



Frontenac Heritage Foundation
2016 Heritage Conservation Awards

Presented

October 17, 2016

at

The Renaissance Event Venue

285 Queen Street, Kingston

Paul Christianson
Chair, Awards Committee



Frontenac Heritage Foundation, Post Office Box 27, Kingston, ON K7L 4V6
www.heritagekingston.com

Frontenac Heritage Foundation

Founded in 1972, the Frontenac Heritage Foundation is an incorporated, non-profit organization created to promote the preservation of buildings that contribute to the heritage of Kingston, Frontenac County, Loyalist Township, Gananaoque, and Leeds and Thousand Islands Township. Managed by a voluntary Board of Directors who are elected by the members at an annual meeting, it is financed by membership fees and investments from property sales, as well as tax-deductible bequests and financial contributions. New members are always welcome. The Foundation has acquired and restored a number of historic properties over the past forty-two years; it presently owns an early commercial building in downtown Kingston. Its work includes the presentation of annual awards for heritage conservation in Kingston, Frontenac County and Loyalist Township, sponsorship of public talks and seminars, hosting workshops on practical aspects of heritage restoration and assistance with the publication of books and articles on the heritage structures built in the region.

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**Compiled, Designed and Edited by
Paul Christianson, Awards Committee**

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Awards Committee Report - 2016

Since 1982, the Frontenac Heritage Foundation (FHF) has been actively encouraging the preservation and retention of our local building stock by providing heritage conservation awards to owners, designers and builders. Many significant buildings and some lesser-known projects within the boundaries of Kingston, the County of Frontenac, Loyalist Township, Gananoque, and Leeds and the Thousand Islands Township have been recognized in this fashion over the past 34 years.

Each year, aided by interested FHF members, the Awards Committee reviews nominated restorations, renovations and repairs to heritage sites with the intent of identifying those that it considers worthy of recognition. "Certificates of Commendation" are prepared and presented to the property owners or initiators who are primarily responsible for the concept, implementation and financing of the conservation effort. "Certificates of Appreciation" are presented to those designers, consultants, and builders who have applied their time and skills in

preserving the selected buildings.

The Committee considers a variety of criteria including architectural design and the physical value of a structure; whether it is a rare or unique example of a style or type of construction; and whether it exhibits a high degree of craftsmanship. Associations with historical events and people are considered, as are the contextual value of the structure and its contribution to defining, maintaining or supporting the historic character of an area. At the end of this brochure, we include the names and contact information for those designers, consultants, and builders awarded tonight.

We would also like to voice our appreciation of the dedicated work of Municipal Heritage Committees in helping to conserve the heritage buildings. They share valuable ideas and expert information about sympathetic repairs to heritage buildings. We strongly recommend that property owners access this free source of advice that can help them. Unfortunately, the City of Kingston has seriously weakened the jurisdiction of its Heritage Committee.

Awards

In 2016, heritage conservation awards are being presented to the following groups and individuals:

1 Baiden Street, Portsmouth

Certificate of Commendation:

Dr. Jennifer McKendry, Owner

Certificates of Appreciation:

Mac Gervan and Associates, Contractor

Michael Turkington, Masonry

Allen Vannest Contracting, Woodwork

Robert Aucoin, Iron Art Canada, Ironwork



1 Baiden Street, Portsmouth/ Paul Christianson 2016

Built by John and Mary Pugh in 1860, this two-storey frame house on a hammer-dressed limestone foundation has classical details and proportions. The entrance façade consists of three symmetrical bays, pilasters on either side of the door, a window with three panes above the door, and dentils (consisting of small blocks of wood under the cornice of the entrance surround). This handsome house has received careful conservation by Jennifer McKendry. The most recent work has been

the construction of a new set of front steps, repair to wooden trim, replacement of the bases of the doorway pilasters with antique wood and mouldings, and the restoration of the exterior cellar door.



1 Baiden Street—detail of steps/ Paul Christianson 2016

The previous steps were concrete ones from the 1950s, with the railings attached at the top to the pilasters. The old steps were removed and the owner designed a new set of steps. The area was excavated and a firm foundation created that guarded against frost movement. A new base was built of hammer-dressed local limestone laid in courses that replicated those of the original limestone foundation of the house. At the front was placed a long, rectangular block of limestone set level with the existing concrete sidewalk, followed by two more large rectangular blocks of limestone (hammer dressed at the front and ashlar on the top and sides) that form the steps.

Behind the top step at the same level comes a platform made of large blocks of limestone, hammer-dressed on the outside edges and ashlar on the top and other faces. On both sides of the steps are iron handrails made for this project that attach firmly to the stone platform at two places and at the threshold stone at the bottom. The railings were designed to reflect the restrained style of the house and to preserve the integrity of the

pilasters. Overall, this project charmingly enhanced the conservation of this Portsmouth gem. Congratulations to all involved.



