

## Board members

Alan Waterhouse, Chair  
 Sheila Schirmer, Vice-Chair  
 David Jollimore, Treasurer  
 David Pretlove, Secretary  
 Christopher Dew  
 Anne Keffer  
 Peggy Kurtin  
 Rick Merrill  
 Margaret Rutledge  
 Toby Schertzer  
 Stephen Yeates  
**Ex-Officio:**  
 Kathy Farrell, Past President

## Office:

Cabbagetown Preservation Association  
 422 Parliament Street  
 P.O. Box 82512  
 www.cabbagetownpa.ca  
 Toronto, On M5A 4N8  
 Tel: 416-410-4259  
 Fax: 416-966-2036



## 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

## WEST NILE NOTE!

Don't forget that mosquitos breed in still water. Make sure any fountains are operating and old tires, flowerpots, crumpled BBQ covers are not hosting tiny ponds for the little plague carriers.

Newsletter design by Steve Yeates 416-531-5757

[www.steveyeates.ca](http://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

# NEWSLETTER

Preserving the architectural integrity and historic character of our neighbourhood

## Forsythia and Blooms

Relief for Cabbagetown's cabin-fever sufferers watching with hope for any signs that winter's blast is truly over.

### Forsythia Festival

Celebration of Spring - 32nd Annual Forsythia Festival will be held at Wellesley Park, on Sunday May 4th. Meet at Winchester and Sumach Streets around 10 a.m. for **face painting and twizzlers!** The **parade** departs at 10:30 a.m. for Wellesley Park, where Rob and Soli Joy and Richard Belleah will perform. There will also be a karate demonstration, pansy planting, doggie musical mats, games and much, much more.

**Volunteers are needed!** Please call Kym Morton at 416-413-0882.



### Streetscapes in Bloom

The seventh annual **Streetscapes in Bloom** competition is calling for nominations. When you see a garden you would like to nominate - whether it is yours or not - please call 416-967-6432, and leave a message. You don't have to leave your name.

Throughout the summer the judges will visit each of the nominated gardens three times. The final day for nominations is May 31. The winner will be presented with a watercolour portrait of their garden at CPA's Fall meeting.

## Restoring your brickwork? Check inside first! And come to the Annual General Meeting, Wed. May 21

If you do, you will get pointers on pointing directly from the master, Mario Cantin. He will talk on brickwork restoration and give some insights on how our homes were built. Mario has completed several beautiful projects in Cabbagetown recently. See inside for more...

All members are invited to attend **May 21** at the **Meeting House at Riverdale Farm**: munch & mingle at **6:30**, meeting at **7:00**.

The AGM will also deal with the election of Directors, awards announcements, and reporting on the past year's CPA involvement in projects and local issues.

A vote will be taken on the following motion: "that the dues for membership in the CPA be set at \$20 per year."

As well, members will be asked to approve the following proposed amendments to the constitution

Section 5.1:  
 There shall be a President and Vice President of the Association appointed annually by the Board. The President shall serve as the Chief Executive Officer and be responsible for setting meetings of the Board of Directors and the day-to-day operations of the Association. The Vice President will serve as President in the absence of the President and will be willing to serve as President in the subsequent Board year.

Section 6.1 (Signing Authority):  
 The signing authority for the Association shall be any two of the President, Vice President, Secretary or the Treasurer."

## CPA Membership/Volunteer Application

Mail to Cabbagetown Preservation Association, P.O. Box 82512, Toronto, ON M5A 4N8  
 or e-mail [www.cabbagetownpa.ca](http://www.cabbagetownpa.ca)

Date \_\_\_\_\_ Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 1 year (\$10) \_\_\_\_\_ Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 3 years (\$30) \_\_\_\_\_ Postal Code \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone \_\_\_\_\_  
 5 years (\$50) \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_ Interested in Volunteering? \_\_\_\_\_  
 single \_\_\_\_\_  
 family \_\_\_\_\_





## St. Peter's Church-140 Years

Historic St. Peter's Anglican Church, 188 Carlton Street, celebrates 140 years this year. Miss Isobel Allen, archivist, St. Peter's Anglican Church has provided this brief history of St. Peter's.

