



Heritage Ottawa NEWSLETTER

Dedicated to Preserving Our Built Heritage

November 2022 Volume 49, No. 4

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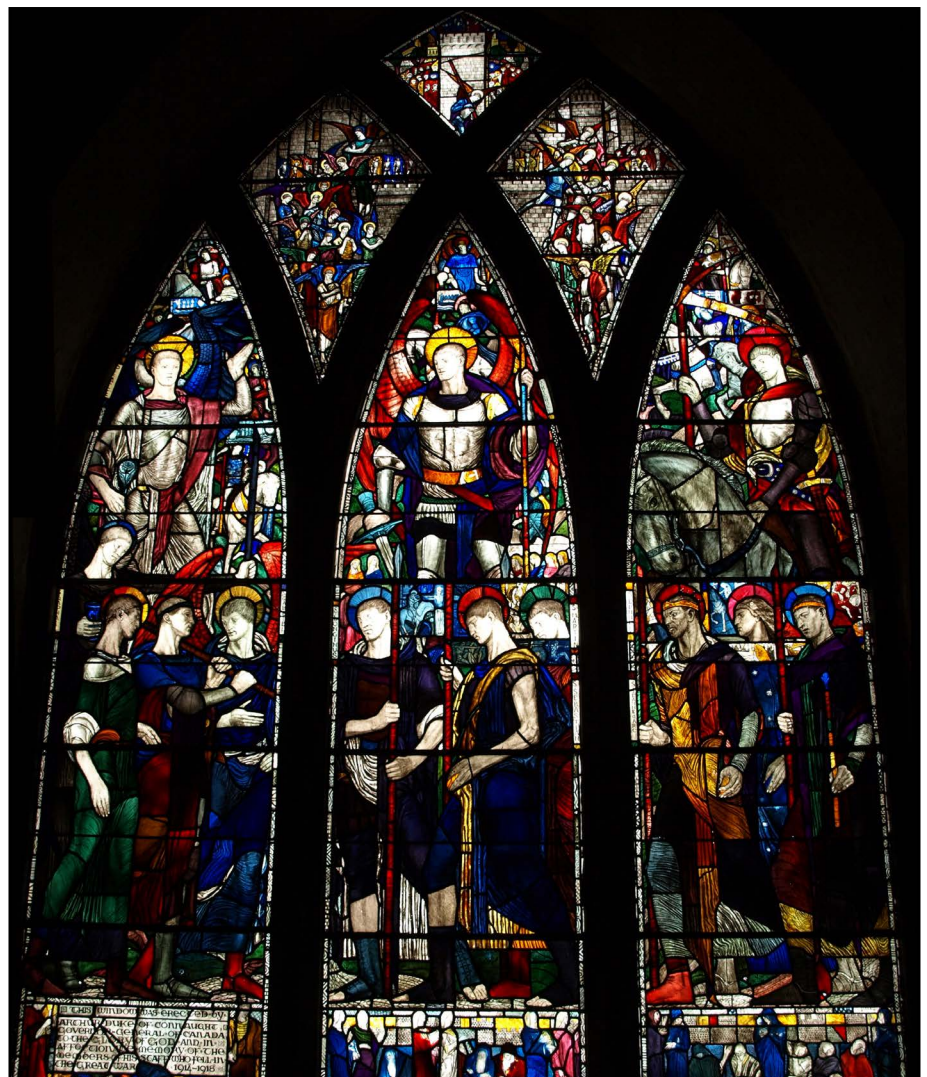
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The Wilhelmina Geddes Ottawa Window, St Bartholomew's Church, New Edinburgh

By Liz Heatherington with Janet Uren and Kevin McQuinn



Geddes Ottawa Window

Photos: Kevin McQuinn

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

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The Wilhelmina Geddes Ottawa Window Continued...

"The young prince finished his address and unveiled the window. There was an immediate gasp from the congregation."¹

Today, as I sit in the church of St. Bartholomew looking up at the stained-glass window unveiled by Edward, Prince of Wales on November 9, 1919, I have very much the same reaction – astonishment mixed with delight and gratitude that we are blessed in Ottawa with such a remarkable work of art.

No wonder they gasped. The window, with its muscular, warlike images, was unlike anything that Ottawa had ever seen. The gift of Prince Edward's uncle – Prince Arthur, Duke of Connaught (Governor General of Canada from 1908 to 1915) – was given to the church in memory of 10 members of the Duke's household staff who died during the First World War.

Looking at the window today, I am surprised that this small church in New Edinburgh should have the privilege of harbouring the work of one of the most famous glassmakers in the world. Before coming to Canada, Prince Arthur had served as Lieutenant Governor of Ireland, and it was to Ireland he turned in search of an artist to commemorate his friends. Wilhelmina Geddes was part of an Irish renaissance of glass-making at the time, and the Ottawa window is the only example of her work in North America.

To a congregation used to the religious motifs of Victorian England – the bowed heads, delicate drapery and light colours – the Geddes window represented a startling departure.

It is a very detailed work with an incredible and beautiful puzzle of faces, halos, objects and deep, vibrant colours. My gaze always returns to the central figure of St Michael, with his



St. Michael, Geddes Ottawa Window (detail)

powerful presence in the upper part of the window. He is dressed in armour and surrounded by spears, lancets and colourful pennants. The effect is surprisingly warlike for a church, reminding us that the window was created in memory of soldiers. Often called the "Warrior Window," for me it shows the complexity of life, faith and history.

The Geddes Ottawa Window is now more than 100 years old, and whereas the glass is still vibrant, there is wear and rust on the leading that holds the glass pieces together. A major renovation is underway to ensure that this beautiful work of art will endure. Repairs will start soon, but for the time being the window is on view.

