



# Cabbagetown Preservation Association NEWSLETTER

Celebrating the architectural integrity and historic character of our neighbourhood



## Trees and Time

### Connecting to the Ecological History of Cabbagetown

The Meeting House  
at Riverdale Farm  
Thursday November 28, 2024  
7:00 pm - 9:00 pm

Join us for a Public Meeting where  
Bracha Stettin will reveal to us our connection to  
Cabbagetown's environmental past.

AND:  
The CPA Recognition Award  
Awarding of the Painting 2024 for the PK Award



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#### ***From Trees & Time by Bracha Stettin***

**What was the ecology of Cabbagetown like before settler urbanization and development?**

**If we look closely, what are the traces or remains of the vegetative past? What were the trees, shrubs, and mosses that softened the ground, filtered the water, fed the people, and sweetened the air?**

**What does this past mean for the future?**

**Bracha looks at Cabbagetown's past through the traces of ecology. She also acknowledges that this land has been peopled by the Mississaugas of the Credit, Anishinaabe, Haudenosaunee, and Wendake Nations since time immemorial.**

**These Nations lived and live in deep and reciprocal relationship with the plants, water, and animal communities around us.**

**In the rush to urbanize, develop, and "civilize", early settlers cleared forests, drained marshes, and gridded the land into rows of rectangular streets.**

**This process changed Cabbagetown's ecology irreversibly.**

**Using the tools of the "landscape observer" to practice and expand our landscape literacy, let's examine present day Cabbagetown for ecological clues that form a trail back to its not-so-distant past.**

**Let's read Cabbagetown together.**

#### INSIDE:

- 1 Trees & time
- 2 Parliament Street update... Birth of the CPA
- 3 Cabbagetown: A NORC?
- 4 Hidden Gardens
- 5 Eden Smith
- 6 Why Heritage Matters... Aging in Place... Renovating in an HCD
- 7 Owning and Restoring a Heritage Home
- 8 Student Experience Program... Who We Are





# Parliament Street Update

## Parliament Street On The Cusp - The Future Of Our Main Street, An Update

by Gilles Huot

If you read the last couple of issues of our newsletter, you know that the future of Parliament Street has been at the centre of the CPA's preoccupations.

Just a quick look at all the construction sites around Toronto clearly shows that our city is rapidly growing. Add to this situation the fact that the city is also facing a housing crisis with lax government oversight. This is a recipe for unbridled development.

Cabbagetown mostly developed at the end of the 19th century. Over one hundred years, it thrived and then faltered to become a slum. Starting in the 1970s, thanks to residents and smart entrepreneurs, it went through a renaissance that ended up making it one of Toronto's most desirable areas.



However, Parliament Street (between Gerrard and Wellesley streets) - lagged behind. If we think of Cabbagetown as a small village, Parliament Street is its main street. It should be the reflection and the gateway to this unique neighbourhood.

Parliament Street has many gems: several unique and inviting businesses as well as many beautiful late 19th/early 20th centuries commercial buildings. Yes, it is somewhat gritty but has an enormous potential. But someone needs to pay attention. Someone needs to help guide its evolution.

Over the last few months, the CPA has been trying to develop a vision for the future of our main street.

This vision would have three components:

1. Protecting Heritage Buildings
2. Improving Streetscape
3. Managing Densification

### 1. Protecting Heritage Buildings

Over the summer of 2024, the CPA partnered with the Cabbagetown Heritage Conservation District Advisory Committee in order to identify which properties on Parliament Street are worth protecting. This is a big task as we not only need to look at the heritage value of properties but also consider who owns and uses them. This work is ongoing and we hope to be able to provide the Cabbagetown community with updates over the next few months.

### 2. Improving Streetscape

Improving the streetscape would make such a difference. The Cabbagetown BIA started to ball rolling by releasing its Streetscape Masterplan in 2023. However, this great piece of work needs to be better known and supported. Furthermore,

the masterplan provides ideas on how to improve the streetscape as it stands right now. It does not take into account the possibilities that the rejuvenation of the Parliament Street could provide (see 3 below). Another aspect to consider would be developing guidelines for improving store facades. More to come on this in the future.

### 3. Managing Densification

Whether we like it or not, the densification of Parliament Street is coming. Rather than seeing it as a future blight on our community, if well managed, densification of Parliament Street could provide us with great opportunities. Issues such as building height could be the opportunity for give-and-take conversations on future redevelopment proposals. For example, higher density could be agreed upon in return for

improved streetscapes, wider sidewalks, urban plazas, public parks and amenities. These could be negotiated through a collaborative process between the Cabbagetown community, the City, and developers. Densification would also bring more clients to local businesses, making them thrive. More to come on this in the future.

