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My Old House: The Mare's Tail *by Mark E. Stewart*

The Beginning

Garden Lots, NS. Have you ever had that feeling of "My God! What have we done?". In the fall of 1997 my wife, Marni, and I were very quiet as we surveyed our new home. The closing had been a month before, but we found excuses not to visit it. Although we had restored a number of other houses before, they had been nothing like this. We were afraid of what we would find.

The simple Cape style house had been sorely neglected for close to fifty years and abandoned for over ten. At one end of the house the outline of the kitchen ell was still visible. Several months before, someone had brutally taken its timbers and boards, leaving behind only the stone foundation and piles of rubble.

The windows and doors were long gone, possibly kicked in by brave hunters who used it as a blind while shooting deer grazing on the apples and pears lying under the century-old trees of the orchard. The previous owner thought of the house as a liability and had allowed it to be stripped of anything of value. Most of the floorboards, beams, beaded-pine wainscoting and walls had disappeared, although I did find some wide-beaded boards rotting beneath the wild roses.

"Were we completely crazy?" I thought as we waded through the mounds of garbage and debris littering the old dining room. But then I looked out through the opening where a picture window had replaced the original windows. Nestled on a drumlin overlooking the entrance to Lunenburg harbour, the views from the house are spectacular in all directions. In the front the sloping hay fields lead to an old one-room schoolhouse with the sea beyond. To the side, the ancient apple trees twist in all directions above the wild roses. The field behind continued to the top of the hill with even more spectacular views of the ocean and the back harbour.

And then there was the house! Despite its sorry state, what remained was not just another rotten old house. The roof had the gentle pitch of an 18th century



The Mare's Tail in the beginning.

cottage. Built using the "pièce-sur-pièce" method, the walls are horizontal planks fitted into the corner posts, with oakum stuffed between the planks and birch bark acting as tarpaper over the joints. Inside, wide pine boards were nailed to the planks with rosehead nails. Split lathes under the remaining plaster were fastened with small rosehead nails to strapping that had had a previous life in an even earlier structure. The foundation was granite field stones with Bluerocks slate used for the later kitchen addition and the hearth for the removed fireplace. And the steep winding stairs still led up to the whitewashed bedrooms.

The house had all the earmarks of an 18th century dwelling, but it seems it is not quite as old as we initially thought. Alan Ruffman, together with some colleagues in Manitoba, did an initial analysis of the relative widths of the growth rings from a few of the rotten sills. The resulting graphs were then compared to other graphs derived from wood of similar aged structures, such as St. George's Church in Halifax. Although all trees are subject to different growing conditions, the harshest winters and the warmest summers stand out from the more normal years. The first few samples point to a date of 1815. Hopefully, analysis of the other samples would provide more evidence of its age.

Continued overleaf



This was to become our livingroom. The narrow chimney sits on the base of the old fireplace, with the stairs hidden behind the chimney. The front door was shingled over on the outside, the original windows replaced with horizontal sliders.

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If the house was built in 1815, its first owner would have been Christopher Walter. Recently married with a young family and more children on the way, Christopher may still have been in the militia that helped to protect the area from marauding Americans who had burned Mahone Bay a few years before. We do know that Christopher had been in the militia since a report from 1813 had him listed as "absent without leave". Maybe he was working in the fields or building the foundation for the house....

The Work

Over the winter of 1997-98 we cleaned up the worst of the mess and worked on the plans for the rebirth of the house. We first named the property "The Mare's Tail" in dedication to the memory of Marni's late horse and to the clouds that signal the beginning of a change in the weather.

Because there was so little left of the original house, we felt that we had much more leeway in making changes to the original configuration. We hate to change or take out anything that is original to a house, but if it is already gone it can make it easier to rationalize changes. Despite this

apparent freedom we kept coming back to the old configuration of the centre chimney Cape house. Windows, doors and walls would be restored to their original sizes and locations. The kitchen ell would be rebuilt with a large fireplace on the original hearth and the centre fireplace restored next to the winding stairs.

We did allow ourselves to add what could have been there. From the way the roof had been cut over the front door we could tell that at one time there had been a dormer there. Not knowing its design, we agreed that a Scottish dormer, a smaller, simpler version of the famous Lunenburg Bump, would be appropriate. Although there was no evidence of dormers on the back roof we decided to add the type of narrow peaked dormer that was typically added in the early 19th century to older buildings. The dormers transformed the dark bedrooms with light and bucolic views over the fields, without resorting to the typical long shed dormers that may provide a bit more room but can never look as if they belong on an old house.

At the opposite end of the house from the kitchen we decided to add a separate building perpendicular to the house. Our idea was to have it look like an old barn that over time had been

attached to the house with a small passageway. This wing would include our bedroom and bath with the upstairs to become a studio for Marni.

As we worked on our plans over the winter, we talked to friends, neighbours and anyone else we could find about contractors and tradesmen. Everyone gave us names of potential workers. Most people will not recommend people they were not happy with, and tradesmen will tell you the tradesmen they like to work with. The more common names

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that come up from different sources, the more comfortable you can be with the recommendations. The best workers also tend to be booked far in advance, so do not be in too big of a hurry to get started!

Since we had restored other houses in the past we decided to act as our own general contractor. Although this was a very stressful experience, it did allow us to be involved in all the minute details. Tradespeople, if left to their own devices, may apply their own solutions to problems. Unless they are very much in tune with the details of old houses, what they come up with might not be in keeping with the age of the building. As with anything, it is the attention to details that matters. If you do it right, it will look like it has always been there; if not, it may look nice, but it will obviously not look original. Our goal throughout the project was to have as much as possible appear as though Christopher Walter had built it close to two hundred years ago.

The Result

The exterior is clad with eastern cedar shingles on the walls and western cedar on the roofs. Their natural oils combined with the sun and salt air have quickly weathered them to a soft grey patina. Six-over-six and eight-



After renovation: the livingroom reborn

over-six windows with white trim complete the traditional look.

Inside the house, all of the doors we used are old: 18th century batten doors, early Christian Cross doors with H and L hinges, and a panel door with a simple stained glass insert for the back entrance. We used old iron hinges, exposed locks with brass knobs, iron thumb latches, even slotted screws instead of the modern-day Phillips and Robertson types. Wide pine and spruce boards purchased from house salvagers cover radiant in-floor heating embedded in concrete. Trim made of simple pine boards painted in period colours gives little hint that it has just been installed.

In the kitchen, a porcelain sink rescued from a New Brunswick hospital is surrounded by cupboards built of pine boards finished with the type of beads and details of early pieces. The countertops are worn spruce floor boards that have the nicks and patina of their old age. On another wall a wire-front pie safe sits above a rebuilt Halifax sideboard.

Authentic looking reproduction tin lights from New England mix with hidden halogen spotlights and antique lights acquired over the years from auctions, junk shops and dealers. Many of the nicest things in our house were purchased years before. For quite

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The Mare's Tail in its present incarnation.

