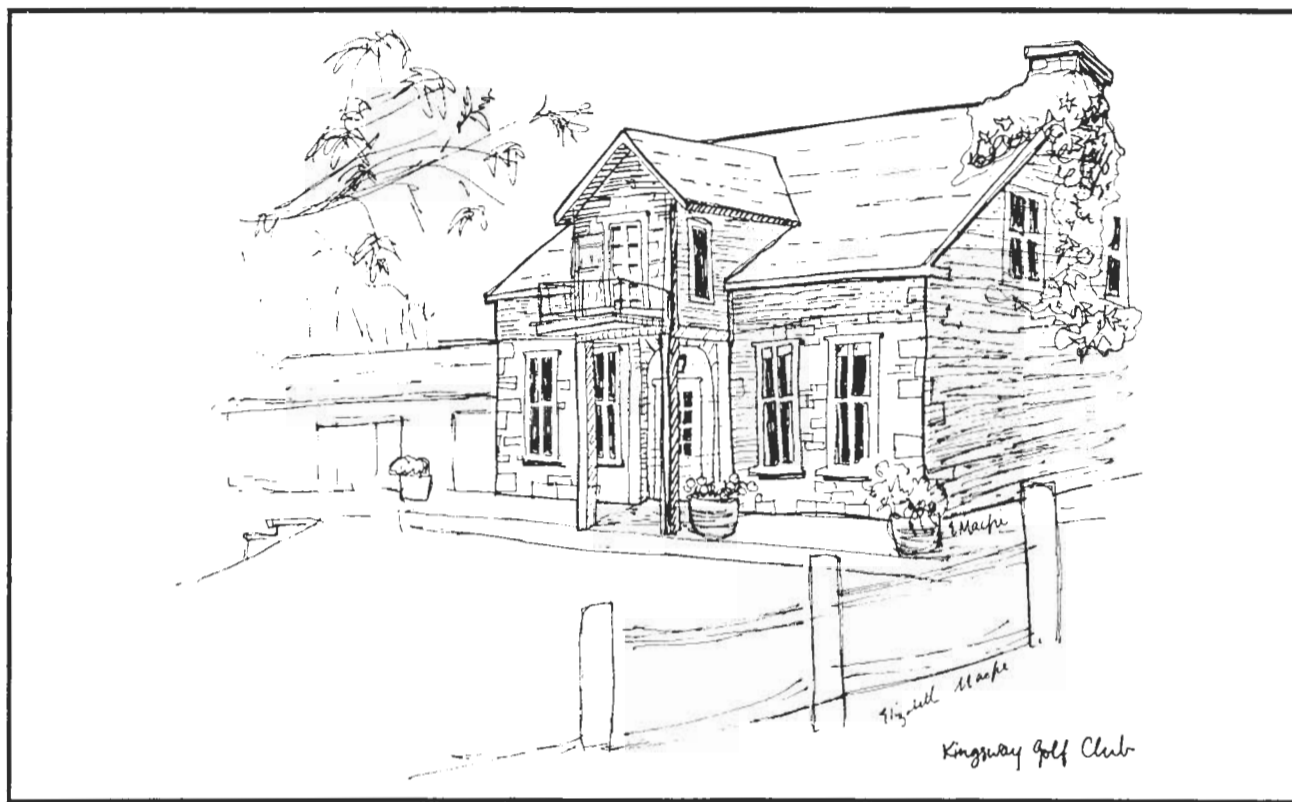




February 1989 NEWSLETTER

Purpose of the Society

"... to promote matters of historical or heritage significance in the general area of the Gatineau Valley."



HERITAGE DAY AWARDS BANQUET

In the January Newsletter we announced that the Society's Annual Meeting will be held on Heritage Day, February 20, in a building which dates from 1812 - the clubhouse at the Kingsway Park Golf Club on the Mountain Road. (Please note that this is contrary to the notice which appeared in the recent issue of Muncipaction. The Annual Meeting will not be held at La Pigeonnière.)

Now we are inviting you to a Heritage Day

Awards Banquet before the Annual Meeting. Steve Stewart, the President of the Golf Club, and his chef have laid on an appealing menu: tourtière, ragout, salads, turkey, sugar pie, tea and coffee - and all for only \$7.50 per person.

There will be a cash bar (with traditional drinks) from 5:00 to 6:00 p.m.; the buffet supper will be served between 6:00 and 7:30 p.m. At the banquet we will present the Society's honours and awards for 1988. These include the Arthur Davison Prize, Honourary Life Memberships, and the Society's Achieve-

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Telephone 827-4432

ment Awards. We will also introduce our special guests and you will have the opportunity to mingle and talk with them.

The Annual General Meeting will begin at 8:15 p.m. Why not plan to join the fun and celebrate Heritage Day with this traditional meal? To reserve a place at the feast, please telephone the Society's answering machine at 827-4432 and leave your name and telephone number.

Please note that making this reservation implies an obligation to pay for your meal if you do not cancel by February 16, the Thursday before. The \$7.50 will be collected at the door.

Non-members are invited to become members in order to attend. Annual membership is still only \$8.00, or \$15.00 for two years. Memberships will also be available at the door. Charles and Ann have sampled the warm sugar pie and rate it A+. See you there?

For those of you unable to attend the dinner, please plan to arrive about 8:00 p.m. The Annual Meeting will conclude with the traditional "Show and Tell". If you have an item or photographs you would like to talk about, please phone the Society's answering machine (827-4432) to book a space on the program. We expect that the proceedings will be finished before 10:00 p.m. The map on this page should help you find your way to the Golf Club.

