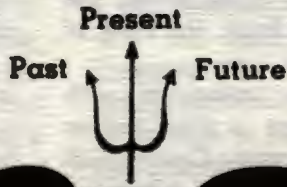


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# trident

## HERITAGE PRESERVATION AWARDS

Heritage Preservation Awards have been won by properties in both St. John's and Harbour Grace this year. Newfoundland Historic Trust presented bronze plaques in recognition of the importance of these buildings as part of the built heritage of both communities at a ceremony at City Hall in St. John's on Thursday, June 20, 1985.

The Preservation Awards were conferred for the following properties:

- The Warder's Residence ..... Hr. Grace
- Credit Foncier Premises ..... St. John's
- Devon House ..... St. John's
- Cornerstone Theatre ..... St. John's
- 18 Barnes Road ..... St. John's
- 107 Gower St. .... St. John's
- 93/95/97 Forest Road ..... St. John's

In addition Southcott Awards were conferred on the people who have invested their resources, time and skills in carrying out these important projects. Southcott Awards, named to honour the firm of J. & J. T. Southcott whose construction style is the most characteristic of old St. John's, were conferred on:

The Department of Public Works and Services Design Section and Mr. Brian Broderick for the Warder's Residence.

Credit Foncier, Sandy Gibbons, Arthitect, and Rene Dubord, Architect, for the Credit Foncier's Water St. premises;

Harris, Harris and Ryan and William

MacCullum, Architect for Devon House;

Downtown Proterties Ltd. for Cornerstone Theatre;

Garnet Kindervator, Developer/ Contractor for 18 Barnes Road;

Doug Hawes, Developer/Architect for 107 Gower Street;

The Chalkers for the Residential Grouping at 93/95/97 Forest Rd.

Southcott Awards for new construction that is in keeping with the scale and character of the neighbourhood as well as the significance of the positive influence on re-development of the community went to:

Bruce Butler (1974) Ltd. and Joe Carter, Architect for the Foundry Site Re-development; and

Philip Pratt, Architect for Newfoundland and Labrador Housing's Infill Project at 86 Bond Street.

The 86 Bond Street Project is probably the best example of the positive spin-off of the public investment made by N.L.H.C. No sooner had 86 Bond been completed then the adjoining neighbours took paint brush in hand and improved their own properties thus contributing to the overall value of this part of Bond Street.

This is the second year that Newfoundland Historic Trust has made awards for quality restoration of the built Heritage of Newfoundland communities. Similar awards were



Credit Foncier and its Architects received an award for their Water Street Office.

Photo Credit: Sheldon LeGrow



Mr. Garnet Kindervator received a Heritage Preservation Award for his restoration of 18 Barnes Road.

Photo Credit: Sheldon LeGrow



presented in the past by the St. John's Heritage Foundation while it was in operation. An awards committee of the Trust reviewed over twenty recent restoration projects and as many infill and development sites. Tim Houlihan, chairman along with committee members Chris O'Dea, Beaton Sheppard, Ruth Saturley and Mary Devine, made the award selections on the basis of quality of the work, importance of the building, contribution to streetscape, spin-off potential and the extent of the undertaking. Design of the Bronze Plaque and the Southcott Award Certificate was done by Beaton Sheppard. Financial assistance this year has come from Newfoundland Light and Power in commemoration of their 100th Anniversary. The Trust also wishes to extend thanks to Parks Canada for its assistance in preparation of the side presentation.

Mary Devine

## Unhappy Developments

ST. JOHN'S, Newfoundland — Is there a conspiracy, a pact between politicians and developers, to destroy the country's urban heritage?

St. John's is (or was) one of Canada's most picturesque cities. It has (or had) the ambiance of an old English seaport. The downtown streets were lined with three or four-storey buildings with elegant fronts, built after the fire of 1892.

This is a city with a 300-year history. Edmonton wasn't even a twinkle in the Empire's eye when St. John's was established in the 1600's as a fishing and military outpost.

Above the commercial section is downtown residential — delightful row-housing, multi-colored homes built in harmony with the city.

This idyllic scene is being destroyed by the same forces that killed Edmonton's earlier landmarks.

Big, architecturally-bland office towers are being plopped along St. John's waterfront. The harbor view is being destroyed, the unique flavor of downtown stolen by the wrecker's bail.

Those creating this mess are the same economic players who tell us on the TV what wonderful corporate

citizens the are — Canadian National's hotel division, the Royal Trust, the Toronto-Dominion Bank, the Bank of Nova Scotia.

Even a family connected with Newfoundland's past — the Crosbies — have joined in. Andrew Crosbie built the first ugly, faceless, shopping complex on the main harbor street.

