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The Griffin

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The Mitchell Property *by Anne West*

In 1870, William Longley Dodge, contractor, architect and founder of the Acadian Moulding Factory, built an elegant Italianate villa on Tower Road in Halifax. It stood on a 1.9 acre parcel of land stretching from Tower Road to Wellington Street and 100 yards north from Inglis Street.

The house was undoubtedly a showcase for the ornate mouldings manufactured by Dodge's firm. In its

heyday, the estate was renowned for its gardens, which included terraces, shrubberies, rose beds and lawns. Legend has it that the gardener was sacked every Friday for drunkenness, but always re-hired on Mondays for his irreplaceable skills.

The Honourable Joseph Norman Ritchie was the first owner of the estate. Born in 1834, he was the son of

Continued on Page 3



The Mitchell House on Tower Road, Halifax, as it looked before demolition. Photo, Anne West.

Heritage Incentives Program Notice

Halifax Regional Council has approved two heritage incentives programs for 2004:

- Heritage Home Grants of up to \$5,000 for minor repairs and restoration of municipally registered heritage homes
- Heritage Facade Grants of up to \$10,000 for signage, lighting and minor repairs of municipally-registered commercial heritage facades.

Halifax Regional Municipality staff will deliver the programs with their partners, the Capital District, the Heritage Advisory Committee, and the Business Improvement District Commissions. Projects must be in keeping with HRM Heritage Guidelines.

For more information and the application for the 2004 Heritage Incentive Program (Residential), including guidelines, check this website: www.halifaxinfo.com/HerIncentivePg.php. ☒

“Sods, Soils and Dykes” is the topic of third lecture in Trust’s Acadian Series

Professor Sherman Bleakney gave the third lecture in the Acadian series on April 15 on the topic of “Sods, Soils and Dykes”, the title of his forthcoming book. He opened with a “show and tell” demonstration of the sods which formed the building blocks from which the Acadian dykes around Grand Pré were constructed. He showed how their strength depended on two kinds of marsh grass which flourish and send their roots deep into the silt brought in by the tides of the Bay of Fundy. He discussed the technology of dyke-building, which involved wooden support posts, a core of roughly cut sods, and an impermeable outer wall. The outer wall was composed of closely fitted, carefully cut sods, with a gentle slope on the outer side to deflect the power of the waves, and steeper inner slope.

We saw maps and pictures showing the location of the Acadian dykes on Grand Pré, and the later Planter dykes begun in the 1760s, as well as modern dykes. Professor Bleakney showed how gradually over time the entire area was drained, beginning with the enclosure of a small area close to the higher land. As

more Acadian families made their homes in the area, larger areas were drained for agriculture, and eventually the whole area we now know as Grand Pré was enclosed. Because of the rise in water levels, the silt has built up over the years so that much of the Acadian dyke system is now buried. This means that it has been preserved, and can be explored by archaeologists such as Jonathan Fowler, who was also present. There was a good deal of lively discussion of the topic over refreshments after the lecture. JD

Ed. note: For more on this subject, see The Griffin, December 1995, “The Acadian Dykelands”, by Doris Butters. ☒

Barrington Street Heritage District

HRM has hired Heritage Conservation Planner, Bill Plaskett, to work on the Barrington Street Heritage District project. Mr. Plaskett had considerable success with assisting the town of Lunenburg in creating a similar district in their community. An advisory committee is

being formed with whom he will oversee the creation of the Barrington Street Heritage District, which will serve to ensure a historic streetscape and a vital commercial core are preserved on Barrington Street. Throughout the coming months there will be many opportunities for consultation on the project. If you have any questions, please call Bill Plaskett at 490-4663. Courtesy Downtown FAX, March 26, 2004. ☒



The Griffin

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the opinions expressed in
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Submissions are welcomed.
Deadline for the next issue:
August 1, 2004

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submissions to
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Mitchell: *Continued from Page 1*

Thomas Ritchie of Annapolis, founder of a distinguished Nova Scotia legal dynasty. Joseph was admitted to the Bar in 1857 and appointed Queen's Counsel in 1872. He served as Recorder of the City of Halifax and in 1886 was appointed Justice of the Supreme Court of Nova Scotia. He died in office in 1904. Little else is known about Ritchie, except that he was married three times (in 1858, 1877 and 1895), and that from 1873 to 1879 he rented his Tower Road estate to Franklin H. Baker, a prominent lobster-canning merchant.

After Ritchie's death in 1904, the house was purchased by Charles H. Mitchell, a West India merchant. The firm of G.P. Mitchell and Sons, Importers and Exporters, who traded in molasses, salt cod and other commodities, is believed to have been incorporated as early as 1812. The Mitchell company's offices were located on the corner of Prince and Lower Water streets in a Georgian ironstone building which was built sometime prior to 1827 and is still standing. (See *The Griffin*, March 1999)

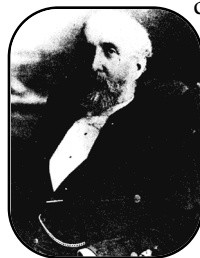
Three more generations of Mitchells, Charles Campbell, Charles Gorham and Charles William, lived on the estate, and two houses were added to accommodate family members, one on the corner of Tower and Inglis and the other on Wellington Street at the north-west corner of the property. Fraser Smith of Bedford, who lived on Inglis Street as a child, remembers his friendship with Charles Gorham and playing hockey on a rink set up in the grounds.

Unfortunately, the Mitchells did not believe in maintenance and the original house was allowed to deteriorate. A would-be purchaser who visited it in 1987 described it as a time warp, completely unchanged since the 1930s. Because of its gloomy appearance local residents

referred to it as the Ghost House and children hurried anxiously past it.

In 1987, Charles C. Mitchell died, and his grandson, architect Charles W. Mitchell, obtained a demolition permit for the main house in order to develop the site. A citizens group fought hard to save it. When their suggestion that the house be incorporated into a condominium development was rejected, they offered to purchase it for a museum of Victorian Halifax. But in spite of wide public interest, considerable media support and a petition with over 1,000 names on it, the house was knocked down in a surprise early morning move on April 30, 1988. In 1988, Mitchell built a row of condominiums on the Inglis Street end of the property. He included the house on the corner of Tower and Inglis streets by turning it 90

degrees.



The Hon. Joseph Norman Ritchie, first owner of the estate. Photo supplied by Anne West



This was the sight in the early morning of April 30, 1988, when citizens who had fought to keep the house intact were taken by surprise and the Mitchell home was demolished. Photograph: Anne West



The Daily News announces the impending demolition of the Mitchell House.

Permission was denied for the highrise tower which he had planned for the rest of the property, and it became overgrown and squalid. In 1998, Danny Chedrawe of Westwood Developments built a five-storey condominium development called Wellington South on the west of the property. In 1999, he built a matching apartment building, the Belmont Arms, on the site of the old house. ☐

Book Review:

Grand Pré retains a special place in Acadian hearts

Postcards from Acadie: Grand Pré, Evangeline and the Acadian Identity, by Barbara LeBlanc. Gaspereau Press, 2003. ISBN 1-894031-69-5. 204 pp. \$31. 95.

