



Cabbagetown Preservation Association NEWSLETTER

Preserving the architectural integrity and historic character of our neighbourhood

CPA's AGM At Regent Park, May 31

See and discuss the newest plans for the Regent Park Development, including the Big Park, at the Cabbagetown Preservation Association's 2010 Annual General Meeting, Monday, May 31.

Doors open at 6:30 for the 7:00 PM meeting at 500 Dundas Street E, in the Presentation Centre, east of Parliament Street. New memberships and membership renewals will be available.

Regent Park's "Big Park"

The design for the Big Park to be located between Sumach and Sackville Streets north of Dundas Street, south of Oak Street is taking form. A community workshop held in January, 2010, resulted in tremendous input on two concept options presented by the design team. Following the workshop, a preferred concept was developed that will create a wonderful new focus for the Regent Park community.



Some of the key components of the concept plan include:

- Hard surface plaza and entrance at Dundas Street West to host a variety of activities;
- Clusters of trees to provide shade and a canopy for flexible use areas on grass;
- Central play field with side slopes for seating and viewing;
- Children's play ground along the north edge of the park;
- Children's water plan and activity space on the west of the pool building;
- Gardens;
- Dog Off-Leash Area; and,
- Public Art.

The concept plan is based on the following four initiatives:

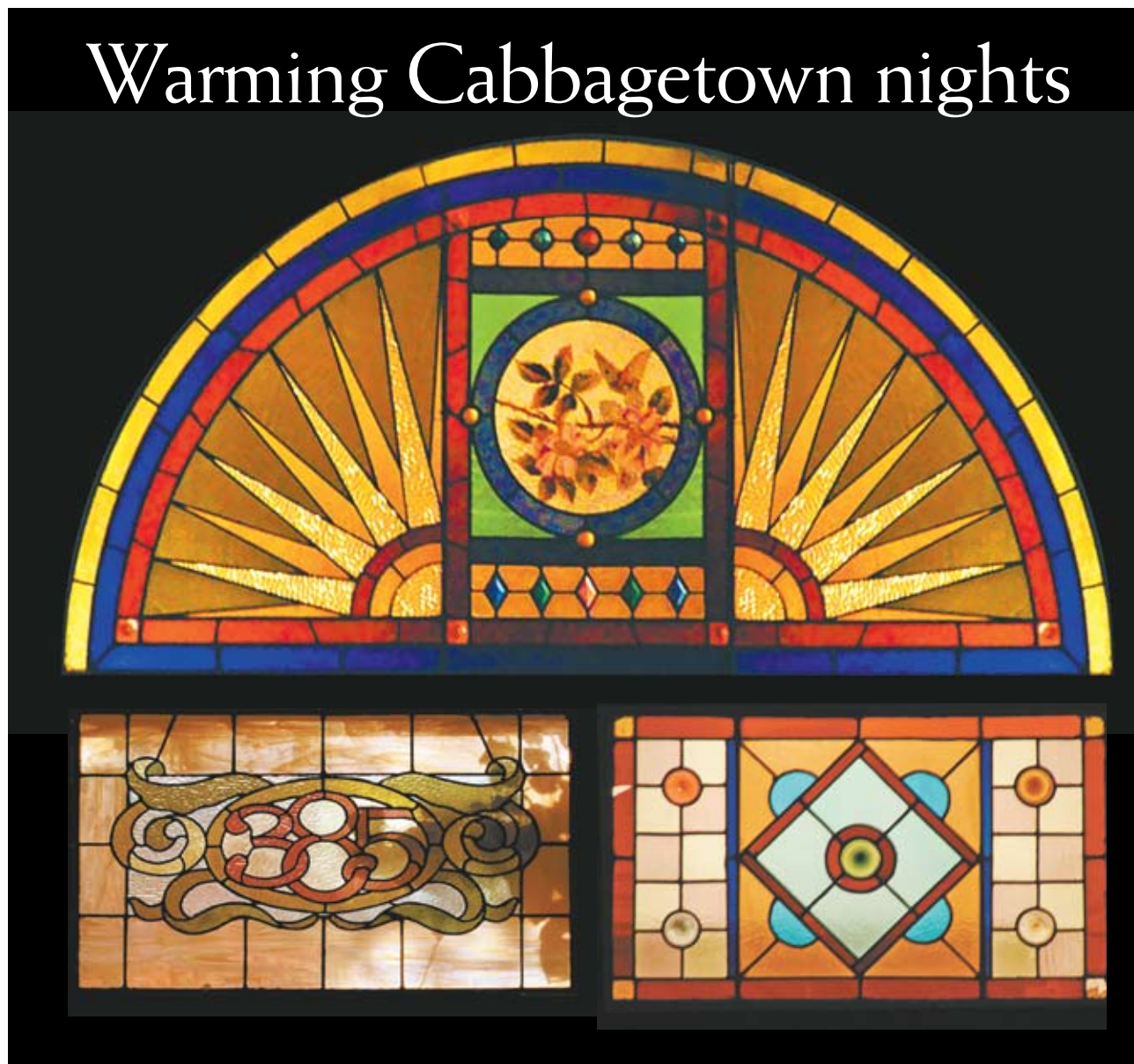
Grass and Trees

The majority of the park will be left as simply grass and trees. This will allow for quiet places for all to enjoy, while allowing for maximum flexibility in accommodating a variety of park uses.

Multi Layered and Multi Functional

The park design incorporates spaces which can accommodate a variety of uses, rather than being suitable for only a single
Continued on page 4

Warming Cabbagetown nights



One of the pleasures of strolling older districts at night is the glow, sometimes soft, sometimes radiant, of stained glass in Victorian and Edwardian houses. Cabbagetown's density of old houses makes this a rich neighbourhood for enjoying this art. Most of the city's stained glass was produced by Robert McCausland Limited, the oldest stained glass company in the Western Hemisphere. Over five generations, the McCausland family has produced almost two thirds of Canada's stained glass. From 1897 to the present, the company has recorded almost thirty two thousand windows.