The question is why St. John's politicians — with zoning and heritage bylaws, plus city plans — would allow the banks and developers to tear down that which is unique to St. John's, and construct the same upended shoe-boxes found from here to Timbucktoo.

The answer, of course, is familiar to anyone who watched Edmonton's city council trade away the Tegler Building, the Alberta Hotel and the old courthouse for new development.

New towers are seen as status symbols. Major developers wine and dine the politicians. Short-term construction supplies and jobs — in an economy where the jobless sometimes outweigh those in the work force — outweigh long-term concerns.

A token Heritage preservation bylaw in St. John's was passed in 1977. But when an historic society took that city to court, a judge ruled council could ignore its own bylaw.

In St. John's the foolishness of the quick fix is transparent. Tucked away, off the most north-easterly corner of the continent, St. John's has yet to be truly 'discovered.' And here are its city fathers, busily dismantling that which tourists come to see!

The arguments of locational economics make no sense when the community's needs are weighed against those of developers. St. John's has a 40-percent office vacancy rate.

It's not first-class office space, the developers say. But it could be if the buildings were renovated, restored, or gutted with their facades left intact.

That investment would yield too low a return, the developers reply.

Nonsense. In cities with pride in their pasts, innovative architectural schemes have made restoration and compatible in-fill development economically viable. Forced to live with iron-clad preservation laws, developers can be amazingly creative.

City councils often offer incentives to get new towers built. The same

concessions, aimed towards restoration, would yield equally good results.

Jobs? Renovation and restoration is more labor-intensive than new construction. Old Strathcona's storefront renovation program, on Edmonton's south-side, was one of the city's biggest construction trade employers during 1984.

Edmonton's city council gave away the downtown's view of the river valley when the Chateau Lacombe was built. In St. John's, the right to observe North America's prettiest harbor-front is being turned over to those able to rent offices with harbor-front views.

Some banks — the Bank of Montreal, the Royal, Credit Foncier — have opted for the prestige of restoration in St. John's.

But the "bad apples", in league with politicians, spoil the barrel. Will elected officials ever learn that developers, faced with strong political will, can bend and adapt to city's needs?

Graham Hicks

Reprinted from the

Edmonton Sun, August 13, 1985



93 Forest Road is one of three properties restored by The Chalker Family. The grouping, 93-95-97 Forest Road, received a Heritage Award.

Photo Credit: Sheldon LeGrow

## The Salt Box House

The Salt Box is one of a number of forms taken by the traditional Newfoundland house. The name comes from the lean-to addition at the rear of the structure, which is in the shape of a salt container. This addition usually included a porch, back kitchen and bedroom, but could sometimes be



used for sheltering animals. The roof over the addition is a continuation of the slope of the main gable roof, although it may be set at a slightly flatter angle. This continuous slope had particular climatic advantages in that it insured water and snow run-off and deflected the northerly winds, if the house face, as it frequently did, to the south.



Now available at the Museum Gift Shop is a ceramic cookie jar in the shape of a Salt Box House.

It comes in traditional colours of white with Indian red trim, white with dark green trim, and cream with brown trim. It sells for \$39.95 with no tax, and can be ordered with an \$8.00 deposit.

It is a charming and unique Newfoundland product and will be useful in anyone's kitchen.

Shane O'Dea  
Martha Entwisle

## The Friends Of Heritage Awards

On June 20, 1985, the National Parks Centennial Citizens' Committee presented its Friends of Heritage Awards at the E.B. Foran Room in St. John's City Hall.

The Friends of Heritage Awards program which has been endorsed by the Canadian Federation of Municipalities, was instituted by the National Parks Centennial Citizens' Committee to assist municipal governments in providing local recognition for important heritage contributions or initiatives for their communities. The municipal governments were invited to submit the names of one candidate in each of three categories: individual, business/corporate, and community organization to the NPCCC. Each winning candidate was awarded personalized **Friends of Heritage** certificates for their contributions to the conservation

of heritage in their community.

Mr. Paul Johnson was presented with the award in the Individual Category. Mr. Johnson has made a lifelong contribution to the preservation of heritage in Newfoundland and was instrumental in both the restoration of the Murray Premises property in downtown St. John's and the creation of the Harbourside Park also on Water Street in St. John's.

McNeill Management Limited of St. John's was chosen for the Business Category for the restoration of the building on 187 Gower Street that houses the offices of McNeill Management Limited. The restoration job is a fine example of how the past can be incorporated into the present day.

The Newfoundland Historic Trust received the award in the Community Organization Category. The Trust was set up in 1966 to help preserve the architectural heritage of Newfoundland and since then it has played a major role in the overall preservation of heritage in our Province. One of the major successes of the Trust since it was set up was the preservation of the Quidi Vidi Christ Church which was in grave danger of being destroyed. The Church is one of the oldest churches in Newfoundland and thanks to the efforts of the Newfoundland Historic Trust it is still standing today.

