A CULTURAL RESOURCES STUDY

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SANDBANKS PROVINCIAL PARK
CULTURAL RESOURCES STUDY

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By
Commonwealth Historic Resource Management Limited
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ABSTRACT

Sandbanks Provincial Park is of provincial significance; it is a unique cultural resource which can be preserved, developed, and interpreted through a variety of strategies. The resources at the park are divided into four categories:

- geographic and landscape features
- archaeological resources
- built heritage
- associative heritage (sometimes called intangible heritage)

The first three are represented by concrete, physical remains; the fourth includes all those events or persons associated with the area but not necessarily represented by physical remains. Many are directly associated with people’s memories and collections of artifacts, documents, and photographs.

The purpose of this project was to write an overview of the history of the area pulling together the disparate strands of evidence already existing in park reports and studies. This overview corrects our knowledge of the origins of Loyalist Settlement, ties together the economic influences in the development of the region, identifies the importance of the Sandbanks in symbol and setting, and outlines the early park development in the area now known as Sandbanks Provincial Park.

This History of Sandbanks Provincial Park is a summary of known history about that portion of Prince Edward County that exists within the boundary of the park. Most of the history was based on secondary sources and park and district files. Primary research was applied to Loyalist settlement, King’s College ownership of lands and the development of provincial parks. Evidence collected on the local region is used for context.

Further research on prehistory within the park boundary and the social and economic history of rural, recreational and village communities around East and West Lakes would add considerably to our perception of historical influences within Sandbanks Provincial Park.

Based on this material, an interpretation strategy and thematic framework should be developed in order to make aspects of the existing or potential heritage knowledge and experience accessible to people. In Chapter 9, Heritage Resources, themes have been recommended.
INTRODUCTION

Sandbanks Provincial Park is named after the remarkable sand dunes that form the barrier between West Lake and the broad expanse of Lake Ontario. The dunes are particularly famous for their symbol and setting in the south-western section of Prince Edward County. However, the naming of Sandbanks to encompass the whole territory within the park is a relatively recent development. The East Lake sand barrier was named Outlet for the narrow passageway between the lakes, a name enshrined in the provincial park that was created in 1954. In 1978 it became part of Sandbanks Provincial Park. While the sand dunes formed the breakwater in two deep indentations of land, the outlet dictated the cultural, social and economic characteristics of the south-western sections of Hallowell and Athol Townships.

In spite of a broad waterfront facing Lake Ontario which would have been a remarkable advantage in a nineteenth century water-based settlement pattern, the shoreline was and still is devoid of the characteristics of other north shore communities. The Sandbanks area and the Athol shoreline have experienced little development because of the impact of prevailing south-westerlies across miles of open lake on a treacherous shoreline. The peninsula of Prince Edward is the graveyard of Lake Ontario shipping. The deep western bays offer no protection. Had East and West Lakes been deeper, with wider channels leading inward, they could have become ports of call, safe havens. Instead the narrow, silt filled natural channels were merely outlets: pathways to haul some fish or farm products to local markets in small boats, but with no facility for import or ready access. For all intents and purposes, Lake Ontario could have been an ocean, and the shoreline, a bulwark to the sea.

Successful north shore Lake Ontario communities were usually located in safe harbour areas, where an island or large river mouth offered protection from prevailing winds and the watershed funnelled resources from the hinterland. The Sandbanks area had no such facility, as ships kept their distance and resources could be sent over a narrow neck of land to the protected Picton harbour. The concept of outlet thus characterizes this shoreline region where resources could be sent if necessary but trade and commerce would pass it by.

There is a strong symbiotic relationship between the natural resources of the area and its cultural development. In the nineteenth century, agriculture and fishing dominated the local economy with the pursuit of recreation making a significant impact in this century. Instead of these activities being mutually exclusive, there is a strong interconnection at the Sandbanks. While there were full time fishermen, farmers and summer tourist outfits, there were also farming fishermen offering tourist facilities. The recreational sector had time to grow not being dis-
placed with other activities. Individuals who either farmed and/or fished had time to be responsive to the increasing awareness of the distinct dunes and their attraction.

The earliest response to offering tourist facilities came from within and was neither imported nor imposed. The interconnection and diversity of means is an important element in the cultural history of the area, and the sensitive planning of the landscape should sustain this tradition. Farming, fishing and recreation were economic pursuits that in the local setting did not compete with each other, unlike recreation mixed with lumbering or heavy industry. The area's cultural heritage could be damaged with extensive development, not unlike the shifting sands on fertile lands.
PREHISTORY

After the last glacial retreat, the first inhabitants of Ontario began to make their way into the Great Lakes area. It is known that Palaeo-Indian peoples were living off the shores of Lake Ontario from approximately 10,000-7000 B.C. However it would have taken time for lowland sections of Prince Edward County to emerge from underneath the high levels of early Lake Ontario and from uplift in the bedrock. It is possible that Laurentian Archaic (5000-1000 B.C.) people were the first to actually use the peninsula. In the Initial Woodland period (1000 A.D.- 1000 B.C.) there is evidence that Meadowood (1000-500) peoples were in the county and Point Peninsula (500-500) peoples were using a fishing site at Sandbanks Provincial Park. There is wider peninsular evidence of Pickering Culture and later proto-Huron stages in the development of the Ontario Iroquois tradition in the Terminal Woodland period (1000 - 1600 A.D.).

It is understood that the Trent Valley area south to the shores of Lake Ontario formed the original home of people who would develop a common cultural base forming the Ontario Iroquois. These longhouse people shifted north to be part of the Huron Confederacy late in the 16th century. One of the great enigmas in Ontario prehistory is the existence and disappearance of the St. Lawrence Iroquois who were located on Lake Ontario and the St. Lawrence River who were recognized by Cartier in 1535 but who had been wiped from the face of the earth by Champlain’s arrival in 1608. Through either disease, disaster, war or absorption, the St. Lawrence Iroquois who left their mark on Prince Edward County before contact, were no longer a distinctive band after.

The North Shore Iroquois
When Samuel de Champlain visited the Trent watershed in 1615 he found an area abandoned by native peoples. Gone were the Trent Valley Huron who had migrated north-west to the Simcoe County region to form the Rock Nation of the Huron Confederacy. The St. Lawrence Iroquois had literally disappeared between the time of Cartier’s arrival in 1535 and Champlain’s visit early in the seventeenth century. Long before actual visitation by Etienne Brulé or Champlain, the Iroquois of the Lake Ontario basin were undergoing transformation.

It is in the history of the Trent Valley Huron as revealed by archaeology, that shows a culture profoundly affected by events largely precipitated by European activities as early as mid-16th century. Anthropologist Peter Ramsden has noted that Champlain described a society ‘that had undergone more than half a century of population disruption, hostility, economic reorientation, and political realignment in response to the unique and unpredictable circumstance of the European arrival in the St. Lawrence Valley’.
Disease and warfare may have been factors in migration or disappearance that would leave the north shore of Lake Ontario a no-man’s land for the first half of the 17th century. When the Five Nations Iroquois from south of Lake Ontario attacked and destroyed the Huron Confederacy of the Ontario Iroquois in 1649-50 there was no longer any need for a buffer zone between the vanquished and the Five Nations. Indeed the Five Nations continued to raid northward into Algonkian territory after the subjugation of the Huron.

By the early 1660s the Five Nations Iroquois themselves were beginning to use the north shore of Lake Ontario for hunting and settlement. These new settlements were not departures from the norm, but are described by Victor Konrad as extensions of previous patterns. Factors influencing north shore settlement included a war with the Andastes to the south which greatly affected the traditional lands of the Seneca, Cayuga and Oneida of the Five Nations Confederacy. The smallpox plague of 1662 weakened traditional settlement. The French invasion of Mohawk Territory in 1666 may have influenced some of the other tribes to seek peaceful accommodation with the French. Economic concerns of controlling the west-east flow of furs from the upper Great Lakes via the Lake Ontario route suggested the importance of the north shore in strategic terms. Nick Adams described the parameters of the north shore settlement:

In order to be viable, the settlements which the Five Nations established on the north shore had to satisfy a three fold function. Firstly, they had to operate efficiently within the normal parameters of Iroquois settlement. In other words, they had to be self-sustaining and provide the physical and psychological security which Iroquois society required. Secondly, they had to act as northern bases from which to hunt beaver and other fur bearers in the area bounded by the Ottawa River, Lake Ontario and Lake Huron. And thirdly, they had to act as toll gates by which the Iroquois could control and regulate the flow of furs from the north and west to the markets at Albany. The maintenance of these villages was crucial if the Iroquois were to retain a position of strength in the fur trade.

The Five Nations Iroquois resided in a series of villages or settlements south of Lake Ontario in a gently curving ark from the Genesee River in the west to the Mohawk River in the east. The Nations from west to east were the Seneca, Cayuga, Onondaga, Oneida and Mohawk. The pattern of north shore settlements reflected the same west to east relationship with three villages at the western end of the lake occupied by the Seneca, three in the central area by the Cayuga and a single village further east occupied by settlers from the Oneida nation. The Onondaga and Mohawk were not known to occupy any north shore site.

These villages were located at strategic locations: Quinowaoutoua, at the western end of the lake on the portage to the Grand River; Teyaiagon, at the mouth of the Humber River; Ganestiquaion, at the mouth of the Rouge River; Ganaraske, at the mouth of the Ganaraska River; Quintio, on Rice Lake; Quinte or Kente, near the Carrying Place to the Bay of Quinte and the base of the Trent River; and Ganneious, on Hay Bay or the mouth of the Napanee River. This latter village had largely shifted to Fort Frontenac at the mouth of the Cataracaui River after 1675 and there was a village further east on the north shore of the St. Lawrence River, near present day Prescott which was known as Toniata.
There is no evidence to suggest that the north shore Iroquois lived any differently than their brethren to the south. They still erected the traditional longhouse for dwellings but it is not known if the sites were equipped with palisades. The north shore settlements served as bases for winter hunting activities and they provided stop-overs for Iroquois south of the lake en route to hunting territories.

The Five Nations Iroquois had effectively blocked French access to Lake Ontario since Champlain. A brief lull in French-Iroquois hostilities in 1656 allowed some Jesuits into Five Nations territory south of the lake but it wasn’t until the French raids on Mohawk Territory in 1666-67 that the French were able to regain access to the lake for an extended period of time. It was at this time that the Cayuga on the north shore approached the French to receive missionaries. The Kente mission established in 1668 was a major French intrusion on Iroquois lands followed soon after by the building of Fort Frontenac near the eastern outlet of Lake Ontario.

**The Kente Mission, 1668-1680**
The initial settlement of Montreal was inspired through a mystical vision by Jean- Jacques Olier, the founder of the Society of St. Sulpice in France. When the fledgling society took over the administration of Montreal from the Jesuits in 1657 their interest was directed toward developing an outreach mission to the Indians. Under the initiative of new superior Abbé de Quelylus and adventurer Dollier de Casson, the Sulpicians sent Claude Trouvé and Francois de Salignac de la Motte-Fénélon to the Carrying Place area at the apparent request of some Cayuga under Chief Rohiario. Although the Kente-Mission was never successful between 1668 and 1680 it left an impact on the north shore of Lake Ontario as the first settlement involving Indians and whites on that coast. Kente also represented the thrust westward of French interests. The brief lull of hostilities between the Iroquois and the French allowed a more direct route to be used westward via Lake Ontario. Kente would be passed by Joliet and La Salle on their explorations to the Mississippi. Kente failed because of declining native interest, Iroquois realignment, and the intrusion of a competing mission of the Recollets at Fort Frontenac built in 1673. The Sulpician mission did have an impact on the north shore for a short time during French and Iroquois peace and locations like the Sandbanks area nearby would have been affected by its presence.

**The Ojibwa and the Conquest of Southern Ontario by 1700**
The Great Lakes Algonquins were part of a linguistic community that stretched from the Atlantic to the Rocky Mountains. Europeans acknowledged four of these 'Anishinabegs' (as the natives would call themselves) around the Great Lakes including Ojibwas or Chippewas; Ottawas or Odaways; Algonkins; and Potawatomis. These groups were all north and west of the Huron Confederacy and the Five Nations Iroquois when the latter destroyed the former in 1649-50. While the dominant Five Nations Iroquois traded furs most frequently with the English and Dutch, the Great Lakes Algonquins were largely allied with the French in the 17th and early 18th centuries. With their ranks depleted by warfare, disease and famine, the Iroquois fell prey to an expanding force in the north. Widespread evidence shows that a weakened Iroquois force was pushed out of southern Ontario in the 1690s.
The Iroquois villages of north shore Lake Ontario experienced decline and abandonment in the 1680s owing to pressure to return south of the lake and growing hostilities with the French. Denonville ravaged what remained of the villages in 1687. The Ojibwa, more than any other group, then descended on the remaining Iroquois in the hunting territories, and according to P.S. Schmalz, laid conquest to the lands of southern Ontario.

By 1701 the north shore of Lake Ontario was occupied by the Ojibwa. According to Donald B. Smith, these people were largely grouped by Europeans as Mississauga, which were only a sub group of the Ojibwa who had settled around the western end of the lake. Nevertheless the name held for the description of all the Algonquin speaking peoples on the north shore of Lake Ontario.

