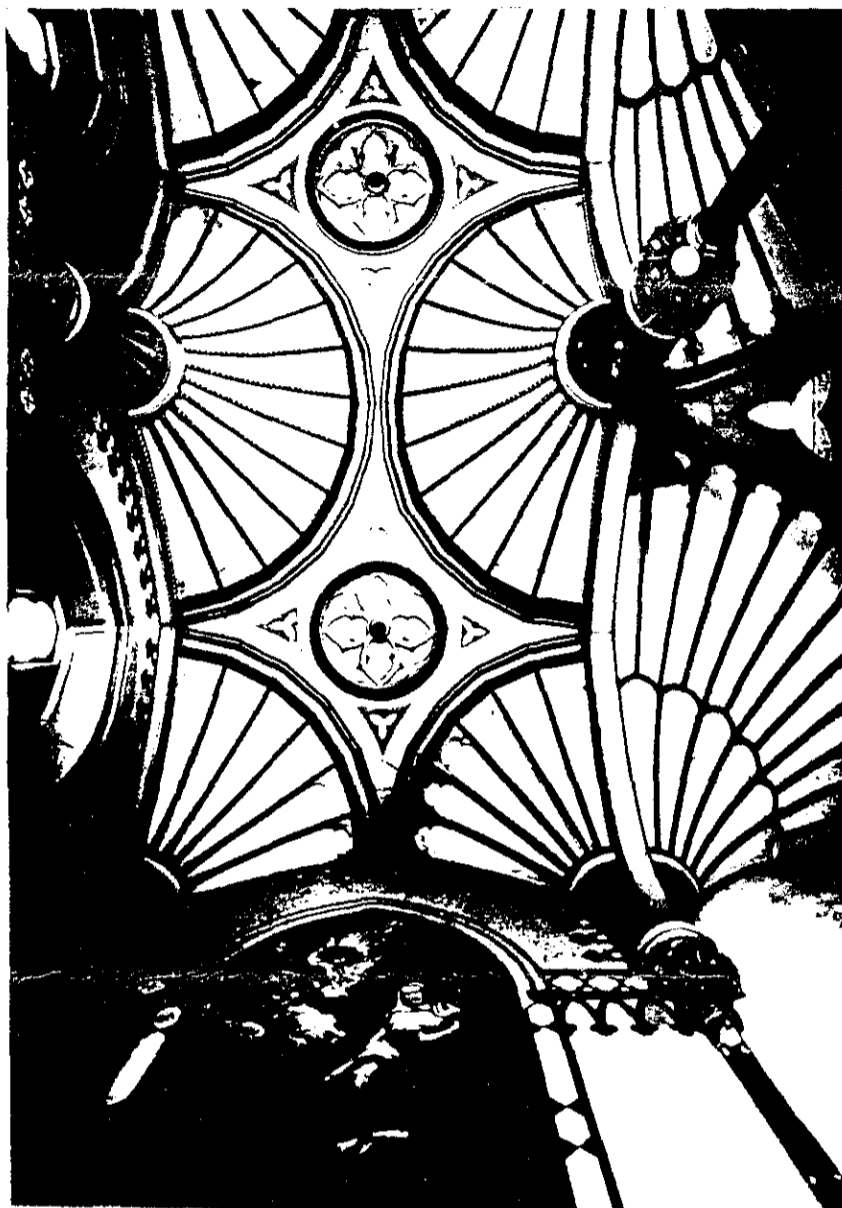


NEWSLETTER

ISSN 0808-0506

JANUARY-FEBRUARY 1984 Vol. 12, No. 1

Jennifer Roddick, President
Judy Deegan, Editor (238-8951)



An architectural jewel such as this would never be torn down, right? Wrong! But once down, if an opportunity existed to reassemble and preserve it, that opportunity would certainly be seized, right? Wrong again, unless we can exert enough pressure on the federal government to carry out its original plan: to re-erect it in the new National Gallery of Canada.

THE RIDEAU STREET CONVENT CHAPEL

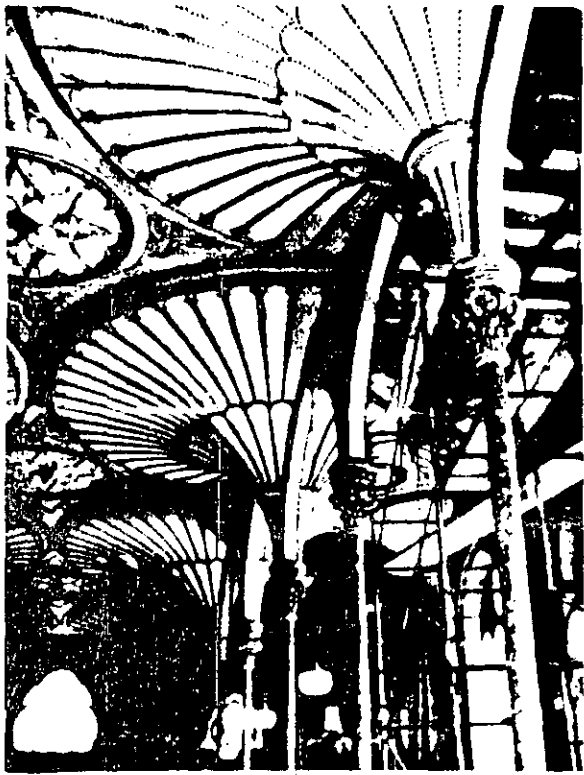
As most long-time members will know, this photo illustrates the fan-vaulted ceiling from the Chapel of the now-demolished Rideau Street Convent.

