

the

PRESENT
PAST FUTURE

trident

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Storm warning for another outpost church

A chapter in the history of the Green's Harbour United Church closed on Sunday Oct. 3rd as the congregation gathered for the last time to attend a service in the building as a living church.

This beautiful building, sited on a hill overlooking the community, is a landmark, both for its architecture and the

excellence of its craftsmanship and as a link with the excellence of its craftsmanship and as a link with the early history of Green's Harbour. At the foot of the hill, a new and unremarkable but more functional church stands ready for use and as the function of the old church ceases its future becomes very uncertain.

The story of why a decision was

made to build a new church rather than repair the old is long, and complicated by factors of economics such as unemployment and L.I.P. grants. It is not a new story in Newfoundland communities and no doubt it will be continued. That part of our architectural heritage represented by our early outpost churches is becoming a threatened species.

It is a question that needs very careful examination by all of us especially those who make the policies of our churches and governments. There can be no doubt that new construction creates jobs, jobs often badly needed in Newfoundland communities. There can be no doubt that old churches become expensive to repair and heat especially in an age when congregations are less willing to donate labor and materials. They also frequently lack such necessities of the modern church as office space and church halls. The value of these old churches lies in more intangible things like links with tradition, a sense of place and pride in community, beauty and irreplaceable craftsmanship, things are difficult to quantify.

The story of the Green's Harbour Church is valuable as an example of what is happening to our outpost churches. I am told that the present chapter started back in the late sixties with the Rev. John Adams who wanted to do great things and when the old church needed extensive repairs he began thinking of a new

church. He called a meeting of the congregation and told them that they had a choice. Repair the old church for \$29,600 (which some members of the congregation say included the cost of a new church hall) or build a new one for \$35,000. The actual cost of the new church is reported to be closer to \$1,000,000.00. At the time the congregation voted to renovate and repair the old church and work was begun. Mr. Victor March was appointed head of the renovation committee. Unfortunately, before the repairs were completed, work was stopped because of disagreements. Mr. Adams left and another minister arrived to take his place. Because of the disagreement he decided to do nothing.

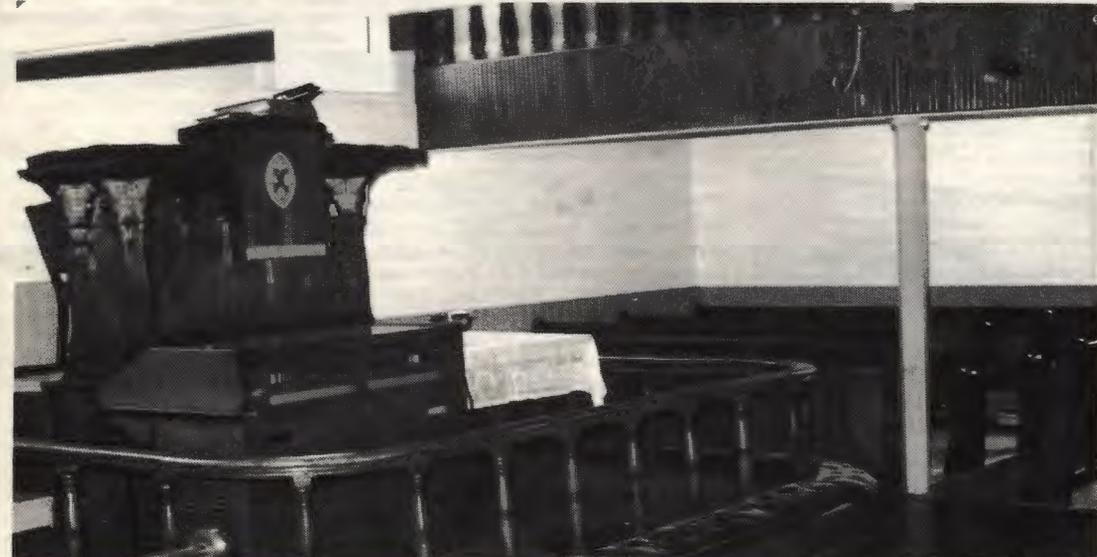
Then three or four years ago a L.I.P. grant was received jointly by the three Protestant denominations in Green's Harbour "for improvements to Church property," an unusually open ended situation.

The grant could have been used to finish repairs on the old church and to bring a school and church hall, dating from 1940, up to standard, for use as offices and meeting rooms. The building was conveniently located, a few minutes walk from the old church. Meetings were called by the present minister. Mr. Philip Jarvis. These meetings were controversial and tended to polarize the community into two camps, those who wanted to retain the old church and those who felt that a new church would better serve the needs of the parish. The meetings culminated in men being sent to the woods to cut timber for a new church and the old church whose building had been an occasion of unity and cooperation amongst the congregation had become a bone of contention.

Those who had favoured the old church were bitterly disappointed because many who supported their views were older and could not, or would not come out to contentious meetings. Led by Mr. Victor March, the former chairman of the renovations committee, they have formed the Green's Harbour Historic Church Association whose aim is to find a new use for the old building and take responsibility for its management. They are thinking at the moment of a community museum but would like to keep the building in its original condition because of the very fine craftsmanship of its interior details and furnishings. Already donations have been received including materials to finish the repairs to the roof.

Certainly, the old church is the most interesting building in Green's Harbour and the community would be poorer without it. It is truly unfortunate that a decision was not made to retain it as a living church. But that is past history. The new church is there and must be accepted. If a new future is to be found for the old church some way must be found to bring all the members of the congregation together as they were united for its building. It must be valued for its beauty and for the links it provides with the past and cease to be a symbol of controversy.

-Shannie Duff.



The balusters shown above were made by hand by Mr. Willis Penny. Mr. Penny was helped by his daughter and son who turned a wheel which would rotate the piece of wood while he labouriously cut and chipped with a chisel. The daughter, Mrs. Thomas Mulley is now living with her daughter is St. John's. (Photo courtesy Green's Harbour Historic Church Assn.)

The trident

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PAST & FUTURE

The Trident is the quarterly publication of The Newfoundland Historic Trust, P.O. Box 5542, St. John's.

Editor, Shannie Duff; Assistant Editor, Maria Bradshaw.

Contributors to this issue: Susan Ayre, Patricia Rahal, Anita Blackwood, Katherine Murphy, Edna Hall, Mrs. Victor March.

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Two local groups win National Heritage Awards

Heritage Canada's Awards Programme honours individuals, groups and companies who have made an outstanding contribution to the preservation restoration and development of heritage buildings, landscapes and areas.

The names of recipients, an-

nounced by Foundation Chairman Hartland MacDougall at the Third Annual Meeting in Montreal on Sept. 18th included THE NEWFOUNDLAND HISTORIC TRUST and THE CONCEPTION BAY MUSEUM INC.

The awards were presented to the groups by Mr. R.A. J. Phillips, Executive Director of Heritage Canada during a four day visit to Newfoundland in late September.

The Newfoundland Historic Trust received one of two National Communications Awards "for promoting in an outstanding manner the value of Canada's heritage and the need to preserve it."

Special mention was made of the TRIDENT, which was described as a top flight heritage newspaper and the Trust's publication A GIFT OF HERITAGE. Also given consideration were the many projects including public speaking, newspaper articles slide presentations and exhibitions which the Trust has undertaken over the years to develop an awareness in this province of our heritage and the need to take action to conserve it.

