



NEWS ON THE ASSOCIATES ~~~~~

Annual General Meeting – 2000 ~~~~~

The President reported on the year's activities, giving special note to the attaining of the goal of placing ten new microfilm readers in the search room for public use. He underlined the work of Betty Sewell and the contributions of the Capital Branch of the New Brunswick Genealogical Society which were critical to the project. He thanked the Directors of the Associates for their assistance and members for their support.

Minutes of the 1999 Annual General Meeting were approved: moved by Cyril Donahue; seconded by Betty Sewell. The financial report was approved: moved by Fred Farrell; Secretary-Treasurer; seconded by Andrew Gunter.

Marion Beyea, Provincial Archivist, reported on the Provincial Archives, mentioning increasing researcher numbers, the enthusiastic reception of the Archives expanded Website, and use of Archives resources in several notable projects including a photograph in a Wilf Carter television documentary, film footage of a WWII air raid from the Leonard O'Brien records in a British television

Associates Meet Target ~~~~~

With the placing of the tenth new microfilm reader in the Search Room at the Provincial Archives, one of the first projects adopted by the Associates for the Provincial Archives was completed. The goal has been reached with the support of the Provincial Genealogical Society and several of its branches, individual members of the Associates, and visitors to the Archives who have made deposits in the donation box. These contributions were matched by the Provincial Archives. Funds for the tenth reader

production, and extensive use of photographs from the Archives in *The Illustrated Oxford Encyclopedia of Atlantic Canada*. She outlined some significant acquisitions and made reference to the difficulties the Provincial Archives is facing in regard to preservation of archival collections. She thanked the Associates for their support.

Joseph Day proposed that five individuals be made honorary members of the Associates: James MacMurray, Michael Meighen, Kelly Meighen, Sandra Irving, and Arthur Irving, all of whom were major contributors to the campaign to raise funds for the acquisition of the Isaac Erb photographic negatives, and Greg Bryne who was very active in establishing the Associates as a member of the first Board of Directors. Moved by Siobhan Hanratty; seconded by Dawn Bremner. Carried unanimously.

The slate of Directors for the 2000-2002 term, Gwen Davies, Betty Sewell, Mark Pedersen, Jocelyn LeBel, Frank Morehouse, Fernand Levesque was approved unanimously.

were contributed by the Capital Branch of the Genealogical Society, a significant donor to the entire project from the beginning. Betty Sewell, a member of both the Associates and the Capital Branch of the NBGS, spearheaded the project. The project is of immense value to the Archives and to researchers as the readers are critical to successful research as more information is available only on microfilm, more researchers require microfilm for their studies, and older equipment wears out with the heavy use it

experiences. The Archives has over 21,000 different microfilms which contain approximately 21 million pages of text, many of

which are available to the Archives patrons only on film.



Mr. Joe Day, President of the Board of Directors of the Associates of the Provincial Archives is seen here with Andrew Gunter, president of Capital Branch, New Brunswick Genealogical Society. They are looking at microfilm projected onto the reading surface of one of the new readers.

Fall Meeting of Associates Board of Directors ~~~~~

The Associates met on October 31 to plan for the coming year and to elect officers. They received reports on various projects that have been completed (see reports in this issue of the newsletter: *Associates Meet Target, Summer Projects, Grenham's Irish Recordfinder*) and considered and approved a number of projects for 2000-01.

These included: the co-hosting with the Charlotte County Archives and the Irish Cultural Association of the launch of *Some other place than here*, a book on Irish immigration to Charlotte County, by Ron Rees of St. Andrews; administration of the Conservation Co-operative; endorsement of the undertaking of the New Brunswick Genealogical Society to place computers and related hardware in the search room; continuing work on sales of heritage products; and support of the acquisition of original cartoons of Josh Beutal.

The following officers were elected: Gwen Davies, newly appointed Dean of Graduate Studies at UNB, President; Fernand Levesque, genealogist and former civil servant, Vice-President; and Fred Farrell, Secretary Treasurer.

