

October 2013



GAZETTE

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Dartmouth Heritage Gazette has a new Editor; Seeks to Recruit a Journalistic Team!

Maida Follini, Editor

Greetings from your new Editor! I volunteered to take the Gazette on, after Editor Russell Barton found that he had too many irons in the fire to do the job as he would like. I jumped at the opportunity, as my main interests now that I am retired are: History – local history, family history, and genealogy.

I look forward to receiving your stories, anecdotes and pictures from past times. Some of you are long-time residents of the Dartmouth area, others are “Come-from-aways”. Long-term residents may have family stories in their memories, and photos in their attics. “Come-from-aways” arrive in Dartmouth with a fresh eye, and see details locals may take for granted! Please send in your articles, notes and pictures – the next issue will come out in December, so try to get

them to me by November 30th. E-mail items to

follini@ns.sympatico.ca with Gazette in the subject line; or drop them off (marked Gazette) at the reception desk at Evergreen House. We also have room for volunteers who would like to be part of an on-going Journalistic Team and engage in the following tasks:

- ◇ Interviewing people for oral history
- ◇ Submitting photos or sketches of heritage places and historic artefacts
- ◇ Selecting materials from old diaries and archived manuscripts for printing in the Gazette
- ◇ Doing feature articles on local activities of heritage interest

And More! We welcome your ideas and suggestions!

Mi'Kmaq History Month

“Treaty Day, (October 1st) marks the beginning of Mi'kmaq History Month in Nova Scotia as proclaimed in 1993 by then Premier John Savage and Mi'kmaq Grand Chief Ben Sylliboy. Its purpose is to promote public awareness about the Mi'kmaq culture and heritage for all citizens of Nova Scotia. Numerous events are organized throughout the month in recognition of Mi'kmaq History Month.” *[from the Province of Nova Scotia website].*

The Poster the left shows how porcupine quill baskets were designed and created. *[See article, page 7]*



The Director's Desk

Bonnie Elliott

Looking over the photographs I took this summer when Evergreen was one of the locations for the filming of the Lifetime biopic of "Lizzie Borden" reminds me how quickly time has passed. There is a growing curiosity about how the Evergreen site will look on film and those living along Albert and Newcastle Streets in Dartmouth will recall the sand, the boom truck carrying large lights, the horses & carriages and actors in period costume that helped bring the past alive in a vivid way.

I've been told by the **Halifax Producer Michael Mahoney** that the film will be ready next week and we are hoping that the Museum will have permission to have a public viewing of it. For one weekend in July 'Evergreen' became a set and a stand in for the Borden family home in Fall River, Mass., the original scene of the gruesome late 19th century murders in which Lizzie Borden was charged with axing her parents to death. After a well publicized trial, Lizzie was relieved of the charges and since then many opinions prevail about whether she did it or didn't do it.

The visual concept for the film was in the hands of **Production Designer James McAteer** who evoked the past by adding a picket fence, a custom built barn, painted brick, columns and shrubbery etc. Although the transformation was intended to help tell the Lizzie Borden story, it helped us to see Evergreen in the past a little more accurately. When compared to an original photograph taken in the

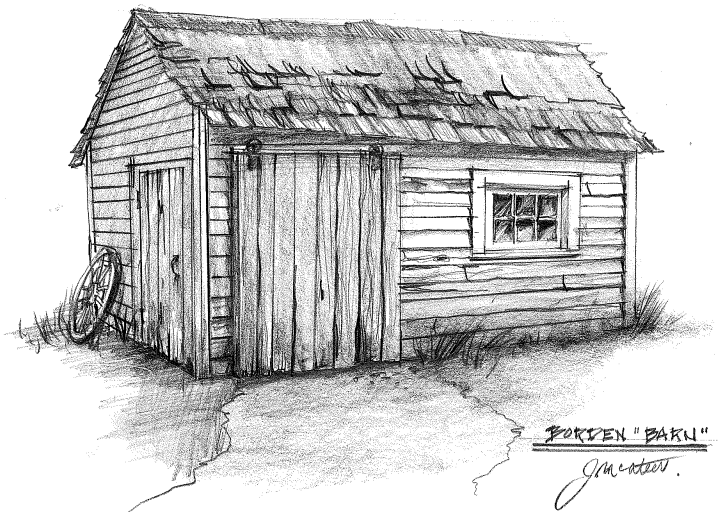
(Continued on page 3)



A security guard sits on the steps of Evergreen House in July. The front doors were removed and replaced with custom built ones, the front porch light was replaced, curtains were added and a picket fence placed around the front to, in the words of McAteer, "help frame the house".