The criteria for each category was based on the contribution made to the conservation of heritage in the community. The Individual Category recognizes local citizens who have given freely of their time and expertise for heritage related projects; or those who have made substantial donation of funds, property or artifacts to a community heritage project. The Business Category recognizes significant donations of funds, property or artifacts to community heritage projects, public service initiatives, or special attention to heritage conservation in business activities, such as the restoration of an historic building for current use. The Community Organization Category recognizes a local non-profit group which has undertaken a successful heritage conservation project; encourages public awareness of local heritage resources and the need for their conservation; or made a significant contribution of funds, property or artifacts to a heritage related project at the community level.

Steve Mills



Mr. Chris O'Dea receives the Friends of Heritage Award for the Newfoundland Historic Trust from Mayor Murphy while the National Parks Centennial mascot, Boomer the Beaver, looks on.



## Newfoundland Historic Trust Bake Sale

In an effort to promote the new Salt Box House Cookie Jar now available at the Museum Gift Shop, an old fashioned Bake Sale was organized. It was held over St. John's Day weekend at the Murray Premises.

The Trust members were called upon for delicious donations. We are grateful to all those who provided generous supplies of brownies, chocolate chip cookies, old fashioned gingerbread, date squares, molasses cookies, shortbreads, cheesecake, rhubarb jam...

Everything was sold quickly, but nothing went as fast as the Bullseye candy! There was an overwhelming demand! For anyone who did not have a chance to sample this chewy molasses candy, the recipe follows.

Martha Entwisle

### Bulls Eyes

- 1 cup Brown Sugar
- 1 cup molasses
- 2 tbsp. lemon juice\*
- 2 tbsp. butter

\*substitute  $\frac{1}{2}$  tsp. peppermint essence for lemon juice



Combine all the ingredients and boil without stirring until the soft boil stage is reached. Pour onto a greased platter and cool sufficiently until it is easily handled. Grease hands and pull and manipulate until it is a golden brown colour. Pull into a narrow strip and cut into one inch pieces with scissors and arrange onto a greased platter to harden.

## St. John's Day Walking Tours

On Saturday June 22, fifty hardy souls sporting walabees and running shoes gathered at the Hotel Newfoundland. In the morning and afternoon they set out on walking tours of North America's oldest city. Even the

fog and rain did not dampen their spirits. They enjoyed visits to St. Thomas Church, the Basilica of St. John the Baptist, the Anglican Cathedral, strolling through the lovely Government House grounds to sign the guest book and passing by rows of pale green, blue and red townhouses of old St. John's.

Special thanks go to the knowledgeable and enthusiastic guides; Liz Hillman, Mary Gregory, Mike Hall and Sean O'Hanaran.

Martha Entwisle

## Engineers For Heritage

The profession of engineering has its roots in antiquity, with many engineering structures having long outlasted the civilizations which engineered them. The solutions to construction problems have given us the marvels of religious buildings ranging from Aztec temples to the magnificent soaring arches of Norman cathedrals and of monuments such as the pyramids and the beautiful Taj Mahal.

In more recent times, major construction projects have included the railways which opened the development of North America, the construction of canals and locks for access from the Atlantic Ocean to the industrial heartland, the harnessing of great rivers for power generation and irrigation, and the development of vertical self-contained communities in the form of skyscrapers. These developments and other major infrastructure schemes have all resulted from the vision of ingenious men. Indeed, to see many a fine bridge is to wonder at the daring of man who has overcome raging torrents in order to provide a shorter route between communities.

Locally, we now appear to be on the threshold of an oil-related expansion affecting the roots of our society. In fact, already in St. John's, new developments proposed recently include hotels, convention centres, banking and insurance skyscrapers. Much of our existing downtown is old and in need of replacement. However, our physical environment is as much a

part of our culture as our music and our traditions, many of which have been passed down from generation to generation. Revitalization of inner city cores is generally desirable and healthy. But, in our rush to revitalize and renew, it is essential that we also preserve landmarks of the past. We should not preserve everything that is old just because it is old. But, where we have examples of outstanding buildings or other structures, we should use all our ingenuity in finding new uses for such structures. We have a heritage area established downtown in St. John's and marvels of revitalization have been and are being performed. However, there are structures elsewhere in St. John's and outside St. John's which are likely to be swept aside in the name of progress. In our daily endeavours as engineers to improve the infrastructure of our society let us all be vigilant not to needlessly destroy those engineering legacies from years past.

Reprinted from  
*Dialogue For Engineers,*  
May, 1985



Devon House, winner of a Heritage Preservation Award.

