

The Griffin

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MARCH 1992

HERITAGE TRUST OF NOVA SCOTIA

PROGRAM

(Spring Session)

Nova Scotia Museum 1747 Summer Street, Halifax, Nova Scotia 8:00 p.m.

April 16, 1992

Topic:

Generating New Ideas for the 90's.

Speaker:

Session lead by: President Don Patton

Your views on present and future activities of the Trust are sought as part of the ongoing strategic planning process. Come and share your ideas with the membership. Your input is essential to the growth and

development of our organization.

May 21, 1992

Topic:

New Life in an Old House

Speaker:

David Wiggan Homeowner



ANTIGONISH HERITAGE HOUSE RECEIVES NOVA SCOTIA HOME AWARD

The 1991 winner in the renovation/rehabilitation category of the Nova Scotia Home Awards is an Antigonish heritage house. Once converted into three flats, it has again become a single family home following extensive restoration. Dwight How of Harvest Builders was the project's designer and the supervisor of construction.

This house is now owned by Dr. G. Brooks. Heritage Trust members will be given a tour of the house by Dr. Brooks when they visit Antigonish on the weekend of 15/16 August.

The house was constructed in the 1920's for Mona MacLeod as a wedding present from her parents, Dr. and Mrs. It was built in an John J. Cameron. eclectic version of the Craftsman Style. and exhibits such typical features as a side-gabled roof, broad eaves with prairie exposed rafter-tails. style windows, and a porch roof supported by Most of the home's interior columns. detailing is intact, although, until recently, often hidden behind closets or The predominantly add-ons. Classical Revival style of such details is apparent in the design of doors, frames and moldings, wainscotting, and the fluted pillars separating entrance hall from living room. The goal of the current restoration was consistency with the home's original features, both in general style and decorative detailing.

Among the recent exterior renovations were alterations to the roof area, including changes to dormers and skylights, and the installation of cedar shingles. A sun-room and a new back porch (designed to match the original Craftsman style porch on the front of the house) were also built. The house was repainted in traditional colours and the garden replanted with trees, shrubs, and plants popular in the period when the house was built.



Internally, most rooms have been renovated, although sometimes only by restoring them to their former form and function. The kitchen redesigned to match in feeling the home's original design elements while providing for current notions of convenience and usage. The construction of the new sun-room opening off the kitchen meant a new back entrance and bathroom were needed, which in turn led to redesigning a corner of the ground floor adding closet and pantry space and a half-bath. The decorative details in this area were again designed to match those found elsewhere in the doors and frames identical with the originals were built, and wainscotting similar to that in the front entrance was added to the half-bath to provide a sense of continuity between the new and the old.

Among other interior changes are: a new living room fireplace surround, designed to match the classically styled pillars at the other end of the room; the installation of a large, locally designed stained glass window in a landing on the main stairway; and, the creation of a second floor dressing room and laundry. Additionally, in the library classically detailed floor-to-ceiling break-front bookcases were built. Finally, the third floor rooms, originally attics but more recently a self-contained flat, were redesigned in unabashedly modern style as a guest suite.

The citation for the award noted that "the jury was impressed by the subtle nature of the transformation, which did not overpower the many fine features of the original building. There is abundant evidence of high quality craftsmanship... and overall design sensitivity which integrates the new additions...to the original form. This project exemplifies the best characteristics of good renovation work, and hopefully will encourage more people to look at the abundant older housing stock of the province as a viable option to fulfill their housing needs."







ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING (AGM) University of King's College 6350 Coburg Road, Halifax, N.S.

PROGRAM

7:00 p.m.		Annual General Meeting Haliburton Room (2nd Floor, Administration Building)		
7:30 p.m.	Topic:	Introduction and Historical Overview of the University of King's College Haliburton Room		
	Speaker:	Dr. Henry Roper V.P. and Assoc. Professor, Humanities and Social Sciences, University of King's College		
7:45 p.m.	Topic:	Introduction to the Library Collection and Tour of the New King's Library Building		
	Speaker:	Patricia L. Chalmers Assistant Librarian (Collections) University of King's College		
8:30 p.m.	Refresments (Library) provided courtesy of University of King's College.			

