the trident

PRESENT
PAST FUTURE

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Trust and Parks Canada Sign Co-operating Agreement

The official signing of the agreement between Parks Canada and the Newfoundland Historic Trust to establish the Trust as a full Co-operating Association with Parks Canada took place at 5:00 p.m., Tuesday, January 20, 1981, in the Parks Canada office in Pleasantville.

A new iniative for Parks Canada, the Co-operating Association Agreement program was first announced by Roger Simmons, Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of the Environment, the Honourable John Roberts at a press conference in the Cape Spear Lighthouse in November of last year. At that time, negotiations between Parks Canada and the Newfoundland Historic Trust had reached agreement in principle, thus making the prototype for similar agreements with other heritage related groups across Canada.

In signing the agreement on behalf of Parks Canada, P. A. Thomson, Director, Atlantic Region, stated that essentially this Co-operating Association will build on the relationship which has already been established with the Trust over the past few years through the operation of the retail sales outlet at Signal Hill National Historic Park.

He went on to point out that a Co-operating Association is a registered non-government, non-profit corporation established to assist Parks Canada in providing services to the public and/or generating revenues to direct towards approved activities which are supportive of Parks Canada's objectives.

"It is a reflection of the mutual respect that has resulted in our association to date," Mr. Thomson said, "that this Co-operating Association Agreement with the Newfoundland Historic Trust will cover not only the activities of Signal Hill, but similar activities at Cape Spear, Castle Hill, Port au Choix and L'Anse aux Meadows National Historic Parks in Newfoundland.

Dr. Ted Rowe, President, Newfoundland Historic Trust, stated that this new agreement with Parks Canada comes at a very opportune time and will provide a focal point for the Trust's activities.

Dr. Rowe suggested that during the two years of the Co-operating Agreement the Trust would concentrate on upgrading the line of salables for the Signal Hill outlet, the provision of interpretive tours of the St. John's Heritage Area, Signal Hill and Cape Spear and establishing the Association on a firm footing. To assist the Newfoundland Historic Trust in the implementation and initial administration of the agreement, Parks Canada will provide initial funding of fifty-five thousand dollars in the first year. The Trust will redirect profits from these retail outlets into other special services for visitors. Dr. Rowe also stated that the Trust expects to advertise shortly for the full time position of Manager to carry out the programs covered under this agreement.

Edna Hall, Pat Thomson, David Kelland and Ted Rowe sign the Agreement.

In addition to operating retail outlets at the National Historic Parks in Newfoundland, the Trust envisages the provision of other special services for visitors.

Included in these long range objectives is participating in the funding and management of the Signal Hill Tattoo, enabling the Tattoo to be established on a much assured basis.

Although the Co-operating Association concept is new to Parks Canada, it has been well established in the United States, the United Kingdom and some European countries for a number of years, Mr. Thomson said. For example, there are some 58 independent Co-operating Associations operating more than 250 retail outlets in support of the United States National Parks Service. From a gross turnover of 10 million in 1977, these associations contributed 2 million dollars directly to the National Parks to improve visitor services, he concluded.

Both spokesmen agreed that the Co-operating Association Agreement would make it possible to develop unique visitor related programs while also providing an interesting and challenging experience for the workers involved in the activities program.

The trident

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Editor: Ruth Saturley

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Restoration of Sir Wilfred Grenfell's House — St. Anthony

The first restoration project of a Historic Home in Northern Newfoundland was started in the fall of 1980 under the direction of the Historic Resources Division of the Provincial Department of Tourism with funding from the DREE Historic Houses Programme. The project was initiated by the Sir Wilfred Grenfell Historic Society, a group of interested persons in the St. Anthony area who solicited the help of friends of the Grenfell Association world wide. The "Grenfell Historical" is now a nominal owner of the house, having acquired the property from the International Grenfell Association for the nominal sum of one dollar ($1.00).

The home is a three-storey frame structure built in the first decade of this century and overlooking the harbour and hospital buildings which form the complex dominated by the new, third generation hospital named in honour of Sir Wilfred's successor, Charles S. Curtis of Boston, Mass., and opened in 1967 by the Premier, the Hon. J. R. Smallwood. The house has been in continuous occupation for 75 years and holds many memories, not only for the family of Sir Wilfred who still manage to visit the area, but also numerous staff who have made it their home during their working days at the "Mission."

The roof and external structure have been repaired and the house now has a new shingle roof and new timbers as necessary. The inside work is continuing through the winter months and it is hoped that the restoration will be complete by the summer of 1982. Some of the rooms are to be restored with suitable artifacts to represent them as they were in the early 1920's; other areas of the house will be restructured to provide an area for formal exhibitions and as a cultural focus within the community as well as an apartment for the use of the custodian.

The "Grenfell Historic Society" is preparing itself to accept responsibility for management of the property on completion of the alterations and in the collection of artifacts that are still available. A significant number of valuable objects have been donated by Sir Wilfred's children, as well as by many of his friends and admirers throughout Canada, Great Britain and the United States. A library of tapes is also being formed which will contain anecdotes from those who knew and worked with Sir Wilfred.

The support of the public in the work of the Society is solicited. People can help by contributing artifacts, recording anecdotes or taking an active membership; further information can be obtained from the Secretary, Grenfell Historic Society, P.O. Box 93, St. Anthony, Nfld. A0K 4S0.

