

QUEBEC HERITAGE NEWS

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PAGE 1

NORMA SHEARER, MONTREAL'S FIRST HOLLYWOOD STAR



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ESTATE GARDENS THEN AND NOW

THE BEAUHARNOIS SCANDAL REVISITED

A PLEA FOR HURTUBISE HOUSE

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Who is that diver?

I recognized the picture on the front of the March-April Quebec Heritage News immediately as the deep end of the swimming pool at the Manoir Richelieu in Murray Bay, probably photographed in the 40s or 50s. I'm curious about why it's there on the front cover and why I could not find any identifying information or any related article inside the News. Can you enlighten me?



I visited my grandmother in Murray Bay nearly every

summer during those years, and spend many mornings at that pool. In fact, I'm sure that among my father's photos, which I now have, there are probably some that were taken there — he certainly took many in and around the area.

**Yours truly, Anne Barkman,
Secretary, Westmount Historical Association**

Editor's note:

How nice to learn the location of the picture. The diver is Patricia Pare, the subject of the story on pages 8 and 9. I presume (guess) the event was a diving competition or demonstration. It was my mistake not to identify the photo. By the way I'd love to see your father's Murray Bay photos and maybe publish some of them. What would you think about that?

Pamphlet brings mixed emotions

Dear folks,

I discovered the Quebec Anglophone Heritage Network at the Acadian, etc. festival in Verdun last weekend. I was thrilled such a group existed. I anxiously sought out a pamphlet for Outaouais-Pontiac. I was glad to see the mention of St. Andrew's Presbyterian church, as Coulonge was the birth place of my mother's family. The funeral of my maternal grandfather (steward of the church), had taken place there in 1950s — an uncle played organ, another sang.

However, it was disappointing to see that on the map highway #148 seemed to peter out there. I can understand space constraints would restrict certain sites. If one were to consult a provincial map they would learn said hwy. goes on, past Waltham, to Allumettes Island, which includes Chapeau, where I grew up. (It had been christened so, by

Champlain).

Also, there was another HBC fort at what is now called Fort William. (The latter may or may not be on the map). An Indian cemetery is there. There is a web sit called PPJcycloparc, which includes a lot of local lore of the community, including Ouisea Rock with early Aboriginal paintings on rock wall.

Chapeau, itself, has a unique history, having been a logging centre, as well as a Religious/education milieu. The parish church dates from mid 1850s, and the stained glass windows are spectacular.

I do hope to hear from you, & please my consider my mixed emotions,

I thank you,
Thomas Donlan,
Lorraine, Q.C.

CELTIC-ACADIAN MADNESS IN VERDUN: The largest Celtic show ever in Montreal was held May 20 to May 23. The Celtic-Acadian-Louisiana Festival presented over 200 top performers and a wide array of cultural activities. Organizers held conferences on genealogy and on clans and tartan history. Among those attending (right) were Ilana Foss and Philip McMaster, who signed up QAHN's newest member, H el ene S egu in of Saint Hubert.



PUBLISHER'S MESSAGE

Life piles up – there's no time to enjoy spring weather

It's May, Tra-la-la etc. – and it's been a month of cool temp and much rain, so there isn't all that much to tra-la-la about. To me, May is the time when several months of thinking about what you're going to do with your garden this year finally come to an end and, with great anticipation of getting down and dirty and producing floral glories, you find yourself doing everything under the sun except spend time in the garden. The fact remains that May and early June is such a wonderful time for community activities that hardly a day goes by when many of us are not scheduling an event, attending one, or recovering from one. It's also the time when end-of-school activities (concerts, plays, picnics, field trips) spring up in great abundance. On top of that, academic events are also slotted into this brief window following exams and preceding everyone's departure to studious summertime inaccessibility. The garden can wait – except it doesn't, and you find yourself in the July heat (hey, roll on, I say!) amid dandelions, bishops' weed, grass high enough to trip a cat, and broken promises.

For me, this season has been further complicated by two family events, both "celebrations" (not funerals) of people who died during the winter, and both held now to allow people from far away to get to them. It has also been complicated by my rather more-deep-than-usual commitment to community theatre: Front of House director for the Montreal West Operatic Society.

Now, following my father's very rewarding "celebration" on April 23d, and of course taxes, I settled down to write a paper for the Canadian Historical Association meeting in London, Ont, that was technically due April 30. First blip on the horizon was the Montreal History Group's annual May Day conference, plus MWOS rehearsals for *Ruddigore*, held (don't ask) in my house, plus a QAHN board conference call scheduled for the same day. Okay, all was weatherable.

Second blip: the Quebec Community Groups Network AGM in Quebec City being held the same time (May 13-15) as the run of *Ruddigore* at Villa Maria High School, Montreal, which is also the same week as the ACFAS (*Association francophone pour le savoir*) conference in Chicoutimi at which I had to present a paper on *le patrimoine scolaire*. The question was: who needed me the least? I had an alternate for the QCGN AGM, and I proceeded to put my ACFAS presentation on CD and send it to the co-ordinator saying Sorry but I can't make it to Chicoutimi and back in time to sell chocolates at the Villa so could somebody else read it out? Well, they didn't buy that: No, we need you, get on the bus. So, after having run around like mad on Tuesday getting the CD off via Purolator and cancelling arrangements for children's school pickups etc I made all the arrangements over again Wednesday morning, caught the 3 p.m. bus for Quebec City, and drove the rest of the way to Chicoutimi with colleagues from Laval U. After giving the presentation on Thursday I caught a 2 p.m. bus back home in time to set up tables, chairs, and cans of pop at the Villa. The show was a great success although the

Front of House director was pretty frazzled come Sunday evening, four performances later.

Still with me? Third blip: the road show of *Ruddigore* at the Haskell Opera House in Stanstead (well, actually Rock Island, Quebec and Derby Line, Vermont) scheduled for May 21, same weekend as my aunt's "celebration" in Ithaca, N.Y., and also the Celtic Music Festival in Verdun at which QAHN had a booth. What to do? Nothing for it but to get cans, chocs, programs, t-shirts, etc. ready for someone else to pick up and sell at Haskell Saturday night: Can't do it myself, sorry to disappoint, etc. Leave Friday for Ithaca with every intention of returning in time to man a booth in Verdun on Sunday... but no, border traffic keeps me on the road until after 6 p.m. Again the show – *Ruddigore*, I mean – was a great success.

In the middle of all that was also the mandatory attendance at son's band concert and daughter's choir concert, plus a short trip to Ottawa to do some dealings with the Department of Canadian Heritage (again, don't ask). Now (May 23) I'm still scrambling

to finish that very overdue paper for London, Ont, for which I will have to leave this Saturday – and return, of course, in time for the QAHN AGM at the Railway Museum in St-Constant on June 4. The AGM coincides, of course, with the *Fédération des sociétés d'histoire du Québec's* annual congress in the Outaouais – so I suppose that's blip #4. Oh dear...

In any event, I look forward to seeing you all at the AGM, although you may find me a little confused and rather inclined to try to sell you a chocolate bar or tell you how nicely you played the bass clarinet. Please be tolerant. You will also be delighted to know that I plan to tell you more about the Montreal West Operatic Society, *le patrimoine scolaire*, and the celebration in Ithaca (there's a connection with William Shatner and other theatrical greats from Montreal's golden years) but it will have to wait for the July edition of this publication. I plan, with much pleasurable anticipation, to sit in my garden amid the dandelions, bishops' weed, grass high enough to trip a cat, and broken promises – and write. Unless, of course, it rains.

– Rod MacLeod

*You may find me a little
confused and rather inclined
to try to sell you a chocolate
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Please be tolerant.*

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PRESIDENT RODERICK MACLEOD

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR VALÉRIE BRIDGER

INTERIM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR DWANE WILKIN

QUEBEC HERITAGE NEWS EDITOR CHARLES BURY

ORAL HISTORY PROJECT COORDINATOR RON RATCLIFFE

HERITAGE PORTAL COORDINATOR MATTHEW FARFAN

OFFICE ASSISTANT KATHY TEASDALE

400-257 QUEEN STREET, LENNOXVILLE QUEBEC JIM 1K7

1-877-964-0409, (819) 564-9595, FAX 564-6872

HOME@QAHN.ORG; WWW.QAHN.ORG

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COMMUNITY HERITAGE ISSUES

Côte Saint-Antoine Road farmhouse is 266 years old

Quebec declares Hurtubise House historic monument

By Doreen Lindsay

Today people walking or driving past the old stone farmhouse on Côte Saint-Antoine Road in Westmount wonder who built it? How old is it? Who lives there?

No one lives in the main part of the house. It has been mainly empty since the last remaining member of the Hurtubise family died in 1955. It needs repairs. It needs to be restored with tender loving care. It needs a new purpose in life. What will its future be? How can this house be integrated successfully into our society to day?

One of the oldest stone farmhouses on the Island of Montreal, it was built in 1739 for Jean Hurtubise, the son of Louis Hurtubise, who had been granted the land in 1699 by the Sulpicians, an order of secular priests who were the Seigneurs of the Island of Montreal from 1663 to 1854.

On December 16, 2004 the Québec Minister of Culture and Communications classified the Hurtubise house as an historical monument and the surrounding land as an historic site. The house and land were classified because:

1. The house and site present a remarkable historical and architectural model of land planning and development of the seigniorial regime.
2. It is one of the rare vestiges of 18th-century farms on the south side of Mount Royal.
3. Members of the same family lived in the house through six generations of Hurtubise during more than two centuries, from 1739 until 1955 – over 200 years.
4. It is located on Côte-Saint-Antoine Road, one of two early roads running east-west on the island.

Historical background:

According to information researched and presented to the Westmount Historical Association by historian Mr. Alan Stewart, the house was built for Jean Hurtubise by Jacques Bertrand, a master mason. It was 34 by 32 French feet (see sidebar opposite) with one door, six windows and two chimneys. The masonry was to be 20 feet high and three feet thick in the basement. Their contract also specified two ventilation vents in the south wall of the basement and a wash basin of cut stone in the north wall of the first floor.



This basin is in the house today under a window in the rear wall. A wooden plug fits into a carved hole in the stone to hold water while washing vegetables or dishes. A similar sink taken from the neighbouring St. Germaine family home can be seen in the Château de Ramesay in Old Montreal.

