



GATINEAU VALLEY HISTORICAL SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

Oct — Nov 2005

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Number 2005-05

Coming Events

Monday, Oct 3, 7:30 p.m.

Wakefield Mill Inn

Preserving our Built Heritage — The Aylmer Experience

The Society is pleased to welcome **Mr. Richard Bégin**, former President of the Aylmer Heritage Association (AHA), who will present a historical retrospective of the AHA's activities in terms of working with the Municipality of Aylmer to create by-laws, plans, and best practices for heritage buildings preservation and architectural integration. Richard Bégin is President of Symmes Inn Museum and currently sits on the Gatineau Urban Planning Committee. In June of this year, he was elected President of the *Fédération des sociétés d'histoire du Québec*.

Monday October 17, 7:30 p.m.

Chelsea Community Centre

Victorian Era Railway Stations and Bridges in and around the Gatineau: Remembering and Preserving our Heritage

Bytown Railway Society member Mr. David L. Jeans will talk about the railway stations and bridges built along the railways around Hull in the years from 1877 to 1901. His presentation will show how these were all related through their builders and a common late Victorian Italianate architectural style. He will also talk about the lost stations of that era that are closely related to the survivors, namely Chelsea, Low, and Kazabazua on the Maniwaki sub. Davis Jeanes is President of Transport 2000 Canada, vice-president Heritage Ottawa, and member of Ottawa Railway History Circle, Ottawa Valley Associated Railroaders, Bytown Railway Society, and Ottawa Valley HOTRAK modular railroad club.

(More coming events on page 6)

FAIRBAIRN HOUSE MOVED

"They builded better than they knew who builded for posterity."

The prophetic quote inscribed on William Fairbairn's tombstone is a fit testimony to the Wakefield pioneer who left an important legacy for future generations of Gatineau Valley residents and visitors.

On September 1st 2005, the family home of William Fairbairn was placed on a new permanent foundation and will take on a new role in the community's efforts in preserving our local and regional heritage for "posterity".



The Fairbairn House crosses the Gendron Bridge

The society wishes to acknowledge and thank the following individuals who helped make the move possible. They are:

La Pêche Mayor Robert Bussière, Wakefield Councillor Bill Gonzalez. Municipal employees, Marcel Marchildon, Julie Clouthier and Jocelyn Neault. Many thanks as well to the Society members who took the initial steps to persuade La Pêche Council to save the house. They are Ernie Mahoney, Norma Geggie, Michael Cooper and Neil Faulkner.



The Fairbairn House on its new foundation.
(Photos by E. Mahoney)

For more information about the Musée Fairbairn Museum project please visit: **www.fairbairn.ca**

The Tools of Heritage Conservation

Congratulations should be extended to both the Municipalities of La Pêche and Chelsea, which have both recently taken recent action to recognize and protect important heritage monuments within their jurisdiction.

Last spring the Municipality of Chelsea assumed ownership of the **Old Chelsea Protestant Burial Ground** and agreed to look after its maintenance. Furthermore, Chelsea recently launched its new **Culture and Heritage Policy** which among other things, recognizes that the Municipality "has a collection of sectors and sites with unique identity, and that should be developed and maintained".

In La Pêche, the municipality has recently taken ownership of the **William Fairbairn House** and covered the cost to move it to Hendrick Park, where it will be turned into a local history museum. As well, the **La Pêche Heritage Building Recognition Program** continues to add more centenary buildings to its inventory every year. (See item on page 4).

However, good intentions are not always enough! Although both municipalities have taken an interest in "recognizing" historic sites, neither municipality has taken the extra steps required to protect these sites from incongruous development by introducing tools to "classify" building or areas for heritage protection.

As our historic villages face the pressures of rapid development, it may be time for our Municipal governments to create the laws and standards that are required to ensure the protection of our significant heritage buildings or sites.

The following is a summary of some of the ways heritage buildings and areas can be protected at the municipal level.

In 1985, the **Quebec Cultural Property Act (CPA)** of 1972 was modified to give municipalities the right to protect their own heritage. It allows for 5 principal categories of classification ensuring various degrees of protection on buildings or sites:

- *Historic monument*: An immovable which has historic interest because of its use or architecture. A classified monument can also have a protected area which is an area surrounding a classified historic monument whose perimeter is determined by the Municipality.
- *Historic district*: a territory designated as such by the municipality Government because of the concentration of historic monuments or sites found there.
- *Historic site*: a place where events have occurred marking the history of Quebec or an area containing historic property or monuments.

- *Archaeological property*: any moveable or immovable property indicating prehistoric or historic human occupation.
- *Natural district*: a territory designated as such by the Government because of the aesthetic, legendary or scenic interest of its natural setting.

