

The Griffin

A PUBLICATION OF HERITAGE TRUST OF NOVA SCOTIA

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NSARM's Built Heritage Resources: a web-based research guide

by Philip L. Hartling

The late Phyllis Blakeley, Assistant Provincial Archivist of Nova Scotia and a former President of Heritage Trust of Nova Scotia, talked about "Historic Houses" to the Home Economists Club in

1960 and the Halifax Business and Professional Women's Club in 1963. She was amazed at the current interest in old buildings in the 1960s and stated that, "Ten years ago I never had a visitor at the Archives who was interested in architecture or historic houses or churches -- now we have frequent enquiries from tourists from the United States and from Quebec and Ontario. Our own people now want to know about some old house they have bought or where they have visited." Dr. Blakeley attributed this interest to the fact that "... more Nova Scotians have been travelling in



Medway Inn, a Cape Cod style house, Mill Village, Queens County, E.G.L. Wetmore, photographer, 1958; NSARM Photograph Collection: Places: Mill Village: Houses: Medway Inn

the United States and in Europe, and seeing how historic landmarks may be preserved; and by the photographs and short articles in the newspapers

about the many old houses in the province; and by colour slides. . ."

Nova Scotia Archives and Records Management (NSARM), at 6016 University Avenue, Halifax, was established in 1929 as a home for historical public records. Its mandate includes both provincial government records and private sector records deemed to be of provincial significance. Researchers include government employees researching files of their departments, genealogists, students, the media, publishers, medical researchers, and historians (both academic and general interest).

Although genealogists are the Archives' largest user group by far, built heritage researchers are second. They include students with project assignments in architecture, archaeology, history, urban design and planning; homeowners planning restoration projects, or curious about the history of their property; architects looking for old plans for buildings undergoing renovation or restoration; municipal and provincial employees, heritage groups, and individuals undertaking research for potential designation of individual buildings, streetscapes or neighbourhoods; and developers checking for past land use regarding potential contaminants on particular sites.

NSARM's Built Heritage Resource Guide is divided into three principal sections. The first section is designed for those who have a general interest in built heritage as well as those who actually undertake research. This section includes many photographs and a small number of documents. The second section is highly relevant to everyone undertaking built heritage research. "Keys to unlock a Building's History" identifies various

sources in the Archives which a researcher will use when designing a research strategy. The third section has several themes, including "Time moves on," which includes companion and contrasting photographs, fire insurance plans and directories for the present site of the World Trade and Convention Centre, Halifax; "Adaptive Reuse" which shows historical photographs of buildings which now have a different use from their original purpose; and dendrochronology, the scientific method of tree-ring dating based on the analysis of tree-ring growth patterns.

The first section deals with four themes --Nova Scotia Settlement Landscapes, Building Materials, Styles of Houses, and Disasters and Loss. In "Nova Scotia Settlement Landscapes" we use examples of documentary art, photographs and postcards. In the note area, we provide an observer's or traveller's contemporary account of the community. Each page follows a similar format -- an image, a date, a reference, and an accompanying explanatory note. *Zoomify*, an added feature, enables researchers to enlarge one particular part of a photograph or document.

"Building Materials" includes photographs of log buildings, wood frame buildings under construction, brick manufacturing at Lantz and New Glasgow, a stone quarry at Wallace, and hydrostone manufacturing and buildings. A number of items have multiple pages including an eleven-page handwritten account of "The Early Scotch Settlers" of Victoria County with a description of the first log habitations. The Guide also includes single or two-page documents such as the cost per cubic foot to build



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Submissions are welcomed.
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Please send your submissions to
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a small frame house (8-9 cents), an 8-10-room frame house (9-11 cents), an 8-10-room brick house (10-14 cents) and a brick or stone "highly finished city dwelling" (17-20 cents). Another document has an estimate of the number of bricks needed to build a 30-foot square brick house 18 feet high and two bricks deep, *ca.* 1815. The estimate is 64,700 bricks.

Archivist Garry Shutlak kindly described the main characteristic of different architectural styles in Nova Scotia. Various photographs accompany the text.

"Disasters and Loss" provides examples of why and how we have lost our built heritage through neglect, fires, weather, the Halifax Explosion, and urban redevelopment. Most communities have experienced major fires which destroyed blocks, neighbourhoods or individual buildings. The Archives has several photographs of Windsor, just after the October 1897 fire. Apparently, gale force winds dropped cinders as far away as Shubenacadie and smoke was visible 70 miles distant. Four to five hundred buildings were in ashes.

Heritage Canada Foundation states that Canada has lost more than 20% of its pre-1920 heritage buildings to demolition over the last 30 years. The Resource Guide includes several photographs which show the area subsequently razed for Scotia Square and Cogswell Street Interchange. "Keys to unlock a Building's History" identifies various archival sources

available to the researcher. The Archives' resources include maps (William Mackay's map, 1834; Ambrose F. Church Company's topographical maps of each county in Nova Scotia, 1865-1888; Admiralty charts, from about 1850; Geological Survey maps, primarily 1884 to 1910; and mid-20th century topographical maps); land records (petitions for land, grants of land, deeds, and sundry plans); probate records and genealogies; architectural plans; newspapers and

directories. In most instances, only representative samples of the types of records held in the Archives -- documents, publications or photographs -- are used in the Guide. However, NSARM digitized three fire insurance plans in their entirety -- Lunenburg (1884, revised to 1888), Inverness (1924, revised to 1940), and Liverpool (1931). Fire insurance plans are useful when researching buildings located in a town or city. These plans show the size, shape and construction materials used in a building, and usually identify a street address. Although plans for Nova Scotian communities date from the 1870s, most were published between 1888 and 1972.

After the user clicks each navigation button, there is a brief description summarizing the topic, followed by the list of items in the chapter.

Maud Rosinski's *Architects of Nova Scotia: a biographical dictionary, 1605-1950* (1994), gives biographies of prominent architects and identifies their major projects. However, very few 18th and 19th century Nova Scotian houses were architect-designed. Most were built by knowledgeable carpenters. In fact, NSARM only has architectural plans for twenty residences prior to 1900 and ten of these are in the 1890s.

Probate records include wills and estate papers, the latter are extremely useful to built heritage researchers because they include the executors' inventories of the deceased's house and



Yarmouth in 1893; NSARM Photograph Collection: Places: Yarmouth: General

property. Many only summarize the total value but others list the contents of the house, and still others list the contents of a house, room by room.

Newspapers often included advertisements when houses and properties were for sale. Many town and county newspapers also had anonymous correspondents who submitted noteworthy events in their communities. These weekly community notes, usually under the community's name, often mention residences, churches, stores and other buildings under construction. Frequently, the notes report when the owners moved into their new residences or celebrated house warmings.

Although NSARM has real estate registers for 1877, March and June 1878, and 1902, only the 1877 and 1902 registers were digitized due to the tight binding and fragile condition of the 1878 registers. All four catalogues list properties to be let or sold primarily in Halifax but also throughout the province.

NSARM has many collections of photographers such as Paul Yates and Sidney Payne (Annapolis and Digby counties), William H. Buckley (Guysborough), Watson L. Bishop (Dartmouth) and Clara Dennis (Halifax and around Nova Scotia), to name only a few. However, one can sometimes locate photographs of buildings in collections not relating to built heritage. For example, the Nova Scotia Department of Transportation Collection includes photographs of road and bridge construction or repair, primarily 1920s to 1940s. If a building stands next to a bridge or road under construction or repair, it may be shown in a photograph. The collection is organized by County, then subdivided into Bridges and Roads, and then alphabetically by name of community.

NSARM has many photographs, architectural plans, documents and newspapers which provide researchers with needed background information on buildings undergoing "adaptive re-use". These include photographs of churches converted into condominiums; train stations converted into an inn and museums; a school converted into a library; the Tatamagouche Creamery Square, which houses the North Shore Archives, Anna Swan Exhibit and Farmers' Market; Nova Scotia Textiles Limited, Windsor, now Mill Island Limited, a mixed residential, commercial and market building; and an old grist mill converted into a residence.

The Saint John *Progress*, October 14,

1893, commented that Yarmouth has "tastefully appointed homes" and homes "upon which their residents can look with pleasure." We may never be able to answer all the questions posed about a building's past. However, this Resource Guide will familiarize researchers with the sources NSARM holds and enable, you to plan your research strategy and undertake your research project. No matter what building you are researching, "may you look with pleasure" on that particular part of our built heritage.

www.gov.ns.ca/nsarm/virtual/builtheritage

This article is taken from a talk given to the third annual Nova Scotia Heritage Officers Conference, held in Yarmouth, 19-20 March, 2008 by Philip L. Hartling, Reference Archivist, Public Services, Nova Scotia Archives and Records Management. Philip contributed to "Lakes, Salt Marshes & the Narrow Green Strip", a guide to houses of the Eastern Shore.

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President's Report

by Philip Pacey

The summer is a great time to appreciate our heritage buildings and sites. It seems that every time we look at a heritage building, it has something new to teach us. I have been soaking up as much history as I can, and I hope you are having a good summer too.

