

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

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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 **Mary Gallant**, Volunteer Director, at **(416) 920 3882** or by e-mail at **secretary@cabbagetownpa.ca**

Researchers Needed Urgently

The Cabbagetown/Regent Park Museum project, jointly managed by the CPA and Regent Park communities, is in need of volunteers to help in researching the history of our communities and in assembling material for exhibition purposes.

Volunteers who have some knowledge of, or are interested in local historical research, are asked to contact Carol Moore-Ede at 416-962-9139.

What is this object? This highly effective handheld coal-oil lantern was used by both the police service and by railway personnel. It has a clip-on for a belt for hands-free use with the added option of two handles to allow for carrying by hand. The conical scalloped top has two vents, which allow the smoke and heat to disperse. A 3" glass convex Bull's Eye magnifying lens pivots open to access the wick and fuel reservoir. A lever directly below the lens opens and closes a sliding "shutter", which can spread or focus the light as desired. Robert Edwin Dietz designed this early "flashlight" in 1859. This particular one dates back to the 1880s.



What is this object?

See back page

Misdemeanours didn't significantly escalate from those of 1860, which included one "Andrew Adams having in his possession a horse and buggy stolen from Dr. Geikie," and "a house at the head of Sayer Street, lately occupied by John Aston, but now by Furniss, allows drinking & disorderly conduct to be carried on therein."

At that time offences were usually minor and included "some irregularities at the Quebec Bank"; and some individuals who "attempted theft by drilling a hole in the adjacent store and stole about \$4,000 goods." They were quickly arrested.

The occasional officer was not to be beyond reproach. On October 7th 1876, an officer on duty was "found sitting down and asleep on his beat, also his having the appearance of being under the influence of liquor at 3.40am."

It was a simpler time and a more unified time – a different beat to be sure.

Cabbagetown Preservation Association NEWSLETTER

Preserving the architectural integrity and historic character of our neighbourhood

C/RP Museum Reveals A Different Beat

As the Cabbagetown/Regent Park museum gears up for its first public exposure at Police Division 51, we will be giving you teasers of future displays. The following account of policing shows us a very different Toronto.

In 1876 the Police force in the Cabbagetown/Regent Park area had four main beats. These were patrolled by officers Corbett, Dickson, Hetherington, Ross, Worth, McKay, Bowers, Coleman, and Murray. The local force boasted a Day Patrol and a Night Patrol; 2 detectives – Burrows & Reid, an undercover officer as well as officers on Station Duty, Wharf Duty and Rail Duty.

Each day Sergeant Major Archibald of Police Station 4 routinely checked the bells, inspected the station and cells, and the Telegraph Instruments, and counted the number of prisoners – usually from 2 to 8. The officers on duty were inspected and more often than not found to be "all sober & correct" by their Sergeant, who then marched them to their beats.

Join us: TO History with Bruce Bell at the Ben Wicks Pub Nov 29, 6:30 PM

The CPA will be hosting a lively presentation by **Bruce Bell**, the popular history columnist for the *St. Lawrence Neighbourhood Community Bulletin*, who will regale us with tales of **Toronto's Theatre History**. **AND:** Awards for **Streetscapes in Bloom** will be given at this meeting.

Bell is an Award winning playwright, actor, standup comedian and the honorary curator of the most photographed building in the city of Toronto the historic Gooderham Building better known as the Flatiron. Bruce's insights into Toronto's past have brought him legions of fans that not only read his monthly column but also follow him around the old downtown core as he leads them on historic walking tours.

So much of Toronto's history is either buried under parking lots or confined to dusty history books hidden on the top shelves of libraries or just plain forgotten. Using his wealth of knowledge and experience, the

well-known historian and author is determined to look under those parking lots to see what secrets are held in Toronto's much overlooked colonial and 19th century past. And you don't have to live in Toronto to fully enjoy this unique tour. Visitors from all over the globe have been fascinated in how Bruce has connected their own country's history to Toronto's.