Originally there were two rooms with two trap doors in the floor which opened into a root cellar with an earth floor where the vegetables were stored. While photographing the interior of this historically fascinating house I saw the original three huge cedar beams supporting the first floor and the original stonewall down the middle. It had been broken at some point in time, so that it was possible for me to see the two ventilation holes and the original entrance door, which is now hidden under a front porch. The cedar logs were axed flat only on the top side leaving the tree bark in place around the other tree sides of the logs. How exciting to see three hundred and sixty-five year old cedar logs cut, by whom I wonder, to build one of the first stone farmhouses along this Côte road on the sunny south side of the mountain. How far away did they have to travel to collect enough stones of this size to build this house and the other five along the Côte road? Were these tall straight cedar trees cut near the house or further away and dragged? The brick annex on the right side was added about 1870.

Léopold Hurtubise the sixth and last generation of the family renovated the house in 1911. Dr. Léopold Hurtubise died in 1955 and his heirs sold the house to Mabel Molson, Colin J.G. Molson and

James R. Beattie. In 1961 they transferred the house to the Canadian Heritage of Quebec, a newly created non-profit organization dedicated to the preservation of buildings of historical interest. They remain the present owners.

Doreen Lindsay is president of the Westmount Historical Association. She can be reached at gaborszilasi@videotron.ca.

Canada's historic weights and measures

Standardized scales for identifying the size, weight or quantity of an object. These have varied over the centuries New France, colonial Canada and up to the 1970s, weights and measures were those used by the mother countries. Since the 1970s, Canada has been using the metric system. Regarding historic measures, it is most important to note that the French foot, used in New France, is not the same as the English foot. The French 12 inches is longer and comes to 12.789 inch, English measure.

The measures of the Pied du Roi, official from 1668 to 1840 were:

2 miles for 1 Lieue = 3.898 km

1000 Toises for 1 mile = 1.949 km (English = 1.61 km)

6 feet for 1 Toise = 1.949 m (English Fathom = 1.83 m)

12 inches for 1 foot = 32,484 cm (English = 30.48 cm)

12 lines for 1 inch = 2.707 cm (English = 2.54 cm)

The French weight Marc de Troyes system (used 1350-1840) were somewhat heavier than the British 'Avoir du pois' system used from 1582:

1 livre (pound) = 16 onces (ounces) = 489.41 grams (453.6 grams to 1 British pound)

1 once (ounce) = 576 grains = 30.588 grams (28.35 grams to 1 British ounce)

Liquid measures in Canada were those used in France and Britain and should not be confused with American measures. Complete documentation and tables can be found in: Lester A. Rose, Archeological Metrology: English, French, American and Canadian Systems of Weights and Measures for North American Historical Archeology, Parks Canada, Ottawa, 1983.

From the Canadian Military History Gateway <http://cmhg.gc.ca/>.

COMMUNITY HERITAGE ISSUES

NO MORE MAUSOLEUMS

The Heritage Committee of Quebec's federation of historical societies (FSHQ) is circulating a petition to stop further construction of new mausoleums on Mount Royal in Montreal. The FSHQ encourages everyone with an interest in protecting the mountain's natural heritage to support this initiative.

To read the electronic petition, visit the following website: www.lemontroyal.qc.ca.

MEGANTIC ANGLOS SEARCH FOR PAST

The Megantic English-Speaking Community Development Corporation (MCDC) is seeking help to compile an electronic research database. Within a few months the MCDC hopes to have an Internet website containing rare documents, old deeds and historic photographs featuring the communities such as Thetford Mines, Inverness, Kinnear's Mills, Maple Grove and Leeds.

Do you have souvenirs, mementos or personal items that you might be willing to share on the Worldwide Web? Please note, such items would not have to leave your possession since they will simply be photographed or copied electronically by an MCDC employee. Please contact Suzanne Aubre or Krysta Langerud at the MCDC office if you'd like to help.

ESTATE GARDENS THEN AND NOW

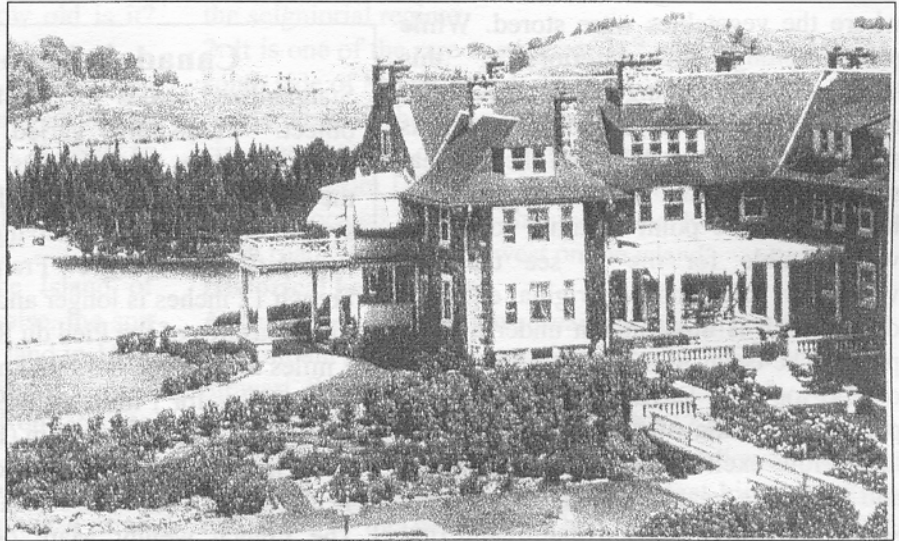
The gardens of Sainte Agathe

Money was no object for the landed gentry of the Laurentian hillsides

By Joseph Graham

From the mid-1800s, the forests surrounding Sainte Agathe began to be cleared, one back-breaking stump at a time, and when the train arrived in 1892, the region was comprised of subsistence farms with fenced fields that took advantage of every possible nook. Bucolic rolling hills dotted with cows, and small farmhouses clumped together along winding roads proved to be an irresistible lure to the leisure class of Montreal. Most of the subsistence farmers were rightly happy to unload their rocky fields for a cash settlement that would grubstake them in a more lucrative enterprise, often offering their services to the same people who bought their farms. Between 1892 and 1912, almost every farm in the hills surrounding Lac des Sables and the neighbouring lakes changed hands and the total real estate assets, as measured by the tax role, grew to twenty times its original size.

In its heyday Sainte Agathe boasted large estates equipped with showpiece gardens complete with greenhouses, gazebos, ponds, stone walkways and railings, as well as outbuildings for the staff, a stable and barn, all surrounded by cleared, rocky fields that pushed the line of the forest off to the hill-tops. The memoirs of Osias Renaud, a local farmer who chose his vocation as an adult, giving up a prosperous photography studio, describes annual agricultural exhibitions in which he, the best local farmer, regularly came in second to Senator Donat Raymond's gentleman's farm, a real feat considering how much money other gentleman farmers were pouring into their properties. As late as the 1960s people with the means



still hired specialists from as far away as Holland and Denmark to live on their estates and maintain their gardens and fields. Now, while a rare few such properties still exist, they are hidden behind second growth forests from prying eyes on roads and in villages.

In the early years, prior to the First World War, British-style fox hunting was the weekend and holiday sport, with the leisure class riding over open fields with their dogs. One of the big promoters of the sport was Alfred Baumgarten, a German Anglophile who founded St Lawrence Sugar and built the Hunt Club in Montreal. His Sainte Agathe stable building has been converted into apartments and his imposing residence serves as a storage unit for a condominium complex. Among other early gentleman farmers were Lorne McGibbon, Sir Mortimer Davis, the Ogilvy family and Octavian Rolland, but today McGibbon's house and gardens are perhaps the best documented.

Descended from Scottish Immigrants who settled into farming in Cote de la Visitation (currently the Botanical Gardens) of Montreal in the 1820's, young Lorne must have grown up with an idyllic image of the family farm. His own father had set up a grocery store, and the farm was only a part of his heritage. He graduated from the Montreal High School and pursued a business career, first in insurance and coal in Saint Paul, Minnesota, next in a trading company in Medicine Hat, then back in Quebec with Laurentide paper, always working his way up through the hierarchy of the corporations until he headed the Canada Rubber Company in Montreal.



Lorne McGibbon (opposite) loved his home and garden in Sainte Agathe (above), clearing the land to the hilltops.

McGibbon was aware of Sainte Agathe before he fell ill with tuberculosis around 1907, and he lamented the fact that he could not be treated in Canada, nearer to his Montreal home. Instead he stayed in Saranac Lake, New York, a country town dedicated to the tuberculosis cure, and he was so impressed that he donated a small building to their efforts. While supposedly taking the rest cure, he plotted out the construction of a sanatorium in Sainte Agathe, interviewing and hiring the New York architects Saranac Lake. When he was released, with the hospital construction well under way, he acquired a large parcel of land, five hundred acres, on the south shore of the lake in Sainte Agathe and he and his wife designed their country home, a veritable chateau surrounded by gardens, fields, outbuildings, a greenhouse and barns, incorporating an eight-acre peninsula on the water and a private lake, both carefully circumscribed by the remaining forest lands. Engaging the services of Hogle and Davis, the architects who would design the Merchants Bank (Bank of Montreal) and buildings currently on the McGill University campus, and of a gardener named Del Torquio, they expressed their desire to have a large stone manor set in an Italian garden. During the construction 200 workers, many from Montreal, set to work creating Italian gardens, blasting out the hillside, setting patios and ponds outlined with stone and concrete and decorated with statues and other ornamentation. The result was a property worthy of a local duke or count, a residential focal point for Sainte Agathe, but it was only one of many such properties that graced the shores of Sainte Agathe's large lakes.

Just down the road, Sir Mortimer Davis built a stunning manor house overlooking his own gardens, a greenhouse, a lakefront peninsula, private lakes and secondary homes, including an elaborate waterfront home for his personal physician. Davis, also a graduate of the Montreal High School and four years senior to McGibbon, turned his father's business, the Davis Cigar Store into the largest tobacco company in Canada. As a young man, he took particular interest in how tobacco was grown and spent serious time experimenting with cultivating it. He is credited with pioneering its production in Canada, and his business, the Imperial Tobacco Company, survives to this day, with its plants in Guelph, Ontario. His Sainte-Agathe property was a clear rival to the McGibbon Manor house, and although his gardens are not as well documented, his property and career paralleled that of McGibbon's, even to the point that he, also, founded and supported a chest hospital in Sainte Agathe. Together the efforts of these two men lent the small country town a vocation as one of the largest tuberculosis treatment centres in the country, and they also set a standard for magnificent estates.

