



# THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF THE GATINEAU LA SOCIÉTÉ HISTORIQUE DE LA GATINEAU

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## NEWSLETTER

No. 01-6 : December 2001 - January 2002

### HSG to Host QAHN Conference

The Quebec Anglophone Heritage Network's (QAHN) third annual conference will be held June 7-9, 2002 in Gatineau/Hull and surrounding area. The Historical Society of The Gatineau has volunteered to host the conference in Honour of our 40th Anniversary. Preliminary organization suggests that the conference will be held mainly at Heritage College, with some special events held in Chelsea and Wakefield. The tentative program includes 'behind the scenes' visits to some of Ottawa-Gatineau's heritage institutions like the National Archives of Canada and the Canadian Museum of Civilization. The Conference will also feature a one day 'Regional Showcase' where the Society will have the opportunity to highlight our knowledge of the the heritage and history of The Gatineau. The Conference Planning Committee will be co-chaired by Michael Cooper (459-2787) and Marc Cockburn (459-2004) and we hope that anyone who can provide us with some volunteer energy, or can help us with their ideas, suggestions, and advice will contact us. Watch for more news about the conference in the months to come.

### HSG Remembrance Day Service

One of the largest crowds ever to attend a Remembrance Day Service at the Chelsea Pioneer Cemetery witnessed the unveiling of the Chelsea Cenotaph by Jean Perras, Mayor of Chelsea, and Ernie Mahoney, President of the Historical Society of The Gatineau. Rev. Murray McGlashen said the prayers of Dedication. The names were read by Mr. Robert Martin. Two bronze memorial plaques - in French and English, were inset into the memorial gate of the Society-owned Pioneer Cemetery, dedicated to the memory of the those Chelsea/West Hull residents who lost their lives in the first and second world wars.

The Society wishes to thank Allan Richens for his effort and dedication in leading this important project. Allan has prepared an article about his experience in researching the names on the plaque. It will be published in the next *Up the Gatineau!*

**Coming Events: Page 6**

#### DEDICATED TO THE MEMORY OF Those residents of Chelsea (West Hull) who lost their lives in the First and Second World Wars

##### 1914-1918

Private Stephen Thomas DUNN  
*27<sup>th</sup> Battalion, Canadian Infantry  
(Manitoba Regiment)*  
8 May 1917, aged 28  
Étaples Military Cemetery  
Pas-de-Calais, France

Private Allan Sidney FARMER  
*42<sup>nd</sup> Battalion, Canadian Infantry  
(Quebec Regiment)*  
3 November 1917, aged 21  
whose name appears on the  
Menin Gate Memorial  
Ypres, West Flanders, Belgium

##### 1939-1945

Pilot Officer John D. BATES  
*Royal Canadian Air Force*  
20 February 1944, aged 19  
Berlin 1939-45 War Cemetery  
Brandenburg, Germany

Leading Aircraftsman  
Richard Neilon HAMMOND  
*Royal Canadian Air Force*  
22 September 1943, aged 20  
Beechwood Cemetery  
Ottawa, Ontario

Pilot Officer George F. KINGSBURY  
*Royal Canadian Air Force*  
26 June 1944, aged 21  
Imphal War Cemetery, India

Flying Officer Robert E. LEE  
*Royal Canadian Air Force*  
11 July 1944, aged 24  
Runnymede Memorial  
Surrey, United Kingdom

Flight Sergeant Eric M. MILKS  
*Royal Canadian Air Force*  
23 September 1944, aged 20  
Heteren General Cemetery, Netherlands

Flight Lieutenant W. J. Bernard MURPHY  
*Royal Canadian Air Force*  
16 July 1944, aged 27  
Lignieres-de Touraine Communal  
Cemetery  
Indre-et-Loire, France

Gunner James A. REID  
*23<sup>rd</sup> Field Regiment,  
Royal Canadian Artillery*  
7 September 1944, aged 21  
Adegem Canadian War Cemetery  
Maldegem, East Flanders, Belgium

We Will Remember Them

**'3D Laser Scanning` a New Tool for Presenting Heritage Sites and Artefacts. images of museum artefacts. (HSG January Monthly Meeting)**

Five years ago some of us became familiar with the term virtual reality, by reading in computer magazines that soon one will be able to visit heritage sites using a computer. Two years ago, the Internet demonstrated that it was possible for anyone with a personal computer to access images of heritage sites when displayed on a web site. Today, some of these websites present three dimensional (3D) images of buildings and/or objects that can be looked at in detail, from any angle, by rotating the 3D model on a computer screen. This 3D modeling now allows for the virtual visit of a historic site or museum on the Internet. Recently, 3D laser scanners have been used for creating virtual sites and objects to entertain and educate, and to present these sites to those surfing the Web.

