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# The Griffin

A PUBLICATION OF HERITAGE TRUST OF NOVA SCOTIA

## Trust member's Second World War story

### *Nurses in Battledress*

Gwladys M. Rees Aikens

Cymru Press, \$12.50

Heritage Trust member Gwladys Aikens had left her native Wales and was just completing her training as a nurse in Sheffield, England, when the Second World War began. Her first real taste of war came when she was caught in the city during a bombing raid and decided to rush back to the hospital rather than taking refuge in a bomb shelter. The shelter was totally destroyed in the raid!

In 1941, she responded to the call to serve her country against Nazi Germany and applied to join the Reserve branch of the Queen Alexandra's Imperial Military Nursing Service, or QA Reserves.

Gwladys' life of adventure continued when she and her friends were being convoyed to their first overseas hospital posting. Their troopship, the liner *Strathallan*, was torpedoed in the Mediterranean and SS 102 hospital train

she found herself afloat in the same lifeboat as the famous American photographer Margaret Bourke-White. All their kit was lost, and on arrival in North Africa, they nursed for three months in men's army uniforms, right down to the underwear and boots, before being kitted out once more in their smart QA uniforms.

Gwladys served in military hospitals and aboard hospital trains in North Africa and then in Italy as the Allies struggled through the bloody campaign to drive the Germans northwards. She and her colleagues were always ready to respond to the terrible waves of casualties that followed the ebb and flow of battle. She was nursing in the port of Bari when 2,000 people died as the result of the bombing of a ship carrying mustard gas, an incident which, to her fury, was hushed up as long as the Official Secrets' Act would allow.

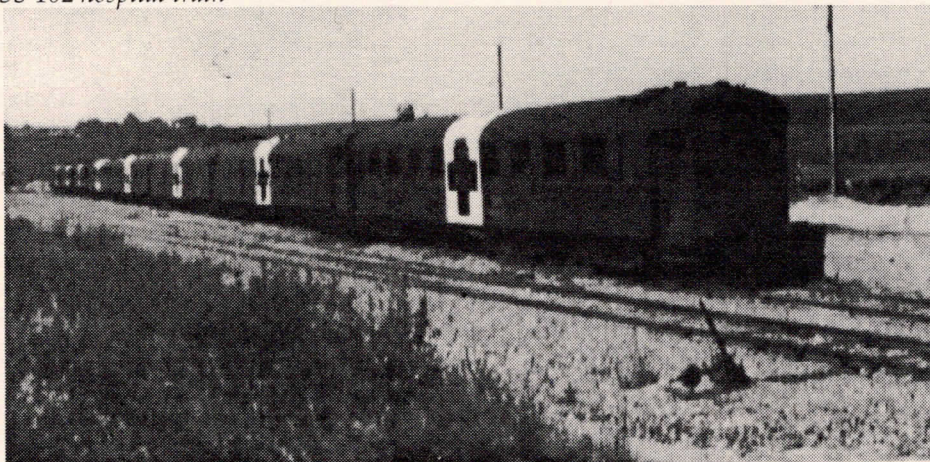
In Italy, she met a Canadian, Dr.

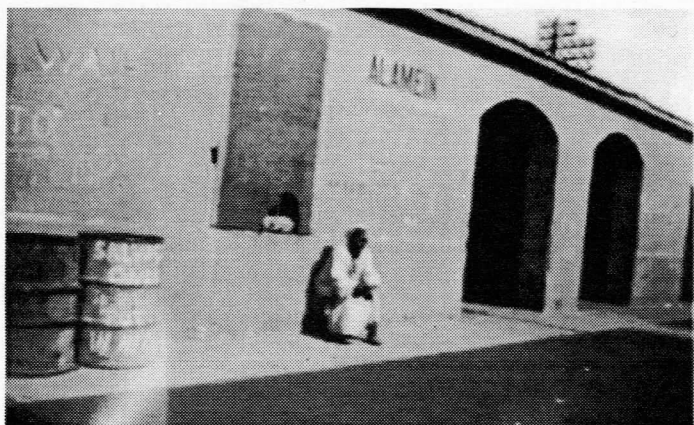


*Sister Gwladys Rees in battledress*

Robert Aikens of Stellarton. Their friendship deepened as they worked together and, later, through a correspondence consisting only of the meaningless platitudes dictated by the rules of censorship.

Fictionalized war stories have become popular in recent years: remember the nurse working in Italy in *The English Patient*? But this is the real thing, complete with a reminder of the dedication to duty that was the hallmark of the times. Gwladys may have thought that war was ghastly, but it was there, her job was to help the "boys" who were wounded and she did it superbly. She and her fellow nurses, who were commissioned army officers, responded magnificently to the discipline of Army life and the unpredictability of war.





*Alamein station: a snapshot taken from Gwladys' album*

Eventually, the war ended and Gwladys and Robert were married in Wales. But not without incident. She was courtmarshalled for being Absent Without Leave on returning from their honeymoon!

After demobilization, Gwladys and Robert moved to Halifax. For many young women, arriving as a war bride in Canada was the most challenging thing they had yet done; not for Gwladys Rees Aikens, who had proved herself 100 times over before she crossed the Atlantic.

Robert and Gwladys always meant to write a joint book about their war time experiences for their four children. Sadly, Robert died in 1972, and no book had been written.

Eventually Gwladys began to sort out the material she had collected over the years and in 1994, four copies of a book were produced for the children. It was obviously a story that deserved a wider audience. Now in her 80s, Gwladys has worked with editor Nancy Roberts to prepare the manuscript for publication and decided to become a publisher herself! *Nurses in Battledress* is published by Cymru Press, Gwladys' own publishing company, with a name that betrays her deep Welsh roots.

This is a remarkable story of the early years of a remarkable lady, and you have just got to read it. At its very reasonable price, you can also afford give it as a gift. Purchase it at The Book Room on Barrington Street, Halifax, or send your order to:

Cymru Press  
6369 Coburg Road, Apt. 604,  
Halifax, N.S., B3H 4J7.

(\$12.50 per copy, plus \$2.50 postage and packing for the first copy and \$1 for each additional copy)

**Navy League Building:** Continued from page 3 renovated, as the shops had been removed some time after 1941, and two temporary buildings were constructed on the site in 1945. The building continued to be used by the air force, the final occupants being Maritime Command Logistics Headquarters for the Atlantic Region, which vacated the premises in 1995. Declared surplus, the building was sold and razed by the present owners.

In closing I should point out that it is unfortunate the city has lost another structurally sound building which should have been renovated, rehabilitated or restored, not destroyed.

## Regional Museum update

On June 30, Halifax Regional Council appointed an Ad Hoc Committee to consider the future operation of the Regional Museum of Cultural History. The establishment of this committee was in response to public support for the continued operation of the Museum which HRM staff had recommended be closed at the end of March 1998.

The Committee, chaired by Heritage Trust Vice-President (Heritage) Brenda Shannon, is comprised of 12 members from across the region and reports directly to Council. Its mandate is to prepare a report which will deal with:

- The mandate and services of the Museum
- Future funding and financial arrangements for its operation
- Method of governance and administration
- Building requirements and location
- A plan to reduce significantly HRM's share of the museum's operating budget for fiscal year 1999-2000.

Committee members will prepare a report which will address Council's concerns and at the same time provide a municipal museum with a mandate to represent the interests of all communities within the HRM.

Heritage Trust trustees Bob Frame and David Flemming are also members of the Committee.

## Update on The Khyber Centre

From now until October, the HRM will be completing exterior restoration on the Church of England Institute building, home of the Khyber Centre for the Arts. The work will include installing a new roof, cleaning the facade, repairing and painting windows and repairing the crumbling stonework under the turrets.

The Centre is planning a Grand Re-opening gala event in early October to celebrate completion of the renovation. Plans are underway to invite the Mayor and Council to attend this special evening, which will include an art exhibition, theatre performance and live music throughout the building. For more information contact Caroline Chan, (902) 422-9668.

## The Griffin



A quarterly magazine published by Heritage Trust of Nova Scotia.

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

**November 1, 1998**

Submissions to:

Doris Butters, Editor  
Apartment 2211,  
1333 South Park Street,  
Halifax, Nova Scotia, B3J

*NOTE TO CONTRIBUTORS: All of us working on The Griffin are volunteers, although we struggle to maintain professional standards. Please try to adhere to deadlines in order to make our task easier.*

**City Rambles:**  
***Navy League Building***  
***(1919-1998)***

By Garry D. Shutlak

It was my intention on several occasions over the past few years to write this article. Unfortunately, it was put off until after the building was razed by the current owners.

