



DARTMOUTH HERITAGE MUSEUM'S  
**THE GAZETTE**  
 QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

DHM .1994.009.209



BLACK AND WHITE PHOTO BY GEORGE CRAIG, DHM 1994.055.069

This glass negative depicts a landscape of "Dartmouth from Toddy Brook" showing Sullivan's Pond in the foreground, Starr Manufacturing and St. James Church when it still had its spire. The spire was removed prior to 1893. This scene is considerably different today.

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# The Ice Industry in Dartmouth

BY JOANNE PEPERS

The Downtown Dartmouth Ice Festival takes place January 26-28, 2024.

For nearly 120 years, between 1836 and 1954, the ice cutting industry in Dartmouth was a leading employer. With its many lakes, Dartmouth had the ability to supply Halifax and area with ice for butchers, seafood vendors and ice boxes in private homes.

The first person in Dartmouth to tap into this resource was Adam Laidlaw. He started his career as a stagecoach driver on the Halifax to Windsor Run, but quit in 1836 to pursue a career in the ice industry. Laidlaw supplied “clean, hard ice” to Halifax merchant William Foster who sold it from his store at the foot of George Street, where the ferry landed, for local use. A small icehouse was built near Canal Bridge on Portland Street to store the ice before it was transported to his store. Beginning in 1840, Foster would deliver the ice to homes in Halifax and Dartmouth by horse-drawn wagon.



DHM 1985.057.P172 Ice Harvest: Feb. 6, 1932, Otto Maynard Set

The primary lakes for ice harvesting were First Lake (Banook), Second Lake (MicMac), and Maynard Lake. The Shubenacadie Canal Company owned the rights to Lake Banook and Lake Micmac, and all lakes, streams, and rivers from Dartmouth to the Minas Basin. Ice companies paid a fee to the Canal Company for permission to cut ice.

The Chitticks, Carters, Hutchinsons, Glendennings, Ottos, and Waddells all entered the ice business later, and all were primarily family businesses. In 1880, the ice industry in New England took a hit when their crop failed. This was good news for

Dartmouth – that year they sold ice to Boston and New York for a premium price.



DHM 1993.015.263 Ice Harvest, First Dartmouth Lake: Carter Set, C.F. Bell

So how did the industry work? The harvest began shortly after Christmas and lasted well into February, until the ice houses were full or until Spring weather ended the season. First, the lake was cleared of snow using a horse drawn scoop. The area was divided into sections. Blocks of ice were cut using large hand saws. Ice was removed from the lakes using horse-drawn plows. Often, evergreen boughs were used to mark the edges of the ice harvest area to prevent drownings, although those did happen when horses fell through the ice. When Lake Banook was drained in 1957, the bottom was covered in old evergreens. In Dartmouth, the industry employed 175 to 200 people during January and February. The days were long, beginning early in the morning and carrying on for about 18 hours. Many lost their fingers to frost bite.

Ice houses were like barns, made of unfinished wood. They measured about 100 feet long and 20 feet high. Three empty sections were sandwiched between three layers of paneling and the outside wall. One section remained empty and the other two were filled with sawdust to act as an insulator during the summer months. Ashes from ferry boats were also used as insulation. These ice houses could store 3000 tons of ice.

The Glendennings were innovators in the industry. They were the first to use horses to haul ice and to use slides to move ice in their ice houses on Lake Maynard and Lake Banook. Glendenning was also the first to build an ice house on the opposite side of Portland ...

*Continued on Page 6*

# COLLECTIONS CORNER

## A Curious Manuscript

BY SHANNON BAXTER

This past year, the Dartmouth Heritage Museum had received a generous donation from Glen Pierce of Fine Art pieces that were originally part of the collection of Miss Marjorie Lavers. Marjorie Lavers worked for several years in various art stores in Halifax, with the Nova Scotia College of Art and Design, and was an early member of the Dartmouth Heritage Museum Society. Several of these pieces included the works of Henry M. Rosenberg, of which the museum already had some examples in the collection.

However, along with more of his art pieces, there was a unique addition to the collection. A manuscript, mostly handwritten in pen and pencil, with one typed page. At first glance, while I was scanning the document, it appeared to have chapters out of order. I had assumed that perhaps Mr. Rosenberg was writing whatever chapters and ideas first came to mind, and would organize them later. It was only after taking a closer look, and with the help of one of our many volunteers who assist in transcribing archival material, that a far more curious but delightful story unfolded.

