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Volunteers Needed

The CPA's activities benefit the entire community, so please support us by becoming a member. If you have the time and the interest, we would also welcome you as a volunteer. Mini-jobs are available!

Needed now:

Newsletter distribution
15 minutes, four times per year.
Contact CPA office: 416-410-4259

Newsletter design by Steve Yeates 416-531-5757

www.steveyeates.ca



CPA: Who Are We?

Founded in 1988 to preserve the architectural integrity and historic character of Cabbagetown, the CPA does that and more. Here's what we do:

Heritage Preservation

- review applications to Committee of Adjustment and the Ontario Municipal Board,
- Make submissions to regulatory bodies
- Represent the community at Toronto Historical Board

Heritage Promotion

- Produce quarterly newsletter
- Produce special heritage displays
- Organize "Speaker Series"
- Manage "Walking Tour" program

Awards Programs

- "Restoration Awards"
- "Streetscapes in Bloom"

Community Events

- Forsythia Festival
- Cabbagetown Cabaret
- "Tour of Homes" Tea

Special Long-Term Projects

- Heritage conservation district
- Books on Cabbagetown Heritage
- "Cabbagetown People", a historical plaque program



CPA at the Crossroads?

Many of our more long-standing members will recall that the CPA was founded fifteen years ago almost by default. A lovely old house on Wellesley Street was demolished despite the concerted opposition of a group of several local citizens. They realized that the regulatory system just did not work when it came to protecting valuable places like Cabbagetown. However, when other properties were threatened, they quickly discovered that organized citizen vigilance, coupled to effective powers of persuasion at the OMB and Committees of Adjustment, could indeed get results. The young CPA, in this sense, filled a large vacuum in the process of development decision-making, thanks to Michael Roman and his friends.



by default, has become heavily involved with material that was never part of our original *raison d'être*.

Because we refuse to be deflected from CPA's mission, our resources are stretched. Peggy Kurtin's hard-working group have just completed the research for Phase Two of the Cabbagetown Heritage Conservation District program, which covers the area from Sackville eastwards, and are about to begin work

on Phase Three, south of Carlton. Sheila Schirmer's committee are proceeding with the second year of the highly successful "Cabbagetown People" plaque program. Toby Schertzer continues to assemble technical material for our restoration resource centre, and other Board members are busy with essential day-to-day tasks concerned with walking tours, membership and volunteers, graphics, fundraising, building our website, and publications, including turning out this newsletter.

In consequence, maybe it is time to ask some searching questions about the future role and structure of the CPA within this context of increasing demands and complexity. Do we retrench to doing what we always have in the past, in the hope that some local residents, association will emerge to cope with the rest? Should we join such a group? Or should we embrace this expanded function, and restructure ourselves accordingly? No doubt other strategic questions need to be asked.

Because we want to remain open-minded about these things, your Board has asked a small group of knowledgeable and creative Cabbagetown residents to give some serious thought to our future, and to advise us accordingly in a few weeks time. We also need your views; please take the opportunity to be a part of this important debate.

Alan Waterhouse

Accordingly, for some time now the CPA has represented Cabbagetown on the Community Police Liaison Committee (currently, and ably, by Clare Warwick). Clare also joins Rick Merrill and me as the CPA representation on an ad hoc committee of the Old Cabbagetown BIA, South Cabbagetown Residents, Association, and the Winchester Park Residents, Association to deal with several troubling matters affecting Parliament Street. This same group recently submitted a joint statement on the impending Regent Park redevelopment plan to several government organizations (the text of this statement can be read on our website), and the consultants for this plan have made presentations to the CPA Board on two occasions. Whether we wish it or not, the CPA, largely

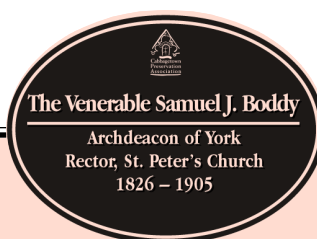


Cabbagetown People Plaques - Year Two

The fabulously successful Cabbagetown People Plaque Project is already beginning work on Year Two. In its inaugural year in 2002, 11 plaques were placed throughout Cabbagetown in time for the annual Cabbagetown Cultural Festival. They complimented the Street Gallery and the display at the Here & Now Gallery as part of the CPA presence at The Festival. "I am pleased to report that The Cabbagetown People Plaque Project has been well received by the residents of Cabbagetown and enthusiastically endorsed by all three levels of government." reports project Chair Sheila Schirmer.

