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Read any good books lately?

Most of us turn to subjects that already interest us

It's a tricky question, of course – even a trick question. A classic ice-breaker, it is nevertheless best used among good friends as a way of lightening an intense moment, such as filling a slight pause after a couple of hours of stimulating conversation, or when trapped on a tiny desert island with the tide coming in. The question should only be asked un-facetiously when you're really stuck for something to read and the person you ask can be expected to come up with a book you're likely to like. Unless the person is a book reviewer and you want to know of their recent experiences, the same as I always ask a friend who is an insurance adjuster whether he's been in any interesting homes lately... Well, I'm not a book reviewer – but this is my space, so I'll say what I like and at the very least you'll learn something about me: in the end we are, of course, what we read.

Nothing is more idiosyncratic than our taste in non-fiction; most of us turn to subjects that already interest us. My own shelves contain a large number of books on cities, with titles that will strike you as either intriguing or boringly obvious, depending on your point of view: *Fin-de-Siècle Vienna*, *The Autumn of Central Paris*, *Rome Before Avignon* (not a double-bill, by the way), and *Making Vancouver*. Prized among these is *The Art and Architecture of London* by Ann Saunders, a sweet old lady who told me that nobody knew the history of London better than a couple of sewer workers who experienced it every day - and came to her seminars. I also have a lot of Canadian history books, but much of it falls into the category of stuff you have to get through in order to write the paper. The last work of Canadian history that I bought for the sheer pleasure of reading it is Craig Heron's *Booze* – after which I will never look at the floor of a pub in the same way (and neither will you.)



My favourite book? Hmm. There are several authors whom I turn to for enjoyment regularly: Ruth Rendell and Ian Rankin for detective stories (and not Kathy Reichs or PD James who take too much pleasure in their victims' suffering.) John Le Carré for classic spycraft - and since the Fall of the Wall his stories are even more intriguing and often moving. Kazuo Ishiguru (*Remains of the Day*, for example) for leading me brilliantly down the garden path to sudden truths by means of unreliable, pathetic, and yet somehow noble narrators. Connie Willis for thoughtful science fiction: can there be a wackier time-travel adventure than *To Say Nothing of the Dog*? Willis' *Passage* (about what happens after death) may be the best book I've read in the last few years, although certainly not the easiest: it did not help that I read its last haunting chapters alone in a rented car in the pouring rain on a Nova Scotia beach near my mother's home town (my first visit since her death.) The other contender in this category would be Ian McEwen's *Atonement*, a well-plotted and stunning observation on the power of creative writing. Having school-age children I tend to read a lot of kid-lit. It has been my pleasure as well as my duty to expose both of them to *Charlotte's Web*, the *Chronicles of Narnia*, and *Paddington*. Harry Potter was a new discovery and a challenge for me not to go on reading after our bedtime sessions - I agonized for a whole day over who Harry was going to meet at the end of the obstacle course in *Philosopher's Stone*! My son has even recommended books to me – always a pleasure, but on one occasion my mind was really blown: something called *A Series of Unfortunate Events* proved to be one of the most original things I'd ever read (and, alas, the movie that has just come out looks as if it has entirely missed the point.)

OK, here are the top three. George Orwell's *Homage to Catalonia*: a good history of the Spanish Civil War capped with some real excitement towards the end and the most brilliant final paragraph in literature (coming back from horrific war and noting with shock how nothing at home has changed.) J.D. Sallinger's *Catcher in the Rye*: insight into an agonized adolescence (and who hasn't had one?) Kingsley Amis' *Lucky Jim*, which tells you everything you need to know about university history departments and why it is important to run, not walk, and certainly not take a bus, to catch the girl of your dreams.

– Rod MacLeod

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COMMUNITY VIEWS

Hands Off Mount Pinnacle!

Recent newspaper articles told us of an impending project by Communication Quebec to install an antenna on Mount Pinnacle, another infamous contraption on one of the scenic jewels of the Eastern Townships. We must prevent the defacing of this magnificent component of our landscape.

Mount Pinnacle has a history which is close at heart to all those who lived close to its environment and has always exerted a special attraction. The Abenaki looked upon it as a sacred mountain. On the south slopes, there are various stone structures which were built in immemorial time. What are they?

First, a set of three circular masonry stone structures next to each other, measuring about 4 metres across and a little less than a metre high. A little higher up on the hillside, one comes to a man made terrace with a low retaining stone wall and, close to it, an oval earth mound surrounded with large stones, suggesting an ancient burial site. These structures were obviously built for ancient rituals. By who and when?

At the top of the mountain, in the spring of 1995, I had the opportunity to discover a pictograph and petroglyphs engraved on a cliff. It depicts a serpent-dragon about one metre long and with Runic letters engraved on the body. There is also an engraved stylized oar boat next to it. We have here a typical illustration of a Viking memento as they appear in Scandinavia. Pictures of these petroglyphs were examined by three independent experts with Runes and all confirmed them as such even though they could not decipher the message. However, one expert suggested that the Runes may be Greenlandic, dating around year 1300.

A past Viking presence here should not be dismissed, although the only Viking recognized site in Canada is at Anse aux Meadows in Newfoundland. However, it is very easy to conceive that these intrepid seafarers and explorers sailed up the St. Lawrence River and the Richelieu to arrive at Lake Champlain. From there, seeing the towering Mount Pinnacle, they decided to reach its

summit which, on a clear day, offers a 360° birds'-eye view over a 100 km distance. Could the stone structures mentioned above on the south side of the mountain be of Viking origin? It is quite possible but only archaeological research will answer the question.

If Mount Pinnacle created such a draw in a distant past, it maintained its popularity among the 19th century settlers as evidenced with the numerous engraved initials, some dating back over one hundred years ago.

How to explain this attraction for the mountain? Because it fills the desire of numerous citizens who come for a family outing, to admire the scenic beauty of its environment or, for some, to enjoy an oasis of peace conducive to meditation. On the other hand, for those living around the mountain, they have a right to enjoy looking at its pristine splendour. It is the citizens' right to the environment.

For all of these reasons, HANDS OFF MOUNT PINNACLE! In the eyes of many, it is a sacred mountain. In the early 1990s local citizens deployed countless efforts to preserve this jewel of our natural heritage but now, for the sake of security, the Government intends to put up an antenna defacing the mountain. Remember the 1998 Ice Storm, when the Bouchard's Government and Hydro Quebec, panicking, and without justification, disclaimed the Val St. François citizens by decree, and went ahead with the Hertel-des-Cantons power line which also defaced the great landscape of the Montérégie along Autoroute 10 with the installation of a row of hideous pylons.

We live through a difficult time when our governments keep promoting insecurity in the population with constant reminders about threats of all kinds. It has become a real obsession, an abuse of power, the evil of our time which must be resisted.

We all must strongly oppose this invasion onto Mount Pinnacle and the installation of the proposed antenna.

Gérard Leduc PhD, Potton Heritage Association.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

The editor, QAHN:

I have read the aviation notes in your July, *Quebec Heritage News*, with interest, particularly the piece on the voyage of the R-100 to Montreal.

It may be of interest to note that the author, Nevil Shute, described the construction of this airship in some detail, and his participation in the trip to Montreal, in his autobiography *Slide Rule*. At the time, he worked for Vickers, the manufacturer of the ship. It is interesting to note that the Air Ministry constructed a sister ship, the R-

101, at the same time. It set out for India on its maiden voyage after the return of the R-100.

Unfortunately, the R-101 flight ended in tragedy: it crashed in France in high winds, and burned, with the loss of 48 of the 54 on board. In his book, Nevil Shute goes on to speculate on the reasons for the failure of the R-101. In any event, the loss put an end to the vision of travel by lighter-than-air ships.

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QAHN MATTERS

Music brought news and views to Québécois

Historians share views on our political evolution

By Dwane Wilkin

Leave it to the balladeers to forge a sense of history.

The pop songs of discontent and national pride that helped stir mobs to armed revolt in Lower Canada 166 years ago can still evoke the troubled spirit of the times in ways cold facts cannot.

Noted historian, author and broadcaster Jacques Lacoursière opened a Montreal conference on French and English perspectives in Quebec history last October with a selection of singer Claude Gauthier's contemporary recordings of popular French-Canadian music from the 1830s.

According to Lacoursière, author of a four-volume survey of Quebec history entitled, *Histoire populaire du Québec*, a lot can be learned about the origins of the 1837 Rebellions just by listening to its soundtrack. "If I were teaching this history," Lacoursière said, "I'd get my students to listen to these songs, have them analyze the lyrics."

Taken together, the songs of the 1830s are a compendium of popular grievances, including some directed at patriote leader Louis-Joseph Papineau himself, illustrated in a number titled, *C'est la fête à Papineau*.

Jointly sponsored by the Quebec Anglophone Network and the Fédération des sociétés d'histoire du Québec, the day-long conference brought together leading anglophone and francophone scholars to discuss key repercussions of the 1837-38 Rebellions and subsequent constitutional developments that led to Confederation in 1867.

If the music played fanned the flames of social discord in the 1830s, it did so by spreading into the countryside on the lips of chansonniers. As many presenters noted during the conference, Quebec's illiterate peasantry would have relied on word of mouth for most of their news and views. So what made some rural counties more prone to patriot unrest than others?

According to historian Gilles Laporte, who analysed the geographic distribution of patriote rallies and related stagecraft during the political crisis which led to rebellion, the true causes of unrest likely had more

to do with local rivalries than with racial prejudices.

Among the surprising conclusions Laporte's inquiry yielded was that expressions of patriote political agitation tended not to occur in counties with a high concentration of francophones. In contrast, loyalist displays were more frequent in English-dominated counties.

Laporte, who teaches history at CEGEP du Vieux-Montréal and l'Université du Québec à Montréal, has collected his findings in a new book, *Patriotes et loyaux: une histoire des Rébellions de 1837-38*, scheduled for publication in November 2004.

Sociology professor Stéphane Kelly offered a quick survey of the different schools of thought that have guided Québécois scholars' understanding of Confederation. The historiography reveals five major theories, according to Kelly, including the view that the Confederation's framers intended to create a commercial monarchy in Canada, complete with its own "nobility" of lawyers and judges.

Some who participated in the Oct. 16 conference questioned the popular view that Confederation was a political pact, noting that this interpretation fails to account for the silence of ordinary colonists. Did common folk, French or English, really think of themselves as founding nations?

One member of the audience wryly mused that it's possible the British North America Act was regarded, as the Canadian Constitution is widely held today in Quebec, as an unsatisfactory, but acceptable compromise.

Carleton University professor Bruce Curtis prefaced his remarks during the conference by questioning the "prison of ideology" in which many historians studying French-English relations practise their craft. Too many writers, he said, cast the past in the form of a struggle between opposing views.

"What isn't an object of struggle isn't a subject of inquiry," lamented Curtis, a professor of sociology and anthropology who has written extensively on the history of Canadian education in the 1840s and 1850s. His work, *The politics of Population: State Formation, Statistics and the Census of Canada, 1840-1875*, won the Canadian Historical

HISTORIANS Continued

Association's Sir John A. MacDonald prize in 2002. "Historians," Curtis quipped, "have contributed a great deal to the framing and shaping of the past, so what they write about the past shouldn't be taken as the real story." In Curtis's view, the "heroical" mode of analysis prevents historians from appreciating common points of view among opponents.

For instance, a wealth of insight into early Canadian constitutional development awaits harvesting from the pages of the forgotten Gosford Commission Inquiry Report, but it requires removing ideological filters. The inquiry was set up in 1835 to investigate the crisis in Lower Canada.

Dismissing it as a tool designed to give legitimacy to decisions already made overlooks a remarkable step toward responsible government, Curtis said. It was, after all, the first royal commission of inquiry ever held and its findings were framed to prepare the colony for eventual independence.

In his presentation, Curtis recalled how the Gosford commissioners grappled with the question of representing minority groups equitably. He said that commissioners frankly regarded the ultra-anglophone Montreal Constitutional Association as a threat to British interests at the time because of the group's support for republican-style government. Given that liberal political framers of the 1830s viewed illiterate French Canadian peasants as having no right at all to vote, the very existence of the Gosford report might at

least contribute to a more nuanced understanding of the Two Solitudes.

