



NEWSLETTER



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Friends of the CAMH Archives

A not-for-profit charitable corporation of hospital volunteers

Friends' Loyal President, Vivienne Gibbs, to Retire



Vivienne Gibbs and her predecessor, Celia Denov, staffing a Friends of the Archives book table in 2001. Photos: CAMH Archives

joined the hospital's archives committee, an interest group that sought to preserve a record of these changes.

This committee eventually became a separately incorporated volunteer organization, now known as the Friends of the Archives, linked to CAMH's Volunteer Services Department as well as to the CAMH Archives. It was incorporated with Charitable status more than a quarter-century ago, officially named the Museum of Mental Health Services (Toronto) Inc., to support the emerging archival and heritage programs at the Queen Street site.

One of Vivienne's lasting contributions to the Friends is the establishment of the E. M. (Lil) Hewton Fund 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. Lil Hewton was a colleague and dear friend of Vivienne's and, upon her death, she bequeathed a substantial sum to the Friends, to be used for this purpose. Joined six years later by the Dr. Jack Griffin Bursary Fund, a total of five dozen

It is with much sadness and gratitude that the Friends of the Archives are saying goodbye to our retiring President, Vivienne Gibbs. Vivienne was a founding member of the Friends and has served as our President for 16 years.

Vivienne moved to Canada from her native England in 1958 after working as a lab technician at Middlesbrough General Hospital in North Yorkshire. Upon her arrival in Toronto, she worked for a year as the head of Mt. Sinai Hospitals's blood bank. Then she was hired as a lab technician at the Ontario Hospital, Toronto, an earlier name of the Queen Street Mental Health Centre. Her career at Queen Street lasted for nearly 38 years, and when she retired in 1996, she had risen to the position of Lab Manager.

During her long career, Vivienne was witness to substantial changes in the understanding and treatment of the mentally ill. Along with several other staff, she



In 1977, the Queen Street Administration Building's cornerstone was re-sealed after adding to its contents while the building underwent a retrofit. Shown with the welder are staff members Vivienne Gibbs, Katharine Rhodes, Lou Yeats and Douglas Staib.

Vivienne Gibbs to Retire (continued)



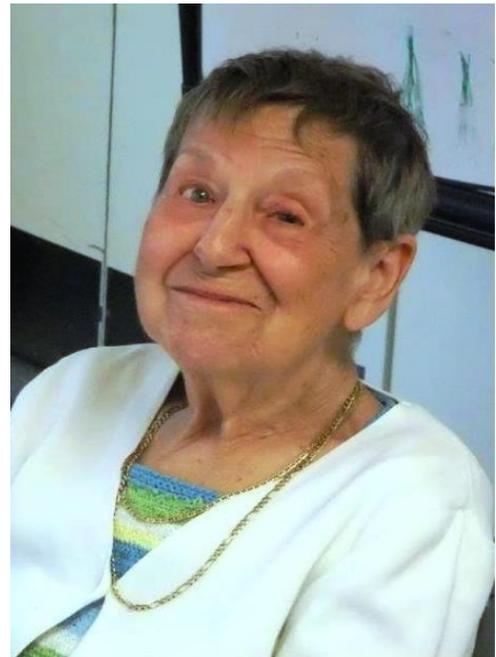
In 1979, Vivienne served as Narrator for the docudrama, “Queen Street Mental Health Centre – A History”. Here she is coaching Mort Mates in his role as the long-serving (1875 – 1905) Medical Superintendent, Dr. Daniel Clark.

bursaries have thus far been awarded and, due to wise investments, the capital remains healthy. Applicants continue to apply in increasing numbers from across Canada.

After the original Provincial Lunatic Asylum building was demolished in 1976, the 1846 pair of silver cornerstone plaques commemorating the hospital’s establishment mysteriously disappeared. In 2010, however, those plaques were discovered at a rural Ontario farm. The property-owning finder claimed title to them and, after lengthy but unsuccessful negotiations for reclaiming these important public artifacts, with appropriate compensation, the Health Ministry (as original owner) and CAMH launched civil procedures.

At the Belleville Superior Court hearing, Vivienne and Corporate Archivist, John Court testified for substantiating rightful ownership, resulting in their return to CAMH. The judge was impressed, John recalls, that Vivienne had long been directly involved with Queen Street’s history and artifacts, as in 1977 (photo on page 1) when Vivienne’s staff group refreshed protection for the 1954 cornerstone and time capsule, following disappearance of 1846 materials during the Asylum building’s demolition.