1 Baiden Street—detail of steps/ Paul Christianson 2016

151 Earl Street, Kingston

Certificate of Commendation:

Blair and Suzanne Robertson, Owners

Certificates of Appreciation:

Enoch's Hammer, Inc., Stonework

Gooseberry Construction, Woodwork and Mansard Roof



151 Earl Street/ Paul Christianson 2016

This is the western half of a double stone house that “forms an integral part of an important streetscape” in Kingston. *Buildings of Architectural and Historic Significance, I* (Kingston, 1971), p. 60. A Second Empire house most likely designed by Joseph Power, it was built in 1873-4. An insert into an established neighbourhood, this sophisticated design works well with the large limestone homes on the same side of the street designed by William Coverdale and built a quarter of a century earlier. Each side has an elevated basement, two full floors, and a mansard roof, which adds up to a four storey home.



149-151 Earl Street/ Paul Christianson 2016

The whole building has three bays, with entrances graced by Corinthian columns on the ground floor, two windows on the second floor, and two dormers in the mansard roof of the central bay. A wooden cornice supported by wooden brackets and dentals covers the entrances and rectangular windows stand above the entrance doors. The two flanking bays run through the basement and first floor, with bay windows on each floor, two tall windows with semi-circular arches above the bays, and a temple shaped top supported by a pilaster on each side of the window in the dormers of the mansard roof. Another wooden cornice supported by wooden brackets and dentals enforces the horizontal lines created by the similar cornices on the top of the bays and entrances. It forms a very dynamic façade.

The walls are constructed of regular, rectangular, finely hammer-dressed limestone blocks at the front and more roughly dressed and less regular stones at the sides and back. The basements have boldly hammer-dressed stones, with a vermiculated single piece of stone to cap each of the bay windows. On the first floor, the bays are faced with large rectangular stones of lightly vermiculated ashlar



151 Earl Street—detail of windows, cornice, dormers and mansard roof/ Paul Christianson 2016

The recent conservation has accomplished a large number of important tasks. The roof has been repaired, including the slates on the mansard portion consisting of coloured slates on the front façade and dark grey on the sides and rear; these have been edged with copper flashing. The stonework throughout, including the spectacular chimney on the west façade, has been repaired and repointed. All of the work done on this project reflects the high quality of the original design. Congratulations to all involved for helping to conserve a major Kingston heritage building.

Dry Stone Walls, Amherst Island

Certificate of Commendation:

Loyalist Township and Loyalist Township Heritage Committee

Certificates of Appreciation:

Andrea Cross, Facilitator

Roxanne Guttin, Researcher



McMullan Dry Stone Wall/ Brian Little 2016

The dry stone walls of Amherst Island, built from the early-nineteenth century onwards, mark an important legacy. Some have suffered damage from time and the weather, while others have disappeared from the widening of roads in the twentieth century.

What began as an individual and cooperative movement of conservation of these walls has recently received recognition in the form of designation from Loyalist Township, Lennox and Addington County, on the advice of the Loyalist Township Heritage Committee. Andrea Cross carried out the initial research to determine the significance of the dry stone walls on Amherst Island as cultural heritage structures. She worked with the Township, landowners, and Heritage Committee to develop by-laws. Andrea continues to facilitate new dry stone structure designations. Research of each dry stone wall was carried out by a team led by Amherst Island resident Roxanne Guttin, BA Archaeology, along with other volunteers.

Nine different sets of dry stone walls have now been designated by Loyalist Township under the Ontario Heritage Act of 1990: five in 2013 and four more in 2016. This award concentrates upon those of 2016.

15096 Front Road

In front of the McMullen house stands the original stone wall on this property built by Robert John McMullen in the 1850s. Other portions of these walls date from the 1800s, while those along the road were rebuilt in the 1950s when the road was relocated. The walls vary in height from three feet six inches to two feet seven inches and all have slanted or upright capstones.



McMullen House and Dry Stone Wall/ Brian Little 2016

9000 Second Concession Road

Similar in construction methods, but a recent creation are the walls built at first by Birthe Jorgensen and David John Baker on their property starting in 1996, and more recently by the stonemasons Jacob Murray and Steve Silvera. Sections of these walls extend for nearly forty feet, thirty-two feet, ninety-eight feet and twenty-four feet in length, with a height of two feet four inches and a width of two feet. They also feature five foot six inch circular pillars that emphasize entrances and corners in the wall.



2000 Second Concession/ Brian Little 2016

6345 Second Concession Road

The stone wall around the farm of Gary and Ann-Marie Hitchins constitutes one of

the more spectacular ones on Amherst Island. The original has been attributed to John Crowe, a stonemason who appeared on the 1851 census and who built many of the stone walls on the island.



