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The Newsletter of the *Newfoundland Historic Trust*

Summer 2008

ISSN 0049-4690

## Annual Southcott Awards 2008

The Newfoundland Historic Trust celebrated the province's rich architectural heritage in presenting the Southcott Awards to 3 outstanding restoration projects at the 24<sup>th</sup> Annual Southcott Awards Ceremony held at the Basilica Museum on the evening of Thursday, June 12<sup>th</sup>, 2008.

The Newfoundland Historic Trust, which administers the Southcott Awards, is a volunteer-driven, charitable organization dedicated to the preservation of all forms of architecture reflecting the culture and heritage of Newfoundland and Labrador. The Trust developed the Southcott Awards program in 1984 to commend the work of passionate individuals, organizations, corporations and governments in the preservation of the province's architectural heritage. The Southcott Awards are named in honour of one of the most important 19th century Newfoundland building firms, J. and J.T. Southcott.

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**From left to right: Sam Slade, Mayor of Carbonear, accepting for Old Carbonear Post Office, Claudia Sommers Brown accepting for Moseley/Brown (Dockside) House, and William Francis accepting for John Hancock House.**

The 2008 awards are sponsored by the Heritage Foundation of Newfoundland and Labrador, Parks Canada, Cox & Palmer, the Penney Group, Martin Whelan Hennebury Stamp, and PHB Group Inc.

During the 2008 Southcott Awards ceremony, the 4<sup>th</sup> annual Leida Finlayson Memorial Scholarship recipient was also recognized. This year's recipient was Gregory French, a Memorial University undergraduate student. The award was established in 2005 by the Newfoundland Historic Trust to honour the memory of the Trust's former general manager, who passed away in 2003 after a brave battle with cancer. The scholarship is for students of History and Political Science.

For more information on the Newfoundland Historic Trust, the Southcott Awards, the Leida Finlayson Memorial Scholarship, or to nominate a project for the 2009 Southcott Awards, visit [www.historictrust.com/soutcott.shtml](http://www.historictrust.com/soutcott.shtml) or [www.historictrust.com/scholarship.shtml](http://www.historictrust.com/scholarship.shtml).

## 2008 Southcott Award Recipients

### **John Hancock House** *Portland, Bonavista Bay*

**Category:** Architectural Restoration  
**Owners:** William and Gloria Francis

The Hancock House is a two-and-one-half storey house with a pedimented, steeply pitched gable roof, located in Portland, Bonavista Bay. A designated Registered Heritage Structure, this house is both architecturally and historically significant. When the present owners purchased the property in 1985 they were delighted to see that many of the original features of the house were intact.



**John Hancock House in Portland, Bonavista Bay before restoration**



**John Hancock House in Portland, Bonavista Bay after restoration**

Built by boat-builder and carpenter John Hancock, circa 1923-1935, the property sits apart from other houses in Portland on seven acres of land, near a brook that once fed Hancock's sawmill.

While many of the original features remained on the house, the owners recognized that additional work was needed to preserve the integrity of the structure. The Francis' undertook restoration of doors, windows, roof, siding and front steps, striving to keep all new construction as close to original as possible. The property is visually striking in its rural context.

### **Moseley/Brown (Dockside) House** 486 Main Street, Burin

**Category:** Architectural Restoration  
**Owners:** David Moseley Brown and Claudia Sommers Brown

The Moseley/Brown House is located in the oldest area of Burin – Dockside. As a family residence this structure was built circa 1900, and also had a doctor's surgery and office when Dr. Moseley occupied the house 1918-1936.

The present owners purchased the house in 2005 with the intention of restoring it back to its original appearance. Most decorative details had been lost over time and the Browns, using historical photos and the help of builder/renovator Garnet Kindervater, were able to recreate the impressive Queen Anne style.



**Moseley/Brown (Dockside) House in Burin after restoration**



**Moseley/Brown (Dockside) House before restoration**

The task was a daunting one. The structure was enhanced with new wiring, plumbing and doors, as well as other necessities like insulation, roof work and wooden siding.

Dormer windows were also restored, interior restoration revealed original wood floors and panelled ceilings, and exterior wood trims, bargeboard, finials, and newel posts were expertly recreated.

This structure stands proudly on its original site, overlooking historic Dockside. The reuse of original materials and recycling of any leftover materials make this house truly traditional.

**Old Carbonear Post Office**

Water Street, Carbonear

**Category:** Architectural Restoration

**Owners:** The Town of Carbonear

The Old Carbonear Post Office, a Registered Heritage Structure, was built in 1905 to replace one that had burned the year before. Its proximity to Carbonear's commercial area and waterfront made the building a focal point on the town's main street. After a new post office was built in 1957 this building changed ownership several times. At the time of restoration the building had been vacant for

several years, there was no heating and the electrical needed to be upgraded.



