
Susan Buggey
tion comprises somewhat more than 25 per cent, while the remainder — about half of the total — is devoted to discussions of the Louisbourg setting, to discursive analyses of the “Landward” and “New” enceintes, the outworks and the harbour defences, and to the two sieges. Particularly in his concluding chapter, the author joins the standing debate about the reasons for selecting the Louisbourg townsite and concludes that, by and large, the fortifications served their military purpose. “Forced into the historical limelight as a reluctant fortress, Louisbourg fell to besieging armies after resisting, alone and unaided, for much longer than could have been expected considering its many defects. More could not be asked.”

In a study requiring extremely detailed analysis of walls and foundations and drains, it is a pleasure to read prose of such clarity as Fry's. Still, the work could have benefitted from more editing than is evident, particularly to eliminate the occasional awkward construction or cliché. In the French version, words like pied and toise, not being “foreign,” should have required no italics and the numbering of the casemates of the King’s Bastion should probably have been 8D (for droite) and 8G (for gauche) instead of 8R and 8L. Also, there is a certain inconsistency between the two versions in the matter of quotations: in the English version, the author has translated French texts whereas in the French version, English texts are left in the original. In both versions an index to Volume I and a table of contents for Volume II would have facilitated the consultation of the work.

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In the past 15 years government heritage programs, both federal and provincial, have carried out extensive research and planning for Canada's cultural heritage. Most of the results of these efforts can be consulted in unpublished reports, but relatively few have been published. Of those published almost none have focused upon philosophies and approaches to heritage conservation. This volume is exceptional for its concern for these matters as well as for its purposefully defined audience and its commercial imprint.

Continuity with Change comprises seven “essays” relating to heritage conservation work carried out between 1977 and 1980 by the Ontario government’s Heritage Branch, Ministry of Citizenship and Culture (then Historical Planning and Research Branch, Ministry of Culture and Recreation). The studies are at once explorations of heritage issues and case studies of conservation approaches. Volumes of essays often struggle for a convincing coherence. In this case the volume has been carefully structured, with a strong introductory statement by the editors of the title's thesis and an arrangement of the papers in contrasting couplets in order of descending geographical scale (area, park, site). John Weiler’s informative opening synthesis of fundamental issues related to conservation and planning sets the frame for the more detailed studies which follow. The further observable structure of the couplets, not explicitly noted by the editors, is their general reflection of the course of the conservation process in their sequential dominance by research, planning, and implementation.

The most important conservation message of the volume lies in its title: continuity with change. The heritage conservation movement has frequently been perceived as opposing change. In their excellent brief introduction, editors Mark Fram and John Weiler carefully explain that conservation and change are not mutually exclusive terms: “conservation is not a tactic for stopping overall change, although it may legitimately resist individually ill-conceived changes; rather, it is acknowledgement of change, a strategy for directing change to keep it from causing damage, waste or loss.” “A strategy . . . for moderating the pace of change and healing the raw edges of the new as it meets the old” (pp. xi-xii). The studies in this volume illustrate this philosophy. The selection of projects for inclusion also makes an explicit conservation statement. Largely bypassing the saving of old buildings which has been the core of the heritage conservation movement, the case studies focus on the less recognized engineering and industrial remains and cultural landscapes, urban and rural. Moreover, although all the projects reported occur in Ontario, and only one of them lies more than 80 km from Lake Ontario, the conservation issues are familiar, and the approaches outlined are equally applicable, everywhere in Canada.

Fram’s examination of eastern Ontario’s waterways and Marilyn Miller and Joe Bucovetsky’s survey of the urban heritage of Dundas both apply potentially useful typological approaches to address the problem of assessing heritage resources where scale makes conventional architectural inventory approaches infeasible and inappropriate. Readers undertaking to assess the potential application of these approaches to their own situations may well, however, be frustrated by the overbearing length assigned essentially to reporting the respective historical backgrounds and data collected. Clearer analysis of the problems faced in developing and applying the approaches, the extent to which and how they met the planning needs that they were developed to fulfill, and the limits of their effectiveness would have made both studies more useful to the volume’s intended audience.
of professionals and managers responsible for heritage conservation.

