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le Secrétariat du Comité permanent
canadien des noms géographiques

**National Parks
Centennial**

1885

1985

**1885–1985:
100 years of Heritage Conservation**

**1885–1985:
100 ans de conservation du patrimoine**

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AND NORTH TO AUYUITTUQ:

THE DIVERSE ORIGINS OF OUR NATIONAL PARK NAMES

Alan Rayburn*

The names of Canada's 31 national parks reveal a variety of origins. Some are derived from a dominant local community (Banff, Revelstoke) or physical feature (Riding Mountain, Gros Morne). Others are from a leading characteristic of the park's area (Glacier) or its purpose (Wood Buffalo), while some denote a general description of a region (Pacific Rim, Cape Breton Highlands). Canada's aboriginal languages contributed a number of names for parks (Kouchibouguac, Kluane), with one of them, Auyuittuq, being the only park bearing a name specially devised just to identify a park.

Rocky Mountains Park was the name assigned to the first 26 km^2 set aside in Alberta in 1885 for the education and enjoyment of the nation. Subsequently the area allotted to the park was enlarged until, in 1930, it was renamed Banff National Park, an identification it had had informally for several years. Banff, a name of Scottish origin, was given by John MacTavish in 1883 to a CPR station a little east of the townsite, later to be laid out in 1886 by George Stewart, the park's first superintendent. Although the story of Banff is closely linked to Lord Strathcona and Lord Mount Stephen, it is uncertain if either influenced its selection as a station name.

Jasper National Park, created in 1907, received its name from Jasper House, a Northwest Company trading post established in the early 1800s. The post had been named for Jasper Hawes, who was in charge of the post in 1817.

West of Banff National Park in British Columbia is Yoho National Park, which was created in 1886. 'Yoho', given to a river, a mountain, a station and a pass, is usually equated with the Cree for 'wonder' or 'excitement', but the incident that evoked such an exclamation is unknown.

South of Yoho National Park is Kootenay National Park, which embraces the headwaters of the Kootenay River. The name Kootenay may have been given by the Blackfoot Indians to describe the 'people from beyond the hills'. It is also said to mean 'people of the water' in the language of the Kootenay Indians. The spelling of Kootenay was fixed in 1864 by Frederick Seymour, first Governor of British Columbia, to differentiate it from Kootenai, the form in
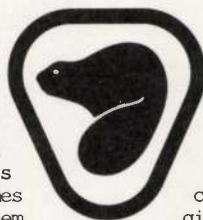
DE TERRA NOVA À PACIFIC RIM

ET VERS LE NORD À AUYUITTUQ:

LES DIVERSES ORIGINES DES NOMS DE NOS PARCS NATIONAUX

Alan Rayburn*

Les noms des 31 parcs nationaux du Canada révèlent des origines variées: certains proviennent d'une collectivité locale (Banff, Revelstoke) ou d'un élément géographique dominant (mont Riding, Gros Morne), d'autres découlent d'une caractéristique importante propre au parc (Glacier) ou d'un objectif (Wood Buffalo), alors que d'autres encore ne représentent qu'une description générale d'une région (Pacific Rim, hautes terres du Cap-Breton). Des mots d'origine autochtone ont servi à nommer un certain nombre de parcs (Kouchibouguac, Kluane), et l'un d'eux, Auyuittuq, constitue le seul parc dont le nom ait été conçu à la seule fin de l'identifier.

En 1885, une zone de 26 km^2, baptisée parc des montagnes Rocheuses, est mise de côté en Alberta pour l'éducation et le divertissement de la nation. Par la suite, le territoire du parc a été agrandi et, en 1930, il devenait le parc national de Banff, nom qu'il portait déjà depuis quelques années officieusement. Le mot Banff, d'origine écossaise, a été donné par John MacTavish en 1883 à une gare du CP située un peu à l'est de la ville, qui sera aménagée plus tard en 1886 par George Stewart, premier surintendant du parc. Même si l'histoire de Banff est étroitement liée à deux hommes, Lord Strathcona et Lord Mount Stephen, on ignore si l'un deux a joué un rôle quelconque dans le choix du nom de la gare.

Le parc national de Jasper, créé en 1907, doit son nom à Jasper House, poste de traite de la Compagnie du Nord-Ouest établi au début du XIXe siècle. Le poste a été nommé en l'honneur de Jasper Hawes, qui le dirigeait en 1817.

A l'ouest du parc national de Banff, en Colombie-Britannique, on retrouve le parc national de Yoho créé en 1886. Le nom Yoho, qui identifie une rivière, une montagne, une gare et un col, est un mot d'origine cri qui signifie habituellement 'émerveillement' ou 'exaltation', mais on ignore au juste quel incident est à l'origine d'une telle exclamation.

Situé au sud du parc national de Yoho, le parc national de Kootenay renferme le cours supérieur de la rivière du même nom. Il se peut que le mot Kootenay ait été donné par les Pieds-Noirs pour désigner 'les habitants d'au-delà des collines'. On dit également qu'il signifie 'gens de l'eau' dans la langue des Indiens kootenays. L'orthographe de ce mot a été fixée en 1864 par Frederick Seymour, premier gouverneur de la Colombie-Britannique, pour le différencier

in use in the United States.

Mount Revelstoke National Park embraces some spectacular topography in the Selkirk Mountains. It was named in 1914 after the city of Revelstoke. The city had received its name in 1886 from Lord Revelstoke, the head of a British banking house, which had provided substantial financial support for the construction of the Canadian Pacific Railway. In 1886 land was set aside for Glacier National Park, a little further east in the Selkirks. The park covers 865 km^2 of rugged mountain terrain and includes over 100 glaciers.

Long Beach, Pacific Rim National Park/
Parc national de Pacific Rim

(Source: Parks Canada/Parcs Canada)

Pacific Rim National Park on the west coast of Vancouver Island is Canada's first national marine park. The name is both appropriate and ironic: it properly identifies the park on the edge of the Pacific Ocean, but its rugged shores and ferocious waves are anything but placid.

Waterton Lakes National Park was established in 1895 on Alberta's border with Montana. The lakes themselves were named in 1858 by Thomas Blakiston for a noted British naturalist, Charles Waterton.

Wood Buffalo National Park, Canada's largest, was laid out in 1922 to protect a small herd of wood buffalo transferred from Wainwright, Alberta. Elk Island National Park is a natural heritage preserve with herds of elk and bison. Located 27 km east of Edmonton, the park has several lakes and islands, but no geographical feature called Elk Island.

Prince Albert National Park, set aside in 1927, is north of the city of Prince Albert, named in 1866 for the consort of Queen Victoria. On the Saskatchewan-Montana border, Grasslands National Park was laid out in 1981 to protect some rare examples of vegetation and wildlife native to the short-grass prairie.

Riding Mountain National Park occupies part of the rugged landscape of the Manitoba Escarpment west of Lake Manitoba. It was organized in 1930, taking its name from the park's dominant elevation. Riding Mountain would

de Kootenai, forme en usage aux États-Unis.

Le parc national du mont Revelstoke offre une topographie spectaculaire, en particulier dans les monts Selkirk. Le parc porte le nom de la ville de Revelstoke; ce nom lui a été donné en 1914. Quant à la ville, elle a été nommée en 1886 en l'honneur de Lord Revelstoke, dirigeant d'un établissement bancaire britannique, qui avait apporté une aide financière considérable à la construction du chemin de fer du Canadien Pacifique. En 1886, du terrain fut réservé pour le parc national de Glacier située légèrement à l'est dans les monts Selkirk. Ce parc couvre une superficie de 865 km^2 de terrain montagneux accidenté et compte plus de 100 glaciers.

Le parc national de Pacific Rim, situé sur la côte ouest de l'île de Vancouver, est le premier parc national marin du Canada. Son nom est à la fois approprié et ironique: il décrit bien la région du littoral du Pacifique, mais ses rives déchiquetées et ses vagues impitoyables sont loin d'être calmes.

Le parc national des lacs Waterton a été établi en 1895 sur la frontière séparant l'Alberta et le Montana. Quant aux lacs, ils ont été nommés en 1858 par Thomas Blakiston en l'honneur d'un naturaliste britannique célèbre, Charles Waterton.

Le parc national de Wood Buffalo, le plus vaste au pays, a été aménagé en 1922 pour protéger un petit troupeau de bisons des bois provenant de Wainwright (Alberta). Le parc national d'Elk Island est une réserve faunique où vivent des troupeaux de wapitis et de bisons. Situé à 27 km à l'est d'Edmonton, ce parc compte plusieurs parcs et îles, mais aucun élément géographique dénommé Elk Island.

Le parc national de Prince-Albert, mis de côté en 1927, se trouve au nord de la ville de Prince Albert, nommée en 1886 en l'honneur de l'époux de la reine Victoria. Situé sur la frontière séparant la Saskatchewan et le Montana, le parc national des Prairies a été créé en 1981 pour protéger des exemples rares de la faune et de la flore propres aux prairies à herbes courtes.

Le parc national du mont Riding couvre une partie du terrain accidenté de l'escarpement du Manitoba, à l'ouest du lac Manitoba. Il a été créé en 1930 et a emprunté son nom au plus haut sommet du parc. Il semble que son nom proviendrait des sentiers indiens découverts par les premiers explorateurs.

Le nom de deux des parcs nationaux du sud de l'Ontario (îles du Saint-Laurent, îles de la baie Georgienne) ne sert qu'à indiquer leur emplacement. Le parc national de la pointe Pelée tire son nom d'une pointe qui s'avance dans le lac Érié. Le mot 'pelée' signifie dégarni ou dénudé, et cette description a été donné à la pointe au début du XVIIIe siècle. Le parc national de Pukaskwa a été créé en 1971 sur la rive nord du lac Supérieur, dans la région de la rivière Pukaskwa. On ignore l'origine de ce nom, mais son sens le plus plausible serait 'lieu de nettoyage du poisson'. On raconte également que ce nom remonte à un incident au cours duquel un Indien aurait tué et brûlé sa femme, mais cette histoire peut être liée à un autre mot ojibway employé pour désigner la rivière. Le nom du parc se prononce 'pouk-e-sa', prononciation plus fidèle à l'orthographe utilisée au XIXe siècle.

Le Québec compte trois parc nationaux. Le parc national de la Mauricie est situé sur la rive ouest de la rivière Saint-Maurice, nom donné au XVIIIe siècle en l'honneur du Sieur de la Fontaine, Maurice Poulin. Cette rivière avait été baptisée 'rivière de Fouez' par Jacques Cartier en 1535

Grasslands National Park / Parc national des Prairies

◄ 'Killdeer Badlands' / 'Bad-lands Killdeer'

▼ Sage Grouse / Gélinotte des armoises
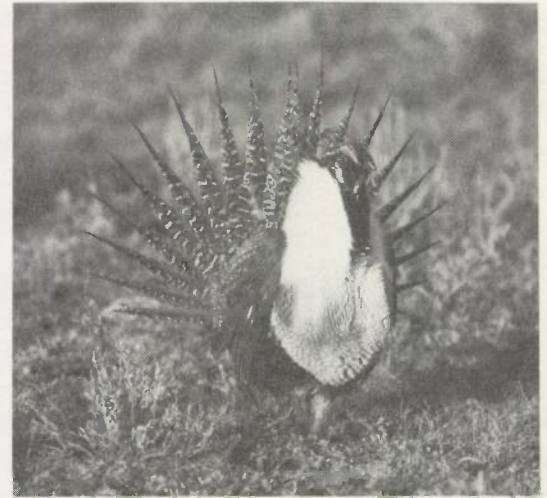
appear to have derived its name from Indian pack trails found by the early explorers.

Two of the names of national parks in Southern Ontario (St. Lawrence Islands, Georgian Bay Islands) merely indicate their locations. Point Pelee National Park derives its name from a prominent point extending into Lake Erie. The word 'pelée' in French means bald or denuded, a description given to the point in the early part of the 18th century. Pukaskwa National Park was established in 1971 on the north shore of Lake Superior, in the area of Pukaskwa River. The origin of the name is uncertain, but 'fish cleaning place' is the most plausible. There is also a story that the name recalls an incident where an Indian killed and burned his wife, but this story may relate to another Ojibway name for the river. The name is pronounced like 'puk-a-saw', which more closely reflects some of the spellings in use in the 19th century.

Quebec has three national parks. La Mauricie National Park is on the west side of the Saint-Maurice River, a name given in the 18th century for the Sieur de la Fontaine, Maurice Poulin. The river had been named 'rivière de Fouez' by Jacques Cartier in 1535 for a prominent French family named Foix. It was also long known as the 'rivière des Trois-Rivières'. Forillon National Park embraces the most easterly part of the Gaspé Peninsula. The name is said to relate to the practice of setting fires on shore to attract fish or simply to alert vessels of dangers to navigation. The most recently established park in Quebec, Mingan Archipelago National Park Reserve, was designated to protect the fragile beauty of some 40 islands in the northern part of the Gulf of St. Lawrence.

Fundy National Park, on the north shore of the Bay of Fundy, is one of New Brunswick's two national parks. The name is likely a corruption of 'fendu', from the French name for Cape Split at the entrance to Minas Basin. In 1971 an area near Richibucto, N.B., was set aside for Kouchibouguac

en l'honneur d'une importante famille française nommée Foix. Elle a également été longtemps connue sous le nom de 'rivière des Trois-Rivières'. Le parc national de Forillon couvre l'extrémité est de la péninsule gaspésienne. On dit que le nom du parc est lié à la pratique qui consistait à allumer des feux sur les berges pour attirer le poisson ou simplement pour alerter les navires de dangers possibles. Établi il y a peu de temps, la réserve du parc national de l'archipel de Mingan a pour but de protéger la beauté fragile de quelque 40 îles dans la partie nord du golfe du Saint-Laurent.

Le parc national de Fundy, situé sur la rive nord de la baie du même nom, est l'un des deux parcs nationaux que compte le Nouveau-Brunswick. Ce nom provient probablement d'une altération du mot 'fendu', nom français donné au cap

Baie des Onze Iles, Lac du Caribou, La Mauricie National Park/Parc national de la Mauricie

National Park. The name was taken from Kouchibouguac River, derived from the Micmac expression Pijeboogwek, 'river of the long tideway'.

The only national park in Prince Edward Island has the same name as the province. Established in 1937, the park preserves some of the finest beaches and wildfowl nesting grounds in North America.

Cape Breton Highlands National Park, the older of Nova Scotia's two national parks, took its name in 1936 from the most easterly point of Cape Breton Island. Cape

Split située à l'entrée du bassin Minas. En 1971, une étendue de terrain située près de Richibucto au Nouveau-Brunswick a été consacrée à la création du parc national de Kouchibouguac. Ce nom provient de la rivière Kouchibouguac, mot dérivé de l'expression micmaque signifiant 'rivière au long lit de marée'.

Le seul parc national de l'Île-du-Prince-Édouard porte le même nom que la province. Créé en 1937, ce parc protège certaines des plus belles plages et zones de nidification du gibier à plume de l'Amérique du Nord.

Le parc national des hautes terres du Cap-Breton, le plus ancien des deux parcs nationaux de la Nouvelle-Écosse,

La réserve du parc national de l'archipel de Mingan/Mingan Archipelago National Park Reserve

(Source: Parks Canada/Parcs Canada)

Breton may have been named in the early 1500s for the fishermen from Brittany. Kejimkujik National Park was created in 1964. Its most prominent feature, Kejimkujik Lake, has a Micmac name of uncertain origin, with 'sore parts' and 'attempting to escape' being among the various meanings given. It is pronounced both 'kej-im-koo-jik' and 'kej-ma-kooj'.

Terra Nova National Park in Newfoundland takes its name from the Latin form of the province's name as well as from a river and a lake adjacent to the park. Gros Morne National Park is north of Corner Brook in the rugged Long Range Mountains. Gros Morne (from the French for 'great hill') is the highest point in the park, rising to 806 metres.

Kluane National Park Reserve in the Yukon is in the area of the spectacular St. Elias Mountains, where peaks are interspersed with impressive icefields and glaciers. The name, pronounced 'kloo-aw-nee', means 'whitefish place' in the Tlingit Indian language. Northern Yukon National

a été ainsi nommé en 1936 en raison de la pointe située à l'extrémité est de l'île du Cap-Breton. On pense que le nom Cap-Breton a été donné au début du XVIe siècle en l'honneur des pêcheurs de la Bretagne. Le parc national de Kejimkujik a été créé en 1964. Son élément dominant, le lac Kejimkujik, porte un nom micmac dont l'origine est incertaine. 'Parties douloureuses' et 'tentative d'évasion' sont parmi les diverses significations données à cette expression qui peut se prononcer 'ke-jim-kou-jik' et 'kej-ma-kouj'.

Le parc national de Terra Nova, à Terre-Neuve, tire son nom de la forme latine du nom de la province ainsi que d'une rivière et d'un lac adjacents au parc. Le parc national de Gros Morne se trouve au nord de Corner Brook au coeur des monts accidentés Long Range. Gros Morne est le plus haut sommet du parc, s'élevant à 806 mètres.

La réserve du parc national de Kluane, au Yukon, se situe dans la région des spectaculaires monts St. Elias, dont les sommets sont entrecoupés de champs de glace et de glaciers imposants. Ce mot qui se prononce 'klow-a-ni', signifie 'lieu du poisson blanc' dans la langue tlingite. Le parc national du nord du Yukon, qui débouche sur les rives

Park on the shores of Beaufort Sea was recently set apart to protect the grounds of caribou, bear and waterfowl. The name Yukon, applied to the territory in 1895, is derived from one of North America's great rivers, and, appropriately, means 'greatest river' in Kutchin.

Nahanni National Park Reserve embraces over 300 kilometres of the South Nahanni River, a wild and turbulent tributary of the Liard River in the Northwest Territories. Nahanni is a tribe whose name, derived from an Athapaskan language, means 'people of the west'. Auyuittuq National Park Reserve was established on Baffin Island in 1972. The name in Inuit, meaning 'place that does not melt', refers to its most prominent feature, Penny Ice Cap.

Since Canada's first national park in the area of Cave and Basin Hot Springs was set aside in 1885, Canada's system of parks and park reserves has grown to include a great variety of landscapes in every province and territory. Some of today's park names are merely descriptive of location. Others, however, are imaginative and undoubtedly evoke curiosity among park visitors or readers of Parks Canada's literature. As Auyuittuq, Forillon and Kluane are names that contribute to Canada's cultural diversity, it is to be hoped that the names of future parks will follow in the traditions of the past 100 years of heritage conservation.

de la mer de Beaufort, a été créé récemment afin de protéger le milieu naturel du caribou, de l'ours et du gibier d'eau. Le mot Yukon, attribué au territoire en 1895, provient de l'un des plus grands fleuves de l'Amérique du Nord, et, à juste titre, signifie 'la plus longue rivière' en kutchin.

La réserve du parc national de Nahanni renferme plus de 300 km du cours de la rivière South Nahanni, affluent sauvage et turbulent de la rivière Liard dans les Territoires du Nord-Ouest. Le mot Nahanni désigne une tribu dont le nom, dérivé d'une langue athapascane, signifie 'habitants de l'ouest'. La réserve du parc national d'Auyuittuq a été établi dans l'île de Baffin en 1972. En inuktitut, ce mot signifie 'lieu qui ne fond pas' et fait allusion à son élément principal, la calotte glaciaire Penny.

Depuis la création du premier parc national du Canada, dans la région des sources thermales Cave et Basin, en 1885, le réseau canadien des parcs et des réserves s'est petit à petit enrichi d'une grande diversité de paysages dans chaque province et territoire. Aujourd'hui, le nom de certains parcs ne fait que décrire l'endroit où le parc est situé. Par contre, pour d'autres, il fait appel à l'imagination et sans aucun doute éveille la curiosité des visiteurs ou des lecteurs des publications de Parcs Canada. Tout comme les noms Auyuittuq, Forillon et Kluane contribuent à l'enrichissement culturel du Canada, il nous faut espérer que le nom des parcs futurs suivra l'esprit qui a marqué le premier siècle de la conservation de notre patrimoine.

WHEN BANFF WAS SOMEWHERE ELSE DOWN THE TRACK

W.B. Yeo*

The approach of the centennial of the national parks has meant a great deal of work and planning across the country, but it is probably true to say that the greatest activity, appropriately enough, has been in Banff National Park. Canada's first national park, indeed the third oldest in the world, Banff is the place where major capital projects are being undertaken, in addition to the staging of special events.

The two most visible centennial projects are the rehabilitation of the Park Museum and the Cave and Basin complex. The Museum is Western Canada's oldest and most heavily attended visitor facility in the system; it stands on Banff Avenue, which can claim to be Parks Canada's main

street. The Cave and Basin is the site of the 'discovery' and subsequent land claim that resulted in the government reserving, from alienation and settlement, 26 km² around the famous hot springs. This reserve, established in November 1885, marked the beginning of Canada's national park system. The hot springs at the Cave and Basin were developed for public bathing in 1886, and successive improvements culminated in 1914 with the erection of a magnificent bathing pavilion designed by Walter Painter. There were additional improvements in 1936, but by 1976 time had taken its toll and the site was closed.