Ann Chudleigh

UPDATE: THE DIGESTOR TOWER

Society Co-President Charles Landon has received a reply from the Chairman of the NCC, Mrs. Jean Pigott, to his letter expressing concern as to the future of the Digestor Tower on the grounds of the new Canadian Museum of Civilization in Hull. Mrs. Pigott states:

"The National Capital Commission has considered a number of ways to preserve this tower. At the present time, it is not the intent of the Commission to establish a program for the public use of this tower or to pay for its rehabilitation. Rather, we are working with a small committee of interested people to seek out a sponsor which would allow us initially to stabilize the Tower. The Tower will eventually become the property of the Canadian Museum of Civilization and that agency would be responsible for any programming."

Mrs. Pigott goes on to suggest that "any assistance ... your Society could offer in sponsoring the preservation of the Digestor Tower, would be appreciated." We shall all be watching developments with interest.

Jay Atherton

UPDATE: THE McNALLY HOUSE

Members will be aware that the Society has been concerned for some months about the fate of the McNally House on Highway 105 opposite the new bridge north of Wakefield. Mr. and Mrs. McNally expect expropriation discussions to start this spring with the Québec Ministry of Transport.

The Society's role in this affair is that of a catalyst. Even if we could afford to buy, move, and renovate the house, we have no site or requirement for it. However, we can make people aware that it could be moved - through the newspapers and local real estate agents, for example - and we can talk it up in hopes that somewhere an idea will click and a future will be found to give new life to this beautiful historic home.

Ann Chudleigh

A SAD LOSS

Members will be saddened to hear of the death in November of a most valued member of the Historical Society, Philip Journeaux. Mr. Journeaux was a member of the Society for many years, and was particularly helpful as auditor of our accounts. We shall remember him as a loyal and interested friend who contributed his valuable share to the life of the Society. The Society expresses its sympathy to Mr. Journeaux's family.

Ann Chudleigh

MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS

We remind members that all memberships (except those covering the second year of a two-year membership) have now expired. If you have not yet renewed, please do so immediately, either by mail (Box 485, Chelsea, Québec J0X 1N0) or at the Annual General Meeting on February 20.

If you are unsure of your present membership status, call our office (answering machine - leave a message) at 827-4432 or our new Secretary, Marilyn Lister, 827-4244.

Annual Report 1988 in Review

1. Co-Presidents' Report

What a busy year 1988 has been! So much done and yet so much more to do. Thanks to West Hull Mayor Judy Grant and her Recreation Commission, we now have an office equipped with a telephone and an answering machine, in the Community Centre in Old Chelsea. It's wonderful to have such a focus/locus as a base of operations. We are still learning about the potential of our portable computer and believe that it will be more widely used in 1989.

There is lots of good news to report. Closer collaboration with Cornéliu Kirjan of the Ministère des Affaires Culturelles resulted in a grant of \$16,500 to support Society endeavours. The Municipality of LaPêche also gave a grant to support the work of the Society. A Mill Committee and the Friends of the Historical Museum of the Gatineau were established. We experienced increased press coverage, thanks to the interest of Jacques Seguin of La Gatineau and the continuing support of Ernie Mahoney and Joan Dickson-Smith of the West Quebec Post and Sally Gunther of The News.

On the program side, members organized successful, well-attended events on Canada Day and Remembrance Day. The annual auction was held on the one of the hottest days of the year and the Scots Ceilidh, on one of the most miserable. The Community Concert and Renaissance Fair had the weatherman's cooperation. reports on all these events follow - but here let us express our appreciation to all those high and low profile members who made these events possible.

Congratulations on jobs well done!

More good news is finding Jay Atherton, the new Editor of our Newsletter, and Rick Hofer and then Elizabeth Carlton as Treasurers when Anne Fleming stepped down. Steve Stewart has now agreed to take on the job of Treasurer, assisted by his partner, Gail Nelson. We have also found a new Secretary, Marilyn Lister, and Michel Poliquin has taken responsibility for publicity.

The sad news is that we have said goodbye to Anne and Elizabeth and now to Rae Moore, our Secretary, too. They have given many, many hours of cheerful and patient service to the Society. Thank you all for your contributions to the Society. Fortunately, Rae has agreed, with her friend Marjorie Evis, to continue mailing out the monthly Newsletter and Anne has agreed to be Mistress of Inventory and Distribution as our collection of publications continues to grow. Speaking of which, we were delighted to have helped financially with Katharine Fletcher's best seller *Historical Walks: the Gatineau Park Story*, which is now into its third printing.

Some of the Committees' plans for 1989 are in outlined in the reports which follow; others are still being formulated or are as yet unforeseen. There is a place for you if you want to join the action is some way in 1989. We really need volunteers, as will be clear from reading the Committee reports. Have you any spare time?

In summary, 1989 promises to be another busy and rewarding year. We are all looking forward to it.

Charles Landon & Ann Chudleigh

2. Financial Report

Unfortunately, year end changes in the responsibility for the Treasurer duties and the short time available to us has precluded insertion of a financial report. However, a report will be distributed at the Annual Meeting and a financial summary will be published in the March Newsletter.

