

NEWSLETTER

NOVEMBER 1978

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W.E. Keenan, President

Joan Mackie, Editor

NOVEMBER MEETING

This month, Heritage Ottawa members will be treated to not one, but three illustrated lectures, each of which will describe historic preservation in other countries. To be held Wednesdays, November 15, 22, and 29, the lectures will be given in the Lisgar Collegiate Auditorium commencing at 8:00 p.m.

November 15 Paul Stumes, Restoration Services Branch, Parks Canada, will speak about Restoration Work in Japan.

November 22 R.A.J. Phillips, Director Emeritus, Heritage Canada, will address the topic, Recycling the Old World.

November 29 Julian Smith, Restoration Services Branch, Parks Canada, will describe Restoration in Russia.

FUTURE MEETINGS

Members can look forward to an interesting line-up of tempting events in the ensuing months. The December meeting will take the form of a tour of the Laurentian Club. It is expected that this will prove to be as popular as last year's tour of the Rideau Club. In January, an illustrated lecture on the work of selected Ottawa architects is planned. Special Heritage Day celebrations will take place in February, and the following month's program will be a talk on restoring heritage gardens. In late Spring, a walking tour of Centretown will be organized.

HERITAGE OTTAWA GALLERY

"Nineteenth Century Building Technology in the Ottawa Valley" continues at the Fraser Schoolhouse, 62 John Street. Organized by Gerry White and Nigel Hutchins of the Restoration and Rehabilitation Technology Program at Algonquin College, the exhibition and slide show will continue until December 17. The Gallery is open weekends from 1:00 until 5:00.

HERITAGE OTTAWA--HERITAGE CANADA JOINT

MEMBERSHIPS

Effective January 1, 1979, Heritage Canada will be discontinuing reduced membership rates for those belonging to affiliate heritage societies. Heritage Ottawa members wishing to belong to Heritage Canada are advised to make application prior to December 31, 1978.

EXPLORING OUR HERITAGE

THE OTTAWA VALLEY EXPERIENCE

This unique heritage weekend, sponsored by the Ontario Heritage Foundation in Arnprior, Ontario, on 21-22 October 1978 was a very successful event.

The conference was the first of its kind to be held in Ontario, with the heritage of the Ottawa Valley as its theme. Every facet of the history of the Ottawa Valley was depicted by displays, while speakers addressed such topics as the history of Indian settlement, transportation, agriculture, and the timber trade.

Workshops included sessions on education, research, museums and architectural conservation.

A shanty-style breakfast and an Ottawa Valley dance highlighted the social events associated with the conference.

It is hoped that the enthusiasm generated at this conference will demonstrate the potential for similar events in other areas of Ontario in the future.

Gerald White



448 Cooper Street ... a potential candidate for demolition?

LACAC NOTES

LACAC has recently recommended to City Council that the following structures be designated heritage properties under the terms of the Ontario Heritage Act, 1974: the Bower House, 3 Bower Street; the Hay House, 700 Echo Drive; Carleton County Court House, 2 Daly Avenue; 14 Waller Street; Carleton County Jail, 75-77 Nicholas Street.

A plaque will be erected at the Ottawa Rowing Club, indicating the club's contribution to the City of Ottawa.

Architect Barry Padolsky has been chosen by LACAC to renovate the Billings Estate at a total cost of \$300,000. The estate will be renovated to its original condition and open for public viewing. However, due to budget restraints, LACAC recommends that only \$90,000 worth of work be done this year, which will keep the main building standing during the winter weather. The public will be able to view the estate from the outside until further renovations to the interior of all the buildings are completed. At the present time the buildings are unsafe and closed to the public.

Although LACAC recommended to City Council that the Daly Building be designated a heritage property, Council voted against designation (see September Newsletter).

Jennifer Roddick

CHRISTMAS OR CHANUKAH SHOPPING?

Why not give a gift that appears every month for a whole year? Membership in Heritage Ottawa brings with it 10 Newsletters, free admission to monthly meetings--illustrated lectures, seminars, tours of buildings not normally open to the public and much, much more.