There is no record of Ojibwa settlement or use of the Sandbanks area except for the obvious role of the peninsula as a shelter and carrying place. The planning for United Empire Loyalist settlement in the Bay of Quinte and the provision of the Tyendinaga reserve for the Loyalist Mohawks of the Six Nations Iroquois in 1784 caused immediate changes to Ojibwa control of the north shore of Lake Ontario. In 1783 Captain William Crawford arranged for a Treaty to acquire lands from the Bay of Quinte east down the St. Lawrence River. In 1787 and 1788 the British purchased all the remaining lands between Etobicoke Creek and the head of the Bay of Quinte. The latter treaty, known as the Gunshot Treaty had to be redefined in 1805 and a further agreement had to be arranged as late as 1923. Since neither the British nor the Ojibwa could comprehend each others perception of land and ownership, the treaties were a source of disagreement. Suffering from disease and depopulation, the Ojibwa had little recourse but to submit to the wave of European migration. Some Ojibwa retreated north to ancestral lands, some gathered at sites like Grape Island in the Bay of Quinte, or Nicholson’s Island west of Prince Edward County until an official reserve was created for them at Alnwick on Rice Lake.

In the 16th century Presqu’ile was under the influence of people who would make up the Huron Confederacy. After the area was abandoned by the proto-Huron and after the Huron were dispersed, the north shore came under the influence of the Five Nations Iroquois, especially the Seneca, Cayuga and Oneida in the latter half on the 17th century. In the 18th century the Ojibwa were lords of the north shore until the arrival of the Loyalists. Instead of a consistent development of one cultural tradition through late pre-historical and contact periods of time, the Sandbanks area and much of the north shore of Lake Ontario experienced different Iroquian and Algonquin traditions from the 16th century.

The Archaeological Record at Sandbanks
Prince Edward County has been a fertile ground for several generations of archaeologists. Early amateurs like H.M. Ami, Helen Merrill, and G. J. Chadd contributed to known collections by depositing artifacts from the Sandbanks area to the Royal Ontario Museum and the National Museum of Canada. Their methods were not professional and important data is lacking from these collections, but considering the wind and water erosion of the sand dunes, and extensive recreational and agricultural development of the area, their contributions were
important. Many archaeological sites have been exposed to the elements, and inadvertently destroyed by human activities (see SITE INVENTORY plan).

The development of provincial parks and the increased interest in archaeological research has led to some significant finds which suggest that the prehistorical record of the Sandbanks is still waiting to be discovered. The key areas are a cluster of findings known as the Forma (A1Gh-4, 1972) and Ives (A1Gh-31, 1977) sites at a narrow carrying place over the sandbanks between West Lake and Lake Ontario. Both sites appear to have affiliations with the St. Lawrence Iroquois rather than the Huron. A vessel found on the Ives site was reconstructed and has been dated between 1350-1500.

An important site known as the Lakeshore Lodge site (A1Gh-32) was investigated by Sheryl Smith in 1981 which turned out to be a multi-component woodland fishing station. The seasonal station produced artifacts dating from 600-1550 including 72 stone net sinkers. The area has high potential for further research.

Unfortunately the discovery of burial mounds at outlet beach by Bruce Martin were never analyzed before artifacts were removed. The outlet mounds are not an official archaeological site but the oral record suggests more archaeological research may uncover new finds.

Prince Edward County is an important piece in the archaeological puzzle about the formations and demise of the Ontario Iroquois. The peninsula was strategically based along the protected portion of the north shore of Lake Ontario at the base of an important inland watershed. Significant portages have been found to East and West Lakes from the Bay of Quinte and the Sandbanks Provincial Park area has had a long tradition of aboriginal habitation. The sand dunes would have been an important seasonal location for native peoples seeking shellfish, fish resources and various kinds of edible berries. While the shoreline would have been difficult for the navigation for canoes in bad weather, the area presented nodes of habitation accessible by portage from the protected Bay of Quinte. Within the park area, evidence could still be found on the life cycle of proto Huron peoples, Iroquois use of the region and perhaps some answers to the mysteries of Huron abandonment and to the disappearance of the St. Lawrence Iroquois. While the shifting sands have buried former sites, others have been exposed in the same process. Sandbanks Provincial Park should consider archaeological research an important part of a heritage program, including interpretation of Canada’s First Peoples and archaeological methods.
LOYALIST SETTLEMENT

A portion of Prince Edward County was a part of the original military settlement of United Empire Loyalists after the American Revolutionary War. Sir Frederick Haldimand, the Governor of Quebec, gave the decision to lay out lands for settlement at Cataraqui in the summer of 1783, and surveyors rushed to mark out lands in townships along the St. Lawrence River and into the Cataraqui region to receive the Loyalists in 1784. The Cataraqui townships included Township No. 1, later named Kingston, Township No. 2 or Ernestown, Township No. 3 or Fredericksburg, Township No. 4 or Adolphustown and Township No. 5 or Marysburgh, presently the peninsula at the northeastern reach of the County, a part of North Marysburgh Township.

The areas around East or West Lakes were not originally surveyed to receive the Loyalists during the first wave of settlement. By 1785 a small section south of East Lake had been surveyed as part of Marysburgh, or 5th Town, and by 1787, portions of land to the north were surveyed under the Township of Sophiasburgh, or 6th Town. These extra townships, including Ameliasburgh, or 7th Town and the extension of 5th Town in Prince Edward were designed to handle refugees arriving after the first wave and satisfying the land requirements of Loyalists who had been settled in the original townships in 1784.

Legends persist of two permanent settlers in the area before the original survey. To the north in the present townsite of Wellington, the stone house of Daniel Reynolds is rumoured to be pre-Loyalist, although a likely date for the house may be 1792 when Reynolds was first married. Around East Lake, Col. Henry Young of the King’s Royal Regiment of New York was rumored to have found his lands in 1783, but it is more likely that he was allotted acreage in the area after choosing to leave an original location in the first five townships and as a result of his receiving a 3,000 acre grant for his military service. Perhaps recognizing the fertility of the East Lake region on a previous investigation (his unit had been posted at Fort Haldimand on Carleton Island near Kingston in 1783), Young may have been the first to decide to settle these lands. An account of Henry Young’s (or his son Daniel’s) discovery of the area was published in Pioneer Life on the Bay of Quinte (Toronto, Rolph and Clark, 1904):

Daniel [probably Henry] being employed in the engineering branch of the army at Kingston, invited a certain Lieutenant McCanty [possibly McCartney] to accompany him on a prospecting tour. During the summer or autumn of 1783 they coasted up the Bay in a small boat to where Picton now stands. Leaving the boat they started through the woods, walking in a southerly direction until they came to the north end of East Lake. Here they turned to the east and travelled around the south side, where they were surprised to hear the roaring of Lake Ontario. Crossing this stretch of land, covered with cedar,
spruce and balsams, they emerged on the shore of the Great Lake, where the inlet from the smaller lake enters Lake Ontario. The two explorers took off their boots and stockings and waded across the outlet. They walked along the beach to the northern corner, where they built a roof of cedar boughs and spent the night. Next morning they started in a north-westerly direction and reached West Lake. Turning to the west they made their way through the West Lake beach, and next day, taking a circuitous route through the woods reached the place where they had left their boat; and so returned to Kingston. Finding the woods of Prince Edward full of deer and other game, and the lakes abounding in fish of all kinds, Colonel Young chose to settle on the west side of East Lake...

The account is plausible except for the date when soldiers in the engineers department were busy preparing fortifications and a mill for the arrival of the Loyalists. Furthermore land could not be taken up until officially surveyed and the right to 'choose' lands was only possible after lands in the original five townships had been allotted. However, with a little pull from a wizened officer, the Young's may have been the first settlers, and the first squatters.

The first five Cataraqui townships were settled in order by Captain Michael Grass and his Associated Loyalists in Kingston, members of Jessup’s Loyal Rangers in Ernestown, a combination of the second battalion of the King’s Royal Regiment of New York and James Roger’s King’s Rangers in Fredericksburgh and Peter Van Alstine’s Associated Loyalists in Adolphustown. Remnants of the Royal Highland Emigrants were settled in Marysburgh to complete the original settlement pattern. When the Loyalists arrived at their township site they drew for lands as in a lottery. The amount of land they received was based on status. Heads of Loyalist families received 100 acres of land and 50 acres for every family member and single men were allotted 50 acres. Discharged regimental Loyalists received 100 acres if privates, 200 if non-commissioned officers, and 50 acres for every person in their families. Larger grants were given to reduced officers so that by 1788, all reduced officers without distinction of corps were allowed: 5,000 acres for field officers, 3,000 for captains, and 2,000 for subalterns. Loyalist grants were also increased with Lord Dorchester’s bounty, an extra 200 acres granted to families that had improved their land in 1787 and by an Order in Council in 1789 whereby Dorchester applied a mark of honour on the Loyalists and allowed two hundred acres to the sons of Loyalists coming of age and to daughters at marriage.

Only a single lot in original townships was assigned to officers at the beginning and they had to draw for land with all others. The balance of their land was later made up to them in the rear concessions of those townships or new townships when they came available. The new township lots were then taken up by Loyalists who sought better land than their original grant, by officers filling their balance of land owing to them, by late arrivals either Loyalists from the maritimes or other locations, and Americans seeking the availability of land during the three decades following the peace of 1783.

Around the shores of West Lake which was surveyed as a part of Township No. 6, or Sophiasburgh, between 1785 and 1787, several officers in the Associated Loyalists who had originally settled Adolphustown had their names on the lots in early maps including settlement leader Major Peter Van Alstine; Captains Peter Ruttan, Abraham Maybee; Lieutenant’s
Benjamin Clench, Peter Valleeau, Philip Dorland, John Barret Dyer, Conrad Bongard, Paul Trumpour and non-officer, Abraham Bogart

In a list of reduced officers and the number of acres they had been granted and were owing as of 1 August 1792, an idea of the quantity of land available to these men can be measured. Among the Associated Loyalists listed above the following facts are known. The first figure represents acres they are entitled to, the second, numbers of acres received and the third, acres due.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Entitled</th>
<th>Received</th>
<th>Due</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Peter Van Alstine</td>
<td>5,000</td>
<td>1,470</td>
<td>3,530</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Peter Ruttan</td>
<td>3,000</td>
<td>1,100</td>
<td>1,900</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Abraham Maybee</td>
<td>3,000</td>
<td>1,000</td>
<td>2,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Peter Valleeau</td>
<td>2,000</td>
<td>900</td>
<td>1,100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Philip Dorland</td>
<td>2,000</td>
<td>600</td>
<td>1,400</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>John Barret Dyer</td>
<td>3,000</td>
<td>850</td>
<td>2,150</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Paul Trumpour</td>
<td>2,000</td>
<td>650</td>
<td>1,350</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

With one exception, these lands were never settled by these men, but were kept for future use by their families, left vacant for speculative purposes, or sold in due course. Some of these lots may have been taken up by the Loyalists who were granted them because of their favourable position. From the list above, we know that the Ruttan, Maybee and Valleeau families settled elsewhere, that John Barret Dyer settled at East lake, that Peter Van Alstine’s son Cornelius was an early magistrate in Athol, and both the Dorland and Trumpour families had descendents living in the area. It is most likely that the area remained sufficiently undeveloped until farmers sought to purchase these lands for the purpose of expanding their own holdings or establishing new farms.

There were two other groups dominant in the ownership of lots within the East and West Lake areas. They were the officers and men of the second battalion of the Kings Royal Regiment of New York and the second battalion of the King’s Rangers or Roger’s Rangers. Among the KRRNY, lots were granted to officers like Lt. Hazleton Spencer (and his brother Augustus), and Lt. Henry Young. The King’s Rangers were represented by Major James Rogers and his son David McGregor Rogers, and Ensigns John Peters and Richard Ferguson, and private Farrington Ferguson. It is not surprising that these two regiments (and not the Loyal Rangers) were well represented in these overflow lands because they were both originally squeezed into Fredericksburgh Township, causing such as an overload that ‘Fredericksburgh additional’ lands had to be created by carving lots from neighbouring Adolphustown.

We know that several of these individuals never settled here, like Hazleton Spencer, who received large parcels of land in several places in the Quinte region. However, a record survives of the Rogers family choosing to settle at East Lake after they had established a home in Fredericksburg in 1784, and they arrived in Prince Edward County probably between 1787 and 1789. Sarah Burnham Greely whose grandfather was Major James Rogers, wrote this
account in g1901 when she was 95 years of age, and it was published in *Loyalist Narratives From Upper Canada*, (edited by J.J. Talman, 1946):

After matters were well arranged, my grandfather and a brother officer, set off to explore the country, and coming to the two small inlets on the south shore of the peninsula of Prince Edward, which were afterwards called the East or Little Lake, and the West Lake, were so delighted with the scenery, the quality of land, and the timber, that they resolved to settle there permanently. My grandfather accordingly 'took up' land, had a house erected, and moved up to the Little Lake, but his health failing rapidly he returned to Fredericksburg where he died in Sept., 1790. The family then returned to the Little Lake where they were joined by the eldest daughter, Mary, (Mrs. Armstrong) who with her husband, and a little daughter had followed them to Canada in 1786.