When the Museum work is completed in the summer of 1985 this fine old structure will once again house its outstanding collection of wildlife specimens and Edwardian bric-a-brac. At the Cave and Basin, now a National Historic Site, there is a new pool opened in June 1985. In fact, just about everything is new, except that the cave remains, as does Walter Painter's pavilion, with its belvederes and broad Mediterranean arches. A system of boardwalks takes the visitor up to the hot mineral springs on the terraces

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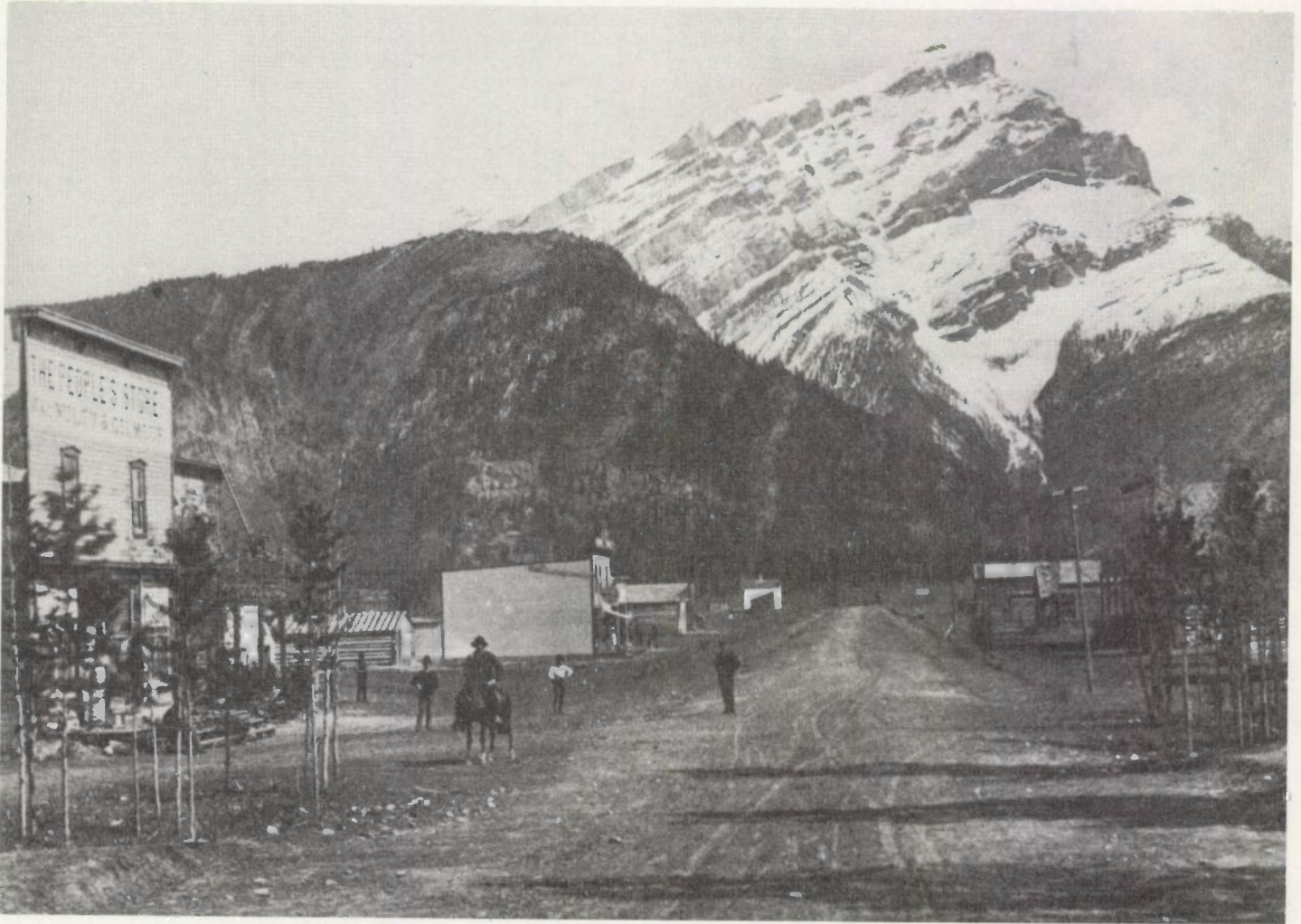
Banff Avenue, c.1887, looking toward Cascade Mountain   (Source: Parks Canada)

of Sulphur Mountain, or down to the warm marsh at the river's edge below the pool. Specially constructed exhibits elaborate on the role played by this site in the beginnings of our national parks, and the visitor is introduced to the scope and purpose of the park system as a whole.

All this activity has naturally focussed attention on the beginnings of Banff National Park, and the origins of Canada's most famous national park town. Once again, old legends about the place have taken on new life. When the Canadian Pacific Railway ended its 1883 construction season the new rails had reached Holt City, a temporary contractor's town situated near modern Lake Louise. From that point back to Calgary, sequentially numbered sidings were established at ten mile intervals. Before the year was out, CPR Land Commissioner John H. MacTavish had assigned a name to each siding. Siding 29 became Banff. Why Banff? Well, MacTavish seems to have drawn liberally upon the toponymy of the land of his ancestors whenever he needed a name for a CPR station. A quick survey of the timetable from one or more of the CPR's western subdivisions reveals a large number of Scottish place names, each chosen whenever MacTavish lacked an existing local name.

So much for historical evidence. The strong, early association between Banffshire in Scotland and the CPR's first president, George (later Sir George) Stephen, as well as with director Sir Donald Smith (Lord Strathcona), has lead to various tales on the naming of Banff. Eric and Patricia Holmgren, write that "the building of a resort in the mountains at a watering place on the Bow River..."[1] occasioned the choice of the name by the directors. This story overlooks the fact that Banff was chosen to name an insignificant railway point three years before resort-building began. It is important to note that in 1883 the name was not applied to the 'resort', but to the station. In 1886 the government built four and a half miles of road from

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1   Holmgren, Eric J. and Patricia M. (1973):   Over 2,000 place-names of Alberta. Saskatoon, p. 11.

the station to the hot springs. Two years later the station was moved to its present location, to give it closer access to the Government townsite and the new Banff Springs Hotel.

The early separation between the original CPR station and the town now known as Banff has given rise to another historical chestnut, the local tradition that the station was known for five years as Siding 29, as if Mr. MacTavish had somehow been mistaken and timetables and maps during that period had perpetuated a gross error. The fact of the matter is that Banff existed: a railway station and post office (where Fred Woodworth was postmaster); the town, such as it was, lay some distance down a rocky road[2]

2   Banff Avenue: so named because it led from the town-
    site to Banff station.
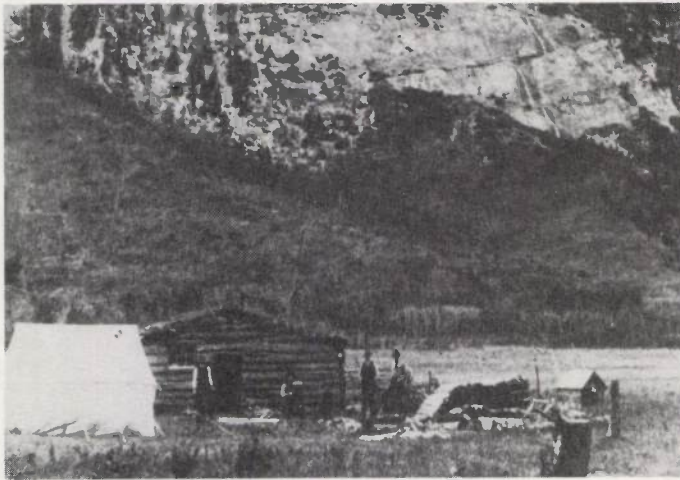
The tent which acted as the office of George A. Stewart, first Superintendent of Banff National park, and the cabin of Ben and Fred Woodworth, at Banff station, c.1886. Fred Woodworth was postmaster at Banff from 1886 to 1888

(Source: Parks Canada)
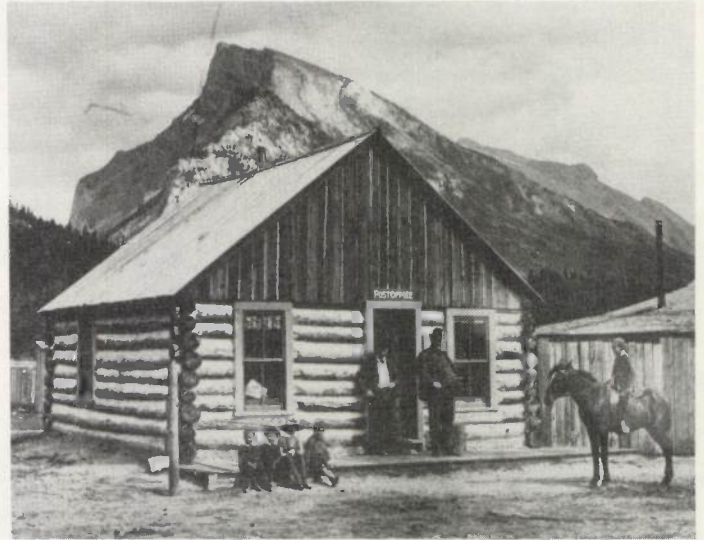
National Park Post Office, c.1886, on the east side of Banff Avenue, with Mount Rundle in the background

(Source: Parks Canada)

and from August 1887 had its own post office called National Park (in charge of R.B.C. O'Donoghue). As a consequence of the station being moved down the track to the townsite, National Park post office became Banff post office on June 8, 1888. O'Donoghue continued as postmaster, but Woodworth seems to have been the victim of redundancy, and disappeared from sight, along with the old station.

The odyssey of the name Banff entered another chapter in 1930, when the old Rocky Mountains Park of Canada, created in 1887 to include the hot springs reserve first set up in 1885, emerged in the new National Parks act of that year as Banff National Park. It is one of the few Canadian national parks named after a community. On the edge of town, at the base of Cascade Mountain, Parks Canada archaeologists have probed a small deposit of rubbish which is all that remains of the original Banff - back when Banff was somewhere else down the track.

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CAVE AND BASIN, BANFF
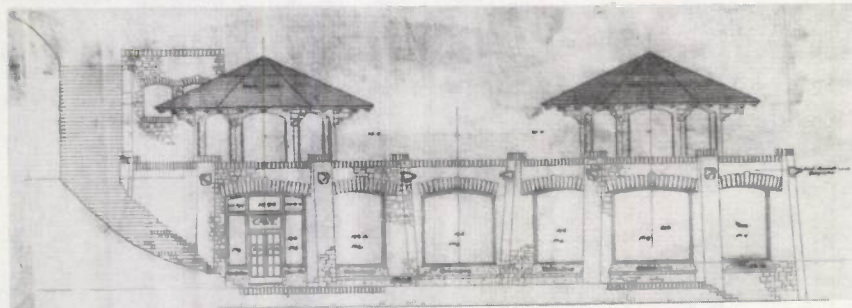
The new stone bathing pavilion at the Cave and Basin was constructed between 1912 and 1914, based on architectural plans of Painter and Swales. This illustration showing the end elevation from the terrace is part of one of ten detailed drawings transferred from Parks Canada, Calgary, to the Public Archives of Canada in 1984.

(National Map Collection, Public Archives Canada, NMC 52125)

FORT ANNE NATIONAL HISTORIC PARK: ITS EVOLUTION THROUGH THE YEARS

William B. Hamilton*

The oldest link in the chain of Canada's national historic parks is found at Annapolis Royal, Nova Scotia. Fort Anne was transferred to the National Parks Service in 1917 and by virtue of being the earliest national historic park still maintained, it has become something of a 'trail-blazer' for over 70 sites now in Parks Canada's system.

The site, near the confluence of the Annapolis River and Allains River, was selected by French engineers as early as 1635, for construction of the original fortifications, designed to conform to plans developed by the military architect, the Marquis de Vauban (1633-1707). After the surrender of Acadia to the British in 1713 the site (then known as Port Royal) was renamed Fort Anne in honour of the reigning monarch, Queen Anne, whose name was also incorporated in that of the town of Annapolis Royal.

In an area with such a lengthy history, unravelling the meanings and significance of place names poses particular problems. Thus, the exact origin of the French designation 'Acadia' is shrouded in mystery. The most obvious suggestion is that the word is a contraction of 'Arcadia', the classical name applied to a land of rustic peace. Certainly this spelling appeared on early maps. Another theory traces Acadia to the Micmac 'cadie'. More probable is the conclusion that the word is a combination of both. Early French explorers, upon learning the Micmac word which meant 'a piece of land', and noting its similarity to Arcadia, gradually dropped the 'r' to form Acadia.[1]

The name Port Royal was applied by Champlain in 1604 to mean the present day Annapolis Basin and the name persisted throughout the French colonial period. Prior to the final capture by a force led by Francis Nicholson in 1710, the Annapolis River was first called the Dauphin (the title of the eldest son of the King of France) and later the Port Royal. The Allains River commemorates the name of an early settler, Louis Allain, who occupied land prior to 1710 "at the head of the tide".

As long as Annapolis Royal remained the capital of the colony of Nova Scotia, Fort Anne fulfilled a role as a British military garrison. Then came the founding of Halifax in 1749 and the transfer of the capital to this new location; events which served to downgrade the significance of the fort. Understandably, few traces may be found of the original French fortifications which date from the mid-seventeenth century. Repairs and enlargements were made between 1690 and 1710, resulting in the four bastions being connected by walls of earth. A white Caen limestone powder magazine, although much restored, survives as a reminder of the French colonial period.

The principal legacy from the post-1710 period is the handsome structure known as the Officers Quarters. Construction was begun in 1797 when the cornerstone was laid by Edward, Duke of Kent, then Commander-in-Chief of the British forces in Nova Scotia. For the next fifty-eight years the building was to serve as an official residence for the officers in command at Fort Anne. The number of soldiers stationed at this outpost was never large and fluctuated with the ebb and flow of external military events. As the significance of Fort Anne waned, the rank of the commanding officer "diminished with the decline of the importance of the fort".[2] The garrison probably reached its peak in 1808 when approximately 1000 men were housed in the barracks; thereafter numbers dropped steadily. By the late 1820s the Officers Quarters was described in a contemporary account as "a barrack of wood in tolerable order"[3]; however, a series of fires in the early 1830s destroyed buildings housing the regular troops. This left the Officers Quarters as the only habitable barracks and consequently it was pressed into service for the entire garrison. Numbers continued to diminish until the final British withdrawal in 1854, when the total complement of troops comprised two officers, one sergeant and nine "rank and file of the 76th Foot".[4]

During the period of civilian use from 1854 to 1883 Fort Anne suffered from neglect and the Officers Quarters served a variety of uses ranging from a tenement to a private school. For a time the building was vacant, causing it to be described as a "windowless, stairless barrack..crumb-
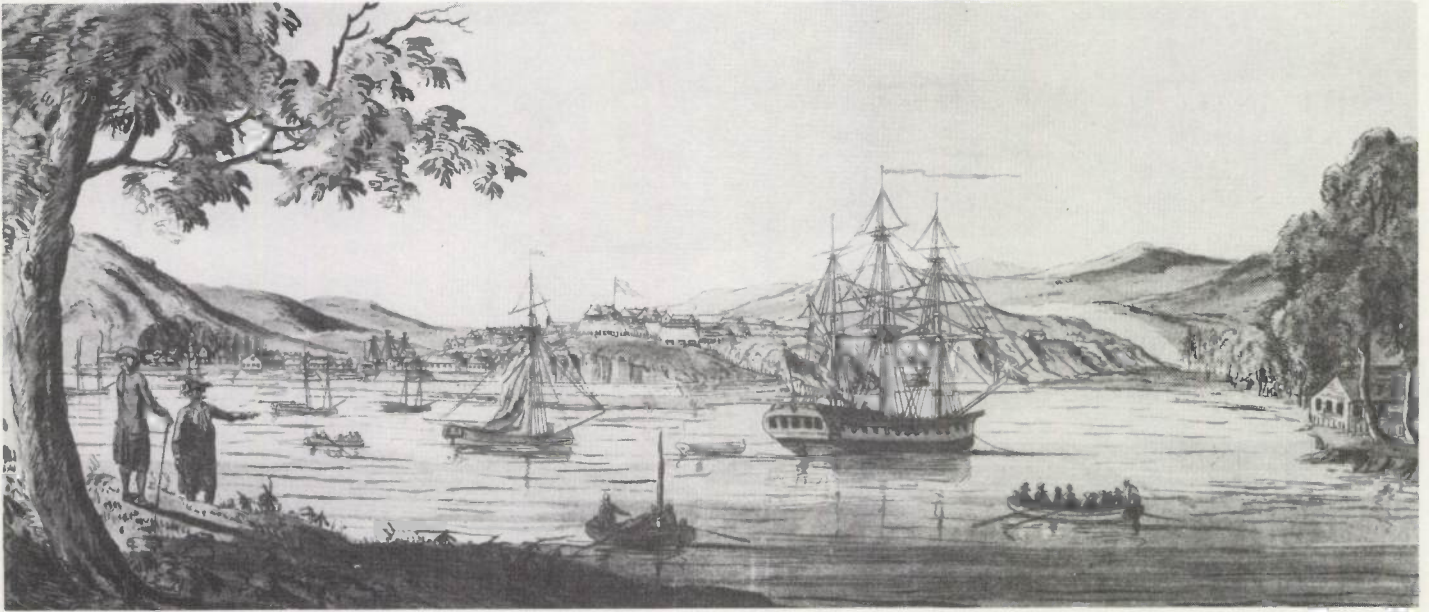
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1. For a full account of the origin of Acadia, see Rayburn, Alan (1973): Acadia/The origin of the name and its geographical and historical utilization. Reprint #45, Surveys and Mapping Branch, Department of Energy, Mines and Resources, Ottawa.

2. Dunn, Brenda (1984): The Officers Quarters at Annapolis Royal. Unpublished report, p. 4. See also Microfiche Report Series #127, Parks Canada, 1980.

3. Quoted in Dunn (1984), p. 6. See also Dunn, Brenda (1982): A history of the Fort at Port Royal/Annapolis Royal 1635-1854 (unpublished report for Parks Canada) and Dunn, Brenda (1979): Preliminary narrative and structural history of Fort Anne. Microfiche Report Series #132, Parks Canada.

4. Much of the basic information pertaining to Fort Anne was gleaned from Laura Hardy's unpublished files and reports, Fort Anne Museum Archives (Scrapbook No. 3, p. 37).

From "Annapolis Royal", by J.F.W. DesBarres, published in 1781

(Public Archives Canada, C-2705)

ling and unsightly".[5] Over the years, Fort Anne, despite extreme deterioration, never failed to inspire those with a sense of its long and storied history.

Gradually, more and more people began to recognize the historical significance of Fort Anne. A turning point in its history came in 1883 when the property was transferred to the Canadian Department of Militia and Defence. A local member of parliament John Burpee Mills (1850-1913) took up the cause of the Fort and began to apply pressure in Ottawa for funds to restore and refurbish the site. The commemoration of Queen Victoria's Diamond Jubilee in 1897 also served to focus attention on Fort Anne. Since the grounds were to be used for local celebrations to mark the Jubilee, the Department of Militia and Defence allocated money for repairs and renovations. Accordingly, the Officers Quarters and surrounding fortifications were rendered 'fairly presentable' for the gala event. But perhaps more important, a spirit of local pride was kindled and Annapolis residents began to see, perhaps for the first time, the potential of this historic site.

In 1899 a group of businessmen banded together as the Garrison Commissioners to lease the fort grounds from the federal government with a view to: "... maintaining in a good state of repair the said leased premises, also to improve and beautify the property as a Public Park and Place of Resort...in such manner as will not efface the old and historic nature of the fort and its surroundings".[6] This local initiative was an important step in the preservation and salvaging of Fort Anne for the benefit of future generations. Had Fort Anne not been cared for at this crucial time, all that might remain today would be earthen bastions and rubble.

The perennial problem facing the Garrison Commissioners was lack of funds to undertake costly repairs to both the Officers Quarters and the grounds. It was clear that more direct involvement on the part of the federal government was essential.

Since Fort Anne could lay claim to national significance the case was presented in the form of a resolution passed at a public meeting held in Annapolis Royal 10 February 1916. "That in the opinion of this meeting", the resolution read, "the old French fort in this town and the property on which it stands ought to be declared a National Park and placed without further delay under the care and management of the Commissioner of Dominion Parks at Ottawa".[7] Action was taken the following year and Fort Anne Dominion Park[8] was created, thus today in 1985, it is the oldest of Canada's national historic parks. In the transfer of authority to the federal Commissioner of Parks, the local garrison commissioners made the following points:

1. That ... the commissioners be retained as a consulting body in the management of the property.

2. ... the ramparts of the old fort will be carefully preserved for all time on their present lines.

3. ... the property will be newly and suitably fenced.

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5   Quoted in Dunn (1984), p. 8.