In Quebec, municipalities have two means to conserve their heritage: urban planning by-laws and the powers given to them by the CPA.

According to the CPA, a municipality may form a Heritage Advisory Committee whose function is to give its advice to the council of the Municipality on any matter relating to the administration of the CPA. (La Pêche currently has this committee)

After obtaining the advice of the advisory committee, a municipality may, by by-law of the council and after giving public notice, designate all or part of a historic monument, site, or district situated in its territory, the conservation of which is in the public interest.

A master plan is a long term planning tool. Some of its by-laws can allow for heritage conservation and may include conditions to ensure that every designated historic monument shall be kept in good condition and that no person may demolish all or part of a designated historic monument, move it or use it as a backing for a construction without the authorization of the council.

Every person who in any way alters, restores, repairs or changes the exterior appearance of a designated historic monument shall comply with the conditions relating to the conservation of the characteristics of the monument to which the council may subject them in addition to the municipal by-laws.

A municipality can require that developers submit for approval drawings for a proposed project that show the architecture of the building, how it is laid-out and how it integrates into the surrounding neighbourhood. This law, called a plan d'implantation et d'intégration architecturale (PIIA), is based on certain criteria and covers an area defined by the municipality.

There are many tools available for municipalities to protect its heritage. In fact these kinds of protection have become common in many Quebec municipalities that have recognized the important role that heritage plays in the prosperity of their communities. With the November municipal elections around the corner, Society members may want to ask La Pêche and Chelsea candidates about how far they are willing to go to protect heritage sites and buildings. (Marc Cockburn)

Report of 45th Annual Auction

Date: 20 Aug, 2004, 09:00-13:00

Location: St. Stephen's Church Grounds, Chelsea

Weather: Cloudy, light rain most of the morning (25°C)

Auctioneer: Gerry Lepage (Ashton Auction Services)

Number of Donors: 64 (25 from regular auction and 39 solicited for the silent auction)

Number of Registered Bidders: 100

Residency of Bidders: Mainly Chelsea (49), Gati-neau (16), La Pêche (19), Ottawa (16), and one each from Montreal, Kazabazua, and Val des Mont.

REVENUE

Bake Table	203.65
Flea Market	479.38
Donations	12.00
Silent Auction	867.00
Auction	<u>4,653.03</u>
	\$4,653.03

EXPENSES

Ret. to donors	616.00
Bake Table	32.35
Garb. Disp.	35.00
Auctioneer	100.00
Supplies	23.04
Ads-News	45.89
Ads-WQP	253.06
Ads-Droit	<u>413.28</u>
	\$1,518.62

Profit: \$3,3134.41

Memberships: \$205

Publication sales: \$76.95



On Sunday, August 21, the day following the Auction, the auctioneer, Gerry Lepage, was killed in a motorcycle accident. Mr. Lepage, 66 years old, was hit on Highway 148 between Aylmer and Luskville. Mr. Lepage was owner of Ashton Auction services and had been calling the Society's auction for the past three years, for which he asked only a modest fee. Mr. Lepage was well known for his support to non-profit organizations throughout the Ottawa region, and his expertise certainly helped increase the Auction's final profit. Gerry will be missed by his friends at the Society.

THANKS to everyone for a successful Auction!



It is always difficult to distribute thanks for a the success of an event well done by a large number of people, for fear of leaving someone out. Nevertheless, there are many GVHS members and community volunteers who made significant contributions towards making this annual project a

success. Many thanks to the following individuals who lent us a hand again this year:

Rick Adams, Dominique Alie, Betty Allan, Madeleine Anderson, Mary Armitage, Jay Atherton, Peggy Atherton, Annette Brand, Linda Bardell, David & Eileen Castleman, Marc Cockburn, Charlotte Cockburn, Marjorie Evis, Joe Fitzpatrick, Norma Geggie, Anne Ginns, Adrienne Herron, Richard Herron, Bob Hughes, Wes Jamison, Jutta Kurtz, Ernie Mahoney, Duncan Marshall, Bob Martin, Carol Martin, Rae Moore, Jonathan Murphy, Bent Nielsen, Rowena Pomeroy, Harold & Margaret Reid, Allan Richens, Anita Rutledge, Natasha Sabalotny, Sylvia Shawcross, Sacha Smirnoff, Jill Watkins, Lois Wilson, Preston Wilson, Rory Winfield, and Teresa Winfield

A heartfelt thanks to all of you and to any other volunteers whom we may have missed.

