



# Heritage Ottawa NEWSLETTER

Dedicated to Preserving Our Built Heritage

October 2014 Volume 41, No. 4

## Heritage News Now

### Action Sandy Hill calls for More Heritage Protection



On Wednesday September 17 heritage supporters from Sandy Hill and friends marched from All Saints Church, a designated heritage building which is currently for sale, to 261-275 Laurier Avenue East, the site of the proposed demolition of 6 low rise apartment buildings, to encourage the City to preserve the historic character of Sandy Hill.

All Saints Church and the 6 buildings at the corner of Laurier and Friel contribute to the overall character of Laurier Avenue East, one of the most historic streets in Ottawa, home to three former Prime Ministers and countless other prominent contributors to the building of this country.

See page 7 for more News Now.

#### *Editor's Note*

*This article and the one that follows attest to the fact that the loss of rural and suburban heritage to urbanization is not new. Heritage Ottawa plans to address the issues of identification and loss of rural heritage at our Heritage Forum, to be held in February 2015.*

## 910 Bank Street Road, The History of a House built in the Suburbs of Ottawa in 1876

By Ken Elder

If it wasn't for a pair mid-1920's postcards, captioned Annesley College, that I stumbled on, it is unlikely this brief history would ever have been written. I had never heard of Annesley College, but it was obviously located in a large Victorian house, in a park-like setting, set well back from a busy thoroughfare..

The house itself is two storey brick over a rock face stone basement, built in the Gothic Revival style with a picturesque plan, cruciform in shape. The picturesque silhouette of the roof is achieved by four steeply pitched gables

with a pair of gable dormers and three inside chimneys with corbelled caps. The overhang of the gables are decorated with elaborate wood verge boards. The stone trimmed brick walls have tall rectangular windows with carved stone label arches. Other architectural features include an oriel window centred on the slightly



Postcard. Annesley College, Ottawa. Published by Crabtree Co. c. 1925. Front View of Campus

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*Heritage Ottawa is a non-profit organization dedicated to the preservation of Ottawa's built heritage.*

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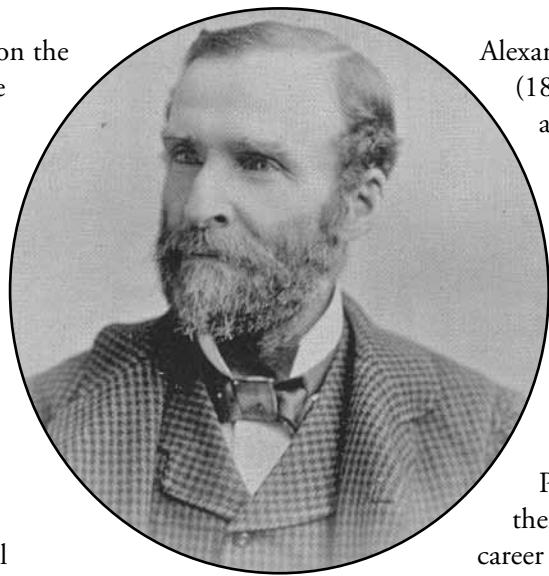
*Heritage Ottawa acknowledges the financial support of the City of Ottawa and the Ontario Ministry of Culture*

## 910 Bank Street Road cont'd.

projecting bay on the principal facade and a bull's-eye window centred in each gable. Two one-storey verandahs, with posts and brackets are worked into the angles of the wings on the principal façade. A Classical style entrance feature, projects slightly from

main verandah. Taken together the architectural treatment of this building is studied and sophisticated and likely the work of an experienced architect.