6   Hardy (Fort Anne Scrapbook No. 3), p. 2.

7   Hardy (Fort Anne Scrapbook No. 3), p. 4.

8   In the 1917 order in council the spelling used was Fort Ann (the 'e' was added later). Dunn (1984), p. 18.

FORT ANNE

Scale 200 ft = 1 in

Louis Whitman (Wind)
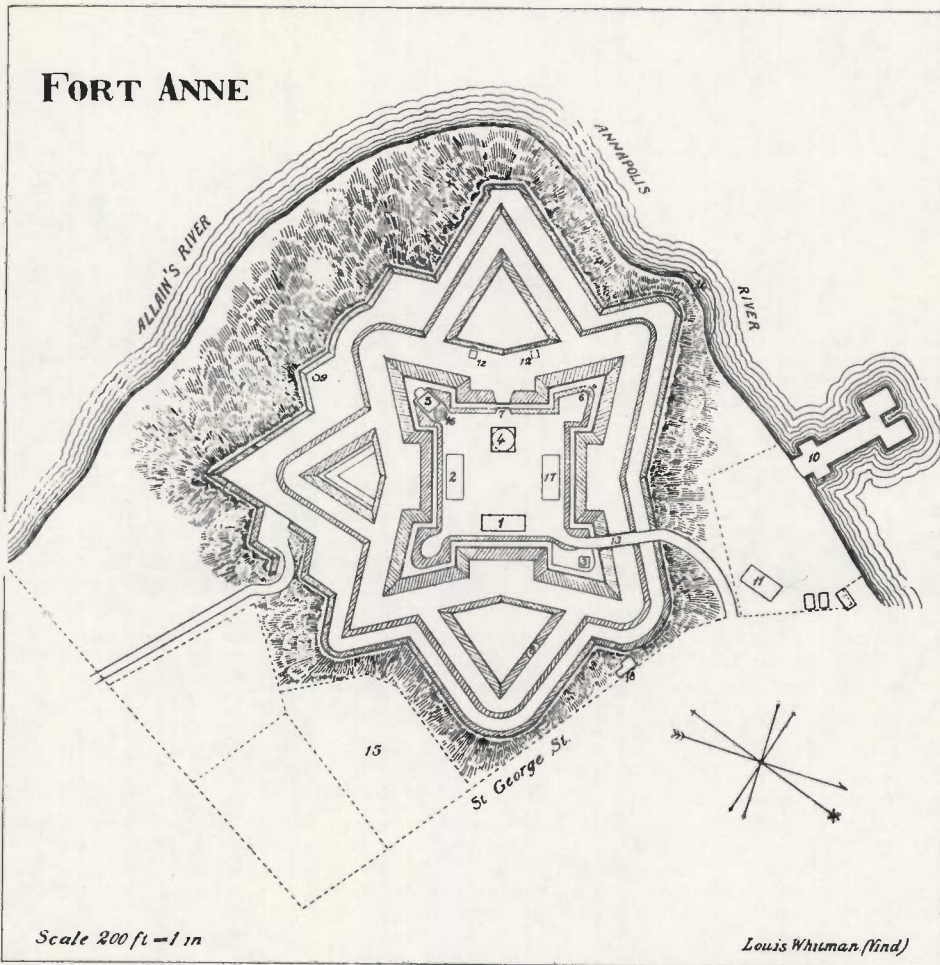
1. Officers' quarters (standing)
2. Barracks, burnt 1830
3. Site of block-house
4. Site of bomb-proof and brick barracks
5. Powder magazine
6. Entrance of Black Hole
7. Sally-port
8. Site of old prison
9. Old well
10. Queen's Wharf
11. Armoury
12. Places for heating shot
13. Bridge over moat
14. Site of old French wharf
15. Cemetery
16. Magazine well
17. Site of old French barracks and mess-room
18. House built by Benj. M. Goldsmith, and long occupied by Andrew Gilmor, an old soldier of the fort

Plan of Fort Anne from "History of the County of Annapolis" by W.A. Calnek, published in Toronto in 1897. (True scale not represented here)

4. ... the existing buildings will be put and kept in order.

5. ... a museum and library will be established and maintained in the old Officers Quarters.

6. ... the place generally will be made attractive and interesting to tourists and students.

7. ... there will be no "keep off the grass" signs inside the fort proper and our boys and girls may still use the place as a playground.[9]

In 1917 Canadians generally were preoccupied with World War One, thus it is not surprising that any extensive refurbishments had to await the cessation of hostilities. During the early 1920s extensive repairs were made to the earthen bastions and surviving stonework of the outer walls. Included in this work was the restoration of the old French

powder magazine; while the Officers Quarters was renovated to become a museum and park headquarters. Many individuals were involved in this phase of the development of Fort Anne; however, chief among these was Loftus Morton Fortier (1858-1933) a federal civil servant who came to Annapolis Royal in 1913. Although an employee of the Immigration Service, Fortier was a keen historian and quickly became involved in the restoration of the fort. Named Honorary Superintendent in 1917 Fortier was largely responsible for collecting the numerous artifacts that still enhance the museum.

The most dramatic aspect of the restoration of Fort Anne occurred in 1934-35. At this time the Officers Quarters building was practically rebuilt and rendered fireproof with the original wood clapboards being replaced by concrete plaster simulating the effect of the original walls. Repairs were made to the massive central chimneys and the interior of the building further adapted for museum and administrative purposes. In 1940, like 1917 a period of war, the name of the park was officially changed to Fort Anne National Historic Park. More recently, plans have been developed to complete the restoration of the Officers Quarters to more closely conform to original specifications. This

9   Hardy (Fort Anne Scrapbook No. 3), p. 4.

During most of the seventeenth century the site of Fort Anne (or Port Royal, to use its first name) remained largely in the hands of the French. However, during these years it was subject to frequent capture by the English only to be restored by subsequent recapture or treaty negotiations. Following 1713 its history becomes more tranquil; yet in retrospect, the greatest battle may not have been in the realm of the military. For over a century, until its incorporation in the National Parks service in 1917, Fort Anne's most significant battles were with the elements and benign neglect. Fortunately for us, posterity won and Fort Anne has become, in the words of the 1916 petition, a true "public park and place of resort" retaining "the historic nature of the fort and its surroundings".

* * * * * * * *

Acknowledgments

The Officers Quarters dating from 1797; as renovated and restored, 1934-35

(Photo: W.B. Hamilton)

will entail the removal of the Georgian porches in favour of a colonnaded verandah characteristic of British military construction in many parts of the world.

THE PIC TO PUCKASAW: EXPLORING COASTAL NAMES ASSOCIATED WITH

PUKASKWA NATIONAL PARK

Elinor Barr*

Lake Superior forms the western boundary of Pukaskwa National Park, a coastline extending some forty miles from the Pic River, near the northern park limits, southwards to a point just beyond Pukaskwa River. In the mid-nineteenth century two travellers, John Bigsby of the British Boundary Commission and Thomas G. Anderson, Superintendent of Indian Affairs for Canada West, documented four of the earliest known toponyms associated with today's park -- Pic, Les Petits Ecrits, Otter Head, and Pukaskwa. This paper explores the origin and meaning of the names from a historical viewpoint.

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Pic

The toponym 'Pic' is generally accepted as originating from 'le pic', a French noun meaning the peak of a hill or mountain. However the absence of notable peaks near the river, and the French tradition of adopting Indian names, often in translation, leave room for speculation about the origin of the name. At least two authors have grappled with the problems this place name presents.[1]

1 Lapierre, André (1981): Toponymie française en Ontario. Éditions Études Vivantes, Montréal, p. 72; Hartley, Alan H. (1980): "The expansion of Ojibway and French place-names into the Lake Superior Region in the seventeenth century", Names. (Journal of the American Name Society), Vol. 28, No. 1, p. 56-57.

The word 'Pic' first appeared on French maps of Franquelin (1686), Coronelli (1688) and Franquelin (1699) as the masculine 'Le Pick', 'Le Pik' and 'Le Pic', respectively.[2] If the name means the peak of a hill or mountain, it likely describes the striking silhouette of Pic Island at the mouth of the Little Pic River some fifteen miles to the northwest, outside the park. Lawren Harris of the Group of Seven captured, even emphasized, the island's bold contours in his painting "Pic Island 1924". No other peak along the immediate coastline or the river merits distinction from the others. The plural 'les pics' does not appear anywhere.

The Pic is the largest and most navigable river between the Michipicoten and the Nipigon, and also offers a sheltered campsite on the sandy floodplain at its mouth. Its distinctive colouration is described in Bigsby's journal:

"... it pours out an ash-coloured, and, when swollen, a reddish-yellow water, tinging the lake for a mile or two round its mouth, and derived from beds of yellow and white clay some distance up the river."[3]

Even today travellers use this clearly defined arc of muddy water as a navigational landmark.[4]

By 1793, the North West Company had established a trading post at the mouth of the river. After the Hudson's Bay Company took over the post in 1821, English versions began to appear, such as Delafield's "trading post called the Peake" and Bigsby's "the river Peek". The name gained its modern form when Louis Agassiz combined both languages to designate the post as 'The Pic'.

Continued use of a definite article preceding the river name - 'The Pic' and 'The Little Pic' - reinforces the likelihood of a French origin. However, this practice is not followed for Pic Island and Pic Township. The shortened form for the river - 'The Pic' - became part of local logging lore after the Second World War, when 'driving the Pic' to feed Marathon's paper mill became an annual spring event.

The idea of an Indian origin has persisted since 1850, when Louis Agassiz observed:

"The name is derived not as we at first supposed, from the pointed hills across the river, but from an Indian word, Peek or Neepeek, signifying, I believe, 'dirty water'. The same word appears in Neepeegon [sic]."[5]

Still another Indian name, 'Peek-ting or the Muddy River', was recorded during the early 1870s by Robert Bell of the

Geological Survey of Canada.[6]

Curiously, a century earlier Alexander Henry had mentioned a river with a similar name. He located it near Otter's Head:

"We encamped at the mouth of the Pijitic, a river as large as that of the Michipicoten ...

"It was by the river Pijitic that the French ascended in 1750 when they plundered one of the factories in Hudson's Bay and carried off the two small pieces of brass cannon."[7]

A part of Lake Superior as shown on Coronelli's map of 1688 "Partie occidentale du Canada ou de la Nouvelle France...". Note 'Teste de Loutre', 'Massinaigan ou Escriture', and 'Le Pik'

(National Map Collection, Public Archives Canada, C 42037)

2 Heidenreich, Conrad E. and Edward H. Dahl (1982): "The French mapping of North America, 1600-1760." The Map Collector, No. 19, gives a broad overview.

3 Bigsby, John J. (1969): The shoe and canoe. (Reprint of 1850 edition.) Paladin, New York, Vol. 2, p. 214.

4 Dahl, Bonnie (1983): The Superior way: a cruising guide to Lake Superior. Inland Sea Press, Ashland, Wisconsin, p. 183.

5 Agassiz, Louis (1850): Lake Superior, its physical character, vegetation and animals. Boston, p. 71.

6 Bell, Robert: "Report on the country north of Lake Superior between the Nipigon and Michipicoten Rivers, Ontario." Report of Progress 1870-71, Geological Survey of Canada, p. 327.

7 Bain, James (ed.) (1969): Travels and adventures in Canada and the Indian territories between the years 1760 and 1776 by Alexander Henry, fur trader. Hurtig, Edmonton, p. 231.

The editor's identification of the Pijitic as White River, a smaller stream that enters Lake Superior four miles south of the Pic, seems to be a mistake, since the description more closely resembles the Pic itself.

Pukaskwa National Park

An Indian origin for the name Pic is disputed on the grounds that French cartographers seldom, if ever, shortened such names to one syllable.[8] The survey of post offices

by Chief Geographer James White between 1905 and 1909 casts further confusion about Pic's Indian origin, by turning up a completely different Ojibway name for the river -- 'Madid-tigo-sibi' or 'big long river'.[9]

Les Petits Ecrits

Les Petits Ecrits (Bigsby uses 'The Smaller Written Rocks' rather than a direct translation) is but one of several sites along the north shore of Lake Superior, where recognizable forms and figures have been etched upon the lichen-covered rocks. Modern explorers including Selwyn Dewdney have been unable to locate these particular 'lichenglyphs', as they are called. The likelihood of their rediscovery fades with time, as surrounding lichens encroach upon any bare spots that remain.

The first named appearance of these rocks was on a 1686 map, where they were designated by the single form 'Massinaigan', an Indian word meaning 'markings'.[10] A Coronelli map dated two years later, added the French translation 'Massinaigan ou Escriture', a form repeated in 1746, although with the omission of 's' in Escriture. All three maps place Massinaigan near Otter Head.

The names 'Les Petits Ecrits' and 'Les Ecrits' along with their English equivalents began appearing in records of the early 1800s. The map accompanying Bigsby's journal locates 'Lesser Written Rk' between Otter Head and the Pic River. The journal itself offers a more precise placement:

"The Smaller Written Rocks are, in a sandy cove, defended by islets fourteen miles south-east from the Peek [sic] River. They here are smooth and coated with tripe de roche and other lichens. Various names and figures of animals have been traced on them, both long ago and recently."[11]

The description fits Oiseau Bay, a large, deeply indented harbour studded with rocks, shoals and islets.

Documents mentioning similar sites to the east and west, outside the boundaries of Pukaskwa National Park, confuse the name still further. Bigsby dubs the one near Schreiber 'The Written Rocks'. Delafield, on the other hand, uses the corruption 'Petit des Escrit' and modern maps locate 'Les Petits Ecrits Bay' nearby. The site to the east of the park is described by Agassiz as being near some mining locations between Otter Head and University River; he calls it 'Les Ecrits'.[12]

Otter Head

The toponym Otter Head is a translation from the French 'Teste [Tête] de Loutre', the name that appeared
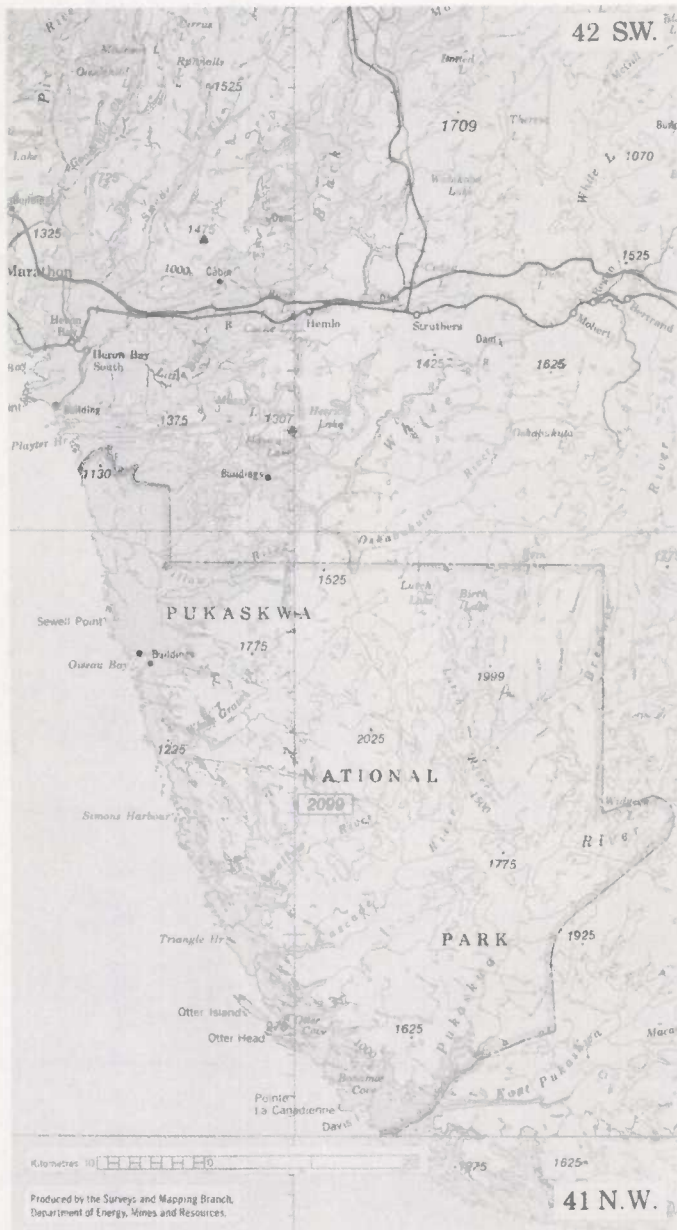
8   Lapierre (1981), p. 72; Hartley (1980), p. 57.

9   Rayburn, Alan (1982): "Chief Geographer's place name survey, 1905-1909, V. Northern Ontario" in Canoma, Vol. 8, No. 1, p. 27.

10 Cuoq, J.A. (1886): Lexique de la langue algonquine. Montréal, p. 207; see also Hartley (1980), p. 56.

11 Bigsby (1969), p. 213.

12 Bigsby (1969), p. 221; Delafield, Joseph (1943): The unfortified boundary.... New York, p. 451; Agassiz (1850), p. 67.

on maps as early as Franquelin's map of 1686. To the voyageur, this rock formation signified an important landmark - the halfway point between Sault Ste. Marie and Fort William. Bigsby's journal records a graphic description:

> "... an upright slab, from thirty to thirty-five feet high, placed on some scantily-clad rocks, 120 feet above the lake, and at an interval from it."[13]

Visibility did not pose a problem. According to Delafield's observation, "there is no rock formation in the neighbourhood as high as the Otter's Head".[14]

The following sensitive rendering by Delafield suggests an Ojibway origin for the name, although none has come to light:

> "... pass a very remarkable rock called by the Indians the Otter's Head ... because it looks as if it darted perpendicularly from the mountains, as the otter does from the water, when he rises from below the surface."[15]

This rock image of an otter's head is significant; not only did the Ojibway believe that spirits lived in rocks, they also gave the otter a major role in their migration mythology. It is within the realms of possibility that this landform offered a focus for religious activities.

A half century earlier Alexander Henry compared the Otter's Head to an art form:

> "We passed the Tête de la Loutre or Otter's Head, so named from a rock, of about thirty feet in height, and fifteen in circumference, and which stands vertically, as if raised by the hand of man. What increases the appearance of art, is a hollow in the adjacent mass of rock, which its removal might be thought to have left."[16]

'The adjacent mass of rock' - perhaps crumbling over time - is not mentioned in later descriptions.

The Otter's Head as a rock formation has received little comment since a sportsman observed in 1911, "You can see it for fifty miles on a clear day."[17] 'Otter Head' became the official name in 1923 when the Geographic Board of Canada approved the form without the possessive, following a rule discouraging the use of apostrophes. Since 'head' means 'headland' in nautical terms, the earlier significance of the name was lost. Today 'Otter Head' acts as an umbrella phrase covering Otter Cove, Otter Island with its picturesque red-and-white lighthouse, and a number of other landforms associated with the general area.

Pukaskwa

Pukaskwa National Park's shoreline runs southward to a point beyond Pukaskwa River, a swift flowing stream described as "one of the most difficult rivers in Ontario to navigate, being almost a succession of rapids".[18] In 1849 Thomas G. Anderson waxed poetic, unusual for him, about the scenery at its mouth:

> "... passed Puc-Kus-Wah Sr be and went into the most beautiful spoon-shaped basin to the falls, which come tumbling down a tremendous chasm in the rocks ... throwing its spray all around and creating rainbows innumerable."[19]

The name is thought to derive from the Ojibway word 'pakajwa', which refers to cleaning and washing fish.[20] Indeed, Bigsby notes that he traded for fish with Indian families "in a dell of considerable beauty, which permits the escape of a noisy stream",[21] undoubtedly Pukaskwa. Other possible meanings of Pukaskwa have been suggested, for example:

> "... one saying it is an Indian word for cooking bone marrow. Legend says the name was given to the river because of an incident at the river mouth when a native named Joe killed his wife in a fight and burned her body."[22]

Most legends associated with Pukaskwa involve Indian maidens, no doubt a result of the homophonous name. One imaginative story tells about the kidnapping of a young woman from Michipicoten. During the subsequent chase, the kidnapper killed his prize. The story ends "... the soul of the girl was transformed into a white doe of such radiance that the sight of her causes death".[23] Perhaps this is an allusion to the dangers of the whitewater of Pukaskwa River.

Pukaskwa is notable for its many spellings and pronunciations. A turn-of-the-century field report of the Ontario Bureau of Mines deals with some of them:

> "Pucaswa ... variously spelled, Pucoso, Pukasquaw, etc., but the spelling followed here corresponds best with the pronunciation of the Indians employed as guides, though one of them spelled it Bagoswa when asked to write it down."[24]

13 Bigsby (1969), p. 209.

14 Delafield (1943); p. 454.

15 Delafield (1942), p. 383.

16 Bain (1969), p. 230-231.

17 Alexander, Kirkland B. (1911): The log of the North Shore Club: paddle and portage on the hundred trout rivers of Lake Superior. Putnam, New York, p. 100.

18 Ontario, Bureau of Mines: Annual Report 1899, Vol. VIII, part 2, p. 138.

19 Journal of Thomas G. Anderson, October 6, 1849, as printed in Arthur, Elizabeth (1973): Thunder Bay District 1821-1892: a collection of documents. University of Toronto Press, p. 72-73. The waterfall is called Schist Falls.

20 Dawson, K.C.A. (1979): "The Pukaskwa religious stone features of Lake Superior", Heritage Record, No. 8, published by the British Columbia Provincial Museum, p. 256.

21 Bigsby (1969), p. 207.

22 Platiel, Rudy (1983): "Acid rain threatens newest national park." Globe and Mail, July 5.

23 Litteljohn, Bruce and Wayland Drew (1983): Superior: the haunted shore. Macmillan, Toronto, p. 65.

24 Ontario, Bureau of Mines, p. 133 and 133f.

In 1923 the Geographic Board of Canada approved 'Pukaskwa'; this spelling, however, has received limited acceptance.

