



ST. GEORGE'S NEWS

Letter from the President

Hello everyone! Can you believe it? Another year has gone by! My mother-in-law always told me that as she got older, the time went by faster. When I was younger I could not imagine what she meant, but I am quickly realizing that my years seem far shorter than they used to be. The calendar begs to differ as it is the same but....

We've had a busy year once again. Leonard and Yves have kept busy alongside Doris in repairing more monuments and seeing to the vegetation in the cemetery. They've thinned out, dug up and planted new species in order to give some character to the area.

It has been a success and will definitely show more in a few years. As we are very careful with our budget, the plants are always small when put in, but the ideas are grand.

There have been some repairs to the Church and we had to put in a new drain for the toilet facilities. We had a beautiful cabinet made to display and protect General Heriot's

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History in Marble at St. George's Church

Wishing to ennoble the liturgical fixtures of their Church, around 1880 the Wardens of *St. George's Church* called upon Quebec-based marble masons F. & J. Morgan for a new baptismal font. In conformance with Episcopal directives, they are placed near the entrance to remind worshippers of their own entrance into the spiritual Church. In addition, the basin is of a sufficient depth to allow for the complete immersion of the child into the water sanctified by prayer and oil, while the Minister performing the baptism invokes the Holy Trinity. It remains to be seen if the practice of immersion was strictly followed!



Resting on a pedestal, the baptismal font made of greyish white marble (70 cm diam., 75 cm high) is adorned with a colour (blue-green) enhanced inscription engraved on the body: ACCORDING TO HIS MERCY, HE SAVED US BY THE MASHING OF REGENERATION AND RENEWING OF THE HOLY GHOST.

Following the death of Grace Menzies in 1871, the nave of the Church is enhanced by a commemorative marble plaque. The daughter of Irish Major James Menzies, Grace wed Major James Duncan in *St. George Church*, on September 28, 1841. The couple lived on the 11th range road in Saint-Germain where James devoted himself to agriculture and stock farming, in addition to his responsibilities as the land agent for the Richardson succession. In 1859, with the Parish unable to provide a suitable presbytery, Grace

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History in Marble at St. George's Church ...

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bestowed upon the Parish a house with an immense garden located in lower town, where the Charlemagne restaurant currently stands. Reverends Jones, Allnatt and Hepburn would each inhabit the lower town presbytery. In 1880, the Wardens of Parish of St. George authorized the construction of a presbytery on the Church property. The building, which is still inhabited, has preserved many of the original features.

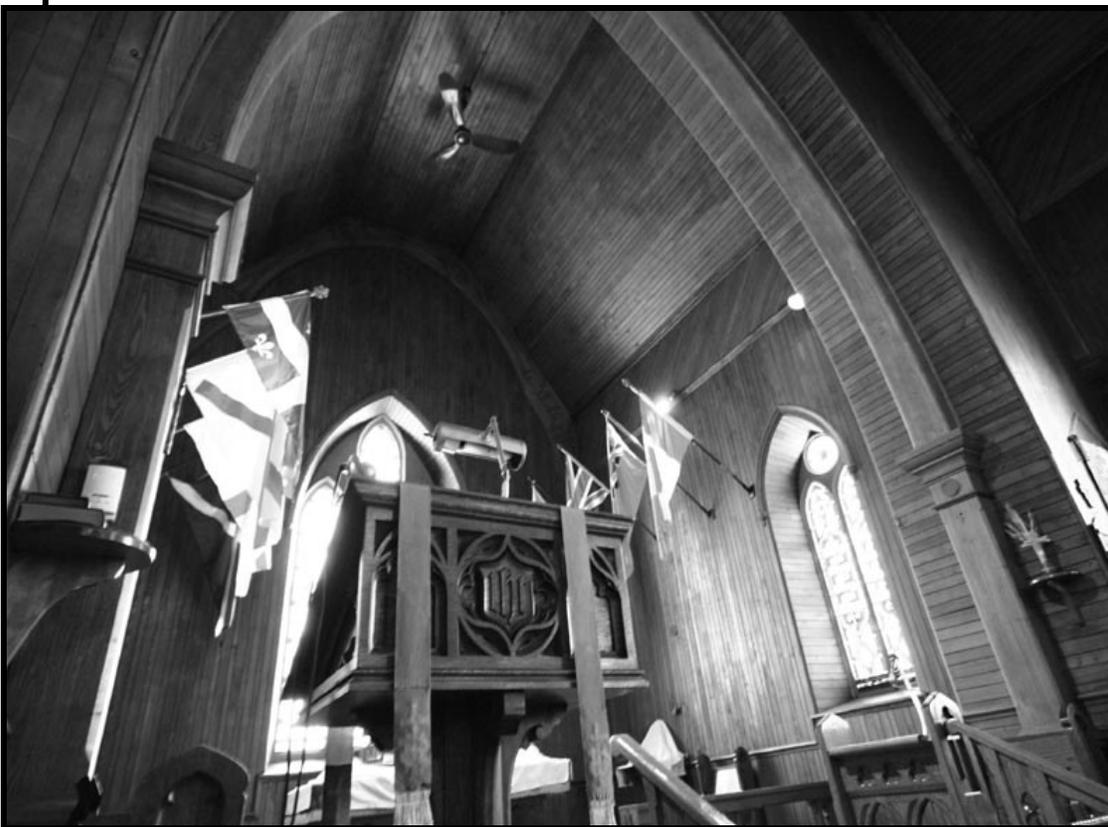
Yolande Allard, January 2009.

