

Report of the Annual Meeting Rapports annuels de la Société historique du Canada

Report of the Annual Meeting

National Historic Parks and Sites, 1951-1952

National Parks and Historic Sites Service, National Parks Branch et
Department of Resources and Development

Volume 31, numéro 1, 1952

URI : <https://id.erudit.org/iderudit/300335ar>

DOI : <https://doi.org/10.7202/300335ar>

[Aller au sommaire du numéro](#)

Éditeur(s)

The Canadian Historical Association/La Société historique du Canada

ISSN

0317-0594 (imprimé)

1712-9095 (numérique)

[Découvrir la revue](#)

Citer ce document

National Parks and Historic Sites Service, National Parks Branch & Department of Resources and Development (1952). National Historic Parks and Sites, 1951-1952. *Report of the Annual Meeting / Rapports annuels de la Société historique du Canada*, 31(1), 71-78. <https://doi.org/10.7202/300335ar>

All rights reserved © The Canadian Historical Association/La Société historique du Canada, 1952

Ce document est protégé par la loi sur le droit d'auteur. L'utilisation des services d'Érudit (y compris la reproduction) est assujettie à sa politique d'utilisation que vous pouvez consulter en ligne.

<https://apropos.erudit.org/fr/usagers/politique-dutilisation/>

érudit

Cet article est diffusé et préservé par Érudit.

Érudit est un consortium interuniversitaire sans but lucratif composé de l'Université de Montréal, l'Université Laval et l'Université du Québec à Montréal. Il a pour mission la promotion et la valorisation de la recherche.

<https://www.erudit.org/fr/>

NATIONAL HISTORIC PARKS AND SITES, 1951-1952

BY THE NATIONAL PARKS AND HISTORIC SITES SERVICE, NATIONAL
PARKS BRANCH, DEPARTMENT OF RESOURCES
AND DEVELOPMENT

THE RESTORATION, preservation, and administration of national historic parks and sites and the commemoration of the public services of outstanding persons in Canadian history is carried out by the National Parks and Historic Sites Service. In this phase of its work the Service is advised by the Historic Sites and Monuments Board of Canada, an honorary body of recognized historians, representing the various provinces.

The personnel of the Board is as follows: Chairman, Professor Fred Landon, London, Ontario; Professor D. C. Harvey, Halifax, Nova Scotia; the Honourable E. Fabre-Surveyer, Montreal, Quebec; the Reverend Antoine d'Eschambault, Genthon, Manitoba; Professor M. H. Long, Edmonton, Alberta; Dr. Walter N. Sage, Vancouver, British Columbia; the Honourable Thane A. Campbell, Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island; Dr. Wm. Kaye Lamb, Dominion Archivist, Ottawa, Ontario; C. E. A. Jeffrey, St. John's, Newfoundland; Dr. Alfred G. Bailey, Fredericton, N. B.; Campbell Innes, Battleford, Saskatchewan; W. D. Cromarty, Ottawa, Ontario; and C. G. Childe, National Parks and Historic Sites Services, Ottawa, Ontario.

The annual meeting of the Board was held in Ottawa, May 30, 31, and June 1, 1951, when a wide variety of matters relating to the background of Canada were reviewed. Of the many sites that have been considered by the Board to date, 429 have been marked or acquired and 194 others recommended for attention at a later date.

NATIONAL HISTORIC PARKS

Fort Anne National Historic Park is situated in Annapolis Royal, Nova Scotia. The museum building, restored in 1935, was originally the Officers' Quarters and was built in 1797-8 under the supervision of Edward, Duke of Kent, the father of Queen Victoria, when he was commander-in-chief of the British Forces in North America with headquarters at Halifax, Nova Scotia.

The west side and south end of the museum building and some of the interior woodwork was painted as well as the chain fences, cannon, cannon balls, park benches, and wooden signs. Improvement work was carried out on the driveway and paths, and the grave-stones in the cemetery were repaired. The hedges and shrubbery were trimmed, all bronze tablets in the park were cleaned and a number of interesting exhibits were obtained for the museum.

A total of 18,730 persons signed the museum register during the year.

Port Royal National Historic Park is situated at Lower Granville, Nova Scotia. A replica of the group of buildings, which sheltered the first European settlers in Canada, has been erected on the exact site

where the Port Royal Habitation stood nearly three and a half centuries ago. The original Habitation was the headquarters for about two years of Samuel de Champlain, famous explorer and chief geographer to Henry IV of France. Champlain chose the location and drew up the plan of settlement.

