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Trust Member to Chair National Heritage Organization

The Board of Governors of the Heritage Canada Foundation is pleased to announce the election of George Chalker of St. John's, Newfoundland and Labrador, as the new Chair of the Board of Governors.

The Heritage Canada Foundation is a membership-based, non-profit organization with a mandate to promote the preservation of Canada's historic buildings and places. It is Canada's national voice for heritage conservation issues.

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Chalker is no stranger to the conservation of Newfoundland and Labrador's architectural heritage. Since receiving the Southcott Award in 1984 in recognition of his restoration of several residential properties, Chalker has served on many provincial heritage boards, including the Newfoundland Historic Trust and City of St. John's Heritage Advisory Committee.

Since 1988 he has served as Executive Director for the Heritage Foundation of Newfoundland and Labrador, the provincial agency responsible for the designation and granting of provincial heritage structures. He also serves as a certification agent for the Historic Places Initiative, a federal-provincial-territorial partnership formed to protect and preserve Canada's historic places.

Chalker has also been very active as provincial representative for the Society for the Study of Architecture in Canada, and has served as board member of the Heritage Canada Foundation for the past five years.

"Quite simply, I like old buildings," says Chalker. "I look forward to increasing the awareness of built heritage in our province, as well as across Canada."

Appointments Made to Heritage Foundation of Newfoundland and Labrador

The ongoing commitment of government to preserving the architectural heritage of Newfoundland and Labrador was noted by the Honourable Tom Hedderson, Minister of Tourism, Culture and Recreation, as he announced the appointment of three new members to the Board of Directors of the Heritage Foundation of Newfoundland and Labrador.

"The mandate of the Heritage Foundation is to preserve a very important aspect of Newfoundland and Labrador's culture – our architectural heritage," said Minister Hedderson. "This mandate is one that is supported by government and will be furthered by the appointment of these three talented individuals to the board."

The Board of Directors has 12 members, including the three new additions; Kimberley Blanchard of St. John's, Dominic Lundrigan of Burin and Amos Lyall of North West River, Labrador. Other members include Roy Dawe of Cupids, Shannie Duff of St. John's, Kenneth Flynn of Jerseyside, Cindy Gibbons of Red Bay, Labrador, Patricia Hatch of Corner Brook and Sandra Wheeler of Corner Brook. Robert Mellin of St. John's serves as chair, with Robert Parsons of Grand Bank as vice-chair. In addition, Jerry Dick serves on the board as a representative from the Department of Tourism, Culture and Recreation.

"I also would like to thank the outgoing board members for their valuable contributions," added Minister Hedderson. "Their interest in preserving the built heritage of this province is to be commended."

The Heritage Foundation is a non-profit organization which was established by the Provincial Government to encourage the protection and preservation of the province's architectural heritage through education, recognition, and a grants program.

Kimberley Blanchard, a resident of St. John's, has a professional background in urban and community planning with a strong interest in heritage preservation. She has served on the board of the Newfoundland Historic Trust since 2002, currently in the role of president.

Dominic Lundrigan, resident of Burin, is an active community member in the Marystown-Burin area and currently serves as chair of the combined committees of the Heritage House Museum and the oldest Colony Trust Building in Burin.

Amos Lyall, resident of North West River, Labrador, is a museum interpreter with an interest in the preservation of culture and heritage. He serves on the Board of Directors of Them Days magazine, a quarterly publication dedicated to preserving the history of Labrador, and as a board member of the OKalaKatiget Society, a non-profit organization with the mandate to preserve and promote the language and culture of the Inuit.

Dr. Stella Burry & Emmanuel House: "A very remarkable ministry"

- by *Lara Maynard*



Emmanuel House as it is today. Photo courtesy HFNL.

The stately Queen Anne style residence on Cochrane Street that has been known as Emmanuel House since 1946 has seen its share of excitement. The wooden building narrowly escaped the Great Fire which left most of St. John's in ashes in 1892. Since then, it has sheltered folks from all walks of life, including the tenacious social activist Dr. Stella Burry. She has left her mark on the building and beyond as the founder and first director of the social service centre operating there.

Stella Burry was born to a fishing family in the small island community of Greenspond in Bonavista Bay on Newfoundland's northeast coast in 1897. She spent the first eight years of her career as a teacher, but was compelled by the social needs to which that job exposed her to study at the Methodist National Training School in Toronto. Burry became a deaconess and worked in Toronto for more than a dozen years. She returned to Newfoundland to take on the role of social worker in 1938.

Promptly upon filling her new post in St. John's, Burry established the United Church Community Service Centre, based out of two humble rooms on Gower Street. Within a year, the centre was the hub for an escalating number of activities including mothers' meetings, financial counseling, a Church Vacation School for children, distributing clothes and groceries to the needy, and an employment bureau. The centre also assisted nearly thirty families in establishing vegetable gardens, mostly on land arranged through the Sisters of Presentation Convent.

Seven years later the building in which the Community Service Centre was located was razed by fire. Stella Burry committed herself to securing a new place to carry on her work. The grand home at 38 Cochrane Street, next door to the United Church, was purchased in 1945 through fundraising and an appeal to the Women's Missionary Society. The WMS turned over money from the sale of Emmanuel Church in Montreal. Hence, Stella Burry soon took up her post as director of Emmanuel House, a community centre and hostel for young women relocating to St. John's.