The emergence of agricultural societies in Quebec and the spread of scientific knowledge in the years following the Act of Union in 1841 furnished posterity with plainer proof of a cultural divide.

Elsbeth Heaman, a McGill University professor who has studied the relationship between authority and science, recalled that French and English agricultural societies evolved separately during the early 19th century. When state funding for agricultural societies and mechanical institutes began in the 1840s, Heaman noted, it was Montreal anglophones who organized Canada's first major exhibitions.

Fairs held at Bonsecours Market broke through language barriers by displaying the fruits of the industrial revolution for all to see – not just English-speakers.

Montreal anglos also led the movement to showcase Canada abroad, organizing exhibitions at the 1851 London International Fair, and at the 1855 Paris Expo, Heaman said. The city's powerful anglophone clique, which included such figures as Peter Redpath, expected the levers of modernity to remain firmly in English hands. But their promotional forays onto the world stage also helped dispel the image of Quebec as a country of illiterate peasants, Heaman pointed out, laying the basis for a pan-Canadian national identity.

Abitibi-Témiscamingue, Matapedia-Restigouche, Bas St-Laurent, and Griffintown-Point St. Charles

Heritage trails: Four new regions added to QAHN travel series

We are pleased to announce the arrival of four new Heritage Trails! These new brochures, the Abitibi-Témiscamingue, Matapedia-Restigouche, Bas St-Laurent, and Griffintown-Point St. Charles Heritage Trails, complete the set of twenty pamphlets from across the province.

All paid members of QAHN for the 2004-2005 membership year will automatically receive their copies of the four new Heritage Trail Brochures.. If you haven't yet renewed your membership for 2004-05, now is the best time! Contact the office at home@qahn.org.

Don't miss out on this great opportunity to acquire these great products, also ensuring continued mailing of the Quebec Heritage News. Additionally, all Core Members will benefit from having their association or society listed on our website, another of the many advantages of belonging to a network.

An individual membership can also be a great gift idea! Six issues of the Quebec Heritage News, 20 Heritage Trails covering the entire province and a priceless link to other heritage enthusiasts - all for only \$20! Let's share our heritage.

A BUSINESS LEADER

Noah Timmins

The Grand Old Man of Canadian mining

The Timmins family was among the many Montreal families who chose to holiday in Ste. Agathe in the early part of the 20th Century. Henry and Noah Timmins, two inseparable brothers who had married two sisters, purchased a part of the farm of Adolphe Marier in 1915, on what was then called Chemin du Roi, but is now Tour du Lac. They were a wealthy mining family whose influence extended to mining regions all over the world, but they had not always been in mining. They had started their lives in the simple northern town of Mattawa, Ontario, in the early 1860s.

Henry and Noah Timmins had inherited a general store in Mattawa from their parents. The community at the confluence of the Mattawa and Ottawa rivers, was predominantly French-speaking and Catholic, and the Timmins family lived in both languages. Their sister, Josephine, had gone to school at the convent of Ste. Anne in Lachine, where she befriended the daughters of Louis Paré, the lockkeeper of the Lachine Canal. By 1878, she had married his son, Dr. Louis Paré, and introduced his sisters to her brothers, leading to the binding of the families through three marriages.

Their mining careers began in September, 1903 when a blacksmith named Fred Larose dropped in to their general store on his way home to Hull. Larose told how he had thrown his hammer at a fox while working alone near Cobalt on the new railroad being built to Haileybury. His hammer struck a rock and knocked the moss off of it. According to the story, Larose saw the telltale blue in the exposed outcropping and recognized evidence of silver. He staked a claim in his own name and that of his employers, the McMartin brothers. Noah wrote to Henry, who was in Montreal, and encouraged Henry to go to Hull and find Larose to try to buy his share of the claim he had staked. Upon arrival, Henry discovered that the town was full of Laroses. He began knocking on doors until, after much persistence, he found the right one. Henry had never met Fred Larose, but was reassured that he had found his man because his kitchen was cluttered with ore samples. After some negotiations, Larose accepted to sell half of his half interest in the stake to the Timmins brothers for \$3500, a very large sum in 1903. In closing this transaction, Henry demonstrated great confidence in his younger brother. He had no knowledge of the stake other than the letter that he had received.

No sooner had they completed the transaction than they discovered it was being contested. There is little documentation about the challenging claim, but the other parties swore under oath that they had made the first discovery. After discussion with the McMartin brothers, they

invited a lawyer named David Dunlap in for 20% if he could beat the challenge. During this period, perhaps partly because of the publicity, the value of the stake rose. When Dunlap finally won his suit, Noah Timmins emerged as the clear leader of the syndicate, and he and Henry returned to Hull where they optioned the other twenty-five percent from Larose for \$25,000. This large amount can be better understood when you consider that the average family income was then about \$650 per year.

Initially there was little silver, and Noah encouraged the syndicate to take the costly risk of sinking a shaft. For almost one hundred feet, the ground only teased them, and then they hit a viable silver vein. To get to this point, the Timmins brothers had thrown everything they owned at the mine. They now had two train-carloads of ore, and with this, Noah went to the bank in Haileybury, hoping to get a \$5000 loan. Dr. W.G. Miller, chief geologist of Ontario, had told him that the ore could be worth as much as \$30,000, but to the bank manager it was just two carloads of rocks. Faced with insolvency, Noah headed off to sell the ore. He returned to Haileybury with a cheque for \$50,000 signed by William Guggenheim of ASARCO (American Smelting and Refining), and, dropping into the bank, he presented it to the manager. "I can't cash a cheque that large! There isn't that much money in the bank!" the manager claimed. Timmins responded, "This is the security I offered you for a \$5000 loan. We won't be troubling you further. We've made arrangements for another bank to come into this country and there will be no objections to taking mining accounts." Soon the Timmins brothers were managing a healthy concern from their new home in Montreal and over the next two decades the Larose Silver Mine produced over twenty-five million ounces of silver.

In the meantime, Josephine and Dr. Louis Paré, who had become Assistant Chief Surgeon for the Royal Northwest Mounted Police, had acquired a ranch in Saskatchewan, then still part of the Northwest Territories. When Josephine died suddenly, her youngest child, Alphonse, was only two. Their eldest daughter soon married and she and her husband moved with Dr. Paré to Whitehorse. Over the next dozen years, young Alphonse grew up on horseback or in a canoe, living sometimes with his sister and sometimes with an uncle on the ranch. He spoke not only French and English, but also learned Cree and Ojibway. His closest friend was Johnny Sauvé, a Cree. His uncle, father and sister felt that he should get a proper education, so after years of home schooling he was sent east to the Royal Military College in Ontario, where he was groomed for the British Cavalry. His horsemanship was excellent as were his survival skills. When he finished,

he was offered a commission in the Cavalry in India, and he took the train to Ottawa to enlist and learn his orders. The train was set to stop in Ottawa in the middle of the night, so Alphonse gave instructions to the porter to wake him in ample time to disembark there, but as fate would have it, the porter forgot. Alphonse woke only as the train was pulling into Windsor Station in Montreal. Furious, he contacted Ottawa letting them know that he had been delayed. The next train did not return until evening.

Alphonse visited with his uncles in Montreal and shared with them his exciting plans, but he quickly learned that his uncles Noah and Henry did not fancy having a nephew who would be sent off to fight for the British in India. Noah offered to underwrite the costs if he would go, instead, to McGill University and become a mining engineer. Living with his uncles and aunts, he became another child in a family that was so close that his cousins, arriving home, would not ask, "Where's Dad?" but rather, "Where are my fathers?"

Upon graduation, Alphonse made an ideal point man for Noah, especially with his knowledge of the bush. He and his friend Johnny Sauvé would go out on regular forays to track rumours of valuable stakes and to examine their potential. They would split up, each taking a canoe and supplies, having agreed ahead of time on rendezvous points. It was during the summer of 1909 that Alphonse arrived at one such spot to find a birch bark note with the words "I Sic" carefully pencilled on it; nothing else. These were healthy, strong men not given to illness, and so Alphonse immediately set out back along Johnny's route. Upon finding him, he was relieved to discover that his friend was suffering from nothing more than excitement. Johnny introduced him to two young fellows who were camping out on a claim they had just staked.

Alex Gillies and Benny Hollinger had uncovered the gold mother lode of Canadian mining. Alphonse later described it: "It was as if a giant cauldron had splattered the gold nuggets over a bed of pure white quartz crystals as a setting for some magnificent crown jewels of inestimable value." He immediately tried to negotiate a deal with Benny Hollinger, a nineteen-year-old prospector who had been grubstaked by the local bartender. Hollinger remained aloof and non-committal, but eventually indicated that Paré would have to negotiate with his manager John McMahan, at the bar in Haileybury. Paré returned to Haileybury and approached McMahan, simultaneously cabling his uncles in Montreal. Noah came immediately to help with the negotiations, and, on the strength of his nephew's information, committed himself to paying the unimaginable price of \$330,000. Initially, the syndicate split over the decision and Noah was faced with

going it alone; even the first banker pulled out, almost torpedoing the deal, since Noah had already committed. Even so, Noah and Alphonse held to their position. They found another banker, and eventually Henry and the other members of the original syndicate joined in.

There is a tradition that a mine bears the name of the stakeholder, and that is how Benny Hollinger's name became associated with one of the best-known mines in Canadian history at Timmins, Ontario. Hollinger himself died of



alcoholism in his twenties, but Noah Timmins had mining in his blood. Under the company name of N.A. Timmins, he backed Noranda's Horne smelter and he was the co-rescuer of the Sisco mine in Quebec. He also backed mines in Manitoba, Yellowknife, the Ross Mine and the Young Davidson mine in Matachewan near Kirkland Lake, as well as placer mines in the Yukon and others outside of Canada. Despite his unfailing enthusiasm for mining, in December 1927, he was quoted as saying, "Many people are going to have a rude awakening soon when the current mining-share boom in northern Ontario collapses. They will be the very people who can least afford it."

Noah Timmins, affectionately called "The Grand Old Man of Canadian Mining", passed away in 1936 at the age of sixty-

nine. Henry, somewhat older than his brother, had already died. Jules Timmins, Henry's oldest son, followed his uncle as the head of Hollinger and the company went many other ventures. In 1978, Conrad Black acquired a controlling block of Hollinger Mines and through mergers and acquisitions, it became a conglomerate. In 1985, the holding company began to divest itself of its mining companies and focus on its newspaper holdings. While the name survives, the company bears no resemblance to the original mining company.

Alphonse Paré continued working for the family company, and while he explored stakes and mining operations all over the world, he never again experienced a find as great as the Hollinger. Fred Larose, it is imagined, lived comfortably ever after on the large sum he acquired for his stake. While other descendants of the original Timmins-Paré families have left significant legacies, especially in the field of medicine, today the best known are probably the Cowboy Junkies, descendants of Noah Timmins, and Jessica Paré, great-granddaughter of Alphonse Paré.

References: Free Gold -Arnold Hoffman; The Seeds, The Life Story of a Matriarch -Lucy Griffith Paré; Ste-Agathe-des-Monts mise en valeur du potentiel patrimonial -Groupe de recherche en histoire du Québec; Mrs. Pauline Ouimet; Hollinger Inc. Corporate History. Special thanks to Sheila Eskenazi.

TAKING SIDES IN EUROPE'S WARS

The Rogers' Rangers raid against the Abenaki

Odanak 1759: A massacre and stolen treasure

On September 13, 1759, Major Robert Rogers crossed Lake Champlain, leading 200 Rangers who later secretly trekked across the Eastern Townships and, at daybreak, on October 4, fell upon the sleepy Abenaki St Francis Mission, today the Odanak Reserve, located near the mouth of the St Francis River.

They massacred 30-50 Abenaki of all ages, sacked and burned the village and stole the church treasures. The Rangers fled but were pursued by Abenaki warriors who, captured some, then horribly tortured them before executing them. The return trek of the surviving raiders who split up into small groups, some going through Pottot Township, was an ordeal to be remembered in American military annals. There were only 74 survivors, the others were captured killed, or died of starvation. The stolen treasures went through a similar fate, as they were hidden or thrown away along the trails.

