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The Griffin

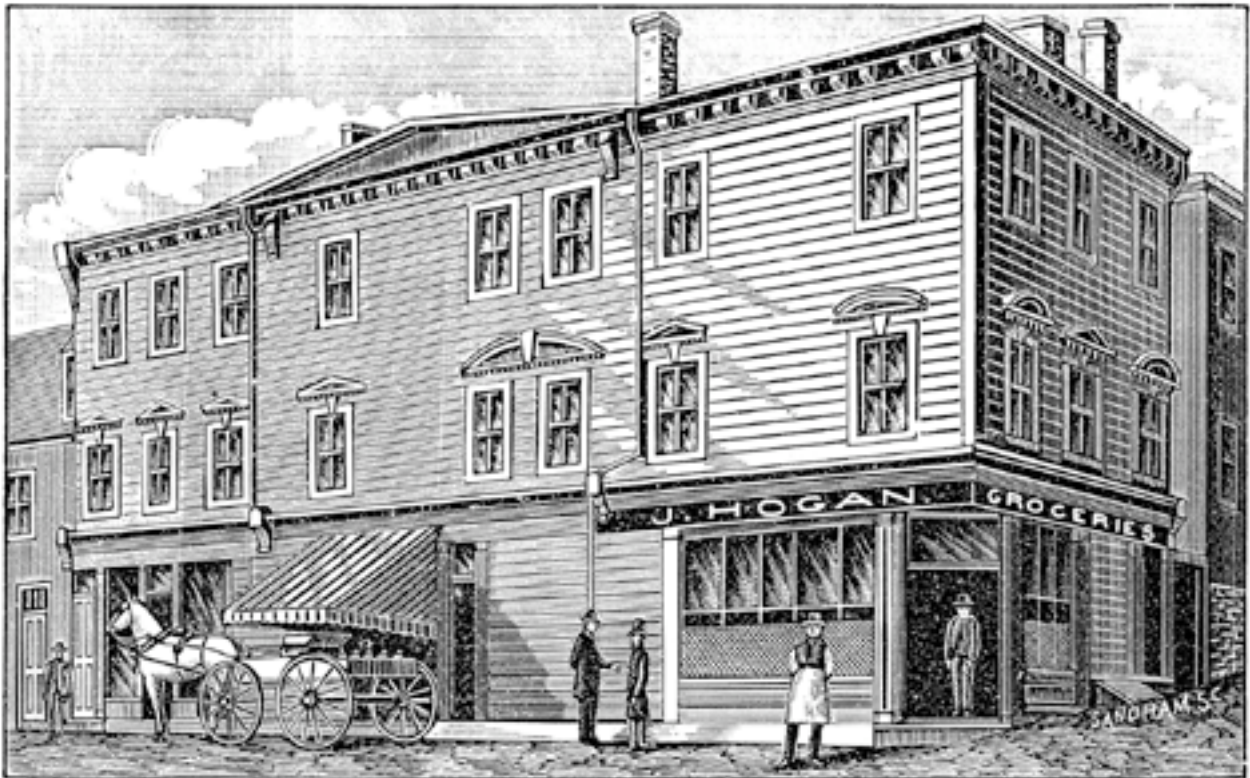
A PUBLICATION OF HERITAGE TRUST OF NOVA SCOTIA
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The Midtown, 1684 Grafton Street: John Hogan, Grocer and Provision Dealer *by Garry D. Shutlak*

Lost in the debate over the new Midtown Development is the building slated for destruction. When it was built is not known, but it appears in Lovell's Nova Scotia Directory 1864/65 as the premises of John Norton, grocer. There is a building on this site on A.F. Church's Topographical Township Map of Halifax County, 1865. Therefore, the building is at least one-hundred-and-

forty years old. The business premises were then occupied by Irish-born John C. Hogan, retail dealer in groceries and country produce as well as ales, wines and liquors.

Mr. Hogan began his business at this location in 1871. Unfortunately, there is little biographical information about this family. *Continued overleaf*



John Hogan, General Dealer in Choice Groceries and Country Produce, also Ales, Wines and Liquors, 66 Grafton, Corner Prince Street.—

Our Dominion Halifax & Environs 1887, p.111.

Midtown: *continued from page 1*

The three-storey, flat-roofed wooden structure was described in the 1887 *Our Dominion Halifax & Environs* (p. 111) as being "most desirably located at the corner of Prince Street" and comprising "a very commodious store, 30x60 feet in dimensions, with a department 15x30 feet devoted to wines and liquors." Mr. Hogan and his family resided above the store, the flat entrance being 52 1/2 Prince Street. In 1904, John C. transferred the business to his son and it became known as James Hogan, grocer and liquor dealer. James ran the business until 1918 and was left the property by his father after his death. Occasionally unoccupied, the building subsequently housed the Economy Grocery Store No 10; Charles E Steeves, grocer; John Thomas, second-hand goods; Halifax Manufacturing and Trading Company; William Ward, barber; John Isley, grocer; Muriel D Brown, grocery and confectionary; and Guy C. Dauphinee, meats and poultry.

According to city directories,

Mr. Dauphinee opened The Midtown Tavern & Grill in 1952. He retired from business in 1971 and Mr. Douglas Grant became the proprietor. It is Mr. Grant and his family who have proposed the new Midtown Tavern and seventeen-storey hotel complex to rise above it. As most of you are aware, the Peninsular Community Council decided not to heed the recommendations of city staff and voted in favour of the proposal. Since this is an area of the city laid and settled after the founding, some archaeological investigation will be done on the site before the complex is built.

