



September 2010

Volume 35 No. 3 ISSN 0384 7335

The Griffin

A Quarterly Publication of Heritage Trust of Nova Scotia



-
- 2** REPORT **President's Report**
Peter Delefes
- 3** BUILDINGS **The Story of the CBC Building at Sackville and Bell Road in Halifax**
J. Philip Dumaresq
- 4** HERITAGE HOUSES **Part II: The Last Remaining Fisherman's House on McNutt's Island**
Anne Yarbrough
- 6** RELIGIOUS BUILDINGS **What Good Are Old Churches?**
Dulcie Conrad
- 8** BUILDINGS AT RISK **Saving a Church for the Community— Central Chebogue United Baptist Church**
Mark Fuller
- 10** COMMUNITIES **The Historical Society as a "Developer": The Case of Old Sydney Society**
Joyce Rankin and Tom Urbaniak
- 13** AWARDS/EDUCATION **Learning to Connect with Our Heritage**
Jan Zann
- 14** LECTURE **Brian Robinson: Halifax's Fortified Heritage**
- 15** LECTURE **Marilyn Gurney: The King's Yard**
- 17** BUILDER'S MANUAL **What's Up with Balloon Framing?**
Bruce MacNab
- 18** ADVICE **Is a Heritage Building Project Right for You?**
Jane Nicholson, Mrs. Nicholson, Inc
- 19** REPORT **Executive and Board of Trustees 2010-2011**
Nominating Committee
-

The Griffin

A quarterly newsletter
published by
**Heritage Trust of
Nova Scotia**

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

Editorial Committee

Joan Dawson, Peter Delefes,
Linda Forbes, Janet Morris,
Nancy O'Brien

Contributors to this issue

Christina Brown, Dulcie Conrad,
Joan Dawson, Peter Delefes,
J. Philip Dumaresq, Mark Fuller,
Bruce MacNab, Janet Morris,
Jane Nicholson, Joyce Rankin,
Tom Urbaniak, Anne Yarbrough,
Jan Zann

We welcome submissions.
Deadline for the next issue:
October 10, 2010

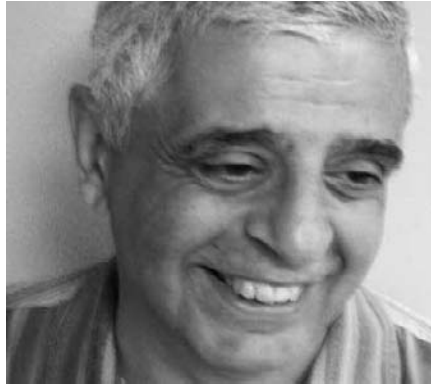
Please send your
submissions to
Heritage Trust of Nova Scotia,
P.O. Box 36111
Spring Garden RPO
Halifax, N.S. B3J 3S9

E-mail material to
griffin@htns.ca
website: www.htns.ca
Tel: 902 423-4807

Heritage Trust of Nova Scotia
is a charitable organization.
All donations are tax creditable.

REPORT

President's Report



Peter Delefes

Heritage Trust of Nova Scotia was founded in 1959 after the demolition of the historic Enos Collins house located on the site of the St. Mary's University rink, in Halifax. During the past year, while celebrating 50 years of built heritage activism in Nova Scotia, the Trust became involved in two important initiatives in historic downtown Halifax. First, as part of a coalition of 10 community groups, we are petitioning the provincial government not to provide funding for a proposed Convention Centre. We have examined all the consultants' reports commissioned by Trade Centre Ltd. on the proposed Convention Centre and have determined that they do not contain a business case for the proposed Centre. As this issue of the Griffin goes to press the government is assessing the developer's proposal for the Centre.

In December, the Trust saved the historic Charles Morris office building from demolition by relocating it, temporarily, to a nearby site. We are still working on finding a permanent site for the building. Thanks, to all of you who contributed funds (\$36,000) to cover the cost of moving and stabilizing the building on its temporary site. We couldn't have managed the move without your generous support.

Our Built Heritage Awards Committee held a well attended ceremony at City Hall in February and presented

awards to the Dominion Public Building Tower Restoration Project, Bedford Row, Halifax, and the Gardiner's Mill Dam Restoration Project, Yarmouth County. The Painted Rooms Committee's database now contains 100 entries. We plan to put the database on our web-site to be accessible to anyone interested in painted rooms. The very successful Symposium on the Conservation of Religious Buildings, held in April by our Religious Buildings Committee, attracted almost 70 delegates from churches of all denominations across the Maritimes.

Please note that the Griffin is available on-line and, as of June 2010, in colour. We encourage members to read on-line instead of receiving a paper copy. To access the Griffin, take the following steps:

1. Go to the Heritage Trust of NS website (www.htns.ca).
2. On the right side of the home page click on the box entitled Download the Griffin Quarterly.
3. Click on the heading Download issue for September (or current month).
4. The front page contains the table of contents. Simply scroll through the pages.
5. To access back issues (to June 2002) on the Quarterly page, click on Articles List/Back Issues (on left side of page) then click on the PDF symbol for the particular issue and that issue will appear.

The Griffin Committee is examining ways to make the Griffin searchable so that anyone wanting to locate information on a topic, such as David Stirling's Houses or Painted Rooms of Nova Scotia, will simply 'Google' that topic and it can be accessed if it is in the Griffin. This process requires considerable work and expense and is part of the future planning of the Griffin Committee.

If you have any issues or concerns pertaining to built heritage which you would like to bring to the attention of the Board, please do not hesitate to contact me by phone (902-826-2087) or by e-mail (pdelefes@eastlink.ca).

cover image Postcard of The Lyceum. (Courtesy of Old Sydney Society). See article on page 10.

The Story of the CBC Building at Sackville and Bell Road in Halifax

J. Philip Dumaresq

The original owner of the building was a local business man, Mr. Fred Manning, who operated a number of businesses from Halifax during the 1930s and 40s, including a chain of service stations throughout Nova Scotia and New Brunswick. He also owned a General Motors dealership in Halifax.

To accommodate his various business activities he decided to build a new facility on the corner of Sackville and South Park Streets in Halifax. So in 1932 he engaged my father, Sydney Perry Dumaresq, a well-known Halifax architect, to design a new building. The building had to be a multi-purpose building to provide space for the following operations: a General Motors showroom for Chevrolets and Oldsmobiles; repair facilities for maintenance and repair; gasoline fill-up sales and service stations; two floors of offices for Mr. Manning and the staff of his various business ventures; and parking for 40 automobiles.

As the architect, my father's job was to accommodate all the above require-

ments including the parking lot for 40 automobiles. Since the land was very expensive, including the purchase of three houses to accommodate just the building, it was decided to use the roof top of the building as the parking lot. This necessitated the design of a special 'auto elevator' large enough to lift cars and trucks to the roof. Such an elevator was unheard of in Halifax at that time. However, one was designed by the Montreal Elevator Company and was duly installed in the building—and is operational to this day as was demonstrated to the author a few months ago during his tour of the building. The design of the building was completed in 1932, construction started in 1933 and was completed eight months later.

As the frame of the building had to be strong enough to support the autos parked on the roof, it had to be of reinforced concrete. This was one of my father's specialties. (He was already well known for the design of his 'fire proof' buildings of reinforced concrete in Halifax, two of which were the Wood Brothers Department Store on Granville Street and the Bank of Commerce on the corner of George and Granville Streets.)

In order to obtain an appearance of lightness for this new concrete building, the architect needed a special white cement, that was only available from England. As a result, this strong, heavy concrete building looks bright and airy due to its white colour—rather than a dark, heavy-set concrete building, as it would otherwise appear.

Special attention was given to office areas of the building. The owner's office occupied the rounded corner of the building at the junction of Sackville and South Park Streets, one of most desirable locations in the city. In fact two stately residences facing South Park Street had to be demolished, one of which housed both the residence and office of a well known family doctor.

Mr. Manning's private office and



Manning Building, looking south from Sackville Street. (Photos courtesy of Hal Oare.)

that of his private secretary were richly decorated with beautiful Venezuelan mahogany imported especially for this project, all of which is still in existence today and is a joy to see.

