

Peter Neary
93 Regent St.
London, Ontario N6A 2G3

Landfall Trust re my time as writer-in-residence at Kent Cottage, Brigus

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My residency at Kent Cottage was both delightful and productive. I was very pleased that so many attended my lecture at the Brigus Public Library on a rainy Monday evening in September. A high level of interest in the art history of Newfoundland and Labrador was well evident on that occasion. Answering questions and hearing so many informed comments renewed my interest in the topic. My main literary business at Kent Cottage was to refine my edition of the 1930s relief camp letters of the Toronto artist Alan Collier, who first visited Brigus in 1963. I welcomed the opportunity to reflect on this work in progress and I have now added the following words to my preface: "I am most grateful to the Landfall Trust for a residency at the lovely Kent Cottage, Brigus, Newfoundland. This sojourn enabled me to advance my work while remembering the creative link between the protean American artist Rockwell Kent, who fashioned the cottage in its present form, and Alan Caswell Collier. The living tradition of a celebrated Newfoundland structure is art for art. Long may it be so."

While at Kent Cottage, Hilary and I welcomed a number of visitors, whose work I find an inspiration and with whom I am privileged to collaborate. Melvin Baker and I were able to chat about our joint projects in the field of Newfoundland and Labrador history. Jo Shawyer and I discussed the many contrasts between moving from Newfoundland to Ontario (Peter) and moving from Ontario to Newfoundland (Jo). On a sunny afternoon, Patricia Grattan and I had a memorable *tour d'horizon* of the inviting possibilities we see in Newfoundland and Labrador art history. In St. John's, on the last day of our visit to Newfoundland, we ranged over many topics of mutual interest with Caroline Stone, who is always generous with her research findings and encouraging of the plans and ideas of others.

And then there was the walking over the hills and the berry picking. Kent Cottage is a magical place, and the memory of it stays with us. The tea cozy Hilary made and left behind for future artists- and writers-in-residence to use and enjoy is a memento of a sojourn we will long savour. Many thanks to Tony, Milly, Andy, Marcia, Ray, Kevin, Raelene, Wayne, Tom, Donna, and everyone else who helped us make our way over those hills to the greensward beyond and so into Newfoundland *profonde*.