The second couplet of essays concerns issues surrounding transformation of sites formerly in economic uses to recreational use within the provincial parks system. Historians may find the well-trodden planning process elucidated in Paul Campbell and David J. Cuming’s “Mines and Mills at Gold Rock” useful as an illustration of both the utility and the limitations of historical information in shaping planning decisions; experienced heritage planners may, however, find the assessments somewhat presumptive and the analysis of the preferred alternative lacking in rigour. Various professionals unfamiliar with practical heritage conservation may find Ed McKenna’s case study of the cultural landscape at Sandbanks the most useful item in the volume. The balance between preparatory work and field work and the heavy emphasis placed upon analysis and composite illustrations as opposed to historical narrative give clear focus to the roles played by the historic past in present planning for heritage conservation.

The final couplet, Fram’s study of the Toronto Power Station at Niagara and Miller’s of the Newmarket Bridge, highlights the importance of documented historical significance to heritage recognition and the importance of people in heritage conservation — in Fram’s essay as users of an adapted resource, in Miller’s as the community’s decision-makers in a conservation controversy. Both essays also take the issue of conservation beyond research and planning — Fram in his holistic examination of potential adaptive use of the power station and Miller in the forceful photographs of the preserved Newmarket Bridge in its new park environment. The success story of the Newmarket Bridge ends the volume on an upbeat note, which contrasts, sometimes poignantly, with the ambiguity of earlier essays as to the future of the resources studies.

The volume is profusely illustrated, generally with excellent effects. A good balance of historical and contemporary photographs affords a strong visual grasp of the nature of resources. Composite plans or original line drawings in virtually every essay offer an impressively effective vehicle for communicating findings, information and analysis to the reader. There is, however, no list of illustrations. Some photos are reduced to a scale where both their detail and their impact are lost. While photos are numbered and captioned, plans and drawings frequently receive neither identifier, and some plans lack north indicators. Although captions are used effectively, virtually none of the illustrations is keyed into the text.

It is good to see this book re-issued. Its first very limited edition did not reach many of the libraries of either institutions or individuals where its conservation philosophy and its demonstrated approaches to heritage conservation problems can be most useful.  

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Peter McGahan’s concern in this study of St. John’s, Newfoundland, is with the content and the origins of the police’s “imagery” of the urban environment. It is conceived as a contribution both to the general architectural literature on environmental perception and to the growing body of literature on the social and physical context of policework.

Based on a small number of interviews (37) with members of the Royal Newfoundland Constabulary, the study reveals the author’s own real affection for St. John’s, and some familiarity with its changing character. Particular attention is given to the decline in the population of St. John’s downtown core and the increases in the population in fringe areas, like Portugal Cove and Mount Pearl. On the basis of the interviews conducted and his own knowledge of the City, McGahan is able to offer an account of police imagery of the different areas of St. John’s and implicitly, therefore, an explanation of the different approaches which the police tend to adopt in their interventions in different parts of the city.

At the centre of the police conception of St. John’s is a very clear notion of the parameters of the downtown area. This older area of St. John’s, abutting its famous docks, has in recent years become the site of a large number of nightclubs and bars, and is in turn associated in the police mind with persistent “trouble,” including fights, public drunkenness and other offences (predominantly reported during the evening). However, apart from this firm conception of the downtown, McGahan is able to show that police officers’ perception of the city cannot be understood institutionally (as a tight reflection, for example, of the nine police areas into which St. John’s is divided). Instead, police imagery tends to be focused around certain physical or ecological landmarks or boundaries which are subconsciously used to demarcate areas along cultural lines. Some low-income housing estates tend, by nature of their physical character and geographical limits, to be seen as “trouble areas” although second-order considerations can also lead officers to distinguish between the culture of individual streets or between different neighbourhoods within otherwise apparently homogeneous urban areas. Later chapters in the study address the differences which the police perceive in the types of offenders they encounter in different areas.