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Report of the Annual Meeting

Preserving Canada's Historic Past

National Parks Branch et Department of the Interior

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PRESERVING CANADA'S HISTORIC PAST

BY THE NATIONAL PARKS BRANCH, DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Progress was made in the restoration and preservation of sites of national importance placed under the care of the National Parks Service. The National Parks Service is responsible for the administration of historic sites placed under it and the Historic Sites and Monuments Board of Canada, an honorary body composed of recognized historians representative of the various provinces of the Dominion, acts in an advisory capacity to the Department.

At the annual meeting of the Board, held at Ottawa, May 28, 29, and 30, 1934, several sites, suggested for marking, were considered from the standpoint of national importance and a selection was made for future commemoration from the number submitted.

The outstanding events of the year under review were the Cartier Celebrations, participated in by representatives from Great Britain, France, and the United States, the celebrations in connection with the 150th anniversary of the founding of the present Province of Ontario by the migration of the United Empire Loyalists, and the erection of a monument to commemorate the founding of the Province of New Brunswick.

During the fiscal year 1934-5 the following memorials were erected:

Discovery of Prince Edward Island, Charlottetown, P.E.I.

A cut stone monument bearing two tablets was erected on the grounds in front of the Legislative Building by permission of the provincial authorities, to commemorate the 400th anniversary of the landing of Jacques Cartier on Prince Edward Island, June 30 and July 1, 1534.

Founding of New Brunswick, Saint John, N.B.

A granite cross bearing a bronze tablet was erected with the consent of the Common Council, at the north-east corner of King Square, facing the old burial ground, in commemoration of the founding of the Loyalist Province of New Brunswick, by order of the British government, on August 16, 1784. Its first Governor was Thomas Carleton, who arrived at Saint John on November 21 of that year and proclaimed civil government the following day.

Lieut.-Colonel Charles Michel de Salaberry, Beauport, P.Q.

A tablet was affixed to the house known as "Darnoc" on Royal Avenue by permission of Mrs. James Geggie, to commemorate the services of Lieut.-Colonel de Salaberry, who was born at Beauport, November 19, 1778. His defeat of United States troops under Major-General Hampton on October 26, 1813, was one of the outstanding events of the war and gained for him the name of "The Hero of Châteauguay".

Jacques Cartier, Gaspé, P.Q.

A thirty-foot granite cross, bearing a bronze tablet, was erected on a plot of land provided by La Corporation Episcopale de Gaspé, adjacent

to the Perron Boulevard, to commemorate the 400th anniversary of the landing of Jacques Cartier at the entrance to Gaspé Harbour on July 24, 1534.

First Paper Mill in Canada, St. Andrews East, P.Q.

A tablet was affixed to the cairn erected in the small park near the town hall, to mark the site of the first paper mill in Canada, which was built in 1803-5 by a group from the New England states, this being the inception of one of Canada's most important industries.

United Empire Loyalists, Cornwall, Ont.

A tablet was affixed to the front of the Post Office Building, facing Second Street, West, with the consent of the Department of Public Works, to commemorate the unswerving fidelity and eminent services of the Royal Highland Emigrants; the King's Royal Regiment of New York; the Loyal Rangers; and the King's Rangers, in the defence of the city and Province of Quebec, 1775-83, and who, in later years, subdued the wilderness and laid the foundations of the Province of Ontario.

Crawford Indian Purchase, Kingston, Ont.

A tablet was affixed to the stone gateway at the entrance to Tête du Pont Barracks, with the consent of the Department of National Defence, to commemorate the treaty made between Captain William Redford Crawford of the Royal Regiment of New York, acting for the Crown, and the Mississauga Indians in October, 1783. By its terms the tract of land now composing the Counties of Glengarry, Stormont, Dundas, Grenville, Leeds, Frontenac, Lennox and Addington, Hastings, and Prince Edward, was purchased for the settlement of United Empire Loyalists.

Carrying Place, Bay of Quinte, Ont.

