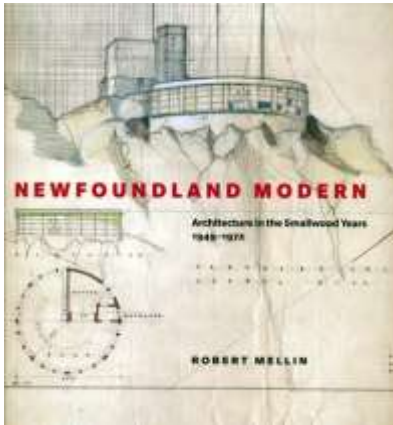


# THE TRIDENT

## THE NEWSLETTER OF THE NEWFOUNDLAND HISTORIC TRUST



On December 5, 2011 the Newfoundland Historic Trust hosted the Newfoundland and Labrador launch of Trust member, Robert Mellin's newest book **Newfoundland Modern: Architecture in the Smallwood Years, 1949-1972**. Robert Mellin is an associate professor in the School of Architecture, McGill University, and the author of *Tilting: House Launching, Slide Hauling, Potato Trenching, and Other Tales from a Newfoundland Fishing Village*.

Event attendance was beyond expectation, and the Newman Wine Vaults were full to capacity. Robert personally signed each book and during the evening he gave a brief summary of the book and its contributors in the north vault. Robert began by thanking the sponsors of the book Canada Council, Beaverbrook Canadian Foundation and he thanked the book's designer, Glenn Goluska, who passed away

before the book was printed. Robert then thanked Derek Drummond for contributing his story of his encounter with Smallwood while flying to Newfoundland and read this passage from the book. He continued by reading Christopher Pratt's description of his painting *Institution* included in the book, and thanked his son Ned for taking several of the photos in the book. He thanked Frank Noseworthy (architect) for all his help, and read the specifications for the contents of the fallout shelter in the Silver Residence. Robert continued by thanking Howard Roberts (carpenter) for sharing his story about building Smallwood's Residence, and the families of Colbourne and Campbell who were asked to identify themselves. There were several members in attendance from each family. The summary ended with the film from the Prelinger Archives on the kitchen cabinet salesmen, The Mullinaires, singing about Youngstown kitchens, the same type of kitchen that was in Smallwood's residence.

### Handcrafted Barrels

Looking for a unique Christmas gift? Made exclusively for the Newfoundland Historic Trust, these handcrafted barrels were made in Victoria Cove, NL by craftsman Bernard King. Each barrel is different and can be filled with unique Newfoundland and Labrador goods.

#### Price List

**Barrel \$120.00**

**Add a bottle of Newman's Celebrated Port for \$18.82 per bottle**

**Let us fill it for you \$160.00**



Contact us to order yours 739-7870 or [Coordinator@historictrust.ca](mailto:Coordinator@historictrust.ca)

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Trident done by



The Newfoundland Historic Trust is a membership-driven organization dedicated to the preservation of the built heritage of Newfoundland and Labrador through research, advocacy and education. For further information please phone 709-739-7870, email [coordinator@historictrust.ca](mailto:coordinator@historictrust.ca) or visit our website

[www.historictrust.ca](http://www.historictrust.ca)



## Make Your Own Hobby Horse

By *Ryan Davis*

The hobby horse is a peculiar breed. With their menacing eyes, and crooked hobnail teeth, the mummer's hobby horse has been terrifying the bejesus out of people for centuries. It harkens back to the days when our not-so-distant ancestors would save the skins of animals, dry them, drape them over their bodies, and chase people around at festive times of the year. Pretty creepy, I'd say.

Also referred to as "Horsey Hops", "Flop Jaws," "Horse Chops," "Hobby Hoss," and "Lop Jaws," the hobby horse has been known to follow people into churches, pull tablecloths off tables, turn off ceiling lights by pulling the string with its mouth, and to swallow oranges, apples, and caplin when tossed its way. They also tend to dance around in a rather awkward and grotesque manner.

But most of all, they tend to chase people.

