

# Report of the Annual Meeting of the Canadian Historical Association Rapport de l'assemblée annuelle de la Société historique du Canada

Report of the Annual Meeting

## National Historic Parks and Sites, 1953-54

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[Aller au sommaire du numéro](#)

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## NATIONAL HISTORIC PARKS AND SITES, 1953-54

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

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 on by the Department of Northern Affairs and National Resources through National Parks and Historic Sites Service. The Historic Sites and Monuments Board of Canada, an honorary body of recognized historians, representing the ten provinces of the Dominion, acts in an advisory capacity to the Minister in this work. The Board was placed on a statutory basis by the Historic Sites and Monuments Act in 1953.

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. Jeffery, St. John's, Newfoundland; Dr. Alfred G. Bailey, Fredericton, New Brunswick; Campbell Innes, Battleford, Saskatchewan; Dr. F. J. Alcock, Ottawa, Ontario. C. G. Childe, National Parks and Historic Sites Services, Ottawa, Ontario, is Secretary to the Board.

The annual meeting of the Board was held in Ottawa, May 26 - 29, 1953, 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, 477 have been marked or acquired and 188 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 were painted as well as the band stand, chain fence, cannon balls, park benches, flag pole, sentry box and wooden signs. The doors of the furnace room were covered with galvanized iron as a fire prevention measure. A new sewer system and septic tank were installed, hard surfacing was laid for a width of approximately ten feet around the museum building, and the wheels of some of the cannon were repaired. The monument to *Sieur de Monts* was repaired, all tablets in the park were cleaned, the hedges and shrubbery were trimmed, improvement work was carried out on the driveway

and paths and additional exhibits of interest were obtained for the museum.

A total of 19,297 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.

Crib work and stone fill was placed along the river bank in front of the Habitation to prevent erosion. Preserving oil was applied to the shingle roofs of the buildings and all iron work in the buildings was cleaned. A section of the fence enclosing the park was taken down and replaced and the remainder was repaired. The driveway at the park and the road leading to Scots Fort were repaired, the parking area was enlarged, picnic tables were supplied, the rest rooms were painted and the lawns were rolled and trimmed.

Visitors registered at the park during the year numbered 15,746.

*Fortress of Louisbourg 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. Louisbourg was erected more than two centuries ago by the French, who had named the settlement in honour of Louis XIV, King of France. It 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 Louisbourg was commanded by General Wolfe, who was later to die heroically at Quebec.

Additional restoration work was carried out on the remains of the Hospital. The entrance road which was damaged by heavy gales was repaired, graded and levelled. Improvements were made to the parking area, the lawns were levelled and seeded, and the Texas gate at the entrance to the park was rebuilt. The rest rooms and boiler and pump rooms were painted, as well as the exterior woodwork of the museum building and Custodian's residence and all signs within the park. The iron fence around the monument erected by the Society of Colonial Wars was also painted and the picket fence enclosing the park was repaired. The bronze tablets were cleaned, culverts repaired and the grounds maintained in good condition.

Visitors registered during the year numbered 20,497.

*Fort Beausejour 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 signs along the highway nearby and within the park were painted as well as the rest rooms. All the bronze tablets on the grounds were cleaned. The heating system in the museum building was repaired, a new display case was donated, the lawn was rolled, flowers were planted and the grass along the paths and around the parking area was trimmed.

A total of 21,430 persons signed the visitors book.

*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.

Additional repointing was carried out on the old walls of the fort and on the retaining wall near the rapids; the angle iron picket fence was painted, as well as the picnic tables, park benches, rest rooms, the main entrance door to the fort and some of the interior and exterior woodwork of the museum building. Flag stones were laid around the water stand in the picnic grounds, repairs were made to the public shelter, the parking area was repaired and levelled, the trees were trimmed, signs were erected, and the paths were raked and trimmed.

During the year 72,320 persons signed the museum register book.

*Fort Lennox National Historic Park* is located on Ile-aux-Noix in the Richelieu River, about thirteen miles south of St. John's, Quebec. The present fort, which stands near 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.

The old bridge at the south entrance was dismantled and a new one constructed; the stone arch at the main entrance to the fort was repointed and additional new flooring was laid in the mens' barracks. Repairs were made to the landing dock on the east side of the island and also to the doors of the powder magazine and casemates. The roofs of several of the buildings were painted as well as the picnic tables, signs, boat house, stable, barn, and the floors of the museum and rest rooms. The windows of the various buildings were repaired, the lawn on the parade ground was levelled and rolled, the grass along the ramparts and in the cemeteries was trimmed, and the bronze tablets on the island were cleaned.

Visitors registered at the park during the year numbered 8,829.

