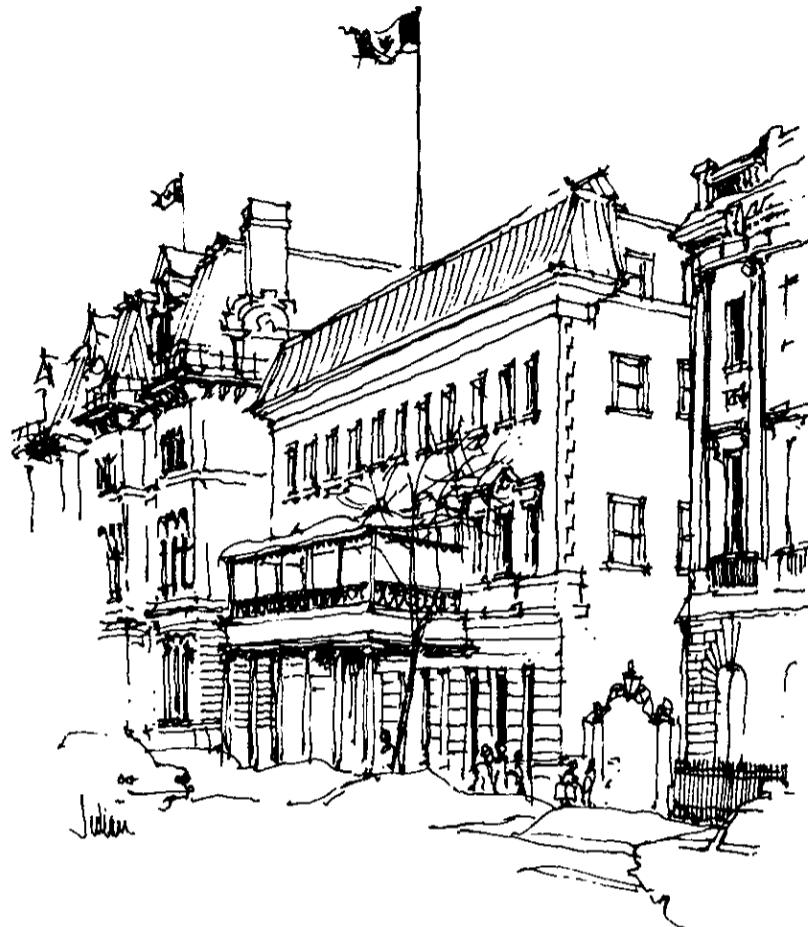


NEWSLETTER

JANUARY 1978 Vol. 6, No. 1

W.E. Keenan, President

Joan Mackie, Editor



JANUARY MEETING

DATE Wednesday, January 25, 1978
8:00 p.m.

PLACE Rideau Club, 84 Wellington Street

Heritage Ottawa members will be invited to tour the Rideau Club, following a talk on the history of the building. There will be a cash bar open for refreshments.

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

On behalf of the Board of Directors, it is my pleasure to extend to all of you our best wishes for a Happy New Year. I would like to thank everyone who has supported Heritage Ottawa by continuing your membership and by participating in our projects. We look forward to a busy year in 1978, a major project being to host the tenth annual convention of the Association for Preservation Technology in September. We know that we enjoy your support and goodwill in our hope that each new year brings an increasing awareness of the value of the conservation of our architectural heritage.

W.E. Keenan

HERITAGE OTTAWA GALLERY

"Winter Sports in Ottawa" will open at the Fraser Schoolhouse, 62 John Street, on January 14, and will continue until March 26. The exhibition will illustrate all popular winter pastimes with photographs, equipment, and interesting artifacts.

HERITAGE DAY MEETING

On Monday, February 20, 1978, Michael Newton will speak on The Development and Growth of Lowertown, 1827 to the Founding of the Capital. The February Newsletter will give the location of this meeting. Michael Newton has been carrying out extensive historical research on the development and growth of Lowertown, with particular interest in the economic and social development of the area. It is appropriate with the increasing interest in the preservation and development of Lowertown, that Heritage Ottawa's speaker for Heritage Day address this topic.

