



# Cabbagetown Preservation Association NEWSLETTER

Preserving the architectural integrity and historic character of our neighbourhood

## Take a Walk on the Mild Side

The grass is green, the squirrels are busy transplanting crocus bulbs and the first of four scheduled Heritage Toronto sponsored walking tours will be led by our CPA tour guides in Cabbagetown Saturday, April 23rd.

Discover Cabbagetown crannies you didn't know existed, make sense of our eclectic house styles and find out about some of the characters who lived here. Take one of the Cabbagetown Preservation Association's popular historical/architectural tours. There is no charge.

Tours meet at 1:30 PM

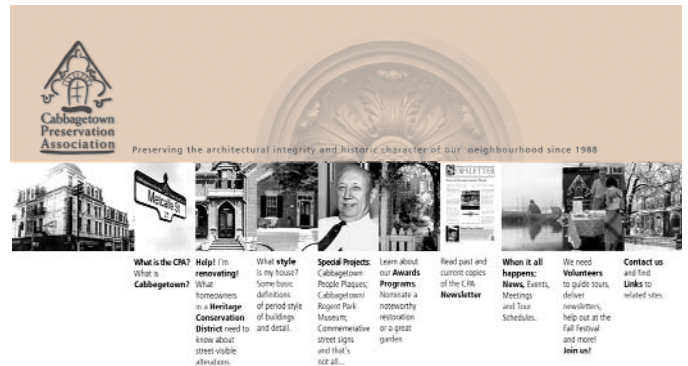
**Saturday, April 23** - The Necropolis Tour. Meet at the NE corner of Parliament and Winchester Streets.

**Sunday, May 15** - Cabbagetown North. Meet on the NE corner of Wellesley and Parliament Streets.

**Saturday, June 11** - Cabbagetown South. Meet on the NE corner of Parliament and Winchester Streets.

**Saturday, July 16** - Cabbagetown North. Meet on the NE corner of Wellesley and Parliament.

## CPA's New Site: It's All There...



Check out CPA's new website. We have designed it to become a resource for members and a connection to the general public curious about Cabbagetown and the CPA. Starting from an overview of the organization and neighbourhood, the site includes specific help and resources for renovating homeowners, a visual glossary of housing styles, descriptions of special projects, downloadable past editions of this newsletter and brochures, announcements of CPA events, easy links to contact us via e-mail and more. The site will be regularly updated with prompts on the home page to direct users to the latest news and updates. The URL is: [www.cabbagetownpa.ca](http://www.cabbagetownpa.ca)

## Calling All Members: CPA AGM May 26



The Cabbagetown Preservation Association's 2005 Annual General Meeting will be held at Riverdale Farm Meeting House (that's the building down the path to-wards the valley) on **Thursday, May 26**. Doors open at **6:30** to mingle; we get down to business at 7:00. For those who have never attended this is not the dry event that AGMs often are. In addition to the year-end review and election of board members, a garden designer will give a talk on period gardens and how to landscape small spaces. This is a great chance to meet your neighbours, pick up some gardening tips while learning a bit of history and to participate in the workings of your organization.

**Nominations** are invited from Members in good standing for election to fill Board vacancies. If there are more nominations than vacancies, election will be determined by a secret ballot. Nominations, accompanied by a resumé, should be addressed to the Board Secretary, Anne Keffer, and received no later than **19 May**. In the event of a ballot, nominees will be invited to give a brief verbal presentation to the AGM.



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# HCD: The Learning Curve

The Cabbagetown Heritage Conservation District (HCD) is in its infancy. As more homeowners make street-visible changes to their houses more questions as to what they must do arise. This article will outline the broad strokes of the new arrangement and will give direction to community and City resources.



2. Prepare a sketch showing the location of the proposed work on your building.
3. Prepare drawings, sketches or plans of the proposed work.
4. Take photographs of the building, showing its current condition in the area where the work is to take place.
5. Gather any additional documents that you feel support your proposed project.
6. Meet with Heritage Preservation Services staff to discuss your application.

## In General:

• **HCD designation means** that the essential beauty of Cabbagetown – the architectural, historical and landscape characteristics that define the area – will be protected forever. Not only will this benefit all of us aesthetically, it is expected that it will also be a positive development in terms of property values.

It's worth emphasizing that the HCD designation does not mean that the neighbourhood is frozen as it is, or that residents aren't free to alter their properties. On the contrary, Cabbagetown residents are encouraged to restore and improve their homes. The designation simply lays down some guidelines for how some of those improvements – **specifically the ones that affect street-front facades** – should proceed.

## Specifically:

To help preserve the historic appearance of our neighbourhood, significant exterior projects that affect the Cabbagetown **streetscape** will now require a special Heritage permit. The following projects are included, among others:

- Replacement of windows and doors
- Installation of new siding
- Construction or alteration of verandas
- Installation of new skylights
- Creation of new window and door openings
- Alteration of existing cladding and/or brickwork

No Heritage permit will be required for the following types of projects:

- Any interior alterations
- Any exterior alterations not visible from the street
- Exterior painting of wood, stucco or metal surfaces
- Repairs of existing exterior features using the original materials
- Installation of eavestroughs
- Weatherproofing
- Seasonal installation of removable storm/screen windows and doors
- Installation of exterior lights.

