

POLLEN

ICOMOS CANADA

Historic Gardens and Landscapes Committee

Comité des jardins et paysages historiques

Editorial

The editors of *Pollen* are pleased to introduce a new column in this issue. **Rural Conservation** is inaugurated with an article by John Weiler and Meryl Oliver. Their essay is a positive assessment of a pertinent and complicated issue, broadening the definition of landscape conservation and balancing rural with urban concerns. Through these pages we will attempt to bring the problems and events of landscape and garden history, conservation, and preservation before a wider public, in order to provide a body of information which can fuel discussion and action on various issues. The amount of "bad news" we report elsewhere in this issue is evidence of the need for such a forum.

Pollen's first issue was well received, which was very gratifying for the Historic Gardens and Landscapes Committee. It could not have appeared without the support of our contributors, who inadvertently were not acknowledged at the time: Heather Apple, Susan Buggey, Lise Cormier, Pleasance Crawford, Pierre LaFond, Charlotte Lindgren, Sheila Murray, Douglas Paterson, Owen Scott, Jean Simonton, and Ina Vrugtman. Merci de votre collaboration.

Publication of *Pollen* has been made possible through the support of Heritage Canada, its board of governors, and particularly its executive director, Jacques Dalibard who generously provided space, secretarial and financial aid for the venture. Also, we want to thank Heather Morin of Heritage Canada without whom this publication would not be produced.

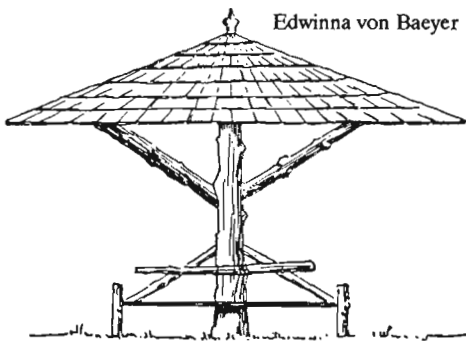
Her continually patient, cheerful, and competent technical assistance is much appreciated. Renée Leblanc of ICOMOS Canada is to be heartily thanked for compiling, inputting and producing the mailing list.

Many thanks to those who contributed to this issue: Susan Buggey, Sally Coutts, Pleasance Crawford, Peter Goertzen, Pierre LaFond, Charlotte Lindgren, Meryl Oliver, Una Outram, Luc Raymond, Ina Vrugtman, John Weiler, Lynne Wright, and Gordon Yusko. Merci encore!

We would like to use this opportunity to ask for contributions to *Pollen's* third issue – this publication will survive only with the support of its readers. Please send your notes, observations, or news to: Edwinna von Baeyer, 131 Sunnyside Ave., Ottawa, Ont. K1S 0R2.

Our co-editor, Linda Fardin, has left Canada for four months to work towards a Master of Arts in Landscape Architectural Conservation at the Institute of Advanced Architectural Studies, York University, York, England. We wish her well.

Edwinna von Baeyer



Vol. 1, No. 2 October 1988

Rural Conservation

The lively and expanding subject of rural conservation presents exciting challenges for the preservationist. Rural conservation concerns managing change in the countryside – farmlands, resource development areas, villages and hamlets. It embraces the built environment and cultural landscape as well as rural traditions and institutions. Territorially the topic is vast. Scarcely a tiny percentage of Canada's settled landscape is completely natural, untouched by man's activities; and our cities, while growing apace, comprise but a fraction of the man-made environment.

Rural conservation is a complex business. It demands the attention not only of the several different disciplines interested in the design and management of historic gardens and landscapes, but also of those concerned with vernacular building preservation, nature conservancy and especially with a sister subject called rural planning. Rural planning practitioners often use alternate approaches to the conventional wisdoms employed by city planners. Strategies for responding to changing climate and soil conditions, new trends in agricultural technology and economics, rural housing needs, and other issues are crucially related to the work of rural conservationists.

The idea of rural conservation is not new. As presently understood, it

has evolved from theory and practice in England, beginning in the early decades of this century, especially with the establishment of the Council for the Protection of Rural England (CPRE) in the 1920's. Early efforts to preserve and enhance rural landscape character and traditions had their roots in a nostalgic preference for the rural life which comprised a major theme in Victorian literature and art, and represented a cultural reaction to the process of industrialization and urbanization. There are now nearly three hundred official and voluntary bodies in the United Kingdom concerned with the countryside; in addition to the CPRE, the leaders are the Countryside Commissions of England and Scotland respectively. Rural conservation developed as a distinct idea in the United States from the mid-1960's as part of the historic preservation movement, more particularly, as a sub-discipline of preservation planning. As in Britain, a "myth" of the superiority of rural life ran through nineteenth century American culture, and it influenced rural preservationists in the twentieth. Rural conservation is a relative newcomer in Canada, yet we too have a long tradition of the pastoral ideal.

