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# *The Griffin*

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## **Ode to Trinity Anglican Church**

*By Janet Morris, with assistance of Lorraine Slopek of the Nova Scotia and PEI Diocese*



This ‘Church-on-the-Green’ is set back from Cogswell Street, elevated above Brunswick Street and behind the “Twelve Apostles” churchyard townhouses. Its street presence is diminished as the green of the lawn, the semi-circular drive and the large (and one notably dead) trees are what first capture the eye. However, lift your gaze and you will note an unusual spire, which is an introduction to the community of the undeclared Brunswick Heritage District, and its distinctive feature of church spires. Indeed, this little stretch of Halifax remains very much intact from its 19th

Century roots. The spire of Trinity Church, the spire of the Church of the Redeemer (now the Marley Condominium complex), the spire of St. Patrick’s Church, the dome of St. George’s Round Church, and, in the distance, the tiny spire of the Little Dutch Church, all continue to grace the streetscape. The only perversion of the nineteenth century street scene is the mass of Oceanview Towers, intrusively set beside the lovely West House.

Trinity Church, initially part of the parish of St. Paul’s-Salem Chapel, as it was first known, was situated on Jacob Street, which has disappeared under the tentacles of the Scotia Square adjunct, the Trade Mart building. In 1866, a large brick church christened “Trinity Church” was opened on the Jacob Street site. By the early 20th century, the religious fervour of the era could not be accommodated in this edifice. When the Imperial Troops departed the city in 1906, the Garrison Chapel, which had been the church for the troops since 1846, was placed on the market. Trinity Church saw an opportunity to secure the site and build a new church on ample and beautiful grounds. The first service in the Old Garrison Chapel as the “Parish Church of Trinity” was held in 1907. In 1912, a new Parish Hall, adjoining the church, was opened.

The Halifax Explosion of 1917

completely wrecked the old church, but the Parish Hall stood, and the Hall temporarily served as the church. In time, a new church was built on the old granite foundation, with the same outside Greek Temple appearance as the old church. Disaster struck again on March 5, 1928 when both buildings were destroyed by fire. Many felt the church would not be rebuilt, but donations flowed in and the cornerstone of the new church was laid in 1928. This time, the granite foundation was used as part of the new design.

During World War II the church hall, in close proximity to the Cogswell Street Military Hospital, was taken over by the Canadian Government as auxiliary to the hospital. Sunday schools were conducted in the church proper, and groups met in the church basement until 1946.

But can such a church, only three long blocks from the Town Clock, resist the assaults of the 21st century? It seems probably not. Although the "HRM by Design" project has taught us to determine distinctive features of a neighbourhood to be enhanced in the design process, this test does not seem to apply to the downtown, where heritage may be stifled between, underneath, and beside more massive glass towers, which, by their juxtaposition, are said to enhance heritage. Somehow, this church-on-the-green has been incorporated into the downtown picture.

The MPS, which still applies, allows the proposed development as-of-right. The current proposal is not a matter for public debate; a six-storey hotel set back ten feet from the streetline in a massive building encompassing the whole of this and an adjoining lot, together with an eleven storey residential tower above the hotel, are not 'objectionable'. One cannot oppose the project, notwithstanding the scale will be inconsistent with what lies behind it. It will destroy a church spire, a distinctive characteristic of the neighbourhood, and impair the dominant low-rise character of the undeclared Brunswick Street Heritage area.

Since the war, the church's efforts in beautifying the grounds, purchasing a rectory, re-roofing the buildings with fireproof shingles, are now all for naught. The church has voted to close, and has been sold to a developer who has undertaken to build a new church at the top of Fairview. The church, on its 1846 granite foundation, along with its spacious hall, housing a gymnasium long recognized as the best connected with any parish in the City, will, it seems, vanish as thoroughly as its predecessor on Jacob Street. Gone too, will be the commodious grounds, a green introduction to the "north suburbs" of Halifax, to be replaced by a concrete conglomerate with a green roof, benefitting only those residing in the high rise residential

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## *The Griffin*

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[heritage.trust@ns.sympatico.ca](mailto:heritage.trust@ns.sympatico.ca)

## The Three Lives of Lord Dalhousie



The Heritage Trust's April Lecture by Dr. Marie Elwood was entitled "George Ramsay, 9th Earl of Dalhousie". Marie is an expert on this gentleman, and has a long-standing acquaintance with his ancestral Scottish home and that of his wife's family, and with their present-day descendants. She has recently been acting as an advisor in the mounting of an exhibition on Lord Dalhousie at the National Gallery in Ottawa. The exhibit will come to Halifax next January, and this talk gave us a fascinating preview of its subject.

Marie noted that the title of "Earl" is the oldest among the British gentry, and that the Ramsay family who became the Earls of Dalhousie are among the oldest of the Scottish nobility. George Ramsay, the 9th Earl, was born in 1770, within a year of the births of both Napoleon and Wellington. The connection among these three was to be renewed at a later date.

Young Lord Ramsay was educated at Edinburgh High School along with Sir Walter Scott. On leaving school, he joined the army. This marked the beginning of the first phase of his adult life, during which he served as a military officer. He was posted with the Queen's Royal Regiment to the West Indies, Holland and Ireland, before the outbreak of the Napoleonic Wars, during which he served under one of his near-contemporaries, the Duke of Wel-

lington, and fought against the other, Napoleon Bonaparte.