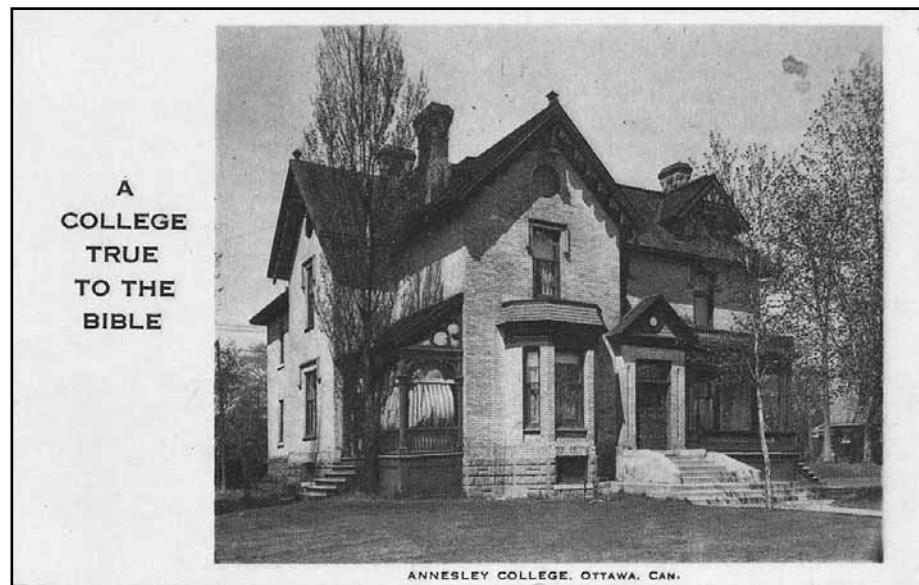
After considerable searching it turns out this house stood on Bank Street opposite Clarey Avenue, where there is currently a Beer Store. The former campus is now an asphalt covered parking lot. The house was built by Alexander MacLean.



*Alexander MacLean*

Alexander MacLean (1834-1908) was a successful businessman of Scottish origin who arrived in Ottawa in 1872 after teaching school and running a business in Paris, Ontario, then pursuing a career in newspaper publishing in Cornwall. In 1873 he went into a partnership

with John Charles Roger (1841-1925), foreman at the *Ottawa Times*, to form MacLean, Roger & Co. and take over proprietorship of the *Ottawa Times*. The company recorded and sold debates in the Senate and House of Commons until 1875 when the Government took over this work. MacLean Roger & Co. lost first the business of recording the debates, then the first contract for printing the new Hansard (leading



*Postcard. Annesley College, Ottawa. Published by Crabtree Co. c. 1925*

*Photo: Men of Canada; or Success by Example, Vol. IV. (Brantford: Bradley, Garrison, 1895)*

*Postcard. (C. R. McGuire Collection)*

to the closure of the newspaper in 1877), and finally contract printing for the Queen's Printer in 1888 when all printing was transferred to the Government Printing Bureau.

Maclean was elected as an alderman in Wellington Ward in 1889, one of two newly elected aldermen residing in the newly annexed territory of Nepean. He ran again successfully in 1890, and in 1893 and 1894 he was elected alderman for Victoria Ward. "He was one of the most active aldermen, in 1890, in procuring the adoption of the electric railway in Ottawa, as in 1893-94 he was for completing the amalgamation of the horse and electric railway companies."

In November, 1903 MacLean was appointed Canadian commercial agent in Japan, serving first in Yokohama and then briefly in Shanghai, China. Alexander MacLean died in Shanghai on December 22, 1908, and was interred at Beechwood Cemetery beside his wife, who had predeceased him in 1897, on March 18, 1909.

Alexander MacLean married in 1863 and lived with his growing family at 77 Albert Street. In 1876



*Bank St. from Thornton St., looking south-west, 2012. Site of Annesley College, 1925-1949.*

Alexander MacLean is listed in the City Directory as living at both 77 Albert Street and at a house on Bank Street Road. Likely while the Gothic Revival house shown in the postcards above was under construction, the family remained at the Albert Street location which was given up the following year.

Bank Street Road at the time was a continuation of Bank Street in Ottawa, passing through the Township of Nepean until it reached Billings Bridge. "Quite a number of gentlemen's residences were scattered along its whole length." The lot

