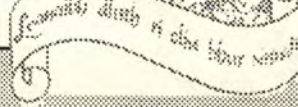


Naidheachd a' Chlachain

Nova Scotia Highland Village Society

(The Village News)

Sàimhradh / Summer 1995



A little
Spring
Cleaning?

Highland Village Site Development
Moving Forward



July
1st
'til
23rd
1995

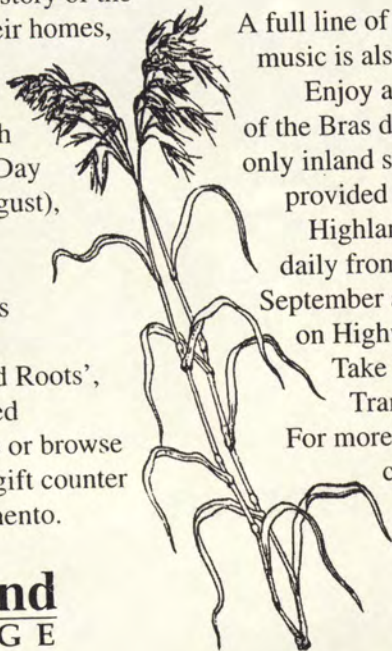


Experience the lifestyle of the Highland Scots in Cape Breton. The museum presents a chronological tour of 180 years settlement on the island.

Spread over 43 acres, ten historic buildings with costumed staff give testimony to the energy, strength of character, and love of home and family of the pioneers. From a Hebridean Black House to a 1920 school, the story of the Gaels is related in their homes, artifacts, stories, songs and music.

Special events such as Highland Village Day (first Saturday in August), traditional codfish suppers, and other cultural presentations await the visitor.

Consult 'Highland Roots', our computer-assisted genealogical service or browse at our well stocked gift counter for that special memento.



A SPECIAL TIME THAT WAS...

VISIT HIGHLAND VILLAGE:
A LIVING HISTORY MUSEUM

A full line of traditional celtic music is also available.

Enjoy a spectacular view of the Bras d'Or Lakes: Canada's only inland sea. Picnic tables are provided for your comfort.

Highland Village is open daily from mid June to mid September and is located on Highway 223 at Iona.

Take Exit 6 off the (105) Trans Canada Highway.

For more information, please call us direct at 902-725-2272.



Stay at Highland Heights Inn

Centrally located to many island attractions, Highland Heights Inn is the hospitality arm of Highland Village. This rustic split level inn offers 26 double units with private baths, lakeview accommodation and dining with traditional Cape Breton entertainment. Beaches are nearby.

Make use of our personalized tour planning service and special value added packages. The Inn is open from late May to late October. Contact us at Box 19, Highway 223, Iona, Cape Breton, NS, B0A 1L0.

Call us direct at 902-725-2360 or call Check In: 1-800-565-0000

Highland
VILLAGE

CANADA
SELECT★★★



Highland
Heights Inn

Naidheachd a' Chlachain (The Village News) is published in Iona twice each year by the Nova Scotia Highland Village Society. Comments, suggestions and contributions are welcomed.

The Nova Scotia Highland Village Society is a non-profit Society with the mission: to protect, interpret and further the collection of buildings and artifacts at the Nova Scotia Highland Village site at Iona; and to preserve and promote the Scottish Highland and Island culture as found in Nova Scotia.

You can contact us at: P.O. Box 58, 4119 Route 223, Hector's Point, Iona, NS, B0A 1L0, Telephone: (902) 725-2272, Fax: (902) 725-2227, E-mail: nshviona@fox.nstn.ca.

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From the Manager's Desk

Rodney Chaisson

Welcome to another issue of *Naidheachd a' Chlachain (The Village News)*. Spring brings about thoughts of renewal, new life - the trees, the flowers. Spring also brings about thoughts of cleaning, renovating, and in the tourism industry preparations for summer. This spring the Highland Village has undergone a "little" spring cleaning of its own. For those driving by watching the dump trucks, the bulldozers, the roofers, and others busy moving around the hill, it did not look like your typical spring cleaning. And it was not. There has been a lot of work this past winter and spring as we move forward in our site development plan. This issue will focus on our accomplishments to date and the plans for the future. As well, we will also have our regular features.

With site development well underway, our single biggest challenge remains our operational funding. There have been some changes over the winter to the program where we get a significant portion of our funding. The Nova Scotia Museum Board of Governors has passed the new Museums Assistance Policy. This policy administers funding for almost fifty community museums across Nova Scotia including ourselves. In the past the funding was based on a maximum of 65% of a museum's operating budget less other government contributions. (Not all museums were funded at the 65% level. We were funded at approximately the 50% level). The new policy sees several changes: a) the grant will not amount to more than 50% of the operating costs of the museum (total cost less other federal or provincial funding), b) the grant will not exceed a specified ceiling nor be less than a specified base amount (this amount has not yet been determined, although it is estimated to be in the \$40,000-50,000 range. A museum over the ceiling will be red circled. This means their grants will not drop to the ceiling amount but also do not have the ability to increase unless the upper limit is changed to exceed the museums grant level.), c) museums will be assessed using a detailed evaluation system (written application and site visit) which will assign points to aspects of the operation, d) funds available will be divided among eligible applicants according to their point scores, e) archives activities which are part of a museum operation are eligible for funding, f) new museums which are established after the effective date of this policy, without having obtained approval in principle from the Nova Scotia Museum Board of Governors will not qualify for funding, and g) the museum is to have been in operation for at least two years.