Sources :

1. As reported by art historian G. Laroche, July 2006.
2. Registry des Baptisms, marriages and deaths of *St. George's Church*.
3. In 1832, the British Crown granted 5 600 acres in the 7th to 13th range in Grantham Township to the succession of the Scot John Richardson. *List of lands granted by the Crown in the Province of Quebec from 1763 to 31st December 1891*.
4. Dictionary of Canadian Biography vol. VI: John Richardson (1754 - 1831).
5. *Reports to the incorporated Church Society of the Diocese of Quebec*, 1859-1881.



Marble plaque, 72 cm x 58 cm, is divided into two sections: the identification of the deceased and a text taken from the Holy Scriptures : "NOT IN MINE INNOCENCE I TRUST, I BOW BEFORE THEE IN THE DUST; AND THROUGH MY SAVIOURS BLOOD ALONE, I LOOK FOR MERCY AT THY THRONE."



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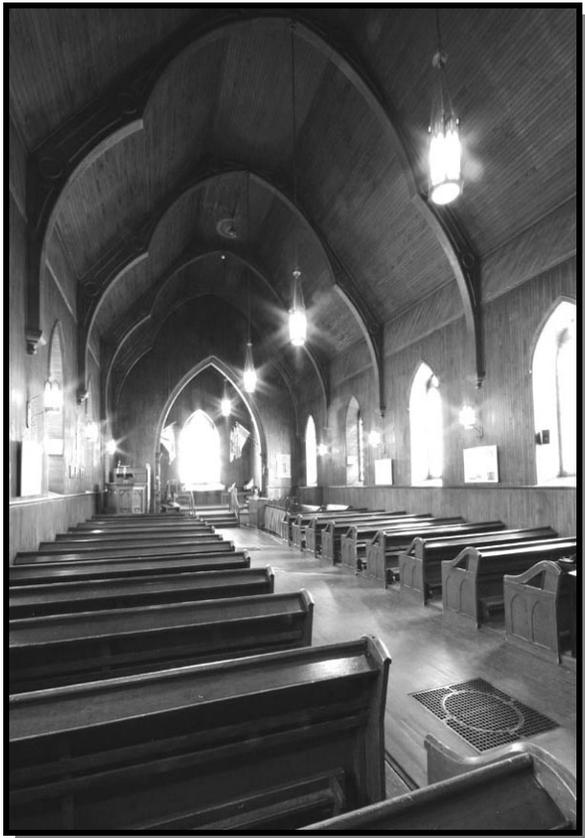


General information

During a recent visit to the cemetery, I couldn't help but admire the excellent restoration of the tomb of Drummondville's founder. According to the impressive bronze plaque installed as part of the restoration, Major General Frederick George Heriot was born on the Isle of Jersey, was a member of the Very Honourable Order of the Bath and died in Drummondville December 30th 1843. I guess you all know that. But did you also know that:

His father, Roger Heriot was an army surgeon and that our Frederick George joined the British army in 1801 at the age of 15 as an ensign in the 49th Regiment of Foot and arrived in Canada the following year to serve under Lt.Col Isaac Brock. He was promoted to captain in 1808 (still a long way from Major-General). He also spent a few pleasant years at the garrison in Quebec where he took up horse racing with a certain amount of success. His equestrian talents may have later saved him from being taken prisoner

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Cycling Path

The least we could say, is that the cycling path that winds its way through Drummondville's downtown area and through the St. George's Church property was very busy last Summer and the modifications undertaken by the City of Drummondville near Frederick George Heriot's tomb are a success.

Concerns expressed by some about potential vandalism have faded away. In fact, use of the cycling path has had the opposite effect, it has resulted in a more secure site and we have seen an important decline in vandalism compared to previous years. This project has allowed for a better appreciation of General Heriot's tomb and permits visitors to take advantage of the small public resting place.