Joseph McCausland established his studio in 1856, enjoying early success with the rapid increase in church construction. McCausland's diversity was evident from an early advertisement that offered "figures under canopies, memorial windows, coats of arms, ornamental stencilled windows, embossed and enamelled work, landscape windows for halls and stairways, and bent glass".

But it was Joseph's son, Robert, who set the standards of art and design that established the company's reputation. After studying stained glass in England and Europe and having made many connections with major studios and designers, he returned to

set his stamp and name on the company. His priorities of colour, design and painting were supported by using English trained artists, who were products of an industry that was competitive and prestigious. Some artists wished to stay in England. They would send the designs – "cartoons" – to Toronto, where the studios artists would execute the work. Robert also kept abreast of technical innovation, and continued research in old techniques, as it continues to do today.

The company's work can be seen in the dome of the 1885 Bank of Montreal, now the Hockey hall of Fame, Old City Hall, countless churches and, of course, residences all over the city.

Today, McCausland designs and installs new stained glass windows and repairs and restores old ones. Its artists' standards of skill and design have remained unchanged, so they can replicate any painting style in repairing windows. They especially work with windows damaged by fire or vandalism and in the case of destruction are able to reproduce their windows by referring to their records.

Watch for that rarely seen McCausland truck in the neighbourhood!

History p2 Lane Names p6 Winchester Make-over p6

Businesses Connecting Us to History

Researching the Past: Caerwent HouseStories.

J&J Taylor Safe Company



CPA member Susan Dineen had the Dineen home researched by Robin Burgoyne of Caerwent HouseStories, a company that specializes in uncovering house histories. (see www.housestories.ca for details of their services if you are curious about your home)

The Dineen home at 182 Seaton Street was the "Taylor House", built in 1874. It was originally the home of John Taylor, a wealthy safe manufacturer and his wife Maria Crerar from Montreal. John and his brother James were immigrants from England and made the first safes in Canada. Their business was called the JJ Taylor Safe Company and later the Toronto Safe Company. Brother James eventually returned to England due to ill health. Taylor's Wharf Lane in Old Town Toronto was named after the Taylors. This was the location of their factory until 1959.