But let us step back a bit, and give a bit more context to who the man who wrote this story was.



DHM 2023.001.023 water colour landscape

Henry Mordecai Rosenberg was born to Polish Immigrant parents in New Jersey in 1858, and studied art in Chicago. After he graduated he lived and studied in Germany and later in Venice for five years. In Venice he was a student of J.M. Whistler. He left Europe in 1897 and moved to Dartmouth, and the following year he was appointed president of the Victoria School of Art - now the Nova Scotia College of Art and Design. He held the position until 1910. That year, he married Emily Scarfe, daughter of Dartmouth Mayor and businessman Frederick Scarfe, and retired. The couple lived in the large and beautiful estate of "Edgemere." While retired from the School of Art, he helped found the Nova Scotia Museum of Fine Art, which later became the Art Gallery of Nova Scotia. In the aftermath of the Halifax Harbour Explosion, he and his wife opened up Edgemere for use as a hospital. When Emily died in 1934, he sold Edgemere and retired to Alabama, where he died in 1947.



DHM 1993.015.1352 Edgemere

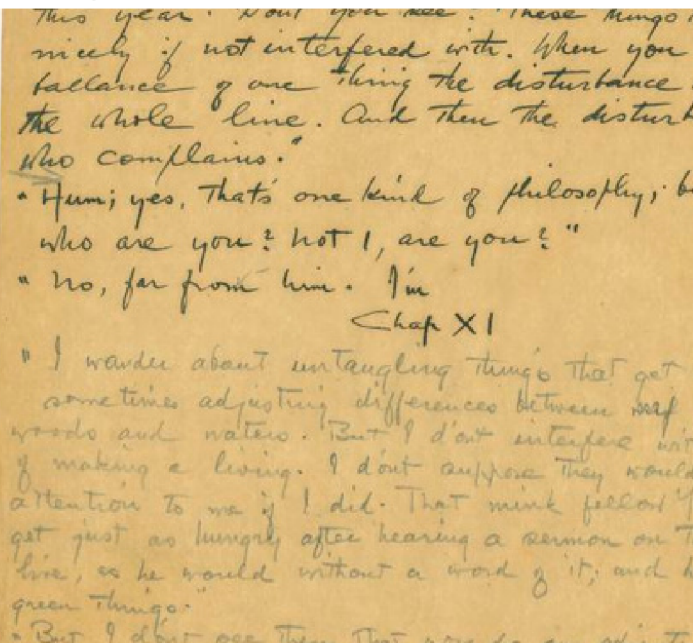
Henry Rosenberg was a talented artist, particularly when it came to landscapes. His works, especially when painted in oil, often depicted landscapes just on the turning point of stormy weather, dark clouds looming in the distance. He also painted in watercolour, where the hues were vibrant and he had a more impressionistic effect rather than realistic. The museum has several of his works in the collection, and an exhibit was held in 2016 that highlighted his connection to Dartmouth along with his art.

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE...

## A CURIOUS MANUSCRIPT ... CONTINUED

Now, back to this manuscript! While scanning the document which consisted of 153 pages, I realized that in the story that Henry Rosenberg was writing, the chapters were actual beings. They were described as small creatures, akin to a gnome or some other fairy-like creature. With the help of the work of one of our transcribing volunteers - Thank you Ann! - The story can be summarized as this:

The narrator, a young man, wanted to write a story, but did not know where "Chap One" was. He wanders through woodland, river, and seaside to try and find him. Along the way, he runs into several other "Chaps" who know part of the story he's trying to tell. Often, the Chaps have other occupations beyond telling this specific story. For example, there is a "Chap" who knows the fate of the best quality apples within the orchard he is tending. Another "Chap" claimed to be a Pirate Chief who held races for small sea creatures. There was one "Chap" who turned out to be a "Miss" and was very offended that the narrator would assume that all chapters had to be masculine! She was busy teaching various insects how to dance, which charmed the narrator, but he was also very disappointed that she was not the one chapter he was looking for.



This year, don't you see, these things  
nicely if not interfered with. When you  
balance of one thing the disturbance  
the whole line. And then the disturb  
who complains.

• Hum; yes, that's one kind of philosophy; but  
who are you? Not I, are you?"