Owing to the absence of records confirming occupation as opposed to ownership, our most important document that recognizes the earliest Loyalist pioneers of the area is a 'Return of Names and Rank of Captain Henry Young’s Company of Militia & Acres of land drawn to Major Van Alstine 26 February 1789' deposited in the Henry Young Papers at the Archives of Ontario. In addition to map C-18 at the same archives, we can confirm as original pioneers in the East and West Lake areas, Capt. Henry Young, Lt. Richard Ferguson, Sgt. Farrington Ferguson, Sgt. Augustus Spencer, Sgt. Sampson Striker (Delancey’s Corp), corp. John Richards (possibly just a boy during the revolution), John Barret Dyer (excused from militia), David McGregor Rogers, Elisha Miller and several other members of the Ferguson, Young and Conger families. Other names on the list appear to come from other areas in Sophiasburgh and Marysburgh. It is interesting to note that in the column describing acres of land cleared, figures are given for:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Acres</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Henry Young</td>
<td>35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Richard Ferguson</td>
<td>28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Farrington Ferguson</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Augustus Spencer</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jonathon Ferguson</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>John Barret Dyer</td>
<td>35</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Other early Loyalist settlers and emigrants to the area included Robert McCartney, Archibald McFaul, Benjamin Garrett, and the Thompson, Cannan, Zufelt, Ellsworth, Stinson, Pettit, Hubbs, Ellis, Haight, Conger, White, Cooper, Wait, MacDonald and Ball families.

The Loyalists, most of whom had been based in the three frontier counties in the Province of New York previous to the revolution, and had served in one of the several Provincial Corps in the war, were skilled frontiersmen. They made a significant contribution to the early development of the landscape around the sandbanks, but a more permanent settlement pattern had to wait until Loyalists, flush with land, had either made decisions to live in the area, or had sold their lands to individuals who sought to put down roots. Occupation, not mere ownership, was the essential test of early settlement. In this regard the Young, Rogers, Ferguson, Spencer and Dyer families among others were the Loyalists who may be considered the founders of local original settlement by choosing, owning and farming lands on both East
and West Lakes and by providing, as officers, the familiar hierarchy to help establish a community in the wilderness.
AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT

In 1792 the County of Prince Edward was created comprising the Townships of Ameliasburgh, Sophiasburgh and Marysburgh as part of the new province of Upper Canada. In 1797 'An Act for the better division of the County of Prince Edward into Townships' created Hallowell from the former boundaries of Marysburgh and Sophiasburgh. In 1840 'An Act for dividing the Township of Hallowell gave birth to Athol Township which fully absorbed East Lake. Between the creations of Hallowell and Athol, the foundation was laid for agriculture as the most important economic activity in the Sandbanks area. In the immediate area of Sandbanks Provincial Park, names like Young, Conger, McCartney, Spencer and Trumpour extended the Loyalist influence in local development in this era with more recent immigrants like MacDonald, Mastin, Weeks, Hyatt and Pettit.

No description survives before the onslaught of clearing, but there is reference to stands of white pine within the park area. In context with the early role of shipbuilding in the county, Richard and Janet Lunn described in their book The County (p.214): 'While the lumber for hulls and decks came from all over the southern part of the county, masts came from the stands of pine near the Sandbanks between East and West Lakes. A path was cut for them through the woods. It was called the Mast Road, and the 60-foot long trunks were dragged along it to Milford.' The area near the sand dunes was also recognized by its cedar forest. In 1830 Daniel MacDonald's land was described as having 10 acres of cedar, 'which judging from the stumps, was about the best in the Province. This cedar has been all cut down and not appropriated to the use of the farms, but sold. The land on which it grew is high, dry and rich.' It is interesting to note that in the 1840s the forested lands around West Point were described as being almost exclusively hardwood made up of beech, basswood, maple and some hickory, oak, elm and cedar trees.

Although much of Prince Edward County was a part of a limestone plain that had pockets and ridges of shallow, poorly drained soil, the West Lake area and north shore of East Lake was part of a fertile bed of deeper soil that proved valuable for agriculture. In combination with the good soil was waterfront access for trade. Wheat would have been the dominant cereal grain. It could be moved by boat around the peninsula or by land to Picton Bay with access to the more protected Bay of Quinte. In spite of the available waterfront, the Sandbanks area was isolated from the mainstream. Commerce heading west from Kingston passed through the insular Bay of Quinte and across the Carrying Place or it swept wide around the peninsula to avoid the rugged and dangerous shore, especially if a south-westerly was blowing. The bays
of Hallowell and Athol on Lake Ontario offered no safe haven. There was no local focus like a port, a terminal, or town. Going to East or West Lakes one came to a cul de sac.

An important factor in the development of the study area was the existence of ‘block H’ as an odd-shaped parcel of land that had been omitted from the original survey because of the rush to create patterns of lots and concessions. Block H included the sandbanks and the existing park lands on West Point. The Crown leased out the land to Loyalist Richard Ferguson in 1802 but in 1828 it became part of a government endowment of lands to the newly established King’s College. Block H was assumed to be 590 acres, part of 2,900 acres granted to the college in Hallowell Township and 225,944 acres of Crown reserves granted to the college in the whole province. By 1830 King’s College had seven tenants on block H including Aaron and John Mastin, Daniel MacDonald, Henry Ainsley, Gersham Clark, and James Pettit occupying 515 acres of which 305 acres had been cleared. It was during the tenure of King’s College that lands in the study area became developed for agriculture.

In 1850 King’s College became the University of Toronto and it began to sell off its reserves. Land Surveyor John Roche was hired to clarify lot lines at West Point in 1852 and a dispute over the ownership of the sandbanks was raised at that time. (Although Orders in Council dated 8 Dec. 1835 and 5 July 1848 declared at least the beach for public use which was reinforced by the leasing of fishing rights by the government in 1859, apparently Thomas Worthington of Wellington obtained a deed to the sandbanks in 1855 based on the assumption that the King’s College lease included these lands.) Amos MacDonald, Daniel MacDonald, John Hyatt and Lewis Mastin paid eight dollars per acre in 1854 for the remaining university lands in block H. The MacDonald, Mastin and Hyatt families would develop their lands for agriculture, continue a tradition of fishing by seine and gill nets, and in a couple of instances, develop shipping and tourist facilities in the West Point area. However the primary occupation was agriculture.

As long as preferential duties were favourable for wheat exports to Great Britain and the American north-east continued to expand, wheat would remain the dominant crop in Prince Edward County, between 1815 and 1850. Owing to its favourable climate, Prince Edward was also a favourite location for growing fall wheat, choice among millers during the era. The Crimean War and American Civil War also encouraged the export of wheat and other cereal grains.

The major impact on Prince Edward County farming was the export of barley. The ‘barley days’ as they were known involved the widespread export of barley, especially to the United States between 1860 and 1890. American brewers insisted that Canadian barley was the finest grown anywhere. With the development of a strain of barley that would flourish in the county’s dry soil, Prince Edward County barley soared as a great favourite. By 1881, barley was grown on one third of the total cultivated land on the peninsula. Hops was an associated product that was also grown for the brewery trade.

The growth of orchards in the area had a permanent impact on the rural landscape from the late 1850s. The movement towards orchards was hesitant because of the fear of killing frosts,
but the county soon proved to be an ideal location for fruit growing especially around the protected Bay of Quinte. Excellent conditions also existed around the shores of East and West Lakes. An orchard became a common adjunct to many farmers in the Sandbanks area. Around the 1880s when improved means of exporting and preserving fruit were being developed, there were five fruit growers in the West Lake area.

By 1867 cheese factories had taken root in Bloomfield and Cherry Valley and the production of dairy products began to move off the farm and into production for export to Britain and the United States. By 1874 several factories operated within easy reach of the Sandbanks area including Point Petre, Wellington, West Lake, and East Lake, as well as Cherry Valley and Bloomfield. Dairying would remain an important part of local production although after the 1950s smaller cheese factories began to close down because of the increased efficiency of milk transportation to larger centres. By the 1970s many of the smaller scale dairy farmers were shifting into less labour intensive beef production.

The agricultural tradition was sufficiently mature in Prince Edward County by 1890, that when the "barley days" suddenly disappeared with the implementation of the McKinley Tariff, alternatives were readily available. Many farmers had developed a diverse system of growing cereal crops and vegetables, keeping livestock, a dairy herd and maintaining an orchard. Farmers also participated in commercial fishing, maple sugar production and trapping to supplement the farm income. After the restriction on barley production, farmers in the East and West Lake areas shifted more heavily into field and canning crops, and fruit production. Before the turn of the century and early into the new, canning factories sprouted at Wellington, Bloomfield, Cherry Valley and West Lake. In conjunction with the cheese factories, the development of local canning factories confirmed an element of agricultural maturity with the ability not only to raise, but also to process its own products.

Many of the products of the local area were shipped from MacDonald’s Landing or the MacDonald-Hyatt wharf on the north shore of Athol Bay (formerly Little Sandy Bay). This was an important but dangerous staging point for the transportation of farm products, fish, fruit and cheese to market. One reference describes as many as three schooners a week arriving at the wharf where men loaded the boats from either hand pushed or horse pulled carts (Heather Coupland, p. 74). However if a storm got underway there was no protection, and to avoid being dashed against the shore or driven onto outlet beach, boats had to shove off to ride the storm or seek protection in distant Presqu’ile Bay. In 1848 the Prince Edward Gazette reported on one November tragedy when the schooner Ellen was wrecked at the Sandbanks enroute from Kingston to Hamilton:

"She had called on Monday evening previous at McDonald’s cove near West Point, a few miles from where she lies stranded, to take in a load of white fish. During the course of the night she had nearly completed her loading; but a gale arising she was obliged to put in the open lake. She could not have proceeded far before she encountered the storm, attended with heavy thunder and lightning before daylight. It is probable that she was struck by lightning, and partially sunk. There is no doubt but all hands on board her perished..."
The wharf was convenient and efficient, but so exposed that captains had to fear for the safety of their boats and crews. With improved road communications and transport, the connection to safe Picton harbour with all the necessary facilities became the major route for exporting products from the area, especially with the opening of the Central Ontario Railway from Picton in 1886. A measure of the need for efficient transport of goods (and recreational access) from the Sandbanks area was recognized in the suggestion by George W. McMullen of the C.O.R. in 1911 that a radial line of the railway be built along the north shore of East Lake, rounding West Point, and returning to Picton along the south shore of West Lake.

The diversity of local farming has been maintained in the Sandbanks area to this day. In 1973, Lakeland Farm Limited which controlled most of the land between Sandbanks and Outlet Provincial Parks grew canning crops like peas (100 acres); tomatoes (12 acres); pumpkins (30 acres); tree fruits like a 7 acre sour cherry orchard; a 12 acre apple orchard; cash crops like Rodney oats (68 acres); barley (50 acres); and feed supplies like hay (63 acres); mixed grain (30 acres); feed corn (90 acres). A herd of 350 beef cattle was pastured on poorer land away from the area and until 1971, 500-600 hogs were kept on the farm for pork production. Lakeland Farm Limited was owned by Keith MacDonald who maintains a lease to continue production on these lands while park planning is in its early stages. The MacDonald tradition on these lands goes back to pioneer Daniel MacDonald who settled at West Point by 1818. The MacDonalds have been involved in farming, commercial fishing, maple sugar production, canning, shipping, and tourism over the last 175 years, reflecting the diversity and adaptability of this family. The farm buildings associated with this family should be preserved as should part of the landscape upon which these diverse activities were maintained including fields, shorelines, fences, sugar bush and roadscapes.

Although many activities have taken place on Sandbanks lands, none is more dominant to the cultural landscape than the agricultural tradition. The clearing of lands by pioneers, the pattern of settlement, the development of farms, the processing of food and the foundation of community life is at the centre of the local history. The pattern of recreational use, which originally blended with community life, now threatens to impose a new cultural landscape based on sun and fun. Efforts must be taken to protect the diversity of the historical and existing cultural landscape, to maintain its sense of place, not just at Sandbanks, but also an outlet in rural Prince Edward County.
COMMERCIAL FISHING

As long as human beings have had access to the present shores of Lake Ontario, fishing has been a major activity at the Sandbanks. The discovery of net sinkers dating back five hundred years in Sandbanks Provincial Park is testimony to the ancient pursuit of fish gathering along a beachfront where the shallows offered spawning grounds and easy accessibility to fishermen. For some settlers, fishing became a way of life, for others it supplemented a farm income and filled the hamper, for others it was part of the genesis of tourism in the sportsmen it attracted.

No records survive that would describe the discovery of fish resources off Sandbanks by its earliest Euro-Canadian settlers. It is more than likely that families or bands of Mississauga (Ojibway living on the north shore since 1700) or Mohawks from Tyendinaga (living on the Bay of Quinte since 1784) were the first to reveal this traditional food source. The earliest references date from the mid 1830s and describe the seine fishery at Wellington, the northern end of Sandbanks beach. The Picton Gazette reported on the Wellington fishery on 18 August 1834:

"Wellington from its immediate proximity to Lake Ontario is well supplied with various sorts of fish. During my stay at Wellington I had an opportunity of seeing the seine drawn several times, when the most immense quantities of whitefish, salmon and herrings (much as it may astonish some Europeans) caught."