In May 2002 Bruce was appointed by the City of Toronto the Official Historian of historic St. Lawrence Hall. In April of 2004 Bruce was appointed official historian of Toronto's famed King Edward Hotel and in May was elected to serve on the board of The Town of York Historical Society. On September 28, 2004 Bruce was named Honorary Historian of the Hockey Hall of Fame building in Toronto.

Ben Wicks Pub, Tues. Nov. 29 at 6:30 p.m., 424 Parliament Street. For more information about our lecturer, go to www.brucebelltours.com

CPA Membership/Volunteer Application

Please mail to Cabbagetown Preservation Association, P.O. Box 82512, Toronto, ON M5A 4N8 or e-mail www.cabbagetownpa.ca

Name _____ Date _____
 Address _____
 Postal Code _____ Telephone _____
 E-mail _____
 Interested in Volunteering? _____
 1 year (\$20) _____
 3 years (\$50) _____
 5 years (\$75) _____
 single _____
 family _____





The Lamb Factory at the end of Winchester Street, late 1800s

Resources! Heritage Website

A group of heritage volunteers has built a website to make heritage issues more visible and more easily accessible. Take a look! <http://www.ontarioheritageconnection.org>. You'll find news of heritage conservation districts, upcoming conferences, endangered buildings, book reviews, our multicultural heritage, newly-discovered shipwrecks, successful restorations, endangered natural environments, highlights from Doors Open Ontario, links to current media items, Then and Now photographs, links to provincial and federal heritage building inventories and more.

Home Insurance Issues In HCDs

Several homeowners in Cabbagetown's Heritage Conservation District have reported some difficulty in obtaining home insurance recently. The problem, according to the City's Preservation Services Branch, is not widespread, but remains an irritating consequence of heritage designation.

The rationale behind some companies' reluctance to provide insurance is not entirely clear, but seems to include an alleged increase in administrative costs and the higher costs entailed in replacing historical materials and detail in repairs to street facades. It has also been reported that some insurance agents, citing the age of buildings as a deterrent, seem to have a limited understanding of the implications of heritage designation.

Fortunately, most insurance companies are happy to continue providing coverage in HCDs, so the homeowner need only spend some time shopping around. Should the problem persist, CPA will consider assembling an inventory of companies and agents who do provide coverage. Meanwhile, owners should be clear as to whether they are buying **reproduction cost**, which covers qualitatively identical repair and replacement, as opposed to **replacement cost**, which may cover only "modern" materials. The firm of **Jones Deslauriers**, for instance, has initiated a **Canadian Heritage Insurance Program** which, among other things, distinguishes between these two types of coverage.



Looking for a Heritage Contractor?

The Harbord Village Heritage Conservation District has published a **directory of contractors and materials suppliers** who are familiar with restoration materials and methods. Masonry, wood, windows, stained glass, paints and more are covered. A limited listing of heritage architects and consultants are listed along with other resources. The CPA has a supply of these booklets. They cost \$2. Call Steve at 416-531-5757 if you want to pick one up.

Third Stage Of Cabbagetown HCD Approved By Community Council

Stage three of the Cabbagetown Heritage Conservation District was approved by the City's community Council on October 18. There were no objections. This means that those properties contained within the area bounded by Spruce St., Gerrard St., the Don Valley, and the lot line east of Parliament are now under HCD protection. Adoption by City Council is expected by early November.

Work has already begun by Peggy Kurtin's team of researchers on surveying Stage four, covering the area bounded by Parliament St., Ontario St., Carlton St., and Wellesley St. We shall keep you informed.

Luigi von Kunits

**First Conductor of
The Toronto Symphony Orchestra 1870 – 1931**

Plaqué location: Rose Avenue Public School, south-west corner

Luigi von Kunits was born and raised in the musically-enriched city of Vienna, Austria. He studied violin, composition and music history with some of the finest teachers. At the age of eleven, the great Brahms himself, who knew his father, asked him to play second violin in one of the composer's string quartets. When he was twenty-one, he had the opportunity to perform his own violin concerto with the Vienna Philharmonic Orchestra.