### Update on 505-509 Parliament

In early 2023, Streetwise Properties Inc. submitted to the City of Toronto a proposal requesting a zoning By-law amendment that would allow the construction of a 10-storey mid-rise mixed-use building with retail at-grade and 86 dwelling units at 505, 507, 509 Parliament Street. The current By-law only allows 4-storeys.

The initial proposal proposed the demolition of the heritage building at 505-507 Parliament as well as the demolition of most of 509 Parliament (just keeping the marquee and the row of bricks above). In early 2024, the City of Toronto designated 509 Parliament under the Ontario Heritage Act which forces the developer to save most of the building rather than just the marquee and part of the facade.

Unsurprisingly, the developer appealed the designation of 509 Parliament to the Ontario Land Tribunal (OLT).

A first procedural hearing at the OLT took place on June 27, 2024. The second hearing scheduled for September 27, 2024 was adjourned and we are told that the parties (the City and the developer) are in discussions to try to achieve a settlement prior to an OLT decision on the matter. We are closely following the situation.

Let's keep in mind that the current appeal only concerns the heritage designation of 509 Parliament. It does not deal with the height of the proposed building. This issue will be dealt with once the current appeal has been resolved.

Whatever happens with 505-509 Parliament Street, it will influence future efforts at the rejuvenation of Parliament Street.

## Birth of the CPA

rooted in love  
for this rare urban neighbourhood

*How the Amelia Cottages helped spark the CPA*

The CPA began as a neighbourhood protest against the demolition of the Amelia cottages at the top of Metcalfe Street. As the neighbourhood has again been facing heritage challenges, one of the founders of the CPA contacted us with some history about our Associations founding.

Reprinted here is a letter from Michael Roman about the struggle for the Amelia cottages, followed by excerpts from CPA Newsletters from 1988 to 1991.

"Hello Stephen,

Congratulations on your recent meeting on Parliament St., and your follow-up newsletter.

It's great that the organization is thriving and serving the Cabbagetown community so well. I'd like to add a little bit of its early history before I forget it all:

I'm an old guy who moved into the neighbourhood from the U.S. when I was 39 in 1985. In 1986 some neighbours I didn't know knocked on my door and asked if I knew about plans to knock down an old building (with a French-style mansard roof) on my street (Wellesley) and would I like to attend a small meeting on the issue. I'd lived in New York, Boston, Philadelphia, and Washington, and could hardly believe there was a threat to such a rare, beautiful, liveable, urban neighbourhood.

I went to the meeting. Barbara Hall, our 'councillor' (a different title then?) was there and encouraged us. We decided to organize to fight the development. We produced and dropped notices of the issue around the neighbourhood. Others joined us. At 78 now I don't remember a lot of the details and steps, but in a house on Sumach a still small number gathered to elect a leader, which turned out to be me. I put together a committee of interested people, including Peggy Kurtin, a few real estate agents (one was Larry MacGill), a man named Paul who led publications for Bell Canada, Bill... (a priest), Bob White (on Amelia), and no doubt a few others. My wife, Timmie, volunteered to be Treasurer/Secretary. We received donations. Bill and Bob and I drafted the governing documents, we recommended the name, and presented it all, with the names of the acting committee, for approval at a meeting of perhaps 80-100 neighbours in the gym of the Catholic school. I believe all that happened in '86 or early '87.

We did show up (at least a 100 of us) at the two City committee meetings... that would decide whether to allow the tearing down, and lost the battle.

But when not long after it we learned the Amelia Cottages were threatened, membership surged. We had meeting after meeting with the developers/architects for the planned houses, ... held I don't know how many large meetings (membership peaked at the time over 200) in the gym. We voted down at least one, maybe 2, proposals presented by the architects, finally agreeing to the proposal

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saving the facades at the top of Metcalf that led to the cottage development we now have.

We were lucky the architects paid attention to us. In the meantime we'd consulted a lawyer-relative of one of the committee members, and an architect who was a Cabbagetown resident, Alan Waterhouse...

After the Amelia cottages, and about a year of being in the role of chair, I resigned to give others a chance (I was also in two other volunteer roles, looking for ways to integrate myself into a new city). It was very exciting and satisfying to be able to meet and work with so many motivated, capable people in my first years in the country.