(An interesting note: Marie explained that Wellington's nickname "the Iron Duke" came not from his sternness of character, but from his having had iron bars installed on the windows of the House of Lords as a security measure!)

Lord Dalhousie took part in the Egyptian campaign which pitted the British forces against Napoleon, and which was fought on an intellectual as well as a military level. Napoleon sent to Egypt, ahead of his army, a group known as the "100 Savants" including historians and archaeologists, who were encouraged to study the artefacts of ancient Egypt. Among these was a scholar named Denon, who wrote a comprehensive book on Egypt. Napoleon's army took control of Egypt, and the French fleet raided Malta as it attempted to secure the Mediterranean. The treasure ship that was said to contain the pillaged treasure of the Knights of St. John was sunk by Nelson, who continued to pursue Napoleon's forces until defeating them at the Battle of the Nile.

Meanwhile, on land, Lord Dalhousie served under Sir Ralph Abercrombie in the campaign to remove the French from Egypt. Not to be outdone on the intellectual level by Napoleon and his Savants, he detailed one of his officers, John Elliott Woolford, who had some drawing and surveying skills, not only to record the campaign route of the army, but also to make sketches of the scenery and archaeological artefacts they encountered. The result was a portfolio recording the British Expedition to Egypt, which Lord Dalhousie brought back to England and stored in his library at Dalhousie Castle. This is the only contemporary record of the campaign, at the end of which the British took possession of the Rosetta Stone.

Lord Dalhousie's final military campaign was at the Battle of Waterloo, where he served with distinction as a staff officer. Once again

he had a visual record made, this time in the form of a scroll with a diagram of the battle-field at Waterloo. But by now he was ready to move on, and sought a colonial administrative position which would pay better than the army.

The second phase of Lord Dalhousie's life began when, after his marriage to Christina Broun, a Scottish heiress, he was appointed Lieutenant Governor of Nova Scotia. He arrived here in 1816, and during his term of office he travelled widely in order to get to know the province that he was administering. He brought with him Major Woolford, the draftsman who had accompanied him on his military campaigns. Woolford travelled with the Lieutenant Governor, and made many sketches of the various places in Nova Scotia that interested his employer. Lord Dalhousie himself had kept a journal since 1800, so he, too, provided a record of his activities. As a result of this documentation, we know quite a lot about his travels in Nova Scotia. He was usually accompanied by his wife, "Lady D". They also made an expedition one summer to Niagara Falls.

Lord Dalhousie took an interest in education, and was unhappy with the requirements of King's College that students should be Anglicans. This dissatisfaction resulted in the establishment of the university that bears his name.

One of His Lordship's good friends here was Richard John Uniacke, and it was during one of his visits to Mount Uniacke that he learned of the death of the Duke of Richmond, the Governor of Upper and Lower Canada. The news came in the middle of the night with the beating on the front door of Uniacke House by the messenger who had been despatched to bring word of this event. It was to affect Lord Dalhousie's life directly, as shortly afterward he was appointed Governor General of the Canadas.

Marie drew a parallel between this knocking on the door and the interruption, by a similar knocking, of a ball given in Brussels by the same Duke of Richmond, then the British

Ambassador, on the eve of Waterloo with the news of the impending battle. Another interesting coincidence is that the Duke was born in a barn, as a result of his mother's being an ardent horsewoman who had refused to let her advanced pregnancy deter her from her sport. His death, attributed to the bite of a rabid fox, also took place in a barn.

Lord Dalhousie left Nova Scotia in 1820, and served as Governor General for eight years. During his time he continued to travel. He visited a Hudson's Bay Company's trading post, travelling by canoe through the Great Lakes. He took a great interest in the construction of the Rideau Canal, and kept documents made by the surveyors, that are now in the possession of Lady Dalhousie's descendants of Coulton House.

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### **Heritage Trust of Nova Scotia Dues**

Membership fees are due for the period of January 1 to December 31, 2008. Send your cheque to our office at: PO Box 36111, RPO Spring Garden Road, Halifax, NS B3J 3S9

Student	\$5.00
Senior	\$10.00
Single	\$15.00
Senior Couple	\$15.00
Family	\$20.00
Group	\$25.00
Life member	\$500.00

To enquire about your membership, please contact the office at (902)-423-4807 or [heritage.trust@ns.sympatico.ca](mailto:heritage.trust@ns.sympatico.ca)

## Jane's Walks

*Jane Kansas*



The first Sunday of May 2008 was a nice day-some sun, some breeze. A good day for a stroll. About 150 people showed up for the inaugural Halifax Jane's Walk. The strollers were lead by two Janes (who insist the collective noun for Jane is either "a Calamity of Janes" or "Calamity of Janes") but that was only a fluke. The walk, and the other Jane's Walks held across Canada on the first weekend of May are named not for Wright or Kansas, but for Jane Jacobs.

Jane Jacobs was American-born but made Toronto her home for decades. She first became known with the 1961 publication of her book, "The Death and Life of Great American Cities", a sharp look at urban renewal policies. She wrote other books and was to many a touchstone, a philosopher, a warrior and a prophet.

Jacobs died in Toronto in 2006 and the next year saw the first Jane's Walk in Toronto. This year with the help of executive director Jane(!) Farrow (formerly of Halifax), the Walks were held in 11 Canadian cities. The Jane's Walk website has the definitive description of the event: "Jane's Walk is a coordinated series of free neighbourhood walking tours given by locals who care passionately about

where they live, work and play. Jane's Walk is about raising urban literacy by offering a pedestrian-focused event that combines insights into urban history, planning, design and civic engagement with the simple act of walking and observing."

