



The Griffin

ISSN 0383 7335

A publication of the Heritage Trust of Nova Scotia

V01.16 - #3

SEPTEMBER, 1991

PROGRAMME NOTES

Regular monthly meetings of the Heritage Trust will recommence on THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 1991, at 8 pm in the Auditorium of the Nova Scotia Museum, 1747 Summer Street, Halifax.

As it has not been possible to finalize details of the fall events, members are asked to check Public Service Announcements on radio, TV and Cable stations and in the local newspapers.

See you on the 19th!



"THE WATERING CAN"-

Friends of the Public Gardens are operating a charming Victorian tea room called The Watering Can at the corner of Bell Road and Sackville Street opposite the Public Gardens. Heritage Trust members who have visited it have been delighted. Be sure to drop in when you go to the Gardens.

The tea room is open from 9.30am to 5.00pm daily throughout the summer.

BARBARA SHAW - IN MEMORIAM

Barbara Shaw came to the old Nova Scotia Museum on Spring Garden Road to fill the position of Librarian, but she very quickly assumed additional responsibilities beyond the library walls.

She prepared the museum newsletter, and edited the museum publications. Our publication program grew to be the largest in Atlantic Canada, and Barbara not only did a superb job of editing, she directed the design and production through to the finished products. These included major publications such as Tufts' Birds of Nova Scotia and Clement Crowell's Novascotiaman. The latter had been rejected by a number of Canadian publishers, but under Barbara's guidance, it won international awards.

She devoted much of her spare time to the editing and preparation of the Heritage Trust publications, Seasoned Timbers, and she was instrumental in accomplishing the publication of Wallace's Early Buildings of Nova Scotia as a joint venture of the Heritage Trust and the Nova Scotia Museum. Numerous authors throughout Nova Scotia sought her advice and guidance, and Barbara never failed to be of assistance.

When planning began for the new museum on Summer Street, Barbara accepted the position of Secretary of the Planning Group. She took an active part in every discussion related to the new building. She also undertook historical research related to exhibit content, while at the same time providing the reference material required by the remainder of the museum staff. A photography section was established, and it became her responsibility.

After the new museum was opened, the Planning Group continued to undertake new museum developments throughout the Province. Barbara played an important part in these developments.

In preparation for the Centennial celebrations, and in the years that followed, many new local museums were established throughout the Province. These new groups all cried for help, and Barbara with Charlotte Myhre responded by travelling around the Province giving instruction in cataloguing, labelling and other necessary museum techniques. Because materials were often difficult to acquire in some of our rural areas, Barbara and Charlotte made up kits which were left with the local groups.

While all this was going on, Barbara was establishing and operating the museum library. This was no mean task since much of the older material, very valuable to a museum, had been stored in cartons for many years due to lack of space. Barbara established a circulation system for journals so that every staff member could expect to see the latest information in his or her field on their desks on a regular basis.

Despite her very busy schedule, Barbara always had time to greet everyone with a smile, listen to their problems, and to offer encouragement. She will be remembered by all her colleagues and friends with great respect and deep affection. She was undoubtedly one of the greatest assets the Nova Scotia Museum ever had.

- J. Lynton Martin,
July, 20, 1991

FEDERATION OF NOVA SCOTIAN HERITAGE -
15th ANNIVERSARY CONFERENCE

A PERSONAL REPORT.

The morning of Saturday, May 15, 1991 was devoted to program, the afternoon to the annual general meeting and the evening to a dinner at the Halifax Hilton with the Honourable Terence R.B. Donahoe, Minister of Tourism and Culture, as guest speaker.

Louis Stephen, a former Culture Deputy Minister, the featured Conference keynote speaker, was unable to attend because of illness. James St.Clair of the Nova Scotia Highland Village and a former President of the Federation of Nova Scotian Heritage, was the gracious substitute delivering a stimulating talk on the announced topic: The 70's and Now: Keeping the Vision. Using the analogy of Aeneas, the refugee from the Trojan War sailing to Italy, and his own Livingston ancestors, who found in Cape Breton the relationship to the soil which they had known in the Hebrides, James St. Clair reviewed the somewhat chequered development of the Federation and the course of heritage in Nova Scotia since the 1970's. Heritage must be recognized as a valued member of the cultural community rather than as the servant of tourism. Without a thorough and unsentimental view of the past, which takes into account oppression of minorities, the Nova Scotia present cannot be understood. The importance of addressing governmental authorities in a non-subservient manner and the need for a provincial museum policy were emphasized. Training programs are required for people working at historic sites and in museums as amateurs or professionals. In closing James St.Clair stressed the necessity for a clearly identified plan for the heritage community in Nova Scotia. He expressed the hope that an energetic wholeness be the vision for the 1990's.