Reconstructed Heritage: Part 1, Ship Hector Replica Reconstruction Project 1989-2001

by G. Vernon Shea

On the shores of Pictou Harbour in the Province of Nova Scotia, ship builders have been painstakingly constructing a full size representation of an 18th century sailing vessel called Hector. To understand fully the reasons behind this project, we must briefly revisit history.

The ship *Hector* was a Dutch "Boot Schip" originally built in the Netherlands in the mid 18th century. She was rigged as a three masted ship of 200 tons burthen. She had an overall length of 110 feet, a breadth of 22 feet and a depth inside the cargo hold of 11 feet 6 inches. Although unremarkable for a ship of its day, and well past its prime, the *Hector* assumed considerable significance in the history of Scottish immigration to Nova Scotia and eastern North America.

Under the command of John Spiers, the *Hector* left Loch Broom, Ross-shire, Scotland in July of 1773, bound for Pictou, Nova Scotia, with a cargo of 189 passengers. After a very difficult voyage where smallpox and dysentery took their toll on the infants and children onboard, she dropped anchor in a sheltered harbour opposite what is now the Town of Pictou on September 15, 1773, landing over 180 Scottish Highlanders to take up the formidable challenge of carving a home out of this wilderness.

The arrival of the *Hector* passengers marked the beginning of a massive wave of Scottish immigrants to arrive in Canada. In the century following *Hector's* landing, and solely on the word of her passengers, more than 120 ships brought nearly 20,000 people from Scotland to the Port of Pictou, establishing this town as the "Birthplace of New Scotland". Today, the ship *Hector* is the focal point of the ongoing effort to revitalize the waterfront in Pictou, Nova Scotia. The ship, presently

being outfitted at the Hector Heritage Quay (pronounced "key"), will serve as a living tribute to the vessel which brought the first Scottish settlers to Nova Scotia and mark her significant place in our history.

The idea of constructing a replica of the ship *Hector* had been a dream for many people for a very long time. Re-enactments of the landing of the settlers have taken place many times since the original landing in 1773. Since the 150th anniversary in 1923, a variety of vessels had been used to portray the *Hector* and the idea of building a vessel had been the topic of conversation for many years. In the late 1970s Town Council looked very seriously at comprehensive downtown and waterfront development plans. One of the driving forces behind this revitalization was Mr. Jim deCoste whose determination and dedication led to the building of the deCoste Entertainment Centre,

the initial centrepiece of Pictou's cultural and economic development. It was strongly suggested that a replica of the *Hector* was feasible, especially after the success of the *H.M.S. Bounty*, *Bluenose II* and *H.M.S. Rose* that had been constructed in Lunenburg, NS. The ship *Hector* construction project was revisited in the late 1980s, when the need for a comprehensive Tourism Development Plan was identified for northeastern Nova Scotia. A tourism sub-committee was established and on the recommendation of the DPA Group Inc. and Sperry / MacLennan Consultants, Pictou proceeded to build on the strength of the deCoste Centre, improving access to the waterfront, constructing a pier, a marina and the Hector Heritage Quay, with the construction of the ship as the main focal point. The Pictou Waterfront Development

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Activities of the Northwest Arm Heritage Association reflect community-based concerns *by Graham Read*

The Beginnings

Many people living near, or with an interest in, Halifax's Northwest Arm felt that there was inadequate consideration by governments and their agencies for the importance of the Arm and the attachment that many people had for it. Some of these concerns were environmental issues, some dealt with activities on and in the water, and some dealt with developments on adjacent lands. Just as there were citizen groups or official organizations to speak out for other park-like areas such as the Point Pleasant Park Commission, the Friends of the Public Gardens, and the Dartmouth Lakes and Advisory Board, the Arm needed its own defender.

Thus, in 1985 the Northwest Arm Heritage Association was formed as a community-based group. It consists of individuals concerned about the preservation and enhancement of the Northwest Arm as a unique, valuable asset, benefiting the citizens of Halifax and surrounding areas. The Association's members want to see the Northwest Arm and adjacent land maintained as a major recreational, aesthetic and natural sanctuary within a sizeable urban area.

Trial by fire - naive do-gooders vs. developers, politicians and lawyers

The impetus, or catalyst which spurred the founders into actually forming the association was a proposed development on the Edmond's Grounds (now known as Regatta Point), a 30-acre tract of land on the mainland side of the Arm near the Armdale Rotary. The proposed development would have three times the population density of previously proposed developments for the site. It would fill in over an acre of the Arm. Townhouses would line most of the shore and, along with



Northwest Arm, 1946 . View of Horseshoe Island/Public Baths from the Edmond's Grounds (now called Regatta Point). The long-low building for the change rooms can be seen in the left background and the large swimming float just off the beach is barely discernable. The sailboats are the Snipe class starting an Armdale Yacht Club race; at that time, the yacht club operated from the Edmond's Grounds. Photograph by Reginald A. Read.

the proposed "boardwalk", would forever alter the natural shoreline and destroy the intertidal zone. Two ponds and a wetland would be filled in, and the stream through the property would be hidden in a culvert.

Sadly, City Council accepted the proposal. Then began several months of intense activity. There were public meetings, discussions with the developers, formation of the Association, incorporation under the Societies Act, an appeal to the Municipal Board, pressure from the developers including a lawsuit (unsuccessful), hearing of the appeal. Finally, a decision from the Board denying our appeal on the grounds that we did not qualify as an appellant.

Silver linings

Although losing the appeal was a significant blow, there was some useful fallout. A letter-writing effort and lobbying by the Association and others convinced the government and staff at the Department of Municipal Affairs that the Municipal Board inter-

preted the Planning Act more narrowly than had been intended. Consequently, government amended the Act to specifically include incorporated and unincorporated community groups. Too late for the Arm and the Edmond's Grounds, but a valuable change for the future for other groups of citizens.

Although a particular planning dispute sparked formation of the Association, its founders felt that the Association should have a broader role than just fighting developers and politicians. One important activity was to ensure that we had input into the City's urban planning process to help reduce the likelihood of future development battles. Likewise, we wanted to establish and maintain contact with other government agencies that controlled activities on and around the Arm. We also implemented a policy of inviting guest speakers to our meetings. We shared our experiences and knowledge with other

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some time we had stuff stored in our basement, in my uncle's barn in Port Royal, in friends' garages or left at antique dealers until we had somewhere to put them.

The baths have old tin and clawfoot tubs, an antique marble counter with a porcelain sink on the remains of an old table, a new porcelain sink designed and painted with images of our apples by a good friend, and period-style faucets from Boston.

We found eight thousand used bricks in Halifax. They were used for the rebuilt fireplaces and chimneys and for outside pathways and patios. Some old brick will deteriorate quickly when exposed to the freeze-thaw cycles of our typical winters, but over the last five years we have only had to replace 150 of the several thousand we laid outside. This small amount of maintenance is not much to pay for the wonderful look of herringbone pathways in the back garden.