With the election coming up in the fall, you know how to thank the community council members who voted for this edifice which we will have to live with for the next forty years. I cannot understand the mindset of the various council members who, over the years, have slowly allowed high-rise structures to overshadow and diminish the importance of the Citadel to the topography and history of Halifax. I visited Spain in the spring, and in the cities of Malaga, Barcelona and Palma de

Mallorca, for example, was struck by the fact that even though these cities had many high-rise structures, their citadel, cathedral or fortress held the place of dominance from the harbour.

Unfortunately, due to the bad decisions of councils in the past and over-development on the waterfront, one day in the near future we may not even be able to see the Citadel from the harbour. More the shame and the pity. ☒



The Griffin

A quarterly newsletter
published by
HERITAGE TRUST OF
NOVA SCOTIA

Unless otherwise indicated,
the opinions expressed in
these pages are those of the
contributors and do not
necessarily reflect the
views of
HERITAGE TRUST OF
NOVA SCOTIA.

Submissions are welcomed.
Deadline for the next issue:
November 1, 2004

Please send your
submissions to
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E-mail material to
heritage.trust@ns.sympatico.ca
Website: www.htns.ca



Where did they live?

In some of the following issues, we plan to focus on people who walked on the world stage and who haunted the Province of Nova Scotia for at least a part of their life. We want to identify where these larger-than-life figures lived.

Recently highlighted in the newspapers was the death of Francis Crick who, together with James Watson, discovered the spiral "double-helix" structure of DNA, setting off revolutionary research in biochemistry.

It is less well known that Oswald Avery, born in Halifax, led a team of two Canadians and one American which identified DNA as a gene. Their discovery was the platform of DNA research, and Avery's work

inspired Watson and Crick to investigate the structure of the DNA gene. Avery's work, published in 1944, was hailed as "the single most important finding in biology of the 20th century..." by Joshua Lederberg on the fiftieth anniversary of the publication of Avery's work, and "...one of the three landmark events of the 20th century, along with Max Planck's quantum concept and Albert Einstein's relativity theories", by Horace Judson in his work, *The Eighth Day of Creation: The Makers of the Revolution in Biology*, 1979. Strangely, the Nobel Prize eluded Avery's team.

Oswald Avery was born in Halifax, Nova Scotia, in 1877. His father was a Baptist minister who,
Continued on Page 10

The little museum built by community spirit *by Jillian Allen*

On the shore of the Avon River, not far from Highway 215, is a charming little museum that was built by community spirit.

Located in the small hamlet of Newport Landing/Avondale, the Avon River Heritage Museum stands in the beautiful countryside of Hants County, where the scenic drive alone is worth the trip. This small museum run by volunteers is a testament to the tremendous local interest in the history and heritage of that area.

The focus of the museum is to preserve the rich heritage of the area. It is astonishing that in this small community of about 300 people, there were once approximately 2500 residents during the industrial boom. The ancestors of many current residents were gifted shipwrights and ships' captains, crewmen and owners during the golden age of wooden shipbuilding. Many of the most common English surnames in this area can be traced back to the arrival of the Planter settlers. For instance, on the site of the museum once stood the Mosher shipyards and the Mosher surname can be traced back to the arrival of James Mosher, a New England Planter settler who arrived in 1760.

It All Started With A Wharf...

The idea for a museum came following a local effort to save the dilapidated Harvie's Wharf from being removed by the federal government. The wharf was turned over to the Municipality of West Hants, along with funds for the wharf's removal. Through volunteer labour, donations and use of the federal money, the wharf was rebuilt. The grand opening celebration became an annual event known as Wharf Days. As part of the annual celebration, a group put together a display of local history and art at a nearby United church. Prompted by spectators to permanently display the articles, the Avon River Heritage Society was formed. The society was



The Avon River Heritage Museum. Not only does the museum celebrate the shipbuilding heritage of historic Newport Landing and the Fundy Shore region, it also houses the delightful and delicious Lydia & Sally Café and Tearoom, open June 15 - October 12.

kindly loaned the front rooms of the Acadia House, across the street from the current site and the home of the Berggren family. This served as a temporary home for the museum. In an attempt to attract more visitors and provide a nice display on wooden shipbuilding, it was suggested that a skeleton of a ship be partially built showing a few frames and planks. Ret. Vice Admiral Hugh MacNeil was discussing this plan with his friend, George Mounce, when Mr. Mounce suggested that he build an entire ship. He agreed to embark on the project if Mr. Mounce would assist him with the financial responsibilities. During that informal conversation the idea for the *Avon Spirit* was born.

The Story of the Avon Spirit

Mention the name *Avon Spirit* around Newport Landing/Avondale and you will hear a variety of emotional anecdotes about this

ship from residents. Some responses brim with pride and joy, while others are touched with sorrow and sadness. I had the pleasure of meeting with Hugh MacNeil one morning to hear the story. He described the community involvement and excitement surrounding the *Avon Spirit* project with so much joy and gleam in his eyes. It was evident that he was very proud to have been an integral part of it all.

The *Avon Spirit* is a square topsail schooner, modeled after the *F.B.G.*, the last cargo schooner built in Nova Scotia and the last ship registered in nearby Windsor. She was built using traditional methods by the shipwrights at Snyder's Shipyard in Dayspring, Nova Scotia. The initial construction was done at Snyder's using their superb facilities, but much of the rest of ship was built in Avondale/Newport Landing at

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Notes from the HTNS Annual General Meeting

The following notes and reports are from the Annual General Meeting of the Heritage Trust held June 17, 2004, at the Museum of Natural History, 1747 Summer Street, Halifax, NS.