John Cory thanked retiring President Joe Day for his contributions as founding president of the Associates, mentioning his work in developing the by-laws, his enthusiasm and support for all the projects the Associates have undertaken, particularly the acquisition of the Isaac Erb glass negative collection, and his efforts in promoting the Associates and the Provincial Archives. Marion Beyea thanked Ernie Forbes, who has filled the office of as Vice-President since the inception of the Associates, for his work on behalf of the Associates and the Archives. She noted that he was always on hand to advise and assist with applications for grants and projects. Both Mr. Forbes and Mr. Day will remain on the Board of Directors.

Associates accepted the resignation of Robert Kelly who is now living in Montreal and moved a unanimous vote of thanks to him. He was Deputy Minister in charge of the Provincial Archives when the Associates formed and joined the Board of Directors when he retired.

The next meeting of the Associates will be in early February.

Fredericton: Then and Now, an Exhibit Opening by Karen Ruet ~~~~~

“The Associates,” says Marion Beyea, “always like to have something in connection with their annual meeting that will bring a few people on other than their membership, or give their members a special function.” In that respect, the June 2000 meeting was no exception. But it did have a couple of added touches. On 13 June, the Annual General Meeting was coupled with a solo photograph exhibition by Burton Glendenning and a gala reception at Old Government House for more than 120 invited guests. Wine flowed and smoked salmon, crab, and other Atlantic delicacies tempted those in attendance, including the mayor of Fredericton, his worship Sandy DiGiacinto. For Burton Glendenning, Manager of Exhibits and Public Service at the Archives, this was particularly significant. In May, he had graduated from the New Brunswick College of Craft and Design and this, his first solo exhibit, was a continuation of his work there. For the Provincial Archives, it was a chance to present to the public a very small portion of their photographic records and to show the work of a staff member. For the Associates, it was gratifying to see a few examples from the Isaac Erb Collection, a collection of over 3000 glass negatives for which the Associates had successfully raised funds to acquire only two years previously. And for all in attendance, Old Government House was a magnificent venue for an opening, a meeting, a reception and for a complementary blending of our documentary and built heritage.

Burton ‘discovered’ photography seven years ago when he enrolled in a Freeman Patterson workshop. He learned how to ‘see’ the extraordinary in the ordinary and his life was never the same. He enrolled in a course at the NBCCD and the darkroom sucked him in. The first course led to a second, and so on to graduation in Photography in May 2000. For a graduation project, he married his academic training, his profession, and his avocation of collecting New Brunswickiana with his passion for photography. “I work at the Provincial Archives,” says Glendenning, “but before that, my background is history; I studied history at

Loyola, Concordia, and UNB. History is the study of change over time and there is no better way to do this than with photography by looking at then and now photographs.”

The exhibit consists of 62 prints, displayed in pairs, to compare change in Fredericton over time. As Peter Gross, the Head of the Photo Studio at NBCCD, pointed out at the opening reception, the first thing we do when confronted with these images “is look at the details; what is the same and what is different in the two photographs. But I think what we are left with as we walk away is something much larger, something that is not in the photograph, but in the gap between them. It is a really intense sense of the enormous passage of time between the fractions of a second in which these photographs occurred ... I think this is the poetry, the higher purpose of this exhibit, and it’s one only we the viewers can provide.”

Of the photo exhibit, John Rowcroft, Dean of Arts at the University of New Brunswick, said, “Its something we look at and say, “Well what happened in between?” The similarities are as fascinating as the changes. The fact that we do many things in the same way, or for the same reasons is not really very surprising, but it’s something he’s drawing our attention to, the things we like about being in New Brunswick often haven’t changed all that much, because that’s the sort of place we are. We treasure certain kinds of activities in relative closeness to our environment and that come out here, too. That was important to the people in both pictures and to the people in-between.”

Peter Gross noted that “Initially the concerns were the physical, the geographical, the architectural, but one of the exciting areas that this project has grown into is the social history. It is a very personal thing with me, but in my experience, the photographs that have moved me the most are old photographs that can open up a window, a very precise window where you can practically smell the air, and build, through that, a sense if what it was like to live in a different era.”

“More than that, you can sometimes look at someone and get a sense who they are, who they were, as sense of their life, even though, right now, all that is left of them is perhaps some bones in a forgotten grave someplace. Making the past come alive is, for me, one of the most

gripping aspects of what photography can do for people.”