Behind the house we wanted to have a courtyard to provide space for a civilized garden away from the naturalness of the surrounding fields and orchards. Two outbuildings for Marni's chicken house/garden shed and my workshop complete a U shape that is combined with picket fences and the formal layout of the brick pathways to make an "English Cottage" garden.

Unfortunately, some of our spruce trees had bark beetle. Although the beetle will eventually kill all of the spruce, we did not want to lose the shelter from the north wind, so we removed only the farthest gone. Using a horse logger minimized the damage to the rest of the woods, and a mobile saw mill provided all the timbers and boards for the workshop, hen house/garden shed, woodshed and a small octagonal building over the old stone well. We also ended up with cords of firewood for the wood stove and fireplace.

There is still lots more to do,

with a barn at the top of Marni's list, as well as a shed to store my boats, fencing, a pond in the hollow, the restoration of the schoolhouse, a ??? There were times during the restoration when we wondered what we were doing spending all this time and money on such an old structure. But the end result reaffirmed what we knew in our hearts. Absolutely nothing can replace the soul and character of an old building.

Mark Stewart, an accountant with Lyle Tilley Davidson in Bridgewater, NS, has had a long involvement in the built heritage of Nova Scotia. He is Past Treasurer of the Heritage Trust and is currently serving as Vice-President, Finance. ☒

Hector: *Continued from Page 3*

Corporation was established by the Town Council to facilitate funding, management of the capital improvements, and the day-to-day-operation of the attraction. A five year strategy was developed and work began on various components in 1989. The timing was right, and Mayor Currie and his council seized the opportunity to make the dream a reality. J.B. McGuire Marine Associates Ltd. of Pictou were contracted to conduct research and develop the required engineering data and drawings for the ship's construction, and assumed the role of Project Manager which continued until 1996. As with any project, decisions had to be made as to what the vessel's intended purpose would be. This would in turn dictate the construction methods, materials used, and regulatory agencies that would be involved. After much discussion it was agreed upon to construct the vessel as a fully operational sailing vessel in compliance with Canadian Coast Guard and Lloyds of London requirements. Now came the task of determining the type of vessel that the original *Hector* would have been. Extensive research went into this endeavour, with archives and museums

being contacted on both sides of the Atlantic. A trip to Holland proved to be the most fruitful; armed with historical fact and Pictou County folklore, researchers found a class of vessel that in all probability could have been the *Hector*. She was chosen from a possible five types of cargo ship built in Holland at this time, as best matching passengers' descriptions and an original advertisement found in the *Edinburgh Advertiser* for 1773. Initial construction drawings were completed, material procured, and the keel was laid in August of 1990. The firm of Scotia Trawlers Equipment Limited was contracted to provide the main structural components of the vessel which included the keel, stem post, stern post, frames, and deck beams. As all parties concerned wanted the vessel to be part of Pictou's waterfront for a very long time, only the very best materials were used. American White Oak was procured from Virginia and the Carolinas to be used for all of the structural members on the ship. This oak is much more resistant to rot than our local grey or "pissy oak". The decision was made as well to use galvanized fastenings rather than traditional iron or wood, again to ensure longevity. As we did not have an endless supply of skilled cheap labour as was the case in 1773, we decided to use modern power tools where applicable, but a considerable amount of the work was to be completed using the same methods as had been used for hundreds of years.

At season's end in 1990 the skyline at the Quay included the stem and stern posts of the *Hector* along with five midship frames. These were prefabricated in Lunenburg, transported to Pictou and erected on site by Quay tradesmen. Nearly three months after the initial keel section was laid, this phase was completed. As these components of the ship were very large it took a considerable amount of time to locate suit-

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Shelburne's built heritage *by Al Keith*

I think it was Mae West who said, "If you've got it, flaunt it." We, in the town of Shelburne, have "got it", but we don't "flaunt it". Not yet.

What do we have that no other community, large or small, in Canada has? We have the largest number of pre-1800 wooden buildings in Canada—more than three times as many as any other city or town in Canada. St. Andrews-by-the-Sea in New Brunswick, which is designated a National Heritage District by Parks Canada, is probably in second place with seven. Research has shown there may be more than 28 in Shelburne, all built before 1788. Of these, the tiny (about 300 metres by 100 metres) Historic District alone has 17, including 8 on Dock Street.

The next time you drive or walk by the corner of Water and



Dock St. on the waterfront: Shelburne County Museum (circa 1785) on left (reproduction addition in foreground), Dory Shop Museum (circa 1880) on right, Cox Warehouse (circa 1900) in background, with steeple.

George streets, think about the fact that all four corner buildings were there in 1788. I doubt if any other corner in North America could claim to have four 18th-century wooden buildings still standing.

Other interesting facts about

the Historic District are:

- Of the 98 residential properties, only one is less than 100 years old.
- The street grids are exactly as laid out by surveyors in 1783. That is, the streets which are continuations of the town grid above Water Street are 60 feet wide and the lanes (there are two lanes between each street) are exactly 30 feet wide.
- Charlotte Lane is the only lane that retains some of the characteristics of the original town in its density of buildings and their lack of setback from the lane boundaries. You could take a tape measure and discover it is exactly 30 feet between the foundations of the Coyle House and the Guyon House, two of the oldest homes on the Dock Street corner. If you sight up Charlotte Lane from Dock Street, using the Coyle House as your guide, you will see the original street line.
- The street and lane grid in the Historic District differs from the upper part of town as this area was designated to service the commercial trade of the harbour. Today deeds still refer to warehouse or water lots.
- Many of the Dock Street properties retain pre-Confederation water rights, a scarcity in Canada."
- Looking down the lanes from

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History for Sale

In this issue, The Griffin introduces a new column featuring interesting heritage properties for sale in Nova Scotia. We had lots to choose from – everything from a \$17,000 century-old schoolhouse in Queen's County to a \$139,000 granite Post

Office in Shelburne to a \$500,000 Bed and Breakfast in Pictou. If you're interested in finding out what else is on the market, go to www.mls.ca and choose Nova Scotia. The listings often specify the age or historic significance of the building. V.G. ☒



Near Roseway Beach in Shelburne County, this beautifully restored three-bedroom Victorian house was built in 1850. The property includes 110 acres of mature forest and 200 feet of frontage on Roseway Harbour. Wolfgang Schrickler, Sales Person Telephone:(902)875-2074; Email: wolfgang@novascotiahomesandland.com

able and sound trees. Only when they were cut down and the milling process started could it be ascertained if the timber would be suitable. A substantial number of trees were cut until enough usable material was obtained.

Work commenced in the spring of 1991 with the arrival of the remaining frames from Scotia Trawlers, along with a gang of experienced shipwrights from that company and Quay tradesmen and apprentices, who assembled these components and raised them into position using the traditional method of blocks and tackles. In addition, bow timbers were installed and templates made for the aft end. All of the structural components were treated with white lead and preservatives both during fabrication and after erection. This procedure was repeated every spring and fall until completion of the hull and deck planks.