A dramatic corner of Hitchins Wall /Brian Little 2016

In 2004, the Amherst Island Women's Institute received a grant from the Greater Kingston Foundation to restore the stone wall at the Pentland Cemetery and at a corner of the Hutchins stone wall. Under the supervision of the stonemason Bill Hedges, who kept the reconstructed walls as true to the originals as possible, local volunteers restored much of the Hutchins wall, including two tall entrance pillars.

4000 Front Road

The stone wall at the house of Doug Green and Mayo Underwood probably dates from the nineteenth century. In some places, it suffers from a state of disrepair, with stones toppled and only one or two courses in place, while in other places a much larger number of courses have held together. Some of the surviving portions of the wall suffer from the intrusion of vines and other vegetation, while others remain hidden by trees and shrubs. Enough remains to mark an important construction.



4000 Front Road/ Brian Little 2016

All of those involved in this project over the years deserve our congratulations.

4106 Boyce Road, Hartington

Certificate of Commendation:

Lynne and Dave Tebo, Owners

Certificate of Appreciation:

D. J. White Restoration, Woodwork



4106 Boyce Road/ David White 2016

Built in 1853 for Thomas Sigsworth this classic stone farm house has been in the Sigsworth family ever since. Lynne is the latest member of the family to live here. Well constructed with hammer-dressed irregular rectangular blocks of limestone laid in courses, it has four bays: a central door flanked on both sides by two windows symmetrically placed. Under each window, the sill consists of a large single block of limestone and the front doors have a single stone sill. The windows have a rectangular shape under radiating limestone voussoirs. On the whole, it has the shape of an early vernacular eastern Ontario stone farmhouse.

An outstanding feature is the wooden entrance surround, which consists of two sets of paneled pilasters per side, separated by slightly shallower five panel segments, each with two longer and three shorter panels. Above the door, an unusual window with three courses of panes divided into five, four, and five small

rectangular segments about the size of bricks. At the top of the whole ensemble rests a cornice supported by the plain capitals of the pilasters. This classically based ensemble that had spent many years under a plywood facing until the present owners decided to bring it back to its original glory.



4106 Boyce Road/ Photograph Courtesy of Ron Tasker

The recent conservation of this lovely farmhouse includes the restoration of the entrance surround—in parts refinished and in badly decayed parts reconstructed from the original—and creation of a new three-panel storm door based upon the three-panel front door. This high quality new work restores the original style, makes a stylish entrance to the house, and makes a tribute to its builder. Our congratulations to all involved.



4106 Boyce Road—storm door and front door/ Photograph courtesy of Ron Tasker

Honourable Mention

Although not a heritage building eligible for our Awards, we would like to honour a new building in a heritage area 121 Queen Street. The height, use of grey limestone on the lower floors, and subdued colours of the upper floors, all help this modern building to work with the such nearby heritage buildings as St. Paul's Anglican Church, the row of buildings on the west side of Montreal Street, and the Artillery Park Barracks to the north. Our congratulations to the architect and builder for showing such sensitivity.



Margaret Angus Award for Heritage Conservation



The ethic of heritage conservation now shared in Frontenac County and Loyalist Township sprang largely out of the work undertaken by Dr. Margaret Sharp Angus on behalf of the heritage movement over a period of more than six decades. An unparalleled champion of history and culture, she spearheaded countless architectural heritage initiatives, began the heritage clothing collection at the Agnes Etherington Art Centre and documented exhaustively local heritage.

Her most popular work, *The Old Stones of Kingston*, is just one of several significant

publications that continue to connect us to our past. "Peg", as friends knew her, was a principal co-founder of the Frontenac Heritage Foundation, as well as a past president, and a director.

The Margaret Angus Award for heritage conservation was created to recognize these outstanding accomplishments. It also serves to commend local citizens who maintain pride in our heritage in a manner that she wished to instill. Dr. Angus was the first recipient of this award, which was presented on December 9, 2007. Dr. Angus passed away on February 15, 2008.

Brian Stuart Osborne

For more than five decades, Brian Stuart Osborne has presented papers, written about, and lobbied for the conservation of the built landscape and streetscape of the area covered by the Frontenac Heritage foundation. Born in Wales and educated at the the University of Southampton in England (where he received his Ph.D. in 1967), he began his distinguished career in the Department of Geography at Queen's University in 1967 and retired in 2004.