*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 blockhouse and caponniere were re-shingled, the fort buildings were painted, and repairs were made to the palisades and to the chimney of the original officers' quarters which is now used as the custodian's residence. The grass on the front of the park property and on the lawn and inner mounds was trimmed, the moat was cleaned, flowers were planted and additional exhibits of interest were obtained for the museum.

A total of 8,134 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.

A burglar alarm system was installed in the stone museum building and a similar system will be installed in the "Old Fort" building. Crushed stone was spread on the driveway and paths, a small bridge was constructed across the moat, steps were built on the side of the north-west bastion and a concrete base was made for a capstan which has been donated to the park. A large exhibit case was obtained for the museum, the entrance door to the stone building was painted, and the ceilings of the Coin and Pioneer rooms were repaired. The grass on the lawns was cut and the trees and shrubs were trimmed. Additional exhibits of interest were received, including a model of Fort Malden which was presented by the Hough family of Amherstburg in memory of the late F. A. Hough whose family owned a part of the present park.

During the year 17,418 persons signed the museum register.

*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, 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. It was transferred to the Canadian Government in 1951 subject to the continuance of a lease of the buildings and grounds to the Motor Country Club until December 31, 1955.

Restoration work undertaken during the year included the repairing of rotting timbers, tracing and re-establishing drains, repairing and repointing the masonry of the walls and bastions, and repairing the roofs, eaves troughs, windows and doors of the various buildings.

*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.

*Fort Battleford National Historic Park* is situated in the Townsite 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.

New museum equipment included additional cases to display the firearms and a large plate glass walk-in case to display the old uniforms which are on mannequins. The exhibits were cleaned and rearranged and additional items of interest were obtained. The fence enclosing the park property was repaired and the well was lined with cement and made ready to receive the pump which is to be installed. The entrance road was repaired, signs were erected and the lawns were trimmed and sprayed.

Visitors registered during the year numbered 11,391.

#### NATIONAL HISTORIC SITES

*Fort William, St. John's, Newfoundland.* A tablet was erected in the entrance lobby of the Newfoundland Hotel to mark the site of Fort William, built early in the seventeenth century. It was attacked three times by the French from Placentia and in 1696 Le Moyne d'Iberville destroyed the fort and settlement. Restored in 1697, it withstood an attack under Subercase in 1705, but in 1708 capitulated to St. Ovide de Brouillon who destroyed St. John's. In 1762 a force under Comte d'Haussonville, arrived from France and captured the fort. Troops led by Colonel William Amherst routed the French on Signal Hill and compelled d'Haussonville to surrender. The tablet was unveiled by the Hon. J. R. Smallwood, Premier of Newfoundland, on November 30, 1953.

*Fort Townshend, St. John's, Newfoundland.* A cut-stone monument with tablet was erected in a small park at the intersection of Military Road and Harvey Road to mark the site of Fort Townshend, constructed in 1773-79 under Governor Lord Shuldham. It became the headquarters of the garrison and communication with Fort William was established by Military Road. In 1796, during the war with France, a French fleet which had approached the harbour withdrew after observing the strength of the defences. The garrison was disbanded in 1871. The monument was unveiled by the Hon. Lieut. Col. Sir L. C. Outerbridge, Lieutenant-Governor of Newfoundland, on November 25, 1953.

*The Sack of Lunenburg, Lunenburg, N. S.* A cut-stone monument with tablet was erected in Victoria Park to commemorate the Sack of Lunenburg. On July 1, 1782, while most of its men were absent, the Town of Lunenburg was invaded by a fleet of six sail from Boston, in reprisal for capture of the Brig "Sally" in 1780. After taking the eastern blockhouse, with its defenders Colonel Creighton and five men, and occupying the western defences, the invaders then plundered the King's stores at the foot of King Street, the shops and principal houses. They prevented the county militia, assembled under Major Pernette on the hill behind the Town, from attacking them by exacting a promissory note of £1000 as ransom and by threatening to burn the Town. The tablet was unveiled on June 8, 1953, by Mr. J. Creighton of Lunenburg, a descendant of Colonel Creighton who defended the Town against the invaders.

*The "Bluenose", Lunenburg, N. S.* A tablet was affixed to the Sack of Lunenburg monument in Victoria Park to commemorate the feats of the "Bluenose", 1921-1946, champion of the International Schooner Races, and symbol of the transformation of an inland people into leading deep sea fishermen of the North Atlantic. German, French and Swiss immigrants were planted there as farmers in 1753, and after clearing the wilderness and practising the coastal fisheries, gradually went on to the Banks, where they vied with the fishermen of Gloucester, their competitors in the International Schooner Races. An additional tablet bearing a likeness of the "Bluenose" in relief was also affixed to the monument. These tablets were unveiled on June 8, 1953, by Captain Angus Walters, who was skipper of the "Bluenose" throughout her fishing and racing career.

