



# THE OFFICERS' QUARTERLY

A PUBLICATION OF THE YORK-SUNBURY HISTORICAL SOCIETY, INC.

VOLUME 3, NUMBER 2

SUMMER 1987



SMYTH HOUSE, KING STREET, FREDERICTON

A Valuable Canadian Heritage, July 1787-July 1987  
See Article, Page 3

YORK-SUNBURY HISTORICAL SOCIETY, INC.

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VOLUME 3, NUMBER 2 SUMMER 1987



This is the official newsletter of the York-Sunbury Historical Society, Inc., Officers Square, Queen Street, P. O. Box 1312, Fredericton, New Brunswick, Canada E3B 5C8 Telephone: (506) 455-6041.

Publication dates are quarterly, Spring, Summer, Fall and Winter. Submissions are to be addressed to the Editor and received at the Society Office by the first day of March, June, September and December for that quarterly publication date.

The York-Sunbury Historical Society, Inc. is a non-profit organization founded in 1932, and incorporated in 1934, with the aim "to gather and preserve objects and traditions of historical interest in the region of central New Brunswick and particularly in the Counties of York and Sunbury, and to read and publish papers dealing with the same."

Individual memberships are \$15.00 per year and \$100.00 for life.

Editor.....Paul M. O'Connell



# THE OFFICERS' QUARTERLY

|                               |    |
|-------------------------------|----|
| INDEX .....                   | 1  |
| PRESIDENT'S PERSPECTIVE ..... | 2  |
| SMYTH HOUSE .....             | 3  |
| OROMOCTO SOAPSTONE POT .....  | 4  |
| SOCIETY EVENTS .....          | 7  |
| FEEDBACK .....                | 10 |
| YESTERYEAR .....              | 12 |
| CURATOR'S CORNER .....        | 13 |
| SOCIETY NEWS .....            | 15 |
| THE LAST WORD .....           | 19 |



## President's Perspective



Historical Society Members will be pleased to know that again this summer record numbers of people are viewing our artifact collection as part of their leisure activities. As well, over fifty school tours have been held at the Museum since January. The collection, which is the most tangible outgrowth of 55 years of Society activities, was at risk as the Museum was broken into twice this Spring. Fortunately nothing was stolen, apart from a small amount of cash from the donation box. The Board, in its wisdom, has installed a "state of the art" alarm system in order to further protect this historic legacy for future generations. Recently, while giving a behind the scenes tour to the newly appointed Director of Historic Sites, Ms. Karen Mann, I was particularly struck by the care and organization which has been given the collection. Paid staff, volunteers, and a number of project workers have combined their efforts over the years in order that our collection receives the best possible care, while being accessible for research and display. I've never seen it looking better.

Care for the artifacts alone is not enough; care for our patrons and staff is also of the utmost

importance. Members should know that building safety has been a concern for the past number of years. Certain steps have been taken to upgrade safety features in the Museum. This Fall the Department of Tourism, Recreation and Heritage will be installing new doors, fitted with panic bars, on Officers' Quarters. This will be a major step forward for our Museum allowing safe exit in emergency situations. Further, detailed cost estimates have been requested for a fire alarm system, which will be integrated with our new burglar alarm system.

I congratulate Board Members for their fine work since January. As well, congratulations are due to Cynthia Wallace-Casey, Curator-Administrator, and staff for their excellent work at the Museum.

Councillor Wayne Lockhart deserves special mention for his role as Coleman Frog on Canada Day!

All the best,

Harry Quinlan



## SMYTH HOUSE A VALUABLE LEGACY

Richard Bagley

A house, popularly known as the oldest house in Fredericton, is celebrating its 200th birthday this year. The Smyth house at 774 King Street, owned and occupied by the Nielson family for the past 40 years, is believed to have been first occupied by Mrs. Robert Smyth in 1787.

Although the occupation date of July, 1787 has not been authenticated it has been generally accepted for many years. Louise Hill cites a petition by William Gorden to the Lieutenant Governor of July 27, 1787 asking, along with Robert Smyth, to have their properties confirmed to them by grant. Even if the date cannot be proved there seems little doubt that it is certainly one of the oldest, if not the oldest home in Fredericton.

It is historically important as a rare example of a surviving Loyalist house. According to Dr. Stuart Smith it is an excellent example of the functional, more utilitarian approach to early domestic architecture as opposed to the more sophisticated style typified by the Saunders House.

As such the Smyth House is especially worthy of note in 1987, a visible link to our past, a rare and valuable legacy for the future.