The retrieved plaques are now restored and displayed in the Legal Hearing Room at Queen Street, together with the 1846 cornerstone ceremony’s original silver trowel, which has generously been loaned to CAMH by the British heirs of the Hon. Chief Justice J.B. Robinson.



These are examples from Vivienne’s career-long advocacy for preserving the record of CAMH’s history, combined with her leadership and extensive dedication in the field of mental health. Vivienne has committed to keeping the history of mental health services alive throughout her long service at the Queen Street site, always combined with her good humour and friendly manner. Happily, she will remain a member of the Friends.

– Syd Jones

UPDATE: Boundary Walls' Restoration



CAMH historic East Wall at Queen and Shaw Sts. Photo courtesy of Wayne Adam for TorontoPlaquesDOTcom

In the previous issue (Autumn 2015) we reported that restoration of the south and east stretches of the 19th-century Asylum walls will continue in the next phase of the site's overall redevelopment – along with the 1889 Historic East Workshop Building – subject to municipal approval. One contentious aspect of the Conservation Plan put forward by ERA Architects Inc. was a proposed removal of the northern-most Bay 43 of the East Wall at Queen St.

A month earlier these proposed alterations had been reported in CAMH's *C/S Info Centre Bulletin* (Sept. 1-15), while noting that: *"If you have concerns or do not support this proposal the best thing to do is to contact Toronto City Council with your views and, more specifically, Mike Layton who is Councillor for Ward 19."*

As the municipal review process moved forward towards a December review by the Toronto Preservation Board (TPB), the FOA Board decided to follow this advice for making known their concerns. In deputations to the TPB, our Board members pointed out that the bay could, in fact, be repaired – as the wall's opposite, western terminal bay had been restored during 2007-08. In terms of opening up access to the adjacent park, they observed that this could readily be achieved by eliminating the *non*-historic iron rail fence that extends from Bay 43 along Queen Street.

Professor Geoffrey Reaume, past Chair of the Psychiatric Survivor Archives of Toronto (PSAT) submitted a written brief in support, while pointing out that the heritage Bay 43, built in the 19th century, stands as a companion to the first of the series of eight Memorial Wall Plaques installed by PSAT, CAMH and the FOA in 2010, receiving a Toronto Community Heritage Award. This Introductory plaque for the series provides the context and a site map for all other plaque locations along the Walls' periphery. Please refer to the FOA Newsletter, Autumn 2010, pages 1–3:

http://www.camh.ca/en/education/about/services/camh_library/Documents/FOAFall2010.pdf

The TPB accepted the recommendations of Prof. Reaume and the FOA Board representatives. From there the proposals proceeded to the Toronto and East York Community Council in January, and then to City Council, where it was established that the "Alterations to a Designated Heritage Property..." were approved, "excluding the proposed removal of the northernmost bay of the east wall along Shaw Street..." (City Clerk's Office notice, 12 Feb. 2016)

And so, good news for the continued heritage efficacy of the Historic Walls' Conservation Plan – Bay 43 will remain.

– Shirley Morriss

A Half-Century at 250 College Street



**Clarke Institute of Psychiatry,
1966**

The Clarke Institute of Psychiatry was officially opened by Premier Robarts of Ontario on May 18, 1966. When the first patients were admitted on July 1, 1966 the service, educational and research functions of the Toronto Psychiatric Hospital (1925-1966) were taken over by the Clarke Institute, to be developed there in a modern environment provided through a University-Institute agreement. The Institute, as the main teaching hospital in Psychiatry for the University's Faculty of Medicine, opened as headquarters for the Department of Psychiatry on June 13, 1966. The Institute was recognized as a public hospital under the Public Hospitals Act of Ontario. It boasted of education and research activities rooted in a comprehensive program of patient care, including services for children and adolescents and varying from outpatient treatments through in-patient care and emergency services. Ultimately the Clarke was one of four specialized institutions merged into the Centre for Addiction and Mental Health (CAMH) in 1998.



Photo courtesy of CAMH Archives.

Department of Psychiatry, University of Toronto (2004)

Hewton and Griffin Bursaries – Award Synopses for 2016

(1) Lucy Costa – LL.M. student, Osgoode Hall Law School, York University, and **Edgar-André Montigny**, Staff Lawyer, ARCH Disability Law Centre, Toronto

(Project Title) **Psychiatric Disability, 1975 – 2000**

The psychiatric disability, consumer, and survivor community has a history reaching back 40 years or more. Little of this community's political social movement organizing work has been recorded. The goal of this project is to preserve this important social and political history by capturing the lived experiences of early advocates and allies in their own words, using videotaped interviews to create an oral history collection. Interviewees will be encouraged to use documents or other resources to use in their interview, samples of which will be posted online.

