

# Report of the Annual Meeting

## Rapports annuels de la Société historique du Canada

Report of the Annual Meeting

### Some Historic and Pre-Historic Sites in Canada

National Parks Branch and Department of the Interior

Volume 10, Number 1, 1931

URI: <https://id.erudit.org/iderudit/300096ar>

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.7202/300096ar>

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Publisher(s)

The Canadian Historical Association/La Société historique du Canada

ISSN

0317-0594 (print)

1712-9095 (digital)

[Explore this journal](#)

Cite this document

National Parks Branch & Department of the Interior (1931). Some Historic and Pre-Historic Sites in Canada. *Report of the Annual Meeting / Rapports annuels de la Société historique du Canada*, 10(1), 97–103. <https://doi.org/10.7202/300096ar>

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## SOME HISTORIC AND PRE-HISTORIC SITES IN CANADA

BY THE NATIONAL PARKS BRANCH, DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

During the past year the work of acquiring, preserving and marking Canada's national historic sites, as selected and recommended for attention by the Historic Sites and Monuments Board of Canada, was continued and a very creditable showing made.

A general meeting of the Board was held in Ottawa in May, when a number of sites, which had been suggested for commemoration, were reviewed and from these a further selection was made for attention by the Department in due course.

The services of Dr. James H. Coyne were lost to the Board through his resignation owing to pressure of other duties.

Ready co-operation is being extended in connection with this national work by local historical societies and other organizations and judging from the number of inquiries received it is apparent that interest with respect to the early history of the Dominion is rapidly increasing.

To date over one thousand sites have been under review by the Board and from these two hundred and sixty have been selected as being of national importance and recommended for action. Of this number one hundred and sixty-eight have been suitably marked by the Department by the erection of memorials.

A summary of the work accomplished during last year is enumerated hereunder:

### SITES MARKED

#### *First Atlantic Cable, North Sydney, N.S.*

A bronze tablet was affixed to the Cable building on Court street to record the events connected with the laying of the first submarine telegraph cable in North America, in 1856. The memorial was unveiled with appropriate ceremonies on September 24, 1930.

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

A rubble stone cairn, with a bronze tablet affixed to it, was erected on a plot of land donated by Mr. Dan. A. McInnis, near the Louisbourg Highway, to mark the site where the men of General Wolfe's brigade landed on the 8th June, 1758, after having been repulsed with heavy losses by the French, who were entrenched westward. Thus began the operations which ended by the capitulation of Louisbourg, on the 26th July of that year.

#### *Ste. Anne, Englishtown, N.S.*

A cairn, bearing a bronze tablet, was erected on a plot of land donated by Mr. George E. Fader, adjacent to the Cape North-Baddeck main highway to record the events which took place there. Ste. Anne was settled by Captain Charles Daniel in 1629 and later became an early Jesuit mission. In 1713 it was selected as a naval base and strongly fortified. Its importance declined with the selection of Louisbourg as the capital in 1719. The unveiling of the memorial was carried out on August 27, 1930, in the presence of a large and representative gathering.

#### *Canada's Coal Industry, Port Morien, N.S.*

A cairn, to which is affixed a bronze tablet, was erected on a plot of land donated by the Dominion Coal Company, adjacent to the Long Beach-Morien main road, to mark the site where the first regular coal mining operations in America were estab-

lished by the French, in 1720. From the modest beginning in those days, this industry has become one of national and imperial importance. The unveiling of the memorial was carried out with fitting ceremonies on September 20, 1930.

*First Export of Coal, Minto, N.B.*

A cut stone monument, bearing a bronze tablet, was erected near the Canadian Pacific Railway Station at Minto, to commemorate the events connected with the discovery of coal in that region by the French, soon after their occupation of Acadie. This was being shipped to Boston in considerable quantities by water, before the middle of the 17th century. This export trade in coal was the first to be developed on the entire eastern coast of North America.