I invite you to come to St Bartholomew's to look at this outstanding window and learn more about the other characters displayed. Church services are at 9:30 a.m. every Sunday, but, being mindful of public health, please check our website before visiting: <https://stbartsottawa.ca/> or telephone 613-745-7834.

Liz Heatherington, Janet Uren and Kevin McQuinn are all parishioners at the Church of St Bartholomew's.

¹ *Faithful: St. Bartholomew's, Ottawa 1867-2017, by Janet Uren and Glenn J Lockwood. Ottawa: St. Bartholomew's Church, 2017, p. 78 [ISBN 978-0-9958331-0-4]*

Draft Federal Legislation to protect Historic Places

By Leslie Maitland

If you want to astonish your fellow Canadians, just tell them that Canada is the only G-7 country that lacks legislation to protect its designated heritage places. That's right. There is no legal protection for the Parliament Buildings.

Finally, draft legislation (Bill C-23) is before us, to be called the *Historic Places of Canada Act* (HPCA). Thank you, to everyone at Parks Canada Agency (PCA) and others who had a hand in bringing this along so far. (Bill C-23: Historic Places of Canada Act - National Historic Sites (pc.gc.ca))

Most aspects of the draft legislation only pertain to federally designated heritage properties owned by federal departments. Some sites are national historic sites, which are designated by the Minister for Environment and Climate Change upon the recommendation of the Historic Sites



Photo: Naveen Kumar Unsplash

Parliament of Canada, library

and Monuments Board of Canada. Others are those designated as Classified heritage properties by the Federal Heritage Buildings Review Office. There is a Treasury Board real property guideline which requires a

prescribed list of federal entities to submit their properties of a certain age (now fifty years) for evaluation for heritage significance by the Federal Heritage Buildings Review Office.¹

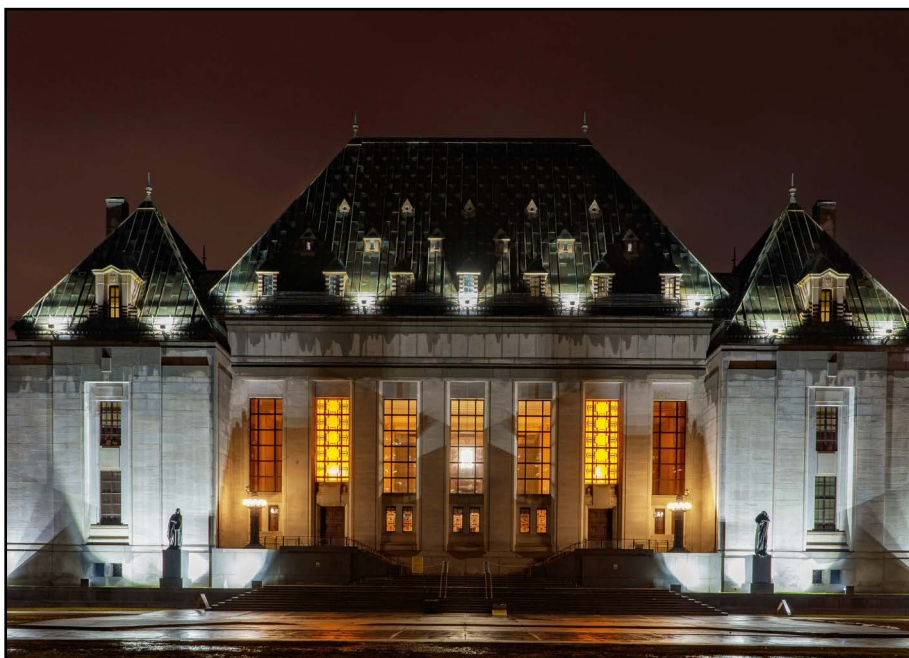


Photo: Tom Carnegie Unsplash

Supreme Court of Canada

For Ottawa, this legislation is of critical importance: the highest concentration of federally-owned heritage properties are right here in the Nation's Capital. It is not just that there are a lot of them: they are the nation's most significant. Ottawa is where Canadians come to connect to their country as a nation: the Parliament Buildings, the Supreme Court, the War Memorial, are only a few of the federally-owned heritage properties which are of paramount importance to Canadians. These are the national treasures that we here in Ottawa are proud to protect.

So let's do it.

