

AMNB ALERT

Spring 2010

ASSOCIATION MUSEUMS
NEW BRUNSWICK



Volume 1, Issue 1
April 2010



President's Message

Hello friends in the museum world,

On this lovely day, I greet you. After a mild and calm winter, spring is here. Once again, it is time for the final preparations for our tourist season which is close upon us. And we must certainly not forget the student projects, the requests for grants, the volunteers, etc.

We know that our summer season is at our door and most of us will have to face short periods of intensity; that is why I invite you to take a moment to enjoy this lovely time, take a breath, appreciate life's beauties and then experience the moments of intensity with your students, co-workers, employees, etc.

You may also have noticed that Association Museums New Brunswick (AMNB) is trying to

be omnipresent among you, its members. This is why you received the first of three surveys this past February. We appreciated your responses very much. The suggestions will be taken into consideration as soon as possible, if they have not been already.

From today on, you will therefore find a link on our site to respond to the second part that asks your opinion on training/education. The third component will be sent to you in May. These short surveys are intended to be a tool for us to reposition ourselves in relation to your needs.

We also need your help to continue making our newsletter even more interesting. We are now awaiting your stories, events, successes and photos. Don't hesitate to contact Chantal at our office, who is anxious to add to our upcoming publications.

Finally, I invite you to think about AMNB's awards program and consider your nominations. I also encourage you to visit our constantly updated website so you can be the first to know the details of our next conference!

I wish you luck in your preparations. Until next time!

Lyne Bard



Photo by: Studio Concept Images

AMNB News

Hello Friends,

In the past three months we have been busy with serving you our members and friends. Our Board members and various committee's priority has been to send out surveys so as to receive your feedback on which direction our Association should take, this is still a work in progress but survey two is out today. The membership committee feel the importance that our association become personal. We have been planning to send our Administrative Assistant, Chantal Brideau, out to visit with you during your Zone meetings so that you may get to know her and learn what the association has to offer. The advocacy committee has been busy sending letters, via the President Lyne Bard, to our government. The first letter was to address Bill 7 and express our support to this long awaited change to our Conservation Act. To this we received heartfelt thanks for our support from different levels of government. The second letter was to address the minimum wage and its impact on the SEED programs and consequently the impact for us to provide services to our public. To this letter we received support from our government to say that these

things will be taken into consideration when the minimum wage will again be discussed. The conference committee has been quite busy preparing and planning a wonderful conference for this coming October. You may view the updates periodically on the website www.amnb.ca. Along with producing this newsletter, we have also been busy refresh-

ing the website with updates to the membership directory, a new links page for resources and the AGM 2010 and generally doing our best to stay current. We value your opinion and your input therefore please send us your ideas, knowledge, events, stories so that we may share them with all in our next newsletter.



Your
AMNB
Board

Important message

You recently received an e-mail announcing the availability of certain presentations that took place at our conference last October. Please note that these presentations are only available in the language they were submitted. We thank you in advance for your understanding!

Inside this issue:

School Days Museum	2
Saint Isidore Church	3 and 7,8
Sister Dorina Frigault	4
Heritage Branch	4
Stamp of Riordon Mill	5
Social Media by Ruth Murgatroyd	6
Events and Committees	9

A Visit to the “School Days” Museum

by Kaye Lister

A visitor to the 'School Days' Museum steps into the entrance of the recreated one-room school and observes a large map of New Brunswick on the wall. She notices surrounding the map are photos of a number of one-room schoolhouses which once existed in the province. Looking more closely at the interesting exhibit, she hopes to find a picture of the little schoolhouse in the rural community where she and her childhood friends had been taught "The Three R's". Her memory takes her back to the little old-fashioned desk where she sat, of the initials carved into the desk tops, of the teacher who taught so many grades in that one little room, of the potbellied stove which tried in vain to heat the room on cold winter days, and of the two little comfort houses out back, one for the girls and one for the boys.

With such nostalgia still fresh in her mind, she proceeds further into the Museum and there before her is the recreated schoolroom, just as she had pictured it in her mind. Other visitors are mingling about, some of the younger ones sitting at the antique desks, experiencing what it was like to write their names on the slates. Over at a side wall a number of visitors are looking at a display of students' seat work hung from a cord with old-fashioned clothespins. On the teacher's old-fashioned desk is the proverbial apple resting near a large bottle of ink which was used to refill the children's ink wells. A quaint water cooler sits nearby, which once waited for thirsty schoolmates to take turns drinking from the common long-handled dipper. However, she recalls that at her little school, the drinking water was kept in only a bucket. On the window sill sits a Domestic Shortening pail, a replica of what she and her brother carried their lunches in so many years ago.

