# Niagara-on-the-Lake Conservancy fonds

1987-2016, n.d.

**RG 571**

Brock University Archives

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Creator:</strong></th>
<th>Niagara-on-the-Lake Conservancy</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Extent:</strong></td>
<td>60 cm of textual material (2 boxes)</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>201 photographs</td>
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<td>1 flash drive</td>
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<td><strong>Abstract:</strong></td>
<td>Fonds contains material about the activities of the Niagara-on-the-Lake Conservancy. Most of the material concerns the Conservancy’s work involving the Niagara Gorge Jet Boat Tours, efforts to save the Niagara-on-the-Lake Hospital (Serve Our Sick campaign), and the Niagara-on-the-Lake Official Town Plan.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Materials:</strong></td>
<td>Minutes, reports, news clippings, promotional material, photographs, and correspondence.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Repository:</strong></td>
<td>Brock University Archives</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Processed by:</strong></td>
<td>Chantal Cameron</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Last updated:</strong></td>
<td>July 2017</td>
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Acquisition info.: Material was donated by Gracia Janes on behalf of the Niagara-on-the-Lake Conservancy in July 2016. Additional material was donated in May 2017.

Administrative history:

The Niagara-on-the-Lake Conservancy was formed in 1987 by a group of concerned citizens working to preserve and protect the heritage and quality of the Niagara-on-the-Lake homes and atmosphere. Some of their campaigns have included Serve Our Sick (an effort to save the Niagara-on-the-Lake Hospital), restrictions on the Niagara Gorge Jet Boat Tour service, and input on the development of the Niagara-on-the-Lake Official Town Plan. The Conservancy was also involved in the establishment of a School of Restoration Arts at the historic Willowbank estate in Queenston. A major victory for the group was an Ontario Municipal Board ruling in their favour which prevented a waterfront condominium development that would have blocked the site lines of neighbouring Fort George.

Scope and content:

Fonds contains material about the activities of the Niagara-on-the-Lake Conservancy. Most of the material is meeting minutes, briefs and reports about the work of the Conservancy, especially involving Niagara Gorge Jet Boat Tours, Serve Our Sick (S.O.S.) and the Niagara-on-the-Lake Official Plan. Some promotional material such as news clippings and newsletters are also included, as well as information about the Conservancy’s annual Garden Tour fundraiser.

Organization:

The records were arranged into four series:

  Sub-series A: Minutes
  Sub-series B: Membership
  Sub-series C: Correspondence
  Sub-series D: Incorporation/Charitable Status
Series II: Activities, 1988-2016
   Sub-series A: Jet Boat Tours
   Sub-series B: Serve Our Sick (S.O.S)
   Sub-series C: Official Plan
   Sub-series D: Other Activities

   Sub-series A: New clippings
   Sub-series B: Newsletters
   Sub-series C: Press releases
   Sub-series D: Fundraising

   Sub-series A: Conservancy Briefs
   Sub-series B: Other resources

Inventory:


Sub-series A: Minutes, 1987-2016 (non-inclusive)

1.1 Minutes, 1987. Contains meeting minutes concerned with establishing the Conservancy, including matters such as incorporation, liaising with Town Council, naming the group, membership, committee structure, and selection of the Executive.

1.2 Minutes, 1988. Contains a list of the Board of Directors; minutes of the Steering Committee; minutes of a public meeting; minutes of Directors’ meetings; and a commentary on the review of the draft of the new Official Plan for the Town of Niagara-on-the-Lake.

1.3 Minutes, 1989. Contains a list of the Board of Directors; minutes of Directors’ meetings; a letter concerning the operation of double-decker buses in Niagara-on-the-Lake; and a financial statement.

1.4 Minutes, 1990. Contains minutes of the Annual General Meeting; a list of the Board of Directors; minutes of the Directors’ meetings; and a brief on the street widening and curb installation on Gates Street and its impact on the existing mature trees.
1.5 Minutes, 1991. Contains a list of the Board of Directors; minutes of the Annual General Meeting; minutes of Directors’ meetings; financial statements; a resolution stating the Conservancy’s opposition to the proposed Harbour Inn expansion; and correspondence regarding the Conservancy’s request to purchase a lot on River Beach Road for a public park from Stefan Preisennhammer.

1.6 Minutes, 1992. Contains minutes of the Directors’ meetings; minutes of the Annual General Meeting; a list of proposed directors; financial statements; a survey about parking on Queen Street; and a memo on town council representation by ward system.

1.7 Minutes, 1993. Contains financial statements; minutes of the Annual General Meeting; and minutes of Directors’ meetings.

