



NOVEMBER 1987 NEWSLETTER

**NEXT OCCASION: WEDNESDAY,
NOVEMBER 11TH AT 10:30 AT THE
CHELSEA PIONEER CEMETERY;
SERVICE OF REMEMBRANCE**

Arrangements have been made for an even larger contingent than last year from the Royal Canadian Regiment Battle School at Petawawa. About 80 soldiers, a piper and a padre have chosen to mark Remembrance Day by coming to the Chelsea Pioneer Cemetery to honour the memory of Pte. Thompson. Society members and friends are warmly invited to be part of this moving occasion.

The cemetery is, of course, on the west side of Route 105 exactly one kilometre north of the flashing light at the Chelsea crossroad (by the Shell Station). There will be parking for early arrivals on the cemetery entrance lane (NOT on the carpark itself); latecomers might wish to park on Church Street, across Route 105 and a few metres to the south. Please do not park on Route 105 itself. It is dangerous and illegal.

**NEXT MEETING: MONDAY,
NOVEMBER 16 AT 20:00 AT THE WEST
HULL COMMUNITY CENTRE.**

About a year ago, John H. Taylor's fascinating book, "Ottawa: An Illustrated History" appeared in the History of Canadian Cities series.

John Taylor is an associate professor of history at Carleton University and an associate editor of the Urban History Review. He has kindly agreed to speak to us at our next

meeting on "Recreation in the Gatineau". It will be an absorbing climax for our last meeting of the calendar year.

LAST MEETING

It was more than an interesting talk. It was exciting. A more-than-capacity crowd was obviously impatient for the opening of the new Canadian Museum of Civilization which will obviously be not only a treasure house of the works of Man (sic) in Canada, but the country's number one bit of showbusiness.

With 100 slides, Dr. MacDonald brought to life all the plans and dreams of the years, and left a vivid impression of how our history will be saved and presented.

For those who cannot wait to see the finished masterpiece, there are already guided hard-hat tours. If you would like to take part, call 994-2354. And watch for announcements about the new Friends of the Museum of Civilization. It needs voluntary help.

THE MUSEUM

It seems a little presumptuous to talk about our museum within one breath of the new Museum of Civilization. Ours is smaller and less high tech.

The MacLaren House and Mill were opened for Thanksgiving weekend, thanks to a special financial arrangement made by the NCC, but that is the end for this year. At time of writing, we are discussing winter heating, for we are anxious to be able to work in the MacLaren House. That is where Pat Evans has his archives.

The Museum Committee is also looking at

mid- and long-term plans, and organizing itself for the coming year. Anyone willing to join it is asked to phone **Stuart Geggie** (459-2393).

HISTORIC TOUR

Historic Tour #3, on Saturday, September 26 was as great a success as the first two. Those who have been taking part are now experts on the waves of settlement from downtown Hull to Aylmer, and to the Old Chelsea and Kingsmere area, including places no ordinary tourists see.

Our thanks again are especially due to tireless organizer **Carol Martin** and to **Pat Evans** for his impeccable research.

In the busload of explorers, there were more non-members than members. We do not know whether to rejoice that the word is spreading, or to regret that many of our own people missed a great opportunity prepared for their pleasure and edification.

Next May there will be another chance, as we move up the Gatineau Valley.

ANNIVERSARY GRANT

We have now received the \$1,000 grant to help our anniversary celebrations (noted in last Newsletter). And we received it in a typically gracious fashion from **Barry Moore, M.P.**—over lunch in the Parliamentary Restaurant. We were gratified not only to receive this support, but to see Barry Moore in healthy high gear again.

MEMBERSHIP

We welcome as new members **Patricia Black, Shirley A. Brown, Joan Dickson-Smith** and **Irene Wilson**.

Valued member **Ray Daly**, to whom the founding of the museum owes so much, is in the Gatineau Regional Hospital after many months of poor health. The latest report is encouraging. We offer him our warmest thoughts.

Please bear in mind that our membership year is the calendar year, and that by the time of the next Newsletter all 1987 memberships will have expired. The popularity of our two-year \$15 membership will ease the work of our treasurer and secretary. For those who paid for only one year's membership this year (\$8), we would all appreciate renewal as soon as convenient. New members can now join for either the next year or entire two years without paying for membership privileges for the balance of this calendar year: that is, for \$8 or \$15.

Why not flatter your friends by giving a Historical Society membership for Christmas?

THE EXECUTIVE

By all odds the most important problem facing the Society is getting able people to fill the critical gaps in the executive and to help in other voluntary efforts.

With a new president taking over at the annual meeting, it is essential that we have a strong cadre of active supporters to help him carry the important load. Volunteers for the executive, for committees and for activities are urgently needed. Please do not wait to be asked, but speak to any member of the executive.

It is also time to think, and share ideas, about priorities for the Society in the coming year. We have been growing fast, in both membership and activities. This year we have been trying to consolidate and plan, with a minimum of new directions.

Our financial administration has been restored to stability. New systems have grown out of hard experience. We are, at last, putting a budget in place to guide our work.

We have been making designs and strategies (as the bureaucrats call plans) for the near and far future at the Museum, with the possibility of employing professional guidance.

The historic tours have established both a solid reputation and momentum.

The Auction is so successful that beating each year's record is getting to be a tough challenge.

The Pioneer Cemetery needs annual work and tender loving care, but it is both physically agreeable and increasingly established as a valued landmark. We can apply our experience as advisers to Old Chelsea's Protestant Burial Ground, if we live long enough to see it emerge from the lawyers.

Our publications program has been ambitious, though we need more work on marketing. Some day our binders for *Up the Gatineau* may even materialize.

