

the

PAST PRESENT FUTURE

NOVEMBER 1990

# trident

## HERITAGE CANADA'S NEWFOUNDLAND CONFERENCE A TREMENDOUS SUCCESS.



HERITAGE  
CANADA

Heritage Canada's 17th annual conference was held in St. John's at Hotel Newfoundland Sept. 12 - 16. Dubbed "Taking Charge: Homegrown Approaches to Community Management", the conference was considered a tremendous success by Jacques Dalibord Executive Director of Heritage Canada; as well as local and national organizers and all delegates in the event. Local committee organizers were complimented for the efficient organization and their ability to "take charge and get the job done".

Delegates from across Canada were welcomed to Newfoundland at a reception Wednesday evening at City Hall and were warmly received by Deputy Mayor Shannie Duff, City Hall officials and entertained by well known comedian and actor Kevin Noble. The friendly relaxed atmosphere encouraged everyone to mingle and get to know one another.

The National Heritage forum was held on Thursday and chaired by the Governor from Ontario, Dorothy Duncan. Presentations were made by all Heritage Canada's Governors giving a thumbnail sketch of the heritage movement in the provinces and territories. Presentations of provincial/territorial associations, umbrella groups and delegates were given ample opportunity to discuss regional issues and problems and exchanged ideas and solutions.

All delegates thoroughly enjoyed the address by keynote speaker Paul Davies who is principal architect planner with the Civic Trust Regeneration Unit, London, England.

Perhaps the highlight of the conference for all delegates was the mobile workshop held on Friday, which travelled to Carbonear, Harbour Grace, Upper Island Cove, Hibbs Cove and Brigus. This tour allowed delegates to experience our regions natural built and cultural heritage. Buses left St. John's at 8 A.M. and returned at 10 P.M. Comments on the tour ranges from fabulous to fantastic. George Courage, President of the Trust hosted a reception at his house from 10 P.M. to midnight for those who still had a little "party" left in them.

saturdays concurrent workshops emphasized national and international practice integrating the Nfld. experience. They were: (1) Getting Organized Presenter

Catherine Campbell, Executive Director B.C. Community Pride Program Local Facilitator: Dr. Gordon Inglis (2) Marketing Presenter: Cheryl Hargrove Manager Tourism Initiative, American National Trust for Historic Preservation Local Facilitator: Mr. Stratford Canning (3) Developing Opportunities Presenter: Colin Whitcomb General Manager Saint John Central Business Development Corporation Local Facilitator: Ms. Janet Miller-Pitt (4) Conserving Resources Presenter: Shannie Duff Deputy Mayor St. John's Local Facilitator: Dr. Ted Rowe.

The Plenary Session was moderated by Shane O'Dea, a long time advocate of Heritage Preservation in our province.

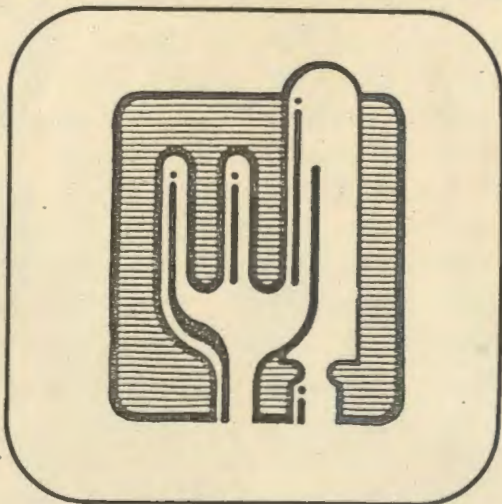
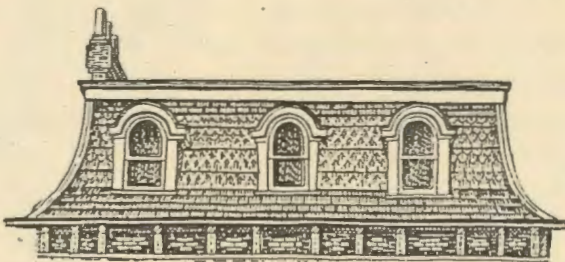
The conference drew to a close Saturday

evening with a Gala Awards Banquet. The Honourable James A. McGrath addresses the Assembly and presented National Awards to Shannie Duff and Shane O'Dea. We were all very pleased that the Minister of Municipal Affairs/Historic Resources the Honourable Eric Gullage made such a tremendous effort to join the banquet despite a very busy agenda that day and a long (and fast) drive from Clarendville.

