



Associates of the Provincial Archives of New Brunswick

# EXTRA! EXTRA!

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## When the Movies came to Perth Andover



To local leaders the villages of Perth and Andover looked big enough for the movies.

PANB Issac Erb: P11/118

Ninety years ago this Fall, something pretty exciting was happening in the villages of Perth and Andover: the two communities, situated directly across the St. John River from each other in southern Victoria County, were about to get their first moving picture theatre. Generally speaking, the coming of motion pictures to New Brunswick has not been well documented. It is a curious thing, for example, that local histories, while meticulously recording details about various hometown institutions, from churches and schools to sports arenas and curling rinks, almost never mention the place that sometimes seemed to wield more formative influence than any of the others—the local movie house. Consequently, we know relatively little about the arrival of the first moving pictures in our midst, or how our early movie theatres came into being, or what it took to keep them going.

An exception is the Specialty Theatre, built in the Fall of 1912 in Andover. A record of its early years has been preserved at the Provincial Archives of New Brunswick. And this record, which is in the

form of minutes from meetings of the theatre's board of directors, provides a rare insight into the building and sustaining of a country movie house in the Upper St. John River Valley at the beginning of the last century.

The saga began in mid-October, 1912, with a gathering of some of the villages' most important citizens in the office of Dr. F.N. Welling. They included: Jackson Fleming Johnstone, an accountant; Alexander Stratton, a lawyer; Henry Blakslee, a CPR station agent; Sanford Jamer, an electrician; James Tibbitts, the local sheriff; and Noble J. Wootten, an insurance agent. Among other things, the group's diverse make-up reflected the broad popular appeal that movies had already achieved at this relatively early stage of their development. And it also suggested that there were many who perceived real opportunity at the local level in this burgeoning entertainment medium. So the citizens moved swiftly: they reviewed the letters patent for a new company, the Victoria Specialty Co. Ltd., then formed a board of directors, and chose a president and secretary (Johnston and Wootten respectively.)

**When the Movies came to Perth and Andover**  
(continued)

Early indications were positive. When they met again four days later, in the Andover courthouse, the directors learned that the number of shares subscribed to their venture had reached 71. This amounted to a total value of \$1420, or nearly one-third of their anticipated total capital stock of \$4500. So next they authorized the president to call another meeting as soon as they had enough money to buy land for the theatre and start the construction.

The village entrepreneurs were anxious to proceed—which was perfectly understandable. After all, New Brunswickers, like most of the civilized world, had taken to moving pictures from the moment they first saw them—which, it so happened, had been remarkably soon after they were introduced to North America. In November, 1896, a road company had brought the first movies to the Opera House in Saint John, just seven months after Thomas Edison staged their North American debut in New York.

After that, these amazing “shadowgraphs” (just one of their early names) gradually spread through the province. Sometimes their purveyors were travelling stage performers, who showed them as between-act “specialties,” mostly in the cities and larger towns; other times they were carried into the smaller places of the province by itinerant movie men, like Teddy Voyer of Fredericton. One day early in the new century, *The Daily Gleaner* of Fredericton noted that Voyer was ready “to start out on the road with a moving picture show.” With a piano player in tow, Voyer took movies into small towns, villages, and crossroad hamlets, thereby helping to win converts to a new “movie culture.” It was an impact much greater than he could possibly have realized at the time.

His time, though, was brief, for the way in which movies were presented was changing. In New Brunswick, this change was signalled by the opening of “The Nickel” theatre in Saint John. It was a “nickelodeon”—a place where you could watch continuous moving pictures for a five-cent piece—and it was part of a phenomenon that swept North America. Saint John’s “Nickel” started in April, 1907, in the old Mechanics Institute building on Carleton Street, and it was so successful that, within a few weeks, the city had three more nickel movie theatres, including one called “The Happy Half Hour,” located in a roller skating rink.

**ORANGE HALL**  
**McADAM**

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**TO-NIGHT**  
Monday, July 25th

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**2 NIGHTS** (on the left side)  
**2 NIGHTS** (on the right side)

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**American Biograph Co.**  
AND THEIR  
**FAMOUS MOTION PICTURES**

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**The Show they All Copy**  
Animated Pantomimic and  
Sensational Western and  
Railway Subjects, Dramas,  
Chase, Comedy, &c.