The idea behind the Italian garden was to situate the house in the garden rather than to have a garden as an adjunct to the house, trying to evoke both the imposing gardens surrounding the villas of ancient Rome and the involvement that the Monastic garden demands. The residents are encouraged to live in the garden, to sit, to walk, to admire. To this end, ponds and statues, broad open spaces with destinations like benches or gazebos, and walking paths are encouraged. The Italian garden contrasts with the old French garden that was intended to be admired at a distance, preferably from inside the home. In both the cases of McGibbon and Davis, the properties would eventually fall into the possession of religious orders. The

Oblates of Mary Immaculate acquired the McGibbon property early enough to maintain some of the gardens, but the Davis gardens were not documented with the same rigour.

Most of the imposing estates are in the distant past now, and in many cases their history is lost or fast fading from memory. It is rare today to find country properties with permanent homes for the different staff needed to maintain them. The Rolland property, one of the earliest gentleman's farms, was converted first into a private golf course and eventually became redeveloped, comprising three dozen large country homes today.

The Ogilvy estate has been a golf

course for years and its history is lost, but the magnificent home sits high on a hill, lost behind the trees that have grown in to block what the imposing view. The building itself, with its slate roof and fine detailing serves as a storage unit for golf carts and the gardens, however magnificent have left no trace. A new forest covers the fields of most properties, the hard work of removing the stumps all but undone by time and abandonment.

The McGibbon and Davis properties pursue other destinations as different kinds of Spas, and the owners of McGibbon's property, having resurrected the name that McGibbon gave it, Stonehaven, are also in the process of restoring the gardens.

References include Promenades dans les Jardins Anciens de Québec -Pierre Morisset, Janouk Murdoch, et Paul-Louis Martin, Les Éditions du Boréal published 1996; Des jardins Oubliés 1860-1960 -Alexander Reford, Les Publications du Québec; Special thanks to Doris Lecault and Louis Pelletier; Barbara McGibbon; Georges Lortie; Mrs. Yvette Renaud Lortie; Historic Saranac Lake; Album historique de la Paroisse de Sainte-Agathe; Centre hospitalier Laurentien. Photos reproduced with permission from Les Éditions du Boréal.

Joseph Graham can be reached at joseph@doncaster.ca.



ESTATE GARDENS THEN AND NOW

Cultivating success: The challenges of managing an historic garden

Métis gardens reach out to the horticultural world

By Alexander Reford

Les Jardins de Métis have been one of Quebec's most popular gardens since they opened to visitors in the summer of 1962. Created by Elsie Reford from 1926 to 1958, for most of her life the Gardens were a private summer domain, little known except to family, friends and garden connoisseurs. The Gardens were sold to the government of Quebec in 1961 and opened to the public the following year. Known first as "Le Domaine Reford", later "Parc Métis", since the 1970s as *Les Jardins de Métis* and more recently as *Les Jardins de Métis / Reford Gardens*, the Gardens quickly earned a reputation for their beauty and unique plant collection. The story of the woman who fashioned a garden out of the forest and transformed a fishing camp into a horticultural paradise on the Lower St. Lawrence contributed to their mystique and attractive power.

For more than four decades, Les Jardins de Métis have played an important role in the tourism industry of eastern Quebec. By virtue of their history, their strategic position at the gateway to the Gaspé Peninsula and their distance from other attractions, the Gardens have enjoyed singular success. Les Jardins de Métis welcome an average of 100,000 visitors every summer. They generate more than \$1 million in admission revenue and contribute \$18 million to the local economy annually.

Over the past decade Les Jardins de Métis have undergone a transformation. The process began with the privatization of the Gardens by the government of Québec. Initiated in June 1994 and finalized in July 1995, the Gardens were sold to Les Amis des Jardins de Métis, a not for profit organization created by members of the Reford family and Les Ateliers Plein Soleil of Mont-Joli. Les Amis des Jardins de Métis has actively developed the Gardens since taking charge in the summer of 1995.

In the years following the privatization, the organization dealt with the myriad challenges of the transition from government to private management. At the same time, initiatives were undertaken to



Photographe/Photographer: Louise Tanguay

restore the Gardens, using archival and historic documents to reconstruct collections of plants and replace garden structures and furniture in the style of their predecessors. Les Jardins de Métis also experimented with a range of cultural and educational programs. Among the first initiatives was the development of an educational program to encourage local schools and school boards to use the Gardens as a living laboratory for their curriculum and school programs. The Gardens also hosted an annual summer school from 1998 to 2003 for students in landscape architecture at the Université de Montréal. These educational initiatives led the organization to develop a range of educational tools, both printed and web-based, and the creation of the Mitis River Park, a conservation area on the opposite bank of the Mitis River, where innovative interpretive structures designed by architect Pierre Thibault are integrated in the environment.

The key component of the Gardens' new programs is the International Garden Festival, first held in 2000. The Festival has played an important role in extending the reach and reputation of Les Jardins de Métis. Even if more than 80 per cent of the Gardens' visitors come from Quebec, the garden festival and the Gardens as a whole are now known across Canada and around the world as a leading venue for contemporary garden design.

The development of the Gardens has been spurred by a number of imperatives, both aesthetic and economic. The organization's dependence on self-generated revenue has required the organization to be dynamic and innovative. Unlike many "*institutions muséales*" in Quebec, the Gardens receive no annual operating funds from municipal, provincial or federal governments. The organization relies on admission revenues, ancillary revenues generated by restaurants and shops, and donations and contributions from members, supporters and sponsors to ensure its operations and development. The garden's maintenance standards are high and fixed costs are important – municipal and school taxes and insurance costs alone are close to \$100,000 annually.



Photographe/Photographer: Louise Tanguay

In 2003 and 2004, Les Amis des Jardins de Métis undertook the restoration of Estevan Lodge and the construction of a new visitor centre. The lodge, built by Lord Mount Stephen in 1887, had been used for three decades primarily as a restaurant. Estevan Lodge was restored in 2003 and a new permanent exhibition was added in 2004, enchanting visitors interested in the story of the gardens and their creator, Elsie Reford. The Gardens have been active in other areas, notably publications, participating in the publication of six books in as many years. These publications have extended the reach of the Gardens and enabled them to become known to audiences in Canada and abroad.

If Les Jardins de Métis is a garden unlike any other in Quebec, the challenges it faces are common to other gardens (and museums and cultural institutions) throughout Quebec. Operating costs increase annually even when the number of visitors (and thus admission revenues) vary widely. The project funding system used by governments make long-range planning difficult. The capacity of the organization to develop new projects and programs and to manage its



Photographe/Photographer: Jean-Yves

collections and maintain its fleet of equipment and restore its many buildings is limited.

At the same time, the strategies implemented by Les Jardins de Métis illustrate new forms of cultural entrepreneurship. Firmly anchored in the community (with 1000 members or "amis"), the Gardens also have a national importance and international outreach. The past decade has seen Les Jardins de Métis articulate a vision that fosters a greater appreciation of its history

while at the same time advancing a program that is contemporary and avant-garde, thereby creating a dialogue between tradition, innovation and conservation and a venue where they are uniquely combined.

About the Author : Alexander Reford has been the director of Les Jardins de Métis since 1995. He is the author of Des jardins oubliés 1860-1960 (Les Publications du Québec, 1999), Jardins de Métis and Reford Gardens (Fides, 2001), Au Rythme du Train 1860-1970, (Les Publications du Québec, 2003) and Jardins de Métis Le Paradis d'Elsie Reford and Reford Gardens Elsie's Paradise (Les Éditions de l'Homme, 2004). He is the president of Heritage Lower St. Lawrence, a member of the Quebec Community Groups Network.



Photographe / Photographer : Robert Baronet

an Ottawa lawyer and campaign fundraiser who was close to
 Mackenzie King. Fisher's law firm acted as legal agent for the

Ferguson and her party were required to share with the Liberal
 majority in Ottawa's history.

THE HERITAGE OF GREED

Beauharnois scandal rocked Canada in the 1920s, '30s

Nothing new about money-grubbing politicians, promoters

By Dwane Wilkin

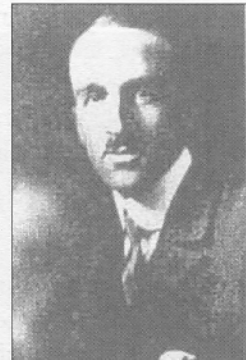
Tales of crooked Liberal-party financing practices, corrupt public officials and the culture of greed that sustained Montreal's advertising industry through the latter half of the 1990s have kept Quebecers riveted to proceedings of the Gomery Inquiry throughout the spring of 2005. But while the so-called Sponsorship Scandal will probably go down in history as the province's most notorious political embarrassment of the 20th century, pundits and stump-thumpers would do well to recall that graft is no stranger to Quebec politics.

Arguably, the most sensational scandal ever broken prior to Auditor General Sheila Fraser's scathing report on the federal government's ill-fated Sponsorship Program occurred three-quarters of a century ago. Its legacy, a marvel of North American engineering, still stands at the mouth of the historic Beauharnois Canal along the St. Lawrence River.

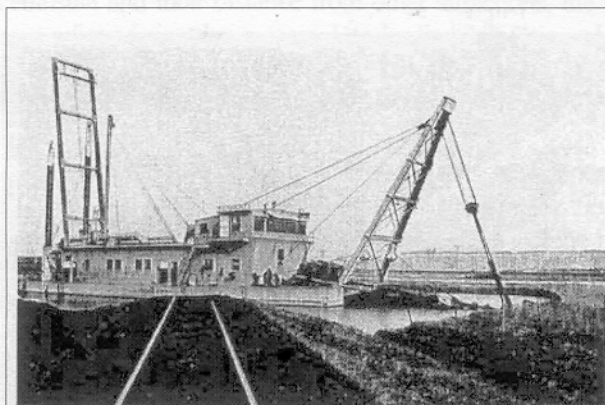
Uncovered between June 1931 and April 1932 by House and Senate inquiry committees, revelations of influence peddling surrounding the huge hydroelectric development project 30 km east of Montreal would eventually heap scorn on top Liberal party

officials and prominent members of the city's business community. It came to be known as the Beauharnois Scandal. Then, as now, members of the federal Liberal party in Quebec were caught conspiring with a handful of Montreal entrepreneurs to bend public policy to fit their private aims. Then, as now, the Conservative party delighted in the Liberals' embarrassment, which William Lyon Mackenzie King would go on to describe as the "valley of humiliation."