After the sale of Mr. Manning's business interests, the building was for a few years occupied by Mr. Wally Gillis, a local business man, until it was sold to the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation, who still occupy the building. According to the local press, Michael Napier, a Halifax architect, is preparing plans for a new building on the site with a height of 13 storeys.

Dr. (Hon) J. Philip Dumaresq MRAIC, MEIC, a Life member of the Trust, is the son of S.P. Dumaresq, the original architect of the Manning Building. Sydney Perry Dumaresq was the founding President of the Nova Scotia Association of Architects and a Fellow of the Royal Architectural Institute of Canada.



Brass handrail and decoration on the newel post.

The Last Remaining Fisherman's House on McNutt's Island

Part Two: Renovation

Anne Yarbrough

The renovation of our house began in spring of 2007, and a year later most of it was complete. First came the heavy-duty infrastructure work, including installing an off-grid integrated energy system consisting of solar tracker and wind turbine. The alternative energy crew met us on the island at the beginning of May. On that first trip, they poured the concrete pads for the solar tracker and the wind turbine. Their equipment, like everything else, had to be loaded onto a boat and hauled across the harbour, then unloaded at a dock about a mile down the road from our place, then loaded onto some form of island transport, then brought up to our place via what's called the lower road, then unloaded again. There was no access road from the lower road to our house. That had to be carved out of a spruce forest before anything could be moved from the lower road to the yard. In the meantime, a well was dug, pipes were laid, and a septic tank was installed. The whole island — so quiet for so many years — was now in an uproar, and the sheep and the birds went and hid somewhere.

We lived in the construction. At first we slept on the floor in the back shed, its broken door open to the yard. We couldn't inflate our air mattress for want of a small part in the pump, so we slept on the floor with a few blankets beneath us. Our food was piled on the table in a small bedroom off the kitchen, mostly cans of stuff we could heat on the old Coleman propane camp stove that came with the house. We set up a huge tent in the yard and filled it with the contents of the house: old framed pictures, china, sixteen wooden chairs, tables, commodes, wash stands, copper and tin ware, a shepherd's crook, our new IKEA couch still shrink wrapped, dozens of kerosene lamps and chim-



Front view of house. (All photos courtesy of the author).

neys, old hooked rugs, boxes of mason jars, and more.

The alternative energy people were back again several weeks later, and in the meantime our two intrepid local carpenters and life-savers finished building a new breezeway and framed and gyprocked the back room with its new window and closet, and the bathroom and hallway. In doing all this they carved a newly practical space out of the old shed, which had been attached to the house long ago and used as a wood and dairy shed. The alternative energy crew wired the house and set everything up. But we couldn't run the wind turbine until we had a back-up generator installed, and we couldn't yet pay for the generator and its bank of propane tanks. So for a few months we had solar power but not wind, a partial system that sometimes shut down.

In the meantime there was plenty to keep us busy. We tore down the two old chimneys (noting scorched rafters in the roof) and dismantled the wood stoves and carted them away. We demolished the interior walls of the main original house. We turned the long narrow par-

lour with its two small back bedrooms into one airy room. Now it had windows on three sides, and looked over the harbour to the west and the back orchard to the east. All day, now, sunlight spilled across the room.

By early August we had a bathroom and a kitchen with real running water, a new gas stove, and a refrigerator. We had gotten our satellite set up sometime in June, so we had internet, powered in the early days by the borrowed portable generator we needed for all the power tools in use. We would pour gasoline into the generator and turn it on, then turn on our computers, briefly.

In the late summer and fall we got ready for winter. We insulated the attic and crawl spaces, caulked the floors and the exterior clapboard, replaced rotten trim pieces, insulated the foundation stones, made a few new storm windows, replaced broken window panes and reglazed all of them. Greg scraped and primed the exterior. We bought a wonderful new wood stove, our sole source of heat. Over the winter Greg gyprocked the kitchen and main room, extended the moulding in the old

parlour throughout the newly expanded living room, and painted the floors and all the rest of the interior. By spring we were pretty much finished.

There was a time in that first summer when we had only the well water and the outhouse, and no electricity. Then we lived like people have always lived in our house. We drew water from the well for washing dishes and doing laundry under the apple tree in front of the house, with water heated on the Coleman stove. We sometimes heated water and poured it into a galvanized pail that we hung from a branch of the oak tree for the most glorious outdoor showers. Neither we nor our clothes were clean very often. Visits at night to the outhouse drew me into the wide world at a time I don't usually observe it. The stars were an incredible display, and I could hear the eerie sounds of the deer moving through the bayberry bushes nearby. Without electricity we became attuned to the dawn and the sunset and the fading light of evening. After dark we went to bed on our mattress on the floor, usually covered in plaster dust or dirt, tired from our day's work. Without electricity the house was more permeable and permeated by the world around it. It was a particularly precious time, the last moments of the old ways, though it was a time that we were working to bring to an end.

Now the night is more distant, especially when we are watching a movie or on our computers. The island reality recedes, held at bay. We can't see outside the windows when the house is filled with light. There is little need to step outside or walk across the yard in the darkness, and so we less frequently stand gazing in wonder at the starry night. I do not sit in the peace and calm of a wooden outhouse, door open, contemplating the water sparkling in the harbour, or the moon's reflection there. I do not glory in a hot shower under the oak tree. I do not drop a pail into the old stone lined well and draw up water, since now our water comes to us from the new well, at the turn of a faucet. But also, I do not watch food spoil, and Greg



Note simple panelling under window.



Upstairs bedroom with wooden walls and ceiling.

doesn't have to cart water from a better well half way across the island for drinking purposes, and we can read or write at night, and there is something nice about an indoor bathroom, especially in the dead of winter. The house is, I think, both beautiful and functional. I hope our renovations have honoured its past even as we have adapted it for our modern ways.

*Anne Yarbrough and her husband Greg Brown live and write on McNutt's Island in Shelburne Harbour. Greg's book, *Island Year: Finding Nova Scotia* (Pottersfield Press, 2010) tells the story of their first year on the island, and Anne's blog (www.novascotiaisland.blogspot.com) explores all aspects of island life.*

What Good Are Old Churches?

Dulcie Conrad

Topics on conservation, repair and replacement of windows, masonry restoration, efficient energy techniques, stained glass care and the necessity of locating and maintaining records (including old photographs) of religious buildings were discussed at an all-day Heritage Trust of Nova Scotia symposium held at the Atlantic School of Theology in Halifax recently.

According to Symposium leader Dr. Mary Schaefer, who heads up the Trust's Religious Buildings Committee, the event was long overdue. Many of the 68 delegates who attended from all over Atlantic Canada serve on church building committees and don't have the expertise required when it comes to making costly decisions affecting the restoration and upkeep plans they must undertake, she said.

"It can be risky tackling this kind of symposium because we can't always be sure there is the interest out there even when you have been able to attract very highly specialized presenters who have agreed to participate," Trust president Peter Delefes said. "The enthusiastic turn-out indicates there is a great need for this kind of shared information and it will inspire us to continue with these kinds of sessions in the future."

Architectural historian Dr. Peter Coffman said that as congregations shrink and demographics shift many Canadians "are grappling with" what to do with redundant buildings. These aging sanctuaries "are much more than piles of old shingles and square nails... They are the repositories of our stories, our memories and our history," he said.

Dr. Coffman, who has just finished a Killam Postdoctoral Fellowship at Dalhousie University, explored some of those old stories and talked about what is lost to the community when historic churches are abandoned and bulldozed. "The more we lose, the more we dimin-

ish our ability to tell our own story."

Up next was design architect Jerry MacNeil, whose published work on "Places for Worship" has led to a three-part series for Vision Television. His presentation on "History As Part of Living Church Buildings" focused on church architecture and furnishings. When you build something you have added your own piece of history to the future, he said. One only needs to walk into one of the world's great cathedrals to understand his message. Canada too has its own share of spiritual masterpieces, both big and small, which have undergone massive restorations. On the other hand, many have been lost forever.