1.8 Minutes, 1994. Contains minutes of Directors’ meetings, and minutes of Annual General Meetings.

1.9 Minutes, 1995. Contains minutes of Directors’ meetings; a decision of the Ontario Municipal Board regarding a request of the Peterson/Romance family to move their home-based business from their basement to their garage; minutes of the Annual General Meeting; a list of the Board of Directors; financial statements; a press release advertising an address by David Crombie; and correspondence regarding the Conservancy’s appeal of the Town’s proposed Official Plan.

1.10 Minutes, 1996. Contains minutes of Directors’ meetings; news clippings on the Ontario Planning Act; a brief presented to the committee hearing on the non-health issues of Bill 26; a brief for presentation to the Ontario Municipal Board on the subject of electoral wards for the Town of Niagara-on-the-Lake; financial statements; minutes of the Annual General Meeting; a list of the Board of Directors; a drawing of the King’s Point Condominiums; a deputation to Council re: King’s Point; and correspondence re: King’s Point development.

1.11 Minutes, 1997. Contains minutes of Directors’ meetings; financial statements; minutes of the Annual General Meeting; correspondence re: proposed Official Plan for Niagara-on-the-Lake; drawings of Greystone Townhomes; and a submission to the Ontario Municipal Board on the Queenston Urban Boundary Appeals.

1.12 Minutes, 1998. Contains minutes of Directors’ meetings; financial statements; minutes of the Annual General Meeting; correspondence re: a proposed statue of Colonel Butler; correspondence re: the park dedication in the subdivision of St. Andrew’s Glen; a report entitled An Environmental Approach: a proposal for the use of the Highway 55 property owned by the residents of Niagara-on-the-Lake; a
brief history of “locust grove” and Ball property; a proposal to develop a public relations campaign for the Niagara-on-the-Lake Conservancy; a proposed plan for the Niagara-on-the-Lake Conservancy (involving the retention of a Conservancy lawyer); a list of Conservancy archives, including building developments and other concerns, issues and strategies; a report by the Town of Niagara-on-the-Lake re: the town owned property of regional road 55—possible uses; and a report by the Town of Niagara-on-the-Lake on interim control by-laws.

1.13 Minutes, 1999. Contains minutes of Directors’ meetings; financial statements; minutes of the Annual General Meeting; a list of the Directors; a brief on the establishment of a heritage trust fund; a question and answer sheet by the Coalition for Old Town Advocacy entitled Why Would Town Council vote to eliminate the Old Town Niagara-on-the-Lake Library from the Court House?; correspondence re: the Conservancy’s appeal to the Ontario Municipal Board of the amendment of a zoning bylaw involving Jackson Triggs Estate Winery; and correspondence re: the St. Andrew’s Glen development and the Colonel John Butler homestead.

1.14 Minutes, 2000. Contains minutes of Directors’ meetings; a presentation on restructuring by the Conservancy; financial statements; minutes of the Annual General Meeting; and architectural plans for the proposed country Inn at Ricardo and Melville Streets.

1.15 Minutes, 2001. Contains a list of Directors; minutes of Directors’ meetings; minutes of the Annual General Meeting; a fact sheet on the application by Grey Gables to develop a School on Faywell Road; financial statements; correspondence re: the sale of waterfront land by the Town of Niagara-on-the-Lake and a proposed C3PG ferry service on this land; correspondence re: interim control by-laws; and correspondence re: Niagara-on-the-Lake Community Centre Space.

1.16 Minutes, 2002. Contains minutes of Directors’ meetings; minutes of the Annual General Meeting; financial statements; a list of Directors; a questionnaire on the Niagara-on-the-Lake Community Centre; and correspondence re: the final report on parking and traffic in the Old Town.

1.17 Minutes, 2003. Contains minutes of Directors’ meetings; financial statements; minutes of the Annual General Meeting; a list of Directors; and a brochure from Walker Industries entitled Landfill Expansion Environmental Assessment: Developing a Detailed Plan.

1.18 Minutes, 2004. Contains minutes of Directors’ meetings; a brochure from the Willowbank School of Restoration Arts Winter Lecture Series; minutes of the
Annual General Meeting; financial statements; a list of Directors; and an Ontario Municipal Board decision concerning a proposed development of airport related uses.

1.19 Minutes, 2005. Contains minutes of Directors’ meetings; minutes of the Annual General Meeting; a list of Directors; and financial statements.

1.20 Minutes, 2009-2016 (non-inclusive). Contains minutes of Directors’ meetings.

Sub-series B: Membership, 1995, n.d.


Sub-series C: Correspondence, 1988-2005, n.d.