J. H. Williams
President

Grenfell House
Courtesy of Bern Bromley, "The Northern Pen."

WANTED!

The Museum Gift Shop has the plans and the lumber to build another much-needed bookshelf. Is there a volunteer CARPENTER who could help? Please call co-manager Caroline Stone at 754-1742 or 754-1903

Thanks.

Christmas Exhibition at the Murray Premises

Christmas — Nostalgia and Remembering. There is no such season as Christmas present or Christmas to come. What used to be the former has been destroyed in the rush by both adults and children to acquire more and more "things," and should the trend continue, we dare not think of Christmas to come. We have therefore only Christmas past. It was with this in mind that the Exhibition Committee this year decided to display a turn of the century Newfoundland kitchen. Thanks to the operators of the Murray Premises, who supplied space, heat and light, as well as contributing to transportation costs, we were able to set up a very successful display complete with Ensign box oven stove, pots and pans, and indeed real home baked bread, a settee, bench, table, chairs, cupboard, as well as a beautiful old wall clock. The floor mats, dishes, afghan, wooden implements, clothesline, pictures and numerous other items gave the "home" touch to the kitchen.

The exhibition was manned by Trust volunteers from December 17 to December 23. Visitors were most pleased, their reactions and comments were varied. One seven year old pointed to the stove and said "What's that?," while another eighty year old visitor said "You're goin' to need a damper in your stove pipe if this wind keeps up."

Special thanks should go to all those who gave up time from the very busy Christmas season to set up and man the exhibit and to all those who donated such interesting and authentic items. From the sale of publications and prints our treasury was enriched by the sum of $195.00.

Baxter Morgan

South West Coast Historical Society Secures New Museum for Port aux Basques

The South West Coast Historical Society was formed on March 17, 1977, and became incorporated in February 1980. Needless to say the first few years we busied ourselves with getting the Society set up.

In 1978 we received a Young Canada Works Grant enabling us to conduct a door to door survey from South Branch to Rose Blanche, gathering information pertaining to the history of the area.

In 1979 we received another Y.C.W. Grant which enabled us to complete our survey and have all of the information catalogued.

In 1980 good fortune came our way when the Town of Channel-Port aux Basques donated to our Society property on the Main Street. This property contained a building known as the former Hann's Tourist Home.

Once again we applied for a Canada Community Development Grant in order to convert this boarding house into a modern workable Museum Building and Heritage Centre. Our application for the Grant was approved, and we had to work quickly in order to get renovations started over the winter months. Amid the Christmas rush we planned how to put our $61,130.00 to its best use. On December 29th interviews started and we hired ten workers to begin the work of renovating our new Museum. We hired a Project Manager, a bookkeeper and eight construction workers.

They started interior renovations on Monday, January 5th, 8:30 a.m. at a temperature of −12°C with no heat. Needless to say, within a few days they had the whole inside stripped down and ready to reconstruct.

The upstairs of the building will be all open space to house permanent exhibits of the neighbouring communities. It is approximately 1300 square feet with track lighting and no windows. The downstairs will consist of several rooms to house a Museum Craft Shop, a combined library, meeting and office room, a workshop, a storage room, a main exhibit area for travelling exhibits and last, but not least, our Printing Shop. A local resident has donated two printing presses to our Society. One we plan to operate in order to offset operational costs of the building.

As you can see, the South West Coast Historical Society has been quite busy since its inception in March 1977. To get started there are lots of letters to be written and information gathered. Incorporation is one of the main keys to getting ahead successfully, it opens many doors and opens them quickly. I strongly advise this to any organization planning to become involved in projects such as ours. Also obtaining a Corporate Seal is important. Another asset which took a little time to get was a Charitable Organizations number from Ottawa. Being able to give receipts for donations of artifacts received is a great incentive to the donor.

Our Project for 1981 is moving along smoothly. No doubt there will be lots of headaches before it is completed. The target date for completion of the inside of the building is July 3, 1981. It will take another winter to set up displays. We plan to open for the public sometime in the spring or early summer of 1982. There's still lots of work to be done yet.

Our membership is not large, it has taken only a small number of dedicated members to bring the project this far along. We would encourage other communities to begin these initial steps in the preservation of our Newfoundland heritage.

Elizabeth Gibbons

The former Hann's Tourist home will house the new Museum at Port aux Basques.

The Museum Shop, Christmas 1980 (And on into Spring!)

The Christmas exhibition at the Nfld. Museum this year was "Warmed by Wood", a collection of photographs from the New Brunswick Museum. To complement this outside exhibition, the Museum assembled a large number of old Newfoundland wood stoves which formed an extremely interesting part of the show. The Gift Shop had a lovely old stove complete with kettle on display too, lent by Trust member Linda Smith.

In keeping with the "kitchen" theme, the Shop was lucky to have a miniature Nfld. kitchen scene handmade by Mr. Ernest Lind of Corner Brook. Mr. Lind well remembers the kitchen of his boyhood, and he has carved this model to show us how things were. There is the wooden kitchen table surrounded by four chairs, an old black wood stove, a tartan covered settee and a barrel chair. On the wall hangs a cuckoo clock — behind the stove there is a gun and powder horn. A kettle, water pail and pans add detail; an intricate wooden spinning wheel has a tiny wool fleece waiting to be spun! Although the model itself is on loan, individual pieces of Mr. Lind's miniature Nfld. furniture will remain on display in the shop during the coming months.

