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The Griffin

A PUBLICATION OF HERITAGE TRUST OF NOVA SCOTIA

Seminary House, Wolfville—a happy ending!



The Ladies' Seminary at Acadia University, Wolfville, affectionately known as "Sem". Photo Alvin Comiter for "Landmarks: Historic Buildings of Nova Scotia" (Nimbus, 1994) by Elizabeth Pacey and Alvin Comiter.

Part 1: The proposed threat

By Wendy Elliott

"Sem" is the most venerable building on the Acadia University campus. It was also a threatened one this spring. The Wolfville university was planning a \$3 million expansion and renovation to the 1878 structure.

The addition of 150 new students and 10 faculty members to the School of Education next fall as a result of

Continued on page 2

Part 2: The negotiated solution

by Elizabeth Pacey

At its March 25, 1996 meeting the Board of Trustees of Heritage Trust of Nova Scotia unanimously voted to appeal the Wolfville Town Council's decision to the provincial Utilities and Review Board. Subsequently, the legal process was launched by Trust lawyer Ron Pink on behalf of the co-appellants, the Heritage Trust of Nova

Continued on page 2

Seminary House: *Continued from front cover*

Part 1: *continued*

university rationalization prompted the expansion. Funds to carry out the scheme have been made available by the provincial government provided they are used for renovation of Acadia's existing buildings. As a result Seminary House and Emerson Hall, both municipally designated buildings, were scheduled for renovation.

It was the 94 residents of the top two floors of the old, wooden *Sem* who first raised alarm bells about the renovations. A co-ed residence now, *Sem* with its unique heritage features seems to inspire strong attachments. The current house president Alexandra Lucas is the third generation in her family to call *Sem* home. The students were concerned about the possible loss of interior charm in favour of utility.

The proposed project included an elevator, metal stairwell, new doors and windows, and closing in a unique third-floor feature known as the light 'well'. It also included the addition of a 20 ft 'by 60 ft classroom

addition at the back of the building and a smaller side addition.

On March 19, the issue was raised at a well-attended public hearing. The Town Council then approved all aspects of the project

*Negotiation results
in win, win
situation—HTNS
success!*

except for the side "box" addition which it felt would detract from the front elevation of the structure.

Part 2, *continued*

Scotia and the Wolfville Historical Society. However, in order to avert a lengthy legal process, the two heritage groups offered to negotiate with Acadia University in an effort to

minimize the damaging effects of the proposed alterations to the historic Ladies' Seminary Building. Acadia accepted the offer, and "negotiation day" dawned on April 25, 1996. The large team of negotiators for Acadia was led by President Kevin Ogilvie; the heritage team was Paul Erickson, Elizabeth Pacey and Philip Pacey for Heritage Trust and Ed Murphy and Jim Doig for the Wolfville Historical Society.

After Acadia offered to retain the panelled interior doors, about five hours were spent discussing the "bones of contention". In the end, the negotiated settlement included the retention of three of the four original interior staircases as well as the skylight and architectural components of the "well" beneath it. *Editors' note: What a wonderful example of negotiation and co-operation. Thanks to the hard work of many people, especially Betty Pacey, Paul Erickson and Philip Pacey, HTNS co-operated with a local heritage society (the Wolfville Historical Society) to negotiate a reprieve for many of the important heritage features of "Sem". On behalf of all HTNS members, I thank those who gave so much time and energy to this very successful project.*

Mailbox

Parks Canada

P.O. Box 9, Annapolis Royal,
N.S., BOS 1AO.

March 21, 1996

Dear Sir,

A recent note in your publication about Fort Edward National Historic Site in Windsor has been forwarded to us. This note indicates that Parks Canada wants the town of Windsor and the West Hants Historical Society to 'take over' Fort Edward. The actual situation is somewhat more complicated. The responsibility for the site remains with Parks Canada. The West Hants Historical Society entered into a contractual arrangement with Parks Canada for the summer of 1995 to provide the interpretive services on site. The use of the Armories for a display

was negotiated by the Historical Society with the Department of Defence.

Parks Canada is indeed interested in local participation at national historic sites. Heritage Trust Nova Scotia may be excellently placed to provide advice to local groups interested in participating more fully in the decision or management of national historic sites in their area. Each situation and national historic site is unique and requires that it be examined individually.

We look forward to continued interest by the heritage community about the management and future of our national historic sites.

Sincerely,
Lillian Stewart
Area Superintendent



The Griffin

A quarterly magazine published
by Heritage Trust of Nova Scotia.

**Deadline for the next issue
of *The Griffin* is**

August 1, 1996

Submissions to:
Doris Butters, Editor
Apartment 2211,
1333 South Park Street, Halifax,
Nova Scotia, B3J 2K9.
or Phone/Fax: 422-6286

Province offers alternative compliance for heritage buildings

David F. Garrett, MRAIC

An important step forward is about to be taken in the re-use and preservation of heritage buildings in Nova Scotia with the adoption of a new set of amendments to the provincial building code. The amendments are titled "Alternative Compliance Methods for Existing Buildings" and are based on the British Columbia Heritage Building Code. They address 35 sections of the National Building Code (NBC) dealing with items such as fire separations, fire resistance ratings, mezzanines, openings through floor assemblies, corridors, exits, doors, windows, mechanical systems, etc.

The purpose of these methods is to achieve as comparable a level of life safety in heritage and other existing buildings as is required under the NBC for new construction, but in a simpler and less intrusive way. The trade-off for the majority of these methods (26 of 35) is that a full sprinkler system be incorporated into the building, if one is not already present. Still, this is a significant advance in the re-use of existing buildings.

With minor limitations, these methods apply to all existing buildings, including heritage buildings. However, there is one very important allowance given only to registered heritage buildings (provincial or municipal) or any building within a registered heritage district. That is, these buildings may undergo any change in "Occupancy" (institutional, commercial, residential etc.) in making renovations and still use the alternative methods. Non-registered buildings undergoing a change in occupancy in making improvements may use the alternative measures only if the change is to an occupancy with a reduced fire hazard risk (e.g. residential to commercial rather than vice-versa). This means that older commercial buildings may be converted to residential uses using the alternative methods.

The "Alternative Compliance Methods for Existing Buildings" document is an easy-to-read, relatively short (16 pages), graph-style document with alternative measures given adjacent to current

NBC requirements. This document is part of a larger set of amendments to the provincial building code due to be enacted this summer. A copy of the draft document is available from the Department of Municipal Affairs at the address given below. Anyone involved in the renovation and preservation of heritage and other existing buildings should familiarize themselves with this document.

Considerable credit and appreciation is due to Jack Leedham (former Assistant Director within the Department of Municipal Affairs and now retired) for being very responsive in generating this document and to Ted Ross (current Building Code Co-ordinator in the Department of Municipal Affairs) for carefully nurturing it through an at times difficult review process.

The address is:

Municipal Services,
Department of Municipal Affairs
P.O. Box 216, Halifax,
NS B3J 2M4.

Bridgewater Church Designated

In November 1995, a special service and plaque unveiling was held in Bridgewater to commemorate the municipal heritage designation of Holy Trinity Anglican Church. Holy Trinity, "...was recognised because of its age and architecture...a beautiful building" said Bridgewater's Mayor, Ernie Bolivar.

Holy Trinity Rector the Reverend John Clarke believes that the designation demonstrates the parishioners' dedication to maintaining heritage buildings..."It was their ancestors who made the effort to build a church here", he says.

Construction of the Church began in October 1855, only to be destroyed in a December gale. It began again the following year during the tenure of the Reverend Henry DeBlois, the first resident

clergyman at Bridgewater, and on February 22, 1857, Holy Trinity opened for Divine Service.

In 1889, a gallery was removed to make way for a bell tower, and at the same time the small chancel was replaced with a larger one, stained glass windows were installed in the new edifice, and the interior renovated. The Casavant organ, built in 1902 and still in use, was completely restored in 1959. Pulpit, brass lectern, brass cross, baptismal font, altar and windows have been added over the years.

"It is an opportunity for us to celebrate our heritage, but more than that, it's always been our teaching that the church isn't the building, it's the people who are gathered, the people who make up the community, and we celebrate that heritage as well", said the Reverend Clarke.

From an article by Theresa Hawkesworth, Lighthouse staff, in The Bulletin and The Progress Enterprise, Wednesday, November 1, 1995).

Access to the new Regional Municipality—real or imaginary?

A panel discussion featuring Valerie Spencer, Commissioner of Policy and Planning, HRM Councillor Howard Epstein, Frank Palermo, Chair of Planning, TUNS.

**North Branch Library
2285 Gottingen Street, Halifax
7:30 pm, Wednesday, June 12**

Sponsored by CPAC/NS. The discussion will be followed by the Annual General Meeting of CPAC/NS. All are invited to attend.

Clockmaker's Inn, Windsor, designated

The 102 year old King Street home of Veronica and Dennis Connolly has become the first private residence in Windsor to be designated a Nova Scotia Heritage Property. Veronica is currently on the Board of Heritage Trust, and has been an active member of the society for many years.

The house was built in 1894 by Scotch Village contractor Robert H. Canavan for the son of wealthy sea captain and business merchant, Robert Curry, who occupied it until his death in 193. His widow, Cornelia, lived there until 1946.

For the next ten years the house served as the Windsor Manor nursing home. Purchased by David and Esther Allbon in 1956, the carriage house was converted into a printing shop. Then, in 1978 the Connollys bought the house and renamed it *The Clockmaker's Inn*. They have operated it as a bed-and-breakfast since 1985.

This Second Empire style house has a distinctive mansard roof, 24 rooms and five open fireplaces, and at the turn of the stairway a large, elaborately designed stained glass window. The floor in the main hallway is intricate parquet using three woods, the design being continued on the steps and wains-



Photo Alvin Comiter for "Landmarks: Historic Buildings of Nova Scotia" (Nimbus, 1994) by Elizabeth Pacey and Alvin Comiter.

coting. Originally most of the rooms contained paintings by George Lyon of Falmouth; some are still there. (The Connollys participate in Windsor's annual Christmas Homes Tour. When I visited, this lovely home provided a wonderful setting for a creative Victorian 12 Days of Christmas theme. Ed.)