1.22 Correspondence, 1988-2005, n.d. Contains correspondence received by the Conservancy. Some of the correspondence concerns the Niagara-on-the-Lake draft Official Plan (1988) and the St. Andrew’s Glen subdivision (2001). Much of the correspondence is from various government officials, including Christel Haeck, MPP for St. Catharines-Brock; Anne Swarbrick, Minister of Culture, Tourism, and Recreation; and Michael Dietsch, Mayor of Niagara-on-the-Lake.


Series II: Activities, 1988-2016

Sub-series I: Jet Boat Tours, 2007-2016


1.26 Zoning bylaws, 2009. Contains correspondence re: draft zoning bylaws, and a report by the Town of Niagara-on-the-Lake on the final draft comprehensive
zoning bylaw: review of comments from public meeting and recommendations on the way forward.

1.27 Queenston hearings re: Niagara Escarpment and Jet Boat Tours, 2007-2008. Contains correspondence from Whirlpool Jet Boat Tours to the Town of Niagara-on-the-Lake; a summary of a dock licence review of Whirlpool Jet Boat Tours by the Town of Niagara-on-the-Lake; a Niagara Escarpment Development Permit application and related reports; a report by the Town of Niagara-on-the-Lake on the Whirlpool Jet Boat Tours lease agreement; a report by the Town of Niagara-on-the-Lake on the Village of Queenston Secondary Plan—public meeting and official plan amendment; correspondence; map of the site plan; architectural drawings; Queenston Residents’ Association reply to request for comments; news clippings; a notice of decision from the Niagara Escarpment Commission re: development permit application for Michael Fulcher, D.G. Bawtinheimer Ltd.; and an order from the Niagara Escarpment Hearing Office re: the Corporation of St. Saviour, Brock Memorial Church et al v. Niagara Escarpment Commission.

1.28 Queenston hearings re: Niagara Escarpment and Jet Boat Tours, 2009-2011. Contains correspondence related to Official Plan Amendment no. 37, Queenston Secondary Plan; reply submissions of the appellants, the Queenston Residents’ Association and the Corporation of St. Saviour, the Brock Memorial Church, to the Niagara Escarpment Hearing Office (2010); a participant witness statement by Gracia Janes of the Conservancy; and a Niagara Escarpment Hearing Office recommendation re: the Corporation of St. Saviour, the Brock Memorial Church et al v. Niagara Escarpment Commission (2011).


1.30 Jet Boat/Dock court case and Niagara River Coalition, 2007-2012. Contains a report by the Town of Niagara-on-the-Lake on the Whirlpool Jet Boat License Agreement request for renewal; a presentation by the Conservancy to the Mayor and Town Councillors re: Whirlpool Jet Boats application for early renewal of Jet Boat licence; a submission to the Town Council by R.C. Johnston, Naval Architect; a presentation by the Conservancy to the Town re: the early lease renewal process; a bylaw to authorize a licence agreement between the corporation of the Town of Niagara-on-the-Lake and Niagara Gorge Jet Boating Ltd. and rescind by-law 3620-02; a presentation by the Niagara River Coalition at
a public meeting re: a new zoning by-law; general policies of the Town’s Official Plan re: public access to shoreline, building height restrictions, and residential density, with added notes by the Conservancy; a decision of the Court of Appeal of Ontario re: the case between the Niagara River Coalition and the Town of Niagara-on-the-Lake; and a report of the Town containing recommendations on the Melville Street Dock Licence Agreement, with added notes by the Conservancy.

1.31 Queenston/Licence at Public Dock and Liquor Licence, 2007-2014. Contains a response of the Conservancy to the recommendations of the Town’s CAO re: the renewal of the jet boat licence; legal documents concerning the application by Niagara Gorge Jetboating and the Niagara Belle for a liquor licence; and a brief by the Conservancy on the issue of a liquor licence for Niagara Gorge Jetboating.

1.32 Photographs, Jet Boat Tours, May 27, 2009. Contains 8 colour photographs of the Jet Boat Tour boats and facilities.

1.33 Flash Drive, Jet Boat, 2011-2016. Contains a “Jet Boat” folder containing assorted files, including comments on the draft licence for Mellville docks; Conservancy submissions; a letter to the NEC re: jetboat application; jetboat 10 year lease; museum re: Niagara Belle 2; Niagara Escarpment Commission v. D.G. Bawtinheimer; Niagara Gorge liquor licence application; Conservancy final comments on appeal of liquor licence case; and Queenston participant statement re: dock.


