



The Griffin

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A publication of the Heritage Trust of Nova Scotia

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MARCH 1989

PROGRAM - SPRING 1989

The regular monthly meetings of Heritage Trust of Nova Scotia are held on the **THIRD THURSDAY** of each month in the auditorium of the N.S. Museum, 1747 Summer Street, Halifax, at 8:00 p.m. unless otherwise stated.

Thursday - March 16 - 8:00 pm

MR. & MRS. ROBERT CREIGHTON will present a slide talk on the Architecture of Houses in Australia and New Zealand.

Thursday - April 20 - 8:00 pm

MR. ERIC TIZZARD will show slides of Halifax post cards of the 1910's and 1920's.

Thursday - May 18 - 8:00 pm

In honour of Victoria Day, the film A Queen Is Crowned, 60" of the 1953 coronation of Queen Elizabeth II will be shown.

Thursday - June 15 - 8:00 pm

The Annual General Meeting and Election of Officers

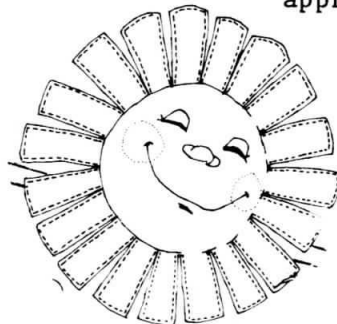
Saturday - June 17

A House Tour in Old North End Halifax. Details to follow.

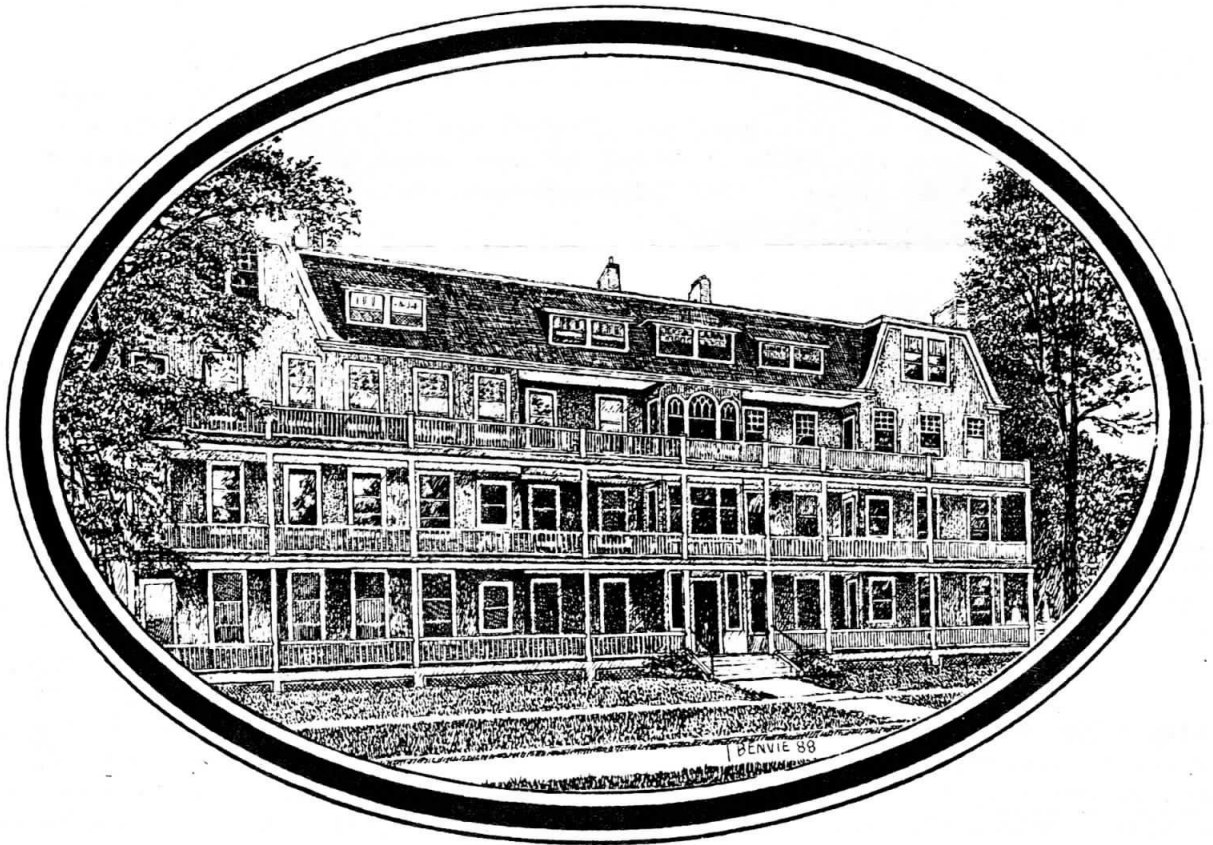
Saturday - June 24 - 9:00 - 5:00pm

Halifax Harbour Water Tour

In response to requests of members, the harbour tour of last October is being repeated. With warmer weather we will hope to land on McNab's Island and approach other sites more closely.



