



**Frontenac Heritage Foundation**  
**2010 Heritage Conservation Awards**

**Presented**

**October 12, 2010**

**at**

**The Renaissance Event & Wedding Venue**

**285 Queen Street, Kingston**

*Paul Christianson*  
*Chair, Awards Committee*



**Frontenac Heritage Foundation, Post Office Box 27, Kingston, ON K7L 4V6**

[www.heritagekingston.com](http://www.heritagekingston.com)

## **Frontenac Heritage Foundation**

Founded in 1972, the Frontenac Heritage Foundation is an incorporated, non-profit organization created to promote the preservation of buildings that contribute to the heritage of Kingston, Frontenac County and Loyalist Township. Managed by a voluntary Board of Directors who are elected by the members at an annual meeting, it is financed by membership fees and investments from property sales, as well as tax-deductible bequests and financial contributions. New members are always welcome. The Foundation has acquired and restored a number of historic properties over the past thirty years; it presently owns an early commercial building in downtown Kingston. Its work includes the presentation of annual awards for heritage preservation in Kingston, Frontenac County and Loyalist Township, sponsorship of public talks and seminars, hosting workshops on practical aspects of heritage restoration and assistance with the publication of books and articles on the region's built environment.

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## Awards Committee Report - 2010

Since 1982, the Frontenac Heritage Foundation (FHF) has been actively encouraging the preservation and retention of our local building stock by providing heritage conservation awards to owners, designers and builders. Many significant buildings and some lesser-known projects within the boundaries of Kingston, the County of Frontenac and Loyalist Township have been recognized in this fashion over the past 28 years.

Each year, aided by interested FHF members, the Awards Committee reviews nominated restoration, renovation and repair projects to heritage sites with the intent of identifying those that it considers worthy of recognition. "Certificates of Commendation" are prepared and presented to the property owners or initiators who are primarily responsible for the concept, implementation and financing of the preservation effort. "Certificates of Appreciation" are presented to those designers and builders who have applied their time and skills in preserving the selected buildings.

The Committee considers the architectural design and physical value of a structure and whether it is a rare or unique example of a style or type of construction and/or whether it exhibits a high degree of craftsmanship. Associations with historical events and people are considered, as are the contextual value of the structure and its contribution to defining, maintaining or supporting the historic character of an area.

In 2010, heritage conservation awards are being presented to the following groups and individuals:

### 78-80 Princess Street

*Certificate of Commendation:* Rocksolid Group, owner. *Certificates of Appreciation:* Ecclesiastical Refinishing Group, Contractor

and Roberts and MacDougall Building, Ltd., Carpentry.



78-80 Princess Street / Paul Christianson 2010

*Citation:* Designed in 1866 by John Power as the Orange Hall, the upper two stories were originally used as the great hall and lodge rooms and were originally in brick with stone trim externally, as now conserved. Originally, the ground floor was for commercial shops and was in stone and glass. During the 1970s, the ground floor was rebuilt in brick of a lighter colour and texture as a series of arches.

Mr. Elia Anagnostopoulos of Rocksolid Properties initiated the recent conservation of this striking building. The contractor was Mark Gray of the Ecclesiastical Refinishing Group, supported by other craftsmen, including Roberts and MacDougall Building Ltd. for the woodwork. This conservation involved considerable work to the exterior of the building, including a new roof, repointing the brick and stone on the upper

two stories, replacing the crown moulding at the top and refinishing (or replacing according to the original pattern) all of the woodwork in the upper stories. For example, the wooden brackets near the top could be refinished, but the crown moulding above them had to be replaced. It also involved bringing the limestone, brick and stucco of the ground floor into a pattern consistent with those of the upper stories.



78-80 Princess Street/ Paul Christianson 2010

Since the brickwork of the 1970s was in good condition, it was not seen as good economy to replace it. Instead, the brick was painted to match that in the stories above and stucco trim was added at the top of the arches to mirror the stone trim of the storey above. In addition, the original stone



78-80 Princess Street/ Paul Christianson 2010

pilasters at the ends of 78 Princess Street

were mirrored in stone pilasters at the lower portions of the intervening arches. A moulding was added at the top of the original pillars to complete the redesigned ground floor.

The imaginative results catch the eye of all who look at the building from across the street. While the ground floor does not attempt to rebuild the original construction by Power, it transformed a non-contextual series of brick arches into a pleasing composition that both mirrors those of the second storey and works well with the brick building of a similar vintage to the immediate south, which also has stone trim.

Interior work included refurbishing of spaces both for commercial use and for apartments. The great care exhibited by the owner, the contractor and the carpenter has resulted in the conservation of one of the prestigious gems of lower Princess Street. Residents and visitors alike will enjoy this wonderful Victorian landmark of downtown Kingston for many years to come.