I've written you before, Stephen, when you were in charge of the newsletter, I think, and we did briefly meet at your invitation at one of the Association meetings. I realize it may be awkward for the organization to learn that its founding has been skipped over (2 years earlier than known). I don't know what you'll do with this information, have no request or suggestion, but loving Cabbagetown, proud of what the organization has become, I wanted to get on paper some of what I remember before I get really old!

Michael Roman  
421 Wellesley  
416-962-0716"

“I'd lived in New York, Boston, Philadelphia, and Washington, and could hardly believe there was a threat to such a rare, beautiful, liveable, urban neighbourhood.”

And from the CPA Newsletters of 1988 to 1990, accounts of the action to save the Wellesley cottages:

### From Newsletter April 1988 What's Happening with the Amelia Cottages?

The Association scored its first victory in December 1987 when the Land Use Committee at City Hall took note of our presentation and asked the developer of the site at 36, 38 and 40 Amelia Street (where three vacant cottages now stand) to re-submit new plans for the site after consulting with the Association. Included in the developer's original plans was the demolition of the three historical buildings and the erection of townhouse units along the front and rear of the site.

Terry Duncan of the committee reports that since that breakthrough, the property has been sold.

The committee met with the new owners on March 17. The new owners disclosed that their plans for the site involve retaining the cottage facades and building six infill houses to the rear, or demolishing the three cottages and building six new townhouses on the front of the property. The committee requested more details which are to be given on April 19. These details will be

### October 1988 The Association at Work

The latest chapter in the ongoing saga of the development of the site of the Amelia Street cottages (36 - 40 Amelia Street) begins and ends on a positive note. The new owners/developers obligingly presented the Association

with alternate proposals: 1) demolition of the cottages and construction of six 3-storey row houses fronting on Amelia; 2) preservation/replication of the cottage facades with four 2 and 1/2 storey row houses as infill on the rear laneway. By a clear 2-to-1 margin, members chose the second alternative, and among those who did so, preservation was favoured over replication.

As a result of the two meetings in September - with the Association's cottages committee and with the Association's board of directors - an agreement -in-principle was reached strongly endorsing preservation, to the greatest extent possible, of the cottage facades and their relationship to the street.

Thus far, the developer has shown responsiveness to the concerns of the Association and the community.

### September 1989 Amelia Street Cottages

After several months of review by Public Works, the Amelia Street Cottages (36-40 Amelia SL) development came up before the City of Toronto Land Use Commutee on November 22, 1989. The CPA approved this development after many months of public discussions and negotiation with the developer. All CPA members were notified of the Land Use hearing and attendance in support of

the CPA position was requested. 21 members of the CPA appeared unopposed at the Land Use hearing, and on this basis, the Commiuee granted approval for the preparauon of a site-specific zoning by-law for the re-development of the Amelia cottages. This by-law was passed at a second Land Use hearing on January 16, 1990, at which 3 CPA members again supported the development. The Amelia Street cottages proposal has therefore passed another hurdle in the process of gaining City approval, and the developers hope to begin construction in the spring of 1990. The CPA is grateful for the contionued support of members for this project.

### August 1991 Amelia Street Cottages

The CPA spoke to Morris Trotta of Trotta Markson Developments Inc., a principal owner of the cottage property (36-40 Amelia Street). He assures us that the plans for the 7 units (3 facing the street and 4 behind) continue as discussed with the CPA over a year ago.

Specifically, the front 3 units facing Amelia will maintain the same facades and roofline. The wall finish will be off-white or white stucco and, where possible, will be surrounded by the original wood detail, painted hunter's green as recommended by the Toronto Historical Board. Presently, the old gables and trim have been removed and warehoused until construction begins.

Hopefully, there will be occupancy by spring. Meanwhile, the cottages were torn down for the safety of the community.

## Cabbagetown: A NORC?

-Christina Jackson

### Coming Full Circle: A Cabbagetown Journey Through Generations

When my parents purchased our family home in Cabbagetown in the late 1970s, they had a vision—not only for the house itself but for the neighbourhood they were joining. Back then, the house was a five-unit rooming house, like many properties in the area at the time. My parents converted it into a triplex, and later, as their family grew with the arrival of three kids, it became a single-family home. This house, nestled in the heart of Cabbagetown, holds decades of memories, not just for my family but for the broader community that has shaped my life.

