

## The Cow Underpass and Other Survivors...

### Morin Heights struggles to preserve heritage buildings

By Sandra Stock

The Morin Heights area still retains many interesting architectural remnants of its agricultural past. Farming was one of the main economic activities from the time of earliest settlement (1840s and 1850s) until the middle of the 20<sup>th</sup> century.

Most farming in our district concluded in the 1960s although a few farms operated part time in Mille Isles until more recently. However several barns, at least one blacksmith workshop, some small sheds and one visible cow underpass still survive.

Most of the remaining barns were built in the 1920s and

1930s – probably the peak production era for grain crops and hay for dairy cattle and sheep. The still standing Watchorn buildings are from this period. One of the barns was moved from a previous

Watchorn farm near Allen Road in the 1920s and the large shed was moved from Montfort in 1930. This reflects the ongoing tradition of preserving and recycling buildings – which we hope will continue. There

are also a few much older structures, such as the Jackson squared log stable, and a part of the Campbell barn. The Campbell barn's older section seems especially weathered and has very large log beams and a 19<sup>th</sup> or early 20<sup>th</sup> century cement-and-stone foundation.

The oldest large barn is on the Hammond-Patterson property in Mille Isles. This is very spacious and has

a single log roof beam 60 feet in length. Imagine the tree. The barn was built by Matthew Hammond in about 1840. This



*Jackson stable: A landmark worth preserving in Morin*

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## From the Volga to the St. Lawrence:

# Contemplating the Scots legacy in Quebec today

As we enter late November, across Quebec and around the world, many will be observing St. Andrew's Day and recalling Scots traditions. That Scots chose St. Andrew as their patron saint is somewhat puzzling, and that they did so stems from those early days when pieces (relics) of the bodies of saints and martyrs were transported about the emerging Christian world and credited with great power, often miraculous. A finger, purportedly of St. Andrew was brought to Scotland and given great veneration.

Many wonder that Columba was not the chosen saint. Here was a Scot, of Irish origin as were all Scots, who followed his fellow Gaels across the Irish sea and brought Christianity to the pictish people as with time they were overcome by Scots and absorbed. Not only did Columba (*Collum Cille* – dove of the church in Gaelic) christianize what became Scotland, his pupils and followers re-christianized Anglo-Saxon England and had enormous influence in the monasterial development of Ireland, out of which emerged the re-christianization of medieval Europe following the Dark Ages.

We were recently shocked into near disbelief when the Premier of Quebec blithely announced to visiting Scottish parliamentarians that Scots economic writer Adam Smith was the only person of his nation to have had any marked input on the world.

This quickly brought out reminders that John Knox was a world-influencing force in Protestantism; that Alexander Graham Bell's telephone transformed communications; Fleming's penicillin saved the lives of millions; Andrew Carnegie's industrial empire generated a foundation whose millions have had remarkable effect, to name a few.

Of course in Canada, Confederation was shaped by Scots, notably John A. MacDonald, politically opposed by George Brown. In later years, other Scots-born or -descended prime ministers included Mackenzie, Thomson, Mackenzie King, Trudeau and doubtless others claiming some element of Scots genetics.

The fur trade which laid the foundations of early Canada's economic development was overwhelmingly carried out by Scotsmen; most of the Hudson's Bay Company posts being overseen by

Orkney Islanders and of course the Northwest Company was replete with Scots in its midst.

The Canadian railways were put together under the leadership of more Scotsmen and their influence built 19<sup>th</sup> century Montreal. The impact of James McGill and William Macdonald on education is beyond measure.



It is certain that you could visit any country in the world and find scotch whiskey being enjoyed, even in Moslem countries where it is outwardly forbidden. Wines, brandies and other drinks from one country or another will be found

here or there but Scotch comes as close to a universal beverage as one could expect to be possible, now being rivalled only by Coca-Cola.

Here within Quebec, some estimates are as high as 80-85 per cent of Quebecers having some Scottish ancestry. We are all familiar with French speakers named Blackburn, Cameron, MacDuff and so on. It is also noteworthy that many aboriginal Canadians now have Mackenzie, MacKay, McLeod and so on as surnames.

The ancient Celts emerged in the Volga River basin of what is now Russia and migrated across Europe, in pre-Christian and pre-Roman times dominated all of central and western Europe and making south-eastward into Turkey, to whose descendants, the Galatians, Paul wrote one of his epistles.

Celt Iberians of the Spanish peninsula, under pressure from Roman invasion migrated north-westward into Ireland becoming the Scotiae of Roman recognition. Over the centuries their descendants migrated around the globe, leaving their mark wherever they paused for a while.

As we end this year and enter the new, most of us will have occasion to sing those lines penned by noteworthy Scottish poet Robbie Burns. "Should auld acquaintance be forgot, and never brought to mind, should auld acquaintance be forgot and days of auld lang syne."

Perhaps Bernard Landry could take to heart Burns' lines in his poem *To a Mouse*, beginning "wee sleekit cawrin timorous beastie/O' what a panic's in thy breastie!" and in a later verse "The best laid schemes o' mice –an' men gang aft agley."

From St. Andrew's Day to New Year's, honour all your heritage, whatever its origins.

And to all members, friends, supporters and fellow heritage believers, from your Board and officers at QAHN "Merry Christmas one and all".