In Halifax, the walk was 90 minutes long and took in the sights on Robie, Agricola, May, McCully and BelleAire Streets. Some sights



[are] historical and visible only in the mind's eye: The Robie Street Shul [synagogue] used to be where O'Regans is now. Some buildings [are] still standing and home to former land-

marks: the SPCA and Morgentaler Clinic were on McCully Street. And some sights [are] so new as to be unfinished: the Nile House on Charles Street. Jane Wright talked about the history of her own home, and Jane Kansas pointed out her back yard. They are both proud and passionate about their neighbourhood.

Next year the Janes want more walks happening in Halifax. "Maybe ten or fifteen walks," Wright says, "all over town". Kansas agrees. "In an ideal world, in 2009 we will facilitate many walks, led by all kinds of people".

The Jane's Walk website encourages all kinds of walks and leaders.

For more information on Jane Jacobs and the Jane's Walks see [www.janeswalk.net](http://www.janeswalk.net). If you want to lead a walk in Nova Scotia next year, contact Jane Wright at [janewright@eastlink.ca](mailto:janewright@eastlink.ca) or Jane Kansas at [Kansas@chebucto.ca](mailto:Kansas@chebucto.ca)

## Third Annual Heritage Officers' Conference: "Re-Using Old Building-Tools and Techniques for their Adaptive Re-Use"

By: Maggie Holm



On March 19th and 20th, the Third Annual Heritage Officers' Conference was held in Yarmouth. A collaborative effort, the conference brought together people working in the built heritage field from across the province, to focus on the re-use of redundant or abandoned buildings. Registrants included heritage advisory committee members, municipal planners, provincial government employees and municipal councillors. The goals of the conference were to explore issues facing the adaptive re-use of historic buildings and to learn from past projects so that participants would leave with ideas that might work in their communities. The atmosphere of Holy Trinity Anglican Church Hall, an 1873 Gothic Revival building, suited the event.

There was a generous mix of speakers, ranging from provincial and municipal staff to private developers. Jeffrey Reed, from the Nova Scotia Historic Places Initiative, re-

mind participants how adaptive re-use can become a key component in sustainable development. Planner Jane Sodero and developer Cathy Cox presented the case of the Nova Scotia Textiles Mill in Windsor, where the former mill is being converted to Mill Island, a mix-

ture of residential, farmer's market, micro-brewery and other business uses.

One building type that is clearly under threat and ripe for adaptive re-use is churches. A panel session outlined issues facing churches in Nova Scotia and reviewed two adaptive re-use projects: Tania Rolland's private residence and Argyle Township Court House Archives, housed in an 1877 Methodist Church. At the end of day one, the group was treated to

Wilfred Allan's walking tour of the Collins Heritage Conservation District.

Special recognition was made of the efforts of Linda Campbell, retiring Heritage Officer for the Town and Municipality of the District of Yarmouth. Ms. Campbell has worked for 20 years on built heritage inventories (about 2500 properties), listing 73 properties on the Nova Scotia and Canadian Registers of Historic Places and facilitating the creation of one heritage district. She will be sorely missed.

Day two took a more practical look at adaptive re-use. Speakers such as entrepreneur Michael Tavares spoke about the economic issues of adaptive re-use. Representatives of the Creamery Square project in Tatamagouche and the Lunenburg Waterfront Association demonstrated that successful re-use often relies on community support. Wrapping up the

afternoon, discussions touched on churches, increased protection for heritage properties and where the heritage community goes next to promote adaptive re-use.

Many valuable tools and techniques have been gained from this year's conference and we look forward to next year. To become involved in the planning for the 2009 conference, please contact Rebecca Kennedy with the NS Historic Places Initiative (424-4634).

## **Where Did They Live? Marshall Saunders (1861-1947)**

*By: Janet Morris*

Margaret Marshall Saunders wrote the first literary million-seller from Canada. Her book *Beautiful Joe* was published in 1894 in the U.S. However, Margaret Saunders lived her early life in Nova Scotia and although she died in Toronto, she always considered herself a Nova Scotian.

The author was born in the home of her maternal grandfather, Samuel Freeman, on the Mersey River, in Milton, Lunenburg County, the eldest (or perhaps second eldest) daughter of Maria Freeman Saunders and Edward Manning Saunders. At the time of her birth, her father was a minister in Berwick, Nova Scotia, where Margaret lived until age six. Her brothers, John Cramp and Edward Manning, and her sister, Maria (known as Rida) were born in Berwick.

In 1867, her father accepted an appointment as pastor at First Baptist Church, then situated on Granville Street, in Halifax, and the family took up rental accommodation in what is now 1329 Birmingham Street, in the district of Schmutville. At first, Margaret disliked the city. It seems she took some of the country with her: when she started studying Latin with her father at age 8, she was known to study with a tame white mouse up her sleeve. Generally she had a happy childhood, the children were allowed innumerable pets and the family .



*1329 Birmingham Street*

was very close.

In 1870, the family, now including sisters Grace and Laura, moved to 62 Queen Street, now 1278 Queen Street. In 1876 Margaret went to school in Edinburgh, followed by a year in Orléans, France. The family relocated again, this time to 28 Carleton Street, now 1488 Carleton Street in Halifax. In 1881 her father retired and became editor and proprietor of the "Christian Visitor" and began writing his biographies of Nova Scotian premiers.