The Nfld. Museum held several lectures and workshops during the holiday season, some about wood stoves and others with a general Christmas theme. Two projects organized by the Historic Trust highlighted the Christmas period — the "Victorian" Christmas tree which attracted many visitors, and the successful sale of traditional baked goods.

January 1981 was a good month at the Shop, although Christmas was a hard act to follow. Hard-working volunteers greeted customers at the sales desk, and Bette and I began to look forward to the spring and summer seasons. The Museum Gift Shop board will meet at the end of February, 1981, and there are sure to be new products developed during the coming weeks to interest Museum visitors. Also in February will be a pot-luck supper for Shop volunteers. Many thanks are due to the Trust members who have helped in the past few months. New volunteers are welcome to phone me at 754-1742 or 754-1903 for information about the Shop.

See you down at the Museum!

Caroline Stone
Co-Manager
Museum Gift Shop

The Christmas Bake Sale

On Saturday, December 13th the Newfoundland Historic Trust held a bake sale in the lobby of the Museum. Traditional Christmas baking was featured, plum puddings, mince meat, shortbread, gingerbread men and other festive goodies. Also a cookbook of traditional Christmas recipes was sold at $1.00 each.

The sale was a project organized by the Trust's Program Committee and we wish to thank Jeannie House, Eleanor Young, Helen Banfield, Emma Horwood, Susan Fearn and, of course, Nancy Cook. Total sales realized were the grand sum of $420.00.

The giant Christmas tree.

A paper fan decoration.

The Victorian Christmas Tree

In October, after several meetings with representatives from the Newfoundland Museum and Historic Trust, plans were laid to produce a "Victorian Christmas Tree." The day after Halloween, Linda Vale and Donna Webber began the search of the local shops for all the balls, papers, laces, beads, fancy trims, flowers and a few ready-made ornaments needed to make all the necessary items. Over the six weeks, Valerie Christoff, Nancy Cook, Judy Gibson, Susan Haedrich, Linda Vale and Donna Webber met to make the victorian ornaments from patterns of the era. Ruth Saturley made tiny rag dolls, Carol Giovannini and Daphne Lilly made batches of gingerbread cookies to hang on the tree and Jean Ball made her lovely paper angels and snowflakes.

On December the 8th the eighteen foot tree arrived at the main exhibit room of the museum. This giant was erected by Rupert Green and crew from the museum. The decorating took an entire day and evening and as the angel, wooden toys, candy canes, pomander balls, birds, flags, lace sachets, soldiers, drums, fans, cookies, dolls, paper maché balls, glass ornaments, cornicopia snow flakes, golden fruit, beads, snow balls and all went on, the Victorian Christmas Tree appeared a magical thing.

It is planned to make this an annual event and as prizes are added over the year, it will become more and more a truly Victorian Christmas Tree. If anyone has ornaments kept from this era, could they please tell us about them and we will attempt to reproduce them for next year's tree.

Donna Webber

St. Peter's Anglican Church Twillingate

The erection of the first Anglican Church in Twillingate was begun in 1816, and on July the first, 1827, it was consecrated together with a Burial Ground by the Rev. John Inglis, Lord Bishop of Nova Scotia.

Just eleven years after, the congregation decided to build a new church, as evidently the first building was unsuitable although it was "large, it was ill-built," but not sufficiently adequate to accommodate the rapidly growing population of 20,000.

In 1819, Mr. Andrew Pearce, Sr. and a few others laid the foundation for the present St. Peter's. The first service was held in it on Sunday, December eleventh 1842, and on January twenty-ninth, 1843 the first Evensong was conducted.

On August twentieth, 1844, a builder by the name of William J. Murphy organized a crew of men to put the spire on the Church Tower. The job was completed on September first, 1844, when Mr. Murphy put the vane on the spire, painted it and took down the scaffolds. By Saturday, November the second 1844, the construction of the main part of the building was finished, including an inside priming coat of paint — the total cost was 1000 sterling.

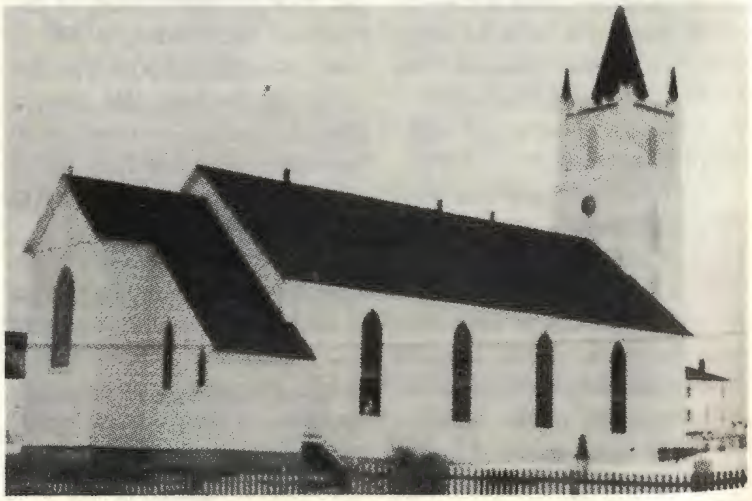
The new and present church was consecrated by Bishop Feild on his first visitation voyage in the church yacht "Hawk." His arrival in Twillingate in July 1845 was welcomed by a splendid display of flags all around the Harbour, and discharges of cannon from the business establishments of Messrs. Slade and Co. and Cox and Slade. The Church flag — a beautiful St. George's Ensign which had been presented by three captains, flew proudly from its pole.