Robin Letellier, a Chelsea resident, has been using 3D laser scanners for the past six years. In his work as conservation architect, one of his areas of interest is to scan heritage objects for the purpose of historical research and heritage conservation, and to present the virtual artefacts to those that want to see them without traveling to the site.

An example of historical research could be the depicting of ancient petroglyphs (as those found in Peterborough Provincial Historic Park in Ontario), or illustrating writing on old gravestones. As one can appreciate on the two photographs below, taken in **Old Chelsea** by the way, the writing on the gravestone is unreadable due to weathering and lichen. Where as the third image below is the result of a high-resolution 3D laser scan of the same gravestone that, in reality, is an accurate 3D digital model that could be used to study the information carved on its surface. As one can see, the raking-light function of the software can create virtual shadows to enhance the writing - Robin Letellier



before.....



..... and after

**Chelsea Excellence Awards**

Once again, the HSG was well represented at the annual Chelsea Excellence Gala, held November 30, at Camp Fortune. The Society-sponsored Remembrance Day Service was awarded the 'Event of the Year' award, Society archivist Jay Atherton was a finalist in the 'Citizen of the Year' category and, Allan Richens, long time HSG volunteer, was inducted into the Chelsea Founders Club, recognizing his long-term service to the community.

The focus of the Gala this year, was on Judy Grant, the former mayor of Chelsea. The event was intended to honour her career and highlight her achievements - which have touched many aspects of community life in Gatineau region, including her strong support for the Society's activities - a fact that was recognized last year when the HSG awarded her a Honorary Life Membership.

As part of the gala celebrations, HSG Past-President Carol Martin was asked to introduce Judy Grant. The following are few excerpts from Carol's remarks about Judy Grant:

*... this is an excellent time for all of us to take a few moments to reflect on how Judy has been a part of Chelsea's history-- how she made history--and of course, a little about her personal history.*

*Her connection with Chelsea echoes one theme of Chelsea's growth. As the rivers and lakes of Chelsea became a magnet drawing city-dwellers to summer and winter activities in the fresh air, local farmers built "cottages" and rented them out or even sold the land. This brought new contacts to the community, provided some cash to the farmers and stimulated local business. Judy Bradley and her family lived in the Glebe in Ottawa, but her parents bought a cottage at Burnett, and, as Judy found, "this is where I belong and where I always felt most at home." Listening to Judy talk about those days offers a real window on our history... from her childhood to her teens and onward. Those golden summers of the 1950s were the stuff of Judy's personal legend: the Cascades Club, ball games, swimming, dances. !!*

*Judy was elected Councillor of West Hull in 1981, and in 1987 became Mayor. The list of her civic accomplishments is legion, and I'd be afraid of leaving some out in trying to enumerate them. But what I see is a person who has had tremendous respect for our countryside and the uniqueness of this place, so that "environment" in Chelsea is not just a buzz-word, but a working example of how to harness that self-reliant spirit that brought people to live in this rural area to participate in managing our resources.*

*I think of the present town hall, which uses older buildings (the former municipal office and stand-alone library) imaginatively combined with additional new space in an attractive and affordable way, and our streamlined and yet historic name of "Chelsea," decided on during her tenure as Mayor for a municipality that had lumbered along as "Le partie ouest du Township de Hull" (even shortened, to West Hull, it sounded like bad geography or a suburb of that big urban place at our southern limits)*

*Let's join in showing our appreciation for her now*

## Ordering Copies of Up the Gatineau!

- Any of volumes (1997-2000) **\$6.00**
- All earlier issues are **\$3.00**
- Up the Gatineau! Index (covers 25 years) **\$3.00**
- 25-volume set including a 25-year Index **\$75.00**

### Other Publications Available from the Historical Society:

*Historic Map of Chelsea -1875 (1997 edition) - showing Municipality of Chelsea (West Hull) land ownership as indicated by the 1875 valuation roll. **\$6.00***