In 1972 the Grey Nuns' Convent on Rideau St. was torn down, but only after a heroic fight by concerned citizens (grouped together under the Heritage Committee of A Capital For Canadians--a committee which was later reconstituted as Heritage Ottawa).

Although the Convent was destroyed, the federal government (the NCC and then-director of the National Gallery Jean Sutherland Boggs) came up with \$20,000 to save the interior of the Chapel for eventual inclusion in the new National Gallery, whenever it was built.

The Chapel's ornate ceiling, walls and pillars were carefully dismantled

...2



HERITAGE OTTAWA ANNUAL AWARDS

Heritage Ottawa named long-time heritage activist Gertrude Holt and restoration architect Barry Padolsky as 1984 recipients of its annual award for outstanding contributions to heritage conservation in Ottawa.

Mrs. Holt, a native of Ottawa, has been active in heritage conservation for many years. A founding member of A Capital For Canadians, she served as Vice-Chairman (Administration) of its Heritage Committee (which later became Heritage Ottawa) in the early 1970s. She fought hard to save the doomed Rideau Street Convent, and has been a tireless worker for the preservation of Ottawa's architectural heritage over the years.

Mr. Padolsky, a transplanted Winnipegger who did his architectural training at the University of Manitoba, settled in Ottawa in 1969, and has restored a number of well-known landmarks in the area. Among them are the Billings Estate, the Fleet Street Pumping Station, the popular downtown restaurants The Marble Works and Oregano's, and a log barn now serving as Shearwater Court Community Centre in the Hunt Club area.

FAREWELL TO BILL KEENAN

It was with more than a tinge of sadness that Heritage Ottawa bade farewell to Bill and Margaret Keenan in late December. Bill, a restoration architect with Parks Canada, served as President of Heritage Ottawa from 1977 to 1979 and was Treasurer for as long as most of us can remember.

Before coming to Ottawa, Bill and Margaret were active with the heritage movement in Toronto, and were instrumental in saving that city's old City Hall. They have returned to Toronto, where Bill will take up a job with the Department of Transport.

Rolf Latte has very kindly agreed to serve out Bill's term as Treasurer until new elections in May.

We wish Bill and Margaret all the best, and hope they will keep in touch. Bill is expected to be back in Ottawa on March 25 to celebrate the installation of the Murray Street Synagogue murals in the Jewish Community Centre (see later).

and saved before the convent itself was destroyed to make way for a two-storey building (which houses the Hayloft Restaurant) and an equally distinguished parking lot.

Now in charge of construction of the new National Gallery, Jean Boggs is evidently still keen on re-erecting the Chapel in the new museum. But her hands are tied. In late 1983, Heritage Ottawa heard reports that the Chapel had been scratched from plans for the Gallery by federal officials anxious to cut costs: a sum of \$1.2 million is needed to restore the Chapel's dismembered interior (which has not been well cared for over the years) and incorporate it into the new Gallery.

In an optimistic article on February 4, The Citizen reported that an anonymous group had promised the government the \$800,000 needed to raise a portion of the new museum's ceiling to accommodate the Chapel. But this amount is quite separate from, and not included in, the \$1.2 million mentioned above. The Citizen also quoted a Gallery spokesman to the effect that various government departments and agencies were expected to participate in the restoration of the Chapel interior, and "each may EMPHASIS ADDED contribute to refurbishing costs". In the present plans, the Chapel would be a display by itself, and not a room to accommodate a library or a restaurant.

The Heritage Ottawa committee formed to look into this has been receiving information much more negative than that reported in The Citizen article. We hope we are wrong, and will keep members informed on the future of this very important Canadian architectural treasure.

Grant House, 1875
150 Elgin Street



THINGS TO DO

SUNDAY, MARCH 25, AT 4:00 P.M.: UNVEILING OF MURALS FROM THE MURRAY STREET SYNAGOGUE

Members and friends are invited to the Jewish Community Centre for the unveiling of the newly-installed murals from the demolished Murray Street Synagogue, which was located at the corner of Murray and King Edward.