The Bishop in his write-up for the S.P.G. Records described the new edifice as "very substantial, capacious and handsome — eighty feet by forty-five feet with a lofty and characteristic tower."

The consecration took place on July third, 1845 at 11 a.m., and though the fishery was at its height a large congregation was present. The service ended at two o'clock after which many boats put out again to the fishing grounds.

Very soon with gifts from the business firms, the congregation and friends, the church was lighted — first with Candle fixtures, and later with Lamp Chandliers, one of which has a Cherub Head in its hangings. Both Candle and Lamp fittings are now adapted for electricity.

Perhaps the most historical



St. Peter's, showing location of Tower Clock.

The Cherub Head chandelier hangs at the left.

addition was the Tower Bell. In the Spring of 1862 a most unusual and exciting event occurred in Notre Dame Bay, when thousands upon thousands of seals were brought to land by wind and ice. Never before or since has such a huge bounty from the sea come the way of the Northeast coast people. One record said that more than 30,000 seals were taken by the men, women and children of Twillingate.

The sealing Spring of 1862 went down in the annals of the Seal Fishery as the "Spring of the Great Haul." After this seal harvest, the people of Twillingate thought over the blessings which the "Great Haul" had brought. They wished to show gratitude for their great fortune and commemmorate the occasion. All the people of all the religious denominations in the town decided to pool their resources and have a church bell cast in England, and have it placed in the Tower of St. Peter's Church. This was done.

Inscribed in the bell high in the wooden belfrey tower is this brief but dramatic caption, "In memory of the Great Haul, 1862."

St. Peter's Church Bell rang for the first time on Christmas Day, 1863.

Somewhere around or before 1870, a clock intended for the Court House was put in the Church Tower by the Government of the day, as it was felt that the time would be seen more easily from the Tower of St. Peter's than from the Court House. A few years ago when the clock had ceased to function, an attempt was made to restore it, and to attach it electrically to the Tower Bell, so that the bell would ring every hour on the hour. The scheme proved unsuccessful, and the clock remains a dumb reminder of its once proud role as time-keeper for the town of Twillingate.

The next step was the building of the Chancel is 1884 by the late Titus Manuel, assisted by his son Alfred, than a boy of sixteen. At the same time brick piers were installed under the main body of the Church. These same piers remain in position today. This Chancel was built in memory of the late Edwin Duder who died in 1881.

A most magnificent gift to the Church by the people was the Pipe Organ which was installed in 1897. This English built organ consisting of four sets of pipes and a full pedal board bears the inscription. "ERECTED 1897 DIAMOND JUBILEE YEAR, as a Memorial of the Jubilee of St. Peter's Church, which was consecrated July 3rd. 1845." It was the Church's Golden Jubilee and the Diamond Jubilee of the late Queen Victoria.

One must not forget the setting-up and equipping of St. Luke's Chapel in the west corner at the entrance to the Church by the Rev. Frank Hollands, then Incumbent around 1950. The Sanctuary Guild and friends provided gifts for the Chapel.

Space will not permit me to mention the many valuable gifts to St. Peter's down through the years. During 1979-80, over $10,000 was donated by the congregation members at home and abroad, as well as friends. This amount was used to repair and paint the Church inside and out.

Gifts, donations and voluntary labour all testify to the love and respect held for St. Peter's Church and for the faithful departed who served their Church well.

Its one hundredth anniversary was celebrated in 1945, and its one hundredth and twenty-fifth in 1970. For the latter occasion a History of the Church was written. This gives a full account of the history of St. Peter's.

E. M. Manuel

Editor's Note:

A complete history by the author entited "St. Peter's Anglican Church, Twillingate — One Hundred and Twenty-Five Year History" is still available at Dicks & Co., St. John's, in the Twillingate Museum and in the Church.

Newfoundland Transport Historical Society

The Newfoundland Transport Historical Society last reported to the Trident in January 1980. Since that time the most significant event has been the official announcement by TerraTransport that later in 1981 they will be turning over to us the commissary building west of the railway station for use as a museum. Local architect David Kelland is presently preparing a cost estimate on the renovation of the building which will be done in three stages and involve a considerable expenditure.

The year 1981 marks the 100th anniversary of the start of the construction of the trans-island railway and several activities are planned to commemorate this. The Society is involved with the Newfoundland Railway Centennial Committee and TerraTransport on preparations for the centennial train which will travel across the province (including the Carbonear, Argentia and Bonavista branch lines) early in August. A baggage car and mail car dating from the early 1950's have been donated to the Society by TerraTransport and it is planned to include them in the train. The baggage car will be used as a travelling museum and the mail car is intended to be a museum shop. It is hoped that the former business car "Avalon," originally the "Quidi Vidi" of 1898 and later "Bristol" in 1939, will be ready for inclusion in the train as well. This car will eventually be displayed near the museum.