**Richard Evans**

## Toronto trip pays dividends

# QAHN's National Heritage Trust resolution adopted by Heritage Canada

We were represented at the recent 28<sup>th</sup> annual conference of the Heritage Canada Foundation in Toronto on October 11-13. On hand were QAHN President Dick Evans and Communications Co-ordinator Valérie Bridger.

Formally, our role there was to present a version of our resolution concerning the formation of a National Heritage Trust for Canada. It was received and accepted by a unanimous vote at the annual general meeting. Questions on the resolution expressed again a keen interest in natural heritage, and in particular, trees, both urban and in forests. While not ignoring other elements of heritage, the Heritage Canada Foundation decided a few years ago to focus on built heritage. For their conference theme, they chose "Preservation Pays: The Economics of Heritage Conservation". Speakers came from Canada, the U.K. and the U.S.A. and European studies were quoted. The most persuasive arguments were made by

developers who have, in their own activities, found preservation and conversion of heritage buildings to be markedly profitable.

This theme is not only timely but overdue, since across Canada, strong economic arguments are needed to stop so much demolition of heritage buildings and their replacement by new construction. There is also a powerful ecological argument, since resources are concerned – and less construction waste of unknown content is hauled to landfill sites. As well, restoration of heritage buildings is much more labour-intensive than straight demolition, helping our economy as well as our ecology.

QAHN representatives were given a good opportunity to interact with directors and delegates from sea to sea to sea. Replacing outgoing director for Quebec Claude Dubé of Quebec City, is Michel Grenier of Montreal whose initial term will be three years. – R.E.

## Virtual catalogue should help book sales

# On-line publications clearing house now available to QAHN members

How many of you have books to sell? Having trouble publicizing this service? Would you like to increase your outreach with these publications? The web site of the Quebec Anglophone Heritage Network is offering a new service to its core and affiliate members. The idea is to offer space on the web for Member societies to publicize their publications. QAHN would act as a communication medium ONLY. Actual transactions would be done directly between the Member and the prospective buyer.

Here's how we envisage it. QAHN sets up a web page with the following categories: Name of publication, Short Description, Cost, Seller Contact Information (phone, fax and/or e-mail). We would also include an order form which could be e-mailed or faxed directly to the Member.

Does this interest you? Send us a list of your publications specifying name, short description and cost (excluding shipping and handling which would have to be handled on a one-on-one basis) as well as the contact information you would like to see posted on the web, and we'll take care of the rest. As this is still a pilot project, we need to limit the number of listed publications to five per Member. This number could be increased if reaction is favourable.

Send us your publications list by e-mail, fax or post (see below).

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Back to the future: Hotel LeGrand now serves local community

## Abandoned hotel gets new life in downtown Port Daniel

By Monique P. Nadeau

Port Daniel is located on Chaleur Bay. Although it was visited by Jacques Cartier, who explored the bay from there in 1534, the first European settlers didn't arrive until the 19<sup>th</sup> century. In 1824, the family of

Neil McKinnon, a veteran Scottish soldier, sold 550 acres of land to a William Carter. Mr. Carter was a farmer and also sold wood, and though he bought the property mostly to cut the wood he also built a small house in the centre of

After the death of Mr. Carter his executor John Walsh bought the property in about 1862. Miss Hannah Lauder got 1/8th of the property as an inheritance, including

the house. She was single, rented rooms, and having no heirs, on September 5 1897, ceded the property to Alfred Dumaresq-LeGrand, husband of her niece and protégée, Maida, whose parents had come from Jersey Island. Mr LeGrand, oldest of 15 children, began renovations and the house became a hotel on January 14 1899. He ran it for 50 years, enlarging it again in 1907.

### RAILWAY BOOM

In 1907, the railway reached Port-Daniel, where it would terminate until 1911. The men who worked on the railway stayed at the hotel with their families. Salesmen, carpetbaggers and the odd tourist also stayed there. The hotel also provided "taxi service" by horse and buggy, and in the winter by sleigh, to travelling salesmen selling their goods in Chandler or further down the Coast. It was huge for the times with a reception hall, a lounge for the ladies, a smoking

room, a large kitchen and a laundry room. There were 11 rooms on the main floor and 16 on the second floor, including a suite and a bathroom.

Hotel staff lived in the back of the house. Next to the hotel were stables, a sample room where dealers came



*Before workers renovated the LeGrand Hotel they jacked it up to build a foundation.*

to buy, a cabin containing rest rooms, three kitchen gardens, barn and barnyard. It was a village by itself in the centre of the village of Port-Daniel.

### SLOW DECLINE

In the fall of 1911 a tunnel was finally opened under the granite mountain, extending the railway all the way to Gaspé. The town of Gaspé had become a very important harbour over the years and goods that had been forwarded by water now could be sent by rail. The Hotel LeGrand began a slow decline. It was not a necessity any more and catered only to the tourist trade and a few salespeople. (It took two days to go from Quebec City to Gaspé in the best of weather). But under the experienced management of Alfred Dumaresq-LeGrand, the hotel still managed to survive. We know for a fact that the rooms cost \$8 per night in 1940, because the author Gabrielle Roy, who came to Port-Daniel then and eventually wrote her book *Bonheur d'Occasion* in Port-Daniel, found it too

**CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE**

## Hotel LeGrand reborn as community centre

### Continued from previous page

expensive and rented a room with a Mr and Mrs McKenzie at \$4 instead.

