

"AS CITIZENS OF CANADA? HERITAGE IS OURS TO PRESERVE."

Compiled by Publicity and Publications Committee:
Marjorie Lindsay, Norman Wilson Harry Hinchley

ANNUAL MEETING

You are hereby invited to attend our Annual Meeting
to be held in Municipal Building, Renfrew, On

WEDNESDAY EVENING, January 19th, 1977 at 8.00 p.m.

Agenda:

Presentation and consideration of reports of officers and
Committees.

Consideration of Auditor's Statement

General Business

Nomination and Election of Eleven (11) Directors.

(Nominations for Board of Directors may be made
by any member of Heritage Renfrew at any time
prior to balloting at Annual Meeting)

Eleven directors are to be elected to for the Board.
This board from their own numbrs shall elect officers,
as provided by the Constitution.

As usual light refreshments are to be served at the close
of the meeting.

Harry Hinchley
President

Marjories Lindsay
Vice-President and Secret-
ary

AFFILIATION WITH THE ONTARIO HISTORICAL SOCIETY
Heritage Renfrew has been admitted as an affiliated
member of the Ontario Historical Society. This gives us
recogniton and a tie-in with historical societies in all
parts of Ontario.

HERITAGE DAY - Kunday Febraur 21st, 1977
Heritage Day is again to ve observed in Renfrew. we are
working with Kinsmens Club setting up a program.

Heritage Day Banquet is again to be held at Sunset Motel.

Membership application is enclosed with this newsletter.
We will appreciate your renewal which may be sent to
Mrs. D. W. Stewart, 167 Kinsks Ave. E., Renfrew

or
Mrs. Joffre Desilets, 259 Raglan St. Renfrew

UPTOWN CORE FOR RENFREW

The more we find out about what is being done regarding historical and heritage buildings in other places the surer we are that our Chamber of Commerce is on the right track when they talk about upgrading our uptown core.

We see our buildings and stores every day and just sort of take them for granted and we do not always appreciate what we have.

The next time you are up town stop and take a good look at many of our stores. You will see what we mean.

HERITAGE AROUND ONTARIO

In Paisley, near Owen Sound the 1040 local residents are planning to save their village as a historic village rather than a pioneer village. They hope to recycle their buildings and keep them in use. Their Town Hall, which is described as being "Pure Ontario" in style is to be repaired and restored; their Fire Hall, with its tall hose tower is to provide a meeting place for older citizens and their Old Mill, once driven by water power is to be made over as a restaurant with a feeling of history about it. The Main Street with stores built almost 100 years ago is to be kept, as far as possible as it was.

To raise finances plans are being made to sell a Centennial album with photographs, tea towels with silk screen prints of old buildings, calendars and T-shirts all with similar designs. The plan is being promoted by an organization called Paisley Heritage Advisory Committee.

In Parkdale the CNR railway station, built in 1879, is to be removed and used as a resource centre for those interested in Railway history and Parkdale history. Estimated cost is \$190,000 and grants have been made by Toronto City Council, the Ontario Heritage Foundation and an appeal has been made to Wintario. In charge is a committee called Parkdale SOS (Save our Station) working with Toronto Historical Board. The building will be owned by Toronto.

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At Vars the CN Railway Station has been donated to Cumberland Township. It is to be used as a Township Museum. The Township Council has passed a by-law and appointed a Board of Directors to administer the restoration and maintenance of the Museum. Support is given by the Carleton West Russell Historical Society.

This is all in keeping with the provisions of the Ontario Municipal Act which covers municipally owned museums.