The Society has joined the Canadian Railroad Historical Association and Ches Downton represented us at the annual meeting in Montreal in September 1980. We feel that this will be an extremely valuable contact for us.

Anyone wishing to loan or donate articles relating to the transportation history of Newfoundland may contact the chairman: Peter Patrick, 18 Reid Street, Phone 368-6647.

Those interested in joining the Society as an active or supporting member should also contact the chairman at the above address. The annual membership fee is $5.00.

Ben Hogan

Picture of "Newfoundland Railway" 1932 Fargo van — the first road vehicle operated by the Newfoundland Railway. The driver is Stewart Long.

A SAEN (sane) Policy for Preserving Rennie's River

An awareness and appreciation of the priceless cultural and physical heritage which makes Newfoundland a special, indeed unique, place to live is increasingly evident in our society. With the social and economic changes of recent years, the preservation of this heritage has become an important task requiring considerable time and effort by many concerned individuals and groups. While the Salmon Association of Eastern Newfoundland (SAEN) is perhaps not usually considered to be as involved in this preservation as other organizations, many of our concerns and projects are directly tied to this large issue of heritage preservation. A good illustration of this is our on-going effort to preserve and restore the Rennie's and Waterford River systems within greater St. John's.

St. John's is unique in many ways. It provides the amenities of a large city while retaining the charm of a small, European seaport. It is cosmopolitan without being anonomous. Cheerful and friendly people, clean air and splendid scenery abound. Outdoor recreations are plentiful within its limits. Walking, hiking, swimming, boating, trouting, all of the finest kind, are available literally at our door step. How finer a way to spend a summer's evening after work than to watch trout rising in Quidi Vidi Lake, hike along the Rennie's River trail or watch the prolific bird life of Long Pond Marsh. How many a resident of this old city has seen the large sea-run Brown trout attempting to leap the falls along Rennie's Mill Road or secure passage through the gorge of Virginia River as it winds through the Bally Haly Golf Course. For literally hundred of years the river systems within the greater St. John's area have served as a priceless treasure of nature for the city's residents. Unfortunately, unless drastic action is soon taken this particular part of our heritage is in danger of being lost forever. While natural rivers will withstand a considerable amount of human abuse, they have their limits and we are comining too close to these limits within our own city.

To understand the present problem it is necessary to understand a little stream ecology. It may come as a surprise to many people but the large trout of Quidi Vidi Lake and the lower Rennie's River are derived from the small tributaries in the headwaters. As more and more tributaries are channelized (or ditched) or just filled in or culverted (placed in underground metal pipes) the ability of the river system to continually produce fish is drastically reduced. To be productive a stream must have a diverse habitat. That is, it should have shallow riffle areas and deep pool areas. It should have lazy winding stretches (meanders) with undercut banks, overhanging brush and a diverse substrate (bottom) ranging from gravels to boulders. The reason for this is that the riffle areas are important for producing the aquatic insects which provide food and the pools and undercut areas provide cover and help to keep water temperatures comfortable. If several sizes of trout are to co-exist there must be all of these stream characteristics.

With these point explained, we should point out that over the last few years many, if not most, of the very productive areas within the Rennie's and Waterford River Systems have been destroyed through either arrogance or ignorance. Housing developments in the headwaters of the Virginia River territory of the Rennie's River has resulted in the ditching of some sections of the river, the burying (culverting) of others and the

Rennie's River, photo courtesy Evening Telegram.

cutting of all stream cover throughout much of the system above Logy Bay Road. Similarly, upstream of the Avalon Mall industrial development has caused a considerable amount of habitat destruction as well. Such alterations deprive a stream of its diversity and hence its ability to create and sustain life. Fish populations decline dramatically, if not disappear; insect populations become reduced; birds and other animals which utilize the cover and food of the system desert it and since the upper reaches all too often resemble straight ditches, the river loses its ability to moderate flow conditions so that heavy rains frequently mean flooding in the lower parts of the river. Since the upper parts of the stream have now become an open ditch not only flooding but erosion and siltation is increased downstream which further diminishes the ability of the lower part of the system to create and sustain life. The creation of large, sterile mud flats as has been occuring in Long Pond and Quidi Vidi Lake itself are a result of such habitat destruction. Once destruction begins a strange sort of self-fulfilling behaviour guarantees further destruction as individuals soon become convinced that the system is beyond hope and whatever little abuse they heap on won't make much difference anyway.

