

# Acorn

Architectural Conservancy Ontario

Fall 2020



## ACO Heritage Awards

# Working together to preserve Ontario's history



photo Barnum House in Grafton was the first building that ACO saved, at the time of its founding in 1933

Since 1933, the Architectural Conservancy of Ontario has helped save hundreds of architecturally significant buildings for future generations to use and enjoy. We believe that our heritage structures and landscapes are more than just a physical connection to the past; they enhance well-being, reduce environmental waste, and provide strong economic and social benefits. Helping communities preserve their heritage is why ACO exists. It takes a lot of work, and in our ongoing efforts every person makes a difference. ACO's mission depends on the commitment and contributions of our members, volunteers and donors. To everyone who has given their time, energy, and money, thank you!

If you care about preserving heritage structures and neighbourhoods, please consider making a donation. Contributions from generous individuals and companies who care about heritage help us do the important work of protecting these resources for future generations. The most popular way of giving to ACO is through an annual or monthly donation. We are also grateful to our members who include ACO in their will. We can't do this work without you.

We're in this for the long haul,  
and we need your help.

You can donate now at [acontario.ca](http://acontario.ca) or at [canadahelps.org](http://canadahelps.org). If you are interested in making a legacy gift in your will, or if you would like any information about giving to ACO, please contact Devorah Miller at 416.367.8075 ext. 403 or at [devorah@acontario.ca](mailto:devorah@acontario.ca).

ACO works on behalf of all Ontarians.  
Your support is vital.



# Features

**8**

A Year Filled with Change

*by Liz Lundell*

**9**

ACO Heritage Awards  
Go Digital

*by Laura Ranieri Roy*

**11**

ACO Heritage Awards

**12**

Nine Heritage Champions

*by Susan Ratcliffe*

**15**

Celebrating Excellence:  
The 2020 award nominees



Jeremy Pfuetzner, James Strachan Award for Craft nominee, hard at work repairing damaged corbelling and brickwork.

# Contents



Twelve of the nominees for the 2020 ACO Heritage Awards

## 3

### From the Chair

by Kae Elgie

## 4

### At a Glance

## 5

### Fundraising

## 6

### In Detail: Bonding with Brick

by Shannon Kyles

## 35

### Heritage Classifieds

## 36

### Worth Celebrating: Phyllis Rawlinson Park

# Acorn

Fall 2020  
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## Architectural Conservancy Ontario

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## On the Cover

There were 37 nominees for the 2020 ACO Heritage Awards — a few pictured on our cover.

## Editorial Committee

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John McIntyre, Nancy Oakley, Laura Ranieri Roy, Dan Schneider

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## Publisher

Architectural Conservancy Ontario

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- Classified \$100

Please call Devorah Miller at 416.367.8075 or email [devorah@acontario.ca](mailto:devorah@acontario.ca) to book an ad for our Spring 2021 issue. All ads are printed in full colour.

## Follow us on Social Media!



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# A few ACO COVID-19 stories

In a year that has so disrupted our normal patterns and habits, it is heartening to see so many of you continuing your passionate support for Architectural Conservancy Ontario and its mission.

Let me share a few examples. ACO Cambridge carries on its fight to save the storied Preston Springs Hotel from being demolished through neglect. Our St. Catharines branch finds imaginative ways to reinstall architectural heritage components. South Bruce Grey keeps ACO's historic Victoria Jubilee Hall open for its tenants, despite losing many theatre and event bookings due to COVID. With World Monuments Fund and the University of Toronto Faculty of Architecture, Landscape and Design, ACO is engaging budding architects and designers with Ontario Place's past and future. Understanding the importance of integrating heritage conservation into municipal planning documents, ACO North Waterloo spent lockdown time devising and advocating for policies to protect heritage in the Secondary Plans that Kitchener is developing.

COVID-19 may have forced ACO branches to move to video or telephone meetings, but it sure hasn't stopped members from finding new, creative ways to further ACO's mission "to encourage the conservation and reuse of structures, districts and landscapes of architectural, historic and cultural significance."

Deluged with requests for the historical plaques they produce, but unable to research them due to the closure of the Stratford-Perth Archives, ACO Stratford's volunteer researchers turned their skills to writing a two-part history of Stratford's furniture industry for their newsletter. When Collingwood turned its Creative Simcoe Street into a pedestrian mall, branch members immediately set up an ACO information booth. As soon as protocols allowed, ACO Clarington started leading tours to the prisoner of war camp site their branch formed to save. One of these resulted in Central Counties Tourism offering to produce the virtual video tour the branch has long wanted, so it can share this important heritage story with people who can't manage the 90-minute hike. These are just a few of the many ACO stories of COVID-19 heritage advocacy and education.

Thank you for being a member of ACO and thank you for donating to ACO in the early days of the pandemic. Your financial support means a lot to staff who have been forced to work remotely all summer, and to the Board of Directors which has been working incredibly hard to ensure there is good governance, policy and administrative backup for members' education and advocacy work.

Very special thanks to everyone who took the time to craft an award nomination. It is inspiring to see how creatively and ardently individuals and organizations have celebrated Ontario's architectural, historic and cultural heritage. Thank you nominators for sharing your knowledge of these heroes with us.



Thank you  
award  
nominators  
for sharing  
your  
knowledge  
of heritage  
heroes across  
Ontario.

## AT A GLANCE

ACO acknowledges that the land on which we live and work is the traditional territory of the Algonquin, Mississauga, Ojibway, Cree, Odawa, Pottowatomi, Delaware, and the Haudenosaunee (Mohawk, Onondaga, Onoyota'a:ka, Cayuga, Tuscarora, and Seneca). There are 46 land treaties and agreements between First Nations and allied nations to peaceably share and care for the resources in Ontario and around the Great Lakes. ACO is grateful to have the opportunity to work in this territory. ■



### A.K. Sculthorpe Award for Advocacy

- Nominees:**
- Ontario Historical Society. *Toronto*
  - Phil Goldsmith, Julie Mavis, Dennis Hogarth. *Port Hope*
  - Paul Mullins. *Windsor*
  - Bill Greaves. *Toronto*
  - Aeolian Hall Musical Arts Association. *London*

### ACO NextGen Award

- Nominees:**
- Ali Piwowar. *Ottawa*
  - Stephen Henderson (Rescue of Rose's Cottage, Port Hope). *Port Hope*

### James D. Strachan Award for Craft

- Nominee:**
- Jeremy Pfuetzner. *Toronto*

### ACO Public Education and Engagement Award

- Nominees:**
- Felicity Pope. *Cobourg*
  - Michael Kainer, Director of Not Just a Park - A History of Toronto Island. *Toronto*
  - Coralina Lemos, The History of Corktown's First Movie Theatre (Video). *Toronto*
  - Hear, Here London (Ariel Beaujot, Michelle Hamilton & Mark Tovey. *London*
  - TOBuilt. *Toronto*

### Heritage of the Future Award

- Nominee:**
- Brigitte Shim and Howard Sutcliffe. *Toronto*

### Carlos Ventin Award for Municipal Heritage Leadership

- Nominees:**
- City of Cambridge Mayor Kathryn McGarry and City Council for 74 Queen St. East. *Cambridge*
  - Alissa Golden. *Hamilton*
  - Carolyn Samko. *Hamilton*
  - Kathryn Anderson. *Toronto*

### Mary Millard Award for Special Contributions

- Nominees:**
- Patsy Beeson. *Cobourg*
  - Jackie Tinson. *Port Hope*
  - Pat Farley, Past President of former Halton Hills Branch of ACO. *Halton Hills*

- David Brentley, ACO Quinte Region. *Quinte Region*

### Paul Oberman Award for Adaptive Reuse: Large-Scale/Team/Corporate

- Nominees:**
- The Selby. *Toronto*
  - Mitra Foroutan, Project Director (YOU London, 333 Richmond St.). *London*
  - Walker Power Building. *Windsor*

### Paul Oberman Award for Adaptive Reuse: Small-Scale/Individual/Small Business

- Nominees:**
- Church off 22 (Deborah Jackson). *Ilderton*
  - The Moulton Group, Inc: Richard, William and Ben Moulton (Crane House). *Prescott*
  - Scott Brown, Bryn Davies, Peter Braul (Black Bellows Brewing Company). *Collingwood*

### Peter Stokes Restoration Award: Large-Scale/Team/Corporate

- Nominee:**
- Westinghouse HQ, mcCallumSather, Electric City Developments. *Hamilton*

### Peter Stokes Restoration Award: Small-Scale/Individual/Small Business CO NextGen Award

- Nominees:**
- Paradise Theatre. *Toronto*
  - Alfred Mici (The Hedge House). *Mississauga*
  - James Sculthorpe Ltd. *Port Hope*

### Margaret and Nicholas Hill Cultural Heritage Landscape Award

- Nominee:**
- Karl Frank. *Toronto*

### Stephen A. Otto Award for Research and Documentation

- Nominees:**
- Doug Taylor. *Toronto*
  - Dan Schneider. *St. Marys*

### Eric Arthur Lifetime Achievement Award

- Nominee:**
- Phillip Carter. *Port Hope*

## Locations:

- 1** Toronto
- 2** Port Hope
- 3** London
- 4** Hamilton
- 5** Windsor
- 6** Cobourg
- 7** Ottawa
- 8** Cambridge
- 9** Halton Hills
- 10** Quinte Region
- 11** Ilderton
- 12** Prescott
- 13** Collingwood
- 14** Mississauga
- 15** St. Marys

# Celebrating ACO's most generous donors

The following people and companies have contributed to ACO's Provincial Office at the \$500+ level in the past 12 months. We are very grateful for their support.

Future donations will be recognized in The Spring issue of Acorn and on [www.acontario.ca](http://www.acontario.ca) and [www.acoheritageawards.ca](http://www.acoheritageawards.ca).

## Limestone Sponsors

(\$5,000+)

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(\$2,500+)

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## Bricklayers

(\$500+)

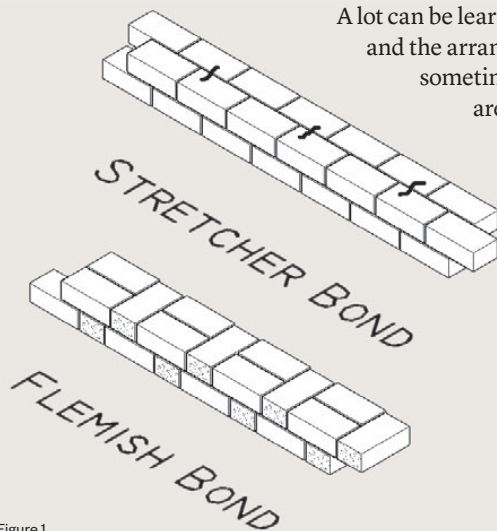
Blackwell | Catherine Nasmith Architect  
EGD Stained Glass Studio | F. Leslie Thompson  
Iconoplast Designs | Robert Allsopp

# In Detail

# Bonding with Brick

Brick bond and colour can provide many clues about the history of a building

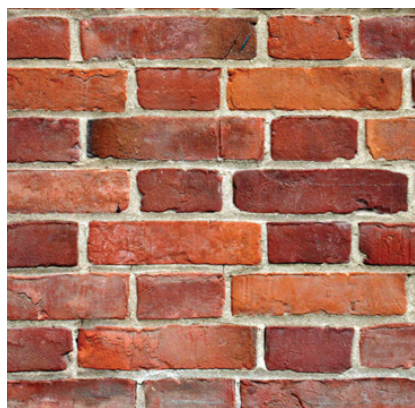
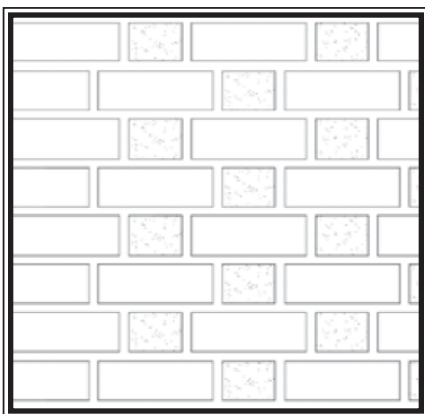
By Shannon Kyles



A lot can be learned about a building just from looking at the brick. Both the colour and the arrangement of the bricks will tell you where the building was built and sometimes by whom. Most brick buildings have two layers of brick. These are called wythes. In the Stretcher Bond [Figure 1], the two wythes are held together with metal ties placed within the grout. In most other structural brick walls a few layers are rotated to provide a more secure double brick wall.

The names of the brick bonds indicate the origin of the bond, not necessarily who used it. Prior to railroads, brick was made at the location of the building using local clay. Yellow brick indicates more lime in the brick. A redder colour indicates more iron. Most early brick buildings are a single brick colour characteristic to the area.