President's Report:

Alan Parish, President

Alan Parish reported on accomplishments of the Heritage Trust of Nova Scotia over the past year. They included:

- Hiring a student the summer of 2003 to work out of the offices of the Local Council of Women at 989 Young Avenue, Halifax, to create an exhibit concerning the architecture of the House, the history of the Local Council of Women, and the life of their benefactor, George Wright.
- Our newsletter, *The Griffin*, continued to be published and distributed to the membership.
- Buildings of the Atlantic School of Theology were saved when the City allowed a variance permitting a narrow road, thereby avoiding the demolition of buildings in order to implement the subdivision of land. This was a case of the developer co-operating with the City. The story was published in *Frank Magazine*.
- Richmond Hill Farm: A report from a consultant was prepared to consider whether a restaurant or inn would be a viable use of the Trust's property. Any such alteration in use must involve care to maintain the heritage style of the building. The Trust has an interest in making the property more accessible to the public.
- A meeting with Rodney MacDonald, Minister of Tourism, Recreation and Culture, was arranged with a view to proposing amendments to the *Heritage Property Act*. A meeting was also arranged with the Liberal Caucus. As a result, a Private Member's Bill was introduced proposing the changes we recommended.

- Peter Delefes has been working with the Local Council of Women with a view to helping them maintain and preserve the 1904 house donated to them by George Wright.

- The Trust undertook the very public opposition to the proposed Brewery Market development. The Peninsula Community Council had decided not to grant a public hearing. An appeal was filed by the developer, and the Heritage Trust obtained intervenor status; however, the appeal was ultimately withdrawn. Mr. Parish pointed out that the Trust is not opposed to development, only to *bad* development: we are the *only* voice against bad development.

- The Trust hired an architecture student to research Schmidtville and the Barrington Street Conservation District, with assistance from Elizabeth Pacey. It is hoped that both areas will be implemented as conservation districts in the not-too-distant future.

- The Trust published a pamphlet on Heritage Conservation Districts. Graeme Duffus, the Board's Vice-President of Heritage, published a pamphlet on fire proofing of buildings.

- The Trust has updated, and continues to work on, its website.

- Nancy O'Brien continued to provide us with our highly successful public lecture series.

- The Trust applied for provincial registration of the Foreman-Uniacke House under the Heritage Property Act. This raised the legal issue as to registration of a property without the owner's consent.

- Through education and persistence, the Trust influenced the owners of the Gerrard Hotel to maintain the Georgian cottage located at 1226 Barrington Street, Halifax.

- Elizabeth Pacey attended before the *Historic Sites and Monuments Board* in Ottawa and succeeded in

having the federal classification of the Officer's Mess at Royal Artillery Park reclassified to better recognize its heritage value.

The Trust is currently involved in the Midtown Tavern dispute. Representations have been submitted in writing opposing the proposed development. HRM planning staff have recommended against the proposed highrise, and the HRM Heritage Advisory Committee has rejected the proposal, as has the Planning Advisory Committee. Mr. Parish urged everyone to attend the Public Meeting on Monday, July 12. The developer had the Council Chamber filled on June 11th at the time of the consideration of the proposal by the Planning Advisory Committee. Heritage Trust is the only united voice *contra* the development.

Alan Parish expressed thanks to the retiring Board members, Janet MacKay and Pat Sarratt.

Financial Report:

Fred Hutchinson, Treasurer

This is my first report since being elected to the position of treasurer at the June 2003 Annual General Meeting. It appears that I unwittingly volunteered for committee work on my membership application. My concept of the workload was that I might be asked to stamp envelopes or on some rare occasion be asked for an opinion on a topic on which others were much more informed than I.

Well, as Treasurer, I certainly get to stamp envelopes as well as make all the payments that go into the envelopes. I also have the responsibility of the financial affairs of the Trust and, as a member of the Board, have the opportunity to offer an opinion on what seems to be an endless list of topics.

The fiscal year of 2003 was a very active one for the Trust, and I

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A message from the HTNS President



Alan Parish

September is often regarded as the beginning of a new year. To achieve results, one must have goals. There are two new goals which I would like the Trust to pursue this next year.

First, I would like to embark on a program which would result in the municipal or provincial registration of more heritage buildings in the HRM. To do this, the buildings must be identified, research must be conducted, the owners must be contacted, and

applications made. Our existing resources can identify the buildings to be registered, speak to the owners and submit the applications. What we cannot do, and for which we need help, is the research required to complete the application form for each building.

Secondly, I would like to institute a program to erect plaques of historical interest on heritage buildings in the HRM. Most of us are familiar with such programs in Lunenburg, St. Andrews, New Brunswick, and many other municipalities. Halifax should follow suit. It would go a long way toward increasing pride of ownership for building owners and increasing public awareness

of our heritage. We need a team to identify the buildings, conduct the research and supervise the construction and attachment of the plaques.

These are both time-consuming projects. If any of you can see yourself devoting the required time to these projects over the next few months, we would welcome your assistance. If you are interested, please contact me directly by mail at 6517 Coburg Road, Halifax, NS, B3H 2A6; by phone at 442-8366 or by e-mail at alanparish@ns.sympatico.ca. Any assistance would be appreciated.