Preserving oil was applied to the shingle roofs and to some of the buildings, a new small bridge was constructed at the entrance to the Habitation, and new steps were built in front of the Boulaye House. Repairs were made to the fence enclosing the property and to the platform on which the cannon is mounted. Gravel was spread within the palisade and at the entrance to the parking area, all iron-work in the buildings was cleaned and oiled, and the lawns were rolled and trimmed.

Visitors registered at the park during the year numbered 13,059.

Fort Beauséjour National Historic Park is situated near Sackville, New Brunswick. Built by the French, the fort was intended to be an Acadian stronghold against the undefined claims of the English to Acadia. Around the fort the Acadians had their homes and farms. It was captured by the British, under Monckton, in 1755, when the fort was strengthened and its defenses extended by a system of entrenchments, traces of which still remain.

The entrance road from the park gate to the museum was repaired and graded and the culverts cleaned. The bridge across the moat, the fence enclosing the property, and the cribwork near the main gate were repaired. The pump house and all exterior woodwork of the museum and custodian's quarters was painted, the heating system was overhauled, the furnace room was whitewashed, and the septic tank was drained and repaired. The bronze tablets at the park were cleaned and the grass along the paths and around the parking area was trimmed.

A total of 20,029 persons signed the visitors' book.

Fortress of Louisburg National Historic Park is situated about three miles from the town of Louisburg, Cape Breton Island, Nova Scotia. Here were enacted the early stages of the long struggle which culminated in the possession of Canada for the British Crown. Erected more than two centuries ago by the French, who had named the settlement in honour of Louis XIV, King of France, Louisbourg was captured by the British forces in 1745, but was subsequently handed back to the French. The fortress was again besieged by the English and finally captured by them in 1758. It is interesting to recall that one of the brigades of infantry engaged in the recapture of Louisburg was commanded by General Wolfe, who was later to die heroically at Quebec.

The area comprising the advance line of defence was cultivated and seeded and considerable grading and levelling was carried out around the remains of the fort. The hay on the outer section of the park was cut and the grass around the museum and residence was trimmed. Directional signs were erected in and around the park property, the furnace in the museum building was repaired and the sewer from this building was dug up and cleaned.

Visitors registered during the year numbered 17,751.

Fort Chambly National Historic Park is situated about twenty miles southeast of Montreal, on a conspicuous headland on the Richelieu River. The first fort, built by the French in 1665 as a protection against the Iroquois, was of wooden construction. After many vicissitudes, it was rebuilt of stone, this work being completed in 1711. In 1760 the fort was surrendered to the British, who, with a small armed force, held it until 1775. In that year the Americans captured the fort, which they evacuated in the following year. The fort was later repaired and garrisoned by Sir Guy Carleton and played an important part in the War of 1812.

Considerable repointing was carried out on the old walls of the fort, the roofs of the two storage sheds were repaired and the roof of the dungeon was given a coat of asphalt paint. Part of the Custodian's residence was insulated, a cement walk was constructed within the fort, and rain gutters and drains were installed on the building. The roofs of the pavilion and toilets were painted as well as the picnic tables, benches, fence, and some of the interior woodwork of the museum. A new furnace was installed in the museum building, additional exhibits were received, top soil was spread on the picnic grounds, and the paths were raked and trimmed.

During the year 69,863 persons signed the museum register.

Fort Lennox National Historic Park is located on Ile-aux-Noix in the Richelieu River, about thirteen miles south of St. Johns, Quebec. The present fort, which stands on the site of one previously erected by the French, was built by the Imperial authorities in the period from 1812 to 1827. The island, comprising an area of 150 acres, was acquired by the National Parks Service in 1921, and extensive works have since been carried out on the buildings and grounds.

Repairs were made to the floors of the Powder Magazine and Guard House and the old flooring of the Mens' Barracks was taken up to make way for the new flooring, which will be laid shortly. The stone stairs at the rear of the Mens' Barracks were repointed and repairs were made to the east dock and to the bridge over the moat at the south entrance. A new floor was laid in part of the custodian's quarters, the picnic tables were repaired and painted, the parade ground was levelled and rolled, the grass along the ramparts and in the cemeteries and picnic ground was trimmed and the bronze tablets on the island were cleaned.

Visitors registered at the park during the year numbered 7,837.