Jacques Dalibord, Heritage Canada Officials, the Board of Governors, all delegates and guests agreed that the conference not only was a great success, but a memorable occasion and learning experience for all participants. Many thanks to all who worked so hard and especially to Heather Griffin and her local committee.

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## DINNERS IN HISTORIC HOMES



The perfect combination

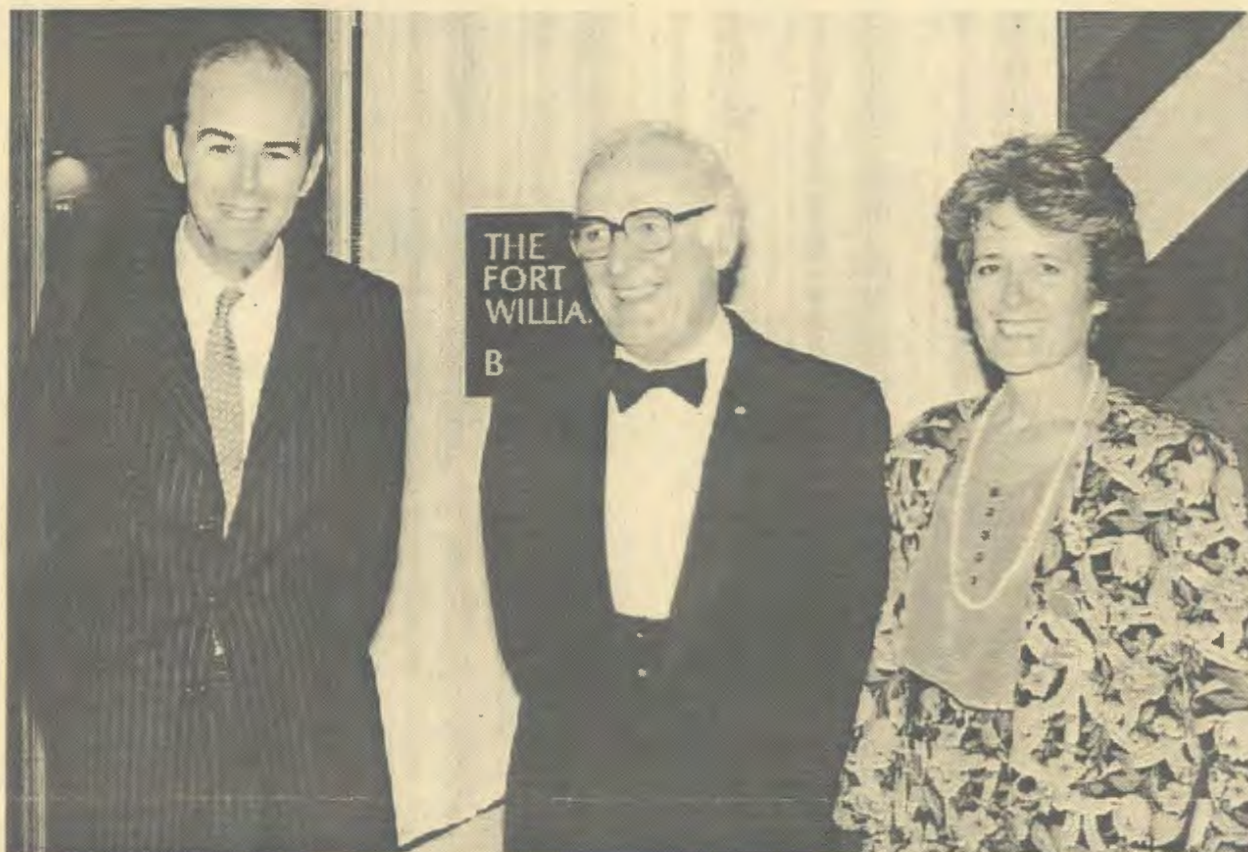
A wonderful meal, gracious hosts and a fabulous house; the perfect combination for an enjoyable evening. And that's exactly what delegates to the Heritage Canada Conference were treated to on the night of September 13 when they signed up for Dinners in Historic Homes.