• No, far from him. I'm  
Chap XI

"I wander about untangling things that get  
sometimes adjusting differences between map  
woods and waters. But I don't interfere with  
of making a living. I don't suppose they would  
attention to me if I did. That mink fellow  
get just as hungry after hearing a sermon on  
live, as he would without a word of it; and  
green things.

• But I don't see them that you do in your

2023.004.001 Rosenberg's manuscript

I will refrain from telling how the story ends, but it was a delightful read that was akin to something to the likes of Lewis Carroll's Alice in Wonderland. In fact, near the end of the document, Henry Rosenberg gave this piece a title, and introduction of sorts:



1977.010.001 oil, *Approaching Storm*, 1928



DHM 1977.037.001 Oil on board. Painted in June, 1904 by H. M. Rosenberg on the grounds of "Mount Hope", residence of Dr. W. H. Hattie.

### More Nonsense H.M. Rosenberg of Halifax

**I call what follows "more nonsense," not because I have previously written any, but because so much has been written. If the young, whom I love, read it and enjoy it one half so much as I when writing it, then it is justified.**

As being one of the few who was able to read this manuscript after so many years, I can safely say I enjoyed it! We hope that we can make the transcription at the very least available for those curious, and open to a bit of nonsense, to read and enjoy as well.

# EVENTS AND EXHIBITS

by Dartmouth Heritage Museum

## HOLIDAY CLOSURE

THE DARTMOUTH HERITAGE MUSEUM WILL BE CLOSED FROM DECEMBER 22 TO JANUARY 2. WE WILL REOPEN ON JANUARY 3, 2024

## FUNCTIONAL TO FANCY: ACCESSORIES FROM THE DHM COLLECTION

**NEW EXHIBIT  
OPENING JANUARY 3RD**

THE WAY PEOPLE PRESENT THEMSELVES THROUGH ACCESSORIES AND HAIRSTYLES CAN TELL YOU MANY THINGS ABOUT THAT PERSON. THEY CAN IDENTIFY STATUS IN SOCIETY, WHICH CLUBS OR GROUPS THEY BELONG TO, WHAT THEY DO FOR A LIVING, AND EVEN THEIR RELIGIOUS AFFILIATION.

## SOCK KNITTING WORKSHOP

**WEDNESDAYS JANUARY 17, 24, AND 31 - FULL  
WEDNESDAYS FEBRUARY 14, 21, AND 28  
12PM TO 2PM  
\$30 PER PERSON COVERS ALL THREE DATES**

HAVE YOU EVER WANTED TO LEARN TO KNIT SOCKS? THIS IS YOUR CHANCE! FOR \$30, AN EXPERIENCED KNITTER WILL PROVIDE INSTRUCTION. THIS WILL TAKE PLACE AT EVERGREEN HOUSE (26 NEWCASTLE STREET). BRING YOUR OWN YARN. PATTERN PROVIDED. TO SIGN UP, EMAIL [INFO@DARTMOUTHMUSEUM.CA](mailto:INFO@DARTMOUTHMUSEUM.CA). SPACE IS LIMITED TO 6 PEOPLE.

## FOLK CLUB

**FIRST THURSDAY OF EACH MONTH  
7PM TO 9PM  
EVERGREEN HOUSE - 26 NEWCASTLE STREET**

THE HELEN CREIGHTON FOLK CLUB MEETS ON THE FIRST THURSDAY OF EACH MONTH TO PERFORM AT EVERGREEN HOUSE. OFTEN, THERE IS A FEATURE PERFORMER FOLLOWED BY OPEN MIKE. NO REGISTRATION NECESSARY, FREE WILL DONATIONS WELCOME.

## I SING THEREFORE I AM

**THIRD THURSDAY OF EACH MONTH  
7PM TO 9PM  
EVERGREEN HOUSE - 26 NEWCASTLE STREET**

HOSTED BY ROB HUTTON AND CEO GAUDET, JOIN IN FOR AN EVENING OF SING A LONG FUN. YOUR VOICE WILL BE ONE OF MANY, NO EXPERIENCE NECESSARY! FOR MORE INFORMATION AND TO JOIN THE MAILING LIST, CONTACT [ISTIANS2023@GMAIL.COM](mailto:ISTIANS2023@GMAIL.COM) NO REGISTRATION NECESSARY, FREE WILL DONATIONS WELCOME.