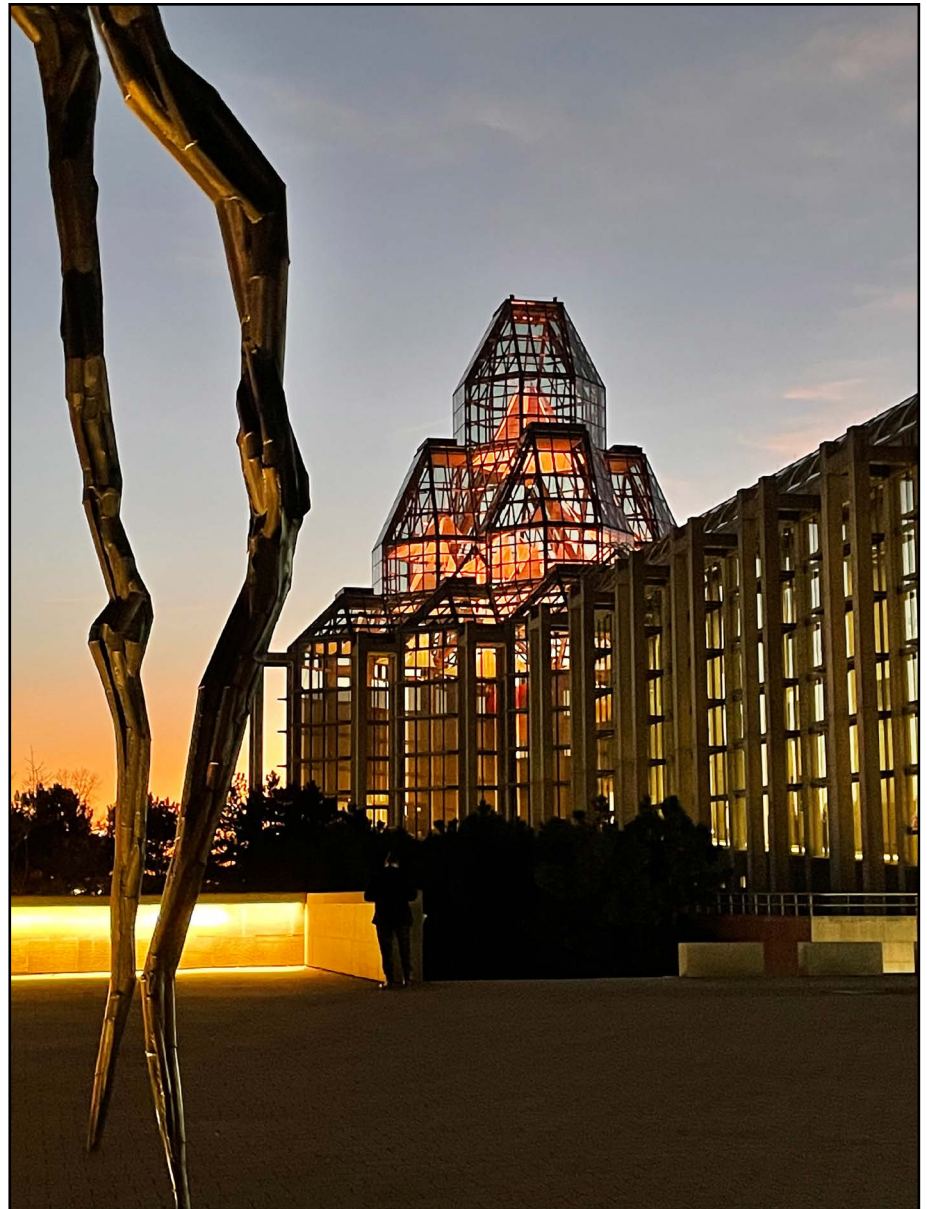
Welcome Developments

Many aspects of the proposed legislation are excellent and long overdue. There is a change to the Historic Sites and Monuments Board of Canada to include representatives of Indigenous, Inuit and Métis communities in response to recommendations of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission. The HPCA would also establish a register of federal heritage places and require that the *Standards and Guidelines for the Conservation of Historic Places in Canada* (S&Gs) be followed by all departments which own federally designated heritage properties. Owner-departments would have a duty to consult with Parks Canada before any interventions are undertaken. The draft act empowers Parks Canada to draft its own regulations with respect to the historic canals (Rideau, Trent-Severn and others), which are currently still governed by legislation that dates to the era when the canals were managed by Transport Canada. All good.

But there are some worrisome omissions from the draft Act.

Missing in Action

Excluded from the Act are any measures to protect the nearly 1,000 national historic sites owned and managed by others. This is in part because laws and regulations pertaining to private property, or properties owned by other levels of government, are provincial/territorial responsibilities, and the federal government cannot insert itself here, at least not through legislative tools. Other mechanisms outside the legislative, such as financial incentives or tax breaks for conservation projects, will have to be used to encourage owners of National Historic Sites to conserve them.



National Gallery of Canada

Even within the portfolio of federally owned heritage properties there are alarming exclusions, such as crown corporations and agencies. (Think the national museums). Excluded also are federally regulated entities such the transportation industries (railways and airports), even though they are subject to other legislation that pertains to property management, such as the *Accessibility Act*. And Global Affairs Canada (GAC) has successfully resisted heritage designations of its many properties abroad. (Think Canada House on Trafalgar Square). Also missing is any

commitment to federal underwater archaeology.

Toothless Legislation?

Most worrisome of all is that the Act has no teeth. Heritage Ottawa will advocate for changes that would give the Act some leverage. There needs to be some mechanism for reporting to Parliament on the status of federally owned heritage properties, either through the proposed Register, or an Annual Report, or tabled conservation plans. Such documents would give Parliament the power to

Photo: Jan Soetermans

hold owner departments to account, and would also give the Auditor General some benchmarks with which to judge performance.

