

NEWSLETTER

ISSN 0808-0506

SEPTEMBER 1981 Vol. 9 No. 7 Diane Holmes, President Jennifer Roddick, Editor

OCTOBER TALK

We are delighted to report that Courtney Bond, well-known local author and historian, has recovered from the illness which prevented him from presenting his talk on the History of the Railroad in the Ottawa Area earlier in the year.

Members are invited to hear Mr. Bond's talk which has been rescheduled for Tuesday, October 20th at 8:00 p.m. in the Auditorium of the National Research Council, 100 Sussex Drive. There is plenty of parking available.

HERITAGE CANADA FOUNDATION ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The 8th Annual Meeting of the Heritage Canada Foundation will be held at the Hotel Nova Scotia, in Halifax, N.S., October 20 to 24, 1981.

The theme this year will be "Preservation: The Changing Economy" with topics to include preservation and energy conservation, downtown revitalization and the Heritage Act.

Heritage Ottawa President Diane Holmes will be attending this year and plans to participate in The Energy Workshop in Older Buildings, and Strategy for Action in the Local Group Seminar.

For further information write, The Annual General Meeting, Heritage Canada Foundation, P.O. Box 1358, Station B, Ottawa, Ontario K1P 5R4.

NOTES FROM LACAC

During the past several months the following properties have been approved by LACAC for designation:

954 Bank Street
140 Laurier Ave.
304-312 Queen Elizabeth Driveway
520 Queen Elizabeth Driveway
149 Hopewell Avenue
32 Cameron Avenue

On July 28, following several months of deliberation, Ottawa Planning Board decided to prepare a report on ways in which the owners of proposed heritage designated properties might be given the opportunity to comment on an intended designation.

This revised Procedure for Designation of Heritage Properties would provide that a letter be sent by the Planning Board to the owner explaining the Heritage Program and the meaning of a Heritage Designation, along with a copy of the report. A special form would be attached to the letter asking for written comments on the proposed designation to be returned to the City. LACAC would also send a letter to property owners advising them that the designation of their property would be discussed at the next LACAC meeting where they would be invited to participate.

This procedure would add four weeks to the designation process but would greatly improve relations between the City heritage conservationists and property owners.

Final decision on this proposed revision to the procedure was expected at the LACAC meeting September 15th.

CLEGG HOUSE ANNIVERSARY

Saturday, October 27th, 1979. Early morning. Weekend shoppers were beginning to appear on downtown streets. A welcome sight to most merchants and shopkeepers.

Suddenly a most unwelcome sight greeted passersby.

A bulldozer was attempting to demolish the 125-year old, former home of Captain William Clegg, Royal Engineer.

The trustees for St. Peter's Lutheran Church, owners of the property, were supervising the demolition of the historic grey stone house at 136 Bay Street.

Police and City Aldermen were called to the scene and after some discussion the destruction was halted. However, the damage had already been done. Today, the ruins stand as a constant reminder. The missing back walls expose the interior to the elements; unprotected from yet another winter, silently awaiting a court decision on its future.

In an attempt to reach a settlement which would respect the City's heritage goals as well as the Church's needs, City Council appointed a Committee of three to meet with Church officials.

The Committee met several times, accomplishing very little but seeming to be headed in the right direction. After a spate of charges and counter-charges from both parties in the pages of the Ottawa Citizen, negotiations broke off.

Nancy Smith, Alderman and member of the now defunct Committee believes the Committee did their best to talk things over and is disappointed that they were unable to work out their differences with Church Officials. She says the Committee members would be willing to meet again but that decision would be entirely up to City Council.

Ald. Smith noted that the main point is a legal one. "People or groups cannot openly defy the laws of the municipality, whatever their origin," she said. "The City is not pursuing the matter out of a feeling of vindictiveness. We as elected representatives of the people of Ottawa must see the laws upheld," she concluded.

It has been two years since this prominent piece of Ottawa's heritage was turned into rubble. It will be another year before we can expect a decision from the courts. An injunction prevents either the Church or the City of Ottawa from touching the site and ruins.

For the sake of the Clegg House and all other heritage properties which may be in danger from unsympathetic landowners, Heritage Ottawa continues in its support of the City of Ottawa's position in laying charges against St. Peter's Lutheran Church for unlawful demolition of the Clegg House.

Jennifer

MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS

Heritage Ottawa current membership year ends on 30 September 1981. To indicate your continued interest in the conservation of Ottawa's architecture please renew your membership now by remitting the coupon attached to:

Heritage Ottawa Memberships
P.O. Box 510, Station "B"
OTTAWA, Ontario
K1P 5P6

Thank you.

THE BAY FASHION SHOW

Approximately 100 people attended the successful Bay Fashion Show September 13th.

The audience was treated to a dazzling array of stylish designs mainly as created by Jean-Claude Poitras.

The Show, held for the benefit of Heritage Ottawa, took place in the Adam Room of the Château Laurier Hotel which was decorated in keeping with the name of the fashion line, "The Heritage Line".

The Show also featured a display of Canadiana period costumes.

Proceeds were presented to President Diane Holmes and will be transferred to the Mayor's Fund for The Renovation of The Teacher's College as soon as it has been formally established.

Submissions for The Newsletter may be sent to: The Editor, 44 Carmichael Court, Kanata, Ontario K2K 1K2