRAPHY COMMITTEE



WM. HARVEY HALL, D.L.S., P. Eng.
1913-1975

Harvey Hall was born in Ottawa on January 1st, 1913 to William Fondger Hall and Annie Elizabeth (Bulmer) Hall and received his early education in Ottawa. He left home at the age of 18 and worked his way through the United States and became involved in the Escobar Rebellion in Mexico in 1929. Upon return to Canada Harvey completed his formal education in Belleville in 1932.

From 1936 to 1938 he served with the Abraham Lincoln Batalion in the Spanish Civil War where he sustained severe injuries. Harvey joined the Royal Canadian Engineers in September of 1939 and saw action from 1940 to 1945 becoming Company Sergeant Major of the Second Canadian Field Survey Company.

In 1946 Harvey joined the legal surveys division of the the Department of Mines and Resources and was first commissioned D.L.S. having articulated under Col. W. K. MacDonald, D.L.S., B.C.L.S. He served articles under Col. E. G. MacKay of Hamilton and was admitted as an O.L.S. in 1947. He later qualified as a Professional Engineer in the Province of Ontario.

Harvey started his private practice in Kitchener about 1948 and retired after 25 years of practice in 1973. In the early 1950's he served as City Surveyor and established a grid mapping system for the City of Kitchener. Using control survey methods he based the grid systems on the Geodetic Survey of Canada datum. This mapping continues to play a vital role for the municipality.

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BIOGRAPHY REPORT

Harvey was a member of the Royal Canadian Legion and the Kitchener-Waterloo Press Club.

Harvey Hall loved Mexico and visited that country often. During his retirement years the Halls spent half the year in Mexico and half in Southampton. Harvey died in Oaxaca, Mexico on December 1st, 1975 leaving his wife Eleanor and two daughters, Mrs. Carley Toth of Willowdale and Mrs. Claudette Millar of Cambridge.

Many colourful stories have been related about the experiences of Harvey Hall. He was a restless person, unquestionably an adventurer but above all, a truly free spirit.

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