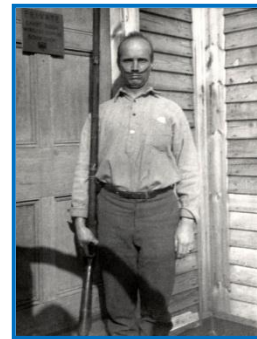


The Landfall Trust Newsletter January 2012

2011 was a landmark year for Kent Cottage at Landfall, more so than any other since we started in 2005! Landfall's history came to life through a series of visitors with distinct and historic connections. But first, an historical review

In the 20th Century, Landfall had three significant occupants:

1914-15 – Rockwell Kent - the acclaimed American painter, author, illustrator, adventurer and social activist who occupied Kent Cottage until the government of the day suggested he leave for his own safety! Kent had aroused the suspicion and hostility of the townspeople with acts of sympathy towards Germany – not a popular activity in Brigus at the start of World War I! Kent thrived on controversy!



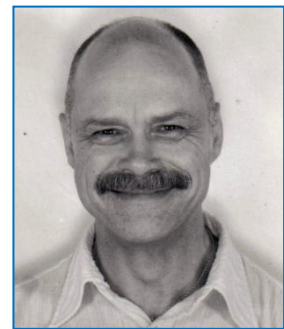
Rockwell Kent at
Landfall. circa 1914.



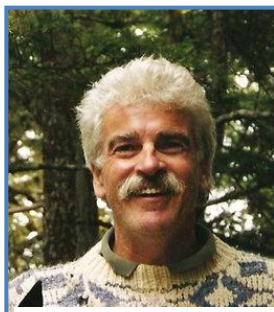
A.E. Harris taken in
Maidstone, Kent

1929-34 – Albert E. Harris, formerly of Oxford, UK, who had purchased Landfall on his retirement as General Manger of the paper mills in Central Newfoundland. He is said to have named the house Kent Cottage in recognition of the County Kent where he had made his UK home. Harris was a prolific amateur artist and much of his work remains today in many St. John's and central Newfoundland galleries and homes. He was also an avid gardener and did much to preserve the cottage and save it from ruin.

1953-2004 – Bradley Jacob (Jake) Folensbee – teacher, writer, musician, philosopher and amateur artist of Seattle, Washington acquired the property returning for about six weeks every summer for over 50 years. He invested substantially in maintenance and preservation of the many rock walls on the property. It was his wish that Landfall be entrusted to “a not-for-profit organization committed to preserve the land and historic buildings, protect the natural environment, and conserve the cultural heritage of the property, for the benefit of Newfoundland and the local community.” It is thanks to Bob and Norman Frampton of Juneau, Alaska and Everett, WA, executors of Jake's Estate, which the Landfall Trust was launched in 2005 and continues to pursue the perpetuation of Jake's vision. Hence the Landfall Trust. So, to continue.....



Bradley J. (Jake) Folensbee



Bob Frampton, Landfall
Vice President

In May, Bob Frampton arrived in what has become an annual pilgrimage for our AGM. As a representative of Jake's Estate, he serves on our Board of Directors as Vice President of Facilities. Through his career as a ship's engineer and captain, Bob is blessed with a broad range of technical and practical skills and, when not engaged in Landfall governance matters, he can be found with his tool box attending to many of the annual tasks necessary in opening Landfall for the season, and administering the Trust's social media sites. The Estate has provided generous financial support to upgrade Landfall to acceptable standards for habitation as well as providing operational grants.

Frederick Lewis, Associate Professor in the School of Media Arts at Ohio University arrived in early June to rekindle the Kent connection. This was one stop on his 10 year global pursuit of the trail of Rockwell Kent which has taken him from Ohio to Alaska, Russia, Greenland, Argentina, Denmark, Ireland and around Cape Horn! He has already produced a three-hour documentary on Kent which has been described as “a sweeping, detailed visually rich portrait of a man” (see www.dundeeroad.com). Frederick spent almost three weeks at Landfall researching material for his biography of Rockwell Kent to be published next year and is already engaged as a key participant in activities in 2014 to commemorate Kent’s arrival at Landfall.



