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The Society for the Study of Architecture in Canada has a tradition of holding our annual conferences not only in the country's major urban centres, but also in smaller communities of exceptional architectural interest. It was in the latter spirit that the Society's thirty-seventh annual conference convened in Lunenburg, Nova Scotia, May 26-29, 2010. The conference theme, *Traditions of Ingenuity*, acknowledged both the creativity that has enabled Lunenburg to evolve and grow over two hundred and fifty years, and the deep historical roots of this UNESCO World Heritage Site.

The papers included here were chosen with two objects in mind. First, we wished to represent the remarkable range and diversity of topic, theme, and methodology of papers presented at the conference. Second, as much as possible without undermining that diversity, we hoped to celebrate and honour the conference's unique and beautiful venue by featuring significant material from Atlantic Canada. Just as Lunenburg walks the line between tradition and ingenious innovation, we hope we have struck a representative balance between diversity and Maritime content. An important Society tradition is represented by the inclusion of Josée Laplace's essay, winner of the 2010 Martin-Eli-Weil Prize for best essay in architectural history, also presented in Lunenburg.

It was a great privilege to hold our conference in such a beautiful and appropriate setting, and we would like to thank everyone who contributed to making SSAC Lunenburg an outstanding success. Special thanks to Laureen van Lierop and Diane Laundry, whose exceptional organizational skills and efficiency made this the most wrinkle-free conference in memory. We are grateful to the Fisheries Museum of the Atlantic for being generous and welcoming hosts. The conference was made possible through generous support from the Canadian Forum for Public Research on Heritage, the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada, Dalhousie University, the Nova Scotia Association of Architects, and the Royal Architectural Institute of Canada. Finally, we would like to thank all of our speakers and session chairs, for it is they, above all, who ultimately determine the success of a conference.