Growing up, I attended Winchester Public School, spent summer days at the City of Toronto Day Camp at Spruce Court PS and Riverdale Farm, and played in the Don Vale Softball League. Cabbagetown was a tight-knit, vibrant neighbourhood, where families gathered in local parks, and everyone knew their neighbours. The community's historical homes and character formed the backdrop to all those memories, and I never thought I'd leave this special place.

But life happens, and after moving away, I found myself returning to Cabbagetown, this time with my own two children in tow. Following a divorce, I made the decision to move back into the home where I grew up, joining my parents and embracing a new chapter. In a sense, we are living in a multigenerational household, much like the early days of our home's life as a multi-unit dwelling. And it's got me thinking about the value of Naturally Occurring Retirement Communities (NORCs) and multigenerational living in an urban setting like ours.

### Cabbagetown as a NORC: Preserving Our Community for All Ages

Cabbagetown is now evolving into what experts call a Naturally Occurring Retirement Community (NORC). A NORC is a community that wasn't specifically designed for seniors but has organically transformed as longtime residents have aged in place. In Cabbagetown, many of the people who bought homes during the revitalization in the 1970s and '80s are still here today, contributing to the neighbourhood's character and culture.

As a Realtor, I'm particularly interested in how this shift impacts the housing market and the fabric of the community. Many of these homes, like my own family's, were once multi-unit properties, housing several generations or tenants under one roof. As housing affordability becomes an increasing concern in Toronto, converting homes back into multi-unit dwellings could offer solutions for both aging homeowners and younger families alike.

For my family, the idea of converting our home back into a triplex isn't just practical—it's a reflection of what Cabbagetown has always been. A place where neighbours help one another, where generations live side by side, and where the historical charm of the Victorian streetscapes is preserved while adapting to modern needs.

(See NORC page 6)



# Hidden Gardens & Private Spaces

The Hidden Gardens and Private spaces garden tour satisfies the curiosity about what lies behind some of our Cabbagetown homes. Our back gardens are small and mostly hidden. So many of the gardens are worth sharing. This year's tour displayed a bonus of creative and sometimes intense, gardens and details. Look for the tour's return in June 2026.



# Cabbagetown People



**Eden Smith 1858 - 1949**  
**Prolific Early Toronto Designer and Architect**  
*Plaque located at: 34 Salisbury Avenue, Toronto, ON, Canada*

Eden Smith was born in Birmingham, England. He was one of the youngest of a large Victorian family.

Having studied drawing and architecture throughout Europe, Smith and his wife Annie moved to Toronto in 1888. He began his architectural practice in 1892. In 1890 they lived at 34 Salisbury Avenue.

Much of his early work in Toronto was ecclesiastical and sponsored by the Anglican Church. He designed several churches, among them the church of St. Cyprian in Seaton village, St. John the Evangelist on Portland Street and the church of St. Thomas on Huron Street.

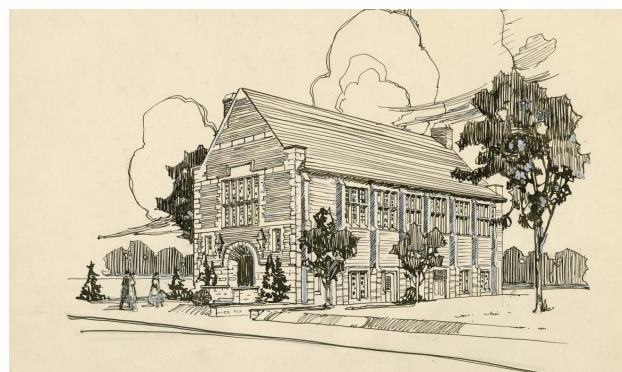
After 1888, domestic architecture monopolized his prolific output. He designed 11 houses in Wychwood Park and

others in Rosedale, The Annex and Forest Hill, many of which embodied the contemporary design principles found in the Arts and Crafts Movement, of which Smith was a leading exponent. His style was called English Cottage, which had steep-pitched roofs, tall chimneys, and bands of small-paned casement windows.

In his 33 years of practice he designed over 2,500 houses in the city. He was also on-site and supervised the construction. Another outstanding achievement was the design of the Spruce Court Cooperative complex at the corner of Spruce and Sumach Streets in Cabbagetown. It was begun in 1913 and flourishes to this day as a model of successful co-operative housing.

Mr. Smith was also one of the founding members of the Arts and Letters Club.

Eden Smith died on October 10, 1949, and is buried in Woodlawn Cemetery in Guelph, Ontario.