*Historical Walks: The Gatineau Park Story (New Edition- 1997) - Katharine Fletcher's guide to 25 hikes in Gatineau Park includes a history of the Park and information about the area's settlers and early industries. **\$12.95***

*Hurling Down the Pine - The story of logging days in the Gatineau. - by Courtney Bond, former historian for the National Capital Commission, commemorative price. **\$5.00***

*Touring the Chelseas - a tour guide indicating places of historic interest in Chelsea and Old Chelsea. R. A. J. Phillips, 1991. **\$5.00***

*The Extra Mile - the Journal of Wakefield's Dr. Harold Geggie, edited by his son and daughter-in-law, Stuart and Norma Geggie, 1987. **\$10.00***

*A Place Apart: A Search for the Pioneer Cemeteries of the Lower Gatineau Valley, Norma Geggie, 1999 **\$8.00***

Call (819) 827-2077, or write to: The Historical Society of the Gatineau, P.O. Box 1803, Chelsea, Quebec, J9B 1A1.

### HSG 40th Anniversary Project

The Society is pleased to announce that we have received our first financial grant for the publication of the 40th Anniversary publication called *Chelsea: An Illustrated History*. The \$2,000 grant received from the Ministère de la Culture et des Communications du Québec, will be used to begin writing the book, which will feature many historic photos from the HSG photo archives. The steering committee, comprised of Randolph Gherson, Carol Martin and Jay Atherton, will continue to seek financial assistance to have the publication available in both our official languages. More information on this project will follow.

### HSG Archives News

The Historical Society Archives now is open three afternoons each week, from 1:30 to 4:30 p. m. on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays. The Archives is located in the basement of the Library, 100 Old Chelsea Road, Chelsea. Library users will recognize the fact that these hours correspond to periods of time when the Library itself is also open for business.

We have three new volunteers working with us: Janeth McKinley of Kingsmere, as well as David and Eileen Castleman - who devote their time to entering and correcting data in our Image Bank data base. Our complete list of volunteers now reads as follows (with areas of specialization and days on service indicated):

Jay Atherton, overall direction (Friday)  
Annette Brand, photograph collection and Image Bank (Wednesday)  
David & Eileen Castleman, Image Bank data entry and service (Friday)  
Norma Geggie, accessions and inquiries (Wakefield and north) (Monday)  
Adrienne Herron, Image Bank maintenance and training (Wednesday)  
Carol Martin, genealogical resources and inquiries (Wednesday)  
Janeth McKinley, Kingsmere area accessions and inquiries (Monday)  
Anita Rutledge, accessions and Wakefield/LaPêche area inquiries

Perhaps the most exciting news is that we have acquired a microfilm/microfiche reader, and are about to order copies of reels that will be especially interesting to local genealogists, beginning with the census returns for our community in the nineteenth century. To use the reader we shall have to acquire a table, preferably on wheels, roughly 30" high, 24" long, and 20" wide.

Does any one of our readers have such a piece of furniture, which they would be *willing* to donate to the Historical Society? If so, or if interested in otherwise helping the Archives, please call the Archivist, Jay Atherton at 827-1703.

### MEMBERSHIP REMINDER

A reminder to our members whose membership expires at the end of 2001, please check the date on your address label. Membership fees are unchanged: \$15 (one year) or \$25 (two years). In addition to bimonthly newsletters, members receive a free copy of *Up the Gatineau!*



### **Mystery Photo Resides in Image Bank**

The photo depicts five men with an automobile. This image, along with others arrived mysteriously from an anonymous donor in an envelope with the return address of the "Canadian International Paper Company". These men are all wearing overcoats. Three have Fedora hats atop their heads while two are sporting peaked caps. Two are wearing small round glasses - perhaps a clue to the time period. All have their hands over their hearts, as if swearing allegiance to a deity, superior being, group or country...or membership in the Mafia! The photo bears inscription on the back: "Harry Ry Ward H. Elmer Bun E." If our readers cannot identify the men, perhaps they can identify the car. If you know, please contact the Society's Archives.

Many thanks to Doug Liddiard who identified the car in question in the last newsletter was a 1923-1924 Franklin? Sorry Doug, there are no prizes!

