

# THE TRIDENT

**THE NEWSLETTER OF THE NEWFOUNDLAND HISTORIC TRUST**

## Lighthouses of Newfoundland and Labrador



In 2010 the Government of Canada created the long-awaited and anticipated Heritage Lighthouse Act, Bill S-215, which would see the preservation and protection of hundreds of lighthouses in Canada. Shortly thereafter that same government deemed a great number of lighthouses “surplus”, thereby ensuring the divestiture of scores of heritage lighthouses by the Department of Fisheries and Oceans.

Because of this heritage organizations across the country have begun working on strategies to ensure the safe keeping of the country’s lighthouses.

In November 2011 the Newfoundland Historic Trust undertook a research project commissioned by the Department of Tourism, Culture and Recreation of Government of Newfoundland and Labrador. This research was initiated by government based on the findings of the 2004 study commissioned by the now defunct Lighthouse Society of Newfoundland and Labrador, and undertaken by Tract Consulting Inc. and M5 Marketing Communications. The purpose of this research is to create a valuation matrix to determine the heritage value for each of fifteen lighthouses identified by government and not included in the 2004 Lighthouse Development Master Plan.

In March of this year the Trust completed a comprehensive report on fourteen lighthouses in Newfoundland and Labrador which may bear heritage value due to age, architectural style and association with significant event/persons. The report will ensure decision-makers have the information needed to create a succession plan.

The report is available on our website [www.historictrust.ca](http://www.historictrust.ca).

The provincial government has also requested that the Trust engage in the petitioning for heritage designation of lighthouses deemed surplus, so as to give community groups and municipalities the opportunity to consider the future of lighthouses in their communities.

If you know of a lighthouse which you would like to see preserved you can petition the Government of Canada through Parks Canada’s Heritage Lighthouse Program. To download a nomination package:

[lighthouses@pc.gc.ca](mailto:lighthouses@pc.gc.ca), [www.parkscanada.gc.ca/lighthouses](http://www.parkscanada.gc.ca/lighthouses), or by mail:

Heritage Lighthouse Program, Parks Canada Agency, 25 Eddy Street (25-5-P), Gatineau, Quebec, K1A 0M5, telephone 819-934-9096

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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).

# Buildings at Risk 2012

On Heritage Day 2012 the Newfoundland Historic Trust released its third annual Building at Risk list. The purpose of the list is to alert citizens to the vulnerability of many of our heritage buildings and structures and to solicit aid for their preservation. The list is released annually to bring attention to sites at risk due to neglect, lack of funding, inappropriate development and weak legislation. It has become a powerful tool in the fight for the preservation and protection of Newfoundland and Labrador's tangible historic resources.

The Newfoundland Historic Trust uses three primary criteria to determine the sites for inclusion on the list:

- Significance of the site
- Urgency of the threat
- Community support for its preservation

In 2012 the Trust received nominations for seven sites, and nominated Newfoundland and Labrador historic lighthouses as a means to create greater awareness.

## Ridley Hall, Harbour Grace

Nominated by concerned citizens, this once impressive stone residence lies in ruin after years of neglect and a disastrous fire in 2003. Ridley Hall was built in 1834 by Thomas Ridley. He was a fishing/sealing merchant between 1820 and 1870 in Harbour Grace.

The owners of this structure live out of province and refuse to take remedial action. After the 2003 fire the remains of this once impressive house are dangerous to the public and at risk of vandalism. A Registered Heritage Structure since 1994 there may be funding available to help restore this very significant building.



## Wesley Hall, Wesleyville



Owned by the Bonavista North Museum and Gallery Wesley Hall was nominated to bring attention to its uncertain future. Wesley Hall was built in 1874 as a church to support the communities who were resettling the area and over its lifetime it has served many purposes within the community.

Although the local Bonavista North Museum and Gallery purchased Wesley Hall in an effort to preserve it, the small, volunteer-run group struggle with funding. The building has water damage, a sagging roof, peeling paint and rotting shores. A donation campaign is underway but a major infusion of funds is required to restore this once iconic structure.