The finished pigeon barn and Styrofoam pillars at Evergreen



Borden "Barn", James McAteer, 2013, graphite on paper., 8½ x 11". Reproduced by permission of the artist.

(Continued from page 2)

early 20th century in the collection of the DHM, 'Evergreen' had a picket fence, open verandah, and different landscaping.

The post and beam barn clad with clapboard was a fun addition to the property. Located behind the house, the barn was a purpose built set piece where Lizzie Borden kept her pigeons until her father 'did away with them'. Comparing the sketch drawn by McAteer and to the finished shed as shown, shows how true to the original vision the finished barn turned out.



Dartmouth Heritage House Tour 2013

A hard-working core committee, plus dozens of volunteer guides plus generous homeowners who opened their historic homes made possible a highly successful House Tour this year. Scheduled over two days, Saturday, September 28 and Sunday, September 29, five private houses, two museums and a heritage cemetery were featured this year. The Tour, the major fundraiser of the year for the Dartmouth Heritage Museum Society, attracted 315 visitors, and raised over \$5,800 dollars for the Museum.

Volunteer hosts (who included our Member

of Parliament, Robert Chisholm!) guided visitors through the heritage buildings,

explaining the architecture, and how the use of each building changed over the decades. It is encouraging to see that certain buildings with a long history in Dartmouth continue to be used as residences or businesses, maintaining our heritage from the 18th, 19th and early 20th centuries. Special thanks are due to homeowners Sam Austin and Michell McCann; Christ Church (Anglican); Stephanie Heath and Claudine Szpilfogel; the McClellan family; Ken and Cathy Pineau; and the Faeron-Thompson Family; and to the House Tour Committee, Don Chard (chair), Linda Forbes, Nancy Hart, Benjamin Jobb-LeBlanc, Hal Oare, Heather Pitts, Marilyn Purchase and Pat Teasdale.



Exterior of 23 James Street which was featured on the 2013 Heritage House Tour 2012. Naval Architect William Roué lived here. Photograph courtesy of Hal Oare.

Fall Events at Evergreen House and Quaker House



Halloween Tea with the Storytellers Circle of Halifax

Saturday, October 26th, 1-3:30 pm. Take a break in the afternoon while listening to some spooky tales! Menu includes a pot of hot brewed tea, delicious scones, homemade Valley Jam and gingered cream cheese. Held in the Lower Level, Evergreen House. \$10.00. Phone 464-2300.

Afternoon Tea- Helen's Sun Room

Saturday, October 26th, 1-3:30 pm. Take a break in the afternoon with a pot of hot brewed tea, delicious scones, homemade Valley Jam and gingered cream cheese. Seating is limited so book early to avoid disappointment. Held in the Sun Porch, Main level, Evergreen House. \$8.00. Phone 464-2300



Exhibit – “Keeping up with the James’ – A Glimpse into the Life of Sarah James & Family”

August 10 – November 9, 2013, Evergreen House
The museum is pleased to showcase a recent donation from the family of Sarah James. The daughter of Judge Alexander James and Harriet Hawthorn, she was born in, and grew up in, Evergreen House. Come and learn more about her marriage to Sandy Morrison, their children and her life after Evergreen. Find out who else was born in this grand house, as well as also being caught up in the great Hawthorne versus Hawthorn debate.

Included with \$2.00 admission to Evergreen House, 26 Newcastle Street

For more information please call 464-2300, visit www.dartmouthheritagemuseum.ns.ca or find us on Facebook

Halloween at Helen's House

October 17 – 31, 2013, Evergreen House
Helen Creighton was the author of "Bluenose Ghosts" and was a firm believer in the supernatural. Evergreen house was Helen's family home and where she had many "experiences" of her own! Come for a visit and see Evergreen decorated for Victorian



Halloween, as well as learning how many of the traditions we follow today were started.