Since its founding, Halifax has been a military centre, and the specific requirement of three groups of people—sailors, merchant seamen and immigrants—gave rise to the Navy League of Canada.

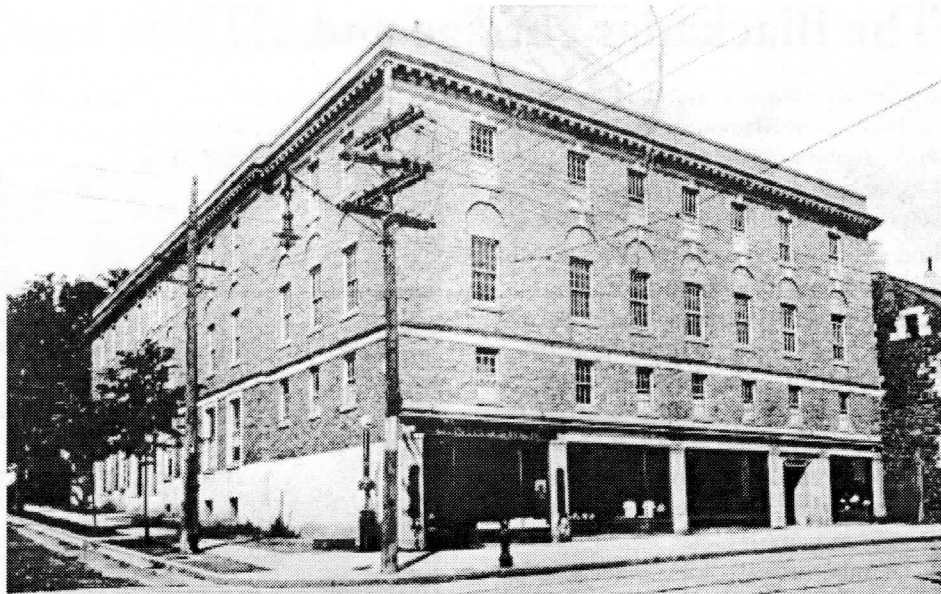
Incorporated in 1918 to promote the Canadian Navy and convince the government of the need for a Canadian merchant marine, the Navy League took it upon itself to establish a number of hostels, recreation centres and clubs for merchant seamen in the major port cities of Canada. These hostels offered inexpensive, clean room and board, along with recreational facilities to their clientel.

The first plans for the Halifax hostel were drawn up in February 1919 by local architect S.P. Dumaresq, and on August 18, 1919, the cornerstone was laid with much fanfare by His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales. The building opened to the public in mid-February of 1921 with little publicity.

The building had sleeping accommodation for about 100 sailors in the form of dormitories and private cabins. The other rooms allotted to the men consisted of reading room, games room, reception halls, canteen, dining room, and officers' mess.

The building contained a beautiful concert hall, with an entrance from Barrington Street. It had a seating capacity of nearly 700, a balcony, orchestra pit and five dressing rooms underneath the stage. The hall was used for sailors' entertainment as well as for public concerts, lectures, etc.

The building was a four-storey rectangular structure with a flat roof, built of reinforced concrete faced with buff-coloured brick. Because of the corner site at South and Barrington



*The Navy League Building in 1923*

streets, the building had two unique public facades.

The one on Barrington Street consisted of a shallow portico supported by a pair of Tuscan columns, flanked by shops on either side. This was the entrance to the auditorium or theatre known as Nelson Hall.

The South Street facade was inspired by the designs for private men's clubs in the high Renaissance, Italian palazzo formula much popularized by the American architectural firm of McKim, Mead & White, and copied by others. Above the entrance portico were three windows grouped beneath a single broken pediment. The pediment once framed the Navy League's emblem, which was removed after the building was sold to the federal government.

The hostel was operated by the Navy League, and the shops on Barrington hosted a number of tenants including Robertson Motors, Langille's Barbershop, the Union's Work Exchange, millinery shops, general stores, tailors and Henry Curtis, druggist. As the Depression wore on, they also rented out apartments in the building itself. Among the tenants were photographer J.C.M. Hayward, the Halifax Sailors' Home, the Social Service Index of Halifax, the Halifax Navigation School and the Council of Social Agencies.

In 1939, at the outbreak of the

Second World War, the Navy League rented the entire building to the Canadian Air Command and in 1941 sold it to the government.

The Barrington Street facade was  
*Continued on page 2*

*This appeal appeared in the August 1923 issue of The Sailor, the official organ of the Navy League of Canada.*

**Our Eastern Gateway**

Some Facts and Figures about the Navy League Institute at Halifax

- It is the finest of its kind on the Continent
- It gives our sailors the best possible home while in port
- It provides every accommodation they require
- It is the Navy League's Memorial to the Sailors who made the Supreme Sacrifice in the Great War

Have YOU made your contribution towards its upkeep? If not—remember a sailor's Grave cannot be marked with a cross or a wreath of flowers.

We can, however, show our appreciation of the Sailors' Sacrifice, in the upkeep of the Navy League Institute, which gives the men carrying Canadian exports and imports, a chance to be clean, and keep away from the wolves of the street and lead decent lives afloat and ashore.

**Your Contribution is Earnestly Solicited**

# The Blackadar cottage and HTNS

By Brenda Shannon

In 1826, John Blackadar, a shipwright and carpenter working at the Dockyards, bought a piece of land on what is now North Street in Halifax, and shortly thereafter built his family a home there. The cottage he built is today an especially rare three-quarter design with many special Georgian features such as small windows, a large central chimney, moulded interior doorways, panelled mantelpiece, wide floor boards, and a narrow winding staircase. A rare Georgian gem in fact.

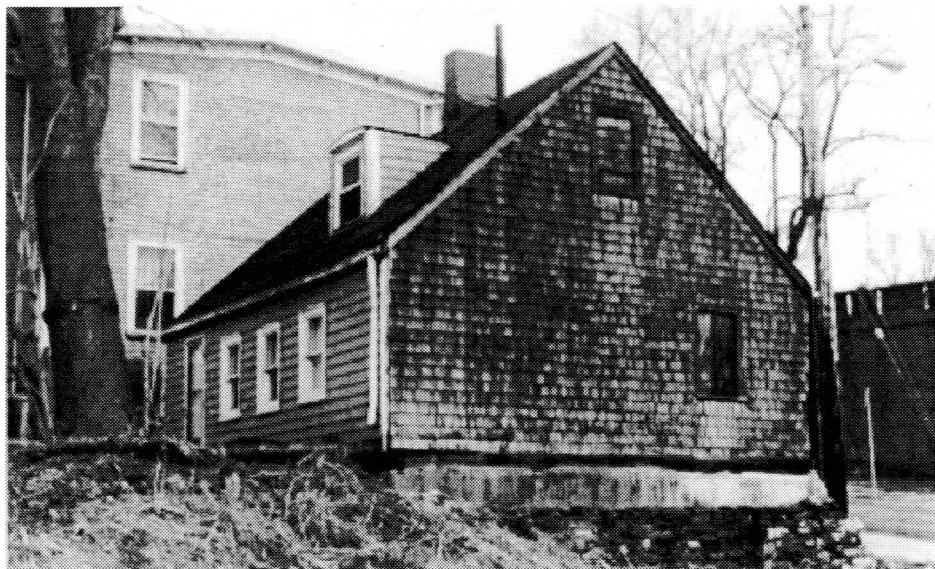
Unfortunately, John Blackadar's home and a neighbouring duplex have to be moved from their original sites to make way for new ramps to serve the widening of the Macdonald Bridge.

Halifax Regional Municipality (HRM) and the Bridge Commission had been in discussion with Saint George's Church with a view to placing the cottage on a lot adjacent to the church for use as an interpretation centre. However, the church felt it could not take on the upkeep of another building and reluctantly withdrew.

What to do? HRM eventually decided to call for Expressions of Interest to move the two North Street buildings. An extraordinary Board meeting of Heritage Trust was called for April 9, 1998, and it was agreed that the Trust would submit a proposal, based on the terms worked out with the church, to move the cottage to a lot in the Brunswick Street Heritage Area, where it would remain in its historical context and be suitably renovated with a view to achieving provincial heritage designation. A motion was also passed to provide up to \$35,000 for the project. The Trust planned in the long term to recoup its investment through the sale of the property.