The Taylors had a son David in 1869 and another, John in 1870. John purchased land on Seaton Street in 1870 and quickly built a series of four rough-cast houses side-by-side. He rented these houses out to workers of the nearby factories, as was the custom in those days. For one year he lived in one of his cheaper homes until 120 Seaton (which later became 182 Seaton) was finished. It was a two story house with a yellow brick frame. One of the prominent additions to the house was the circa-1884 stained-glass window that was created by Robert McCausland. Mr. McCausland's great-grandson Andrew now runs the family business and was delighted to learn about the house and his grandfather's work. John Taylor was noted for his philanthropy and is listed as giving money to the Riverdale Zoo. He is buried at the Necropolis Cemetary.

Robin Burgoyne of Caerwent House Stories provided many pictures and documents. Says Susan, "One interesting picture is of a family who lived in the house until the 50's. It shows a large group having Christmas dinner around a large table that is now our living room. The young boy shown in the foreground now lives in Brampton and Robin arranged for him to visit the house and meet me. He was able to share many stories and insights about the home ...including the fact that it once had two staircases and two working fireplaces. I also have picture of a antique safe from the JJ Taylor Safe Company that was recently abandoned on Poulette Street! It weighs a ton otherwise I would have moved it into the backyard as a conversation piece!"

The J. & J. Taylor Safeworks, also known as the Toronto Safe Works, began as a foundry that made machine and large decorative and structural castings, in 1855. Their safes were fire and theft proof, which gave them a near-monopoly in the safe-making business. The safes were bulky and heavy. The factory expanded in 1867 and again in 1877 to occupy most of the east end of the block. Another addition was made in 1883. The company had its own wharf just west of the foot of Frederick Street.



When the Grand Trunk railway was built, the tracks ran along the south side of the Esplanade, which gave the firm a convenient alternative to shipping by water. In the 1920s, the railways required more space which the city supported. The project to elevate the Tracks started in 1925 and continued for three years. The south side of the Taylor property was expropriated, forcing the company to close in 1924, as they never relocated. Some of their safes were still in use in the 1950s and 1960s. J. & J. Taylor was the most successful manufacturer of safes in the city because of the quality of their products. Their safes were not only fully secure but also lasted for years without giving problems.

For pictures of the Historic Plaque at Taylor's Wharf and the original building: http://torontohistory.org/Pages_ABC/139-145_Front_Street_East.html

Restoring the Past: Heritage Mill

Woodwork Restoration

Heritage Mill, located in Dundas, Ontario, is a company dedicated to the preservation of historical architecture. Specializing in historical architectural woodwork, Heritage Mill works with architects, museums, historical associations, as well as private individuals to develop a plan that is suitable to the specific requirements of each project.

Their highly skilled, British trained craftsmen can replicate or repair all vintage woodwork using historically accurate materials, tools and techniques and historical research.

The company is a member of The Architectural Conservancy of Ontario as well as The Ontario Historical Society.

An example of the results of their research and craftsmanship can be seen in the restoration of these double front exterior pine doors from a Toronto home built by William McBean in 1885.

The double front exterior pine doors were missing the original trim moldings and decorative features. All that remained was the ghosting of what had been there. Two mail box slots had been cut into the lock rail of the doors. Research was done at both the Toronto Archives as well as the Ontario archives to try to determine what style of molding may have been on the doors. The research was inconclusive as there is no evidence that pattern books existed for this or any other buildings in the area of the time.



The doors as found

Several recreation drawings were done to try to determine the best fit for the outline that remained. A pattern was decided upon in consultation with the owner of the property.

Heritage Mill will be making a presentation on historical woodwork restoration at our November CPA Night, details to follow in the next (October) Newsletter.

For more information on Heritage Mill go to: www.heritagemill.ca



The doors restored

CRP Museum

Students, Volunteers, Donors and more.....

The Cabbagetown Regent Park Museum is a community-based inner city museum with approximately 10,000 visitors annually. Our record-setting day recorded 776 visitors, both local and from around the globe.

