



Frontenac Heritage Foundation
2014 Heritage Conservation Awards

Presented

October 14, 2014

at

The Renaissance Event Venue

285 Queen Street, Kingston

Marc Shaw
Lynne Warren
Chairs, Awards Committee



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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 forty-two 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 - 2014

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, Loyalist Township, Gananoque, and Leeds and the Thousand Islands Township have been recognized in this fashion over the past 32 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 a variety of criteria including architectural design and the physical value of a structure; whether it is a rare or unique example of a style or type of construction; and 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.

We would also like to voice our appreciation of the dedicated work of Municipal Heritage Committees in helping to conserve the heritage buildings in our communities. They share valuable ideas and expert information about sympathetic repairs to heritage buildings. We strongly recommend that property owners access this free source of information that can save them from making costly mistakes.

Awards

In 2014, heritage conservation awards are being presented to the following groups and individuals:

Kingston Fire Hall #1, 1873: 251 Ontario Street

Certificate of Commendation:

City of Kingston, owner

Certificates of Appreciation:

MMGroup, Project Manager and Designer

Roof Tile Management, Contractor

Ball Technical Services, Slate and Copper Detailing

Andre Scheinmann, Heritage Consultant

Citation: Designed by John and Joseph Power in 1873 and built on a lot that the city acquired in 1867, this was the first Fire Hall in Kingston. It was constructed with a tank reservoir under the base of the tower (used for the drying of the hoses) which was supplied with water from the harbour.



Kingston Fire Hall # 1/ Paul Christianson, 2014

A telephone was placed in the fire hall in 1892 and that same year a permanent, full time fire brigade with a fire chief was created. Uniforms came the following year, as did a horse dedicated to the chief to enable him to arrive at fires more speedily. In the 20th century, trucks replaced horses, but the building served its original purpose until 1962.

In the 1970s, it was converted into the Firehall Restaurant and was succeeded many years ago by the Lone Star Café. The doors from which the fire engines departed, now hold a large window and the entrance.



Kingston Fire Hall # 1/ Paul Christianson, 2014

The recent conservation carried out by the McCormick Rankin Corporation for the City of Kingston is outstanding. The Mansard roof of the main building and the roof of the tower has new slate shingles in the same pattern and colours of the originals. Copper flashings on top of the end walls and copper eaves and drain troughs reconstruct the originals. A roof over the opening for air to circulate around the hanging hoses, reconstructed from an

earl photograph, is crowned by a weather vane. The wooden windows and and dormers have been restored and painted appropriate colours.



Kingston Fire Hall # 1/ Paul Christianson, 2014

Once again the City of Kingston and the MMM Group deserve our thanks for such an excellent job in bringing new life to the exterior of an important late 19th century building in downtown Kingston.

Isabel Bader Centre for the Performing Arts: King Street West

Certificate of Commendation:

Queen's University, Owner

Certificates of Appreciation:

Snohetta, Design Architects

EllisDon, General Contractor

Heritage Consultant

, masonry

Citation: On the Northeastern shores of Lake Ontario, the historic 1830's Morton Brewery site has been reconceived into a

world-class Performing Arts Centre at Queen's University in Kingston, Ontario. The Isabel Bader Centre for the Performing Arts consists of a modern building that includes a new, state of the art, performance hall, two smaller theatres, film viewing rooms, classrooms, offices, a small gallery, and a host of other storage and functional rooms.



Isabel Bader Centre for the Performing Arts/ Paul Christianson, 2014

The modern, stainless steel, glass, and cement main structure incorporates several buildings from Morton's Brewery that were erected and enlarged at various times from the 1830s to the 1860s. The buildings were



Stella Buck Building: Tett Centre/ Paul Christianson, 2005

later expropriated by the Government of Canada for use as the Sydenham Military and Ongwandana Hospitals from 1918 onward. The City of Kingston purchased the old distillery and brewery buildings in

1971. After making some renovations, it encouraged arts groups, such as the Domino Theatre, Kingston Potters' Guild, Kingston School of Dance, and Kingston Handloom Weavers to use portions of what became known as the Tett Centre. In 1994, the limestone buildings making up the Tett Centre were designated as historic properties, but by that time, many of them were not in good condition.