Third presenter was Halifax engineer James W. Cowie, who has provided structural, architectural and forensic engineering services for Canadian and United Kingdom clients for years. His company specializes in the investigation of building failures and provides design and project management services during restoration construction. He described the work involved with the restoration of masonry bell towers and historic masonry wall coverings.

Winding up the morning sessions was architect Gregory MacNeil, who talked about the importance of keeping accurate church building records including visuals—sketches and photographs. Most churches don't have these important documents, which are vital when considering major repairs or restoration projects. Those contracted to do the work need this kind of basic information to get a handle on what they have to work with.

"Rectified digital photography, on-site geodetic measurements, limited hand measurements and basic BIM techniques are all essential tools in record keeping," he said. Later, in an afternoon session, he tackled the subject of the use and application of digital technology in the design, repair and replacement of Gothic revival wood windows.

After the lunch break, delegates listened to presentations on the conservation and restoration of stained glass, the repair and replacement of church windows, and how to make historic buildings energy efficient without disturbing their original design.

LaHave artist Norbert Sattler, who has been honoured by Heritage Canada for his work in restoring the 14 stained glass windows of Lunenburg's historic St. John's Anglican Church, said that, like other art forms, stained glass windows are subject to strict guidelines by conservationists. He stressed that in any restoration of stained glass the aim "is to retain the original design, material and aesthetic value" of the windows as much as possible and to protect them from further deterioration. Since moving to Nova Scotia from Germany in 1993, he has established the much-prized Maritime Stained Glass Registry.

Halifax energy services consultant Arthur Irwin, who is well-known throughout Atlantic Canada for his talks on CBC, rounded out the symposium with his presentation on how to make historic structures energy efficient. His experience in hundreds of energy assessments includes renovations and restoration of many historic homes and churches. He spoke about the restoration of St. Margaret's of Scotland; it was built as a private chapel in 1866 on the estate of Lieut. Gen. John W. Laurie, located near Oakfield, not far from Halifax. Built entirely of 'timber', it needed expert attention to restore it to its original design. Great care was taken to hide any necessary changes such as the need for insulation. Radiant heat was used in the floor to eliminate the need for a chimney. Because of current building codes, "careful attention had to be given to the hanging lighting system." The original pine pews were also carefully restored, making for "a very warm and friendly 1880s atmosphere." He stressed the necessity for church building com-



Holy Trinity Anglican Church, Jordan Falls, built by the Reverend Simon Gibbons. (Courtesy, Hal Oare)

mittees to gather up all the documents, specifications, and visuals they can find before launching any major renovations. "A coat of paint or putting siding over wet stone just won't cut it," he said.

Former Trust president, Dr. Phil Pacey, moderated the final session. Delegates had many personal stories to share. The need for more information and how it could be applied to their own church situations was evident. Many suggested that more symposia on the subject were essential. Sadly, Dr Pacey noted, "we can't save them all." One of the hardest tasks ahead is trying to convince decision makers, the public at large and especially the media, why historic buildings are worth saving and put to good use.

Halifax delegate Penny Doherty shared some of her committee's struggles in trying—successfully—to save the historic St. Patrick's Church from demoli-

tion. They can now see the light at the end of the tunnel, but even though the church's multi-million dollar restoration project is well underway, there "are still tough times ahead." Thanks largely to a supporting public and hundreds of volunteers, St. Patrick's Church, which had been given up for dead, "is once again fully functioning and looking after the spiritual needs of a growing community. This amazing historic church is not a relic of the past but will play an important role in Halifax's future," she said.

Moderators for the day also included George Rogers and Trust members, Dr. Brian Cuthbertson and Dr. Gordon Callon.

Dulcie Conrad said that she filled a 30 page scribbler with the information provided by this symposium—far too much to include in the limited space available in The Griffin. Those who want more detail on what was said should contact Linda Forbes of the Trust's editorial committee at 902-423-4807 or griffin@htns.ca.

Saving a Church for the Community – Central Chebogue United Baptist Church



Central Chebogue United Baptist Church in the morning mist. (Photos courtesy of author)

Mark Fuller

For over 165 years the Central Chebogue United Baptist Church has overlooked the Chebogue River in this tiny rural Southwest Nova Scotia community. On October 20, 1841 this small church with its distinctive balcony opened its doors to what would become many generations of church goers.

As times changed so did the role this church would play. Built originally to service the needs of a strong religious community, the church became a part of a five-church pastorate with one clergyman caring for each congregation's needs.

Even greater changes seemed to be in store in 2009 when, at the pastorate's annual meeting, a committee was formed to explore the possibility of

amalgamating the churches with one new church replacing the five aging buildings. The old churches, it seemed, would be demolished, freeing the Atlantic Baptist Convention from costly upkeep and liabilities.

The consequences of these changes, while welcome news to some, came as a shock to others. Among these were six long-time members of the Chebogue church and community.

"In August 2009 we received a letter stating that our church was soon to be closed," says Ginnie Kleiner, a long-time church member. "The committee's recommendation at that time was that the building be demolished. We could not imagine our church becoming erased from the landscape."

One month after receiving the letter, Kleiner and her daughter, Ruth-

Anne Lawrence, Karen and Sam Moses, Eleanor Loomer and Ron Perry quickly formed a committee to save the church building they hold so close to their collective hearts. "We got in touch with the Baptist Convention and we found out that our church building did not have to be included in the amalgamation," recalls Loomer. The Central Chebogue United Baptist Church Heritage Society's stated mandate is "To preserve and maintain" the Central Chebogue United Baptist Church building.

So began the process of saving the church. Monies in old church accounts had to be dispersed. The Society was registered as a charity. A letter was circulated throughout the community stating the group's purpose and inviting participation. "We put a letter in every mailbox," says Kleiner.

The group's call for help worked. Committee membership has increased and the group has held several successful fundraisers including a yard sale, a pie sale and a harvest tea. There are plans in the works for a Christmas Eve service and an anniversary service in October. The old church seems well on its way to becoming a vibrant part of the Chebogue community again.

While pleased with recent successes, the committee realized that it would need further help in its quest to save the old church. Nova Scotia Heritage Trust member Michael Tavares was invited to speak to the group. Tavares, a Yarmouth businessman and [then] chairman of the Trust's Communities Committee, toured the building before addressing them.

An expert in historical restoration, Tavares told the group that their little church was well worth the effort needed to preserve it. After suggesting what some of the more urgent upkeep needs were, Tavares told them that they must obtain the deed to the property in order to pursue funding. He suggested contacting a lawyer versed in this legal area.

As luck would have it, the Heritage Trust's Board meeting was held in Yarmouth in the Spring. This gave the Trust members the opportunity to tour the church and discuss its past and future with local committee members.

Members of the Central Chebogue United Baptist Church Heritage Society have much to be pleased about in their efforts to save their church. In the few months since learning of its impending demise they have formed a committee and attracted new members. They've held several successful fundraisers. New wooden storm windows, constructed at a local mill, were donated by the Trust and will soon be installed.

Even more encouraging, the transfer of the property deed is all but complete. All that is needed is a meeting, that can



Vestry served as kitchen and Sunday School. Slightly raised floor provides an ad hoc stage. Notice elegantly-shaped posts.



Ornate balcony overlooks the sanctuary.

accommodate everyone's schedule, to sign the papers.

Heritage Society members have come a long way in a very short time period in realizing their goal of saving the church from the wrecking ball. Their work, says Mike Tavares, can serve as a model to others in the province who wish to save and re-purpose aging church buildings.

Mark Fuller is a member of the Central Chebogue United Baptist Church Heritage Society.

The Historical Society as a “Developer”: The Case of Old Sydney Society



The Lyceum. (Photo, Joyce Rankin)

Joyce Rankin and Tom Urbaniak

Historical societies work with developers. Indeed, historical societies can be developers. For almost 45 years, the Old Sydney Society (OSS) has been one of the most prominent organizations in the city, a recognized property owner and agent of economic activity in a region with an uncertain economy and a declining population.