In 1893, von Kunits traveled to the United States to perform with an Austrian orchestra at the Chicago World's Fair, where he also won the best solo violinist trophy. At this time, he decided to stay in the United States and taught violin in Chicago from 1893 until 1896. Subsequently, he taught at the Pittsburgh Conservatory from 1896 until 1910 and was also concertmaster of the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra. In 1912 he came to Canada and the Canadian Academy of Music in Toronto offered him a position as head violin teacher.

In September of 1922, two young men visited von Kunits in his studio. The proposition Louis Gesensway and Abe Fenboque presented was to found a new symphony orchestra. They had no money or connections and spoke only for themselves and some fine musicians, most of whom were von Kunits' students. These musicians had a great desire to make better music than they were playing at the vaudeville houses or the "new" movie-houses. They wanted von Kunits because they knew he could train an orchestra comprised of his students, and that he would be inspired by the challenge of building a new orchestra.

On April 23, 1923, at five p.m., the New Symphony Orchestra, conducted by Luigi von Kunits, made its debut in Massey Hall. There were about 60 musicians and admission was 75, 50 and 25 cents, no seats reserved. The response was very good and the critics were most impressed.

Tour of Homes

The 2005 Cabbagetown Tour of Homes was a great event, raising 23% more than the 2004 Tour for local charities and community groups! The Tour Committee (Sarah Perry, CPA's own Helen Coltrinari, Kookie Miller, Paul Shearstone, Anji Shukla and Jen Fraser) did a wonderful job of organizing the tour for the benefit of twelve different area charities.

The CPA received \$2700 for hosting the Saturday Soiree at Riverdale Farm and Sunday Tea at the Second Mile Club, \$4000 in sponsorship from CIBC Imperial Service, and an additional \$2300 gift from the Tour of Homes in support of special CPA projects: Streetscapes in Bloom and Cabbagetown People Educational Outreach.

Mrs. von Kunits initiated the Toronto Symphony Orchestra Women's Committee. This strong group of women found ways to financially support and sustain the orchestra, and by the fifth season the orchestra had found its place and its patrons. The New Symphony became the Toronto Symphony. For the next five years Luigi von Kunits (now an honorary Doctor of Music from the University of Toronto) brought a series of Twilight Concerts to Toronto, which gave purpose and pleasure to its musicians and a great deal of pleasure to its citizens.



The 1924 – 25 season included the first orchestra sponsored jointly by the Toronto Board of Education and the Toronto Catholic School Board. This concert was the beginning of the TSO Education Program.

In the Fall of 1929, the first radio broadcast was heard across Canada on the CNR Radio Network. This performance was broadcast from the Arcadian Court, a large dining area in Simpson's Department Store in downtown Toronto. The concerts took place on Sundays, which was convenient for the musicians. The venue for broadcasts eventually moved to the studios of CFRB Radio.

Luigi von Kunits, with his proper conductor's mane of hair, always accepted admiration and applause with great style. His life was music. He was devoted to establishing a solid foundation for his orchestra. It has been said that he brought German music to this new land and transmitted it through a mind that was essentially Greek. He acknowledged his doctorate in Latin, yet he was known to keep notes about his students in Greek.

When Luigi von Kunits died in 1931, the members of the Toronto Symphony Orchestra mourned the loss of their great conductor. For nine years they had played for him, admired him as an artist and loved him as a man.

Congratulations to these recipients of the **Ontario Volunteer Service Awards**, to be presented at the Liberty Grand Nov. 29: **Christopher Dew** and **Alan Waterhouse**, both over 5 years service and **Peggy Kurtin**, over 15 years service.

A big thank you from the CPA to nearly 200 volunteers, homeowners, Tour committee members and CPA members whose generous gifts of time made this event possible, and special thanks to Peggy Weir and Christopher Dew of the CPA Board, co-chairs of the Tea and Soiree.

For 27 years, the Tour has been inviting visitors from all over the GTA to experience the beautiful and authentic interiors of our homes, raise money for community projects, build the reputation of our area as an historically important sight-seeing destination, and strengthen the bonds among Cabbagetowners. Volunteer opportunities for the 2006 Tour will be plentiful; please consider participating.