Not long after settling in Kingston, Brian began to forge a strong scholarly reputation by publishing articles, book chapters, and books that drew upon his growing expertise on the history of our area. Early works included: "Kingston in the Nineteenth Century: A Study in Urban Decline," in J. D. Wood, ed., *Perspectives on Landscape and Settlement in 19th Century Ontario*, (Carleton University Press: Ottawa, 1975), pp. 159-82, and "Frontier Settlement in Eastern Ontario in the 19th Century: A Study of Changing perceptions of and Opportunity," in David Harry Miller and Jerome O. Steffan, eds., *The Frontier: Comparative Studies* (University of Oklahoma Press: Norman, 1977), pp. 201-26. Chapters and articles in scholarly journals have continued to appear in scholarly collections in all of the decades since.

At the same time, Brian began to carry out technical research, especially for Parks Canada. This resulted in many reports over the years, including the books: *The Thousand Islands, 1650-1850: A Study in Exploration, Settlement, and Development*, Island Insights No. 5 (Parks Canada: Ottawa, 1976) and, with Donald Swainson, *The Sault Ste. Marie Canal: A Chapter in the History of Great Lakes Transport* (Parks Canada: Ottawa, 1986), and two more studies on the Rideau Canal (1985). Additional technical projects, carried out over many years with a variety of collaborators, touch on a wide variety of topics.

The long-time collaboration with his good friend, the late Donald Swainson (a Canadian historian in the Department of History at Queen's University) led to the publication of the leading history of the city where they both spent their academic careers: *Kingston: Building on the Past* (Butternut Press: Westport, 1988), which Brian has recently brought forth in a new, revised edition: *Kingston: Building on the Past for the Future* (Quarry Press: Kingston, 2011). In addition, Brian has published books specifically on the built heritage of Kingston within its social context: *The Rock and the Sword: A History of St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, Kingston, Ontario* (Heinrich Heine Press: Kingston, 2004) and, with Jennifer McKendry, *Exploring Downtown Kingston: Interesting Places and Spaces* (KEDCO: Kingston, 2006).

A historical geographer, Brian has served on the Executive of the Canadian Association of Geographers (Ontario) and the Board of Directors, Board of Governors, and as Vice President of the Royal Canadian Geographical Society. As an historian, he was a member of the Board of Directors, Vice-President, President, and Past-President of the Ontario Historical Society, a member Vice-President, and President of the Kingston Historical Society, member of the Pittsburgh (Township) Historical Society, Gananoque Historical Society, and member of the Board of the Marine Museum of the Great Lakes in Kingston.

An active member of our community in a host of ways, Brian helped to secure the recognition of the Rideau Canal and Kingston Fortifications as a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

The Frontenac Heritage Foundation is proud to recognize the contributions of Brian Osborne by presenting him with the Margaret Angus Award for a lifetime of outstanding achievement in support of heritage.

Heritage Award Recipients

Frontenac Heritage Foundation

1 Baiden Street, Portsmouth	
	Certificates of Commendation
Owners	Jennifer McKendry 1 Baiden Street Portsmouth, ON K7M 2J7
	Certificates of Appreciation
Contractor	Mac Gervan and Associates Ltd. 256 Mowat Avenue Portsmouth, ON K7M 1K9 (613) 546-5097
Carpentry	Allen Vannest Contracting RR1, Enterprise ON, K0K 1Z0 (613) 358-2579
Stonework	Michael Turkington Construction 124 Jane Street Kingston, ON K7M 7J1 (613) 542-5166
Ironwork	Robert Aucoin, Iron Art Canada Loughborough Lake RR1 Elginburg, ON K0H 1M0 (613) 376-6359

151 Earl Street, Kingston	
	Certificate of Commendation
Owner	Blair and Suzanne Robertson 151 Earl Street Kingston, ON K7L 2H3 (613) 546-7860
	Certificates of Appreciation
Stonework	Enoch's Hammer, Inc. Patrick Jenkins Box 307 Glenburnie ON K0H 1S0 (613) 484-3007 enochshammer@hotmail.com
Woodwork and Roof	Gooseberry Construction Joe Burnett 20 Gordon Street Kingston, ON K7M 3R9 (613) 530-0809

Designation of Dry Stone Walls, Amherst Island	
	Certificate of Commendation
Designator	Loyalist Township, Lennox and Addington County, and Loyalist Township Heritage Committee P.O. Box 70, 263 Main Street Odessa, Ontario K0H 2H0 Phone: 613 386-7351
	Certificates of Appreciation
Facilitator	Andrea Cross Amherst Island, ON
Researcher	Roxanne Guttin Amherst Island, ON

4106 Boyce Road, Hartington	
	Certificate of Commendation
Owner	Lynne and Dave Tebo 4106 Boyce Road Hartington, ON K0H 2T0
	Certificate of Appreciation
Woodwork	D. J. White Restoration 4557 Holleford Road Hartington, ON K0H 1W0 (613) 372-0471