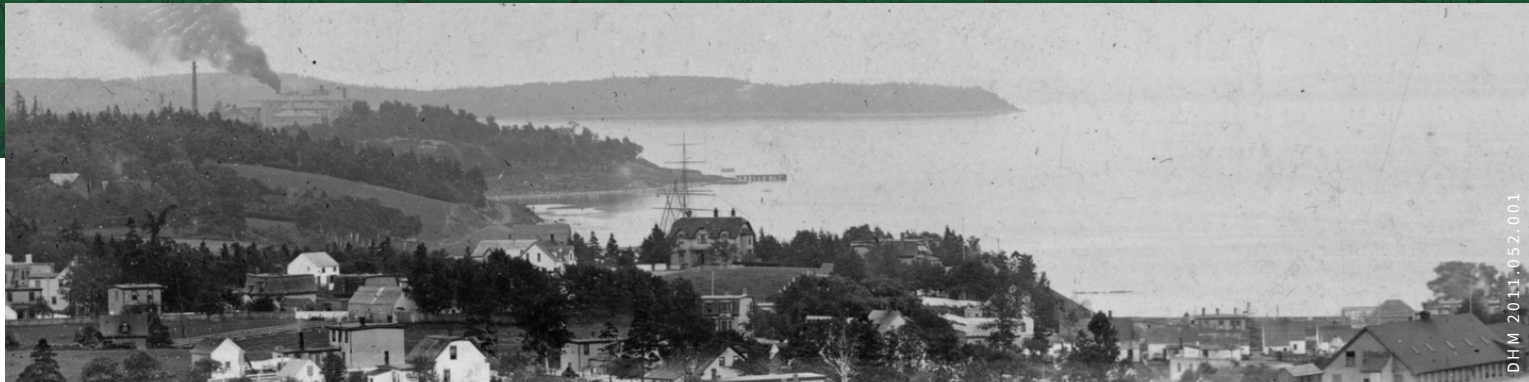




DARTMOUTH HERITAGE MUSEUM'S
THE GAZETTE
 QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER



DHM 2014.052.001



WATERCOLOUR PAINTING OF EVERGREEN BY PETER BRESNEN, DHM 2012.36.1

This edition will put the spotlight on Evergreen House - the architecture and the people who have lived in the grand Victorian house on Newcastle Street. Come on in, take off your coat and stay a while.

IN THIS ISSUE:

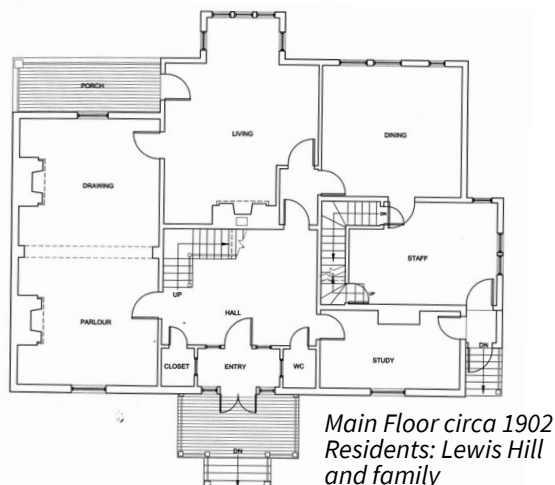
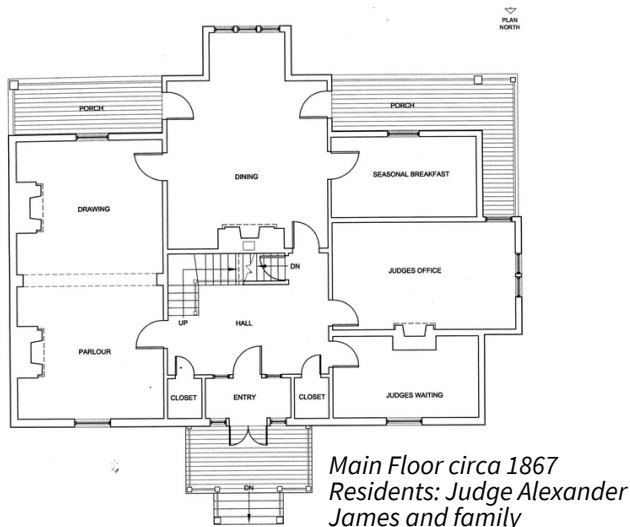
Spotlight: Evergreen House	1
The Hidden Staircase	2
What's Left Behind: The Families of Evergreen House	3-4
Events & Exhibits	5
From the Collection: Evergreen Through the Years	6-7
NOTICE: Annual General Meeting	7
Who was Henry Elliot?	8
Renting Evergreen	9
Giftshop Spotlight	10
Membership	11
Visitor and Contact Info	12

THE HIDDEN STAIRCASE

BY JOANNE PEPERS

The Evergreen House interior of today is quite different from the original floor plan from Judge Alexander James' residency. The layout of the house can be divided into four periods of change – the original construction in 1867, the changes made by Lewis Hill 1900-1906, the division of the house into apartments in the 1940s, and the building's present state as a museum.

