

## **Heritage/Archives Newsletter** **October, 2006**

Just one more day to go and we will be into another new month. As with September, October arrived and now it is nearly at an end – the time seems to simply fly by these days, weeks, and months.

Throughout October, twenty people visited the archives in person while several others visited via e-mail and the telephone.

I was able to get out and about on a few occasions during the month in order to work on the built heritage inventory project. There were a number of exceptionally “nice” autumn days and I took advantage of those when it was possible to get away.

On Saturday, 21<sup>st</sup> October, I journeyed up to Cape North for the semi-annual meeting of the Iona Connection Co-Operative general membership meeting. Unfortunately, it was wet and rainy, particularly on the way up, and as I was looking forward to seeing the last of the fall colours, I was rather disappointed. We met at the new North Highlands Community Museum - the museum being the host for the meeting. Approximately twenty members were in attendance along with Paul Collins of the Nova Scotia Museum and Susan Charles of the Federation of Nova Scotia Heritage. Prior to and following our meeting, we were able to take a tour of this wonderful facility. Myself and everyone who were in attendance were extremely impressed with the building and the exhibits. It is well worth a trip to Cape North to experience this really well appointed museum. Thanks to the members of the North Highlands Museum for providing us with a delicious lunch. The annual general meeting will be held at the end of April, 2007. The location is yet to be decided.

The featured building in the “Victoria Standard for the month was the Telegraph House which was constructed in 1860 and is the oldest business in continuous operation in the Village of Baddeck. It was built by David Dunlop who came to this area in and around 1858 – he was in charge of the installation of the telegraph cables all over the island. I chose this building at this particular time in order to be able to pay a small tribute to Mrs. Mary Dunlop one of the proprietors of the charming old hotel for over fifty years. Mary lent charm, grace and friendliness to all who entered over the threshold of the hotel. She will be sadly missed not only in the community but by visitors from near and far who were accommodated in the Telegraph House.

The members of St. Mark’s Masonic Lodge in Baddeck are desirous of having the lodge recognized as a Municipal Heritage Property. The wheels have been put in motion and before the month ends, we will be recording the notice of recommendation to register the property. The first St. Mark’s came into being in 1875 when William Kidston and his wife, Margaret Ann gave a piece of land situated on the corner of Grant and Queen Streets to the Masonic Order which had been established at that time. That first building burnt in 1896 and was replaced by the present building which was constructed in 1898.

This will be first building to be registered in quite awhile so, I am looking forward to having a little plaquing ceremony hopefully before the year is out.

Well, that the news for October. Happy All Hallows Eve everyone.