1992 saw the installation of the pieces that tied the whole ship together. The frames were dubbed using adzes in order to achieve a fair line to accept the sheer clamp, foot wales and deck beam ledges. The keelson was fitted to the floors and through bolted to the keel, effectively clamping everything together. Deadwood aft was installed to support the sternpost, and breasthooks were fitted to tie the sheer clamps and foot wales to the bow timbers.

During the period from 1990 to 1992 many other changes were taking place on the waterfront. A new marina was established utilizing a refurbished abandoned wharf, a blacksmith shop and carpenter shop were relocated to the quay and a gift shop was constructed. One of the major accomplishments was the construction of a three-storey interpretation centre to complement the ship *Hector*. Within its walls it tells the story of the *Hector* people, the crossing and some of the ship-building techniques of the day. In addition, new streets, sidewalks,

Note on this series

The Hector reconstruction is part of our series on reconstructing built heritage, with a rather different twist as it deals with a ship rather than a building. We asked Mr Shea to describe how the building of a replica of the Hector came about and how it was achieved.

Vernon Shea was a founding member of the Pictou Waterfront Development Corporation. In 1997, he was retained by the Town of Pictou as Manager of Waterfront Operations, which included Project Management of the Ship Hector. In 1999 his duties expanded to include the design and construction drawings for the remaining components of the ship, the launchways & quay as well as coordinating and supervising the on-site employees and sub-contractors. This contract is now completed. For further information, contact Mr. Shea at 902 759-6979. ☒

lighting and greening were established to bring the waterfront back to life. This was achieved by the Waterfront Development Corporation, the driving force being its General Manager, Graham Holman, with the financial support of the Town of Pictou, the Nova Scotia Provincial Government and the Government of Canada.

During the early months of 1993 it was decided to construct the ship's longboat to be used in the re-enactment of the landing of the settlers during Pictou's annual Hector Festival. Again the firm of J.B. McGuire Marine Associates Ltd. was called upon to design, loft and provide templates in order to begin construction. Mr. Ralph Anderson, Master Shipwright from Lunenburg, assisted with the construction and the boat was ready for the 1993 celebration. In conjunction with this, the deck beams were fitted to the ship along with carlings, ledges and filler pieces. The inner planking, called the ceiling, was installed using local spruce plank.

This work gave the crew an excellent opportunity to develop some of the skills and techniques needed in order to plank the vessel. Again all new and exposed timbers were treated and the vessel winterized in the fall.

To the casual observer, not much changed in the outward appearance of the vessel during the 1994 season, although a considerable amount of work was in fact completed. Preparations were made for the installation of planking on the hull, and for the decking. Hanging knees were installed as far as possible under the main deck, but there was a shortage of suitably sized grown knees. Deck beams were put in place, and work was also done on the rudder and stern post. The main mast for the vessel was constructed in Lunenburg and shipped to Pictou in order to give the public an idea of how large the masts were going to be. This piece of Douglas Fir from British Columbia was originally ordered as a spare main mast for *Bluenose II*. As purchased and before work commenced, it was over 120 feet long and 2 feet in diameter, a truly very big stick!

In the 1995 operating season, as in 1994, very few outward changes occurred to the vessel. Filling chocks, fashion pieces and counter timbers were fitted aft in way of the transom. Deck planking got underway using native Nova Scotia pine. Work continued on installing the hanging knees as more had been located during the winter. Knightheads, pawl bits and the anchor riding bits were installed forward. These are massive timbers of Nova Scotia grey oak and are subject to very large stresses. The placement of the outer wales began, and various techniques were attempted to try to bend these planks around the stem and stern. None was very successful, due to the age of the wood being used, and they had eventually to be replaced in 1999. This year also marked the first year that the funding started

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Celebrating Truro's Architecture

by Janice R. Zann

In the summer of 2003 Truro's Heritage Advisory Committee launched its stunning new poster designed by Arthur Carter and highlighting some of Truro's architectural gems, particularly the old Normal College which will, it is hoped, in time and with financial support, be restored and adapted for a new purpose. It is surprising the interest shown in the building from unexpected sources. The famous Margaret Atwood, for example, en route to the 'Read By the Sea' event held in River John, stopped in Truro to photograph the staircase in the old Normal College down which her mother loved to slide when a student there in 1923. At the reading, Ms. Atwood told this story and expressed her disappointment for, alas, it was no longer there. "Who was the moron who removed it?" she exclaimed!

The posters would make a nostalgic gift for former students, and are on sale at Macquarries Pharmasave on the Esplanade, Truro, and at the Colchester County Historical Museum at 29



Members of the Truro Heritage Advisory Committee George Casson, Charlotte MacQuarrie, chair, Penny Lighthall, museum curator.

Young St., Truro, where they are available for \$10, with an addi-

tional postage cost of \$6. Museum Phone Number: 902-895-9530

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community groups with similar concerns and battles.

Other battles

Three further planning issues stand out.

One was the redevelopment of the old Northwest Arm Rowing Club, by then the Police Club property. We tried to convince the City to acquire the property for use for public recreation and access, something that was in short supply on the peninsula side of the Arm. We did not achieve that goal but, working with the neighbours, we managed to convince the City to reject the proposed townhouses in favour of a more benign development of only five single-family homes.

After the loss of the Northwest Arm Rowing Club property for

public use, we argued even more forcefully that the City should rebuild and acquire ownership of the St. Mary's Boat Club as it was the last opportunity to ensure that there would be a public boating and water facility on the peninsula side of the Arm. This the City did, and we now have a very active public facility within walking distance of schools, universities and residential areas, hosting sailing, canoeing, kayaking and rowing programs as well as lawn bowling, a playground, receptions and meetings.

In recent years, the threat of a condominium development on Deadman's Island again galvanized lovers of the Arm. After a lot of hard lobbying, some key historical research by a few Association members and a single sympathetic Councillor, we were

able to convince Halifax Regional Council to purchase Deadman's Island and a small hemlock ravine nearby and to reduce the intensity of development on the adjacent property on the mainland.

Ongoing influences

Our program of guest speakers has proved very popular. We have had some very interesting and informative speakers. Although most topics had a close connection to the Arm, others were more general and discussed such things as geology, oceanography, sewage treatment, a zoo, and high-tech underwater mapping. These lectures have served to heighten sensitivity of the public, politicians and media about issues related to the Arm.

Ongoing efforts by the

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Heritage Canada Foundation Annual Conference: Heritage Preservation Works

by Jan Zann

Winnipeg, located in the heart of the nation, was the ideal setting for the 2003 Annual Heritage Canada Foundation (HCF) Conference, celebrating the Foundation's 30th Anniversary, September 20-21, 2003. Stunning examples of the adaptive re-use of turn-of-the-century buildings in a 20-block area have revitalized the city, making it an interesting and desirable tourism destination and providing positive proof that heritage preservation works, the title chosen for this year's Conference. And this city, with its history of struggle for the rights of workers, was an appropriate choice for a conference concentrating largely on human resources in the heritage conservation field. These human resources, referred to by Brian Anthony, Executive Director of HCF, as the "invisible army", are those skilled tradespeople responsible for the building of Canada's architectural gems and



Brenda Shannon, NS Governor, HCF, with Brian Anthony, Executive Director, HCF, in foyer of the Fort Garry Hotel, Winnipeg.

the large numbers of volunteers across the country who devote their time and energy to protecting those gems.

