



ST. GEORGE'S NEWS

Letter from the President

Greetings to all members and supporters of the Foundation! Best wishes to you and your families in 2008. It's hard to believe that another year has slipped by!

The Foundation suffered two losses this year. Mrs. Sharon Shaw, who was our first secretary when we were just a committee and Mrs. Sylvia Pelkey who was a Director right from the beginning. Our condolences go out to their families. They were very involved in their communities and it is evident that their passing will leave a huge hole.

As usual, your Directors and volunteers were very busy trying to do the best for the St. George's site. It is always a balance between repairs/restoration and promoting the site within the community. We've been looking at all kinds of options to assure the preservation of St. George's. Sometimes it seems that we have meetings where we do nothing but talk, but luckily all this talk eventually leads to concrete actions.

As usual we were able to host our "Feast of

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Something to think about

Once upon a time, according to the historians, there stood a small chapel in what is now the St. George's Anglican cemetery. Wouldn't it be something if we could determine exactly where it stood and put up a plaque or something to mark the spot? Yes indeed....**X** marks the spot. Just like on the maps in pirate movies. That's where the gold is. The gold is also said to be at the end of the rainbow but the many trees in the cemetery sort of prevent the rainbow from touching down in many locations except, possibly, in a clearing at the far end of the cemetery that doesn't have as many gravestones in it as everywhere else. Mathematicians use **X** to designate an unknown quantity. In the case of the exact location of the lost chapel, it seems that the mathematicians may be right.

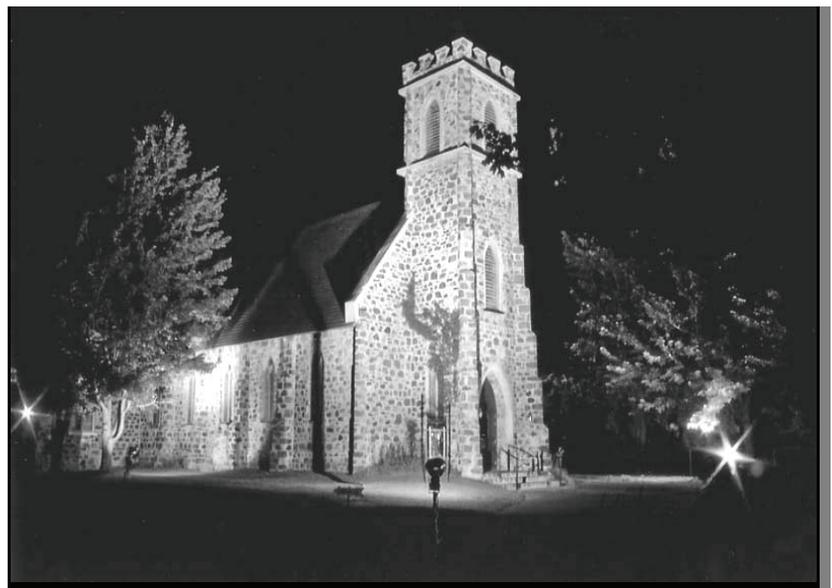
Since the restoration project began nearly eight years ago, the cemetery has gradually become a very peaceful site smack in the middle of town. A very pleasant place to spend a few moments in quiet contemplation. For this reason, your foundation has decided to construct a meditation shelter pretty much where the original chapel was most likely located in the clearing at the far end of the cemetery where the **X** probably belongs.

Erected on a masonry slab and open on all four sides, it will have seating for two or three people and will be reminiscent, in architectural style, of the mid 1800's. An information panel providing historical notes on the site will also be located there. At last visitors will be able to rest for a few moments where the early congregation once gathered and, late

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Church after completion of lighting project

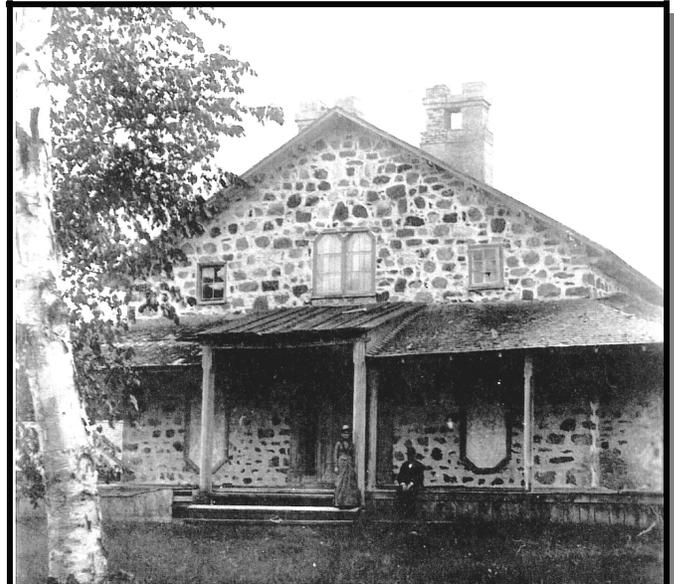


An eminent artist is resting in St. George's Cemetery

A limestone cross, unabashedly displays its wear, reminds us of the brief existence of artist **Jane Ann, beloved wife of John Cooke, died March 1882, Aged 36 y.** Eight years earlier, Jane Ann Millar had married John Valentine Cooke, a lumber merchant of Irish origin, nine years his junior. The couple lived in the "Chateau" Cooke located on the north shore of the St. Francis River.

