On the verge of formal organization for integrated development strategy for the County, see page 6

See Photo Essay on MacQuarry-Fox House, derelict to heritage, page 4-5

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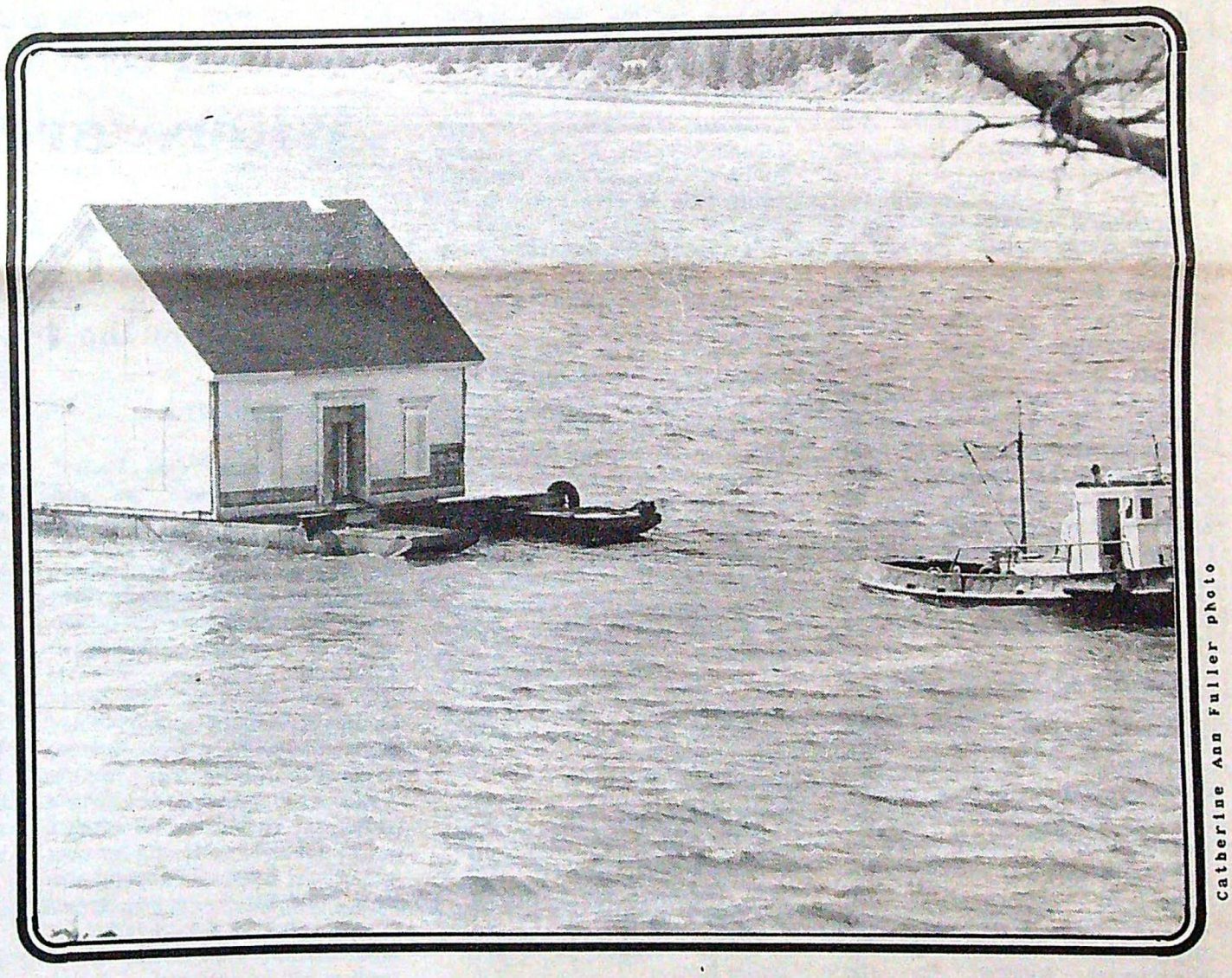
The MacQuarrie-Fox house: voyage by sea!

by Catherine Ann Fuller



Catherine Ann Fuller photo

A 124 year old two storey house was towed by water from Port Hastings to Iona recently, where it will be restored and displayed at the Nova Scotia Highland Village, an open air museum at Hector's Point.

The centre hallway house was built by Charles Fox and Catherine MacQuarrie in 1865 and was donated by the present owners to the Highland Village. It is a Nova Scotian style of Georgian architecture and has most of the original clapboard siding intact.

"It's in excellent shape, we only had to replace two sills," said Jim St.Clair, president of the Highland Village Society. The MacQuarry-Fox house will provide another exhibit of traditional domestic architecture at the village. Among the many buildings, there is also a centre chimney house that was built in 1829, and a late 1890's house--complete with period furniture.

A.W. Leil Cranes and Equipment from New Glasgow were contracted to move the house to its new home. They loaded it on a barge in Port Hastings, towed it by tugboat to Lennox Passage, through St. Peter's Canal, across the Bras d'Or Lakes and through the open span railway bridge at the Barra Strait to the Iona Wharf. Contractor Robert Fraser said the trip went well despite windy weather. He said that it was a tight squeeze going through the bridge at Lennox Passage but the tugboat and barge make it without any problems.

A two man crew piloted the tugboat which has sub-contracted from Troy Marine Limited, near Port Hastings.

The trip took two days and included an overnight mooring near the St. Peter's Canal. About 200 people came to the canal to see the rather unusual sight pass through the locks into the Bras d'Or Lakes.

As it passed through the Canal, a close up view revealed birch bark insulation under the shingles. Although the house looks weathered, solid construction is evident.