These changes have been made to allow for fairer distribution of community museum monies in the Province and hopefully increase museum standards. However, the total distribution of all museum monies in Nova Scotia is still no where near equitable. There is still less than 4% of the Nova Scotia Museum budget spent on Cape Breton Island. The only branch museum on the Island is Cossit House in Sydney. The inequity in the system stood out

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- Message from the President
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- Highland Village Site Development
- Curator's Corner
- Highland Roots
- Gaidhlig

*On the cover: Aerial Shot of the Highland Village - September 1994.
Photo by Warren Gordon.*

Message from the President

J. Bruce MacNeil

Dear Members and Friends:

Much has been accomplished over the past 12 months, especially in terms of site development and Highland Roots. We can be proud of the work performed and we need to be thankful to all those responsible.

While there has been much done in a short period of time, we must continue to recognize the many years of planning and meetings, telephone calls and trips to Halifax and also the many disappointments and frustrations endured by so many in their efforts to complete the Village site. In addition the hard work and commitment of our earliest members - many of whom are deceased - who had nothing more than the side of a rugged hill and a dream. So it is to all past and present members and staff that I congratulate at this time.

It would be uncharacteristic of me to say now that this work is done that we can sit back and enjoy. There are many issues yet

to resolve and opportunities yet to realize.

Further program development including indepth tours of our site need to be examined further in order to complement site development and expanded marketing efforts. Last season's visitation increase of 35%, I think is only the beginning. We need to seriously consider extending our season by at least 4 weeks - two weeks earlier and fully staffed in order to provide better value to school children visiting the site and two week later in the fall and at least partially staffed to accommodate the needs of our increased fall visitation.

We must continue to improve the efficiency of our operation in these competitive times and examine ways to raise funding over and above what we receive today. The injustice of museum funding towards the Highland Village must, in my opinion, be addressed formally this year.

To complete the site development beyond our current capital funding, your Board has set aside some recent donations in a special fund earmarked for the eventual construction of a Pioneer Church.

Maybe when all this is done then we might be able to sit back a bit.

Bruce.

From the Manager's Desk cont...

in a recent joint marketing publication between the Nova Scotia Museum and *The Chronicle-Herald*. This attractive, full colour, professionally designed magazine focuses on the 25 branches of the Nova Scotia Museum. Looking at the map of the Nova Scotia in the piece we see on Cape Breton Island reference only to Cossit House. Greg MacLeod of Sydney saw this publication and recognized there was something wrong. In a June 5th article in the *Cape Breton Post*, MacLeod challenges the Nova Scotia Museum and the inequities of the funding of museums in Nova Scotia. MacLeod suggests, "since Cape Breton has approximately 23 percent of the Nova Scotia population, it would seem reasonable that there would be approximately five such museums in history-rich Cape Breton."

One such solution is to give the Highland Village Regional Museum status as presented in the Fall/Winter 1994 newsletter. And there are other solutions.

MacLeod is right on. The unfairness of the system needs to be challenged by all Nova Scotians. Changes need to take place. It is time that this is corrected.

The other question that needs to be asked is why community museums were not given an opportunity to participate in this publication. There were five of us that participated as advertisers - and not at discounted rates. We did not receive any editorial support in the publication. The new Museum Assistance Policy encourages museums to market cooperatively with others. Why did the Nova Scotia Museum not offer this opportunity for the best coop marketing venture of the summer to Community Museums. The inequity continues.

We keep all of this in mind as we get underway for the summer of 1995, a summer which we anticipate to be busy. With the museum operation, gift shop, Highland Roots, nine Family Round & Square Dances, Concert on the Hill with the Barra MacNeils, 34th Annual Highland Village Day, Codfish Suppers, Pioneer Day, the Highland Village Ceilidh end of summer concert and more will keep us hopping for the next several weeks.

I look forward to seeing you all this summer at the Village. My door is always open. Drop in and let me know what you think of the goings on and the recent changes in our site.

Tapadh leibh.

*The Nova Scotia Highland Village Society
wishes to offer its congratulations to the
Grand Narrows and District Board of Trade
on the occasion of its
40th Anniversary*

The Highland Village also wishes to thank the Board of Trade, its leaders and membership, past and present for their work in seeing that the Highland Village became a reality in 1959. It is because of the perseverance of the Board that the Highland Village exists today.

Tapadh leibh - Happy 40th

The Winter on Hector's Point

Site Development

The biggest story of the winter at the Highland Village has been improvements to our site. These have taken place as a result of funding from Canada-Nova Scotia Infrastructure Works Program, Municipality of Victoria County, Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency, Nova Scotia Economic Renewal Agency (Economic Diversification Fund & Nova Scotia Works), Human Resources Development Canada, and Canada-Nova Scotia Cooperation Agreement on Culture. Monies from these programs will enable us to make our site development plan a reality. For more on site development see the centre pages of this newsletter.