Managing change in our rural environment requires that we first recognize that landscape is not a static entity that we inhabit, but rather the result of the interaction of society and its habitat; if either society or habitat changes so too does the rural landscape. A rural landscape, the appearance of which we may wish to conserve, is usually a product of generations of users, of different technologies and traditions as well as of shifting natural processes. We cannot freeze things in time nor should we try. As with good theory and practice in building conservation, we should learn to recognize the discernible stages in the evolution of the landscape; to identify what makes the area special. The challenge is then to preserve and enhance these elements while allowing the landscape to continue to evolve.

This evaluation and conservation process is especially important today considering the unprecedented scale and rate of change. We must endeavour to define carefully and protect our rural heritage in landform, vegetation, roads, field patterns and boundaries, vistas, buildings, structures and other features. To secure these physical characteristics, we must also reinforce many traditional aspects of rural society, such as farmers' organizations and co-operatives, county



Our Threatened Rural Heritage: Derelict Farmstead, near Ashton, Ontario. Photo: Meryl Oliver

fairs, craft skills, and others. The goal is to maintain a sense of place and a sense of continuity in our rural communities.

Many difficult questions confront the cause of rural conservation. Who is the countryside for – farmers, resource developers, recreationists, tourists, conservationists, or all these groups? How can these all be brought together to preserve their shared environment? How can the conflict between the private-interest of ownership and the public-interest of stewardship be resolved? What should be the role of elected officials, planners, farmers, conservationists and others in managing the external pressures on the countryside associated with changes in urban society, and in dealing with those forces arising within the rural environment and economy?

The character of Canada's rural heritage varies substantially from region to region and sometimes within a region as well. So too do the forces

of change. Proximity to built-up areas, especially to large metropolitan centres where the demand for land and urbanizing pressures affecting lifestyle are most pronounced, may be the more problematic. Yet areas faced with marginal climatic conditions, other natural hazards, or troubled by economic boom and bust and other vagaries of the marketplace can be difficult too.

Rural landscapes are harder to protect than buildings because of the complexity of forces bearing upon the matter. Public ownership in parks or conservation areas has been the traditional approach but clearly this has its limitations. Experiments are being tried with easements, management agreements and mitigation measures required as a result of statutory environmental impact assessment. Promising too, are property-owner information networks and other environmental education initiatives, as well as self-help approaches such as the ecomuseum concept. All of these, however, are complicated by the lack of

co-ordination among the planning and development policies of municipalities and those of provincial departments of agriculture, forestry, mining, energy and water resources whose subsidies for the private sector and other interventions have a profound impact on rural land use. We have a long way to go in developing effective mechanisms for conserving our rural patrimony.

As professionals we have a responsibility to work with all the diverse groups, and educate them on the value of conservation. This is clearly a multi-disciplinary field where one cannot be effective working in isolation. In keeping with this call for collaboration, we invite landscape architects, historians, geographers, planners and others concerned for the future of Canada's rural environment to contribute news items and articles for this regular column in *Pollen*. Help others learn from your experience.

John Weiler and Meryl Oliver
Heritage Canada

Archival Sources

The Claus Garden Notebooks

At least three early 19th century garden notebooks from Upper Canada are among the Claus Papers, MG 19, F 1, Manuscript Division, National Archives of Canada. On microfilm (available through interloan) they are: reel C-1483, vol. 21, pt. 2, item 14 (Garden Book covering the years 1806-10); reel C-1484, vol. 21, pt. 2, item 17 (Diary/Garden Book covering the years 1818-19); and reel C-1484, vol. 22, pt. 1, item 29 (Garden Book covering the years 1821-25).

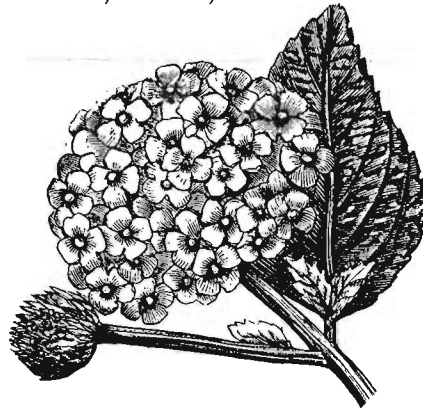
The notebooks appear to be in the hand of William Claus Sr. (1765?-1826), and to pertain to gardens at Niagara associated with his two homes there. The first, burned in 1813, was soon replaced by "The Wilderness" – described in Peter John Stokes' *Old Niagara on the Lake* (Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 1971, p. 128).