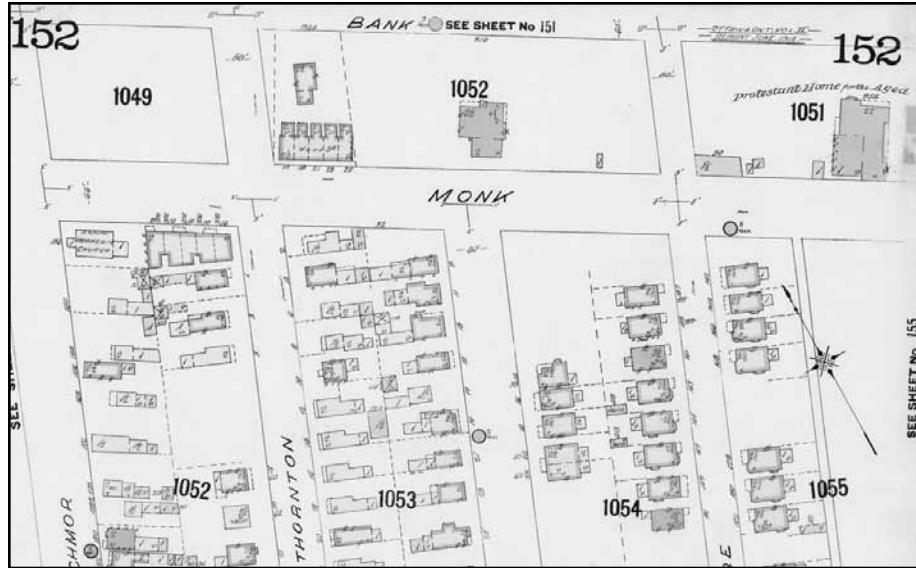
had a frontage of 333 feet on Bank Street Road and a depth of 158 feet which reached all the way through to Monk Street, in the block bounded by Thornton Street on the north and Centre Street (now Holmwood Ave.) on the south. The nearest neighbour to the MacLean's would have been Mayor C. H. Mackintosh, who was living in "Abbotsford", the former Mutchmor house, to the south. The numbering of properties on Bank Street (which occurred in 1891) assigned it the number 910.

At the time of the Canadian Census of 1901 Alexander MacLean, now 66 years of age, was still living in the 910 Bank Street house with two sons and a daughter. By the following year the house had been rented, and Alexander Maclean had moved to The Gilmour, a hotel on Bank Street. His daughter Margaret, who had been given the Ottawa house in 1899, sold 910 Bank Street to Charles Hopewell on August 2, 1906. Hopewell in turn sold it on March 1, 1907 to the Trustees of the Holiness Movement Church in Canada. A new chapter in the life of 910 Bank Street began.

The Holiness Movement Church was a sect started by Bishop Ralph Cecil Horner (1853-1921) in 1895



*Ecclesiastical Church (former Holiness Movement Church), 27 Monk St. at corner of Fifth Ave., 2012*



*Fire Insurance plan of the city of Ottawa, Ontario, Volume II, December 1902, revised June 1912. Sheet 152. Detail*

when he broke with the Methodist Church. The membership of the sect was drawn largely from rural people in the Ottawa Valley but the headquarters was in Ottawa, which oddly furnished very few members. To outside observers, the services conducted by Bishop Horner appeared to be very noisy affairs. The act of prostration, which led to the unflattering name of "holy rollers", was for Horner proof that God was changing the seeker's life from inside out.

In late 1908 the Holiness Movement Church occupied the vacant house and grounds at 910 Bank Street as an annex to their Holiness Movement Institute, established at 482 Bank Street in the early 1900s. The 1912 Insurance Plan shows the house at 910 Bank Street as well as the Hornerite Church nearby on the corner of Mutchmor (now Fifth Avenue) and Monk. The former Mutchmor home "Abbotsford" is now the Protestant Home for the Aged.

In 1914 the Holiness Movement Church focussed their teaching activities at 910 Bank Street. In

*Bank Street Road at the time was a continuation of Bank Street in Ottawa, passing through the Township of Nepean until it reached Billings Bridge. Quite a number of gentlemen's residences were scattered along its whole length."*

1917, the year that Bishop Ralph Cecil Horner was deposed from the Holiness Movement Church, the Institute ceased operation and the building served briefly as a meeting hall. In 1918 it re-opened as the "Holiness Movement College" and in 1925 it adopted the simpler "Annesley College" name, in honour of Susannah Annesley, mother of John and Charles Wesley, the founders of the Methodist movement. The Holiness Movement Church appears to have run into financial difficulties in the mid-1930's. The College closed in 1949 and the building was torn down shortly after.

The Fire Insurance plan of 1956 shows a somewhat shocking change to the pastoral setting of the former College. At the Thornton Avenue – Bank Street corner is a Supertest gasoline service station (1936). What was the property of Annesley College is occupied by a used car lot operated by Ottawa Motor Sales Limited (1946). At the Holmwood Avenue – Bank Street corner is another gasoline service station operated by McColl-Frontenac Oil Co. Ltd (1950). The original MacLean house is no longer in evidence. As noted by John Leaning in his book *The Story of the Glebe*: "The first garages were built north of Glebe Avenue and south of Fifth Avenue until by the mid-twenties there were about eleven."