Jay Atherton

3. The 1988 Program

The Annual general Meeting was held on January 18, 1988 in St. James Anglican Church Hall in Hull. Honours and Awards marked special contributions to the Society. Gunda Lambton received the Arthur Davison Prize for her many contributions to Up the Gatineau. Sheila Strang was made Honourary Life Member, recognizing her many years of outstanding service as Secretary Treasurer. Special Awards of Honour went to St. Stephens Church, Old Chelsea (Father Gauvreau) for the fine exterior preservation and nightly illumination and to Jon Purcell for preserving Place 1870 in Wakefield.

Heritage Day, February 15 - The Chaudière: This was a public meeting sponsored jointly by the Society and the Chaudière Committee of the Canadian Parks and Wilderness Society and held at Maison des Citoyens, Hull. It focussed on the Chaudière Falls, past, present, and potential future. There was a fine pictorial display and three excellent presentations with simultaneous interpretation. Graham Greig of E.B. Eddy spoke on the firm's founder and the area's industrial history; Denis Major of the NCC discussed the place of the Chaudière in the National Capital Plan; and Bill McGowan, Director of the Museum of Science and Technology, spoke on the potential of the Museum at the Chaudière.

March 21: Michael Newton, NCC historian

and author, presented some of his very recent findings on "The Fur Trade in the Gatineau". It was a fascinating picture of very rough times and especially intriguing as a little known aspect of our area's history. The hall was packed to standing room.

April 18: "Heraldry in Canada" was Terence Manuel's subject. As Past President of the Canadian Heraldry Society, he spoke from intimate knowledge. That was especially obvious as the power failed in Hydro Québec's major blackout and our speaker pressed on without lights. A fascinating subject, again with a sellout crowd.

Canada Day: On July 1st at its annual festivity to open the Museum, the Society celebrated the 150th anniversary of the Wakefield Mill. Stuart Geggie recounted the Mill's history to the crowd — built in 1838 by William Fairburn, and sold to Maclarens in 1844. The mayor of Lapêche, Hervé Leblanc cut the opening ribbon with the Society's broadaxe (and announced a generous donation to the Society from the municipality of \$500.00). Ken Young, the museum's closest neighbour and the last Wakefield miller cut the large mill-shaped cake made by Adèle Robinette-Street. A crowd-pleasing fiddle music concert was provided by Gatineau Valley musicians Nibert Daly, Rudolphe Pétrin, Harry Fairburn, Paul Fydenchuk and John Geggie, opened by a memorable playing of "O Canada" by M. Pétrin. Gay Cooke of the famed local Morrison family spoke on the importance of the mill and bread to the pioneer settlement, and judged the bread-baking contest. The celebration ended with square-dancing in front of the mill led by Cliff Quince.

September 13: John Almstedt spoke on Harrington Lake and the history of the Edwards and Herridge estate there. He also showed fascinating clips video-taped from 16mm movies taken by Colonel Edwards in the 20's and 30's. The

Colonel's son-in-law and three of his grandchildren came to share an intriguing evening. There was a lively discussion on John's concerns about the Prime Minister's "compound" restricting entry to a key part of Gatineau Park.

Public Meeting, Monday, October 17: Over 300 came to hear NCC Chairman Jean Pigott on "The New Mandate of the NCC: What it Means to the Gatineau". It was a public meeting held at the Chelsea Elementary School and was dominated by the strong public interest in the recent announcements on possible housing developments inside the boundaries of Gatineau Park. Mayor Judy Grant was there and responded in the lively and controversial discussion period that was chaired by Dr. Ian Rutherford, the new Director of National Parks.

November 28: "Trails of History" was the title Katharine Fletcher gave to her delightful, interesting, and wonderfully illustrated talk based on her very successful book *Historical Walks: the Gatineau Park Story*. The meeting was held in La Pigeonnière, next to the Community Centre, and drew a crowd of sixty - which would have completely overflowed the regular quarters.

January 16: Tony German took us back to 1833 to join Eleanor Phillips, a young lady from Montreal on "A Tour of Pleasure" with her family. Her unpublished diary gives a very early tourist account of the Ottawa River and the Rideau Canal. The party went on to New York and Niagara Falls, along the Erie Canal and Hudson River to New York, and back by steamer to Boston and stage coach to Montreal. Compared to the States, travel in Canada was a pretty adventurous business.

I have enjoyed my time as Program Chairman. It has been a real pleasure to have such strong support from members so clearly shown by growing audiences. Numbers at the monthly

meetings has just about doubled over the last three years. With a very strong and involved membership, we now look to fifty or sixty. The coffee and cakes half hour, 7:30 to 8:00, is a fine and popular opportunity to get together and chat before the meeting starts. At each meeting some new members roll in. The added pleasure, of course, is in meeting all the intriguing people who so generously come to share their special knowledge with us.

Tony German

4. The 1988 Historic Tour

Our fourth Historic Tour was held on Saturday, May 28, 1988. In perfect weather, warm with sparkling sunshine, the day-long outing offered a combined bus and walking tour of the Wakefield, Alcove, Lascelles, and Rupert area.

Thirty-four participants met at the Maclaren Mill in Wakefield, and divided into two groups to learn from Norma and Stuart Geggie about the history of both mill and house.

An impromptu demonstration from Andrew Geggie on milling flour was provided while our coffee finished brewing. After that welcome break, we proceeded by bus to the north end of Wakefield, where we again divided into two groups for a walk through the village's history and landmarks, led by the Geggies. A highlight of the walk was visiting the former Dr. Harold Geggie home, now owned by M. Jacques Mercier and evolved from "The Maples" to "Les Trois Érables". The walk ended at another historic site, Earle House, where we enjoyed a simple and satisfying soup, sandwich, and dessert lunch.

