



The Griffin

A publication of the Heritage Trust of Nova Scotia

VOLUME ONE NO. 2

MAY-JUNE 1976

PROGRAMME HIGHLIGHTS

1. Summer Tour -- postponed this year until the autumn due to the illness of the Programme Chairman.

2. May 21-June 13 Heritage Trust will have a display at the N.S. Museum. The display will include the Prince and Hollis Buildings, Brunswick Street and historic Pictou. As part of the programme, Heritage Trust has organized a demonstration of basket making by the Brunswick St. Mic Mac Friendship Centre on Saturday afternoon, May 22. A second event will be a display of artifacts by The Brunswick St. Archeology Club on Saturday afternoon, May 29. Also, on Saturday morning, June 5 Mr. Lou Collins will conduct a Walking Tour. The tour will begin at the Museum and will be based on Mr. Collins' book In Halifax Town.

3. Annual Meeting, Thursday June 17, 1976, 8 p.m., N.S. Museum. Review of the year's activities, election of officers, with special refreshments and a chance to socialize.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear Madam:

May I compliment yourself and Heritage Trust for the new format of "The Griffin". It is certainly easier to read and much more presentable in appearance. Congratulations!

Ralph A. Pepper, Traffic Manager
Acadian Lines

Dear Madam:

The February-March Griffin is an excellent vehicle for the Heritage Trust message. Congratulations to you and all others who made it possible. An attractive newsletter like the Griffin will do a lot to keep all members informed and interested.

Heritage Trust have made a great contribution to the City and Province. It is gratifying to see the growing public acceptance for preservation of our heritage. Tangible evidence of this was the walking tour of Brunswick Street. Those who were not sold at the beginning were converted during the tour. I think that particular tour should be repeated.

Congratulations on the Griffin. May it keep looking back as it marches into the future.

Ron Wallace, M.L.A.
Halifax Citadel





Court House

ANNAPOLIS ROYAL: A CANDIDATE FOR CONSERVATION

Members of the Historic Restoration Enterprises Society were aware of Heritage Canada's plans for conservation areas in Canada, and were interested in finding out if it was possible for the Waterfront of Annapolis Royal to qualify for assistance from Heritage Canada. The President of the Society, Commander E. Petley-Jones, visited Mayor George Richardson and informed him of Heritage Canada's plans for historic areas similar to Annapolis Royal. The Mayor felt that the Town Council should be advised of the possibility of restoring and revitalizing the downtown area.

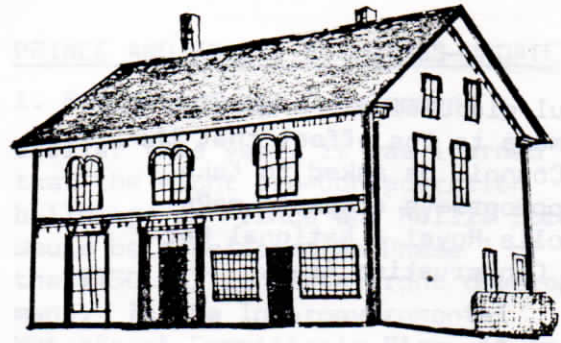
Mr. R.A.J. Phillips, Executive Director of Heritage Canada, was invited to attend a meeting of the Town Council in November, 1975, and advise the Mayor and Council as to what financial contribution would be required from local Government and what financial funding and professional assistance could be expected from Heritage Canada, and what benefits the town and surrounding area could expect as a result of a restoration project.

Mr. R.A.J. Phillips addressed an interested and over flow meeting of concerned citizens in the Council Chambers, he said that Heritage Canada would only give assistance if they were assured of full support by local residents, and local and Provincial Governments. After a quick, but thorough survey of Annapolis Royal, he felt that the Waterfront was not large enough for area conservation

purposes. If Heritage Canada assisted, he was sure that a feasibility study would recommend the inclusion of most of Annapolis Royal in the conservation area. This would ensure that the Stagecoach Hotel (1730), St. Luke's Garrison Church, the Court House (1837) and other buildings would be protected. Also the delightful view of St. George Street that includes the Runciman House (1817), the Banks-Wetmore House (1709), the Hillsborough House, the old Queen Hotel and other charming residences would be saved. Mr. Phillips stated that there would be no intention on the part of Heritage Canada to preserve Annapolis Royal as a large but static Museum, the aim and objective was to restore and preserve historic buildings and encourage people to live and work in them. It was also desirable to attract visitors to the town and encourage them to appreciate the peace and serenity of an earlier way of life. He felt that Historic Properties in Halifax was an excellent illustration of similar projects that are under way in Boston, Charleston, Savannah, Old Quebec and Victoria, British Columbia.

