



# Cabbagetown Preservation Association NEWSLETTER

Preserving the architectural integrity and historic character of our neighbourhood

## History Lessons from the Top!

### Speaker of Ont. Legislature to Speak at CPA AGM

Members and those who wish to become members are invited to the CPA's 20th Annual General Meeting. The Cabbagetown Preservation Association is very pleased to welcome the Honourable Steve Peters, M.P.P. and Speaker of the Ontario Legislature as it's Special Guest Speaker at the AGM to be held **Wednesday, May 27th at 7:00 pm at the Meeting House, Riverdale Farm.**

Steve Peters is the Member of Provincial Parliament for Elgin-Middlesex-London. Steve was first elected to the Ontario Legislature in 1999. He was re-elected in the 2003 election, following which Premier Dalton McGuinty appointed Steve to Cabinet as the Minister of Agriculture and Food, a position he held until his re-appointment to Cabinet as the Minister of Labour in July 2005. Re-elected as a member of provincial parliament in October 2007, Steve became Speaker of the Ontario Legislature on November 28, 2007 after being successfully elected to the post by his M.P.P. peers.

Steve has a long record of public service. First elected to St. Thomas Council as an alderman in 1988, he was elected to his first term as Mayor in 1991 and re-elected in 1994 and 1997.

When not hard at work for his constituents, Steve enjoys activities near and dear to many Cabbagetowner's, gardening and his passion for local history. He is an avid collector of Elgin County memorabilia and a local authority on local history, including Jumbo, the circus elephant.

As an opposition M.P.P., prior to joining government in 2003, Steve initiated provincial legislation to recognize and plaque the grave sites, spread throughout Ontario, of former Premiers of the province. Cabbagetown's St. James-the-Less cemetery is the final resting place of two former Premiers and the Necropolis cemetery is the grave site for two prominent politicians in the era of Upper Canada. The Cabbagetown Preservation Association is very pleased to welcome Steve to our community to speak on these historical facts.

p3: What's the Cabbagetown flag doing at the top of Mt. Kilimanjoro!?



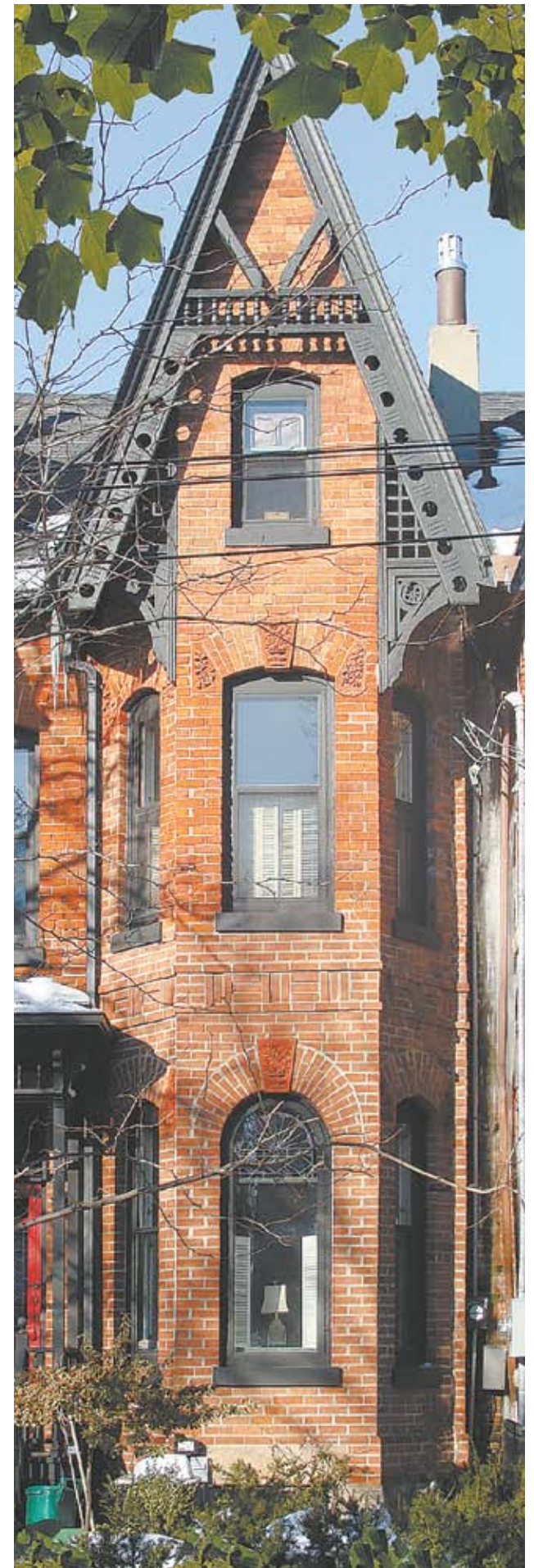
**CPA AGM  
Wed., May 27th  
7:00 pm  
Meeting House,  
Riverdale Farm.**