GENEALOGICAL INQUIRY

Who can tell anything about descendants of William MacKay and his wife Mary Munro who were married in Renfrew on November 18th, 1858 by Rev. George Thompson, Presbyterian Minister of McNab and Horton. They had 5 known children: John Alexander b. 1860, Barbara Marion b. 1861, William Angus b. 1862, George Thompson b. 1863, Alexander b. 1866. All were born in Renfrew. A member of Heritage Renfrew is trying to trace descendants of these 5 people and would appreciate any information. Please write Mrs. D. G. Munro,

37 Lambton Ave.

Ottawa K1M 0Z8

or phone (collect) 749-1176

OLD HAND MADE QUILTS

Susan White writes.... "Do you know what I would really hate to lose? A couple of old quilts. I love those quilts and they are absolutely irreplaceable. Who knows how many women put how many hours into piecing and quilting a very old log cabin quilt that I bought at an auction?"

"In the U. S. a girl made 12 quilts herself. It was only when she was engaged that she made the 13th, and she could have help from friends and relatives on that one. This bridal quilting is the origin of the modern bridal shower.

HERITAGE OTTAWA sells Hasti-Notes - packaged of card-sized notes with illustrations which are black and white sketches of Architecture of Ottawa. They are sold in packages of 8 and come complete with envelopes.

Clyde Kennedy, Director Ontario Heritage Foundation, Marge Lindsay and Harry Hinchley visited the school for an assembly of teachers and students. Many Heritage posters, artifacts and displays were to be seen everywhere.

St. Thomas the Apostle School - Grades 7 - 8 This school chose to stress our French Heritage as their theme for a day of skating, square dancing and sleigh riding. Costumes were encouraged for teachers and students with prizes awarded during the day. Snow sculptures were done by some classes with themes such as a horse and cutter, lady at a wishing well and steam locomotive and tender.

Queen Elizabeth School - Kindergarten - Grade 5 The whole school participated in a Craft Contest. The prizes were Heritage Canada Bronze Pins. Other projects were: (a) Bake sale using old recipes - some items were made at home and others were made at school. (b) On Heritage Day one class toured and area picking out Heritage Houses and discussing them with the owners. (c) Eskimo and Indian clothing was collected examined and studied. (d) One class studied the countries from which pioneers came and assembled a display of artifacts. (e) Another class studied Joe Mufferaw and visited the displays on Main Street. (f) Some students demonstrated how to make ice cream, butter, cheese etc. in the old way.

St. Joseph High School Students taped the reminiscences of Senior Citizens and prepared a radio broadcast for CKOB to use on the evening of Heritage Day.

Renfrew Collegiate Institute Theatre Arts Student prepared the make-ups used in Heritage Day play re-enacted at Heritage Dinner. Art Students using the theme "How the Community Looks to Us." assembled about 50 drawings and showed them at Recreation Centre

for four days including Heritage Days

Raglan Street Displays

This year there was an increased number of displays over last year. such as:

Scott Shoe Store - Shes of yesterday plus one 1903 hand-made hat and other artifacts.

Wallace Jewellers Antique family silver shown by Gil Griffin.

Cleary's Harry Hinchley assembled an attractive display of old musical instruments.

CAC Window Barry McCormack arranged this display of a variety of artifacts.

Fraser's Clothes Arnold Acres and Norma Goodfellow assembled a very large display of old time artifacts.

Victoria and Gray Trust Harry Hinchley's picture story of John Munro and his family recalled one of the town's pioneers.

Aikenhead's. Old Photographic Equipment used by Mrs. D. W. Stewart Sr. was displayed.

Royal Bank Mrs. D. W. Stewart assembled a T. B. Muir China Shop display including paintings by local artists of the China Shop.

Contempora Old eye glasses, watches and other artifacts.

The Fabric Shop Mrs. Nesbitt's spinning wheel and antique dress were very eye-catching.

McPahil and Perkins Mrs. D. W. Stewart provided artifacts from the former Stewart's Limited for a parlour setting.

The Renfrew Public Library The Library held open house on Heritage Day. Mrs. Katie Millar and Bill Child showed a number of their paintings of heritage buildings in this area and were present to discuss them with the public. Heritage Renfrew displayed the survey of Heritage Buildings in Renfrew for the first time.

The Senior Citizens Drop-in The drop-in at the Recreation Centre was a great success again and the Community Sing at 4 p.m. guided by the Brownies and Guides of Renfrew, lead by Dolores Goodfellow with music by Celia Honohue was well enjoyed.