Figure 1

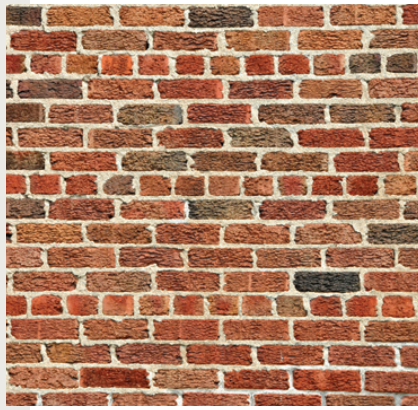
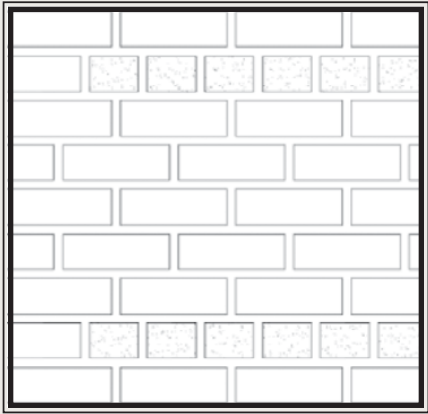


1

## Flemish

Niagara-on-the-Lake

The irregular brick shapes on the wall from Niagara-on-the-Lake indicate that these were hand-made bricks. The clay has varied amounts of iron. The wall was laid in the Flemish Bond.

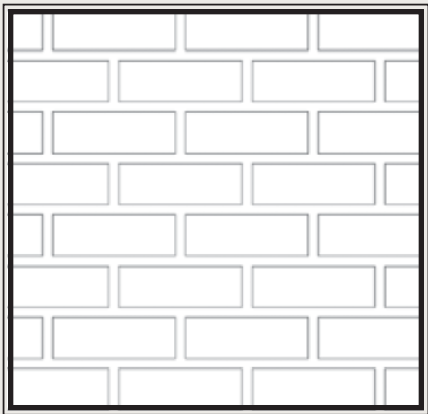


2

**Common Bond**

Belleville

The multi-coloured brick from Belleville is an early twentieth century arts and crafts brick laid in Common Bond.

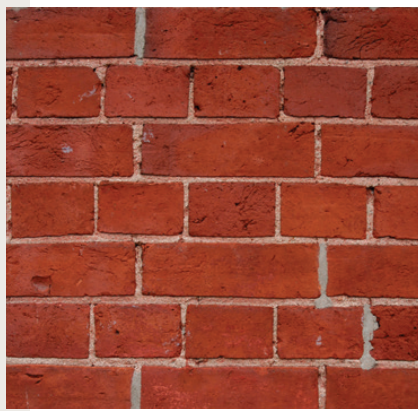
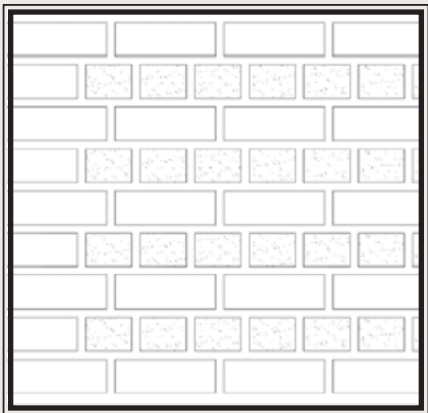


3

**Stretcher or Running Bond**

London

Stretcher bond is a simple and elegant pattern. The yellow brick shown here is characteristic of the London area. The clean edges of the brick indicate a factory-manufactured brick.

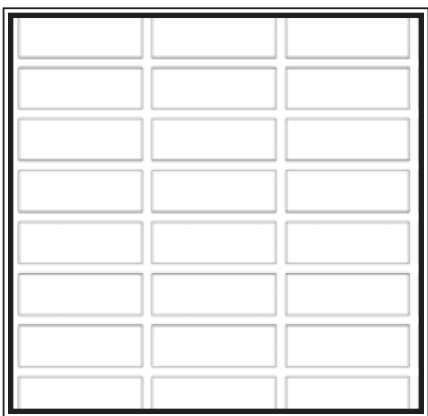


4

**English Bond**

Dundas

The clay used in Dundas had a more even distribution of iron. It was laid in English Bond, although not necessarily by English people.



5

**Stack Bond**

Paris

Stack Bond is a mid-twentieth century invention that has little structural integrity. Like the illustration from Paris, it is largely used for veneers.

FEATURE

# A Year Filled With Change

By Liz Lundell

Every year, Architectural Conservancy Ontario donors, members, staff, nominators and award nominees have gathered together to honour and celebrate people working to preserve Ontario's heritage. But not this year.

When Acorn's editorial committee met to finalize the themes for our two 2020 issues, we were unaware of the impending global impact of a novel coronavirus that was only just appearing. We didn't foresee the scale of loss and change that was coming. Several contributors were already working on articles about heritage tourism for the spring issue. Of course, international tourism ground to a halt with the pandemic and Acorn's printer suspended operations to prevent the spread. As luck would have it, once the spring issue arrived, ACO's focus on Ontario's built heritage and cultural heritage landscapes provided local options for heritage tourism enthusiasts in this province.

Similarly, when I proposed last December that the fall 2020 issue focus on ACO's Heritage Awards, we had no idea that our October in-person celebration would have to be cancelled due to COVID-19 protocols. Although we can't gather in person to honour our nominees, we are so pleased to be celebrating their immense contributions in these pages and on a new digital platform. Additionally, I am hopeful that the tragic events of the spring and summer lead to more dialogue and social change that we will celebrate in future.

I committed to the role of managing editor in 2015 for five years, so it's time for a change. I've enjoyed working with the editorial committee, the board and staff of ACO, but especially with the dedicated contributors who write about heritage matters in their communities and — as do all of us at Acorn — on a volunteer basis. Thank you for your contributions to Acorn and I hope you'll continue to send in your stories of significant effort and success in heritage conservation across the province.

Stay well,

Liz ■

## Past ACO Awards



Junction Craft Brewing, the re-purposed Symes Road Destructor, 2018.



Berkeley Church in 2019.

**GBCA**  
ARCHITECTS

**CONGRATULATIONS**  
to this year's  
award winners.

Hopefully we can do  
this in person next year!

# ACO Heritage Awards Go Digital

## Recognizing Heritage Leaders in the Age of COVID

By Laura Ranieri Roy

The ACO has come a long way since those very first, formal ACO Heritage Awards back in 2008 at the elegant Arts and Letters Club in Toronto. For those of you who remember, it was a lovely sit-down dinner affair inside the Romanesque St. George's Hall on Elm Street, where legendary artists like the Group of Seven once socialized, mused, and painted. That inaugural year eight awards were presented to celebrate ACO's 75th anniversary.

From there, the award celebrations moved to stately Osgoode Hall, the hallowed seat of legal affairs for close to two centuries (and a lovely Palladian-style building with its iron gates and Neoclassical interiors). In 2018, it was held in an art deco destructor in the Stockyards, repurposed as a craft brewing company. And last year, at the hip and historic Berkeley Church, the awards were conferred as part of a stand-up cocktail affair, a more casual and convivial gathering of heritage enthusiasts from across Ontario.

But 2020 has certainly not been a year for shoulder-to-shoulder in-person affairs. In light of COVID-19 and the new social distancing rules, the awards committee faced a difficult decision about where and how to celebrate this year's achievements in heritage across Ontario. The answer had to be digital.

What a challenging year for Sarah Hill to step up and take the reigns as new chair of the awards committee!

"We had been hopeful to have an in-person event this year and had gone so far as to book venue and date," says Sarah. "But by end of June, it became apparent it would not be possible, so we moved things online."

### October is heritage awards month

The good news, as Sarah reported, is that this year's celebrations would not just be a single evening. For 2020, October is designated as Heritage Awards Month. The ACO awards committee felt this would be a great alternative to a single ZOOM gathering, and a really good way to keep the excitement going through throughout October. During the

first two weeks of October, two recipients were announced each day online. On that special day, the recipients' achievements were celebrated on the ACO website, the new awards website, through social media, short video features, and in Acorn eblasts.

### New award categories – and introduction of Municipal Heritage Leadership Award

Despite these challenging times, there are some exciting and positive changes afoot for the ACO awards.

"A few of the things I wanted to do going forward was to make sure we had clear award descriptions, improve the nomination process, and regroup the awards into three distinct categories," says Sarah.

The 14 ACO Heritage Awards have now been organized into the following categories, both for this year and for years ahead:

- 1. Awards for people:** for their work in different areas
- 2. Awards for heritage projects:** specifically, for restoration and adaptive reuse and education and learning projects.
- 3. ACO recognition awards:** either recognizing ACO members or allowing ACO members and board to recognize a leader in their field

This year, Sarah is especially proud to announce the launch of a brand new ACO Heritage Award: The Carlos Ventin Award for Municipal Heritage Leadership (sponsored by +VG Architects). This timely award recognizes elected municipal leaders, municipal staff and appointed municipal representatives who have championed the rehabilitation and/or adaptive reuse of public heritage buildings in their community. According to Sarah, it's a critical time to

recognize municipal leadership for important preservation work in their communities.

“The legislation to protect these buildings (and businesses) is determined at a provincial level, but it’s up to municipalities to step up and use that legislation,” says Sarah. “That’s why we felt it was so important to recognize those leaders willing to do the critical work to support their communities while preserving heritage.”

### **A diverse jury from across Ontario**

The ACO award nominations open each year in mid-April and close at the end of June. This year, the committee received 37 nominations across all 14 awards. While the six committee members are responsible for reviewing the descriptions, the nomination process and overseeing event organization, five carefully selected jury members are tasked with deliberating the nominations and selecting the recipients.

These jury members hail from across Ontario and represent diverse perspectives, ages, backgrounds, and specialties — from museum planning and architecture to crafts and heritage journalism. But apart from the move to a digital format, what impact has COVID had on the ACO awards this year? According to Sarah, far less than you might expect. But next year it will be a different story. “One of the ways we evaluate nominees is to look at difficulties that the project or person may have faced, and COVID is certainly one of those big roadblocks in 2020,” says Sarah. “Innovation, commitment and crisis leadership will certainly colour the type of nominations we receive next year.”

For this year, COVID has certainly put a spotlight on a need for digital engagement for many organizations, and ACO is no different.

“We are now thinking about how we can be most effective if we can only be online,” she says. “Hopefully, we will return to a ‘new normal’ soon, but regardless of if and when that happens, we will continue to experiment with new platforms and new ways of doing things.” ■

### **About the author**

**Laura Ranieri Roy** is a writer and Egyptologist based in Port Hope. She has written and lectured extensively on history and culture, and she leads in-depth, educational tours to Egypt. She blogs at [www.ancientegyptalive.com](http://www.ancientegyptalive.com) and will be leading trips to Egypt in November 2021 and February 2022. Details at [Pyramids & Temples Alive](http://Pyramids & Temples Alive). Laura is a member of ACO Port Hope.

**You can read more about the awards at our new awards website: [www.ACOHeritageAwards.ca](http://www.ACOHeritageAwards.ca)**



## Call for Submissions Acorn Spring 2021 — The Heritage of Health Care

From cultural landscapes of Indigenous knowledge and traditional medicine to Victorian hospitals and twentieth-century medical sites, many reminders of our province’s legacy of health care have been conserved.

The spring 2021 issue of Acorn will focus on places reflecting healing or treatment — such as hospitals, doctors’ homes and offices, medical laboratories, and cultural sites — as we explore Ontario’s heritage of health care.

Feature articles should be either a maximum of 450 words or 900 words in length with three to five high resolution photos. Before commencing work on an article, please send your proposal or questions to [acorn@acontario.ca](mailto:acorn@acontario.ca) to avoid duplication and ensure guidelines are received. Articles should reflect ACO’s mission to “encourage the conservation and reuse of structures, districts and landscapes of architectural, historic and cultural significance to inspire and benefit Ontarians.”

Deadline for submissions is January 30, 2021. Submitters are encouraged to look at past issues available on the ACO website: [acontario.ca](http://acontario.ca).

The former “Speedwell,” Guelph’s military convalescent hospital from 1917 to 1921. It is currently for sale.

# ACO Heritage Awards

## AWARDS FOR PEOPLE

### External nominations

#### **A. K. Sculthorpe Award for Advocacy:**

Recognizes an individual, a group or a non-profit organization which has brought greater attention to an important heritage issue or controversy, and/or which has been able to persuade others, change policies and practices, or mobilize people during a heritage crisis.

#### **James D. Strachan Award for Craft:**

Recognizes an artisan or skilled tradesperson for outstanding employment of their craft and expertise in the conservation and restoration on a specific project or over the course of their career.

#### **Stephen A. Otto Award for Research and Documentation:**

Recognizes an individual or group for exemplary and scholarly work in the research and documentation of Ontario's built heritage and cultural landscapes, as well as the broad distribution of this knowledge to ensure that it is shared widely and for the benefit of all.

#### **ACO NextGen Award:**

Recognizes an individual early in their career for outstanding contributions to the field of heritage, and a clear commitment to conservation work, advocacy, heritage craft, and/or community engagement.

