



## Spring Newsletter 2023

### Maintaining momentum

**Once again, we give a tremendous “thank you”** to our many individual donors who made our annual fall fundraising a resounding success. You know how heavily we rely on you because we pester you so much. And we are always looking for more donors. If each of our hundred and ten or so regulars could bring in one or two more donors each, what a difference that would make. We wish we did not have to ask, and so we have begun focusing on how we can attract regular sustainable donations from sponsorships, or long-term support commitments from major local sources / interests / foundations.

**Our theme this year is sustainability.** We realize that we have much to do to raise the profile of the Archives. We need people to understand what we do in preserving the social history of the community, and its importance at this time of disappearing newspapers and ephemeral random social media. We hope ‘Charlotte County In View’, our upcoming Celebration of 100 years of moving images, will help attract attention (see box). We have records from all over the County, and we want to increase awareness of our practice and attract more participation from across the County.

**Archiving is a long-haul business** and now that we have established some steady support, we are focused on maintaining momentum. Our expert editor and producer of all our newsletters Sheila Blagrove is standing down after five tremendously productive years. Sheila has contributed so much as our key communicator and marketing guru she will be sorely missed. We have been blessed with a remarkable board of Directors in recent years but some of us are being replaced by newcomers with fresh energy and enthusiasm. So we are now focused on guiding a smooth transition to the new dynamics that new Board members and leadership will bring. We hope that as many members as possible will tune in to the AGM on May 4 (see box) to elect the new Board.

**Finally, a word of special appreciation for Anna Krentz** our Archives Manager who arrived in September. She stuck right into her job, is running the office smoothly, and with help from intern Austin Billingsley and Mary Myers is getting professional archiving work done. This is our main



*Students from the region enjoy an outreach activity called “Unpacking Charlotte County” in front of the Old Jail and Courthouse*

mission: to collect, preserve and conserve significant historical documents relating to the history and culture of the County, and make the County's documentary heritage available to the public through education and outreach. With our donors' help we will continue our pursuit of this mission. We hope that you will come and pay us a visit during the summer and check out what we do in person. Have a look at our website with educational modules and more than 80 local videos. And we are always looking for volunteers to carry out a variety of fascinating tasks, some of which could even be done from home at your convenience. Just contact Anna at [contact@ccarchives.ca](mailto:contact@ccarchives.ca) or 506-529-4248

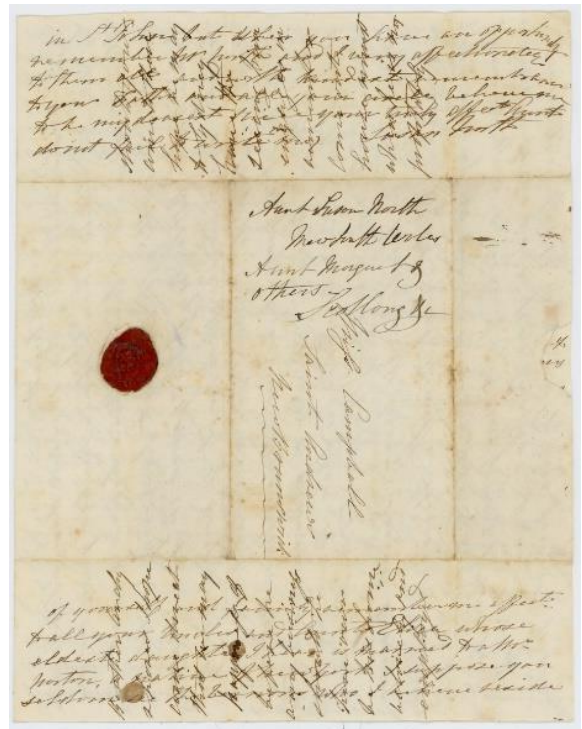
## 2023 AGM and Illustrated Lecture

The Annual General Meeting of the Charlotte County Archives will be held on **May 4, 2023 at 4:30 p.m. ADST on Zoom**. Our Archivist Anna Krentz will be giving a short illustrated talk on the diverse types of nineteenth-century photographs represented in the Archives' collection. Please save the date and time to join us wherever you are to help us maintain our momentum as we look to the future while preserving our past. The Zoom link is available by emailing [contact@ccarchives.ca](mailto:contact@ccarchives.ca)