Special thank you to Pat Chalmers for site coordination of our 1992 AGM

Prepared by Barbara Watt Hilary Grant





Shelburne County Genealogical Society

Box 248, Shelburne, Nova Scotia BOT 1W0

- PLEASE NOTE --

WE ARE NOW IN THE PROCESS OF GATHERING INFORMATION, FACTS, DATES, ETC. IN PREPARATION OF THE SECOND VOLUME OF "LOST MARINERS OF SHELBURNE COUNTY".

ANY INFORMATION YOU WISH TO CONTRIBUTE WILL BE TRULY APPRECIATED. PLEASE CONTACT THE REPRESENTATIVE IN YOUR AREA. Betty & Keith Decker, BROOKLYN, NS. BOT 180: 354 5495

WOOD'S HARBOUR & SURROUNDING AREA Wood's Harbour BOW 550 2 EO Helen Goreham 723-2557 よろの9

SHAG HARBOUR TO DOCTORS COVE Box 125, Shag Harbour B0W 360 Emelene Kaufmann or Doug Shand 723-2340

CAPE SABLE ISLAND Box 291, Clark's Harbour BOW 1P0 Heather Atkinson 745-3227

BARRINGTON AREA TO VILLAGEDALE AND BACCARO RR#1, Barrington BOW 1E0 Patricla Stoddart Terry 637-2207

ROUND BAY TO REYNOLDSCROFT P. O. Box 1012, Shelburne BOT 1W0 Barbara Balkam 875-4107

VOLUMEII

TOWN OF LOCKEPORT, TOWN OF SHELBURNE AND MUNICIPALITY OF SHELBURNE P. O. Box 459, Shelburne BOT 1WO Jane Strange 875-3000

RESERVATION - ANTIGONISH TOUR

Name:	P	Phone:	
Address:		Q-1	
No./Stree	et City/Prov.	P. Code	
() Single			
() Double. Will	share with		
For further informat:	on call: 835-6644.		
AUGUS	ST TOUR - 15/16th TO ANTIGO	NISH	
renovation/rehabilita sity, an organ recita	visit to the 1991 award win ation category, a tour of t al, a ticket to the summer The accommodation will be	the town and univer- theatre Saturday	
Cost: \$90.00. Includes and lunch Sunday Saturday will be extra	ndes registration, coach, a and theatre Saturday nigh	ccommodation, break- t. Lunch and dinner	
To avoid disappointme	ent, book early as space is	limited.	
Mail cheque to:	Antigonish Tour, Heritage 1657 Barrington Street, Ro B3J 1Z9	Trust of Nova Scotia, om 522, Halifax, N.S.	
1992 JULY T	OUR, SATURDAY 18 JULY TO M	AITLAND	
It will be a busy day Heritage designation	with house tours, a walki ceremony.	ng tour and a	
Our tour is arranged Advisory Committee.	in coordination with the E	ast Hants Heritage	
	Maitland Tour, Heritage Trust of Nova Sco 1657 Barrington Street, Ro Halifax, N.S. B3J 1Z9		
FINAL DATE FOR COACH	REGISTRATION - MAY 7th.		
For further informati	on, call: 835-6644		
R	ESERVATION - MAITLAND TOUR		
Name:	P	hone:	
Address:			
No./Stree	t City/Prov.	P. Code	
	tion, coach, lunch and supp	per	
() \$27.00 registra	tion, lunch and supper.		



Heritage Trust of Nova Scotia

1657 BARRINGTON ST., # 522, HALIFAX, NOVA SCOTIA B3J 2A1 (902) 423-4807

January 22, 1992

BY COURIER

Mr. Stephen Townsend, Chairman and Members of the Heritage Advisory Committee City Hall Halifax, N.S.

Dear Mr. Townsend and Members of the Heritage Advisory Committee:

I am writing with regard to the age and evaluation of the Carleton Hotel.

BACKGROUND:

The original research on the Carleton Hotel, submitted to the City by a joint committee of the Heritage Trust and the Landmarks Commission, was prepared by Dr. Phyllis R. Blakeley. Dr. Blakeley was an eminent historian and Provincial Archivist. She stated unequivocally:

"Captain Bulkeley built the house in 1760 and named it Carleton House after his good friend Sir Guy Carleton, Lord Dorchester. It is now considered the oldest stone building in Halifax."