Claus, a keen horticulturist and garden putterer, kept detailed notebooks. These provide careful records of the fruit stock he received from friends in Niagara and Albany, as well as from the Prince Nursery on Long Island; of the grafting, budding, and transplanting of this stock to small beds, then to nursery beds, and finally to garden, orchard, and field. They mention not only the fruit but also the vegetables and flowers he grew. They provide – through detailed descriptions of where things were planted (in the front court, along the walk, to the left and right of the gate, in the muskmelon square, in the nursery behind the privy, near the beehive, and so forth) – some idea of the layout of his gardens. They also provide information about the horticultural practices he followed – as when he recorded sowing seeds in hot beds, trimming and dressing grape vines, grafting fruit trees and marking them with coloured worsted, and washing tree trunks with soft soap to keep them healthy. The notebooks are early, detailed, and valuable tools for the study of Ontario garden history.

Pleasance Crawford

Education News

The Cultural Resource Management Program at the University of Victoria, British Columbia, will offer a course on Heritage Landscape and Gardens from July 6 to 15, 1989 in Victoria. Contact: Joy Davis, Coordinator, Program of Advanced Studies in Cultural Resource Management, University Extension and Community Relations, University of Victoria, P.O. Box 1700, Victoria, B.C. V8W 2Y2.



Current Site Projects

Mount Royal Park Rehabilitation Study

A two volume study entitled *La montagne en question*, recently published by Le Groupe d'intervention urbaine de Montréal, spells out the problems faced by Olmsted's famous park. Built intrusions (tower construction, major interchanges and parking) have imposed upon it. In addition, lack of adequate maintenance has resulted in serious deterioration of its historic fabric. The estimated cost of rehabilitation is \$100,000. Pointing out the park's role as symbol of Montréal, the report urges immediate action to sustain Olmsted's intent of protecting the mountain from urbanization and rendering it accessible to the people. A major public consultation on the future of the mountain has been proposed for spring 1989.

Susan Bugey

Quest for Information

Eleanor Mackey, Curator at the north Himsforth Museum in Callander Ontario, is planning an old-fashioned (turn-of-the-century) town garden for the museum grounds. She would like information on the kinds of flowers and shrubs that would have flourished there at that time. Callander was a lumbering town then, and the house, which is now the museum, was built in 1905 by John McBurney, a Callander sawmill owner. The location is near the shores of Callander Bay on south-east Lake Nipissing, Zone 4B. Contact the museum Thurs.–Sun. 9-5, (705) 752-2282 or write to her at P.O. Box 100, Callander, Ont. P0H 1H0.

Conferences

ICOMOS Canada Annual Meeting, Nov. 25-27, 1988, to be held at the Centre Elisabeth Bruyère Centre. The conference theme: Sacred Heritage/Le patrimoine sacré. The Historic Gardens and Landscapes Committee workshop will meet on Friday, Nov. 25 from 3:30 to 5:45 p.m. The theme: "Sacred Gardens and Landscapes." Discussion will focus on identifying gardens or landscapes which are inherently sacred or associated with a sacred place; on the condition of these sites and the mechanisms which have led to their survival; the committee will then formulate a collective comment pertaining to the preservation of these spaces.

ICOMOS International Meeting, Menton, France, Sept. 19-21, 1988.

Alliance for Historic Landscape Preservation will meet in Quebec City, June 1989.

Congress/Congrès '89 of the **Canadian Society of Landscape Architects/L'association des architectes paysagistes du Canada**, Feb. 2-4, 1989, in conjunction with the Carnival of Quebec.