In some extreme cases, hobby horses have peed on floors (with the help of a water bottle), ripped the sleeves off of shirts, and they almost always get dogs howling. They often lurk in dark places, and hide behind doors, or around the corners of houses. There haven't been too many accounts of serious harm inflicted by the hobby horse, but they have been known to push boundaries and the expression, "you're as bold as a hobby horse," speaks to their mischievous side.

The hobby horse has always been a do-it-yourself project. Pieced together with whatever was around, and often in secrecy, the hobby horse often came to life in sheds, barns, and basements around the province. Because the hobby horse accompanied mummers, the builders would take precautions to keep it a secret so as not to reveal the mummers' identities by association. Hobby horses have been made out of junks of wood, giant blocks of styrofoam, leftover plywood, stitched-together cardboard, and the skulls of horses, moose, cows, and pigs. It's rumoured that an albino hobby-moose is lurking somewhere in St. John's.

What they all tend to have in common, besides their creepiness, is a snapping lower jaw, usually attached with a hinge, a piece of leather, or rubber. The sound of the hobby horse's jaws knocking together are known to bring a chill up the spines of people who grew up with the tradition. A string gets knotted on the lower side of the jaw, goes up through the tongue and the roof of the mouth, and along to the back of the head where the carrier can pull the mouth open and closed. A blanket or sheet ties onto the back of the head to cover the body and a stick or broom handle acts as a third leg and supports the head. With a bit of ingenuity, anyone can piece together a hobby horse.

The head can be covered with fake fur, moose hide, fabric, or paint. Eyes have been made with ping pong balls, tennis balls, jar lids, and bottle caps. And when the crooked hobnail teeth are lined up just right they've been known to make sparks.

The Mummers Festival's Hobby Horse Workshop is just one of several events leading up to The **Mummers Parade on Saturday, December 17th at 2pm.**

For more information go to [mummersfestival.ca](http://mummersfestival.ca)



## Mummers Festival 2012 Schedule of Events

visit [mummersfestival.ca](http://mummersfestival.ca) for additional details

- **Hobby Horse Workshop**

December 3, 6, 10 Victoria Park Poolhouse

- **Ugly Stick Workshop**

December 11, 13 Victoria Park Poolhouse

- **"How do you mummer anyway?": a public forum with mummers**

Sunday, December 4, 3:00pm to 4:00 pm The Rooms Theatre

- **Visions of Visitors: Media Images of Christmas Mumming in Newfoundland**

Wednesday, December 14, 7:00 to 8:00pm Memorial University Room 1046 in the Arts Building

- **Mummers and Masks**

Thursday, December 15, 2:30 to 3:30pm The Rooms Theatre

- **Rig-Up**

Saturday, December 17, 1:00pm to 2:00pm Bishop Field Elementary School (46 Bond Street)

- **Mummers Parade**

Saturday December 17, 2:00pm to 3:00pm-ish starting at Bishop Field Elementary (46 Bond Street)

- **Mummers Parade Concert and Mummers Jam**

December 17, 3:00--5:00pm The Rooms: Level 3 Atrium

Introducing a new feature – the **Mystery Photo**  
If you have a photo of a building or object you need figuring out, or just want to include, send it to us.



Do you know what building is this, and where?

What about this?



Answers in our next issue



### Looking for Basket Makers

Over the next few months, the Intangible Cultural Heritage office will be looking for traditional basket makers, or people with memories of traditional baskets, wherever they can be found in the province.

There is a long history of basket making and weaving in Newfoundland and Labrador, starting with aboriginal basket making, and later European traditions. Baskets have been made from a variety of materials, including sea grass, tree root, birch and juniper.

To start, we are interested in two particular traditions. The first tradition is spruce root basket making, a type of basket making which was once common in Mi'kmaq communities across Atlantic Canada, and which has seen something of revival in recent years. The second tradition is that of mill lunch baskets, once commonly made and used by mill workers in places like Grand Falls-Windsor, Botwood and Corner Brook.

While the focus, to start, will be on spruce root baskets and mill lunch baskets, we are interested in any living basket-makers. If you know someone who makes trout baskets, for example, or any other kind of hand-made basket, you can contact Dale Jarvis at the Heritage Foundation of Newfoundland and Labrador by email at [ich@heritagefoundation.ca](mailto:ich@heritagefoundation.ca) or you can contact the office by phone toll-free at 1-888-739-1892 ext. 2. We are interested in learning more about these traditions, and doing interviews with anyone willing!