# Aboriginal Abstract

## OROMOCTO SOAPSTONE POT - SUSQUEHANNA TRADITION

Christopher J. Turnbull  
illustrated by  
Angel Gomez-Miguelañez

A soapstone cooking pot was found on a beach on Oromocto Lake by Moses Perley, early in the nineteenth century. It was donated to Gesner's Museum of Natural History, probably in the 1840's, and is now in the New Brunswick Museum collections. This large vessel--about 200 mm in diameter by 110 mm deep--belongs to a period about 3400 years ago: a period that is receiving more attention from archaeologists lately.

The pot belongs to the Susquehanna Tradition, a name applied to a cultural development that spread along almost the whole length of the Atlantic seaboard from northern Florida to at least southern New Brunswick during the period from about 2000 B.C. to about 1300 B.C. What archaeologists see are similar kinds of artifacts, techniques of manufacture, and burial ritual showing up consistently together in sites of about the same age throughout this whole region.

Lots of question--most unanswerable at present--are raised by these sites and artifacts. First of all, we know that the coastal areas of the Maine/Maritime region were occupied by a completely different people down to about 1700 B.C. These people--called the Maritime Archaic Tradition -- developed in the Gulf of St. Lawrence as early as 9000 years ago--at least on the northern side of the Gulf in Labrador. Sites that are preserved by the same force that is destroying much of our maritime coastal resources.

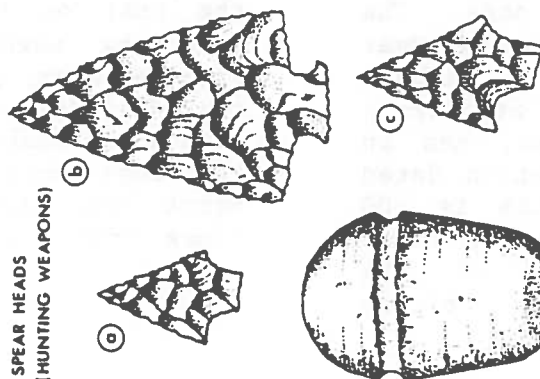
The Labrador coast is rising so that these early sites are now inland on old beach lines; our sites are underwater.

From this very early period, the peoples of the Maritime Archaic Tradition were developing a maritime adaption. As early as 7500 years ago, they had harpoons and other specialized tools for sea mammal hunting. By 5000 years ago, we find their remains on the Maine coast: it is impossible to say just how early our region was involved in this cultural development. We simply don't have the sites as yet and very possible never will because of the erosion.

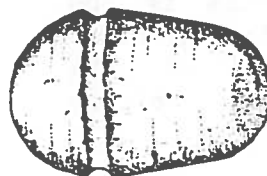
However early they were here, the Cow Point site located between Maquapit and Grand Lake is one of the last. This cemetery was used to about 1700 B.C. just prior to the time where Susquehanna remains are usually found. The contrast between the two cultures--Susquehanna and Maritime Archaic--are remarkable. Within about 100 years, the marine adaption of the Maritime Archaic Tradition is gone in favour of an economy based more on in-shore fishing, shell fish gathering, and deer hunting. The tools have completely changed from the ground stone adze blades, slate knives and gouges of the Maritime Archaic Tradition to Susquehanna's chipped stone spears, grooved axes, and, in its later phase, soapstone cooking pots. The cemetery ritual, while still employing quantities of red ochre and small pit burials, changes to broken utilitarian items and cremations, a far contrast to

# RELATIONSHIPS TO THE SOUTH: 1600 B.C. TO 1000 B.C.

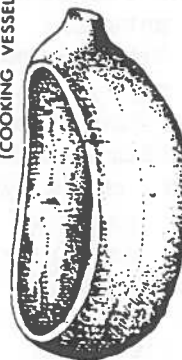
a, b, c, SPEAR HEADS  
(HUNTING WEAPONS)