She leaves the schoolroom and enters another room, glancing about as she sees before her hundreds of items once used in school days gone by. Among the many items in the commercial display is a typewriter used so very long ago in the schools, the dull nickel and paint now tarnished from much use. On it she notices two sets of keyboards, one for the capital letters while the other contains the lower case letters.

A photo display catches her attention. Upon looking closer she discovers pictures of young graduating teachers, some as far back as the early 1900's. Yet a closer look reveals that one of them is her mother who had graduated from the Provincial Normal School in 1919. One of the tour guides offers to photocopy the picture for her and she continues her tour with the treasured souvenir in her hand.

While browsing through more of the exhibits, she strikes up a conversation with a gentleman visitor who tells her that for years he had tried to remember the words of a poem which was in one of his school readers. Not only did he find the poem at the Museum today but he was delighted to find the actual reader itself and plans to purchase a copy of it from the Museum's display of "Books for Sale".

Upon questioning the tour guides about the background of the Museum's existence, she learns that it all began about twenty years ago when some teachers began to collect some early school artifacts and stored them in the basement of a retired teacher's home. Eventually several rooms in the former Provincial Normal School were made available as a location to exhibit such items through the cooperation of the Supply and Services Department of the New Brunswick Government.

Throughout the years, further donations of early textbooks, artifacts and financial assistance have come from many former teachers, students and interested individuals, as well as from various branches of the New Brunswick Society of Retired Teachers. In addition, federal and provincial grants have allowed for expansion at the Museum and



Harry Palmer and Robert Hawkes

for employment of university students as tour guides during the summer months. She learns that the Museum is open to visitors by appointment during the remaining months of the year and that dedicated Board Members and volunteers meet weekly during those months to carry out the business matters necessary to operate a successful museum.

She spends many enjoyable moments in the exhibit room, recalling how she used many similar antique artifacts during her own school days. Before leaving, she signs the guest book and then glances at the many signatures entered on its pages by other visitors ... why, there must be hundreds of names here! How surprised she is to see that some have travelled from as far away as New Zealand, Japan and the British Isles. She is given a brochure made available to visitors and upon reading it discovers that the Museum has a Website! She decides that upon returning home she will be able to visit the Museum again, this time on line at <http://museum.nbta.ca> to no doubt learn more about this interesting project. She then drops a contribution into the donation box to help defray some of the expenses to keep this wonderful piece of history available to all who wish to take a trip down 'Memory Lane'. As she leaves the building and steps out into today's modern world, she makes a vow to return some day to once again take a peek into the interesting past of her early childhood education.

The "School Days" Museum is located in the Annex of the Justice Building, Queen Street, Fredericton. Tours may be arranged by phoning 506-459-3738.

We regret to announce that Mr. Cole Morison, director of the AMNB, has left to pursue other opportunities. Following his departure, Mrs. Barb McIntyre will now be the chair of the Honour and Awards Committee and David Desjardins will occupy the position of chair of the Membership committee. We wish to thank Cole for his help and valuable support during his service to our association and wish him every success in his new pursuits. Feel free to contact the persons mentioned in all matters concerning their respective committees.

Saint-Isidore Church

Father Louis Gagnon dit Belles-Iles founded our parish in 1875. He was originally from Trois-Pistoles, Quebec, the same place where a magnificent church on which construction would start in 1885. That cathedral-sized church is the pride of the local people there. Several families with ancestors from that area came to establish themselves here in St. Isidore. What a coincidence!

The first wooden church, built in 1878, had become too small. It was 40 by 30 feet in size and built of boards cut with a pit saw.

It was not Father Gagnon's idea to build the church out of stone, but the parishioners insisted. Shippagan and Grand-Anse were building theirs in stone, and [they] did not want to be left behind. [Father Gagnon] explained to the parishioners that those parishes were older and bigger. A founder of the parish, old John Drysdelle, said, and I quote, "It is really nothing. The Good Lord put Lebanese cedars on the mountains of Lebanon so that the Temple of Jerusalem could be constructed, and He put stone all along the river here, so we will transport the stone where we must." End quote. During this public meeting held on May 18, 1903, when the Bishop of Chatham Diocese, Monsignor Thomas Berry, was in attendance, it was decided to build the church out of stone.

