



**HERITAGE TRUST OF NOVA SCOTIA**  
PRESERVING NOVA SCOTIA'S BUILT HERITAGE

## **Symposium Program**

# **Conservation of Religious Buildings and their Settings**

**Saturday, April 24, 2010**  
**Atlantic School of Theology Chapel, Halifax**  
**660 Francklyn Street, Halifax, Nova Scotia**

**For Registration and Program Information:**  
**Visit the Heritage Trust web site ([www.htns.ca](http://www.htns.ca))**  
**or Call Peter Delefos at 902 826-2087**

**\$40.00 Registration Fee Includes Lunch and Coffee Breaks**

**Sponsored by the *Heritage Trust of Nova Scotia***

## Proceedings under the direction of Dr Mary Schaefer

**Dr. Mary M. Schaefer** is a retired professor of Christian Worship at Atlantic School of Theology. She has a Master's degree in Medieval Art from the Institute of Fine Arts, New York University and a Ph.D. in Liturgical Studies from the University of Notre Dame. While teaching liturgy and liturgical theology at AST she regularly offered a term course, Art and Architecture for the Churches, which ran on ASN for one term. She also developed a three-part series with Vision TV on church architecture and furnishings in the Maritimes which still runs occasionally as one of AST's TV offerings. Both series present both heritage and contemporary church buildings and crafts.

Currently she is completing a book on the ninth century church of Santa Prassede, Rome and women's official ministries in that city.

---

## Symposium Program - April 24, 2010

---

■ INTRODUCTION: 9h30

**Welcome from Chair of the Religious Building Committee**

by Dr. Mary Schaefer

■ SESSION 1: 9h45 - 10h45

**The Presence of the Past: Nova Scotia's Historic Churches**

by Peter Coffman, Ph.D. (Department of History, Dalhousie University)

> P5

**History as a Part of Living Church Buildings**

by Jerry MacNeil (Jerry MacNeil Architects Limited)

> P5

*Moderator: Brian Cuthbertson*

■ HEALTH BREAK: 10h45

■ SESSION 2: 11h00 - 12h00

**Masonry Restoration**

by James Cowie (J.W. Cowie Engineering Limited)

> P6

**Documentation and Recording of Buildings**

by Gregory MacNeil (Jerry MacNeil Architects Limited)

> P6

*Moderator: George Rogers*

■ LUNCH: 12h00 - 13h00

■ SESSION 3: 13h00 - 14h00

**Conservation and Restoration of Stained Glass**

by Norbet Sattler (Sattler's Stained Glass Studio Ltd)

> P7

**Repair and Replacement of Church Windows**

by Gregory MacNeil (Jerry MacNeil Architects Limited)

> P7

*Moderator: Dr. Gordon Callon*

■ HEALTH BREAK: 14h00

■ SESSION 4: 14h15 - 15h15

**Making a Historic Structure Energy Efficient**

by A. Irwin (Irwin Energy Consulting Services)

> P8

**Question Period and Discussion with the Speakers to Explore  
Issues of concerning Religious Building Conservation**

> P8

*Moderator: Philip Pacey*

---

## Symposium Topics and Speakers - Session 1

---

### SESSION 1: 9h45 - 10h15

#### **The Presence of the Past: Nova Scotia's Historic Churches**

*What good are old churches? This is a question that many in Nova Scotia (and across Canada) are having to grapple with, as demographics shift, congregations shrink, and buildings become redundant. But these superfluous sanctuaries are more than piles of old shingles and square nails – they are the repositories of our stories, memories, and history. This presentation will explore some of those stories, and consider just what is lost when one of our historic churches vanishes.*

**Peter Coffman** is an architectural historian specializing in English medieval and Canadian Gothic Revival architecture. He has published articles in journals and edited collections in Britain and Canada, and his book Newfoundland Gothic was published in 2008. He is Vice-President of the Society for the Study of Architecture in Canada, and Assistant Editor (English language) of their Journal. He has taught at the University of Toronto, York University, and Queen's University. He is currently a Killam Postdoctoral Fellow in the Department of History at Dalhousie, and will be joining the faculty of the School for Studies in Art and Culture at Carleton University, Ottawa, in July 2010. His academic awards have included the Phyllis Lambert Prize, and the Governor General's Academic Gold Medal.

### SESSION 1: 10h15 - 10h45

#### **History as a Part of Living Church Buildings**

*When you build something you have added your piece of history to the future. History is behind you and ahead of you. How does one build new work or add something to historic sites of worship?*

**Jerry MacNeil** is president of Jerry MacNeil Architects Limited, a BIM based and IFC compliant architectural firm he founded in 1978. He completed his pre-architecture at St. Dunstan's University, Bachelor of Architecture degree at Technical University of Nova Scotia, Master of Architecture degree at Pratt Institute of Design in New York, and courses at Harvard University Graduate School of Design. He was the recipient of the Alpha Rho Chi medal in architecture at both TUNS and Pratt.