The Trust has given several walking tours. This is a way to introduce new people to old neighbourhoods and to share insights and experiences. On June 7 and 8 we gave tours of Schmitville, starting at Victoria Park. Schmitville is an almost intact neighbourhood consisting of three blocks of Georgian and Victorian houses and businesses between Clyde and Morris Streets in Halifax. Both days our tour ended at Lyndon Watkins' house. Lyndon kindly invited the walkers to enter his house and experience a 200-year old Georgian cottage. On June 14 and 15, Bill Jordan and I led tours of the Old South End, starting at Cornwallis Park. The tours explored the south ends of Barrington and Hollis Streets. Here there are many Scottish Georgian houses, with five-sided dormers. On July 24, Janet Morris and I gave tours of downtown Halifax, starting at the Grand Parade. If you have ideas for more tours, please call the Trust office.

On June 10, Halifax Regional Municipality held the first of three troubling public hearings. All of the hearings were about proposals to weaken the municipal planning strategy and land use by-law to allow for very tall buildings on particular sites.

The first hearing dealt with a proposal for a 19-storey, 213-foot high tower at the corner of South Park Street and Brenton Place. The area now has a 45-foot height limit. The proposed building would require the demolition of three houses on South Park and would cast shadows on Victoria Park, the Public Gardens and Schmitville. All of the residents of the area who spoke were opposed to the project, as were the 90 residents who signed petitions. However, there were others, from far-flung parts of the municipality, who spoke in favour. HRM Council voted to weaken the strategy and by-law.

The second hearing dealt with a proposal for a 21-storey, 241-foot high tower on Bishop Street, south of the Brewery. This area has a 25-foot, as-

of-right height limit and policies favouring low-rise residential development, like Bishop's Landing and Waterfront Place. The proposed tower would dominate Government House, the Benjamin Wier House and the many Scottish Georgian homes in the area. It would shade Government House grounds and create unsafe winds at the entrance to Government House. The Heritage Advisory Committee recommended that the changes be rejected. Again, all of the residents of the area who spoke were opposed to the project, but Council voted to weaken the strategy and by-law.

The third hearing was about the Dartmouth Marine Slips in Dartmouth Cove, which now has a 45-foot height limit. The proposal was for one 360-foot high building, seven 150-foot high buildings, and three 130-foot high buildings. These buildings would not exceed the heights allowed by the Dartmouth view planes, but the developer asked Council to weaken the view protections anyway. Council voted to weaken the view protection policies in the new Regional Municipal Planning Strategy, the Dartmouth Municipal Planning Strategy, the Downtown Dartmouth Secondary Planning Strategy and the Land Use By-law.

All of the changes from these three hearings are subject to review by Service Nova Scotia and Municipal Relations.

On Friday, June 13, we joined the Nova Scotia Lighthouse Preservation Society to celebrate the passage of an Act to Protect Heritage Lighthouses. A number of speakers described the decade-long struggle to obtain this legislation.

On June 21 the Trust held a social at St. Patrick's Church on Brunswick Street. It was nice to meet a number of you there. We raised \$325 to assist with repairs to the Church. The Church has now met its funding target for the first year and we are hopeful it can remain open. We face a number of challenges this fall. We expect a public hearing on Armour Group's proposal to demolish two heritage buildings and all but the façades of three others in the central block of Historic Properties in Halifax. A public forum about HRMbyDesign is likely. Current plans would place heritage buildings at risk by allowing them to be replaced by much larger buildings. Also related to HRMbyDesign, we expect that HRM will again ask the Legislature to pass legislation to eliminate your right to information and input about large development projects

on the peninsula of Halifax. We may face a public hearing about a proposal to demolish the Roy Building on Barrington Street and replace it by a tower.

There is some good news. The Masonic Hall on Barrington Street has been purchased and the new owners propose to “work inside the box”, converting the building to office use and making only minimal changes to the side and rear of the building.

I hope you will join us for some fun at the fall lectures and dinner.

Five New Members Join HTNS Board of Directors at June 19 AGM

Paul Erickson is the new Vice-President of Heritage. Paul is a professor of Anthropology at St. Mary’s University with a long-standing interest in Halifax history and heritage. He is author and co-author of five books about Halifax including *Historic North End Halifax* and *Underground Halifax: Stories of Archaeology in the City*. He has served as Chair and Vice-Chair of the Heritage Advisory Committee of the City of Halifax and previously (1994-96) as Vice-President (Heritage) of the Heritage Trust of Nova Scotia. He currently serves on the NS Provincial Advisory Council on Heritage Property.

Dulcie Conrad is the Trust’s new Chair of the Publicity Committee. Dulcie has a long history in journalism including working for the *Chronicle-Herald* while also corresponding with the *Globe and Mail* and the *New York Times*. She also did commentary and documentary work with the CBC. Latterly, Dulcie was Director of Public Relations for Mount St. Vincent University. During this period, along with two colleagues, she founded *Frank Magazine*. For many years Dulcie has been an active volunteer with the Halifax Regional Homeowners’ Association, The Friends of the Public Gardens Society and the Heritage Trust of Nova Scotia.

Doris Maley came to Canada from Scotland in 1970. Prior to her arrival in Canada she taught nurses with the World Health Organization (WHO) in Scotland and Kenya. She is a former Alderman for Ward One and former Deputy Mayor of the City of Halifax. As a City Councillor she helped develop the Halifax City Development Plan. Over

many years, Doris has been involved with a number of organizations including Help Line, Dal Legal Aid, Mediation Services, Bryony House and the Heritage Trust of Nova Scotia.

Mary Schaefer is a retired professor of Christian Worship at the Atlantic School of Theology. She is Secretary of St. Patrick’s Church Restoration Society. She is author of a book on 9th century Rome and has been an active member of the Trust’s Religious Buildings Committee.

Conrad Byers lives in Parrsboro, where he has earned the title “Parrsboro Historian”. He has a long history of community involvement and has authored several publications and historical articles. He was a member of the Newport Landing Historical Society during the construction of the Bay of Fundy Heritage Schooner, *Avon Spirit*, on which he was a crew member for her maiden voyage. Later, he became mate and captain of the *Avon Spirit*. He has been an active member of the Minas Basin Heritage Society and the Parrsboro Band Hall Association. He is former curator of the Ottawa House Museum and continues to work on the museum’s restoration. Conrad has also had a long involvement with the Ship’s Company Theatre in Parrsboro.

Maritime Conservatory for the Performing Arts

invites Trust members to the unveiling of the main entrance and overhead stained glass window completed with assistance from Heritage Trust. Details to be announced on our web-site:

www.maritimeconservatory.com



Home is Where the Start is...Green Renovating with the Ecology Action Centre *by Zak Miller*

It's a good time to be a steward of our natural environment as change is in the air these days. From Toyota's new campaign slogan "make things better" we see that even the massive automobile corporations are recognizing the current shifts in North American consumer demands and doing what they can to keep in the sights of the money guns as we move towards a more just and responsible society. We, as a society, are ready to put in the personal efforts required for change. That's really good news. Toyota is ready to use that information to keep us buying their cars. The effort begins when we start asking ourselves what changes we support and how we, as individuals and groups, can contribute to making things better.

Home is where the heart is; home can be where the start is. Our housing choices impact our lives every day. Let's imagine and compare two situations. In home #1 we have little connection with how our homes support us (Where is our heat coming from? Where does our water go?), we have little connection with how our planet supports our home, and we lose our connection with how our planet supports us as individuals. In home #2 we interact and connect with our home's systems (starting a fire to warm our home / composting toilet / solar hot water), we understand exactly how these systems interact, and ultimately connect with the reality that our homes and our planet support our ability to be alive. The planet is our greater home, and our ultimate life support. Living in home #2 may seem like more "work" and take some effort, but will leave us naturally feeling more in control of our lives and our decisions. It can even save us time and money!

Decisions in our home are important decisions in our lives. Home is an ideal place to begin making more conscious choices and an educated analysis of the impacts we each have. From replacing light-bulbs to redesigning our home's heating system or installing a living roof, we are given the opportunity to practice making choices in our lives that we can ethically support. When we start making ethical choices within our homes, we recognize our impacts in a tangible way. Taking on our global environmental crisis can be overwhelming or it can

be empowering, even addictive. The difference often lies in how we feel the impacts of our choices. Do they have little apparent effect on our personal lives or an immediate effect? "Immediate" is a good place to start, as we understand how much potential we possess individually to make things better.

Where to Start...

The Ecology Action Centre (EAC) underwent a green renovation in 2005 to provide a starting point for home owners in Atlantic Canada who are ready to start making green home decisions. After a nine month renovation process, the EAC now provides a site where seeing truly can inspire believing. Our EAC Home at 2705 Fern Lane offers free home tours where people learn and see exactly what was done, what was not done, and all the reasoning in between. The EAC also has a Green Renovation Support Project which offers specific advice, plenty of resource material, and a series of great workshops:

- *Green Reno 101* is a 2.5 hour introductory course offered monthly. It addresses how to start your green renovations, no matter the scale.
- *Natural Building and Getting off the Coal and Oil: alternative home heating systems* go into more detail about specific topics.
- In November, a series of workshops directed at building professionals will focus on how tradespeople and building professionals can respond to shifts in consumer demand and keep at the forefront of the green building field.

