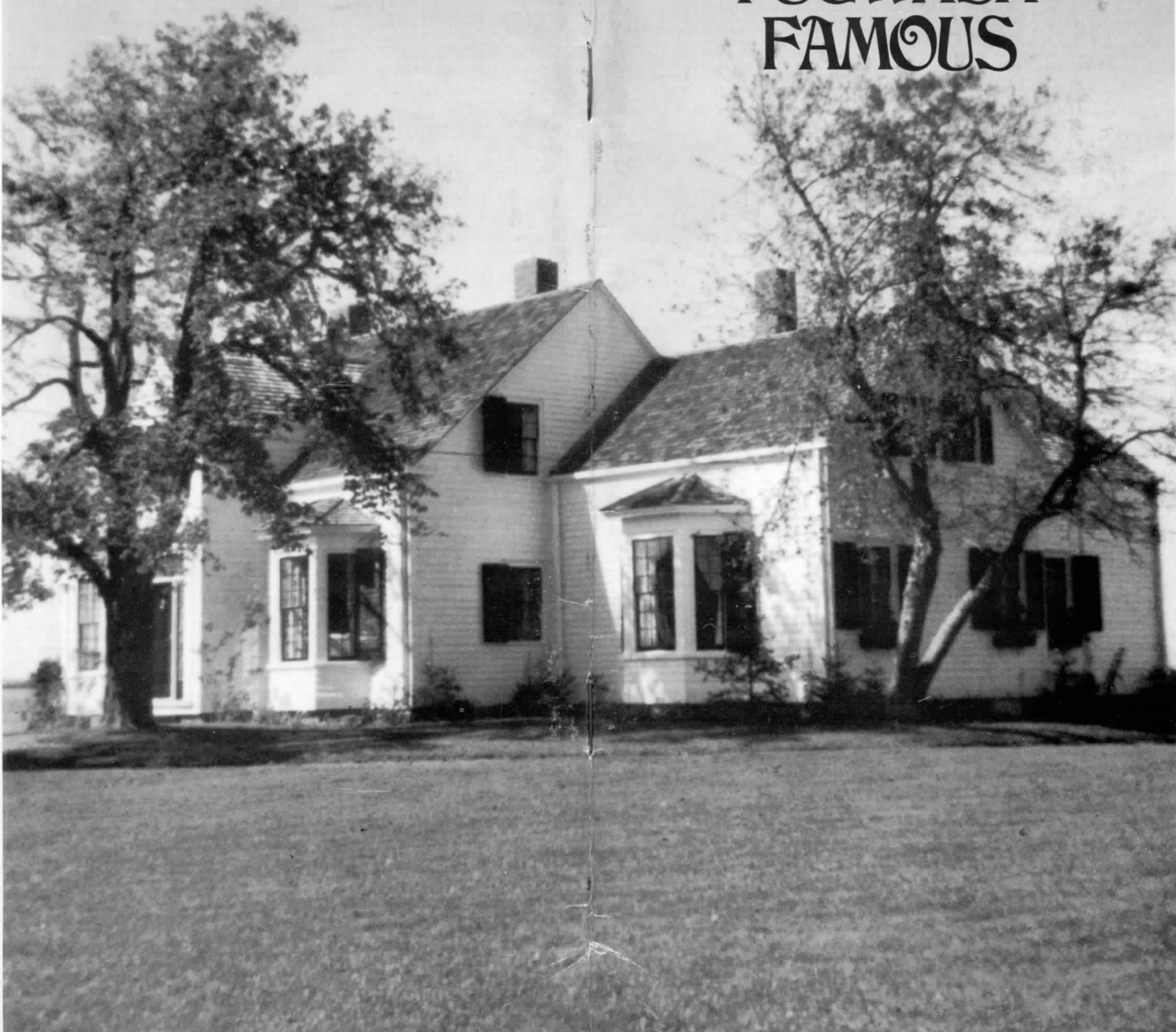


THE HOUSE  
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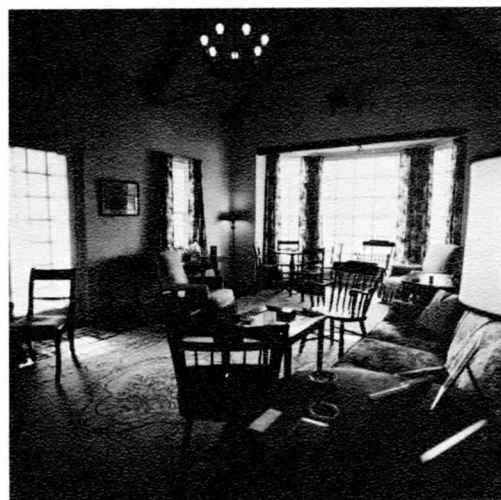




