



# Heritage Ottawa NEWSLETTER

Dedicated to Preserving Our Built Heritage

November 2017 Volume 44, No. 4

## Heritage News Now



[www.heritageottawa.org](http://www.heritageottawa.org)

In celebration of our 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary this year, we've been sharing the stories of 50 buildings that Heritage Ottawa helped save during 50 years of advocacy work on behalf of the city's historic places.

The stories – with entertaining tidbits and fabulous photos – are unfolding weekly on our website at [heritageottawa.org](http://heritageottawa.org).

Don't miss out, 35 stories have already been posted! And we think you'll want to share some of these with friends.

The stories are also available in French.

[Heritageottawa.org/publications](http://Heritageottawa.org/publications)



## Recent Heritage Designations under Part IV of the *Ontario Heritage Act*

*(All information is based on reports prepared by City of Ottawa Heritage Planning staff)*

### Medical Arts Building 180 Metcalfe Street

The Medical Arts Building, a six storey office building clad in buff coloured brick with a recessed arched entranceway facing Metcalfe Street, is a rare example of the Art Deco style in Ottawa. Popular in the 1920s and 1930s, the Art Deco style was a bridge between the decorative styles of the 19<sup>th</sup> century and the unadorned modernism of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. The Art Deco style is expressed in the Medical Arts Building through its symmetrical massing including the continuous brick piers that break the roofline, and decorative elements.

The recessed main entrance of the Medical Arts Building on the east facade is the focal point of the building, featuring a two storey arched entranceway including a large copper frieze with the words Medical Arts Building. There is



Photo Credits: City of Ottawa for all

also a two-storey arched window between the fifth and sixth storeys.

180 Metcalfe was designed by W.E. Noffke and built in 1928 as a speculative commission by a group of physicians known as the Medical Arts Company Limited. The building was used for medical offices for many years and continues to be used as an office building today.

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*Heritage Ottawa is a non-profit organization dedicated to the preservation of Ottawa's built heritage.*

Linda Hoad  
*Editor*

Jan Soetermans  
*Graphic Designer*

Katari Imaging  
*Printing*

Heritage Ottawa  
2 Daly Avenue  
Ottawa, Ontario K1N 6E2

Tel: 613-230-8841  
Fax: 613-564-4428  
Email: [info@heritageottawa.org](mailto:info@heritageottawa.org)  
Web: [www.heritageottawa.org](http://www.heritageottawa.org)

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Leslie Maitland  
*Past-President*

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*Vice-President Communications*

(vacant)  
*Vice-President Operations*

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(vacant)  
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Nicole Sammut, Katherine  
Spencer-Ross.

*Heritage Ottawa acknowledges the financial support of the City of Ottawa and the Ontario Ministry of Culture*

## Recent Heritage Designations cont'd.



### Lipsett House 37 Oriole Drive

The Lipsett House, designed for the Lipsett family in 1957-58 by architect Paul Schoeler, is an excellent example of Modernist residential architecture in Ottawa. The two-storey, flat-roofed house has a carefully proportioned simplified rectangular plan with a small footprint, integrated carport, simple entranceway protected by a canopy, and large floor-to-ceiling or rectangular windows. There is an intentional lack of decorative features or historical references.

The house is sensitively sited and features large windows positioned for dramatic views of the surrounding natural environment, in keeping with the Modernist ideal of living with nature. The Lipsett House is an excellent example of Modernist residential architecture built in Ottawa during the 1950-1960s era of post-war optimism.

Paul Schoeler is considered to be one of the pioneers of Modernism in Ottawa. The Lipsett House was one of the first architect designed houses in Rothwell Heights, a suburb developed between

the 1940s and 1980s near the Montreal Road campus of the National Research Council.

### Kilmorie 21 Withrow Avenue

Kilmorie is a good example of an early vernacular stone cottage built in the classical tradition. Similar houses from the early-to-mid 19<sup>th</sup> century can be found throughout Ontario, notably in the Rideau Canal corridor. Characteristic of its type, Kilmorie features a moderately pitched gable roof with returned eaves, rough cut limestone, symmetrical façades, and a central gable with a decorative fanlight.



Kilmorie was constructed between 1840 and 1850 for Nepean farmer William Scott. The Scott family had emigrated from Ireland in 1819 and settled in Nepean Township. John Scott and his sons William and Archie Scott farmed on Concession I Rideau Front throughout the 19<sup>th</sup> century.

Located in former Nepean in the City View neighbourhood, Kilmorie is a reminder of the historical agricultural character of Nepean Township.

