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# *The Griffin*

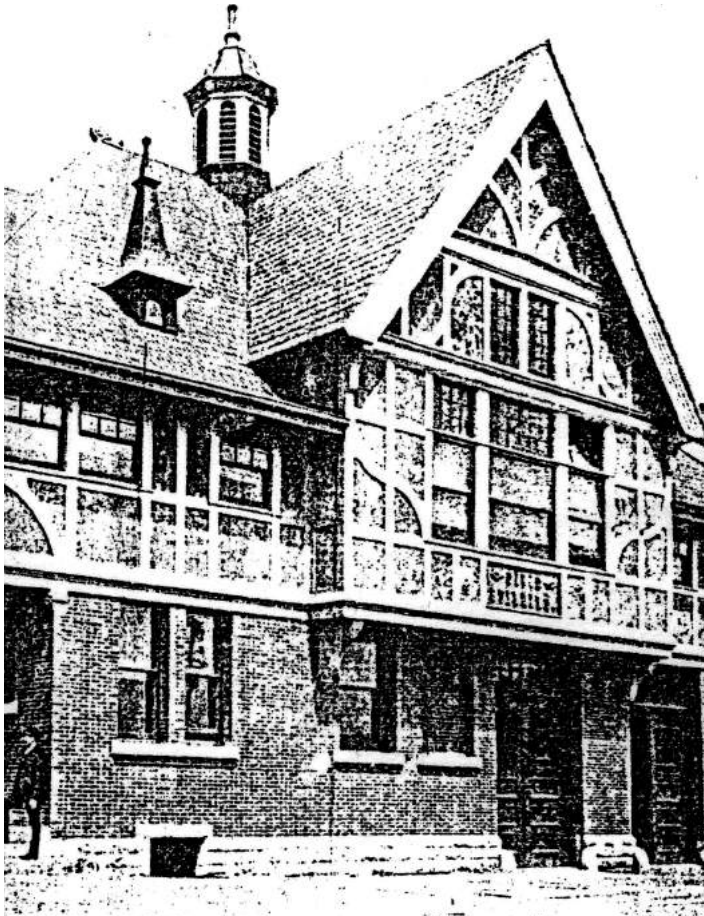
A PUBLICATION OF HERITAGE TRUST OF NOVA SCOTIA  
*HERITAGE TRUST OF NOVA SCOTIA is a charitable organization. All donations are tax creditable.*

## **Windsor's conflagration and subsequent rebirth as an architecturally-designed town** *by Garry D. Shutlak*

On October 16th, 1897 the town of Windsor was visited by a devastating fire causing some two million dollars in damage. Five hundred buildings were destroyed and twenty-five hundred people left homeless in a town of three thousand souls. Schools, churches, businesses, wharves, warehouses and homes were lost on King,

Gerrish, Stannus, Albert, Cedar, Chestnut, Victoria, Gray, O'Brien and Wentworth Streets, Chapel Lane and Clifton Avenue. Some of the finest surviving images of that fire were the work of amateur photographer, George H. Wright, of directory and "Titanic" fame. Mr.

*Continued on page 10*



*Windsor Town Hall, left, included the fire station and an auditorium located on the upper corner of Gerrish and Gray Streets. The building was designed in a mock Tudor or Chalet style and replaced by an IGA grocery store. The Windsor Academy, right, was at Windsor and Victoria streets. Elliot & Hopson competed with 11 other firms and won the contract. It was demolished in the last decade.*

# The Stars and Stripes to be raised on Deadman's Island, May 30

Monday, May 30, 2005, 11:00 am-1:00 pm

Deadman's Island Historic Park will be the scene of an unveiling of a group monument by a representative of the American government this Memorial Day (US). Bands will play and flags will fly.

The monument will commemorate 195 American prisoners of war who died at Melville Island military prison during the War of 1812. The remains cannot be

identified as the soldiers were buried without uniforms, having died of communicable diseases – scarlet fever and typhoid. Spanish and French prisoners also died during these ravages.

Come and be part of this ceremony at the new Halifax Park. JM

*Note:* To be published this spring: *Deadman's: Melville Island and its Burial Ground*, by Iris Shea and Heather Watts. ☒

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## Capital District Urban Design Awards

HRM is inviting participation in the "Second Annual Capital District Urban Design Awards" program. Application and nomination forms are available at the Capital District offices at 2nd floor Halifax Ferry Terminal or by calling 490-5330, and on line at [www.halifax.ca/capitaldistrict](http://www.halifax.ca/capitaldistrict). People are asked to register their intention to participate in the awards by calling 490-6735 or by

emailing [curriem@halifax.ca](mailto:curriem@halifax.ca) by March 14. The deadline for submissions is Wednesday, March 30 at 4:00 pm.

Submissions will be on display at the Art Gallery of Nova Scotia between April 4 and 28. The awards ceremony will take place at the AGNS on Thursday, April 28 at 4:30 pm.

For more information call Marion Currie at 490-6735. ☒

## John Edward Chataway

*Gail Smith of Chester writes about John Chataway, MLA Chester-St. Margarets, whose death occurred in Toronto on December 31, 2004. Ed.*

John was a founding member of the Chester Municipal Heritage Society and Chairman of the Board of Directors for over 20 years. He remained an active member after he was elected to the House of Assembly.

John organized the auction as a fund raiser for the Heritage Society and discovered that he had a talent for auctioneering. It raised thousands of dollars for the Society and other organizations. He negotiated with Marion and John McNutt for the Lordly property in Chester for a park and museum. He had the knack of attracting people to the cause of preserving the community's heritage; as a teacher he organized field trips for his students, sharing his passion for heritage with them.

The Federation of Nova Scotian Heritage has recognized John Chataway with its Lifetime Achievement Award. ☒



## The Griffin

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Unless otherwise indicated, the opinions expressed in these pages are those of the contributors and do not necessarily reflect the views of

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Submissions are welcomed.  
Deadline for the next issue:

**May 1, 2005**

Please send your  
submissions to

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# Hazel Hill : A telegrapher's community *by Graeme F. Duffus*

Recently, GF Duffus and Company were engaged by the Guysborough County Regional Development Authority (GCRDA) to undertake a report on the Commercial Cable Office Building in Hazel Hill, near Canso. Like many, I suspect, we had no previous knowledge as to where Hazel Hill was or what had occurred there, let alone the story of early communication centred in this now considered remote part of Nova Scotia.

The story really begins with an American merchant, Cyrus Field, who not only conceived of trans-Atlantic cable communication, but also had the financial backing to successfully lay cable between Europe and Newfoundland in 1858; the first message came through on August 16, 1858. When the Anglo-American group secured a 50-year monopoly for cable communication in Newfoundland, it did not take long for competitors to find an alternate route. In 1874, Direct United States Cable Company established the first cable station in Canada at Tor Bay, Guysborough County, because of its unique location. The 3000 nautical miles from New York to Europe was too long for the techniques of the day, so a relay station was essential for retransmitting messages at an acceptable "working speed". The Tor Bay station was known as "Faraday Station" after Michael Faraday, the discoverer of gutta percha used to insulate submarine cable; it ceased operations in 1887. Another competitor, Western Union Telegraph Company, landed its first cable in Canso in 1881 and operated in Canso until 1955.

The third competitor, Commercial Cable Company, was founded in 1883 by John William MacKay, an American financier, who joined forces with James Gordon Bennett, the aggressive publisher and proprietor of the *New York Herald*, a newspaper



*Above, the Commercial Cable Company, main cable office, November, 2004. Below the main cable office circa 1900. Photos: courtesy Graeme Duffus.*



prominent in publishing international stories. Bennett employed state-of-the-art technology to increase his circulation and, with his office in Paris, France, he depended on telegraph cabling. In order to break the monopoly of Anglo-American and bring prices down for his newspapers, Bennett partnered with MacKay and chose Hazel Hill, which was in close proximity to the Western Union Station in Canso. It was also equidistant from the two cable landing sites at Fox Island and Little Dover. Eventually, Commercial Cable expanded to include their own cable laying and maintenance ships, named after themselves.