Two panels followed the keynote address. In the first, Robert Frame, Assistant Director of the Nova Scotia Museum Complex, spoke on the mandate, activities and policies of the Nova Scotia

Museum and Patricia Lynch, Manager for Attractions and Events, Nova Scotia Department of Tourism and Culture, spoke on the marketing of heritage resources. Robert Frame pointed out the somewhat unusual character of the Nova Scotia Museum in comparison with other Canadian provinces - the decentralization and emphasis on natural history as well as the human history of the province. Nova Scotia Museum administers the Special Places Act which ensures the protection and preservation of important aspects of the natural and human heritage of Nova Scotia. Some ninety archaeological and ecological sites have been identified - many of which are privately owned. The Nova Scotia Museum is also unusual in that, with Media Resource Services and the Provincial Library, it constitutes the Education Resource Division of the Department of Education. The \$8,400,000 annual Nova Scotia Museum budget for Museum Complex operations and financial support to community museums is a little over one percent of the Department of Education budget. As a museum manager, Robert Frame raised several questions: How many tax dollars should the Nova Scotia Museum Complex receive? Should there be minimum standards for museum operations? Are museums for Nova Scotians first and secondly for tourists? Incidentally, the current annual Museum budget equals the cost of operating a hospital in a Nova Scotia town.

Patricia Lynch outlined the Nova Scotia Tourism marketing plan for 1991-92. Of the various segments of the tourism market, the general touring market is the most significant. Patricia Lynch urged institutions belonging to the FNSH to get to know tourism people and make them aware of heritage facilities.

The second panel featured three speakers: A. Dale-Smith, Manager, Parks Planning for the Department of Lands and Forests, Donna McCready, Information Officer, Department of Transportation

and Gerald Porter, Provincial Coordinator Nova Scotia Round Table on Environment and Economy for the Department of Environment. The speakers in this second panel enhanced understanding of heritage in its widest sense. The evident cooperation between the departments represented was particularly encouraging.

Following an enjoyable informal luncheon in the sunroom and out on to the lawn of the Cambridge Library, the FNSH President, David R. Stevenson, presided ably over the annual general meeting.

During the meeting, A.W. Churchill, Nova Scotia's representative on the Heritage Canada Foundation, reviewed the past year's activities and mentioned the conflict resolution team - an innovation which could be helpful in the Halifax Metropolitan area.

Information reports were given by Rosalyn Rubinstein, the FNSH Consultant for Training, Deborah Robichaud of the Canadian Conservation Institute and Paul Theriault, regional representative of the federal Department of Communications.

At the evening dinner, the new Minister of Tourism and Culture indicated a keen interest in and understanding of the Heritage role of his portfolio and referred to his involvement with Nova Scotia Museum staff during his earlier tenure of the Education portfolio. As well as presenting two FNSH awards, the Honourable Terence Donahoe presented the Heritage Trust of Nova Scotia Built Heritage Award to Elizabeth Stuart Goodstein, a member of the Kings Historical Society.

This was the second FNSH Conference at which I have been privileged to be a Heritage Trust delegate. This year's experience has deepened my understanding of and appreciation for the work which the FNSH Board of Directors and small professional staff are accomplishing.

Pauline M.A. Hildesheim.



COLE HARBOUR HERITAGE SOCIETY
EXHIBITION OF PHOTOGRAPHS -

Try and take in a small exhibition of "Plants and People - visual presentation on Cole Harbour of Colour Photos and Art" - prepared by Cole Harbour Heritage Society and the N.S. Wildflower Society. The exhibition will be held in the little church on Long Hill in Cole Harbour, 9.30 am to 3.30 pm Tuesday through Friday only from August 27 to September 27.