Dr. Barbara LeBlanc's book about Grand Pré and its special place in the hearts and minds of Acadians and others was so popular that the first printing sold out rapidly. Now available again, it is a book that many people will want to read.

Unlike many books on Acadian history, this book focuses on a particular place and its role in the evolution of the Acadian image. It describes the early settlement of Grand Pré and the deportation of its inhabitants, its evocation in literature, and its growth as a place that draws visitors, Acadians and non-Acadians alike, from near and far. It also explores the question of how all this came about.

The book opens on a personal note which explains the title: the author was taken to Grand Pré as a child, and came away with a lasting impression of the place and a handful of postcards. She was to return there many years later to work for four years as Director of the Grand Pré National Historic Site, and was the president of the Société promotion Grand Pré. She is well-qualified to trace the site's development into both a tourist attraction and a unique focal point for all the descendants of the deportees.

Every society has its mythology, and the mythology of Acadia became firmly centred on Grand Pré with the publication of *Evangeline*. LeBlanc shows how a story told over a nineteenth-century dinner table at which Henry Wadsworth Longfellow was present caught his imagination and led to the creation of the fictional

yet symbolic characters of Evangeline and Gabriel. This unhappy couple became almost overnight icons of the Acadian people. Their separation personalised the separations and sufferings of the exiled Acadians, and their reunion can be seen as representing either a reward for virtue, resignation and courage, or the return of the scattered deportees as a distinct group whose self-awareness has grown over the years. LeBlanc sees later literary figures such as Antonine Maillet's Sagouine and Pélagie-la-Charette as images of stronger Acadian women, but they have not displaced Evangeline in the popular imagination.

LeBlanc looks at the history of the area from its early settlement, the destruction of the village in 1775, and the arrival of the Planter farmers from New England, to the realisation that this was a site that

should be preserved. She examines the motives of individuals, businesses, pressure groups and governments in exploiting it as a tourist destination or promoting it as a place of pilgrimage. She also writes about the increasing expectations of the Acadians, particularly during the latter part of the 20th century, that they should have a voice in decisions affecting what is for many of them hallowed ground. This book is not just about Grand Pré; it is also about the affirmation of Acadian culture in a predominantly anglo-phone province.

Postcards from Acadie, like all products of the Gaspereau Press, is beautifully designed, printed on good paper, and strongly bound. It is well illustrated, and the cover is adorned with a delightful painting, *Fête à Grand Pré*, by Father Maurice LeBlanc. JD ☒

Historic Building Tour by Katie Cottreau-Robbins

The Heritage Trust of Nova Scotia has as its motto: "To promote, foster and encourage interest in and preservation of buildings and sites of an historic, artistic and cultural nature within Nova Scotia." As members of the Trust, we are fortunate to have many among us who work diligently to move preservation efforts forward.

So, how can we help? How can we, as individuals who care about heritage, help move the mission forward? Its simple really - support the Trust in its fundraising efforts.

Heritage Trust is planning to host a Historic Building Tour in 2005 - an event that will pique your interest and draw patrons curious to view and learn about some of Halifax's historic treasures.

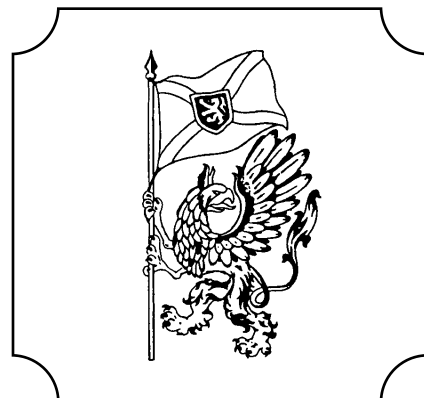
Tickets are \$15.00 each and will be available in advance and

at the door.

The Tour Committee welcomes all volunteers interested in helping with the details involved. More information will follow as the event comes together. Watch for *The Griffin* in September!

Yours in the Trust,
Katie Cottreau-Robbins, Tour Committee

425-8705; robnsnst@istar.ca ☒



Who was this “Count Rumford”...and what is so special about his fireplaces? *by Janet Morris*

When I first viewed our turn-of-the-(last)-century home, the most stunning feature was a large stone fireplace gracing an “inglenook”. There were two pews flanking the fireplace, probably left over from one of the architect’s other projects. William Critchlow Harris, who designed our house, was responsible for numerous churches as well as many houses in Nova Scotia and PEI.

After nestling into our new home and burning a few fires, we noticed smoke in an upstairs room. As is the case in many old houses, it was time to look into lining the fireplace flu. We selected a concrete lining process, but this, as with any liner, involved constricting the flu. The masons also lined the firebox with firebrick. Then, after paying the masons, we discovered our fireplace had become totally inoperative; it smoked “like a chimney”.

I learned that the fireplace had been a “modified Rumford” and the masonry work had destroyed the elegant workings of the fireplace. I embarked on an investigation into the science of fireplaces and (even more interesting) a foray into the life of “Count Rumford”.

Rumford was born Benjamin Thompson in a small town in Massachusetts in 1753. At the age of 18 he took a job as a school master in what was once known as Rumford, Massachusetts, but is now Concord, New Hampshire. Within three months of his arrival, he met and married a wealthy 31-year-old widow. On their wedding day they dined with the Governor of New Hampshire, John Wentworth. During the early 1770s, with revolution brewing, Thompson became a British spy. He is credited with writing the first letter in invisible ink in the American Revolution. In March 1776 he was forced to flee in the general evacuation of Loyalists,

aboard the same ship as Wentworth; Wentworth disembarked at Halifax, Thompson sailed on to London. Thompson, with letters of introduction from General Howe and the rank of Major, became employed by the British Colonial Office. He was back in America during the Revolution, serving in Her Majesty’s Dragoons which came to include John Wentworth’s Volunteers. After the war, both were in London and in touch. Thompson was possibly spying on the French.

In 1784, after being knighted by King George III, Thompson accepted a position with the Elector of Bavaria, where England was trying to gain influence. In 1793 he was made a Count of the Holy Roman Empire and chose the name “Rumford”, the name of the town where his star had begun to rise, and where he had left behind a wife and child.

While in Munich, Count Rumford busied himself with matters which today are not considered in the range of military activities. He involved himself in public works, designing a large natural park in the Kew Gardens fashion of London, gardens which were designed by Joseph Banks. A few years later, Prince Edward, who grew up enjoying Kew Gardens, was in Halifax ‘improving’ Governor Wentworth’s estate along the same lines and using military manpower.