The Regional Prize Award for Atlantic Canada went to the Conception Bay Museum Inc. for its restoration of the Old Customs House at Harbour Grace as a Museum and National Exhibition Centre. Also mentioned were the groups association with the restoration of St. Paul's Anglican Church at Harbour Grace and its efforts to preserve a very early 19th century one room school at nearby Bristol's Hope which is one of the oldest surviving schools in the province.



The Presentation of the Regional Prize Award to the Conception Bay Museum Inc. took place at a special luncheon given by the group at Archibald's Inn. Mr. R.A. J. Phillip's addressed the group following the luncheon. The presentation was part of a day long tour of Harbour Grace, Bristol's Hope and Brigus. While in Harbour Grace Mr. Phillips, and Mr. Jim Knight toured St. Paul's Anglican Church and the Court House and Jail, in addition to the Conception Bay Museum. Photo Above. Mr. Gordon Simmons, Mr. R.A.J. Phillips, Administrator of the Museum, Judge Rupert Bartlett, President of the Conception Bay Museum Inc. and Shannie Duff, President of the Newfoundland Historic Trust and a Governor of Heritage Canada. (Photo courtesy The Compass).



(Photo courtesy Richard Stoker).

Mr. R.A. J. Phillips, Executive Director of Heritage Canada presents a National Communication Award to Shannie Duff, President of the Newfoundland Historic Trust. The presentation was made at a general membership meeting of the Trust held on Tues., Sept. 27th. at historic Calvert House which has been restored as a private residence by Dr. and Mrs. Alain Frecker, Mr. Phillips, and Mr. Jim Knight, Programme Director of Heritage Canada spoke to the Trust members about Heritage Canada's policy and programmes and about the tremendously important role of the voluntary heritage groups across the nation who were the front line troops of heritage conservation. Mr. Phillips views one of Heritage Canada's most important functions as an agency which can link the isolated heritage efforts across the country into a movement which can be a strong national voice for conservation. He stressed that the initiative and the real effort at the local level will always be the responsibility of the local groups. Heritage Canada can react to local requests and can serve to support and advise.

Trust receives \$10,000.00 grant for research on the architectural heritage of outport communities

The grant, was awarded under the STUDENT COMMUNITY SERVICE PROGRAMME OF THE DEPARTMENT OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE for the purpose of assisting the Newfoundland Historic Trust in the preparation of, a comprehensive list of the most significant heritage buildings and structures in some of Newfoundland's early communities.

Under this phase of the project, work was completed in Twillingate, Fogo, Grand Bank, Bonavista, Trinity, Carbonear, Harbour Grace and Brigus.

The grant made possible the hiring of senior student researchers and it is the first time the Trust has had funding for a project of this nature. Using volunteer researchers a similar project has been in progress in St. John's for a number of years and is now nearing completion.

The project was co-ordinated by Shane O'Dea, Chairman of the Trust's Preservation Committee, and involved research both on a documentary level and in the field. A student researcher remained in St. John's during the project to conduct research in the Provincial Archives, Registry of Deeds, Registry of Grants and other sources of documentary in-

formation. Three students spent the summer in the selected communities interviewing owners of historic properties and those who themselves, or through their ancestors had association with the properties or special knowledge of the early history of the community.

An attempt was made to develop a folk history as well as a factual history. Folk history is of added significance in Newfoundland communities where factual information is often scanty.

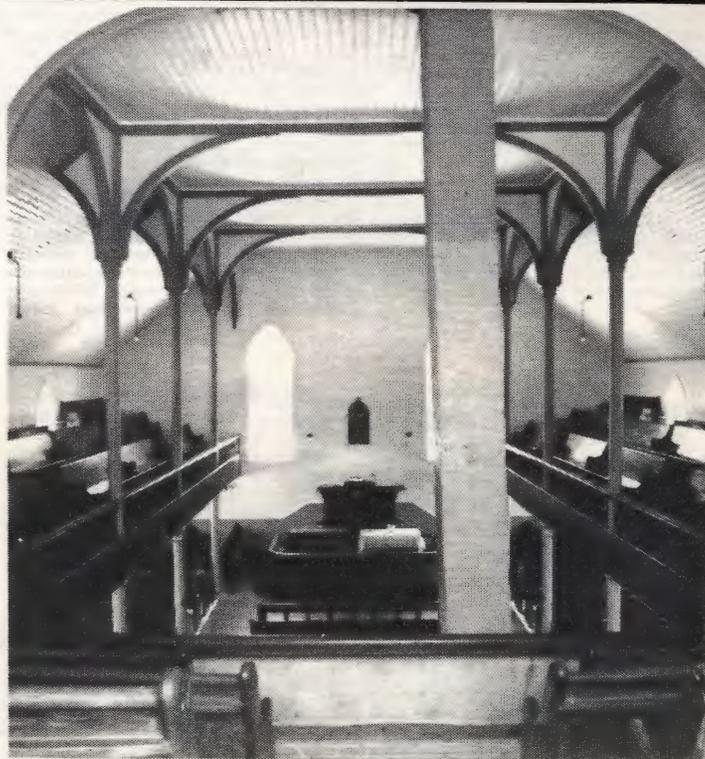
At the completion of the project, two of the students assisted the Trust with the compilation of a comprehensive list for St. John's based on the original inventory started by George Story and continued by the research and planning committee under Bev Miller and the work done in St. John's for the Canadian Inventory of Historic Buildings.

The student researchers

involved in this project were Wayne Connolly, Madeline Connors, Fred Hann, Genevieve Lehr, and Carson Vincent.

It is hoped that as a result of this project the Trust will be able to produce a second volume in the "Gift of Heritage" Series dealing with historic buildings in

Newfoundland's outport communities.



Interior of Green's Harbour United Church. At the turn of the century the architecture of a building called for a building to be in one continuous piece from floor to ceiling. The young married men of the Methodist Church at Green's Harbour took it upon themselves to find tall trees from which these pillars could be cut. The search took them across Trinity Bay to Bay Bulls Island and several pillars were floated back across Trinity Bay to the site of the church.

Green's Harbour United Church

In 1900 the congregation of the Methodist Church in Green's Harbour decided that their present church was not large enough to accommodate their members and that they would build a new and bigger church. This was a unanimous decision and the building of the church was a happy occasion because every member of the congregation who could were ready and willing to help.

At that time money was scarce, so our records show gifts of large amounts of money, but the lumber to build was cut by the men from the forest surrounding the building site. Young vigorous men took it upon themselves to go far afield to supply the big timber for the pillars sills and sleepers.

When construction began, the labour was free but each man was credited for his time at work at ten cents per hour in order that the amount of his donation could be given a monetary value. Mr. James Rowe, a well known church builder who had built churches in Trinity and Placentia Bays, and who was a native of Green's Harbour, was chosen as master builder. The church is considered to be one of the finest examples of his craft. The records show that a portion of his time as master builder were donated.

Before construction began Mr. Rowe was taken on an extensive tour to get inspiration for a design for the new church. It is generally believed that the church is based on a design for a church in Conception Bay.

The nails used in the building and the hardwood for the trim were also donated by the church members.