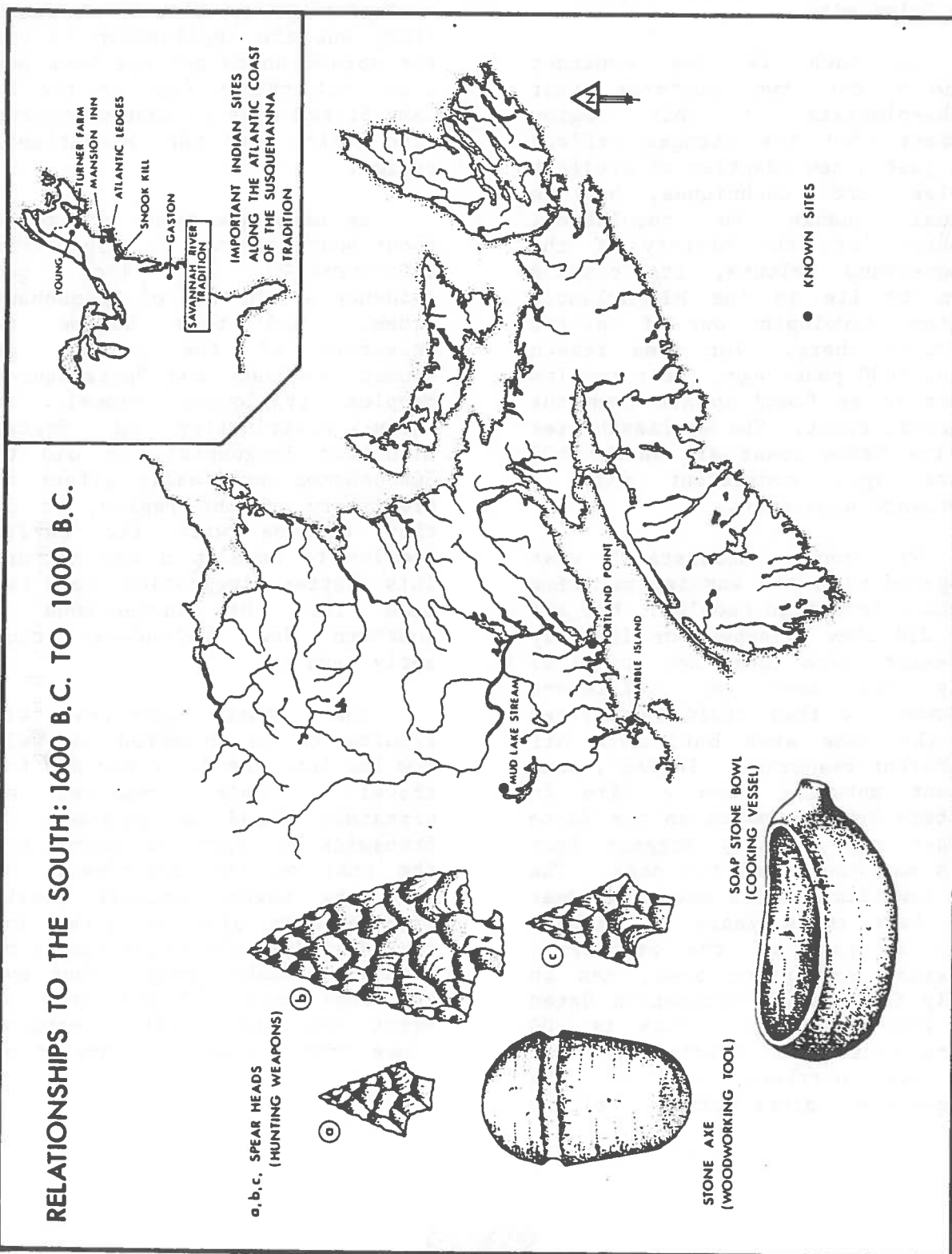
STONE AXE  
(WOODWORKING TOOL)



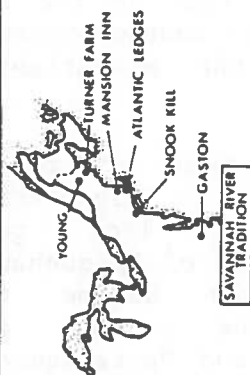
SOAP STONE BOWL  
(COOKING VESSEL)



• KNOWN SITES



IMPORTANT INDIAN SITES  
ALONG THE ATLANTIC COAST  
OF THE SUSQUEHANNA  
TRADITION



the slender, decorated bayonets of Cow Point site.

So much is the contract between the two cultures that archaeologists of this region suspect that the changes reflect not just a new adaption of artifact styles and techniques, but an actual change in population. Looking into the history of the Susquehanna culture, its origins seem to lie in the Mid-Atlantic region, developing out of earlier cultures there. For some reason about 4000 years ago, their remains start to be found up and down the Atlantic coast. The earliest dates of the Maine coast are about 3600 years ago, consistent with a northward expansion.

We don't understand what happened with the earlier maritime Archaic Tradition peoples: how and why did they disappear or did they co-exist with the new peoples? They did have very different lifeways so they could have lived in the same area but lived off different resources. In fact, some recent material from a site in western New Brunswick on the Maine border may actually suggest that this may have been the case. The Mud Lake Stream site excavated over the last three years by Michael Deal as part of the St. Croix Waterway Recreation area, has an early Susquehanna occupation dated to 4000 years ago. This is 400 years older than previously found at our northern end of the Susquehanna distribution. At this

point however, it just adds confusion to an already confusing story but the implication is that the spread north may not have been slow, but rather fast as the Mud Lake Stream date is contemporaneous with sites in the mid-Atlantic region.