*1488 Carleton Street  
Continued on page 10*

## **The Oldest House In Nova Scotia: The De Gannes/Cosby House**

The March lecture was given by Brenda Dunn, for many years a historian with Parks Canada, who spoke about the De Gannes/Cosby house in Annapolis Royal, and about its original owner, Louis de Gannes de Falaise. This house, whose history goes back three hundred years, is thought to be the oldest surviving house in Nova Scotia and is among the oldest in Canada.

The house, a provincially and municipally registered building, was the property of Louis de Gannes de Falaise, an officer of the *Compagnie Franche de la Marine*, who was stationed at Port Royal at the end of the seventeenth and in the early eighteenth centuries. *Sieur de Falaise*, as he was called, had served in various parts of New France before settling in Port Royal. He was part of a military family, with a brother, François, who served under him at Port Royal, and a son, Michel, who was born in Port Royal and later based in Louisbourg, where he is buried in the chapel. While serving in Quebec, de Falaise had married Barbe Denys de la Trinité, who bore him a daughter named Louise. After her death he married Louise Legardeur de Tilly, who died a few years later without bearing any children. He was sent by Villebon to Acadie, where he was married for a third time, in 1700, to Marguerite, the daughter of Michel LeNeuf de la Vallière, the seigneur of Beaubassin, commandant and later governor of Acadia. As well as caring for Louise, Marguerite produced an enormous brood of children of her own at annual intervals, so the couple needed a substantial house.

In 1701, they acquired property not far from the fort, which was at about this time undergoing changes. On arriving in Port Royal, Governor Brouillan began to upgrade the defences, and the following year Pierre-Paul Delabat came to Port Royal from France and instigated major alterations to the fort, enlarging it

and giving it its present form. Delabat was also responsible for a series of very detailed maps of Port Royal from which it is possible to trace the location and ownership of the houses. In 1706, the De Gannes de Falaise house can be seen on the road to “le Cap” (now Upper St. George Street). The property stretched back to Alain’s river near the Belliveau marsh. His neighbours included the De Goutin, Bonnaventure and other leading families. The original house may have stood further back than the present dwelling. It was destroyed, along with others, during the British siege of 1707, not by the attackers but by the French, when it became necessary to clear land around the fort to facilitate its defence.

The present house was built the following year, and can be seen on later maps by Delabat. Much as it appears today, only without the porch and the dormers, it measured 26’x33’. There were two windows with shutters at each side of the door, and a large chimney at each end of the house. The chimneys are gone today, but their remains can still be seen in the basement. It was a “charpente” house with a wooden frame whose upright posts were filled in between with local clay and marsh hay. The outer walls had clapboards attached with hand-made nails. The timbers of the frame are morticed and tenoned or joined with wooden pegs. The massive corner posts are visible from the interior of the house, and the ceiling of one room has been removed to reveal the beams and floorboards of the room above. A diagonal beam marks the area where the corner fireplace stood. A number of intriguing artefacts, including shoes, were found in the ceiling space. It appears that some material from the earlier house may have been re-used, as testing by dendrochronology has established that some of the wood used in the frame was cut prior to 1707-8. The gambrel roof is an unusual style for an Acadian house. Mansard roofs were

more common in French colonial architecture, and were often used in Quebec. The dormer windows in the present house were added after 1900.

France at the end of hostilities, they hoped that their absence from Port Royal would be only temporary, but the Treaty of Utrecht put an end to these hopes. The Acadian garrison was



*(Photo courtesy of the Annapolis Heritage Society)*

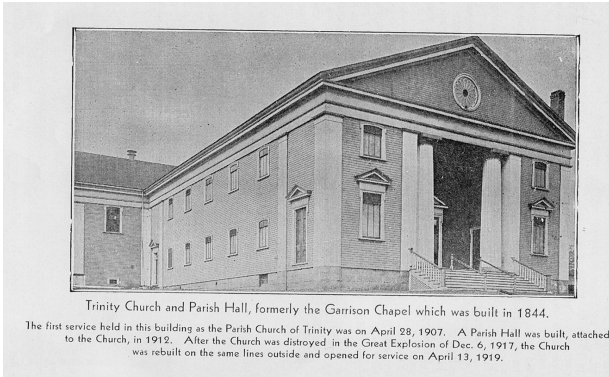
By 1709, there were 10 children, and probably some resident servants, so the new house was already crowded. The de Falaise family lived there for only two years. The final English attack of 1710 saw civilians taking refuge in the fort, with Madame once again eight months pregnant. A temporary cease-fire in the bombardment allowed the evacuation of the ladies, but Marguerite de Gannes de Falaise stayed behind, and her son Jacques was born in the fort. Eventually, however, with the fall of Port Royal, they left Acadie for good, and spent a year in France, then travelled to Quebec where de Falaise received the Cross of St. Louis in 1713. Based on previous peace settlements whereby colonies had been returned to

posted to Louisbourg and de Falaise was appointed major of Île Royale, but died at La Rochelle in 1714 before taking up his appointment. His wife, who had meanwhile given birth to two more children, both of whom had died, remained at Louisbourg and then moved to Trois-Rivières, where she died in 1760.