Despite protests from church leaders and certain citizens in the Glebe, a Brewers Retail Store was erected on the former Annesley College site in 1959.

One tangible reminder of the Holiness Movement Church sect is the Ecclesia Church on the south-west corner of Fifth Avenue and Monk Street. The red granite cornerstone reads "Holiness Movement Church Erected AD 1900-1921". The first building on the site was listed in City Directories as a "Hornerite Meeting Hall", a wooden structure built in 1900, later known as the "Holiness Movement Church". The present Church building dating from 1921, is a brick clad timber structure, likely incorporating the original hall. It has a starkly modern addition to the west, completed in 1950. The Holiness Movement Church joined the Free Methodist Church in 1959.

*Ken Elder is a post card collector, a heritage architect and a Heritage Ottawa Board member.*

# Demolition of McMurtry Tannery Warns of Endangered Heritage in Rural Wards

By Bruce Elliott

*This article is edited and condensed from an article by Dr. Elliott published in the Horaceville Herald (vol. 61, 2013)*

Notice of the pending demolition of the McMurtry Tannery located at 1155 Second Line Road in October 2013 led to the discovery by heritage advocates that that this building was not on the Heritage Reference List of the City of Ottawa and that it could not be saved at that point.

The Tannery had been in a ruinous state for as long as most people could remember, but it had important standing as a local landmark, and a reminder of the vanished hamlet of Lewisville or "Whiskeytown" that once occupied the intersection with the Old Carp Road one concession west of South March corners.

The old tannery building was built for George McMurtry, a member of the McMurtry family that in the 1880s constructed the stone store at South March that now houses the March House Spa. George McMurtry was listed in the census of 1852 as a boot and shoemaker and in the 1861 census as owner of a stone building, possibly the tannery. He purchased the land from his father in May 1861 and the tannery is labelled as such on the Lewisville inset to the H.F. Walling county map of 1863.

Hopefully this incident will prove, as Judy Makin of the March Rural Community Association observed, "a lesson learned". There are precious few heritage designations in March/Kanata because a former Kanata mayor opposed them. And since the municipal amalgamation, the tiny heritage section within the City

Planning Department has not had the time to investigate the rural areas thoroughly and suggest properties for designation. The McMurtry tannery location still appeared to be distant from local development pressures, but as events have proved that did not remove it from danger. As suburban development pushes further into old March the need to identify buildings for possible designation is becoming pressing.

The tannery demolition follows upon the loss in recent years of several heritage buildings. The City of Kanata proposed at one time to make South March corners a heritage enclave with historic buildings at all four corners. But the successive demolition of the wooden Armstrong store (1989), followed by the Savage house (2006) and the Klondike Inn (2010), left only the old McMurtry general store, currently the March House spa. That building was saved by the City of Ottawa at public

expense and moved back in 2007 to accommodate road widening. Further to the south, City of Ottawa heritage staff in recent years also negotiated retention of the Thomas Richardson house at 1165 Richardson Side Road, but it has been gutted back to bare walls, and several years on it still sits unfinished on a fragment of its once picturesque site.

## Heritage Tools

Aside from formal designation, the City of Ottawa maintains a Heritage Reference List of buildings of historical or architectural interest. Inclusion on this list at least ensures that a property is flagged to the attention of the heritage planners. A recent statutory innovation is a Heritage Register. Demolition of buildings on this list can be delayed for up to 60 days to provide time for further investigation and possible designation, whereas demolition permits normally issue within 10 days



Photo: David Fleming

of application. The heritage planners consulted the Reference List when the request for a demolition permit was filed for the McMurtry Tannery, because the stone building was obviously old, but finding no listing for it, there was no information immediately available to justify their intervention.

The Heritage Reference List was a creation of the old City of Ottawa, and before 2001 did not extend to the other pre-amalgamation municipalities. There are Heritage Reference Lists for the March wards, but as noted, the three heritage planners in the City Planning Department have precious little time to be pro-active and they depend upon community input to update the list and undertake further documentation. This has become a matter of some urgency in the rural wards as suburban development proceeds apace.

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In the 1970s the former National Capital Commission heritage section compiled a heritage inventory of structures of potential historical and architectural interest in the rural municipalities, including the locations of all log structures and incorporating the oft-neglected outbuildings. Huntley Township Historical Society volunteers took the list of 683 structures for that former township, compiled in 1974 and updated to 1981, and compared what survived on the ground in 2002. They found a 24.5% per cent loss in just

twenty years, and this in a rural area with very much less urban intrusion than in March-Kanata.

