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**Preserving Oxford County's Heritage**  
**Film about County Jail Reminds People of the not so Distant Past**

Woodstock – The Oxford County Board of Health is located in the former County Gaol (jail). Recently, a film was produced about the building and its unique history. It will be shown as a launch event for Doors Open Oxford at Theatre Woodstock on September 7<sup>th</sup>.

“The film depicts the architectural significance of this building which gained further attention as a result of its award-winning redesign to its current use as the County Board of Health,” explains Cathy Bingham from Tourism Oxford.

Back in the days the building was an operating jail, living conditions were less than ideal. It was crowded, dark and musty. Proper heat and ventilation were almost non-existent. There were several deaths in the jail in the late 1800's due to "fever and want of proper care" and "undue exposure to the very inclement weather".

The film, entitled “Oxford County Jail” was created by R. Bruce Flowers. It is one of two films being shown for free at Theatre Woodstock on Friday, September 7<sup>th</sup>, starting at 7pm. Bruce, a talented sculptor and educator, was born and raised in Woodstock, Ontario. He has created and financed the film to do his part to preserve some of the area's history. Copies of the film will also be available, by reservation, through Tourism Oxford (519-539-9800 ext. 3355 – [tourism@county.oxford.on.ca](mailto:tourism@county.oxford.on.ca)).

In addition to the film, Bruce also has a show starting this weekend at the Ingersoll Creative Arts Centre (519-485-4691 - [www.creativeartscentre.com](http://www.creativeartscentre.com))

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