Creative Cape Bretoners Christmas Ceilidh

To mark the holiday season the Highland Village in conjunction with the Highland Heights Inn sponsored a Creative Cape Bretoners Christmas Ceilidh at the Inn. This event celebrated three new publications to the Cape Breton Cultural scene: Rannie Gillis' *Travels in the Celtic World*, Mary K. MacLeod and Jim St.Clair's *Pride of Place: Heritage Houses of Cape Breton Island*, and Folkus Atlantic's *From the Heart: Three Maritime Folk Musicians* (VHS). The evening included Joan Week's presentation of her *From the Heart Video*, an illustrated slide presentation of Rannie's *Travels in the Celtic World* and Jim St.Clair's description of the Highland Village's own MacQuarrie-Fox House from *Pride of Place*. To top it off there were musical presentations from Charlie MacCuspic, Honey MacNeil, Monica MacDougall, Donnie Campbell, and Helen MacDonald.

Victoria County Winter Games

At the time preparations were being made for the 1995 Victoria County Winter Games we were experiencing some of the warmest winter weather in years. In January we hit a high of 16 celsius with no snow. It did not seem like the kind of weather for a toboggan party. Finally the snow came and a tobogganning we did go. About thirty adults and kids arrived on the hill to test their sledding and tobogganing



Enjoying some hot chocolate after a slide down the hill.

skills in between visits to the canteen for hot dogs and hot chocolate. As well, the Victoria County Winter Games would not be complete

without the annual Variety Concert at McKinnon Harbour Hall. The MC for the event was our very own Hector MacKenzie who was joined by great talent - Dawn & Helen MacDonald, Charlie MacCuspic, John MacDonald, Iona Gaelic Singers, Monica MacDougall, Amanda MacKenzie, Aggie MacLennan, Kelly and Denise MacLellan and many others.

Bill Cotton Visit

In early April we were fortunate to have a visitor from England. Dr. Bernard (Bill) Cotton is a furniture expert. He was in Canada to open an travelling exhibit which was at the Nova Scotia Museum of Natural History in Halifax focusing on Newfoundland furniture and their origins in the British Isles. He provided us with an illustrated presentation of Scottish Vernacular Furniture focusing on furniture found in Scottish Blackhouses. We also had time for a



Bill Cotton speaking with Charlene Kosick during tour of the Highland Village

tour of the hill and there was much opportunity for much valuable informal conversation.

Gaelic Day

May 1st marked Gaelic Day in Nova Scotia. To commemorate this event we held a milling frolic. We enjoyed several Gaelic Songs from Maxie MacNeil, Dollie MacNeil, Rod C. MacNeil, Jamie MacNeil, Hector MacNeil, Johnny Gillis, Neil John Gillis, and others. We even had a few fiddle tunes from Sheldon MacNeil. It was a great evening.

In Memoriam

Over the past winter we have lost some members of both the Cape Breton Gaelic Community and the Iona community. Sympathy goes out to the families of Archie Alex MacKenzie, Michael R. MacNeil (Migi Bean Nilleig), Ann "Michael Jack" MacNeil, Margaret "Peter Jack" MacLean, Allan Redden and Neil Hugh MacKinnon (grandson of Ada and Alex MacLean).



Gaelic Day Milling Frolic

Highland Village Site Development

In the last issue of *Naidheachd a' Chlachain* we introduced you to the Highland Village Site Development plan. Over the past winter and spring most funding has fallen into place and many of the improvements implemented.

These improvements have taken place thanks to a number of funding programs. The parking lot project was funded under the Canada Nova Scotia Infrastructure Works Program and the Municipality of Victoria County. Labour for the winter work to the canteen, store, school, forge, barn and 1900's house was provided by Human Resources Development Canada. The remaining capital was funded by the Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency and the Nova Scotia Economic Renewal Agency through the Economic Diversification Fund. As well there was labour funding for Highland Roots under the Job Development Program of Human Resources Development Canada and Nova Scotia Works through the Nova Scotia Economic Renewal Agency and the Municipality of Victoria County. There was also funding through the Baddeck and area Tourism Association from Tourism Nova Scotia and the Cooperation Agreement for three interpretive panels for the barn, MacDonald House and Bras d'Or Lakes (Irish Cove to Malagawatch).

