



The Quebec Anglophone Heritage Network presents:

Heritage Talks Online 2021

Heritage Talks Online is a speaker series presented by the Quebec Anglophone Heritage Network and it is open to all members of the community.

Join us as we virtually find Quebec's "Difference Makers" - the individuals, community organizations and cultural groups that have had a lasting impact on Quebec's history and heritage.

Watch for announcements and updates on QAHN's Facebook, website and Heritage Line. Presentations are in English and all events can be streamed live on **QAHN's Facebook page**

<https://www.facebook.com/qahnheritagetalks>

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Crystal Gazing: Building Exhibition Spaces in Montreal, 1855-1882

By Rod Macleod

Thursday, February 11th 2021
7:00-8:00 p.m.

In 1874, Samuel Butler famously disparaged Montreal as a cultural backwater because he found a classical statue locked in a closet in the Natural History museum. In fact, the city was in the midst of a multi-front campaign to establish permanent venues for public collections of fine art, natural history, and industrial design, as well as for musical performances. These forces crystallized (pun intended) in the infamous Crystal Palace, site of the 1860 provincial exhibition and focus of much political controversy. Often dismissed as a white elephant and architectural disappointment, the Crystal Palace project enabled such key Victorian personalities as John William Dawson, Brown Chamberlin, James Ferrier, Francis Fulford, Benaiah Gibb, and Henry Bulmer to set Montreal on its course as a cultural capital and to position St. Catherine Street as the city's cultural heart.

Rod MacLeod is the current editor of the *Quebec Heritage News*. He has written extensively on the history of Montreal, particularly its cultural and educational institutions. He co-edited *Montreal: the History of a North American City* (McGill-Queen's University Press, 2018) and is completing *High Ground: Mount Royal and the Rise of Anglo-Protestant Montreal, 1816-1884*.



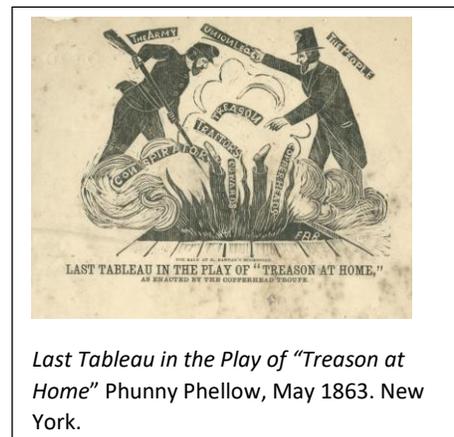
London Illustrated News, 1860

Mr. Allbee Comes to Canada

By Grant Myers

Tuesday, February 16th 2021
7:00-8:00 p.m.

When Eleazer Allbee of Rockingham, Vermont died in Stanstead, Quebec in 1864, he left an enigmatic epitaph that spoke of exile and bitter disappointment in the country of his birth. This talk will explore what we know about Mr. Allbee's life and his reasons for coming to Canada during one of the most tumultuous periods in American history.



Last Tableau in the Play of "Treason at Home" Phunny Phellow, May 1863. New York.

Grant Myers received his academic training in anthropology and archaeology at Carleton University and the University of British Columbia. He now serves as the President of QAHN and is a manager with CEDEC (Community Economic Development and Employability Corporation). His interests include social history, ethnohistory, experimental archaeology, folklore, writing, wilderness canoeing, and mountaineering. Grant lives in Austin, Quebec.

Colonization efforts of the 20th century: Lawrence Colony revisited

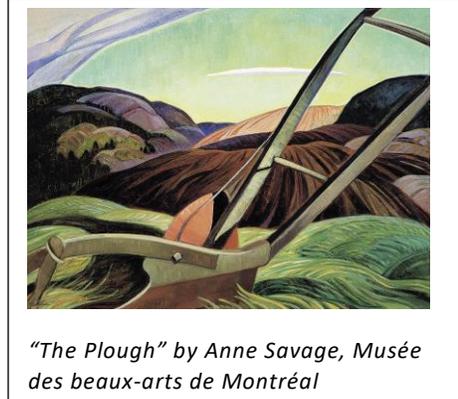
By Jody Robinson

Sunday, February 21st 2021

1:00-2:00 p.m.