Another description in the same paper for 11 August 1834 described the exceptionally large catch of lake sturgeon off Wellington:

"A most astonishing draught of fish was taken on Thursday morning last, at Wellington, at one haul, namely 104 sturgeon averaging at least 40 lb. each equal to 4,160 lbs. weight besides a few pickerel etc. They were caught on Lake Ontario, not far out from the shore, there were no less than three double wagon loads of them, and some of the sturgeon were so long and so heavy that a very powerful man could scarcely lift them with both his hands over a very low fence adjoining the Grove at Wellington. Sturgeon are not so much valued here, but in England it is considered a great delicacy, a dish meant for the Royal table."

The success of the fishery, techniques for salting or keeping fish fresh, the ability to find local or export markets, were combined with the profitability of the enterprise to cause a run on the resource. It is evident that individuals attempted to capture and control the resource to the detriment of others. As a result of a petition from William Rorke, an Order in Council was issued by the Province of Upper Canada on 8 December 1835 that reserved the beaches and bars for public use:
"Upon the petition of William Rorke of the Township of Hallowell, esquire, IT IS ORDERED that the Fishing Ground, Beaches and Bars on that part of the Shore of Lake Ontario, in the District of Prince Edward, extending from Salmon Point to the Village of Wellington, and from Huyck's Point to the westerly extremity of Weller's Bay be reserved to the public benefit, and not disposed of to individuals."

The early fishery was dominated by seine nets which were well suited to shoreline areas where the lake bottom was naturally smooth and where fish were common. The beach areas of western Prince Edward were perfect for this simple fishery which involved a long net, somewhat deeper at the centre than at the ends which was fixed to the shore in an arc, with the other end positioned further down the shore. The nets were set out by large four-oared boats. To harvest the fish, the net was drawn in to the shore by men or horses and later with huge capstans and cables. The fish were scooped out and then usually salted and packed in barrels. When fish were plentiful immense catches were possible, but seines were damaging to spawning grounds and guilty of overkill in sensitive areas. Seine nets fishermen required little overhead and the fishery could be adapted to suit the seasonal rhythms of the local farmer. However, seine nets required beach space, and how these fishing areas were organized became a subject of early local organization and regulation.

5. ‘The Fisheries of the West Lake Beach from West Point to Wellington, 1857’ from McCuaig: Superintendent’s Report, Province of Canada Sessional Papers, 1858, copied from Fishery, 1673-1900, Queen’s University M.A., Thesis, 1983.
Another Order in Council passed by the Province of Canada 5 July 1848 reconfirmed the protection of the beaches for public use after Minard MacDonald petitioned for leases of portions of beaches in Hallowell and Athol Townships. Before 1857 fishery regulations existed for times, methods and places of fishing, and treated the fishery as a 'public right', but in the Fishery Act of 1857, the province introduced principles of fishery management. This included assuming the Crown's right to lease the fisheries and issue licenses of occupation to crown lands that fronted on desirable fishing sites. With government taking effective control over the fishery, it could limit and control fishermen, and try to prevent overfishing.

In 1856 fisheries inspectors, who could not enforce rules, figured that only one quarter of an estimated 3,000 plus barrels of fish were reported at Wellington. It was found that one exporter in Picton who had sent half of 1718 barrels of fish to market and the other half back to the fisherman for consumption had never been accounted for. Another check showed that Harmon Case had shipped 930 barrels of whitefish from Wellington to New York and another 187 barrels to Hamilton and Toronto. Feuds had existed for the right to plunder the beaches. The Picton Gazette described the waste and lack of management on 12 August 1857:

"The fisheries of Wellington have, as usual, been a very profitable business to the fishermen in that vicinity, this year, in fact, they have at times been unable to keep them (whitefish) from spoiling, and consequently have been obliged to throw hundreds perhaps thousands away, thus leaving them to rot on the beach, which must, if not immediately remedied by means of causing sickness we fear, to an alarming extent. When we say that over 40,000 fish have been hauled at one time, and in this extremely warm weather, people cannot help but denounce such conduct on the part of the fishermen. The stench from the fish being so strong as to remind the traveller that he is near some fishery, when he is actually two or three miles off. This is truly a bad piece of business and we hope that measures will be taken forthwith to prevent a repetition."

However, the fishery was also subject to disaster through storms where all could be lost. On 27 November 1856 one storm was described in the Picton Gazette:

"On Friday night the waters of Lake Ontario rose to almost unprecedented extent at Wellington. A violent gale from the N.W. lashed the waters into an ungovernable fury along the shore. The fishing boats broke away from their moorings and were carried into West Lake. The seines or large nets used for taking whitefish were floated away far out to sea and totally lost. One hundred barrels of fish were washed from the wharf into the waters. In a few hours property was destroyed to the amount of $1,000 and hard working men lost their little all."

When John McCuaig was appointed Fisheries Superintendent under the new Act in 1857, one of his first duties was to assess the fishery. He had meetings with the Wellington fishermen on the Sandbanks and he divided the beach into twelve sections. There was considerable disagreement over government intervention and the local fishermen offered a paltry sum of money for the new leases. McCuaig threatened to lease the entire beach out to one person for $500 and that had the effect of all the fishermen pooling enough money to cover that sum. (see map

Between West Point and Salmon Point including the outlet beach, McCuaig found seven family owned fishery stations each utilizing from one to four seines. Their catch in 1856 was 2,481 barrels, three quarters of which was whitefish valued at $6 a barrel and one quarter
being lake trout valued at $10 a barrel. When the fish were plentiful, it was a lucrative business. While much of the fish caught between Wellington and West Point was destined to New York or other markets via Picton, all of the fish at Salmon Point was being exported to Oswego and the canal connection to the Erie Canal. J.O. Conger’s ‘survey of fisheries fronting on private property, East Lake region, 1859’, showed the pattern of the fishery on the outlet beach.


In an analysis of fishermen listed in the census of Canada for 1861, clusters of fishermen are located at Wellington, on the south shore of West Lake, on the north and south shores of Athol Bay between West Point and Salmon Point, on the south shore of East Lake and between Point Petre and Point Traverse. The census also pointed out that 42 individuals in Athol and 43 individuals in Hallowell had quantities of fish but no one was recognized as a fisherman. Instead 36 in Athol and 34 in Hallowell were listed in the agricultural census as farmers. Clearly, fishing was seen as a means to supplement income rather than as an occupation. Within the Sandbanks boundary, the names of men most associated with the fishery were Hyatt, Trumpour, Huff, Mastin, Weeks, Conger and MacDonald among others.

By 1871 the number of fishermen was in decline because of the depletion of fish stocks in the seine net fishery. Clusters remained at Wellington and West Point, as well as from Point Petre to Point Traverse. The agricultural census showed 27 individuals in Athol involved in the fishery and 13 in Hallowell. While the figures show the decline over the 1860s decade, it is interesting to note that 10 individuals in Athol now listed fishing as their occupation. The transition was underway toward a more stable, permanent development of offshore gill net fishing instead of a seasonal or erratic shoreline seine net fishery.

Gill nets were on Lake Ontario in the 1840s and by the 1870s they had replaced seine nets as the principal fishing gear. Off the shores of Prince Edward County, the deep waters were well adapted for gill nets which were made of fine thread with sinkers attached to the bottom of the
Gillnets: the principal gear of commercial fishermen on Lake Ontario and the Bay of Quinte. The larger tugs are more common on the open lake.

7. Drawings of gill net fishing from 'Commercial Fishing on the Bay of Quinte,' Department of Lands and Forests, 1956.
net and floats attached to the top to keep the net upright. The nets were anchored at each end. They were put in by sailboat, until the development of internal combustion engines and hydraulic net lifters early in this century. The boats became larger because 'they began to make boats to carry nets rather than fish.' The gill net fishery required a more substantial investment in boats and gear and they encouraged full time employment. Gill nets established the industry and they continued to dominate because trapnets, pound nets and the trawl system were unsuitable for local waters.

Salmon Point (formerly Wicked Point) became the base for the local gill net fishery. Peter Huff who settled at the point in 1832 was described in the Belden Atlas of 1878 as being a fish inspector, farmer, light-house keeper and Justice of the Peace. He was also the local fish buyer. An early ice house was erected on the point and 'fish runners' or sailing scoops picked up barrels of fish to deliver them to Cape Vincent, Oswego or Rochester, New York.

Several fishermen were based at Salmon Point from at least 1875. Around 1920, in order to protect boats from storms, the present cove was developed as a sheltered harbour using horses and hand labour. A small dock was built and slides were erected to pull boats further out of the water. In 1922 T.G. Bowerman purchased the point (most fishermen used seasonal shacks but lived elsewhere) and started up the Salmon Point Fisheries. A packing plant was erected and fish were now packed in ice and trucked to Picton. In 1926 government dredging deepened the harbour and after a coffer dam was built, water was pumped out and rock drilled and dynamited to a depth of nine feet. A breakwater was rebuilt to sustain the pounding from Lake Ontario. Stanley Rankin purchased the fishery in 1941 and maintained large 'turtle decked' boats into the 1980s. The development of Salmon Point ended the role of MacDonald's wharf as a site for shipping fish.

The Prince Edward County fishery experienced several cycles in fish production with peaks in the 1880s and 90s, 1913-1920, 1924-1931, the mid 1930s, 1951-1953, and 1960-1963. The year of 1913 was the peak in the harvest on Lake Ontario and fishing as an occupation has declined since 1970. In 1972 an estimated 79 commercial fishermen lived in the county, mostly based at the eastern end but some still based at western locations including Wellington and Salmon Point. In 1972 inland commercial fishing involved operations on West and East Lakes, as well as Wellers Bay, Pleasant Bay, Fish and Consecon Lakes. Thirteen county fishermen caught 34% of the province's total of fish caught in southern Ontario inland waters. The alterations of fish stocks, water quality and changing markets have largely negated an industry that was natural to the shorelines of Prince Edward County.
SAND DUNES

The most remarkable landscape feature on the western shore of Prince Edward County are the sand dunes at Sandbanks Provincial Park. The sandbanks which developed between West Lake and Lake Ontario are significant formations compared with other local beaches and dunes at Bald Head, North Beach, and Outlet. The sandbanks are not only a major landmark, but their alteration by humans has had an important environmental impact and the dunes have been the subject of resource use and conflict.

The sandbanks consist of a long narrow peninsula of glacial sand deposits about three-quarters of a mile wide at its base, tapering to a point seven miles to the north near Wellington where an outlet drains West Lake. The sandbanks lie broadside to the full force of prevailing south westerly winds blowing across a wide expanse of Lake Ontario. Waves washing up glacial sands formed beaches where dried sand was carried inland by winds. Originally the sand hills dominated the Lake Ontario side close to the shore and formed a bulwark for the forested land beyond. Two ranges of dunes now exist, the front range, adjacent to the beach on Lake Ontario, and a larger range at the West Lake shore to the east. The dunes were originally stabilized by the development of vegetative growth which formed an obstacle to the sand-laden winds and they were de-stabilized by human destruction of the vegetative cover.

In symbol and setting the sandbanks are one of Ontario’s most distinctive landscapes and they have had a powerful affect on the immediate area surrounding them. In 1878, compilers of local history for H. Belden’s Illustrated Historical Atlas for the Counties of Hastings and Prince Edward commented:

The Sand Banks are, beyond dispute, curiosities of no mean order. The northern or ‘Wellington’ Banks, are the most celebrated, from their greater height. They are covered in spots by groves of beautiful trees, which form pleasant picnicing grounds for the numerous parties of tourists and pleasure seekers during the summer season. In other places, the bare white sand glittering in the sunlight, presents a curious and agreeable contrast to the variegated foliage of its many natural parks; while these, with the blue waters of West Lake at their feet, and the sea-green of Lake Ontario, dotted with snow-white sails, and covered with the ethereal blue of cloudless sky, combine to form a panorama of nature which it delights the eye of the artist to rest upon, and commends the Banks as one of the chief points of attraction and interest in this extremely attractive and interesting locality.

Impact on agriculture
At the time of the human invasion unleashed by the coming of the Loyalists, the sandbanks area was characterized by high and irregular hills partially covered with vegetation on the Lake Ontario side and thickly wooded with cedar and some mixed hardwoods on the West Lake
side. With the developing agricultural economy, land owners expanded the amount of land available for cultivation and grazing or harvested the timber resources behind the dunes by clearing the trees and vegetation that had been a natural buffer. The exposed top soil blew away or was eroded by runoff and laid bare the sand foundation. Without the buffer, the sands began to move. Farmers began to notice a fine layer of sand on winter snows far to the east. Hardly perceptible at first, the dunes began to devour land. When the dunes were most active the front advanced as much as 40 feet a year and some of the dunes were built up to height of 150 feet above lake level. A survey made by John Roche in 1852 stated that 'the tract is almost free from any soil or vegetative' except in patches between the hills. He also described 'the timber has been removed from time to time by parties residing in the adjoining lands' and that the 'fine white drifting sand' was 'gradually extending its boundary over the adjacent lands.' One hundred and twenty years later in 1972, Dr. Walter Tovell documented the remarkable impact of wind and sand on the environment since 1852.