Included with \$2.00 admission to Evergreen House, 26 Newcastle Street

For more information please call 464-2300, visit www.dartmouthheritagemuseum.ns.ca or find us on Facebook

2013 Nocturne- ART at NIGHT:

'My Mother's Alphabet' by artist Ehryn Torrell

October 19th, 2013 6-9 pm, **Quaker House Museum**, 57 Octerloney Street, Dartmouth.

During Nocturne 2013, you are invited to become a typist. What will you leave behind?

'My Mother's Alphabet' is based on 'T MT', a typeface that Ehryn Torrell designed for an original IBM Selectric typewriter that uses a 'golf ball' for the typeface which is based on her mother's cursive handwriting. To create the typeface, Ehryn scanned the last handwritten note her mother wrote to her. Read more about the process of creating the exhibit and the interactive possibilities of the exhibit.

<http://nocturnehalifax.ca/exhibits/86-my-mothers-alphabet-2/> **ADMISSION FREE**



Family Photo Workshop

Saturday, November 2, 2013 – 12:30pm-4:30pm, Evergreen House

Learn to date old photos, place people in your family tree and help identify faces from your past. Browse and study a collection of historic photo and costume reference books. The workshop will take place in two parts – a slide show and talk, followed by a hands-on workshop. Presented by Jenny Milligan, M.ED., Socio-Costumologist.

Cost is \$20.00 per person. Registration includes presentation, handouts, worksheets and refreshments. Please pre-register by October 26 by emailing martinc@bellaliant.com. You are invited to include 1 or 2 photos with your registration.

For more information please call 464-2300, visit www.dartmouthheritagemuseum.ns.ca or find us on Facebook

Curator's Corner

Crystal Martin

While much is known about Evergreen's original family, Judge Alexander James, his wife Harriet Hawthorn and their three daughters, Charlotte, Harriet and Sarah, not much is known about *THEIR* families. The museum is pleased to feature one of the daughters in the current exhibit **"Keeping up with the James' – A Glimpse into the Life of Sarah James & Family"** which includes many recent donations from her descendants. The exhibit runs at Evergreen House until November 9 and is included with \$2.00 admission.

Sarah was born in 1867 in Evergreen House. She married Alexander (Sandy) Morrison on October 20, 1896, at St. James Presbyterian Church. A reception followed afterwards at Evergreen House, with sixty guests in attendance. The couple toured some of the Provinces for their honeymoon. The museum currently has on display a scrapbook of Sarah's, which includes pressed flowers from her wedding bouquet, as well as collected on her honeymoon.

Alexander "Sandy" Morrison was born in 1866 in St. Stephen, New Brunswick. He received his PhD at Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore, Maryland. He held a professorship in physics at Chicago University, where he worked on ultra-violet light. On October 13, 1904 he was admitted to the Nova Scotia Sanatorium. When Sandy became ill, Sarah and their two children moved to Kentville to be near him.



Paisley Cape worn by Sarah Morrison (1867-1967)

Keeping up with the James' A Glimpse into the Life of Sarah James & Family

August 10 – November 9, 2013

The Dartmouth Heritage Museum
Evergreen House
26 Newcastle Street
Dartmouth, NS



Tuesday– Sunday 10am – 5pm

Closed between 1pm - 2pm & on weekends
CLOSED SUNDAYS AFTER LABOUR DAY & CLOSED EVERY MONDAY

Admission \$2.00

www.dartmouthheritagemuseum.ns.ca

The photograph in the above poster shows Sarah Morrison and her son Stanley.

Sandy was discharged on May 2, 1905 and remained in Kentville until his death on February 12, 1907. The exhibit features a hand-written card to Sandy from his eight year old son, Stanley, while he was in the Sanatorium.

Stanley Morrison was born in 1897 in Evergreen House. Stanley graduated from the Nova Scotia Agricultural College in 1917 and the Ontario Agricultural College for Dairy Studies, in 1921. He married Dorothy Smith in 1940. Stanley died in 1990 in Vancouver, British Columbia. Visitors to the exhibit can see many of his books and papers, including the great debate over his middle name, Hawthorn(e).

Born in 1899, Ruth went on to work as a nurse in several regions of Canada, earning nursing certificates in Nova Scotia, Ontario, Saskatchewan and British Columbia. Ruth retired from nursing in 1973. Throughout her career she completed several degrees, and held a Bachelor of Science and a Masters of Arts. She died in Vancouver in 1978. Copies of these certificates can be viewed during the exhibit.