#### **Margaret and Nicholas Hill Cultural Heritage Landscape Award:**

Recognizes an individual, group, and/or community action project (as opposed to a professional commission) that has endeavoured to preserve a significant Cultural Heritage Landscape, or has worked to raise awareness of, and appreciation for a significant Cultural Heritage Landscape as defined by the Ontario Heritage Trust.

#### **Heritage of the Future Award:**

Recognizes an architect, engineer, planner, or landscape architect (living or dead) whose body of work completed after 1945 is esteemed as being outstanding, enduring, and the heritage of the future.

#### **Carlos Ventin Award for Municipal Heritage Leadership (sponsored by +VG Architects):**

Recognizes elected municipal leaders, municipal staff and appointed municipal representatives who have championed the rehabilitation and/or adaptive reuse of public heritage buildings in their community. These buildings may include libraries, town halls, city halls, community centres, theatres, schools, and other civic spaces. Municipal leadership from communities of all sizes are eligible for this award.

## AWARDS FOR PROJECTS

### External nominations

#### **Peter Stokes Restoration Award:**

Recognizes the exemplary restoration of a heritage structure or important architectural feature undertaken in accordance with recognized best practice and policies for conservation in Ontario. This award is given in two categories:

1. Large-Scale/Team/Corporate: This award is given to an architectural firm, large project team, or corporate owner of a large-scale restoration project.
2. Small-Scale/Individual/Small Business: This award is given to an individual, small project team or small business owner of a small-scale restoration project.

#### **Paul Oberman Award for Adaptive Reuse:**

Recognizes projects that incorporate and reuse significant heritage structures in fitting and imaginative ways, thereby conserving them for future use and enjoyment. This award is given in two categories:

1. Large-Scale/Team/Corporate: This award is given to an architectural firm, large project team, or corporate owner of a large-scale restoration project.
2. Small-Scale/Individual/Small Business: This award is given to an individual, small project team or small business owner of a small-scale restoration project.

#### **ACO Public Education and Engagement Award:**

Recognizes events, exhibitions, publications, programs, news media, digital platforms, and other projects undertaken by an individual, a group or a non-profit organization that has helped to advance public understanding, engagement with and enjoyment of Ontario's built and cultural heritage.

## ACO RECOGNITION AWARDS

#### **Eric Arthur Lifetime Achievement Award:**

Recognizes an individual or a group who have made an outstanding contribution to the heritage conservation movement in Ontario over a sustained period of time. The state of the Province's built heritage today would not be the same without the significant activities of this person.

#### **Mary Millard Award for Special Contributions to ACO:**

Recognizes ACO members and ACO associates who, through their actions and efforts, have made a significant contribution to the organization. It is these volunteers with their dedication, initiative and intelligence that constitute the most dynamic force in furthering the cause of historic preservation.

# Nine Heritage Champions

The dedicated people honoured in the names of ACO's annual awards  
by Susan Ratcliffe

A man wanted to save an old house. A woman persuaded a town to love its historic buildings. A restoration specialist created beautiful objects in wood. A preservationist saw the beauty in older neighbourhoods. A woman recognized the work of advocates and volunteers. A conservationist brought old buildings and towns back to life. Another saw creative possibilities in vintage buildings. A province-wide heritage defender loved an old fort and championed for it. A man brought new life to treasured buildings for communities.

Who were these people who fought for, defended, restored and adapted heritage in Ontario for more than 80 years? Driven by passion for that heritage, they were our champions, the heroes who continue to inspire us. Their work on behalf of our heritage is recognized in the names of nine of the annual awards of the Architectural Conservancy of Ontario.

## Eric Arthur, 1898 – 1982 Eric Arthur Lifetime Achievement Award

Eric Ross Arthur's life was a story of visionary leadership and professional expertise and we can credit him for initiating and inspiring the preservation movement in Ontario. After he moved to Canada from New Zealand in 1923, he taught Architecture at the University of Toronto and was loved for his teaching and writing. Because of his program of having students record many of Ontario's early buildings in measured drawings, we have a good archive of them — many of them subsequently lost. ACO remembers Eric Arthur especially for his advocacy for treasures like Toronto's St. Lawrence Hall and the Gooderham (or Flatiron) Building at 49 Wellington Street East. Because of his passion for Ontario's early vernacular architecture and for saving those threatened structures, he founded ACO in 1933, and then purchased Barnum House in Grafton in 1939. That house became a symbol of ACO.



## Peter Stokes, 1926 – 2013 Peter Stokes Restoration Award

After he arrived in Canada in 1940, Peter Stokes studied Architecture under Eric Arthur and started his restoration work at Upper Canada Village in Morrisburg. As a Consultant Restoration Architect, he worked on King's Landing in New Brunswick, as well as many buildings in Ontario. He loved Port Hope and the Niagara Region and was involved in producing Heritage District plans for Port Hope where he bought and saved many heritage buildings at risk. He was active in preserving heritage in the Niagara region and in the work of Willowbank School of Restoration Arts. His further contributions included founding the Association for Preservation Technology, being President of ACO and the first editor of Acorn Magazine.





### **Alice King Sculthorpe, 1925 – 2002** **A. K. Sculthorpe Award for Advocacy**

Alice's love of Port Hope had its roots in her childhood as her family spent summers at a lakeside estate there. Later known for her spirited and indefatigable will and strong commitment to heritage preservation, A. K. was the first chair of Port Hope's LACAC which designated 160 historic properties in a town of only 12, 500 people. She was twice President of ACO and fought many battles to save Port Hope's historic buildings along its main street. Her gift of persuasion mobilized many in the area and presented a strong voice that made her a legend in her town and in Ontario.



### **Paul Oberman, 1957 – 2011** **Paul Oberman Award for Adaptive Reuse**

Born in Toronto, Paul built a distinguished career in real estate development, focusing on heritage restoration and adaptive reuse of architectural heritage. His company, Woodcliffe Landmark Properties, was responsible for some of the most important examples in Ontario, notably the flatiron Gooderham Building, the former railway station at Summerhill (now a stunning LCBO outlet) and the streetscape at King James Place. He supported Heritage Toronto and collaborated with ACO on some of his work. He said, "Historic buildings integrating old and new are, for me, the lifeblood of a city. If we don't value our heritage, how will we create anything of value in the future?"



### **James D. Strachan, 1949 – 2010** **James D. Strachan Award for Craft**

The owner of one of Ontario's most respected construction companies specializing in heritage conservation, Jim also provided many opportunities for apprenticeships in several heritage trades. His company did restoration work on Osgoode Hall, Fort York, George Brown House and several University of Toronto buildings. He was a strong influence on heritage conservation through his involvement in the Ontario General Contractors Association, Canadian Association of Heritage Professionals, the Township of King Heritage Advisory Committee as well as being a devoted member of ACO.



### **Margaret and Nicholas Hill** **Margaret and Nicholas Hill Cultural Heritage Landscape Award**

Margaret and Nicholas contributed greatly to ACO, serving in several roles for more than 30 years. Nick initiated the Huron County Branch and later he and Margaret were involved in the Cambridge and Guelph branches. He was Provincial President and she was Provincial Secretary for many years. He was an Architect, Landscape Architect and Urban Planner and a pioneer in Heritage Conservation District planning. His beautiful drawings created a compelling record of the character of communities and landscapes.

## Mary Millard, 1925 – 2014 Mary Millard Award for Special Contributions to ACO

“A bit of a woman of mystery,” was how former ACO President Richard Longley expressed our organization’s gobsmacked reaction to a surprise phone call from a bank official. Mary Millard had left a generous unexpected bequest to ACO and two other charities. We know that she disliked rules and bureaucracy, monster houses and tidy gardens, but loved Jane Austen and critical thinking. Her startling and generous special contribution to ACO strengthened our future in the defense of heritage architecture and cultural heritage landscapes.

## Stephen A. Otto, 1940 – 2018 Stephen A. Otto Award for Research and Documentation

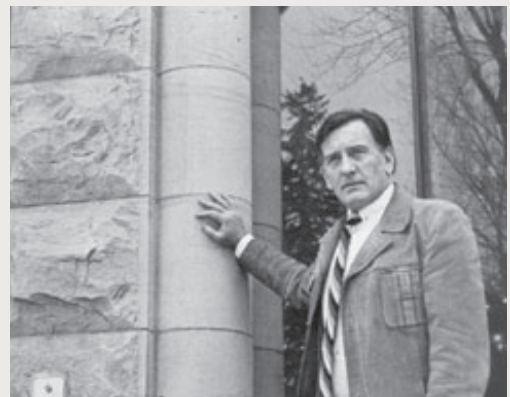
Former ACO President Catherine Nasmith and former ACO Manager Rollo Myers praised Stephen Otto as a special friend to ACO, a member of its President’s Circle and for “his judgment, knowledge and impeccable research on anything to do with Ontario’s history — and his determination invariably underpins tangible outcomes that have brought about positive, significant change.” Born in Toronto, Otto first studied business before pursuing his passion for history through study at the University of Cambridge. He was later founding head of heritage programs for the province of Ontario and his awards are numerous. His heritage legacy included Fort York, Toronto’s Distillery District, Spadina House, Todmorden Mills and a stronger Ontario Heritage Act. He was also a director of the Ontario Heritage Foundation and a member of the Toronto Historical Board.

## Carlos Ventin, 1939 – 2013 Carlos Ventin Award for Municipal Heritage Leadership

Architect Carlos Ventin was a pioneer in saving historic buildings in Ontario for adaptive re-use. In 1972, before the practice of saving old buildings was widely accepted, Carlos convinced the Town of Simcoe to save the historic Simcoe Courthouse to accommodate the new Municipal Offices and Library. The award-winning project gained wide attention from preservationists and led to his firm doing more than 100 similar projects across Ontario for community buildings in cities such as Windsor, Toronto, London, Milton, Napanee, Kingston, Brockville, Orangeville and Lindsay. This award was created in his memory, to honour the often unrecognized municipal leaders whose commitment to maintaining local heritage benefits us all.

With the presentation of the nine named awards, ACO recalls a distinguished group of Ontario’s volunteer champions for their glorious battles for heritage preservation and restoration. ■

*The preceding material is partially taken from the ACO Awards dinner booklets, originally written by Penina Coopersmith of the ACO Toronto Branch. Thanks to Penina for doing the original research.*



### About the author

A long-time tour guide, heritage advocate and lover of Guelph stories, Susan was President of Architectural Conservancy Ontario and of its Guelph and Wellington Branch. A retired English teacher, she now works at the Guelph Public Library as a Reference Librarian and co-ordinates Doors Open Guelph. She was Chair of the awards committee for five years and she continues to serve on the awards committee.

# Celebrating Excellence: The 2020 award nominees

## Ontario Historical Society

**Nominated for the A.K. Sculthorpe Award for Advocacy** for its ongoing dedication to helping local citizens across the province become stewards of valuable heritage landmarks.

Particularly since the financial crisis of 2008, the Ontario Historical Society (OHS) has been alarmed at the large scale divestment of irreplaceable heritage assets by all levels of government and by private institutions in communities across Ontario. To help caring citizens step forward to assume stewardship of these valuable resources, OHS started incorporating new local historical corporations, using the authority granted it in the 1899 “Act to incorporate the Ontario Historical Society.” Through this Act, citizens dedicated to preserving and promoting some aspect of Ontario’s history can apply to incorporate non-profit corporations through affiliation with The Ontario Historical Society. This has enabled many groups of local citizens to save heritage landmarks from destruction. Three examples stand out:

- Following 11 years of campaigning and negotiating, incorporation enabled a group of Glengarry citizens to gain possession of one of Ontario’s oldest and most historic buildings and save it from demolition by the Catholic Diocese of Alexandria-Cornwall.
- Incorporating as the Friends of Wesleyville Village made it possible for a group of Northumberland County citizens to sign a 20-year lease, restoration and use agreement with the 19th century village’s current owner Ontario Power Generation.
- Established in 1820 by the Children of Peace who built the Sharon Temple national historic site, the Sharon Burying Ground was showing signs of neglect as early as 1880. A few conscientious descendants formed the Sharon Burying Ground Association in 1952, but OHS incorporation in 2014 made it possible for the association to apply for charitable status and sell memberships to broaden support.

In addition to its incorporation process getting many heritage conservationists over a critical hurdle, OHS gives



them ongoing support with fundraising, strategic planning, heritage designation and easement questions, and access to liability, contents, and property insurance. OHS plays an important role in Ontario heritage advocacy, and strongly complements the work of ACO.

## Aeolian Hall Musical Arts Association

**Nominated for the A.K. Sculthorpe Award for Advocacy** for revitalizing the Aeolian Hall in London and transforming it into an inclusive musical and cultural hub.

In 1882, the London East Town Council hired renowned architect George F. Durand to create a combination of High Victorian and Italianate Town Hall, a masterpiece of tall traceried windows and biochromatic brickwork. Over the years the building had many uses, including Fire Station #2, the Ninth Divisional Court, the Hobbs Manufacturing Company, a London Public Library branch, and the London School of Telegraphy. In 1968 a fire destroyed much of the building; the remaining section was renamed Aeolian Hall, a name with a long association with music.

