

Established in 1967
Celebrating our 30th year



Winter 1999
Volume 25, No. 4

Dedicated to Preserving Our Built Heritage

The President's Report — The Year in Review

By Carolyn Quinn

This past year has been a busy one for Heritage Ottawa. The organization has successfully fulfilled its mandate to educate and inform residents and visitors of the city's valuable heritage buildings and districts. The armchair and walking tours exposed many to the benefits of heritage conservation practice, however, our advocacy work has been arguably less successful in meeting our preservation goals.

February and March saw the presentation of five instructive and entertaining slide-shows where topics ranged from the fascinating landscape history of the Central Experimental Farm by historian Edwinna von Baeyer, to a highly informative evening with architect Lyette Fortin who spoke on the restoration of the Parliamentary Precinct. In between, we enjoyed the architecture of Werner Noffke with Gordon Cullingham; we visited the Art Deco hotels and theatres of Miami with Paul Stumes; and architect Richard Limmert shared his restoration and adaptive re-use of the old Fraser Schoolhouse at 62 John Street.

Our walking tour season was a great success again this year beginning with architect John Leaning leading the way through the back alleys of the Glebe and ending with architect Mark Brandt's captivating visit, via canoe, to historic Victoria Island and Chaudière Falls. This latter tour involved partnering with the private

sector company Eau Vive, who provided both canoe and boatman. Six other informative and unique tours kept participants returning for more!

A special thank you goes out to all the intrepid volunteer guides who contribute so much to the success of these valuable tours: John Leaning, Terry deMarsh, Fern Graham, Judy Deegan, Glenn Lockwood, Louisa Coates and Mark Brandt. Thank you one and all!!

Heritage Ottawa was also an active participant in several events celebrating the city's history and heritage including Heritage Day ceremonies hosted at All Saints' Church in Sandy Hill, Colonel By Day activities and more recently Bytown Days in the Byward Market. Heritage Ottawa will be represented in the Local Architectural Conservation Advisory Committee's Quarter Century Report, due to be released in the new year, with articles contributed by several members of the Board.

These successes were accompanied by serious losses for Ottawa's heritage. Over the summer City Council approved the construction of a 45-metre tower in the heart of the Byward Market and the demolition of two buildings on Bank Street in the soon-to-be-designated Heritage District. In both cases the vote was a six-to-five split against heritage preservation.

Heritage Ottawa, among other

Continued page 2

CHUM now has City support to erect its enormous tower in the Bytown Market. Visually offensive, monstrously out of scale, destructive of the heritage integrity of this designated Heritage District, and, we now know, unnecessary for its stated broadcast purposes.

Byward Market resident John Edwards has been following the curious twisted story and submits this probe of the strange goings-on.

The Proposed CHUM Tower

If Moses Znaimer and CHUM, his Toronto-based radio and television conglomerate, have their way, a 127-foot tower, equivalent in height to a 10-storey building, will be erected on a squat 2-storey structure in the historic Byward Market along with a considerable number of 13-foot wide dishes on the roof.

From public records, from scrutinizing City files, from discussion with a variety of experts and lawyers, and from an October meeting with Moses Znaimer and some of his staff, an interesting tale emerges of an enterprise determined to get its way, an out-played city administration, and a community fighting an eleventh-hour action.

CHUM is on track to pull off a remarkable public relations coup — the creation of an attention-demanding beacon for their new premises, a signpost visible from Confederation Square and

Continued page 3

President's Report...

groups, lobbied against the proposed transmission tower at 87 George Street as inappropriate for Ottawa's most historic heritage designated district in terms of its size, scale, materials and detailing. Unfortunately, the majority of city councillors were blinded by Nokomis, the Algonquin goddess weathervane that will sit atop the structure. So they gave CHUM Media the unfair advantage of having what amounts to oversized signage. (See John Edwards' report on page...)

City Council also voted to give Standard Life the go-ahead to demolish two buildings at 142-148 Bank Street that comprise one-third of the buildings on the west side of the block. This will result in the loss of a critical mass of its heritage building stock and destroy the historic commercial streetscape. Combined the buildings of the block create a high concentration of old structures that have contributed to the

preservation of the commercial function of Bank Street for the last century and longer.