### **Limestone and Cast Iron Fence, Rosemount Villa and Spa**

*Certificate of Commendation:* Holly Doughty, owner. *Certificates of Appreciation:* Jenkins Stoneworks, Stonework, and Bowkett and Co., Ironwork



Rosemount Villa and Spa / Paul Christianson 2009

*Citation:* Designed by William Coverdale

and built in 1850, Rosemount features a three storey Italianate tower with the entry, through a rounded recessed arch, on the ground floor and a balcony above. The double storied bay windows on the west façade, the variety of porches and balconies, and the tall, sculptural chimneys mark Rosemount as a dramatic romantic evocation of a European villa of the late Middle Ages or Renaissance. However, it exists in an urban setting in Canada West.



**Limestone and Cast Iron Fence at Rosemount/Paul Christianson 2010**

The limestone and cast iron fence brings this soaring composition down to earth and situated it in Victorian British North America. Marking the boundaries of the property on Sydenham and Earl streets, it probably dates to 1850. Certainly it was portrayed in the illustration of Rosemount included in the *Illustrated Historical Atlas: Frontenac, Lennox and Addington Counties, Ontario* published by J. H. Meacham in 1878.

In the one hundred sixty years since its construction, the fence has weathered the snow, freezing rain, and ice storms of many winters and the heat and pounding rain of many summers. Although she realized that it needed conservation, Holly Doughty waited until she could put together a team

of capable artisans who could work together on this important legacy. Over the past three years, Patrick Jenkins and Ed Bowkett have done just that, carefully conserving portions that needed repair or replacement and setting the whole back into its original form.



**Limestone and Cast Iron Fence at Rosemount/ Paul Christianson 2010**

Patrick Jenkins lifted the huge limestone ashlar blocks that extend two feet below the surface, removed the iron joins that had expanded and created cracks, and repaired the stone. Then he provided drainage before reseating the blocks of stone on gravel to minimize movement in the future. He also carefully reseated, repaired, and rebuilt the limestone pillars at the corners, returned them to their upright position, and mended any cracks. Equally meticulous, Ed Bowkett cleaned, repaired, and, in some cases, recast the iron portions of the fence before refinishing them with heavy-duty paint.

A small bit of work remains, but these skillful artisans have accomplished enough to merit this unusual award. This team has conserved an important part of Kingston's heritage and enabled one of our most substantial and important fences to last for more than another century for us all and our descendents to enjoy.

## Neilson House, Stella, Amherst Island



Neilson House, Amherst Island/ Paul Christianson 2010

*Certificate of Commendation:* Dr. Brian Grace and Janet Grace: Peggie Coulter-Burke and Stanley Burke, Owners.

*Certificate of Appreciation:* Le Blancq Design

This Victorian frame house with its wide verandah sits on a slight rise at 5115 Front Road, in Stella, Amherst Island. Just across the street stands the store that was run for many years by the Neilson family, which was restored over a period of time by the Amherst Island Men's Society. This civic-minded group volunteered their time and money to turn this heritage landmark into a museum for the community. Their efforts received an award from the Frontenac Heritage Foundation in 2006.

While the Neilson Store was conserved, the home of the Neilson family remained in a near derelict condition both inside and out. The Graces and Burkes decided that this was unfortunate, so they undertook both to conserve the exterior and parts of the interior of the Neilson house and make it comfortable for a modern family. The initial work was carried out, but not finished, when the original contractor withdrew from the project.

At this point, Le Blancq Design became the contractor. First, they stabilized it by placing it on a firm foundation, replacing

decayed stones and repointing the whole. Then they carried out extensive repairs that brought the house more closely back to its earlier state. This involved creating new trim that matched the original, replacing a modern entry with one in a Victorian style with pilasters, sidelights, a pediment, and a solid front door.



Front Entry, Neilson House, Amherst Island/ Paul Christianson 2010

The clapboard on the north, east, and west sides was scraped and repainted in appropriate colours, while that on the south side of the kitchen was replaced by new wooden clapboard that matched the old. The front and side verandah was reconstructed with trim that matched that from the late nineteenth century. Deficient interior flooring was replaced with new pieces milled to match the old and all floors were refinished. The balustrade for the stairs leading to the second floor was disassembled, repaired, and refinished.

Much of the interior was modernized to create an attractive, livable home.

Refurbished bedrooms, living room, and dining room, a lovely modern kitchen, laundry, and bathrooms finish the interior.



Restored Window Trim, East Façade, Neilson House/ Paul Christianson 2010

The conservation and modernizing carried out have not only saved this heritage building from the ravages of time in a manner that will give it a long continuing life, they have also created a lovely, comfortable home for a new owner.

