

# NEW SERIES: The Geology of the Parliament Buildings of Canada

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## NEW SERIES

# The Geology of the Parliament Buildings of Canada

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The capital city of Canada has one. The capital cities of each of the Canadian provinces have one. The capital cities of at least two of the three Canadian territories have one (we're not sure about Nunavut). And they all are built with geological materials and all have interesting stories to tell. They are the parliament and legislative buildings of the federal, provincial and territorial governments of Canada, and are the subject of a new series of papers for *Geoscience Canada*.

Because of the diversity of the building stones that have gone into most of the federal, provincial and territorial parliament and legislative buildings, they offer a great opportunity for geologists to inform other geologists, and the public, that geology is not just base metals, oil and gas, and earthquakes, but the source of building materials and many other every day items around us.

The purpose of the series is to summarize, in a series of papers, the geology of the parliament buildings of Canada. Topics for each paper will include: a brief history of the design and construction of the buildings; a summary of the building stones used and how they were used; how the building stones have weathered both the climate and the politics; and what, if any, restoration work has been required and/or carried out.

Ted Lawrence from Ottawa has written the first paper in the series, "Building Stones of Canada's Federal Parliament Buildings," immediately following in this issue of *Geoscience Canada*. Ed Freeman from Toronto has agreed to contribute a paper on the geology of the Ontario legislative buildings, and Danny Hora will contribute a paper on the legislative buildings of British Columbia.

We are on the lookout for others to contribute papers on their provincial or territorial parliament or legislative building.

### GUIDELINES FOR THE SERIES

Ideally papers for the series should be less than 10 printed pages in *Geoscience Canada*, including photos, figures, tables, and references. The first paper of the series is longer than we expect subsequent papers to be, but it is about one of Canada's most visually striking and historically prominent building complexes, the Canadian parliament buildings. Following is a suggested outline, but obviously it will need to be adapted for each province and territory.

### General Information

- Province or Territory
- Capital city
- Formal name of parliament building/ legislative building (if there is one)

- Architect(s); architectural style(s)
- Contractor(s)
- Date(s) of construction, addition(s), renovation(s)
- Cost at that time; estimated cost in 2000 dollars, or replacement costs

### Geology and Engineering (Applied) Geology

- Building stone(s) used
- Lithology(s) and sources, *i.e.*, where the stone was obtained
- Formation(s)
- Geological age(s)
- Location of quarry(s), especially if local sources used
- Map showing the location of quarry(s) if local, portion of geological map(s), geological section(s), detailed photos of rock(s), thin section(s) if appropriate, standard reference(s) to the geology of area(s) if sources were local
- Where on (in) the buildings are the building stone(s)?
- Why this (these) particular rock type(s) were chosen? (if known)
- Any known particularities about the quarrying methods or operations? (especially if local sources)
- Method(s) of transportation to the construction site, and any interesting particularities?
- Method(s) of construction, and any interesting particularities about the construction?
- Has there been any deterioration of the building stone(s) over the years?
- Have any special restoration methods been required or used for the building stone(s)? (such detail here as appropriate)

### Other Information

- Other comments, can include: interesting facts pertinent to the history, geology, engineering geology of the building stone(s) and/or the parliament buildings.
- Historical photographs or sketches of the quarrying, transportation and/or construction of the buildings.
- Photos of the parliament buildings and of the building stone(s) in place.
- References to published papers, guidebooks, *etc.* as appropriate.

If you have questions, or wish to contribute to the series as an author or co-author, please contact Roger Macqueen, Editor, *Geoscience Canada*, or Doug VanDine, Series Editor, at the address given above. We look forward to an interesting and informative series.