

# NEWSLETTER

MAY 1978

Vol. 6, No. 4

W.E. Keenan, President

Joan Mackie, Editor

## ANNUAL MEETING

**DATE** Wednesday, May 31, 1978  
8:00 p.m.

**PLACE** National Research Council  
Auditorium  
100 Sussex Drive  
(Opposite Lester B. Pearson Building. Parking available behind the N.R.C., overlooking the scenic Ottawa River. Bus no. 3 stops directly in front of the building.)

**TOPIC** The importance of LACAC to Ottawa's heritage

The Local Architectural Conservation Advisory Committee (LACAC) plays an important role in preserving the heritage of the community. At the 1978 Annual Meeting, it is a privilege to have two guests to speak about the work of this committee.

Alderman Georges Bedard, chairman of LACAC will give a general outline of the mandate of LACAC, and Christina Cameron, architectural analyst with the Canadian Inventory of Historic Building, will speak specifically about many of the buildings which LACAC has recommended that City Council designate to be of heritage value.

This being the Annual Meeting, reports of the past year's activities will be given, and the election of the forthcoming year's Board of Directors will take place.

## LACAC NOTES

LACAC has recently been asked by several citizens to recommend that certain structures in the city be designated heritage properties under the terms of the Ontario Heritage Act, 1974. Included are the Parliament Buildings, the house on the northeast corner of Daly and Chapel streets, and the Minto Bridges.

A sub-committee has been formed to prepare a brochure which will explain to the public the designation process, and the obligations and prerogatives of owners of designated properties, and which will give advice on the renovation and upkeep of such buildings.

A recent motion was carried suggesting that bronze plaques of traditional design be affixed to properties designated under the Ontario Heritage Act.

Several properties have been so designated. In October 1976, City Council designated Lisgar Collegiate and the Armstrong house at 35 Armstrong Street. Jim Taylor, a LACAC member, has kindly supplied the following list of properties designated by City Council in 1978:

183-185 Rideau Street  
149 Daly Avenue  
336 Daly Avenue  
188-192 Stewart Street  
245 Laurier Avenue East  
2087 Riverside Drive  
38-54 Elgin Street  
335 Laurier Avenue East  
395 Laurier Avenue East  
464 Besserer Street  
451 Besserer Street  
500 Wilbrod Street  
326-328 Somerset Street West  
236 Metcalfe Street  
103-113 James Street  
419-423 Sussex Drive

Jennifer Roddick

## JUNE MEETING - HERITAGE OTTAWA PICNIC

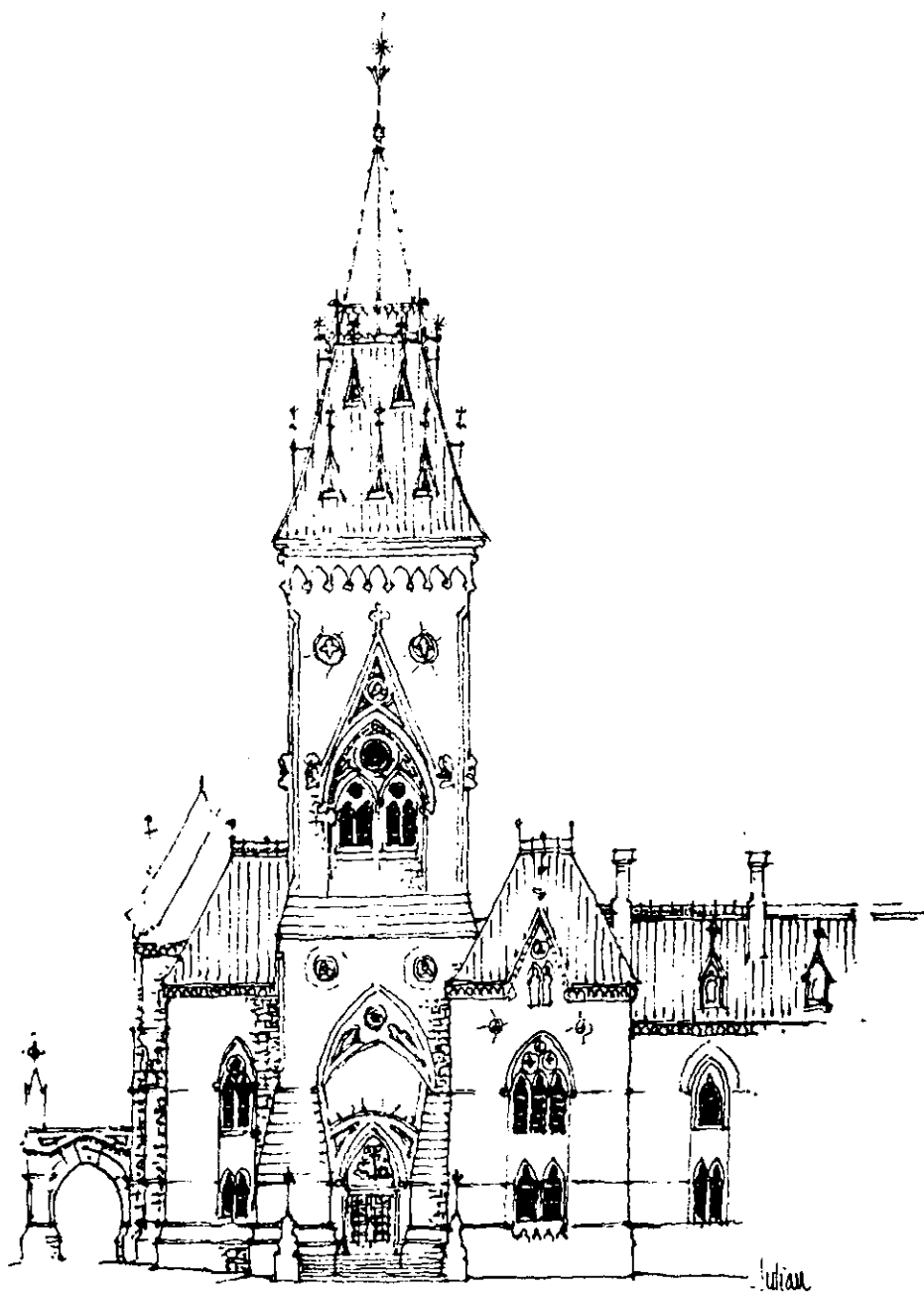
**DATE** Thursday, June 29, 1978  
4:30 p.m.

