

# NEWSLETTER

JULY 1979 Vol. 7, No. 6 John Leaning, President Jennifer Roddick, Editor  
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## OUR NEW PRESIDENT

At the June 26 meeting of the Board of Directors Heritage Ottawa elected John Leaning as its President.

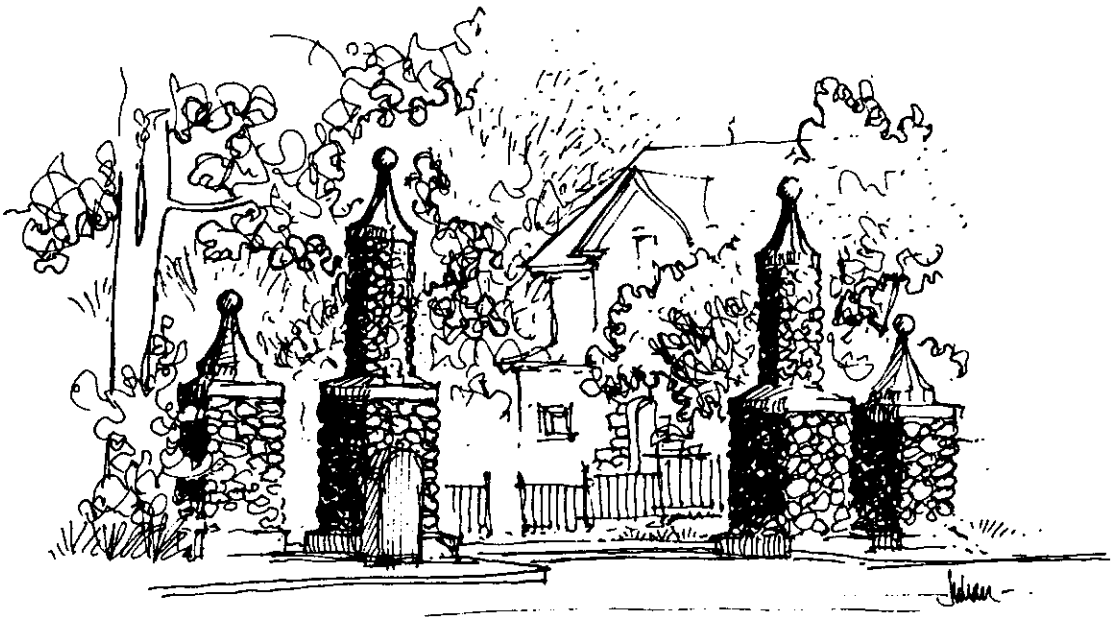
John is a practicing architect in the city and is currently undertaking the revitalization of Almonte's core area.

Born in England, John practiced in Sweden up to 1955 when he emigrated to Canada. After studying at McGill University, he became the first chief architect in the National Capital Region. Since 1968, he has been in private practice.

John's accomplishments include: the restoration of Lasalle Academy, the East Block of Parliament Hill, the Solomon Jones Estate in Maitland, Ontario, and the original rehabilitation of Sussex Drive.

John believes that Heritage Ottawa should take a more aggressive stand on protecting our historical buildings. His objectives for Heritage Ottawa include an active political role in relevant issues -- "if significant buildings are worth saving, Heritage Ottawa should be in the forefront".

HWR



Stone gates gracing the entrance to Beckwith Road from Main Street. The gates were built in 1912 as an entrance to Brantwood Place, an early example of a planned subdivision, and were later dedicated as a war memorial when threatened with destruction. City Council recently designated the gates as heritage property.

## THANK YOU, BILL

When William Keenan took over as president of Heritage Ottawa in May 1977, he inherited a series of partly organized/partially functioning programs. With what was to become characteristic competence and calmness, he took charge and saw to fruition, such events as the tour of heritage properties and the hosting of the international APT Conference.

Then, as time went on, Heritage Ottawa's other programs continued and under his leadership, numerous popular tours of local buildings were held, as well as a variety of topical seminars.

It was a pleasure to serve on the Board of Directors with Bill, for everything he did, he did with a smile. He was always available and always willing to do more than his part from the most menial of tasks -- like hammering nails into the walls of the Fraser Schoolhouse to mount an exhibit -- to the most prestigious -- such as officiating at awards presentations in the Mayor's office or starring in Heritage Ottawa's television series.

A more gracious, considerate president could not exist. He represented us well, and for this, we say "thank you".

JM

## ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Three new members were elected to the Board of Directors at the Annual General Meeting in April.

A warm welcome is extended to: Susan Buggy, Diane Holmes, and Anne MacDonald.