The LACAC voted unanimously against the demolition and pressed for their preservation alongside Heritage Ottawa at the Planning and Economic Development Committee. The City of Ottawa Official Plan states the block in question is the most significant heritage area on Bank Street. Further backing came from the City Centre Coalition and the Heritage Canada Foundation. But this support was not enough.

The preservation of our historic urban fabric is not about being anti-development. Providing designated protection to important heritage resources in the community does not preclude redevelopment of the site. Many examples of creative, award-winning solutions involving the adaptive re-use of heritage buildings exist in our city.

On a happier note, the Central Experimental Farm, recently given a National Historic Site designation, has seen a real commitment on the part of the department of Agriculture and Agri-Foods Canada with the appointment of an official advisory council on heritage matters and the commitment of some \$250,000 to the restoration of the Booth Barn. (Please see "Central Experimental Farm" on page...)

The year 2000 will bring new challenges for the organization. We must consider certain inevitable changes if our preservation goals are to remain relevant within the expanding regional political structure. Our education mandate becomes more urgent within the wider context of the digital revolution's launch into a futuristic cyberspace. How will the survival of the artifacts of our collective past measure up against the kinds of technological changes that discard as obsolete that which was deemed state-of-the-art little more than a decade ago. These are issues that must be tackled as the new millennium approaches.

STAY ALERT!!!

Shocking as it may seem, the NCC have not given up plans for the widening of Metcalfe Street. The fixation with "la grande allée" or boulevard to meet the Peace Tower of the Centre Block at huge cost to the heritage building fabric of the city is still being considered. As the NCC celebrates its 100th anniversary it is surprising that more attention has not been paid to one of the first reports prepared for the then Ottawa Improvement Commission by landscape architect Frederick Todd. He advises against approaching the city as a "Washington of the north." Mr. Gréber certainly recognized this when he proposed the widening of Elgin Street, a boulevard that culminates with Confederation Square before curving westward to reveal the city's magnificent Gothic Revival pile. Heritage Ottawa will need all the support we can muster to prevent the butchering of centretown so some politician or bureaucrat can leave their mark, or in this case scar, on the city.

As the NCC considers spending untold sums on this misguided concept other heritage property under its stewardship, namely the modest but important houses on the Nicholas/Waller triangle, heritage resources that mark a gateway to the central area, are left to deteriorate. It would seem that money for a basic maintenance programme cannot be found. Andrex Holdings Inc., which have successfully restored many heritage sites in this city, including Wallis House, is waiting on the sidelines with a restoration/adaptive re-use proposal should the NCC be willing to negotiate. Stay tuned...



Heritage Ottawa is a non-profit organisation dedicated to advocating the preservation, restoration, and adaptive re-use of the National Capital's built and natural heritage.

Membership fees: Individual \$25
Family \$30; Student/Senior \$15
Patron \$50; Corporation \$75

Heritage Ottawa, 2 Daly Avenue,
Ottawa, ON, K1N 6E2, Tel. 230-
8841

1SSN 1483-9032

Guest Editor: Gordon Cullingham
Layout: Tyrell Reproductions Ltd.

CHUM Tower...

from many of the approaches to the Market, ironically because of past enforcement of height restrictions in this heritage area. Their arguments go something like this:

- Technology is beautiful; a nest of giant satellite dishes on a roof is attractive. A 127-foot broadcasting tower, tarted up a little with ornamentation, gets compared to the Eiffel Tower.
- There is no sense in spending money on new technologies when one can just move in the old equipment from other sites.
- The CHUM interests claim it is too risky to mount equipment on buildings they do not own (though this not unusual in the industry, and is the case at their flagship Toronto facility!).

The policy at City Hall from mid-1998 until the Council meeting of August 3, 1999, seems to have been to accommodate CHUM at almost any cost and back off if they didn't respond to gentle pressure. In mid-1998 CHUM explained to the City their plan to consolidate at 87 George Street their various ventures in the National Capital Region. CHUM made no mention of a tower and City staff seem to have shown no curiosity as to how CHUM planned to receive or transmit signals. Staff did point out to CHUM that their proposal (without the tower) would not comply with the Zoning By-law. CHUM's lawyer "indicated that his client could not wait for the completion of a zoning review and could not wait for final plans to be submitted before getting zoning compliance from the City."

