

the preservation, restoration and reconstruction of structures were established which stressed authenticity in the materials used and in the furnishings and artifacts. The policy also recognized the need for a comprehensive program to give full thematic and geographical representation and to establish a long-range planning program to facilitate the development of parks based on such themes as exploration and social, cultural, economic and prehistoric events.

Advisers. The Historic Sites and Monuments Board of Canada has 15 members: two representatives each from Ontario and Quebec and one from each of the eight other provinces, a representative from the National Museums of Canada, a representative of the Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development and the Dominion Archivist (ex officio). The members are generally historians or archivists of considerable distinction.

In advising the Minister on the commemoration of places, persons and events of national historical importance, the Board may recommend that sites, buildings and other structures of national importance be developed as national historic parks or historic sites or that commemoration be carried out by the erection of Historic Sites and Monuments Board of Canada plaques, or in exceptional circumstances, of distinctive monuments.

Suggestions for the establishment of historic sites and parks come from many sources — the general public, members of Parliament, historical societies and other groups, department staff and members of the Board themselves.

Before a site is referred to the Board for consideration, a background paper is prepared by Historic Sites Service research staff. The Board then determines the significance of the site and makes its recommendation, which may be either favourable or unfavourable, to the Minister. After ministerial approval has been granted to a project, a development plan is prepared.

Administration. Operational responsibility for the development and maintenance of new and existing parks and sites has been decentralized to five National and Historic Parks Branch regional offices located in Halifax (for the four Atlantic Provinces), Quebec City (for Quebec and Baffin Island), Cornwall (for Ontario), Winnipeg (for Manitoba, Saskatchewan, part of northern Alberta, the Yukon Territory and Northwest Territories, except Baffin Island), Calgary (for the southern part of Alberta, containing the Rocky Mountain Parks, and British Columbia).

The Historical Research Section of the Research Division carries out documentary research as a basis for the interpretation of parks and sites and for the guidance of archaeological activities. The Archaeological Research Section produces information for site development on the basis of field investigation and laboratory analysis and an underwater research program.

The Canadian Inventory of Historic Building is the main program of the Architectural History Section. The Inventory, begun in 1970, is a computerized screening program to survey, analyze and categorize the surviving old buildings in Canada. So far the exteriors of 95,000 buildings have been surveyed.

The Operations Policy Division is responsible for implementing and co-ordinating projects selected for commemoration and preservation. Some of the responsibilities include planning of existing and potential national historic parks and sites, designing exhibits and displays, the acquisition, restoration and conservation of military and domestic furnishings for use in parks and sites and the provision of visitor services.

Parks and sites. Since its establishment the NHSS, on the recommendation of the Board, has been instrumental in the creation of more than 70 historic parks and major sites and in the commemoration of some 650 persons and events of national (as opposed to local or regional) significance. Negotiations are being conducted with certain provinces for the acquisition of other sites already declared to be of major national historical significance. The Department has also entered into cost-sharing agreements with provincial and municipal governments and with incorporated non-profit societies for the acquisition and restoration of more than 30 architecturally or historically significant buildings on the understanding that the other party will pay the balance of the acquisition and restoration costs and will maintain the buildings in perpetuity. More than 30 monuments of distinctive nature and character which commemorate people and events significant in the nation's history are maintained by the NHSS.