In 1914, the house was purchased by William Wilfred Campbell who named it Kilmorie. Campbell was one of the “Confederation Poets,” a group of poets born in the 1860s who became prominent in Canada in the last decades of the 19<sup>th</sup> century.



The house was purchased by the Roger family in 1951. Dr. John David Roger was president of the Medical Arts Building, 180 Metcalfe Street, for several years. Dr. Roger died in 2015; the house is presently vacant and the house and property have been listed for sale.

### **Flewellyn/Jones House — 5897 Fernbank Road**

The Flewellyn/Jones House is a good example of a late 19<sup>th</sup> century Gothic Revival farmhouse. Built in 1886, the one-and-one-half storey stone house features decorative bargeboard, a steeply pitched gable roof, segmental arched windows and a veranda with decorative brackets.

The house was built for Richard Flewellyn and his wife Margaret Boyle, who came to Canada from Ireland in 1863. Typical of pioneering families, the Flewellyns were heavily involved in the church and the community in various capacities: two sons, James and George, were school trustees and George was later a reeve of Goulbourn Township.

The Flewellyn/Jones house is an example of the early settlement of Goulbourn Township by Irish and Scottish immigrants and illustrates

the tradition of farms being owned and operated by a single family for several decades. The house was owned by the Flewellyn family until the 1950s and has only had two owners since that time. The most recent owners have been the Jones family who have owned the property since 1962.

Located in Stittsville, which has experienced a rapid increase in suburban development, the Flewellyn/Jones House serves as a reminder of the agricultural history and rural character of Goulbourn Township and the Ottawa Valley.

### **Former Adath Jeshurun Synagogue 375 King Edward Avenue**

The former Adath Jeshurun Synagogue was constructed in 1904 for the Adath Jeshurun congregation, Ottawa’s first Jewish congregation, founded in 1892.

Designed by John William Hurrell Watts, a prominent local architect and artist, the former synagogue is a good example of the Romanesque Revival style. Its notable decorative elements include the ornate

entranceway, the unique window pattern and the Moorish-inspired domes. This is the oldest synagogue in the city and many original features have been preserved.

The synagogue served the community until 1956 when it merged with the Agudath Achim congregation to form the Beth Shalom congregation at 151 Chapel Street. The synagogue was converted to the Jewish Community Memorial Chapel and served as the site of all Jewish funerals until 1997.



The former Adath Jeshurun Synagogue is a significant Lowertown building which serves as reminder of the history and evolution of the Jewish community in Lowertown. Its unique architectural style makes it a visual and historic landmark for the community.

The former synagogue now serves as a church for the French congregation of the Seventh Day Adventist Church in Ottawa.



### **Former Overbrook Public School 149 King George Street**

Overbrook Public School was built in 1916 in the Collegiate Gothic style which became popular for universities and schools across North America in the early 20<sup>th</sup>

century. The use of brick and limestone, the symmetrical façades, the secondary cornice of stone and metal, and the carved date stone and decorative stone details are characteristic of this style.

The original two room school was designed in anticipation of later additions by the well-known Ottawa architecture firm of Millson and Burgess. A 1947 addition matching the original and creating the symmetrical front was designed by Ottawa architect Walter Sylvester, a long-time resident of Overbrook.

Located in former Gloucester Township, Overbrook Public

School is a reminder of the early development of suburban neighbourhoods surrounding Ottawa. Typical of early schools, Overbrook Public School served as a community hub for most of its history including serving as a church, Sunday school, community meeting hall, daycare and a location for sporting events and community dances. The school is one of the earliest remaining buildings in the neighbourhood and is a landmark in the Overbrook neighbourhood.

Overbrook Public School closed in 2001 and the building is now operated as a private school.

# **Celebrating our Village Heritage — the 6<sup>th</sup> annual Heritage Ottawa Forum**

*By Zeynep Ekim*

As many of us know, the Ottawa Valley, like the rest of Ontario, is home to charming historic villages and towns with elegant main streets, heritage storefronts and historic houses. Unique as their architectural attributes, conservation of these historic properties and streetscapes present many challenges.

On September 30, Heritage Ottawa partnered with the Rideau Township Historical Society to host a forum that brought together participants interested in exactly this - understanding the values associated with rural villages, their conservation challenges, and to “Celebrate Our Village Heritage”.



*Eastman Lindsay McBride House*

The Forum was opened by the City Councillor, Scott Moffatt, who himself is a long-time member of the Built Heritage Sub-Committee of Ottawa’s Planning Committee. Councillor Moffatt has worked actively for the protection, designation and celebration of many heritage

properties in the greater Ottawa area, including the Falls House in Manotick which unfortunately was demolished in 2016. Since then, Councillor Moffatt has been working with the property owners and other stakeholders to create a replacement building that fits into the streetscape at this important village intersection.

