

Winter 2012

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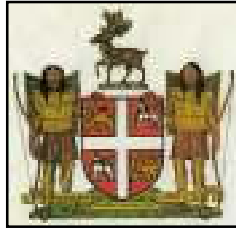
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# The Newfoundland Historical Society 1905-2012



## Newsletter

Continuing our series on provincial historical organizations, we are pleased to present this item on the Agricultural History Society of Newfoundland and Labrador.

### POTATOES AND FISH!

The history of Newfoundland and Labrador has been traditionally bound up with the fishery. Fishing families ate a lot of fish. But - they ate their vegetables too!

Since 1986 the Agricultural History Society of Newfoundland and Labrador has worked to raise the profile of agriculture in the province's historical mindset. Our plan has been to focus on projects - some specific, and some on-going. These are developed with the agricultural community and shared with a wider public through exhibits, articles, and events.

We developed major exhibits on The History of Agriculture in Newfoundland and Labrador in 1989 and 1997. Smaller exhibits include Potatoes in Newfoundland and Labrador, 2008, which honours the research career of Kenneth Proudfoot, potato breeder. The Practice of Gardens 2009-2010, and Root Cellars, 2011, have added more exhibit panels to our collection. Our Root Cellar inventory is listed with the Digital Archives Initiative at MUN library.

We have developed an on-going Century Farm Award to honour those farm families who have farmed the same property continuously for one hundred years. This award is presented at industry events. Profiles of the Century Farms are added to our archives and exhibit material and also can be viewed at [www.heritagefoundation.ca](http://www.heritagefoundation.ca). Another long-term project is archival in nature. We encourage members of the agricultural community to donate documents which we in turn deposit in the Archives and Special Collections at Memorial University. In this way, we grow the profile of agriculture in the public collection: photographs, government reports, farm journals and records, agricultural research projects and publications.



The Agricultural History Society at the Provincial Agricultural Show 2010.

Members of the Agricultural History Society receive the Manning Award for Excellence in the Public Presentation of Historic Places 2008. Their Honours John Crosbie and Mrs Crosbie, Ken Proudfoot, Hilda Chaulk Murray, Jo Shawyer, Kevin Aucoin.



We are grateful for the financial support which we have received from both federal and provincial governments and the agricultural industry. We have enjoyed further support from partnerships with Memorial University, MUN Botanical Garden, the Provincial Museum, Heritage Foundation of Newfoundland and Labrador, Museum Association of Newfoundland and Labrador, Newfoundland Federation of Agriculture, and CONA.

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*Text by Jo Shawyer*

### **Winter 2012 Lecture Series**

- 26 January** Robert Mellin, *Newfoundland Modern: Architecture in the Smallwood Years, 1949-1972*
- 23 February** Fiona Polack, *Mirror Islands: The Colonial Histories of Tasmania and Newfoundland*
- 29 March** NHS, *The Trial of Catherine Snow*
- 26 April** Jeff Webb, *George M Story and the Study of Newfoundland at Memorial* (AGM and George Story lecture).

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

If the weather is bad, please consult the Storm Centre at [cbc.ca/nl](http://cbc.ca/nl) and NHS 'Facebook'.  
Cancellations will be posted there.

## JAMES COOK SYMPOSIUM

In 1762 St. John's was captured by French forces and in September of that year was recaptured by the English in the last battle of the Seven Years War. The Master of the flagship of the English fleet was James Cook who was already recognized by the Admiralty for his surveying and mapping skills. From 1762 to 1768 Cook would spend his summers charting the coast of Newfoundland and part of Labrador, producing charts that were so accurate that some were still in use well into the twentieth century. In September 2012 the Newfoundland Historical Society will hold a James Cook Symposium to mark the two hundred and fiftieth anniversary of Cook's first landing in St. John's. Expect further details on our website and in the Spring 2012 Newsletter.



Captain James Cook

## 2014 WWI SYMPOSIUM

The Province has plans for a number of events to commemorate World War I (1914-1918), and the NHS has been asked to organize a symposium to begin them. It will be working closely with the provincial government and the Newfoundland Regiment in preparation for this event.

## MURDER IN NEWFOUNDLAND

All of our monthly meetings are special, but in March we have something a little different to look forward to.

In 1833, John Snow of Salmon Cove, Bay de Grave, disappeared. Subsequently his wife, Catherine (Mandeville) Snow, his servant Arthur Spring and Tobias Mandeville were charged with murder. At the end of the trial, all three were sentenced to death by hanging. However, Catherine Snow was pregnant and her execution was delayed until 1834.

There is some reason to believe that trial procedures were unfair to Catherine Snow. The procedure for jury selection, the judge's charge to the jury and general religious bias contributed to her being found guilty.

Was she guilty? In March 2012 prominent Newfoundland lawyers will reopen the case. The judge will charge the jury and a verdict will be found. The audience in the March meeting of the Newfoundland Historical Society will be the jury. Make sure you are there.

## NHS HERITAGE AWARD



Last year the NHS recognized Jim Hiller's outstanding contribution to the history of our province by giving him the NHS Heritage Award, which was presented in a ceremony at Government House on 25 October 2011. Here Jim is shown receiving the award from the Lieutenant Governor, patron of the NHS, His Honour John Crosbie.

Old root cellar, Brigus.

Note: as a follow-up to her piece on p. 1, Jo Sawyer has promised another specifically on root cellars for our next edition.



### MEMBERSHIP FORM

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**Membership Fees:** Regular or Institutional \$35 / Life \$400. Membership entitles you to 30% off Heritage Canada membership. For US members the rate is USD55\$, and for members in Britain it is £36.

*Note: Membership includes a subscription to the Newfoundland Quarterly and three Newsletters per year, and is 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).

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**Payment may be made by VISA, cheque or money order to the Newfoundland Historical Society. Please send this form with your payment to the following address:**

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