Faced with this pressure, City officials made a deal with CHUM that, if the consortium went to court claiming that a broadcasting station comes under federal jurisdiction and municipal zoning by-laws have no applicability, the City would not contest it. On July 22, 1998, the Ontario Court ruled in favour of CHUM without being aware that the case was a charade insofar as the City Solicitor was — and still is — of the view that radio stations are required to comply with Zoning By-laws.

By this action, CHUM escaped the normal zoning process and citizens lost their right to contest any zoning modifications, including their usual right of appeal to the Ontario Municipal Board. Would City officials have been so submissive if had CHUM given

them any indication of the controversial tower to come?

City officials claim to have heard of a tower only in March 1999. What powers did the City have over the erection of the tower at that time? There would seem to have been two:

1. The Ontario Heritage Act. To quote a senior City planner in early March: "I am expecting an Application to Alter this property shortly...to accommodate offices and studios for CHUM Ltd....The rooftop additions of a transmission tower, antennae and satellite dishes are of a sufficiently large scale that an Application under the OHA is warranted."

2. While the Radiocommunications Act assigns to Industry Canada the final decision over these kinds of towers, the guidelines make clear the importance it attaches to local involvement prior to any submission being made to the Department: "The siting of antennas and their supporting structures is best dealt with in a spirit of cooperation, based on disclosure of the details to the land-use authority" [the City in this case] by those intending to install...a significant antenna structure. The parties should parties should consider each other's requirements and work towards solutions that minimize the impact on the surroundings... while not unduly prohibiting the development of the radio facility." The guidelines also underline the importance with which Industry Canada treats any opposition by the local administration.

City officials soon learned that CHUM was going to play hardball, with their attack position being that "The City of Ottawa has no jurisdiction to deal with the erection of this tower".

Many people in the heritage sector and the ByWard Market community were shocked at the notion of this huge tower. Heritage Ottawa, the Market Business Improvement Area and the residents of the nearby St. George's condominium expressed their concerns in written or oral presentations to the City's Local Architectural Conservation Advisory Committee, which overwhelmingly passed a resolution condemning the tower.

Much of the debate became focussed on why CHUM would not use alternative technologies and locations. From early in March onwards, City officials, residents, the local business community, Heritage Ottawa and local politicians were all asking the same questions, with CHUM steadfastly refusing to respond in any substantive way. Off-the-

record comments from Industry Canada officials

and a clearly unambiguous open letter from Dr. Peter Strickland, a specialist in antenna technology associated with Carleton University, confirmed that alternative ways of sending and receiving signals at that location did indeed exist.

Despite many presentations against the tower before Ottawa's Planning Committee on July 27 and various interventions just before full Council on August 3, the City voted 6 to 5 to recommend approval to Industry Canada without any evidence that the tower was really necessary.

The community, like the City, was initially caught flat-footed. A crisis committee was struck only after the Council decision. It has achieved some useful results:

- The uncovering of the story behind-the-scenes.
- A unanimous resolution passed in September by the local community association executive deploring CHUM's "utter failure" to consult its future neighbours and the City's "total disregard" of community views.
- And perhaps, more importantly, the October meeting with Moses Znaimer, where the reason for CHUM's reluctance to produce technical data on alternatives they had considered became apparent. CHUM had never asked their engineers to offer alternatives. (Had the City insisted on proof that CHUM had made a serious effort at exploring alternatives and discovered the truth, might our City politicians have at least deferred their decision as the local business leaders requested, or asked Industry Canada to explore alternatives, as the local MP had requested.)

How will the story end? The evidence of what happened is becoming public. Will there be any stomach among City Councillors to re-open their decision? Very doubtful. Can Industry Canada be persuaded to do what the City failed to do — explore alternatives — or will it in the end accept the City recommendation, washing its hands of the matter like a modern-day Pontius Pilate?

At this point there are no formal obstacles standing in the way of Industry Canada's satisfying CHUM's wishes. But we're still trying to find some.

Central Experimental Farm — Booth Barn Saved!

By Gordon Cullingham
CHOO/COPO representative on the
CEF Advisory Council

Good news from the Central Experimental Farm! The Booth Barn is to be saved. That's the big one, but there's more. The arboretum is to be revitalized; the Advisory Council, composed of local and national farm watchers, has been established and has met; the Agriculture Department and Farm management have welcomed the Kirby Report, as they have the designation of the Farm as a National Historic Site ("Cultural Landscape") by the Historic Sites and Monuments Board of Canada.