**PLACE** The Phillips' Place, Cantley,  
Quebec

The June Newsletter will carry details of the event, and maps to assist in locating the Phillips' place.

## HERITAGE OTTAWA GALLERY

"National Capital Region Heritage" continues until the end of the month at the Fraser Schoolhouse, 62 John Street. Open weekends from 1:00 until 5:00, the exhibition is a colorful collection of photographs by Ewald Richter, taken for the National Capital Commission's handsome book of the same name.



### EAST BLOCK RESTORATION

East Block passersby, attracted by a flurry of activity, may be curious to know what is happening up on the roof, behind the hoarding, and under the flying dust. Last autumn Heritage Ottawa members were treated to a tour of this historic building and a talk about the proposed restoration work; now the work is well underway.

DPW's Project Manager Bruce Lorimer talked about the progress to date in an interview in early May. That's a new copper roof one sees being installed to replace the old 1940's one, and thermal glazing (with wooden frames that copy the original ones) is taking the place of all of the old windows. Work continues on the exterior stonework -- chemical residues are being removed, often revealing cracked stones which must then be repaired.

On the interior, the rooms are being prepared for mechanical and electrical services, and the work is out to tender in anticipation of awarding the contracts in July.

Five of the rooms, declared to be of prime historic and architectural significance, are being carefully restored to their original state: the Sir John A. Macdonald room, the Sir George-Étienne Cartier room, the Governor-General's office, the Privy Council Chamber and the Privy Council anteroom. The original ducts will be used for heating and cooling, and gas lighting will be reinstalled. Period furniture will grace the rooms, which will then be open to the public.

Completion date is set for late 1979. The refurbished offices will probably be occupied by Members of Parliament and Senators and their support staff.

GLEBE HERITAGE SEMINARS

DATES Wednesday, June 7, 8:00 p.m.  
Wednesday, June 14, 8:00 p.m.

PLACE Glebe Community Centre, main hall, 690 Lyon Street

TOPIC Co-sponsored by Heritage Ottawa and the Land Use Committee of the Glebe Neighbourhood Plan, the two seminars will provide opportunities to learn more about such topics as the history and heritage of the Glebe, what has been done for the heritage of other neighbourhoods, how individuals can preserve the heritage features of their own homes, and what technical resources are available to provide assistance to home owners wanting to upgrade their properties.

A panel of speakers will be present at each session. Discussion and questions will be invited. For further information, call the Glebe Neighbourhood Planning Office at 563-3379.

APT CONFERENCE

Heritage Ottawa is acting as host organizers for this international conference to be held September 20-24. Free accommodation is needed for student participants for four nights during the conference. Please volunteer to billet one or more students by telephoning Gerry White at 234-2873 (evenings).

CITY OF OTTAWA ARCHIVES

"French Canadians of Old Lowertown", an exhibition of photographs and artifacts of the early settlers of Lowertown will be opened on May 29 at 8:00 at the City of Ottawa Archives, 174 Stanley Avenue. The exhibition will run through the summer months, and may be visited between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m., weekdays. Admission is free.

BOOK REVIEW

Shirley Leishman Books, 88 Metcalfe Street, very kindly lent the following book to Heritage Ottawa for review purposes.

Joan Finnigan with photographs by Erik Christensen. "I come from the Valley." Toronto: NC Press Limited, 1976. 160 pp., many illus., \$9.95 (paper)

"I come from the Valley" is a pleasing mixture of poetry, short stories, plays, and interviews depicting life in the Ottawa Valley at the turn of the 19th Century.

Joan Finnigan, whose family comes from the valley, grew up in Ottawa. She has been active in teaching, theatre, television, radio, film, research and writing. Her intense love of the valley is especially evident in the introduction where she describes valley humour and mannerisms using her own happy memories.

There are numerous photographs by Erik Christensen in the book. For reasons unknown, they seem to be a little out of focus, granular, and overexposed...creating a dark, harsh effect. This could have been an attempt on the part of Mr. Christensen to achieve a desired effect, however this reader found them unpleasant.

I recommend this book as an enjoyable learning experience of particular interest to Ottawa Valley history buffs.

Jennifer Roddick

TOUR OF HERITAGE PROPERTIES IN THE CAPITAL

Tickets are selling quickly for Heritage Ottawa's September 23 tour of heritage properties in the capital. Use the form at the end of this Newsletter to order your tickets now. The cost of \$6.50 includes lunch, a brochure detailing the properties' historic and architectural merits, and entrance to the following houses: the Billings House, "Maplelawn", the Belgian Embassy, the Davison Residence, the Northgrave Residence, the log house on Riverside Drive, and St. Bartholomew's Anglican Church.

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HERITAGE OTTAWA - TOUR OF HERITAGE PROPERTIES IN THE CAPITAL

Please send ..... tickets at \$6.50 each to

Name .....

Address .....

Please enclose cheque or money order payable to Heritage Ottawa, and mail to House Tour  
43 Blackburn Avenue  
Ottawa, Ontario K1N 8A4