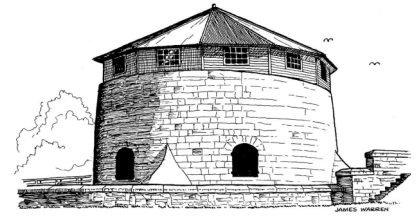


# Limelight

## Newsletter of the Kingston Historical Society

Kingston Ontario Canada

Volume 20 no 7 ISSN 1488-5565 October 2018



### KHS Meeting

Wednesday, October 17, 2018

7:30pm

Seniors Centre

56 Francis Street

### “She shoots! She scores!”

During the 1960s and 1970s, the “Red Barons” team was a well-known pioneer in organized female hockey in Kingston. On Wednesday, October 17, four former members of the fondly-remembered team will be speaking on the Red Barons’ remarkable achievements locally and legacy in the wider sphere of women’s hockey today. The evening will feature reminiscences, photos and artifacts.



**In this Issue**   Next KHS Meeting 1   President’s Message, 2   KHS Awards 3   Murney Tower , Speaker’s Corner 4   Still Standing 5

The Kingston Historical Society Award is given to individuals, groups and institutions in recognition of contributions to the preservation, understanding and interpretation of local Kingston history. Historical Society members are asked to nominate those that they believe meet the award criteria. Please send nominations by letter or email, and include the nominee’s contact information and the reasons for your nomination. Nominations by mail can be sent to Chairperson, KHS Awards Committee, Box 54, Kingston, Ontario K7L 4V8. If submitting by e mail send your nomination to Joe Brites at [jnbrites@aol.com](mailto:jnbrites@aol.com). The deadline for nominations is October 31, 2018. The awards will be presented on December 5th at the KHS Christmas event which will take place at the Renaissance Event Venue. Cash Bar and Hors D’oeuvres beginning at 6 pm. Awards presentation at 7 p.m.

### COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Kingston Branch of the Ontario Genealogical Society will meet on Saturday, October 20th at 9:30 a.m. at the Kingston Seniors Centre, 56 Francis Street. Gail Dever, well-known speaker and genealogy blogger from Montreal, will speak on “Today’s Social Media for Genealogy”. Visitors always welcome. Further details at [www.kingston.ogs.on.ca](http://www.kingston.ogs.on.ca)

## THE KINGSTON HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Established 1893

**LIMELIGHT is published nine times a year, September to May.**

Please forward submissions to the Editor [betty.andrews@gmail.com](mailto:betty.andrews@gmail.com). Reprinting of articles from the Limelight must be accompanied by an acknowledgement of the Society, the issue and date. Photo credits and by-lines must be retained.

***The KHS gratefully acknowledges the support of its sponsors in producing Limelight.***

### MAILING ADDRESS:

Kingston Historical Society  
P.O. Box 54,  
Kingston ON K7L 4V6  
[kingstonhs@gmail.ca](mailto:kingstonhs@gmail.ca)  
[www.kingstonhistoricalsociety.ca](http://www.kingstonhistoricalsociety.ca)



### 2018-19 KHS Executive Council

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The Kingston Historical Society gratefully acknowledges the financial support of the Ontario Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Sport.

## President's Message

Warren Everett

with Joe Brites

*For this month's President's message, I would like to introduce Joe Brites. Joe has been on council for a number of years and is the Chair of the Awards Committee. He has devoted considerable time and research to recognize Kingstonians who have contributed to the history of our city. From time to time, I plan to have other members of the Council use this space to share their experience and the work they do on your behalf.*



This year the Kingston Historical Society (KHS) marks two significant milestones. Many will know that the Society is celebrating its 125th anniversary. However the KHS Awards Night also marks an important achievement as it holds its 25th Awards Celebration on December 5th at the Renaissance. The KHS Award was itself created to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the Kingston Historical Society in 1993. The award is presented in recognition of individuals, organizations and institutions that have contributed to the preservation and study of local history.

In the past quarter century, we have recognized a broad cross-section of accomplishments celebrating everything from literary works of local history to efforts around the preservation of local historical sites that offer tangible reminders of our past. Although they come from a variety of disciplines, what the 50 plus past award recipients have in common is a heartfelt affection for our city and a recognition that Kingston and her history are worth exploring, understanding and preserving. In many instances, they are ambassadors to our past, giving context to history and bringing to light subjects that could otherwise remain hidden or even be forgotten. History as it is taught in schools is often about the grand historic events that helped shape our country. But the work done at the local level is equally important on two fronts. Not only does it tell the stories unique to our community; it can help demonstrate the impact grand national events had on Kingston and its people. For these reasons it's important that we try to honour those who have taken it upon themselves to help preserve and study Kingston.