Check out www.ecologyaction.ca/newhome for more information on our green renovation. Soon to be launched is our extensive green reno web-site which will host a database of green product suppliers and green service providers, resource materials, local case studies, and updates on the green building scene here in Atlantic Canada. *For more information on workshops: gogreen@ecologyaction.ca or 442-5051*



William Critchlow Harris (1854-1913)

by Garry D. Shutlak (Senior Reference Archivist, Public Services, NSARM)

Of the three Harris brothers born in Bootle, a suburb of Liverpool, and brought up in Prince Edward Island, W. Critchlow decided upon the life of an architect, Edward became an Anglican clergyman and Robert, the noted artist. In order to learn his trade, Critchlow was apprenticed in June of 1870 to the Halifax firm of Stirling & Dewar (David Stirling and Andrew Dewar). The apprenticeship lasted five years. In 1877, Mr. Stirling took Harris into partnership creating the firm of Stirling & Harris, Charlottetown, P.E.I.

Among the apprentices at the firm at that time were George Henry Jost, Edward (Ted) Smithers, A. W. C. Gould and Robie Cogswell. Both Smithers and Jost became architects, the latter being the more successful. (For additional information on Smithers and Jost we suggest you peruse Maud Rosinki's 1994 book, *Architects of Nova Scotia: A Biographical Dictionary, 1605-1950.*)

Harris left for Manitoba in 1879, where he was singularly unsuccessful in winning competitions or clients. Two years later he returned to Prince Edward Island, where he again joined Stirling, and prospered financially if not artistically. In 1881 the firm was appointed Dominion Architects for federal work in Prince Edward Island. The partnership ended when David Stirling died in 1886. Harris practised alone until 1899, when he opened an office in the Keith Building, Barrington Street, Halifax in partnership with architect and builder, William T. Horton. During his long career he competed for numerous projects, losing as many competitions as he won. He had more success with his homes in the shingle style and his churches in the French ecclesiastical style, which were noted for their excellent acoustics. When he translated this style into schools and public buildings, he was less successful. The most comprehensive biography and listing of his oeuvre are found in two books by Robert C. Tuck: *Gothic Dreams: The Life and Times of a Canadian Architect, William Critchlow Harris, 1854-1913*, published in 1978, and *Gothic Dreams: The Architecture of William Critchlow Harris, 1854-1913*, published in 1995. Since then, several additional homes designed by Harris have been identified, including two summer homes in Kent Park, Prince's Lodge, erected ca. 1901, one originally belonging to Mrs. Mary deGraw Moore,

known as "Highmount", and the other, the original summer home of Mr. & Mrs. Leonard J. McGhee. Mr. McGhee was an insurance agent and married to Laleah Fitch, daughter of Dr. Simon Fitch. The following year Harris designed a house for Frederick W. Moore, 89 Robie Street. Mr. Moore was a partner in Moore & Partridge, wholesale millinery and fancy goods. In 1904, the firm completed a residence for Miss Katherine M. Ryan at 75 Tower Road (now 1175). In 1907 they designed and built a set of flats for Mrs. L. Temple also on Tower Road; a house for Mr. Samuel L. Hawkins on Black Street (11 Black, now 5547); and a home at 15 Tobin Street (now 5239) for George W. Fordham of Arthur Fordham & Co., who sold leather and shoe findings. In 1908 the firm designed a residence at 117 Edward Street (now 1635) for Mr. E. Hayward Hawkins, the son of S.L. Hawkins mentioned above, and another for Isaac Creighton, probably at Cabot Street. The following year Harris designed the house of Samuel Smith of Smith & Co. Ltd., lobster canners, 40 Church Street (later 1270).

Today, Harris is best known for the magnificent St. Mary's Church, Indian River, PEI, home of the renowned Indian River Music Festival. (www.indianriverfestival.com).

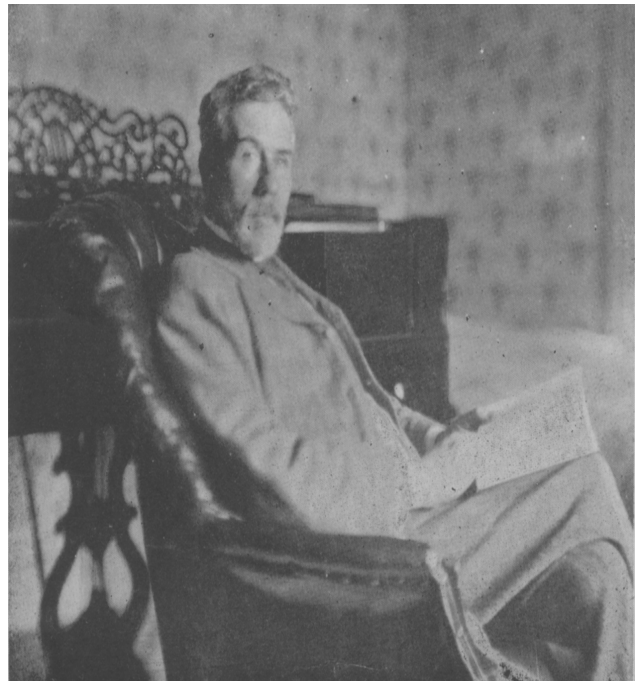


Photo courtesy of the Nova Scotia Archives & Records Management

His output on Cape Breton Island is listed below:

- 1886: Post Office & Customs House, Baddeck
- 1895: Saint John's Anglican Church, Arichat
- 1901: Saint John's Anglican, corner of Pleasant & King streets, North Sydney
- 1902: Company houses, Port Hood (mentioned by Harris in a letter but not by Tuck); Trinity Anglican church, Sydney Mines; Saint Alban's Anglican church, Whitney Pier; A. C. Bertram Block, North Sydney
- 1905: Residence for Mr. Ducksberry, 3 Campbell Street, Whitney Pier; Trinity Anglican Church, Sydney Mines; Broughton Arms Hotel, Crown Hotel, Business block and restaurant, Company Office, Manager's house, Assistant Manager's office, Railway Station, Miner's house, all of Broughton
- 1906: Carman Methodist Church, Clyde Street, Sydney Mines; Residence for Mr. MacDonald, 102 Pierce Street, North Sydney
- 1910: Saint Joseph's Roman Catholic church, Archibald street, North Sydney

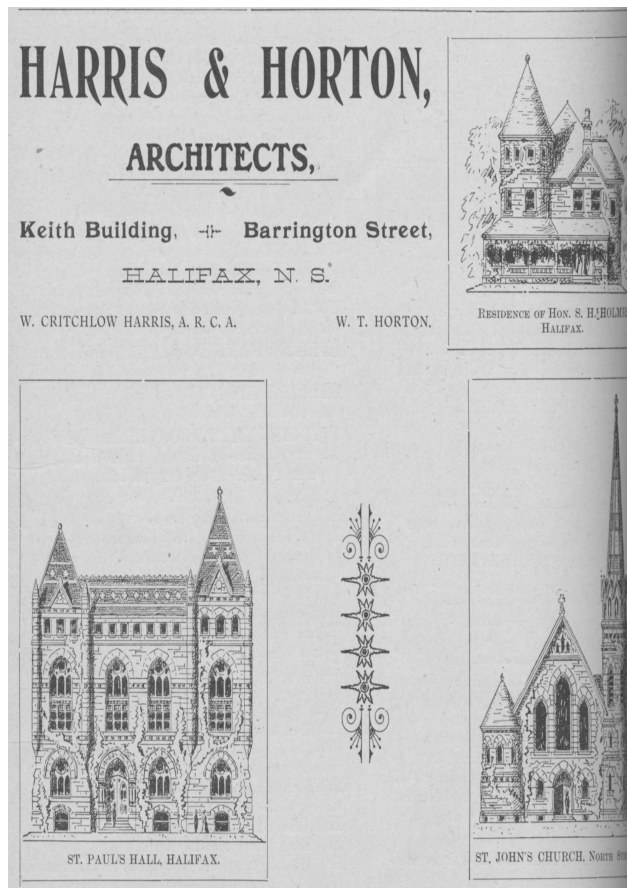


Photo courtesy of NSARM

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www.htns.ca

Archaeology in Nova Scotia - 2008

by Sara Beanlands

Over the past ten years, there has been a great acceleration of archaeological work conducted in Nova Scotia. Each field season, archaeologists accumulate a growing body of primary evidence which aids in the understanding of over 11,000 years of human history. And this year is no exception. Archaeologists are currently working across the province, covering a broad spectrum of time, place and culture. Yet, despite a wide public interest in archaeology, until recently, much of the information recovered remained the intellectual property of those within the discipline. Fortunately, a concerted effort is now being made to engage the public in the archaeological experience, which will, in turn, build support for the preservation, protection and responsible management of our valuable archaeological resources.