In December, the Mayor called a meeting in the Town Hall and discussed the proposals with the members of the Executives of the Annapolis District Board of Trade, and Historic Restoration Enterprises Society. It was agreed that it was desirable and necessary to inform the public regarding this proposed plan. During the winter, public discussion would be encouraged among the members of local societies, in the spring a large public meeting would be organized and as much pub-

by: Jean Petley-Jones



drawings by Arthur Carter

Odell House

licity as possible would be obtained. Those present felt that public opinion was in favour of Annapolis Royal becoming a conservation area, and if this was found to be the case in April, financial help would be requested from the Provincial Government to match the amount given by Heritage Canada in order to finance the preliminary feasibility study.

The public meeting was planned to take place on the 22nd April, 1976, and as the date approached the organizers were dismayed to find that a Marching Band from the State of Maine was to give a concert in the High School on that date, and another organization was holding a Bingo Game. In spite of these other attractions (the population of Annapolis Royal numbers 700 persons!) the meeting was well attended by about two hundred residents of the Town and surrounding communities.

Two movies were shown, Heritage Canada had provided "A Future for the Past", a movie about conservation areas in Great Britain, and the Norwich Union Insurance Company had sent their representative in Truro, Mr. A. Hiltz, who showed a most interesting movie about the progress of a business restoration project in Niagara Falls, Ontario, the problems, solutions, and ultimate success.

Representatives of Government and business had been invited to attend the meeting and state their views as a panel of experts. Following the movies, they took the "Hot Seat"

on the platform with Commander Evan Petley-Jones (Past President of the Heritage Trust), acting as Chairman.

Dr. H.M. Nason, Department of Finance, expressed the regrets of Mr. Peter Nicholson, M.L.A., Minister of Finance, who was unable to attend, but wished to express his support for establishing Annapolis Royal as a National Heritage Conservation Area. The Provincial Government would be willing to assist the Federal Government with the preliminary feasibility study. Dr. Nason outlined the early history of Annapolis Royal and its unique claim to a permanent place in Canadian history. The other members of the panel, Mayor G. Richardson, Mr. R. Marshall, President of the Board of Trade, Mr. J. Johnson, President of the Historical Association, Mr. Bower, Town Council, Mr. Pierce, Department of Tourism, Mr. T. Crowe, Planning Department, Municipality of Annapolis, expressed themselves as being in favour of Area Conservation but feeling that the interests of year round residents and business men must be given careful consideration.

Some interesting questions were then asked by members of the public, it was felt that the very old buildings dating back to the early 18th century must be preserved, zoning must be enforced, the co-operation of Government Departments must be assured, and when the question of including Granville Ferry in the Conservation Area was raised, it was decided that the boundaries of the area must be flexible and only arrived at after

careful discussion. A motion was then made to the effect that the Town Council be asked to take the appropriate steps to make Annapolis Royal a National Heritage Conservation Area.

THE CROSCUP ROOM

- Margaret Jordan

Nova Scotians will soon be deprived of a unique part of their Art Heritage.

The famous "painted room" of the Hall-Croscup House in Granville Ferry is soon to be moved to the National Art Gallery in Ottawa.

Seasoned Timbers (p.110-113) describes the room in words and pictures. Painted about 1847, it is the only such work known to have survived. Depicted on the walls from ceiling to floor are Trafalgar Square, Queen Victoria and the three eldest Royal children. A painting of a young woman with a child is presumably Mrs. Hanna Croscup for whom the house was built in 1844.

The cost of moving these painted walls will far exceed the cost of restoring them. They will have to be cut in sections and damage to them in transit is inevitable.

The federal minister in charge of the National Art Gallery is the Hon. J. Hugh Faulkner, (Dept. of Secretary of State, 66 Slater St., Ottawa) and the provincial minister in charge of the Art Gallery of Nova Scotia is The Hon. A. Garnet Brown (Dept. of Recreation) if you wish to express concern.

