

Preliminary assembly...

- Once all the tiles were made, Guild members built the mosaic in two stages, first using the leaves and then the wave pieces
- These builds were photographed, then divided into sections and moved into boxes for transportation to the bathhouse
- Given the circular nature of the space where the tiles were going to go, the land/water design “loosened” up and while still representing land and water, colour was used to move the eye around the circular layout with cooler colours on the water side and warmer colours on the land side



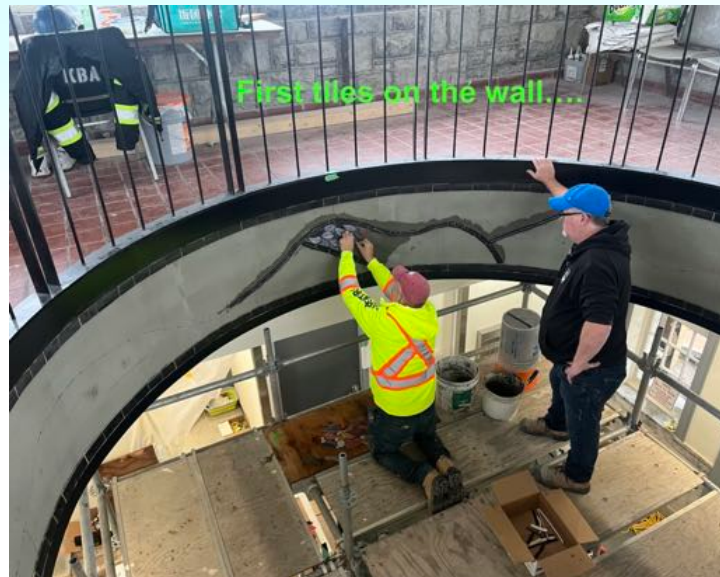
Photo credit: L. Fraser and M. McCollam

At the Bathhouse, finally...

- The installation process was started May 2, 2023 when mosaic group members gathered to lay out (again) the tiles for the mosaic on tables at the bathhouse
- The layout was recreated on long tables and then transferred in sections up to the scaffolding for installation
- Liability issues meant that guild members could not access the scaffold and the City hired professional tile installers to mount all the pieces and grout them under the supervision of the guild members
- Gary from Eastern Ontario Terrazzo & Tile arrived on May 3 and Pete joined in on May 4
- After applying a scratch coat to the area to be tiled, Gary installed all of the border tiles and then the backbone tiles
- We then handed sections of the mosaic, arranged on boards, corresponding to ~60 by 30 cm regions, up to the installers on the scaffold



Arranging the tiles again on tables at the Bathhouse
Photo credit: N. Martin



Gary starts to install coloured tiles
Photo credit: N. Martin



At the end of day 3 things were starting to move along
Photo credit: N. Martin

Mosaic is completed!

- On May 11, all of the tile installation and grouting was complete, everything was tidied up, and only pats on backs were left to do
- I have been asked several times how many tiles were used in this project - I have no idea! Lots!



Gary and Pete in front of the land (top) and water (bottom) sections of the mosaic
Photo credit: N. Martin



Dedication day

- The installation was collaboratively named “*Renewal*” by the participants in the project
- The City held a ribbon-cutting ceremony to reopen the Bathhouse and the beach area on June 10, 2023
- Ownership of the mosaic was officially turned over to the City of Kingston



Photo credit: T. Norris

Thanks go out to all the Guild members who put so much time and effort into this project. We're thankful for the donation of materials by Spectrum and for the meticulous efforts of Gary and Pete from Eastern Ontario Terrazzo & Tile. The Guild would also like to thank Taylor Norris for keeping the project going and acting as liaison between us and the City. It was very helpful to have someone who understood what we were trying to accomplish to interface with the City engineering staff.



Lots of smiles on dedication day!



The Kingston Potters' Guild

Renewal, 2023

Handmade ceramic tile

Guilde des potiers de Kingston

Renouvellement, 2023

Mosaïque de céramique fait à la main

About the Art

The handmade, site-specific mosaic displayed in the Richardson Beach Bathhouse was designed and created by members of the Kingston Potters' Guild. The project was led by Nancy Martin and supported by a core group of Guild members, including Ineke Quartel, Marga Vanderwal, Tania Green, Debrae Lewis, Jean Webber, June Lang, and Patty Petrovich, along with the participation of other Guild members and support of the Guild Executive.

The mosaic includes over one thousand tiles that were handmade, coloured, glazed and fired by the Guild, with the participation of residents through a variety of sessions held at the Tett Centre for Creativity and Learning. The tiles have been combined to represent the land and water, while the colour progression around the mosaic represents ongoing change. The mosaic was installed by Eastern Ontario Terrazzo & Tile Company Ltd. under the supervision of the Guild. Spectrum Glazes generously donated glazes used for the mosaic tiles.