*Benjamin Sulte, Three Rivers, P.Q.*

A bronze tablet was affixed to the City Hall Building to commemorate the public services of Benjamin Sulte as an historian and poet, 1841-1923. For some years he represented the province of Quebec on the Historic Sites and Monuments Board. The memorial was unveiled on October 13, 1930.

*Chambly Canal, Chambly, P.Q.*

A cairn, to which is affixed a bronze tablet, was erected on the canal reserve, adjacent to the main highway, to commemorate the events associated with the construction of this canal, which was begun in 1831. It was built to connect lake Champlain with the St. Lawrence river.

*Quebec Seminary, Quebec, P.Q.*

A bronze tablet was affixed to the outer wall of Laval University to mark the site of the seminary established there in March, 1663, by Mgr. de Laval. This seminary is the oldest educational house for boys in Canada.

*Opening of St. Lawrence to All Nations, Quebec, P.Q.*

A bronze tablet was affixed to the outer wall of the passengers waiting room at the Princess Louise docks, to commemorate the events connected with the opening of the St. Lawrence river to all nations on January 1, 1850.

*First Geodetic Survey Station, Kingsmere, P.Q.*

A cairn, to which is affixed a bronze tablet, was erected on a plot of ground donated by Mr. M. Mulvihill, on the summit of King mountain, to mark the site of the first Geodetic Survey station, which was established there in 1905 by Dr. W. F. King. This was the commencement of the triangulation system of the Geodetic Survey of Canada, the basis of surveys for all purposes, topographical, engineering and cadastral.

*Mattawa Portage, Mattawa, Ont.*

A cairn, to which is affixed a bronze tablet, was erected in a small park, at the corner of Main and Water streets, to mark the site of the portage on the main canoe route to the Great Lakes, Plains, Rockies and beyond, used by the Indians and by explorers, traders and missionaries, French and English. Upon its traffic was founded the early commercial prosperity of Montreal. The unveiling of the memorial was carried out on September 30, 1930, in the presence of a large and representative gathering.

*Fort George, Niagara-on-the-Lake, Ont.*

A cairn, to which is affixed a bronze tablet, was erected on the summit of the bastion of the old fort to mark the site of the stronghold built there in 1801, and later enlarged by General Brock's troops. It was captured by a United States force, in May, 1813, who occupied it until the following December, when possession was regained by the British. The fort was maintained as a military post until 1845. The memorial was unveiled with appropriate ceremonies on September 20, 1930, in accordance with arrangements made by the Niagara Historical Society.

*Southwold Earthwork, near St. Thomas, Ont.*

Stone pillars were erected at the entrance to the site from the highway and a bronze tablet was affixed to one of these giving a brief history of this double-walled aboriginal fort, the antiquity and origin of which are unknown. The Attiwandorank or Neutral Nation, occupants of the region prior to expulsion about 1650, had been visited by French traders, but the earthwork shows no sign of European contact. The unveiling of the memorial was carried out with appropriate ceremonies on September 15, 1930.

*Dominion Lands Survey System, near Headingly, Man.*

A cairn, to which is affixed a bronze tablet, was erected on a plot of land donated by Mr. John T. Haig and Honourable A. Bénéard, adjacent to the Winnipeg-Portage Highway, two miles west of Headingly, to mark the site where the first monument on the Dominion Lands Survey was placed, July 10, 1871. The system then inaugurated now extends across the prairies and to the coast. The memorial was unveiled on July 14, 1930, with fitting ceremonies, arranged for by the Historical and Scientific Society of Manitoba.

*Early Fur Trade, Wawanesa, Man.*

A cairn, to which is affixed a bronze tablet, was erected in a small park adjacent to the Sunshine Highway, to commemorate the events connected with the seven forts built near there on the Assiniboine, between 1785 and 1828, by the North West, Hudson's Bay and XY Companies, rivals in the fur trade. From these forts ran the trade route to the Mandan country on the Missouri. The unveiling of the memorial took place with appropriate ceremonies on July 15, 1930.