Abitibi Power and Paper Company had adopted a phonetic spelling some years earlier for their nearby logging base, Puckasaw Depot, and also for a 96-foot tug that rafted pulpwood to Sault Ste. Marie. Newaygo Timber Company bought the "Puckasaw" in 1929, operating it out of Port Arthur until the end of the 1935 shipping season.[25] The logging community of Puckasaw Depot, now a ghost town, is the only settlement of any size known to have existed within the limits of today's Pukaskwa National Park.
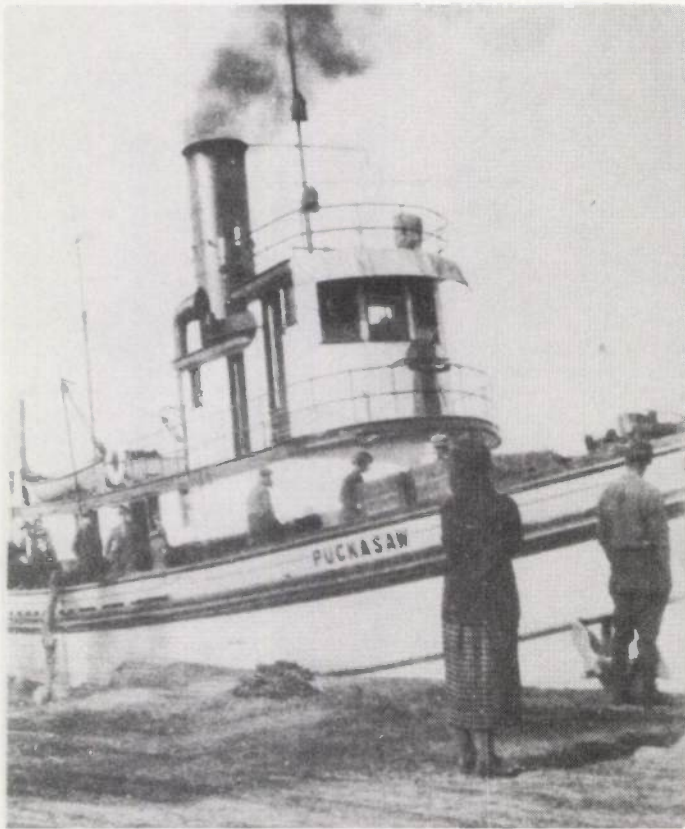
"The 96-foot tug 'Puckasaw' tied up at Puckasaw Depot, 1920s"

(Source: Pukaskwa National Park)

25 From a compilation by Thom Holden of Superior, Wisconsin, using data from Great Lakes Red Books.

In 1957 the first grouping of man-made depressions of archaeological interest were reported along the north shore of Lake Superior and dubbed 'Pukasaw Pits' (here again the spelling varies), because of their location near the Pukaskwa River.[26] The significance and age of these cobblestone curiosities has yet to be determined, although David Arthurs' study offers a provocative suggestion:

"A strong argument can be made in support of the idea that the rock structure sites represent the actual locations of Ojibway vision quest and Midewiwin ceremonial activities."[27]

'Pukaskwa' as the name of the national park came into use even more recently, in 1971, with the signing of a memorandum of intent between the provincial and federal governments.

Conclusion

Of the four names under discussion, only Pukaskwa is a relative newcomer. The others made their début on maps produced three centuries ago. Since then they have swirled through the mists of time, changing shape to reflect the spoken word. Three languages are represented - Indian, French and English.

One connecting thread is the idea that all four names mirror some aspect of Indian culture. Another is the fact that the Geographic Board of Canada approved them all in 1923. The features officially named at that time are Pic (river and islands), Les Petits Ecrits (islands), Otter (head, cove and island), and Pukaskwa (river and point).

The documents illustrating how early travellers perceived Lake Superior's north shore offer the etymologist a fascinating subject for study. Even more intriguing are the references linking landforms with Indian spiritual life. Oddly enough, none of them mentions the mysterious pits that share their name with Pukaskwa National Park.

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Acknowledgments

26 McIlwraith, T.F. (1958): "The Pukasaw Pit Culture". Ontario History, Vol. 50, p. 41.

27 Arthurs, David (1977): "The Lake Superior rock structures: an ethnohistoric interpretation." Manuscript on file with Ontario Ministry of Citizenship and Culture, Heritage Branch, Thunder Bay, p. 26.

★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★

TOPONYMY OF RIDING MOUNTAIN NATIONAL PARK

Gerald F. Holm*

The names of geographical features in Riding Mountain National Park always open doors to pleasant memories. My great grandfather homesteaded in the Scandinavia district just south of the park, and he and my grandfather spent many hours telling of their fishing and hunting activities in and around the Riding Mountain Forest Reserve, before it became a National Park in 1930. From these tales and explorations as a child, I became aware of the Park's natural heritage and, more importantly, its value to succeeding generations of Manitobans.

For this article I have selected some of the feature names to illustrate the variety of origins and meanings of toponyms within Riding Mountain National Park. Most of the name data are taken from records of the Manitoba Surveys and Mapping Branch; other references are acknowledged where appropriate.

Peter Fidler, Chief Surveyor for the Hudson's Bay Company (1796-1821), first recorded the name Riding Mountain in his exploration reports covering the area around Fort Dauphin. He reported that the riding ridges were used for the convenience of horses.

According to "Place names of Manitoba" the younger Alexander Henry, a fur trader, used the name Fort Dauphin in 1799 for the mountain; 'Riding or Dauphin Mountain' appeared on a Crown Lands map in Toronto in 1858; also Riding Mountain may be the hill referred to by Tanner as 'naowaw-guncvadju, the hill of the buffalo chase, near the Saskawi-jewan'.[1]

David Thompson on his map of the North-west Territory of the Province of Canada (1813-14) applied the name 'Fort Dauphin Hill' to the areas of present-day Duck Mountain and Riding Mountain. On his 1843 untitled map of part of western British North America he showed the name 'Dauphin Hill or Birch Ground Hill' for this same area.

In 1857 and 1858 the Canadian government sent out exploration parties headed by H.Y. Hind and S.J. Dawson to gain first hand knowledge of the West to determine its suitability for settlement. 'Riding Mountain' is shown on Hind's map of the country between Red River and Lake Winnipeg on the east, and the Eyebrow Hills beside the South Saskatchewan on the west. In his reports, Hind described the pitching trails which lead from one part of the area

to another, following ridges, the only dry areas around. It is believed that pitching trails or tracks refer to the trails used by the Indians and along which they would pitch their camps.

Names of other features within the park can be traced through maps and records of 19th century exploration: The Little Saskatchewan River, with its headwaters in Riding Mountain National Park, flows south into the Assiniboine River just west of Brandon. According to "Place names of Manitoba", La Verendrye (in the 1730s) had recorded the river as 'Rivière St. Pierre', whereas it was referred to as the 'Rapid River' by the younger Henry in 1806, and on Arrowsmith's map of 1821; as 'Saskawjewin' by Tanner in the early 1800s; and as 'Rapid or Little Saskatchewan River' on the Hind Expedition map of 1859, and the Palliser Expedition map of 1865.[2] The names Little Saskatchewan River and Rapid River became well established during the period of settlement in the late 1870s, with 'Little Saskatchewan River' becoming the predominant local name. In 1911 the Geographic Board of Canada, when establishing an official name for the river, arbitrarily chose 'Minnedosa', rather than either of the local names.

In spite of this imposition of a name, the local people preferred to use the name Little Saskatchewan River, as evidenced by several enquiries and considerable correspondence accumulated in the Manitoba geographical name files. Toponymic field research in 1976 showed that local usage of the name Little Saskatchewan River still thrived, and resulted in further studies in each municipality along the watercourse. A surge of correspondence, expressing the interest and concerns of local residents, resulted from feature articles run in the area's local newspapers.

When all relevant information was compiled, it was recommended in 1977 that 'Minnedosa River' be rescinded and that Little Saskatchewan River be substituted as the official geographical name for this feature. On January 4th, 1978, the Manitoba Minister responsible for geographical nomenclature officially changed the name to 'Little Saskatchewan River', thus restoring to the official records a part of the area's heritage.

Among the toponyms of Riding Mountain National Park are some of Indian origin: Birdtail Creek, recorded as early as 1802 on Arrowsmith's map as 'Birdstail River', has an interesting story. The name is a translation of the Sioux word for bird's tail. There is a legend that a band of Sioux, following a herd of buffalo, camped beside the river. The Chief's son saw a beautiful bird, bright blue in colour, with a scarlet breast. A hawk swooped down on the bird, which succeeded in escaping, but a bright blue

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1 Geographic Board of Canada (1933): Place names of Manitoba, Ottawa, p. 73.

2 Ibid. See entry for Minnedosa, p. 57.

Part of Henry Hind's map of 1859: "Assiniboine & Saskatchewan Exploring Expedition; geological map of a portion of Rupert's Land." Although 'Riding Mountain' was shown on a Hind map of 1858, 'Riding or Dauphin Mountain' appears here on this 1859 version.

(National Map Collection, Public Archives Canada, NMC 608)

feather from its tail floated past the boy. He leaned over to grasp it, slipped and drowned. When his body was recovered he was still clutching the blue feather in his hand. Another recorded origin states that there were birds in the area and the Indians gathered feathers there for their head-dresses.[3] Associated with the name Birdtail Creek is the town of Birtle, southwest of the park. According to local sources the name is a contraction of 'Birdtail' and dates back to settlement in the late 1870s.

Also derived from an Indian name is Clear Lake. On an 1874 survey plan of the area, Dominion Land Surveyor J. Lestock Reid showed 'Wawasaygumee Sawigigun', which translates as 'clear water lake'. The first use of Clear Lake, an adaptation of this Indian name, was on a map produced by the Department of the Interior in 1880. In 1908, the first campers from the Erickson district reached Clear Lake and about 1912 George Clark of Newdale camped where the present beach is located. By 1918 there were more than half a dozen cottages. Clark Beach post office opened in 1927,

but changed its name to Wasagaming in 1933. The Geographic Board of Canada records of that year state that the 'correct' Indian spelling should be Wasakamin, meaning literally that 'the water is so clear that the sun shines on the bottom'.

As might be expected, pioneers of the area have contributed to the richness of the toponymy. Creeks named Henderson, Wilson, Edwards, Renicker and Swanson and lakes called Bydak, Frieze, Juba, Kingdon and Koss are reminders of those who opened the area of the present national park to haying, logging and pasturing.

Tanner Lake, located in the central park area and adjacent to the highway, was named in honour of John Tanner, the first white trapper in the Riding Mountain area. The name, officially approved in 1972, was recommended by P.A. Lange, Park Superintendent. According to Manitoba records Tanner was born in 1780; his grandson, also John Tanner, settled at Tanner's Crossing, now Minnedosa.

Various names are associated with pioneers of the sawmill era. The establishment of a timber reserve of 1535 square miles in 1895 and the subsequent Dominion Forest Reserve Act in 1906 introduced restrictions on hunting,

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3 The two versions of this legend are recorded in manuscript material of Dr. Aileen Garland, Winnipeg.

The dock at Wasagaming, in the 1930s

(Source: Manitoba Archives)

Other commemorative names recall individuals who played a part in the Hudson's Bay Company trade, or in establishing and managing Riding Mountain National Park. For example:

Lake Audy. As early as 1858, the Hudson's Bay Company established near this lake a post to trade with the local Indians. It operated for twenty years before it was moved to the Elphinstone area. The lake is named after James C. Audy, who served there for twelve years and was the last officer at the post.

McFadden Valley. The transition from forest reserve to national park in 1929 was accomplished through the efforts of the Riding Mountain Association. McFadden Valley is named after J.D. (Jack) McFadden, Secretary of the Association, who diligently pursued the dream of a national park.

May Lake. Forest rangers are remembered in feature names; one instance is May Lake named after Jack May, who was promoted to a park warden in 1930.

Katherine Lake. After the First World War the feature once known as Crossley Lake became Cameron Lake, when Neil Cameron (later Minister of Agriculture) ran cattle there. It was Otto Heaslip, second Superintendent of the park (1936-1955), who later gave it the name Katherine in honour of his wife.

as well as on timber operations. The sawmills that operated within the Riding Mountain area from the early 1890s until shortly after the creation of the park in 1930 resulted in the perpetuation of the names of mill owners for such features as Peden Lake, Winslow Lake, Scott Creek and Harper Creek. Hemmingson Lakes are named after James 'King' Hemmingson, a local sawmill owner who also operated a stopping place for early settlers in the Scandinavia district.

Names of a descriptive nature abound within the park and form another easily identifiable toponymic category. Some lakes, for example, were named for their appearance,

Lumber operation, Riding Mountain, 1905

(Source: Manitoba Archives)

particularly their shape, such as Long, Round, Sickle, Kidney and Horse Shoe. Descriptive words not only portray our visual perception of the lakes, as in Clear and Whitewater, but also reflect our sense of taste or smell as in Salt and Stink.

The fauna and flora of the park have not been overlooked in the region's toponymy, for we find Heron Creek and lakes called Buck, Fawn, Elk, Moose, Muskrat, Jackfish, Grayling and Spruce. In most cases these names were first used by trappers or foresters, because of a sighting or a close encounter, or perhaps simply for their own reference purposes.

Dead Ox Creek was recorded by George Tunstall, an early surveyor in the park. The origin he heard in 1913 was that one of a yoke of oxen, owned by the government and working on the Norgate Trail, died at this creek.[4]

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4   Ringstrom, Emma (1981): Riding Mountain - yesterday and today, Prairie Publishing Company, Winnipeg, p. 110.

Numbers may be significant in the name of a feature. For example, the Six Forty Plain covers the area of approximately one section of land, or six hundred and forty acres. Other names like First, Second, Third, and Fourth Bead Lakes describe their chainlike pattern.

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As T.G. Murphy, Minister of the Interior, recorded in the July 26, 1933 souvenir booklet of the opening of Riding Mountain National Park: "...Long after those who have been active in its creation have passed away, the park will remain, a heritage for generations to come."

Let it be our legacy to contribute to this heritage the records of geographical names that have been used through the years. In this way we may preserve aspects of the history of the park area and reflect the variety of the flora and fauna of Riding Mountain.
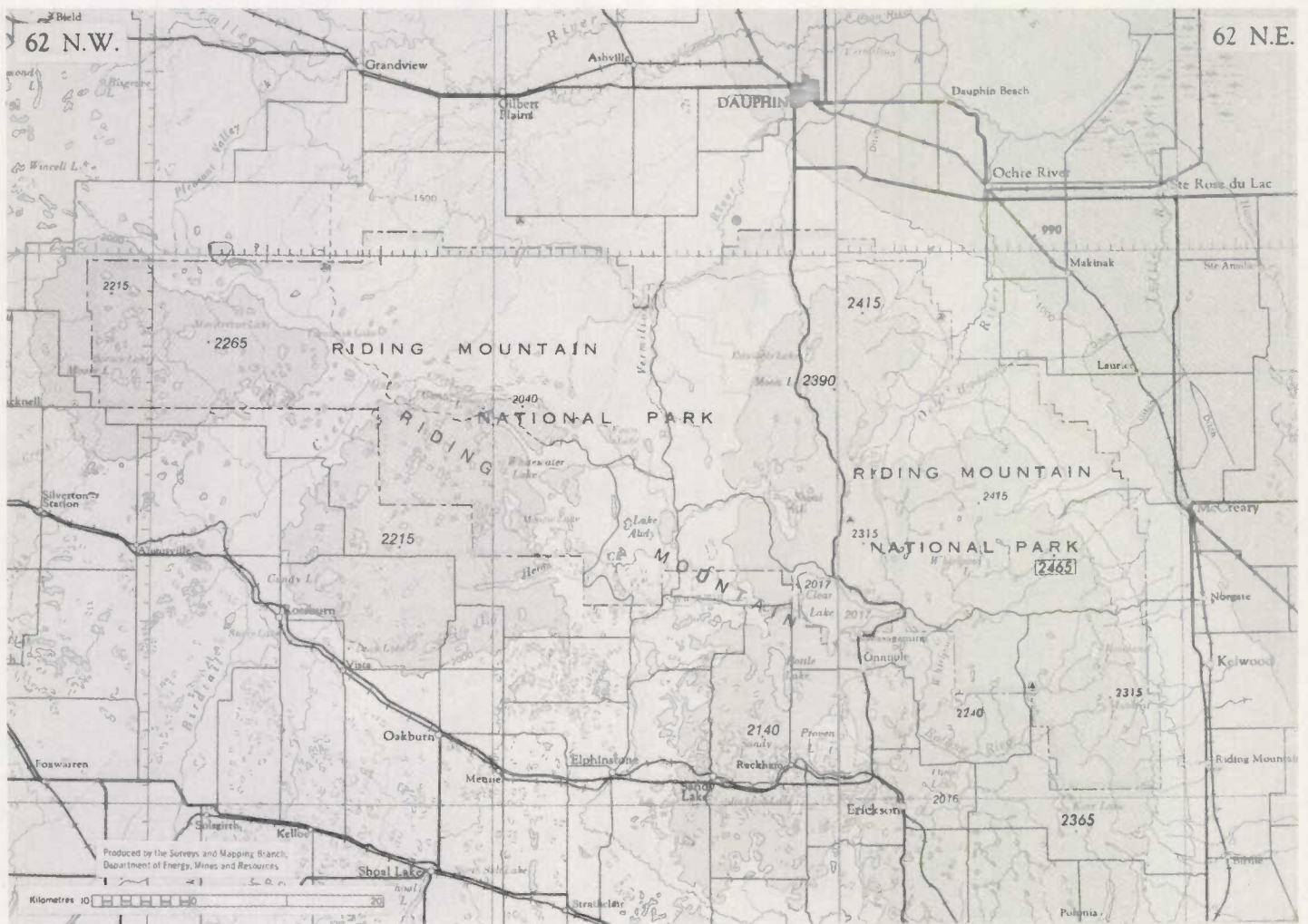
Riding Mountain National Park

CANADA'S NATIONAL PARKS

PARCS NATIONAUX DU CANADA
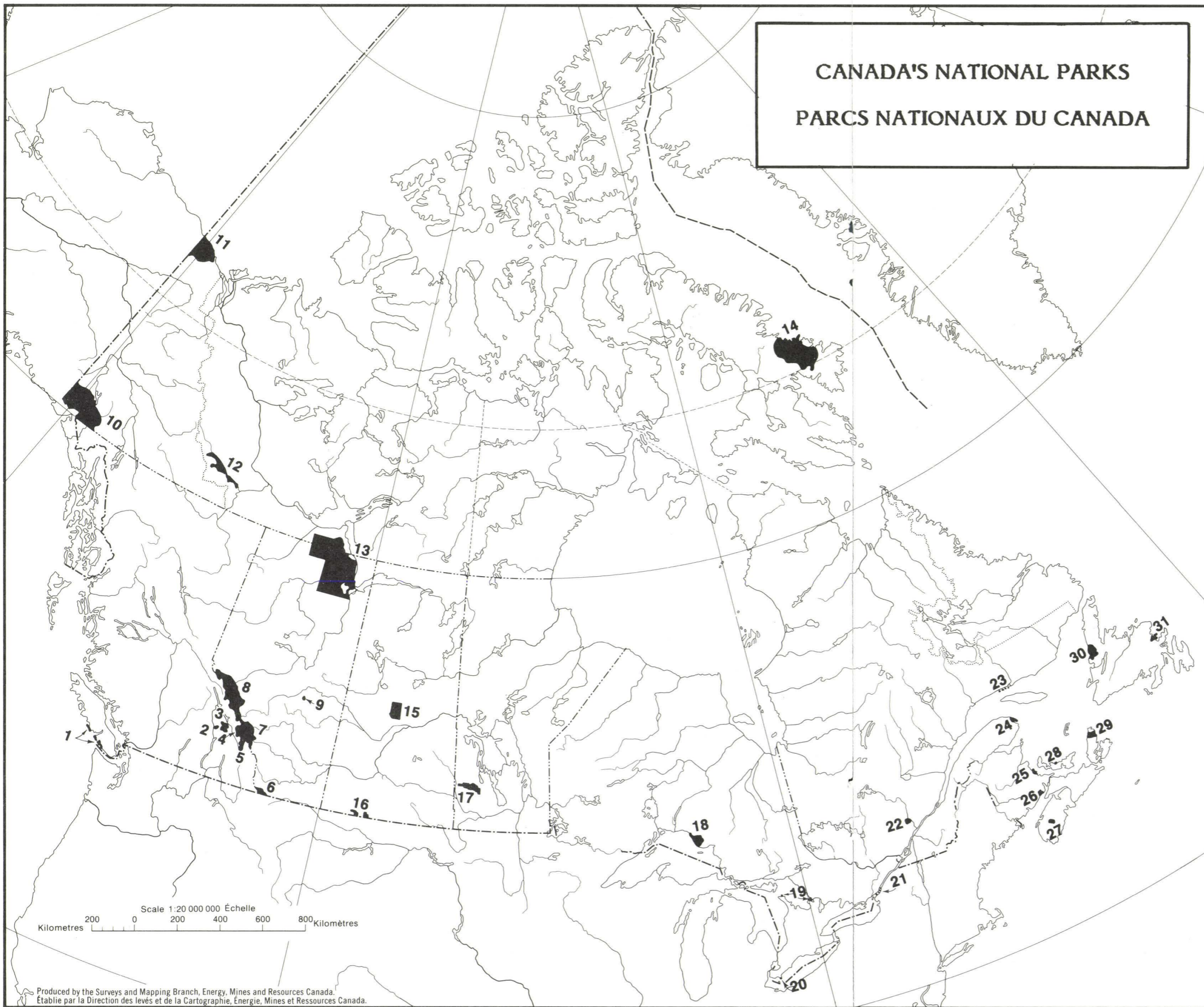
1	Pacific Rim
2	Mount Revelstoke / Mont Revelstoke
3	Glacier
4	Yoho
5	Kootenay
6	Waterton Lakes / Lacs Waterton
7	Banff
8	Jasper
9	Elk Island
10	Kluane
11	Northern Yukon / Nord du Yukon
12	Nahanni
13	Wood Buffalo
14	Auyuittuq
15	Prince Albert / Prince-Albert
16	Grasslands / Des Prairies
17	Riding Mountain / Mont Riding
18	Pukaskwa
19	Georgian Bay Islands / Îles de la baie Georgienne
20	Point Pelee / Pointe Pelée
21	St. Lawrence Islands / Îles du Saint-Laurent
22	La Mauricie
23	Mingan Archepelago / Archipel de Mingan
24	Forillon
25	Kouchibouguac
26	Fundy
27	Kejimkujik
28	Prince Edward Island / Île du Prince-Édouard
29	Cape Breton Highlands / Hautes terres du Cap-Breton
30	Gros Morne
31	Terra Nova

Scale 1:20 000 000 Échelle

Kilometres 200 0 200 400 600 800 Kilomètres

NOTES ON GROS MORNE GEOGRAPHICAL NAMES

David Huddlestone*

Since the late fifteenth century merchant mariners from Europe have named features in and around what is today Gros Morne National Park; the names often identified landmarks useful to the explorers in retracing their routes. Early fishermen also named places significant to their ventures. These practical, sometimes fanciful, names hint at their perception of the land: Pointe Verte, Pointe Brun, Rivière des Truites, Baie Bonne and Gros Morne.