Apart from photographs of local wildflowers the exhibit will feature old black and white pictures from the Society's archives of farming in the past, and from their current collection showing the changes as built developments took over; there will also be a section on gardens and a small tribute to the work of Titus Smith who collected specimens of wildflowers and of natural resources from all over Nova Scotia; also some of the work of Maria Morris painter of wildflowers.

Also included will be a number of farm tools, a couple of scarecrows and an old red wheelbarrow full of garden produce. The produce is a contribution by Cole Harbour Senior Citizens who grow reasonably priced vegetables for other senior citizens.

Rosemary Eaton
(C.H.H.S.)



DR. PHYLLIS R. BLAKELY TRUST

On June 7, 1991 at a ceremony in Government House in Halifax, Miss Shirley Blakeley established the Dr. Phyllis R. Blakeley Trust to support research at the Public Archives of Nova Scotia and to honour her sister's memory.

The following is an extract from the remarks of Lieut. Governor Lloyd Crouse P.C., Chairman of the Board of Trustees Public Archives of Nova Scotia.

As Chairman of the Board of Trustees of the Public Archives of Nova Scotia, I am pleased to formally announce the establishment, by Miss Shirley Blakeley, of the Dr. Phyllis R. Blakeley Trust at the Public Archives of Nova Scotia. This trust will be an important and fitting legacy to Dr. Blakeley's forty years of dedicated public service to the Public Archives and her province. It is made possible through the generosity of her sister, Miss Shirley Blakeley who had an illustrious public service career in the Halifax City School music program, and who has over the years been a generous benefactor to the Public Archives through donations of archival and published material.

Dr. Phyllis Blakeley graduated from Dalhousie University in 1942, B.A. with distinction in English and History. After education studies, she taught for several years and in 1945 completed an M.A. under Dr. D.C. Harvey, then Provincial Archivist. That same year she joined the staff of the Public Archives as a research assistant. In 1959 she was appointed Assistant Provincial Archivist and in 1977 The Board of Trustees named Dr. Blakeley Associate Provincial Archivist. In 1982 she became the first woman Provincial Archivist in Nova Scotia. She retired in 1985 and her life ended much too soon after in October 1986.

Dr. Blakeley was universally known and respected by countless researchers from all over Canada and afar who graced the doors of the Public Archives of Nova Scotia during her forty years of service.

Because Dr. Blakeley was so often on the front lines of public service, it is no exaggeration to state that she is in good measure responsible for the solid

reputation for public service which the Public Archives built up over those many years.

Dr. Blakeley was actively involved in many organizations - archival, heritage and historical, community, church and women's groups - and she was honoured many times for her valuable contribution to these organizations and to Nova Scotia.

For her many contributions to her province, Dr. Blakeley was awarded the Order of Canada in 1978. She was also the recipient of Honourary degrees from Dalhousie University in 1977 and St. Mary's University in 1983.

Miss Shirley Blakeley's decision to establish this trust in honour of her sister is yet another demonstration of her own civic mindedness. She has been a frequent donor to the Public Archives particularly relating to her own substantial contribution to public and professional life in Nova Scotia.

I would like to say a few words about Miss Blakeley's generous gift itself, particularly how the resources can be used. The terms of reference state very clearly that interest from the principal can be used for special projects which are not part of the regular operations of the Public Archives, normally funded by the government's annual appropriation to the Archives. Special projects can be recommended by Archives staff with the final decision being made by a sub-committee of the Board of Trustees consisting of the Chief Justice, President of Dalhousie University and President of the Royal Nova Scotia Historical Society. Projects so funded will be appropriately credited and special mention made in the Annual Report as being supported by the Dr. Phyllis R. Blakeley Trust.

In conclusion, I again thank Miss Shirley Blakeley for this most generous, public spirited move. Please join me as we honour two dedicated Nova Scotian women who have contributed immensely to the betterment of our society.

ST. CATHERINE'S CHURCH, BAGLAN and the
PORT TALBOT MALE VOICE CHOIR. -

Many people in Halifax attended the concert in St. Mary's Basilica when the Port Talbot Cymric Male Voice Choir sang here 2 or 3 years ago. Halifax people were most hospitable and generous in their praise. Several firm friendships developed between the families of the choir members and local hosts who took care of them during their stay in Halifax.