These are big, not little, changes. The heritage community has much to applaud in Farm activities and policies over the last couple of years. First there was the designation under the Ontario Heritage Act of the Booth Barn by the City of Ottawa, followed by the endorsement of the Regional Council. That, despite its legal inapplicability, helped to stay the hand poised to perform the

announced destruction of that pre-Farm complex. Then the Bee House (Building No. 26) was seen to be coming down and Heritage Ottawa's activists moved quickly. The demolition was halted, and shortly thereafter the building was rehabilitated and the 4-H Clubs moved in — a perfect piece of affinity casting. Almost as "just right" was the move soon after of the Heritage Canada Foundation into the old Dominion Observatory. Happy partnerships.

At the same time the Friends of the Farm increased their activity, and came up with an ambitious development plan for the Millennium. This called for, among other things, upgrades to the arboretum and gardens and the creation of new ones, all that with the cooperation of the new enlightenment. (Sequel: the Millennium funding upon which the scheme depended, was not forthcoming.)

Back to Booth, that complex of four agricultural buildings known as "Building 118," two of them from the nineteenth century, two of them (the low ones on

the east end), as well as the two silos, from this century's twenties and thirties. Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada have announced that they will proceed immediately with a major capital project (costing \$250,000) to stabilize the two main barns (and, it seems, the two silos), and to demolish the other two "non-historically significant annexes." This has to be thrilling news for the heritage community, and that view will be made known to the agricultural authorities (See the President's Report in this issue).

The consultation project conducted by Graeme Kirby in 1998 has resulted in the formation of an Advisory Council, which will meet probably three times a year, and will be consulted on every move on the Farm that affects the public. This is a revolutionary development, for now, for the first time, the Farm is being treated by its legal owners (the federal government) as a part of a community, a community that cares what happens there. For a while the Council will have to feel its way, but watch for more, especially if the proposal for a "Botanical Garden" is formally presented. Kirby's recommendations that the Farm and its research undertakings should continue, and that partnerships should be sought have been endorsed by the Department.

The National Historic Site designation has already been followed by the required "Commemorative Integrity Statement" by Parks Canada. That manifesto will govern the way the trustee department (Agriculture) discharges its responsibilities under the designation system. It is unclear just how sharp will be whatever teeth may be found in that machinery.

Even with the memory still fresh of the tragic loss by fire in 1996 of the Horse Barn behind the Museum and the charming heritage dwelling across the road, these developments have to be cause for satisfaction, if not downright elation.



The interior barnyard of the Booth complex, as it was after it ceased to be useful. Everything in this view from the south will be retained in the CEF's plan.)

A Heritage Round-Up of the Decade: Gains and Losses.

By Carolyn Quinn and Louisa Coates

As Heritage Ottawa looks back over this last decade of the 20th century we are able to celebrate wonderful success stories that saw the preservation of many historic buildings that mean so much to the history of this city. The successful restoration and adaptive re-use designs have lead to a greater public awareness and appreciation of historic structures as cultural artifacts that contribute to increased civic support of heritage preservation. In keeping with this success is the recently passed City of Ottawa Act, giving City Council the power to refuse an application for demolition of a designated building after the expiration of the requisite 180 days until a building permit for new/replacement construction has been issued. It is a very significant tool to encourage the conservation of our built heritage.

After all, the history of Canada's capital can be told through the old buildings and landmarks: the residences of Nicholas Sparks, Louis Besserer, the Perley's and Pattees, the Booths, the institutions created by Father Guigues, the Grey Nuns and the vernacular designs that mark unique neighbourhoods. It's a long list.

Here is what was narrowly missed by the wrecker's ball.

- 1994 The Aberdeen Pavilion (1898): Finally, restoration was approved after City Council voted numerous times for its demolition.
- 1995 The Chambers Building: After laying empty for several years, the NCC took on its restoration, thereby avoiding another Daly Building fiasco.
- 1995 Maplelawn: After years of neglect by the NCC it was magnificently restored by entrepreneur Peter Fallis.
- 1996 The Wallis House: The former Protestant Hospital and forerunner of the Civic Hospital, it was spared intended demolition by National Defence and restored into loft condos by Andrex Holdings Inc.
- 1997 The Guigues Street School:

Transformed from its boarded-up state of abandonment it was successfully restored into francophone seniors' condos.