When the work was completed, Mr. Ebenezer March, now 93 years old, was hoisted to the top of the tower to place and secure the weather vane.

Mrs. Victor March
Green's Harbour, T.B.

St. John's Heritage Conservation Area

— The final draft of the feasibility study has been completed.

— The final published report will be ready within weeks.

— Public meetings have been held for the area residents and business men, and the response has been encouraging. More are planned.

— The St. John's Heritage Foundation, under the Chairmanship of Mr. Lewis Ayre has been incorporated, and has agreed to take over responsibility for the management and implementation of the programme.

— Preliminary meetings with representatives of the Municipal and Provincial Government officials, have been encouraging.

— Heritage Canada has agreed to honour its commitment of \$500,000, as a property revolving fund if there is adequate evidence of moral and financial support from Government and the private sector.

— Watch for the issue of the TRIDENT, which will be devoted entirely to the Conservation Area, and the study proposals. Copies will be distributed to all residents and business men in the area, as well as all trust members.

OLD ST. JOHN'S IS WORTH SAVING.

Greenspond, Bonavista Bay

Greenspond is one of the most beautifully preserved island communities in Newfoundland. Once the capital of Bonavista Bay, is boasted some of the finest homes and buildings found anywhere in the province. Over the years the importance of Greenspond diminished, but fortunately the buildings remained and today it is still a picturesque community. Because of its history and its fine buildings, the Town council has requested that the community become a heritage village.

In this article we will explore a little of that magnificent history.

The first people settled on the island during the closing years of the 17th. century. In 1713 the Treaty of Utrecht placed Greenspond within the area called the "French Shore." Eventually in 1783 the French Shore was moved farther north, to what we now know as Cape St. John near La Scie.

According to historical documents, the period from 1713 to 1728 were lean fish years and the population dwindled somewhat, but then the fish returned in the 1730's and more people arrived, some of whom were Irish immigrants.

People continued to move to Greenspond until the 1740's when another shortage of fish occurred. This bleak period lasted until the 1760's and during those 20 years the settlers of Greenspond began to sail a fair distance from the island in search of fish. Some went as far as Fogo Island. This perhaps can be called the very beginning of the migratory fishery which later made Greenspond so famous.

By the late 1700's, Greenspond was firmly established with a population of close to 300. It had a visiting Anglican minister and in 1784, a magistrate was appointed. The magistrate was William Kane, a noted merchant who

along with the company of Slades provided supplies to people up and down the shore.

The 1800's is sometimes referred to as the golden era of Greenspond as the island continued to grow and prosper. A report written in 1807, shows that there were 39 fishing boats in Greenspond with a total of 215 men involved in the fishery and 60 shoremen. 11,000 quintals of fish were made with 130 tons of oil produced. The seal fishery which had become important during the late 1700's produced 18,000 seal pelts that year.

In 1812, the governor of Newfoundland armed Greenspond against American privateers. The local magistrate was given access to rifles, and two nine pound cannons were placed on the island. No shot was ever fired and the rifles were eventually returned, but the cannons can still be seen at the local war memorial.

However, despite its progress and growing importance, Greenspond still had no churches, schools or other public buildings until 1816 when the Society of the Progration of the Gospel appointed a Mr. Walley as lay reader and teacher, and a church was built. The first school was finally built in 1830.

In 1838, there was a sure sign of the development of foreign and local trade, as the first collector of customs for the area was appointed. During the period from, 834 to 1850, ships from Great Britain, Portugal, Italy, Greece, North America and Brazil called at Greenspond. They brought salt, wine, fruit, clothing and food items, and took away salt fish, berries, blubber, capelin, furs, oils, staves, pickled salmon and whalebone. It was an impressive list of exports.

In 1854, the balance of trade was something to be envied today. Imports totalled 8,639 pounds sterling, while exports were valued at 23,996 pounds. The ratio was almost three to one.

But wealth was not achieved without industrious hard work as seen by the commercial activities found at Greenspond at that time. There were tinshops, forges, a co-operating store, and a cobblers shop.

The population of Greenspond rose steadily, from about 60 in 1706 to 600 in 1810, to 750 in 1828, to 1,113 in 1854. In 1857, 16 vessels cleared from Greenspond for the Labrador fishery. In 1860 there were 27, while 1886 saw 165 ships. In 1890 there were 147 ships, and 1893 saw a fleet of 172 leave for the annual fishery off the Labrador coast.

In addition to the lasting Labrador fishery, there was also a vitally important seal fishery. In 1860, 18 shops were involved in the hunt, with an average crew of 15 to 20 men. By 1895, there were only nine ships, but they were much larger, with crews averaging 210 men.

There were many famous sealing captains who helped put the island on the map. Captain Darius Blandford made the quickest trip to the ice, returning to port with a large vessel full

after only nine days. Captain Peter Carter made the heaviest trip and the fame of the Kean's is known to every Newfoundlander. The practice of sailing for the ice from Greenspond later died out, but the men still went to St. John's to obtain berths for the seal fishery.

In 1854, the community was almost totally Church of England and was a rough place according to a Wesleyan minister who visited there in 1866. He was shocked to find 5 public houses in the community, and called it the "Sadom of the North." By 1901, however, the Salvation Army and the Wesleyans had almost half of the population as adherents to their faiths.

As was the case in many Newfoundland communities, Greenspond was plagued by religious splits, which hurt the ability of the people to work together effectively. However, various groups managed to spring up, such as the Loyal Orange Society and the Burnette Lodge. Later the Orange Young Britons emerged and in 1872, the Society of United Fishermen made its appearance.

The second half of the 19th. century saw a rapid decrease in foreign trade, due in part perhaps to the growth of St. John's as a commercial centre. Greenspond then became known as the capital of Bonavista Bay and boasted a fine courthouse, several churches and many stores. Nonetheless, in 1901 the census showed the population had increased to 1726 people.

But the heyday of Greenspond was gone and the population began to drop from its high 1726 to 462 in the early 1970's (it's on the slow increase now with 500 people recorded in 1976).

The development of a road network throughout Newfoundland probably range the death knell of Greenspond as a large community. Gone was her role as a distribution centre, and the sea was no longer the highway it had been from the earliest days of settlement. The gradual demise of the massive Labrador fishery helped the process of decline.

But the history of Greenspond lingers on because, after all, Greenspond is what Newfoundland is all about. Through hard work and despite unbelievable conditions from this rocky coast evolved a pattern of living which worked well ... the people had created a balance of trade and a balance way of life that made Greenspond one of the most prosperous Newfoundland communities ever to exist. And it was done despite having no natural resources such as farm land and these on the island, and no trees. But the people of Greenspond used to the maximum their greatest natural resource, the sea, as well as their own greatest resource — their energy. And this energy and industriousness has brought forth generations of Newfoundlanders who were known as sea captains, outstanding fishermen, leaders, educators and politicians.

Susan Ayre



Greenspond Photos: Susan Ayre

Mary March Museum expected to be open early in 1977

The Mary March Regional Museum is the outgrowth of a sub-committee of the Grand Falls Tourist Committee. It was first established in 1971 to plan a display to be located on the Observation Deck of the Provincial Building in Grand Falls. The scope of the display was to be limited to the culture of the Beothuck Indians and artifacts related to the pulp and paper industry of Central Newfoundland. The name of the museum was chosen to commemorate Mary March, one of the last of the now extinct Beothucks, who lived and died within the region.