For several long minutes, passers-by observe the Cemetery and the Church. Never, in our wildest dreams, could we have imagined this positive outcome.

The possibility to relax a little, relieve work related stress, to do some cycling on the downtown path, is to embrace this beautiful historic site which is St. George's Church, and experience a unique bridge that meanders behind the property and rediscovers the St. Francis River.

I invite you to take advantage of it, do some cycling in Drummondville and pay a visit to our magnificent venue.

Guy Drouin

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.



Letter from the President...

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uniform. It is one of the impressive attractions when visiting the Church.

We had our Summer visits with guided tours and, as usual, they were a big success. We were able to hire a bagpiper once again and it is always a showstopper. This gives the Church a lot of visibility in the community and the surrounding area as it is done during the Folklore Festival which also draws visitors from around the world to the City of Drummondville.

The Directors continue to work tirelessly to find new sources of revenue for the Church and many, many discussions have been undertaken to attain our objective of insure the long term preservation of this historic property. Some interesting proposals are being considered and we will definitely keep you up to date.

At this time I would like to thank our many generous donors. In 2008 we reached the 15-year milestone since the creation of the Foundation. It is remarkable the number of dedicated people who have generously endorsed our efforts all these years and the list keeps growing. We greatly appreciate everyone's continued support and rest assured every penny is put to work towards the preservation of our heritage. We love reading the kind notes that are included with many of the donations. It motivates us to keep up the work we've started. If you should feel inclined to become more involved in our activities, please let us know. We can always use an extra pair of hands.

Last but not least, to the Foundation Directors, I also express my sincere Thanks! We have a great group of volunteers who are passionate about our mission. When needed we can count on spouses, family members and friends who give generously of their time. I am truly grateful for everyone's support and dedication.

I wish you all a Healthy and Happy Year.

Cathy Millar



General Heriot's military uniform

Foundation Annual General Meeting

The annual general meeting of St. George's Church Foundation Inc. will be held on March 27, 2009 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

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	



General Information ...

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by the Americans at the battle of Crysler's Farm during the war of 1812. With the Voltigeurs Canadiens he distinguished himself during a number of battles such as the raid on Sacket's Harbour N.Y. and the battle of Chateauquay.

So much for the military, but what about Heriot the politician? While the British government was developing a new colonization policy, the Lower Canadian House of Assembly recommended that lands not yet granted be given to disbanded soldiers. A semi-military settlement thus came into being in the valley of the Rivière Saint-François, and on 1 May 1815 Heriot was appointed to administer it. By 1816 houses, a hos-

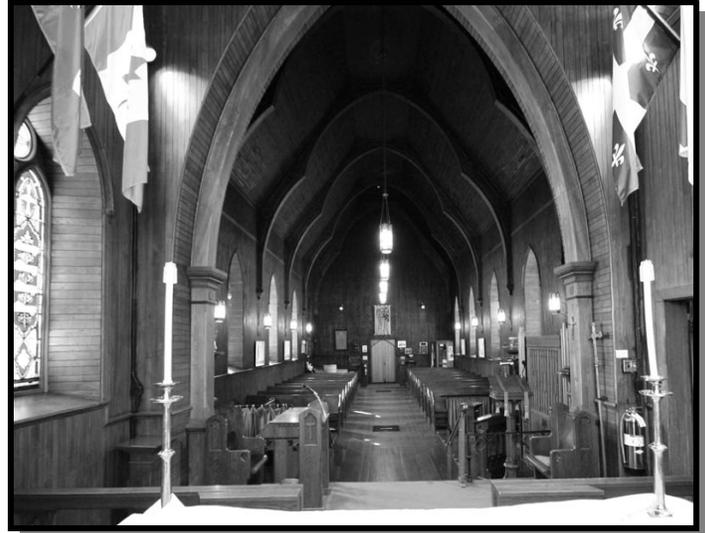


pital, school, and barracks were being laid out and a post office had already been built. Heriot had prepared a spacious home, Comfort Cottage, some distance away on a hillside, and was having his farm cleared and mills built. Thanks largely to his efforts, the little settlement survived crop failures in 1815 and 1816, an epidemic in 1820 and a devastating fire in 1826. Despite these many disasters, Heriot managed to maintain the small community, which was totally dependent upon him. He served, in fact, at one and the same time as justice of the peace, trustee and visitor of schools, and commissioner for the building of roads .

In 1829, Heriot was easily elected to the House of Assembly for the new riding of Drummond (it is said that even his opponent voted for him..) and re-elected by acclamation in 1830.

He remained single and died on 30 Dec. 1843, just before his 58th birthday. The local people, both Catholic and Protestant, gave him a moving funeral on 1 Jan. 1844, with the bells of both churches tolling together.