The horde of precious church ornaments raises some tantalizing questions as it included a Black Madonna and a silver shirt...

The Odanak Abenaki

Odanak is the Abenaki Reservation located on the St. Francis River, next to the villages of St-François-du-Lac and Pierreville. The name ODANAK means village and ABENAKI is synonymous to Land of the Rising Sun. According to Father Maurault (1886), the Canibas were their ancestors.

Who are the Abenaki? These First Nations people, associated with the large Algonquin family, are generally recognized as the former inhabitants of the Eastern Townships long

before the arrival of the first settlers following the American Revolution. Actually, their homeland was the coast of New England from where they were expelled by British colonists at the beginning of the 17th century. Forced into exile to the north, in Nouvelle-France, they

settled mainly along the St. Lawrence River in Bécancour, at Odanak and in the northern part of Lake Champlain at Swanton, Vermont.

They formed an alliance with the French and engaged in numerous raids against the British colonies of New Hampshire, Vermont and Massachusetts, killing, plundering, bringing back prisoners and scalps which were hung at their houses. They were also part of most war parties during the French and Indian War (1754-1763).

The Rangers

On the other hand, the British had a strong desire for revenge against the Abenaki and General Jeffery Amherst ordered Major Robert Rogers to plan a punitive raid against Odanak. Rogers had raised a contingent of frontiersmen trained in unconventional hit-and-run attacks similar to today's commandos. They became the Rogers' Rangers, the forerunners of the U.S. Army Green Berets.

Major Rogers, who was 27, planned the raid code named Suagothel and gathered 200 men including some Stockbridge Indians from Massachusetts. On September 12, at night, they left Crown Point on Lake Champlain steering their whale boats to

elude the French fleet. They reached Missisquoi Bay after already losing 41 men to exhaustion and desertion. The party abandoned their boats and undertook a strenuous march to the northeast, through thick woods and bogs. On

October 2 they reached the St. Francis River which they hazardously crossed in five feet of water. They were then in reach of the St. Francis Mission or Odanak, which consisted of about 60 houses, made of wood, bark or stone, and a church. It was a village not too different from French ones of the time

The Abenaki formed an alliance with the French and engaged in numerous raids against the British colonies of New Hampshire, Vermont and Massachusetts, killing, plundering, bringing back prisoners and scalps which were hung at their houses. They were also part of most war parties during the French and Indian War (1754-1763)

and with a population of about 250.

The raid

At daybreak on October 4 the village was encircled by 142 Rangers and the Abenaki were attacked, caught by surprise



in their sleep. People were killed outright or died when their houses were set on fire. Those fleeing to the nearby river were shot down.

The place was plundered, burnt, including the church which had its religious treasures taken away, including gold and silver plated chandeliers, a solid silver statue of the Blessed Virgin, a silver reliquary, etc.

The number of victims was estimated at about 30 dead, including 20 women and children. This figure is much smaller than the 200 Rogers announced upon his return home. This smaller number of casualties resulted from the absence of many warriors who were away looking for the Rangers and because many dwellers took refuge in a wooded ravine after being warned in advance by a Stockbridge Indian with the Rangers, who later died in the attack.

The ordeal of the return march

The raid was over by 7 a.m. and the Rangers, loaded with church treasures and corn cobs, were on their way back home with prisoners, including Marie-Jeanne, daughter of a great chief and wife of Chief Samuel Gill. A painful and deadly return ordeal was beginning as hunger loomed and the raiding party was being followed by Abenaki warriors and French soldiers. They walked along the St. Francis River but, arriving where Sherbrooke stands today, Major Rogers decided to divide up his troop into small parties, believing it would be easier to find food for smaller groups. They split up, and some went toward Coaticook, hoping to reach Fort #4 on the Connecticut River while others followed the east and west shores of Lake Memphremagog. Another group reached South Bolton and marched along the North Missisquoi River down to Highwater and followed its main course toward Missisquoi Bay.

The return march was a nightmare. The Abenaki caught up with some of the fleeing Rangers who were horribly tortured and executed. In addition, food was nowhere to be found and they were dying from starvation. Some even resorted to cannibalism and this was the fate of Marie-Jeanne, slaughtered at Highgate Falls by Stockbridge Indians who later had their throats slit and were scalped by Abenaki. Oral tradition tells us that three Rangers were captured on Traver Road in Potton and another party near Chateau Brook, on the shores of Lake Memphremagog where a hatchet, typical of the Rangers' weapons, was found in 1862 on Dennison Brown's farm. The last survivors arrived at Crown Point, their departure place, on November 12.

The outcome of this expedition which is still celebrated today, was as follows: 17 killed by Abenaki, 8 captured,

43 dead of starvation, 73 survivors including Major Robert Rogers who was granted a Captaincy in the Regulars.

Odanak's Treasures

It is worthwhile to take a second look at the loot taken by the Rangers at Odanak. Various authors on the subject were surprised at the wealth in the St. Francis Mission. There were a lot of gold guineas and rich church ornaments such as a large banner illustrating Mary and Jesus embroidered with gold and silver thread, a gift from Louis XV's wife Queen Marie Leczinska.

However, three artifacts are noteworthy. First was a ring set with a ruby the size of an eyeball, a jewel of great value. Second was a solid silver statue of the blessed Virgin Mary (said to have weighed 10 pounds), was a replica of the Black Madonna, Notre-Dame-de-Sous-Terre (Our Lady of the Underground) kept in the crypt of Chartres Cathedral in France, and given by the Jesuit missionaries of the time. The cult of the Black Madonna goes back to Antiquity but was discretely perpetuated, among others, by the Jesuits. A wooden replica was more recently given to the Odanak church. Exhausted by fatigue and hunger, the Rangers relieved themselves of the stolen treasures and discarded them along their return journey back. Chandeliers were found in



Hatley and an incense burner in Windsor, ornaments which today have vanished but are believed to have come from Odanak. As for the silver statue, Sergeant Benjamin Bradley carried it to the Jefferson Notch area, New Hampshire, where before dying of starvation he threw it down a wooded ravine. Many treasure hunters have gone after it but in vain.

The third artifact of great interest historians reported was a silver shirt reliquary taken from the sacked Odanak church. Fathers Maurault (1866) and Charland (1964) wrote that it burnt in the fire whereas Father Gravel (1950) said it was stolen. Knowing the Rangers' greed for these treasures, we rather believe the silver shirt was taken away but, like the other sacred objects stolen, it was discarded along the return trail.

It is intriguing that a chest armour (breast plate) was discovered by Lawrence Buzzel from Cherry River in the early 1950s on the east side of Lake Memphremagog across from the Three Sisters islands. Jacques Boisvert purchased it in 1956 and the newspaper *La Tribune de Sherbrooke* published a picture of it on July 18, 1956. It was later put on display at the Lantern Inn but stolen

shortly afterward. If a reader knows anything of the whereabouts of this heritage treasure, please contact one of the authors.

Even limited to a newspaper picture, we feel justified to raise the hypothesis that the Odanak silver shirt was stolen from the church but hidden away by the homebound Rangers. Indeed, the place it was found was on the course taken by 2nd Lieutenant Cargill who followed the east shore of Lake Memphremagog to reach the east side of the Barton River and Crystal Lake in Vermont where his hungry men finally caught many fish.

Whether this silver shirt or armour, came from Odanak is still uncertain but it was very intriguing to read in the *Vermont Patriot* of September 1826 that a chain mail was discovered under a large rotten stump in a field near Irasburg. Again, this artifact was called an "iron shirt" not unlike the "silver shirt" from Odanak. These two items were discovered on the return trail taken by one of the Ranger groups who had sacked Odanak, possibly along with their others treasures that had not been accounted for by the missionaries.

Epilogue

This raid had been ordered by General Amherst and was a personal vindication for Major Rogers who had seen his family wiped out by the Abenaki. It had only little military significance since Quebec City had already fallen to Wolfe and Montreal was to capitulate in September 1760. However, Amherst wanted to make sure that no Abenaki would further be in his way. Even though very few Abenaki warriors had been killed in the Odanak raid, their village had been destroyed. They were destitute for the oncoming winter and forced to move out to other Indian villages.

Contrary to what happened in the French community of

Quebec, this military expedition received wide coverage in English literature both in Canada and the U.S.A. and, despite the high loss in lives that occurred, has become quite famous. A novel on the subject, *Northwest Passage* by Kenneth Roberts was published in 1936 and MGM studios made a film of it starring Spencer Tracy in the early 1940s.

On the other hand, a retaliation raid by the Iroquois against the French village of Lachine next to Montreal in 1689 was widely covered in French Quebec history books. It seems that, to historians, the massacre of the Abenaki in Odanak was much less important than the lives of 24 French settlers and 60 prisoners!

This tragic event is one more thread in the tapestry of Eastern Townships' history and we thank Mrs Nicole Obomsawin, Director of the Abenaki Museum in Odanak for her collaboration on the research. The Museum is presently undergoing major renovations but will be open to the public next summer.

By Gérard Leduc, Potton Heritage Association Inc. and Jacques Boisvert, Lake Memphremagog Historical Society We also wish to thank Peter Downman for his careful revision of the English text. The reference material consulted for this paper was the following: Histoire des Abénakis depuis 1605 jusqu'à nos jours, Abbé J.A. Maurault, 1866. Histoire des Abénakis d'Odanak, Père T.-M. Charland, 1964. Identity of the St. Francis Indians, G.M. Day, 1981. The History of Rogers' Rangers, B.G. Loeschers, Vol. 4, 2002. Brome County Historical Society Museum.

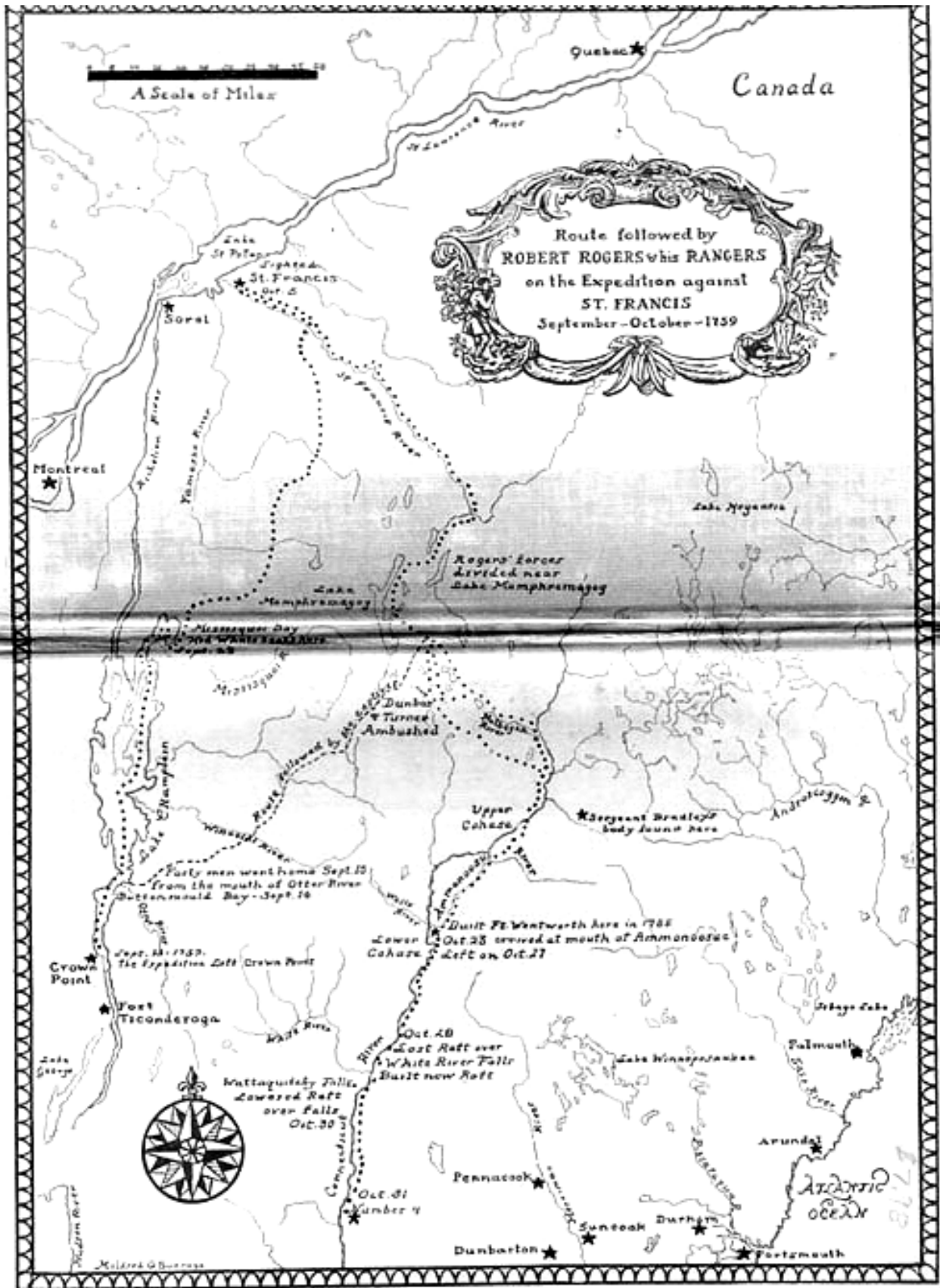
Illustrations: Major Robert Rogers (1731-1795). (Source: DeVolpi & Scowen, The Eastern Townships: A Pictorial Record) Abenaki warrior, from www.rogersrangers.com Map from the novel Northwest Passage by Kenneth Roberts, Doubleday, 1936. See also www.ranger.org/rangerHistoryRogersRangers.