Rumford, as part of his military activities in Bavaria, converted an old mill into a military workhouse, and employed the soldiers and the poor in the manufacture of military uniforms while studying the properties of various insulative materials to make the uniforms warmer. He employed soldiers and the poor on farms to provide their own food, and undertook the study of



A truly spectacular example of a modified Rumford fireplace (the firebox is much larger than Rumford recommended) may be seen at the K. C. Irving Environmental Science Centre at Acadia University. Courtesy, Acadia University.

nutrition, developing many recipes for soups. He has been credited with creating the first soup kitchens. (He also experimented with more extravagant dishes, including Baked Alaska.)

Apparently a man concerned with detail, Rumford also undertook the design of kitchens (an early “Designer Guy”) and determined that the basic elements to be found in a kitchen should include a sink, running water, an ice box and a cooking fire box, all of which should be immediately accessible. Concerned with the negative effects of gin on the population, he encouraged the drinking of coffee, and developed the drip coffee maker (it is unclear whether the patent, taken out by someone else, preceded or post-dated Rumford’s work). Other kitchen aids he developed were the double boiler and the pressure

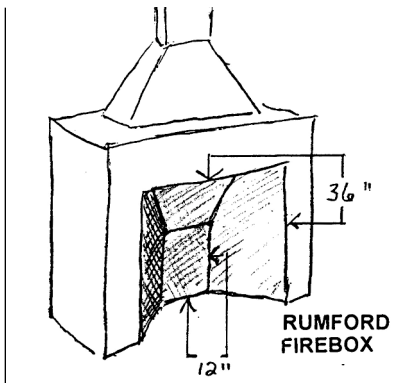
Continued on Page 6

Rumford: *Continued from Page 5*

cooker.

However, it was not his progressive developments for kitchens which brought Count Rumford to my attention, but his interest in comfortable household heating, a logical extension of the domestic range (for which also he deserves credit).

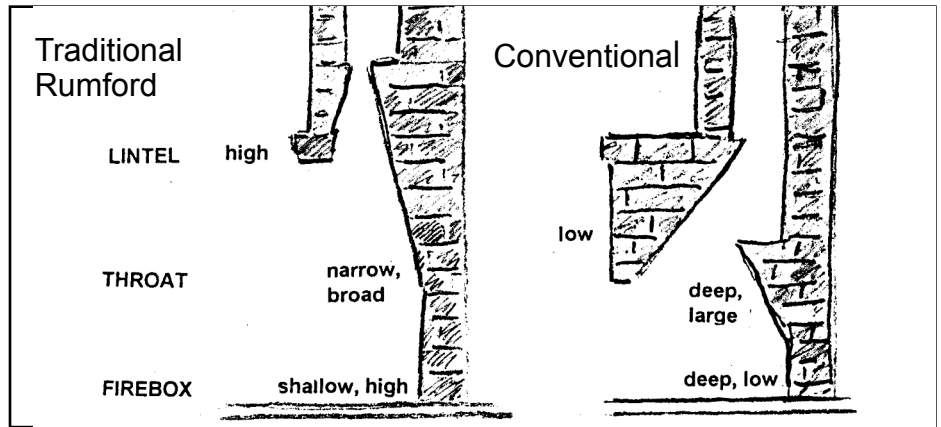
Rumford's practical studies as a military man convinced him that heat (or fire) was not a basic element, as believed by Aristotelian physicists. He studied heat waves and found that heat travelled through the air, doing very little to warm the air until it hit an object, warmed the object which then radiated warmth. Rumford used this knowledge in his firebox (ovens) and fireplace designs. His fireplaces were shaped so that the heat concentrated on the back wall of the fireplace and from there radiated back onto the fire and into the room. In addition, the heat produced by the fire was pushed down by the firebox's sloped ceiling, intensifying the heat of the fire. Rumford went on to design appropriate proportions for the fireplace flu and created the damper and smoke shelf to make the fireplace more efficient



Diagrams adapted from Harowsmith, 77, Vol.XI:5, Jan-Feb. 1988

and eliminate smoke from being forced back into the room.

In his treatise, "Chimney Fireplaces With Proposals for Improving Them to Save Fuel, to Render Dwelling Houses More Comfortable and Salubrious, and Effectually to Prevent Chimneys



From Smoking", Rumford reported that his fireplaces produced two-to-three times more heat than other fireplaces of his day. These measurements have been verified by recent experiments.

In 1799 Rumford co-founded the Royal Institution in England with Joseph Banks. His talent in recognizing genius is apparent in the persons he introduced to carry on his work: he introduced Humphrey Davy, who moved into the Institution, and Thomas Young, who moved into Rumford's accommodations as Rumford moved out. Young, who knew 13 languages by age 13, was later to play a major part in deciphering the Rosetta Stone.

At about the same time as he endowed and remodelled the Royal Institution, Rumford endowed a chair at Harvard University and established the still-awarded Rumford Prize "for the most important discovery, or useful improvement, in any part of the continent of America, or in any of the American islands, on heat or on light".

In 1802, Rumford visited and then moved to Paris (England and France were in an uneasy truce). His early days in Paris were heady days. He immediately encountered the leading lights of the era. Besides chemists, "natural philosophers", mathematicians and engineers (and beautiful ladies), he met Napoleon, Guillotin, and Tallyrand (who reportedly commented "I never saw a face more better calculated to impose silence on prattling

fools than his").

In Paris, Rumford took up with the widow of the French chemist Lavoisier. Lavoisier, known as the father of modern chemistry, had done some work on the nature of heat, but he failed to survive the French Revolution, beheaded by guillotine in 1794. Rumford's intention to marry Madame Lavoisier forced him to obtain documents from his American past. His American wife (whom he had ensured through all these years did not know his address) had died. He had already re-established contact with his daughter who lived with him for some of his later years. His mother was discovered to be still alive, and he sent her a generous sum of money.

The Rumford-Lavoisier marriage was a stormy one, and they more or less separated within a year. Count Rumford sought out a quiet place about three miles from Paris, where he continued conducting experiments and submitting scientific papers. He took up gardening and was increasingly regarded as an eccentric. In 1814 he died, or disappeared.

Rumford's fireplace design was well known in his day and adopted in many houses in Europe. His contemporary, Benjamin Franklin, worked with free-standing fireboxes using baffles and doors, and Rumford no doubt applied some of Franklin's principles in his masonry fireplaces. It was Rumford's work which was adopted by William

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Mersey Heritage Society *by Molly Titus*

Although he lives and works in Halifax, Queens County native Craig Chandler has turned his attention and efforts to contributing to his home county. Craig had worked in a consulting company with archaeologist Mike Sanders. They both were active members of the Nova Scotia Archaeological Society, and in 1999, Craig suggested that Mike give him a hand in the founding of the Mersey Heritage Society. As their newsletter, *Facts and Artifacts*, declares, the goal of the society is "helping to protect Queens County's Heritage Resources".