During the winter of 1882, while Jane Ann was crossing the river to get to the village of Drummondville, the ice opened up beneath her. She narrowly escaped drowning, but having fallen into the icy water she developed pneumonia to which she succumbed shortly thereafter. She left to mourn, in addition to her tearful husband, three young children; Carlton Culbert (5 yrs), Guy Howard (3 yrs) and Julian Victor (2 yrs).

Jane Ann's detailed drawings and photographs taken by her brother, Charles Howard Millar, are a priceless source of information on the architectural landscape and the activities that occurred in Drummondville at the end of the XIXth century.

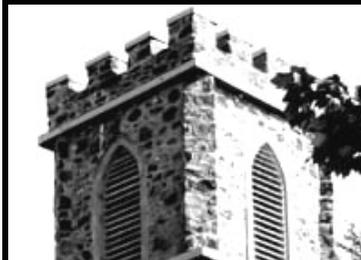


Crowned by two majestic chimneys, the "Chateau" Cooke included a greenhouse extension that was filled with exotic flowers. It was the victim of a fire around 1900. At the site of the ruins, one half-century later, the Montfortains Fathers built *la Maison Reine-des-Coeurs*.

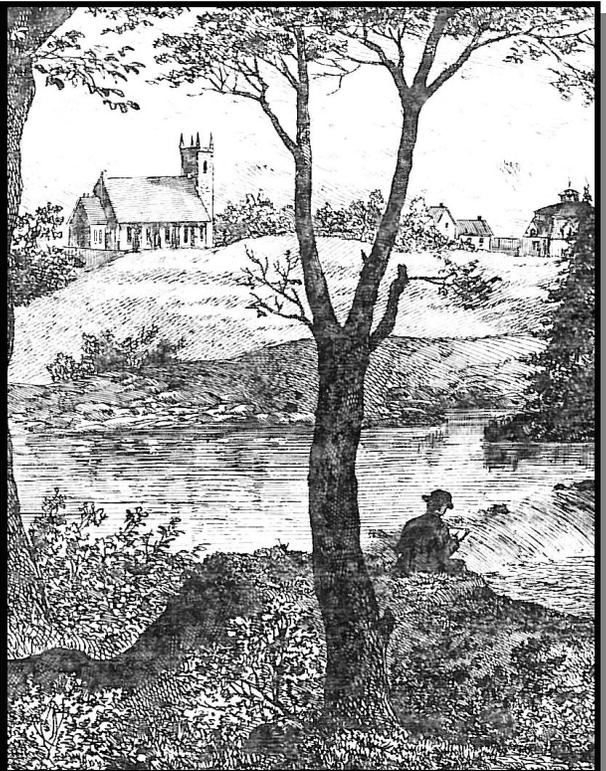
Yolande Allard,



Based on a drawing by Jane Ann Cooke that was published in the *Canadian Illustrated News* on March 11, 1876, St. George's Church is depicted without the vestry, but with the wooden crown on the steeple that was removed by a tornado in 1884 and replaced by the present stone crenels.



Actual crenellated battlements





Tours and Concerts at Drummondville's heritage Churches

Guided tours organized during the Summer of 2007 in the two historic churches in downtown Drummondville were a tremendous success: over 4,000 visitors were welcomed last Summer in Saint-Frédéric's Church and St. George's Church during the months of June through August.

La Société d'histoire de Drummondville and its partners, le Commissariat au commerce de Drummondville, St. George's Church Foundation, l'Assemblée de Fabrique de la paroisse Saint-Frédéric, the City of Drummondville and la Caisse populaire Desjardins de Drummondville, worked jointly to insure the success of these activities.

Organ concerts at Saint-Frédéric's Church as well as the Sunday music and 'hymn-sings' were all a great attraction.

While St. George's Church surpassed all expectations by exceeding the number of visitors of the previous year by 8%. During the *Mondial des cultures*, the bagpipe recitals that were offered delighted the many spectators, just as in 2006. Also new this year, were the free organ recitals held throughout the Summer.