Architectural Comments:

The Clockmaker's Inn is a large wood frame structure in the French Chateau, Second Empire Style which originated with Napoleon III's addition to the Louvre in the 1850s. Often referred to locally as the French Style, it became a popular idiom for both public and large residential buildings in Canada during the latter part of the 19th century.

Typical elements of this style are the curved Mansard roof profile; the symmetrical facade with large entrance tower; the cast iron roof cresting (rarely surviving in N.S. examples); and the use of curved or oval forms in the decorative program, e.g. round-headed dormers, other round-headed windows in the tower and the segmental arch of the entrance to the verandah.

The essence of the *Clockmaker's Inn* is captured by an observation on the Second Empire style in Canada: "...builders in the Atlantic Provinces instinctively grasped the picturesque quality of the style and interpreted it with a whimsy that one rarely finds elsewhere in Canada." (Abstracted from the *Hants Journal*, Jan. 24, 1996)

Hydrostone District

At its final official meeting in March, the former Halifax City Council exempted the Hydrostone District in the North End of the city from changes to a zoning by-law that would have allowed unsympathetic alterations to more than 300 town homes in the district.

The Hydrostones were built in the aftermath of the 1917 Halifax Explosion and are widely regarded as the first successful example of public housing in Canada. Recently, they were declared a National Historic Site. Council is to be congratulated on taking this wise action in the interest of heritage preservation
Paul Erickson, Vice-President.



HERITAGE TRUST OF NOVA SCOTIA

Membership dues for the period January 1 to December 31, 1996 will be sent out early in the new year. Don't forget to mail your cheque to our new postal address: P.O. Box 36111, Halifax, N.S., B3J 3S9.

Student	\$5	Single	\$15
Family	\$20	Senior Citizen	\$10
Senior Couple	\$15	Group	\$25
Life Membership	\$500		

To enquire about your membership, call (902) 423-4807

Old Town Lunenburg - World Heritage Site

Old Town Lunenburg, colonized in 1753 by German and French-speaking Protestants to counteract the Acadian influence in Nova Scotia, is now on the list of United Nations World Heritage Sites.

What impressed the UNESCO judges was not only how well preserved the architecture is in the Old Town, but how the town site itself still follows the gridlines laid out by the founders—six divisions of eight blocks rising steeply from the harbour and containing perhaps 400 houses—though the town has spread beyond these parameters.

The original settlers were described by the founding governor of the town, Charles Lawrence, as an 'inconceivably turbulent' and unmanageable group, but this rebellious streak probably helped give the new community its strength as they built their wooden homes in what was then wilderness.

There are eight houses in the Old Town built in the 'coulisse' style—wooden frames infilled with adze-hewn planks. The oldest may be a 1760s house (57 York Street) which measures only six feet from ground to lower roof line, has a staircase around the chimney and some of the original shakes. A better preserved house, on Pelham Street, exudes age from under its once-thatched gambrel roof and has a carefully worded sign saying it is 'known as the oldest



Lunenburg in 1898

house in Lunenburg', but it probably isn't.

However, the many striking examples of Georgian and Victorian architecture are what impress visitors to a town that welcomes tourists and new settlers, but remains a working fishing community. This is what it has been since the 19th century, when Lunenburg was the most important fishing port in the Maritimes and was the home of the legendary Angus Walters, skipper of the famous *Bluenose*. The Fisheries Museum of the Atlantic in Lunenburg displays this history vividly.

The World Heritage Site designation, which follows the 1992 designation of Lunenburg as a

National Historic Site, was a "most fitting honour in recognition of our rich heritage", Mayor Laurence Mawhinney said. "The distinct fabric of Lunenburg's fishing and marine traditions, architecture and culture is a masterpiece reflecting the creative genius of those who have gone before us." He also noted that Lunenburg is only the second urban community in Canada, after Old Town Quebec, to get United Nations recognition, though other Canadian World Heritage Sites range from L'Anse aux Meadows in Newfoundland to Dinosaur Provincial Park in Alberta.

Maintaining Lunenburg's historic integrity will remain a challenge since any community is only as heritage-conscious as its citizens want it to be. However, the town's Planning Advisory Community has drafted municipal planning strategies and a land use by-law addressing concerns ranging from the size of business signs in the commercial area to the question of vinyl siding. The town's Heritage Advisory Committee is keeping a protective eye on the Old Town and encouraging the designation of municipal heritage properties, now numbering more than 30. As federal Heritage Minister Michel Dupuy said when Lunenburg went on the world stage in December, "The people of Lunenburg are proud stewards of a remarkable town."

Lunenburg: competing for designation

The Spring issue of *Heritage Canada* carries an article on the World Heritage Site designation of Old Town Lunenburg. Gordon Fulton, an architectural historian with Parks Canada, details the lengthy process by which the town was designated, despite being considered a long shot for world recognition. It competed against such sites as Rome, Damascus and Bath.

It all began in 1989, when the Lunenburg Heritage Advisory Committee and town officials designated Old Town a municipal heritage conservation district. This was followed in 1991 by the Historic Sites and Monuments Board of

Canada (HSMBC) being asked to consider Old Town a National Historic District. This honour was bestowed in 1992 because of the striking historical community found in Old Town's streets, public spaces, buildings and daily life. Then began serious discussions about a World Heritage listing. Parks Canada of the Department of Canadian Heritage—the primary agency responsible for fulfilling Canada's obligations under UNESCO's World Heritage Convention—sought HSMBC's endorsement of Lunenburg's nomination, receiving it in 1993.

With the assistance of Parks Canada, the rigorous nomination

process, including on-site analysis by an American expert in conservation, was under way. It had to be demonstrated that:

- a) Old Town Lunenburg was of outstanding universal value under World Heritage criteria.
- b) that it met the Committee's 'test of authenticity', and
- c) that its historic resources were being managed in a comprehensive and sensitive way.

The first requirement was met because Old Town's gridiron pattern of streets and designated public spaces, is the best-preserved example of British 'model plan' colonization in

Continued overleaf

Newfoundland's 1929 disaster

The 1929 earthquake-spawned 'Tidal Wave' (or Tsunami to give it its correct name) and its effects on the psyches of Burin residents and in its peat bogs, was the topic of Alan Ruffman's talk at the Trust meeting in February.

The 'Grand Banks' earthquake struck at 1632 AST (1702 NST) on Monday, November 18, 1929. Centred 18 km beneath the Laurentian Continental Slope, 350km south of Newfoundland in 2000m of water, with a surface wave magnitude of 7.2 on the Richter Scale, it was felt as far afield as New York City and Montreal; there was even a felt-report in Bermuda of a probable surface wave travelling through the oceanic crust. Onshore damage was restricted to some minor building damage in Cape Breton Island, eg. to a few chimneys, but Newfoundland, despite its proximity to the epicentre, experienced virtually no damage. Offshore, on the ocean floor, part of the Laurentian Slope was shaken loose and began an underwater landslide that continued for over 24 hours, and flowed 1100km onto the floor of the Sohm Abyssal Plain. It was 23 years before scientists recognized the landslide and its importance as a dominant ocean sedimentary process. The 1929 'turbidity current' moved at speeds of

up to 70k/hr across the ocean floor and cut 12 trans-Atlantic telegraph cables, often in several places, requiring repairs that stretched well into 1930. About 200 cubic km of material was removed from the continental slope and rise, and redistributed over a 150,000 cubic km area in the deep ocean.

The sudden movement of the submarine slump (technical term for an underwater landslide) spawned a tsunami that travelled at about 700 km/hr south and eastwards and was seen on tide gauges as far afield as Charleston, South Carolina, the Azores and the coast of Portugal. In two hours it reached Bermuda. North and westward the tsunami travelled at about 140km/hr over the continental shelf—the full force striking the south coast of Newfoundland in mid-evening after dark. Amplified by arriving near the top of a high 'spring' tide it flooded onto the Esplanade in Sydney, Nova Scotia, and the waters of Halifax Harbour flowed for five minutes over the gates of the drydock. Luckily, most persons were still awake and able to escape. Being a dead calm, full moonlight night, the tsunami did not arrive during a storm, as was at first believed. However, a major storm surge did accompany a large winter storm that passed over Newfoundland on Tuesday, November 19 just after daybreak. This high storm surge is often confused by Newfoundlanders who remember it as having been the effects of the 'tidal wave' that caused the South Coast Disaster.

Oral research conducted among the residents of the Burin Peninsula and historical seismic studies in contemporary newspapers show the death toll as 28 persons on the Burin—Canada's most tragic earthquake. Family-album photographs have been most useful in helping to determine the tsunami height in Taylor's Bay and its effects along the southcoast of the Burin Peninsula.

Historic work indicates a tsunami height of three/seven metres in various communities; running

inland up to a kilometre from normal shorelines—runup height being up to 13m above sea level. There were three main pulses over a half hour, the first withdrawal being in progress at 7.30pm NST as the first aftershock was felt. The tsunami refracted counter clockwise around the Avalon Peninsula causing minor effects on the northeast coast of the Island early in the morning of November 19. Many Newfoundlanders believe that the early 1930s collapse of the fisheries and the loss of eel grass were a direct result of the 'tidal wave'—an observation which appears unfounded.

The delayed death of Amelia Alice Bonnell of "sand on the brain" in March 1930, provides graphic evidence of the tsunami-laid sand deposit at Taylor's Bay, first found in peat in 1993. Beach sand carried far up onto the peat 'meadows' now shows as a dramatic white layer about 15cm down in the black peat. In 1994 eight locations of tsunami-laid deposits were located, with two more in 1995, and criteria for identifying such deposits are now being developed. Dr. Ruffman is seeking other tsunami-laid deposits along the Atlantic seaboard and a colleague in the Geological Survey of Canada may have located some 1929 tsunami deposits in eastern Cape Breton Island.

The study of the 1929 earthquake and tsunami presented a wonderful opportunity to integrate community knowledge and recollection of the event and to produce a much better scientific understanding of this significant North Atlantic tsunami. Thank you, Dr. Ruffman, for a slightly different view of local history. *Extracted by Doris Butters from Allan Ruffman's notes.*

A Thought for Helen

We would like to wish a speedy and complete recovery to **Helen Robb**, the "Girl Tuesday" who helps the Treasurer take care of Heritage Trust's financial affairs. She has been in hospital for an operation on a deteriorating disc which had caused her a great deal of severe leg and back pain for several months.