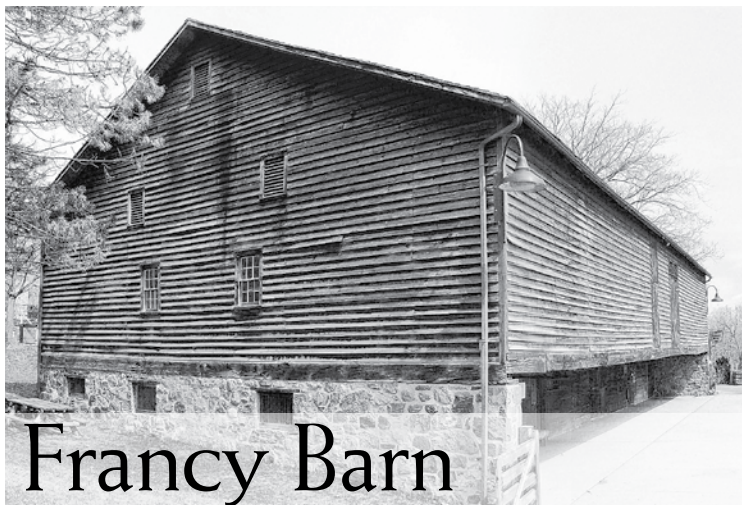
## The House on Sackville Street

Old Cabbagetown, Toronto,  
At once standing proud and tall  
Impressive Victorian statured architecture  
Red brick - stone - warm in hued strength  
Built to last all seasons blasts  
Lovingly cared for - protected  
If at times felt poor - neglected  
Still a home filled with hope  
Memories - lives lived  
In joys - sadness - loss - longing - ecstatic - exotic  
Dedication - creativity - contentment  
Good times - rough times - hard times - bad times  
Music - wishes - laughter - tears - fears  
Surrounded by tall trees  
Tree of heaven - Norway Maple - Weeping Cypress  
Honey Locust - Cedar - Mulberry  
Pervading softness  
Birds nesting - singing - squirrels romping  
Raccoons frolicking - skiing steep gothic rooves  
Lush green gardens secluded  
Peering eyes - eluded  
A private sanctuary - to dream - reflect  
Singing pond - oasis  
In its birth place in the year 1886  
She dwells here  
A witness  
The house on Sackville Street

*Barbara Elizabeth Mercer, Poet, Visual Artist, Cabbagetown resident since 1983. Author of the poetry collections: Echoes, Secrets, Legacy, Mystic Wills and a co-authored poetry collection When Poets Collide with Steve Chering, London, UK. Her poems are included in numerous international anthologies and the internet.*

*Forsythia Frolic May 3 page 2  
Restoring your facade? page 3  
We have TOURS! page 6*





## Francy Barn

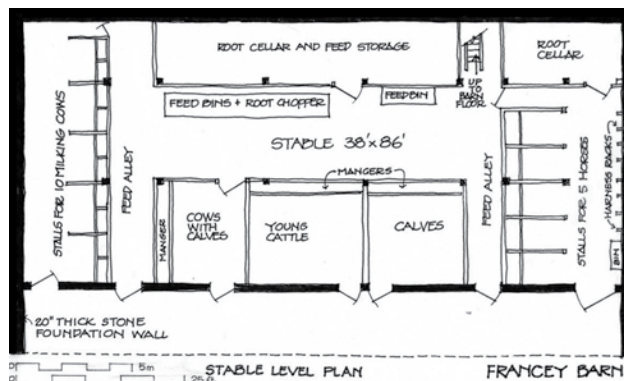
Many early farming settlers, used to the deep valleys and wide-ranging hills of Germany and Switzerland, brought a unique form of construction to their farms in America, that of the great 'bank' barn of Pennsylvania. The banked barn was built into a hill with its long axis parallel to the hilltop, and as the overhang was used to shelter animals in inclement weather, it was desirable that it faced south. The Riverdale Farm's Francy barn is a Pennsylvania-type bank barn rarely seen in Ontario.

The upper storey, or mow, of a bank barn is generally described as the threshing floor, where the grain was separated and stored. The Francy mow has two threshing floors, giving an indication of the affluence enjoyed in its heyday. Today, this area is used for the unloading and storing of hay and straw, providing feed and bedding for our animals. It also serves as storage space for implements and vehicles, where they remain throughout the winter. Typically in a long bank barn, there are two or three upper doors: two if they slide from a central parting, or three, if they swing open as ours do. Rare outside of Quebec, and also found in the Francy barn, is the "guichet," or man-sized door set into one of the main doors. Notice the substantial forged iron hinges and square nails.

Monster hand-hewn pine beams fifty feet long were used in the

construction of the Francy barn. Some of the beams visible in the lower level still have the old bark and measure twenty inches wide. As forests receded in the late 19th century, timbers on this heroic scale disappeared entirely. Not often seen in Ontario barns, narrow tapered boards of white pine, which weather slightly concave, were used as siding. When aging boards on the north side of the barn needed replacing about five years ago, cedar was used because pine boards were not available in the correct profile. Stand at the north-east corner and compare the pine boards on the east with the cedar on the north. Can you see the difference?

The illustration of the lower level is adapted from *The Barn* by Eric Arthur and Dudley Witney, published in 1972 by McClelland and Stewart. The authors greatly admired this barn in its original location on a farm in Markham, and their book contains several photos of the interior as it was then. Look closely at the posts and beams in the stable, and you can see marks of the original carpenter's adze.



Originally built in 1858, the barn was donated to the city of Toronto by Mrs. Francy in the mid-1970s and moved to Riverdale Farm. We are fortunate to have such a fine example of a rare bank barn located right here in our community, with its distinguishing south-facing overhang and natural upper level access. Be sure to admire its unique features on your next walk about the Farm.

## Cabbagetown Canines

My name is Kelsey. Well my posh kennel name is Traboh's Celtic Dream Catcher. My mom and dad have the papers to prove it. I'm really not showing off. As you will learn later...