*Margaret Marshall Saunders, C.B.E., Milton, N. S.* A tablet was affixed to the Masonic Hall to Margaret Marshall Saunders, author of "Beautiful Joe" which won for her international fame and membership in humane societies of America and Great Britain. She was born at Milton, April 13, 1861, and died in Toronto, February 15, 1947. The tablet was unveiled on September 2, 1953.

*The Arts Building, University of New Brunswick, Fredericton, N. B.* A tablet was erected in the Arts Building marking it as the oldest existing university building in Canada. It was built in 1828 for King's College, later The University of New Brunswick and was opened by Sir Howard Douglas, Lieutenant-Governor of the Province, on January 1, 1829.

*Viscount Richard Bedford Bennett, Hopewell Cape, N. B.* A cut-stone monument with tablet was erected in a small park to Viscount Richard Bedford Bennett. Of early colonial stock, he practised law in Chatham, N. B., and for many years in Calgary, Alta., having moved to the Northwest in 1897. He was elected from Calgary to the Legislative Assembly of the North West Territories in 1898, to the Alberta Legislature in 1909, and to Parliament in 1911, and was long in the forefront of public life and Prime Minister of Canada from 1930 to 1935. Retiring in 1939 to live in England, he was raised to the peerage in 1941 as Viscount Bennett of Mickleham, Calgary and Hopewell. He was born at Hopewell, N. B. July 3, 1870 and died at Mickleham, England, June 27, 1947. The monument was unveiled by his brother, Captain R. V. Bennett, on October 16,

1953, the principal address being given by the Hon. Milton F. Gregg, Minister of Labour.

*Sir Albert James Smith, K.C.M.G., Dorchester, N. B.* A boulder and tablet was erected on the grounds of the Court House to Sir Albert James Smith, jurist and legislator. He was Premier of New Brunswick, 1865-66, and Minister of Marine and Fisheries, 1873-78. He was born at Shediac, March 12, 1823, and died at Dorchester, June 30, 1883.

*Louis Guillaume Verrier, Quebec, P. Q.* A tablet was affixed to the Law Faculty Building, Laval University, to Louis Guillaume Verrier. He was admitted to the Paris Bar in 1712, appointed Attorney General for the Superior Court of Quebec in 1728, and in 1733 founded the first law school north of Mexico. He was born in Paris, October 17, 1690, and died in Quebec, September 13, 1758. The tablet was unveiled on September 7, 1953.

*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, was taken over by the Department in 1950 in order that they may be maintained and preserved as a national historic site. Repair work on a large scale was carried out during the year.

*Invention of the Telephone, near Brantford, Ont.* A cut-stone monument with tablet was erected at the Bell Homestead on Tutelo Heights to commemorate the invention of the telephone. Here at the home of his father on July 26, 1874, Alexander Graham Bell disclosed for the first time his conception of the principle of the telephone. From Brantford calls were made to Mount Pleasant on August 3, to the Bell Homestead on August 4, and to Paris, Ont., on August 10, 1876. The latter is now recognized as the world's first long distance call. The monument was unveiled under the auspices of the Brantford Board of Park Management and the Bell Telephone Company of Canada on September 12, 1953.

*Honourable Arthur Sturgis Hardy, Mount Pleasant, Ont.* A tablet was erected in the Mount Pleasant Senior School to the Honourable Arthur Sturgis Hardy, Provincial Secretary of Ontario, 1877-89, Commissioner of Crown Lands, 1889-96, and Premier and Attorney General of the Province, 1896-99. He was born at Mount Pleasant, December 14, 1837, and died in Toronto, June 13, 1901. The tablet was unveiled by his son, Senator A. C. Hardy of Brockville, on September 30, 1953.

*John Wilson Bengough, Toronto, Ont.* A tablet was placed in the William Lyon Mackenzie Homestead, 82 Bond Street, to John Wilson Bengough, cartoonist, journalist, poet and lecturer. He was the founder in 1873 and Editor to 1892 of the humorous weekly "Grip". He was born in Toronto, April 5, 1851, and died there October 2, 1923. The tablet was unveiled under the auspices of the Homestead Trustees on November 6, 1953.

*Peter McArthur, near Appin, Ont.* A tablet affixed to an iron standard was erected in a small road-side park adjacent to Highway No. 2, to Peter McArthur, journalist, poet, essayist and author of "In Pastures Green" and other works. He was born March 10, 1866, on a farm near Appin, and died in London, October 28, 1924. The un-



veiling ceremony was held at the McArthur Homestead on October 24, 1953.

*James Jerome Hill, Rockwood, Ont.* A tablet was affixed to the outer wall of the Township Office building to James Jerome Hill, pioneer railway promoter and builder in Canada and the United States. He was born on a farm near Rockwood, September 16, 1838, and died in St. Paul, Minn., U. S. A., May 29, 1916.