In 1943, not long before he died, Alfred Dumaresq LeGrand ceded the hotel to his son Lewis. In 1953, the hotel went to Alfred John Aubin, who had married Alfred and Maida's daughter, Laura. Mr Aubin worked for the Robin Jones company.

In 1954 Lewis transferred the hotel to his sister Ethel Mildred LeGrand. It was eventually abandoned in the early 1960s. With no heating it deteriorated quickly in the rugged Gaspé winters. I remember it being called "the haunted house" by my own children in the 1970s.

### A REAL EYESORE

By now in ruins or just about, but still standing, the hotel was given to Stephen Dow of Port-Daniel in 1989. He sold it to the British Heritage Centre in New Richmond. But the hotel could not be moved 80 km in its poor condition, so in 1993 the BHC sold it to the town of Port-Daniel for \$1. What should we do with it? It was located right in the centre of Port-Daniel, next to the railway station, and was a real eyesore.

But nobody in Port-Daniel wanted to see it razed and the committee *Les Amis de l'Hotel LeGrand* was formed to try to save it somehow. Its new life started in 1995 when mayor Robert McInnis decided to get busy, with the help of the *Ministère de la Culture et des Communications*, the CRCD, *Heritage Quebec*, the federal government, and some others. The totally renovated building's main floor now houses the municipal library, which I helped create, and which we

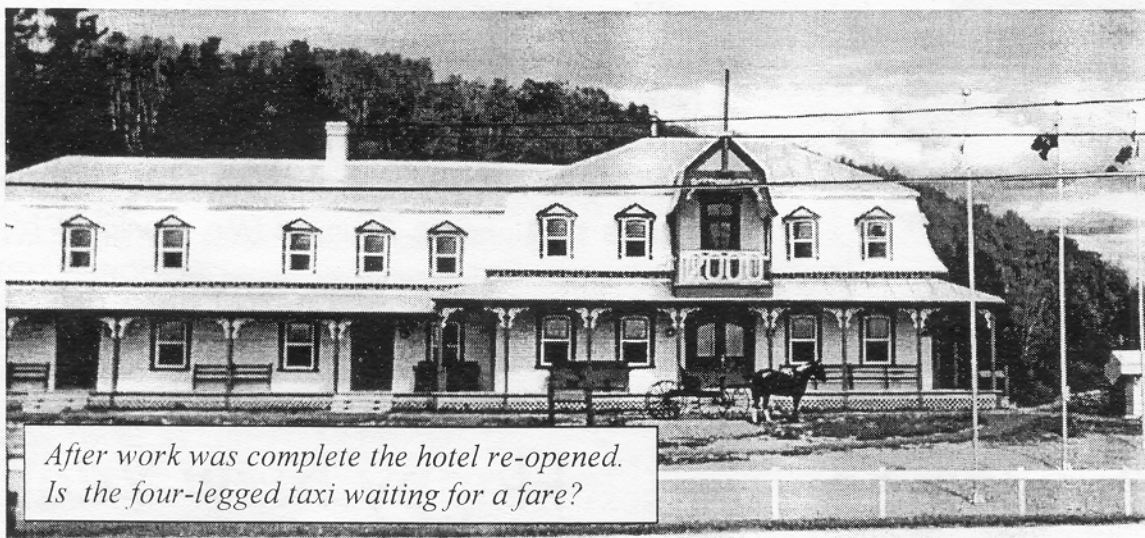
named *Bonheur d'Occasion* in memory of Gabrielle Roy, with over 2500 books, 500 in English, and an interpretation centre telling the stories of Port-Daniel and the hotel. The town offices are upstairs. The original hotel had no basement. A foundation and a basement were built and now we have a *Salle Communautaire*.

The hotel still sits on its original beams and girders, not rotten after so many years. People built with their own hands and knew how. So after a few conflicts, too much money, negative thinking by those who said it couldn't be done, a mischievous case of broken windows and a new mayor, the old hotel has been restored to its original Victorian beauty – keeping the cambrel roof covered with beaded sheet metal, the dormer windows cut into the roof at regular intervals (one for each room), the front veranda with its wooden pillars. The second storey kept its loggia-balcony with a beautiful cornice and wooden lace. The walls are again covered with shiplap siding. The shades of pale yellow and green remain outside and in. Inside, where possible the original floors have been sanded and varnished. The plaster had to be removed from the lath but it is still there under the wallboard. The windows were redone with the same blue and red stained glass filtering our bright Gaspesian sunshine.

The Maison Legrand was officially opened on June 5, 2000. Parc Saint Martin surrounds Maison Legrand. Across the road, the sea is not 300 feet away. Jacques Cartier named the shell-shaped harbour Conche Saint Martin when he arrived in Port-Daniel on June 4

1534, the feast day of Saint Martin. The park was inaugurated on September 25, 2001, after a beautiful landscaping.

The building is estimated to be worth a million dollars but its real value is in the hearts of the people of Port-Daniel.



*After work was complete the hotel re-opened.  
Is the four-legged taxi waiting for a fare?*

## NEWS AND NOTES FROM AROUND QUEBEC

IT'S VICTORIAN CHRISTMAS TEA TIME IN STANSTEAD AND LENNOXVILLE

YOU ARE INVITED TO VISIT CARROLLCROFT, THE STANSTEAD HISTORICAL SOCIETY'S HERITAGE HOME, NOW COMPLETELY DECORATED FOR THE HOLIDAY SEASON. JOIN FRIENDS FOR TEA IN A MERRY OLD-FASHIONED WAY AND LET US OFFER YOU NATALIE'S WONDERFUL SCONES, MADE ON THE PREMISES, SERVED WITH DEVON CREAM, JAM, SQUARES AND SHORTBREAD. TAKE TIME OUT FROM SHOPPING TO SHARE WITH FAMILY AND FRIENDS THE SIMPLE PLEASURES OF CHRISTMAS PAST.