Post Conference Information

Alliance For Historic Landscape Preservation

The Alliance for Historic Landscape Preservation held its tenth anniversary meeting in New Harmony, Indiana in June 1988. The program addressed three major issues: national leadership in landscape preservation, issues for local communities, and the role of the Alliance. While discussion focused mainly on the American situation, many of the issues relate equally to Canada: the need for standards, structure, presence in the national vision and active vigilance at the local level. In recognition of the evolving nature of landscape preservation and of the Alliance, six standing committees were established: Liaison, Communications, Newsletter, Standards, Technology and Education. The Alliance also voted to join La Coalition pour la Sauvegarde du Vieux Port which is actively protesting proposed new development in Quebec City which would threaten the existing profile and cut off public access to portions of the waterfront. Next year's Alliance meeting will be held in Quebec City in June 1989. For information, contact Shary Berg, Secretary, Alliance for Historic Landscape Preservation, 82 Wall Street, Suite 1105, New York NY 10005.

Susan Buggey

De l'atelier-débat de novembre 1987

D'entrée, je tiens à souligner l'impression très positive qui se dégage de la diversité des prestations offertes dans le cadre de l'atelier-débat du 24 novembre. En effet, cette hétérogénéité me semble garante d'une approche non sectaire et donc positivement polémiste.

Tout, d'abord, les propos de M. Humphrey Carver concernant l'agglomération de Rockcliffe, son histoire, son évolution et ses perspectives d'avenir, ont mis en relief un souci

constant de la communauté de préserver les caractères intrinsèques de ses constituantes. Lesquelles culminent en un corpus architectural dont les valeurs stimulent le sentiment d'appartenance et commandent le respect.

Cependant, force est de reconnaître qu'aujourd'hui, de tels milieux de vie hautement qualitatifs sont l'apanage d'une fraction minime de la population, eût égard aux pressions de plus en plus fortes des gestionnaires municipaux visant une densification de l'occupation territoriale entraînant de plus substantielles entrées fiscales foncières. Le site peut évoquer, dans son esprit, les cités-jardins élaborées en Angleterre au début du siècle. Ce concept est aujourd'hui considéré incompatible avec les contraintes urbanistiques contemporaines.

Paradoxalement, les pressions environnementalistes de tout ordre commandent un réexamen de notre façon de concevoir les agglomérations urbaines et péri-urbaines. Considérant l'équation suivant laquelle une meilleure qualité de vie stimule la notion d'appartenance et encourage le souci de préservation, il est impératif que l'urbanistique se décloisonne et intègre optimalement l'architecture du paysage dans une approche globale.

Rockcliffe demeure un bel exemple d'intégration harmonieuse des données urbanistiques et notre devoir est de promouvoir cette approche hautement qualitative, laquelle, se disséminant, sortira de l'ornière élitiste.

Quant aux propos de Mlle Sheila Murray, j'ai particulièrement retenu ceux concernant son intervention dans une petite communauté du Colorado. Sa réévaluation et ses recommandations, tout en évitant le clivage possible entre le passé et le futur, ont réconcilié des forces autrefois antagonistes, ou à tout le moins contradictoires, dans la perspective d'une cohabitation renouvelée de ses constituantes.

M. Don Graham a questionné notre notion de l'historicité d'un site ou d'un aménagement. Il est cruellement vrai de constater qu'à peine quelques jours après la clôture des Floralies Internationales de Montréal en 1980, une



armada de béliers mécaniques a littéralement "bulldozé" un vaste jardin d'envergure internationale, le premier de telles dimensions politiques au Canada. Et ce pour faire place à une course automobile qui, une fois les gaz d'échappement évaporés, ne lègue rien à la collectivité. Est tout aussi vrai le constat de ruines, ou à tout le moins, de sous-utilisation chronique des sites d'Expo '67. Bien que récents, ces aménagements s'inscrivent dans l'histoire, et un tel traitement de ceux-ci nous confronte avec l'irrespect dont font preuve les édiles concernés. En sommes-nous rendus à construire des jardins "Bic"? L'art des jardins en est-il réduit au fast-garden?

Les réalisations contemporaines sont appelées à constituer l'éventuel patrimoine de demain. Nous devons questionner de tels choix politiques, non pas dans une perspective de legs prétentieux mais plutôt dans celle de la constitution d'un héritage humaniste, porteur d'avenir.

Pierre La Fond

Publications

The Landscape Research Group is a charity and limited company devoted to the advancement of research and the exchange of information on the subject of landscape. It has established a record for a broad, multidisciplinary approach to the study of landscape. It sponsors conferences and publishes a journal, *Landscape Research*. Its newest issue, "Conservation of Historic Gardens and Parks on the Continent of Europe", is available from Dr. S. Shuttleworth, Landscape Research Group, 10 Main Street, Cherry Burton, Beverley, North Humberside, HU17 7RF. Back issues, conference publications, and list of special publications can also be obtained from that address. Membership (overseas): individual - £ 20.00; corporate - £ 40.00.