One of the Society's first activities was to create a database with an inventory of heritage buildings in Queens County, a project which has not been completed because of the lack of volunteers. In its recent issue of *Facts and Artifacts*, dotted around the newsletter are the following disturbing "Heritage Factoids":

- Factoid 1 states "Queens County is widely recognized as having a unique range of 18th and 19th Century buildings. Only a handful of these have formal protection."
- Factoid 2 says "The Region of Queens has no formal way of considering the heritage aspects of their projects, or assessing the heritage impacts of their activities (such as building renovations or sewer line construction)."
- Factoid 3 is the most discouraging: "Since the Mersey Heritage Society began the Heritage Building Inventory in 1999, at least five of the buildings included in the inventory have been demolished."

In its role as a kind of watchdog, the Society, along with the Queens HAC, may hold a workshop later this year to gather information and organize volunteers to expand the database further. It is notable that the only funding that the group has received so far was \$500 in 2002



A group of volunteers under the direction of archeologist Craig Chandler and Mike Sanders probe a wooded area of Port Mouton looking for remnants of the houses where Loyalist Tarleton's Legion briefly settled. Photo, Craig Chandler.



A test pit in the archeological dig. Photo, Craig Chandler.

from the Region of Queens Municipality, specifically for use in the Guysborough project. Perhaps more funding will be forthcoming to help complete the inventory.

The old Guysborough Town Plot

Craig, with Mike's support, recognized that there was also archaeological evidence of built heritage, and that this could provide all sorts of new historical information. So they began to turn their skills, and the willingness of their volunteers, to see what could be found of the old Guysborough Town Plot. Armed with material done by the late Thomas Raddall and fired by his own interest in heritage, Craig found that the Loyalist Tarleton's Legion, dis-

banded after the American War of Independence, had been granted land in what we now know as Port Mouton and had landed there in 1783-1784. Their time there was relatively short as a fire raced through the community. It was never rebuilt, and some of the group moved to what is now Guysborough County.

Craig and Mike thought that an archaeological survey of this area would be an important and fascinating task for his newly formed group. Under Mike's direction, over three years volunteers have worked to spot, identify, and systematically document the resource which has been kept secret by the boreal forest.

The findings of the project were

Continued on page 11

Remembering Oaklands *by Garry D. Shutlak*

On a December evening in 1914, the city lost one of the great houses built on the North West Arm. Located in the area allocated for the railway cutting the house was being moved by its latest owner F. B. McCurdy. It was his plan to move the ninety by forty-five foot residence to Marlborough Woods. Whether caused by a spark from the workers in the railway cutting, a careless caretaker with an errant cigarette or a knocked over lamp, the house was irreparably damaged and demolished.

The over seventy-year-old structure had an enviable history. In 1861 and 1862 William Cunard, Esquire, the son of Sir Samuel Cunard, purchased land from the heirs of Richard Tremaine and a lot of land from J.W. Ritchie, the owner of "Belmont." It was a magical time for the Arm – "Emscote," "Fernwood," "Pine Hill," "Maplewood," "Fairfield," "Bloomingdale," "Blenheim Lodge," and "Armdale" were all built within a few years of each other. Most of these houses were designed in the latest Gothic style.

Upon this land Cunard decid-

ed to build a permanent residence in the Italianate style and remove his family from his house on Brunswick Street, the house where he had been born. The new house would be larger and more luxurious than the Brunswick Street house. The city's architects were eager for the commission. For example, David Stirling had both James Forman, cashier of the Bank of Nova Scotia, and Alexander Keith of the Nova Scotia Brewery, from whom he had recently been given a commission to build a home, lobby on his behalf. Stirling would lose the Cunard commission to the recently formed firm of Dartmouth-born architect, Henry Elliot, and his new partner, German-born, Henry F. Busch.

The firm of Elliot & Busch built a villa of palatial proportions on the merged properties, along with a winery, barns, outbuildings, gardener's and porter's cottages. The 37-room house was of Philadelphia brick with freestone trimmings and granite foundations. The interior woodwork was walnut, cherry and mahogany, and the fireplaces of Cararra mar-

ble. The stair hall had cast-iron staircases. The 12 rooms in the basement consisted of kitchen, laundry, two pantries, linen store, two servants' quarters, wine cellar, fuel storage, wash room and cold storage, with furnace room under the conservatory. The ground floor also had 12 rooms, including entrance hall and vestibule, stair hall, breakfast room, dining room, drawing room, sitting room, library, office and conservatory, as well as kitchen, servants' dining room, pantry, pot room and rear stair hall. The first floor of 13 rooms included mail hall and stair hall, main bedroom (master), four bedrooms and guest bedroom, two bathrooms with water closets and wash basins, billiard room, two trunk rooms, and two servants' bedrooms. The second floor comprised a hall, stairway and a bedroom used as an infirmary. From the staircase here, one could exit on to the roof of the house which had an unobstructed view of the North West Arm. The two cottages were built in the Gothic style. The gardener's cottage was built on the north side of the 121-foot winery to protect the grape vines from our cold winters. The porter's lodge and the entrance gates located on Robie Street are our only visual reminders of this grand estate.

Here William Cunard and his wife Laura, daughter of Thomas C. Haliburton, the former judge and author, resided with their five living children, Alice Mary, William Samuel, Herbert, Ernest, and Cyril Grant. In 1873, William Cunard decided to move to England. The move was made, according to his obituary, because the firm had lost the mail contract for the service between Halifax and Liverpool, and "the subsequent withdrawal of the steamers from the West Indies service transferred Mr Cunard's interests to a very large measure to the other



The parlour at Oaklands. Photographer unknown. Courtesy NS Archives and Records Management.



William Cunard, who had Oaklands built. His resided there with his wife, Laura, a daughter of T.C. Haliburton. Photograph circa 1869. Notman Studio

side of the Atlantic.”

Cunard sold the property to Phillip Carteret Hill, a barrister and solicitor, who was an MPP and cabinet minister in the government of William Annand. The Honourable Mr. Hill would become Premier in 1875 and left office and retired from politics in 1878. The property was reacquired by Cunard from Hill. He would first sell the Rockwood section, the area north of Oakland Road, to merchant Roderick MacDonald in 1904, and the main property in 1905. Mr. MacDonald enjoyed the estate until it was expropriated by the government of Canada for the new south-end terminals in 1913. The many images used in this article date from Mr. MacDonald’s ownership of the property. It would not surprise me if some of the furniture we see in these photographs dates from Cunard’s tenure. Alas, like the Tremaine house of the early nineteenth century, like “Belmont” and “Maplewood II” and many others, it was consumed by fire and described the following day in the newspapers as a “mass of fallen walls and smoking embers.” ☒



Oaklands, the view from the drive. The balconies, vrandas and supporting columns were of iron, made in Scotlnd. The residence was 90 feet by 45 feet and stood three storeys high on the western front. Below, the dining room, a bedroom and the conservatory. Photographer unknown. Courtesy NS Archives and Records Management.