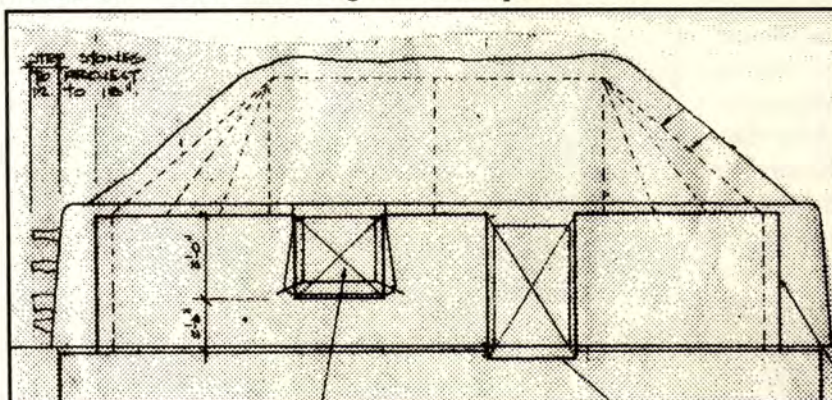
Entrance and Reception

The first improvement to greet the visitor is our upgraded entrance and reception areas. Thanks to all three levels of government we were able to expand the upper level of the parking lot and lay asphalt paving on both levels of parking and the driveway down to the highway. The old gully below the reception building was filled in and a staff parking area was added below the workshop. Proper

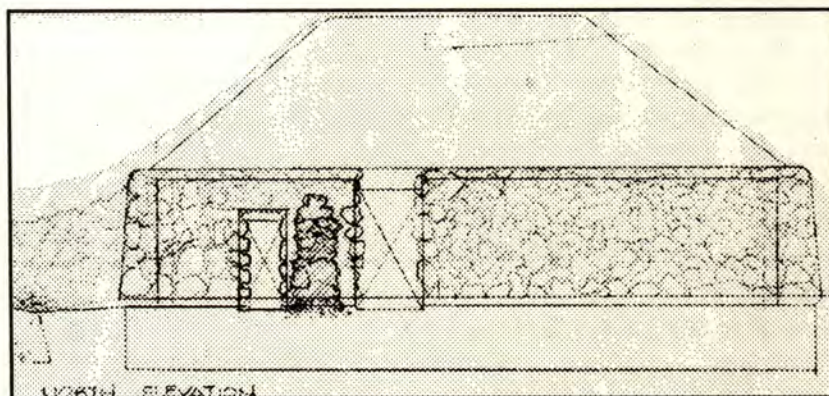
catch basins and drainage systems were installed to allow for the flow of water without damaging completed improvements. To finish off the Infrastructure project hydroseeding was applied.

The other striking change to this area is work completed on the Reception Building. New cedar siding and a new asphalt roof add

Blackhouse. This path will continue to the new Blackhouse and around through to the log cabin and back down through the Village. The gravelled path creates a defined route to provide a more user-friendly tour for the visiting public as well as traffic flow through the Village.



Architect's sketch of the new Black House "Taigh Dubh". Above is sketch of the superstructure work from the front. Below is a rear view showing the stone work.



significantly to the look of this building.

New signage and new fencing in addition to the painting of all lower buildings and some structural work to the stage, canteen and workshop will go a long way to cleaning up the area which is the initial presentation of the site to the visitor.

Paths and Roadways

To begin the journey from the Reception Building to the "Village," a new gravelled path has been constructed which take the visitor on a journey through time behind the 1900's House and Forge up to the new

Blackhouse

As this newsletter goes to press, the Blackhouse is under construction and should be ready for opening early in the summer. The blackhouse was designed by MacNeil Architectural Consultants in collaboration with our Site Development Committee and staff. Joneljim Concrete Construction has been awarded the contract for the construction.

The new design features a smaller structure. A window has been added as well as a rear door for more user friendly passage. The structure will be supported by a 5 ft footer, concrete walls, steel superstructure and a rubber membrane over woolmanized plywood for the roof. All of this will be hidden by rough boards, stone, sod and other materials.

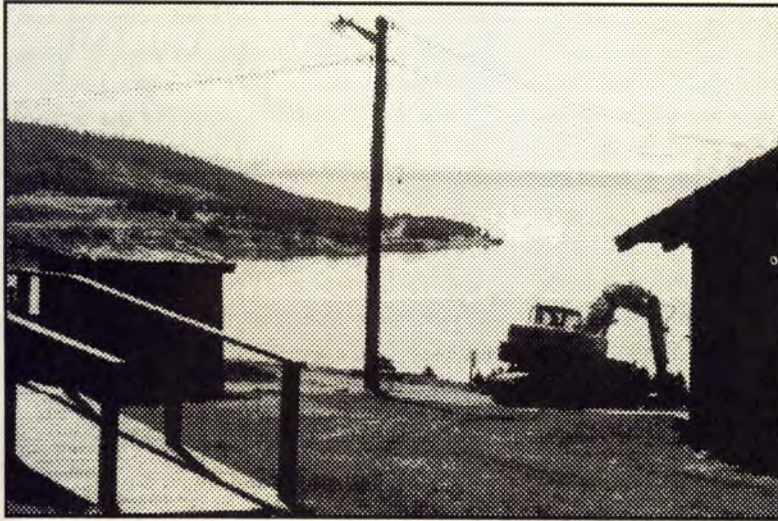
The completed building will meet public safety standards.

Farm Area

There have been some improvements to the Barn and Farm area as well. A new roof has been constructed on the barn, the fields planted, pens and buildings realigned, pathways installed and garden area planted. A new interpretive panel will introduce visitors to the farm area.