Lunenburg: From page 5

North America and has remained relatively unchanged since early days. The 'test of authenticity' was measured by four yardsticks: design, materials, workmanship and setting. Old Town's high degree of design and the evolution of its architectural forms, the materials used and its historic relationship to its hillside coastal setting, all substantiated the Committee's measures of authenticity. Despite the fact that there is no single owner for the 404 public and private buildings in the designated area, the requirement for management was demonstrated to be effective and sympathetic to heritage issues. In December last, Old Town Lunenburg joined the select body of sites on the World Heritage List.

Heritage and the Super City *Abstracted from an article by Tony Edwards of Bedford*

A group has been formed to develop a policy for the display, storage and disposal of the cultural and historic artifacts in the possession of each of the four municipal governments that now make up the new Halifax Regional Municipality (HRM). The mission of this group, the Heritage Project Team, is: "to cultivate a new feeling of greater community identity, with which we will shape the future together, while at the same time recognizing the need for a sense of heritage and pride-of-place for residents of the former municipalities known as Bedford, Dartmouth, Halifax and Halifax County."

With full appreciation for the long and interesting histories of the communities amalgamated on April 1, early last summer Dr. Richard Henning Field, Director of the Dartmouth Heritage Museum, took his concerns to chief amalgamator, Bill Howard. In subsequent meetings with HRM CAO, Ken Meech, and Commissioner of Policy and Planning, Val Spencer, all acknowledged the importance of maintaining community identities to ensure that their histories do not get submerged and forgotten in the wake of the amalgamation.

On receiving permission from Mr. Hayward to develop priorities, Dr. Field hired Heather Clarke to help start the first stage of the project, by compiling an inventory of the cultural and historic artifacts held by each community. A computer bar code system was used to identify items according to originating municipality, department, office, etc. When Heather's contract ended, Carla Tufts took over the inventory.

To develop a policy on how to handle the identified items, the Heritage Project Team was formed under Commissioner of Community Services, Dan English. The expanded team consists of previously mentioned Dr. Field and Carla Tufts; with Wayde Brown, Head of Heritage, Department of Municipal Affairs; David Flemming, Director of the Maritime Museum of the Atlantic, Department of Education

and Culture; Bernie Riordon, Director of the Art Gallery of Nova Scotia; and representing the four municipalities - Dan Norris, Heritage Planner for the HRM, for Halifax; Carmen Moir, Dartmouth; Gary Meade, Halifax County and Tony Edwards for the Town of Bedford.

Already it has become clear that the HRM considers it important that each community retain its identity, an objective which can only be accomplished with a proper inventory, administration, conservation and interpretation of the cultural and historic artifacts now held by each unit. This work is being done on behalf of generations yet to come. Had such a project been in place in 1750 when Dartmouth was founded, we would today have a remarkable record of life during the early years of Halifax, Dartmouth and surrounding areas. For future anniversaries, the work of this Team will provide details of a facet of life as the communities came together to start a new history.

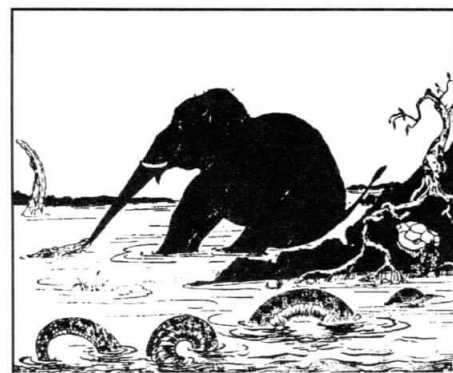
At present the Heritage Project Team is thrashing out the policy for the preservation, conservation, display and interpretation of the various historical and cultural artifacts in each municipality. Items such as letterheads, business cards, uniforms and flags are fragile and without proper conservation could disintegrate in a relatively short time. Such artifacts could be left with the community if there existed proper security, and curatorial conditions such as climate control. HRM and the team, in their great concern for the safe-keeping of these items also had to have assurance that when administrative offices closed on April 1, someone was designated to be responsible for the items. Clearly a big responsibility.

The team is also examining the idea of producing a public exhibition, the purpose of which would be "...to raise public awareness and foster an elevated sense of community identity". The preliminary proposal goes on to say that "The intent is to cultivate a sense of heritage and

pride-of-place for residents of Dartmouth, Bedford, Halifax and the communities within Halifax County, and at the same time call up a new sense of greater community identity with which we will shape our future together". This could be summed up as "appreciating our heritage, beginning a new history, the overall image being that of four streams of community and history now joining..."

Such an exhibition would travel to the various communities and remain on display for a given period of time. The proposal notes the desirability of having the display in an area where most people would see it—locations like community and church halls for small places, while MicMac and Sunnyside malls, Scotia Square, Park Lane and the Halifax Shopping Centre are mentioned as being locations in the Metro area where large numbers of people would have the opportunity to view the exhibit.

In any case, the amalgamation train lumbered out of the station on April 1, 1996. Any community that did not have a seat on the train risked missing the chance of bragging to its neighbours about the contribution that it could bring to the whole Halifax Regional Municipality.



Rudyard Kipling Society

Anyone interested in joining a Nova Scotia branch of the Rudyard Kipling Society, please contact Hilary Grant at (902) 835-6644 or fax (902) 835-3036. Dalhousie University has a very fine collection of Kipling manuscripts, letters, books, etc., which were left to the university in 1957 by a Kipling devotee.

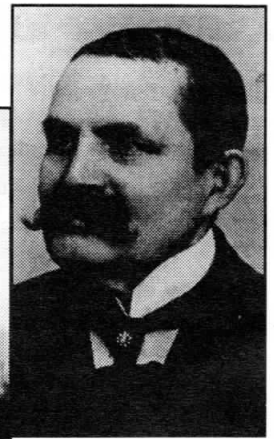
The Wright House, 989 Young Avenue, Halifax

The above address is unique among those buildings so far chronicled in *The Griffin*; it has had only two owners, George H. Wright and the Local Council of Women, Halifax. Designed by architect James C. Dumaresq, the house at the corner of Young Avenue and Inglis Street was built in 1902 by contractor E. J. Horne for George H. Wright Esquire for an estimated \$10,000. It was ready for occupancy in 1903.

George Henry Wright (1849-1912) amassed his wealth as the compiler and later publisher of the *Australia, India, China and Japan Directory and Gazetteer, embracing Canada, South and Central America, the West Indies and Africa*, and similar publications. Wright published his first edition in 1880 after travelling for four years collecting material for the book. But when he published his fifth edition in 1899, he travelled only 16 months to update the publication. Making Halifax his centre of operations in 1896, after living in both New York and London, he lived at the Halifax Hotel before deciding to build a home for himself.

The house consisted of a drawing room, sitting room, conservatory, dining room, den, kitchen, halls, six bedrooms, two bathrooms, one water closet, two lavatories and extensive attics. And there he lived a bachelor existence—as a publisher of directories, a pamphleteer of human *mores*, a real estate developer, philanthropist, sportsman and noted yachtsman.

In 1896 alone, he erected ten new buildings at a cost of about \$125,000;



Above: George Wright c. 1910
Left: The Wright House, c. 1912

two were business structures, eight were dwellings. The dwellings are still on South Park and Morris streets, and the businesses are on Barrington Street.

He died with the sinking of *R.M.S. Titanic* on April 15, 1912. His estate went to his family and charities such as School for the Blind, Lord's Day Alliance, Nova Scotia Temperance Alliance, Halifax YMCA., Church of England Institute, and foreign missions, and his elegant home on Young Avenue to the Local Council of Women, who 83 years later still carry on their work there.

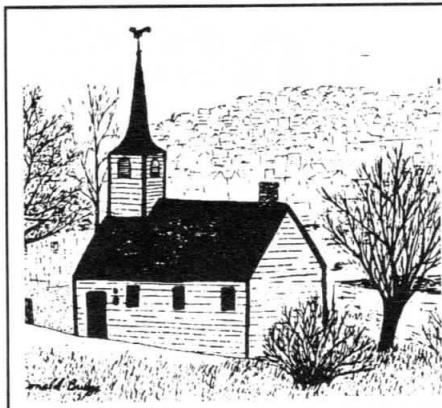
His brother Thomas raised a monument to him in Christ Church Cemetery, Dartmouth, and on August 18, 1913, the Local Council of Women unveiled a tablet as a permanent testimony to his generous donation.

Mr. Wright's final bequest to his native city was not fulfilled until 1952 when the \$20,000 he left for a good amusement hall, along with the

sum of \$10,000 set aside in trust for maintenance were used in the construction of the new YMCA building on South Park Street, where a tablet to his generosity was also unveiled. Unfortunately, this tablet is no longer in a public lecture hall, but due to renovations is now located in a men's changing room!

The Local Council of Women, Halifax, was founded in 1894 with "their commitment to bettering conditions on the public domain and in the depressed sectors of the community...to improve the lot of the family and the individuals." These precepts were also those of George Wright who for over a decade was an active *mores* pamphleteer publishing his views in our local newspapers as well as in many major newspapers throughout North America.

When the Titanic Historical Society visits Halifax at the end of August this year, the group will undoubtedly visit the Wright House and other sites connected with the *Titanic* tragedy.



Since the last edition of *The Griffin*, work has begun on saving the Little Dutch Church on Brunswick Street, Halifax.

The roof has been renewed and the south end resingled. The walls have been strengthened and other shingles replaced. Work still to be carried out includes rewiring the building so that heating can be installed, an archaeological survey of

the human bones interred under the church and eventually the repair of the brick foundations.