**212 King Street East**



212 King Street East/ Paul Christianson 2010

*Certificate of Commendation:* Robert Vanderheyden and Dr. Ian McKay, Owners.  
*Certificates of Appreciation:* Jenkins Stoneworks, Stonework, and Frontenac Roofing, New Roof

A designated house listed in *Buildings of Architectural and Historic Significance, Kingston, Ontario, V* (Kingston, 1980), 212 King Street East was built in 1843. After several owners, 212 King Street East remained in the hands of John Carruthers from 1868 to 1928. A high two and one half storey home of hammer dressed, rectangular limestone blocks on the Earl and King Street façades, it has handsome ashlar quoins on the corners. Until 1995, it was attached to 44 Earl Street a smaller, slightly earlier two storey stone cottage which received a conservation award from the Frontenac Heritage Foundation in 2009. For much of the twentieth century, this building experienced a variety of uses, including as the Select Grocery and later as a rooming house. Today it contains apartments.



212 King Street East, Earl Street Façade with 44 Earl Street Attached/ Paul Christianson 2009

During the past year, 212 King Street East has seen considerable conservation, including a new, ribbed metal roof that

mirrors the profile of 19th century metal roof, often tarred, that it replaced. This was a difficult task that took time and great skill.



**Six over Six Paned Heritage Window on Earl Street Façade/ Paul Christianson 2010**

Repairs to the stonework included the almost complete rebuilding of the southeast corner, including many repairs to the ashlar quoins. On the King Street façade, Patrick Jenkins filled in with stone the space occupied by a doorway that had been added when the building was a grocery store.

The Earl Street façade saw considerable stonework, including the rebuilding of the chimney. In addition, a large triple window (that replaced a large plate glass window) was removed and replaced by a smaller six over six paned window appropriate to the age of the building. This involved rebuilding the surrounding wall and adding a new ashlar sill to match the originals elsewhere on the building. The mortar used throughout was matched with that from earlier repointing.

The new roof, new heritage window, and conservation of the stonework at 212 King Street East will allow this handsome heritage house to be enjoyed by future generations of Kingstonians and visitors.

## Margaret Angus Award for Heritage Conservation

The ethic of conservation now shared in Frontenac County and Loyalist Township sprang largely out of the work undertaken by Dr. Margaret Sharp Angus on behalf of the heritage movement over a period of more than six decades. An unparalleled champion of history and culture, she spearheaded countless architectural heritage initiatives, initiated the heritage clothing collection at the Agnes Etherington Art Centre and documented exhaustively local heritage through both factual and dramatic literature. Her most popular work, *The Old Stones of Kingston*, is just one of several significant publications that continue to connect us to one another, and to our past. The intimate working relationship that Dr. Angus had with institutions that are central to this region—Queen’s University, the Agnes Etherington Art Centre, St. Lawrence College, the Kingston General Hospital—has also been widely recognized.

“Peg,” as friends knew her, was a principal co-founder of the Frontenac Heritage Foundation, as well as a past president, and a director. She also held leadership positions in a wide variety of related organizations, including local and provincial historical societies, the Ontario Heritage Foundation and Heritage Canada. She received numerous awards for her work including the nation’s highest honour: the Order of Canada.

The Margaret Angus Award for heritage conservation was created to recognize these outstanding accomplishments. It also serves to commend local citizens who maintain pride in our heritage in a manner that she wished to instil. Dr. Angus was the first recipient of this award, which was presented on December 9, 2007. Dr. Angus passed away on February 15, 2008.

## Jennifer McKendry

The leading historian of architecture, photography, graveyards, and cemeteries in Canada, Jennifer McKendry has taken an active role in heritage initiatives in the Kingston area for four decades. As the daughter of Blake and Ruth McKendry, experts on folk art, antique furniture, and quilts, and conservers of heritage buildings, she developed a lasting interest in heritage. After graduating with an Honours B. A. in Fine Art from the University of Toronto, she moved to Kingston in 1970 and settled in Portsmouth, in a one-storey stone cottage at 46 Kennedy Street, built by Angus McVicar and his wife in 1845. She sold antique furniture and wrote a regular column on heritage for the *Kingston Whig Standard*, illustrating buildings that she discussed with her own sketches.

Her experience with antique furnishings led to her participation in an exhibition at the Agnes Etherington Art Centre that commemorated the 300<sup>th</sup> anniversary of European settlement in Kingston. Jennifer designed two rooms for this exhibition: a French "Habitant's Room, c. 1740" and a British "1820's Period Room" and published sketches of the rooms and entries about them in: *Heritage Kingston* (Kingston, 1973). During this period, she also began to build up her formidable knowledge of the built heritage of Kingston and Portsmouth by working on *Buildings of Architectural and Historical Significance, Kingston, Ontario*, vol. 2 (Kingston, 1973) and vol. 3 (Kingston, 1975).