One of the most significant First Nations archaeological sites in North America is located in Debert, Nova Scotia. A complex of Paleoindian-period sites dating from 13,000 – 11,000 years ago is associated with the earliest known inhabitants of the Maritime Provinces. The Debert site remains the oldest directly dated archaeological site in Canada and this area was occupied during a pivotal period in the region's late glacial history. The Confederacy of Mainland Mi'kmaq is in the midst of its third field season on the Debert-Belmont Site Delineation Project, with the primary goal to identify the extents and boundaries of known archaeological sites and to identify any additional site clusters in the area. Archaeologist Scott Buchanan is directing this important testing program and has integrated archaeological data with extensive work on geological deposits and soil surveys. In doing so, he has been able to place the Debert-Belmont sites into an environmental context relating cultural associations to geological deposits and landforms. This work is providing the discipline with the most important findings since initial excavations were carried out in the 1960s. The extent of known sites continues to be refined with the progress of the survey and six new site areas have already been identified. The organization of this project offers mentoring and experiential learning opportunities for volunteers, Elders, professional archaeologists and school groups, and the information obtained will be crucial to interpretation and site planning for the

proposed Mi'kmaq Debert Cultural Centre.

During May and June, the Canadian Museum of Civilization, under the direction of Dr. Matthew Betts, conducted fieldwork in Port Joli as part of the *E'se'get* (a Mi'kmaq word meaning "dig for clams") Archaeology Project. The *E'se'get* Project seeks to understand how Mi'kmaq social and economic systems evolved both in response to, and as structuring components of, the marine ecosystem on Nova Scotia's southern shore. This season, the field team surveyed for shell midden deposits along the eastern and western sides of Port Joli harbour, re-locating and mapping formerly excavated sites, as well as locating and mapping several new sites. Test excavation focused on three large shell midden sites within Thomas Raddall Provincial Park. The *E'se'get* Project is funded for at least the next two years and will, we hope, continue well into the future.

Another exceptional program, now in its second field season, is taking place on a 43-hectare parcel of land located in Fort Lawrence, Nova Scotia, adjacent to the New Brunswick border. Here, Parks Canada archaeologist Charles Burke has designed an outstanding program of public archaeology for the Beaubassin/Fort Lawrence National Historic Sites. In general, the Public Archaeology Experience was designed to complement the cultural resource management goals of Parks Canada, while providing a hands-on archaeology experience that would engage participants and deliver exceptional visitor experiences. Excavations took place in July and August with a maximum of 12 participants daily.



Donna Morris on shovel and Sharon Farrell on sifter, working a unit in Debert. (Photo: Scott Buchanan)

Continued on p. 14

A Vision for a Vibrant and Beautiful

Halifax *by Peter Delefes, NS Governor,
Heritage Canada*

The supporters of heritage in HRM and across Nova Scotia envision a vibrant and beautiful Halifax. We differ strongly from HRMbyDesign proponents. We want to focus on our unique built heritage as the cornerstone of economic and cultural revitalization of the downtown. They want to achieve their ends through a process which favours speculative development and taller buildings.

Halifax is one of the great historic, east coast cities, dating from the Age of Sail. Its natural topography – a hill crowned by the Citadel, sloping down to a magnificent harbour – is one of the outstanding features of the downtown area. There is still a visible connection to the water, which must be maintained. The other remarkable feature is a unique collection of heritage buildings; 70% of all the buildings in the Central Business District are designated or merit heritage designation. It's the most historic square kilometre in English Canada. Cities like Amsterdam and Venice, too, are blessed with a magnificent natural topography and heritage buildings. They have melded these two elements into downtown areas of breathtaking beauty. We believe we can do the same in Halifax.

Unfortunately, over the years, we have allowed buildings higher than the historic norms to creep into our downtown, intruding into commercial streetscapes and beautiful old neighbourhoods. Despite this, the cityscape below the Citadel is still a coherent and handsome whole. We believe that through proper design regulation, over a decade or two, a new and harmonious whole can be created, where the character of the City's proud historic buildings sets the tone. The success of Victoria, Quebec City, Old Montreal and Edmonton's Old Strathcona district – thriving, economically viable communities – is based on their low-rise, human-scale proportions and their preservation and re-use of their historic building stock.

We believe that historic preservation makes good economic sense. Heritage advocates want to foster new, sensitive development and the renovation and restoration of heritage buildings in order to showcase the downtown and increase the number of people living and working in the downtown area. Such human-scale development would provide the

commercial and residential space that will be needed well into the future. The success of other cities in finding new uses for their low-rise historic buildings proves that there are plenty of developers who believe there are economic benefits in adaptive re-use of older buildings.

The measures proposed by HRMbyDesign are out-of-step with current best practices in heritage renewal in the world's great heritage cities like Paris, London, Rome, Quebec City, Charleston and Jerusalem. These cities are tightening design controls and blocking the erection of high-rise buildings in their city centres. Planners in Halifax are proposing to loosen planning controls. HRMbyDesign's plan, if adopted, will raise permissible building heights well above historic norms. It can result in huge windfall profits for those who own heritage properties if they act on the incentive to replace their buildings with higher ones. Realistically, the proposal will permit the erection of more than 30 high-rise buildings throughout the downtown centre and waterfront areas. This will have disastrous consequences for our historic downtown buildings and streetscapes, which will become fractured and incoherent. The historic ambience will be overpowered by the adjacent construction.

The release by HRM of the proposed HRMbyDesign Plan has resulted in a rush of proposals by some developers who are taking advantage of the climate of uncertainty caused by the proposed Plan. Judging from their proposals, they have taken an "anything goes" approach to downtown development, completely ignoring the existing Municipal Planning Strategy.

It's evident that many citizens want to see our historic buildings become the centerpiece of the revitalization of the downtown area. They worry that the HRMbyDesign Plan will compromise the historic downtown core and, as in the case of the proposed Armour development atop the centre block of Historic Properties, will actually result in the loss of heritage buildings. It is not surprising that on the Natal Day week-end, in the pouring rain, over 700 people took the time to fill out and submit a card opposing this development.

Historic preservation is not an end in itself but the means to broader ends. Here in Halifax it is the means that will enable us to revitalize the downtown, stabilize neighbourhoods, create jobs and provide both affordable and luxury housing.

Office Block Threatens Historic Properties *by Elizabeth Pacey*

The first major victory of the Heritage Trust was achieved in 1973 when Halifax City Council formally resolved that the Historic Properties area north of Duke Street from Granville Street to the water should be “preserved in its entirety.”

The restoration of the 28 heritage buildings of Historic Properties, ranging from quaint Georgian shops and sturdy waterfront warehouses to decorative Victorian and Edwardian stores, drew a great deal of interest nationally and internationally. For example, the Association of Preservation Technology held its international conference in Halifax to showcase Historic Properties and the restoration techniques used on such a variety of architectural gems.

Now, in a horrible reversal of what seemed like an assured future for the flagship of historic preservation in Halifax, Historic Properties is threatened with an oversized, inappropriate development. The Armour Group has proposed a nine-storey office building between Hollis and Upper Water streets on the centre block of Historic Properties. Five historic buildings are threatened with total or substantial demolition and “façadism”.

The façadism proposed in the new development would violate the municipality’s Heritage Conservation Standards, and destroy most of the fabric of the heritage buildings in the centre block of Historic Properties.

Preservation standards do not recognize façadism (attaching parts of heritage buildings to new structures) as heritage preservation. In fact, the federal standards, compiled by many experts from every region, recommend “minimal intervention” or the least disruptive techniques to protect heritage buildings. The municipal conservation standards, based on American standards, state that “the historic materials and features and their unique craftsmanship are of primary importance” and that “they are to be retained and restored to the greatest extent possible”.

The proposed oversized modernistic, glass structure, with its horizontal banding, would not only destroy most of the heritage buildings it replaces, but would also dominate the adjacent heritage buildings in the Historic Properties group (Granville-Hollis block, Morse’s Teas Building,

and the Privateer’s Wharf buildings). The cohesive character and intimate, pedestrian-friendly ambience of the Historic Properties area would be cut apart. The large, intrusive, glass office building would be a major barrier both visually and physically between the eastern and western sections of Historic Properties. Instead of an inviting flow of pedestrians through the shops and restaurants from the water’s edge to Granville Street, there would be an uninviting impediment – a modern office building with garage entrance.

The proposed development would violate policies in the Regional Municipal Planning Strategy, just adopted in 2006. For example, Policy CH-1, which governs new development in connection with municipally registered heritage properties, ensures that “any new work is physically and visually compatible with, subordinate to and distinguishable from the heritage properties”. Clearly, the proposed huge, modernistic development would not be “subordinate to” the historic buildings. Policy CH-1 also requires “maintaining the essential form and integrity of the heritage property”, and ensures that “significant architectural or landscaping features are not removed or significantly altered”. The proposed development would demolish roofs, side and rear walls, and two whole buildings, leaving only façades or faux (replicated) façades flatly attached to the new structure.

The full Regional Council will decide the fate of these buildings after a public hearing.

Buildings that would be substantially or wholly demolished:

- The **Fishwick Building** at 1861-1863 Hollis Street. This rare wooden Georgian building is the city’s earliest type of commercial structure; it resembles a Georgian residence with rows of six-over-six windows on the upper storeys, and a pitched roof. It is named for F. W. Fishwick & Co., a flourishing freight express business. The proposed development would demolish all but the front and part of the roof, which would be attached to the modern building like an incongruous decal.
- The **Martin Building** at 1870 Upper Water Street. Peter Martin sold “liquors” here in one of the earliest “grog shops” on Water Street. This Georgian-style building has had a long history of providing sustenance to locals and visitors; for many years it was the popular Tom’s Lunch and now serves as the Sweet Basil dining room, with

its upscale food and ambience. The developer recently disputed its 27-year-long registration as a heritage property, to facilitate total demolition to make way for a garage entrance.

