

the trident

A quarterly publication of the Newfoundland & Labrador Historic Trust

13,000 Visits in its 13th Year: Doors Open 2015



Commissariat
House



Compton
House



Crow's Nest
Officers Club



Anglican Cathedral of St. John the Baptist

This year marked Newfoundland and Labrador Historic Trust's thirteenth annual Doors Open Days event, which took place on the weekend of September 12th and 13th at participating sites in the Avalon Region. We have officially expanded to the surrounding areas around St. John's and hope to grow beyond these boundaries in the future.

Doors Open is a unique opportunity for local citizens and visitors to celebrate our architecture and heritage through

the exploration of some of our hidden historical, architectural and cultural gems. Buildings that are normally closed to the public or charge an entrance fee welcome visitors to look around free of charge. There were over 13,000 visits to our 30 participating sites! This year's success was due to increasing popularity of Doors Open, both through word of mouth and social media, and is an event in which the public looks forward to each year.

continued on next page >

in this issue:

p. 3 Update on the 1894 Anglican Church

p. 4 31st Annual Southcott Awards

p. 8 Salvation Army Buildings Demolished

p. 11 Thimble Cottage Opened to the Public

Doors Open 2015

This year's event scored another success in which we increased the number of participating sites from 22 to a grand total of 30, with 11 sites being first-time participants. Mary Queen of the World Church was a new addition where the public had the pleasure of viewing special pieces of artwork by Gerald Squires. Rainbow Riders, of Mount Scio Road, has been operating for 25 years and participated in our event for the first time this year. It was a special treat for adults and children alike. The Memorial University Folklore and Language Archive, established in 1968, showcased special collections of Newfoundland vocabulary, proverbs and riddles to the public and material for a projected linguistic atlas of the province. All of the first time participant sites were thrilled with the community's excitement for Doors Open and plan to be returning sites in the coming years.

Response from visitors has been great, with the most common request being that we continue to expand the event and add more sites that are not normally open to the public. Continuing to try to involve private homes or buildings otherwise closed to the public in Doors Open is something we need the community's support for, so anything Trust members can do to help with this initiative would be a great boost to next year's Doors Open!

A special thank-you to our sponsors the Heritage Foundation of Newfoundland and Labrador, Canadian Heritage, Heritage Canada The National Trust, the City of St. John's, The Telegram, FastSigns and Image4 for making this event possible!

*Article by MaryClaire McGrath
Doors Open 2015 Coordinator
Photos by Peter Jackson & Emily Wolf*



Thank you to our Sponsors



Canadian
Heritage

Patrimoine
canadien

HERITAGE CANADA
NATIONAL TRUST



HÉRITAGE CANADA
FIDUCIE NATIONALE



Star Light, Star Bright

The Signal Hill Star has been the symbol of the arrival of Christmas in St. John's for decades. This year, Parks Canada will shine a new light on this beloved tradition. The brand new Signal Hill Star will be lit on December 13, 2015. For more information: <http://on.fb.me/1XdvJOn>

Demolition of the St. Philip's 1894 Anglican Church



The six year struggle to save the St. Philip's 1894 Anglican Church, one the oldest built heritage structures in the Town of Portugal Cove - St. Phillips (PCSP) and a designated Municipal Heritage Building, has come to a sad end. The Church by the Sea Inc. Heritage Group (CBTS), an organization comprised of parishioners, PCSP citizens, and heritage advocates, tried valiantly to have the iconic building restored to its former glory. CBTS both raised funds and developed sustainable proposals to restore the building and to make it part of the town's tourism development plan. Not only would the building survive as a peaceful reminder of its role in the lives of parishioners past and present, but it would provide much needed community space for PCSP with no financial cost or obligation from the Anglican parish.

CBTS, along with our many supporters, worked hard to educate church leaders and municipal politicians on the historic and cultural value of this building. These ideas were ultimately rejected, and the 1894 St. Philip's Anglican Church has been demolished at an estimated cost of \$100,000 to the parish. While we feel that this situation has left a huge scar on the

landscape, the Anglican parish, and in the community of PCSP more broadly, we hope that this experience can ultimately lead to a greater good.