Must we put up with this destruction? Are urban growth and the preservation of these watersheds in irreconcilable conflict? The answer is an emphatic NO. The knowledge and expertise already exists which allows economic development and stream preservation (and even enhancement) to exist side by side. In other words we need not destroy as we develop. Since a crucial period now exists in which decisions need to be made to adequately safeguard these living resources for future generations of Newfoundlanders, the Salmon Association of Eastern Newfoundland has initiaed a three pronged effort to arrest the needless destruction of the river watersheds within greater St. John's and initiate enhancement or restoration efforts wherever possible to recover some areas from earlier abuse. While the effort will be long and require considerable effort we have already made considerable progress. First, we have stopped one particularly conspicuous case of habitat damage on the Virginia River system by publicizing the incident in the various media and demanding appropriate governmental agencies enforce environmental protection legislation already in force. Second, beginning in the Spring of 1981, SAEN is sponsoring a number of specific restoration or enhancement projects which we hope will restore certain river

sections. These projects involve re-creating spawning areas, the use of rock and wire to create new pool areas in ditched parts of the rivers and the planting of soil retaining trees and shrubbery to provide cover and reduce erosion. The third part of our effort is a public education campaign which hopes to demonstrate to people that we need not lose these watersheds as an inevitable result of urban and industrial growth. Further pollution and destruction can be stopped while growth continues; some restoration is possible. For this to become a reality, however, a knowledgeable and demanding public is absolutely necessary. Once these three objects of our campaign are realized, residents of St. John's will be able to enjoy and take pride in these special natural resources for generations to come.

Lawrence Felt (Ph.D.)
R. John Gibson (Ph.D.)

Both authors are members of the Rivers Committee of the Salmon Association of Eastern Newfoundland (SAEN) which is currently involved in an effort to restore the Rennie's and Waterford River systems within the city of St. John's.

16th Century Spanish Basques Red Bay, Labrador

Historical research by Selma Barkham of the Public Archives of Canada, has revealed evidence at Red Bay, Labrador, of a sixteenth century settlement established by Spanish Basque Whalers. Further archaeological research by Dr. James Tuck of Memorial University of Newfoundland has reiterated the historical data on Red Bay. The discovery consists of two major archaeological projects: the underwater excavation of a shipwreck believed to be the **San Juan** which sank in Red Bay in 1565; and the exca vation of a land site on Saddle Island at the mouth of Red Bay harbour. Much of Selma Barkham's research was collected from the Spanish archives at numerous cities in Spain and has served to shed new light on six decades of Canadian history between Jacques Cartier and Champlain.

During the sixteenth century, Basques ran a well-organized whaling industry in southern Labrador and a large store of commercial and legal documents were accumulated by Spanish scribes. The Spanish Basques were the first Europeans to accept the challenge of transatlantic whaling as Portugal, France and England were primarily concerned with the cod fishery off the coast of Newfoundland. Red roof tiles found on Saddle Island indicate the existence of sheds and houses which were probably used for boiling whale blubber to produce oil. Similar type tiles can still be seen on houses in the Basque region of Spain.

The Parks Canada Research barge anchored over the underwater site of the "San Juan", with the town of Red Bay in the background. Foreground, archaeologists from Memorial University excavating a trench through a portion of the Basque whaling station on Saddle Island.

Current work on the Red Bay site is shared by Parks Canada archaeologists as well as a team from Memorial University of Newfondland. The **San Juan** shipwreck is being excavated by Parks Canada underwater archaeologists while the land site at Saddle Island is being uncovered by the Memorial team. The Red Bay project is the most ambitious underwater archaeological effort currently ongoing in Canada: it involves the use of a specially-designed barge, sophisticated diving equipment and an onshore conservation lab to ensure that all recovered materials receive immediate conservation treatment after removal from the water. Subsequent conservation of all recovered artifacts will also be the responsibility of Parks Canada. Diving for 1980 ended in September and it is anticipated that two additional diving seasons will be required to complete this project.

On Saddle Island, located at the mouth of Red Bay harbour, the Memorial team worked the land site until early September and an estimated two future field seasons are needed before excavation is complete.

It is hoped that the 1981 season will reveal more artifacts from both the **San Juan** wreck and the Saddle Island site, thus contributing to the intriguing story of sixteenth century Spanish Basques Whalers in Labrador.

Parks Canada

Peter Waddell (marine archaeologist) mapping some timbers found on surface prior to excavation. Note the use of grid in foreground and writing slate. Photo taken in 40 feet of water.

A Tale of Two Cottages

In the early days of the 19th century, behind the garrison of Fort William (now the site of Hotel Newfoundland) there were Cottages amid rolling meadows, with "a road leading to the forest" to the north. One such was Avalon Cottage. To its west was the road which was to ramble past the Garrison Church of St. Thomas and the nearby Commissariat to the King's Bridge, and beyond to the out-harbours of Torbay and Portugal Cove. To the south and east lay the old road to Quidi Vidi, the fishing rooms and plantations of Maggoty Cove, thrusting into the busy harbour bristling with spar and sail from the four corners of the world.

There were several 'Cottages' in the 19th century built in the English tradition of two, to two and one-half storeys, some of them quite splendid, scattered on the outskirts of St. John's. Some examples are: Arundel Cottage, later the Hope Cottage, owned by John Steer on Cootes Farm near Allandale Road, near the site of our Arts & Culture Centre; William's "The Cottage" on the 92 acre estate called Golden Grove on the north bank of Quidi Vidi; Carter's "Friendly Hall," near Gooseberry Lane and Portugal Cove Road; The "Virginia Cottage," Sir Thomas Cochrane's estate at Virginia Water; "The Billies" on land granted to William Carson in 1831 on Rostellan Street. All these were summertime residences of those rich enough to escape the smells, sights and sounds of a seaport town in the summer months.