- The **Harrington Building**, at both 1865 Hollis and 1866 Upper Water Streets. This superb stone, Georgian-style building (circa 1820) runs through the block and has a unique appearance on both Hollis and Upper Water streets. It was constructed of sturdy dark ironstone, visible on the north side, with a sandstone presence on both streets. On Hollis Street, the building exhibits a double pitched roof with two gabled dormers, while on Upper Water Street, the building has a more formal, three-storey appearance. The storefronts on both streets are decorated with solid granite pilasters. The proposed development would reduce this sturdy, unusually interesting building to two disembodied façades, inappropriately attached to a modern mammoth.

- The **Shaw Building** at 1855-1859 Hollis Street. This building is one of a few very fine “wrap-around” corner buildings that were designed by leading architects in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. Designed by Sydney P. Dumaresq, this sophisticated Edwardian example is red brick with decorative stringcourses, bracketed cornices, and tall Ionic pilasters linking the storeys. The Shaw Building housed a fashionable men’s haberdashery on the ground floor, and offices above for companies like the Acadia Sugar Refinery. The proposed development would demolish all but the façade, reducing the prominence and stature of this structure to mere brick cladding at the lower corner of a modern building.

- The **Imperial Oil Building** at 1860 Upper Water Street. This classical-style building is constructed in brick with granite details, such as keystones over the windows, and capitals above the array of decorative brick pilasters, which give vertical definition to the overall sectioned style. Built as offices for Imperial Oil Ltd., the building continued in that role for thirty years and then housed various shipping firms and consulates. Currently, the building is the character-infused setting for O’Carroll’s Pub and restaurant. The developer has applied to completely demolish the Imperial Oil Building, registered in 1985. A replicated façade would be applied to the bottom corner of the modern structure.



Imperial Oil Building



Proposed Development



Harrington-Fishwick Building

Continued from p. 10

Each group received an initial presentation of the Chignecto Sites history and a specific introduction to the archaeology and history of the Acadian settlement at Beaubassin. On site, archaeologists provided a brief demonstration of excavation techniques and participants were then led through the excavation process for the remainder of the day. Throughout, participants were exposed to the value of cultural resource management, the importance of protecting archaeological resources, and the roles and responsibilities of Parks Canada's National Program. Combining the educational and practical components provided a unique and authentic visitor experience. While this experience has been a priority, the archaeological information will greatly increase our understanding of Acadian/British history in Nova Scotia.

The public was also invited to participate in excavations carried out at the Cole Harbour Heritage Park on Bissett Road, in Cole Harbour, supervised by Saint Mary's University graduate student, Sarah Kingston. At the request of the Cole Harbour Parks and Trails Association, archaeological investigations attempted to locate the structural foundations associated with the Poor's Farm, a county home that housed Halifax poor and "harmless insane" from 1887 to 1929. Fortunately, there were no casualties among the 140 residents when a large portion of the dormitories was destroyed by fire in 1929. The 2008 project was an extension of three previous archaeological studies at the site, including a non-intrusive survey of the cemetery and dormitory areas using an electromagnetic conductivity meter and ground penetrating radar. One of the main objectives for this year was to expand on previous findings and pinpoint the location of one of the suspected structures. Members of both the public and archaeological community were invited to participate in the excavations, during which time portions of two foundation walls were unearthed. Further examinations will be conducted in future years to uncover the remaining foundation walls. The eighth season of the Grand-Pré Archaeological Field School took place in May and June. A joint project of Parks Canada, Saint Mary's University, and the Société Promotion Grand-Pré, this year's excavation saw a crew of ten undergraduate students from across Canada conduct work in three areas of Grand-Pré National Historic Site. Near the memorial church, excavations continued to uncover

the fourth and final cellar wall of a pre-Deportation Acadian building. Significant portions of this structure have been damaged by treasure hunters and antiquarians in the period prior to the establishment of the memorial park in the early 20th century, but enough remains to discern that this building, probably a house, was destroyed by fire some time after 1734. At the eastern end of the site, test excavations have uncovered additional architectural evidence and exposed the tops of several grave shafts, which indicate the location of the Acadian parish cemetery. While there are no plans to excavate the graves themselves, their size and distribution are of considerable interest, and the Société Promotion Grand-Pré has long expressed a desire to know the cemetery's precise boundaries—a question that can be easily addressed archaeologically. Finally, new geophysical evidence from the southwest field has been tested as well, leading to the discovery of what may be the hearth of a 'new' house. While the implications of these results are still being determined, it is clear that the national historic site grounds were quite densely occupied prior to 1755, and that significant heritage resources remain through which we may study the vanished Acadian village.



Volunteers, Jessica Ellison and Deanna Foster, and SMU student, Charlene Regan, excavating a foundation wall at the Poor's Farm site. (Photo: Sarah Kingston)

While the above-mentioned projects all have a specific research/public component to them, there is also a great deal of archaeology being done in the private sector. Cultural resource management (CRM) is, essentially, a process by which the protection and management of archaeological resources are given consideration in a modern world with an expanding population, rapid development and changing needs. More and more, the modification of both urban and rural landscapes impacts or threatens to impact our cultural resources. Private consulting firms, such as Cultural Resource Management Group and Davis Archaeological Consulting, are responding to the important, and often delicate, issues encountered when resources exist in an area where people live and work. In these circumstances, decisions must be made to strike a balance between practical growth and the protection and responsible management of cultural resources. CRM is fast-paced and high pressure work, often conducted in the vociferous setting of heavy equipment and construction-related activity, or in remote and isolated areas of the province. All stages of archaeological work are addressed: historical research; archaeological survey; archaeological testing; and full-scale excavation. CRM archaeologists play a vital role in providing independent evaluation of resource potential and offering mitigative solutions, while recovering an invaluable amount of information from sites that will be lost and from sites that otherwise might not be known.

This summary of archaeological work being conducted in Nova Scotia in 2008 is by no means exhaustive. Various other field investigations are taking place across the province. It is hoped that the general public will appreciate the important work being done and will support the efforts of archaeologists to preserve, protect and manage our cultural resources. It is also hoped that those in the professional community will continue to share the results of their work, to strive towards making archaeology accessible and relevant to the public, and to encourage public participation. Archaeology not only enhances our past but enriches our future and must be of concern to all who value our cultural resources.

Special thanks to Matthew Betts, Scott Buchanan, Charles Burke, Jonathan Fowler, Darryl Kelman, Sarah Kingston, and Leah Rosenmeier, who replied to my request for field summaries and upon whose contributions this article is based.

Sara Beanlands is the Past President of the NS Archaeology Society.

People Power in Parrsboro by Jan Zann

For several years it has been the custom for Heritage Trust of Nova Scotia to hold one Board Meeting each year in a community other than Halifax. Meetings have been held in Truro, Annapolis Royal, Yarmouth, Grand Pré, and Baddeck.

What a treat, for Board members to venture forth to the unique and scenically stunning area of Parrsboro – mainly known for the world’s highest tides, but otherwise relatively unfamiliar to most members. Very impressive on entering the town was the array of heritage homes, a reminder of this town’s prosperous ship building and seafaring past. Originally known as Mill Village and located on Partridge Island, it was granted to residents by Governor Admiral John Parr in 1784. Thus, when relocated, it was renamed Parrsboro. Most of its stately homes were built in the 1800s, and today several have gained new life as luxurious Bed and Breakfast accommodations. Board members stayed in two of these, the 1893 Italianate-style Maple Inn and the Gillespie House Inn. That so many mansions are still standing in such perfect order is a tribute to the townspeople’s appreciation of their built heritage.

The Board was first taken to Main Street to view the New Destination Art Gallery and Antique Shop, now housed in a building with its ornamental woodwork and tin ceilings still intact. Then off for excellent food at the rather incongruously-named Bare Bones Café where Chef Glen Wheaton works magic with locally produced ingredients. An older restaurant, recently renovated and under new management, is La Bouillabaisse. These have added another attraction to the town.

The main street’s illuminated dinosaur replicas (signs) reminded us of another major feature of Parrsboro – the Fundy Geological Museum – where our enthusiastic and knowledgeable guide outlined the geological history of this fascinating region. Fossils of the world’s first reptiles and an early dinosaur fossil have been found in the more than 200,000 million-year-old Jurassic and Triassic deposits. The recent designation of Joggins’ Fossil Cliffs as a UNESCO World Heritage site will be applauded by all Nova Scotians, especially Parrsboro residents, who live a thirty-minute drive away. This is a site not to be missed.