The services of architect and appraiser Thomas Raymond from Saint-Roch, Quebec City, were retained in order to develop plans for the church. Those original plans are kept in the Provincial Archives of New Brunswick and show the exact construction details. One interesting example of those details is that the total height of the church, to the top of the cross, is 170 feet. There are few buildings on the peninsula today that reach that height. Thomas Raymond was one of the 14 founding members of the Province of Quebec Association of Architects, which was incorporated on December 30, 1890. Thomas Raymond was one of its presidents in 1910.

Monsignor Berry designated the location for the church on November 18, 1903. The stone supply came from two quarries. The main one was located about 12 miles away behind Haut Tilley Road along the Tracadie River. The other was in Duguayville toward St. Rose on the boundary between Paquetville and St. Isidore parishes. At the stone quarry, excavation was done by hand. There was no machinery then, and the stones were taken out one by one using skids (which they called timbers). They put them on [dry ground] and squared them before transporting them to the church, where masons cut them to size. A workday moving the stone started at four o'clock in the



morning and ended late at night.

Finally, in 1904, excavation work started, using horse-drawn shovels with handles. That same year, masonry work started under the direction of Albert Boulet, master mason from Beauport, Quebec. That year, he worked alone on the worksite. At the end of the fall, he returned to Quebec and then came back to work in the spring. From 1905 to 1908, Boulet had stonemasons and assistants. In 1906, Peter Cool, Xavier Brideau and Bruno Losier formed a team with the master mason. Boulet was 61 years old when he finished his work at St. Isidore. He was a well-known master mason. Starting in 1883, he repaired the Lamèque church bell tower.

In the spring of 1908, the first columns were put in place. The parishioners supplied a hundred spruces for the planks and 800 logs to be transformed into boards. That spring, David Haché's steam sawmill started operating, and it processed the framing timber and sheathing for the church. Joseph Bédard directed the church's exterior finish work in 1908 and the interior work until 1912. Joseph Bédard was a contractor who had worked on the finishing of several churches in the diocese. He also made high altars in his workshop on Rue Sainte-Claire in the Saint-Jean neighbourhood in Quebec City.

The dedication of the new church took place in December 1908. At that

Continued on page 7

Journal of New Brunswick Studies

Tony Tremblay, Professor, St. Thomas University

Call for Papers

Journal of New Brunswick Studies/Revue d'études sur le Nouveau-Brunswick

We are pleased to announce an open Call for Papers for the newly created *Journal of New Brunswick Studies/Revue d'études sur le Nouveau-Brunswick*.

JNBS/RÉNB is an online, multidisciplinary journal that will feature peer-reviewed research and commentary about New

Brunswick in English and French. The only such journal of its kind in New Brunswick, *JNBS/RÉNB* seeks to become a forum for ideas and debate about the province and its place in the wider Canadian and global contexts.

We are currently inviting material for our second issue, slated for release in Fall 2011. We are interested in work that examines New Brunswick from social, historical, cultural, and policy-related perspectives. Our aim is to publish thoughtful writing that engages a wide readership in an ongoing conversation about the province.

The submission deadline for our next issue is 31 March 2011. Articles should be no more than 10,000 words, including notes and references, and will be subject to peer review. We accept articles in English and French, and invite multi-media addenda, whether audio or visual. All submissions must arrive in current MLA format.

To query ideas or learn more about *JNBS/RÉNB*, please contact the editor:

editor.jnbs@stu.ca

Sister Dorina Frigault

In recognition Sister Dorina Frigault the Board of Directors met for dinner February 3, 2010, in order to express their gratitude before her departure from Tracadie-Sheila to Bathurst. Sister Frigault founded the Historical Museum of Tracadie inc. in 1968 it was incorporated in 1978. During the years she was president, vice-president, secretary, treasurer and an advisor within the Board. It is with great regret that we accept her resignation after 32 years of voluntary service to our museum. She also received the "Award of Merit" in 1989 from the Association Museums New Brunswick.