Flags of the fifty-three nations whose representatives have attended Pugwash Conferences fly below the Maple Leaf and the Union Jack from a pole made from a smelt picket that was fished out of the river.

## The House That Made Pugwash Famous

The unlikely Indian name of a Nova Scotia lobstering village is known world-wide as the birthplace of the Pugwash Conferences. Since 1957, fifty-three nations have sent distinguished scientists to twenty-one Pugwash Conferences held in an atlas-full of countries. "Pugwash" has become a proper noun in a variety of languages, often with excruciating difficulty in pronunciation. It is particularly odd in the Russian genitive but the Soviets try. "Pugwash" has become a synonym for the thinking man's peace. Appropriately enough, it meant "deep water" in the original Micmac.



The Living Room bay looks out on the Northumberland Strait. On the open Hepplewhite card tables and elsewhere, pictures of prominent literary, scientific and political figures and gifts from guests, each one identified. To the right of the door, a rare mahogany stand with a locked compartment for tea, once a very valuable commodity. To the left, a Regency slip-seat chair, one of a set.



Mrs. Cyrus Eaton, a relative of Sir Charles Tupper, in the large Living Room. The black armchairs with college crests are some of those presented by American colleges whose Presidents and Deans convened at Pugwash. In the bay: a round Regency tilt-top table and four rush-seat fruitwood chairs. Queen Victoria is over the mantel.

Since 1954, other international meetings at Pugwash of scholars and educators concerned with more esoteric subjects than the hazards of the nuclear age, have further publicized the town to the point that, as one resident said proudly, "People from just all over, from countries I-don't-know-where" come to town (population 800) and ask directions to "the Eaton place."

During the summers, after the local Gathering of the Clans Committee entertains its visiting dignitaries there on Dominion Day, and when its isn't occupied by thinkers, the house that made Pugwash famous is open to the public.

It is called "the Eaton place" because Cyrus Eaton, the American industrialist, started the conferences. He is also responsible for the river-front Pugwash Park where the Clans Gather around a bandstand lettered with a Gaelic welcome, and for restoring the adjoining house, the home of his great-uncle, Levi Eaton, who built sailing ships.



Part of the hall gallery of Pugwash Conferences. More than fifty pictures, with identifying captions, of meetings at Pugwash and in various countries, were assembled by Miss Betty Royon. They line the walls and surround a world map on which lines radiate from Pugwash to every participating country. On the pine drop-leaf: gifts from foreign visitors, each identified.



Hall and Library. On the right wall over a Regency settee: Donald McKay, an Eaton ancestor, and two of his clipper ships, the Flying Cloud and the Great Republic. In the background: an unusual, small maple pedestal desk with green baize top and a steeple clock. At the rear: one of the three staircases.

In the 1920's, when Cyrus Eaton returned to his home town, he found it devastated by fire. The old river front warehouses and docks, left over from the town's golden age of ship building and lucrative sailing trade, had burned down. The charred remains were an eyesore that no one in town had the heart or the money to remove. Mr. Eaton had both; the skeletal reminders of the days when as many as thirty ships were docked at Pugwash became a wide, quarter mile long, green park, bandstand and all. At the end of it, on a gorgeous point overlooking the Northumberland Strait, Levi Eaton's 1830s house was restored as an inn to attract the tourist trade.

The well-known Halifax architect, Andrew R. Cobb, S.M., and his associate, Miss Gertrude A. Bent, were retained to restore and refurnish the house with appropriate antiques, a superlative collection of English and Nova Scotian furniture. A lobster factory on the grounds was converted into a large, attractive dining room with a restaurant size kitchen.



In the Sitting Room, Mrs. E. R. Webb of Toronto, before a portrait of her late uncle, Charles Eaton, Congressman from New Jersey, Chairman of the House Foreign Affairs Committee, one of the five Americans to sign the U. N. Charter in 1945, and a Pugwash native. The Sitting Room is full of Eaton family pictures. Another U.S. Congressman was William Robb Eaton, also born in Pugwash.



