



WEST HANTS REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY REPORT

Information ☐	Recommendation ☒	Decision Request ☐	Councillor Activity ☐
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To: Mayor Zebian and Members of West Hants Regional Municipal Council

Submitted by: _____
Kari Fougere, Acting Director of Planning and Development

Date: 2025-01-14

Subject: Fort Edward View Plane

LEGISLATIVE AUTHORITY

Part VIII, Planning and Development, Municipal Government Act

RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends that Committee of the Whole make the following motion:

...that Committee of the Whole recommends that Council acknowledge the work of the report from Jane Davis submitted to PAC/HAC on December 12, 2024 and direct staff to create new MPS policy through the Plan Review project, taking into consideration information provided by Jane Davis and discussions from the December 12, 2024 PAC/HAC meeting, that speaks to the protection of the historic view planes surrounding the Fort Edward National Historic Site, preserving its cultural, historical, and scenic integrity.

BACKGROUND

Property ☒	Public Opinion ☐	Environment ☐	Social ☒	Economic ☐	Councillor Activity ☐
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During the Planning and Heritage Advisory Committee (PAC/HAC) meeting on December 12, 2024, Jane Davis, PAC/HAC Committee Member, presented an information report regarding the history, importance and protection of the Fort Edward View Plane. The Committee discussed the contents of the information report and stressed the importance and historic significance of the view plane and expressed their desire to have it be protected. At the meeting staff noted

that protection of the view plane is being considered in the Plan Review which will likely be moving forward for Council decision by the Fall 2025. After thorough discussion, the PAC/HAC approved the following motion to recommend that Council direct staff to create a new MPS policy and acknowledge the work and information provided in the report written by Jane Davis submitted to PAC/HAC (Attachment A):

...Whereas PAC/HAC wishes to acknowledge the work of the report from Jane Davis submitted to PAC/HAC on December 12, 2024, be it resolved that PAC/HAC recommends that Council directs staff to create a new MPS policy to protect the historic view planes surrounding the Fort Edward National Historic Site, preserving its cultural, historical, and scenic integrity. This protection ensures that future development integrates and respects the site's heritage value, enhances sustainable tourism, and maintains the connection between our community and its rich history.

The protection of the Fort Edward View Plane has been discussed during the review of other projects and planning applications as well as during the background research and drafting of the Plan Review documents, however, to date no formal Council direction has been given regarding the protection of this view plane.

DISCUSSION

Staff are currently conducting a thorough review of the municipal planning documents which will serve to consolidate the three separate Municipal Planning Strategies, Land Use By-law's and Subdivision Bylaw's from Windsor, West Hants and Hantsport. Those documents were last reviewed between 2005-2008. The Plan Review also provides an opportunity to review the current planning documents and accommodate and adapt to changes to the environmental, social and economic climate of WHRM. The municipality engaged a consultant, WSP, to assist with the review in November 2023. The work of WSP is ongoing, with the Regional documents currently being drafted for future public engagement in Spring of 2025.

The last phase of the Plan Review Project includes significant public and stakeholder engagement including a series of open houses, PAC/HAC and Council workshops. These engagement sessions will provide stakeholders with the opportunity to discuss with staff and provide comments and feedback on the draft policies and regulations in the draft Regional documents. These sessions will be led by WSP but will also require significant internal staff time and resources.

Given the rich history and cultural significance of Fort Edward and the view to the Avon and St. Croix Rivers, staff are in support of considering the protection of the view plane through new policies in the MPS and/or regulations in the Land Use By-law. Part of these considerations include how much of the view plane should be maintained and protected, how, and to what degree they may be protected. Through the Plan Review Project, there has been work

completed regarding the Fort Edward View Plane and the level of protection that Council may desire. Draft policies have already been proposed in the document, and discussions have been on-going as to the level of protection of the view plane and how policies and regulations should be drafted to ensure that level of protection.

Should Council recommend creating new MPS policies for the protection of the Fort Edward View Plane through a separate MPS amendment process prior to the completion of the Plan Review, additional staff resources will be needed and a separate public engagement process would be required. Typically, MPS amendments take approximately 6-8 months to complete as they include background research, internal and external reviews, public engagement and a 2-3 month approval process. Therefore, a separate MPS amendment process would likely follow a similar timeline to the Plan Review project but would require additional resources which could hinder the Plan Review timeline.

Given the work already being completed through the Plan Review Project, which is tentatively moving forward for approval by the Fall of 2025, and additional staff resources that would be required to do a separate amendment, Staff recommend that new MPS policies regarding the protection of the Fort Edward View Plane continue to be completed as part of the Plan Review Project. Staff will use the information provided by the PAC/HAC to help refine the policies in the draft Plan Review documents and to help guide public engagement efforts around the protection of the Fort Edward View Plane.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

As outlined above, a separate MPS amendment process will require additional staff resources which may impact the timeline and cost of the Plan Review process.

ALTERNATIVES

In response to the report, Council may:

- Direct staff to bring forward separate MPS amendments based on the feedback received from the Planning and Heritage Advisory Committee; or
- provide alternative direction, such as requesting further information on a specific topic.

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment A – Committee Member Jane Davis's Report to PAC/HAC

CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER REVIEW

Staff have respectfully shared the report prepared by Committee member Davis and noted the recommendation from the PAC/HAC in the report. PAC/HAC are requesting a policy consideration in advance of the current Regional Plan (MPS, LUB and SB) while staff are asking that the policy consideration be part of the larger review.

I support the consideration of a policy for the view planes impacting Fort Edward. I encourage Council to reflect on the request for a policy and secondly, the timing associated with the policy.

Report Prepared by: _____

Kari Fougere, Acting Director of Planning and Development

Report Reviewed by: _____

Alex Dunphy, Senior Planner

Report Approved by:  _____

Mark Phillips, Chief Administrative Officer



WEST HANTS REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY

Information ☒	Recommendation ☐	Decision Request ☐	Councillor Activity ☐
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To: Members of Planning and Heritage Advisory Committee (PAC/HAC)

Submitted by: Jane Davis, Hantsport Citizen Representative PAC/HAC

Date: December 2024

Subject: Fort Edward National Historic Site Viewplane

LEGISLATIVE AUTHORITY

N/A

RECOMMENDATION or DECISION REQUEST

Our municipality is home to the Fort Edward National Historic Site that is not only a cherished landmark but also an essential element of our identity and heritage. This site represent the history of our people, the stories that shape our community, and which attracts visitors from near and far.

View planes—the sightlines and vistas surrounding this site—are integral to their historical context, aesthetic value, and the immersive experience they offer to visitors.

By amending our municipal planning strategy to protect these view planes, we take a step for preserving our cultural heritage, supporting sustainable tourism, and enhancing the overall quality of life in our community. This simple but vital step will ensure that we balance development with the responsible stewardship of our historic assets. It will prevent the visual degradation of our most valuable historical landmarks and keep them accessible to future generations.

We are entrusted with the responsibility of not only honouring our past but also ensuring that it remains visible and appreciated in the future. Protecting these view planes is an investment in the long-term vitality of our community and its connection to history, pride, and place.

BACKGROUND

West Hants Historical Society

- On January 11, 2022, the West Hants Historical Society presented a very detailed report to Council in their attempt to protect lands adjacent to Fort Edward National Historic

Site (NHS) from development. They cited a great deal of historical significance to not only Windsor and all of West Hants but to also many stakeholders such as First Nations, Acadian organizations, the African Nova Scotian community, WHHS, Parks Canada, Provincial Heritage Department and other heritage groups. Ultimately they were successful and on July 24, 2024, Council granted the WHHS five years to finalize their plans for a heritage centre adjacent to Fort Edward.

- The PDF of this presentation is attached to this report.
- During the discussion of the WHHS proposal, Council directed staff to engage Dr. Jonathan Fowler of Northeast Archaeological Research Inc. to prepare an archeological assessment of the Fort Edward lands.
- The PDF of this assessment is attached to this report.
- Dr. Fowler's report, Phase 1 Archeological Report for Fort Edward Lands, was presented to Council in March 2022, and in his report he noted that:
"This assessment finds that the properties very likely contain significant archaeological resources relating to Mi'kmaw, Acadian, and Anglo-American communities and traditions." On the final page of his 43 page report, Dr Fowler notes that while the report deals with the lands adjacent to Fort Edward NHS, *"Any future constructions planned for these properties should respect Fort Edward's viewplane of the Avon River, which Parks Canada identifies as essential to maintaining the site's sense of historic place and commemorative integrity."*

Parks Canada

- In June 2023, planning staff requested feedback from Parks Canada on a proposed development across the 101 Highway from Fort Edward National Historic Site and whether there would be an impact on Fort Edward National Historic Site. Correspondence from Parks Canada through Mr. Ted Dolan, Visitor Experience and Site Manager, National Historic Sites of Southwest Nova Scotia was received.
- In that correspondence, Mr. Dolan noted:
- ***"Parks Canada does believe that there would be a negative impact on the site as the proposed development is 19 stories high and its position is square in the middle of what is an otherwise unimpeded sightline of the Avon and St. Croix Rivers. The height of Fort Edward hill is approximately 95 feet. The height of this proposed building would be at least 190 feet. It will without question block a significant portion of the view of the water from the fort, thus making it more difficult for visitors to understand the context of the site. The main reasons for the fort being built where it is was to keep a watchful eye on the Avon River, the St. Croix River, and the mouth of the Kennetcook River. This will be hard to understand with a building blocking the view."***
- Unfortunately, this correspondence was not noted in the public information meeting notes, Attachment C, for the comment period June 19 – July 3, 2023, for file #23-02.
- The PDF of the Parks Canada correspondence is attached to this report.
- In the Visitors Guide for Fort Edward, the first phrase used to introduce visitors to the site are "Take some time to enjoy the view." It also notes the strategic position of the

location at the junction of the St. Croix and Avon Rivers, providing the British with access to the Bay of Fundy shores.

- The PDF of the Fort Edward NHS Visitors Guide is attached to this report.
- In the 2016 Parks Canada Management Plan for National Historic Sites, Southwest Nova Scotia, they note two area maps of the Fort Edward Site and Fort Edward view-plane, which are attached to this report.
- In the 2016 Management Plan, a key objective is defined as “Visitor opportunities to experience the Fort Edward view-planes and grounds as offered” (p.35). Another objective highlights “Shared stewardship and a community gathering place at Fort Edward” and recognizes the need for “communication with the town and potential developers regarding the heritage value of the site.” (p.59). These statements reflect the importance of the historic view-planes associated with Fort Edward which would be threatened by certain types of building construction.
- The PDF of the 2016 Parks Canada Management Plan is attached to this report.

Heritage Trust of Nova Scotia

- In November 2022, Sandra Barss, then President of the Heritage Trust of Nova Scotia, submitted correspondence to Council regarding the adjacent lands to Fort Edward NHS, as well as noting “ ***Historic sites like Fort Edward help define a community and its sense of place.***”
- She adds that the “***Parks Canada Commemorative Integrity Statement (1998) for the Fort Edward NHS classifies the Historic Place view-planes as Level 1 Cultural Resource that ‘Symbolize or Represent Fort Edward’s National Significance’.***”
- The PDF of the correspondence and of the Parks Canada Commemorative Integrity Statement, are attached to this report.

DISCUSSION

The municipality should consider protecting the historic view planes of the Fort Edward National Historic Site for several important reasons:

1. **Cultural and Historical Preservation:** View planes are integral to understanding and appreciating the historical context of a national historic site. Altering these sightlines can distort the visitor's experience and diminish the site’s cultural significance. Protecting these views ensures that the historic landscape remains intact and that future generations can experience the site as it was originally intended.
2. **Aesthetic Integrity:** Many national historic sites are located in visually significant settings. Protecting their view planes preserves the natural beauty and architectural harmony of the area, which is often a key part of what makes the site so special.

Unregulated development could disrupt these vistas, diminishing the visual appeal of both the site and the surrounding area.

3. **Tourism and Economic Benefits:** Historic sites are often major tourist attractions, drawing visitors who contribute to the local economy. Protecting historic view planes enhances the visitor experience, which in turn supports tourism, local businesses, and community development. A site that retains its scenic and historical qualities is more likely to attract sustained interest and funding.
4. **Community Identity:** A municipality's historic sites are often a point of identity for local residents. Protecting view planes helps preserve a community's unique character and history, fostering a sense of connection to the past and its heritage.
5. **Enhancing Education and Interpretation:** National historic sites often serve educational purposes, and preserving their view planes helps maintain the interpretive value of the site. Unobstructed vistas allow for better understanding and appreciation of the historical, environmental, and architectural narratives that the site embodies.

PAC/HAC asks the public to become engaged in the processes and express their opinions on new business items, such as Development Agreements and rezoning applications, and residents have recently expressed many concerns about the criteria used to approve applications for Development Agreements, rezoning, etc. The Municipality only uses existing Municipal Planning Strategy and Land Use By-Law criteria when evaluating applications.

We currently have the opportunity to be forward thinking, create a new Municipal Planning Strategy Policy and as a result, protect the historic view-plane of a National Historic Site as many in the heritage community have expressed. Fort Edward should be the first stop of many heritage sites for visitors to our region and beyond. Standing on the site, one can see the expansive views, making it clear why this location was chosen.

However, failing to protect those view-planes may have a significantly detrimental impact on the overall experience of the site and the future visitors/heritage centre.

In summary, protecting the historic view planes around the Fort Edward NHS is essential for safeguarding its historical authenticity, aesthetic value, and cultural importance for future generations.

NEXT STEPS

- There are several sections of the Windsor Municipal Planning Strategy which may be amended to protect and preserve the Fort Edward NHS view planes, or,
- Create a new Windsor Municipal Planning Strategy Policy to protect and preserve the Fort Edward NHS view planes.

Windsor Municipal Planning Strategy:

Suggested Amendments:

5.4 HIGH DENSITY RESIDENTIAL

Policy 5.4.6

It shall be the policy of Council to consider entering into a development agreement to allow, in the Residential designation, new multiple unit residential development consisting of three or more units, grouped dwellings, boarding houses and residential care facilities, as well as the conversion of existing buildings to three or more units, subject to the following:

(b) the height, bulk, lot coverage and appearance of any building is compatible with adjacent land uses;

ADD (b) (i) the development does not encroach upon the protected historic view-plane from the Fort Edward NHS, of the St. Croix and Avon Rivers.

5.5 HEIGHT PROVISIONS

There are no residential buildings in Windsor taller than three storeys. The general intent of the Municipal Planning Strategy is to restrict residential uses to three storeys; however, buildings of more than three storeys may be considered, provided they are compatible with the area.

Policy 5.5.1 In any residential zone, Council may consider permitting dwellings in excess of Three storeys by development agreement, subject to the following conditions:

(a) the side yards are at least one-half the height of the building;

(b) the building will in no instance exceed 80 ft. (24.38 m) in height;

(c) the building design, height and scale is compatible with the surrounding area;

ADD (c) (i), the building does not encroach upon the protected historic view-plane from the Fort Edward NHS, of the St. Croix and Avon Rivers.

(d) any other matter which may be addressed in a development agreement;
and

(e) the provisions of Policy 16.3.1 of the Municipal Planning Strategy.

7.5 PESAQUID COMPREHENSIVE DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT

Policy 7.5.5 It shall be the intention of Council when evaluating a development agreement for residential uses behind commercial uses on the ground floor within the Pesaquid CDD, as enabled through Policy 7.5.2, to have regard to the following (Amendment 23-39 Effective June 4, 2024):

(a) the residential uses on the ground floor of an existing building shall occupy no more than 50% of the ground floor area of the structure;

(b) the residential uses must be located behind a commercial use. The commercial use must have frontage on the street;

ADD (b) (i) the building does not encroach upon the protected historic view-plane from the Fort Edward NHS, of the St. Croix and Avon Rivers.

(c) the provisions of Policy 16.3.1

7.6 WATERFRONG DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT

Policy 7.6.3 It shall be the policy of Council that within the WDD, Council will consider a mix of uses including:

- (a) Commercial development including retail, service, office and entertainment uses;
- (b) Recreational facilities to accommodate passive and active recreational activities or special events;
- (c) Multi-unit residential uses to provide new alternative forms of housing in the downtown.

ADD (d) the development does not encroach upon the protected historic view-plane from the Fort Edward NHS, of the St. Croix and Avon Rivers.

9.2 MIXED USE IN THE COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL DESIGNATIONS

Policy 9.2.1 It shall be the intention of Council to consider mixed use development by development agreement in the Commercial designation or the Industrial designation outside the industrial parks, subject to the following:

- (a) the proposed development consists of a combination of uses which may include commercial, light industrial, recreational, institutional and residential;
- (b) the architectural design of the development is sensitive to the existing built form and character of the surrounding area, and in particular:
 - where the proposal involves the redevelopment of an existing building, the heritage of the building is taken into consideration and any significant architectural elements which contribute to the appearance of the public façade(s) are retained; and
 - if the proposed development is located in an Architectural Control District, the architectural design of the development is reasonably consistent with the provisions of the Architectural Design Manual; and
- **ADD the development does not encroach upon the protected historic view-plane from the Fort Edward NHS, of the St. Croix and Avon Rivers.**

9.3 NESBIT ISLAND

Development Agreements

Policy 9.3.5 consider only by development agreement within the Nesbitt Island designation mixed use, multiple unit residential developments in excess of four storeys in height. In considering such development agreements Council shall be satisfied that:

- (a) the proposed development consists of a combination of uses which are permitted in the Mixed Use (MU) zone;
- (b) the building will in no instance exceed 210 ft. (64 m.) in height

ADD (b) (i) the building does not encroach upon the protected historic view-plane from the Fort Edward NHS, of the St. Croix and Avon Rivers.

11.0 COMMUNITY USE

11.2 Parks and Open Space

Policy 11.2.1 It is the intention of Council to establish an Open Space (OS) zone which applies to parks and other outdoor recreation uses, cemeteries, historic sites and similar uses. Generally, open space uses do not involve main buildings, but the zone may also be applied to certain institutional uses, such as museums, which are located on large parcels of land used as parkland.

ADD Policy 11.2.1 (i) It shall be the policy of Council to protect and preserve the historic view-plane of the Fort Edward NHS, as noted on Map 10, Fort Edward NHS View-plane, from Parks Canada - The National Historic Sites of Southwest Nova Scotia management plan of 2016.

Creation of a new Windsor MPS Policy:

7.3 Expansion of Town Centre

7.3.2 It shall be the policy of council to preserve and protect the historic view planes surrounding the Fort Edward NHS, ensuring the integrity of the sites' historical, cultural, and aesthetic value. This policy aims to balance urban development with the protection of these critical sightlines, contributing to the long-term sustainability of the municipality's heritage and cultural environment.

(a) **Preservation of Visual Integrity:** The municipality shall prioritize the preservation of clear and unobstructed sightlines from the Fort Edward NHS, ensuring that the full visual and historical context of the site remains accessible to the public and future generations.

(b) **Controlled Development:** Any proposed development within the vicinity of the Fort Edward NHS shall undergo a thorough review to assess its potential impact on the historic view planes. Projects that could negatively affect key sightlines shall be modified or, where necessary, denied.

(c) **Height Restrictions:** Structures within the historic view planes shall adhere to height restrictions that prevent any new buildings from obstructing key views from the Fort Edward NHS. Exceptions will be made only if it can be demonstrated that the proposed development will not impact the integrity of the site's historic view planes.

(d) **Visual Impact Assessment:** A comprehensive visual impact assessment must be submitted for all developments within a defined distance from the Fort Edward NHS. This assessment should analyze the effect of the proposed project on surrounding historic view planes and outline mitigation measures if necessary.

(e) **Zoning Amendments:** The municipal zoning bylaw will be amended to include provisions for the protection of the historic view planes around the Fort Edward NHS. These amendments will establish specific land-use designations for areas within view plane zones.

By adopting this policy, council commits to a proactive approach in preserving the historic visual integrity of the Fort Edward National Historic Site and ensuring that future development respects and enhances the cultural and historical fabric of our community. Protecting historic view planes is not only a matter of safeguarding the past; it is a commitment to the future, providing the opportunity to reflect on the past while preserving its essence for generations ahead.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no financial implications to the Municipality or residents with regard to this report.

ATTACHMENTS

West Hants Historical Society Presentation, January 17, 2022:

Dr Jonathan Fowler report, COTW, March 2022:

Heritage Trust of Nova Scotia, letter to WHRM Council, October, 2022:

Parks Canada Commemorative Integrity Statement:

Southwest Nova Scotia Management Plan 2016:

Fort Edward NHS Viewplane found on page 38 of the 2016 Management Plan:

Correspondence from Parks Canada, Mr. Ted Dolan, June 2023:

Fort Edward National Historic Site Visitor Guide:

DIRECTOR OF PLANNING REVIEW

Staff are currently conducting a thorough review of the municipal planning documents which will serve to consolidate the three separate Municipal Planning Strategies, Land Use By-law's and Subdivision Bylaw's. Those documents were last reviewed between 2005-2008. Additionally, the Plan Review is a chance to review the current planning documents and accommodate and adapt to changes to the environmental, social and economic climate of WHRM. The municipality engaged a consultant, WSP, to assist with the planning document review in November 2023. The work of WSP is ongoing, with Regional documents currently being drafted for future public engagement in early 2025.

Given the rich history and cultural significance and diversity of sites throughout WHRM, staff identified the importance in considering potential additions to the planning documents in order to be actively cognizant of the need to be sensitive to how these sites are identified and what types of land uses are permitted to occur in proximity to historically and culturally significant places. Part of these considerations include what view planes should be maintained and protected, how and to what degree they may be protected.

Staff are currently working on the draft Regional Planning documents with WSP, which includes discussions around the Fort Edward view plane and the level of protection that Council may desire. Given this topic is being actively discussed along with potential additions to the Regional Planning documents, which are tentatively moving forward for approval in the second or third quarter of 2025, staff recommend against separate amendments to the existing planning documents in the interim.

Report Reviewed by: _____

Kari Fougere, Acting Director of Planning and Development

**Attachment A - West Hants Historical Society Presentation,
January 17, 2022**

The background of the slide is a historical painting. It depicts a coastal scene with a large fort or settlement built on a grassy hill. Several buildings with smoke rising from them are visible on the hill. In the foreground, there is a body of water with several sailing ships. The sky is filled with soft, white clouds. The entire scene is framed by a dark blue border.

**PRESENTATION TO COUNCIL OF
WEST HANTS REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY
- LANDS ADJACENT TO
FORT EDWARD HISTORIC SITE
WINDSOR, NOVA SCOTIA**

by
West Hants Historical Society
Shirley Pineo, President
Gary Nelson, Vice-President

**Historical Significance of Lands
Currently for Sale adjacent to Fort Edward
at Windsor, N. S.**

by

Shirley Pineo

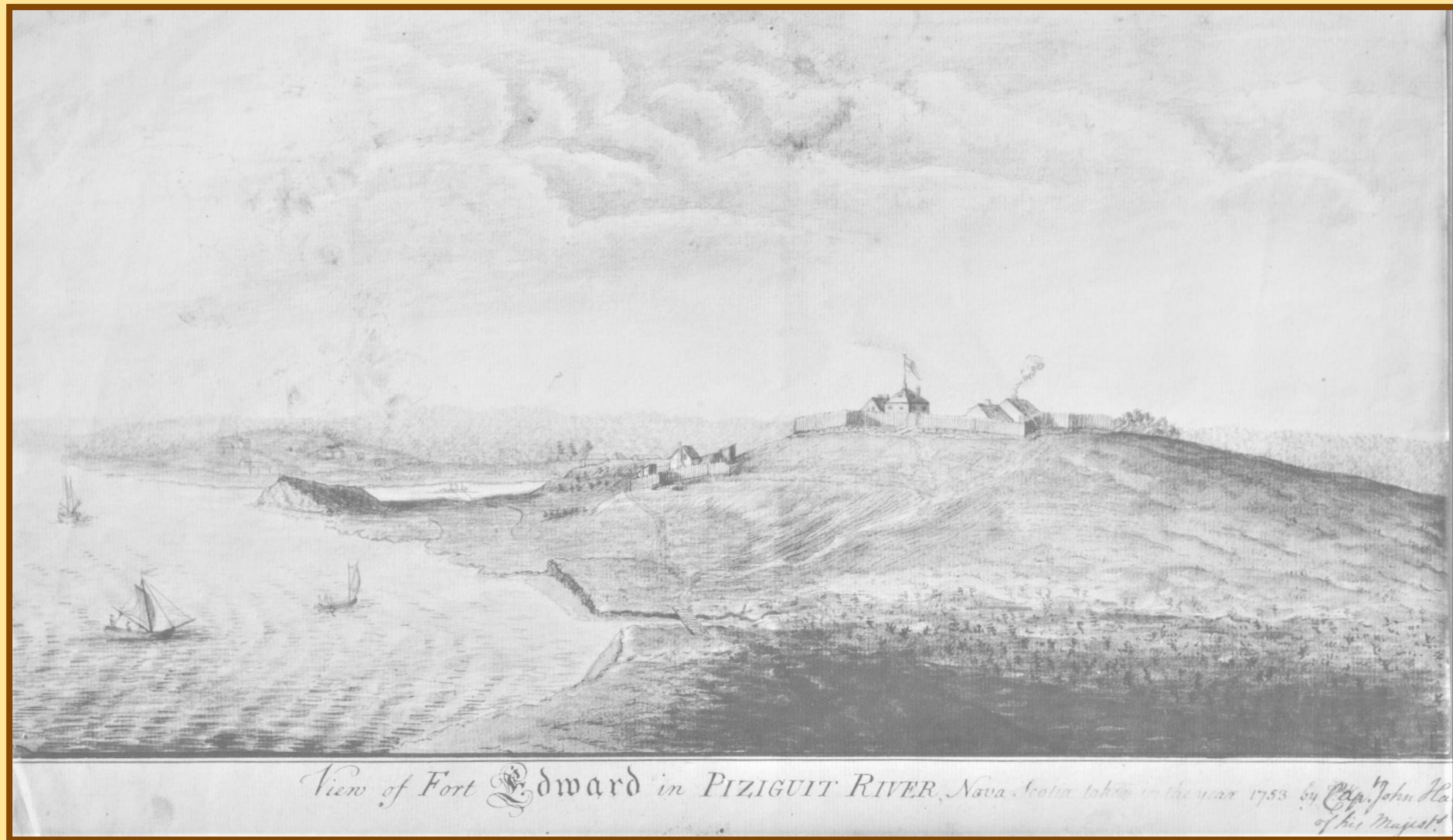
President, West Hants Historical Society



West Hants Historical Society

Mission Statement

The West Hants Historical Society seeks to preserve, present and promote the rich history of Hants County in relation to the larger history of the Province of Nova Scotia and the nation of Canada.



View of Fort Edward from Piziquid River, N.S.
Painted in the year 1753
by J. Hamilton (water colour)



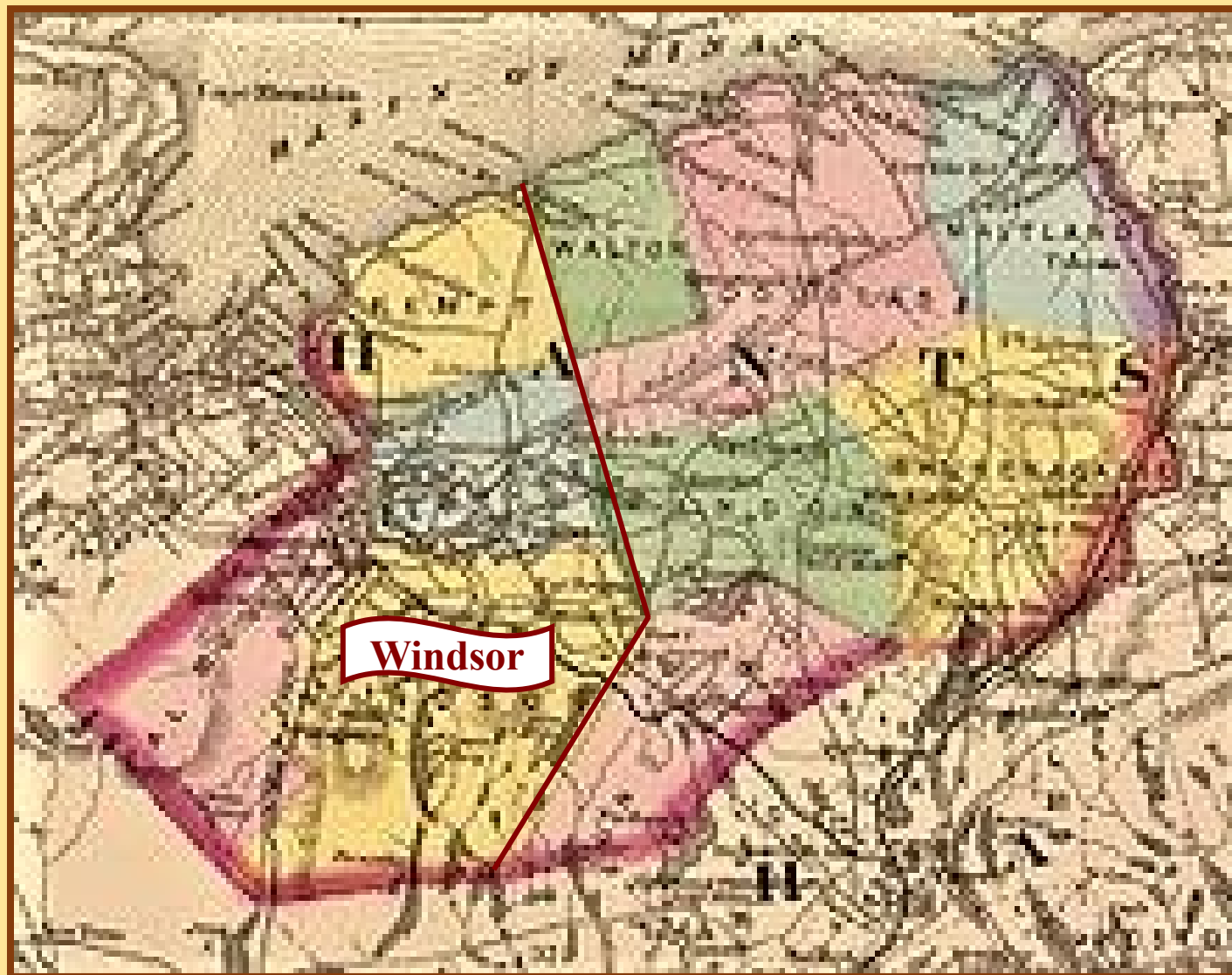
**New England
Planters
arrived
in 1760 – 61
to take
over former
Acadian
farms.**

Resolution Incorporating the Township of Windsor

December 24, 1764

“Resolved. that part of the tract of land formerly called Piziquid on the South East of the river commonly known as the Piziquid River, in this province of Nova Scotia, shall be erected and incorporated into a Township, hereinafter to be known and called by the name of Windsor.”

Hants County Townships



Windsor Township



**First Fair was Held
May 21st, 1765**

**The first fair was held outside the
wooden palisade of Fort Edward.**

LIST OF PRIZES FROM FIRST FAIR AT WINDSOR IN 1765

Copied from: T. F. Draper's "HISTORY OF HANTS CO." (PANS)

List of Prizes, and for what given, at the Fair of 1765, held at Windsor

To the person who shall bring to the Fair for sale the greatest number of neat cattle. - - - - 3 yds of English blue Superfine broad-cloth & a silver medal.

Dittoe greatest number of horses - - - - A saddle bridle & a medal.

Ditto " " " sheep - - - - A Pr sheers, a pr cards & a medal.

Ditto largest pair of working oxen - - - - A plow share & a medal.

Ditto the next largest -- - - - - A plow share.

Ditto the finest and largest cow - - - - A butter churn & a medal.

Ditto the largest yearling bull - - - - A medal.

Ditto " " " heifer - - - - A medal.

Ditto " " " pair of steers - A medal.

Ditto the best pair of harnest horses drawing abreast - A plow share & a medal.

Ditto the next " " " " " " - A plow share.

Ditto the best single horse - - - - A medal.

Ditto the next " " - - - - A whip & a pair of spurs.

Ditto the largest & fattest wether sheep - A pr of wool cards & a medal.

Ditto the best butter not less than 12 lbs - 6 yds of ribbon & a medal.

Ditto the best cheese " " " " " - 6 yds of ribbon & a medal.

On the day after the Fair prizes were given for the following diversions.

To the best running horse - - - - A pair of buckskin breeches & a medal.

To the next best " - - - - A pair of buckskin breeches.

" " " " " - - - - A whip & a pr of spurs.

To the best wrestler under 25 yrs old - A laced hat & a medal.

To the next best " " " " " - A pr of shoes and buckles.

" " " " " " " " - A pr of buckskin gloves.

To the person that shoots at a mark with a single ball, the best in two shots @ 80 yds distant - - - - A neat fusee & a medal.

N.B. Any Firelocks will be permitted but rifle barrels.

Proper persons were appointed to adjudge the different awards and to regulate the diversions.

The medals were of silver about the size of a dollar with an inscription thereon suitable to the occasion.

Three or four of the best Stallions in the province were provided gratis.

Many of the subscribers and others were at the Fair to purchase a great number of cattle.

This Fair was held first on the 21 of May 1765, and was subsequently held twice a year & appointed by the Charter, for quite some time; but it was discontinued on the grounds that, at that time, the country was'nt sufficiently populated to derive enough benefit from it.

ROYAL CHARTERS

Two Royal Charters were issued with respect to these lands on Fort Edward hill:

- 1. Dated November 22nd, 1766, registered February 6th, 1767 – lands to held “in trust to and for the benefit of the said Township of Windsor the right and privilege of holding a market on every Tuesday at the said Hill and two Fairs Annually that is one on the second Tuesday in June and the other on the second Tuesday in October to be kept and held at the said Hill ...”**
- 2. Dated July 3rd, 1815 – as the Trustees named in the original Charter were either absent or deceased, to the then current “Justices of the Peace for the said County of Hants Residents and Inhabitants of the said Township of Windsor for the time being and to the Major part of the said Justices of the Peace in trust for the benefit of the said Township the right and privilege of holding the said Markets and Fairs ... provided always that the said Markets and Fairs shall be held upon such part of the said Fort Edward Hill as the Governor, Lieutenant Governor or Commander in Chief of our said Province for the time being shall from time to time direct and appoint.”**

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MONTREAL AND TORONTO

Old Fort Edward

Blockhouse



Blockhouse



Windsor Map -
1934 - revised to 1947.

SEE SHEET NO. 5

EXHIBITION

DRILL HALL
& ARMOURY

FORT HILL

Live Stock Stalls

COBBETT

WING

King Street

Map
showing
building
on former
exhibition
site -
being
subject
lands

Her Majesty's Justices of the peace for the County of Kent to personally come and appeared Henry Tomlinson wife of the within named Frederick Tomlinson and of the same names. Subscribed to the foregoing indenture who being by law a competent person and being from her said husband and acknowledged that she had signed the said deed freely and voluntarily without compulsion from her said husband and thereby relinquished her right of dower to the premises therein described. Robert Smith. J.P.

1011944. Lease.

Her Majesty's Secretary of State for War Department

To
The Supervisors of Public Grounds for the Township of Windsor. Registered July 13th 1870. at 2 O'clock P.M. On the Certificate of No. 1. Ritchie Bar & Not. Pub)

This Indenture made this first day of May in the Year of our said one thousand eight hundred and seventy, between Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for the War Department on behalf of Her Majesty, of the first part and the Supervisors of Public Grounds for the Township of Windsor in the Province of Nova Scotia of the second part Witnesseth that Her Majesty's Principal

Secretary of State for the War Department for and in consideration of the rents and covenants hereinafter reserved and contained on the part of the Supervisors of Public Grounds for the Township of Windsor to be paid kept and performed hath demised lease and to farm let and by these presents doth demise lease and to farm let unto the Supervisors of Public Grounds for the Township of Windsor and their Successors all that lot piece or parcel of land being part of Fort Edward Hill at Windsor aforesaid containing one acre and twenty five perches or thereabouts as delineated in the margin of these presents and the boundary as follows that is to say abutting on the South West side upon land and premises of the Estate of Isaac Barves and measuring two chains and ten links from the Western Corner or angle D. of the fence separating the said Fort Edward Hill from the said Estate and bounded on the North West side thereof by the fence of the said Fort Edward Hill separating the same from a certain lane running by the side thereof and measuring by the said fence five chains and seventy five links and abutting on the North East side thereof on the other part of the said Fort Edward Hill on a line at right angles with the fence last mentioned and measuring two chains and seven links thereon and abutting on the South East side thereof upon other part of the said Fort Edward Hill by a line running parallel to the fence running along the lane before mentioned and on the North West side of a stoned foot path leading from the South West entrance of the Fort Edward Hill towards the Fort or Block House

house situate thereon and measuring in the direction of the said line towards the said entrance five chains and forty five links. Together with the right of ingress and egress to and from the said part so described by and through the the said entrance to the said Fort Edward Hill to Have and to Hold the same unto the Supervisors of Public Grounds for the Township of Windsor and their Successors with all the appurtenances thereto belonging for and during the period of nine hundred and seventy nine years to be computed from the first day of May one thousand eight hundred and seventy and unless determined as hereinafter mentioned. Her Trust for the use of the inhabitants and residents of the said Township of Windsor for holding market and fairs thereon holding and paying thereon to Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for the War Department or his Successors in Office or to such person or persons as they may appoint for that purpose and at such place the Yearly rent or sum of one shilling Sterling of lawful money of Great Britain payable on the first day of May in each and every Year commencing from the first day of May one thousand eight hundred and seventy one without any abatement or deduction whatsoever And the Supervisors of Public Grounds for the Township of Windsor for themselves and their Successors do hereby covenant promise and agree to and with Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for the War Department and his Successors in Office that they or some of them shall and lawfully well and truly pay or cause to be paid unto Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for the War Department or to his Successors or to such person as shall be appointed by them to receive the same the said Yearly rent or sum and at the time above mentioned and also that they the said parties of the second part and their Successors shall at all times during the continuance of this lease erect keep and maintain a good and substantial fence around the said property subject to the approval of the Officer Commanding the Royal Engineers for the time being and keep the same in good order and condition and shall at the end of the said term or other sooner determination of this present demise yield and deliver up possession of the said premises hereby demised as a good order as the same now are. And it is further agreed that it shall and lawfully be lawful for Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for the War Department and his Successors in Office or such person or persons as they shall authorize at any time during the continuance of this lease to enter in and upon the said premises and inspect the same and it is further agreed that all rates taxes or assessments to which the said demised premises shall or may be liable shall be paid by the said parties of the second part. And

it is further agreed by and between the parties hereto that if at any time during this demise the said demised premises shall be required for defence or other military purposes it shall be lawful for Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for the War Department his Successors or assigns to resume possession thereof without notice of any kind and to have again deposited the same as if those premises had not been made and he or they shall not in such case be liable or answerable to pay any compensation whatever for any buildings or improvements which may be erected or made thereon by any person or persons whomsoever. And lastly it is agreed by and between the parties hereto that if default shall be made of payment of the said rent or any part thereof for the space of one Year next after the day and time whereon the same ought to be paid as aforesaid after demand having been made therefor from the Supervisors of Public Grounds for the Township of Windsor or upon the Town Clerk of the said Township of Windsor for the time being or upon the Nonperformance of any of the covenants herein contained then it shall and lawfully be lawful for Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for the War Department his Successors or assigns to annul and avoid this lease and the premises hereby granted to have again resume possession and enjoy as in their first and former estate notwithstanding the contrary notwithstanding. And Witness whereof Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for the War Department hath hereunto his hand and seal subscribed and set and the Supervisors of Public Grounds for the Township of Windsor have hereunto affixed their corporate seal.

Signed Sealed and delivered
by Her Majesty's Principal
Secretary of State for the War
Department in presence of
J. R. Ritchie

Signed Sealed and delivered
by the Supervisors of Public
Grounds for the Township of
Windsor in presence of

The Secretary of State for
War D. C. Strickland Esq.
Deputy Controller
his Attorney

Province of Nova Scotia Halifax &c. On this eleventh day of July one thousand eight hundred and seventy before me the Subscribed Barister and Notary personally came and appeared Joseph Norman Ritchie of the City of Halifax Esquire a well knowing witness to the foregoingIndenture who made oath that Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for the War Department by his Attorney Edward Strickland Esq. executed the same in his presence.
Thos. Ritchie Barister & Notary Public

Declaration of Trust

from
Supervisors of Public Grounds for
Township of Windsor
to
Justices of Peace for the County of Hants,
Residents of the Township of Windsor
and the Major part of them

Dated: July 19th, 1870
Registered: July 21st, 1870
at Hants County Registry of Deeds
in Book 54 at Page 559

No. 11950. Declaration of Trust.
The Supervisors of Public Grounds
to
The Justices of the Peace Hants Co.
Registered July 21st 1870 at 11 O'Clock A.M.
On the Oath of Maynard Bowman.
Know all men by these presents that we the
Honorable Richard Andrew
McHaffey, Charles Broughton
Bowman and Maynard
Hoyt Goudge all of Windsor
in the County of Hants Esquire
as the Supervisors of Public Grounds for the Township of Windsor
do stand possessed of and interested in all that piece or
parcel of land bearing in part of Fort Edward Hill in Windsor aforesaid
said described in and devised by a certain Indenture of
lease bearing date the 1st day of May A.D. 1870 granted by
Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for the War Department
to the Supervisors of Public Grounds for the Township of Windsor
for the term of nine hundred and ninety-nine years (which
lease with a plan of the said land is registered in the Registry
of Deeds for the said County (Book 54, Folio 552,) and we do

560

hereby declare that the Supervisors of Public Grounds for the
Township of Windsor hold the said piece or parcel of land with
the appurtenances upon trust for the Justices of the Peace for the
County of Hants residents of the Township of Windsor and the
major part of them subject to the provisions of certain Royal
Charters bearing date respectively the Sixth day of November A.D.
1767 and the third day of July A.D. 1815 for the purpose of holding
Markets and Fairs thereon with all other the rights, liberties
and privileges granted by the said Royal Charters to such
Justices of the Peace for the time being. In Witness whereof we
have to these presents set our hands and caused the Common
Seal of the Supervisors of Public Grounds for the Township of
Windsor to be affixed here to this 19th day of July A.D.
1870. Signed sealed and
delivered & the Common
Seal of the Corporation affixed
thereto in the presence of
Maynard Bowman
The Supervisors
of Public Grounds
for the Township
of Windsor
R. A. McHaffey
C. B. Bowman
M. H. Goudge
Es. Es.

REQUEST

We, the West Hants Historical Society, are asking the Municipality to give us time to meet with other stakeholders to come up with a plan of action for the future of the land on Fort Edward that is currently for sale.

**Views and Observations Regarding
the former Swimming Pool Lands
at Windsor, N. S.**

by

Gary Nelson

Vice-President, West Hants Historical Society

Over Riding Consideration

As Shirley has pointed out, these lands adjacent to Fort Edward that the Council describes as surplus or “decommissioned” lands and wishes to sell, are of historical significance for the following reasons:

- these lands were a part of Fort Edward when it was constructed in 1750 – the blockhouse there being the oldest such structure in Canada**
- later these lands were the site of what is now known as the Hants County Exhibition - “North America’s Oldest Agricultural Fair”**
- this property is the subject of at least two Royal Charters**
- these lands are subject to a Declaration of Trust pursuant to which they are to held in trust for specific uses set out in that Declaration**
- these circumstances, I would submit, make this property unique and different from other surplus and decommissioned lands and thus should receive special consideration**

ROYAL CHARTERS

Review of the Royal Charters issued with respect to these lands on Fort Edward hill:

- 1. Dated November 22nd, 1766, registered February 6th, 1767 – lands to held “in trust to and for the benefit of the said Township of Windsor ...”**
- 2. Dated July 3rd, 1815 –the then current “Justices of the Peace for the said County of Hants Residents and Inhabitants of the said Township of Windsor for the time being and to the Major part of the said Justices of the Peace in trust for the benefit of the said Township the right and privilege of holding the said Markets and Fairs ...”**

NOTES

Both Royal Charters state that these lands are to be held “in trust” for the “holding of Markets and Fairs” for “the benefit of the said Township of Windsor”.

The second (1815) Charter states those for whom these lands are to be held in trust to “Justices of the Peace for the said County of Hants Residents and Inhabitants of the said Township of Windsor for the time being and to the Major part of the said Justices of the Peace”

Highlighted Sections

Declaration of Trust Supervisors of Public Grounds to

The Justices of the Peace, Hants Co.

No. 11950. Declaration of Trust.
The Supervisors of Public Grounds
To

The Justices of the Peace Hants Co.
Registered July 2nd 1870 at 11 O'Clock A.M.
On the Oath of Maynard Bowman.

Know all men by these
presents that we the
Honorable Richard Andrew
Mr. Heffey, Charles Boughton
Bowman and Thomson
Mayt George all of Windsor
in the County of Hants Esquire

as the Supervisors of Public Grounds for the Township of Windsor
do stand possessed of and interested in all that piece or
parcel of land being part of Fort Edward Hill in Windsor afore-
said described in and devised by a certain Indenture of
lease bearing date the 1st day of May A.D. 1870 granted by
Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for the War Department
to the Supervisors of Public Grounds for the Township of Windsor
for the term of nine hundred and ninety-nine years (which
lease with a plan of the said land is registered in the registry
of Deeds for the said County (Book 54, Folio 552.) and we do

560

hereby declare that the Supervisors of Public Grounds for the
Township of Windsor hold the said piece or parcel of land with
the appurtenances upon trust for the Justices of the Peace for the
County of Hants residents of the Township of Windsor and the
major part of them subject to the provisions of certain Royal
Charters bearing date respectively the 6th day of February A.D.
1767 and the 3rd day of July A.D. 1815 for the purpose of holding
Markets and Fairs thereon with all other the rights, liberties
and privileges granted by the said Royal Charters to such
Justices of the Peace for the time being. In Witness whereof we
have to these presents set our hands and caused the Common
Seal of the Supervisors of Public Grounds for the Township of
Windsor to be affixed hereunto this 2nd day of July A.D.
1870. Signed Sealed and
delivered & the Common
Seal of the Corporation affixed
thereto in the presence of
Maynard Bowman

Dr. R. M. Heffey
C. B. Bowman
W. H. George

So, B.

“... and we do hereby declare that the Supervisors for Public Grounds for the Township of Windsor hold the said parcel of land with the appurtenances upon trust for the Justices of the Peace for Hants County residents of the Township of Windsor and the major part of them subject to the provisions of certain Royal Charters bearing date respectively the Sixth day of February A.D. 1767 and the third day of July A.D. 1815 for the purpose of holding Markets and Fairs thereon...”

No. 11950. Declaration of Trust.
The Supervisors of Public Grounds
To

The Justices of the Peace Hants Co.
Registered July 2nd 1870 at 11 O'Clock A.M.
On the Oath of Maynard Bowman.

as the Supervisors of Public Grounds for the Township of Windsor do stand possessed of and interested in all that piece or parcel of land being part of Fort Edward Hill in Windsor afore-
said described in and devised by a certain Indenture of lease bearing date the first day of May A.D. 1870 granted by Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for the War Department to the Supervisors of Public Grounds for the Township of Windsor for the term of nine hundred and ninety nine years (which lease with a plan of the said land is registered in the registry of Deeds for the said County (Book 54, Folio 552.) and we do

560

hereby declare that the Supervisors of Public Grounds for the Township of Windsor hold the said piece or parcel of land with the appurtenances upon trust for the Justices of the Peace for the County of Hants residents of the Township of Windsor and the major part of them subject to the provisions of certain Royal Charters bearing date respectively the seventh day of June A.D. 1761 and the third day of July A.D. 1815 for the purpose of holding markets and fairs therein with all other the rights & liberties and privileges granted by the said Royal Charters to such Justices of the Peace for the time being. In Witness whereof we have to these presents set our hands and caused the Common Seal of the Supervisors of Public Grounds for the Township of Windsor to be affixed here to this seventh day of July A.D. 1870. Signed Sealed and delivered & the Common Seal of the Corporation affixed thereto in the presence of
Maynard Bowman

Know all men by these presents that we the Honorable Richard Andrew Mr. Heffey, Charles Boughton Bowman and Thomson Hoyt Gudge all of Windsor in the County of Hants Esquire

Dr. A. M. Heffey
C. B. Bowman
W. H. Gudge

Declaration of Trust

Supervisors of Public Grounds

to

The Justices of the Peace, Hants Co.

- the date recited for the first Royal Charter is actually the registration date
- the Justices of the Peace in the Declaration of Trust are for all "Hants County" not just West Hants
- the residents are of the "Township" not the "Town" of Windsor - a much larger area

**Grant (Deed) from
the Crown to the
Town of Windsor for
these lands.**

Dated: _____, 196_

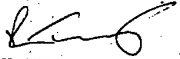
**Registered at Registry
of Deeds for Hants Co.:
January 16, 1967
in Book at Page 57.**

No. 14. -- Entry No. 9180. ----- GRANT -----
Registered --- 11.50 a.m. The 16th January, 1967. 57.


DEPUTY GOVERNOR

Canada

ELIZABETH THE SECOND, by the Grace of
God of the United Kingdom, Canada and Her
other Realms and Territories QUEEN, Head of
the Commonwealth, Defender of the Faith.


FOR DEPUTY ATTORNEY GENERAL



58.

TO ALL TO WHOM these Presents shall come,

GREETING:

WHEREAS the lands hereinafter described are vested in
Us in right of Canada.

AND WHEREAS the said lands are not required for
public purposes, and under and by virtue of the statutes
in that behalf and pursuant to authority duly granted by
Our Governor in Council, the said lands or the interest
therein that is or may be vested in Us for the uses of
Canada have been disposed of to the Town of Windsor in the
County of Hants, Province of Nova Scotia, a body corporate,
hereinafter called the grantee, at and for the price or sum
of one thousand five hundred dollars.