One of the driving forces behind the museum is the students. The museum has benefited from the Young Canada Works and Canadian Heritage Internship programs, independent talented students, and summer volunteers. In addition to augmenting the oral history project, the students learned the photographic techniques associated with creating digital visual records of artefacts; how to measure and document artefacts and input them into the museum database system; and how to upload selected files to Artefacts Canada. They assisted in the upload of more than 700 new entries, which are now available online to the general public and researchers. The number of items scanned and photographed was in the hundreds, and contributed significantly to the recording of the museum's collections.

These students, Madeline Bongers, Amadeusz Wiczorek and Matthew Ferguson, worked from the dining room of the heritage Cabbagetown Lamb House. Our staff was immediately impressed by their professionalism, eagerness to learn, work ethic, and the intelligent application of their knowledge to their new job. These young people were self starters and yet worked beautifully as a team.

During their time with the Cabbagetown Regent Park Museum, they were schooled in some of the techniques of documentary filmmaking and recording of oral histories. Each learned how to operate a camera; finesse lighting; record sound; and conduct interviews.



From one of the student's perspectives, Madeline Bongers writes:

"What I got from YCW was hands-on experience and training in many areas of recording history. From the period of June 22-August 28 I was employed at the Cabbagetown Regent Park Museum through funding from Young Canada Works; and later as an intern. In that time I learned many things including: how to catalogue archival materials, researching collections to compose reports for the museum website, uploading collections onto Artefact Canada's website, conducting oral histories using sound, lighting, and camera equipment, and creating displays for the museum.

What I enjoyed most about my job was working with a team and the curator to accomplish goals and learn new skills. I think the Cabbagetown Regent Park Museum is a terrific place to work and excellent experience for anyone looking to work in museums." Madeline Bongers

And from Matthew Ferguson:

"I had a terrific time this summer working for the Cabbagetown Regent Park Museum. I learned about the history of the area, interviewed local residents, and worked with interesting artefacts. I enjoyed my experience immensely!"

Matthew Ferguson and Madeline Bongers, YCW students. Madeline went on to become a CHIN intern.

Judy Gans and Karen Raittinen-DeSario are doing an amazing job as our new Co-Volunteer Coordinators. Docent training programs, participant feedback, and infectious enthusiasm have attracted a new roster of volunteers to join our loyal volunteer-base.

New educational programs, displays, partnerships and events are in the works. Fabulous artefact donations constantly arrive. Most of the Polly of Bridgewater Farms books have been sold and are also popular in Northern Ireland where they will become part of the school system.

Thank you to all our volunteers, contributors, and students for helping the museum continue to develop and expand.



Taking Charge committees at work:

Expanding the Cabbagetown Heritage Conservation District

The Cabbagetown Heritage Conservation District Advisory Committee, currently working on a proposed fifth Cabbagetown Heritage Conservation District (HCD), bound by the area from Carlton to Shuter Street west of Parliament to Sherbourne, to join the 1,800 houses in existing Cabbagetown Historic Conservation Districts, meets with the Cabbagetown South Residents Association at its monthly meeting Wednesday, June 9 at 7:00 at the Ontario Restaurant, on Dundas E. near Ontario Street. All residents in the area, or with an interest in the topic, are invited to participate. For more information contact Rick Hall, 416/967-6773, chair of the committee.

The committee also expects to have the website www.cabbagetownHCD.ca operational late Spring 2010, to provide a heritage restoration guideline resource to the community and a connection to other HCD's.

Reviving Riverdale Park

Under the guidance of Anne Pastuszek and Lynne Dionne, Riverdale Park West has been under the scrutiny and improvement by the Riverdale Park West Planning Committee. The committee's members include Aberdeen Avenue Residents Association, Cabbagetown Arts and Crafts Sale, CPA, Cabbagetown South Residents Association, Councillor Pam McConnell's Office, DVCRA, Friends of Riverdale Farm, Old Cabbagetown BIA, Parks, Forestry & Recreation City of Toronto, Residents of Cabbagetown, and Riverdale Farm.

The RPW Planning Committee was formed in response to the deterioration of the park's plantings, walks, flooding and safety issues. In 2009 when the committee was formed there was a vague feeling that the park was becoming shabby and possibly unsafe. Before taking any action, a survey was sent around to residents to identify what people felt was needed.