The Society started modestly and rather inauspiciously. Historian Robert Morgan and chemist Don Arseneau, young faculty members at St. Francis Xavier Junior College, forerunner to Cape Breton University, suggested the faculty should have a project for the centennial of Confederation. They looked no further than the abandoned St. Patrick’s Church (ca. 1828) on the Esplanade in Sydney’s North End, the oldest standing Catholic sanctuary on the island. The deteriorating stone structure, used for many years by the local Lebanese Maronite community, was still

owned by the Diocese of Antigonish. It was slated for demolition, having been deemed a safety hazard.

Who said the building was beyond repair? Dr. Morgan’s students soon got involved. St. Patrick’s became the focus of the Canadian history class in the summer of 1966.

The students and faculty approached respected and longtime residents to help mobilize the community. Some of them—Sister Margaret Beaton, Catherine MacLellan, Hilda Day, all known for their interest in history—became members of the OSS founding board. Experts in archaeology and artifacts were rounded up. Human remains found beneath the church were identified and given a respectful, religious burial in the adjacent cemetery.

“There was a great deal of dirt and debris,” Dr. Morgan, who is still active with the Society, recalled in a 2006 presentation. “Archie MacDougall from East Bay lent them an earth mover, and they dumped the junk into it, the plaster and

everything. The plaster fell off the walls and they couldn’t breathe.

“We got it cleaned out. We spent all summer doing it. And the whole class passed.”

The spectacular grand opening of the St. Patrick’s Museum in 1967 gave the Society momentum. It did not take long for other threatened historic places to be identified. The approach was direct action in lieu of resistance. When sight lines to Sydney harbour seemed threatened by municipal decisions to relinquish public lands for bulky, nondescript buildings, the Society started erecting monuments on those sites—in honour of J.F.W. Des Barres, first governor of the Colony of Cape Breton, in recognition of the founding of Sydney, and as a landscaped resting place for the majestic lion that once sat atop the Royal Bank building.

Buildings were acquired, too, and people were recruited and organized to operate them. The 18th-century Jost House was entrusted to a new Jost House Heritage Society. [For fascinating photographs showing the evolution of the house, see the Historic Places Initiative site <https://eapps.ednet.ns.ca/HPIPPublic/PropertyDisplay.aspx?Fid=00PNS0189>.] OSS persuaded the Nova Scotia Museum to acquire Cossit House (ca. 1787), residence of the city’s first Anglican minister. The Society operates that site for the province. When the university abandoned the well-built Lyceum (ca. 1904) – once a cultural hub in the city and once the best-equipped theatre in the region – the Society made sure that new uses would be found for it, including the Society’s own offices, community presentations, and changing exhibits on life in the city.

Some of the investments have been significant. The most recent major upgrades to St. Patrick’s, undertaken in 2007–2008, were worth more than \$400,000.

Public interest was cultivated

through publications, a constant media presence, well-attended monthly lectures (now streamed live on-line), 'ghost tours' and historic walking tours, a major hit with tourists whose cruise ships dock in the Old North End. Last year alone, there were 48 cruise ships and 78,603 passengers.

The Society's own work, and its research on heritage conservation in other jurisdictions, made it cognizant of the need to treat the entire urban fabric as a 'living museum' respectful of its layers but not frozen in time. The purpose of heritage conservation is much more than to provide a few designated 'safe spaces' for artifacts and ignore the rest. Most heritage resources will never be owned by the public sector or by heritage organizations.

In 2003, the Society recommended to the Cape Breton Regional Municipality that the North End, where it had become one of the main property owners, be designated Cape Breton's first heritage conservation district. It was a painstaking process. Society members and municipal planner/heritage officer Rick McCready participated in numerous public meetings, met individually with property owners, and responded patiently and objectively to concerns and queries.

The result was a compromise: Only part of the North End was included. The principal source of concern came from the Congregation of Notre Dame, owner of the landmark convent (ca. 1885). After many meetings, the convent was excluded from the district. (The property continues to interest and worry the Society. The convent will soon be vacated, and OSS has been endeavouring to persuade major local public and non-profit institutions to participate in purchasing and adaptively re-using the convent for their purposes.)

But the by-law that went forward had the full consent of all the owners of property included in the district. It was a good start. It bought time to deal with damaged and transitional buildings. Previously, there would have been no time and no discussion.



Cossit house today. (Photo, Joyce Rankin)



Cossit house before restoration. (Courtesy, Old Sydney Society)

When the CBRM Council finally passed the North End Heritage Conservation District By-law in 2009, people marvelled at the many 18th-century and early 19th-century structures that had managed to survive. The Society's educational efforts, direct intervention and a growing public consciousness were

part of the explanation. 'Preservation by neglect' was the other.

Neglect was no longer a reliable friend. With some buildings in poor repair and others now slated for potential redevelopment, the Society decided that it was time, again, to don the developer's hat.



St. Patrick's work party. (Courtesy Old Sydney Society)

Research was done on 'revolving funds' in Charleston, Savannah, even in jurisdictions in Australia. Was it now time to rescue built heritage through a form of direct intervention that does not contemplate long-term ownership for the purpose of public access? Could buildings be restored by the Society – or with refundable grants from the Society – and then sold to sympathetic buyers for private uses, but with a perpetual heritage covenant attached? Could some of the buildings become decent housing for people who now live in substandard conditions?

Earlier this year, the Society's new Revolving Fund almost purchased its first property. The failed acquisition demonstrates the challenges ahead.

The William Plant House (ca. 1790) was damaged by fire in 2009. Tragically, one tenant of the rooming house lost her life. The home was the last one in the CBRM associated with the Plants, one of the early, prominent United Empire Loyalist families. In 1788, William Plant was appointed comptroller of customs for the Cape Breton colony; the home's location was then in the centre of the administrative capital. There have been many modifications over the years, but these, too, tell a story: it is one of the few buildings in Sydney that contains material and shows building techniques from every era of the city's history.

The Old Sydney Society commissioned dendrochronological, historical, and engineering studies. The first found many original elements, including some of the oldest construction materials known to exist in Sydney. The engineering study, of course, found structural deficiencies, but it was nothing that shocked or discouraged the seasoned and experienced members of the Society. Most of the problems identified pre-dated the fire.

Negotiations commenced with the absentee owners, who finally agreed to sell the property to the Society "as is" for \$8,000. In the meantime, however, the municipality's chief building inspector recommended to Council that the home be demolished at the owner's expense. He cited the Dangerous and Unightly Premises By-law.

The Council meeting was held just as the legal documents for purchase and sale were being finalized. There was a large public turnout in favour of the Society being allowed to restore the building. A stay of execution was granted. A few days later, stunned members learned that the owners no longer wished to sell to the Society. The following week, a new owner, who resides in a neighbouring home, wrote to the Society stating that she had purchased the building and that she would happily donate it to the Society -- provided it be

moved off site! Negotiations, to find a solution, continue.

The Plant House is not the only damaged, historically significant building in Sydney. Among its other fund-raising efforts, OSS is working to convince the Sydney Tar Ponds Agency to establish an endowment for the renovation of buildings in the adjacent neighbourhoods. As part of the tar-ponds remediation, there is to be a "perimeter enhancement strategy," the details of which are now being elaborated.

In collaboration with the Whitney Pier Historical Society, a heritage inventory is being developed of properties immediately adjacent to the old steel plant. Of particular interest is the Kolonia district, in the area of Robert and Ferris Streets. Some of the steelworkers' houses in this area were built from recycled parts of the Breton Hotel, which housed the steel-plant construction workers (1898-1902). Kolonia consisted primarily of Eastern European immigrants and is still home to many of their descendants. Some of the buildings are abandoned and have deteriorated significantly. It is hoped that Kolonia can be saved and celebrated.

The Old Sydney Society takes pride in being a dynamic, relevant, respected organization, bringing together people of all generations and many walks of life. This focus on development, on treating neighbourhoods as urban-cultural ecosystems, as well as the leadership shown on tangible projects, and a decentralized structure of administration, will stand the organization in good stead as it approaches its half-century mark.

Joyce Rankin (joyce_rankin@cbu.ca), community development officer in Cape Breton University's Political Science Department, served as a member of Nova Scotia's Heritage Strategy Task Force.