1900's Village

One of the more striking changes on the hill is the realignment of the roadway from the



D.W. Matheson's & Sons begins the work on the parking lot project.

MacQuarrie-Fox House down past the school and General Store. This will allow for easier access to the Store and School. As well, drainage has been improved around these buildings and landscaping upgraded.

Over the winter much work has been done to the lower group of historic buildings. The forge received a new roof on the south slope as well as final shingles on the addition. A new roof was also completed on the 1900's house. The General Store received new cedar siding.

All buildings have or will receive a fresh coat of paint and landscaping. Eventually gardens will be planted and fencing added to give a completed look.



Here comes the asphalt.

Interpretive Signage Program

We have begun an Interpretive Signage Program. Under this program we will have three types of signs: building, program, and scenic/nature.

Each of the historic buildings will have an introduction interpretive panel focusing on the style and era of the architecture. We have com-

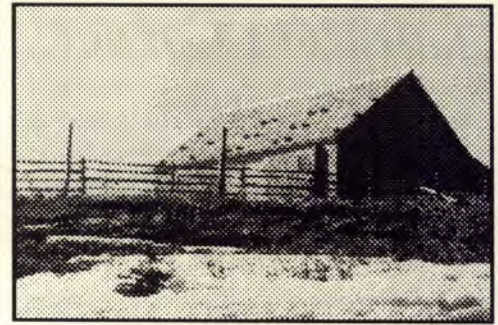
pleted the first of this series for the MacDonald or 1830's House.



Working on the 1900's roof.

Our various programs will also be introduced by interpretive panels. At present we have a panel for the Farm Program. Eventually there will be panels for our Cultural programming, textile program and others.

We have also made a panel to interpret the landscape of the Bras d'Or Lakes from Irish Cove to Malagawatch. Eventually other panels will be constructed for the Lake and other subjects.



New roof on the barn.

Pioneer Church

The building of the pioneer church is still on the to do list. A fund has been established which will eventually pay for this project.

This summer we intend on putting the church bell on the hill in the location of the church.

The church when built will be the centre of the Village, much as churches were during the 1800's and early 1900's.

All this has been as a result of persistent planning and work by the Site Development Committee - Walter MacNeil (Chair), Cathy MacMillan, Maxie MacNeil and Jackie MacNeil as well as Executive and Staff.

Much has been accomplished over the past several months. We still have some way to go to realize our completed site development plan. We are on our way. We will soon achieving our dream and the dream of many others before us of a world class site.



Curator's Corner

Charlene Kosick

Hooked Mats

The Minister of Education and Culture has designated 1995 the "Year of the Hooked Mat". In keeping with this theme, a display of hooked mats will hang in the Reception Building for the summer season.

Mat hooking will be demonstrated in two of our historic buildings, the 1830's House and the General Store, throughout the summer months. Visitors can also try their hand at hooking on sample pieces provided by the museum.

We hope to set aside a special day this summer when members of the Highland Village community can bring in their hooked rugs so that we may record them for future reference. The mat below is one of the mats we have on display this summer.



Mat hooked in wool and rag by members of the Gillis family of Inverness County circa 1920. Design: Deer leaping over a fallen tree. Garrett Pattern # 783.

Weaving Program

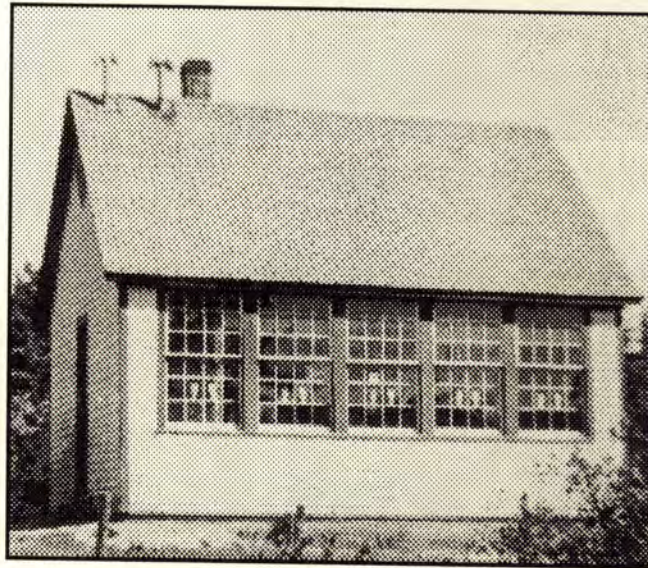
Though it is only beginning its second year, the Weaving Program has already produced some wonderful products. Marie MacDonald has woven material for sale in the Gift Shop as well as for costuming. Currently, the material produced last year for reproduction clothing is being constructed into skirts and vests for our animators.

Because of the weaving program, we can look forward to an ever increasing degree of authenticity in our costuming.

The Schoolhouse

The School House will undergo an improvement this summer with the addition of a window to the front of the building. An old photograph of the School House revealed that the window was set on the diagonal over the door.

The inside of the building will also have several additions. A map of Canada and the Maritime Provinces at the turn of the centu-



*School House
Whycomagh/Portage School District 60*



*Ladies Dress, circa 1865, of wool and cotton.
The material for this dress
will be woven this summer.*

ry are in the process of being cleaned and mounted and will be hung on the wall along with several photographs of early schools.