In 1892 Frank Yeigh of Toronto described the impact of the shifting dunes in Helen M. Merrill’s *Picturesque Prince Edward County*, (Picton, 1892):

The force and power of these mighty hills are seen in their ever-onward movement inland, and in the sand-submerged groves that have been slowly enveloped until only an area of tree-tops protrudes from the surface. At other points their work of destruction is plainly visible in the pine and fir and other trees whose trunks are already hidden and whose branches and foliage have been starved or choked to a yellowing death. The advancing mass—reaching out in some directions at the rate of fifteen feet per year—is still eating up farm lands and even homes if they chance to come in its way. Houses are seen here and there that are already partially submerged, and, of course, deserted.

In 1884 and in 1911 the West Lake Road (County Road 12) had to be altered to adjust to the changing landscape. This shift in the road is one of the most visible results seen today of the dunes and the threat they imposed on the local agricultural community. In 1911 local farmers started to take action by planting white or green willow to stem the flow of sand. In the same year Amos MacDonald who had been the lighthouse keeper at Salmon Point and the owner of the shoreacres farm, took the first of many trips to Toronto to lobby for government action to save the farmland. In 1922 he was rewarded with the establishment of of a forestry station to help in a reforestation project on the site.

When Arthur J. Richardson of the Ontario forestry branch visited the sandbanks in the 1920s he was surprised to find the sand hills marked by barren flats, 'flattened out as if by some giant’s hand’. He summarized in 1939:

Up to the present it is estimated that eighty-five acres of farm land- land which is surpassed by none in the Province- have been spoiled or covered by drifting sand. Barns also have been buried, one house had been moved twice and the site once occupied by a hotel is covered with twenty feet of sterile soil. The original roads in this part of the country lie under thirty feet of waste, and one section of the thoroughfare has been laid out four times. To-day when you follow the road, as it makes a wide detour from its rightful position, the sand monster is seen, suggestive of some insidious serpent, as it sneaks its way through the forest and over fields in crop.

The sandbanks were symbolic of terrible beauty. The distinctive, desert-like dunes attracted travellers from far and wide, yet they were witness to a spectacle of settled, familiar landscape disappearing under the tenacles of drifting sand.

**Recreational impact**

It is an irony that the exposed dunes which threatened farmers with changes in the ecological balance of the area laid bare a landscape that captivated new generations of sightseers and recreationists seeking lakeshore retreats. As an anomaly in the landscape people were attracted to its other-worldly barren dunes, its summer bathing beaches and heavenly lakeside breezes. As early as 1828 Adam Kidd wrote a poem about the sandbanks which was published in *Picturesque Prince Edward County* in 1892, the first two stanzas read:
Here Nature in some playful hour
Has fondly piled these hills of sand,
Which seem the frolic of her power,
Or effort of some magic hand.

Far o'er the wide extended shore,
The hills in conic structure rise,
And seem as never trod before,
Save by the playmates of the skies.


Some of the original Loyalist settlers on Lake Ontario recognized the sandbanks as a place of recreation, or at least, berry picking. Susan Burnham Greely, granddaughter of Major James Rogers of Rogers Rangers who settled at East Lake, described her experiences (written in 1901
when she was 95 years old) at the sandbanks in her youth, published in J.J. Talman’s *Loyalist Narratives from Upper Canada* (Champlain Society, 1946):

Well, the sandbanks were a curious and interesting track of land, about twenty-four miles in length on the shore of the Peninsula of Prince Edward, between Lake Ontario and the inlets, East and West Lake. The soil was a clear white sand blown into little waves like those on the Lake and covered with a growth of bushes between two and three feet high, which produced an excellent fruit, called sand cherries, a species of bilberry, which was greatly prized by those early settlers. My mother said a visit to the 'sandbanks' was the only holiday they had in those times.

Joseph Ash, a missionary from Oshawa described in 1848 about walks 'over beautiful white sand hills, high indeed as trees, and clean and white as driven snow.' A man named Smith wrote in 1852 that 'these hills are partially covered with small cedars and are a favourite resort for the picnic parties of Picton and the neighbourhood. These early references reflect the growing significance of the sandbanks as a place to recall and write stories about. Word of mouth would add to the mystique.


It would appear that the first tourist establishment in the area was Lakeshore House erected as a two storey building by Lewis Mastin around 1870. By 1879 Lakeshore Lodge was
redeveloped into a grand hotel involving a partnership between John W. Hyatt and Daniel MacDonald. The Hyatt and MacDonald names were known in the area for farming, fishing, shipping and later canning and their role in tourist development was not seen as a separate enterprise but part of the seasonal cycle and taking advantage and making a profit from of a local landmark.

The recreational community around West Point and the sandbanks had become so mature by 1881 that the Central Ontario Railway proposed that a branch line be built from Wellington south along the sand dunes to West Point. The village of Wellington was expected to contribute $3,000. to a total cost of $30,000. to build the railway. This line would have brought Wellington into the sphere of activities around the West and East Lake areas which were much more closely associated with Picton and Bloomfield. The line was never built but the proposal represents the level of development that had been sustained in the area.

By 1893 alterations and additions to the Lakeshore Lodge buildings on a limestone ledge overlooking Lake Ontario and the sandbanks confirmed its status as a major recreational hotel like those built at Crystal Beach, Lake Erie; Point Farms, Lake Huron; and in the Muskoka region and the St. Lawrence River. Lakeshore Lodge had developed into a three storey-hipped roof frame structure with symmetrically placed, slightly recessed wings of two stories. The classical pavilion and wings were reinforced by Italianate details around trims, brackets and windows. The picturesque grounds were carefully landscaped and a lamp-lit boardwalk connected a row of nine cottages that linked the lodge to a small park at the tip of West Point. The site included a recreational hall, dance pavilion, swimming pool and a large dock to receive guests by water. MacDonald and Hyatt sold out in 1905 and the hotel was maintained until 1971. The Ministry of Natural Resources acquired the property in 1972, it was neglected and vandalized, and during a time when it was being considered for redevelopment, it burned in 1983.

The Evergreen House had also been built for the tourist trade by 1878. It was a plain two-storey gable-roofed structure built near the crossroads of County road 12 about a half-mile east of Lakeshore Lodge but without a view of the lake. It was however, close to the sandbanks. Too close as the building had to be removed by 1911. One observer noted in a local paper on 3 June 1911:

>The Evergreen House, long a favourite resort for the summer visitor...was sold this spring at the ridiculously low price of $160. Why? Because the shifting sands have pushed it to its last line. It once stood in three acres of fertile farm land. But the sands have travelled until now they cover the three acres, except a corner, where the 'Evergreen' now stands. Almost at the back door rises a bank of relentless sand sixty feet high, and stretching at least one mile away. It will not be long before the place where the Evergreen House now stands will be pointed out to tourists as one of the interesting sights of the Sandbanks.

While the Lakeshore Lodge served the interests of a vacationing public from more distant urban areas, the Evergreen House seemed to find its market in serving regional and local interests. Aside from accommodation, it offered meals, refreshments, water, picnic tables and
13. Evergreen House, ca. 1900-1910. Erected before 1878, this lodge served increasing numbers of sandbanks users where meals, refreshments and water for horses could be acquired. The shifting Sandbanks threatened in 1911 and the building was demolished before the sand destroyed it. Larry Turner Collection.

14. Lakeland Hotel, ca. 1950-55. Built by Sarah McDonald in 1929, it was located across from the McDonald farm on the site of the grain shed and old McDonald-Hyatt wharf.
11. Lakeshore Lodge ca. 1905, Larry Turner Collection.

12. ‘Cottage Avenue’, Sandbanks. ca. 1920s. These cottages were a part of the Lakeshore Lodge complex situated along a boardwalk that connected the lodge with West Point park. Larry Turner Collection.
facilities for feeding horses, the kinds of services that early day-use visitors by foot, horse or carriage would require. Since numerous parties of bathers and picnickers were described visiting the sandbanks as early as 1878, The Evergreen House would have been an important way-station, especially with the growth of large organized picnics and social gatherings as well as political meetings, horse races and regattas held at the sandbanks at the turn of the century. It is interesting to note that political meetings held at the Sandbanks could attract 3,000 people, the estimated turn-out to hear Canada’s first woman Member of Parliament, Agnes McPhail and other speakers on 24 August 1922.

Other tourist establishments within the study area included Ontario House, built by the turn of the century which later burned, and Shoreacres Hotel, a residence across the road from Lakeview Lodge, which is no longer extant. The Shoreacres Hotel was begun in a house built in 1865 and acquired by Amos MacDonald a former lighthouse keeper and advocate of sandbanks reforestation. He developed the site into a recreational facility in the 1920s. Another from the MacDonald clan, Sarah, started Lakeland Lodge in Athol Bay in front of the existing MacDonald farm house and buildings. Mrs. MacDonald originally took in guests at her home until the lodge was built in 1930. The old MacDonald-Hyatt wharf and the grain shed at the site were removed to make way for the lodge. The lodge could accommodate twenty people and twelve adjacent cottages could house fifty more guests at capacity. The site became famous for dances which attracted a wide clientele. The buildings were dismantled by the Ministry of Natural Resources in 1974.

The Lakeview Lodge or 'Gray House' is the last lodge in the area to survive. It was built in 1869 by the Hyatt family and was soon converted for recreational use. The building could accommodate twenty guests and once was the centre of six housekeeping cottages, no longer extant. The lodge was taken over by the Ministry of Natural Resources in 1972 and was used for several years as a staff residence for provincial park summer employees.

The area behind the outlet beach had a different recreational focus because of the private land that existed there. A residential section on the East Lake side of the Outlet known as 'the Cedars', was the location of some of the County’s earliest log cabins, one of which still remains. An early residential and later cottage community anchored the area until the 1930s with the development of Bruce Martin’s and Frank Kellogg’s hotel grounds. Outlet beach had been a site for horse races from early in the century and motorcycle races by the 1930s. Accessibility to the outlet increased its popularity. With a narrow public beach bordered by private property, the site was characterized by cottages clustered by the outlet channel, private entrepreneurs operating camping, hotel and day-use facilities behind the outlet sand dunes and the beach becoming a free-for-all with parties simply driving on and parking at will. Owing to intense pressure and private and public concerns, the outlet became the first target for park status.

The lodges slowly lost their markets with the increase of private cottages and camping facilities on the East and West Lake shores after the Second World War. Some clusters of
private cottages were erected near the sandbanks, the outlet and along Athol Bay. The development of the provincial parks at Outlet and Sandbanks were a response to the increased pressure for day use activities and overnight weekend camping from centres where better roads and cars made the area more accessible. By the 1970s the local family-run lodges offering a wide range of facilities and activities had disappeared. They had evolved as part of the local economic fabric, a seasonal industry, that took place next to farming and fishing. They instilled their guests with a love of the area and their success at promotion is a factor in the growing dominance of the tourist industry in this part of Prince Edward County.

Resource Use
In 1914 Buffalo native L.V. Stevens trumpeted the sandbanks as a wonderful natural resource waiting to be exploited. After a visit to West Lake he described himself as 'amazed commercially by the reckless waste of one of the greatest assets that the county contains, the picturesque and valuable sand banks'. He went on to claim that outside the large deposits of Japan, 'ours are the largest sand hills in the world.' Notwithstanding the evidence of deserts in other parts of Asia and Africa, Stevens was able to round up a stable of upper New York State and Welland, Ontario investors to launch the West Lake Brick and Products Company Ltd. in 1914. The purpose of the company was to assemble the necessary lands at the Sandbanks on which to erect a factory for the production of sand-lime bricks and to excavate local quantities of sand.

Tests were made on the sand, brick making equipment was purchased and moved from Moose Jaw, Saskatchewan, and the factory went into production in 1921. The factory had a capacity to make 48,000 bricks per day and employ 30 men and its isolated position by land was supposed to be rectified by the use of tugs and barges to move the product to markets. However, the sand-lime process became discredited when it was found that if walls were damp, a white powder or scum appeared on the inside of foundation walls constructed of the product. It was also found that the sand was too fine for building purposes and it contained too many iron oxides for glassmaking. The brick was used for inside brick-laying, being cheaper than clay brick, but a sufficient market could not be found. The last year of operation for the factory was in 1926 and it could not be saved even after a name change in 1927 as the James G. Shepard and Company. Alan R. Capon in Prince Edward County Treasury (1976) assumed that the factory was buried in its own resource as the sands kept shifting, but the evidence shows a sub-standard product as the reason for its demise.

What was too fine for brick making was sufficient for making cement. With the popularity of reinforced cement in construction and post World War II growth, the Lake Ontario Cement Company Ltd. thought it had found a tidy and accessible source of sand for production. It could even argue that its method of excavation helped remove the risk of shifting sands by taking it away altogether. However, this last attempt at resource extraction ran head on into a growing environmental movement and an expanding provincial parks mandate in search of recreational landscapes for a demanding population. While tourism and agriculture went hand in hand in the area, not so tourism and resource extraction.