On January 26, 1863, the first service of the newly founded parish of St. Peter's was held in the cemetery church of St. James' the Less, on Parliament St. After the current church building was completed in 1866, additions in 1872 and 1880 increased the seating to 577 as the congregation continued to grow. The School House (now the Parish Hall) was built in 1880. Architect Henry Langley designed the church in a high Victorian Gothic style of polychromatic red and white brick. The stained glass windows in the church are famous.

The first Rector, Archdeacon Samuel Boddy (yes, we were known as the Boddy House!) served in the parish for 42 years.

Our founding families were from the British Isles, and they prospered from their hard work – the names are still familiar: Gooderham, Jarvis, Mason, and Pellatt, to name a few. Our members were aware of the trials of the new settlers opening the country. Arrangements were made to head west with them to provide food, clothing, tools, animals, feed, crops, bibles, books, grass for sod houses, etc. Missions were established in the Mackenzie Delta, the Peace River area and the Klondike during the gold rush, where gold dust appeared in the offering plates! Missionaries served the native populations in each province when the provinces were established. Our ladies, and the pupils of Havergal College who met in the School House, made long underwear for the North West Mounted Police!

The church had political influence with members of the congregation taking posts as Premier of the Province of Ontario, Chancellor of Ontario, Magistrates, Judges, and successful businessmen. All this assisted in the growth of the country, the province and city.

The congregation was wealthy but compassionate, serving people through 18 economic depressions. In 1885 the Duke and Duchess of Connaught visited to learn about our skills in organizing and fundraising, as the givings from St. Peter's were the highest in the Dominion.

Our members were founders of Havergal College, Ridley College, and Wycliffe College, and of the first YMCA in Toronto to house youths coming to the "big city" looking for work. Black Americans came through the Underground Railway to the church and were provided with accommodation and meals in the school house. They were employed in the homes of members and they worshipped with us – some of their descendants still do.



## Whither the CPA?

### Board accepts recommendations

In our last Newsletter I reported on the establishment of a committee of non-board members to advise us on CPA's future direction. You may recall that I outlined the extent to which we are increasingly involved in general community issues that fall well beyond our original mandate to address the architectural, streetscape, and historical integrity of Cabbagetown. The Advisory Committee was asked, accordingly, to determine CPA's place and role in the community, taking into account the existence of several small groups in the neighbourhood.

Our Past President, Kathy Farrell, chaired the Committee, whose members were Deborah Hobson, George Rust-D'Eye, Michael Bailey, and Claus Schirmer. Kathy presented the recommendations at our Board Meeting in March. The Committee were unanimous in its view that CPA should disengage itself from wider community issues that have little or no effect on our preservation focus. We are not, and never have been, a residents' association. We should recognize and continue to pursue the unique and valuable objectives that have driven the CPA in the past. Moreover, the community at



large should be made aware of the specific role that we play.

At the same time, the Committee recognized that clear boundaries cannot always be drawn between general community and preservation demands. Accordingly, the Committee also recom-

mended that a Board Member be appointed whose task would be to liaise with other community groups, and report to the Board on the extent to which, if at all, CPA should involve itself in wider issues.

The Board was very impressed with the wisdom of these recommendations, and decided unanimously to bring them before the AGM with our full support. In effect, because the recommendations serve to reconfirm, as opposed to redefine our mandate, they do not entail any Constitutional changes. We wish to thank Kathy and the Committee members for their considerable insight and judgment.