### **100-year Plaques Celebrate La Pêche Heritage**

One of the most important projects of the La Pêche Heritage Committee is the presentation of slate and barn-wood plaques marking buildings or homes over 100 years old. Ernie Mahoney, president of the Historical Society of the Gatineau, said the plaque program is a clear indication that the municipality respects its heritage and is ready to make a modest investment each year in honouring these treasures. "The Historical Society would like to see the idea spread to other municipalities in the Gatineau valley."

Presentation were made by Mayor Robert Bussière and Heritage Committee Chair Bill Gonzalez at a reception in the Municipal Hall, October 5. Receiving plaques were Robert Hughes for the *Earle/Anderson/Hughes home* on Valley Drive; Patrice Simon and Catherine Filion for the *Shouldice Homestead*, McClinton Road; Illa and Marilyn Stanley for the *Rogers/Stanley residence*, owned by Harold and Josie Stanley, Montain Road; Heather Hoy for the *Anglican Manse*, Burnside Road; Elaine Sully Moffat for the *Edmond/Sully home*, Burnside; Meg Barker for the *Donovan Homestead*; River Road; Molly Waite, for the *Malone/Wells/Waite house*, Burnside; Janice and Bruce Stevenson for the *Rutledge Homestead*, Mountain Road; Jean-Claude Lanthier for the *Centre 7 étoiles*, Duclos; Mr. And Mrs. Aurele Sincennes for the *Aurel Sincennes House* in Masham; and Nicolle Labelle for the *Jean-Baptiste Martineau House* in Masham.— *Ernie Mahoney*

## Heritage losses in NYC

The National Task Force on Emergency Response has issued a damage report update on the impact that the events of September 11 on museums and collections, historic sites and landmarks, libraries and archives in the New York and Washington D.C. areas. The Task Force is a coalition of 30 government agencies and national service organizations formed in 1995 to help libraries, archives, museums, historical societies, and historic sites better protect their cultural and historic resources from damage due to disasters. Based on information contained in that damage assessment and on information gleaned from additional press reports, here is what we now know. For the most part, historic and art collections are basically sound. Most continuing problems relate to dust, ventilation systems, and interruptions to communications. For the some 245 pieces of outdoor sculpture in Lower Manhattan, however, there is no accurate report of damage as yet, except for excessive dust and soot. Battery Park appears most affected. According to the Task Force update, "a spectacular art collection, including sculptures and drawings by Rodin," was destroyed when the World Trade Center Towers collapsed. It is still too early to determine exactly how much art was destroyed because much of it was owned by private companies and most of them have yet to detail their losses. Cantor Fitzgerald lost hundreds of staff and the world's largest private collection of works by Rodin in the gallery known as the Museum in the Sky. The collection also included 19th Century American and European paintings, sculptures, and photographs. Moreover, works by Alexander Calder, Louise Nevelson, Joan Miró and Roy Lichtenstein have been damaged or totally destroyed. National Public Radio reports that a tapestry by Spanish surrealist Joan Miró, which was in the mezzanine of Tower Two, is presumed lost. Elyn Zimmerman's memorial fountain to the victims of the 1993 World Trade Center bombing was also lost. Historic preservationists report that most of the 67 city landmarks below Chamber Street are unscathed though ash-laden. Some 13 historically or architecturally important buildings suffered various degrees of damage. The hardest hit building was the National Park Service unit, Federal Hall National Memorial. The Federal Emergency Management Administration (FEMA) has been alerted to the existence of a valuable collection of artifacts related to the Five Points site and the African-American Burial Ground. The collection was being maintained by the General Services Administration and was stored in the basement near 6 World Trade Center. The collection has yet to be located in the ruins.

With the exception of the New Amsterdam Branch of the New York Public Library, most libraries in the area below 14th Street have reopened. Located in Building 2 of the World Trade Center, the National Developmental Research Institute's library, however, was totally destroyed. In terms of impacts on archival collections, characterized as "probably lost" by the Task Force report, is a collection of 35,000 photographs and their documentation from the former Broadway Theater Archive. The archive was located in the offices of Broadway Digital Entertainment, one block from 7 World Trade Center.

On September 24, various New York State preservation agencies met to mobilize and to provide assistance to institutions impacted by the terrorist attacks. A consortium of five historic preservation organizations is creating the Lower Manhattan Emergency Preservation Fund. It will make grants to help alleviate the impact of the disaster and to restore damaged historic sites in Lower Manhattan. A special Web site has been established: [www.nycpreservation911.org](http://www.nycpreservation911.org).