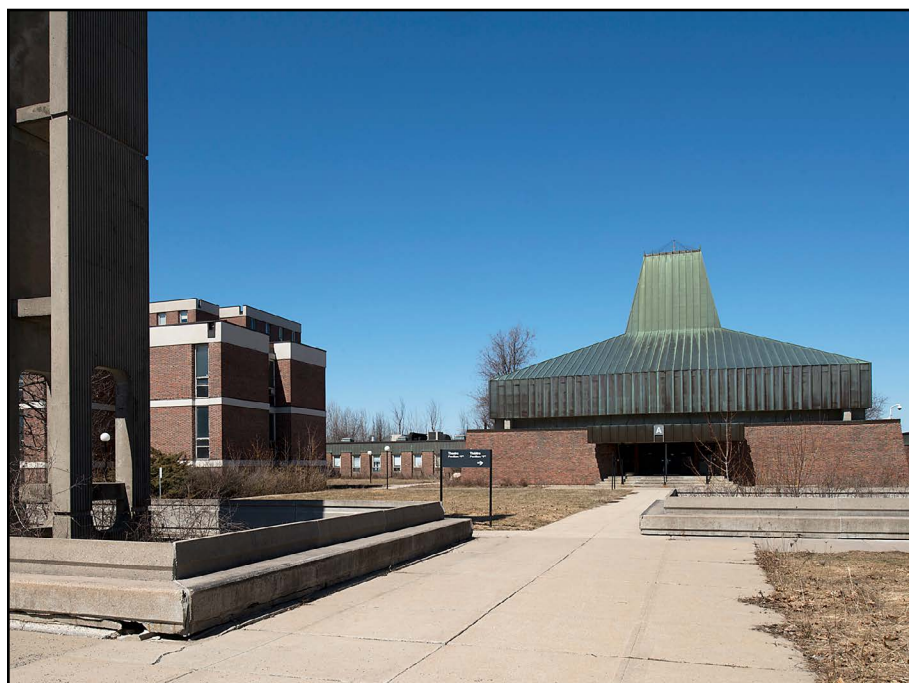
Owner departments will have a duty to consult Parks Canada on any proposed changes, but what does that really empower Parks Canada to do? Heritage Ottawa will be advocating for some kind of interdepartmental committee to reach consensus decisions on interventions, similar to the Federal Heritage Building Review process which already exists and has been proven to work.

Disposal

The Government of Canada removes properties from the federal inventory from time to time. Recent examples here in Ottawa are the former Federal Study Centre on Heron Road, and the Booth Street Complex, both sites having FHBRO-designated buildings. Any federally owned heritage property that leaves the federal portfolio should go to its new owner with some kind of protection mechanism, such as a conservation easement registered on title. Canada Lands Company does work towards conserving the heritage of federal lands when they are disposed of, but not in a codified way, and there is no mention of such a process in the draft legislation. This could be corrected.

No More National Historic Sites

The proposed legislation would eliminate the nomenclature National Historic Site of Canada in favour of simply “place of national historic significance or interest.” The idea is to streamline the layered designations of National Historic Site and Classified Federal Heritage Building. But for the very few sites to which this would pertain, the government is risking the credibility of a national



View of the Chapel – 1495 Heron Road

historic site designation, the value of which has been built for over 100 years. This is a designation with tremendous prestige, and an anchor for tourism promotion and economic development for many communities across the country. It's a loss of prestige equivalent to telling an Order of Canada recipient that from now on, they may only style themselves as an award winner. Many sites have layered designations, once you add on their provincial and often municipal designations, not to mention World Heritage designations. This is an unnecessary move and potentially highly offensive to communities who are proud of their national historic site designation, and who have been able to leverage the designation to support tourism and investment.

While Heritage Ottawa regards the creation of this legislation as a significant step forward, there is the worry that it would allow the federal government to say, yes, we have federal heritage legislation. But if it is missing many elements, and has no powers of enforcement or

accountability, it might be worse than useless.

It doesn't have to be that way. Heritage Ottawa plans to convey its concerns on the draft legislation to the Minister of Environment and Climate Change, the Honourable Steven Guilbeault, and to Parliament in the fall, when the bill goes for second reading in the House of Commons. We are prepared to work constructively with the federal government, and especially our elected representatives, to improve this draft legislation in ways that are practical and effective.

Stay tuned.

Leslie Maitland is a past president of Heritage Ottawa and is a volunteer on the Advocacy Committee.

¹ There are two levels of designation in FHBRO. Classified FHBs have the higher evaluation, and Recognized FHBs the lesser. Classified FHBs would be subject to this legislation, while the Recognized would continue to be administered under the Treasury Board guidelines.

Le Quartier-du-Moulin, sous le charme de la Nouvelle-Angleterre

Par Michel Prévost, D.U., président de la Société d'histoire de l'Outaouais

Le patrimoine bâti de Gatineau a beaucoup souffert au cours des dernières décennies. En effet, plusieurs bâtiments sont tombés sous le pic des démolisseurs ou ont été détruits par les flammes. D'autres, comme les bâtiments de la E.B. Eddy ou ceux de la Fonderie, sont toujours en attente de restauration.

Cela dit, tout n'est pas aussi sombre, puisque plusieurs bâtiments ont été cités ou classés dans les secteurs d'Aylmer et de Hull. C'est toutefois la création de sites du patrimoine qui s'avère les meilleurs exemples de préservation. Pensons notamment au ruisseau de la Brasserie, au Vieux-Aylmer, au Quartier-du-Musée et du Quartier-du-Moulin, qui retient ici notre attention.

Les origines

Les origines de Gatineau Mills remontent au milieu des années 1920, lorsque le gouvernement du Québec afferme, pour la dernière fois, des terres à bois aux papetières. La Canadian International Paper (CIP), une filiale de la compagnie américaine International Paper, souhaite acquérir plus de 1 000 kilomètres carrés de ces terres en Outaouais. Une condition majeure s'avère rattachée à cette concession. L'acquéreur s'engage à construire une usine de pâtes et papiers de 150 tonnes ans afin de faire la transformation complète du bois coupé dans la région.

C'est dans ce contexte, qu'en 1925, la municipalité de Tempelton-Ouest permet à la CIP d'acheter plusieurs

terres agricoles pour y construire, à partir de 1926, une usine de pâtes et papiers de 26 millions de dollars, une somme colossale à l'époque, des baraquements pour les ouvriers et de belles maisons pour le directeur et les familles des cadres du moulin.

En fait, pour ne pas dépayser les cadres américains et leurs familles, la CIP érige sur les rues Poplar et James-Murray, une trentaine de maisons de style cottage s'inspirant de la Nouvelle-Angleterre.