The Entrance Hall. The Lodge's three staircases have hooked treads. On the wall: the Bartlett prints of early Canada.

Until after the Second War, Pineo Lodge flourished and earned an enviable reputation for good food and tasteful accommodations in a remote, beautiful spot. Its guest book records the illustrious who dined or stayed there.

The credit for the house's continuing comfort, charm and uniqueness goes to three women. In the 1940's, one of Mr. Eaton's sisters, Mrs. E. R. Webb of Toronto, returned to Pugwash as a summer resident. From her charming house across the street she has directed the housekeeping as well as the kitchen. Miss Betty Royon, Mr. Eaton's long-time assistant, plans and manages the conferences, from travel arrangements to the reprinting of papers and transcripts of sessions, for as many as forty participants.

In what must be a record of coordinated short-and long-distance redecorating, Mrs. Eaton and Raymond Bourque, who is the major domo of the Eaton household and the Pugwash conferences, arrived from Cleveland in 1970 with eighteen cartons and two hanging



A bedroom with a maple-framed pier-glass and an especially fine bird's-eye maple "bonnet chest." On the black painted floor is the only set of braided rugs; the others are hooked. There are seven bedrooms and baths.



An upstairs, under-the-eaves bedroom with Franklin stove, spool beds and a small lift-top desk.

bags of drapes. (Locally made slip-covers and interior painting had been completed.) In four days, with "the best helpers anyone ever had," three Pugwash women, a few men and two boys, they redecorated the entire house. Neighbors dropped in with lobster sandwiches, hot biscuits, a portrait of Queen Victoria and approval.

The signatures of honor in the new red leather guest book are the helpers, neighbors, plumber, and the deliverer of firewood. (There is a fireplace or Franklin stove in each room.) Mrs. Eaton's inscription on the flyleaf above the signatures reads:

## A LABOR OF LOVE

May 26th

On this day we finished our ministrations to this house in an attempt to make it illustrative of its place in Nova Scotia history as well as its unique contribution through the Pugwash Conferences to world peace and the life of the mind.

Retain your hope, all ye  
who enter here!



Miss Royon and Raymond Bourque, the major domos of the conferences, who keep guests happy in any language. Mr. Bourque is a native Nova Scotian and a former M. P. from Yarmouth.



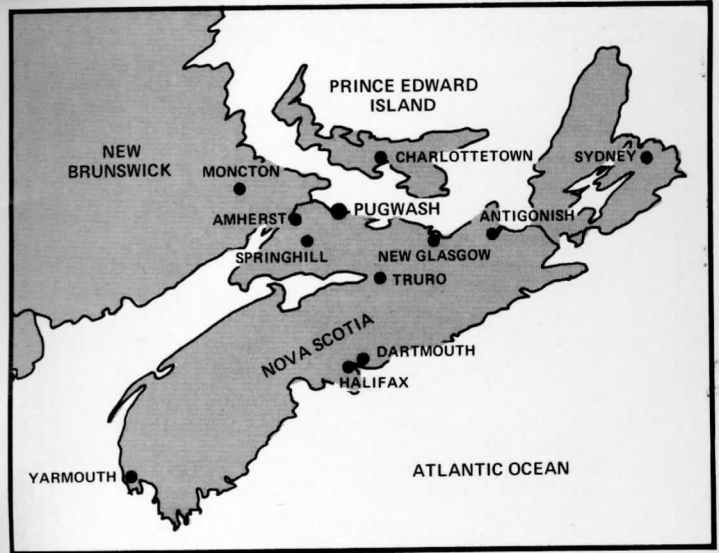
The Dining Room is a converted lobster factory. Halifax *Chronicle Herald* cartoons by Chambers on the Pugwash Conferences are on the walls. Fifty guests can be seated easily at the black painted antique tables for four or six. Miss Royon is in center, Mr. Bourque at the rear.



The bandstand in the park. The Gaelic says, "A hundred thousand welcomes." Pugwash street signs are in both Gaelic and English.



Mr. Eaton and Mrs. Webb in her Pugwash garden.



Photographs by  
BOB BROOKS, HALIFAX