Lewis Hill, who was a wealthy lumber merchant. Not being fond of seeing his staff going about their work, Hill added servant staircases. This network of stairs was added to the west side of the house, mainly affecting the former Judge's Office and kitchen below.

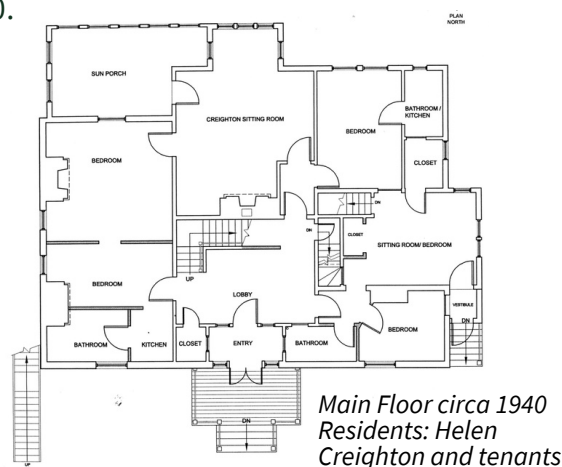


Today there are five flights of stairs in the house. In 1867, there were three. The stairs from the main foyer to the second floor are the only stairs that have not been moved or greatly modified during the life of the house. Originally the basement stairs were located directly below the main stairs.

In 2004, Architects Michael Napier & Company compiled a research paper for the municipality that told the story of the architectural evolution of Evergreen House. During their research, they explored every nook and cranny. While investigating the area under the basement staircase (installed around 1940), they discovered another "hidden" staircase. Treads were removed from the basement service stairs, which go from the foyer to the furnace room, revealing the hidden stair framing. The "hidden" staircase is the original servants staircase built in 1900.



Above: Today: Stairs going up to the second floor (left) and down to the basement level (right), former Judge's Office.



The stairs changed significantly during the time of

Historic houses have so much to tell us. As the saying goes, "if these walls could talk!"

These floorplans, 1867 to present day, can be seen at Evergreen House in the Green Parlour.

COLLECTIONS CORNER

WHAT'S LEFT BEHIND: THE FAMILIES OF EVERGREEN HOUSE

BY SHANNON BAXTER

When we talk about Evergreen House, it is often in reference to the people who called it home over the 156 years that it has been standing. The house was always a family home first and foremost, and while not a lot of its original layout or furniture has been maintained over the years, there are some pieces that have made it into the museum's collection.

This article will highlight some of these artifacts as they relate to the people who owned them while living in this grand old house.

Bedside Stool - The James Family



Above: Bedside stool, James family. circa. 1867-1890; DHM 80.9.1

Evergreen House was built for the James family, it was to be both a family home and an office for Alexander James' law practice. By the time they moved to Evergreen house, Alexander James and his wife Harriett Hawthorn James had two children: Charlotte, who would have been nine-years-old at the time the house was completed, and Harriett, who would have been seven-years-old. The youngest daughter, Sarah (nicknamed "Sadie") was born in 1867 at the house. Thirty years later, when Sadie grew up and got married to Alexander "Sandy" Morrison, their first child Stanley Morrison would also be born in the house.

The upper floor of the house was dedicated to the bedrooms of the James family. This is likely where this bed stool was used. It likely came from the master bedroom of Alexander and Harriet. It's unclear whether the linoleum that is on the steps is original, but the wood carving on the side certainly is. The stool was required to step into the bed, which gives one a sense of how high off the ground it likely was. The stool was eventually given to Charlotte James, who married George Boak.