The conference venue, the historic Fort Garry Hotel, is just one of the success stories for heritage preservationists. Saved many times from the wrecker's ball, this

Grand Old Dame celebrated her 90th birthday on December 11. With investment of well over \$25 million in renovations since 1987, she is now restored to her former glory. The French Chateau-style fortress is richly decorated with bronze and copper fittings, oak

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Hector: *Continued from Page 8*

showing signs of drying up.

1996 was to be the last year that the Pictou Waterfront Development Corporation would be the managing body, as well as the last year that J.B. McGuire Marine Associates headed up the Project Management for the ship's construction. Work continued throughout the summer, although on a limited basis. The wales were completed fore and aft with full knowledge that they would have to be replaced in the future as there were just no funds to purchase suitable wood to complete the task properly. The main deck planking was completed and caulking started. The season was probably the shortest to date, and at its close a very uncertain future lay in store for the *Hector*.

The story of the reconstruction of the Hector will be concluded in the next issue of the Griffin. ☒

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President's Message 'We need your help'

by Alan Parish

The Heritage Trust of Nova Scotia is more than just a lobby group to preserve our heritage buildings in Nova Scotia. Although being actively involved in negotiating with the province and the various municipalities regarding heritage buildings, the Trust's current activities include publication of *The Griffin* four times a year, the maintenance of both an office and a website, the operation of a heritage property outside Windsor (Richmond Hill Farm), the publication of pamphlets (including ones on walking tours and fire protection for heritage buildings), assistance with various levels of government in reviewing their legislation, efforts to encourage registration of more heritage properties, and other *ad*

hoc projects.

We are a volunteer organization. We have no paid staff. These activities require time and money. We need help from all of our members. Enclosed with this issue of *The Griffin* is your membership renewal form. You will see that it has changed from previous years. If you have the time, the interest and inclination to help us in any of our activities, please let us know on the new form. You can assist us many ways, from committee work to the donation of funds (for which we will be happy to provide you with recognition and a tax receipt). Contributions in both time and money are needed and will be much appreciated. There is a lot to be done! ☒

The Griffin - HERITAGE TRUST OF NOVA SCOTIA

panelling, rich plush velvet upholstery and drapes, and is lit by magnificent crystal chandeliers.

The opening day of the conference began with a walking tour of the Exchange District, named for the Grain and Produce Exchange founded in 1877 and the original centre of culture and commerce. Goods arriving from the east were exchanged for agricultural products, mainly wheat from the west, requiring large warehouses for storage. With the arrival of the Canadian Pacific Railway in 1881 and the influx of settlers from Europe and Eastern Canada, Winnipeg became the third largest city in Canada by 1912. It heralded a four-decade economic boom that saw the construction of office buildings for a wide variety of commercial enterprises, hotels, theatres, and warehouses covering a 30-block area.

The Panama Canal opened in 1913, creating a new route for shipping goods from Canada's east to west coast. Then, with the onset of WWI, a decrease in immigration, and a drop in wheat prices, decline set in, and one by one banks, offices and businesses closed. Through the combined efforts of far-sighted, dedicated citizens, heritage groups, politicians, business leaders, and local government officials creative partnerships were established in the seventies; the district has undergone a major revitalization in the past 25 years. In 1997, it was declared a National Historic Site.

Close to one hundred century-old buildings in the district are receiving a new lease on life: there are condominiums, loft apartments, a cabaret, a year-round performing arts program, an arts centre with studio space for a hugely diverse group of visual artists, and an increase in restaurants, boutiques and antique shops.

The opening reception was held in the former Bank of Commerce building, now the Millennium Centre, in the process

of being restored to its former glory. Both Brian Anthony and Jim Bezanson, Chair of the HCF, paid tribute to the outstanding work of the tradespeople who carried out the exquisite restoration plaster and paint work of the interior. The serious lack both of skilled tradespeople and of education and training programs formed the rationale behind the Foundation's new research study, 'Human Resource Issues in the Preservation of Heritage Buildings'.

The Keynote Speaker, from the Department of Human Resources Canada, discussed the vital need for skill development learning, to which end the federal government is providing \$12 million for apprenticeship training.

The first session on the Friday morning, 'Who Does What in Heritage Preservation?', was presented by Robert Shipley, Ph.D, Assistant Professor in the School of Planning from the University of Waterloo. Dr. Shipley focused on the importance of renovation given the rate at which we are losing our built heritage – 20% of all pre-1914 buildings in the past 30 years. One-half of all construction today is renovation work, now a huge business worth \$27 billion annually. The problems are the shortage of local skilled carpenters, bricklayers and stone masons, the lack of knowledgeable building contractors, and banking institutions which need to be educated regarding the value of lending money for renovation and adaptive re-use.

The second session, 'Focus on Education and Training', consisted of a panel of three educators who outlined the interesting and innovative college and university courses available in Architectural Planning, Restoration of Heritage Fabric and Heritage Planning. Robert Shipley, spoke of the need for towns to employ municipal heritage planners and for universities to offer more in the way of programs to prepare students for these careers; Jean Claude Marsan, Professor at the School of

Architecture and Faculty of Environmental Design, explained requirements for a Masters program in architectural planning that incorporates the practice with theory; and David Osborne, Coordinator of the Heritage Trades Program at Algonquin College Heritage Institute, Perth, Ontario, described their programs covering skills such as heritage carpentry, masonry, stone carving and bricklaying.

In the third session, 'Historic Places Program: Human Resources for a New Era', Dr. Christina Cameron, Director-General, National Historic Parks and Sites, spoke of the expected impact of the federal government's new program which will see \$30 million disbursed over three years to corporate or private ownership of income-generating commercial enterprises operating out of heritage buildings. These grants, she believes, will be the economic driver to encourage investment in older buildings.

'Industry Speaks', the fourth session, was presented by Timothy Flood, President of John Flood and Sons, and Business Co-Chair, Construction Sector Council, Saint John, New Brunswick, and George Gritziotis, Executive Director, Construction Sector Council. With 940,000 people employed in the construction industry and the rapid changes in technology, constant re-training programs are necessary.

Saturday began with the HCF Annual General Meeting, followed by an address by Paul Boniface from the UK, Director of Human Resources and Legal Services for the National Trust. Their funding for heritage comes from government via a National Lottery Fund. Over 200 houses, 600 miles of coastline, 49 industrial sites, tin mines in Cornwall, and a mill in Yorkshire all come under the jurisdiction of the Trust. They employ 4,500 staff, 4000 seasonal workers, have 40,000 volunteers, and a membership of 3.2 million!