A cairn with tablet was erected on a plot of land provided by the local School Board, at the intersection of the Trenton Road with the Carrying Place Road, to commemorate the treaty concluded there by Sir John Johnson with chiefs of the Mississauga Indians on September 23, 1787, by which they ceded to the Crown the land extending westward from the Bay of Quinte to Etobicoke River, a little west of Toronto, and northward from Lake Ontario to Lake Simcoe and the Rice Lakes.

Treaties of Niagara, Niagara-on-the-Lake, Ont.

A tablet was affixed to the outer wall of the Niagara Historical Museum Building, by permission of the local historical society, to commemorate the treaties concluded with the Chippewa and Mississauga Indians by Colonel Guy Johnson, on May 9, 1781, and by Lieut.-Colonel John Butler, on May 22, 1784, by which a great tract of fertile land, extending westward from the Niagara River to the mouth of Catfish Creek on Lake Erie, was purchased for the settlement of United Empire Loyalists, disbanded soldiers, and expatriated Indians of the Six Nations.

Butler's Rangers and Action at Butler's Farm, Niagara-on-the-Lake, Ont.

Two tablets were affixed to a standard erected by the Niagara Parks Commission at Butler's Burial Ground, one in memory of the unflinching

loyalty and valiant service of the officers and soldiers of Butler's Corps of Rangers, 1777-84, and the other to commemorate the engagement which took place on July 8, 1813, when an outpost of the invading force, encamped near Fort George, was defeated by a band of Six Nations and Western Indians, led by Chiefs John Norton and Blackbird, and interpreters Michel Brisebois, Louis Langlade, and Barnet Lyons.

Six Nations Indians, Ohsweken, Ont.

A cut stone monument with tablet was erected on the Council House grounds to commemorate the loyal services and unswerving fidelity of the Six Nations of Iroquois Indians to the British Empire in the Seven Years' War, the War of the American Revolution, and in the defence of Upper Canada in 1812-4 and 1837-8.

McKee's Indian Purchase, Blenheim, Ont.

A cairn with tablet was erected at the entrance to Memorial Park by consent of the Town Council, commemorating the treaty made by Alexander McKee on May 19, 1790, with the Chippewa, Ottawa, Pottawatomie, and Huron Indians, when a great tract of land, comprising most of the present Counties of Essex, Kent, and Elgin, and part of Middlesex, was peacefully acquired to provide homes for expatriated United Empire Loyalists.

PRESERVATION WORK

Preservation and other development work was carried out at the following sites:

Fortress of Louisbourg, near Louisburg, N.S.

Further progress was made in connection with the development of this historic site. The entrance road was re-surfaced, where necessary. Construction of a new protection crib, to replace the one washed out along the main entrance road, was continued. Excavations were carried out along the outside ruins of the chapel walls and main doorway and walls of the officers' quarters. Some excavation work also was done in the dry moat in front of the citadel. The chapel wall along the front of the building, and the walls along the officers' quarters were rebuilt to an average height of two feet above ground level, and eight feet above the floor of the moat.

Fort Ste. Thérèse, near Chambly, P.Q.

The boulder memorial was removed from the Bunker United Empire Loyalist cemetery to a new location adjacent to the Chambly-St. Jean highway, and the site fenced.

Fort Chambly, Chambly, P.Q.

Repairs were made to the two bastions along the river front; the masonry in the outer walls was repointed where necessary, and other minor improvements carried out on the powder magazine and dungeon.

Fort Lennox, Ile-aux-Noix, P.Q.

The two cemetery plots were fenced; the commissariat building was partially re-roofed; pointing and repairs were carried out on the men's barracks, also on the north entrance arch and the casemates.

Fort Prince of Wales, Churchill, Man.

Through the co-operation of the Department of Railways and Canals, considerable work was carried out on the site, including the digging up of forty cannon from the debris on the ramparts; the construction of foundations to carry nineteen pieces of this ordnance; and the mounting of five pieces on wooden gun carriages behind the gun embrasures in the wall. The north stone wall in the central fort area was first straightened in order to make it possible to hold the rampart in front of it on which the gun foundations were built.