## Main Street, St. John's

The city of St. John's, Newfoundland from the viewpoint of a newly arrived mainlander, appears at first glance to offer the richest historical and most colorful urban fabric in Canada. Few centres anywhere on the continent can rival the unique character found here, and from a main street perspective, this presents an unprecedented



opportunity. As the oldest city in North America it quite naturally boasts the oldest commercial thoroughfare, an attribute which Heritage Canada's first urban experiment takes great pride in participation. Nine urban pilot projects are slated to commence across the United States this year, and St. John's will significantly demonstrate this up and coming trend, at the leading edge, for us in Canada.

The always dynamic and sometimes turbulent political past known to St. John's has in part been the city's saving grace from a physical standpoint. Apart from the few glaring exceptions, downtown St. John's has remained relatively intact when compared to other Canadian cities where urban renewal became the norm, and then rejected upon failure after failure. It is my hope that the main street programme will bring a certain stability locally and begin to mend the rifts that have previously surfaced between independent businesses, heritage organizations and the municipality. I foresee my role as main street co-ordinator perhaps as catalyst, in the search for fair and equitable compromise. There rests here an enormous potential for future development through the retention of present building stocks, and perhaps more importantly, a growing realization amongst local businessmen that this makes practical economic sense. It is the philosophy of main street that heritage concerns play an integral role in the revitalization of any downtown, and St. John's is no exception. The essential spirit should be one of community effort, where we all strive to achieve what we feel is best for the city's heart and soul — main street. The project's terms of reference will recognize Water Street, Duckworth Street and George Street as areas designated for marketing and design concentration.

There is an exciting sense of anticipation amongst those involved downtown and main street has arrived clearly at a time when optimism is again on the rise. We have been very fortunate since the programme's inception to have had the full support of the city manager's office and the Downtown Development Corporation's executive board. These people

are sympathetic to the main street approach in St. John's and with the assistance of groups like the Newfoundland Historic Trust, we will attain the level of success that the downtown truly deserves.

The main street office requires input from all concerned parties to ensure that equal representation has been heard, it is really the vehicle through which to express views common to the needs of downtown. Should you require further information do not hesitate to contact me.

*Tom Horrocks  
Main Street Co-ordinator  
P.O. Box 1004  
St. John's, Nfld.  
A1C 5M3  
(709) 726-3280 Ext. 27 or 29*



*Victoria Hall on New Gower Street received a 1984 Heritage Preservation Award from the Trust. In 1985, it won Honourable Mention in the Credit Foncier National Heritage Award Programme.*

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## **Floral Arts Group Chooses National Parks Centennial Theme**

On Saturday, August 24 and Sunday, August 25, the Newfoundland Horticultural Society held their annual Flower and Vegetable Show at the St. John's Curling Club. Included in this show was a spectacular floral arrangement by the Floral Arts Group. The Group chose the National Parks Centennial as this year's theme.

Some twenty floral arrangements, each depicting a National or National Historic Park across Canada were on display. The seven National and National Historic Parks in Newfoundland were among the Parks depicted in the show. The arrangements were considered by many to be the highlight of the whole show. Each park display consisted of a combination of flowers, wood, stones, flags and brightly coloured materials. Toy soldiers, and tiny replicas including models of Cabot Tower and the Norse sod houses at L'Anse aux Meadows were also used. The whole display was a fine example of the ingenuity used by the Floral Arts Group members in designing each arrangement.

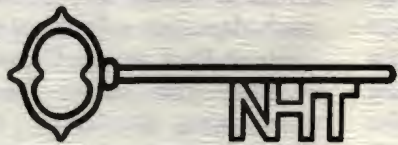
Parks Canada had set up an audio visual display at the show providing information on the National Parks Centennial as well as the National Parks in Newfoundland. Centennial buttons, posters and pamphlets were also handed out. The National Parks Centennial mascot was on hand mingling with the crowd and distributing Centennial buttons.

Close to two thousand people attended this two day event, Parks Canada would like to thank the Newfoundland Horticultural Society and particularly the Floral Arts Group for recognizing 1985 as the year of the National Parks Centennial.



*Seen here are just two of the twenty floral arts arrangements on display at the Newfoundland Horticultural Flower and Vegetable Show which took place at the St. John's Curling Club August 24 and 25. The Floral Arts Group chose the National Parks Centennial as the theme for their display at the annual show.*





Newfoundland Historic Trust

## ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Monday, November 4, 1985 — 8:00 p.m.

Gower Street United Church  
(Entrance Opposite Victoria Hall)

- Why Go:**
- (1) Reports on the past year's activities
  - (2) Election of Officers
  - (3) Slide presentation on the restoration of Victoria Hall
  - (4) Tour of Victoria Hall conducted by John McNeil
  - (5) Light refreshments

**BE SURE TO BE THERE!**

the

Present  
Past Future  
  
**trident**

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