Photo: front: left to right:

Sis Zelica Daigle, Sis. Dorina Frigault, Levon Savoy

Standing: left to right: Marie-Jeanne Savoie, Jean-Paul Robichaud, Victor Luce, Pierre Benoit, Andree Losier and Losier Arisma, Absent: Frances Dufault



HERITAGE BRANCH

Dear Friends of Heritage:

We are pleased to provide you with electronic versions of the programs offered by the Heritage Branch.

By accessing the government's website at www.gnb.ca (keyword: Heritage), under Museum Services Section, you can now find the background documents in PDF format. The forms themselves are presented in an interactive format so that you can enter the pertinent information in the appropriate fields. You can record your information, print a copy, and send it to us, duly signed, at the address indicated.

For organizations without Internet access, we invite you to contact Ms. Kim Fila, at (506) 453-2324.

This year, for both Community Museums and some Historical Societies, we have changed the question related to "Attendance at your institution during last year" to be more consistent with the Tourism and Parks Attraction Form. We understand that all of the requested data may not be available at the moment, but we strongly recommend that each individual organization start using the attached form this summer.

You are also being asked, on a monthly basis, to send your collected information to Maria Ferreira at Tourism and Parks (maria.ferreira@gnb.ca) or faxed to (506) 462-2318. This dedicated effort will be very useful to the museum network, the Heritage Branch and to the Department of Tourism and Parks as we all want to have a better understanding of where our visitors are coming from.

Please note that it is important to provide adequate information so that we are able to analyze your application properly. Incomplete documentation will slow down its processing and may result in an unsuccessful application.

If you have any questions, feel free to contact Guy Tremblay, Manager, Museum Services, at (506) 444-5892.

I would like to take this opportunity to wish your organization much success in all of its endeavours.

Sincerely,

Wayne Burley

Director, Heritage Branch

The time has come for you to nominate a candidate for a

2010 AMNB Award
to be presented at our annual conference.

For more information please visit our website www.amnb.ca

or

***contact Barb McIntyre at
quaco@nbnet.nb.ca***

New Stamp featuring the Riordon Mill launched Jan 15, 2010

RIVIÈRE-DU-NORD (CNB) – A new stamp featuring the Riordon grist mill at the Village Historique Acadien (VHA) near Caraquet was unveiled today by Canada Post at the VHA site.

The Riordon Mill was destroyed by fire in 1888, rebuilt and opened around 1890. It consisted of a sawmill, grist mill, and wool-carding mill, all operated by hydraulic power. The grist mill ceased operations in 1914 because of a dispute between Thomas Riordon and a company that repaired rollers for crushing grain.

When the decision was made to transport the Riordon Mill to the VHA site, it was in bad condition. The VHA team managed to save 80 per cent of the structure and machinery. After the grist mill was restored, it opened to the public in the early 1980s. Major repairs were also made in 2009 to preserve the building.

“We are pleased that Canada Post chose the Riordon Mill for this issue of stamps,” said Clarence LeBreton, executive director of the VHA and assistant deputy minister of Tourism and Parks. “This confirms that restoring the Riordon Mill during the 1980s was a wise choice and it also highlights the importance of Irish families in Acadian history of the 19th century.”

The new stamps feature the following five historic mills in Canada :

the Riordon Grist Mill in Caraquet, New Brunswick;

the Cornell Mill in Stanbridge East, Quebec;

the Watson Mill in Manotick, Ontario;

the Old Stone Mill National Historic Site of Canada in Delta, Ontario; and

the Keremeos Grist Mill, in British Columbia.

“Mills have helped shape the course of our country’s social and economic development for more than 200 years,” said Douglas Bateman, of Canada Post. “Mills were the first factories, combining natural

power and machinery to do the work of many men. These stamps celebrate the important contribution that mills have made to the history of our nation.”

The design of each stamp emphasizes each mill’s defining attributes and has an early summer look and feel. The names of the mills are hidden with microtype on each of the stamps.

Each stamp measures 23.25 mm by 20.25 mm (horizontal) and has simulated perforations. The stamps are general tagged on four sides. They are available in booklets of 10 and 30 stamps and souvenir sheets of five stamps.