As a result of the economic hardship of the Great Depression, there was a back-to-the-land movement in Canada that advocated for the settlement of impoverished people onto tracts of land with the view that they would be able to become self-sufficient, much like the settlers of the 19th century. Within this context, the Eastern Townships Protestant Colonization Association was established in 1935, in conjunction with the government and the Anglican Church. The Association's primary area of operation was to place needy families on previously unsettled lots in Newport Township. Initially referred to as Newport Colony, it became Lawrence Colony in 1937. By 1940, 45 families had been settled in the Colony but after a honeymoon period of sorts in the 1940s, the administration of support efforts, land titles, and taxes was fraught with confusion, inefficiency, and disappointment.

Jody Robinson has always been interested in the history of the Eastern Townships. She has a Master's in History from the Université de Sherbrooke. In 2006, she was hired as the archivist for the Eastern Townships Resource Centre, an organization committed to the preservation of the heritage of the Eastern Townships. For over a decade, Jody has worked with a number of heritage organizations in the Eastern Townships on a variety of projects.



The Morrin Centre: Highlighting Historic Spaces to Create a Dynamic Community Space

By Barry McCullough

Thursday, February 25th 2021

7:00-8:00pm

The building known today as the Morrin Centre was completed in 1812 as the Quebec Common Gaol. After the closure of the prison in 1867, the building was reconfigured to house Morrin College. After the college closed in 1902, the building sat largely vacant and neglected for the better part of a century. A major restoration project took place from 2004 to 2012, an initiative made possible through a mix of private and public funding, with contributions from all three levels of government. Driven by community members, the spark was there to create a multi-faceted cultural centre for the region's English-speaking community.



Barry McCullough is the Executive Director of the Morrin Centre. He is originally from the Fredericton, New Brunswick area. He has over a decade's experience working with linguistic minority communities in Canada, including with Francophone communities in Alberta. Barry has been with the Morrin Centre for over 10 years.

Women of the Pontiac

By Tina Therien

Thursday, March 11th 2021

7:00-8:00 p.m.

Wakefield's Fairbairn House Heritage Centre is please to share its latest exhibition, *Notable Women of the Outaouais*, which celebrates the remarkable lives and accomplishments of four women from the Pontiac. This talk highlights the variety of ways these women altered the social and physical landscape of the area. They poured their energy into worthwhile community ventures that have had lasting results. Despite sometimes harsh conditions, in métiers that weren't necessarily congenial to women, they overcame seemingly insurmountable obstacles with integrity and passion. They lived extraordinary lives, although they may not have labelled them as such.

Tina Therien is an occasional writer and full-time timber framer who lives on a small homestead in rural Quebec. Co-author of two books on natural building, Tina also writes a monthly article about country living for the newspaper "The Low Down to Hull and Back News." She counts herself lucky to gather stories from her local elders. She was honoured to take part in the 'Notable Women' series through Fairbairn House.



Abbie Pritchard's Cooking Class, McGill University Archives, 1908, PA028604

Meet Your Irish Neighbours: Irish-Quebecers who made a Difference

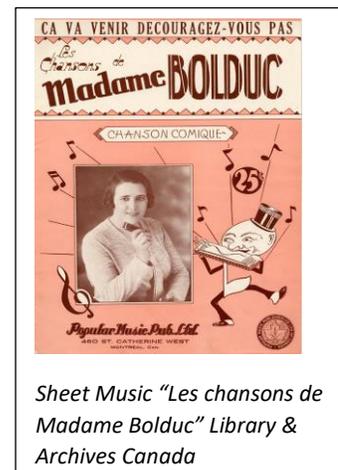
By Fergus Keyes

Tuesday, March 16th 2021

7:00-8:00 p.m.