The land on which the brick making plant was located was purchased after a series of transactions by the Lake Ontario Cement Company Ltd. in the 1950s. Excavation was underway about the same time the government was considering locating a provincial park at the sandbanks and the last effort in reforestation was in process. Owing to confusion over the actual site for excavation, the area was re-surveyed in 1959, and a new lease drawn up between the government and the company in 1966. The company was granted almost 20

acres, 16 of which was for the purpose of removing sand over a 75 year period. Although the area to be excavated was relatively small, the scars would have been noticeable.

Environmental and parks organizations opposed a license the company was required to get under the Pits and Quarries Control Act in 1971 and the issue became a political storm. In 1973 the government expropriated the land and in 1979, the company received $850,000. for its loss.

Reforestation
In 1899 the Bureau of Forestry was created in Ontario after almost a century of massive exploitation of the province's timber lands. By 1912 the Forestry Branch was created within
the Department of Lands and Forests with Edmund John Zavitz (1875-1968) at its head. However, it wasn't until the election of E.C. Drury and the United Farmers of Ontario who governed from 1919 to 1923, that reforestation got the impetus that it needed. The agrarian idealist Drury was committed to the concept of reforestation and he and Zavitz were sensitive to the complaints being registered by Prince Edward County farmers complaining about the sandbanks devouring rich agricultural lands. Drury and the UFO were well aware of the problem at the sandbanks. Amos MacDonald who had been complaining since 1911 about the shifting sands was a member of the party and a huge UFO rally was held at the sandbanks on 21 August 1921 which attracted up to 1,000 cars and from 3-4,000 persons. Part of the rally was held to celebrate the planned reforestation. In 1921 the Sandbanks Forestry Station was established and the next year Arthur Herbert Richardson, a pioneer in Ontario reforestation, was hired by the forestry branch to head up the sandbanks project. The Sandbanks problem was a special challenge to Richardson and the forestry branch.

The first plan was to build snow fences and plant poplar, Scotch pine, black locust, maple and spruce trees but the plantings were too small to stop the wind. In the 1930s belts of willow and poplar were planted and barrier fences of plank and lath were erected. Plantations of clover were also attempted and results began to show in preventing the sand drifting onto adjacent cropland. In 1957 a new plan based on the use of mulching and heavy plantings of Carolina poplar, with interplants of black locust and Scotch pine had the result over the next few years of stabilizing the dunes. The last program completed in 1965 was considered a great success and reforestation was brought to an end, the forest station was closed and the buildings including a fire tower removed. Through trial and error, in-depth research in planting and species types, and stubborn determination, the sandbanks were brought under control in areas where they were a threat to private property.

The reforestation project was a prelude to provincial park development at the sandbanks. Having taken such an active interest in the location, the next natural step after successful reforestation was continued maintenance and protection. Although all the buildings erected at the forestry station were demolished before the park opened, the legacy of the reforestation project is one of the most visible effects on the southern sections of the sand dunes.
17. Aerial photograph of West Point and lower sandbanks, 1929. Note the exposed and wind driven sand dunes and the road alterations around the leading edge. Lakeshore Lodge and its cottage row are visible between the sandbanks and West Point, and near the bottom, on Athol Bay, Lakeland Lodge has begun operations. Energy, Mines and Resources, A2018.15.
A HISTORY OF SANDBANKS PROVINCIAL PARK

The Outlet and Sandbanks beaches are one of the most distinctive landscapes and important sand dune regions of Ontario. They were a focus for seasonal recreational pursuit from the last century and in the first half of this century a private sector infrastructure had taken advantage of several features of Prince Edward County. The effect of post-war urban growth in the Toronto region and the development of vehicles and road traffic brought the sand beaches of the county within easy reach of a large and growing population. Even within the Bay of Quinte region itself and as far east as Kingston, demand started to outstrip private and public sources of land set aside for recreation.

About the time of World War II, the County of Prince Edward acquired a License of Occupation for one and a half miles of Crown Beach known as the Outlet on Athol Bay. The beaches had been reserved for public benefit since 1835 but the county acquired the license to have the authority to police the dunes and maintain some semblance of order, especially on weekends. Growing numbers of people were migrating to the beaches to spend vacations and weekends getting away from the city, escaping summer heat. Pressure on the beach intensified in 1950 when the County built a road behind the beach under the provincial road development plan. The problem at Outlet was not only the numbers of people picnicking and bathing, but also the random passage and parking of cars on the beach.

In 1954 a report described between 4000 and 5000 people using the beach on good weekends and on a dull Sunday on August 15, 211 cars and about 1000 people were counted. Next Sunday 362 cars were counted on the beach. Regional forester W. B. Greenwood described the conditions during an inspection in 1954:

There is no Parking Area (cars are continually mired in sand). There are no tables, no fireplaces, no bathing houses, no life guards, no garbage cans, no water supply, and no sanitary conveniences. One can well imagine the condition of the area on Monday morning after 5000 people have spent Sunday on the beach and the adjoining woods.

On 6 July 1954 the Prince Edward County Council requested that the Ontario Government take over the beach as a government park. A tour of inspection including the Reeves of Hallowell and Ameliasburg Townships, the County Warden, county engineer, District Forester and Norris Whitney, M.P.P. The County was concerned with a proposed development of the beach area by Bruce Martin who had operated Cedar Outlet Park on the East Lake shore since 1929. The Council was also aware of a new Provincial Parks Act that was being passed by the
Ontario Legislature to manage existing parks and promote the establishment of new facilities. In January of 1955 the County Council passed a resolution in favour of park designation and by July the planning for the proposed park was well underway. The park was established by Ontario Regulation 117/63 and it was developed under the authority of the Division of Parks in the Ontario Department of Lands and Forests. Originally, the government planned to purchase blocks of private land near the beach to give access to the East Lake shore and to protect the boundary from ‘shabby and unattractive resort development’. In 1957 a total of 264 acres were purchased behind the government owned beach, and it was expanded to 675 acres with water boundary extensions and when land on the south side of the Outlet River was acquired for camping purposes.

18. Buried trees at the Sandbanks and Globe and Mail Fashion Shooting, September 1966, Lloyd Thompson, photographer, Queen’s University Archives, 17-205.
The development of Outlet Beach Provincial Park took place from 1957 to 1968 and the park was opened as part of the Ontario Provincial Parks system in 1959. The park absorbed the County road built in 1950 and the Ontario Government replaced that thoroughfare with County Road #18 where it covered 80% of the cost. By 1966 400 camp sites had been developed with a further 82 by 1969. Between 1966 and 1969 camper numbers increased from 20,983 to 28,304. During the same time period day-use numbers climbed from 81,376 in 1967 to 158,864 in 1869. In 1971 peaks of 39,467 campers and 180,516 day-use visitors were reached. Outlet was soon established as one of Ontario’s most popular parks.

Only a year after Outlet Beach Provincial Park had opened, development for another park using Prince Edward County’s sand dune heritage was underway. It was a time of remarkable expansion for the Provincial Park system. Since 1954 when there were eight parks, eighty-two new parks had been opened or were being developed by 1965. Greatest pressure was put on recreational lands within accessible radius of metropolitan Toronto. The opening of Outlet had raised the profile of Prince Edward’s beaches locally, regionally, and on a provincial scale.

The birth of the separate and original Sandbanks Provincial Park was started on 10 February 1960 with the approval by the Ontario Parks Integration Board to permit the development of a park to come on line in 1965. Negotiations were begun in 1957 to transfer the Crown Lands involved in the sand dune reforestation to Parks control which was completed in 1958. A survey to establish the boundaries of the proposed park was undertaken in 1958 which was made very difficult by the eradication of original markers by the moving sand. In June of 1961 park planning was underway and land acquisition in 1961 expanded the boundaries of the park but the government was unsuccessful in acquiring Garrett’s Island. The beach was open for public use in 1962 and it was officially named Sandbanks Provincial Park on 15 April 1964.

The original Sandbanks Provincial Park was expected to be a major camping area. In 1963 a proposed development plan prepared by the Tweed District of the Department of Lands and Forests included the building of a concrete bridge at the northern end of the peninsula over the Wellington gap and the construction of a gravel surfaced road along the whole peninsula for 5.5 miles between the bridge and the park entrance. It was proposed that Sandbanks would have 1,200 campsites by 1978, day-use parking at beach and observation areas for 1,884 cars with as many as 7,500 users of the beach at a time, and a winter sports program involving skiing and toboggan runs on the dunes. This development included an interpretation centre, hydro and water services, ranger offices, comfort stations, beach patrol towers, privies, internal campsite roads and operations and management systems. Development was expected to begin in 1966 and be spread over a dozen years. Development costs were expected to be more than $691,000 (in 1963 values) and the park was expected to attract 400,000 visitors a year by 1975.

In spite of many years in researching the nature of the sand dunes for the purposes of reforestation, park planning was not based on an environmental assessment, but it was an after thought in the process. Hon. A. Kelso Roberts announced the proposed development plan for
Sandbanks Provincial Park in a news release on 17 April 1964. Douglas H. Pimlott, a guiding light in the genesis of environmental action in Ontario got wind of the announcement and immediately issued a statement from the Department of Ecology at the University of Toronto condemning the plans that would affect the sand dune formations. Citing examples from his own experiences in working with dunes, he insisted on the preservation of distinctive and rare environments like the Sandbanks which are of national and provincial significance.

In his ‘Statement of the Future of Great Lake Sand Dune Formations in Ontario’, Pimlott used Outlet Park as an example of destructive park planning:

19. Outlet Beach Crowds, 1982, Lloyd Thompson, photographer, Queen’s University Archives, 9-44.
Similarly in Outlet Park the natural process of blowing sand is considered a menace to road and parking lot and is stopped out on the beach by the use of snow fences. The height of the fore dune is being reduced a measurable amount each year as a result of this, and of human activity on the dune itself. In addition, exotic species are being used to stabilize areas and a large dune was opened to provide road fill for a new camping area. In the older stabilized dunes a trimmed, city-park atmosphere is developing as a result of clearing for camp sites and of intensive human use. It still provides excellent camping sites but the ecological significance of the area is rapidly being lost.

Pimlott called for sportsmen, naturalists, hikers and outdoor enthusiasts to protest the development policy at the Sandbanks and suggest access to the dunes by foot or boat only and to 'keep the motor car from dominating every single aspect of our lives in the out of doors.'

The Parks Branch reacted to protests by into establishing a consulting group to guide the planning 'in view of the focus of attention on the Sandbanks and the geological, botanical, ecological and historical significance which must be investigated, mapped and documented. The consulting group recommended included some of Ontario's scientific elite. They were D.F. Putnam, Professor of Geography, R.E. Deane, Prof. of Geological Sciences, D.H. Pimlott, Prof. of Zoology, and K. Armson, Assoc. Prof., Faculty of Forestry, at the University of Toronto; Walter Tovell, Curator of Geology, Royal Ontario Museum; R. Beschel, Assoc. Prof. Dept. of Botany, Queen’s University; N.W. Radforth, Prof. Dept. of Botany, McMaster University; and R.O. Earl, Dean of Arts and Sciences, York University.

The intervention by Pimlott and the creation of the consulting group had a profound affect on the development of the park. Instead of a massive development plan going into effect in 1966, a much more sensitive process was begun. In August of 1966 about one mile of internal road had been completed leading to a parking area for 300 cars at the beach on the Lake Ontario side at the south end of the park. The parking area was to be landscaped and planted to reduce sand movement and the remainder of a road leading beyond the parking lot was barricaded to prevent traffic from going beyond. No access was created at the Wellington end of the peninsula and the dunes remain accessible by foot or boat only to this day.

A second controversy took shape at Sandbanks after the development plan was altered. Between 1921 and 1926 a brick making plant was based at the Sandbanks making use of the large easily accessible supply of sand. After a series of transactions the quarry site became the property of the Lake Ontario Cement Ltd. which started mining sand in the 1950s. When the survey of boundaries for the projected Sandbanks Provincial Park was submitted in January, 1959 it was found that the government had reforested lands owned by the company and the company was removing sand from Crown Land. According to a study by Walter Tovell, 'the oversight was due to the lost and destroyed fences and survey markers resulting from the unstable sand...the plan also clearly demonstrated the amount of accretion due to blowing sand that had taken place since 1852, and the change in the position of the shoreline of West Lake since 1838.
The government then negotiated a lease in exchange-for-deed between the Crown and Lake Ontario Cement Ltd. (LOCL) which was signed on 12 June 1966 and made retroactive to 1 January 1965. The lease was set for 75 years with LOCL granting almost 20 acres to the Crown and receiving a little more than 16 acres in return. The political fallout of this arrangement became a major environmental issue for several years. Not unlike the concerns raised over the development plan, it appears that the Department of Lands and Forests was either naive to proceed without a full understanding of the environmental consequences or it was pressured into accepting the terms. Whatever the case, the young environmental movement, and the Ontario media, rushed in to protect the sandbanks.

The government was well aware of the sensitivity to the sand dunes over the development plan controversy in 1964. In 1963 the West Quinte Regional Tourist Council wrote to the Minister of the Department of Lands and Forests to protest the destruction of the unique dune features by excavation. The government did not enter into the agreement blind to these concerns but they paid the price of ignoring them.