The house that she and her husband had to abandon was taken over by Alexander and Ann Cosby, and it remained in the Cosby family for many years. After several changes of ownership, it is now in the good hands of Jim How and his wife, who have carefully restored it and who keep modern features in an annex rather than change the character of this 300-year-old house. JD

### *Ode to Trinity Anglican Church continued*

tower. “We hope that the developer will decide not to go ahead with its proposal, but instead, respect the community's wishes as expressed in the forum on "Opportunity Sites" held by the HRM by Design earlier this year. We challenge the developer - and the City - to change course and take up the opportunity of preserving, nay, enhancing a heritage site and neighbourhood, making this ode not a lament, but a song of joy.”



### *Garrison Chapel 1844*

### *Where did they Live? continued*

In 1889, Margaret wrote her first short novel, *My Spanish Sailor*. In 1892, while visiting her brother and his fiancée, Louise Moore, in Meaford, Ontario, she was moved by a story of the family dog. It had been disfigured through the cruelty of a former owner before being adopted and named “Beautiful Joe” by the family. In 1893 she wrote her second book, *Beautiful “Joe”: An Autobiography of a Dog* which she submitted to a writing competition sponsored by the American Humane Education Society, following up on the success of Anna Sewell’s book, *Black Beauty*. The book won the competition, the prize money of \$200, and was published the following year in the United States. The character, Laura, is said to be based on Margaret’s sister, Laura, who died at age 17. By the early 1900s the book had sold more than a million copies, world-wide.

In 1895 Margaret moved to Boston for two years, and in 1898, she spent two years in California. Then she rejoined the family at Carleton Street in Halifax. Here, Margaret helped her mother as a clergyman’s hostess and acted as witness at numerous “surprise weddings”; she was given the fees by her father. The fees were known to include pets. It was here in 1901 that she set up her aviary, a room with a dirt floor and trees, a foster home for injured birds brought to her mainly by children in Halifax, as described in her only non-fiction book, *My Pets: Real Happenings in my Aviary* (1908).

Margaret Saunders belonged to more than 20 reform organizations and, with Lucy Maud Montgomery, she co-founded the Maritime Branch of the Canadian Women’s Press Club. Miss Saunders’ book, *Tilda Jane: an Orphan in Search of a Home* (1901) was a precursor to two other more famous orphan stories, *Little Orphan Annie*, and Lucy Maud Montgomery’s *Anne Shirley*.

After her mother died in 1913, Margaret moved with her father and younger sister, Grace, to Toronto to be near her brothers. Her father died in 1916, and Margaret and Grace then built a home in Lawrence Park in North Toronto. It was a stucco bungalow modelled on the California homes she had seen; she was one of the first to introduce the style to Toronto. The house backed on a ravine and an elevator tunnel allowed 60-70 birds to fly from the basement up to the sunroom which was home to her pet pigeon. In later years she developed popular lecture and slide presentations, and she and her sister Grace toured the country until 1940. She died in Toronto on Feb. 15, 1947, in poverty.

In September, 1953 a plaque was erected on the Masonic Hall at Milton, Nova Scotia, unveiled by Mrs. Thomas Raddall, whose Grandfather Freeman was a brother of Margaret Marshall Saunder’s mother.

*Lord Dalhousie continued*

In 1828, the third phase of Lord Dalhousie's life began when he was appointed Commander-in-Chief of India, a position he held until shortly before his death. He was succeeded in that post by his son, the 10th Earl, who is memorable chiefly for acquiring for Queen Victoria the Koh-i-Noor Diamond from a Burmese prince. A receipt for this item is also preserved at Coulton House.

The talk ended with a series of interesting images, including, among others, a portrait of Lord Dalhousie, Woolford's paintings of historic sites in Egypt, and of scenes in Nova Scotia including the newly built Government House and Province House, as well as scenes from Upper Canada. Lord Dalhousie's coat of arms was a topic of discussion, as was its appropriation by the University. It seems that the correct pronunciation of the family name is "Dalhoosie", but it seems unlikely that this will catch on among the students. JD

**Heritage for Sale**



42 King Street, Parrsboro  
MLS #25080706  
\$249,000

Serving much of its life as a manse, first for the Presbyterian Church and later for the United Church, this attractive one and a half storey house, built ca. 1885, sits adjacent to the Parrsboro Band Hall ( see [www.thehall.ca](http://www.thehall.ca) ), formerly the Presbyterian Church. *Heritage Homes and History of Parrsboro*, published for the town's centenary in 1989, describes a building with "steeply pitched gable roof, Gothic Revival dormers and Italianate projecting bays with bracketed eaves" built on "Lot #230 and a portion of #231 of Church Lands sold by the Wardens and Vestry of St. George's [Anglican] Parish to the Trustees of the Presbyterian Church in May of 1882." Featuring a large kitchen, double parlour, dining room, mudroom/laundry, half bath and office on the main floor and four bedrooms upstairs, this generously proportioned family home sits on over three-eighths of an acre of landscaped grounds. Much of the main floor is original hardwood. The electrical entrance has been upgraded; heating is by wood and oil. There is a garage and above ground pool. Parrsboro has an active community of volunteers focused on the arts and heritage.

MLS #25080706  
Asking price is \$249,000

For more information, contact Michael Levy at Century 21 Market Realty (902-216-0096) or [michael.levy@century21.ca](mailto:michael.levy@century21.ca) . To see other pictures, go to [www.parrsboro.com/42-king.htm](http://www.parrsboro.com/42-king.htm)

## President's Report



*Mark, Philip, David and Hon. Peter McKay  
(photo courtesy of David Murphy)*

On Wednesday, March 26, vice-presidents David Murphy and Mark Stewart and I met with the Hon. Peter MacKay, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of National Defence. During the meeting we expressed our satisfaction that a conservation study had been commissioned for Fort Hugonin on MacNab's Island.