(2) Stephen Durant – Ph.D. student, Institute of Health Policy, Management and Evaluation, University of Toronto

Contemporary and Historical Policy Visions for Mental Health System Reform

I will be undertaking extensive archival research into the history of mental health policy reform in Ontario and Canada. This work is part of a doctoral thesis exploring the historical and present organization of policy for people with severe and complex mental health problems, using texts published by governments, institutions in health-care and corrections, and key advocacy organizations. The Greater Toronto and Kingston areas, as well as institutions in Penetanguishene and Brockville, will serve as cases for the exploration of regional-level policy and the activation of institutional discourse in local settings.

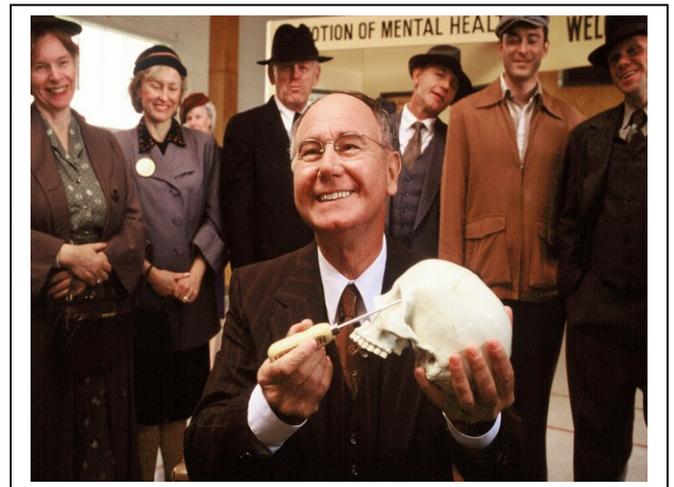
Since this research extends back to the initial policy discussions on the need for asylums in Upper Canada, I will visit archives to access 19th and 20th centuries' documents. Resources in Ottawa and Southeastern Ontario will enhance the project's contribution to policy history as well as the

historical record of significant mental health facilities in Southeastern Ontario which have not yet been the subject of in-depth scholarly study.

(3) Taylor Dysart – MA student, History of Medicine, Department of History and Classical Studies, McGill University, Montréal, Québec

The Influence of Psychopharmaceuticals on Popular Understandings of Psychiatry and Mental Illness, 1937 – 1977

With stigmatization of mental illness and psychiatry having long been prevalent in popular culture, this project will examine how those sentiments emerged within mass-distribution films.



Bill Raymond as Dr. Harold Ashton in "A Hole in One" (fictional comedy-drama, USA 2004)

While films have showcased an ensemble of psychiatric treatment, ranging from electroshock therapy to lobotomy, the clinical practice of psychopharmacology has been underrepresented. This point is remarkable in light of the dramatic increase in the use of psycho-pharmaceuticals throughout the latter half of the 20th century, since adaptation of the first-generation antipsychotic medications such as chlorpromazine in the 1950s.

Through archival research, this project will provide a comprehensive analysis of the place of clinical psychopharmacology in films amidst the backdrop of a heavily medicated North American society.

(4) Peter S. Muirhead – M.Sc. student,
Department of Anthropology, University of Toronto

How Bipolar-diagnosed People in Toronto and Vancouver Navigate the Social Value of their Mania in Relation to the Canadian Political Economy

While this work is chiefly ethnographic, synchronic, and inductive in methodology, the mental health and public health archives available in Toronto (CAMH Archives and the Psychiatric Survivor Archives of Toronto, specifically) present an important opportunity for contextualizing historical work on how mania has been variously evaluated, imagined, and even instrumentalized by bipolar-diagnosed individuals and their interlocutors.

As an historical ethnography—informed by archival materials and drawing a conceptual history of mania from specific cases—my work will be better positioned to make arguments about the diachronic relationship between bipolar experiences of mania, Canada’s mental health infrastructure, and the broader conceptual relationship between political economy, work, and psychological distress. Additionally, including the history of mania’s management on an institutional level puts my work into a conversation with that of historians of mental health and mania (e.g. Lanzoni 2004, 2005).

The inclusion of historical context in this research will allow me to present the work to a broader range of audiences and to receive more diverse feedback.

(5) Eric Ossenbrug – Ph.D. student, History and Theory of Psychology, York University

The Conditions Surrounding the Emergence of Experimental Neuropsychology in the Postwar Era

While historical studies of development in this field tend to highlight advances within clinical medicine, this project examines the often neglected but critical role of the ‘softer’ social and behavioural sciences.