## Applying for a Heritage Permit:

If you are planning significant work on the outside of your property, it's important that you take the following steps:

1. Contact City staff to set up a meeting with the Heritage Preservation Services unit.

If City staff find that your application conforms to the HCD guidelines, they will expedite the necessary Heritage and building permits. If your application does not meet the standards, City staff will suggest ways in which you could modify your project to secure the permits you need.

**To apply for Heritage permits**, please contact one of the following City of Toronto Heritage Preservation staff members directly:

- Wayne Morgan: 416-338-1079, [wmorgan@toronto.ca](mailto:wmorgan@toronto.ca)
- Karla Barboza: 416-338-1091, [kbarboz@toronto.ca](mailto:kbarboz@toronto.ca)
- Georgina Kuich: 416-338-1078, [gkuich@toronto.ca](mailto:gkuich@toronto.ca)

## • For local help

The City has appointed a **District Advisory Committee**, made up of a group of Cabbagetown residents and an employee of Heritage Preservation Services, to advise Cabbagetown residents planning to renovate the exterior of their properties. The current Chair of this committee is **Peggy Kurtin, who can be reached at 416 967 6432**. The Advisory Committee is familiar with the Guidelines and procedures covering renovation in our community, and should be consulted **prior** to applying for a building permit covering external changes to property, and for any advice on exterior changes (such as replacing windows) that may not require a building permit.

**To view the Heritage Conservation District plans** for both Cabbagetown-Metcalf and north Cabbagetown, visit the City of Toronto web site at [http://www.city.toronto.on.ca/culture/heritage\\_districts.htm](http://www.city.toronto.on.ca/culture/heritage_districts.htm)

**Look for an FAQ section to come soon to the CPA website.**

**Note on the role of the CPA:** The CPA spearheaded the establishment of Cabbagetown's HCDs, forming contacts with the City, and conducting the research and documentation on each of more than one thousand properties necessary for approval. Now that official approval and adoption has been obtained under the Ontario Heritage Act, all responsibility for the management of our HCDs has been taken over by the City of Toronto, specifically by Heritage Preservation Services, a branch of the Culture Division. The CPA, therefore, plays no role in overseeing or administering our HCDs.

# Museum Moves Ahead

CPA Board member, Carol Moore-Ede has been spearheading the development of the Cabbagetown - Regent Park Museum. Just a concept only a year ago, the Museum has moved forward rapidly, fuelled by enthusiasm from both communities for the recognition and display of our common history. While awaiting permanent museum space as part of the Regent Park redevelopment, opportunities for temporary display space have been generously offered for the work that has already begun on oral histories and collections pertaining to this combined area.

The Toronto Police Museum and the City of Toronto Museums and Heritage Services and the Collections and Conservation Divisions have been meeting with Carol's group; both will be contributing expertise and material for the project. Early research has included the assistance of the City of Toronto Archives and oral histories from residents, one of whose family connections date back as far as 1913.

The museum has plans for two upcoming exhibitions. Superintendent Randal Munroe of 51 Division has generously offered wall and lobby space at the headquarters in their architecturally award-winning restored industrial building once owned by Consumers Gas. Next year an exhibition is planned in partnership

with the City of Toronto's Museums and Heritage Services at Mackenzie House.

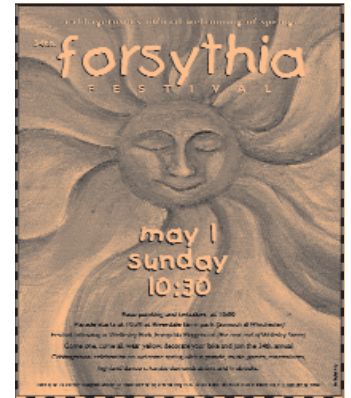
If you know of anyone with stories to share about his or her family growing up or living in this combined area, please contact us. We need to share and preserve your history.

## Forsythia Fest May 2

Celebrate the arrival of spring with this CPA supported event. The celebrations begin at Riverdale Park on Winchester Street. Families and friends are encouraged to meet there at 10:00 to prepare for the parade with face painting, twizzlers and decorating bicycles, strollers and wagons.

At 10:30 the parade from Riverdale Park, winds through the Cabbagetown Streets to the Wellesley Park, where there will be games and family entertainment from 11:00 – 1:00 p.m.

(Poster by New Region Design)



## Cabbagetown People - Oronhyatekha M.D.

**Mohawk Physician, Victorian Businessman and Philanthropist 1841 – 1907. Plaque located at 211 Carlton Street**

Dr. Oronhyatekha was a remarkable Canadian who was successful as both a Mohawk physician, scholar and Victorian businessman.