Standing Orders, Rogers' Rangers

The following, originally issued by Capt. Robert Rogers, 1759, was still in use in the 20th century and probably still is today. This copy is taken from USARV GTA 21-3 (September 1967). Each soldier arriving in the Republic of Vietnam was issued this GTA (General Training Aid), which measured 2 1/2 x 3 1/2 inches, and required to keep it on his person at all times. Although written during the French and Indian Wars, the tactical doctrine contained in these rules was entirely applicable to operations in Vietnam.

1. Don't forget nothing.
2. Have your musket clean as a whistle, hatchet scoured, sixty rounds powder and ball, and be ready to march at a minute's warning.
3. When you're on the march, act the way you would if you was sneaking up on a deer. See the enemy first.
4. Tell the truth about what you see and do. There is an army depending on us for correct information. You can lie all you please when you tell other folks about the Rangers, but don't never lie to a Ranger or officer.
5. Don't never take a chance you don't have to.
6. When we're on the march we march single file, far enough apart so one shot can't go through two men.
7. If we strike swamps, or soft ground, we spread out abreast, so it's hard to track us.
8. When we march, we keep moving 'til dark, so as to give the enemy the least possible chance at us.
9. When we camp, half the party stays awake while the other half sleeps.
10. If we take prisoners, we keep 'em separate 'til we have had time to examine them, so they can't cook up a story between 'em.

11. Don't ever march home the same way. Take a different route so you won't be ambushed.
12. No matter whether we travel in big parties or little ones, each party has to keep a scout 20 yards ahead, twenty yards on each flank and twenty yards in the rear, so the main body can't be surprised and wiped out.
13. Every night you'll be told where to meet if surrounded by a superior force.
14. Don't sit down to eat without posting sentries.
15. Don't sleep beyond dawn. Dawn's when the French and Indians attack.
16. Don't cross a river by a regular ford.
17. If somebody's trailing you, make a circle, come back onto your own tracks, and ambush the folks that aim to ambush you.
18. Don't stand up when the enemy's coming against you. Kneel down. Hide behind a tree.
19. Let the enemy come 'till he's almost close enough to touch. Then let him have it and jump out and finish him up with your hatchet.
20. Don't use your musket if you can kill 'em with your hatchet.



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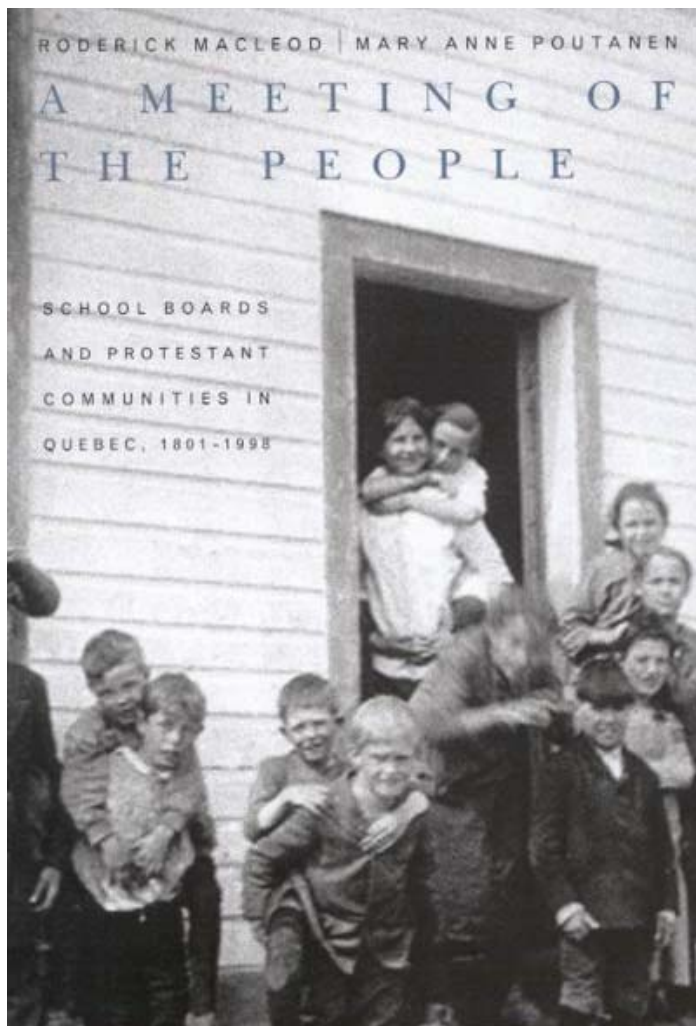
A very broad tour of the province over the two centuries

Protestant school board study is no dreary textbook

A Meeting of the People, School Boards and Protestant Communities in Quebec 1801-1998. By Roderick MacLeod & Mary Anne Poutanen, McGill-Queens University Press 2004

Reviewed by Peter Riordon

In the midst of the political turmoil that thundered into the lives of Quebecers in the latter part of the twentieth century, a few Protestant school commissioners arranged to set aside some funds in a trust to ensure that the proud history of Protestant education in la Belle Province would not be forgotten. The authors, with the aid of that trust, have painted a fascinating view of how the early settlers of British and American origins worked within their communities to ensure their children had



access to education even when faced with great challenges. This is no chronological story. Rather it dips into history and picks out the vignettes about the local Board that hired a particular teacher who taught the community children while living in the garret over the classroom in the log cabin that served as both school and lodgings. It describes the entries in the old minute books relating the challenges of staffing, finding resources, setting and maintaining standards and eccentric personalities. We learn of the parts played by the community leaders, the various churches, the Royal Institution for the Advancement of Learning and, much later, the provincial government with the Parent Report and a new Ministry of Education in the 1960's. We gain insight into the Parti Québécois efforts to abolish school boards and, when that failed, to create linguistic boards and how that eventually came about in 1998.

A fascinating view of how the early settlers of British and American origins worked within their communities to ensure their children had access to education even when faced with great challenges

The authors have not told us the entire story. We do not learn about St. Helen's School for girls, run under the wing of the Montreal Diocese of the Anglican Church for almost a century; we do not see any mention of the Quebec Association of Protestant School Boards which was incorporated in 1929 and was instrumental in fending off the worst of the PQ reform attempts. We learn nothing of the Kenniff Commission that carefully prepared the way for wide acceptance of linguistic school boards.

However, we are given a very broad tour of the province over the two centuries the book covers and we leave with a very good sense of where we came from and how we got here today in education. The book was not conceived to be a best seller, but to those with an interest in English education in Quebec, it offers a delightful insight.

Reviewer Peter Riordon has served as a Commissioner with the Eastern Townships School Board and Director of the Quebec English School Boards Association for 25 years.

Reviewer Peter Riordon has served as a Commissioner with the Eastern Townships School Board and Director of the Quebec English School Boards Association for 25 years.

BOOKS BOOKS BOOKS BOOKS BOOKS BOOKS BOOKS BOOKS BOOKSImmigrant mother brought help, home to the unwanted**Portrait of unique woman shows times as well as people**

Eastern Townships Saint: Lily Esther Butters,
by Françoise Hamel-Beaudoin.

Reviewed by Josiane Caillet, Ph.D.

It wasn't so very long ago that our medical authorities believed that an illegitimate or handicapped child was destined to face a very unpromising future, and that madness that would strike him sooner or later. As for the parents, who were also seen as abnormal, they often found themselves rejected by society and with very few choices.

And all too often those choices were limited to shameful abandonment of the baby or its placement in an institution.

In the Eastern Townships, a private hospital for this clientele opened in Austin in the 1940s, the Cecil Butters Memorial Hospital, or the Butters Centre. Its founder, Lily Esther Butters (1894-1980) is now the subject of a book by Françoise Hamel-Beaudoin, titled *Eastern Townships Saint: Lily Esther Butters*, and published by Price-Patterson Ltd. This book fills a void in our regional history and gives homage to a woman who believed that "all children are a source of joy; even the most severely handicapped that we have here [at the Centre] are a blessing to us," and who created a place of welcome where everyone, children and employees, were part of her extended family and, as such, deserved respect, consideration and love.

The Butters Centre, opened in 1947, would grow rapidly, expanding from six patients the first year to 435 in 1972, the year the hospital was taken over by the government. Following a movement for de-institutionalization, the Centre would close its doors in 1990. But many people still have fond memories of Lily Butters who, in 1929, left

her native England with her husband and children to come to live in Austin, where they would realize the dream of a lifetime. The fruit of Lily Butters' constant devotion would win her the Order of Canada in 1972.

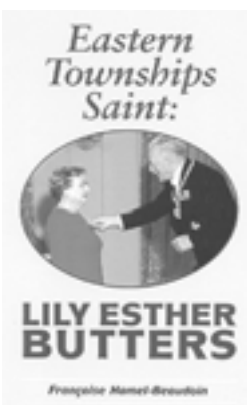
Eastern Townships Saint: Lily Esther Butters provides us not only with a portrait of a unique woman but also affords us a glance at daily life during her lifetime. The Depression and its consequences would result in massive migration around the world. The author describes the voyage by steamship of a British family. We relive the royal visit of 1939. The Second World War would also leave its mark on the New World: the commitment of men and of women, and the active role that women played in munitions factories and hospitals take up several pages of the book. Ultimately, the spell cast by the magnificent Memphremagog region explains why the new arrivals became so attached to their adopted Eastern Townships.

Eastern Townships Saint: Lily Esther Butters, by Françoise Hamel-Beaudoin, which was originally published in French (Les Éditions Janson, 2002)

contains 152 pages, black and white photographs and a bibliography. It is available in soft-cover.

Copies may be ordered directly from the publishers at: Price-Patterson Ltd., 310 Victoria Ave., Suite 105, Westmount, Qc, H3Z 2M9. Price (including shipping within Canada and GST): \$26.70.

See the publishers' website at www.pricepatterson.com. Copies may also be purchased at the following locations: Brome Lake Books (Knowlton); the Golden Book (Sutton); Archambault (Sherbrooke); Bishop's University Bookstore (Lennoxville); and Townshippers' Association (Cowansville and Lennoxville).

**Everything you wanted to know about the McLeods of Saguenay**

Skylander Editions is proud to present: *Peter McLeod, un homme, un héritage*. Social historical and genealogical study on an exceptional and historical man native of Scotland, who settled in the Saguenay. The latter has been able to get out brilliantly of a ticklish situation in a newly conquered country.

"In order to write this book, the author has not limited himself to the compiling of historical documents. He has plunged into historical and traditional Scotland, ancient as modern. He also went on the historical sites themselves, has visited the main ones where Peter McLeod had lived. He has also interrogated many descendants in Canada and in the United States in order to compile an important data base on these descendants. The latter have, in their humble way, conquered America. Therefore, Skylander Editions invite you to read and come to the celebration of the history of this family of pioneers and entrepreneurs."