Members may purchase note cards featuring the Garden Crest Apartments for \$5.00 per package of ten. The Garden Crest has the distinction of being the City's first luxury apartment building. The Garden Crest perfectly complements the Public Gardens in design and scale; the Edwardian resort style with tiered verandahs enhances the views from within the Gardens, and the low scale of the building does not cast a shadow past the fence of the Gardens on a sunny summer's day. The Garden Crest is a registered heritage property of Halifax.



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Spring is in the air! With days growing longer and the sun's rays warmer, we can once again think in terms of rejuvenation and reawakening. We can all look for new directions, or different solutions. For example, our Board will be exploring options for the long-term use of our Macdonald Farm in Windsor. Unfortunately, negotiations with the Technical University of Nova Scotia came to a conclusion last December when they decided not to accept our proposed lease which would have granted free use of the property for 40 years. Nevertheless, we're looking forward to finding a new and perhaps an even more compatible use for our superb, historic farm.

Already this year, Heritage Trust has agreed to support two interesting initiatives - one at St. Mary's University and one at Dalhousie University. On April 22, 1989, the subject of urban archaeology will be aired at a one-day conference with many experts on hand. Members may remember the excitement generated several years ago when numerous 18th century artifacts were unearthed in downtown Halifax. And in the few weeks prior to the conference, from March 10 to April 16, 1989, the Dalhousie Art Gallery will be exhibiting Works from the Donald Cameron Mackay Collection. Since D.C. Mackay personally contributed the drawing of our Griffin logo, it was with great pleasure that we decided to help sponsor the exhibition.

The Board also decided to offer a Built Heritage Award for a worthy restoration project. The award will be offered as part of the awards programme of the Federation of Nova Scotian Heritage and will be presented in June. We hope that nominations will be forthcoming from around the province.

The greatest challenge looming this spring is the Brenhold development proposal which threatens to wipe out the Garden Crest Apartments and other historic buildings on the Summer Street/Spring Garden Road site. Brenhold Ltd. is proposing two high-rise towers which would shadow the magnificent Public Gardens. We sincerely hope that a solution will be found.

Elizabeth Pacey

"HERITAGE TRUST THIRTY YEARS LATER"

By Deborah Allen,
Publicity Co-ordinator

This is a banner year for the Heritage Trust of Nova Scotia, it's 30th anniversary. Did the members of the original charter group ever dream of such longevity? Those people came together in 1959 to preserve the dignity of the Enos Collins House, "Gorsebrook" on Tower Road where the utilitarian Saint Mary's University Rink now stands. Haligonians remember the gracious facade of the privateer's home set back from the two prominent granite gates and a sweeping drive. So began the Heritage Trust's role as heritage advocate. The first struggle was a blow to the small board whose collective voice could not sway the powers that be. It was the end of an era as far as Enos Collins, Esquire went but the Heritage Trust saw to it that he would be remembered in a much more startling way in the 1970's.

The Trust has a membership in the hundreds with dedicated and informed leaders, like current president, Elizabeth Pacey who in 1971 on return to her native Halifax, was inspired by the Trust's victorious battle to save the Historic Properties waterfront warehouses.

Mrs. Pacey's first involvement in heritage planning was the city-wide controversy to protect the view from Citadel Hill. In the mid-seventies, she joined the Heritage Trust under chairperson, Catherine Hutton and other stalwarts like city historian, Lou Collins and architect Allan Duffus. Along with the waterfront warehouse restoration, local businessmen John Fiske and Gary Neill Kennedy, President of the Nova Scotia College of Art and Design realized the importance of maintaining the impressive Italianate facades which make up the Granville pedestrian mall. The upper stories of these buildings came to house the Nova Scotia College of Art and Design.

These successful restorations pointed up the necessity of some good heritage legislation. Nova Scotia was the only province with no statute on the books and period buildings were being threatened with demolition by eager development all too often.

In 1972, two committees of hardworking volunteers in the Trust compiled research for a catalogue of historic downtown buildings later published by the City.