Born on the Six Nations Reserve near Brantford, Ontario, Oronhyatekha (means "Burning Sky") was also known by his baptized name of Peter Martin. He attended colleges in Massachusetts and Ohio, before returning to teach at Tyendinaga on the Bay of Quinte.

In 1860, Oronhyatekha, on behalf of the Six Nations, gave the welcoming address to the Prince of Wales. He so impressed the Royal Party that he was invited to study in England, resulting in his becoming the first North American aboriginal to attend Oxford

University. Oronhyatekha's portrait hangs in St. Edmunds Hall at Oxford, to this day.

In 1863 he returned to Canada and married a great-granddaughter of Joseph Brant (Thayendanegea), the great Mohawk chief and Loyalist military leader during the American War of Independence. While attending the University of Toronto, Oronhyatekha joined its militia corps, as well as the Queen's Own Rifles; he also joined the Masonic order. In 1866 he graduated from the University of Toronto's medical school, and was likely the first native medical doctor in Canada. He practiced medicine in Frankford, on the Trent River,



and in Stratford, Napanee, and London, Ontario.

In 1871 Oronhyatekha was part of the first Canadian rifle team invited to compete at Wimbledon, where he won nine prizes.

He became President of the Grand Indian Council in 1874, an association of reserves in Quebec and Ontario, and often lobbied for change in legislation to give support to the native peoples in Canada.

In 1878 he joined the Independent Order of Foresters (IOF) which was a fraternal life insurance company, and he became the first elected Supreme Chief Ranger of that organization in 1881. He was CEO for twenty-six years. He guided the IOF's growth from a struggling bankrupt fraternal organization of 400 members to a membership of more than 250,000, and a fund of over eleven million dollars. Dr. Oronhyatekha wrote *The History of the Independent Order of Foresters*.

As one of the greatest builders of the fraternal movement in North America, Dr. Oronhyatekha was widely accepted as a distinguished leader in Canada. His success in Victorian society was founded on the Mohawk values in which he believed, including the principle of reciprocity between people and the institutions they create. While inhabiting two worlds, he remained true to his Mohawk principles, heritage and language.



## CPA: Who Are We?

Founded in 1988 to encourage the preservation of 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

### 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" plaque program
- Cabbagetown/Regent Park Museum
- HCD street signs



## Board Members

Stephen Yeates, Chair  
 Margaret Rutledge, Vice-Chair  
 Sandie Scott, Treasurer  
 Anne Keffer, Secretary  
 Alan Waterhouse, Past President  
 Christopher Dew  
 David Pretlove  
 Helen Coltrinari  
 Rick Merrill  
 Toby Schertzer  
 Sheila Schirmer  
 Carol Moore-Ede  
 Peggy Weir

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

## Attention All Volunteers and Would-be Volunteers:

**We are also always looking for more people to join in.**

There are several volunteer committees that take responsibility for various interesting CPA projects including:

**Heritage Walking Tours, Heritage Research, Cabbagetown Festival Booth, Forsythia Festival, Tour of Homes Afternoon Tea, Newsletter Delivery, etc.**

Some committees are responsible for an annual event, some a few times each year, and some on a more frequent basis. We have a chair person for each of these committees, and this person connects with our Volunteer Director who is a member of the Board.

Being a volunteer on any of the Cabbagetown Preservation Association Volunteer Committees is a great way to become involved in our community and to get to know your neighbours.

To confirm your participation, and if you are interested in joining in as a new volunteer, please contact our Volunteer Director, by e-mail at [cpa@cabbagetownpa.ca](mailto:cpa@cabbagetownpa.ca).

## Restoration Resources

Occasionally we are sent recommendations for services from residents or receive brochures from suppliers of relevant products or services. These are presented for information only, the CPA does not endorse or recommend them.

**Brighton Research** creates interesting "biographies" of homes. For about \$300 the company will research the history of your home. For details see [www.brightonresearch.com](http://www.brightonresearch.com)

**Window Craft Industries** sent a brochure to the CPA on the prompting of a satisfied resident. They are custom window fabricators and have done several Cabbagetown homes. Their web-site is at [www.windowcraft.com](http://www.windowcraft.com)

**Edifice Magazine**, the only magazine in Canada dedicated to old home enthusiasts, has launched a series of workshops to educate heritage home owners and old house enthusiasts on the proper way to maintain and restore old homes. See: [www.oldhome.ca/Edifice%20Events.htm](http://www.oldhome.ca/Edifice%20Events.htm)

## CPA Membership/Volunteer Application

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

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 Postal Code \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone \_\_\_\_\_  
 E-mail \_\_\_\_\_  
 Interested in Volunteering? \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_  
 1 year (\$20) \_\_\_\_\_  
 3 years (\$50) \_\_\_\_\_  
 5 years (\$75) \_\_\_\_\_  
 single \_\_\_\_\_  
 family \_\_\_\_\_