Clark Bryan was trained as a classical pianist and played in the Aeolian on occasion in the early 1990s. His dream was to open a music school. While on tour in Paris, he learned the Aeolian was up for sale, and the dream started to coalesce. He bought it in 2004, and a heritage designation of the Aeolian was made. The Old East Village Association and the City of London were supportive. Clark had no experience in running a music hall, but was passionate about making it a success, while preserving as much of its architectural heritage as possible. Gradually, additional programs were added, such as the El Sistema Aeolian free music education program for deserving youth. Other



programs include a chamber orchestra, The Rebelheart Collective, and the Pride Men's Chorus. Recently, through community support, the performance stage, lighting and sound system have been upgraded. Acquisition of the nearby Bishop Cronyn Church, now deconsecrated, and used for some Aeolian functions, is now underway.

## Phil Goldsmith, Julie Mavis and Dennis Hogarth

**Nominated for the A.K. Sculthorpe Award for Advocacy** for their leadership in protecting Port Hope's historic Opera House so that it can be restored and rejuvenated.

For a generation, ACO's Port Hope branch has sought to protect and to someday restore the Opera House. This unusual building was built by the O'Neill Brothers in 1871 at a central intersection in Port Hope. With a commercial space for their own import business, plus rental space to a music/book store, the O'Neill brothers then added a large second-floor hall. In one brief span in the fall of 1880, it hosted eight events, including Buffalo Bill's troupe, the play *Uncle Tom's Cabin*, and a concert by the Jubilee Singers, a Black student choir from Fisk University in Tennessee.

Severely damaged by fire in 1895, the hall was redesigned with boxes along its side walls and a new stage. Posters of events still remain in the stage's wings. After 1910, it became a movie theatre, its tin-clad projection room still remaining. When the new "atmospheric" Capitol Theatre replaced this use, it then housed a badminton club, until fire-safety concerns closed the upper floor entirely. The main floor became a bank, home to the Royal Bank for more than a century.

When the bank branch moved elsewhere, action was needed. ACO Port Hope stepped in and commissioned a study to evaluate potential uses, and interest in its restoration. After much discussion by the membership, the branch voted to seek ownership of the building, and in late 2019, ACO's offer was accepted by the bank. Years of advocacy had paid off. ACO Port Hope has maintained the building while searching for new ownership to restore it. This unique building has been rescued; its revival begins.



## William Greaves

**Nominated for the A.K. Sculthorpe Award for Advocacy** for bringing an international spotlight to Ontario Place by successfully nominating it to the World Monuments Fund's 2020 Watch List.

In late 2019, the World Monuments Fund (WMF) announced that Ontario Place would be added to its 2020 Watch Program. As Toronto City Councillor Joe Cressy quipped in the Toronto Star, "this is not a list that you want to be on." The WMF Watch was launched in 1995 and "aims to identify imperilled cultural heritage sites and direct financial and technical support for their preservation." At the time of the nomination, demolition was on the government table, and it has not yet been ruled out. Inclusion in the Watch Program puts Ontario Place rightly back on the world stage as a 20th century icon, and one that is in danger.

William (Bill) Greaves is an Ontarian who has spent much of his career abroad. He studied architecture at Yale, practiced in New York City, then travelled to Cambodia where he documented the work of architect Vann Molyvann and advocated for its conservation. After Bill returned to Toronto he approached ACO about the state of Ontario Place, the seminal early work of architect Eb Zeidler and landscape architect Michael Hough. Bill began to work with both ACO and Ontario Place for All to advocate for Ontario Place's conservation. Assisted by Victoria Walker, he orga-



nized and submitted the successful nomination. To be included in the Watch Program is no small accomplishment. Nominations come from around the globe and the 25 sites are chosen by an international jury. With this achievement, Bill Greaves introduced a new tactic to the Ontario advocacy toolkit, and brought an international spotlight to Ontario Place.



## William Greaves (second nomination)

**Nominated for the A.K. Sculthorpe Award for Advocacy** for his advocacy of Ontario Place and initiative in having it successfully placed on the World Monuments Fund's 2020 Watch List.

"Ontario Place's heritage value has been recognized at the highest level within Canada." In 2017 The National Trust for Canada awarded it the Prix du XXe Siecle, noting

"The Cinesphere and the Pods realize, in tangible physical form, some of the most ambitious Utopian architectural ideas from Europe and the United States of the 1960s." In 2014, the Ontario Government recognized the importance of the site in a Statement of Cultural Heritage Value. In 2019, the City of Toronto designated the site on its Heritage Register, noting the cultural significance of the masterwork buildings by Canadian architect Eb Zeidler, the surrounding parkland by landscape architect Michael Hough, and the more recent Trillium Park.

Architectural Conservancy Ontario (ACO) led the nomination for Ontario Place to be included on the worldwide list of threatened sites. Bill Greaves, a new ACO Board member, introduced this strategy which resulted in a successful World Monuments Fund (WMF) partnership and a 2020 World Monuments Watch listing for Ontario Place. It is difficult to gauge the long-term impact that a two-year WMF Watch listing will have on future decisions for the adaptive re-use of Ontario Place. International recognition enhances the economic value of local heritage and global networks and partnerships enhance the credibility and capability of local preservation efforts.

## Paul Mullins Award Recipient

**Nominated for the A.K. Sculthorpe Award for Advocacy** for his tireless advocacy to save and restore Our Lady of Assumption Church in Windsor.

Paul Mullins advocated tirelessly, using his many community contacts, for the restoration of Our Lady of Assumption Church in Windsor, Ontario.

The church was founded by the Jesuits in 1728, and the current building opened in 1845 on the traditional territory of the Three Fires Confederacy — it's Canada's oldest parish west of Montreal. The church closed in 2014 after falling into severe disrepair, and was at risk of demolition by neglect.

Paul, a local lawyer, liaised with the Diocese of London, demonstrated the value of the heritage building to the larger community in Windsor, and convinced the Bishop that it was in the interest of the Diocese to renew the structure. He also pledged to oversee a major fundraising effort for the restoration, which he continues to do.

Phase one of four began in May of 2019, including a new copper-shingle roof, heating system and asbestos removal. Phase two is now underway with interior work that has continued through most of the COVID-19 pandemic. Paul Mullins' committed advocacy effort has not just saved the church from demolition — it's led to a dramatic renewal and a new life for this beautiful historic church.



## Ali Piwowar Award Recipient

**Nominated for the ACO NextGen Award** for her passion and ambition as a young architect, and her exceptional work on numerous heritage projects in Ontario.

Ali Piwowar is a newly licenced Architect with an innovative approach to conserving the built environment. She believes that heritage requires constant participation to explore its story as it evolves from past, to present to future. Ali's M.Arch thesis research explored the tangible and intangible cultural heritage of wooden grain elevators in Saskatchewan, where she grew up, and proposed their adaptive reuse to meet contemporary needs. In 2016 she founded The Heritage + Design Company, which seeks to re-imagine heritage spaces in rural places through community engagement.

Ali has worked on a wide range of projects across the country and more recently has focused her work in Ontario where she now resides. In Belleville she has been involved in conceptual work on a grain elevator that was being explored as the potential home of a local craft brewery. She was invited as a guest critic for Carleton University's Azrieli School of Architecture and Urbanism's 4th year Conservation Studio. And this past spring, Ali was commissioned to prepare Design Guidelines for the expansion of the public library in the historic town of Almonte. Ali also works with the Government

of Canada as an Architect and Project Manager, conserving and rehabilitating federally designated heritage buildings and national historic sites.

Earlier this year, The National Trust for Canada named her as one of 10 Women Leaders in Heritage in Canada. As a young architect, Ali's passion, ambition, and creative approaches to regenerative heritage projects distinguish her as a key player in the next generation of heritage professionals in Ontario.



## Stephen Henderson

### Award Recipient

**Nominated for the Award ACO NextGen Award** for his swift action to move, and thus save, the historic Rose's Cottage in Port Hope.

At Port Hope's historic edge sit two estates of the Williams family: Penryn Homestead (1829), and Penryn Park (1857). After the King family purchased Penryn Park in 1894, they retained its buildings for the family, and developed the Penryn Park Golf Course. They also brought to Ontario a 16-year-old Irish girl, Mary Rose, to assist with childcare. As her duties changed, they built a small cottage at the rear of the estate, where Rose raised her own family. Located at the golf course entrance, the cottage became a landmark. To the extended family, it was known as Rose's Cottage; to others, simply Rose Cottage: its personal name suiting the real-life doll's house that the 15-year-old daughter, Winnifred King, had designed.

By chance in May, 2019, an ACO member saw a demolition permit on the cottage. A quick note alerted the Mayor, and temporary solutions were discussed, but the deed was done, for the permit had been issued. All seemed lost, until on a Friday afternoon the ACO branch posted the news online that the building would be gone on Monday. An outcry erupted, and Stephen Henderson stepped forward. At an emergency meeting, Stephen offered to accept ownership for \$1, provided the house could be parked temporarily on



the nearby park. After hurried work on a new bylaw, the move's first phase began. Then, Stephen had to find a scarce lot, develop designs, obtain permits, and arrange for the move with lowered hydro lines. On December's coldest day, Rose's Cottage slowly trundled along the town's streets to its new location in a heritage area where it is being restored and enlarged.

## Jeremy Pfuetzner

### Award Recipient

**Nominated for the James D. Strachan Award for Craft** for his exceptional work employing traditional masonry practices on numerous conservation projects in Toronto.

Jeremy is a dedicated young mason who has for the past several years been working on the restoration of many Toronto heritage buildings under the employment of Hunt Heritage Ltd. He is highly skilled, sensitive to heritage material, and endeavors to learn about the history of the buildings he works on. Examples of projects in Jeremy's portfolio of heritage restoration work in Toronto include:

- The Winchester Hotel at 531 Parliament Street: Jeremy was one of the principal tuckpointers practising traditional English tuckpointing and teaching others how to tuckpoint
- Evergreen Brickworks kilns: Working with the directives of the architects and site owners to carefully dismantle and rebuild critically damaged brickwork in order to preserve several kilns while not erasing the heritage quality of the brickwork
- 15 Mercer St: Jeremy performed backbreaking work cutting access holes in the frozen brick foundation and assisted in the installation of steel supports for the facade retention. He then carefully removed finished stone from the building to be reused later in the project.

• 220 High Park Ave: Jeremy assisted in restoring a large red brick Victorian house with sensitive modern additions; work included repointing with lime mortar, brick replacement, and the construction of new brick walls to integrate new construction into the heritage structure.

• The Selby Hotel, 25 Selby St: Jeremy completed much of the tuckpointing on this project as well as some plasterwork on the inside.

Traditional trades are an important extension of the broader goals of heritage conservation as the primary means of repair and replication of building conditions. Jeremy is one of the new generation eager to learn from senior tradespeople and contribute to the ongoing conservation of our heritage.



## Ariel Beaujot, Michelle Hamilton & Mark Tovey

### Award Recipient

**Nominated for the ACO Public Education and Engagement Award** for the audio-documentary project *Hear, Here London*, telling the oral histories of three London neighbourhoods.

Hear, Here is an audio-documentary venture that places oral histories on the streets of London, Ontario. The project is a collaboration between Hear, Here Executive Director Ariel Beaujot of the University of Wisconsin, Professor Michelle Hamilton of Western's Public History program, Western Postdoctoral Fellow Mark Tovey, and twelve students in Public History. Orange street signs feature telephone and story numbers, directing listeners to a two-minute narrative about the place where they stand. Stories are also accessible at [www.hearherelondon.org](http://www.hearherelondon.org) and through the app Driftscape.

Hear, Here mainly focuses on the marginalized residents of SoHo (South of Horton), including African Americans who escaped slavery, Irish railroad workers, and Jewish and Eastern European immigrants. Descendants of these communities still live in SoHo, alongside people experiencing housing and employment insecurity. The neighbourhood's history is endangered by ongoing speculative development. Many of the stories represent struggles to maintain built heritage, such as Wes Kinghorn's tale of marching to save buildings once part of the Victoria Hospital complex or

Genet Hodder and Joan Sam's stories about saving the Fugitive Slave Chapel. Other stories indicate what built heritage means to people who live in the neighborhood. For example, Ken Crossoy remembers his time as a student in the Talmud Torah Jewish language school where the community gathered in 1948 to hear the radio proclamation of the state of Israel. Users in Canada, the US and around the world are now aware of London's significant built heritage.



## Michael Kainer

**Nominated for the ACO Public Education and Engagement Award** for the documentary film *Not Just a Park — A History of Toronto Island*.