Senior Citizens' Drop-in (Cont.)
The Heritage Canada film was shown during the afternoon. W.J. Smith showed some heritage farm implements.

The Anglican Church Open House

The Anglican Church Open House on the afternoon of Heritage Day stressed the 75th Anniversary this year. Eileen Pottinger and Evelyn Hawkins were gracious hostesses.

Fishenden's also so held open house where Renfrew's Hockey Hall of Fame could be seen, especially the Citizen Shield won by Renfrew in 1909 for the third time and thereby remaining here. For many years the shield was displayed in Bert Lindsay's pool room. Eventually he moved to Sudbury taking the Shield with him. In 1958 on the occasion of Renfrew's Centennial Tom Fishenden persuaded Bert Lindsay to return the shield to Renfrew.

Mr. George Galt of Heritage Canada and Clyde Kennedy, Ottawa and Heritage Renfrew directors visited these Open Houses on the afternoon of Heritage Day. At 5.00 p.m. Mrs. Dorothy Skinner interviewed Mr. Galt and Marjorie Lindsay at Radio CKOB.

Heritage Dinner The highlight of the Heritage Day Program was a first time venture - the Heritage Dinner held at Sunset Motel on the evening of February 10th. 125 people enjoyed a delicious roast beef dinner preceded by a reception with heritage music provided by Leo Vincent on the violin and Harry Hinchley on piano. Eight dinner guests danced a set to the "Old Griffith" tunes.

Mr. George Galt, Heritage Canada presented an appropriate Heritage Day message.

All present thoroughly enjoyed the one-act heritage play written by Harry Hinchley and directed by Bob Amaron. The play's setting is in the fall of 1854 when the Hon.

Francis Kincks comes to Renfrew to present to the business men of the settlement his plans for the development of industry at the Second Chute of the Bonnechere. The meeting is at John Munro's Exchange Hotel. The cast included Bob Amaron- Hon. Francis Kincks Barry McCormack- George Ross, Sec. Russell Kirk Wm. Jamieson Wallie Stewart Tanner John Smith Cam Simpson John Lorn McDougall P. J. Sheahan Sgt. Henry Airth Dave Johnstone Wm. Logan Clarence Moore John McCrea W. J. Smith Xavier Plaunt Gordon McKay Sampson Coukbs Gil Griffin Samuel Francis Lew MacDonald John Munro

Props were assembled by Jessie Stewart, Audrey Guest and Marge Lindsay. Make-up was done by R.C.I. Theatre Arts students.

Kinsmen Club The Kinsmen Club of Canada undertook to promote Heritage Day across Canada this year. The Kinsmen Club of Renfrew joined with Heritage Renfrew to do the same in this Community. The Heritage Day Dinner was advertised on Kinsmen Heritage posters distributed in town and some Kinsmen members assisted with the play. A Kinsmen Radio tape stressing Heritage Day was also arranged with CKOB. Heritage Renfrew heartily welcomed their support and extends grateful thank to the Club.

The hard-working committee which organized the program deserves special thanks for their very successful efforts. Jessie Stewart, Norma Goodfellow, Dorothy Skinner, Audrey Guest, Reeve Audrey Green, Mayor Norman Wilson Harry Hinchley, Les Anderson and Dave Hiller - Thank you.

Marjorie Lindsay,
Chairman Heritage Day Committee

And Special Thanks to
Marjorie Lindsay, Committee Chair
for a job well done -
The Citizens of Renfrew

by
Ethel I. Sullivan

Memories of Raglan Street and the colorful shops serving the public around Renfrew about 1920 include the BEEHIVE. It lived up to its name as it was a bustling centre of commerce offering various hues of glassware, china, novels and a mixed variety of souvenirs. Although Charles Adams, the owner, and clerk, was of English descent he displayed a marked Scottish tendency as he wrapped all his goods in old newspapers for his customers.