One of the key players of the Falls House project, architect/entrepreneur Giulio Maffini discussed Manotick’s experience with the City Design Guidelines for Rural Villages in the context of the planning process.

An invaluable resource for all heritage professionals and advocates, archives were brought

*Photos: Zeynep Ekim*



*Kars Barn*

into the discussion by Paul Henry, City Archivist. Mr. Henry presented details on their success in creating a “heritage hub” for Ottawa’s rural communities at the Rideau Township Branch of the City Archives.

As many in the heritage community know, the new Heritage Inventory project made the news over the summer by putting many heritage property owners on edge. Two heritage planners with the City of Ottawa, Amber Polywkan and Avery Marshall, gave us a very insightful review of the recent changes to the Heritage Register. They also

have informed the participants that the Inventory project will soon expand its scope to areas outside the Greenbelt including rural village heritage.

Participants at the 2017 Forum were also invited to take part in a guided walking tour of Kars which showcased many unexpected heritage treasures. The tour guides, Cameron Minor and Susan McKellar, who are also residents of Kars, not only introduced the participants to the many different styles of architecture that can be found



*Lindsay House*

in Kars’ heritage houses, but also gave insights into the lives of their former residents.

Jim Mountain, Director of Regeneration Projects at the National Trust for Canada, introduced us to the Main Street program of the National Trust. He offered examples of

strategies and partnerships in several communities designed to revitalize the economic health of their communities, while preserving the heritage character of their downtowns.



*Kars forum attendees*

The forum capped off with a beautiful bus-tour that took the participants on a drive through the picturesque Rideau Township, with stops along the way at St. Andrew’s Presbyterian Church, the Thompson Barn, and a visit to the Rideau Archives in the former Township Hall of North Gower.

At the end of the day, one lesson that stands out as the common theme of all speakers was the important but challenging nature of heritage conservation in villages. Heritage sites and streetscapes of villages are repositories of their respective community’s evolving narratives. They tell the stories that inform the creation of a community. Therefore, their preservation is very important for cultural resilience. For underscoring such an important theme this year, we are grateful to those responsible for planning and organizing this event.

*Zeynep Ekim is a recent graduate of the Master of Architecture program at Carleton University and an intern architect with Barry Padolsky Associates Architects.*



*Martin Monkman Minor House*

*Photo: Maureen McPhee*





Ian joined Parks Canada in 1987 and retired in March 2016. During his thirty years with Parks, he worked as an historian and as manager of historical

# Loss of a Heritage Ottawa Board Member

services, Eastern Canada and Federal Heritage Buildings Review Office. He was deeply involved in the evaluation and designation of many high profile historic districts – including Annapolis Royal and Grand Pré – and he had a particular interest in the history and architecture of Atlantic Canada. There was little Ian didn't know about military

history and he is recognized for his expertise on Canadian Forces Base Esquimalt.

Ian cared deeply about his job, his co-workers and especially his staff. His sudden death has left his friends and colleagues at Parks Canada (for they are one and the same) shocked and saddened.

## National Trust Award



Photo: Heritage Ottawa

*David Flemming (left), former President; David Jeanes (centre), Heritage Ottawa President, and Board members Louise Fox, Nicole Sammut, and Doug Beaton.*

Heritage Ottawa was honoured to receive the National Trust's Governors' Award on October 13, 2017. This award recognizes extraordinary achievement by an individual or organization in heritage conservation in Canada.

# From the President

By David Jeanes



I regret to begin my message by acknowledging the passing of Ian Doull, a director of Heritage Ottawa and a keen supporter of built heritage conservation. Ian joined the board in the spring and was making contributions to a range of our activities. We will miss him and are pleased to include a tribute to Ian, prepared by his colleagues at Parks Canada. (see previous page)

## Programs

The summer and early autumn were busy times for Heritage Ottawa. The 2017 Heritage Forum, organized with the Rideau Township Historical Society and held on Saturday, September 30 in Kars, attracted over 50 attendees. The theme this year was Celebrating Village Heritage. (see the article on page 4). We're very grateful to our partners in

Kars for their commitment, energy and enthusiasm which helped participants appreciate the dimensions of heritage conservation in the villages of Ottawa.

As I write, the 2017 series of Heritage Ottawa walks has just ended. This was the most ambitious program of walking tours we have ever undertaken, greatly expanded from previous years and with an important French-language component. In addition to our own walking tours, Heritage Ottawa offered walking tours for several heritage conferences held in Ottawa during Canada 150. With the help of dedicated tour leaders and tour coordinators, and despite challenging weather on some days, we offered 23 tours and welcomed almost 700 attendees. I cannot emphasize enough how essential to the success of the tours having a sufficient number of coordinators is. The 2018 walking tours organizing group would welcome more volunteers; the contacts are Martin Rice and Ian Ferguson on the Heritage Ottawa board, via [info@heritageottawa.org](mailto:info@heritageottawa.org).