MEDIA CONTACTS: Myriam Léger, Public Relations Officer, Village Historique Acadien, myriam.leger@gnb.ca, 506-726-2600; Philippe Basque, Historian, Village Historique Acadien, philippe.basque@gnb.ca, 506-726-2600; Geneviève Latour, manager of external communications, Canada Post, 902-494-4074, geneviPve.latour@canadapost.postescanada.ca



International Museums Day



On May 18, Celebrate International Museum Day. Our museums help Canadians understand our history and articulate our role in today's changing environment. Our museums do their part to safeguard, increase awareness and promote the diverse heritage of Canadian society, allowing Canadians to learn and grow, individually and collectively.

Since 1977, International Museum Day has been celebrated around the world. Each year, the International Council of Museums (ICOM) selects a theme. (Visit the ICOM web site at www.icom.museum/imd.html for more detail)

You can get involved in Canada's dynamic museum community. To find a museum in your community or area, visit the Museums and Events page on the Virtual Museum of Canada (VMC): <http://www.museevirtual-virtualmuseum.ca>

The 2010 theme for International Museums Day is Museums for social harmony.

On the website of The International Council of Museums, http://icom.museum/doc/imd2010_links.html, you will find pdf files in both English and French on these subjects in reference to this year's theme:

Kits - Introducing the International Day Kit

- Theme Presentation Kit
- Visual Identity Kit
- Activities Kit
- Press Kit
- Documents and Info
 - Activities around the world
 - Bibliography
 - Theme Statement

- Examining Social Harmony (file in two pages) by Amareswar Galla
- How museums can promote and contribute to social harmony by An Laishun
- Contributing to a better world by Tereza Scheiner
- Museums and Social Harmony: An Interpretation by W. Richard West, Jr.
- Social Harmony in Museums

- Launch of International Museum Day: Almost 100 countries on the starting blocks for the 2010 edition—Press Release

Download the poster in High Resolution

- Original Version
- Version with blank space

To customize the poster contact:
communication@icom.museum

Social Media

When I joined the York Sunbury Museum (YSM) team, I felt fortunate to work in this beautiful stone historic building known as the Officers' Quarters. Knowing from the start the YSM lacked community awareness I looked for semi-free marketing avenues to market the Museum on a small budget. The YSM had launched its website about 10 months before I started and when I Googled the Museum I had a difficult time finding it. The website could not benefit the Museum if people could not locate it on-line.

I decided to take advantage of free on-line resources to create awareness amongst the community and tourists. Personally, I use the internet to find the latest news about events and festivals in Fredericton as well as to plan family outings, vacations and day trips. I started to cater my on-line marketing to people who use the web as I do and to take the YSM to the first page of a Google search. I started out simply. Google loves links and frequently updated websites so I linked and expanded the YSM's website and saw results in about five months.

As a dedicated Facebook user, I started an [YSM Facebook](#) fan page; it's cheap, quick and indexed in Google searches. I can manage the page myself and it gave me a venue to interact with people who enjoy history and museums. I use it to keep friends and fans updated on what is happening at the Museum using notes, event listings, pictures and feeds. On occasion, I have been able to engage fans in conversations, which is always a rewarding challenge.

If you set up a Facebook fan page, establishing a fan base will require some encouragement on your part. Most of your early fans will be your friends and relatives but their friends will join and it will grow from there. I was thrilled when the YSM had its first fan that I did not already know. It was a wonderful feeling of accomplishment and now the page has several! As the community grows, it is important that you maintain an active role in your page. A quiet fan page is not going to engage the community and you will lose fans whereas positive interaction with your community will create relationships that will benefit your museum.

Facebook

Join us on Facebook!

The New Brunswick Heritage Education Special Interest Group now has a Facebook page! This is an excellent way to keep informed (and inform others) about heritage education initiatives that will benefit all of us.

Our facebook page can be found at: <http://www.facebook.com/home.php#!/pages/Fredericton-NB/New-Brunswick-Heritage-Education-Special-Interest-Group/192365020863?v=wall>



facebook

[Sign Up](#)

The York Sunbury Museum is on Facebook

Sign up for Facebook to connect with The York Sunbury Museum.



The York Sunbury Museum

[Wall](#) [Info](#) [Photos](#) [Boxes](#) [Events](#) [Notes](#) >

Basic Info

Location:

571 Queen Street
Fredericton, NB, E3B 5C8
(506) 455-6041

Phone:

Tues - Sat:

1:00 pm - 4:00 pm

Detailed Info

Website:

<http://www.yorksunburymuseum.com/>
<http://yorksunburymuseum.wordpress.com/>
<http://twitter.com/YSMuseum>
<http://www.fred-e-zone.ca/webcams/?cam=oq>

Parking:

Public Transit:

The City Transit drops off about 3 blocks from the Museum. Get off at King's Place, turn left down Carleton and right onto Queen!