In 1972 additional space was secured in the Provincial Building when the Provincial Government most generously made available, rent free, 800 square feet of space on the fourth floor of the building. The volunteer members of the Museum, with the co-operation of the Newfoundland Museum, the Department of Tourism, the Department of Provincial Affairs, and the residents of the area, were able to mount a small but excellent display. The Museum focused around a large display of mounted birds and animals donated by the family of the late Hedley Rowsell, in his memory. In addition to these, a number of artifacts and photographs related to the pulp and paper industry were secured. A number of other items reflecting the early history of Central Newfoundland were also donated and placed on display.

A favourable response from the general public was immediate. More than 5000 people, residents and tourists, have visited the Museum annually since it was first opened. Many people have made offers to donate items to the museum but lack of adequate facilities have prevented any large-scale acquisition programme. It was soon apparent that larger and more suitable quarters would be necessary.

In 1973 the museum was formally incorporated as a non-profit organization under the laws of Newfoundland to be known as The Mary March Regional Museum. The charter made provision for the administration of the activities of the museum to be made by a Board of Directors.

After exploring the various possibilities of providing a museum for Central Newfoundland it was decided that the most viable one was through the National Exhibition Centre Programme of the National Museums of Canada. A request for assistance was made to the National Museums and was approved. The National Exhibition Centre in Grand Falls is one of thirty nine professional institutions planned for Canada, all meeting very stringent technical requirements to enable them to handle very valuable and very delicate works of art.

National Exhibition Centres will provide a local centre for the

preservation of items of historical and cultural significance. They will also engage in exchange programmes with other National Exhibition Centres and the National Museums to provide exhibits and displays of a kind which would not otherwise be available within the region.

In the spring of 1976 a contract valued at \$286,850.00 was awarded to Vi-Bar Construction Ltd., of Gander, for construction of the new National Exhibition Centre. Funding for the project has been received from the National Museums of Canada, the Province of Newfoundland and Labrador, and the Town of Grand Falls.

On June 14, 1976 a sod-turning ceremony was held to mark the beginning of construction. The sod was turned by the Hon. William Rompkey, federal Member of Parliament for the District of Grand Falls, White Bay, Labrador. Other special guests included the Hon. Tom

Hickey, Minister of Tourism, the Hon. John Lundrigan, Minister of Rural Development, and Mrs. Irene Skinner, representing the Town of Grand Falls.

The new building is expected to be completed and ready for oc-

cupancy by January 1977. It is expected that the National Exhibition Centre will be open to the public very early in the new year.

Glenn Stroud was hired on June 1st, 1976 as the first Director of the National Exhibition Centre.



LAPWING Not native to Newfoundland. Commonly found in Europe. This specimen was caught in a storm off the coast of Newfoundland. Donated by the family of Mr. Hedley Rowsell.



View of three display cases. To the right, mounted bird specimens; centre, assorted household items; left, a number of carpentry tools.



ANGUS CAMPBELL ARCHITECT

.....MARY MARCH REGIONAL MUSEUM.....

Essay Contest

As part of our commitment to encourage interest in the heritage of Newfoundland and Labrador, the Trust has undertaken the sponsorship of an annual Essay Contest. This year we invited students in Grades VII and VIII to submit short essays on the topic "Which building or site in or near your community

interests you because of its historical associations?"

While the response was only fairly good (we received 58 entries from 15 schools, with the majority of the entries from St. John's schools), we were encouraged by the interest of the participants and the support of some classroom teachers.

We are very grateful to Ms. Rosalie MacDonald from the Schools Broadcast Division, Dept. of Education and Dr. Ruth Pierson from the History Dept. at Memorial University, both of whom are highly qualified historians, for their services to the Trust in evaluating and judging the essays. The judges looked for

originality as well as evidence of a genuine interest in and a personal investigation of the site being discussed. They were pleased to award the prizes to the following students:-

1976 Essay Contest prize winners

First Prize — \$25.00
Dominic Hogan (8)
St. Francis Central High
Harbour Grace

Second Prize — \$10.00
Michelle Mulcahy (Grade 7)
Sacred Heart School
Cape Broyle

Third Prize — \$10.00
David Warr
Crescent Collegiate Central High
Robert's Arm (Green Bay)

Fourth Prize — \$10.00
Patrick Morrissey (8)
Mary Queen of Peace Elem.
St. John's

Joan Hiller
Chairman,
Essay Contest
Committee

An old family home

The oldest house that I know of is right next door. It is the home of my grandparents. They are Mr. and Mrs. Alex Hogan from London Road, Carbonear. It was built in the year 1807. In those days people had very little, and everything came from scrap. At one time the outside of the house was completely covered with shingles, including a wooden shingle roof.

To this day, it is the only house I know of which has an actual old chimney corner completely made of rock and plaster. The stove is in the center of the corner and on both sides of it there are two wooden benches where you can sit down in the warmth. In the middle of the kitchen ceiling there is a hatch where you can get up on the attic. When you enter the house there is a porch where pots,

pans and water buckets are kept on a stand. Off the porch there is a pantry where all the food is kept. In the bedrooms there are beds with wooden frames, feather mattresses and pillows. The beds are covered with beautiful handmade quilts and bedspreads. Also each room has a wash stand with a basin and pitcher. My grandmother has an old trunk where she keeps her clothes. In the living room, there is an old couch



Dominic Hogan
Grade VIII Gold
St. Francis Central High
Harbour Grace,
Nfld.

and in one corner there is a wooden rocking chair which belonged to my great-grandmother. In another corner there is a hutch which contains some antique dishes. The pictures on the walls are in wooden frames and some are over a hundred years old.

In the wintery nights when the wind howls outside we sit around an old pot belly stove, throw in a few birch junks and enjoy a "sunshine warmth".

This old house has been the home of many generations, going back to my great, great grandfather and coming down to me, being the last one to be born there. It has been the happiness and sorrows of everyone. Today it is the home of my Grandfather and Grandmother, and I think if this old house could talk it would tell lots of stories from our past. This old house means a great deal to me. The fact that it once shared its four walls, with me, makes me proud and to me, it will always be treasured.