1.34 Minutes, 1995-1996. Contains minutes of the Executive and General Membership.

1.35 Correspondence, 1995-1996. Contains correspondence sent and received by Serve Our Sick. Also includes an information package sent out by S.O.S containing a Niagara-on-the-Lake Hospital Visioning exercise, a report by the Ontario Hospital Association on restructuring, and a copy of the 1993-1994 auditor’s report.


**Sub-series C: Official Plan, 1993-1998**

1.39 Amendment 45 to the Official Plan for the Town of Niagara-on-the-Lake, n.d. Also contains a related map and aerial photograph.


1.42 Correspondence re: Conservancy/OMB Hearing on Official Plan, 1998. Contains correspondence sent and received by the Conservancy.

**Sub-series D: Other Activities, 1988-2003, n.d.**

1.43 Parking, 1988-1993. Contains a report by Bruce Krushelnicki entitled *Agencies, Boards, and Commissions in Niagara: their relationship with the Regional Council*; review of the “accountability and representation” portion of the Niagara Review Commission Report; parking revenues and expenditures for 1988; a brief report to the Niagara-on-the-Lake Traffic Committee by Edgar Lemon; and a draft and final report of the Parking and Property Redevelopment Study.


1.45 King’s Point Condominiums, 1993-1995. Contains correspondence re: King’s Point Condominiums; a review of comments for the public meeting re: King’s Point Condominiums; site plans for King’s Point condominiums; and a decision of the Ontario Municipal Board re: case between Canada Square Corporation and the Niagara-on-the-Lake Conservancy Society.

2.1 Ontario Municipal Board Hearings, 1995-2003. Contains decisions of the Ontario Municipal Hearings, including Canada Square Corporation and the Niagara-on-the-Lake Conservancy (re: King’s Point, 1995); an appeal to the Minister of Municipal Affairs by the Niagara-on-the-Lake Conservancy re: amendment no. 45 and proposed amendments no. 62 and 68 (1995); L. Kroeker and the Town of Niagara-on-the-Lake re: an application to sever part of a lot in an older area of
Niagara-on-the-Lake (1999); and a matter between the Town of Niagara-on-the-Lake, Niagara Gorge Jet Boats Inc., and Ontario Ltd., re: 3-storey townhouses and their compatibility with existing development (2003).

2.2 Regional Road no. 55 property, 1999. Contains correspondence and a proposal by the Niagara-on-the-Lake Conservancy for the use of the regional road #55 property owned by the residents of Niagara-on-the-Lake.

2.3 Library, 2001. Contains a decision of the Ontario Superior Court of Justice re: a dispute between the Niagara-on-the-Lake Conservancy and the Town of Niagara-on-the-Lake concerning which party will pay for costs of previous litigation; and a sketch of the exterior of the Courthouse, Library Reno, Library addition, and Market.

2.4 School of Restoration Arts, 2001, n.d. Contains minutes of the Board of Directors’ meetings; draft constitution; and a proposal for the creation of a School of Restoration Arts at the Willowbank Estate in Queenston.


2.5 News clippings, 1987-1988. Contains clippings about a proposed expansion of Harbour Inn; editorials about tourism and development in Niagara-on-the-Lake; traffic and parking problems; and the Town’s new Official Plan to guide growth.

2.6 News clippings, 1990-1999. Contains an article entitled Zoning for Historic Preservation by Edith Netter and Daniel Barry; clippings about a resolution for a local MPP, Christel Haeck, to be involved in local planning and development decisions in some areas of Niagara-on-the-Lake; David Crobie’s talk to Conservancy members and supporters; the King’s Point condominium and townhouse development; and the proposed relocation of the local library.

2.7 News clippings, 2000-2007. Contains clippings about parking problems in Niagara-on-the-Lake; and the proposed relocation of the local library.

2.8 News clippings, n.d. Contains clippings about a proposed McDonald’s restaurant in Niagara-on-the-Lake; the outcome of a case in which the Town of Niagara-on-the-Lake sued the Conservancy to cover their legal expenses; and advertisements for the Conservancy published in local newspapers.
Sub-series B: Newsletters, 1988-2005


2.10 Press releases, 1988, 1995. Contains press releases issued by the Niagara-on-the-Lake Conservancy. Also includes a speech by Professor Doxey, and a brief biography of David Crombie.


2.11 Garden Tour, 1990. Contains brochures, news clippings, correspondence, a summary of the gardens in the tour, and a photograph.


2.15 Garden Tour, 1994. Contains meeting minutes, correspondence, a summary of the gardens in the tour, and news clippings.

2.16 Garden Tour, 1995. Contains meeting minutes, correspondence, brochures, and a summary of the gardens in the tour.

2.17 Garden Tour, 1996. Contains meeting minutes, brochures, a summary of the gardens in the tour, news clippings, and correspondence.