Karen Ruet is a Fredericton writer and photographer. Her work frequently appears in the *New Brunswick Telegraph Journal* and the *New Brunswick Reader*.

Summer Projects ~~~~~

In the summer of 2000, the Associates sponsored three student projects to further the work of the Provincial Archives. On the Miramichi, Cyril Donahue, a member of the Board of Directors, again supervised a photo identification project. With funding from the Summer Career Placement program, Mary Rita Holland was hired to make presentations to seniors' groups, local historical societies and individuals to obtain information on photographs of the Miramichi. Many donors of photographs to the Archives do not know the details about the image and the information from members of the community is invaluable to the Archives and to its patrons.

Jones and Sean Wiseman, were employed on an Associates-sponsored Young Canada Works project to assist the researching public. Their daily work included working with visitors to the Archives and in responding to postal and e-mail inquiries. In archives, the summer months are particularly busy with local, academic, and family historians using their vacation period to travel to Fredericton to use the resources available only here. Because Denise was here for the sixth summer and Sean for the third, their experience was particularly valuable to the visitors. And in keeping with the aims of the YCW program, this experience will be particularly valuable to them in their chosen careers. Sean is in his second and final year of a Bachelor of Education program at UNB and is now on a teaching term at Fredericton High School. Denise was finishing her MA thesis at Concordia and has begun her studies at the University of Toronto for a Master of Archival Studies (MAS) degree.

In Fredericton, the Associates also obtained Summer Career Placement funding for Wayne Moss to work as an archival assistant in the Government Records Section. Wayne worked servicing the non-current records for the government and judicial researchers.

Also in Fredericton, two students, Denise

NEWS FROM THE PROVINCIAL ARCHIVES ~~~~~

GRENHAM'S *Irish Recordfinder* ~~~~~

At the New Brunswick Genealogical Society family history conference in 1999, attendees were introduced to John Grenham's *Irish Recordfinder*. Its usefulness was self evident, and the members of the Capitol Branch of the New Brunswick Genealogical Society made this one of their projects and have recently donated funds to the Associates for the purchase of *Irish Recordfinder*. This is an expert software program designed to give simple but comprehensive answers to the basic questions asked by all genealogists: "What records are relevant?" "Where are they?" and "How do I get access to them?" The software is now installed at the Provincial Archives.

A simple on-screen form collects what the researcher knows about their ancestor, however little, and uses this information to produce a complete profile of relevant research sources. Browse functions permit detailed querying of all the source material. However The *Recordfinder* is a detailed guide to the original records, it does not contain those original records themselves.

It includes references in the following groups:

- *Lewis' Topographical Dictionary Of Ireland*, and 1837 guide to the localities of Ireland;

- A complete set of the 1837 county maps published with the *Topographical Dictionary* as well as a set of maps showing the civil parishes of Ireland;
- Griffith's Valuation Household Survey, 1848-64;
- an extensive dictionary of Irish surnames, giving a brief description of the frequency,
- an index to Townlands and towns, parishes and Baronies of Ireland, street guides to Dublin, Cork and Belfast - complete listings of registers of Roman Catholic, Church of Ireland, Presbyterian, Methodist, and other denominations in the National Library of Ireland, the Public Record Office of Northern Ireland, Local Genealogical Centres, the Family History Library of the Church of the latter-day Saints, in local custody, and, where relevant, those that were published;
- complete listing of all Irish census and census substitutes;
- complete listing of all graveyards in Ireland 1848-1864, with full listing of all transcripts of inscriptions, locations and nature of 4939 graveyards;
- estate records including listings of all catalogued estate papers, rent rolls and tenants, with details of coverage and locations extensive listing of estate papers, rent rolls, and tenants lists published and in lists in the National Library and National Archives of Ireland other repositories;
- newspaper indices
- local and family histories;
- Guide to the Registry of Deeds;
- locations of official records of births, marriages, deaths and wills.

Acknowledgements ~~~~~

The numbers of day-visits to the Provincial Archives in 1999/ 2000 was 8129, down slightly from the previous year. Off-setting this was a dramatic increase in the number of written inquiries. In 1998/99, 1430 inquiries requiring a substantive response were registered. In 1999/2000, this number jumped to 3109. And the increase continues. During the first 6 months of the current fiscal year, 1927 inquiries have been recorded.