## MARCH BREAK AT THE MUSEUM

**MARCH 12 TO 15  
DAILY 10AM TO 5PM**

DISCOVER EVERGREEN HOUSE THIS MARCH BREAK! WE'LL HAVE A NEW THEME EACH DAY. MORE DETAILS TO COME.

For full details on events, please check out our website for the most up-to-date info! Trouble finding info? Just give us a call or send an email! Contact details on back page.

# The Ice Industry in Dartmouth continued from page 2

BY JOANNE PEPERS

Glendenning was also the first to build an ice house on the opposite side of Portland Street from Lake Maynard, building a slide overhead to move the ice from the lake to the ice house. The Otto family would later take over their ice industry. The Glendennings also had a soda business, which was sold to John Hunt after Glendenning's death in 1909.

The Otto Ice Company sent 20 tons of ice on the cable ship McKay Bennett in 1912 following the sinking of Titanic. The ice was used to ice the bodies of Titanic victims.

The early 20th century brought new technology. Tractors plowed the snow from the ice, gas powered saws were used to cut the ice, and conveyor belts hauled the ice into the ice houses. These advances meant that 1000 tons of ice could be harvested in nine hours.

The 1950s would see the demise of the industry. Several mild winters resulted in ice crop failures. The cost of mechanical refrigerators had dropped to the point where most families could afford one. The last ice house in Dartmouth was demolished in 1954. An industry that had once seen up to four hundred thousand a year in revenues had come to an end.



DHM 1993.015.339 Ice Harvest: Feb. 6, 1932, Otto Maynard set, C.F. Bell



1980.007.001 Cutting Some Ice: Lake Banook, 1890-95, Glendenning Ice Cutting



DHM 1985.057.P165 Ice Harvest: Feb. 6, 1932, Otto across Portland Street



Left:  
DHM 1971.009.009 Ice Cutters and Ice House: Mr. Carter & Carter's Ice Elevator



Right:  
DHM 1993.015.259 Ice Harvest: Feb. 7, 1931, C.F. Bell

# Ice Industry Artifacts from the Collection

BY JOANNE PEPERS



DHM1977.060.007 Ice Plow

This Ice plow was, in its day, a sophisticated and highly specialized piece of equipment. Versions of these horse-drawn devices would be drawn across the ice to carve a large square grid from which blocks could be harvested, and assisted the workers in the act of cutting the ice itself. Before it's introduction in the 1840's, all of this work had to be done exhaustively by hand. The invention of the ice plow made the entire process faster, easier, and more efficient, and paved the way for large-scale Industrial ice-harvesting. By the 1850's entire catalogues were dedicated solely to advertising and selling Ice-Harvesting equipment such as these plows.

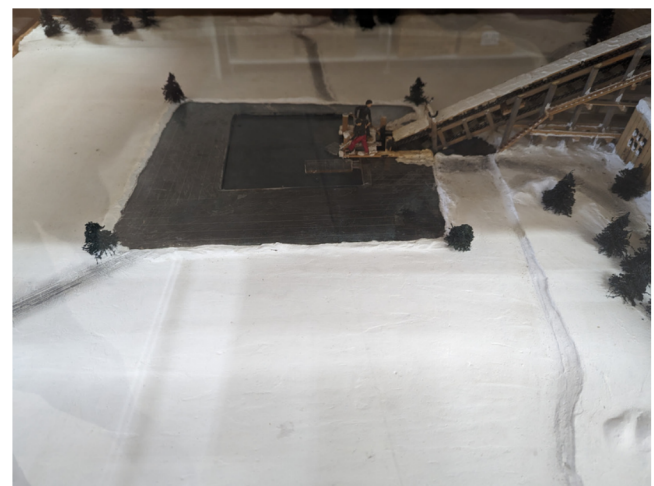


Chisel's and saws like these were among the earliest and simplest tools used to harvest ice. A worker would use a chisel or saw to carve a block of ice from the lake. These tools were relatively cheap, and required only manpower to function.



Above: Ice tongs  
DHM1971.054.018

Left: International engine powered ice saw.



A throwback to the original Dartmouth Heritage Museum. Dioramas like this one depicting the ice cutting industry were a familiar sight. Did you have a favourite?

# Mount Hope - we want to hear from you

BY JOANNE PEPERS

The Dartmouth Heritage Museum is creating an exhibit about Mount Hope (the Nova Scotia Hospital). We have information on the construction of the building and the nursing school, but we are lacking personal stories from the community.