For several years, Dinners in Historic Homes has been put together by the local organizing group as one of the most popular events at the annual conference. This year, a committee of the Newfoundland Historic Trust made up of Chairman Lana Collins, Debbie Sheppard and Susan Haedrich, gathered fourteen impressive homes to participate in dinners.

The whole idea of the evening is to put together the right combination of the home, the owners and the dinners. There certainly wasn't a shortage of homes to choose from when the committee set out to solicit about 90 dinner spaces in homes from various locations in the city's older neighbourhoods.

Here's how it worked. As delegates registered for the conference, they were

## NHT Members Receive Heritage Awards



*The Sunday Telegram*

Two members of the Newfoundland Historic Trust have been presented with national awards recognizing their significant contributions to heritage preservation. The presentations were made by the Honourable James McGrath, Lieutenant Governor of the Province, at the recent Heritage Canada conference Awards banquet.

The Lieutenant Governor's Award, presented to an individual in recognition of outstanding achievement in heritage conservation benefitting the recipient's province, was presented to Shane O'Dea for the year 1990.

Mr. O'Dea is a native of St. John's and has been a member of the faculty of English at Memorial university since 1970. He also teaches architectural history with the department of Engineering and is Co-director of the Centre for Material Culture Studies. In his capacity as an educator he was awarded the Distinguished Teaching

Award by Memorial in 1988. That same year the Council for the Advancement and Support of Education honoured him as Canadian Professor of the Year. Shane O'Dea's voluntary contribution to heritage conservation is equal to his professional career. He served as president of the Newfoundland Historic Trust from 1973-75 and Chairperson of the Community Planning Association of Newfoundland. He is one of a group of people responsible for the promotion of the Neighbourhood Improvement Program in St. John's and helped establish the Heritage Conservation Areas in the city. Nationally Shane O'Dea has been a board member of the Society for the study of Architecture in Canada and a member of the Historic Sites and Monuments Board of Canada.

Mr. O'Dea has previously been awarded a Southcott award for his work restoring houses in St. John's and Brigus and a Heritage Canada Community Service Award.

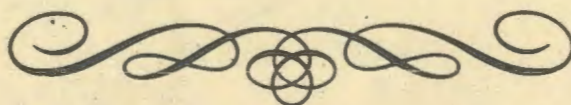
Canada's highest heritage conservation award, the Gabrielle-Leger Award was presented to Deputy Mayor Shannie Duff. The award was instigated in 1979 under the patronage of Madame Gabrielle-Leger and honours those who have contributed a lifetime of service on a National scale.

Shannie Duff has been a leader in the heritage movement for more than 30 years. She was a founding member of the Newfoundland Historic Trust in 1966 and served as its president from 1975-77. She spearheaded the organization of the St. John's Heritage Foundation. Working in partnership with Heritage Canada this group played a major role in reviving run-down neighbourhoods and established a Heritage Conservation area in downtown St. John's. Shannie was a key player in the

restoration of the Murray Premises transforming a series of dingy, neglected warehouse into a retail and office centre which became a model for heritage rejuvenation. The St. John's infill housing program is another project which has enjoyed great success and national attention due to Ms. Duff's efforts.

Shannie Duff has served on The Board of Governors for Heritage Canada as well as the Board of the National Arts Centre in Ottawa. In 1984 Shannie served on the National Parks Centennial Citizens Committee in the office of Program Chairperson.

Congratulations to both Shannie Duff and Shane O'Dea for their Awards and thanks for many years of service in the interest of our heritage.



## DINNERS IN HISTORIC HOMES

greeted by an elegant display, showcasing the fourteen homes. Each home had its own poster, complete with an exterior color photo, a brief description of the home, the owners and the menu. Delegates then bought a ticket and signed up for the house of their choice on a first come, first serve basis. (The homeowners received the ticket price to offset the cost of the meal.)