CBTS is considering its options for the future. That is, how we will proceed in memory of St. Philips 1894 Anglican Church, with consideration also as to how to dispense funds from our fundraising efforts to save the church and steeple. Our by-laws, plus the obligation made to the Canada Revenue Agency's Charities Directorate when we were granted status as a charitable organization, limits the funds usage as it relates to preserving built heritage. We are interested in suggestions and ideas as to how the CBTS will proceed in remembering the old church and dispensing its current (and future) funds. In that regard we invite comments. Please contact us via email info@TheChurchByTheSea.ca; website www.TheChurchByTheSea.ca; or write The CBTS PO Box 1894, Stn C, St. John's, NL A1C 5R4.

*By Steve Sharpe, Winston Flander
& Cory Thorne, Board Members*

This Place Matters

The Town of Trinity is seeking crowdfunding for the restoration of the Church of the Most Holy Trinity Roman Catholic Church through the National Trust for Canada's new website, This Place Matters. To learn more and to donate, visit: <http://ow.ly/V2TEd>

Newfoundland Historic Trust Announces 2015 Southcott Award Recipients



Bareneed Studios



Bonavista Living



Mike Paterson



Emcee Anthony Germain

The Trust announced the recipients of the 31st Annual Southcott Awards on Monday, June 29 during a ceremony emceed by CBC St. John's Morning Show host, Anthony Germain. The event was held at the Newman Wine Vaults Provincial Historic Site in St. John's.

Awards were presented in two categories: Building Restoration/Preservation and Heritage Tradesperson.

The Trust established the Southcott Award program in 1984 to recognize excellence in the preservation and

adaptive reuse of the architectural heritage of Newfoundland and Labrador. The overall goal of the program is to recognize and commend those who have demonstrated excellence in building design, restoration and preservation.

The Building Restoration/Preservation award was presented to *Bareneed Studios* owned by Sharon Pippy and to *Bonavista Living* for their successful restoration work in the Town of Bonavista. *Mike Paterson* accepted the Heritage Tradesperson honour.

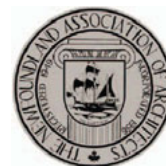
Thank you to our
Sponsors and Supporters



ARCHITECTURE | 49



PROVINCIAL HISTORIC SITES



> continued from page 4

Southcotts

The Southcott Award for Building Restoration/Preservation is presented to finished architectural restoration projects. The Heritage Tradesperson Award celebrates the skill and contribution of an individual in the craft or trade professions in heritage conservation. In order to be considered for this award, the individual must use specialist and traditional methods and also exhibit a high standard of craftsmanship.

The 31st Annual Southcott Awards were sponsored by the Heritage Foundation of Newfoundland and Labrador, Architecture49, Grant Thornton, the Newfoundland and Labrador Association of Architects, Provincial Historic Sites, and Roebothan McKay Marshall.

In addition to our generous sponsors, the Trust would like to extend our sincere thanks to the 2015 Southcott Award Committee: Robyn Pike, Chair, Bonnie Andrews, John Buffinga, Heidi Coombs-Thorne, Kim Cooper, Grant Genova, Jillian Hood, Peter Jackson, Michael Philpott and Sue Wright.

We encourage Trust members to get involved with the Southcott Committee. We are hoping to make the 32nd Annual Southcott Awards bigger and better than ever. If you are interested in assisting with selections, fundraising or event planning, please email southcottawards@gmail.com.

Ceremony photos by Joe Chase

Turn the page for more information on this year's recipients >

11th Annual Leida Finlayson Memorial Scholarship Awarded

Each year the Trust presents the a scholarship in memory of former General Manager, Leida Finlayson, who passed away in 2003 after a courageous battle with cancer. To honour her contribution to the Trust, her life, and her indomitable spirit, the Trust and the Finlayson family established the Leida Finlayson Memorial Scholarship, to be given to a deserving individual studying history or political science at Memorial University of Newfoundland. During the Southcott Awards ceremony, the Trust awarded this year's scholarship to *Sarah Hannon* of St. John's.



Special thanks to Dale Jarvis for sharing his memories of Leida and presenting Sarah with her award.

2015 Southcott Award Recipients

Southcott Award for Building Restoration

Bareneed Studios

Owned by Sharon Pippy

Originally a general store, this building has been thoughtfully restored and now acts as an artists' studio and loft space.