Alan Parish, President, HTNS ☒

Historic home for sale in Shelburne



This historic home, above, was built in 1783. At the head of the bay, it offers 3.11 acres with 410+/- feet of oceanfront and the best and most unique views of Shelburne Harbour, as shown right. The house is constructed with pegs (no nails), has a circular staircase, original mouldings and hardwood flooring. New plumbing and new wiring have been put in within the past four years. It is surrounded by various fruit trees and berry bushes, and a stream – a veritable gardener's delight. With some tender loving care, this would make a great summer home or fantastic year-round home. New Price \$279,000 CDN; MLS # 80141054. Sales Person: Susanne Holland, 1-902-875-4400. Email Realtor Website: East Bay Realty Limited - Shelburne, 150 Water Street, P.O. BOX 1177, Shelburne, Nova Scotia, B0T 1W0; 902-875-4400 ☒

United Memorial Church presents...

PLACE: United Memorial Church, 5375 Kaye St., Halifax

TIME: Sunday, Oct. 24, 10:30 am

EVENT: Regular Sunday Service followed by Special Event: "A History of the Negro Spiritual", with performance by Yvonne White, Mezzo-Soprano, accompanied by Joyce Whittier Chaplin, Pianist.



Notes: Continued from Page 4

offer the following information. We started the year with a bank balance of \$9,028. During the year we received revenue from various sources in the amount of \$33,844. This included \$5,329 in membership dues, \$9,653 in donations, MacDonald House rent of \$3,850, \$1,588 from publications, \$2,520 in grants, \$1,782 in HST rebates, \$1.00 in interest on our bank account, and a transfer of \$9,121 from our investment fund.

Thanks to the investment fund, we are able to maintain a strong financial presence in the heritage community. The value of our investments grew last year by nearly 12%, resulting in a gain of \$97,006. The value of the fund at year's end was \$890,360. Our assets also include the MacDonald House in Windsor (Richmond Hill Farm) valued at \$173,500. The final "book value" of assets for 2003 totalled \$1,094,017.

Our expenses for the year were \$44,492, well below the approved budget of \$57,700. I would like to equate this to good fiscal management, but the audit reveals that it is more likely due to inactivity of various projects or committees. As we plunge ever deeper into the mandate of heritage preservation, there is a need to maintain the security blanket of our assets. There is also an obligation, however, for the Trust to be a leader within the heritage community. I welcome and appreciate the continued participation and financial assistance from our membership.

HTNS obtains HRM Communities Grant to finance painted room project

In July, Heritage Trust received a \$4,750 HRM Communities Grant for documenting the painted room on Oxford Street in Halifax and for the cost of its conservation. This is the first project of this type to be helped by this fund, which is intended to support communities in their conservation efforts and includes build-

Heritage has two forms. One is physical and should be treasured, while the other is but a fleeting memory.

Nominating Committee Report:

Peter Delefes, Past President and Chair, Nominating Committee

The Nominating Committee, comprised of Alan Parish, David Garrett and Peter Delefes, submitted the following names for consideration as members of the Board of Directors of the Heritage Trust of Nova Scotia at the Annual General Meeting in June. The slate of Board members for 2004-2005 was passed unanimously.

EXECUTIVE

President, Alan V. Parish
Past President, Peter Delefes
Vice President (Heritage), Graeme Duffus
Vice President (Finance), Mark Stewart
Treasurer, Fred Hutchinson
Secretary, Janet Morris

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Membership, Sandra Sackett
Newsletter, Anthony Lamplugh
N.S. Communities, Molly Titus
Programme, Nancy O'Brien
Projects, John Crace
Publications/Books, Elizabeth Pacey
Publicity, Vicki Grant
Research, Dawn Erickson
Awards, Joyce McCulloch

ing interiors. It is hoped that community college and NSCAD students will gain valuable experience from this project. Heritage Trust Board member Joyce McCulloch is to be congratulated for this initiative which she sees as a pilot project that should encourage protection of Nova Scotia's treasures. NO'B

N.S. Governor of Heritage Canada,
Brenda Shannon

MEMBERS AT LARGE

Retiring 2005

Anita Price
Janice Zann
Homer Noble
Kevin Ball
Mary Guildford

Retiring 2006

David Murphy
Dianne Marshall
Katie Cotteau-Robbins
Alan Ruffman
Bill Turpin

Retiring 2007

Colin Campbell
Deborah Carver
Jonathan Fowler
Michael Tavares
Millard Wright

The meeting was adjourned at 8:10 p.m. and followed by the last public lectures in the spring series, presented by Brenda Dunn. ☒

Book launch: Invitation extended to HTNS members

Members of the Heritage Trust are invited for 7:00 pm, Thursday, September 30, at the Halifax Public Library, 5381 Spring Garden Road, to celebrate the launch of *At the Crossroads: A History of Sackville, New Brunswick*, a new book by well-known educator, William Hamilton. The publisher is Gaspereau Press of Kentville, NS. Two other readings are also scheduled: Word on the Street, Halifax, Sunday, September 19, and the Fifth Annual Gaspereau Press Wayzgoose, Saturday, October 23, 3:00 pm, 47 Church Avenue, Kentville. ☒