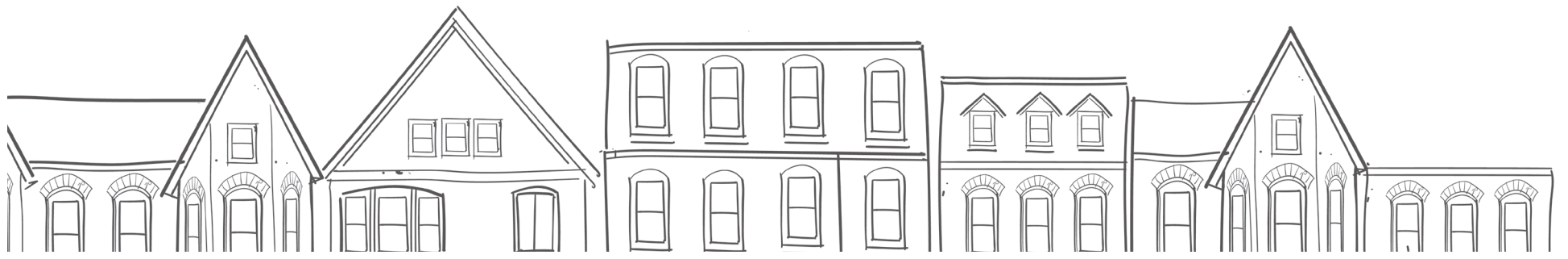
Toronto Public Library



Steve Yeates

**Volunteer Opportunity!** Can you wrestle the backend of a website? The CPA is looking for a volunteer who is comfortable with IT. If you're interested please contact us: [cpa@cabbagetownpa.ca](mailto:cpa@cabbagetownpa.ca)





# Heritage: why does it matter?

Anna O'Hare, *Thorold Today*, June 11, 2024

Part of it is obvious. Even the most contemporary-minded residents — with no affinity towards history or old architecture — know that historic downtowns are a boon for any city.

Historic neighbourhoods are hot spots for local businesses, they are coveted by home buyers, and the tourism that they bring along can boost the local economy.

They are places offering character and uniqueness rather than sterile anonymity. What makes a city attractive to both residents and visitors is a cultural identity, a 'sense of place' and diversity, which heritage preservation helps to maintain.

With Canada Day fast approaching, we might also acknowledge that there is something to be learned from our history, both the good and the bad. Our heritage — whether in the form of oral traditions, written works, cultural and natural landscapes, or architecture — enables us to stay connected to the achievements and the mistakes of the past and apply these valuable lessons towards the future.

Time cannot stand still. It never has, and we, in the pursuit of progress, have always adapted to new circumstances. Regarding heritage preservation as an obstacle to progress and development is not only shortsighted, but it is also detrimental to our cultural identity as well as our economic and environmental stability.

While we need housing and intensification, our cities need to be livable. Smart intensification does not render a city less livable, but soulless homogenization and unsustainability most certainly do.

Canada is one of the world's top waste producers, and the largest single-source contributor is the construction industry. This is not a condemnation, just a fact. It's the nature of the

beast. Just consider the millions of tons of demolition waste going to landfill, while raw building resources are depleted at unprecedented levels. Many modern building materials are also leading producers of greenhouse gasses and other pollutants, and most are neither reusable nor recyclable. When even so-called 'green' buildings take 80 years to overcome the carbon footprint caused by their construction, we have a problem.

Contrary to popular belief, historic buildings are not inefficient, but fare as well or better than new-builds in terms of energy-efficiency when well-maintained or retrofitted. Superior craftsmanship, superior materials, and climate-conscious designs give them longevity and sustainability far beyond their modern counterparts.

They don't build them like they used to, and sadly, we cannot. Both cost and material shortages prohibit it, though efforts can and must be made to think long-term rather than disposable when it comes to construction. It also makes the preservation of old buildings and their materials doubly important. In our present situation of an escalating climate crisis and the urgent need to use our resources more sustainably, the indiscriminate demolition of sound building stock in favour of new builds does not constitute progress.

Whenever possible, priority should be given to the reuse and retrofitting of old buildings, and especially our heritage buildings, with new construction as infill. The old and the new do not have to be mutually exclusive. They can enhance and benefit each other. Thorold deserves every chance to retain its character and vibrancy, while building a sustainable future.

That's why heritage matters.