The "Canso Station" at Hazel Hill was an impressive operation on the world communication stage. While it was the Americans who conceived and financed trans-Atlantic communication, it was German-designed cable constructed in England, English ships and men who laid it, and virtually all cable operators were rigidly trained in England. Most instruments were the production and invention of English scientists, although the Creed Automatic Printing Device, used in nearly every cable office in the world, was invented by Frederick Creed, a native Nova Scotian. As such,  
*continued on page 4*

## Hazel Hill: continued from Page 3

Commercial Cable (CC) relied almost exclusively on the English for operation and management personnel. The Hazel Hill "Canso Station" was promoted as being the most technologically advanced cable station of its time. In order to attract and retain their workforce, CC provided generous salaries and luxurious working and living conditions for their British telegraphers and their families. Employees lived rent free in homes provided by the company and had a multitude of recreation and leisure activities available to them. Along with one month's vacation a year, they received a \$50 bonus every three years. "Such amenities in the 19th century were virtually unheard of."

The first superintendent of CC was Samuel S. Dickenson, who was recruited to establish the Hazel Hill operation in 1881. During his 20-year tenure he was credited with creating a community that was insular, self-supporting and very British. Dickenson was perhaps the highest salaried employee in all of Nova Scotia at the turn of the century, earning \$3,500 per year.

Hazel Hill was carefully laid out on the gentle slope of a low, flat drumlin in a formal arrangement of buildings that described a distinctive way of life based on the hierarchical order of authority within the company. The superintendent's house was placed in the centre, flanked on either side by an equal number of family houses. The cable office was on the west end of the complex and the bachelor apartments on the east end. The school and church were placed along the road connecting Hazel Hill to Canso. The tennis courts and the boathouse were in the large, recreational front yard, and the cricket pitch was placed atop the drumlin. The family houses were bought as prefabricated packages from a company in Toronto and shipped through Truro. Architect-designed and constructed of brick and granite,

the main cable office was unique to the landscape. This impressive structure was by far the most impressive building on the peninsula and is said to have been intended to "signify the presence of Engineers". The main street was said to be curbed and gas lit, and the community had not only its own electricity, but water and sewer as well. Upper middle class England was thus transplanted into the remote Nova Scotia barren – no wonder the locals referred to this community as the "people from away". In 1899, the cable office was expanded to almost double the size. The new and improved Operator's room had a high tin ceiling and through here came about 3,000 messages a day.

Newspaper correspondents tended to view Canso with pride and even a little awe. "These cable stations are the heart of the world", "The two worlds meet here, join hands and are one...." Daily stock quotes and the first news of world disasters all passed through Hazel Hill first, like the *Titanic* and news from both world wars. Commercial Cable guaranteed one-minute service between

New York and London on stock market listings. The pace was intense as the job was of vital commercial and trade importance.

The Canso Station ceased operations in 1962 and has been abandoned since, with only marginal uses. This building can still be saved but it is in very poor condition. The community still remains more or less intact, but without many of the recreational amenities. This story should be told and this community conserved and enhanced. With the GCRDA's Pre-Design Study/Report, some momentum has been established; with the Report's conclusion, a direction has now been outlined. The community and its history may yet prevail.

The writer wishes to acknowledge the writers and researchers of nine Interpretive Panels located at six various sites in Guysborough County telling the story of Trans-Atlantic Cable Communications in the form of a Heritage Trail. These dedicated people are responsible for the movement to save the Commercial Cable Office Building and are the true authors of this article. ☒

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## Heritage for sale

### *Haddon Hill Road in Chester*

*Municipality  
Registered  
Heritage property  
on the outskirts of  
Chester Village.  
One-and-a-half  
storey, 150-year-  
old charming  
character-filled  
house with wood  
stove, fireplace  
and detached  
garage on a half-  
acre beautifully  
landscaped lot.  
Many recent  
improvements,*



*including new garage roof, water tank and lines, hot water heater and furnace, and some refinished floors.*

*Contact: Brian McIntosh, 902-521-3599, Tradewinds Realty Inc.  
MSL# 60140514.*

# Significant Heritage Churches in Torbrook Mines, Annapolis County

by Homer Noble

The tiny hamlet of Torbrook Mines lies due south of Wilmot, Annapolis County, Nova Scotia, snuggled against the base of the South Mountain. Around the turn of the 20th century, Torbrook Mines was a thriving rural community with iron ore mines, three stores, two schools and three churches to serve its people.

## Torbrook Mines United Church

The Torbrook Mines United Church is sited on a hilltop, surrounded by elegant maple trees and the tranquil lawns and burial grounds of the church cemetery. Behind the church property, the Black River winds through a little valley of abandoned farmland and new forest growth. With its splendid views of the South Mountain, it is a place of the utmost rural peace and charm.

The present-day church was built as a Methodist church in 1899 and dedicated in January 1900. Square gothic in architecture style, its clear glass provides views of the natural setting inviting the seasons inside to enrich the worship services. The unique sanctuary has the choir and pulpit raised on a left corner platform which gives the church a sense of "theatre in the round", with wonderful acoustics for music and preaching. As is typical of many Methodist churches, there is a communion rail around the base of the platform.

The church is also distinctive because of its bell tower and spire which has a solid square base rising through a mansard roof-style section to an open bell space topped by an elegant length of hexagonal spire. As was often the case in rural churches, there are touches of Greek Revival style, notably broken pediment brackets on the gable roof ends and the porch-like covering which projects over the front entrance giving a sense of dignity and



Above Torbrook Mines United Church, 1889.  
Below, St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church.  
Photos: courtesy of Homer Noble.

shelter to the door.

## Former St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church

The United Church also maintains another historical church which is now used as the church hall. This is the former St. Andrew's Presbyterian church which was moved by ox teams and horses from West Torbrook to its present location in Torbrook Mines when the Methodists bought the church in 1922 to use as a hall. In the 1960s a kitchen addition was added to the south side.

This building is an exquisite gem of elegantly proportioned simple gothic style windows set in a Greek Revival framework. The front

façade has a full pediment decoration broken by the perfectly aligned pediment of the entrance porch. All around the base of the building runs a line of projecting trim which emphasizes the horizontal plane of the façade and echoes the heavier line of the pediment. The vertical thrust of the steeply pitched roof is supported by a small gothic window venting system in the attic space.

Church architecture in Nova Scotia is an essential part of our common built heritage. These buildings are often dismissed and allowed to fall to ruin or to be sold, as their local congregations shrink or find themselves incapable of maintaining them. The protection of these buildings must become a vital part of Heritage Trust of Nova Scotia's efforts to preserve the architectural treasures our forebears built for future generations. ☒



# HTNS confers Built Heritage Award

Heritage Day this year marked the announcement of the Trust's Built Heritage Award, after an absence of nearly six years. Recipients are both in the commercial category and are both from Cape Breton.

The Judique Historical Society's "Storytellers' Gallery" in Inverness County is the amazing revitalization of an old miner's company house from Port Hood, north of Judique, which was moved after the closing of the mines to Judique where it became a store. Since then, it has been imaginatively transformed into a museum telling the stories of



Above, the Storytellers' Gallery and lower left, The Old House Antique Shop.



people from the area, past and present.

Still in Inverness County but north-east to the Margaree Valley is the old Margaree Lodge, circa 1850, at Margaree Forks, now "The Old House Antique Shop". Reduced from a famous destination for salmon fishermen to a storehouse for junk, it was spotted by Werner and Gudrun Buchhofer, who fell in love with the property but especially with the original house. What a relief to those who have watched it over the years – now, like the Storytellers' Gallery, it has a new lease on life. JMcC ☒

## May 14-15

## Heritage Trust presents a tour of two historic Halifax landmarks

Saturday, May 14, and Sunday, May 15, 2005

This spring Heritage Trust invites you to take part in a guided tour of St. Patrick's Church (c.1845) on Brunswick Street and Royal Artillery Park (c.1797) on Queen Street. A fund-raising event for the Trust, the tour of these remarkable Halifax landmarks is \$16.00 per ticket and includes tea at St. Patrick's Church and draws

for collections of books by local historians. Patrons are sure to enjoy the unique architectural and decorative elements of St. Patrick's, including the "finest Cassavant organ in Eastern Canada". Royal Artillery Park is a venue presenting the oldest military mess in Canada as well as the historic Cambridge Military Library, to name just two points of interest.