Editor's note: Author P.L. McLeod has accomplished what most genealogy enthusiasts only dream of – he has followed the bloodlines of his chosen ancestor from arrival in North America (in about 1800) to the present day. He has also been named chief of the McLeods of Saguenay by 29th clan chief John McLeod of McLeod.

The book can be bought by contacting the author at 450 928-1748, 1054 Dollard, Suite 5, Longueuil QC, J4K 4M4, Skylander@clan-macleod.qc.ca or through the web site clan-macleod.qc.ca.

BOOKS BOOKS BOOKS BOOKS BOOKS BOOKS BOOKS

East side of province gets the full Baillie treatment

Imprints III: Discovering the Historic Face of English Quebec, By Ray and Diana Baillie.

Reviewed by Matthew Farfan

Ray and Diana Baillie have just completed their third book, *Imprints III: Discovering the Historic Face of English Quebec*. Published in 2004 by Price-Patterson Ltd., the book is the third volume in a series of three featuring the historic landmarks of English Quebec. This latest book spotlights the Quebec City region, the Saguenay, the North Shore, and the Gaspé.

Two years ago, the Baillies released *Imprints II*, which focused on the architectural and historical landmarks of the Eastern Townships. The year before that, they published *Imprints*, which looked at Montreal, the Laurentians, the Outaouais, southwestern Quebec, and the Richelieu Valley.

Like the previous two volumes, *Imprints III* is divided into chapters, each corresponding to a geographical area. The book is lavishly illustrated with photographs, and each photo is accompanied by a brief text on the person, place, or event concerned.

Some of the landmarks featured are, like their builders, relatively famous; others are more obscure. For example, just about everyone has heard of Quebec City's splendid Château Frontenac. Few, however, are familiar with the Tadoussac Tennis Club. Which is what makes this book interesting – not all of the subjects are famous historic sites. Most, in fact, are quite modest. But each is interesting in its own way. There are barns, railway stations, blacksmith shops, churches, inns, factories, fortifications, office buildings, pioneer homes, lighthouses, shops, schoolhouses, and more.

At the beginning of each of their books, the authors state that their aim is not to write an architectural study, a travel guide, or a local history, but “to highlight the presence and culture of the English who helped to build communities in Quebec.” Their intent, they say, is to show that the English of Quebec were more than just politicians and bankers and captains of industry, as they are so often portrayed in the history books.



They were also ordinary people “struggling to survive as labourers, farmers, shopkeepers, doctors and educators.” And they made their mark everywhere they went.

The landmarks the Baillies have chosen were selected not necessarily for their architectural importance or beauty, though many are important and beautiful, but for the historical contributions of their builders or occupants. For example, the Anglican Residential School in La Tuque, which has sat idle for years, with broken windows and weeds growing everywhere, is included not because it is particularly wonderful to look at, but because it represents an important though dark episode in our history when Native Canadian children were placed into church-run schools in an attempt to assimilate them. Forbidden to speak their own language or practice the ways of their people, many of these children emerged from these institutions scarred for life.

Anyone familiar with the Laurentians, the Townships, Montreal, or any of the other regions covered in the *Imprints* series will certainly notice omissions. It is important to remember, however, that these books are not meant as complete guidebooks to all of our historic sites, but as a sampling of some of the more historically important ones. The authors' purpose is clearly to create awareness, which is after all the first step toward education and ultimately preservation. In this they have succeeded.

Imprints III: Discovering the Historic Face of English Quebec (2004), by Ray & Diana Baillie, is published by Price-Patterson Ltd. Available in soft-cover, the book contains 255 pages, black and white photographs and maps, a table of contents, and a bibliography. Retail price (including s/h within Canada and GST) is \$43.82.

Copies of *Imprints*, *Imprints II*, or *Imprints III* may be ordered directly from the publishers at: Price-Patterson Ltd., 310 Victoria Ave., Suite 105, Westmount, Qc, H3Z 2M9. Consult the publishers' website at: www.pricepatterson.com.



BOOKS BOOKS BOOKS BOOKS BOOKS BOOKS BOOKS BOOKSA nostalgic, colourful look back**Home made resort has ‘family’ personality all its own**Reviewed by **Matthew Farfan**

Out of Bounds: The Glen Mountain Ski Story (2004) is a new book by Brian Eddington, published by Price-Patterson Ltd. The author, a columnist, former teacher, and (apparently) lifelong ski bum, has managed to craft what he himself calls the “story” -- as opposed to the “history” of Knowlton’s Glen Mountain, a small ski resort in the Eastern Townships.

In his foreword, Eddington points out that because documentation on the subject matter is so hard to come by, he relies heavily on the recollections of skiers, staff, and other people associated with Glen Mountain over the years. With his typically dry sense of humour, Eddington points out that “having been a Glen Mountain patron for going on thirty years, much of the accumulated detail, references, anecdotes, tales of adventure and misadventure, have been gathered from my personal experiences and recollections. And, given what supposedly happens to the male brain beyond the age of forty years, much of that material may be suspect... Further, the bulk of information came from other people’s recollections... and most of them are over forty, too.”

That said, for anyone interested in the ups and downs of a small, quirky ski hill, from its heyday in the 1960s and 70s through to the present day, this book is a must. It offers a first-hand, often humorous, glimpse of modern ski culture, which, after all, occupies such a central place in the hearts and minds of so many Canadians.

Roughly chronological, *The Glen Mountain Ski Story* touches upon the key phases in the evolution of the resort. It features most of the key players, as well, including investors, staff, and patrons of both the ski runs and the celebrated après-ski scene. Far from being a dry recounting of a local business story, the book is a nostalgic, colourful look back at what has been such an important gathering place in the Eastern Townships since the hill first opened in December 1960.

Players involved in the development of skiing at The Glen have included Hank Rotherham, Eddy Persons, Peter White, and even the legendary Jackrabbit Johannsen, to name a few. All of them play their parts in Eddington’s book.

The Glen Mountain Ski Story is woven around the adventures and misadventures (some would say disasters) that have punctuated day-to-day life at the mountain that was once referred to by *Ski Canada* magazine as “the zany black sheep of the Ski East centres.”

Throughout the book, Murphy’s Law seems to play a very prominent role, from minor mechanical failures to major business setbacks. The reader, for example, learns of how Peg Barnes, the hill’s chief groomer, had his Sno-Cat catch on fire in the middle of

the night one time while he was grooming a trail. The “burned-out hulk was found frozen solidly into the hill courtesy of the surrounding snow it had briefly melted. Overnight squalls had completed the burial process... The charred remains sat there reproachfully the rest of the winter, a sober reminder that danger comes in many forms and unlikely places.”

Eddington’s tales include ski lift operators installing t-bars

*... all of these mishaps
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endless legal
wrangling, and
winters with highly
irregular snowfall*

backwards, runaway machinery, leaky roofs, breakdowns, fires, bankruptcy, and near bankruptcy. And all of these mishaps are set against a continuous backdrop of changing ownership, seemingly endless legal wrangling, and winters with highly irregular snowfall (and hence unreliable skier revenue).

Yet, one gets the distinct impression that throughout these setbacks, the good times just kept on rolling. Great skiing, good partying, and what Eddington calls The Glen’s “hominess and ambiance” seem to have established the mountain firmly in the hearts of its patrons.

Eddington tells of some of the great skiers the mountain has produced over the years, including slalom racer Leigh-Jay Quilliams and snowboarder Trevor Gavura. He tells of slopeside parties, downhill races, and Jello jumps. He tells of the Glen’s forays into night skiing and snowmaking, and of the arrival of the first snowboarders. He reports happily that, unlike at some of the other Townships ski resorts, from the very beginning, the bar was always a major facet of culture at The Glen. “I knew there was a reason I was quickly drawn to the place,” he jokes. Naturally, the book includes tales of drinking and related antics at the various bars in and around the ski hill. One local après-ski hangout, the author reports, was so crowded on some nights that “if you tripped or passed out, it could take twenty minutes before you hit the floor.” Now that’s crowded!

Out of Bounds: The Glen Mountain Ski Story, by Brian Eddington, is an entertaining, not-so-serious look back at “a great place to ski, raise a family, or raise a glass.” It will be enjoyed by almost anyone who has skied at The Glen or in the Eastern Townships.

Available in soft-cover, the book contains 164 pages, black and white photographs and a table of contents. Copies may be ordered directly from the publishers at: Price-Patterson Ltd., 310 Victoria Ave., Suite 105, Westmount, Qc, H3Z 2M9. Price (including shipping within Canada and GST): \$26.70.

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BOOKS BOOKS BOOKS BOOKS BOOKS BOOKS BOOKS

Doctor-mayor promoted smallpox vaccine

Victorian leader shared virtues, prejudices of his times

Sir William Hingston

Montreal mayor, surgeon and banker

Reviewed by Neil McKenty, broadcaster and author

One of William Hales Hingston's first teachers remarked that he had "a retentive memory, and a curious, clinical mind." It was a prescient comment on the brilliant student who would go on to become one of Canada's leading surgeons and a distinguished mayor of Montreal.

Born in 1829 to a Protestant father and a Catholic mother, young Hingston also had a mind of his own. After his father died from a hunting accident, his mother tried to persuade him at the age of 14 to become a Catholic priest. He explained, quite sensibly, he was too young to make that kind of decision, then told his mother "if you require a decisive answer, the answer is no." Many years later he admitted, somewhat facetiously, "It was only after my mother was gone that I was able to grow up."

In this interesting and informative biography, Alan Hustak shows how that kind of determination served William Hales Hingston well in dealing with the challenges that arose during his twin careers in medicine and politics.

When he graduated from McGill as a doctor, the University refused to give him a licence, a refusal Hingston, a fervent Catholic, blamed on McGill's stated aim to "induce Catholics to embrace the Protestant religion." Undaunted, Hingston travelled to Europe where he studied at several prestigious universities and obtained his medical licence in London.

Shortly after returning to Montreal and opening a practice at 31 McGill Street, the new Dr. Hingston was asked to become chief surgeon of the Catholic hospital, St. Patrick's, then located in a run-down Methodist school at the southwest corner of Guy Street just below what is today René Lévesque Boulevard. There was a curious two-

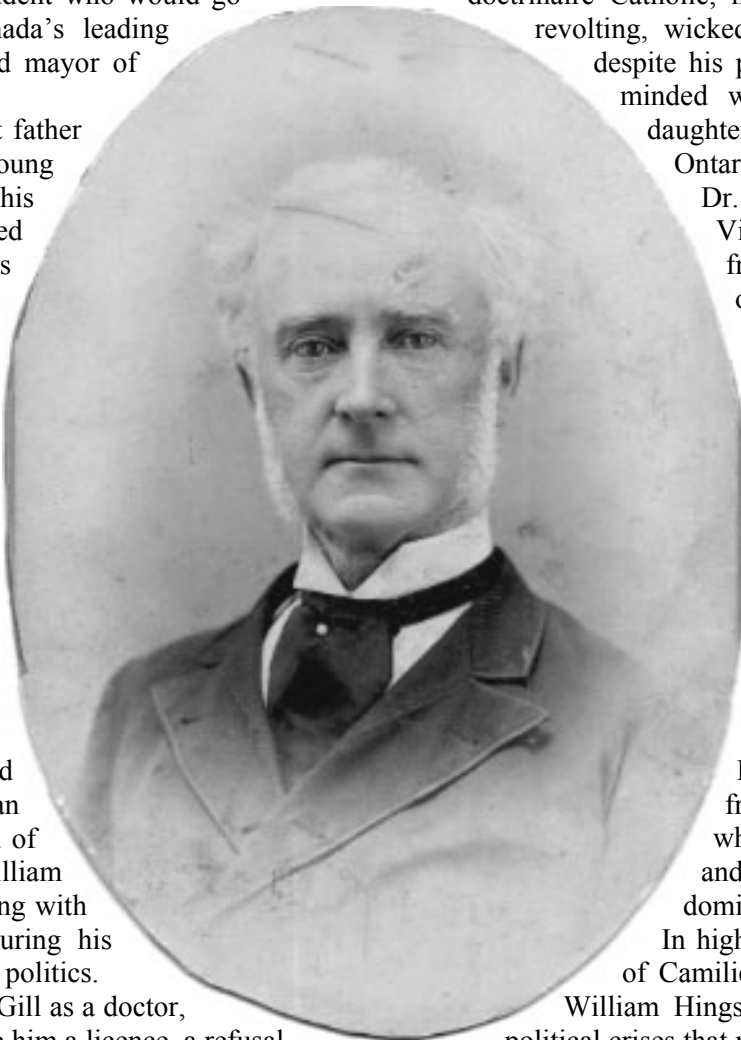
tier health system then in place: those who could afford medical care, including surgery, were treated at home; those who couldn't went to hospitals for free.