As many questions are raised about what happened to Susquehanna. Unfortunately, we lack good evidence at the end of Susquehanna times. Did they become the ancestors of the present day Micmac, Maliseet and Passamaquoddy peoples (following closely the known distribution of Eastern Algonkian languages), or did the Susquehanna not really effect the prehistory of the region, or did they combine with the earlier peoples to develop a new culture? This latter suggestion has been made for the Susquehanna in southern New England--it could apply here too.

One other question also remains to be answered as well. How far into the Maritimes did they travel? Their remains are certainly found in southern New Brunswick but they are scarce over the rest of the Maritimes. But then the severe coastal erosion problem must also be taken into consideration--the sites simply may have been washed away. What ever the case this old pot from the Saint John River valley certainly comes from a puzzling time in our past.



## Society Events



The Museum is currently operating on its extended summer schedule:

Mon.-Sat. 10 A.M. - 6 P.M.  
 Sunday 12 Noon - 6 P.M.  
 Tues. & Thurs. Evening 'til 9 P.M.

The changing of the Guards is now operating in Officers' Square. The colourful attraction is taking place from Tuesday-Saturday, 11 A.M. - 7 P.M., with the changing occurring every hour on the hour. A full ceremony takes place in Officers' Square at 11 A.M. and 7 P.M.



Museum Exhibit: "Service to the Crown - Four Generations of Fredericton's Barker Family."

This exhibit, open throughout the summer, features services of four generations of Fredericton's Barker family to the sovereign, and to the province of New Brunswick.

The personal items, uniforms, medals, portraits and awards accumulated by Theodore Clowes Brown, Robert Smith Barker, Theodore Clowes Barker, Betty Barker, and Phyllis Mary Janet Barker between the years of 1836 and 1986 will be on display portraying their lives and their years of distinguished service.

Included in the exhibit is the Royal Victorian Order (MVO) presented to Mary Barker for service to the Royal Family by Queen Elizabeth II in a private ceremony in 1984. Mary Barker arranged the itineraries for several Regal and Vice-Regal visits, including Queen Elizabeth II, President Lyndon B. Johnson, John F. Kennedy, Prince Charles, and Prince Andrew.



Museum Exhibit "Old Government House Furnishings".  
 Open until 16 October 1987.

Old Government House served as the official residence of New Brunswick's Lieutenant Governors from 1828 to 1893, and was at the center of the political and social life of the province.

A visit to Government House in 1860 by Edward, Prince of Wales, prompted the refurnishing of the rooms to be occupied by the Prince. Records indicate that Hutchings and Burnham of Saint John went to Boston where they obtained furniture of the latest styles. Local cabinetmakers were upset that furniture was being imported rather than being purchased locally, and as a result a number of trades did not join in the celebrations during the Prince's visit.

Among the furnishings that you will see displayed at the museum are the ones marked with the Government House logo which were purchased specifically for the Prince's visit.



The above painting by local artist, Marguerite Murray-Elgee, depicts the historic old Government house as it probably appeared during the period that our current exhibit "Old Government House Furnishings" is based on. The reproduction and accompanying background was provided and written by Society Member Pat Flemming, and first appeared in the Daily Gleaner, in June of 1985:

"A peek into the past" is the only way one could describe local artist Marguerite Murray-Elgee's paintings. The artist is currently putting the finishing touches on a painting of Old Government House on Woodstock Road, which is now the headquarters of the RCMP's J Division. She painted the large water color (paper batik) in celebration of Fredericton's Bicentennial and plans to display it in a downtown shop window.

Margie has attempted to capture in her painting how Old Government House would have appeared in days of old, when garden parties took place on the lawn. Dignitaries attending the very elaborate garden party are of course dressed in suitable fashions of the era, white linen table cloths cover the antique tables and the Union Jack blows in the wind in front of the building. Among the dignitaries pictured in the painting mingling with guests are Bishop John Medley and Mrs. Medley, Dr. Loring W. Bailey, at one time president of the University of New Brunswick and Mrs. Bailey, and Rev. Canon Jacob Ellegood.

Mrs. Elgee said that her husband, Don Elgee came up with the idea for the painting after seeing a photo from the archives, published in The Daily Gleaner, of Government House as it originally looked. Not knowing what the faces of other guests attending the garden party would look like, Margie decided to draw each face in the likeness of her friends and relatives. Even the face of her husband, her sisters, nieces and nephews appear in the painting. All are dressed in costumes of the era."