ACQUISITION OF SITES

Liverpool Privateersmen, Liverpool, N.S.

Permission was obtained from the Town Council, and from the Department of Marine, to erect a memorial in the centre of the fort mound at the head of Fort Point Park, in memory of the privateersmen of Liverpool Bay.

The 104th New Brunswick Regiment, Fredericton, N.B.

Permission was obtained from the City Council to erect a memorial in the triangular park area at the junction of Brunswick, King, and Smythe Streets, to commemorate the distinguished services of the 104th New Brunswick Regiment.

Capture of the Tigress and Scorpion, Penetanguishene, Ont.

Permission was obtained from the Town Council to place a memorial in Huronia Park, to commemorate the events connected with the capture of the United States ships of war *Tigress* and *Scorpion*, September 3 to 5, 1814.

Lansdowne Iron Furnace, Lyndhurst, Ont.

Mr. F. W. Bresee has offered to donate a plot of land, comprising part of Village Lot 80, on which to erect a memorial to mark the site of the iron works built on this site in 1801.

Cumberland House, Cumberland House Settlement, Sask.

Mr. W. Jennings donated a triangular parcel of land, covering a portion of Lot 10, on which to place a memorial to mark the site of the post built by the Hudson's Bay Company in 1774.

The Peacemakers, Wetaskiwin, Alta.

Permission was obtained from the civic authorities to place a memorial on Block 85, facing the main highway between Calgary and Edmonton, to commemorate the public services rendered by the Reverend Father Lacombe and the Reverend John McDougall, respectively, during the troublous days of 1885.

WORK FOR THE FUTURE

The following have been recommended to the Department for attention by the Board and will be dealt with from time to time:

- Roma's Settlement at Three Rivers, P.E.I.
- Mohawk Indian Fort, near Hogg Island, N.S.
- Fort Chedabucto, Guysboro, N.S.

Chaudière Portages, Hull, P.Q.
First Stage Coach Service, Quebec, P.Q.
Fort Temiscamingue, near Ville Marie, P.Q.
The Postal Service, Montreal, P.Q.
Cavalier de la Salle, Lachine, P.Q.
Champlain's Landing Place, Morrison's Island, Ont.
Indian Treaties, near Orillia, Ont.
Officers and Seamen of the Royal Navy, Kingston, Ont.
Mission of Ste. Marie I, near Midland, Ont.
Glengarry Landing, near Edenvale, Ont.
First Salt Works in Canada, near St. Catharines, Ont.
First Petroleum Wells in Canada, near Bothwell, Ont.
Arctic Discovery and Exploration, Ottawa, Ont.
Yonge Street, Toronto, Ont.
St. Clair Flats Canal, Lake St. Clair, Ont.
Murray Canal, Ont.
Admiral H. W. Bayfield
Danforth Road, near Toronto, Ont.
Alexander Graham Bell Homestead, Brantford, Ont.
Fort St. Pierre, Rainy Lake, Ont.
First Cheese Factory in Canada, near Norwich, Ont.
Discovery of Red Fife Wheat, near Peterborough, Ont.
Galops Canal, Iroquois, Ont.
Rapide Plat Canal, near Iroquois, Ont.
Farran's Point Canal, Farran's Point, Ont.
Cornwall Canal, near Cornwall, Ont.
Fort Malden, Amherstburg, Ont.
Combat at McRae's House, near Chatham, Ont.
Norway House, Man.
Dawson Road, Ste. Anne des Chênes, Man.
Forts Maurepas and Alexander, Man.
The Roseau Route, Letellier, Man.
Duck Lake Battlefield, Duck Lake, Sask.
Cumberland House, Cumberland Lake, Sask.
Fort à la Corne, near Prince Albert, Sask.
Methye Portage, Sask.
Fort Chipewyan, Lake Athabaska, Alta.
Fort Assiniboine, Alta.
Great Fraser Midden, Vancouver, B.C.
Captain George Vancouver, Vancouver, B.C.
Kootenae House, Invermere, B.C.