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**EVERY PICTURE A HEAD-LINER**  
Extra Feature—See and Hear  
**Prof. Arthur LeBarion**  
Scotch Singer and Dancer

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**YOU WILL ROAR, YOU WILL SCREAM**  
We work all the Effects with our Pictures,  
which make them still more realistic.

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**Change of Program Nightly**  
Our Pictures are positively steady. Our latest  
machine does away with all that quiver.  
Strictly Moral and Refined. Beautiful Color-  
ing and Electrical Effects.

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**DON'T FAIL TO SEE THIS SHOW**  
**HEAR PIANO AND TRAP DRUMS**

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Admission:— Children 15c., Adults 25c.  
Doors open at 7.30. Begins at 8.15 sharp.

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Kobler, Crapley, Filmer, Fredericton.

Handbills like this were distributed in advance of itinerant movie man Teddy Voyer's visits to smalltown New Brunswick.

## When the Movies came to Perth and Andover (continued)

It was the end of the travelling movie man, and the beginning of what today we might call the “dedicated” movie house, a place where moving pictures were shown more or less exclusively. Within a few years, most towns of any size had at least one movie theatre, and the proliferation throughout the Maritimes was such that, with the opening of the new Bijou Theatre in Woodstock, in the late summer of 1916, the total number of movie houses in the three provinces was nearly 100, according to the New York trade publication, *The Moving Picture World*.

Andover’s “Specialty Theatre” was one of these. Strategically located at the very end of the highway bridge linking the village with Perth across the river, it was built in that Fall of 1912 for \$750 and opened on Christmas Day. It was hardly a movie palace like the splendidly appointed Imperial Theatre, which they were about to build in Saint John. The Specialty was country plain and utilitarian. It had an Edison Model “B” projector and 400 “chairs,” which the directors bought for 45 cents each. And it was swathed in enthusiasm. Preparing for the opening, the directors gave themselves hands-on assignments: Jackson Fleming Johnstone would be the ticket-seller, Noble Wootten the ticket taker, and one of the ushers would be Sheriff James Tibbitts—surely the best deterrent to unruly behavior in the seats that any theatre ever had.

Having the law patrol the aisles, coincidental though it may have been (Tibbitts was both a director and shareholder), was just one of the Specialty’s unique charms. Another was its name. At a time when theatre nomenclature often connoted either jewelry (Gem, Bijou) or life’s lighter moments (Gaiety, Lyric), the incipient movie men of Victoria County chose a name that went back to the cinema’s beginnings. Specialty, again, was what those first few flickering seconds of film were called when they were presented between the acts of live Victorian melodramas.

The theatre got off to a good start. Noble Wootten became its part-time manager, at a salary of \$25 a month. The editor of the *Victoria County News* got a free movie pass for himself and his lady. And the volume of business was such that Wootten was soon complaining that it was taking too much time from his insurance work. So the directors gave him a raise, adding a 15% take on the company’s profits to

his regular stipend. In the first nine-and-a-half-months of operation, from December 25, 1912, to October 4, 1913, the company turned a profit of \$389.25, or better than half the cost of the theatre itself.

But, after that, things went downhill. By early January 1914, the directors owed \$146.68 in interest on a \$2000 mortgage held by the local Benjamin Kilburn Estate. They also had several other bills “that should be paid at once.” Accordingly, company president Johnstone was instructed to “interview” the local manager of the Bank of Montreal with the idea of borrowing \$300 for four months.

Johnstone got the money, but it didn’t solve their financial problems, and the bills continued to mount. The directors sponsored dances, loaned the company money, bought more shares themselves, even ran an excursion train from Plaster Rock, several miles up the Tobique River, for one of their attractions. But their indebtedness at the end of the year stood at \$598.01, and a note of desperation crept into their discussions.