The afternoon followed a circuit to Alcove, where the historic "Homestead", built for the Pritchard family, was graciously opened to the Society by Mary, a descendant of the original

owner, and her Husband Bing. Mrs. Thompson displayed items of historic and family interest, including a copy of the original deed for the land, the boot cupboard under the kitchen stairs, the bubble glass windows, and the alternating maple and black walnut kitchen floor boards. She accompanied the group to the Alcove Methodist (now United) Church, 99 years young this year.

Another Pritchard descendant, Ian, both participated as a tour member and took an active part in the lively commentary and anecdotes that enlivened our knowledge and kindled our interest in the area. In particular, Ian walked and talked the group through the Pritchard family burial ground adjacent to "The Homestead", and the Anglican Church at Lascelles.

Our intended time of return was expanded by half an hour, and the return to the Mill was accomplished at 4:30 p.m.

Thanks in particular to the Geggies for their research and leadership in this tour - even the word-processing of the tour notes. The Pritchard family's help and interest (extending, we understand, to a cemetery cleanup prior to our visit), Anne Fleming as our Society's popular bus driver, Marjorie Evis and Rae Moore carrying the registration duties, Patrick Evans for maps and support, and Bob Martin, assistant to the organizer, all deserve our warm thanks. And, of course, the participants were a wonderful and enthusiastic group. Thanks again!

Carol Martin

5. The Annual Auction

The 26th Annual Auction and Flea Market was held on the sweltering hot day of August 13, 1988. The master-of-ceremonies was Past-

President Bob Phillips, who kept the event well organized. The articles were skillfully auctioned off by auctioneer Bev Street, ably assisted by Cliff Quince. The Flea Market was most capably managed by Carol Martin and her dedicated volunteers. Anne Fleming captained the refreshment booth.

Ninety-two bidders were registered. The number of donors of articles was forty-one, with some donors giving more than fifty items. We are particularly grateful to the restaurants and businesses of the Gatineau Valley, and to the individuals who generously donated items for the auction. The total revenue was \$4,164, and the expenses were \$971, giving a profit of almost \$3,200.

The Auction Committee thanks all the donors of articles and the many volunteers who helped make the event a success.

As the Auction and Flea Market is the main revenue raiser for the Historical Society, we would like to remind everyone to start setting aside articles for the 1989 edition.

D.H. Castleman

6. Maclaren House Museum

The second year of functioning has been completed and we can be happy with a modes success. The number of visitors increased by more than 10% from the year before, to 2,417. The income realized amounted to \$2,688.50. This money is shared by the Mill and the Museum. In fact, this year we started to consider the Museum as consisting of two parts, the Maclaren Mill and the Maclaren House Museum, so that the latter name will in future refer to both sites. This year a report on the functioning of the Mill will be submitted separately.

The public has continued to support us very well. Donations of artifacts included an organ and a birch bark canoe from an elderly gentleman in Kazabazua, a forge and many tools related to blacksmithing, scales and cash register from a country store in Alcove, chairs and an elegant couch from Larrimac, two additions to our collection of early clothes washing machines, and many other large and small items. These will be examined by a professional evaluator to permit us to issue receipts for Income Tax purposes.

A grant of \$6,000 from the Ministère des Affaires Culturelles of the province of Quebec permitted us to hire a museology student for the summer to complete an inventory of all the artifacts. This included a description of each item, its source and use. In addition to completing the inventory, the student, Brock King, contributed very useful ideas and advice.

Four successful events were held on the lawn of the Museum and by the Mill. These included a recital of light classical music played by a quartet ("Rhapsodie") from Ottawa, an Elizabethan Fair attended by Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth I and members of her court, and a Scottish Ceilidh, with kilts, pipes, and dancing. We must not forget the very successful birthday party at the Mill on Canada Day to celebrate the 150th anniversary of its founding in 1838 and the opening of the Museum. Mervé Leblanc, the Mayor of the Municipality of LaPêche, cut the ribbon and Ken Young, the last miller, cut the birthday cake. Entertainment was supplied by a group of local fiddlers and square dancers.

Pat Evans, the Society's Archivist, worked one day a week all summer with Mike Nilles on cataloguing documents and papers of the Society in one of the second floor rooms of the Society. Many other volunteers gave their time and labour on weekends and during the week.

We are indebted to Cliff Quince for redesigning the kitchen and starting the work in the "Annex". There will be further improvements and developments for next year. These will include finishing the "Annex" and setting up a blacksmith shop there.

We are much indebted to the Gatineau Valley Gardeners for planning and planting a turn-of-the-century garden in front of the Maclaren House. While the Society paid for the soil, peat moss, and a worker to prepare the beds, the Gardeners covered the costs of the plants or donated stock from their own gardens. Our thanks to Marilyn Light, Jan Gray, Diane Renaud, Sarah Ulis and her son, and Sally Landon. Some of the Gardeners even turned out during the summer to weed, and to tidy up the beds for winter after the first frost. Tentative plans call for similar work along the side wall of the house in 1989.

