



PO Box 1749  
Halifax, Nova Scotia  
B3J 3A5 Canada

Item No. 3 (ii)


Halifax Regional Council  
Committee of the Whole

June 10, 2008

July 17, 2008

TO: Mayor Kelly and Members of Halifax Regional Council

SUBMITTED BY:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Tom Creighton, Chair, Heritage Advisory Committee

DATE: April 28, 2008

SUBJECT: Nova Scotia Fallen Peace Officers Monument

#### ORIGIN

- On August 1<sup>st</sup>, 2007 the Heritage Advisory Committee reviewed a staff report dated July 26<sup>th</sup>, 2007 and forwarded a positive recommendation to Regional Council approving 'in principle' the location of a monument to the Fallen Peace Officers in the Grand Parade.
- At the March 26, 2008 Heritage Advisory Committee meeting staff presented a report outlining the selected design and location of the monument to the Fallen Peace Officers.

#### RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that Regional Council refuse the proposed Grand Parade site for the monument to Fallen Peace Officers.

## **BACKGROUND**

On March 20, 2006, the Board of Police Commissioners received a report from the Chief of Police with a recommendation that Regional Council authorize HRP and HRM's Real Property and Asset Management to partner in identifying a suitable site for the Nova Scotia Fallen Peace Officers Memorial. This recommendation was ratified by Regional Council on March 28, 2006 with the inclusion of the RCMP being part of the process.

On September 18, 2007 Regional Council, supported by a positive recommendation from the Heritage Advisory Committee approved the following motion:

*"Approve, in principle, the Grand Parade as the location for a permanent memorial to commemorate Nova Scotia Fallen Peace Officers thereby enabling staff to work with the Nova Scotia Fallen Peace Officers Committee to initiate a design process for the memorial, for the Heritage Advisory and Regional Council's future consideration and approval."*

## **DISCUSSION**

At the March 26, 2008 meeting of the Heritage Advisory Committee, a staff report was submitted and a presentation made regarding the proposal to install a monument to Nova Scotia Fallen Peace Officers in the Grand Parade. There was a lengthy discussion by members of the Heritage Advisory Committee regarding the proposed monument to the Fallen Peace Officers. These comments can generally be classified under two headings: the design of the monument and the location of monument within the Grand Parade.

### **Design**

Comments regarding the design of the monument were generally supportive. The monument was said to be beautiful and that it would be an appropriate symbol to represent the Nova Scotia Fallen Peace Officers.

### **Siting/Location**

Committee members had concerns regarding the proposed location for the monument. Although they previously approved the location within Grand Parade in principal, some members had assumed its location would be on the perimeter rather than in the centre. Upon reflection some members indicated that the monument has more provincial interest and should be located on provincial lands such as Province House.

Other comments revolved around potential conflicts between public events and the monument. It was suggested that shrouding the monument or having a stage about the monument was disrespectful.

From a heritage point of view, some suggested it was difficult to find a rationale to support the introduction of this monument within the Grand Parade. It was generally believed that the proposed location for the monument would obstruct views of City Hall.

**BUDGET IMPLICATIONS**

None associated with this report. For further information see attached staff report dated February 27, 2008.

**FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT POLICIES / BUSINESS PLAN**

This report complies with the Municipality's Multi-Year Financial Strategy, the approved Operating, Capital and Reserve budgets, policies and procedures regarding withdrawals from the utilization of Capital and Operating reserves, as well as any relevant legislation.

**ALTERNATIVES**

None associated with this report.

**ATTACHMENTS**

Attachment 'A' - Staff Report dated February 27, 2008.

A copy of this report can be obtained online at <http://www.halifax.ca/council/agendasc/cagenda.html> then choose the appropriate meeting date, or by contacting the Office of the Municipal Clerk at 490-4210, or Fax 490-4208.

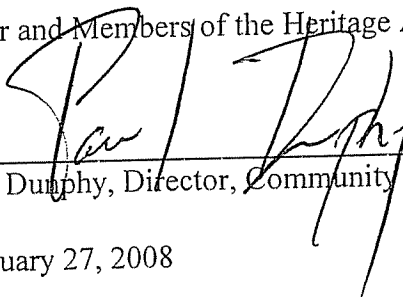
Report Prepared by: Julia Horncastle, Acting Municipal Clerk



PO Box 1749  
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Heritage Advisory Committee  
February 27, 2008

**TO:** Chair and Members of the Heritage Advisory Committee

**SUBMITTED BY:**   
Paul Murphy, Director, Community Development

**DATE:** February 27, 2008

**SUBJECT:** Nova Scotia Fallen Peace Officers Monument

**ORIGIN**

On September 7, 2007, Regional Council approved a recommendation from the Heritage Advisory Committee to 'approve in principle' the Grand Parade as the location for a permanent memorial to commemorate Nova Scotia Fallen Peace Officers, thereby enabling staff to work with the Nova Scotia Fallen Peace Officers Committee to initiate a design process for the memorial, for the Cultural Advisory Committee and Regional Council's future consideration and approval.