But King, who received money and gifts from project promoters while sitting as Canada's prime minister, denied any knowledge of the Beauharnois affair and even managed to lead his party to a majority government three years later. In the end, just one Liberal



Robert O. Sweezy



The dredge 'R.O. Sweezy' cutting through the New York Central Railroad, 14 October 1930



The discharge pipes mounted on pontoons, 5 May 1930



Discharge from the dredge 'R.O. Sweezy,' 5 May 1930

municipal and school taxes that amount to 10% of the value of property are about \$100,000 annually.



senator was forced to resign while another quit the party in disgrace.

And unlike some of the bureaucrats and advertising executives involved in the Sponsorship Program of the 1990s, none of the witnesses called to testify before parliamentary inquires into the Beauharnois Scandal ever faced criminal charges.

As one might expect from a man who consulted with the souls of the dead for guidance, King's personal papers have provided rich fodder for latter day historians, including author T.G. Regerh whose 1990 book, *The Beauharnois Scandal*, provides a case study in cronyism and public policy hatched below the low watermark of ethical behaviour.

Take, for example, the following diary entry, which King made in October, 1928 after learning how much money Beauharnois project promoters had deposited in his personal trust fund: "I should have preferred not knowing by whom the contributions had been made.... However, one cannot look a gift horse too closely in the mouth.... It may after all be the way of rich men in matters of the kind..."

The mastermind behind Beauharnois electric power development in the 1920s was a Quebec engineer named Robert Oliver Sweezy, a native of Three Rivers who was president of the Beauharnois Heat, Light and Power Company when the scandal broke. Incorporated in 1902, the company's charter had originally called for construction of a small new canal that would divert 40,000 cubic feet of water per second to a powerhouse.

But after leading a group of investors to take control of the company and its undeveloped water rights, Sweezy sought political help in Quebec City and Ottawa to gain rights to harness the entire flow of the St. Lawrence. And so the influence peddling began.

One of Sweezy's closest allies in this task was Andrew Haydon, an Ottawa lawyer and campaign fundraiser who was close to Mackenzie King. Haydon's law firm acted as legal agent for the

Beauharnois company while Haydon himself served throughout the 1920s as the Liberal party's national secretary and treasurer. King had given him a Senate seat in 1924.

A second key senator-lobbyist who actively promoted the Beauharnois project was wealthy Montreal businessman Wilfrid Laurier McDougald, who lavished the prime minister with gifts and entertainment, including a holiday in Bermuda around the time that crucial government permits to build the canal and powerhouse were issued. House and Senate inquiries later determined that Senators McDougald and Haydon diverted approximately \$700,000 in Beauharnois company money into the coffers of the federal and Quebec Liberals.

Lobbying the Quebec government for its approval was principally handled by a third Liberal senator, Donat Raymond who, along with his brothers, owned two famous Montreal landmarks, the Windsor and Queen's hotels. "It was in the smoke-filled rooms of these hotels," Regerh writes, "that the most controversial Beauharnois transactions were consummated."

The Quebec Liberal party was not the only political organization to benefit from Sweezy's corporate largesse. Since electricity distribution in Depression-era Montreal was monopolized by the rival firm Montreal Power Corp., success of the Beauharnois promoters' business plan hinged on their ability to export electricity to Ontario. More bribes were necessary to clinch the deal.

Senator Haydon testified that Ontario Conservative premier Howard Ferguson, facing election in October 1929, asked for a \$200,000 campaign donation from company promoters in return for allowing Ontario Hydro to buy electricity from the Beauharnois plant.

It was later revealed that the Beauharnois company made an additional \$125,000 donation to the Ontario Conservatives after Ferguson and his party were returned to office with the largest majority in Ontario's history.

'I should have preferred not knowing by whom the contributions had been made.... However, one cannot look a gift horse too closely in the mouth.... It may after all be the way of rich men in matters of the kind...'

— William Lyon MacKenzie King

CULTURAL HERITAGE

Norma Shearer and the Montreal Group

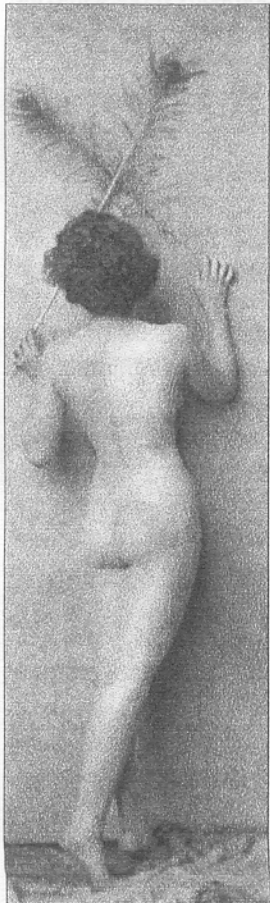
Hollywood icon got her start after beauty contest win

By Guy Rodgers

During the first decades of the 20th century, Montreal was the wealthiest and most exciting city in Canada. Stories of the fabulous wealth business generated for the Golden Square Mile are well known, as are the rip-roaring tales of Montreal as the Paris of North America during American prohibition. Less is known about the cultural life of the city during the period between the World Wars. This article profiles a Montrealer who became the most influential woman in Hollywood, and a group of Montreal poets that would have a profound influence on Canadian culture in contemporary times.

Westmount girl

Norma Shearer (1902-1983) was born and raised on Grosvenor Street in Westmount. Her mother was descended



from a long line of British clergy. Her father, Andrew, who inherited a family business that was the first to manufacture hockey sticks, was successful enough to raise his daughter in genteel affluence at the heart of Canada's most wealthy neighbourhood. Norma was a remarkably charming young woman who won a Montreal beauty contest at the age of 15, which may have encouraged her to dream of a career on the silver screen. Her father's failing health resulted in business failure which forced Norma to quit school at 16 to help support the family.

In 1920, Mrs. Shearer took an enormous risk by taking her two daughters off to New York to seek a career for them in show biz. The risk paid off handsomely. Norma immediately found work as a model and movie actor. In 1927 she married the boss of MGM studios, Irving Thalberg, and

during the 1930s Norma Shearer was the undisputed First Lady of Hollywood.

McGill School of Poetry

One of Canada's most influential artistic movements was established in Montreal during the 1920s. The chief founders of the McGill School of poetry were F.R. Scott (1899-1985) and AM Klein (1909-1972). F.R. Scott was born in Quebec City, the son of Archdeacon F.G.S. Scott, a well-known poet and hero of the First World War. F.R. Scott was educated at Bishop's College (now Bishop's University) then earned a Rhodes scholarship for Oxford. Returning to Quebec, he studied law at McGill University. AM Klein (1909-1972) was born in the Ukraine but his family immigrated to Montreal a year later. Klein earned a B.A. at McGill, then a law degree at l'Université de Montréal.

Both Scott and Klein were poets and lawyers. Both had a deeply religious upbringing, both were fluently bilingual and both had deep social concerns in a world under attack from Fascism. During the late 1920s, along with A.J.M. Smith (1902-1980), Scott and Klein founded the *McGill Fortnightly Review*, which had a political as well as artistic vocation. They praised the trail-blazing work of the Group of Seven and pioneered a modern voice in poetry that



would sound the death knell of Victorian formalism. During the 1940s, the McGill Group would become known as the Montreal Group and would expand to include other Montreal writers like Leo Kennedy and Leon Edel, as well



as temporary Montreal residents like P.K. Page. Few of the Montreal Group of poets earned a living from their art. Both F.R. Scott and AM Klein were successful lawyers. (Scott was a member of the Royal Commission on Biculturalism and Bilingualism. Klein was active with the CCF and NDP.)

The Montreal Group laid the foundation for the next generation of Montreal writers which would go on to national and international prominence: Irving Layton, Mordecai Richler, Leonard

All Norma Shearer pictures from the astounding Divas - The Site, www.divasthesite.com.
Above, F.R. Scott, left and A.M. Klein, right.

Cohen, Ted Allen, Mavis Gallant and others, just as Norma Shearer opened doors for actors like Christopher Plumber, William Shatner and Colleen Dewhurst. Those stories will have to wait for future articles.

Guy Rodgers is director of ELAN, the English-Language Arts Network On the (ELAN) website you will find a

Directory of English-language Arts Organizations and the first phase of a new Artists' Toolbox.

These new elements, along with our Members' Directory, allow ELAN to take an important step toward becoming an information clearinghouse for Quebec English-language artists. See

www.quebec-elan.org/en and become a member yourself, or ask for a free membership for your organization.



Ottawa gives new regional heritage web magazine green light

QAHN extending internet reach across province

LENNOXVILLE (Communiqué) – Work on a new Internet-based history forum for West Quebec could get underway as early as September, Heritage News has learned, clearing the way for local historical societies to bring the story of the Ottawa Valley and its tributaries to the world.

“This is an excellent opportunity for Quebecers to celebrate and share their ties to the province,” said QAHN’s interim director Dwane Wilkin. “Everybody with an interest in the region’s history can and should get involved.”

Program officials with the Department of Canadian Heritage recently announced that the Quebec Anglophone Heritage Network’s (QAHN) application for support to develop its Outaouais Heritage Web Magazine project has been recommended for approval by federal Heritage Minister Liza Frulla.

Sources within the Department say that nearly all proposals recommended for approval receive funding, although there is no guarantee that the amount of the grant will match the sum requested, roughly \$38,000.

The Outaouais Heritage Web Magazine will be closely modeled on similar electronic publications under QAHN’s management, the Townships Heritage Web Magazine and the Laurentians Heritage Web Magazine. When complete,

the new web magazine for West Quebec will provide a widely accessible, up-to-date forum for showcasing Outaouais history, with special focus on the role and contribution of the region’s English-speaking minority.

‘Teachers, in particular, are going to find this website a superb tool for exploring local history with their students’

QAHN hopes the new website will serve as a platform for historical research that has been compiled over the years on a volunteer basis by members of local historical societies, as well as a venue for sharing new findings, contacts, family history links and visual artifacts.