A new concrete foundation was prepared at the Highland Village prior to the arrival. The house was lifted from the water at the Iona Wharf and trailered by road to its new home one kilometre away.

The MacQuarrie-Fox project is estimated to cost about $55,000. The Village will receive $12,000. from the Provincial Department of Tourism and Culture, and $6,000. (U.S.) from a private donor.

The Highland Village had a 60% increase in visitors this summer and closed for the 1989 season in mid-September.

VIEWPOINT

From the Editor

Inverness County people will need to apply traditions of altruism to new tasks

Altruism and development

At a conference in Kansas City in October of 1987, a brief was submitted called "LIVES OF SERVICE: CASE HISTORIES OF OUTSTANDING VOLUNTEERS." It was written by William N. Stephens of the Department of Sociology at Dalhousie. In the brief, Stephens notes that life experiences and background conditions for many Nova Scotians tend to produce outstanding altruistic persons. The rural lifestyle, the traditional values of family, church and community, the sense of interdependence and responsibility, the presence of volunteer role models --all foster giving, unselfish attitudes.

What is altruism? It is the moral principle that the general welfare of society is the proper goal of individuals. It is empathy for others and helping behavior. It is not just preaching. It is the example of action.

In Inverness County, this altruism is everywhere evident in volunteer community organizations of every description, and in the immediate and incredibly generous responses to neighbours in distress.

But we are not accustomed to thinking of people involved in business as altruists. We have the conception that businesses, after all, are concerned only with the bottom line of profit; with competition; with getting as large a slice of the limited pie as possible. We think that the only motivation for business people is self-interest.

While this may be true for some, there are actually many reasons why businesses from large corporations down to tiny corner stores are involved in public service "as part of the job." Being good neighbours makes good sense for public relations and visibility in the community. Causes relevant to business have community interest spinoff. Often there is a genuine enlightened concern for the development of one's village or region beyond narrow self-interest. The brief by Stephens speaks of a national movement in which businesses are investing more heavily in philanthropy, volunteer work, and the adoption of causes. "T... policy of public service is interconnected with a doctrine of community development," says Stephens.

It is often the case that those who have a flair for business also have a flair for committe work, have organizational skills, and feel comfortable in leadership positions. This can easily be observed by the number of business people in each community who are active or leading citizens in volunteer organizations.

Besides leadership, there is an important extent to which volunteer groups are dependent on the business community for financial assistance or guidance. In fact, the contribution of business people to social, cultural and even religious well-being in each and every community in Inverness County is enormous.

Altruism is the best word to describe the motives of individuals who have laboured for the past 10 months in the Inverness County Economic Development Strategy Planning Project. If an accounting of each person's time, energetic effort, thought, miles travelled, and personal committment could be made and published, the results would be impressive: collectively, the results are no less than historic in scope.

Never before has there been such a partnership by so many people to express a vision of the County's future and to explore the practical means of attaining that vision. Who are these people? They are people already busy, already heavily committed: owners of businesses, government representatives, those with heritage or cultural interests, clergy, housewives and workers, retirees and young adults--all broadly representative of the geographic, economic and social perameters of the County.

What is in it for them? Quality of life for everyone in Inverness County; a preservation of what we now cherish; a greater economic prosperity; reasons for our young people to stay and invest their future here.

The goals and objectives of the Economic Development Strategy Project are important to every person in the County because the roots of the future are right now. Having no plan -- to invite haphazard development that may damage the enviroment or destroy our way of life. No plan means that developing agencies may work at odds with each other instead of in collaboration with each other and public wishes. No plan means that outside trends may control us and we do not have ownership of our own future.

The success of social and economic development cannot, however, depend solely on the hard work and self-sacrifice of the small core of people now at the center of the Project. Other County organizations have failed because volunteer leaders, after months or years of strenuous effort, simply became tired, and no one was willing to continue building from the foundation so carefully laid.

A volunteer should not be expected to be an Olympic achiever forever. It is vastly unfair to the individual, and to the organizations in jeopardy.

Success will be assured only if the tradition of altruism in Inverness County can be mobilized for social and ecomonic development in the same way it is for other community needs, such as fire protection.

The opportunity will come soon for wide membership and leadership.

Many will be needed to carry and then pass the flame.

Quo Vadis? Where are we going?

There is a lack of partnership between tourism and cultural and heritage interests in Nova Scotia. Will this continue into the decade of the 90's and beyond?

by Jim St.Clair

The Latin phrase *"Quo Vadis?"* (translated as where are you going?) has been the title of a novel and a movie. It seems to this observer to be the appropriate question to ask of Tourism Nova Scotia at the meeting/workshop called by Voluntary Planning in Yarmouth.

As the president of a small ethnic-outdoor museum in Cape Breton, I consider the answer to the question anything but clear. As a participant in one way or another in tourism in Nova Scotia for over forty years, I feel less hopeful now than I did five years ago. It does not seem as if a solidarity in the various components of tourism will be achieved.

People have been travelling in Nova Scotia for centuries; perhaps even as long ago as 1398, but certainly on record since the early 1800's. See, for instance, Cozzens' *Acadia*.

A concept of leisurely, exploratory travel is abroad in the world today, but in Nova Scotia, we seem to be bent on moving as many people as quickly as possible through as many miles as possible. Our literature, our words do not carry with them the idea that we welcome travellers. Perhaps we need to look at our heritage as a destination area for the *knowledgeable and exploring traveller*, rather than the hastening-from-motel-to-motel *tourist*.

Although two major conferences have been held during the past six years on the relationship between tourism and heritage, it would appear that these conferences have had minimal effect. Even the

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