In 2007, Queen's University agreed to purchase most of the buildings from the City of Kingston, promising to retain their historic character. This they have done while incorporating them into a larger structure.



Stella Buck Building as incorporated into the Isabel Bader Centre/Paul Christianson, 2014

They have conserved the old limestone walls, kept the old multi-paned windows,



Isabel Bader Centre; Lounge at south end of the old Stella Buck Building /Paul Christianson, 2014

and have distinguished the new portions of the old buildings by finishing the exterior with a vertical wooden boards and modern windows.

Some of the old walls now face onto corridors in the new building. These also have had their stonework repointed and the openings filled with multi-paned windows, even when they have storage areas beyond.



Isabel Bader Centre; interior hallway incorporating heritage walls/Paul Christianson, 2014

The exterior walls of the single story wing on the north end have been carefully conserved and the fenestration made uniform, based upon some of the existing windows. Part of the interior now houses a spacious art gallery.



Isabel Bader Centre; north heritage building that housed the Domino Theatre /Paul Christianson, 2014

Most people visiting the Isabel Bader Centre for the Performing Arts will marvel at the magnificent modern architecture of

the concert hall and its lobby, but heritage buffs will also enjoy the careful design and work carried out to conserve and incorporate large portions of Morton's Brewery into this design.

McMichael Farmhouse, 1373 Princess Street

Certificate of Commendation:

Steve and Kathy Southmayd, owners

Certificate of Appreciation:

Frontenac Roofing Co., cedar roof

Citation: This lovely 19th century stone farmhouse was built for Albert Michael between about 1827 and 1830 on land that he purchased in 1824. He practiced his trade as a blacksmith on Sydenham Road and left that property to his son John. The



1373 Princess Street/ Paul Christianson, 2014

house and farm was left to his other seven children, with instructions to pay off the mortgage, which they did in 1859. It has sold several times since, but was vacant for a number of years and in difficult condition when taken over by the present owners

Built as a storey and one half farmhouse, it has later dormers on the front. The walls are of rectangular blocks of hammer-dressed limestone laid in uneven courses. The south façade has five regular bays, a door in the center and two windows on each side. The door leads into a central hall with a staircase leading upstairs and public rooms on either side.

The west façade has a central door with a smaller window above. The north façade may originally have mirrored the south, but has many additions, including upper windows and a one-storey wooden room without a cellar.



1373 Princess Street; west façade/
Paul Christianson, 2014

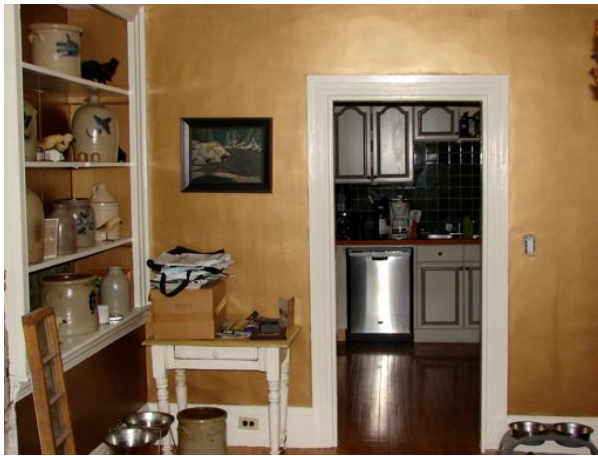
McMichael Farmhouse appears in Margaret Angus, *Buildings of Architectural and Historic Significance*, vol. 6 (Kingston, 1985), pp. 206-7. Since taking possession a bit over a year ago, Steve and Kathy Southmayd have begun the lengthy task of conservation and renovation. One of the first jobs was replacing the roof with a new one made of cedar shingles, probably replicating the original. They have spent a



Detail of cedar roof /Paul Christianson, 2014

great deal of time and energy on the interior, as well, removing layers of covering and refinishing the maple floors, plastering the walls, painting the early

wood mouldings, and putting in a new, modern kitchen on the ground floor. Adding a new bathroom on the second floor has also made the house much more livable.