Many thanks as well, to the following businesses who generously donated to the Silent Auction:

Del Trudeau, Dunnderosa Golf Club, Larrimac Golf Club, Chelsea Freshmart, Café Soup'Herb, Les Fougere, Chelsea Smokehouse, Chelsea Hardware, Mayor of Chelsea, Harky's Garage, Chelsea Post Office, Epicerie general du Parc, Boulangerie dans un Village, La table du Villageois, Chelsea Pub, La Cigale, Lafleur de la Capitale, Greg Christie's, Doozy Candles, Gleneagle Firewood Ltd., Gerry & Isobel's, N.C.C., Nordic Spa, Moorside Tea Room, David Smith M.P., Joan Garnett, La Maison Earle, Wakefield General Store, West Quebec Post, Ann Chudleigh, Helen Logan, Anita Rutledge, La Tulipe Noire boutique, Jamboree, Les Trois Erables B&B, Khewa, Marche des Artisans,

Sincerely

Marc Cockburn and Jay Atherton,
2005 Auction Directors

Friday November 11th, 11:00 a.m.
Chelsea Pioneer Cemetery
Remembrance Day Ceremony

Members and friends of the Gatineau Valley Historical Society are invited to attend one of the most poignant of the thousands of Remembrance Day ceremonies held across Canada on November 11th. The HSG has hosted the Remembrance Day service at the Chelsea Pioneer Cemetery since 1986 to keep alive the memory of Private Richard Rowland Thompson, Queen's Scarf, who is buried in the tiny cemetery. As in past years, Private Thompson's old regiment, the Royal Canadian Regiment, stationed in Petawawa, will form a guard of honour.

Saturday, October 15 and October 29.
Chelsea Foundation Community
Brainstorming Sessions

The Chelsea Foundation and the Municipality of Chelsea have agreed to set a five-year objective for creating a community gathering and recreation centre on the Foundation property next to Chelsea Elementary School on Chelsea Road. Over the next year the foundation will invite community groups and residents to various events to share their ideas and will help to shape how the center will take its final form. To get involved in the COMMUNITY BRAINSTORMING phase of this future project, everyone is invited to sign up for official BRAINSTORMING SESSIONS where you can really let your creativity flow. These sessions are scheduled for consecutive **Saturdays, October 15 and October 29.**

The Chelsea Foundation are especially eager to have members of the GVHS attend in order to provide some historical perspective to this project. For more information about participating in these events, please contact Joanna Barkley at 827-1919, or visit www.fondationchelseafoundation.com

GVHS Volunteer Opportunities

The GVHS is seeking individual interested in helping out in the following capacities with the Society.

- Secretary to the Board (Call Marc: 459-2004)
- Newsletter Editor (Call Marc)
- Web Site Coordinator (Call Marc)
- Contributors to *Up the Gatineau!* (Call Carol: 827-1633)
- Volunteers Society Archives (Call Jay: 827-1703)

2005 La Pêche Heritage Building Plaques.

At the La Pêche Volunteer Gala Dinner held on September 1, 2005, the La Pêche Heritage Advisory Committee awarded heritage recognition plaques to the owners of the following centenary buildings.

Wakefield

Earle Duplex/ Purcell Boutiques,
(Mr. Jon Purcell, owner)

Earle's Hall/ Town Hall and Meeting Place/ Place 1870,
(Mr. Jon Purcell, owner)

Patterson's Store/ Cross General Store/ Jamboree,
(Mr. Earl Hanson & Ms Shirley Brown, owners)

St-Andrew's United Church,
(St-Andrew's Presbyterian Church - 1847-1925)

Maison William Fairbairn House,
(Municipalité de La Pêche, owner)

Duclos

Maison Robinson-Renaud House
(M. Gilles Renaud & Mme Marie-Louise Benoit, owners)

Maison Robinson-Robertson House,
(M. Gérard Robertson, owner)

Lascelles

Propriété familiale Magee/ Brooks Homestead,
(Ms Dorothy Campbell Brooks, owner)

Masham

Maison de Magloire « Petitot » dit Sincennes
(M. Luc Sincennes et Mme Juliette Legros, owners)

Maison Gabriel Vaillant House
(M. Jean-Guy Labelle, owner)

Alcove

Maison Carolyn Kelly & Mark Boyd House,
(Ms Carolyn Kelly & Mr Mark Boyd, owners)

Maison Erasmus (Ross) & Sylvia Trowsse House,
(Mr Erasmus (Ross) Trowsse, owner)

Rupert

Maison Robert & Ann Johnston House,
(Mr. Robert Johnston, owner)

Farrellton

Propriété familiale Woods/ Daly Homestead,
(Mr Reginald and Ms Doreen Daly, owners)

Research for this year's awards was carried out by Heritage Advisory Committee members Norma Geggie, Anita Rutledge, Jean Laflamme, Michel Babin, and Doug Nesbitt.