



## BEATON SHEPPARD

Born in a remote fishing outpost in Notre Dame Bay, Newfoundland, **Beaton Sheppard (B.Arch. 68)** attended school in Deer Lake and St. John's, and studied architecture at the Nova Scotia Technical College. After graduation Beaton worked in Vancouver and Sydney, Australia, traveled extensively in Asia, and returned to Newfoundland in 1972. In St. John's he worked with Horwood Guihan and Cullum before opening his practice in 1973.

In his practice Beaton has been a strong advocate for the preservation of the local architectural heritage and a key player in the development of the City of St. John's Heritage Conservation Area. He has also pursued the retention and re-use of traditional outpost structures that are being quickly lost through neglect and to the use of inappropriate materials and renovation.

He was responsible for the restoration of the historic Murray Premises, the last remaining group of the old mercantile buildings on the St. John's waterfront. These buildings were adapted for retail and commercial uses. The project was considered to be the best local example of historic restoration and received a National Heritage award. Beaton has also won numerous Southcott Heritage awards for a variety of projects including the Old Ryan Premises in the historic Town of Bonavista.

Beaton has designed numerous interpretation centres on the island and in Labrador. These centres, although contemporary in design, reflect the scale, form, and texture of traditional architecture. The list of centres includes the Beothuck

Interpretation Centre in Boyd's Cove, Labrador Interpretive Centre in Northwest River, and The Colony of Avalon in Ferryland.

Although heritage conservation has been a preoccupation for many years, to survive as an architect in private practice in Newfoundland requires that one be a generalist. In his early years of practice, Beaton received an award from the Canadian Housing Design Council for his work. His firm's housing design work also included a demonstration project in energy efficient housing in Vilnius, Lithuania. Other works, broad ranging and highly prominent, include office buildings, schools and sports facilities. The School for the Deaf in St. John's has been internationally recognized as an outstanding facility responsive to the educational needs of deaf children. A more recent project of significance was a new civic centre for the city of Corner Brook, which hosted the 1999 Canadian Winter Games. In 2000, **Jim Case (B.Arch. 80)** joined Beaton to form Sheppard Case Architects Inc.

Beaton has contributed both his time and talent to the Newfoundland Association of Architects. He has served as a member of council, as registrar, and as President. He is a Fellow of the Royal Architectural Institute of Canada.

At present, Beaton is developing a program for a new consolidated Mess and Accommodation Facility for DND at Stadacona in Halifax. In his spare time he is restoring a classic New England sloop designed by **John Alden**, the Frank Lloyd Wright of yacht designers. He can be contacted at <[info@sheppardcase.nf.ca](mailto:info@sheppardcase.nf.ca)>.



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