I'm a Wheaten Terrier. The soft-coated kind, not that I've ever met one with a hard coat. I moved into Cabbage Town last October. At first, I was skeptical. Well my Mom and Dad confused me. I used to live in a house with a lawn, and I was always encouraged to do my thing(s) on the grass – my preferred substrate. If I went on my Mom and Dad's flower beds in the old house they went ballistic. Their bathrooms seem much the same – no adjustments there...

Here my yard doesn't have a lawn. We have the stuff they make parking lots out of, only bumpy. Nothing like my preferred substrate! A courtyard my mom calls it. When I go on it, they get mad and give me treats when I go on the flower beds. I'm fifteen years old. Don't they know, you can't teach an old dog new tricks?

Now Cabbage Town ain't all bad. We walk more, and there's lots of parks with grass and trees, and dogs! Big dogs, small dogs, middling dogs – very friendly they are, well mostly. One day, mom and me were walking, and we meet another Wheaten. Molly she's called. My mum and her mum chatted for quite a bit and seemed really happy to have met. Me and Molly get that

common-from-humans, moony mushy look and pats. A few days later something comes through the letter box. Mom beats me to it before I can rip it apart. "S'Wheatie", she gushes "it's for you!" She reads out loud.

Dear Kelsey,  
Molly and my mom enjoyed meeting you in the park last week. When we got home, Mom checked my papers ... and you are my Great Grandma. No wonder our moms were so happy that we met. This also means you are the sister of another wheaten, Riannon, who belongs to one of my mom's friends.

My mom and I are wondering if you and the lady you live with would be free for tea and perhaps a walk one afternoon next week. It would be fun for the three of us to get together again.  
Molly

My mum is really excited, and the tea party is arranged. I'm not so sure about the tea. But my mom is baking liver cookies – this is more like it. I don't enjoy the pre-tea grooming session.

We arrive. Our owners gush, hug each other and feed us the cookies whilst they drink tea. Molly leaps around being young, and my sister, Riannon!!!!!! Well I must say she is wearing better than I am. Still the bitch hasn't had eighteen children – and out of wedlock too. Still she's got high style that one. The humans keep yapping and sipping, and my sister barks at her owner to remind him about the walk in the park. And barks. And barks. So off we go. Molly, my great granddaughter tears about and leaps around like kids do, and me and sis are a tad more sedate. People stop and talk to us thinking they are seeing triple.

So now I'm settled and have friends. I'm a Cabbage Town dog. Like to meet more of you.

Barbara Brown on behalf of Kelsey

Do you have a Cabbagetown pup story? For submission guidelines please contact [cpa@cabbagetownpa.ca](mailto:cpa@cabbagetownpa.ca)

## Forsythia Festival Sunday May 3rd, 2009

Cabbagetown's Forsythia Festival has been a rite of Spring for over 35 years. The Festival began 38 years ago when Tony Brady, a professional clown who lived on Wellesley Street, brought the neighbourhood children together for a costume parade and a celebration of spring. The tradition continues this year on May 3rd at 10:30am with a parade around Cabbagetown that begins in upper Riverdale Park at the corner of Winchester and Sumach Streets and ends in Wellesley Park. The parade is followed by the ceremonial planting of a Forsythia bush and a morning of fun, games and entertainment for the children.



## Did you know . . .



that the first urban living/work space was over the property at the corner of Ontario and Dundas? Now known as the Metropolitan Glass Ltd., it was originally built for the Grand Noble Wine and Grocers circa 1890. Once the business was established, however, most merchants found it expedient to rent the space above the store to trusted employees who could deal with the late night emergency calls.

courtesy of the Cabbagetown South Association website

# Kilimanjaro Climb for Knowledge



Christopher (r) and one of his six team mates on the summit with the Cabbagetown flag!

Christopher Dew had always wanted to climb Mount Kilimanjaro. When he was planning this high-risk adventure, he devised the idea to use the opportunity to raise funds for the Cabbagetown People Program and the Cabbagetown/Regent Park Museum which offer educational programs for children and adults.

For the Kilimanjaro Climb for Knowledge, he created a website [www.kiliclimbfundraiser.com](http://www.kiliclimbfundraiser.com) to get the word out about the climbing expedition and the educational expedition.

On Sunday, March 1st, Christopher achieved the summit of Mount Kilimanjaro, and as you can see, proudly displays both banners and the Cabbagetown flag.

Congratulations Christopher on a successful climb! We salute your generosity and your continuing support of Cabbagetown community initiatives.

To make a donation or for further information please visit: [www.kiliclimbfundraiser.com](http://www.kiliclimbfundraiser.com)

Christopher's story is a fantastically inspirational one. He was the writer and producer of The Littlest Hobo television series. He is married with two young daughters. An active Cabbagetown community volunteer and fundraiser, Christopher has also done an extraordinary job, mostly on his own, restoring a 149 year old Georgian farmhouse in Cabbagetown. He ran his first marathon in September 2008.



Spring 2009 volume 19 issue 1

# Anglicans Open Their Doors

St. Peter's Anglican Church, 188 Carlton Street invites you to "Anglicans Open Their Doors" on Sunday, April 26th from 1:00 – 4:00 pm to celebrate the sacred space and beauty of this historical church. There will be music through out the afternoon to aid in prayer and meditation concluding with a Gregorian (plainchant) Evensong at 4:30 pm. We are looking forward to members of Saint Bartholomew's parish joining us.

St. Peter's has a long and varied history of involvement with educational and philanthropic endeavours, including acting as a terminus for the "Underground Railway." There will be displays from our extensive archives, and people on hand to answer any questions. Our modern stained glass windows, including the rose window above the organ were all designed by Toronto glass artist Russell Goodman, and are an interesting contrast to the Victorian glass at the sides of the church. The Symbols of the Apostles are painted around the ceiling of the church.