This document was the major basis for registering buildings under the Heritage Property Act of 1980.

Before long the Trust heard its advocacy calling once more. In 1975 the group began a lobby to retain eight pre-Confederation buildings at Prince and Hollis Streets (Founders' Square). After longstanding efforts Founders' Square was officially opened in the fall of 1985.

Ironically a year later, heritage-minded citizens watched with horror as the rear portion of the City Club on Barrington Street was demolished. After legal action and strong responses from citizens groups, the City and Province bought the City Club and its streetscape companion the old turreted Church of England Institute. Some advocates wondered why the long legal wranglings if these buildings were registered, as they were, under the Heritage Properties Act.

Well it's 1989 and the Heritage Trust has certainly grown in membership and renown. Their work is never done and at presstime are watching over the Garden Crest apartments on Summer Street, another registered heritage building.

The proposed development for that site on west Summer Street calls for two structures which would cast a long, dark shadow on the Public Gardens.

I suspect one of the patrons of the

Public Gardens, Queen Victoria is looking down imperiously on the proposed blue-prints and muttering "We are not amused!"

Neither is the Heritage Trust but it marches forward thirty years later, proud in its dedication to save our city's built heritage.

(Article originally published in: FEDERATION NEWS Vol.12, No.1, February 1989, a publication of the Federation of Nova Scotian Heritage)



THE HOUSE AT 5500 INGLIS STREET, HALIFAX



The Universalist Unitarian church building at 5500 Inglis Street in Halifax has been given heritage designation by the Province of Nova Scotia. A plaque is to be unveiled at 2:00 pm on Saturday, May 27, 1989. A Victorian tea party will follow the ceremony. Former occupants and other connected with the early history of the building will be invited to attend the celebrations.

Built in 1822 by John Tremain, son of Loyalist refugee Jonathan Tremain, the graceful house has had a varied history and suffered some structural changes in its 167 years. Among its distinguished owners were the Honourable John Bayley Bland, four generations of the Chipman family, and the Honourable Ernest Armstrong, Premier of Nova Scotia.

From being a much loved family home the building had fallen to rooming house status and into a sad state of disrepair by the time the Universalist Unitarian church bought it in 1960. But its thick walls and sturdy foundations had kept it structurally sound, and a program of repair and repainting over the last year has restored its former beauty. And as the Halifax Early Childhood School rents the second floor on week days and the Church Sunday school uses it on Sundays, it once again echoes to the sound of children's laughter.

(Historical information from On The Road From Freshwater Bridge by Heather Watts)



HERITAGE MONTH 1989

The Halifax Community Magazine SOUTHENDER carried some very interesting and excellent articles on Heritage matters in its February issue. "Heritage: The Delicate Balance" by Jim Lotz quotes Brian Cuthbertson, head of the Heritage Section in the provincial Department of Tourism and Culture: "Conservation is now progress... The idea that the new represents progress is fading. We are seeking to retain a certain feeling and character in our communities." Then he stresses that emotional arguments for preserving buildings won't work these days. "The government is very conscious of its spending priorities. You must make strong economic arguments for restoring and renovating old buildings... The burden of political activity to advance the cause of conservation and heritage preservation will increasingly rest with citizen groups. In the past they have harassed and harangued governments over the demolition of certain old buildings. Now they will be increasingly called upon by government to act as partners in heritage preservation."

A Victorian Builder by Maud Rosinski is a fascinating article on the career and contribution to Halifax's Southend and to other Nova Scotia communities of architect and builder John Williams Ruhland from 1864 until the end of the century.

Heritage: One Woman's Way reports an interview with Heritage Trust President Elizabeth Pacey: "Elizabeth Pacey remembers trailing her fingers on the small pebbles in the Public Gardens as her mother pushed her stroller. The family moved to Ottawa when she was young... When Elizabeth Pacey returned to Halifax in 1971, she walked downtown, looked across the Grand Parade to the Old Town Clock and exulted: "I'm back!" In the centre of Halifax, she notes, "you know where you are." In many Canadian cities, the old cores have lost their original buildings and their character and become featureless islands of high rises.