NOW KNOW YE that We do by these Presents grant,
convey and assure unto the grantee and its successors ALL
AND SINGULAR that certain parcel or tract of land situate,
lying and being in the Town of Windsor, in the County of
Hants and Province of Nova Scotia, more particularly describ-
ed as follows:

BEGINNING: at a point fifteen feet and forty-five hundredths
of a foot (15.45') from the south limit of Corbett Street
at the south-west corner of lands of the Town of Windsor,
said point being on the east boundary of the Carver Estate;

THENCE: North sixty-two degrees, thirty-three minutes East,
(N. 62° 33' E.), a distance of three hundred and sixty-three
feet and five tenths of a foot, (363.5');

THENCE: South twenty-nine degrees, thirty-three minutes East, (S. 29° 33' E.), a distance of one hundred and twenty-two feet, (122'), to the north limit of a right-of-way;

THENCE: South sixty-two degrees, seventeen minutes West, (S. 62° 17' W.), along the above-mentioned right-of-way a distance of three hundred and fifty-one feet and five tenths of a foot, (351.5'), to the Carver Estate;

THENCE: North thirty-four degrees, fifty-seven minutes West, (N. 34° 57' W.), along the Carver Estate to the place of beginning;

BEING AND INTENDED TO BE: that piece of land as shown on Plan No. 425-1, dated the 17th day of June, 1963, prepared by Hiltz & Seamone Co. Ltd., which is registered in the Registry Office for the County of Hants, at Windsor, Nova Scotia, under No. 380, a copy of which has been recorded in the Canada Lands Surveys Records at Ottawa, Ontario, under No. 53101.

PROVIDED ALWAYS and these presents are issued subject to a lease between Her Majesty the Queen in right of Canada and the Supervisors of Public Grounds for the Township of Windsor, dated the 1st day of May, 1870 and recorded at the Registry of Deeds at Windsor in Book 54, page 552, and subject further to a Declaration of Trust made by the said Supervisors of Public Grounds for the Township of Windsor and dated the 19th day of July, 1870 and recorded at the Registry of Deeds at Windsor in Book 54, page 559.

Highlighted

PROVIDED ALWAYS
that the presents are issued subject to a lease between Her Majesty the Queen in right of Canada and the Supervisors of Public Grounds for the Township of Windsor, dated the 1st day of May, 1870, and recorded at the Registry of Deeds at Windsor in Book 54, page 552, and subject further to a Declaration of Trust made by the said Supervisors of Public Grounds for the Township of Windsor and dated the 19th day of July, 1870 and recorded at the Registry of Deeds at Windsor in Book 54, page 559.

TO HAVE AND TO HOLD the said lands unto the grantee and its successors, forever; saving, excepting and reserving unto Us, Our Heirs and Successors, the free use, passage and enjoyment of, in, over and upon all navigable waters that now are or may be hereafter found on or under or flowing through or upon any part of the said lands.

GIVEN under the Great Seal of Canada.

WITNESS:

COLONEL ADOLPHE GEORGE CHERRIER, O.B.E., C.D.,
Deputy of Our Right Trusty and Well-beloved
Counsellor, General Georges P. Vanier, a member
of Our Most Honourable Privy Council, Companion
of Our Distinguished Service Order upon whom We
have conferred Our Military Cross and Our Canadian
Forces' Decoration, Governor General and Commander-
in-Chief of Canada.

AT OTTAWA, this

in the year of Our Lord one thousand nine hundred and sixty-

BY COMMAND,

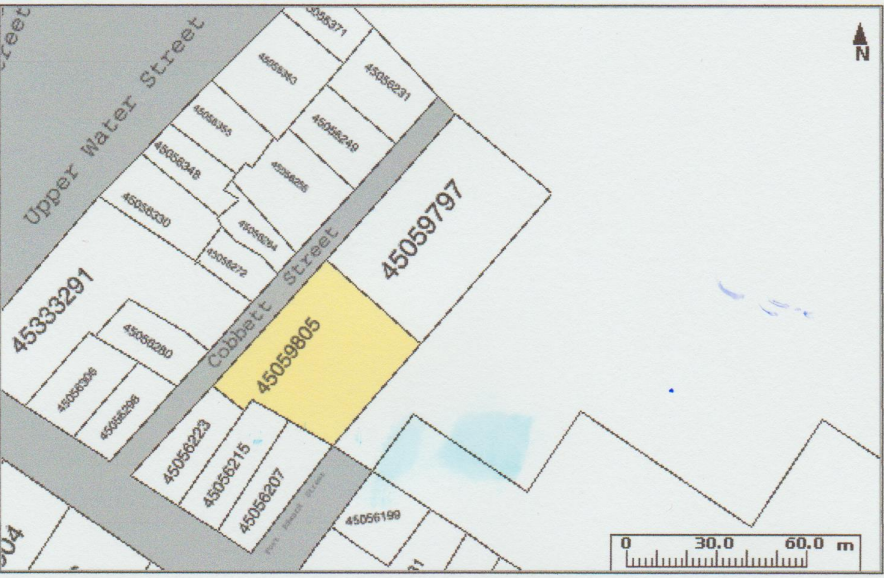
Jean Diquel
DEPUTY REGISTRAR GENERAL
OF CANADA

J. G. D. D.
DEPUTY MINISTER OF INDIAN AFFAIRS
AND NORTHERN DEVELOPMENT

ACCESS

PROPERTY Online  NOVA SCOTIA
Service Nova Scotia and Municipal Relations

Property Online Map Date: Nov 18, 2021 12:28:29 AM



PID: 45059805 **Owner:** TOWN OF WINDSOR **AAN:** 04657101
County: HANTS COUNTY **Address:** FORT EDWARD STREET WINDSOR **Value:** \$47,500 (2021 COMMERCIAL EXEMPT)
LR Status: NOT LAND REGISTRATION

The Provincial mapping is a graphical representation of property boundaries which approximate the size, configuration and location of parcels. Care has been taken to ensure the best possible quality, however, this map is not a land survey and is not intended to be used for legal descriptions or to calculate exact dimensions or area. The Provincial mapping is not conclusive as to the location, boundaries or extent of a parcel [*Land Registration Act* subsection 21(2)]. THIS IS NOT AN OFFICIAL RECORD.

Property Online version 2.0
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Lands in Question

The lands in question are made up of both PID 45059805 and PID 45059797.

Of particular note is that these lands do not have frontage on Fort Edward Street (public roads are shown in grey). As will be shown in surveys, these lands do not even meet Fort Edward Street at the corner as shown on this Property Online map.

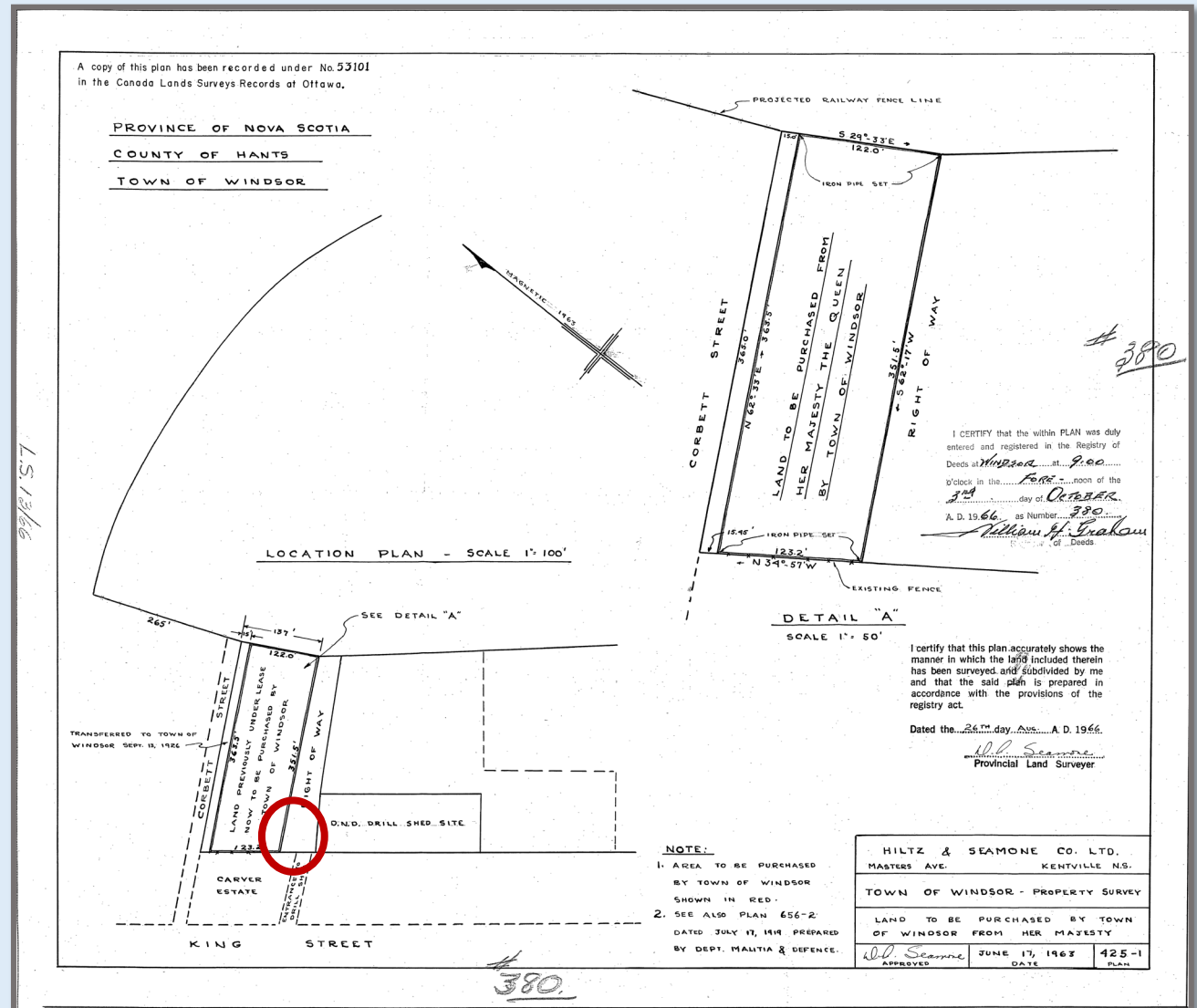
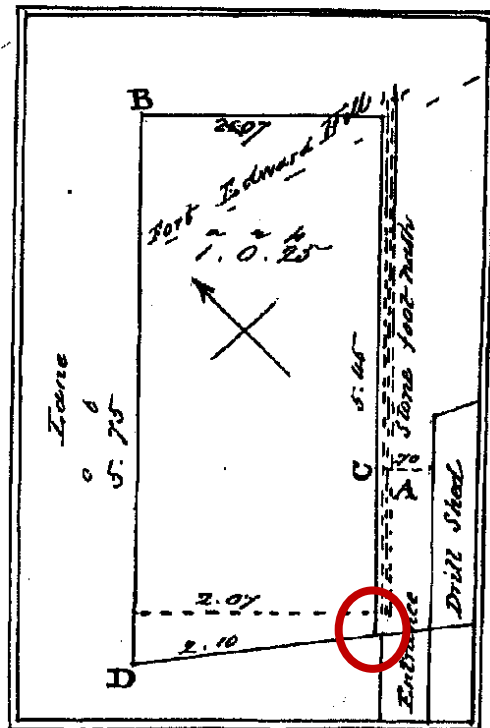
The only access by a public street is over Cobbett Street.

1870 Plan attached to Lease

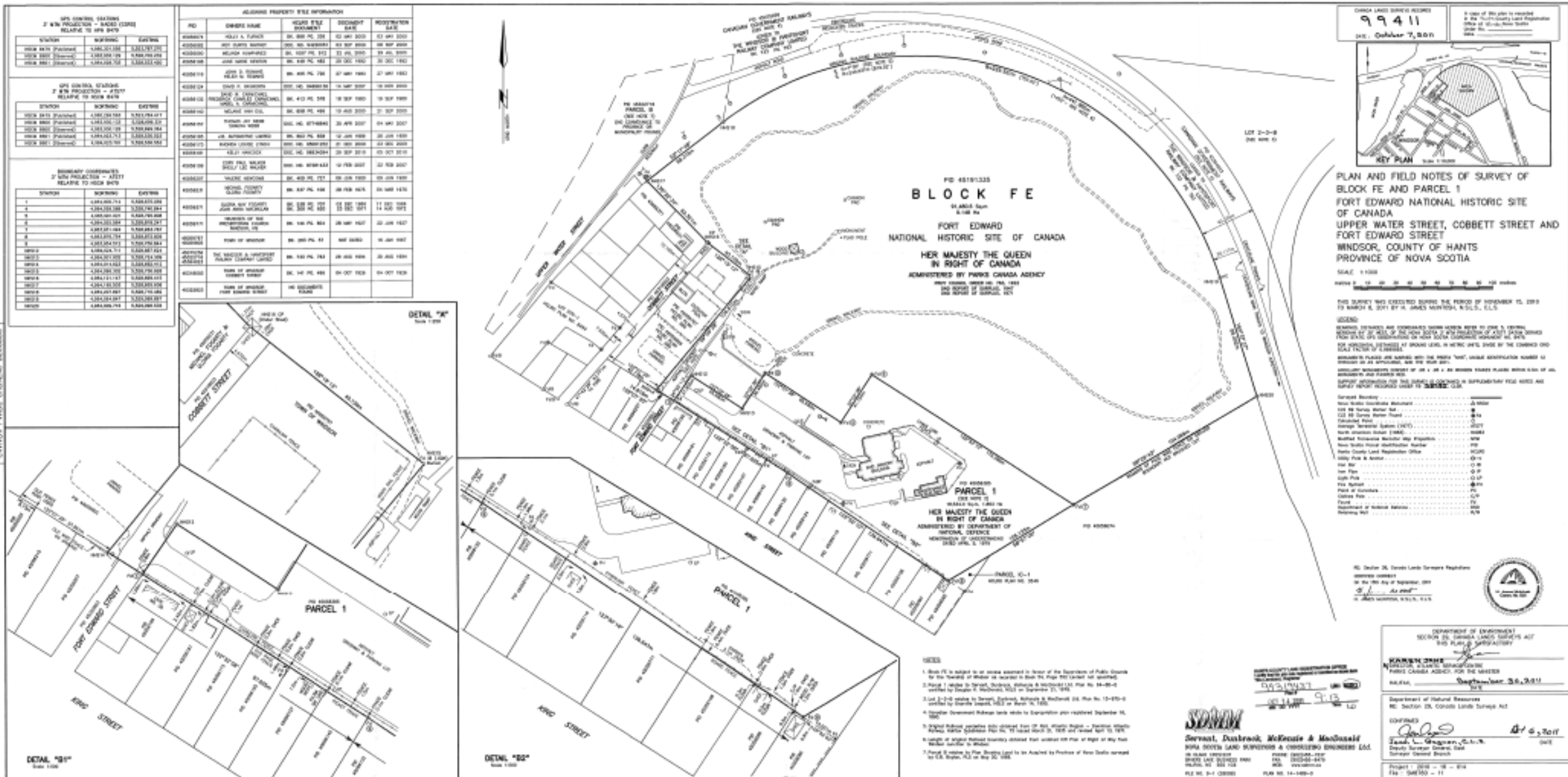
Surveys

1966 Plan referred to in Grant to the Town

*Plan of Ground Land by Her Majesty's
Secretary of State for War Department
to the Supervisors of Public Grounds for
the Township of Windsor. 1st May 1870*

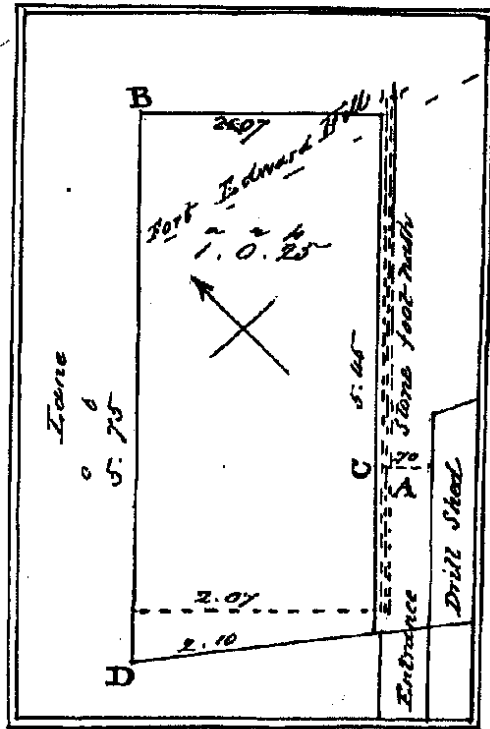


2011 Survey of Fort Edward



Right-of-Way

*Plan of Ground Land by Her Majesty's
Secretary of State for War Department
to the Supervisors of Public Grounds for
the Township of Windsor. 1st May 1870*



1870 Lease

This Lease grants a right-of-way which reads as follows:

“Together with the right of ingress and egress to and from the said part so described by and through the said entrance to the said Fort Edward Hill.”

This description of the right-of-way is quite vague and the survey plan attached to the Lease is not of great assistance in further defining this right-of-way. Even the terminology used for this right-of-way is open to interpretation. - does it mean the right-of-way is from the entrance along the lands leased to Fort Edward Hill, or does “by and through the entrance to Fort Edward Hill” simply identify the entrance, so that the right-of-way merely is from the entrance to (not along) the leased lands? The plan attached shows the Entrance to Fort Edward Hill at the end of what is now Fort Edward Street and a very narrow “stone foot path” from there to Fort Edward Hill.

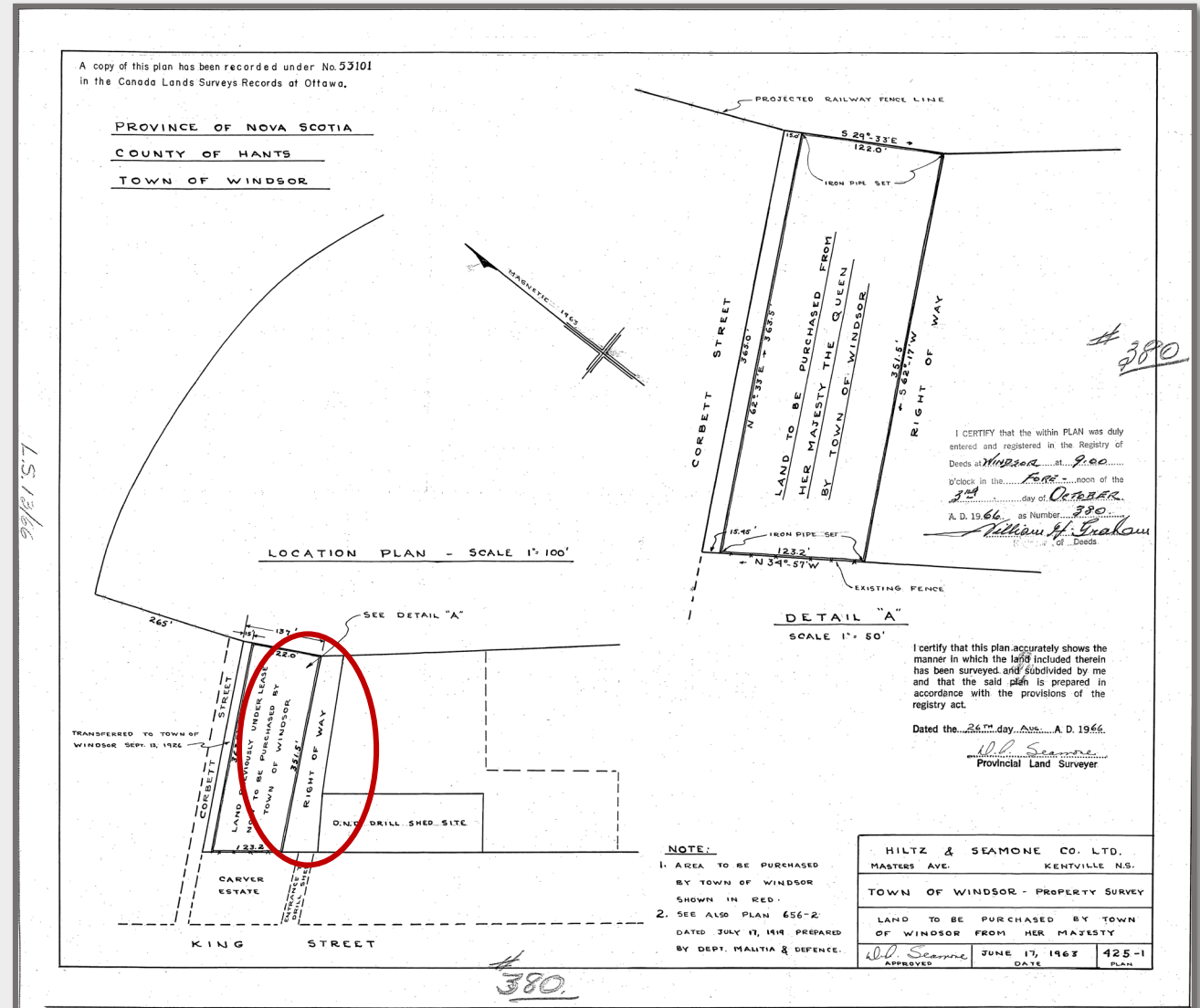
Right-of-Way

Grant to the Town in 1966

There was not any right-of-way included in this Grant, although there was one shown on the plan. However, the right-of-way shown on the plan does not have any basis in any document.

Therefore, it would appear the only right-of-way from Fort Edward Street is the one set out in the 1870 Lease.

There is also an argument that could be made that a right-of-way was no longer necessary in 1966, thus not included in the Grant, as these lands now had access from an abutting public street - Cobbett Street.

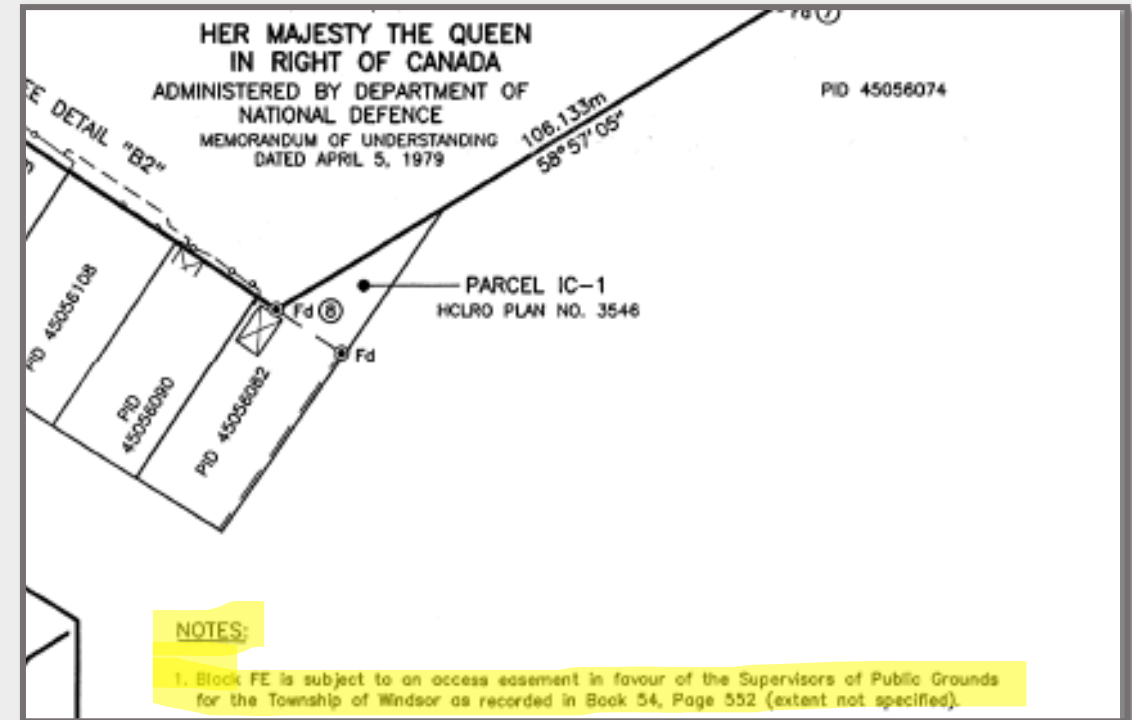


Right-of-Way (Easement)

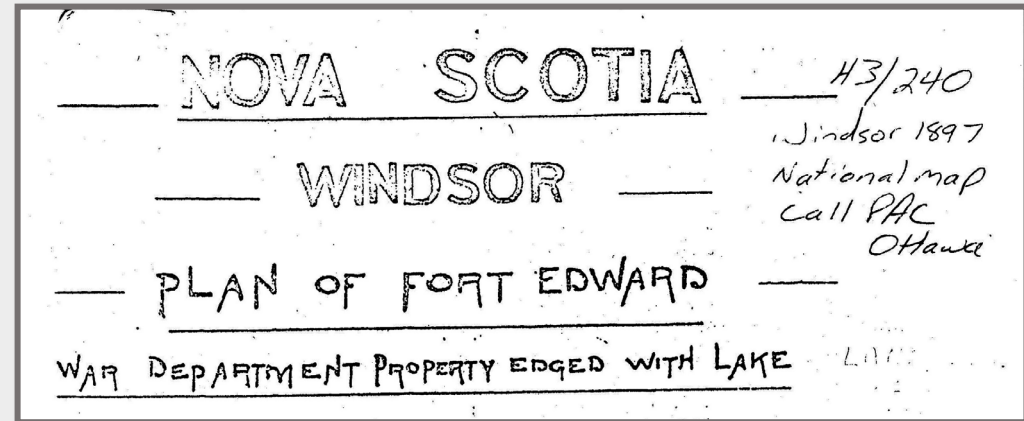
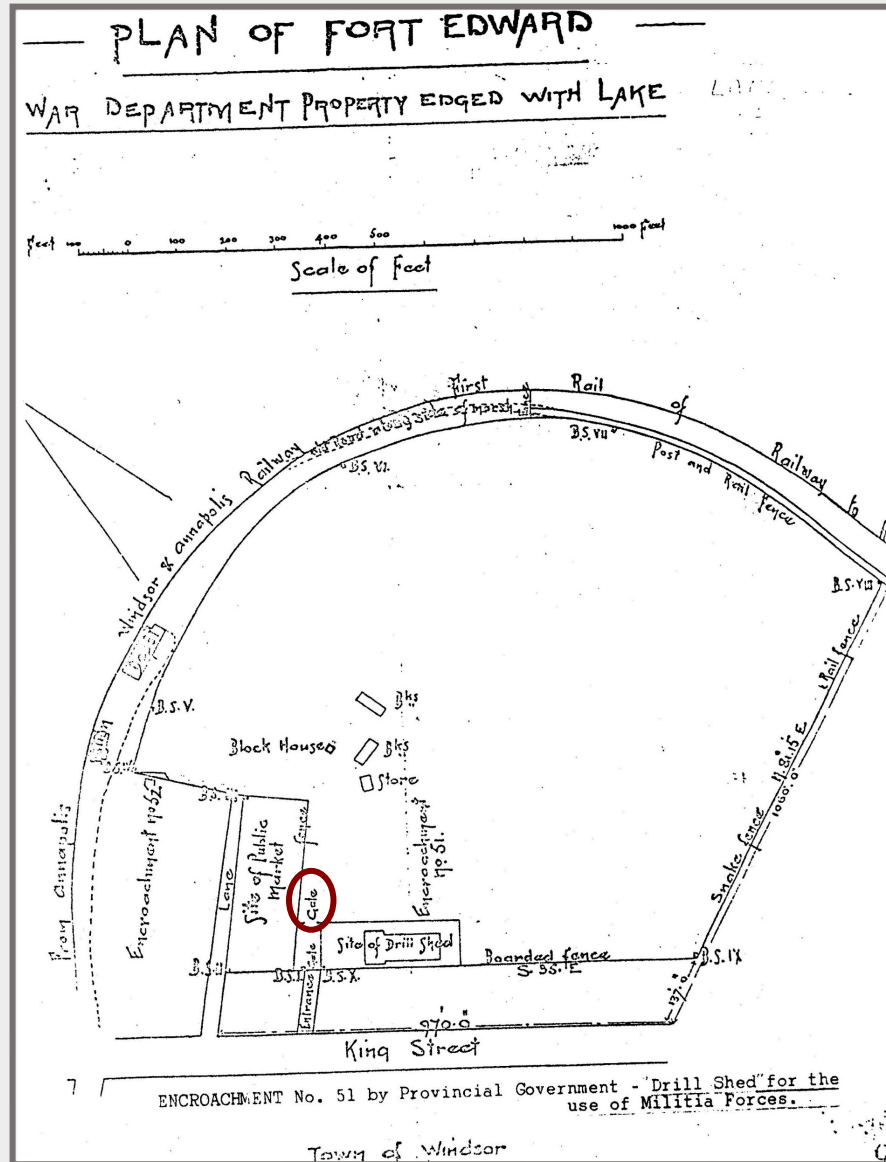
Any applicable right-of-way appears to be more accurately shown in a 2011 survey of the Fort Edward Lands (which lands are designated as Block FE in that survey) and is shown as an “asphalt driveway”, not a “right-of-way”. There is a Note on this survey which states **“1. Block FE is subject to an access easement in favour of the Supervisors of Public Grounds for the Township of Windsor as recorded in Book 54, Page 552 (extent not specified).”** That recording reference is to the 1870 Lease. A right-of-way is a specific form of easement.

Extent of a right-of-way or easement is important as “extent” cannot be arbitrarily expanded or enlarged - either as to area or use - without the agreement of both parties (the party that holds the rights and the party that gave or granted the rights). As the 2011 survey of the Fort Edward Lands was prepared for Parks Canada, it is clear that the Crown has not agreed to any extension of the right-of-way, either as to area or use, since the Lease in May, 1870 to the date of that survey.

Section of 2011 Survey of Fort Edward



Right-of-Way (Easement)



This is another Plan of Fort Edward from 1897. It may be of some value in determining the extent of the right-of-way or access easement as to area.

This Plan shows two Gates – one at the Entrance and the other at the upper edge of the “Site of Drill Shed” lot. While the latter is likely for the “Site of Drill Shed” , it could also apply to the “Site of Public Market” lot as there is adequate distance to provide access to that lot as well.

Summary

- Access to the swimming pool lands from Fort Edward Street is questionable both as to area and use. A right-of-way for a public swimming pool or a fair does not necessarily extend to access for residential or commercial use. This would be especially the case if any structure to be included on these lands was not in sympathy with the historical nature of the Fort Edward lands as Parks Canada would have some say in the extent of any such right-of-way.
- Access to these lands from Cobbett Street may require substantial upgrades to that Street. How much of the asking price, which I understand to be in the vicinity of \$300,000, would be required for any such upgrade? Access affects use and enjoyment of the lands and, therefore, the value of such lands, so without suitable access something less than the asking price could be received.
- Use of the swimming pool lands may still be limited by the Declaration of Trust dated July, 1870.

- It would appear that the Municipality has either not done, not completed or not made public its due diligence with respect to these lands, although “the residents of the Township of Windsor” are among the beneficiaries of the 1870 Trust. It would be a conflict of interest for the Municipality to be both seller and arbitrator of the interests of these “residents”.
- How can a re-zoning be contemplated and/or requested while these questions of access and usage remain unresolved? Is it not imprudent for a re-zoning to be undertaken when the uses under any such new zone may not be possible depending upon the answers to these questions?
- Why the rush to complete the re-zoning? A delay in any such application for re-zoning would allow the Municipality to resolve these questions and give WHHS time to put together a proposal for the lands.

Conclusion

Additionally, there is the historic significance of the lands in question. I would concur with the WHHS President, that Fort Edward and “North America’s Oldest Agricultural Fair” are two of the defining features of Windsor-West Hants. By re-zoning and selling these lands, a great portion of the historical part of the latter will be lost forever and the former could be adversely impacted by whatever use and structure to which these lands are subjected. However, if the West Hants Historical Society, or a similar body, could put together a viable plan to utilize these lands, then our heritage and its offshoots, such as tourism, regional identity, etc. would be enhanced.

It is also more likely that WHHS, which has a current relationship with Parks Canada in connection with Fort Edward, could negotiate suitable access to such a facility.

Conclusion



Joseph Howe

“A wise nation preserves its records, gathers up its muniments, decorates the tombs of its illustrious dead, repairs its great public structures and fosters national pride and love of country by perpetual reference to the sacrifices and glories of the past...”

- Joseph Howe

QUESTIONS

Thank You

West Hants Historical Society

Shirley Pineo, *President*

Gary Nelson, *Vice-President*

Attachment B - Dr Jonathan Fowler report, COTW, March 2022

Fort Edward Street
Archaeological Resource Impact Assessment
HRP A2022NS013



Prepared for: West Hants Regional Municipality
Prepared by: Jonathan Fowler
23 February 2022

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In late 2021, the West Hants Regional Municipality retained Northeast Archaeological Research Inc. to conduct a Phase 1 Archaeological Resource Impact Assessment of two contiguous properties at 36 and 65 Fort Edward Street, Windsor, for the purpose of evaluating their archaeological potential.

Our study examined recorded archaeological sites in the Maritime Archaeological Resource Inventory (MARI), published histories, aerial photography, and archival records (cartographic and documentary) from local, national, and international repositories. A pedestrian survey was conducted on 12 February 2022 to examine surface conditions and collect survey points to assist in georeferencing historical maps.

Our assessment concludes that these properties very likely contain archaeological resources associated with Mi'kmaw, Acadian, and British activities dating from the early colonial period and possibly earlier. This meeting point of major rivers and terminus of major portage routes linking the Fundy system to the Atlantic coast was long inhabited by the Mi'kmaq and their ancestors. By the mid-18th century, the Mi'kmaq regularly frequented a trading post (or truckhouse) adjacent to the properties in question. It was one of only six posts in the region that functioned as part of the 1760-61 Treaties of Peace and Friendship between the Mi'kmaq and the British Crown.

In 1722, the Acadians built a parish church just uphill from the two properties. The British demolished it to make way for Fort Edward in 1750. Between 1755 and 1763, Fort Edward functioned as a prison for hundreds of Acadians caught up in the deportations.

Significant fort infrastructure was located outside the ramparts and 18th century maps indicate that some of these structures stood in the properties in question. The two properties are part of the viewplanes Parks Canada identifies as essential to the commemorative integrity of Fort Edward National Historic Site. From 1765 and up to recent times, the two properties were the site of the Windsor Agricultural Fair, Canada's oldest, which was designated a national historic event by the Historic Sites and Monuments Board of Canada in 1935.

Construction on these properties in the 20th century has likely impacted the integrity of some archaeological resources, but material cultural evidence is almost certainly still present, some in secondary contexts.

Based on these findings, it is recommended that any future construction activities on these properties be subject to a thorough Phase 2 Archaeological Resource Impact Assessment, including engagement with the Mi'kmaw and Acadian communities. Viewplanes essential to Fort Edward's commemorative integrity should be respected. The phase 2 archaeological assessment would benefit from archaeological geophysical prospection, subsurface testing, and monitoring of mechanical excavations.

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1.0 INTRODUCTION

In late 2021, the West Hants Regional Municipality retained Northeast Archaeological Research Inc. to conduct a Phase 1 Archaeological Resource Impact Assessment of two contiguous properties, 36 and 65 Fort Edward Street, in Windsor (**Figure 1**). This assessment finds that the properties very likely contain significant archaeological resources relating to Mi'kmaw, Acadian, and Anglo-American communities and traditions. This report describes investigations conducted under Category C Heritage Research Permit A2022NS013 and is formatted according to reporting procedures prescribed by the Nova Scotia Department of Communities, Culture, Tourism, and Heritage.¹



Figure 1: Study area location map. The two properties in question are enclosed by the dashed yellow lines. SOURCE: Google Earth, February 2016.

¹ Reporting Procedures, Archaeological Resource Impact Assessment (Category C):
<https://cch.novascotia.ca/sites/default/files/inline/documents/archaeologicalresourceimpactassessmentnc.pdf>

2.0 DEVELOPMENT AREA

Biophysically, the development area is part of the Carboniferous Lowlands Theme Region (511 Windsor Lowlands) (Davis and Browne 1996, 2:10). Surficial geology maps place Fort Edward Hill in a silty till plain (ground moraine) whose topography is characterized as “[f]lat to rolling, [with] few surface boulders,” and in which the till is “thick enough to mask bedrock undulations.” These materials, furthermore, “generally provide the best agricultural land in the province, moderate drainage and stoniness; [and] moderate to good buffering capacity for acid rain because of transported calcareous bedrock components” (Stea, Conley, and Brown 1992). As we will see, this soil’s ability to support agriculture contributes directly to a major aspect of the study area’s heritage significance. The underlying bedrock consists of Windsor Series rock (limestone, gypsum, shale, and sandstone) associated with the Mississippian, or early Carboniferous, period (Cann, Hilchey, and Smith 1954, 8–9).

2.1 Indigenous presence

The Windsor area is situated in the traditional Mi’kmaw district of *Sipekne’katik* (Sable and Francis 2012, 21). Historic period Mi’kmaw inhabitants referred to the Avon River estuary as *Pesikik* (“to flow splitwise”), referencing the confluence of the Avon and St. Croix rivers, each of which connected to major portage routes linking the Minas Basin and greater Fundy system to the Atlantic Coast.²

There is no direct archaeological evidence of ancient human activity in Fort Edward’s immediate neighbourhood recorded in the Maritime Archaeological Resource Inventory (MARI), but this almost certainly reflects the incomplete coverage and/or lack of archaeological surveys rather than the extent of the actual archaeological resource.³ In other words, the absence of evidence in this case is certainly not evidence of absence.

A major Indigenous village dating mainly to the Maritime Woodland Period has been identified at St. Croix (BfDa-01) (Deal 2016, 91). This well-studied site has in fact revealed artifacts spanning 3000 years, encompassing the Late Archaic, Maritime Woodland, Proto-historic, and early historic periods, making it one of the most long-lived Indigenous habitation sites in the region. It is also a rare example of a site possessing well-dated contexts and abundant palaeobotanical evidence, allowing important inferences to be drawn about the local ecology and foodways (Deal 2016, 121–25; Milner 2014).

² Mi’kmaw Place Names Digital Atlas, <https://placenames.mapdev.ca/>

³ As we will see below, there is antiquarian testimony of at least one Mi’kmaw cemetery near Fort Edward Hill, but the sites in question have not been registered in the MARI.

Less well-preserved Indigenous sites and isolated finds have been recorded at the head of tide on the Avon River, at BfDb-09 and BfDb-22 respectively, the latter suggesting an Archaic presence. Further Archaic evidence has been traced on the upper reaches of the West Branch Avon River (BfDb-03) and at the source of the Avon at Falls Lake and Mockingbird Lake, where a complex of Indigenous sites spanning the Archaic and Maritime Woodland period is recorded (e.g. BfDb-12-18, 20-21).

Although Parks Canada's archaeological excavations at Fort Edward have not revealed material cultural evidence of Mi'kmaw sites⁴ (e.g. Ferguson 1987), only a small area has been excavated to date and it is focused mainly on the ground enclosed by the 1750 British fort. At a minimum, the MARI evidence demonstrates that the upper reaches of the rivers converging at Windsor sustained settlement by the Mi'kmaq and their ancestors for millennia. Passing this way countless times, their habitual movements through the landscape in part explain the British government's desire to militarize Pesikik in the mid-18th century. We will return below to the subject of historic period Mi'kmaw activity at Fort Edward Hill and its vicinity.

2.2 French presence

In the 1680s, French farming families from Port-Royal began moving to the Minas Basin area (Les Mines), their activities at Pesikik beginning with Étienne Rivet and Marie Comeau, who settled across the Avon River near Mount Denson (Fowler 2001; 2006b). Within a decade or so, immigrants were dyking the tidal marshes along each of the major rivers in this district (Duncanson 1983; Clark 1968; R.-G. LeBlanc 2005). The Acadians, in keeping with their generally positive relations with the Mi'kmaq, retained the Mi'kmaw place name, which appears in colonial-era documents in French and English as Pigiguit, Pisiquid, and Pisiquit. Colonial records from the French regime demonstrate that the Mi'kmaw presence at Pesikik persisted after the arrival of the Acadians. The 1687-88 census of Gargas, for example, which was almost certainly incomplete, counts 50 Mi'kmaq among the 114 French inhabitants of Les Mines (Morse 1935, 145-49). The symbology of a 1737 map suggests wigwams at Pesikik (**Figure 2**), while a 1748 account of the country notes that 300-400 Mi'kmaq make the journey from the Atlantic coast to see the French priest at Pesikik.⁵ By this time, there were two Acadian parish churches in the district: Sainte-Famille at Falmouth, established in 1698, and Notre-Dame-de-L'Assomption at Fort Edward Hill, established in 1722 (Bujold 2004, 68-71).

⁴ Robert Ferguson, Parks Canada Archaeologist (retired), personal communication 24 January, 2022.

⁵ Anon. 1748. "Mémoire sur l'Acadie," Archives nationales d'outre-mer (ANOM), COL C11D 10, p.3.



Figure 2: Detail of a 1737 map of Acadie appearing to show wigwams in the Pesiktk area. The portage route connecting Pesiktk to Kjiptuk (the great harbour), the future site of Halifax, is labelled as a *chemin*. It was an Acadian drove road at this time. At lower right. SOURCE: Anon. 1737. "Carte de la coste du N[ord] et du S[ud] de l'Arcadie et de l'île St Jean," Bibliothèque nationale de France (BNF), département Cartes et plans, GE SH 18 PF 132 DIV 2 P 13/1. A cruder and perhaps slightly older version of this map exists, and it shows similar symbology: Anon. 1737. "Carte des côtes de l'Acadie, Iles Royale, St Jean..." BNF, département Cartes et plans, GE SH 18 PF 132 DIV 2 P 13.

An ecclesiastical summary census of the French population of Pesiktk counts 150 families in 1731.⁶ The population reportedly exceeded 1600 in 1737 but appears to have dropped sharply after the founding of Halifax in 1749, when perhaps as much as half of the Acadian population departed for new settlements in French controlled territory (R.-G. LeBlanc 2005, 170–71; Johnston 2004, 67). The inhabitants no doubt found the British military presence challenging, particularly after 1750, when Charles Lawrence established Fort Edward on the site of the parish church of Notre-Dame-de-L'Assomption (Fowler and Ferguson 2010). The British deported 981 Acadians from Pesiktk in 1755, using Fort Edward as a base of operations and a prison (R.-G. LeBlanc 2005, 171).

⁶ Anon. 1731. "État de l'Acadie pour le gouvernement ecclésiastique," ANOM, COL C11A 107, pp. 235-236.

There is no evidence of colonial-era French domestic activity on Fort Edward Hill. Pesikik is relatively well mapped in the 18th century, and abundant cartographic and documentary evidence places the village sites elsewhere (Fowler 2001). Some of these sites have been explored archaeologically (Deal 2001; Fowler 2005; 2006b; 2006a; 2013; Preston 1991). **Figure 3** summarizes most of the known locations of Acadian hamlets in the area. Although imperfect⁷, the evidence is sufficiently complete to probably discount Fort Edward Hill as a site of intensive domestic activity.⁸ As noted above, however, the hill was the site of the parish church of Notre-Dame-de-L'Assomption.

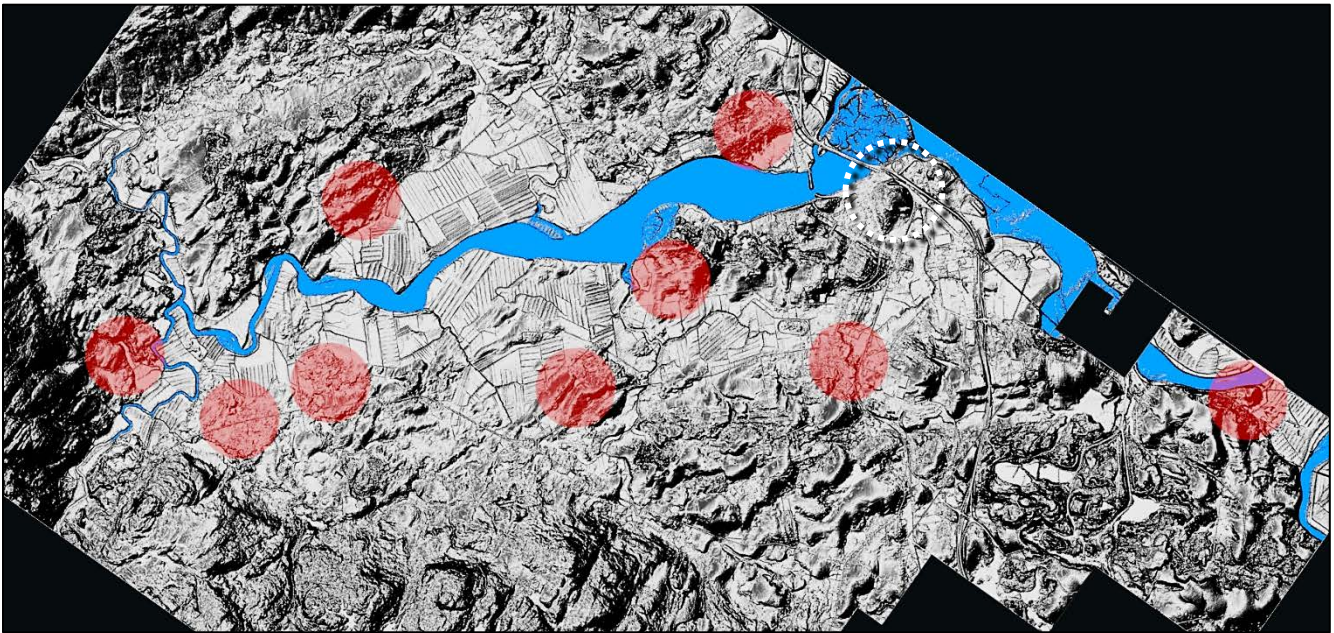


Figure 3: Map of most of the known pre-Deportation Acadian hamlet sites near Fort Edward as derived from historical and archaeological evidence and plotted on 2018 LiDAR hillshade. Fort Edward is highlighted by a dashed white circle at upper right. SOURCE: Province of Nova Scotia.

While the establishment of a British garrison at Fort Edward in 1750 certainly upset the status quo, it also brought opportunities. The troops required provisions and firewood, and colonial records contain many references to Acadians supplying these needs before 1755. Edward Cornwallis hired Acadian labourers to cut a road from Halifax to Pesikik in late 1749 (Halifax's Windsor Street is its terminus) (Akins 1895, 19; MacKenzie 2002, 175), and by approximately 1752 Joshua Mauger, a Jersey-born merchant, shipowner, and eventual politician, had established a

⁷ This is the subject of an upcoming research publication (Fowler in prep.)

⁸ However, it should be noted that most of the mapping allowing us to plot pre-Deportation Acadian villages post-dates the establishment of Fort Edward in 1750, which may have erased some features of the Acadian landscape.

trading post – or truckhouse⁹ – on the slope next to Fort Edward (Chard 1979) (**Figure 4**). Mauger traded in slaves and in Caribbean sugar and was already the official victualler to the Royal Navy in Nova Scotia by this time; the appearance of his truckhouse at Fort Edward coincides with the establishment of his rum distillery in the Halifax suburbs (Chard 1979). The soldiers' thirst for rum was unquenchable, and Mauger was nothing if not enterprising.



Figure 4: British officer John Hamilton painted this view of Fort Edward from the west in 1753. The truckhouse complex is shown as a palisaded enclosure at left (circled). SOURCE: "View of Fort Edward on the Piziquid River, Nova Scotia." Library and Archives Canada (LAC), Acc. No. 1996-361-3.

The truckhouse also catered to Acadian and Mi'kmaw clients and was administered by Isaac Deschamps, an English immigrant thought to be of Swiss heritage, after about 1754. When Mauger departed Nova Scotia for England in 1760, Governor Lawrence brought Deschamps into government employment (**Figure 5**). The Fort Edward truckhouse from this period played an official role as part of the Crown's treaty obligations to the Mi'kmaq (Wicken 2002, 198–200).¹⁰

⁹ Truck, from the French *troquer*, meaning to shop, barter, exchange, derives from the medieval Latin *trocare*. In 18th century British America, the term truckhouse denoted "a store-house for trading with Indians; also, any storage building." *Oxford English Dictionary*.

¹⁰ Treaty scholarship and jurisprudence treat this subject extensively, for the truckhouse provisions inform questions today surrounding Mi'kmaw access to markets, for example in the moderate livelihood fishery.

Some historical context is needed to understand this development and its heritage significance.

As White has shown in his study of the French Empire in the Great Lakes region, the French state lacked the power necessary to impose its will in North America. It therefore sought to achieve its political aims instead through a complex network of alliances with Indigenous peoples. These alliances followed the logics, metaphors, and customs of the country more than European norms. Political influence in the Indigenous context was partly a function of largesse. Governor de Beauharnois and Intendant Hocquart explained it in a 1730 letter to a home government that perennially griped about the expense: "You know, Monseigneur, that all the [Indigenous] nations of Canada regard the governor as their father, which in consequence, following their ideas, he ought at all times to give them what they need to feed themselves, clothe themselves, and to hunt" (White 1991, 180). A similar system developed in the Atlantic region, where in the early 18th century Louisbourg became the main source of diplomatic gifts and trade goods. Many historians with justification see Louisbourg's final capture by Anglo-American forces in 1758 as having consequently dealt a severe blow to the Mi'kmaw economy (Dickason 1971; MacFarlane 1938; Upton 1979, 57; Reid 2004, 678).

The Treaty of Peace and Friendship of 1752, negotiated by Chief Jean-Baptiste Cope and Nova Scotia Governor Thomas Peregrine Hopson, was the first of its kind in our region with a truckhouse provision, and it is an early sign of a Mi'kmaw community's effort to establish economic stability independent of the imperial French cause. The British agreed by this treaty to build a truckhouse at Shubenacadie (Akins 1869, 673), but the rapid return of hostilities appears to have prevented its construction. Informal trade at Mauger's private truckhouse at Pesikik may have fulfilled this function intermittently until peace was formally reestablished in 1760.