We asked the Minister to undertake repairs to the Armouries in Halifax and to formally adopt a policy of maintaining and preferentially retaining and occupying buildings of heritage value. We also asked Mr. MacKay, as Minister responsible for the Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency, to establish a programme to encourage investments in the repair and re-use of heritage buildings. We pointed out how this could benefit buildings like the waterfront buildings in Lunenburg and Pictou, the Commercial Cable Company Buildings near Canso, and Barrington Street and the Sweet Basil Restaurant in Halifax. We requested that a mechanism be established so that heritage protection could be a consideration in all ACOA and infrastructure funding for a replacement building.

On April 16, members of the Trust at-

tended a forum on a 'final' draft of a Secondary Planning Strategy for downtown Halifax. The Trust had prepared a pamphlet titled "Ten Reasons HRM by Design Puts Halifax at Risk". The pamphlet pointed out that the proposals would weaken public input, allow views of Halifax harbour from Citadel Hill to be blocked, greatly increase height limits where there are heritage buildings, increase our carbon footprint, allow high buildings on the waterfront, threaten neighbourhoods, allow unnecessary floor space, and weaken current policies. The Trust and the public were not permitted to speak at the forum but we did display a poster. Michael Bradfield, Peter Delefos and I held a press conference and presented an alternative vision for downtown Halifax, in which heritage would be protected.

We have since learned that 168 written submissions were received regarding HRM by Design. The responses are very articulate and knowledgeable, and are generally very critical of HRM by Design. On the issue of height, a member of the Urban Design Task Force counted 57 persons or groups who wanted to lower the heights, and only 26 who wanted the heights as they were proposed or higher. Staff counted 111 requested changes in the plan, and have recommended 36 changes. However, the Trust briefs made 173 requests for changes. Members of the Task Force are starting to consider the request.

On April 17, a draft of Barrington Street Historic District Revitalization Plan was presented. Although an earlier draft had been approved in principle by HRM Council in January, 2006, this plan has now been merged with HRM by Design, and has been weakened in several ways.

On April 19 and 20, the Heritage Trust held two historical walking tours. The first was led by Bill Jordan and me, and covered the Old South End, from Cornwallis Park to Bishop Street and back, along Barrington and Hollis Streets. The second, led by Janet Morris

and me, covered part of the downtown, starting at the Grand Parade. Parts of this one were filmed by Kevin Moynihan. The video may be seen on YouTube ([www.youtube.com](http://www.youtube.com)), under Saving Halifax's Heritage.

On April 21 the District 12 Planning Advisory Committee met to consider a proposal for a 19-storey apartment building at the corner of South Park Street and Brenton Place in Halifax. This would involve the demolition of three houses; they are not registered, but were recommended for consideration for registration about a year ago. The proposal would also cast shadows on the historic Schmidville area.

On April 23, the Heritage Advisory Committee met to consider a proposal for a 21-storey apartment building at the corner of Bishop and Lower Water Streets, behind the Benjamin Weir House and Government House. This is in an area that was proposed for a heritage conservation district by the Trust five years ago. The area has a 25-foot as-of-right height limit and is currently slated for "low-rise residential or mixed-use" in the Municipal Planning Strategy. A similar high-rise proposal was turned down five years ago, but now the owners, Halkirk Properties, supported by HRM staff, are asking to change the rules to allow this development. Despite the objections of the Heritage Advisory Committee [to the proposal], a public hearing has been scheduled for Tuesday, June 17.

A preliminary public information meeting was held on May 7 for a proposal by Armour Group to demolish the building with the Sweet Basil dining room and to demolish all but the façades of the other four registered heritage buildings in the southern part of the block between Hollis and Upper Water Streets, north of Duke Street. Armour proposes a nine- or ten-storey office tower behind the façades. The Trust pointed out that this proposal conflicts with the new Policy CH-1 in the Regional Municipal Planning Strategy, which says that any addition to a heritage property must be "inconspicuous". The Historic Properties area, from Granville Street to the harbour's edge,

was the first historic precinct promised for preservation in Halifax.

On Tuesday, May 13, the Trust asked the Law Amendments Committee of the Legislature not to change the Municipal Government Act to allow buildings without public input. We also asked the committee not to amend the Utility and Review Board Act to allow the Board to require a party that loses a planning appeal to pay the costs of the other side. Happily, all three parties in the Legislature agreed with the Trust.

The Trust held a workshop on traditional windows on Saturday, May 17, in the Women's Council House on Young Avenue. The presenters were architect and Heritage Board member, Andrew Powter, and craftsman, Troy Woods. This was the first time that a Trust workshop has been accredited by the Nova Scotia Association of Architects. Seventeen persons registered for the day-long session.

In early May, the House of Commons passed Bill S-215, an Act to Protect Heritage Lighthouses. A similar bill had been introduced by the late Sen. Michael Forrestall. Barry MacDonald and other members of the Nova Scotia Lighthouse Preservation Society, aided by the Trust, have been working very hard to promote this Bill. Last year private members' bills were introduced by Nova Scotia MPs Gerald Keddy and Peter Stoffer. One of these made it to second reading, but it was talked out. This year the Bill was sponsored in the Senate by Sen. Pat Carney, and in the house, by Larry Miller, who represents a riding on Lake Huron in Ontario. The Bill provided for evaluation of the lighthouses, and would offer local societies the opportunity to acquire lighthouses that are surplus to the needs of the Coast Guard.