In the late 20th century, Canadian psychologists working at the edges of psychology and medicine,

including Donald Hebb, Ronald Melzack and Brenda Milner, significantly contributed to the shift toward new understandings of the relevance of the subjective, inner lives of individuals and patients. This shift laid the foundation for new sub-disciplines such as clinical neuropsychology, health psychology, and behavioural medicine. These sub-disciplines continue to exert significant impact on the practice, teaching and expectations of medicine.



The historic mansion of Sir Hugh Allan was donated by his son to McGill and Royal Victoria Hospital, opening in 1943 as a psychiatric facility under McGill’s first Chair of Psychiatry, Ewen Cameron. (CAMH Archives)

My research focuses on a key site for these historical developments in Canada: Montreal in the 1950s and 1960s. Using a combination of archival and oral history, I will address this ‘psychological’ gap in the history of Canadian medicine through an integrated biographical and institutional analysis. Many of the topics my research will address, such as interdisciplinary collaboration in modern health research and the emergence of patient-centered models of care, have significance to our current healthcare system. I will demonstrate the continuing relevance of how we have come to understand, and respond to, the subjective, interpersonal aspects of care in the 21st century.

(6) Julia Skelly, PhD – Assistant Professor, Dept. of Art History, Concordia University, Montreal

A book to be entitled, *Radical Decadence: Excess in Contemporary Feminist Textiles and Craft*

Although it may not be clear from the title, this

book will examine the representation of women consuming addictive substances, including alcohol and cocaine, in works of contemporary art. One example of such a work is Orly Cogan's textile piece *Bittersweet Obsession* (2008), which portrays women consuming both cupcakes and cocaine.

While I have completed some of the necessary research at libraries in Canada, including the university libraries of Concordia, McGill, Calgary and Guelph, I will also undertake archival research at the National Art Library (part of the Victoria & Albert Museum) in London. This library holds a vast collection of both secondary literature and archival documents that will serve to strengthen my text in its ambition to provide broad historical background on women and addiction, addictive substances, and women's production of craft, textiles and the decorative arts.

I will be discussing historical European artworks in *Radical Decadence* to establish context for the representation of women consuming addictive substances in contemporary feminist art, and the historical artworks (from the 19th and early 20th centuries primarily, but I will also discuss 17th - century Dutch paintings depicting both male and female subjects).

(7) **Maximilian S. Smith** – Ph.D. student, History, York University, Toronto

The Informal Professional Networks that were Built by Alienists in the Middle of the Nineteenth Century, before Official Organizations

My research examines the informal professional networks of alienists (asylum psychiatrists) before official organizations emerged to oversee asylum practices. These early international networks functioned as channels through which standard practice was developed and negotiated, among physicians in otherwise disparate institutions.

I propose that these networks, developed through professional correspondence, publications, and asylum inspections and tours, were highly influential in the development and management of the Provincial Lunatic Asylum in Toronto.

I am examining professional correspondence situated the Toronto asylum within a wider context of the international community of asylums.

Toronto's Superintendents such as William Rees, William Telfer, Joseph Workman, and Daniel Clark maintained professional connections with alienists in Britain, Europe, and the United States. For example, when Dr. Rees travelled to renowned asylums in Europe before beginning his tenure as superintendent in 1841, he did so in the hopes that he would learn the most modern practices and apply them in Toronto. His successors developed similar connections which continued to influence administration and clinical practice at the Provincial Lunatic Asylum throughout the 19th century.

To further develop this project, I will undertake archival research at the Library and Archives of Canada (LAC) in Ottawa, as well as the archives of the American Psychiatric Association (APA) in Arlington, Virginia. The LAC houses correspondences, government documents, and other records of the Provincial Lunatic Asylum that are unavailable online or at the Archives of Ontario or CAMH Archives. The APA archive houses a comprehensive collection of documents pertaining to the early development of the North American associations of medical superintendents of asylums.

Toronto's Historical Plaques

<http://torontoplaques.com>

Discover Toronto's history as
told through its plaques

2004 - Now in our 12th
Year - 2016

Hewton and Griffin Bursaries for Archival Research in 2017

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, 2016. 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

To apply for a 2017 bursary, please submit an application by the November 30, 2016 deadline to:

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

Electronic submissions are preferred:
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

Board Members:

Vivienne Gibbs (President & Treasurer to May 25),
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



Mayor David Miller, Dr. Paul Garfinkel & others reviewing CAMH site planning, ca.2004. Donated by V. Gibbs, 2016

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