THE TEA ROOM IS OPEN FROM 2 TO 4:30 P.M., WEDNESDAY TO SUNDAY, FROM DECEMBER 1 TO DECEMBER 23 AND AGAIN FROM JANUARY 3 TO 6, 2002. ADMISSION \$7, GUIDED TOUR OF THE HOUSE AND TEA, OR \$5 FOR TEA ONLY. RESERVATIONS ARE APPRECIATED (819) 876-7322.



VICTORIAN CHRISTMAS TEA AT UPLANDS THE LENNOXVILLE-ASCOT HISTORICAL AND MUSEUM SOCIETY IS ONCE AGAIN HOLDING ITS VICTORIAN CHRISTMAS TEA. THIS ANNUAL FUND-RAISING EVENT WILL TAKE PLACE ON DECEMBER 1 FROM 2 TO 4:30 P.M. AT UPLANDS, 9 SPEID STREET, LENNOXVILLE. (819) 564-0409.

Now about a hundred years old, the Christmas cards on these pages are from the Stanstead Historical Society's Colby Collection. Many thanks to Alphonse Saumier (Mr. Monique) for sending them along.

Merry Christmas — Happy New Year

## MORE NEWS AND NOTES FROM AROUND QUEBEC



Merry Christmas

I hope that Santa trims your tree  
With every new and shining glee!

THIRD ANNUAL QAHN CONFERENCE  
THE QUEBEC ANGLOPHONE HERITAGE NETWORK'S THIRD ANNUAL CONFERENCE WILL BE HELD JUNE 7-9 IN GATINEAU. THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF THE GATINEAU HAS VOLUNTEERED TO HOST THE CONFERENCE IN HONOUR OF THEIR 40<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY. PRELIMINARY ORGANIZATION SUGGESTS THAT THE CONFERENCE WILL BE HELD AT HERITAGE COLLEGE. KEEP AN EAR OUT FOR MORE INFORMATION EARLY IN THE NEW YEAR. WE PROMISE TO SEND OUT THE INVITATIONS EARLIER THIS YEAR! LOOKING FORWARD TO SEEING YOU ALL THERE.

THE *FÉDÉRATION DES SOCIÉTÉS D'HISTOIRE DU QUÉBEC* ANNUAL CONGRESS WILL BE HELD JUNE 14-15-16 IN THE EASTERN TOWNSHIPS (SHERBROOKE). MORE INFORMATION TO COME. WE WILL SEND OUT THE INVITATIONS AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. LOOKING FORWARD TO SEEING YOU ALL THERE! – NATHALIE DION, GENERAL MANAGER, 4545, AVE. PIERRE-DE COUBERTIN, BOX 1000, STATION M MONTREAL QC, H1V 3R2, PHONE (514) 252-3031, FAX (514) 251-8038, TOLL-FREE IN QUEBEC 1 866 691-7202, <WWW.HISTOIREQUEBEC.QC.CA>, <FSHQ@HISTOIREQUEBEC.QC.CA>.

QUEBEC FAMILY HISTORY CONFERENCE, MAY 2002 THE QFHS WILL CELEBRATE ITS 25<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY WITH AN INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON GENEALOGY AND FAMILY HISTORY IN QUEBEC. IT WILL BE HELD FRIDAY, SATURDAY, SUNDAY, MAY 31, JUNE 1 AND 2, 2002 AT MCGILL UNIVERSITY. INFORMATION CAN BE OBTAINED FROM THE QFHS AND THE WEB SITE [WWW.CAM.ORG/~QFHS/ROOTS2002-HTML](http://WWW.CAM.ORG/~QFHS/ROOTS2002-HTML).

PATHS CONFERENCE IN QUEBEC CITY, FEBRUARY 22-24, 2002  
THE WEB SITE OF CANADA'S NATIONAL HISTORY SOCIETY (CNHS) (WHO PUBLISH *THE BEAVER*, HISTORICAL MAGAZINE) HAS DETAILS OF THE FORTHCOMING PATHS CONFERENCE. PATHS STANDS FOR PROVINCIAL AND TERRITORIAL HISTORICAL SOCIETIES. HISTORICA, OF HERITAGE FAIRS FAME, HAS AGREED TO BE A SPONSOR. FOR MORE INFORMATION ON THE CONFERENCE, A REGIONAL ROUNDUP AND INFORMATION ON AWARDS, VISIT [HTTP://WWW.HISTORYSOCIETY.CA/EN/PATHS/PATHSEN.HTML](http://WWW.HISTORYSOCIETY.CA/EN/PATHS/PATHSEN.HTML)



## GLEANINGS FROM THE QAHN LIST SERVE

THOSE WHO DON'T USE OUR QAHN LIST SERVE NEWS AND DISCUSSION GROUP ARE MISSING SOME INTERESTING STUFF. THE COMPUTERIZED LIST MAKES IT EASY TO SHARE INFORMATION AND COMMENT ON HERITAGE-RELATED TOPICS. SIGN UP THROUGH OUR WEB SITE AT <[WWW.QAHN.ORG](http://WWW.QAHN.ORG)>. SOME RECENT ITEMS:

CONCORDIA PROFESSOR GÉRARD LEDUC (HE MAY NOW BE RETIRED) WANTS TO TAKE YOU ON A FASCINATING RIDE THROUGH A VERY INTERESTING AREA OF TRANS-ATLANTIC PRE-HISTORY. PROF. LEDUC IS PRESENTING A TWO-PART LECTURE SERIES KNIGHTS TEMPLAR IN NOVA FRANCIA? "THE KNIGHTS TEMPLAR HAVE LEFT CRYPTIC BUT UNMISTAKABLE EVIDENCE OF HIDDEN REFUGES IN AMERICA, BEFORE COLUMBUS," HE WRITES IN A TANTALIZING TEASER. "THIS EVIDENCE IS COMING OUT OF THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL RECORD, THE ARCHIVES, OLD MAPS AND THROUGH THE LOST LANGUAGE OF SYMBOLISM, LINKING THE CATHARS, THE REX DEUS FAMILIES, THE KNIGHTS TEMPLAR, HENRY ST. CLAIR AND THE FREE MASONS."

PART I – WED. NOV. 21. REFUGES IN NEW ENGLAND AND IN THE MARITIMES

PART II – WED. NOV. 28 FROM ROSSLYN CASTLE TO OWL'S HEAD

LOCATION, TICKET SALES: BROME LAKE BOOKS, KNOWLTON, (450) 242 2242. TIME: 7 P.M., ADMISSION \$12 PER LECTURE. LIMITED SEATING. GÉRARD LEDUC, (450) 292 3522.

HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT EMILIE BOULET <[BOULET\\_E@HOTMAIL.COM](mailto:BOULET_E@HOTMAIL.COM)> WAS LOOKING FOR SOME HELP WITH A HISTORY PROJECT ON DAILY LIFE IN MONTREAL, 1700 TO 1750. SHE GOT AN ANSWER FROM QAHN MEMBER MARIANNA O'GALLAGHER <[CARRAIG@TOTAL.NET](mailto:CARRAIG@TOTAL.NET)> "GOOD IDEA TO PUT THIS KIND OF REQUEST ON THE NETWORK," WROTE MARIANNA.

ANOTHER INQUIRER, 'VANESSA', AT E-MAIL <[AZARIELLE\\_K@HOTMAIL.COM](mailto:AZARIELLE_K@HOTMAIL.COM)>, ASKED FOR HELP FINDING INFORMATION ABOUT WITCH-HUNTING – LA CHASSE AUX SORCIÈRES – IN THE DAYS OF NEW FRANCE. NO INDICATION IF SHE FOUND IT.

THOSE WHO WERE AT THE QAHN 2001 CONFERENCE WILL BE INTERESTED TO KNOW THAT TRÉSORS ET TROUVAILLES, QUEBEC'S OWN VERSION OF THE ANTIQUES ROADSHOW IS FILMING DECEMBER 8 AND 9 AT L'ÉCOMUSÉE DU FIER MONDE, 2050 AMHERST IN MONTREAL. IF YOU WANT TO BRING SOMETHING TO BE IDENTIFIED AND EVALUATED YOU MUST SIGN UP IN ADVANCE. E-MAIL [MDUMAIS@PRAMTV.COM](mailto:MDUMAIS@PRAMTV.COM) OR LEAVE A MESSAGE AT (514) 521-1175, EXT. 124

*LA FÉDÉRATION DES SOCIÉTÉS D'HISTOIRE DU QUÉBEC* INVITES YOU TO JOIN A CAMPAIGN TO OPEN CANADIAN CENSUS INFORMATION GATHERED IN THE 20<sup>TH</sup> CENTURY. THAT INFORMATION IS OF GREAT INTEREST TO THOSE INVOLVED IN HISTORY AND GENEALOGY. SIMILAR INFORMATION COLLECTED IN CENSUSES BEFORE 1906 IS AVAILABLE TO THE PUBLIC. TO ORGANIZE A PETITION OR OFFER OTHER HELP, SEE THEIR WEB SITE <[WWW.HISTOIREQUEBEC.QC.CA](http://WWW.HISTOIREQUEBEC.QC.CA)> OR E-MAIL THEM AT <[FSHQ@HISTOIREQUEBEC.QC.CA](mailto:FSHQ@HISTOIREQUEBEC.QC.CA)>.

THE SAMUEL AND SAIDYE BRONFMAN FAMILY FOUNDATION ANNOUNCES A NEW CYCLE OF FUNDING UNDER ITS URBAN ISSUES PROGRAM. COMMUNITY GROUPS AND ORGANIZATIONS WORKING TO IMPROVE THE DAY TO DAY LIVES OF URBAN RESIDENTS ARE URGED TO APPLY.

THE URBAN ISSUES PROGRAM SUPPORTS ACTIVITIES THAT HELP CREATE VIBRANT, LONG-LASTING NEIGHBOURHOODS IN CANADA'S CITIES. PAST PROJECTS HAVE ADDRESSED ISSUES SUCH AS AFFORDABLE HOUSING, FOOD SUSTAINABILITY, PROTECTION OF URBAN SPACES, ECOLOGICALLY-SOUND TRANSPORTATION AND THE CULTIVATION OF COMMUNITY ARTS.