Although some letters and e-mail messages of thanks are received, sometimes authors acknowledge the contributions of the Archives and the Archives staff in their books, feedback, either positive or negatives, is not often received. Acknowledgement in books is particularly appreciated for it not only lets staff members know that their efforts were worthwhile but also informs the public of this contribution. These acknowledgements also inform future researchers of the rich diversity of the holdings of the Provincial Archives.

In the following books published in recent months, or recently brought to our attention, the Archives was acknowledged as the source of valuable information or assistance.

The Way it was along my bay by Veta Faulds. Fredericton, 2000. (Publication was facilitated by the Associates of the Provincial Archives.)

Whistling Banjoman George Hector by Anne Fawcett. Gagetown, 1999. "This project would have dragged on for years without the Provincial Archives of New Brunswick's endorsement and inestimable help."

Merchant of Dreams by Charles Higham. New York, 1993. "... found many treasures in the files of the Provincial Archives in Fredericton".

Surplus People: The Fitzwilliam Clearances, 1847-1856 by Jim Rees. Cork: Collins Press, 2000. "I must mention the generous help and co-operation of Denis Noel of the Provincial Archives, Allen Doiron also of PANB, ..."

Some Other Place ...Than Here by Ronald Rees. Fredericton, 2000. "I like to think of myself as an aficionado of archives, and I know of no other in which the material is so accessible, the staff so approachable, and the atmosphere so relaxed."

The Edgecombes of Fredericton by David Edgecombe. Orleans, ON, 1999. "I am indebted to the staffs of ... and the Provincial Archives of New Brunswick for their assistance. In the case

of the latter, particular thanks do to Judy Morehouse [Williston] and Fred Farrell for their responses to my various requests for material and to Lucy Jardine who introduced me to my distant cousin, ...”

When the Chestnut was in Flower by Roger MacGregor. Landsdowne, ON, 1999. “Special thanks to Twila Buttimer of the Provincial

Archives of New Brunswick for her courtesy and professionalism in resolving numerous issues relating to the story, and to her colleague Robert Gilmore for his diligent work in locating the scant news reports of the Old Town vs Chestnut law case; to Bob Fellows, Wanda Lyons and the staff of the Provincial Archives;”

NEW ACQUISITIONS AND FINDING AIDS ~~~~~

Government Records ~~~~~

RS66 **Kings County Probate Court Records**, 1950-1979, 51 pages. A revised nominal index which includes newly accessioned files for the years 1966-1979.

RS71 **Saint John County Probate Court Records**, 1785-1979, 313 pages. A revised nominal index which includes newly accessioned records for 1966-1979.

RS141B7 **New Brunswick Vital Statistics Records**: Index to Marriages, 1920-1925, 505 pages. The records are on 14 microfilms.

RS141A1b **New Brunswick Vital Statistics Records**: Index to Late Registration of Births, 1905, 83 pages. These records are on 3 microfilms.

RS153 **Northumberland County Council Records**, 1786-1966, 7.3 metres and 29 microfilms. This is a major revision of the records of the Northumberland County Council. The finding aid also includes an index to the records. County Council records include information on taxation and the administration of health, welfare, education, justice and public works in the county.

RS182 **Motor Carrier Board Records**, 1927-1994, 3.3 metres. The finding aid consists of a nominal index to files and returns relating to various motor carriers.

Private Records ~~~~~

MC928 **St. Peter's and Bethany Lutheran Church Records**, New Denmark. 1906-1998, 9 cm. on two microfilms, F8217 & F8218.

MC1181 **Nellie (Helen Amanda) Flemming Lawrence** Accounts. 1938-1947, 6.5 cm.

RS265 **Community Planning Branch Records**, 1946-1980, 1.4 metres. Records in this series include community studies, regional studies, and by-laws of various municipalities.

RS429 **Albert County Court Records**, 1846-1971, 4.9 m. Revised finding aid now includes an index to criminal cases, and cases involving land.

RS430 **Carleton County Court Records**, 1824-1981, 8 m. Revised finding aid now includes an index to criminal cases, cases involving land, and naturalization and citizenship documentation.