The treaties of 1760-61 finally established a lasting peace between the Mi'kmaq and the British Crown. With the French Empire in North America essentially eliminated, Mi'kmaw leaders now saw regulated access to the British market as an

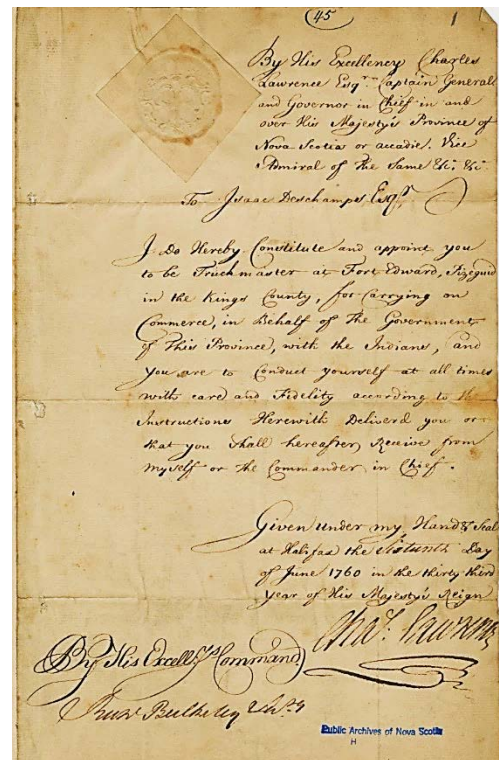


Figure 5: Commission appointing Isaac Deschamps truckmaster at Fort Edward, "for Carrying on Commerce, in Behalf of the Government of this Province, with the Indians." NSA, MG 1 vol. 258 no. 1.

essential part of their community's economic wellbeing; thus, it became a condition for peace. The Cope-Hopson truckhouse provision from the 1752 Treaty reappeared in an elaborated form as British officials committed to establishing a network of government-regulated truckhouses across the region. Six were set up in total, each overseen by a government-appointed truckmaster (Hutton 1983, 65).¹¹ ***The Fort Edward truckhouse and Isaac Deschamps's role there are consequently a significant – if generally forgotten – element of the Treaty relationship between the Mi'kmaq and the British Crown.***

Deschamps was an intelligent observer, and we are fortunate that many of his papers survive in the Nova Scotia Archives and the British Library. They have considerable ethnohistorical value and illuminate many aspects of early colonial life that are otherwise unattested.¹² He maintained a careful record of Acadian prisoners held at Fort Edward through the Seven Years' War, for example, who he appears to have assisted in provisioning.¹³ Underscoring the significance of his role as truckmaster in the treaty context, in 1763 he also left a valuable record of Mi'kmaq families whose "Summer Residence is in the neighbourhood on the River Piziquid and Gaspero." Their names are presented in **Table 1**.

¹¹ These included Henry Green at Fort Frederick on the Saint John River; Philip Knaught (Knaut) and A.D. Widerholt at Lunenburg; William Nevil Woseley at the Eastern Battery (Dartmouth); and Erasmus James Philips at Annapolis Royal. Another post was established at Chignecto (Lewis n.d.). In 1760, Moses Delesdernier, another Swiss immigrant, was also licensed as a truckmaster at Fort Edward (Cuthbertson 1983); Eaton states he held this post since 1757 (1915, 93).

¹² His comments on Acadian agriculture, which he observed first-hand, is a good example. "Copy of a paper written by Chief Justice Isaac Deschamps on the cultivation of the Land in Nova Scotia by the Acadian French Inhabitants – written about 1785." NSA, MG 15 vol. 2 no. 43.

¹³ There are several such lists. This example from 1762 numbers 320 individuals: "List of French prisoners at Fort Edward, Windsor, Nova Scotia with the number in each family and numbers victualled." NSA, MG 1, vol. 258 no. 20, pp. 110-113.

Table 1: Mi'kmaq in the Vicinity of Fort Edward, 1763

"Indian Tribe of Amquaret now hunting between Cornwallis and the River between the two places on the Annapolis Road and there Summer Residence is in the neighbourhood on the River Piziquid and Gaspero."

Captain	<i>Joseph Bernard</i>	1 boy, 1 girl
	<i>Pierre Bernard</i>	
	Barth ^y Amquaret	2 boys
	Barth ^y Amquaret	Sen ^r [?]
	Pierre Amquaret	
	Paul Amquaret	
	Philippe Amquaret	2 boys, 1 girl
	<i>Joseph Dugas</i>	
	<i>Francois Michel</i>	1 girl
	Simon Amquaret	
	Blaize Amquaret	
	Jean Argoumatine	1 boy, 2 girls
	Joseph Argoumatine	
	<i>Jos. Denis</i>	

"Tribe of Nocout now hunting on Kenecoot River in the Township of Newport, Summer residence there also."

Captain	Joseph Nocout	1 boy, 1 girl
	Bartholemew Nocout	2 boys, 3 girls
	Thomas Nocout	1 boy
	Paul Segoua/Segona	1 boy
	Paul Biskerone	1 boy, 2 girls
	Francois Segoua/Segona	
	Janvier Nocout	
	Francois Nocout	1 boy, 2 girls
	Claude Nocout	
	Charles Nocout	
	Rene Nocout	
	Jacques Nocout	
	Lewis Nocout	
	Chas Segona	
	Michel Thoma	
	Joseph Thoma	
	Philippe Nocout	
	<i>Louis Michel</i>	

SOURCE: Isaac Deschamps Papers (1750-1800), NSA MG 1 Vol. 258 No. 8, 20 December 1763, p. 20.

2.3 Anglo-American presence

The 1755 Deportation of the Acadians brought significant changes to Pesiktk. The British policy of population replacement introduced New England immigrants to the area (commonly called Planters in the language of the day), and Falmouth and Newport Townships were established in 1760 (Duncanson 1983; Gwyn 2010; Duncanson 1985; Longley 1961).

While the new townships were created primarily for immigrant families, much of the land on the south side of the Avon River was set aside for the British elite in Halifax (Loomer 1996, 59–61). This area became known as the Councillor's Grant (**Figure 6**), and it was by this process that several planners and perpetrators of the 1755 Deportation subsequently reaped the spoils. This has fed the notion – especially amplified in francophone historiography – that the Acadian removal was a naked land grab.¹⁴

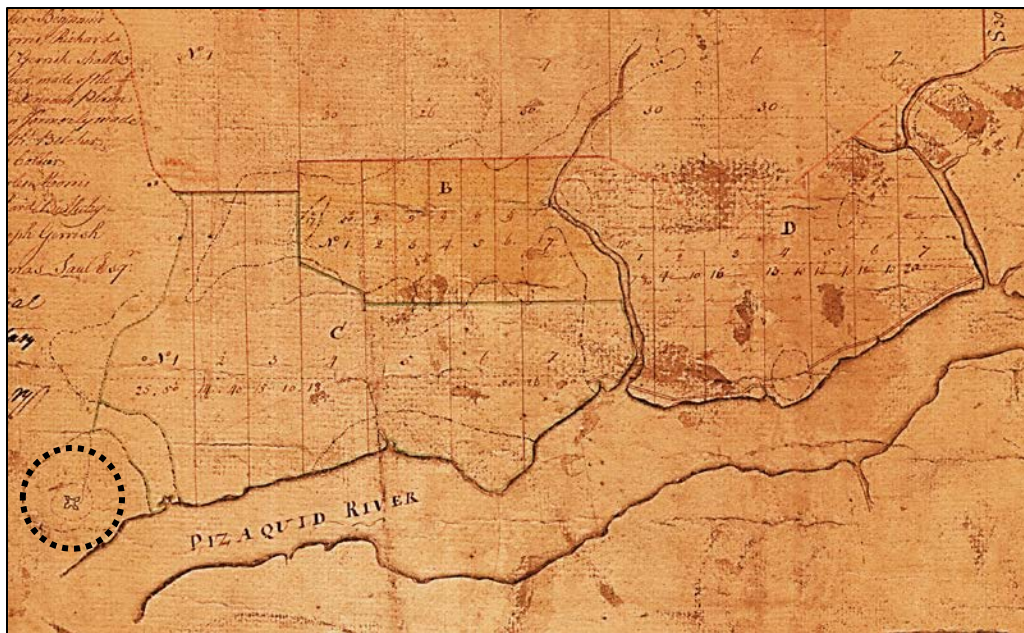


Figure 6: Detail of part of the Councillors' Grant of former Acadian lands at Pesiktk (north at bottom, Fort Edward circled at lower left). The proprietors named are Jonathan Belcher, John Collier, Charles Morris, Richard Bulkeley, Joseph Gerrish, and John Cunningham (for Thomas Saul). Collier and Belcher were on the Executive Council that decided to deport the Acadians in 1755, while the latter, in his role as Chief Justice, rendered an opinion verifying the policy's legality. Charles Morris, though not a councillor in 1755, strongly advocated the deportation policy and was one of its principal planners (Johnston and Kerr 2004, 49; Faragher 2005, 520). SOURCE: Anon. 19 August 1761. Untitled. Nova Scotia Crown Land Information Management Centre (CLIMC), Hants County Portfolio no. 16.

¹⁴ The appropriation of Acadian lands by government officials drew opprobrium even in the 18th century. Based on the testimony he received, the Reverend Dr. Andrew Brown condemned the councilmen-grantees for profiting off "the share they had taken in the expulsion of the French inhabitants" (Brown 1819, 96). This state of affairs was not at all unique to Pesiktk (Fowler 2012).

Nova Scotia's governor and council resolved to reorganize and incorporate this area as the Township of Windsor in late 1764, its ties to the metropolitan elite emphasized by its initial inclusion in the County of Halifax. A public market was declared to be held every Tuesday on "Fort Hill, where Fort Edward now stands," and public fairs were established on the third Tuesday of May and third Tuesday of October each year (Murdoch 1866, 2:444). The by now well-established truckhouse on Fort Edward Hill had clearly made this location a logical commercial hub for the area, and the annual fair – now the Windsor Exhibition – would continue to be held on the hill, *in the study area*, well into the 20th century.

Fort Edward remained a military post throughout this period, declining in importance during times of peace, and hastily refurbished in wartime. The fort was strengthened at the beginning of the American Revolution, for instance, and again during the War of 1812 (Tulloch n.d.). During the former conflict, it was garrisoned by a detachment of the 84th Regiment of Foot (Highlanders), under the command of Capt. Allan Macdonald, whose wife, Flora MacDonald (**Figure 7**), is well known for her role in spirited away Prince Charles Edward Stuart (Bonnie Prince Charlie) after the collapse of the Second Jacobite Rebellion in Scotland in 1746.¹⁵ Touring Windsor with her husband, the Lieutenant-Governor, shortly after the War of 1812 had been declared, Lady Sherbrooke found Fort Edward once again "in a dilapidated state..." (Haliburton 2011, 69). According to a report on the fort's condition that year, even the blockhouse – today the only surviving fort building – was in bad repair, and not the "smallest vestige" of the powder magazine, formerly located in the southeast bastion, could be discerned.¹⁶



Figure 7: Flora Macdonald (1722-1790), painted by Allan Ramsay in 1749, shortly after her release from the Tower of London for her role in the Second Jacobite Rebellion. Perhaps she was unrepentant, for the white rose in her hair is a Jacobite symbol. SOURCE: Ashmolean Museum, WA1960.76.

A report on ordnance land in 1856 revealed that only the blockhouse, officers' quarters, one soldiers' barracks, and a provision store remained.¹⁷ Although these

¹⁵ Many of the members of the 84th Regiment became settlers in Hants County at the conclusion of the war, and members of the Fort Edward garrison were granted land in Douglas Township (Duncanson 1989)

¹⁶ LAC 1812 "Major Crawford's report on the State of Fort Edward, Windsor, Nova Scotia" LAC, R2513-540-5-E. Volume/box number: 20.

¹⁷ National Archives (UK), W.O. 55, v1558, part 6, Report on ordnance lands, 1856, f 84.

four building appear on an 1879 map of the town of Windsor (**Figure 8**), the store house and soldiers' barracks would soon be demolished.

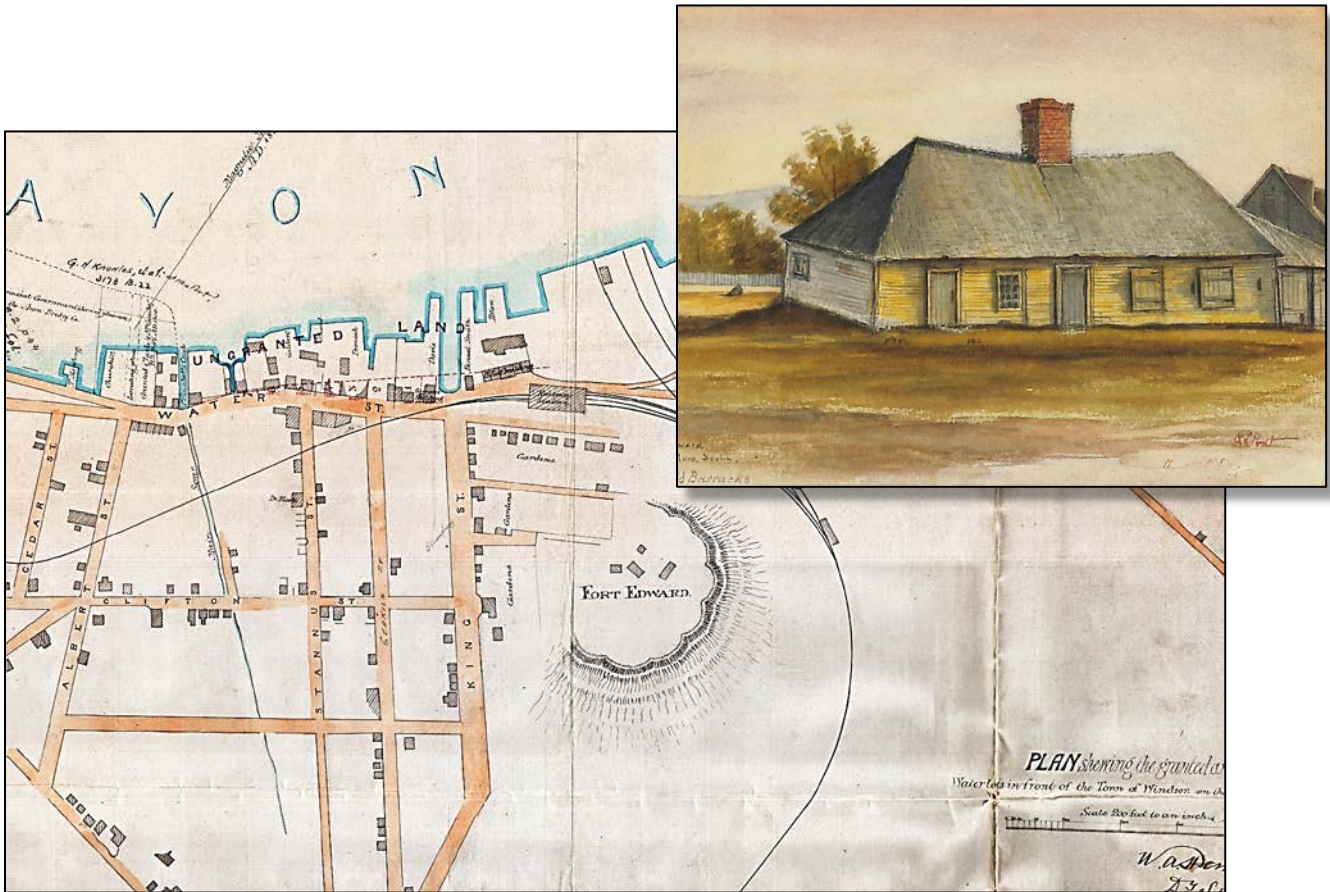


Figure 8: Detail of a map showing the Town of Windsor and four standing buildings at Fort Edward in 1879. North at upper right. Inset: Watercolour of the old soldiers' barracks painted ca. 1880 by Annie L. Pratt. The north-facing gable end of the provision store can be seen at right, behind the soldiers' barracks. This may be the only extant image of the latter building. SOURCE: W.A. Hendry and D.Y. Sw... 1879. "Plan shewing the granted and ungranted Water lots in front of the Town of Windsor on the Avon River." CLIMC, Hants Portfolio no. 026; Nova Scotia Museum.

In 1903, the grounds were leased to the Windsor Golf Club and the officers' quarters were used as a club house. The lease was revoked during WWI, when the fort was used as a training area for troops, at which time the officers' quarters functioned as a quarantine hospital (Tulloch n.d.: 9). Among the soldiers stationed here were the men of the Jewish Legion, including David Ben-Gurion, who would later become Israel's first prime minister (Beanlands 2014). The officers' quarters survived until 1922, when they were destroyed by fire (**Figure 9**). The golf course lease was renewed before and after WWII and was finally terminated in 1973 (Tulloch n.d., 10).



Figure 9: The burning of the 18th century officers' quarters in progress (top); and the building in ruins (bottom) in 1923. SOURCE: NSA, Photographic Collection; NSA, Photographic Collection Acc. No. 7586.

3.0 STUDY AREA

The study area consists of two contiguous properties (PIDs 45059805 and 45059797) at 36 and 65 Fort Edward Street (**Figure 10**). The foregoing discussion highlights the pertinent historical and archaeological context, and the following sections examine the archaeological potential and heritage value of these properties.

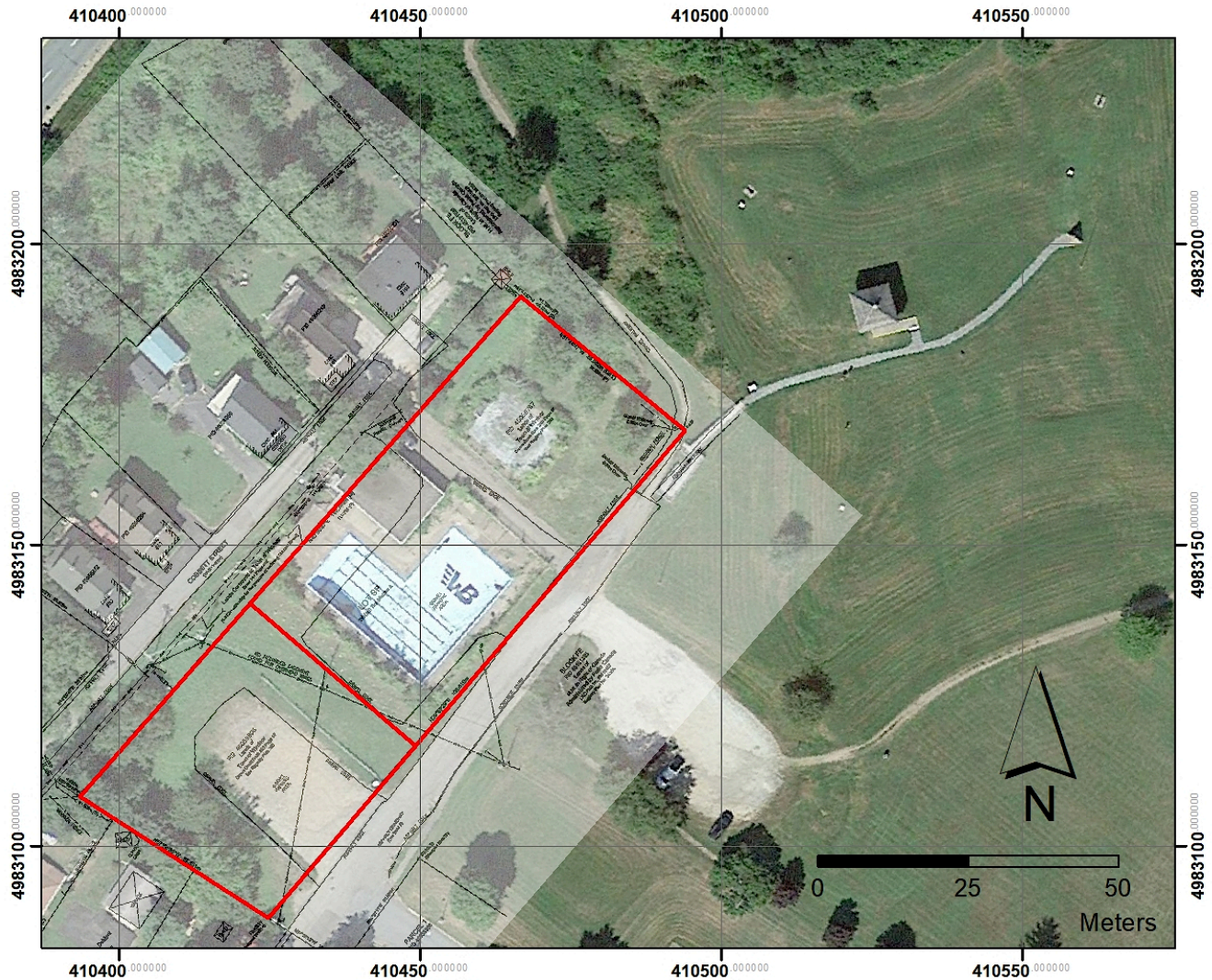


Figure 10: The study area (outlined) as indicated by a new survey plan dated 15 February 2022. The smaller of the two contiguous properties is PID 45059805 and the larger is PID45059797. SOURCE: West Hants Regional Municipality and Google Earth 2015.

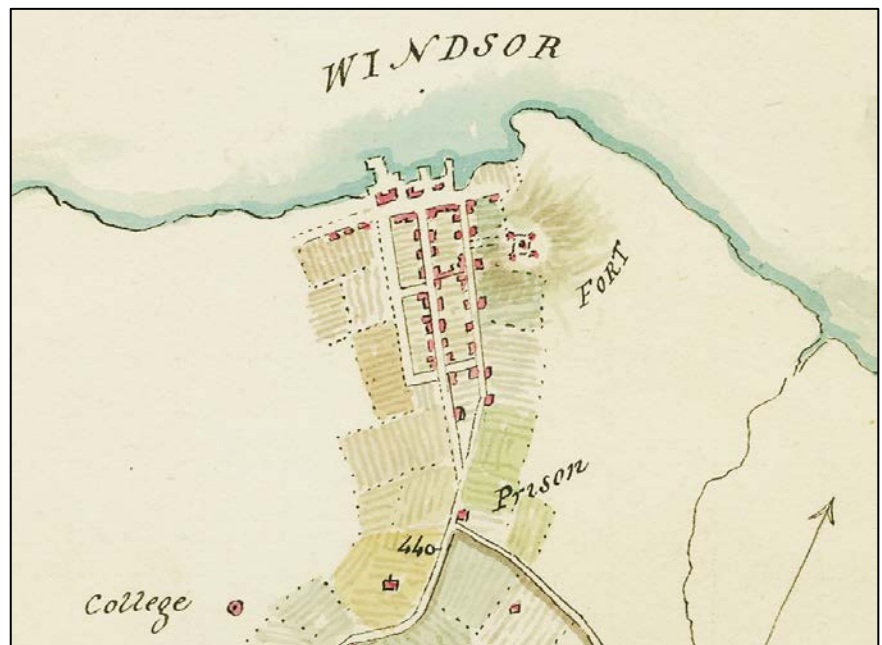
The study area occupies part of the space between the British fort on the hilltop and the planned settlement of Windsor that developed below it to the west (**Figure 11**). Eighteenth century Windsor, in this context, may be recognize as an

offshoot of Fort Edward and its associated truckhouse, which had before the arrival of the New England Planters in 1760 constituted a regional demographic, military, and commercial centre.

This historical relationship between Fort Edward and Windsor is perhaps not very much appreciated today, but it is a Nova Scotian example of an ancient settlement pattern. In the Roman period in Western Europe, for instance, civilian communities often took root outside the gates of permanent military installations (e.g. Mattingly 2006, 170–72). Their residents, attracted and then sustained by imperial coin, supplied the garrisons with goods and services. Long after the soldiers had gone, the civilian settlements remained. Many of Europe's great cities owe their origins to this process, though in Nova Scotia perhaps the closest example is Annapolis Royal, which also grew up alongside the timber and turf, star-shaped fort now known as Fort Anne.

Fort Edward's proximity to the town it spawned has methodological significance for the present investigation because Windsor's durable street grid – and particularly the intersections, which have generally not moved since the mid-18th century – facilitates the georeferencing of colonial-era maps, an essential process for plotting archaeological features in and around the study area.

Figure 11: Fort Edward and Windsor in the Regency period, showing the relationship between Fort Edward and the town that grew up at its feet. Methodologically, the resilience of the town's street pattern offers ground control points (the intersections) for georeferencing old maps. SOURCE: John Elliott Woolford 1817-18, "Surveys of the Roads from Halifax to Windsor and from Halifax to Truro." Sheet 10: Mile 44: Windsor. NSA Map Collection: 15.1.



4.0 METHODOLOGY

The evidence presented in this report was gathered and collated through a straight historical methodology, relying on cartographic and documentary resources in Canada, the United States, and France. Additional information was gleaned from archaeological site reports, the MARI, aerial photographs, and published literature. A pedestrian survey was conducted on February 12, 2022, to assess surface conditions and gather survey points to assist in the process of georeferencing historical maps and plans.



Figure 12: Detail of a map of Windsor in 1829. This map's scale is too small to be of use in this analysis. SOURCE: William Mackay 1834. "The Great Map of Nova Scotia." NSA Map Collection: The Great Map C 14.

Historical mapping plays an important role in the analysis that follows. Fort Edward and its environs have been mapped many times over the centuries, but not all of these maps are useful for our purposes (consider the small-scale rendering in Figures 6 and 11, above), or the early 19th century map in **Figure 12**, at left. Fortunately, several larger-scale plans survive. Georeferencing these maps in a Geographic Information System (GIS) with the assistance of ground control points, such as the intersections of nearby streets, Fort Edward's bastions, and the blockhouse itself (which has not moved since 1750), allows map features of archaeological interest to be plotted on the modern

landscape with reasonable accuracy (Chapman 2006; Rumsey and Williams 2002).¹⁸

Mapping and aerial photography was scanned and processed in GIMP 2.10.24 and ArcMap 10.6.1 software. Base mapping for the GIS at a scale of 1:10,000, was obtained from the online DataLocator service provided by the Nova Scotia Department of Natural Resources.¹⁹ Historical aerial photography was obtained from the National Air Photo Library in Ottawa, and raw LiDAR data (.laz files) were downloaded from the Province of Nova Scotia's Elevation Explorer website.²⁰

¹⁸ The accuracy with which these features can be plotted on the modern surface is difficult to determine without archaeological validation (i.e. excavation), as errors in the manuscript maps cannot be quantified independently. Root Mean Square (RMS) errors in the georeferenced historical maps and aerial photos generally range between 1.7 to 4.1 metres.

¹⁹ Datalocator <https://gis8.nsgc.gov.ns.ca/DataLocatorASP/main.html>

²⁰ Elevation Explorer <https://nsgi.novascotia.ca/datalocator/elevation/>

LiDAR data (**Figure 13**) were processed using Surfer 23 by Golden Software to create digital bare earth models, allowing variations in relief to be quantified.

Background information concerning traditional Mi'kmaw land use and cultural memory was requested from the Archaeological Research Office of the KMKNO on January 18, 2022.

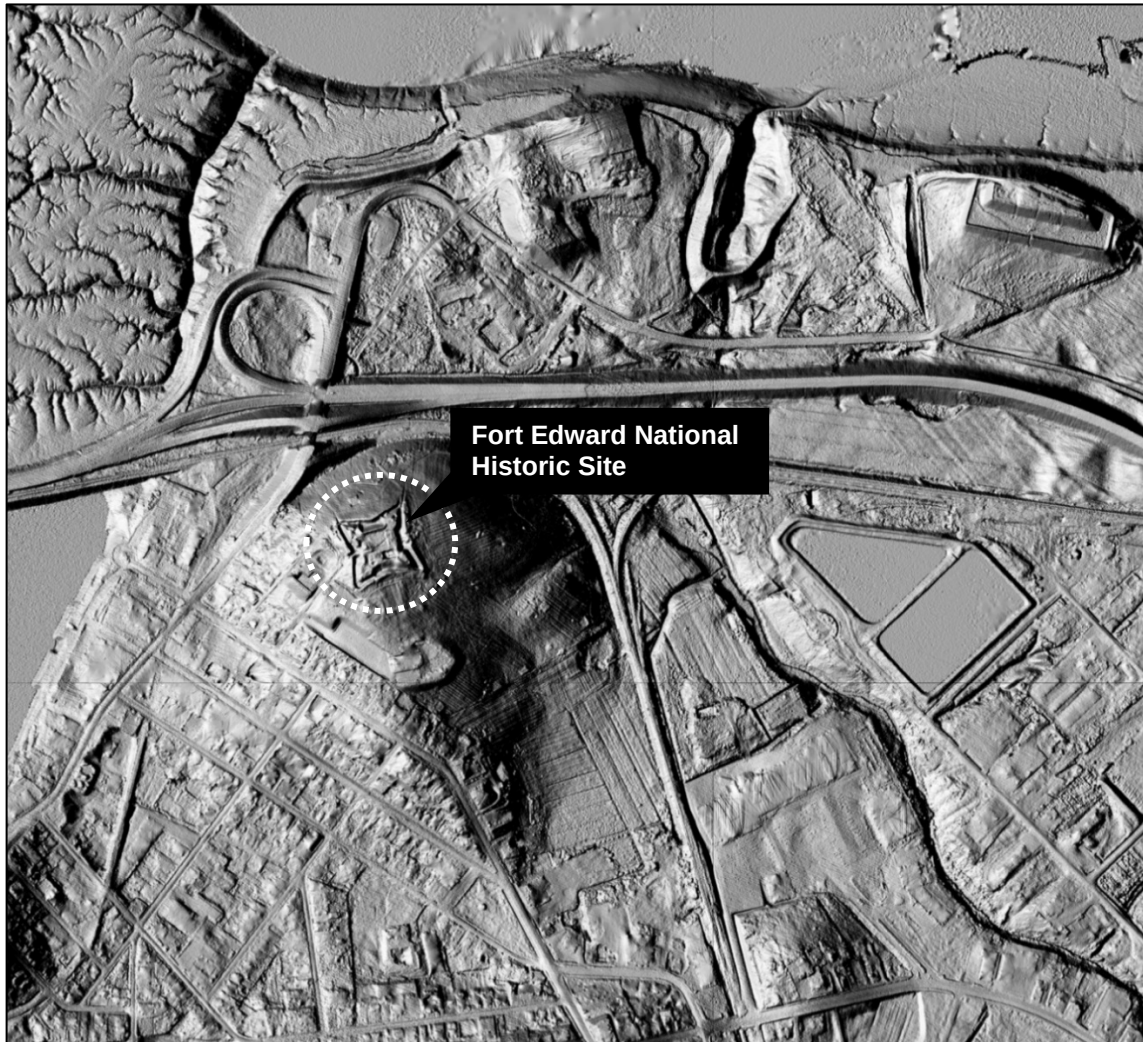


Figure 13: Bare earth LiDAR hillshade model of the confluence of the Avon and St. Croix rivers showing Fort Edward (circled). LiDAR data allows minor variations in relief to be measured, facilitating archaeological site prospection. SOURCE: Province of Nova Scotia (2011).

The nature of potential impacts to the study area is not yet known as the municipality intends this ARIA to provide a high-level scan of archaeological resource potential. The land has not yet been sold and construction activities by a potential buyer have yet to be formalized.

5.0 RESOURCE INVENTORY

Four major themes or traditions are associated with potential archaeological resources in the study area. In chronological order, they are:

- The Acadian Parish Church of Notre-Dame-de-L'Assomption;
- Fort Edward and its associated infrastructure;
- The truckhouse; and
- The Agricultural Fair

Each is now examined in sequence.

5.1 The Acadian Parish Church of Notre-Dame-de-L'Assomption

The Acadian parish church, established in 1722, was demolished by British forces in June of 1750 during Fort Edward's construction. Joshua Winslow records explicitly that Acadian labourers "pulled down the mass house and levelled our block house and laid out the ground for a fort" (Webster 1936, 16).²¹ A ripple of reaction appears in French records where, in describing Pesiktk in 1753, it is said that "les Anglais y ont fait bâtir un fort dans le lieu même ou était autrefois une Eglise sous le titre de l'Assomption" (Abbé de l'Isle-Dieu 1890, 72).²²

In 1997, Parks Canada archaeologists conducted cultural resource management excavations beneath the blockhouse floor and exposed a layer of charcoal and burnt daub slighted by the trench into which the blockhouse foundation had been laid (Fowler and Ferguson 2010, 70–72) (**Figure 14**). Given the prevalence of daub in pre-Deportation Acadian architecture (Crépeau and Christianson 1995), including its association with what appear to be the archaeological remains of the parish church of St-Charles-des-Mines at Grand-Pré National Historic Site (Fowler



Figure 14: Archaeological features beneath the blockhouse floor excavated by Parks Canada archaeologists in 1997 and likely associated with the parish church of Notre-Dame-de-L'Assomption. SOURCE: Parks Canada.

²¹ Loomer states that "In the British period, a building at Fort Edward was used as a Mass house for the Acadians after their chapel had burned, apparently about 1752. There is no other indication of a Mass house on Fort Edward [hill?]" (1996, 40). The first statement is unreferenced and therefore difficult to assess, while the second appears to be false.

²² Translation: The English built a fort there in the same place where the church of L'Assomption previously stood.

2020), it is very likely that this layer belongs to the Acadian church.

Our program of magnetic susceptibility survey at Fort Edward in 2014 sought to map archaeological features inside the fort, including the probable remains of the Acadian church. The results clearly demonstrate that 18th century architectural remains survive here, and that magnetic susceptibility is a viable method for mapping these features in high resolution. They also suggest a roughly rectangular building was partly superimposed by the blockhouse (**Figure 15**), located approximately 30m from the northern end of the study area (Fowler, Beanlands, and Ferguson 2016).

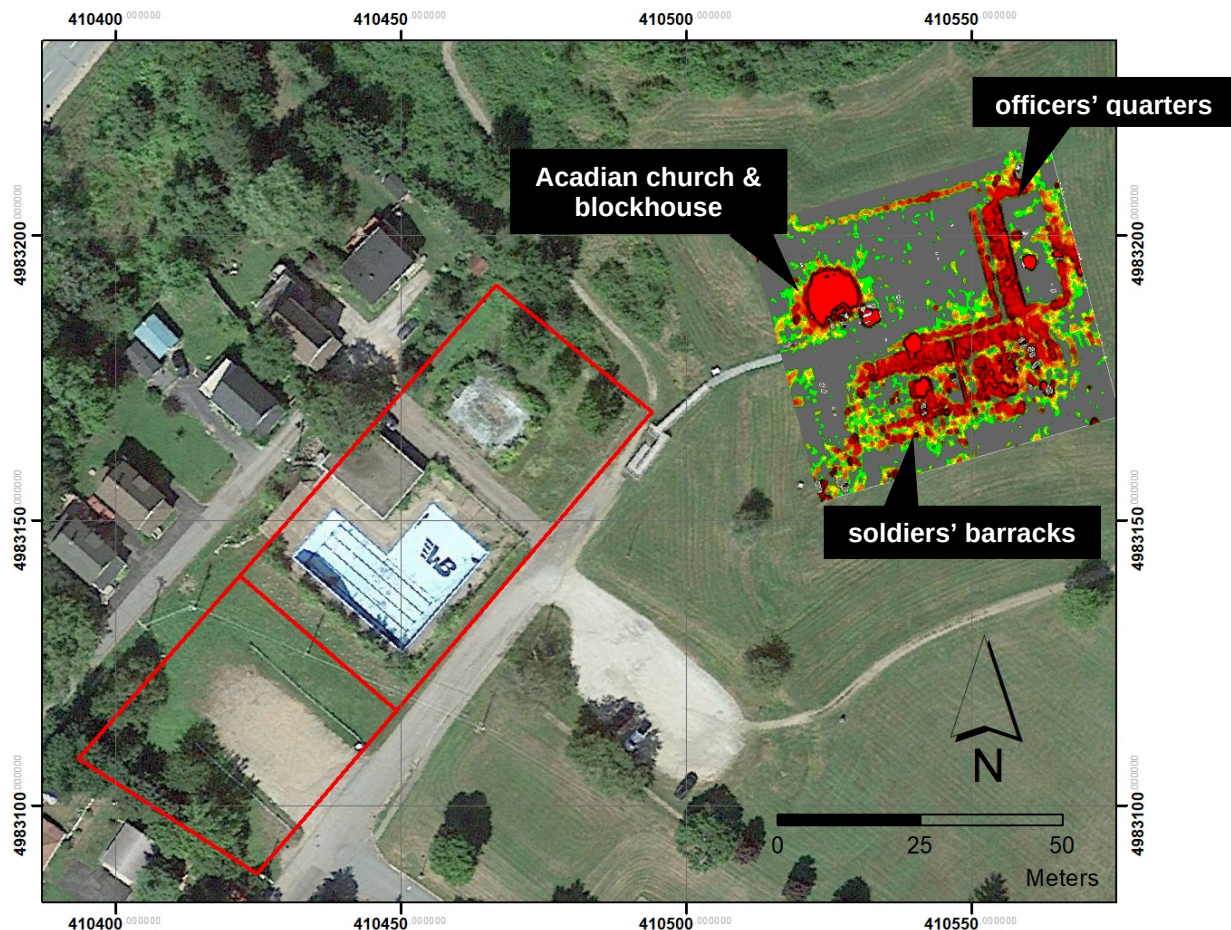


Figure 15: Magnetic susceptibility map of the interior of Fort Edward showing the vanished soldiers' barracks, officers' quarters, and, extending from beneath the blockhouse, the remains of what may be the Acadian parish church of Notre-Dame-de-L'Assomption, approximately 30m from the northern edge of the study area (outlined in red). SOURCE: Google Earth 2015.

It is difficult to clearly determine the boundary of the Acadian ecclesiastical site at this stage. The remains of the church appear to have been located, but if there was a priest's house nearby, its location is not yet known. Such a dwelling was

present at nearby St-Charles-des-Mines at Grand-Pré (e.g. Winslow 1883, 71) and at the mother parish of St-Jean-Baptiste at Port-Royal (**Figure 16**).



Figure 16: Detail of a 1686 map of Port-Royal (Annapolis Royal) showing a priest's house, cemetery, and other landscape features around the Church of St-Jean-Baptiste. The Church of Notre-Dame at Pesiktk may have had a similar "ecclesiastical landscape" setting. SOURCE: Bibliothèque nationale de France, département Cartes et plans, GE SH 18 PF 133 DIV 8 P 2.

The precise location of the Acadian cemetery is also something of an open question. Colonial-era maps and documents, as well as antiquarian and later sources, reference a cemetery on a small marsh island north of Fort Edward Hill, bordering the river (Hind 1889, 2; Loomer 1996, 39; Shand 1979, 7).²³ Several 18th century documents and maps offer supportive evidence. For example, it appears as "Burying Island" on a 1762-63 map of land grants at Pesiktk.²⁴ Hind's statement that this was an Acadian cemetery has been perpetuated by later writers but is conjectural. The area in question (**Figure 17**) is located approximately 350m from the site of the parish church – a uniquely long distance from a church in the context of known Acadian ecclesiastical sites²⁵ – and is separated by a tidal

marsh that would have flooded twice daily in the pre-Deportation period, complicating ritual access.²⁶ While the "Burying Island" may have been the Acadian parish cemetery (insufficient evidence exists at present to test this hypothesis, and the area has been significantly transformed by both natural and cultural processes), it is perhaps more likely to have been a Mi'kmaw cemetery, as its situation in the landscape matches that of other documented Mi'kmaw cemeteries at marsh islands near river mouths in the southern Minas Basin (e.g. BgDb-6 at Avonport (Whitehead 1993, 73) and Starr's Point (Herbin 1911, 16). If this is so, then it raises a serious possibility that the Acadian cemetery may be somewhere nearer the church, at a location yet to be identified on Fort Edward Hill.

²³ E.g. Charles Morris. "A Plan of Lands in the Township of Windsor in the County of Halifax..." NSA V7 230 Windsor, Nova Scotia.

²⁴ Anon. n.d. [1762-63]. "A Plan of Part of the Lands Belonging to the Honourable Richard Buckley Esq." CLIMC Hants County Portfolio no. 14. Although undated, this map must have been drawn in 1762-63 based on the career timelines of the officeholders listed on the document.

²⁵ The Acadian cemetery at Grand-Pré is approximately 30m from the parish church (Fowler 2020); the distance between the parish church and cemetery at Port-Royal (Annapolis Royal) is about the same.

²⁶ Hind (1889, 17) seems to suggest the Acadians had dyked this area, but of this we are uncertain.

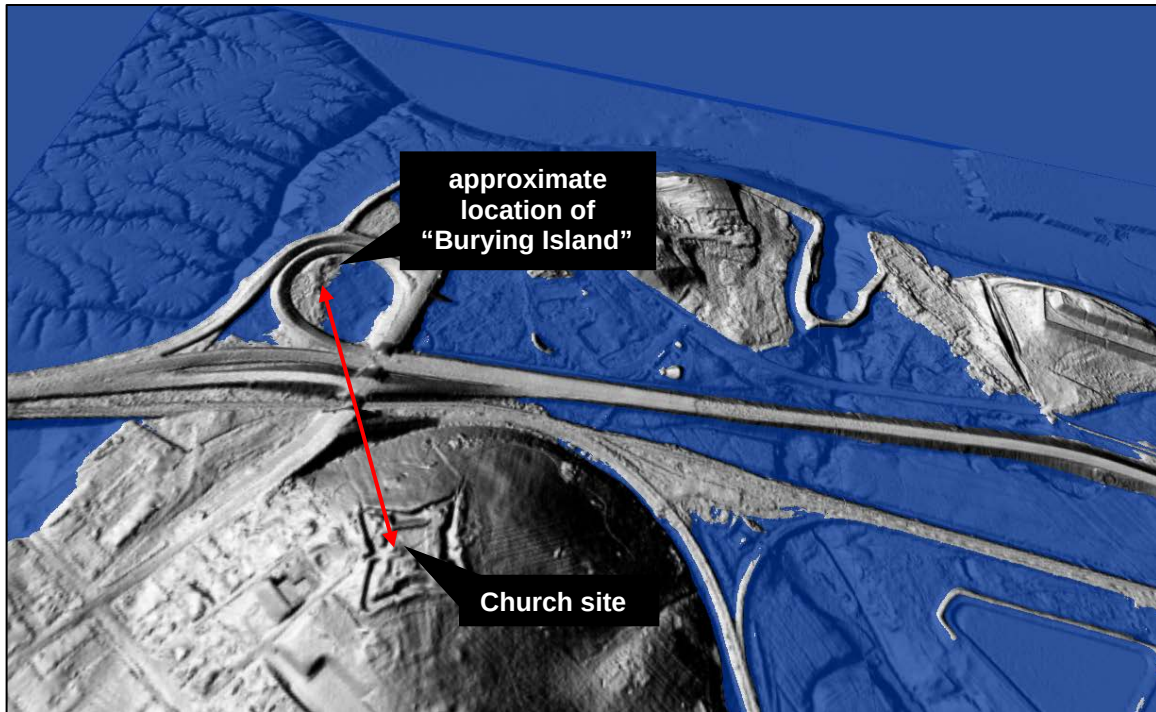


Figure 17: 3D LiDAR model with simulated tidal flooding showing the ca. 350m distance separating the known Acadian church site from the “Burying Island” identified by Henry Youle Hind as the parish cemetery. The distance seems too great for this to have been an Acadian cemetery. This area appears recently to have been substantially altered by the Highway 101 twinning project. SOURCE: Province of Nova Scotia (2011).

Another antiquarian tradition rooted in Hind’s scholarship places a Catholic mission and Mi’kmaw cemetery at Curry’s Corner, near the intersection of King Street and Highway 14:

Many Indian dead were brought here from afar, and there are those now living in Windsor who have heard their fathers describe the solemnities of an Indian’s burial in this ancient place of sepulture . . . [D]uring recent years, the pick, the spade and the plough have again and again turned up bones and skulls and memorials of love, or bitter, but hopeless, strife (Hind 1889, 2).

Hind’s account describes bodies “swathed in long rolls of birch bark...” (Hind 1889, 2), while an earlier description of the discovery mentions human remains associated with woolen garments, clay tobacco pipes, and coffins fastened with copper nails (Anon. 1886), dating the site to the colonial era.

An Acadian hamlet is known to have stood in this location. Hind refers to it as “Landryville”, but period maps associate it with the Trahan family.²⁷ Whoever lived there, the association raises the possibility that this cemetery may have been Acadian, perhaps a successor to that on Fort Edward Hill. If so, like other Acadian cemeteries, this one may well have served the Mi’kmaw community as well. Hind places a “mission chapel” here “within 100 yards” of the unmarked cemetery (also Loomer 1996, 270–71).²⁸

At present, uncertainties surrounding the chronologies and cultural associations of the “Burying Island” and Curry’s Corner cemeteries complicate the archaeological resource inventory on Fort Edward Hill as it relates to the Acadian church. Is there a missing Acadian cemetery somewhere on Fort Edward Hill? Indeed, there is at least one well-attested but unmarked cemetery on its slopes.

5.2 Fort Edward

Fort Edward’s archaeological resources extend beyond the footprint of its ramparts (Tulloch n.d., 3), and this fact is clearly demonstrated by early maps. Wight’s 1757 plan, for example (**Figure 18**), which is the earliest large-scale map of Fort Edward, depicts a number of structures on the western slope in or near the study area, including hay yards, the commanding officer’s stable, bullock houses, and “Soldiers Hutts,” the latter of which, the cartographer admits in his legend, “should be nearer the Glacis.”

A 1779 plan also shows activity in and around the study area (**Figure 19**). One building stands squarely in the northernmost of the two lots on Fort Edward Street, while another straddles the property line next to today’s Cobbett Street. A third building can be seen in what is today the national historic site parking lot, beyond which the officers’ garden occupies an area measuring approximately 1650 square metres (ca. 1.7ha or 0.4 acres).

²⁷ E.g. Charles Morris. 1755. “A Chart of the Sea Coasts of the Peninsula of Nova Scotia.” British Library (BL) Maps K.Top.119.58; Charles Morris. 1755. “A Chart of the Peninsula of Nova Scotia.” BL Maps.K.Top.119.57.

²⁸ Hind, Henry Youle. 1889. “Inquiries Into the History of the Acadian District of Pisiqid.” Halifax: Nova Scotia Historical Society. NSA MG 100 vol. 256 no. 19.

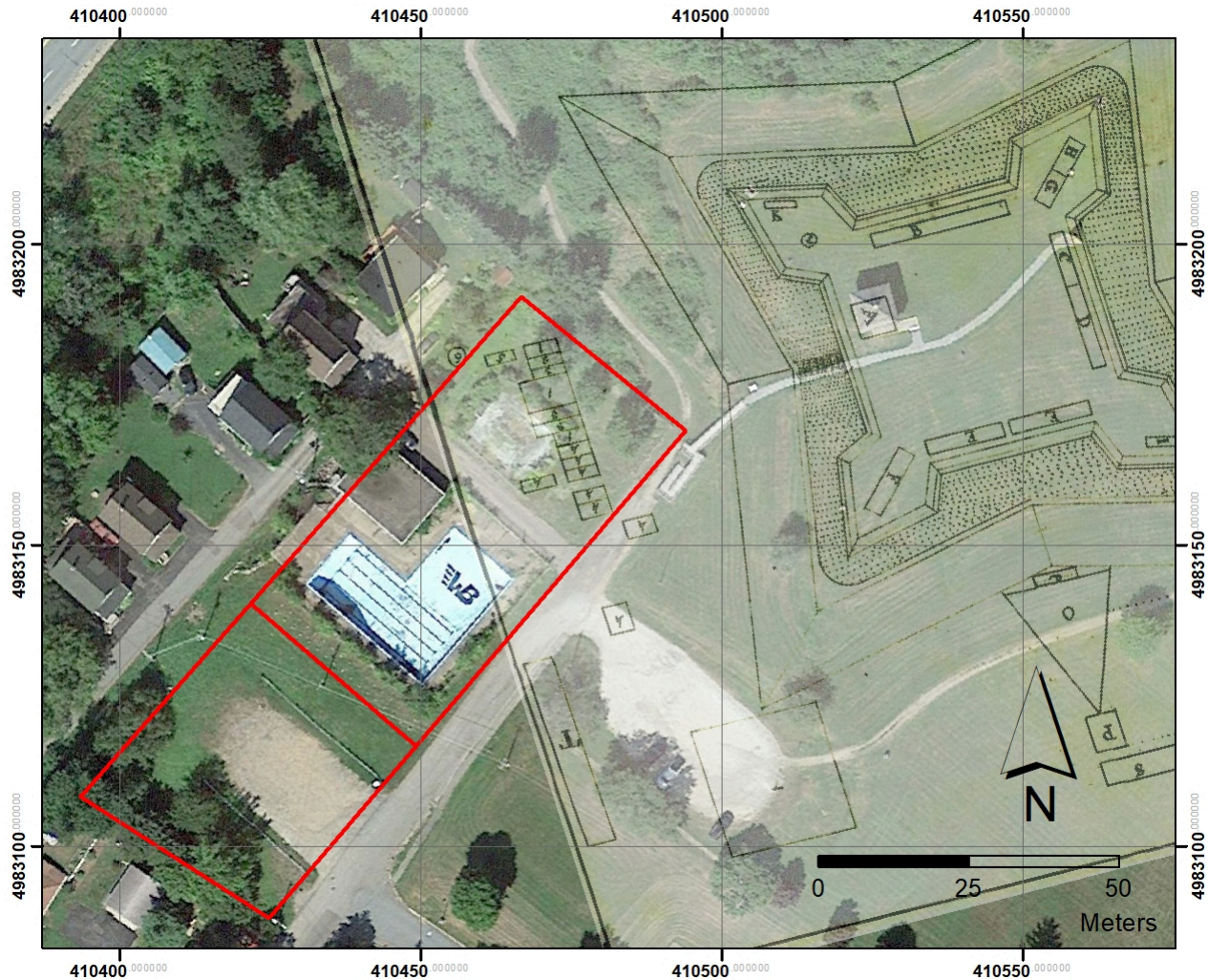


Figure 18: Georeferenced 1757 plan of Fort Edward showing military infrastructure in the study area. These include hay yards, the commandant's stable, bullock houses, and soldiers' huts. SOURCE: Edward Wight. 1757. "An Exact ground Plan of Fort Edward at Pesaquid taken from a survey and Laid down by a scale of 60 feet to an inch." William L. Clements Library, Brun Add. 240.

These maps strongly suggest the presence of archaeological resources associated with Fort Edward in the northernmost of the two properties comprising the study area.