## Overview

This exhibit will tell the story of the origins of the Nova Scotia Hospital, formerly known as Mount Hope, in Dartmouth, and how it changed the way that people with mental illness in Nova Scotia were treated. The exhibit also draws our attention to the current state of mental health in our community, the stigma that is still attached to mental illness, and resources to promote mental health.

## Statement

The Nova Scotia Hospital (Mount Hope) changed the way those with mental illness were treated and looked upon by society, in Dartmouth and in Nova Scotia as a whole. Today there is more awareness of mental health, but there is still stigma attached to it. This exhibit aims to share the story of the origins of the Nova Scotia Hospital and to draw attention to the continued need for education and resources on the topic of mental health.

## Mount Hope Community Questions:

What was your experience with Mount Hope?  
If you worked there:

- What was your position?
- What was your favourite thing about Mount Hope?
- Do you remember who you worked with?
- Did your family also work there?
- Is there anything else you would like to share?

If you didn't work there, what is your experience with Mount Hope?

Did you or did someone you know attend the nursing school?

Did you attend the 125th anniversary?

If you would like to share your story, email [info@dartmouthmuseum.ca](mailto:info@dartmouthmuseum.ca) with the subject line "Mount Hope Community Story".



DHM 1984.026.011 Mount Hope Hospital



Left: DHM 2010.015.092 Copy of a photo of Dorothea Dix, one of the founders of the Nova Scotia Hospital and advocate for the rights of people with mental illness.



Above: DHM 2010.015.051 Commemorative pin from the 125th Anniversary Celebration

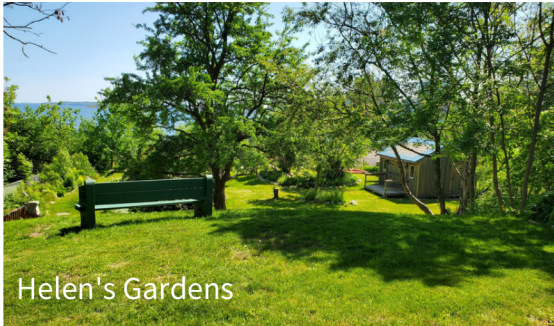


DHM 2010.015.011 Mount Hope/ Nova Scotia Hospital staff 1932





# EVERGREEN RENTALS



Helen's Gardens



Reference Library



Red Parlour



Sun Porch



Green Parlour

Did you know the Dartmouth Heritage Museum has room rentals for small events and gatherings? Are you looking for a charming space, full of historic character AND a fantastic view of the harbour? Evergreen may be the space for you! This glorious mid-Victorian manor was a family residence before being restored and converted into a museum. Since then, the house has played host to several movies and television shows, including *The Lizzie Borden Chronicles* and *Chapelwaite*, a Stephen King inspired series. Currently, for private functions, we rent out rooms in the museum for small events, as the Victorian charm also comes with limited space. In the warmer months, there are also the Gardens. Directly behind the house, the sloping green hill rolls down to a lovely garden complete with stone fences and a gorgeously blooming rhododendron. Reach out to us directly or head over to our website under "facility rental" !

### Standard Pricing\*:

**Private booking: \$25.00/hour**

*For individual booking such as baby showers*

**Non-Profit booking : \$20.00/hour**

*For booking from non-profit or other charity organizations*

**Corporate booking: \$30.00/hour**

*For government, for-profit companies and others*

*\*Pricing current at time of printing, based on a per room basis.*

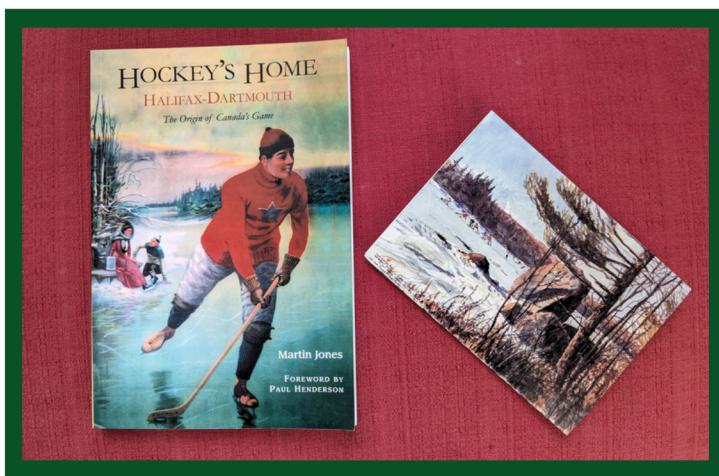
*For the most up-to-date pricing and availability please visit our website.*

# GIFT SHOP SPOTLIGHT

Looking for a gift for someone special? Come take a look in our gift shop. Evergreen accepts cash, debit and credit.