The work of the Awards Committee is only one piece of the puzzle. Its work is greatly enhanced by the participation of members and friends of the Society who are encouraged to bring forward the names of potential nominees. If you believe you know of a deserving recipient, look for more information on submitting a nomination on page 1 of this issue of Limelight. The deadline for nominations is October 31, 2018. We look forward to seeing you on December 5th at the Renaissance Event Venue, 285 Queen Street. Our social time begins at 6pm with awards presentations at 7pm.

## ***Recipients of the Kingston Historical Society Award***

- 1993 **Dr. W. Breck**: historian; **Shirley Gibson-Langille**: artist; **Dr. George F. G. Stanley**: historian
- 1994 **Dr. William Angus**: historian; **Frederick A. McConnell**: curator, historical animator; **Dr. Richard A. Preston**: historian, museologist
- 1995 **Dr. Margaret S. Angus**: historian, author, government advisor
- 1996 **Canadian Forces Communications and Electronics Museum**; **Margaret Cohoe**: historian, teacher
- 1997 **A.G. (Joe) Boucher**: past president (posthumous); **Isobel and Bogart Trumpour**: past-presidents
- 1998 **B-Gen William Patterson**: author, historic site historian; **Donald Redmond**: editor, Historic Kingston, librarian; **Carol White**: teacher, consultant history curricula; **Gary Schult**: teacher, Heritage Fair organizer
- 1999 **J. William Fittell**: journalist, sports historian; **Gordon D. Smithson**: founding president, Pittsburgh HS
- 2000 **Cataraqui Cemetery Company**: 150th anniversary of founding; **Marjorie Simmons**: historian, genealogist
- 2001 **George F. Henderson**: archivist, long-time chair grave site ceremony ;**Maurice D. Smith**: historian, museologist
- 2002 **Cataraqui Archaeological Research Foundation**: 25th anniversary of founding; **Jennifer McKendry**: architectural historian, author
- 2003 **Downtown Kingston Business Improvement Area**: advocate of building preservation; **Ingbert J. Huber**: retired master stone-cutter; **Helmut L. Graf**: retired master mason
- 2004 **John K. D'Esterre**: preserver of marine lore, ship builder; **George W. Vosper**: public official, preservation activist, museum benefactor
- 2005 **Kevin E. Reed**: teacher, KCVI War Memorial; **Robert C. Cardwell**: active in historical and heritage groups
- 2006 **The Kingston Whig Standard**: for special Canada Day supplement The People Who Built Kingston; **Ann Lukits**: major role in that production; **Patricia Fleming**: author, preserver of local social history
- 2007 **Kim Donovan**: builder, preservationist; **John (Jack) Gibson Pike**: teacher, museologist; **Brian Stuart Osborne**: community builder, historical geographer; author, Past President
- 2008 **Ken Watson**: author, historic site historian., society web master; **Henk Wevers**: ship builder, museum benefactor; **Peter Gower**: author, historian
- 2009 **Beatrice Corbett**: author, Navy Park developer; **Arthur Britton Smith**: author, benefactor
- 2010 **Captain Brian Johnson**: author; **Donna Ivey**: author ; **Norma Kelly**: author
- 2011 **Robert J. Andrews**: author, educator; **Edward R. Grenda**: past president, researcher
- 2012 **Dr. James Low**: founder, Museum of Health Care at Kingston; **Queen's University Archives**: preservation
- 2013 **Canada's Penitentiary Museum**: interpreting the history of Canadian penal system; **The Royal Military College of Canada Museum**: preservation and interpretation of local history
- 2014 **John Fielding**: for his major contribution in improving the teaching of history, 10 years editor of Limelight
- 2015 **Oscar Malan**: Owner of Novel Idea Bookstore; **Doug and Marianne Thompson**: lead roles in the preservation of the St Paul's Anglican Church Lower Burial Ground.
- 2016 **Dr. Duncan Mc Dowall**: historian; **Joanne Stanbridge**: writer, illustrator, librarian, Kingston Public Library
- 2017 **Warren Everett**: Hill 70 project, Murney Tower, author, past president; **John Grenville**: local history author, museums promoter, Parks Canada



**Murney Tower**  
**Operated by**  
**the Kingston Historical Society**

Summer staff projects included creating two panels, an activity book, a Mandarin self-guided tour, an off-season social media plan, the collections inventory including photos, a new tour script and updating information for the website.