Next year may be a very important one for us since the lease with the NCC is up for renewal and there is no certainty that it will be. In fact, the status of both the Mill and the Museum is in question. We have a letter from M. Kirjan of Ministère des Affaires Culturelles stating that there will not be any further grants to either site as long as they are owned by another government body. Negotiations are to take place in the new year. Let's hope that they will be successful. Anyone who wishes to work for the Museum would be most welcome, in particular, anyone who would work with me as chairperson of the Committee. The combined roles of curator and chairman are getting to be too much for one person.

Stuart Geggie

7. The Friends of the Historical Museum of the Gatineau

Wakefield is the home of two historic treas-

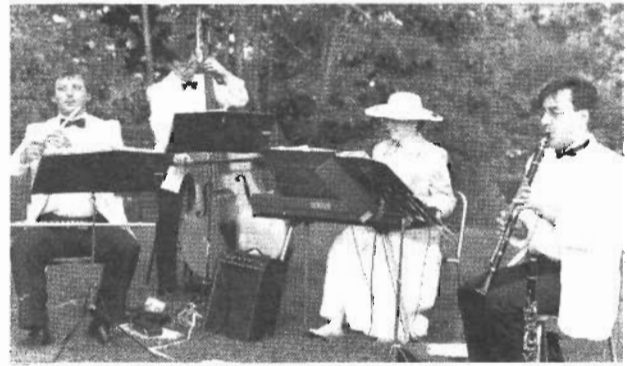
The Friends of the Historical Museum of the Gatineau: a busy season!



NCC Photo



La grande Elizabeth 1^{re} fait son entrée triomphale à Wakefield.



Le groupe Rhapsodie en concert dans les jardins de la maison Maclaren.

ures: the Wakefield Grist Mill and the Maclaren House. The Grist Mill is primarily associated with the Maclaren family, who owned it from 1844 to 1941. The successful operation of the grist mill allowed the family to diversify economically and develop business interests elsewhere that eventually made them one of the Ottawa Valley's most prominent families. James Maclaren is a good example of the self-made lumber baron who made his fortune in the backwoods of the Ottawa Valley.

The existence of the Mill was also significant in the settlement and industrial development of the area. The presence of the Mill undoubtedly bolstered the settlement of Wakefield and Masham Townships and was a catalyst for further growth in the area. In 1988 we celebrated the Mill's 150th birthday.

The Maclaren House was built in the 1860's by John Maclaren, who, with his brother James, was responsible for the construction of the woolen mill, a sawmill, and workers' housing, in addition to the grist mill. The Society's Historical Museum is located in the house, which we lease from the National Capital Commission. In 1988, the Historical Society for the first time managed the mill - a one-year arrangement.

In order to help people understand the significance of these two buildings and the Society's work on them, a small group of members decided last Spring to organize The Friends of the Historical Museum of the Gatineau. The Friends' objective is to support and promote the Museum (comprising the Mill and the Maclaren House) by organizing community activities and by publicizing this major heritage and tourist attraction in the Municipality of LaPêche. Annual membership in the Friends costs \$15.00; this includes an annual membership in the Historical Society.

During 1988 the Friends organized three events at the Museum. The first was a Community Concert and Picnic on August 27 on the sloping lawn of the Maclaren House - a natural amphitheatre in a pastoral setting. Light classical music was provided by the group Rhapsodie, whose members are John Geggie on bass, Sonja Deumsch on piano, Tom Brown on flute, and Yves Léveillé on clarinet. The late Julia Maclaren was the patron of the event, which drew about 100 people of all ages. When the hat was passed by Yvonne Jurgens and her children, about \$120 was collected towards the costs of costumes for the guides at the Mill. The event was so successful that it may well become an annual event.

On September 17, in collaboration with the Twelfth Night Society of Ottawa, Beth MacFie and her team organized a Renaissance Fair

Queen Elizabeth I came to the Wakefield Museum complete with her noble entourage, village of peasants, and renaissance musicians and dancers. This afternoon tableau was performed by the Twelfth Night Society of Ottawa under the auspices of the Friends of the Historical Museum of the Gatineau. The Queen, on her summer progress back to her palace after visiting her noble friends in the countryside, stopped at Wakefield Village for rest and entertainment. She was graciously welcomed by costumed "innkeeper" Stuart Geggie. The large crowd will long remember this warm sunny day and the sight of tents, fluttering strings of pennants, and brilliantly costumed Elizabethans dancing to the backdrop of autumn colours and the rushing stream of the Wakefield Mill.

On October 2 the planned Scots Ceilidh was rained out. However, with true Scottish persistence, the event was staged the following week by Jennie Pilkington of the Aldhae Dancers and Douglas McKercher. In addition to musical

numbers by bagpiper Bruce MacDonald, violinist Nathan Curry, guitarist Graham Pilkington, and singer Jennie Pilkington, there were demonstrations of highland and country dancing by the Ceilidh Dancers, a Robert Burns reading by Douglas McKercher who was also master of ceremonies, and an explanation of Scottish sports (caber toss, hammer throw) by Highland Games champion, David Harrington. The scrumptious food was organized by the Ottawa Waldorf School. The Clan MacLeod Society, the Clan Farquharson Association, the Celtic Studies program of the University of Ottawa, and Rae McGrath (a teacher of the Irish language at Heritage College) all had displays of promotional materials. In spite of the frigid, drizzly weather, two to three hundred hardy souls were keen enough to stay for the program.

Both the Renaissance Fair and the Ceilidh were included in the NCC's Fall Rhapsody program. The Friends are most appreciative of the sophisticated sound system from Specs Audio which the NCC contributed to these events.