A first step was to ensure that the Trust could do the work on these terms, to get reliable information on the condition of the building which had been allowed to deteriorate over the winter, and to obtain the costs of moving and renovating it.

The Mettam Group Inc. was



*Desolation—the Blackadar Cottage in May 1997, West photo*

retained to carry out this work. This firm is involved with the restoration of Saint George's Church and the Little Dutch Church, the latter involving the successful raising and replacement of the old building.

The HRM staff report recommended that both buildings go to Mr. Walter Drolet who would take the duplex to Saint Margaret's Bay Road and the Blackadar Cottage to Fall River.

So much for historical context! Should this be a problem, the report said, staff would be prepared to look at an alternative, but it stressed in large bold type "This is not the recommended alternative". The Heritage Advisory Committee also found no problem with moving the cottage to Fall River but many residents, Councillor Downey and Heritage Trust let their dismay be known.

As Betty Pacey said in her remarks to the Heritage Advisory Committee, "Moving the Blackadar Cottage to Fall River makes as much heritage sense as sending the Quaker House to Sackville or Fultz House to Halifax".

Luckily, the recommendation had to be reassessed when the option Mr. Drolet had on the Fall River lot expired. Back to square one and a reissued call for Expressions of Interest.

At this point an anonymous

friend of heritage came forward offering to donate to the Trust enough to purchase a lot in the Heritage Area. Discussions were held with staff of HRM on available property. A parcel on Maitland Street seemed suitable and the Trust pursued this opportunity. Too late, we were informed that this parcel was subject to a development agreement which would take a minimum of four months to process.

The deadline for submission was fast approaching. So it was decided to try and purchase a lot subdivided from a parcel of land on Barrington Street just north of Artz Street, outside of the Heritage Area but close enough to it that an amendment to the boundary could reasonably be requested. But there was no time to firm up this chance.

Again, Mr. Drolet was successful. He proposed taking both buildings as before, but this time was offering to buy the whole Barrington Street parcel of land for the cottage.

This is indeed a happy result, providing the building is capably moved and sensitively renovated. John Blackadar's house will remain where it belongs, in its own neighbourhood with the other three rare Georgian cottages, Akins, Hope and Beamish and the cottage church, the Little Dutch Church.

## Doris's column: Maitland in the rain



On what surely must have been one of the worst Saturdays of the century—July 11—an intended Halifax Field Naturalists' nature walk around Maitland's Grey

Gables Gardens developed into a mini-heritage tour for Trust members Marjorie Dunbar and me.

We had hoped the storm would move through quickly. It did—right along with us. Since touring the 78-acre Stimpson property was out of the question, Mrs. Margaret Stimpson offered the nine hardy venturers a few ideas on how to spend their time in the area.

She and husband Ivan had fallen in love with Maitland, purchased the property, renovated the 150-year-old house, developed a magnificent garden around it, reforested a section and made walking trails through the woods, to the old Millpond and the riverfront. Before going our separate ways, umbrella-sheltered we took a quick walkabout in drenching rain to admire the beautifully laid-out garden.

Marjorie and I lunched in the car before visiting the Tourist Information Centre beside the newly-created little Dawson Park, with its lawn and picnic tables. The centre was a bit crowded, as it was also accommodating a mini flea-mart and a sale of baked goods. We squeezed around the bake table to look at a display of about 25 framed colour photos of the 47 properties in Maitland's Heritage Conservation District. Beneath each was a description and short history of the building. I bought a copy of the pocket-sized booklet, *Three Walking Tours of Heritage Properties*, illustrated with small black-and-white pictures of the framed photographs, plus a few lines on the other buildings in the Heritage District.

Up behind the Tourist Bureau, the annual "Festival of Herbs" was being celebrated in a large greenhouse and

a marquee. Despite the rain, there was a good attendance. Many people were buying plants, while others, like us were just sampling the fragrance and flavour of the infinite varieties of herbs, and learning about their uses.

Driving slowly along the waterfront, we noticed that while most buildings had been restored and put to good use, much work remained to be done on some of the others as funds become available. The blue "haunted house", standing alone beside the river, is now the centre for the tidal bore rafting project. Half a dozen bright red, one-piece wet suits were hanging on a line to dry (now there's an oxymoron!).

We visited the Crowthers, who have restored the one-time inn on the main street. Maisie Crowther's "Paraphenalia" barn, with its huge eclectic stock, includes Georgian silver of the type Roger Crowther spoke about last year at a Trust meeting. I particularly liked the dining table on which a blue and white "Shakespeare" dinner service was set out next to an outrageous green chenille velvet "Gibson Girl" hat trimmed with a solitary, rather inadequate, pink rose.

Maisie suggested a visit across the road to Debra Mosher, a keen genealogist and historian, and publisher of *Upshore Downshore: A celebration of Life on the Hants Shore*, an attractively designed, 36-page illustrated magazine. Included are feature stories about local people, recorded reminiscences by old folks since passed on, tales of the sea, of ships and shipbuilders and the happenings of today. Local MP Scott Brison, PC Finance critic, has contributed a column on his first year in the House of Commons. Debra, who also operates a small craft shop with her furniture-maker husband, agreed to try and keep the Trust informed on local affairs.

Our last stop was to the East Hants Historical Society Museum at Lower Selma. The four cedars flanking the door are now almost as high as the roof of this former bayside church. In 1881, Lewis Baillie of Newport, N.S., using feathers

instead of brushes, created the unique marble effect on the interior walls. We spent over an hour looking at pictures, books and artifacts illustrating the old way of life of ordinary people of the area.

There was even a small exhibit of *Titanic* memorabilia, including the special embalming table for John Jacob Astor, who lost his life in the 1912 disaster. John Snow and Sons of Halifax looked after the bodies, assisted by 40 embalmers from across the Maritime provinces. Only the best was acceptable for Mr. Astor, and this table by Mr. George Landon of Shubenacadie was selected! It was donated to the Selma exhibit by Mr. Albert Ettinger.

Time passed quickly. Although we were hungry, Marjorie and I declined an invitation to stop off at Saint David's in Maitland for a church supper, since we had a long drive ahead of us. As we set off, we decided that despite the rain we had thoroughly enjoyed the day.

### The Light comes home

Members who attended Dan Conlin's slide-talk on lighthouses last February were fascinated by his account of how the Lighthouse Protection Society planned to bring home the Port Greville Light. The journey it would have to make from the Coast Guard College in Sydney to its original home in Port Greville sounded potentially horrendous.

But all is well. On Sunday, August 2, the 91-year-old lighthouse was welcomed back to Port Greville with great fanfare. One hundred and fifty people attended the rededication ceremony, including Edith Lunn, whose father, Captain Hearn Hatfield was a keeper for many years. "I'm sure he would have been pleased to see it back here," she said.

The money for the light's repatriation was raised by the community, with the help of the provincial government and the Cumberland Regional Economic Development Association.



## Tree for former president

June 14 saw a red oak sapling planted at Richmond Hill Farm in memory of Allan Duffus.

*Left: President John Lazier supervises; members and friends watching.*

*Below: Carol, Graeme and Roslyn Duffus, with the tree.*



Box 608,  
Waverley, N.S.,  
B0N 2S0.

Dear Members of HTNS,

This is a note of appreciation for the very kind occasion last month during which a red oak tree was planted at Richmond Hill Farm in memory of Allan Duffus.

It was a lovely day and there was a good number of members and some guests present for the planting ceremony and pictures taken for the record. Afterwards there was a delicious lunch laid out. All in all, a day to remember.

So, again, a special thank you to all of you for this kindness from Allan's family.

Sincerely,  
**Carol Duffus**

## June blooms for heritage

In Nova Scotia, June was busting out all over the heritage field. On the 23rd, Halifax Regional Municipal Council voted to repair the Dingle Tower in Sir Sandford Fleming Park. A structural assessment commissioned last March after a large stone fell from the 7.5-metre tower recommended a major restoration. Luckily, the actual stones and the interior of the tower are in good shape. The work will cost \$500,000 and will be done over four years.

On the same day, Bill Glaub, CEO of Chrysler Canada, presented \$250,000 to the group restoring Pier 21, the place where about 1.5 million immigrants first set foot in Canada.

Two days later, Andy Mitchell, Minister of State for Parks Canada, made an announcement about work his department planned.

On Georges Island, the walls of Fort Charlotte and its lower battery will be stabilized. This will complete the eight-year, \$4-million project to make the island safe again for visitors.