The results have been an immediate improvement. For example, on Saturday March 27th, our community came together with the City of Toronto Parks, Forestry and Recreation staff, to clean up the hillside behind the clubhouse, which had been identified on the survey as needing immediate attention. In three hours, 46 residents, generously shared their time, energy and expertise to help transform the hillside from a hidden and forgotten space, into a beautiful and inviting area with clear sightlines. Guided by City of Toronto gardeners and horticulturalists, volunteers pruned and cleared brush, cleaned up garbage, and stacked all discarded materials so as to assist city staff with clearing the debris. Over the next 12 to 18 months, the City of Toronto Parks, Forestry and Recreation staff will continue to improve and stabilize the area.

Future work will involve the state of the walkways, flooding and turf.

Ontario Genealogical Society Conference 2010

The Ontario Genealogical Society's three-day annual conference is the largest gathering of family historians in Canada. If you are exploring your family tree, this will be of interest to you. Friday, May 14, to Sunday, May 16, 2010 Doubletree by Hilton—Toronto Airport 655 Dixon Road, Toronto See www.ogs.on.ca/conference2010 for details. Voice mail 416-733-2608



I'm renovating! What do I do?

Own 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 Rick Hall (416-967-6773) 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.





use. For example the children's water play can be used as a stage when the water is turned off, and the plaza space will also accommodate a variety of uses such as farmers markets and performances.

Public Art

With the community undergoing a transformation, some aspects of the neighbourhood's rich social and cultural history will be captured in the design of the park. A primary goal of the public art program is to engage artists to express elements of what makes Regent Park so special through public art.

Urban Agriculture

Opportunities for urban agriculture, including edible plants and food producing trees, will be incorporated throughout the park.

The preferred concept plan was presented and discussed at the second community workshop held on April 21st. Participants were asked for their ideas in regards to children's play areas, community gardening, public art, recreation activities, plaza space and the off-leash area. Based on the input received, the design will be refined.

Construction is expected to start in fall 2011 and be completed within one year.



Clematis

—the divine vine for small gardens

We in Cabbagetown have been developing an ever-growing community over many years. Our neighbourhood is known not only for its historic architecture, but also for its horticultural bent. We share our knowledge over the fence, at our popular Hidden Gardens and Private Spaces Tour, and now, after all the research on clematis I've done for myself, I figure why not share it with others via our CPA newsletter.

In no way do I consider myself a master gardener, however, I've fallen in love with clematis, the perfect plant for the small Cabbagetown garden when the only place left is up. My research began when I was seeking out varieties that could withstand the shade in our garden at 2 Geneva Ave. Lack of light is so often a problem for gardeners in this neighbourhood.

Whether up obelisks, walls, trellises, or arbours, there are over 200 types of clematis to consider. Here are the names of some I've found that are available to us and that suit our zone:

Group A: Early blooming on old wood - Apr-June: Constance, Morning Mist, and Willy. Pruning in Mar/Apr is not necessary except to remove dead or broken stems.

Group B: Mid-season blooming - July-Sept - on old wood first, with a second flush on new wood: Henryi, Nelly Moser, and Virgin's Bower. Prune hard when flowers first fade. Next year's blooms will appear on new growth.

Group C: Late blooming Aug-Sept/Oct: Bees Jubilee. Prune entire plant down to just above the second or third node from the bottom in Mar/Apr before new growth appears.

Things to know about clematis:

- We need to look for clematis that do well in Toronto's zone 6b.
- Clematis like their roots to be shaded and well drained.
- Clematis love alkaline soil - add a handful of dolomite (lime) to the soil - a feeding of super phosphate and manure or rich compost in Mar/Apr or 20-20-20 twice a summer. Avoid synthetic fertilizers in the first year.
- Cut off the first shoot at ground level when first planted. Take courage...then even more shoots will emerge.
- Clematis are untroubled by pests and diseases.
- There are also non-climbing/scrambling types...but I'll leave those for you to research.

I'm going to HAVE to get one of those Avant Guards for that added wow factor to go with those other reds along our parking pad. (By sheer coincidence, they're in the same colour range as our car!)