## Trinity Train Loop, Trinity

The Trinity Train Loop was nominated by a newly formed citizens group "Save the Trinity Loop" dedicated to preserving the iconic train tracks and surrounding area. The Trinity Loop was constructed in 1911 to allow trains to traverse the steep terrain in Trinity and its surrounding area.

The Trinity Loop is an abandoned infrastructure which has been left to the elements and vandals. The 2010 Hurricane Igor damaged some of the underbedding and trestle, while many of the train cars have been damaged



through vandalism and neglect, left exposed to the elements. More significantly, a private interest has expressed a desire to demolish the entire property and erect a hotel. The local group Save the Trinity Loop wish to have the loop restored and to present it once again as its original purpose of a narrow gauge train track and trestle, and to create an interpretive site for visitors.

### **Loyal Orange Lodge #13, Carbonear**



The Loyal Orange Lodge #13 (LOL #13) was nominated by local citizens who have been advocating for the preservation of this structure for several years. Situated on Water Street the LOL was built in 1869 and became the centre for community gatherings and Orange Lodge business, as well as a location for fledgling organizations to gather before they had their own meeting halls. The LOL #13 was a known landmark and a well-respected place to meet, and its architecture, particularly the interior, is an expression of the organization's prominence in the town.

Though designated a Municipal Heritage Building, the LOL #13 remains vacant, and as such is vulnerable to vandalism. Local citizens have been trying to rally for funding to restore the structure so that it can be put back to use. Its present condition precludes use until the interior can be restored, which at present, is in poor condition and unable to support any activity.

### **Ruby Church (St. Matthew's), Goulds**

Ruby Church was nominated by the Goulds Historical Society who have been advocating for the preservation of the landmark for nearly three decades. The Ruby Church is the oldest public building in the Goulds and will celebrate its centenary in September 2013. The cornerstone was laid by Hon. George Knowling, member of the Legislative Council in the Whiteway administration.

The Goulds Historical Society have been pressing for the preservation of Ruby Church and fundraising for its restoration for more than 27 years. The organization is preparing for yet another round of negotiations with the Anglican Synod and Vestry and are appealing to the public for support. New members are needed to infuse life into the aging society while a long-term adaptive reuse plan is needed to ensure the future of the oldest building in a community which is growing under development pressures.



### **Tilley House, Elliston**



The Tilley House in Elliston was nominated by its owner, who, in spite of securing two levels of designation for the structure, still has concerns about maintaining this significant piece of family history. Tilley House was built by locally noted builder Alan Ryder in 1850s as a residence and commercial property for 19th century merchant planter Robert Tilley and his son Alan.

Though it was restored in 1986 the job was done poorly, partially due to the lack of standards and guidelines for the restoration of historic places. The exterior clapboard has deteriorated rapidly and it is feared the framing has begun to deteriorate. The roof leaks. The present owner, who does not use the house due to family health reasons, would like to keep the property in the family. However the lack of use is escalating the rate of deterioration. A compromise could be reached for an alternate use to the site on a lease basis, but to date there have been no satisfactory offers.

### Carriage House, St. John's

The Carriage House is located on the grounds of Government House in St. John's and is a rare, extant example of a Georgian-vernacular, masonry service building. Built with English yellow brick and parged, this two-and-one-half storey outbuilding maintains many of its original characteristics, possibly built as early as 1857. It is one of a number of service buildings that are an integral part of the complex of buildings that make up Government House and its grounds and plays a significant role on the landscape of our Vice-Regal property.



The Carriage House is among the last of its kind, with comparable buildings being Murray Premises and Yellow Belly Corner. The building was abandoned in the 1980s when the chauffeur of the Lieutenant Governor no longer lived there. Since that time a few attempts have been made by government agencies to make use of the building. However, its present condition has precluded cost-effective solutions.