In 1534, Jacques Cartier took shelter in a bay, in the northern area of what is now the park. As he thought the headland looked like a cow's head, he named it Tête de Vache. Sailors thought one promontory in Bonne Bay resembled one in the Canary Islands and named it Pic à Teneriffe.[1]
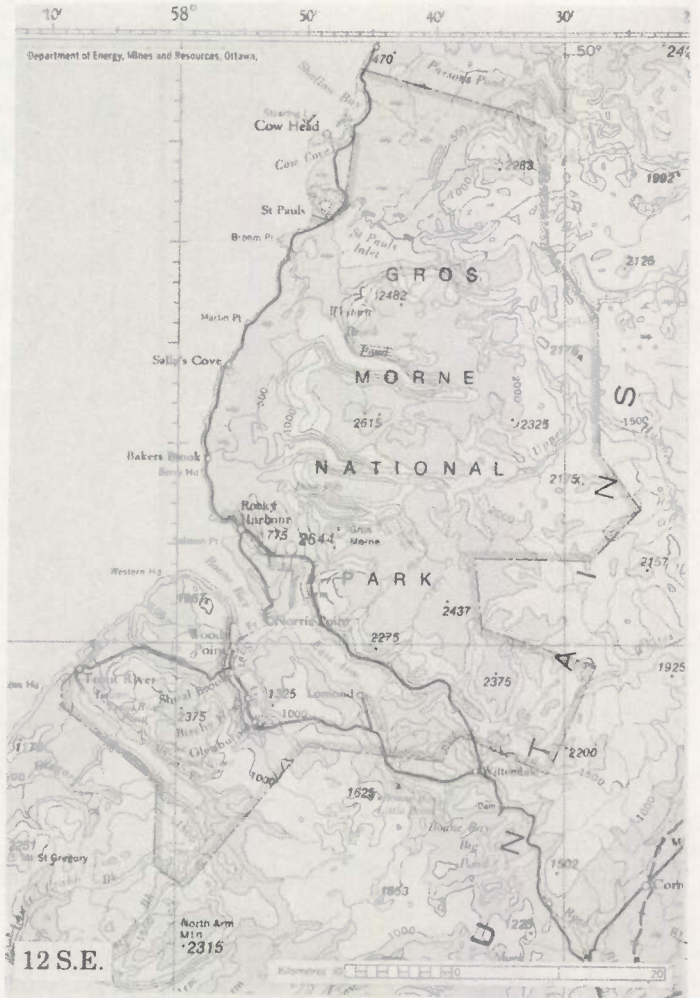
James Cook, the noted navigator, used the original French names on his charts, and even added some of his own. One of the headlands on Tête de Vache he named Cap Pointu, possibly because he found the name in local use. However, this was among the French names that would not last.

Gros Morne, a landmark to early mariners, rises 806 m above Bonne Bay

(Source: Gros Morne National Park)

Gros Morne National Park

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* David Huddlestone, Assistant Park Interpreter, Gros Morne National Park.

1 Today the name is applied unofficially to a peak west of Glenburnie.

With Cook's excellent maps, travel and settlement on Newfoundland's west coast accelerated and English settlers, having little appreciation for anything French, anglicized many of the names. Rivière des Truites became Trout River, Tête de Vache became Cow Head, Pointe Verte became Green Point, and Point 'Brun' was erroneously translated as 'Broom' Point. Stearing Island most probably derives its name from

'sterne", the French word for tern; these birds were plenti-
ful in the area years ago. The English attempts to pronounce
the French name resulted in the word 'Stearing'. Some French
names survived with little change: Baie Bonne ('the good
bay') became Bonne Bay; Gros Morne ('big barren hill') was
not changed at all in the written form, although the final
's' of gros is pronounced by present-day Newfoundlan-
ders.

South of the park and west of Stephenville on the
Port au Port Peninsula a small enclave of population still
uses the French language. However, assigning French toponymy
to landscape features in the Bonne Bay area is now essentially
an element of history. Despite the large amount of angliciza-
tion that has taken place, many French geographical names
do still survive to remind west coasters of a significant
phase in the history of Gros Morne National Park and the
surrounding area.

THE TROUT RIVER LEGACY: MELDING OF FRENCH AND ENGLISH CULTURES

David Huddlestone*

Almost anywhere in Newfoundland a seemingly straight-
forward place name may mask a complex past; such is the
case with Trout River, today a quiet fishing village of
800 people on the province's west coast.

The beginning of Trout River, immediately outside
the borders of Gros Morne National Park, dates back to 1783.
In that year England and France signed the Treaty of Ver-
sailles, ending a long struggle for control of the 'New
Founde Lande'. As a result the English maintained control
of the well-defended east coast of the island. To avoid
the possibility of another war, the treaty allowed both
the French and the English to catch and dry fish along the
west coast, but not to settle there permanently. At that
time, the west coast became known as the 'Treaty Shore'.
As French names, such as 'Rivière des Truites', started
appearing on maps, the coast acquired the name 'French
Shore'.

Some years later, many of the French returned to
Europe and the English, as their population expanded, en-
croached on the forbidden coast. Merchants who traded cloth-
ing played a key role in the English expansion. Joseph
Bird, a cloth merchant from Sturminster Newton, England,
made connections along the west coast of the island and
by 1809 had a trading station in Bonne Bay, right in the
middle of the French Shore! To continue his defiance, Bird
recruited experienced fishermen and trappers from England
and from a business associate, John Slade, who was operating
in the Twillingate and Fogo areas.

Many young Englishmen made their way to the 'New
Founde Lande' in the employ of merchants, such as Bird and
Slade. Some stayed on and became the patriarchal roots
of today's communities, many of which bear the name of their
original settlers: e.g. Parson's Pond, Norris Point, and
Wiltondale.

Throughout its history, Trout River's livelihood has depended
on fishing

(Source: Gros Morne National Park)

Around 1830, George Crocker settled at Trout River.
An early minister wrote that Mr. Crocker, "...came from

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* David Huddlestone, Assistant Park Interpreter, Gros
Morne National Park.

Dorsetshire but has been many years settled in this country and has brought some land into cultivation and keeps sheep and pigs. He was the first settler at Trout River and he has nine children who, and his place, he was very desirous we should see. Several also of the inhabitants of the Bay of Islands are now fishing at this settlement." Although he declared to the minister that he had a "hard matter to keep his family", the facts differ. In his garden he grew such crops as turnips and barley, while outside he did considerable business with agents in Bonne Bay. The ledgers

show that Mr. Crocker engaged in commercial salmon and trout fishing and occasionally trapped as well. For that period in history, he appeared to be making an adequate living.

With the settling of the French-English conflict, the cultures mixed as the French left and the English encroached. The Crocker name became predominant among the community's families, making Trout River's legacy a mixture of both French and English: its name from the French 'Rivière des Truites'; but its people of English origin.

PIONEER INFLUENCES ON THE TOPONYMY OF TERRA NOVA NATIONAL PARK

W. Gordon Handcock*

Canada's most easterly national park, Terra Nova, was selected to represent the natural landscape characteristic of Newfoundland's coastal region. As such it has a complex physical geography marked in part by bold, rocky islands and headlands and a highly irregular and deeply indented shoreline on the marine side, and by rolling, boreal forests, numerous, small freshwater lakes, bogs and marshes, rivers and streams, and glacially scoured hills and mountains, on the landward side. The abundance of distinct topographic features has resulted in a relatively high density of toponyms of considerable variety.

The assigning of names to most features in the park is the outcome of a haphazard and accidental process of naming which has generally occurred throughout Newfoundland - a process that may be called the vernacular, or common, application process. Thus fishermen, mariners, explorers, mapmakers, pioneers and settlers all contributed names, so that over time has emerged a collection of toponyms which has been accepted by the general public and official authorities. While the great majority of names was attached to the landscape before the Terra Nova National Park was founded, a few, including the name of the park itself, were implanted by political authority.

Coastal scenery of Terra Nova National Park

(Source: Parks Canada)

The 153 square-mile area adjacent to Bonavista Bay designated for the national park was selected in 1951, transferred from the ownership of the province to Parks Canada in 1955, and officially established as a park in 1957, with the name 'Terra Nova'. This name was most apt and appropriate for several reasons. Firstly 'Terra Nova',

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the Latin for Newfoundland, is an appellation frequently used on maps and in documents since the 16th century to refer to the island. Secondly, it was and still is a popular name applied to local institutions, companies and ships. Thirdly, the specific toponym already existed in the Bonavista Bay area in three features: a river, a lake and a community near the present park boundary. At one stage it was hoped by the federal negotiators that Terra Nova River, with its potential for sports salmon fishing, would be included within the park, but the provincial government maintained that the province needed the forest resource and the hydro-electric power of the river basin.

Terra Nova River itself was once known as 'Bloody Bay Brook'. It was so called in August 1840, when the geologist Jukes visited the area and found the pioneer, Richard Elliot Stroud, a salmonier-furrier, settled at its mouth. Jukes employed Stroud as a guide. In his journal he wrote: "There is a large pond some fifteen or twenty miles in, which Stroud called Terra Nova Pond..." This was almost certainly Terra Nova Lake, from which the specific was later applied to the river that flows into Glovertown (formerly Bloody Bay) and also in 1892 assigned to a railway station which grew into the community of 'Terra Nova', on the shore of the lake. Jukes does not indicate that Stroud himself had named Terra Nova Pond (though this is entirely possible) but certainly this is the earliest recording of the name in the area.

The only two toponyms recorded before 1840 were Newman Sound and Clode Sound. These prominent, fiord-like, coastal indentations were mapped and named by Michael Lane, assistant to Captain James Cook, and first appear on a map published in 1775. The specific 'Newman' almost certainly stems from the surname of settlers at Bonavista in the 1670s. 'Clode' may similarly be a family name, but it might also be an anglicized form of 'Baye Claude', used previously on French charts (e.g. Bellin 1767).

Blanchford's chart (1838) and the journal and geological map of Jukes (1840) greatly improved the recording of topographical detail and toponymy of the park area. The former shows that Clode Sound was entered through Chandlers Reach and within the sound were found Brown Cove, Long Cove and Platter Cove. To the north, Blanchford charted and named Lions Den, Swale Island, Broad Cove, South Broad Cove and Buckley Cove within Newman Sound. Jukes confirmed the use of these toponyms, and also recorded Brown Cove in Clode Sound. Most importantly, Jukes was the first to extend coverage beyond the coast by referring to some of more prominent hills now in the park, including Mount Stanford (presently called Stamford), and the Lonil Hills (presently Louil Hills). The Page map (1860) identified 'Lonil Hills' and 'Mt. Stanford', but Kerr's Admiralty chart (1873) changed the spellings to 'Louil' and 'Stamford'. From this latter source stem what are clearly corruptions of the original usage, for subsequent maps and charts show the nomenclature of the British Admiralty publication. It should be noted, however, that Jukes himself is inconsistent, for after noting in his journal that he ascended the 'Lonil Hills' whence he commanded a view of "Clode Sound, Newman's Sound, and a great number of hills beyond them", his geological map clearly shows 'Louis Hills'. The older residents of the Eastport-Glovertown area refer to the features as the 'Lorrie', 'Laury', or 'Lawry' Hills.

Page's map of 1860 gives the outline of a large pond or lake, called Strouds Pond,[1] within the present day

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1   Richard Elliot Stroud, a Dorsetshire man, settled at the mouth of the Terra Nova River about 1830 to manage a salmon fishery belonging to the Poole firm of Brooking and Garland. He also hunted and trapped in the interior and was one of the first to exploit the resources of the present-day park. Stroud and many other early settlers are documented in the "Human history study" of Terra Nova Park by Major (1979).

A portion of Page's map of 1860 "A hand map of the Island of Newfoundland". Note Terra Nova Pond, Strouds Pond, Lonil Hills and Mt. Stanford

(National Map Collection, Public Archives Canada, NMC 47969)

park area. This feature has been more recently dubbed Dunphys Pond, probably after Fred Dunphy who in 1957 was the Acting Park Superintendent. He supervised contour surveys for the location of buildings, access roads and visitor accommodations. It is unfortunate that the name of one of the first pioneers of the area has been lost, as he may have been responsible for first naming Terra Nova Pond, from which the park draws its own name.

Many of the families who fished, hunted, trapped or cut wood and sawed timber before the park was established came from fishing communities around Bonavista Bay, where their names remain in the toponyms of many coves, islands, ponds and other features. In some cases the specific part of the toponym gives the full personal name as in Ned Fitzgeralds Cove, Donald Smiths Ponds, Charlie Chaulks Pond or Peter Halls Rock. More commonly though just surnames are used. Some of 17th century vintage in Bonavista Bay include Buckley Point, Buckley Cove and Pitts Pond. From the 18th century we have Brown Marsh Ponds and Chandler Reach; and from 19th century origins came Hefferns Cove, Minchin Cove, Hancocks Pond, Simmonds Cove, and many others. Most of these names are still associated with families in settlements around the park boundaries such as Charlottetown, Sandy Cove, Salvage and Cannings Cove. Oddly enough some surnames used as specifics are not found documented in the historical records of Bonavista Bay, and other families, who are known to have had a prominent historical association with the area, are not commemorated in the nomenclature. Major (1979), has identified a number of families who maintained saw mills in Newman Sound but whose names do not appear in today's toponyms - as, for instance, the Lanes

Mount Stamford (originally Stanford) on the shore of Newman Sound in Terra Nova Park

(From "Mount Stamford and eagles" by Gaileen Marsh, 1982. Courtesy: Terra Nova National Park)
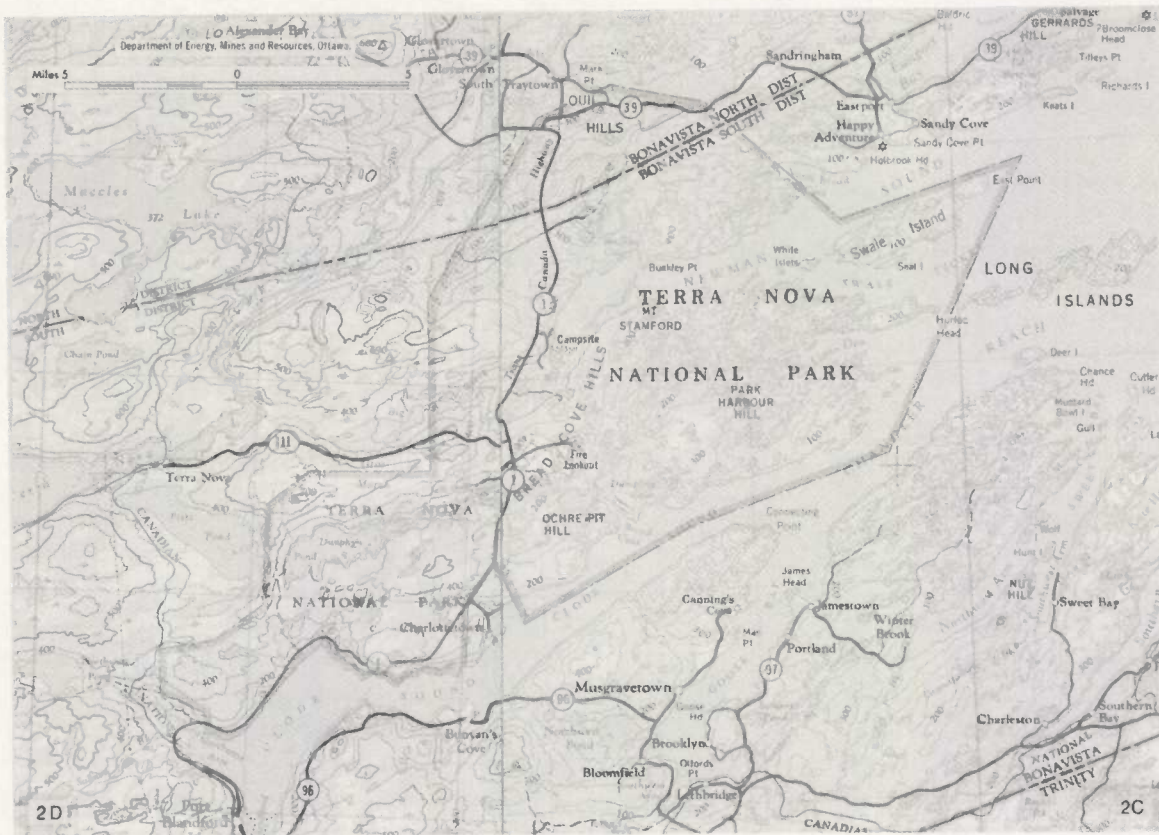
Terra Nova National Park

of Eastport who milled lumber on Upper Sandy Point in the Big Brook area, the Turners of Happy Adventure at Saltons Brook, and the Kings of Sandy Cove in Minchin Cove. The Greenings and Youngs - residents of Musgravetown - operated sawmills in Clode Sound; the Readers of Bloomfield, in Park Harbour, and Steads of Musgravetown, in Lions Den.

Other toponyms reflect an array of influences ranging from wildlife in Duck Pond, Seal Island, Fox Pond, Goose Pond, and Otter Pond to the colour and hues of the landscape in Ochre Pit Hill and Blue Hills. Other descriptive names abound, as elsewhere in Newfoundland, in features like Big Pond, Rocky Pond, White Islets and Square Pond. In Swale Island the local vernacular pronunciation of 'seal' is preserved, but in Hurloc Head, Saltons Brook, Saltons Marsh, Bread Cove, Dumpling Cove and Lost Pond, the derivations and origins of the toponyms have been obscured. Behind the name Davey Ann's Pond lies the tragic story of a young woman who some thirty years ago was caught in a winter blizzard and perished while attempting to reach her father's logging camp on the shores of Blue Hill Pond.

Terra Nova National Park provides a useful study area to illustrate how toponyms can provide insights into history and give some clues to the social and cultural development of a region. However, some names of prominent features in the park still require further investigation to determine their linguistic and cultural origins. Numerous features are yet to be officially named, and others should perhaps have their names amended to accord better with the known historical development of the area, both prior to and since the park was founded. The park authorities together with the Newfoundland Geographical Names Board should perhaps consider restoring the surname Stroud to some feature, possibly one of the unnamed Louil (Lonil) Hills which Richard E. Stroud climbed with J.B. Jukes. Jukes, himself, together with the early sawmilling families, might also be worthy of toponymic commemoration.

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National Parks on Canadian stamps

On January 24, 1979 Canada Post issued a $1 stamp showing painter Ron Bolt's view of Fundy National Park. This was the first of a series of high-value definitive stamps on a theme showing our national parks as part of Canada's total environment. Subsequent releases in this series of artists' impressions of the parks have been $2 Kluane (April 27, 1979); $1.50 Waterton Lakes (June 18, 1982); $5 Point Pelee (January 10, 1983); $1 Glacier (July 15, 1984); and for this centennial year $2 Banff, showing Moraine Lake in the Valley of the Ten Peaks (June 21, 1985)

GEOGRAPHICAL NAMES OF AUYUITTUQ NATIONAL PARK RESERVE

Philip Goldring*

One of Canada's newest national parks has some of our country's most recently approved place names, as well as some very long-established ones. The oldest place names of Auyuittuq National Park Reserve on Baffin Island reflect the perceptions of the Inuit who have hunted along the coast for several centuries. Further inland lie glaciers and mountains that have been thoroughly explored only in the past 40 years; their names reflect the preoccupations of recent explorers, and the whimsical musings of mountaineers.

