



# NEWSLETTER



Autumn 2015

camh



Volume 23, No. 2

Friends of the CAMH Archives  
A not-for-profit charitable corporation of hospital volunteers

## Conserving CAMH's Historic Asylum Boundary Walls and East Workshop

**CONSERVATION PLAN**  
**1001 Queen Street West**  
 Issued: September 29, 2014 (revised August 5, 2015)



**CAMH Redevelopment Phase 1C**

**PREPARED FOR:**  
 Centre for Addiction and  
 Mental Health  
 1001 Queen Street West  
 Toronto, ON M6J 1H4

**PREPARED BY:**  
 ERA Architects Inc.  
 10 St. Mary Street, Suite 801  
 Toronto, Ontario M4Y 1P9

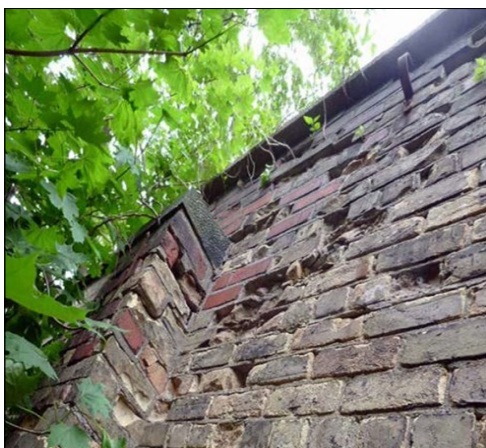


For conservation planning, the Asylum Wall was divided into 11 segments, five discontinuous lengths of wall, the two Workshop buildings, and additional stretches of surviving stone foundation. As a part of Phase 1A of the Queen Street redevelopment in 2007-8, the White Squirrel Way buildings, roadway, and new Paul Garfinkel Park were constructed on the west side. West wall segments 1 and 2 were expertly conserved via skilled masonry restoration, supplemented as necessary by matching replica bricks. A creative apprenticeship plan was devised for interested former patients to “earn while learning” a trade on the job.

The Queen Street site’s Asylum Wall was erected in 1861. Much of the south quadrant survives, while the east and west portions were rebuilt at their present locations in 1889. The Asylum Wall was designated under Part IV of the Ontario Heritage Act, then protected by a Heritage Easement Agreement with the City. The East and West Workshop Buildings abutting the south Wall, also covered by the Designation and Agreement, were built for staff and patient workshops *ca.* 1888-9.



*Typical deterioration of brickwork under open joints in cap stone*



*Example of wall damage (ERA Report images)*

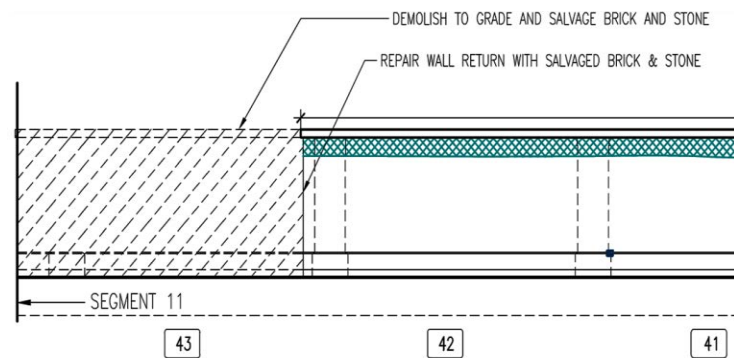
For Phase 1C, now in the planning stages, CAMH’s ERA consultants have proposed that portions of the Asylum Wall be demolished, and areas of later brick infill removed to accommodate east-west roadways, improve pedestrian access and to provide salvage material for repairs. Segments 6 and 7 on the south wall, including the East Workshop Building, and most of Segments 8 to 11 of the east wall are proposed to be conserved in Phase 1C: “Preservation of the exterior brick and fieldstone wall, including repointing, resetting of displaced stones, replacement of damaged/ missing

## Continued – Asylum Wall Conservation

bricks, removal of cementitious material, installation of new flashings and stone caps.” (ERA 11)

### EAST (Shaw Street) WALL

The ERA report further proposes: “Demolition of selective portions of the Asylum Wall along the Shaw Street side of the CAMH site. The removal of these portions of the Wall is required to allow for new roadway access into the site and [regarding proposed demolition of Bay 43 in Segment 11] improve the openness of the rehabilitated Shaw Street open space.” (ERA 11)



*Proposed demolition (diagonal hatching) of Bay 43, Segment 11*

The Toronto Preservation Board’s (TPB) staff have indicated that they see merit in preserving the bricked-in condition of former window and door openings, and hence will support only a minimal intervention approach to them – viz., one South wall window and doorway re-opened into the Workman Parkette. They do not support opening the doorway from Shaw Street into the park at mid-block. Hence the only interventions on Shaw Street would be the proposed demolition of the northerly Bay 43 at Queen St., and the proposed removals relating to internal east-west roadway connections with Shaw.