And that was the purpose of Avalon Cottage. Its owner Thomas Holdsworth Brooking belonged to one of the wealthiest and most influential mercantile families of 19th century Newfoundland. The first of the Holdsworth Brooking family came to Newfoundland at the turn of the 19th century. The family fortune prospered until they had extensive holdings; but the Brooking's home was on the Lower Path (now Water Street) with fishing rooms, wharves and all were destroyed in the fire of 1846, a financial blow from which the family never fully recovered. The free stone dwelling house of the Brookings on the south side of Water Street, just east of the Hill O' Chips, was "one of the grandest homes in St. John's." And yet less than half a mile away they had this splendid Cottage, because they could afford it, because it was the fashion, because they did what so many are doing today — seeking sweeter air and solitude.

I single out this Cottage because it was destined to play an important role in the ecclesiastical and educational life of Newfoundland and was very near to another cottage which became the nucleus of Queen's College.

The first Bishop of Newfoundland was the patrician grandson of the Second Duke of Marlborough, the Right Reverend Aubrey George Spencer. He had spent some years previously as a missionary in Ferryland, Placentia, and Trinity and now in June 1840 returned as Bishop. Among his many accomplishments I chose two for this article:

a) The founding of the Theological Institute in 1841 for the training of an indigenous clergy;
b) The servicing of land needed for the future growth of the Church in her many areas of interest.

Bishop Spencer was here less than four years, leaving in August 1843 to become Bishop of Jamaica. But two months before his departure he received from Governor Harvey the major position of an estate which has passed into trusteeship, some parts of which were in central St. John's known as the Governor's Garden and another part in the east and near Fort William and Avalon Cottage.

One of the first acts of Bishop Spencer's successor, Edward Feild, was to have the entire land grant re-registered, on the oath of attorney William Row. He arrived in St. John's on June 4, 1844 and by the 14th, one year to the day after the great seal had been affixed to the grant of land to his predecessor, Bishop Feild had ensured its safe keeping in Church of England hands. It is indeed likely that he had been well-briefed before his departure for Newfoundland on the locations of land grants to the capital city. It seems certain that Bishop Spencer and Governor Harvey would have often discussed Avalon Cottage, the residence now of Chief Justice Bourne, whom Harvey was trying to oust and succeeded in doing so in 1844. We can make this assumption firstly because Spencer and Harvey were fellow-countrymen of high rank, whose residences in St. John's were virtually across the Street from one another; and secondly they were linked by the marriage of Bishop Spencer's daughter to Governor Harvey's son. If a thirdly is needed we can see it in the fact that the Cottage was made available to Bishop Feild for his Collegiate School as soon as Bourne had been ousted; he even brought with him from England an Oxford Graduate, the Reverend C.W. Newman, M.A. to be the first head of this Collegiate School for boys. R.R. Wood is his article on Bishop Feild College in the Book of Newfoundland, Volume I, Writers of Bishop Feild:

> "Before he had settled down in his own house the Bishop had made arrangements for the Collegiate School, which was opened in the autumn of the same year."

The neat cottage with hall and lecture room, second floor dormitories and half storey of washrooms — opened in 1850 as Queen's College.

Mr. Wood tells how it developed into the Church of England Academy and says: "Until 1861 the Academy was housed in "Avalon," a large house on Forest Road." In that year it was moved to Bond Street and after many additions became known to St. John's and Newfoundland as Bishop Feild College.

It must be noted that Avalon Cottage was not purchased by Bishop Feild till five years later. In a deed poll dated June 27, 1849 it is recorded that Thomas Holdsworth Brooking, merchant of London:

> "Hath granted bargained and sold unto the Right Reverend Edward Feild Doctor of Divinity and Lord Bishop of Newfoundland in consideration of the sum of one thousand four hundred pounds sterling all that piece or parcel of land tenements and premises late in the occupancy of Chief Justice Bourne called or known by the name of Avalon Cottage."

Two years before the purchase of Avalon Cottage the Bishop had succeeded in buying a house and land adjoining the Avalon Cottage property. It disturbed him that the facilities for training men for Holy Orders were very inadequate. It was, in his words, "a poor wooden building (in the Mall, close to St. Thomas's Church." He was not happy that they had to live in

private lodgings and was anxious to find a building where the students could reside under a Principal. In 1847 he obtained a house where they could live together and which should be the site of the future College. In that same year he wrote this to his brethren and friends of dear Mother Church of England:

"In furtherance of the erection of a College in my diocese, recommended and promoted by many kind and judicious friends, for the training and instruction particularly of Theological Students and Candidates for Holy Orders, and, with them, of any young men desirous of a liberal and enlarged education. I have purchased a very eligible piece of ground as a site for the necessary buildings. The situation is healthy and convenient, removed from the business and bustle of the town, and yet within a stone's cast of the Church of St. Thomas, and of the land granted for an episcopal residence. There is space enough for a college and collegiate school, with a useful garden."

After a fairly lengthy description of the present Theological Instruction and Collegiate School housed respectively in the schoolroom in the Mall and in Avalon Cottage, he continues:

"My wish, therefore, to erect on the ground now purchased plain but characteristic buildings (of wood or stone, according to our means), sufficient for a small college and Collegiate School, with a chapel, hall, library and lodgings for tutors, etc."