Tom Urbaniak (tom_urbaniak@cbu.ca), CBU political scientist, serves on the board of the Old Sydney Society and of ICOMOS Canada. He chairs the local Affordable Housing Renovation Partnership.

Learning to Connect with Our Heritage

Jan Zann

For the past fifteen years, children from grades four to six (ages 9 to 13) have participated in a Canada-wide event, the annual Heritage Fair, or Historica as it has become known in recent years. This project, initiated by the Bronfman family and in Nova Scotia by educator Owen Ferguson, has attracted thousands of participants. Students compete at the school, then regional, level. The winning projects go on to the provincial Fair and of these, one is chosen to represent the province at the National Fair, held each year in a different Canadian city. The cost of this event as well as the cost of travel and accommodation is borne by the sponsoring body.

By participating at this early age, these students are learning how to conduct research, often using actual primary sources. As well, they are learning the value of oral history by conducting interviews with elderly relatives who have vivid memories of past events. In class, they share their projects by presenting them both visually and orally (as expected when official judging takes place), thus enriching the knowledge of their peers and teachers.

Nova Scotia projects, submitted either in French or English, have encompassed a wide variety of subjects, including History of Train Stations en route from Truro to Windsor, Africville, Painted Room in the Village of River John, Pugwash Salt Company, First Service Station in Wallace, Early Ice Houses, Traditional Dances and Costumes of the Mi'kmaq First Nations People, and Military History of My Family. While local school boards award prizes for best presentations, some local historical societies do also. For the past four years, the Heritage Trust of Nova Scotia has awarded certificates to students who opted to present some aspect of built heritage. Several Board Members (including Conrad Byers, Peter Delefos, Dan Earle, Linda Forbes,

Fred Hutchinson, Michael Tavares, and Jan Zann), and volunteer Kate Robson, have attended the Fairs in their area and have been most impressed by the talents displayed by such young participants. Kate and Trust member Tom Creighton were among this year's judges at the provincial Fair. [Afterwards, Kate thanked the Trust "for giving me the opportunity to judge at the Fair today - it was fantastic!"] Shirley Nicholl, the tireless advocate for Heritage Fairs in Nova Scotia, recalls the visit to Truro's Heritage Fair by Charles Bronfman and his wife some years ago. They came as a result of Shirley's glowing written reports as to the success of these Fairs. They, too, were overwhelmed by the standard of work presented.

Sadly, as of 2010, funding for the National Fairs has been withdrawn. When the Historica Foundation merged in 2009 with the Dominion Institute to become the Historica-Dominion Institute, this organization decided to abandon the Heritage Fair programme and to concentrate on programmes for high school-age youth only. This move is extremely disheartening in light of the fact that Heritage and Culture form an important part of the Social Studies curriculum from grade three upwards. Learning to appreciate our heritage needs to begin at an early age. To regional and provincial coordinators such as Shirley Nicholl, who has devoted many years of hard work to overseeing this

project, it has been a devastating blow.

The original organizers of the Canada-wide programme worked to develop a transition plan, to enable the Fairs to continue as an independent entity with a national partner to assist with coordinating and fundraising. The result was that former Historica Foundation Directors, with contributions from Avi Bennett, Lynton "Red" Wilson and Charles Bronfman, committed \$50,000 to assist with the transition and restructuring costs. In Nova Scotia, the 2010 Heritage Fairs took place with support from the Department of Education, the Department of Tourism, Culture and Heritage, the Nova Scotia Teachers Union and Scotiabank. Most school boards participated.

Recently it has been rumoured that Deborah Morrison, the Chair and CEO of Canada's History Foundation and publisher of *Kayak: Canada's History Magazine for Kids*, may be willing to take over the national coordinating rôle for the programme. This is very promising news.

We should be mindful of the need to continue such events if we are to impart to the next generation the importance of preserving and protecting all aspects of the culture and heritage of our province and of our nation.

Jan Zann is a Truro resident and long-time Board member of Heritage Trust of NS.



Aidan Zann-Roland, a grade four student from Truro Elementary School, won the Town of Truro Heritage Award. He is dressed as the ghost of John L. Doggett. (Photo by author).

History of Fortified Towns—Halifax's Fortified Heritage

Janet Morris

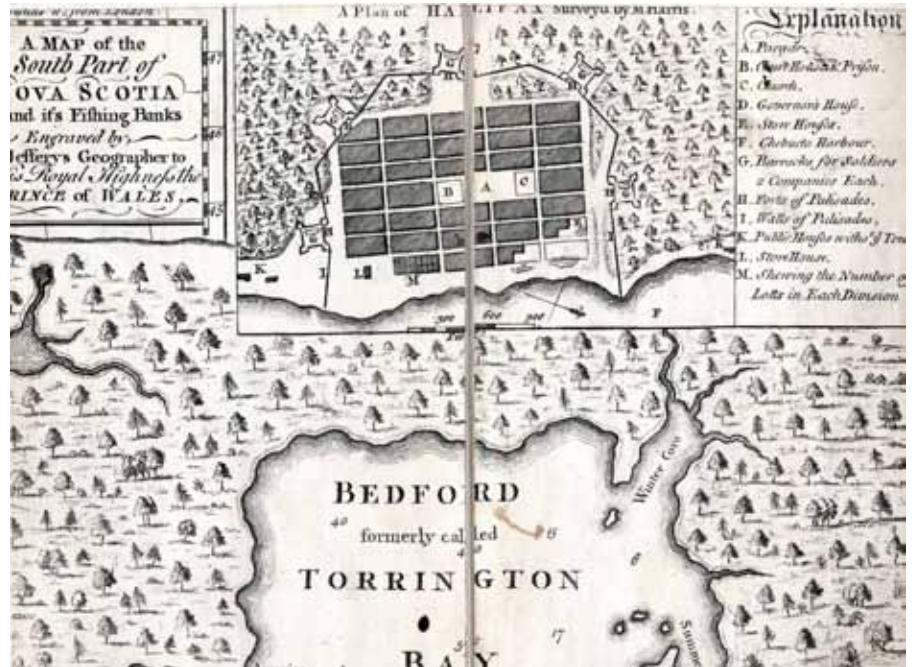
The talk by Professor Brian Robinson on May 20, 2010 fortified this writer's point-of-view that heritage protection should be afforded to the town of Halifax as defined by the palisade walls—not just to a strip of Barrington Street. Dr. Robinson's talk underlined the historic importance of what Halifax has in her midst.

Our town plan, based on the Roman grid towns, was adopted by the English in the medieval period because, like the Romans, the English were building city states – defensive forts, cities able to defend themselves against other city states.

During Edward I's reign (1272-1307), England was engaged in the Hundred Years' War with France—essentially asserting the Plantagenet claim to a portion of what is now France and was then a wooded, sparsely populated area. In founding fortified towns, the English royal central authority was planning a new settlement with urban status and a predetermined town plan to impose itself over a new territory. Like the Roman towns, they were laid out in a gridiron system of rectangular plots, although with some latitude for topography. Inducements were given to settlers in the form of a grant of a house plot within the town and farming land outside the walls, or other economic privileges. The towns were known as *bastides*.

The components of bastides were the basic grid pattern (a convenience—the quickest and most equitable way of laying out a town on a new site); the planned town square; a church, usually outside the town square and forming part of the walls of the town; a focal point—a monument or cenotaph; a defensive function (a wall and/or a moat); and a market.

Edward I also established bastides in the more remote parts of England and Wales. An excerpt, apparently from the



Detail of Thomas Jefferys' 1750 map showing the plan of Halifax and its fortifications. (Courtesy, NSARM)

1994 edition of A.E. J. Morris' *History of Urban Form Before the Industrial Revolutions*, pp. 93-100 describes Edward holding a 'conference' of town planners and others in January 1297 for the rebuilding of Berwick-on-Tweed as a bastide. Somewhat later, bastide towns were established in Northern Ireland. Dr. Robinson pointed out that the descendants of people who established Londonderry, Northern Ireland went on to establish Halifax in 1749, while England was again competing for empire with France. The French built hundreds of bastide towns in southwestern France, mostly during the fourteenth century, and later in North America. Louisbourg is a bastide, even truer in form than is Halifax.