*Not Just a Park — A History of Toronto Island*, Michael Kainer's 85-minute documentary completed in September 2019, follows Toronto Island from its geological origins, through its indigenous and colonial history, and its development into a playground of cottages and amusements. Summer cottages evolved into year-round homes and by the end of World

War II, the Island had become a small town. Changing attitudes post-war led to a prolonged effort by politicians to turn the whole Island into a park which, to their minds, necessitated the demolition of buildings. By 1969 two thirds of the homes and all the businesses were destroyed. Through interviews with those involved, including former Premier Bob Rae and Mayor John Sewell, the film follows the ultimately successful battles by the residents of Ward's and Algonquin islands to save the remaining homes. Islanders were politicized and by the early 1970s began a legal, political and public relations battle that lasted until the 1990s when they finally secured long-term leases for their lots and ownership of their houses.

Michael Kainer's position as Toronto Island Commissioner during the final phase of the Island resolution gives him a unique vantage point to tell the story. The film is an ambitious melding of the early history with the later political resolution. It puts the Island struggle into the larger Toronto context as the city gained international status. Most visitors know little of Toronto Island's rich history. The film fills that gap, illustrating that even a vibrant community is a challenge to preserve.



## Coralina Lemos

**Nominated for the ACO Public Education and Engagement Award** for highlighting an untold story from Toronto's East End in the video *The History of Corktown's First Movie Theatre*.

In the early part of the 1900s, at a time when local residents were searching for much needed entertainment, an aspiring immigrant named Myer Willinsky answered the call by establishing the first purpose-built movie theater named the 'Idle Hour' at 364-366 Queen Street East. Beyond its brick and mortar, the intrinsic value of this sur-

ving structure is anchored to its story. In spite of considerable challenges such as settling in a new country and economic hardship as a result of the Spanish Flu, Mr. Willinsky and his wife, Sarah, rebounded into new enterprises that motivated them to survive throughout the following years.

Coralina Lemos, a Corktown resident and Heritage lead for the area's community association, decided to highlight the endearing story of a man who pursued a dream in order to provide for his family, and as a consequence contributed to the district's vibrancy. This undertaking began with extensive research and a book project. The second phase of this project occurred when an unnamed laneway, located behind the theatre, became an ideal opportunity to name it in honour of Myer Willinsky. Ms. Lemos's persistence along with support from Councillor Wong-Tam secured approval. As COVID-19 struck, plans for participation in a Jane's Walk tour of Corktown, with a focus on Willinsky's IDLE Hour story was met with sudden changes. To avoid cancellation, Ms. Lemos was asked to devise an alternate way of presenting the walking tour. Coralina decided to produce a video that was accepted into Jane's Walk Toronto "Reimagined" 2020. The video, with closed captioning, is a visual narrative that preserves a local heritage story.



## Felicity Pope

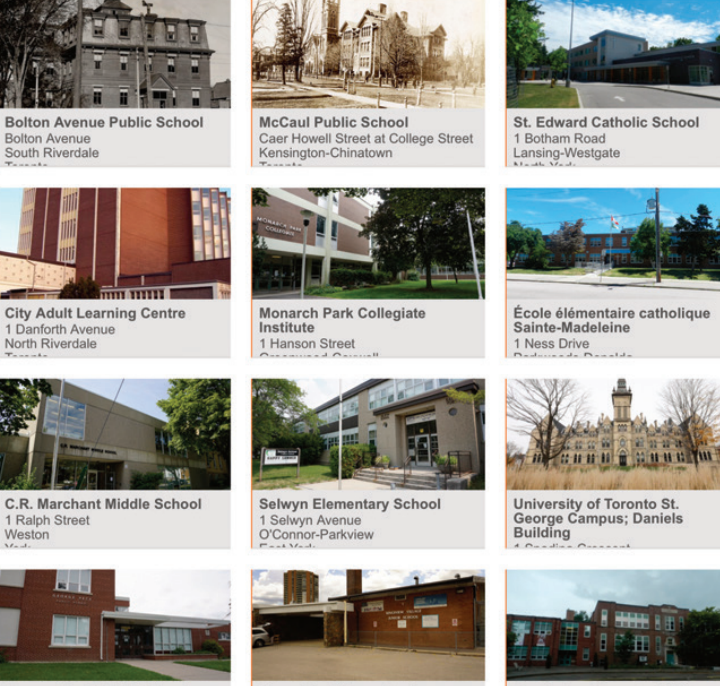
**Nominated for the ACO Public Education and Engagement Award** for spearheading ACO Cobourg's Canada 150 project celebrating the city's pre-1867 architectural heritage.

In 2017, the Town of Cobourg issued a press release to invite interested organizations to submit proposals to celebrate Canada's 150th birthday. Felicity Pope recommended to the Board of the ACO Cobourg branch that they submit a proposal to celebrate Cobourg's built heritage. She submitted a pro-

posal that included the following statements. "Our proposal is based on the ACO mandate to conserve architectural heritage by means of education and advocacy. This project gives Cobourg residents and visitors the opportunity to discover and learn about Cobourg's 150-year-old built heritage. It is free. We will place colourful attractive lawn signs outside all buildings that were standing in 1867 within the Town limits. The signs will display... the Cobourg 2017 logo, the ACO Branch logo, the Town's Cobourg 2017 website address and a line of text e.g. This building was standing in 1867."

In early September of 2016, ACO Cobourg & East Northumberland received a notice of approval for the project that had been submitted by Felicity, receiving the maximum allowable grant which was \$2,500. Felicity's work began.

The work of identifying eligible properties and photographing them was done by Felicity. Research was done using the Town's website and the history room in the Cobourg library and from the owners themselves. Signs were designed by branch member Bob Hambly and ordered by Felicity. Amazingly, 280 properties were identified. Everybody in Cobourg became aware of the "Blue Sign Project." People were calling to ask for signs. And the legacy of having this database of properties exists now on the Town's website thanks to Felicity Pope.



## TOBuilt Database Award Recipient

**Nominated for the ACO Public Education and Engagement Award** for cataloguing Toronto’s architecture and heritage and making it more accessible through TOBuilt, an outstanding online resource.

TOBuilt is an open-source, publicly accessible database of Toronto’s building and structures, with over 11,500 entries with corresponding images, historical information

and architectural descriptions. Bob Krawczyk’s extensive documentation of the City of Toronto’s heritage inventory was the foundation for TOBuilt, evolving into a database to discover, educate and advocate for Toronto’s physical legacy: buildings, landscapes, and monuments. TOBuilt is used by researchers, students, and architecture enthusiasts. Its open-sourced nature welcomes diversity and has enabled the database to showcase a wide range of properties that are left out of formal heritage registries. The easy-to-use platform allows building searches to be made through a map view or by specific architect, architectural style, era, neighbourhood, heritage status, or heritage conservation district.

TOBuilt is also designed as an advocacy tool, where community members can raise awareness about buildings under threat for demolition or insensitive redevelopment through TOBuilt’s “At Risk” section. Today, TOBuilt is well-positioned to play a role in the City of Toronto’s evolving city-wide survey as a digital place to collect data which will hopefully inform government decisions about heritage issues. Beyond Toronto, TOBuilt serves as a model for other Ontario cities and towns. It’s a wonderful, accessible tool to help promote and protect community assets.

## The Ward Cabaret

**Nominated for the ACO Public Education and Engagement Award** for illuminating the untold histories of St. John’s Ward, Toronto’s first immigrant neighbourhood.

*The Ward Cabaret* conjures the vibrant stories of St. John’s Ward, Toronto’s first multicultural neighbourhood, using music to re-imagine the street sounds of this forgotten community. The Ward was home to waves of immigrants between the mid-19th and mid-20th centuries. Despite the neighbourhood’s liveliness, the City considered it a slum, and eventually

bulldozed the area in the 1950s to make way for what would become a new civic square. In early 2015, a team of archaeologists began digging up a parking lot next to Toronto City Hall and uncovered a chapter of The Ward’s extraordinarily rich, buried history.

*The Ward Cabaret*, which ran from December 12 to 22, 2019 at the Harbourfront Centre Theatre, offered up a musical mosaic of those uncovered histories. It propelled audiences into the world of The Ward — a place where peddlers, organ grinders and itinerant musicians co-mingled, attracting audiences with its unique mix of history and site-specific music. The area’s residents might have heard the heavenly strains of a Black choir spilling out of the British Methodist Episcopal Church or a cantor singing in one of the Ward’s many synagogues. These streets rang out with the sounds of opera drawn from both the Italian and Cantonese tradition. Meanwhile, blues and jazz were on offer in The Ward’s speak-easies, burlesque houses and vaudeville theatres. Produced and directed by Juno-winning, Grammy-nominated musician and producer David Buchbinder, *The Ward Cabaret* was inspired by the 2015 anthology “The Ward: The Life and Loss of Toronto’s First Immigrant Neighbourhood.”



## Kathryn Anderson

**Nominated for the Carlos Ventin Award for Municipal Heritage Leadership** for her extraordinary contributions as Heritage Planner at the City of Toronto to conserving and celebrating the city's built heritage.

Kathryn Anderson is a respected architectural historian and municipal heritage planner in the City of Toronto. Her extraordinary contributions to heritage conservation involve a lifetime of work and a career that spans more than 30 years. Largely single-handedly, Kathryn's work has resulted in more than 2,300 listed and/or designated properties added to the City's Heritage Register. Her Heritage Planning colleagues believe that no single municipal staff member has had a greater influence on conserving and celebrating the built heritage and the public heritage buildings in Toronto.

Raised in Newmarket, Kathryn volunteered on its Local Architectural Conservation Advisory Committee and was a key witness at a Conservation Review Board (CRB) hearing on the designation of St. Paul's Anglican Church, which was opposed by the Diocese of Toronto. The CRB ruled in favour of the designation. With her body of work, Kathryn has quietly made a profound and substantial contribution to heritage conservation in Ontario and protected many of the heritage properties that contribute to the history, culture and sense of place of Toronto.

Sadly, Kathryn passed away in August, 2020.



## Alissa Golden Award Recipient

**Nominated for the Carlos Ventin Award for Municipal Heritage Leadership** for her dedicated work on projects to streamline and improve the City of Hamilton's ability to conserve heritage.

Alissa Golden is a Heritage Project Specialist with the City of Hamilton. As a Registered Professional Planner with more than 9 years of experience managing cultural heritage resources, Alissa has implemented a broad range of heritage planning initiatives. Alissa is deeply committed to Municipal Heritage in the City of Hamilton and was instrumental in implementing the Built Heritage Inventory and the Heritage Property Mapping System in the City of Hamilton's public map database.

The goal of the Built Heritage Inventory Project is to update the Inventory of Buildings of Architectural and Historical Interest; Hamilton had a backlog of more than 6000 listed properties and numerous buildings not yet evaluated for heritage status. As a direct result of Alissa's dedication, since 2016, inventories for the Downtown Beasley and the Durand neighbourhoods have been fully completed and the inventory for Waterdown Village is in process. So far 1,399 properties have been evaluated and placed on the Heritage Register and 82 new properties have been forwarded for Heritage Designation.

Alissa was instrumental in creating an interactive Heritage Database and Mapping site as part of the City of Hamilton's publicly accessible mapping system, and wrote new programming for greater interactivity in the system, creating a user-friendly interface for greater public access and transparency. She is also dedicated to sharing her knowledge, participating in Doors Open, Jane's Walks and sharing her methods at numerous conferences. Civic buildings designated because of Alissa's work include: 134 Cannon St. E (Cannon Knitting Mills), 24 Main St. West (Centenary United Church), 54 King St. E (Bank of Nova Scotia), 55 John St. N. (Horizon Utilities), and 165-205 King St. E. (Copp Block).



## City of Cambridge Mayor Kathryn McGarry and City Council

**Nominated for the Carlos Ventin Award for Municipal Heritage Leadership** for their initiatives to protect and preserve the Hespeler Post Office building, home to the Fashion History Museum.

Before becoming Mayor, Kathryn McGarry served as President of Heritage Cambridge and Chair of the Heritage Master Plan Implementation Committee. With the support of local councillors and staff, she championed Cambridge's investment in and preservation of the former Hespeler Post Office, home of the Fashion History Museum.

The post office was built in 1928 by Thomas William Fuller in the Art Deco/Italianate style, and was the lively centre of the Hespeler community. In 1993, the building was decommissioned and sold to a private buyer. In 2015 the Fashion History Museum rented the main floor and opened it to the public, and it has since grown to become a popular destination, reviving the building's role as an anchor for the community. When the owner retired in 2019 and planned to sell the building, many feared that it would be acquired by developers. Published commentary suggested it would be a profitable site to demolish and build an apartment tower. Fortunately, the city realized the value of the museum and the building. The site became a long-term legacy project for the Hespeler community and the City of Cambridge, and a Transformation Core Fund was created with money provid-

ed from the sale of industrial lands. The fund supports collaborations with the private sector, place making, and strategic acquisition of land/properties. The Hespeler post office building was the very first investment utilizing this fund.

As with any community building project, there were many people to thank for their efforts. In addition to Mayor McGarry, are local Hespeler Ward Councillors Mike Devine and Donna Reid, followed by Councillors Jan Liggett, Mike Mann, Nicholas Ermata, Shannon Adshade, and Pam Wolf, as well as City of Cambridge staff under City Manager David Calder.