## \* FROGGY WEEKEND Friday, August 7th 'til Sunday, August 9th.

This year a program has been developed to give groups of children in summer and daycare camps a specific itinerary of events for their Froggy Weekend celebrations. These events are under the general title of COLEMAN FROG CAPERS. Two sub-titles, FROGGY FUN, and FROG FROLICS are the specified itinerary dividing the children up into two suitable and specific age groups. Details concerning these programs have been sent out to summer and daycare camps. These special programs are offered during the dates of Monday, August 3 to Thursday, August 6, with a note that alternative dates are available if the suggested dates are not suitable.

Froggy Weekend will take place from Friday, August 7 to Sunday, August 9. The Coleman Frog spirit will be celebrated in the following ways:

1. Children's games such as leap frog, sack races, 3-legged races, and various hopping games. Prizes of McDonald gift certificates have been donated and will be awarded.
2. The Bar-B-Q Barn will again donate a frog's legs dinner which will be raffled. Tickets will be available at the museum entrance at no extra charge for those who are interested. We are also interested in bringing the Coleman frog to the market on the morning of Saturday, August 1 in order to publicize Froggy Weekend, and offer people the chance to enter in the draw.
3. CIHI will be publicizing Froggy Weekend all day Saturday, August 8, and may provide live "cut-in" broadcasts from the museum during the day. CIHI will be broadcasting live from the museum on the upper balcony Wednesday, August 12 as part of their birthday celebrations. They will be giving out free cake and ice cream, and Toulouse the CIHI Moose will make a special appearance.
4. The Calithumpians will perform their "Coleman Frog" skit on the weekend in addition to their regular performances.
5. In honour of our famous frog, we would like to offer our visitors the chance to enter the museum free of charge if they are supporting the spirit of our Froggy Weekend by sporting the color green.

The "Coleman Frog" was recently registered as the property of the Society, thus protecting us from the fraudulent use of our famous mascot. You can now join in the fun and become an official Froggy Fan Club member.

With the purchase of a T-shirt + \$1.00 you will receive:

1. Froggy button
2. Froggy T-shirt
3. Certificate stating that you are an honorary member of the Froggy Fan Club.

OR

For \$2.00 you will receive:

1. Froggy button
2. 2 Froggy postcards
3. Certificate stating that you are an honorary member of the Froggy Fan Club.



## Feedback

As part of a U.N.B. History Department project, several students "volunteered" their time to catalogue our old accession books. This project is a much needed one at the museum and will take several years to complete. The following report by student Peter Archambault, was prepared for his History 5900 class, and as such provides an objective and colourful look at our facilities.

"My experience at the York-Sunbury Museum leant me the perfect opportunity to discover the mechanics of practical history in its most natural state. The presentation of artifacts in a catchy, logical manner is a rather tricky business. Much unappreciated work occurs behind the scenes by a desperately understaffed force of one paid employee and a selection of afternoon volunteers (except for the usual barrage of summer employment, of course).

The project which I assumed was certainly one of these unappreciated tasks; that of indexing original donations and loans from the Society's conception in the early 1930's. Essentially, this entailed the listing of each entry by the object involved, the subject addressed by the object, its place or origin, and its donor. Fortunately, a few bright points scattered this sordid colour coding affair. For instance, how can one not be amused by a piece of lynch rope? Or perhaps a chunk of roof saved from the site of some poor sod's fatal fall in 1873 is more to one's taste? Impressive though this may be, how can it compete with a copy of Charles II's death warrant?

Aside from the many intriguing objects found in the dusty pages of accession, one is struck by some seemingly insignificant little twists in the job. To dampen the spirit of the aggressive indexer,

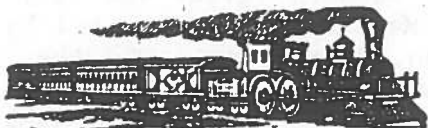
the people who initially recorded the entries foresaw nary a future reader (i.e. some of its is simply impossible to decode). In all seriousness, a 'knit-picky' detail like this can be crucial to such work. The cluttered nature of museum stockrooms makes imperative the clearness and accuracy of its contents' cataloguing. The hasty pursuit of material is paramount to the pressured atmosphere produced by limited time and resources, and any barriers can prove costly. On an equally serious note, a museum, or at least this one, is no place for someone with sinus problems or allergies. Such ailments are definitely not comfortable in a building hosting the dust of time and temperature/humidity controls.

In terms of the project itself, it should be noted that there is no tangible 'finished product' at hand. Somewhat discouragingly, it is a mammoth task which needs to be continued over a period of time. As a measure of its extent, there are two books of over 6,000 entries each waiting to be indexed, and between three students only 500+ are completed at present. This brings to light how organizationally advanced even local museums have become. The concept of methodical cataloguing of material appears to be a rather

recent phenomenon sorely missed by historical types even 30-40 years ago. What must be remembered here is that the purpose of the museum can be fulfilled much more effectively if the organization of the material is kept simple and concise.