Tickets available after March 17th at St. Patrick's Church. Call Cathy Hutt, Parish Secretary at 429-1300.

Tickets also available through event ticket coordinator Kate Fitzgibbons, at 429-8607, or drop by Up Country on Barrington Street. In Dartmouth, call Joanne MacNeil at 463-4481. Mark your calendars for an enjoyable spring walk! KC-R ☒

# Bicentennial celebrated at Commander's Residence

By Elizabeth Pacey



*The Commanding Officer's Residence, Royal Artillery Park, Halifax is the oldest military residence of its kind in Canada.*

On March 7, 2005, Brigadier General Raymond Romses and Mrs. Carol Romses hosted a luncheon to celebrate the bicentennial of the Commanding Officer's Residence in Royal Artillery Park. The 200-year occupancy of the Residence began in February of 1805 when Lieutenant Colonel Charlton moved into his new quarters.

The Commanding Officer's Residence is the oldest Residence for a commanding officer in Canada. Designed by Captain William Fenwick in 1801 and constructed in 1804, the Commanding Officer's Residence is the seventh oldest public building in Halifax after St. Paul's Church (1749), the Little Dutch Church (1756), the Martello Tower (1796), St. George's Church (1800), Government House (1800-1805), and the Old Town Clock (1802), all of which are National Historic Sites. Each of these buildings is a special marker in the physical development of Halifax.

Of all the officers' and mens' barracks that were once part of the Halifax garrison, the Commanding Officer's Residence

is now a rare example; it gives a glimpse of the bygone building type with a use that has continued to the present. Fenwick's design for the one-and-a-half storey cottage-like structure was typical of functional Georgian buildings used by British military officers. The original ground floor plan of five main rooms in a linear layout gives a home-like simplicity to the house. Many of the original interior mouldings and doors with large latch boxes add to the historic ambience.

In the attic, the fanlight under the sloping roof of the pediment and the low, wedge-shaped connecting doors with oversize hinges are special Georgian features. While the house was under construction, Captain Fenwick described it as "a handsome Quarter" and he lamented the fact that he, as a Commanding Royal Engineer, still had to rent quarters in the town.

Captain William Fenwick was probably the earliest Canadian-born military designer. He was born in 1767 while his father, Captain Robert Fenwick of the Royal Artillery, was stationed in

Halifax. William Fenwick was trained as a Royal Engineer at the Royal Military College at Woolwich, England, and his early postings were to New Brunswick and the Annapolis Valley.

Captain Fenwick was not only the commanding Royal Engineer, he was closely associated with Prince Edward, the commander of the garrison from 1794 to 1800. Before leaving Halifax, Prince Edward discussed the design of the turret to hold the Garrison Clock, which the Prince had especially ordered from the Royal clockmakers. On April 14, 1802, Fenwick completed the design for the Old Town Clock, which has become the symbol of Halifax and is recognized nationwide.

All of the 65 commanders who have lived in the Commanding Officer's Residence have played important roles in the Canadian defence establishment. Some of them have distinguished themselves nationally and internationally.

Lieutenant-Colonel (later General) Alexander Cavalie Mercer occupied the Commanding

*Continued on Page 8*

**Residence:** *Continued from Page 7*

Officer's Residence from 1838 to 1842. He commanded the artillery in Nova Scotia at a crucial time when the dispute over the Maine boundary line threatened to erupt into a war. Mercer had been "greatly distinguished" as Captain of the Horse Artillery at the Battle of Waterloo in 1815. But Mercer's greatest legacy was his full-scale personal account of the Battle of Waterloo. Though many accounts of the famous battle had been written by infantrymen, Mercer's *Journal of the Waterloo Campaign* was the first account of the campaign given to the world by an artillery officer. Mercer's volume is not dry military theory but is a lively account with colourful descriptions and anecdotes. For example, his description of the unpredictable Congreve rocket is graphic:

"Our rocketeers kept shooting off rockets, none of which ever followed the course of the first; most of them, on arriving about the middle of the ascent, took a vertical direction, whilst some actually turned back upon ourselves – and one of these, following me like a squib until its shell exploded, actually put me in more danger than all of the fire of the enemy throughout the day."

Mercer's description of an upper class guards officer is amusingly clear.

"Just at this moment a cabriolet, driving at a smart pace, passed us. In it was seated an officer of the Guards, coat open and snuff box in hand. I could not but admire the perfect nonchalance with which my man was thus hurrying forward to join in a bloody combat – much, perhaps, in the same manner, though certainly not in the same costume, as he might drive to Epsom and Ascot Heath."

Early in the 20th century, Brigadier Herbert Cyril Thacker occupied the Commanding Officer's Residence twice from 1913 to 1915 and in 1926. He had a

celebrated international military career. He served with the Canadian Field Artillery in the South African War of 1900 and won the Queen's medal with three clasps. In 1904 he was an attaché with the Japanese army in the field and was awarded both the Order of Sacred Treasure and the Japanese War medal. By September 1915 he commanded the 1st Canadian Artillery Division and continued in this post to the end of the First World War. He was mentioned in dispatches seven times and won the Distinguished Service Order in 1918.

During the 1970s and 1980s, naval officers, including five admirals and two commodores, resided in the military house. For example, Rear-Admiral Robert Walter Timbrell occupied the Commanding Officer's Residence from 1971 to 1973. He had been the first Canadian Naval officer to be decorated in the Second World

War. He was awarded the prestigious Distinguished Service Cross for his significant role in the evacuation of Dunkirk. He took command of the *HMS Llanthony* and brought back to safety over 700 soldiers in six crossings. From 1963 to 1965, he commanded the aircraft carrier *HMCS Bonaventure*.

Long before the provincial Heritage Property Act of 1980 gave municipalities the power to legally protect heritage properties, the City of Halifax declared 24 of its most precious heritage properties as Landmarks under section 425 (1) (b) of the Halifax City Charter.

The Commanding Officer's Residence was listed individually as a Landmark, along with other important buildings such as Province House and the Halifax Citadel. Now, the prestigious Georgian residence is a registered Heritage property of the Halifax Regional Municipality. ☞

## Heritage Trust of Nova Scotia Illustrated Public Lecture Series

### Winter 2005

*Thursday, March 17, 7:30 pm*

"Historic Post Offices of Halifax". *Speaker:* Deborah Trask, Nova Scotia Museum Curator Emeritus.

### Spring 2005

*Thursday, April 21, 7:30 pm*

"How Saint John Succeeded Where Other Historic Cities Have Failed".

*Visiting speaker:*

Jim Bezanson, former Chairman, Heritage Canada Foundation.

*Thursday, May 19, 7:30 pm*

"Historic Barrington Street, Halifax". *Speaker:* Bill Plaskett, Heritage Conservation Planner.

*Thursday, June 16, 8:00 pm (following the Annual General Meeting)*

"The Royal Legacy: Prince Edward in Halifax, 1796-1800". *Speaker:* Bill Naftel, Public Historian (retired), The Public Archives & Parks Canada.

*Place: the auditorium, Museum of Natural History,  
1747 Summer Street, Halifax. Everyone welcome.*



# February Lecture: Great Fires of Halifax

The February Heritage Trust lecture was given by Don Snider of the Regional Firefighters' Interpretation Centre in Halifax. He described the measures taken, from the founding of Halifax to the late nineteenth century to combat the fires in downtown Halifax. The history begins with portable tubs with pumps brought here by Cornwallis; Mr. Snider traced the evolution of equipment through hand-drawn fire engines with reservoirs to the horse-drawn and steam-driven fire engines that preceded modern fire trucks.

The first major fire occurred in 1750, destroying most of the town. Following a fire in 1753, the Council issued an order forbidding bush fires except "at such times and in such manner that the fire will not spread". The first fire organization in Canada, "The Union Fire Club", was established in Halifax on January 14, 1754, hence the recent 250th anniversary celebrated by HRM Fire and Emergency. The first real fire engine arrived in 1783, similar to one bought by Shelburne, to complement the bucket brigades.