With three workshops

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available for the last session, I chose 'Heritage Planning' with Giles Bugailiskis, Senior Heritage Planner for Winnipeg, and Steve Barber, Heritage Planner for the City of Winnipeg. These heritage planners have an important role to play in the rejuvenation of cities and towns, and the driving force for heritage preservation in both Winnipeg and Victoria has been financial incentives. Victoria has an excellent variety of heritage home grant programs, commercial building restoration incentive programs, tax credits and exemption grants to encourage developers to go the restoration route rather than demolish.

Winnipeg has introduced a bylaw providing regulatory reinforcement allowing the city to designate historic properties as well as creating programs for development agreements and a variety of conservation tax credits.

Hats off to these enterprising western cities which prove to the nation that heritage preservation really does work! ☒

Shelburne: Continued from Page 7

Water Street there is an unobstructed view of the harbour. This dates back to the original plan of the town in which all lanes ended at the water.

• A walk through the Historic District can be a walk through architectural history from 1789. As opposed to many historic areas which contain similar styles, our Historic District is composed of many styles, from the simple vertical log salt box (Shakespeare House) to the ornate Victorian Italianates of John Street. Styles include 7 Gothic revival; 16 Greek revival; 3 Second Empire; 8 New England Colonial; 2 Modified Gothic; 4 Victorian Italianate; 1 Cape Cod; 5 Vernacular; 2 Queen Anne; 1 Colonial Revival; 4 Georgian; 1 Scottish Vernacular; 1 Romanesque Revival. The granite



Shakespeare House. Provincially designated property, built by Stephen Shakespeare, a Loyalist who was a merchant and mill owner. He eventually, like many others, returned to the United States. The beaded ship-lap clapboard on the front is original to 1773, the original granite kitchen fireplace is still functional, and it is one of the four original homes on the corner of George and Water Streets.

corner markers, probably placed to prevent damage to homes from carts, are prominent throughout the District as well as in other areas of town.

- The well in the centre of Anne Street is a reminder of the neighbourhood wells our early settlers shared.
- Raymond Rhuland's Barrel Factory is the last remaining privately operated traditional cooorage in Atlantic Canada and perhaps the only one surviving in the nation. Many museums, including the Museum of Man in Hull, Fortress Louisbourg, Halifax's Citadel and other Parks Canada museums and displays across Canada turn to Raymond when they need authentic reproductions. It is probably the biggest tourist attraction in town. Barrels were the container of the 1700s in the shipping industry, as everything from rum to china was shipped in them.
- The museum complex is composed of three 1784 buildings (Coyle House, Ross Thomson House and the Naim House) and an 18-century dory shop. The history of Shelburne from the first settlers to the rich slip and dory building days of the nineteenth century are tied together here.

- The Cox Shipyard and the Cox Store/Warehouse are anchor properties in the District as their size and impressive bearings jump out at the visitor. Not surprisingly, they were identified as the top priorities for development at well-attended workshops hosted by the Waterfront Development Committee.

In short, the town in general, and the Historic District in particular, is the most significant community in Canada for built wooden heritage and its development must be sensitive to this fact. Shelburne is almost the prototypical town, described David Foot, the economic demographer, in his best-selling book, *Boom, Bust & Echo*. The book is a must read for any social and economic planner. An official of the renowned Colonial period village in Williamsburg, Virginia, visiting Shelburne was quoted as saying, "The biggest difference between Williamsburg and Shelburne is that your historic buildings are real." We must use our unique built heritage as a vehicle to promote the town of Shelburne to the world, thereby attracting new residents, new businesses and new industries.

We've got it! Let's flaunt it! ☒

Arm: continued from Page 9

Association include getting municipal, provincial and federal governments to reduce the amount of infilling of the Arm, particularly on so-called water-lots, and the preservation of existing and creation of new rights-of-way for an Arm walkway.

Unexpectedly, the Association has also served as a training ground for politicians. Our board of directors has produced two municipal councillors, a school board member and a member of the Legislature.

Something unique

Why has the Northwest Arm inspired such fervent protective instincts by nearby residents and by so many visitors? Standing at the Rotary at the head of the Arm and looking seaward to the southeast, one sees a narrow, three-mile long, tree-lined inlet. Only exploration from the water reveals significant residential areas discreetly hidden behind those trees.

Consequently, we have one of the valuable features of the Arm. In the midst of a major urban area we can observe wildlife normally only seen in rural areas. The Arm is home to osprey, great blue heron, mink and otter, and is frequented by bald eagles, seals, porpoises and whales.

It is a matter of pride that, at the height of rush hour traffic at the Armdale Rotary, we can point out to visitors joys of nature such as osprey circling overhead, diving, then heading back to their nest with large fish, hotly pursued by opportunistic crows or gulls; a long-legged heron searching the shallows for dinner; a mink swimming near shore; a family of otters playing in a moored dinghy. ☒

New books for Christmas

Along the Cole Harbour Road. Harry Chapman. Published by Cole Harbour Rural Heritage Society, 350 pages, 125 photos. Paperback, \$24.95; hardcover, \$34.95

The Artists' Halifax: Portraits of the Town and Harbour through 250 years (selected from the collection of the Art Gallery of Nova Scotia). Mora Dianne O'Neill. Formac, 128 pages, 120 illustrations. Paperback, \$35.00

Frigates and Foremasts: The North American Squadron in Nova Scotia Waters, 1745-1815. Julian Gwyn. University of British Columbia Press. Hardcover, \$75.00 (prepublication price \$45.00 to January 15)

Georges Island: The Keep of Halifax Harbour. Dianne Marshall. Nimbus, 196 pages, col./b&w illustrations and photos. Paperback, \$29.95

Halifax's Northwest Arm: An Illustrated History. Heather Watts and Michèle Raymond. Formac, 72 pages, 100+ col. illustrations. Hardcover, \$29.95

Heritage Houses of Nova Scotia. Stephen Archibald and Sheila Stevenson. Formac, 128 pages, 120+ col. photos. Paperback, \$35.00

Inspired Halifax. The Art of Dusan Kadlec. Historic paintings of Halifax, with text by Cynthia Mahoney. Nimbus, 96 pages, 90 col. illustrations. Hardcover, \$40.00

Lighthouses and Lights of Nova Scotia. E.H. Rip Irwin. Nimbus, 184 pages, 160 col. photos. Paperback, \$29.95



The Little Dutch Village. Don and Devonna Edwards. Nimbus. Paperback, \$19.95; and in the same series from Nimbus: *Historic Wolfville*, Tom Shepherd; *Historic Sydney*, Rannie Gillis; *Historic Kentville*, Louis Comeau.