GROUPS MUST SEND A LETTER OF INTENT TO THE FOUNDATION NO LATER THAN NOVEMBER 30. FOR INFORMATION ON WHAT MUST BE INCLUDED IN THE LETTER AS WELL AS FUNDING GUIDELINES AND DETAILS OF CURRENT RECIPIENTS, SEE <[WWW.BRONFMANFOUNDATION.ORG/URBAN](http://WWW.BRONFMANFOUNDATION.ORG/URBAN)>.

THE TARGETED CITIES IN THE PROVINCE OF QUEBEC ARE QUEBEC CITY AND HULL, BUT GROUPS IN OTHER CITIES ARE STILL ENCOURAGED TO APPLY.

IN OTHER CYBER NEWS, THE QAHN WEB SITE NOW FEATURES A MEMBERS' DIRECTORY (MAKE SURE YOU'RE LISTED) AND A SPEAKERS' BANK. WE ENCOURAGE EVERYONE TO VISIT IT, USE IT AND ADD TO IT. <[WWW.QAHN.ORG](http://WWW.QAHN.ORG)>. THAT'S ALSO WHERE YOU SIGN UP FOR THE QAHN LIST SERVE NEWS GROUP.



## Rural cemeteries have stories to tell

# Annual fall foliage cavalcade tours Compton County

By Ed Laberee

The Compton County Historical and Museum Society annual fall tour of cemeteries took place on Wednesday, September 16, 2001. Members and friends of the society assembled at the museum in Eaton Corner for a departure hour of 9:30 a.m. Our direction was towards Bulwer, travelling on Jordan Hill Road through Johnville to Orr Road, and to the Compton highway, Route 147 at Milby. We would find ourselves back at this corner later in the day. Just beyond Milby we stopped at the former Libby burial grounds, no longer in use, and here Robert Nichols gave a short history of the Libby family who had come up from the U.S.A. and settled in this area. When the highway was rebuilt, part of the cemetery was taken. Today one large monument stands to mark the place.

We proceeded through Compton, past King's Hall Hotel, and stopped at the Cochrane-Sleeper Cemetery. Mr. Drew and Mr. Heath gave us information on the restoration of the once-abandoned cemetery, later taken over by the Compton Cemetery Co. An album with pictures of before, during and after the restoration tells a tale of dedicated and hard work by a group of volunteers. From here we crossed the Compton Highway in the direction of Hillhurst, going through the train trestle of the St. Lawrence Atlantic RR, where trains still pass between Portland and Montreal. Russell Nichols provided commentary on the Doak family cemetery. Many members of the family went to California; however this is a family maintained cemetery.

Next we came to the Bowen family neighbourhood and the Bowen Cemetery. Once abandoned, later restored by Russell Nichols, it now has its own association. Ellen Bowen Bailey gave a brief history and information on the cemetery and provided interesting details on the neighbourhood.

### PANORAMA

Travelling toward Compton Station we stopped to visit the Carr Cemetery. Paul & Laura Enright kindly let us park the cars in their yard, which allowed us to take in the panorama from that particular spot! Russell Nichols provided comments on the Carr family who had once lived in the area. It has a huge monument in the centre and is another cemetery looked af-

ter by the Compton Cemetery Association.

At Waterville, we enjoyed a rest and our picnic lunches in St. John's Anglican Church Hall, later visiting the cemetery behind the church. After a stop of about an hour we were back in our cars and proceeded to Waterville's Greenwood Cemetery. We were greeted by Mr. Knutson, who gave us a tour of this large burial ground with interesting commentary. There are 652 known burials and some 50 per cent were born in Norway or Sweden. We also learned that the records were destroyed in a fire in 1947; however they are continuing to rebuild that information.

Our last cemetery stop was at the McIntosh Cemetery; this too had been abandoned but has been nicely restored by Dave Donnachie and friends. Mr. McIntosh was once a member of Parliament.

As we came back into Milby we made an unscheduled stop at the little country schoolhouse where we were greeted by Bev & Milt Loomis, who were hard at work in the restoration. Bev & Milt took a break to show what is still to be done and what has been accomplished. From here we were back at the four-corners (from earlier in the day) and we headed for our homes after an enjoyable day of beautiful scenery, hearing more interesting stories of the Townships with weather that was co-operative and warm.

### Medal for the Virtual Museum of Canada

The Canadian Heritage Information Network (CHIN) was honoured with the Unique Achievement Award for its Virtual Museum of Canada (VMC) initiative during a ceremony held on October 15 at the Canadian Museum of Civilization in Hull.

The VMC is a unique gateway featuring innumerable stories and treasures entrusted to Canadian museums. The VMC was created by the Canadian Heritage Information Network, in collaboration with museums, other government agencies, educational institutions and the private sector. The VMC is part of the strategy of the Department of Canadian Heritage which seeks to promote the presence of Canadian cultural content in cyber-space. Barely 6 months after its March 22 inauguration, the VMC announced its 1,300,000<sup>th</sup> visitor. Congratulations!

## SOME PUBLICATIONS OF INTEREST

### *Schooling in the Clearings, Stanstead 1800-1850*

#### Story of early education told in fascinating new book

The Stanstead Historical Society presents *Schooling in the Clearings, Stanstead 1800-1850*, by Kathleen H. Brown.

