

Heritage/Archives Newsletter
June, 2007

July is fast approaching which all of a sudden has just become a reality with me so, therefore, it is time, once again, for the monthly newsletter.

The month of June slipped past, as do all the others, quite quickly – despite the cold, dark and damp weather. One can count on a single hand the “nice” days which we experienced here in Victoria County throughout the month.

The number of visitors to the archives continued to be quite steady with twelve people dropping by. Also, there were several e-mail and telephone inquiries with a multitude of inquiries. For the most part, these requests were looked after successfully.

Work was carried out at the Library for a day on sorting through the materials housed there by the Baddeck Public Library Society. The end appears to be in sight and a few more days should see the project completed. It is hoped that the archival materials will be deposited here in the Archives where they will be accessible to the public.

The featured building which appeared in the “Victoria Standard” for June was the former Hart Store/ Royal Bank. This building, if it were still standing, would be one hundred and forty-six years old. It was first owned by Joseph Hart, a prominent businessman, who settled in Baddeck having come from the Margaree area in 1863. It was later owned by his sons, Charles and Albert Hart. In 1904, the Union Bank of Halifax purchased the store and converted it into a banking institution and then it was taken over by the Royal Bank of Canada and it served the people of Baddeck and areas for several decades. The present bank was built on the same site. I am sure that many of the readers will remember when the bank was operating from this building.

Once again, I am having to don my “election” hat. A by-election has been called August 18th in District No. 1. Over the next six weeks I will be assisting the returning officer with preparations for this election. Now that some “sunny” weather seems to be on the way, I hope to get out and about with the camera and notebook and get some field work completed.

That is the news for June. The archives will be closed on Friday, 29th July as I will be taking an extra long holiday weekend. Happy Canada Day on the 140th anniversary of our great country. I look forward to reporting back at the end of July. Welcome to Summer!