President's Report

by Alan Parish

Chimney Sweeps Inc., 477-9856.
JM ☒

Most of you will have read the newspaper reports describing the proposed new development on the waterfront which has been designed by Ralph Medjuck and proposed by the Waterfront Development Corporation. It features a high "needle" with an observation tower and lower white curving apartment and hotel buildings, coupled with an outdoor pool/skating rink.

A few weeks ago, John Crace, an architect and a member of our board, and I, met with Fred Were, the executive director of the Waterfront Development Corporation, to view the model of the proposed development and discuss its features with him.

One might ask why it is that the Heritage Trust of Nova Scotia would be interested in, or take a public stance with respect to, a new development such as this. This is a question upon which there can be a number of opinions. In my view the Trust has a duty, at least in this instance, to review the project for a couple of reasons.

First, new construction today is the heritage of the future. We are fortunate that architects, businessmen and public organizations created buildings in the past of which we can be proud. In those days there was no Heritage Trust, no Chamber of Commerce, or Downtown Halifax Business Commission to comment on the style or quality of construction. Fortunately, men with vision created longstanding monuments. However, times have changed. The reality is that the development on the waterfront will be the result of lobby groups, hearings and decisions in front of various political bodies. The Heritage Trust has shown itself to be one of the strongest advocates in Halifax with respect to these issues and has a duty to become involved in the process.

Secondly, with respect to this

particular project, while the media reports describe the project itself, they do not talk about the milieu in which the development would be constructed. Directly across the road will be the Keith's Brewery, one of Nova Scotia's most treasured properties. Is it appropriate to have what I style a "Florida type" building next to the Keith's Brewery market? Perhaps it is. Perhaps it isn't. Regardless, it should be the source of some review and debate in which the Trust should be involved.

I am fast approaching the end of my first year as president, and it has become abundantly clear to me that the Heritage Trust of Nova Scotia stands in the forefront of organizations, such as those which I have mentioned, which are recognized as main players in the creative development of our city. This is a recognition which we can be proud of and one which we should strive to maintain. ☒

Rumford: *continued from Page 6*

Critchlow Harris in more than one of his houses.

Notwithstanding the reduced diameter of the chimney flu, our fireplace, with its smoke shelf and replaced damper and contoured box, is close enough to the original design to operate effectively and restore the salubrious charm of our inglenook.

Note: I would like to acknowledge two excellent sources: an article in Harrowsmith in Jan./Feb. 1988, Vol. 77, entitled, "Secrets of the Hearth", by Max Burns; and a book embodying 40 years of research by Sanborn C. Brown, Benjamin Thompson, Count Rumford. Cambridge, Massachusetts: The MIT Press, 1979. Finally, the following HRM artisans are familiar with the construction of Rumford fireplaces: Richard Doull, Doull Masonry, 865-2185; Daniel Kennedy, 864-7688; Black Magik

In Memoriam

In December, unexpectedly, Heritage Trust, the Art Gallery of NS, All Saints Cathedral, and her many acquaintances and traveling companions lost a valued friend in the death of Pauline Hildesheim. She was a long-time member of Heritage Trust and was a and was a member of the Board as Secretary, as Treasurer, an dmost recently as Chair of the Finance Committee. Her contribution to the Trust, and to the Board in particular, was invaluable. She will be sadly missed. ☒

The Public Lecture Series

Thursday, June 17, 8:00 pm
(following the AGM)

"The Acadians of Port Royal/Annapolis Royal".

Speaker: Brenda Dunn, Historian. Author of *Annapolis Royal/Port Royal: The first 200 years*. (Book launch: Saturday, June 5, 3pm, in Newman's Restaurant, Annapolis Royal.)

Thursday, Sept. 17, 7:30 pm
"Nova Scotia in the Age of Sail: the ship-builders".

Speaker: Charles Armour, Archivist. Curator of the current exhibit, "Ships' Portraits", Maritime Museum.

Place: The auditorium, Museum of Natural History, 1747 Summer Street, Halifax. Pay and display parking in the two museum parking lots and across Bell Road at the Vocational School. All welcome.

Requests for speakers and subjects welcome. Please call Nancy O'Brien at 902 422-1709. ☒



Above, Wobamkek Beach. Photo: courtesy MHS. Right, a stone wall. Photo: Craig Chandler.

Mersey: Continued from page 7

presented at a recent meeting, and only 10-year-old Elijah was a bit disappointed. His grandmother told me that he had hoped for skulls, evidences of ancient cultures or, at the very least, a bullet. The rest of us at the meeting were enthralled to realize that there was in the woods something we would not have known about without the initiative of the Mersey Heritage Society. Suspected remains of nine dwellings were identified, as well as hundreds of feet of stone walls and several rock piles. It is thought that most of these features date from the Loyalist habitation in 1783. Some objects discovered in a test pit outside the walls of one of the houses showed charring – evidence of fire, perhaps the one which destroyed the community itself. Archaeologist Mike Sanders stresses that this is a valuable and notable site in the province, and that it merits provincial or even federal recognition. It has been left relatively undisturbed since the time of the fire, and nature has covered it with a protective blanket. The group also worked to clear some of the brush from the Loyalist Cemetery in Port Mouton.

In 2004, the Society will use GPS to create a digital map of the archaeological features found during the three-year survey, and they will clear the remaining brush and tall grass from the Cemetery, recording the locations and inscriptions on the burial markers.

June 2004



Wobamkek Beach

The Society's efforts will not end at this point, however. In December of 2003, during a field trip, some archaeological features were discovered near Wobamkek Beach, south of Port Mouton. Various features were found – a 12-foot pit, which Mike Sanders said might even be the remains of a temporary structure built by Loyalists in 1783 as a desperate attempt to shelter from the winter weather. Other noted features, closer to the beach, included a mound with stone wall behind, and remains of buildings which were part of the Wobamkek Beach Summer Resort, founded in 1922.

As Champlain landed near here in 1604, and in 1703 the Governor of Acadia granted a large area for settlement and trade, these features are a mystery for now. They could be French, or Loyalist, or associated with the 1922 resort. Only archaeological testing, carried out with a permit from the Nova Scotia Museum, will tell the story.

The “s” in “Mersey Heritage Society” is stylized in the shape of the Mersey River as it enters the sea. It is inventive and classy and is a good indicator of the quality and commitment of its founders



and members, people with an idea and the determination to do something about it. The Society website is <http://mywebpage.netscape.com/merseyhersoc/>. ☒

An exhibition of ships' portraits

An exhibit of a century of portraits of Nova Scotia vessels, 1820s to 1920s, will be on display from June 10-September 6 at two locations: the Maritime Museum of the Atlantic and the Art Gallery of Nova Scotia. The joint curators are Charles Armour, archivist and historian, and Graham Young, marine artist.