The author, a descendant of early settlers, grew up in Stanstead. After retiring as a professor at the University of Guelph, Dr. Brown focused her attention on a collection of family papers that had been treasured by the previous four generations. Some had to do with schools. To understand the context of these bits of history, she visited archives and libraries. The subject became so absorbing that this book evolved.

It tells the story of education in the border township of Stanstead, from the first voluntary schools until the rudiments of a public elementary school system were in place. It also describes the development of independent academies and other superior schools. Dr. Brown believes that this comprehensive study of schooling in one particular township will serve as a guide for similar studies of other townships or counties.

Appendices contain the names of more than 10,000 pupils, teachers, trustees and school sponsors in Stanstead Township, starting from 1809. This material is of considerable interest to genealogists. Copies are available from Stanstead Historical Society, 535 Dufferin Street, Stanstead, Quebec J0B 3E0; telephone: 819-876-7322; fax: 819-876-7936; E-mail: mcccip@interlinx.qc.ca.

### *Imprints*

#### Buildings leave tangible statement of English-speaking Quebec roots

*Imprints: Discovering the historic face of English Quebec*, by Ray and Diana Baillie, Price-Patterson Ltd. \$32 paper, 192 pp.

This gently elegiac photo book with accompanying text highlights "the presence and culture of English-speakers who helped to build communities in Quebec, particularly before the Great War." The pictures capture not only historic houses and churches but also homey little landmarks such as Stilwell's candy shop in Verdun. Montreal Island, the Outaouais, the Laurentians, southwest Quebec and the Richelieu Valley are covered. An evocative remembrance of things past.—Margaret Goldik, published in *Montreal Review of Books* (Two other volumes are to follow — Ed.)

### *The Beaver*

#### Canada's history magazine is more than just the Bay

History buffs who aren't familiar with Canada's National History Society and its regular magazine *The Beaver* may wish to check it out. Based in Winnipeg, the Society since 1994 has sponsored publication of *The Beaver*. The magazine was founded in 1920 by the Hudson's Bay Company and is now published bi-monthly. The Hudson's Bay Foundation continues to encourage some of the work. Membership in the society includes subscription to the magazine. Though somewhat slanted in content toward western topics, most likely that reflects where the preponderance of submissions come from.

The book offerings alone make affiliation worthwhile for book lovers. A feature on the autumn 2001 issue based on wartime letters from Kathleen Fish of Edmonton to her husband in service overseas will bring back so many memories to those of us who recall those years. To learn more or to subscribe, see the web site at <http://www.beavermagazine.ca>.

### *Canadian Subsidy Directory*

M.G. Publishing is offering a revised edition of the *Canadian Subsidy Directory*, a guide containing more than 1700 direct and indirect financial subsidies, grants and loans offered by government departments and agencies, foundations, associations and organizations. In this new 2001 edition all programs are well described. "...obtain assistance from experts in fields such as: industry, transport, agriculture, communications, municipal infrastructure, education, import-export, labour, construction and renovation, the service sector, hi-tech industries, research and development, joint ventures, arts, cinema, theatre, music and recording industry, the self employed, contests, and new talents." Assistance from and for foundations and associations, guidance to prepare a business plan, market surveys, computers and more. *Canadian Subsidy Directory, 2001 edition, \$49.95* ISBN 2-922870-01-4. To obtain a copy call one of the following distributors: Fureteur: 450-465-5597, Canadian Publications 866-322-3376. MG Publishing, 4865 HWY 138, RR1, St-Andrews West, Ontario, K0C 2A0.

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## E.T. calls home Marguerite Knapp Building

# Former school houses anglophone community groups

By Caroline Kehne

LENNOXVILLE – Representatives of the Eastern Townships region's English-speaking community recently dropped by the Marguerite Knapp Building, formerly the offices of the Eastern Townships School Board, for an official open house.

The building is named in honour of Dr. Marguerite Macnaughton Knapp, for her exceptional achievement in the field of education. Recognizing Mrs. Knapp's leadership in educational reform and social justice, the building that bears her name now serves as home to several groups serving the region's English-speaking community.

According to a biography supplied by the Bishop's University Archives, Mrs. Knapp's teaching accomplishments span nearly a half a century, including work in schools in East Bolton, Millington, Dunkin, Owl's Head, Cherry River, Lennoxville and Sherbrooke. Knapp's career began in a one-room schoolhouse, where the survival skills included the ability to fire the stove, prepare lunches and teach all subjects and grades.

"Conditions were quite bad when I started," she wrote in an essay published by Bishop's University when it bestowed on her an honorary doctorate. "My first contract was for eight months, twenty days, all for \$320 per year. There were no benefits such as sick days. If I missed a week off sick, I made it up at the end of the year."

That phase of Knapp's life ended in 1968.

### FROM UNION TO MANAGEMENT

Her credits included several years of active membership in the PAPRT, and along with other teachers the founding of their first bargaining unit. In 1972, she was elected to the Lennoxville District School Board, later serving as chairman. Knapp was instrumental in launching courses for

teachers to upgrade their qualifications and successfully championed the creation of a smaller local board dedicated to elementary education.