Many fires began in the central fireplaces of homes, resulting in a notice that unless such chimney had been swept by a licensed sweeper within one month of the date of the fire, the owners would be prosecuted. Fire wardens were appointed with the authority to supervise the fire fighting as well as safety precautions at the site. The necessary equipment, in addition to the buckets, canvas salvage bags, and ladders included axes, saws, chains, grappling hooks and bed keys: the key was needed to dismantle a bed, perhaps the most important furnishing in a home. The military might help by blowing up a building to block the path of a fire. A newspaper story noted that in Halifax "fire and destruction were as possible as catching a cold".



*Above, the remains of the Poor House after the 1882 fire which killed 31 residents. Below, horse-drawn fire engines ready for action at Halifax's Centre Fire Station.*



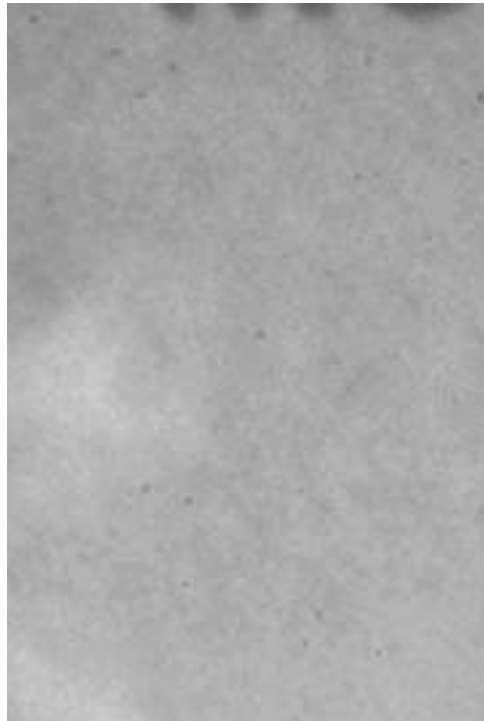
In 1826 a disastrous fire at Mrs. Miller's house threatened the whole of Duke Street. An Act of the House of Assembly in 1827 encouraged construction of stone and brick buildings, followed by another regulation restricting the size of wooden buildings between Morris and Cornwallis Streets (repealed only in 1931). In 1837 the first full Fire Station was built on the Grand Parade, facing the Citadel; the upstairs was a social and entertainment area for the firemen.

When Toronto and Halifax had almost the same population, Toronto had four engines while Halifax, with the military to call on, had recourse to at least twelve. We had an enviable record for fires, compared to North American cities of our size.

A major fire in December, 1850,

that began in the North Barracks took out a large area downtown, including 31 houses. On January 1, 1857, old St. Matthew's Church caught fire, and 22 buildings were lost. The worst fire was on September 9, 1859 (Hollis, Water, Granville and Barrington Streets), destroying four acres and sixty of the finest buildings, including the "Coffin Block", the largest one. There were several more major fires, including Government House in 1864. The greatest loss of life was at the Poor House (South Street at Robie) in November, 1882, when 31 residents perished in an inferno. Canada's first insurance business was in Halifax – formed in 1809. It provided the first fire engine on wheels and funds to construct a water reservoir. Horses remained in use until 1929. JD & N.O'B. ☒

Clockwise from right, Charles DeWolfe Smith House, Albert and Wiley streets, 1898. Designed in the Shingle or Stick style. Windsor Methodist Church, King Street, dedicated April 8, 1900 and destroyed by fire September 14, 1939. Bennett Smith & Sons, (Charles DeWolfe Smith, J.C. Smith) at Walter and Stannus streets. The Halifax Banking Company occupied the ground floor in this three-story Romanesque or Chicago style brick and freestone building. Mrs. Ellen Scott Burgess Home, corner of Clifton and Gray streets, 1898. Modified Queen Anne best describes it.



The remains of Mounce's Hotel, Windsor. Photographer: George Wright

**Windsor:** continued from page 1

Wright packaged 30 of his images and sold them to raise money for the townspeople.

Many architectural firms from as far away as Montreal vied to win contracts in the town; newspaper reports of the time indicate that 11 architectural firms submitted plans for the new school. Several buildings were designed by Halifax architects, J.C. Dumaresq and Harris & Horton (W. Critchlow Harris & W.T. Horton), but Halifax architects Elliot & Hopson would design 13 buildings identified by research, and they designed or influenced the designs of dozens more.

The firm of Elliot & Hopson (Edward Elliot and Charles H. Hopson) was formed in 1895. Edward Elliot was already a well-known Dartmouth architect, in practice for over twenty years. His major designs include Halifax City Hall, the Point Pleasant Park Gates and the interior renovations to Province House. You cannot walk along the streets of old residential Halifax and Dartmouth without stumbling upon one of his designs. Between 1897 and 1899, Edward G. Hopson, John W. McKeil, Leslie R. Fairn, and Frederick M. Burton were all part of the firm and contributed to the rebuilding of the town.

It is safe to say that the firm



View of devastated Windsor. Photographer: George Wright

was the town of Windsor's favoured architects. After the fire, the firm was awarded or won the contracts for the Hants County Court House, corner of King and Victoria Streets, the Public School (Windsor Academy), the Town Hall, Engine House and Auditorium, as well as the Bennett, Smith & Company Building at the corner of Water and Stannus Streets, all in 1897.

In 1898 they designed the Commercial Bank Building on the adjacent corner of Stannus and Water, the two brick stores for George Mounce on Gerrish Street, Saint John's Presbyterian Church, and the residences of John Keith, Park Street (now Clifton Avenue), Charles DeWolfe Smith, Plunkett Street (now Wiley Avenue), and Ellen Scott Burgess, on the corner Clifton and Gray Streets. In 1899, the firm was commissioned to build Windsor Methodist Church, King Street, later known as Trinity United Church, and the Hiram Scott House, King and Gerrish Streets. The Halifax newspapers were quick to point out that the citizens "are erecting buildings which would look well in Halifax and would be a credit to any Canadian City."

Unfortunately, many of the public and office buildings, the Windsor Academy and the Methodist Church were lost to fire or urban renewal. ☒



George Wright



*Courthouse, Windsor, N.S. Located on Windsor and Victoria Streets, destroyed by fire in 1947.*



*John C. Keith Residence, Clifton Street, 1898. This 2.5 storey home was 60x34 feet, with a back ell for cold storage 20x14 feet, a conservatory at the rear of the house, 24x24 feet. The interior was finished in Cyprus (sic), quartered oak and white wood. This house was also designed in the shingle or Stick style. At the same time a large barn, 42x24 feet containing stables, coach house, wood and root storage was built.*



*Saint John's Presbyterian Church and School House, King Street, now Windsor United Church.*

# President's Report



*Alan Parish, president of the Heritage Trust of Nova Scotia*

The past number of months have been busy times for the Trust. It seems that there are new developments in the historic part of Halifax being proposed every month. We recently attended and

spoke at the public information sessions for the proposed United Gulf Development at Hollis and Sackville and the Brewery Market proposal. We were lukewarm about the former and positive about the latter, with the caveat that we are concerned about the tower which we expect will be proposed on the southern end of the Brewery site.

We continue to prepare for the Midtown Tavern development appeal. It is now set to take place in May. A number of Trust members have been working diligently to prepare for the appeal. Our lawyers have submitted 11 expert's reports for use in the upcoming hearings. We appreciate the discounted fixed fee retainer that our lawyers have provided to us in this case, but the expense is still substantial for the Trust. I will be writing to all of you shortly

with our annual solicitation for donations. The cost of the Midtown appeal makes our members' financial support even more important this year.

At the January board meeting the Trust decided that it would hire a full-time employee to work mostly in the areas of publicity and fund-raising. The goal is to raise the awareness of heritage issues in the minds of the decision-makers and the public. We hope to have the person hired and this important task underway within the next few months.

The board is holding its May meeting in Baddeck this year. We are inviting all of the heritage organizations in Cape Breton to attend the meeting and share lunch with us. I hope all members in Cape Breton who are reading this message will make plans to attend. ☒

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## Rosemary Cassandra Eaton, 1919-2004 *by Barbara Hinds*

Rosemary Cassandra Eaton died on the evening of Friday, 10 December 2004, at her home overlooking the salt marsh and shallow tidal waters of Cole Harbour, which she was instrumental in conserving for future generations. Her death left a gap in the many lives of people she gently influenced during the 40 years she lived at Cole Harbour, working with courtesy and tireless persistence to achieve protection and preservation of the area's fragile ecology for future generations.