Quebec's Irish heritage is strong. Innumerable individuals have made significant contributions to Quebec's society, and in particular in the cities of Montreal and Quebec. These individuals were either born in Ireland or had deep Irish roots. Some are well-known, while others have been almost lost to history. You will likely be surprised at how many Irish can be found in all areas of Quebec's history including politics, medicine and in the arts.

Fergus Keyes was born and raised in Montreal and loves his 100% Irish heritage. Retiring after a successful career in senior management positions in the Canadian private security industry, he earned a degree as a Chartered Director with a speciality in board and governance issues. Fergus has served on a number of non-profit boards and is currently the secretary of the board for Alzheimer's Montreal and a board member for the Quebec Anglophone Heritage Network. He is also enthusiastically involved in the efforts of the Montreal Irish Monument Park Foundation to build a memorial space around the Black Rock.



Sheet Music "Les chansons de Madame Bolduc" Library & Archives Canada

Power and Politics: Quebec City's Jewish contributions

By Simon Jacobs

Sunday March 21st, 2021

1:00-2:00 p.m.

In 1832, Quebec's elected officials enacted a law giving Jews their civil and political rights. This legislation allowed Jews to participate as equals in society. Sigismund Mohr and Maurice Pollack are two key historical figures who took their rightful place in Quebec. Mohr remains a little-known character in Quebec's history, but this technological pioneer established the first commercial hydroelectric plant. Pollack was a successful merchant who operated a large retail company and he was one of Quebec's major philanthropists; his name and generosity is still well known through the Maurice Pollack Foundation.

Simon Jacobs created and directed Shalom Quebec, an exhibition on the Jewish history of Quebec City, from 2005-2009 and was the general director for the Literary and Historical Society of Quebec/Morrin Centre from 2009-2012. He is past president of the Quebec Anglophone Heritage Network, involved in the preservation and dissemination of Anglophone heritage throughout the province. He has written articles for Life in Quebec magazine, the Quebec Chronicle Telegraph and has coedited a book on the Jewish history of Quebec City, published in April 2015.



Not as crazy as you'd think: Canada's Fenian scare and Thomas D'Arcy McGee

By Keith Henderson

Tuesday March 23rd 2021

7:00-8:00 p.m.

This year (2021) marks the sesquicentennial of the last Fenian raid on Canada, which took place in Emerson, Manitoba in October of 1871. Fenian leader John O'Neill hoped for Métis support for his efforts to split British North America (and ultimately Ireland) from Imperial rule, but he failed, just as previous, more dangerous Fenian incursions in 1866 and 1870 failed. Why should we take these Irish American marauders seriously? Because Thomas D'Arcy McGee did. He sensed the power and the danger of ethnocentric movements, particularly those fueled by grievance, and did his utmost to counteract them. From the mid-nineteenth century on, McGee bridled at Irish separatism and championed Confederation. His pro-union views come into stark relief in these days of referendums and potential break-ups, in Spain, Great Britain, and here at home.

Keith Henderson is a novelist and publisher. He led Quebec's Equality Party during the 1995 referendum and championed English language rights and the "poison pill" strategy of partitioning Quebec if ever Quebec partitioned Canada; positions covered in full length articles in the *Los Angeles* and *New York Times* as well as on *CBS 60 Minutes*.

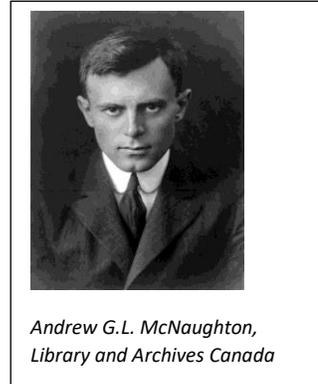


The Man Behind the Curtain: Andrew McNaughton and the First World War

By Caitlin Bailey

Thursday April 8th 2021
7:00pm-8:00pm

A Quebecker by choice, Andrew McNaughton was a professor of engineering at McGill University when the First World War broke out in 1914. McNaughton joined the artillery and rose through the ranks to become the Counter Battery Staff Officer of the Canadian Corps in February 1917. McNaughton used his skills and knowledge as an engineer to develop one of the Canadian Corps most pivotal technological achievements—the use of counter battery attack. McNaughton is credited with being one of the best and most knowledgeable artillery officers of the Great War, but he is little known outside of specialist military circles.



