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Report of the Annual Meeting

Some Historic and Prehistoric Sites of Canada

National Parks Service and Department of the Interior

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SOME HISTORIC AND PREHISTORIC SITES OF CANADA

By THE NATIONAL PARKS SERVICE, DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

During the past year work in connection with the preservation and marking of historic sites throughout Canada, eminently national in character, and the commemoration of the public services of a number of outstanding personages associated with its early history, selected and recommended for attention by the Historic Sites and Monuments Board, which acts in an advisory capacity to the department, was steadily carried on and as a result very favourable progress was made.

A general meeting of the board was held when several important matters were discussed and a further selection of sites made for attention in future years.

Mr. Maréchal Nantel was appointed as a member of the board from the province of Quebec to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of Hon. P. Demers.

From the several sites considered to date by the Board, two hundred and forty-six have been declared of sufficient national importance to receive the attention of the department. Control of one hundred and seventy of these has been obtained and one hundred and fifty-five memorials have been erected.

A summary of last year's operations is enumerated hereunder:—

SITES MARKED

Fort La Have, La Have, N.S.

A field stone cairn, to which is affixed a bronze tablet, was erected on the lighthouse reserve at Fort Point, to mark the site of the fort built by de Razilly, Lieutenant-Governor of Acadia, in 1632, when France determined to establish permanent settlements there, and from which he administered the colony for a time. The memorial was unveiled with fitting ceremonies on September 5, 1929.

Admiral d'Anville's Encampment, near Halifax, N.S.

A cairn, to which is affixed a bronze tablet, was erected on a small plot of land at the intersection of the old French Landing and Bedford roads, donated by Mr. E. Clayton, to mark the site of the encampment of the expedition sent from France in 1746, under the command of Duc d'Anville, to recover Acadia. While at Chebucto d'Anville died and many of his men fell victims of fever. Owing to storms and disease the enterprise was an utter failure. The unveiling of the memorial was carried out with due impressiveness on September 4, 1929.

Fort Jemseg, Lower Jemseg, N.B.

A cut stone monument, with a bronze tablet affixed to it, was erected on a small plot of land adjacent to the main highway passing that point, which was donated by Mr. F. C. Nevers, to mark the site of the fort built in 1659 by Thomas Temple, during the English possession of Acadia. It was ceded to France in 1667 and captured by a Dutch expedition in 1674 who named the country New Holland, claiming possession for the Prince of Orange. The memorial was unveiled on September 21, 1929 by the Lieutenant-Governor of New Brunswick.

Battle of the Petilcodiac, Hillsborough, N.B.

A cut stone monument, bearing a bronze tablet, was erected near the Canadian National Railway station at Hillsborough to commemorate the events associated with the engagement which took place there on September 3, 1755, between a detachment of Major Fryc's troops, sent from Fort Cumberland to destroy Acadian settlements on the river and compel the people to surrender for deportation, and a French force under Charles Deschamps de Boishébert. The unveiling of the memorial took place with appropriate ceremonies on October 19, 1929.

Major Gilfrid Studholme, St. John, N.B.

A cut stone monument, with a bronze tablet affixed to it, was erected on the summit of Fort Howe hill to commemorate the public services of Major Gilfrid Studholme, who was sent to the St. John district in 1776, following the Eddy rebellion in Chignecto, and which he successfully defended against American raiders by sea and land. He built Fort Howe in 1778 and was its commander. As Crown Agent he gave much assistance in settling the Loyalists in the province of New Brunswick in the years following the American Revolutionary War. The memorial was unveiled with fitting ceremonies on September 11, 1929.

Battle of Chateauguay, Allan's Corners, P.Q.

A bronze tablet was affixed to the granite monolith, erected by the Canadian Government in 1895, adjacent to the public road to Allan's Corners, to commemorate the events associated with the engagement which took place there on October 26, 1813, when a small Canadian force and a little band of Indians under the command of Lieutenant-Colonel Charles Michel de Salaberry defeated a large American army, which attempted the invasion of the province.