On a personal level, I admittedly had a distaste for material and local history as such before the project began. However, I did learn to recognize the value of the local interest and sense of community it inspires. The amount of material contained in the museum is indeed amazing, but we should guard against the 'pack-rat syndrome' which can drain meaning and purpose from the objects most reflective of the 'heritage' that is to be protected.

Finally, the work of the curator, Cynthia Wallace-Casey, should be applauded. It is commendable enough that the dedication to sometimes desperately tedious tasks which is necessary in the running of a museum is fulfilled more than adequately; but she also manages to maintain a comfortable and friendly atmosphere in a potentially undesirable situation. It seems that this is a fundamental ingredient to a successful public display."



**NEW BRUNSWICK  
RAILWAY CO.**

In Effect October 24, 1886.

#### **ARRIVE AT FREDERICTON.**

- 11.35 A. M.—From Fredericton Junction and from St. John, and all points East.  
3.35 P. M.—From Fredericton Junction and from Vancleboro, Bangor, Portland, Boston, and all points West; St. Andrew's, St. Stephen, Houlton, Woodstock, Presque Isle, Grand Falls, and points North.  
8.40 P. M.—Express from St. John and intermediate late points.

#### **LEAVE GIBSON.**

- 7.00 A. M.—Express for Woodstock, and points north.

#### **ARRIVE AT GIBSON.**

- 4.30 P. M.—Express from Woodstock, and points north.

## Yesteryear

## Fredericton's First Railway Bridge



Society Collection

G. Taylor

P. 1985.98.1

In our Spring 1986 newsletter we reported the destruction of the above railway bridge during the severe spring flood of 1936. We came across the above Taylor photo in the Society Archives, showing an early construction stage of this same bridge, in the summer of 1886.



Construction of the bridge advanced sufficiently for the laying of the cornerstone in the summer of 1887. This historic photograph captures for stereo-scope, the laying of the stone by Sir Leonard Tilley and Lady John A. MacDonald, accompanied by Sub Dean Alexander. On the bank above to the right, can be seen Lady Tilley with the parasol and Sir John A. MacDonald, with the top hat.



Society Collection G. Taylor P. 1985.27.1

## Curator's Corner



What is a Museum?

"Some people think it is a dark eerie place with cobwebs in the corners and an old hunchbacked caretaker with a cane that hits children on their hands when they reach out to touch something. But really it is a bright place with beautiful exhibits and friendly caretakers. It is also a place to do research of many things or to learn about people and their countries. In fact I really think it is like a library that lets you see things instead of reading about it. That is what I think a museum is."

James Rudderham  
Bridgewater Elementary

(reprinted from the Nova Scotia Journal of Education, Vol. 7, No. 4, 1982).

This letter, written by a schoolchild in Bridgewater, Nova Scotia, seemed to me to be an appropriate way of beginning this article. It says a lot about the many misconceptions held by the general public, young and old, concerning museums. Countless people have been quite surprised to find that the Curator of the York-Sunbury Museum is such a "young person" as myself. Those same people might also be surprised to discover that the York-Sunbury Museum is actually a place where children can have fun while learning, and want to return again and again.

The 1986/1987 school year came to a close in June, and like many of the museum sites in downtown Fredericton, the York-Sunbury

experienced a busy two months of May and June. Attendance was up, as school groups from all over New Brunswick as well as Maine and the Maritimes visited as part of their end-of-year excursion. The fact that attendance during these months was up over other years can be credited to the work of Education Officer, Katie Boyer. She is to be commended for her accomplishments. Working on a part-time basis since September, she has made many improvements and additions to the Museum education program.

Society members may not be aware of just how successful our program is. Other small museums in the province have come to us for advice on developing their own program; teachers from as far away as Perth/Andover have telephoned wanting to borrow our education kits; schoolgroups from places such as Burnt Church and Vanceboro, Maine have come to Fredericton specifically to participate in our activities.

Last Fall Katie Boyer began developing "Theme Classes". The first to be introduced was on Pioneer Life. Assisted by a staff of education volunteers, working with reproductions borrowed from Kings Landing and the New Brunswick Craft School, school groups were introduced to a structured learning experience which took place in the Museum's Pioneer Kitchen. Students were given an opportunity to play with "pioneer" toys, try on clothes, and attempt making butter and spinning wool.

As an alternative to the Pioneer Life class, school groups could also be taken on a guided tour of the Museum. As well,

education kits previously produced on the themes of Pioneer Life, Transportation, Toys and Games, N.B. Indians, Weapons and War, as well as Lumbering, were available for loan to educators.

