

Heritage/Archives
Newsletter
March, 2011

Here it is the end of another month and once again time for the newsletter from the Heritage and Archives Department.

March has been quite busy with visitors, several in person, however, most of the inquires were by e-mail and telephone. The majority of the queries were of a genealogical nature. Fortunately, I was able to offer help and also point them in the proper direction for further information.

The article in the Victoria Standard in March featured the former Rice House at Baddeck Forks. It had been built (circa) in the mid-1800's by Theophilus Rice, a local merchant. It was a private dwelling from the time of its construction until 1973 when it was purchased by two local business people who established a nine hole golf course which they operated for thirty-seven years. During that time, the old house served as the club house for the golf course. Just last month it was razed as the new owners are in the process of erecting a new club house and facilities. Although no longer extant, the Rice house has been documented as part of the built heritage of Victoria County.

The Heritage Cape Breton Connection held a board meeting in Baddeck at the Court House on Monday, 28th March. Along with proceeding with our re-branding initiative, plans for the annual meeting of the association were discussed. Because there are so many other events occurring in April, it was decided to hold the meeting on Saturday, 14th May. The venue is still being investigated, however, it was suggested that we approach the North Sydney Historical Society, to see if they would like to host the annual meeting. They have just recently relocated and moved into a new building. It would be a great opportunity for our membership to tour their new facility. There will be further information on the location of the meeting at the end of April. The Heritage Cape Breton Connection is an umbrella organization for heritage and cultural associations and interested individuals for the whole of Cape Breton. New members are always encouraged and most welcome to join.

The Baddeck & Area Historical Society met on Wednesday, 16th March in the Court House. There were eighteen members present. The major goal for the society this year is the interviewing of numerous senior citizens of the area. Already, some members have begun the process. The interviews will become part of the society's inventory of collected materials. Even though it was still March, the planning of the summer picnic was part of the discussion. Last August, the first picnic was held on the grounds of the first Baddeck Academy. It was extremely successful with over one hundred and fifty people who attended – both locals and visitors alike. It was decided to plan a similar event for the upcoming summer. Further details on the date, location, time, etc. will be available at a later date.

That is the news from the Heritage and Archives for March. Looking forward to reporting back next month. Wishing everyone a Happy Easter.