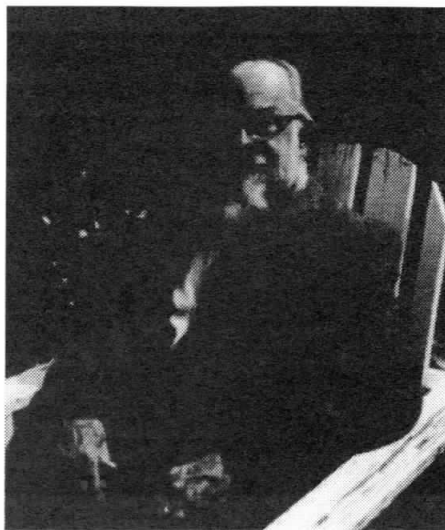
On April 16, the German Canadian Association of N.S. launched a fundraising campaign to pay for work on the little church.

There will be a series of concerts in the building this summer to help with fundraising. For information contact Heidi Grundke at 429-4669.

Order of Canada for Lou Collins

Dr. Louis Collins' life-long work on heritage and the history of Nova Scotia has been recognised by his inclusion in the Order of Canada. Unfortunately Lou's poor health last summer precluded him from attending the award ceremony, but in mid-May this year Lou was in better shape and, accompanied by Pamela, went to Rideau Hall to receive his well-deserved award.

The formal reception line included five minutes of conversation and picture-taking with the Honourable Romeo LeBlanc, followed by a little mingling time before going-in to what Pam describes as 'the most wonderful' buffet supper. Pam sat next to Governor-General LeBlanc with five other participants at one head table, and Lou sat at Madame LeBlanc's table. An obvious effort had been made to create a mix of people at all the tables.



The visitors were also taken on a tour of the ground floor of Rideau Hall and two of the attached greenhouses—an unusual privilege. Next day they toured the Houses of Parliament and at three o'clock question period was stopped while the Speaker of the House spoke about

the Investiture and called each of the 46 participants by name, to stand and be recognized by the House. Afternoon tea in the Speaker's Chamber, completed a memorable day.

Only a short trip, but what an exciting and unforgettable one! Hearty congratulations, Lou, and our hope for continued improvement in your health.

Life Membership for Brian Cuthbertson



Joyce McCulloch, President of the Heritage Trust of Nova Scotia, presenting a Life Membership Award to Dr. Cuthbertson on December 21, 1995.

At the awards banquet closing the 1995 Annual General Meeting of the Federation of Nova Scotian Heritage, Dr. Brian Cuthbertson was presented with a lifetime membership in the Heritage Trust of Nova Scotia, in appreciation of his dedicated work in heritage preservation in Nova Scotia.

Dr. Cuthbertson is a native Maritimer, and a former publisher and editor of the Nova Scotia Historical Review. From 1974-84 he served as Chief Archivist at the Public Archives of Nova Scotia and from 1984 until his retirement in 1995 was Head of Heritage for the province of Nova Scotia. Under his direction many workshops were held around the province to identify and proclaim heritage buildings.

As an author Dr. Cuthbertson has written on the life and times of Bishop Inglis, Richard Uniacke, and Governor Wentworth; his most recent book being *Johnny Bluenose at the Polls - 1758-1848*.

May his Life Membership be enjoyed for many years to come.

Calligraphy

Does anyone ever wonder whose hand inscribes the beautifully executed Heritage Trust award certificates? The 'hand' belongs to Mr. John Peake, who for the last five years has been commissioned to do calligraphy and the Griffin symbol on our Built Heritage Award certificates.

John's art is mostly self-taught, but

with inspiration along the way from a blackletter workshop in Montreal given by noted Californian calligrapher Ward Dunham. In 1973, the year John graduated from Holland College's Commercial Design program, he designed the calendar of events to commemorate the Centennial of P.E.I. entering Confederation. While calligraphy has been part of his graphic design

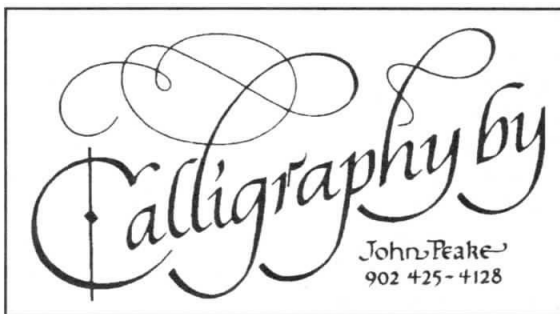
business for the last 10 years, John is now devoting full time to commissions and calligraphic fine art.

He has served on the Board of Governors of Holland College as chair of the Organizational Committee, and been an

ambassador for the Halifax Board of Trade. His commissions include the Halifax Citadel guest book commemorating the

visit of Prince Edward in 1987; the Mission Statement for the VG hospital; Honourary Life certificates for the IWK Hospital; a framed list of Presidents of the Provincial Medical Board and Ministers of N.S. Department of Community Services.

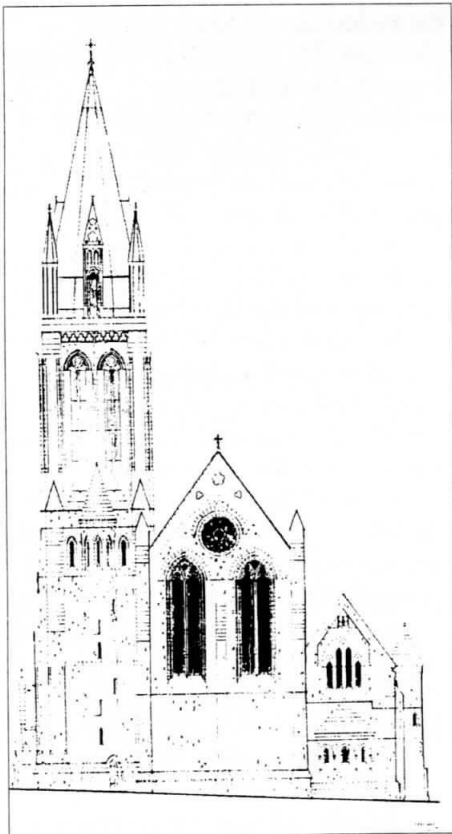
John's work may be seen at his studio and art gallery at 95 year old 2337 Clifton Street, Halifax.



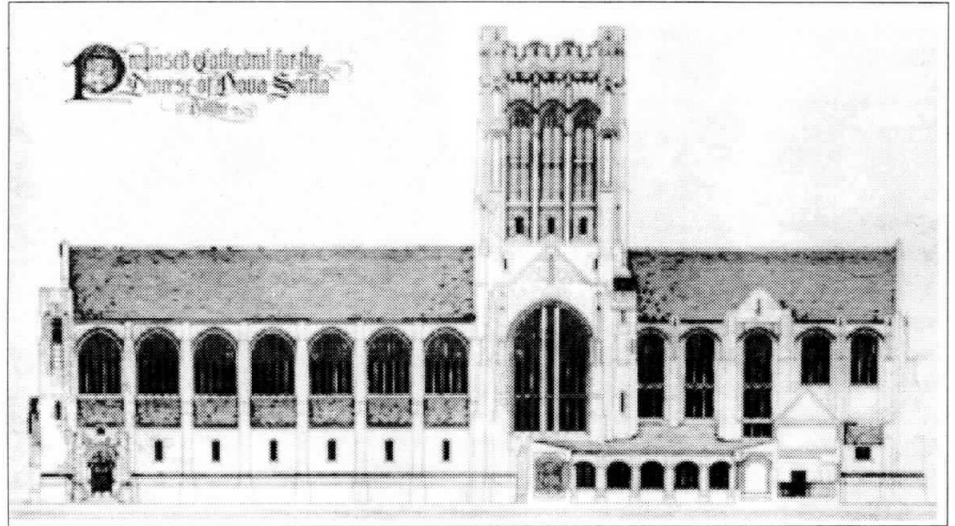
The bishop, the architect, the arbiter and the cathedral *Part I*

by Greg Munn

In 1873 the Anglican Diocese of Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island appointed a new bishop, Hibbert Binney. Binney immediately moved the cathedra (bishop's throne) from Saint Paul's to the larger Saint Luke's on the corner of Morris and Church Street's in Halifax, today the site of Westminster Apartments. Binney's move was to be temporary, for he dreamed of building a grand cathedral to glorify the fact that his diocese has the longest history of continual worship in North America. Binney died in 1887 without seeing his dream realized, but he left his entire estate of \$20,000 to the building fund. A site was chosen on the corner of Spring Garden Road and Robie Street, the current site of the Bank of Nova Scotia. The English architect Arthur Edmund Street was immediately contracted for the design. The corner stone was laid in 1888, but stood alone on the site for 20 years because Binney's legacy was not enough to even start construction. The dream was forgotten until Saint Luke's was destroyed by fire in 1905.



A.E. Street, Cathedral elevation 1887



Cram, Goodhue & Ferguson's proposal for All Saints' Cathedral

The new Bishop at this time was Clarendon Lamb Worrell who resurrected the dream as his own personal legacy to the synod. He appealed to the diocese to rally support for the project. A cathedral, with all it stands for, is just as important for a Diocese as Government Buildings are for a province, and the influence, which should radiate from the see city as the power of a cabinet from the capital, is largely checked by the lack of a proper building and environment. He formed a committee of 67 people consisting of several members of the synod along with the most influential and wealthy Anglican businessmen, professionals, and community leaders of the two provinces of the Diocese to bring attention and prestige to the project. The first action of the group was to evaluate the 18 year old plans by Street.

William Harris, a prominent and talented church architect who was a master of acoustical design, was a congregation member and was asked for his professional opinion of the old plans. He presented his findings to Worrell in March of 1906, stating that the design was out of fashion and was designed for a milder English climate, having serious flaws in the roof design that would catch snow causing perpetual leaking. He also stated that the volumes and massing were so disjointed and awkward that

they would cause serious flaws in the acoustical properties of the building, trapping sound in the various volumes of the interior. The plans numbered over 80 sheets, but not a single measurement was dimensioned, which would play complete havoc with the building process. The design was also too small for the size of the congregation. However, the factor that swayed the Bishop and committee to reject the old design was Harris' estimate that it would cost \$270,000 to build due to the intricate stone carvings throughout the design. The allocated budget was \$100,000.

Harris suggested that he submit a design which would seat 200 clergy and choir, and a congregation of 1,000. He proposed that a tower and interior finishings be left to a later date, so as to try to remain within the budget. The committee accepted his offer.