By now, too, the First World War had begun, which couldn’t have helped business as it swept up young men from the two villages and the surrounding farms. The combined population of Perth and Andover was barely 3100 to begin with, and the toll on attendance caused by the war was indicated in the minutes from the meeting of January 18, 1915, when the directors decided that, at least for the winter months, they would show pictures only on Friday and Saturday nights. Later, another reflection of the troubles sometimes wrought by external factors appeared, in the minutes from a meeting held on October 21, 1918, when only two directors, Wootten and Alex Stratton, showed up, “owing no doubt to the outbreak of Spanish Influenza, which is so prevalent.”

Nevertheless, there still must have been times when it all seemed to work, when Perthians strolled across the bridge, and Andoverites streamed along the main street, and farm families rode down from the hills, and the piano player sitting in the corner struck the right cadence, and the magic of the images on the screen filled the hall with wonder and amazement. It might have been a Charlie Chaplin comedy, or perhaps an epic by the great director of silent films, D.W. Griffith, such as *Hearts of the World*, “the sweetest love story ever told,” which

**When the Movies came to Perth and Andover**  
*(continued)*

played at the Specialty for two nights right after Valentine’s Day, 1919.

Noble Wootten, for one, determinedly stuck to the notion that the theatre could succeed. In 1915, he began operating the Specialty under a lease arrangement, and when Hearts of the World came along, he sold reserved seats for a dollar out of his office in Perth. But attendance began to slide in 1918, probably because of the ‘flu epidemic, and by early 1920 Wootten had had enough. Meantime, a demand letter from the Kilburn Estate for overdue payments may have been the last straw: the directors decided to try and sell the theatre for \$5500.

But before that happened a man named Paul R. Bedell, from Andover, announced that he’d like to have a go at the theatre business. He lasted until July, 1921. Then the irrepressible Noble Wootten stepped forward again and offered to act as a business manager, using the building for whatever purpose he could, in return for 50% of the proceeds. But on August 9<sup>th</sup> there was a fire at the theatre, and shortly after the directors met and, with their

patience seemingly worn to the breaking point, made one more decision: “Moved James Tibbitts, sec. H.E. Blakslee that the Directors by this meeting be authorized to sell the building, land and all other property belonging to the Company for the best price obtainable.”

This is where the minutes of the Victoria Specialty Company end. It was not, however, the end of the theatre, which, under other owners, actually survived well into the second half of the 20<sup>th</sup> Century. Along the way, it even recorded a few moments of Canadian cinematic history—in the ‘twenties and ‘thirties, the theatre, which was eventually renamed the Capitol, was one of the places where a talented chap named Bert Moore, who lived just up the street in Andover, sometimes showed the marvelous animal movies he’d shot in the Tobique River country, movies that today are considered to be as good as any wildlife films made anywhere at the time. As for the theatre itself, it burned down one night in the early 1970s. But it had continued to show moving pictures until the very last.

--David Folster

**NEWS ON THE ASSOCIATES** ~~~~~

**Annual General Meeting, June 11, 2002.**

President Gwen Davies presided at the Associates business meeting. She outlined the activities of the year that included: the administration of the Conservation Cooperative; co-hosting a tribute to the North Shore Regiment in Miramichi to mark Remembrance Day; a fund raising campaign in support of the acquisition of the original editorial cartoons of Josh Beutel; sponsoring applications on behalf of the Provincial Archives to two programs for employment of students during the summer; and a presentation advocating the release of 1906 and 1911 censuses for research to a town hall meeting held in Fredericton by the Environics Research Group for Stats Canada. Dr. Davies thanked the Board of Directors for their assistance in these undertakings.

In conjunction with the annual meeting, the Provincial Archives exhibit “Preserving New Brunswick’s Documentary Heritage” was officially opened by the Honourable Dale Graham, Deputy Premier and Minister of Supply and Services, and the Honourable Brad Green, Minister of Justice and Aboriginal Affairs. Mr. Graham referred to the Associates as an invaluable partner and commended their support of the Archives mandate and their tangible commitment to the acquisition and maintenance of historical and archival material.

In opening the exhibit he spoke of the importance of the vital documents and provincial treasures held by the Archives and the challenge of preserving them. He recalled his pride in announcing in his department’s Capital Estimates the construction of a new storage facility for Archives records that will

prolong the life of Archival material. Minister Green talked of his days as a student employee of the Archives and underlined the need for improvements at the Archives that had been evident at that time.