Ruth Wagner



Walking Tours

Saturday and Sunday May 29th and 30th – Doors Open – St. James-the-Less Cemetery, 635 Parliament Street. Guided tours both days from 1:00 – 4:00 PM, running continuously throughout the afternoon each day.

Sunday, July 25th – 1:00 PM – Cabbagetown People, More Remarkable Lives. Depart from the North East corner of Parliament and Winchester Streets. This tour will also be conducted in French by volunteer guides from La Societe d'histoire de Toronto.

Saturday, August 7th – 1:30 PM – Cabbagetown South. Depart from the North East corner of Parliament and Winchester Streets.

Saturday and Sunday, September 11th and 12th – Cabbagetown Festival. Guided tours depart from the CPA booth located at the stone gates to Riverdale Park West from 1:00 – 3:30 PM throughout the afternoon each day.

Saturday, October 30th – 7:00 PM – 3rd Annual Cabbagetown Ghost Tour. Depart from the North East corner of Parliament and Winchester Streets.



Tour of Homes

Hold the date !

The 33rd Annual Cabbagetown Tour of Homes will be held on Sunday, September 19th, 2010.

The Tour of Homes Committee is already working hard to bring together yet another stunning collection of beautiful Cabbagetown homes to showcase at this year's 33rd Annual Cabbagetown Tour of Homes.

If you would like to present your home, or would like to nominate a home that should be featured, please contact either Helen Coltrinari or Karen Hersey by e-mail at cpa@cabbagetownpa.ca

Tickets at \$30. each, will go on sale in August and once again will be available from retailers in the neighbourhood and elsewhere in Toronto. Watch the CPA website www.cabbagetownpa.ca starting in late July for more information about this year's Tour.

Streetscapes in Bloom '10

Nominate a garden!

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.
- 2009 – 118 Winchester Street and 368 Wellesley Street East

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.



Hidden Gardens & Private Spaces Tour

The CPA's fourth annual Cabbagetown Garden Tour "Hidden Gardens and Private Spaces" takes place on **Sunday, June 6 from 10:00 - 3:00**. (note change of start and end times)

Ten gardens - small and large - in the Historic Conservation District of Cabbagetown will be on view. This is a self-guided tour. Plan to attend and speak to the gardeners about the challenges and delights of their backyard spaces.

This year's garden guru is Marjorie Harris. She will be in a garden to sign her books and will have a limited number available for sale.

Tickets cost \$10.00 before the tour and \$15.00 the day of the tour. Tickets go on sale on April 25th at the following outlets.

- 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
- Fairway Variety, 520 Parliament Street at Winchester, 416-921-0624
- Kendall Design & Décor, 438 Parliament Street, 416-363-9914

Cash sales only in most outlets. This popular garden tour sold out last year so get your tickets early.

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



Spring In Cabbagetown

Trees are budding
Softly growing
Feathery green gold
Granny apple vert
The earth is painted
With soft green beings
New life from fertile earth
Velvet shadows - flying - darting
Swooping - busying - building
Shadows of wings - caressing
Sweeping sun's reflection
Let us know they are here
With flight and song
A loving throng
Free to choose
In which garden branches
To belong
As we try to persuade them
With seed and crumbs
Of their liking
And with water fountain
Gurgling
Splashing - sparkling
Inviting song
With
Spring in Cabbagetown

Barbara Mercer



Spring 2010 volume 20 issue 1

Forsythia Festival Sunday May 4, 2010

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.





Junior City Planners

March Break vacations and rain reduced the size but not the enthusiasm of the participants in our sixth Cabbagetown Neighbourhood Diaries Workshop. We continued with the theme of who is who in the neighbourhood that we began working on in week five. David Pretlove from the Cabbagetown Preservation Association was able to bring our rained out tour of the neighbourhood inside. He kept the children amused and entertained with stories of some of the first inhabitants of Cabbagetown. While David was giving his talk the children were creating a streetscape for the houses they began working on in week five. The illustrations of Victorian and Georgian homes inspired the town planner in all of the children and before long some pretty detailed yard scapes and housing profiles were being developed. Stories soon evolved of who lived in their houses, how many pets they had and what were the names of their friends. In two short weeks the Cabbagetown Diarists had created and illustrated a very complex cross section of life in modern day Cabbagetown.