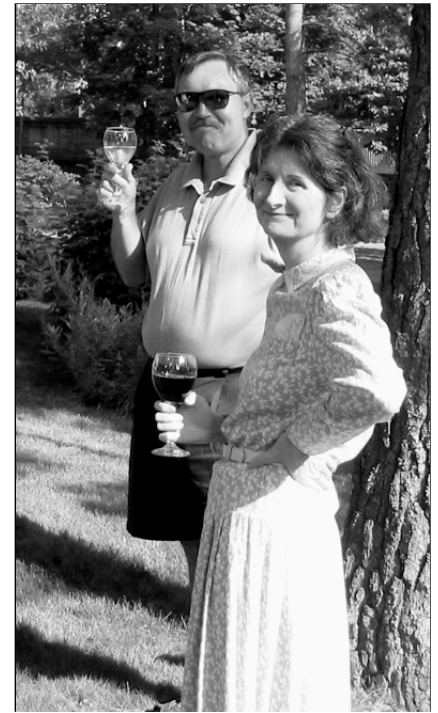
Summer Garden Party for the Board



Board members had an opportunity to enjoy some fine summer weather at a garden party hosted by Board President, Alan Parish, and Sandra Sackett. Wine, cheese and hors d'oeuvres, warm August sunshine and flowers galore pro-



vided a much more informal setting for everyone than the usual board room venue! Several new Board members were able to attend and got to meet their fellow Trustees. ☒



New lives for heritage properties

by Linda Forbes

Capturing the excitement felt by owners for their buildings is one means of encouraging others in their attempts to preserve our architectural heritage, whether publicly or privately owned. Encouragement, as much as education, was our aim in choosing "New Lives for Heritage Properties" as the theme for the May 29 Annual General Meeting of the Provincial Heritage Property Owners' Association of Nova Scotia (PHPOANS). Learning how others went about repairing, rehabilitating and finding new uses for their properties provided members and guests with practical advice, as well as the moral support sometimes needed when one is face-to-face with an old house. Grand Pré was the logical location for the meeting: in the year of *le congrès mondial acadien*, where else should we meet but the site of Canada's first Rural Heritage District, blessed with architectural treasures and home to the new Acadian interpretive centre?

The PHPOANS business meeting, for owners and delegates of provincially registered properties, preceded the afternoon workshop sessions, to which non-owners were welcomed. The presence of the Board of Heritage Trust which was meeting concurrently with local heritage representatives nearby meant that we were able to expand the audience for the final report of the Study on Insurance for Registered Heritage Buildings. The report's author, Beverly Miller, was in attendance to answer questions. Incoming Chair Jens Jensen, the Board member responsible for liaison with Ms. Miller, presented the report. Recommendations included inservicing for insurance agents about the nature and requirements of the *Heritage Property Act* and the publication of an educational brochure aimed at consumers. PHPOANS is calling on the provincial government to assist

with finalizing the brochure's contents and with production costs.

The main problem identified in the report was misinformation on the part of some agents about the legal effects of registration of a heritage building. Anecdotal evidence suggested a belief that the *Act* requires use of original building techniques during repair or that underlying, invisible structural elements must be replaced with identical material. Such has not been the case. However, exaggeration about the restrictions imposed by registration has made it difficult for some municipal heritage officers to encourage designation, which is intended to extend protection to heritage properties. These buildings form a valuable part of our common heritage capital.

The keynote address by Neil Hisgen, assisted by Michael Tavares, told the story of transforming the abandoned Charles Richards House into an elegant bed and breakfast inn. The first of their projects in Yarmouth, but only one in a series for Michael Tavares, its influence of the restoration and of the owners' passion for making heritage properties economically viable has spread around the town and beyond. A practical result has been the establishment of a Yarmouth buying cooperative for fuel oil, paint and hardware. To encourage protection of properties through registration, only owners of designated properties may participate in the buying group. With fifty or so members, the group offers enough business to interest local merchants, and savings are significant. In a year when many roofs were being redone, a 25-to-30-percent discount on shingles was negotiated. Last year, painting was the major project. More projects are envisioned, including a ten-year tree revitalization programme with cost-sharing by the town. (In the Victorian period, horse chestnuts were brought

back from China.) Insurance costs and availability have been in the forefront of PHPOANS's concerns for more than a year, and the question about group buying arose naturally. Although he could see some complications with "group shopping" for insurance because of different building uses within the group, Michael was quite specific about the approach he took when putting his own insurance business out to tender. His confident, can-do attitude was infectious.

The "Lessons Learned" session was intended to be instructive, both in the questions to be addressed before and during work on an old building and in the specifics of building material and style. Panellists presented shingle, brick and stone buildings, private and commercial; all were residential in use. Ned King's thoughtful and thorough presentation was memorable in part because of the immense amount of work undertaken by the King family and the commitment to respecting the character of their Cape Cod home. As part of his discussion of choices made in rebuilding, Ned contrasted the quality and durability of new wood he has added to that of the original wood in the building.

Some of Joyce and Paul McCulloch's experiences with their stone house have been recorded in *Affairs with Old Houses*, but hearing the unexpurgated version was a treat. From the first sighting of the abandoned house, with the table still set, to the cast of characters in the neighbourhood and the Italian workmen who lived on site during the week, the tales leavened Paul's discussion of the structural (and material) considerations peculiar to stone construction. Chance, hard work by the owners, and expert help in the form of masons from the Louisbourg reconstruction, all played a part in the saga

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Archeology Day at Grand Pré *by Nancy O'Brien*

During the Acadian summer of 2004, among the hundreds of events, was a day at Grand Pré devoted to educating the public about archeological activity underway at various Acadian sites in Nova Scotia.

Jonathan Fowler, one of our new Board members, directs an archeology field school at Grand Pré for Saint Mary's. It has long been known that the memorial church is not on the actual site of the original Acadian Saint-Charles-des-Mines church, where men and boys were detained in 1755 to await the arrival of the ships that would deport them. The location may soon be identified, however, as a flow of new information is added to the work of many historians.