The new Executive, elected at the first meeting of the Board of Directors in May, are: John Leaning, President; Bill Keenan, Vice-President; Bob Haig, Secretary-Treasurer; Stella Kirk, Executive Secretary; and Mary Bridge, Secretary.

The Committee Chairpeople, who deserve a special thank you for volunteering their services, would like to hear from anyone interested in working on their committees. They are as follows:

Policy Committee - Bill Keenan  
Finance Committee - Bill Keenan  
Exhibitions - Helmut Schade  
Fraser Schoolhouse - Gerry White and  
Julian Smith  
Archives - Judy Burns  
Newsletter - Jennifer Roddick  
Publicity - Jennifer Roddick  
Docents - Irene Lackner  
Membership Committee - Marg Oldfield

## HERITAGE CANADA STUDENT MEDAL

The Heritage Canada Student Medal has been awarded to Robert Mayhew, one of Gerry White's graduating students in the Architectural Technology course at Algonquin College for his study of the Fraser Schoolhouse Gallery.

His study was concerned with the maintenance of the exterior, and with the re-design of the interior space to make it more sympathetic to the needs of Heritage Ottawa.

It was suggested that more gallery space be made available in any interior renovations. These recommendations raise the question as to whether members wish to expand the emphasis on bringing local history to the public through the medium of a larger gallery. Such an undertaking would require additional fundraising or grants.

Members' comments on this issue are invited.

JS

## HERITAGE OTTAWA REVIEWS

Restaurant: Le Jardin, 127 York St.

In February 1978, Le Jardin Restaurant received the Heritage Ottawa Certificate of Recognition for the preservation of an historic site at 127 York Street and for its sensitive adaptation into a restaurant.

It is now more than a year since the award was presented and I decided to pay them a visit to compare the quality of the food to the quality of the restoration.

Arriving at 6:30 on a Saturday evening my husband and I were welcomed in the intimate foyer, decorated much as it could have been at the turn of the century. Seated comfortably in what may have been the dining area adjacent to the kitchen, we were able to enjoy the antique surroundings. The small separate rooms provided space for approximately 12 tables. The atmosphere was relaxing and quite in keeping with the decor except for the modern background music.

The spinach and mushroom salad, although warm, was plentiful and extremely tasty. The mushroom soup, made with real cream, was smooth and rich. We ordered the white house wine, a dry import, not quite chilled enough.

When the entrée arrived, the plates were hot and the "market fresh vegetable" was julienne turnips, cooked to perfection. The Seafood Delicacy (a substitute for the New York cut steak of which, we were told, there was no more) proved to be an ample portion of seafood wrapped in french crêpe and covered with a mild cheese sauce. The baby salmon with white sauce was, unfortunately, tasteless. The total bill was just over \$40.00.

The climax of an enjoyable evening came while we were finishing our coffee. The waitress approached our table and informed us that it was now 8:15. My surprised husband asked if that hour held any significance. The waitress' reply: "Well, I don't know what time you got here but I have some people coming in with a 8:30 reservation."

On our way out we counted the empty tables, there were 6 of them!

JR

#### CARLETON UNIVERSITY COURSES

Carleton University is offering two half courses in local history commencing in September 1979. The courses are being taught in the evenings once a week.

##### Introduction to Local History\*

An examination of the methods and approaches that characterize recent British, French, and North American writing on local history. Evening division, First term: Three hours a week. R.B. Goheen, S.R. Mealing.

##### Eastern Ontario Communities

The local history of Eastern Ontario, with particular reference to the settlement and development of the Ottawa Valley in the nineteenth century.

Prerequisite: History 24.327\* .  
Evening division, Second term:  
Three hours a week. S.R. Mealing.

For further information please contact the Carleton University Office of Continuing Education at 231-6660. Interested residents of Ottawa and The Valley are invited to enroll.

#### PORT HOPE, ONTARIO - HOUSE TOUR

If you are in the area on September 29, the Port Hope Branch of the Architectural Conservancy of Ontario will hold its popular annual house tour between 10:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. Tour tickets will be available at the Port Hope Chamber of Commerce, 21 Walton Street. Cost is \$5.50 each and includes a map of the town.

For further information contact Stella Kirk at 745-0551.

Judy Burns, Archives Committee, would like to obtain copies of old Newsletters. If you can provide her with copies from the following dates please call her at 746-1571: June, July, August, September and October of 1975; December 1976, January, May, June and July of 1977.

Anyone wishing to contribute to the Newsletter is asked to send typed submissions to The Editor, Newsletter, 62 John Street, Ottawa.

Thank you to contributing writers this issue: Judith Salley, Joan Mackie and Wayne Roddick.