Emmanuel House became a model of community service and remained a flagship operation of Burry's many social programs over the years. She gave her attention in turn to women's issues, pre-school care for children, housing, and programs for seniors, addicts, and people with mental illness. For this, the St. John's Junior Chamber of Commerce recognized Stella Burry as Citizen of the Year in 1967. And in 1971 she became Dr. Stella Burry when Pine Hill Divinity Hall of Halifax conferred upon her the honorary Degree of Doctor of Divinity. In 2000, Hermitage Publishing released her biography, *No Ordinary Woman*, by Joseph C. Burke.

When Dr. Stella Burry reached the fiftieth anniversary of her deaconship, K. Harriet Christie of the United Church of Canada's Division of Mission wrote to her in appreciation of her work at Emmanuel House and elsewhere, even into her "so-called 'retirement'." Harriet wrote: "Wherever you have gone, your gaiety and sense of humour and your great supply of Newfoundland stories, your deep compassion for people and capacity to work with people, and your energy, imagination and determination, have all combined to make a very remarkable ministry."

The City of St. John's designated Emmanuel House as a Municipal Heritage Building in 1989. The grand old Queen Anne continues to operate today under a non-profit organization known as Stella Burry Community Services (SBCS). Since 1979 more than 1200 people with social and emotional problems have received counseling and support through SBCS's live-in program at Emmanuel House. Its dedicated founder passed away in 1991, and is remembered as a tireless community leader who made a singular, pioneering contribution to social welfare policy and programs in Newfoundland.

Newest Trust Members

We are very pleased to announce that that our President and Vice-President have provided the Newfoundland Historic Trust with two new members, a day apart, probably the for the first time in the forty year history of the organization!

Trust President Kim Blanchard is the proud mother of a new baby boy, Luke Peddle. Luke was born Thursday, November 30 - measuring 54 cm and weighing in at 9 lbs 6.5 oz, topping up his brother Josh's weight by 12 oz. Trust Vice-President Kim Mackay had her baby boy Peter Jack Anthony a day later on December 1, 2006. Peter weighed in at 8 lbs, 1 oz, including as Kim says, 1 oz of hair. Our congratulations and best wishes go to them both.



Stella Burry in front of Emmanuel House Municipal Heritage Building, circa 1949. Photo courtesy SBCS

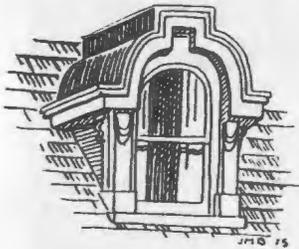


Peter with mom Kim Mackay and big brother Sam.



Josh, mom Kim Blanchard and new brother Luke.

Call for nominations for the 2007 Southcott Awards for built heritage conservation



The Newfoundland Historic Trust invites nominations for its annual Southcott Awards for built heritage conservation in Newfoundland and Labrador. Awards are normally considered for architectural restoration projects completed within the past three years. Awards may also be considered for excellence in long-term maintenance of heritage properties; for new or infill construction which is sensitive to the historic context (architecture, streetscape, viewscape, etc.) of its environment; or for other noteworthy built heritage preservation projects. Individuals, families, organizations, municipalities, etc. may nominate projects for award consideration.

Deadline: April 15, 2007.

Nomination forms and information are available at www.historictrust.com/southcott.shtml; or by emailing historictrust@yahoo.ca or by calling (709) 739-7870.

Fisheries Heritage Project: Kippenhuck Property, Labrador

- by *Debbie O'Rielly*

The Kippenhuck Property is located in the summer fishing community of Square Islands, Labrador. It is comprised of a stage, twine shed and flake. The site has been used by the family for more than 200 years for the prosecution of the cod fishery, offering a worksite on the rocky shore. When the summer fishery was in full operation the store was used to store salt cod and mend nets, while the flake was used to dry the cod.

John Kippenhuck applied to the Fisheries Heritage Preservation Program in 2003 in an effort to restore the family structures. The fishing premises were in poor condition at that time: "The store was falling down and was listing towards the water, the foundation was rotten and the wharf was totally destroyed."



When work commenced, a new crib was constructed for the store and a new foundation was built. The store exterior received new clapboard and was painted, while the roof was repaired and covered in rubberoid. A new wharf was built to replace an earlier one that had been destroyed. Mr. Kippenhuck is proud of his family's long history with the site and was anxious to "restore the complete site to what it previously was before the closure of the cod fishery."

To undertake such a restoration project is not without its difficulties. Mr. Kippenhuck had to transport materials by boat and by ski-doo on several occasions, at the expense of one speed boat motor. The result of his work, however, is a legacy of the Kippenhuck family, and the Kippenhuck Property as it stands today should endure for many years to come.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING NOTICE

The Newfoundland Historic Trust Fall 2006 AGM was postponed until the spring of 2007. No date has been set yet, but members will be notified in advance of the AGM.

The Trident. January 2007

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