Pacey has played a vital volunteer role in preserving and documenting the identity of Halifax. She has also written in loving detail about the many churches that dot the landscape of the Province. ...Through the Trust and her writings, Pacey has helped to recover the City and the Province's heritage. In 1979 her book The Battle For Citadel Hill was published and in 1987, Georgian Halifax appeared. Just before Christmas last year, Hounslow House, an Ontario publisher, issued Historic Halifax for which she wrote the text; Alvin Comiter, a professor at Nova Scotia College of Art and Design, took the photographs. In the early Eighties, Pacey collaborated with the late G. Edward MacFarlane, George Rogers and Allan Duffus on Thy Dwellings Fair, which described 22 churches in Nova Scotia built between 1750 and 1830. Then she wrote the text for More Stately Mansions, covering churches built between 1830 and 1910. ...Pacey's books are based on extensive academic research, but written in a popular style to reach as many readers as possible. In 1981, she received a Heritage Canada award for communication. Last year, Parks Canada gave her its heritage award. "There are lots of other people who deserve these awards", she says. Then she talks about what heritage has done for her: "It makes buildings come alive so that travel becomes more enjoyable. As you walk down streets in Halifax, or any other city, you notice the architectural details. Involvement in heritage really enriches your life."





All heritage resource people will be interested to know about a new organization, Nova Scotia Archaeology Society, founded in 1987, which has joined our ranks. Under the Executive Officers it has made a splendid start by co-sponsoring, with Saint Mary's University, the Conference on Doing Urban Archaeology to be held in Halifax in April. The Officers of the organization are: President - Judy MacIntyre, Vice-President - Steve Davis, Secretary - Laird Niven, Treasurer - Anita Campbell.

The aims of the organization are to stimulate interest in the study of archaeology in Nova Scotia in relation to all ethnic cultures. It hopes to establish a mechanism for recording sites known to non-professionals and to help to locate and record new sites. To do this, intercommunication between various groups such as the public, all levels of government, other organizations -- everyone who might have or acquire an interest in archaeology is being established. It hopes to publish reports and newsletters, and present public programmes. The preservation and protection of our archaeological sites is one of the important aims of its activities.

Membership is open to all who endorse these aims. Members are entitled to attend Society functions (e.g. the Conference) and vote and hold office. The public is welcome to monthly meetings and special events. Regular meetings are held on the fourth Tuesday of the month at 8:00pm in the Auditorium of the Nova Scotia Museum, Summer Street. The Society holds field trips, an annual week-end symposium and special lectures by guest speakers. It also produces a newsletter, and makes special publications available at reduced rates.

It sounds like an exciting program which would be of interest to many members of the Trust. In order to make it easy for you to avail yourselves of all these pleasures, a membership form follows.

<p>Nova Scotia Archaeology Society c/o Nova Scotia Museum 1747 Summer Street Halifax, Nova Scotia B3H 3A6</p> <p>NAME: _____ ADDRESS: _____ _____ _____ PHONE NO.(s) (Home) _____ (Office) _____</p> <p>1988 membership fees are: Individual \$15.00, Family \$20.00, Students and Senior Citizens \$10.00, Institutions \$40.00, Lifetime \$200.00. NSAS is a registered charitable organization, donations are tax deductible.</p>
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Update

Doing Urban Archaeology

To be presented by: N.S. Archaeology Society and St. Mary's University
To be presented at: World Trade and Convention Centre, Halifax
To be presented on: Saturday, April 22, 1989

Plans are nearly complete for the Conference on Doing Urban Archaeology which I reported in the December issue of Griffin.

A registration fee of \$10.00 will be charged if one wishes to attend the **Plenary Session** in the morning and the session on **Methods in Urban Archaeology** in the afternoon. Urban Archaeology on Display and the Forum on Urban Archaeology Policy, both in the afternoon, are free and open to the public.

A banquet will be held at the Halifax Citadel National Park in the evening at 7:00 pm. James Deetz, Professor of Anthropology at the University of California Berkeley, will give the keynote address. There is a choice of menus, both authentic for the Victorian period.

The Soldier's Supper (\$10.00)

Beef stew and scone
Gingerbread and lemon sauce
Tea/Coffee

OR (for those who wish a more sumptuous meal)

Victorian Deluxe (\$20.00)

Macaroni soup a la Royale
Filets of haddock a la Royale
New potatoes a la creme
Young carrots a l'allemande
Mince tart
Tea/Coffee

(prices include tax and gratuity)





DOING URBAN ARCHAEOLOGY
World Trade and Convention Centre
Halifax, Nova Scotia
Saturday, April 22, 1989