This historic church founded in 1863 was designed by the famous architect, Henry Langley. He was one of the most prolific architects of the 19th century specializing in the design of ecclesiastical buildings. He was buried in the Necropolis in 1907, for which he had designed the chapel, superintendent's lodge and entrance gates.

Handicap access: 188 Carlton Street, side door. Please ring bell.

## Board Nominations

The Cabbagetown Preservation Association ("CPA") has a 12 member Board of Directors. Each Director serves for a term of two years. Vacant positions shall be filled at the CPA Annual General Meeting at 7 p.m. on May 27, 2009 in the Meeting House at the Riverdale Farm, 201 Winchester Street, Toronto, ON. M4X 1B8

The CPA is looking for enthusiastic people with a degree of neighbourhood involvement and/or knowledge, time, and organizational, technical, or communication skills. Professional or "armchair" architects, accountants, historians, lawyers, graphic artists, computer specialists, and gardeners are welcome.

Any CPA member in good standing who wishes to serve on the Board of Directors, or wishes to nominate another member, should submit a nomination in writing to Sue McMurtry, Secretary, 325 Sumach Street, Toronto, ON M5A 3K6, or by email at [suemcmurtry@rogers.com](mailto:suemcmurtry@rogers.com).



Nominations must be received not later than May 20, 2009, and should include the name, address and other contact information for the nominee as well as a short description of the nominee's qualifications, in addition to confirming the following mandatory criteria:

A candidate for the Board of Directors must be a CPA member in good standing, should reside in the Cabbagetown area, be prepared to attend at least 12 meetings per year, host at least one meeting, and actively participate in CPA projects and activities.

A candidate for the Board of Directors must be prepared to participate in one or more of the CPA committees: Tour of Homes, Garden Tour, Forsythia Festival, Cabbagetown People Project.

A slate of Board Members will be presented at the Annual General Meeting, unless there are more nominations than vacancies, in which event, election to the Board will be determined by a secret ballot at the Meeting. In the event of a ballot, nominees will be invited to give a brief verbal presentation at the Meeting.

## I'm renovating! What do I do? Heritage District Protocol

Owni ng a home in a heritage district gives us the advantages of living in a beautiful historic district of leafy, human-scaled streets, a large variety of architectural styles and a tangible connection to Toronto's past. These characteristics that we find so attractive and the rarity of finding such a preserved gem intact are protected by Cabbagetown's designation as a Heritage Conservation District.

Most homeowners in Cabbagetown know that when they make changes to the parts of their homes that are visible from the street, they have to conform to HCD rules. But many people are confused about what the rules are, how to approach renovation or where to get help. Inside is the definitive word; everything you ever wanted to know about living in an HCD.

### Here's the fortune cookie version:

- The rules apply only to what can be seen from the street.
- Changes must revert to the original building.
- Design, technical and referee help is available from the HCD Committee. They will walk you through the Heritage Permit process with the City (it's quick), if you need a permit.
- A heritage permit is needed for windows, doors, siding, any facade changes.
- The CPA does not enforce heritage; that is a City and provincial function. All HCDs have an HCD Committee of neighbours that have an advisory function.

Once you have decided that you want to make changes, an initial call to Peggy Kurtin (416-967-6432) will get you started.

For the whole story, please go to our site at <http://www.cabbagetownpa.ca>. You will find the definitive explanation from the Ontario Ministry of Culture.



# Streetscapes in Bloom 2009

This award, offered annually by the CPA for the past 10 years, recognizes an impressive and eye-catching front garden. The CPA wishes to acknowledge the work of local gardeners who beautify the streets of our unique area with their appealing front gardens.

Consider nominating a front garden near you or one you admire as you complete your daily walk.

Please submit nominations by FRIDAY, MAY 29th c/o Helen Coltrinari. Leave a message at 416-923-6165 or send an email to helenc.hmc@sympatico.ca

The following information is necessary for the garden to be nominated:

- exact address of the garden e.g. 10 Winchester Street
- nominator's contact information – name, phone, email
- nominee's contact information – name, phone, email

The judging committee includes Stephen Boddy, Steve Poulin, Ruth Wagner, Paul Shearstone, Ken McKenzie, Lou Riches, Sandy Riches; chair of the committee for the CPA is Helen Coltrinari.

## Past Winners:

- 1997 – 123 Winchester St.
- 1998 – 94 Amelia St.
- 1999 – 31 Spruce St.
- 2000 – 319 Wellesley St.
- 2001 – 331 Wellesley St.
- 2002 – 76 Amelia St.
- 2003 – 60 Spruce St.
- 2004 – 334 Carlton St.
- 2005 – 2 Geneva Avenue
- 2006 – 28 Amelia Street
- 2007 – 5-7 Geneva Avenue
- 2008 – 308 Carlton St.

## History of the award:

In 1996, a cross-Canada competition called "Communities in Bloom" took place and the garden grouping from 90-98 Winchester won a certificate of merit. This award inspired the beginning of the annual CPA sponsored event.



# Hooked On Houses Upper Toronto Takes on Cabbagetown



Take two classic Cabbagetown house designs. Add a group of enthusiastic rug hookers and what do you get? Magic. That's what the members of the Upper Toronto Branch of the OHCG (Ontario Hooking Craft Guild) discovered this past fall and winter. And that's what we shared with more than 100 members of the hooking community on February 7th of this year.