The murals, saved from the wrecker's ball when the synagogue was torn down in 1977, were restored with the assistance of a Wintario grant applied for by Heritage Ottawa on behalf of the Jewish Community Centre. The murals were painted in the late 19th century in a "naive art" style.

Martin Weil, president of Heritage Ottawa from 1975 to 1977 and chief mover behind restoration of the murals, will come up from Los Angeles to officiate at the unveiling. He hopes his many friends in Heritage Ottawa will join him for a glass of wine to celebrate completion of the project. (We understand Bill Keenan will be in from Toronto for the occasion as well.)

The Jewish Community Centre is located at 151 Chapel Street (at Rideau). Visitors are asked to enter by the Synagogue entrance (second door north of Rideau).

"FANS AND FURBELOWS/EVENTAILS ET FALBALAS"

Don't forget to stop in to see "Fans and Furbelows/Eventails et Falbalas", the new exhibit at the Fraser Schoolhouse, 62 John Street (at Sussex). Included in the display are exquisite beaded costumes which were worn by Lady Taschereau.



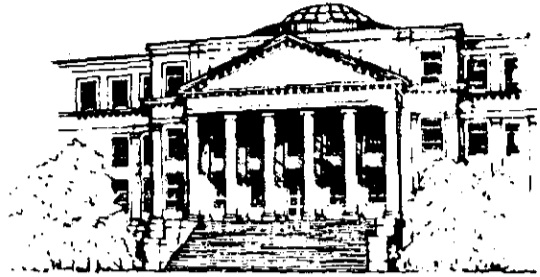
*First Church of Christ Scientist
288 Metcalfe Street
1913*

(from OUR ARCHITECTURAL ANCESTRY)

SUNDAY, MARCH 25: Nostalgia Show and Sale
Nepean Sportsplex

MARCH 29-31: Bayshore Antique Show,
Bayshore Shopping Centre

APRIL 4-7: Kingston's Spring Antique Show and Sale. 30 dealers at Kingston Shopping Centre, Princess Street.
Wed-Fri: 9:30 a.m. to 9:30 p.m.
Sat: 9:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.



*Tabaret Hall, University of Ottawa
550 Cumberland Street
1904*

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 4: "Porcelain Cargoes from the Machault" (at The Billings Estate, 8:00 p.m.)

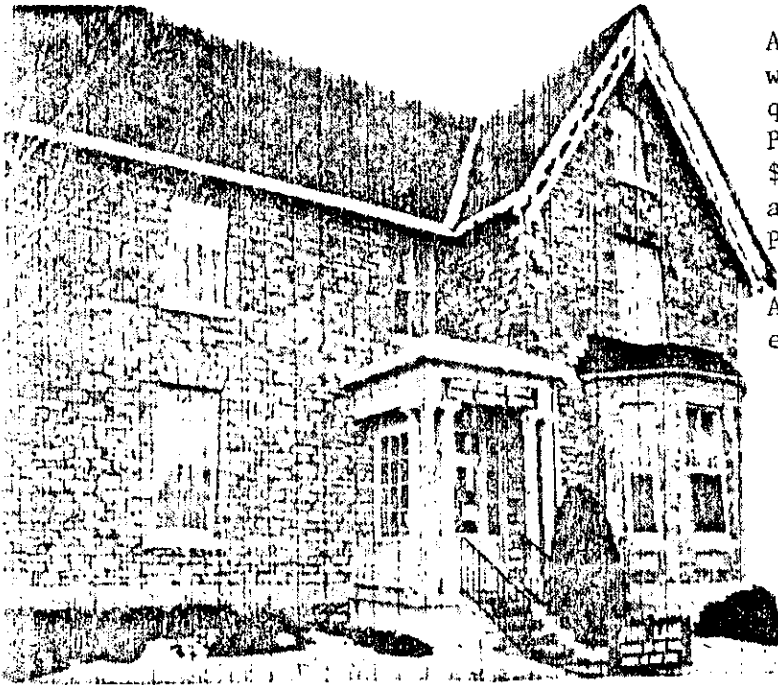
The Canadian Ceramic Circle presents a slide lecture by Ron Whate of Historic Sites (Parks Canada) on the 18th century porcelain salvaged from the wreckage of the French frigate the Machault, part of a fleet sent by the French in 1760 to the aid of New France. In addition to ammunition and other supplies for the colony, the Machault carried a large cargo of Chinese Export and English porcelain.

Finding the St. Lawrence blocked by English ships, the Machault sailed up the Restigouche River in New Brunswick, only to encounter the English there as well. After a fierce battle, the Machault was scuttled and burned by its own crew, and lay at the bottom of the river until salvaged by an underwater archeology team from Historic Sites in the mid-1960s.

Ron Whate will illustrate his talk with slides and actual pieces of porcelain recovered from the ship's hold. The Chinese Export porcelain survived amazingly well: painted overglazes disappeared over the years but patterns under the glaze remained intact. The English ware fared less well during its two centuries under water.