Above: Bedside stool, James family. circa. 1867-1890; DHM 80.9.1

Fire Screen - The Hill Family

In 1901, twelve years after the death of Judge James, Harriet sold the home to Mr. Lewis Hill. Mr. Hill was responsible for a number of renovations to the house including cosmetic changes, and installing plumbing, heating and electrical systems, and constructing servant stairs and hallways. Lewis Hill made his living in the Lumber trade, and knew George Boak, the husband of Charlotte James. It was likely through this family connection that Lewis Hill purchased the house. Through marriage, the Lewis family was also connected to the Butcher family, who owned a drugstore on Portland Street.



Right: Fire Screen, Hill Family; DHM 2004.12.1

Continued on next page

WHAT'S LEFT BEHIND, CONTINUED

Despite the installation of heating and electrical systems in the house, at some point the Hill family still found use for the numerous fireplaces within the home. This is evident by the fact that they owned this fire screen. The purpose of a fire screen is to protect the sitter from the direct heat of a fire. This was particularly an issue for women who wore heavy makeup that was at risk of melting if too close to intense heat. A dual purpose for fire screens is to showcase the artistic merit of the women of the household. This example showcasing needlepoint.



Above: Close up of fire screen, Hill Family; DHM 2004.12.1

Rocking Chair and Helen's Desk - The Creighton Family

The Creighton Family moved into Evergreen in 1921. Their youngest daughter, Helen, was 22-years-old when they moved in. Helen Creighton would soon turn the house into the hub for her writing as she started collecting folklore and folk songs from across Nova Scotia in 1928. The green parlour of the house was initially used as a place for indoor plants, as both Alice and Charles Creighton were great gardeners and lovers of plants. However over time Helen would use the space as her office and the majority of her writing taking place at her desk, which is still on display at Evergreen along with one of the typewriters she owned.



Left: Rocking chair, Creighton family; DHM 2008.51.1



Above: Helen Creighton's desk; DHM 2010.58.1

Helen Creighton was the last person to own Evergreen as a home. The house would be divided into apartments during the Second World War to help with paying for its maintenance. By that point it was only Helen and her father Charles Creighton who were living in the house, which was extremely large and costly to maintain between two people. The evidence of the house being divided is still present around the house. The most obvious being that the main door to the Green parlour still has an updated lock and keyhole for when it was the front entrance to what became Helen Creighton's part of the house. She would live there until 1978, when she would sell the home to the then City of Dartmouth.



Above: Helen typewriter DHM 2005.10.2 & desk at Evergreen

The fabric and floor plan of the house has changed throughout its long life. The floor plans are now on display at the museum, so that visitors can view and compare how exactly the house changed when each of the three families inhabited it.

For more details, please email info@dartmouthmuseum.ca

EVENTS AND EXHIBITS

by Dartmouth Heritage Museum

GALS AND GUIDES

**NEW EXHIBIT
NOW UNTIL APRIL 30TH
GIRL GUIDES DARTMOUTH**

A NEW TEMPORARY EXHIBIT COVERING THE HISTORY OF THE GIRL GUIDES IN DARTMOUTH. LEARN ABOUT THE EXPERIENCES OF GIRLHOOD IN DARTMOUTH AND REMINISCE WITH SOME OF OUR ARTEFACTS ABOUT YOUR OWN MEMORIES OF GROWING UP. GROUP TOURS AVAILABLE - PERFECT FOR OUR LOCAL GUIDING GROUPS! EMAIL INFO@DARTMOUTHMUSEUM.CA

CEILIDH COFFEE HOUSE

**MARCH 10TH 2023
6PM - 8PM | BY DONATION
RSVP - LIMITED SPACE**

CEILIDH ('KAY-LEE') THEMED COFFEE HOUSE, COMING MARCH 10TH FROM 6-8PM AT EVERGREEN HOUSE (26 NEWCASTLE ST)! THIS HAS LIMITED ROOM SO PLEASE RSVP BY EMAILING US AT INFO@DARTMOUTHMUSEUM.CA.

EVERGREEN OPEN HOUSE

**FRIDAY MARCH 31
1PM - 4PM, DROP-IN**

WE CORDIALLY INVITE YOU TO CELEBRATE OUR UPDATED MAIN FLOOR WITH US! ENJOY SOME TEA OR COFFEE WHILE EXPLORING OUR NEW PANELS AND NEW STORIES!

