

Fall 2011

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The Newfoundland Historical Society
1905-2011



Newsletter

HISTORIC SITES ASSOCIATION



The Historic Sites Association (HSA) was founded in 1981 with a mandate to present the history of Newfoundland and Labrador. To this extent the HSA has contributed over four million dollars since its founding to the National Historic Sites of Canada and other projects. These contributions have been applied to a variety of projects including restorations, books, celebrations, and more.

Under the guidance of a volunteer board the HSA operates twelve retail locations, a warehouse, and an office to support its activities. The Heritage Shops of Newfoundland and Labrador are located on all eight National Historic Sites in Newfoundland and Labrador and four Heritage Shops are located in St. John's.

The HSA's projects range from one time and annual events, publications, commissioned work, to financial support for partnership groups and projects. Some highlights include the 2009 pan-provincial Celebrating Bartlett, the Meeting of Two Worlds sculpture at L'Anse Aux Meadows, the restoration of the Cape Spear lighthouse dome, the annual Manning Awards, and the Heritage Fairs. Most recently the HSA provided funding for the creation and publication of James Candow's *The Lookout*. Across these projects the HSA is dedicated not only to creating commemorative materials and preserving physical sites but to fostering a broader knowledge and involvement in this province's past.

Most notable among these projects are the annual Heritage Fairs and Manning Awards. The Heritage Fairs encourage students from grades 4 to 9 to research and interpret the history of their home and family and present it to the public. The Manning Awards celebrate the work of individuals, organizations, and communities in preserving and presenting local history. Nominations for the Mannings are due on December 31st and the awards are held in March. The Manning Awards and Heritage Fairs represent the core tenets of the HSA, to encourage people to explore, preserve and present history.

In addition to its projects the HSA is responsible for the operation and upkeep of Hawthorne Cottage National Historic Site in Brigus. The site, which was the home of Captain Robert Bartlett, is an excellent example of 19th century merchant housing and is soaked in the history of its famous inhabitant.

Going forward the Historic Sites Association will continue to increase its profile through a new website, strengthening annual events, and exploring new opportunities to further promote and preserve Newfoundland and Labrador's rich history and heritage.

Historic Sites Association

NEW BOOK FROM PATRICK O'FLAHERTY

Leaving the Past Behind: Newfoundland History from 1934, published earlier this year, is the final volume of long-time NHS member Patrick O'Flaherty's three-part series on the history of Newfoundland. This volume covers the 1930s, WWII, confederation and the debates leading to up to it. Available at all good bookstores.



2011 - 2012 Lecture Series

(Our programme is always available online at <http://www.nlhistory.ca/>)

Fall 2011

Note: this year there will be two lectures in October.

- 29 September:** Mekaela Mahoney, *A Reflection of Ourselves: Nationalistic Theatre in Newfoundland, 1965-1983*
- 13 October:** Jerry Bannister, *Some Day the Sun Will Shine: Oil and the End of Newfoundland History*
- 29 October:** Don Hustins, *The History of Salmon Conservation in Newfoundland*
- 24 November:** Gilbert Higgins Lecture
Jim Connor, *Trinity's John Clinch (1748/9-1819): Medical Man, Missionary, Magistrate, and Much More*

Winter 2012

- 26 January:** Robert Mellin, *Newfoundland Modern: Architecture in the Smallwood Years, 1949-1972*
- 23 February:** TBA
- 29 March:** NHS, *The Trial of Catherine Snow*
- 26 April:** AGM and George Story Lecture
Jeff Webb, *George M Story and the Study of Newfoundland at Memorial*

Lectures will be in Hampton Hall at the Marine Institute on Ridge Road at 8.00 p.m.

If the weather is bad, please consult the Storm Centre at cbc.ca/nl; cancellations will be announced there.

THE LAST DEBATES OF RESPONSIBLE GOVERNMENT

The debates of the Newfoundland Legislature for the three sessions which took place in 1932 and 1933 appeared in the local newspapers, but were never published as an official "Hansard". These were the last sessions before the suspension of responsible government in 1934, and include some dramatic moments. The proceedings have been edited and reconstructed by James K. Hiller, and the two-volume set can be purchased from the Queen's Printer.

CARDS AVAILABLE FROM NHS OFFICE



The NHS has just produced greetings cards based on Seller's 1690 map of Newfoundland. These lovely cards are available while they last in sets of four at \$10 per set. They may be purchased at meetings or ordered through the office.

PLANNED GIVING

You may recall that some while ago we made members aware of the possibility of helping to ensure the continued viability of the NHS for another century by including a bequest in your will. In doing so you can take advantage of tax benefits. If you are interested, we have available in the office a pamphlet outlining how this can be done. To receive it, simply make a request to the Office Manager.

CANADIAN GENEALOGY SURVEY: SEEKING PARTICIPANTS FOR STUDY ON FAMILY HISTORY RESEARCH

Two professors from Carleton University in Ottawa, Leighann Neilson and Del Muiise, are conducting research on family history. They are seeking family historians to complete an online survey. They are not affiliated with any of the commercial genealogy databases or software providers, but are researchers who want to learn more about the surge of interest in family history. In order for their research to accurately capture what's happening in family history in Canada today, they need the participation of as many family historians as possible.

The survey is available online now, at: www.cusurveycentre.ca/gensurvey and takes about 20 to 30 minutes to complete. If you're interested in learning about the results of the survey, they will be posting updates on their blog, Genealogy in Canada <http://genealogyincanada.blogspot.com>.

The researchers anticipate sharing the results of their study with museums, archives, and genealogy societies, all of whom are trying to meet the needs of family history researchers. Individual family historians will be able to learn more about how others are conducting their research by reading and commenting on the survey results as they are reported on the blog.

Leighann Neilson and Del Muiise



Trinity, Trinity Bay.

"View of Fisher's Cove, pre September 1902." From the Geography Collection, Centre for Newfoundland Studies, Queen Elizabeth II Library, Memorial University, ref. 11.05.008.

MEMBERSHIP FORM

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

TELEPHONE _____

E-MAIL _____

Membership Fees: Regular or Institutional \$35 / Life \$400 *Note: we have had to increase regular membership to meet rising costs; however, our fees still compare favourably to those of similar organizations. In addition, instead of running from January to December, memberships are now valid for 12 mos. from the date of payment of the fee. Your expiry date will appear at the bottom left of your mailing label; the figures on the bottom right are a mailing code.*

Donations are always welcome! And remember that memberships make great gifts; gift cards are available from the NHS office.

- Would you like to save paper and receive our Newsletter electronically (in colour)?
- Would you like to be added to our list to be notified of upcoming events?
- Would you like to be removed from the list of those receiving notification of upcoming events?

Please check the relevant box(es).

Fee _____ Donation _____ Total _____

Visa Card Number _____ Expiry Date _____

Signature _____

Payment may be made by VISA, cheque or money order to the Newfoundland Historical Society, or just call the office directly - (709)722-3191. Please send this form with your payment to the address on the front page. US subscribers please pay in US funds to cover postage. International subscribers please pay 18 pounds sterling or Canadian equivalent.

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