Finally, Sarah had also moved to Vancouver, British Columbia, to be near her children. She died in 1967, living to be 100 years old. On display in the exhibit is a cape worn by Sarah, with her name sewn inside.

Kayaking in the 1930s on Lake Banook

By Gordon Teasdale

"An Old and Proud Dartmouthian"

During the winter of 1935-1936, my Sunday School teacher was Mr. Wilson. His son, Don, was also in our class. The class enjoyed Mr. Wilson. He was a great influence in our lives at that time. He would start his class by letting us talk about the NHL hockey game that we had listened to on the radio Saturday night. Then he would begin his lesson.

One Sunday Mr. Wilson asked us if we would like to have our own kayaks. We thought that was a great idea! He invited us to come to his home on Prince Al-

bert Road, across from Sullivan's Pond, on Saturday mornings. We went every Saturday and he helped us build our kayaks in his basement! I think Mr. Wilson did most of the work but under his guidance, we boys finished four kayaks before summer.

As members of Banook Canoe Club, we were looking forward to getting our kayaks on the water that year, 1936. There was great excitement when the Club finally opened and we were able to paddle them on Lake Banook! I believe these were the first kayaks on Lake Banook and they created a lot of smiles and interest from

the paddlers and general public. There may have been others who had kayaks but I have no record or pictures of them. The four of us who owned these kayaks were Don Wilson, Bob Logan, George Weldon, and yours truly, Gordon Teasdale.

The picture here was taken on Natal Day, August of 1936, after our first race. Pictured from left to right are: Bob Logan, Gordon Teasdale, Don Wilson, George Weldon.

I have a news clipping in my scrapbook from July 23, 1936, in which great interest is shown in our kayaks. In that race, Don Wilson came first, I came second, Bob Logan came third, and another friend, Bob Roome came fourth.

I have fond memories of those days and hope you, who are reading this anecdote, remember with a smile, when life was so enjoyable and



The picture here was taken on Natal Day, August of 1936, after our first race. Pictured from left to right are: Bob Logan, Gordon Teasdale, Don Wilson, George Weldon.

[Kayaks have a long history which goes back at least 5000 years. Kayaks were used from Greenland to Siberia, to travel across ocean waters, and hunt seals, walrus and whales. This ancient invention of Arctic peoples is now one of the world's most popular watercraft.]

Nova Scotia Heritage Conference

Maida Follini

I was fortunate enough to be able to attend the 2013 Nova Scotia Heritage Conference, this year held at White Point Beach Resort in Liverpool, NS, September 25 to 27. The theme of the Conference was “Shaping Cultural Landscapes.” Cultural landscapes are one of the areas identified in the Nova Scotia Heritage Property Act as worthy of protection through registration as Heritage Properties.

Keynote speaker was Tom Andrews, Ph. D. Territorial Archaeologist and Manager, Northwest Territories Cultural Places Program. Other

speakers included Parks Canada staff working on World Heritage and National Heritage sites, private archaeological and heritage consultants, and the coordinator of Nova Scotia’s Heritage Properties Program.

A highlight of the Conference was a field trip to Kejimikujik National Park.

Kejimikujik has been designated as a National Historic Site because of its Mi’Kmaq Cultural Landscape.

Aboriginal people were settled in Nova Scotia as long as 10,000 years ago. Our own locality, Dartmouth, was a

traditional Mi’kmaq summer camping

ground as they fished, and gathered shell-fish along the shore. At one time, the Mi’kmaq people travelled

back and forth between the Atlantic shore and the Bay of Fundy, steering their canoes through the series of lakes now making up the Shubenacadie canal route.

During the Conference tour, Native Canadian Park Rangers led us through the Mi’kmaq encampment area and demonstrated how the inhabitants used local materials such as birch bark, shrubs, and spruce roots, to build homes and make canoes. Healers discussed the use of local plants for healing. We sampled fragrant spruce tea, and delicious salmon and fried bread cooked over the fire. A group of Mi’kmaq women singers, and drummers performed songs in their Mi’kmaq language and explained the religious significance of their dancing. A ten-thousand year heritage thus continues to the present day..