The Carriage House is an integral part of Government House grounds, providing a glimpse into the past for visitors and residents. Yet bricks are falling off, the walls are supported by timbers and a large sign warns people to stay away. The provincial government owes it to the people of Newfoundland and Labrador to find a use for this very historic structure and to act immediately so that it does not deteriorate any further.



On February 20, 2012, the Town of Portugal Cove-St. Philip's Heritage Advisory Committee held a public forum to celebrate Heritage Day. Winston Fiander, chair of the committee, revealed the newly published "Our Heritage" booklet by presenting a copy to Mayor Bill Fagan. The 48-page, magazine-sized booklet, prepared by Memorial University of Newfoundland and Labrador graduate students Annie McEwen and Ryan Davis, represents a year's worth of work by the heritage committee to compile an inventory of heritage assets within the community. This process was undertaken in order to inform a Heritage Strategic Plan for the Town of Portugal Cove-St. Philip's. All participants were provided a complimentary copy of the booklet.

The community, as a whole, has had little progress in the way of heritage initiatives in recent years, and has had its share of controversy concerning the preservation of St. Philip's Anglican Church. These issues do not stem from a lack of interest or passion for heritage within the community. Instead, it represents an on-going debate regarding what to do with our existing heritage. The launch of the "Our Heritage" booklet will raise awareness within the community of the Town's heritage, such that its citizens are better prepared to make decisions concerning heritage.

The public forum featured keynote speaker and notable community member Michael Murray, whose family's horticultural work spans five generations. His lively and informative speech focused on the balance between heritage, progress, and a community's identity. Shortly thereafter, participants visited a variety of stations featuring elements of the town's history, including Intangible Culture, Local Family Histories, Significant Historical Events, Natural Heritage, and Built Heritage.

Members of the community were then asked to vote which elements were their highest priorities. This process, along with the open public discussion that followed, revealed that citizens were most concerned with Built and Natural Heritage, a reflection of the town's accelerated rate of growth and its associated developments within the community.

After this incredibly informative forum, the Heritage Advisory Committee is now prepared to draft the Heritage Strategic Plan, which will be presented for further public discussion this fall. The Heritage Advisory Committee has copies of the "Our Heritage" booklet available for \$10 each. For more information, please contact Heritage Officer, Andrew Hiscock, by email, [andrew.hiscock@pcsp.ca](mailto:andrew.hiscock@pcsp.ca) or by calling 895-8000 ext 229.

## 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.

*Answer in our next issue*

## Handcrafted Barrels

Looking for a unique gift? Made exclusively for the Newfoundland Historic Trust, these handcrafted barrels were constructed in Victoria Cove, NL by craftsman Bernard King. Each barrel is different and can be filled with unique Newfoundland and Labrador goods. They also fit a bottle of Newman's Celebrated Port quite nicely.

### Price List

**Large Barrel**            \$89.99

**Medium Barrel**        \$59.99

**Add a bottle of Newman's Celebrated Port for \$18.96**

Drop in to the Newman Wine Vaults to purchase yours or contact us 739-7870 [Coordinator@historictrust.ca](mailto:Coordinator@historictrust.ca)



*Last edition:*



*Star of the Sea Hall, St. John's*    *Chinese Puzzle*

Answered correctly by Chris O'Dea and George Chalker



## Trust News

The Trust held its AGM on April 17, 2012. We said goodbye to two very important and long-serving board members: David Hood volunteered with the Trust since 2002 – a ten year commitment we are forever grateful for. And, Karen Viscount, who joined us in 2009 and created remarkable change as our Treasurer.

We welcomed three new directors to our board: Heather Comerford, Treasurer, Sue Wright and Leslie Pierce. We are looking forward to an exciting year as we continue to move forward with our newly ratified strategic plan.

Our **Buildings at Risk** list was released on **Heritage Day 2012** with great success. Our friends at CBC helped us get our message out through guest appearances on several of their programs, both radio and television.

The Newman Wine Vaults is scheduled to reopen on May 19 and we are excited to do so with a new roof and floor, thanks to the support of the provincial government.