Des maisons uniques à Gatineau

Les maisons des cadres sont uniques à Gatineau et elles possèdent plusieurs caractéristiques architecturales intéressantes. Ainsi, les constructions



Photo: Bernard Lacroix

LACROIX, Bernard, *À l'ombre du moulin, une enfance à Gatineau 1934-1948*, Société Pièce sur pièce, 2018, 131 p.



Photo: Michel Prévost

PRÉVOST, Michel, « Le Quartier-du-Moulin, la cité-jardin de Gatineau », dans *Hier encore*, no 8, 2016, p. 33-37.

sont en bois peint ou en bardeaux, les toits sont en pente très prononcée, les pignons sont dominants, les devantures sont en bardeaux foncés ou en déclin de bois et les couleurs sont contrastantes.

Même si les maisons sont construites en série, elles sont de différents modèles afin d'éviter la monotonie. Devant chaque maison, on trouve un terre-plein et des arbres qui séparent la rue et le trottoir.

Afin d'enjoliver les devantures des maisons, les garages pour les voitures sont aménagés à l'arrière. On y accède par des ruelles qui permettent aussi aux véhicules de service de passer par l'arrière.

Une maison dominante

La maison du directeur s'avère de loin la plus imposante du quartier. Tout est pensé pour lui donner des airs de manoir. Ainsi, le gabarit est beaucoup plus large que les autres alors que la forte pente de la toiture et les deux

grandes cheminées donnent de la prestance à la demeure.

En somme, tout est mis en place pour assurer la beauté du site pourtant situé à quelques mètres de l'une des plus importantes usines à papier au Canada. En fait, la CIP s'inspire du mouvement des cités-jardins né lors de la révolution industrielle en Angleterre à la fin du 19^e siècle et qui s'est rapidement implanté dans le nord-est des États-Unis. Les adeptes de ce mouvement cherchent à créer un environnement vert et paisible à proximité des usines bruyantes et polluantes qui poussent comme des champignons à l'époque.

À Gatineau, ce beau concept champêtre s'adresse seulement aux habitations des cadres et non à celles des travailleurs.

Un site du patrimoine protégé

Dans les années 1970, la CIP vend ses maisons sur les rues Poplar et Park

à des particuliers. La ruelle du côté de l'usine est enlevée pour aménager un stationnement. Bref, le quartier commence à perdre son caractère d'origine.

Le vent tourne dans les années 1990 avec l'arrivée d'André Cellard, un professeur de l'Université d'Ottawa, qui sensibilise ses voisins à l'importance de conserver le caractère patrimonial du quartier. Ceux-ci approchent la Ville de Gatineau pour le préserver et en 1996, le Conseil municipal crée le site du patrimoine Park/Poplar/Maple. Fait rare, le règlement inclut les arbres qui forment une voûte majestueuse sur la rue Poplar.

Aujourd'hui, le Quartier-du-Moulin constitue l'un des plus précieux joyaux du patrimoine bâti de Gatineau. Il démontre aussi l'importance de créer des sites du patrimoine afin de les protéger pour les générations à venir. N'hésitez pas à le découvrir.

The Tomb of the Unknown Soldier

By Richard Belliveau



Photo: Richard Belliveau

The National War Memorial

Canada's Tomb of the Unknown Soldier was accorded ignominious publicity in January this year when trucker convoy revellers were filmed drinking and partying at the National War Memorial in Confederation Square. One, presumably inebriated, woman was filmed dancing atop the tomb itself.

Clearly, the national site dedicated to Canadians who died in war in the service of their country needs better recognition in the minds and hearts of newer generations of Canadians.

The national war memorial itself, a truly magnificent piece of public art, was famously dedicated in 1939 to

the memory of the dead of the First World War by King George the VI and his spouse Queen Elizabeth, during their royal visit to Canada, on the eve of an impending war in Europe. A whole city block between Sparks Street and Rideau Street was demolished and reconfigured into Confederation Square to fix this grand monument into the downtown heart of the nation's capital. In subsequent decades, the memorial was rededicated to the dead in the Second World War, the Korean War and other conflicts in which Canadian armed forces participated.

This monument did not originally include a resting place for an Unknown Soldier.

In historic terms, the idea of a tomb commemorating soldiers who died at war, but whose bodies were not identified and interred in a grave marked with their names, is a rather recent concept. It first took hold in Britain and France after WWI in the wash of horror at the mass slaughter of millions, so many of whose bodies would never be identified. In 1920, a special tomb was created in Westminster Abbey where the remains of an "unknown soldier" were solemnly buried in the name of all unidentified dead in Britain's wars. A similar tomb was established in France, under the Arc de Triomphe in the centre of the Étoile in Paris, and also in the USA at Arlington National Cemetery in 1932. Now, more than 50 countries around the world have adopted this form of remembrance.

Canada did not have a specific tomb honouring all unknown soldiers until the end of the 20th century. Its

creation, design and realization were elements of a millennial project promoted by the Royal Canadian Legion.

This tomb, designed with fundamental simplicity, was formed from a light grey Caledonia granite, selected from a quarry in Quebec to match the war memorial, at the foot of which the tomb would be installed. The tomb is only 12 feet by eight feet rising three feet above the plaza. The bronze adornment consists of a bas-relief sculpture depicting a mediaeval sword, a WWI helmet, and branches of maple and laurel leaves. The bronze pieces were designed by Vancouver artist Mary-Ann Liu and cast in British Columbia. Four bronze corner pieces depict the variants of the Memorial Cross (also known as the Silver Cross for Mothers) during the reigns of three monarchs since its inception, with a poppy on the fourth corner.