The exhibit featured examples of these treasures including Royal Instructions issued in 1784 by King George III to Thomas Carleton; the 1993 Constitution Amendment Proclamation concerning the two linguistic communities of New Brunswick; a panoramic view of Saint John harbour, ca. 1906 by

photographer Isaac Erb; translations of religious materials into Micmac by Abbé Maillard, a Jesuit, who travelled in NB during the 17<sup>th</sup> century; and the log book of the whaling ship, "James Stewart" out of Saint John to the Mozambique Channel, the Indian Ocean, the South Atlantic, 1834-1835. Displays demonstrated the causes of archival deterioration and the means that can be taken to retard it, foremost of which is storage of archival records in the appropriate, strictly controlled environment that the new repository will provide.

## NEWS FROM THE PROVINCIAL ARCHIVES~~~~~



Left to right: G. Colter, E. MacKenzie, Premier B. Lord, M. Beyea, B. Green

Shovels were lifted by Premier Bernard Lord, Brad Green, Minister of Justice, Eric MacKenzie, MLA for Fredericton South, George Colter, President of Springhill Construction Ltd. contractor for the project and Marion Beyea, Provincial Archives Director at a sod-turning ceremony on July 10 to launch the construction of the new archival repository. Many official guests and supporters of the Archives attended.

Site preparation began the following day and progress has been steady since. Footings were laid and the 36-foot high pre-cast wall panels and deck beams were swung into place by a huge crane. The work can be viewed on the website of Department of Supply and Services, Design Branch, at <http://www.gnb.ca/0099/carchive%2De.html>

Also underway is the repair of the masonry on the exterior of the Bonar Law Building that has housed the Archives since 1967. The scaffolding for this work has placed parking at a premium so arrangements have been made with the University of New Brunswick security staff for parking for Archives visitors until the parking areas on the north and south ends of the building are again available.

Archives staff, while maintaining on-going service to researchers, continuing to acquire new records and readying collections for research, is preparing records for transfer to the new repository and developing a database to facilitate retrieval.

## PANB Retirements

*To honour six long-term employees who retired from the Archives in 2002, Extra Extra has carried a series highlighting their careers and life activities.*

*The last of the series features Harold Holland who retired as Preservation Manager at the Provincial Archives.*

## Harold Holland

Harold Holland first came to the Archives in 1973. He was called in to save government and court records suffering the effects of the exceptional flooding on the St. John River that year. At the time, he was conservator at Kings Landing, where, since 1970, he had coordinated restoration and conservation of the furnishings of the site's historic houses.

In facing the water-soaked records and a city, Fredericton, caught up in the flood, Harold quickly demonstrated his ability to take charge, organize, apply his knowledge, research what he did not know, and work long hours. In no time he had staff and volunteers at work, supplies in hand, priorities set, freezer truck on site, records frozen and salvage operation begun. His efforts recovered one million historically significant or currently vital records.

Two years later, Harold moved to the position of conservator at the Provincial Archives. One of his first challenges was to build and equip a laboratory for the treatment of records, a daunting task given the limited resources available. Harold's creative solution was to build the lab from *scratch*. Pieces of equipment that would have cost hundreds of thousands of dollars were designed by him and fabricated at local shops for a fraction of the catalogue price. The result was a state-of-the-art facility. Another early undertaking was a survey of archival holdings to determine their physical condition and to identify conservation needs and priorities. This overview permitted development of a program aimed at the preservation of entire collections rather than treatment of individual items. While of obvious benefit now, it was not a concept then employed in the rest of the archival world. But, in the ensuing decade, such assessments became a required first step for institutions applying to the Canadian Council of Archives for grants under its newly instituted preservation program.

While developing and applying expertise and skill in restoring maps, letters and bound volumes, Harold opted to take a global approach with the objective of preserving as much of the collection as possible through stabilization techniques, reformatting, mass treatments, and, most important, provision of appropriate space and conditions for storing of

records. He promoted this approach for nearly 20 years, and a high point in his career must be government's recent approval of funding to construct a repository for the records of the Provincial Archives that will provide storage conditions meeting exacting standards. After investigating many options, he introduced the concept of high-density storage, which brought construction economies that undoubtedly contributed to the decision to proceed with the repository.