**Old Carbonear Post Office in Carbonear before restoration**

The present owner, the Town of Carbonear, undertook the task of restoring this Second Empire structure back to its original grandeur,

including restoration of the clock tower and iron cresting. The exterior façade, clad in wooden clapboard, was painted a historic dory buff yellow with green trim; wooden shingles were put on the Mansard roof and all original windows and doors were reused. The interior was in need of major repairs, and all original materials that could be were reused.



**Old Carbonear Post Office in Carbonear after restoration**

The Old Carbonear Post Office is now presently occupied by government offices and stands proud on the Carbonear streetscape, reminiscent of an earlier time.

## 2008 Southcott Awards Ceremony



Master of Ceremonies Shane O'Dea welcome guests to the 2008 Southcott Awards at the Basilica Museum.



Shane O'Dea discusses one of the award winning buildings at the 2008 Southcott Awards



William Francis accepting the Southcott Award for John Hancock House from Jennifer Newbury of Martin Whelan Hennebury Stamp.



Mark Penney of PHB Group Inc. presenting the Southcott Award for Moseley/Brown (Dockside) House to Claudia Sommers Brown



Robert Mellin of the Heritage Foundation of Newfoundland and Labrador presenting the Southcott Award for Old Carbonear Post Office to Sam Slade



Kim Blanchard, president of the Newfoundland Historic Trust, announces Gregory French as the recipient of the 4<sup>th</sup> annual Leida Finlayson Memorial Scholarship



**2008 Southcott Award Winners and Presenters (L to R): Sam Slade, accepting for Old Carbonear Post Office, Claudia Sommers Brown, accepting for Moseley/Brown (Dockside) House, William and Gloria Francis, accepting for John Hancock House, Jennifer Newbury, presenting for Martin Whelan Hennebury Stamp, Mark Penney, presenting for PHB Group Inc., and Robert Mellin, presenting for the Heritage Foundation of Newfoundland and Labrador.**

### 2008 Southcott Award Sponsors

The Newfoundland Historic Trust would like to thank the Heritage Foundation of Newfoundland and Labrador, Parks Canada, Cox & Palmer, the Penney Group, Martin Whelan Hennebury Stamp, and PHB Group Inc for their support with the 2008 Southcott Awards.



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## Holyrood Heritage Society Celebrate Wilf Doyle's Musical Legacy



Wilf Doyle

The Holyrood Heritage Society helped this year to preserve an integral part of our traditional music and dance by celebrating the music of Conception Harbour's native born son Wilf Doyle. Wilf is an icon in our province, having performed publicly for over seven decades.

Wilf produced nine records and two cassettes - one with his son Wilf Jr., the other with Ray MacLean. He sold thousands of records in nine countries, and is a forerunner of all well-known accordion artists from our province. Some of his original tunes and songs are featured on those albums, but some have not yet been recorded. He and his band performed with well known artists at live concerts and private dance clubs. He was also featured on many radio and television programs, some of which aired nationally.

In July of 2008 the Holyrood Heritage Society produced a CD compilation of Wilf's music, called "Is Everybody Ready." Funds raised from the sale of this first Wilf Doyle CD will be used to set up a scholarship for a student of music. This way his legacy will remain for future generations.

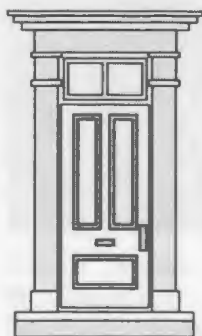
On August 2, 2008 the Branch 64 Royal Canadian Legion, Holyrood was blocked with a sold out crowd of those who danced to Wilf's music when the only means was a traditional house party, then later in community halls and clubs covering all of Newfoundland's peninsulas. His captivated audience on August 2 remembered walking from community to community in their "heyday" to be wherever Wilf Doyle was playing. There were visitors from the UK, Florida, Texas, Washington, Toronto, Nova Scotia and throughout the province in attendance at the Legion hall.

The Holyrood Heritage Society is proud and honoured that Mr. Doyle, his family and the communities of Conception Harbour, Colliers, Avondale, Harbour Maine, Lakeview, Chapels Cove, Bacon Cove, Kitchuses and Holyrood supported their efforts in such a deserving tribute to so gracious a gentleman and musician.

In January 2007 our society nominated Mr. Doyle for the Order of Newfoundland and Labrador. We were not successful, but were quick on the march to nominate him again for 2008. This would really put the icing on the cake!