It was, therefore, with great pleasure that on the last day of the May '91 Heritage Tour of the English Midlands and South Wales, we were able to attend a concert by the Port Talbot Cymric Male Choir in St. Catherine's Church, Baglan, arranged especially to coincide with our visit.

Special guest performers, Angela Morris Parry, soprano, and Mirain Ellis, harp, were a particular delight - these two very charming and talented young artists had made a special trip to join the concert and renew acquaintance with the Nova Scotian visitors.

As part of their excellent program the choir had included "Farewell to Nova Scotia" and Rita MacNeil's "Working Man" - a pleasing tribute. It was a fascinating and enjoyable evening, ending with a lovely buffet supper, conversation exchanges and - of course - a great deal more singing. A Choir "Afterglow" is a wonderful example of Welsh hospitality.

St. Catherine's Church in Baglan, Port Talbot, is an excellent example of Victorian Gothic in the decorated 14th century style; something like a miniature cathedral, cruciform in shape and measuring 79 feet from east to west and 45 feet at its widest, it has seating for 200.

The builder and donor of this unique little church - Griffith Llewellyn of Baglan Hall - according to local tradition insisted in 1875 that it take seven years to build. Any workman doing more or less of his allotted time was dismissed for laziness or carelessness as the case may be. In 1882 the church was completed.

Llewellyn also insisted that all preparatory work such as carpentry or stone dressing should be done outside the boundary wall of the churchyard, so that 'neither hammer, nor axe, nor any tool of iron be heard in the house' while it was being constructed. It is believed that there is not a single iron nail in the building.

The exterior is of local stone, the dressing of red sandstone from the Forest of Dean. Inside, the eye is led through the vista of chancel arches supporting the belfry, to the altar which is raised from the floor level of the Nave by eight steps of Devonshire marble. The walls are of Bridgend stone of a greenish hue, banded with Forest of Dean red and Penarth alabaster. The result is very rich and together with the green light from the windows creates a translucent effect. The roof timbers and pews are of Baglan oak - each pew end is of a different design.

The Brancuf Stone of archaeological significance is now built into the wall of the vestry near the door. It was found in use as a coping stone in the old churchyard. Evidence that the Old Church was on the site of a earlier Celtic building.

The co-founders, Mr. and Mrs. Griffith Llewellyn of Baglan Hall are buried beneath the great cross outside the east wall behind the altar. The floor is of Italian mosaic with rich colours and of intricate design.

The two heads that look down on the nave from the chancel arch signify Life and Death, between which we all stand at every moment of our existence.

The East window in the Sanctuary is of particular beauty. In the centre hangs a young and beardless Christ, on a tree whose branches fill the top of the window, blossoming forth into the fruits of the Spirit. Around Him angels of the Passion kiss his wounds, and on either side stand the Virgin Mary and St. John the beloved disciple. The background vine bearing grapes represents the Church. This window was made by the firm of William Morris to the design of Sir Edward Burne Jones, High on the roof supporting the vaulting are carved angels each holding an instrument of the Passion.

IN MEMORIAMANNIE ELLA LONGARD

The Trust notes with sorrow the passing of a distinguished member, Annie Longard who passed away June 2, 1991. Annie Longard was a noted athlete and was inducted into the Nova Scotia Sports Hall of Fame in 1988. She taught at Chebucto Road School for many years after graduating from Dalhousie University. We wish to express our sympathy to her sister Gladys with whom she was a long-time supporter of the Trust and a faithful attender at Trust activities. Annie Longard will be sadly missed.

L. RUTH BLAIR

Ruth Blair died in Camp Hill Medical Centre on Friday June 28, 1991. She is survived by her husband Carl, sons David and Sandy and daughter Elizabeth.

Ruth Blair, born in Saint John, N.B., was a resident of Dartmouth, N.S. She will be remembered for her knowledgeable interest in antiques and architecture and her participation in Heritage Trust tours and displays at the Nova Scotia Museum. Ruth was a long standing member of Heritage Trust, the Dartmouth Museum, and the Monarchist League of Canada. Her ready willingness to share her knowledge of the past will be missed.