The Friends would particularly like to thank Peter Cobbet, David Geggie, and Andrew Geggie for assembling and levelling the 12-section stage for these events. And to all those who contributed in many ways to the success of these events, a hearty thanks.

Ann Chudleigh

8. Wakefield Grist Mill Summer Program

When the Society learnt that the National Capital Commission was not planning to open the Wakefield Mill in the summer of 1988, Andrew Geggie, who had worked there previously, and I put together a proposal to the NCC and the Ministère des Affaires Culturelles. Apparently, this proposal was too good for

them to refuse, with the result that we became the managers of the Mill for the season. The Ministère paid Andrew's salary as manager; Challenge '88, a Department of Employment and Immigration (federal government) summer student program, covered two students, Liette Piché and James Heginbottom; and the NCC paid the maintenance costs and contributed \$5,000 towards signage, exhibits, and promotion.

The Mill was open for 43 days between June 11 and October 10. It welcomed 2,407 visitors, roughly a twenty percent increase over the previous year. The first and second floors were open to self-guided tours, while the basement was open to guided tours for groups of up to five visitors at a time. A videotape on the history of the Mill was shown and some Society publications were offered for sale.

A report written by Andrew Geggie offered some good suggestions for 1989. A newly-formed Mill Committee, under the chairmanship of Rolf Latté, looks forward to discussions with the NCC on our proposal to manage the historical interpretation services again in 1989.

Andrew's report concludes: "This site is historically important for the simple reason that the Mill represents a major step in the evolution of milling in Canada. The Maclaren family's economic vision resulted in a mill that was very advanced for its size and time. It would be extremely shortsighted of all those concerned if the Maclaren family's vision were never to be renewed."

Ann Chudleigh

9. Cemeteries

Part I. The Chelsea Pioneer Cemetery

The good news this year in the cemetery was

the success of its Remembrance Day service and the quality of its maintenance. The bad news was that the Cemetery Committee dwindled to one dubious member.

The maintenance took a new lift when, thanks to Scoutmaster Graham Lochhead, Boy Scouts of Chelsea completed the tree planting along the north boundary. The cedar hedge flanking the entrance and edging the carpark is now well established.

Thanks to a day's work by the summer students (and efforts of the lone committee member) the annual maintenance chores were done. No longer are we honouring the permanent residents of the cemetery with speeches, and then letting them be lost in the tangles of nature. Indeed, a new dimension to maintenance has been added with the municipal services contributed by West Hull Mayor Judy Grant; as a result, a fine leaf-clearing job was done before Remembrance Day.

The annual Remembrance Day Service owed its memorable success to many efforts, inside and outside the Society. Most important was the continuing enthusiasm of the Royal Canadian Regiment soldiers from the Battle School in Petawawa. They came this year in greater numbers than ever, and they were joined by about a hundred local citizens in unusually salubrious weather. A new aspect was the playing of the Last Post by Philemon Wright's talented musician, Alan Ridgeway. We appreciated the co-operation of the Wakefield Branch of the Royal Canadian Legion which joined the Society in offering hospitality to our Petawawa guests. Closer to home, Charles Landon and John Hazen did a superb organizing job and David Lewis produced a worthy program.

We had been hoping to have the participation of the singing children of the Chelsea Elemen-

tary School but, alas, November 11 was again a Professional Development Day. However, the principal kindly invited all the soldiers to enjoy the hospitality of the school's washroom. They appeared to have enjoyed that very much.

The Society has been an interested spectator in a legal battle involving our next door neighbour to the south and the Municipality of West Hull. We shall hold our breath through the winter, while offering appreciation to the Mayor, Council and administration of West Hull for upholding the law safeguarding our property.

Members are reminded that, since our successful financial appeal nearly five years ago, the Society has had funds to support a perpetual maintenance fund. With a recurring shortage of treasurers, our annual efforts to establish that fund as a proper legal entity have been less than successful. With the developments outlined below, that bit of housekeeping becomes urgent for 1989.

Part II. The Protestant Burying Ground in Old Chelsea

Thanks to the leadership of Mayor Judy Grant and Councillor Isobel Bayly, West Hull got a brand new committee to consider not only cemeteries but other similar culture in the thriving municipality. The two honest citizens who joined Dr. Bayly on the committee heard of the whole idea and of their appointments through the local investigative press, and eventually they held an autumn meeting.

Faithful readers of this Annual Review will scarcely need reminding of the yearly "no progress" reports on the Old Chelsea Cemetery, for it is difficult to rush the legal profession. This year, however, two things happened. The municipality surveyed the cemetery, and while it had the momentum, it surveyed our cemetery

too. Second, it finally made the application to the Québec government to assume ownership of the rudderless Old Chelsea Cemetery. This was a course urged regularly by the Society since the mid-1970's.

The new committee asked the Municipal Council to declare the cemetery closed, a step essential to permit the involvement of the Society and of the NCC. It declared itself ready to make proposals for an organization which would administer the Old Chelsea Cemetery, receiving funds and help for the purpose from the NCC and West Hull; it also suggested that this trust might offer to maintain the Chelsea Pioneer Cemetery on behalf of the Historical Society — the Society having such troubles with its one-man committee, and all. The Cemetery Trust would also make proposals for capital works and maintenance in the Old Chelsea Cemetery. There were visions of a municipal spring sod-turning ceremony (being careful of just *where* we dig).