For many years, Nova Scotia has boasted of its federally-owned lighthouses, but nothing could be done locally to protect them. The lighthouses are reassuring symbols of

community, of safety, of reliability, of home. Now, when we head out on our summer excursions and we see a lighthouse, we can give thanks for its protection over the centuries, and we will know that now we have the tools to protect it in the future.

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***You are cordially invited  
to:***

***Save Saint Patrick's Church  
Tea & Social***

***June 21st, 1-3pm  
Saint Patrick's Church***

***Admission  
\$8.00 per person  
\$5.00 students***

***All proceeds go to the  
Saint Patrick's Restoration  
Society***

**We hope to see you there.**



Roadshow Expert Jim Snowdon

**James (Jim) Dean Snowdon  
1947-2008**

The heritage movement in the Maritimes has suffered a major loss in the death on 12 April 2008 of Jim Snowdon. A native of Wood Point, NB, he was educated at Mount Allison University and the University of New Brunswick, where he specialized in the material culture of the Maritimes. In 1980 he moved to Kentville, NS, where he established a successful antiques and fine arts business, and taught part-time in the Department of History, Acadia University. Jim was passionate about the history of the Maritimes, and cared deeply about both the built heritage and the material culture of the region. He was deeply concerned about the disappearance of Maritime buildings, and the removal of significant artifacts from the region. He contributed his many talents to the Planter Studies Centre, Acadia University, and the Heritage Trust of Nova Scotia, and was a wealth of information on the history of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick, information he was always willing and anxious to share with others. He is survived by his wife Susan, daughter Sarah, stepdaughter Bree-Ann Lightfoot, stepson Carey Blair, two grandchildren, brothers and sisters, and a wide circle of friends.

*(Editor's note: Jim was a valued Heritage Trust Board member & Antiques Roadshow expert. He will be sorely missed)*

# Programs Sponsored by other Societies

## **Acadian Museum & Archives**

898 Hwy 335, West Pubnico  
May-October, Hand carved ducks exhibit

Thursdays 1:30-3:30pm Craft demonstration

July 16-19, 3rd Annual Quilt Expo and Sale

Regular meetings are held on the second Thursday, except July, August & December

[www.museeacadien.ca](http://www.museeacadien.ca)

## **Black Loyalist Heritage Society**

June 20, Garden Party (98 Old Birchtown Rd) Celebration with the Black Loyalist Heritage & Shelburne Historical Societies.

Harpists Ardyth & Jennifer, 18th Century dancers, desserts. Admission \$10/adult, \$8/student. Call 875-1310 for advance tickets  
July 24-27, Shelburne Founders Weekend, Various outdoor events celebrating Shelburne's birthday. 225th Anniversary this year!

August 2, 1pm-5pm March to Birchtown, begin at Atlantic Park, Shelburne, finish at BLHS heritage site. BBQ picnic to follow. Evening entertainment at Bowood, Shelburne.

August 8-10, Amistad Weekend, Farmers' market, dance, Amistad Freedom Schooner tours, Shelburne Harbour.

[www.blackloyalist.com](http://www.blackloyalist.com)

Contact: 875-1310

## **Cole Harbour Heritage Society & Farm Museum**

471 Poplar Drive, Dartmouth  
Contact: 434-0222

[www3.ns.sympatico.ca/farmmuseum](http://www3.ns.sympatico.ca/farmmuseum)

## **Dartmouth Heritage Museum Society**

Evergreen House, 26 Newcastle Street, Dartmouth  
Contact: 464-2300.

## **Federation of Nova Scotian Heritage**

1113 Marginal Road, Halifax  
For information on upcoming workshops call: 423-4677

[www.fnsh.ns.ca](http://www.fnsh.ns.ca)

## **Fisheries Museum of the Atlantic, Lunenburg**

2008 Season May 17th-October 18th

<http://museum.gov.ns.ca/fma>

## **Friends of McNabs Island Society**

September 20, 2008, McNabs Island Paddle & Cleanup (rain date, September 27, 2008) Call 464-1236

October 19, 2008, Fall Foliage Tours of McNabs Island (rain date, October 26) Call Cathy at 434-2254 for more details

[www.mcnaabsisland.ca](http://www.mcnaabsisland.ca)

## **Fultz House Museum**

33 Sackville Drive, Lower Sackville, contact: 865-3794

Open 7 days a week, July-August, 10am-5pm, no admission

Teas every Tuesday, 12-1:30pm, \$5.00

[www.fultzhouse.ca](http://www.fultzhouse.ca)

## **Highland Village Museum**

Iona, Cape Breton

July 3, 10, 17, 24, 31 & August

7, 14, 21, 28, Candlelight Tours

July 8, Gaelic Song Session

July 30-August 2, Gaelic Folk Life Festival

<http://museum.gov.ns.ca/hv>

## **Halifax Citadel National Historic Site**

2008 season opening May 7

Regular firings of the noon day gun (every day except December 25)

[www.pc.gc.ca](http://www.pc.gc.ca)

## **Local Council of Women**

989 Young Avenue, Halifax

Information: 422-8485

Notice: George Wright's 1904 house is available for rent for special occasions.