## The Church By The Sea Seeks Public Support

**TOWN AND CHURCH HAVE THEIR DAY IN COURT; JUDGE RULES FOR INSPECTION**

The Church By The Sea Inc. (TheCBTS), a heritage group and registered charity, continues the battle to save and preserve the St. Philip's old church which was built in 1893, using some of the material and on the partial foundation of the original 1848 church. The church was consecrated in 1894, hence referred to as the 1894 church. Recently we had 100 SOS (Save Our Steeple) signs [www.SaveOurSteeple.ca](http://www.SaveOurSteeple.ca) placed in the Town of Portugal Cove-St. Philip's (PCSP) and other areas, especially on private property bordering the St. Philip's Anglican Parish.

An independent engineering firm had finally been engaged by the Town to do an inspection of the municipal designated Heritage Building (twice on the NHT "buildings at risk" list). TheCBTS was providing equipment and professionals - an architect, engineer and master carpenter - who are volunteering their skills to TheCBTS to thereby assist the engineering firm for the Town. However the Anglican Synod and Parish appeared in court Dec 5 objecting to these professionals assisting the Town. The judge was told that these professionals are members of TheCBTS and are biased: yet they are not members of TheCBTS. They are governed by their own professional ethics and standards. The Town was told to go ahead with the inspection asap, but not with the (apparently) biased professionals assisting the engineering firm and Town. The inspection has now been tentatively rescheduled for Tuesday Dec 13, yet the Town's cost of the inspection will go up if the professionals who volunteered cannot assist the engineering firm.

We had also decided to help the Town further by providing some funding for the inspection of "our" iconic heritage building: hopefully donations to The CBTS Inc. (which are tax deductible) will help us to continue our battle to save and preserve our heritage. Let us hope that in the future "cool heads and rational thinking" will prevail, as stated by the judge.

Stephen Sharpe, on behalf of the Board of The Church By The Sea Inc., PO Box 1894 stn C, St. John's A1C 5R4  
[www.TheChurchByTheSea.ca](http://www.TheChurchByTheSea.ca)



## Trust News

The Trust received a letter from the former Minister of Tourism, Culture and Recreation, Terry French, who advised us that they were still considering options for the **Government House Carriage House**. We will be pursuing this with the new Minister Derrick Dalley in the New Year.

The Trust is undertaking a **lighthouse** research project for the provincial government to determine the heritage value of some of the province's more significant lighthouses.

The **Harvey Road** development is still on our radar, as is the **pedway** approved for the new hotel development on Duckworth Street.

Our **Buildings at Risk** list will be released on **Heritage Day 2012**. If you know of a building at risk nominate it – visit our website for details.

We are working with other sector organizations to advocate for a better **CEDP** program.

For details on upcoming events at the Vaults, or to learn the latest Trust news, visit our website [www.historictrust.ca](http://www.historictrust.ca).



NLHistoricTrust



Newfoundland Historic Trust

The Trident is the newsletter of the Newfoundland Historic Trust, an organization dedicated to the preservation of the built heritage of Newfoundland and Labrador through research, advocacy and education. The Trident and its contents are copyrighted by the Trust and may not be copied or reproduced without permission. The opinions contained in articles in The Trident are those of their authors and are not necessarily those of the Newfoundland Historic Trust.

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## ROOT CELLARS: A Heritage Structure in Our Landscape



(photos with permission Julie Pomeroy)  
Root Cellar in Brigus

### IT'S TIME TO PAY ATTENTION TO ROOT CELLARS

Elliston has led the way by declaring their community to be the Root Cellar Capital of the World. They boast more than 130 root cellars. This summer, The Agricultural History Society of Newfoundland and Labrador took a closer look at this ubiquitous feature of the province's landscape.

Flakes on the shore. Gardens up the slope. These two features of the cultural landscape complemented each other in sustaining the work and the diet of life in the outports. And associated with the gardens were root cellars. Some cellars were small for a single family; others were larger and shared by several families. Farms which sold produce to growing industrial towns and passing schooners built very large root cellars.