Project Background

In March 1967, the newly formed Kingston Ceramists' Guild held their first public meeting at the Richardson Beach Bathhouse. Later that year, the Guild successfully applied to the City of Kingston to provide support for workshop and equipment and the basement of the Bathhouse was made available. From 1975 to 2010, the renamed Kingston Potters' Guild was relocated to the J.K. Tett Creativity Centre along with other arts groups. Following the City's decision to renovate the J.K. Tett Centre, the Guild moved temporarily to a space in the Harold Harvey Arena and returned to what became known as the Tett Centre for Creativity and Learning in 2016.

As part of the commemoration of the 50th anniversary of the Guild in 2017, a proposal was made to the City of Kingston for the Guild to design and create a mosaic to be installed in a public area. As the design of the mosaic progressed, the City initiated planning for a renovation of the Richardson Beach Bathhouse. It was decided a mosaic could be included as part of the Bathhouse renovation in recognition of its historical association with the Guild.

The Guild is grateful for the opportunity to commemorate its origins at the Richardson Beach Bathhouse. The mosaic installation continues a longstanding tradition of the donation of works by the Guild to the City in recognition of its ongoing relationship with the people of Kingston.

À propos de l'œuvre d'art

Cette mosaïque faite sur mesure à la main pour le pavillon de bain de la plage Richardson a été conçue et réalisée par les membres de la Guilde des potiers de Kingston. Nancy Martin a assuré la direction du projet pour lequel elle a bénéficié de l'aide d'un groupe central formé de membres de la guilde, soit Ineke Quartel, Marga Vanderwal, Tania Green, Debrae Lewis, Jean Webber, June Lang et Patty Petrovich, ainsi que de la participation de plusieurs autres membres de la guilde et du soutien de son conseil d'administration.

La mosaïque est composée de plus de mille fragments fabriqués à la main, colorés, glacés et cuits par des membres de la guilde auxquels se sont joints des résidentes et résidents à l'occasion des multiples séances organisées au Centre Tett pour la créativité et l'apprentissage. Les pièces ainsi façonnées ont été assemblées de manière à illustrer la terre et l'eau, alors que le changement graduel des couleurs de la mosaïque représente un changement sans fin. L'installation de la mosaïque a été confiée à Eastern Ontario Terrazzo & Tile Company Ltd. et s'est effectuée sous la supervision de la guilde. L'entreprise Spectrum Glazes a, pour sa part, offert généreusement la glaçure pour les fragments de la mosaïque.

Renseignements généraux à propos du projet

En mars 1967, la Kingston Ceramists' Guild (Guilde des céramistes de Kingston) nouvellement créée tient sa toute première réunion publique au pavillon de bain de la plage Richardson. Plus tard la même année, la guilde présente une demande à la Ville de Kingston pour que celle-ci l'aide à se trouver un espace de travail et du matériel. La Ville donne suite à la demande de la guilde en mettant le sous-sol du pavillon de bain à sa disposition. De 1975 à 2010, la guilde est rélocalisée au J.K. Tett Creativity Centre en compagnie d'autres groupes d'artistes, et c'est à cette époque qu'elle est renommée Guilde des potiers de Kingston. À la suite de la décision prise par la Ville de restaurer le J.K. Tett Centre, la guilde déménage temporairement dans un local de l'arena Harold Harvey puis, en 2016, se réinstalle dans l'édifice qui est désormais connu sous le nom de Centre Tett pour la créativité et l'apprentissage.

Dans le cadre de la célébration du 50^e anniversaire de la guilde en 2017, une proposition est transmise à la Ville de Kingston pour que la guilde conçoive et réalise une mosaïque qui serait installée dans un lieu public. Alors que la conception de la mosaïque avance comme prévu, la Ville amorce la planification des travaux de rénovation du pavillon de bain de la plage Richardson. Après quoi elle prend la décision d'inclure une mosaïque au plan de rénovation du pavillon de bain en reconnaissance du lien historique qui unit ce dernier à la guilde.

La guilde se réjouit de cette occasion unique de célébrer ses origines au pavillon de bain de la plage Richardson. L'installation de la mosaïque perpétue une longue tradition de dons d'œuvres de la guilde à la Ville et témoigne de la relation que la guilde entretient depuis toujours avec la population de Kingston.

This public artwork is part of the City of Kingston Civic Collection. Kingston and the surrounding areas are part of the traditional homeland of the Anishinaabe, Haudenosaunee and the Huron-Wendat, and we thank these nations for their care and stewardship over this shared land.

Cette œuvre d'art publique fait partie de la Collection de la Ville de Kingston. Kingston et les régions voisines sont établies sur le territoire ancestral des Anishinabés, des Haudenosaunées et des Hurons-Wendats, et la Ville tient à remercier ces nations d'avoir pris soin de ce territoire commun et d'en avoir assuré l'intendance.



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public
places

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