At Fort Anne, Canada's first national historic site, the earthworks are threatened by the erosion of a protective salt marsh in the

Annapolis estuary. Since 1994, scientists have been working with the Clean Annapolis River Project to solve the problem. Based on their research, rock installations will now be placed along the shore to encourage silt to collect rather than wash away.

### New use for a heritage apartment building

The Heritage Advisory Committee has approved Daltech's plans for a venerable building on Morris Street. The Morroy Apartment Building is now part of a \$2.5-million project on

the Sexton Campus on Morris Street. The project will include restoring and renovating the building and constructing an all-weather link to the Theakson Building. The development will provide accommodation for the Industrial Engineering and Continuing Education departments, now in rented space in the Maritime Centre.

Built in 1875 by Benjamin Gerrish Grey, a prominent Halifax barrister, the Morroy Apartment Building has several distinctive features including elaborate gables and cornices over its front doors. It was registered as a heritage property in 1985.

*Architect's drawing of plans for the Morroy Apartment Building*



## President's Review

I would like to summarize the accomplishments of the Trust over the past year. We held six board meetings; the first arranged by Jan Zann in Truro at the Immanuel Baptist Church, the second at Fernbank at the invitation of Drs. Elizabeth and Philip Pacey and the remainder at the Maritime Museum of the Atlantic. There were also six executive meetings. All meetings had more attendees than are required for a quorum.

Most meetings were taken up with routine administration, planning and discussion of the Trust's strategy with respect to threatened buildings and sites. However, the board changed two of the Trust's policies:

1. Travel expenses at the rate of \$0.12 per km are now available to board members living beyond the boundaries of the HRM for travel to board meetings. Support is only for travel, not lodging, meals, etc.
2. There are now no access restrictions to our files at the Public Archives of Nova Scotia.

## The Office

The office moved back to the Church of England Institute Building at the end of October. Ann Marie won a prize for spending a weekend getting the fax machine working. Bonita Price, Helen Robb, Claudia Giles and Doris Butters, with Margaret Pugsley filling in when needed, continued to volunteer to keep the office staffed. "They are worth their weight in gold" is the phrase I most often use about their contribution.

## Committees

Committee reports will appear in the September issue of the Griffin, but a quick survey of their work follows.

### Projects Committee

Meredyth Rochman, David Garrett and Garry Shutlak co-organized, with the Khyber Arts Group, a Heritage Day event at the Church of England Institute.

Meredyth Rochman and Shawn Miner organized a display at the Lunenburg Heritage Day Home Show.

We planted a tree at the Macdonald Farm on June 14 in

memory of Allan Duffus.

### Book Committee

Pat Lotz concentrated on decreasing the inventory of the Trust's books. Members sold \$500 of books at the Word on the Street book fair.

### Finance Committee

Pauline Hildesheim held three committee meetings to set the annual budget and discuss financial policies.

### Program Committee

Hilary Grant, with the help of Pam Collins and Nina Konczacki, organized monthly lectures and tours.

### Publicity Committee

Meredyth's contributions are mentioned under Projects.



### Property Committee

Doug Price reports that the house has a fresh coat of paint after last year's repairs to the shingles.

### Research Committee

Betty Pacey is completing work on the last four properties in the Brunswick Street Heritage Area, documentation required to register St. Matthew's Church and Tower Road School and a report on the Forman-Uniacke house.

### Newsletter

It speaks for itself.

### Communities Committee

There will be no report as the chair, Doug Day, had to resign from the position in the fall.

### Threatened buildings

In the first group are the buildings we learned about, such as the Immanuel

Baptist Church in Truro, where Jan Zann hosted our September board meeting, and the Stanfield House, also in Truro, which was bought and moved out of the way of a development by the Keddy Family. The ongoing destruction of the Maritime Command Building in Halifax raised concerns that the Trust had missed an opportunity to save a fine architectural specimen which played an important part in the city's participation in the Atlantic Convoys during the second world war.

In the second group are the buildings that received support from the Trust in the form of a letter, attendance at meetings or participation in a petition. These include:

- The Covenanter Church in Grand Pré
- The West House in Halifax
- The Starr Manufacturing Building
- The Regional Cultural Museum in Dartmouth
- Deadman's Island in the Northwest Arm
- The Irving Oil gas station on Sackville Street

The buildings that required presentations to the Heritage Advisory Committee and/or Regional Council belong in the third group. The presentations were developed and/or presented by Brenda Shannon, Betty and Phil Pacey and me. The Garden Inn on South Park Street, Halifax, was the first of these. A development agreement proposed removing the ell of the house to make room for more apartments at the rear of the building. Our case was well presented to Regional Council by Ron Pink, but Council, after advice from the staff lawyers, decided to allow the project to go ahead.

The Hesslein House at the corner of Victoria and Lucknow streets in Halifax involved a similar development. In this case the Heritage Advisory Committee recommended the development proceed, and Regional Council agreed, but for some reason we still don't understand, the Community Council also considered it. It seems that Regional Council was to consider the "significant alteration" and

Community Council the Heritage aspects, which makes it appear that the by-law in question is being split in half to be considered by two different groups. The Community Council turned the proposal down after a well-attended public meeting but the developer went ahead and did what he wanted to do and tore off the back of the house to make room for eight apartments.

The North Street houses which are threatened by the new ramp for the enlarged Macdonald Bridge have also been a major concern of the Trust, and we decided to submit a proposal to move and refurbish the smaller of the two houses, the Blackadadar Cottage. Our first proposal did not win the competition but a second opportunity arose when the winning bidder lost the piece of land he was going to move the Cottage to in Fall River. If the Trust does eventually obtain this house it will be an interesting new direction for an organization which has long talked about doing such a thing but all the previous opportunities were too expensive. The aim of the Trust in this venture is not to own the house, but to participate in its rescue and re-establishment as an integral part of the historic Brunswick Street area. (Since the AGM, Regional Council has decided to award the Blackadar House to another proponent).

### **Heritage Incentive Program**

Another item consuming a considerable amount of time was our effort to save the Heritage Incentive Program. This program was established many years ago to provide funds to offset some of the costs of maintaining municipally designated heritage properties. However, it was a tough sell to the new Regional Council and the program seems to have disappeared as a budget item.

**John Lazier**

### **Built Heritage Award**

The first Built Heritage Awards were presented by Heritage Trust of Nova Scotia in 1989. While there were no submissions for 1990, from 1991 to 1996 a total of nine awards were made. As no submissions were received for this award in 1997 and

1998, in spite of advertising in the *Griffin* and *The Federation of Nova Scotian Heritage News*, I would like to suggest to our Board that maybe we need to rethink this award. The Province of Nova Scotia Home Awards now includes a designation and award system for built heritage. Perhaps we would better serve as an educator in heritage if we considered investing the same amount of money (approximately \$500 a year) in an annual donation for heritage and/or architectural books to the Halifax Regional Memorial Library. The books could be presented in memory of Phyllis Blakeley, a founding member and past president of Heritage Trust of Nova Scotia and the first female archivist of Nova Scotia. These books would be available to all Nova Scotians and reach a far greater audience.

The Built Heritage Award Committee has consisted of three or more members. I wish to thank Betty Pacey, Joyce McCulloch, Douglas Price and Admiral Desmond Piers, who have served on the committee over these years.

**Pamela B. Collins**

### **Book Committee**

The Book Committee had its inaugural meeting on September 10, 1997. Members are Arthur Carter, John Crace, Joan Dawson, Pat Lotz (chair) and Barbara Watt. Eighteen days later the committee inaugurated Heritage Trust's first participation in Word On The Street. Trust volunteers sold \$500 worth of books, including 156 copies of *Roger's Photographic Album* and 244 copies of *Lakes, Salt Marshes and the Narrow Green Strip* to a jobber for \$100. If we were always able to find such a jobber, it would only take us about eleven years to dispose of the remaining copies of the *Album*.

*Carleton House*, by Trust members Graeme Duffus and Paul Erickson, was published in August by HTNS and Nimbus Publishing. The joint publishing contract for this publication stipulated that the Trust must buy back 300 copies, for resale only to members or related groups. As of June 1998, despite full-page ads in the *Griffin* and a mailout to

members of the Federation of Nova Scotian Heritage, only 82 copies had been sold. It is possible that without the postal strike, more members would have bought copies to send as Christmas gifts. The original HTNS/Nimbus contract calls for the purchase of 100 copies for resale, a stipulation that the current committee has decided will have to stand in any future joint publication.

At the September Board meeting, the Book Committee chair will outline plans for a book scheduled for publication in Fall of 1999, the year that the Trust celebrates its 40th anniversary.