The issue came to a head when the company had to file for a license to operate under the Pits and Quarries Control Act with the Township of Hallowell in 1971. Both the National and the Provincial Parks Associations protested the lease and the public interest group Pollution Probe initiated litigation against the lease. The government had little choice but to expropriate the leased land in 1973. The cement company received a payment of $850,000 in 1979 after a protracted dispute over the value of the land.

In the 1970s the recreational sector began to dominate local land use. The province bought up several plots of land in the West Point area, including the MacDonald farm. By 1977 a preliminary master plan was released by the Ministry of Natural Resources with a final master plan appearing by 1979. The 1980s would see the union of Outlet and Sandbanks Provincial Parks under one name, Sandbanks Provincial Park. A process for developing a new master plan is underway in 1990.
HERITAGE RESOURCES

Sandbanks Provincial Park is of provincial significance; it is a unique cultural resource which can be preserved, developed, and interpreted through a variety of strategies. The resources at the park are divided into four categories:

- geographic and landscape features
- archaeological resources
- built heritage
- associative heritage (sometimes called intangible heritage)

The first three are represented by concrete, physical remains; the fourth includes all those events or persons associated with the area but not necessarily represented by physical remains. Many are directly associated with people’s memories and collections of artifacts, documents, and photographs. The associative heritage is dealt with in chapters 2 through 8 of this report. This chapter describes existing cultural resources within the park boundary.

The categorization and evaluation of historical resources at Sandbanks Provincial Park has been organized into discrete blocks or clusters which allows for recognition and analysis of cultural landscapes at two differing scales—the overall cluster and the individual built forms or features.

The development of Sandbanks Provincial Park will have a lasting impact on the cultural landscape of the area. In order to preserve and interpret the significant features of a living landscape facing severe alteration we would recommend focusing on major interpretive themes. These themes have universal appeal throughout the Park, but are best represented in specific clusters.

The recommendations are set out as they relate to a specific cluster or feature. Each of the clusters represents or supports the three major themes represented at Sandbanks Provincial Park; those being Prehistory and First Peoples, Agriculture and Settlement, and the Dunes Environment. Each of the clusters, a cultural landscape, reflects a pattern of human use. They give one a sense of place a feeling for the larger landscape. The historical and interpretive value of a cultural landscape relies in part on the value of the individual features, but it is also largely dependent on their presence and relationship as a perceptible unit. As individual elements they possess little significance and often their historical importance is minimal. Each feature is a component of a larger group, or cluster. For example, the Macdonald farm is
a cluster made up of such manmade features as a house, barns, sheds, pastures, fields, fences, orchards and the remains of the wharves. It also contains natural areas such as woodlots. The vistas and view sheds or points of view are also an essential part in defining a site, edges, and the landscape which surrounds them. Clusters have been designated and are noted on the SITE INVENTORY SHEET. A description of these clusters and associate features follows. An accompanying plan, RECOMMENDED LAND USES, illustrates suggested broad recommendations as to organization of the parks uses based on traditional land patterns and as a means of protecting significant heritage features.

The accompanying plan SITE INVENTORY locates the most prominent features within the park. There are a number of small-scale elements which are not individually noted they are included as part of larger scale clusters.

We have included a number of features which are outside the Park boundary but which are an important part of the cultural landscape and should be noted. The intent is strictly a recording exercise.
CLUSTER 1: AGRICULTURAL EDGE CLUSTER

Site Inventory Reference No. 1

The clearing of lands by Loyalist pioneers, the pattern of settlement, the development of farms, the processing of food, and the foundation of community life is at the centre of the local history. It is represented here as well as in Clusters 5 and 8. In association with agriculture as an economic mainstay were the pursuits of fishing, shipping, maple sugar extraction and recreational development. The physical evidence of these pursuits can be found at each of these clusters. The pattern of recreational use originally blended with community life but it now threatens to overwhelm with new park planning. In order to preserve a notion of the former community and its landscape, special attention must be given to park planning in this context.

Statement of Significance

This cluster is linear in character following road nos. 10 and 12 from the intersection. It is defined by viewsheds and vistas overlooking the agricultural fields. The cluster includes the church, several barns, and houses, but is mainly a vernacular landscape associated with a rural road. The important features include the road, the edge treatment, fencelines, and views over agricultural land with treelines and sugar bush in the background. The intersection of road nos. 10 and 12 is an important demarcation point and main road junction into the Park. Traditionally visitors from the west arrive at the Park along route no. 12. Because of population and regional access this is the most active arrival point.
Recommended Treatment

- Interpretive themes represented in this cluster include settlement patterns and agriculture. Interpretation programming would be passive in nature, usually seen from a moving automobile or on bicycle.
- The church at the intersection accentuates the junction and provides a fine landmark. The province should encourage its preservation.
- In long term plans this junction should be treated as a major entry node and the road right-of-way in the Park preserved.
- The road system within the Park is a valuable interpretive feature and should be developed as a scenic drive around the Park. A walking trail should also be available as a separate experience for cross site access linking Wellington Bay and Athol Bay.
- A Scenic Easement should be established to control views from the road. Crops such as barley grown during the 'Barley Days' have given way to corn and oats. The crops grown are less important than the tradition of agriculture. These fields next to the road should continue to be leased for agricultural purposes.
- Features associated with this cluster should be retained when on Park property. Private lands are not included in our recommendations for this cluster.

Features Associated with Cluster 1

- Site Inventory Reference No. 2
  Name: Kleinstauber Barn and Outbuildings - privately owned
  Statement of Significance Representative of continuing agricultural use of Sandbanks area. Farm in operation since late nineteenth century. Important only as part of the landscape. Farm buildings were located close to the road opposite the farm house (not on proposed Park property).
Site Inventory Reference No. 3
Name: Barrett House
Statement of Significance: A late Victorian brick veneer house that represents the growing affluence of the local agricultural economy during the period. Architecturally it is a fine building typical of the period. Located on Lot 1, South Shore of West Lake, the Barrett House has recently been acquired by the Government of Ontario as part of a parcel of land to be absorbed by Sandbanks Provincial Park. The building is structurally sound but is in need of a new roof and repairs to the verandah. The house should continue in use as residential housing.
CLUSTER 2: SITE AND RUINS OF WEST LAKE BRICK AND PRODUCTS COMPANY AND PLANT

Site Inventory Reference No. 4

Statement of Significance

Site is located within pit excavated by the Lake Ontario Cement Company in the 1960s. At this time the foundations of the former brick plant, and various pieces of machinery, including a wagon which is still on the site, were uncovered. Access to site by lane from West Lake Road. This was the first attempt to make industrial use of the Sandbanks (1921-29). Largely buried foundations of the original manufacturing building are graphic evidence of effects of the shifting sands. The cluster is significant as an early attempt (unsuccessful) to profitably manufacture sand-lime bricks in Ontario.

Recommended Treatment

- Retain a record of the site as a ruin. Undertake archaeological recording as part of a master plan. This area is historically interesting, but with little importance as a physical resource.
- Resource extraction should be a sub-theme to the major theme of dune environment.
- The area could be developed as a day use and picnicking area with access to West Lake.
CLUSTER 3: PREHISTORIC CLUSTERS AND ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESOURCES

Site Inventory Reference No. 5, 9, 28

Statement of Significance
Prince Edward County is an important piece in the archaeological puzzle about the formations and demise of the Ontario Iroquois. The peninsula was strategically based along the protected portion of the north shore of Lake Ontario at the base of an important inland watershed. Significant portages have been found to East and West Lakes from the Bay of Quinte and the Sandbanks Provincial Park area has had a long tradition of aboriginal habitation. The sand dunes would have been an important seasonal location for native peoples seeking shellfish, fish resources and various kinds of edible berries. While the shoreline would have been difficult for the navigation for canoes in bad weather, the area presented nodes of habitation accessible by portage from the protected Bay of Quinte. Within the park area, evidence could still be found on the life cycle of proto Huron peoples, Iroquois use of the region and perhaps some answers to the mysteries of Huron abandonment and to the disappearance of the St. Lawrence Iroquois. While the shifting sands have buried former sites, others have been exposed in the same process. Sandbanks Provincial Park should consider archaeological research an important part of a heritage program, including interpretation of Canada’s First Peoples and archaeological methods. These clusters are located at various points throughout the Park. The SITE INVENTORY plan indicates three known sites Ives, Sandbanks, Lakeshore Lodge, and Outlet Park. Although well documented there is no specific information as to the extent of the sites or whether one could expect the find more sites if a systematic archaeological survey was undertaken for the entire Park.

Recommended Treatment
Land use at the Sandbanks in the Pre-contact Period is an important theme. The means by which this theme will be interpreted to the public should be carefully considered. Because of the fragile nature of this resource, these historical clusters require strict controls on activities to ensure the protection of the sites.

Because archaeology is by nature destructive much of the interpretive value and public education is in the actual process. The programming, the field work, the analysis, storage, and exhibiting of finds are all essential to the understanding of the site.

- The sites could be used for research, and certain forms of educational and interpretive programmes might be permitted. Given that the archaeological process is the most tangible resource there may be potential for a public archaeological programme. Other examples where this approach was used are the ‘discovering mankind’ exhibit at the Royal Ontario Museum, The Forks Public Archaeological Programme, and the open conservation programme at the Rotterdam Maritime Museum.

- In areas to be developed for further recreational use, measures should be taken to assess archaeological potential, and sensitive sites should be protected.

- All future planning should include basic mapping, site identification, and site recording.

- A schedule of archaeological digs should be planned to assess the role and extent of First Peoples habitation within the park area.
• In all future planning activities relating to the Park basic mapping, identifying potential sites, and recorded sites should be standard tools in the process of site selection for development.

**Features Associated with Cluster 3**

• Site Inventory Reference No.: 5  
  Name: Sandbanks Prehistoric Site - A1Gh-4  
  Statement of Significance: This is one of a number of Iroquoian fishing stations which probably were located on the Sandbanks, only two of which are known today. They provide invaluable evidence of the activities of prehistoric peoples in this part of Ontario. In 1972, this Iroquoian camp site was identified and tested. Nineteen ceramic and two stone artifacts were collected. Pottery, bone and net sinkers have been collected on or near this site since at least 1915. The extent of this site is difficult to determine, because it is subject to constant wind erosion.

• Site Inventory Reference No. 5  
  Name: Ives Prehistoric Site - A1Gh-31  
  Statement of Significance: This is one of a number of Iroquoian fishing stations which were located on the Sandbanks. They provide invaluable evidence of the activities of prehistoric peoples in this part of Ontario. This site was observed in 1976 and surface collected in 1977 and 1978. More than fifty artifacts were collected and recorded, including net sinkers, ceramics and bone. Site is subject to severe wind erosion, making it difficult to locate and measure.

• Site Inventory Reference No. 9  
  Name: Lakeshore Lodge Prehistoric Site - A1Gh-32  
  Statement of Significance: This site has been used and re-used intermittently for hundreds of years, revealing evidence of Pickering and the later Iroquoian peoples. This was probably a popular prehistoric fishing station. Ceramics and faunal material were collected on this site near Lakeshore Lodge. The site is subject to severe erosion.

• Site Inventory Reference No. 28  
  Name: Outlet Beach Provincial Park; Prehistoric Burial Site - A1Gh-14  
  Statement of Significance: Representative of intensive prehistoric activity in this area. Site has been destroyed.
CLUSTER 4: REFORESTATION CLUSTER

Site Inventory Reference No. 7

Statement of Significance

Site of one of the first reforestation projects in Ontario (1922). A landmark site in the history of conservation in Ontario. The forestry substation included a store house, workshop and stable constructed in 1922, and a house purchased for the foreman the same year. This put on a permanent basis reforestation work which had been carried on at Sandbanks by local residents from at least 1910 and with government assistance from after the First World War. Government involvement in reforestation at Sandbanks was in response to the pleas of local residents, led by Amos MacDonald of Shoreacres. They had been fighting a losing battle against the encroaching sand, which had consumed 85 acres of farmland between 1852 and the First World War.

When the forestry substation was permanently established in 1922, it was placed under the supervision of the late Dr. A.H. Richardson, a recognized authority and pioneer in conservation work in Ontario. The first foreman was Oscar Clark. Only a few acres of land were purchased initially for the substation, but in an effort to relieve local landowners and to gain greater control of lands adjacent the Sandbanks, the provincial government purchased property in the vicinity at a flat rate of $50 per acre for agricultural and forested land, and $10 per acre for sand-covered land. During the 1920s, the following persons sold their land on this basis: David Conger, J. Clayton Hyatt, Mabel Welsh, M.E. and Harry Stinson, D. Bartlett, Amos MacDonald, Allen and Philip MacDonald, John Whatam, Stuart MacDonald, and Richard MacDonald.

This cluster contains remnants of the attempts to stop the erosion by sand which threatened to engulf this area. The sand dunes are one of the most important natural features in Ontario. A detail plan of this area on map (page 60a) documents the shifting of the dunes as a result of stripping of vegetation. The underlying land patterns on this plan document the progress of the dunes as they engulfed buildings and farm land.

Recommended Treatment

- The story of sand dunes environment as it relates to early industry, the de-nuding of forest cover and resulting erosion, and early attempts to address erosion are themes. The introduction of erosion resistant species in to the area as well as early attempts to develop erosion control have influenced other parts of Ontario.