## Museum Orientation Pass

The Kingston Association of Museums, Art Galleries and Historic Sites provided a Museum Orientation Pass, M.O.P for short. The pass gave front-line tourism employees free admission to participating museums and the tourism sector in the Kingston area, allowing them to expand without cost their knowledge of other museums, landmarks and activities so they could provide informed recommendations to visitors regarding local museums, and be better equipped to answer questions about local tourist attractions.



Murney Tower staff had the opportunity to take advantage of the M.O.P pass, touring the Kingston Penitentiary and the Pumphouse Museum. Not only did these visits allow staff to provide more information regarding these museums to guests, but they enhanced the staff's understanding of different aspects of Kingston's past.



While the central focus of Murney Tower is the transmission of Kingston's military history, staff are now able to provide greater insight into different aspects of a 19th century livelihood. The Murney Tower staff have also been able to provide new information to other museums' service workers visiting the Tower on the M.O.P. Overall, tours both given and received by staff through use of

the M.O.P have been positive, and the staff hope to continue to take advantage of the passes in the future.

## Speaker's Corner

*by Marc Shaw*



Bob Banks (at lectern), Sue Bazely and Lena Beliveau, presenters, at the RMC Senior Staff Mess on 19 October 2018.

KHS members were treated to a special event on October 19, when Lena Beliveau, Sue Bazely and Bob Banks presented a fascinating look at their research into the history of a number of structures on the Royal Military College property, dating back to the War of 1812 period. By using both traditional research and newer photogrammetry imaging techniques, the research allowed for a re-assessment of the age and location of some key Point Frederick structures. Appropriately, the meeting took place in the beautiful Senior Staff Mess. Following the formal meeting, Brigadier General and Mrs. Bouchard led tours of their home, the Commandant's House. It was a very special and memorable evening.



## Still Standing

Looking at Regional Architecture with Jennifer McKendry, Architectural Historian

### RMC Commandant's House

"Still Standing" is indeed a good description of two very early stone buildings now known as the Commandant's House and Guest House at the Royal Military College. They may be the earliest surviving buildings on Point Frederick. Thanks to the enthusiasm of Bob Banks, KHS member and ex-cadet, the mystery of their origins has been explored – likely dating to 1817 as a surgeon's house (part of today's Commandant's House) and cook house for the Naval Hospital (today's guest house) under the supervision of contractor John Cumming (1764-1829). They are among the very limited number of stone buildings surviving from that era in Kingston.

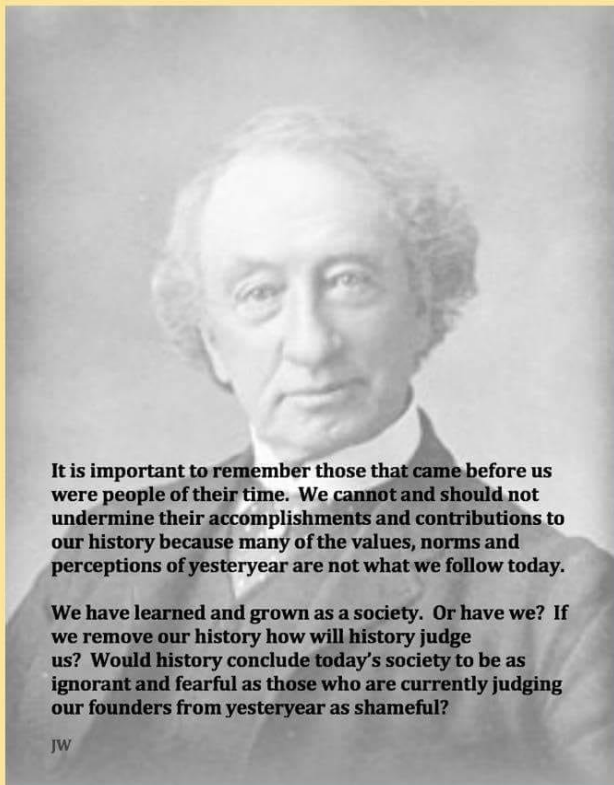
We have not been kind to similar early buildings, perhaps due to undervaluing their architectural simplicity and playing down their antiquity. They were built in log, frame or stone, and the number of storeys ranged from one to one-and-a-half (a useable attic space, such as in the now-demolished Ferris House, built by 1810, Cataraqui Village) to two full storeys (the latter seen in the Rochleau House of 1808 at 70-72 Princess Street). Roofs were usually gable or parapet-gable, large and steep-pitched. If the attic space was useable for bedrooms or weaving, there were small windows in the upper gable walls and, in addition, some had shed- or gable-roof dormers. Window openings in the main walls were relatively small when compared with later buildings and usually had 12 small panes in the upper sash and 12 in the lower. Panelled shutters may have been present. Doors were four or six solid panels with or without a simple rectangular transom. Ornamentation was minimal but might be found in the woodwork of a door surround. The main façade might be organized in a Classical fashion with a centre door and balancing windows or asymmetrical favouring how the interior functioned, for example, no interior hallways with one room leading to the other. Heating and cooking were by fireplaces with large stone chimneys centrally placed or rising from the end walls.

