

Site Lines

Welcome Note from the Co-Chairs

As your co-chairs for the N/SAO Steering Committee for 2010, we would like to acknowledge the out-going Co-Chair, Carla Morse from Parks Canada, who worked very hard on behalf of the Alliance throughout her term, as well as retiring Steering Committee members, Jenny Rieger (SC member for seven years) and Grant Maltman (SC member for ten years). Jenny and Grant believe strongly in the Alliance and have always supported our events and activities. Thank you all!

This year, we have formed three official sub-committees - Communications, Conference, and Membership - and we have created what we are calling the "Council of the Wise", which will consist of former members of the Steering Committee. The Council will act as a sounding board for ideas, suggest new directions, and help us remember the traditional knowledge and reasoning behind past decisions.

We are also going to launch a strategic review of Alliance activities and will be bringing some ideas to you that, we hope, will move the N/SAO towards new ventures. Look for a web presence, electronic versions of the newsletter in colour, and use of new technologies such as Facebook. Of course, our annual Fall conference and this newsletter, Site Lines, will continue to be significant ways that we communicate together. Please let us know how to serve your needs best!

Shannon Prince & Sheryl Smith

There's a New Site in Town

By: Mariella Choo Fon

THUNDER BAY, ON - On January 12, 2010, the Honourable Jim Prentice, Minister of the Environment has approved the Minutes arising from the December 2008 meeting of the Historic Sites and Monuments Board of Canada (HMSBC). The Canadian Car & Foundry in Thunder Bay, Ontario has now officially been declared a National Historic Site. The following is an extract from the December 2008 Minutes:

The property covers about 66.5 acres, and includes a large 593,000 sq. foot multi-component building. Here, Canadian Car & Foundry, the nation's largest manufacturer of aircraft during the Second World War,

contributed to Canada's war effort by manufacturing more than 2,300 quality fighters.

These included the Hawker Hurricane, renowned for its versatility and reliability and its role in winning the Battle of Britain, and the Curtiss Helldriver, used by the American navy in the War in the Pacific. This aircraft production facility is notable in particular as a representative of the wartime contributions made by thousands of woman who quickly and effectively demonstrated that they could do non-traditional jobs such as riveting, welding, precision drilling and much more, guided in part by the technical leadership of pioneer aeronautical engineer Elise MacGill.

The former "Can Car" facility is also a tangible reminder of a watershed period in which thousands of woman gained new skills, confidence and workplace alliances that would carry them into a changing postwar workplace and society, bringing issues of equality in pay and conditions to the attention of industry, government and unions. The building still retains most of its functional and material character, even if important aesthetic changes have been made to the envelope. All three wartime production bays remain clearly visible.

Canadian Car & Foundry Company is located on 1001 Montreal Street, Thunder Bay, Ontario.



Dundurn National Historic Site

“Serving as a public park and museum for over 100 years, Dundurn has truly been a part of Hamiltonians’ lives for generations.”

—Kenneth J. Heaman, Senior Curator

And to Another 100 Years of Excellence

By: Kenneth J. Heaman

While restoration of Dundurn National Historic Site was “state of the art” in 1967 the principles and technologies of restoration have continued to evolve and develop throughout the ensuing four decades. With that in mind we are embarking on a truly exciting project that we have called the “Dundurn

Renaissance.” This will involve the application of the most current restoration technologies and practice to build on the work begun forty years ago.

Dundurn National Historic Site is owned by the City of Hamilton and managed through the Museums and Heritage Presentation Section of the City's Culture Division. Dundurn “Castle,” as it is commonly referred to, and its surrounding grounds formed the residence of Sir Allan MacNab, Premier of the United Provinces of Canada between 1854 and 1856. Acquired by the City of Hamilton in 1899, the estate has since served as a public park and museum.

Although in the 1960's the restoration techniques undertaken

were state of the art, four decades and millions of visitors have taken a toll on the interior finishes of the Castle.



Restoration is once again needed to remove evidence of that wear and ensure the preservation of the estate. Twenty-first Century restoration techniques can be coupled with recent research to represent a truer vision of the estate as it existed in 1855. As a

first step toward this project the bold, albeit inaccurate wallpaper in the front is being removed and the original marbled finish exposed with the hope of restoring this finish.