After Mr. Robinson's Grade 8 class at Wassis Road Junior High, Oromocto, visited the Museum the students were asked to write a short essay on why they thought their trip was worthwhile. A few of these essays are reprinted in this newsletter, and are indicative of the positive response we are receiving.

Throughout the winter months Katie Boyer readied herself and the Museum for the traditionally hectic months of May and June. As a result, this spring the museum was able to offer schoolteachers a selection of options when planning their visit. Groups coming for a guided tour were given a choice between two student worksheets titled "Museum Marvels" and "Hard Facts About Artifacts", designed to hold the student's attention and to stimulate thought.

A second Museum Class on the theme of New Brunswick Indians was offered in conjunction with the National Exhibition Center's

exhibit on the fur trade in Canada. During this one hour session students were given an opportunity to participate in such activities as quillwork decoration, the Micmac game of Waltes, and were introduced through visual examination to pre and post contact Indian culture.

The success of these activities has demanded that they be continued in the next school year. A vital component of the education program is the participation of volunteers. Without their assistance none of these programs are possible. A special thank you is extended to all those who have assisted throughout the year. I hope to be seeing you again this Fall when preparations begin for another season. A series of orientation sessions are planned for the third week of September. Anyone interested in becoming involved in Museum education is urged to contact either myself or Katie at the Museum.

See you in September!

Cynthia Wallace-Casey  
Curator/Admin.



The Coleman Frog Greets a Young Visitor

## Society News

✿ This summer's exhibits were officially opened on June 19, by Society Vice-President, Gideon Mersereau. An excellent turnout by members and the public viewed three exhibits: "The Original Furnishings of Government House", "Service to the Crown: Four Generations of Fredericton's Barber Family" and "Home, Penthouse, Santy: A Heritage Collection of Historic Homes".

With these interesting special exhibits, it is expected that the Museum will attract record numbers of visitors.



Canada Day Celebrations - Officers' Square.



Again this year the Museum participated in the Capital's Canada Day celebration in Officers' Square by holding an open house. Pictured above is a spinning demonstration held in front of the Museum.

 On June 10th Society Director, Dr. Ellen MacGillivray donated her extensive collection of firearms to the Oromocto Base Museum. This important collection was completed by her late husband, H. G. MacGillivray, and it was donated in his name. Mr. MacGillivray, a graduate of the University of New Brunswick, collected firearms that included military, target and handguns. It is fitting that this collection will reside at the Base Museum, and Dr. MacGillivray is to be commended for her donation.

 Christopher Armstrong, project archivist for the restoration of the Imperial-Capital theatre in Saint John, is preparing a comprehensive history of the theatre during its operation from 1913 to 1957. He would be very interested in locating any primary documents such as postcards, playbills, programs, etc. or leads on persons with theatre related collections. He can be contacted through our curator at the Museum.

 Our Coleman Frog is a real prince. We have always known that, but now he joins the company of another prince, Prince Edward. During his visit to Fredericton on June 24th, Cynthia presented him with one of our Froggy T-shirts on behalf of our Society. A letter from Buckingham Palace indicated he was delighted with this souvenir of his visit, and his brothers are now no doubt, green with envy. Cynthia will be glad to so honour them on their next visit to our pad.

 The Coleman Frog Mascot is becoming quite a celebrity in Fredericton. Special appearances were made during Children's Miracle Days and River Jubilee Days. He was also seen giving out candy in the Canada Day Parade, and dancing a jig during the Barley Bree concert that evening. On July 10th, he was spotted in St. Andrews and even in Market Square, Saint John. A few hops later he showed up in Boiestown and Doaktown, and somehow swam up the Saint John River to Edmundston. You might even see him this summer at the Boyce Market and at St. Anthony's Church festival.

 Fall Education Program:

Society members are encouraged to become involved in the Museum education program. Anyone who is interested should contact Cynthia Wallace-Casey or Katie Boyer at the Museum: 455-6041. An orientation session is planned for the third week in September. This is your chance to come and find out what being a volunteer is all about.



### Wanted Volunteers!

The following volunteer projects are underway at the Museum. Some are continuing through the summer months, while others are on hold until September. All operate on an informal basis, subject to the time schedule of the individual volunteer. If you, or a friend are interested in becoming involved, please contact the Museum: Indexing old museum accession books, preparing quilts and coverlets for rolled storage, supplying the Museum with fresh cut flowers, and assisting in general operations.



The York-Sunbury Historical Society Board of Directors invites applications for the position of Museum Education Officer. This is a part-time position, eight hours per week, of temporary duration, to fill in for the current Education Officer, Mrs. Katie Boyer, who will be taking maternity leave. Expressions of interest should be directed to the Curator, Cynthia Wallace-Casey by Friday, August 21.