Included are descriptions of the vessels, histories, information about the artists, and some photographs. There are representative examples of the vessels built in Nova Scotia – the sites, the builders and owners, and the various rigs. ☒

The Heritage Trust's Lecture Series continues with Acadian Graveyards

Strolling round old cemeteries is an interesting leisure occupation, and on March 18, Dr. Sally Ross conducted us round some Acadian graveyards as part of the Heritage Trust's Acadian Lecture Series. Sally took us on a fascinating tour of burial grounds from Pubnico to Chéticamp, visiting the communities in which the Acadians had settled after their return from exile in the mid-1760s. These were not the original Acadian settlements, so none of the graveyards dates back to pre-deportation days.

The lecture began with an image of the French cemetery in Port Royal in the 1680s which lay near the parish church and was dominated by a cross. This was the type of cemetery that the returning Acadians often endeavoured to re-create in their new settlements. Many of the burials date back to the years immediately after their return, but the earliest graves are unmarked. Early wooden markers would have long since rotted away. Some of the more recent wooden crosses have been repaired or restored, and in some cases, where the original

markers have disappeared, the names of the departed have been preserved on later monuments. More recent grave markers are made of stone, and since the Acadians are predominantly Catholic, almost all are in the form of a cross, or incorporate a cross in their design along with other symbols. We saw an interesting range of materials, styles, spellings, and inscriptions which reflect the lives of some of the former inhabitants of the communities. The familiar Acadian family names are part of the genealogical record of those who returned to Nova Scotia. The cemeteries themselves vary from quite small village burial grounds to the huge graveyard at Chéticamp in the Cape Breton Highlands whose 5,000 white-painted gravestones made an impressive conclusion to the talk.

The lecture was beautifully illustrated with slides made by expert photographer and researcher of old cemeteries, Deborah Trask, who travelled with Sally as she explored these interesting sites. JD ☒



Sandstone gravemarker in Saint Joseph cemetery in Saint-Joseph-du-Moine, Inverness County. The inscription in French is dedicated to the memory of Thomas Chiasson who died in 1893 at the age of 89. The parish of Saint-Joseph-du-Moine is celebrating its 125th anniversary this year. Photo by Deborah Trask, 2003.

Stewardship of heritage buildings: Are we committed?

*Heritage Canada Foundation Annual Conference
Saint John Trade and Convention Centre, Saint John, NB
September 9-11, 2004*

This year's Heritage Canada Foundation annual conference is addressing the question – "Stewardship of Heritage Buildings: Are We Committed?" The conference is being held in Saint John, New Brunswick, 9-11 September 2004, at the Saint John Trade and Convention Centre.

As keynote speaker, the Foundation is excited to welcome Dr. Anthony M. Tung, a former

New York City Landmarks Preservation Commissioner and author of *Preserving the World's Great Cities*. Dr. Tung will demonstrate how "the culture of conservation" is at the root of stewardship.

The conference will review issues such as tax policy and treatment, incentives and partnerships, legislation and regulation and how they can be developed and used to support the conservation and retention of both commercial and residential heritage properties.

The conference will also offer a

series lively discussions about the many factors that will continue to move heritage conservation forward in the 21st century.

This year's conference program will include the Heritage Canada Awards Ceremony and reception with special guest, The Honourable Herménégilde Chiasson, Lieutenant Governor of New Brunswick; a selection of five fascinating tours that wind their way through historic Saint John; and the option of dining in privately owned historic homes throughout the city.

Continued on page 13

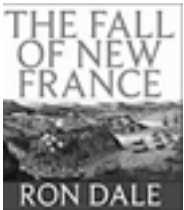
Learn more about Nova Scotia's heritage: New books for summer reading

After the Hector. The Scottish Pioneers of Nova Scotia and Cape Breton, 1773-1852. Lucille H. Campey. Natural Heritage Books, Toronto, 2004. Illus. Paperback, 373 pages. \$27.95.



All Call Iona Home. A genealogical study (Cape Breton). S. MacNeil. Formac. Re-printed from 1979. Paperback, \$19.95

Bluenose Magic. Helen Creighton. Nimbus. Re-printed from 1968. Paperback, \$16.95



The Fall of New France. How the French lost a North American empire, 1754-1763. Ronald Dale. Formac. Extensive illustrations. Paperback, \$19.95

Frigates and Foremasts: The North American Squadron in Nova Scotia Waters, 1745-1815. Julian Gwyn. UBC Press. New in paperback, \$27.95

Grand-Pré: Heart of Acadie. A.J.B. Johnston and W.P. Kerr. Nimbus. Illust. Paperback, \$16.95

Halifax. Regional Municipality. Photographs by Donna Barnett. Nimbus. Hardcover, \$29.95

Historic Guysborough. John N. Grant. Nimbus. 140 photos. Paperback, \$19.95; and in the same paperback series, *Historic Antigonish, Town and Country*, Laurie Stanley-Blackwell & Ray McLean, 140 photos, \$24.95, and *Historic Digby*, Mike Parker, 167 photos, \$21.95

A History of Port-Royal/Annapolis Royal 1605-1800. Brenda Dunn. Nimbus and the Historical Association of Annapolis Royal. Illust. Hardcover, \$29.95

Last Days In Africville. Dorothy Perkyms. Beach Holme Publishing. For young readers. Paperback, \$9.95

Lost and Found in Acadie. Clive Doucet. Nimbus. Literary non-fiction. Paperback, \$17.95
Louisbourg: An 18th-Century Town.

A.J.B Johnston, K. Donovan, B.A. Balcom and A. Storm. Nimbus. Illust. For young readers. Paperback, \$16.95

The Old Man Told Us. Excerpts from Mi'kmaq History, 1500-1950. Ruth Holmes Whitehead. Nimbus. Paperback, \$24.95

See also "New Books for Christmas", *The Griffin*, December 2003. Some of these are already award winners. N.O'B ☒

History for sale



Built between 1865 and 1870, the Max Russell House is typical of the stately homes of the Prince Street area of Pictou. Virtually unchanged on the outside, the wood and stone house has retained many of its interior features: expansive hallways, high corniced ceilings, working fireplaces and graceful archways. Unfortunately, the beautiful main staircase was removed when the building was converted into flats. Set on an acre lot in an area of fine Victorian homes, The Russell House is offered for sale at \$129,000. Contact: Joan Anderson of HLM Realties at 902-485-1954. ☒

Stewardship: continued from page 12

For further information about the conference program, rates and how to register, visit the Heritage Canada Foundation Web site at www.heritagecanada.org. Once there, you can register online.

Delegates who register and pay by August 6, 2004, qualify for early conference registration fees.

Discounted rates at this year's conference hotel, The Hilton Saint John, are also available if reservations are made prior to August 6.

Heritage Canada looks forward to welcoming this year's delegates to a stimulating conference and some Maritime hospitality. BS ☒

2004: l'Année de l'Acadie

Tourism and Travel – hundreds of events – a rare encounter with Acadian Nova Scotia. (Details from your Tourist Bureau or www.acadie400.ca).