It would be salutary if local community associations or other volunteers could undertake an update of the NCC listing for South March/Kanata as Huntley did, with the goal of updating the City's Heritage Reference List.

Anyone interested in assisting with such a project is urged to contact Pinhey's Point Foundation President and March Township heritage keeper, Michele LeBoldus at 613 832-1249.

Heritage Ottawa in 2008 instituted a network of "heritage keepers" on whom they depend for advance notice of properties under threat. The keepers also serve as liaisons with the community associations, and their number has now grown to 30.

*Dr. Bruce Elliott is the editor of the Horaceville Herald, the newsletter of the Pinhey's Point Foundation.*

## Reminder

### Lecture Series Ottawa Public Library Auditorium, 120 Metcalfe Street

**Thursday, November 20, 14**

**The East Block:  
An Exemplary Example of  
High Victorian Gothic**

Speaker: Jacqueline Hucker is a local architectural historian, and worked for Parks Canada and in the Federal Heritage Buildings Review Office.

7:00 pm

**Wednesday, December 10, 14**

**Art or Selfie? Canadian  
Portraits High and Low**

Speaker: Dr. Lilly Koltun was a founder of the Portrait Gallery

of Canada, and a winner of the Commemorative Medal of the Queen's Golden Jubilee in 2002.

7:00 pm



*Photo: Danielle Jones*

*First lecture in the 2014-2015 series:  
Timothy Brittain-Catlin spoke at  
St. Alban's Church about the residential  
architecture of A.W.N. Pugin.*

## News Now Cont'd.

### 2015 Gordon Cullingham Research & Publication Grant

**Deadline November 1, 2014**

Heritage Ottawa invites applications for the Gordon Cullingham Research and Publication Grant named in honour of the late Gordon Cullingham, journalist, broadcaster, editor and heritage activist.

The yearly maximum individual grant will not exceed \$1,000 for research and \$2,000 towards the cost of publication.

Application forms can be downloaded from the Heritage Ottawa website [www.heritageottawa.org](http://www.heritageottawa.org) or obtained by calling 613-230-8841.

# From the President

By *Leslie Maitland*



## Welcome to the Fall / Winter Season of Heritage Ottawa!

### Get Out and Vote!

By the time you get this, the municipal election campaign will be well underway. Heritage Ottawa is a non-partisan, not-for-profit organization and as such we do not endorse candidates nor score them; they can make their own case for their support of heritage in Ottawa, and I am sure they will. If you have the opportunity to meet candidates, please ask them about heritage issues and decide for yourselves what you think. But do get out and vote!

### Next Term of Council

Also at the AGM our board of Heritage Ottawa looks forward to working with the new Council over the next four year period. One feature of the management of heritage at City Hall that we hope to see changed at the next governance review is the Mandate of the Built

Heritage Sub-Committee (BHSC). Currently, this committee is only mandated to review those items that would fall under the *Ontario Heritage Act*; but there is so much more to heritage in Ottawa than that! Many applications under the Planning Act impact heritage overlays or changes to buildings on the Heritage Reference List. Both LACAC and the Ottawa Built Heritage Advisory Committee (the predecessors of the BHSC) were empowered to review and comment on these applications. The BHSC is the voice of heritage at City Hall, and we need to hear them on these other issues.

### Getting Organised

If you haven't peeked at our website lately, I encourage you to do so. Over the summer our major project has been revamping our website so that it is easier for you to navigate, easier for us to manage, and more responsive to the needs of heritage in Ottawa. Take a look and let us know what you think. Along with revamping our website, at [heritageottawa.org](http://heritageottawa.org), one of our flagship tools of communication, we have also updated our membership database. Our warm thanks go to Danielle Jones for overseeing the work with our consultants, Webkitchen. Peter Holdsworth volunteered to ensure that all our published newsletters are available. For our updated membership database, we thank David Flemming, Past President, and Joan Bard Miller, Heritage Consultant. The website is a work in progress, so check back often.

### Membership

With the completion of our new website, we shall next be reviewing

how to better communicate with our members. Many of you have told us that you would prefer to receive an electronic version of our *Newsletter* rather than a paper copy in the mail. We shall be making it easier to renew your membership and to donate to Heritage Ottawa on-line and will be making better use of our Facebook and Twitter feeds to keep membership up-to-date on activities between the issues of our *Newsletter*. Stay tuned....