Oral tradition attributes the striking old willow trees to the Acadians, and there have been sporadic small digs for over a century, whether searching for supposed Acadian treasure or from a

natural curiosity about what might turn up. Thus was unearthed a peaked-lid coffin, considered an early 17th century form (compared to later flat tops). Archeologists know that older practices are perpetuated among people remote from influences of new ideas and techniques, as the Acadians were from France.

Artifacts unearthed

Finds from digging both at Grand Pré and Belleisle, near Port Royal, though numerous have not been spectacular, but there will be more. "Hedge assassination" will occur as the ornament of the lovely Grand Pré park has to be disturbed while the dig goes on. Marc Lavoie, who conducts the field school at Belleisle (Université Ste. Anne), has identified a quantity of china and glass. Also unearthed are musket balls, a coin, nails, melted window glass, and more "china". One speculates that early digging may have been done where surface evidence

appeared.

An account of military life at Grand Pré from the journal of one of Col. Winslow's ensigns gives valuable detail about the layout of the site. Published in 1925, it was too late to help J.F. Herbin, the Wolfville jeweller and historian, and the committee of Acadians who began constructing the memorial church in 1922. Add to the search methods the "EM 38", demonstrated at the August event by Duncan McNeill of Chester. A hand-held device – "a level on steroids" – it can be swept across a field to reveal hidden structures, or the walls and foundations thereof. It detects microscopic electric currents and magnetic activity and areas of anomalies that can be followed up by the archeologists. Geologists have helped in identifying basalt from North Mountain used in Acadian foundations and slate (1'ardoise) used in hearths and cellars.

David Christianson of the Nova Scotia Museum noted that the French arrived in Nova Scotia during "the Little Ice Age" which ended around 1850. Their survival, as we know, owes much to the help offered by native friends.

A scholar from California has contributed an impressive inventory of the species of animals and fish hunted by the First Nations and the Acadians.

Excavation resumed

Excavation at Belleisle, where the houses were destroyed in November 1755, was begun by Dr. Erskine in the 1960s and resumed sporadically in the intervening years. It is again underway, directed by Dr. Marc Lavoie, who will be giving the Heritage Trust Public Lecture on October 26, 2004.

It seems that more remains to be done. This offers some promising careers to Nova Scotians who can now study at their home universities the archeology of our historic sites. ☒

New Lives: *continued from page 8*

of the Port Hood house. The importance of access to a body of competent workers and advisors was one of the lessons Paul shared.

Janet Morris, our third panelist, acknowledged the quandaries faced by owners with incomplete documentation of their buildings or by those who need to add to the building for economic or legal reasons but who are concerned about not detracting from the original character. Janet's conversion of a Halifax town house into rental suites provided examples of the myriad decisions to be made and potential pitfalls to be avoided. She recounted the development process, problems faced and solutions chosen, without discouraging others from undertaking a similar project. With grace and humour she recounted the search

for a design for the top floor dormers and the reaction of a purist friend to the final product.

By the end of the day, and another Board meeting, members felt that the commitment shown by the original Board, some of whose members were retiring, would clearly be honoured by the new Board. What was particularly heartening was the interest shown by several owners of commercial properties in actively promoting Nova Scotia's heritage buildings. The enthusiasm demonstrated by new volunteers means that the organization has the energy to tackle the ongoing challenges of supporting and advocating for the preservation of our provincial built heritage.

Linda Forbes is Secretary for PHPOANS ☒

Heritage Trust of Nova Scotia Public Lecture Series

Autumn 2004



Acadie continues...

Unless otherwise noted, all Heritage Trust public lectures are held at the Museum of Natural History, Summer Street, Halifax

Thursday, Sept. 16, 7:30 pm

*"Nova Scotia in the Age of Sail:
The ship-builders"*

Speaker: Dr. Charles Armour,
archivist

Tuesday, Oct. 26, 7:30 pm**

Joint meeting with the Nova Scotia Archeology Society.
Illustrated lecture: *"Archeological
Activity at Belleisle, Annapolis
County"*

Speaker: Dr. Marc Lavoie,
ethnologiste, Université Ste.
Anne

**Wednesday, Nov. 17, 6 pm
for 6:30 - Annual Dinner**

Almon Room, The Halifax Club,
1682 Hollis Street, Halifax
*"The Acadians and the Mi'kmaq
of Nova Scotia"*

Speaker: Dr. Janet Chute, histo-
rian, Mount Saint Vincent
University

Tickets: \$30; payment in
advance. Deadline: November
10, 2004. For reservations contact
HTNS office at 425-4807 or visit
our website at www.htns.ca

**** Please note change from
usual day.**



Museum: *continued from page 3*

the Avon Spirit shipyard, which was constructed specially to build the vessel. The keel laying ceremony was held in July 1996, the ship was worked on through the winter of 1996 and launched the following July, although she was not fully rigged until 1998. During the building of the schooner, some 20,000 visitors came to watch the shipwrights work at this "living museum".

To finance the building of the *Avon Spirit* and its shipyard, Avon Spirit Inc. was formed along with a shareholder co-op known as Avon Spirit Co-Operative, Ltd. Additional funding was provided by a business loan from the N.S. Business Development Corp. (now known as N.S. Business Inc.) and a line of credit for immediate expenses from the Royal Bank. The original plan was to sell the *Avon Spirit*. It was thought that a good way to attract potential buyers would be to use the schooner as a charter, but it was not financially plausible to charter on the

Where: *Continued from page 2*

upon hearing voices, had emigrated with his family from England five years earlier and settled at what is now known as 2370 Moran Street in an indistinct house in central Halifax not marked as a monument. When Oswald was 10, his father heard a voice urging him to take up the ministry in New York, whereupon the family left the Maritimes. It is not known that they ever returned.