*Anna O'Hare is the chair of the Heritage Thorold LACAC committee*

**NORC** from Page 3

## Aging in Place: Challenges and Opportunities

For the older residents who have helped shape Cabbagetown into the vibrant community, it is today, aging in place can be both a challenge and an opportunity. Many of these historic homes, with their narrow staircases and high thresholds, weren't designed with accessibility in mind. But with thoughtful renovations, aging homeowners can remain in their homes while maintaining independence. Modifications like stairlifts, grab bars, and walk-in showers can go a long way in ensuring safety and comfort.

At the same time, creating multi-unit homes allows seniors to stay in the community by generating rental income or by housing caregivers or family members under the same roof. This is where the concept of multigenerational living comes into play—a concept that feels as relevant today as it did in Cabbagetown's earlier years. My own experience of moving back in with my parents has reminded me of the power of family, both immediate and extended and the strength that comes from community support.

## The Future of Cabbagetown: Embracing Change While Honoring the Past

As I continue my work as a Realtor in this neighbourhood, I'm reminded daily of the importance of balancing preservation with progress. Our homes and streets tell the stories of generations past, but they also hold the promise of future generations. For me, Cabbagetown isn't just a place to live—it's a place to build lasting connections, support our seniors, and create opportunities for young families like my own to thrive.

The beauty of Cabbagetown lies not just in its architecture but in its people—the residents who have stayed for decades, the new families moving in, and those, like me, who find their way back home. Together, we can continue to build a neighbourhood that celebrates its past while embracing the changes that come with the future.

# Renovating? What You Need to Know in an HCD



Owning a property in one of our four Heritage Conservation Districts (HCDs) gives you the advantage of living in a beautiful historic neighbourhood of leafy, human-scaled streets, Victorian era architecture and a tangible connection to Toronto's past. These characteristics that we find so attractive are protected by the Ontario Heritage Act and the Guidelines of each district's HCD Plan.

Most property owners in Cabbagetown know that when they make changes to parts of their homes that are visible from the street, a Heritage Permit needs to be obtained from the City of Toronto's Heritage Preservation Services. However, those who are new to the neighbourhood may not be aware of the protocol or may be confused about what approach to take, what to consider, or where to find help.

## A Heritage Permit Is Required For:

- Any renovations, alterations or additions that are visible from the street (this includes: windows, doors, porches, siding, and brick).
- Repairs using a material other than the original or the existing material.
- Renovations that have an impact on the building's heritage attributes. If a renovation involves demolition, property owners will need to submit an application to secure a permit.

Note that to secure a Building Permit in an HCD, even if the work does not have any heritage aspects, will require review and approval from the City's Heritage Preservation Services.

## Considerations:

- New additions, including items such as skylights, will need to be located to the rear and side, away from the main elevation.
- New garages and parking spaces will need to be located in unobtrusive areas, normally to the rear and side yards.
- Additions must be sensitive to the character of their neighbours in size and height.

## A Heritage Permit Is Not Required For:

- Painting of wood, existing stucco or metal finishes.
- Repair of existing features, including roofs, wall cladding, dormers, cresting, cupolas, cornices, brackets, columns, balustrades, porches as well as steps, entrances, windows, foundations, and decorative wood, metal, stone or terra cotta, provided that the same type of materials are used.