Described by Philip Bolger as being both a recluse and an eccentric, certainly he was capable as an intellectual and could quote Shakespeare from memory and other worthy bits of literature. He delighted in playing the organ and pounded out hymns in his spare time entertaining passersby. He could change bills of any denomination but only if he liked the person in need of this service. When queried by a curious man as to his relations he curtly replied: "I do not make it a practice to reveal my antiquities."

His shop was heated by a huge wood-burning boxstove, but sadly it did not keep Charles Adams' body from freezing solid after he died upstairs and was not discovered for three days. His brother, Edward Adams, travelled from Sault Ste Marie on hearing of his demise and settled the estate while rooming at the Exchange Hotel. Harold Cotie ran the store for about a year and then sold it to Philip Bolger who still is in command of the premises.

Mr. Bolger when supplying this information said the BEEHIVE was first occupied in 1846 by the Ross Hatshop. What a story could be written about the hatshops of Renfrew. But that must wait for a later date.

At our January Meeting many interesting articles were on display. Every member must have some book, photograph, or even an old letter which would create and exchange of news and views. Although some people express thoughts otherwise, things of the past are not a dead issue. Indeed they will form part of an important part of our lives as long as we exist and then for ages to come.

If March is here can Spring be far behind? So time to think about the bus trips ahead and hope one includes the water-powered mill at Balaclava. According to Ross Beagan, regional information officer for the Algonquin region of the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources this sawmill is slated for part of the Ottawa Valley's TIMBERTOWN concept.

Located at the village of Balaclava this sawmill was completed in 1854, providing finished lumber, a great help for the new settlers erecting their homes. William Richards operated this mill for many years and if the information is correct in 1957 the entire complex consisting of the mill, dam, general store, black-smith shop and residence was purchased by H. David Dick, a native of Balaclava.

Although the mill has remained idle for the past 7 years, the province is taking stock of the possibility of adding it to the TIMBERTOWN project. If so, once again this mill will become a hive of activity keeping the past intact for future generations.

Historical Plaques of the Valley #6
THE NILE VOYAGEURS 1884-1885
Kitchissirpi Lookout, Island Park
Drive, Ottawa

In 1884 the British Government decided to send a military expedition up the Nile River to relieve Major-General Charles Gordon, who was besieged in Khartoum by Mahdist tribesmen. Appointed to command the relieving force, Viscount Wolseley, who had led the expedition to the Red River in 1870, requested the recruitment of experienced Canadian voyageurs. Almost 400 volunteered, including many superb rivermen, and the largest group came from the Ottawa Valley area. Commanded by Lieutenant-Colonel Frederick C. Denison they were largely responsible for the successful navigation of the Nile's difficult cataracts, although 16 voyageurs died on service. The contingent returned to Canada in 1885.

Book Review:

HALLOWED WALLS: CHURCH ARCHITECTURE IN UPPER CANADA. By Marion MacRae and Anthony Adamson. 296 pages. Clarke, Irwin \$24.95
Reviewed by Dorothy Bishop in the Ottawa Journal (by special permission)

The new MacRae-Adamson collaboration is so generous a work of architectural scholarship it's hard to give brief verbal form to all the pleasures it offers. The splendid pair of domestic sleuths who first joined their talents under THE ANCESTRAL ROOF, 1963, have since followed Upper Canada forbears to church, the community centres of their day. Hallowed Walls is designed and executed in the same admirable style.

The book is generous and discriminating in its assessment of forgotten builders and master masons... photographs, plans, the sketches of the styles in Adamson's "Postlude" are instructive to the uninstructed. As in The Ancestral Roof text and illustrations lead us back to a heritage too often neglected by moderns and too

swiftly being destroyed around us. That has been their purpose, of course, to make us see our structural inheritance, to lead us to love it beyond the bounds of our more limited loves and observations to teach us to treasure the work of the fathers even as we smile over their homely flaws.....