The builder of the property was Ms. Pippy's great grandfather, John Greenland. John was a master carpenter who was responsible for many buildings and fine carpentry projects in Boston. The building is situated in the centre of town at the harbour, directly adjacent the road and on the ocean. Restoration architect Geoff Adams and the project contractors, Sable Building and Design, ran into some challenges with the extensive rot that was present in the building. The roof was leaking and there were mould issues as well. They also had to address broken windows and a lack of plumbing. The proximity to the marine environment also proved to be a test. The team shored up the foundation and piers, rebuilt some walls on their original locations, constructed a new roof line, created new interiors and made substantial plumbing and electrical upgrades.

In undertaking this project, Ms. Pippy sought to transform the building into a modern artists' space and contribute to both the streetscape and community.



Sharon Pippy, owner of Bareneed Studios.

Southcott Award for Building Restoration

Bonavista Living

Owned by John Norman & Mark and Chantal Dickson

This award goes not to one project but to the numerous residential heritage properties restored by Bonavista Living.

In 2014, blending formal education and professional work with a passion for built heritage, John, Mark and Chantal founded a new group of companies: Bonavista Living; Bonavista Creative; and Bonavista Creative Workshop. The triad companies focus on built heritage restoration and redevelopment and also preserve and restore the tangible and intangible cultural heritage of Bonavista's historic properties.

Bonavista Living has acquired numerous residential heritage properties which it has restored and rejuvenated to their original glory. These properties have been chosen for their architectural and historical significance, placement within charming historic neighborhoods, as well as the level of threat they are under. As each property is restored, it may be transformed into a vacation rentals, affordable housing units, or sold as a private home. Bonavista Living is injecting new life into once vacant properties through preservation and redevelopment, thus awakening quaint laneways and fisherman's footpaths while offering authentic outport space.



John Norman, co-owner of Bonavista Living, gave a presentation that showcased their completed and ongoing restoration projects in the Town of Bonavista.

2015 Southcott Award Recipients

Southcott Award for Heritage Tradesperson

Mike Paterson

Upper Amherst Cove

Mr. Paterson moved to this province from Ontario with his wife, Lorie, and three young children in 1988, after seven years with his own carpentry business and a sawmill. They came to Bonavista, then moved to Upper Amherst Cove shortly thereafter, where Mike soon built a workshop. He began operating as Paterson Woodworking in 1992. He moved his focus towards furniture making, and architectural millwork, including windows, doors and other architectural components, mostly for historic buildings including churches, residential and public buildings. While operating Paterson Woodworking, he also taught Heritage Carpentry and Woodworking at the nearby College of the North Atlantic campus from 1994 to 1996.

Since November 2014, Mike has been operating Paterson Woodworking as a one man shop, pursuing some new woodworking challenges as well as some of the established work he had built the business on. Mike continues to make wooden furniture for private homes and commercial spaces, influenced largely by traditional design and techniques. Some of his larger commissions have included custom furniture for Memorial University of Newfoundland, the Shorefast Foundation and their Fogo Island Inn and the Fishers' Loft Inn in Port Rexton.



Mike Paterson provided attendees with a presentation on some of his past projects throughout the province.



Bareneed Studios



Jubilee House, one of the restoration projects completed by Bonavista Living.



Examples of Mike Paterson's work.

Salvation Army Buildings Demolished

In late September, downtown St. John's lost two significant historic resources when the Salvation Army demolished its buildings on Springdale Street. The older of the buildings, completed ca. 1908, was known as the Harbour Light building, while the later building was one of only two major examples of the Art Deco style in St. John's.

In March 2014, the city's Heritage Advisory Committee deemed the buildings "to have distinct heritage qualities that are worth preserving" and recommended that they be designated heritage structures. St. John's City Council rejected the committee's recommendation, instead approving the Salvation Army's plan to demolish the buildings, which they said had fallen into such disrepair that they needed to be replaced in order for the church to continue to provide services to more than 500 people.

The Salvation Army had originally planned to replace the buildings with a \$30 million, 8-10 story building that would allow it to meet the growing demand for education, training, and social services provided through its programs, but in June 2015 returned to St. John's City Council seeking approval to build a parking lot on the site. Council approved the plan, emphasizing that it was an interim solution.