Hingston was a careful but enterprising surgeon doing plastic surgery, skin grafts, partial kidney removal and experiments with acupuncture. As one would expect of a doctrinaire Catholic, he denounced abortion as "a revolting, wicked and detestable crime" and despite his politically astute and socially minded wife, Margaret Macdonald, daughter of the lieutenant governor of Ontario, whom he married in 1875, Dr. Hingston, a typical Victorian, saw women as fragile, in need of protection, or harlots in need of rehabilitation.

The most lively and vivid portion of Alan Hustak's biography are the two terms (he declined a third) Hingston, when he was in his late forties, served as mayor of Montreal (1875 to 1885), then a city of 120,000 where "Livestock still roamed freely around Place Victoria." With his remarkable social abilities, Hingston himself roamed freely between the English who dominated the economy and the French who were dominated by the Church.

In high wire acts that rivalled those of Camilien Houde and Jean Drapeau, William Hingston managed to help defuse political crises that might have seriously upset the city's precarious racial and linguistic balance.

After a short time in office, he was confronted with the potentially explosive Joseph Guibord affair when Bishop Ignace Bourget excommunicated the poor man for his liberal views and denied him burial in Notre-Dame-des-Neiges Cemetery. In the end, after extreme tension, Mayor Hingston ordered that the gates of the cemetery be removed, had almost a thousand soldiers assembled in the Champs de Mars, mounted his black stallion, Bibakiba, and personally led the funeral cortege through to the newly



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dug grave, only then signalling the militia, marching up St. Laurent, to return to barracks.

When a huge throng of the unemployed, chanting "Work or Blood" threatened to attack City Hall, Hingston and his council rammed through a public works program that included improvements to the Lachine Canal and work on the newly acquired Mount Royal Park. Shortly before he began his second term, Hingston, in the face of Catholic objections, authorized the first Orange parade ever held in Montreal. In 1879, to stop a run on the Montreal City and District Savings Bank (of which he was a director and later president), Hingston ordered the vaults (containing \$900,000 in cash) to be thrown open for anyone who wanted their money, then deposited \$500 into his personal account. The trouble at the bank was short-lived.

Despite his sterling record as mayor (Hingston declined an invitation to run for a third term), Alan Hustak concludes his greatest contribution was his campaign for vaccination against smallpox. Almost 5,000 people died from the disease in the seventies. One city councillor charged that Montrealers were not to blame "but sick people from the Eastern townships."

Hingston established a municipal board of health (the first of its kind in Canada), and fought unremittingly against those who opposed public vaccination. Undoubtedly his vaccination campaign saved many lives and was one of the

reasons he received a knighthood from the Queen and a street was named after him in Notre Dame de Grace.

Before his death in 1907, Sir William spent 11 years in the senate. He served his city and his country well. He was a devout Irish Catholic who moved easily among his French compatriots. For too long his accomplishments have mouldered in dusty archives. In this well-researched biography, Alan Hustak has brought him vividly alive.

Occasionally, the structure of the book leaves something to be desired. The author introduces a subject with great fanfare (e.g. Montreal's first Orange parade), then drops it for several pages, a habit that dilutes its emotional punch.

The hard cover version is beautifully bound, pages are sewn to the backing and pleasingly laid out, text and the many illustrations are well printed and the jacket and underlying cover will enhance the most distinguished libraries. The soft cover as near replicates its senior version as manufacturing permits.

Sir William Hingston is available now at the Double Hook, Westmount; Bonder Books, Montreal West; Montreal downtown at Argo Bookshop, Concordia University Bookstore, Paragraphe Bookstore; Librairie Clio, Point Claire; Brome Lake Books, Knowlton and Bishop's University Bookstore, Lennoxville and Indigo and Chapters Montreal stores.

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MEMBERS' NEWS & NOTES

Warm reception for Frasers on tour

Quebec Highlanders storm Scotland, march at Balmoral

By William Campbell

In August 2004, the 78th Fraser Highlanders of the Fort Saint Helen Garrison in Montreal, organized an eleven day goodwill tour of Scotland, to the old recruiting area for the Frasers, the Inverness and the Beaulieu districts, home of the Frasers of Lovat.

For many, the highlight of the trip was a private parade we had at Balmoral Castle, complete with a pipes and drums display, an exhibition of Highland dancing and the 18th century musket drill. Twenty Brown Bess muskets going off at once is always a surprise, and one tries to not imagine what a thousand would have been like.

Afterwards we met with the Queen and Prince Philip. I never thought I would say "Your Majesty" or "Your Royal Highness" to anyone – in earnest. It was also memorable when we marched up the side of Balmoral Castle and around to the front on to the magnificent lawns where we had a group picture taken.

We were very well received wherever we paraded; In Inverness, at Beaulieu, Fort George, Perth and at Blair Castle with the famous Athol Highlanders, Britain's only legal private army.

We stayed at military barracks in the picturesque village of Dunkeld in Perthshire and at the famous Gordonstoun School for three nights. One night, our Adjutant, Major Bolton, booked us in for dinner at the Duffus Inn, a mile and a half from the school. It was decided that instead of just ambling down to the Pub, we should march as a regiment, with full pipes and drums. We marched down this ancient country road, a dry stone dyke enclosing fields on one side and rolling hills on the other. With the weather threatening, we came to a halt outside of the small inn, and marched in for dinner.

It was like going back to the eighteenth century – pure magic – talk about heritage.

On our final evening in the village of Beaulieu, members of





Clan Fraser organized a fabulous banquet for us and we dined with the present Lord Lovat, whose ancestor, the Master of Lovat, raised the regiment in 1757, specifically to come to North America to fight the French.

The 78th Regiment of Foot, known as Fraser's Highlanders, saw action at Louisburg, the Battle of Quebec and finally they marched in to Montreal to accept the surrender of the French forces stationed there.

The regiment was disbanded in Quebec in 1763, many of the soldiers accepting land grants and settling in the area now known as Riviere du Loup or Fraserville, as it was then called.

Given that almost all of the Scottish regiments in the UK are under the threat of either being merged or disbanded altogether, the people we talked to were thrilled and amazed that a re-raised, ceremonial regiment, made up of young Canadians, should be keeping their Scottish military traditions alive for them, here in Quebec.

William Campbell is a Captain in the 78th Fraser Highlanders.



Pictures: The Frasers reload under the watchful eye of the Royal couple; on parade at Balmoral; 'I never thought I would say "Your Majesty" in earnest.'

War correspondent Bill Stewart dies at 90

He covered Canadian troops as they fought through Europe

CANADIAN PRESS

William Archibald (Bill) Stewart, an "unflappable" war correspondent who landed with Canadian invasion troops in Italy and France, then described the Allied defeat and subsequent Japanese surrender at Hong Kong, has died. He was 90.

Born Feb. 28, 1914, in Riviere-du-Loup, Que., Stewart was known as a gentleman's gentleman, a quiet, self-effacing man who had followed Canadian soldiers as they fought through Sicily, Italy and France.

He was among the last of an elite crew of Canadian Press war correspondents that included Bill Boss, Doug Amaron, Doug How and the legendary Ross Munro.

"My most vivid memory of him is when he was a CP war correspondent, landing with the Canadian assault forces at dawn on D-Day on one of the hottest beaches in Normandy, the first CP man ashore," Munro said in 1975.

"There was no more unflappable correspondent on any front."

Stewart was 19 when he began a 45-year career with the national news co-operative in Halifax in 1934. He worked in Charlottetown, Montreal, Toronto and Quebec City before he was transferred to London, England, on July 1, 1941.

His battle experience began in Sicily, where he hooked up with the 1st Canadian Division. He was with them when they crossed into mainland Italy and fought their way up the country's Adriatic Coast to Ortona.

His copy was written in the classic wire-service style of the day — spare, crisp, but meticulous in its detail with flashes of brilliant colour.

Stewart followed the Canadians as they "marched across country through gullies and ravines, mounted slopes rising 3,000 feet and crowded through underbrush."

Just south of Ortona, he described how the fight in December 1943 went on "day and night, accompanied by the constant thunder of guns, the whistle of shells and mortar bombs, the groaning of tanks and the roar of aircraft."

In the Moro Valley, "the shells sounded like a passing express train that had no end. Birds flew about wildly, dogs crept into cellars and many Italian civilians hustled for the nearest abandoned German dugouts."

Thoughtful and serious, Stewart "was held in very high esteem, both by colleagues and by soldiers," said Bill Boss, who knew him

from both perspectives — first as a Canadian Army conducting officer who escorted Stewart to the front, and later as a CP war correspondent himself.

"Bill was a different kind of guy," said Boss, the last of the CP war correspondents of the 1940s. "Sterling, quiet, observant, sharp.

"And a thorough reporter."

Stewart was recalled to London in January 1944 to prepare for D-Day and went ashore with Canadian troops on June 6, writing:

"We sailed for France with the invasion forces for the greatest military operation of all time on a cool grey evening with hundreds of invasion ships dotted along the Channel like stepping-stones leading to the continent."

He slept that night in the comfort of a French farmhouse, but it was shelled by the Germans the next morning and he was stuck sleeping

in foxholes and ditches after that.

Stewart was a keen observer of the human condition. His copy delved deeper than victories and defeats, dead and wounded, to relate shades of grey that were uncommon in newspaper accounts of the day.

He wrote that the Normans in France spoke the same tongue, with the same accent and idiom, as their French-Canadian liberators yet, in spite of their shared cultural roots, the Canadians felt the Normans did not fully endorse the invasion until they were confident it would succeed.

There was a feeling among the Canadians, Stewart

wrote, that "if the Germans returned life would be better for the civilians if they had remained aloof."

In Bayeux, Stewart told how local residents had, after four years of German occupation, almost forgotten the words of *La Marseillaise*, the French anthem, as they gathered in cobblestone streets to celebrate their liberation.

In Bernieres, he wrote how townsfolk opened a local restaurant and "did a brisk business in wine," even as the battle was raging.

In Issy les Moulineaux, he described a Gestapo torture chamber, its "three blood-stained, bullet-riddled posts," and grey asbestos walls covered in handprints, some those of children who had been burned by flamethrowers.

"Near the steel door leading to the (execution) range, all the asbestos had been clawed away," he wrote.

Stewart also earned a reputation during the war as an artist. Pencil in hand, he sketched many of the people he met, including generals. Even the noses of some Canadian aircraft were festooned with Bill Stewart artworks.

While in France, Stewart adopted what a Reuters story four days after the invasion described as a "forlorn" German guard dog which had been abandoned by his masters in their rush to escape the onslaught.

Stewart, the story said, "speaks basic dog in three languages," and he christened the animal Ffoomph, after one of his cartoon characters — an awkward but well-meaning gremlin.



William Stewart. Canadian Army Overseas Photo/HO

"He was one of the most outstanding, in his own quiet way, warcos over there," said George Powell, a wartime sergeant with the lauded Maple Leaf army newspaper.

"Bill Stewart was way up there. He was a true believer in the assignment of any warco, which is: 'Don't tell us too much about yourself; tell us about what's going on around you.'"

Stewart had been in London when news came that Hong Kong fell on Christmas Day 1941. No one knew what happened.

"You know," Stewart told his colleagues, "there's going to be a honey of a story. I'd sure like to work on that one. Until someone's able to talk with those fellows, we'll never know what happened out there."

In March 1945, Stewart became the first Canadian correspondent accredited to the Southeast Asia Command and on Sept. 7, 1945, his 3,000-word account of Canada's role in the defence and fall of the strategic British colony of Hong Kong came clattering out of printers in newsrooms across Canada.