Caitlin Bailey is an accomplished non-profit leader and public history professional and is the Executive Director of two successful heritage non-profits: the Vimy Foundation and the Canadian Centre for the Great War. She is committed to highlighting the role of Canada's history in public life and its contribution to maintaining a civil society. A graduate of the University of Calgary and McGill, Caitlin holds degrees in Russian Literature and Library and Information Sciences. She is a member of the Banff Forum and a Director of the Toronto Ward Museum.

WWII Intrigue and Romance in Gaspesia

By Sandi Beebe

Sunday, April 18th 2021
1:00-2:00pm

The stranger in hotel room eleven turned out to be a spy. This presentation will give an account of Werner von Janowski and what happened after he arrived in New Carlisle that moonlit evening of November 1942. Around the same time, eighteen-year-old Marion Nelson, from her home town of Surrey B.C., impulsively joined the air force because she found the uniform attractive. She was soon to meet young pilot Gérard Poirier from New Carlisle, Quebec. The romance is about to unfold.



Sandi Beebe is a retired teacher who has been involved with Heritage New Carlisle for fifteen years. After living and working in Montreal for thirty years, she moved back to New Carlisle in 1998, uncertain how long she would be staying. She wanted to be close to family and it was time for a change; she is still living there! Apart from her love of heritage, she is a volunteer with the New Carlisle local summer market and is a founding member of the New Carlisle Book Club. She loves music, dancing, walking and discussion.

After the fire – A community rebuilds its bridge!

By Neil Faulkner and Joan Garnett

Sunday April 25th 2021

1:00-2:00 p.m.

Communities love their bridges, both metaphorically and as an important partner in their lives. Wakefield's wooden covered bridge had linked the two sides of the Gatineau River for 70 years. This provincial highway bridge was a victim of arson and all that remained were the blackened timbers and cement piers. The community mobilized to rebuild its beloved bridge, if only as a walking bridge. This is the story of how a small community rallied and in 10 years, rebuilt their covered bridge.



Neil Faulkner was educated in England and studied science at McGill University. He joined the Federal Public Service serving first in the Canadian Arctic, and subsequently, in work relating to indigenous peoples, northern social, economic and political development, indigenous health, and the settlement of comprehensive land claims. A resident of Wakefield since 1988, he has been involved in community planning and other village organizations including the re-construction of the Gendron Bridge now called the Wakefield Covered Bridge from 1993-1998.

Joan Garnett witnessed the burning of the Gendron Bridge from her home and as a consequence, was inspired to work closely with her friends the late Norma Walmsley and the late Anita Rutledge on the committee to rebuild the bridge. Joan created and sold certificates as part of the fundraising efforts. "I was a riverside supervisor when the new Wakefield Covered Bridge "re-a-piered!"

Why do archives matter?

By Nancy Marrelli

Thursday, May 6th 2021

7:00 – 8:00 p.m.

"Of all national assets, archives are the most precious, they are the gifts of one generation to another, and the extent of our care of them marks the extent of our civilisation." Sir Arthur Doughty, Head of Public Archives of Canada, 1904-1935



Archives tell the tale of the past. They acquire, organize and make accessible the documentary heritage that tells the stories of people, institutions, and events so they can be revisited and examined by future generations. Archives also play an important role in democratic society, helping to keep governments accountable. Community Archives like the Italian-Canadian Archives of Quebec strive to document and make available the history of important and often neglected parts of our society. The history of the communities comes alive through the very diverse stories of the people, organizations, and institutions that grew out of the communities they document. These archives preserve the grass roots history that is so vital to a full understanding of who we are and what we have done.