If one were to describe Rosemary Eaton, her salient attribute would be her complete integrity in all she did for conservation and the preservation of Cole Harbour saltmarsh, a farm museum and the historic Methodist Meeting House at the top of Long Hill on Hwy 207. Shortly after she and her husband, Michael, came from Ottawa to live at Cole Harbour in 1965, she learned that the harbour's rich

ecosystem was scheduled to be a dumping ground of sewage from a housing development, which was rapidly encroaching on the verdant farmland nearby. The farms used to supply Halifax and Dartmouth residents with fresh vegetables, eggs, poultry, milk and meat.

Despite chronic health problems, Rosemary led the formation of the Cole Harbour Environment Council, later the Cole Harbour Rural Heritage Society. The group opposed the dumping plan, which would have destroyed the salt marshes and the rich ecology of the harbour's wide expanse of shallow waters. She had strong allies, including Professor Peter Ogden, County Warden Ira Settle, Elizabeth Corser and MLA David Nantes. A campaign throughout the 1970s and 1980s was enjoined and resulted in the establishment of a regional park, entirely surrounding the saltmarsh. But not until December 1998 was the

greater Rainbow Haven, Cole Harbour-Lawrencetown Coastal Heritage Park designated as such by the provincial government. It is that for which Rosemary will be best remembered by the Cole Harbour community. A trail through a wooded area near her home has been named for her, "Rosemary's Way."

Rosemary was born in 1919 in Hove, England, to Cassandra Sophia and Lionel Oswald Gilliat. Her mother died shortly after her birth and her early years were spent with an ayah on her father's tree plantation in Ceylon, now Sri Lanka. She went to boarding schools in Switzerland and England and a school in Germany to perfect her German, a decision which influenced her later career.

In May 1940, after the Germans had invaded and occupied most European countries, Britain stood alone, threat-

*Continued on page 13*

# January lecture: Old Nova Scotia Court Houses

A small but appreciative group of members and guests dug themselves out after a snowstorm to attend Philip Girard's lecture on Historic Court Houses of Nova Scotia. The lecture was illustrated with some fascinating pictures of both the exterior and interior of some of the buildings, which ranged from the oldest surviving example, the wooden Tusket Court House built in 1805, to larger and more imposing stone and brick buildings of the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. Philip made the interesting point that these buildings were erected by the counties, not the province, and reflected the tastes of the citizens rather than being built to some standard design. Most of them were constructed by local builders to serve local purposes. Many of them included a jail in the lower floor and a courtroom upstairs. The court houses accommodated the circuit judges, but were also used between sessions for community events, from elections to entertainment. Their design reflected the changing nature of the administration of justice. The court sessions originally attracted many spectators, but the galleries originally provided for the public became less



Above the Antigonish Courthouse and below, the Annapolis County Courthouse.



important as trial by judge and jury gave way to trial by a judge alone. From the early wooden court houses to the later, architect-designed buildings, they all have

a style and a dignity that make them interesting features of their communities. JD

*Editor's Note:* Prof. Philip Girard, co-author of *The Supreme Court of Nova Scotia, 1754-2004: From Imperial Bastion to Provincial Oracle*, published in December 2004 by the Osgoode Society for Canadian Legal History. Ordering information from the Heritage Trust office. ☒

See courthouse chart on page 14

**Rosemary:** *continued from page 12*

ened with invasion by a strong German Army. The BBC broadcast an appeal for volunteers who could speak German. Rosemary, now a press photographer, heard the broadcast and answered the appeal. She was enlisted in the Women's Royal Naval Service and worked intercepting German naval communications from ship-to-ship and ship-to-shore at a critical period in history. She later served in the North African campaign.

After the war, Rosemary worked as a photographer for

Britain's prestige newspaper, *The Sunday Observer*. In 1952, she immigrated into Canada and travelled the country widely. She settled in Ottawa, selling her photos to the National Film Board, The Hudson Bay Company's *Beaver Magazine*, *Weekend Magazine*, the *Atlantic Advocate* and other publications. In 1960, she and a writer friend spent seven months travelling, mostly with Inuit, in the Eastern Arctic observing the life of an economy essentially based on seal hunting. After her return to Ottawa, Rosemary was married to R. Michael Eaton in 1963, and in 1965, they moved to Nova Scotia.

She stepped lightly on the

earth and through her tireless endeavour and gentle persuasion, she secured a legacy of great natural beauty, now preserved for future generations at Cole Harbour. She died of liver cancer on December 10, 2004, at home, in view of the ever-changing aspect of waters and salt marshes viewed from their home on the harbour's shore. She is survived by her devoted husband, Michael, and a brother, Peter, Isle of Skye, Scotland. ☒

# Historic (pre-1914) Nova Scotia Courthouses

Location	Built	Material	County	Builder/Architect
Tusket *	1805	wood	Yarmouth	unknown
Annapolis Royal *	1837	granite & wood	Annapolis	Francis LeCain (Fairn 1920s)
Barrington	1843	wood	Shelburne	unknown
Guysborough	1843	wood	Guysborough	Elisha Randall
Arichat	1847	wood	Richmond	Alex McDonald
Liverpool	1854	wood	Queens	William Hammond
Antigonish *	1855	wood	Antigonish	Alex McDonald
Pictou (burned 1980s)	1856	wood	Pictou	David Sterling (Scotland & Nova Scotia)
Sherbooke	1860	wood	Guysborough	Alex McDonald
Halifax *	1860	sandstone	Halifax	William Thomas (Eng. & Ont.)
Amherst	1889	sandstone	Cumberland	unknown
Baddeck	1890	granite & wood	Victoria	unknown
Lunenburg	1892	brick & sandstone	Lunenburg	Henry Busch
Bridgewater	1893	wood	Lunenburg	G. & F. Boehner
Kentville	1903	brick & stone	Kings	Leslie Fairn
Truro	1904	brick & sandstone	Colchester	J.C. Dumaresq
Digby	1910	brick	Digby	Leslie Fairn

\*National historic site

## 25 years of preserving Bedford's history and heritage *by Tony Edwards*

About 50 people gathered on Sunday, February 13, at the Bedford Leisure Centre to celebrate 25 years of achievements in preserving the heritage and history of Bedford. Bedford Heritage '80 held its first meeting on February 13, 1980, so it was thought appropriate to meet on exactly the same date to properly conclude the mission of Bedford's first heritage society, now officially known as the Bedford Heritage Society.

The society has been inactive lately. With only one meeting last year and a decline in membership, it was decided to call an old style meeting to bring together as many of "the old gang" as could come. The gathering celebrated the many accomplishments of the

past 25 years with a cake, coffee and lots of friendly conversation, followed by a short business meeting.

Some of the notable achievements included working with the former Town of Bedford on several matters. These included developing the Coat-of-Arms for the Town, overseeing The Teachery – a Town-owned property at 9 Spring St. – where the Society scheduled meetings for itself and other groups, recommending the slogan, "Bedford, a traditional stopping place", for the signs on the Bicentennial Highway and developing the street-naming policy and the list of names used for the naming of new streets in Bedford.

For itself and the preservation

of Bedford's history, the heritage group started the practice of holding a community heritage dinner each February. Here they presented the Elsie Tolson Heritage Award to those who did something to preserve the heritage of Bedford, eventually giving rise to the Friends of Fort Sackville to preserve the Manor House, which later became the Fort Sackville Foundation. The Society was also the first and only historical society in Nova Scotia to produce its own TV series.

