

Upcoming Events

Horner Homestead

Join us on Monday October 27, 2003 (with the Alderwood Historical Society) at the old Franklin Horner School (432 Horner Avenue) at 7 PM to hear from Janice Etter of the Toronto Preservation Board on how they saved the old Horner Homestead (183 Beta Avenue).

Maureen Jennings, Author of the Inspector Murdoch Mysteries

Join us on November 27, 2003 and meet Maureen Jennings, author of the Inspector Murdoch mysteries set in late 19th century Toronto. The meeting begins at 7PM at LAMP, 185 Fifth Street.

Maureen will talk about her interest in the Toronto of the 1890s and read a selection from one of the 4 completed novels; and perhaps give us a sneak peak at the 5th currently in the works. The Murdoch Mysteries to date include:

Except The Dying; Under the Dragon's Tail; Poor Tom Is Cold; and Let Loose the Dogs.

New Toronto Parks Showing Improvement

(continued from last issue)...
The section devoted to the children with the slides, swings and other amusements are readily being overhauled

and placed in position for another summer.

The long talked of park at the foot of Fifth street on the site of the old dump is readily becoming a reality with the entire area having been filled in and graded ready for the final touches. Trees, shrubs and flowers are being planted, and the sodding of the remainder of the area is now in progress.

The beauty of this district will be greatly enhanced by the park and affords a pretty view of the lake from this point.

Prince of Wales Park has provided a certain amount of work in renovations and is already showing the results of the labor. A trip to this park on a warm summers evening provides a quiet restful spot which has already won the admiration of visitors who have watched the varied colored lights twinkling on Toronto's skyline or the lake steamers out in the lake with their decks ablaze with lights.

The Advertiser, May 28, 1936

Dominion Public Building - New Toronto, Catto and Catto, MM.R.A.I.C., Architects

The building is situated on the north east corner of Lakeshore Road and Seventh Street, having a frontage of 90' to a public lane.

Simplicity is the keynote of the

exterior design as it follows the plan. Walls of Canadian limestone, finely bush-hammered, supported on a base of polished black granite, with contrasting bands and coping of the same material are presented by all four facades. The chimney, which is not visible in the photograph, is also of limestone crowned with similar bands and coping. Ornamental embellishment is confined to the main entrance and window columns and balustrades. Wrought iron grilles cover the transoms of both entrances and also protect the basement windows and areas. The Coat-of-Arms over the entrance is cast in lead and enameled in correct colours. The steps are of gray granite with limestone risers.

The building is approximately square in shape being 73' 6" wide by 70' 3" deep. The front portion containing the public space and east and west working spaces has a ceiling height of 17' 0". The rear portion containing the north working space, mail lobby, employees entrance, stairway and janitor's apartment is divided into two storeys. There is a full basement under the whole area of the building.

The main entrance doors, which are post-office red in colour, lead through a spacious vestibule to the public space, which is lighted by skylight and separated from the working spaces by the screen and observation gallery above. The screen is of birch stained green with bronze grilles, glass panels, gray-green marble dado with black marble base.

The plaster walls above the screen and ceiling are painted oyster-gray with inset bands of gold. The floor is terrazzo, the pattern being obtained with variegated mixes of the marbles used for the dado and base.

The working spaces form a "U" round the public space and divide naturally into three sections. The east and west spaces are lighted by bays of windows on the front and sides. The north space has a lower ceiling and is lighted by windows on the north and east.

The employees' entrance is on Seventh Street close to the north-west corner of the building. It leads into the north working space, down to the recreation rooms and up to the janitor's apartment.

The mail receiving room and loading platform are located at the north east corner of the building which is reached from the lane to the north or driveway to the east, the building thus being provided with traffic way and adequate light on all four sides.

The recreation room in the basement is large and well lighted from the west. The walls of this room are of white glazed brick with green glazed brick dado. The floor is terrazzo. The only equipment provided is a sink and drainboard. The remainder of the basement is used for boiler room, janitor's work room, in which the electric and water meters are located and storage space.

The janitor's apartment

consists of living room, dining room, kitchen, two bedrooms and bath. The apartment is reached by a stairway from the employees' entrance and also has a secondary entrance from a large deck space over the east end of the north working space. From this deck a wrought iron stairway leads down to the driveway. This deck provides a service entrance and yard facilities for the apartment.

The cost of the building was \$80,667.95 including architect's fees.

The Journal, Royal Architectural Institute of Canada, November 1936

Today, the former New Toronto Post Office is the home of the Centre of the Advancement in Work and Living (CAWL).

Join Us !

Join us to learn more about the history of the Town of New Toronto. New Members welcome ! Please phone Wendy Gamble at 251-1349 for more information.

Did you know ?

As far back as 1892 the Village of New Toronto was served by a Post Office, located at 818 Lakeshore Road. It was a side line to a grocery business. In 1910 the postmaster's office was moved to 131-5th Street. Home delivery was introduced in 1929, in both Mimico and New Toronto, with the 5th Street office serving as the distribution point.

Celebrating Our Golden Jubilee, New Toronto, 1963.