Côteau-du-Lac, P.Q.

A cairn, to which is affixed a bronze tablet, was erected adjacent to the public road at Côteau-du-Lac, to commemorate the early historic events connected with that place. A canal with three locks was constructed in 1779-80. Later a blockhouse and then a fort were built for its protection. These proved of great service in the wars of the American Revolution and of 1912. Côteau-du-Lac was for many years the chief port of entry for imports into Upper Canada.

The Royal Navy, Ile-aux-Noix, P.Q.

A bronze tablet was affixed to the south gateway leading to Fort Lennox, to perpetuate the memory of the services of the officers, seamen and soldiers of the Royal Navy, Provincial Marine, and Royal Marines, who fought in defence of Canada on lake Champlain in 1776-77 and in 1812-14.

First Railroad in Canada, St. Johns, P.Q.

A bronze tablet was affixed to the Canadian National Railway station building at St. Johns, to mark one terminal of the first railroad built in Canada, which led originally to Laprairie. It was constructed to connect lake Champlain with the river St. Lawrence and was officially opened for traffic on July 21, 1836, by Lord Gosford. Traffic between Montreal and New York was thereby greatly expedited.

Battle 6th September 1775, near St. Johns, P.Q.

A cairn, to which is affixed a bronze tablet, was erected on the St. Johns golf links, adjacent to the King's Highway, to commemorate the events associated with the engagement which took place at Montgomery's Creek on September 6, 1775, when an American invading army was compelled to re-embark and return to Ile-aux-Noix, owing to a surprise attack made on it by a force of Mohawk Indians and Indians from Lower Canada. This exploit created great enthusiasm in the country. The memorial was unveiled on October 19, 1929.

Pioneers of the Huron Tract, Goderich, Ont.

A bronze tablet was supplied the Huron Tract Association for erection on a pillar at the entrance to the town of Goderich to commemorate the life work of the men who opened the roads, felled the forests, builded the farmsteads, reaped the harvest—and of the women who made the homes and brightened and ennobled domestic life in the Huron Tract during a period of one hundred years.

Canada's First Electric Telegraph, Toronto, Ont.

A bronze tablet was affixed to the St. Lawrence market building which now stands on the site of the old Toronto City Hall, to mark one terminal of the first electric telegraph line in Canada, inaugurated December 19, 1846, over a line connecting Toronto with Hamilton. The system was built and owned by the Toronto, Hamilton and Niagara Electro-Magnetic Telegraph Company, organized 1846, incorporated 1847, and now operated as part of the Canadian National Telegraphs.

Niagara Portage Road, Stamford, Ont.

A stone monument, bearing a bronze tablet was erected on the Stamford Green, adjacent to the Portage road, to commemorate the events associated with the Queens-ton-Chippawa portage road, opened by United Empire Loyalists in 1788. It was the principal route of travel and trade to the Upper Lakes region until the opening of the Welland canal in 1829 and of railways in 1854, also an important strategic position

and line of communication during the war of 1812-14 and the rebellion of 1837-8. The memorial was unveiled with appropriate ceremonies on September 21, 1929, in accordance with arrangements made by the Lundy's Lane Historical Society.

The Coming of the Mohawks, Deseronto, Ont.

A bronze tablet was provided for the Mohawk Indians of the Tyendinaga Indian reserve for affixment to the cairn which they erected to commemorate the arrival on May 22, 1784, of a band of Loyal Mohawks, one of the nations of the Iroquois Confederacy who were expelled from their homes in the Mohawk valley for their fidelity to the unity of the Empire. The unveiling of the memorial was carried out, on June 19, 1929 in the presence of a large and representative gathering.

Bishop Alexander Macdonell, St. Raphael, Ont.