APT CONFERENCE

The Association for Preservation Technology will be holding its annual meeting in Ottawa, September 18-23, and Heritage Ottawa is acting as the host group for the event. While September may seem in the far-distant future, several committees are already hard at work making plans and preparations for the 400 delegates. Volunteer assistance is needed at this planning stage and will also be needed at the conference headquarters in September. Please call Stella Kirk at 745-0551 and lend your support.

CERTIFICATES OF RECOGNITION

In celebration of Heritage Day, February 20, 1978, Heritage Ottawa will present Certificates of Recognition to those individuals, institutions, organizations, government agencies and businesses which have contributed to the preservation of Ottawa's heritage during the past year.

Members are encouraged to assist the Board of Directors in this endeavour by sending in their nominations by January 30, 1978, to Mr. William E. Keenan, President, Heritage Ottawa, P.O. Box 510, Station B, Ottawa.

BOOK REVIEWS

Shirley Leishman Books Ltd, 88 Metcalfe Street, very kindly lent the following books to Heritage Ottawa for review purposes. Members wishing to purchase these books may do so either at Shirley Leishman Books, or at Books Canada in Confederation Square.

Max and Virginia Martyn. The Story of The Lower Rideau Settlement. Smiths Falls, Record News, 1976. Unpaginated, illus., \$1.75.

This compact paperback, sponsored by the Merrickville and District Historical Society is chock full of facts about the titled area. A little too much emphasis is placed on detail at the expense of interesting stories which might be told about the "little white frame house on the corner". However, a walking tour halfway through the book, punctuated with interesting but faded pen-and-ink sketches by Max Martyn, offers a thorough history of the area. A book worth reading if visiting the district.

Jennifer Roddick

The Historical Society of the Gatineau. Up the Gatineau. 1974. 24 pages, illus., \$1.50

Another small paperback, Up the Gatineau, is full of interesting, in-depth information on the Gatineau Hills area presented in easy to read short stories by different authors. "To the Cottage" is one such story which looks at the problems encountered by a family in 1896 on a trip to the cottage only 10 miles away. Another fascinating article is "An 1841 Letter From Ireland" giving a personal look at a family whose son is living in the new Upper Wakefield which is today's Gatineau Valley. The third in a series of annual publications by the Historical Society of the Gatineau, this book is a unique presentation of history and a delight to read even if you are not interested in touring the Gatineau.

Jennifer Roddick

R.H. Hubbard. Rideau Hall: An illustrated history of Government House, Ottawa, from Victorian times to the present day. Montreal, McGill-Queen's University Press, 1977. xii + 282 pp., illus., \$25.00.

Dr. Robert H. Hubbard, O.C., Chief Curator of the National Gallery of Canada and Cultural Adviser to His Excellency the Governor-General, has combined his knowledge and admiration of architecture and vice-royalty in this authoritative and handsome volume. The book is at once a history of Government House and of the people who have lived there. It is, in the author's words, "the picture of a house and its life."

The architectural history begins with the construction of the original villa in 1838 by Thomas MacKay. Hubbard continues with brief descriptions of the additions of 1865 (occasioned by the building's becoming Government House), the wing added for Lord Minto (1899), the study for Lord Grey (1906), and the new front for the Duke of Connaught (1913), and takes the reader up to the redecorations of Madame Vanier and Madame Léger. Treated in greater depth are the twenty-one governors-general and their families who called Rideau Hall home. Their social lives while in office are sympathetically -- at times touchingly -- described, appropriately illustrated, and meticulously documented.

The first half of the book is a new edition of Hubbard's Rideau Hall, published by the Queen's Printer in 1967. Text and photos are virtually unchanged, although the book has been fully redesigned. The second half, considering the governors-general from the Duke of Connaught to Jules Léger, is entirely new.

H. Kalman