*Dollier-Galinee Memorial Cross, Port Dover, Ont.* In 1922 the Department erected a monument in the form of a stone cross near the spot where in March 1670 Dollier and Galinee erected a wooden cross with the Arms of France, claiming sovereignty in the name of King Louis XIV over a large part of the Lake Erie region. In view of the difficulty of access, the monument was dismantled and with the co-operation of the Provincial Department of Highways it has been re-erected on a commanding site at the junction of Highway No. 6 and Brown Street, where it overlooks the town.

*Champlain's Astrolabe, about three miles east of Cobden, Ont.* In 1951 the Department erected a cut-stone monument with tablet adjacent to Highway No. 17, to commemorate the finding in that vicinity of an astrolabe believed to have been lost by Samuel Champlain about June 7, 1613, when on his exploratory expedition up the Ottawa River. A small bronze tablet showing the astrolabe in relief was affixed to the monument during the year.

*James Bruce, Ottawa, Ont.* A brass plate was affixed to the base of the bust, in the Lord Elgin Hotel, of James Bruce, 8th Earl of Elgin, 12th Earl of Kincardine, K.T., G.C.B., Governor General of British North America, 1847-1854. The inscription on the plate records that the bust of James Bruce and that of his wife were presented in 1939 by their grandson, Edward James, 10th Earl of Elgin and 14th Earl of Kincardine, K.T., to the Canadian Government through the Right Hon. W. L. Mackenzie King, then Prime Minister of Canada.

*Honourable Robert Baldwin, Toronto, Ont.* A tablet was erected in the Parliament Buildings to the Honourable Robert Baldwin, champion of responsible government, joint premier of Canada, 1848-51, and founder of Ontario's municipal system. He was born in York, U. C., May 12, 1804, and died in Toronto, December 9, 1858. The tablet was unveiled in the presence of a large audience, including 30 descendants of Robert Baldwin, by the Prime Minister of Ontario, the Honourable Leslie Frost, and the Leader of the Opposition, the Honourable Farquhar Oliver, on March 31, 1954.

*Bishop George Exton Lloyd, Lloydminster, Sask.* A cairn with tablet was erected to Bishop George Exton Lloyd who, in 1903, led a party of more than 1,400 colonists from the British Isles, since known as "the Barr Colonists" on an overland trek by horses and ox-drawn wagons from Saskatoon to the site of Lloydminster. At the end of their adventurous journey the colonists settled 56 townships in the district and founded the town of Lloydminster, naming it after their leader. Bishop Lloyd was Chaplain to the Queen's Own Rifles, 1885; Rector of Rothesay, N. B., 1890; Rector of Lloydminster, 1903-09; Principal of Emmanuel College, Saskatoon, 1909-16; and Bishop of Saskatchewan 1922-31. He was born in London, England,

January 6, 1861, and died in Esquimalt, B. C., December 15, 1940. The monument was unveiled by the Hon. James G. Gardiner, Minister of Agriculture, during the Golden Jubilee celebrations of the town, July 19 - 21, 1953.

*Peter Pond, near Prince Albert, Sask.* A cairn with tablet was erected on the north bank of the Saskatchewan River, about four miles west of Prince Albert, to mark the place where in 1776 Peter Pond, explorer and fur trader, built his first trading post. He was one of the founders of the North West Company and served with the Company until 1790. He opened the North Saskatchewan River and Athabaskan districts, kept a journal and made the first general map of the area. He was born in Milford, Conn., U. S. A., in 1740 and died there in 1807.

*Viscount Richard Bedford Bennett, Calgary, Alta.* A cut-stone monument with tablet was erected in Central Memorial Park to Viscount Richard Bedford Bennett. The information on the tablet is the same as that on the tablet to Viscount Bennett at Hopewell Cape, N. B., which is referred to earlier in this report. The monument at Calgary was unveiled by the Hon. John James Bowlen, Lieutenant-Governor of Alberta, on August 16, 1953.

*The Boat Encampment, Big Bend Highway, B. C.* A cairn with tablet was erected adjacent to the northern tip of the Big Bend Highway, about two miles west of the bridge crossing the Columbia River, to mark the site of the Boat Encampment, a point of trans-shipment in fur-trading days. Here boats from Fort Vancouver (now Vancouver, Washington), on the lower Columbia, waited for pack trains coming over the mountains from Jasper House. This point was first visited by David Thompson in 1811 and was for almost half a century a meeting place for the fur brigades of the North West Company and, later, of the Hudson's Bay Company. By-passed by the railways, this historic spot was made accessible to visitors by the completion of the Big Bend Highway in June, 1940. The monument was unveiled under the auspices of the Golden Board of Trade on September 6, 1953.