This should be an extremely interesting lecture. All are welcome. Coffee and cookies will be served. Please feel free to bring along any pieces of porcelain you wish to have identified.

If any members will be in and around Toronto in April, the following Royal Ontario Museum bus tours (ROMBUS tours)



A spokesman for the Glebe Day-Care Centre was enthusiastic about moving its headquarters to Abbotsford House in Lansdowne Park, but said it would probably cost \$200,000 to \$300,000 to move the building and take six to eight months to have the Park zoned for a daycare centre.

A city staff report on the proposal is expected in March.

Abbotsford House (The Glebe Centre)
950 Bank Street

A compromise solution has been proposed to solve the problem of what to do with the venerable Abbotsford House at 950 Bank St. (Citizen reports have given its age as 114 years--i.e., built in 1870--and 112 years, built in 1872.)

In March 1983, city heritage consultant Harold Kalman recommended that the building be preserved as a heritage site, citing as reasons that it was the last remaining farmhouse on Bank Street, and was the home of Ottawa mayor and Citizen editor Charles Mackintosh during the 1870s.

The city's Planning Committee decided in December 1983 to declare the house a heritage structure.

Glebe Centre Inc., a senior citizen's residence and present owner of the house, is more concerned about providing usable facilities for its residents than saving the building. Centre officials and spokesmen for the residents claim that the house is so badly insulated that some rooms are unusable in winter, and that the Centre needs the space to build a nursing home for residents who need more intensive care.

The compromise proposal is to move the building across the street to Lansdowne Park, and use it as headquarters for the Glebe Day-Care Centre (for children)--no connection with the owners of the building, Glebe Centre (for senior citizens).

Other sites have been proposed for the house, including moving it just six metres closer to Bank Street at its present location, to provide room for the Glebe Centre to expand.



310 Cooper Street, Centretown

Describing it as a unique example of "civil service architecture" [only in Ottawa!], city planners would like to designate 310 Cooper Street as a heritage structure. A group of property owners in the area is fighting against the designation.

LACAC spokesman Barry Padolsky argued that the 1879 house should be saved because "its Victorian design and Gothic detail are architecturally significant, and it is one of the earliest houses of its kind in Ottawa".

Geoffrey Wasteney, a property owner (but not owner of the house), described the building as attractive "but not of heritage material". The group's main reason for fighting designation is to ensure that "people have a right to do what they want with their property".

Is this the same Geoffrey Wasteney who spoke out eloquently but negatively against the Daly Building at the August 1982 public meeting, mainly on the grounds that the building was unattractive (and unsafe). If this charming house on Cooper, built over 100 years ago, doesn't fit his description of "heritage", I wonder what would?

Chateau Laurier to Renovate

Is anyone else out there getting worried about the proposed renovations to the Chateau? About reports like "the lobby itself will become a much smaller and more functional entranceway"?

Hotel manager Jacques Favre calls the planned changes "massive", and says the Chateau intends to be the finest hotel in Ottawa.

Has he checked to see whether the Windsor Arms is making a go of it in Toronto? Or the Madison in Washington? Has he pondered the dollar value of uniqueness?

Concerned members might wish to drop Mr. Favre a line, letting him know their feelings about too drastic changes to this favourite Ottawa landmark.

This handsome structure, built in 1930 and reportedly sold for more than \$1 million (including of course the land), will be replaced by a 130-unit Minto condominium development. No one seems to have asked why this building could not have been turned into spacious condos.

The local LACAC said they thought the building was nice, but felt they didn't have grounds to fight for it.

The building was only 54 years old--not what many would define a heritage building. Heritage buildings are only those which are of outstanding architectural merit, have housed an individual of outstanding historical importance, or are about 100 years old. I'm not sure how buildings get to be 100 years old, except that I think a key factor is not to tear them down before they reach that age.

BOOKS OF INTEREST

Antiquing in Eastern Ontario

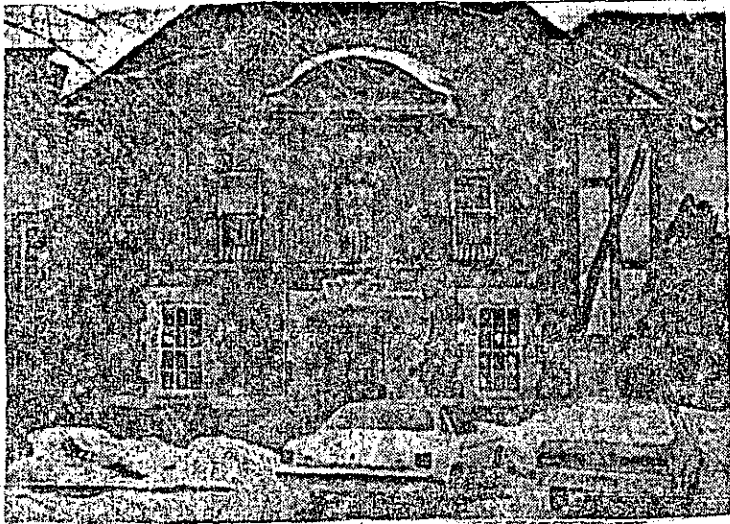
A handy guide to keep in your car is Antiquing in Eastern Ontario, a directory of antique shops and services in this part of the province. Antiquing covers about 150 shops in an area from the Quebec-Ontario border on the east, up to North Bay in the north, and to the U. S. border and Belleville on the south and west.