“I think teachers, in particular, are going to find this website a superb tool for exploring local history with their students,” Wilkin said.

Potential collaborators include the Gatineau Valley Historical Society, the Pontiac Historical Society, the Aylmer Heritage Association, the Buckingham Historical Society and the *Société d’histoire de l’Outaouais*. The Regional Association of West Quebecers has also enthusiastically endorsed the project.

Funding for the Outaouais Heritage Web Magazine is expected to come from the Department of Canadian Heritage’s Development of Official Language Communities program.

To see what’s happening visit the Quebec Heritage Web Portal at www.quebecheritageweb.com

HERITAGE HAPPENINGS

Prolific Wakefield historian

Norma Geggie is 2005 Marion Phelps Award winner

SAINT-CONSTANT — Author and historian Norma Geggie of Wakefield is the winner of the 2005 Marion Phelps Award in recognition of her efforts to promote the history of the Gatineau Valley in west Quebec.

Mrs. Geggie “has made a very significant impact on the preservation of Quebec’s anglophone heritage,” said Marc Cockburn, president of the Gatineau Historical Society. “Besides her role as a researcher, writer and editor, she has contributed to the community through her work with youth as a literacy tutor.”

The award will be presented to Mrs. Geggie during the annual general meeting of the Quebec Anglophone Heritage Network, held at the Canadian Railway Museum in Saint-Constant on June 4.

Born in Australia, Mrs. Geggie came to Canada in 1954 to work as a nurse at the Gatineau Memorial Hospital in Wakefield. After marrying Dr. Stuart Geggie, son of the hospital’s founder, Mrs. Geggie and her husband developed a keen interest in local history, which they

practised together, recording their findings in books, articles and through the collection of artifacts.

Their first book, *La Pêche – A History of Wakefield and its Surrounding Areas*, came out in 1974 and appeared again in a revised edition in 1980. This was followed in 1976 by *Unto the Hills*, a historical survey of Gatineau Valley churches. *The Extra Mile*, a vivid account of country doctoring based on the journals of her husband’s father, Dr. Harold Geggie, was published in 1987.

Mrs Geggie has since published a number of local history books on her own, including *Wakefield and its People* (1990), *A Place Apart – A Search for Pioneer Cemeteries of the Lower Gatineau Valley* (1999) and *Wakefield Revisited* (2003). Her articles appear regularly in *Up the Gatineau*, the journal of the Gatineau Historical Society.

Sponsored by the Quebec Anglophone Heritage Network, the Marion Phelps Award is presented each year to an individual who has made an outstanding contribution to the protection and preservation of Quebec’s anglophone heritage.

Made from local granite

Early millstone discovered during Rock Island demolition

By Matthew Farfan

Rock Island, located on the Canada-U.S. border, was the site of one of the first grist mills in the Eastern Townships. In fact, the village, which is now a part of Stanstead, was once known as Kilborn’s Mills. It was named after Charles Kilborn who built a gristmill and sawmill on the Tomifobia River after immigrating from New England in 1804. The spot Kilborn chose was ideal, since the flow of water at that location was extremely fast, due to the steep incline and the waterfalls further down.

In time, a number of other mills and factories would be built along this short stretch of river, and Rock Island would evolve from a pioneer village into a booming industrial town.

Recently, an interesting discovery was made at the historic Lee Farm property, on what is now town land. A large, well-worn millstone, measuring some six feet in diameter and made of solid local granite – “Stanstead Grey”, as it is called – was unearthed at the site of an old barn slated for demolition.



As a testament to the village’s origins, the municipality has decided to save the stone and to place it in nearby Banting-Holmes Park, which is located on the Tomifobia River just upstream from the site of Rock Island’s very first mill. The area around the grindstone will be landscaped with flowers and shrubs.

It is not known how old the stone is, but it certainly dates to the 1800s. It may well be one of Kilborn’s own, which could make it 200 years old. The town plans to install an interpretive plaque next to the stone, describing the history of mills in Rock Island and the purpose of millstones.

Visitors will learn that millstones such as this one always came in pairs, and that untreated grain (grist) would be ground into flour between the two stones, which would be rotated simultaneously by means of either waterpower or a windmill. In the case of Rock Island’s mill, a large water wheel, powered by the rushing current of the Tomifobia, would have supplied the necessary

power to turn the stones.

The stone at its new location in Banting-Holmes Park. (Photo: Matthew Farfan)

Canadian Genealogy Centre

New on-line data details marriage, divorce records

The Canadian Genealogy Centre has added two major new databases to help Canadians sort out their ancestry. *Divorce in Canada* (1841-1968) contains 12,732 references to parliamentary acts of divorce which appeared in official government of Canada publications. They include the names of applicants and their spouses and the chapter number of each divorce act. The database *Upper and Lower Canada Marriage Bonds* contains references to 7899 marriage bonds for Upper Canada (Ontario) issued between 1803 and 1865, and 2960 marriage bonds for Lower Canada (Quebec) issued between 1779 and 1858.

Search these family history databases and many others at genealogy.gc.ca.

Marriages

The marriage record generally provides:

- date of marriage;
- names of spouses, occupation and place of residence;
- names of parents of spouses, occupation and place of residence or names of previous spouses; and
- names of witnesses.

Marriages are recorded in:

- parish registers and/or
- civil registration records.

Marriage Bonds and Licences

Marriage bonds were prepared only in the case of marriage by licence. The groom was required to enter into a bond with one or two people who knew him and who were prepared to guarantee to the Crown that no legal impediment to the marriage existed. These documents offer little genealogical information beyond the names of the betrothed, their place of residence, and the date of the bond. After obtaining the bond, a licence was issued and the marriage took place a few days later.

Research at Library and Archives Canada

Marriage Bonds

Library and Archives Canada holds 10826 marriage bonds for Upper Canada (Ontario), 1803-1865, (RG 5 B9) and Lower Canada (Quebec), 1818-1844, (RG 4 B28).

Our Upper and Lower Canada Marriage Bonds database provides access to these marriage bonds. The original bonds are available on microfilm. The microfilm reel numbers are included in the database.

Marriage Licences

Marriage licences for Upper and Lower Canada before 1867 were not retained. However, some lists containing the names of persons to whom marriage licences were issued are available. These lists contain few details besides the date of issuance of the licence and names of future spouses:

- List of marriage licences issued in Upper Canada. Library and Archives Canada, RG 5 B9; Names appearing on lists of marriages licences issued in Upper Canada (RG 5 B9) These records are not available online or on microfilm.

- Names appearing on lists of marriages licences issued in Lower Canada (RG 4 B28)

These records are not available online or on microfilm.

Divorces

From 1840 to 1968, divorces in Canada were granted by private acts of the Parliament of Canada. Before 1867, only five divorce acts were passed and published either in the Statutes of the Province of Canada or in the Journals of the Legislative Assembly of the Province of Canada. The first divorce that occurred in Canada was between John Stuart and Elizabeth Van Reneselaer Powell in 1841.

From 1867 to 1968, a person wishing to obtain a divorce was first required to place a notice of intent to petition the government for an Act of Divorce in the Canada Gazette and in two newspapers in the district or county where the petitioner resided. It was to appear for a six-month period.

The petition would contain details such as the date and place of the marriage and events surrounding the demise of the marriage. In the case of adultery or bigamy, a co-respondent was often named. If, after consideration, the petition was allowed, Parliament would pass an Act of Divorce nullifying the marriage. Between 1867 and 1963, a transcript of the Act was published in the Statutes of Canada for the current year. Then, between 1964 and 1968, the transcript was published in the Journals of the Senate of Canada.

The transcripts include information from the petition:

- the names of petitioner and spouse;
- their place(s) of residence;
- the date and place and marriage; and
- the grounds under which the divorce is being sought.

Research at Library and Archives Canada: Library and Archives Canada holds copies of official publications of the Government of Canada in which the divorce acts were published.

Quebec

Before 1968, the Quebec civil code made no provision for divorce. Divorce could be obtained only from a private act of the Parliament of the Government of Canada.

However, legal separations between spouses were made by notaries and are accessible through the same process as Notarial Records.

Starting in 1867, a judgement in 'Separation from bed and board' could be obtained from the *Cour supérieure du Québec*. A notice of action was published in the *Gazette officielle du Québec*. This notice includes:

- the names of petitioner and spouse;
- the name of the court and district;
- the cause number.

Divorce records created after 1968 are in the custody of the *greffe des divorces* in each district of the *Cour supérieure du Québec*.

NEWS & NOTES FROM AROUND QUEBEC

Many communities across the province are blessed with a local history museum, the perfect place to while away a quiet afternoon pondering the past and reflecting on the ways and tastes of forbears. Summer is a busy time for curators, and as Quebec Heritage News discovered, historical societies have pulled together a most remarkable season of local exhibits. Planning a holiday in Quebec this summer? Be sure to treat yourself to a stroll through the past. Here's a look at what some members of Quebec's heritage community have in store. Happy Trails!

FATHER'S LIES PUT TO SONG

The Dora Wasserman Yiddish Theatre presents a musical adaptation of the classic 1975 Canadian film, *Lies My Father Told Me*, by the late Ted Allan, Montreal-born story-teller, screenwriter and author.

Allan grew up in Montreal's Saint Urbain Street neighbourhood, went to Spain to fight the fascists, and later, worked as a scriptwriter for television before turning to the big screen.

Directed by Bryna Wasserman, Allan's play is set in the Golden Era of 1920s Montreal and tells the story of Jewish family battling the pressures between three generations. This new version features music and lyrics by Elan Kunin and will be presented in Yiddish with English and French super-titles.

WHEN: Performances run from Sunday, June 5 to Thursday, June 30, 2005. Sunday matinée, 2 p.m., Wednesday matinée, 1 p.m. Monday-to-Thursday evening performances begin at 8 p.m. Saturday evening, 8:30 p.m. Sunday evening, 7p.m.

WHERE: The Dora Wasserman Yiddish Theatre 5170 Cote St. Catherine Rd. For reservations, please call: (514) 739-7944.

MONT-LAURIER LOOKS BACK ON SCHOOLING

The Société historique de la région de Mont-Laurier is planning to celebrate its 30-year anniversary next month with an exhibition devoted to the history of education in the Laurentians. The show, *L'Éducation dans les Hautes-Laurentides* features historic photographs, documents et assorted artifacts pertaining to Upper Laurentian schools between 1870 and the present.