In the rug hooking community, the "Hook-in" is a very special tradition. Rug hookers come together all around the Province to catch up with one another, show off their latest projects, eat wonderful home-made goodies and spend money buying supplies from a number of vendors. This year, we were truly a National event, with a couple of visitors from Nova Scotia and one from B.C. This year was our 3rd Annual event.

For the 2009 theme several ideas were put forward: "Cabbagetown houses" was the favourite among the suggestions.

One of our very artistic members Trish Johnson, after presenting the idea, did a photo tour of Cabbagetown and presented her findings to the group. She also did some preliminary sketches to show how the photos would translate into simple hooking patterns.

She had focused on the Worker's cottage and the Bay'

n Gable, which was sure to please everyone in the group. Thanks to technology, with some scanning and emailing, everyone received a pattern for each house that they were able to transfer to backing and get ready to hook.

The group agreed that each participant would hook one (or both) of the two houses in their own style. The only restriction would be the overall size of the project, which we agreed would be 12 x 16. This size would be big enough to incorporate some detail, but not too big to take a year to complete.

The challenge was for each hooker to present their house in any way they liked – in any season, any location, a close up, a repeating pattern – whatever they wanted to do. The response to the challenge was very enthusiastic. And the results were as different as the members of the group.

In our preliminary research into the project, I discovered the website of the Cabbagetown Preservation Association. The information there, as well as the two wonderful illustrations of the two styles of houses, led me to Stephen Yeates.

As publicity person for our branch, I wanted permission to use the illustrations in our advertising and promotion of our event. I was thrilled to be told to go ahead and then something

even more wonderful happened. Stephen offered to make a presentation at our event.

We traded emails as the months passed, and our group worked away on their masterpieces. Our agenda was set that following the CPA presentation to us, we would present our hooked pieces to Stephen.

Stephen's presentation was an overwhelming success. The room was transfixed as he took us on a photo tour of Cabbagetown, giving us an architectural overview of the neighbourhood, the houses and the history. It was fabulous! He had brought along a few newsletters, which were snapped up before they even made it to the table at the front of the room.

There were lots of questions and discussion about the presentation and the buzz continued long after Stephen had left the building.

As a fundraiser for the group, each member donated a pattern of the house they had hooked, along with a colour photograph. Every one of them was purchased by the end of the silent auction, and the proceeds raised were very impressive.

I guess these houses appealed not only to us, but to everyone who attended.

Photos taken of the individual pieces as well as the group shot of all the interpretations following our presentation certainly demonstrate the enthusiasm and the magic in the challenge.



We don't know what we'll do for next year's Hook In. But this year's Hooked on Houses day, with the Cabbagetown Houses and Stephen as the star attraction, is going to be pretty tough to beat

by Mary Ann Pilskalneitis, OHCG, Upper Toronto Branch

## Late Snow in C'town

Cabbagetown experienced a mid-April snowfall as the effects crew for the shooting of the film *Scott Pilgrim vs. the World* used cotton batting and snowmaking equipment to prepare lawns and trees for a winter scene.



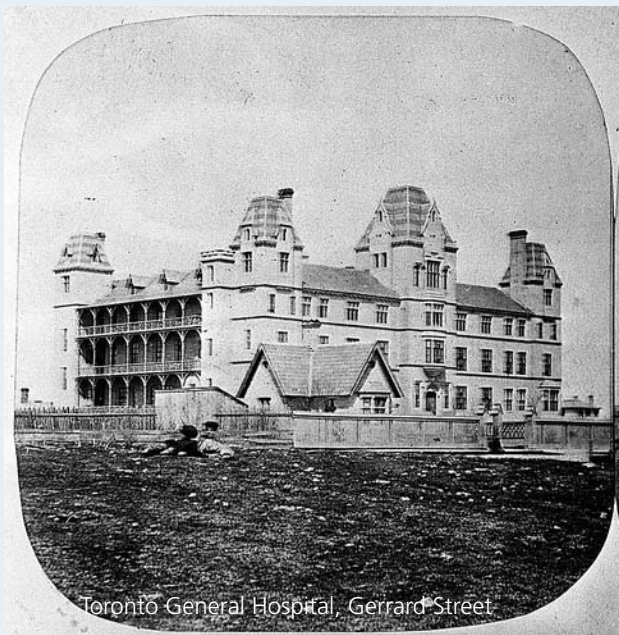
# Cabbagetown/Regent Park Museum

## Academic Partnerships

There are three academic partnership projects currently underway. Lorenzo Somma is a 4th year undergraduate at the University of Toronto completing an Honours Degree in Science with Biology and History double majors. Lorenzo is considering continuing his studies in either history or medicine, and the current project was an experience in aiding his decision for his future career goals.

The project for the Cabbagetown Regent Park Museum required Lorenzo to research a variety of medical institutions in the area including the Toronto General Hospital (Gerrard Street Location), Trinity Medical College and the Women's Medical College. The research delved into the financial, political and societal support each institution enjoyed in the period under study. In addition, the connection that the institutions had with each other and with the community was also a goal of the research. The Cabbagetown Regent Park Museum will be mounting an exhibition on the medical history of this area under the mentorship of Sally Gibson based on Lorenzo's research and final paper; along with a number of medical artifacts donated by local Dr. D'Cuhna.