## **Mainland South Heritage Society**

Meets the last Thursday of each month from Sept to May, excluding Dec., Captain William Spry Community Centre

[www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~nsmshs/](http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~nsmshs/)

## **Memory Lane Heritage Village & Eastern Shore Archives**

June 28, German Heritage Dinner  
July 24-27, Women's Heritage Celebration

August 16, Atlantic Canada

Harmonica Festival

August 23, Eastern Shore

Homecoming

[www.heritagevillage.ca](http://www.heritagevillage.ca)

## **Nova Scotia Lighthouse Preservation Society**

Maritime Museum of the Atlantic, 1679 Lower Water Street, Halifax. All programs are held at the Maritime Museum, 424-7490.

[www.nslps.com](http://www.nslps.com)

## **Rockingham Heritage Society**

Rockingham United Church Hall, 12 Flamingo Drive.

For more info: 443-2064



### Strawberry Tea & Social

A fundraising event for the  
Dartmouth Heritage Museum Society

With real strawberries,  
whipped cream, and home  
baked white chocolate biscuits

Sunday, July 6th  
1:00-4:00 p.m.

Evergreen House  
26 Newcastle Street, Dartmouth

\$6.00  
advance tickets on sale now at Evergreen

Meet your community and support your heritage!  
call 464-2300 for more information



**Royal Nova Scotia  
Historical Society**

Meets third Wednesday of the month, Public Archives of Nova Scotia, 7:30pm; each session begins with a short business meeting, followed by a presentation. For more information contact The Royal Nova Scotia Historical Society P.O. Box 2622, Halifax, NS B3J 3P7, website:

[www.nsgna.ednet.ns.ca/rnshs](http://www.nsgna.ednet.ns.ca/rnshs)

Please contact David Sutherland for more info: 454-6557)

**Scott Manor House/Fort  
Sackville Foundation**

15 Fort Sackville Road, Bedford.  
Information: 832-2336

[www3.ns.sympatico.ca/  
scott.manor](http://www3.ns.sympatico.ca/scott.manor)

**Sherbrooke Village**

June 29, Nature Walk & Plant  
Identification

June 30-July 3, Road To Stanfest  
Songwriters' Camp

July 17-20, Sherbrooke Village

Gaelic/Scottish Heritage Days

July 20, "With these two hands"

Wool preparation days

August 15-17, St. Mary's Garden

Club Annual Flower Show

August 23-24, St. Mary's

Chowderfest & Sherbrooke

Shindig

Sherbrooke, 522-2400

<http://museum.gov.ns.ca>

**Urban Farm Museum  
Society of Spryfield**

The Society meets the second  
Monday of every month at the  
Captain William Spry Community  
Centre, 7:30pm

Contact info: 10 Kidston Road,  
Halifax, B3R 1M8,

Marjorie Willison, President 477-  
6102

[mwillison@ns.sympatico.ca](mailto:mwillison@ns.sympatico.ca)

**Waverley Heritage Museum**

1319 Rocky Lake Drive,  
Waverley

July 25, & August 22, 2-4pm,  
Heritage Summer Afternoon Teas  
There will be a special display of  
hand made stitchery, crochet work,  
and hooked rugs.

Please call Curator Annie Smith at  
861-2427 for hours of operation  
and for further information

**West Hants Historical  
Society**

West Hants Historical Museum,  
281 King St., Windsor. Contact:  
798-4706

**Wolfville Historical Society**

Operates Randall House Museum,  
259 Main St/ Wolfville

Open June 15-September 15

There are special events through-  
out the summer. Contact: 902-542-  
9775

[www.wolfvillehs.ednet.ns.ca](http://www.wolfvillehs.ednet.ns.ca)

**Yarmouth County Museum/  
Historical Research Library**

22 Collins Street, Yarmouth

June 21, 2pm In celebration of

Aboriginal Day, Guest speaker:

Dr. Elsie Basque Mi'kmaw Elder,  
refreshments, no admission

July 4, 7:30pm, Monthly Society

Meeting, members and general  
public are welcome, refreshments,  
no admission

[www.yarmouthcountymuseum.edne  
t.ns.ca](http://www.yarmouthcountymuseum.ednet.ns.ca)

**Milford House**

May-October, The Tent Dwellers  
centennial festival, celebrates the  
100th anniversary of the publica-  
tion, *The Tent Dwellers*, by Albert  
Bigelow, visit:

[www.friendsofkeji.ns.ca/td2008/  
index.html](http://www.friendsofkeji.ns.ca/td2008/index.html), for more information

**Heritage Trust of  
Nova Scotia  
Illustrated Public Lectures  
Spring 2008**

**June 19th AGM 7:10pm  
(lecture to follow) 8:00pm  
"Exposé on the moving of  
the Malagawatch Church"  
Museum of Natural  
History, 1747 Summer  
Street, Halifax**

**A notice to members:**

Since a lot of our  
correspondence regarding  
events and latest updates on  
Heritage Trust activities are  
now sent *via* email, we  
would appreciate having  
your email address. If you  
haven't already done so,  
please send it to:

[heritage.trust@ns.sympatico.ca](mailto:heritage.trust@ns.sympatico.ca)

**AGM**

**Thursday, June 19th  
7:10pm**

**Lecture to follow  
8:00pm**

**"Exposé on the moving  
of the Malagawatch  
Church"**

**Museum of Natural  
History  
1747 Summer Street**