Dr. Blakeley was well aware of the early documents on the history of Halifax which had been carefully collected and studied by Nova Scotia's first Provincial Archivist, Dr. Thomas Beamish Akins. In his erudite compilation of facts, entitled <u>History of Halifax City</u>, Dr. Akins stated repeatedly that the building originated as the residence of Richard Bulkeley, a distinguished founding father of Halifax who had accompanied Edward Cornwallis. On page 217 he wrote:

"The stone house at the corner of Prince and Argyle Streets, opposite the southwest angle of St. Paul's Church was originally built by the Hon. Richard Bulkeley, the first Provincial Secretary, and was his residence for many years."

Similarly on page 233, Akins noted about Bulkeley's house, "the old stone house built by him still remains."

.../2

Mr. Stephen Townsend

EVALUATION:

Two staff reports, November 29th and December 16th, 1991, attempt to discount the historical association with a founder of Halifax and the original 1760 date of construction. For example, staff cite an 1802 rise in property values which only proves a modest rise in property values, not a new date of construction. Staff then goes so far as to suggest:

- 1) "The appropriate age of the Carleton Hotel should be 1918, the date of the exterior re-design..."; and,
- 2) "The current evaluation practice is to date a property according to the external appearance at the time of evaluation."

This approach to evaluation ignores the historical importance of a heritage building. At the time the current scoring system was set up, both the historical importance and architectural importance of a heritage building were to be judged equally. Thus, a building could pass on either its historical significance alone or its architectural significance alone. Marks for historical significance were to be awarded under the categories of Age and Historical Relationships.

We support the 1981 evaluation of the Carleton Hotel which took into account its rare historic importance to the City of Halifax. Such a building should not be deregistered.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Pacey

EP/mb

HERITAGE TOUR OF MIDLANDS MAY 1991 -

KENILWORTH CASTLE -

Another highlight of the Tour was our stop at Kenilwoth Castle, one of the finest and most picturesque of ruins we saw in England. In the Doomsday Book of 1086 it was noted as being part of the Royal Manor of Stoneleigh, but was granted by Henty I to his Chamberlain, Geoffrey de Clinton early in the 12th century. He gave part to the Augustinian Priory which he founded and built his castle - probably of earth and timber - on the other part. An interesting record notes that the Canons of the Priory were allowed to fish in Geoffrey's pool. This small mere or lake was later enlarged for defence purposes.

During the rebellion of 1173 -74, it was garrisoned by the King, and because of its strategic position it was given over to the monarchy in place of other lands. In 1244 it was given to Simon de Montfort who was killed at the Battle of Evesham, and his son took over. It became a rallyin point for those who had lost their lands, so the King beseiged it In 1266 the King took it over after lands were restored to their owners. That same year it was given to the First Duke of Lancaster, and his family held it until 1361 when, by his marriage to the daughter of the first Duke, it passed to John of Gaunt who held it until 1399. During his time work on the castle changed from that of defence to being more for comfort and pleasure. A splendid hall measuring 80ft x 45ft was completed in 1390.

The last great period - 1563 to 1588 was when it was granted to Robert Dudley, Earl of Leicester, the favourite of Queen Elizabeth I. He treated it as a great Elizabethan house where the Queen was to be expected at any time. He built a wooden bridge,,600ft long by 14ft. wide, did extensive renovations on the garden on the north side and built a tall block of suites for important visitors.

Records of the Queen's visit in July 1575 tell how lavishly she was entertained by poetry, music, dancing, fireworks, feasting and grand hunts.

When Leicester died it changed hands back and forth -nobility to crown - and at one time was taken over by the Parliamentarians until granted to Thomas Villiers. One of his descendants purchased it in 1937 and passed it over to the Office of Works along with a large grant for its upkeep.

The huge Norman keep with its 20ft thick walls is still standing. Inside the walls built by King John are the remains of John of Gaunt's chapel and the Great Hall. On a climb to the highest ramparts one can make out the outline of the huge man-made

lake which once existed, and also get a wonderful overview of the countryside for miles, and note the formalized symmetry of the reconstructed Tudor gardens which are truly beautiful.