Dr. Robinson's slides showed many examples of bastide towns, mainly in southwestern France—charming towns which continue as functioning, living towns today. They have limitations with respect to the width of streets, such that large vehicles sometimes have to park outside the walls. The French towns

have no overhead wires, indicative of European respect for their culture. The houses are lined up along the streets and around the market squares, apparently forming a solid line—for defense purposes—though 10" gaps existed between the houses to form a fire-stop.

One of the main features of a bastide is the town square, which functions as a marketplace and includes the town hall and, in earlier times, a well. The church was not originally part of the central square; it was usually part of a separate square, and strongly built so as to act as a fortification during a siege. In the Renaissance period the church sometimes became connected with the square with the idea of connecting sight lines contributing to the beauty of the whole. This notion was incorporated into the Halifax Square; essentially, by the time Halifax was founded, it was thought that a church would enhance the square visually. The church was initially to be built on the north end of the Square, as shown on the earliest known map

The King's Yard

of Halifax, dated 1750. It is to be noted that the church—St. Paul's—was a small, parish-type church, not a powerful cathedral or monastery. The church in the square was not about dominance or power of the church, it was about visual interest; the dominating feature of the town was its fortifications, not its church. Edward I's Welsh bastide towns did include castles, incorporated into the town to dominate it physically and mentally. But the castles were about fortification and temporal power—not spiritual power.

Dr. Robinson noted that Halifax's Parade Square became more of a town square over time. Later-day recognition of our Square includes the establishment of City Hall at the north end of our Town Square in 1888. The building of Scotia 'Square' in the 1960s emphasized the market aspect of its location—the market was originally located in Cheapside. Unfortunately Scotia Square does not boast the open arched arcade aspect of traditional market squares. The cenotaph, originally situated in front of Province House to commemorate the Boer War, was subsequently moved to the Square. Motor vehicles have recently been prohibited, in deference to our traditional Square.

Halifax, established in 1749, was a bastide town surrounded by a palisade, and then by five forts. Like old Roman towns, the street pattern survives—unless we fail to respect it. There was very little difference between the French bastide towns of the thirteenth century and Halifax of the eighteenth century. It is up to us to celebrate this heritage. The bastide towns are still distinct and recognizable in southern France and elsewhere. Let us respect, celebrate and protect our gridiron town as emphatically as we celebrate and protect our star-shaped Citadel.

Janet Morris is the Secretary of the Board of the Trust.



Police House, formerly home to George Beed, Barracks Master. (Courtesy, NSARM)

Joan Dawson

The speaker at this season's final meeting was Marilyn Gurney, retired curator of Maritime Command Museum, which is located in Admiralty House on the Halifax naval base. The King's Yard, or Naval Yard, was established during the 1760s on a site in the Narrows between the two present bridges, on land purchased from Joseph Gorham, known as Gorham's Point. Halifax Harbour has the advantage of being the fourth largest natural, ice-free harbour in the world. The Yard was originally a base of the British Royal Navy. The early 20th century saw the departure of the Royal Navy and the hand-over of the Yard to the Canadian government. The Canadian Navy was established in 1910, and the Yard was transferred to Canadian ownership in 1911, with provision that British ships could still use it for refuelling. Technically, a naval yard is concerned with maintenance while a dockyard is a ship-building facility, but the terms have merged in popular usage.

Marilyn took us on a fascinating tour of the site, which has evolved and expanded over the years so that it now

occupies two miles of waterfront, is half a mile wide and has extended into the harbour itself. The original Naval Yard stood at the foot of Artz Street, and was approached by way of Dockyard Lane. By 1800, its buildings included a storehouse, wharves, careening yard, victualling yard, the commissioner's house, a sail loft and a mast house. The mast pond was fed with fresh water from an underground source and divided from the harbour by an earth barrier. The storehouse clock was installed in 1779, and the pitch house was built in the late 18th century. The first hospital was built in 1783, but it burned down and was replaced with a newer building. The admiral's house was built nearby, facing into Gottingen Street. Stone for many of these buildings was brought from quarries on the Northwest Arm.

Over the years many changes were made, buildings were added and older buildings were adapted to new purposes. A barracks was built, new wings were added to the original storehouse, and later a garden was constructed between the wings. The victualling yard originally housed supplies for sailing vessels, and as iron hulled vessels replaced wooden

sailing ships, coal storage sheds were added. The ships' crews had to load the fuel with barrows and gunny sacks at the coaling wharf. A plumbing shop was established as the newer ships needed pipe fittings for their boilers and steam engines—and incidentally, hot water was now available to the crew! There was also a foundry to provide new parts for refitting vessels.

Marilyn showed many photographs of the early buildings as they were in the mid-nineteenth century. There were houses of varying sizes to accommodate the Commissioner (the senior officer on the base), the chief shipwright (father of Admiral Provo Wallis, the hero of the capture of the Chesapeake in 1813), police officers and others. Small cottages for dockyard workers backed on the stone wall on Upper Water Street. In early days, the Yard was defended by Fort Coot, on a nearby hill, but as the site expanded the fort was abandoned and the hill was levelled in 1881 to accommodate new structures.

Alongside the hospital were the quarantine wing, the dead house and the cemetery. The hospital became a training base for Canadian seamen, with more academic subjects added the following year. Some of its students were among the early casualties of the first World War. The hospital building was among those damaged at the time of the Halifax Explosion, which also destroyed 32 other buildings and killed 34 sailors.

A stone wall provided security for the Naval Yard. With the coming of the railway, train tracks ran close beside the wall as they approached the North Street Station, close to the Yard's north gate. An officer, returning one evening the worse for drink, was run over by a train, after which the entrance was moved further north.

For many years the Naval Yard was home to the naval magazine and also to the magazines for the Wellington Barracks and the city. Eventually it was realised that this could be hazardous, and the munitions were removed to the new magazine on Bedford Basin.

In the years between the wars the Navy was downsized and the buildings were put to various uses, but with the coming of World War II, the Dockyard, as it was now known, became a more active place. A first, the Navy had little to do, but with the fall of France in 1940, the old Dockyard was urgently transformed into a modern facility with hastily-constructed buildings and up-to-date equipment. The convoys carrying supplies and personnel to Europe were assembled in Bedford Basin, and Canadian vessels took an active part in the war. Sailors from all over the country were posted here, and Halifax saw a good deal of sorrow as men who had made friends here before leaving port were reported dead or missing in action.

In more recent years, the Halifax Dockyard has continued as the East Coast naval base, and change has been continuous. New buildings have replaced older ones and little remains of the structures that we were shown in the nineteenth century photographs. But it was good to go back for an evening and visualise the King's Yard as it once was.

St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church Update

Peter Oickle wrote to say that St. Paul's recently received a report on the stained glass windows, completed by Sattler's Studio as part of their registry of stained glass windows. Sattler's pointed out that not all windows bear the signature of N.T. Lyon. The church has always assumed and accepted that all windows were crafted by that studio, but understands that without a signature, the craftsperson is unknown. Research is continuing and it is hoped that the craftsperson will be identified.

Society Recognizes 167 Years of Postal Service

Christina I. Brown, Bridgewater Heritage and Historical Society

On Monday, May 17, the new Bridgewater Post Office was officially opened at a public ceremony. It replaces the former (and only) Post Office, which was built in 1895. Jerry Fultz, who lives in nearby Pentz, was invited to be a special guest. Mr. Fultz was responsible for the design and implementation of our present Postal Code, adopted in the 1960s (1970s in Atlantic Canada). Canada Post recognized this outstanding accomplishment by presenting him with an engraved plaque, which he accepted with obvious pleasure.

The Bridgewater Heritage and Historical Society presented the local Postmaster, Mr. Laurie Martin, with an engraved plaque and framed certificate, recognizing the local postal service to our town from 1843 to the present day. This is in keeping with a project of the Society, whereby organizations, congregations and other groups active for 100 years or more are recognized for their dedication and service to the people of Bridgewater.

The ceremony concluded with refreshments.