But the crowning achievement of Bedford Heritage is the photo collection. This collection of more than 2500 images of Bedford from the late 1800s to nearly the present has been carefully preserved,

*Continued on page 16*

# Avondale/Newport Landing - A Planter Place

By Pat Gould-Thorpe

In May of 1760 two sloops, the *Lydia* and the *Sally*, carried the first New England Planters from Newport, Rhode Island, to the place we call Avondale/Newport Landing. "Planter" is an old English word that simply meant colonist, but is now used to identify the New England settlers who were granted the lands which had been vacant since the Acadian expulsion in 1755. The *Sally* carried 35 settlers, members of the Bentley, Chambers, Harvie, Sanford, Reynolds, Smith and Weedon families. The *Lydia* carried 23: Bordens, Lakes, Mosher and Tuckers. With the exception of Reynolds, all the families from these two sloops settled on the Newport side of the Piziquid (Avon) River. They were followed by other grantee families, among them Albro, Card, Church, Dimock, Knowles, Shaw and Woolaver, who would also settle in Newport.

These early settlers could not have imagined that their arrival would be celebrated on the same spot 234 years later. But at high tide on Saturday, July 9, 1994, two sloops, the *Lydia* and the *Sally*, once again arrived at Newport Landing carrying descendants of the same Lake, Mosher, Knowles, Woolaver and other original Planter families.

Planning for this event began well in advance. The script for the re-enactment was a play entitled "Planters' Wort, An Adventure at Newport Landing 1760," written for the occasion by the late Windsor historian, L.S. Loomer. An invitation to all Planters was issued in early May requesting that they "participate and appear in dress and costume typical of that worn by their ancestors in the 18th century." The local Women's Institute became a centre of information and provided pictures, patterns and advice to help people with costumes. Folklorist

Clary Croft contributed drawings of male and female Planter costumes. A call went out for documents and other memorabilia suitable for display.

About fifty men, women and children dressed as Planters, soldiers and Mi'kmaq took part in the re-enactment. Most were local residents, descendants of the original Planters, but several had travelled from other parts of Canada. Hugh MacNeil portrayed an Officer of the Crown who called out the names of the families as they arrived. Andrew Bennett, playing the part of the preacher, Shubael Dimock, whose descendant of the same name would become a prominent shipbuilder, welcomed the settlers. Gorham's Rangers and the 84th Regiment of Foot, both stationed at Fort Edward, were there to provide military protection for the new arrivals. The Officer of the Crown assured the new residents that a palisade would be built and that they could signal Fort Edward across the river if they needed help. The Officer also assured them that they would be given two bushels of corn every month for the next year, as promised.

The re-enactment was part of an event known as Wharf Days. Four years earlier the Avondale wharf had been deemed unsafe and was scheduled for demolition. Local residents presented a proposal to rebuild the wharf using the funds which had been earmarked for the demolition. Officials agreed. Volunteers donated 1500 hours of work, and local woodlot owners donated 200 timbers. When the new wharf was completed in 1991, the community held a grand opening celebration which was so successful that it became an annual event.

In contrast to the original landing, about 400 people waited on the shore to greet the new arrivals in 1994. Other Wharf Day activities that year included a museum exhibit at the Avondale United Church where photos, art and genealogies were on display. The weekend began with a strawberry supper and dance, continued with games, food, music, fireworks, and ended with a classical music concert.

"It was an incredible day," said Trudy Lake who, with Kristy Sheehy and Alison MacNeil,

*Continued on page 16*



*About 50 local residents in Planter dress participated in the first re-enactment of the arrival of the Lydia and the Sally at Newport Landing." Photo courtesy Pat Gould-Thorpe.*

organized the museum exhibit. "More than anything else this event brought the community together."

The next year Wharf Days produced a second play, "The Half Model," again written by L.S. Loomer. An 1860s house was converted to a temporary museum and tearoom, and the idea of a permanent museum was born.

Since that time, the community has built, and continues to operate, the Avon River Heritage Museum. A wooden sailing ship, the *Avon Spirit*, was built in the Avon Spirit Shipyard adjacent to the museum (see *The Griffin*, September 2004). In 1998 the Avon River Heritage Society and the Avon Spirit Co-op were named the "Best New CED Project" as part of the Nova Scotia Community Economic Development Awards Program.



The first re-enactment of the landing in July 1994 also included 'Members of Gorham's Rangers and the 84th Regiment of Foot'. Photo courtesy Pat Gould-Thorpe.

In the museum library you can consult files on the founding families and read about the Planter history of the area. In the library is a manual produced by the Avon River Heritage Society, "A Brief History & Guide for Staff and Volunteers at the Avon River Heritage Museum", which looks at the world conditions which led to the Planters' decision to settle in this place. The records of the community meetings held by the Planters, beginning in June 1760 and continuing some fifty years, are available in the museum. Several Planter artifacts, including a loom and a spinning wheel, have been donated by descendants and are on display.

An essential reference book is *Newport, Nova Scotia, A Rhode Island Township*, by John Victor Duncanson.

The Planter spirit lives on in this place. ☒

## Award Honouring Yogi Jenson

The Provincial Heritage Property Owners' Association of Nova Scotia, in conjunction with the Minister of Tourism, Culture and Heritage, has established an award to be announced annually and presented at the organization's annual general meeting. The award is to recognize a body of work by an individual which has enhanced heritage culture within the province. This work may be for architectural design, restoration work, research, education, publication or other suitable contribution.

The award is named in honour of Latham B. (Yogi) Jenson who died on December 29, 2004. Mr. Jenson, born in Calgary, Alberta, joined the Royal Navy and later, the Canadian Navy, and played an important role during WWII. While so serving, he developed considerable skills as an artist of pen and ink drawings, which, later in life, he turned to sketching of buildings. His works, *Vanishing*

*Halifax and Nova Scotia Sketchbook* are important contributions to preserving our heritage.

Yogi Jenson went on to serve more than 22 years on the Board of the Nova Scotia Museum and the Maritime Museum of the Atlantic, where he was instrumental in salvaging the *HMCS Sackville*, a very important Museum acquisition. In 2004 he was awarded the Order of Canada for enhancing our maritime heritage.

Details of the award may be obtained at [www.nsheritageproperties.ca](http://www.nsheritageproperties.ca). ☒

### Bedford: continued from page 14

described and catalogued by the society and, in particular, by Norm Fenerty. After WW II, Norm worked in photography for both the Air Force and Bedford Institute of Oceanography and his expertise has been invaluable to



the preservation of these images.

At the business meeting, those members present passed motions that the photo collection – from now on known as "The Photo Collection of the Bedford Heritage Society" – should be transferred to the Fort Sackville Foundation. They also carried motions to set up a board of directors to decide the future of other assets of the Bedford Heritage Society and to conclude the business of the Society later this year. ☒



# Yarmouth County Heritage Authority Being Proposed

By Eric Bourque

Excerpted from "The Vanguard",  
December 2004

A proposal to establish a body that would develop and implement a heritage plan for Yarmouth County is being brought before the three local municipal units. The proposal – one of three main recommendations to come out of a heritage workshop held last month – was slated to be the focus of a presentation to Yarmouth Town Council Thursday (Dec. 9) and was then on the council meeting agenda as of the Municipality of Argyle (Dec. 14) and the Municipality of Yarmouth (Dec. 15).

Should the local councils approve the recommendation, the idea is to call upon the South West Shore Development Authority to put together an organizational meeting that would involve representatives from the councils, heritage groups and other people who may be interested.

Supporters of the proposal envisage a Yarmouth County heritage authority – its official name to be determined – that would look at heritage from a broad perspective, beyond the traditional approach of the local heritage advisory committees, which concentrate on built heritage, notably the designation of buildings as municipal heritage properties.

Seventy-five people attended last month's workshop, "Our Heritage – What Now?" at Maple Grove Education Centre. The idea for the workshop came from the education sub-committee of the Town and Municipality of Yarmouth's joint heritage advisory committee. The Municipality of Argyle was brought on board as all three local municipal units agreed to sponsor the workshop. All three also had representation on the workshop organizing committee.

Aside from establishing a local

heritage authority, the main recommendations that emerged from the Nov. 6 workshop were that similar public sessions be held in the future and that a heritage map and kit be developed highlighting heritage-related things to see and do in Yarmouth County.