Respectfully submitted,  
**Pat Lotz**

### **Newsletter Committee**

Four issues of *The Griffin* have been published during the past year:

- September, 1997 Vol. 22, No. 3
- December, 1997 Vol. 22, No. 4
- March, 1998 Vol. 23, No. 1
- June, 1998 Vol. 23, No. 2\

I wish to thank Anne West and Pat Lotz for all the hard work they have put in on *The Griffin*, and to welcome Anne as the new Chair of the Newsletter Committee.

Respectfully submitted

**Doris Butters**

### **Membership Committee**

Heritage Trust of Nova Scotia presently has 452 members, including organizations and complimentary members. This number allows for two members for each Family and Senior Couple membership. The breakdown is as follows:

- |                             |     |
|-----------------------------|-----|
| • Single                    | 80  |
| • Family                    | 74  |
| • Senior                    | 136 |
| • Senior Couple             | 90  |
| • Student                   | 3   |
| • Life Members (2 comp.)    | 20  |
| • Honorary Members for Life | 2   |
| • Organizations             | 22  |
| • HRM Councillors (2 comp.) | 24  |

We attracted 30 new members in the past year, but also lost members due to death, leaving the area and non-payment of dues. The total number of members is almost exactly the same as last year.

As I leave this chairmanship, I wish to thank everyone who helped and particularly Claudia Giles for her *The Griffin*, Heritage Trust of Nova Scotia



assistance.

Respectfully submitted,  
Bonita Price

## Finance Committee

The Finance Committee held three meetings: November 6, 1997; January 29 and April 30, 1998.

The November 1997 meeting reviewed the 1998 proposed operating budget, which had been developed with input from Committee chairs. The budget was subsequently approved by the Executive and the Board of Trustees. The Finance Committee continues to be conscious of its responsibility for the ongoing stewardship of the Trust's financial affairs. The Treasurer has agreed to draft a policy covering changes in the operating budget to be considered by the Executive. Ian McKee is to be commended for his continuing excellent management of the Trust's investment portfolio.

At the April 1998 meeting, the report of the Auditor was presented. In Greg Bakeeff's opinion, the Statement of Revenue and Expenses and the Statement of Assets present fairly the position of the Trust as of December 31, 1997.

The Committee could not function effectively without the expertise, time commitment and personal interest of its members: Ian Langlands; John Lazier, Trust President; Ian McKee, Trust Treasurer; Douglas Price; Garry Shutlak, Committee Secretary. Respectfully submitted,  
**Pauline Hildesheim**

## Program Committee

Regular monthly meetings were held from September 1997 to June 1998:

- Sept. 97 Helen Macdonald Memorial Lecture. Dr. Paul Erickson: The Sole Survivor: The Saga of The Carleton House
- Oct. 97 Dr. Roger Crowther: The Queen of Metals, English Sterling Silver
- Nov. 97 Annual Dinner, Saint George's Church Hall. Talk by Jennifer McLaughlin on restoring the chancel mural
- Dec. 97 Cancelled
- Jan. 98 Jay Wesley. Talk and demonstration: HRM Public Gardens Program

September 1998

- Communities in Bloom
- Feb. 98 Dan Conlin: Lighthouses of Nova Scotia
- Mar. 98 Laurie Hamilton: Restoring the Maud Lewis House
- April 97 Prof. Judith Fingard: Victorian Halifax
- May 97 Dr. Ron Macdonald: A visit and talk about the restoration of Halifax Defence Complex-Citadel
- June 97 Annual General Meeting Buffet Supper at the Saraguay Club, Election of Officers, and talk by Jim How: The restoration program at Annapolis Royal.

## Day Tours

- Aug. 97 Mahone Bay: Communities in Bloom
- Sept. 13 Lunenburg: Historic House 97 Tour and Tea
- June 6 Day Tour along Eastern 98 Shore: Shearwater Aviation Museum; Cole Harbour Heritage Farm; Fisherman's Cove Eastern Passage.

I sincerely thank Pamela Collins and Janina Konczacki for their invaluable assistance during the past year. Respectfully submitted,  
**Hilary Grant**

## Research Committee

Since June of 1997, follow-up research has been carried out on the last two houses on Brunswick Street in the Brunswick Street Heritage Area. As well, the two houses on North Street, also in the Brunswick Street Heritage Area, were researched. The tiny Georgian cottage at 5220 North Street was found to be one of the earliest residences in Halifax and a rare architectural treasure; the cottage was built by shipwright, John Blackadar, after he purchased the lot in 1826. This information was helpful in saving the Blackadar Cottage from the path of the new Macdonald Bridge ramp. Just as the Blackadar Cottage was threatened with demolition, so too was the 1826 mansion known as the Forman-Uniacke House at 1246 Hollis Street in south-end Halifax. While this case has not yet been resolved, an in-depth research report (including photographs) on the "Historical and Architectural Significance" of the house was prepared and circulated to

interested parties such as the Tourism Industry Association of Nova Scotia.

A full research report was also prepared on Tower Road School which was again threatened with closure and an uncertain future. The research was useful to help win a reprieve for this municipal heritage school and build a case for provincial registration. Also in line for provincial registration is Saint Matthew's United Church which soon will celebrate its 250th anniversary. Specialized research has been carried out on the historic personages of provincial importance who have been members of the congregation throughout the church's history. Its architectural importance, in the context of the provincial repertoire of churches has also been outlined. We look forward to continuing the research of the discovered, and as yet undiscovered, significant buildings.

Respectfully submitted,  
**Elizabeth Pacey**

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## Starr Manufacturing fire

A fire on June 11, 1998, damaged the area of the Starr Manufacturing complex which houses some of earliest remains of the 19th century power house and archaeological remains associated with the Shubenacadie Canal. Fortunately, the fire did not seriously damage the most important of the historic remains.

The HRM has recently engaged a consultant to advise on how the building's remains can best be secured against further vandalism and physical deterioration while its future is being decided.

At the end of June, a public meeting was held in which municipal staff were given the message that citizens desired that the Starr site be developed carefully and imaginatively, with due regard for the commercial, historic and recreational values of the site and the contribution that all three of these attributes can make to the revitalization of downtown Dartmouth.

HRM staff are working on a call for Expressions of Interest for the development of the municipally

*Continued on page 12*

# Heritage Trust Program: September to December 1998

Meetings of the Heritage Trust of Nova Scotia are held on the third Thursday of the month from September to June at 7:30 p.m. in the Auditorium of the Museum of Natural History, 1747 Summer Street, Halifax unless otherwise stated.

## Thursday, September 17

### Helen Macdonald Memorial

Lecture. Speaker: Alex Wilson, Manager of Collections Management, Botany, at N.S. Museum of Natural History.

Topic: Chatsworth and the Halifax Public Gardens: What Do They Have in Common?

## Thursday, October 15

Speaker: Hilary Grant.

Topic: Stately homes and gardens of south-west England.

## Thursday, November 19

### Annual Dinner—A special African

night. Roast beef dinner served in Saint George's church hall following a 7.00 pm reception and cash bar. Details and registration on next page.

Speaker: Ian McKee.

Topic: Passage to Africa; a slide illustrated talk on his African safari.

NOTE: If you wish to see Saint George's arrive at 6:30 pm for a tour.

## Thursday, December 17

Speaker: Lila Gashus.

Topic: Ashets of gignots and petticoat tails: the influence of French cuisine on Scottish cooking. Scottish refreshments.

### 1999 SPECIAL

To celebrate the 250th Anniversary of the founding of Halifax, a special lecture series is being organized for the Spring and Fall of 1999. Watch for details in December issue of *The Griffin*.

**Fall Tour to Cape Breton  
2, 3 and 4 October, 1998**  
Highlights include a visit to an island lighthouse, Port Hood, Iona historical village and Cheticamp.

For full details and registration, call Hilary Grant 835-2795/Fax 835-3036 as soon as possible, or Heritage Trust office 423-4807, Fax 423-3970.

NOTE: Hilary cannot plan these complex trips without knowing numbers reasonably well in advance. If you wish to go, please notify her ASAP.