People and City Landscapes: A Study of People and Open Space in Metropolitan Areas of Ontario, Michael Hough and Suzanne Barrett. Available for \$15, from: The Conservation Council of Ontario, 74 Victoria Street, Suite 202, Toronto, Ont. M5C 2A5.

Please note the following articles of interest: *Landscape Architecture Review*, Vol. 9, No. 2, April 88: "The Vanished Elms", Adrian R. Bevis; No. 3, July 88: "Tradition and Memories: Three Places of Home", Douglas D. Paterson; "Creating the Landscape of the Ukrainian Cultural Heritage Village", Leonard Novak; and "Review Article - Prairie Topics". *Recherche*, no. 197, mars 1988: "La science a-t-elle une mémoire? Le cas de la maladie de l'orme", Didier Fleury.

We would like to thank the publishers who generously sent us the following books and catalogues. If you know of a publication worthy of reviewing in *Pollen*, contact the editors who will try to arrange a review copy.

Books Received

Andrews, Brian, *Northern Gardens*, Lone Pine Publishing, Edmonton, 1987.

Jokinen, Eric P., *Canadian Heritage Preservation, A Manual of Building Conservation*, Lone Pine Publishing, Edmonton, 1987.

MacDonald, George F., *Ninstints: Haida World Heritage Site*, University of British Columbia Press, Vancouver, 1983.

Feltwell, John, *The Naturalist's Garden*, McGraw-Hill Ryerson, Scarborough, Ontario, 1988.

Stushnoff, Cecil and Jeannette, *Prairie Garden Notebook, A Record-Keeping Guide for Fruit and Vegetable Growing*, Western Producer Prairie Books, Saskatoon, 1988.

Vick, Roger, *Gardening on the Prairies, A Guide to Canadian Home Gardening*, Western Producer Prairie Books, Saskatoon, 1987.



Catalogues Received

Key Porter Books, Fall 1988; The University of Calgary Press, 1988; Van Nostrand Reinhold, Fall 1988.

Practica and Theses relating to Historic Landscapes completed at the University of Manitoba, Department of Landscape Architecture:

Kiernan, John: "Development of the Point Douglas Heritage Park, Winnipeg, Manitoba".

Jordan, Ian Peter: "The Public Open Spaces of Melbourne, Australia" (1986).

Marchak, Robert: "Historic Landscape Preservation: A Perspective for the Prairies" (1986).

Zvonar, John E: "Major's Hill Park (Ottawa): A Study in Adaptive Rehabilitation".

U.S. National Park Service Landscape Bibliography

Compiled from information contained in the Cultural Resources Management Bibliography (CRBIB), this document is "a selected bibliography of reports that relate to or document cultural landscapes in the National Park System". Of the 430 entries, only a few deal exclusively with historic landscapes. The majority are historic structure reports, cultural resource assessments, archaeological reports, and planning documents which contain some landscape segments. There are, however, a number of historic grounds reports and specific landscape studies such as:

G. Brady, "Tree Preservation Report for Vanderbilt National Historic Site (NHS)" (1940).

R.R. Harvey and M.A. Clarke, Lincoln Home NHS, Springfield, Illinois, "Historic Grounds Report and Landscape Plan" (1982).

J.P. Horrocks, "History of the Gardens & Greenhouses at Home of Franklin D. Roosevelt NHS" (1965).

T.J. Kane and D.B. Carruth, "Comprehensive Report on Historic and Cultural Landscape: Eleanor Roosevelt NHS" (1981).

R.Z. Melnick et al, "Cultural Landscapes: Rural Historic Districts in the National Park System" (1984).

G.O. Robinette, "Plants, People, and Environmental Quality" (1972).

S. Schackel, "Historic Vegetation at Fort Union National Monument, 1851-1983" (1983).

A.C. Togood, "The Wayside Historical Grounds Report, Minute Man National Historic Park" (1970).

L.A. Whitehill, "Historic Grounds Report and Management Plan: Frederick Law Olmsted NHS" (1982).

J.M. York, "Historic Grounds Report, Lincoln Boyhood National Monument" (1984).

For further information, contact Alicia Weber, Park Historic Architecture Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington D.C. 20013-7127.