Condon's ice house, Cape Broyle

The relic of an old stone building in Admirals Cove. Built in the year 1910 shows us how some people made their living fifty to fifty-five years ago. This icehouse was built during the First World War. A man from Cape Broyle built this historic sight. Since there was no pond around the neighbourhood the men who worked at this icehouse had to



Michelle Mulcahy
Grade 7
Cape Broyle
Sacred Heart
School

dam the water off in order to have enough water to cut ice. Ice plows which cut the ice which was 12-15 inches thick were drawn by horses. Several men were employed to cut the ice and to pull it out of the water and then the ice blocks were pulled on the slides. The slides towed three blocks of ice at the same time. Next the men took the blocks of ice to the elevator which was drawn by blocks and ropes. These elevators were not like the elevators of today. The horse had ropes attached to it. Then the horse would walk away from the elevator and slowly the ice would reach the top where it was unloaded, and packed, and then sawdusted to keep it from sticking together and melting. Every man in the neighbourhood was employed but the pay was of a very low rate, one dollar a day for a man, and one dollar a day for his horse. Men without horses worked on the pond pulling ice from the water with grips. The owner of this ice house sold ice by the dory load to banking vessels when they arrived in late spring from the Grand Banks of Newfoundland. When it was coldest and ice had frozen

about ten inches this was the time of the year they would cut the ice. It took about 3 weeks to a month to fill one icehouse. Because of this it gave men a chance to get to the icefields to earn more money, but mostly they were paid with food. There was no roof on this icehouse. They had several inches of sawdust spread of it on top of the sawdust was spread ships canvas to keep the sawdust from blowing away. The iceblocks were used to freeze the captain on board the Viking ships. Men only stayed in port long enough to get bait. One year a woman from Cape Broyle counted 117 vessels in port just in the one night. This is just an example of how much business the owner of this ice house had. But when refrigeration came in 1931 this man who owned this business went broke because the stockmarket has crashed two years before, and vessels began using refrigerators and didn't need ice or captain. But none the less this ice house if very historic and maybe in many years to come it could be put to use again. But not necessarily for ice, maybe for a storage room.

An historical site near my home

THE REMAINS OF THE PELLEYS ISLAND COPPER MINES.

The historical site I have chosen to write about is the old Pelley's Island Copper Mines. The remains of this mine are situated at the last end of Pelleys Island harbour. It was first opened just nine years after the first settlers came here, and it operated from 1875 to 1887. It was last operated from April 2nd, 1902 until November 1909. Most of the ore was shipped to New York by a Norwegian ship called the Lonacon. The ore was then used by a company called the Blast Furnace Products Corporation. This operation employed many men and Pelleys Island soon became a growing industrial city.

I think this would be a nice place for tourists to visit and it could even be turned into an historical park. The ruins of the mines can still be seen. Along the shores of mines pond pieces of railway and tram-cars can still be seen.



The mine shaft is in the middle of the pond and you can get a good view of this from the hill on the side of the pond. The headworks foundation can be seen on the hill by the side of the pond and you can see this as you drive through the settlement on the highway. In the pond and along the shore iron boilers can be seen. This was part of

the equipment used to generate electricity and they are very interesting things to look at. Around the remains of the mines you can pick up pieces of shiny copper ore if you visit.

Back when the mines were operating the only means of transportation was by water. One of the passenger boats,

the Greyhound, was pulled up at the bottom of the harbour and when the road went through the settlement it formed a part of the causeway. The remains of the whole operation is a very interesting thing to look at. I believe that someone should do something to try and make a park out of it. The pond is a great place to swim and you

can drive down in shallow water, about ten feet and see other parts of the equipment that was used. I believe that it is the greatest tourist potential near my home, and probably one of the oldest things there. It would be a great place for a historical park.

-David Warr
Crescent Collegiate
Roberts Arm.

Chain Rock, St. John's

Chain Rock was used to protect St. John's City and harbour from any enemy or unexpected ships that might enter. Chain Rock was useful as far back as 1762, after the French defeat.

Chain Rock is situated at the entrance and has been blown-up several times. I don't understand why it was blown up, but it still remains. I hope it does forever. I wouldn't want it destroyed because to me it played an important role in the time it protected the city.

Chain Rock is not affecting anything or anyone by just lying there. It is not blocking the entrance to boats entering

because there is already enough room for boats to enter. Some people want it destroyed because some boats had run into it and had been wrecked. By careful navigation the boats would easily go through it with no problem.

During the war a large mesh net stretched just below the surface. Submarines could not possibly enter, and enemy boats could not either because of patrol vessels just outside the harbour. The net was about ten feet long and was raised approximately eight feet high to let small boats enter the harbour.

Since 1762, Chain Rock successfully protected the city and in the future it might be needed for similar uses. During World War II, a German U-boat attempted to

enter the harbour through Chain Rock, but was caught and its crew were taken prisoners of war. At far off at sea, Chain Rock looked so close together that it seemed as if there was no opening at the harbour. For this reason there was a slim chance of a torpedo being shot through Chain Rock. This situation also protected visiting ships from being destroyed in the harbour.

It is amazing how such a small thing could protect the harbour and visiting vessels from destruction. Some people react to Chain Rock as just an old rock lying at the entrance of the harbour, but if all the people even knew the role it played since 1762, they would be proud of, "that old rock".

I would like to see a plaque

being set up, just above Chain Rock on Signal Hill. I would like to have a plaque there just to tell the people who don't know about Chain Rock, exactly what it is, and why it is so great since 1762. People should know about Chain Rock because it is more than just an ordinary rock.



Patrick Morrissey
Age 13 yrs. old
School, Mary Queen of Peace
Grade, 8

Historic Sites and Monuments Board Recognizes Christ Church, Quidi Vidi

An unveiling ceremony which brought Trust members and residents of Quidi Qudi Village together for a delightful social occasion took place at Christ Church, Quidi Vidi on Wednesday, Sept. 28th.

Newfoundland's representative on the Historic Sites and Monuments Board, Dr. Leslie Harris acted as master of ceremonies for the occasion and both Dr. Harris and Mrs. Shannie Duff, President of the Trust spoke briefly about the history of the building, the Trust's efforts to save it and its evolution to its present use as a community centre for the village. The plaque which was unveiled by Her Worship Mayor Dorothy Wyatt, who took time out of a very busy day to attend the ceremony because of her special interest in Quidi Vidi Village, reads:

Christ Church Quidi Vidi

"While services were held at Quidi Vidi from an earlier date, in 1834, Anglicans, Methodists and Congregationalists combined to build a church here. Co-operation failing, the original building fell into decay and the property into the hands of the Anglicans.

This church, built to the simple cruciform plan of Henry Purcell of Cork, was opened by Bishop Spencer in 1842.

Transitory fame came with its selection as location for scenes in the first Canadian feature film, THE VIKING (1931). By 1966 a dwindling congregation led to its closure and the building was acquired by the Newfoundland Historic Trust."

Father McNulty of St. Joseph's Parish stepped in at the last moment to say a prayer of dedication in place of Rev. William Askew, pastor of St. Thomas Church who was unavoidably detained. The former Christ Church was once a part of St. Thomas's Anglican Parish. The interdenominational note reminded many of those present of the early beginnings of Christ Church before it was passed over entirely to the Anglicans.

Following the ceremony guests were invited to a reception in the building which was organized and served by a village committee headed by Mr. and Mrs. Robert Hennebury. Because no ceremony is complete without a cake Mrs. Hennebury had ordered a beautiful cake decorated with the words "UNVEILING 1976", especially for the occasion.

Mrs. Duff said in her remarks that there were some who were disappointed because the building had not been restored as a museum as had been originally intended but that she herself felt that the decision to renovate the interior for use as a community centre was the right one for the Village. It is the only place of public assembly in the village and has been used for public meetings, films, classes in arts and crafts, summer recreation programmes, dances and showers. A lot of work in decorating the interior had been done by the villagers themselves who also finance all their own activities. Maintenance and

repairs as well as insurance continue to be a responsibility of the Trust. At the time the work was done the water and sewer work in the Village was not completed and it was not possible to install adequate plumbing. The building is also in need of painting, landscaping and some repairs but it is hoped that if an application for a L.I.P. grant is successful this work will be completed by the villagers and the building will have a greatly increased use and become entirely self supporting.