Long recognized as an icon, Dundurn Castle is the most recognized landmark in Hamilton. When Hamiltonians’ show off their city to their friends and relatives, a visit to Dundurn is a must. Serving as a public park and museum for over 100 years,

Dundurn has truly been a part of Hamiltonians’ lives for generations. Dundurn hopes to continue its “state of the art” restoration vision; allowing the site to enhance its community and provide a vibrant landmark and icon of Hamiltonian pride.



Photo by Cezary Gesikowski

The Creighton Memorial Committee with Prime Minister Stephen Harper. From left to right, Len Kotylo, James Milks, Paul Kitchen, PM Stephen Harper, MP Mauril Bélanger, Edward Grenda, Mrs. Grete Hale, Chair of The Beechwood Cemetery Foundation and Bill Fitsell.

Creighton Monument Unveiled at Beechwood Cemetery

By The Beechwood Cemetery Foundation
On Saturday, October 24, 2009, the Society for International Hockey Research (SIHR) and The Beechwood Cemetery Foundation hosted the unveiling ceremony of a monument and plaque honouring hockey pioneer James George Aylwin Creighton as a person of national historic significance at

Beechwood Cemetery in Ottawa.

When SIHR learned that one of Canada's hockey pioneers rested in an unmarked gravesite at Beechwood Cemetery, it created the Creighton Memorial Fund to raise funds to purchase a monument for James Creighton. Many donors responded to the appeal, including the crew of the Canadian Navy frigate HMCS Vancouver, Member of Parliament the Hon. Mauril Bélanger, Ottawa Senators owner Eugene Melnyk and Calgary Flames owner Harley Hotchkiss. Beechwood Cemetery offered to pay for part of the cost of the monument, leaving SIHR with enough money to also purchase a bronze plaque commemorating Creighton's achievements.

Creighton, a Halifax native, is considered to be the "father" or inventor of organized ice hockey and played a key role in popularizing the game in the 1870's and early 1880's by bringing the game indoors (in Montreal). Creighton moved to Ottawa in 1882 where he served as Law Clerk to the Senate. There he continued to promote and play hockey for

local teams.

The event received national media attention when it was announced that SIHR's highest profile member, Prime Minister Stephen Harper, would attend and speak. Members of Parliament Hon. Mauril Bélanger and Royal Galipeau also attended the event.

"Just as lacrosse had appealed to our summer heart, Canada needed a sport that would call to its winter soul. Before anyone else, Creighton heard that call, and defined the game that, from coast-to-coast, transcends French and English, East and West, urban and rural and defines us as Canadians," said Harper. Other speakers included Mauril Bélanger, SIHR President James Milks and SIHR's founding president, Bill Fitsell, who chronicled Creighton's life.

The unveiling of the gravesite monument was performed by Prime Minister Harper and Bill Fitsell, while Paul Kitchen and the Hon. Mauril Bélanger unveiled the plaque. Prime Minister Harper attended a reception following the ceremony.

The Macdonell-Williamson House, known as "Poplar Villa" or "Scotus" was built by *John Macdonell* (fur trader, partner in the North West Company, District Court Judge, and entrepreneur) for his Métis wife, Magdeleine Poitras and their 12 children on his retirement circa 1817. In 1882, William Williamson and his wife, Mary Ellen Everett, acquired the House. The Williamsons made several changes to it and their descendants preserved the property until it was expropriated for the Québec Hydro project at Carillon in 1961. The House was acquired in 1978 by the *Ontario Heritage Trust* in order to save it from demolition.

The Macdonell-Williamson House

By: Lorelei Crooks St. Pierre

Friends of the Macdonell-Williamson House Inc. was appointed custodian in 1997. Today, *Friends of the Macdonell-Williamson House Inc.* is working to have the House become a cultural, historical and tourist centre, serving nearby counties and beyond.

This National Historic Site of Canada is located in Ontario on the Ottawa River adjacent to the village of Pointe-Fortune, Québec at the border between Ontario and Québec (Upper Canada and Lower Canada). The House features a *General Store, Heritage Tea Room and Exhibits. Guided Tours* for groups of ten or more are available upon request from June to September. A fee of \$10 per person includes admission, a guided commentary and full English tea. To get to the House, take Highway 417 East or 40 West. Then take Exit #1 for Pointe-Fortune. Follow the road signs. See www.mwhouse.ca for more details.