We would like to acquire for the School two flags; one of the Union Jack and the Provincial Flag. These maps should be of cotton and of a size suitable to hang inside. I would appreciate if anyone having such flags to donate or information on how to acquire them would contact me.

Recent Artifact Donations

(as of this publication)

Jim St. Clair
Doris Tinney
Hugh Webb

Catherine MacLean
Rod & Helen MacNeil
Calvin MacInnis
Sheldon Matheson



Ferry Display

The Nova Scotia Highland Village has received the bell from the *C. Monty MacMillan* which is now on display in the Reception Building. Accompanying the bell is a series of photographs depicting ferry service on the Grand Narrows Strait from 1923 to 1993.

Highland Roots

Pauline MacLean

Small voices are asking questions outside my office door today.

"What's this Dad?" "What's this for Dad?" I asked those questions, my father asked his father those questions and now my child asks me too, "Mom, I have to ask you a question...?"

Research is a big part of the Highland Roots program. Questions are a part of all research. "Why?" "How?" Roots researches the bare bones: dates, names. To answer questions we do more looking. Diaries, stories and histories fill in gaps and flesh out the facts.

How many times have you sat down and said to a friend "Do you remember when...?". I have memories tucked away in a corner of my mind, maybe not accurate but the memory of a child, how it seemed to me. I remember King,

Queenie and Prince, the horses my Grampa had. I remember the smell of fresh cut hay laying flat in the fields. Grampa went out and walked through it, picked up some and smelled it and said it was time to rake that hay. He got the rake, hitched the horses and made the windrows. He always knew just how much hay was enough to gather, just when to lift the teeth to make the perfect row. Gramma and others, me included when I got bigger, went out with wooden hand rakes to gather all the stray wisps for stacking. Hay was precious and could not be left in the field.

Then, when the hay was dried to the right texture, the wagon was brought out and the hay was loaded on with pitch forks, each fork full tramped down. As the load got higher, I got more excited. Once the load was made, my sisters and I could ride the load to the barn. Once, the load was too high. As we made the turn for the barn, off we slid with half the load. Grampa gave my

uncles heck for that one. The wagon was backed onto the threshing floor of the barn. We had to wait outside as the big fork was dropped into the hay, raised up and swung into the mow.

The wagon went back and forth many times. Lunch was brought out and in the evening, a big meal was served. The men ate first. As a kid, I could not understand this, I was hungry too! Finally we ate and after supper, when it was dark, Grampa would make shadow pictures with his hands by the

Society. About 30 people were on a study tour of Nova Scotia and had one stop at the Highland Village. We opened the office for questions and in the evening provided a ceilidh for their enjoyment. On Wednesday they took advantage of a tour of the site with Jim St.Clair. I think they all enjoyed their tour and our stop.

Database Increased

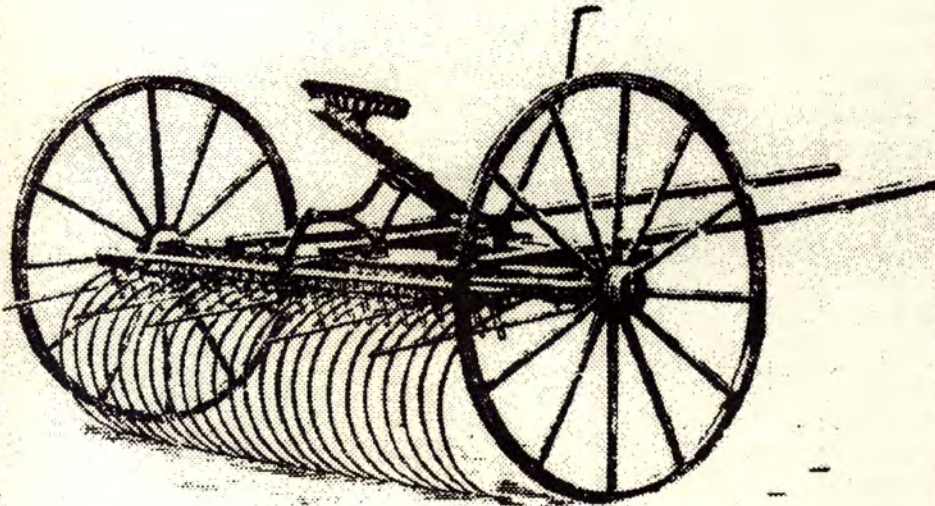
The Highland Roots database has been increased by 24,000 names over the winter months. A fourteen week project had two persons entering names on the computer and two more extracting names from the 1871 census for Cape Breton. The counties of Inverness and Victoria are nearly completed. A portion of Richmond County has also been entered. I wish to extend my thanks to the workers for their diligent and contentions effort. Further microfilm purchases of births, marriages, deaths and land records will add to the primary information at our disposal. We have added to our book selection during the winter. The three volume set "The Atlantic Canadians" has been a big hit with our visitors from the New England Historic Genealogical Society. It contains the names and sources from the years 1600 to 1900.