In May 2000, the remains of an unknown Canadian soldier were exhumed from a plot in the Cabaret-Rouge Commonwealth Cemetery in France, not far from the Canadian memorial at Vimy Ridge. Records of the Commonwealth War Graves Commission indicate only that this body was that of a Canadian who died in battle in the Vimy region. Nothing more is known of this casualty, and one of the protocols of selection commands that no further effort will ever be made to trace the identity of this fallen soldier.

The coffin was flown to Ottawa in a Canadian Forces aircraft on May 25, 2000. The coffin was formally transported from the Cartier Square Drill Hall on a gun carriage towed by a vintage military truck of the type used in WWI, escorted by a small honour guard, to Parliament Hill where it would lie in state in the Hall of Honour beneath the Peace Tower for three days.

On May 28, 2000, the flag-draped coffin, made of silver maple, was once again placed on a gun carriage, but this time the carriage was drawn by an eight-horse team ridden by red-coated RCMP officers in full military parade down O'Connor Street to Laurier Avenue and up Elgin Street to the national memorial. The casket was re-interred in the sarcophagus at the foot of the monument, and sprinkled with soil from each of the provinces and territories and from the former grave site. The sarcophagus was then sealed.

The story of the Tomb of the Unknown soldier had only just begun. At the annual Remembrance Day ceremony on November 2000, when dignitaries and veterans had all laid their wreaths at the war memorial and the square was opened to the public, people spontaneously started to place their poppy pins on the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier, until

there were hundreds of red poppies cascading off the tomb.

It is the memory of this entombment that makes subsequent desecrations of the tomb and the war memorial such chilling events. In 2006, three young men were caught urinating on the memorial following Canada Day fireworks. In 2014, a man shot and killed Corporal Nathan Cirillo, one of the sentries on duty at the tomb. In January of this year, groups of persons participating in the infamous trucker-convoy protest in Ottawa partied and were photographed dancing rudely on the tomb itself. These were unhappy events, but the Tomb itself has been fully accepted as central to our magnificent monument to Canada's war dead.

Richard Belliveau is a director of Heritage Ottawa. He served overseas in Canada's diplomatic service, including assignments as ambassador and high commissioner.



Tomb of the Unknown Soldier

Photo: Richard Belliveau

We're Listening!

By Katherine Spencer-Ross

In June 2022, Heritage Ottawa asked members to complete an online survey because we wanted to know more about you, your priorities related to our local heritage, and what you think of Heritage Ottawa. Many of you answered our call!

The aim of the survey was to solicit your input to help guide development of our strategic plan for the next three years. With a good survey response rate of 26.5% (8 French and 138 English completed surveys), we feel we now have a good sense of what you expect. Your responses, comments, and helpful suggestions will influence our way forward.

What did we learn?

We were not surprised to discover that much of our membership is over 60 years old, predominantly English speaking, and living inside Ottawa's Greenbelt. Although this helps us to direct programming for our current demographic, it also raises questions about how we engage younger heritage scholars and enthusiasts, whether we offer sufficient services in French, and if we should expand our membership beyond Ottawa.

We were most heartened to note overwhelming support for our top four core activities – advocacy, walking tours, newsletter, and lectures.

Members rated advocacy as Heritage Ottawa's most important activity, and we were delighted to learn that respondents overwhelmingly supported our advocacy around the Fairmont Chateau Laurier addition. We were similarly pleased to know that members would support other future campaigns. Over 40% of respondents ranked the protection and/or designation of municipal heritage properties and Heritage Conservation Districts as a priority in heritage conservation in Ottawa, and 27% gave primacy to protection of heritage properties through effective legislation.

Although many of you expressed reluctance in June to return to walking tours due to the pandemic, we know some of you did enjoy our sold-out tours later in the summer and autumn. Changes and improvements suggested in the survey for walking tours will be considered during next season's preparations.

The 2022-2023 lecture series is now underway, and in response to this survey – as well as specific post-lecture feedback – free lectures are being offered in a hybrid fashion, with a mix of online and in-person presentations.

A perk of membership is immediate access to current newsletters, which, according to the survey, are read assiduously by 90% of members. The variety and quality of articles, the recent inclusion of colour, and the choice of printed or online versions were highlights noted by survey respondents.

As stated in the survey, Heritage Ottawa does not have sufficient funds to ensure long-term sustainability of the organization. To support the organization financially, members indicated they would be most likely to contribute to a targeted, issue-based fundraising campaign or make an annual donation. In addition, respondents felt Heritage Ottawa should offer more paid programming and solicit more donations.

All told, the survey results raised several questions and gave us much food for thought. A big thank you goes out to those who took the time to complete our questionnaire. Further, we very much appreciate your positive comments about our current work and activities. Your responses, insights, and myriad suggestions are invaluable, and we hope you will see evidence that we have listened when you read the strategic plan and see the programming options offered to you.

*Katherine Spencer-Ross, President,
Heritage Ottawa*

Advocacy Update: A Wolf in Sheep's Clothing

By David B. Flemming

Nearly two years ago, ostensibly to improve the process of providing more affordable housing for Ontarians, the Ford government established Ontario's Housing Affordability Task Force to propose major reforms to the approvals process for residential development. The government's subsequent

legislation to support the Housing Supply Action Plan – Bill 108 (*More Homes More Choice Act*) and Bill 109 (*An Act to amend the various statutes with respect to housing, development and various other matters*) – seeks to implement many of the Task Force's recommendations.

These recommendations would limit the zoning power of municipalities by making it easier to develop "streamlined" rules and bureaucracy that govern planning and development in order to speed up the approval process by further limiting appeals under both the *Planning Act* and *Ontario Heritage Act (OHA)*.