The History of Jazz at Massey Hall

By: Stefania Paterak

Massey Hall stands proudly on the corner of Victoria and Shuter Streets in downtown Toronto. A venerable institution of music and performance, the Hall opened in 1894 and was named a heritage site by the City of Toronto in the 1970s. One musical genre that has been and continues to be a great tradition at Massey Hall is Jazz.

If you Google “the greatest jazz concert ever,” you will find that such an historic event took place at Massey Hall. Now, I’ll admit that it’s not quite a fair search: “The Greatest Jazz Concert Ever” is the subtitle of a live concert album conveniently called *Jazz at Massey Hall*, but we’ll take the accolades just the same.

Just what, you may be wondering, was this greatest of jazz shows? It took place in 1953 and featured Dizzy Gillespie, Charlie Parker, Bud Powell, Charles Mingus, and Max Roach playing as a quintet together for the first and only time in their lives. Despite its greatness (and Greatness), the concert was poorly attended — in large part because it was competing against a live televised broadcast of a boxing match between Rocky Marciano and Jersey Joe Walcott. (Incidentally, boxing matches were also popular events at Massey Hall once upon a time.) Although only a few caught the show in person, the live album remains a vital piece in many jazz lovers’ collections. Fifty



years after the legendary *Jazz at Massey Hall* recording, an anniversary concert saw a new quintet take the stage in celebration of the historic event — this time to play to a full house. History was in the air as a seventeen-piece Massey Hall All-Stars Band, which included some of the members of the original 1953 concert, opened for the quintet. Max Roach himself, the only surviving member of the original quintet, was an honoured guest.

In 2008, the *Jazz @ Massey Hall* was introduced as a series featuring three concerts each with very distinct perspectives on jazz. Big names in jazz continue to grace the stage at Massey Hall including Wynton Marsalis, Chick Corea, and Ornette Coleman to the delight of jazz fans in Toronto and beyond, developing new chapters in the history of great jazz and great music at Massey Hall.

The Olympic Torch visits Buxton

By: Shannon Prince

Despite the frigid December weather or the early hour, the community of North Buxton lined the street to welcome the 2010 Olympic torch. The first rays of sun were beginning to dawn as Michael “Pinball” Clemons of the Toronto Argonauts began his leg in the relay with the joyful ringing of the Buxton Liberty Bell.

The Buxton Liberty Bell was presented to the settlement from the people in Pittsburgh upon hearing about the educational, spiritual and economical opportunities that were given to Blacks here.

The bell rang whenever someone arrived here in freedom. So this bell is a most treasured symbol of freedom. And it was so appropriate for Mr Clemons to ring the bell to reinforce the value of freedom.

He said he was quite honoured to be in Buxton as part of the Underground Railroad since he was American, just like those on the UGRR who came to Canada.

He left carrying the torch running backwards to honour the slaves who first settled in Buxton and Canada.



Michael “Pinball” Clemons rings the Buxton Liberty Bell while carrying the Olympic Torch through Buxton National Historic Site and Museum

Reorganization of the National Historic Sites Directorate

By: Larry Ostola

As you are aware, over the course of the last year considerable time and effort has been devoted to the question of National Historic Sites (NHS) renewal and to an evaluation of the actions the agency can take to enhance the relevance of our National Historic Sites to Canadians. This exciting work, which is of the utmost importance, is ongoing.

In support of this renewal, and of the agency vision, a comprehensive review of the organizational structure of the National Historic Sites Directorate was undertaken over a number of months, and I would like to share the results of this review and the changes which have come about as a result of it with you. These changes are effective immediately.

One important change that I would like to highlight is directly related to NHS Renewal. Based on an internal reallocation of existing resources, a renewal team will be created in the new National Historic Sites Policy Branch to move the NHS renewal strategy forward into implementation in collaboration with our colleagues throughout the agency.

The branch structure of the National Historic Sites Directorate has been reorganized as follows:

National Historic Sites Policy Branch

Under the leadership of Patricia Kell, this branch will provide a focal point for activities and initiatives related to our National Historic Sites. These include the National Historic Sites renewal team referenced above, which is to be made up of ten staff.

In addition, the branch will also be responsible for cultural resource management policy and training, legislation and regulation related to National Historic Sites and archaeology policy and will also oversee the development and publication of the second edition of the Standards and Guidelines for the Conservation of Historic Places in Canada and the ongoing development of the Heritage Lighthouse Program related to the Heritage Lighthouse Protection Act which will come into force in May, 2010.