Early plans for the two Point Frederick buildings have not survived and the interiors have been modernized. Confusing the present Commandant's House with the Naval Hospital (demolished) in secondary sources obscured the history of the surgeon's house until archaeologist Sue Bazely proved conclusively that the Commandant's House and the hospital were two different buildings. How the layers of history were peeled back was explored by Banks and Bazely in the Society's September meeting.



## ANNOUNCEMENT

A change is being made to the annual dinner, based on your input from the 2018 spring survey. You are invited to attend the inaugural Canadian Heritage Dinner – sponsored by the Kingston Historical Society. This change will allow the society to offer a more varied and diverse range of topics for the dinner speakers. This event will take place on Saturday, February 23, 2019 to coincide with Heritage Week and will be held at the Senior Staff Mess at RMC. *Please set the date aside.* Further details will follow.



Taken from the web

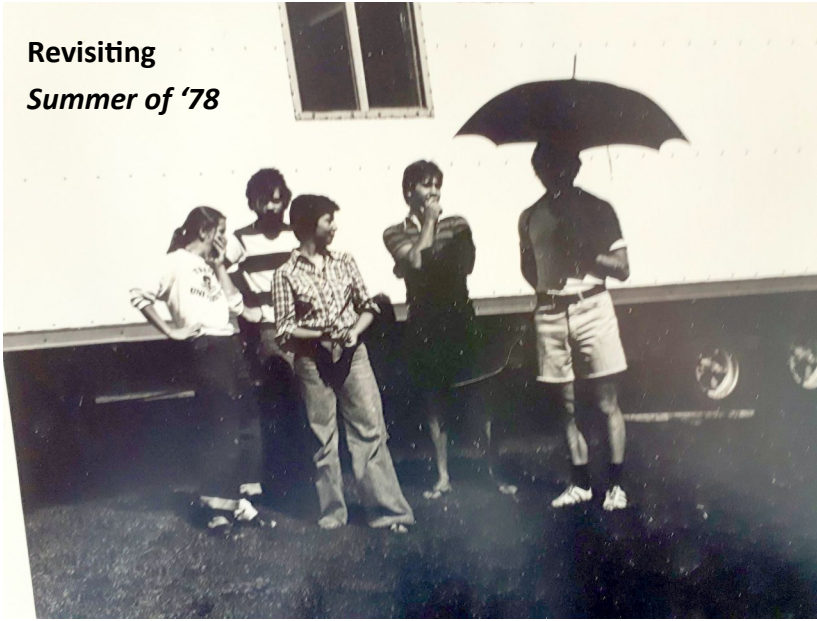


KHS meetings featuring speakers on topics of historical interest are held on the third Wednesday of the months from September to May at the Seniors Centre, 56 Francis Street, Kingston, except in December when an awards ceremony and gala is held, usually at a different time and location. There are two annual events, the celebration of the life of Canada's first Prime Minister Sir John A. Macdonald held at his graveside in the Cataraqui Cemetery National Historic Site on 6 June, the date of his death in 1891; and the Society's Canadian Heritage Dinner in Heritage Week in February.

Historic Kingston, the journal of the proceedings of the Kingston Historical Society, is published annually.



