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Editor
Jamie D. Kucey

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President's View

With barely a year under my belt as President of Heritage Ottawa, it has become increasingly apparent that the Ontario Heritage Act is woefully inadequate in protecting our historic buildings.

Under the B.N.A. Act, Heritage falls under the jurisdiction of the provinces. Expert legal advice indicates our act in Ontario is the weakest in Canada and perhaps the Western World.

Under the chairmanship of Richard Limmert, Heritage Ottawa has set up a Policy Committee. The purpose of this committee will be to organize community groups, developers, professional associations, planners, architects and heritage groups throughout Eastern

Ontario. Once the organization is complete we will then lobby the provincial government to revamp the law. As it now stands, any building can be torn down whether it is designated under Part IV of the Heritage Act or is in a HR 1 zone or architectural conservation area. The developer need only wait 270 days. If the city does not see fit to purchase the buildings, the developer can tear it down. Our heritage is a rapidly diminishing commodity. The only way to stop this steady erosion is to revise the law. To this end Richard Limmert and his committee have promised to spare no effort.

BANK STREET BRIDGE IS FALLING DOWN

Abutting Lansdowne Park and linking the Glebe with Ottawa South stands the Bank Street Bridge. Anyone skating, canoeing, walking or driving under or over the Bank Street Bridge will know that it is hazardous. Pieces are falling off and one might just get hit by another car on the hump. The Region is going to fix it--but community and Heritage groups are asking that its arches be preserved and its architectural details returned to their 1913 glory. This was the year the bridge was built in a fashion to match the human scale of the contemporary improvements along the Driveway. if you have a concern about the way in which you think that the bridge ought to be treated, get it in to the Region's Chief Structural Engineer or Heritage Ottawa before the end of February. This is when the Region will put together their recommendations regarding repairing, restoring or replacing the bridge.

HANGAR 66

Heritage Ottawa was well on its way to organizing a demonstration of 200 W.W.II R.C.A.F. veterans from across Eastern Ontario to mark the 50th anniversary of the B.C.A.T.P. on December 17, 1989. The British Commonwealth Air Training Plan schooled a million men, including 145,000 pilots during the war. Almost 70,000 of those pilots never came back.

The demonstration was to protest the NCC's decision to demolish one of the last testimonials to W.W.II that is accessible to the public in

the National Capital Region. Unfortunately the Commission learned of our efforts and without benefit of a demolition permit, or without letting a demolition contract, the NCC went in a few days before and stripped the once proud structure of its irreplaceable asbestos shingles.

Now with the cutbacks it appears the NCC will not be able to build its road and Hangar 66 could well have been saved--at least for a few more years. Despite the removal of the shingles the fight to save this structure will continue.

Heritage Ottawa would like to thank the following people for their valiant attempt to save Hangar 66:

LLOYD HUNT--President of the Canadian Fighter Pilots Association

Bud Wilds--Manager of the RCAF Association

Jim Marjerum--Area Commander of the Royal Canadian Legion for the National Capital Region

Cliff Chatterton--War Amps of Canada

Duncan Marshall--Red River Tiger Moth Club

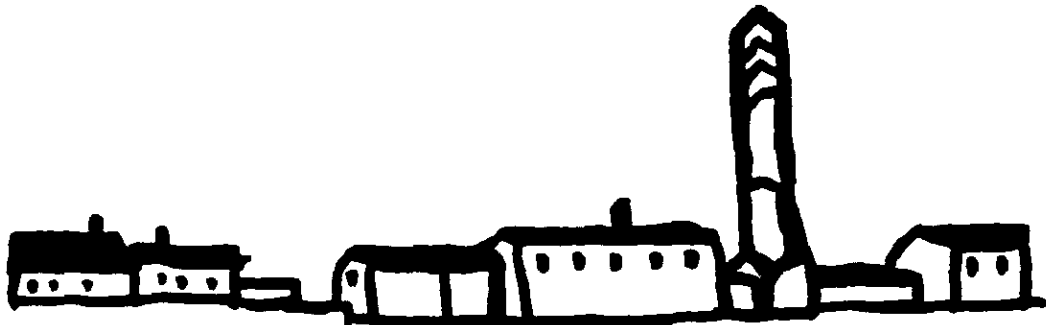
CAMPEAU CORPORATION RISES TO THE OCCASION

The skyline of Ottawa and Parliament Hill in particular is a major national heritage symbol. It is unique internationally. The Ottawa skyline is threatened by Campeau Corporation's proposal to create a 42 story tower at Queen and Kent Streets. This would be a repeat performance for him of 20 years ago at Place de Ville. He is determined to break the zoning bylaw. Heritage Ottawa opposes this tower and is raising public protest by writing to Mayor Durrell, the aldermen and Jean Pigott, NCC Chairperson.