Wilfred Allan, who chairs the education sub-committee of the Yarmouth joint heritage advisory committee and who chaired the workshop committee, was impressed with how the session went, how enthusiastic people seemed to be. "It was obvious in that workshop that people want to be involved," he said. "They have good ideas. They want to be consulted and they want to help. They're keen to see some things happen related to heritage." He notes that the organizational meeting for the proposed new heritage body – assuming it goes ahead as hoped – would be a smaller session than the one held last month. "Having said that, the workshop definitely (showed) that folks would like to see more of these kinds of workshops, would like to have more input, so I suspect that we're going to look at ways that we can

maintain a dialogue with one another about where heritage goes, using online technology or whatever, I'm not sure exactly what it might be."

As for having more workshops like the one held recently, this recommendation is being left until the spring. Allan says work on a heritage map and kit is expected to begin early in the new year. A complete report on last month's session was expected to be on the South West Shore Development Authority Web site [www.swsda.com](http://www.swsda.com) by Dec. 15. The report also is available for reading at municipal offices and local library branches.

Referring again to the workshop, which was facilitated by Dave Warner of the development authority and featured guest speaker Alan Melanson of Parks Canada (and president of the Historical Association of Annapolis Royal), Allan said, "it was obvious that we had 75 people who had given up a Saturday morning and appeared to be happy to have done so ... We've had a lot of positive feedback from people who attended. That workshop left me and others very optimistic." ❏

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## 'Heritage Houses Past and Present' were on view at the Mainland South Heritage Society's Heritage Tea and Display



Just one of the wonderful pictures from the Mainland South Heritage Society Historical Collection seen at the Heritage Tea Display, "Heritage Houses Past and Present", this year held on February 26 at the Captain William Spry Community Centre. Built in 1898 as a summer cottage, this house was first owned, briefly, by H. Trethaway Jones, followed by W.J. Butler whose father was vice-president of the Royal Bank. Situated on the highest point of land in Jollimore, it had a commanding view of the Northwest Arm and Halifax. ❏

## Annual Heritage Entrepreneur Award goes to Hal Forbes

It is in the public's perception that to restore is more expensive than to tear down and start anew. But the three R's – reduce, re-use and recycle – are bywords of heritage, and what is less popularly known is that heritage pays, and pays handsomely.

The Heritage Trust of Nova Scotia is pleased to establish a new award, to be granted annually to an individual who has made a significant contribution to heritage restoration, with particular emphasis in neighbourhood or streetscape transformations. The first annual award was announced on Heritage Day, February 21, 2005, and has been presented to Hal Forbes of Forbes Restoration. Hal Forbes has restored more than twenty working-class houses in the Halifax Citadel neighbourhood, making it a charming and much sought-after residential district.

That it exists, is intact, and improving, is largely due to Hal's artistic re-rendering of many of the houses. Hal has won awards for individual house restorations, but this is his first recognition for his important contribution to neighbourhood transformations. This work has provided a business for Hal and work for many artisans he has trained. Well done, Hal! ☒

## New Life sought for Local Council of Women House

Leela Pachai is the outgoing president of the Local Council of Women, the organization that has maintained the house at 989 Young Avenue, Halifax, entrusted to them under the Will of George Wright. Mrs. Pachai is turning her efforts to giving a future to the

## 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](http://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.

### *Bedford Heritage Society*

9 Spring Street, Bedford. Dates, times of meetings, programs, etc., contact Tony Edwards, 835-3615.

### *Charles Macdonald Concrete House of Centreville*

19 Saxon Street, Centreville, NS. Contact: Stephen Slipp, 455-0133; [www.concretehouse.ca](http://www.concretehouse.ca)

### *Chester Municipal Heritage Society*

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

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house, and in this context has developed a committee to examine the possibility of creating an Atlantic, or perhaps a National, Museum for Women. The plans are in their infancy, but if any readers would like to commit to this proposal, please call Mrs. Pachai at 454-0777, or by e-mail at [b.l.pachai@ns.sympatico.ca](mailto:b.l.pachai@ns.sympatico.ca). ☒

### *Colchester Historical Museum*

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

### *Cole Harbour Heritage Farm Museum*

471 Poplar Drive, Dartmouth. Contact: Elizabeth Corser, 434-0222  
*Sun., May 8, 1-3 pm*  
Mothers' Day Tea  
*Sat., May 21, 11 am*  
Sheep Shearing  
*Sat., May 28*  
Pancake Breakfast, 8:30-9:30 am  
Dartmouth Horticultural Society Annual Plant Sale, 10 am-12 noon  
*Sat., June 18, 11 am*  
Sheep Shearing  
*Sat., June 18, 4:30-6:30 pm*  
Rhubarb Rhapsody (a meal followed by a selection of rhubarb desserts)

### *Cumberland County Museum*

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

### *Cunard Steamship Society*

Contact: John Langley, Box 427, Baddeck, NS B0E 1B0; 902-295-1147; [www.cunardsteamshipsociety.com](http://www.cunardsteamshipsociety.com)  
*Exhibit: "Cunard on Canvass: The Langley Collection", Pier 21, until September 2005*

### *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*

1113 Marginal Road, Halifax NS B3H 4P7. For information, contact 423-4677 / 1-800-355-6873 or visit [www.fnsh.ns.ca](http://www.fnsh.ns.ca)  
*Heritage Contacts & Connections* is an electronic information hub that promotes links within the heritage community and promotes awareness of heritage resources. To find expert advice, relevant non-profit resources,

useful web sites, educational opportunities and funding, information visit [www.fnsh.ns.ca/hcc](http://www.fnsh.ns.ca/hcc). To share your helpful Contacts & Connections, email us at [fnsh@hfx.andara.com](mailto:fnsh@hfx.andara.com)

### ***Fieldwood Heritage Society***

PO Box 8, Canning, NS B0P 1H0; e-mail: [fieldwood@ns.sympatico.ca](mailto:fieldwood@ns.sympatico.ca) web: <http://fieldwoodhs.ednet.ns.ca>.

### ***Friends of McNabs Island Society***

Contact: 434-2254

### ***Friends of the Public Gardens***

Contact: 425-1057.

### ***Fultz House Museum***

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

### ***Genealogical Association of Nova Scotia***

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

*Tues., March 22, 7:30 pm*

"Death and marriage statistics recently acquired", *speaker*: John MacLeod, Archivist, PANS

### ***Halifax Public Library***

Spring Garden Road. Contact: Pam Sullivan, Communications Officer, 490-5852; [halifaxpubliclibraries.ca](http://halifaxpubliclibraries.ca)  
*Thurs., April 14, 2 pm*

"Pictures of the Northwest Arm", Keshen-Goodman Library. *Speakers*: Heather Watts and Michèle Raymond. Discover the fascinating history and timeless allure of the Northwest Arm with Heather Watts and Michèle Raymond, authors of the beautiful new book, Halifax's Northwest Arm. This presentation will feature wonderful stories, lavish art and archival photographs that highlight the early settlements, country estates, parks and boating pleasures that have made the Arm a treasured part of Halifax. For more information, call 490-6410.

*Lunch & Learn*: Saint Mary's University Lecture Series:

*Wednesdays, 12 noon*: History 490.2 DT, "Britain and the Sea", with Bill Miles. This course is a thematic examination of maritime history in relation to Britain's Atlantic empire (1490- 1815). Topics include aspects of exploration, fisheries, the Royal Navy, pirates and

the Atlantic slave trade. Remaining lectures are: William Bligh, the Bounty, and the Mutiny in the Royal Navy (Mar. 23), Horatio sinks with the Titanic: The Cult of Nelson (Mar. 30), Britannia Rules? Notions of an Anglo-American Maritime Culture (Apr. 6).

*Thursdays, 12 noon*. Atlantic Canada Studies 301.2 DT: "The 'Foreign Protestants' of Nova Scotia: The Founding and Settlement of Lunenburg, 1753-1840", with Richard Field. This course deals with the immigration of "foreign Protestants" between 1750-1753 under British policy, the founding and settlement of the town of Lunenburg in 1753, and the political, social and cultural life of this ethnic group to 1840: remaining lectures include Literature and Life: Taverns, Libraries and Reading Habits (Mar. 24), The Domestic Furnishings of the Lunenburg Germans (Mar. 31).

### ***Kings County Historical Society/Old Kings Courthouse Museum***

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. Donations welcome.