**RECOMMENDATION**

**It is recommended that:**

**The Heritage Advisory Committee approve the site in the Grand Parade for installation of the Nova Scotia Fallen Peace Officer's Memorial, as described in this report.**

**BACKGROUND**

Halifax Regional Police (HRP), RCMP and the NS Chiefs of Police Association have been working since 2005 towards the creation of a memorial to acknowledge Police and Peace Officers across Nova Scotia who have lost their lives in the line of duty. They approached the Halifax Regional Municipality (HRM), as apart of their search for an appropriate location.

On August 01, 2007 the HRM Heritage Advisory Committee (HAC) approved the Grand Parade as a location for this memorial. Regional Council agreed with the Heritage Advisory Committee's recommendation for the memorial's location and directed staff to commence the process.

A memorial design competition was commenced immediately with a Request for Proposal to potential artists and art institutions. Proposals were accepted until November 2, 2007. In total, seven proposals were received and evaluated by an evaluation committee comprised of 10 individuals, including Cultural Affairs staff, HRM's Streetscape Coordinator, Urban Designer, Heritage Planner, 2 visual artists, 3 members of the Nova Scotia Fallen Peace Officer Committee, Manager of Real Property Services and facilitated by an HRM Senior Procurement Officer.

Three proposals were selected by the Committee for further development. Each artist was provided approximately 1 month to complete a design and maquette (mock-up/models). On January 9<sup>th</sup>, 2008 the evaluation committee met to review the proposals and maquettes and to determine the competition winner.

**DISCUSSION**

In determining the preferred design, several criteria were considered and deliberated by the evaluation committee. Of key importance to the decision-making process was the Grand Parade/Province House/Birks Site Joint Public Lands Study. This Strategy speaks to the vision of a Grand Parade that primarily functions as a flexible civic space.

The committee indicated that the proposal submitted by NSCAD Collaborative Design Group would best complement the Grand Parade and honour fallen peace officers.

The proposed memorial is in the shape of an arch. It is intended to symbolize shared history, passage and transition. 'The arch form, with its martial history, acknowledges the particular heritage of the Grand Parade as a past location for military gatherings and displays. It also endures as a motif in the surrounding architecture, in framed incarnations on the facades and in the interiors of both City hall and St. Paul's Church. The addition of a freestanding arch to the square will seamlessly integrate into its design. ( Attachment A.)

With respect to the matter of the Grand Parade, staff modelled the Grand Parade to determine the monument's siting and found that there were measures available to minimize the impact upon events traditionally held in the space, specifically the Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony and New Year's Eve Celebration. The proposed monument will limit the south end of the Grand Parade for anything but a small stage set up and will affect some site lines for a portion of the audience at events. As well there will be times when the monument will be shrouded in order for events to occur and that this is acceptable to the Fallen Peace Officer Committee.

The Committee indicated that the proposal presents a unique opportunity to create a memorial that reflected the heritage of the site. The Grand Parade was originally used as a military gathering and marching area, and as a public space for citizens of the City of Halifax. It is the latter use which continues today. The siting of the Peace Officers Memorial in the Grand Parade is consistent with these historical uses.

The Grand Parade, Halifax has a unique military and police history. Soldiers from the Garrison in the 1700's used it to parade, as did police in the 1800-1900's. Halifax Police Department was located in City Hall at one point so policemen and the military actually co-existed on the parade square. (Attachment B and C ). At the present time, law enforcement personnel and the military still parade on this sacred ground on Remembrance Day.

### *Summary*

The proposed siting of the proposed Peace Officer's Memorial on the Grand Parade will fit into the design elements already in place and will compliment them, rather than compete with them. The modern treatment of the form will create a focal point on the square.

The design of the monument will strengthen the historical associations of the Grand Parade, and the architecture of the City Hall and St. Paul's Anglican Church. The integrity of this important historical site will not be impacted by the proposed Peace Officers Memorial Monument.

### **BUDGET IMPLICATIONS**

There are no budget implications with the approval of this recommendation as it only deals with the siting of the monument. The budget for this project will be detailed in a future report to Regional Council requesting the awarding of a contract as a result of the RFP Peace Officers Memorial Design process.