Wow !

City planners get your house in order. We have pretty savvy urban eco-planners in our hood!



"We are pleased to acknowledge the Ontario Trillium Foundation grant over one year to the Cabbagetown Preservation Association for the Cabbagetown People Program to produce French language resource material of local historical heroes for students in French and French-immersion programs in Toronto's Cabbagetown district.

The material which includes a teacher resource booklet, a DVD, and internet downloads will support the Cabbagetown People Program for Schools and the delivery of its walking tours.

Visit www.cabbagetownpeople.ca for the French version of the DVD, "Walk with Heritage Heroes", « Une promenade avec des héros de notre passé ».

The Ontario Trillium Foundation is an agency of the Government of Ontario.



Winchester Facelift

The Don Vale Cabbagetown Residents Association's Safety & Security Committee is pleased to announce a streetscape revitalization project at the northeast corner of Winchester at Parliament Street with construction slated for the summer of 2010.

Our interest in these corners came as a result of the ongoing safety issues being raised by local residents and merchants. In discussions with the city, our ideas quickly evolved into a full-scale revitalization project implementing key elements from the Sunarts guideline commissioned by the BIA. Our goal is to not only beautify this corner but also, lessen some of the more contentious issues that plague it.

This revitalization project has been established in partnership with the BIA and with the other major community groups and associations. To that end, Sean McIntyre (Constituency Assistant to Pam McConnell) heads up a steering committee to ensure all relevant constituencies have a voice and a platform in which to be heard.

The cost of these projects will be borne by the Public Realm Office through the City of Toronto who have agreed to:

- Enlarge the existing tree pits and plant draught resistant ground cover
- Install decorative iron railings around the tree pits to provide both aesthetic appeal and protection for the understory planting
- Plant 1 new tree and replace 2 stunted, unhealthy trees consistent with the existing deciduous trees at that corner

The BIA will be taking on the responsibility of watering but we are asking for volunteers with (or without) a green thumb to help with the ongoing maintenance of the planting beds. If you would like to get involved, please email tracey@traceyplant.com.

To see the plan online or to share your thoughts or opinions, please visit our blog: <http://dvcrasafety.blogspot.com> (links are also available through the CPA, DVCRA and BIA Websites).

Replacing Baseboards?

This is from Kersti Wain-Bantin at 280 Carlton Street:

"Elizabeth Reid and I live at 280 Carlton St and we are slowly renovating our house. We needed baseboards to replace those that didn't match the originals. We ended up paying \$300 for a custom knife to make the 9 1/2 in. baseboards. The baseboards themselves didn't cost that much and were really good quality.

The company is ACME Lumber and Supplies, 863 Kipling Ave. 416 239-7333.

I have some baseboard samples that you can have. Anyone wanting the same wide baseboards now doesn't have to pay the \$300 for the knife because I asked the company to keep the knife just in case it was needed again."

Kersti Wain-Bantin, 647 207-2118

Samples are also with Steve Yeates, steve@steveyeates.ca



What Are Those Names??

Readers may remember that a couple of years ago the CPA and other residents participated in submitting names for the new Lane Sign program. The CPA encouraged the City to move the program forward, when it was announced, as lane naming allows fire, ambulance and police better access in emergencies and it gave an opportunity to remind us of our heritage in the naming itself.

Coinciding with the program was the unveiling of the new sign design. The design is the new standard that will eventually roll out all over the City. Many people, including the CPA, are not happy about the design on the grounds of aesthetics and suitability for a Victorian neighbourhood but, after much griping and letters, it is here to stay.

The upside is that we have people asking where these names came from. Deciphering street and lane names can be a lesson in local history. To find a key to the meaning of the names you can go the CPA web site and hit the link on the home page to get a PDF that will interpret the names:

<http://www.cabbagetownpa.ca>

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Don Vale Cabbagetown Residents Association

The New Year has brought with it a flurry of activity at the DVCRA. Below are a few of the projects that we have on the go:

The Laurier Ave Geothermal Feasibility Study has commenced and we expect to receive the findings by early April. This unique study, funded through Live Green Toronto and sponsored by the DVCRA, into the uses of renewable energy sources to heat existing homes has broad applicability across the city and will hopefully function as a roadmap. For more information regarding the Laurier project please visit www.greenlaurier.wordpress.com.