## Events sponsored by Other Societies

### Poetry Society of Nova Scotia

Meets the 3rd Saturday of the month at 2pm in the Public Archives of Nova Scotia 6106 University Avenue, Halifax. Contact: Daphne Faulkner: 423-5330

### Calligraphy Guild of Nova Scotia

Meets from 7.00 to 9.00 pm the 3rd Monday of the month. For venue and details, contact: Leo deWit: 835-0508, or John Peake: 425- 4128

### Royal Nova Scotia Historical Society

For times and places of fall program contact: Dr. Alan Marble: 423-5359

### Bedford Historical Society

Meets at 7.30 pm alternative months at The Teachery, 9 Spring Street, Bedford. For program and dates contact: Tony Edwards: 835-3615, or Nelson Kennedy: 835-3632.

### Costume Society of Nova Scotia

Meets the 3rd Monday of the month from September to April, at 7.30 pm in the Maritime Museum of the Atlantic, 1675 Lower Water Street, Halifax. Contacts: June Anderson 902-  
Page 10

757-1999 or Sheila Yeomans 429-2298. Programs TBA.

### Canadian Authors Association - Nova Scotia Branch

Meets the 4th Saturday of the month from September to June, at 2.00 pm at Public Archives of Nova Scotia, 6106, University Avenue, Halifax. Contacts: Evelyn Brown: 466-2558, or Mary Ann Monnon, 902-542-2726.

### Friends of McNabs Island Society

Sunday, September 27. (rain date October 4) Fall Beach Sweep. 10.00am from Cable Wharf. Lawlors Island is included this time. Contact: Catherine McCarthy, 434-2254

### Sunday, October 18

(rain date October 25) Fall Foliage Foray. Co-sponsored by the N.S. Lighthouse Preservation Society. Maugers Beach Light will be open. Cost: TBA. Contact: Catherine McCarthy 434-2254

### Federation of N.S. Heritage

Museum Studies Certificate Courses:

Units 1-7, will be held September, October, November and December.

Also the following day long Workshops will be held - September 25 - Board Governance Workshop in New Ross, NS.

### November 20

Conservation Workshop in Dartmouth, N.S.

For details on Courses, Workshops, and other FNSH programs contact: 423-4677

### Rockingham Heritage Society

#### Wednesday, November 4

Meeting - 8.00 pm - Rockingham United Church, Flamingo Drive, Rockingham. A student will talk on her research into Mi'kmaq settlement on Bedford Basin during the 1730s. Contact: Carole Worrall 443-7043

### Cole Harbour Heritage Farm Museum

Poplar Drive, Dartmouth. Contact: 434-0222

Saturday, Sept. 12 4.30-6.30 pm.

Corn Boil and Ceilidh. Fresh local corn, a selection of summer salads and beverages. Music and songs. Tickets: advance - \$5.00, children \$4.00; at door - all tickets \$6.00

Saturday, Sept. 19 4.30-6.30 pm  
Sauerkraut and Sausage Supper. Indoor buffet with selection of tasty sausages and locally made sauerkraut, dessert and beverages. Tickets: advance - \$8.00; at door - \$9.00

Sunday, Oct. 11 5.30 pm and 7.00 pm  
Harvest Dinner (two sittings). Treat the family to a traditional home cooked Thanksgiving meal with all the trimmings.. Reservations required. Tickets: \$12.00; under 12 - \$9.00

Until October 15 The Rose and Kettle Tearoom will be open on a daily basis. Open year round for Events and Catering. Contact 462-0154

### Acadia University, Wolfville

Thurs.-Sun. - September 24 - 27.

Elizabeth Bishop Conference - "Division of the Heart". Elizabeth Bishop's Art of Place and Memory. Key Speaker: Anne Stevenson; Plenary Speakers: Thomas Trivians, Gary Fountain, Peter Sanger, Sandra Barry. Special Bishop Nova Scotia Exhibit. Premiere of "Running to Paradise" a play by Donna Smith. Optional trip to Great Village, N.S. Twenty-five 20-minute papers to be presented. Contact: Elizabeth Bishop Conference Committee, Department of English, Acadia University, Wolfville, NS B0P 1X0. Tel: 902-585-1503; Fax: 902-585-1070 attention Gwen Davies; E-Mail: gwen.davies@acadiau.ca

### Parkdale-Maplewood Community Museum

Bars Corners, Lunenburg Co. Contact: Barbara Veinot: 902-644-2893

Saturday, September 12  
Heritage Blueberry Festival. Craft Demos, Entertainment, Mini-market. Meals served 12-noon to 6.00pm. Tickets: \$8.00; children: \$4.00; Under 5: free. Lunenburg Sausage and Sauerkraut, Pudding, Solomon Gundy, Smeltz Potatoes, Hodge Podge, Blueberry Grunt, Blueberry  
September 1998

Pie... and more. 1 to 4 pm, Free tour of Lloyd Wentzel's Woodlot. Department of Natural Resources

### Mahone Bay Founders Society and Settlers' Museum

Main Street, Mahone Bay, NS. Contact: 902-624-6263  
Until October 10 - Exhibit: "A Christening in Mahone Bay 1790" depicting a special occasion in the social history of a local 'foreign Protestant' family. Period outfits made by students of Dalhousie University Costume Studies Dept.

Saturday, September 19

From 1.30pm Presentations by students of Dalhousie University Costume Studies Department "What to Wear - Wardrobe Choices, 1790s"

Fri.-Sun., October 2-4

Annual Scarecrow Festival and Antique Fair. Residents and groups make scarecrows to decorate lawns and buildings. Three different locations for the antique fair and about 40 dealers patronise the event. Other attractions: Children's face painting; a radio play in the school, and a Graveyard Tour (wonder if it is the graveyard with dairy farmer Elvin Falkenham's headstone?)

Saturday, October 3 - 1.30 pm.

Genealogist Terry Punch presents a lecture/talk/workshop on local family names. Small fee.

Sunday, October 18 1.00 pm

Telethon Fund-raiser in aid of the Settlers' Museum. Bid on items donated by local businesses.

### Admiral Digby Museum and Historical Society

Contact: Angela Neil - 902-245-4155

Monday, September 7.

Opening: Commercial art exhibition

Tuesday, October 20

Mi'kmaw History Month. Darleen A. Ricker, author of L'sitkuk. Program marking history of First Nations People of the Bear River Mi'kmaw Community.

October

"From the Hearts and Hands of Women". To celebrate Women in History Month - works of art created by women past and present

*Yarmouth County Historical Society, Museum and Archives*  
22 Collins Street, Yarmouth.  
Contact: Ph: 902-742-5539; Fax: 902-749-1120

Friday, September 11 - 7.30 pm  
Historical Soc. meeting, program TBA

October, November, December  
Historical Society meetings - to confirm dates phone or fax above numbers. For monthly slide illustrated Armchair Travel programs, contact Erif Ruff: 902-742-5539

## **HTNS Fall Dinner African Night**

Thursday, November 19  
Saint George's Round Church Hall.  
Maitland Street, Halifax

7:00 p.m. Reception

7:30 p.m. Dinner in church Hall

Speaker Ian McKee

Subject: *A passage to Africa*, with slide illustrationS.

### **Menu**

Roast Beef

Apple or Lemon Pie

Tea or coffee

Wine \$2.50 per glass, pay server

\$25 per person. \$10 tax receipt from Saint George's Restoration. (If you wish to see the Round Church in its almost-restored state, please arrive at the church at 6:30 sharp for a conducted tour.)

## **Registration Form**

Fall Dinner, November 19  
(Deadline: November 14)

Name .....

Address .....

Postal code .....

Phone .....

..... persons at \$25

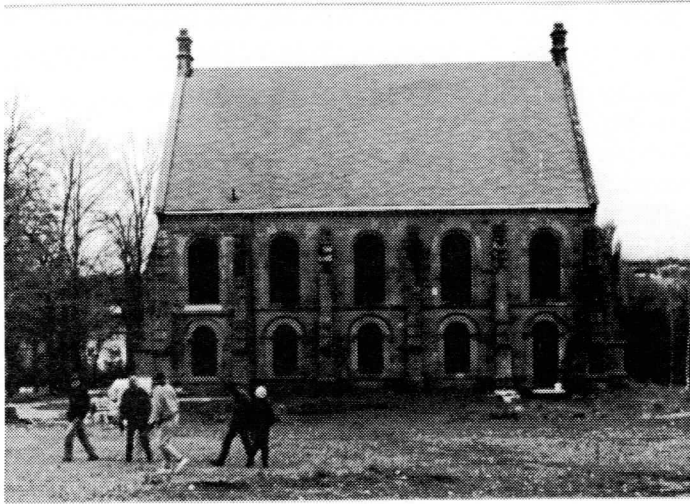
Amount enclosed .....