For a town of just 1600 population, it is remarkable to find a fully professional theatre that operates throughout summer and fall. This is still another example of the commitment of the people to preserving their history. Plays performed are based on true Nova Scotian events and are of first class quality. The Ship's Company Theatre operated for many years from the deck of the old Kipawo ferry, a ship that plied the Bay of Fundy between Kingston, Parrsboro, and Wolfville, hence its name, Ki-Pa-Wo. In recent years, a modern, fully functional facility has been built by local tradespeople. It cleverly incorporates the Kipawo into the design. Major fund-raising by the community contributed to this achievement. Pamela Halstead, the Artistic Director, gave Board members an excellent tour, pointing out the joys for patrons of the new bathroom facilities and the broad deck of the ship for pre-performance drinks.

A further example of this town's commitment to its heritage is the fact that the 21-room Ottawa House is being operated as a museum. Built in 1765 and purchased in 1871 by Sir Charles Tupper, a Father of Confederation and later Prime Minister, it served as his summer residence for eighteen years. It is operated by the Parrsboro Shore Historical Society, staffed by dedicated members of the community. One such, Conrad Byers, recounted many fascinating stories of the town's role during the American Revolution and the War of 1812.

For Board members, however, the outstanding event of the weekend was the presentation by Michael Fuller, Chairman of the Parrsboro Band Association, of their ambitious plan for conversion of the 123-year-old former Presbyterian Church into a Regional Arts, Culture and Wellness Centre. It will have a 150 seat auditorium, conference rooms, work spaces, and gymnasium. During its lifetime, the building has been used as a school auditorium, then a band hall for the famous Parrsboro Citizens' Band. With the breaking up of the band three years ago, it was feared that the building would be lost. However, with the reorganization of the Band Association, now with more than 200 members, consultants were hired to restore the original architecture and to use innovative geothermal energy for heating and cooling the building. It will serve communities from Advocate to Bass River, and from Parrsboro to Amherst, providing a variety of activities throughout the year.

Mr. Fuller expressed his gratitude to our Heritage Trust for its financial assistance, contributing to the outstanding promotional video pro-

duced by Susan Hutchins, a Yarmouth videographer. The Band Association will soon begin the fundraising campaign. Mike Tavares, Chair of our Communities Committee, is to be congratulated for bringing this project to the attention of the Board and for organizing the excellent and most informative weekend.

The little town of Parrsboro provides a fine example to other communities of what can be achieved by a small, dedicated group of citizens who understand the importance of preserving their built heritage for future generations. As one older gentleman remarked "When it's gone, it's gone forever." I'm sure Board members look forward to forays into other vibrant communities in the coming years.

Parrsboro Band Membership costs \$5. (902-254-2059). P.O. Box 172, Parrsboro, NS B0M 1S0

"The Days the Ships Came In"— Port Williams, Inland Port of the Valley

Some people may consider historical information dull and boring; however, there was nothing dry or dusty about Ken Bezanson's talk at our May meeting. The walls of the amphitheatre and easels set up around the room displayed photographs of Port Williams, featuring the sailing ships and steamships that visited "The Biggest Little Port in the World" from the mid-1800s to the late 1970s.

The multi-media presentation was in the form of three eras: the Age of Sail (mid-1800s to the early 1900s) saw cargo, including apples, potatoes and lumber, shipped to New Brunswick and Boston; the Steamship era (1920s to mid-1940s), when apples were shipped to Great Britain and other markets world-wide; and the pulpwood and fertilizer period (1950s to the late 1970s).

As an educator and performer (he is a former professor of Education and noted pianist, as well as antiques dealer and restorer of heritage properties), Ken Bezanson knows the value of audience participation and he had us reciting John Masefield's poem "Sea Fever" and later, singing "The Mariner's Hymn."

Bezanson observed that, as a speaker, "you are trying to squeeze 150 years of history into 55 minutes and the trick is to make the archival information and the printed text into a story-telling format that is interesting and entertaining. In other

words, ‘from the page to the stage’.” Those of us in attendance appreciated that statement while viewing fabulous, captivating and nostalgic visuals, underscored with music such as Allister MacGillivray’s “Away from the Roll of the Sea” or Peter, Paul and Mary’s “The Days the Ships Came In” and Bob Quinn’s “Sail on Nova Scotia”.

Many interesting anecdotes were told, some by Bezanson and others as audiotaped interviews, notably Louis Thomas and Eleanor (née Gates) Palmer. George A. Chase figured prominently in the making of Port Williams as a major shipping port and the wharf was a symbol of that period of industry. Tribute was paid to the late, well-known historian, Jim Snowdon. Sarah Sabean ably provided the “magic” of the Powerpoint imagery. It was a fascinating evening, a nostalgic journey and a time of reflecting on “The Days the Ships Came In”. *KB*

With thanks to Annie Bird for excerpts from her article of February 8, 2007 in the Hants Journal.



Calburga, docked at Port Williams ca. 1895

The Lunenburg County Historical Society and Fort Point Museum, LaHave *by Joan Dawson*

In June, 1969, a group of citizens from the Bridgewater and LaHave area held an organisational meeting to appoint a board of directors for what was to become the Lunenburg County Historical Society. A research committee was established to gather historical information about the region, and other committees were set up to support the Society’s endeavours. From the outset, a driving force behind this initiative was Nancy Creaser, an immigrant from Scotland with a passion for preserving

the largely neglected early history of this area, and particularly that of the early French settlement of Fort Point at LaHave.

Although the Mi’kmaq have frequented the river and coast since time immemorial, its written history goes back to 1604, when Champlain visited and surveyed Green Bay and the mouth of the LaHave River. In 1632, a group of Frenchmen led by Isaac de Razilly came to what is now LaHave, where they established a fort, dwellings and a chapel, which were later burned. Subsequently, the region was settled by British and German immigrants. By the early 20th century, few traces of the fort could be found because of erosion of the point on which it was built, and only the foundations of the chapel remained. In the mid-twentieth century, even those foundations were destroyed.

One of the first goals of the new society was to reclaim this site and record its story. This was achieved through members’ efforts both in dealing with government bodies and in historical research. In addition, the society held monthly meetings with pot luck suppers and speakers on topics of historical interest.

In October, 1971, the society acquired the former light keeper’s house at Fort Point, between the fort site and the chapel, and some adjacent property. With assistance from the provincial government and the Nova Scotia Museum, a museum was established containing artifacts and documentation relating to the history of the area. An extra wing was added to the building to house the growing collection. Many local people generously donated treasures from their attics and barns. Since then, the building has further expanded, creating more spacious exhibition, research and storage space.

Nearly 40 years after its founding, the society still functions largely through membership fees, fund-raising efforts and grants. Government funding allows the employment of student guides in summer time; otherwise there are no paid employees. Volunteer members of the society are responsible for the management of the site, fund-raising, and for developing and displaying the collection. The monthly pot luck suppers continue, on the third Tuesday of each month at 6:30, followed by an interesting talk. New members are always welcome. Donna Malone is the current President. For information, see www.fortpointmuseum.com.

Sim City by Samuel Austin, MPLAN, MA

I have always been fascinated by cities. Right from an early age when I built them out of sticks in the forest and drew them on paper, I have always loved urban places. That fascination makes the computer game Sim City 4 a perfect hobby for me. Sim City 4 is a city simulator that lets players take on the role of planner, developer and mayor. Players place streets, define zones and provide services such as police, schools and hospitals.

Sim City 4 also allows players to add their own buildings to the game through a 3-D computer modelling program. Over the last three years, I have spent a large chunk of my free time creating buildings for the game. I have finished 50 buildings; I upload them on-line so that other Sim City players can use them in their own cities. At last count, my creations have been downloaded over 100,000 times.

Over half of my creations are based on buildings in Halifax. I grew up in the Halifax area and for me, our city is a special place and one that I wanted to see in the game. I have mainly recreated downtown buildings. The unmodified Sim City 4 game did not include many “main street”-type buildings: buildings that are close to the street, have lively storefronts, are colourful and are close to their neighbours. I have absolutely no interest in recreating the Bayers Lakes or the Dartmouth Crossings of this world with their large parking lots and big box stores. The unfortunate sprawl that has characterized urban growth since World War Two isn't something I find appealing.



I have made some of Halifax's modern buildings, such as the Lexington and the Canada Permanent Building, but usually I focus on our city's older buildings. Heritage buildings have been a favourite of mine because they were made in an era before freeways when we knew how to build cities (something we're only now relearning). Heritage buildings are usually located in truly urban settings, they have character from years of history, and the best of them have a great sense of style. Some of Halifax's notable heritage buildings that I have recreated for Sim City include Wright's Building (1672 Barrington), the Tramway Building (1598-1600 Barrington), the Brander Morris Building (1566 Barrington) and Province House Credit Union (1724 Granville).

Adding Halifax to Sim City has been fun for me and is something I want to continue doing.



It's my generation's make-believe world, the virtual version of the old model railroad in the basement. In the months ahead, I plan to recreate some of Halifax's old wooden houses and some more of Barrington Street's old buildings, including the Roy building (1658 Barrington). It is such a significant landmark in Halifax and one that is currently threatened. If it ends up being torn down, I plan to ensure that at least it lives on in Sim City (www.simtropolis.com).

To see more of his work, google Simtropolis Halifax, NS and look for work by sap.

Grand Pré World Heritage nomination proposal by Marianne Gates

Work is now underway on a proposal to nominate the cultural landscape of Grand Pré for UNESCO World Heritage status. The proposed World Heritage designation will embody all four principles of sustainable development: social, economic, environmental and cultural. Designation will serve to sustain farming and traditional land uses for future generations. It will also celebrate and promote the past experiences of the Acadian, Planter and Mi'kmaq communities.