Monica Dikkes and Amanda Pettitt are third year Honours Planning students at the University of Waterloo. Their project entitled "Using a Museum Exhibit as a Tool for Child Participation: Children in Planning and Social Concepts" was developed in partnership with the Cabbagetown Regent Park Museum with enthusiastic support from Senga McLean, Recreationist at the Riverdale Farm. The exhibit will be mounted at the Residence, Riverdale Farm by May 1st of this year. Monica and Amanda write: "Interactive museum exhibits provide unique settings for play. Play can both unlock a child's imagination and imitate real life. It promotes cooperation, team building, logical thinking, creativity and skills. Our exhibit was an effective educational tool that provided information about the history of the community, planning and awareness and promotes healthier lifestyles. The exhibit serves as a gateway for conversations about a child's community." Overall, the exhibit is a great start for promoting awareness about the urban and rural environment and the planning process. Further projects like this will be used to promote children's participation and involvement in planning and be exhibited at the Residence.



## Second Empire Victorian dollhouse

The two most popular items on exhibit are the Riverdale Zoo panel and the lovely, hand-crafted dollhouse. This Second Empire Victorian Dollhouse was built in 1983 by Master Craftsman John Edward Morris Clark of Tottenham, Ontario for his younger daughter, Natalie's tenth birthday. John is also a custom Gun Maker specializing in 18th century flintlock rifles pistols and fowling pieces; and manufactures wooden propellers for vintage aircraft. [www.clarkindustries.on.ca]. The dollhouse plans were obtained from a woodcrafter in Massachusetts, USA, and it took John roughly 400-hours to complete. The siding and shingles are made from pine strip wood and tongue depressors. The windows and doors were purchased from The Little Dollhouse Company, Toronto, which is the largest and oldest doll house and miniature store in Canada.



The dollhouse represents the type of home that would have been built in a small town or rural area of Ontario in the 1870s and 1880s. It's a single-family home, made of wood, featuring a striking tower, iron work, porches, and, most distinctively, a steeply sloped "mansard roof." These are all characteristic features of the Second Empire style that influenced Victorian architecture all across Ontario, Canada, Britain, and, of course, France where the "Second Empire" referred to the reign of Napoleon III.

The Second Empire style was also very influential in Toronto. Above all, the mansard roof identifies these buildings. Second Empire architecture in Toronto, and Cabbagetown - Regent Park, was quite a "grand" style, although we see smaller, but still impressive, examples on our own streets. Originally, most buildings shown here were residences, but they have been transformed into other uses.

## Volunteers

The Cabbagetown Regent Park Museum has been busy. It was open for March Break during weekdays for the first time and greeted as many as 200 visitors in a 4 ½ hour period. This was made possible by some of our 90 volunteers and a number of students from Pathways to Education, who did an excellent

job of staffing the Residence. A group of 15 students from the Canadian Centre for Victims of Torture also volunteered for a shift and it was rewarding to see how enthusiastic all the youth were about their history. We are most fortunate in our roster of highly skilled volunteers. Most of the volunteers live out of the area, with some coming in from as far afield as Kitchener, Waterloo, London, Peterborough and Hamilton. We want to thank all of them for their contributions.

## A Highly Successful First: CRP Museum's New Lecture Series

Dr. Karolyn Smardz Frost is passionate about her subject. The Governor General Award-winning author of *I've Got A Home in Glory Land* delivered the first Cabbagetown Regent Park fundraising lecture on March 28th. Speaking in the restored glory of The Lamb House at 156 Winchester, Karolyn kept her audience entranced, inspired, and wanting to know more about the heroic tale of fugitive slaves Thornton and Lucie Blackburn. The Blackburns arrived in Toronto 175 years ago and had a distinct impact on the new city and the lives of other fugitive slaves. And, yes, there are Cabbagetown connections ... but you'll have to read her book to find out what they are. For more about Karolyn, check out her website at <http://www.homeingloryland.com>. Thank you Karolyn for your lively and moving talk, Sally Gibson for your informed and genial introduction; and all the folks who helped the Cabbagetown Regent Park Museum raise over \$2000 to continue its work.



# Tours Of Every Description...

## Old Cabbagetown Tour of Homes



Once again, the CPA is busy organizing this annual charity event

The tentative date is Sunday, September 20th, 2009. Check the website for updates and more information.

We are still seeking homeowners to generously volunteer their houses. A house plaque and a Cabbagetown flag is a small tangible reward; the main reason is to support the local groups involved.

Consider supporting this local community event, run continuously for over 30 years, by volunteering to help out, by selling tickets, or by buying tickets for the event.

Tickets [\$30.00 each] go on sale in early August at our regular sales outlets: Cabbagetown BIA, Mi Casa, Sheridan Nurseries (Yonge Street North location), Jamestown Steak and Chops. Other outlets will be advertised on the web site.

## "Hidden Gardens and Private Spaces"

Sunday, JUNE 7 from 10:00 - 3:00.  
(note change of start and end times)

Ten gardens - small and large - in Historic Cabbagetown  
This is a self-guided tour where you can speak to the gardeners about the challenges and delights of their backyard spaces.

Tickets cost \$10.00 per person and are available at:

- Mi Casa, 238 Carlton Street 416-929-1913
- Jay's Garden Centre, 360 Gerrard Street east 416-927-9949
- Sheridan Nurseries, North Toronto Store only, 2827 Yonge Street, 416-481-6429
- Bill's Garden Centre, 903 Pape Street 416-466-8283
- Fairway Variety, 520 Parliament Street at Winchester, 416-921-0624

Tickets go on sale April 15th. Cash sale only in most outlets. This popular garden tour sold out last year so get your tickets early.

**ABONUS** this year's tour includes a guided tour of the many fascinating gardens at the Riverdale Farm. Members of the Riverdale Farm Garden Group will take small groups of ticket holders to the various sites in the farm with explanations of the flora on display and flora yet to come.