HERITAGE LEGISLATION

Bill 75 was introduced in the House of Assembly on April 7, 1976 by Honorable Maynard C. MacAskill.

The purpose of the Historic Properties Designation Act is "to provide for the designation of structures of historic or architectural value as Registered Historic Property so as to acknowledge property and districts which reflect the cultural, social, economic, political and architectural history of the Province".

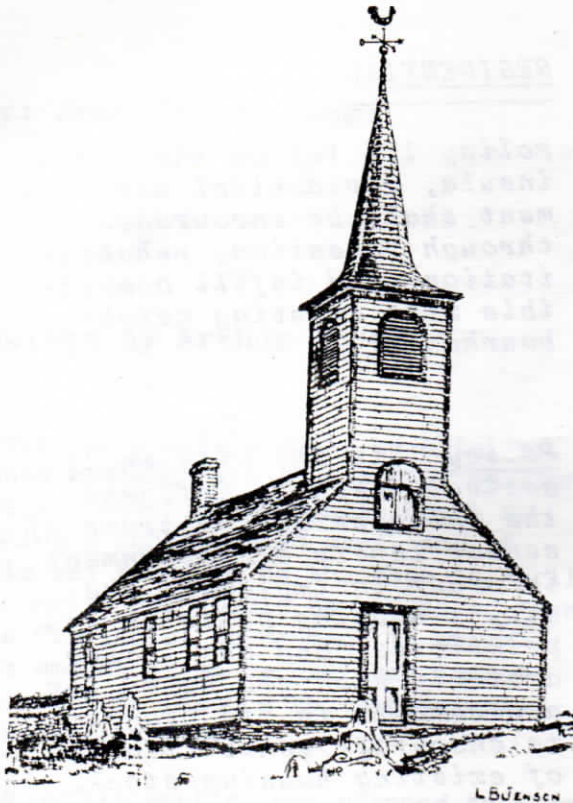
Although the bill is less far-reaching than it could be, this Bill is a step in the right direction.

Designation of a Registered Historic Property may be ordered by the Governor in Council under this Act. Owners consent however would have to be obtained before a private home or dwelling place may be designated as a Historic Property.

This means, in effect, that there is no real protection against demolition for a historic building, and that Nova Scotia would still have the weakest heritage legislation in the country.

Hopefully, the House will take into consideration the recommendations for Heritage Legislation made by Unesco. These include definitive protection against demolition and compensation for maintenance and restoration.





THE LITTLE DUTCH CHURCH

AN APPEAL FOR FUNDS

The Little Dutch Church, one of the most unique landmarks in Halifax, is desperately in need of a new roof. One generous individual has already contributed enough money to cover costs of repair for one side of the roof. However, funds are still needed to repair the other side. The estimated cost of re-shingling one side of the roof is approximately \$700. This is a minimum estimate which may escalate if any of the beams under the shingles need to be replaced.

At present, the Little Dutch Church, which has no congregation, is cared for by Saint George's Church. If you would like to contribute to the new roof, send your donation to Little Dutch Church Roof Fund c/o the Treasurer, Saint George's Parish Corporation, 7141 Mumford Rd. Make cheques payable to the Saint George's Parish Corporation.

PRINCE AND HOLLIS BUILDINGS-UPDATE

1. Re: Waterfront Development

Earlier this year, it was learned that the eight pre-Confederation buildings on Prince and Hollis Strs. would be considered as Phase I of the \$150 million waterfront development. In the Intergovernmental Waterfront Committee's Plan, it appeared that only the four Prince Street buildings and possibly one of the Hollis Street buildings were to be kept intact.

On February 20, 1976, at a public meeting on the Plan, Heritage Trust president, George Rogers, presented a brief supporting the retention of the buildings.

On March 3, 1976, Halifax City Council discussed the Intergovernmental Waterfront Plan. Mayor Morris questioned Mr. Harry Swain, Federal Co-Chairman of the Intergovernmental Waterfront Committee about the eight buildings. Mr. Swain said that as far as he knew, five of the buildings (4 on Prince St. and 1 on Hollis) were to be kept intact and that the facades of the others would be saved. The Mayor said that City Council had supported the Heritage Trust and written to the Premier asking him to consider retention of all eight buildings. The Mayor made it clear that, in giving approval to the general concept of the Plan, he and City Council would not be prevented from further advocacy of the retention of all eight of the buildings.