Today there are dozens of root cellars even in a single community. Many are abandoned, marked only by a rock-lined hole in the ground. Others are well kept and used for vegetable storage in the traditional manner. And others, carefully maintained, are used as sheds, workshops, or general storage.

More than fifty cellars in the St John's area were visited in our survey. Each cellar was measured, photographed, and its construction materials described. Owners were interviewed and asked about the history and use of their cellar. In most cases, the age of the cellars was not known with any precision. Most were thought to date from the nineteenth century although some cellars had replaced earlier ones in the early twentieth century. Two very early cellars, dating from about 1830, are at Government House and Murray's Garden Centre and Horticultural Services in Portugal Cove.

### ROOT CELLARS COME IN DIFFERENT SIZES

In the St John's and Conception Bay area, a root cellar might be dug into a hillside with a ground level door, or, it might be dug into the ground with a wooden shed on top and entered through a hatch in the floor of the shed, or, it might be dug out beneath the house. Typically, a person can stand upright and walk about in the cellar which could be small, 9x12 feet, or as large as 15x30 feet if commercial or institutional. The cellar is lined with bins which separate the vegetables - usually, different varieties of potatoes, and carrots and turnips.

There is much to admire in the design and construction of a root cellar: impressive rock-hewn walls; insulation by means of coverings of earth and turf, or, in a shed style of cellar, the storage of hay in the shed atop the cellar; a vent, a critical feature which allows excess moisture to escape; a double door system to avoid destabilizing the temperature in the cellar when a person enters or leaves it. The cellar maintains a temperature of several degrees above freezing during the winter months, perfect for the long term storage of root vegetables.

#### THERE ARE ROOT CELLAR STORIES, TOO

Many people have told us of their childhood experiences of bravery when sent to fetch vegetables from a cold, dark, spidery cellar. Abandoned cellars have been favourite teenage hang-outs. In one case, the cellar was the perfect temporary home while a new house was being built. Cellars have stored jars of jam and preserves, barrels of partridgeberries and apples, homemade wine and beer. People have told us with pride that they can store one season's crop of potatoes in the root cellar right through twelve months to the day when the next year's crop is ready to be lifted from the garden.

The root cellar deserves our respect and appreciation. It represents a community's ability to grow and store food in the circumstance of a highly seasonal range of temperatures. Potatoes became a crop in Newfoundland at the end of the eighteenth century and have continued to play a major role in our diet. But potatoes spoil if frozen. The root cellar preserved the fall harvest of potatoes safely, without freezing, through the long cold months of winter. The cleverly designed, ubiquitous, root cellar is a heritage structure, an ingenious symbol of survival in the history of our province.



Root Cellar in Colliers

Through a partnership with The Heritage Foundation of Newfoundland and Labrador, our root cellar survey has been entered into the DAI (Digital Archive Initiative) at Queen Elizabeth Library, Memorial University.

Our survey was supported by CEDP Government of Newfoundland and Labrador, West Valley Farm Ltd., Service Master Lawn Care, and Egg Producers of Newfoundland and Labrador.

**The Agricultural History Society of Newfoundland and Labrador.**

**Contact: Kevin Aucoin [aucoin89@nl.rogers.com](mailto:aucoin89@nl.rogers.com)**



# Newfoundland Historic Trust 2012 Membership Form - Membership counts!

Annual membership fees support the ongoing work of the Trust in fulfilling its mandate of education, advocacy and outreach. The ability of the Trust to speak confidently and lobby effectively to protect our province's built heritage, neighbourhoods, streetscapes and open spaces depends to a large extent on the degree of public support it enjoys. **Memberships and donations are tax deductible. Receipts will be issued.**

*Scan here for free training*

New membership benefits! As a member you are provided opportunities for:

- |                                     |                                      |               |                  |                    |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|---------------|------------------|--------------------|
| Advocacy                            | Educational Lectures                 | Wine Tastings | Storytelling     | Theatre            |
| Workshops                           | Joint Membership                     | Discounts     | Southcott Awards | Trident Newsletter |
| Provincial Historic Sites Admission | Free Online Courses with Smart Force | Conferences   |                  |                    |