## Carolyn Samko

**Nominated for the Carlos Ventin Award for Municipal Heritage Leadership** for her tireless work to conserve Hamilton's built heritage, including several recent historic wallpaper projects.

Carolyn Samko is the City of Hamilton's Senior Project Manager of Heritage Facilities and Capital Planning in the Heritage Resource Management Section of the Tourism and Culture Division. She is a member of the Canadian Association of Heritage Professionals and a graduate of the Willowbank heritage conservation school. Carolyn is responsible for the strategic and budgetary planning, site planning, and implementation of capital projects for Hamilton's City-owned historic structures, which represent one of the largest sets of well-preserved, active heritage structures in Ontario. Carolyn is passionate about historic conservation work and has a keen interest in the restoration of historic interiors. She recently spearheaded several historic wallpaper projects, which required the research, study, design and reproduction of original document wallpaper, in four of the City-owned National Historic Sites: Dundurn Castle National Historic Site, Battlefield House Museum and Park National Historic Site, Whitehern Historic House & Garden National Historic Site, and Griffin House.

A number of these reproductions are available for the public to purchase for their own home — such as the “Dundurn



Castle Ashlar”, “Dundurn Castle Gothic” and the “Griffin House Sprig”, bringing new life to historic interior finishes.

Carolyn is an unsung hero of heritage conservation in Hamilton. She has fought for dedicated funding and staff to care for the City's 41 municipally-designated structures, which have varying degrees of municipal and provincial significance, including five National Historic Sites.

## Brigitte Shim and Howard Sutcliffe Award Recipient

**Nominated for the Heritage of the Future Award** for an outstanding and varied body of work that prioritizes the integration of built form with the natural environment, the innovative use of building materials, and exceptional design.

Marry architecture with nature? It's a challenge Brigitte Shim and Howard Sutcliffe love. In their Ravine Guest House, Lake Muskoka Boathouse, Integral House and their many other co-minglings of the built with the natural, it's a challenge they have met magnificently.

Your taste is more utilitarian? Visit Shim Sutcliffe's plywood-clad House and Studio on Craven Road, an east end Toronto street of what used to be starter homes and handyman specials. Low budget, practical, with a cubic geometry that's the antithesis of the curving calculus of Integral House, these structures equal it in beauty. Or their own Laneway House, a Lego block marvel that inspired, a book, *Site Unseen: Laneway Architecture & Urbanism in Toronto* with a message that later inspired, the City of Toronto's Affordable Laneway Suites Program. "Living in a laneway enables you to feel like you are living in a village in the heart of an enormous metropolis. Laneways have the potential to create intimate community clusters which operate at a smaller scale within a large, thriving city."

Where the environment is remote from nature, Shim Sutcliffe deliver the shock of the new. The Weathering Steel House won them one of their fifteen Governor General's Medals for Architecture. The Wong Dai Sin Taoist Temple in Markham also features weathered steel, as well as one of the longest pre-stressed concrete cantilevers in North America.

These are just a few examples of the astonishing diversity of the shared imaginations of Brigitte Shim and Howard Sutcliffe. Theirs is a gift that will surely be admired for as long as it stands, as part of Ontario's architectural heritage of the future.



## Karl Frank Award Recipient

**Nominated for the Margaret and Nicholas Hill Cultural Heritage Landscape Award** for championing the natural and cultural built environments in Toronto's Don Mills community, including the designation of a Cultural Heritage Landscape corridor on Eglinton Ave. East.

Karl Frank was born in Neustadt, Germany in 1935, where he received his basic education and training as an Architectural Technician. After immigrating to Canada in 1959 he obtained a Degree in Landscape Architecture, as the first student in this field at the University of Toronto, where later he was privileged to lecture. Karl was employed by Project Planning Associates Limited (the Toronto consulting firm founded by Macklin Hancock, inventor and designer of Don Mills), for more than 30 years where he was involved in a myriad of projects in Canada and overseas. Karl was a member of numerous multidisciplinary team projects, including the design and construction of complete residential communities, business parks, resort and tourism developments, recreation facilities, parks and open space systems, and university campuses. As a private consultant in Landscape, Urban Design and Planning he prepared re-development plans for several international cities.

Karl has lived with his family in Don Mills since 1970. Following his retirement from private consulting, Karl

was appointed by City Council to the North York Community Preservation Panel whose mandate is to promote, research and recognize the cultural heritage of the North York District of the City of Toronto, serving to the present day. Karl has applied his professional skills and knowledge locally to the ongoing issues in landscape and urban development in and around Don Mills. His passion has been to ensure that plans and developments respect the natural and cultural built environment, for example, championing the designation of a Cultural Heritage Landscape corridor on Eglinton Ave. East from the west slopes of the West Don River to the east slopes of the East Don River.



## The Selby

**Nominated for the Paul Oberman Award for Adaptive Reuse: Large-Scale/Team/Corporate** for creating a mixed-use high rise rental building while maintaining the integrity of the 1883 Gooderham Mansion at its base.

After a multi-year conservation project, the Gooderham Mansion, a heritage residence near the intersection of Bloor and Sherbourne Streets, has been adaptively reused as a community hub at the base of The Selby, a new purpose-built rental tower serving the heart of downtown Toronto. The Mansion was built in 1883 for Charles Gooderham. Designed by David Roberts Jr., the family architect who oversaw much of the work at the Gooderham and Worts Distillery site and the Flatiron Building, the Mansion was briefly the second home for the all-girls school Branksome Hall before becoming the Selby Hotel in 1912. As the Selby Hotel, the Mansion hosted the likes of Ernest Hemingway, who called the Hotel home during his brief career at the Toronto Star in the 1920s. Today, the Selby has again taken its place as a centre of cultural life in Toronto, serving as a new landmark of historic Sherbourne Street.

The conservation strategy for the Gooderham Mansion included the removal of its 1912 addition and modification to the rear wing. The retained structure was then stabilized by a qualified heritage contractor and carefully moved. A hallmark of the technical nature of the project is the significant tuckpointing. The once popular technique was



executed on the entirety of the Mansion, making it the largest fully tuckpointed project of its kind in the country. Other exterior rehabilitation efforts included restoring the woodwork to match the original design intent. Interior work over the four floors included full restoration of the original interior wood staircase, restored plaster cornices, window shutters, and wood trim and door hardware, brackets, fireplaces, and plaster work and medallions, returning the House to its original grandeur and enhancing the surrounding neighbourhood.

## Mitra Foroutan, Youth Opportunities Unlimited

### Award Recipient

**Nominated for the Paul Oberman Award for Adaptive Reuse: Large-Scale/Team/Corporate** for revitalizing a part of London's heritage at 333 Richmond St. and turning it into a hub serving the city's youth.

Youth Opportunities Unlimited (YOU) of London purchased 333 Richmond Street in 2016. The 1890s building was previously a bar and restaurant with residential apartments above. The building had significant deterioration. YOU hired Cornerstone Architecture to renovate the building so that the first and second floors could provide a variety of employment and training programs to youth while the third and fourth floors provide apartment housing for youth. General Contractor Graceview Enterprises performed renovations to bring the building up to code. Heritage elements of the facade, such as corbels, have been carefully preserved. New fiberglass windows have been designed to mimic original wood windows in the floors above. The space has original hardwood floors, exposed brick walls, and high ceilings. New interior walls are made of glass, ensuring that natural light travels far into the building. These renovations will ensure that the building will be preserved for the century to come.

Numerous challenges were faced during the project. While \$10,000 was budgeted for mold removal, more mold was

discovered once renovations began and \$50,000 was eventually spent on mold removal. A section of the roof was leaking, and some rotten wooden beams needed to be replaced. The architect originally planned to restore the brick of the facade but due to smoke damage, it was instead painted. Fortunately, a grant from Downtown London as well as grants and loans from the City of London to improve the downtown core helped to finance the project. YOU is continuing to acquire and renovate surrounding historic buildings, creating extensive housing and services for at-risk youth. YOU is both a benefit to London's youth, and a protector of the city's heritage.



## Aleo Associates Inc.

**Nominated for the Paul Oberman Award for Adaptive Reuse: Large-Scale/Team/Corporate** for their inspired transformation of Windsor's Walker Power Building (325 Devonshire Road) into a commercial space, while preserving its heritage features.

In 1910, construction began on a state-of-the-art industrial building for Hiram Walker, founder of Canadian Club Whiskey, with three storeys on a footprint of 7,000 square feet. Located near the Walker distillery, it is known as the Walker Power Building. Completed in 1911, the building quickly filled with industrial and manufacturing tenants. In 1912, a four-storey addition (with an 8,000-square-foot footprint) including a large freight elevator was added. An addition of 7,000 square feet was added in 1918 to create a fourth floor. A 7,000-square-foot addition was added in 2019, bringing the total area to 67,000 square feet.

Sadly, this innovative building decayed and when it was purchased by engineering consultants Vincent and Piero Aleo in partnership with lawyers Patrick and Stephen Ducharme in 2016, it seemed only invasive ivy was holding the building up. But the bones were good and the team had a vision. The 2019 adaptive reuse features limestone cladding on the concrete structural frame retaining historical forms and proportions. Windows replicate the appearance of the originals. There is an asymmetrical massing with



a recessed bay with tower on the south side of the building, and a five-storey tower on the southwest corner with an additional open storey. There were several engineering challenges to be overcome with the addition and restoration work.

However, it is a surprise discovery during reconstruction which elevates this project from an excellent example of commercial adaptive reuse to an award-worthy building. A 55-foot railroad turntable from the 1880s complete with timbers and rails was unearthed during renovations. Following archeological investigations, plans were amended to lay a glass floor over this treasure from the past.



## Deborah Jackson Award Recipient

**Nominated for the Paul Oberman Award for Adaptive Reuse: Small-Scale/Individual/Small Business** for her initiative in restoring and transforming the Church Off 22 in Poplar Hill into a beautiful event space.

The recently deconsecrated Poplar Hill Christian Church celebrated its 115th anniversary this year. It was fortunate to have fallen into the good hands of Deborah Jackson, who lovingly restored the building and found a

new use that would celebrate its religious symbolism and its former life as a church.

The yellow brick structure with its stained glass, working bell tower and spire, is both typical and rare. Typical in that many like it dot Ontario's countryside; rare in its combination of six-sided architecture, curved pews and 1860s Toronto-built vintage organ. The greatest challenge Deborah faced was not knowing how to accomplish this adaptive reuse project. One step at a time, she replaced the roof, dug a new well, installed a fireplace, restructured a bathroom, built a storage addition, and so on. She worked through many learning curves and drew on her strong religious faith for direction.

After the kitchen was commercialized, the auditorium transformed for receptions, and bride's and groom's rooms outfitted, an Open House was held for the community. Feedback was overwhelmingly positive and events began: birthday parties, a theatre production, a baptism, a funeral. Villagers are delighted to see the building intact. This project can inspire others to preserve local churches for what they represent: places of worship that unite people at a deep level, and keep local history alive for generations.

## The Moulton Group, Inc. (Richard, William and Ben Moulton)

**Nominated for the Paul Oberman Award for Adaptive Reuse: Small-Scale/Individual/Small Business** for their restoration and repurposing of the historic Crane House in Prescott into residential units.

The Crane House in historic downtown Prescott, former home of the Hon. Samuel Crane, was a virtual wreck in 2016. The interior was largely gutted after sustaining severe water damage. The bones of the building were excellent, however, and the original classic Italianate design remained largely intact. The building, a designated heritage property, was threatened with demolition. The town was anxious to retain this building to preserve the historic character of the neighborhood. The challenge was to find an owner willing to work within the restrictions of modifying a heritage property.

The Moulton Group stepped forward to take on the challenge. They purchased the property from St. Mark Church, which had used the building for more than half a century as a convent. The Moultons agreed to do a restoration that respected the building's heritage designation. As there was no market for a large family home of this character, they decided to repurpose the building by creating four residential units. Removal of interior walls revealed an earlier stone building that had been hidden within the much larger mansion. The stone walls were incorporated into the new in-



terior design. The front porch was restored and two verandas were rebuilt. The original stucco covering was repainted with stucco covering the new addition. All windows were replaced with historically correct designs. Much of the interior lumber was repurposed. The roof, cornice and chimney needed extensive repairs. Today, the Crane House is once again a shining jewel in the collection of heritage properties in Prescott of which everyone is justly proud.

## Scott Brown, Bryn Davies, and Peter Braul

**Nominated for the Paul Oberman Award for Adaptive Reuse: Small-Scale/Individual/Small Business** for their repurposing of the late 19th century Dey's building in Collingwood into the Black Bellows Brewing Company, preserving its historic elements.

The Black Bellows Brewing Company is a welcome addition to the Creative Simcoe Street centre for arts and entertainment in Collingwood. Collingwood's longest run family business. The original business, Dey's, opened in the 1870s and was run continuously by the Dey family for 140 years. The main building was constructed in 1895 and in its early days it operated as a marine blacksmith shop.. It also served as a carriage works, blacksmith and horse shoeing workshop and then as a welding shop. Its period round headed windows and parapet detailing make it a charming example of nineteenth century architecture. The attached building is a 1940s one storey rug brick industrial building which was used as an automobile showroom.