The other major extramural site of archaeological interest and sensitivity associated with Fort Edward is the garrison cemetery, which, being unmarked, has been lost. It is the final resting place of an unknown number of soldiers who died while stationed at the fort, and it also holds the remains of many civilians.²⁹

²⁹ A record in the collection of the West Hants Historical Society lists 19 individuals – apparently all civilians – buried at Fort Edward between 1777 and 1794. Anon. n.d. "Windsor Burials at Fort Edward."

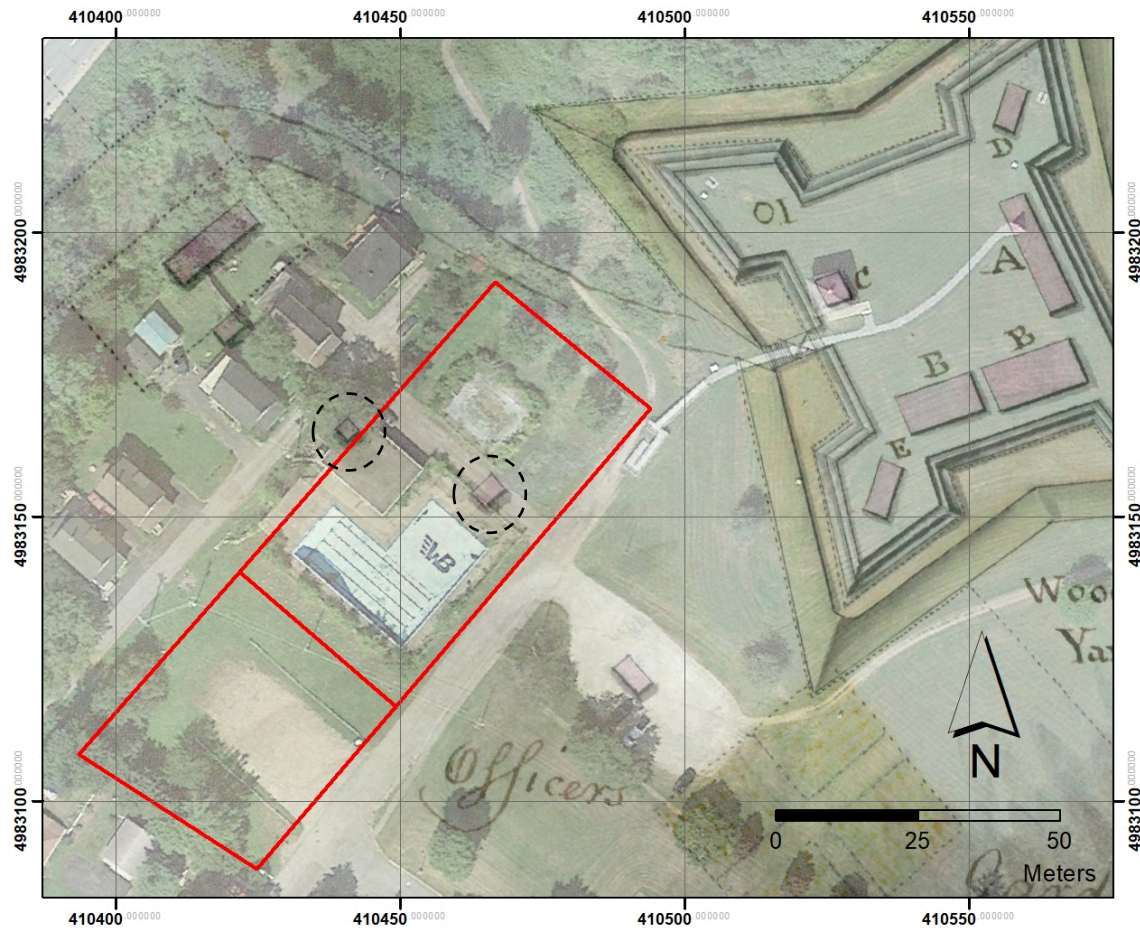


Figure 19: Georeferenced 1779 plan of Fort Edward showing buildings in the study area (circled). SOURCE: W. Spry. 1779. "A Plan of Fort Edward in Nova Scotia." William L. Clements Library 8398.

The garrison cemetery attracted the interest of antiquarians in the 19th century, and Hind, for example, refers to "the grand old willows which partly enfold the old military burial ground" on Fort Edward Hill (Hind 1889, 18). These trees were drawn and photographed many times during this era (e.g. **Figure 20**). Fortunately, a 1929 oblique aerial photograph captures their location in the landscape before they disappeared, allowing the cemetery's general location to be determined with the aid of GIS.

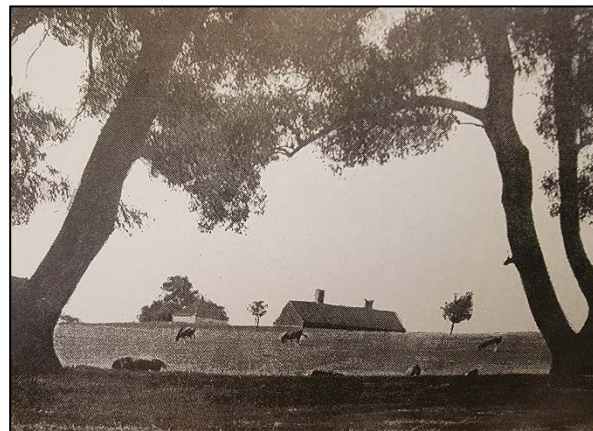


Figure 20: Site of the garrison cemetery and associated willows shown in an old photograph. The blockhouse and officers' quarters can be seen in the distance, suggesting a location downslope and to the east-southeast (Loomer 1996, 5).

Figure 21 shows the probable site of the garrison cemetery, and further research with the aid of LiDAR evidence will certainly clarify this picture.

This subject requires further analysis, but preliminary findings place the garrison cemetery well outside the study area, on the opposite side of Fort Edward Hill. This is perhaps doubly relevant in the context of this ARIA because the garrison cemetery may occupy the site of the older Acadian parish cemetery. The reasons for the uncertainty surrounding the Acadian cemetery's location are outlined above, as is Fort Edward and Windsor's similarity to Fort Anne and Annapolis Royal. At Fort Anne, the British garrison and townspeople reused the Acadian cemetery, and the same pattern may have been followed here at Fort Edward.

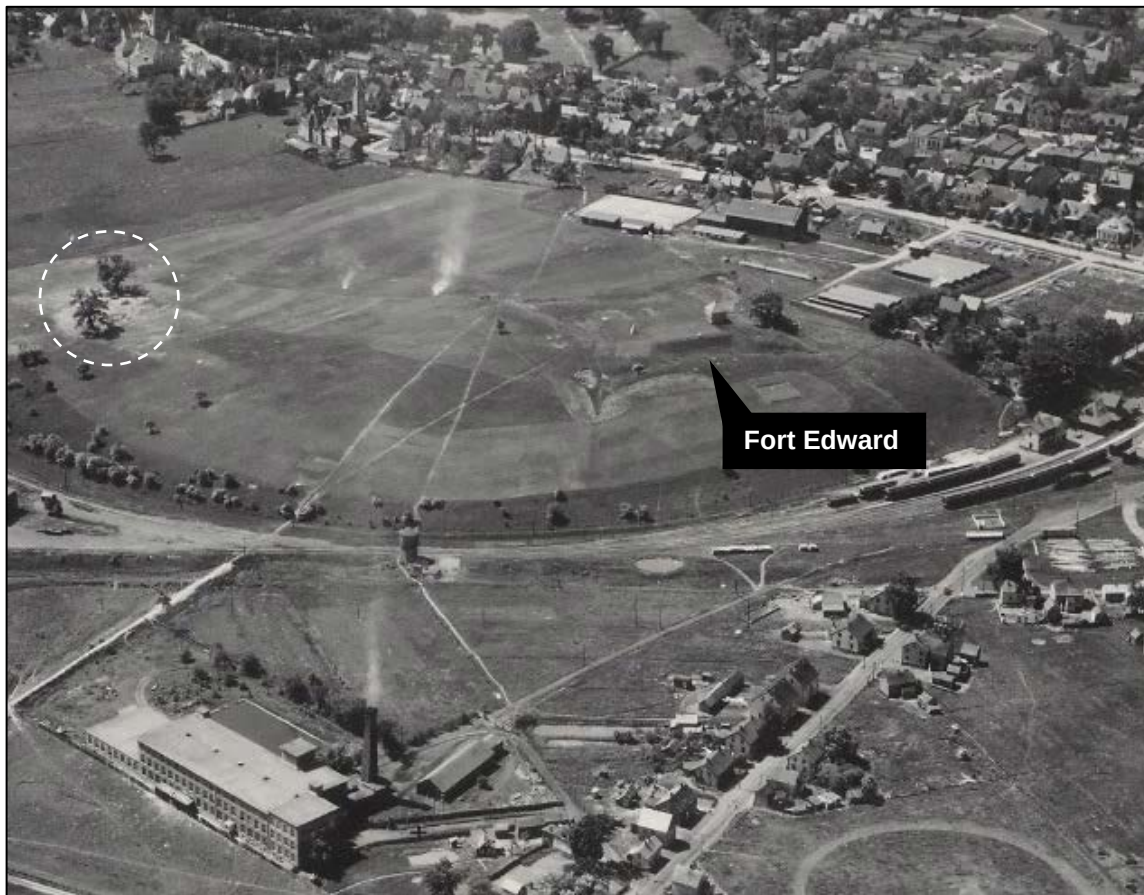


Figure 21: A 1929 aerial photo showing the old willow trees associated with the cemetery. SOURCE: National Air Photo Library (NAPL) A1236-83.

5.3 The Truckhouse

The truckhouse has attracted scholarly interest for some time (Loomer 1996, 15, 46, 62; Shand 1979, 12). An archaeological survey in 1989 recorded a site, BfDa-04, The Loomer Site, at what was thought to be its location, at the foot of Fort Edward Hill along Water Street. According to the MARI, however, artifacts collected here date from the late 19th to early 20th centuries.

Until recently, John Hamilton's painting (Figure 4, above) provided the best locational evidence for the truckhouse. Wight's 1757 plan, however, also shows it (**Figure 22**), albeit at the wrong location.

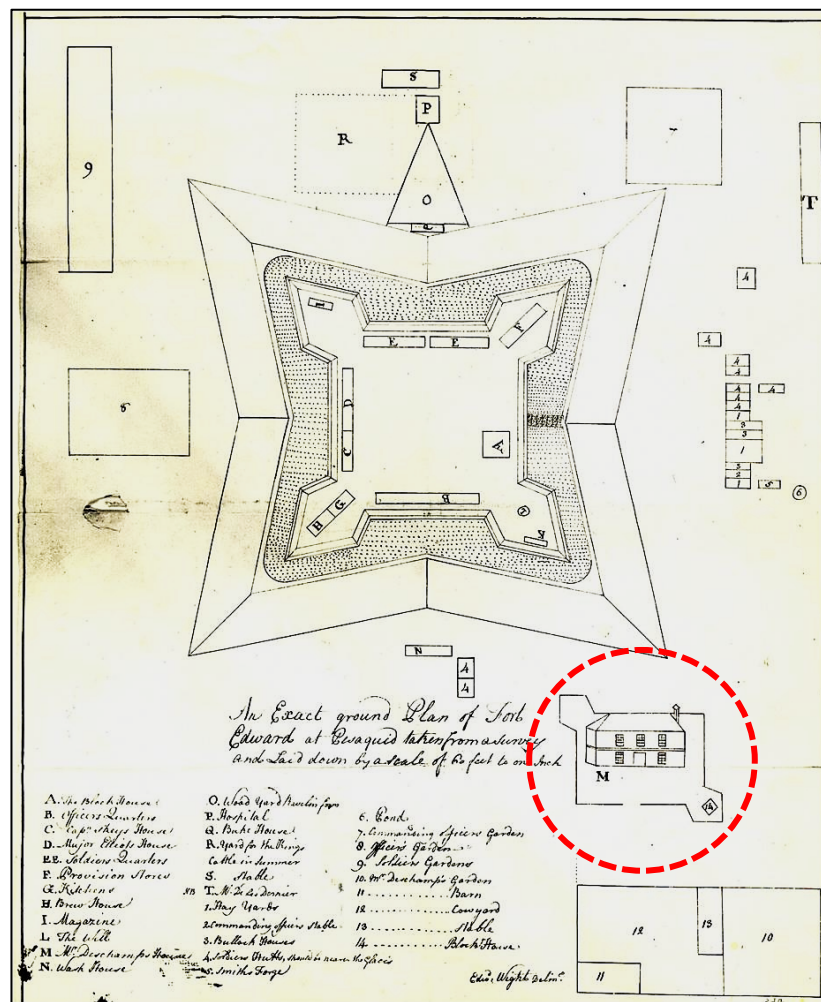


Figure 22: Edward Wight's 1757 plan of Fort Edward appearing to show the truckhouse compound occupying a position roughly in line with the fort's western bastions (North is at the bottom of the map). The actual location as proved by more carefully surveyed cadastral maps is more to the west, and likely just off the righthand side of Wight's page. Perhaps, lacking room, he just nudged it over slightly. SOURCE: Edward Wight. 1757. "An Exact ground Plan of Fort Edward at Pesquid taken from a survey and Laid down by a scale of 60 feet to an inch." William L. Clements Library, Brun Add. 240.

Archival maps of better quality allow us to determine the location of the truckhouse with confidence. It was located across Cobbett Street to the northwest of the study area, on land that has since the 19th century been subdivided into residences (**Figure 23**).

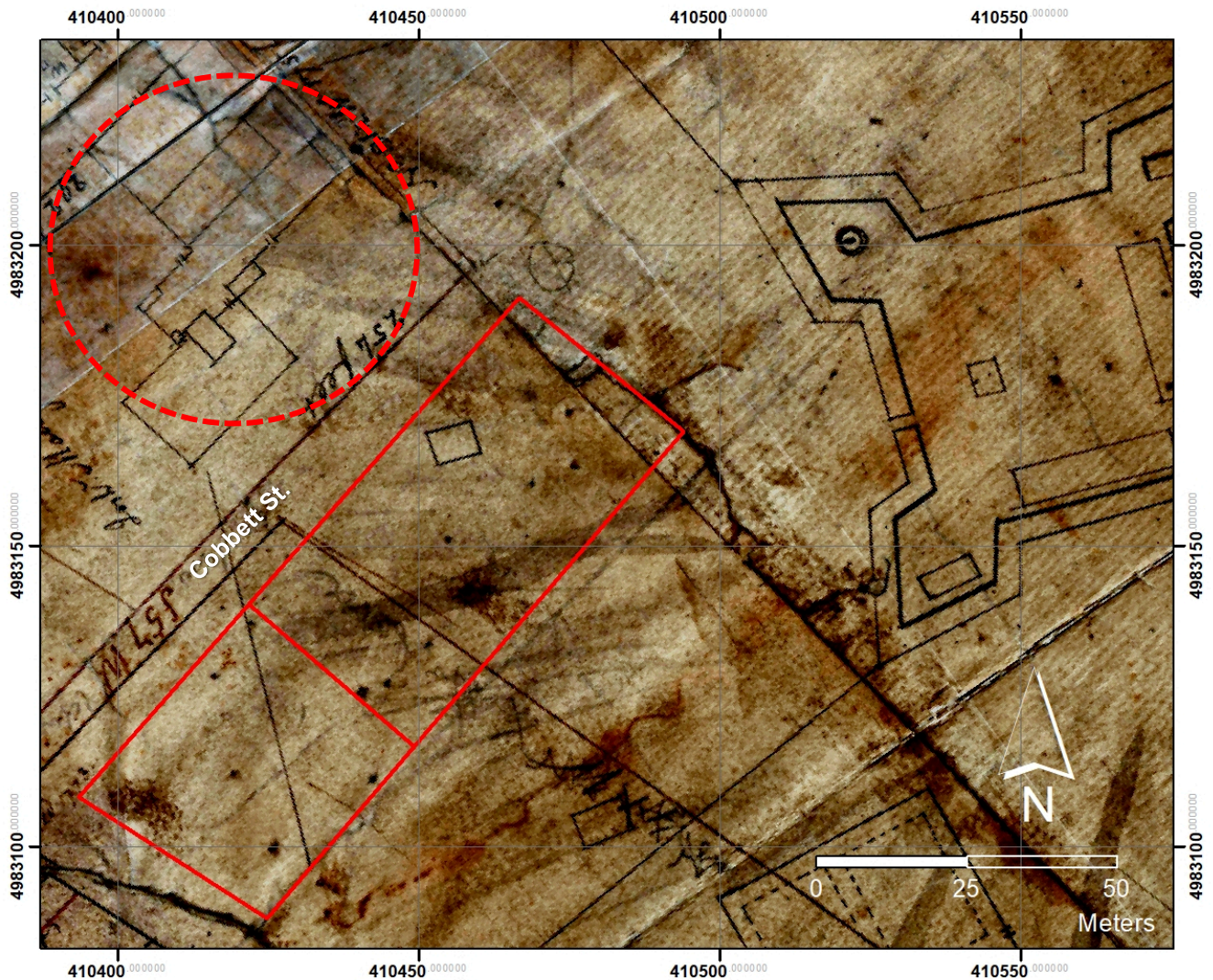


Figure 23: A cadastral plan showing the location of the truckhouse (circled) in reference to Fort Edward and the study area (outlined). The site is presently across Cobbett Street. This map is undated but contextual clues place it in perhaps the 1760s. As in Figure 19, above, which shows the 1779 map of Fort Edward, we see a building unambiguously placed in the study area.

5.4 The Agricultural Fair

The study area was a market centre through the later 18th, 19th, and early 20th centuries, for it was here that the previously mentioned agricultural fair was held. Period maps – and especially fire insurance plans – depict infrastructure relating to

the fair at this location (**Figure 24**).³⁰ By early 20th century, the “Exhibition Grounds” contained many buildings and other architectural features, including: five rows of horse stalls and an equal number of livestock stalls to the north of a judging ring. The judging ring and an associated building are located roughly where the Parks Canada parking lot stands today, and a large armoury stood on what is still Department of National Defence property to the south. The latter building served as a barracks and mess for part of the Jewish Legion, whose members trained at Fort Edward during WWI (Beanlands 2014).

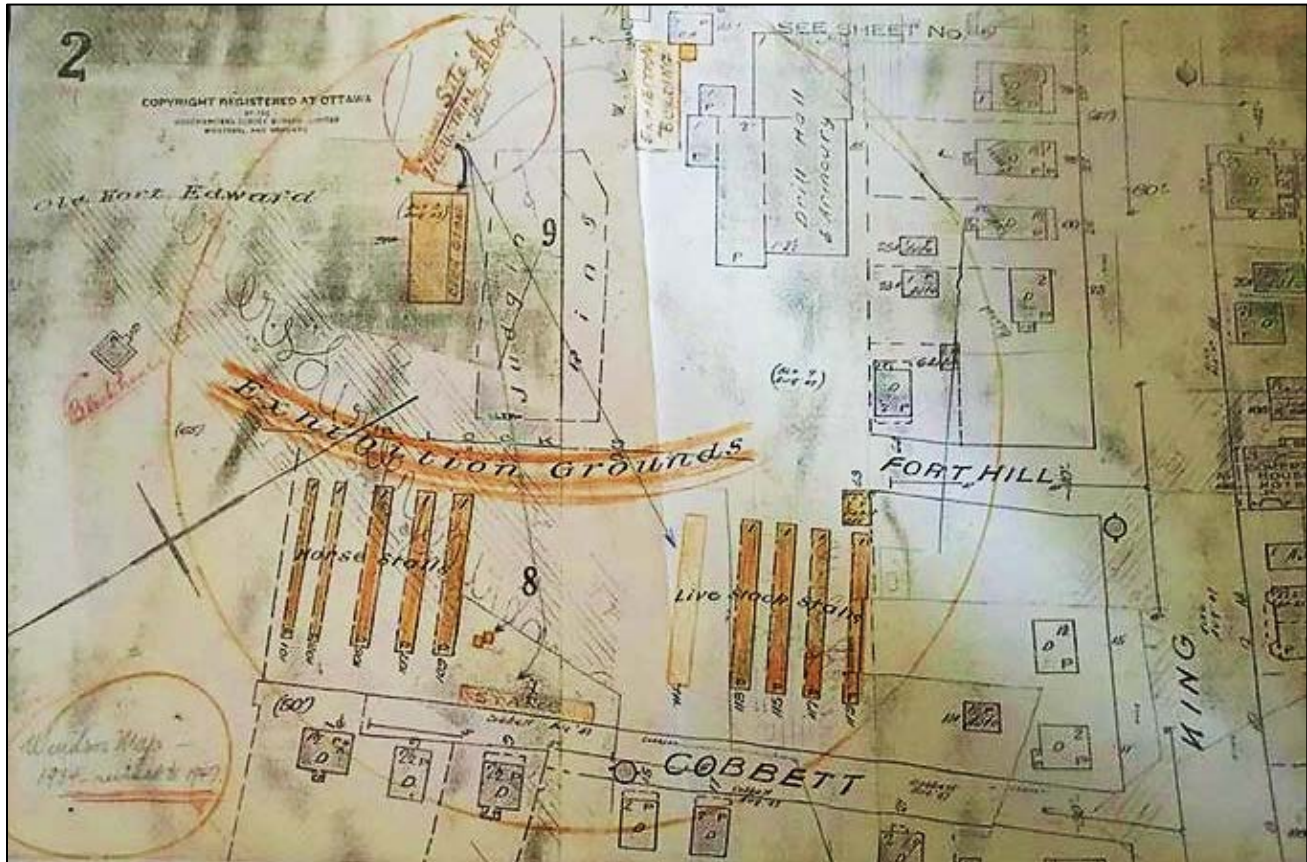


Figure 24: A 1934 (revised 1947) fire insurance plan showing the “Exhibition Grounds” in the study area. SOURCE: West Hants Historical Society.

Many of these structures appear on the earliest aerial photographs of Windsor (**Figure 25**). These photographs supplement the evidence from fire insurance plans and allow architectural features to be plotted with confidence with the aid of GIS (**Figure 26**). These structures were removed when the Windsor Exhibition relocated to its present location, and in 1967 the Town of Windsor established the Windsor Centennial Pool in their place.

³⁰ I was unable to obtain a scanned version of this map from the West Hants Historical Society to georeference, and the fire insurance plans in the Nova Scotia Archives (1899 and 1914) did not depict any of this infrastructure.

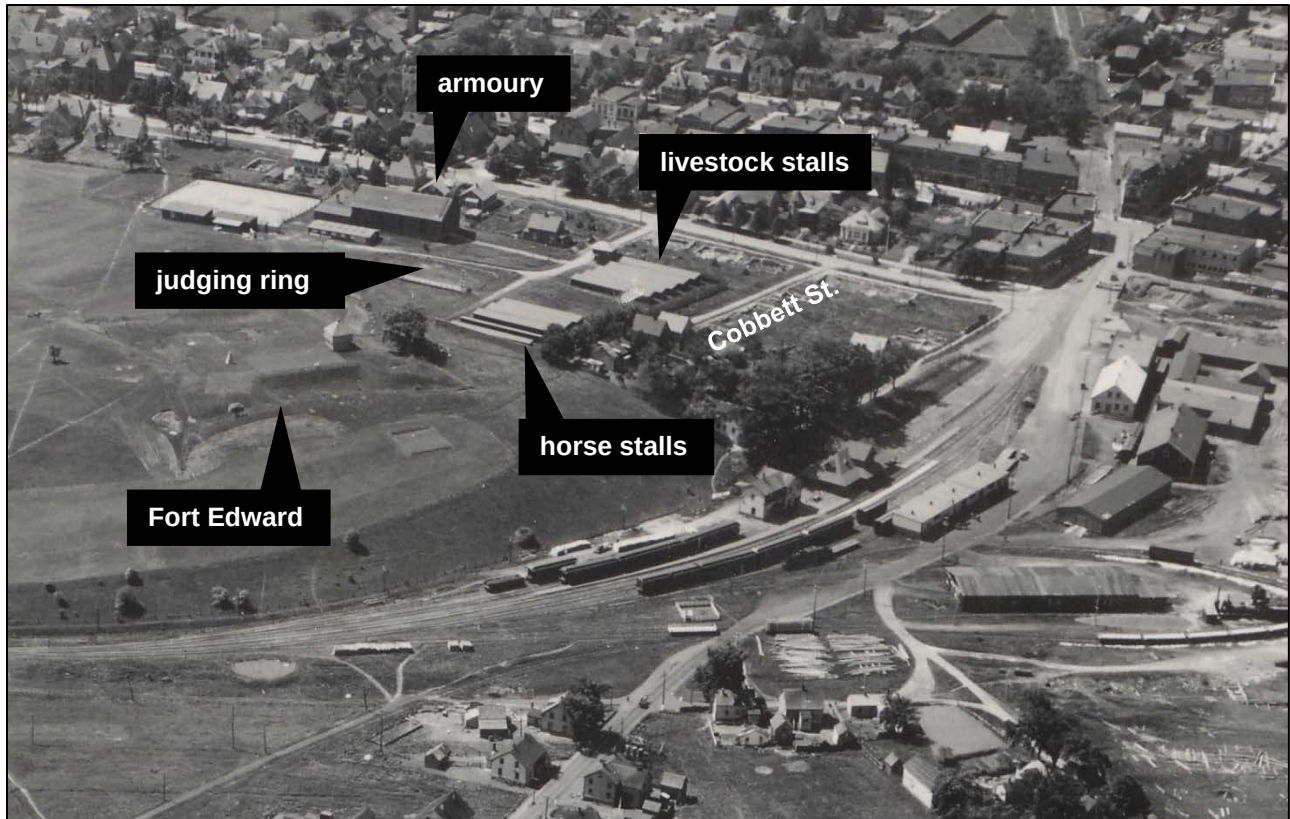


Figure 25: Fort Edward and the Exhibition Grounds from the north. SOURCE: NAPL A1236-83.

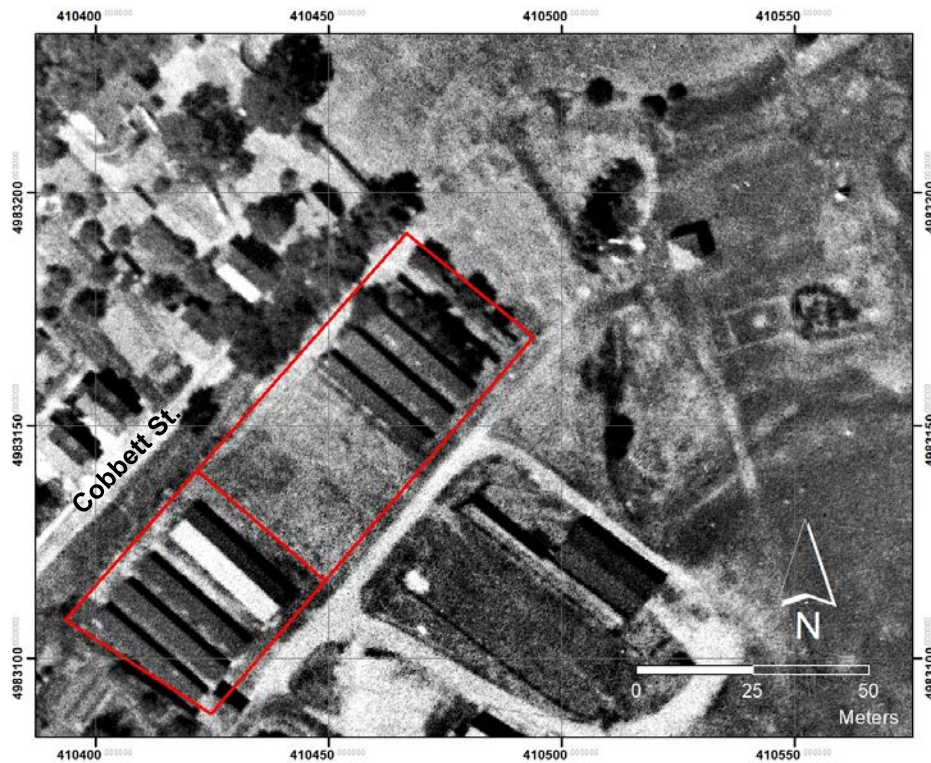


Figure 26: A 1945 aerial photograph of Fort Edward georeferenced to the modern landscape showing the exhibition grounds and nearby buildings. SOURCE: NAPL A8725-013.

6.0 RESOURCE EVALUATION

The approach to resource evaluation favoured here is grounded in the literature of archaeological (e.g. Green and Doershuk 1998; Tainter and Lucas 1983) and critical heritage studies (e.g. Harrison 2010). It is attentive to plural and even divergent regimes of value in assessing heritage objects and places, while emphasizing the inherent value of research potential and knowledge creation.

The key findings are as follows:

6.1 Extramural fort features and the historic place

Documented and potential archaeological resources in the study area have direct relevance to the commemorative integrity of Fort Edward National Historic Site; Parks Canada identifies viewplanes from the fort as critical to the site's commemorative integrity.

As the study area is adjacent to Fort Edward National Historic Site, and historical maps show associated 18th century structures in the study area, a consideration of the significance of these likely archaeological features begins with the rationale underpinning Fort Edward's commemoration. Interestingly, these reasons were not clearly stated by the Historic Sites and Monuments Board of Canada when it initially proposed Fort Edward as a national historic site in 1919. The board addressed this oversight in the 1990s, however, by deciding that the designation should "commemorate [Fort Edward's] role in the struggle for predominance in North America, 1750-1812" (Marineau 1998, 6).

Parks Canada identifies several distinct cultural resources supporting Fort Edward's commemorative integrity; in other words, "those resources that were instrumental in, or integral to, the designation of national significance." Not surprisingly, the 1750 blockhouse and the surviving ramparts are counted among these features. However, the primary cultural resource listed in the national historic site's Commemorative Integrity Statement is the *historic place* itself, defined as consisting of both "the lands within the boundaries of Fort Edward National Historic Site and its viewplanes toward the Avon and St. Croix rivers," the latter of which, "give tangible evidence of the reasons for the establishment of the fort at the confluence of the rivers" (Marineau 1998, 7). The statement goes on to observe that protecting the site's Level 1 cultural resources – among which the historic place and viewplanes are of critical importance – is key to ensuring Fort Edward's commemorative integrity "is not impaired or under threat" (Marineau 1998, 7–8).

6.2 Elevated heritage significance via a network of national historic sites and events

Documented and potential archaeological resources both in and adjacent to the study area have high heritage significance in reference to a local network of national historic sites and designated events of national historic significance.

Resource evaluation in this case takes further meaning by the study area's connection to Grand-Pré National Historic Site and The Landscape of Grand Pré World Heritage Site. The latter's basis for inscription on UNESCO's World Heritage List rests on the following criteria:

Criterion (v): The cultural landscape of Grand Pré bears exceptional testimony to a traditional farming settlement created in the 17th century by the Acadians in a coastal zone with tides that are among the highest in the world. The polderisation used traditional techniques of dykes, aboiteaux and a drainage network, as well as a community-based management system still in use today. The resultant rich alluvial soil enabled continuous and sustainable agricultural development.

Criterion (vi): Grand Pré is the iconic place of remembrance of the Acadian diaspora, dispersed by the Grand Dérangement, in the second half of the 18th century. Its polder landscape and archaeological remains are testimony to the values of a culture of pioneers able to create their own territory, whilst living in harmony with the native Mi'kmaq people. Its memorial constructions form the centre of the symbolic re-appropriation of the land of their origins by the Acadians, in the 20th century, in a spirit of peace and cultural sharing with the English-speaking community.³¹

Grand-Pré National Historic Site's designation is justified because:

- it was a centre of Acadian activity from 1682 to 1755;
- it commemorates the Deportation of the Acadians, which occurred at Grand-Pré in 1755; and
- it commemorates the strong attachment that remains to this day among Acadians throughout the world to this area, the heart of their ancestral homeland and symbol of the ties which unite them (Parks Canada 2012, 7).

³¹ UNESCO Committee Decisions, 36 Com 8B.27, Cultural Properties - Landscape of Grand Pré (Canada) <http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/4798>

Although geographical separate, Fort Edward and Grand-Pré are closely linked historically and through modern heritage and tourism. Both sites occupy estuarine settings and have histories of Indigenous and Acadian settlement and intermingling. Their narratives are particularly tightly bound by the 1755 Deportation of the Acadians, a designated event of national historic significance. Lieut.-Col. John Winslow, whose capture and deportation of the Acadians from Grand-Pré inspired Longfellow's *Evangeline: A Tale of Acadie* (and the subsequent memorial acts culminating in the creation of Grand-Pré National Historic Site and The Landscape of Grand Pré UNESCO World Heritage Site), actually began his campaign against Acadian civilians in the Minas Basin at Fort Edward. It was to Fort Edward that he and his soldiers were initially sent from Chignecto in August 1755. Only after arriving did he receive further orders to base his operations at Grand-Pré (Winslow 1884, 241–43).

Isaac Deschamps, the Fort Edward truckmaster, spoke French fluently and facilitated communication between British officials, the garrison, and the Acadians throughout the middle years of the 18th century. In 1755, he translated the infamous Deportation Order into French. The documents read on September 5th to the assembled Acadian men and boys by John Winslow at Grand-Pré (**Figure 27**), and by Alexander Murray at Fort Edward were, according to Winslow himself, “put into French” by Isaac Deschamps (Winslow 1883, 90).

Figure 27: Historical reconstruction artwork depicting John Winslow reading the Deportation Order to Acadians at the parish church in Grand-Pré on September 5, 1755. A similar scene took place at Fort Edward at the same time. Both texts were translated into French by truckmaster Isaac Deschamps. SOURCE: Claude Picard 1986. “The Deportation Order.” Parks Canada.



6.3 A Pre-Deportation Acadian religious site

The pre-Deportation Acadian church of Notre-Dame-de-L'Assomption has been documented and archaeologically attested approximately 35m from the study area.

The study area is thus part of an as-yet poorly understood ecclesiastical site, whose archaeological resource inventory has yet to be properly studied. While there is good reason to place the associated cemetery outside the study area, the boundaries of the church site and the locations of its architectural and landscape features (e.g. priest's house) have yet to be determined.

The Acadian diaspora is a population exhibiting a high degree of interest in heritage and genealogy. The presence of a church site at this location represents a significant cultural resource and a potential driver of additional visitation to Fort Edward National Historic Site.

6.4 A Mi'kmaw Treaty site

The truckhouse was an important site of interaction between the Mi'kmaq and the British, and in 1760 it became a formal part of the Treaty relationship.

The Fort Edward truckhouse borders the study area to the northwest and is one of six such posts established in the region as part of the British Crown's commitments to the Mi'kmaq through the Treaties of Peace and Friendship of 1760-61. None of these other sites is commemorated. In a time of reconciliation, the presence of the truckhouse and its associated archaeological features adjacent to – and perhaps partly in – the study area represents a highly significant and valuable cultural resource.

6.5. The site of Canada's oldest agricultural fair

The study area occupies part of the grounds upon which Canada's oldest agricultural fair was held since 1765. The fair continues to operate at another location, constituting an authentic and community-based example of living heritage.

The market and agricultural fair grew out of the pre-existing commercial relationships between the British, Acadians, and Mi'kmaq at Fort Edward Hill. Abundant evidence places 19th and early 20th century fair infrastructure in the study area (**Figure 28**). The fair continues to exist today in the form of the popular Windsor Exhibition, which has since relocated to another site. Being the oldest event of its kind in Canada, the Windsor Agricultural Fair has been designated as an event of national historic significance.



Figure 28: Historical scenes from the agricultural fair. Top: the festival atmosphere, 1947; middle: horse teams in the judging ring, 1940; bottom: a sign of continuity of practice? Mi'kmaw participants with wigwam on a parade float going up Fort Edward Street, 1935. SOURCES: West Hants Historical Society: 28.7.07.83, 92.843, 12.7.23.10.

6.6 Potential economic benefits of heritage resource mobilization

While cultural value is often sufficient to justify the conservation of heritage resources, it is important to recognize that heritage resources can also drive significant economic activity.

Recent decades have seen the establishment and consolidation of a ‘heritage industry’ (Lowenthal 1985). A significant component of the broader tourism industry, the heritage industry articulates with a range of public- and private-sector organizations including art galleries, museum, and historic sites. The heritage sector also supports and is supported by workers in a variety of fields, ranging from heritage professionals (conservators, curators, interpreters, planners, researchers) to workers in the food, hospitality, and retail sectors. The United Nations notes that the tourism industry has outpaced global economic growth for the nine consecutive years prior to the arrival of the COVID-19 pandemic, and in 2019 was valued at \$3.5 trillion (USD), accounting for 4% of world GDP (United Nations World Tourism Organization 2021, 5). Tourism Nova Scotia estimates the value of overall provincial tourism revenue in 2019 to be \$2.64 billion (CDN) (Tourism Nova Scotia 2022).

The most recent published data on visitation at Fort Edward demonstrates the extent to which visitation patterns correspond to the historical narrative and heritage site linkages outlined above.³² “When asked what other locations and attractions the respondent had visited or was planning to visit that day, 37% indicated Grand-Pré NHS, and 28 % and 26% respectively indicated Port-Royal and Fort Anne.” Visitor motivations included experiencing “a new place/local people/explore (33%), to explore family ancestry, heritage, and landmarks (30%), and to observe/learn at their own pace (20%)” (Parks Canada 2016, 10).

The archaeological resources here and nearby could potentially attract large numbers of visitors who are already exploring the related network of heritage sites linked to Highway 101. Annual Averaged Daily Traffic (AADT) volume westbound on Highway 101 between Exits 5A and 6 at Windsor equalled 7,965 vehicles between 2015 and 2019, or approximately 2,900,000 vehicles per year (Nova Scotia Department of Transportation and Infrastructure Renewal 2021, 109). And while the volume of traffic on Highway 101 is gradually increasing, visitation at Fort Edward has declined from “approximately 3,000 visitors in the year 2000 to 1,100 in 2015” (Parks Canada 2016, 11). If more creativity and effort were devoted to mobilizing the extraordinary heritage resources outlined here, the broader community might benefit significantly, both culturally and financially.

³² 2009-10 data revealed that “80% of visitors are Canadian and 13% American. Of the Canadian audience, 32% are from Nova Scotia (21% of respondents were on a day-trip from Halifax), 17% from Ontario, and the remainder from the rest of Canada” (Parks Canada 2016, 10).

7.0 RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Taken in its entirety, the evidence gathered to date shows that the study area, though it may be legally defined as two distinct and separate properties, remains nevertheless part of the archaeological landscape and heritage environment of Fort Edward National Historic Site of Canada:

- A pre-Deportation Acadian parish church stood approximately 30m north of the study area. Although there is reason to place the Acadian cemetery elsewhere, this ecclesiastical site is not well evidenced and its proximity to the study area raises the need for archaeological vigilance.
- The study area's proximity to Fort Edward also implicates it in considerations of the fort's views of the Avon River, which Parks Canada states are essential to the national historic site's commemorative integrity.
- Several 18th century maps place buildings and other extramural architectural features associated with Fort Edward unambiguously within the study area.
- The Mauger-Deschamps truckhouse, a significant site in Windsor's commercial heritage and a locus at which part of the Treaty relationship between the British Crown and the Mi'kmaq was fulfilled, was adjacent to the study area, across Cobbett Street. Some of the activities centered on the truckhouse may have "spilled over" to the study area, and indeed the best 18th century map of the truckhouse places an unidentified building in the study area.
- Aerial photographs and mapping show structures associated with the Windsor Agricultural Fair, a designated event of national historical significance, unambiguously within the study area.

Potential archaeological features associated with structures depicted on historical maps and aerial photographs are plotted in **Figure 29**. All of the structures noted on historical maps and aerial photographs are located outside the footprint of the large swimming pool built in the 1960s. It is noteworthy that the legend on Edward Wight's 1757 map of Fort Edward indicates the "Soldiers Hutts should be nearer the Glacis." How much nearer cannot be known, but it is likely that at least some of the structures he drew were located in the study area.

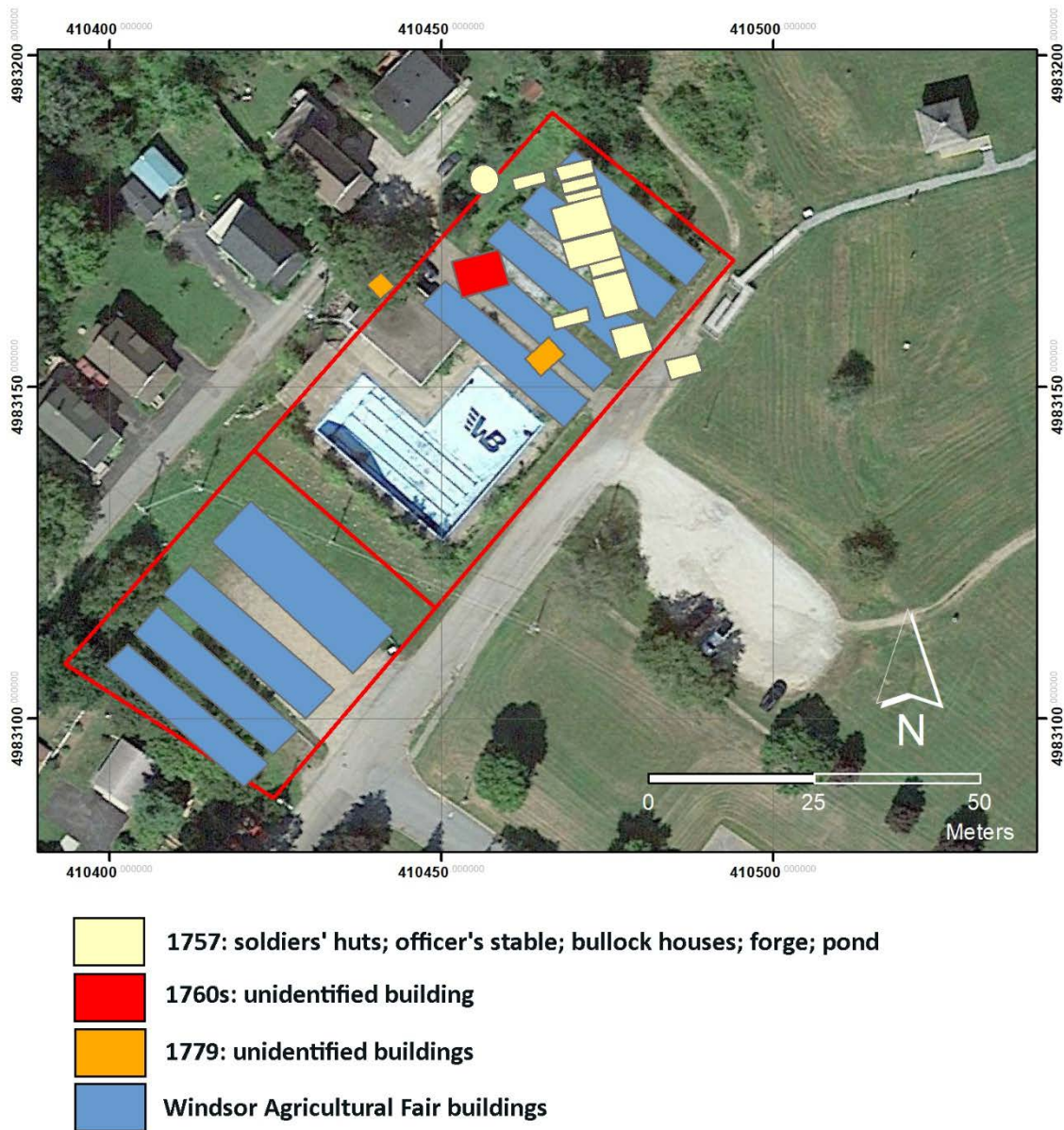


Figure 29: Archaeological potential map showing the locations of former structures identified using historical maps and aerial photographs. SOURCE: Google Earth 2015.

The integrity of these and related features is difficult to ascertain without geophysical prospection and archaeological test excavation. The study area has been significantly altered in recent decades by grading, the excavation of the pool, and the installation of associated infrastructure. In November 2019 the site was capped with imported fill.³³ LiDAR data offers some assistance in quantifying these

³³ M. Philipps to J. Fowler, 19 February 2022.

impacts (**Figure 30**).³⁴ It appears likely that material excavated from the pool in the 1960s was cast up to form berms on the west, south, and east sides of the pool. The upslope – or roughly north – side appears essentially flush with the (previously graded?) surface. ***Based on the evidence consulted to date, it appears the construction of the large swimming pool in the 1960s did not likely directly impact any of the anticipated archaeological features.***

In general, the northernmost of the two properties (PID 45059797), which is also the closer of the two to Fort Edward, appears to contain the most and earliest archaeological evidence associated with Fort Edward and perhaps the truckhouse. This area appears to have been graded, but we do not know when. It may have happened in the early colonial period, in which case early archaeological features are more likely to survive in primary context. If grading took place later, for example in the Victorian period, as part of renovations of the fairgrounds, then the earlier archaeological remains in the upslope part of the property are likely to have been negatively impacted. The more substantial buildings shown on the 1760s and 1770s maps, on the other hand, may well have received a protective blanket of sediment, enhancing their likelihood of survival to present times. If any of these buildings had cellars, wells, or privies, then these are even more likely to remain intact because of their greater depth. As loss traps, they may contain valuable archaeological deposits.

In conclusion, it should not be assumed that previous construction activities at the site, though appearing heavily disruptive, actually destroyed much of the archaeology. Contrary to appearances, significant archaeological deposits might actually survive relatively intact.

³⁴ Two sets of provincial LiDAR data are available. The first, flown in 2011 (months and days unknown) with a pulse spacing of 0.67, was collected with a REIGL Q680i. The second was collected in the summer of 2019 with a pulse spacing of 0.32 using a REIGL VQ1560i and Q780.

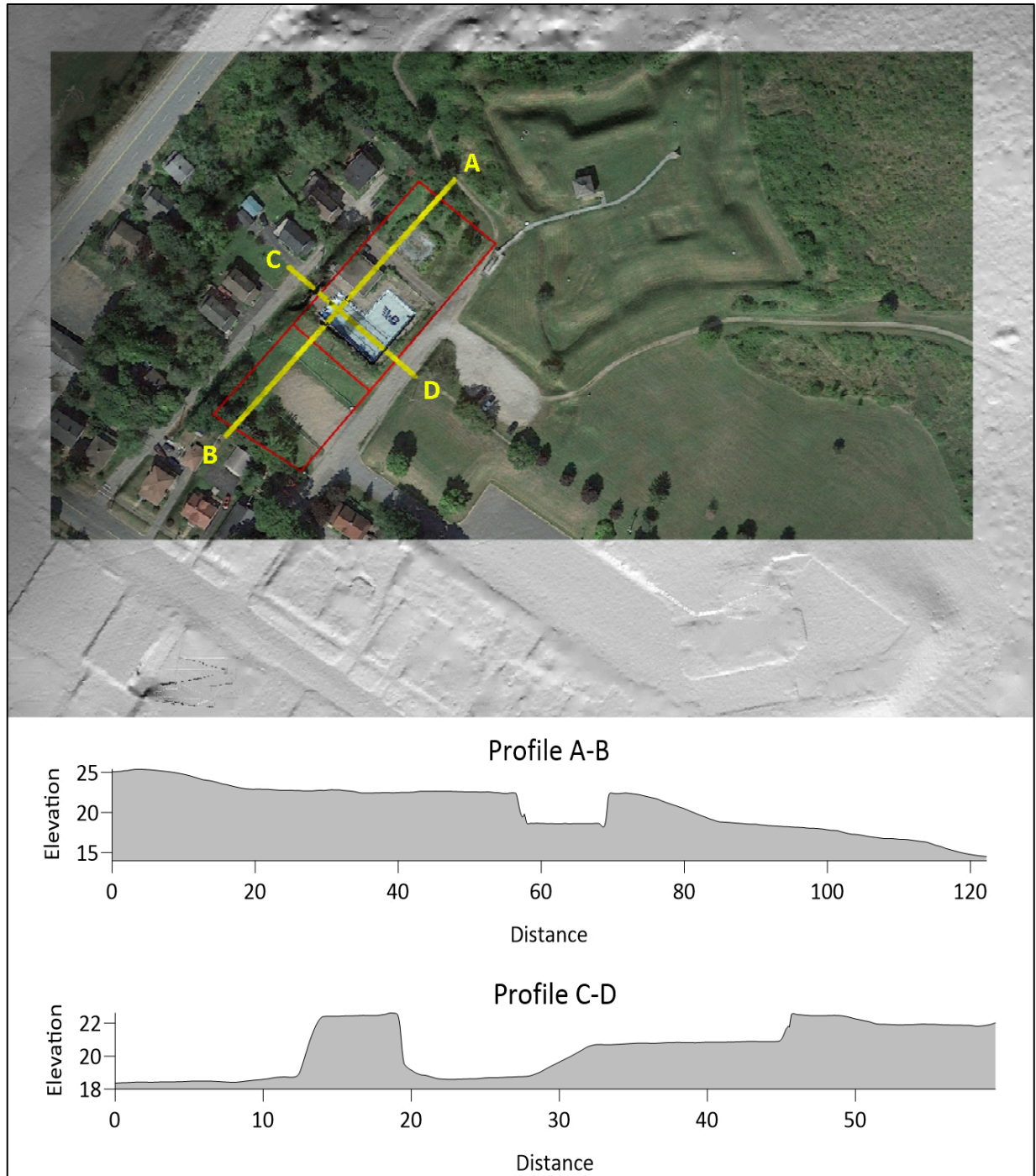


Figure 30: LiDAR data of the study area (outlined in red) and its surroundings with profiles indicating variations in relief arising from previous construction activities. Scale in metres; north at top. SOURCES: Province of Nova Scotia 2019 and Google Earth 2015.

8.0 INTERPRETATION

The primary purpose of this exercise is to assess the archaeological potential of the two properties comprising the study area. As detailed above, there is strong evidence of a range of historical activities in and adjacent to the study area, and compelling evidence that many of these activities left archaeological deposits. Despite past construction activities, there is good reason to expect that at least some of the archaeological resources inventoried here may be well preserved. Other objects and features are likely in secondary contexts. The conclusions and recommendations articulated in the next section reflect these facts and inferences, along with the considerable significance and untapped heritage resource development potential of Fort Edward National Historic Site.