The 2017-2018 lecture series is well under way and we welcome our new partnership with the Ottawa Public Library for these events.

## Other News

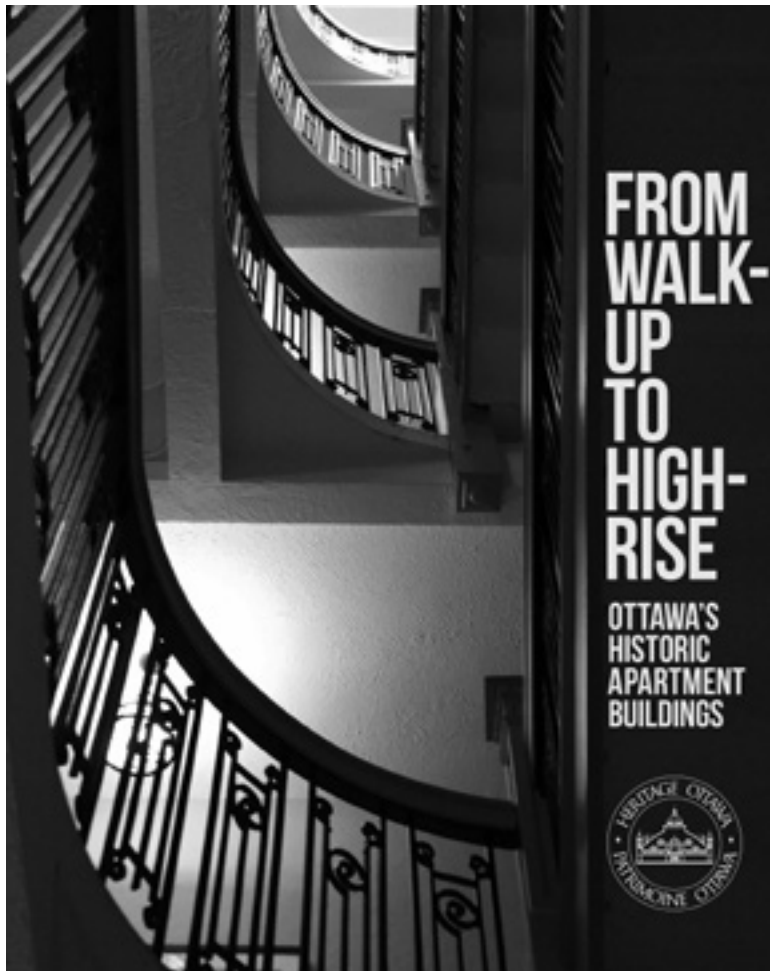
After serving Heritage Ottawa as manager intern for 14 months, Amber Polywkan has accepted a position with the Heritage Planning Service at the City of Ottawa. She was the first to fill this role, established by a generous donation from Louise Fox as a stepping stone to a career in Heritage. We offer her our thanks and congratulations.

## Another award!

A number of you will have attended the National Trust/ Association for Preservation Technology joint conference in Ottawa in early October. We sponsored two students to attend the conference, as part of our support for the next generation of heritage professionals. I'm pleased to report that at the conference Heritage Ottawa received the National Trust Governors' Award for extraordinary achievement in heritage conservation in Canada. Very welcome recognition for our efforts and encouragement for us – you, our supporters, as well as the board members – to continue our work.

*David Jeanes, President, Heritage Ottawa / Patrimoine Ottawa*

# A HERITAGE OTTAWA BOOK LAUNCH!



JOIN HERITAGE OTTAWA AS WE LAUNCH OUR NEWEST PUBLICATION

A special presentation by two of the book's contributors, **Shannon Ricketts** and **Susan Ross**, will focus on the years 1900 to 1939 and include local apartment buildings influenced by the Art Nouveau, Art Deco and Art Moderne styles.

WE INVITE YOU TO STAY FOR REFRESHMENTS AFTER THE LECTURE  
**FROM WALK-UP TO HIGH-RISE: Ottawa's Historic Apartment Buildings**  
will be available for purchase.

WHEN: WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 13, 2017 | 7:00 - 9:00 PM

WHERE: DOMINION-CHALMERS UNITED CHURCH  
355 COOPER STREET

[www.heritageottawa.org](http://www.heritageottawa.org)

*The lecture is free and no pre-registration is required.*