Museum & Site News

Trethewey House in Abbotsford, B.C. is one of three designated heritage buildings in the town, and is run by the Matsqui Sumas Abbotsford Museum Society. Notably both the house and grounds were designated. It is a restored 1920 Arts and Crafts bungalow with both period and ethnobotanical gardens planted with species used by the Coastal Salish Indians for food or technology. Hours of operation: Summer: 1 p.m. to 8 p.m., except holidays (1 p.m. to 6 p.m.). Winter: 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. every day. Closed Christmas, Boxing and New Years Days. Admission is by donation.

Mackenzie King Estate, Kingsmere, Quebec, held its third annual garden party on August 7, 1988. The garden party, set in the mid-1930's, is held on the restored grounds of Prime Minister Mackenzie King's summer estate. Included this year was a fashion parade featuring vintage clothing; an exhibit of antique automobiles and bicycles; photo display of period photographs on the evolution of King's gardens and his life at Kingsmere; tours of the Moorside gardens and ruins; music from the 1930's played by the Governor-General Footguards Band; and tea, cakes and sandwiches served at small tables on the lawn.

This year the festivities were augmented by the celebration of the 50th anniversary of Gatineau Park, administered by the National Capital Commission. Mackenzie King was one of the successful promoters of the Park in the 1930s, and was commemorated for his role in its formation.

Hutchinson House, 270 Brock St., Peterborough, Ontario. The gardens are designed to recreate a modest town garden, an informal English cottage garden style, of the mid-Victorian period. Of interest are wildflowers mentioned by 19th century local writers, herbs of the period, and old-fashioned roses.

The Mennonite Heritage Village, Steinbach, Manitoba originated as a project of the Manitoba Mennonite Historical Society and evolved as a distinct heritage site after the formal opening of an artifacts building in 1967. Since that time various buildings, both original and replicas, have been added to form a village setting, reminiscent of the many Mennonite villages found in southern Manitoba before the turn of the century. The mandate is to preserve the material history of the Dutch-Germanic Mennonites and present a graphic interpretation of life in a traditional Mennonite village of a 100 years ago. The village is open with an admission charge to the public from May 1 - September annually.

Peter Goertzen

En juillet 1987, Mlle Maryse Pinaud succédait à M. Alphonse Giguère à titre de chef-jardinier de la Commission des **Champs de Batailles Nationaux**. Diplômée de l'Institut de technologie agricole de La Pocatière, elle a, entre autres, travaillé à la réalisation et à l'entretien du site des Floralies de Montréal.

Bad News

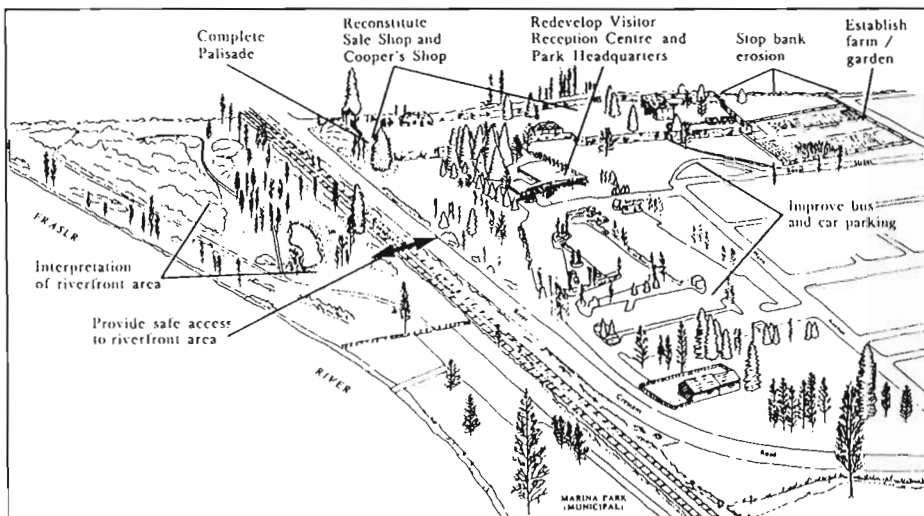
Halifax Public Gardens Threatened Again

Proposed construction of two high-rise towers again threatens the Halifax Public Gardens. The Gardens is one of four National Historic Sites commemorating historic landscapes in Canada. The project by Brenholds Ltd. is intended for Summer Street, in the block bordering the west side of the Gardens. Implementation involves demolition of five historic buildings; one is the 1914 Garden Crest apartments, a registered heritage property under the Nova Scotia Heritage Property Act. Both towers substantially exceed the present 45-foot height limit of the site. The impact of the proposed project on the Gardens would be twofold: views westward from the Gardens would be dominated by the towers, and shadows would fall across the centre of the Gardens, reaching as far as the bandstand.

