

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

New Book on Port Hope Houses Available September 30th.

Port Hope, Ontario — September 17, 2007 — The Port Hope Branch of the Architectural Conservancy of Ontario (ACO) will have its new book, *From Georgian to Vernacular*, available for sale at its annual Port Hope House Tour on September 29th. The book, which pictures and describes over 133 houses in the *town* of Port Hope, will be on sale at 233 Walton Street, one of the stops on the House Tour.

Not to be confused with the previous book, *Symbols of Our Past*, an inventory of buildings of historic or architectural significance in Hope Township, which was published by the ACO in 2006, this new, much larger, book concentrates on homes located in the town proper.

The research for the book was originally commissioned by the Port Hope ACO in 1982 but never published. At that time, with a grant from the *Summer Canada Student Employment Program*, students were dispatched around Port Hope to photograph and record the details of houses that met pre-established historical or architectural criteria. Unfortunately the material was mislaid, but in 2005 the text and photos were re-discovered and since then ACO members Gerald and Joan Tooke have spent many hours scanning the photographs and lightly editing the text to turn the research into a reference book.

Says Gerald Tooke, “The book is a wonderful resource for anyone interested in our local architectural legacy. It’s all the more interesting to see how many of these houses have evolved since the research was done in 1982. This book will make a good companion to the previous book on the township.”

The new book, printed in a limited edition of 500 copies, will also be available for \$30 at Furby House Books on Walton Street. There are still a few copies of the previous volume available there as well.

The Port Hope ACO is an organization committed to the maintenance and preservation of the historic sites and architecture in Port Hope. Towards this, the ACO organizes fundraising events in the area throughout the year, including the annual Antique Appraisal Day, the Antiques & Artifacts Auction and Tag Sale, the Bi-Annual Port Hope Garden Tour, and the Annual Port Hope House Tour. This year's House Tour, to be held September 29th, will feature nine houses and a church. Tickets are available, at \$25 ea., in Port Hope at: Acanthus Interiors, Antiques on Queen, Furby House Books, Lampworks/Monograms, and Days Gone Buy in Cobourg.

Monies collected by the Port Hope ACO go towards grants and projects for the restoration of heritage designated buildings in the area and to a restoration arts scholarship fund.

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Photo Caption: Gerald Tooke, book designer, presents Barbara Stephenson, Chief Librarian, Port Hope Library, with a copy of the Port Hope Architectural Conservancy's new book, *From Georgian to Vernacular*.

Not for publication:

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