Linda Fraser, President, Holyrood Heritage Society

## Doors Open events Planned for Newman Wine Vaults, September 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup>, 2008



**DOORS  
O~P~E~N**  
Newfoundland  
& Labrador

The Newman Wine Vaults will be one of over 20 sites that will open its doors to the public free of charge for the 6<sup>th</sup> annual, award winning Doors Open St. John's. Doors Open is a unique opportunity for citizens and visitors to the province to celebrate our heritage through the exploration of some of our hidden historical, architectural and cultural gems. The Newman Vaults will be featured along with other exciting sites such as Government House and the Courthouse. This year's event will take place on September 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> from 10:00am to 4:00pm.

Doors Open is a province-wide program offered through the Heritage Foundation of Newfoundland and Labrador. In addition to St. John's,

the 6 other communities that are also holding Doors Open events this year are Carbonear, St. George's, Placentia, Port Union, Trinity Bight and Labrador Straits. Visit [www.doorsopendays.com](http://www.doorsopendays.com) for additional event dates.

## Napoleon Surrenders! At the Newman Wine Vaults



Napoleon Bonaparte locked in his jail cell, and St. John's Town Cryer Chris Pickard.

On Tuesday, July 15<sup>th</sup>, the Newfoundland Historic Trust held their annual re-enactment of Napoleon Bonaparte's surrender to the crew of the H.M.S. *Bellerophon*, the British Naval vessel that would later carry him to exile in St. Helena. On hand at the Newman Wine Vaults to help with the event were St. John's Town Cryer Chris Pickard and volunteers from the CLB Armory.

According to Dale Jarvis, local folklorist and Past President of the Newfoundland Historic Trust, stories circulate that the ship's crew toasted the occasion with 88 gallons of wine, some of which may have been Newman's port purchased in St. John's, Newfoundland from the agent of Newman and Company. As such, visitors to the Newman Wine Vaults that day were invited to toast to the health of the Queen with a free sample of Newman's Celebrated Port.



Napoleon Bonaparte with his Honour Guard from the CLB Armory

## The Newman Wine Vaults – Available for Rentals

The Newfoundland Historic Trust would like to take the opportunity to let the public know that we are now accepting bookings for private functions at the Newman Wine Vaults Provincial Historic Site, 436 Water Street. To inquire about available dates or for more information, please contact Jonathan Walsh at 739-7870, [historictrust@yahoo.ca](mailto:historictrust@yahoo.ca), or visit [www.historictrust.com](http://www.historictrust.com).



# Newfoundland Historic Trust

PO Box 2403, ST. JOHN'S, NEWFOUNDLAND, CANADA A1C 6E7

The registered, non-profit Newfoundland Historic Trust was founded in 1966 as a citizens' response to built heritage under threat. The Trust has a mandate to preserve the built heritage of our province through advocacy, research, education and outreach. It is membership-driven and governed by a volunteer board. Some accomplishments of which we are proud:

The Trust's **Southcott Awards** were established in 1984 and are presented annually to recognize significant preservation activity throughout the province, and to encourage it in the future. Awards have been given for projects in Petite Forte, Hopedale, Brigus, Bonavista, Tilting, Grand Bank, Trinity, Mount Pearl, Greenspond, Corner Brook, Bareneed and elsewhere around Newfoundland and Labrador.

The Trust's **Newman Wine Vaults** Restoration Project began in 1997. Now the Trust operates the Vaults as a Provincial Historic Site which is open to the public during summer months and by appointment and for special events and programming throughout the year.

In 2003 the Trust and its partners organized Atlantic Canada's first (and highly successful!) **Doors Open** event in St. John's, with 27,500 visits to 16 participating sites! We're growing on this success and expanding Doors Open to other areas of the province, with program partnerships.

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.**

**Our membership year starts in January. Please renew or join for 2008!**

## 2008 Newfoundland Historic Trust Membership Form - Membership counts!

Annual membership fees are \$25 per individual or family and \$40 for groups, institutions or organizations. Our membership year begins in January. 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; fax 709-739-6596.

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

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone (h) \_\_\_\_\_ (w) \_\_\_\_\_

Postal code: \_\_\_\_\_ Fax: \_\_\_\_\_

Membership category:  Individual (\$25)  Family (\$25)  Group, Institution, Organization (\$40)

I also include a \$ \_\_\_\_\_ donation to the Trust.

Payment by:  enclosed cheque  
 Visa number \_\_\_\_\_ Expiry date (mo/yr) \_\_\_\_\_ Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Are you interested in serving on any of the Trust's committees (Southcott Awards, preservation, programming) or helping in any other way (fund-raising, newsletter, volunteer at Newman Vaults, other)? Please specify:

www.historictrust.com • Tel 709-739-7870 • Fax 709-739-5413 • Email historictrust@yahoo.ca

### The Trident, Summer 2008

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