PROGRAM

Registration

8:30 a.m. - 2:00 p.m., Highland Suite 8

Approaches to Urban Archaeology - Plenary Session

8:50 a.m. - 12:25 p.m., Highland Suite 6

Chair: Paul A. Erickson, Professor of Anthropology, Saint Mary's University

- 8:50 Conference Welcome
Hon. Ronald Giffin, Nova Scotia Minister of Education
- 9:00 Urban Archaeology in Alexandria, Virginia.
Pamela Cressey, Director, Alexandria Archaeology
- 9:40 Urban Archaeology in New York City
Sherene Baugher, Director, New York City Archaeology Program
- 10:20 Discussion
- 10:30 Coffee Break
- 10:45 Urban Archaeology in Toronto
Richard Stromberg, Preservation Officer - Archaeology
Toronto Historical Board
- 11:25 Urban Archaeology in Québec City
William Moss, City Archaeologist, Service de l'urbanisme, ville de Québec
- 12:05 Discussion
- 12:25 Lunch Break

Urban Archaeology on Display - Exhibition*

10:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. Highland Suite 8

Organizers: Brenda Boutilier, Curator of Education, Nova Scotia Museum Complex
Laird Niven, Research Assistant, Saint Mary's University

Urban Archaeology Methods - Workshop

1:40 - 4:30 p.m. Highland Suite 7

Chair: Judy MacIntyre, President, Nova Scotia Archaeology Society

- 1:40 Opening Remarks - Chair
- 1:45 Methods in Metropolitan Halifax
Stephen A. Davis, Professor of Anthropology, Saint Mary's University
- 2:15 Methods in Toronto
Donald Brown, Archaeological Consultant, Toronto
- 2:45 Discussion - coffee available
- 3:00 Methods in Québec City
Pierre Beaudet, Assistant Chief, History and Archaeology, Canadian Parks
Service, Québec Region
- 3:30 Archival Resources for the Urban Archaeologist
Carman Carroll, Provincial Archivist of Nova Scotia
- 4:00 Discussion

Urban Archaeology Policy - Forum*

1:40 - 4:30 p.m. Highland Suite 6

Moderator: Robert Frame, Assistant Director, Nova Scotia Museum Complex

- 1:40 Opening Remarks - Moderator
- 1:45 Developer's Perspective
Robert Stapells, Canterbury Group Ltd.
- 2:00 Historian's Perspective
Louis W. Collins, Civic Historian of the City of Halifax
- 2:15 Archaeologist's Perspective
Nicola Hubbard, D. Phil. (Oxon)
- 2:30 Municipal Perspective
Simpson McLeod, Real Estate Supervisor, City of Halifax
- 2:45 Questions - coffee available
- 3:00 Amateur Archaeologist's Perspective
Barry Edwards, Dartmouth, Nova Scotia
- 3:15 Contract Archaeologist's Perspective
Bruce Stewart, Executive Director, Catarauqui Archaeological Research
Foundation, Kingston
- 3:30 Provincial Perspective
Candace Stevenson, Director, Nova Scotia Museum Complex
- 3:45 Native North Americans' Perspective
Robert W. Venables, American Indian Program, Cornell University
- 4:00 Open Forum
- 4:45 Forum Wrap-up

(*The public is admitted free of charge to these sessions only)

Cash bar and announcements

5:00 p.m. Highlander Lounge

Catered Dinner

7:00 p.m. Halifax Citadel National Park

Keynote Speaker: James Deetz, Professor of Anthropology

University of California, Berkeley

Doing Urban Archaeology is supported by the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada, the Nova Scotia Archaeology Society and Saint Mary's University.

For more information, call Saint Mary's University, (902) 420-5628

AN INVITATION

Members of the Trust are cordially invited to attend
the opening reception
of
HISTORIC HALIFAX exhibition of photographs
by
Alvin Comiter
on
Friday, May 12, 1989, at 8 p.m.
at
Seton Academic Centre, Mount Saint Vincent University,
166 Bedford Highway

The exhibition will run from May 12 to June 4, 1989.

Dalhousie Art Gallery

10 March to 16 April

**Works from the Donald Cameron MacKay
Collection, Dalhousie University Archives**

An exhibition of the Maritime drawings, etchings, watercolours and sketchbooks of Nova Scotia artist Donald Cameron MacKay (1906 -1979) from the collection of the Dalhousie University Archives. Included in the display are studies of buildings and streetscapes — many since demolished — in Halifax and of the towns and fishing villages of Port Maitland, Wolfville, Bedford and others. Among MacKay's earliest artistic efforts, these works provide us with an extensive and unique visual record of the region as it was in the 1920s. Organized by the Dalhousie Art Gallery and curated by Gemey Kelly.



Donald Cameron MacKay
Hollis Street South of Salter Feb. 8th 1929
graphite on paper
Collection of Dalhousie University Archives



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