Well, you can't win them all. Seems that application to Québec bounced for want of certain legal papers. That's what you get for rushing lawyers. Council hopes to set it all dead to rights next February.

See you next year, maybe in the cemetery ...

R.A.J. Phillips

10. Publications and Publicity Committee

The Publications and Publicity Committee was very busy this year with a variety of projects.

The Committee produced several pieces of promotional literature, in both official languages, including single-page information flyers for the Society's museum in the Maclaren House and the Wakefield Mill; a two-colour brochure about the Historical Museum

of the Gatineau; membership applications and promotion for the Friends of the Historical Museum of the Gatineau; balloons imprinted with the Society's logo and a drawing of the Wakefield Mill; and newspaper ads and posters for all of the Society's major events during the year. The Committee was also actively involved in the publicizing the Society's regular monthly meetings.

The Committee coordinated the production of this year's edition of "Up the Gatineau" and an index to past editions of this popular publication. A walking tour guide to the Chelsea area based on Pat Evans' "Tale of Two Chelseas" was developed for the Committee by RAJ Phillips. The walking tour will be printed in time for the 1989 summer season.

For the coming year the members of the Committee have recommended that the Society separate the responsibilities for publicity and for publication distribution from the Committee.

11. The Search for History Committee

The 8 to 9 members of the Committee have convened 11 times during 1988 at the Heritage College, 204 Laurier Street in Hull, its sub-committees were also busy at other times. Volunteers to reinforce our depleted ranks would be most welcome, particularly since some of us have taken up obligations which sometimes prevent giving the necessary time to the committee activities.

The committee is gratified to note that Katharine Fletcher's publication *Historic Walks: The Gatineau Park Story* has been successful, justifying our recommendation for a funding proposal of \$6,150. A standard form of loan agreement drafted by this committee was used for the contract.

The Township (Canton) of Hull, 1800-1891,

as defined by Philemon Wright's surveyors on behalf of Lower Canada (to-day's Hull, Aylmer, Hull West, Cantley and the western part of Gatineau) is the subject of a research project nearing completion. It is being produced in French by Benoît Thériault at a cost of \$7,000 under supervision by this committee. We gratefully acknowledge a \$5,000 grant from Cornéliu Kirjan, heritage project director, Ministry of Cultural Affairs, Government of Québec, towards the amount. Translation into english will hopefully take place in 1989 by volunteers of the society, who are herewith requested to contact us. Costs of publication may be assumed by the Province. This research into all surviving census data and legal property documentation of the last century, now placed into computers, will form an adjunct to the regional history of the Outaouais under preparation by Chard Gaffield and others, commenced twelve months ago. The Society is making a \$500 contribution to the "Institut québécois de recherche sur la culture" to clearly demonstrate our deepest commitment to historical research.

The Committee is launched in a systematic study of data and publications relating to the Gatineau Valley so as to produce a "Wish List" showing priorities of subject matter which may be financially encouraged to be produced as additions to existing data available to all those interested in historical aspects of our area.

Negotiations with the NCC to encourage greater emphasis on heritage locations on their maps and publications have been commenced and written encouragement for publication of architectural history such as the "Village d'Argentine" at Hull is being supplied.

Rolf Latté

12. The Newsletter

The Society's Newsletter experienced some changes during the past year. A major impact occurred in January when R.A.J. Phillips ended his four-year period as editor. The Society realized that it would have a difficult time approaching the same level of quality and a period of uncertainty followed.

For some months the Newsletter's publisher, David Lewis doubled as Editor, until he found the twin duties too onerous. I was approached in the late summer and agreed to take on the editorship. At its November 14 meeting the Executive of the Society agreed with proposals that the publication should concentrate on communicating information to the members on the work of the Society. Its size should usually be four pages, although exceptions to this would occur (such as the issue containing the annual reports).

The text of the Newsletter currently is produced on a Toshiba laptop computer using WordPerfect software, and provided to the production manager (David Lewis) on a 3 1/2" diskette. While the hardware may soon change, the software will not. During the next few months I will be exploring more efficient means of communicating text to David, such as through use of a modem.

I would appreciate hearing from Society members who might have ideas of ways to improve the usefulness of the Newsletter.

Jay Atherton

13. Archives - Books - Pictures

In September of 1987 the Society's Archivist undertook responsibility for collecting, sorting, and placing in safekeeping three of

the collections owned by the Society, namely archives, books, and pictures.

The collecting aspect was comparatively easy as the three Presidents, the Secretary Treasurer, and other officers were only too happy to release files and documents which had accumulated for a quarter of a century. This "cast-off" amounted to over twenty-seven large cartons and a one-drawer filing cabinet. In essence the contents had to be examined paper by paper and file by file, separating the dross from that which should be retained as a permanent record of the Society's business and activities. Further, any document other than the Society's had also to be examined for its historical value as it relates to the Gatineau.

The key to filing records and documents is that they be put away in such a fashion that they can be retrieved at will. To this end two separate finding aids (sometimes called guides or directories) were established, one to list all the Society's records under the heading of HSOG (Historical Society of the Gatineau). The second guide lists those other documents pertaining to the Gatineau, but not related to the Society.

Under the general heading of Archives are included original documents (or photocopies), printed papers, such as certificates of all kinds, leaflets, brochures, pamphlets, etc. Also included are maps, charts, and plans.