He is a member of the Nova Scotia Association of Architects, The Association of Preservation Technology International (APTI), International Council on Monuments and Sites (ICOMOS), Heritage Trust of Nova Scotia, member and fellow of the Royal Architectural Institute of Canada, and an honorary member of the Canadian Bible Society.

An IFRAA design award winner, Jerry has served as guest speaker on Sacred Spaces including that at the International Union of Architects XVIII World Conference in Chicago. His Places for Worship design work has been published, showcased by the AIA Interfaith Forum on Religious Art and Architecture in Florida, by the American Institute of Architects in California, and has been televised as part of a three part series with Vision Television on church architecture and furnishings.

---

## Symposium Topics and Speakers - Session 2

---

### SESSION 2: 11h00 - 11h30

#### Masonry Restoration

*This presentation will focus on the restoration of masonry bell towers and historic masonry wall failures due to coatings.*

**Mr. Cowie** is the owner and president of J.W. Cowie Engineering Limited (Cowie Engineering). Cowie Engineering has provided structural, architectural and forensic engineering services with offices in Halifax, Toronto, St. John's and [London, England - J.W. Cowie Engineering UK Limited] with the head office located in Halifax, Nova Scotia.

Mr. Cowie specializes in the investigation of building failures and provides design and project management consulting engineering services during restoration construction. He is a technical committee member on masonry design and construction standards of the Canadian Standards Association (A370, A371 and S304). In addition, Mr. Cowie is a member and a past board member of the Masonry Society (USA) as well as a member of the International Masonry Society, (formerly The British Masonry Society).

Mr. Cowie is currently a registered and active member of the Association of Professional Engineers of Nova Scotia and Ontario. He has held memberships in the Association of Professional Engineers of New Brunswick, Prince Edward Island and Newfoundland. Mr. Cowie is a past president of the Consulting Engineers of Nova Scotia. and continues to be an active member.

### SESSION 2: 11h30 - 12h00

#### Documentation and Recording of Buildings

*This presentation will focus on the recording of buildings with rectified digital photography, on-site geodetic measurements, limited hand measurement and basic BIM techniques.*

**Gregory MacNeil** is vice-president of Jerry MacNeil Architects Limited and oversees its measured and image-based building documentation services. He holds a Bachelor of Arts degree majoring in International Relations from Acadia, both a Bachelor of Environmental Design Studies degree and Master of Architecture degree from the Technical University of Nova Scotia, and has completed courses at Harvard University Graduate School of Design and at the Catholic Theological Union in Chicago.

He attended the 2006 ICCROM 12th International Course on Wood Conservation Technology receiving degree credits from the Norwegian University of Science and Technology, the Building Survey Course offered by English Heritage at Oxford University, a four-semester course on Construction and Project Management at the Technical University of Nova Scotia, and has extensive training in Occupational and Health Safety.

Gregory has been published, has carried out conservation work in Canada, Germany, and the United States, has presented papers in Canada, Norway and the United States, and was a lecturer at the 2008 ICCROM 13th in Oslo on the subject of Rectified Photography and Tacheometric Surveying. He is a member of the International Council on Monuments and Sites (ICOMOS), elected vice-president of The Association of Preservation Technology International (APT), and serves on the Religious Building Committee of Heritage Trust of Nova Scotia.

---

## Symposium Topics and Speakers - Session 3

---

### SESSION 3: 13h00 - 13h30

#### Conservation and Restoration of Stained Glass

*Today, the conservation and restoration of stained glass windows is subject, like other art forms, to strict guidelines set by conservationists and historians to ensure that the original authentic substance of the window is maintained as much as possible. The aim is to retain the existing design, material, and esthetic value of the stained glass windows and protect them as much as possible from future deterioration. The objective of the restoration is to return the stained glass window to its original form and design. Any treatment should be the minimum and least invasive necessary to satisfy the needs of the project.*

**Norbert Sattler** entered a traditional stained glass apprenticeship in 1968 at a Studio in Ahrweiler, Germany. After extensive training in traditional methods at different studios, including the Mayer's Studio of Munich, he established his own studio in Bavaria, Germany. For some years, in addition to starting his own business, he worked as a church restorer and in 1993 he moved to Nova Scotia, and established Sattler's Stained Glass Studio Ltd.

In 2008 Norbert Sattler was recognized by Heritage Canada for his preservation work, restoring the 24 stained glass windows of the historic St. John's Anglican, Lunenburg and creating the Maritime Stained Glass Registry.