### Malak Karsh (1915—2001)

The Society is saddened by the recent passing of Malak Karsh, a great booster and photographic recorder of the Gatineaus.

When Malak came to Canada in 1937 from Turkey, it was the fulfillment of his dream and the beginning of a lifelong love affair. With an unerring eye and unconditional love for his newly adopted country, Malak set about providing us with over half a century of breathtaking photographs. In 1997, Mr. Karsh told an interview: *"When I saw the beautiful autumn colours, I said, 'That is what I am going to be: I am going to be a photographer. If Canada is all as beautiful as the **Gatineaus**, I am going to travel all over Canada."*

Malak's famous 1963 photograph of logs floating on the Ottawa River below Parliament Hill, called Paper and Politics, was reproduced 3.5 billion times on the now-withdrawn \$1 bill. Mr. Karsh was laid to rest at Maclaren Cemetery in Wakefield, overlooking the hills he loved so much.



Malak Karsh photographing the HSG Auction ca.1990

## 2002 Winter/Spring HSG Program Events

**January 21, 2002**

**7:30 p.m. Chelsea Community Centre**

**Robin Letellier: '3D Laser Scanning' a New Tool for Presenting Heritage Sites and Artefacts. images of museum artefacts.**

Robin Letellier, a Chelsea resident, has been using 3D laser scanners for the past six years. In his work as conservation architect, one of his areas of interest is to scan heritage objects for the purpose of historical research and heritage conservation, and to present the virtual artefacts to those that want to see them without traveling to the site. (see related item on page 2)

**February 18, 2002 : Annual General Meeting**

**7:30 p.m. Chelsea Community Centre**

***The HSG at 40: A Retrospective***

Some of our past-presidents will present a retrospective of the Society's achievements and milestones, in celebration of the HSG 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary. As well, business meeting, reports, awards, and elections.

**March 18, 2002**

**7:30 p.m. Location TBA**

**Michael Cooper: *The Travel + Study Programmes of Elderhostel.***

So you're 55+, and have the time, energy and enthusiasm to learn? Well, Elderhostel has programmes for you! Started in 1975 using university residences in New England, E-H has grown to reach into 90 countries with 175, 000 hostellers annually -and no, you no longer have to share the shower! HSG's March presentation will be given by Michael Cooper of Wakefield, who is an Elderhostel group-leader. He will present an overview of the types of programmes available, and speak of his own experiences -on boats, trains and feet. Experienced E-hostellers are invited to come and share their stories and photo-memories.

**April 22:, 2002**

**7:30 p.m. Location TBA**

**Paul S. Berry: *Merchant tokens in the Gatineau***

Come and hear a talk about Gatineau-area merchants who circulated their own "funny money," including "coins" worth equivalent amounts in "trade" and tokens worth "a meal" or ½ loaf or bread! Paul Berry Curator of the National Currency Collection, Bank of Canada, traces the use and examples of "merchant tokens" in the Gatineau.

**May 27, 2002: HSG Annual Dinner**

**Time and location TBA**

**Charlotte Gray: *Mackenzie King***

Ottawa resident Charlotte Gray is the author of two best-selling recent biographies. *Mrs King: The Life and Times of Isabel Mackenzie King* (published in 1997) which was short-listed for the Governor General's Literary Award for non-fiction. Her second book, *Sisters in the Wilderness: The Lives of Susanna Moodie and Catherine Parr Traill* (published 1999), won the Canadian Booksellers' Libris Award for the best non-fiction book for 1999-2000. Her third biographical work, which is scheduled for publication in 2002, will trace the life and literary development of well-know and multifaceted Canadian poet E. Pauline Johnson.

**In the works for the fall of 2002:** A joint meeting with the Buckingham Historical Society, with speaker Hugh MacMillan, to commemorate the 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the founding of Buckingham; A talk from a gentleman who is writing a book about his experiences as a Cruiser for the CIP in the 50's; A speaker from the National Archives, about a project to create a National Family Research Centre (genealogy). If you have a topic of local interest, or you know of someone who would like to contribute to our monthly meetings, please do not hesitate to contact the Society.