Merchant Princes. Halifax's First Family of Finance, Ships and Steel (the Stairs family). James D. Frost. Lorimer, 376 pages. Hardcover, \$40.00

Miracle on Brunswick Street. The story of St. George's Round Church and the Little Dutch Church. Elizabeth Pacey. Nimbus, 196 pages, b&w illustrations, photos. Paperback, \$29.95

Nova Scotia. One of a series of Canadian sites. Whitecap Books, Ltd., Vancouver, 95 pages, col. illustrations. Hardcover, \$17.95

Nova Scotia Waldeckers. German mercenaries who fought in the American Revolutionary War and settled in Nova Scotia in 1783. Millard Wright. Paperback, \$14.95

A Passion for Survival: The True Story of Marie Anne and Louis Payzant in 18th-century Nova Scotia. Linda Layton. Nimbus, 156 pages, 50 b&w illustrations, photos. Paperback, \$18.95.

Postcards from Acadie. Grand Pré, Evangeline and the Acadian Identity. Barbara LeBlanc. Gaspereau Press. Paperback (sewn), \$31.95. N. O'B. ☒

Volunteers needed for the Trust Office!

The Heritage Trust needs volunteers for the office. Two hours a day, four hours a day, one or two days a week – whatever you can spare to help us run our office. We are located in the historic Church of England Institute building which dates to 1888 (now called the Khyber Building). Please contact Janet Morris at the Trust office, 423-4807 ☒

Heritage property owners obtain useful information

The annual meeting of the Provincial Heritage Property Owners' Association was held in Halifax on November 1st and was well worth attending for all owners of heritage buildings. Owners of provincially registered properties comprise the membership; about a third of the membership of PHPOANS (pronounced "fo-pans") are owners of homes, the rest of institutional or commercial properties. After the association's AGM, the event was open to outsiders keen to attend a variety of presentations. All presentations were followed by lively discussions.

A spokesman for the new Federal Heritage Registry, which is part of the Historic Places Initiative, addressed the meeting – his first formal presentation to a group of heritage property stakeholders, he said. The focus of this "Initiative" is building a culture of heritage preservation in Canada.

Eligible for listing in the new Registry of Historic Places are structures, buildings, districts, landscapes, sacred sites, canoe routes, parks, markets and designated archaeological sites. Their historic value can include achievements in design, technology, stage of development, association with events or persons, or illustrating cultural traditions or a way of life. The national Register will include existing registries of federal, provincial and territorial historic places, ensuring documentation and that standards are being met – 15,000 historic places are thus currently eligible for listing (in 2004, visit historicplaces.ca). It turns out that no Canadian standards currently exist, but this will come, probably from Parks Canada. (See the draft version of the Standards and Guidelines at www.parkscanada.gc.ca/cehc-chpc). Meanwhile the web is the primary vehicle for connecting, and the Parks Canada website the place to go.

A further "conservation tool",

still being designed, is an incentive fund program for commercial heritage properties. This will include a Certification Program, administered by agents who will certify that the proposed Standards are being met. Eligibility requires being listed in the forthcoming Register and being a taxable Canadian corporation.

In Budget Plan 2003, the government committed \$10 million a year over three years to this promotion of private sector preservation of historic places, including Certification Agents to be located across Canada.

The second spokesperson for federal programs, Energuide for Houses, also of great interest to this group, explained the Houses Retrofit Initiative. This is a newly offered grant program for home owners, and its sole purpose is energy efficiency. To apply you need a "delivery agent" to do the Energuide service on your home, to be known as the pre-retrofit EGH evaluation, at a cost of \$150 + HST. This results in a rating, necessary for the grant application, which is done on your behalf by the delivery agent. The amount awarded, one per house, to a maximum of \$3,348, depends on the difference between the pre- and post-retrofit EGH evaluation. You need a copy of the leaflet "Eligibility Criteria for Grants Under the Energuide for Houses Retrofit Initiative", from Natural Resources Canada, where you can also find an agent: call 1-800-387-2000, or use the website energuideforhouses.gc.ca/agent. An agent in Wolfville, who addressed the PHPOANS meeting, is at 1-877-722-2842, or www.sheconsultants.ca.

One practical thing we learned is that foundations are the biggest culprit in heat loss, not windows and doors as we might have thought. A very tight house is not necessarily a heat-efficient house.

There was a warm welcome for Kevin Barrett, formerly Heritage Planner for the HRM, now the Manager of the Heritage Property Program for the province, succeeding Wayde Brown. Kevin's job is to administer the program which includes the maintenance of the N.S. Museum properties, of which there are over 200, some not provincially registered, and to be a facilitator for heritage. To this end he promised to be very accessible, including many visits to sites. He says he is in "learning mode" and invites requests and suggestions. His phone number is 424-9396.

This year's incentive program allows him \$50,000 to give out to both provincially and municipally registered properties. It is mostly allotted and is not enough. His office received 36 applications for conservation work and advice, some of which remain on a waiting list. His office provides HST rebates, both provincial and municipal, and has 17 applications; commercial and revenue-generating properties are ineligible. Barrett will be reviewing the ways to do incentive programs.

Of the 256 provincially registered properties, two were recently added. The first is the Cape Forchu Light Station in Yarmouth County, a site in use since 1869. The original lighthouse was demolished in 1961. The new concrete structure is a prototype for all the new ones coming. The second is the King Seaman church dating from 1863, built by Amos "King" Seaman, and is part of a streetscape in Minudie, Cumberland County (see *The Griffin*, March 2002).

Hal Forbes, of Halifax, talked about "historic paint". Colour seems to be the least documented element of house building, attuned as it was to fashion, style and wealth. There are documented recipes, using ox-blood, ochres,

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Owners: Continued from Page14

etc. He noted that some "historic" colours we would not find pleasant. He also warned against "romancing" the past: boiled linseed oil on shingles was once a colour! Forbes recommends using three colours on house exteriors, one each for the shingles, the trim, and the doors and windows.

PHPOANS: President - Lester Wood, Margaree Forks; Secretary - Linda Forbes, Dartmouth (469-3695). N.O'B. ☒

A new website

The Digital Histories Project, www.terencebay.com/history is a Terence Bay site developed to gather the history of the communities from Goodwood to Dover, Halifax County. Participation invited.

HERITAGE TRUST OF NOVA SCOTIA

Public Lecture Series Winter-Spring 2004

Thursday, Jan.15, 7:30 pm

"Imagining Paradise: Visual Depictions of Pre-Deportation Acadia" (artists from 1850-2000).

Speaker: John Johnston, Historian, Parks Canada. Author of several books and articles on colonial Louisbourg, 1713-1758, including *Life and Religion at Louisbourg*.

Thursday, Feb.19, 7:30 pm

"Acadian Cemeteries: Windows on a Community" (the post-Deportation Acadian cemeteries of Nova Scotia).

Speaker: Dr. Sally Ross, historian and translator. Co-author of *The Acadians of Nova Scotia*; author of *Les écoles acadiennes en Nouvelle Ecosse, 1758-2000*.

Thursday, April 15, 7:30 pm

"The Acadian Dykes".