Fort Wellington National Historic Park is situated at the east end of the town of Prescott, Ontario, and adjacent to Highway No. 2. The fort, named after the Duke of Wellington, was erected when the British authorities decided to fortify Prescott as one of the most vulnerable points of attack in the War of 1812, and as the main base for the defence of communications between Kingston and Montreal. It remains as it was when finally completed in 1838, an impressive landmark.

The fort buildings were painted and repairs were made to the septic tank and to the entrance to the Caponniere. The interior of the original Officers' Quarters, which is now used as the custodian's residence, was repaired and redecorated, a new window was installed in the blockhouse, and additional exhibits were obtained for the museum. The grass on the front of the park property and on the lawn and

inner mounds was trimmed and the brush in the moat was cut and removed.

A total of 6,910 persons signed the museum register during the year.

Fort Malden National Historic Park is situated in Amherstburg, Ontario. The fort was built in 1797-9 by the Second Battalion, Royal Canadian Volunteers. It was strengthened in 1812 as the principal military station on the western frontier and dismantled and abandoned in September, 1813. Only slight evidences of the original fortifications remain.

The exterior and interior of the "Old Fort" building was painted and the driveway and paths at the park were levelled and given a covering of crushed stone. The grass on the lawns was cut, the trees and shrubs were trimmed, and additional exhibits of interest were obtained for the museum.

During the year 15,649 persons signed the museum register.

Fort Prince of Wales National Historic Park is situated at the mouth of Churchill River, Churchill, Manitoba, and comprises an area of approximately fifty acres. The fort was built from plans drawn by English military engineers to secure control of Hudson Bay for the Hudson's Bay Company and England. Construction was commenced in 1733 and completed in 1771. It was surrendered to, and partially destroyed by, a French naval force under La Perouse in 1782. Its ruins, which are among the most interesting military remains on this continent, have been partly restored and more than forty cannon have been unearthed. Those suitable have been mounted on the walls of the fort.

General supervision was carried out.

Lower Fort Garry National Historic Park is situated on the west bank of the Red River about twenty miles north of Winnipeg, Manitoba, and comprises an area of approximately 12.75 acres. It was built between 1831 and 1839 by the Hudson's Bay Company and although never besieged it played an important part in meeting the threat of war and rebellion. Indian Treaty No. 1 was signed there on August 3, 1871. It remained a place of considerable importance until about 1882 when the head of navigation for the Red River was removed from there to old Colville Landing on the opposite side of the river near Selkirk.

The buildings and grounds have been leased to the Motor Country Club until December 31, 1955.

Fort Battleford National Historic Park is situated in the Township of Battleford, four miles south of the City of North Battleford and comprises 36.7 acres. The buildings include the Superintendent's House, Inspector's Cottage, Guard Room, Hospital, Stable, and Barracks. The first three buildings formed part of the original Mounted Police Post established there in 1876 by Colonel James Walker and linked up with such posts as Macleod, Fort Walsh, Calgary, Edmonton, Carlton, and Swan River. Located in the territory of the Cree Indian, this old post had a stabilizing and encouraging effect in the settlement of the Prairie Provinces, and, during the Rebellion of 1885, many settlers sought shelter and protection there. It was also the place of execution of those who were sentenced to death for participation in the Frog Lake Massacre.

This property was transferred to the Department by the Provincial Government on July 1, 1951, and since then the roof of the building containing the Indian exhibits has been reshingled, and new poles to complete the stockade have been received, as well as fence posts and page wire, which will be erected in the near future. The floors in the Inspector's and Superintendent's houses were painted, a number of display cases were acquired, the fire arms and other exhibits on display were cleaned and catalogued, and a number of publications were purchased for reference purposes. A steel flag-pole has been delivered to the park for early erection and the grounds suitably maintained.

From July 1 to November 15, 1951, 6,788 persons signed the museum register.

NATIONAL HISTORIC SITES

Prince Edward Island becomes a Province of Canada, Charlottetown, P. E. I. A tablet was affixed to one of the pillars in front of the Provincial Building to commemorate Prince Edward Island becoming a Province of Canada. The Island was successively named Abegweit, Saint-Jean, and Prince Edward to denote Micmac, French, and English regimes. Discovered and settled by the French it finally became a British colony in 1763. English, Scottish, and Irish settlers joined the French inhabitants, to form a sturdy pioneer stock and to build primary industries of agriculture and fishing. Considering the original terms of Confederation unfavourable, Prince Edward Island did not join the Dominion until July 1, 1873. The Honourable William Cleaver Francis Robinson was the first Lieutenant-Governor, and the Honourable James C. Pope the first Premier.