Sold in almost all antique shops for only \$1.00, this useful little book lists the kinds of antiques the stores specialize in as well as the usual information about hours, location and credit cards accepted.

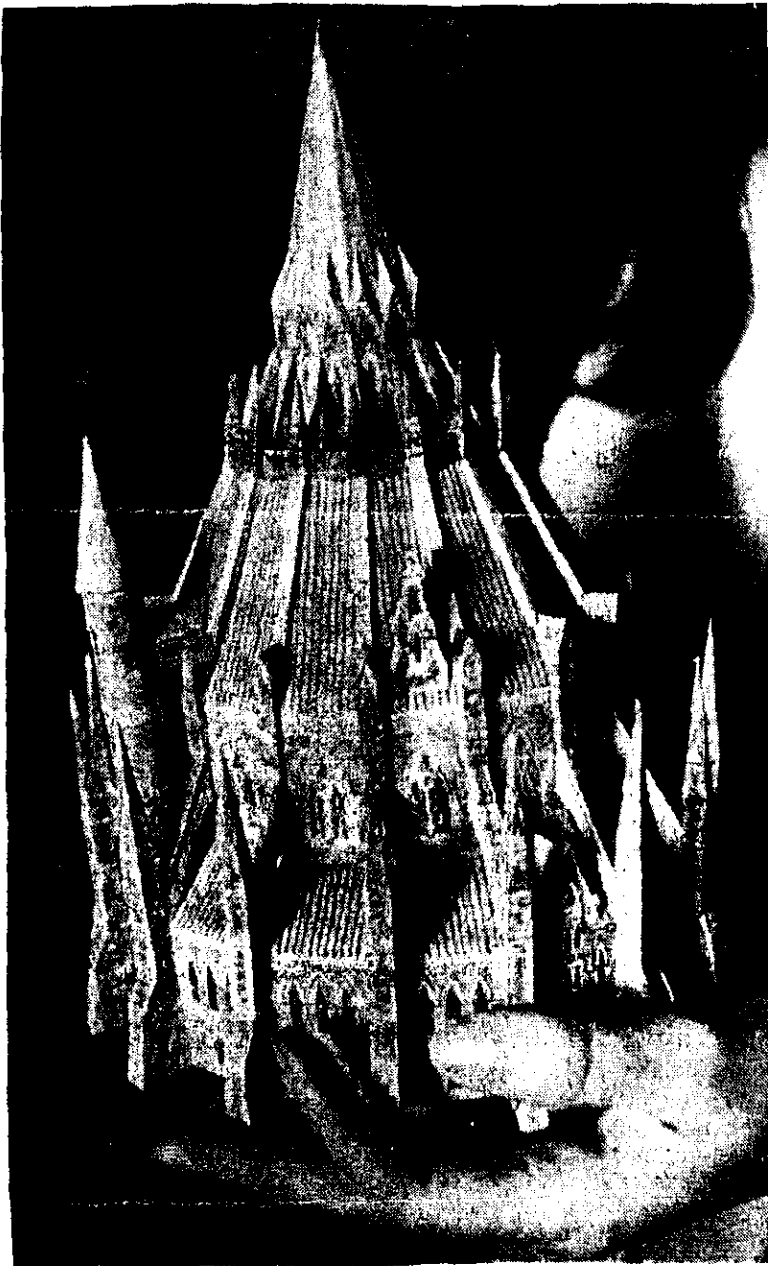
The 1984-85 directory will be out at the beginning of May. Be sure to get your copy as soon as possible, as they tend to sell out very quickly.

Antiquing in Eastern Ontario is published by Great Oak Publications, 118 Sunnyside Avenue, Ottawa K1S 0R1 (Telephone: (613) 235-4789).

OBITUARY: Protestant Children's Village



The Tudor-style building housing the Protestant Children's Village on Carling at Irving Place was destroyed in mid-February because "it was just too expensive to maintain", according to a Village spokesman. The building had "outlived its usefulness", said The Citizen. So, too, evidently, has the fine stand of trees on the site, which will be destroyed as well.



Parliamentary Library part of Parliament Buildings Kit

Build Your Own Parliament Buildings

In the late 1800s a certain Mrs. Wright is reported to have bought some new-fangled German building blocks for her little boy, in hopes of stimulating his interest in architecture . . .