Alan Waterhouse

## The Art and Science of Brickwork Restoration

**Mario Cantin**

*Mario, an expert restorer of old brickwork, will be the Guest Speaker at the CPA Annual General Meeting on May 21.*

Not as "permanent" as we think, masonry deteriorates, especially at the mortar joints. Repointing, (or "pointing") removes deteriorated mortar from the joints of a masonry wall and replaces it with new mortar. (Tuckpointing is a decorative application of a raised mortar or lime putty joint.)

Properly done, repointing restores the visual and physical integrity of the masonry. Improperly done, repointing not only detracts from the appearance of the building, but may also cause physical damage to the bricks themselves if too hard or not porous enough.

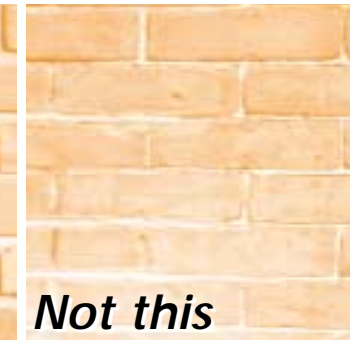
Traditional mortar was made from lime and sand. Often other ingredients, such as brick dust, clay, natural cements, pigments, and even animal hair (in the case of stucco) were also added. The basic formulation remained unchanged for centuries until the advent of Portland cement, which was patented in Great Britain in 1824. This is a fast-curing, cement which hardens under water. Portland cement was not commonly used until the early 20th century. By the 1930s, most masons used a mix of equal parts portland cement and lime putty. Thus, the mortar found in masonry structures built between 1873 and 1930 can range from pure lime and sand mixes to a wide variety of lime, portland cement, and sand combinations.

What is important to know is that all the original houses in Cabbagetown have been built with a straight lime and sand mix. This is not the case with many other old parts of the city where the mortar consisted of sand, lime AND some quantity of Portland cement. Modern masonry cement currently being sold and used for making mortar contains Portland cement and no lime.

Cabbagetown is old enough that no Portland cement was ever being added to the mix during its original construction period. So it is more crucial than almost anywhere else that it be restored with lime putty mortar, yet few do it, it would seem. You can't walk more by than TWO houses in Cabbagetown without seeing a badly executed mortar repair involving a Portland cement-based mortar that contains no lime at all!



**This...**



**Not this**

Only a lime-based mortar can match colour, texture and overall appearance of that on Cabbagetown's original houses.

Other advantages of traditional lime-based mortars over modern cement-based mortars for older buildings include:

- their flexibility, allowing slight movement and settlement.
- they "breathe" and dry out after long wetting periods, thus reducing the vulnerability to frost damage.
- their porosity discourages efflorescence, the formation of salt crystallization at the surface of the brick.
- they are highly workable and cohesive and can be used more cleanly than modern cement mortars.
- their light colour is aesthetically pleasing. Modern cement-based mortars look dull in comparison; a poor match for buildings constructed prior to 1930.

Disadvantages of lime-based mortars include slow setting and curing periods and more labour-intensive preparation.

Today's mortars serve different functions from their predecessors. In the old days, the exterior wall's double brick assembly and the method used to lay the bricks that tied the two walls together (the bonding method) were what largely gave the wall its strength - as opposed to the mortar itself being required to provide much of the strength. Modern cement-based mortars must transfer the compressive, tensile and shear stresses in modern single-brick cavity walls.

So it is incorrect to use modern cement-based mortars - as has typically and consistently been done in Toronto for over 70 years - to restore buildings which were built before 1930, and which require traditional lime-based mortars - especially so in Cabbagetown, for the reasons given above.

Insist that the proper job be done on your original Cabbagetown home. It can be done, and you will enjoy it that much more!

*This article was provided to you by Invisible Tuckpointing Ltd., Brick Mortar Restoration Specialists. Invisible Tuckpointing Ltd. is currently restoring 411 Ontario Street, a 12 week project in Cabbagetown, involving lime putty mortar, and making a dramatic visual improvement to the building. Drop by and take a look. Or call 416-429-7007 for further information.*