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**FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT POLICIES / BUSINESS PLAN**

This report complies with the Municipality's Multi-Year Financial Strategy, the approved Operating, Capital and Reserve budgets, policies and procedures regarding withdrawals from the utilization of Capital and Operating reserves, as well as any relevant legislation.

**ALTERNATIVES**

- 1) The Heritage Advisory Committee may refuse the proposed siting of this monument, but this is not recommended.

**ATTACHMENTS**

- A. Peace Officer's Memorial Sketch, HRM Staff
- B. Historic Photo of the City of Halifax Police Department on the Grand Parade, 1914
- C. Historic Photo of Military Gathering on the Grand Parade, 1885

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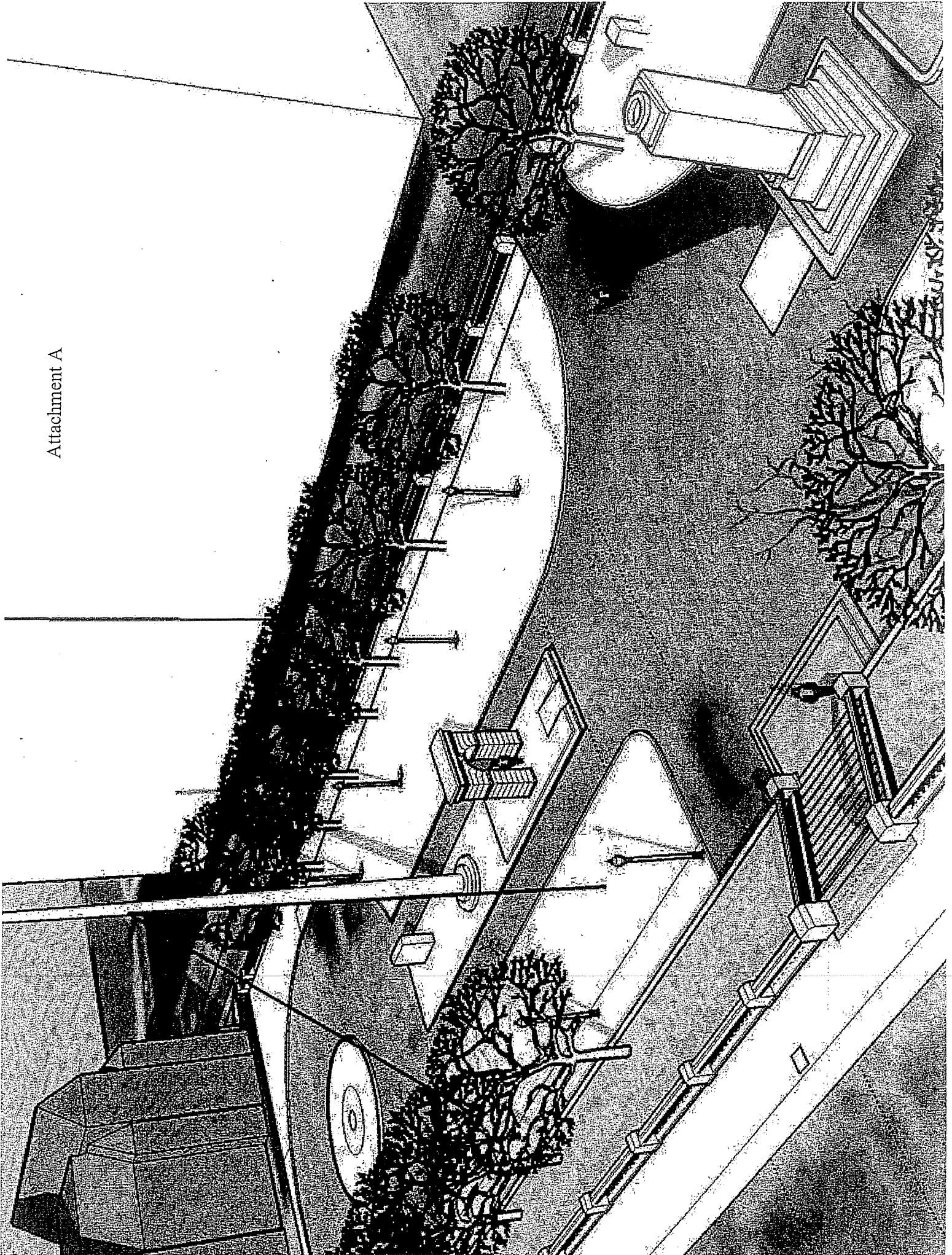
A copy of this report can be obtained online at <http://www.halifax.ca/commcoun/cc.html> then choose the appropriate Community Council and meeting date, or by contacting the Office of the Municipal Clerk at 490-4210, or Fax 490-4208.