Academic conferences (Church Point & Cheticamp); Acadian breakfasts and suppers (Saulnierville Legion); Bicycle tours; Ceremonies; Children's events; Choral groups (Wedgeport); Crafts; Dancing; Dinner theatre. Exhibits: Artists, Acadian Life and Culture, Basketry (Sydney), Costumes, Hooked Mats (Cheticamp, August 13), Quilts (Saulnierville, August 3 - 6, West Pubnico, August 5-9); Fiddlers' festival (River Bourgeois); Film festival (Truro); First Nations events; Genealogy workshops and research sessions; *Grou Tyme* (July 29-August 2, Halifax Waterfront).

Acadian Heritage Walks from West Chezzetcook, Old Barns, Hortonville and more (Volksmarch group); Individual Families' Events (Belliveau Cove - the Dugas); "Kitchen Parties" (Cheticamp, West Pubnico); Launches (books, CDs); Lobster suppers; The Louisiana Connection; Masses.

Monuments unveiled; Music (song and dance); Musical drama ("Evangeline" at Church Point); Parades; Races; Re-enactments; 17th century music; Tournaments (fishing); Wine Tasting (Lunenburg); August 15: Fête nationale des Acadiens (at all Acadian sites).

Selected events

(continued - See *The Griffin*, March, 2004, l'Année de l'Acadie).

Annapolis Royal

July 31-August 15: at the Historic Gardens. Workshops showing the construction of Acadian thatched roofs and exterior bake ovens. August 2-13: Candlelight tour of 17th century house and garden replica and dykes (tel.: 902-532-7018)

August 7-8: Dyke construction techniques of the 17th century.

Belleisle

August 8-14: The Belleisle Archeological Dig. Conference, picnic, walking tour of the site (tel.: 902-772-0374)

Cheticamp

July 1: Musical Gala.

Grand Pré

Until October 30: One-hour bilingual guided tour of the dykes and historic sites (tel.: 902-542-5130)

Sunday, July 18: Acadian Day Mass

July 31-August 14: "The Return to Grand Pré". Family events (tel.: 902-542-3631)

August 7: Archeology Day.

St. Mary's Bay

Until October 1: Guided daily walks (tel.: 462 - 5273)

July 31-August 15: Workshops on the building of traditional Acadian ovens (tel.: 902-769-3299)

Upper Clements

Until October 31: 1600s Acadian building: Family workshops with clay, wood, and reed (tel.: 902-532-2749)

West Pubnico

The Acadian Museum: Open Monday-Saturday, 9-5; Sundays, 12:30-4:30

Until September 30: Tour of the historic sites. Refreshments.

Until October 15: Tour of the Village historique showing the reconstruction, restoration and preservation of an Acadian village.

July 31-Re-enactment of the return of the Acadians to Pubnico after the Deportation.

August 2: At the Village historique. Grand Acadian Party. Re-enactment of the arrival of the French.

August 3: "Family Feud" Game, testing knowledge of Acadian history (tel.: 902-648-2440)

Events at the museum

(Tel.: 902-762-3380): June 12, Museum Day; until August 31,

Thursday workshops, sharing arts and crafts patterns, techniques and savoir-faire; August 9, Food tasting and Acadian music; August 12, Talk on Charles de la Tour; until September 30: Exhibit - Historical maps and documents, relating to the arrival of the French; until November 3: Acadian Kitchen Party. ☒

Good news

In April Heritage Trust received a \$2,500 Community Grant from the HRM, a partial contribution toward the costs of documenting, by film and digital photographs, the restoration of the painted room on Oxford Street in Halifax.

The conservator has studied the painting and the very water-damaged corner of the painting. She will describe the techniques and demonstrate to the camera her progress. She has also volunteered to show the owners how to inpaint the cleaned remainder of the walls. This is a very exciting undertaking for the Trust – a pilot project which, with resolve, can show the way for documenting other painted rooms in the province. JMcC

Highland Village, Iona

The cost of the whole Malagawatch project (see *The Griffin*, March 2004), from the site preparation and the move to the reconstruction of the steeple, was almost \$400,000. The steeple is now installed, thanks to the Donner Canadian Foundation (\$50,000.). The balance came from Enterprise Cape Breton, which paid 75% of the capital costs – a deal available only to non-profit societies – and from individual donors (Heritage Trust of Nova Scotia was one of these.)

Funds will continue to be sought for the maintenance of the church. Highland Village opened for the season on May 22nd.

NO'B ☒

Programs sponsored by other societies

Due to space constraints, we regret we are unable to include a complete listing of heritage and historical groups in this issue. Those groups that may have no specific activities for the summer months will be included in the September issue.

Acadian Museum and Archives

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

Art Gallery of Nova Scotia

1723 Hollis Street, Halifax. For information contact Jeff Grey, 424-2903
June 12-September 12

Joint exhibit with the Maritime Museum of the Atlantic, "Masters of the Sea", 58 ships portraits, and artifacts of the Age of Sail.

Charles Macdonald Concrete House of Centreville

19 Saxon Street, Centreville, NS.
Contact: Stephen Slipp 455-0133;
www.concretehouse.ca
Sunday, July 11, 1-4 pm
Museum Open House

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
Friday, June 18, 6:30 pm
Truro hike & museum reception:
Cobequid: 1689-1755, Acadian Life in Colchester. At Museum until late fall.
August 1, 5:30 pm
Acadian Trail Presentation & Run, Belmont
August 2, all day
Acadian Festival with Blou, local Acadian talent, Artisans' Fair, etc.
Downtown Truro

Cole Harbour Heritage Farm Museum

471 Poplar Drive, Dartmouth.
Contact: 434-0222

Dartmouth Heritage Museum Society

Evergreen House, 26 Newcastle Street, Dartmouth. Contact: 464-2300.
May 6-June 26

"The Nova Scotian: The Life and Times of Joseph Howe"

June 30

Exhibition: Blacksmiths of Nova Scotia

August 4-September 25

The Acadian Collection: Folklore, including the works of Helen Creighton.

Fisheries Museum of the Atlantic

Lunenburg. Until October 31, 9:30 am-5:50 pm

Friends of McNabs Island Society

Contact: 434-2254 and 477-0187. For summer access to McNab's phone Mike Tilley, 465-4563. On call service.
Sunday, June 6 (raindate 13th). Annual clean-up. Ferry Terminal (Cable Warf) 9:30 am for departure at 10. Bring lunch. Garbage bags supplied.

Fultz House Museum

33 Sackville Drive, Lr. Sackville, NS.
Information - contact Dale Major, 865-4832

Kings County Historical Society/Old Kings Courthouse Musuem

37 Cornwallis Street, Kentville, NS.
Monday-Saturday, 9 am- 4 pm.
Contact: 902-678-6237

Local Council of Women

989 Young Avenue, Halifax: 423-5300.
Watch for Summer Garden Party date!
Notice: George Wright's 1904 house, celebrating its 100th anniversary, can now be rented for special occasions.