Susan Buggey

Peggy's Cove, Nova Scotia

Tensions in this picturesque Nova Scotia village have been mounting this summer over a \$610,000 federal-provincial development project near the lighthouse at Peggy's Cove. As Charlotte Lindgren has reported: "What concerned me at Peggy's Cove was the scale and insensitivity. The gross enlarging (AND paving) of an already large parking lot at the restaurant at the very end of the road, which is beyond the Cove, and is the third public parking lot. It marks the opening of the vista: the barrens, the sea, the great worn granite rocks of the coast . . . which is/was a most awesome sight and the quintessential



Fort Langley National Historic Park, Fort Langley, B.C. has included in its future development, a plan to establish a period farm garden. Illus.: Fort Langley National Historic Park

Nova Scotia tourist experience. The changes impose themselves; alter one's perception. The granite is being cut for a path from the restaurant (which is paying 1/4 of the costs. Ed.) to the lighthouse summer post office; this was walk of sand and crushed stone when I saw it; 5' boulders busily dotting the periphery of the parking lot and path in this moonscape of smooth granite strewn with glacial erratics."

This has raised questions of the impact of tourism, the protection of natural sights, the communication with the surrounding community, and the goals of development.

Paton's Island, Chomeday, Laval, Québec

Paton's Island in Chomeday, Laval, was once a jewel among the private gardens near Montreal. In 1880, Mr. Hugh Paton, president of Shedden Forwarding Co. Ltd., Forwarder and

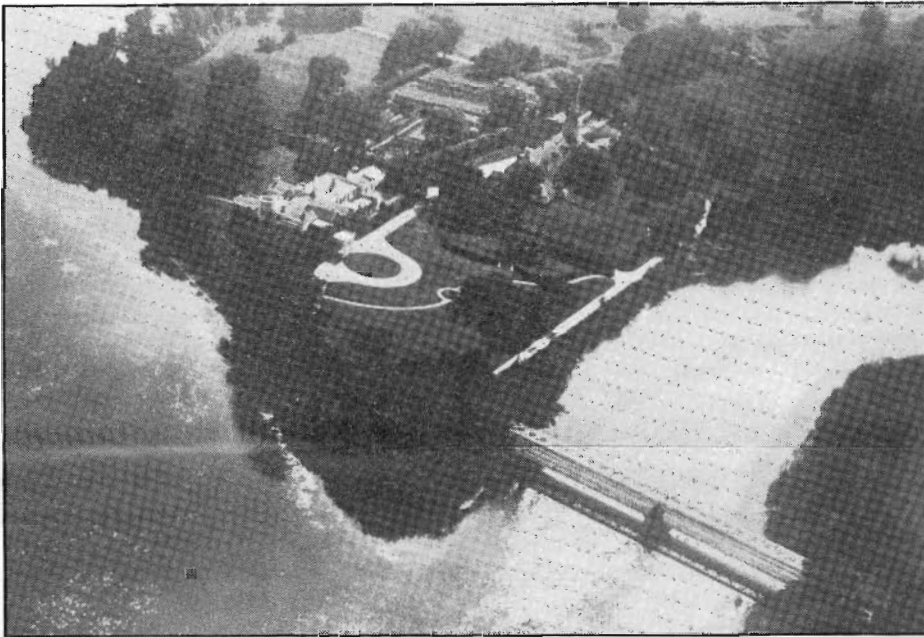
Manor from 1943 to 1963.

In 1966, the Manor and the stable burned down, the island became the prey of developers. Since that time, condominiums have grown like giant mushrooms. What remains is the most important historical site of the island: vestiges of the Scottish baronial Manor, traces of the English garden and its trails and paths.

We, residents of Paton's Island have founded the Société historique de île Paton (approximately 2000 members) in 1984 and since, we are trying to save it by appealing to municipal, provincial and federal governments . . . are we going to let it disappear?

S.O.S. To all specialists of historical gardens . . . is there a way to save it from destruction? Write us: Société historique de l'île Paton, 4520 Promenade Paton, Room 108, Chomeday, Laval, Québec H7W 4X1.

Luc Raymond



Paton's Manor House, Circa 1903.

Photo: Luc Raymond

Cartage Agent for the Grand Trunk Railway, bought the island. He was a prominent member of the Montreal Hunt Club and owned 1600 horses.