As an indication that the idea of a community center is a good

one, Mrs. Duff told the guests at the unveiling ceremony that acts of vandalism against the building which had once been a very serious problem had now ceased entirely.

The villagers are proud of this historic building in their community and are very conscious of the historic importance of the village. According to Mrs. Linda Hennebury, when former villagers return to their home community for a vacation, one of the first things they ask is "Is the little church still standing."



Her Worship Mayor Dorothy Wyatt unveils the Historic Sites and Monuments plaque assisted by Dr. Harris at an unveiling ceremony on Sept. 28th.

Atlantic Charter Monument unveiled at Ship Harbour, Placentia Bay

On 14 August 1976 at 3:00 P.M., Canada's newest officially declared Historic Site and Monument were officially unveiled at Ship Harbour, Placentia Bay, Newfoundland.

It was off Ship Harbour that Prime Minister Winston Churchill and President Franklin Roosevelt met in 1941 aboard the Warship U.S.S. Augusta to arrive at the Atlantic Charter, an eight point declaration considered the basis for the United Nations signed four years later. It affirmed the rights of political self-determination, security and economic development for all peoples, and was endorsed by the 26 Allied Powers in 1942.

Among dignitaries present for the event were Sir John Johnston, British High Commissioner, United States Ambassador Thomas Enders, The Honourable Judd Buchanan - Minister of Indian & Northern Affairs, The Honourable Donald Jamieson - Minister of Industry, Trade & Commerce, and the Provincial Minister of Tourism - Mr. Thomas Hickey, former Lieutenant Governor - Sir Leonard Outerbridge was a special guest as he attended the Charter talks in 1941 as Acting Private Secretary to Governor Sir Humphrey Walwyn. Mr. William Follett, Vice-Chairman of the Ship Harbour Recreation Commission also spoke to the crowds of his memories of that August Day in 1941 when he stood on the shore and thrilled to the voices of British, U.S. and Canadian fighting men echoing across the Harbour as they participated in an open-air church service. Chairman of the event was Dr. Leslie Harris, Newfoundland's Representative on the Historic Sites and Monuments Board of Canada. Father W. Lahey, Parish Priest of Fox Harbour gave the Prayer of Dedication.

The Monument of stone frames the Isaacs, the three hills that formed a backdrop for the Historic Conference, and also a bronze relief of Churchill and Roosevelt. The Plaque was jointly unveiled by Sir John Johnston, and Ambassador Enders. The Monument also overlooks the beach where Churchill walked while in Placentia Bay in 1941.

"First a whaleboat was lowered and manned by British sailors, who rowed it about to the companionway. Then down the steps scuttled the P.M., clad in a one-piece jumper with short sleeves and trousers cut off at the knees. From where we stood, he looked like some out-size fat boy, lacking only a toy bucket and

spade for his afternoon's romp on the beach."

He jumped from the boat as soon as it nosed onto the beach and charged on a high bluff immediately beyond. "Once there he peeked over the brink and noticed a number of his party stretched comfortably out on the sand.... Promptly Mr. C. Gathered up a handful of rocks

and amused himself by scattering his dismayed followers with a few well-aimed tosses. High jinks in high places," — WROTE Elliott Roosevelt, a witness to the invasion. Churchill even indulged in wading about in the surf off the gravelly beach.

York, 1946.

After the official ceremony all were invited back to the Community Hall where a delicious buffet lunch, sponsored by the Ladies of the Ship Harbour Recreation Commission.

-Edna Hall
Superintendent
Castle Hill
Placentia

1. ROOSEVELT, Elliott - As He
Saw It - Greenwood Press, New



Ambassador T.O. Enders and Sir John Johnston jointly unveil monument. Right is RCMP Constable A. Doody.



Sir Leonard Outerbridge and Mr. W. Follett of Ship Harbour Recreation Association.

Major restoration project for Cape Spear Lighthouse

From Signal Hill on a clear, sharp starry night, you may see a twinkle which is not a star. It comes from the old lighthouse on Cape Spear. Cape Spear is the closest point to Euripe in North America. If you stand on this point, with your back to the sea, you will be facing every living soul on the North American Continent! Thousands of Tourists brave the hazardous dirt road each year to visit this beautiful spot, but more specifically they come to visit the lighthouse. Which is believed to date back to 1835. However to determine an accurate date of erection, during the Spring and summer of this year, extensive work has been carried out, both in detailed historical and architectural investigation. This work is hoped to be completed by the Federal Government, sometime next July.

The purpose of this work, was to try and determine the existing state of the building at the various stages in its development. Some of the numerous additions are dateable by Historical records, but others can only be estimated to within a few years.

The detailed programme of investigation, which was started early this summer, has uncovered a lot of valuable information. The results of "stripping," or removal of

contemporary materials, has allowed us to arrive at a reasonable, accurate picture of the appearance of the structure at its various stages.

A few general examples of what has been determined:—

1. The present clapboard covering replaces an earlier shingle covering, the date of this has not yet been determined, but is suspected to be around 1885. The shingle covering appears to date about 5 years earlier. The wood from which the shingles were made, appears to be white cedar, but they seem to have been split mechanically and not by hand, but with some hand shaving applied to a few of them. More investigation will be carried out on the shingles "at a future date". The original covering of the square structure, was with clapboard, the boards being 7½ inches wide, and laid 3½ inches to the weather.

(2) During the investigation and stripping process it was discovered that the original square building was a carefully designed and proportioned building, with four facades divided into three (3) bays by the use of pilasters. These cover pilasters were set in, about 4 inches from the corners, and the centre to centre spring of the location of the pilasters showed that the centre bay was approximately 9 inches wider than

the bays on either side. This is a type of refinement that is used in good design to correct the optical effect of the centre bay looking narrower than the side bays. The same principle has been used in Greek Temples with the spacing of columns.

(3) The use of 'dummy' or 'false' windows was used extensively in order to obtain a balanced facade. Where there was no need or space for a window opening on the interior, but an unbalanced facade would result on the exterior wall, a 'false' window would be incorporated. This consisted of an area of smooth boards, painted black, set into the exterior sheathing where a window would normally occur, and with thin strips of wood applied to indicate the sash rails and muntins. A standard outer casing was applied complete with set-in still. As there is no original sash in the structure, it was possible to determine, from the 'ghost' marks of the muntins and rails that the lower windows have 6—6 sash with a glass size of 10—12, and the upper windows had a fixed sash of 6 lights with a glass size of 10—8. A total of 10 'false' windows have been determined. A study of the Cape Bonavista Light house indicates that it also incorporated a number of 'false' windows, although the method of

their construction is different. It appears that in one case an interior simulation of a window was carried out.

(4) There is recorded evidence that a porch was removed from what was the original entrance, and that the door was replaced with a window. Stripping at this point did confirm the presence of a door, but there was no definite evidence of a porch structure being attached to the exterior sheathing. A second investigation uncovered two (2) pieces of board that support the present bottom window trimmer, which gave an indication that the porch may well have been attached to the building after the original clapboard was applied. The size of the porch would have to be determined for restoration designs, so it was decided that archeology should be carried out. Presently, work is being done and a stone foundation has been uncovered. This will give us the size of the porch, and we hope that enough information will be unearthed to give the size and location of the steps and their relation to the porch.