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

## Summer Job Opportunities at the Newman Wine Vaults Provincial Historic Site

The Newfoundland Historic Trust is preparing for the 2012 season at the Newman Wine Vaults Provincial Historic Site. This year, as in others, we will be hiring student interpreters to provide guided tours of the site, as well special events and programming. Funding will, in part, come from the Young Canada Works program through Canadian Heritage. For information and qualifications please visit the website <http://www.pch.gc.ca/ycw-ict/index-eng.cfm>

## Fisheries Heritage Preservation Program – Now accepting applications



The Heritage Foundation of Newfoundland and Labrador (HFNL), is pleased to announce that applications are now being accepted for the 2012 Fisheries Heritage Preservation Program. This provincial granting program is designed to assist in the preservation of fisheries-related structures throughout Newfoundland and Labrador.

“The Fisheries Heritage Preservation Program has proven to be one of our most popular and successful programs. Indeed, the results of the preservation program are very impressive,” says George Chalker, Executive Director, HFNL.

“Traditional fisheries buildings have defined the look of our coastal communities. Significant inshore fisheries infrastructure throughout the province, including flakes, stages, and fishing premises, are under threat. Much of this remarkable heritage is being lost with each passing year, and much more of it is threatened. Once they vanish, they cannot be replaced,” says Chalker.

The Fisheries Heritage Preservation Program may provide funding to individuals, communities and non-profit groups to restore stages, stores, net lofts and other buildings associated with the Newfoundland and Labrador fishery. Assistance will be provided for the preservation and restoration of heritage features using original materials.

Grants will be available for up to \$2000 per property, or up to \$10,000 for community-based projects involving multiple structures. Priority will be given to communities which have not received fisheries heritage funding in the past.

The deadline for applications is Thursday, May 31, 2012.

Download guidelines and application forms at [www.fisheriesheritage.ca](http://www.fisheriesheritage.ca) or phone 1-888-739-1892, ext.4.



## In Memoriam

The Trust accepts donations in memory of loved ones who share our passion for the preservation of our province's built and cultural heritage. If you wish to make a donation please contact us for details.

## 2012 Southcott Awards Winners to be announced in June



## A Step Back in Time Historic Walking Tours

In June 2011 the Trust began revamping its series of historic walking tours, in partnership with the City of St. John's. Throughout the summer and fall the brochures were recreated in an electronic format so they can be printed and distributed to tourists as paper brochures.

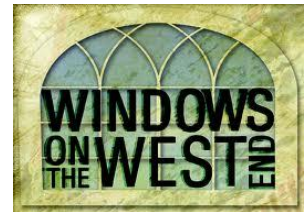
In August 2011 the Trust began working with a local small business to create the same brochures in an iPhone application. The app has been created and we are working towards adding more information, including extra photos and possibly videos and audio files.

We look forward to releasing the app in time for the summer tourist season and would love to have your comments and suggestions. We will keep you informed for the official launch date and hope you will all download this free historic app.

## Upcoming Programming at the Newman Wine Vaults

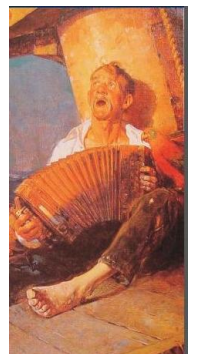
Windows on the West End  
June 23, 2012

Participating sites include the Railway Coastal Museum, City Archives, George Street United, Wesley United and Apothecary Hall



Shakespeare by the Sea: A Curious Case in the Colony  
Opens July 15, 2012

See [sbts.art.officelive.com](http://sbts.art.officelive.com) for showtimes and ticket prices



Doors Open Days  
September 8-9, 2012

Sea Shanties with Andrew Draskoy  
August 24-25, 2012

Check our website to learn more about events and dates.  
[www.historictrust.ca](http://www.historictrust.ca)

# Newfoundland Historic Trust

## 2012 Membership Form - Membership counts!



Scan here for  
free training

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.**

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: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

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

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