Heritage Ottawa feels this is an issue between the city and the public, not just Campeau Corporation and the city. We respect the desperate need to improve the quality of architectural design downtown, but not at the expense of changing architectural traditions and the city's existing skyline. If accepted, this proposal would be a major turning point as a height regulation increase from 20 to 40 stories would set a precedent for other developers. The scale, texture and compatibility of this tower are not in keeping with the bylaws or the National Capital Commission's image of Ottawa. In her article in a recent Ottawa Business News, Ms. Pigott writes:

North American cities now increasingly compete for investment and employment on the basis of the quality of the living and working environment they offer. As a consequence, cities such as Boston and San Francisco have reduced the permissible heights for development in their downtown cores to enhance the human scale at street level.

Buildings are a city's inanimate personalities. Let us work together to make Ottawa the kind of city distinguished by its uniqueness and its quality. As we enter the last decade of the century, we are realizing a shift away from quantity to quality of life. Heritage Ottawa opposes this tower in a first step toward creating an Ottawa we can be proud to work in, raise our families in, and grow old with.

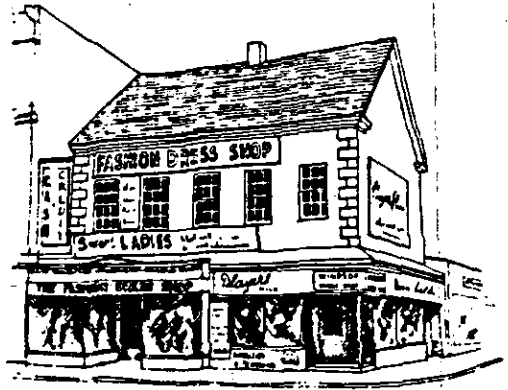


PATERSON HOUSE UPDATE

The fate of the Fleck/Paterson at 500 Wilbrod Street in Sandy Hill has been in limbo for many months. The roller coaster ride of encouraging aspirations and disappointments continues. The latest turn, however, is very positive. A first-class private school operation, with schools currently in Montreal, Ottawa and elsewhere, is very interested in purchasing the property. In their initial presentation to Action Sandy Hill and Heritage Ottawa, the school officials maintain they are very concerned with preserving the heritage nature of the entire property. This would include the mansion, coach house, gardens and interior. They intend to follow to the letter the Heritage designation requirements laid out by the City of Ottawa several years ago. Heritage Ottawa has submitted to this group a letter of support in principle for their proposal, pending further, detailed development plans. If they can pull off what they currently intend, this development would be an excellent solution to the problem of maintaining this first-rate heritage property for our city.



Queen Anne style



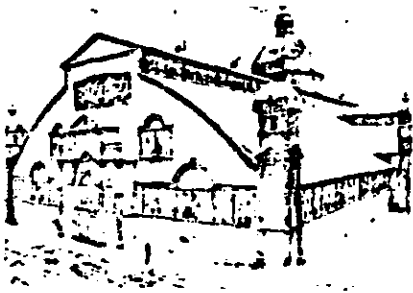
WINDSOR SMOKE SHOP

The Windsor Smoke Shop located at the corner of Rideau and Dalhousie is the oldest surviving example of commercial architecture in Ottawa, according to architect Julian Smith.

In virtually every city in the western world a building of such importance would have been protected and restored years ago. Not so in Ontario. Despite being designated under Part IV of the Ontario Heritage Act, the owner, Paul Faynwachs of Gora Antiques has made it perfectly clear that he plans to tear it down sometime in the spring of 1990.

The neo-Georgian structure originally had 5 dormer windows and housed a photographic studio on the 2nd floor at the turn of the century. Traces of a rare 8' side window are still apparent.

Together with Barry Padolsky's restoration of the Larocque Department Store (now Mercury Court) the shop provides a natural S.E. gateway to the market. Heritage Ottawa will do everything in its power to save this irreplaceable building.



LANSDOWNE CHARETTE

This exhibition of drawings, models and reviews occurred from October 8-30, 1989 and was our last exhibit at the gallery at John Street. The opening on October 9 was well attended. This exhibit was prepared by our newest board members, Nelson Edwards and Hagit Hadaya. Mark Glassford assisted. The opening and exhibit was made possible by a generous donation from alderman Lynn Smyth, who has been strongly supportive of the entire Lansdowne Charette Process.