### SESSION 3: 13h30 - 14h00

#### Repair and Replacement of Church Windows

*This presentation will focus on the use and application of digital technology in the design, repair and replacement of Gothic Revival wood windows.*

**Gregory MacNeil** is vice-president of Jerry MacNeil Architects Limited and oversees its measured and image-based building documentation services. He holds a Bachelor of Arts degree majoring in International Relations from Acadia, both a Bachelor of Environmental Design Studies degree and Master of Architecture degree from the Technical University of Nova Scotia, and has completed courses at Harvard University Graduate School of Design and at the Catholic Theological Union in Chicago.

He attended the 2006 ICCROM 12th International Course on Wood Conservation Technology receiving degree credits from the Norwegian University of Science and Technology, the Building Survey Course offered by English Heritage at Oxford University, a four-semester course on Construction and Project Management at the Technical University of Nova Scotia, and has extensive training in Occupational and Health Safety.

Gregory has been published, has carried out conservation work in Canada, Germany, and the United States, has presented papers in Canada, Norway and the United States, and was a lecturer at the 2008 ICCROM 13th in Oslo on the subject of Rectified Photography and Tacheometric Surveying. He is a member of the International Council on Monuments and Sites (ICOMOS), elected vice-president of The Association of Preservation Technology International (APT), and serves on the Religious Building Committee of Heritage Trust of Nova Scotia.

### SESSION 4: 14h15 - 14h45

#### **Making a Historic Structure Energy Efficient**

*Arthur Irwin's presentation includes a well known Nova Scotia family from the 1800's with ancestors still in our community. Early settlers were brought from England and a new community was established in the Oakfield area outside Halifax. A railroad station, two quarries, a school, sawmill, tannery and stage coach inn made up this early settlement. In 1867, St. Margaret's Oakfield was built as a private chapel by the late General Laurie for his family, his servants, molded from an old English tradition.. This beautiful historic gem was constructed from timber on the property. The building envelope was carefully rebuilt taking great care to maintain the original design. The structure has been insulated, in floor heating installed and a very quiet heating source has been hidden away with no visible tell tale chimney in view. The interior with its historic hanging lighting, pine pews and other historic touches provides a very warm, friendly atmosphere that somehow provides it's own message that keeps you sitting in appreciation of the 1800's.*

**Arthur A. Irwin** has been involved in the energy field for the past fifty years. Following graduation from a three year course in heating and ventilation technology, he was first employed with heating wholesaler Wm. Stairs Son & Morrow Limited for twenty years, eighteen years with the energy branch of government, eight years with Kerr Controls Limited as a consultant to their nine branches. Since 2002, he has been acting as a private consultant Irwin Energy Consulting Services. He is Life Member and Past President of the Halifax Chapter, American Society of Heating, Refrigerating and Air Conditioning Inc. He has served on many energy related committees in government across Canada and the US. Energy Mines and Resources Canada; National Research Council; member of the Nova Scotia Fuel Safety Board, Combustion Research Laboratory, Brookhaven Research Laboratory, Long Island, New York. He continues to serve on several CSA committees. For the past 20 years, has been a monthly guest on CBC Radio, Maritime Noon answering energy related questions from callers across Atlantic Canada and beyond. He writes for several national publications. His experience in the energy assessment field includes several hundred projects in new construction, renovations and the restoration of many historic homes, churches and other energy related projects. He is a professional musician and a professional photographer.

### SESSION 4: 14h45 - 15h15

#### **Question Period and Discussion with the Speakers to Explore Issues of Concerning Religious Building Conservation**

*Moderator: Philip Pacey*

#### **Closing Remarks**

*by Philip Pacey*

---

## Speaker Contact Information

---

### ARTHUR A. IRWIN

Irwin Energy Consulting Services  
1950 Bloomingdale Terrace  
Halifax, N.S. B3H 4E5  
Phone: (902) 422 - 4963  
E mail: irwin.a@ns.sympatico.ca

### JAMES W. COWIE, P.Eng., M.Eng

J.W. Cowie Engineering Limited  
1046 Barrington Street  
Suite 200  
Halifax Nova Scotia B3H 2R1  
Canada  
www.cowieengineering.ca

### JERRY MACNEIL, M. Arch., FRAIC

Jerry MacNeil Architects Limited  
80 Melrose Avenue  
Halifax Nova Scotia B3N2E4  
902 445-3720  
jmacneilarch@ns.sympatico.ca

### GREGORY MACNEIL, B.A., BEDS., M. Arch.

Jerry MacNeil Architects Limited  
80 Melrose Avenue  
Halifax Nova Scotia B3N2E4  
902 445-3720  
jmacneilarch@ns.sympatico.ca

### NORBERT SATTTLER

Sattler's Stained Glass Studio Ltd  
2102 West LaHave  
NS BOR 1G0  
Ph: 902- 688 -1156  
Toll free: 1-866-724-5515  
www.sattlerglass.com

### PETER COFFMAN, Ph.D.

Killam Postdoctoral Fellow  
Department of History  
Dalhousie University  
petercoffman@dal.ca  
902 494-3578