The Trust respects the Salvation Army's desire to better to serve the community, but the demolition of these buildings speaks to a number of heritage issues that continue to be of concern, including limited exploration of adaptive reuse, the lack of architectural salvage options for demolished historic structures, and the approval of preemptive demolition in instances where plans for new construction have yet to be approved.

By Emily Wolf

Renew your membership online

Renewing your Trust membership just got a whole lot easier - visit our website at www.historictrust.ca and fill out the convenient online form. Select the Canada Helps icon to make your payment (use the "donate now" option). You will receive your charitable tax receipt immediately. Trust memberships are great stocking stuffers!

Get involved

For almost 50 years the Trust has been a membership-driven organization. We want to hear from you! Send your submissions for *The Trident* (articles and photos) by email to: coordinator@historictrust.ca. You can also contact us with questions, to inform us of buildings at risk, or to inquire about joining a subcommittee of the Board of Directors.



The Newfoundland & Labrador Historic Trust, established in 1966, is a membership-driven, non-profit organization dedicated to the preservation of all forms of architecture reflecting the culture and heritage of Newfoundland and Labrador.

Board of Directors

Peter Jackson, *President*; Cory Thorne, *Vice President*; Jessica Dellow, *Treasurer*; Sue Wright, *Secretary*; Nancy Brace; Kim Cooper; Grant Genova; Jillian Hood; Greg Locke; Robyn Pike; and, Emily Wolf.

Shannie Duff inducted into the Order of Newfoundland and Labrador

Trust founding member Shannie Duff was among nine individuals invested into the Order of Newfoundland and Labrador on September 30, 2015. The Order of Newfoundland and Labrador is the highest honour of the province. The purpose of the Order is to recognize individuals who have demonstrated excellence and achievement in any field of endeavour benefiting in an outstanding manner, Newfoundland and Labrador and its residents.

An excerpt from the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador's news release:

St. John's and Newfoundland and Labrador are better places because of Shannie Duff. She has worked tirelessly for more than four decades to help preserve and promote the unique heritage and character of St. John's, while also advocating for growth through good planning and appropriate development.

Harvard Architecture students hosted by Harbour Grace, Twillingate and Port Union

A group of 14 Master in Architecture students from Harvard University visited three communities in Newfoundland and Labrador in October. As part of the *Outports in Transition* program, the students helped the towns develop innovative designs.

During their one week stay, the students studied the towns, met with town councils and held public discussions to look at potential growth opportunities. The students worked with each of the town councils to put together plans for the towns which included architectural designs for proposed projects.

For more information on Harvard's *Outports in Transition* program, visit:
www.wcfia.harvard.edu/publications/centerpiece/fall2015/prog_canada

Nominations Open for the City of St. John's 2016 Heritage Awards

The City of St. John's is now accepting nominations for the 2016 Heritage Awards for outstanding work on heritage buildings and other buildings in the City's heritage areas.

Downtown heritage areas are the heart and soul of the City of St. John's. These awards will recognize commercial and residential property owners for their work in rehabilitating, restoring and celebrating our rich built heritage.

Citizens are encouraged to nominate a property that is deserving of this recognition, and property owners are also encouraged to nominate their own property. In 2015, two awards were presented:

- Morris Reid was recognized for 32 Queens Road Residence — Robert Tilly, Stone Mason
- Wayne and Virginia Halley were recognized for 53 Battery Road — Jack Sweetapple of SPS Consulting, Designer, and Bob Sutton, Builder

Deadline for nominations is Monday, January 18, 2016. The awards will be presented at the City's Heritage Day celebrations on Monday, February 15, 2016.

For more information or to submit a nomination, please contact Arthur MacDonald, Planner III, Urban Design and Heritage at (709) 570-2041 or by email: planning@stjohns.ca.

Ridley Offices **Under Threat**

The owner of Ridley Offices in Harbour Grace has recently raised concerns about the future of the building. The Town of Harbour Grace has passed an amendment which will allow for industrial expansion in the area where the building is located.

In a recent interview with CBC, Rhonda Parsons, the building's owner, said that the planned expansion on the Harbour Grace shoreline will have a negative impact on both the area and the building.