Pamela Collins

THE JEREMIAH CALKIN HOUSE

Our Valley correspondent, Shirley Elliott sends an illustrated article from the Kings County Community Magazine about the restoration of the 200-year-old Jeremiah Calkin house. It was moved from its original location to her own property on the Old Post Road and restored by Elizabeth Stuart Goodstein of Grand Pre. The Planter post-and-beam structure was built between 1768 and 1780. It had fallen into a bad state of disrepair but had never been 'modernized', a plus for the restoration process

which, nevertheless, was painstaking and expensive. The photographs show the exterior of the now handsome three dormer building and also the fireplace of its huge old downstairs kitchen. The excellent quality of the restoration won the Heritage Trust annual Built Heritage Award for owner Elizabeth Goodstein who is a potter by profession and experimented with local clays to match the original bricks. The framed scroll at the entrance marks the house as a provincial heritage property.

HERITAGE TRUST OF NOVA SCOTIA TOUR OF HISTORIC
HOMES IN SHELBURNE. N.S. - SATURDAY, JUNE 8/91

It would have been nice to be able to open with ... "June 8 dawned bright and clear"; unfortunately it did not and it was damp and dreary when our bus pulled out. However, as the name implies, we are "Trustees" and our faith was rewarded; by the time we reached Shelburne the sky had cleared and the sun was warm with just enough breeze to keep the bugs at bay.

We also received a nice warm welcome from Mr. Donald Glover, President of Shelburne Historical Society and Chairperson of the County Museum, also from Mrs. Emma Harris, Co-ordinator of the Shelburne Historic Complex and members of the group who had helped organize the 4th Annual Tour of Shelburne Historic Homes. We were delighted to meet Master Dory Builder, 94-year-old Sydney Mahaney, still very active.

Following introductions, Andrew Blackmer, Chairman, Cox Building Committee, took us several interesting aspects of the building, several interesting aspects of the building, its history, and hopefully, its future prospects as a store, site for small offices etc., and perhaps a community meeting place.

Built in 1902, by J.J. Cox Co., a mixed goods business was conducted from the ground floor and a chandlery warehouse from the second floor; during WWII the building was used as a warehouse for victualling ships.

Since 1980, when J.J. Cox Co. bequeathed the building to the Museum Society, quite a lot of maintenance has been done, and further restoration is planned as funds permit. Windows have been replaced and recently the facade was repainted in the original pink and maroon colours. The painted wood shutters - open that day for our benefit - are not part of the original structure but serve as protection while the building is empty.

The beautiful diagonal parquet ceiling on the ground floor is still in excellent condition and Andy told us that the new firebreak system can be installed below the flooring of the room above, so

there should be no need to disturb the lovely old ceiling. Enough original office furniture remains for replicas to be made, but again, capital is needed before any inside work can be undertaken. Meanwhile, the ground floor is providing a suitably dry storage space for an old horse-drawn hearse..... Doubt that I would get much accomplished if I worked on the second floor - most of my time would be spent gazing out of the windows at the magnificent vista down the harbour.

Divided into small groups escorted by volunteer guides we were driven (as in 'car', not 'herded') to the Etherington-Robertson house, whose current owners, Mr. and Mrs. J. Smith had opened their home especially for the Heritage Trust group. The house was built in 1907 on the hillside overlooking the town and contains many interesting features..... floorboards of cypress wood and white oak from New York State; an unusual standard lamp constructed from a couple of altar rails from an Anglican church which burned down many years ago, and several attractive lamp shades made by a Tiffany workman.

My eye was caught by a set of Toby jugs on the mantelpiece, accurate representations of Winston Churchill, Field-Marshal Montgomery, Sir Francis Drake and Lord Nelson; and on the side wall a beautifully detailed three-dimensional carved picture by an unnamed French artist.

Upstairs, every wall and level surface of the "Children's Room" was filled with family photographs and on a little side table near the door lay an opened scrap book from 1896, the pages fragile and brittle, the contents a delightful collection of printed Victoriana. Wood-grained bedroom floors set me wondering - why did it become so stylish to have wood painted to look like wood? No accounting for tastes I suppose.

Down via the backstairs we went through the original pantry, now a library for a collection of over 400 cookbooks, some of them very old, then out into the garden to be shown the original stone sink, now a flower-filled decorator piece by the back door.