The former Post Office sits on one third of an acre overlooking the LaHave River. It is for sale by CB Richard Ellis for \$500,000. Contact Andrew Cranmer (492-2065 or andrew.cranmer@cbre.com).

What's Up with Balloon Framing?

Almost every Nova Scotia heritage house was framed using this effective but obsolete building technique.

Bruce MacNab

They don't build houses like they used to. Sometimes that's a good thing.

One of the oldest house framing methods is called balloon framing. Balloon framing means the wall studs start at the foundation and go straight to the roof. After these long studs are stood up, the intermediate floors are installed.

The floor joists in balloon framing sit on a 1 inch x 4 inch board. (See photo 1) Carpenters call this board a "ribbon" although it's correctly called a "rib band." This ribbon board is notched into the wall studs. Notching the studs provides bearing for the board and makes it flush with the surface of the stud. After the joists are placed on the ribbon they are nailed into the side of the wall studs.

Balloon framing has one big problem. The space between the wall studs is like a chimney. If there is a house fire, it can quickly spread from the basement to the attic through the wall cavities. To make balloon framing safer, carpenters must install lumber between the studs at each floor level. These pieces are called fire blocks. Almost all century homes in Nova Scotia are balloon framed. Unfortunately, almost none of these homes were built with fire blocking.

House framing techniques have evolved over the centuries. Early Celtic pioneers in Northern Nova Scotia used a combination of balloon framing and post and beam framing. Fine examples of this hybrid framing method can be found in early homesteads throughout Antigonish and Guysborough Counties. Rather than framing floor joists into the sides of wall studs, early carpenters framed joists into the face of wall studs. (See photo 2)

These Celtic tradesmen used a clever combination-cut to notch the wall studs to receive floor joists. This cut was made quickly and efficiently with a

handsaw and a hatchet. (See photos 3a & 3b) For framing purposes, this simple detail was faster and more efficient than mortise-and-tenon joints. This cunning bit of simple joinery was matched by another clever time saving device utilized by highland carpenters – women. It's now largely forgotten that most of the timbers used in these early Nova Scotia homesteads were hand hewed by the female pioneers.

Carpenters don't frame houses like this anymore. Nowadays, wall studs only go from the floor to the ceiling. The second floor sits on top of the exterior walls. (See photo 4) The top plates of the walls provide bearing for the floor and fire blocking at the same time. Walls for the next storey are built on top of the second floor. This method is called platform (or western) framing. Platform framing has many advantages over balloon framing. The primary advantage is that carpenters don't have to work with studs up to 20' long.

All modern carpenters who renovate older homes should understand how balloon framing was done. Although it's rarely used in modern construction, balloon framing is still a great way to frame smaller structures. If you're planning to build a camp or a workshop with a second storey loft, balloon framing might work well for you. Otherwise, balloon framing is a bit like the old time carpenters – gone but not forgotten.

Bruce MacNab is a journeyman carpenter who has taught apprenticeship and communications at NSCC.



Photo 1. In balloon framing, second floor joists sit on a 1 inch by 4 inch board called a ribbon. (All photos by Bruce MacNab)



Photo 2. This mock-up shows how an angle-cut floor joist is notched into the face of a wall stud.



Photo 3a. Celtic framing technique. A hand saw makes a level cut 1.5 inches deep to provide bearing.



Photo 3b. Celtic framing technique, part two. The rest of the sloping notch is quickly cleared with a hatchet.



Photo 4. In modern platform framing, floor joists sit on horizontal wall plates.

Is a Heritage Building Project Right for You? A roadmap to help you decide...

Jane Nicholson, Mrs. Nicholson, Inc.

Some of us hold our noses and jump into a project, letting the chips fall where they may, often on our own heads! Emotion rules. But there is another way to decide if a heritage project makes sense. This article charts a roadmap for decision-making that works for me and hopefully will work for you too.

First things first:

(1) Know what you want to do. This sounds so simple, but many people never really identify their goal. Be precise about what you want to accomplish.

(2) Figure out how to do it. This involves people and money, so you need to ask yourself budget, timeline, approvals and construction questions.

(3) Tell your story. In order to get financing, approvals and, ultimately, a tenant or a buyer, you need to convince people you are not crazy for caring about an old building. It's easy for folks to say "no" to an idea that's outside their comfort zone. Your job is to convince them to say "yes". That means communicating.

(4) Measure your success. You need to keep track of the project—money, time, energy, result—so you can decide if you ever want to do this kind of thing again.

A way to think about it—the RACE formula

In the communications world, there is a little technique for helping you to answer the questions that arise with a project. It's just a box to put your thinking in, and it works for anybody. It's called the RACE formula. RACE stands for Research, Analysis, Communication and Evaluation. Let's say your goal is to save an old building in your town. Here's an example of how you can use the RACE formula to decide whether it makes sense to do so.

Research

At this preliminary stage, you need to gather all the facts to help you make a decision.

Here are some of the general questions you need to answer:

- What is the actual state of the building?
- What's the best approach to fix it – a renovation, a rehabilitation or a restoration?
- What's the approximate cost? Where can you get financing? Is a grant possible?
- What's the building's likely future – commercial, residential, institutional?
- What kind of planning, zoning or heritage committee permissions are necessary?
- What are the timelines of these permissions and the tools necessary to gain them?
- Do you need a contractor, or will you fill that role yourself?
- If not, what contractor can meet your deadline and budget?
- Why should people support your project? What are the incentives for the town, the county, the city, the neighbours?
- Who are the audiences for the message that your project is a good idea?
- What are the right tools for dealing with those audiences?

Analysis

Once you have all the facts, you have to sit back and analyze them. This means asking some hard questions, and, perhaps, even walking away from the project:

- Can you fix the building? In other words, is it salvageable?
- Can you afford the level of quality you want to accomplish?
- Will "the authorities" let you fix it the way you can afford to?
- What if you don't get the permissions

you need?

- Are you prepared to follow the rules, or do you walk away?
- Do you really have the time and energy to drive a complicated project?

Communication

If, in your analysis, you decide that you are going to go ahead with your project, you need to make sure you can tell your story in an effective way. You have already identified your audiences in your Research phase, so you know who to talk to. You need to be positive and proactive. Your job is to convince everybody your project is doable. That means you need to build on the incentives of others so they can see how your project helps fulfill their needs. So:

- Tell your story to all your audiences
- Use the right tools for each audience ... if you need an architect's drawing for the local heritage committee, get an architect's drawing; if you need a business plan for your banker, write a business plan; if you need a Town meeting with your neighbours, schedule a Town meeting.
- Write a Scope of Work for your contractor so he/she knows what you want to accomplish within your budget.
- Talk to your insurance and real estate agents and keep them in the loop.
- Keep a project diary – you will be amazed at how often you refer to it.
- Take before and after pictures – very useful in the evaluation stage.
- Remember to say thank you to those whose help you have received. They will be around in every step of the process, so don't wait until the end to give credit where credit is due.

Evaluation

When the project is finished, you need to measure its success. This means you have to:

Executive and Board of Trustees 2010-2011

The Nominating Committee

Heritage Trust of Nova Scotia Executive and Board of Trustees 2010-2011

Executive

| | |
|--------------------------|-----------------|
| President | Peter Delefes |
| Vice President, Heritage | Paul Erickson |
| Vice President, Finance | Linda Forbes |
| Treasurer | Fred Hutchinson |
| Secretary | Janet Morris |
| Past-President | Philip Pacey |

Committee Chairs

| | |
|-------------------|-----------------|
| Awards | Joyce McCulloch |
| Book | Elizabeth Pacey |
| Buildings at Risk | Michael Tavares |
| Communities | Dan Earle |
| Membership | Bernie Davis |
| Newsletter | Peter Delefes |
| Program | Allan Marble |
| Projects | Andrew Powter |
| Publicity | Dulcie Conrad |
| Research | Tony Edwards |
| Heritage Canada | Andrew Powter |

Members at Large

Retiring 2011: Conrad Byers, Arthur Carter, Doris Maley, Tom Urbaniak, Janice Zann
 Retiring 2012: Kevin Ball, Sara Beanlands, Nancy O'Brien, Allan Robertson, Iain Taylor
 Retiring 2013: Judy Haiven, Beth Keech, Beverly Miller, Alan Ruffman, Mary Schaefer

- Question whether you accomplished your goal.
- Analyze your finances...are you broke, did you break even, did you make a profit?
- Deal with any criticisms and try and learn from them.
- Document the project for future reference – use those before and after pictures.
- Decide if, emotionally, it's worth doing all over again with another building.