The committee responsible for these activities will be meeting soon to develop the plan for the Summer of 2008 that promises to be dazzling in colour and in music. It would be the perfect occasion for the public to rediscover Drummondville's heritage.



Julie Perron and Brian Mackenzie

The Foundation continues to need your support. Become a member today or by sending us your tax deductible donation, you will help the Foundation achieve its mission to restore and preserve our heritage for future generations.

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Foundation





Président ...

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St. George" where the Hall was filled with familiar faces. It's always nice to see people that you haven't seen for awhile. If you would like to attend this year's Feast, we would be thrilled to see you there.

We are always looking for volunteers. If you have a little time on your hands (kids have left home - University debt has been paid off) get in touch with us. There are always bees and activities where extra hands would be appreciated.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the many generous donors who support our mission and make it possible to preserve our heritage. I would also like to thank my fellow Directors. They all have very busy lives and yet find time to meet once a month and work diligently on all activities. Many things that we accomplish are far less costly because we actually do all that is possible ourselves. I know that there are many times that they could be spending time with their families and also getting their own work done, but they come down, roll up their sleeves and pitch in. Thanks also go out to their families for putting up with this loss. I am very honoured to be surrounded by these wonderful, competent and cheerful people.

Here is to another year filled with accomplishments.

Thank you for your continued support.

Cathy Millar
President

Discover St. George's on Bicycle

In the last 3 years or so, the City of Drummondville has had to find a way to connect the southern section of the cycling network, which ended near City Hall, with *la Route verte*, the province-wide cycling network, in the north end of town. The aim was to have the path go through the downtown area and create a network that combined the urban elements with existing green spaces and the amenities required to construct the link, while at the same time, respecting our architectural heritage.

Several options were evaluated for the route by City officials and finally St. George's Church was asked to consider a proposal to have the cycling path traverse Church property. The Foundation directors, which include representatives of St. George's Church, were mindful of the fact that one of our longstanding objectives is to raise the profile and historical significance of St. George's in the community. It was clear that this

proposal was an opportunity to make progress in this area.

Many factors had to be discussed and agreements had to be reached on such topics as the route the path would follow, security, maintenance and protection of the trees. For example, one of the beech trees is believed to be over 200 years old, it was most important to insure the survival



of this tree, among others. A major component of this project was the renovation of the tomb of the City of Drummondville's founder, Major-General Frederick George Heriot. The objective was the creation of a new public space that highlights this his-

toric landmark and would include a rest area for cyclists as well as historical information panels.

Plans were developed, discussed, modified and subsequently agreed upon by St. George's Church parishioners and wardens. Work commenced in August and proceeded

Foundation Annual General Meeting

The annual general meeting of St. George's Church Foundation Inc. will be held on March 31, 2008 at St. George's Church Hall at 7:00 p.m.

All members are invited to attend.

Agenda:

- Review and acceptance of auditor's report
- Appointment of auditors
- Approval of general resolutions
- Election of directors

The Foundation Directors for 2007

Executive:

Cathy Millar	President
Robert Pelletier	Vice president
Barbara Grant	Secretary
Hugh Bieber	Treasurer

Other directors:

Phyllis Atwood	Barry Husk
Doris Mace	Guy Drouin
Yves Toutant	Robert Taylor
Robert Haggerty	Leonard W. Desfosses
Raymond Ouellet	



Discover St. George's on Bicycle



into late Fall with finishing touches to be completed in the Spring of 2008.

When proceeding north on Heriot Street, cyclists will turn right at the main entrance into the Church property. Heriot's tomb is on the immediate left followed by the rest area. The path continues parallel to the cemetery fence, between the fence and the driveway towards the Rectory. At the end of the cemetery, the path turns left into the parking area (Manoir parking lot) and then right along the fence outside the Church property. The path continues through the escarpment and down into Woodyatt Park. From there it proceeds through the downtown area to connect with *la Route verte* at rue Gosselin.

Finally, this co-operative effort that brought together members of the Foundation, the Church and the City of Drummondville, is a significant accomplishment in support of our mission to protect, preserve and promote this important heritage site. We wish to thank all those who worked so diligently to make this happen.



Adopt-a-ghost Combo

It's all the craze these days....McD, B-K, Subway...you order a burger or something and they say "Do you want a Combo with that?" You say OK, and you get fries and a bucket of Cola with it and you save about 25 cents.

If there is one thing I have trouble accepting it's being outdone by a hamburger salesman so I decided to beat them at their own game. **OFFER BIGGER SAVINGS.** Not just 25 cents.....

12 DOLLARS. Yes, that's right... twelve dollars! By combining your annual foundation membership of \$25 with Adopt-A-Ghost*, already a bargain at \$87, you can get the **BIG PHANTOM COMBO** for only

\$100! Man, it just doesn't come any better than that and you still get (1) biographical notes on your adopted ghost, (2) a full color photograph of your ghost's restored gravestone and, (3) for a limited time only, a free one year membership in the Midnight Skulker Shuffleboard Society**.