The newly refurbished Marguerite Knapp Building is a suitable tribute to one of the Eastern Townships' educational pioneers. Originally a French-language Roman Catholic elementary school, the one-storey 1960s red-brick building was bought for \$1 by the then Eastern Townships (Regional) School Board offices. It now houses several



**The former Eastern Townships School Board offices now house a core group of organizations serving the region's English-speaking community. Pictured here are: Erin Mallory, Townshippers Association; Jackie Hall, St. Francis Literacy Council; Grant Myers, ET CEDEC; Terry Moore, Lennoxville and District Women's Centre; Patricia Heath, TRUSS; Aline Élie, Job Links; Judith Ross, Townshippers Foundation, and in the green suit, Valérie Bridger, QAHN.**

– photo by Caroline Kehne

anglophone community groups: the Townshippers Association, the Townshippers Research and Cultural Foundation, the Quebec Anglophone Heritage Network (QAHN), Job Links, the Lennoxville and District Women's Centre, the Eastern Townships Community Economic Development and Employability Committee, the Townships Regional Union of (school) Support Staff and the St. Francis Literacy Council are the organizations that now call the building home. In addition to those permanent residents, the Mental Health and Well-Being Support Group of Lennoxville maintains an onsite information and resource corner available to members of the general public.

On the theory that the sum can equal more than the total

of its parts, the Knapp building brings together the efforts of organizations serving the same fragmented English-speaking population. "The benefit is having the ability and energy of so many people doing so many things in the same building, all working on behalf of the English-speaking community," said economic development officer Grant Myers. He said the proximity has already led to close ties with the Townshippers Association, especially in the area of co-operative outreach.

The public is invited to visit the Marguerite Knapp Building, located at 257 Queen Street in Lennoxville, during regular business hours.

# A DIALOGUE ON HERITAGE IN THE 21<sup>ST</sup> CENTURY

CANADIANS AND THEIR HERITAGE: SOME TRENDS, ISSUES AND IDEAS AS PART OF A "DIALOGUE WITH CANADIANS", THE DEPARTMENT OF CANADIAN HERITAGE IS CONSULTING WITH CANADIANS AND HERITAGE COMMUNITIES. THIS "DIALOGUE" AIMS AT CONTRIBUTING, ON A LONG TERM BASIS, TO THE DEVELOPMENT OF NEW DIRECTIONS FOR FEDERAL HERITAGE POLICY IN CANADA. THE MAIN GOAL OF THE ELECTRONIC CONSULTATION IS TO ALLOW THE LARGEST NUMBER OF CITIZENS AND INTERESTED

ORGANIZATIONS TO SUBMIT THEIR COMMENTS. READ THE DOCUMENT CANADIANS AND THEIR HERITAGE: SOME TRENDS, ISSUES AND IDEAS BEFORE RESPONDING TO THE QUESTIONS. YOU ARE ALSO INVITED TO SUBMIT COMMENTS ON ANY OTHER ASPECT OF HERITAGE THAT IS OF INTEREST TO YOU. YOUR CONTRIBUTION WILL ENRICH THE ONGOING DIALOGUE. THE E-CONSULTATION WILL END ON DECEMBER 15, 2001. FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONSULT [WWW.PCH.GC.CA/CONSULTATIONS2001/](http://WWW.PCH.GC.CA/CONSULTATIONS2001/)

## Morin Heights

### CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

farm was purchased by the Patterson Family in the 1890s and operated into the 1960s. Many of its original buildings are now gone. However, unlike most of the former farms of our area, the barn, and not the house, still survives.

Closer to Morin Heights village on the Lachute road is the Willis Seale barn, presently being renovated by the latest owner of this property. Also on the outskirts of the village, although on the St. Sauveur side, is the Guenette-McConnell barn, another quite old structure – probably from the 1890s – that has been maintained quite well. Jack McConnell bought this property from the Guenette family in 1906 and raised quarter horses, chickens, rabbits and racing pigeons.

On the banks of the Simon River, near the municipal beach, is a barn and stable-cum-storehouse that originally belonged to the Argenteuil Lumber Company (later J.E. Seale & Son). These buildings sheltered the mill horses and kept finished lumber from the elements. The municipality of Morin Heights has recently purchased these barns. It is hoped that their appearance can be maintained as an important link to our past and that they can be usefully recycled for cultural-recreational activities.

The Christieville area of Morin Heights and St. Sauveur has kept a more rural appearance and has many agricultural survivors. An interesting, nearly

collapsed barn is located under Mount Christie on the Elder property. Another old but attractively-ageing survivor is on the hill going down toward the bridge, and stands on what was once the Piché farm.

### STONE FOUNDATIONS

Across the road is Robert John Ivall's forge – luckily preserved and well kept by the present owners. Behind the bed and breakfast Aux Berges sur la Rivière, the cement and stone foundations of the Hammond barn and other buildings can still be seen. Probably the most unique surviving structure in Christieville is the cow underpass near where chemin Legault meets Village. The passage under Village is about 7-feet high by 4-feet wide and light can be seen at the end of the tunnel. Cows and herders could easily have travelled through.

This simple cement arch has the air of a Roman ruin lost in time and space. In old Morin Heights municipal council minutes this structure is referred to: "6<sup>th</sup> May, 1918... Council votes to maintain an underpass, Lot 36, Range 1, for John Seale's cattle..." There was a second underpass for animals under the main street of the village: "7<sup>th</sup> October, 1906... F.E. Watchorn is granted the liberty to make a pass under the village street near the J.E. Seale house..." This latter tunnel is no longer visible and just may have been the basis for one of the long-time local stories of a cave or tunnel that goes under the village.

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