

Heritage/Archives  
Newsletter  
March, 2010

Well here it is – the end of March already. It went by so quickly as most of the months seem to do. The fantastic weather we enjoyed with record temperatures was certainly a plus.

Everything has been busy as usual at the Archives. A steady stream of visitors both in person and via e-mail kept me busy in helping them with research of one kind or another. Mainly genealogical inquires, however, some inquiries as to old buildings as well.

The building featured for the March article in the “Victoria Standard” newspaper was the MacMillan house located on the main street in the Village of Baddeck. It is now eighty years old having been built in 1930 for Dr. C.L. MacMillan. Dr. MacMillan came to Baddeck following his graduation from Dalhousie University where he attained his medical degree. He practices medicine in Victoria County for nearly four decades until his retirement in the mid 1960’s due to health reasons. He was a household name in the local area and indeed throughout the entire county. This house served the dual purpose of family dwelling and doctor’s office and clinic. During the years that Dr. MacMillan practiced medicine, this house was a busy spot with a steady stream of people coming and going. The original building on this same site was destroyed by the big fire of 1926 when many of Baddeck’s structures on the main street were lost. Of interest to note, that another of Baddeck’s earlier medical doctors, Dr. John A. MacIver, a native of Little Narrows, once occupied the first building and carried on his medical practice on this very same site.

The AGM of the Iona Connection will be held on Saturday, 10<sup>th</sup> April at the Bras d’Or Lakes Inn in St. Peters beginning at 10:30 a.m. Lunch will be available at a cost of \$10.00 per person. There is a notice of motion for a proposed name change of the organization from the Iona Connection to Heritage Cape Breton Connection. This name change has been proposed for quite awhile. The rationale being that Heritage Cape Breton Connection would be more encompassing than the former name. Everyone with an interest in heritage on Cape Breton is most welcome and encouraged to attend.

It my intent before too long, and before the leaves come out to get out of the office from time to time in order to continue recording the built heritage in the county. The heritage buildings north of Cape Smokey need to be inventoried and the spring is the best time to work on the inventory.

That is our news from the Heritage and Archives Department for March. Happy Easter to everyone.