Although visitation has declined in recent years, “[m]any people in the community of Windsor – area residents, members of the West Hants Historical Society, town councilors, and staff, among others – have a strong interest in the future of Fort Edward National Historic Site” and “see Fort Edward as a valuable community asset” (Parks Canada 2016, 35). Parks Canada’s most recent management plan articulates two key strategies for increasing visitation at Fort Edward National Historic Site. The first aims to *inspire the discovery of Fort Edward NHS* by:

- improving the quality of pre-trip information;
- working with others to enhance connections with “a network of national historic sites in the region;” and
- enhance visitors’ opportunities “to experience the Fort Edward view-plane and grounds.”

The second strategy aims to cultivate *shared stewardship* over Fort Edward NHS and aims to transform the site into a *community gathering place* by:

- involving “area residents, the Mi’kmaq, partners, and stakeholders” in protecting Fort Edward’s cultural resources and heritage values; and
- encouraging “area residents, the Mi’kmaq, partners, and stakeholders” to use Fort Edward NHS as a community gathering place (Parks Canada 2016, 35–36).

One is struck by the depth and richness of the heritage resources in and around Fort Edward, by their enormous potential for mobilization, and by their sadly neglected state at present.

9.0 EVALUATION OF RESEARCH

This ARIA relies on standard historical archaeological and empirical landscape archaeological methods and was informed by highly resolved and thorough cartographic, photographic, and ethnohistorical data. The MARI was consulted in order to characterize the study area's archaeological context, particularly in relation to Indigenous sites. To this end, feedback was also elicited from the Mi'kmaq Rights Initiative's Archaeology Research Division.³⁵

An extensive corpus of archival mapping was consulted, and these sources were georeferenced and collated with modern LiDAR evidence to help model archaeological potential. The exercise revealed that, not surprisingly, historical maps frequently exhibit measurement errors in addition to other distortions and omissions. These have been controlled by comparing and collating maps, and by comparing map evidence to independent sources such as land records (deeds), written documents, art, and historical photography whenever possible.

Considerations of archaeological significance and heritage value accounted for varied traditions and sought input from Parks Canada, specialists in local history and heritage, and members of Acadian and Mi'kmaq communities.

Field reconnaissance on 12 February was hampered by the presence of snow, which obstructed vision, but the site has been capped with fill and is unlikely to reveal significant visual evidence in its present state.

10.0 CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Several conclusions and recommendations arise from this study. They range from general considerations pertaining to the value and potential communal benefit of the heritage resource, to specific steps that should be taken to safeguard archaeological resources in the event of future construction.

10.1 General Conclusions and Recommendations

As a cultural asset, the property at the centre of this ARIA – like Fort Edward more generally – represents a potentially very significant heritage resource for the West Hants Regional Municipality. This potential is perhaps not widely recognized because the site's enormously rich and multifaceted history is not very well known. Nor has this site found the kinds of champions who have advanced the cause of heritage development elsewhere along the floor of the Annapolis Valley.

³⁵ J. Fowler to T. Jacobson, 18 January, 2022; T. Jacobson to J. Fowler, 02 February 2022.

Fort Anne, which, as we have seen, is something of a sister site to Fort Edward, was the very first site designated in Canada's national historic sites system in 1917. But this development, which today anchors Annapolis Royal's heritage infrastructure and economy, was nearly doomed by local businessmen who wanted to level to fort's ramparts for commercial development. Heritage activists fought to rescue it from destruction through the late 19th and early 20th centuries, and again in the 1970s, when the town fell on hard times and a plan was again floated to level to fort to build housing (Moody 2014, 214, 303).

Across the Annapolis River, Port-Royal National Historic Site's prominence owes much to its association with the heroic career of Samuel de Champlain, the Father of New France. The Port-Royal Habitation reconstruction began with a small group of passionate heritage advocates lead by Harriet Taber Richardson and Loftus Morton Fortier, who attracted the support of local and international politicians and other leaders (including the governors of Massachusetts and Virginia, the American ambassador to Canada, and the President of Harvard University). They raised significant funds through private donations before the project was adopted and completed by the Canadian federal government in the 1930s (Schmeisser 2001, 4–12).

Grand-Pré National Historic Site, meanwhile, though stewarded by Parks Canada, is a cultural treasure of the Acadian people, who have played a significant part in its development and management for over a hundred years. An Acadian descendant, John Frederic Herbin, in 1907 bought the land that would become the heart of the national historic site and world heritage site, and the funds to build the iconic memorial church in 1924 were raised by donations from Acadians across Canada and the United States (Fowler and Noël 2017, 53; B. LeBlanc 2003, 121). Each of these sites has enjoyed, and continues to benefit from, an active constituency of promoters both outside and inside the official heritage system. *In each case, community members and local governments made the crucial investments of time and money to initiate heritage resource development projects that were subsequently adopted and reinforced by federal investment.*

Fort Edward, meanwhile, despite extraordinary and varied heritage resources, has been comparatively neglected, to the detriment of the local culture and economy.

A period of reflection and meaningful dialogue with partner organizations, especially Parks Canada, and local and descendant communities (e.g. Mi'kmaq, Acadian), seems warranted in determining the best future course of action with respect to these properties.

10.2 Archaeological Heritage Mitigation During Future Construction

Should construction take place on the properties in question, it is recommended that:

1. The entire study area be subject to a Phase 2 ARIA in advance, with the exception of the deepest portions of the former swimming pool footprint. The Phase 2 assessment should include:
 - a. Sub-surface testing and possibly geophysical prospection to assess the nature of archaeological deposits and soil disturbance; and
 - b. Special attention focused on the areas where 18th century maps show buildings (see Figure 29, above). Although this area has been artificially terraced, the impact of terracing on archaeological resources has not necessarily been destructive, and even archaeological materials in secondary context can have value.
2. Any future constructions planned for these properties should respect Fort Edward's viewplane of the Avon River, which Parks Canada identifies as essential to maintaining the site's sense of historic place and commemorative integrity.

Despite these precautions, should mechanical excavation encounter archaeological evidence, it is recommended that contractors temporarily pause the work and contact John Cormier, Coordinator of Special Places at the Nova Scotia Department of Communities, Culture, Tourism and Heritage: (902) 424-6475 and/or john.cormier@novascotia.ca.

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**Attachment C - Heritage Trust of Nova Scotia, letter to WHRM
Council, October, 2022**

Oct 31

Potential Development at Fort Edward Cause for Concern

HTNS is very concerned over the pending re-zoning application for lands around Fort Edward National Historic Site in Windsor Nova Scotia which, if passed, would forever change the landscape around a site of significance for a wide range of communities. On October 25, 2022 the West Hants Regional Council held a meeting regarding the proposal. The following letter was submitted by HTNS to the council expressing our concerns. No decision was made at the meeting but we continue to monitor the issue as it evolves.

October 18, 2022

Dear Members of Council:

The Heritage Trust of Nova Scotia is dedicated to the preservation and promotion of historic sites and buildings in our province.

We would like to express our concern towards the proposed sale, re-zoning and development of land adjacent to Fort Edward National Historic Site. The site is a highly significant heritage resource, boasting the oldest military blockhouse in North America. The existing structure was built on the site of an earlier, pre-deportation Acadian church. Fort Edward played a key role as Acadian prison and deportation centre. In 1760, the truck house (trading post) established on the slope beside Fort Edward became one of six official trading posts licensed to trade with the Mi'kmaq. In 1765, the site also became the location of Canada's oldest agricultural fair.

Historical sites like Fort Edward help define a community and its sense of place. Situated on a hill, overlooking the Avon River, the site has “extraordinary views and vantage points that are critical to the military function of the site” (Parks Canada Management Plan for National Historic Sites, Southwest Nova Scotia, 2016; p.64).

People visit Fort Edward not only to see the blockhouse but also to walk the grounds where other buildings once stood and to experience the view which reflects the site’s importance.

The Parks Canada Commemorative Integrity Statement (1998) for the Fort Edward National Historic Site classifies the Historic Place **view-planes** as a **Level 1** Cultural Resource that “Symbolize or Represent Fort Edward’s National Significance” (p.7). In the 2016 Management Plan, a key objective is defined as “Visitor opportunities to experience the Fort Edward view-planes and grounds as offered” (p.35). Another objective highlights “Shared stewardship and a community gathering place at Fort Edward” and recognizes the need for “communication with the town and potential developers regarding the heritage value of the site.” (p.59). These statements reflect the importance of the historic view-planes associated with Fort Edward which would be threatened by certain types of building construction.

Dr. Jonathan Fowler of Northeast Historical Archaeological Research conducted a Phase 1 exploration of potential archaeological resources on the Fort Edward site and adjacent lands. His March 8, 2022 presentation to the West Hants Regional Council has ably demonstrated the riches of potential material on nearby land and expresses concern towards future development that has been proposed to date.

The adjacent land presents an opportunity to incorporate much needed washrooms and possibly a small interpretive structure. We propose that it is this sort of development that will enhance the site rather than detract from it, and which will acknowledge the importance of this national historic site to Windsor, and to Nova Scotia.

Fort Edward and its surrounding area has a rich, diverse history with beautiful views expressing its strategic importance. The Heritage Trust of Nova Scotia and its members across the province ask the members of the West Hants Regional Council to proceed with caution. We ask that Council reconsider re-zoning and sale of the lands surrounding Fort Edward National Historic Site, bearing in mind that they might compromise the site’s historical integrity and future interpretation opportunities.

Respectfully Submitted

Heritage Trust of Nova Scotia

Attachment D - Parks Canada Commemorative Integrity Statement

Canadian Heritage Patrimoine canadien

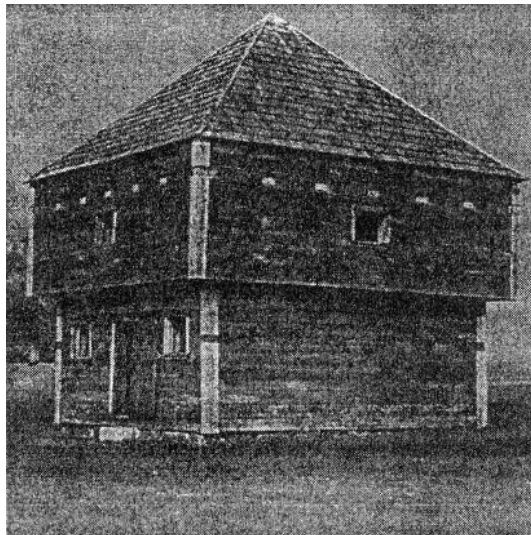
Parks Canada Parcs Canada

Canada

FORT EDWARD

NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE

COMMEMORATIVE INTEGRITY STATEMENT



January 1998

APPROVAL PAGE

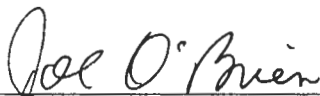
Fort Edward National Historic Site Commemorative Integrity Statement

Approved by:

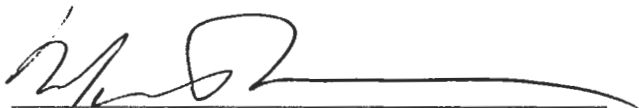


Thomas E. Lee
*Assistant Deputy Minister
Parks Canada*

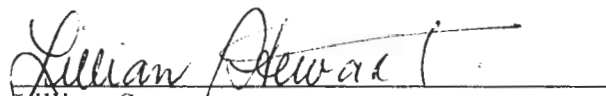
Recommended by:



Joe O'Brien
*Director General
Eastern Canada - Parks Canada*



Mart Johanson
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Developing a Commemorative Integrity Statement for Fort Edward National Historic Site was a challenging, learning experience for all members of the Planning Team. This task required considerable work, research of background information, interdisciplinary discussions and reviews.

The following individuals participated in the development of the Fort Edward Commemorative Integrity Statement:

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December 1997

INTRODUCTION

Definition and Purpose of Commemorative Integrity

Parks Canada administers an internationally renowned “Family of National Historic Sites” on behalf of all Canadians. Parks Canada’s most important responsibility concerning these sites is to ensure their commemorative integrity. The purpose of this document is to define commemorative integrity as it applies to Fort Edward National Historic Site. The document is a tool that will assist managers in decision-making. The Commemorative Integrity Statement (CIS) also provides a basis for assessing Parks Canada’s level of achievement in fulfilling its mandated responsibilities.

In order to ensure commemorative integrity, or to evaluate whether a site possesses commemorative integrity, one must have a clear idea of what commemorative integrity is in a site-specific context. It describes the health or wholeness of a national historic site. Commemorative integrity also provides concrete, practical direction for the planning, management and operation of a site. Commemorative integrity addresses four key concerns:

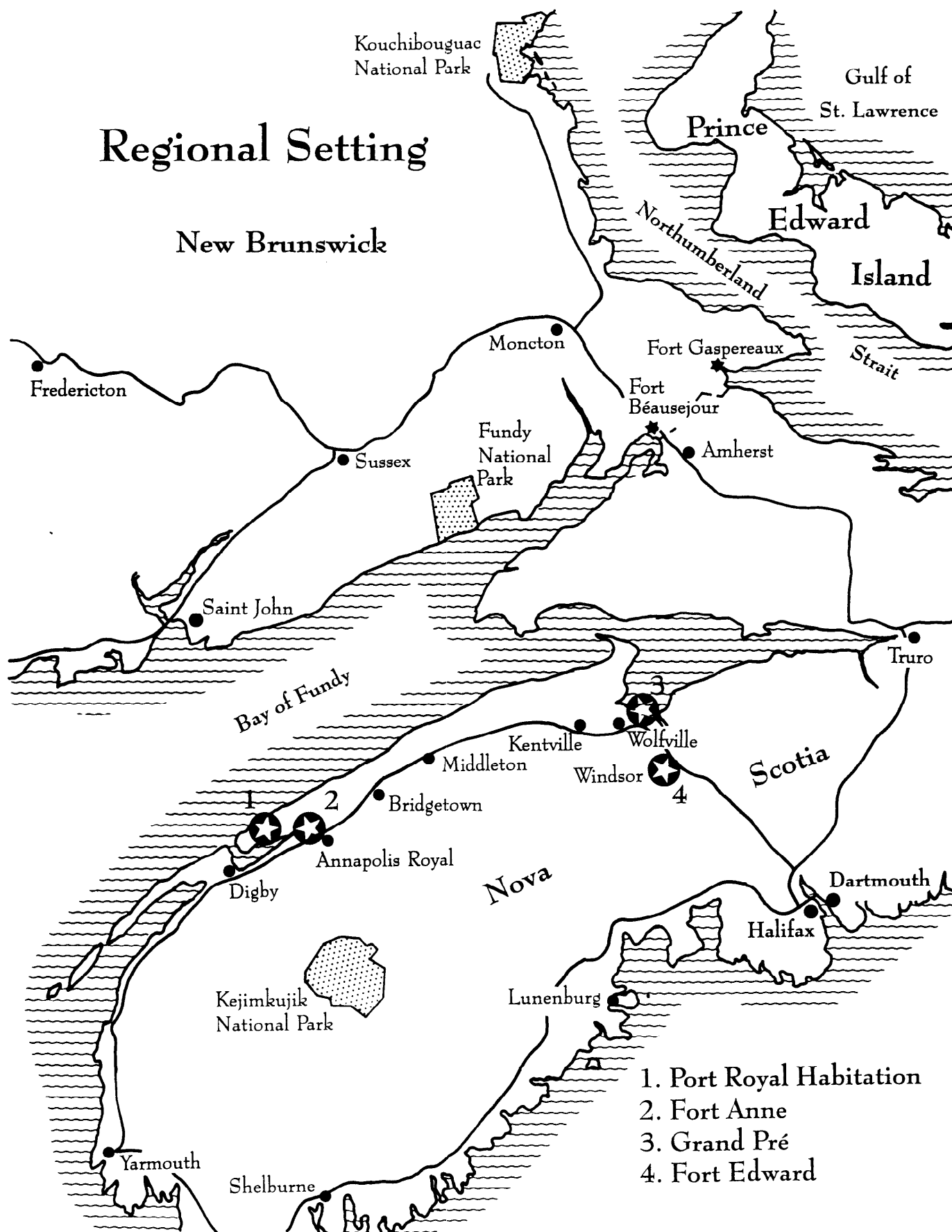
- it focuses our management decisions on what is most important;
- it ensures that there is an awareness of the whole site, not just the individual resources;
- it is one of the Parks Canada’s Business Plan accountabilities along with service to clients and efficient use of public funds;
- and it is the basis for reporting to Canadians on the state of the national historic sites.

According to policy, a national historic site will possess commemorative integrity ***when the resources that symbolize or represent its importance are not impaired or under threat, when reasons for its national historic significance are effectively communicated to the public, and when its heritage values are respected by all whose decisions or actions affect the site.***

NATIONAL HISTORIC SITES OBJECTIVES

The Minister of Canadian Heritage is responsible for recognizing and commemorating persons, places and events of national historic significance in Canada. This mandate is detailed in Parks

Regional Setting



1. Port Royal Habitation
2. Fort Anne
3. Grand Pré
4. Fort Edward

Canada's Guiding Principles and Operational Policies (1994) and the National Historic Sites Policy. The objectives of these policies provide the basis for achieving Parks Canada's mandate within the National Historic Site Program. They are:

- *"To foster knowledge and appreciation of Canada's past through a national program of historical commemoration.*
- *To ensure commemorative integrity of national historic sites administered by Parks Canada by protecting and presenting them for the benefit, education and enjoyment of this and future generations, in a manner that respects the significant and irreplaceable legacy represented by these places and their associated resources.*
- *To encourage and support the protection and presentation by others of places of national historic significance that are not administered by Parks Canada."*

The Cultural Resource Management Policy provides guidance for managers for achieving these objectives. The goal is to *"manage cultural resources in accordance with the principles of value, public benefit, understanding, respect and integrity."* This goal is reaffirmed in Parks Canada's National Business Plan, which states that Parks Canada is accountable for ensuring the commemorative integrity of national historic sites. The practice of cultural resource management requires that four elements be in place in all decision-making:

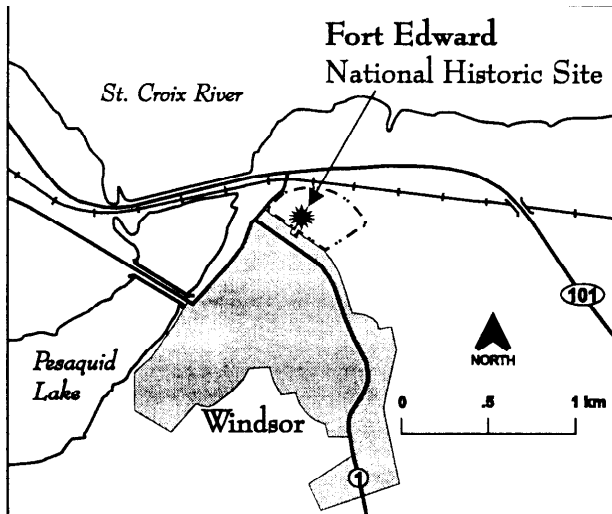
- 1) the inventory of resources,
- 2) the evaluation of resources,
- 3) the consideration of historic values, and
- 4) the monitoring and review of ongoing activities.

These activities are management requirements for defining and ensuring commemorative integrity. This document integrates the results of the first three activities.

COMMEMORATIVE INTENT

The National Historic Site

Constructed in 1750, Fort Edward was intended to help the British colonial authorities assert their authority over the Acadians and Mi'kmaq of western Nova Scotia and to secure land communications between Annapolis and the new settlement of Halifax. The fort served as the

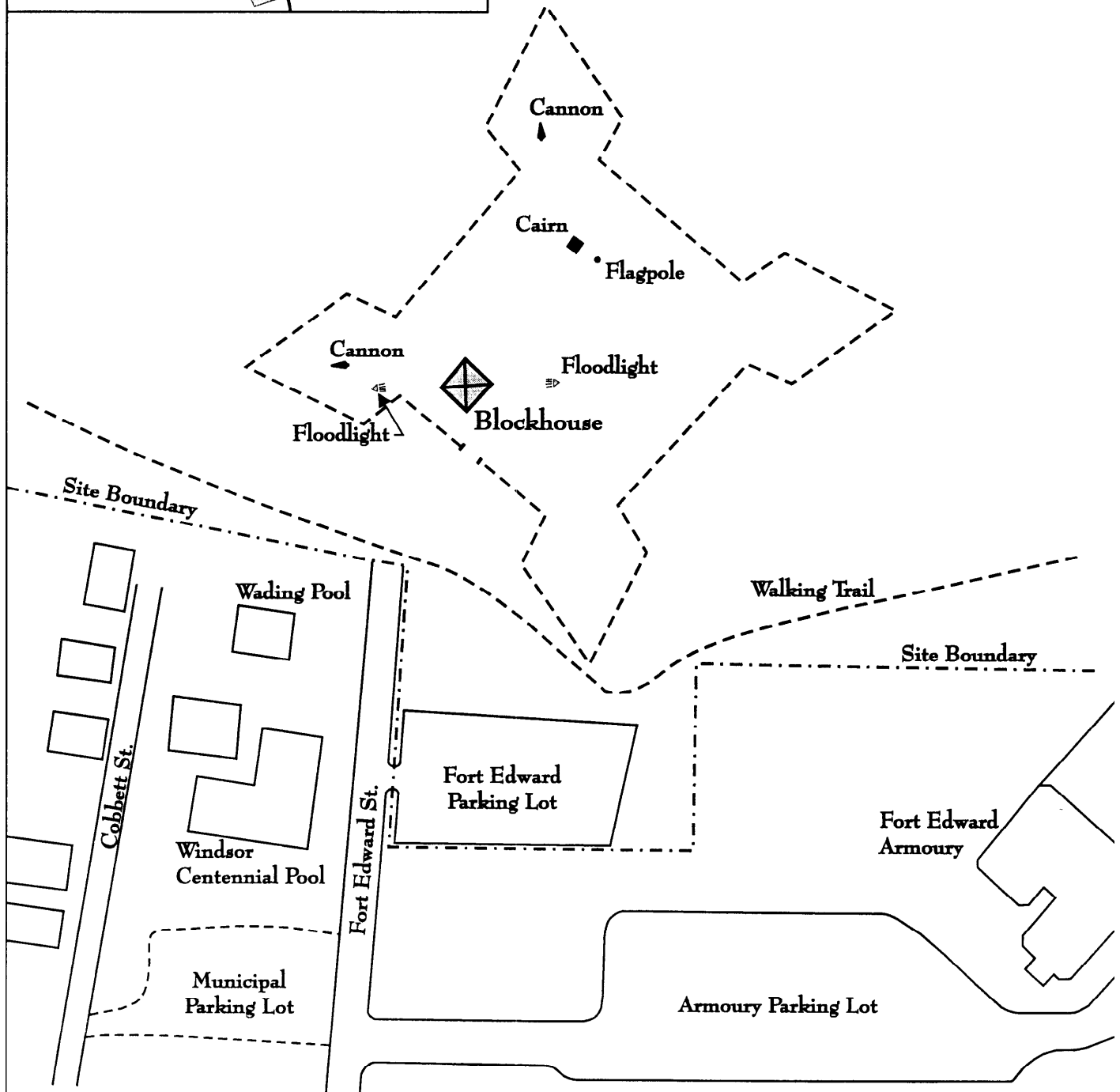


Fort Edward National Historic Site

Existing Features and Services



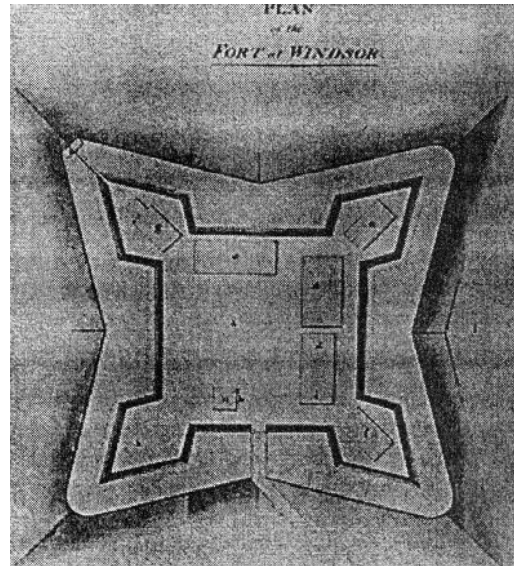
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centre for the deportation of approximately 1,200 Acadians from the Piziquid area in 1755. Some Acadians, however, evaded the deportation and small groups were detained at Fort Edward over the next few years.

The fort originally consisted of a number of wooden buildings set inside a palisaded square with four bastions, ramparts, a ditch, counterscarp and glacis. Buildings included the blockhouse, two barracks and a provisions storehouse. There were also a number of buildings outside the palisades.

During the American Revolution and again during the War of 1812, military authorities hurriedly repaired the fort to provide security for the Windsor area. For the most part, however, Fort Edward ceased to have much strategic significance after the end of the 7 Years War and the defences of the fort fell into disrepair. Later in the 19th century, local militia used the grounds of the fort for parade and training purposes. The fort also served as a camp and training area for troops waiting to go overseas during the First World War. The officers' quarters were used as a hospital for people with infectious diseases.



Plan of the fort at Windsor, 1763, National Archives of Canada.

Fort Edward hill was the site of the Windsor Agricultural Fair for many years after its beginning in the 1760s. First authorized in 1764, the fair was held irregularly and ceased operations in the 1790s. It was revived when a new charter was issued in 1815.

Historic Sites and Monuments Board of Canada (HSMBC) Recommendations

In 1919, the Historic Sites and Monuments Board of Canada recommended that Fort Edward be declared of national historic significance. In 1921, the Board recommended that the entire site be acquired from the Department of Militia and Defence for commemoration as a historic site.

In 1924, the Board considered the matter of the officers' quarters, which had been badly damaged by a fire in 1922. Members of the Board were unanimous in their opinion that the structure should not be rebuilt.

In 1954, the Board recommended certain repairs to the blockhouse at Fort Edward, including changes to the exterior finish of the blockhouse, to represent its original appearance.

The Board plaque at Fort Edward bears the following inscription:

"This area was well-populated by Acadians when Halifax was founded. British troops had been observing their settlements for some time before 1750 when Major Charles Lawrence built Fort Edward to forestall a possible attack on Halifax by either Acadians or Indians and to intercept their trade with Louisbourg. In 1755 a thousand Acadians were deported from the vicinity of the fort. During the American Revolution and again during the War of 1812, the fort was reinforced to protect Windsor and the road to Halifax. A garrison remained here until 1850."

In July 1995, the Board discussed Fort Edward. The minutes of the meeting state:

"As was frequently the case, until very recently, no specific reasons for recommending the designation of the fort were given by the Board in 1919. The management planning exercise for the site is currently under way and, to assist in that exercise, the program developed a draft statement of commemorative intent for the Fort for the Board review and comment."

Recommendation

Following a very brief discussion, the Board reaffirmed Fort Edward's national significance and suggested that the statement of commemorative intent proposed by the Program be adopted for the site. That is to say that Fort Edward has been designated a national historic site in order to

commemorate its role in the struggle for predominance in North America, 1750-1812.

While the Board felt that the above statement encapsulated the national significance of the Fort, it expressed the hope that some attention would be given to the site's entire history in its interpretation.

Statement of Commemorative Intent

The following Statement of Commemorative Intent flows from the recommendations of the Historic Sites and Monuments Board of Canada's recommendations and the 1995 Statement of Significance and is intended to reflect the essence of what makes this site and its assets of national historic Significance.

Fort Edward is a national historic site because of its role in the struggle for predominance in North America from 1750 to the war of 1812.

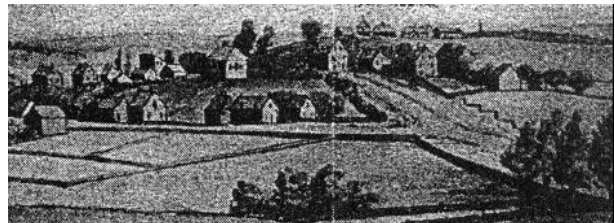
COMMEMORATIVE INTEGRITY

1. **Cultural Resources that Symbolize or Represent Fort Edward's National Significance (Level I)**

This first element of commemorative integrity refers explicitly and solely to those resources that were instrumental in, or integral to, the designation of national significance. "Level I" cultural resources directly relate to the commemorative intent of the site, which reflects the Historic Sites and Monuments Board of Canada recommendations of national significance.

1.1 The Historic Place

The historic place consists of the lands within the boundaries of Fort Edward National Historic Site and its viewplanes towards the Avon and St. Croix rivers. Located on a hill at the confluence of the two rivers, the site provided an excellent strategic location for the construction of Fort Edward by British forces in 1750. The topography of the site gave troops at the fort a clear view of approaching enemy forces. The topography is essentially unchanged and still affords viewplanes of the historic approaches to the fort, both by land and by water. These viewplanes help to define the historic place. Similarly the surrounding cleared lands, principally within the boundary of the site and including the glaciis of the fort, were part of the original fortifications and continue to resemble their historic appearance. They too help to define the historic place.



View of Windsor from Windmill Hill, circa 1818, Dalhousie University.

Historic Value

The historic place as a whole is of national historic importance because:

- it is associated with the commemorative intent of the site;
- it encompasses the site of the fort itself;
- the viewplanes from the site give tangible evidence of the reasons for the establishment of the fort at the confluence of the rivers, which was a centre of settlement, transportation and communication;
- and, the place was at the core of a centre of Acadian settlement and of Mi'kmaq activity.

Commemorative Integrity Objectives

The historic place is not impaired or under threat when:

- Fort Edward's Level I resources (identified below) are protected and managed in accordance with the principles of the Cultural Resource Management Policy;

Fort Edward National Historic Site

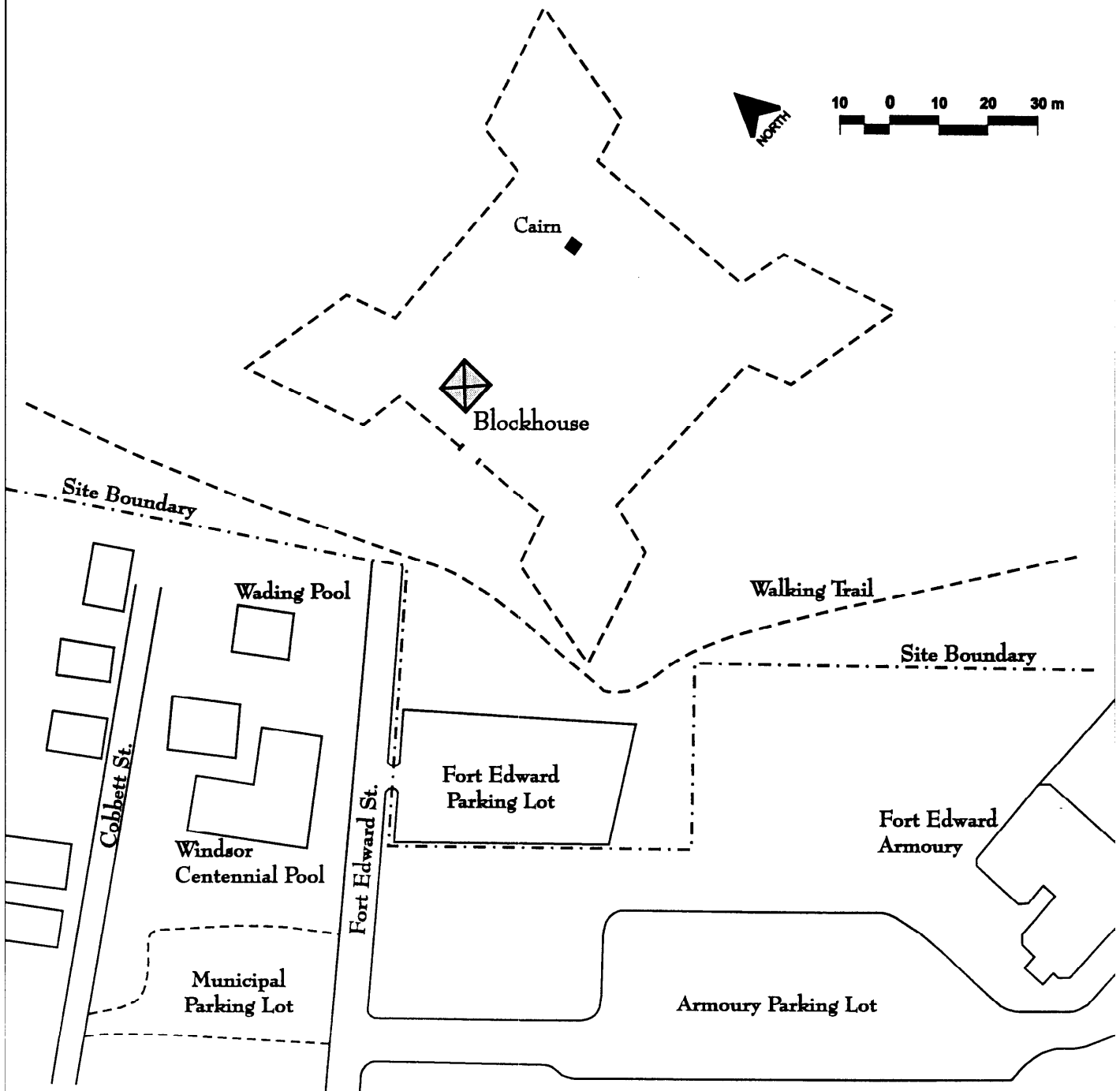
Level I and Level II Resources

Level I

- Historic Place (see other map)
- The Blockhouse
- The Trace, Glacis and Ditch
- Archaeological Collection
(about 90% of the collection)

Level II

- Remnants of earth walls
- Curatorial Collection
- Archaeological Collection
(about 10% of the collection)
- Plaques and Monuments



-
- the topography remains the same;
 - vegetative growth at the site does not interfere with the viewplanes;
 - viewplanes are not obscured by future development;
 - and interventions at the site are compatible with and sensitive to the heritage character of the site.

BUILT RESOURCES

1.2 The Blockhouse - 1750

The blockhouse was constructed in June 1750 and is the oldest surviving blockhouse of about 200 built in Canada. It is a small, 2-story structure, 18 feet by 18 feet on the ground floor. The frame was prepared by Acadian artisans in Halifax and then carried overland to the Windsor area by British troops. It served as the chief defensive feature of the fort during the 18th century and remained in use until the mid-19th century as an outpost for the apprehension of deserters from the garrison at Halifax. The structure underwent periodic repairs in the 19th century and renovations in the 1950s included the removal of shingles from the exterior walls and the application of heavy planks to simulate the original appearance of the squared timber walls. Some original timbers were also replaced. The blockhouse has been reviewed by the Federal Heritage Building Review Office and designated "Classified."

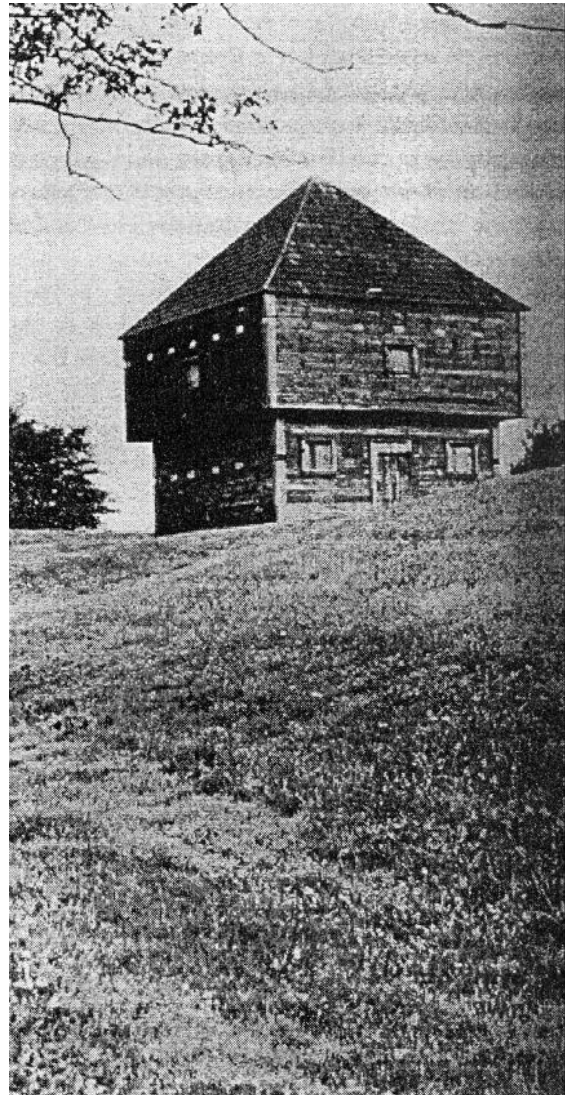
Historic Value

The blockhouse is of historic importance because:

- it is associated with the commemorative intent of the site;
- it served as a major defence facility at the fort;
- it remains on its original location;
- and it consists mostly of its original fabric.

The building also has Level II values:

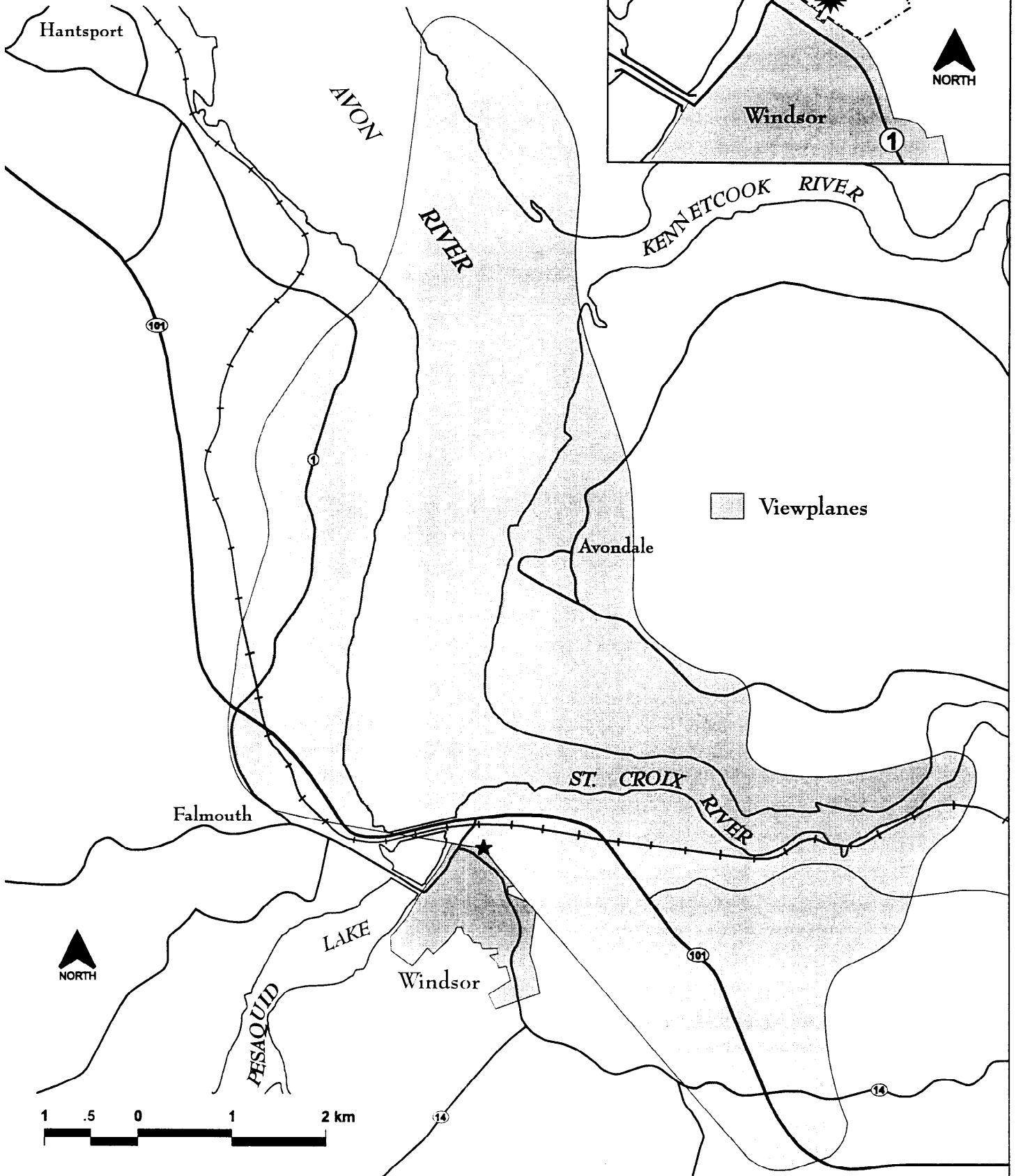
- It is a local landmark:



The blockhouse. Parks Canada.

Fort Edward National Historic Site

Historic Place, Viewplanes from the site



-
- It illustrates federal conservation policy and philosophy in the 1950s (the Federal Heritage Buildings Review Office has evaluated the building as “Classified”).

Commemorative Integrity Objectives

The blockhouse is not impaired or under threat when:

- the footprint, form and surviving original fabric are respected and protected;
- adequate fire protection measures remain in place;
- and when heritage recording is completed.

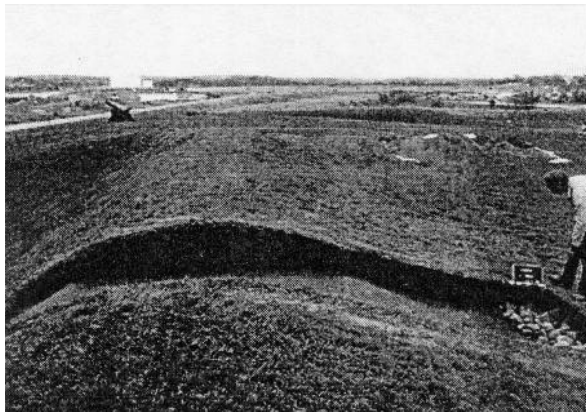
1.3 The Trace, Glacis and Ditch

These features were part of the historical earthworks and fortifications of the fort.

Historic Value

The trace, glacis and ditch as a whole are of historic importance because:

- they are in their original locations and reflect the original use of the fort;
- and they provide a sense of scale and function of the fort.



Cobblestone pavement at the foot of the parapet, Parks Canada, 1986.

Commemorative Integrity Objectives

The trace, glacis and ditch are not impaired or under threat when:

- their location, scale and scope remain the same;
- their stability is ensured;
- and any interventions respect the integrity of these features, their relationship to each other and to the blockhouse.

1.4 Below-Ground Resources

The below-ground remains of the 18th-century fort, buildings and other features on the site are

Level I. These resources fall into two categories: excavated below-ground resources that relate to the commemorative intent and known, yet unexcavated, below-ground resources that can be documented as relating to the commemorative intent. Examples of the latter are the below-ground remains of the buildings on the parade square.

Historic Value

The below-ground resources are of historic importance because of their association with the commemorated period.

Commemorative Integrity Objectives

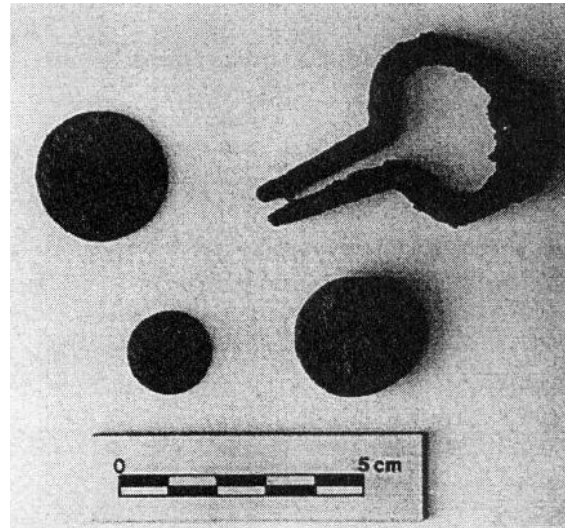
The below-ground resources are not impaired or under threat when

- their protection is ensured and they remain undisturbed except for possible archaeological excavations;
- any excavated resources are properly recorded.

COLLECTION

1.5 Archaeological Collection

About 90% of 2,500 archaeological artifacts constituting remains of household objects, building and furniture hardware, tools, parts of weapons, ammunition, uniforms and ornaments, as well as the information on records pertaining to these resources, pertain to the commemorated period and are therefore Level I. The collection also includes the faunal collection.



Artifacts from the north parapet, Parks Canada, 1986.

Historic Value

About 90% of the archaeological collection, as a whole, is of historic importance because:

- it is specific to the site;
- and it illustrates the activities, lifestyle and material culture of the commemorated period.

Commemorative Integrity Objective

The archaeological collection is not impaired or under threat when it is managed according to Parks Canada's collection management standards.

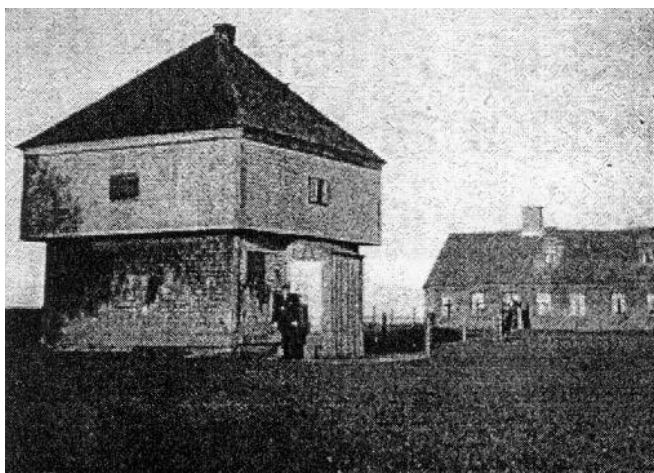
2. Reasons for the Site's National Significance

The second element of commemorative integrity relates to presentation, which facilitates public understanding of national significance. It focuses on the reasons for national historic significance and is derived from the Commemorative Intent of Fort Edward National Historic Site. The reasons for national historic significance are the basis of Level I Messages, which must be effectively communicated both to site visitors and the public.

The Level I Messages that convey the national historic significance of Fort Edward NHS are:

-
- ***Fort Edward is nationally significant because of its role in the French-English-Aboriginal struggle for predominance during and after the Seven Years War.***

During the crucial years of the 1750s and early 1760s, Fort Edward represented a link in the chain of forts established by the British to assert their sovereignty in Nova Scotia. The fort's location in an area of substantial Acadian settlement and at the centre of important Aboriginal trade and communication routes gave it significant strategic value.



Fort Edward pre-1922, Parks Canada.

- ***Fort Edward is nationally significant because of its role in the Deportation of the Acadians.***

Fort Edward was the centre for the deportation of approximately 1,200 Acadians from the Piziquid area in October 1755. Other Acadians, who had evaded the deportation, were detained in the fort in subsequent years.

- ***Fort Edward is nationally significant because of its role in local defence during the American Revolution and the War of 1812.***

New enemies presented a threat to British control of Nova Scotia later in the 18th century. Revolution in the 13 Colonies and the later war with the new United States in 1812-14 ensured that Fort Edward remained an important part of the defences of the province.

- ***The Blockhouse and the surviving physical components of the fort represent tangible evidence of the struggle for predominance.***

The sole survivor of the original buildings in Fort Edward, the blockhouse, has stood atop its hill since June 1750 and is the oldest blockhouse in Canada and one of the oldest buildings in the Maritimes. Its walls have been witness to centuries of historical events and it remains as a tangible link to the past.

The reasons for Fort Edward's national historic significance are effectively communicated when:

- all visitors and the general public are given the opportunity to understand Fort Edward's contribution to Canadian history through its role in the struggle for predominance in North America.
- all visitors and the general public are given the opportunity to understand Fort Edward's role in the Deportation of the Acadians.
- all visitors and the general public are given the opportunity to understand Fort Edward's role in the defence of British power in Nova Scotia against American raiders.
- all visitors and the general public are given the opportunity to understand that the Fort Edward blockhouse is a surviving reminder of the past.

Commemorative Integrity Objectives

- Primary importance will be given to the commemorative intent and the messages of national significance in the heritage presentation.
- The historic value of Level I cultural resources will be incorporated in the presentation of the messages of national significance.
- Heritage presentation will include measures of evaluation of the visitors' awareness and appreciation of the site's commemorative intent.
- The past will be presented in a manner that accurately reflects the range and complexity of the human history commemorated or represented at Fort Edward.
- History will be presented with integrity. This will include the representation of differing contemporary views, perspectives informed by traditional knowledge, and later interpretations. Parks Canada will not play the role of arbiter of Canada's history.

3. The Site's Other Heritage Values

This element of commemorative integrity deals with all other resources and messages that upon evaluation do not meet criteria established for Level I.

3.1 Level II Cultural Resources

Level II resources are not of national significance. However, their local or regional association, historical significance and aesthetic or environmental qualities are valued.

1. The earthworks

The Level II resources include the earth walls, situated within the ditch and aligned with the historic trace. Preliminary archaeological research suggests that some of the earthworks have been significantly altered while other areas consists of material from the commemorated period. Until more extensive excavation confirms that the majority of the earthworks are original, they have been evaluated as level II. These features illustrate the evolutionary history of the site.

Historic Value

The earthworks illustrate the evolutionary history of the site.

2. Curatorial Collection

The collection comprises approximately 8 pieces, including two 18th-century guns (four pounder, 4 ft. 6 in in length). Any records pertaining to these resources.

Historic Value

They date from the 18th and 19th centuries and are typical of the period.

3. Archaeological Collection

The collection consists of:

A) A cut stone boundary marker, inscribed with the initials W.D. (War Department) and a broad arrow. This marker is one of 12 formerly placed around the fort to delimit the military property.

B) About 10% of 2,500 archaeological artifacts constituting remains of household objects, building and furniture hardware, tools, parts of weapons, ammunition, uniforms and ornaments as well as the information on records pertaining to these resources. The collections are valued because they illustrate the activities, lifestyle and material culture of the past. The boundary marker represents a tangible reminder of the role of the site as military land.