Information

Location:

571 Queen Street
Fredericton, NB, E3B 5C8

Phone:

(506) 455-6041
Tues - Sat:
1:00 pm - 4:00 pm

Web 2.0 marketing is an inexpensive tool, requires little effort but takes planning. I would not recommend that small museums follow all the web marketing trends unless it is a planned team effort. Facebook was my first choice because it provided a variety of features that I could do by myself. After Facebook, I ventured into blogging but I had my summer students set it up and actively participate. One of my students set up a Twitter account but linked it to the fan page and blog so that, in most cases, one updates the other. This saves me time and energy until my summer students return and assist with on-line marketing again.

Ruth Murgatroyd is the Executive Director of the York Sunbury Historical Society and Museum

Survey #2

The Association Museums New Brunswick exists to help you, the members, but if it is to do that, it needs a bit of help from you. We want guidance about services the association should offer its members. That's why we're asking you to answer the following questions. It should only take a few minutes. Just click reply, type in your responses and click send.



<http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/DH6ZGMN>

Please send your responses as soon as possible so they can be considered prior to the next teleconference.

If there are issues not covered above that you wish to bring to the attention of the board, please address an e-mail to AMNB or to a board member.

Saint-Isidore Church cont.

time, the exterior of the church was completed except for the top of the bell tower, which was finished in 1910. The interior of the church and the sacristy were only finished in boards. The boiler for the central heating system and the radiators worked. The completion of woodwork, plastering, gilding and pew installation had yet to be done. Despite his ill health, Father Gagnon celebrated the first mass there in the presence of his parishioners, fellow priests and several dignitaries.

Father Alfred Trudel had already assumed responsibility for the construction before the church was dedicated in 1908. He completed the construction of the bell tower and the interior finish work up until 1910, when Father Bernier arrived here in St. Isidore. Father Alfred Trudel, originally from Prince Edward Island, was a very robust man with extraordinary ability. He took care of his Paquetville parish and the St. Isidore parish at the height of construction.

The arrival of Father George Bernier, a native of St. Basile on the Madawaska River, the new parish priest who was there from 1910 to 1924, certainly marked a new era in which the finish work on wood-work, plastering, gilding and pew installation were completed. Joseph Bédard continued the woodwork, including the communion table, high altar, pews and walls along the pews. The heads and florets of the ends of the pews and the high altar were made in his workshop in Quebec City. When he had to be absent, he charged Philippe à Olivier Duclos with directing the work. Jos Dumaresq constructed sections of pews for the church. When the heads and florets of the ends of the pews arrived from Joseph Bédard's workshop, the pews were then put together.

After 1912, the interior finish work was entrusted to master carpenter Lavoie de Cacouna near Rivière-du-Loup. He also performed the interior finish work on our magnificent Norman-style presbytery. The [fond des Slâles] woodwork (walls around the sanctuary) was completed in about 1917 because the construction plans available in the provincial archives are inscribed with "Quebec 24 Feb. 1917." The finish work during Father Bernier's presence is difficult to retrace because pages about the construction are missing from that time. What a shame!

There is a popular expression, "if the walls could talk," and that expression is certainly true for this church. Yes, because several workers left notes there. For example, on the back of a moulding behind the choir, the following note is written: "1914, Xavier Jean 54 years old, Émile Landry 34 years old."

Although now we cannot identify the actual people who did it, we know that the gilding was completed in 1917. According to several witnesses, when it arrived from the supplier, the gilding for plaster surfaces consisted of packets of thin sheets of 22-carat gold about 4" x 4" in size, each sheet separated by a piece of paper. When they wanted to cover a surface with gold, they first painted the surface with yellow glue. The gold sheets stuck only where there was glue, and the rest of the sheets fell on the floor. Sometimes people picked up little bits of those gold sheets as souvenirs.

The composition of the church's plaster walls is in the following order from the outside in:

- Constructing exterior walls in stone;
- Assembling the framing;
- Setting 1" wide by 3/4" thick by 3' long wood laths spaced 1/4" apart;
- Parging comprised of cement, sand, animal hair and water;
- Putting down a layer of plaster approximately 1/4" thick;
- Ornamenting plaster;
- Painting plaster surfaces and
- Gilding.