So this is yet another Historic Building, which is in the process of being saved as a part of our Heritage. Road improvements are part of a programme, which when completed will make the site much more accessible.

Fire damages one of city's oldest buildings

The four year effort of the Newfoundland Historic Trust to save the historic James Anderson House at 42-44 Power's Court came very near to a tragic end on Wed. Oct. 7th when the building was seriously damaged by fire, an ever present threat to abandoned buildings.

The fire was all the more disappointing because rehabilitation work on the structure, one of the oldest surviving in the city, was scheduled to start in a matter of weeks.

The building still stands largely because the owners of the property, The Roman Catholic Episcopal Corporation and St. Joseph's Parish have recognized its heritage value and displayed the greatest patience and co-operation with the Trust's attempts to find an alternate use and an interested purchaser.

After numerous attempts to interest other agencies and individuals in acquiring the building for rehabilitation failed, the Trust Executive made a decision early last Spring to purchase the building. The decision was made possible by an agreement with the Architect's Guild who undertook to rehabilitate the James Anderson House as their own professional offices. The terms of the lease would ensure that the heritage character of the building was protected and that the financial obligations incurred by the Trust would be fully discharged.

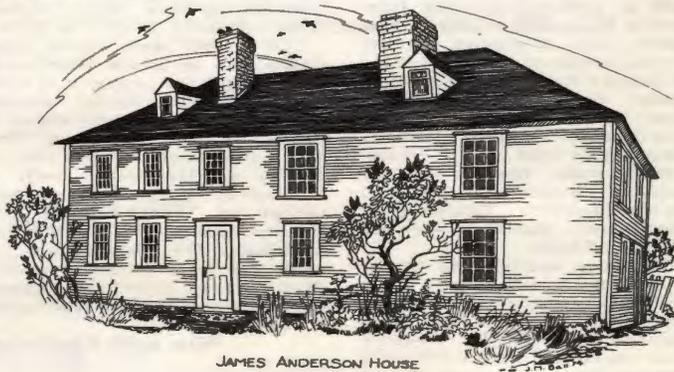
In early May the Trust acquired an option on the property and made application to Council for a permit to rehabilitate the building. It was our intention that the main structural work and all exterior renovations would be completed during the summer months as we

were concerned both about the danger of fire and the ability of the building to withstand another winter without serious deterioration.

Unfortunately, due to a series of delays, approval was not granted until September. The legal papers dealing with the transfer of the property to the Trust had just been completed and a building permit received when the fire occurred.

The fire damage and the effects

of fire fighting are serious but as this issue goes to press there is still hope that the project will go ahead. We are now in the process of assessing the extent of the damage and the feasibility of rehabilitation for the intended use. We must make a decision within ten days or the building must be demolished. Because the building is a rare survivor of an early period in the city's history every attempt will be made to save it.



JAMES ANDERSON HOUSE

Summer museum outstanding success!

Placentia Area Historical Society

Opening Day, 27 June 1976, marked the beginning of a very successful summer project by the members of the Placentia Area Historical Society. Twenty-six invited guests were treated to a tour of the museum and later attended a reception at the Placentia Area Public Library.

The museum was open daily, seven (7) days a week. During the two (2) month period over



Bedroom display portraying a typical Newfoundland bedroom from the early 1900's (Photographer Dr. M.W. Hogan).

3,600 persons visited the museum, 3,200 of whom were Newfoundlanders and approximately 400 visitors from Mainland Canada and other countries.

3 and 4 September were designated "Children's Day" at the museum. The children visited in groups, attended by their teachers. The Chairman of the Museum Committee welcomed

the groups and gave a short explanation of the exhibits and the history attached to artifacts on display. Special interest was expressed by the children in the story of Prince William Henry and the Small Boy, Edward Collins. His subsequent commission as a Lieutenant in the Royal Navy was a great attraction, as the original copy was on display. Letters of appreciation have been received by the Museum Committee from the school children. One young boy, 9 years old, was so enthused he returned to the museum that day with two (2) beautifully framed old pictures, plus a very old tool head which he had found while digging in his own back yard. As these items were recorded and placed on display the young boy beamed with joy and ran to bring his young friends to the museum to see "his" display.

Local response was most gratifying and visitors, especially former Newfoundlanders, were most enthusiastic in their response. The consensus of opinion was that the museum should become a permanent establishment. Many local residents spoke of artifacts in their possession which would be an addition to the museum display.

On 5 August 1976 the Museum Committee was delighted to receive a visit from three of-

ficials of the National Museums of Canada; Messrs. Herring, Bourgeois and Pierre Gouvrement. The Museum Committee deeply appreciated a visit by Honourable Fabian O'Dea, a former Lieutenant Governor of the Province of Newfoundland.

The Theme of the display at the museum was a typical Newfoundland bedroom and kitchen of the early 1900, including furniture, pictures, historic documents and artifacts. Total number of items collected for display amounted to 252 items. Three students were hired as Guides and two Night Watchmen were hired for Security. Signs were erected and direction maps placed at Tourist Chateau and at Castle Hill to help visitors locate the museum.

A generous grant by the National Museums of Canada became the corner stone and this financial assistance coupled with donations from the Placentia Town Council, the Area Development Association, the Star of the Sea Association, and the Legion Branch, completed the structure. The hard work and dedication of the members of the Placentia Area Historical Society, and especially the Museum Committee, deserve a "WELL DONE" and wish them success in their plans for a permanent museum in the area.



The Winsor Blackwood Home, Wesleyville, B. Bay. (Photo courtesy Mrs. Anita Blackwood).

"The last of fifteen"

The Winsor-Blackwood House, located in Wesleyville B. Bay. Built in 1903-1904 for the Hon. Captain W.C. Winsor, Minister of Marine and Fisheries in the administration of Prime Minister Sir Robert Bond and later Post Master General of Newfoundland. Apart from his political involvement Captain "Billy" Winsor was one of Newfoundland's most famous sealing captains, commanding the well known sealers Greenland, Bloodhound, Beothic, Virginia Lake, and Thetis.

The house was built by Arthur Gillingham, a well known shipwright of the region who was also responsible for the beautiful Anglican Church in Badgers Quay (included in the PIONEER

CHURCHES OF NORTH AMERICA, McClelland & Stewart, release date October '76).

The house was saved from demolition by David Blackwood who bought the property in 1969. It was currently being restored by a young couple interested in the house and its history. This particular house is the last of fifteen similar homes built in Wesleyville when the town was a center of the Labrador cod fishery and the Newfoundland seal hunt. The other houses, all homes of well known Newfoundland sea captains, have disappeared through renovation and demolition.

-Mrs. Anita Blackwood, Port Hope, Ont.



Mrs. Hildred McDonald with the Hon. Thomas Hickey, Minister of Tourism, at the opening of the Placentia Summer Museum. (Photo Dr. M.W. Hogan).

Rose-au-Rue

This charming late nineteenth century cottage stands on Hamilton Avenue opposite the Symonds Avenue intersection. It was built by a Mr. Parmiter who fished out of a community called Rose-Au-Rue near Harbour Buffet in Placentia Bay.