Lunenburg County Historical Society

LaHave Fire Hall, LaHave, NS.
Regular meetings, Tuesdays, 7 pm.
Contact: Jane Houser, 902-634-3489.

Mahone Bay Settlers Museum/Cultural Centre

578 Main Street, Mahone Bay, NS.
Contact: 902-624-6263
Celebrating their 250th year!

Mainland South Heritage Society

Captain William Spry Community Centre, 10 Kidston Road, Spryfield, Halifax. Contact: Iris Shea, 475-3505.
June 12 (rain date, June 13), 10 am
Annual Heritage Walk to historic Rockingstone. Local historians from the Urban Farm Museum Society, Mainland South Heritage Society and CRABapple Mapping Project will be on hand. Meet at the Captain Spry Community Centre parking lot off Sussex Street in Spryfield.
Approximately 1-1/2 hrs.

Maritime Blacksmiths Association

Contact: Barry Allen, 454-2266.
June 30
Exhibition: Blacksmiths of Nova Scotia. Dartmouth Museum.

Maritime Museum of the Atlantic

Lower Water Street, Halifax.
Information: 424-7490.
June 12-September 12
Joint program with the Art Gallery of Nova Scotia: "Masters of the Sea".

Medway Area Heritage Society

Port Medway Summer Readers' Festival, a fundraiser for the Meeting House, its restoration and maintenance. All events at the Meeting House at 7 pm, followed by supper at the Fire Hall. Tickets \$10.00. Call Chris Georgioui at 677-2661.
July 10: Wayne Johnston, reading from *The Colony of Unrequited Dreams* and *The Navigator of New York*
July 24: Marc de Villiers and Sheila Hirtle, reading from *A Dune Adrift in the Atlantic* (Sable Island)
August 14: Howard Norman, reading from a novel in progress.

Memory Lane Heritage Village

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

N.S. Folk Art Society

August 1, 12- 4 pm
16th Annual Festival and Sale, Lunenburg Curling Club. Tel.: 902-766-4295.

Nova Scotia Archaeology Society

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

August 7, all day Grand Pré Historic Site, "Archeology Day". Talks by Craig Chandler, President of the Society, David Christianson, NS Museum Archeologist, Marc LaVoie, Archeologist, Université Ste. Anne, and Jonathan Fowler, Archeologist at Grand Pré.

Nova Scotia Lighthouse Preservation Society

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

June 16, 7:30 pm

"Sentinels on Canvas: British Lighthouses as depicted in Nova Scotia Ship Portraits", Eric Ruff.

June 26, July 31, August 28, September 25

On Water Tour of Lighthouses in Halifax Harbour with guide from NSLPS on the "Sea Tiger"; depart Purcells Cove Marina, 9 am; return approx 4 pm. \$50.00 per person incl. lunch & refreshments. Details and registration: 477-6537.

July 10

East Ironbound Island in Mahone Bay. Depart Lunenburg, 1pm; return approx. 5 pm. \$35.00 per person. Registration required.*

August 14-15 (weather date August 28-29)

Two-day offshore trip to Seal Island, off Cape Sable Island. \$70.00 per person. Registration required.*

*Call Dorothy MacLeod for information and to register for both trips, 423-8034.

Parkdale-Maplewood Community Museum & Fairgrounds

Barss Corner, Lunenburg Co., NS. Contact: Barb Viro, 902-644-2893

Rockingham Heritage Society

Contact Carol Worrell, 443-7073

June 12 (rain date, June 13)

Hike to the "Rocking Stone"

Scott Manor House and Ft. Sackville Foundation

15 Fort Sackville Road, Bedford.

Contact: 835-5368. Website:

www.scottmanorhouse.ca.

Weekly exhibits and events throughout summer. July 1-August 31: Scott Manor, open daily 1-4 pm; Tea Room, featuring home made oatcakes, ice cream and fresh berries in season daily 2-4 pm.

June 26, 2-4 pm

Victorian Tea

September 13, 7:30 pm

Candle light walk to Joseph Scott's grave (commemorating 204th anniversary of his death in the Manor)



South Shore

July 29- August 2, 10 am-6 pm (Sunday, 1-5 pm)

Heritage Quilt show and sale, Anglican Church Hall, Mahone Bay

August 14, 10 am-6 pm

Acadian & First Nations Festival: music, crafts, demonstrations, traditional food, and more. Fort Point Museum, LaHave

August 20-21

Champlain Lecture Series: Elizabeth Jones, "Champlain, the Man", 7 pm, Desbrisay Museum, Bridgewater; Joan Dawson, "Champlain, the Cartographer", 2:00 pm, and John Reid, "Champlain, the Colonizer", 3:30 pm, Wesley United Church, Petite Rivière. Champlain Evening of music, dining and dancing, 6:30 pm, Fire Hall, Petite Rivière

Urban Farm Museum Society of Spryfield

Society meets the second Monday of every month at the Captain William Spry Community Centre, 7:30 pm.

May-August

"Come Grow with Us" for children and their families: a fun way to learn about healthy eating and to grow food for your own family! Adult Farm Volunteer Mentors needed for Saturday learning sessions: Volunteer Mentors will share their skills in organic urban farming and farm development projects. To volunteer or

to enroll children please email: comegrowwithus@hotmail.com or call Pat at 477-6087 or Marjorie at 477-6102.

Wallace and Area Museum

Events held year 'round. Children's Day every second Saturday. Contact: 902-257-2191;

July 11, 2 pm

Celebrating Francis Grant Day. Poetry reading.

August 7

Acadian Celebration: crafts, flea market, food and music

Waverley Heritage Society

1319 Rocklake Drive, Waverley.

Contact: Annie Smith, 861-2427;

July-August, Fridays 2-4 pm

Summer Teas, Waverley Museum, 1319 Rocky Lake Drive. Donations appreciated.

Yarmouth County Museum/Historical Research Library

22 Collins Street, Yarmouth, NS. First Friday of the month at 7.30pm:

Historical Society Meeting; contact 902-742-5539 .

May-October

Exhibits to celebrate the 400th anniversary of the Acadians in Nova Scotia:

"Ships and Shipbuilding of Clare" (many Yarmouth sailing ships were built in Clare). Paintings by Frank Boudreau and Maurice LeBlanc.

"Yarmouth to Tusket" stagecoaches as well as sleighs, our electric car and baby carriages. New Medical, Glass, Tools, Tea Sets, and 18th Century Print Displays. Other exhibits.

July 10, 9am-1pm

Annual Garden Sale

July 14, 3pm

Seafest Talk: Eric Ruff, "Yarmouth Sailing Ships built in Clare"

July 14, 7pm

Historical Walking Tour by Susie Sweeney; starts at YMCA.

July 15, 3pm

Seafest Talk: Eric Ruff & The Yarmouth Shantymen: "Sea Shanties"

July 16, 3pm

Seafest Talk: Susan Winship, "Costumes at the Yarmouth County Museum"

August 6, 7.30 pm

Society Meeting – Program TBA ☒