*Indian Treaty, No. 6, near Duck Lake, Sask.*

A cairn, to which is affixed a bronze tablet, was erected on a plot of land donated by Mr. W. A. Urton in the NW.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of section 11, township 45, range 4, west of the 3rd meridian, adjacent to the Prince Albert-Carlton Station road to mark the site where Commissioners of the Crown negotiated Treaty No. 6 with the Crees, in August, 1876, who thereby surrendered their rights to 120,000 square miles of territory. This Treaty allayed unrest among these Indians and assisted the peaceful settlement of the region.

*David Thompson, Jasper Park, Alta.*

A cairn, to which is affixed a bronze tablet, was erected on the summit of Old Fort Point, at the east end of the Athabaska river bridge, to commemorate the public services of David Thompson, who discovered the Athabaska pass in 1810-11. This at once became the regular route across the mountains and so continued until the advent of railway communication. To David Thompson, Canada owes the first accurately prepared map of the Great West, embodying the results of his survey and explorations from 1789 to 1812.

*Henry House, Jasper Park, Alta.*

A cairn, to which is affixed a bronze tablet, was erected adjacent to the road leading to Jasper Lodge, some five hundred yards from the east end of the Athabaska River bridge, to mark the site of the post founded there in 1811 by the North West Company. After the discovery of the Athabaska Pass as the regular route to and from the Columbia, Henry House became and remained for many years an important point in the transportation system of the North West Company and later of the Hudson's Bay Company.

*Simon Fraser, Musqueam, B.C.*

A stone monument, bearing a bronze tablet, was erected adjacent to Marine Drive, near the west boundary of the Musqueam Indian Reserve, to mark the place where Simon Fraser of the North West Company ended his dangerous exploration of the Fraser river from Fort George. His object was to find a trade route to the Pacific from the interior forts and thus avoid the long journey across the continent.

*Pacific Cable, Bamfield, B.C.*

A bronze tablet was affixed to the outer wall of the Cable Station to mark one terminal of this British state-owned cable, laid at the joint expense of Great Britain, Canada, Australia and New Zealand, which was completed and officially opened on October 31, 1902.

## ACQUISITION AND PRESERVATION OF SITES

The following action was taken with respect to the acquisition of sites recommended for marking by the Board and in connection with the improvement of other properties already controlled by the department:—

*Louisbourg Fortress, near Louisbourg, N.S.*

The main road, leading from the entrance to the administration building, was straightened, graded and resurfaced. A new road was laid out along Rue d'Orleans, from the intersection with Rue St. Louis. The north and south casements were repaired, the old citadel well cleaned out and the casing rebuilt, and a number of signs erected to mark the principal points of interest.

*Fort Monckton, near Port Elgin, N.B.*

The grounds included in the site were cleared and levelled, public conveniences provided, and a new sea wall built to prevent further erosion.

*Fort Beausejour, near Sackville, N.B.*

Cannon were mounted on the northeast and northwest bastions, repairs made to the powder magazine, the entrance road was improved, and a number of markers put up to designate the principal points of interest.

*Mallard House, St. John, N.B.*

A licence of occupation was executed with the owners of the Royal Hotel, granting permission for a tablet to be affixed to the outer wall of that structure, which stands on the site of Mallard House, where the first Legislature of New Brunswick met in February, 1786.

*Fort Chambly, Chambly, P.Q.*

Repairs were made to the masonry of the dungeon, powder magazine and the northeast and northwest bastions, respectively. A portion of the dry stone wall on the north side was rebuilt and the cemetery grounds filled in and levelled.

*Cascades Canal, Cascades, P.Q.*

A site was provided by the Department of Railways and Canals on the Canal Reserve at Cascades Point, on which to place a memorial to commemorate the events connected with the construction of the Cascades and Soulanges canals, 1779-1783.

