Victoria Standard

The County's history through its buildings

by Joan MacInnes The buildings depicted in the two photographs are of the former J.P. MacLeod stores which had been located on Chebucto Street in Baddeck.

The first store established by John P. MacLeod, Sr. was erected in 1874. To begin with, the store was quite small and it is believed that he and his family

occupied the upper storey as a dwelling

Theatre on the Hill presents: The Fiddlers on the Hill

All Summer Every Saturday Night Ceilidhs in Ingonish With fiddler Paul Cranford & weekly guests

Aug 27 - Stewart MacNeil (of the Barra MacNeils) + Brenda Stubbert (fiddle & piano) Sept. 4 - Rocky Shore (Otis Tomas

(fiddle), Deanie Cox (gutiar & vocals), Paul MacDonald (gutar), David Papazian (fiddle, concertina & tin whistle) & Sarah Beck (fiddle)

Concerts start at 8:15 PM 37890 Cabot Trail, St. John's Parish Hall, North Ingonish

(beside The Seagull Restaurant)



Wednesday, August 24: North River at St. Andrew's Church (11:45 am-12:15 pm), Barrachois Bridge at the Church (1:30-2 pm).

Thursday, August 25: Indian Brook at Leather Works (10:30-11 am), Little River at the Wharf Road (11:15-11:45 am), Gaelic Singers' Hall (noon-12:30 pm, Wreck Cove General Store (1-2 pm).



prior to the completion of their home on

Queen Street in the mid-1880's. The

first structure was remodelled and

enlarged and soon gained a reputation as

being one of the finest businesses in the

village. By adopting the principles of

fair dealing and honesty with his cus-

tomers and acquaintances, his business

flourished and he was just as successful

as any of the merchants in Baddeck at

that time. When his three sons matured,

namely, Malcolm, Philip, and John P. Jr.,

they were brought into the business and

it began operating under the name of

the business in 1923 (circa). His eldest

son, Malcolm died in 1924 which result-

ed in a reorganization with the store

operated by sons, Philip and John P. Jr.

When John P. Jr. retired, his brother

Philip took over and was assisted by his

John P. MacLeod, Sr. retired from

John P. MacLeod & Sons.



with the drug store this part of the store housed varied other ventures such as a liquor store, a stationery and book store, and a pool hall.

As it

Former J.P. MacLeod Stores in Baddeck

sons, Douglas and Gordon.

The original building on the site was a victim of the devastating fire which occurred in September of 1926. The fire which began in the MacKay-MacAskill store spread across the street to the MacLeod store and it was destroyed along with twenty-five other structures east of the Court House, which included stores, dwellings and St. Michael's church.

Despite their misfortune with the loss of their livelihood, the MacLeod's did not waste any time in re-establishing their business. Within a few months, they had constructed a new store and they were the first business to re-build following the 1926 fire. Both stores occupied the same lot.

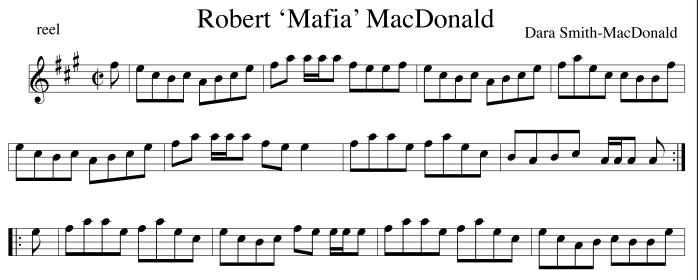
They resumed their grocery and dry goods store and also leased out the western end of the building to one Edward Beaton who operated a drug store. Along t u r n e d out, the second MacLeod Store was to succumb to the fate of its predecessor as it too was destroyed by a fire on December 30th, 1964 which ended ninety years of entrepreneurship for the MacLeod family.

In the picture of the original store there are members of the MacLeod family along with local residents. The streetscape picture (circa) 1927 shows the newly built store. Note the burnt out ruins on the north side of the street which include Robert Emsley's house immediately east of the Court House, the lot on which the MacKay-MacAskill store stood and beyond that the site of St. Michael's church.

I would like to extend many thanks to Catherine Crawford (a member of the MacLeod family) for her generous help by providing information and also making available the two photos.

FIDDLER'S CORNER by Paul S. Cranford.

If you have a tune you would like to share with other Cape Breton fiddlers or a musical event that could be promoted in this column contact The Victoria Standard or Cranford Publications (www.cranfordpub.com). Email psc@cranfordpub.com



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Wednesday, August 31: Middle River School (10-10:30 am), Wagmatcook Preschool (11-11:30), Wagmatcook Cultural Centre (11:45-12:15).

Thursday, September 1: Boularderie East at the Highway Garage (10:15-10:30 am), Boularderie at Grant's Store (10:45-11 am), Ross Ferry (11:15-noon), Kempt Head (1-2 pm).



A native of Antigonish County, Port Hawkesbury fiddler and teacher **Dara Smith** released *Connections*, her debut CD a few months back. Accompanied by Adam Young on piano, and Junior Fraser on guitar her CD is available at stores around the island. The tune above was written for her husband Robert, a gregarious fellow who knows 'everybody' - hence the nickname. This summer Dara taught at <u>The Gaelic College</u> and played at various events including last week at one of the regular Tuesday/Friday ceilidhs held at <u>The Celtic Tearoom</u>. in Indian Brook. In upcoming weeks you can hear Dara in concert at the following venues:

• August 25, 7 PM - The Chestico Museum, Port Hood. For info call 787-2244 • September 17, 8 PM - The Louisbourg Playhouse

Victoria County's Residential Curbside Organics Collection

Garbage Shipped to Guysborough For the month of July, 2011, 272.69 Tonnes of garbage were shipped bringing the total to 15,753.22 Tonnes

Residents can now put organic material such as vegetable peelings, table scraps, meat, fish, poultry, dairy, bones and soiled paper in transparent green bags to be collected weekly along with recyclables and garbage. Special <u>transparent green bags</u> for compost are now available in grocery & hardware stores in Victoria County.

For more information on Recycling or Composting Programs, call Cape Breton's **Recycling Hotline at 1-877-567-1337** or see "Recycling" in the Aliant Yellow Pages.

<u>Organic Materials</u> <u>Collected</u> For the month of July, 2011, <u>21.14 Tonnes</u> of organics were collected bringing the total to <u>898.45 Tonnes</u>