When looking for an innovative gift for the budding architect in your family, why not consider something which will give him/her practical experience? Build Your Own Parliament Buildings (to be published in March) is the second in a series of cut-and-assemble paper models of famous Canadian buildings.

The brainchild of Anthony Leaning, Robert Froom and Allison Rogers (graduates of Carleton University's School of Architecture), the Parliament Buildings set follows on the publication last year of Build Your Own CN Tower, which retailed for \$9.95.

Both sets are available from many general-interest Ottawa bookstores and from The Architecture Bookstore, 116 Third Avenue (co-owned by Leaning and Froom).

Macmillan Encyclopedia of Architects

Members who are rich might be interested to know that the Macmillan Encyclopedia of Architects is available in four volumes for \$375.00.

This relatively new (1982) reference work presents the history of civilization through its designers and builders. The Encyclopedia considers architecture as a social art reflecting the needs of society, scientific innovations, and the spirit, style and aspirations of the times. It contains 2,400 biographies, and crosses chronological and geographic boundaries from ancient to contemporary times.

Adolph K. Placzek, editor-in-chief. More than 1,400 illustrations, 8½" x 11", 2,000 pages. ISBN 0-02-92500-5 List price \$375 (cloth)

(from AGO write-up)

Modern Canadian Architecture

Last fall, Hurtig Publishers brought out Modern Canadian Architecture, by Leon Whiteson.

This lavish volume is an excellent tribute to the world-class stature of modern Canadian architecture. Lucid and lively, intensively researched and organized, it is a definitive summary of the impressive achievements of Canadian architects over the past three decades. Sixty outstanding buildings are criticized for function, materials, construction, and social and visual context. A spectacular array of vigorous, imaginative designs--Simon Fraser University and Robson Square in Vancouver, the Citadel Theatre in Edmonton, the Eaton Centre in Toronto, Place Bonaventure in Montreal. The book includes a range of other commercial, industrial, public, religious, private and residential buildings. Illustrated in full colour and B&W photos, with detailed floor and section plans.

Text by Leon Whiteson, foreword by Raymond Moriyama. 70 colour plates, 175 B&W illustrations, 180 building plans; 10" x 11½", 272 pages; 1983.

ISBN 0-88830-248-7 List price \$50 (cloth)

(from AGO write-up)

The Governor's Road: Early Buildings and Families from Mississauga to London

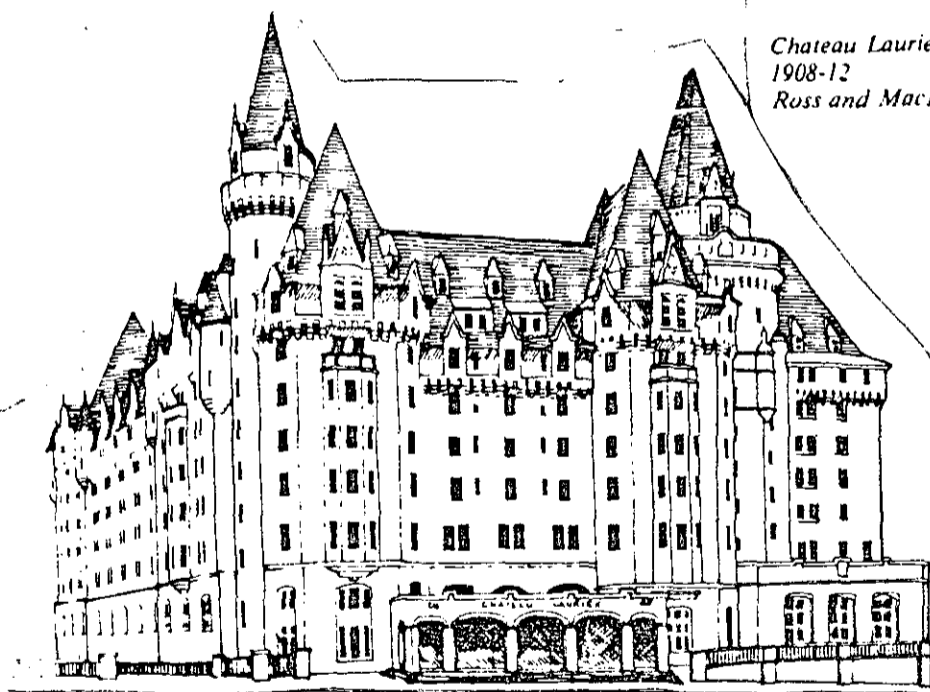
Not brand new (published in 1982) but perhaps of special interest in Ontario's bicentennial year is The Governor's Road: Early Buildings and Families from Mississauga to London, by Mary Byers and Margaret McBurney, with photographs by Hugh Robertson.