The Statement of Outstanding Universal Value working group has been formed; its first meeting is scheduled for September. Funding has been received from the County of Kings and the Advisory Board expects to receive news shortly about funding from other levels of government. Dr. Brian VanBlarcom of Acadia will submit his economic impact study report this fall; we anticipate real economic spin-offs, which will help to combat the effects of decreasing tourism activity in the Valley.

The archaeological survey of the dykelands, scheduled to begin in August, is a collaboration between archaeologists Rob Ferguson (Parks Canada) and Catherine Cottreau-Robbins (NS Department of Tourism, Culture and Heritage), and geologist Dave Scott (Department of Earth Sciences, Dalhousie University). John Johnston and Ronnie-Gilles LeBlanc, historians with Parks Canada, expect to complete their interpretation of information derived from deeds and maps in October.

We expect the communication and public engagement strategy will be completed this fall. Already, a group of Acadian organizations has identified the support required for participation by the Acadian community. These organizations included the Société Promotion Grand-Pré, the Société Nationale de l'Acadie, the Fédération acadienne de la Nouvelle-Écosse, the Conseil de développement économique de la Nouvelle-Écosse, les Amis de Grand-Pré, and the project manager for the nomination proposal.

A survey of provincial and federal legislation and policies affecting the area considered for the proposal is planned. This will identify the components of the management system.

Grand Pré was declared Canada's first Rural Heritage District in 1995. LF

Marianne Gates is the Development Officer, Kings Community Economic Development Agency

Congratulations!

Grosvenor-Wentworth Park School students in Andrew Stickings' grade five class have swept the field! On April 27, in Toronto, the class won the Kids Witness News Awards, sweeping five of seven categories in which they were nominated, including best video for *Look What's in Our Backyard*, which tells the story of the Duke of Kent's time in Halifax. In March, the students' anti-racism film, *A Piece of the Puzzle*, won top honours in a contest sponsored by Canadian Heritage. The day before the Toronto win, the class group won the People's Choice Award and \$1,000 for their recycling film at the ViewFinder International Film Festival for Youth in Halifax. Katie Ball and Maddie Belliveau were two of the five class members in Toronto with their teacher when the awards were presented. They used their studies for *Look What's in Our Backyard* in their heritage project *REEL History*, for which they were given a certificate from Heritage Trust. *JM with notes from the Halifax-HRM West "Community Herald"*

Additional notes about Trinity Church and environs by Garry D. Shutlak

The architect of the original church on Jacob Street was David Stirling. The parish of Trinity Church was created in 1888. The Old Garrison Chapel was turned over to the Anglican Bishop [to become the Parish Church of Trinity] on the same terms as the transfer of the garrison, to the Dominion government. The "Twelve Apostles" is a relatively recent term for the adjacent row of brick houses; the development was originally named "Churchfield Barracks". The church hall addition, designed by R. A. Johnson and built by contractors Maxner & Dunlap, was opened April 8, 1912. The 1928 church, designed by A. Edwin Priest and built by McDonald Construction at a cost of \$55,000, opened for worship February 10, 1928. (See *The Griffin*, June 2008)

Preparing to Float the Malagawatch Church

The reward for attending the AGM this year was a fascinating account of the challenges posed by the move of the Malagawatch Church – 65 to 70 tons of wood and plaster – from its rockwall foundation at the side of a hilly road, to the Highland Village, Iona. Les MacIntyre, lawyer, master mariner, harbour pilot and owner of Superport Marine Services Limited, called on skills as varied as his own background to accomplish the task. And all without breaking any of the old wavy cast-glass panes in the windows. (Unfortunately, someone stole eight panes.) Les quickly discovered the secret to expediting the permits required from several government departments for shoreline preparations to receive the loaded trailer. He reminded bureaucrats that the move was “an ecclesiastical event and [lack of cooperation] could be a Charter issue.” He first tried this approach when the power company said it had no procedure for facilitating the move (by taking down six wires). The “Charter issue” was persuasive; permits appeared the next day. On the other hand, he did not notify the Department of Highways about the move. Les felt that since the maximum load [width] permitted was 16 feet and the church was much wider, there was “no need to apply for a permit [since] we would not fit.” Nevertheless, the highways superintendant did show up, along with 200 onlookers, on the first day.

Understandably, the engineering requirements for the move were most important, and the speaker described almost a month of preparatory work: measuring the route (six inches to spare narrowed to ¼ inch in places); assessing the structural integrity of the building (there was little rot); reinforcing the shoreline to carry the hydraulic elevating trailer and its load; and anchoring the barge that would receive the trailer. An internal structure was created to prevent the “gravity-built” church’s mortise and tenon joints from coming apart once the lifting began. The magnitude of the operation – such as 38-inch-long U-bolts fastening the church floor to steel I-beams and through to the trailer underneath, or 109 truck loads of shale to cover the mud after a week of rain – kept the audience alert through the clear but technical explanations.

The non-engineering side of the story leavened the tale. Two-thirds of the workers preparing

the church for the move were Acadian and Catholic; the church was Scottish and Presbyterian. Burials close to the church were not uncommon, so as the workers dug around and underneath for the crib work, they tried to hug the boundary of the church to avoid digging up the dead. The Presbyterian way of life– the desire for instruction for the children, to allow them to read [the Bible] in Gaelic, and the annual coming together to prepare for communion – gave a social context to the building. The significance of the move, mainly by Catholics, of a Protestant church to a provincial museum village in Iona, a Catholic area, was highlighted by the account of the wreath, made and carried to Malagawatch by a Scottish Catholic from Iona, which adorned the church on its trip. A piper led a procession that increased in number along the route.
LF

An earlier account of the move appeared in “The Griffin” in March 2004, with background notes about the church by Nancy O’Brien.

Built Heritage Awards Program

We gratefully acknowledge awards applications submitted to date. Awards applications for commercial and residential built heritage will be considered at our Board meeting in late September. We have no submissions for adaptive re-use of heritage buildings. Readers, please consider appropriate submissions and send them to us!

View our website at: www.htns.ca/awards



Heritage for Sale

478 St. George Street, Annapolis Royal
Broker: Peter Wyman, Habitation Realties
Ltd. Tel: (902) 532-5545
MLS #05002076

On the principal street of the Town of Annapolis Royal (celebrating its 403rd anniversary of settlement), and set apart on an almost two acre parcel, this rare Regency-period (circa 1817), municipally-registered residence was recently featured on a house tour celebrating 400 years of architecture in this pleasant historic town.

This house, known as Girvan Bank-Runciman House, was designed by Boston architect Charles Bullfinch and built for Rev. John Millidge, rector of St. Luke's Anglican Church. In 1842, George Runciman, a merchant, purchased the house. The family enlarged it to its present size, and the front balcony was added in the 1920s. The property remained in the Runciman family until deeded to Heritage Canada in 1979. The Foundation has done significant exterior restoration work on the roof, eaves, chimneys, siding, windows, storm windows and porch, to ensure the property lasts many years. Heritage Canada will provide a stewardship report detailing repairs, together with a schedule for future repairs.

The property is remarkable for its sweeping hip roof with flared eaves, visually enhanced by being set below and well back from the street, and defined by large mature trees, bushes and gardens. The back yard once boasted beautiful gardens, including a small pond, and the rear of the lot abuts the rail trail. There is an architecturally-compatible double car garage with attached garden shed. The property is to be conveyed with a heritage conservation easement.

The inside features a fireplace in each of the eight principal rooms. The house sits on a rock wall foundation, and the basement has a concrete floor with parged stone walls, which are very solid given the age of the house. The house is known as one of the loveliest homes of its era in the province and is billed as one of the "prettiest houses" in Nova Scotia. It is listed for sale for \$299,900.



Photo courtesy of the Nova Scotia Historic Places Initiative: www.nshistoricplaces.ca

Reconciling while Remembering the Deportation

Since the 250th anniversary of the Deportation, annual ceremonies of commemoration and reconciliation have taken place in historic Grand Pré. Beth Keech, long a heritage activist in the area, credits David Gagnon of the French ministry of the United Church, with being the driving force behind the reconciliation movement. Betty Curry is the local woman who has actively promoted the commemoration. On July 28, the official day marking the decision to deport the Acadians in 1755, an interfaith service was held, in English and French, in the Covenanter Church. At noon, a wreath was laid on behalf of the United Church, Les Amis de Grand-Pré and other groups, at the Deportation Cross, located on the Curry farm in Horton Landing, at what is believed to be the point of embarkation for the deportation. Bells tolled at 5:55 p.m. or 1755 h. A Sweet Grass Blessing and First Nations prayer followed two minutes of silence. The day ended after the church service with a Walk of Solidarity to nearby Grand-Pré National Historic Site and a reception hosted by Les Amis de Grand-Pré. *LF Sally Ross profiled Mrs. Curry in her July 22, 2008 article in "The Advertiser."*

“Black Loyalist 225” Shelburne

by Black Loyalist Heritage Society

The Black Loyalist Celebration kicked off with the March to Birchtown on August 2nd. Approximately 30 participants walked from the Loyalist Plaza in Shelburne to Birchtown Community Centre, where everyone enjoyed a BBQ and musical entertainment. On August 3rd the Osprey Art Centre hosted the play “A New Hope” which is a one woman play based on the historical accounts of John Clarkson’s mission to America to improve the conditions of the Black Loyalist in Nova Scotia and to promote the colonization of Sierra Leone in Africa. The story teller, through the voices of those who made the journey to Nova Scotia, tells of their hardships and hopes of a better life in the new land. Author Shelley Hamilton was brought to tears as a full house gave her a standing ovation. What a moving night!