A cut stone monument, to which is affixed a bronze tablet, was erected adjacent to the public highway, in front of the Parish Church at St. Raphael West, in recognition of the eminent public services of the Honourable and Right Reverend Alexander Macdonell, 1760-1840, as a patriot, military chaplain, educator and legislator. He lived and laboured with success at that place for many years.

Ridgeway Battlefield, Ridgeway, Ont.

A cairn, to which is affixed a bronze tablet, was erected on a small plot of land adjacent to the Garrison road, donated by the township of Bertie, to perpetuate the memory of the officers and men of the Queen's Own Rifles, 13th Hamilton Battalion, Caledonia and York Rifle Companies of Haldimand, who fought there in defence of their country against Fenian Raiders, on June 2, 1866. The unveiling ceremonies took place on September 20, 1929, in accordance with arrangements made by the Welland County Historical Society.

Battle of the longwoods near Glencoe, Ont.

A cairn, to which is affixed a bronze tablet, was erected on a small plot of land, adjacent to the Provincial highway at Battle Hill, donated by Mr. Roy Henderson, to commemorate the events associated with the engagement which took place there on March 4, 1814, between British and United States troops.

Starting Point Brock's Expedition, Port Dover, Ont.

A cairn, to which is affixed a bronze tablet, was erected in Powell Park to mark the site from which Major General Isaac Brock with 40 men of His Majesty's 41st Regiment and 260 of the York, Lincoln, Oxford and Norfolk militia set out on August 8, 1812, to relieve the invaded western frontier. His brilliant capture of Hull's army at Detroit, with a much smaller force saved the province to the Empire and made Brock "The hero of Upper Canada."

Fort Fork, near Berwyn, Alta.

A cairn, to which is affixed a tablet, was erected on a plot of land adjacent to the road allowance passing through river lot 19, Shaftesbury Settlement, donated by the local municipality, to mark the site of the fort built by Sir Alexander Mackenzie on the bank of the Peace river, in 1792, and from which he set out the following year on his quest for the Western sea. The memorial was unveiled with fitting ceremonies on July 1, 1929.

The Last Spanish Exploration, Point Grey, B.C.

A cut stone monument, to which is affixed a tablet, was erected in the small park of the British Columbia University Endowment Lands, between the waters of English bay and Marine drive, to commemorate the events associated with the passing of Spanish power from the Pacific coast of Canada in June, 1792.

Fort Steele, B.C.

A cairn, to which is affixed a tablet, was erected on a small plot of land adjacent to the Fort Steele highway, donated by Mr. William A. Drayton, to mark the site of the first North West Mounted Police fort in British Columbia, built by Superintendent Sam Steele and the officers and men of "D" Division. The presence of this famous force, acting under the able and tactful command of Steele, secured peace and order in the country at a critical time.

ACQUISITION AND PRESERVATION OF SITES

The following action was taken with regard to the acquisition of historic sites, recommended for commemoration by the board, and for the improvement of other properties already controlled by the Department.

Louisbourg, N.S.

The remaining buildings, with the exception of the caretakers residence and one for a museum were demolished and removed; the site fenced; a rest room provided; a flag pole erected; the casemates cleaned out and repaired and a new road built and surfaced from the entrance to the Headquarters building.

Fort St. Peters, St. Peters, N.S.

Permission was obtained from the Department of Railways and Canals to erect a memorial on their reserve at St. Peters, to mark the site of the fort and trading post built by Nicholas Denys, in 1650.

First Coal Mine in Cape Breton, Port Morien, N.S.

A plot of ground, 50 feet square, adjacent to the road leading to Long Beach at Port Morien, was donated by the Dominion Coal Company on which to erect a cairn and tablet to commemorate the events associated with the establishment of the first regular coal mining operations in America by the French, in 1720.

Fort Ste. Anne, N.S.

A plot of land 25 feet square, adjacent to the Baddeck Cape North highway was donated by Mr. George E. Fader on which to erect a cairn and tablet to mark the site of the fort built there for the protection of the French settlement in 1629.

