

NEWSLETTER

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FEBRUARY 1982 Vol. 10 No. 2 Diane Holmes, President Jennifer Roddick, Editor

MARCH MEETING

Members are invited to a slide show to be presented by Helmut Schade on Tuesday, March 2nd, 1982 at 8:00 p.m in the Fraser Schoolhouse Gallery, 62 John St.

The presentation entitled "In Praise of Older Houses" stresses the tremendous architectural heritage that we, as Canadians, have in the Provinces of Quebec and Nova Scotia.

SPECIAL NOTE

At a recent LACAC meeting, 62-64 John Street was recommended for heritage designation.

As members know 62 John Street houses the Fraser Schoolhouse Gallery and is owned by the National Capital Commission.

The LACAC statement of reason for the designation is as follows:

"The building at 62-64 John Street is recommended for designation as being of architectural and historical value. Originally built as a semi-detached dwelling, one-half of the building was used as a School between 1883 and 1844. It is one of the oldest surviving buildings in Ottawa.

The structure was built in 1837 for millhands of Thomas MacKay. It is a one and one-half storey stone building with symmetrical window and door openings. In its overall exterior appearance, it is an excellent example of the workman's housing built during the founding of the Village of New Edinburgh."

The designation should be passed by City Council within the next month.

HOSPITABLE: adj. 1. given to generous cordial reception of guests; 2. readily receptive.

Being a docent is what hospitality is all about. Docents act as ambassadors to our organization and are often the first people tourists talk with when starting a tour of the City. Our proximity to 24 Sussex Drive makes us "number two" in most tour guides and docents are needed to introduce visitors, not only to our own exhibits, but also to the best places to see in Ottawa.

If you know your city and a little of its history; if you enjoy socializing and making new friends and, if you can spare an occasional week-end afternoon or afternoon during the week this summer, then you will enjoy being a docent for Heritage Ottawa.

To offer your assistance for this valuable and rewarding task please contact Irene Lackner at 993-1914 or 232-7402.

CHRIST CHURCH CATHEDRAL

In 1982 Christ Church Cathedral will be celebrating the 150th anniversary of its founding as a parish. The first church established in 1832 subsequently became the Cathedral Church in 1896. To mark this sesqui-centennial anniversary Church members are planning a number of festivities and projects including a music festival, a flower festival, one or two nationally renowned speakers, and an archival exhibit of early Cathedral and Diocesan records, sterling silver and other artifacts. The year's activities will commence with a service

of Thanksgiving at 8:00 p.m. on Wednesday, April 14th, 1982, to which Heritage Ottawa members are invited.

Their major undertaking however, is the installation of a new stained glass window in the Cathedral which will depict the history of the Ottawa-Hull region. This local history will be illustrated in the new window in terms of "discovery", "confederation" and "settlement" and will depict each of these sub-themes by featuring the different ethno-cultural groups in the area reflecting the multicultural nature of Canada.

The window was designed by artist Christopher Wallis of London, Ontario and will be known as the Memorial West Window.

A financial campaign has just commenced to raise \$40,000 to cover the design, fabrication and installation of the window, dedication of which is scheduled for mid-autumn 1982.

Contributions are invited and may be sent to the Cathedral Memorial West Window Fund, Christ Church Cathedral, 439 Queen St. Ottawa K1R 5A6.

DO YOU KNOW YOUR OTTAWA?

Did you know that:

The name of Ottawa for our city comes not from the river on which it is situated, but it commemorates the 200th anniversary of the first descent of the Ottawa Indians down the river which later took their name.

In 1851 the population of Bytown was approximately 7,760.

The Bytown/Prescott Railway's first train arrived in Ottawa in April 1855.

The City of Ottawa was selected as the Capital of Canada by Queen Victoria in 1857.

The City of Ottawa took possession of an old market building and used it as a City Hall in 1855. This first City Hall was demolished in 1874.

The County Jail on Nicholas Street was built in 1860.

The corner stone of the first Parliament Buildings was laid in 1860 and the building was completed in 1867.

The old Registry Office on Nicholas Street was built in 1873.

The City Policy Department was inaugurated on May 24th, 1866 under Chief Langrill.

A new City Hall was erected on Elgin Street at the intersection of Queen Street in 1875-1877. In 1910 and 1911 the building was renovated with further alterations in 1925. It was badly damaged by fire in 1931 and demolished in 1932. City Hall offices then moved to the Transportation Building, 48 Rideau Street.

In 1887 the Chaudière Electric Light and Power Company was incorporated to engage in the household light business in Ottawa/Hull.

Vera Campbell

Members wishing to contribute to The Newsletter may write: The Editor, 44 Carmichael Court, Kanata, Ontario K2K 1K2 or telephone 592-4209.