The woodwork in this church is maple and sometimes birdseye maple. There is some birdseye maple woodwork on the communion table and some of the pews. That is where the birdseye maple is visible. The presence of birdseye maple in this church could be considered the tip of the iceberg. I'll explain. A letter from Lorenzo Lang of Grand Falls tells us that Monsignor Bernier's nephew, Monsignor Eymard Desjardins, told Mr. Lang the following anecdote about Monsignor Bernier, and I quote: "When my uncle arrived in St. Isidore, the construction of the church (the framing) was finished. The interior was left to do. The parishioners heated the church with sugar maple (where birdseye maple comes from), which was very expensive for stove wood. The people did not know the difference. Did Monsignor Bernier have the interior of the church finished with birdseye maple, which the people covered afterwards?" An explanation here is appropriate. Birdseye maple is very hard wood to split, and because it was too big to burn in parishioners' stoves and furnaces, it was burned in the huge church boiler, which the parishioners gave to the church pay their tithes or toward their annual pew purchases.

Father Alfred Lang arrived in the parish in 1924. He was originally from Madawaska, Clair more precisely. He stayed in the parish to complete the following projects:

- The painting over the central altar representing Saint Isidore, patron of labourers, was commissioned in 1928. The painting is the work of Sister Marie-de-l'Eucharistie of the Sœurs de la charité de Québec. When it arrived, the canvas was rolled up like a rug. Jos Godin was responsible for making the frame, putting the canvas in it and mounting the painting above the altar. He also worked on finishing the sacristy.
- In 1928, the Stations of the Cross with semi-detached plaster characters replaced the one with black frames and printed images. The old Stations of the Cross, still here in St. Isidore, had also been used in the first church.
- The sacristy was completed in 1930. Peter Dumaresq made the vestries and the communion table. The walls, ceiling and gilding were completed at the same time as the church.
- On August 30, 1930, two new bells were installed in the bell tower. The smaller one, already in place, had been moved from the first church. The three bells were baptized "Small, Medium and Large."

Continued on page 8

Saint-Isidore Church concl.

- In 1931, mason Damase DeGurchy from Grand-Anse constructed the perrons and two stone tambours.
- Electricity was established in 1940 in the church, thus marking the end of the era of oil and kerosene lamps.

From Father Marquis's time in 1950, the addition of two angels on each side of the perrons was the end of the work that created the appearance of the St. Isidore church we still see today.

A book on the construction of the St. Isidore church is being written. Several parts of my speech have been drawn from this forthcoming book and from that of Louis Haché and the 1975 commemoration. Father Maurice LeBlanc, C.J.M., former religious art and architecture teacher at the Collège communautaire du Nouveau-Brunswick (CCNB) Bathurst campus, has already written the draft of a chapter for this forthcoming book. In that chapter, he explains our church's architecture and baroque-style interior decoration.

In conclusion, I recall Father Maurice LeBlanc, who asked himself whether the interior of this church, in its category of old overlapping styles, is the most beautiful in New Brunswick or even in all of the Maritimes. We remain in awe, nearly speechless, when we admire all this beauty and ask ourselves how such a masterpiece was produced in this rustic environment. In my opinion, the only answer is: the faith of the builders!

Prepared by Charles Eugène Duclos for Gérard Haché during the unveiling of the year 2000 plaque establishing the church as a historic monument. Based on information from Father Maurice LeBlanc and information from Charles E. Duclos, France Duguay and Wilfred Godin collected in 1997 from the following people: Catherine Cool, Azade Drysdale, Leontine Haché, Laura Losier and Aurèle Roussel

Bathurst Heritage Online



sheet music: Chariot Race or Ben Hur March by E.T. Paull , 1895

Collection of the Népisiguit Centennial Museum/Cultural Centre

Follow this link <http://www.pro.rcip-chin.gc.ca/bd-dl/artefacts-eng.jsp> to see the 33 artifacts that the **Bathurst Heritage Trust Commission** have on display online on the Canadian Heritage Information Network. Once on the site type in *Népisiguit Centennial Museum* then click on "all words" and then press search. Enjoy!



The Village Historique Acadien (VHA)
has launched a new version of its website: www.vhanb.ca.