Historic Value

- They are specific to the site;
- they illustrate the activities, lifestyle and material culture of the past;
- and the boundary marker represents a tangible reminder of the role of the site as military land.

4. Plaques and Monuments

Three plaques: one from the HSMBC commemorating Fort Edward and two from the Royal Nova Scotia Historical Society: one commemorating Flora Macdonald and one for the construction of the Blockhouse.

Historic Values

They are a tangible manifestation of the community interest in the history of the site. The plaques and monuments commemorate the role of the Military in the social and community life of Windsor.



Stone boundary marker No.7, of the British War Department, one of the 12 placed around the fort to delimit the military property, Parks Canada, 1986.

3.2 The Level II Messages

The messages communicate an awareness and appreciation of the heritage values associated with Fort Edward. These heritage values are of secondary importance, and are not directly linked to the Level I Messages and the site's commemorative intent.

The Level II Messages are:

The Blockhouse is the oldest blockhouse in Canada; one of the 10 remaining in the country.

Fort Edward is an example of military architecture including design, uses, functions of military works.

The fort is associated with the Wabanaki nation and the river system.

The story of Flora Macdonald, famed as the saviour of Bonnie Prince Charlie after the Jacobite defeat at Culloden in 1745. Flora Macdonald's husband, an officer of the 84th Regiment, was stationed at Fort Edward and Flora spent the winter of 1778-79 at Windsor, possibly at the fort.

The fort evolved in close association with the community of Windsor through various uses and functions at the site such as the Windsor Agriculture Fair (deemed of national historic significance by the Historic Sites and Monuments Board of Canada in 1935 and commemorated by a plaque in the town), a golf course and the Canada Remembers Trail.

The military used the site during World War I and had a strong presence in the town of Windsor.

Fort Edward has a thematic association with Grand-Pré and Fort Anne national historic sites in the Annapolis Valley.

The site is a member of Canada's family of national historic sites.

3.3 Objectives for Other Heritage Values

The site's other heritage values will be respected by all those whose decisions or actions affect the site when:

- Level II resources are managed according to the Cultural Resource Management Policy;
- Level II messages are communicated effectively to the public and visitors to the site, and do not overwhelm presentation of Level I messages;
- community and visitor interests and expectations are taken into consideration in any decisions concerning the management of the site;
- the development and operation of the site are integrated within the community of Windsor in ways that are consistent with the commemorative integrity of the site;
- interventions at the site are compatible with and sensitive to the heritage character of the site;
- all whose actions may affect the site, including staff, and partners, recognize the potential impact of their actions and respect the cultural resources of the site.

APPENDIX

FORT EDWARD NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE

Windsor, Nova Scotia

INVENTORY OF RESOURCES

1. Built Resources

- The Blockhouse (1750) - the oldest surviving example of this type of defensive structure in Canada (mostly original fabric) (LEVEL I)
- The earthworks and fortifications (1750)
 - a) the trace, glacis and ditch (LEVEL I)
 - b) the earth walls (LEVEL II)
- A parking lot (OTHER)
- Below-ground resources (LEVEL I)

These consist of below-ground remains of buildings and fortifications, some excavated, most unexcavated. Parts of the ramparts, parade square, Northwest bastion, entrance, and surrounding grounds were excavated several years ago.
- Below-ground utilities (OTHER)

2. Landscape

- The grounds encircling the fort (LEVEL II)
- The Canada Remembers Trail (OTHER)

3. Curatorial Collection

(LEVEL II)

- The collection comprises approximately 8 pieces, including two 18th-century guns (four pounder, 4 ft. 6 in. in length)
- The information from the records pertaining to curatorial resources

4. Archaeological Collection

(90% LEVEL I - 10% LEVEL II)

- About 2,500 archaeological artifacts constituting remains of household objects, building and furniture hardware, tools, parts of weapons, ammunition, uniforms, ornaments
- A faunal collection
- One boundary marker erected by the British War Department
- The information from the records pertaining to archaeological resources

5. Plaques and Monuments

(LEVEL II)

- The Historic Sites and Monuments Board of Canada plaque
- The Royal Nova Scotia Historical Society plaque commemorating Flora MacDonald
- The Royal Nova Scotia Historical Society plaque for the blockhouse

6. Exhibits

(OTHER)

- A series of interpretive displays - exterior and interior

Attachment E - Southwest Nova Scotia Management Plan 2016



The National Historic Sites of
Southwest Nova Scotia
Port-Royal, Fort Anne, Charles Fort,
Fort Edward and Melanson Settlement

Management Plan

2016



Parks
Canada

Parcs
Canada

Canada

NOVEMBER 2016

The National Historic Sites of
**Southwest
Nova Scotia**

Port-Royal, Fort Anne, Charles Fort,
Fort Edward and Melanson Settlement
National Historic Sites of Canada

Management Plan

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For more information about the management plan or about
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Fort Edward National Historic Sites of Canada:

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Foreword



Canada's national parks, national historic sites and national marine conservation areas belong to all Canadians and offer truly Canadian experiences.

These special places make up one of the finest and most extensive systems of protected natural and cultural heritage areas in the world.

The Government is committed to preserving our natural and cultural heritage, expanding the system of protected places and contributing to the recovery of species-at-risk. At the same time, we must continue to offer new and innovative visitor and outreach programs and activities so that more Canadians can experience Parks Canada places and learn about our environment, history and culture.

This new management plan for the National Historic Sites of Southwest Nova Scotia (Port-Royal, Fort Anne, Charles Fort, Fort Edward and Melanson Settlement) supports this vision.

Management plans are developed through extensive consultation and input from various people and organizations, including Indigenous Peoples, local and regional residents, visitors and the dedicated team at Parks Canada.

National parks, national historic sites and national marine conservation areas are a priority for the Government of Canada. I would like to thank everyone who contributed to this plan for their commitment and spirit of co-operation.

As the Minister responsible for Parks Canada, I applaud this collaborative effort and I am pleased to approve the National Historic Sites of Southwest Nova Scotia Management Plan.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'C McKenna'.

Catherine McKenna
Minister of Environment and Climate Change and
Minister responsible for Parks Canada

Recommendations

Recommended by:



Daniel Watson
Chief Executive Officer
Parks Canada



Julie Tompa
Field Unit Superintendent
Mainland Nova Scotia Field Unit
Parks Canada

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The preparation of this management plan involved many people. The resulting document was guided by the contributions of the public, stakeholders, business, and community leaders, tourism organizations, all levels of government, and heritage groups who took the time to provide sound advice to Parks Canada at various open houses, and stakeholders meetings. The Mi'kmaq of Nova Scotia are recognized for their important contribution to the development of this plan.

The contributions of numerous Parks Canada staff including planners, graphic designers, cultural resource management specialists, and the management planning team have created a relevant and professional blueprint for the future.

These efforts have collectively allowed Parks Canada to develop a plan that will guide the management of these sites for the next 15 years.

Executive Summary

Fort Anne, Port-Royal, Charles Fort, Fort Edward, and Melanson Settlement National Historic Sites are places of national historic significance interrelated by events and geography that invite all Canadians to explore the fascinating history and spectacular beauty of Southwest Nova Scotia. These national historic sites are collectively managed under the Mainland Nova Scotia Field Unit of Parks Canada and are together referred to as the national historic sites of Southwest Nova Scotia.

This management plan provides strategic direction for achieving Parks Canada's mandate at the national historic sites of Southwest Nova Scotia, namely: protection of heritage resources; the facilitation of meaningful visitor experiences; and fostering public appreciation and understanding of protected heritage places managed by Parks Canada. The plan was developed with the involvement of the Mi'kmaq of Nova Scotia, partners, stakeholders, and the public. It is the primary public accountability document for these sites and will provide Parks Canada staff with a framework for decision making. The management plan includes:

- a vision for the future;
- two overarching key strategies, which will guide the direction of the five sites over the next fifteen years;
- individual chapters that highlight how the overarching strategies will be implemented at each of the sites;
- a summary of administration and operations;
- a summary of the Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) conducted for this management plan; and,
- an implementation strategy that summarizes the key planned actions.

The two overarching key strategies provide concrete direction for addressing the major issues and opportunities facing the national historic sites of Southwest Nova Scotia and for focusing resources towards achieving the vision. They are as follows:

Inspiring the Discovery of the national historic sites of Southwest Nova Scotia

This strategy focuses on improving and diversifying visitor experience opportunities and strengthening promotions to inspire an increasing number of people to discover this outstanding network of national historic sites. This strategy also seeks to inspire the discovery of the sites amongst Canadians unable to visit them in person. Actions that will contribute to this strategy include: conducting research to better understand the motivations, needs, and expectations of current and potential visitors; confirming new target markets in the face of changing tourism trends; increasing interactive and experiential programming at Port-Royal National Historic Site (NHS), developing new self-guided media at Fort Anne National Historic Site (NHS); developing the concept of a network of national historic sites in Southwest Nova Scotia including promotional

and positioning tools to implement the concept; and reviewing and updating the sites' web-pages.

Shared Stewardship and Community Gathering Places

This strategy underscores Parks Canada's focus on reaching out to area residents¹, the Mi'kmaq, Acadians, and other partners and stakeholders to build on a culture of conservation and on working together to ensure the sites are relevant to local and regional audiences. By tapping into the knowledge and passion of the Mi'kmaq, partners, stakeholders, and area residents, the protection of cultural resources as well as visitor experience opportunities at these sites will be enhanced. In particular, Parks Canada will work with the Mi'kmaq, partners, stakeholders, and area residents to encourage the use of the sites as community gathering places and to facilitate unique opportunities, such as special events, that will engage area residents and attract new audiences. Actions that will contribute to this strategy include: exploring the possibility of establishing a permanent mechanism for local engagement with the sites; working with the Mi'kmaq to identify areas of research that will serve to enhance Mi'kmaq-related visitor experience and public outreach opportunities; enhancing opportunities for community stewardship.

Individual Site Chapters

Individual chapters have been developed to highlight areas of importance and specific actions to be undertaken at each site. Efforts at Port-Royal NHS will focus on enhancing the visitor experience offer through the creation of a menu of visitor experience opportunities, including hosting special events. Emphasis at Fort Anne will be placed on developing self-guided media, building stronger local partnerships, supporting community use of the site, and ensuring the security of the curatorial collection. In addition, attention will be paid to address minor impairments to commemorative integrity at Fort Anne. At Charles Fort NHS, a small site located within the grounds of Fort Anne, Parks Canada will work to raise awareness and understanding of the site and to build connections with the Scottish heritage community.

At Fort Edward NHS, Parks Canada will ensure that visitors have access to informative pre-trip information. Parks Canada will also work with the Mi'kmaq of Nova Scotia and with local and regional organizations to encourage community use of the site. At Melanson Settlement NHS, emphasis will be placed on working with others to ensure the protection of the site within its larger historic-geographic context, and on strengthening opportunities to engage Mi'kmaq and Acadian communities in ways that will enhance our understanding of the site's historical significance.

¹ Area residents refer to people living within approximately 80 kilometres of the sites.

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1.0 Introduction

1.1 PURPOSE OF THE MANAGEMENT PLAN

Parks Canada manages national historic sites, national parks, and national marine conservation areas on behalf of Canadians. Parks Canada is a proud steward of these heritage places and protects and presents them for the benefit and enjoyment of Canadians while ensuring they remain unimpaired for present and future generations.

This management plan is the key accountability document for Port-Royal, Fort Anne, Charles Fort, Melanson Settlement, and Fort Edward national historic sites. This plan replaces the 2004 plan for Melanson Settlement and the 2001 plan for Fort Anne, Port-Royal, Fort Edward, and Charles Fort (formerly Scots Fort). It provides a framework for decision-making, sets strategic direction for the management and operation of the national historic sites of Southwest Nova Scotia, and was developed through public consultation.

1.2 LEGISLATIVE AND POLICY BASIS FOR MANAGEMENT PLANNING

The *Parks Canada Agency Act* (1998) confers on Parks Canada the responsibility to implement the *Canada National Parks Act* (2000) and ensure the commemorative integrity of national historic sites. In accordance with legislation and policy, management plans are prepared for national historic sites owned and/or administered by Parks Canada, to be reviewed and updated every ten years in consultation with Canadians.

Parks Canada also has a duty to consult with Aboriginal peoples regarding matters that may affect asserted Aboriginal or treaty rights. The Mi'kmaq of Nova Scotia claim unextinguished Aboriginal title as well as Aboriginal and treaty rights throughout Nova Scotia. The Made-in-Nova Scotia Process is the forum for the Mi'kmaq, Nova Scotia, and Canada to resolve issues related to Mi'kmaw treaty rights, Aboriginal rights, including Aboriginal title, and Mi'kmaw governance. Issues of resource harvesting within national parks and national historic sites, and the exercise of other Aboriginal or treaty rights are currently under discussion at the Made-in-Nova Scotia Negotiation Table. Parks Canada also places a high priority on developing mutually beneficial relationships with Aboriginal people. As part of developing this relationship, Parks Canada is actively working with the Mi'kmaq of Nova Scotia to improve the presentation of Mi'kmaw history and heritage in national historic sites in Nova Scotia. To these ends, Parks Canada will continue to work with the Mi'kmaq of Nova Scotia on issues related to management planning and other matters of interest to the Mi'kmaq of Nova Scotia. The Mi'kmaq of Nova Scotia were consulted on this management plan through a formal process. The accommodations requested during this consultation have been incorporated into this management plan.

1.3 PLANNING ACCORDING TO PARKS CANADA'S MANDATE

Parks Canada's Mandate

On behalf of the people of Canada, we protect and present nationally significant examples of Canada's natural and cultural heritage, and foster public understanding, appreciation and enjoyment in ways that ensure the ecological and commemorative integrity of these places for present and future generations.

- from Parks Canada Agency's Charter

Parks Canada's mandate is comprised of three mutually supportive areas that are delivered in an integrated fashion:

Protection of Heritage Resources

For national historic sites, the protection of heritage resources relates to the principle of commemorative integrity and the application of cultural resource management principles and practices. Commemorative integrity is a way of describing the health or wholeness of a national historic site. A national historic site possesses commemorative integrity when the resources that symbolize or represent its importance are not impaired or under threat; the reasons for the site's national historic significance are effectively communicated to the public; and the site's heritage values are respected by all those whose decisions or actions affect the site. Frequently, natural ecosystem features are also integral to the history and landscape of a national historic site and are valued in a manner that reflects the role of Parks Canada as an important environmental steward.

Meaningful Visitor Experience

Visitor experience is defined as the sum total of a visitor's personal interaction with protected heritage places and/or people that awakens their senses, affects their emotions, stimulates their mind, and helps the visitor to create a sense of connection to these places.

Public Appreciation and Understanding

Parks Canada aims to reach Canadians at home, at leisure, and in their communities through communication and other opportunities designed to increase awareness, understanding, and appreciation of the significance of Parks Canada's heritage places and the importance of protecting and presenting them. Parks Canada also seeks to broaden its base of support by engaging stakeholders and partners, and encouraging shared leadership through active participation in the development and implementation of the Agency's future direction.

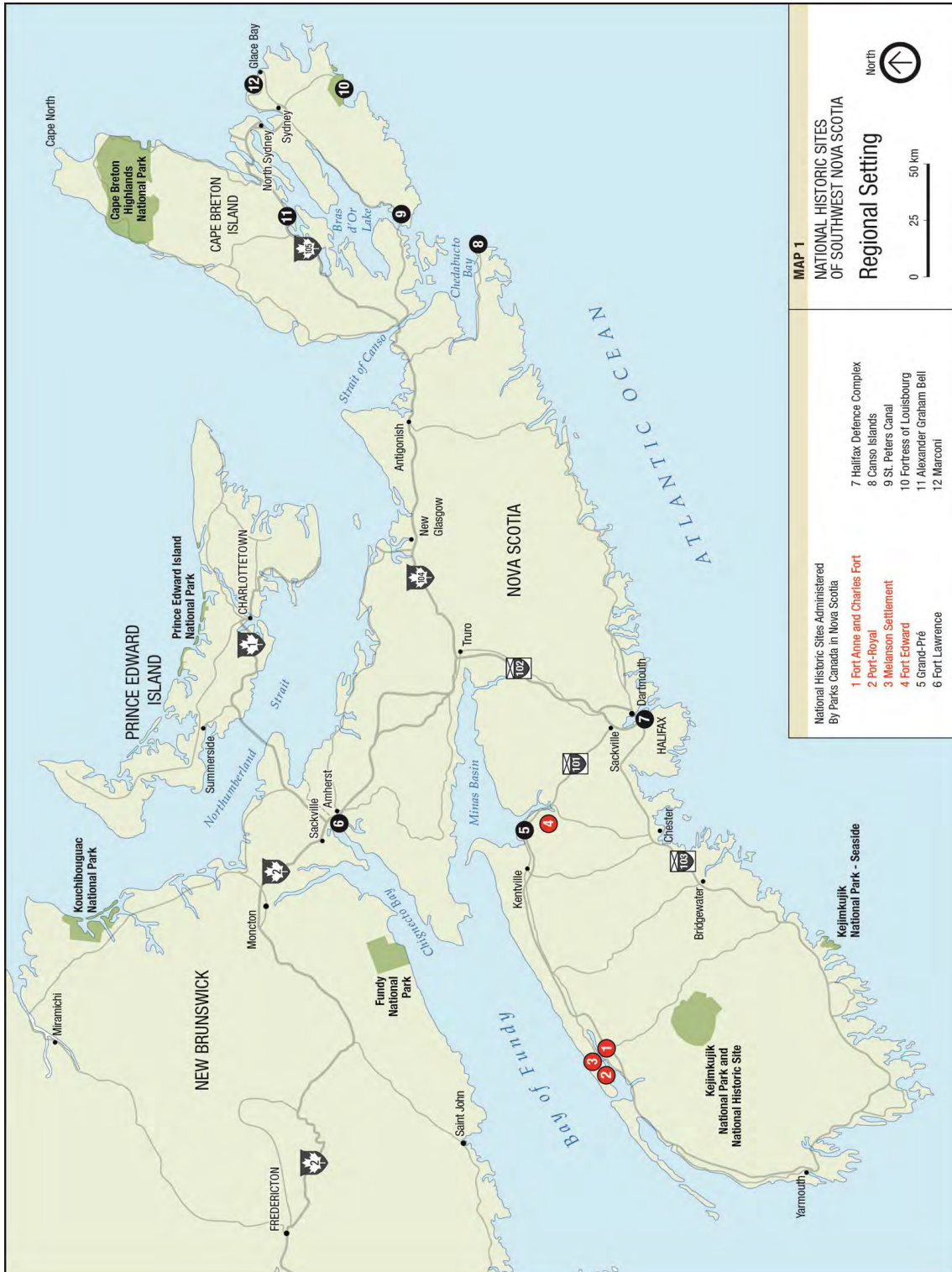
1.4 REGIONAL CONTEXT AND GEOGRAPHIC LOCATION

The national historic sites of Southwest Nova Scotia are all located in the Annapolis Valley. Fort Edward is in Windsor and the other sites are in or near Annapolis Royal (see Map 1: Regional Setting and Map 2: Local Setting). These national historic sites are significant heritage tourist attractions in the region. Together, the sites play a central role in efforts of the Provincial Department of Economic and Rural Development and Tourism to provide experiential opportunities for visitors.

The sites are located within a region, known as Kespukwitek (or “Land’s End”), which has been inhabited by the Mi’kmaq for millennia. Starting in the 17th century, they were joined by French and English settlers who established towns and villages throughout the region, many of which exist today. The Mi’kmaq continue to live here in the communities of L’stkuk (Bear River), Acadia, Glooscap, and Annapolis Valley. The richest farmland in the province may be found in Southwest Nova Scotia, making agriculture, along with the fishery in coastal areas, major regional industries. The tourism industry is also a significant contributor to the economy, generating about 2,500 jobs and approximately \$137,600,000 in revenue annually. In addition to the national historic sites of Southwest Nova Scotia, tourism attractions include both provincial and municipal heritage sites as well as a wide variety of not-for-profit and commercial operations. The Bear River First Nation Heritage and Cultural Centre continues to appeal to a wide audience. The population of Southwest Nova Scotia is approximately 119,000 and includes a significant francophone population of more than 12,000, located primarily in the area west of Weymouth along what is known as the “Acadian Shore”. First Nations communities in the region are home to approximately 2,000 people, collectively and individually representing a key community of interest in the development and implementation of this plan.

1.5 THE MANAGEMENT PLAN REVIEW PROCESS AND CONSULTATION

The management planning process included a review of the existing management plans, issue analysis, and consideration of the results of social science research. It also included consultations with the Mi’kmaq of Nova Scotia, stakeholders, partners, area residents, and the public to provide an opportunity for these groups to help shape the future direction of the sites. As part of the consultation process, a newsletter was distributed broadly to the public; stakeholder meetings and open houses were held and a dedicated email address was created to which the public could submit their views in writing. All of the ideas, comments, and feedback received through the consultation process were carefully considered by the planning team. Some have already resulted in changes at an operational level and are not necessarily included in this strategic document. However, all of the key themes communicated by the Mi’kmaq of Nova Scotia, partners, visitors, and other stakeholders have been incorporated into this plan. Parks Canada is committed to further involving interested parties during its implementation.





2.0 Places of National Historic Significance Interrelated by Events and Geography

Parks Canada is responsible for six national historic sites in the Annapolis Valley: Port-Royal NHS and Melanson Settlement NHS in present day Port-Royal; Fort Anne NHS and Charles Fort NHS in the town of Annapolis Royal; Fort Edward NHS in the town of Windsor; and Grand-Pré NHS in the village of Grand Pré, near Wolfville (Map 2). (A separate management plan has recently been completed for Grand-Pré NHS.) The national historic sites of Southwest Nova Scotia bore witness to events of international significance that shaped the destinies of peoples and of nations and are interrelated by a number of major historic themes – of arrival and settlement, loss and dislocation, and alliance and conflict – that are integral to the story of Canada.

The Annapolis Valley is a lush coastal area with abundant terrestrial and marine resources and sheltered coves. The Mi'kmaq call this place *Kespukwitk* ("Land's End") and have lived here for thousands of years. By the 17th century, the region's riches had been discovered by others – French, English and Scots – who wished to carve out a place for themselves in this "new" world. As a result, the area became a meeting place of cultures – a place where alliances were forged and discord sown as newcomers sought to establish communities and build societies while the Mi'kmaq sought to preserve a way of life. The first of these new settlements was established by the French near today's Port-Royal NHS. Between 1605 and 1613, approximately 35 men lived at the original habitation, tending fields and gardens and trading for furs. Welcomed by the Mi'kmaq, these settlers lay the groundwork for an alliance that would endure for more than a century. Today, the reconstructed Port-Royal Habitation tells the story of the region's first French settlers and the Mi'kmaq who helped them adapt to their new environment.

Less than two decades after these first settlers abandoned the habitation at Port-Royal, Scottish settlers arrived to establish their own settlement. Built in 1629 by Sir William Alexander to serve as a base from which to settle the colony of New Scotland (or "Nova Scotia"), Charles Fort was located on a flat, high point of land at the confluence of the Annapolis and Allain Rivers, a spot used by the Mi'kmaq as a campsite on one of their travel routes. Like the inhabitants of the Port-Royal habitation before them, the Scots established good relations with the Mi'kmaq. When the area, termed "Acadie" by the French, was returned to France under a peace treaty in 1632, the French occupied Charles Fort and over the years which followed, built a succession of four forts on the site before it became known as Fort Anne under the British.

Over the course of the century which followed, French settlements grew throughout the region, particularly along the Dauphin River (today called the Annapolis River). The settlers began the distinctive practice of dyking and the reclamation of tidal salt marshes for farmland, which is interpreted at Melanson Settlement NHS. Eventually developing

an identity independent of France, the settlers became known as Acadians. By the 1670s, they were living in settlements in the Chignecto region and by the 1680s, had established settlements at Grand Pré, Pisiquid, Cobequid and at other locations in the region.

It is perhaps inevitable that, having attracted so many people with competing interests, the region should be drawn into international conflicts being waged elsewhere throughout much of the 17th and 18th centuries. As a result, the Annapolis Valley, particularly the site that is now Fort Anne NHS, served as the setting for battles fought between English (British after 1707) and French forces for control of the North American continent. Both imperial powers considered the conquest of this fortified site as the key to the domination of this part of what is now eastern Canada. For much of the 17th century, Port-Royal was the capital of Acadia and under French control. However, in 1710, the fort fell to British and New England troops and a British governor and garrison replaced their French counterparts. Three years later, the Treaty of Utrecht confirmed British sovereignty over Acadia and Port-Royal was renamed Annapolis Royal, becoming the capital of Nova Scotia. The Mi'kmaq, too, were drawn into these conflicts, joining other Aboriginals and the French in waging war against the British, who had presumed ownership of Mi'kmaw lands.

Until the founding of Halifax in 1749, British officials governed the Mi'kmaq, Acadian, and small British populations of Nova Scotia from Fort Anne in Annapolis Royal. Shortly after the transfer of the capital to Halifax, the British decided to construct a fort in the Pisiquid area (present-day Windsor) to secure land communication with the garrison at Annapolis Royal. It also served as a suitable location from which to assert British authority over Acadians in the region and for meetings with the Mi'kmaq, who frequented the area thanks to its proximity to river travel routes and opportunities for trade. In the years which followed, Fort Edward would play a significant role in the deportation of Acadians from the region and serve as an important point of contact between the Mi'kmaq and colonial officials for the purposes of trade and communication.

Because of the central roles played by these sites in the events which have shaped Canada, they have been designated as national historic sites. Each site has a "Statement of Commemorative Intent" which flows from the recommendations of the Historic Sites and Monuments Board of Canada (HSMBC) and encapsulates the reasons why each site was deemed to be of national historic significance. These statements are included in Appendix B along with summaries of the cultural resources having national, regional or local historical significance.

3.0 Current Situation

3.1 HERITAGE RESOURCE CONSERVATION

3.1.1 The State of Commemorative Integrity

Commemorative Integrity (CI) Evaluations have been conducted to assess the condition of cultural resources, the effectiveness of communication of messages of national historic significance, and management practices at each of the national historic sites in Southwest Nova Scotia. The heritage resources of four of the sites were rated as being in 'good' condition, while those at Fort Anne are considered to be in 'fair' condition. Management regimes at all five sites are in place and effective. The communication of messages relating to national significance and management practices have been assessed as fair or good for all of the sites.

3.1.2 Issues Related to Commemorative Integrity

There are no critical issues facing any of the national historic sites of Southwest Nova Scotia in terms of their commemorative integrity; however, some minor issues were identified which are discussed below and have been addressed in the key strategies and individual site chapters of the plan.

The Condition of Cultural Resources at Fort Anne NHS (see Fort Anne NHS Site Map, page 25):

- The archaeological sites at Fort Anne are deemed to be in 'fair' condition. Although a great deal of archaeological research has been conducted, this research has yet to be compiled into a comprehensive inventory.
- The buildings and structures associated with the reasons for designation are rated 'fair', the issue being bulging of the south side of the Sally Port. Although not noted in the CI Evaluation, on-going monitoring has also revealed structural deterioration in parts of the Officers' Quarters.
- The cemetery located in Fort Anne, which is a cultural resource directly linked to the reasons for national significance, is in 'fair' condition and improving. However, some of the stones in the cemetery not related to the reasons for designation are in 'fair' to 'poor' condition. In order to address the challenge of cemetery maintenance, the *Fort Anne Garrison Graveyard Conservation Plan* has been prepared and is being implemented.
- There are substantial archaeological, curatorial, and library collections associated with Fort Anne that are stored in Parks Canada's conservation facilities or are located on site. The CI Evaluation rated objects related to the reasons for designation as 'fair' overall, primarily due to challenges related to proper on-site storage. Since the CI Evaluation, a preliminary assessment of the artefacts, significant library holdings, and photographs has been conducted, resulting in recommendations for improving storage and cataloguing.

Communication of Messages at all sites:

The communication of messages at Port-Royal, Charles Fort, and Melanson Settlement were found to be good overall, with Fort Anne and Fort Edward receiving fair ratings. A few messages at Fort Edward could be conveyed more effectively while at Fort Anne, communicating the vast number of messages identified in the site's Commemorative Integrity Statement² is a challenge. The CI Evaluations identified a number of other gaps and weaknesses in the commemorative integrity statements for the sites. As a result, a review of the statements for all five sites will be conducted to address these issues and will include information to better reflect other perspectives (e.g., Mi'kmaq) of the sites' historical significance.

Incomplete Records at Fort Edward and Melanson Settlement:

The archaeological collection for Fort Edward has been inventoried and catalogued; however, a report based on that data has not been completed. For Melanson Settlement there is neither an in-depth inventory nor report of archaeological resources on site for use by site managers in decision-making.

On-going Issues of Concern Regarding Melanson Settlement:

The issue of artefact hunting at Melanson Settlement, raised in the 2004 management plan for the site, is still a concern. Concerns have also been voiced by local residents and the Queen Anne Marsh Body about the extent to which the province will ensure the long-term maintenance of the dykes in the area surrounding the site (the province only maintains dykes that support actively cultivated areas).

Ecological Resources:

The majority of the sites feature manicured grounds with the exception of Melanson Settlement, where an ecological inventory has been undertaken. Moving forward, ecological inventories will be conducted for the remaining sites to assess and inventory the sites' ecological resources.

3.1.3 Future Direction of Heritage Resource Conservation

At these five sites, large-scale interventions are rarely necessary due to regular monitoring of resource condition and on-going maintenance. For the next ten-year cycle, Parks Canada will continue to maintain the commemorative integrity of the sites by adhering to the principles and practices of cultural resource management – with particular attention being paid to maintaining or improving the condition of the cultural resources at Fort Anne. Weaknesses in the communication of messages will be addressed

² A document intended to clearly define the historical significance of the site and its heritage values.

and inventories and records completed. The details of this work are outlined in Key Strategy 2 and in the individual site chapters.

3.2 VISITOR EXPERIENCE

Parks Canada seeks to facilitate opportunities for visitors to create their own experiences in ways that are personally meaningful to them and that foster a connection to the heritage place visited. “*Connection to place*” is a concept that expresses the emotional, intellectual, and spiritual attachment Canadians and visitors feel towards Parks Canada’s natural and cultural heritage places. For descriptions of the special characteristics that foster a *connection to place* at each of the national historic sites of Southwest Nova Scotia, see Appendix C.

3.2.1 The Sites’ Audiences

A 2005 visitor survey for Fort Anne (the last one completed for this site) found 29% of visitors are American and 64% Canadian, with 20% coming from within Nova Scotia and 9% from the region (within 80 km). 2011 and 2015 visitor surveys and a 2007 Visitor Origin Monitoring Programming for Port-Royal found similar results for this site.³ Visitors to both sites are primarily adult independent travelers, cruise and motor-coach tourists, special event groups, and local residents who use the sites for recreational purposes. Most visitors are on their first visit to the sites and spend an average of about 80 minutes at both Port-Royal and Fort Anne. Visitors are primarily motivated to come to these sites to visit with family and friends (64%), opportunities to learn (50%), high quality service (25%), participate in hands-on activities (24%), and recreational opportunities (21%).

Recent research for Fort Edward⁴ reveals that 80% of visitors are Canadian and 13% American. Of the Canadian audience, 32% are from Nova Scotia (21% of respondents were on a day-trip from Halifax), 17% from Ontario, and the remainder from the rest of Canada. When asked what other locations and attractions the respondent had visited or was planning to visit that day, 37% indicated Grand-Pré NHS, and 28 % and 26% respectively indicated Port-Royal and Fort Anne. Visitors are motivated to come to the site primarily to experience a new place/local people/explore (33%), to explore family ancestry, heritage, and landmarks (30%), and to observe/learn at their own pace (20%).

Social science research indicates that visitation at the sites has declined significantly in recent years. This issue is discussed in the Key Visitor Experience Issues section found in Section 3.2.3.

³ Approximately 19% of visitors to Port-Royal are American and 68% Canadian with approximately 24% coming from within Nova Scotia and approximately 2% from within 80 kilometres of the site.

⁴ Comment cards submitted by visitors at Fort Edward during 2009 and 2010.

3.2.2 The State of Visitor Experience

The state of visitor experience for the national historic sites of Southwest Nova Scotia is based on visitor surveys and other social science research.⁵ This research demonstrates that the vast majority of visitors to the sites are very satisfied with their visit as well as with the facilities and services offered, far exceeding all of the performance benchmarks established by Parks Canada. Visitors are also satisfied, although slightly less so, with the planning and arrival phases of their visits. Satisfaction with their visit as a learning experience is very high with slightly lower grades received for satisfaction with interpretation activities and programming. Visitors are slightly less satisfied with interpretive activities at Port-Royal than at the other sites. Many visitors to Port-Royal anticipate more activities, demonstrations, sensory and experiential opportunities. The research also found that insufficient attention has been paid to offering a menu of opportunities to visitors based on their differing motivations, needs, and preferences.

In the future, Parks Canada will assess visitor experience at these national historic sites through the use of indicators; namely, visits, enjoyment, satisfaction, learning, and meaning, as part of the Visitor Information Programme. For a more detailed summary of the state of visitor experience, see Appendix D.

3.2.3 Key Visitor Experience Issues

Declining Visitation – Shifting Tourism Trends and Need to Target New Markets

Over the last ten years, visitation at Fort Anne and Port-Royal has dropped from approximately 36,500 to 28,000 and from 37,000 to 19,000 visits per year respectively. At Fort Edward, visitation has fallen from approximately 3,000 visitors in the year 2000 to 1,100 in 2015. At Melanson Settlement, a small site and relatively new member of the Parks Canada family of national historic sites (opened in 2004), visitation has maintained itself at approximately 3,000 visits per year as measured in 2006 and 2012.

The most significant shift in visitor composition affecting heritage sites throughout Atlantic Canada is seen in the decline over the last ten years in commercial bus group tours, particularly bus groups coming from the United States. Port-Royal received 436 commercial groups in the year 2000, 198 in 2005, 107 in 2008, and 101 in 2011. Similarly, Fort Anne received 361 commercial groups in 2000, a number which has declined to 58

⁵ Research for these sites includes visitor surveys (2011 for Port-Royal and 2005 for Fort Anne); a 2007 Visitor Experience Assessment (VEA) for Fort Anne and Port-Royal; a 2007 Visitor Origin Monitoring Program for Port-Royal; and a 2010 Special Events Survey for Fort Anne, Port-Royal, and Fort Edward. The last full survey for Fort Edward was 2001; however, visitor comment cards from 2009 and 2010 have also been assessed. Although visitor traffic and foot counters have been utilized to assess visitation numbers at Melanson Settlement, visitation numbers at that site do not warrant a full visitor survey. The assessment of visitor experience at Charles Fort is conducted through the surveys for Fort Anne.

groups in 2011. More recently, tourism operators and travel industry experts are suggesting that this industry may recover, but with smaller groups serving niche markets.⁶ The 2007 Visitor Experience Assessment (VEA) for Fort Anne and Port-Royal suggested that Parks Canada has a strong understanding of the needs and interests of existing visitor markets, but that less was known about potential markets in the face of these shifting tourism trends and there has been limited targeting of the new markets. Social science has also shown that the “capture rate” of visitors who come to the area is quite low with less than ten percent of visitors to the Annapolis Royal area visiting Fort Anne or Port-Royal.

Visitation at Port-Royal and Fort Anne increased in 2010 for the first time in many years by approximately 2.5% and 2% respectively. Research suggests that this increase is largely attributable to the wide variety of special events held during the 2010 season. A critical aspect of visitor experience in recent years, has been opportunities for visitors to participate in special events, such as Mi'kmaw days held at Port-Royal, and in 2010 Annapolis Royal 300th anniversary events at Fort Anne as examples.

Parks Canada facilitated an above-average number of special events during the 2010 season to see if special events could contribute to the following goals: achieving greater visibility for the sites; reaching out to new and local audiences, regaining some of the market share lost due to declining bus-tour numbers; and working to ensure the sites, particularly Fort Anne, are sustainable. Research analysis indicates that although most special events do not generate revenue, they have resulted in increased visitation, particularly by attracting repeat and local visitors, and they support regional tourism.⁷ In future, efforts at Fort Anne and Fort Edward will focus on self-guided opportunities while special programs and events will continue to be offered at Port-Royal.

Need to Respond to the Differing Interests, Needs, and Preferences of Visitors

Parks Canada has introduced the use of the Canadian Tourism Commission's “Explorer Quotient” (EQ) – a new way of matching visitors' needs, interests, and expectations based on their personal values and travel motivations, with opportunities for experiences tailored to what they are seeking. Analysis of explorer types to Canada's national historic sites has revealed that national historic sites attract a high percentage of “Authentic Experiencers” who appreciate and understand both natural and cultural environments and enjoy using all of their senses to explore and to be fully immersed in travel

⁶ Analysis of Motorcoach Trends to Parks Canada Sites in Atlantic Canada, 2010.

⁷ Forty-seven percent of special event visitors were from the local area (less than 100 km away); about two-thirds of special event attendees had previously visited the national historic site holding the event; 75 percent of special event attendees did not pay an entrance fee to visit the site; 92% said that the special event influenced their decision to visit the area at that time; 60% intended to visit other attractions or attend other events in the area during their current trip; 64% said that they would return to the site where the event was held as a result of the special event.

experiences; “Free Spirits” who are primarily seeking fun and the thrill and emotional charge of doing things; and “Cultural Explorers” who seek opportunities to immerse themselves in the entire experience of the culture, people, and settings of the places they visit. In addition, a pilot Visitor Origin Monitoring Program (VOMP) for Port-Royal (2007) provided analysis of the demographics, social values, and behavior of Port-Royal’s visitors based on 66 lifestyle types associated with Canada’s neighbourhoods.⁸ The NHS will apply EQ principles to Visitor Experience Opportunities at the sites (see individual chapters).

3.2.4 Future Direction of Visitor Experience

In view of the decline of particular markets, especially the American commercial-bus tour market, other markets are being targeted by the national historic sites of Southwest Nova Scotia including: tourists in Nova Scotia and in Annapolis Royal (i.e., increasing the “capture rate” of tourists already in the province/area); residents from the local area, Halifax Regional Municipality and New Brunswick; Acadians; the Mi’kmaq; and the regional small-cruise ship industry. Parks Canada will work in collaboration with the Nova Scotia Department of Economic and Rural Development and Tourism, the Atlantic Canada Tourism Partnership, and Parks Canada specialists to support efforts to rejuvenate the bus tour market as opportunities arise. Further social science research is required to confirm these target markets and to better understand the demographics, motivations, needs, and preferences of both current and potential visitors. This research will inform the development of visitor experience products and programs, at Fort Anne and Port-Royal. Emphasis will be on personal programs at Port-Royal, and on self-guided opportunities at Fort Anne. Social science data will also inform the promotion of these national historic sites. Parks Canada will work closely with partners in marketing and promotions to maximize the collective energies of the many agencies and organizations working to attract visitors to the Annapolis Valley.

Working with area residents, the Mi’kmaq, partners, and stakeholders, Parks Canada will welcome opportunities that attract new and local audiences. Mi’kmaq interest in targeted special events at Port-Royal NHS was demonstrated by the 1,000+ attendance at the Membertou 400 celebrations in June of 2010. Special events will be planned and managed strategically with consideration given to the need to generate revenue.

3.3 PUBLIC APPRECIATION AND UNDERSTANDING

3.3.1 The State of Public Outreach and External Communications

Parks Canada facilitates opportunities for Canadians to discover and learn about the national historic sites of Southwest Nova Scotia and develop a personal sense of

⁸ The VOMP found that Port-Royal’s domestic visitors were mostly from middle and upper class suburbs of towns, small cities, and second-tier metros across Canada as well as from middle to small towns, and farming and fishing villages primarily in the Maritime Provinces.

connection to the sites via information provided through publications, the Parks Canada website, and other media. External communications also promotes understanding and appreciation of the national significance of the sites and the Agency's system of heritage places.

Parks Canada seeks to engage Canadians at home, at leisure, and in their communities, particularly through the sites' web-pages, special presentations, information bulletins, and exposure through TV, radio, and print media.

3.3.2 The State of Stakeholder, Mi'kmaq and Partner Engagement

The people of Annapolis Royal, Windsor, and the Greater Annapolis Valley have a long-standing sense of ownership of and connection to the national historic sites of Southwest Nova Scotia. Local people were integral to the designation of Fort Anne as a national historic site in 1917. In the late 19th century, Fort Anne became a local gathering place for the people of the Annapolis Royal area where residents could attend band concerts, play cricket, or stroll the grounds. The recreational use of the site did not diminish appreciation of its historical significance. Local people, particularly the members of the Historical Association of Annapolis Royal, were also instrumental in the 1939 reconstruction of the Habitation at Port-Royal. The passion and commitment to Fort Anne and Port-Royal continues today and Fort Anne in particular continues to be a community gathering place. Many people within the community of Windsor also have a strong connection to Fort Edward and are highly engaged with Parks Canada in all areas of its management.

The Mi'kmaq of Nova Scotia are a special partner with Parks Canada (see Section 1.2). Mi'kmaw heritage is significant to the national historic sites of Southwest Nova Scotia, especially at Fort Anne and Port-Royal which were designated in part for their roles in the development of Mi'kmaw-European relationships. Parks Canada works closely with local Mi'kmaq communities, especially L'setkuk (Bear River) First Nation, in the delivery of special events related to Mi'kmaw heritage. This includes "Mi'kmaw Days" held at Port-Royal every summer at which visitors experience Mi'kmaw traditions, history, games, and lifestyles.

The national historic sites of Southwest Nova Scotia convey significant aspects of the history of several other cultural communities in Canada, including that of Acadians and African Nova Scotians. Parks Canada works closely with representative organizations of these groups to effectively convey this cultural heritage to Canadians at these sites.

Other important partners include tourism associations, the Historical Association of Annapolis Royal (HAAR), the West Hants Historical Society, and the Kings County Historical Society. For a full summary of partner and stakeholder engagement, see Appendix E.

3.3.3 Key Public Outreach Initiatives, External Communications, and Partner/Stakeholder Issues

Need for Clear External Relations Strategy

Although the national historic sites of Southwest Nova Scotia are engaged in successful public outreach activities, the program will benefit from clear identification of target audiences, objectives, and priorities as outlined in the Field Unit External Relations Strategy.

Web-pages

While the web-pages for these national historic sites contain information on the sites' history and cultural heritage, they are not very engaging or dynamic and thus do not encourage the discovery of the sites by Canadians unable to visit in person. Work to improve the web-pages is a priority.

Importance of Community Support and Engagement with the Sites

Just as area residents have been integral to the protection of these sites since before their designation, they are also important to their future. Area residents continue to act as stewards of the sites, and Parks Canada will tap into their knowledge and passion. Area residents have contributed to visitor experience opportunities and special events, especially in recent years. In the future this collaboration will be targeted to balance the capacity of the sites with the expectations of the community.

Importance of Relationship with the Mi'kmaq of Nova Scotia

Parks Canada is working with the Mi'kmaq of Nova Scotia to establish an advisory committee of Mi'kmaw representatives to provide advice and input on matters related to the national parks and national historic sites within Nova Scotia, including the national historic sites of Southwest Nova Scotia. On-going cooperation and engagement with the Mi'kmaq of Nova Scotia is very important as Parks Canada seeks ways to further enhance visitor experience opportunities relating to Mi'kmaw history and heritage.

Importance of Relationships with Acadians, African Nova Scotians, and Other Cultural Communities

On-going cooperation and engagement with these cultural communities is important as Parks Canada continues to protect the sites' cultural resources, to facilitate meaningful visitor experience opportunities and to attract new audiences.

3.3.4 Future Direction of Public Outreach, and Stakeholder, Mi'kmaq and Partner Engagement

Parks Canada has recently reasserted its commitment to external relations, which includes public outreach and stakeholder and partner engagement, and has conducted an internal reorganization to more effectively deliver on this priority. The Mainland Nova Scotia Field Unit is implementing an External Relations Strategy. This strategy establishes clear objectives and actions for strengthening relationships with communities of interest through external communications programs and products.

An important focus of external relations work for these sites will be strengthening relationships with the Mi'kmaq of Nova Scotia as well reaching out to area residents, other cultural communities, partners, and stakeholders to increase the relevance of the sites to these groups. Parks Canada will work with the Mi'kmaq, stakeholders and partners to implement a number of actions linked to the key strategies. In particular, Parks Canada welcomes the use of the sites as community gathering places and will work with area residents, the Mi'kmaq, partners, and stakeholders to welcome events that are targeted and draw new audiences to the sites. Parks Canada will continue to strengthen relationships with local and regional media to raise the profile of the sites and will explore the use of a variety of media to reach Canadians who cannot personally visit the sites.

4.0 Vision for the National Historic Sites of Southwest Nova Scotia

It is the year 2025 and the national historic sites of Southwest Nova Scotia – Port-Royal, Fort Anne, Charles Fort, Melanson Settlement, and Fort Edward – located in the beautiful Annapolis Valley, welcome visitors from the region, across Canada, and around the world. Enchanted by the sweeping views, the fragrant salty air, enormous tides, and the lush valley, visitors easily imagine why the region has been inhabited by the Mi'kmaq for thousands of years and why it attracted so many newcomers whose descendants continue to call this place home. This is a meeting place of cultures – where alliances were forged as Mi'kmaq, Acadians, English, and Scots, among others, strove to build and sustain communities. It has also been a place of great conflict, a focal point of the struggle for empire between France and Britain. Although scenes of dramatic events are from a seemingly distant past, modern-day visitors to the national historic sites of Southwest Nova Scotia are able to forge personal connections to the sites through the timeless and universal stories they tell of arrival and settlement, loss and dislocation, alliance and conflict.

Varied opportunities facilitate visitors' discovery of the sites' history, natural beauty, and distinct sense of place. Children and adults delight in using all of their senses to experience the day-to-day life of the early French explorers and of the Mi'kmaq at the Port-Royal Habitation. Fort Anne's stories are conveyed in ways that appeal to many kinds of visitors and include self-guided tours, interactive exhibits, and an annual encampment. While walking and playing on the sites' grounds, visitors pause to enjoy the fantastic view of the Annapolis Basin at Fort Anne and Port-Royal, and of the Avon and St. Croix Rivers at Fort Edward, where they can also touch the timbers of Canada's oldest remaining blockhouse. Others are excited to trace Nova Scotia's Scottish history at Charles Fort or to learn, at Melanson Settlement, how the Acadian communities adapted to and thrived in the region. Canadians unable to visit the sites in person experience them through the web, and other public outreach programming and discover how the stories of the sites illuminate some of the key developments in our nation's history.

The invaluable cultural resources, landscapes, and viewplanes of these national historic sites are protected for Canadians of this and future generations to discover and enjoy. Just as area residents were key catalysts for the protection of Port-Royal and Fort Anne, area residents, the Mi'kmaq, Acadians, and other partners, stakeholders, and cultural communities are essential to the future of these sites. Through outreach efforts, area residents, the Mi'kmaq, partners, and stakeholders, feel a strong connection to the sites, contribute to stewardship and visitor experience opportunities and utilize the sites as gathering places. Strengthened cooperative efforts increasingly integrate the sites into a regional tourism network ensuring they are destinations for visitors to Southwest Nova

Scotia and that they continue to play an important role in the economic development and heritage of the Annapolis Valley.

5.0 Key Strategies for the National Historic Sites of Southwest Nova Scotia

Key strategies provide concrete direction for addressing the major issues facing the national historic sites of Southwest Nova Scotia and focus efforts and resources towards achieving the vision. The key strategies also address how the various elements of Parks Canada's mandate – resource protection, visitor experience, and public appreciation and understanding – will be achieved in a mutually supportive manner. There are two overarching key strategies that apply to all five of the national historic sites addressed in this plan. Under each is a clear set of objectives aimed at achieving the strategy.

Although the national historic sites of Southwest Nova Scotia are interrelated by events and geography and share many of the same opportunities and challenges, they are also unique and require individual management attention. Thus, individual chapters have been developed which detail the site-specific objectives and actions that will be implemented to achieve the overarching key strategies (Sections 5.3 to 5.7).

Management Guidelines

Management guidelines are included here to outline on-going policies and commitments that Parks Canada will continue to respect and follow at all of the national historic sites addressed in this plan. These are:

- The *Parks Canada Agency Act* states that it is in the national interest to “ensure the commemorative integrity of national historic sites” (*Parks Canada Agency Act*, 1998: Preamble). When considering cultural resource management, Parks Canada adheres to the principles in the Parks Canada Cultural Resource Management Policy.
- The grounds of the national historic sites of Southwest Nova Scotia will be managed to promote the sites' cultural landscapes, protect ecological values, preserve viewplanes, and preserve open space for public use.
- Historical and archaeological information, as well as the archaeological and curatorial collections associated with these sites, will be available for research to the public and stakeholders.

5.1 Key Strategy 1 - Inspiring the Discovery of the National Historic Sites of Southwest Nova Scotia

This key strategy focuses on improving and diversifying the visitor experience offer and strengthening promotional opportunities that will help inspire increased numbers of people to enjoy and discover this outstanding network of national historic sites. This strategy also seeks to inspire the discovery of the national historic sites of Southwest Nova Scotia amongst Canadians unable to visit the sites in person.

Through research and analysis, Parks Canada will better understand visitors' travel motivations, needs, and preferences. Based on this analysis, Parks Canada will confirm target visitor markets, which are currently identified as tourists visiting Nova Scotia, tourists travelling to Annapolis Royal, the residents of the Halifax Regional Municipality (HRM), Acadians, the Mi'kmaq, cruise visitors travelling to regional small ports, and specific markets in New Brunswick. In addition, Parks Canada will work with partners to support efforts to rejuvenate the motorcoach market as opportunities arise. Parks Canada will strive to facilitate visitor experience opportunities designed to attract and meet the needs, expectations, and interests of visitors from these target markets.

Effort will be placed on promoting the sites as a network linked by history, culture, and geography. Parks Canada will work collaboratively with the tourism industry and regional tourism partners to achieve mutually beneficial positioning and promotional goals. This will include conveying the message that the sites are an interrelated group of "must see" destinations within the beautiful and historic Annapolis Valley and the greater region of Southwest Nova Scotia – ideal both for visitors vacationing in Nova Scotia and as a weekend getaway for markets within the Maritimes.⁹ Finally, Parks Canada's efforts to inspire discovery of the sites for Canadians at home and at leisure will include improving the web-pages for the sites.