Kenilworth is one of four castles which, at the time of Magna Carta, the barons required to be delivered by the King as surities, which attests to its strategic importance at that time. Former stronghold of British kings and nobility, stories of its lavishly furnished staterooms were known the world over by Sir Walter Scott who used the castle as background for his novel 'Kenilworth'. He wrote of rooms hung with the finest of silk tapestries, of misty perfumes and the strains of soft music - all gave it a romantic charm - but seeing the dramatic, soft red sandstone ruins smoothed by the passage of time, its lovely setting and well-kept grounds, an even greater charm is added to this historic castle.

BOSCOBEL -

Boscobel proved interesting and historic. In 1649 Charles I was executed at his palace in Whitehall after seven years of Civil War, and the nation declared a commonwealth with no monarchy. However, there was an heir living in Holland, aged 21 and already Charles II to his followers. In 1650 he returned to England and made a bid to regain the throne but was defeated by the Roundheads in 1651 at the Battle of Worcester, and had to run for his life. His supporters advised him to go to Boscobel, a remote hunting lodge whose owners were Royalists. After being fed by the family he and one of his officers spent a day hidden in an oak tree behind the house. After cover of darkness he was hidden in the attic in a secret 'priest's hole', while his enemies searched the house. Eventually he made his way to the continent, returning nine years later to reclaim the throne.

When the story became known people flocked to Boscobel to get a piece of the oak tree. What we saw was a 300 year old descendant of the famous oak standing in a gloriously golden field of rape. Its name and picture can be seen in pubs all over England..

In 1912 a Derbyshire mill owner named Charles Evans, wished to restore Boscobel to what it would have been like when Charles II was there, but later restoration found the brick and stucco in part of the building was only painted to look like timber framing. It was opened by Lord Montagu, a descendant of Charles II in 1988. Inside there are panelled rooms and secret hiding places. The story of the escape is given in a series of pictures and writings as you go from room to room. Outside is a small summer house where Charles II was supposed to have rested.

The Oak is a living reminder of the part the tree played in history, and the hunting lodge, with its display of period furniture, a reminder of what life was like over the years.

REMINISCENCES OF OUR 1991 TOUR OF THE MIDLANDS and SOUTH WALES.

(Part 2)



Baddesley Clinton, a 13th century moated manor house was once the home of the Bromes, a family impoverished through Faith. As in other houses where Mass was said in the home during the Dissolution, Baddesley has its share of priests'holes. The solar is said to be haunted by the spirit of Nicholas Brome who murdered a priest he caught 'chockinge his wife under ye chinne'. Stains in front of the fireplace are said to be the blood of the priest.

Family interest in geneology is evident in many places: heraldic stained glass windows, carvings, books and even in the courtyard garden where the Ferrers' coat of arms is depicted in flowers. In the Archives Room is a collection of carved lead scale-model miniatures of all the English monarchs and former owners of Baddesley. Sadly, Mr. Fred Ping the artist died before completing the family models. A number of globular green glass bottles caught my eye - Victorian fire extinguishers, which when filled with sand and a chemical were thrown onto a small blaze.

Packwood House, an Elizabethan yeoman's farmstead was built for the Featherston family whose descendants lived there until the 1850s. Eventually it was bought by Graham Baron Ash, who fell in love with the place as a boy of 12 years old, and remodelled the near-derelict to create an 'ideal vision of Olde England'.

Packwood is memorable for its topiary garden, 'The Sermon on the Mount'. The multitude in the form of clipped and tapered yews are gathered before the Master on an elevated level. Made a great maze for a group of small girls playing hide and seek the day we were there. In niches along the garden wall I noticed a number of old-fashioned conical beehives.

Boscobel - from the Italian for "In beautiful woods" - was an apt definition in the 17th century when Charles II follow ing his defeat at Worcester, sought refuge there. Our lively Irish guide 'hammed up' her highly diverting version of Charlie Two-Strokes adventures at Boscobel Disguised as a peasant, his curls cut off to a crop, the prince arrived in the middle of the night, the Roundheads hard upon his heels. Hidden overnight in one of the many ingenious priests' holes in the house, he slipped out next morning to spend the day (by all accounts a wet one) sheltered among the thick foliage of a huge old oak tree.