Books

The Society also owns a small collection of books, usually of the hard-backed variety, but not always so. These are reference books, not "loan" books, which may be used by both members and other researchers. For the winter months the books (which are listed in Appendix A below) are in the custody of Anita Rutledge at the Wakefield Library. There are reasonable requirements to be adhered to by any user of

the Society's book collection. The Librarian on duty will be glad to assist. Remember that the books may not be removed from the premises.

The Library hours are:

Wednesdays 10:00 a.m. to noon

Thursdays 7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

Saturdays 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Pictures

This collection, amounting to over 500 items (in 1988) includes photographs, paintings, line drawings, etchings, etc. In fact, anything pictorially presented, except needlework, is acceptable as a picture. Photocopies and photographed copies of originals are included as pictures.

A separate finding aid is being currently prepared. This aid is in the form of a card index listing of items under the broad headings of People, Structures, Landscapes, Waterscapes. Lesser headings include Photo's of Documents (DOC), Museum Artifacts (MAR), and Activities (ACT). It is conceivable that other lesser headings may be added when required.

In conclusion, sincere thanks and appreciation for assistance with the collections are extended to Cyril Payne, Mike Nelles, Anita Rutledge, Stuart geggie. Gladys Payne receives special thanks for allowing the collections to be housed in the Payne home during the winter of 1987-1988.

Patrick M. O. Evans

List of Holdings of the Historicial Society of the Gatineau

- 1.The Evaluation of Historic Buildings - Harold Kalman - Parks Canada1979
- 2.The Buildings of Canada - Humphreys/Sykes - Parks Canada1974
- 3.The Old Chelsea Post Office - P.M.O. Evans - Canada Post Corporation (Eng. & Fr.)1985
- 4.History & Heritage Bibliography - NCC (Eng. & Fr.)1976
- 5.History & Heritage Bibliography - NCC (Eng. & Fr.)1978
- 6.History & Heritage Bibliography - NCC (Eng. & Fr.) Supp.1982
- 7.Humours of the Valley - Anson A. Gard - Crain Co.1906
- 8.Carbide (Willson) - Union Carbide Canada Ltd.n.d.
- 9.Pioneer Mines of the Gatineau Region, Qué. - D.D. Hogarth - By Town Beavers1975
- 10.St. James Church (Hull, Qué.) 125 Years - Rev. Canon L. F. Crothers1948
- 11.Brooks Hill, built 1859, Low, Qué. - Reginald B. Halen.d.
- 12.Christ Church (Aylmer, Qué.) 1843-1968/125 Years1968
- 13.The Wakefield Mill 1838-1983
- 14.The Pritchards & Related Families - P.M.O. Evans - Family Publication1982
- 15.A Century of Schools - Katharine Moore Memorial Cttee - Wakefield, Qué (2 copies)1985
- 16a.Lapêche - Norma & Stuart Geggie - First Edition1974
- b.Lapêche - Norma & Stuart Geggie - Expanded Edition1980
- 17.Unto the Hills - Norma & Stuart Geggie (2 copies)1976
- 18.Hurling Down the Pine - John W. Hughson & Courtney C.J. Bond - 3rd Edition1987
- 19.The Extra Mile - H.J.G. Geggie - Edited by Norma & Stuart Geggie1987
- 20.Church of St. Mary Magdalene (Chelsea, Qué.) - Mrs. Jean Vivian (3 copies)1875-1965
- 21.Hull, Qué. - prepared by Pierre-Louis Lapointe1800-1975
- 22.Hull-Aylmer, Qué. - prepared by P.-L. Lapointen.d.
- 23.Hull Yesterday (Hier) - Jean Alie1978
- 24.Chelsea United Church (Qué.) - an historical sketch - Gladys Bearman1862-1962
- 25.History of the Ottawa Ski Club1912-1987
- 26.Up the Gatineau! 1975 to date - in binder
- 27.Les Wrights - P.M.O. Evans (French copy)1978
- 28.History of Education in the Gatineau Valley - Gat. Valley Protestant Teachers Assn.c. 1964
- 29.How Skiing Came to the Gatineau - Herbert Marshallc. 1972
- 30.Some Personal Recollections & Historic

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- Facts About Kingsmere - Arthur S. Bourinot1963
- 31.Up the Gatineau! Bound copy1975-1984
- 32.King of Kingsmere - assembled by Robert Smythe - NCC1981
- 33.The Wrights & First Settlers - P.M.O. Evans - NCC First Edition1975
- 34.Early Settlement of Meech Lake - Ethel Penman Hope (2 copies)n.d.
- 35.History of Leeds & Grenville (Ont.) - Thad F.E. Morley1986
- 36.Poems of K. Blake McCloskey (fem.)n.d.
- 37.Historical Walks: The Gatineau Park Story - Katharine Fletcher1988
- 38.History of Wakefield Village - A.B.Robb1959
- 39.Archaeology in Québec - Min. des Affaires Culturelles1986
- 40.L'Amenagement l'Urbanisme et le Patrimoine - Min. des Affaires Culturelles (French)1986
- 41.La Revitalisation des Centre-Villes et le Développement Culturel - Min. des Affaires Culturelles (French)1986
- 42.Heritage Conservation - The Built Environment - E. Neville Ward1986
- 43.L'Outaouais Québécois - Jean-Pierre F. St. Amour1978
- 44.Tracing Their Footsteps - German Settlement - Anne Schnurr1988
- 45.A Tale of Two Chelseas - P.M.O. Evans1988

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