Frederick Lewis - Following the trail of Rockwell Kent



Richard Harris, nephew of A.E. Harris, and Sharon Harris unveil interpretive panel



L-R - Sue Crichton, Sharon Harris, Richard Harris, Milly Brown and Audrey Harris exchange Landfall historical linkages

Richard Harris, nephew of A.E. Harris, his wife **Audrey** and daughter **Sharon** arrived in August. In an extraordinary coincidence, Tony Dearness, our Vice President Finance was delving into the history of the Harris connection

with Landfall. This led him to the Harrises of today in the UK. He made contact and he and his wife Milly, also a Landfall board director, arranged to meet with them on a UK trip in May. Most amazing was the fact that today’s Harrises had very little recollection of A. E. Harris. The fact that he was unmarried and had spent many years in Newfoundland meant that he had minimal connection with his UK extended family and they were unaware of his artistic endeavors here. The outcome was that a Harris expedition to Newfoundland was launched during which they participated in the unveiling of interpretive signage at Landfall and visits to several venues and homes around Brigus, St. John’s and Central Newfoundland to view the vast amount of A.E. Harris work on display.....



Veselina Tomova, 2011 Rooms Artist-in-Residence

Now, the linkages are complete! The next challenge is to connect the linkages so that Kent, Harris and Folensbee are all in evidence at Landfall at the same time – 2014!

Artist-in-Residence

Frederick Lewis departed on June 24 and was followed by **Veselina Tomova** for this year’s annual 3-week residency in partnership with The Rooms Provincial Art Gallery and sponsored by the Canada Council for the Arts. Born in Sofia, Bulgaria, Veselina graduated from the Academy of Graphic Art and Book Design in Leipzig, Germany. She now lives in St. John's and is a co-owner of [Vis-à-Vis Graphics](http://www.vis-a-visgraphics.com). Veselina is the recipient of the Visual Artists Newfoundland and Labrador 2011 [Large Year Award](#). Her working activity includes her graphic design business, drawing, painting,

printmaking, pottery and illustrating children's books. During her residency, Veselina held a very successful workshop for adults at Landfall and another for the young people in the Brigus summer recreational program. At the end of her residency, she hosted the Landfall board to a most enjoyable social evening at Landfall and told us how, when 10 years old, she had received a Kent-illustrated copy of *Moby Dick*, translated into Bulgarian. It had a major impact upon her, and she felt like she had come full circle when she served her residency in Brigus – talk about linkages!

Writer-in-Residence



Jenn Farrell - 2011 Landfall
Writer-in-Residence

Jenn Farrell of Vancouver was the Landfall Trust sponsored Writer-in-Residence from September 17-30. Jenn is the author of two collections of short fiction: “The Devil You Know” and “Sugar Bush & Other Stories” (both Anvil Press). She is a two-time winner of the Vancouver Courier Fiction Contest, and the recipient of the 2002 Maclean-Hunter Endowment Prize for non-fiction. Currently a board member of the Magazine Association of British Columbia, Jenn was also a managing editor of subTerrain magazine, and a contributor to CBC Radio. Raised in southern Ontario, Jenn now lives in Vancouver, where she works as a freelance writer, editor, and creative writing teacher at Langara College. She is currently working on her third book, for

which it is hoped that Landfall has provided inspiration!

The Appeal of Kent Cottage at Landfall

Interest in Landfall’s cultural and public activities continued in 2011. An Open House at the season’s beginning on May 22nd, the interpretive signage unveiling in August followed by tea at the Cottage, and another Open House in recognition of **Culture Days 2011** on October 2nd drew a broad range of visitors – both new and returning, both area residents and those from St. John’s and farther afield. Whether simply drawn by the mystique, charm and solitude to be experienced here, or to follow in the paths of Kent, Harris and Folensbee, Landfall seems to have something for everyone. Culture Days enabled us to reflect on a highly successful and eventful 2011 season, and we did achieve our goal of getting excellent national profile on <http://www.culturedays.ca/en/2011-activities/> and www.historicplaces.ca



Hosting Culture Days 2011. L-R Sue Crichton, Elizabeth Bourgeois, Tony Dearness, Andrew Crichton, Ron Burke, Pat Burke, Milly Brown (Dennis Flynn Photo)

Conservation Planning

Progress in conservation planning made a major step forward in 2011 with the completion of “as built” drawings by architect Philip Pratt and an Historic Structure Report and Conservation Proposal by historian Shane O’Dea. This important work will form the basis of our conservation planning and implementation activity over the next few years. Both Shane and Philip are members of the Landfall Trust Advisory Committee and we thank them for their most valuable contributions.