

Editor's Note

Last spring I had the privilege of meeting our Governor General, the Right Honourable Adrienne Clarkson, who had readily agreed to an interview on the subject of built heritage conservation in Canada. The location-Rideau Hall-lent itself beautifully to the subject matter. As the steward of this pre-eminent national historic site, Madame Clarkson fully understands the challenge of reconciling the very public role of the building with its important function as the residence of Canada's Governors General. Under her tenure, this house has become a home. The interview begins on page 24.

But, as the Governor General remarked, the tangible evidence of our past is also found in the more humble structures that dot our cultural landscapes. This issue also features the historic covered bridges once so prevalent in Quebec and New Brunswick. Louise Abbott takes us to the many country roads where examples of these archaic bridges-some in continuous use-still remain.

The challenge of preserving our heritage buildings is taken up by committed individuals all across the country. Our Endangered Places section looks at three sites struggling to survive: the former Immigration Hall in Edmonton, now vacant; the Coach House Press, nestled in the heart of Toronto; and the once fashionable Hotel Shediac, the oldest hotel in New Brunswick.

This year marks the one hundredth anniversary of the Ross & MacFarlane firm of architecture. Associated with such landmark buildings as Maple Leaf Gardens, the Château Laurier and Royal York hotels, the firm is one of the oldest architectural practices in continuous operation in Canada. We are pleased to bring you A Century of Design: The Evolution From Ross & MacFarlane to Duschenes & Fish/DFS Architects, beginning on page 14.

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