After his death in 1941, the island was sold to Mrs. Angelina Berthiaume Dutremblay, president of *La Presse*. She lived in the fifty-two roomed

An Attempt to Designate Two Ottawa Cemeteries

In July 1987, the City of Ottawa presented a case before the Ontario Conservation Review Board for the designation of Beechwood and Notre Dame Cemeteries as sites having heritage value as defined under the

Ontario Heritage Act. These two sites represent two distinct styles in cemetery design and are the only major manmade Ottawa landscapes of the 1870's whose overall design character remain virtually unchanged to this day. The City presented its case for designation based on two points: the significance of the sites as representative examples of identifiable styles of cemetery design, and the significance of the sites based on their association with the people and history of the Ottawa region.

Research revealed the historic significance of the two sites. Beechwood Cemetery's 65 hectares are a well-preserved example of the "rural cemetery" style: winding tree-lined roadways on a hilly, naturally wooded site. Notre Dame Cemetery, 20 hectares in area, is a good example of the formal French Catholic cemetery: symmetrical road patterns, mostly rectilinear, with tree-lined roadways on a relatively flat site. Both cemeteries contain the remains of numerous important national and local people such as Sir Wilfred Laurier, Archibald Lampman, and J.R. Booth.

The legal counsel representing the two cemeteries opposed the City of Ottawa's intentions for historic designation. Beechwood Cemetery opposed the designation citing that it would potentially hamper daily operation of the cemetery, that the City would be able to exert undue control over individual gravestones, and that future phases of cemetery development would not be economically feasible. Notre Dame Cemetery felt the designation was irrelevant since the cemetery is fully developed (all plots have been sold) and they stated that there would be no changes to the cemetery in the future and therefore preservation was inherent.

Several months later the Conservation Review Board (CRB) ruled in favour of the proposed designation, citing the heritage value of the landscape design of both cemeteries as a major factor in its ruling. In its deliberations, the CRB noted such specifics as the heritage value of the "forested edge" around Beechwood Cemetery in preserving the traditional character of the property. The Board also recommended that "important

specimens of large trees could be included as reasons for designation under the Ontario Heritage Act at a later date”.

However, it was a brief victory for historic landscape preservation. When the CRB recommendation was debated later at a poorly-advertised session of the Ottawa Planning Committee, representatives of the two cemeteries were able to convince the local aldermen to reverse their earlier decision. Subsequently, Ottawa City Council withdrew its intention to designate either of the two cemeteries as historic landscapes. Despite this turn of events, the process did call attention to both of these two sites, and raised the consciousness of politicians and Conservation Review Board members regarding the heritage value of our manmade landscapes.

Cecelia Paine
Edwinna von Baeyer

Heritage Plants

Hollyhock – *Alcea rosea* L. (*Althaea rosea* (L.) Cav.) – Malvaceae La rose trémière (Fr.); Stokroos (Dut.); Stockrose (Ger.); Malva (Sp.); Altea (It.).

Originally native to China, the hollyhock spread westwards via Palestine into Europe, probably introduced into Europe during the time of the Crusades. It was definitely in cultiva-

tion in Western Europe in the late 1500's, since it was mentioned in early herbals. In old Anglo-Saxon “hoc” means “mallow”, and since it came from the Middle East the “holy” seems a logical adjective. Apparently the Greeks grew hollyhocks for their

medicinal properties. The older generic name *Althaea* was derived from the Greek “altheo”, meaning “to cure”.

Easily raised from seed, the hollyhock was one of the ornamental plants grown in early North American gardens. Hollyhocks, planted in rows, their strong, 8 to 10 feet tall, vertical flower stalks, served as a temporary hedge or screen, as a focal point in the centre of the flower beds as well as ornamenting walls and fences, secluded corners, and the end of a row in the vegetable garden. There are, and were, numerous cultivars with single and double flowers. Hollyhock flowers come in a variety of colours ranging from creamy white, pink, and dark reds to purple, maroon and crimson. The stamens are long and unite in the centre of the flower into a column which is particularly handsome in the single cultivars. But in Victorian times, much effort went into breeding cultivars with double and “extra-double” flowers. Some of these strains are still available.

To avoid the miserable rust problem, a fungal disease which attacks the leaves, one should consider the hollyhock to be a biennial rather than a perennial. Once plants have been established, they will freely self-seed year after year. The seedlings can be easily thinned and transplanted, at least 18' apart. In a well-drained soil they should thrive in a sunny, open location. It is advisable to stake the plants neatly.

Ina Vrugtman



HOLLYHOCK.

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