First Atlantic Cable, North Sydney, N.S.

A licence of occupation was executed with the Western Union Telegraph Company, granting permission to place a tablet on the outer wall of the Company's Cable Building at North Sydney, to commemorate the events connected with the laying of the first submarine telegraph cable in North America.

Wolfe's Landing, Kennington Cove, N.S.

A plot of land facing Gabarus bay was donated by Mr. D. A. McInnis, on which to erect a cairn and tablet to mark the place where the men of Brigadier-General James Wolfe's brigade landed on June 8, 1758.

Fort Cumberland (Beauséjour), N.B.

A water supply was provided for the convenience of visitors; the earthworks repaired; a parking area provided; and the entrance to the park improved.

Fort Monckton near Port Elgin, N.B.

An additional area of two acres, included in the original site, was purchased with a view to carrying out additional development work there.

First Export of Coal, Minto, N.B.

A licence of occupation was executed with the Canadian Pacific Railway Company granting permission to erect a cut-stone monument and tablet on their station grounds at Minto, to commemorate the events associated with the discovery and mining of the first coal for export in Canada.

Fort Chambly, Chambly, P.Q.

A water supply system was installed to the grounds and caretakers quarters; a portion of the old cemetery filled in and levelled; masonry and concrete retaining walls built along the river front; the inner walls repaired and pointed and a new electric lighting system, as well as a plumbing and sewage disposal, installed.

Benjamin Sulte, Three Rivers, P.Q.

A licence of occupation was executed with the city, granting permission to affix a tablet to the outer wall of the main entrance to the City Hall, to commemorate the public services of Benjamin Sulte as an historian and poet.

First Geodetic Survey Station, Kingsmere, P.Q.

A plot of land 25 feet square, on the summit of King mountain, was donated by Mr. Michael Mulvihill, on which to erect a cairn and tablet to mark the site of the first Geodetic Survey station in Canada, established in 1905 by Dr. W. F. King.

Opening of the St. Lawrence River to all Nations, Quebec, P.Q.

Permission was granted by the Quebec Harbour Commission to affix a tablet to the outer wall of their waiting room on the Princess Louise docks to commemorate the events associated with the opening of the St. Lawrence river to all nations, in January, 1850.

Chambly Canal, Chambly, P.Q.

A site was provided by the Department of Railways and Canals on the canal reserve at Chambly, on which to erect a cairn and tablet to commemorate the events associated with the construction of the Chambly Canal, which was first opened for navigation in 1843.

Fort Wellington, Prescott, Ont.

The blockhouse was reshingled on two sides; the exterior wooden surface repainted; the inner palissades repaired where necessary and other improvements made to the museum and ground. During the tourist season the place was a mecca for visitors.

Mattawa Portage, Mattawa, Ont.

A licence of occupation was executed by the Women's Institute granting permission to erect a cairn and tablet in a small park under their control, at the intersection of Main and Water streets, to mark the site of the historic canoe route from Montreal to lake Huron and the Northwest.

Southwold Earthworks, near St. Thomas, Ont.

An area of five acres, north of the Talbot Road, was purchased on which to erect a memorial to mark the site of this prehistoric earthwork as an unique example of a double-walled aboriginal fort. Its antiquity and origin remain unknown.

Dominion Lands Survey System near Winnipeg, Man.

A plot of land 25 feet square, adjacent to the Portage Highway, at its intersection with the Principal Meridian, was donated by Hon. Aimé Bénard and Mr. John T. Haig, on which to erect a cairn and tablet to mark the site where the first monument on the Dominion Lands survey was placed, July 10, 1871.

Simon Fraser, Musqueam, B.C.

Permission was obtained from the Provincial Government to erect a monument and tablet at "Look-Out Point," adjacent to Marine Drive, at the west end of the Musqueam Indian Reserve, to mark the place where Simon Fraser ended his dangerous exploration of the Fraser river in July, 1808.