### SOUTH WALL and East Workshop Building

ERA has recommended: “Demolition of two modern additions on the east and west ends of the Storage building. These additions are very small and do not enhance the character of the historic structure. Demolishing them will restore the original east and west elevations and will expose portions of the South Wall that are currently being concealed by these additions.” (ERA, 11)



*Concrete block addition on west end of the East Workshop*

Also recommended for demolition are two southeasterly structures – the CAMH Greenhouse and the Grounds Maintenance Building (ERA 28). Both facilities were re-located there in recent decades, although the greenhouse incorporated sundry earlier physical elements. Harmonious landscaping, as well as greenhouse co-op activities, have been cherished by patients and staff since the 19<sup>th</sup> century.



*The greenhouse in 1900 & Head Gardener-Groundskeeper, William Strickland. (Strickland fonds, CAMH Archives)*

### NEXT STEPS

Staff of the Toronto Preservation Board (TPB) have confirmed that CAMH’s application, based on the ERA Report and CAMH comments, will move from staff review to the public review and decisions’ phases. Significant proposals, including demolition of Bay 43 at the north end of the East wall and changes to the previously-approved interventions, will require approval by City Council.

A report to the TPB is anticipated on December 15th, followed by Community Council on January 19th and City Council on February 3rd. There will be opportunities for public input at both the TPB (Dec. 15) and Community Council (Jan. 19) meetings.



**RENDEZVOUS  
WITH MADNESS**  
FILM FESTIVAL  
NOVEMBER 6 - 14, 2015



**SATURDAY NOVEMBER 14**

**1 PM**

**TIFF BELL LIGHTBOX**



**OF MEN AND WAR**

**LAURENT BÉCUE-RENARD**

2015, FRANCE, 141 MINUTES , ENGLISH, RATED 14A

**Festival Screenings:**

- Festival de Cannes, Official Selection
- Göteborg International Film Festival, Sweden
- San Francisco International Film Festival
- Open City Documentary Festival, UK

**Awards:**

- VPRO IDFA Award for Best Feature-Length Documentary,
- International Documentary Film Festival, Amsterdam

Everything in war is armoured, including the human heart. But that doesn't prevent damage. It only means treating the damage is a matter of cutting through the

armour to treat the pain. At the Pathway Home in California, therapist and Vietnam veteran Fred Gusman works on removing the thick layers of denial and defensiveness guarding his internally wounded patients, a group of combat-hardened Iraq vets who harbour horrors they can barely speak of. This is the condition we call PTSD and for veterans of battle it can be a life sentence. With an intimacy and empathy that indicates just how much time filmmaker Laurent Bécue-Renard has spent gaining his subjects' trust, *Of Men and War* chronicles the painful process by which the past is confronted and released in the present.

**Filmmaker's Biography:**

**Laurent Bécue-Renard** is a French director and producer. In 1995 and 1996, while living in Sarajevo during the siege, he served as editor-in-chief of the magazine *Sarajevo Online* and published a series of short stories called *The Sarajevo Chronicles*. After the conflict, he began exploring war's enduring impact on three widows at a rural therapy center. The documentary he wrote, directed, and produced about them, *War-Wearied (De guerre lasses)*, screened at dozens of festivals and received the Berlin International Film Festival's Peace Film Award, among others. Shifting focus to young men returning from battles in faraway lands, Bécue-Renard continues to explore war's psychological aftermath with *Of Men and War*, the second volume of his *Genealogy of Wrath* trilogy.