Preference:

Lemon pie ..... Apple Pie.....

Cheques payable to: Heritage Trust of N.S. Mail to: HTNS, P.O. Box 36111, Halifax, N.S., B3J 3S9.

# History of the Built Heritage Award



*Convocation Hall, Kings-Edgehill, 1993 winner. West photo*

By Pamela Collins

The Heritage Trust of Nova Scotia established the Built Heritage Award to honour and recognize an outstanding individual, group, company, or department of government that has preserved a part of Nova Scotian heritage in the form of a built structure. Special emphasis is placed on the type of materials and building techniques used for the interior and exterior restoration/renovation.

The rules are straightforward: Nominations for the award can be made by any member group of the Federation of Nova Scotian Heritage or a member of HTNS. The nominees have to submit a written and pictorial record. The latter consists of photographs or 35 mm slides representing the project before, during and after restoration, and a plan or drawing of the building, where applicable. Winning submissions with photography, plans and drawings become the property of the Heritage Trust of Nova Scotia, to form part of the Trust's archival records for present and future study.

Recipients of the HTNS Built Heritage Award cannot be nominated again for five years. The Heritage Trust of Nova Scotia Awards Committee may withhold the award if no suitable nomination is presented.

Over the past nine years a wide variety of buildings have been nominated, their dates of origin ranging from 1770 to 1935.

The first two presentations of the award were made June 3, 1989. Both winners were nominated by the Shelburne Historical Society: Elizabeth Hyde for the restoration of her Georgian home, the Stephen Shakespeare House, one of the earliest log houses, clapboarded over, built in Shelburne in 1783: and in the commercial category, Gary and Cynthia Hynes of Shelburne for the restoration of a hip-roofed Georgian house built in 1785 and its re-use as The Cooper's Inn, a heritage bed and breakfast and restaurant.

There were no submissions in 1990.

In 1991, the winner was Elizabeth Stuart Goodstein of Grand Pré, nominated by the King's Historical Society and The Old King's Courthouse Heritage Museum. Two 18th century buildings were saved from demolition when Elizabeth purchased them and moved them down the road

Page 12

to the present site in Grand Pré.

The following year, the King's Historical Society and the Old King's Courthouse Museum nominated Jennie Margaret Sheito in the commercial category, for the restoration of the Planters Barracks, built 1778-79, in Cornwallis Township, now Fort Williams. This restored heritage building is now a delightful Bed and Breakfast and proudly displays its framed hand-lettered award.

There were two winners in 1993. Under the category of projects undertaken by government, Public Works Canada received a citation and hand-lettered scroll for the restoration of the "Dominion Public Building, the Art Deco Bedford Row Post Office, Halifax, built in 1935". Two members of the Trust, Garry Shutlak and Philip Hartling of the Public Archives of Nova Scotia, nominated this building, which now serves as a federal office building.

King's-Edgehill School, Windsor, won a Built Heritage Award for the sensitive restoration of Convocation Hall, built in 1861 and currently housing the school's extensive library and study hall.

In 1994, King's Historical Society and The Old King's Courthouse Heritage Museum nominated the Wolfville Library Foundation for the restoration and re-use of the Dominion Atlantic Railway Station, designed by Herbert F. Gates in 1912. This unique restored building now houses the town's expanded library

In 1995, the Port Greville Shipbuilding Museum Society received the Built Heritage Award for the restoration and re-use of Cochrane Hall, built in 1854. Interior design was done by architects Bob Parker and Greg Munn. This building was moved down the road and is now The Age of Sail Heritage Centre in Port Greville. Another award was presented to Larry Swinamer, president of Larex Properties Inc., for the restoration of the Hydrostone commercial streetscape in Halifax.

Once again, in 1996, there were two winners.

Wolfville Historical Society nominated Michael Bawtree, Director of Drama, Acadia University, for the imaginative renovation and re-use of the Acadia Hockey Arena, designed by architect Leslie R. Fair of Aylesford and constructed by builder C.H. Wright in 1927. This building, with its unique thrust stage, is now the home of the Atlantic Festival Theatre.

King's Historical Society nominated Jim and Darlene Peerless for the renovation of Wickwire House built in Kentville in 1895. This building is now the successful Wickwire Bed and Breakfast.

There were no submissions for the award in 1997 and 1998, and its future is under discussion.

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**Starr:** *continued from page 9*

owned Starr and Greenvale School properties. Considerable interest in the site is rumoured involving large retail grocery interests. Industrial Heritage Nova Scotia, the Shubenacadie Canal Commission and the newly-formed Dartmouth Neighbourhoods Association are working with Municipal staff to try to ensure that the considerable heritage resources on the site are protected. R.W. Frame.

*The Griffin, Heritage Trust of Nova Scotia*



## News from heritage groups around Nova Scotia

### Truro: beginning to see the light

by Janice Zann

In the past, Truro developers have been given *carte blanche* to go ahead with construction totally inappropriate to a streetscape or to the heritage character of a neighbourhood. Now, however, they are starting to find opposition, not only from hastily formed residents' committees, but from such unexpected sources as the Town Planning Advisory Committee, and the new Town Council.

A group of residents is accusing Town Planner and Development Officer Peter Nelson of not properly interpreting bylaws in issuing a development permit to Benchmark Developments, new owners of the Federal building. Benchmark plans to establish a bowling alley and lounge containing VLTs at the rear of the building. The group feel that such a permit required a development agreement and a public hearing process. Nearby Muir and Faulkner streets are currently being considered for inclusion in a Heritage Conservation District. Residents of the streets are concerned about the noise and traffic that would result from such a facility operating in their quiet residential neighbourhood. They question the appropriateness of this type of activity for the downtown core, where cultural activities would be more welcome.

A letter from the residents' committee, requesting an inquiry into events and decisions concerning the development, has gone to Attorney-General Jim Smith.

A second controversial development was passed by the previous Town Council in 1997. This is a plan for high-rise apartments to be built on vacant green space at the back of 22 Duke Street. The land lies

between two streets of a proposed heritage district, and access is limited to one narrow driveway. Residents were concerned about resultant lack of privacy and blocked sunlight, as well as the complete change in the character and appearance of the street that such a massive structure would incur. However, as a result of the decision by the Public Utilities Board to uphold the appeal by Truro residents, this development is now on hold. Investigations regarding these two developments are still going on.

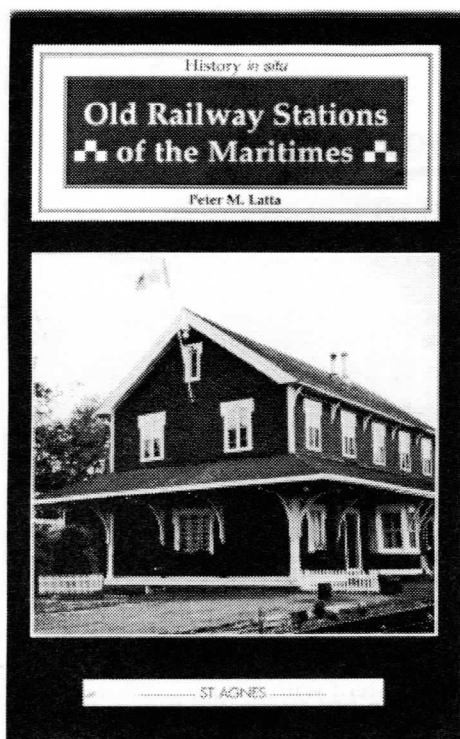
The proposal for a medical-dental centre at the corner of Willow and Victoria streets (surrounded by Municipally-designated heritage homes) has been put on hold by Town Council. It was originally planned to house a 24-hour Shoppers Drug Mart and seniors' apartments, as well. Three public hearings have been held over the past five months and, to their credit, the developers and their architect have listened to and respected the wishes of the people likely to be most affected by the plan. They agreed to retain a heritage building on Victoria Street which they intended to demolish, and at the last meeting, they announced that the project would be scaled down, with the drug store no longer included in the plan. The Planning Advisory Committee has now approved the new version; the Town Council has yet to vote on it.

At its meeting of July 17, Truro Planning Advisory Committee decided not to accept the recommendations of the Town Planning staff with respect to amendments to a Municipal Planning Strategy Policy (URC-22). This controls the type of residential development allowed in Revitalisation areas. Instead, the members insisted on incorporating

more restrictive clauses to ensure that new construction conform to a maximum of three storeys, that the development not exceed medium density standard of the Land Use Bylaw, and that Land Use Bylaw frontage rules should apply. They also want facades to be compatible with the character of the neighbourhood and development to be consistent with the properties in the vicinity in terms of size and scale. It will be up to Town Council, at its August meeting, to decide which option to choose - the Town Planner's, or that of the Advisory Committee, which goes much further to protect the historic character of these areas.