Avery did his most important work at the Rockefeller Institute in New York. It became the beginning of the science of immuno-chemistry, which thereafter became a distinct medical discipline. Avery conducted his research and taught at the Institute for many years, and was 66 years old when his paper on DNA was published. Only a year before his death, Watson and

Avon River, and entering the Halifax charter market was prohibitively expensive. She was chartered at Mahone Bay for the summer of 1999, at Bedford Basin for the summer of 2000 during the Tall Ships event, and rented for the filming of *"La Veuve de St. Pierre"* in Louisburg. She participated in the Eastern Odyssey tour but has remained unsold. Due to the huge start-up costs in running the charter operation, there was not enough revenue from the *Avon Spirit's* activities to break even and losses occurred. Eventually, N.S. Business Inc. seized the vessel to recover some of their financial losses in the venture. In addition to the shareholders' investment losses, the officers of Avon Spirit Inc. were held personally financially accountable for portions of the debt and a personal asset had to be sold.

Though this might seem a sad ending to a story about a ship so admired by the public, the project was not a complete failure. The schooner did generate attention

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Crick hit upon the structure of the DNA molecule. It was their work which led to the Nobel Prize in 1962, rather than the work of the by then deceased Avery.

Avery has been recognized by the Institute's successor, Rockefeller University: they named their only gated entrance to the university after him and constructed the gate with Canadian granite. The university celebrated the 50th anniversary of the discovery of DNA by Avery and his colleagues, although little has been done in Canada to honour this Halifax-born scientist. The Dalhousie University Faculty of Medicine has established a scholarship in his name, and Dr. Tarunendu Ghose, Professor Emeritus of Pathology, is pursuing some glory for Oswald Avery by seeking to have his birthplace recognized as a Halifax landmark.

(J.M. with thanks to Dr. T. Ghose for this contribution) ☒

Programs sponsored by other societies

Acadian Museum and Archives

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

Amherst Township Historical Society

c/o Cumberland County Museum, 150 Church Street, Amherst. Contact: Barb Thompson, 902-667-2561. Meets six times year, last Tuesday of the month at 7.30pm

Argyle Municipality Historical and Genealogical Society

Tusket, Yarmouth County.
www.argylecourthouse.com

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.

Exhibit: "The Acadian heritage in prints/ L'Acadie: un témoignage en

Museum: continued from page 10

for the museum. CBC host Wayne Rostad of the TV series "On the Road Again" taped a segment on the *Avon Spirit*, and most visitors to the museum ask about the ship. She has been sold by N.S. Business Inc., and her home is currently Ingonish. Although it perhaps might have been wiser not to finance a charter operation for the *Avon Spirit*, nevertheless, the goal to produce a fine, wooden Nova Scotian schooner was achieved, and she was enjoyed by everyone who got a chance to see her or sail on her.

And that's the story of the *Avon Spirit* schooner and her relationship with the little museum built by community spirit.

Jillian Allen, of Windsor, is a music student at Dalhousie University. This summer she was working as a guide at the Avon River Heritage Museum. ☒

gravure" until January 16, 2005. Held over to October 31 due to popular demand: "Masters of the Sea", 58 Ship portraits and artifacts of the Age of Sail.

Bedford Heritage Society

9 Spring Street, Bedford. Dates, times of meetings, programs, etc., contact Marvin Silver, 835-0317

Charles Macdonald Concrete House of Centreville

19 Saxon Street, Centreville, NS. Contact: Stephen Slipp, 902-455-0133; www.concretehouse.ca

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, Amherst Township Historical Society, 902-667-2561

Dartmouth Heritage Museum Society

Evergreen House, 26 Newcastle Street, Dartmouth (former home of Dr. Helen Creighton). For hours, events, etc., contact: 464-2300.

Federation of Nova Scotian Heritage

For more information on any of the programs and events outlined below, contact FNSH at 1-800-355-6873/423-4677, visit <http://www.fnsh.ns.ca/>. Friday, September 10, 9:00 am-4:30 pm Workshop: "Adding to Archway Online"; location: computer lab at the Nova Scotia Provincial Library, 3770 Kempt Road, Halifax NS (Some parking spaces available in front of building. Sign in at reception desk.) \$25; Instructor: Karen White, CNSA Education Outreach & Network Archivist; attendance limited to 20

persons. (2 persons at each computer). To register, contact CNSA office.

Fieldwood Heritage Society

PO Box 8, Canning, NS B0P 1H0; e-mail: fieldwood@ns.sympatico.ca <http://fieldwoodhs.ednet.ns.ca>. Wednesday, October 20, 8:00pm Society Fall Meeting, Fire Hall, Seminary Avenue, Canning

Fisheries Museum of the Atlantic

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

Friends of McNabs Island Society

Contact: 434-2254
Sat., September 11 (rain date, Sat., Sept. 18) Annual Paddle & Cleanup of McNabs and Lawlor Islands Provincial Park. Contact Dusan, 422-4015 (eve.)
Sunday, October 17 (rain date, Sunday Oct. 24), 10 am-4 pm Fall Foliage Tours, McNabs and Lawlor Islands Provincial Park. Meet at Four Winds Charters, Cable Wharf, Halifax. Contact Carolyn Mont, 477-0187; or email: mcnabs@chebucto.ns.ca; www.mcnabsisland.ca. Cost TBA.