CO-PRESENTED BY:

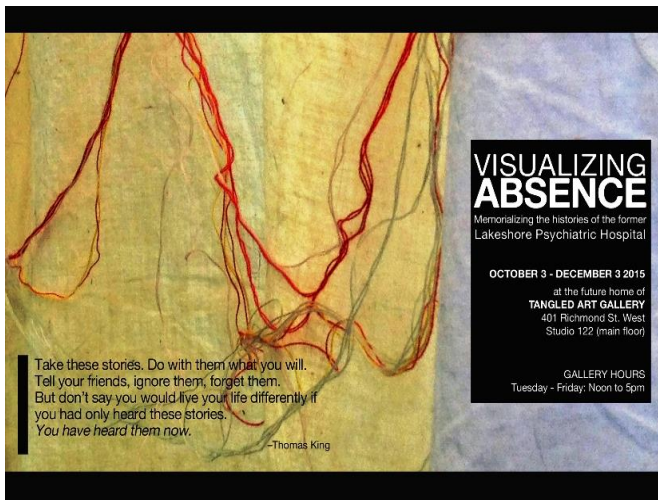


**TICKETS:** \$12/general (limited Pay What You Can tickets at door for persons on fixed incomes)

Tickets can be purchased via TIFF (online, telephone, in person) & on the RENDEZVOUS WITH MADNESS website.

**WWW.RENDEZVOUSWITHMADNESS.COM**

**Now on Exhibit – *Visualizing Absence: Memorializing the Histories of the former Lakeshore Psychiatric Hospital***



Presented by Tangled Arts + Disability and artist Anne Zbitnew, this exhibition features a collaborative art response to archival images, patient records, hidden stories and memories that constitute the historic Lakeshore grounds. This exhibit follows Prof. Geoffrey Reaume and other Mad (as self-identified) scholars, historians, activists, artists & allies telling stories in a historical context from psychiatric patients' perspectives.

The former Lakeshore Psychiatric Hospital in Etobicoke has been expertly conserved for adaptive reuse as Humber College's Lakeshore Campus and for many other community organizations.

In addition to the artist collaborators and community members who have contributed to *Visualizing Absence*, the FOA's Edward Janiszewski has provided much information about the Lakeshore Psychiatric Hospital Cemetery. He was directly involved in the first iteration of this exhibition in May, 2015, and his research is helping to inform the development of Humber College's upcoming Lakeshore Grounds Interpretive Centre.

*Visualizing Absence* runs from October 3<sup>rd</sup> to December 3<sup>rd</sup> at the future home of Tangled Art Gallery at 401 Richmond St. West, Studio 112, in Toronto. For more information, please visit <http://visualizingabsence.wix.com/visualizing-absence> or contact Tangled Art + Disability at [info@tangledarts.org](mailto:info@tangledarts.org) or 647-725-5064.

**Now Preparing for Re-exhibit at CAMH – Ontario Provincial Plaques, Queen Street**



Originally unveiled at the former Administration Building on June 13, 1990, these two historic plaques (in English and French) commemorated the 140<sup>th</sup> anniversary of continuous mental health care at the Queen Street Mental Health Centre.



The plaques, shown with Dr. Garfinkel before the building's removal for redevelopment in phase 1B, were dedicated under the auspices of what is now the Ontario Heritage Trust. Currently they are being re-installed with other historical exhibits (part below) in CAMH's Doctors Association Building.



## Former Donwood Institute Time Capsule



Ordinarily a cornerstone is ceremonially laid, generally while enclosing a time capsule, during a new building's construction or grand-opening event.

In 2007, on the other hand, as CAMH staff at the former Donwood Institute prepared for physically relocating to new quarters, primarily on White Squirrel Way, they organized a transitional event as a farewell to their Brentcliffe Road site. An unsealed, carved "treasure chest" was filled as a retrospective time capsule with their memories as represented by messages, photos and memorabilia.



This year the treasure chest's custodian, Advance Practice Social Worker, Kirstin Bindsell, arranged for its transfer to the Archives. Although unique in its fine cabinet form and many whimsical contents, this physical embodiment of their collective memories will join for posterity with other CAMH cornerstones, time capsules, contents and fragments.

Other items thus preserved have come from the Addiction Research Foundation's 1971 capsule for 33 Russell Street, from the Queen Street Asylum in 1846 (silver plaques and trowel), the 1954 Admin Building (now in the garden courtyard of 80 Workman Way) and 2012 Bell Gateway Building.