Speaker: Professor Sherman Bleakney of Acadia University. Author of *Sods, Soil and Spades: the Acadians at Grand Pré and their Dykeland Legacy* (forthcoming).

Thursday, May 20, 7:30 pm

"Grand Pré and the Acadian Identity".

Speaker: Barbara LeBlanc, ethnologiste, Université Ste. Anne, author of *Postcards from Acadie*.

Thursday, June 17, 8:00 pm

(following the AGM)

"Annapolis Royal/Port Royal, the first 200 years".

Speaker: Brenda Dunn, historian. ☒

Programs sponsored by other societies

January-March, 2004

Acadian Museum and Archives

West Pubnico, NS. Contact: 902-224-2170.

Amherst Township Historical Society

c/o Cumberland County Museum, 150 Church Street, Amherst. Contact: 902-667-2561

Meets six times year, last Tuesday of the month at 7.30pm

January 25

"Experience Nova Scotia's Railway Heritage", James Fresme.

Art Gallery of Nova Scotia

1723 Hollis Street, Halifax.

For details on hours, admission, exhibitions, lectures, films, concerts, tours, etc., contact Jeff Grey, 424-2903.

CHILDREN'S FESTIVAL - Come Celebrate the Suessentennial!!!

December 2003

To December 15

Special ArtsSmarts Exhibiton - (Gallery 2) Education Gallery

Bedford Heritage Society

9 Spring Street, Bedford.

Contact Marvin Silver, 835-0317

Charles Macdonald Concrete House of Centreville

19 Saxon Street, Centreville, NS.

Contact: Fred Macdonald 902-582-7901, or Stephen Slipp 455-0133

Canadian Authors Association- NS Branch

Meets 2 pm fourth Saturdays, September to May, in various venues. Contact Murdina Skinner 434-5658

Chester Municipal Heritage Society

Old Chester Train Station or Box 629, Chester, NS B0J 1J0. Contact: Gail Smith, 902-275-3266

Colchester Historical Museum

29 Yonge Street, Truro, NS. Contact: 902-895-6284

To January 31: Special Exhibition

"Inspired by Stained Glass". Stained glass windows unique to Truro, documented from over 90 Victoria homes. Many fine pieces on display as well as photos and art in other forms which were influenced by stained glass.

Cole Harbour Heritage Farm Museum

471 Poplar Drive, Dartmouth. Contact: 434-0222

Costume Society of Nova Scotia

Meets 7.30 pm, third Monday of the month, September to March, at Nova Scotia Centre for Craft and Design, 1683 Barrington St., Halifax. Information: contact 454-2266

Cumberland County Museum

150 Church Street, Amherst, NS.
Hours, events - contact Barb Thompson: 902-667-2561.

Dartmouth Heritage Museum Society

NOTE: The Museum has moved to temporary quarters in Evergreen House, 26 Newcastle Street, Dartmouth, former home of Dr. Helen Creighton. For hours, events, etc., contact: 464-2300.
Meeting Space for Rent

Federation of Nova Scotian Heritage

Information - contact: 1-800-355-6873
Friday, Dec. 5
Brainworks: Collections Management - Dartmouth

Friends of McNabs Island Society

Contact: 434-2254

Fultz House Museum

33 Sackville Drive, Lr. Sackville, NS.
Information - contact: Dale Major, 865-4832.
December 12, 6:30 pm.
Tree Lighting

Genealogical Association of Nova Scotia

Events in Akins Room, Public Archives of Nova Scotia. Contact: 454-0322

Kings County Historical Society/Old Kings Courthouse Musuem

37 Cornwallis Street, Kentville, NS.
Monday-Saturday, 9 am- 4 pm.
Contact: 902-678-6237. Admission free except where otherwise noted (donations welcome)

Lunenburg County Historical Society

LaHave Fire Hall, LaHave, NS.
Regular meetings, Tuesdays, 7 pm.
Contact: 902-688-1632

Mahone Bay Settlers Museum/Cultural Centre

578 Main Street, Mahone Bay, NS.
Contact: 902-624-6263

Mainland South Heritage Society

Captain William Spry Community Centre, 10 Kidston Road, Spryfield, Halifax. Meets on the last Thursday of the month at 7:30 pm.
Saturday, February 21, 2-4 p.m.
Annual Heritage Tea and Photographic Display. "Local heroes: people who made a difference." At the Capt. Spry Library. Contact: Iris Shea 479-3505

Maritime Blacksmiths Association

Contact: Barry Allen, 454-2266.

Maritime Museum of the Atlantic

Lower Water Street, Halifax.
Information: 424-7490.
Saturday and Sunday, December 6-7
10th Annual New Ross Christmas Festival, Ross Farm Museum, New Ross
Saturday and Sunday, December 6-7
Annual Gaelic Christmas, 12-4 pm, The Highland Village Museum/An Clachan Gaidhealach, Iona.

Memory Lane Heritage Village

Lake Charlotte, NS Information - contact: 902-845-2501, or 1-877-287-0697

Nova Scotia Archaeology Society

Meets at NS Museum of Natural History, Summer Street, Halifax, 4th Tuesday of the month, September-May. Contact: Rob Ferguson, 426-9509.

Nova Scotia Lighthouse Preservation Society

Maritime Museum of the Atlantic, 1679 Lower Water Street, Halifax.
Contact: 424-7490

Parkdale-Maplewood Community Museum & Fairground

Barss Corner, Lunenburg Co., NS.
Contact: 1-800-344-2021

Rockingham Heritage Society

For meetings, venues, program, contact: 443-7043.
Saturday, February 21,
Dinner 5:30 for 6:00 pm, St. Peter's Anglican Church, Bedford Highway at Kearney Lake Road.
Speaker: Alex Wilson on "Historical Gardens." For tickets: Carolyn Macdonald 443-2064. For events: Carol Worrall 443-7043.

Royal Nova Scotia Historical Society

Contact: Janet Guildford, 902 450-5200.
Wednesday January 21
SUBJECT: "To Assure that We Compare Favourably: " Institutional Racism and the Founding of the Nova Scotia Home for Coloured Children.
SPEAKER: Renee Lafferty
Wednesday, February 18
SUBJECT: African and New World African Immigration to Nova Scotia, 1749-1815
SPEAKER: Amani Whitfield
Wednesday, March 19
ANNUAL DINNER: Terry Punch on Winthrop Bell and his Register.
Wednesday, April 21
TBA
Wednesday May 19: AGM,
SUBJECT: Halifax: The Wharf of the Dominion, 1850-2004.
SPEAKER: Jim Frost

Scott Manor House and Ft. Sackville Foundation

15 Fort Sackville Road, Bedford.
Contact Ann MacVicar, 835-5368.

Wallace and Area Museum

Events year round. Children's Day every second Saturday. Information: 902 257 2191.e-mail:remsheg@auracom.com

Yarmouth County Museum/Historical Research Library

22 Collins Street, Yarmouth, NS. For Museum and Archives hours: contact 742-5539. ☒