James Colledge Pope, Lower Bedeque, P. E. I. A tablet affixed to an iron standard was erected at Howatt's shore to James Colledge Pope, merchant, shipbuilder, and statesman. He was Premier of Prince Edward Island three times and later Minister of Marine and Fisheries for Canada. The tablet was unveiled by the Honourable T. W. L. Prowse, Lieutenant-Governor of Prince Edward Island, on October 7, 1951.

Jacob Gould Schurman, Freetown, P. E. I. A cut-stone monument with tablet was erected near the Methodist Church to Jacob Gould Schurman, educationist, author, and ambassador. He was Professor at Acadia, Dalhousie, and Cornell Universities; President of Cornell University, 1892-1921; President of the first United States Philippine Commission; United States Minister to Greece, Montenegro, and China, and Ambassador to Germany. The monument was unveiled by the Honourable T. W. L. Prowse, Lieutenant-Governor of Prince Edward Island, on October 7, 1951.

First Transatlantic Radio, Glace Bay, N. S. A cut-stone monument with tablet was erected to mark the place from where Signor Marconi sent the first transatlantic wireless message to Poldhu, Cornwall, England, on December 15, 1902. In 1904 this Station was moved to Port Morien, connecting with Clifden, Ireland. On October 17, 1907, it was officially opened for public use. The monument was unveiled by the Honourable J. A. D. McCurdy, Lieutenant-Governor of Nova Scotia, on July 3, 1951.

Henry Marshall Tory, Guysborough, N. S. A cut-stone monument with tablet was erected on the grounds of the Academy to Henry Marshall Tory, distinguished scientist and educationist. He was educated in Guysborough Academy and McGill University; Professor in McGill University, 1893-1908; First President of the University of Alberta, 1908-28; Director of the Khaki University, 1917-19; President of the National Research Council of Canada, 1923-35; Director of the Research Laboratories, 1927-35; President of the Pacific Science Congress, 1933, of the League of Nations Society of Canada, 1929-33, and of the Royal Society of Canada, 1939-40; Founder and first President of Carleton College, 1942-47. The monument was unveiled on September 7, 1951 by the Honourable H. D. Hicks, Minister of Education.

The Halifax Zoological Garden, Halifax. A cut-stone monument with tablet was erected on Dutch Village Road to mark the place where, in 1847, Andrew Downs, naturalist and taxidermist, established the first zoological garden in America north of Mexico. When closed in 1868 it consisted of 100 acres of woodland, rock and stream and comprised birds and animals from different parts of the world, a greenhouse, an aquarium, and a museum. For his skill in taxidermy Downs won medals at international exhibitions in London, Dublin, and Paris. To his Garden came many distinguished visitors and from it specimens both living and dead were supplied to museums and private collections on both sides of the Atlantic. The monument was unveiled by the Honourable R. M. Fielding, Minister of Municipal Affairs, on October 13, 1951.

Prince of Wales Tower, Halifax, N. S. A tablet was affixed to this old structure, which is situated in Point Pleasant Park. It was built during the years 1796-98. It was the first of five Martello towers erected in and near Halifax between 1796 and 1828. The others were at Fort Clarence, York Redoubt, George's Island, and Mauger's Beach.

The Citadel, Halifax, N. S. Custody of certain lands and structures comprising the Citadel has been taken over with a view to their development and preservation. The construction of this fortification was commenced in 1828 and completed thirty years later. Considerable restoration work was carried out on this old structure during the year.

Simeon Perkins, Liverpool, N. S. A tablet was affixed to the house built in 1766 by Simeon Perkins whose famous diary records more than 40 years in the life of that community at a crucial period in North American history. Born at Norwich, Conn., in 1735, he came to Liverpool, N. S., in 1762 and was active as a merchant, ship builder, and West Indies trader until his death in 1812. As chief magistrate of the Town, member of the Nova Scotia Assembly, and Colonel of Militia during the American Revolution, he strove to avoid conflict between those who sympathized with King or Congress. His prudence and simple humanity also did much to ease the bitterness left by the war between the old settlers and the Loyalists who had settled in their midst.