The delegates were very impressed with the calibre of homes and owners and the delicious menus presented. However, it was interesting to listen to why one would chose a particular house. Some wanted to eat fish, others wanted the oldest house, while still others wanted to walk to their

destination. And there were those who were attracted to the home because of the owners alone.

Whatever the reason behind the choice, all reports from delegates were glowing; a credit to the home owners because after all, it's the owner that makes the home, isn't it. Many commented that of all similar events they had attended, the dinners in St. John's were nothing short of spectacular.

Therefore, it is with great pleasure that we thank again the people who opened up their homes and their kitchens for this event.

Thanks also to the Canadian Parks Service for donating floral arrangements to each of the homes.

## RAILS TO TRAILS

Newfoundland's railway system is being abandoned and there is no comprehensive plan as yet for what will be done with it. Numerous private interests are already promoting their own ideas, but more information is obviously required before these resources can be allowed to be redeveloped piecemeal. Elsewhere in North America and Europe, similar events have given rise to the Rails to Trails Movement: a network of groups and individual's devoted to preserving old rail corridors for public use. Newfoundland now has one such group.

The Rails to Trails Coalition (RTC) is a non-profit, non-partisan coalition consisting of individuals and representatives of the wide range of organizations interested in the preservation and appropriate recreational development of the abandoned Newfoundland railbeds. The objective of the RTC is to initiate a feasibility study on recreational uses for the rail corridor. The Coalition recommends that the Provincial Government defer major decisions regard-

ing the continuity and allocation of the rail properties until the results of their study are released.

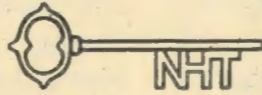
The RTC was formed in June of this year and has been steadily expanding its membership. It is now making a formal call for endorsement by all potential supporters and users of the system. These include hikers, cyclists, horseback riders, cross-country skiers, snowmobile and ATV users, tourism associations, economic development organizations, conservation groups, youth organizations, land trusts, and government agencies dealing with parks and recreation, physical fitness, schools, environmental protection, tourism and economic development. The Coalition is also asking you — the readership of the Trident — to help them preserve what's left of Newfoundland's distinctive rail heritage.

For more information, contact The Rails to Trails Coalition, Box 3 Nagles Place, St. John's, Newfoundland A1B 2Z2, Tel: (709) 754-5948.

The trident is a regular publication of The Newfoundland Historic Trust. We welcome contributions and comments. If you would like to submit an article, raise an issue or simply touch base drop a line to:

The Editor  
The Trident  
O.O. Box 5542  
St. John's, NF

# NEWFOUNDLAND HISTORIC TRUST ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING



8:00PM

Nov. 27th, 1990

at the Supreme Court Bldg.  
Duckworth St.

Guest Speaker

Bill Fey

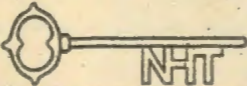
Master Mason, BAE Group  
on Restoration of stone exteriors

*refreshments will be served*

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**trident**

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Editor: Don Parsons





# Newfoundland Historic Trust

P.O. Box 9202, St. John's, NF1d A1A 2X9

The Newfoundland Historic Trust will be holding its annual meeting on Wednesday, November 13, at 7:30 p.m. in the Colonial Building.

The guest speaker, Mr. Brian Bursey, will give a slide talk on "Abandoned Communities in Newfoundland and Labrador."

Mr. Bursey has travelled extensively in the Province and has published 2 books of photographs; one on Newfoundland and one on Labrador.



Associated with Heritage Canada

# ORDER FORM

## TWENTY-FIFTH ANNIVERSARY POSTER

### NEWFOUNDLAND HISTORIC TRUST

This limited edition poster has been hand coloured by Sylvia Cullum.

	<u>Number</u>	<u>Cost</u>
Members (\$12. ea)	_____	_____
Non-Members (\$20. ea)	_____	_____
Membership*	_____	_____
Total		_____

\* Fees for 1991: \$10 Single, \$15 Family

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