New Book for Queens County

*'neath the leaves of many years:
stories and memories*

by

Dawn Bremner

Available after April 17

Queens County Heritage Gift Shops:

Queens County Court House

Gagetown

AND

Anthony Flower House & Gallery

Cambridge-Narrows

OR

69 Front St
Gagetown, NB
E5M 1A4

\$25.00 plus shipping



ASSOCIATION MUSEUMS NEW BRUNSWICK

668 Brunswick Street
Fredericton, NB
E3B 1H6

Phone: (506)454-3561
Fax: (506) 462-7687
Email: info@amnb.ca

We're on the web
www.amnb.ca

The Mission of the Association Museums New Brunswick shall be to preserve the history and heritage of the province of New Brunswick by uniting, promoting and advancing the aspirations of all workers in the heritage and cultural fields in the province of New Brunswick both voluntary and professional, their supporters and other heritage and cultural organizations.



AMNB Committees

Advocacy - Bill Clarke (Chair), Brian Clark and Jeanne Mance Cormier.

Communications - Bruce Thomson (Chair) and Barb McIntyre.

Conference & AGM - Brian Clark (Co-Chair) and Barb McIntyre (Co-Chair)

Awards - Barb McIntyre (Chair)

Finance - Dianne Lombard (Chair), Lyne Bard, Bruce Thomson and Dr. Dave Desjardins.

Legislature Exhibit - Regina Mantin (Chair) and Donald Alward.

Membership - Dr. Dave Desjardins (Chair), Joan Levesque and Lionel Castonguay.

Upcoming Events

THURSDAY, APRIL 29 Book Signing - Author Malcolm McCutcheon, noon – 1 pm, New Brunswick Museum 1-888-268-9595

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 28 Lecture in the Multipurpose Room: Do You Know Nicolas Denys? 7:00 pm
Nepisiquit Heritage Museum / Cultural Centre, Bathurst (506) 546-9449

SATURDAYS in MAY (1, 8, 15, 22, 29) Explorer Saturdays, 10 am - 4 pm, New Brunswick Museum 1-888-268-9595

SATURDAYS, MAY 1 & 8 Fascinating Future Fossils! Workshop with artist Carol Taylor, 10:30 am - 12:30 pm
New Brunswick Museum 1-888-268-9595

FRIDAY, MAY 7 Gallery Hop, 4—6 pm, New Brunswick Museum 1-888-268-9595

SATURDAY, MAY 8 Antiques Roadshow & Fundraiser, Connell House, Woodstock
(10 am - 12 pm) & (1 - 3 pm) *Closed for Lunch (12 - 1 pm), (506) 328-9706



SATURDAY, MAY 8 Maritimes Butterfly Atlas (MBA) Survey Workshop 1-4 pm, New Brunswick Museum 1-888-268-9595

SATURDAY, MAY 8 12th Annual Sir Samuel Leonard Tilley Dinner, 6:30 pm, Tickets: \$25
Queens County Court House, Gagetown (506) 488-2825

WEDNESDAY, MAY 12 District 8 Heritage Fair Awards, 6 pm, New Brunswick Museum 1-888-268-9595

THURSDAY, MAY 13 & May 20 Create Your Own Future Fossil! Workshop with artist Carol Taylor 6:30 pm - 8:30 pm
New Brunswick Museum 1-888-268-9595

SATRUDAY, MAY 15 Jigsaw Winds: Blues, Jazz and Classical Music, Carleton County Courthouse,
Upper Woodstock (506) 328-9420



TUESDAY, MAY 18 International Museums Day, 9 am - 5 pm New Brunswick Museum 1-888-268-9595

THURSDAY, MAY 20 The New Brunswick Museum in the Arctic: A Presentation by Tina Kieffer, Educator, New Brunswick Museum , 7 pm

**SATURDAY & SUNDAY
MAY 22-23** Wings Over Queens County: An NB Festival of Nature
Gagetown and Cambridge-Narrows (506) 488-1888

**SATURDAY—MONDAY
MAY 22-24** Nature Celebrations at the New Brunswick Museum 1- 4 pm, 1-888-268-9595

SATURDAY, May 29 *The Sea Captain's Wife:* Resources used by Beth Powning in the writing of her latest novel, 2 - 4 pm
New Brunswick Museum 1-888-268-9595