'Auyuittuq' itself is an Inuktitut word chosen by Parks Canada, after consultation with the local Inuit, to describe the 21,470 km^2 of reserved land. This tract straddles the Arctic Circle and includes the Penny Ice Cap, a remnant of the enormous ice sheet which covered much of present-day Canada during the last ice age. Auyuittuq, 'the place that does not melt', is also used by the Inuit as a generic name for glaciers.[1]

Most Inuktitut place names are terse descriptions of the physical appearance or special character of a place. Two detailed studies of Inuktitut names in Auyuittuq have been made. In 1885 the German anthropologist Franz Boas published an exceptionally detailed map of Cumberland Peninsula, including coastal regions in the north of the present-day park.[2] Early in the 1980s Robert Redhead, who was then Superintendent of the park, began compiling lists of names of features within Pangnirtung Pass from recollections of Inuit elders. Etuangat and the late Jim Kilabuk of Pangnirtung, and Angmarlik of Broughton Island were important informants.[3] It seems likely that these seasoned travellers and guides may have coined some of those feature names while guiding government officials in the 1920s, since Boas's exhaustive inquiries produced almost no names in Pangnirtung Pass.

Few of the native names for landscape features in this area have been officially adopted, but even the small number of approved names point to the character of Inuit toponymic practices. Nedluksiak means 'the place

where the land looks like it is cut into little pieces', while the fiord called Narpaing is 'the place of little fish with big bellies'. Quajon (also spelled 'Kajukvik') is 'the place of cold', though why it is singled out for this charactestic is unclear! Pangnirtung, 'the place of the bull caribou', is the traditional name for both of the deep valleys that cut north and south into what is now the park; Pangnirtung Pass, which links the two fiords and is now crossed by hiking trails, was only named about 1925, by Canadian ornithologist J. Dewey Soper. By a curious oversight this name, along with others proposed by Soper in 1927, was only approved by the national names authority in 1968.[4]
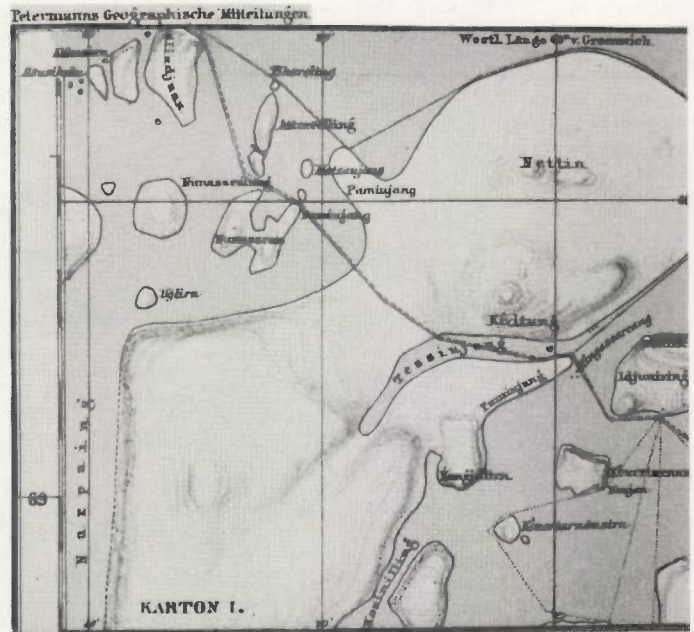
A portion of Boas's map "Karte des Cumberland-Sundes und der Cumberland-Halbinsel" (1885), showing the north coast of Cumberland Peninsula between Narpaing Fiord and Quajon Fiord. Boas meticulously recorded the Eskimo names during his field work of 1883-84. Note 'Kivitung', for the presently approved locality name 'Kivitoo'.

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1 Correspondence from R.E. Redhead to A. Rayburn, 9 June 1981 (CPCGN file 26 I).

2 Boas, F. (1885):"Baffin Land" in Petermann's Mitteilungen, No. 80. Gotha.

3 Correspondence from R.E. Redhead to A. Rayburn, 9 June 1981 (CPCGN file 26 I).

4 Correspondence from J.D. Soper to R. Douglas, 16 May 1927 and reply, 8 June 1927 (CPCGN file 1068). Old, numbered CPCGN files are on deposit at the Public Archives of Canada as Record Group 21 D 1 vols.: p. 152-198.

One of the most fascinating names in Auyuittuq is Kivitoo, which according to Ken Dudley's 1971-72 report of field work in the area means "the place where one refused the object of their desire after having been denied it over an extended period".[5] Modern orthography renders this as Qivittuuq, for which the translation 'anger' is on file at the CPCGN Secretariat. Kivitoo was an important place in the post-contact history of the region. To the Scottish whalers it was 'Yakkie Fiord', Yakkie being a rude word for 'Eskimo' in whalers' slang. Kivitoo seems never to have appeared on printed British maps of the whaling era (1820-1915); Boas, however, mapped it as 'Kivitung'. According to Boas, whalers often landed there and gave individual natives barrels to collect seal and walrus blubber for export to Scotland each autumn.[6] The Sabellum Trading Company post established here about 1916 was licensed in the 1920s under its native name. This has ensured the survival of 'Kivitoo' on modern maps, although the settlement which grew up around the trading post was abandoned in the early 1960s.

As whaling declined, companies sent small vessels to Davis Strait and southern Baffin Island to trade with the Eskimos for walrus, fox and bear products. The Sabellum Trading Company of London had several stations along the coast between Cape Haven and Cape Kater. The building shown at this station at Kivitoo was probably brought from Cape Haven in 1916.

(Parks Canada, Prairie Region Office, photo 203x-22M, by Caroline Phillips)

We do not know what language was spoken by people of the Dorset culture who preceded the Inuit in this region, but it seems likely that some of the oldest English language place names are only a little newer than many in Inuktitut.

5   Dudley, K. (1972): "The Eskimo Place Names of Northern Cumberland Peninsula, from Home Bay to Cape Dyer, Baffin Island N.W.T., Canada, with English translations", in Arctic and Alpine Research 4(4), p. 343-347.

6   Boas, F. (1885) p. 94; Ms. Barbara Schultz of the Multilingual Services Directorate, Department of the Secretary of State, provided translations of parts of Boas' work not yet published in English.

Four centuries ago John Davis named Cape Walsingham and Exeter Bay, and two years later, in 1587, he named Cumberland Island (today known as Cumberland Peninsula). Curiously Baffin Island itself is a relatively modern name: it was officially adopted on 5 December 1905, replacing 'Baffin Land' which had appeared for the first time on British maps in 1884.[7] Before that time cartographers split Baffin Island into two or more islands as their outdated optimism still foresaw a navigable passage through the midst of the island.

Although this cartographic fantasy persisted intermittently until 1875, John Ross's explorations in 1818 had produced a new crop of place names along what he reluctantly mapped as a continuous coast. From this period names in the Auyuittuq area include Home Bay, and Cape Durban and Cape Searle, two important Eskimo settlements in the whaling era.

The whalers seem to have been content for the most part to use explorers' names for coastal features of Davis Strait; whaling-era names in Cumberland Sound itself lie outside the park limits. One feature named for a whaling captain dominates the landscape: the Penny Ice Cap commemorates Captain William Penny of Aberdeen, who did much to open Cumberland Sound to the whaling industry. A Royal Geographical Society map of 1856 calls Cumberland Sound 'Penny Gulf' and an Admiralty chart of 1875 gives 'Penny Land' as the name for the peninsula dividing Cumberland Sound from Frobisher Bay. It was Franz Boas in 1885 who moved the whaling captain's name to approximately its present location, dubbing the forbidding icy plateau between Cumberland Sound and Davis Strait 'Penny Hochland'. In its English form, 'Penny Highland', the name appeared on Canadian government maps by the turn of the century. The name Penny Highland was formally adopted in 1945 but deleted as redundant in 1968. Penny Ice Cap was separately recognized in 1959 and remains the major monument to a whaling captain in the Auyuittuq and Cumberland Sound area.

The migration of William Penny's name on the map of Baffin Island hints at the development of official interest in geographical names in this region. The Dominion produced its own map of southern Baffin about 1901, although cartographer Omer Senécal and geographer James White relied heavily on Franz Boas's work and on Admiralty Chart 835 for features not surveyed by Robert Bell and A.P. Low.[8]

In 1921 the Hudson's Bay Company arrived at Pangnirtung Fiord to establish their Netchelik Post (so called because original plans had contemplated a site nearer Netilling - or Netchelik - Fiord). When the Mounted Police established a detachment, post office and customs house at the same location in 1923 they successfully insisted on the settlement bearing the name Pangnirtung. In the next three decades government officials working in the area quite

7   Correspondence from H.P. Douglas (British Admiralty) to R. Douglas 19 Oct. 1928 cites Admiralty chart 863 of 28 June 1884, a copy of which (corrected to 1890) is on file with the correspondence (CPCGN file 0054). Blackie, W.G. (1884): The comprehensive atlas and geography of the world. Blackie & Sons, London. Map 49 entitled "British North America. The Dominion of Canada".

8   Memo from C.O. Senécal to R. Douglas, 30 May 1928; and correspondence between R. Douglas and the Admiralty Hydrographer, 20 Sept. 1928 and 30 Oct. 1928; and correspondence from James White to A.H. Whitcher, 16 Sept. 1901 (CPCGN files 0884, 0054 and 0041 respectively).

actively submitted names for features, usually to help describe them in field reports.

The approval of many of these names soon had an impact on the toponymy of Pangnirtung Pass. Boas could learn only one name - Kitulle - for a feature in the pass, and he offered no translation for it. Soper added Pangnirtung Pass itself, along with Summit Lake and Windy Lake, two names that are still shown on maps.[9] Subsequently, in 1953, Patrick Baird reported that Soper's Windy Lake was not a lake at all: it merely looked like one under a blanket of snow. As the wind was real enough, the name was switched to a much smaller lake nearby.[10]

Soper's names had a peculiar history: in 1927 he pressed them on the Geographic Board so that he could complete a report before returning to the field. The Board's Secretary advised him that the names had been "examined and found satisfactory", but in fact they were not at that time officially adopted. One of Soper's suggestions, 'Cathedral Mountains', for the fine range northeast of Pangnirtung Fiord, remained in limbo until rejected in 1968.[11]

J. Dewey Soper and 'Moosa' with survey equipment, 1931

(Public Archives Canada, PA 101471)

By the late 1960s the Pangnirtung Pass area had seen a decade and a half of alpine mountaineering, and the climbing community began to importune the CPCGN with a variety of naming suggestions which reflected personal taste,

but had a clear practical purpose, because reports of major climbs should share a standard toponymy for surrounding features.

This toponymic onslaught of the mountaineers began in 1953 with Mount Odin, when Patrick Baird organized an international expedition to Pangnirtung Pass for the Arctic Institute of North America.[12] (Baird proposed to name this dominant peak 'The Queen'; but at the suggestion of Rideau Hall, Her Majesty was honoured instead by the 'Queen Elizabeth Islands', for all the islands north of Parry Channel, which until 18 February 1954 did not have a group name.)[13] This was not the beginning of mountaineering in Baffin Island, since Baird himself had been part of three other parties, including J.M. Wordie's Clyde Expedition of 1934. Nevertheless, the ascent of Mount Odin marked the beginning of regular expeditions of alpinists to the Pangnirtung Pass. Baird returned south with a number of proposals for new geographical names in this challenging range which soon became the goal of climbing expeditions from Canada, the United States, Great Britain, Italy, France, Switzerland and even Japan.

Among the names adopted in the 1950s, Mount Battle was named for W.R. Battle, a member of Baird's first expedition, who drowned and was buried at the foot of the mountain. Owl River was named for seven pairs of snowy owls seen there, and Weasel River, which drains the pass in the opposite direction towards Pangnirtung, was named for the creatures that bothered Baird's camps in the area.

Four major glaciers were named -- Coronation Glacier had been reconnoitred on Queen Elizabeth's Coronation Day, 2 June 1953; Turner Glacier was proposed for the late Canon Turner, a popular Anglican missionary in Pangnirtung; Rundle for a nurse, Mildred Rundle, killed in an accident at Lake Harbour, and Highway Glacier for the access it provided to the peaks. Greenshield Lake recalls Reverend E.W.T. Greenshield, the only other missionary Baird wished to honour in this way.

Baird probably did not anticipate the significance of one of his choices -- Mount Asgard, which he named after the mythical home of the Norse gods. This opened a volume of Norse mythology which mountaineers would draw upon for nearly 20 years. In one sense the Department of Northern Affairs and the Canadian Board on Geographical Names at that time seem to have enjoyed these names. They had a dignified, almost sonorous, quality missing from other travellers' attempts to name features after their wives and mothers.

Legendary Scandinavian names could even be judged by how well they matched the features for which they were proposed. In 1970, for example, the Executive Secretary of the CPCGN tactfully reminded a correspondent that Ginnungagap was "the bottomless abyss between the land of ice and the land of fire" and so might not be "a suitable designation for such a small feature" as the glacier being considered.[14] But Thor Peak, Mount Odin, Valhalla Mountain, Mount Sigurd and many others gained approval in the early 1970s.

9 Correspondence from J.D. Soper to R. Douglas, 16 May 1927 (CPCGN file 1068).

10 Correspondence from P. Baird to L.B. Skinner, 5 Oct. 1953 (CPCGN file 26 NW/NE).

11 Correspondence from J.D. Soper to R. Douglas, 16 May 1927 and reply, 8 June 1927 (CPCGN file 1068); 'Cathedral Mountains' was officially rejected on 12 Dec. 1968 (CPCGN file 26 I).
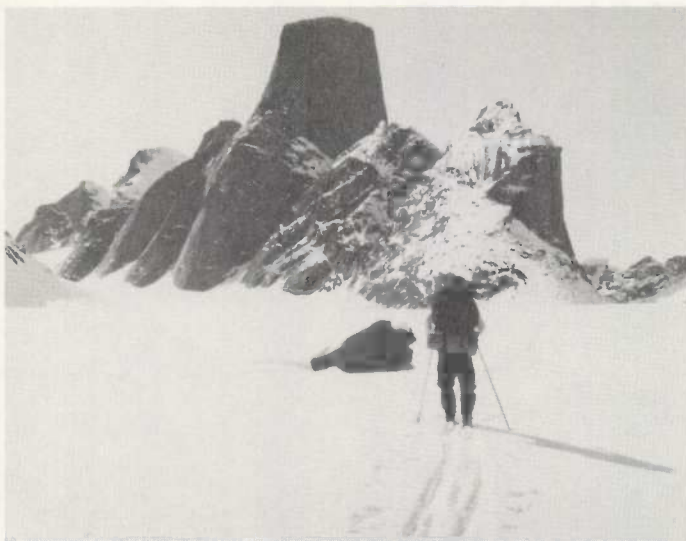
12 Baird, P.D. (1954): "An Ascent in Baffin Island", Canadian Alpine Journal 37, p. 31-33.

13 Correspondence from L.B. Skinner to P. Baird, 2 Oct. 1953 (CPCGN file 26 NW/NE).

14 Correspondence from G. Delaney to W. James, 30 Dec. 1970 (CPCGN file 26 I).

Auyuittuq National Park Reserve

Affairs and Northern Development (DIAND) "Mount Bilbo, after a hobbit. We have been unable to locate any details concerning 'Hobbits'."[16] Bilbo Baggins seems to have scuttled the influence of the mountaineering fraternity as far as Auyuittuq toponymy was concerned.

By this point -- early 1973 -- Parks Canada was involved in planning the future of Pangnirtung Pass. Director-General John Nicol advised L.A.C.O. Hunt (the DIAND member on the CPCGN) that "it is not essential that every feature be identified. In many cases the fact that features are unnamed adds to the charm and wilderness character ...." Climbers had contributed their full share to the names in the area. With impeccable logic (but 20 years too late) Nicol added tartly that "Norse mythology ... has no historical connection with this area".

> We recommend that there be a moratorium on the naming of features within the proposed Park boundaries until such time as the history of the area is more completely researched and names put forward which more adequately reflect Canadian heritage as it relates to aboriginal history and Canadian development.[17]

Since Parks Canada took responsibility for managing this austerely beautiful wilderness, naming activity has slowed. Climbers had conquered and helped to name most of the more accessible glaciers and peaks. High above Pangnirtung Pass, the names of Norse deities, their weapons and dwellings, attest to the whimsical imagination of the men who demonstrated the recreational potential of Auyuittuq. Below, along the coastline and the fiords, more down-to-earth names record in profusion the insights and recollections of the Inuit people who, centuries ago, made their homes beside the 'place that never melts'.

Mount Asgard

(Source: Parks Canada)

For one peak Baird proposed the name of Jim Kilabuk, a Pangnirtung elder who had crossed the pass with Soper; but Kilabuk was then still alive, so Baird recommended as an alternative "Gandalf Peak, after the wizard in The Hobbit".[15] Eventually Baird was forced to admit that climbers' whimsy could go too far: "I am not too happy to recommend these", he wrote about a new crop of proposals in 1973. Bilbo and Frodo were hobbits from the very popular book by Tolkein. If Scandinavian myths were uplifting, trendy fiction was not. The Committee's Secretary in discouraging such names reported tersely to the Department of Indian

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15 Correspondence from P. Baird to G. Delaney, 3 Feb. 1973 (CPCGN file 26 I).

16 Correspondence from G. Delaney to L.A.C.O. Hunt, 26 Feb. 1973 (CPCGN file 26 I).

17 Correspondence from J.I. Nicol to L.A.C.O. Hunt, 9 May 1973 (CPCGN file 26 I).

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NOTES ON NAHANNI   ... Helen Kerfoot, CPCGN Secretariat, EMR

Rushing and tumbling through Nahanni National Park Reserve is one of North America's finest wild rivers. In its 320-km course the South Nahanni River cascades over the spectacular Virginia Falls (90 m high), and immediately turns into turbulent rapids and standing waves as it plunges through four canyons before merging in relative calm with the Liard River at Nahanni Butte outside the southern end of the park. This region of superb wilderness beauty has not only been set aside as a national park (1972), but as a natural site of universal importance it was also the first officially designated United Nations World Heritage Site (1979).

The name of the park's well-known feature Virginia Falls dates from the 1920s. Fenley Hunter of Long Island, New York, undertook an exploratory expedition to the South Nahanni in 1928, and was probably the first white man to photograph and measure the falls. Virginia, his daughter, was remembered by him on the cloudy August morning when he first glimpsed the plummeting waters. The name Virginia Falls was subsequently submitted in 1929 by Thomas Riggs of New York and approved by the Geographic Board of Canada in 1930.

Very pertinent to the Nahanni traveller is the portage around the falls. In 1974 this trail was accorded the name Faille Portage, after Albert Faille, who since 1927 had spent his life trapping and prospecting in the Nahanni country. He recalled a time when sticks formed a corduroy track to slide skinboats through the portage.

Kraus Hotsprings, Lafferty's Riffle and Clausen Creek hold memories of settlers on the South Nahanni; Figure of Eight Rapids and The Splits tell of the might and character of the river; while Rabbitkettle Hotsprings, Deadmen Valley and Headless Range carry the legend and mystique of Nahanni - these stories for another time.

JASPER NATIONAL PARK: SOME FUR TRADE PLACE NAMES OF THE YELLOWHEAD PASS

David Smyth*

The Yellowhead Pass was crossed by Hudson's Bay Company brigades about a dozen times during a period of less than 30 years, starting in the mid-1820s. The Yellowhead route, much later explored than either the Athabasca Pass or the Peace River route across the Rockies, offered an alternative to these two more regularly traversed and longer utilized fur trade routes.

From the time of David Thompson's 1811 crossing of the Athabasca Pass, first North West Company and then Hudson's Bay Company brigades annually travelled the route to reach the Columbia. The Yellowhead Pass route, branching off this established route at the confluence of the Miette River and Athabasca River, provided the Hudson's Bay Company with a direct connection between its New Caledonia District west of the Rockies and its Saskatchewan District to the east. The principal, though not exclusive, use of this route by the company was to carry leather to its western district, both to trade to its Indian customers and to meet internal company needs.[1]

Many of the place names of the upper Athabasca River, Yellowhead Pass and upper Fraser River region derive from the fur trade era, but often precise origins have remained uncertain and been confounded by local folklore. Although some names were adopted from Indian usage and then assigned to features by the fur traders themselves, names of several of the most prominent features commemorate individual company employees. Of these people, the three longest shrouded in mystery have been Tête Jaune, Jasper Hawes and an 'engagé' named Miette. This paper will first look at these three men and then examine the origins of the names for some of the features mentioned by the early fur traders who travelled through this region.

Tête Jaune

'Yellowhead Pass', 'Yellowhead Lake' and 'Tête Jaune Cache' all enshrine the name of a mixed-blood Iroquois whose 'nom du pays' was Tête Jaune. His true identity, long the issue of seemingly unresolvable debate, has just recently been established. Over the years such fur traders as Jasper Hawes, François Decoigne and, latterly, Pierre Hatsinaton have all at some point been argued to have been Tête Jaune. However, Hudson's Bay Company records have proven that his real name was Pierre Bostonais. A one-time servant of both

the North West and Hudson's Bay companies, he was likely brought out to the West from the Montreal region in the early 1800s and was killed in the upper Peace River region in 1827. In 1825 he guided Chief Trader James McMillan across the Yellowhead Pass on the first known crossing by any fur trade company employee.[2]

Jasper Hawes

The identity of Jasper Hawes, after whom two consecutive Jasper House fur trade posts, the town of Jasper and (by association) Jasper National Park are all named, has never been in question. However, knowledge of his fur trade career was, and still remains, limited. What has been known for some time is that Jasper Hawes served on the Peace River with David Thompson in 1803 and 1804, was an interpreter in the North West Company's Athabasca River Department in 1806 and was an 'old clerk' at Rocky Mountain House on Brulé Lake when the Nor'Wester Ross Cox visited there in June 1817.[3] This post was one of at least five known by the name Rocky Mountain House, so it is not surprising in order to differentiate among them, that in 1825 Alexander Ross recorded on visiting the post that it was called "'Jasper's House'... in honour of the first adventurer who established it."[4] Jasper Hawes may indeed have built this post on Brulé Lake about 1813; he was definitely posted on the Athabasca River during the 1812 and 1813 winter seasons and probably for several years after that. However, when Gabriel Franchère stopped at the post in 1814 it was François Decoigne who was in charge.[5] He, not Hawes, may have been the actual founder, despite Ross's 1825 assertion - but there is now no way of knowing.