2.18 Garden Tour, 1997. Contains meeting minutes, brochures, and a summary of the gardens in the tour.

2.19 Garden Tour, 1998. Contains meeting minutes, brochures, a summary of the gardens in the tour, and photographs.

2.20 Garden Tour, 1999. Contains meeting minutes, brochures, a summary of the gardens in the tour, financial statement, and photographs.
2.21 Garden Tour, 2000. Contains meeting minutes, news clippings, brochures, a summary of the gardens in the tour, and photographs.

2.22 Garden Tour, 2001. Contains meeting minutes, brochures, a summary of the gardens in the tour, correspondence, a list of expenses, and photographs.

2.23 Garden Tour, 2002. Contains meeting minutes, brochures, and a summary of the gardens in the tour.


2.26 Garden Tour Maps, n.d. Contains maps of Niagara-on-the-Lake that were used to identify the locations of gardens included in the tour.

2.27 Garden Tour photographs, 1989, n.d.


Sub-series A: Conservancy Briefs, 2005-2016

2.28 Briefs, 2009-2016. Contains a brief re: Niagara 2031 Growth Management Plan; comments to Council regarding the designation of Laura Secord Memorial School as a heritage building; comments re: the 2010 capital budget amendments; comments re: application for re-zoning at 255 King Street for 4th room and country inn status; comments re: the proposed closure of Parliament Oaks School; an appeal to review the application for a liquor licence for Niagara Gorge Jet Boating Ltd.; comments re: an application to change the zoning to permit a 4 room country inn at 28 Prideaux St.; comments on the Mary St. proposed official plan & zoning amendments; comments re: the dock area final design concept; comments on the Ontario Culture Review; and comments on the Niagara-on-the-Lake Draft Official Plan.

1.29 Flash Drive, Briefs, 2010-2016. Includes a “Briefs” folder containing assorted files, including 117 Regent St. application for re-zoning; 255 King St. application for Inn status comments; Mary St. proposed development; Niagara-on-the-Lake waterfront streetscape; and a tree bylaw presentation.
2.29 Country Inns Bylaw, 2005-2012. Contains comments re: an application to rezone the lands at 230 Davy Street to allow 4 guestrooms in a Bed and Breakfast establishment; and a response to a rezoning application for 255 King Street for a 4 room inn.

2.30 Comprehensive Zoning Bylaw, 2009. Contains comments on the bylaw presented by Gracia Janes at a public meeting.

2.31 Port Dalhousie Tower, 2009. Contains a presentation in opposition to the Port Dalhousie Vitalization Corp plan to redevelop land in the heritage district of Port Dalhousie; and correspondence and a brief by John Bacher entitled Need for Ministerial Zoning Order to Protect Heritage Districts.

2.32 Project Niagara, 2009. Contains correspondence about the proposed concert venue to be located on Parks Canada land, known as Project Niagara.

2.33 Protecting Heritage: Provincial Growth Management Plan, 2009-2011. Contains correspondence, reports, and presentations about the provincial growth management plan redirecting growth to appropriate designated areas, and Niagara-on-the-Lake Town amendment bylaw 43, proposed growth plan compliance policies.

2.34 Queen-Picton Hotel, 2009. Contains a brief re: an Ontario Heritage Permit application and compatibility with the Queen-Picton Heritage Conservation District.


2.38 Presentation to the Ontario Municipal Board re: an amendment to rezone a residential property to commercial, 2011.

2.39 Small Scale Tourist Accommodation, 2012. Contains a response by the Conservancy to the Small Scale Tourist Accommodation Review Committee report, and a report by the Town of Niagara-on-the-Lake on cottage rentals.

2.40 Queen and Picton Streets: Heritage Conservation District Area, 1996-1997, n.d. Contains brochures on the proposed expanded Queen and Picton Streets; maps of the Heritage District expansion study area; questionnaire results and analysis of the proposed heritage conservation district expansion; and a Heritage Conservation District Plan for Queen & Picton Streets by Nicholas Hill, Architect & Planner.

2.41 Planning and Development Resources, 1994, n.d. Contains a working paper for review by the steering committee of the Niagara-on-the-Lake Conservancy; schedule A of the Ontario Planning and Development Act (1994); and a draft implementation guideline for the conservation of cultural heritage resources within the reformed land use planning process by the Ministry of Culture, Tourism and Recreation.

2.42 Other resources, n.d. Contains brochures for the Niagara Foundation House Tour; a brief report re: a constructed wetland to treat Shaw Theatre waste water; and a tourists’ guide to Niagara-on-the-Lake.

Related material