MOTHER'S DAY TEA

**SAT. MAY 13, 2023
TWO SEATINGS, 11AM & 2PM
TICKETS AVAILABLE APRIL 10TH**

JOIN US THIS MAY FOR AN OLD FASHIONED TEA JUST IN TIME FOR MOTHER'S DAY AT GORGEOUS EVERGREEN! TRY OUR SPECIAL HELEN'S BLEND TEA FROM SENSE & SENSIBILITEA. TICKETS WILL GO ON SALE APRIL 10TH WITH HALF OF ALL PROCEEDS GOING TO LOCAL CHARITY

All events & exhibits are located at Evergreen House, 26 Newcastle St, Dartmouth, unless otherwise stated.

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.

FROM THE COLLECTION: EVERGREEN THROUGH THE YEARS



DHM 2011.192.067



CIRCA 1890



DHM 1995.031.328



CIRCA 1920



DHM 1979.008.039



CIRCA 1960



DHM 1993.015.1130



CIRCA 1980

EVERGREEN THROUGH THE YEARS...THE SOUTH SIDE



DHM 1995.031.400 CIRCA 1920-1940



DHM 1993.015.1291 CIRCA 1920



DHM 2011.192.001 CIRCA 1960-1980



DHM X.063.001 CIRCA 1930

Dartmouth Heritage Museum Society (DHMS) 2023 Annual General Meeting (56th AGM)

In accordance with its bylaws, the DHMS 56th AGM will be held on Tuesday 30 May 2023 at 6 PM, at Christ Church Lower Hall, for the following purpose:

- To review and approve the minutes of the 2022 AGM;
- To receive the report of the Chair;
- To receive, consider and approve the financial statements for the fiscal year ending 31 March 2023 (Treasurer);
- To receive annual reports from the following:
 - Manager Curator
 - Vice Chair (Nominating Committee)
 - Auditor
 - Collections Manager (Collection Management Committee)

- To elect Directors;
 - To appoint the Auditor;
 - To approve revised Bylaws;
 - To decide a strategy for renewal of the Management & Operating Agreement (MOA) between HRM and the Society;
 - To conduct such other transactions as may properly be brought before the Society at the AGM.
- Liam Caswell, Chair
for DHMS Board of Directors

WHO WAS HENRY ELLIOT?

BY MAIDA FOLLINI

In the 1860's when Judge Alexander James planned to have a house built for his family outside of the city of Halifax, he chose architect Henry Elliot to design it. The result was a 20-room mansion located at 26 Newcastle Street built over a three-year period, from 1864 to 1867.

Henry Stephen Collins Elliot was born on January 25, 1824 in Dartmouth to Jonathan Elliot and Charlotte Susan Collins of Collin's Grove. Charlotte was an Anglican and Jonathan, a Quaker, was disowned by the Quaker Meeting in Dartmouth because their strict rules forbade members marrying outside the Quaker faith. Jonathan then joined the Universalist Church. He helped organize the Church of the Redeemer (Universalist) in Halifax and was a Deacon of this church.

According to the Elliot Genealogy Jonathan and Charlotte lived in a large house in Dartmouth. Jonathan maintained a lumber yard on what is now Edward Street for his business as a building contractor. Jonathan and Charlotte Elliot had 10 children. Two of their sons, Henry and Edward, became architects, and one, Thomas, was a builder. Jonathan worked with his son Henry on the design and construction of the Mechanics Institute on Ochterloney Street, which was built in 1843. (This building was demolished in 1961.)

Jonathan, who had been in poor health, was coming back from a service at the Church of the Redeemer in Halifax on April 14, 1867, when he suddenly died. He was 69 years old.



The Mechanics Institute, designed by Henry Elliot DHM 1993.015.1144

Jonathan's son Henry went on to a long productive career as an architect. He is described as designing in the Italianate style. His work includes many notable public and commercial buildings as well as attractive and commodious residences.

Among the public buildings designed by Henry Elliot and his firm of Elliot and Busch are the Dartmouth Exhibition Hall & Ice Rink, Windmill Road at School St.; the Dartmouth Public School on Ochterloney Street; the North Baptist Church, Gottingen Street; St Andrew's Presbyterian Church, Tobin Street; Alexander Keith & Son, Brewery, Lower Water Street; and the Provincial Normal School, Prince Street in Truro.

Among the residences Henry Elliot and his firm designed were: "Seaview" built for his brother Francis Coffin Elliot in 1867, and located on Church St. at Edward St. (demolished in 1965); "Evergreen" at 26 Newcastle St., built for Judge Alexander James, and now the Dartmouth Heritage Museum; the "Octagon House", for Gavin Halliday, on Dahlia Street, (demolished in 1969); and "Pine Hill", on Francklyn Street, the residence of Edward Albro, a prominent hardware merchant. He designed the house at 99 Ochterloney Street, (now known as the Henry Elliot house) for his son Alfred Elliot, who served for years as Dartmouth's town clerk.