## From the Archives Manager, Anna Krentz

As the weather warms, and the Old Jail loses its chill, we are looking forward to once again throwing our doors open to the public. Come Victoria Day, we will resume drop-in visits, welcoming new and returning visitors for site tours and collections research. Remember that we encourage anyone interested to request archival material and make use of our research room resources! As an archives, we care for the raw materials of history, but it is our users who draw out the narrative threads.

Though our focus has been internal through these colder months, our archives team has been busy behind the scenes. As the archivist, I have begun a comprehensive survey of our collections, working box-by-box to enhance our understanding of materials, documentation, and preservation needs. In the process, I often uncover remarkable glimpses into past lives, such as the letter at left, sent all the way from Australia to St. Andrews in 1841, written by a former town resident to her niece.



MC 196, Campbell family fonds, Series 1

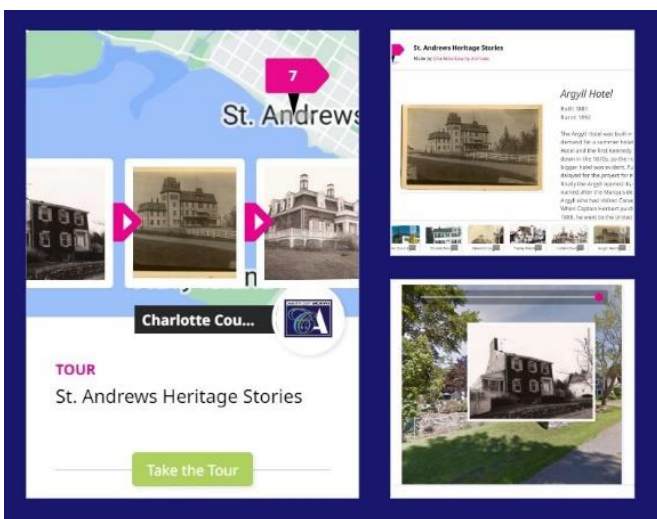
**INVITATION TO A CELEBRATION**  
**CHARLOTTE COUNTY IN VIEW**  
**REVIEW 100 YEARS OF MOVING IMAGES**  
**WHILE ENJOYING A 3 COURSE BANQUET LUNCH**  
**AT THE LADY DUNN DINING ROOM IN ST. ANDREWS N.B.**

**CATERED BY THE RENOWNED**  
**HOTEL & RESTAURANT OPERATIONS AND CULINARY ARTS STUDENTS OF NBCC**  
**AND HOSTED BY**  
**THE CHARLOTTE COUNTY ARCHIVES**

**12 NOON TO 2 P.M. ON THURSDAY JUNE 8, 2023**  
**AT NBCC, 99 AUGUSTUS STREET, ST. ANDREWS N.B.**  
**TICKETS FOR \$40 INCLUDING SALES TAX & TAX RECEIPT**  
**FOR \$20 FROM**  
[CONTACT@CCARCHIVES.CA](mailto:CONTACT@CCARCHIVES.CA)  
**123 FREDERICK STREET ST. ANDREWS E5B 1Z1**  
**PHONE 506-529-4248**



Thanks to a grant from the Council of Archives New Brunswick, Mary Myers undertook a project to improve access to one of our most significant groups of materials, the fonds of prominent 19<sup>th</sup> century lawyer and politician B. R. Stevenson. As Mary writes, “Benjamin R. Stevenson was a leading figure in the development of development of the infrastructure in the Charlotte County area of New Brunswick. His extensive notes and documents bring together the history of how Charlotte County and St. Andrews unfolded to be a very important part of the history of New Brunswick both in industry and culturally. This collection also tells the story of day-to-day life living in that era.” Through detailed work with over 7 metres of Stevenson’s correspondence, records, court papers, invoices, legal documents and more, Mary’s detailed cataloguing deepens our understanding of the contents of this important fonds, improving the ability for researchers to mine the rich resource.