"The authors have dug deep in family records, wills, old newspapers, local histories and legends . . . This is geographic, architectural and social history told with wit. Besides being great fun to read, it offers a sense of the strength and sacrifice that helped form Ontario."
TORONTO STAR

163 B&W photos; 6" x 9", 320 pages
 ISBN 0-8020-2483-1 List price \$19.95
 (cloth)

(from AGO write-up)

A favourite Ottawa example of the Chateau Style



*Chateau Laurier, Confederation Square
 1908-12
 Ross and MacFarlane, Architects*

(from OUR ARCHITECTURAL ANCESTRY)

PAID UP MEMBERS OF HERITAGE OTTAWA

Patrons - Miss Elizabeth Gordon Edwards
Mr. Robert Souldard, Souldard Enterprises Ltd.

ALDERSON, Molly
ALEXANDER, Mrs. and Mrs. A. M.
ALLEN, Mr. and Mrs. R. H.
ANGLIN, Frank
AUDETTE, L. C., O.C., Q.C.

BURNS, Mr. and Mrs. J.
BARR, Mrs. E.
BELANGER, Maurice
BENNETT, Mr. and Mrs. R. M.
BERENS, M.
BISHOP, Miss D. L.
BLOUIN, Maryse P.
BOARETTI, R.
BRIGSTOCKE, Mrs. H.
BRYAN, Mr. and Mrs. H. S.
BRAULT, Dr. Lucien
BUCKLEY, D. M.

CALDATO, Remo and Cherry
CAMPBELL, Miss B. M.
CAMPBELL, Vera and Duncan
CASSIDY, Mr. and Mrs. T. M.
CHALMERS, Bertha M.
CHAMPAGNE, Lyse
CHARETTE, Mme Ovila
CHUDLEIGH, Ann
CITY OF OTTAWA ARCHIVES
COULMAN, Mrs. M. H.
CRAIG, Alison
CRAIG, Mrs. Pauline
CUNLIFFE, Harry
CUNNINGHAM, R. O.
CURRY, Miss Effie
CRAWFORD, Murray M.

DAVIDSON, Mr. and Mrs. E.
DEEGAN, Judith A.
DENHEZ, Marc
DOBBING, Peter
DUCHESNE, Doreen
DUNLOP, David and Susan

EARNSHAW, Mrs. G. W.
EDWARDS, Miss E. G.
ELIOT, Ruth

FANCY, Lynda
FORSEY, John
FOWLER, Linda
FUMERTON, Bob

GALE, Mrs. L. A.
GEGGIE, Dr. and Mrs. D. C.
GILSTORF, Mrs. E.
GRANT, Mrs. W. H.

HAIG, Robert
HALPENNY, Eleanor
HARE, Jane
HAYES, Ella Maude
HAYES, John A.
HICKS, Dr. and Mrs. F. H.
HOLDEN, C. and S.

HOLT, Mr. and Mrs. Percy
HOSTETLER, V. Hylands
HOWELL, Mrs. Mary
HUNTER, Major and Mrs. P. A.

INGMAN, Toni D.

JACKSON, Christine F.
JOHNSTON, Lois

KALMAN, Harold D.
KARDISH, Joy
KEALEY, John E.
KELSEY, Mrs. E.
KEENAN, William E.
KIDD, Mrs. E. L.
KNIGHT, Mrs. Ethel

LAWS, R. B.
LACKNER, Irene
LATTE, Rolf
LEDBETTER, Margaret
LEGGETT, Dr. R. F.

MACBETH, Mrs. C.
MACKENZIE, Hazel
MACKAY, Mr. A. B.
MACCRIMMON, Mrs. G.
McJANET, Mr. and Mrs. D.
McKENZIE, Miss Ruth
McNAUGHTON, Miss G. D.
McPHAIL, Dr. J.E.B.
MACDONALD, Lynda
MARUNA, O. Z.
MAUGER, Mr. and Mrs. E.
MILES, Nancy
MOON, Robert
MORGAN, Mrs. Janet
MORRISON, Mrs. Norma
MURCHISON, Mrs. J. T.

NICOL, Mr. and Mrs. M.
NOFFKE, Mr. and Mrs. Edgar

OLDFIELD, Margaret
O'HARA, Jim
O'MEARA, K.
OTTAWA PUBLIC LIBRARY
OYEN, Judith M., Q.C.

PACE, Mrs. F. Cecil
PAINE, Cecilia
PEARSON, Anthony
PERRON, Pierre-Paul
PIGGOTT, Mr. and Mrs. Arthur
PONTIROLI, Alfred
PUCCINI, H. B.
PADOLSKY, Barry
PHILLIPS, Mr. and Mrs. R.A.J.

RAPP, Mrs. F. J.
RAVEN, Catherine
REEKIE, D. Hugh M.
RESCORLA, Miss R.

RIVE, H.
ROBERTSON, J. R.
ROBERTSON, A.W.J.
ROBINSON, Mr. and Mrs. G.
RODDICK, Mrs. Jennifer - President
RUSK, B. M.
RUSSELL, Mrs. L.
RYAN, Miss E.