While the authors do not, as far as I've noticed, make specific use of any Renfrew churches, the kind of loving attention they give to all the details of church architecture is bound to sharpen all their readers' eyes in respect to what church heritage exists, often unnoticed, in each of our communities.

BOOKS AS AN INVESTMENT

In these days of inflated values and skyrocketing prices one investment worth considering might be books, particularly books on local history and related subjects. These are usually published in limited editions and once the first printing is sold out they become hard to find.

We all know we may have to pay very well for some of our own local books - if we can buy them at all. We all know about the "Story of Renfrew" by Smallfield and Campbell and "Kinsmen" by Cooney.

These are only two of the better known books dealing with our area. But we do not have to go far afield to find more that are still available but which one of these days will be out of print.

Heritage Renfrew was able to buy one of the now scarce copies of "Renfrew and Its Fair - Through 100 Years" by Mr. Harry J. Walker. The Society had it bound with a hard cover and presented it to the Renfrew Public Library where it is kept in the Reference Section.

"The Last Laird of McNab" by Alexander Fraser and "A Hundred Years a Fellin'" by Dr. Charlotte Whitton have been brought out in second editions. But anyone fortunate to have a First Edition of either one still has a book of great value.

- H. H.

HERITAGE RENFREW

Some of our accomplishments since organization in Fall of 1974:

We conducted bus tours over the Opeongo Line: to Ottawa to the National Museum with a guided tour past many of the show places of the Capital; to Perth and Lanark with visits to Perth Museum and to the Mill of Kintail, near Almonte.

We sponsored the observation of Heritage Day in 1975 and 1976 and with the assistance of many citizens both days came off very well. One of the most gratifying parts was to see how the teachers and pupils at the seven Renfrew schools took hold of the project and made something of it. Details are written up elsewhere.

We held numerous meetings with local talent and out-of-town speakers including Dr. Richard Trainor and Clyde Kennedy. We were very pleased that Mr. Kennedy stayed over and the next day gave his illustrated lecture to students at both St. Thomas and Central Schools.

In cooperation with the Town of Renfrew we sponsored the Unveiling of a Plaque to commemorate Sir Francis Hincks in Renfrew, This plaque was erected by Ontario Heritage Foundation, Ministry of Culture and Recreation.

We sponsored a Heritage Day Dinner which was addressed by Mr. George Galt of Heritage Canada, Ottawa. At this dinner local talent directed by Mr. Bob Amaron presented a local historical play dealing with the early settlement of Renfrew.

We have co-operated with Heritage Canada and through this relationship we exchange news letters and other material with sister organizations in Eastern Ontario and Western Quebec. We also participated with historical societies of the Ottawa Valley in Heritage Symposium held at Algonquin College, Pembroke in May, 1975.

We have become a Participating Organization with Heritage Canada and because of this can offer our members membership in this National body at a special reduced rate. Regularly membership in Heritage Canada is \$5.00 per annum but members of Heritage Renfrew are entitled to a special rate - only \$3.00 per annum. This is optional.

\$2.00 is the rate of Membership in Heritage Renfrew. We would appreciate it if any members who have not yet done so please renew for 1976 by sending enclosed application to Mrs. D. W. Stewart Sr., 167 Hincks St. East, or to Mrs. Jorre Desilets, 259 Raglan St. or hand it to any Director of Heritage Renfrew.

APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

.....
Name

.....
Address

..... \$.....
Date Amount Enclosed

HERITAGE NEW YORK

Some of our accomplishments since organization in Fall of 1974:

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We sponsored the observation with the assistance of many One of the most satisfying pupils at the seven Heritage made something of it. Her

Mrs Evelyn G. Hawkins
92 Lockiel S.
Renfrew

We held numerous meetings with local talent and out-of-town speakers including Dr. Richard Trainor and Clyde Kennedy. We were very pleased that Mr. Kennedy stayed over and the next day gave his illustrated lecture to students at both St. Thomas and Central Schools.

In cooperation with the Town of Renfrew we sponsored the commemorative Sir Francis... Ontario Heritage Foundation and Restoration.

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