Historical Research Branch

Led by Gordon Fulton, this branch will continue to provide high quality historical research in support of Parks Canada and the work of the Historic Sites and Monuments Board of Canada, and will also continue to produce research and analysis in support of the Federal Heritage Buildings Review Office.

Heritage Programs Branch

Led by Robert Moreau and building on our tradition of excellence in heritage conservation, this branch will serve as a focal point for a variety of programs including the National Historic Sites of Canada Cost-Sharing Program, the Certification Program and the Federal Heritage Buildings Review Office.

The branch will also have responsibility for important internal and public information resources such as the Directory of Federal Heritage Designations and the Canadian Register of Historic Places.

Historic Sites and Monuments Board of Canada Secretariat

Under the direction of Julie Dompierre, the Secretariat will continue to actively support the work of the Historic Sites and Monuments Board of Canada related to the designation of persons, places and events of national historic significance.

The Secretariat will also continue to manage issues related to Heritage Railway Stations and the Gravesites of Canadian Prime Ministers Program

Finally, in the Director General's Office, in keeping with changes at the National Office announced last year by the CEO and our international leadership role, an International Programs Branch led by John Pinkerton has been created.

It will be responsible for developing, implementing and coordinating initiatives related to Parks Canada's international activities in the context of the agency's recently-adopted Strategic Plan for International Programs.

Reflecting the new structure and the new responsibilities that have been assigned to it, the position of Director, National Historic Sites Policy Branch has been confirmed at the PCX-03 level.

I am confident that through the implementation of this new organizational structure, the National Historic Sites Directorate will be well-positioned to assist the agency meet its objectives, and specifically those related to the ongoing renewal of our National Historic Sites program and we look forward to continuing to work with our colleagues in national office, Service Centres and Field Units to make this a reality.

Workers Arts & Heritage Centre

By: Ian Walker

In 2010 the Workers Arts & Heritage Centre will celebrate its 15th anniversary along side the 150th anniversary of the historic Custom House in which the centre operates. We will be commemorating this once in a lifetime occasion with special, never before available tours of the building focusing on its many lives. On September 11th 2010 we will be hosting a major celebration at WAHC. For

more information please contact us at wahc@wahc-museum.ca. New and exciting projects for this year include:

The continuation of our Labour Lounge series, a new program designed to engage new audiences who may otherwise not be represented in traditional labour discourses, including but not limited to youth, the creative classes, those from marginalized or under serviced communities, students and academics, even the unemployed. The Labour Lounge is dedicated to multi-disciplinary arts practice and recognizes the importance of



creative production and engagement as a strategy for empowerment, education, outreach and research.

The Labour History Team is a new outreach program aimed to help document union locals history, stories, and legacy. By proving consultation and guidance the Team strives to prevent the loss of workers history by preserving it for generations to come.

The Main Gallery continues to offer shows from Canadian labour artists from across the country. Three shows run each year for four months at a time.

The Rare Designation of *Chapel Royal*

By: Sheryl Smith,
Aboriginal Affairs Advisor, Ontario Service
Centre, Parks Canada

The November 2009 edition of *Site Lines* featured an article about the 225th anniversary of St. Paul's, the Mohawk Chapel Royal at the Six Nations of the Grand River Territory, which was designated as a national historic site in 1981. Built in 1785, it is the oldest surviving church in Ontario. In the article it was noted that St. Paul's is the "...only Royal Chapel in North America". For the record, a reader associated with Christ Church at the Tyendinaga Mohawk Territory in Eastern Ontario has written to the editors of *Site Lines* with a correction.

There are actually TWO of these prestigious designations in North America – in fact, both are right here in Ontario! Both sites have links to the establishment of the Mohawk Peoples in Ontario following the American Revolution. They are symbols of the centuries-old alliance between the British Crown and the Mohawk people, and also symbols of their historic and ongoing contributions to Canada.

Christ Church, Her Majesty's Chapel Royal of the Mohawk, was designated as nationally significant in 1995 and was the recipient of funding, under Parks Canada's Cost Sharing Program, to restore physical elements of the building and to improve its presentation to the public. Following a request sent jointly from both Chief R. Donald Maracle at Tyendinaga and Chief Roberta Jamieson at Six Nations, Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II elevated both churches to the official status of "Chapel Royal" in 2004 (a Chapel Royal originally referred to the priests and singers who served

In 1810 a Loyalist visionary decided to build a gristmill, but not just any old wooden gristmill, a three-and-a-half storey stone gristmill that would use the most modern milling technology. He built it not in York or in Kingston, but in the tiny southeastern Ontario backwoods settlement of Delta (then known as Stevenstown), where another Loyalist visionary had settled only fifteen years earlier.