Proceeds from this tour support the Streetscapes in Bloom award and the Cabbagetown People Program.

## Walking Tours

The Cabbagetown Preservation Association's (CPA) annual Walking Tour Program is conducted during the spring, summer and early fall. The opportunity to show and talk about our vibrant and beautiful neighbourhood, has engaged a number of local residents to lead walking tours that are organized through the CPA. The backbone of our annual program is a relationship with Heritage Toronto, who conduct and market a city wide walking tour program, including, three to four visits to the Cabbagetown community each year. These tours are free and this year's schedule of dates, start time, routing and meeting location are as follows...

**Saturday, June 27th**, 1:30 pm start from the NE corner of Parliament and Winchester Streets. This tour will visit Winchester Street and the Necropolis Cemetery.

**Saturday, July 18th**, 1:30 pm start from the NE corner of Parliament and Wellesley Streets. This tour will visit the northern parts of the neighbourhood, proceeding east along Wellesley and returning along Amelia, with a visit to Rose Avenue on the west side of Parliament Street.

**Saturday, August 8th**, 1:30 pm start from the NE corner of Parliament and Winchester Streets. This tour, which was new last year and highly praised, featuring the Cabbagetown People program, with visits to a number of the blue plaque locations throughout the community. This tour proceeds east along Winchester Street, returns along Carlton, before crossing over Parliament to Ontario Street and finishing on Winchester Street, west of Parliament.

Join in to see and hear about the architectural or historical features of our special community. These tours are not the only opportunities to be guided throughout Cabbagetown. Throughout the season, we also provide guided tours to hundreds of school children through the work of the

**Cabbagetown People** program. Tours are provided to outside groups (seniors, corporate and interest groups) at request and for many years our volunteers have provided guided walks through the Necropolis and St. James-the-Less cemeteries during the annual city wide, Doors Open program held at the end of May.

Additional participation by our resident tour guides has been to provide free walking tours during each September's **Cabbagetown Festival** and support to the annual Cabbagetown Tour of Homes. During the Tour of Homes, guides have provided information and entertainment to participants waiting in line-ups to the homes and last year the first annual **Ghost Tour of Cabbagetown** was held the evening after Halloween. The Ghost Tour turned out to be a great success with over 200 participants and a great time was had by all who attended.

In addition to the free tours, the CPA is now offering **private tours of Cabbagetown**. There will be a charge for these, similar to tours given in other cities and in parts of Toronto. The cost is \$10 per person to a maximum of \$100 for the group. Up to 15 people can be accommodated on a tour with one guide. If you have guests from out of town or want to take a tour with a few friends just email the CPA at [cpa@cabbagetownpa.ca](mailto:cpa@cabbagetownpa.ca) with your request and we will get in touch with you to make arrangements. Proceeds are donated to the CPA.

If you would like to get involved, we are **always seeking residents** who would like to act as guides in this program. A short training exercise and materials are provided and once you're prepared, you too can be one of a number of tour guide ambassadors guiding visitors around our community. If you're interested, just email the CPA at [cpa@cabbagetownpa.ca](mailto:cpa@cabbagetownpa.ca) and we will be in touch to get you engaged in this activity of the CPA.

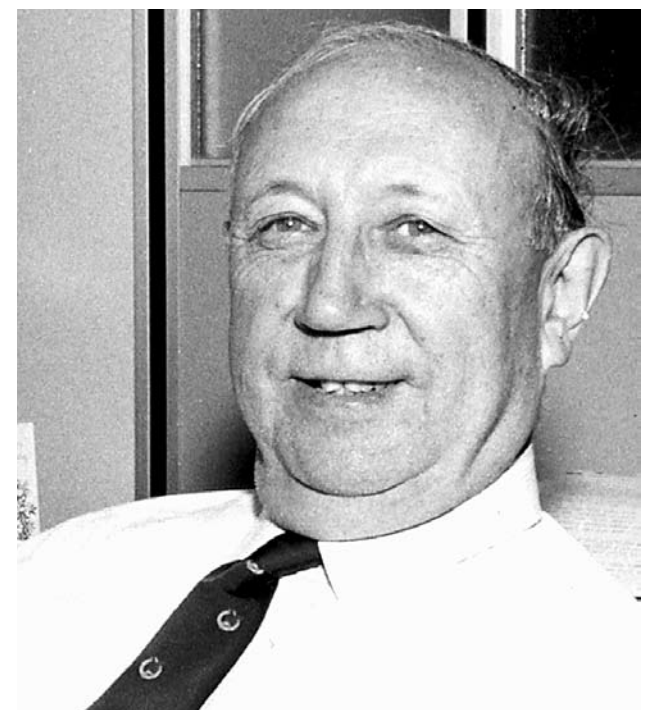
# Gordon Sinclair

Plaque location: Carlton Street,  
west of Sumach south side,  
formerly 375 Carlton Street



**A Giant in Canadian  
Broadcast Journalism  
1900-1984**

One of the biggest names in Canadian broadcast journalism is Gordon Sinclair. In 1922 he began working as a reporter for the Toronto Daily Star. He had a series of assignments in the late twenties and thirties that sent him around the world four times as a wandering reporter. He traveled 360,000 miles, through all continents, and on all oceans except the Antarctic. From these adventures he wrote the following four books; Footloose In India, Cannibal Quest, Loose Among the Devils and Khyber Caravan.



His career took a turn in 1942 and he began working in radio. He reported on the raid on Dieppe, and he was then asked to write biographical sketches of leaders in that raid. The result was a mid-day personality series - "Let's Be Personal," on Canada's radio station CFRB which attracted huge audiences, and which continued until the time of his death.