The newly formed DVCRA safety & Security Committee has successfully put forward a plan to revitalize the northeast corner of Parliament and Winchester. The plan which will include new planters, trees and decorative wrought iron should go a long way to enhancing this corner which acts as one of only three 'gateways' into Cabbagetown.

Lynn Dionne and Anne Pastuszek, who were instrumental in the cosmetic revitalization of Sword Street, have initiated discussion regarding improvements to Riverdale Park West. The DVCRA is assisting Lynn and Anne in communicating progress on these discussions to neighbourhood residents. Please see the Cabbagetown Speaks newsletter on the DVCRA website to stay abreast of this important project.

DVCRA board member Judy Trogadis has created a Canopy Committee that will be looking at ways to manage the lifecycle of trees in our neighbourhood. This initiative has attracted a lot of volunteer interest and its efforts will be of immense value to the neighbourhood over the long-term.

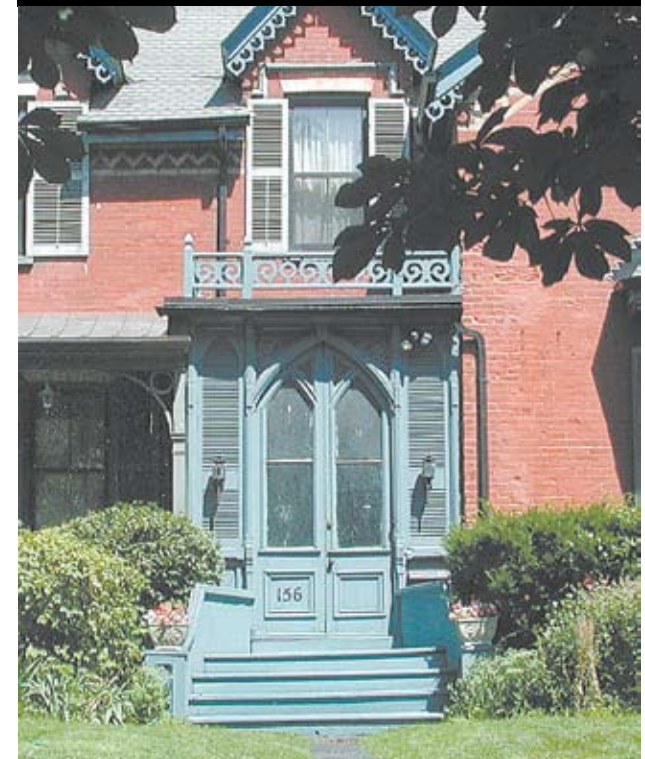
In conjunction with the Cabbagetown BIA, Aberdeen Avenue Residents Group and the South Cabbagetown Association, the DVCRA co-hosted a candidate's debate on January 31st at the Cabbagetown Youth Centre

Annual General Meeting

The **Annual General Meeting** of Members of the Don Vale Cabbagetown Residents Association will be held on Wednesday, May 26, 2010 at the Meeting House, Riverdale Farm, at 7:00 pm

Our Guest presenter will be Amanda Gomm, Volunteer and Action Coordinator with Local Enhancement and Appreciation of Forests (LEAF). Amanda will talk about the Urban Forest, what it is, the benefits of trees, their importance in our lives. She will also discuss events affecting our urban forest and why it's important to act. Solutions include some new exciting initiatives offered by LEAF as well as things that we, as residents can do to keep our tree canopy alive.

Restoring Your Home?



Get Restoration Help With a City Grant

The Toronto Heritage Grant Program, administered by the Heritage Preservation Services Unit of the City Planning Division, encourages the conservation of designated heritage properties in the City of Toronto. **Application deadline: Friday, May 21, 2010 at 1:00 p.m.**

In 2009 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.

Unless someone like you cares a whole awful lot, nothing is going to get better. It's not. ~Dr. Seuss

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: cpa@cabbagetownpa.ca



CPA Membership/Volunteer Application

Please mail to the 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. _____

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