Nancy Marrelli is an archivist, writer, and publisher. She is Archivist Emerita at Concordia University, co-publisher of Montreal's Véhicule Press, and she is Director of the fledgling Italian-Canadian Archives of Quebec at the Casa d'Italia.

Mifflin Wistar Gibbs: A Father of Confederation

By Dr. Dorothy Williams

May 11th 2021

7:00-8:00 p.m.

Mifflin Wistar Gibbs was a pioneer in British Columbia; some would say he was “A Father of Confederation.” This African-American played a pivotal role in making sure that the American flag never flew over British Columbia. By all accounts, Gibbs was wealthy and his means allowed him to wield power and influence in early Victoria. Unlike many of British Columbia’s colonists who favoured annexation to the United States to the south, Gibbs advocated that the colony join the new Canadian Dominion to the east. In 1868, when the time came to vote at the Yale Convention, it was Mifflin Wistar Gibbs that turned the tide of the convention and BC joined Confederation.



Dr. Dorothy W. Williams is an award-winning author who specializes in Canadian Black history. Her company *blacbiblio.com Inc* promotes African-Canadian history and heritage using *The ABC's of Canadian Black History Kit*.

Textile stories: the Bruck Mills and its legacy

By Suzanne Morin

May 20th 2021

7:00-8:00 p.m.

Few people know that the first yard of silk woven in Canada was produced in 1922 by the Bruck Silk Mills of Cowansville, Quebec, as well as the first Canadian flag in 1964. Once a leader in Canada’s textile industry, the Bruck Mills sparked a demographic boom in Cowansville and brought economic growth to the Eastern Townships. In view of the upcoming 100th anniversary of the mill, the Bruck Museum is planning an exhibition about its textile heritage. Stories will be told about the Bruck Mills, its founders and several generations of workers who witnessed its golden age and its decline.



Suzanne Morin is the executive director of the Bruck Museum in Cowansville since May 2015. She previously held the positions of creative director at *Canadian Geographic Enterprises* in Ottawa, and in New York City, as the art director of *Audubon* (the magazine of *The National Audubon Society*) and as a senior designer for *Pentagram*, an international design firm. She was also a design consultant for the *American Museum of Natural History*, the *Montreal Museum of Fine Arts* and *Canada Post*.

Fire and Ice Cream: Unpacking the 1819 Burning of a Montreal Confectionery

Thursday June 3rd 2021
7:00-8:00 p.m.

By Elena Cerrolaza

Jean-Baptiste Girard and Sarah Moses, recent immigrants to Montreal from New England, owned a confectioner's shop on Notre Dame Street where they sold ice cream and other delicacies and catered private events. Girard, formerly a Napoleonic soldier, was on business in St. Genevieve on October 27, 1819, when the shop burned to the ground, the sparks even causing damage to a bookshop across the street. Newspaper coverage criticized the disorganized response of the firemen, but did not mention the possibly shady involvement of Paul Kauntz (a rival confectioner) and John Burns (Girard's troublesome brother-in-law) in the events surrounding the fire. This incident sheds intriguing light on early 19th century social relations and family strategies for survival in changing times.



Elena Cerrolaza teaches Art History and Humanities at Montreal's Marianopolis College. Her interest in the history of fencing led to extensive research into the checkered career of Jean-Baptiste Girard – soldier, adventurer, fencing instructor, umbrella maker, circus performer, bailiff, and confectioner – and Sarah Moses, who escaped an abusive first marriage to become the matriarch of several important Quebec families.

Our Mission

The Quebec Anglophone Heritage Network (QAHN) is a non-profit, non-partisan, province-wide organization engaged with its members in the preservation and promotion of the history, heritage and culture of Quebec -- and, in particular, of Quebec's English-speaking communities. QAHN strives to advance the knowledge of the history, heritage and culture of those communities by informing, inspiring and connecting people through its activities and services.

Membership in QAHN is open to individuals, families and organizations, regardless of linguistic or cultural affiliation. Currently over 100 museums, historical societies and other heritage, cultural or community organizations across the province hold institutional membership in QAHN.

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