

# Resurrection of the Cruickshank Mural

## Introduction

In early November, a major wind-storm blew down several of the panels of the Cruickshank Mural located on the South facing wall of Morrisburg Public School on Second Street. On careful examination by Municipal Staff it was determined that most of the panels (blown off and remaining) were sufficiently weather damaged that they all had to be removed for safety considerations.

This mural was created and installed about fifteen years ago (Artist: David Yeatman, Aylmer). *“This mural represents the 500th house moved during Seaway construction. Owned by Dr. Shannette it was moved from the bottom of Ottawa St. to 5 Fifth St. East. using the huge house mover operated by a Hartshorne employee, Bob Parks. The grader is a replica of the first piece of equipment purchased by the operator Les Cruickshank for Cruickshank Construction Ltd. The survey crew and flag men are represented by family members, Steve, Lynn & Laurie. “*

Go to [http://stlawrencepiks.com/murals/Index\\_files/mural06.htm](http://stlawrencepiks.com/murals/Index_files/mural06.htm) to see what it looked like. It consisted of 6 rows wide by 3 rows high of 8' x 4' panels (total 18 panels, 48' wide by 12' high).

The problem of resurrecting this Mural is the same problem currently being undertaken by the Riverside Community organization (Keith & Linda Robinson) for the **Churches of South Dundas Mural - Riverside Heights** (See [http://stlawrencepiks.com/murals/Index\\_files/mural15.htm](http://stlawrencepiks.com/murals/Index_files/mural15.htm)). This project is a work in progress with just the bottom row having been replaced – the remainder is proposed to be completed by Spring 2020.



We are proposing a similar approach to resurrect the Cruickshank Mural.

## Steps

The steps to do this are as follows:

- Locate high resolution photos of the Mural in better days before serious weather damage has occurred – *we believe we have several photos taken in 2010 that will fulfill this requirement.*
- Use Adobe Photoshop to extract an image for each 8'x4' panel
- Correct for camera angle lens distortion and scale to precise panel size
- Correct any peeling/stains using Photoshop
- Correct for fading with age and weather exposure using Photoshop
  - Colour hue & saturation
  - Brightness and contrast
  - Sharpen image
  - Match edges with adjacent panels
  - Match colours with adjacent panels
- Produce separate high-resolution images for each panel (96"x48" at 200 dpi) ready for printing
- Print for each panel on laminated weather-proof media (SportsFix – Bill Morrow is doing a great job for the Riverside mural)
- Attach to high grade weather proofed plywood base
- Install each panel in place to create the resurrected Mural

## Costs

The estimated costs are based on the experience to date on the Riverside Mural

- Image file creation for each panel – John Gleed estimates about one hour's graphic arts work per panel now that he has the experience and learning opportunity doing the Riverside Mural. 18 8'x4' panels @1 hour per panel = 18 hours. John Gleed will undertake this work at no cost on a volunteer basis.
- Printing each panel on laminated weather-proof media – based on Riverside Mural experience, SportsFix could undertake this work at an estimated cost of \$350 per 8'x4' panel. Total cost estimate: \$6,300.
- High grade weather proofed plywood base panels - based on Riverside Mural experience, \$50 per 8'x4' panel. Total cost estimate: \$900 – please refer to Keith Robinson for more details.
- Installation – Assuming Municipal Staff – no estimate provided.
- Total costs (not including installation): \$7,200.
- These costs are primarily based on the total area of the mural. Therefore, as an example, if a decision was made to replace a mural at only half its original dimensions (quarter of the area) these costs would be reduced substantially.

## Conclusion

**When can we get started?** Consideration should be given for some of the other ageing murals (including the ones already gone). John Gleed has suitable picture from 2010 for all of them.