WHEN: A vernissage will be held June 24. Free admission. For more information : (819) 623-1900.

CARLOADS OF HISTORY IN SAINT-CONSTANT

There's nothing like a private train-car paneled in mahogany to summon the railway's golden age. The Canadian Railway Museum in Saint-Constant near Montreal boasts one of the finest railway collections in North America, and is sure to spark a sense of wonder in every member of the family.

The museum's new pavilion, *Exporeal*, features historic locomotives, passenger cars, freight cars, and horse-drawn cars – all displayed in a venue designed to look like a train station.

The museum's collection also includes early modern locomotives, dating to the 1930s, and tells the fascinating story of Canada's school cars.

SUMMER VISITING HOURS: The Canadian Railway Museum is open every day from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. until Labour Day.

WHERE: 110 Rue Saint-Pierre, Saint-Constant
INFO: (450) 632-2410.



UPLANDS AGLITTER IN LENNOXVILLE

The Lennoxville-Ascot Historical and Museum Society revisits the lost art of fancy beadwork this summer in its exhibit, *Beads and Sequins*, devoted to a sparkling chapter in the history of Victorian homemaking. Visitors to the Uplands Cultural and Heritage Centre will discover that a wide and surprising variety of materials and techniques were used to transform ordinary objects into unique pieces of handicraft.

The Uplands show features objects adorned with beads and sequins dating from the late 19th to the beginning 20th century.

An opening reception will be held on Sunday, June 5 from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. Afterward, the exhibit is open to the public Thursday to Sunday, from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m.

SUMMER VISITING HOURS: From June 25 to August 28, Uplands will be open Tuesday through Sunday each week from 1 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.

WHERE: Uplands Centre is located at 9 Speid Street, Lennoxville.

INFO: (819) 563-9132 www.uplands.ca.

NEWS & NOTES FROM AROUND QUEBEC

FISH TALES ON THE LOWER NORTH SHORE

A scale model of Bonne Island, where Boston-born William Henry Whiteley headquartered his fishing business in the 1800s, forms the centrepiece of this summer's Whiteley Museum exhibit in St. Paul's River on Quebec's Lower North Shore. The fascinating story of this printer-turned-fish merchant, inventor of the cod trap, is retold with the help of artefacts from the early commercial fishery and an audio-visual presentation.

As the main heritage attraction for visitors to the Lower North Shore, curators and volunteers at the Whiteley Museum have focused on the history of the invention of the cod trap and the way of life that evolved as a result. St. Paul's River, population 500, is the largest settlement in the municipality of Bonne-Esperance, situated about 70 km from Labrador.

The community of St. Paul's River developed as a major summer fishing station in the 19th and early 20th century, mainly under Whiteley's influence. The museum boasts an impressive collection of old tools and fishing paraphernalia, as well as relics from the early fish-processing industry. Other attractions in this scenic coastal community include whale watching.

Quebec and Newfoundland ferries travel regularly to the remote villages of the Lower North Shore from May to December. St. Paul's River is 60 kilometres west of Blanc-Sablon, which can be reached by ferry from Saint-Barbe's, Newfoundland.

WHERE: Whiteley Museum is located on St. Paul River's main road.

SUMMER VISITING HOURS: May to October, Monday to Friday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. On Saturdays & Sundays, from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m.

INFO: (418) 379-2911

DELVE INTO CASCAPEDIA RIVER HERITAGE

For more than 150 years the Cascapedia River on the Quebec side of Chaleur Bay has played a central role in lives of residents of Cascapedia and St. Jules. The Cascapedia River Museum is one-of-a-kind showcase featuring a blend of natural and social history that pays homage to the waterway's role in shaping the life of this bucolic, multicultural community on the Gaspé Coast.

The museum's Atlantic Salmon Room depicts the life cycle of the Atlantic salmon, its habitat and local efforts to conserve its habitat. You don't have to launch a canoe to get a feel for the angler's thrill, either: the museum has developed a machine that actually simulates the experience of catching a 25-pounder.

A traditional Mi'kmaq thoroughfare and one of the world's great salmon-fishing rivers, the Cascapedia's sport fishing industry provided employment for generations of residents descended from Irish, Scottish, English and Acadian

settlers. As documented in the museum, Cascapedia's guest list has included prominent statesmen and celebrities through the years.

The permanent exhibit tells about fishing lore and local angling culture. It also boasts a documentation centre with a giant screen for viewing films related to the Cascapedia's history.

WHERE: Cascapedia River Museum is located at 133, Route 299, in the municipality of Cascapedia-St Jules.

VISITING HOURS: May 15 to September 20, from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

INFO: (418) 392-5079

MISSISQUOI RED COATS, RIFLES AND REBELS

The Missisquoi Museum in Stanbridge East looks back on two centuries of warfare that have directly affected residents of this historic Eastern Townships community on the U.S. border. This summer's exhibition, entitled Missisquoi Goes to War, includes a collection of soldiers' uniforms, medals, badges, weapons and assorted battle souvenirs dating back as far as the American Revolution.

Also featured in the collection are artifacts dating to the War of 1812-14, the Rebellions of 1837-38, the American Civil War, the Fenian Raids, the Boer War, both World Wars and the Korean War.

To mark this Year of the Veteran, museum staff are offering free admission to all veterans.

Located in a former grist mill built in 1830, the Missisquoi Museum contains one of Quebec's most important rural heritage and archives collections. The museum's permanent exhibit features artifacts from descendants of United Empire Loyalists who helped settle the region, as well as a display of antique farm machinery.

WHERE: The village of Stanbridge East is located just off Route 202, between Dunham and Bedford.

SUMMER VISITING HOURS: Open daily from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., from June to October 9.

INFO: (450) 248-3153

COMPTON COUNTY HOUSE AND GARDEN TOUR

The Compton County Historical Museum Society will be holding a house and garden tour on August 11. Eaton Township is celebrating its 150th anniversary in 2005. The tour will feature about ten local homes of heritage interest. The tour begins at 9 a.m. or later at the tourist information booth on Route 108 in Birchton, about 10 km east of Sherbrooke. Lunch is included in the \$27 fee.

WHERE: The society's newly-renovated museum is located at 374 Route 253 in Eaton Corner, which is about 15 km east of Sherbrooke and 5 km south of Cookshire.

SUMMER VISITING HOURS: Open 1 to 5 p.m. Wednesday to Sunday June 8 to August 28, then weekends until the end of September.

INFO: (819) 875-5256 or 875-5776.

BOOKS BOOKS BOOKS BOOKS BOOKS BOOKS

The Anglos: The Hidden Face of Quebec City, Volume I, 1608 – 1850

Reviewed by C. Robert McGoldrick

The publication of this book by Louisa Blair is an event of great consequence for our community, indeed for both the English and French-speaking communities. We have not recently had a go-between the likes of James McPherson Le Moine, the 19th Century local historian who, in both languages, spoke to each group about the other, explaining their purposes, actions and points of view.

As we approach the 400th anniversary of the founding of our fair city, it is important that Quebec City's "Francos" discover anew the fascinating story of their anglophone neighbours, the hidden face of the history of Quebec City.

And the city's diverse "Anglos" – in practice, not only the English, but all non francophones – can now enjoy a very readable summary of our common history.

This book did not come about by chance. The citizens of Quebec City all know of Mayor Jean-Paul L'Allier's desire to make known the many communities and groups who, century after century, have added institutions, monuments and drama to the French and aboriginal foundations of the city founded in 1608 by Samuel de Champlain and Pierre Dugua de Mons.

But it was Denis Angers, communications director at la Commission de la Capitale

Nationale (CCN) who, some three years ago, broached the idea of a popular publication highlighting the anglophone history of Quebec City. His project found favour with a small group of citizens and history buffs consulted. The publisher, *Éditions Sylvain Harvey*, is experienced in producing and marketing bilingual publications.

We are fortunate that Louisa Blair, a fifth-generation Scot born in Old Quebec, was available to develop the concept and write *The Anglos*, ably supported by the research of Lorraine O'Donnell and Jean-Philippe Garneau and by Jacques Saint-Pierre, who unearthed numerous little-known photos that will have jaded readers of *Canadiana* surprised at every other page. Four chapters, 130 pages, more than 100 illustrations, superior editing by Robert Chodos and graphic design of high artistic merit make *The Anglos* a delight to behold and to treasure.

Volume I covers the period between 1608 and 1850. As

most Quebecers know, some anglophones came to our shores as early as the French Régime, few in numbers but varied in origin, religion and circumstances. Later, the British armies (as the French army before 1760) included mercenaries from several European countries some of whom settled in the city and region. For a full century after 1760, Quebec was a vibrant cosmopolitan city, the seat of government in Canada and a port of world importance. It welcomed and absorbed large numbers of Englishmen who had come originally with the military or the government administration, Scottish businessmen and

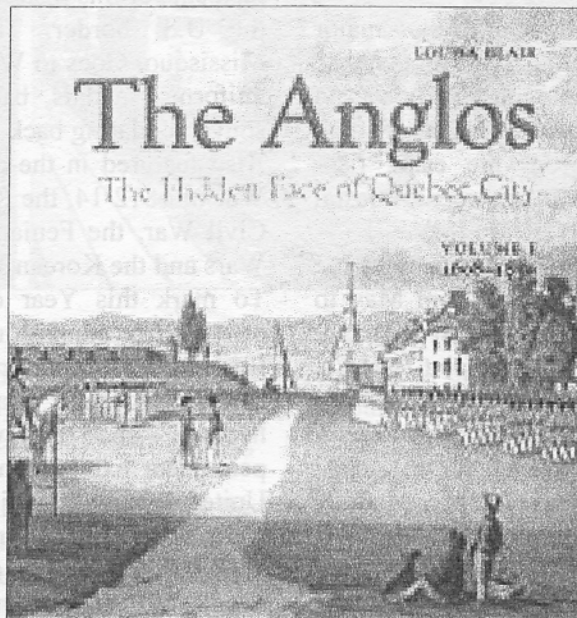
entrepreneurs, arriving in many cases as young apprentices, and Irish men, women and children, better known because their tragic story has been much told and retold. The arrival of representatives of other communities – Jewish, Greek, Chinese, Italian and others – is also chronicled by Louisa Blair, particularly in the second volume of *The Anglos*, to appear in bookstores later this year.