Henry and his wife Elizabeth Ann Bowes lived for a time in a house he designed at 22 North Street. He later moved to a more spacious house he had designed: "Brightwood", built 1868, which was set among wide acres and became Henry's "gentleman's farm". Here Henry and Elizabeth raised their 12 children who survived infancy (two others died as babies). Elliot's house and farm at Brightwood is now the site of the Brightwood Golf and Country Club.

In 1891 Henry Elliot retired and moved to Boston where he had designed a house for his architect son, Ernest. Henry died on 18 May, 1892. His body was brought back to Dartmouth for the funeral which was held at the home of his older son, Alfred at 99 Ochterloney Street. His architect son Ernest retired from his professional career in 1937, and passed away in 1954 in Washington, D.C.



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 newly released *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: \$20.00/hour

For individual booking such as baby showers

Non-Profit booking : \$25.00/hour

For booking from non-profit or other charity organisations

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

Right: Helen's Yellow Rose soap. Handcrafted locally by Joy Vibes Soaps

These soaps were blended especially with Helen's garden in mind. One of Helen's favourite flowers was the yellow rose. Available for purchase in our gift shop for \$7.

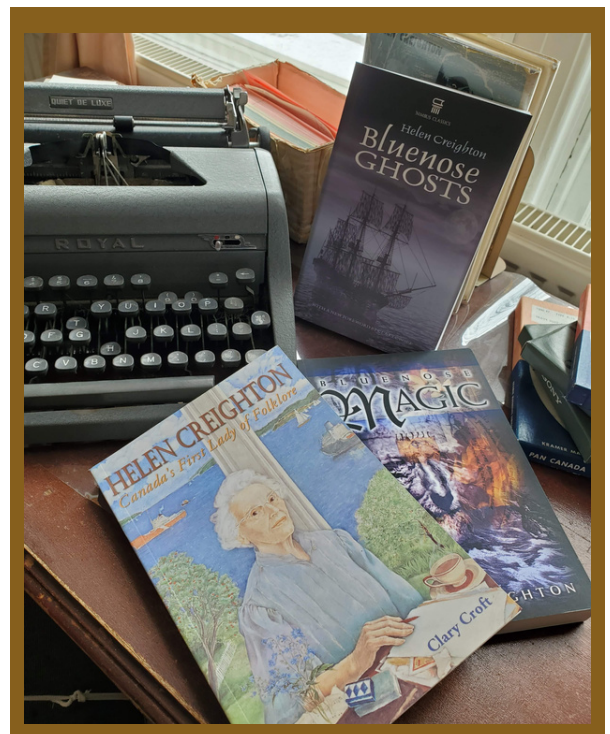


Left: Helen's Blend tea (\$16)

One of Helen's pleasures she enjoyed about Evergreen was taking tea in her garden, especially with her father. This blend is a simple black tea, created by our friends at Sense and Sensibilia based on what we told them about Helen.

Right: Books by Helen Creighton & Clary Croft

Top: *Bluenose Ghosts* by Helen Creighton was written at this desk at Evergreen (\$17.95); Left: "*Helen Creighton: Canada's First Lady of Folklore*" by Clary Croft (\$19.95); *Bluenose Magic* by Helen Creighton (\$24.95); not pictured, "*My Charmed Life in Music, Art, and Folklore*" by Clary Croft (\$22.95)



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

"Protecting, preserving, and promoting our heritage."



Evergreen House

26 Newcastle St
Dartmouth, Nova Scotia
Hours*:

Sept-May	June-Aug
Tues-Fri	Tues-Sat
10am-5pm	10am-5pm

*see below for more details on opening hours



CONTACT US

26 Newcastle St
Dartmouth, Nova Scotia
Canada
B2Y 3M5

www.dartmouthheritagemuseum.ns.ca
902-464-2300
info@dartmouthmuseum.ca



Quaker House

57 Ochterloney St
Dartmouth, Nova Scotia
Hours*:

July-August

**CLOSED UNTIL
2023**

*see below for more details on opening hours



Visiting the Museum:

For the most up-to-date information on our opening hours, please visit our website at www.dartmouthheritagemuseum.ns.ca

Appointments can be always be booked by contacting the museum, but are not necessary. Please note that face masks are still highly encouraged when visiting the museum.

Visits and tours remain free of charge for all. Donations are welcome.