"I would submit to my friends the propriety of naming the new establishment 'Queen's College' for the following reasons:

1) In duty and devotion to Her Most Gracious Majesty Queen Victoria, etc.
2) In respectful recognition of benefits conferred on the Church of Newfoundland by Her Majesty the Queen Dowager.
3) In testimony of my reverent and grateful esteem of the Queen's College in Oxford at which I was educated etc.
4) In humble imitation of the College at Windsor, in the diocese of Nova Scotia, which sought and obtained the honors, under a royal charter, of being called "King's College."

He then outlined in detail the organization he envisaged for College and School, how the two groups would be together in Chapel and Hall, but at other times quite separate, how the teaching and administration would be shared and especially how he hoped to raise sufficient funds to build and then endow the College. This money side proved to be the most difficult and prevented his full scheme from being fulfilled. The result in time was the separation of the boys of the school from the students of the College, and the Queen's College in Newfoundland became a Theological College only.

But even this was a great step forward from the very unsatisfactory method of training priests which he inherited. Looking back in 1862 he wrote:

"I was enabled to purchase a very convenient piece of land, with a neat cottage upon it, to which I added a hall and dormitories for the students. I have placed the whole establishment under a clergyman, as vice-principal, who resides in the house, takes his meals with the students, lectures and instructs them, prays with them in the morning and evening, meets them at the neighbouring Church every morning, and at the Cathedral every evening, and in every way guides and counsels them in preparation for the work of the ministry in Newfoundland."

So we see that though his bold plan had to be altered he could look back with quite a bit of satisfaction. And others were to build on his foundations.

After the 1897 addition of the Principal's Lodge and the abandonment of the south aspect as the front of the College.

The life of a college consists of the spiritual and intellectual life shared by those who live in the buildings. Of that I shall say nothing in this article but be content to briefly outline, with the aid of pictures, the growth of the physical side of Queen's College. It was opened in 1850 with the hall and dormitories referred to by Bishop Feild. On the left of the picture is the neat cottage which he purchased in 1847. The Reverend William Grey was Principal. He was a fine artist and became diocesan architect and doubtless was responsible for the Gothic style addition to the Cottage which comprised the first Queen's College in Newfoundland.

The next extension was commenced in 1875, with the addition of a library, chapel and two dormitories. Though Bishop Feild laid the foundation for this extension, he was not to see it completed for he died in Bermuda in June 1876, aged 75. The picture with these new additions shows the College facing south, overlooking the Harbour.

The next addition was the Principal's Lodge in 1897. It was added to the S W corner of the original Cottage. By now much of the land to the south had been sold to the Newfoundland Railway and students looked out onto the station. Probably for this reason the verandah disappeared, what had been the front of the College became the back and Forest Road or North Side became the front. It remained thus till the greatest addition of all in

After the 1875-80 extension, with students on the verandah with its south aspect. The Cottage is at the end (left).

1928, associated with the name of Dr. Facey.

Dr. Facey returned from World War I in 1920 when it was decided that Queen's would re-open. He was the first Newfoundlander to be Principal. He undertook to put the finances of the College on a sound basis and set about to increase the endowment fund. He raised some $40,00 for the endowment and a further $11,500 over the next few years for studentships. Then he turned his attention to the buildings and travelled extensively in England and Newfoundland seeking funds. By 1928 he had added a new kitchen, dining hall, a large drawing room and study to the Principal's Lodge and a new chapel and library and a number of Students' rooms. This cost some $30,000 and increased accommodation from 9 to 30 students.

And so, apart from repairs and replacements, this completed the additions. By now the original Cottage was so thoroughly integrated into the whole that it was virtually impossible to tell where one addition began and the other ended.

All that remained was to keep the structure in good repair, to finish the chapel, to replace the lecture rooms, to operate the plant. That we had to leave the building in 1968 and move to the University is another story. The Church had no immediate use for the College and Forest Road residents were not anxious that it be treated less than a residential one. So our only purchasers could be the St. John's Curling Club for a social club. All the old part — the Principal's Lodge, Dining Hall, the original Cottage — vanished under the destroyer's sledgehammer. In 1976, Project Design Associates purchased what remained and did an excellent job of renovation. Today it houses the Public Service Commission and is a credit to that part of St. John's.

Canon George Earle

Note: Some have argued that it was Avalon Cottage that was incorporated into Queen's. I disagree on three grounds:

(a) It was bought two years after the 'neat cottage' and was large;

(b) It was used as the C. of E. Academy till 1861 and;

(c) It was left to Mrs. Feild in the Bishop's will and then to the Synod.

The view from Forest Road, showing the Cottage in the centre, with the Principal's Lodge on the right. This is how it looked till after World War I.

As it looked on Forest Road when it ceased to be a College in 1968. The half nearest the viewer was beaten down but the distant half remains with substantial alterations.

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* by presenting interesting and informative films, lectures and exhibits.
* through the preparation and publication of heritage related research and art work.
* by sponsoring province-wide essay contests at the school level so that our children, through participation may also learn of their past.
* by trying to make the public aware of Newfoundland's heritage through writing and public speaking.
* by providing advice and support for the efforts of private citizens and local groups to preserve their heritage.
* by honouring members of the Newfoundland community who have shown commitment to preservation and restoration.
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A1B 1A5