In 2003, another 10 of the attractive blue-and-white plaques will be placed throughout Cabbagetown. In addition, a Directory to be located in Riverdale Park is also being planned. This Directory, to be unveiled on Canada Day, will show visitors and residents alike where the Cabbagetown People plaques are located. It will also include a brief biography of each of the former Cabbagetown residents who have had a plaque erected in their honour.

The Plaque Committee is actively seeking the names of former residents of Cabbagetown who could be candidates for a 2003 plaque. Did someone interesting - and not necessarily famous - ever live in your house? Do you know of a person who contributed to the life of Cabbagetown who lived next door? Or down the street? If you have a suggestion or a recommendation, please send it to Sheila Schirmer at vicechair@cabbagetownpa.ca or to Christopher Dew at cdew@sympatico.ca. Help us share the history and charm of Cabbagetown with the rest of the world.



Samuel Johnson Boddy

Coming to Canada in 1858, Boddy was appointed Assistant Minister of St. James Cathedral, Toronto. In 1863 he was selected to organize the new parish of St. Peter's. 21 Winchester Street served as the rectory for St. Peter's during Boddy's tenure. By 1881, he had become Archdeacon of York.

Boddy was responsible for getting the first streets in the area paved. This came as a result of his congregation (of muddy York) continually citing the conditions of the roads after a rainfall, as the reason for their being late for, or absent from, Church. He set about having the roads leading to the Church covered with wooden planks, to preclude this problem. Subsequently he travelled to Chicago to study their paving methods, which then led to the paving of Sherbourne Street.

Nominations for Restoration Awards

The final date for receipt of nominations for the 2003 CPA Restoration Awards is April 30. Nominations must be for work completed during the twelve months prior to this date. Last year's winner of the CPA Restoration Award is Linda Hendren, for the skilful addition to the Bowman St. frontage of 328 Carlton St.

Nominations should be accompanied by before-and-after photographic and/or drawing documentation describing the extent and type of construction. Send your materials to the attention of Alan Waterhouse.

Streetscapes in Bloom Awards

In May of 2002, 14 front gardens were nominated by the people of Cabbagetown for the 6th annual Streetscape in Bloom competition. These included a community garden, a school garden and many beautiful gardens from throughout Cabbagetown. The judges, Kathy Farrell, Steven Boddy, Richard Spence and Peggy Kurtin, visited each garden three times during the summer to fill in evaluation sheets. In September the judges met and the sheets were added up, put into percentages and the winner chosen. At the CPA Fall meeting on October 24th, 2002, the winner of the Streetscape in Bloom contest was announced and the garden that was honoured was 331 Wellesley Street East. A painting of the garden by Connie Johnson was presented to Annette Ross, the proud owner of this beautiful garden.

This summer CPA will again be holding the Streetscape in Bloom competition. So once spring arrives, look for worthy gardens to nominate.

CPA Calendar: Heritage Week: Renovation from HGTV paint specialists and heritage update from city at Feb 20 meeting

CPA's Feb 20th meeting will mark Heritage week, which starts Mon Feb 11.

A representative of the City's Heritage Preservation Services will be attending the meeting to answer any questions on the proposed new heritage conservation district. (see article "Research Completed..." above).

And to help you find the right historical paint colour for your Victorian restoration (colour is likely the most important finishing touch), **Farrow and Ball** owners, Jason Cass, host of "One house Two Looks" on HGTV and his partner David Lockwood, will be giving a talk on choosing the best paint and wallpaper for the Victorian home.

We'll see you there Thursday, Feb 20 at the Winchester.

- 6:30 mix & mingle;
- meeting starts at 7:30.

Research Completed For Proposed Designated Area

After 18 months, the research has been completed for the proposed new heritage conservation district. The area consists of Wellesley St. east from Parliament to the east end of Wellesley; the short streets running north from Wellesley; all the streets east of Sackville and south to and including Carlton St. Once this area has been designated, this will mean the complete Cabbagetown area east of Parliament and south to Carlton will be an Heritage Conservation District.

Susan Hughes of the City's Heritage Preservation Services will be attending CPA's Feb 13th meeting to answer any questions. After this meeting, a complete copy of all the historic research, descriptions of the buildings and photographs will be given to the Preservation Services Board for them to decide if the area should be designated. If they decide yes, then Community Council gets to vote on it, then City Council and finally the Ontario Municipal Board. While all that is going on, three more meetings are called in the area for the local residents to express their views. A long process I know, but that's what we had to do get the Cabbagetown-Metcalf Heritage Conservation District in place. Please come to the meeting to show the Preservation staff that you want your area designated. We also plan on having a computer and printer in attendance so that you can ask for a copy of the history of your home if you live in the proposed designated area.

Peggy Kurtin 416-967-6432