Objectives to Achieve Key Strategy 1

Objective 1.1 The motivations, preferences, needs, and expectations of current and potential visitors are understood and the extent to which the current visitor offers meet those needs is assessed.

Objective 1.2 Current and potential visitors have access to inspiring and informative pre-trip information and the arrival stage of the trip planning (visitor experience) cycle is improved.

Objective 1.3 Opportunities for visitors to discover, enjoy, and connect with the national historic sites of Southwest Nova Scotia are improved.

Objective 1.4 Working with others, the national historic sites of Southwest Nova Scotia are promoted both individually and as a network of sites within the region.

Objective 1.5 Canadians unable to visit the sites in person are inspired to discover the national historic sites of Southwest Nova Scotia.

⁹ Although this strategy addresses visitor experience product development broadly for all five sites, the unique approach to achieving these objectives at each site is presented in the individual chapters which follow.

5.2 Key Strategy 2 - Shared Stewardship and Community Gathering Places

For well over a century, the people of Southwest Nova Scotia have been essential to the stewardship and protection of the national historic sites in their region and have enjoyed the sites as community gathering places. These national historic sites also hold special significance for the Mi'kmaq of Nova Scotia as well as for Acadians, African Nova Scotians, Scottish, Planter and Loyalist descendants who have contributed to their protection. This strategy underscores Parks Canada's on-going responsibility to ensure the commemorative integrity of the national historic sites of Southwest Nova Scotia while seeking to build on this culture of shared stewardship by working together to ensure the sites remain relevant to local and regional audiences. By tapping into the knowledge and passion of the Mi'kmaq, partners, stakeholders, and area residents, protection of the sites and visitor experience opportunities will be enhanced. Parks Canada will work to increase awareness of and strengthen support for the sites through public outreach aimed at local and regional audiences. In particular, Parks Canada will work with the Mi'kmaq, partners, stakeholders, and area residents and organizations interested in using the sites as community gathering places and to welcome unique opportunities, including special events that engage local people and attract new audiences.

Objectives to Achieve Key Strategy 2

Objective 2.1 Relationships with area residents are strengthened and their sense of connection to the sites is increased.

Objective 2.2 The Mi'kmaq use and engage with the national historic sites of Southwest Nova Scotia according to their needs and interests.

Objective 2.3 Parks Canada welcomes Acadian, African Nova Scotian, and other cultural communities' involvement with and connection to the sites.

Objective 2.4 Public outreach opportunities for local and regional audiences increases awareness of and strengthens support for the sites.

Objective 2.5 The cultural resources and the heritage values of the sites are protected with the involvement of area residents, the Mi'kmaq, partners, and stakeholders.

Objective 2.6 Collaborative events and opportunities with area residents, the Mi'kmaq, partners and stakeholders encourage use of the sites while supporting revenue generation objectives.

Site Specific Chapters

In addition to the objectives outlined above, site-specific objectives have been identified to achieve the overarching key strategies at each of the sites. These are presented in the individual site chapters which follow.

5.3 Managing Fort Anne National Historic Site

Applying Key Strategy 1 - Inspiring the Discovery of Fort Anne NHS

At Fort Anne emphasis will be placed on the development of self-guided visitor experience opportunities. This offer will take into account the motivations, needs, and preferences of visitors.

Objective 1 Self-guided visitor experience opportunities at Fort Anne meet the needs, interests, and motivations of target markets.

Applying Key Strategy 2 - Shared Stewardship and Community Gathering Place at Fort Anne NHS

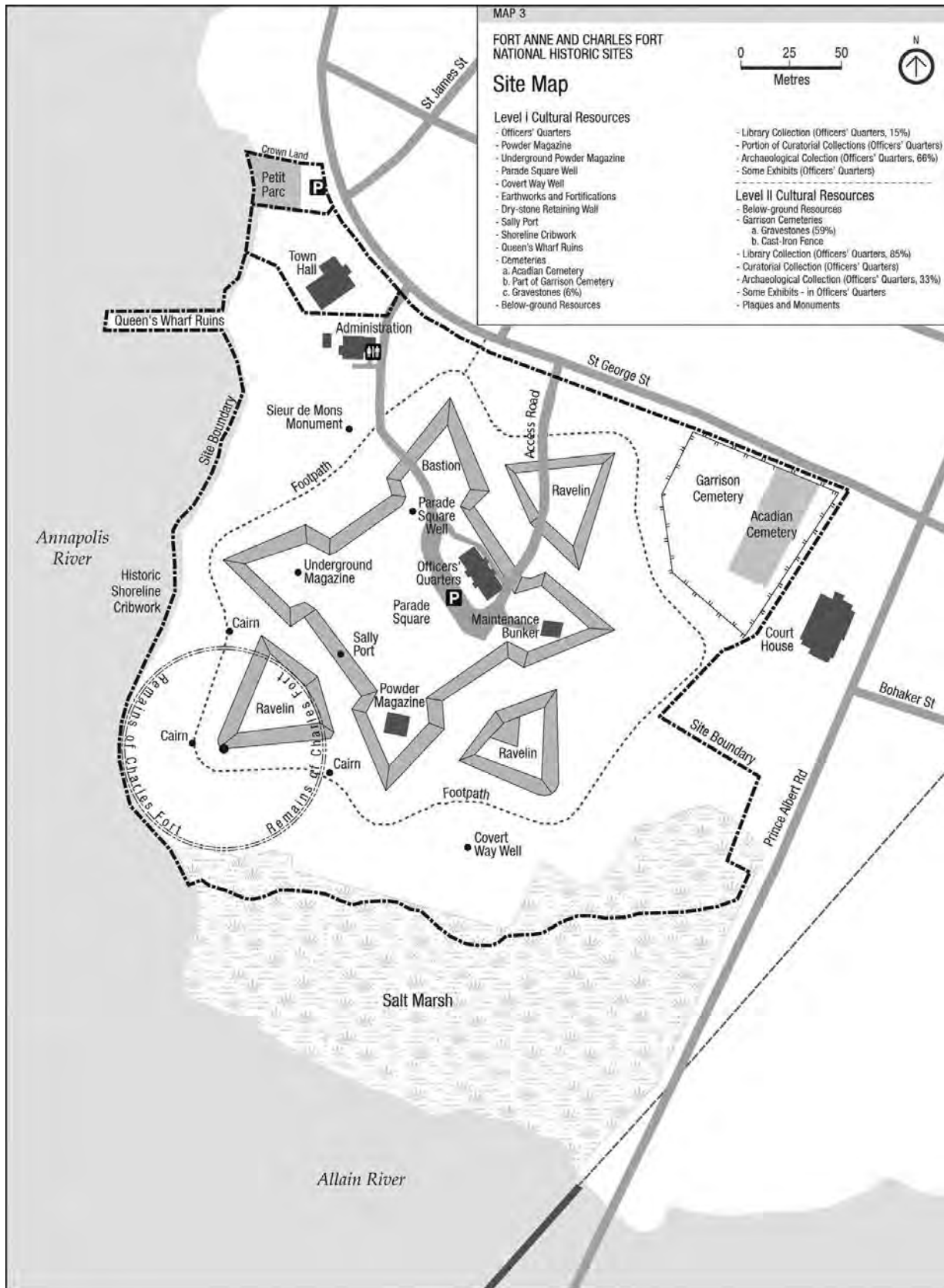
Of importance for Fort Anne is addressing minor impairments to commemorative integrity, and doing so, to the extent possible, in collaboration with area residents, the Mi'kmaq, Acadians, and other partners and stakeholders. Collaboration will be important relative to the management of the curatorial and archival collection housed in the Officers' Quarters such that the collections are accessible to the public and stakeholders to the extent possible. The on-going protection of the site's cultural landscape and extraordinary view-planes is also a priority – integral not only to the commemorative integrity of the site, but to visitor use and enjoyment.

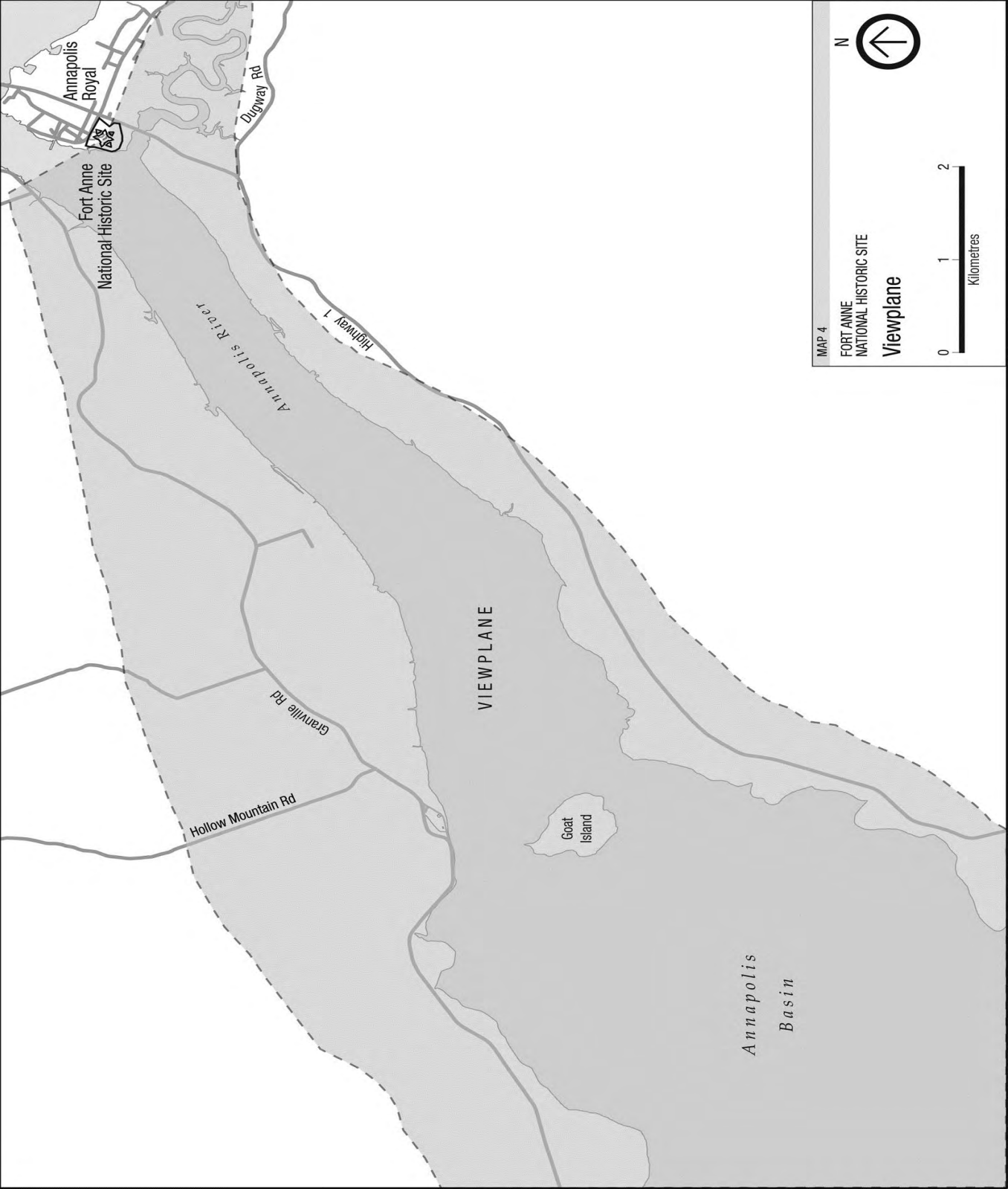
Parks Canada will work with area residents, the Mi'kmaq, partners, and stakeholders to ensure the relevance of this site to the people of Annapolis Royal and the greater region of Southwest Nova Scotia.

Objective 1 Minor impairments to the commemorative integrity at Fort Anne are addressed and the site's cultural resources and heritage values are protected with the involvement of area residents, the Mi'kmaq, partners, and stakeholders.

Objective 2 By working with area residents, the Mi'kmaq, partners, and stakeholders, the management of Fort Anne's curatorial, archival, and library collections is improved and accessibility of these resources to researchers and the community is made possible.

Objective 3 Collaborative events and opportunities with area residents, the Mi'kmaq, partners and stakeholders encourage use of the sites while supporting revenue generation objectives.





5.4 Managing Charles Fort National Historic Site

Applying Key Strategy 1 - Inspiring the Discovery of Charles Fort NHS

Given the location of Charles Fort is within the boundaries of Fort Anne, inspiring its discovery hinges on the success of inspiring the discovery of Fort Anne (as outlined in the management chapter for Fort Anne). However, Charles Fort is also a distinct national historic site unto itself and further work is required to increase awareness of the site amongst Canadians and to enhance opportunities for visitors to discover the site once they are on the Fort Anne grounds.

Objective 1 Opportunities for visitors to Fort Anne to discover Charles Fort are enhanced.

Applying Key Strategy 2 - Shared Stewardship and Community Gathering Place at Charles Fort NHS

Charles Fort holds special significance for many people of Scottish heritage and those with an interest in the Scottish history of Canada and Nova Scotia. In the fall of 2010, Parks Canada hosted a special event in partnership with the Annapolis Royal 300th team and the Annapolis Heritage Society to celebrate Charles Fort as the birthplace of Nova Scotia, or “New Scotland.” And in June of 2011, the opening event of the International Gathering of the Clans in Nova Scotia was held at Fort Anne. Parks Canada will build on these recent experiences to strengthen the connection between the Scottish heritage community and Charles Fort.

Objective 1 Building on experience gained from special events in 2010 and 2011, opportunities to feature the unique heritage of Charles Fort are encouraged and the connection between the Scottish heritage community and the historic site is strengthened.

5.5 Managing Port-Royal National Historic Site

Applying Key Strategy 1 - Inspiring the Discovery of Port-Royal NHS

To inspire the discovery of Port-Royal NHS, special attention to the enhancement of visitor experience opportunities is required. The 2006 and 2011 VIPs for Port-Royal suggest that many visitors to the site enjoy what they experience but that many are seeking more activities, demonstrations, and sensory and experiential opportunities. In response to these findings, a Wigwam has been built outside the Habitation to enhance the interpretation of the site's historical significance to the Mi'kmaq of Nova Scotia through participatory programming. In addition, special events that feature Mi'kmaw heritage through demonstrations and hands-on activities are hosted at Port-Royal three times a season. Parks Canada will continue to learn from and build on these experiences and will work towards offering a menu of opportunities for visitors based on their motivations, needs, and preferences.

Although the concerns about the planning and arrival phase of the visitor experience cycle at Port-Royal have largely been addressed, implementation of this strategy will further these efforts through improvements to the interpretation of the story of the Habitation as a reconstruction.

Objective 1 A menu of experiential and sensory visitor experience opportunities meets the needs, expectations, and interests of target markets.

Applying Key Strategy 2 - Shared Stewardship and Community Gathering Place at Port-Royal NHS

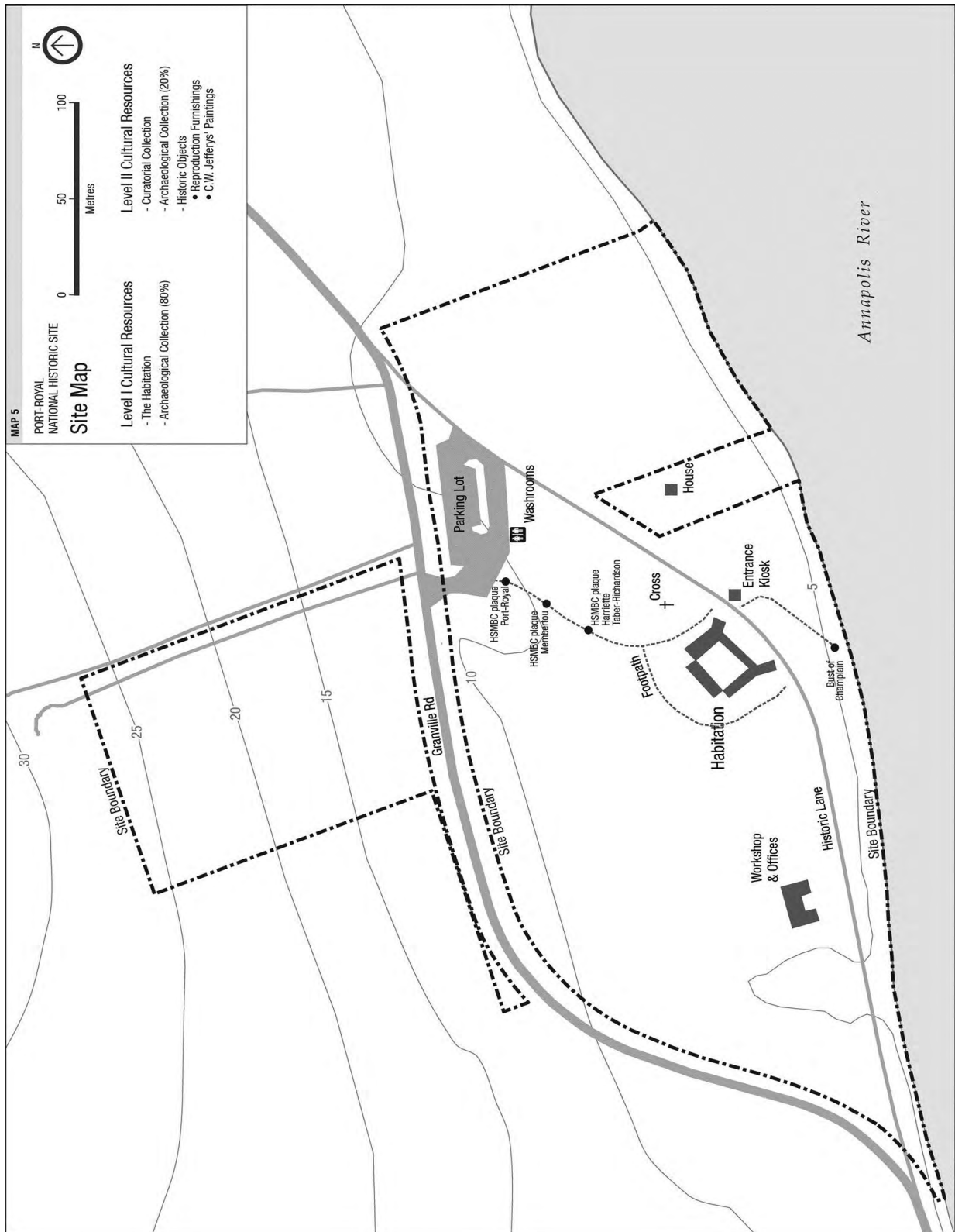
Parks Canada will work to foster a strengthened spirit of shared stewardship of Port-Royal, and encourage the involvement of area residents, the Mi'kmaq, partners, and stakeholders in the enhancement of visitor experience opportunities. Port-Royal has a long history with many historic milestones; many of which hold special meaning for the Mi'kmaq. A particularly important milestone was the 400th anniversary of the baptism of Grand Chief Membertou, commemorated in 2010 in partnership with the Mi'kmaq Association for Cultural Studies. This event brought over 1,000 visitors to Port-Royal NHS to experience a re-enactment of the baptism and to celebrate Mi'kmaw traditions, culture, and heritage. Other milestones, such as the 400th anniversary of the arrival of the Jesuits to Canada in 2011, provided additional opportunities to work with partners to offer unique events and to facilitate fresh and innovative visitor experiences that will attract area residents and new or niche audiences.

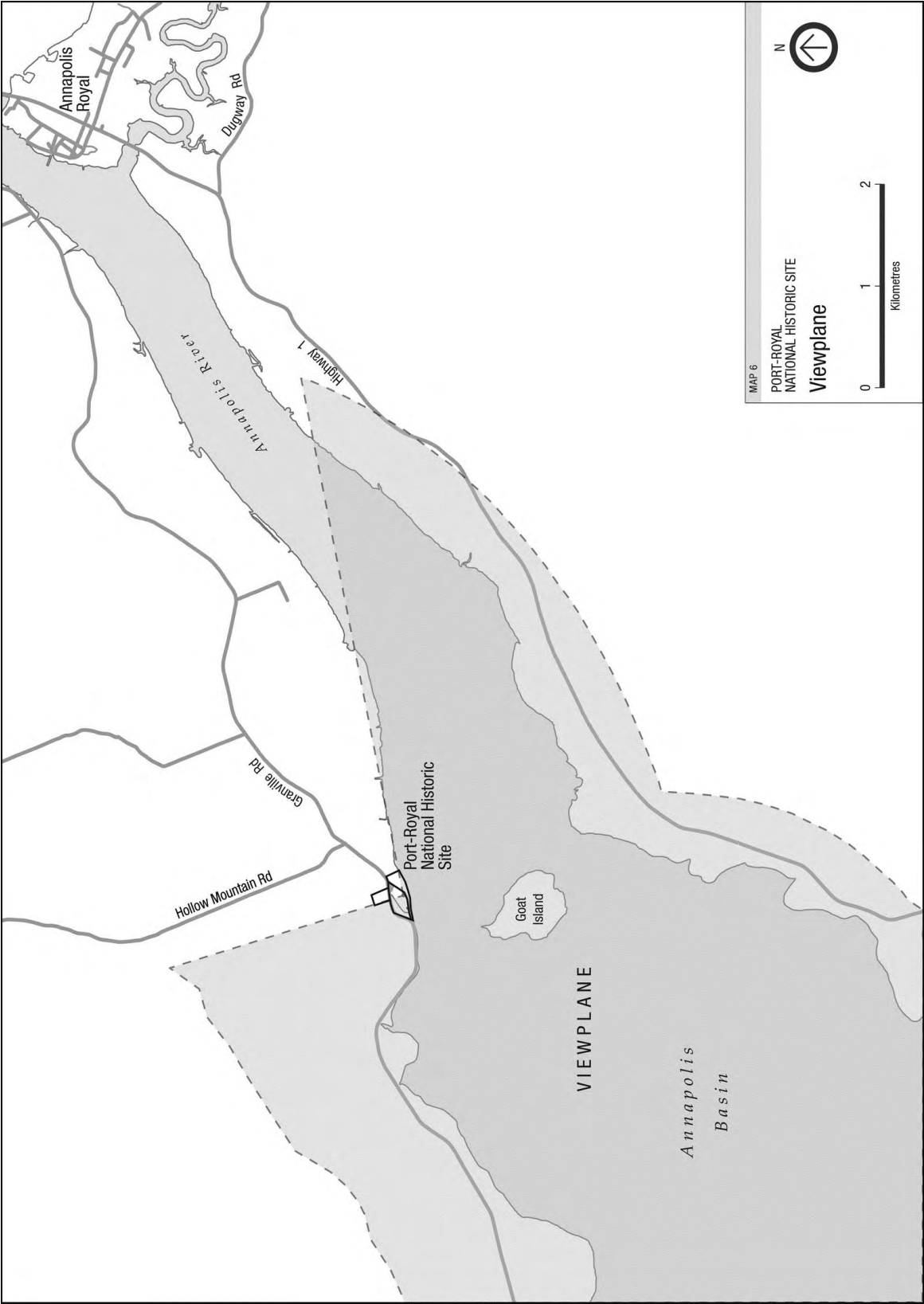
While there are few specific actions required to improve the state of cultural resource management at Port-Royal NHS at this time, Parks Canada will continue to ensure the

commemorative integrity of the site with the involvement of the Mi'kmaq, area residents, partners, and stakeholders as appropriate.

Objective 1 By working with the Mi'kmaq, partners, stakeholders, and area residents, quality special events and opportunities based on the unique heritage of Port-Royal attract local and new audiences while supporting revenue generation objectives.

Objective 2 The cultural resources and the heritage values of Port-Royal are protected and presented with the involvement of the Mi'kmaq, local people, partners, and stakeholders as appropriate.





5.6 Managing Melanson Settlement National Historic Site

Applying Key Strategy 1 - Inspiring the Discovery of Melanson Settlement NHS

Melanson Settlement is a small national historic site with a newly developed and well-received visitor experience offer, currently attracting approximately 3,000 visitors annually. Although unstaffed, Melanson Settlement facilitates opportunities for self-guided exploration of the site. An interpretive node includes a short looped trail that leads from the parking lot to a lookout with a striking view of the uplands, marsh and river. Visitors may also explore the untended lower fields on foot, knowing the ground on which they walk contains remnants of the lives of the Acadians who once settled here.

At Melanson Settlement, Parks Canada will promote the site in partnership with others as part of a network of sites in the region. Self-guided visitor experience opportunities at Melanson Settlement will be offered at a scale appropriate for this small site, focusing on opportunities related to the site's rich archaeological resources and its Acadian heritage.

Objective 1 Self-guided visitor experience opportunities at Melanson Settlement relative to the site's archaeological resources and Acadian heritage are available.

Applying Key Strategy 2 - Shared Stewardship and Community Gathering Place at Melanson Settlement NHS

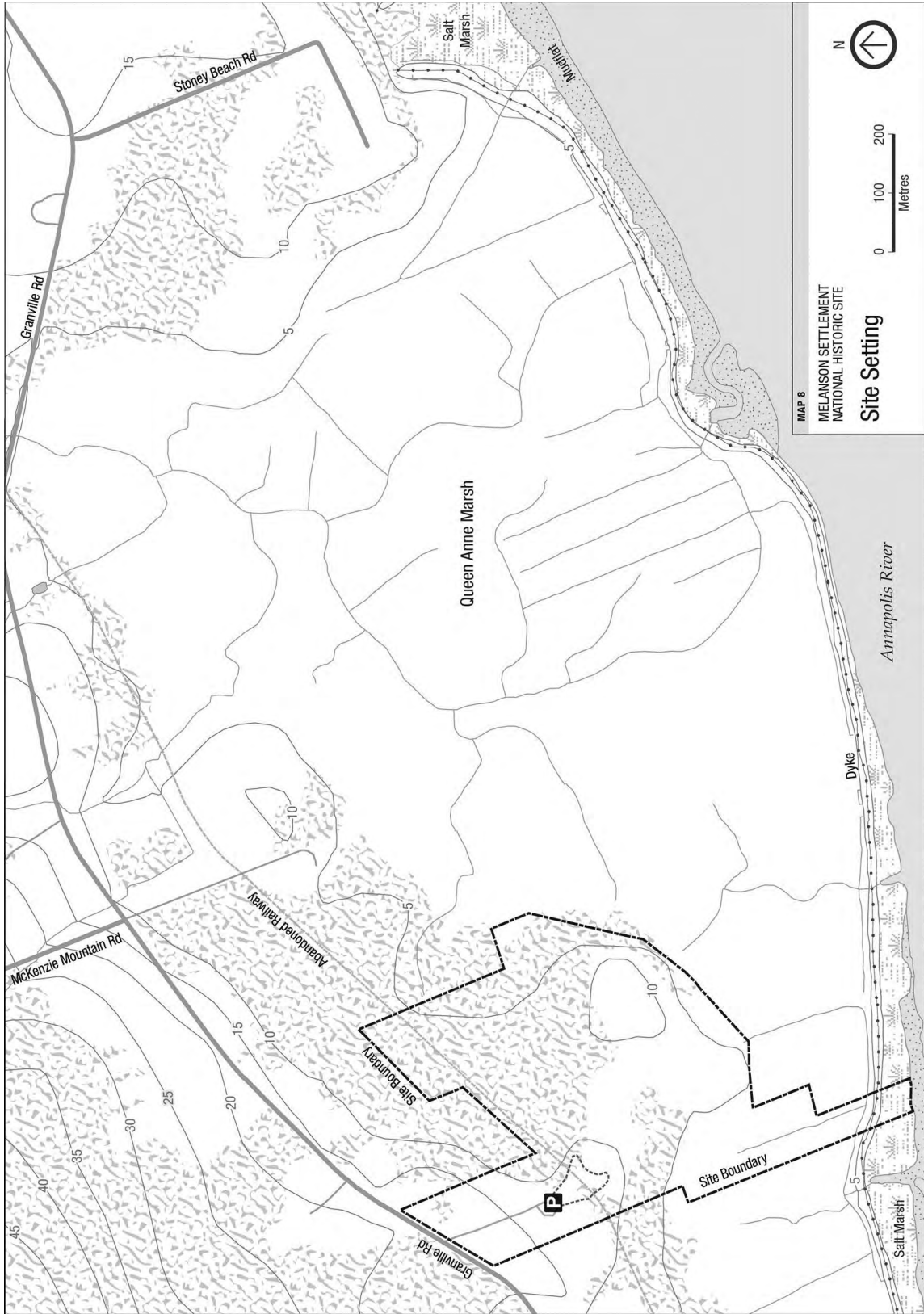
This key strategy is particularly relevant to Melanson Settlement NHS for several reasons. First, the designated place of Melanson Settlement is valued not only for its *in situ* cultural resources, but its proximity to and location within a broader landscape. Working with others is thus essential to the protection of the site as well as the management of the broader historic-geographic context, including the surrounding dyked and cultivated salt marshes and views of the Annapolis River. Reaching out to the community and fostering a shared sense of stewardship is also important as Melanson Settlement is unstaffed and more vulnerable than the other sites to disturbance and cultural vandalism.

In addition, Melanson Settlement is highly valued by specific audiences, particularly people of Acadian descent who have been engaged with the protection and presentation of this site since its inception. An important opportunity for this site moving forward is to work to strengthen the relationship with the Acadian community and to increase awareness of the site with support and engagement from area residents, the Mi'kmaq, partners, and stakeholders.

Objective 1 The cultural resources and historic values of Melanson Settlement are protected with the involvement of area residents, the Mi'kmaq, the Acadian community, and other partners and stakeholders as appropriate.

Objective 2 Awareness of and support for the site, particularly among the Acadian community, is strengthened.





MAP 8
MELANSON SETTLEMENT
NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE
Site Setting

5.7 Managing Fort Edward National Historic Site

Applying Key Strategy 1 - Inspiring the Discovery of Fort Edward NHS

Given that Fort Edward NHS is geographically removed from the other national historic sites in Southwest Nova Scotia and has faced challenges associated with way-finding to the site, the emphasis for this key strategy will be on enhancing pre-trip planning information and the arrival stage of the visitor experience cycle. Attention will be paid to the fact that many visitors to Fort Edward are on a day-trip from Halifax (currently 21%) and that the majority will visit Fort Edward en route to other sites. Parks Canada will therefore work with others to promote the site, both as part of the network of Southwest Nova Scotia national historic sites and in relation to Grand-Pré NHS.¹⁰

Parks Canada will provide opportunities for visitors to experience the site and will encourage the involvement of the Mi'kmaq, partners and stakeholders in the delivery of the visitor offer.

Objective 1 Current and potential visitors have access to inspiring and informative pre-trip information, and the arrival stage of the trip planning (visitor experience) cycle is improved.

Objective 2 Working with others, Fort Edward is promoted both individually and as part of a network of national historic sites within the region.

Objective 3 Visitor opportunities to experience the Fort Edward view-plane and grounds are offered.

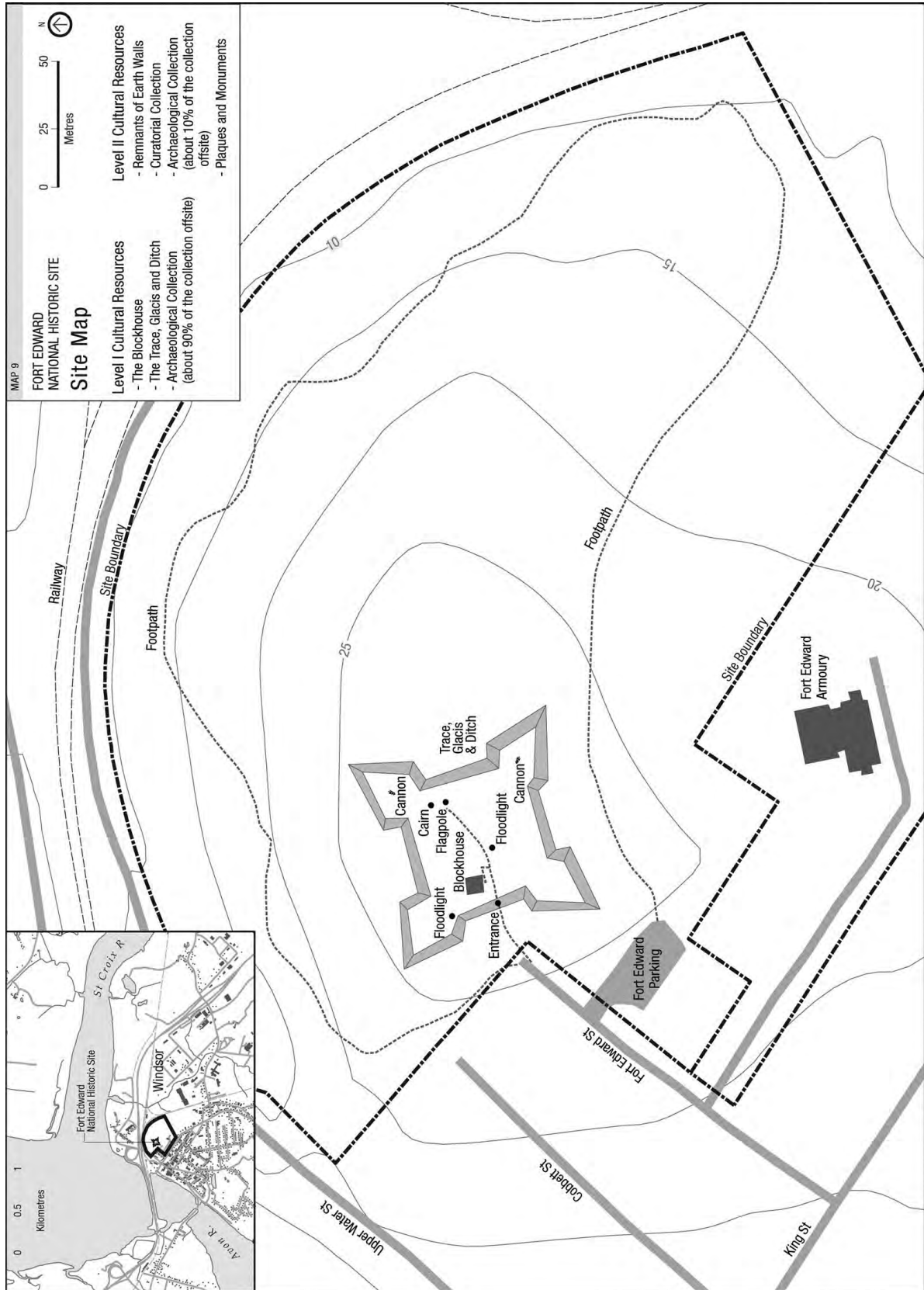
Applying Key Strategy 2 - Shared Stewardship and Community Gathering Place at Fort Edward NHS

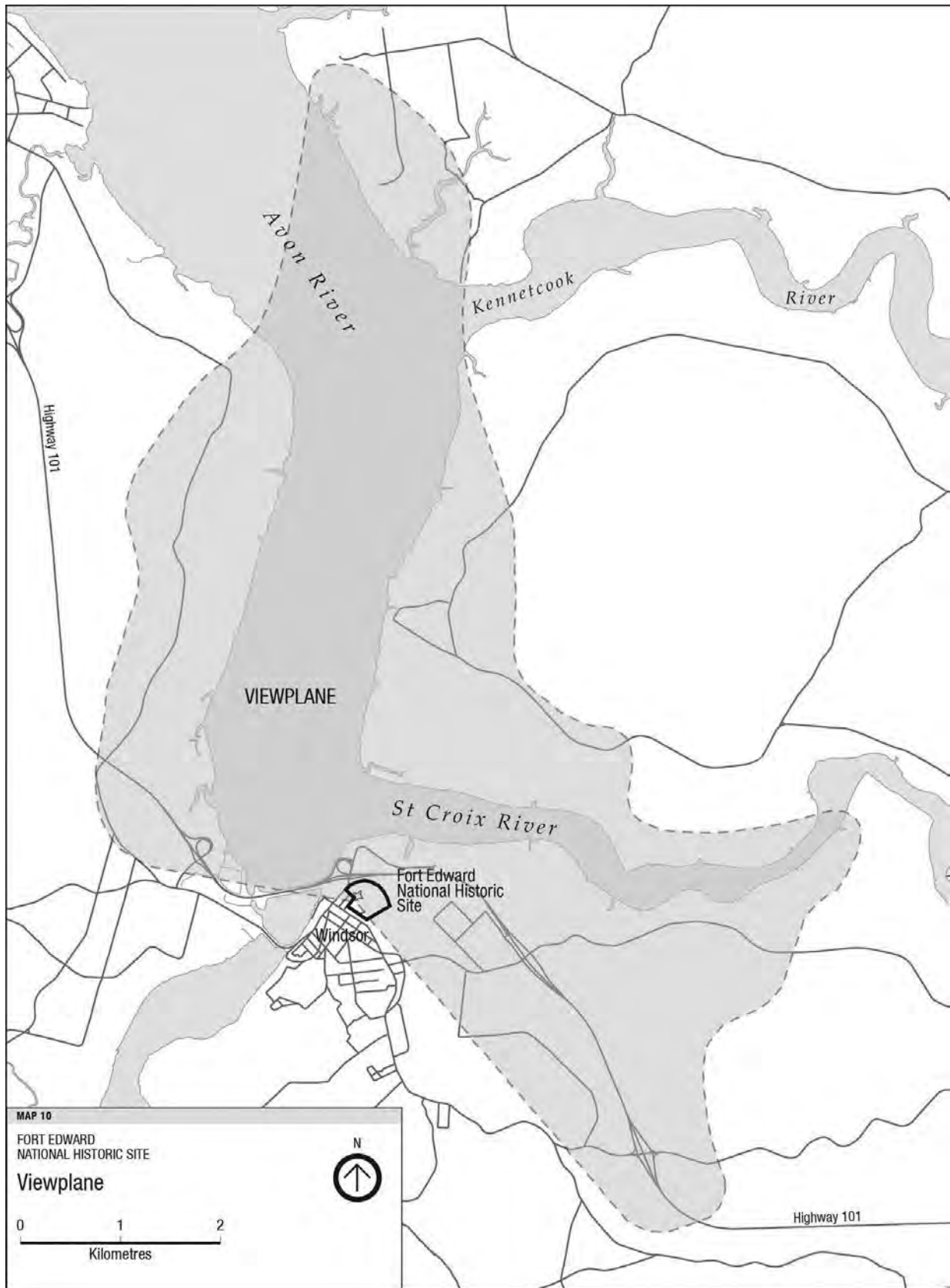
Many people within the community of Windsor – area residents, members of the West Hants Historical Society, town councilors, and staff, among others – have a strong interest in the future of Fort Edward National Historic Site as evidenced by a strong sense of pride and of ownership. They see Fort Edward as a valuable community asset. Parks Canada will work with the community and welcome their use of and engagement with the site as a cherished community gathering place.

¹⁰ 37% of visitors to Fort Edward indicated in 2009/10 that they had also visited or planned to visit Grand-Pré NHS.

Objective 1 The cultural resources and heritage values of Fort Edward are protected with the involvement of area residents, the Mi'kmaq, partners, and stakeholders.

Objective 2 Area residents, the Mi'kmaq, partners, and stakeholders are encouraged to use the site as a community gathering place.





6.0 Administration and Operations

At the national historic sites of Southwest Nova Scotia, Parks Canada strives to deliver its mandate of resource protection, visitor experience, and public outreach while demonstrating effective and cost-efficient management of human and financial resources and sound environmental stewardship.

There are no major changes planned for the administration and operation of facilities during the ten-year cycle of this management plan. Existing assets (including buildings and other infrastructure) are adequate and meet health and safety requirements. However, most assets are aging, requiring higher levels of maintenance, and eventually they will require upgrades or replacement. Health and safety requirements will continue to be satisfied and facilities maintained through regular maintenance programs.

Parks Canada is committed to minimizing the aspects of its assets and operations that have an actual or potential impact on the environment and is working with the Environmental Management Coordinator (EC) to implement initiatives in accordance with the *Parks Canada Environmental Management Directive* (Parks Canada 2009). Recent improvements at the national historic sites of Southwest Nova Scotia include bringing petroleum storage tanks up to current code, completing updated Environmental Emergency Response Plans for the sites, and installing a fire suppression system at Port-Royal NHS.

7.0 Monitoring and Reporting

Parks Canada uses a variety of tools to monitor and report on the state of the national historic sites of Southwest Nova Scotia. Cultural resources are monitored through a cyclical maintenance program. Asset management and cultural resource management staff from the Mainland Nova Scotia Field Unit conduct regular assessments of the sites' cultural resources. The condition of cultural resources is also assessed and reported upon through Commemorative Integrity Evaluations.

Visitor experience is monitored through visitor surveys and other social science studies, including Visitor Information Programs (VIP) and Visitor Experience Assessments (VEA). Aspects of visitor experience are also assessed and reported on through the Commemorative Integrity (CI) Evaluations. In addition, Parks Canada is in the process of implementing a structured monitoring program to ensure that Parks Canada is successfully facilitating opportunities for visitors to establish a strong sense of connection to the national historic sites of Southwest Nova Scotia.

The Parks Canada Agency is also developing a national program that will measure Canadians' level of awareness and understanding of Parks Canada's administered places, and the level of stakeholder and partner engagement in their protection and presentation. The national historic sites of Southwest Nova Scotia are working to contribute to this national initiative.

Monitoring and reporting is also essential to the management planning cycle. Annual implementation reports record performance in putting the management plan into action. As of 2008, a "State of the Site" assessment is required for heritage places administered by Parks Canada. This assessment provides an overview of the sites' condition and trends relative to commemorative integrity, public outreach, and visitor experience, as well as the state of the sites' Aboriginal advisory relationships. As well, it forms the basis for the next ten-year management plan review, and will determine major issues and challenges to be addressed in the next management planning cycle.

8.0 Summary of Strategic Environmental Assessment

Parks Canada is responsible for assessing and mitigating the impact of its actions on natural ecosystems and cultural resources. The "*Cabinet Directive on the Environmental Assessment of Policy, Plan and Program Proposals*," requires a strategic environmental assessment of all plans, programs, and policies submitted to the federal Cabinet or to a Minister for approval, including management plans for national historic sites.

Accordingly, a strategic environmental assessment (SEA) of the objectives, programs, and management actions outlined in the management plan was carried out. The objectives of the SEA were:

- to ensure that the strategic directions, objectives, and specific actions contained within the plan respect and support the commemorative integrity goals and objectives for Port-Royal, Fort Anne, Charles Fort, Fort Edward, and Melanson Settlement National Historic Sites of Canada (collectively known as the national historic sites of Southwest Nova Scotia);
- to assess the implications of various alternatives considered in the plan, to enhance positive effects and avoid or mitigate negative effects;
- to ensure that the plan adequately addresses the multiple stressors and concerns relating to the residual and cumulative effects; and
- to document the potential trade-offs and implications, including both positive and adverse residual impacts of the overall plan.

Relevant federal environmental policies, including those of Parks Canada, were considered in the policy review. The proposed strategic directions outlined in the management plan are consistent with these policies. Implementation of the management direction and the specific actions that are proposed are expected to result in progress towards greater commemorative integrity for the national historic sites of Southwest Nova Scotia.

The SEA included evaluation of cumulative environmental effects from all proposed actions. It also considered the full range of potential impacts on the natural and cultural values of the national historic sites of Southwest Nova Scotia, both from ongoing operations and from proposed actions.

The management plan proposes a few management actions that could potentially result in some adverse environmental impact. However, it is expected that these impacts can be mitigated once they are examined more closely during project-specific environmental impact analysis pursuant to the Parks Canada Interim Management Directive on Implementation of the *Canadian Environmental Assessment Act 2012*. The following initiatives may be subject to project-specific environmental impact analysis:

- special events taking place at the national historic sites;
- new visitor experience opportunities;
- masonry stabilisation of Sally Port and wall structure stabilisation of the Officers' Quarters at Fort Anne National Historic Site;
- maintenance of the historic view-plane at Fort Edward; and
- improved trail maintenance at Fort Edward National Historic Site.

Collectively, the strategic direction and management actions outlined in this management plan are in line with the integrated mandate of Parks Canada and will contribute to overall protection and improvement of the commemorative integrity of the national historic sites of Southwest Nova Scotia.

APPENDIX A

Implementation Strategy with Targets and Actions

Implementation of this management plan is the responsibility of the Mainland Nova Scotia Field Unit Superintendent. The management actions proposed in this management plan will be implemented through the Field Unit's annual Sustainable Business Plan, which identifies the management plan actions that will be implemented annually, along with the costs and specific timing. A summary of the priority planned actions is presented in the table below.

The Implementation Strategy is divided into two main sections:

- Overarching Key Strategy 1 and Key Strategy 2 which includes objectives, targets and actions that apply to all five national historic sites of Southwest Nova Scotia.
- Chapters for each national historic site which includes site-specific objectives, targets and actions.

To understand the commitments being made at each site, it is important to review the overarching key strategy section and site-specific chapter for each national historic site.

KEY STRATEGY 1: Inspiring the Discovery of the National Historic Sites of Southwest Nova Scotia

Objective 1.1 The motivations, preferences, needs, and expectations of current and potential visitors are understood and the extent to which the current visitor offers meet those needs is assessed.

Actions and Implementation Year(s)	Short-term	Long-term
Based upon social science and the market research and tourism expertise of key regional tourism associations, confirm current and potential target markets.	•	
Conduct VIP research to evaluate the state of visitor experience and management effectiveness in facilitating visitor experience based on the motivations, preferences, needs and expectations of markets.	•	

Objective 1.2 Current and potential visitors have access to inspiring and informative pre-trip information and the arrival stage of the trip planning (visitor experience) cycle is improved.		
Actions and Implementation Year(s)	Short-term	Long-term
Improve the quality and user-friendliness of pre-trip, and special activities information on the sites' web-pages.	•	•
Ensure that the menu of visitor experience opportunities is available to all potential visitors in appropriate media.	•	•
Work to increase visibility on destination marketing websites, such as <i>NovaScotia.com</i> .	•	

Objective 1.3 Opportunities for visitors to discover, enjoy, and connect with the national historic sites of Southwest Nova Scotia are improved.		
Actions and Implementation Year(s)	Short-term	Long-term
Apply findings from social science and market research ¹¹ to all visitor experience planning.	•	•
Develop visitor experiences for the five sites that are based upon and linked to the concepts and objectives outlined in this plan.	•	
Incorporate analysis of social science research and results of an EQ-matching workshop into visitor experience programming.	•	•
Conduct a review of the Commemorative Integrity Statements for all five sites with a view to address weaknesses identified in the CI Evaluations and to include information which reflects other perspectives (e.g. Aboriginal) regarding the sites' historical significance.	•	•
Work with the Mi'kmaq of Nova Scotia to enhance Mi'kmaw themes and opportunities for visitors to connect with the Mi'kmaw heritage of the sites and region.	•	•
Work with the Mi'kmaq, partners, cultural communities, and stakeholders to enhance visitor experience opportunities as appropriate.	•	•

¹¹ Including research from NS Tourism, the 2010 Special Events Survey for Port-Royal and Fort Anne, the VIP studies of 2011 and 2013 (Port-Royal and Fort Anne respectively), and the Visitor Origin Monitoring Program for Port-Royal (2007).

Objective 1.4 Working with others, the national historic sites of Southwest Nova Scotia are promoted both individually and as a network of sites within the region.		
Actions and Implementation Year(s)	Short-term	Long-term
Continue to collaborate with tourism groups such as Destination Southwest Nova to effectively promote the sites to target markets.	•	•
Develop the concept of a “network” of national historic sites within Southwest Nova Scotia and develop promotion and positioning tools to implement the concept, ensuring cross-messaging and cross-promotion at the sites.	•	•
Encourage greater cross-promotion between Grand-Pré National Historic Site and the national historic sites of Southwest Nova Scotia, so as to benefit from the regional impact of a successful World Heritage inscription.	•	•
Increase promotions in the Halifax Regional Municipality, particularly through partnership with local attractions and Destination Southwest Nova Association.	•	•
Work with Acadian tourism organizations and attractions in the region to enhance awareness and ensure cross-promotion of opportunities.	•	•
Develop and implement strategies to promote the sites within New Brunswick, such as cross-promoting with Parks Canada’s national historic sites in New Brunswick, building connections with other New Brunswick heritage attractions, and attending consumer shows.	•	•
Develop and implement a strategy to better promote the sites within Annapolis Royal and the area, targeting people visiting the town.	•	•

Objective 1.5 Canadians unable to visit the sites in person are inspired to discover the national historic sites of Southwest Nova Scotia.		
Actions and Implementation Year(s)	Short-term	Long-term
Contribute to the implementation of the Field Unit External Relations strategy at these sites. This will include audience segmentation and determining appropriate media for specific audiences.	•	

Review and continuously update the sites' web-pages on the Parks Canada website with new information and opportunities that facilitate inspired discovery of the sites.	•	•
Explore opportunities to use digital technology, such as digitized maps of archaeological resources, to better facilitate interactive learning opportunities.		•

Strategy Targets

- Fort Anne Visitation : 36,352*
- Port-Royal Visitation: 30,353*
- Fort Edward Visitation: 1,227*
- The “capture rate” of visitors already within Annapolis Royal increases. (Baseline 2006: 5% of visitors to Annapolis Royal visited Fort Anne and 2% visited Port-Royal in 2011.)
- Satisfaction with pre-trip information increases for Port-Royal and Fort Anne. (Baseline: 82% and 80% respectively.)
- 90% of visitors at surveyed sites enjoy their visit.
- 85% of visitors at surveyed sites consider the site visited as meaningful to them.

* These are visitation targets set by the Agency in 2010 when there was a longer operational/visitor season.

KEY STRATEGY 2: Shared Stewardship and Community Gathering Places

Objective 2.1 Relationships with area residents are strengthened and their sense of connection to the sites is increased.

Actions and Implementation Year(s)	Short-term	Long-term
Communicate with area residents to determine their interest for involvement with the sites, such as exploring possibilities for establishing a permanent mechanism for increased and ongoing engagement.	•	•
Ensure Parks Canada's presence at strategic and relevant community events, activities, and meetings.	•	•

Objective 2.2 The Mi'kmaq use and engage with the national historic sites of Southwest Nova Scotia according to their needs and interests.