200 years later, that visionary's stone gristmill is still a landmark in Delta. Although farmers no longer bring their wheat to the mill, hitch their horses in the drive shed or discuss the latest news with the miller, this magnificent



the monarch's spiritual needs, but now refers to the places used for worship). A moving ceremony at the Mohawk territory of Tyendinaga in 2005 saw the unveiling of the Historic Sites and Monuments Board

plaque to Christ Church. The plaque was one of the first in Canada to display the First Nations language at the left, in addition to English and French. We apologize for any confusion generated by the earlier article.

We're 200!

By: Natalie Wood

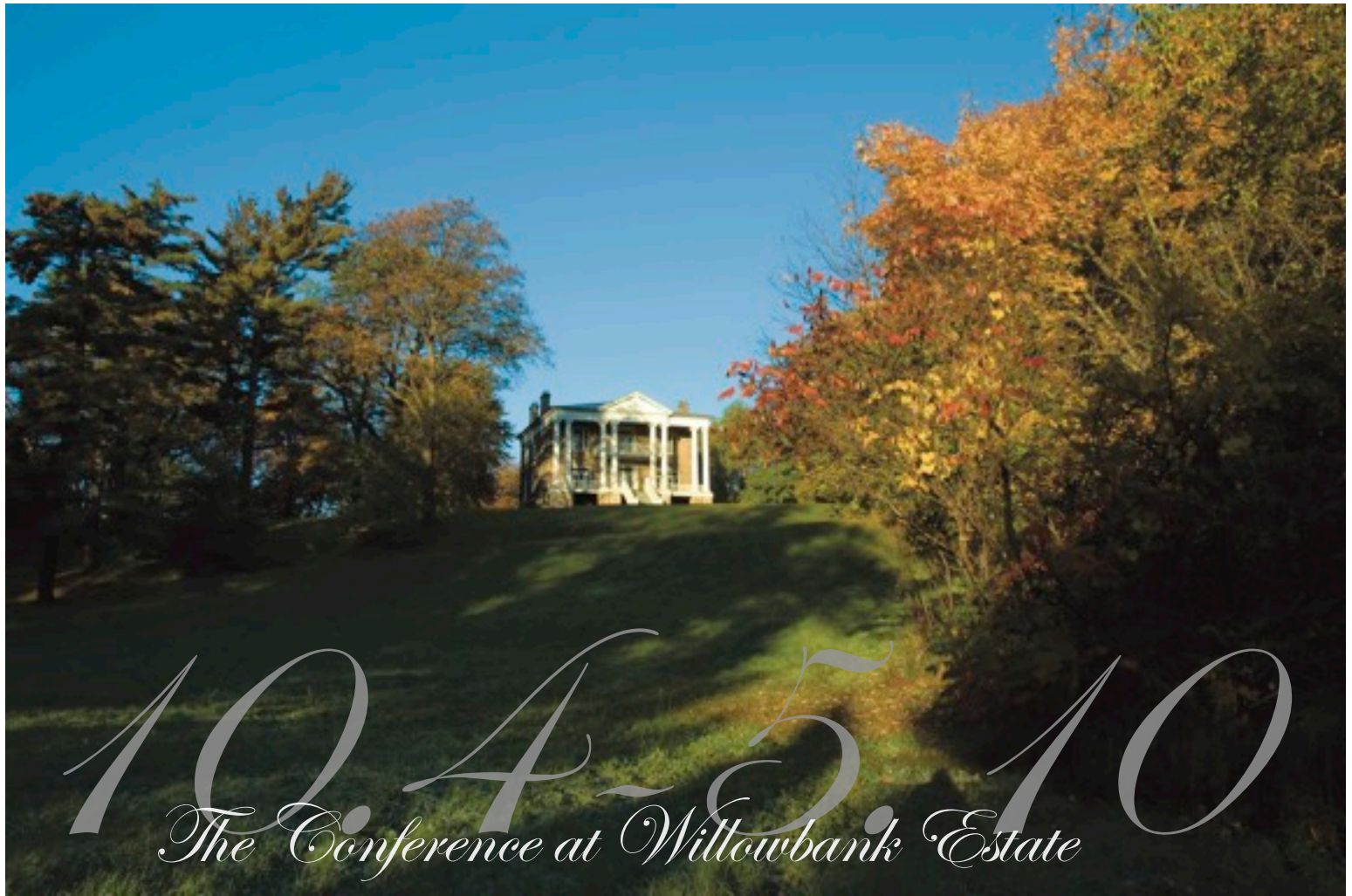
stone structure continues to welcome visitors from near and far.