Robert Christie and Arthur Lawrence Haliburton, Windsor, N. S. Tablets were placed on the Hants County War Memorial Centre to Robert Christie, historian of Lower Canada and to Arthur Lawrence Haliburton, who served in the Commissariat Department of the British Army, 1855-91, and as Under-Secretary for War, 1895-97.

Sir Edouard Percy Cranwell Girouard, K.C.M.G., Montreal, P. Q. A tablet was affixed to the building at 548 Sherbrooke Street West to Sir Edouard Percy Cranwell Girouard. He was High Commissioner for Northern Nigeria, 1907-1908; Governor of Northern Nigeria, 1908-09; Governor of East Africa, 1909-12; and Director General of Munitions Supply at the British War Office, 1915.

The Quebec Fortification Walls, Quebec, P. Q. A considerable portion of these historic walls, exclusive of the Citadel and that part of the walls controlled by the City of Quebec, has been taken over by the Department in order that they may be maintained and preserved as a national historic site. A considerable amount of repair work was carried out during the year on that section of the walls that has been acquired.

Sir Antoine-Aime Dorion, Ste Anne de la Parade, P. Q. A tablet affixed to an iron standard was erected on Main Street to Sir Antoine-Aime Dorion. He was Minister of Justice, 1873-74, and Chief Justice of the Court of Queen's Bench, Quebec, 1874-91.

Marquis Pierre de Rigaud de Vaudreuil Cavagnal, Vaudreuil, P. Q. A tablet was affixed to the outer wall of the Registry Office to the Marquis Pierre de Rigaud de Vaudreuil Cavagnal who was born in Quebec City on November 22, 1698. He was the only Canadian who became Governor of New-France.

Champlain's Astrolabe, about 3 miles east of Cobden, Ont. A cut-stone monument with tablet was erected adjacent to Highway No. 17 to commemorate the finding in that vicinity of an astrolabe bearing the date 1603. This instrument, used for determining latitude, was found by Edward George Lee in 1867 and is believed to have been lost by Samuel Champlain about June 7, 1613 when on his exploratory expedition up the Ottawa River.

Otto Julius Klotz, Preston, Ontario. A tablet mounted on an oak panel was erected inside the Municipal Building to Otto Julius Klotz, surveyor and astronomer. He was Director of the Dominion Observatory from 1917 to 1923.

William Lyon Mackenzie Homestead Toronto, Ontario. A tablet was affixed to the front of the house at 82 Bond Street which was the home, in his later years, of William Lyon Mackenzie, first Mayor of the City of Toronto. The house was presented to him on August 4, 1859, by friends as a "mark of esteem and in recognition of his public services". He died there on August 28, 1861. The homestead was purchased and presented in 1947 to the Homestead Foundation by Mr. T. Wilbur Best, to be preserved as an historic site, library and museum of the early days of Toronto. The tablet was unveiled by His Worship, Hiram E. McCallum, Mayor of the City of Toronto, on May 15, 1951.

Battle of Seven Oaks, Winnipeg, Manitoba. This monument situated at the intersection of Main Street and Ruperts Land Avenue, was erected in 1891 by the Manitoba Historical Society through the

generosity of the Countess of Selkirk. It was built on the site of Seven Oaks where Governor Robert Semple and twenty of his officers and men fell on June 19, 1816. The monument was taken over by the Department some years ago and during the year it was moved further back from the sidewalk, a new stone base was installed, a bronze tablet was affixed to the new base and the surrounding grounds were landscaped.

Fort à la Corne, Kinistino, Saskatchewan. A cut-stone monument with tablet was erected in Memorial Park to commemorate the historic events connected with Fort à la Corne, which, for more than a century, was a fur trading centre. It was occupied by independent traders, 1773-77, later by the North West Company and the Hudson's Bay Company until 1805, and finally by the latter from 1846 to 1932.

Fort Dunvegan, Dunvegan, Alta. A cut-stone monument with tablet was erected near the ferry crossing to mark the site of Fort Dunvegan, established in 1805 for the North West Company by Archibald Norman McLeod and named after the ancestral castle of the McLeods on the Island of Skye. For many years the most important post in the Peace River Valley, it was a centre of the fur trade, a link in the chain of communication westward into British Columbia, and the scene of early missionary enterprise and agricultural experiment. It was operated by the Hudson's Bay Company, 1821-1918. The monument was unveiled under the auspices of the Waterhole Old Timers' Association on September 9, 1951.