As well as facing the many challenges of preserving traditional paper records, Harold has provided leadership in preserving photographic, film, video and, most recently, electronic, records. A careful and diligent reader of professional journals and literature, his approach has been to identify useful approaches or procedures (or recall them in light of a particular situation), carry out research and consultation with colleagues (who, as frequently, called on him), develop practical plans for their application (always with an economical eye to resources) and push for their implementation by seeking appropriate opportunities to do so.

Championing preservation to archivists, whose priority is to acquire records and prepare them for use, and to exhibit or produce them for researchers, has been lonely and, at times, difficult work. Harold has been patient and persistent and has kept the long-term view in mind. He has always taken a broad view in querying and offering advice beyond the confines of what might be seen normally as conservation, and this approach, though not always appreciated, was frequently of great importance.

It is not surprising that, because of Harold's reputation for innovative approaches and solid work, a number of interns have sought his tutelage, and over the years the Archives has hosted undergraduate and graduate students from conservation programs at Queens University and the University of Paris – Sorbonne, at Sir Sanford Fleming and Algonquin Colleges, and conservators from government and private programs in Ontario, Newfoundland, Prince Edward Island, and Nova Scotia.

**Harold Holland**  
(continued)

Harold entered the conservation field when the discipline was in its infancy in Canada, when archival conservation world-wide was at an embryonic stage and largely dependent on concepts, standards and practices borrowed from Western European fine art and artifact conservation. Archival mediums such as microfilm, and photographs were not being addressed or even being given consideration. Formal education for conservators was not available in Canada.

Harold began his preparation for work in the field by obtaining with a Certificate in Museology, specializing in Conservation, from Vancouver City College, an Arts Administration Certificate from Harvard, and a B.A. in Anthropology and Philosophy from St. Thomas University. At the outset of his work in archives, he set up apprenticeships for himself at the Provincial Archives of Ontario, at the Canadian Conservation Institute, and at the Mills Library at McMaster University. He also pursued in-house training in microfilm production and standards at the National Archives of Canada and that of the United States. He arranged working visits to archives and conservation centres in North America and Europe and, sought out other specialized and general courses. He attended workshops and seminars offered by a range of professionals, including engineers, archivists, conservators, curators and librarians on such topics as environmental control systems, exhibition techniques, papermaking, book binding, pest and fungal problems, data base management, digital imaging, library design and administration.

In this way, Harold equipped himself with the skills he needed for the tasks at hand, broadened his background in conservation and deepened his knowledge of the materials he was required to preserve and the agents that could cause their destruction. A major innovative technique that Harold mastered was leaf casting, a technique where new paper is "cast" to replace gaps and losses, or to add a new border to stabilize a fragile sheet.

Harold's approach on this subject was typical of the creative and innovative approach he took to challenges throughout his career. For instruction in leaf casting, he went to the Bavarian State Library, the Amsterdam Academy for Restoration and Folger's Library in Chicago. As always, he was creative and persistent in finding funding to support

his training; only rarely did he draw on the Archives budget.

Certified as a conservator by the Canadian Association of Professional Conservators in 1993, Harold has for many years applied his knowledge and commitment to preservation throughout New Brunswick. Through the Provincial Archives' outreach program, he has treated items, advised on storage and exhibit space, directed the work of contract conservators, and developed preservation policies and emergency preparedness plans for many archives in the province. He established and administers, for the Council of Archives of New Brunswick (CANB), a purchasing cooperative that identifies appropriate products for local institutions, buys in quantities that make them affordable, and distributes them on a cost recovery basis. Needless to say, he has often assisted in the recovery of water-damaged records in archives, school, university and public libraries, registry offices, central and regional government offices, and businesses all over the province.

Harold has been, for much of his career, the lone conservator in New Brunswick. Consequently, many people, among them museum and art curators and librarians, have turned to him for advice and assistance. He has delivered training courses for the CANB and for archivists in the Atlantic Provinces and elsewhere in Canada, and for a number of years the preservation component of the National Archives introductory program. He taught the conservation component in the Library Assistant Program offered at University of New Brunswick. He has served on the education committee of the Association of Museums New Brunswick and developed and delivered workshops for this organization.