- 1997 École Saint Charles: Despite not being given a heritage designation by the City, it was saved by another creative adaptive re-use design for loft condos.
- 1997 The Booth Barns: This wonderful example of late 19th century post-and-beam construction situated on the Central Experimental Farm was designated by the City and is now slated for a major restoration by the Department of Agriculture and Agri-Foods Canada.
- 1997 101 Bayswater: This historic property was spared being densely filled-in, and the elegant home retained its large yard and original site plan.

The danger of perceived success is of course complacency. There has been a slow but steady decline in people's active involvement in the fight against demolition in this city, yet demolitions do go on. In fact, the losses outweigh the gains. Well-known, historically significant structures like the Daly Building have disappeared, along with too many more modest ones that have not been formally designated. Increasingly, the vernacular structures that make up our recently designated heritage conservation districts, simple and unimposing perhaps, but vital to maintaining the heritage character of an area, are under threat of demolition. We must remain diligent against the practice of picking off buildings, one at a time, slowly over time, because the end result is ruin.

The following is an inventory (incomplete) of the important losses. Lest we forget.

- 1992 The Daly Building (1905): The only example of the Chicago School of architecture in Ottawa, it contributed texture, vitality and history to the splendid grouping of buildings on Confederation Square.
- 1993 Officer's Mess, CFB Rockcliffe (1844): Known as the Bareille-Snow house with stone walls 30 inches thick

and immense wooden beams adzed by hand, it stood as a monument to the pioneer agricultural life of the area.

- 1993 412 Sparks Street (1890): Known as Canterbury House, built by Nicholas Sparks's grandson, Nicholas Slater, this elegant Queen Anne-style house was associated with the leading founding families of Ottawa and was a local landmark on Cathedral Hill.
- 1993 Connaught Public School (1913): A solid example of early 20th century school architecture with large classrooms, wide hallways, tall windows and fine detailing.
- 1997 162-168 Sparks Street (1941/1929): The Woolworth/Kresge buildings were examples of large retail chains from early 20th century, they reflected the long-standing significance of Sparks Street as a diversified retail and commercial focus for Ottawa.
- 1998 167-169 Bolton Street (ca.1914): A worker's house situated in the heritage conservation district of Lowertown West, modest in size and simple in appearance, it was demolished as a compromise with the owner, who agreed not to carry out his plan to demolish the other half of the parcel, 171-173 Bolton Street, but to restore it.
- 1998 53 Daly Avenue (1872): Owned by the Union Mission, on the downtown side of Sandy Hill, the oldest of Ottawa's suburbs.

Heritage Ottawa's challenge is to continue to operate as a legitimate and effective voice in the 21st century with the restructuring of regional government at one level and the NCC's re-writing of urban planning concepts on the other. New challenges emerge as private developers, recognizing the civic support for heritage, appropriate the language of heritage preservation to legitimize projects detrimental to our historic neighbourhoods, our valued building stock and important cultural landscapes. Heritage Ottawa's work becomes all the more vital!

1999 Ottawa Architectural Conservation Awards

Submissions recommended for recognition

(Awards will be presented on Heritage Day, February 21, 2000)

Address / Name: CUMMINGS BRIDGE

Category: RESTORATION – AWARD

Applicant: BARRY PADOLSKY ARCHITECT

The Cummings Bridge, constructed in 1921, was one of the first multi-arched concrete bridges built in Canada. The bridge is named after Sir Charles Cummings, who built a home on Cummings Island in 1836.

Restoration work repaired damaged and spalled concrete surfaces throughout the bridge. Of particular significance was the reproduction of missing architectural elements including the light standards and balustrade. The detailing of the balusters was modified slightly to comply with the Ontario Highway Bridge Design Code and the number of original light standards was increased to meet modern lighting requirements. The bridge deck was also widened to provide for a bicycle lane without sacrificing original features such as the distinctive lookouts over the bridge piers.

Address / Name: LEBRETON FLATS AQUEDUCT

Category: RESTORATION (LANDSCAPE) –
CERTIFICATE OF MERIT

Applicant: NATIONAL CAPITAL COMMISSION – BINITHA
CHAKRABURTTY – PROJECT MANAGER

The LeBreton Flats Aqueduct was built in 1875 in order to supply pure water to the city of Ottawa from the Ottawa River. The aqueduct, the original stone bridges which cross it and the historic Fleet Street Pumping Station form a linear network of significant industrial heritage features within LeBreton Flats.