The Old Stone Mill was declared a National Historic Site in 1973, ten years after the last mill owner deeded the building to a group of trustees. Between 1999 and 2004, the aging mill underwent a 1.3 million dollar restoration. Since that time, new exhibitions have been installed telling the story of the early visionaries who established the mill as

well as that of the milling technology used between 1810 and 1963.

This year marks the 200th anniversary of the Old Stone Mill National Historic Site. To honour the occasion, the Delta Mill Society is hosting a celebration on June 5th, 2010, which will feature a full day of entertainment and activities for the entire family. Event details can be found at www.deltamill.org. Please plan on joining us as we celebrate the mill's history, legacy and future!





“A Day in the Life of the Miller’s Children”

By: Ellin O’Connell

The Sir Johnson House in Williamstown, a Category 1 National Historic Site, has a Committee of volunteers who rent part of the building from Parks Canada and host a variety of events every year on the site. One of the most imaginative (and enjoyable) is “A day in the life of the Miller’s Children, Spring 1790.”

This project is organized jointly with the Nor’Westers and Loyalists Museum, also located in Williamstown. The purpose is to demonstrate for Grade 7 students just what life was like for their ancestors in one of the earliest settlements (1784) of Upper Canada. There are up to twelve exhibition sites on the Museum and the Johnson House grounds for students to visit, observe, and , in some cases, participate. They include food and cooking techniques of the period (bannock, venison, and fish), religion and education, clothing and weaving, games and leisure, shelter, chores, etc.



The students (usually up to 50) move from exhibit to exhibit in small numbers. They are “at it” for four to five hours, with a lunch break followed by a tug-of-war, a traditional sport in Glengarry still pursued at the Glengarry Highland Games in nearby Maxville every summer between historic highland regiments. An added benefit and very popular attraction is the presence of two enactors from the King’s Royal Regiment of New York (Sir John Johnson’s regiment whose members were largely settled in Glengarry in the 1780’s under his auspices) who put the boys and girls through some eighteenth century drills.

This event is especially rewarding for the volunteers, who get to demonstrate their crafts in idyllic settings to students still eager to learn. The interplay between teachers and students is both warm and lively - a nice balance between fun and learning.

A Warm Welcome to Minister Michael Chan as he was appointed Minister for the newly amalgamated Ministry of Tourism and Culture. For the past 6 years, the Ministry of Tourism and Culture has held a strong partnership with the NHSAO.



Kingston Dry Dock NHS

By: Ann Blake



The dry dock at the former Kingston Shipyards is undergoing a major facelift this winter, as the crumbling walls of its 1929 concrete extension are pulled down and replaced.

The first stone of the original stepped limestone dry dock was laid by Sir John A. Macdonald in 1890. The dock was designed and built by celebrated civil engineer Henry Perley, and while leased for many years to private companies such as Canada Steamship Lines, remains the property of Public Works and Government Services Canada.

The Dry Dock and Engine House of the Shipyards building were designated as a National Historic Site in 1978. The former Shipyards building has served as the home of the Marine Museum of the Great Lakes at Kingston since 1974, and the Dry Dock has served as the berth of the Museum Ship Alexander Henry since 2007.

The ship will be dry docked throughout the duration of the reconstruction project, providing Kingstonians with a rare opportunity to gain a glimpse of the City's former life as a centre of maritime commerce and shipbuilding on the Great Lakes.

Billy Bishop Home and Museum NHS

By: Mary Smith



Billy Bishop Home and Museum National Historic Site has undergone many upgrades while still retaining its heritage significance.

In 2002, the 1920 knob-and-tube electrical wiring was replaced, keeping original fixtures and switches. To allow the first floor to be accessible to everyone, in 2006 an elevator was installed in the back portion of the home. This also allowed us to create education space and an accessible washroom.

In 2007, a new sign for the National Historic Site was designed and installed on the front lawn. To create environmentally controlled storage areas and galleries for the significant and valuable artifacts in our care, we installed forced air HVAC Units with dehumidifier and humidifier components in 2008.