Ridley Offices were the business premises of Thomas Ridley, a prominent Harbour Grace merchant (and cousin to Hon. John Rorke, see article below). The building was constructed in 1838. According to the Heritage Newfoundland and Labrador website, these offices are among the last of their kind in the community. Of all the businesses built along the beach during the 1700s and early 1800s, Ridley Offices is the last one standing. It also survived the disastrous fire of 1844 that destroyed most of the town.

The Ridley Offices are made of stone with brick trim and have a slate roof. The stone is said to have come from either Kelly's Island or as



*Ridley Offices
Photo credit: Heritage NL website*

ballast on ships from England. The Ridley Offices were recognized as a Registered Heritage Structure in April 1990.

Ms. Parsons has been approached to sell the building but she believes it will be demolished if sold.

For more information, see the "Harbour Grace's Historic Ridley Office at Risk" Facebook page.

Stone Jug **Now Open**

December 2, 2015 marked the official opening of the Stone Jug restaurant in Carbonear. The building, originally constructed in 1860, has been under restoration for eight years.

The building was part of the Rorke Premises, which consisted of the Stone Jug (which served as a store and residence for the Rorke family), the two Rorke Stores (the remaining store is now a museum and a Southcott Award winner) and a shipyard. The business operated in Carbonear for 140 years before closing in the 1970s.

The Stone Jug is a Georgian-style building with three storeys. The building was constructed of stone cut at Kelly's Island. It was recognized as a Registered Heritage Structure in December 1985.



*Stone Jug
Photo credit: Bruce Tilley/CBC*

Owner Bruce Branen has said that he hopes that the restoration of the building will encourage further developments on Water Street.

Thimble Cottage Opened to the Public

The O'Brien Farm Foundation opened Thimble Cottage to the public on Saturday, October 25, as part of festivities celebrating the renaming of a portion of Oxen Pond Road to O'Brien Farm Road. St. John's Mayor Dennis O'Keefe and comedian Mark Critch were on hand to mark the occasion.

The O'Brien Farm Foundation is working to restore the 150 year-old cottage, farm, and farm buildings and plans to establish an educational centre, community garden, beekeeping, and public trails on the site.

By Emily Wolf



the trident

The Trust's newsletter, *The Trident*, is published quarterly. Submissions and advertising inquiries are welcome and can be forwarded to:
coordinator@historictrust.ca

join historictrust.ca/membership
follow @NLHistoricTrust
like facebook.com/NLHistoricTrust

Complimentary printing of
the **trident** provided by



2016 Membership Form - Membership counts!

Annual membership fees support the ongoing work of the Trust in fulfilling its mandate of education, advocacy and outreach. The ability of the Trust to speak confidently and lobby effectively to protect our province's built heritage, neighbourhoods, streetscapes and open spaces depends to a large extent on the degree of public support it enjoys.

New membership benefits! As a member you are provided opportunities for:

Advocacy Educational Lectures Doors Open Storytelling Theatre
Workshops Joint Memberships Discounts Southcott Awards *Trident* Newsletter

Please indicate if you prefer:

- ☐ a paper copy of the *Trident* ☐ an electronic copy of the *Trident*
☐ e-news updating you on Trust news & events ☐ your information not to be shared

Volunteering with the Trust's Committees:

- ☐ Southcott Awards ☐ Preservation ☐ Programming ☐ Fundraising ☐ Newsletter
☐ Other > Please Specify: _____

The Trust is a registered charity. Memberships and donations are tax deductible. Receipts will be issued.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

E-mail address: _____

Newfoundland & Labrador Historic Trust Membership Fees:

- ☐ Student \$15 ☐ Individual/Family \$30 ☐ Group, Institution, Organization \$45
☐ I include a \$ _____ donation
☐ I include a \$ _____ gift in honour of: _____

Payment made by:

☐ Cash ☐ Enclosed Cheque

☐ VISA # _____ Expiry Date (month/year) _____

Signature: _____ Date (m/d/y): _____

Send form with cheque payable to *Newfoundland & Labrador Historic Trust* or VISA information to:
Newfoundland & Labrador Historic Trust, P.O. Box 2403, St. John's, NL A1C 6E7
Tel 709-739-7870 | Fax 709-739-5413 | coordinator@historictrust.ca