The proposed changes would permit province-wide residential housing of up to four storeys on a single residential lot and permit six to 11 storeys on streets used for public transit as a matter of right. These changes alone would threaten the preservation of heritage conservation districts and individually designated properties and would limit the decision-making power of municipalities in the development of their intensification strategies.

Although the avowed purpose of the legislation is to “improve consistency, transparency and efficiency by enhancing provincial direction on the purpose and use of the *Ontario Heritage Act*,” to many

it amounts to a power grab at the expense of municipal autonomy and heritage protection.

It turns out that these bills were paving the way for the more damaging Bill 23, the *More Houses Built Faster Act*, introduced on October 25.

Already passed Second Reading, this massive, wide-reaching omnibus bill will require amendments to multiple statutes that will further impact the OHA.

Among its potentially devastating effects, Bill 23 will give Ministerial power to override heritage protection, cripple the Heritage Register by making it impossible to keep a

property listed for more than two years, change the criteria required for designation, eliminate third-party appeals to the Ontario Land Tribunal (developers yes, residents and community organizations no), and more.

Bill 23 has been sent to a Standing Committee to receive comments from the public and recommend any amendments. We have until November 17 to submit comments.

Visit heritageottawa.org for more up-to-date information.

David B. Flemming, is a former President of Heritage Ottawa and now chairs the organization's Advocacy Committee

In Memoriam: John Leaning, 1926-2022 Architect, Urban Planner, and Community Activist

Ottawa lost one of its most important citizens in terms of the shape and character of the city with the passing of John Leaning in September. Through his work with the National Capital Commission, where he was Chief Architect 1958-1968, his work on the Centretown Plan 1972-1973, the Glebe Neighbourhood Study, and many other projects, including inspiring and guiding the revitalization of the Glebe, John helped preserve and shape the heart of Ottawa, especially in terms of thwarting the onslaught of redevelopment in favour of traffic. Not only did he believe in citizen participation, he made it work and his legacy in the form of the healthy, inclusive and walkable districts in the centre of the City

are evidence of what could and can be done.

While busy with a thriving private practice, John Leaning was an active member of Heritage Ottawa for many years, and served as its president from 1979 to 1981. During that time he led Heritage Ottawa's efforts in support of a number of endangered places, such as the Aberdeen Pavilion, the Martineau Hotel on Murray Street, First Avenue Public School, the Marshall Building at 14 Metcalfe Street, and the lost battle to try and stop the demolition of Clegg House.

In 1983, John co-authored Heritage Ottawa's publication: *Our Architectural Ancestry*, illustrated with drawings by Lyette Fortin, which traces the lineage of the city's rich variety of architectural styles. He followed that up in 1985 with a

more substantial book, *Canada's Architectural Ancestry*.

John Leaning's commitment to people-friendly urban planning emphasized the importance of preserving older houses and minimizing traffic and high-rise development. As well as *The Story of the Glebe* (1999), John wrote *A Narrative History of Hintonburg-Mechanicsville* (2002) that stressed that area's diverse historical and social background evident through its streets and buildings that remains an important guidepost to this day.

John Leaning left his mark on Ottawa as an architect, urban planner, and community activist. And Heritage Ottawa benefited immensely from his leadership and support over the years.

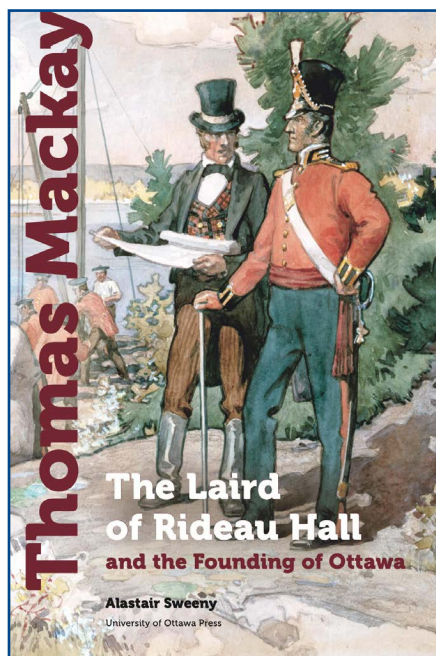
A memorial and celebration of his life will be held in the coming months.

Review: Thomas Mackay, the Laird of Rideau Hall and the Founding of Ottawa, by Alastair Sweeny

By Hunter McGill

Alastair Sweeny has undertaken the challenge of documenting the life of Thomas Mackay, the construction of the Rideau Canal and the growth of Bytown and its evolution to become Ottawa, the capital of Canada. No easy task, given the many dimensions of Mackay's career and the complex factors shaping the development of Bytown/Ottawa in the first half of the nineteenth century. While Mackay was one of a number of contractors – many of Scottish origin – who built locks and dams on the Rideau Canal, under the direction of Lt Col John By of the Royal Engineers, exceptionally Mackay remained in Bytown and played a major role in the growth of the town, as entrepreneur, investor, builder and legislator.

Sweeny documents Mackay's many achievements, notable among them the construction of Earnscliffe (now the home of the British High Commissioner) and Rideau Hall (significantly enlarged since), residence of the Governor General of Canada, plus the establishment of the village of New Edinburgh. While we know Mackay from his work



as a skilled stonemason, he made arguably a longer lasting impact on the shape of Ottawa through his work as a civic leader and parliamentarian in the Legislative Assembly of Upper Canada and, after 1840, the Legislative Council of the Province of Canada. These latter positions were key to the role he played in the campaign to have Ottawa designated the capital of Canada.