The other "Special of the Day" for Heritage Trusters was prepared by the ladies of Shelburne Historical Society. Billed as a 'Light Lunch' it turned out to be a tasty Buffet of majestic proportions. How those girls can cook! We owe our sincere thanks to them all.

At 2pm when the official Open House Tour started our personal escorts collected us together once more and drove us to the six beautifully restored homes - each with its own special attraction. It was a pleasure to see that in several houses the owners or 'room-sitters' wore well-made, authentically detailed period costume.

A little brochure provided a short description of each home - my comments are mainly of details not necessarily in the brief official rundown, but of points which caught my attention or were pointed out by the guides.

No.1 - The Campbell-Herrick House, built circa 1829, still has old H hinges on the original doors. The old part of the house has a neat small square bay window in a room painted a soft grey-blue and white. Other features were interesting carving on the stairs, a stone fireplace and unusual mouldings raised in the centre to a shallow V. The original stairs led up to bedrooms with closets of full-length boards - and an amusing modern bathroom ornamented throughout with a duck motif, the boys' bathroom! This house is now owned by Robert and Sharon Redding.

No. 2 - Ryer-Davis House, built in 1784 at the head of the harbour has a wonderful view. The house itself has an unusual roof: a gambrel at the east end and a gable without tie beams at the west end. Mortice and tenon joints are wooden pegged. The domed ceiling over the stairs is the only one in Nova Scotia; the back of its rounded top and sides, cement-filled wooden slats, can be seen in the attic. It was much too hot under the eaves to take much note of the other artifacts stored there, but I did see the 1906 vintage phonograph and the black bonnet and child's gown dating back to Loyalist times and which Mrs. Davis found in the house when she bought it. A curious little mat in one of the

small old-fashioned bedrooms, had been made from a black wedding tuxedo! Four-inch circles of black decorated with smaller circles of red, green and gold felt had been stitched in rows to a firm backing. There were also a number of photographs from the beginning of this century.

No.3 - The McDonough-McLean House was built before 1785 by Patrick McDonough - real estate dealer, customs officer and victualer. The keeping room at the back was once a tavern, in 1804 the scene of a nasty skirmish between the York Rangers and the townspeople. Now the home of Louise Lindsay and Andy Blackmer, this New England Colonial style house was the winner of the 1985 Heritage Canada National Award of Honour and featured in the 1987 Fall issue of Century Home Magazine

Much effort had gone into the restoration of this old home (I saw it during an earlier visit to Shelburne when restoration had barely started). Andy pointed out to us that mouldings, trim and staircase had been restored or replaced meticulously by local craftsmen using authentic woodworking tools. A friend of McLean's had painted the marine scene on the parlour fireplace. One of the other rooms had in times gone by been a birthing room. Some of the wide bedroom floorboards, originally shipped to Shelburne in barges, still carry the batch markings.

I never did quite accept the rather 'Heath-Robinson' shower in the bathroom: the old high sided bath sitting in the middle of the floor with a free-standing brass pipe and rosette shower head and a rail carrying a waterproof wrap-around curtain. Noticed two other such innovative facilities in other houses.

No.4 - The Stephen Shakespeare House built in 1783 - a Loyalist saltbox style, restored in 1989 and winner of the First Annual Federation of Built Heritage Award for the Province - is now owned by Elizabeth Walden Hyde. The opening up of two small dark rooms exposed the large granite chimney which rises to the top of a cathedral ceiling. During restoration a brick oven and an iron crane were discovered and wood panelling exposed around the fireplaces in the master bedroom and living room. Vertical-log construction can be seen in the attic, accessible through the bathroom, and in the stair well to the large stone-lined cellar.

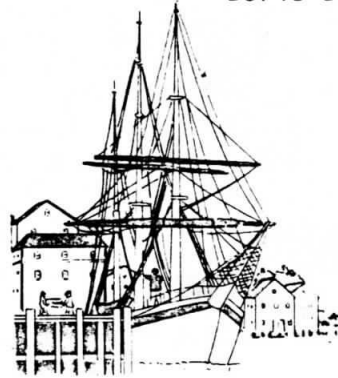
No.5 - The Bruce House, built in 1879 by local carpenter, Caleb E. Allen, has a comparatively simple style interior in contrast to the rather intricate gingerbread dressing the front veranda. A feature of the living room is a carved wooden fireplace surround. Upstairs bedrooms have windows which reach within an inch or two of the floor - one has a rectangular bay, another one is pointed.