Actions and Implementation Year(s)	Short-term	Long-term
In cooperation with the Mi'kmaq of Nova Scotia, participate in the creation of an Aboriginal Advisory Committee for Nova Scotia that will serve as a forum for addressing issues pertaining to the Southwest Nova Scotia sites.	•	•
Work with the Mi'kmaq to enhance visitor experience and public outreach relative to Mi'kmaw heritage.		•
Work with the Mi'kmaq to identify and carry out research regarding these sites as considered mutually appropriate.		•
Facilitate the use of the sites by the Mi'kmaq according to their needs and interests, such as for increased special events and gatherings.	•	•
Work with the Mi'kmaq to ensure effective communication and promotion of events, activities, and opportunities relevant to Mi'kmaw communities (e.g. the Mi'kmaq Maliseet Nations News).	•	•
Work with the Mi'kmaq and area residents to encourage greater involvement of Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal youth in many aspects of site operations and activities via the Parks Canada volunteer program.	•	•

Objective 2.3 Parks Canada welcomes Acadian, African Nova Scotian, and other cultural communities' involvement with and connection to the sites.

Actions and Implementation Year(s)	Short-term	Long-term
Continue to work with the Acadian Consultative Committee to encourage their on-going input into the telling of the sites' stories through visitor experience and public outreach opportunities.	•	•
Work with Acadian partner organizations to seek opportunities for Acadian activities and events at the sites.	•	•
Increase visibility and profile within Acadian communities, particularly by communicating through French language media in the Maritimes, including CIFA (radio) and Le Courier (print), and by continuing to participate in festivals on the Acadian shore.	•	•
Encourage greater involvement of the African Nova Scotian community in the telling of the stories at these sites as they relate to African Nova Scotian heritage.	•	

Work with the Valley African Nova Scotian Development Association to identify and address areas of mutual interest and/or concern.		•
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Objective 2.4 Public outreach opportunities for local and regional audiences increases awareness of and strengthens support for the sites.

Actions and Implementation Year(s)	Short-term	Long-term
Work with the Mi'kmaq, partners (such as universities, local historical societies, elder hostels, etc.), and communities to respond to requests that relates to the sites' history and archaeology.		•

Objective 2.5 The cultural resources and the heritage values of the sites are protected with the involvement of area residents, the Mi'kmaq, partners, and stakeholders.

Actions and Implementation Year(s)	Short-term	Long-term
Tap into the knowledge and interest of the Mi'kmaq and community members to support volunteer projects that will foster a greater sense of connection and provide direct value to the sites. For example, Parks Canada will explore opportunities for a volunteer to oversee the archival collection at Fort Anne while researchers are present.		•

Objective 2.6 Collaborative events and opportunities with area residents, the Mi'kmaq, partners and stakeholders encourage use of the sites while supporting revenue generation objectives.

Actions and Implementation Year(s)	Short-term	Long-term
Based on the results of the 2010 Special Events Survey and as part of the External Relations Strategy for the Field Unit, the national historic sites of Southwest Nova Scotia will Work in collaboration with local and regional organizations and municipal governments who wish to use the sites for special events. (e.g. concerts, reunions and other public gatherings).	•	

○ Develop a strategy to address recent increased interest in weddings and other private functions being held at Fort Anne and Port-Royal.		
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Strategy Targets

- The condition of the cultural resources at all of the sites is maintained or improved.
- Factoring in changes in seasonality, visitation by area residents increases at Fort Anne, Port-Royal, and Fort Edward (see targets within individual site chapters).
- Special events attendance increases from the 2010 baseline.
- The percentage of media bulletins picked up by the local and regional media increases.

Applying Key Strategy 1: Inspiring the Discovery of Fort Anne NHS

Objective 1 Self-guided visitor experience opportunities at Fort Anne meet the needs, interests, and motivations of target markets.

Actions and Implementation Year(s)	Short-term	Long-term
Conduct social science research to better understand the motivations, needs, and preferences of current and potential visitors.	•	
Refresh the exhibits in the Officers' Quarters by 2012.	•	
Install rotating exhibits to be updated regularly to make the site more relevant to new audiences, to attract media coverage, and help support repeat visitation.		•
Utilize the opportunity of the 100 th anniversary of Fort Anne in 2017 to raise the profile of this site and to develop relevant programming and events.	•	
Develop interactive visitor opportunities such as geo-tours, apps and the use of hand-held GIS devices, or other new technologies to enable personal exploration of Fort Anne.		•
Implement a 2 – 3 year transition plan for Fort Anne as a self-guided National Historic Site, including a media / interpretation plan.	•	

Strategy Targets

- Develop a baseline of visitor satisfaction for self-guided activities (availability and quality).
- Fort Anne Visitation: 36,352*
- 90% of visitors to Fort Anne enjoy their visit.
- 85% of visitors to Fort Anne consider the site meaningful to them.
- 85% of visitors to Fort Anne consider they learned about the cultural heritage of the place.

* These are visitation targets set by the Agency in 2010 when there was a longer operational/visitor season.

Applying Key Strategy 2: Shared Stewardship and Community Gathering Place at Fort Anne NHS

Objective 1 Minor impairments to the commemorative integrity at Fort Anne are addressed and the site's cultural resources and heritage values are protected with the involvement of area residents, the Mi'kmaq, partners, and stakeholders.

Actions and Implementation Year(s)	Short-term	Long-term
Work with communities of interest to enhance knowledge of the Fort Anne cemetery and invite their involvement in future planning for its conservation and protection.		•
Continue to implement the conservation and maintenance plan for the cemetery.	•	•
Structurally stabilize the walls of the Officers' Quarters and carry out masonry stabilisation of the Sally Port by December 2016.	•	
Complete the compilation of the archaeological records for the site.		•
Create a digitized map of Fort Anne's archaeological resources thereby supporting the management of the site and the development of enhanced and experiential visitor experience opportunities.		•
Conduct an ecological inventory at Fort Anne and combine results with cultural resource information to inform the management approach to grounds maintenance and landscaping.		•
Improve the communication of messages of significance, as per findings in the CI Evaluation.	•	

Objective 2 By working with area residents, the Mi'kmaq, partners, and stakeholders, the management of Fort Anne's curatorial, archival, and library collections is improved and accessibility of these resources to researchers and the community is made possible.

Actions and Implementation Year(s)	Short-term	Long-term
Implement the recommendations from an assessment of Fort Anne's artefacts, library holdings, and photographs by 2019.	•	•
Tap into the knowledge and interest of community members to enrich our understanding of the curatorial collection.		•
Encourage interested individuals to conduct research on items in the curatorial collection and share their findings with others, such as through newspaper articles, local heritage society newsletters, etc.		•

Objective 3 Collaborative events and opportunities with area residents, the Mi'kmaq, partners and stakeholders encourage use of the sites while supporting revenue generation objectives.

Actions and Implementation Year(s)	Short-term	Long-term
Work in collaboration with the Historical Association of Annapolis Royal, the Town of Annapolis Royal, area residents, the Mi'kmaq, and other partners and stakeholders on projects of mutual interest and value.	•	
Develop a new partnering agreement with the Historical Association of Annapolis Royal (updating the 2001 agreement).	•	

Strategy Targets

- The condition of cultural resources at Fort Anne is maintained or improved by 2017.
- The management of Fort Anne's curatorial, library, and archival collections is improved by 2019.
- Visitation by area residents increases. (Baseline: paid visitation – 9% from within 80 km in 2005.)

Site Specific Chapter - Charles Fort NHS

Applying Key Strategy 1: Inspiring the Discovery of Charles Fort NHS

Objective 1 Opportunities for visitors to Fort Anne to discover Charles Fort are enhanced.

Actions and Implementation Year(s)	Short-term	Long-term
In response to social science research, further incorporate messages relating to Charles Fort into Fort Anne's self-guided visitor experience programming as opportunities arise.	•	
In parallel with efforts for Fort Anne, incorporate the Explorer Quotient concept into self-guided programming to provide visitor experiences that meet the needs and interests of visitors interested in Charles Fort.	•	•

Strategy Targets

- Awareness of Charles Fort amongst visitors to Fort Anne increases. (Baseline: knowledge question from Fort Anne 2005 VIP.)

Applying Key Strategy 2: Shared Stewardship and Community Gathering Place at Charles Fort NHS

Objective 1 Building on experience gained from special events in 2010 and 2011, opportunities to feature the unique heritage of Charles Fort are encouraged and the connection between the Scottish heritage community and the historic site is strengthened.

Actions and Implementation Year(s)	Short-term	Long-term
Welcome the use of Fort Anne/Charles Fort as a community gathering place for people of Scottish heritage.	•	•
Research and integrate the story of Mi'kmaw and Scottish relations into programming at Charles Fort.		•
Continue to find ways to celebrate the Nova Scotia Charter.	•	•

Strategy Targets

- A stakeholder relationship is developed with the Scottish heritage community.
- Opportunities that celebrate Charles Fort are well received.

Site Specific Chapter - Port-Royal NHS

Applying Key Strategy 1: Inspiring the Discovery of Port-Royal NHS

Objective 1 A menu of experiential and sensory visitor experience opportunities meets the needs, expectations, and interests of target markets.

Actions and Implementation Year(s)	Short-term	Long-term
Analyse social science research (2011 VIP) to better understand the motivations, needs, and preferences of current and potential visitors.	•	
Incorporate the Explorer Quotient concept into programming to create a menu of experience opportunities by	•	•

enhancing/modifying existing programmes and developing new visitor experience products.		
Assess and build on experience gained through the Wigwam programming to increase interactive, sensory, and experiential visitor experience opportunities.		•
Refurbish the Boulay Room to facilitate visitor opportunities to discover the story of the reconstruction of the Habitation, which is a message of national historic significance.	•	
Re-establish connections with La <i>Fédération acadienne de la Nouvelle-Écosse</i> (FANE) to explore the possibility of collaborating on new interactive programming around the Order of Good Cheer.	•	
In collaboration with the Mi'kmaq, build on past experiences to further enhance Mi'kmaw programming on site.	•	•

Strategy Targets

- Visitor satisfaction with the availability and quality of interpretation activities at Port-Royal increases. (Baseline 2011 VIP. Availability 78%, Overall 97 %.)
- Port-Royal Visitation: 30,353. *
- 90% of visitors to Port-Royal enjoy their visit.
- 85% of visitors to Port-Royal consider the site meaningful to them.
- 85% of visitors to Port-Royal consider they learned about the cultural heritage of the place.

* These are visitation targets set by the Agency in 2010 when there was a longer operational/visitor season.

Applying Key Strategy 2: Shared Stewardship and Community Gathering Place at Port-Royal NHS

Objective 1 By working with the Mi'kmaq, partners, stakeholders, and area residents, quality special events and opportunities based on the unique heritage of Port-Royal attract local and new audiences while supporting revenue generation objectives.

Actions and Implementation Year(s)	Short-term	Long-term
Work with the Mi'kmaq, partners, stakeholders, and area residents to host special events at Port-Royal, paying particular	•	•

attention to opportunities to commemorate the significant historic milestones of the site.		
In collaboration with the Mi'kmaq, build on past experiences to facilitate meaningful special events at Port-Royal.	•	•
Work with the Municipality of the County of Annapolis on issues and opportunities as they pertain to Port-Royal.	•	•

Objective 2 The cultural resources and the heritage values of Port-Royal are protected and presented with the involvement of the Mi'kmaq, area residents, partners, and stakeholders as appropriate.

Actions and Implementation Year(s)	Short-term	Long-term
Conduct an ecological inventory at Port-Royal and combine results with cultural resource information to inform the management approach to grounds maintenance and landscaping.		•
Review the inventory of historic objects to re-assess their condition.	•	
Messages of national significance pertaining to Mi'kmaw heritage will be conveyed through programming.	•	
Specific land parcels adjacent to Port-Royal will be transferred to the Federal Crown ¹² when the occasion presents itself, providing an opportunity to recreate a more authentic landscape in front of the Habitation.		•

Strategy Targets

- The number of visitors at special events at Port-Royal increases. (Baseline 2010 – excluding Membertou event.)
- Visitation by area residents increases. (Baseline: 2% within 80 km in 2011.)

¹² Through a federal-provincial agreement.

Applying Key Strategy 1: Inspiring the Discovery of Melanson Settlement NHS

Objective 1 Self-guided visitor experience opportunities at Melanson Settlement relative to the site's archaeological resources and Acadian heritage are available.

Actions and Implementation Year(s)	Short-term	Long-term
Utilize the archaeology reports to enhance self-guided visitor experience opportunities and public outreach via the web pages.		•

Strategy Targets

- Visitation to Melanson Settlement increases (traffic and trail marker data).

Applying Key Strategy 2: Shared Stewardship and Community Gathering Place at Melanson Settlement NHS

Objective 1 The cultural resources and heritage values of Melanson Settlement are protected with the involvement of area residents, the Mi'kmaq, the Acadian community, and other partners and stakeholders as appropriate.

Actions and Implementation Year(s)	Short-term	Long-term
In collaboration with Field Unit law enforcement staff, ensure protection of the site and its resources.	•	•
Advance efforts to protect cultural resources from artefact hunting through enhanced public outreach and monitoring.	•	
Encourage mutually beneficial partnerships with archaeological researchers interested in working at the site.		•
Continue to work with area residents, the Province of Nova Scotia, and the Queen Anne Marsh Body to promote the protection and management of the historic-geographic context of the site.	•	•

Objective 2 Awareness of and support for the site, particularly among the Acadian community, is strengthened.		
Actions and Implementation Year(s)	Short-term	Long-term
Work with Acadian partner organizations to support their ongoing engagement with this site and, where possible, welcome opportunities for Acadian activities at the site.	•	•
Increase visibility and profile of the site with Acadian communities, as outlined in Objective 2.3, including cross-promotion with Grand-Pré NHS and in conjunction with Acadian World Congress.	•	•
Work with the Municipality of the County of Annapolis on issues and opportunities as they pertain to Melanson Settlement.	•	•

Strategy Targets

- The inventory of archaeological resources is completed, thereby improving the condition of select management practices.
- The number of incidents of cultural vandalism at the site decreases. (Baseline 2010.)

Site Specific Chapter - Fort Edward NHS

Applying Key Strategy 1: Inspiring the Discovery of Fort Edward NHS

Objective 1 Current and potential visitors have access to inspiring and informative pre-trip information and the arrival stage of the trip planning (visitor experience) cycle is improved.		
Actions and Implementation Year(s)	Short-term	Long-term
Review directional signage to Fort Edward and address issues raised.		•
Collaborate with the local Visitor Information Centre, Destination Southwest Nova Scotia Association, and others to ensure that operating seasons and other information about Fort Edward is better communicated.	•	•
Improve the web-pages for Fort Edward on the Parks Canada website, especially directional information.	•	•

Objective 2 Working with others, Fort Edward is promoted both individually and as part of a network of national historic sites within the region.		
Actions and Implementation Year(s)	Short-term	Long-term
Ensure that Fort Edward is part of the concept of a “network” of national historic sites within Southwest Nova Scotia. Ensure cross-messaging and cross-promotion at the sites and with partners such as Destination Southwest Nova Scotia.	•	
Encourage greater cross-promotion between Fort Edward NHS and Grand-Pré NHS, so as to benefit from the regional impact of a successful World Heritage inscription.	•	•

Objective 3 Visitor opportunities to experience the Fort Edward view-plane and grounds are offered.		
Actions and Implementation Year(s)	Short-term	Long-term
Work with the Town of Windsor to address the need for improved maintenance of the Canada Remembers Trail at Fort Edward.	•	•

Strategy Targets

- Fort Edward Visitation : 1,227*
- The percentage of visitors who find out about Fort Edward from signs increases. (Baseline 2009/10 at 12%.)
- The percentage of visitors who find out about the site on-line increases. (Baseline 4%.)
- Cross-promotion of Fort Edward is improved at Visitor Information Centres, other attractions, and other national historic sites in Southwest Nova Scotia.

* These are visitation targets set by the Agency in 2010 when there was a longer operational/visitor season.

Applying Key Strategy 2: Shared Stewardship and Community Gathering Place at Fort Edward NHS

Objective 1 The cultural resources and heritage values of Fort Edward are protected with the involvement of area residents, the Mi'kmaq, partners, and stakeholders.

Actions and Implementation Year(s)	Short-term	Long-term
Conduct an ecological inventory and combine results with cultural resource information to inform the management approach to grounds maintenance and landscaping.		•
Communicate with the town and potential developers of adjacent land regarding the heritage values of the site.	•	•
Encourage the Mi'kmaq and other heritage organizations to undertake research on specific issues and time periods in the history of Fort Edward that have relevance to different cultural communities (for example, traditional Mi'kmaw use of the area, the presence of the Jewish Legion during the First World War).	•	•
Display more artefacts at the site and in the community at the West Hants Historical Society Museum.	•	

Objective 2 Area residents, the Mi'kmaq, partners, and stakeholders are encouraged to use the site as a community gathering place.

Actions and Implementation Year(s)	Short-term	Long-term
Ensure on-going use of the site as a community open space.	•	•
Encourage on-site visits by local schools.	•	•
Provide public outreach by working with community groups to ensure Parks Canada's presence at strategic and meaningful community events	•	•

Strategy Targets

- Visitation from area residents increases. (Baseline: 2009/10, 20% of respondents to the comment cards were within 40 km radius of the site.)

APPENDIX B

Statements of Commemorative Intent and Summary of Cultural Resources

Port Royal is a national historic site because of its legacy – French culture, commerce and colonization, and the experiences of Mi'kmaq and French colonists 1605-1613; and the replica of the Habitation as a milestone in the Canadian heritage movement.

The dominant feature of Port-Royal National Historic Site is the reconstructed Habitation completed in 1939 on what was believed to be the original site of the 17th-century Habitation of the French colonists.¹³ This impressive reconstruction comprises a series of adjoining buildings, a courtyard, a palisaded enclosure protecting the entrance, and a gun platform opposite covering seaward approaches. The replica of the Habitation is of national historic significance as a milestone in the Canadian heritage movement. Other resources of national historic significance include an archaeological collection recovered at the time of the reconstruction (although nothing relating to the original Habitation was found), historic objects, such as reproduced furnishings, and the designated place itself which has recently been defined by the HSMBC as the footprint of the reconstructed habitation including the courtyard. Resources of local, regional, or other significance include a curatorial collection and HSMBC plaques (see Port-Royal Site Map, p. 26).

Fort Anne is a national historic site for its role in early European colonization, settlement, and government in Acadie and Nova Scotia in the 17th and 18th centuries; in the struggle for empire in the 17th and 18th centuries; as the centre of changing social, political, and military relations among the Mi'kmaq, the Acadians, and British living in the area throughout the 17th and 18th centuries; and as an example of Vauban-style fortifications that survive due largely to successive generations of Canadians who treasure their cultural landscapes.

The cultural resources that are associated with Fort Anne's national historic significance include the Officers' Quarters, powder magazines, earthworks, archaeological resources, wharf ruins, and cemeteries, as well as the designated place itself which has recently been clarified by the HSMBC as including the Dominion Park that was created in 1917, bounded by the low water mark of the Allain and Annapolis Rivers and the cemetery grounds acquired in 1968. In addition, substantial portions of Fort Anne's library, curatorial, and archaeological collections are also associated with the designation of national significance (see site map, p. 25). Resources of local, regional, or other heritage value include some archaeological resources, cemetery stones, and some items in the library, curatorial, and archaeological collections.

Charles Fort was designated a national historic site in 1951 [initially as Scots Fort]. The reasons for designation, as derived from the text of the plaque erected in 1952, are:

¹³ Based upon descriptions and engravings from Samuel de Champlain and the writings of Marc Lescarbot.

- *it was a fort built by Sir William Alexander to plant the colony of “Nova Scotia”;*
- *it was occupied by Scottish colonists from 1629 to 1632, when the territory was restored to France.*

Cultural resources of national historic significance at Charles Fort include the designated place,¹⁴ the landscape (elevated terrace at confluence of Allain and Annapolis Rivers), underground *in situ* resources (archaeological remains uncovered during excavations in 1989-1992), and recovered objects (primarily archaeological objects housed in a conservation facility) (see site map, p. 25). In addition, an original copy of the 1621 Charter of Nova Scotia granted to Sir William Alexander is on permanent loan to Fort Anne NHS from the province of Nova Scotia and is on exhibit in the Officers’ Quarters.

Melanson Settlement was designated a national historic site because it’s *in situ* resources reflect the family communities in which the Acadians settled along the Dauphin River (now Annapolis) and where they undertook a form of agriculture unique in North America.

Cultural resources of national significance at Melanson Settlement include the designated place, *in situ* resources (the archaeological remains of the Melanson Settlement), and most of the substantial archaeological collection consisting of artefacts and archaeological records. The designated place is the terraced area of the three properties where *in situ* resources from the Acadian period of settlement are located (see site map, p. 34). The designated place is valued for these resources as well as its proximity to the salt marshes where the Melansons, in cooperation with their neighbours, the Guilbeaux, built dykes and cultivated the reclaimed land; its proximity to the Melanson-Guilbeau dykes; its views over the dykes, salt marshes, the Annapolis River, and the site of the former Guilbeau settlement; its geographic setting; its location; and its uncompromised sense of place (see site setting map, page 35). Cultural resources of local, regional, or other historical significance include a portion of the modern dyke that is within the administered property, and historic objects.

Fort Edward is a national historic site because of its role in the struggle for predominance in North America from 1750 to the war of 1812.

Cultural resources of national significance at Fort Edward include the 1750 blockhouse, earthworks and fortifications, below-ground resources, an archaeological collection, as well as the designated place itself which has recently been clarified by the HSMBC as being the area surrounding the remnants of the fort defined by the 25 metre contour line within the land owned by Parks Canada. Where the 25 metre contour line extends beyond the Parks property, on the extreme western edge, the boundary is defined by the limits of the Parks Canada Property (see site map, p. 38). Artefacts stemming from

¹⁴ The designated place is the fort itself. Because the full extent of the fort has not been determined, a 50 metre circle from a centre point of archaeological excavations has been identified as the area within which the remainder of the fort is expected to be found.

excavations on the site are in storage at the Parks Canada conservation facilities. Resources of local, regional, or other historical significance include some of the earthworks, a curatorial collection, and some of the site's archaeological collection.

APPENDIX C

Special Characteristics of the National Historic Sites of Southwest Nova Scotia that Foster Connection to Place

Port-Royal National Historic Site

At Port-Royal National Historic Site visitors step through time to experience the day-to-day life of one of the first French settlements in North America. The foundation of visitor experience opportunities at Port-Royal is the reconstructed Habitation and engaging with costumed animators who bring the Habitation to life. In the Habitation, opportunities include discovering how the Mi'kmaq shared their knowledge of plants for medicinal purposes with the French; and examining the various types of furs that the French acquired from the Mi'kmaq. Outside the Habitation, visitors can experience the Habitation's herb garden, enjoy the walking trails, take in the tremendous view, engage in a Mi'kmaw interpretative program in the Wigwam, and discover the panels and monuments throughout the grounds. Special events and programs at Port-Royal during the summer include Mi'kmaw days at which visitors may experience Mi'kmaw traditions, history, games, and lifestyles.

Fort Anne National Historic Site

Fort Anne National Historic Site offers a range of opportunities for visitors including National Association of Interpreters award-winning exhibits and the Fort Anne Heritage Tapestry, stitched with the help of over one hundred local volunteers and depicting four centuries of the history of the site and area, housed in the Officers' Quarters. The majority of the site's artefact collection which, although not directly connected to the reasons for designation, has local heritage significance, is also stored here. Families often participate in the Xplorer program, the Seek and find activity or "Quest for the Keys." A popular activity is the candlelight graveyard tour of the Garrison Graveyard offered by The Historical Association of Annapolis Royal.

On the grounds of Fort Anne, visitors have opportunities to explore the earthworks, interpretative panels, and monuments. Many walk the accessible trail that provides excellent views of the fortifications as well as the Annapolis River and Basin. The site is well used particularly by local people for walking and outdoor recreation including kite flying. Visitors also are offered opportunities to participate in special events throughout the summer, including Canada Day celebrations, and the 84th Regiment of Foot Encampment – a weekend long event during which animators re-enact what life was like for soldiers and their families at the fort in the late 18th century.

Charles Fort National Historic Site

The visitor experience of Charles Fort National Historic Site (which is located within the boundaries of Fort Anne NHS) includes opportunities to see the exact location where archaeological remains of the fort were unearthed. The story is told through the HSMBC plaque which is located adjacent to where these excavations took place. Of particular interest to many visitors, is the original copy of the Nova Scotia Charter from 1621 housed in the Officers' Quarters as well as the exhibits interpreting the history of early Scottish settlement in Nova Scotia.

Melanson Settlement National Historic Site

Although unstaffed, visitors are afforded opportunities for self-guided exploration of Melanson Settlement NHS. An interpretive node includes a short looped trail that leads from the parking lot to a lookout with a striking view of the site, as well as the uplands, marsh, and Annapolis River. Original artwork enlivens the interpretive panels that tell of the importance of Melanson Settlement. Visitors may also explore the untended lower fields on foot.

Fort Edward National Historic Site

The visitor experience offer at Fort Edward National Historic Site (includes the opportunity to see, touch, and experience the oldest remaining blockhouse in Canada as well as to witness the extraordinary views and vantage points that were critical to the military function of the site. An exhibit inside the blockhouse contains information on the history of Fort Edward NHS. Outside, on the bastions, interpretive panels present the story of Fort Edward's role in the history of the area. The Fort Edward property also serves as a community green space and includes the Canada Remembers Trail that was jointly funded by the Town of Windsor and the Royal Canadian Legion.

APPENDIX D

The State of Visitor Experience

This brief summary of the state of visitor experience for the national historic sites of Southwest Nova Scotia is based on social science research, including the most recent visitor surveys (2011 for Port-Royal and 2005 for Fort Anne), a 2007 Visitor Experience Assessment (VEA) for Fort Anne and Port-Royal, a 2007 Visitor Origin Monitoring Program for Port-Royal, and a 2010 Special Events Survey for Fort Anne, Port-Royal, and Fort Edward. The last full survey for Fort Edward was 2001; however, visitor comment cards from 2009 and 2010 have also been assessed.¹⁵

Research demonstrates that the majority of visitors are very satisfied with their visit overall (98% at Port-Royal, 97% at Fort Anne, and 95% at Fort Edward- 2001). Visitors are very satisfied with the facilities and services at the sites, particularly staff courtesy and knowledge, and also the condition of picnic/day-use areas, trails, and Visitor Centres. Moreover, 97% and 94% of visitors at Port-Royal and Fort Anne respectively indicated that their visit met their expectations and 95% of visitors to Fort Anne indicated their visit was memorable.¹⁶

The social science suggests that visitors are satisfied, although slightly less so, with the planning and arrival phases of their visits. The VEA found that aspects of the planning and arrival phases are strong at both Port-Royal and Fort-Anne but web-based information is inadequate and way-finding signage could be improved. This is also the case for Fort Edward. The VEA also found some concerns regarding visitor orientation at both Fort Anne and Port-Royal. In response to these findings, the arrival area at Port-Royal has been redesigned to improve visitor orientation and signage both to and within Fort Anne and Port-Royal has been improved. The web-pages are also currently being improved.

Satisfaction with the visit as a learning experience was 97% for Fort Anne, 95% for Port-Royal and 85% for Fort Edward. The overall satisfaction rating with interpretation activities and programs is 78%, 89%, and 95% respectively for Port-Royal, Fort Anne, and Fort Edward. At Port-Royal visitors have been very satisfied with the majority of interpretation programs and presentations available but the “quality of period activities to observe” and availability of interpretation activities received slightly lower ratings at 84% and 61% respectively. The 2011 VIP for Port-Royal suggests that many visitors to the site enjoyed what they did experience but many are seeking more activities, demonstrations,

¹⁵ Although visitor traffic and foot counters have been utilized to assess visitation numbers at Melanson Settlement, visitation numbers at that site do not warrant a full visitor survey. The assessment of visitor experience at Charles Fort is conducted through the surveys for Fort Anne.

¹⁶ Fort Edward survey did not ask about expectations. Port-Royal and Fort Edward surveys did not ask about memorable experience.

and sensory and experiential opportunities at this site. Similarly, the VEA found that the interior and exterior exhibits at Fort Anne are good and that the staff delivers excellent guided tours¹⁷, however, there are limited sensory or experiential opportunities for visitors and fewer opportunities for visitors to learn directly from site staff (personal interpretation) at Fort Anne than Port-Royal.

¹⁷ Starting in 2013, Fort Anne will operate as a self-guided site.

APPENDIX E

The State of Stakeholder and Partner Engagement

Area Residents

Please see page 15 of the plan.

Partners

The Mi'kmaq: See page 15 & 16 of the plan.

Acadians: Parks Canada has an important partnership with the Acadian Consultative Committee – an advisory body that provides a mechanism for the Acadian people of the Maritimes to be involved in Parks Canada's decision-making process for those national historic sites and national parks that derive their national significance (solely or in part) from their association with Acadian people.

African Nova Scotians: Parks Canada works with the African Nova Scotian community in terms of the presentation of African Nova Scotian heritage at the sites. Parks Canada has an agreement with the Valley African Nova Scotian Development Association (VANSDA) regarding interpretive signage on African Nova Scotian heritage with signs mounted at Port-Royal and Petit Parc (a small property owned by Parks Canada, and used under a license of occupation by the town of Annapolis Royal).

The Historical Association of Annapolis Royal (HAAR): The HAAR was an important player in the establishment of Port-Royal and is currently a key partner in the protection and presentation of Fort Anne. The HAAR hosts the graveyard tours at Fort Anne and reinvests the funds raised from the tours into heritage activities, sites, and resources. A new partnering agreement is being developed with the Association.

West Hants Historical Society: Parks Canada has had a contract with the West Hants Historical Society since the late 1990s to deliver the visitor experience offer at Fort Edward. As a stakeholder, the organization also contributes valuable input in the overall management of the site.

Kings County Historical Society: Parks Canada has an ongoing agreement with the Kings County Historical Society to maintain and promote an exhibit at the Kings County Museum developed by Parks Canada on the New England Planters, the people who settled the Nova Scotian farmlands left vacant following the expulsion of the Acadians.

The Tourism Industry: Parks Canada works closely with different branches of the tourism industry, including Tourism Nova Scotia.

Stakeholder Involvement

Stakeholders are defined as groups or individuals representing all sectors of Canadian society that have an interest in, or an influence upon Parks Canada's actions and directions. The stakeholders for the national historic sites of Southwest Nova Scotia include interested individuals as well as organizations from:

- The culture and heritage sector, including historical associations;
- Museums and art councils;
- Tourism sector, including small local businesses and larger tourism associations;
- Boards of trade and economic development agencies,
- Academia, including universities and colleges such as l'Université Sainte Anne and Acadia University and the Centre of Geographic Sciences, part of the Nova Scotia Community College (NSCC); and
- Municipal governments, including the municipality of the County of Annapolis as well as the town councils of Annapolis Royal and Windsor.

Opportunities for stakeholder involvement include the management plan consultation process, consultation on fees, information-sharing, and participation in operational issues, visitor surveys, and event planning and coordination.

APPENDIX F

Glossary

Commemorative Integrity: A historic place may be said to possess commemorative integrity when the resources that symbolize or represent its importance are not impaired or under threat, when the reasons for its significance are effectively communicated to the public, and when the heritage value of the place is respected.

Commemorative Integrity Statement (CIS): An elaboration of what is meant by commemorative integrity for a particular national historic site. The CIS provides the benchmark for planning, managing, operations, reporting, and taking remedial action.

Commemorative Intent: Refers specifically to the reasons for a site's national significance, as determined by the Ministerially-approved recommendations of the Historic Sites and Monuments Board of Canada. A *Statement of Commemorative Intent (SOCI)* answers the question – when and for what reason was the site designated as being of national historic significance

Connection to Place: A concept that reflects the relevance and importance of protected heritage places to Canadians. It expresses the emotional, intellectual, and spiritual attachment Canadians and visitors feel toward natural and cultural heritage places. Parks Canada works to foster this sense of attachment through meaningful opportunities for enjoyment and learning provided on-site and through public outreach.

Conservation: Activities aimed at safeguarding a cultural resource so it retains its historic value and physical life is extended. Activities include: maintenance, preservation, and modification.

Cultural Landscape: Any geographic area that has been modified, influenced, or given special cultural meaning by people.

Cultural Resource: A human work or a place, which gives evidence of human activity or has spiritual or cultural meaning, and which has been determined to have historic value.

Cultural Resource Management (CRM): Generally accepted practices for the conservation and presentation of cultural resources, founded on principles and carried out in a practice that integrates professional, technical, and administrative activities so that the historic value of cultural resources is taken into account in actions that might affect them. In Parks Canada, Cultural Resource Management encompasses the presentation and use, as well as the conservation of cultural resources.

Cultural Resource Management Policy: The policy of Parks Canada for the management of cultural resources under its jurisdiction, including those at historic canals, marine conservation areas and national parks, as well as national historic sites.

Designated Place: Refers to the place designated by the Minister on recommendation of the Historic Sites and Monuments Board of Canada (HSMBC). Information on what constitutes the

designated place for a particular national historic site is drawn from the minutes of the Board. The designated place can be larger or smaller than the administered property.

Designation: This occurs when the Minister approves a recommendation for recognition of a person, place or event's national historic significance from the Historic Sites and Monuments Board of Canada.

Explorer Quotient: This is a way to understand and segment travellers based on their social values and travel motivations. Developed by the Canadian Tourism Commission, in collaboration with Environics (a Canadian marketing and social science research firm), the model recognizes that two people can be standing in the exact same spot, participating in the exact same activity, yet have two completely different experiences.

Field Unit: An administrative division created by Parks Canada, combining the management and administration of one or more national park(s), national historic site(s), marine conservation area(s) or historic canal(s).

Heritage Values: Are attributes of a resource which have value. Heritage values derive from many sources, including historical association, architectural significance, environmental or cultural importance and continuity of use.

Historic Object: A generic term used to refer to any movable cultural property acquired by Parks Canada curatorial services for interpretive or reference purposes. Historic objects are subject to the directive, *Management of Historic Objects and Reproductions*.

Historic Sites and Monuments Board of Canada (HSMBC): An independent body that provides the Minister with impartial and expert advice on matters relating to historical commemoration. Also referred to as "the Board" or the "HSMBC".

Historic Value: Historic value is a value or values assigned to a resource, whereby it is recognized as a cultural resource. These values can be physical and/or associative.

Intervention: A term referring to any activity (or non-activity) that has a physical impact on a cultural resource.

Key Strategy: Concrete expression of the vision statement that provides heritage place-wide direction. Must give a clear overview of how the protected heritage place will be managed and how the three mandate elements will be achieved in a mutually supportive manner.

National Historic Site: Any place declared to be of national historic interest or significance by the Minister responsible for Parks Canada upon the recommendation of the Historic Sites and Monuments Board of Canada. The name is commonly used to refer to the area administered by Parks Canada, or another owner, as a national historic site.

Other (resource): A resource that has been evaluated and deemed not to possess any or enough historic value to be considered a cultural resource. Such a resource is not managed under the CRM policy but falls under operational policies.

Partner: A partner refers to an organization that is in a collaborative working relationship with Parks Canada. This working relationship is based on mutual benefit and a formalized arrangement that sets out shared goals and objectives and the terms of the arrangement. Partners can be from the not-for-profit sector (such as NGOs, academia, cooperative associations, etc.), other governmental organizations or the for-profit sector.

Personal Interpretation: These are programs that are offered by Parks Canada interpreters (guides) and volunteers. They include guided nature walks, outdoor theatre presentations, historic re-enactments, talks on specific topics, guided site tours, hands-on activities, among others.

Presentation: Activities, services, and facilities that bring the public into direct or indirect contact with national historic sites, national parks, national marine conservation areas, and historic canals, and the resources associated with them.

Public Outreach: Public outreach is reaching Canadians at home, at leisure and in their communities through effective and relevant learning opportunities designed to increase understanding and appreciation of the natural and historical heritage of Parks Canada's places, and to encourage individuals and communities to support and become engaged in their protection and presentation.

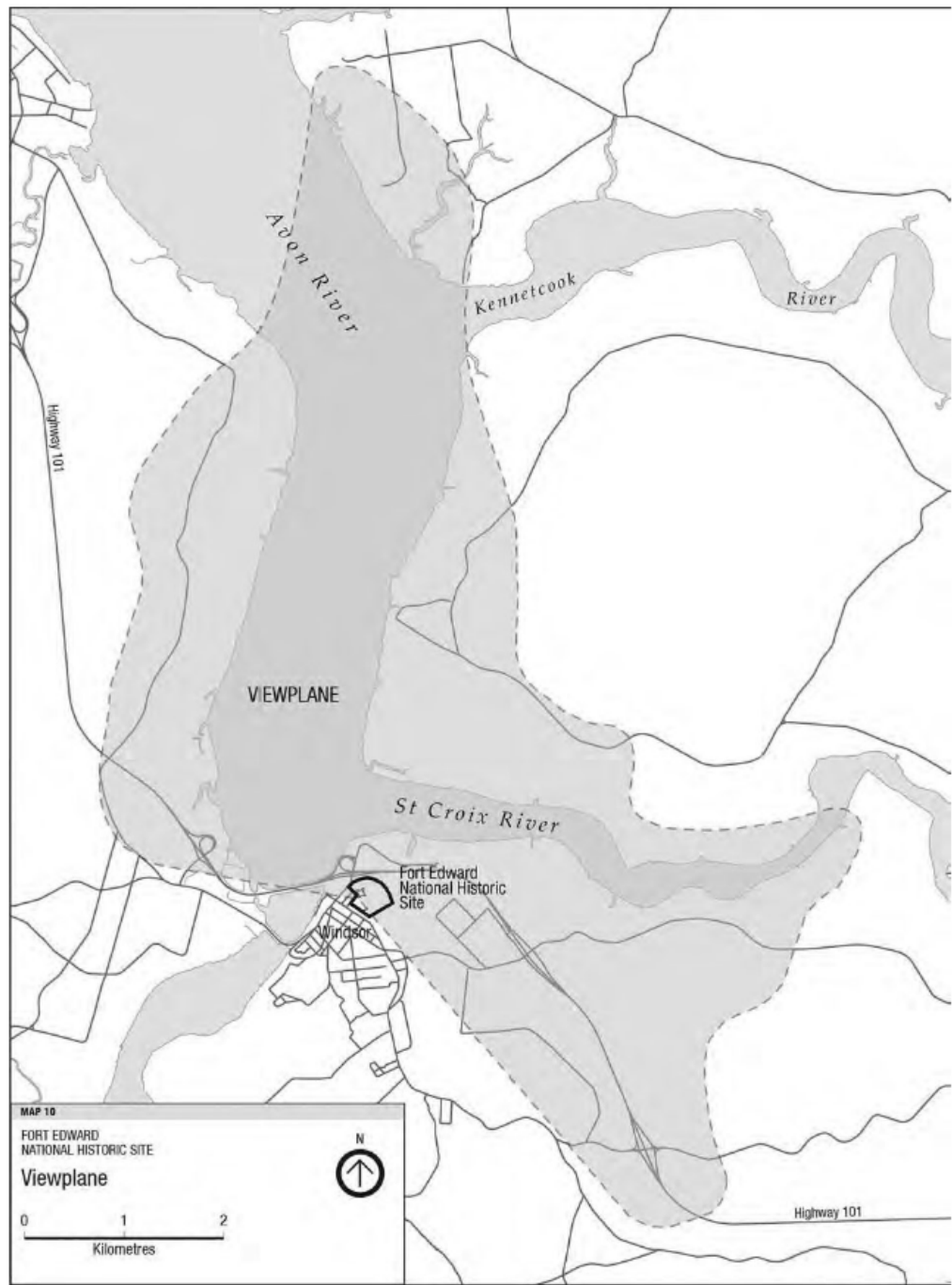
Stakeholder: Refers to individuals or groups representing all sectors of Canadian society that have an interest in or influence upon the Agency's actions and directions. Stakeholders self-select their level of involvement. Stakeholders may have a geographic sphere of influence or they may have a virtual constituency, with no actual geographic locations.

Target: Established to facilitate measuring and reporting on progress in achieving results.

Visitor Experience: Visitor experience is the sum total of a visitor's personal interaction with heritage places and/or people that awakens their senses, affects their emotions, stimulates their mind and helps the visitor to create a sense of connection to these places.

**Attachment F - Fort Edward NHS Viewplane found on page 38
of the 2016 Management Plan**

Map 10: Fort Edward NHS – Viewplane



**Attachment G - Correspondence from Parks Canada, Mr. Ted Dolan,
June 2023**

Formal Response: 368 Nesbit Street, Windsor PID 45056447

To whom it may concern,

On June 6, 2023, Parks Canada was contacted by Sara Poirier, Director of Planning and Development for the Municipality of West Hants. We were asked to provide feedback on a proposed development across Highway 101 from Fort Edward National Historic Site and whether there would be any impact on Fort Edward National Historic Site.

Parks Canada does believe that there would be a negative impact on the site as the proposed development is 19 stories high and its position is square in the middle of what is an otherwise unimpeded sightline of the Avon and St. Croix Rivers. The height of Fort Edward hill is approximately 95 feet. The height of this proposed building would be at least 190 feet. It will without question block a significant portion of the view of the water from the fort, thus making it more difficult for visitors to understand the context of the site. The main reasons for the fort being built where it is was to keep a watchful eye on the Avon River, the St. Croix River, and the mouth of the Kennetcook River. This will be hard to understand with a building blocking the view. It is difficult to say how much of the sightline will be affected as we have not been provided with a rendering of what the view would be from the Fort with the development in place. What is obvious is that the people on the water side of the new building will have that view, but residents and tourists who use Fort Edward will not.

It is also worth noting that the sightlines are mentioned in the site's Commemorative Integrity Statement as being a Level 1 resource. "The historic place consists of the lands within the boundaries of Fort Edward National Historic Site and its viewplanes towards the Avon and St. Croix rivers. Located on a hill at the confluence of the two rivers, the site provided an excellent strategic location for the construction of Fort Edward by British forces in 1750. The topography of the site gave troops at the fort a clear view of approaching enemy forces. The topography is essentially unchanged and still affords viewplanes of the historic approaches to the fort, both by land and by water. These viewplanes help to define the historic place.

The historic place as a whole is of national historic importance because:

the viewplanes from the site give tangible evidence of the reasons for the establishment of the fort at the confluence of the rivers, which was a centre of settlement, transportation and communication;

The historic place is not impaired or under threat when:

- Fort Edward's Level I resources (Historic Place, the blockhouse, the Trace, the Glacis and ditch, the archeological collection) are protected and managed in accordance with the principles of the Cultural Resource Management Policy;
- vegetative growth at the site does not interfere with the view-planes;
- view-planes are not obscured by future development;"

Also worth noting is one of our Management Guidelines as set out in the National Historic Sites of Southwest Nova Scotia Management Plan from 2016:

- “The grounds of the national historic sites of Southwest Nova Scotia will be managed to promote the sites’ cultural landscapes, protect ecological values, preserve viewplanes, and preserve open space for public use.”

Parks Canada is of the position that this proposed development puts the Historic Place under threat. We encourage the municipal council to not move ahead with this development in its current form. Although we understand that we don’t have a legal say in what the Municipality does with their lands, this project would certainly be a discouraging project were it to be approved.

Please contact me at 902-312-1247, or ted.dolan@pc.gc.ca should you wish to discuss further.

Ted Dolan
Visitor Experience and Site Manager
National Historic Sites of Southwest Nova Scotia
Parks Canada

Attachment H - Fort Edward National Historic Site Visitor Guide



Fort Edward
National Historic Site

Visitor Guide



Welcome

Take some time to enjoy the view. This site is at the heart of routes of communication and travel in the region. Long important to the Mi'kmaq, it became a site of Acadian settlement before the British built this fortification. Walk the remnants of the earthen defensive works still visible, and explore Canada's oldest surviving blockhouse.

Fort Edward was constructed in 1750 as part of a chain of fortifications supporting the new British base at Halifax, established in 1749. This strategic position at the junction of the St. Croix and Avon Rivers, provided the British access to the Bay of Fundy shore. For several years after the establishment of Fort Edward, British control of Nova Scotia remained precarious. British settlements were small and scattered; the Mi'kmaq lived and travelled freely in most of the region and the Acadians cultivated their

prosperous farms. Fort Edward was built to assert British control in this region, playing a role in the struggle for predominance in North America between 1750 and 1812. In 1755, it served as a base of operations for the deportation of approximately 1200 Acadians from the Piziquid area who refused to swear an unconditional oath of allegiance that could require them to take up arms against the French.

A garrison remained at Fort Edward until 1850. Later it saw service during the American Revolution (1775-1783) and the War of 1812, providing security for the Windsor area and the route to Halifax. In 1917, during WWI, it became a base of training operations for the 38th, 39th, 40th and 42nd Battalions of the Royal Fusiliers known collectively as the Jewish Legion.

Hamilton watercolour, around 1753



Officers' Quarters (destroyed by fire in 1922) pictured with Blockhouse.

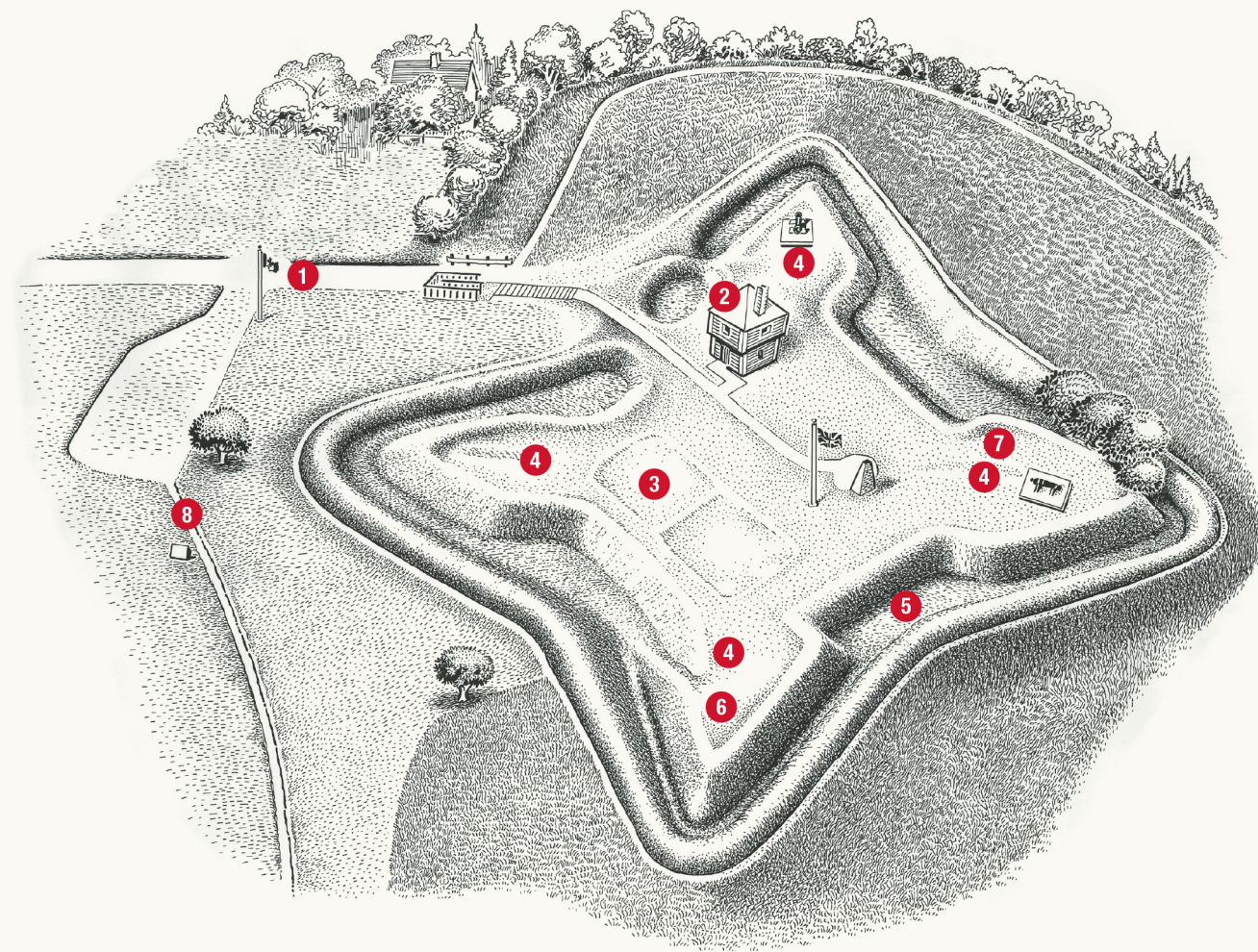


Illustration: Kevin Sollows

1. Main Entrance 2. Blockhouse 3. Site of soldiers' barracks 4. Bastions 5. Ramparts and ditch 6. Site of magazine 7. Site of storehouse 8. Trail

Make the Most of Your Visit

Plan to spend at least 45 minutes discovering the site. Wander through the Blockhouse, which includes unique historic graffiti left by soldiers, and exhibits highlighting Fort Edward's history.

Use the map to try to find the former locations of other buildings in the fort, including barracks, powder magazines and storehouses. Now only the blockhouse remains.

Visitor Safety and Services

- The ground floor of the Blockhouse is wheel chair accessible.
- Use caution on the steep, grassed hills (earthworks).
- Please carefully supervise children.
- Smoking is not permitted in the building.
- Pets on leash are permitted on the grounds. Only service animals are permitted in the blockhouse.

Parks Canada

Fort Edward is part of the Parks Canada system of special places protecting and presenting Canada's cultural and natural heritage for this and future generations.



While in the area, watch for the beaver symbol on highway signs. It will lead you to nearby Grand-Pré National Historic Site.

How to Reach Us

Fort Edward National Historic Site
PO Box 9, Annapolis Royal
Nova Scotia B0S 1A0

(902) 798-4706 (June 25 – Labour Day)
(902) 532-2321 (Labour Day – June 24)
Email: SouthWestNova.nhs@pc.gc.ca
www.parksCanada.gc.ca/fortedward



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