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-Sat., 9 am- 4 pm. Contact: 902-678-6237 or 902-678-6237. Admission free except where otherwise noted.

Local Council of Women

989 Young Avenue, Halifax. Information: 423-5300.
Sat., October 23, 7:30 p.m. Inaugural Agnes Dennis Lecture in celebration of the 100th anniversary of the House. *Speaker:* Chief Justice Beverley

McLaughlin, Supreme Court of Canada. Sobey's Auditorium, Saint Mary's University. Lecture is free and open to the public. *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.

Mainland South Heritage Society

Captain William Spry Community Centre, 10 Kidston Road, Spryfield, Halifax. Meets on last Thursday of each month at 7:30 pm. Contact: Iris Shea, 475-3505.

Thursday, Sept. 30 at 7:30 pm
"Building Nova Scotia Brick by Brick", *speaker:* Millard Wright

Maritime Museum of the Atlantic

Lower Water Street, Halifax.
Information: 426-7490.
Held over to October 31, "Masters of the Sea" - Joint program with the Art Gallery of Nova Scotia

Medway Area Heritage Society

Contact: Chris Georghiou, e-mail: .
laughing.dog@ns.sympatico.ca

Memory Lane Heritage Village

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

Mersey Heritage Society

Contact: Craig Chandler, e-mail:
.cchandler@seacorcanada.com

Northwest Arm Heritage Association

Contact: Guy MacLean, 429-9412
Wed., Oct. 24 at 7:30 pm
Illustrated talk: "The Rise and Fall of Rowing on the Northwest Arm", *speaker:* Richard Rivers, Armdale Yacht Club

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
Tuesday, October 26, 7:30 p.m.
Joint meeting with HTNS.
Speaker: Dr. Marc Lavoie (see p. 10)

Nova Scotia Lighthouse Preservation Society

Maritime Museum of the Atlantic, 1679 Lower Water Street, Halifax.
Contact: 424-7490
Sat., September 25, 9 am-4 pm
On-water tour on "SeaTiger" of lighthouses in Halifax Harbour, with guide from NSLPS. Departs Purcells Cove Marina 9 am; \$50/person, lunch and refreshments included. Details and registration: 477-6537
Wed., October 27, 7 pm/7:30 pm
7 pm: Reports of NSLPS activities
7:30 pm: Program - "Chebucto Head Lighthouse, Past and Future"
Fri., November 26, 7 pm
Adult Workshop: build a model of historic Point Prim lighthouse (Digby Co.). Participation limited; fee for materials; registration: 423-8034 after October 1.

Royal Nova Scotia Historical Society

Contact: Janet Guildford, 450-5200;
Website: www.nsga.ednet.ns.ca/rnshs.
Wednesday, September 15
Annual Phyllis R. Blakeley Memorial Lecture: "The Voice of Women in Halifax in the 1960's", by Frances Early.
Wednesday, Oct. 20
"The Building of All Saints Cathedral", *speaker:* Bill Nastell
Wednesday, Nov. 16 - to be announced
Wednesday, Dec. 8
"Joseph Howe", *speaker:* David Sutherland

Scott Manor House and Ft. Sackville Foundation

15 Fort Sackville Road, Bedford.
Contact: 835-5368; www.scottmanor-house.ca.

Urban Farm Museum Society of Spryfield

Society meets the second Monday of every month at the Captain William

Spry Community Centre, 7:30 pm.
Contact: Jean White 477-2933
Saturday, September 11, 2-4 pm
Annual Harvest Fair at Farm, Kidston Dr., Spryfield.
Entertainment: Skippy Mardon & her young fiddlers; fun, games & food for all ages. See and taste our produce.

Wallace and Area Museum

Events held year 'round. Children's Day every second Sat.. Contact: 902-257-2191; e-mail: remshag@auracom.com

Yarmouth County Museum/Historical Research Library

22 Collins Street, Yarmouth, NS. First Friday of the month at 7.30pm:
Historical Society Meeting; second Tuesday of each month, 7pm, Travel Series (admission \$3/person); first Saturday of the month, 10am to noon: Spinners Group. For museum and archives hours: contact 902-742-5539; <http://yarmouthcountymuseumednet.ns.ca>
Through to October
Exhibits: "Ships and Shipbuilding of Clare" (many Yarmouth sailing ships were built in Clare); Paintings by Frank Boudreau and Maurice LeBlanc
Sunday, Sept 26, afternoon
Rappie Pie Workshop (call Brandi at 742-5539 - limited attendance)
Friday, Oct 1, 7.30 pm
Society Meeting - *speaker:* Alex Wilson
"Great Gardens of the Eastern Seaboard" or "Historical Gardens of Nova Scotia".
Friday, Nov 5, 7.30 pm
Society Meeting - Program TBA
Saturday, November 6, 9am-1pm
Seminar: "Our Heritage — What Now?", hosted by Education Committee for the Joint Heritage Advisory Committee for the Town of Yarmouth and the Municipality of Yarmouth, together with the Heritage Committee from the Municipality of Argyle. Public invited (RSVP and questions to Eric Ruff at 902-742-5539 (w) or 902-742-8145 (h)).
Saturday, Dec 4, 1 - 5 pm
Annual Yuletide House Tour & Tea
Friday, Dec 10, 7.30 pm
Society Meeting - Christmas Program. ☒