Conserving Collingwood's industrial heritage has been challenging. The Dey's buildings are some of the last industrial heritage buildings left in the city. As Collingwood goes through a boom time of new buildings, condos and new resi-

dences, many of the developers have little to no interest in conserving the heritage of the town. In contrast, the new owners of the Dey's building planned adaptive reuse that pays homage to the history of the building. The name itself, "Black Bellows," is a tip to the blacksmithing days of the business. They have preserved many of the historic elements of the building. The original brick and exposed beams have created a beautiful interior and any corner that isn't a tribute to the building's history is showcasing the work of local artists. The community now enjoys this successful, thriving business, and the adaptive reuse led to an outstanding result.



## McCallumSather and Electric City Developments

### Award Recipient

**Nominated for the Peter Stokes Restoration Award - Large-Scale/Team/Corporate** for their restoration of the Westinghouse Headquarters building, placing emphasis on sustainability and energy efficiency.

Constructed in 1917, the Canadian Westinghouse Company Headquarters in Hamilton has sat derelict since the 1980s, yet remains a beautiful example of Classical Revival style. The building was heritage designated in 1988. As the historic landmark's windows were boarded up, so were the businesses in the Barton Village neighbourhood. After decades of neglect, Electric City Developments and mcCallumSather have brought the heritage property back to its original grandeur. It offers 60,000 square feet of Class A office space and 10,000 square feet of ground floor event space, including an auditorium that is open to the public for events. The original details of this heritage building are celebrated throughout the space. Marble mosaic, terrazzo floors, steel trusses, exquisite plaster ceiling mouldings and speed tile have been salvaged and restored.

The team conducted an Energy Consumption, Cost and Net Present Value (NPV) Analysis Report, which evaluated energy efficiency, GHG emissions, annual energy costs, capital costs, and NPV savings. The building has been

future proofed with an ability to convert it with ease from gas to electric, making it net zero ready. mcCallumSather, an integrated design firm, renovated and moved into the building as anchor tenants. Compared with a more traditional office environment, the design of mcCallumSather's workspace has resulted in projected energy savings of 59% and energy cost savings of 30%.

Westinghouse HQ demonstrates that aesthetics and comfort do not need to be compromised to complete a highly sustainable renovation in an existing heritage building. The building has been re-envisioned for a new age to become a hub for commercial and cultural activities, and a blueprint for urban neighbourhood renewal.



## Paradise Theatre

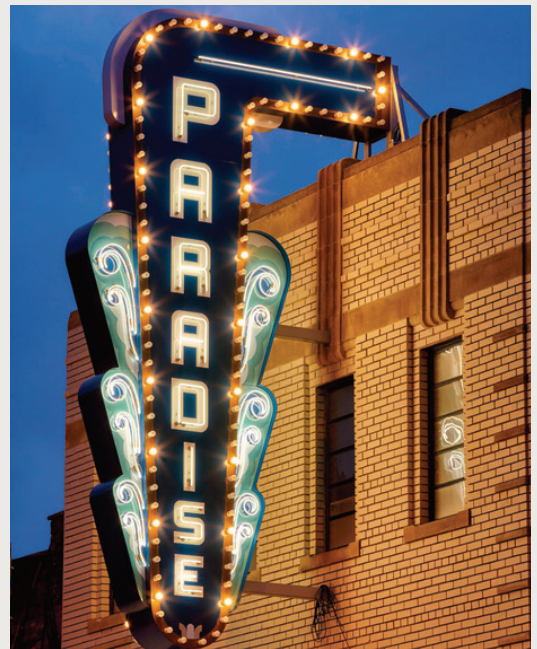
### Award Recipient

**Nominated for the Peter Stokes Restoration Award - Small-Scale/Individual/Small Business** for restoring one of Toronto's hallmark Art Deco theatres, including its historic blade sign and marquee

The Paradise Theatre is a surviving example of Toronto's hallmark 20th-century theatres, complete with distinct Art Deco styling specific to the World War II era, with abstracted classical and geometrical elements. It was designed by Benjamin Brown, one of the earliest Jewish architects in Toronto. With its reopening in 2019, the theatre is once again part of a collection of unique community-oriented heritage buildings highly visible in the Dovercourt neighbourhood.

A major challenge for the project team was that several key elements of the original theatre had been lost over time. The original blade sign had been previously removed from the building and while the original marquee remained, it had been heavily altered and was structurally compromised. The original box office and doors had also been previously removed along with the distinctive black and white cladding on the lower portion of the facade. Without these elements the building was stripped of its movie house character and its unique Art Deco flair. A sensitive and thoughtful approach to the task of restoration balanced historic reconstruction with current technological standards and the need to provide

barrier-free access. The historic Paradise blade sign and marquee was reconstructed based on careful analysis of historic photos and research into comparable theatre signs from the era. The original historic stainless-steel box office and main entrance doors were painstakingly reconstructed by the team in close collaboration with specialist fabricators. The reinstating of lost elements not specified in the heritage designation is a testament to the level of commitment the project team had to celebrating the original building and its heritage attributes.





## Alfred Mici

**Nominated for the Peter Stokes Restoration Award - Small-Scale/Individual/Small Business** for his restoration of the Hedge House in Mississauga.

The Hedge House is located in the Lakeview neighbourhood of present-day Mississauga. Built for William Hedge, a local fruit farmer, in 1928, it was designed by Dixie Cox Cotton, a local architect who designed many of the St. Lawrence Starch buildings as well as several other similar style bungalows in the Lakeview area. Hedge House is one of the few surviving examples of his work. The house is built out

of rough cast limestone, a popular building material of the time. The house was designated in 2015 under Part IV of the *Ontario Heritage Act* as it is a rare example of the style of house of a local architect which played a key role in the look and feel of the agricultural and rural setting of early twentieth-century Mississauga.

Alfred Mici purchased the Hedge House at a time where its future was very much in question. It had been mistreated and was at risk of being lost. Nevertheless, Alfred saw the potential in bringing the house back from its near derelict state and restoring it to its previous beauty. Alfred observed the highest level of craftsmanship and followed the advice and guidance of his heritage team, ensuring that the original interior elements were salvaged and restored wherever possible. Alfred worked to improve the house, adding new drainage and protecting the stone foundation. The result of his work is a fully restored and modernized house.

## James Sculthorpe Ltd.

**Nominated for the Peter Stokes Restoration Award - Small-Scale/Individual/Small Business** for their restoration of Bluestone in Port Hope, Ravensworth in Cobourg, and Walbridge House in Newmarket

James Sculthorpe Ltd. is a firm specializing in restoration work. In all of its projects, careful investigation and consultation precede any work. Often, the buildings they work on have serious structural decay, requiring careful planning of the work to ensure that the elements are restored authentically and safely.

This nomination features three projects, all significant heritage properties, recognized both locally and provincially:

- Bluestone (pictured at right) - 21 Dorset Street E, Port Hope. This famous house is protected by designation under the Heritage Act and by the Ontario Heritage Trust. The work here included the restoration of the internal gutters and eave returns, fascia and soffit restoration, window and shutter restoration, column and entrance restoration as well as extensive interior work including new plumbing throughout protected by “water cops”, a method to ensure plumbing leaks cannot destroy heritage elements of the building.

- Ravensworth - Fitzhugh Lane, Cobourg. This impressive Classical Revival house was built as a summer home by Lt. Gen-

eral Fitzhugh around 1904. The project involved extensive roof and gutter work, the restoration of the large wood classical columns which had deteriorated, and interior plaster restoration.

- Walbridge House Restoration - Highway #2, Newcastle. This early nineteenth century house, thought to be one of the oldest houses in the former Durham County, was to be demolished to make way for a new subdivision. It was saved by new owners, Brian and Audrey Jose, descendants of the Walbridge family. The work included structural and foundation work, restoration of original clapboard, restoration of original windows, restoration of classically inspired front entrance and restoration of the entire interior.





## Doug Taylor

**Nominated for the Stephen A. Otto Award for Research and Documentation** for his longstanding passion for bringing Toronto's architectural heritage to life through his numerous books and Historic Toronto blog.

Doug Taylor is a formidable excavator of history, a generous sharer of all that he discovers, a wonderful storyteller and a meticulous photographer. As an historian his standards and mode of research are primary: archival sources and his own observations. But there is no dryness in his professionalism. He is as fascinated by the lives of the people who created the built heritage he loves and those who lived, worked, played, prayed in it, as he is by its

architecture. In the 1960s, when Old City Hall was slated for demolition, protestors united to save this key piece of Toronto's architectural heritage. Doug Taylor was among them. Their efforts paid off and led to the passing of the *Ontario Heritage Act*. From March 2011 to December 2019 (when he was forced to retire due to illness) Doug Taylor published his blog Historic Toronto, almost always monthly, always packed with information, always with detailed photographs — archival and his own. He has also published 12 books, including *Lost Toronto*, *Toronto Then and Now*, *Toronto's Local Movie Theatres of Yesteryear*, and *Toronto Theatres and the Golden Age of the Silver Screen*.

What happened to the cultural gems that graced the City of Toronto before the heritage movement? How are the buildings that survived because of it faring? In his books, his photography and his blog Historic Toronto Doug Taylor mourns what has been lost, he celebrates what has been saved from the wrecking ball and he defends Toronto's built heritage wherever it is in danger.

Sadly, Doug Taylor passed away in July, 2020.

## Dan Schneider Award Recipient

**Nominated for the Stephen A. Otto Award for Research and Documentation** for his blog Ontario Heritage Act and More (OHA + M)

Dan Schneider was hired when Stephen A. Otto was Executive Director of the Heritage Conservation Division from the mid 1970s to the early 1980s. As such, Dan has had a ringside seat on the evolution of Ontario heritage policy, rising to senior policy advisor on cultural heritage with the Ontario culture ministry, becoming the lead policy expert on the 2005 changes before his retirement.

In 2015, sensing the need for a new vehicle for discussion of Ontario heritage policy, Dan Schneider conceived and created the OHA+M (Ontario Heritage Act and More) blog as a public resource and forum for understanding and exploring heritage policy issues in Ontario. Launched during Ontario Heritage Week in February 2015, OHA+M is a platform for telling "policy stories" about the beginnings and evolution of Ontario's heritage legislation, policies and programs. It focuses on legislation, public policy, and tribunal decisions. The blog is a highly valuable resource, receiving a 2017 Award of Excellence from his colleagues at the Canadian Association of Heritage Professionals. With new postings monthly, Dan covers an extensive range of topics, often dwelling on the historical

evolution of aspects of Ontario's legal and policy framework for the conservation of cultural and natural heritage. He has also welcomed five guest contributors.

With almost 100 posts since 2015, Dan's "policy stories" and incisive analysis have attracted a wide and devoted following. The University of Waterloo's Heritage Resources Centre, which hosts the blog, sees the benefits of the blog as "expanding the HRC's role as an ideas generator and centre for the discussion and debate of heritage legislation, policy and issues."

### OHA+M (Ontario Heritage Act and more)

This blog is about the Ontario Heritage Act and a miscellany of related heritage topics. It is primarily intended as a public resource for understanding the policy behind the Act and assisting with its interpretation and use. Post your comments or questions or send them to Dan at [danschneider@uwaterloo.ca](mailto:danschneider@uwaterloo.ca). New posts biweekly. Please follow, subscribe or connect with Dan on Google+. All posts copyright © 2015, 2016, 2017 Dan Schneider.

Friday, July 15, 2016

#### Back to the Rockwood Academy, part one

I hadn't been there for decades. Yet, when greeting Andy Drenters at the door, I said: "This is one of my favourite places in the world." On a beautiful day in May it was delightful to see how little things had changed.

Rarely if ever in my life has there been a place like the Rockwood Academy that has brought together the personal and the professional.

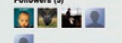


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Dan Schneider

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Dan Schneider is a heritage

enthusiast, policy wonk, writer and

## Patsy Beeson

**Nominated for the Mary Millard Award for Special Contributions to ACO** for her tremendous contributions to ACO Port Hope's educational programming and newsletters over the past 15 years.

Patsy Beeson moved to Port Hope in 2000 and has for the past 15 years led the educational programming for ACO's Port Hope Branch. She has leveraged her deep interest in 19th century history, both as a writer and community volunteer, to create several dozens of insightful and enjoyable programs for our branch members. Patsy inaugurated annual regional bus tours that included backgrounder documents, and speakers and presenters at each location for the respective tour. These have been expanded to include ACO Cobourg as one of the bi-annual coordinators. She coordinated the branch's twice-annual Discovery Lectures on topics from Loyalists to controversial war heroes. Likely her greatest contribution to the ongoing health and growth of the membership (now over 500 members) is Patsy's quarterly newsletter. Several issues have been printed and distributed into the community thereby energizing the community behind heritage. The newsletters have included her researched articles on important buildings, events and residents from the past 200 years.