After a successful career in the Lobster Fishery, Mr. Parmiter settled in St. John's and purchased two and one half acres of land near Pokeham's Path (now Hamilton Avenue). Originally a farm, the property, though reduced in size over the years, has, even now, a large number of fruit trees. The name of the cottage was, of course, taken from Mr. Parmiter's former community.

One of the earliest buildings in the area, Rose Au Rue was preceded by an earlier structure Angel's foundry, which was built by Mr. James Angel in the mid-Nineteenth century. The cottage is not recorded on the earliest Goad Insurance maps of the city as it is just west of the area which they cover.

Mr. Parmiter rented the property to a Captain James who was a Captain with the Red Cross Line on the New York — St. John's service. In time the property was sold by Mr. Par-

miter to Joseph Roper, but the date of the transfer is not recorded. Rose Au Rue was purchased by the Scott Family from the Estate of Joseph Roper in two transactions in 1917, and it has remained in their possession for almost sixty years.

The original member of the Scott family to hold the property was Mr. William Scott who was a machinist with the Reid

Newfoundland Company. He was also involved with the manufacture of shells in St. John's during the First World War. The family lived for a time at 42-44 Powerscourt before they purchased Rose Au Rue.

The house exhibits some of the same features as many of the Southcott houses elsewhere in St. John's. Its dormer windows in two different styles, and the

Southcott characteristic front bay window are repeated frequently in the city. A very well maintained house, the interior of Rose Au Rue has been renovated over the years. It retains some of the original features notably the original hand trimmed beams, some of the original ceilings, and the fireplaces.

PATRICIA RAHAL



Drawing by Jean M. Ball




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Personally Speaking

It's a long road that knows no turning

Three years ago I wouldn't have believed it was possible! I was convinced that apathy and neglect, combined with what almost amounted to a popular movement to obliterate, in the name of progress, what remained of our material heritage would overcome the few small voices raised in defense of heritage conservation.

There was a real and well founded fear that the evidence of Newfoundland's historic past would be confined to written records, old photographs and historic plaques marking sites and buildings that no longer existed.

I have written before that we are fortunate in this province because "Progress", at least as it has tended to be defined since the Second World War, has been a late visitor here. Where other areas of Canada, particularly the cities, have worked their way through, the 'bigger is better' and 'down with the old, up with the new' syndromes, and are turning back, in some cases too late, to thoughts of heritage conservation. Newfoundland, overlooked to a large extent by the tremendous pressures of change, found itself in an unusual position. It was so far behind, it was ahead.

Until recently we seemed determined to keep running around the circle just to prove that we were modern and progressive enough to make the same mistakes the "with it" provinces were making. In the past year something has happened in Newfoundland. I suppose the simplest way of defining it, is to say that attitudes are changing about heritage conservation and that is a very basic and important change.

Part of it, of course, is influenced by major things happening across the country. The economic climate has changed, giving us a breathing space from development pressures to reassess our priorities. The technology of conservation and recycling of buildings has advanced making it possible to do things with old structures which weren't possible a few years ago and there is a

growing list of successful projects to point to.

At the National level also, new programmes and changes in the legislative and tax structure are being planned for and advocated which will have the effect of protecting heritage property and encouraging conservation efforts. The media are getting into the act and by turns reflecting or spearheading our entry into the age of nostalgia. Heritage is becoming an in thing. We are beginning, as one conservationist has put it, "to drive into the future with a rear view mirror."

But even all that national tide turning does not account for what is happening here in Newfoundland.

For years, the active conservationists in this province have felt they were beating their heads against brick walls, throwing seed on barren ground. You write, you talk, you publish books. You contest, brief, lobby and confront, and the apathy and destruction of heritage continues. It's hard not to come to the conclusion that there's nobody out there listening. And then, imperceptibly at first, but acceleration very quickly, things begin to change, and the change is a change of attitude that seems to be happening on a lot of levels at once, the brick walls seem to be crumbling.

How do I know? Look at the signs!

The number of private people buying and restoring heritage property and doing so with great sensitivity, both in St. John's and in some of our outport communities. Look at Devon Row, Richmond Hill, Park Place, Queen's College. The Weavery, The Light and numerous houses in the older sections of the city to pinpoint a few examples in St. John's alone.

Of course there is much more to do and some of the renovations which are being done would make one weep but it's a very positive start.

Another sign of change is that the number of letters and phone calls to the Trust from all parts of the province have increased dramatically.

Some are calls for help. "I

just bought a 100 year old house and I want to fix it up. Can you give me some advice." "Is there a grant people can get if they own a historic building and want to fix it up properly?" "Where do I get the old fashioned windows — or and old door or roof brackets?" "I'd like to do a history of my community, how do I start?" "They want to tear down the old church where I live. Can you write the minister for us? Obviously the ability of the trust, as a non funded wholly voluntary organizations is limited often to advice, moral support and putting people in touch with help if it exists but it is very encouraging to see this evidence of an increased awareness and concern by private citizens.

But it doesn't stop there. In the past year there have been signs of increasing interest and sensitivity in some of the agencies we once thought of as the bricks in that brick wall we were beating our heads against. Agencies like The Department of Public Works, The Department of Tourism, The Municipal Council and the Central Mortgage and Housing Corporation.

The efforts of the Neighbourhood Improvement Committee, which is a citizen group composed of residents and property owners in the East End of old St. John's has been exemplary. From the outset they have demonstrated a genuine concern about the effects of the N.I.P. programme on the heritage character of the area.

While C.M.H.C. national policy leaves a lot to be desired in its preference for new building above the rehabilitation of existing housing stock, the Regional Office has shown itself to be aware of a need for greater sensitivity in the implementation of the N.I.P. Programme and have asked for the active co-operation of the Trust in developing guidelines for rehabilitation which will respect the heritage character of the area.

The Provincial Dept. of Public Works has recently turned over to the Historic

Resources Division the Connor's Farm House on Signal Hill, a building which was threatened with demolition for a proposed housing project. They have also committed themselves to the repair of the stone walls of the historic Court House at Harbour Grace and the rear walls of the Colonial Building.

The Provincial Department of Tourism has given evidence of a much greater awareness of the importance of historic site development in the context of the development of the tourist industry and some very positive programmes are expected in the near future.

Perhaps most heartening of all has been the co-operation received from the Municipal Council in the past year. They have requested the assistance of the Trust in setting up an inventory of historic buildings for designation and are working on changes in the by-laws which will protect the city's architectural heritage. On several occasions they have sought the advice of the Trust before acting on applications to demolish or alter heritage property and have shown a great deal of interest and good will during the development of plans for a heritage conservation area in St. John's. A remarkable change on the part of a body who looked to be hell bent on the 'develop or perish' road not very long ago.

We all realize that the city must develop but we are coming much closer in our definition of development. There is the beginning of a new consensus that our heritage is worth saving and that if we are to save it the new must learn to live sympathetically with the old.

So there are signs, exciting signs, of progress. Thanks to many factors, inflation, nostalgia, technology and the constant head beating of the concerned amongst them, that we have reached a turning in the road.

It is still early for unbridled optimism, no call yet for a victory celebration, there is still a long road ahead but it looks as if we may, at long last, be all going in the same direction.

Shannie Duff