Also included are the Catholic Church in Eastern Nova Scotia, Antigonish Diocese Priests and Bishops and the History of Antigonish County by Raymond MacLean and the 1876 History of Antigonish by J.W. MacDonald.

An invitation is extended to all to come in and see what is now available.

Q&A:

Does anyone know of Kenneth John MacInnis, a Presbyterian minister who taught the grandchildren of Alexander Graham Bell? His father was Murdoch MacInnis of Baddeck.



HORSE RAKES

kerosene lamp. He could make a dog, a butterfly, a goose and, best of all, a rabbit with ears and paws that moved. We went to bed in the front room.

I know how the hay was done because I was able to experience it. If we do not know an answer, we need to research that answer. Highland Roots does research to find out how other things were done, how families came to be or where they went. Research also involves reading and listening to stories of the past. What do you remember? Write and tell me your stories, I would love to pass them on. I am looking forward to a busy summer of searching and hearing stories.

New England Historic Genealogical Society

On June 6th & 7th we had a visit from the New England Historic Genealogical

Gaidhlig

Jim Watson

LÖdhachan

LÖdhachan: a traditional North Shore recipe from Evelyn Smith (Oighrig nic Shandaidh Choinnich Iain), Wreck Cove, Victoria County.

Bha iad a' cuir roinn do mhin-choirce ann am bobhla agus bha iad a' cuir, o, düireadh math do dh'uisge air a' mhin-choirc. 'S bhiodh iad a' fÖgail sin ann an Öite blÖth, 's dÖcha, trÖ na ceithir a lÖithichean. Dh'fhÖsadh sin geur, an uisg' a bhi geur.

Bha iad an uair sin a' toirt a h-uile sgath dha 'n uisge dheth, ach cha robh iad a' cuir sgath dha 'n mhin-choirc' ann ach dÖreach an t-uisge. Agus bha iad a' gul sin dÖreach mar gum biodh sibh dol a dheanamh lite, ach cha bhiodh sgath min-choirc' ann, 's dh'fhÖsadh e gu math tigh.

'S an dath a bha air, bha e rudeigin glas, 's bha blas geur dheth. Cha chreid mi nach robh iad a' cuir beagan siÖcair 's uachdar na bainne air 's bha iad 'ga ithe teth. ChÖrd e riumsa. Cha d'fhuair mi sgath dheth on a bha mi 'nam 'ighean Ög.

Translation

They put a good share of oatmeal in a bowl and they would put, oh, a good splash of water on the oatmeal. They would leave that in a warm place for, perhaps, three or four days. That would get sour, the water would get sour. Then they would take all the water off it, but they wouldn't put any of the oatmeal (in the pot) and they boiled that just as you were going to make porridge, but there wouldn't be any oatmeal in it got very thick.

The color of it would be kind of gray, and it had a sour taste. I beleive they put a little sugar and cream or milk on it and they ate it hot. I liked it very much. I haven't had a bit of it since I was a young girl.

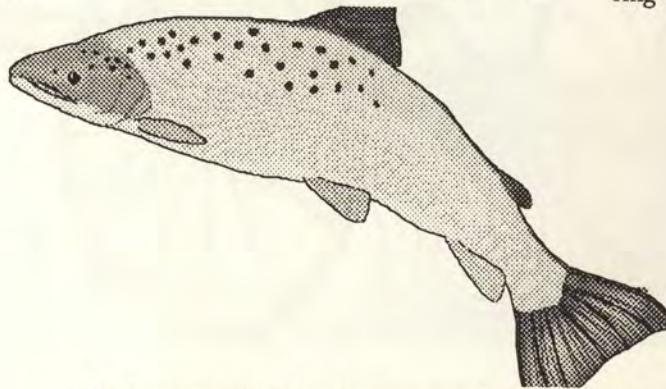
An Sagart BÖn agus Am Peata Sgadain

RÖlaist or tall tales are part of Cape Breton's Gaelic storytelling tradition. Angus "CÖ"

MacDonald, of Mabou, tells a story made up by the late Alexander MacDonald, nicknamed the Sagart BÖn (the fair haired priest, also from the Mabou area.

Bhiodh e 'g innse mu dhÖidhinn triop eil' a bha e mach ag iasgach. Bha an t-iasg gann. Cha d'fhuair e ach aon sgadan. Uell, thug e leis a' sgadan. Bha e 'son biadh a dheanadh dheth dar a ruigeadh e 'n cladach. Chuir e ann am bucaid do dh'uisg' e, 's bha 'n sgadan a's-nÖmh mun cuairt air an uisg'.

ThÖnaig e staigh 's thug e leis a' sgadan a-staigh 's bha e dol a thoirt a mhionnach Ös. Thug e Ös a' bhucaid uisg' e 's bha e dol a dheanadh rudeigin eile. An uair sin chuir e a' sgadan air ais anns a'bhucaid 's smaoinich e gu robh an sgadan marbh, ach bha 'n sgadan a's-



nÖmh mun cuairt. Tha fhios, gu robh e cÖig mionaidean Ös an uisg'. Chuireadh e 'n uair sin air ais e (anns a' bhucaid) dh'fheuch dÖ dh'Öireadh dha 'n sgadan. Bha e snÖmh mar a bha e roimhe. Thug e an uair sin Ös dÖich mionaidean e. Chuir e air ais e 's bha 'n sgadan a'snÖmh.