The Royal Oak was eventually destroyed by souvenir hunters who stripped bark and cut off young boughs for carving into trinkets. In 1712, a Mr. William Stukely described the oak as "almost cut away by travellers" but noted that a thriving young plant from one of the acorns was growing "close by the side". The present Royal Oak protected by an iron railing is no doubt "son of..."

The house itself is a 17th century timber-framed wattle and daub structure - the 'wattle' of birch and willow, the 'daub' of local clay mixed with horse hair, cowpats and sheep's wool, pressed between the strips of wattle. A 19th century addition of brick has been painted to simulate timber framing.

Seven year old twin boys, visiting for a second time because they had enjoyed it so a year earlier, demonstrated the intricacies of several hiding places and the hidden doorway under a ground floor window. This doorway, obscured by ivy and bushes was Charles II's escape hatch through which he could disappear into the trees which in the 1600s grew right up to An attic room, once a chapel, the house. had a four foot square space under the floorboards with bolts inside to secure the trap door; during the Civil War this room was used for storage with huge rounds of cheese piled in that corner to kill any human scent should the Roundheads bring in tracking dogs! There is even a resident ghost in one bedroom wardrobe.

Weston Park, built in 1671 and the only house designed by a woman, Elizabeth Lady Wilbraham, was the family seat of the Earls of Bradford for 300 years. Neat, beautifully proportioned, it too has a rare collection of art treasures and period furniture, but today the main interest lies in the estate's use as a pleasure ground for 'the Perfect Family Day Out'. Capability Brown's park land has been restored; fallow deer and rare breeds of sheep graze the pastures; an Adventure Playground is tucked among the trees; there's a Pets Corner with donkeys, exotic little birds, fowls with feathered feet, and pedigree pigs such as 'Rosie'and the enormous 'Duchess of Blandford'. The woodland walks were at their best with rhododendrons and azaleas in full bloom, and -fun for all ages - the train ride through the woods, past the pond and swamp, perched behind a real smoke-belching, diminutive Puffing Billy, clickety-clacking over the

'<u>Historic Ludlow'</u>is a dear little town its name derived from "The hill beside the loud waters", ie.the rapids where the River Teme drops sharply through the gorge and which at one time powered 11 mills. As mentioned in the Doomsday Book Ludlow Castle was part of the Marcher frontier defence system. Always a market centre, the town grew prosperous by the Middle Ages through its thriving wool and cloth trade. It has a strong theatrical tradition, and poet A.E. Housman -best known for 'The Shropshire Lad' took much of his imagery from Ludlow. History seeps from every nook and cranny. We took in what we could, wandering the narrow lanes, visiting the Castle ruins, walking the path outside its walls and looking at the lovely old building which span the ages from Elizabethan to Victorian - but our stay was too short to absorb everything.

The Parish Church of St. Lawrence is magnificent and being close to our hotel we managed to spend a little time there. Whitsunday flower arrangements were still fresh on altars and in every corner - some massive (several feet across) and all done by the ladies of the Church Flower Guild. The Church carvings are famous - in niches, on choir stall bench ends, and the misericords. All are carved in charming detail, most of them with a religious theme, but on the misericords some are positively hilarious - like the one of the dishonest alewife, still clutching her deficient jug, being thrust into demon.

On our way out of town to Swansea we passed a cottage with two china cats 'basking' on the thatched roof.

Our final stop after a lengthy drive through the Welsh border hills and the Brecon Beacons was for a two-day visit to Swansea, rather starkly modern in accordance with post-war trends. I was quite surprised to learn how badly bombed Swansea had been; during WWII we were seldom told what was really happening - The sort of thing broadcast would be "...and a number of bombs were dropped on the Welsh coast..." - which was no doubt just as well, as our morale, such as it was, would probably have come completely unstuck had we known the real situation.

We walked around the harbour and waterfront before dinner on Saturday. Next day, escorted by Cymric Male Choir friends, we enjoyed a tour of the Gower Peninsula and Dylan Thomas' home and boathouse workroom, before the Sunday evening concert reported by Gwladys.

A final word from A.E. Housman? The chestnut casts his flambeaux, and
the flowers
Stream from the hawthorn on the wind
away,
The doors clap to, the pane is blind
with showers.
Pass me the can, lad; there's an end
of May.

Another great tour - now where to?





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