No.6 - The Caleb E. Allen House is also modified Gothic and was built in 1863 by Caleb Allen himself who had constructed 11 other residences and two churches in Shelburne. In contrast to No.5, this house has quite an elaborate interior. There are beautifully carved wood mouldings around doors and mantels; the small dining room has a coffered ceiling and dark wall panelling in a diagonal pattern. Beautiful, intricate workmanship but the overall affect is rather dark and heavy. One thing, though, he did use space wisely by building-in cupboards in somewhat unusual places, e.g. into the sides of chimney breasts.

All good things come to an end. We said our goodbyes and thanked our escorts for giving up so much of their time, before heading back to Halifax. By the time the bus reached The Blarney Stone cafe near Bridgewater we were all much in need of a snack and a 'cuppa' before continuing on our way. Just outside Halifax we ran into the tail end of a severe rainstorm, something of a surprise as we had enjoyed such a lovely sunny day.

Thank you Blair for your careful arrangements; and many thanks to all the Shelburne folk who made us so welcome.

Doris Butters



RICHMOND HILL FARM

Richmond Hill Farm

Research Report for An Application to Register a Heritage Property

Prepared by:
Rod McMahon

Richmond Hill Farm is a landmark property in Nova Scotia. In the early 1970's when Heritage Trust surveyed the province for important buildings, Richmond Hill Farm was selected as high priority and included in the first publication of the Heritage Trust series, Seasoned Timbers.

After the Acadian Expulsion in 1755 all land on the eastern side of the Avon River was granted to colonial councillors so it is probable that the Hon. John Butler became the first owner of the property. In 1777 Butler sold a large portion of his 1000 acre grant, including Richmond Hill, to John Clark, who in 1790, gave 69 acres to provide a site for King's College School.

In 1820, Francis Singer purchased the property from the famous Nova Scotia author Thomas C. Haliburton. In the deed there is no mention of any dwelling on the property and it is generally believed that Singer built the large solid farmhouse to hold his growing family. This house must have been built sometime between 1820 and 1842 as this is when the house and farm were sold to John Otis King. However it is obvious that the Acadians had been using the land well before any of the English Settlers. A partial Acadian foundation forms part of the present foundation of the house.



The original construction is in the typical Georgian style, now relatively rare, and shows an architectural evolution from the Acadian cellar to the Georgian superstructure.

The property is home to some of the most beautiful views in the area. Situated on the top of Richmond Hill, the house is alone and portrays an isolated pioneer life-style and setting.



PLAQUE UNVEILING CEREMONY-

On Saturday afternoon, July 20, 1991, Heritage Trust members were welcomed to Richmond Hill Farm near Windsor by tenants of the farmhouse, Mr. and Mrs. Holleman and their little daughter, for a ceremony unveiling the official plaque designating the farm a Provincial Heritage Site. The Honourable Ron Russell, Speaker of the House and MLA for West Hants officiated and complimented the Heritage Trust for its achievements in historical preservation in Nova Scotia. Other speakers included Don Patton, President of Heritage Trust, Betty Pacey, Past-President and Douglas Price, Property Chairman.

After the ceremony we were very happily entertained on the tree-shaded lawn, at a delightful tea with violin music, organized by the West Hants Historical Society led by their Chairman, Veronica Connolly. She is also a member of the Board of Trustees of Heritage Trust.



Saint Mary's
University

Third Annual Donald Higgins Memorial Lecture

Speaker:

PHYLLIS LAMBERT

CM, CQ, FRAIC

8 pm, Thursday 14 November 1991 (*Admission Free*)
Theatre Auditorium, Saint Mary's University

Followed by a reception to meet Phyllis Lambert
Art Gallery, Saint Mary's University

(Limited tickets, Admission \$15.00. Tickets ensure reserved seating at lecture. To obtain tickets, call 420-5516)



HERITAGE TRUST OF N.S.
1657 Barrington Street
Suite 522
Halifax, N.S. B3J 2A1