In 1984, the Saint John Free Public Library enlisted Harold to assist in designing and planning a climate-controlled space in their new facility and coordinating a major restoration project to de-acidify, repair and appropriately box 1200 rare publications and manuscripts that would be placed in the new library's heritage room. Successful completion of this project led to establishment of a Conservation Cooperative that, under Harold's direction, has carried out of conservation work for clients throughout the province. The Co-op's work has included major studies of the preservation needs of all the holdings of the UNB Library system and of



**Harold Holland**  
(continued)

the Mount Allison Library. As a result, many records were conserved, including University of New Brunswick's treasured Winslow Papers.

Harold is a member of several national conservation associations and over his career has served on committees for museum, archival and library organizations. As a member of the Preservation Committee of the Canadian Council of Archives he was involved in securing the establishment of a \$5 million dollar annual granting program to implement a national conservation strategy. He has presented papers at professional meetings and has several publications to his credit; he was a principal contributor to the Museums Alberta Museum Excellence Series *Survivor's Guide to Emergency Preparedness* in 2001.

Harold's related interests have encompassed a major study at Kings Landing aimed at solving the dilemma of providing an environment suitable for both historic collections and the heritage buildings that house them. The practice current at the time was to attempt to achieve a humidity of 50% RH that was not attainable either in the heating season or the summer, a condition that while good for the collections was detrimental to the houses. Harold initiated a project in 1979 to evaluate various options for controlling the environment and the impact each option would have. The Museum Assistance Program and the Canadian Conservation Institute funded the research project, and the Forestry and Biology Departments of the University of New Brunswick assisted with research issues. Controlling humidity by varying the temperature was identified as a potentially viable solution that was further refined to establish the appropriate humidity at an achievable 40%RH. This environmental control technique is now used extensively, including in British Heritage properties and at the Anne of Green Gables Parks Canada site on Prince Edward Island.

Another such project was funded by a research grant from the Federal Government aimed at energy reduction in an older house. The techniques Harold

developed have been incorporated into energy efficient housing recommendations and standards.

A westerner by birth Harold grew up exploring the badlands of Alberta. He was a natural athlete who showed promise as a runner until his athletic career was cut short by an injury. He still surprised us with his prowess at our annual softball matches and brought some respectability to the Archives efforts at the departmental golf tourney. During summers while a student, and on long weekends and vacations since, Harold has indulged his love of travel, trading the freedom of hitchhiking for the security of his own automobile. Tenting in the wilderness is a particular interest. His wide reading emphasizes: professional literature, history, economic and social theories, and he has a strong social conscience.

It is difficult to do justice to Harold's career and to the contribution he has made to heritage and culture in New Brunswick. He is capable, committed, open-minded, fair, and has always been willing to share his expertise and to assist. He is well known not only in New Brunswick, but nationally and internationally as well, and is respected and considered a friend by colleagues and those he has helped or taught. He has made a difference ensuring that we know not only what must be done to save our artifactual and documentary heritage - but also that it *must* be done. Harold will continue to have an involvement with the Conservation Coop and the Conservation Plan for Canadian Archival Records; in fact, his challenge now will be in finding time to "retire."

The Associates in cooperation with the Council of Archives New Brunswick have established the Harold Holland Bursary that will support study and training to enhance skills and knowledge in preservation. It is intended to continue Harold's commitment to preservation and to teaching others about preservation and to benefit the entire community working toward the preservation of New Brunswick's heritage. Contributions can be sent to the Associates.



## Royal Visit Exhibit

In honour of the 50 years of dedicated service of Her Majesty, Queen Elizabeth II, to her country and the commonwealth, and to mark her visit to New Brunswick, the Provincial Archives has mounted a jubilee exhibit at Old Government House.