## Remembering Oak Ridge Digital Archive and Exhibit



At this year's AGM for the Waypoint Centre for Mental Health Care in Penetanguishene, Ontario, a new exhibit was launched. The historian, Dr. Jennifer Bazar, is a Post-doctoral Fellow in Psychiatry, University of Toronto, and a past FOA Hewton Archival Bursaries' laureate. Please select: <https://historyexhibit.waypointcentre.ca>

## Book Notice Corner



***How We Changed Toronto: The inside story of twelve creative, tumultuous years in civic life, 1969 – 1980***  
by John Sewell (James Lorimer & Co., 2015)

Former Toronto Mayor, John Sewell offers an insider's account of Toronto transformed by activist citizens and reforming politicians, including "the question of protecting heritage structures." Notably:

*"... as we learned in the fall of 1975 trying to save 999 Queen Street West, the Provincial Lunatic Asylum. The notoriety of this building was not entirely deserved. ...  
"The image of the building created by those who had misused it doomed the structure. Heritage is rarely a popular issue, particularly when it stands in the way of someone's dream for the future, or someone's wish to obliterate the past.... The building was demolished." (pp.195-8)*

## Hewton and Griffin Bursaries for Archival Research in 2016

The Friends of the Archives at the Centre for Addiction and Mental Health (CAMH), dedicated to the history of Canadian psychiatry, mental health and addiction, have established two endowment funds. These funds annually provide bursaries in memory of their late colleagues, Ms. E.M. (Lil) Hewton and Dr. J.D.M. (Jack) Griffin, O.C.

The main purpose of the bursaries is to provide financial assistance to students, and others not necessarily associated with an academic institution, who propose to undertake archival research on an aspect of the history of mental health or addiction in Canada. The FOA board at its discretion may approve bursaries to a maximum of \$2,500 each.

There is no application form. Candidates are invited to submit a letter of intent not exceeding 300 words, together with a budget and résumé, not later than November 30, 2015. These awards are conditional on the recipients agreeing to submit progress reports within one year, and a final report including a financial synopsis within two years of receiving the bursary.

For examples of bursary projects that we have previously awarded, please refer to that feature as included in the SPRING editions of our past years' Newsletters, indexed at:

[http://www.camh.ca/en/education/about/services/camh\\_library/Pages/guide\\_friends\\_archives.aspx](http://www.camh.ca/en/education/about/services/camh_library/Pages/guide_friends_archives.aspx)

To apply for a 2016 bursary, please submit an application by the November 30, 2015 deadline to:

Vivienne Gibbs – President, Friends of the Archives  
CAMH, 1001 Queen Street West  
Toronto, Ontario M6J 1H4

Please note that electronic submissions are preferred: [John.Court@camh.ca](mailto:John.Court@camh.ca)

### Friends of the Archives

Centre for Addiction and Mental Health  
1001 Queen St. West, Toronto, Ontario M6J 1H4  
Tel. 416-535-8501 x.32159  
[Friends.Archives@camh.ca](mailto:Friends.Archives@camh.ca)

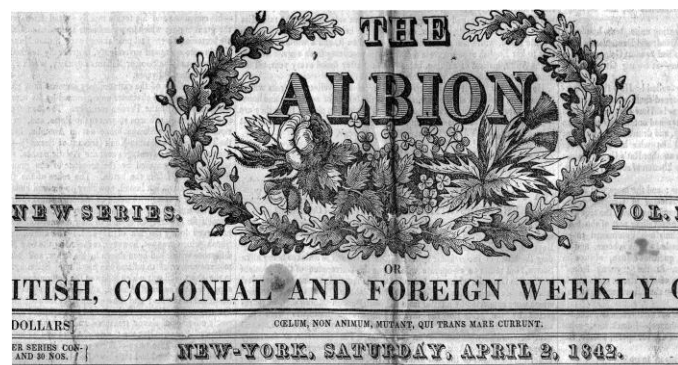
#### Board Members:

Vivienne Gibbs (President & Treasurer), Carol Hopp, Edward Janiszewski (Recording Secretary), Syd Jones (Vice President & Editor), Shirley Morriss, Aden Roberts, Thelma Wheatley.

**Friends' Support Volunteers:** Yves Boissel, John McClellan, Marshall Swadron

**CAMH Liaison:** John Court, Tim Tripp

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*Original newsprint ed. re: "Hanwell Lunatic Asylum," 1842  
Donated in 2015 to CAMH Archives by Penny Vernon, RN*

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## Membership Renewal Notice for 2016

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Prefix: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Postal Code: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

\* **Membership:**           \$ **20.00**           (valid through December 31, 2016)

\* **Donation:**             \$ \_\_\_\_\_       (optional, at your discretion)

**Total:**                 \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**\* An Income Tax receipt will be provided for your membership remittance plus any further donation.  
Please complete and mail this form together with a cheque, payable to "Friends of the Archives"**

**Please remit:** Friends of the CAMH Archives, 1001 Queen Street West, Toronto, Ontario M6J 1H4