## Revisiting Summer of '78



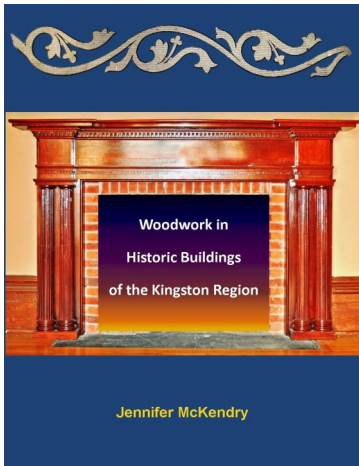
Pat Carson, Bob Maclean, Brenda Bruce, Bob Mullen, and, under the umbrella, the project coordinator, Paul King.

Debora Grass



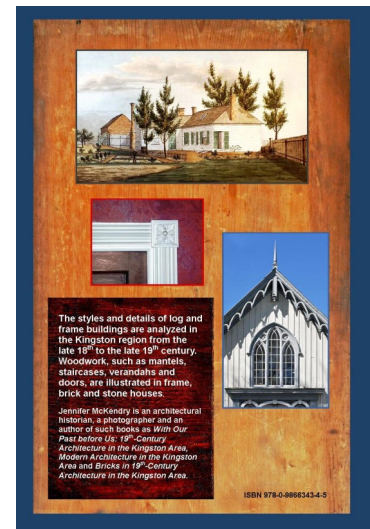
These pictures were not available when *Summer of '78* was published in the December 2017 issue of *Limelight*. Go back and enjoy Pat Carson's article again and find here the people involved in the Young Canada Works Cataraqui Cemetery Project.

This is what the ORIGINAL statue looked like .



Jennifer McKendry will present an illustrated talk based on her new book, *Woodwork in Historic Buildings of the Kingston Region*. The styles, construction and details of log and frame buildings will be analyzed from the late 18<sup>th</sup> to the late 19<sup>th</sup> century. In addition, woodwork, such as mantels, staircases, verandahs and doors will be illustrated in frame, brick and stone houses. Kingston is known as "the Limestone City,"

but tribute must also be given to the work of the carpenter and joiner.



Dr. McKendry is an architectural historian, a photographer and an author of such books as *With Our Past before Us: 19<sup>th</sup>-Century Architecture in the Kingston Area*, *Modern Architecture in the Kingston Area* and *Bricks in 19<sup>th</sup>-Century Architecture in the Kingston Area*. Her latest book will be available for purchase at this event.

# HOMESTEAD



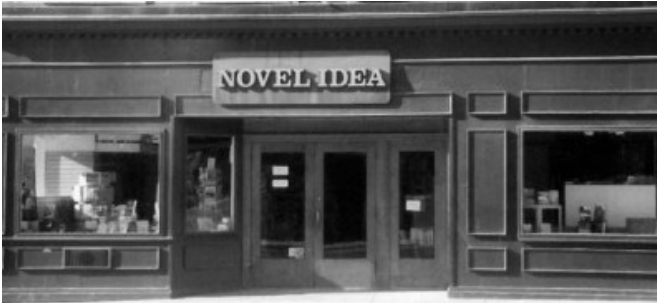
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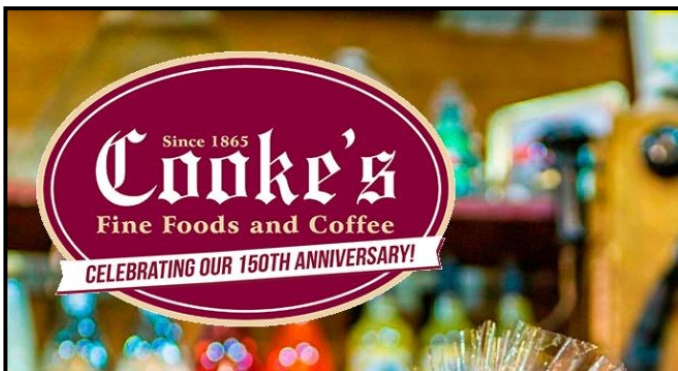


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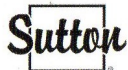
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**Joe Brites**  
Sales Representative

Direct: **613.329.2184**  
Office: 613.384.5500  
Fax: 613.384.6800  
Email: [jnbrites@aol.com](mailto:jnbrites@aol.com)