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

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

\_\_\_\_\_

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\_\_\_\_\_

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

**Newfoundland Historic Trust:**

- Student \$15
- Individual/Family \$25
- Group, Institution, Organization \$40
- I include a \$ \_\_\_\_\_ donation
- I include a \$ \_\_\_\_\_ gift in honour of:

\_\_\_\_\_

Payment made by:

- Cash  Enclosed Cheque

VISA # \_\_\_\_\_

Expiry  
(month/year) \_\_\_\_\_

Total \_\_\_\_\_

Paid \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Month/Day/Year

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Please indicate if you prefer:

- a paper copy of the Trident
- an electronic copy of the Trident
- e-news updating you on Trust news & events
- your information not to be shared
- volunteering with the Trust's
- Southcott Awards
- Preservation
- Programming
- Fundraising
- Newsletter
- Newman Vaults
- Other

Please

Specify: \_\_\_\_\_

Email address: \_\_\_\_\_

Memberships and donations are tax deductible.

Receipts will be issued.

The Trust is a registered charity

Send form with cheque payable to **Newfoundland Historic Trust** or VISA information to The Newfoundland Historic Trust, PO Box 2403, St. John's, NL, A1C 6E7

[www.historictrust.ca](http://www.historictrust.ca)

Tel 709-739-7870

Fax 709-739-5413

coordinator@historictrust.ca

## In Memoriam

The Newfoundland Historic Trust acknowledges the generous contributions made in memory of those who have recently passed on. With the support of their loved ones the Trust is able to continue its efforts in advocacy, education and outreach.

The Newfoundland Historic Trust respectfully remembers

**Marjorie Bradley 1929-2011**

**Donation made in her memory to the Garrick Theatre, Bonavista**

## FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES



Patrimoine  
canadien

Canadian  
Heritage

### LAUNCH OF THE 2012 CELEBRATE CANADA FUNDING APPLICATION PROCESS

Canadian Heritage provides financial support for activities organized during the Celebrate Canada period from June 21st to July 1st. These activities celebrate National Aboriginal Day on June 21st, Saint-Jean-Baptiste Day on June 24th, Canadian Multiculturalism Day on June 27th, and Canada Day on July 1st.

In 2012, Canada will commemorate the 60th anniversary of the reign of Her Majesty as Queen of Canada. To mark her Diamond Jubilee, Canadians will celebrate the Queen's reign, honour her service and dedication to this country, and showcase Canadian achievements of the last 60 years.

In order to ensure that your funding request is processed in a timely manner, please submit your application by email, fax or by mail, postmarked on or before January 16, 2012. Please ensure that your application is completed and signed. Incomplete applications will result in delayed processing and could be rejected.

Please visit the Canadian Heritage website at <http://www.pch.gc.ca> to access the Celebrate Canada funding application and guidelines.

### FEDERAL SECRETARIAT BICENTENNIAL OF THE WAR OF 1812 HAS BEEN ESTABLISHED

The Secretariat will act as the main point of contact for organizations interested in applying for funding from the Department of Canadian Heritage for projects related to the War of 1812. Working in collaboration with programs within the Department that offer such funding opportunities, the Secretariat will assist potential applicants by directing them to the most appropriate program for their project.

The Secretariat is responsible for administering the *1812 Commemoration Fund*, a new three-year initiative that will fund community-based projects related to the War of 1812. The goal of the *1812 Commemoration Fund* is to foster greater awareness and understanding among Canadians of the importance of the War of 1812 in our history.

If you are interested in applying for funding for a project related to the War of 1812, you are invited to contact a program officer at the Secretariat to discuss your project idea. The program officer will be able to provide you with more information on the funding opportunities that are available, as well as the steps to follow to submit an application.

To contact a program officer:

E-mail: [info@1812.gc.ca](mailto:info@1812.gc.ca) Tel: 819-997-0055 or toll-free\* 1-866-811-0055  
Fax: 1-819-956-3645 TTY\*\* (toll-free): 1-888-997-3123