Worrell wanted a site closer to the downtown, and with much persistence persuaded city council to remove the exhibition buildings on the north-west corner of Morris Street and University Avenue and sell the land to him for \$1,800. Harris was pressured by Worrell to draft a full set of plans so he could show them to his peers at a conference in Toronto at the end of March. The group in Toronto were critical of the plans saying that the accepted image of a *The Griffin*—Heritage Trust of Nova Scotia



All Saints' Cathedral today

cathedral is the English Gothic style, with a large flat-roofed tower over the crossing. Harris' design was based on French Gothic precedence, with a large spired tower at the west end, and a semi-hexagonal chancel. Harris designed in this idiom because it allowed for better acoustics. He knew that an open space above the crossing (the area where the transepts, nave and chancel meet) resulting from placing a tower at that location swallows sound and causes echoes. Harris' plans would have created a building of fine quality in style, function and acoustics. However, Bishop Worrell's only concern was to have a building that fitted his limited vision of how a cathedral should look, so he independently contacted the prominent New York architectural firm of Cram, Goodhue & Ferguson. They were responsible for the West Point Military Academy chapel, the church of Saint Thomas on Fifth Avenue, New York, and several campus buildings at Princeton University.

William Harris was insulted and explained in the following letter to Worrell that if he had more time, he could refine and perfect his proposal: *Our firm opinion is that the design, slightly modified if carried out, will produce a building that will be acknowledged to be a more beautiful Anglican Cathedral or Church than any other at present in Canada. We hope that before any decisive action is taken by the committee they will allow us to complete*

June 1996

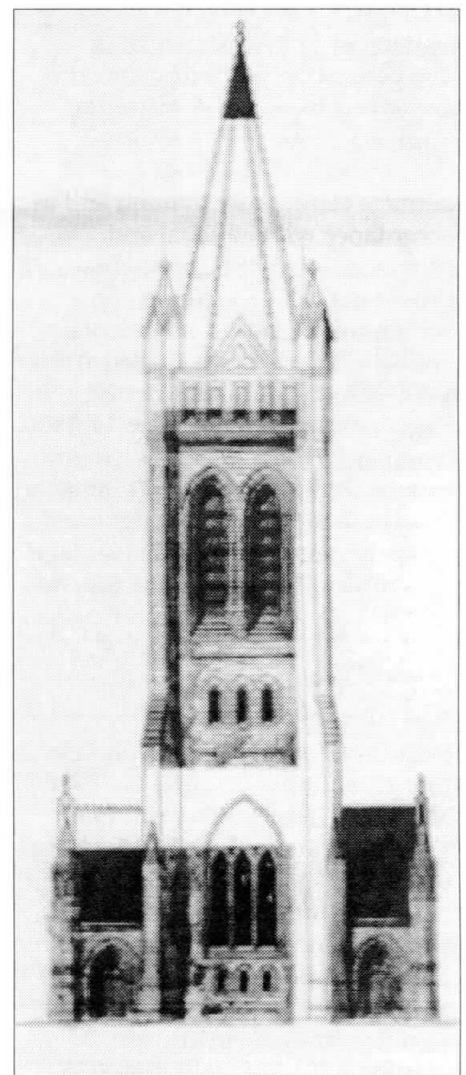
our plans and remodel them, as in the hurry of preparation and in the anxiety to treat the building economically, we may have simplified many features that might be very improved. As you are anxious to begin the construction of the building at an early date and think that time may possibly be lost in the event of our plans not being satisfactory to your committee after completion, we will make the following proposal; that Messrs. Cram, Goodhue and Co. Should prepare sketch plans for the cathedral, while we are making ours and when both sets are completed your committee shall send them to some mutually satisfactory and reliable authority to decide upon their relative merits and if ours should possibly be chosen as the best and we are instructed with the erection of the cathedral we will deduct from our fee for the total architectural work the sum of one per cent charge by Messrs. Cram, Goodhue and Co. for their sketch plans and if their plans are chosen we will agree to be associate Architects in the construction of the building, and in that case charge no fee for our preliminary sketches. Hoping that you will grant us time to complete our plans, we remain yours faithfully, Harris & Horton, Architects.

Worrell agreed, and gave Harris the task of finding an arbiter. Harris chose Percy Nobbs, a renowned architect who taught design at McGill University in Montreal, and was the founding member and president of the Province of Quebec Architectural Society and the Royal Architectural Institute of Canada.

What ensued was a frantic competition for the two architectural firms. Harris had complete confidence in his competence to design a superior cathedral, but what he did not know was that Bishop Worrell had already decided who's design he would chose, based on his idea that a New York architect must be better than a Halifax architect. If Harris was any good, why is he still in the Maritimes?

See the next Griffin for the conclusion of The bishop, the architect, the arbiter and the cathedral.

Architect Gregg Munn has given several lectures on the work of William Critchlow Harris, including December 1995's HTNS monthly lecture.



William Harris' plan for the western elevation of the cathedral

Heritage Trust Program—Spring 1996

Meetings of the Heritage Trust of Nova Scotia are held on the **THIRD THURSDAY** of the month from September to June, at 8 pm in the Auditorium of the Museum of Natural History, 1747 Summer Street, Halifax.

Friday-Sunday - June 14-16

A Weekend on Prince Edward Island. The group will visit churches, restored and historic houses, including Fanningbank home of the Lieutenant Governor of P.E.I.; P.E.I. Museum and Heritage Foundation; All Soul's Chapel, considered the finest work of William Harris; the villages of

Indian River, Kinkora, and Mount Stewart. For details, or to make reservations, call Greg Munn, 492-0359.

Thursday - June 20 - 8 pm

Museum of Natural History, 1747 Summer Street, Halifax. Heritage Trust **Annual General Meeting** and election of officers. Speaker: TBA.

Regular monthly meetings will resume on Thursday, 19 September at 8pm in the Museum of Natural History, with the Third Annual Helen MacDonald Memorial Lecture. Guest Speaker: TBA

Events sponsored by other societies

Federation of Nova Scotian Heritage

September 1996 to March 1997.

The Federation is offering the only accredited **Basic Level Museum Studies Course** in Nova Scotia. Developed with the Nova Scotian heritage community in mind and in accordance with national and provincial standards, the course provides a basic foundation on a wide range of museum functions. For details call 423-4677 (Metro) 1-800-355-6873 (outside Metro). Registration deadline: **June 14, 1996.** Summer Events 1996

Posters listing community events from June to October throughout the province, are posted in the Heritage Trust office 1588 Barrington Street.

Nova Scotia College of Art and Design

Summer 1996

Walking/Sketching Tours on June 22, July 13, and July 27. Tour A - the Old Northend; tour B - Old Southend, and tour C - a twilight walk - 'Spirits of Halifax' - faces etched in stone on buildings, tombstones, arches etc. Each tour includes a commentary by guide Blair Beed and opportunities to sketch, with feedback from an outstanding drawing instructor. To register, or for info. call: 494-8185. The Department of Continuing and Distance Education offers summer -

long courses and workshops in drawing, oil and water colour painting, sculpture, ceramics, photography, printmaking, graphic technology, fabric printing, computer graphics, etc. For details: 494-8185.

Nova Scotia Poetry Society

Saturday, June 15. 2pm.

Last meeting of the season at the Museum of Natural History, 1747 Summer Street, Halifax. 435-6179.

Shubenacadie Canal Commission

Fairbanks Centre, Locks Road, Dartmouth, opened in May for the Summer season. For regular programs call 462-1826.

Friday May 24 to Saturday June 8.

Classic Mustang Car Show.

Saturday July 13.

Museum Day - Archaeological found Artifacts.

Saturday July 20.

Antique Gas Engine display.

Waverley Heritage Society

Fridays - July & August - 2 to 4 pm

Summer Tea Parties at Waverley Heritage Museum, 1319 Rocky Lake Drive. Ph: 861-2427

Fultz House Museum

Monday July 1.

Celebrate **Canada Day** at Fultz House Museum, Lower Sackville.

Saturday July 6.

Strawberry Festival - fresh local berries

Tuesday July 9 to end of August from 12.-noon to 2pm, **Hometown Teas**, sponsored by local groups. For more detail, ph: 865-3794

Cole Harbour Heritage Farm Museum

471 Poplar Drive Cole Harbour.

Tuesday June 25. 4.30-7pm

Fish Fest, featuring Nova Scotia seafood dishes, and dessert of home-made pies. Advance: \$11.00; at door \$12.00; Under 12 years \$8.00

Saturday July 6. 2-4 pm

Strawberry Social - fresh berries, shortcake, tea or lemonade; listen to traditional fiddle music in the open air. Special draws. Advance: \$4.00 person; children/seniors \$3. At door: \$5.00/ \$3.50.

Sunday August 11. 7.30pm

Fifteenth Annual Settlers' Supper, in the Main Barn. Traditional fare, entertainment and atmosphere. Reservations required - ph: 434-0222 \$16.00 person.

Sunday August 25. 2-4pm.

Garden Party. Light classical music in the garden with tea and sweets. Advance: \$6.00 person; at door: \$7.00 person; Under 8 years, free.

Details/reservations, ph: 434-0222

The Rose and Kettle Tearoom in Harris House is open from May 15 to October 15 for Luncheon from 12 noon to 2pm and Afternoon Tea from

2-4pm. Features fresh ingredients wherever possible, vegetables from the museum garden and eggs from the barnyard hens. Ph: 462-0154

Scott Manor House, Bedford

Program for Summer 1996. At press time, not all details had been confirmed on some of the events. Please call Program and Events Chair, Dawn Patterson, 832-2336 for information. (Let phone ring a few times as the telephone is some distance from the office)

July 8 to September 2 -Monday to

Friday, 2-4pm Afternoon teas

July 6 to September 1, Saturdays and

Sundays, 1-4pm Afternoon teas

Friday-Sunday - June 7-9.

Antique Show and Sale; Toy Exhibition; Heat Engine Association of Nova Scotia Show.

Saturday & Sunday - June 15-16

84th Regiment Encampment Re-enactment Weapons Exhibition.

Friday June 21

Bedford Days Tea.