This was a joint activity of Heritage Ottawa and the Urban League of Ottawa. The intention of the charette organizers was threefold. First: to keep a high level of awareness of the value of the Aberdeen Pavilion and the Horticulture Pavilion to the image of the park and promote the preservation of these heritage

buildings; second, to address the question of how the park can best serve the interests of the region, the city and the neighbourhood in the amenities provided or planned to be provided on site; third, using as a program the wish list provided by the city and the neighbourhood groups, as well as existing programs and buildings on site, examine planning and development strategies for the park.

There were 3 volunteer teams comprised of architects, planners and landscape architects who created proposals after an evening of input and discussion for city staff, neighbourhood groups and other concerned individuals. All activities took place at city hall and the press briefing was introduced by the mayor.

The result of the charette was a

document prepared by the city hall policy and budget group and approved by city hall to make the Aberdeen Pavilion the focus of the park, to save the Horticulture Pavilion for new uses, to reduce the asphalt areas by creating parking structures, to recreate the park through new structures and landscape as well as adaptive re-use of existing buildings and to locate a convention centre off Bank Street.

The city staff have yet to prepare a new draft plan reflecting these recommendations. However, this exhibition was used as a reminder the diversity of opportunities available for development of this site, by keeping historically important buildings relating to the traditional context of the Glebe area, and yet meeting the modern cultural and recreational needs.

PHOTO EXHIBIT

Thursday, November 9, 1989 was a great evening for Heritage Ottawa! It was the opening reception for a photographic exhibit entitled: By Ward Market: 1930's.

Local photographer Hugo Levendel once combed the streets of Lowertown and other parts of the city as an assistant photographer, taking pictures of retail establishments and their proprietors. The results of this effort more than half a century ago were on display in the By Ward Market Building until November 26, 1989.

High quality, large-size prints were culled from the negatives which once sat in a box in a musty basement, but which are now part of our national treasures, resting with the National Archives. These photographs were selected for their virtuosity in representing life in the market in the 1930's.

The curatorship of this exhibit was excellent. The many people attending the opening and the others who took in the exhibit in the following weeks were filled with praise for this professional quality effort. Likewise, Heritage Ottawa should be proud of the hardworking members who put together this truly national class event. Serge Barbe was the curator and Mark Glassford the exhibit designer. The committee, headed by Mark Brandt, included Natalie Belovic, Hagit Hadaya and Jamie Kucey. Nelson Edwards and Sharon Brown also pitched in.

The vernissage was a festive evening with unsurpassed catering, vintage music, speeches and the

presentation of a birthday cake to Mr. Levendel. Hugo has been appointed an Honourary Life Member of Heritage Ottawa for his community work pertaining to heritage concerns.

Heritage Ottawa would also like to thank the Exhibit's many sponsors for their support:

- Ottawa Jewish Historical Society
- Shirley Berman
- The Glenview Corporation (Sol Shabinsky)
- Jack & David Smith Catering
- City of Ottawa Archives
- Lawrence Slover
- Adea Advertising (Peter Kuske)
- Council for the Arts in Ottawa
- By Ward Market Administration
- Harvey Signs
- Thakar Associates
- Lawrence Freedman

WHYTE HOUSE BURNS!

On the weekend of December 10, 1989, the Whyte house was destroyed by fire. The 118 year old house at 520 The Driveway was vacant at the time of the fire. It was a Georgian design 2-story stone building with a tin mansard roof.

Built in 1871, it was the home of James Galetti Whyte, a former Ottawa Valley pioneer who gave his family name to the village of Galetti.

The home was given heritage status in 1981 and was slated to be turned into condominiums.

CCA TOUR

The Canadian Centre for Architecture in Montreal has quickly established itself as the most imaginative and original act of philanthropy in Canadian history.

It is a specialized museum, housed in a classically elegant building designed by Peter Rose (with Phyllis Lambert as consulting architect). For the public, it's an environment for learning and thinking about architecture. There is a bookstore, a cafe, and a series of display rooms housing exhibits focused on significant architects or movements in the history of architecture. In the climate-controlled underground vaults, there's one of the world's 3 greatest collections of historical material on architecture, including the drawings of architects from Andrea Palladio to Le Corbusier. Finally, it's a big park, centred on the most ambitious piece of public art in Canada--an enormous Melvin Charney sculpture.

Phyllis Lambert, a brilliant billionaire is passionately dedicated to saving old buildings. She writes "Like the written word they (buildings) are symbols. The ability to read these symbols critically enables us to understand, enjoy and cherish the built environment..." Ms. Lambert took an architectural degree under Mies van der Rohe, graduating in 1963. She helped establish Heritage Montreal and headed it for 8 years.