Seven dollars buy an Individual Membership for one year. (For \$10.00, a membership in Heritage Canada will be included.) Ten Dollars buy a Household Membership (\$15.00 includes Heritage Canada), and four dollars (\$7.00) will give a Senior Citizen or Student one year of association with Heritage Ottawa. Think about it.

ALMONTE STATION DEMOLISHED

The CP station at Almonte (built ca. 1899) was demolished on 2 November. After a bid by area businessman Brian Meloche to move the stone building had failed, the town of Almonte agreed to its demolition. The town takes possession of the now vacant land on 1 December.

A number of Ottawa Valley CP stations, including those at Arnprior and Renfrew, are similarly threatened. CP Rail will normally sell a redundant station for one dollar if the purchaser will remove it to another property. The railway is reluctant to allow stations to remain along the side of the track in non-railway use.

Harold Kalman

HERITAGE CANADA NEWS

After five years of dedicated service, R.A.J. (Bob) Phillips stepped down as Heritage Canada's first Executive Director. In leaving the organization, he takes with him the gratitude and admiration of all Canadians for the years he gave in encouraging the preservation of our heritage. (See the October 1978 Newsletter for a report on Heritage Ottawa's presenting a Certificate of Recognition to Mr. Phillips.)

October saw the arrival of Jacques Dalibard as the new Executive Director. Before joining Heritage Canada, he was Director of the Historic Preservation Division at Columbia University's Graduate School of Architecture and Planning, and prior to that, Mr. Dalibard was Chief of the Restoration Services Division in Parks Canada.

Heritage Ottawa welcomes Jacques Dalibard and wishes him every success.

Jennifer Roddick

BOOK REVIEW

Bytown, a Guide to Lowertown Ottawa, Guide de la basse-ville d'Ottawa, Ottawa, National Capital Commission, 1978. 42 pp., free.

Bytown, a Guide to Lowertown Ottawa, Guide de la basse-ville d'Ottawa is a recent bilingual publication put out by the Heritage Unit of the National Capital Commission in Ottawa. The guide is a history of the western section of Lowertown Ottawa. The area from Confederation Square to King Edward Avenue is cleverly presented as a walking tour.

The publication begins with a history of the Rideau Canal and its environs. Following this introduction, a brief description is given of Confederation Square, the centre of official Ottawa. From this point one is led along Rideau Street to Mackenzie Avenue, through Major's Hill Park, the former site of Colonel By's home, to Sussex Drive. It is here that one encounters such important early buildings as the Ottawa General Hospital complex, the Bishop's Palace and the Notre Dame Basilica. In this quarter, the reader is shown early homes of the Bytown lumbermen, tradesmen and professionals. The tour continues through the Byward Market and returns to Sussex Drive and the former Union Station, which is now the prestigious Conference Centre for federal, provincial, and international meetings.

The guide to Lowertown Ottawa is an attractive bilingual illustrated publication. Both Ottawans and tourists alike will find this booklet a handy size to take along on their tour of the area. On page one there is a map showing the twenty-three points of interest mentioned in the booklet. The eleven photos were provided by the Public Archives of Canada.

Throughout the guide one finds interesting extras such as the original reason for the noon-hour gun at Nepean Point. It was purchased at the request of Prime Minister John A. Macdonald "as an audible signal for postal clerks to correct their clocks and thus maintain good postal service."

Irene Lackner

LAST CHANCE TO RENEW YOUR HERITAGE OTTAWA MEMBERSHIP

The Heritage Ottawa membership year expired on September 30. Our records indicate that you have not yet renewed your membership for 1978-79.

If you are planning to join us for a further year, and we hope that you are, please do so no later than December 15. In the January Newsletter, the roster of Heritage Ottawa members will be published. See that your name is on that list.

Applications for membership appeared in the September and October Newsletters. If further information is required, please telephone 745-0551.