Louisa Blair's *The Anglos* is not only attractive and colourful, it is fascinating and very readable. We do not have here a mere recitation of dates in chronological order. She writes

with wit and a certain detachment, even including the foibles and scandals of these actors on the stage of 19th century Quebec. She had the bright notion of adding to her narrative the comments of the participants, correspondence, anecdotes and even photo captions that are mini chapters. The book is enriched by the inclusion of a three-page chronology of key events in the Anglo perspective, as well as suggestions for further reading.

The author covers the political, social, religious and business dimensions of our history. However, the centre of interest is not, for instance, the legislative act or the historical event per se. Louisa Blair is more concerned with how our ancestors lived and behaved in their assigned roles as well as their relationships to each other. In this regard, and contrary to the two solitudes refrain, *The Anglos* gives many examples of their high regard for their

Continued at bottom of next page



BOOKS BOOKS BOOKS BOOKS BOOKS BOOKS

The first of two volumes of author Louisa Blair's history of Quebec City's English-speaking communities was published this spring. Volume one of the series features the origins of English-speakers in Quebec City up to 1850. A review of it appears on the page opposite. The second volume will continue to the present.

Blair and Jacques St-Pierre hunted down pictures and illustrations that were not as well known. "Originally there was going to be one [volume]. They saw the collection of illustrations we had come up with – and they want them all."

"So little has been written about the English-speaking community, especially in the last 100 years. After confederation, people stopped paying attention to Anglos in Quebec."

Blair became immersed in local archives. "There's so much to look at – the families of Quebec City. There's a wealth of material. All I could do was skim the surface."

"The only thing I feel sad about is that there is so much more to be done on the English-speaking community. I only had a year to write it and I had to cover 400 years."

Publisher Sylvain Harvey said a book about Quebec City's English-speaking community will fill a void. "It hasn't been dealt with up to now. We have to remember that anglophones have made important contributions to Quebec."

After skimming the book, Harvey described the text as "extremely interesting. We learn lots of things, discoveries, such as the presence of Anglos before 1850."

The books are a joint venture of Harvey's company and Quebec's national capital commission, represented by Denis Anger, former chief editor of *Le Soleil* newspaper.

Continued from previous page

French-speaking fellow citizens, in the course of the inevitable social interaction or as a result of intellectual empathy.

Not all aspects of the city's history are treated equally or in depth; this is not being the purpose of the book. It is through the actors, their actions and their writings that we gain new insights into the ambiance of the various periods and the mood of local society as Quebec City moved from colonial capital, military base, capital of Canada, economic boom town and more recently, the heart of a quiet revolution. Volume II should be equally fascinating.

In conclusion, *The Anglos: The Hidden Face of Quebec*



Louisa Blair

English

"Blair paints a broad and lively picture of the diversity of New France," says Anger. "she shows us the pioneers, merchants, prisoners, sailors, servants, slaves, colonists and religious communities which built Quebec City."

The book "brings in the point of view of an Anglo, [Blair] who sheds a light on her own history. I see it as a kind of valorization for the community and the history of Quebec. It's everybody's history," said Harvey.

Blair's research has allowed her to write more in-depth pieces on various subjects, several to be published in the magazine *The Beaver*, including a piece on James Murray and another on servants. "It has given me endless possibilities for more to do on the English-speaking community. I could do it for the rest of my life!"

Blair conducted many interviews, some of which will make it into the second volume. book.

She has worked to try to highlight the contribution of English-speakers to Quebec City's history, and briefly touches upon its many cultural groups.

"It's not just about the English and the Irish," said Blair. "Many immigrants came: Jewish, Chinese, Italian and Greek."

But, Blair warned, "There are a lot of people who would like to see their family names in the book, but I'm looking at groups of people more than names. I tell stories about people," she explained, noting that the goal was "not to mention every Anglo family name. The goal was to break stereotypes. I wanted to call the book *Les Maudites Anglais*, but they wouldn't let me."

Blair wants to break the old stereotype of the "rich timber merchant," the "big rich people on top of the cliff in Sillery. I wanted to show that those weren't the only kind of people speaking English in Quebec City. They weren't necessarily rich and they weren't necessarily English!"

This article is based on a report in the Quebec Chronicle-Telegraph by Michèle Thibeau.

City lives up to its purpose. For our francophone fellow citizens, it brings a sympathetic and readable summary of the contribution of generations of our ancestors to the city we created together. For the Anglos of today, it is a family album which we pick up again with pleasure and discover in its pages forgotten details of yesterday, a warming experience. For youthful Quebecers, of all origins, Louisa Blair's *The Anglos* may bring about fraternal relationships that will last beyond the euphoria of 2008.

C Robert McGoldrick is manager of special projects for the Quebec City regional chamber of commerce and industry, and a long-time professor at Laval University

BOOKS BOOKS BOOKS BOOKS BOOKS BOOKS

An excerpt from *The Anglos: The Hidden Face of Quebec City*

Quebec City's most famous Scot, Abraham of the Plains

Abraham Martin dit l'Écossais arrived in New France with his wife Marguerite Langlois (originally l'Anglais, "the English one") in 1620. Abraham was a fisherman and a pilot, and owned some cattle that he kept on 13 hectares on the heights above the city, now known as the Plains of Abraham. He drove his cows down to the waters of the Charles River for a drink, using a path now known as the Côte d'Abraham.

Martin was born in France, and may have been called "the Scot" because he had travelled to Scotland as a young man, or because he wanted to avoid detection after

defecting from military service. He may also have been a *bona fide* Scot, as Scotland had had a close relationship with France since the ninth century. A Scottish regiment (*les Gardes de la Manche*) had protected the French monarchs since 1425, and there was even a College Écossais at the University of Paris. When another Scot, David Kirke, captured Quebec for the British in 1629, Abraham Martin stayed on, suggesting that he had nothing to fear from his new compatriots.

Abraham and Marguerite had ten or eleven children. Their son Eustache was the first settler born in Canada, in 1621. A daughter Hélène had Samuel de Champlain as her illustrious godfather, and another daughter went on to marry the famous explorer Médard Chouart des Groseillers. Another son was the second Canadian-born priest and first Canadian composer. In 1649 their father was imprisoned for lecherous conduct towards a young Quebec girl, and that is the last we hear of him.

Portrait of Abraham Martin, by Charles Huot, ca. 1908.



Julia Grace Wales book now available

North Hatley historian Mary Jean Bean has published her long awaited work, *Julia Grace Wales, Canada's Hidden Heroine, and the Quest for Peace 1914-1918*. It is the story of a remarkable woman who grew up in Bury, Quebec during the late 1800s. All Canadians can take pride in Miss Wales work for peace, which eventually led to the organization of the League of Nations, and later, the United Nations and the relatively peaceful years we have enjoyed since 1945.

The book, by Borealis Press, is available at The Black Cat and Bishop's Bookstore in Lennoxville, and at *Livre d'Or* in Sutton, or can be ordered from any bookseller. An excerpt of the book was published in the Quebec Heritage News of March 2003.



BOOKS BOOKS BOOKS BOOKS BOOKS BOOKS

An excerpt from *The Anglos: The Hidden Face of Quebec City*

Forced migrations: New Englanders in New France

The First Nations were the key to the fur trade, and were drawn into colonial wars when they found that European visitors were fighting over access to them. The New England settlers, they discovered, were a lawless and cruel bunch. The newcomers disturbed their fishing and hunting grounds, and regularly carried off their members and sold them into slavery. For the First Nations, vengeance was a sacred and holy duty. So even when the French and the British managed to make peace for a short while, the Abenaki or the Iroquois would be declaring war on the French (1675 and 1687, respectively). Then there would be a peace treaty and the French and the Abenaki would declare war collectively on the English (1702). Governor Vaudreuil regularly sent raiding parties to New England to discourage the Abenaki from allying themselves with the English.

During this period there was a forced migration of literally thousands of New Englanders to Canada, almost all of them civilians. Several hundred remained in New France. At least 455 have been identified, but there were likely three times that number of anglophones. Nearly half of them were in Quebec City. Most were civilians captured in raids, a few were British soldiers taken as prisoners of war, and some were refugees: English or Irish Catholics who were held in deep suspicion in Puritan New England, and were sometimes victims of reprisals.

Most of the civilian captives were women and children, as typically the men would be killed in a raid, and their crops and houses burned. Between 1675 and 1760 there were more than 70 raids on New England villages. The First Nations sold the children back to their parents for ransom, adopted them as their own, or sold them to missionaries or bourgeois French families in Quebec City, Trois-Rivières and Montreal.

Prisoners destined for Quebec City were marched up the frozen Hudson River, across Lake Champlain and up the Pentagouet and Chaudière rivers. Children were carried or dragged on sleds, but any-one who fell ill or lagged behind was killed with a swift axe-blow and left by the wayside.

Children who were adopted by First Nations families were treated as full members of the family and clan, many becoming chiefs in adulthood. Captive children were treated to an elaborate adoption ceremony and took Abenaki names. Among the Mohawk, their surnames survived, and are found in Mohawk communities to this day: Tarbell, Rice, Williams, Jacobs, Hill, Stacie, McGregor. When peace came and their natural parents came to fetch them, most refused to leave.

Forty-six sales of captives to residents of Quebec City (population 2,000) were recorded, but most sales were not, as Aborigines were not considered persons, and their captives were not, technically speaking, slaves. The fortunes of these captives varied. Adults were forced to abjure their faith to receive their freedom, and children were baptized as Catholics. If they converted, they were allowed certain citizens' rights, but were not allowed to leave the country without written

permission, or to transmit information to other colonies, presumably because they were in a perfect position to spy. Some, such as John Schuyler, did indeed become spies. There were enough English prisoners of war lounging about town for Governor Vaudreuil to worry about conspiracy: on May 30, 1711, he issued an edict stipulating that "British prisoners in the city of Quebec must not gather together in such numbers either in the houses or in the streets."



A plan of the Inhabited Part of the Province of Quebec, James Peachey, 1785 (detail). In the early eighteenth century Governor Vaudreuil noted with dismay that the Abenaki First Nations were trading peacefully with the English and he feared they might be won over. He commanded a series of raids on New England towns as a way to reassert his authority over the Abenaki and to make their Canadian connection worthwhile: in spite of the depressed beaver trade, the Abenaki and mission First Nations could use these raids, led by Canadian officers and militiamen, to gather booty to satisfy their needs. The booty consisted partly of human beings, captured and sold back to the English, or to the French at Quebec.