Lean e air sin an uair sin gus a' robh an sgadan Ös fad uair. Chuireadh air ais e 's bha an sgadan a' snÖmh. Lean e air a sin gus mu dheireadh thall bha 'n sgadan bei gun a bhi a's an uisg' idir. Bhiodh e a' leumadaich as a dheaghaidh a h-uile h-Öit' a rachadh e. Rachadh e dha 'n phasadur a dh'iarraidh a' chruidh cÖmhla ris. Bhiodh e 's a h-uile h-Öit' a rachadh e. Bhiodh e aig a'bhÖrd dar a bha 'ad ag ith'. Cha n-eil fhiosam a' robh e 'son sgadan a dh'ithe, ach cha robh feum aige air uisge tuillidh. Thug e bliadhnaichean mun cuairt cÖmhla ris: a'sgadan. Bha e 'na pheat' eagalach aige.

Bha drochaid teann air an taigh aca 's bha allt mÖr foips' 's bha daoine tarraing fiodh no rud air choireigin 's bhris iad pÖirt dhe na plangan a bha 's an drochaid. Uell, bha Alastair a' falbh a dh'iarraidh a' chruidh 's bha

e falbh thairis air an drochaid dol a-null 's bha 'n sgadan cÖmhla ris. Uell bha 'n sgadan sin cho dall ris an diabhall, 's cha dug e an aire dha 'n toll idir a bh'anns an drochaid 's thuit e sìos dha 'n allt 's chaidh e bhÖthadh.

The Fair Haired Priest and the Pet Herring

He used to tell about another time he was out fishing. Fish were scarce and he only got one herring. Well he took the herring with him. He was going to make food out of him when he reached shore. He put the herring in a bucket of water and the herring was swimming around in it.

He came in (to land) and took the herring with him to gut it. He took the herring out of the bucket and went to do something else. Then he put the herring back in the bucket thinking it was dead. But the herring was swimming about. It must of been out of water for five minutes. He then returned the herring to the water to see what would happen to it.

He continued to swim as before. He then took it out (of the water) for ten minutes. He returned it and the herring kept on swimming.

He kept this up until the herring was out (of the bucket) for an hour. He carried on until the herring could survive without the water at all. The herring would hop after him every place he went. He would go to the pasture with him to get the cows. He went everywhere with him. He would be on the table when they would be eating. I don't know if he liked eating herring, but he never again had any need for water. The herring spent years going about with Alastair. He was a real pet for him.

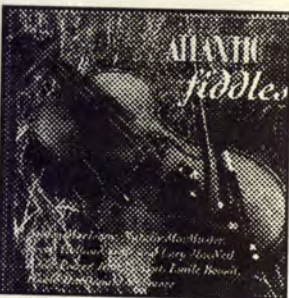
There was a bridge near the house under which a big brook ran. Men were hauling wood or something and they broke some of the planks in the bridge. Well, Alastair went to get the cows and he crossed the bridge going over (to the pasture.) The herring was with him. Well, this herring was as blind as the devil and he didn't take notice of the hole in the bridge and he fell down into the brook and drowned.

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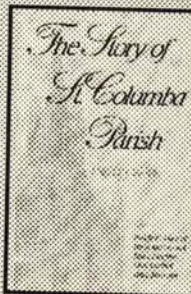
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New Clothing: We have a great selection of new t-shirts, sweatshirts, hooded-sweats and caps with the Highland Village Logo and the Society Crest.

We also carry ironwork and textiles produced on site, our special "Heritage Series" postcards, Celtic designed pewter & porcelain, Christmas Island Farm wool & woolen blankets, tole painting, woodcrafts, and much more...
Check us out. We are located in the reception building and open during regular museum hours.

Nova Scotia Highland Village Society Membership Application Form

Name: _____
Address: _____
City/Town: _____ Prov./State: _____ Postal/Zip Code: _____
Home Phone: _____ Work Phone: _____ Fax: _____

Membership fee schedule is as follows:

Individual Membership - \$10.00

Family Membership - \$25.00 (3 or more persons in one household)

Life Memberships are also available, please call for information.

(Changes effective - August 5, 1995 - Membership is renewable each Highland Village Day)

Please send application and payment to:
Nova Scotia Highland Village Society
P.O. Box 58, Iona, NS, B0A 1L0, Canada

Pioneer Church Fund

The Board of Directors has established a fund for the construction of a non-denominational pioneer church on the site. This church when completed will be the centre piece of the Highland Village and will complete our historic village. All donations to this fund are tax deductible. Help us realize this dream, please donate to the Highland Village Pioneer Church Fund.



**Nova Scotia
Highland Village Society**

P.O. Box 58, Hector's Point
Iona, NS, B0A 1L0 CANADA

Highland
VILLAGE