The landscaping of the slopes of the aqueduct west of the Broad Street bridge has now been carefully restored using sections of cut limestone (pitching) placed in the original configuration.

New landscape features such as pedestrian paths, retaining walls and lookouts have been designed to complement the restored aqueduct.

Address / Name: 171-173 BOLTON STREET CULTURAL
CENTRE – EMBASSY OF THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA

Category: RESTORATION - CERTIFICATE OF MERIT

Applicant: LARRY GAINES ARCHITECT

The restoration of this pre-Confederation double dwelling involved the following work: the structural stabilization of the building; the removal of stucco siding; the reproduction of original wood siding; the reinstatement of the original roof sheathing and brick chimneys; the restoration and reproduction of original windows, doors, porch columns and other decorative woodwork. The restored building is functionally incorporated into the compound of the embassy where it serves as a public cultural/interpretive centre with displays on Korean art and culture.

Visually, the building maintains its presence as part of the historic Bolton streetscape within the Lowertown West Heritage Conservation District.

Address / Name: 353 FRIEL STREET – SANDY HILL
RETIREMENT RESIDENCE

Category: ADAPTIVE USE – CERTIFICATE OF MERIT

Applicant: BARRY PADOLSKY ARCHITECT

The former St. Pierre School, originally constructed in 1906 with an addition in 1930, has been renovated to accommodate a 63-suite retirement residence. This is the third adaptive use of the former St. Pierre School which functioned as a community centre between 1976 and 1996.

A new, three-storey addition facing Sir Wilfred Laurier Park complements the original school with its use of red brick and rusticated masonry block.

Address / Name: 186 BANK STREET – THE BANK OF NOVA
SCOTIA

Category: ADAPTIVE USE – CERTIFICATE OF MERIT

Applicant: JAMES FARROW ARCHITECT
BERNS FARROW ARCHITECTS

One of the most impressive aspects of this project involved the construction of a ramp to serve people with physical disabilities and the elderly which complements the Classical detailing of

this 1906 bank designed by architect W.E. Noffke.

The ceiling of the banking hall was restored and the lighting system changed in order to highlight it. An internal vestibule to access Automated Banking Machines was created with a glazed removable wall which permits a view of the bank interior even when the bank is closed.

The overall heritage character of the building has been respected and enhanced while accommodating a substantial upgrade of building services and accessibility.

Address / Name: 155 JAMES STREET – VERANDAH
ADDITION

Category: INFILL (ADDITION) – CERTIFICATE OF MERIT

Applicant: JOHN NEWCOMBE, OWNER

A vestibule/verandah was added to this 1899 Centretown residence incorporating architectural elements such as cornice brackets and balusters which were inspired by details on the original house as well as by millwork catalogues of the late 19th century.

The design of the verandah/vestibule as well as its construction is superior in detail and execution. This addition, together with the house as a whole, contributes to the heritage character of this Centretown streetscape.

Address / Name: 315 McLEOD STREET – McGARRY
FAMILY RECEPTION CENTRE

Category: INFILL (ADDITION) – CERTIFICATE OF MERIT

Applicant: BRIAN McGARRY & SHARON McGARRY
HULSE, PLAYFAIR & McGARRY FUNERAL HOME

Hulse, Playfair & McGarry Ltd. has been located at 315 McLeod Street since 1925. The new Gladstone Avenue entrance and extension links with later additions and finally with the 1930's Tudor Revival building designed by architect Cecil Burgess which fronts on McLeod Street.

The new reception centre has been designed to complement the 1930's building through the use of stone sheathing, a slate roof, copper flashing and the reproduction of the oak entry doors and exterior light fixtures used on the McLeod Street building.

The soft landscaping using grass, flowers and shrubs along Gladstone Avenue is a contribution to this Centretown streetscape.

Address / Name: 17 HOPEWELL AVENUE – HOPEWELL

PUBLIC SCHOOL

Category: INFILL (ADDITION) – CERTIFICATE OF MERIT

Applicant: EDDIE EDMUNDSON ARCHITECT
EDMUNDSON MATTHEWS ARCHITECTS

Hopewell Avenue School was built in 1910 with additions to the main building in 1915 and 1930. The current renovation doubled the size of the school through the demolition of existing gymnasias and the construction of a new building on the east side of the original school, extending south to Hopewell and east to Bank Street. This new addition is linked to the original school with an internal lightwell which illuminates the now-internalized east wall of the older brick school. The addition is distinct and contemporary in its design while respecting the original school to which it is attached.