Saturday July 6

Opening of Manor House Tearoom. Costume Exhibit (1800-1960)

British Automobile Touring Association of Nova Scotia Show

Sunday July 7

More Antique Cars (in the tent)

Saturday July 20

Strawberry Social (depending on availability of berries)

Sat/Sun. July 27 and 28

Radio-controlled Helicopters (tent)

Saturday & Sunday August 3 and 4

Regular Weekend Tea, 1-4pm

Saturday August 24

Sackville River Walking Tour (check Manor House for time)

Saturday August 31

Tour of House and Slide Show

Boxed Lunch Auction and Picnic (rain date, Sunday, September 1)

Monday September 2

Final Tea for the Season, 2-4pm.

Kings Historical Society

Saturday June 15

In co-operation with Valley Gardens, Kings Historical Society offers tours of 4/5 gardens in the Kentville/Wolfville area; plus a Victorian Tea at

the historic Wickwire House, 153 Main Street, Kentville. Performance by Queens of Kings Chorale and other musical interludes; a 'Cake Walk'; Jams and Jellies for sale; 'odd' Book Sale; vintage cars. Tickets \$12 person. Garden visiting: 1 - 5pm; Tea and entertainment: 3 - 6pm. Details : Ph. 902 678-6237. Note: rain date, Sunday June 16. June 16 is also Rhododendron Sunday at the Agricultural Research Station. Closing July 31

The Acadia Collection Exhibit. Vintage clothing: what stylish women were wearing at the turn of the century. Old Kings Courthouse Museum, Kentville, Mon. to Fri. 9.30am to 4.30pm. Free admission.

West Hants Historical Society, Windsor.

Mid-June - Opening of Fort Edward National Historic Site: the West Hants Historical Society provides guides under contract to Parks Canada.

Sat/Sun. August 31- September 1

Return of the 84th Royal Highland Immigrant's Regiment to Fort Edward. This re-enactment portrays the 84th's encampment at Fort Edward, where it was stationed in the American Revolutionary War.

Yarmouth Co. Hist. Society. & Yarmouth Co. Museum, Yarmouth

Summer-long exhibit of Wooden Boats: models from Yarmouth Co. Museum collection and others from western Nova Scotia museums June 7; July 5; Aug. 2., 7.30pm. Historical Society regular meetings at Museum 22 Collins Street. Ph. 902-742-5539

Sunday June 9

Yarmouth Natal Day and Museum Fundraising Campaign Kick-off.

Saturday July 13 - all Day

Museum Day - Special Events; Annual Garden Sale.

Wednesday, July 17 to 21

Seafest activities, walking tours and talks.

West Pubnico Acadian Festival

Sixteenth Annual Festival Chez-Nous a

Pombcoup at West Pubnico will be held from August 5-11 inclusive.

Highlights include:

Tuesday Aug. 6: Official Opening, and the choosing of Evangeline and Gabriel and M. and Mme. Acadie the two couples who feature at all the week's activities.

Thursday Aug. 8: Seniors Day - Seniors sell arts and crafts and serve traditional vegetable soup and molasses cake for dessert.

Saturday Aug. 10: Waterfront activities, games, races etc.

Sunday Aug. 11: Children's Parade and program. The festival ends on Sunday evening with fireworks.

Age of Sail Heritage Centre

Parrsboro, Cumberland County, June: Take-out Salad Supper. Details: Ohra Collins 902-254-2932.

Saturday & Sunday July 27 & 28 Heritage Day Festival on Colin's property, Rte.209. Gates open 12-noon. \$3 person, children under 12 free. Evening stage shows, concession booths, Fireworks. Ph: 902-254-2932

Saturday, August 31

Citizens' Day at the Centre.

Parrsborough Shore Historical Society

Ottawa House By-the-Sea Museum, Parrsboro. Ph. 902-254-3814 or 254-2627 for more information

Saturday June 15

Flea market / auction: 10am to 1pm.

Sunday June 22

Festival of the Summer Solstice.

Sundays in July & August: 2pm.

Sunday Ship Stories: lecture series celebrating the year of the wooden boat along the Parrsborough Shore.

Monday July 1 - starting 1.30pm

Canada Day Celebration - Food, Auction, Band and Piper.

Saturday July 20, 2-4pm

Strawberry Social

Saturday & Sunday August 3 and 4

Model Railway Exhibit from Truro.

Wednesday August 14

Lady Tupper Tea.

Sunday August 25

Family Day "Teddy Bear's Picnic" Theme

News from Heritage Groups around the province

Truro Immanuel Baptist Church at Risk

A group of concerned citizens in Truro, fighting to save a 103 year old church from demolition, and replacement by an apartment and office block, has become 'Hooked on a Building', according its leader Janice Zann. Now, discouraged and frustrated after weeks of effort, they are calling on Heritage Trust for a possible fresh approach, ideas, or even a plan of campaign

Since opening for Easter service in 1893, Immanuel Baptist Church has been an attractive landmark on Prince Street. The designers, E.K. and W.E. Blaikie of Great Village and later of Boston, took pains to design a building in keeping with the philosophy of the congregation: "...a home-like church providing a home-like welcome". From the air the building resembles a cross, from ground level the rambling wooden structure with its Palladian windows, tower and steeply pitched roofs, is reminiscent of a wealthy merchant's home of the 1890s. According to the Truro Daily News of April 17, 1893



the truss work "...made up of arches springing from opposite points of the building and dropping from the centre of the roof, is exceedingly fine and reflects great credit to the

Canal Commission Conference

May 10 and 11, *A Waterway of Opportunity*, a conference on waterway issues past and present, was held at Shubenacadie Village. It brought together those who have the waterway in common, are interested in its history, or enjoy the recreational amenities of the canal which follows a 115 km corridor from Maitland to Dartmouth.

Speakers covering a wide variety of topics included: Bill Hay chair of the Steering Committee River Country, who spoke on River Country: The First Days; David Ross, Tourism N.S., on Assistance For Your Tourism Opportunities; Kim Spencer with Annie (Blois) Smith, Waverley Heritage Society, on Waverley Gold; Edgar Horne, Enfield, on Gold Mining Today; Jacques Perron, Enfield, on 360 Million Years...to Now; Ralph Stea, Department of Natural Resources,

builders" (Wilson and McCurdy). The pews were designed "...to combine beauty with comfort" and

on Kaolin Deposit Update; Helen Ferguson, Halifax, First Steps in Recording Your Family History; Bert Vissers, Department of Natural Resources, on The Wildlife Park Story; Joanne Robinson, Indian Brook Economic Development, on First Nations and Economic Development; Maurice Rees, Maitland District Development Association, on Heritage as Anchor for Development, and Roy Rhyno, Maitland, on Heritage Architecture in Maitland.

The conference, sponsored by the Shubenacadie Canal Commission and organized by a volunteer committee led by Lorraine Margeson, included exhibits by the Canal Commission; Heritage Canada; Heritage Rivers, Department of Natural Resources; Telder Berry Farms and Heritage Trust of Nova Scotia.

vacated in favour of a new, larger church, the old building stands empty.

To those who would save the original church it has taken on a persona of its own - they see her "as a grand, dignified but abandoned older woman pleading with passers-by to save her", not for historical or architectural value alone, but as a useful and fitting home on an attractive tree-lined street for a year-round performing arts, entertainment and seniors' centre, and hopefully, a drawing card for visitors: Truro, often by-passed by tourists and Haligonians en route to other destinations, has more to offer than the tidal bore and magnificent Victoria Park. It also possesses many fine, well-preserved reminders of the town's prosperous past: Victorian homes well worth an hour or two's stroll, and the old Normal College recently featured on the \$2 postage stamp, has been described as one of the finest examples in the province of Second Empire architecture.

Sixteen fruitless weeks of a six-month demolition postponement

"...form segments of circles of which the pulpit is the common centre". The interior was finished throughout in ash, and the total cost - including the land - was \$14,000. Today,

have been spent by the citizens' committee in meetings, letter writing, telephoning, interviewing local and Federal politicians, giving interviews to the press, meeting with church officials, and collecting 500 signatures on a petition aimed at saving a lovely old building and putting it to good use for present and future citizens.

Generous donations by two leading citizens enabled the committee to offer a \$10,000 deposit conditional upon a restoration engineer being permitted to examine the building to determine the cost of stabilization. This is necessary before restoration and conversion could be considered, a sound business plan developed and a fund raising campaign launched. The Church Management Board was not co-operative. Understandably, the church officials were not pleased to have the sale of the old building postponed because the congregation is paying high interest rates on the loan they obtained to construct their new building.

A Society for the Protection of Truro's Heritage Properties (SPTHP) has been formed and is now in the process of incorporation under the Societies' Act. Mr. Lawrence Friend of Historic Parks and Monuments Board of Canada has agreed to place the building on the agenda at the fall meeting with a view to designation as a national historic site. By then it may be too late—on June 30 the six-month 'stay of execution' expires.

Society for the Preservation of Eastern Head,

The Children's Forum, organized by the Society for the Preservation of Eastern Head to introduce young children to the folklore of Little River, met on May 7 to celebrate its membership in the Order of the Good Time, founded by Samuel de Champlain in 1605.

An honorarium from the Helen Creighton Foundation has enabled the SPEH to offer childrens workshops in mime, and at the next meeting of the Forum—a picnic during the first week in July—they will act out a story about Membertou, the aged chieftain of the Mi'kmaq who was an honoured guest at winter

On taking responsibility

The author of this cry from the heart does not wish to be identified because of the gratitude he/she feels to those volunteers who do work so hard. However, the situation described is common to so many groups that it seems worth publishing it. Editor.

For many of us this is the time of the year when, with annual general meetings approaching, we begin casting about among our society's membership for willing souls to take over some of the next year's executive duties.

All of us who join heritage and historical groups out of common interest, know that without those societies there is the constant danger of losing precious memories, buildings, photographs, art, writings, etc. In many heritage

banquets served by the Order of Good Cheer in Port Royal. Membertou has not yet been chosen, but it sounds like a 'fun' part to play. At last year's picnic, the character of Captain Cheney was played very successfully by Kyle Theriault.

The "Champlain's Landing 1604" marker, the first sign for the Old Post Road project, is now in place at Little River; the second wooden marker, "Peter Frost's Home, c.1850", is being prepared by SPEH member, Pam Frost.