The piece detailed the fight day-by-day, step-by-step, telling Canadians for the first time how their sons had defended against an enemy more than twice their number and fell under a withering barrage of Japanese artillery, air and naval support.

Stewart went on to write about the horrific conditions endured by Canadian and other prisoners of war taken by the Japanese.

In one story from Manila, dated Sept. 12, 1945, he described how their Japanese captors were fanatically obedient to the emperor, yet brilliantly if unoriginally minded.

The latter of these traits was particularly evident during shakedowns, in which guards would search prisoners' belongings for specified contraband.

"If they had been ordered to search the prisoners' gear for concealed scissors, they looked only for scissors," he wrote, "overlooking any other articles they discovered which the prisoners were not permitted to have."

Stewart went to Australia and became CP's Far East correspondent on Nov. 1, 1945. There he met Katherine Young, a Canadian Film Board representative. They married on April 23, 1946, and would have five children.

Stewart returned to Canada in 1947. He was named an officer of the Order of the British Empire in 1948 in recognition of his wartime reporting.

Fluently bilingual, he eventually became CP's Montreal bureau chief, and was instrumental in establishing CP's French service, which he headed at its inception.

"The fact that he was bilingual, it influenced him all the way, in everything — the way he understood things and also how he interpreted them," said his widow, Katherine.

He presided over CP coverage of Quebec's Quiet Revolution and the FLQ Crisis, establishing a solid reputation as an impartial interpreter and consultant to French and English reporters alike.

"It wouldn't be going too far to say that he was a Quebec patriot for his regard for the interests of the province," said Katherine Stewart.

Although he retired in 1979, his byline appeared on the CP wire as recently as this spring, when he filed a story marking the 60th anniversary of D-Day.

Stewart's name has been "legendary around CP forever," said Scott White, editor-in-chief of The Canadian Press. White said he and Stewart discussed problems modern-day war correspondents faced convincing the military to give them access to overseas operations.

"Bill was deeply concerned about the issue — even more than half a century after his days as a war correspondent," White said.

"He felt very strongly that the role of a journalist in a war zone was to be an unbiased observer, and that he or she should be allowed to do their job with as little interference from military officials as possible."

He urged journalists to continue fighting for their rights, White said.

William Stewart's report on June 6, 1944.

WITH THE ALLIED INVASION FORCES, June 6, (CP Cable) — We sailed for France with the invasion forces for the greatest military operation of all time on a cool grey evening with hundreds of invasion ships dotted along the Channel like stepping-stones leading to the continent.

First ships to set out on the water-borne crusade raised anchor on the morning of June 5. They were the slower ships carrying tanks and heavier equipment. Departure of the invasion craft in their blue and grey war paint continued all through the day of June 5 although the weather looked like anything but invasion weather. Invasion troops and invasion weapons had all been aboard and ready to sail since late the preceding Saturday.

I was with the Canadians who spent the two days waiting to sail checking and rechecking their equipment. On the little ship on which I was travelling with the headquarters of an assault formation, there was an exercise in transferring to the much smaller craft that were to take us ashore. The army and navy men on our ships were old friends. They had been on several invasion exercises together.

As we got under way a major summoned army personnel and told them: "Here's the dope. We're sailing for France to open the Second Front." There was no cheering. The news was a relief to most because it had been so long coming. The great event didn't dim anyone's spirits. There were countless jokes about the invasion and about possible mishaps and predicaments. As we got under way officers and men went to their bunks to catch precious sleep. And, as the night progressed, the sea seemed calmer. The ship's roll was reduced to a slight sway. About five o'clock the morning of June 6 two columns of black smoke ashore were visible. Bombers could be seen flying in to targets in front of us. The heavy thuds of bombs exploding could be felt right through the ship.

The naval bombardment then opened up in earnest and the ship shuddered gently every few seconds from the concussion of other ships' guns. Spitfires patrolled the skies ceaselessly. It was seven o'clock when the infantry ships dropped their assault boats for the bobbing trip to the beaches. The water was rough and some were seasick. The bombardment was still proceeding fiercely and within a half hour of leaving the ships the assault forces were wading up the enemy beaches. The Invasion of Europe had begun.

MEMBERS' NEWS & NOTES

Lit & Hist project part of 400th birthday

Quebec City's Morrin Centre moves toward future

By Michèle Thibeau

Tuesday, December 7 was the most exciting day in a long time at the Literary and Historical Society of Quebec as people crowded into the tiny, enchanting library to witness the launch of Morrin Centre — the English-speaking community's birthday gift to the city.

Dignitaries, media, society administrators, and library members came out to be part of the historic moment.

Quebec Culture Minister Line Beauchamp announced long-sought-after support for the first phase of the cultural and historical centre project. In all new government funds announced on Tuesday totalled \$190,000, an amount that has been added to the \$1 million from the city of Quebec and the promise of \$500,000 from Canadian Heritage. That's a far cry from the \$1 million project promoters are seeking from the province.

David Blair acknowledged the pressure of government budgets, saying, "Minister Beauchamp understands the project, she knows we need more money."

Blair said, "I'm a very happy guy; it's Christmas early today. We also got \$30,000 from Citadel Foundation today. Citadel usually gives us \$5,000; they made a special contribution of \$25,000."

Just before the end of the day, a very special donation came to Blair's attention. "It's a donation from St-Gabriel de Valcartier for \$50," he said, pausing to reread the cheque. With a lump in his throat, Blair spoke: "This is a symbolic, incredible gift. It just shows that this is a project for everybody, for the whole community."

The fundraising campaign goal is \$3 million from the private sector, to match the \$3 million the project is courting from the three levels of government.

Canadian Heritage Minister Liza Frulla could not attend the event. Blair is awaiting news from the federal government that the promise of \$500,000, to be used strictly for bricks and mortar, will be extended past March 31, 2005.

"We cannot do anything yet until the program is extended," said Blair. "Noises are that the program will be extended and they will be able to do it," he added. "We're going ahead and spending what we can."

Federal 400th anniversary committee commissioner André Juneau said, "I think that it's a uniting project. Including the anglophone community of Quebec City in the celebrations is great. It fits perfectly in the tradition of the city," he said, noting that no other project would have had "as much attachment to the history of the city of Quebec as the Morrin College."

Juneau is confident that the originally promised Canadian Heritage funds will come through for Morrin Centre. Meanwhile, as president of the National Battlefields Commission, Juneau will be babysitting some of the society's antiques and artifacts during the restoration, including the famous statue of General Wolfe. "We're going to try to exhibit Wolfe because I think that there is a obligation to exhibit it," he explained, adding, "We won't put Wolfe in a closet!"

David Blair noted that in 1899 the Literary and Historical Society was instrumental in pushing for the Plains of Abraham to become a park, not a housing development, in time for the 300th anniversary of the city. Quebec City Mayor Jean-Paul L'Allier spoke eloquently about his long history with the Morrin Centre project.

After looking at "the history here, I thought we needed to give Quebec City's English-speaking communities the right, for us it is a privilege, to bear witness to their history. Quebec has to have a complete history, not just a partial one. We asked the community to lead and to imagine the project — to talk to us about themselves: how they see their history, the present and the future. We're here to support this," said L'Allier.

Quebec City councillor Paul Shoiry said, "I'm very happy that everybody's getting involved — the city, the governments and the private sector." He congratulated the "people in the community who worked from the beginning on this project. It's a beautiful project, a very concrete step forward to developing the culture of the English community."

Shoiry, who has entered the mayoral race, said, "The mayor of Quebec has done a great job and next mayor will

Continued on next page



Continued from previous page

have to be very present. The fact that I am very conscious, very close to the English community will certainly put me in a situation where I'll be very sensitive and supportive in the other phases, so you can count on my support."

Over a decade ago, the future of the building was in the hands of the Joseph Morrin College Historical Foundation, which tried to raise funds for a cultural centre. Its last chair was John Keyes, now Champlain-St. Lawrence campus director. Keyes sent his best wishes to the team on Monday.

"I was pleased to hear about the progress that has been made in the Morrin Centre project," said Keyes.

"The Morrin Centre is an important project that will speak eloquently to all Quebecers of the fraternity that has characterized English-French relations in Quebec City. The completion of the centre will be a proud moment for the

English-speaking community of Quebec, our French-speaking fellow citizens and for the City of Quebec. I cannot think of a more fitting tribute to the people of Quebec for the 400th anniversary of the city's birth," said Keyes.

Morrin College stands on the site of the former Royal Redoubt and was formerly Quebec's first prison. It was named after Joseph Morrin, founder of St-Michel Archange Hospital, who transformed it into a Presbyterian College and home of the Literary and Historical Society.

The library closed its doors after the press conference; staff and volunteers will concentrate on moving the remaining books across the street to Kirk Hall and treasures to safe places. Society members will be able to borrow books as of January from the reduced collection at the hall. Restoration work is expected to begin early in the new year; the building will likely be closed for at least a year for phase one. *From the Quebec Chronicle-Telegraph, with thanks.*

The Morrin Centre is a living testimonial of anglophone presence in Quebec City. In the mid-19th century, 39% of the total population was anglophone and they played an important role in the development of the city. Today, a dynamic community of approximately 12,000 anglophones still has roots in the city. Furthermore, many francophones in the city have English, Irish, or Scottish roots. Cultural exchange between anglophones and francophones forged

the distinct personality of Quebec and continues to this day.

In the days of New France, the "Redoute Royale," or Royal Redoubt, stood on the site of the Morrin Centre. Although they were initially used as a military barracks, these enclosed defensive works eventually became a gaol for British prisoners of war. Such prisoners were captured on boats in the Saint-Lawrence or brought back from New England during raids by the French and their Amerindian allies.

The current neo-Palladian building was built between 1808 and 1812 as a municipal gaol. It was the first gaol in Canada to reflect the ideas of British prison reformer John Howard. Howard was opposed to houses of detention and called for houses of correction. Despite all this reform, 16 public hangings still took place from a balcony above the

main door. Several famous prisoners spent time in this gaol, namely writer Philippe Aubert de Gaspé, serial killer Docteur l'Indienne, and the notorious "Chambers Gang". The prison soon became overcrowded and Howard's reforms could not be properly applied. Prisoners were transferred to the old gaol on the Plains of Abraham in 1867.

Morrin College was the city's first anglophone institute of higher education, moving into the old gaol in 1868 following

its conversion by architect Joseph-Ferdinand Peachy. The school was founded at the initiative of Dr. Joseph Morrin, former mayor and prominent doctor in the city. General Arts degrees were offered and pastors were formed for the Presbyterian Church. The college admitted women to the B.A. program from 1885 onward, approximately 20 years before Laval historical summary University. Lack of funds and students obliged the College to shut down at the turn of the 20th century.

Founded by Lord Dalhousie in 1824, the Literary and Historical Society of Quebec was the first learned society in the country. Its library moved to the Morrin Centre in 1868, at the same time as the college. The Society gathered historical documents about Canada and encouraged research. Scholarly essays were published regularly, some making a significant contribution to the advancement of knowledge. The Society eventually fostered the foundation of the National Archives of Canada. Nowadays, it is the main promoter and driving force behind the Morrin Centre project.



HAPPENINGS AROUND QUEBEC

Charter will protect scenery

Document views Laurentian landscape as economic force

By Lynn Moore, the Gazette

STE. ADÈLE - Scenery, at least that of the Laurentians, now has a formal charter of rights and protections.

The Charte des paysages naturels et bâtis des Laurentides, a document that is both lyrical prose and mission statement, was unveiled last night in a ceremony to mark the first such charter in Quebec.

It's the dawn of an era in which landscape is recognized as a powerful economic force, a major contribution to the quality of life and an endangered resource, its supporters said.

"People come to the Laurentians because of the scenery," said Monique Richer, mayor of Rosemere. And they come in droves. In 2002, an estimated 2.8 million tourists visited the region, 60 per cent more than in 2000, leaving behind more than \$500 million, according to tourism statistics.

"We are now, first and foremost, in tourists' thoughts," Robert Poirier, mayor of Boisbriand and head of the conference of regional elected officials, told about 120 people attending the unveiling. "We are (at the) head of the line today, but we can be the last choice tomorrow," he said.