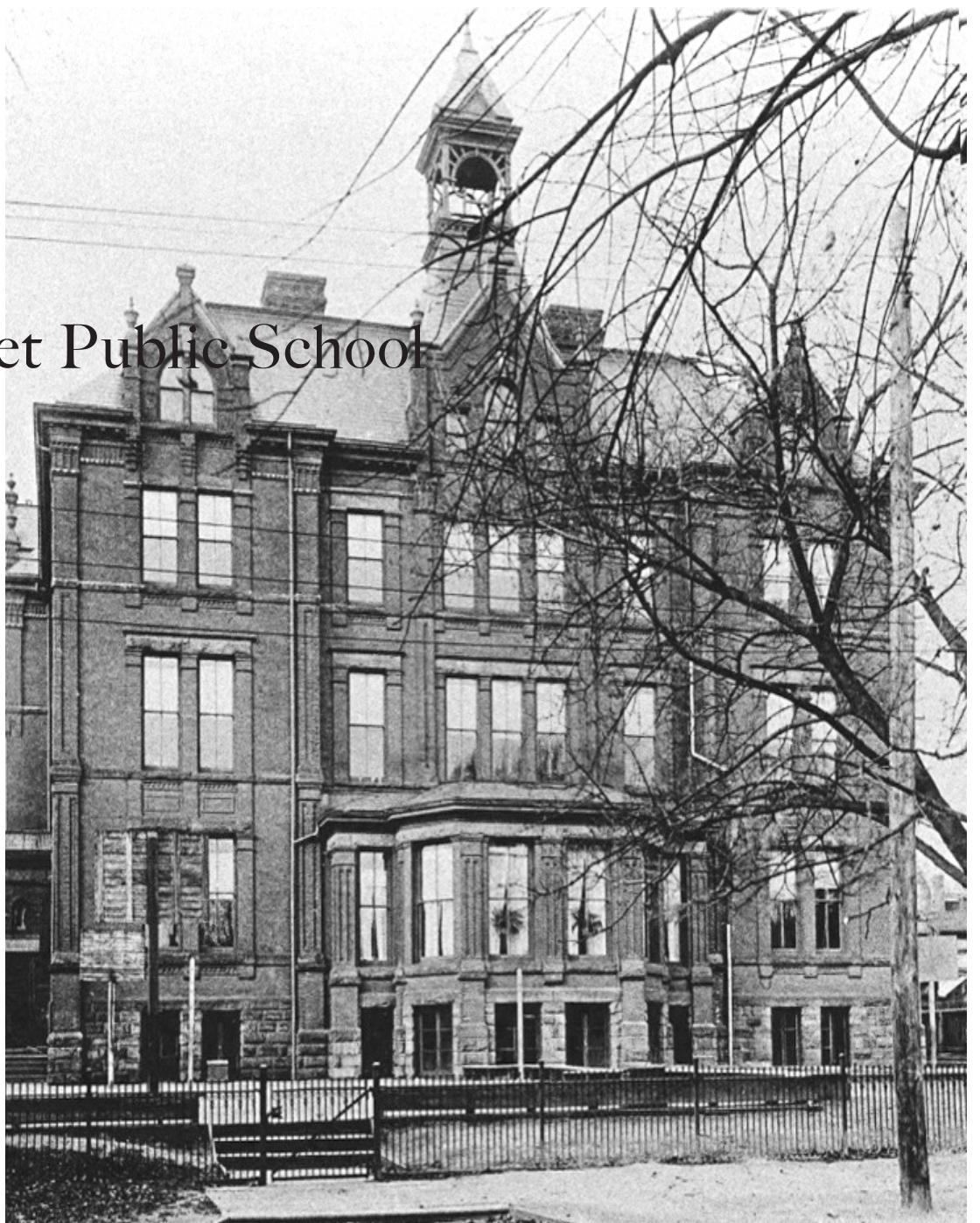
# 150 Years! Winchester Street Public School

by Gilles Huot

On October 5, 2024, the Winchester Junior & Senior Public School celebrated its 150th birthday with kid activities, speeches, and visits of the heritage building on Winchester Street led by the CPA's own Virginia Van Vliet and Gilles Huot.

The school opened on Winchester Street on September 21, 1874. At the time, it would have been one of the first buildings in the area. Boys and girls were segregated and the principal and one other teacher taught all grades in one classroom. But Cabbagetown was growing quickly in the 1880s and 1890s and the original building quickly got too small. It was replaced by a one-story brick building in 1892. Two stories were added in 1901, giving us the building that stands on the west end of Winchester Street to this day. The architect was Charles Hartnoll Bishop, the Superintendent of Buildings for the Toronto Board of Education. For more than thirty years, he designed many of the school buildings erected in Toronto between 1882 and 1915. The mid-century modern structure on Prospect Street was added in 1959. In 1973, a fire gutted the top floor of the heritage building. Some archival pictures show that the cupola disappeared before that event. The whole school is designated under the Ontario Heritage Act.

Our Cabbagetown People team discovered that at least two former Winchester Public School students went to win important international awards. Walter Huston won the Academy Award for Best Supporting Actor for his role in *The Treasure of the Sierra Madre* (1948) while Arthur Schawlow won the 1981 Nobel Prize in Physics for his role in the development of the laser. Two plaques honour these former students on the outside wall on the west side of the school.



## Tour of Homes, Port Hope

by Daniel Bloch

On October 5th, members of our Tour of Homes committee—Daniel, Sarah, and Joanne—visited Port Hope for their annual House Tour. The purpose of their visit was to observe how the event was conducted and identify any insights that could help improve our future tours.

The Port Hope tour featured seven stunning properties, all built over 100 years ago, offering ticket holders an impressive visual experience. Overall, we noticed several similarities to our own event, including long lines, an area we are continually seeking to improve. Additionally, with such a large number of properties to visit, it was nearly impossible to see them all within the allotted time, especially when accounting for breaks for lunch or coffee.