Another plus for our Heritage Advisory Committee is the acquisition of the services of Tim Roland, who with Geoff Cannon, has designed an excellent web site, providing an educational tool for young and old alike. The site contains a history of the area, a glossary of architectural terms, and a description of varied architectural styles. People all over the world can zoom in on maps of Truro's downtown and take a virtual walking tour. Coloured photographs of the homes and anecdotes about early Truro residents make for interesting reading. The web site for the Heritage Advisory Committee can be found at [www.nsis.com/tthac/](http://www.nsis.com/tthac/).

Another exciting project underway in Truro this summer is the production of a video by members of the Society for Protection of Truro Heritage Properties, to help create awareness of the town's built heritage. The project is being carried out with the assistance of Bragg Communications under the direction of Perry Cheverie. Inspiration for this project came from the showing of a



## Old Railway Stations of the Maritimes

Peter M. Latta

St Agnes Press, \$6.95

Peter Latta was until last year curator of the Shubenacadie Canal Commission and is well-known to Heritage Trust members. Now he has combined his interest in industrial archaeology and architecture in a little book which gives us a revealing look at an important aspect of Maritime heritage.

Starting in the 1850s, hundreds of railway stations were built throughout the Maritime provinces. Over the generations, these stations have been constants in the landscape of our communities. Now disappearing rapidly, station buildings remain symbolic representations of prosperity. They are the places where, for past and present generations, important greetings and

leave-takings have taken place.

This book discusses the development of the railway station as an architectural form. It also describes the role that some of the most prominent engineers and architects of Canada and the United States played in designing them. The architectural styles of these buildings range from Tudor Gothic through Elizabethan, Romanesque and Second Empire to modern. Peter describes them as "having an importance which has not been equalled at a secular level."

In addition to covering the practical and philosophical aspects of railways and railway stations, this little book contains photographs and descriptions of over 40 stations, plus a note of their current fate. Happily, many have become museums.

The book costs \$6.95 and is obtainable from St Agnes Press, PO Box 23025, St John's, Newfoundland, A1B 4J9.

fine video produced by a Yarmouth Heritage Group.

Truro does seem to be "seeing the light" and following the example of Lunenburg, Yarmouth, Annapolis Royal, Maitland, and the other culturally-progressive communities that appreciate their built heritage. As chair of the Trust's Communities Committee, I will endeavour to arrange a meeting of members of various heritage groups from many parts of the province to share ideas about ways to preserve the wonderful stock of buildings still remaining in Nova Scotia.

In his poem *Things Men Have Made*, D.H. Lawrence, expresses beautifully what fighters for heritage believe in so strongly:

*Things men have made with wakened  
hands, and put soft life into,  
Are awake through years with transferred  
touch, and go on glowing for long  
years.*

*And for this reason, some old things are  
lovely,  
Warm still with the life of forgotten men  
who made them.*

### Yarmouth Co. Historical Society

On May 29, 1998, an early-morning fire severely damaged the rear of a Victorian house owned by the Yarmouth County Historical Society

and scheduled to become the Museum's new Research Centre. Fortunately, the residents and their pets escaped unharmed, but the contents of the two apartments were totally destroyed. A 16-year-old boy has been arrested in connection with the fire.

The main facade was left intact, and the Society believes that the building can be saved to be used as intended. A research centre is part of the Museum's planned expansion project, but will not house the Society's priceless archival collection. This will be stored in an environmentally controlled unit in the new fireproof Preservation Building.

Although still waiting for estimates of damage, the architectural firm of G.F. Duffus and Co.Ltd., of Halifax, has been selected for the expansion project and restoration of the fire-damaged building. Mr. Graeme Duffus has extensive experience of working with heritage buildings. One of the firm's recent undertakings was restoration of the exterior fabric of Government House. Margaret A. Hawkins, his associate architect, also has experience with heritage projects.

The Bride Doll raffle raised \$675 for the Museum Expansion Fund. The

doll, donated and dressed by Margaret Jackson was won by Lisa LeBlanc of Arcadia.

### Friends of McNabs Island Soc.

This group is very concerned at the slowness of Parks Canada and the Nova Scotia Department of Natural Resources, in releasing the joint management plan on Land Use Strategy for McNabs and Lawlor islands. They hope it has not been shelved, to be brought out and dusted off only at some propitious future date. Because of the island's rich natural and cultural history and potential for both outdoor and classroom education, two Dalhousie University graduates in biology and marine biology have created a McNabs Island Kit of interpretive materials for school-age visitors.

The Department of National Defence is at present disposing of its Hugonin Point property and the Garrison Pier water lot. Work at the Fort includes remediation of fuel oil contaminated soil and a cultural resource inventory. The latter includes a search for the mass grave of the victims of the 1866 cholera outbreak on the SS *England*.

The Society's newsletter, *The Rucksack*, is available on the Heritage Trust office bookshelf.

*The Griffin, Heritage Trust of Nova Scotia*

## Heritage Calendar

### September 1998

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2	3	4	5
6	ADLHS Art exhib. opens 7	8	9	10	YCHS 7:30 pm monthly meeting 11	CHHF 4:30 corn boil/ ceilidh PMCM Blueberry fest. all day 12
13	14	15	16	HTNS 7:30 at MNH 17	18	NSPS 2 pm at PANS 19 CCHF 4:30 sauerk /saus. supper MBFS 1:30 lectures
20	CGNS 7 pm 21  CSNS 7:30 MMA	22	23	Acadia Univ. Eliz. Bishop conf. 24-27 24	FNSH New Ross workshop 25	CAA 2 pm PANS 26
FOMIS Beach sweep McNabs Acadia Univ. Eliz. Bishop conference 27	28	29	30			

For more detailed information about these events see pages 10 and 11.

## Heritage Calendar

### October 1998

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	HTNS 3-day 2 MBFS 3-day Scarecrow Fest/ Antiques 2	3 MBFS T.Punch lecture 1:30 3
HTNS Cape Breton Tour 4	5	6	7	8	9	10 MBFS Christening exhib. closes
11 CHHF Harvest dinner 5:30/ 7:30	12	13	14	HTNS 7:30 15 MNH CHHF Tea- room closes for season	16	17
FOMIS Fall 18 foliage McNabs MBFS Telethon 1 pm	19	ADLHS Miq'maw history program 20	21	22	23	CAA 2 pm PANS 24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

# Heritage Calendar

## November 1998

<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 RHS 8 pm Meeting	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19 HTNS Annual dinner, 7 pm Saint George's	20 FNSH Workshop at Dartmouth	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28 CAA 2 pm PANS
29	30					

### Abbreviations used in this calendar

ADLHS	Admiral Digby Library and Historical Society	MMA	Maritime Museum of the Atlantic
ASHC	Age of Sail Heritage Centre	MSHS	Mainland South Heritage Society
AGNS	Art Gallery of Nova Scotia	MNH	Museum of Natural History
BHS	Bedford Historical Society	NSPS	Nova Scotia Poetry Society
CAA	Canadian Authors Association	NSCAD	Nova Scotia College of Art and Design
CHHF	Cole Harbour Heritage Farm	PANS	Public Archives of Nova Scotia
CGNS	Calligraphy Guild of Nova Scotia	PMCM	Parksdale-Maplewood Community Museum
CMHS	Chester Municipal Heritage Society	QCM	Queen's County Museum
CSNS	Costume Society of Nova Scotia	RNSHS	Royal Nova Scotia Historical Society
DHM	Dartmouth Heritage Museum	RHS	Rockingham Heritage Society
DHA	Dartmouth Heritage Association	SCC	Shubenacadie Canal Commission
FNSH	Federation of Nova Scotian Heritage	SMH	Scott Manor House
FSF	Fort Sackville Foundation	SRM	South Rawdon Museum
FOMIS	Friends of McNabs Island Society	THS	Truro Historical Society
FHN	Fultz House Museum	WHHS	West Hants Historical Society
HC	Heritage Canada	WHS	Waverley Historical Society
HTNS	Heritage Trust of Nova Scotia	YCHS	Yarmouth County Historical Society
KHS	Kings Historical Society	YCM	Yarmouth County Museum
MBFS	Mahone Bay Founders' Society and Settlers' Museum		