*Lachine Canal, Lachine, P.Q.*

A site was provided by the Department of Railways and Canals on the Canal Reserve, west of the bridge, on which to place a memorial to commemorate the events associated with the building of the Lachine canal, 1821-84.

*Carillon Canal, Carillon, P.Q.*

A site was provided by the Department of Railways and Canals, adjacent to the main highway at Carillon, on which to place a memorial to record the events connected with the construction of the Carillon canal, 1826-82.

*Grenville Canal, Grenville, P.Q.*

A site was provided by the Department of Railways and Canals at the foot of the guard lock, adjacent to the road leading to the swing bridge, on which to place a memorial to commemorate the events associated with the building of the Grenville canal, 1819-33.

*Fort Lennox, Isle-aux-Noix, P.Q.*

A new bridge was constructed over the moat at the south entrance to the fort and the north bridge repaired.

*Fort Cathcart, Cedar Island, near Kingston, Ont.*

Repairs were carried out to the masonry of the exterior and interior walls, and the three large cannon on the top floor mounted on suitable supports.

*Butlers Rangers, Niagara-on-the-Lake, Ontario.*

The Niagara Parks Commission provided a site near the old burying ground, on which to place a memorial to commemorate the valiant services of the officers and men of Butlers Corps of Rangers during the War of 1812.

*Cornwall Canal, near Cornwall, Ont.*

A site was provided by the Department of Railways and Canals adjacent to the main highway, about three miles west of Cornwall, on which to place a memorial to commemorate the events connected with the building of this canal, 1834-42.

*Farran Point Canal, Farran's Point, Ont.*

A site was provided by the Department of Railways and Canals in the small park at the lower entrance to the canal reserve, on which to place a memorial to record the principal events connected with the work of constructing the canal from 1844 to 1847.

*Rapide Plat Canal near Morrisburg, Ont.*

A site was provided by the Department of Railways and Canals on the canal reserve, adjacent to the main highway about three miles west of Morrisburg, on which to place a memorial to commemorate the events associated with the construction of this canal, 1844-1847.

*Iroquois Canal, Iroquois, Ont.*

A site was provided by the Department of Railways and Canals in a small park adjacent to the main highway in the village of Iroquois, on which to place a memorial to commemorate the principal events connected with the building of this canal, from 1844 to 1846.

*Carrying Place, Bay of Quinte, Ont.*

The provincial Government has, by Order in Council, transferred control of a small plot of land adjacent to the Trenton road on which to place a memorial to record the events connected with the Indian Treaty which was concluded there in 1787.

*Samuel de Champlain, Ottawa, Ont.*

Permission was granted by the Federal District Commission to affix a bronze tablet to the Samuel de Champlain monument which stands on Nepean Point to commemorate his public services.

*Capture of Schooners Ohio and Somers, Fort Erie, Ont.*

The Niagara Parks Commission granted permission for a bronze table to be affixed to the outer wall of Fort Erie, to commemorate the events connected with the capture of the United States Schooners *Ohio* and *Somers*, during the war of 1812-14.

*Sir Gordon Drummond, Toronto, Ont.*

Permission was obtained from the Provincial Department of Public Works to affix a bronze tablet to the inner wall of the Parliament Buildings at Toronto, to commemorate the distinguished public services of Sir Gordon Drummond.

*Normandale Furnace, Normandale, Ont.*

Permission was obtained from the Provincial Government to affix a bronze tablet to the outer wall of the fish hatchery building at Normandale, to mark the site of the iron furnace founded by Samuel Mason, in 1818.

*Rocky Mountain House, Alta.*

A plot of land 25 feet square, adjacent to the main road, was donated by Mrs. Mabel Brierley, on which to place a cairn and tablet to mark the site of the post built by the North West Company in 1799.

*Collins Overland Telegraph, Quesnel, B.C.*

A licence of occupation was executed with the municipal authorities granting permission for the erection of a memorial in the small park near Front street, to commemorate the events connected with the construction of the Collins Overland Telegraph Line, the first unit in the telegraph system of the West.