Surviving North West Company records suggest that Hawes may have been from Montreal. They do show that during the 1818-19 season he was posted to the Columbia, likely

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1 Smyth, David (1984-85): "The Yellowhead Pass and the Fur Trade." BC Studies, No. 64 (Winter), p. 48-73.

2 Ibid.; Smyth, David (1984): "Tête Jaune". Alberta History, Vol. 32, No. 1.

3 Coues, Elliott, ed. (1897): New Light on the Early History of the Greater Northwest. Francis P. Harper, New York, Vol. II, p. 641; Wallace, W. Stewart, ed. (1934): Documents Relating to the North West Company. The Champlain Society, Toronto, p. 219, and Cox, Ross (1957): The Columbia River. University of Oklahoma Press, Norman, p. 289.

4 Ross, Alexander (1855): The Fur Hunters of the Far West. Smith, Elder & Company, London, Vol. II, p. 203.

5 Hudson's Bay Company Archives (hereafter cited as HBCA), F.4/32, p. 450 and Franchère, Gabriel (1969): Journal of a Voyage on the North West Coast of North America During the Years 1811, 1812, 1813 and 1814. Ed. W. Kaye Lamb. The Champlain Society, Toronto, p. 162.

having travelled west across the Athabasca Pass with the Columbia brigade in the fall of 1818, or perhaps the previous fall. He apparently retired from the fur trade shortly thereafter; he closed his account with the North West Com-

pany in the Columbia during the 1820-21 season. His name does not appear in a spring 1821 list of that company's servants in the Northwest, nor does it appear on any of the lists of officers and servants compiled at the time
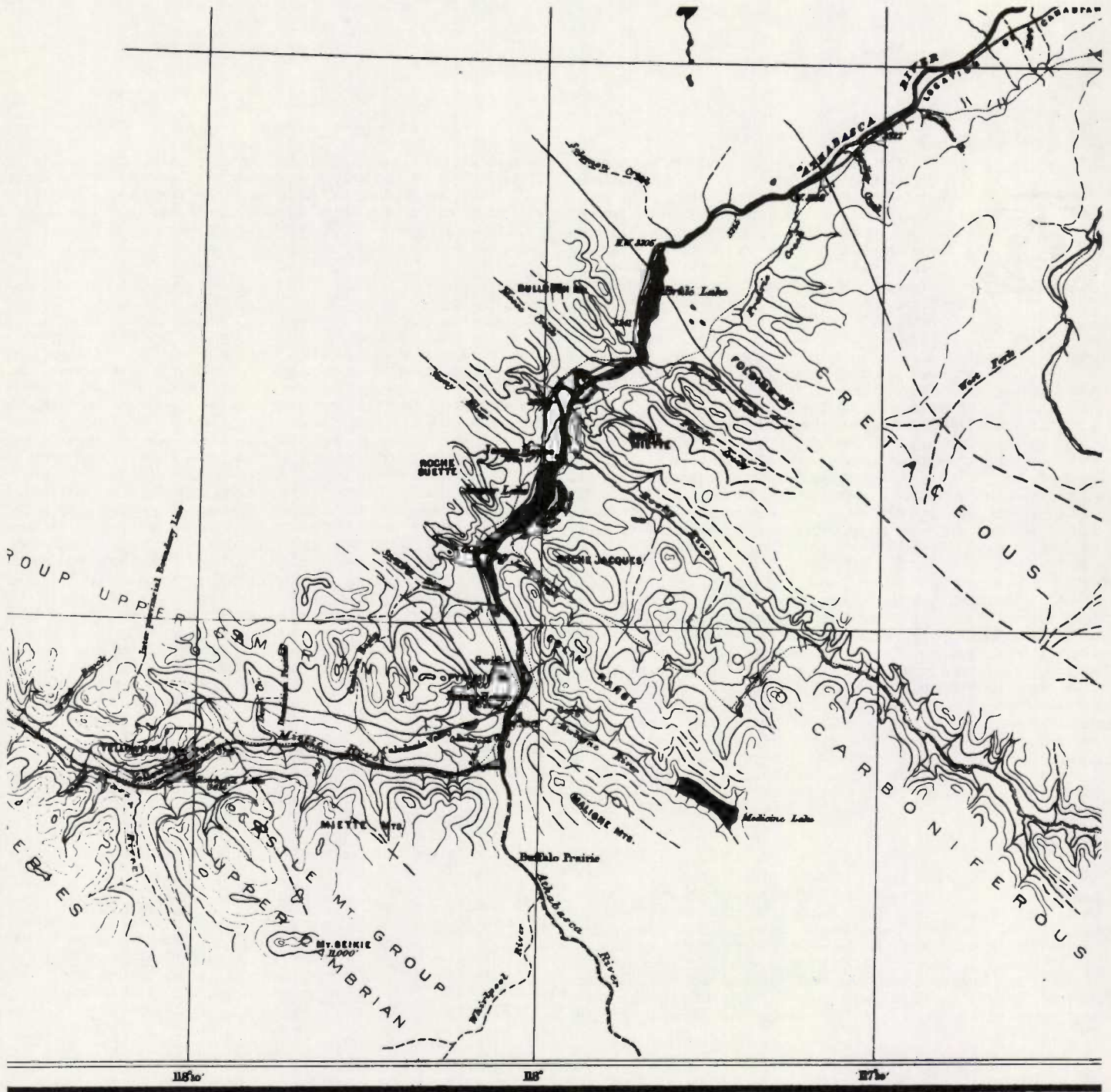
Part of a Geological Survey Map of 1900, showing the easterly section of the Yellowhead Pass Route

(National Map Collection, Public Archives Canada, NMC 52949)

of the merger of the North West and Hudson's Bay companies in 1821.[6]

Miette

Roche Miette, Miette River and several other regional features all derive their names from a North West Company winterer. Until this time virtually nothing was known about Miette, except the local legend, retold in print by many, that he once climbed the face of Roche Miette and there sat with his legs dangling over the edge. Some claim he was employed hauling coal to Jasper House in the 1830s and even present their readers with original Miette quotations. Others state that there probably was no such person and that no surviving Hudson's Bay Company or North West Company records contain references to any Miette. That he climbed Roche Miette is probably true, but the rest of the legend is completely unfounded.

Surviving records show that at least six Miettes were engaged by the North West Company in the period between 1797 and 1819, with all apparently retiring before the 1821 merger. There was an André, Claude, Joseph, Pierre and two Baptistes. None spelled their last name Miette; Pierre's was recorded as Millet, while the others were almost exclusively spelled Millette.[7] One of these two Baptiste Millettes is almost certainly the 'engagé' after whom Roche Miette and the other features are named.

Gabriel Franchère was the first to describe 'Le Rocher à Miette', in 1814. According to a North West Company account book of 1811-21 there was an ex-employee named Baptiste Millette or Milliette living as a freeman in the Athabasca River Department in 1812 and 1813. His trading account ends with an 1813 entry, and nothing further about him is known either before or after this time.[8] None of the other Millettes were apparently stationed in that department.

Baptiste Millette may have been the "Meillet" who accompanied David Thompson in June 1801 during his first attempt to cross the Rockies at the headwaters of the North Saskatchewan River.[9] Millette was certainly not hauling coal to Jasper House in the 1830s; neither is there any record of a Millette, whatever the spelling variation, in that vicinity then, nor is there any evidence that anyone was at that time hauling coal to Jasper House.

Lieutenant Aemilius Simpson, a newly engaged Hudson's Bay Company officer, recorded the first version of the mountain climbing story in 1826. In his journal he described 'Milletes Rock' and stated that it derived its name "from a Canadian, who asserted that he had ascended

to its summit". Paul Kane was told a more embellished tale in 1846, while Dr. James Hector recorded a simpler version in 1859.[10] Despite the unlikely details of Kane's story and of later versions, it is probably true that Baptiste Millette climbed Roche Miette before Franchère's visit.

    *   *   *   *   *   *   *   *   *

The last brigade crossed the Yellowhead in 1853, and one last Athabasca Pass brigade crossing was made the following year. In 1825, Chief Trader James McMillan explored the Yellowhead Pass route, from the mouth of the Miette River to Tête Jaune Cache. The following year the first Hudson's Bay Company brigade crossed the pass carrying leather for the company's New Caledonia posts.

The features examined here lie within Jasper National Park, between Jasper House and the Yellowhead Pass summit. Travelling west up the Athabasca River by canoe or York boat, the New Caledonia brigades reached Jasper House, on Brulé Lake. The lake presumably derived its name from burnt timber on its shoreline. The small fur trade post of Jasper House, named for Jasper Hawes, was probably built in 1813 as a replacement for Henry House farther upstream. In the 1820s the post was occasionally referred to simply as 'Jaspers', though the name 'Jaspers House' (or 'Jasper's House'), was most frequently used. In 1830 this Jasper House was abandoned and a new post of the same name was built and occupied upriver near the outlet of Jasper Lake.[11]

Opposite the second Jasper House stands Roche Miette, variously labelled 'Le Rocher à Miette', 'Le Rocher de Miette' and 'Milletes Rock'.[12] While some suggest this mountain may derive its name from the Cree word 'myatick', meaning mountain sheep, or even the French word 'miette', meaning crumb,[13] there is little reason to doubt that it was named for Baptiste Millette.

On the shores of the Athabasca River just below the mouth of the Miette River stood two other fur trade posts. During the winter of 1810-11, William Henry built the post known as Henry House or Henry's House; it was abandoned and replaced by the first Jasper House about 1813.[14] LaRocque's House, built nearby in the early winter of 1824-25 by Chief

6 HBCA, F.4/32, p. 450, F.4/14, p. 40, F.4/33, p. 111-112, F.4/34, fol. 57 and F.4/46.

7 HBCA, F.4/15, p. 24, 35, 47, 71, 72 and 91, F.4/32, p. 685 and 1053, and Massicotte, E.-Z. (1942-43): "Répertoire des Engagements Pour L'Ouest Conservés dans Les Archives Judiciares de Montréal, 1788-1797." Rapport de l'Archiviste de la Province de Québec, p. 469.

8 HBCA, F.4/32, p. 1053 and F.4/61, fol. 18d.

9 Howay, F.W. (1933): "David Thompson's Account of His First Attempt to Cross the Rockies." Queen's Quarterly, Vol. XL, p. 350-352.

10 HBCA, B.223/a/3, October 7, 1826; Harper, J. Russell, ed. (1971): Paul Kane's Frontier. University of Toronto Press, Toronto, p. 86, November 2, 1846; Spry, Irene M., ed., (1968): The Papers of the Palliser Expedition, 1857-1860. The Champlain Society, Toronto, p. 374-375, February 4, 1859.

11 HBCA, B.94/a/2, 19, 26, 29 March and 8 April 1830, and B.94/a/3, 5 October, 5, 8 and 19 November 1830.

12 Franchère, Gabriel (1969), p. 300-301; Cox, Ross (1957), p. 288, and HBCA, B.223/a/3, 7 October 1826.

13 Holmgren, Eric J. and Patricia M. (1976): Over 2000 Place Names of Alberta. Western Producer Prairie Books, Saskatoon, p. 184.
and
MacGregor, J.G. (1974): Overland by the Yellowhead. Western Producer Prairie Books, Saskatoon, p. 65-66.
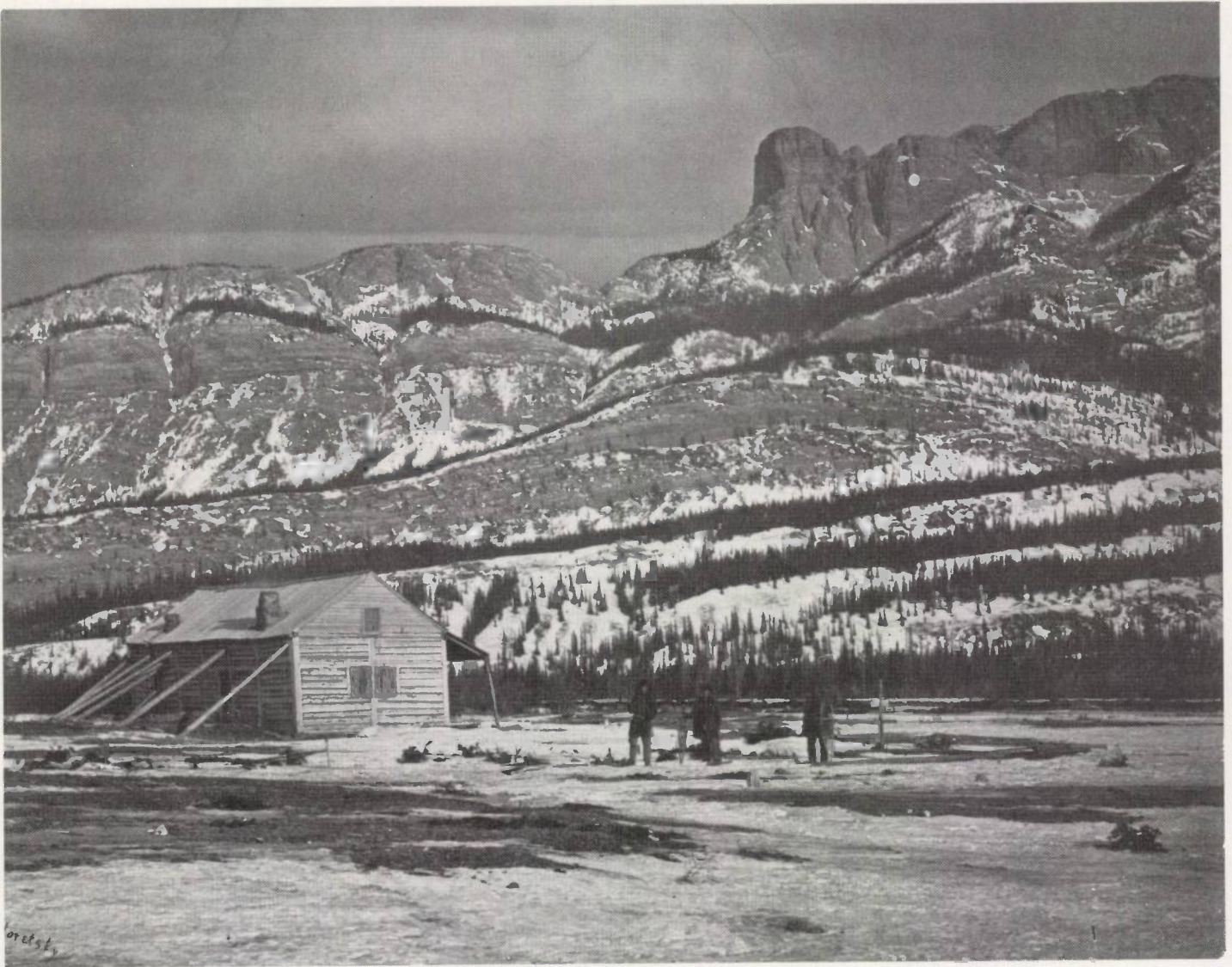
14 Glover, Richard, ed. (1962): David Thompson's Narrative, 1784-1812. The Champlain Society, Toronto, p. 383n, and Wallace, W. Stewart (1934), p. 457.

Sir Sanford Fleming Expedition, 1872, beside Jasper House; Roche Miette in the background.

(Source: Parks Canada)

Trader Joseph Felix LaRocque, was occupied for just that one winter season and then abandoned. One cannot really be sure whether references to Henry House after the mid 1820s are really to that site or to LaRocque's. To add to the confusion, in later years the name Miette House was also used to describe either or both of these abandoned sites.[15]

In 1824 Governor Simpson referred to the Miette River as the 'Cow Dung River'. When Chief Trader McMillan first explored the route in 1825 he called it the 'Millette River', as did the postmaster at Jasper House two years later.[16] Both the names Cow Dung and Miette were used by the fur traders of, or travelling through, the region. Miette eventually became almost universally accepted by the 1860s.

The valley through which the Miette flows had come to be known by the 1860s as the 'Caledonia' or 'Caledonian Valley', deriving its name from the company brigades travelling through it to New Caledonia. 'Caledonia Valley' appears on the Palliser Expedition's 1863 map, though there is no record of this name ever being used by the fur traders who

15 Spry, Irene M. (1968), p. 375.

16 Simpson, George (1968), p. 32; HBCA, B.188/b/4, 24 October 1825, Rocky Mountain (Tête Jaune Cache), McMillan to Connolly, fols. 9-10, and B.94/a/1, 7 October 1827.

passed through. By 1928 the name was considered obsolete.[17]

The Miette River leads up to the Yellowhead Pass. The fur traders who actually used this pass, however, never called it a pass; they referred to the whole overland route from the Athabasca to Tête Jaune Cache as a portage. Though sometimes called the New Caledonia Portage, the fur traders almost exclusively referred to it as the route or portage via Tête Jaune Cache. In the late 1820s the term 'the Leather track' was occasionally used, but this encompassed the entire distance between Fort George on the Fraser and Jasper House.[18] There is no record of any fur trader of the period ever calling the pass the Leather Pass, as is now popularly thought to have been the case, though it was frequently called this in the 1860s, 1870s and 1880s. The names 'Leather pass' and 'Yellow Hd. P.' would appear first to have been used on the 1859 Arrowsmith map of British Columbia entitled,

"The Provinces of British Columbia, & Vancouver Island...." After 1860 these two names, with Yellowhead being spelled either as one word or two, were the most common appellations for the pass until Yellowhead eventually carried the day. After 1860 the pass was also occasionally referred to as the Cowdung Pass, the Leatherhead Pass, Jasper and Jasper House Pass, Tête Jaune and Tête Jaune Cache Pass, the 'Myette' Pass and even the Rocky Mountain Pass.

This paper has only scratched the surface of the fur trade origin of Yellowhead's place names. Much more research is left to be done. However, it was the aim of the paper both to provide recently uncovered information about some fur traders whose names resound throughout the region and to identify the origin of names of many features regularly encountered and noted by the fur traders who travelled the section of the Yellowhead route in what is now Jasper National Park.

17 Geographic Board of Canada (1928): Place-Names of Alberta, p. 28.

18 Smyth, David (1984-85), p. 52.

(Information on names used by fur traders for features between the height of land in Yellowhead Pass and Tête Jaune Cache will be published in a forthcoming edition of CANOMA)
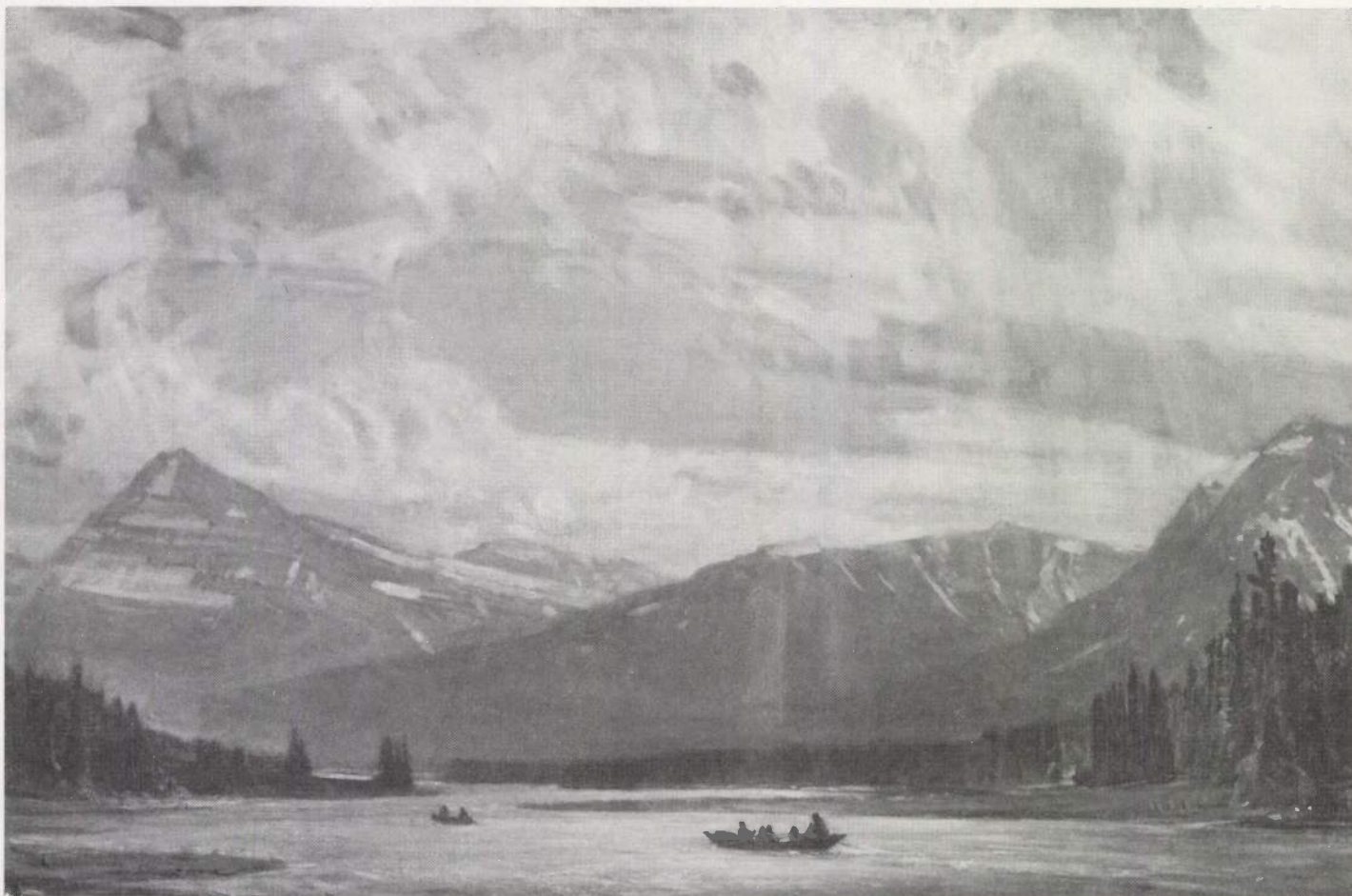
"On the Athabasca River" (detail) Frederick S. Challener (1869-1959) oil painting - undated

(Collection of Glenbow Museum, Calgary, 55.31.10)

THE 1927 OSTHEIMER EXPEDITION TO THE CLEMENCEAU ICEFIELD

Randolph Freeman*

On June 22, 1927 nine men set out from Jasper, Alberta, along the well-used trail following the Athabasca River, starting what would be one of the most ambitious, yet little known, scientific expeditions in the Canadian Rockies. Members of the expedition were: Alfred J. Ostheimer III of Cambridge (Massachusetts), John de Laittre of Minneapolis, W. Rupert Maclaurin of Boston (all students at Harvard University) and local guides and outfitters Hans Fuhrer, Donald Phillips, Adam Joachim, Kenneth Allen,

Don Hoover and Jean Weber. This expedition explored, mapped, and proposed names for geographical features in a previously unexplored region of the Canadian Rockies south of Jasper.