The exhibit traces the itinerary of Queen Elizabeth's four official visits to the province and illustrates the tributes of New Brunswickers on her coronation. Photographs highlight the special occasions and events Her Majesty celebrated with us and capture a sense of the excitement generated by her visits and the warm welcome she received from New Brunswickers. New Brunswick's heritage, culture, traditions, institutions, and people are reflected in

visits to institutions and heritage buildings, Christ Church Cathedral, the Parish of St. Joseph, the DVA hospital, and a heritage tour of Kings Landing as well as attendances at cultural performances in Wilmot Park, Woolastook and Shediac. Gifts given to the Royal visitors also reflect the talent of New Brunswickers – a book of poems by Fredericton poet Frank Sherman and hand-woven car-robies by the Loomcrofters of Gagetown.

A section of the exhibit was presented at the Sheraton Hotel for Her Majesty's viewing and an album of photographs was prepared for the Royal Suite. The exhibit was officially opened by Her Honour, Lieutenant Governor Marilyn Trenholme Counsell on October 8 and remains open at Old Government House until the end of December 2002.

## ACQUISITION OF NEW MATERIAL~~~~~

### Government Records

RS43 **Court of Appeal Records**, 1990-1997 105 pgs. Nominal Index to the Court of Appeal case files for the years noted.

RS116 **Records of the Chief Superintendent of Education**, 1896-1976 30 metres textual material 82 page finding aid.

RS632 **Records of the Minister of Education**, 1941-1997 8.3 metres textual material 22 page

finding aid.

RS671 **Fredericton Judicial District Causes**, 1979 30 pgs. Nominal Index to the case files F/C/1/79 to F/C/745/79.

RS749 **Campbellton Judicial District Probate Court Records**, 1984-1987 4 pgs. Nominal Index to the Probate files.

## Private Records

### New Finding Aids

MC3051 **Chisholm Lake Fishing Club fonds.**

MC3068 **Lower Ridge Women's Institute fonds.** Minutes etc., 1921-2001. 1 microfilm reel

MC3041 **James H. Holmes Ltd. fonds.** Cash book, 1927-1942, of Doaktown lumber firm.

MC223A3 **Parish of Andover fonds.** Vestry Minutes & Church Registers, 1846-1981. 2 microfilm reels (F22019, F22020)

MC223C4 **Parish of Canterbury fonds.** Register of Service & Church Register, 1879-1957. 1 microfilm reel (F22021)

MC223S9 **Parish of Salisbury & Havelock fonds.** Vestry Minutes & Church Registers, 1869-1972. 1 microfilm reel (F22022)

MC223S10 **Parish of Shediac fonds.** Vestry Minutes & Church Registers, 1822-1957. 1 microfilm reel (F22023)

MC223W2 **Parish of Westfield fonds.** Vestry Minutes & Church Registers, 1820-1953. 1 reel microfilm (F22024)

MC2656 **The Church Bell.** 1899-1943. 5 microfilm reels (F20004-F20008). Published by the two NB Parishes that Archdeacon H.A. Cody served - the Parish of Greenwich, Kings County, 1899-1905, and the Parish of St. James, Saint John, 1910-1943. The issues include Parish news and Sunday School publications from London that would have been of interest to other Parishes.

## Recent Acquisitions

MC2878 **Margaret Alexander Currie Diaries.** 1912-1916, 1918-1941, 1943-1951. Daughter of Samuel Leonard Currie of Fredericton Junction. Daily entries record weather, community, church and family activities and births and deaths in the area. They bear witness to a time now passed noting letters written and received, Sunday School for adults, quilting and Sewing Circle, visits made and received from family and friends.

MC3050 **The Chaleur Zephyr, Summer 1886.** Contains satirical pieces on the author's experiences in the Bay of Chaleur area.

MC451 **Thomas O. Miles Diaries.** **Maugerville farmer,** Justice of the Peace, Justice of the Inferior Court of Common Pleases, Member of House of Assembly. Photocopies & transcriptions, 1815-1817, 1847-1853 -supplement scattered years which PANB already had on microfilm. Entries record daily agricultural activities, land and livestock

dealings and information on legal functions performed in the community.

MC80/2690 **Eva by Hanna Tennenhaus** (Published by Aire Publishers, Bathurst, NB, 1959). 188 pages. Recounts details of the life of a young refugee fleeing from the injustice and terrorism of Hitlerism who spent her childhood near Nuremburg, Germany, shortly before WW II, found refuge in London, went to New York and finally to New Brunswick.