*Yukon Gold Discovery, Dawson City, Y.T.*

Permission was obtained from the Department of Public Works to affix a tablet to the inner wall of the Administration Building at Dawson City, to commemorate the events connected with the first discovery of gold in the Yukon.

## WORK FOR THE FUTURE

The following sites and the services of important personages have been recommended for attention by the Board and will be dealt with by the Department from time to time:—

- Action at Bloody Creek, near Bridgetown, N.S.
- Battle of Grand Pre, near Grand Pre, N.S.
- St. Peters Canal, St. Peters, N.S.
- Fort St. Peters, St. Peters, N.S.

Paul Mascarene, Annapolis Royal, N.S.  
 Fort St. Louis, Port la Tour, N.S.  
 Martello Tower, St. John, N.B.  
 Beaubear's Island, near Newcastle, N.B.  
 Fort Nerepis, near St. John, N.B.  
 Lachine Canal, Lachine, P.Q.  
 Carillon Canal, Carillon, P.Q.  
 Grenville Canal, Grenville, P.Q.  
 Temiscouata Portage, Cabano, P.Q.  
 Chaudjere Portages, Hull, P.Q.  
 First Paper Mill, St. Andrews East, P.Q.  
 Fort Jacques Cartier, Cap Sante, P.Q.  
 Temiscamingue, P.Q.  
 Jacques Cartier's Landing, Gaspé, P.Q.  
 Lachine Massacre, Lachine, P.Q.  
 First Stage Coaches and Postal Service, Quebec, P.Q.  
 Chambly Road near Longueuil, P.Q.  
 Champlain's Landing Place, Morrison's Island, P.Q.  
 Point au Baril, Maitland, Ontario.  
 Sir Charles Bagot, Kingston, Ont.  
 Lord Sydenham, Kingston, Ont.  
 Navy Yard, Kingston, Ont.  
 Officers and Seamen Royal Navy, Kingston, Ont.  
 Fort Mississauga, Niagara-on-the-Lake, Ont.  
 Dundas Street, near Dundas, Ont.  
 Navy Yard, Amherstburg, Ont.  
 Officers and Seamen Royal Navy, Amherstburg, 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.  
 Butlers Burying Ground, Niagara-on-the-Lake, Ont.  
 Yonge Street Highway, near Richmond Hill, Ont.  
 Danforth Road, Hamilton, Ont.  
 Fort Drummond, Queenston Heights, Ont.  
 Arctic Discovery and Exploration, Ottawa, Ont.  
 Indian Treaties, Niagara-on-the-Lake, Ont.  
 Fort Henry, Kingston, Ont.  
 Trent Canal, Bobcaygeon, Ont.  
 Burlington Heights, Hamilton, Ont.  
 Capture of Schooners Tigress and Scorpion, Penetanguishene,  
 Ontario.  
 Six Nations Indians, Brantford, Ont.  
 The Crawford Indian Treaty, Kingston, Ont.  
 Fort Erie, Ont.  
 First Cheese Factory in Canada, near Norwich, Ont.  
 Discovery of Red Fife Wheat, near Peterboro, Ont.  
 McKee's Purchase near Chatham, Ont.  
 Chief Tecumseh, near Moraviantown, Ont.  
 Henry Kelsey, The Pas, Man.  
 Fort Maurepas, Man.

Fort Alexander, Man.  
Port Churchill, Man.  
Fort Prince of Wales, Churchill, Man.  
Duck Lake Battlefield, Duck Lake, Sask.  
Battle of Fish Creek, near Rosthern, Sask.  
Fort a la Corne, near Prince Albert, Sask.  
General Strange's Column, N.W. Rebellion, Edmonton, Alta.  
Rocky Mountain House, Alta.  
Fort Chipewyan, Alta.  
Collins Overland Telegraph, Quesnel, B.C.  
Fort Alexandria, B.C.  
Yukon Gold Discovery, Dawson City, N.W.T.