Just in time for the 125th Anniversary of the boyhood home of Billy Bishop, the original 1884 hardwood floors were restored. Our National Historic Site is located in the City of Owen Sound, two hours northwest from Toronto. Step back into the late 19th and early 20th century as you view original Victorian furnishings, architecture, antiques and personal possessions of Billy Bishop and his family. Enjoy the grounds and flower beds of Billy's boyhood home.

Billings Estate NHS

By: Emma Jackson



Visitors were invited to join in the Easter egg-citement at Billings Estate National Historic Site on April 3. Easter egg hunts, egg dyeing, crafts and chocolate making offered locals and tourists alike the chance to enjoy spring's first blooms around the 8-acre estate. From 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., the entire family explored the estate and experienced traditional Easter celebrations.

The museum is located at 2100 Cabot St in Ottawa, near Riverside Dr and Pleasant Park Ave. Braddish and Lamira Billings moved to the area in the early 1800s and solidified their fortune by supplying timber, food and other goods to Bytown's Rideau Canal project. They built their stately home overlooking the Rideau River in 1828, and were among the first settlers to call Gloucester Township their home. Five generations of children and descendants lived in Ottawa's oldest wood-framed home until 1975, when the city of Ottawa acquired the property and began to turn it into a museum. Today, visitors can enjoy eight acres of parkland, which includes Ottawa's oldest cemetery.

The museum opens officially for the summer season on May 9 with a Victorian-style Mother's Day tea service and fashion show. Visitors can visit Ottawa.ca/museums or call 613-247-4830 for more information about the museum's Easter and Mother's Day events.



Ann Baillie Building NHS

By: Paul Robertson

The most tangible evidence of Kingston General Hospital's former role in nursing education is the Ann Baillie Building, home to the Museum of Health Care since 1995.

Designed by Kingston architect William Newlands and known as the Nurses' Home, the hospital erected the residence in 1903-4 as the first permanent accommodation for nursing students. Intended to house 26 nurses, it replaced earlier accommodations in the hospital itself, close to the wards and possible contagion from patients.

The Nurses' Home is situated facing Lake Ontario rather than the street, thus affording what must have been a sweeping view of the water. This impressive beaux-arts-style limestone building with its commanding columned portico and high ceilings was meant to attract respectable, unmarried young women to nursing and to assure parents that their daughters would be adequately supervised.

Within a few years the nursing school had outgrown the residence. To overcome this space shortage, in 1927-8 the hospital constructed a new 150-bed wing beside the original 1904 building. In 1942 the 1920s wing was renamed the Ann Baillie Residence in memory of the much loved nursing school superintendent (1924-42) and member of the 1910 class.

After the hospital demolished the 1928 Ann Baillie Residence wing in 1992, the Ann Baillie name was applied to the original 1904 Nurses' Home. Designated a National Historic Site in 1998, the Ann Baillie Building continues as a symbol of the nursing profession's struggles for recognition and nurses' contribution to health care in the community and hospital.



Adelaide Hoodless NHS

By: Catherine Stevenson

On a cold Saturday, 100 years ago, a well-known woman hastened through Toronto's Union Station. Although not feeling well, she carried herself in a stately manner, which bespoke her affluence.

She had been invited to speak at St. Margaret's ladies college. She was regarded as an expert in the field of domestic science, and as an excellent public speaker. However, shortly after she began, she put her hand to her head, then crumpled to the floor. Adelaide Hoodless had died on the eve of her 53rd birthday.

Amazingly, Adelaide had started her public life only twenty years earlier. Haunted by the death of her child, she began work that would evolve into a multi-faceted campaign to give women what they needed to safeguard their families.

Remarkably, all of the institutions that she had a part in founding are still at work today. Moreover, the issue that provoked her entry into public life, the dangers of drinking unpasteurized milk, is at the centre of the public's attention again. Yet, in many circles, Adelaide is unknown.

In other circles, however, Adelaide is commemorated in profound ways. There is a rose named after her, and that rose is planted throughout the 'Hoodless Garden', which is nestled within three walls of the MacDonald Institute in Guelph. Also in the Hoodless Garden is a sculpture of Adelaide by Jan Noestheden, which he designed to be 'larger than life' and to 'cast a shadow', because those are ways that Adelaide could be described.

