

Heritage/Archives Newsletter **May 2005**

The month of May turned out to be, as anticipated, quite a busy one in the archives. Several people visited in person and others by either telephone or e-mail with various inquiries. The visitors from away are slowly starting to arrive and the archives was visited by a number of people from out of the local area. The local residents also dropped by as well.

On Thursday morning of the 5th of May, twelve guides and supervisors from the Alexander Graham Bell Museum spent the morning with our heritage and archives clerk. They were here for their annual visit during their two week training period before commencing work at the museum for the season. They were given a history of the origins of the Village of Baddeck and area. The heritage homes and buildings of the village were presented at this session and were very well received. The group was most interested in the history and the origins of the old buildings.

Our heritage/archives clerk attended three heritage related meetings during the month. Two were for the Iona Connection Board and the third was for the Heritage Trust of Nova Scotia. They held their annual meeting in Baddeck on Saturday, the 28th of May. They were very supportive and encouraging concerning the work which is being carried out in Victoria County regarding the built heritage and inventory of the heritage properties.

Now that the weather is finally improving and before the leaves come out completely, the heritage inventory clerk will be getting out in the field in order to locate and photograph more of our built heritage.

On Saturday, 21st of May, the Cape Breton Post featured a whole page with a story on the origins of the Iona Connection and its role in the heritage community at the present time. Victoria County Heritage and Archives is represented in this organization as our heritage/archives sits on the board in the capacity of vice-president.

Just before the month ended, the archives was asked to assist a grade eleven student from Baddeck Academy with research for a project/paper on one our former heritage buildings – The White Store (which was located on the main street) . This wonderful old store was destroyed by fire in December, 1973. Information was gathered and passed on to the student. Of interest to note is that several requests arrive each school year, both locally and from schools outside the County whereby students are seeking information of an historical nature. The heritage and archives department , on every occasion , has been able to provide assistance to these students.

That is the news from here for the month of May. Looking forward to a busy June – both in the archives and out in the field. Watch for the newsletter at the end of June, 2005.