From October to January, Kezah Halstead, a Grade 12 student from Sir James Dunn Academy, joined us each morning for a co-op placement, creating engaging outreach content from our holdings. Says Kezah: “These four months have been wonderful. At the Archives, it was like a break from school – I was given the freedom to pursue topics that interested me rather than follow a curriculum out of a textbook. Because of this experience, my passion for history is increased, and I have a good idea of what I want to do in the future.” Kezah’s work culminated in an interactive digital “walking tour” sharing the stories of historic buildings around St. Andrews, via the website Historypin. Enjoy here:

[www.historypin.org/en/person/115393/list/tours](http://www.historypin.org/en/person/115393/list/tours)

In our main winter outreach event, we were delighted to host film scholar Dr. Jennifer VanderBurgh for an online lecture about mid-twentieth century documentary filmmaker Margaret Perry, whom we only recently identified as having been born in Charlotte County. VanderBurgh, a professor at St. Mary's University, highlighted Perry's early development as a filmmaker in New Brunswick, where she honed her craft before embarking on a career as the heart of the Nova Scotia Film Bureau. The fascinating lecture spurred coverage from both the *St. Croix Courier* and CBC New Brunswick, bringing renewed attention to Perry's local roots. A recording of the lecture, which includes the first public screening of several of Perry's earliest films, can be viewed on our YouTube channel: [https://youtu.be/kLa\\_pRY93rE](https://youtu.be/kLa_pRY93rE)

Seven months into my post as the Archives Manager, I continue to be inspired by the collections and community of the Charlotte County Archives. I hope you all are looking forward to our future as much as I am.

### **St. Andrews in '50s technicolour with Colin Mundy films**



In 1954, Colin Mundy came to St. Andrews N.B. from New Zealand and stayed for several years. During that time, he shot a lot of film, which he later digitized and to which he added a soundtrack. His films offer a unique account of his life in mid-1950s St. Andrews. The Preview teaser offers glimpses of the films in this collection. Activities in St. Andrews on Christmaas Day 1954, building of a pre-cut Styleliner house, opening of the Vincent Massey High School in 1956, a Lobster Parade, renovating the Dr. Gove house on Parr Street, growing vegetables on the O'Neill farm, and a trip to PEI on the Ferry are

among the glimpses of mid-century life he captured on these films reconstituted by Franklin Cardy for Charlotte County Archives in 2023. All can be viewed from the following links:

**Colin Mundy Preview** (9 min 49s): [https://youtu.be/A7N1QFvP\\_vI](https://youtu.be/A7N1QFvP_vI)

**Christmas Day, St. Andrews, 1954** (4 min 4s): <https://youtu.be/mcCQKoXpOFo>

**Building the Styleliner, 1954** (8 min. 56s): <https://youtu.be/WMdJczVU7k>

**Around St. Andrews, mid-1950s** (17 min 14s): [https://youtu.be/\\_pd2OXArIQs](https://youtu.be/_pd2OXArIQs)

**Opening of Vincent Massey School** (3 min 26s): <https://youtu.be/Htxe3fXtXCI>

**Ministers Island, 1957** (4 min.53s): <https://youtu.be/aCxvKV8sWIk>

**Working O'Neill Farm, mid-1950s** (13 min 13s): <https://youtu.be/jFUDVPZi-Q>

**"The Homestead" on Parr Street** (10 min 13s): <https://youtu.be/tbcGPXNbZ3A>

**Car Ferry to PEI, 1957** (2 min 34s): <https://youtu.be/tbcGPXNbZ3A>

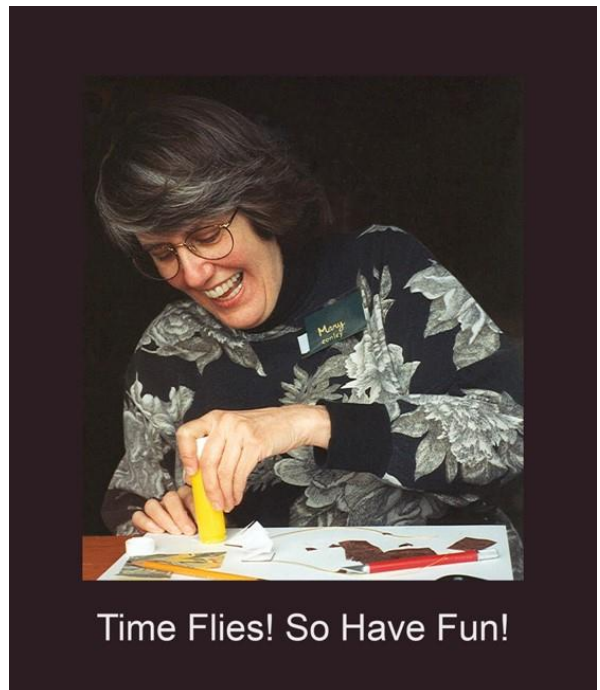
**Finding the Styleliner** (2 min 9): <https://youtu.be/qG3lrTE3FW4>

## Paying It Forward by Giving Back

Dr. Mary Conley was brought up in St. Andrews and, although living in Victoria, still considers it her home. Her ancestors fought in the American Revolution and were given a land grant in New Brunswick where, for more than 50 years, Conley's Lobsters was a driving economic force in St. Andrews. Mary continues to support this community through generous donations to Ministers Island and the Charlotte County Archives, which has been the recipient of \$35,000 in operating funds. We are incredibly appreciative of her contributions.

As a student at UNB, Mary received scholarships and decided to repay the university for their generosity by establishing a scholarship. On May 17, 2023, she will receive an honorary doctorate of science. After graduating and attending medical school at UBC, she worked as a family doctor and political activist for women's health in Victoria, where she received the Woman of Distinction Award for Health for her volunteer service to the community; was voted as a leader by her peers at UBC for her work in educating interns about contraception; and won the Reproductive Health Award from The Canadian Federation of Medical Women. Teaching has always been one of her passions.

Dr. Conley is also an accomplished artist, winning many accolades and awards for her realistic paintings. She participates in juried shows both locally and in the USA and has exhibited paintings, pastels, handmade books, and papier maché sculptures. Since retirement, she has written six books, two of which she researched through the Charlotte County Archives and two that she also illustrated. The latest, *The Artistry of Art Deco*, won the Hallmark Heritage Award in 2020. Sunbury Shores will host an exhibit of Mary's handmade 3D and pop-up books from May 19 to June 9, 2023.



### Thank you for helping us sustain our crucial archival work

Your donations, large and small, contribute in a meaningful way to the preservation of the documentary heritage of Charlotte County by enabling us, a non-profit, to retain a full-time Archives Manager and **looking after operational expenses not covered by available government grants**. Our Archives Manager acts as the nexus of the operation, leading volunteers and other workers and accessioning all the documents and photos that people in the community need and want us to preserve. You may donate by cheque or credit card; by calling our office at 506-529-4248; or through the Canada Helps link on our website: <https://ccarchives.ca/donations/>. We also welcome e-transfers. To make an e-transfer, simply email it to [contact@ccarchives.ca](mailto:contact@ccarchives.ca) and fill in the password "Donation." And please consider remembering us in your will. We are so very grateful for your support of the Charlotte County Archives. As our Treasurer Sandi Omson has said, "Charlotte County is steeped in history, which is present all around us." Help us conserve this history, lest we forget.