Frederick George Heriot was much regretted by those who had



known him; he was praised for his courtesy, tolerance, charitable spirit, devotion to duty, and generous hospitality. He was unassuming and liked to see himself as an ordinary farmer. A warm-hearted man with a sense of duty, he had lived up to his family's motto: Fortem posse animum (Be of brave heart).

Leonard Desfosses

Registrar, MSSS

Based on an article by Marie-Paule R. LaBrèque . For the complete story, consult the internet www.biographi.ca

My apologies to those who subscribed to last year's Combo offer. The monuments have not come back from restoration yet but, as soon as they are reinstalled, I will send you the photos that were promised. In the meantime, your membership in the Midnight Skulker Shuffleboard Society (MSSS) has been extended for a full year at no extra charge.

Annual Feast of St. George Saturday, June 6, 2009 Tickets available from Directors



Treasurer's Report – 2008

This past year saw the Foundation continue its work on various repair and restoration projects on the Church property. More electrical upgrades were undertaken in 2008 and additional work was required on the Church roof above the Vestry which was the result of damage due to ice build-up. We now believe that the problem has been identified and resolved. An entire window in the entrance to the Church was replaced and the louvered openings in the belfry were repaired, scrapped and painted during the summer. In December, the drainage pipe from the Vestry washroom had to be dug up and replaced. As expected, several decades of tree roots had done enough damage to stop the flow. Work in the cemetery was winding down in 2008. The installation of the ornamental fence around General Heriot's tomb was completed following the construction of the cycling path. As well, some trees and shrubs were planted in strategic locations in the cemetery. Due to popular demand the Summer Project was continued. We saw the growth in the number of visitors to the Church maintained.

The financial results for 2008 show that expenditures exceeded income by \$1,161.54. As in every year, the major source of income was from donations, which reached \$12,599.82, down slightly from \$13,636.02 in 2007, which was a record year. The major contributors were John Imlah, Alan N. Rhodes, The Kaatza Foundation, Glenn Munro and one donor who wishes to remain anonymous.

Income from activities was \$1,511.53 compared to \$2,498.62 last year, and interest income from term deposits reached \$602.53 compared to \$573.05 in 2007. GST/QST refunds were received in the amount of \$1,659.10. Bank interest was \$96.31 in 2008 compared to \$21.19 in 2007. Expenditures for the electrical repairs and other repairs to Church property totalled \$10,304.60. The work in the cemetery cost \$1,822.93 during the year. The cost of our fundraising activities was \$3,403.22, which exceeded the \$2,905.46 disbursed in 2007. Directors' insurance, bank charges and miscellaneous charges totalled \$1,335.08 compared to \$1,387.55 in 2007. And finally, the cost of our participation in the Summer Project was \$765.00.

In summary, total income was \$16,469.29 in 2008 down from \$21,656.88 in 2007, while expenditures reached \$17,630.83 up from \$16,739.18 the previous year. Finally, the surplus as of December 31, 2008 stands at \$30,074.88 versus \$31,236.42 at the beginning of the year.

Hugh E. Bieber, Treasurer

Balance Sheet—December 31, 2008

	31/12/2008	31/12/2007
Assets:	\$	\$
Cash on Hand	3 932.26	8 746.33
Guaranteed Income Inves.	23 764.14	19 970.15
Accrued Interest	178.48	369.94
Loan to St. George's Church	2,200.00	2 200.00
Acc.receivable (Fed. Gov.)		1,950.00
Total Assets:	30 074.88	31 236.42
Liabilities and Surplus:		
Accounts Payable	-	-
Surplus	30 074.88	31 246.42

Statement of Income and Expenses – 2008

	2008	2007
Income:	\$	\$
<i>Fondation du patrimoine religieux</i>		4 928.00
Donations and Memberships	12 599.82	13 363.02
Interest Income	698.84	573.05
Income from Activities	1 511.53	2 498.62
GST/QST Refund	1 659.10	
Bank Interest		21.19
Total Income:	\$ 16 469.29	\$ 21 656.88
Expenses:		
Repairs to Church	10 304.60	6 366.09
Fundraising Activities	3 403.22	2 905.46
Cemetery Project Costs	1 822.93	6 080.08
Directors' Insurance	887.73	968.75
Bank Charges		30.00
Miscellaneous	447.35	388.80
Community Activities	765.00	
Total Expenses:	\$ 17 630.83	\$ 16 739.18
Net Income or (Loss) for the Period	(1 161.54)	4 917.70
Surplus at Beginning of Period	\$ 31 236.42	\$26 318.72
Surplus at End of Period	\$ 30 074.88	\$31 236.42

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