As well as chronicling the life and times of Thomas Mackay, Sweeny provides a comprehensive account of the politics and economics of the growth of Bytown and its evolution to become Ottawa. Readers will be interested to note the names of figures who played prominent roles in the city's growth, such as Keefer, Soper, Crichton, Elgin, etc. As a reminder of the precariousness of life in the 19th century, the author notes how many of the descendants of the principal characters of his account died before their 30th birthdays; in the case of Thomas Mackay and his wife (widow) Ann, only three of their sixteen children outlived her.

Alastair Sweeny has written a valuable, comprehensive account of the construction of the Rideau Canal, and of early Ottawa and the role of the Mackay and Keefer families in shaping the city, an account that students of local and provincial history will enjoy.

Hunter McGill is a director of Heritage Ottawa and editor of this newsletter.

Heritage Ottawa thanks Everest Restoration Ltd., and Perfect Books for supporting the publication of this Newsletter.

Patrimoine Ottawa remercie sincèrement Everest Restoration Ltd., et Perfect Books de leur appui à la publication de ce bulletin.

EVEREST
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Make a Difference — Help Keep Heritage Ottawa Strong

The provincial government's Bill 23 and imposed amendments to Ottawa's new Official Plan will undermine heritage conservation in our city. Heritage Ottawa's work to protect heritage buildings and historic places is more important than ever.

Heritage Ottawa has established a fundraising goal of \$50,000 to help ensure our sustainability. We are at 12% of our target for 2022-23. We are asking you, our valued members, to help our organization with a contribution. Our board of directors will be matching the first \$5,000 raised!

- You can donate securely online at heritageottawa.org/donations or by cheque using the form below.
- Another option is through Canada Helps at canadahelps.org/en/charities/heritage-ottawa/ where you can make a secure donation or set up monthly contributions.

All of our programs and activities that champion the protection and stewardship of our city's built heritage and cultural places are possible because of your ongoing support. You can make a difference!

If you have already made a donation, we extend our heartfelt thanks.



Heritage Ottawa Donation Form

Complete and return with payment
(Please print clearly)

First name _____

Last name _____

Address _____

City _____ Province _____

Postal code _____ Phone _____

Email _____

I would like to support Heritage Ottawa's fundraising campaign.

☐ \$50.00 ☐ \$100.00 ☐ \$250.00 ☐ \$500.00
☐ \$1,000 ☐ Other \$ _____

(official tax receipts issued for amounts over \$25, Charity Registration Number 893096776 RR0001)

I would also like to renew my membership.

☐ Individual: \$30.00
☐ Family: \$35.00
☐ Senior: \$20.00
☐ Student: \$20.00
☐ Corporate/Institutional: \$120.00

Permission: Only information that is necessary to conduct Heritage Ottawa business is collected. Your information is not shared with other organizations.

☐ I give Heritage Ottawa permission to contact me via email or telephone.

Total Payment \$ _____

Make cheque payable to Heritage Ottawa Mail to: Heritage Ottawa, 2 Daly Avenue, Ottawa, ON K1N 6E2

Vous pouvez agir!

Ensemble, sauvons notre patrimoine

Le projet de loi 23 du gouvernement provincial et les modifications imposées au nouveau Plan officiel d'Ottawa porteront atteinte à la conservation du patrimoine dans notre ville. Le travail de Patrimoine Ottawa pour protéger les édifices patrimoniaux et les lieux historiques est plus important que jamais.

Patrimoine Ottawa a fixé comme objectif de financement de réunir 50 000 \$ pour aider à assurer notre viabilité. Nous sommes à 12 % du but pour 2022-2023. Nous vous demandons à vous, nos précieux membres, d'aider notre organisation en faisant un don. Notre conseil d'administration égalera les premiers 5 000 \$ amassés !

- Vous pouvez faire un don – soit en ligne, en toute sécurité, à heritageottawa.org/fr/faites-un-don, soit par chèque en utilisant le formulaire ci-dessous.
- Ou faites un don par le biais de CanaDon, à canadahelps.org/fr/organismes/debienfaisance/heritage-ottawa où vous pouvez y faire des dons mensuels.

Nos programmes et activités qui visent à promouvoir la protection et la bonne entendance du patri-moine bâti et des lieux culturels de notre ville sont possibles grâce à votre fidèle appui. Vous pouvez agir!

Si vous avez déjà fait un don, nous vous en remercions sincèrement.



Formulaire de don de Patrimoine Ottawa

Compléter et retourner avec le paiement
(Veuillez imprimer clairement)

Prénom _____

Nom de famille _____

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Courriel _____

Je souhaite appuyer la campagne de financement de Patrimoine Ottawa.

☐ 50 \$ ☐ 100 \$ ☐ 250 \$ ☐ 500 \$

☐ 1,000 \$ ☐ Autre _____ \$

(Reçu d'impôt officiels émis pour les montants supérieurs à 25 \$; numéro d'enregistrement de bienfaisance 893096776 RR0001)

Je souhaite également renouveler mon adhésion.

☐ individuelle : 30 \$

☐ familiale : 35 \$

☐ aîné : 20 \$

☐ étudiant : 20 \$

☐ entreprise / institutionnelle : 120 \$

Autorisation : Seules les informations nécessaires à la conduite des affaires de Patrimoine Ottawa sont recueillies. Vos informations ne sont pas partagées avec d'autres organisations.

☐ J'autorise Patrimoine Ottawa à me contacter par courriel ou par téléphone.

Paiement total : _____ \$

Faire le cheque à l'ordre de Patrimoine Ottawa Envoyé à Patrimoine Ottawa, 2, avenue Daly, Ottawa, ON K1N 6E2