HERITAGE ISSUES

Protecting cultural heritage in times of strife

Canada to join Hague pact against wartime pillage

OTTAWA, (Communiqué) – The Government of Canada is about to complete the final stages leading to Canada acceding to the two Protocols of the UNESCO Convention for the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict, also known as the Hague Convention. This was announced May 18 by Minister of Canadian Heritage and Minister responsible for Status of Women Liza Frulla, Minister of Foreign Affairs Pierre Pettigrew, Minister of National Defence Bill Graham and Minister of Justice Irwin Cotler.

By acceding to these Protocols, Canada is reiterating its commitment to international peace and security. It also sends a clear message to those who may seek refuge after taking part in the looting of heritage property during a conflict.

“We strongly support the underlying principle of the Convention that damage to a nation’s cultural property diminishes the cultural heritage of all nations,” said Minister Frulla. “Our accession to the two Protocols will confirm our commitment to international cooperation in the interest of protecting cultural heritage around the world.”

“Canada’s accession to these important international instruments demonstrates our commitment to the rule of law as the basis for the conduct of states and military forces, including in times of conflict,” said Minister Pettigrew. “The framework of cooperation provided by the Protocols to the Hague Convention provides a vital underpinning for the protection of cultural heritage.”

The Hague Convention and its two Protocols reflect Canadian principles surrounding the protection of cultural property in times of war.

“Canada’s active role in international security means our forces are continually in touch with diverse cultures and communities,” said Minister Graham. “Canada’s commitment to the Hague Convention and our intention to join the Protocols reaffirms the Canadian Forces’ long-standing commitment to protect cultural property while on operations around the world.”

“Acceding to the Protocols to the Hague Convention is another example of Canada’s unwavering support for international humanitarian law,” said Minister Cotler. “The Protocols will strengthen even further Canada’s ability to act against crimes committed during armed conflict. The adoption of the Crimes Against Humanity and War Crimes Act in 2000, as well as the support provided to the War Crimes Program, has helped Canada play an important role in promoting international justice.”

In order to accede to the two Protocols, the Government must bring forward amendments to the Criminal Code and

the Cultural Property Export and Import Act. Such amendments would allow Canada to prosecute Canadians for criminal acts committed abroad, including theft, vandalism, arson, or the illicit exportation of cultural property that is protected by the Convention and its Protocols.

The Ministers made this announcement on the occasion of International Museum Day, which is celebrated every year around the world on May 18. This year, the theme for the Day is “Museums Bridging Cultures.”

There are two Protocols to the 1954 Hague Convention for the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict.

THE 1954 “FIRST” PROTOCOL

The First Protocol to the Hague Convention contains provisions prohibiting the illegal export of cultural property from occupied territories, and provisions providing for the safekeeping of cultural property by a State Party at the request of another State Party in the event of armed conflict. There are currently 91 States Parties to the First Protocol.

THE 1999 “SECOND” PROTOCOL

The Second Protocol was introduced to rectify weaknesses in the Convention, and to update and expand on its provisions in response to changes seen in armed conflict since World War II, and resulting changes to the threat to cultural heritage, such as the increasing incidence of deliberate targeting of cultural property in non-international conflicts of an ethnic nature. The Second Protocol establishes a range of new measures, including an Intergovernmental Committee for Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict, a Fund to assist States Parties in implementing the Convention and Protocols, and a new regime of “Enhanced Protection” for cultural property. It also clarifies and provides for more specific obligations on the pursuit and prosecution of violations of the Convention and its Protocols. There are currently 28 States Parties to the Second Protocol, which came into force in March 2004.

The UNESCO Convention for the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict (1954), known as the Hague Convention, was developed in response to concern over destruction of cultural property, including monuments, museums, libraries, and archival repositories, during World War II. The Convention is based on the principle that damage to cultural property belonging to any nation diminishes the cultural heritage of all nations, and seeks to provide for the most effective protection possible

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Quebec City's 400th anniversary

Ottawa names Laurent Tremblay commissioner for celebrations

(Communiqué) Minister of Canadian Heritage and Minister responsible for Status of Women Liza Frulla recently announced the appointment of Laurent Tremblay as the Federal Commissioner for the Celebration of the 400th Anniversary of Quebec City.

Mr. Tremblay will chair a special committee of senior federal officials in the Quebec City Region. The committee will coordinate Government of Canada activities in connection with celebrations of the 400th anniversary of Quebec City.

"Mr. Tremblay knows the Quebec region very well. He has participated in implementing several major projects in this region, both in his roles at Parks Canada and the Department of Canadian Heritage and also as a volunteer with several important organizations," said Minister Frulla. "I am certain that his considerable experience and knowledge of this part of the country will be valuable assets for the Quebec City 400th anniversary team."

After teaching college physical education from 1968 to 1970, Mr. Tremblay joined the federal public service in 1973, where he held several management positions. In particular, he served as Director of Operations and Director of Research and Development at Parks Canada for the Quebec Region, as well as Associate Director General for the Quebec Region at Environment Canada. His many responsibilities enabled him to acquire a vast experience in management and operations related to the creation and development of national parks and historic sites, as well as the administration of public services.

Mr. Tremblay holds a bachelor of physical education degree from Laval University and a master's in administration from Sherbrooke University. He has also studied at the European Institute of Business Administration.

The Government of Canada is a proud sponsor of the events being held to celebrate the City of Quebec's 400th

Continued from previous page

for such property in times of armed conflict. It is regarded as one of the most important components of the international effort to protect cultural heritage, and is considered by the International Committee of the Red Cross as belonging to a group of instruments that constitute international humanitarian law.

In peacetime, the Convention prescribes proactive measures such as the identification and distinctive marking of significant property. In the event of armed conflict it brings into force measures to prevent the damage, theft, or destruction of cultural property.

The Convention applies to three broad categories of "cultural property": immovable and movable items of intrinsic artistic, historic, scientific, or other cultural value, whether religious or secular, such as historic monuments, works of art, or scientific collections; premises used for the housing of movable cultural property, such as museums, archives, and libraries; and "centres containing

Anniversary. The Government invites all Canadians to take part in activities to highlight this important chapter in our shared history.

The federal government will invest \$110 million in the celebrations. In 2008, Canada will have an opportunity to celebrate the founding of the first permanent French colony in North America, as well as the meeting of Aboriginal peoples and European explorers, which began the intercultural dialogue that is the foundation for today's Canada.

"As part of celebrations of the 400th anniversary of the founding of Québec City, the Government of Canada will invest in sites that are treasures of our collective heritage," said Minister Frulla. "It will also allow all Canadians to celebrate the founding of the first Canadian city and the strength of the pact of solidarity that unites us."

"The 400th anniversary of the founding of Québec City is a tremendously important historic event. The Government of Canada is proud of this investment. The people of Québec City will benefit directly from this investment for many generations," said Cabinet Minister Jean Lapierre.

"Québec City holds a special place in the hearts of Canadians, in part because it was the principal port of entry for immigrants to Canada from its founding until the First World War," said Minister Stéphane Dion. "This cradle of French civilization in North America is a magical place where people can touch and experience our country's rich history. They can explore streets, terraces, and buildings that our ancestors knew hundreds of years ago; understand French Canada's early system of government; and appreciate how Canada's Aboriginal people contributed to our development as a nation. Initiatives such as this, and our commitment to protect the City's national historic sites for future generations benefit all Canadians and connect us to one another."

monuments" such as designated areas in important historic cities or archaeological zones.

A total of 113 countries are currently States Parties to the Hague Convention. Canada became a State Party to the Convention in 1999.

The Hague Convention complements two other international Conventions concerning the protection of cultural heritage to which Canada is also a State Party: the UNESCO Convention on the Means of Prohibiting and Preventing the Illicit Import, Export and Transfer of Ownership of Cultural Property (1970) and the UNESCO Convention Concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage (1972). The Convention and its two Protocols also reflect prohibitions of hostile acts against cultural objects, monuments, and sites that are contained in the Additional Protocols to the Geneva Conventions of 1949, to which Canada is a State Party.

Upgrade for performance arts facilities

Heritage department supports three Quebec cultural organizations

(Communiqué) Minister of Canadian Heritage and Minister responsible for Status of Women Liza Frulla recently announced \$376,303 in funding for three Quebec cultural organizations.

The funds, spread over five years, will allow the Empress Cultural Centre, Les Deux Mondes theatre company, and the National Theatre School of Canada to renovate their facilities and purchase specialized equipment.

"With this significant investment, the Government of Canada once again demonstrates its commitment to providing Canadians with better access to the arts and culture," said Minister Frulla.

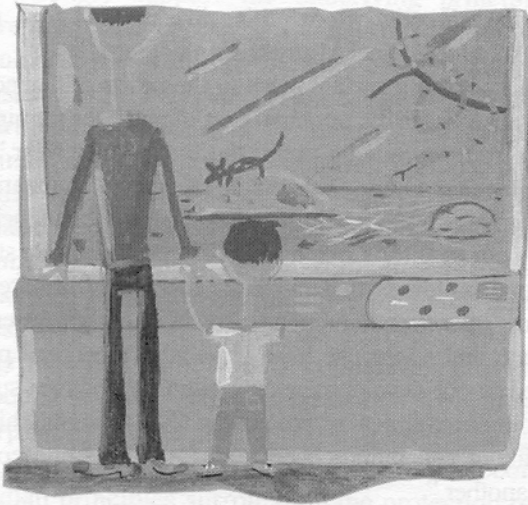
In its own way, each of the three recipient organizations

helps increase public interest in the arts and heritage through their cultural activities. Of the total funding, the Empress Cultural Centre will receive \$165,000. Les Deux Mondes theatre company will receive \$61,303 and the National Theatre School of Canada will receive \$150,000.

Financial assistance is provided by the Department of Canadian Heritage through its Cultural Spaces Canada program. This program supports cultural infrastructure projects that increase access for Canadians to performing, visual, and media arts and also improves physical conditions for artistic creativity and innovation.

Funding for these projects was forecast in the February 2005 federal Budget.

Bring your stories to the world



The *Community Memories Program* offers smaller museums the tools, financial investment and support to digitize their stories and showcase their local history on the World Wide Web.

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

Stay tuned for the calls for proposals.

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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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