### ***Local Council of Women***

989 Young Avenue, Halifax. Information: 423-5300.

*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

### ***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, 902-475-3505.

*Sat., June 11, 10 am*

*Walk to Historic Rockingstone*: Join members of the Mainland South

Heritage Society, Urban Farm

Museum Society and CRABapple Mapping Project. Meet in parking lot of Captain William Spry Centre (takes approximately 1-2 hours). Contact Iris Shea, 479-3505 for more information.

### ***Maritime Museum of the Atlantic***

Lower Water Street, Halifax. Regular public lectures. Information: 902-424-7490.

### ***Medway Area Heritage Society***

Contact: Chris Georghiou, e-mail: [laughing.dog@ns.sympatico.ca](mailto: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 the Society at [merseyhersoc@netscape.net](mailto:merseyhersoc@netscape.net) or call Craig Chandler at (902) 420-0040, email: [cchandler@seacorcanada.com](mailto:cchandler@seacorcanada.com). For schedule updates, visit <http://mywebpage.netscape.com/merseyhersoc/notice.html>

*April 20*

"The Mersey River's Drowned History": illustrated talk on the archaeological assessment that was carried out on the Mersey River in 2004, presented by the Mersey Heritage Society and the Queens County Historical Society, at the Queens County Museum  
*May 2005 - date tba*

Field Trip of interesting archaeological and historical sites in North Queens. Stay tuned to the Queens County Times and Advance Community Calendar for the date.

*June 2005*

A return to Wobamkek Beach is planned to investigate some of the features that were discovered in December 2003.

### ***Northwest Arm Heritage Association***

Contact: Guy MacLean, 429-9412  
*Wed., May 11, 7:30 pm*  
Annual General Meeting, *speaker*: TBA

### ***Nova Scotia Archaeology Society***

Meets at NS Museum of Natural History, Summer Street, Halifax, 4th Tuesday of the month, September-

May. Contact: Jeff Turner, 835-5472; [jeff\\_turner@ns.sympatico.ca](mailto:jeff_turner@ns.sympatico.ca) All talks are held at 7:30 PM at 1747 Summer St., Halifax, in the Auditorium of the Nova Scotia Museum of Natural History. There is no admission charge and the talks are open to the public. For more information, contact Craig Chandler at [cchandler@seacorcanada.ca](mailto:cchandler@seacorcanada.ca) or (902) 420-0040.

*Tues., March 22*

Update on archaeological work at Grand Pré National Historic Site

*Tues., April 26*

"Mersey River's Drowned History", *speakers:* W. Bruce Stewart and Michael Sanders, CRM Group.

*Tues., May 24*

"Ancient Inscription Sites in Nova Scotia", *speaker:* Terry Deveau

### ***Nova Scotia Lighthouse Preservation Society***

Maritime Museum of the Atlantic, 1679 Lower Water Street, Halifax.

Contact: 424-7490

*Wed. Mar. 23, 7:30 pm*

Demonstration: Lighthouse Equipment from the Golden Age of Light Keeping

*Wed. Apr. 27, 8:15 pm*

"Resurrecting Borden Wharf's Lighthouse", *speaker:* Craig Harding.

### ***Parkdale-Maplewood Community Museum & Fairgrounds***

Barss Corner, Lunenburg Co., NS.

Contact: Donna Smith, Museum Administrator, [osmith@tallships.ca](mailto:osmith@tallships.ca).

### ***Provincial Heritage Property Owners' Association of Nova Scotia***

*Saturday, May 14*

Annual General Meeting, Oakwood House, 88-A Crichton Ave., Dartmouth. Registration and Program available on-line at [www.nsheritage-properties.ca](http://www.nsheritage-properties.ca). All heritage public is welcomed.

### ***Royal Nova Scotia Historical Society***

Contact: Janet Guildford, 454-5200;

Website: [nsgna.ednet.ns.ca/rnshs](http://nsgna.ednet.ns.ca/rnshs)

*Wed., Mar 23, 7:30 pm*

"Black Halifax and Racial

Improvement: The Anglo-African Mutual Improvement and Aid Association", *speaker:* Amani Whitfield.

*Wed., April 20, 6 for 6:30 pm*

Annual Dinner, King's College; *speak-*

*er:* Maurice Basque, "Commemorating 1755: Acadian Experiences". Reservations required, \$32 in advance: call Janet Guildford, 454-5200.

*Wed., May 18, 7:30 pm*

Annual General Meeting: "New Insight on British Colonial Governor Sir John Coape Sherbrooke, during his Posting to Nova Scotia, 1811-1816.":

*Speaker:* Elizabeth Snell.

### ***Saint Mary's University***

The D'Arcy McGee Chair of Irish Studies Lecture Series, January 24-March 28, 2005, Sobey Lecture Theatre.

*Mon., Mar. 28, 7:30 pm*

"Irish High Crosses in the art of Aileen Meagher: ancient images in stone translated and re-interpreted", *speaker:* Dr. Cyril Byrne

### ***Scott Manor House and Ft. Sackville Foundation***

15 Fort Sackville Road, Bedford.

Contact: 835-5368;

<http://www.scottmanorhouse.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 information: 10 Kidston Road, Halifax, NS B3R 1M8; Patricia MacLean, President (902) 477-6087 / e-mail: [jamac@ns.sympatico.ca](mailto:jamac@ns.sympatico.ca) or Donna Foley, Vice President, (902) 477-1772

*Sat., May 12, 10 am-12 noon*

*Plant Sale:* Captain William Spry Community Centre, 10 Kidston Road, Spryfield. Contact Jean, 477-2933.

*Sat., June 11, 10 am*

*Walk to Historic Rockingstone:* Join members of the Mainland South Heritage Society, Urban Farm Museum Society and CRABapple Mapping Project. Meet in parking lot of Captain William Spry Centre (takes approximately 1? to 2 hours). Contact Iris Shea, 479-3505 for more information.

### ***Wallace and Area Museum***

*Note:* The Wallace and Area Museum is expanding! Construction started in September and will be completed in the spring, with a proposed official opening of the expansion in June. Contact: 902-257-2191; e-mail: [remsheg@auracom.com](mailto:remsheg@auracom.com)

*Sun., April 3, 2-4 pm*

Opening of the spring display: The

Wallace School since 1915, "90 years of Guidance".

### ***Waverley Heritage Museum***

1319 Rocky Lake Drive, Waverley.

Contact Annie Smith, 861-2427.

*May:* Annual Perennial Plant Sale

*July and August:* Friday afternoon tea parties.

### ***Yarmouth County Museum/Historical Research Library***

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

Historical Society

Meeting; First Friday of each month at

7.30pm is our Historical Society; sec-

ond Tuesday of each month, 7pm,

Travel Series (admission \$3/person);

first Saturday of the month, 10 am to

noon: Spinners Group. Information:

contact Eric Ruff at 742-5539, fax 749-

1120, (email: [ycmuseum@eastlink.ca](mailto:ycmuseum@eastlink.ca))

website: <http://yarmouthcountymuseum.ednet.ns.ca>

*Fri., April 1, 7.30 pm*

Society Meeting: "Wooden Boatbuilding (Shipbuilding?) and shipbuilding tools", *speaker:* Laurie Melanson

*Tues., April 12, 7.00 pm*

Armchair Travel Series: (Eric & Barbara Ruff with slides of Florence and Pisa)

*Fri., May 6, 7.30 pm*

Society Meeting: Cameron Royce Jess will be reading from his new novel *Soul Voyage*, based on the single-handed around the world voyage by Joshua Slocum

*Wed., May 18, 10 am*

Volunteer Workshop for potential and working volunteers.

*Fri., June 3, 7.30 pm*

Society Meeting: "A Nova Scotian Deep Sea Diver's finds", *speaker:* Bob Chaulk

*New Exhibits planned for 2005:*

"Lingerie from the Museum's Collection", during February & March

"The Art of Lester Sykes & Carol Ogden", February & March

"Bicycles from the Past", March and early April

Ruth Rideout: "Tombstones", an exhibit of her artwork related to tombstones, scheduled for May-June.

"200th Anniversary of the Battle of Trafalgar", scheduled for summer and fall. ☐