Report Prepared by : Betty Ann Aaboe-Milligan 490-5113

*A. Whittemore*

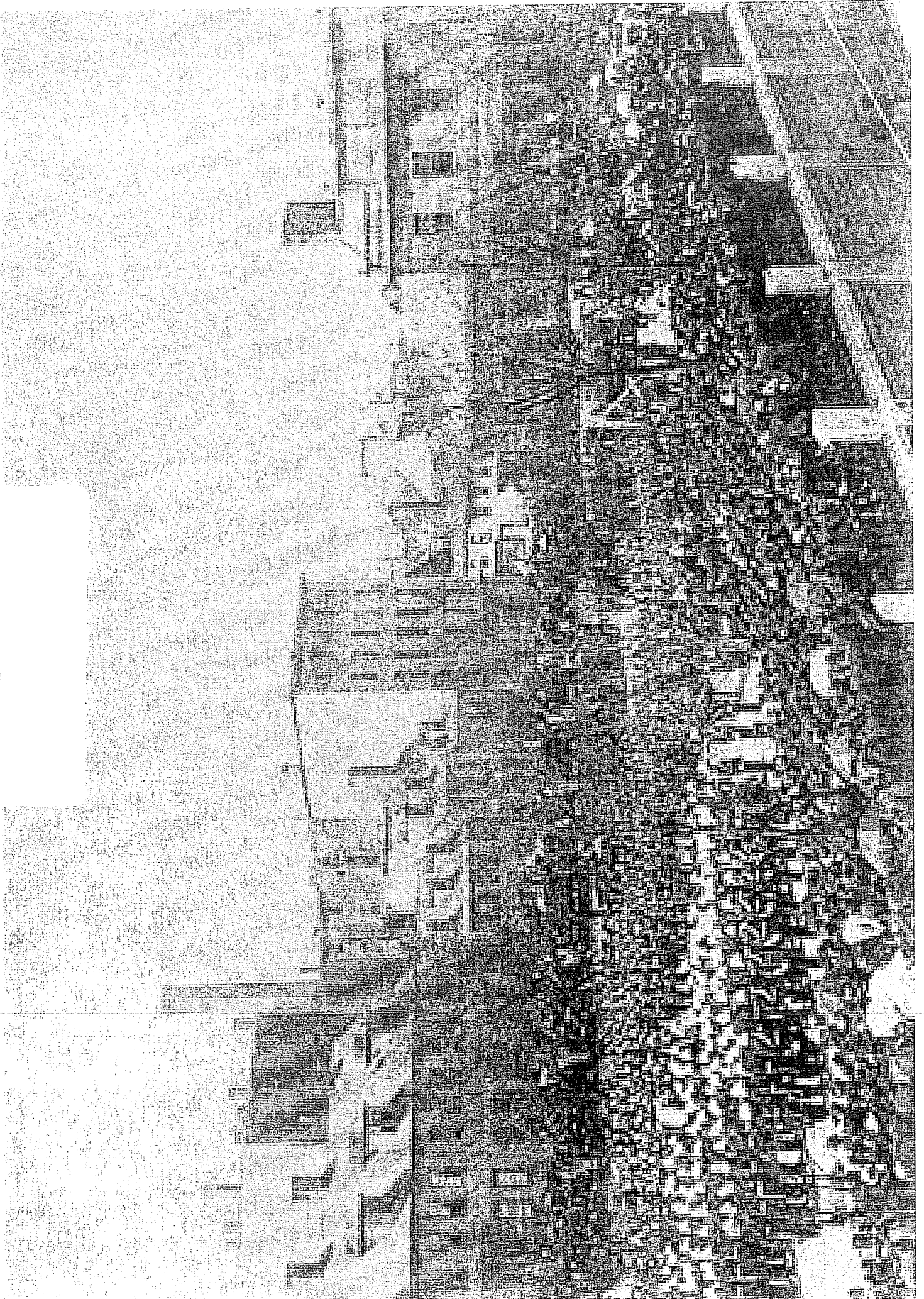
Report Approved by : \_\_\_\_\_  
Andrew Whittemore, A/Manager, Community Relations and Cultural Affairs 490-1585

Attachment A





Attachment B



Attachment C