So what else? If you have great ideas, they will be listened to with appreciation by any member of the executive. If you have great ideas, accompanied by a commitment of volunteers to make them work, you will be heard with unalloyed enthusiasm.

CIVIC ELECTIONS

You may be lucky enough to get this Newsletter before November 1. Only those in West Hull have a chance to vote for Society members running for office: **Judy Grant** for Mayor and **Isobel Bayly** as Councillor.

After the election, we have two subjects to pursue with the new council. The first is that, after years of legal waffling, we would dearly like to see some decisions on the Protestant Burial Ground so that available funds, public and private can be put to good use in this truly remarkable place.

Second, we hope the Society has a place in the Council's future home, wherever it may be. We particularly liked the idea of having a modest office next to the library in the basement of whatever building is chosen. In that way we might well contribute documentation to the library and enrich its capacity to interest people in local history.

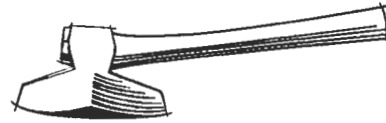
THE ANNUAL MEETING

We do not like to strain the Post Office by publishing the Newsletter in December. As early in January as the fates allow, you will receive both a shortened newsletter and the Annual Review for 1987.

Would you now kindly note the time and place of the Annual Meeting: Monday evening, January 18 at 20:00 in Chelsea's Restaurant, Old Chelsea.

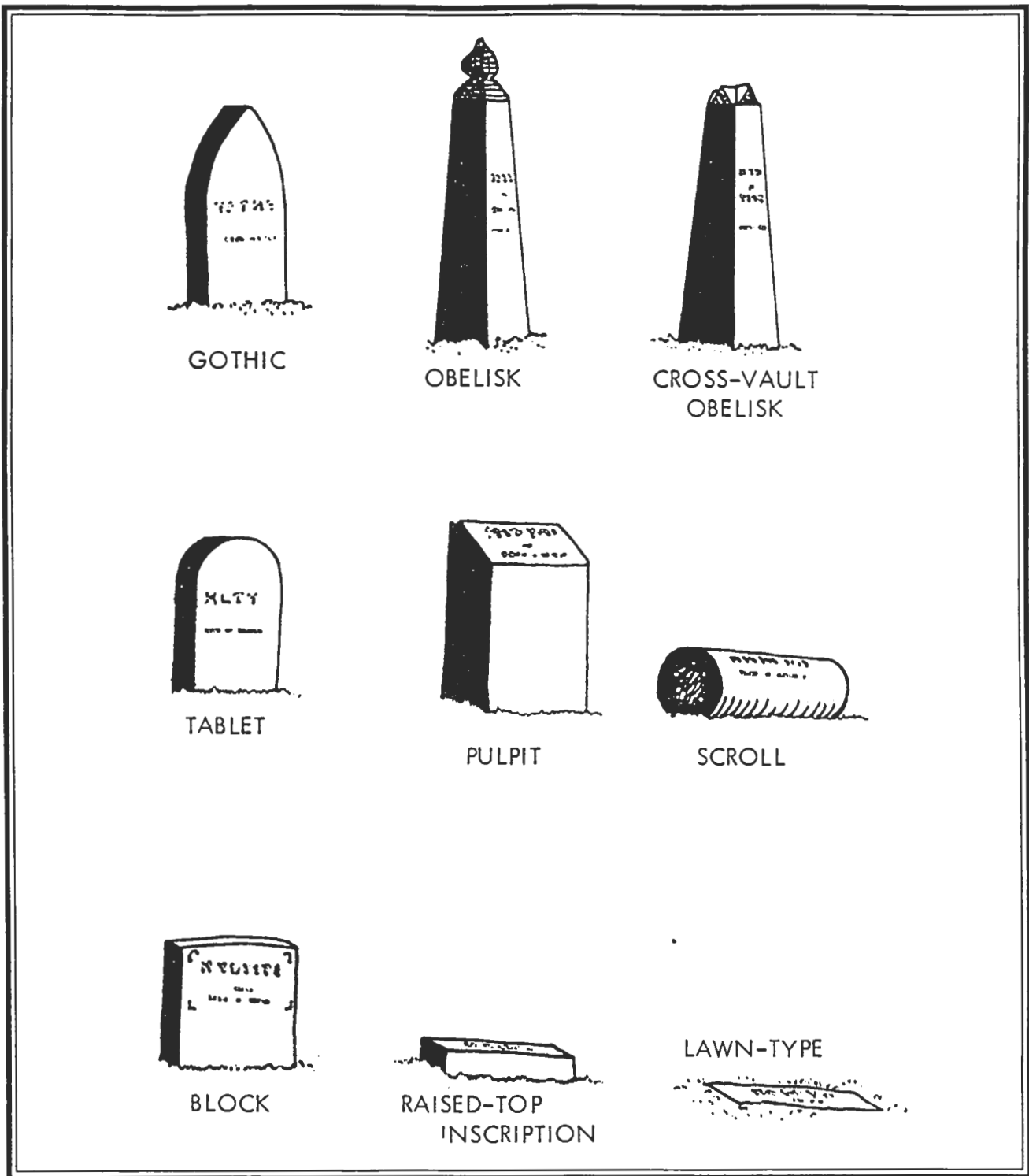
THE SEASON

To members we shall not see in November, it is already the time to offer the warmest wishes of the season: and may 1988 be the best in history.



R.A.J.P.

Formatting and production by Katharine and Eric Fletcher.



Remembering: Types of monuments found in historic cemeteries of the Gatineau.*

R.A.J.P.