

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