In 1974 she bought Shaughnessy House--a century old grand limestone mansion for \$600,000 after learning it was likely to be destroyed. The renovated Shaughnessy House became part of the CCA; a new graceful limestone building gently wrapped around it contains most of the collection.

If you are interested in a tour to the CCA, please call Heritage Ottawa at 230-8841 and leave your name, message and phone number. We will get back to you when arrangements have been finalized.

URBAN ARCHAEOLOGY

Lovers of the market and indeed all of Ottawa should feel a great deal of gratitude toward Eric Cohen. He purchased a building at 41 York Street which the city's heritage planner dismissed as "turn of the century schlock."

Eric simply wouldn't accept that and virtually buried himself in the city's archives to do research on the former "Domus" building. He discovered that this non-descript structure was originally the St. Louis Hotel--one of the finest hotels in Ottawa in 1875.

Eric will be reinstalling the old dormer windows and restoring the gabled roof that had been squared off in 1912. As well, the 2nd story balcony will be put back.

This restoration is extraordinarily important for York Street and the By Ward Market.

POLICY REPORT

Inaugurated this fall, the Committee was formed to address the issues of policy development for Heritage Ottawa. We will liaise with other heritage interest and community groups in Ottawa-Carleton, review and comment on policies and legislation by various levels of government, and lobby industry, commerce and governments to encourage renovation.

On December 11, 1989, Heritage Ottawa held a press conference with representatives of all downtown wards, to express our collective frustration over the slow progress by the Ministry of Culture and Communications in replacing the ineffective Heritage Act.

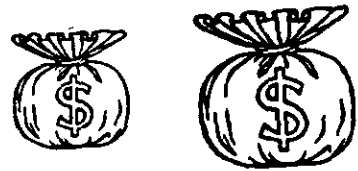
The present Heritage Act is useless, as it can't stop the demolition of designated buildings. Heritage Ottawa continues to spend the majority of its time, money and volunteer energies attempting to save already designated old buildings from demolition. Ontario is the only province which does not provide permanent protection for designated buildings.

The Province of Ontario, through various incentives, must produce a comprehensive package of legislation which provides first: a permanent protection for designated buildings (allowing the Province and municipalities to designate), and second; incentives which create a climate and interest in maintaining and improving heritage properties.

The Policy Committee will be

organizing meetings and demonstrations throughout Ottawa-Carleton and Eastern Ontario in the next few months. Volunteers from the membership are welcome to participate. Contact Richard Limmert at 722-1778.

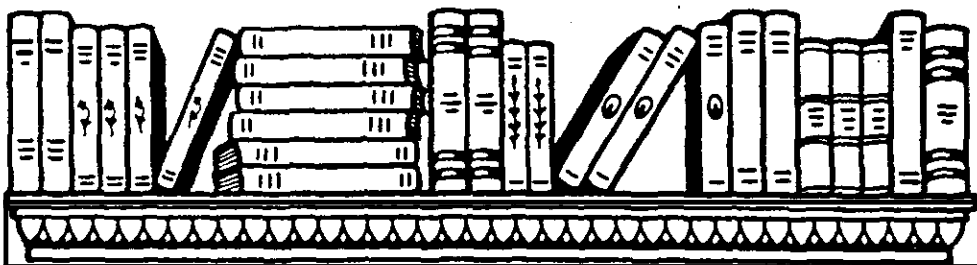
ADMINISTRATIVE NOTE



For the past few months Heritage Ottawa has had the fortune of the services of Sharon Brown, who in addition to the "intern program" work she was doing, was able to provide some of the glue that kept the office in some semblance of order. This was a term undertaking funded through a grant provided by the Ontario Ministry of Culture and Communications and has now come to an end. We will miss Sharon. However, we have been fortunate in obtaining the volunteer services of Jamie Kucey who has picked up on the day to day items. In addition Cherry is helping with the book keeping. Meanwhile we are looking into ways of providing funding to provide a continuing permanent presence in the Heritage Ottawa office.

Our move to Arts Court was driven by financial necessity but it looks like a good move. Although the office is small, we have access to gallery space and boardroom facilities. In future, correspondence should be directed to us at 2 Daly Avenue, Ottawa, K1N 6E2. Our new phone number is 230-8841.

CITY OF OTTAWA ARCHIVES



The Archives of the City of Ottawa was established in 1975 and has occupied the present building since 1977. The primary purpose of the archives is the preservation of the historic records of the city administration but the institution also plays an important role in the documentation of the history of the people of Ottawa. Besides the civic records, the archives also collects and preserves the records of institutions, associations, businesses and individuals.