WORK FOR THE FUTURE

The following sites, events, and services of important personages have been recommended to the department for attention by the board, and will be dealt with in due course:—

Action at Bloody Creek, near Bridgetown, N.S.
 Battle of Grand Pré, near Grand Pré, N.S.
 St. Peters Canal, St. Peters, N.S.
 Paul Mascarene, Annapolis Royal, N.S.
 Martello Tower, St. John, N.B.
 Mallard House, St. John, N.B.
 Beaubears Island, near Newcastle, N.B.
 Fort Nerepis, near St. John, N.B.
 Battle of Repentigny, near Charlemagne, P.Q.
 Jacques Cartier's Landing, Gaspé, P.Q.
 First Paper Mill in Canada, St. Andrews, P.Q.
 Temiscouata Portage, Cabano, P.Q.
 Lachine Massacre, Lachine, P.Q.
 First Stage Coaches and Postal Service, Quebec, P.Q.
 Portages of the Chaudière, Hull, P.Q.
 Lachine Canal, Lachine, P.Q.
 Grenville Canal, Grenville, P.Q.
 Chambly Road, near Longueuil, P.Q.

Carillon Canal, Carillon, P.Q.
 Cascades Canal, Cascades Point, P.Q.
 First Patent in Canada, Ottawa, Ont.
 Champlain's Landing Place, Morrison's Island, Ont.
 Mission of Ste. Marie I near Midland, Ont.
 Combat at Thomas McRae House near Chatham, Ont.
 Nanticoke, Ont.
 Glengarry Landing near Edenvale, Ont.
 First Salt Works in Canada near St. Catharines, Ont.
 First Petroleum Wells near Bothwell, Ont.
 Butler's Burying Ground, Niagara-on-the-Lake, Ont.
 Normandale Furnaces, near Tilsonburg, Ont.
 Yonge Street Highway, near Richmond Hill, Ont.
 Danforth Road, Hamilton, Ont.
 Dundas Street Highway, near Oak Ridges, Ont.
 Capture of the Tigress and Scorpion, Penetanguishene, Ont.
 Defence of Upper Canada, War 1812-14, Kingston, Ont.
 Amherstburg Navy Yard, Amherstburg, Ont.
 Fort Drummond, Queenston Heights, Ont.
 Sir Gordon Drummond, Toronto, Ont.
 Arctic Discovery and Exploration, Ottawa, Ont.
 Indian Treaties, Niagara-on-the-Lake, Ont.
 Fort Henry, Kingston, Ont.
 Glengarry Cairn near South Lancaster, Ont.
 Galops Canal, Iroquois, Ont.
 Rapide Plat Canal, near Iroquois, Ont.
 Farran's Point Canal, Farran's Point, Ont.
 Cornwall Canal, near Cornwall, Ont.
 Trent Canal, Bobcaygeon, Ont.
 Fort York, Toronto, Ont.
 Fort Mississauga, Niagara-on-the-Lake, Ont.
 Burlington Heights, Hamilton, Ont.
 Capture of United States Schooners, Ohio and Somers, Fort Erié,
 Ont.
 Six Nations Indians, Brantford, Ont.
 The Crawford Indian Treaty, Kingston, Ont.
 The Historic Carrying Place, Bay of Quinté, Ont.
 Fort Prince of Wales, Churchill, Man.
 Port Churchill, Man.
 Duck Lake Battlefield, Duck Lake, Sask.
 Battle of Fish Creek, near Rosthern, Sask.
 Fort à la Corne, near Prince Albert, Sask.
 Services of Alberta Field Force, North West Rebellion, Edmonton,
 Alta.
 Rocky Mountain House, Alta.
 Fort Chipewyan, Alta.
 Collins Overland Telegraph, Quesnel, B.C.
 Fort Alexandria, B.C.
 Fort Victoria, B.C.
 Yukon Gold Discovery, Dawson City, N.W.T.