Ground floor interior /Paul Christianson, 2014

While parts of the house remain a work in progress, much has taken place already to make this once again an attractive home. The new cedar shingle roof brings back the heritage character of this attractive early stone house, as well as preserving it from the elements,

Portsmouth Town Hall, 263 King Street West

Certificate of Commendation:
City of Kingston

Certificates of Appreciation:
MMM Group, Project Manager and Designer
Ball Technical Services, On Site Manager
Absolute General Contractors, Contractor

Citation: The Village of Portsmouth was incorporated in 1858. The marshy land that occupied this site was drained by the municipality and large oak logs created a crib on which the foundations could be laid for the new building.

It was designed by William Coverdale, the architect of the Kingston Penitentiary (1834-46), the City of Kingston (1845-65), and the Asylum (1859-1865). He died before it was finished and was completed

by John Power, the new architect of the City of Kingston.



Portsmouth Town Hall/ Paul Christianson, 2014

The larger windows of the upper floor illuminate the assembly room that takes up most of the second floor. In the early days, it contained “a meeting room, fire-engine house, armoury., clerk’s office, caretaker’s apartment, and a lock-up.” Jennifer McKendry, *Portsmouth Village, Kingston: An Illustrated History* (Kingston, 2010), p. 47



Portsmouth Town Hall/ Paul Christianson, 2014

The recent conservation carried out by the City of Kingston involved a new roof, a

reconstruction of the cupola on the forward part of the apex of the roof, complete repointing of the stonework, and painting of the woodwork. These repairs have tastefully conserved the exterior of this classic town hall of one of several villages now incorporated into the City of Kingston.

Margaret Angus Award for Heritage Conservation

The ethic of heritage 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 spear-headed countless architectural heritage initiatives, began the heritage clothing collection at the Agnes Etherington Art Centre and documented exhaustively local heritage. Her most popular work, *The Old Stones of Kingston*, is just one of several significant publications that continue to connect us 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—

“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 instill. Dr. Angus was the first recipient of this award, which was presented on December 9, 2007. Dr. Angus passed away on February 15, 2008.

Barbara Snyder

For more than four decades, Barbara Snyder has worked tirelessly and in a variety of positions to conserve and make open to the public Fairfield Homestead, one of the premier heritage sites related to the settlement of United Empire Loyalists in what has become Loyalist Township of Lennox and Addington County and in eastern Ontario.

Her professional career as a heritage specialist began with her graduation from the Museum Studies programme at Cooperstown, New York, which led to her appointment as Museum Registrar at Upper Canada Village in 1966. While there, she recorded properly the thousands of artifacts scattered amongst the many buildings of the Museum and organized the over one thousand valuable books and research papers.

The St. Lawrence Parks Commission came to administer Fairfield House in 1973. Built in 1793, this house contained hundreds of household artifacts spanning two centuries, valuable archival documents, and a few surrounding acres. Together with Peter Stokes, a respected heritage architect, she worked on plans for conserving the house and its contents, and she was transferred to Amherstview to become the year around resident curator of the house. She catalogued and preserved the heritage artifacts from Fairfield House, placing the papers in the Queen's University Archives and objects of historic value in commercial storage.

After her retirement from Public Service in 1989, Barbara's interest in the Fairfield family led to pursue further graduate work in the Department of Geography at Queen's University. In 1999, she finished her PhD Dissertation on: "Changing Geographical Worlds: From the New Hampshire Grants to the Cataraqui Townships with Loyalists to Canada". It focused on William and

Abigail Fairfield who moved from Pawlet in what later became Vermont in 1779, via Machiche in Quebec, to Cataraqui Township No. 2 in 1784, where they built their home in 1793. This research into the Fairfield family gave greater depth to our understanding of Fairfield House.