The archives is an important component of the records management service of the city administration which ensures that important records are preserved for the future. Municipal records include minutes of City Council and committees beginning in 1847, by-laws, financial records, assessment records and more. The holdings also include 180 manuscript collections, approximately 2,500 maps of Ottawa and the surrounding area and over 1 million photographs or negatives, most of which are to be found in the Andrews-Newton collection and the Ottawa Journal collection.

The City of Ottawa Archives are located at 174 Stanley Avenue, Ottawa, Ontario, K1M 1P1, telephone: 564-1348. The Reference Room is normally open to the public Monday to Friday from 8:30 am to 4:30 pm (June 1 to Labour Day until 4:00 pm) and on Tuesday evenings from 6:30 to 9:30 pm (between the first Tuesday after Thanksgiving and the last Tuesday in May).

**HERITAGE OTTAWA HAS MOVED TO
ARTS COURT!
2 DALY AVENUE
OTTAWA, ONTARIO
K1N 6E2
PHONE: 230-8841**

MARKET CARNAGE!

Ottawa's By Ward Market was declared a heritage site in 1972. Since that time more than 25 buildings have been demolished, 8 in the last year alone. If steps are not taken immediately to reverse the process of destruction that is daily sapping the market of its life and heritage, there will be nothing left but mini-malls, roadhouses and parking lots.

For over 140 years, the By Ward Market has been a meeting place for people from every walk of life. In 1846, it started out as a place where people met to trade and talk over their problems. The area blossomed in the mid-1800's as distinctive grey stone buildings sprang up in place of tents and wooden shacks. Up until the turn of the century, the market emerged as a showplace for period architecture with its hotels, college, general hospital and Roman Catholic

Cathedral. The older stone buildings mingled with the newer brick structures to give the market a flavour all its own. Somehow in recent years, the market has evolved into a mish-mash of seemingly unrelated structures. Heritage structures fall-- new buildings are thrown up with reckless abandon and no critical concern for either contextual or human values.

The root of the market's problems is the destruction of heritage buildings and erection of modern and even post-modern atrocities. The area's historic traits are being lost to shoebox structures and suburban style mini-malls. Many of the markets newer structures are a failure for both renters and visitors. Much of the space in these new buildings stands vacant because they do not provide what in needed--street space and heritage, a place to stroll and browse.

City hall shows

extreme insensitivity in its zoning for the market. For example, there are plans to construct five 8-story apartment buildings that will only add to the unsightliness and overcrowding of the area. The city's design committee's record of decisions indicates it continues to be ineffectual in maintaining a cohesive pattern to the new designs in the market.

The market is being sadly abused by city officials, private developers, and the NCC. Lots designated as "heritage sites" under the Ontario Heritage Act are weakly controlled. There are really no safeguards if the owner is intent on demolition.

One suggestion is that new buildings be designed along 19th century lines. This helps to replace the cultural context that demolition removes.

A far better solution is to restore the original building

as you can't just reconstruct heritage. Heritage is a non-renewable resource. By Ward Market is Ottawa's 2nd most popular tourist area (next to Parliament Hill). Here heritage is of utmost importance.

A city funded "central area conservation study" is presently cataloguing individual buildings according to history, architectural type and value. The study is the first step toward declaring the market an "architectural conservation zone." This would enable store owners to receive funding to refurbish their storefronts along 19th century line if they choose. Also, demolition controls would be imposed in the entire area requiring renovation and restoration of heritage buildings, rather than destruction.

In a recent article in Imperial Oil Review Robert

Fulton explains the importance of heritage buildings. An excerpt from this article is reprinted here. Every building alters its street and its town, slightly of grandly, and those who design buildings (not to mention those who commission them) should understand the larger context in which the building must exist. Until the 20th century, this principle was understood and applied. But in our own time, the age of individualism, architects and developers often design buildings that work perfectly well in isolation but don't fit at all into their surroundings. A good building fits into its street, its neighbourhood, its city and into the history of all of them.

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NCC LEAVES LOG FARM IN LURCH

The Log Farm is an unique and valuable heritage site. It provides hands-on history and holds an important place in the hearts of those in the National Capital Region.

HERITAGE OTTAWA is encouraging our membership to contribute and donate money and/or time to help the Log Farm Trust Society. The National Capital Commission will be withdrawing their budget as of March 31, 1990. The Society would like to raise \$100,000.

The Log Farm provides a link with our past that is both interesting and educational for people of all ages and backgrounds.

Our heritage is a non-renewable commodity. What is lost now, is lost forever. Please help save the LOG FARM.

Donations or inquiries can be made to the following:

LOG FARM TRUST SOCIETY
R.R.#7
NEPEAN, ONTARIO
K2H 7V2

Phone: 825-4352