At this time, Gordon Sinclair was still working for the newspaper. After 21 years as a newspaperman he quit the Toronto Star and opted for a free-lance career in radio.

In 1948, CFRB granted Gordon Sinclair a leave and he took a fifth trip around the world, traveling to Japan, China, Malaya, and on to Europe. He witnessed the takeover of China by the communists.

In 1957 he became a charter member of "Front Page Challenge", a weekly panel show on the CBC TV network.

It was Canada's longest running television program, which continued until 1995.

"Sinc's" most famous commentary was broadcast in 1973 when anti-American sentiment was at an all-time high. The piece was echoed around the world and is considered one of the most respected tributes from Canada to the people of the United States of America. Its renewed popularity in September 2001 can be attributed to recent terrorist attacks on U.S. soil.

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



Spring 2009 volume 19 issue 1

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# Don Vale Cabbagetown Residents Association

## Annual General Meeting

Wednesday, May 6, 2009 at 7:00 pm

Riverdale Farm Meeting House  
(the building down the path towards the valley)

### SPECIAL PRESENTATION

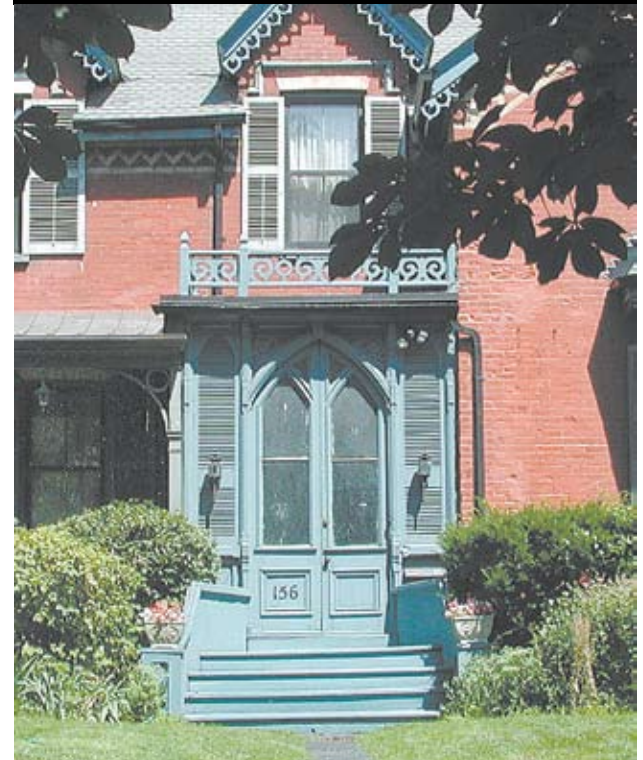
Update on Phase Two of the Regent Park Revitalization Project  
Presented by Liz Root, Project Director and John Gladki, Planner, GHK  
International.

Doors open at 7:00 p.m. and the Regent Park Revitalization presentation will commence at 7:15 p.m. The business of the Association's Annual Meeting will be held after the presentation.

For more information see: [www.donvalecra.ca](http://www.donvalecra.ca)

**[www.donvalecra.ca](http://www.donvalecra.ca)**

## Restoring Your Home?



## Get City help with a Grant

Last year The Toronto Heritage Grant Program, administered by the Heritage Preservation Services Unit of the City Planning Division, encouraged the conservation of designated heritage properties in the City of Toronto. The program for 2009 will be similar to the 2008 version.

In 2008 the Program provided grant funds of up to 50% of the estimated cost of eligible heritage conservation work to designated heritage properties. Owners of a property designated under Parts IV or V of the Ontario Heritage Act could qualify to receive a grant for eligible conservation work in either of the two project categories:

1. Residential house form buildings - Up to a maximum grant of \$10,000.00 for individual properties.
2. Commercial, institutional, multi-residential and industrial form buildings.

The Toronto Heritage Grant Program is part of the City of Toronto's Community Partnership Investment Program.

If you are interested, check this url for updated information:  
<http://www.toronto.ca/heritage-preservation/grants/>

## Get to know your neighbours; become a volunteer

What is a volunteer and why do we need them?

A volunteer is someone who serves in a community primarily because he/she chooses to do so.

Many serve through non-profit organizations but a significant number also serve formally, individually, or as part of a group....

Not-for-profit organizations survive because of the many volunteers who so willingly give of their time to support them.

The CPA and other Cabbagetown community organizations are constantly seeking people to help out in many capacities.

Get in touch with the organization of your choice and consider donating a few hours a month to help out with these worthy causes.

"Volunteers do not necessarily have the time; they just have the heart." ~ Elizabeth Andrew

## CPA is always looking...

Some of our committees:

**Walking Tours: Heritage, People and Ghost  
Heritage Research,  
Cabbagetown Festival Booth,  
Forsythia Festival,  
Tour of Homes,  
Newsletter Delivery,  
Garden tours.**

Duties may be for one event or ongoing. If you are interested, please contact: [secretary@cabbagetownpa.ca](mailto:secretary@cabbagetownpa.ca)



## CPA Membership/Volunteer Application

Please mail to Cabbagetown Preservation Association,

PO Box 82808, RPO Cabbagetown, 467 Parliament Street, Toronto, ON M5A 3Y2

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Postal Code \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

***There are many volunteer opportunities in the CPA. If you are interested check this line and we will contact you.*** \_\_\_\_\_

- 1 year \$ 20
- Would you like to make a tax-deductable donation? \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- TOTAL \$ \_\_\_\_\_