City of Ottawa 1999 Heritage Day Prize:

By Rhoda Bellamy, Heritage Day Prize Sub-committee,
Local Architectural Conservation Advisory Committee
(LACAC).

If you are aware of any students who have recently completed a research paper or project which explores the theme of the City of Ottawa's Built Heritage, please invite them to consider submitting their work for consideration for the annual Heritage Day Prize. Work completed during the 1998 or 1999 calendar years is eligible for submission.

The competition is not limited to full-time students, and part-time students are also invited to submit their work.

This prize for a student's research study or project will be awarded by the City of Ottawa on February 21, 2000. The focus of the student research MUST be related to the built heritage of Ottawa. Research themes may include, but are not limited to, studies of building types, neighbourhoods or districts, the influence of individuals or organizations, urban design, "recent heritage" architecture (post-1945) and cultural landscapes.

Submissions will be evaluated for the quality of the work and its relevance to municipal heritage planning issues. The total amount of the prizes has been set at \$1000.

Submissions for this competition will be accepted at any time during the current year up to the deadline of Friday, December 3. For further details about the submission format and the application form, interested full or part time students are to contact the City's Heritage Section at 244-5300, ext. 3474, or by E-Mailing <Coutts@city.ottawa.on.ca>

Sir Robert Borden's Grave Honored

By Jean Palmer

Canada's Department of Heritage has undertaken a program to protect and honour the grave site of each Prime Minister of Canada to ensure that the grave sites are conserved and recognized in a respectful and dignified manner. On October 17, 1999, the grave site of Sir Robert Borden was commemorated at a graveside plaque unveiling ceremony at Beechwood Cemetery.

Sir Robert Borden died in 1937, yet this ceremony was unexpectedly moving. Perhaps it was the autumn leaves in one of Ottawa's loveliest landscapes, or perhaps it was the Senior Concert Band from Sir Robert Borden High School that accompanied the hymn and played the National Anthem beautifully. Perhaps it was the bagpipes and the piper who piped in the dignitaries. The ceremony was brief with speeches by government officials and a history professor from Carleton University.

A god-child and namesake of Sir Robert's, his nephew Robert Borden, recalled visits to his kindly relative who had no children of his own but was a devoted godfather. Sir Robert's house was on Wurtemberg Street, now demolished; but a parallel program of making the homes of Canada's prime ministers would be a commendable project for the City of Ottawa's Heritage Department. After all, every prime minister had a residence in Ottawa, whether in or out of office.

Sir Robert Borden's plaque gives a brief history and important dates of his life and has his photograph mounted prominently. The information is important, but a photograph at a grave site is not really a Canadian tradition. A bronze portrait relief might provide a more dignified presentation. Still, the Federal Department of Heritage is to be commended for this recognition and for the installation of a Canadian flag at each prime minister's grave.

HERITAGE DAY 2000 PLANS UNDERWAY

By Kevin Kitchen, Chair of the Heritage Day 2000 planning committee

The City of Ottawa's Heritage Programmes Unit is planning a few changes to Heritage Day 2000. Instead of a 1-day programme, the Unit and its heritage partners are planning to celebrate Heritage Month, between February 11 and 27, 2000. The celebration will take place at Ottawa City Hall and will consist of an exhibit in the Karsh-Masson Gallery and a series of programmes to take place over three weekends in February.

The traditional Heritage Day Ceremony will take place on Monday, February 21.

The theme of the exhibit is "Treasures of Ottawa" and will highlight three-dimensional objects that are reflective of Ottawa's history.

While the programming is still in the planning stages, some ideas being discussed are a lecture series, a treasures or antique identification clinic as well as some hands-on workshops and seminars. For more information on Heritage Day 2000, you can call Cynthia Smith of the Heritage Programmes Unit at 244-4475.



PLEASE, forward with payment to:

HERITAGE OTTAWA
2 Daly Avenue, Ottawa, ON
K1N 6E2

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Individual: \$25
Family: \$30
Student/Senior: \$15

Patron: \$50
Corporation: \$75

Name:

Address:

Telephone: (home)

E-mail:

Postal Code:

(business)