Friends AGM

On March 30, at the Annual General Meeting of the Friends of the Public Gardens, President Alan Ruffman's report was directed mainly towards the issue of the canteen building in the Gardens. He commended Betty Moore on her archival research into the history of the little canteen, which proved to be older than previously believed. Betty's report follows. "The next step", reported President Ruffman, "is one of magnitude—funding for full restoration of The Hall and replacement of the cupola in time for rededication on the 150th anniversary of what is probably the oldest horticultural hall in Canada. Hopefully civic awareness and civic

pride will provide the new Halifax Regional Municipality with the incentive to see the necessary funds into the 1996-1997 budget."

groups, duty seems to fall on the same shoulders every time. Each year some of us will have to be more active than the rest. Everyone loses by this, and most of all those who never take on that extra challenge, no matter how slight it actually is. We can't afford to be apathetic.

The camaraderie and excitement that characterizes such groups came originally from those who made a commitment to their heritage society, whether to serve on the executive or a committee. There can be great satisfaction in this work, but without continued effort and commitment, the group will surely fade away, the heritage be lost.

We do this because we love it. Let's do it wholeheartedly.

Allan had a word of praise for the Heritage Advisory Committee and Councillors Kate Carmichael, Graham Downey and Howard Epstein, who took special interest in the fate of The Hall; thanked the Heritage Planning Committee for their long-term dedication in pursuing the issue of 'the canteen' through the bureaucratic maze, and their material assistance in helping to find the \$10,000 for the Restoration Architects' Report. Robert Parker Associates assisted by Heritage Trust member Greg Munn were contracted to do the architectural survey with a view to full restoration of the building, improving seasonal canteen service and retaining the gardeners' use of the building.

Allan Ruffman also drew attention to a situation existing not only in the FPG but also in many other societies: 'Board member burnout', and the need to call on members' efforts and energy by offering volunteer support for their group's activities

Public Gardens Canteen

Archival research done by Betty Moore of the Friends of the Public Gardens has not only established that the canteen building is the original 'Meeting Hall' of the Nova Scotia Horticultural Society, but has turned up its designer and builder.

The Society was established in 1836 and the 'new hall' is listed among the assets of the Society in 1847. It was designed and built in 1847 by James Irons, a gardener in the new Garden and it was in this building that Joseph Howe and members of the Society met and planned their Garden.

There is no evidence that The Hall was demolished or rebuilt in the early 20th century (as previously believed). All the evidence points to the original 19th century building surviving which makes The Hall probably one of the oldest homes of a horticultural society in Canada.

Betty Moore has also worked out and chronicled the changes made over time to the Hall. "We are asking people to go into their family or grandparents' photo or wedding albums and see if they caught the canteen building in any of the photos," said Friends' President Alan Ruffman, "We are particularly hoping to find photos of The Hall between 1966 and 1972 that may show the original cupola which was since removed. This would help us to know when it came off," he said. Betty Moore hopes that some photos may survive from circa 1915 to 1925 that may show when the small porch was added on the north side towards the bandstand

Members of the public who discover family photos that may help are urged to contact the Friends of the Public Gardens at P.O. Box 41, Station M, Halifax, N.S. B3J 2L4, phone 902-422-6482, fax 902 422-6483
(Abstracted from *Friends of the Public Gardens Newsletter- Spring 1996*)

Acadian Village Project

by Roseline Le Blanc

The Acadians of West Pubnico have a vision.....of the day when every man, woman and child will be keenly aware of and celebrate their heritage. In the quest to make this a reality,

they have drawn up plans to build an Historical Acadian Village which will accurately represent the Acadian way of life from 1653 to the 1950s.

The village of West Pubnico is the oldest Acadian village still inhabited by the descendants of its founder Sieur Philippe Mius d'Entremont.

The future historical village, which will have an important cultural and economic impact on the area, is to be located on the north side of the old church road in Lower West Pubnico. The central committee hopes to have the first phase completed and the village partly operating by August 15, 1997.

Aboiteau Found

A recent feature in the Mail Star updates our story in the Spring issue of *The Griffin* on the Melanson Settlement near Annapolis Royal. Archaeologists have found three sections of an early 18th century dyke and two aboiteaux on the site of the original Acadian dykelands.

Andrée Crepeau, Senior Archaeologist with Fort Louisburg, was photographing protruding wooden posts at low tide on Queen Anne's Marsh, when she noticed wooden remains underneath a mass of seaweed. After clearing away the saltmarsh debris, Ms. Crepeau realized that she was looking at an original section of an Acadian dyke built around 1710—a wooden aboiteau handcrafted by early Acadians to control water flow. A day or two later a second aboiteau was found. Although one has a crack in it, both are intact and in good condition, as being embedded in clay, they had had little exposure to air. The artifacts have since been removed for preservation by archaeologists and conservation specialists.

As the early Acadians left little in the way of written records, the relics are not only of archaeological significance, but will be of help in understanding early Acadian agriculture.

Yarmouth Museum expansion

The Yarmouth County Historical Society is planning ways and means to connect its present quarters with a

rental property on the east, to provide desperately needed quality storage space for art works, reading rooms for the archives and administrative offices. In architect Harry Jost's plans, the connecting building would look like a carriage house and blend in well with the existing streetscape. On Yarmouth's Natal Day, June 9, the 27th anniversary of the museum, a fundraising campaign will be launched. June 9 marks the 235th anniversary of the landing in 1761 of the first permanent settlers in Yarmouth County. Good luck Yarmouth!

Scott Manor House, Bedford

To update the story in the Fall 1995 *Griffin*, on the Scott Manor House, the property was acquired by the Town of Bedford in 1992, and earlier this year, at its last meeting before becoming part of the Halifax Regional Municipality, Town Council leased the property to the Fort Sackville Foundation on condition that the house be used as a museum and the site for community events and displays.

Joanne Light has been hired under a Federal Government Section 25 Grant to work as Curator and Researcher, and on May 9, 1996, the Provincial Advisory Council on Heritage Property recommended that the Scott Manor House receive a Provincial Heritage Designation. This is exciting news for members of the Foundation, who are planning a ceremony to take place at a later date in recognition of the designation.

Last year the Foundation hastily put together a number of events which proved very popular and attracted many visitors. This year should be even better. A list of their proposed summer activities appears in our 'Calendar of Events' section.

The Manor House now has a telephone, 832-2336, but as the phone is located at some distance from the office, anyone wanting to contact the curator or to enquire about programs is asked to let it ring a number of times.

Minutes of the 1995 Annual General Meeting

Thursday, June 15, 1995, Nova Scotia Museum of Natural History, Summer Street, Halifax. The meeting came to order at 8:10 p.m.

President Joyce McCulloch welcomed the 36 members of the society who were in attendance.

Minutes of the 1994 Annual General Meeting, as circulated in *The Griffin*, were moved by Garry Shutlak and seconded by Doris Butters.

Publications Committee

Arthur Carter read the Publications report which indicated that the committee is working on *Seasoned Timbers III*, and looking for research funding.

Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Ian McKee indicated that the highlight of the circulated financial report was that income exceeded expenditure up to 31 December 1994 by \$11,600.00; unfortunately the market value of the assets of the Trust dropped \$41,400.15 up to 31 December 1994. The assets were increased by \$40,800.46 as of 30 May 1995. In April the Finance Committee sold interest in Labatt's Brewery. The Treasurer then thanked the very active and knowledgeable Finance Committee chaired by Vice-President Barbara Watt. The books have not yet been audited, the auditor John Butters being in Finland. The audited report will be published in *The Griffin*. After considerable discussion by membership, it was moved by William Hunt and seconded by Paul Pross *THAT the report of the Treasurer be accepted and tabled subject to approval of the auditor. Motion carried.*

Nominating Committee

Donald Patton presented the report of the Nominating Committee (Dr Patton, Richard Campbell, George Rogers and Bonita Price). The report was moved by Dr. Patton and seconded by Richard Campbell. The committee and president thanked Judith Tulloch, Allan O'Brien, Tom Forrestall and Pauline Hildesheim for their years of service on the Board. In particular, the President singled out Pauline Hildesheim for her nine years of service to the Executive and Board. The President also thanked Allan O'Brien for his services on the Board,

especially for following proper procedures and adhering to the bylaws of the committee.

Saint George's Church

Anne West brought the AGM up-to-date regarding the rebuilding of the Church of Saint George. The committee has commenced phase one and so far raised \$3.3 million towards the restoration and rehabilitation of the church. The parish is also spending \$10,000 to assess the condition of the Little Dutch Church which is the second historic structure it owns.

New Business

Douglas Day brought forward to the AGM the idea of setting up an outside-Metro-area permanent standing committee, with the aim of raising the profile of Heritage Trust of Nova Scotia around the province. In order to reach this goal, the committee should:

1. Establish heritage regions outside Metro
2. Identify problems in heritage regions outside Metro
3. Establish contact with local heritage and historical organizations in those regions
4. Make regular contributions to *The Griffin* regarding those heritage regions.

During the discussion which ensued, it was suggested that a position of Vice-President Outside Metro Halifax be created. This V-P would be the chosen by the committee. It was further suggested that the Outside Metro Committee be allocated time at the AGM to inform the Society of outside-metro issues. It was further suggested that the Board of Trustees meet with the Federation of Nova Scotia Heritage or its representatives to clarify the history and role of the Federation regarding heritage.

It was the consensus of the Annual General Meeting that the Outside Metro Committee be set up initially as an ad hoc committee. Next year at the AGM it would be decided if it should become a permanent standing committee of the society, and what changes if any, will be required to the bylaws of the Society.

Meeting adjourned at 9:20 p.m..



Don't forget
the
Heritage Trust of Nova
Scotia
**Annual General
Meeting**

will be held

8:00 p.m.

Thursday, 20 June 1996
in the auditorium
Nova Scotia Museum of
Natural History
1747 Summer Street, Halifax



Saint George's update

Work has begun on restoring the true glory of Saint George's, its elegant Palladian interior. The great wheel of beams which supports the church was found to be rotten, but has now been replaced and repaired as necessary. The floor has been saved in its entirety.