ACO Matters November 2019

### Prima Donna

On Sunday Sept. 22 Mary Lou Fallis with Peter Tiefenbach presented *Primadonna on a Moose* at the United Church for over 100 ACO members and friends. The mostly classical and Canadiana repertoire created much laughter and delight while educating us too. Ian Montagnes added to the humour with readings from his book about the early days of Port Hope. After the event, an enjoyable reception catered by Sunnysidefull Manor took place at Eve and Terry McBride's home. All in all it was a great way to celebrate the Opera House and raise funds for the continuing maintenance of the building. A thousand thanks to Mary Lou, Peter, Ian and the McBrides for a wonderful afternoon!

- Moya McPhail

### Antiques & Artifacts

April 26, 2020

The Auction is gearing up to be an exciting event! This year, the focus is on modernism and the integration of old with new. We are also looking at ways to highlight the environmental benefits of re-using vintage and antique items as opposed to buying new. Many of the items in these photos will be featured either in the live event or in our upcoming online auction which starts October 31st and runs to November 7, 2019.

- Sharon Hancock, Co-Chair




7



## David Kenneth Bentley

**Nominated for the Mary Millard Award for Special Contributions to ACO** for his dedicated commitment to ACO's Quinte branch and to the education of his community about its architectural history

David Bentley is a dynamic force for furthering the cause of historic preservation. Over the past 36 years, David Bentley has made a very significant contribution to the ACO-Quinte Region, and is credited with keeping the branch alive.

Bentley epitomizes dedication to community service. He began his association with the Architectural Conservancy of

Ontario and committed himself to supporting heritage initiatives upon his arrival in Belleville from Montreal in 1983. From 2002 to 2014, Bentley served as president of the ACO Quinte branch.

Under his stewardship, the walking tours expanded to become the most popular event held by the Quinte ACO. His legacy includes identifying houses for the tours, and the extensive research he conducted to prepare the flyers and his use of pictures, often using original photos he took. He had them printed in colour and mailed out. As part of his research efforts, he bought with his funds more than 270 books, which he has inventoried for donation to the ACO archives at the Bloomfield Library in Prince Edward County.

Undoubtedly his most significant accomplishment is public education and participation garnered from his walking tours. He gave the homeowners advance notice that their house was on tour and homeowners would often come out and join in the group. Bentley said many times the homeowners invited the group in for viewing the interior. His value as a historical expert resulted in doors opening for him to places architectural enthusiasts would often not experience.

## Pat Farley

**Nominated for the Mary Millard Award for Special Contributions to ACO** for her leadership in Halton Hills engaged her community in the protection of its heritage assets

Pat Farley is Past President of the former Halton Hills Branch of ACO. Though we have sadly lost Pat's participation and the branch she founded, she contributed a great deal, both to ACO's reputation and influence, and to the municipality of Halton Hills.

Pat was instrumental in convincing the municipality of Halton Hills to recognize that it had valuable heritage assets and to hire its first Senior Heritage Planner to advise Heritage Halton Hills and maintain the municipality's Heritage Register. She then led campaigns to save numerous important examples of Halton Hills heritage. A few examples are: Barber Mill (1854), Exchange Hotel (ca. 1858), Presbyterian Manse (1888- now Lucy-Maud Montgomery Museum), Forbes House (1840), Norval Church of Christ (1840), and McGibbon Hotel (1860s).

Thanks to Pat's leadership and influence, the citizens of Halton Hills are more engaged with their heritage assets.

Sadly, Pat Farley passed away on October 24, 2020



## Jackie Tinson Award Recipient

**Nominated for the Mary Millard Award for Special Contributions to ACO** for her exemplary work in reopening Barnum House near Grafton, whose saving in 1933 sparked the creation of ACO.

Jackie Tinson is being recognized for her exemplary work in reopening Barnum House, one of the finest examples of neo-Classical architecture in Ontario. The purchase of the house in 1933 by Eric Arthur was the catalyst for the founding of the ACO and it is now a national and provincial historic site. Run initially as a museum staffed by volunteers, the project became unsustainable and the house was closed. Jackie Tinson devised a strategy to reopen the house. Starting in 2016, she shepherded the local ACO branch through challenging negotiations resulting in a lease between the ACO and the Ontario Heritage Trust, allowing access to the house. Together with a committee of dedicated people (Des Conacher, Jennifer Darrell, Scott Falconer, Catherine Hunter, Rob Hunter, Tony Jenkins, Brian Malcolm, Felicity Pope, Roseanne Quinn, and Gail Rayment), Jackie and the Barnum House Committee negotiated with each stakeholder to arrive at Christmastide, marking the reopening of the house to the community after 17 years.

Barnum House is now open regularly for monthly branch meetings, tours for local and out of town groups, and commu-

nity events. There is now considerable local interest in the house. The second event (after Christmastide) was to have been a 200th anniversary celebration in conjunction with Alnwick/Haldimand Township's Canada Day activities but plans had to be cancelled because of COVID-19.



# Recipient of the 2020 Eric Arthur Lifetime Achievement Award: Phillip H. Carter

This year's recipient of the Eric Arthur Lifetime Achievement Award, which recognizes an outstanding contribution to the heritage conservation movement in Ontario over a sustained period of time, is Phillip H. Carter.

Phillip Carter is an award-winning architect, urban planner, and heritage consultant. He is both a defender/conservator of built heritage, and an architect of heritage. Carter's lexicon as an architect references architectural history to enhance the experience of a building and achieve its social and functional goals. For example, the arched window rhythm of the Markham Library and Village Green is sympathetic to the proportions of the town's Victorian past. Indeed, this building and landscape became a catalyst for the renewal of the town and its Heritage Conservation District status.



Carter's Beaches Library is a restored 1913 Carnegie library with a new addition that celebrates the proportional components of the arts and crafts style of the neighbourhood and adjoining park. Carter designs buildings and oversees restorations that synthesize the architectural signifiers of local heritage. These are just two of his many important library projects.

Phillip Carter's buildings demonstrate his design sensibility and respect for heritage structures, but there is another element of his work that also declares his commitment to preserving Ontario's heritage. Carter volunteers his time and devotes a great deal of his energy to championing heritage projects.



He has served on the board and Executive Committee of the Architectural Conservancy of Ontario and was Chair of ACO's Port Hope branch. For five years he served as chair of the ACO Advisory board (now PreservationWorks!) for which he completed numerous heritage assessments as a volunteer. He has created several Conservation District Plans for Ontario communities, and authored countless designation statements for Port Hope. This is just a sampling of his volunteer work focusing on preserving heritage.

In Port Hope, Phil Carter has been a leading guardian of the Walton Street Heritage Conservation District, one of the best-preserved and most complete 19th century commercial streetscapes in Southern Ontario. He has been closely involved in the effort by ACO and others to preserve Port Hope's Capitol Theatre, and with Rod Stewart, restored its "atmosphere" ceiling. Now a national historic site, Phil is the architect of the theatre's expansion.

Phil Carter's work epitomizes the ideals of the *Ontario Heritage Act*. His contributions to ACO, and to the preservation of our province's heritage, are beyond measure. ■



1 Markham Library

2 Beaches Library

2

# Professionals across Ontario in a variety of disciplines, working to preserve our heritage

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# Phyllis Rawlinson Park

Long-time resident bequeathed her property to Richmond Hill

Although access was somewhat curtailed during COVID-19, Phyllis Rawlinson Park in Richmond Hill remained open in 2020.

George Forster purchased this property in 1830 from “Berczy” settler John Gretman. Forster built the existing log house and early stages of the barn complex shortly after his arrival. In 1934, his heirs sold the property to Marmaduke Rawlinson, owner of Rawlinson Ltd., a Toronto-based cartage and warehousing firm. Both Marmaduke and his daughter Phyllis Mary were horse enthusiasts and members of the Toronto and North York Hunt Club. In later years, Phyllis lived in the original log house and raised thoroughbred horses and cattle on her land.

Phyllis left the farm in her will to the Town of Richmond Hill on condition that it remain a public park. George Robb Architect was hired to undertake restoration. The first building restored was the Shaw House. It was an early frame building from Yonge Street dis-assembled by the Town to get it out of the way for redevelopment. It was re-erected in the

park and is used as an interpretive centre offering outdoor education programming. Phyllis’ log house was restored for use as a living history museum. In addition to incorporating restoration best practices, the building was equipped with a geothermal heat pump buried in the field to the south. ■



**Building:**  
George Forster House

**Location:**  
Phyllis Rawlinson Park,  
11715 Leslie Street,  
Richmond Hill

**Completion Date:**  
Circa 1830

**Designed:**  
1996

**Owners:**  
George Foster  
Marmaduke Rawlinson  
Phyllis Rawlinson  
Town of Richmond Hill

**Submitted By:**  
Peter Stewart, B. Arch,  
OAA, MRAIC, CAHP



## ACO Carlos Ventin Award for Municipal Heritage Leadership

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Taylor Hazell Architects is proud to be working with the City of Toronto on the adaptive reuse of the Clark Centre for the Arts at the Guild Park and Gardens in Scarborough. This exciting adaptation with sculpture garden will be complete in 2021. We thank the ACO for its great work during this challenging time. Bravo to the staff and volunteers of the ACO.

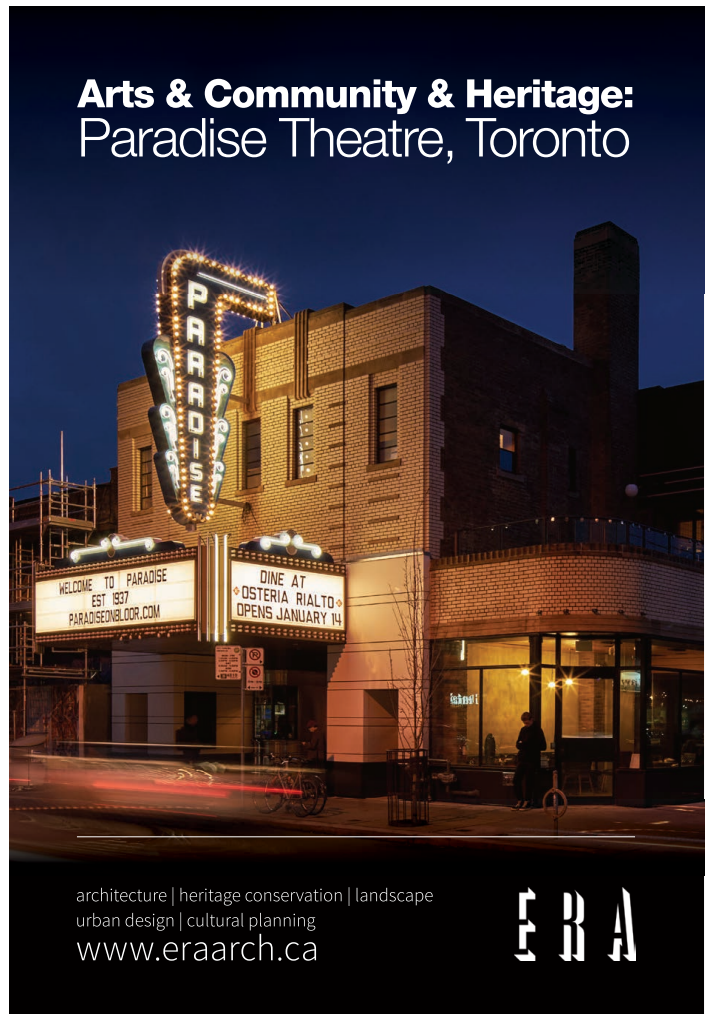


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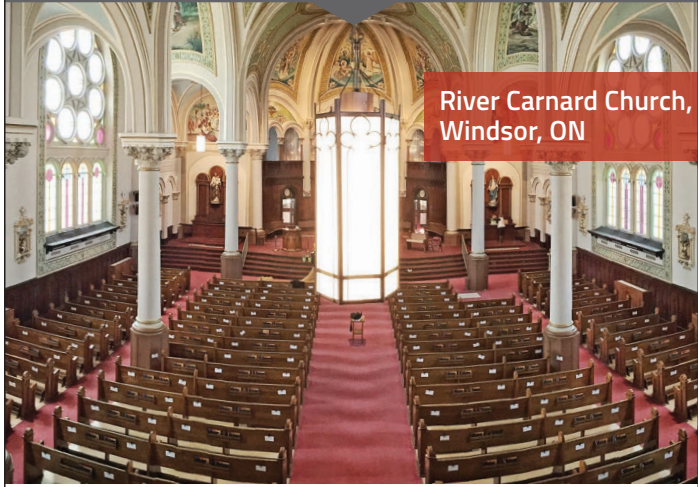
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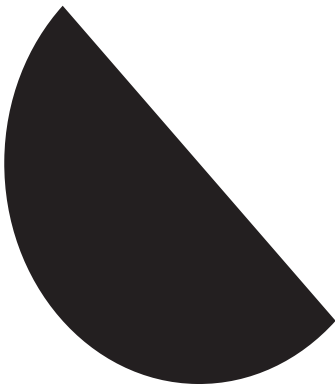
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