During the 1980s, Jennifer pursued Graduate Studies, first at Queen's, where she defended her M.A. thesis: "Aspects of Domestic Architecture in South Eastern Ontario: Siting, Interiors and Selected Furnishings of Frontenac, Lennox and Addington Counties, 1820 to 1850" in 1984. Then she studied at the University of Toronto, where she did her M.Phil. research paper on "Selected Architectural Drawings

and Buildings of John and Joseph Power of Kingston, Ontario, 1850-1900" in 1986 and her Ph.D. thesis: "William Coverdale and the Architecture of Kingston from 1835 to 1865" in 1991. She also published key articles on "The Architects of St. George's Cathedral, Kingston," *Queen's Quarterly*, 93 (1988), pp. 699-713, and on "The Early History of the Provincial Penitentiary, Kingston", *Bulletin, Society for the Study of Architecture in Canada*, 14 (1989), pp. 93-105. All of this research would culminate in articles, exhibitions, and her foundational book: *With our Past Before Us: Nineteenth Century Architecture in the Kingston Area* (University of Toronto Press: Toronto, 1995).

An active member of the Frontenac Heritage Foundation, she served as a member of the Board in the early days and as Vice President. At the same time, Jennifer became active in the Kingston Historical Society. Later, she would edit the newsletters of both of these organizations for years. Wide-ranging in her interests, she has read numerous papers and published many articles and books on a host of topics: architecture in Kingston and Portsmouth, early photography in Kingston Cemeteries in Kingston and Ontario, and other topics. Recently, she did a good deal of valuable research on the buildings in the Old Sydenham area of Kingston as part of making this a Designated Heritage District. Her contributions go on and on, including a new, enlarged edition of *Portsmouth Village Kingston: An Illustrated History* (2010).

On behalf of the members and Board of Directors of the Frontenac Heritage Foundation, I would like formally to bestow our highest honour for a lifetime of outstanding achievement, the Margaret Angus Award, upon Jennifer McKendry and congratulate her for her magnificent contribution to heritage in Kingston, Frontenac County and Loyalist Township.

**Heritage Award Recipients  
Frontenac Heritage Foundation**

<b>78-80 Princess Street</b>	
	<b>Certificate of Commendation</b>
Owner	Rocksolid Properties P. O. Box 29027 Portsmouth RPO Kingston, ON K7M 8W6 Attn: Elia Anagnostopoulos (613) 544-0873
	<b>Certificates of Appreciation</b>
General Contractor	Ecclesiastical Refinishing Group P. O. Box 1502 Kingston, ON K7L 5C7 Attn: Mark Gray 613-549-3364 <a href="mailto:info@ecclesiasticalgroup.com">info@ecclesiasticalgroup.com</a>
Woodwork	Roberts and MacCullough Building, Ltd 12 Cataraqui Street Kingston, ON K7K 1Z7 Attn: Hugh Roberts (613) 483-4983

<b>Limestone and Cast Iron Fence, Rosemount Inn and Spa, 46 Sydenham Street</b>	
	<b>Certificate of Commendation</b>
Owner	Rosemount Inn and Spa 46 Sydenham Street Kingston, On K7L 3H1 Attn: Holly Doughty (613) 531-8844 <a href="mailto:rosemt@kingston.net">rosemt@kingston.net</a>
	<b>Certificates of Appreciation</b>
Stonework	Jenkins Stoneworks 403 Bagot Street Kingston, ON K7K 3C1 Attn: Patrick Jenkins (613) 484-3007
Ironwork	Bowkett and Co. 167 Forced Road Russell, ON K4R 1A1 Attn: Ed Bowkett (613) 445-6447

<b>Neilson House, Amherst Island</b>	
	<b>Certificate of Commendation</b>
Owners	Dr. Brian Grace and Janet Grace Peggie Coulter-Burke and Stanley Burke Stella Amherst Island, ON KOH 2S0 613-384-1200 613-384-8125
	<b>Certificate of Commendation</b>
Contractor	LeBlancq Design Eden Grove Road Lansdowne, ON K0E 1L0 Attn: John Leblancq 613-659-3463 <a href="mailto:artisan@1000island.net">artisan@1000island.net</a>

<b>212 King Street East</b>	
	<b>Certificate of Commendation</b>
Owners	Robert Vanderheyden and Ian McKay 208 King Street East Kingston, ON K7L 3A4 (613) 546-4309
	<b>Certificates of Appreciation</b>
Stonework	Jenkins Stoneworks 403 Bagot Street Kingston, ON K7K 3C1 Attn: Patrick Jenkins (613) 484-3007
Roofing	Frontenac Roofing Company 3243 Creekford Road Westbrook, ON K7P 2Z7 Attn: Stephen Hogeboom 613-389-7300