Tourism brings myriad benefits, he said, but it can also bring ugly tourist traps, unsightly housing tracts and buildings that obscure the stretches of farmland, forest or mountains that lured the tourists in the first place.

"We have to consider the environment in economic development. Otherwise, it's short-term thinking," he said.

While the charter, signed by about 100 entities including municipalities stretching from the edges of Laval to Mont Laurier, carries no legal weight, it has the clout of a widely held and public consensus, Richer said.

"By taking a public stance on (the recognition of the value of scenic landscape), our citizens know we have made a commitment and they can use that when changes are being discussed. I would hesitate, as a politician, to go against it," Richer said.

The impetus for the project came about four years ago, when one of the region's environmental groups set out to counter the visual pollution of billboards along Highway 15, Jacques Ruelland, president of the Conseil régional de l'environnement des laurentides (CRE), said.

Intrawest, which is beginning the largest tourism development project in North America at Mont Tremblant, declined an invitation to attend, Ruelland said.

Also absent were the developers behind more than 125 projects pencilled in for the Mont Tremblant area.

Working with various parties, including the school of landscape architecture at the Université de Montréal, the CRE mobilized elected officials and others, including farmers and cultural centres.

Pictures sought for Laurentian book project

For the past three years, we have been researching and writing a column on how Laurentian places got their names for the Laurentian monthly, Main Street. There is a wealth of material there and we are in the process of putting it together in a book. We would like to illustrate the book with photos, both historic and current, and are looking for contributions from our readers.

You can find all of the stories that have been published to date on our web site at <http://www.ballyhoo.ca/placenames/>. If you have anything that you would be willing to share with us for publication, please send it either electronically to joseph@doncaster.ca or by mail to Joseph Graham, 1494 Range 6 Rd, Ste-Lucie-des-Laurentides, J0T 2J0. We will scan and return all original photos rapidly.

Marion Phelps Award: Call for nominations

The Quebec Anglophone Heritage Network requests nominations for the Marion Phelps Award for outstanding long-term contribution to the protection and preservation of Anglophone heritage in Quebec.

Do you know of someone who has consistently worked towards the promotion and preservation of your community's heritage? Send us their name and contact information accompanied by a one-page description of their outstanding long-term contribution by April 30. Our Board of Directors will make the selection in their May meeting.

The QAHN board of directors set up and awarded the first Marion Phelps Award in 2001 to recognize the contributions of our volunteers. It was named after its first recipient, Miss Marion Phelps of the Brome County Historical and Museum Society. Other recipients are Joan Bisson Dow in 2002, Marianna O'Gallagher in 2003 and Kenneth Hugh Annett in 2004.

Nominations should be sent to 400-257 Queen St. Lennoxville QC J1M 1K7, faxed to (819) 564-6872 or e-mailed home@qahn.org. Please send along your own name and contact information. Thank you for helping us recognize the efforts of heritage enthusiasts across the province.

'A key tool for the cultural, social and economic development of our community'

City of Montreal drafting comprehensive heritage policy

On November 3 Montréal Mayor Gérald Tremblay publicly announced a draft Heritage Policy for the City. "The quality of life, conviviality and attractiveness of Montréal are in large part derived from its heritage, which helps define who we are and allows us to move confidently toward the future," the Mayor said. "More than just an added value, heritage is a key tool for the cultural, social and economic development of our community." For her part, Francine Senécal, Vice-Chair of the Montréal Executive Committee and Member Responsible for Culture and Heritage, said: "According to terms of the Montréal Declaration, ratified on October 8, 2003, as part of the 8th World Conference of Historical Cities, the City today would like to work with civil society in implementing its policy."

THE PROJECT

The draft Policy deals with built, archaeological, landscape, natural and artistic heritage, municipal collections, archives, commemoration, toponymy, immaterial cultural heritage and awareness raising.

THREE MAJOR INTERVENTIONS

- The establishment of an organizational system for heritage action founded on partnership.
- The City of Montréal as an exemplary property owner.
- The City of Montréal as an exemplary manager.

Seeking local nominations for national awards

Heritage Canada Foundation looking for a few good people

Are you involved in the conservation of your community's heritage buildings?

If you answered YES, then you know someone whose work and dedication in preserving and promoting Canada's rich architectural heritage is deserving of a Heritage Canada Foundation Award.

We are now accepting nominations for our 2005 Awards and Prizes program and we are looking for YOUR input!

Submit a nomination **today** for one of the six awards and prizes!

The Prince of Wales Prize

Under the generous patronage of His Royal Highness The Prince of Wales, this prize is awarded to a municipal government, large or small, rural or urban, which has shown an exemplary commitment to heritage conservation.

The Gabrielle Léger Award

Named after the wife of former Canadian Governor General, Jules Léger, this award recognizes individuals who have contributed nationally to heritage conservation.

Lieutenant Governor's Award

This award recognizes outstanding achievement by an

A FEW MAJOR ELEMENTS

- Developing an overall vision of the City's actions.
- Leading the Montréal community to share in the heritage responsibility.
- Supporting heritage circles and the networking of heritage players.
- Creating a municipal fund for the conservation and enhancement of municipal assets of heritage interest.
- Improving the user-friendliness of processes related to obtaining information and authorizations.
- Implementing the concept of riverside routes circling the island of Montréal, by enhancing old village cores along the route as well as the Lachine rapids area.
- Conserving and enhancing the heritage of Old Montréal, Mont Royal, the Lachine Canal, the Montréal harbour and Notre-Dame and Sainte-Hélène Islands.

Read up on it at: www.ocpm.qc.ca. Copies of the draft Policy are also available at Montréal borough offices, libraries, and Accès Montréal offices.

Two public hearings remain to be held: January 31, and February 1st, 2005, at 7 p.m., Office de consultation publique de Montréal, 1550 Metcalfe Street, 14th Floor (Peel Metro) 872-3555, www.ocpm.ca.

Also see www.vieux.montreal.qc.ca/eng/

individual or group in the province in which the Heritage Canada Foundation's Annual Conference is held. This upcoming year, the conference will be held in Regina, Saskatchewan.

Journalism Award

Awarded to a journalist whose coverage of heritage issues is judged to be outstanding.

Corporate Prize

Recognizes a business, large or small, which has demonstrated outstanding stewardship of its built heritage.

Achievement Award

Given jointly by Heritage Canada and a partner organization, this award honours individuals for excellence in their province or territory.

All nominations must be received by Heritage Canada on or before **March 31, 2005**, so please don't delay.

For information on nomination procedures, contact the Heritage Canada Foundation at:

5 Blackburn Avenue, Ottawa, Ontario K1N 8A2.

Tel. 613-237-1066 Fax 613-237-5987 E-mail heritagecanada@heritagecanada.org.

HERITAGE MATTERS

Exporail magic is right on track

Canadian Railway Museum moves into world-class home

After several years of hopes, efforts and major work, EXPORAIL, the Canadian Railway Museum at Saint-Constant, has undergone a facelift. Both beautified and transformed, it was officially inaugurated on August 27, 2004. A new main building is complete, the hangars have been revamped, new circuits have been prepared for the streetcar and the garden train. The result is impressive and monumental, in keeping with the objects in the collection. This site, unique in Canada, introduces visitors to a world of giants, a universe where history and technology live side by side in dynamic harmony.

With this brand new building in which to present its fabulous collection, one of the largest in North America, the Museum takes on its true dimension. Locomotives, passenger cars, freight cars, horse-drawn vehicles and streetcars are presented in a manner that evokes the layout of a train station.

Throughout the museum, interpretation modules spark interest. The most impressive is the observation pit, unique in North America, which allows visitors to walk under a locomotive and get a close-up look at its formidable workings. And there's more: a slide show on electric motive power, a mini exhibit on mass transit, a module on steam power and another on maintenance. The entire railroading universe is at your fingertips.

A 1920s streetcar ride, a 1960s passenger train ride, a small train ride around the garden, or a spectacular

demonstration of the John Molson steam locomotive – EXPORAIL is a museum in motion. It gives visitors an opportunity to experience sensations – not to mention sounds and smells – that have been forgotten for decades. Visit the museum and experience railroading unlike anywhere else.

As soon as visitors enter the new EXPORAIL pavilion, they immediately understand the richness of the Museum's collection. The view is breathtaking. A century and a half of railway history is presented by way of exceptional pieces. Indeed, the Museum collection includes more than 150

vehicles, of which more than forty are on display in the new building, including:

- The oldest surviving Canadian-built steam locomotive (CP 144)
- The largest steam locomotive built in Canada and the last to be built for a Canadian railway (CP 5935)
- The most powerful steam locomotive in the entire British Commonwealth, designated as a national historic site (CN 4100) - the oldest passenger car in Canada (CP 1)
- The oldest diesel locomotive (CN 77)

- Montreal's first electric streetcar, the Rocket - Montreal's first observatory streetcar

- The Saskatchewan, Sir William Van Horne's private car, designated as a national historic site

- A steam-operated snow-blower, invented by a Canadian

The Museum's collection also includes:

- Three horse-drawn vehicles
- 6000 small railway objects
- About a hundred scale models of railway vehicles
- 245,000 archive documents including works of art, drawings, rare books, old photographs, manuscripts and periodicals.
- A completely restored century-old station
- Four buildings typical of railway infrastructure.

In the EXPORAIL pavilion, just as everywhere else on the site, visitors will be impressed by the diversity and the presentation of the rolling stock and the

various elements of the railway world.

The regular activities of Exporail are funded by the Ministère de la Culture et des Communications du Québec and the City of Saint-Constant. The ministère des Affaires municipales, sport et loisirs provides financial support for the activities relating to the Museum's Express train. Financial support is also provided by Emploi-Québec. The government of Canada, through Canada Economic Development and the Department of Canadian Heritage, participates in the development of special projects. The Museum is an initiative of the Canadian Railroad Historical Association.



Persistence pays off. Mayor Jacques Gagné had been on Delson council 12 years when he attended the opening of the Canadian Railway Museum in 1961. Forty years later, he had a lot to do with the museum's new building.

MYSTERY PAGE: WHAT DO YOU KNOW ABOUT THIS?**Technology museum looking for information on sleigh**

The Canada Science and Technology Museum has recently acquired an Albany type sleigh and wants to find out more about it. These elegant sleighs stand out for their light construction and graceful curves. "Since they were built in Albany, I'm wondering whether they were particularly popular in border regions," writes the Museum's assistant transportation curator Suzanne Beauvais. "I'm trying to find out if private owners or museums have any similar sleighs in their collections. Can you help me?"

This cutter was designed by Mr. James Goold of Albany in about 1813. By the end of the 1830s, it had been widely copied by other carriage makers. It was very popular in the U.S.A. and the design was also adopted by carriage makers in Canada. Most of the remaining cutters of this type do not have a manufacturer's plate.

Reply to: sbeauvais@technomuses.ca



Canadian Museums Association – YCW update

The CMA is pleased to again be working with the Department of Canadian Heritage to support the creation of summer jobs in museums across Canada. Last year with \$1.6 million in financial support provided by the Department of Canadian Heritage, the CMA funded over 500 jobs under the Young Canada Works in Heritage Organizations program.

The forms for 2005 are available. Please visit the Canadian Museums Association web site at: www.museums.ca. Please note that the CMA will not be mailing out the employer guide and application form this year. You may visit our web site to print the guide and application. Please complete the printed application and mail the form to the Canadian Museums Association. The application deadline for submissions is February 15, 2005.

Tentative timeline: There will be no application mail-out. Submissions deadline is February 15, 2005. The Peer Review meeting will be held March 13-15, 2005. Notifications should be sent out during the week of April 11, 2005. The exact date is contingent upon the receipt of the official Contribution Agreement from the Department of Canadian Heritage.

For more information, please contact Michael Rikley, (613) 567-0099, ext. 236; mrikley@museums.ca.

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The *VMC Investment Program* provides member institutions with a financial investment that supports the creation of innovative virtual exhibits that explore Canada's heritage.


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VMC Investment Program Call: January 19 to February 23, 2005

Community Memories Program Call: March 9 to April 20, 2005

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