August 4th the Shelburne County Rug Hooker display opens at the Birchtown Museum, featuring a number of pieces telling the Black Loyalist experience in Shelburne and Birchtown. What a show of talent.

Shelburne Harbour was a backdrop as the *Amistad* sailed in to the Government wharf with a flotilla of many local sailboats from the Shelburne Harbour Yacht Club and the schooners from the Nova Scotia Schooner Association. A civic welcome was hosted by the Black Loyalist Heritage Society with welcoming wishes by Democracy 250 Co-Chairs Russell McClellan & Dr. John Hamm; John Hennigar-Shue and Wayne Adams of the N.S. Amistad Freedom Society; Shelburne mayor Parker Comeau; Sherman Embree; and Elizabeth Cromwell, President of the Black Loyalist Heritage Society.

The celebration was full of music, food, displays and lots of history, leaving many tired after a busy weekend. On August 11th the *Amistad* left Shelburne Harbor with two Shelburne youth on board, heading for Portland, Maine. Many new friends were made and many old friends re-acquainted during the weekend.



Bev Cox, “Amistad” Weekend



“Amistad” Weekend

Programs Sponsored by other Societies

Dartmouth Heritage Museum

June 27-Sept.15: 150 yrs of hope: A collection of artifacts from the Nova Scotia Hospital.

Oct. 4 & 5, 12-5pm: Dartmouth Heritage House Tour. Advance tickets \$15.00; \$20.00 at the door. Tea \$6.00 Christ Church. Four historic homes & two businesses

www.ticketatlantic.com & Evergreen House 464-2300

Nov. 21-Dec.18: Victorian Christmas at Evergreen.

Nov. 27, 1-4pm: Christmas Egg Ornament workshop. Make ornaments from eggs in Ukranian style!

Fisheries Museum of the Atlantic

Dec.: Harbour Holiday Lights. The Museum vessels *Theresa E. Connor* & *Cape Sable* will be decorated for the holidays with white lights in the rigging.

Fundy Geological Museum

Nov. 17: O Christmas Tree exhibit launch. Come vote on the decorated trees.

Dec. 4, 7pm: O Christmas Tree open house. Please bring a donation for the food bank.

Halliburton House Museum

Sept. 26, 7:30pm: Murder Mystery Night. Light meal. 19yrs & up. \$20.00. Purchase by Sept. 22. 798-2915



Highland Village Museum

Oct. 10-Oct. 18: Celtic Colours International Festival. Join us for special workshops, concerts & events.

Oct. 13, 1-3pm: Pioneer Textile Tour. 2 hour village tour to examine textiles in each of the houses. Concludes with traditional tea & oatcakes. \$15.00

Oct. 16, 7:30pm: "Waters of Iona" Celtic Colours Concert: Malagawatch Church. Piper Ryan MacDonald, Ryan MacNeil from the Barra McNeils. \$20.00 <http://www.celtic-colours.com>

Oct. 23-25, 7-9pm: Night of the Spooks. \$12.00 adult, \$28.00 family, \$5.00 student. Celebrate Halloween by lamplight. Prepaid reservations.

Lawrence House Museum

Sept. 27 10am-5pm: Fall Harvest/Annual Maitland Launch Day Fest. Victorian costumes, displays & demonstrations of shipbuilding skills, crafts & artwork. Church supper.

Oct. 3, 7:30-9:30pm: "Beyond the Grave", Maitland's history, stone by stone. Join our costumed guide on a walking tour of Oak Island cemetery. \$10 for candlelight tour & refreshments. Reservations required. 902-261-2628.

Le Village historique acadien de la Nouvelle-Écosse

Oct. 7, 1:30-3pm: Harvest Festival. Enjoy a collection of harvest-time desserts accompanied by live music. \$6.00 (\$5.00 for members).

Oct. 17-18, 7pm: Haunted Village. Enjoy a guided tour of the Village at its spookiest. \$6.00 student, \$10.00 adult (members \$8.00).

Nov. 14: Special wine & beer tasting event, Acadian style. 762-2530

Mainland South Heritage Society

Sept. 20: Antiques Road Show. For tickets call 479-3505 or e-mail:

ishea@eastlink.ca

Oct. 2 & Oct. 5: Democracy 250th celebrations. Fleming Park. *Oct 5* there will be heritage walks, displays, pony & wagon rides, music, ferry across the arm, lantern walk at dusk & much more.

Maritime Museum of the Atlantic

Public Talks: 7:30pm

Sept. 27, Oct. 25, Nov. 22, Call for topics

Dec. 6, Noon: Halifax Explosion Walking Tour. Free. Space limited. Register at 424-7490

Nov.18, 7pm: "Pirates of the North Atlantic" Book Launch. Celebrate the publication of the first book by museum curator Dan Conlin.

Select Tuesdays, 7-8pm: Ghosts & Marine Folklore Tales of Pirate & Privateers (call 424-7490 for schedule)

McCulloch House Museum

Mid Nov.-Dec. 23: Gingerbread...Gingerbread. Learn about the art of Gingerbread: constructing it & eating it! Tours of Pictou: Take a walking tour & learn about Pictou's architecture, cemeteries & history.



Memory Lane Historical Village

Oct. 18, 7pm: Oktoberfest. A four course heritage dinner served by lamplight in the rustic cookhouse. Reservations must be made by the Thurs. before.

Nov. 15, 5pm: Candlelight Christmas Concert

Nov. 15, 6:30pm: Traditional 1940's Christmas Dinner, \$23.00
877-287-0697

North Hills Museum

Sept. 21: Road Show: Antique silver, jewellery, books.

Nova Scotia Archaeology Society

Monthly lectures: *4th Tues., 7:30pm.* Museum of Natural History 446-0473

Prescott House Museum

Oct. 11 (rain date *Oct 12*), *11:00-3pm:* Oktoberfest Family Fun! Wagon rides, haunted fun house tour, ghost stories, BBQ. \$3

Ross Farm Museum

Sept. 21: Pumpkin Harvest

Oct. 13: Thanksgiving Day Celebration-Step back in time & experience Thanksgiving Day-settlers' style. Enjoy demonstrations of open hearth cooking, coopering & sauerkraut making.

Dec. 6-7: Christmas in the country. at Rose Bank Cottage.

Scott Manor House Museum

Sept. 22, 7:30pm: Graveyard Candle Light Walk.

Oct. 4, 10-4: Bedford Antiques Roadshow with expert appraisers Roger Crowther, Rosemary Beckett & Louis Leroux

Royal Nova Scotia Historical Society

Monthly lectures: *3rd Wed., 7:30pm,* NSARM

Sept. 17: 22nd Annual Phyllis R. Blakeley Memorial Lecture. Gwen Davies, "Nova Scotia Literary Women Writing Reform, 1890-1918"

Oct. 15: Brian Cuthbertson, Symbolizing in Stone an Event of 'Imperishable Importance': Halifax's Memorial Tower, Commemorating the 150th Anniversary of Representative Government

Nov. 19: Fred Armstrong & William Hamilton, "The Ulster Scot Migration to Nova Scotia"

Dec. 10: Sheila Kindred, "James Cook: Cartographer in the Making, 1758-1762"

Sherbrooke Village

Sept. 14, 12-4pm: Historic Costume Department Open House

Sept. 21: Sherbrooke Village Apple Day.

Oct. 2: Clary Croft. Celebrating Democracy 250

Oct. 11-12: Harvest Weekend. Experience the traditional holiday fare at the Sherbrooke Jail & check out pumpkin carving

Nov. 28-30: Old-Fashioned Christmas

Uniacke Estate Museum

Open until Oct. 15

Oct. 11, 8pm: The Lingering Spirits of Uniacke's Estate.

Limited space. Purchase tickets in advance. 902-886-0032

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

7:30pm Museum of Natural History auditorium

September 18, 2008

Speaker: Tony Edwards

"The story of Bedford "Images of our past..." series

October 16, 2008

Speaker: Fred Hutchinson

"The Second Halifax Explosion-1945"

November 20, 2008

Annual Dinner
Lord Nelson Hotel
Speaker: Michael Tavares

"Heritage Tourism"
Michael Tavares, heritage developer, hands-on restoration artist, winner 2007 Tourism NS Award & co-manager of MacKinnon-Cann Inn, gives an insider's view of Heritage Tourism

Tickets \$50.00

November 22, 2008

Wooden Windows Workshop

Andrew Powter, conservation architect & local traditional window makers
St. John's Anglican Church Hall, Lunenburg
Tickets \$40.00

For Tickets: 423-4807