### Departure from the Board

We are sorry to see the departure of Laurie Smith from the board of Heritage Ottawa, but we would like to congratulate her on her appointment to the Conservation Review Board of Ontario. Laurie contributed significantly on several fronts, keeping us abreast of activities in Ottawa East, such as the Brantwood Gates, and helping us navigate the re-filing of our letters of incorporation under the new *Canada Not-for-Profit Corporations Act*. We know she'll bring her thorough knowledge of heritage to the CRB's deliberations and we wish her well.

### Lectures

The lecture series has been finalized, and there is an excellent suite of lectures coming your way. We are always interested in your suggestions for walks and lectures.

Leslie Maitland  
President, Heritage Ottawa /  
Patrimoine Ottawa

# Heritage is alive and well in the minds of young scholars

By Laurie Brady

With the new school year upon us, I'd like to update members on recent and upcoming initiatives to engage young scholars in matters of local heritage.

Leslie Maitland and I served as judges at Fielding Drive Public School's History Fair and the Ottawa Regional Heritage Fair last spring at the Canadian Museum of History. The ORHF is open to student participants in grades 4 to 9, from First Nations, public, separate and private schools who compete for the best presentation on significant Canadian events, persons or places. We are currently working on establishing a Heritage Ottawa Prize for best presentation on built heritage for next year's event.

In May, Heritage Ottawa sponsored Zeynep Ekim, a new student in Carleton University's Azrieli School

of Architecture, to attend the annual Ontario Heritage Conference. Zeynep's summary of his experience is featured below.

Also in May, a large contingent of Carleton University students, alumni and faculty presented at the Society for the Study of Architecture in Canada annual conference May 28 – 31 in Fredericton, New Brunswick, including Hagit Hadaya who spoke about Maritime synagogue architecture. Two of the presenters will share their research as part of our fall lecture series, "Emerging Scholars and Ottawa Architecture," on Tuesday, October 14, 2014. Caitlin Charbonneau studied adaptive reuse of abandoned churches, featuring Saint Brigid's Centre for the Arts, Lowertown. Meredith Stewart won the Martin Eli Weil Prize for best

student essay for her study of the Plant and Champagne Baths.

Finally, congratulations to our Heritage Ottawa volunteers who graduated with Master of Arts degrees from Carleton University in June: Shari Rutherford (Canadian Studies) and Caitlin Charbonneau (Art History).

If you are a student or emerging professional member of Heritage Ottawa, and would like to help organize future events, such as networking opportunities, field trips, or socials, please let me know, at [laurie.brady@carleton.ca](mailto:laurie.brady@carleton.ca)

*Laurie Brady is the Student/Emerging Professionals Member of the Board of Heritage Ottawa, and a doctoral student in Canadian Studies at Carleton University.*

## Supporting the Next Generation of Heritage Professionals

*Heritage Ottawa offers to pay the registration for one Ottawa student to attend the Ontario Heritage Conference each year. The following is adapted from the report prepared by Zeynep Ekim, this year's sponsored student.*

First of all, I would like to extend my deepest appreciation and gratitude for awarding me with generous funding to attend the Ontario Heritage Conference that took place on May 23-25, 2014 in Cornwall, Ontario.

As both an intern at E.R.A. Architects and an incoming Masters of Architecture student at Carleton University, I found that the conference was very informative and

inspiring. It not only gave me the chance to expand my knowledge in heritage conservation with a plethora of practical information, but it was also a great and fun opportunity to meet and network with many experts in the field. The conference started with a keynote lecture by Dr. Avi Friedman about brownfield revitalization and the importance of community involvement in heritage preservation projects. The local Cotton Mills Redevelopment project which aims to adaptively reuse this industrial site and create a mixed-use district was very exciting to learn about and experience in person.

There was no shortage of choices for lectures; it was very difficult to choose

only one for each session. Speakers covered a wide range of topics that are related to the challenges that heritage professionals are facing today, such as building code requirements, accessibility, documentation and financial incentives. I was particularly fascinated by Dena Doroszenko's presentation on non-destructive techniques for archeological investigations.

There were also demonstrations of window trim work repair and masonry repointing by students and instructors of Algonquin College. Both workshops were very hands-on and informative about the craft and skills required for restoration arts.