Don't wait, say **"OK"** today. This offer is limited so don't be disappointed. Send in your cheque or money order today payable to the St. George's Church Foundation and be sure to write "Combo Offer" on the envelope.

*Introduced in the 2007 Newsletter, "Adopt-a-Ghost" was a light-hearted approach to the very serious business of fund raising for the repair of damaged monuments in the cemetery. Thanks to a very favourable response last year, your Foundation has decided to give it another shot this year with this enhanced **Combo** version of the same campaign.

** See "Something to Think About" in this issue.

Leonard Desfosses, Registrar MSSS.



Something to think about

(Continued from page 1)

at night after everyone has gone home, the ghosts may get together there to play a little shuffleboard.....

Although this structure is considered to be a sort of finishing touch in the restoration project, the task is far from completed. There are still monuments awaiting repair and many graves that have no markers at all. Many stones that escaped damage by vandals nevertheless have suffered the ravages of time and are badly in need of repair. Your continued support of your Foundation has made and will continue to make this important work possible. Thank you.

Leonard Desfosses

Annual Feast of St. George

Saturday, June 14, 2008

Tickets available from Directors



Treasurer's Report - 2007

The Foundation's efforts in 2007 were to finalize the much-needed monitored fire alarm system, minor repairs to the slate roof on the Church and roof over the Vestry. Also, work on the restoration of the cemetery was accelerated in 2007. Again this past Summer, St. George's participated in a very successful Summer project highlighting Drummondville's religious heritage and the history of St. George's Church and Église Saint-Frédéric. The financial results of 2007 show that income exceeded expenditures by \$4,917.70. Again this year, the major source of income was from donations, which reached \$13,636.02, up significantly from \$10,512.45 in 2006 and a record year. The major contributors were John Imlah, Alan N. Rhodes, The Kaatza Foundation and two donors who wish to remain anonymous. The Foundation received a grant of \$4,928. from the Québec Government's Religious Heritage Foundation in support of the electrical repairs and installation of the fire alarm and monitoring system.

Income from activities was \$2,498.62 compared to \$2,346.57 last year, and interest income from term deposits reached \$573.05 compared to \$599.07 in 2006. Bank interest was \$21.19 in 2007 compared to \$41.62 in 2006.

Expenditures for the electrical repairs and fire alarm system and other repairs to Church property totalled \$6,366.09. Restoration work in the cemetery cost \$6,080.08 during the year. The cost of our fundraising activities were \$2,905.46, virtually equal to the \$2,915.66 expended in 2006. While directors' insurance, bank charges and miscellaneous charges totalled \$1,387.55 compared to 1,656.32 in 2006.

In summary, total income was \$21,656.88 in 2007 up from \$13,499.71 in 2006, while expenditures reached \$16,739.18 up from \$11,368.54 the previous year. Finally, the surplus as of December 31, 2007 stands at \$31,236.42 versus \$26,318.72 at the beginning of the year.

Hugh E. Bieber, Treasurer

Balance Sheet—December 31, 2007

	31/12/2007	31/12/2006
Assets:	\$	\$
Cash on Hand	8,746.33	1,133.89
Guaranteed Income Investments	17,970.15	22,500.00
Accrued Interest	369.94	484.83
Loan to St. George's Church	2,200.00	2,200.00
Acc. receivable (Fed. Gov.)	1,950.00	
Total Assets:	\$ 31,236.42	\$ 26,318.72
Liabilities and Surplus:		
Accounts Payable	-	-
Surplus	\$ 31,236.42	\$ 26,318.72

Statement of Income and Expenses - 2007

	2007	2006
Income:	\$	\$
<i>Fondation du patrimoine religieux</i>	4,928.00	0.00
Donations and Memberships	13,636.02	10,512.45
Interest Income	573.05	599.07
Income from Activities	2,498.62	2,346.57
GST/QST Refund		
Bank Interest	21.19	41.62
Total Income:	\$ 21,656.88	\$ 13,499.71
Expenses:		
Repairs to Church	6,366.09	5,420.78
Fundraising Activities	2,905.46	2,915.66
Cemetery Project Costs	6,080.08	375.78
Directors' Insurance	968.75	875.00
Bank Charges	30.00	24.00
Miscellaneous	388.80	757.32
Community Activities		1,000.00
Total Expenses:	\$ 16,739.18	\$ 11,368.54
Net Income or (Loss) for the Period	4,917.70	2,131.17
Surplus at Beginning of Period	\$ 26,318.72	\$ 24,187.55
Surplus at End of Period	\$ 31,236.42	\$ 26,318.72

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