Finally, have a party or an Open House. Show off your project. Invite the townsfolk, your neighbours, your banker, your contractors and anybody else who had a hand in helping. Write a news release and send it to the local paper. You need to blow your own horn, because that helps to educate and inspire others. You have done something good...you have turned a sad, unwanted building into something beautiful, and saved a piece of Canada's heritage. That's worth celebrating!

This article is based on Jane Nicholson's presentation at the Back to Basics Heritage Conference, held in Annapolis Royal in June, 2010. Jane is a senior accredited member of the Canadian Public Relations Society. She won the Trust's Built Heritage Award for 2008. See her heritage restoration and rehabilitation work at www.mrsnicholson.com

Correction

The account of Garry Shutlak's lecture about David Sterling's houses mentioned a brick house with a granite statue at the front. The house is on Barrington Street, not Hollis, as reported. It is known as St. Matthew's Manse and is owned by the Association of Professional Engineers of Nova Scotia.



Aspire to inspire future generations of Nova Scotians to keep historic places alive. Giving to the Heritage Trust through a bequest, large or small, helps to support our work protecting built heritage. Our heritage is our future.

For more information contact the Trust by phone at 902-423-4807 or by e-mail at president@htns.ca.

Photo courtesy of NS Historic Places Initiative, Department of Tourism, Culture and Heritage

Programs Sponsored by Other Societies

L'Acadie de Chezzetcook

79 Hill Rd., off route 207, W. Chezzetcook
Oct. 24, 7 pm Ghost stories.
Dec. 12, 6:30 pm Outdoor Christmas Tree Lighting and Carol Sing.
827-2893.

Chester Basin 250th Anniversary

Sept. 11-12 Autumn Anniversary Floral Arts, Basin Gardeners, Aeon Baptist Church.
October 23 Kohl Canon Supper, St. John's Anglican Church.

Cumberland County Museum

150 Church St., Amherst
Sept. 18, 5:30 for 6:30 pm "An Evening with our Four Fathers" dinner and auction, Lions Club, 9 Electric St., \$30. Reservations 667-2561 or ccmuseum@ns.aliantzinc.ca.

Dartmouth Heritage Museum

Evergreen House, 26 Newcastle Street
Tues. -Sat., 10-5 pm \$2.
to Sept. 11 Food, Factories & Foundries: Dartmouth's Industrial Past
Sept. 25 & 26, noon-5 pm Heritage House Tour, \$15 in adv., \$20 at door, tea \$6.
Nov. 30-Dec. 18, Tues.-Sat., 10-5 pm Traditional Victorian Christmas.
www.dartmouthheritagemuseum.ns.ca, 464-2300.

Heritage Canada Annual Conference

Sheraton Hotel, St. John's
Sept. 30-Oct. 2 "Revitalize! Economic Renewal. Quality of Life. Heritage Buildings."
www.heritagecanada.org/eng/conference.html

Industrial Heritage of NS

7:30 pm Maritime Museum of Atlantic
Sept. 13 "Patents," Terry Eyland, Cole Harbour Heritage Farm.
Oct. 4 "Brick Making in Nova Scotia," Allan Shaw, Shaw Group.
Nov. 1 "Barrels," Barry Hiltz, Ross Farm Museum.
Dec. 6 "From the Blacksmith to the Machine Age," David Rollinson, Industrial Archaeologist.

Kings County Historical Society

Sun., Sept. 5 Historical Re-enactment, Grand Pré Historic Site. Free admission to site. People are invited to arrive by 1:30 pm so that the process of assembling can be finished at exactly 3 o'clock in time for the annual reading of the Order of Deportation. Period costumes are encouraged but not compulsory. Commemorative walk from Grand-Pré to the Deportation Cross in Horton Landing (approx. 2 km) follows. Details at www.grand-pre.com.

Maitland Christmas Festival

Nov. 26, 5-9 pm, Nov. 27, 10 am-8 pm and Nov. 28, noon-6pm Craft Fair, Christmas Tree Stroll, free; Heritage House Tour, \$15; Gentlemen's Victorian Tea, Village Square, 8667 Hwy 215, \$5.

Nov. 27, 3:30-6 pm Turkey Dinner with all the trimmings, St. David's United Church Hall, Maitland, \$10, 12 and under \$5, pre-schoolers eat free.
www.maitlandns.com/eventsandfestivals.html

Musée des Acadiens des Pubnicos & Centre de recherche, West Pubnico

Sept. 9, 7 pm La Société historique acadienne de Pubnico-Ouest, Pauline d'Entremont's genealogy database (52,000 names)
Oct. 2-8 Craft Splash, workshops and demonstrations of traditional skills.
Dec. 9, 7 pm La Société historique acadienne de Pubnico-Ouest.
Dec. 12, 1:30 Christmas Home Tour and Yuletide Tea, beginning at Museum, \$15.
www.museeacadien.ca, 762-3380.

NS Archaeology Society

NS Museum of Natural History, 1747 Summer St. Meets fourth Tuesday of month, 7:30 pm.
www.novascotiaarchaeologysociety.com

Parkdale-Maplewood Community Museum

3005 Barss Corner Road, Maplewood
Sept. 11, 12:30-5:30 pm Heritage Blueberry Festival, Parkdale-Maplewood Community Grounds, adults \$12, children \$6, under 5 free. Lunenburg County Sausage & Sauerkraut, Pudding, Solomon Gundy, Smeltz Potatoes, Hodge Podge, Sauerkraut Salad, Bread or Rolls, Pickles, Blueberry Pie & Blueberry Grunt with Ice-Cream. Local crafts, baked goods, demonstrations and entertainment.
<http://parkdale.ednet.ns.ca>, 644-2893.

Royal NS Historical Society

Public Archives of NS
Meets third Wednesday of month, 7:30 pm
Sept. 15 Blakeley Lecture: Janet Guildford, MSVU, & Nat Smith, Premier's Office, "Florence E. Welton and the CCF in Nova Scotia."
Oct. 20 Gord Heath, McMaster Divinity School, "The Great Association in the Sky: Maritime Baptists and the War of 1812."
Nov. 17 Ross Langley, Dalhousie Medical School, "Dr. Chester Stewart and public health in postwar Canada."
Dec. 8 Marc Milner, UNB, TBA.
<http://nsgna.ednet.ns.ca/rnshs/>

Urban Farm Museum Society of Spryfield

Captain William Spry Community Centre
Sept. 11, 2-4 pm Harvest Fair, Urban Farm garden field, fresh food from the garden served. Free admission, donations accepted. All welcome.

Waverley Museum

1319 Rocky Lake Drive
Sept. 18 Morning Yard Sale.

Yarmouth County Museum

22 Collins St., Yarmouth
Sept. 10-11, 10-5 pm 3rd annual Coin & Currency Road Show
Nov. 27, 6:30 pm A Victorian Far East Fantasy, fundraising dinner & live auction, Burrige Campus, NSCC, \$50.
yarmouthcountymuseum.ednet.ns.ca, 742-5539.

HTNS Illustrated Public Lectures Fall 2010

Thursday, 16 September
Dr. Ian Cameron

Lawlor's Island: the Quarantine Story

Thursday, 21 October
Dr. Allan Marble

Would You Like to Live in These Houses?

Poor House Buildings
and the Care of the Poor
in Nova Scotia, 1870-1970

Talks begin at 7:30 pm
NS Museum (Auditorium)
Summer Street, Halifax

Thursday, 18 November
Annual Dinner

Speakers:
Elizabeth and Philip Pacey
**Travels with Charley's Office:
Keeping a
Nova Scotia Landmark**
(Time and place TBA)