A week later, City Council formally accepted the general concept of the Waterfront Development Plan with the proviso that "the adoption of the Plan by City Council be conditional upon its detailed approval of traffic patterns, sewerage, treatment and preservation of heritage buildings, maintenance costs of public open space, environmental quality of pedestrian areas, distribution of built form, density and land use mix".

2. Presentation to Legislature

On Monday, March 29, 1976, Ron Wallace, M.L.A. for Halifax Citadel presented The Prince and Hollis Buildings booklet to the legislature. He spoke about the historical and architectural importance of the buildings.

On Friday, April 9, Mr. Wallace again urged the government "to make sure that the eight buildings that represent our political and cultural heritage on Prince and Hollis Streets ... that this streetscape is preserved to make Halifax a better city to live in and a capital that all Nova Scotians will be proud of".

On April 28, 1976 Ron Wallace gave a broadcast on CBC radio about the buildings. He stressed the importance of the buildings to the city's fabric, and the responsibility of the Provincial government to protect them.

MUNICIPAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN

On March 11, 1976, Halifax City Council officially adopted a Statement of Objectives and Policies. The objectives and policies will provide a framework or guidance system for a plan that will be enacted by law.

A number of policies, in various sections of the Statement of Objectives and Policies, deal with preservation, rehabilitation and conservation. Excerpts from the Residential, Environment and Heritage sections follow. The Heritage policies have been changed slightly from the draft policies printed in the last issue of The Griffin.

RESIDENTIAL

Policy 1.1 (a) On the peninsula, residential development shall be encouraged through retention, rehabilitation, and infill compatible with existing neighbourhoods.

Policy 1.10 The City shall actively seek to influence the policies and programs of senior levels of government in order to implement the City's housing policies and priorities, and shall also actively seek graduated tax assessments in its program to encourage rehabilitation of existing housing stock.

Policy 1.8 The City shall allow the redevelopment of portions of existing neighbourhoods only at a scale compatible with those neighbourhoods. The City shall attempt to preclude massive redevelopment of neighbourhood housing stock, and dislocation of residents, by encouraging infill housing and rehabilitation. The City shall prevent large and socially unjustifiable neighbourhood dislocations, and shall ensure change processes that are manageable, and acceptable to the residents.

ENVIRONMENT

Objective 6 The preservation and enhancement, where possible, of the natural and man-made environment, especially those social and cultural qualities of

particular concern to the citizens of Halifax.

Policy 6.7 The City shall protect vistas and views of significant interest.

Policy 6.8 The City shall maintain the planting and protection of shade trees, and shall attempt to develop a tree planting plan and program which will improve the quality of the urban environment.

Policy 6.9 The City shall protect existing green areas and attempt to create new green areas. Every effort should be made to protect existing boulevards, tree-lined streets, and small parks.

HERITAGE RESOURCES

Objective 4 The preservation and enhancement of areas, sites, structures, streetscapes, and conditions in Halifax which reflect the City's past historically and/or architecturally.

Policy 4.1 The City shall continue to seek the preservation, rehabilitation, and/or restoration of those areas, sites, streetscapes, structures and/or conditions which impart to Halifax a sense of its heritage, particularly those which are relevant to important occasions, eras, or personages in the histories of the City, the Province or the nation, or which are deemed to be architecturally significant. Where appropriate,

in order to assure the continuing viability of such areas, sites, streetscapes, structures, and/or conditions, the City shall encourage suitable re-uses.

Policy 4.2 The City shall continue to make every effort to preserve or restore those conditions resulting from the physical and economic development pattern of Halifax which impart to Halifax a sense of its history, such as views from Citadel Hill, public access to the Halifax waterfront, and the street pattern of the Halifax Central Business District.


Policy 4.3 The City shall attempt to maintain the integrity of those areas, sites, streetscapes, structures, and/or conditions which are retained through encouragement of sensitive and complementary architecture in their immediate neighbourhoods.

Correction: Heritage Canada, referred to as a "government agency" in the last issue, is an independent foundation.

Please send articles and items of interest to the editor, Elizabeth Pacey, 1345 Edward St., Halifax, N.S.



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