Left: Assorted pins like these are available for \$1 each. All pins are vintage Dartmouth or Nova Scotian in theme.



Above: *Hockey's Home Halifax-Dartmouth - the Origin of Canada's Game* by Martin Jones. \$15. Tom Forrestall cards featuring a watercolour called "Cow Bay Frozen Over" are available in set of 10 for \$2 per package.



Above: The Evergreen Gift Shop is your stop for local books. This is just a small sample. Don't forget, you can also purchase online!



Above: CDs created by the Helen Creighton Folklore Society: *Sankofa Songs* - African Nova Scotian songs from the collection of Helen Creighton; and *Songs of the Sea*, featuring songs and narratives from the Creighton collection. \$15 each.

# DHMS MEMBERSHIP

## We have 3 categories of membership:

- **Individual Membership** is for one (1) person  
Price: \$20
- **Family Membership** is for a family unit, consisting of at least one (1) adult and one child under the age of eighteen (18)  
Price: \$30
- **Group Membership** is for societies, museums, universities, libraries, corporations, firms, partnerships, foundations and governmental departments.  
Price: Please Contact

## Why become a member?

The Dartmouth Heritage Museum Society operates the Dartmouth Heritage Museum on behalf of the Halifax Regional Municipality, which owns both historic houses and the collection. This allows interested community members to have a real and impactful voice in what happens with the DHM. One of the easiest ways to use your voice is by attending and voting at our Annual General Meeting (AGM). Society members have the right to vote for Board Director nominees and on changes to the Bylaws, both of which have incredible influence on the Society and the museum itself.

## Membership Opportunities and Benefits:

- Voting! Society members have the right to vote on important issues at each Annual General Meeting.
- A 10% discount from the gift shop. This discount is applied by our staff in-person with a valid membership card, or online by using your unique discount code. Please contact museum staff for any help needed with this process.
- Early-bird access to event tickets. This includes popular events such as our Murder Mystery Nights, exhibit openings, and more!
- Discounts on events and activities. In addition to the ability to purchase tickets early, we often have deals and discounts for members.



## DHMS Membership Form

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Membership Type:	Annual Fee	# of years	Total
Individual	\$20.00		
Family	\$30.00		
Donation (tax receipts are issued for donations)			

Cheques should be made out to:

Dartmouth Heritage Museum Society, 26 Newcastle St, Dartmouth, NS B2Y 3M5

May we have your permission to add your email to our mailing list? (This mailing list is used to send updates about our news and upcoming events, as well as send out our quarterly newsletter) Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

May we use your name in public recognition of our donors? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

# The Dartmouth Heritage Museum

*"We commit to engagement, education, and storytelling."*

Quaker House  
57 Ochterloney St  
Dartmouth, Nova Scotia

**SORRY  
WE'RE  
CLOSED**

Evergreen House  
26 Newcastle St  
Dartmouth, Nova Scotia  
Hours:  
**Sept-May** Tues-Fri  
10am-5pm

**Grandmother's Cranberry Bread**

- 1 ½ cups cranberries – chopped
- ¾ cup orange juice
- 1 teaspoon grated orange rind
- 1 ½ cups raisins
- 2 cups flour
- 1 cup sugar
- ¼ margarine or butter
- 1 egg – beaten
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 1 ½ teaspoons baking powder

Grease and flour loaf pan. Bake 1 hour and 10 minutes at 350F.  
Contributed by Jean Haliburton

**CONTACT US**

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[www.dartmouthheritagemuseum.ns.ca](http://www.dartmouthheritagemuseum.ns.ca)  
902-464-2300  
[info@dartmouthmuseum.ca](mailto:info@dartmouthmuseum.ca)



*Recipe from a fundraising cookbook called "Recipes: Dartmouth Museum Society, Proceeds for the Quaker House"; 58 pages. DHM1995.031.431*