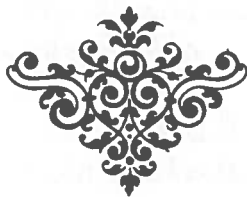


The New Brunswick Museum Is On the Prowl. The hunt is on for objects that were once owned by an often neglected group of New Brunswick pioneer settlers. Very little is known about the English-speaking colonists who lived here before 1783, and the New Brunswick Museum is trying to bridge the gap.

By contrast, the Micmac and Malecite cultures, and the early Acadian, have been much examined, while the Loyalist era is seldom out of the public eye. But, with the exception of the Simonds, Hazen and White Post at Saint John's Portland Point, very little is known about the English-speaking settlers who lived in New Brunswick before the arrival of the Loyalists.

To provide some answers, the New Brunswick Museum's Canadian History Department has launched a search for any articles which once belonged to these people - such items as dishes, tools and furniture, or maps, portraits, drawings, and clothing and any other material objects that were once theirs. The Museum is not seeking to acquire such objects, but to record them and list them. When found and verified these articles will be listed and described in an illustrated catalogue to give some idea of what the pre-Loyalists' lives were like.

Society Members who can help, can contact the appropriate person through our Curator.



## Yesteryear



HER MAJESTY QUEEN VICTORIA.

The June 25, 1887 edition of The Fredericton Capital reported on Queen Victoria's Jubilee celebrations in Fredericton. It included a church parade of the military and Freemasons, with glittering uniforms and regalia, martial music and crowded streets, and a patriotic and impressive service in the cathedral. "The arches of the grand and sacred edifice resound with the strains of 'God Save the Queen' from the pealing organ and immense congregation", and the Bishop Kingdon's sermon was "eloquent and loyal". The Odd Fellows staged a pageant on Jubilee Day, decorated the graves of their deceased brethren, and the stores were decorated with a display of bunting.

## Feedback

### Visiting the Museum

I liked the museum because you learned things about the past like what it was like in the trenches of World War I. You also learned what the old kitchens were like or how the Indians made birch bark containers and boats. You also learned what some of the old guns were.

I like the guide we had and her name was Mrs. Boyer she showed us around and explained the rooms and show cases. I really liked the World War I trenches it was really interesting.

It would be really nice to see more people to go to the museum because you learn more there than you would in a classroom in one day.

Collin Rutter

Waasis Acad Junior High

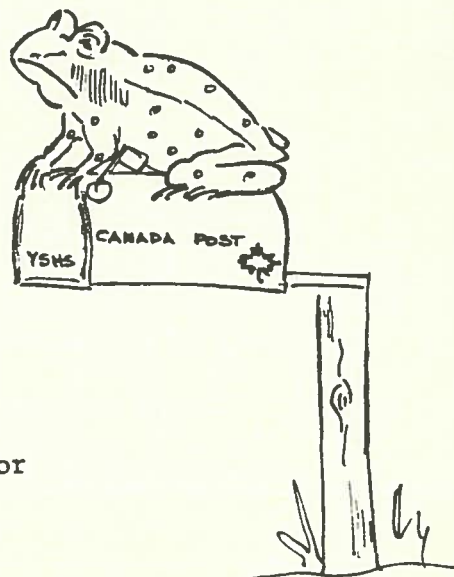
## The Last Word

In an attempt to save a little, in posting our "Officers' Quarterly" to you, we felt it appropriate to apply for second class mail privileges at Canada Post. After carefully reading their 25 pages of regulations, we thought that qualifying would be a cinch. The simple two page application form was prepared, in duplicate, and taken in April to the local Queen Street Post Office. The efficient staff there directed that it be forwarded to the provincial postmaster in Saint John, who in his or her wisdom, sent it to the Atlantic Customer Service in Halifax. Elda Rumsey, Customer Service Representative, sent us a nice letter from Halifax, saying that such an important decision had to be made in the nation's capital and off it went to Ottawa. Elda was kind enough to include their 132 page "Mail Preparation Guide", which we would need when our obviously deserving application was approved.

The nation's capital responded at the end of July. B. W. Calvin,

the Director of Customer Service carefully explained that our humble publication falls into category 3.1(i) which is excluded from admissibility to second class mail, unless it also falls under 3.1(b) or (c). However since it does not qualify as "scholarly" it cannot meet the latter. It could however qualify under 3.1(h), but we are alas, also excluded under this category, since our principal business is other than publishing. We can of course appeal this decision to the Chairman under paragraph 6 of Appendix I .....

Canada Post, for your diligence in saving this great nation from our Historical Society's abuse of second class mailing privileges, we award you with our Coleman Frog's, Second Class Wart Award.



The Editor