MC80/2481 **"Gloucester County Cemetery Inscriptions" by Florence (Gray) Godin and Patsy Hennessy.** 10 volumes of inscriptions from graveyards throughout the county, 1998-2000.

MC3060. **William C. Kitchen Collection.** Birds eye view of the Harbour of St John, 1908; lithographs, "City of St. John one week after the fire" [1877] and "Timber-Booms on the St. John River" c. 1878, from *London Illustrated News*.

**Acquisition of New Material**  
*(continued)*

**MC3058 Sisters of Charity of the Immaculate Conception (Saint John) Centenary in 1954.** 3 reels of 16 mm film - running time of 16 minutes. Scenes of sisters, schools, church interior, SMT bus, building construction.

**P547 James S. Neill (Fredericton) Scrapbook** (loaned for copying by member of the Neill family in Montreal) -- contains panoramic views of fishing in York and Northumberland Counties and many panoramic views of houses and street scenes in Fredericton.

## **Additions to Archives website**

Royal Visit Exhibit

## **Digitized images**

### **Old Soldiers and Widows Pension records**

Records relating to soldiers who fought as loyalists in the American Revolution (both Regular and Militia), moved to British North America along with thousands of other subjects loyal to King George in 1784, and who by the 1830s were in "distressed" conditions. They were affected by war wounds, had failed in farming or business, or had debilitating health problems and, because of their age, often did not have sufficient income to support themselves. In 1839 the House of Assembly passed 'An Act for the Relief of Old Soldiers of the Revolutionary War and their Widows' allowing the distressed soldiers or their widows to apply for a pension of ten pounds per annum.

Two major types of records resulted from the pension process: petitions and schedules of payments. The petitions contain much detail on the history and life of the old soldiers or their widows because applicants were required to relate how long they had been in New Brunswick, their economic condition, military service and, in the case of the widows, when and where they married the soldier. The second major type of document, the schedule of payments, contain less detail about the soldiers but names are listed and in many cases there is valuable information about the applicant.

### **Passenger Lists (RS23E) 1816-1838. 10,412 Records**

All extant passenger lists located at the Provincial Archives of New Brunswick have been indexed and digitized for this project. The database of immigrants contains 10,412 entries. Sadly, this represents only about 135 lists, a very small portion

of all immigrants to New Brunswick. All passengers are indexed as well as all crew members because immigrants may have worked their passage as seamen.

### **Births (RS141A5)**

Updated! Digitized images of the original record have been added for 1900-1901. More years will also be added as they are digitized.

**Extra! Extra!** is published twice yearly. Inquiries about the newsletter should be addressed to Paula Glendenning, c/o Provincial Archives of New Brunswick, P.O. Box 6000, Fredericton, New Brunswick, E3B 5H1, or via e-mail to [provincial.archives@gnb.ca](mailto:provincial.archives@gnb.ca)

The Board of Directors of **the Associates of the Provincial Archives of New Brunswick** 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 2001/2002 are: President, Gwen Davies, John Corey, Joseph Day, Cyril Donahue, Ernie Forbes, Joe Knockwood, Jocelyne LeBel, Frank Morehouse, Mark Pedersen, Betty Sewell, and Bill Spray.

**ARCHIVES WEB SITE** <http://archives.gnb.ca> provides general information on the Archives, its holdings, hours of operation and its programs as well as information on the Associates of the Archives. Also available are some general guides to holdings and genealogical guides for each county. Additional information continues to be added and existing information is updated to reflect changes in publications dealing with records management and electronic records, information on exhibits and finding aids, and growing databases.

**ASSOCIATES OF THE PROVINCIAL ARCHIVES OF NEW BRUNSWICK**

P.O. Box 6000, Fredericton, New Brunswick, E3B 5H1

Phone: (506) 453-2122 e-mail: [provincial.archives@gnb.ca](mailto:provincial.archives@gnb.ca)

If you wish to become an Associate, please complete the enclosed form. Contributions are welcome and tax receipts will be provided.