

Heritage/Archives Newsletter
February, 2005

February was yet another busy month at the Heritage and Archives Department.

The weather throughout the month was exceptional for February in Cape Breton, and it seemed to bring out more visitors than we would have normally have had.

Throughout the month, excluding the Open House on the 21st Feb., twenty people came by with a myriad of inquiries. Most of which, we were able to answer.

National Heritage Day on Monday, 21st February was celebrated in the Heritage and Archives by hosting an Open House throughout the afternoon. This was our third open house since the archives was established. It was a tremendous success with approximately forty people in attendance (most of whom stayed the entire afternoon). Among the visitors was a group of grade eleven students from Baddeck Academy accompanied by their teacher. They were interested in discovering historical information pertaining to their own local communities. As a result of that visit, the same group of students have already paid a subsequent visit and plan on returning later on in the spring.

Each year since the archives has come into being, more and more people in the area are becoming aware of our existence, and are commencing to undertake research projects using the materials housed in the archives. Hopefully, by making our presence known to the general public, we will cater to a much wider audience.

Municipal Council was well represented at the open house. Warden, Wayne Budge and District 4 Councillor, John Graham MacInnes were in attendance throughout afternoon greeting the many visitors. Special thanks to both these gentlemen for showing such a keen interest and being supportive of the endeavours of this department.

The Built Heritage of Nova Scotia project has gotten underway. For the next several weeks, the built heritage site forms completed to date in Victoria County will entered into a data base. This is phase one of this project which is being sponsored by the Province. Eventually, the whole of the Province's built heritage will be available on line.

That is our news for February – let's hope March turns out to be as nice as this past month. If so, some long overdue field work can take place.