SALLEY, Judith
SALLMEN, Mrs. Helen
SAWFORD, Stephen
SCHADE, Hellmut
SIMPSON, Adrian
SIMPSON, E. T.
SOLMAN, Mr. and Mrs. V.
SMART, John
SURTEES, Charles D.
SMALL, Melvin
SOULARD, Robert
SUTHERLAND, Ruth L.

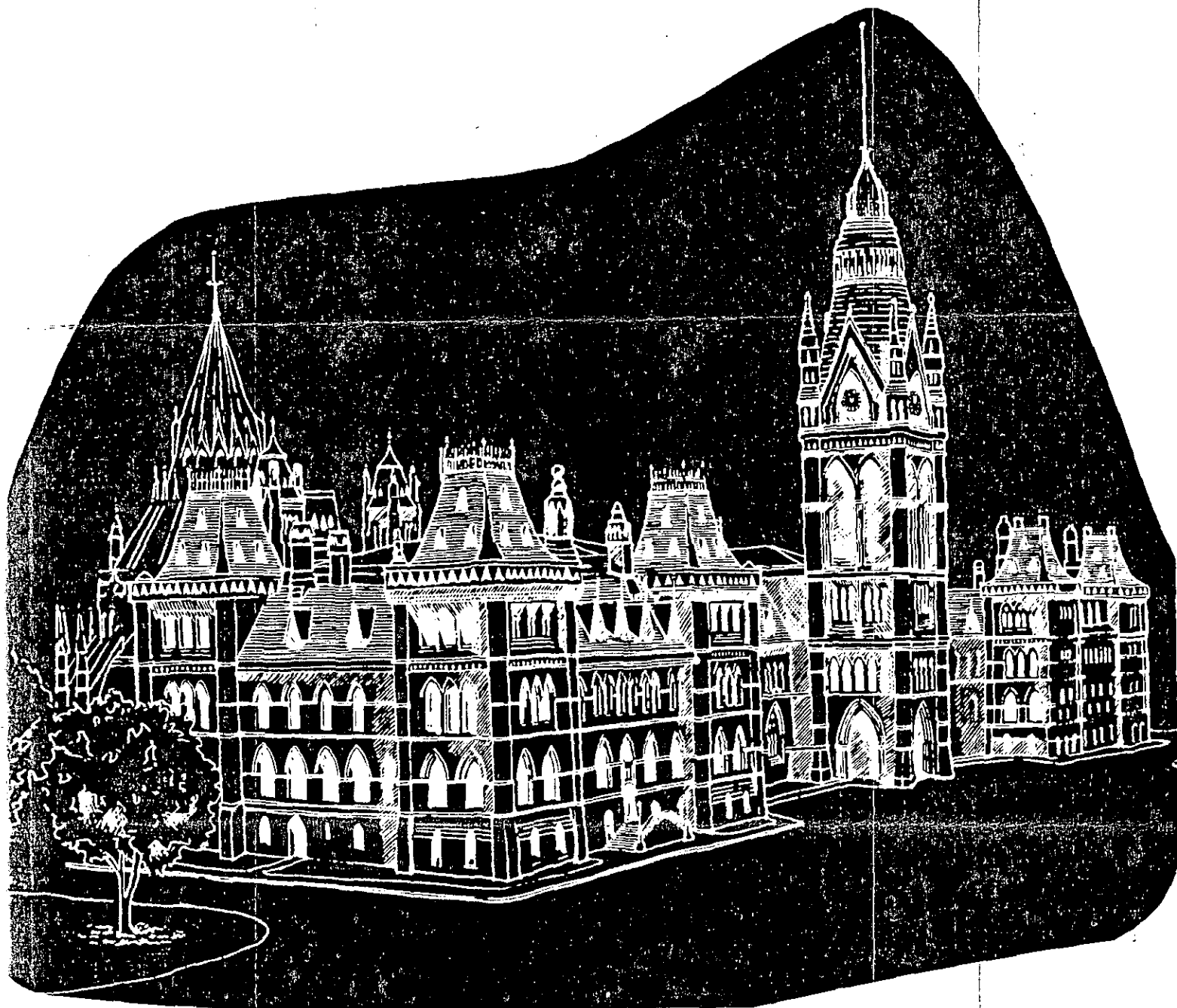
TAYLOR, Miss E. M.
TELFORD, Mr. and Mrs. J.
THOMAS, Jeannie
THOMPSON, F. D.
TUNIS, Barbara A.

VALLIANT, Mrs. Dorothy

WAMBERA, J.
WESTELL, Miss L. E.
WEIL, Martin E.
WILKES, George
WRIGHT, Barbara
WOYCENKO, Mrs. Olga

YUAR, Annette

ZEITOUNI, Lynne



(from OUR ARCHITECTURAL ANCESTRY)