

Contributors

Collaborateurs

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Charles N. Forward is a Professor in the Department of Geography at the University of Victoria. His article is part of a continuing project on the functional characteristics of Canadian ports. [Professor C.N. Forward, Department of Geography, University of Victoria, Victoria, B.C., V8W 2Y2.]

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Harry T. Holman, noted Island historian and broadcaster, was formerly Assistant Archivist of the Public Archives of Prince Edward Island and is currently studying law at Queen's University. [Mr. Harry T. Holman, Faculty of Law, Queen's University, Kingston, Ontario, K7L 3N6.]

Notes and Comments/Notes et commentaires

Research Bulletin

The Historical Research Division, National Historic Parks and Sites Branch, Ottawa, has recently published *Research Bulletin*, No. 166 (July 1981). It is Claudette Lacelle, "Employers and Domestic Servants in Urban Centres: The 1871 Census." The bulletin follows a project completed in March 1980 on domestic servants in urban centres at the beginning of the nineteenth century. It is also the first stage of a large study currently examining the same question for the second half of the century.

Bulletin No. 166 is an analysis of the 1871 census of the cities of Toronto, Quebec, and Halifax, and of the wealthiest district of Montreal (the Saint-Antoine District) which alone had more live-in servants than any of the other cities.

Copies of this *Bulletin* are available on request. It is published in both English and French.

Ontario's Early Court Houses

An exhibition sponsored by the Ontario Heritage

Foundation and the Osgoode Society celebrates the function of Ontario court houses for nearly two centuries as "outposts of justice, symbols of order, centres of activity." After a month at Toronto's Market Gallery, the exhibition travels from November 1981 to various cities in south-western Ontario – Chatham, Guelph, Windsor, Woodstock, St. Catharines, Niagara-on-the-Lake, London, Simcoe, St. Thomas, Brantford and Brampton – all centres with historic court houses.

The nineteenth century is emphasized, between the construction of the first four district court houses of the 1790s and the final provision of courts in Northern Ontario districts in the 1920s. The exhibition covers most aspects, such as the original territorial divisions and subdivisions, the symbolic significance and the role of the court house as social centre and scene of high human drama, the rivalry between urban centres to secure the court house function, site and morphological aspects, architectural design and decorative detail. Views and plans of about three-quarters of Ontario court houses are used to illustrate the various themes.

The exhibition is fascinating for its focus on court house architecture. From the simplicity of the first functional structures, nineteenth-century court houses became