One hundred years after the death of Adelaide Hunter Hoodless, her commemoration does not exist in quantity, but it does exist in quality. Women around the world know her name, and through the organizations she founded, people are cared for, those who work in the home are respected and women have increased mutual support.



Mnjikaning Fish Weirs NHS

By: Marlene Norris-Robinson

“Mnjikaning Fish Fence Circle, a not-for-profit organization that seeks to protect and present the importance of the site and the sacredness it represents.”

The Mnjikaning Fish Weirs National Historic Site is an underwater site of wooden stakes driven into the bed of the Atherley Narrows between Lakes Simcoe and Couchiching in Central Ontario. This sacred site was in use from about 3300 BC until the recent past. From the known history of the area, it is believed that the weirs were used by the Algonkian/Anishinaabe people for a long time, then the Wendat (Huron) for about 200 years and then possibly the Iroquois from about 1650 to 1690. From 1690 to current times, the Anishinaabeg have been stewards of the site.

The spirits of people, water, animals, birds and fish all come together in respect and gratitude of Mnjikaning. Oral traditions of the Anishinaabe people tell that the weirs were used during the spring, when the water was high and walleye, perch and other fish were spawning. Large numbers of people would gather at the site to fish. Small fish would escape through gaps in the stakes and spawning females would be released to ensure there would be enough for the future. In the fall, the people would return to repair and rebuild the weirs before the next season's fishing. Oral traditions say that everyone was welcome to come together and fish there, that no warfare or animosity was allowed. It was a place of peace and plenty where all worked together to gather the fish.

The site falls under the jurisdiction of the Trent-Severn Waterway of Parks Canada. It was declared provincially significant in 1965 and nationally significant in 1982. The elders of nearby Rama First Nation provide spiritual guidance and ceremony as needed, as do other Anishinaabe people of today. The Wendat also have renewed their ties to the area.

Canadian Subsidy directory (2009 EDITION)

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The new Subsidy Directory 2009 is now available, newly revised it is the most complete and affordable reference for anyone looking for financing. It is the perfect tool for new and existing businesses, individuals, foundations and associations.

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NHSAO Steering Committee Members:

Alexandra Badzak, Executive Director
613.839.0007, ext. 222 | director@diefenbunker.ca

Scott Davidson, Bethune Memorial House NHS, Gravenhurst
705.687.4261, ext. 26 | scott.davidson@pc.gc.ca

Kevin Fox, Cultural Resource Management Advisor
613.359.5377 | kevin.fox@pc.gc.ca

Sally Gibson, The Distillery District Historic, Toronto
416.364.1177 | sg@thedistillerydistrict.com

John Grenville, Bellevue House NHS, Kingston
613.545.8666, ext. 102 | john.grenville@pc.gc.ca

Marilynn Havelka, Ruthven NHS, Cayuga
905.772.0560 | mhavelka.ruthven@sympatico.ca

Ellen Kowalchuk, Ontario Realty Corporation, Toronto
416.212.1096 | ellen.kowalchuk@ontariorealty.ca

Brian Malcolm, Parkwood NHS, Oshawa
905.433.4311 | brian.malcolm@parkwoodestate.com

Dr. John McIntyre, Sharon Temple NHS, Sharon
905.478.2389 | john.mcintyre@sharontemple.ca

Carla Morse, Ontario Service Center, Parks Canada, Cornwall
613.938.5926 | carla.morse@pc.gc.ca

Daniel O'Brien, Ministry of Tourism and Culture, Toronto
416.314.7160 | daniel.obrien@ontario.ca

Shannon Prince, Buxton National Historic Site & Museum, Buxton
519.352.4799 | buxton@ciaccess.com

Michael Sawchuck, Ontario Heritage Trust, Toronto
416.314.3586 | michael.sawchuck@heritagetrust.on.ca

Sheryl Smith, Ontario Service Centre, Parks Canada, Peterborough
705.750.4936 | sheryl.smith@pc.gc.ca

Let us know what you think!

The National Historic Sites Alliance for Ontario promotes the commemorative integrity and value of National Historic Sites through cooperative action by site owners, managers, and stakeholders.

Your thoughts and observations are important to us, and we are collectively striving to improve communications among National Historic Sites and heritage-related governments. Comments and inquiries can be sent to:

NHSAO Student Coordinator
400 University Ave., 4th Floor
Toronto, ON
M7A 2R9

t: 416.212.3197 f: 416.314.7175

nhsao@ontario.ca