Left: Mi’kmaq Interpreter explaining how to build a birch bark home.



Right: Women’s Drumming Group

Protecting Heritage Properties

Heritage sites are currently protected at four levels. The first is the **Municipal level**. A building, building interior, streetscape or cultural area can be registered as a Municipal Heritage Property, which provides some protection against being altered or demolished. There are currently 79 sites listed as Municipal Heritage Properties in Dartmouth, including Evergreen House at 26 Newcastle St., built in 1867. Among the oldest properties is our other museum, the Quaker Whaler House, 57-59 Ochterloney St., built 1786; as well as the Thomas Hyde House, 90-92 Ochterloney St., built 1794; the Samuel Greenwood House, 63 King St, built 1797, and Christ Church, 50 Wentworth St., built 1817.

The second level is the **Provincial level** for sites of Provincial significance. In Dartmouth and Cole Harbour, three sites are Provincially Registered: the Quaker Whaler House, the Cole Harbour Farm and the Cole Harbour Meeting House.

At the **National level**, Historic Sites, Buildings, Monuments, Events and Persons are designated of National Historic Significance. Of the two national designations in Dartmouth, one is Building No. 4, at the French Cable Wharf, on Nivens Avenue. It was built by the Compagnie Francaise des Cables Télégraphiques in 1916, while the company was laying transatlantic cables. It is the sole surviving building on the Dartmouth Shore following the 1917 Halifax Explosion. The second national designation is for the Starr Manufacturing Company in Dartmouth, for being one of the pre-eminent ice skate manufacturers in the world. Recognized as a National Historic Event, the Starr Manufacturing Company located at 62-68 Prince Albert Road closed in 1996, and after a fire damaged the buildings, they were demolished in 2000.

At the **International Level** are UNESCO World Heritage Sites. The three sites in Nova Scotia are Grand Pré, Old Town Lunenburg and the Joggins Fossil Cliffs.

Both Halifax and Dartmouth are among the oldest settlements in Canada. Our area is rich in buildings and sites of historical importance. The former city of Halifax has 357 municipally registered heritage properties. The former city of Dartmouth lists 79 municipally registered sites. Provincially, there are thirty-one registered heritage sites in the former Halifax, but only three in Dartmouth. Halifax has 190 designations of places, monuments, events and persons of national significance, while Dartmouth has only 2.

Are we doing enough to protect our heritage on this side of the harbour?

MF

Our exhibits, The Heritage House Tour and the yearly Calendar are all special fundraising efforts that are due in large part to our Advertisers and Sponsors

- | | | |
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DHM Society Donors:

Each year Society Members give over and above the membership fees to help us run our programs at the Museum.

Hats off to their ongoing generosity !

- | | | |
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Dartmouth Heritage Museum Society

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E-mail: museum@bellaliant.com

<http://www.dartmouthheritagemuseum.ns.ca/>

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*Protecting, Preserving
& Promoting our
Heritage*

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NOICE BOARD

Woodlawn Elementary School: a researcher is trying to find a photo of Woodlawn Elementary School. If anyone has one they would donate to the museum, or let us have a digital copy, please contact Crystal Martin, Curator, at Evergreen House, 26 Newcastle St., Dartmouth, NS B2Y 3M5, phone (902) 464-2300.

DHMS Membership Form

Individual Membership - \$20

A \$10 tax receipt will be issued, you will receive our newsletter by mail, and membership will entitle you to free admission to museums (Evergreen and Quaker House) upon presentation of your card.

Family Membership - \$30

A \$15 tax receipt will be issued, you will receive our newsletter by mail, and membership will entitle you to free admission to museums (Evergreen and Quaker House) upon presentation of your card.

Please also consider the following levels of giving ...

\$50 Donor - Your name will appear in the newsletter, and a full tax receipt will be issued.

\$100 Friend - You will help sponsor one of our exhibits, your name will appear in the exhibit, the newsletter and a full tax receipt will be issued.

\$500 Benefactor - Your name will appear in our annual calendar, your name will appear in our newsletter, and a full tax receipt will be issued.

Name: _____

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Membership \$20(individual) \$30(family)

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Please make cheques payable to the Dartmouth Heritage Museum Society and send to:

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