RS431 **Charlotte County Court Records**, 1785-1979, 19 m. Revised finding aid now includes an index to criminal cases.

RS432 **Gloucester County Court Records**, 1809-1979, 4.2 m. Revised finding aid now includes an index to criminal cases.

RS433 **Kent County Court Records**, 1869-1972, 40 cm. Revised finding aid now includes an index to criminal cases.

RS1041 **Restigouche County Board of Health Records**, 1910-1966, 20 cm. The records in this series deal with the subjects of disease control, sanitation, and health regulations.

Personal accounts and letters of Campbell Settlement woman from age 77 to 87.

MC1350 **Carleton County Lawyer's Account Book**. 1909-1911, 1 cm. Lawyer is unidentified but is possibly W.C. Connell.

MC1833 **Norbert Thériault Oral History Interview.** 1990, 1 cassette transcribed as 2 cm. of text. Mr. Thériault was an MLA from 1960 to 1970, a cabinet minister from 1963 to 1970 and a senator from 1970 to 1996.

MC2879 **Francis Brooke Gregory York County By-election Notebook.** 1884, 0.5 cm. Notebook includes clippings, voters lists and poll results for candidates.

MC2890 **Sackville Methodist/United Church Records.** 1840-1983, 1.1 m. on 5 microfilms, F20824 and F20975 to F20978.

MC2891 **Jolicure Pastoral Charge Methodist/United Records.** 1840-1983, 80 cm. on 2 microfilms, F20822 & F20823.

MC2905 **Frank I. Morrison & Son Fonds.** 1915-1972, 19 cm. Fonds consists of "Loss Registry" books which list names of policy holders, loss incurred and claim made.

Also acquired in Private Records but for which finding aids are not yet available are the following fonds:

MC1743 **Fenwick Family Papers.** Ca. 1860-1907, 1 cm.

MC2113 **Julius L. Inches Records.** 1856-1890, 60 cm.

MC2914 **New Brunswick Registered Music Teachers Fonds.** 1952-2000, 6 metres.

MC2915 **Somerville Women's Institute Fonds.** 1950-1971, 4 cm. on microfilm.

MC2920 **St. James Anglican Church Records,** Saint John. 1879-1999, 25cm. on microfilm.

MC2921 **Riverside Presbyterian Church Records,** Prince William. 1926-1979, on microfilm.

ASSOCIATES of the PROVINCIAL ARCHIVES of NEW BRUNSWICK

If you wish to become an Associate, please complete the attached form and send it with a cheque for \$10 made payable to the Associates of the Provincial Archives of New Brunswick. Contributions in addition to this amount are welcome and tax receipts will be provided.

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The Board of Directors of **the Associates of the Provincial Archives** are members of the public who have volunteered to facilitate the activities of the Provincial Archives. They come from many walks of life and have diverse cultural interests. In some way all had some connection with the Archives before this appointment. All have experience using the documentary holdings of the Archives. The Associates for 2000/2001 are: John Corey, Gwen Davies, Joseph Day, Cyril Donahue, Ernie Forbes, Joe Knockwood, Jocelyne LeBel, Fernand Lévesque, Dave MacMinn, Frank Morehouse, Mary Biggar Peck, Mark Pedersen and Betty Sewell.

Marion Beyea, Provincial Archivist is the Archives advisor to the Associates. Fred Farrell, Manager of Private and Photographic Records at the Provincial Archives of New Brunswick, is the Secretary-Treasurer.

CONTRIBUTORS

Karen Ruet prepared the article on the opening of *Fredericton: Then and Now*. The other articles in this issue were prepared by members of the staff of the Provincial Archives of New Brunswick.

ARCHIVES WEB SITE

The Archives URL is <http://www.gov.nb.ca/archives> For the uninitiated this means the Archives is 'on the Web'. General information is available on the Archives, its holdings, hours of operation and its programs as well as information on the Associates of the Archives. Also available are general guides to holdings and genealogical guides for each county. Individuals contacting the Archives via the internet are asked to provide their mailing address because all of the documents and most of the Archival finding aids are not available through WWW. This 'site' is still in development and will, in the future, include publications dealing with records management and electronic records, and information on exhibits and finding aids.