Work is now taking place in the chancel and the Brunswick Street porch. Wiring and plumbing (including a sprinkler system) come next, followed by restoration of the umbrella dome. If fundraising goes well, we hope to be worshipping in a bare bones church by Christmas, with most of the finishing work left for 1997.

Funds now stand at \$3.6 million, with \$2.4 million to go. Thanks to all HTNS friends. AW

Editor's note

By the time this issue of *The Griffin* is in your hands, the volunteer staff hope to have the Trust office on Barrington Street in somewhat better condition. The furniture we have been housing for the Community Planning Association (CPA) will have been removed and much needed items of our own moved in.

The uncomfortable office chair has already been replaced by a proper typist's swivel chair; we have a Fax machine, and a new, neat copier has replaced the CPA's cumbersome and somewhat aged one with its 'flying' paper trays which always seemed to whip our upper arms when we tried to pass. A folding conference table will provide extra work space and much-needed accommodation for executive meetings; and a filing cabinet with drawers that open smoothly should help us keep Trust records in good order. To encourage 'browsers, we

hope the new bookshelves will display periodicals and magazines to better advantage. And as no self-respecting office today is complete without a computer, who knows, we may even.....

Bonita Price and Claudia Giles will have completed a three-session scrub-and-Varathane job on the floor, and a strip-and-refinish job on our nice old wood desk. They have cleaned the inside windows and a sign-painter has put the Heritage Trust name and logo in gold on each window pane, and on the office door. Unfortunately, nothing can be done just yet about the outside windows with their layer of dust from traffic and the Neptune construction site.

All we need now are a few new volunteers to ensure the office is manned every weekday and/or to substitute when our present staff are on leave or sick. (And 1996 is proving a poor year healthwise). The

work entails collecting the mail from our box in Lawtons Postal Outlet at 5675 Spring Garden Road; directing contents to the appropriate person; dealing with the answering machine and rerouting incoming calls; typing and mailing occasional letters requested by the President or a committee chair; typing, copying and mailing-out minutes every two months or so, and helping the occasional visitor. The red Logbook ensures continuity and needs to be updated by each person on duty. Sound a lot? Actually, each job takes but a little time.

We may be a heritage society, but a vintage volunteer staff is not the main requirement for the Trust office. Some restoration or rejuvenation is called for...we wait with bated breath.

Doris Butters

Heritage Trust participates in Heritage Connections '96

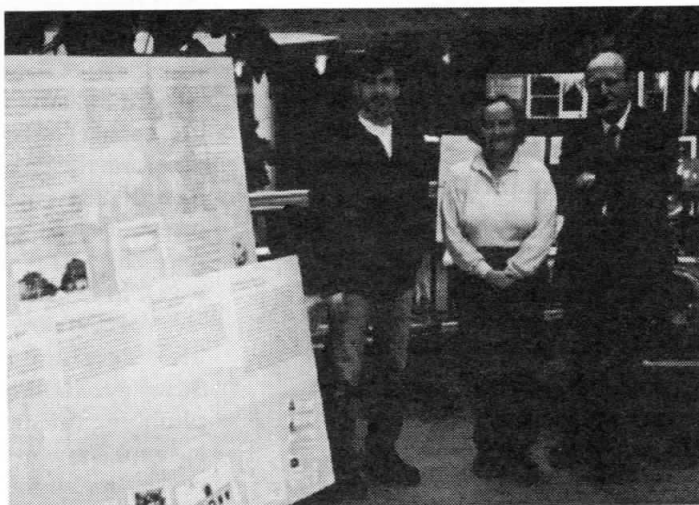
The Halifax Heritage Property Owners' annual fair, *Heritage Connections '96*, took place at City Centre Atlantic on March 23. It brought together a variety of organizations and businesses with a view to promoting appropriate renovations and restorations of heritage buildings.

Heritage Trust of Nova Scotia was represented by a display organized by the Projects Committee, featuring restorations which have won the Trust's Built Heritage Award in the

past, and photos of other activities of the Trust over several years. This included a splendid photographic record by Paul McCulloch of the Trust's visit to the Zwicker House

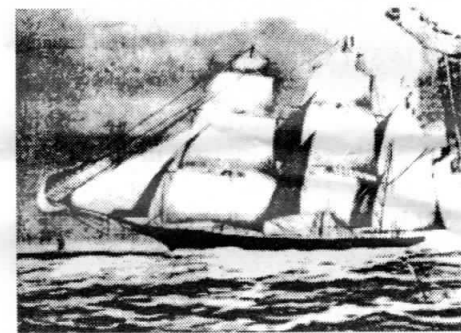
in Lunenburg, in conjunction with a workshop on restoration of heritage buildings, and Ian McKee's excellent video of the work-shop itself.

The display was featured once again at the Community Hall,



Arthur Carter, Dr. Janina and Dr. Zbigniew Konczacki

Shuben-acadie, on May 10 and 11, during a conference entitled "A Waterway of Opportunity", sponsored by the Shubenacadie Canal Commission.



The Clipper Barque *Stag*

by Daphne Faulkner

During the 1850s, many Maritime merchants and ship owners maintained considerable fleets of fast clippers in the Mediterranean, West Indies and South American trades. Such a clipper was the barque *Stag* of 209 tons, which is credited with making a record run from Halifax to the Equator on two occasions, in 21 and 21-1/2 days respectively. The *Stag* was designed by Ebenezer Moseley (1811-1903), and built by him and his brothers at LaHave, Lunenburg County in 1854, for John Strachan (1802-1875) merchant of Halifax. Her register gives her length from inner part of main stem to fore part of stern as 103.8 ft; breadth amidships 22.4 ft; depth in hold amidships 12.6 ft. The painting is by John O'Brien, a well-known marine artist of that time.

Heritage Calendar

June 1996

<i>Sunday</i>	<i>Monday</i>	<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>Thursday</i>	<i>Friday</i>	<i>Saturday</i>
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7 SMH Antique Show/Sale YCHS Mus. Meet 7:30 pm	8 SCC Car Show SMH Antique show,sale
9 SMH Antique show/sale YCHS Mus. Natal Day	10	11	12	13	14 HTNS PEI Weekend	15 KHS Garden tour SMH 84th Regt PSHS Flea market 10-1 NSPS 2 pm MNH
16 HTNS PEI Trip SMH 84th Regt.	17	18	19	20 HTNS 8 pm AGM Election	21 SMH Bedford Days teas	22 NSCAD walk/sketch PSHS Summer solstice
23 30	24	25 CHHF 4:30 to 7 pm. Fish Fest	26	27	28	29

Heritage Calendar

July 1996

<i>Sunday</i>	<i>Monday</i>	<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>Thursday</i>	<i>Friday</i>	<i>Saturday</i>
	1 Fultz House Museum Canada Day PSHS Canada Day celebrations 1:30 pm	2	3	4	5 WHS Tea 2-4 YCHS Mus. Meeting 7:30	6
7 SMH Antique Cars PSHS Ship Stories 2 pm	8	9 FHM 12-2 Tea	10	11	12 WHS Tea 2-4	13 NSCAD Walk/sketch tour SCC Museum day YCHS Garden Sale/events
14 PSHS Ship Stories 2 pm	15	16 FHM 12-2 Tea	17 YCHS Seafest to 21	18	19 WHS Tea 2-4	20 SCC Antique gas engines SMH Strawberry Fest PSHS Strawberry Social 2-4
21 YCHS Seafest PSHS Ship Stories 2 pm	22	23 FHM 12-2 Tea	24	25	26 WHS Tea 2-4	27 NSCAD Walk/sketch tour SMH Helicopters ASHC Heritage Day Fest.
28 SMH Helicopters ASHS Heritage Day PSHS Ship Stories 2 pm	29	30 FHM 12-2 Tea	31 KHS Costume exhib. closes			

Heritage Calendar

August 1996

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2 WHS Tea 2-4 YCHS/Mus. Meeting 7:30	3 SMH W/end tea 1-4 PSHS Model Railway exhib.
4 SMH Tea 1-4 PSHS Ship Stoiries 2	5 W. Pubnico Fest to August 11	6 W. Pubnico Opening Evangeline Gabriel FHM Tea 12-2	7	8 W.Pubnico Fest. Seniors'Day	9 WHS Tea 2-4	10 W.Pubnico Fest Waterfront events
11 CHHF Settlers Supper 7:30 W.Pubnico Childrens' Day PSHS Ship Stories 2	12	13 FHM Tea 12-2	14 PSHS Lady Tupper Tea	15	16 WHS Tea 2-4	17
18 PSHS Ship Stories 2 and Teddy Bears' Picnic	19	20 FHM Tea 12-2	21	22	23 WHS Tea 2-4	24 SMH Sackville River Walk
25 CHHF Garden Party 2-4 PSHS Ship stories 2	26	27 FHM Tea 12-2	28	29	30 WHS Tea 2-4	31 SMH Box lunch auction picnic WHHS/Windsor Fort Edward ASHS Citizens' Day

Abbreviations used in this calendar

ASHC Age of Sail Heritage Centre
 AGNS Art Gallery of Nova Scotia
 CHHF Cole Harbour Heritage Farm
 CSNS Costume Society of Nova Scotia
 DHM Dartmouth Heritage Museum
 DHA Dartmouth Heritage Association
 FNSH Federation of Nova Scotian Heritage
 FSF Fort Sackville Foundation
 FMcNIS Friends of McNab's Island Society
 FHN Fultz House Museum
 HTNS Heritage Trust of Nova Scotia
 KHS Kings Historical Society
 MBFS&SM Mahone Bay Founders' Soc. and Settlers' Mus.

MMA Maritime Museum of the Atlantic
 MSHS Maintland South Heritage Society
 MNH Museum of Natural History
 NSPS Nova Scotia Poetry Society
 NSCAD Nova Scotia College of Art and Design
 PSHS Parrsboro Shore Historical Society
 PANS Public Archives of Nova Scotia
 RNSHS Royal Nova Scotia Historical Society
 RHS Rockingham Heritage Society
 SCC Shubenacadie Canal Commission
 SMH Scott Manor House
 WHHS West Hants Historical Society
 WHS Waverley Historical Society
 YCHS Yarmouth County Historical Society



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