A key goal of our event is to support local merchants, and we were pleased with the involvement of local sponsors and businesses as partners with our last two events. We did identify a few areas for improvement, which we plan to implement in our next Tour of Homes, scheduled for mid-September 2025.

If you are interested in joining the planning committee for the next tour, please reach out to us as we will be putting together our committee in the new year. A great way to get involved with a fun event and interact with likeminded people who have a passion for Heritage.



# Student Experience Program

by Gale Moore

In the summer of 2022 the CPA launched a pilot project which offered two awards, each worth \$1500, to graduate students whose research was in some way relevant to this historic Toronto neighbourhood. The idea was to mobilise relevant research and ideas from the university to the community through some form of public engagement such as a talk or installation. The objectives are to showcase graduate student work, to give students hands-on experience with managing a small award (structured as a contract), to provide an opportunity to add to their portfolios and CVs, and to encourage them to appreciate, perhaps in new ways, the importance of heritage in a community.

The 2024 Award builds on the pilot project which was deemed a success both by the student winners and by the Association. A webpage for the award was created ([cabbagetownpa.ca/awards/student-experience-programme](http://cabbagetownpa.ca/awards/student-experience-programme)) and information on the 2022-2023 winners has been posted. Information on this year's competition was distributed widely to universities across the City as well as promoted through the CPA's social media.

An example of an SEP project is an adaptive architectural reuse study that explored the intersection of development and heritage preservation. Sarah MacKinnon, M.Sc. in Planning Candidate, University of Toronto used the re-development of Saint Luke's United Church at the corner of Sherbourne and Carlton Streets. She arranged and moderated a panel representing the variety of people involved in this complex project. The panelists included the developer, architect and the reverend of the Church. It was presented in a Cabbagetown Talk hosted by the CPA.

Two awards have been made for 2024 with work to be completed over the summer. Bracha Stettin is a Master of Landscape Architecture candidate, University of Toronto. Her project entitled Trees & Time, will deliver a zine focusing on historical ecology. Shivangi Chauhan is a Masters of Urban Design candidate in the John H. Daniels Faculty of Architecture and Design, University of Toronto. Her project, Parliament Street Chronicles: A Culinary and Urban Exploration, proposes a 20-minute short film that delves into the rich tapestry of culinary diversity and urban design along Parliament Street in Cabbagetown. Congratulations to both our 2024 CPA Student Experience Programme Award winners.



Saint Luke's United Church proposal

## Presentation of Peggy Kurtin Restoration award painting.

The winner of the Peggy Kurtin Award for Excellence for in Restoration for 2024 is L'Avenue restaurant. The prize, a painting by Rosie Shephard, will be awarded at our November public meeting.

Rosie has worked with the CPA board for many years, volunteering articles on Canadian and local history through her high school years, in fact, contributing from the age of 11. Articles were later accompanied by illustrations and, for the last several years she has produced watercolour paintings for our awards.



## Bricks turn into Lamps

Through the 2010s there was a brick paving project to correct the deteriorating pavement at the entrance of Riverdale Farm. Randy Brown, who used to chair the Cabbagetown Arts & Crafts Sale, initiated and ran the project with the blessing of the Parks Department, which approved the selling of engraved bricks for \$100 & \$150 for ongoing support of the project – 4 x 8 inch bricks for \$100, and 8x8 inch bricks for \$150 with all funds to be used for renewal or restoration of Riverdale Park West.

Early in 2021, with the passing of Randy, the project was winding down, which left a sum in the kitty that could be applied to park improvement. The torch was passed to the CPA to suggest improvement with the City holding the funds. This has borne fruit in new lighting at the entrance of the park. The CPA chose lighting that related to the Victorian streetscape and gave improved and safer illumination to the entrance at the Sumach Street gates. The City installed the posts and lamps and dug the channels to bring the wires.

## CPA: Who We Are

Founded in 1988 to encourage the preservation of the architectural integrity and historic character of Cabbagetown, the CPA does that and more:

### Cabbagetown Walks

Scheduled and on-demand walking tours.

### Cabbagetown Talks

Lively discussions about Cabbagetown's past, present and future

### Cabbagetown People

Celebrating the lives of remarkable people.

### Garden and Home Tours

The Hidden Gardens & Private Spaces Tour  
The Cabbagetown Tour of Homes

### Award Programs

The Peggy Kurtin Awards Program  
The CPA Recognition Award  
The CPA Student Experience Program

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