In 1990, the Fairfield Homestead Heritage Association was founded as a non-profit charitable organization "working to ensure the preservation of the Fairfield Homestead, including the house, associated collections of documents and artifacts, and the adjacent landscape for the study, education, and enjoyment of present and future generations." It also labours "to provide a variety of opportunities for the discovery and appreciation of the heritage of the Fairfield Homestead and its neighbouring region."

Since 1990, Barbara has served on the executive committee in every capacity and has taken principal responsibility for opening the Fairfield House to the public and implementing a research programme, including applying for student grants, recruiting, hiring, and training employees. As a result, Fairfield House has been open to the public, five days a week, from Canada Day to Labour Day. She helped to raise money to replace the roof with cedar shingles and has worked with Loyalist Township on maintenance, providing the research for the proper colour scheme when the house was painted in 2013. Her heritage expertise and years of devoted service have ensured the continued conservation and public enjoyment of this very early Ontario house.

The Frontenac Heritage Foundation is proud to recognize contributions of Barbara Snyder by presenting her with the Margaret Angus Award for a lifetime of outstanding achievement in heritage conservation.

**Heritage Award Recipients
Frontenac Heritage Foundation**

Kingston Fire House #1, 251 Ontario Street	
	Certificate of Commendation
Owner	City of Kingston 216 Ontario Street Kingston, ON K7L 2Z3 Attn: Speros Kanellos
	Certificates of Appreciation
Project Manager and Designer	MMM Group 920 Princess Street, Suite 101 Kingston, ON K7L 1H1 613-546-2227 Attn: Andrew Huctwith
Contractor	Roof Tile Management 360 Gibraltar Drive Mississauga ON L5T 2P5 905-672-9992 Attn: Henry Forget
Technical Services: Slate and Copper Detailing	Ball Technical Services 142 Kidd Drive Amherstview, ON K7N 1X8 Attn: Bill Ball billball1@cogeco.ca
Heritage Consultant	André Scheinman 1000 King Street West Kingston, ON K7M 8H3 613-546-1121

Isabel Bader Centre for the Performing Arts	
	Certificate of Commendation
Owners	Queen's University 99 University Avenue Kingston, ON K7L 3N6 Attn: Caroline Davis, Vice Principal (Finance and Administration)
	Certificates of Appreciation
Design Architects	Snøhetta New York office 25 Broadway, 2 nd floor New York, NY 10004, USA Tel.: +1 646 383 4762
Architects of Record	N45 Architecture Telephone Exchange Building 2 nd Floor – 43 Eccles Street Ottawa, ON K1R 6S3

	613-224-0095
Contractor	EllisDon Corporation 2680 Queensview Drive Ottawa, Ontario K2B 8J9 Phone: 613-565-2680
Heritage Consultant	
Masonry	

McMichael Farmhouse, 1373 Princess Street	
	Certificate of Commendation
Owners	Steve and Kathy Southmayd 1373 Princess Street Kingston, ON K7K 6Y3 (613) 542-7045
	Certificates of Appreciation
Roofing	Frontenac Roofing Co. 3243 Creekford Road Kingston, ON K7P 2Z3 Attn: Steve (613) 389-7300 steve@frontenacroofing.com

Portsmouth Town Hall, 263 King Street West	
	Certificate of Commendation
Owner	City of Kingston 216 Ontario Street Kingston, ON K7L 2Z3 Attn: Speros Kanellos
	Certificates of Appreciation
Project Manager and Designer	MMM Group 920 Princess Street, Suite 101 Kingston, ON K7L 1H1 (613) 546-2227 Attn: Andrew Huctwith
On Site Project Management	Ball Technical Services 142 Kidd Drive Amherstview, ON K7N 1X8 bball1@cogeco.ca
General Contractor	Absolute General Contractors Ltd. A.G.C. and Associates Inc. 1296 Hamilton Road, RR 5 Trenton, ON K8V 5P8 613-969-9121