

Dictionary of Canadian Biography

Ramsay Cook, a distinguished historian, has been named the new General Editor of the *Dictionary of Canadian Biography*. He succeeds Frances G. Halpenny, who as General Editor since 1969, has guided this immense project to high levels of scholarly excellence. From time to time as new volumes are being planned, the advice of subject specialists is sought with regard to possible inclusions. As a relatively new field for research, contributions to Canada's material culture may not be one of the considerations uppermost in the mind of

the editorial staff. Readers with names to suggest may wish to write to the *DCB*. Volumes now being planned will include persons who died after 1900. Enquiries may be sent to the editorial offices at the University of Toronto Press, 63-A St. George Street, Toronto, Ontario, M5S 1A6.

Editorial Changes at *Material History* *Bulletin*

Gregg Finley's appointment as Director of King's Landing Historical Settlement near Fredericton, New Brunswick, has cost *Material History Bulletin* his invaluable services as one of the publication's co-editors. Issue number 27 was a very successful product of Gregg's labours which also included extensive spadework for subsequent issues. Gregg's help will not entirely be lost to the *Bulletin*, however, and his new role will enable him to continue to make his unique contribution to the development of material history in Canada. In saying "thank you and good luck!," therefore, we are not saying "good-bye." Gregg's departure made an adjustment in the editorial staff of *MHB* necessary. Peter Rider, the Atlantic Provinces Historian at the Canadian Museum of Civilization, leaves his duties as Review Editor to become General Editor, while Jean-Pierre Hardy, Project Development Officer at CMC's Publishing Division, and Geoff Rider, Curator of Graphic Arts at the National Museum of Science and Technology, become Associate Editors and Review Editors. J-P. Hardy will handle French-language publications and exhibitions and Geoff Rider will cover English-language offerings. To facilitate effective liaison among the elements involved in producing *MHB* Catherine Carmody, English Editor at the Publishing Division of CMC, has agreed to become Managing Editor, giving official status to all of the work she has performed on earlier issues.

Réaménagement de l'équipe de rédaction du *Bulletin* *d'histoire de la culture* *matérielle*

La nomination de Gregg Finley au poste de directeur de l'établissement historique de King's Landing près de Fredericton (Nouveau-Brunswick) a privé le *Bulletin d'histoire de la culture matérielle* d'un excellent rédacteur. Gregg a travaillé en particulier au numéro 27, très apprécié de nos lecteurs, et largement contribué à préparer les numéros postérieurs. Sa précieuse collaboration au *Bulletin* n'est toutefois pas entièrement terminée car son nouveau rôle lui permettra de continuer de participer au développement de l'histoire de la culture matérielle au Canada. En lui disant «merci et bonne chance», nous ne lui disons donc pas «adieu». Le départ de Gregg rend nécessaire un réaménagement de l'équipe de rédaction. Peter Rider, historien des provinces atlantiques au Musée canadien des civilisations, quitte ses fonctions de responsable des comptes rendus pour devenir rédacteur général. D'autre part, Jean-Pierre Hardy, agent de développement des projets à la Division de l'édition du MCC, et Geoff Rider, conservateur des arts graphiques au Musée national des sciences et de la technologie, deviennent rédacteurs adjoints et responsables respectivement des comptes rendus des publications et expositions en français et en anglais. Afin de faciliter les relations au sein de l'équipe de production du *Bulletin*, Catherine Carmody, rédactrice anglaise à la Division de l'édition du MCC, a accepté le poste de directrice des services de rédaction, poste dont elle assumait

This splendid editorial ship-of-state may not guarantee a resolution of all potential problems as both of the *Bulletin's* co-publishers struggle with expansion and change, but it should provide the momentum to carry our publication into somewhat calmer waters. Members of the Editorial Board from across the country and abroad play a key role in this process. Please contact them with proposals for articles, reports and reviews and with news concerning your activities and interests.

déjà les fonctions sans en avoir le titre. L'adjonction de tous ces nouveaux éléments ne suffira peut-être pas à régler l'ensemble des problèmes qui pourront se poser aux deux co-éditeurs dans une situation d'expansion et de changement, mais elle devrait permettre d'aplanir le terrain. Les membres du Conseil de rédaction, au pays et à l'étranger, jouent un rôle de premier plan dans nos travaux. Nous vous invitons à leur présenter vos propositions d'articles, de rapports et de comptes rendus, et à les tenir au courant de vos activités et intérêts.

Vernacular Architecture Forum

PETER ENNALS

Material history scholars and preservation and heritage professionals in Canada may not be aware of the Vernacular Architecture Forum, a group formed in the United States in 1980 to encourage the study and preservation of all aspects of vernacular architecture and landscape. VAF members are drawn from a wide spectrum of academic disciplines, public and private agencies and geographic regions, including Canada. Activities include an annual conference featuring at least two days of field study, the publication of a quarterly newsletter and bibliography and a continuing anthology of selected papers entitled *Perspectives in Vernacular Architecture*, edited by Camille Wells and published by the University of Missouri Press, of which two volumes have so far appeared. The VAF also awards an annual prize—the Abbott Lowell Cummings Award for the best book, article,

museum exhibition or film having to do with American vernacular architectural themes.

The 1988 annual conference was held at Staunton, Virginia, 11-14, May 1988, and featured excursions which examined the cultural landscapes that arose from the interaction of German, English and Scotch-Irish settlers in Appalachian Virginia.

The VAF welcomes Canadian members (both Peter Ennals, Mount Allison University, and Gerald Pocius, Memorial University of Newfoundland, are currently serving as directors of the organization). Individual membership costs US\$9 per year, students US\$5—payable in the fall of the year. For further details contact Orlando Ridout V, 47 Fleet Street, Annapolis, Maryland 21401.