The details of the expedition were recorded in the "Canadian Alpine Journal" in 1928 and came back into public view in 1977, when Ostheimer and de Laittre presented four volumes of records, accounts, photographs and other memorabilia of the expedition[1] to the Archives of the Canadian

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1 Ostheimer, Alfred J. (1928): The Report of the 1927 Expedition to the Athabasca and Chaba Rivers, Jasper Park, Alberta and the Clemenceau Icefield, British Columbia. Cambridge, Mass. (M393 Accn. 2805 Archives of the Canadian Rockies, Banff).
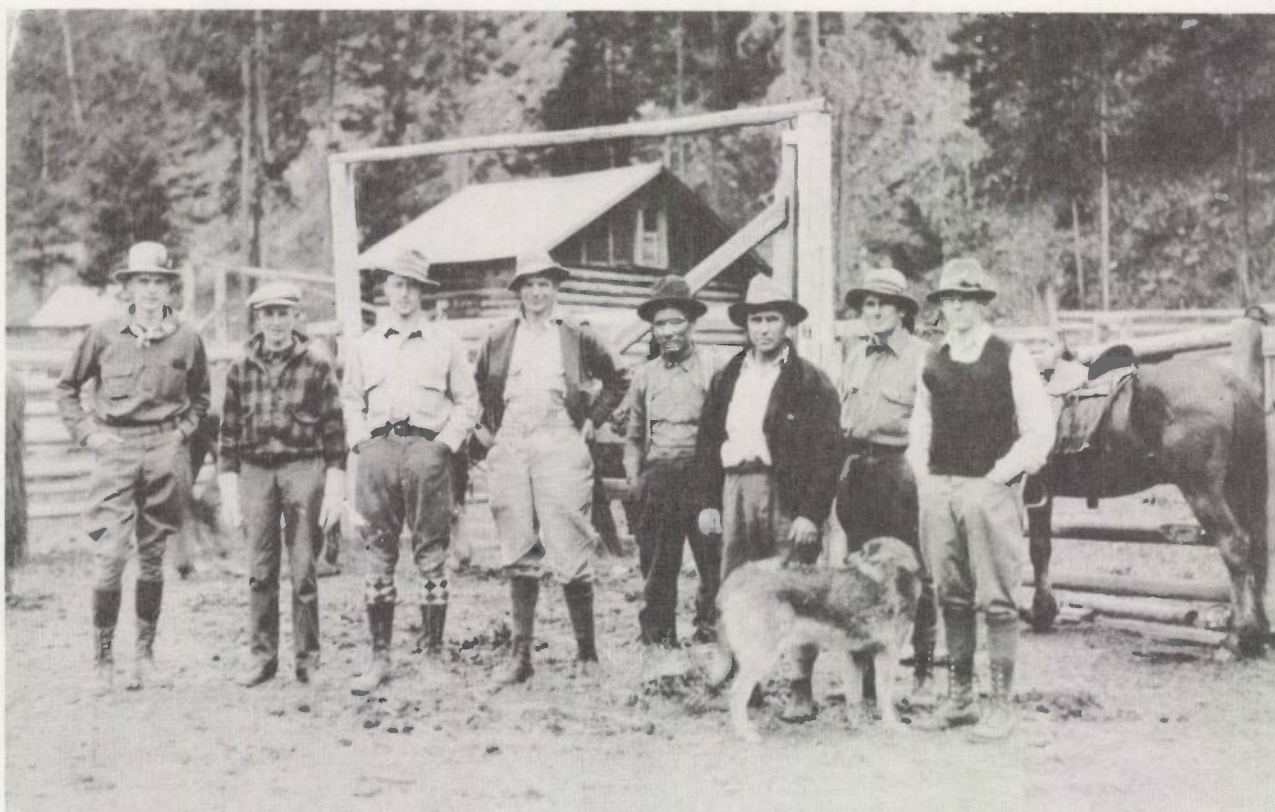

Members of the 1927 Ostheimer Expedition. Left to right: John de Laittre, Kenneth Allen, Alfred J. Ostheimer III, Hans Fuhrer, Adam Joachim, Don Hoover, Jean Weber and W.R. Maclaurin

(Photo: Canadian National Railway.   Source: Whyte Museum of the Canadian Rockies, Banff)

Rockies in Banff. The records reveal not only a wealth of information on the flora, fauna, geology and geography of what remains to this day a little known region of the Canadian Rockies, but also provide considerable details on mountain names (both official and unofficial) in the area, and an insight into commemorative naming of features by explorers of the 1920s.

The region of the Clemenceau Icefield straddles the border between the provinces of Alberta and British Columbia, and lies partly in Jasper National Park. Comprising nearly 1000 km^2 of rock and glacial ice northwest of the Columbia Icefield, and with many of the mountains exceeding 3000m in elevation, the region has been described as part of the 'apex of the North American Continent'. Prior to the 1927 Ostheimer Expedition only four outfits had reached the Clemenceau area: Coleman (1892), the Interprovincial Boundary Survey (1919 and 1920), the Carpe-Schwab-Hall expedition (1922), and the Schwab-Hall expedition (1923). Many of the mountains were still unnamed; and large sections
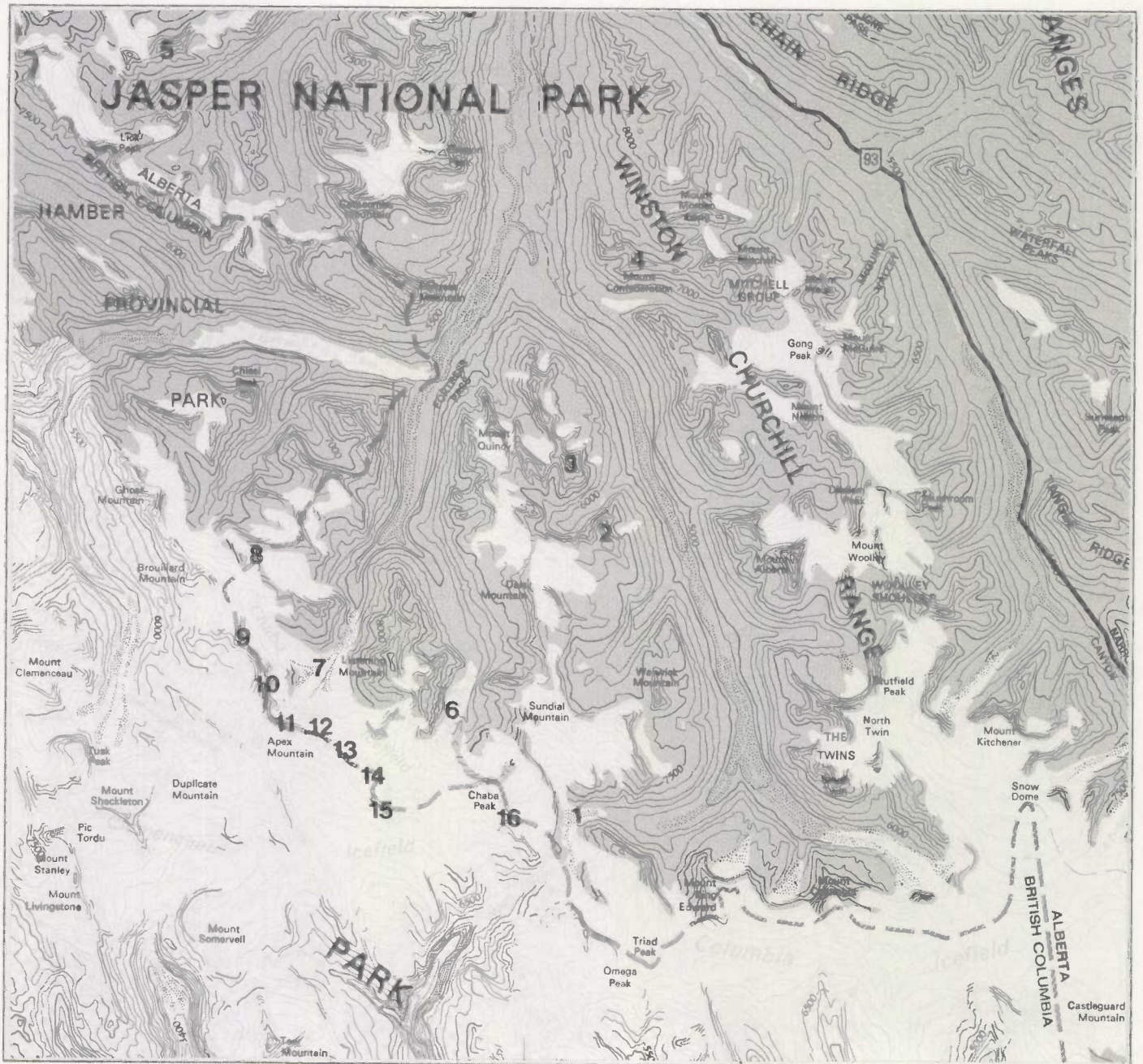
Locations of the features in, or on the border of, Jasper National Park, as recorded by the Ostheimer Expedition. Numbers 1 to 16 correspond with the listing in Table 1 and are shown on part of Alberta Energy and Natural Resources map 83 C (1983)

practically unexplored.

Members of the Ostheimer Expedition recorded 44 names for previously unnamed geographical features in the general vicinity of the Clemenceau Icefield, and in 1927 submitted them to the Geographic Board of Canada for possible approval.

This list, represents one of the most ambitious attempts at geographical naming in the Canadian Rockies, as it was a complete list of major peaks of the group, "... which for the most part, set forth the names of outstanding explorers, with special reference to the Mt. Everest expeditions".[2] Of the 44 names, 16 could be considered to be associated with other named features, 4 are descriptive, 6 are for Everest explorers, 6 for other explorers, 9 for other individuals and 3 are of unstated origin. As Ostheimer admitted, a selection of the names commemorated contemporaneous explorers, a type of naming common during the decades preceding the 1920s. During the years which followed, no attempts were made at geographical naming in the Canadian Rockies on the scale proposed by Ostheimer. By the late

2 Whyte, J. (1977): "36 peaks in 64 days in 1927", Banff Crag and Canyon. August 4.

1920s it was no longer acceptable that the first to discover, or the first to climb a mountain, had the automatic right to name it. This is not to say that naming by alpinists did not continue after that time. The practice remains common to this day, but the chances of having the names approved by a names authority are considerably less, especially if the names commemorate non-Canadians or individuals not associated with the area.

The portion of the Clemenceau Icefield region east of the Continental Divide lies within the limits of Jasper National Park. Of the names coined by the expedition, features for 7 lie entirely within Alberta and in the park, and 9 are on the park boundary on the Alberta-British Columbia border (see Table 1).

Another aspect of early alpine naming should be mentioned. Many of Ostheimer's proposed names, both those eventually approved and those that are not, have found their way into innumerable alpine publications. Through these publications, the names have found acceptance among a small group of individuals, often the only people to travel into these isolated mountain areas. The argument has been put forward by these individuals that this now constitutes 'local usage' and that the Ostheimer names that remain unofficial could be approved on that basis.

Table 1

Names of features in Jasper National Park, as recorded
by the Ostheimer Expedition

Name	Origin	Name	Origin
1. Sundial Glacier	Proximity to Sundial Peak.	9. Mount Amundsen	For Roald Amundsen, polar explorer
2. Mount Massey	Hon. Vincent Massey, first Canadian Minister to the United States, and later Governor-General of Canada (1952-59)	10. Mount Younghusband	For Lieut-Col. Sir Francis Younghusband, President of the Royal Geological Society
3. Mount Blackfriars	To retain Jean Habel's 'Black Monks' or 'Black Friars' in this area, as the name is evocative of the appearance of the peak	11. Mount Walcott	To commemorate the late Dr. Charles D. Walcott, Secretary of the Smithsonian Institute
4. Mount Confederation	To commemorate the Fathers of Confederation	12. Mount Lawrence	For the courage of (T.E.) Lawrence of Arabia
5. Mount Lowell	To honour A. Lawrence Lowell, President of Harvard University	13. Mount Gray	For Ostheimer's wife, whose maiden name was Gray
6. East Chaba Glacier) 7. West Chaba Glacier)	The two glaciers at the source of Chaba River	14. Mount Noel	To honour Captain J.B. Noel of the Mount Everest expedition
8. Mount Franklin	For Sir John Franklin, famous in the annals of polar exploration	15. Mount Eden	To retain Jean Habel's name
		16. Wales Peak	?

EXTRACTS FROM:

CHARLES WATERTON (1782-1865):

CURARE* AND A CANADIAN NATIONAL PARK**

J.R. Maltby***

... Each year tens of thousands of tour-ists visit Waterton Lakes National Park in Southern Alberta. Very few realise how or why the Park is so named. Within the Park Administration little interest is taken in Waterton, much more empha-sis being placed on Thomas Blakiston who surveyed this area for the Palliser Expedition in the late 1850's. However, it was Blakiston who changed the name of Kootenay Lakes to Waterton Lakes ....

WATERTON THE MAN

Charles Waterton was born on the 3rd of June 1782, at Walton Hall near Wakefield in northern England. He re-ceived his early schooling at home and, when he was nine years old, was sent to a Catholic boarding school. Already a keen tree-climber and birds' nester, he was repeatedly in trouble with the priests ....

At the age of fourteen Waterton moved to the newly founded Jesuit school, Stonyhurst College, in Lancashire. Here the priests recognized that there was no real evil in him, just high spirits and a love of nature. Using common sense psychology ahead of its time they appointed him "rat-catcher, fox-taker, foumart-killer and cross-bow-charger at the time when the young rooks were fledged", thus giving him a legitimate reason for being out of bounds on his nature studies ....

After leaving Stonyhurst he spent a few years at home and travelling in Europe. In 1804 he left England to manage the estates in Demerara (now Guyana) which his father had recently purchased. This he did, sometimes in absentia, until 1812 when he gave up management of the estates to set off on the first of his famous wanderings. "The chief objects in view, were to collect a quantity of the strongest Wourali [curare] poison; and to reach the inland frontier fort of Portuguese Guiana."[1]

Waterton's reason for wishing to obtain curare was not simply curiosity. Although there was the belief that curare might be effective in the treatment of tetanus and hydrophobia by stopping the muscular spasms, Waterton's primary reason is contained in a letter to the mayor of Nottingham in 1839. In this he recounts details of a meeting, many years earlier, with Sir Joseph Banks, President of the Royal Society 1778-1820, who accepted that curare would kill birds and small animals but doubted whether it would be fatal to large animals or man. Waterton accepted the challenge saying that, some day or other, he would go in quest of the poison and bring him back a true account of it ....

In addition to his researches into curare, Waterton collected numerous specimens of animals and birds which he took back to England. He became an expert taxidermist, achieving results far superior to those of his contemporaries. His collection of wildlife specimens eventually was given to Stonyhurst College and in the early 1970's was trans-ferred to Wakefield Museum, a few miles from Walton Hall. Not only did he collect and preserve dead specimens, he also established the world's first bird sanctuary.[2] In fact he preceded Audubon, the great American ornithologist, as an advocate of bird-protection. He created this sanctuary at Walton Hall between 1821 and 1826 by enclosing the two hundred and fifty-nine acre estate with a six foot high wall. Before this time there had been menageries and volaries to preserve certain types of game but nothing for the pro-tection of native wild birds.

Several biographies of Charles Waterton have been published, the most recent one in 1976, which record examples of his rather unorthodox behaviour. Even his marriage was unusual; at the late age of forty-seven he married Ann Edmond-stone, the seventeen year old daughter of an old friend, who was still a school girl at a convent in Belgium. He married her at 0400 hours on the 11th May 1829, she having spent the previous night in the school dormitory. Just less than a year later Ann died three weeks after giving birth to their son. Despite numerous illnesses and accidents over the years, some natural, others due to his own carelessness or stupidity, Waterton lived to the ripe old age of eighty three. He died, two days after falling on a narrow plank bridge on his estate, on 27th May 1865 and was buried at Walton Hall, between two large oak trees.

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1 Waterton, C. (1973): Wanderings in South America. Oxford University Press, London.

2 Thomas, K.B. (1963): Curare, its history and usage. Pitman Medical Publishing Company, Great Britain.

Waterton Lakes National Park

(Source: Parks Canada)

WATERTON LAKES NATIONAL PARK

Waterton Lakes National Park in Southern Alberta takes its name from the Waterton Lakes. It was opened in 1911 with an area of only 13.5 square miles, not much more than the three lakes. Three years later it was enlarged to over four hundred square miles so that the park now stretches from the Great Divide in the west to the Blood Indian Reserve in the east, and from the International Boundary to the Carbondale River in the Crows Nest Pass area. The Upper Waterton Lake crosses the International boundary into Glacier National Park in Montana. Following a joint meeting of Rotarians from Alberta and Montana in July 1931, a petition was sent to the American and Canadian Governments requesting the creation of an International Peace Park embracing Waterton and Glacier. Both Governments agreed and the following Spring, President Herbert Hoover dedicated the Peace Park ....

Had it not been for the Palliser Expedition, which explored western Canada from Lake Superior to the Rocky Mountains in the late 1850's, we should still have the Kootenay Lakes and, presumably, Kootenay Lakes National Park. During 1858 the main expedition split into three groups. Thomas Blakiston, an English Royal Artillery officer, led the party whose object was to report on possible routes through the Rockies north of the U.S. border and south of the existing fur trading route via Athabasca Portage and the Big Bend on the Columbia River. They crossed the mountains through the North Kootenay Pass, returning by the South Kootenay Pass into what is now Southern Alberta and descended to the Kootenay Lakes, which Blakiston renamed Waterton Lakes. The Palliser Papers simply have a footnote, "Blakiston called these lovely lakes after the great naturalist, Charles Waterton".[3] In somewhat different vein

a popular guidebook states, "With the blithe indifference of the explorer to the customs of the country, Blakiston ignored the name Kootenay and renamed the three lakes 'Waterton', after an English naturalist, Charles Waterton."[4]

Waterton had nothing whatever to do with exploration in Western Canada. The only time he was in Canada was for a few days in 1824 when he took a short trip to Montreal and Quebec City during his visit to the eastern United States. Why then, did Blakiston choose to honour him?

While Blakiston was in Canada he had already established his interest in the study of wildlife. After completing his work with the Palliser Expedition, he went to Japan where he became a well-known ornithologist, and made an extensive collection of birds for the museum at Hakadote....

During his exploration in Southern Alberta Blakiston honoured other British explorers and scientists by naming Gould's Dome after John Gould (1804-1881), ornithologist; Livingstone's Range after David Livingstone (1813-1873), missionary and African explorer; and Galton's Range after Sir Francis Galton (1822-1911), scientist, explorer and anthropologist, who was a cousin of Charles Darwin.[5,6]

Whatever Waterton's eccentricities, Blakiston must have ranked him among the top scientists and explorers of his time to have given his name to the Waterton Lakes and hence the Waterton-Glacier International Peace Park of Canada and the United States.

3   Spry, I.M. (Editor) (1968): The paper of The Palliser Expedition 1857-1860. The Champlain Society, Toronto.

4   Anderson, F.W. (1968): Waterton, and of leisure. Frontier Publishing, Calgary.

5   Haig, B. (1981): In the footsteps of Thomas Blakiston-1858. Historic Trails Society of Alberta, Lethbridge.

6   Approved forms are Gould Dome, Livingstone Range (Alberta) and Galton Range (B.C.). (Editor)