- The dog-leg in the road at this point is an important reminder of the extent of erosion requiring that the road be relocated on three occasions as the sand overtook the area. The dog-leg should be retained and incorporated into the scenic drive.

- This cluster can support interpretive facilities and day use, but generally visitor movement and access will be determined by the management of the surrounding nature reserve.

- Care must be taken to sustain the natural environment of the dunes, as well as landscapes that were imposed on the dunes like the reforestation area.

- Archaeological investigation of the sand dunes should be encouraged.
Features Associated with Cluster 4

- Site Inventory Reference No. 7
  Name: Site of Provincial Transplant Nursery
  Statement of Significance: Site of one of the first reforestation projects in Ontario (1922). A landmark site in the history of conservation in Ontario. The nursery was located at the site of the present campground. Seedlings established at other Ontario nurseries were transplanted here before being sold to local farmers or used in the Sandbanks reclamation project. The maturing forest in this area provides an excellent document to the success of this programme.

- Site Inventory Reference No. 7
  Name: Site of Jacob Young House (no longer exists)
  Statement of Significance: Marks area where former farm residences located before being abandoned as Sandbanks drifted to the south and east. Of historic and archaeological importance.

- Site Inventory Reference No. 7
  Name: Site of Fire Tower (no longer exists)

- Site Inventory Reference No. 7
  Name: Site of ‘Ontario House’ (no longer exists)
  Statement of Significance: Representative of recreational land use in Sandbanks area. Historical interest only.
CLUSTER 5: MAPLE LANE CLUSTER

Site Inventory Reference No. 6, 13, 14

Statement of Significance
This cluster is an extension of the Agricultural Edge Cluster 1, but with its own character. It contains a variety of heritage features and local landmarks, including an evaporator and orchard, the site of two lodges, an existing lodge, a livestock barn, and two major nodes in the local road network linked by a scenic tree-lined road. The linear quality the ability to view large segments of landscape with the Lake in the background offer a scenic quality which is special. The field patterns ordered rows of crops and fence lines are an important part of the visual perception of this part of the Park. The imagery of Ontario farm land is well represented in this brief section of road.

Recommended Treatment
• The heritage elements of this cluster should be retained where possible, supporting a scenic drive vehicular route and a major bike and pedestrian route. Every attempt should be made to preserve the quality and character.

• The dog-leg in the road where it bypasses the dune is a peculiar feature until one understands the significance.

• The introduction of camping in this part of the Park should respect the perceptual edges as seen from the road. Camping facilities and sites should be located in the mid block while fields and fence lines next to the road should continue in traditional farming uses. This is illustrated on the RECOMMENDED LAND USES plan.

• Lakeview Lodge’s location is highly picturesque. It creates a key hub of recreation and gardening. The lodge should be redeveloped as a theme inn. Reconstruction of housekeeping-style cottages would make it a more viable operation.

• Restore the sugar shack and institute management of sugar bush.

• Replace and undertake roadside planting of sugar maple trees.
Features Associated with Cluster 5

- Site Inventory Reference No. 6
  Name: Sugar Shack
  Statement of Significance: The building is a surviving remnant from the maple sugar industry which used to be an important seasonal activity in the local economy. The sugar shack is an important interpretive node. The site reflects the several activities undertaken by farming communities to supplement income and food sources like sugaring off, fishing, trapping, lumbering, hauling. The dilapidated structure is located in the sugar bush on the southeast corner of the confluence of county roads 12 and 18. The sugar bush needs to be restored.

- Site Inventory Reference No. 6.
  Name: Site of Parkview Variety Store and Gas Station (demolished)
  Statement of Significance: Important demarcation point and main road junction in proposed park area. Traditionally this intersection has been site of key service functions for travelling public. Driveway, concrete pads for gas pumps, sign, are all that remain on site. If retail services are to be incorporated into the Master Plan, this traditional node would be an appropriate place for a service/grocery function. Its remains are buried beneath the present reforested area. The site is of historic interest only. Its value is historic and as a potential archaeological site.

COMMONWEALTH HISTORIC RESOURCE MANAGEMENT LIMITED
Lakeview Lodge is close to and faces the County Road, the main link to Picton. Its location is highly picturesque. It creates a key hub of recreational, agricultural, and fishery activity at the opposite end of Maple Lane from the junction at the Evergreen House Hotel. The landscape around the lodge was and is noteworthy. Gardens and grazing land were located to the south of the lodge. Orchards were planted near the lodge. These should be reinstated. The lodge should be redeveloped and could accommodate 20 guests, with a further 30 in 6 housekeeping cottages adjacent the main building.

- Site Inventory Reference No. 14
Name: Site of Shoreacres Hotel (Lodge and related buildings were demolished.
Statement of Significance: Site of one of the oldest and most significant lodges in the area. Referred to in Belden’s Atlas (1878). Site of over two and one-half acres included a tourist home, three cottages, four outbuildings, and a small camping lot. The tourist home had accommodation for 9 guests and camping for 35. Site remains one of the most picturesque with high potential for re-use for recreational purposes. Potential area for camping or tourist facility development.
CLUSTER 6: LAKESHORE LODGE CLUSTER

Site Inventory Reference No. 8, 9, 10

Statement of Significance
Located at West Point this cluster contains a variety of vestige associated with the Lakeshore Lodge, including the foundations of the lodge and ‘Cottage Row’, the site of West Point Park, the playing fields and the Carson Cottage. It also contains an extensive prehistoric archaeological site. The spatial organization for buildings and landscape features was a direct response to the spectacular setting overlooking Lake Ontario. Most prominent views and other perceptual qualities are directed towards the Lake. The shoreline provides a strong edge.

The lodge was situated in a highly-picturesque, carefully-landscaped location at the point of Lake Ontario where the Sandbanks give way to an abrupt and steep shoreline of rocky ledges. Lakeshore Lodge has played a very significant role in the development of the recreation and tourism industry in Ontario. It was a focal point for recreation and social activities in Prince Edward County, and because of its location immediately adjacent the Sandbanks, attracted visitors from the United States and abroad.

The lodge area was a terminus of the road route no. 12. Indications are that the road predates the lodge. The prehistoric site further suggests that this area has traditionally been a destination point. Even today in spite of the fact that the structures are gone this area is well used by local picnickers. The lane way through this area is tree lined providing a restful shaded access to most of the site for cars. In parts of the grounds there are traces of foot paths dating from the resort era. The area is lightly wooded and clearly indicates a park-like treatment with ornamental plantings mature maples and clumps of lilac. The fence line is overgrown with volunteer material but still defines the edges.

Recommended Treatment
- Historically it is the most complete interpretation of the recreational theme; however nearly all physical features of this cluster are lost. All that remains are ruins. The main lodge burned and the cottages were removed. These features have been documented.
- A part of any interpretation programme dealing with the area’s recreation history should include the story of Lakeshore Lodge, even though most of the features associated with the recreational lodge are gone.
- The entrance gates are one of the only features still remaining. Although no one would defend their architectural merit they serve as a monument marking 100 years of recreational use and should be preserved.
- Interpretive facilities might be established within this area. The area is a landmark and a terminus point with exceptional appeal as a site for recreational development.
- Management of the cluster will permit a variety of activities, including day-use areas, camping, and parking. A compatible new use would be a commercial full-scale lodge and recreational development. (See Recommended Land Use)
Features Associated with Cluster 6

- Site Inventory Reference No. 8
- Name: Mills’ Cottage

Statement of Significance: Representative of early recreational use of Sandbanks area. An example of vernacular cottage architecture. Established in the 1930s, cottage may have been associated with Lakeshore Lodge. Cottage 15 feet from Lakeshore Road, which it faces. Cottage name derives from owner of a permanent residence on this site (destroyed by fire), a Mr. Mills, a postal carrier and operator of a taxi service between Lakeshore Lodge and Picton c.1900-c.1940.
Site Inventory Reference No. 8
Name: Campbell Cottage
Statement of Significance: Representative of recreational land use in Sandbanks area. Cottage constructed in 1962 on land formerly owned by Lakeshore Lodge. Remains of a foundation on the property, as well as remnants of a wooden structure. Charming birdhouse and much domestic vegetation. Fifteen feet from Lakeshore Road, which it faces. The cottage is privately owned and is noted here only as a record.
Site Inventory Reference No. 8
Name: Holm Cottage
Statement of Significance: Representative of recreational land use in Sandbanks area. This privately owned cottage was constructed in 1962 on land formerly owned by Lakeshore Lodge. Set back 40 feet from Lakeshore Road.
CLUSTER 7: COTTAGE CLUSTER

Site Inventory Reference No. 11, 12, 25, 26

Statement of Significance
Privately-owned cottages occupy shoreline overlooking Athol Bay. With the exception of the Jacques Cottage, most buildings are recent and of little historical importance. Closer to West Point the cottages have been removed and only exist as historic references.

Recommended Treatment
Retain private cottages as part of the ongoing activity at Sandbanks.

Features Associated with Cluster 7

- Site Inventory Reference No. 11
  Name: Kraick Cottage
  Statement of Significance: Representative of continuing recreational land use in Sandbanks area. Constructed in 1965, cottage is located on 1 acre, landscaped lot delineated by a wooden rail fence. Adjoining property to the north has continued to be used as pasture land since the 1860s.

- Site Inventory Reference No. 11
  Name: Peterson Cottage

- Site Inventory Reference No. 11
  Name: Boyle Cottage

- Site Inventory Reference No. 12
  Name: Wilben Cottage

- Site Inventory Reference No. 12
  Name: Jack Cottage
  Statement of Significance: Representative of continuing recreational land use in Sandbanks area.

- Site Inventory Reference No. 12
  Name: Low Cottage
  Statement of Significance: Representative of continuing recreational land use in Sandbanks area.

- Site Inventory Reference No. 12
  Name: Kitchen Cottage
- Site Inventory Reference No. 12
  Name: Jacques Cottage
  Statement of Significance: Representative of continuing recreational land use in Sandbanks area. This structure is much older than the cottages along this shoreline. It may be related to Lakeview Lodge and the Shoreacres site.
CLUSTER 8: MacDONALD - HYATT CLUSTER

Site Inventory Reference No. 15, 16, 17, 18, 19

Statement of Significance
Where Clusters 1 and 5 represent elements of the interpretive theme of agriculture and settlement by pioneers, the MacDonald Cluster is the most complete. Here one has one of the most intact representations of Ontario farm development, local history, and living landscape. This cluster contains the MacDonald century farm and out-buildings, orchard, wharf and recreational area, and the Hyatt house, barn, shed and wharf. This cluster is one of the most complete physical records documenting the agricultural theme. The spatial organization and layout of the farms is easily discernible. The woodlot and sugar bush and orchard provide a visual edge as do fence lines and the field pattern. The overall effect is a series of well-ordered prosperous Ontario farmsteads representative of different eras and responding to needs. Buildings tend to orient towards the lake and to the road creating a linear pattern which is not atypical, but is not seen as an organization pattern for most farms in the area. The major features are listed on the SITE INVENTORY and descriptions are included in the report as to their significance and state of repair.

Recommended Treatment
- Management of the cluster provides for the retention of existing buildings and respect for the ownership of the of the present occupants.
- The MacDonald Century Farm and outbuildings should be maintained as an active farm for interpretive purposes.
- The farm offers park visitors the opportunity to experience a major theme agriculture and land settlement. Participation in farm life could take the form of visits to the farm, farm theme vacation, trips to the sugar bush, as well as other agricultural processing and husbandry activities.
- Reconstruction of the wharf at the Hyatt Site should be considered for docking of recreational boats and for water access to Sandbanks Provincial Park.
- Reconstruction of the housekeeping cabins at their original wharf site provides a suitable location for more intense development possibly associated with Lakeview Lodge redevelopment.
Features Associated with Cluster 8

- Site Inventory Reference No. 15
  Name: Site of Daniel MacDonald House (private residence)
  Statement of Significance: Site of one of the first farmhouses in Sandbanks area (1840). Existing bungalow of little historic importance. Site of Daniel MacDonald's house (1840), which was destroyed by fire in 1951. House constructed in 1840. Site occupied by Keith MacDonald's bungalow (1961) which is set back from the roadway on landscaped, well-maintained property. Although a modern structure in form and materials, it maintains the 138-year tradition of private, residential, farm-oriented use of this property.

- Site Inventory Reference No. 15
  Name: Piggery
  Statement of Significance: Representative of continuing agricultural use of land in Sandbanks area. Reflects continuing agricultural use of land but also changes in this use which have seen it diversify and move toward animal husbandry.
Site Inventory Reference No. 16
Name: Ken Hyatt Residence (private residence)
Statement of Significance: The oldest house in the Sandbanks area still extant (c.1840). Probably constructed by Robert MacDonald. Identified in Belden's Atlas (1848). Associated with the commercial fishery. House is set back about 40 feet from the roadway. Faces Lake Ontario on a landscaped, well-treed lot. The structure is a typical one and one-half storey end gable Ontario farm house. There is a porch on the front of the house, and another on the west side of the back extension which is oriented toward the laneway and the arrival of people. Additions have been made to the house, but its original style has been maintained. Belden's Atlas (1878) attests to the presence of this house, on property owned by Robert and Alexander MacDonald. A date of 1840 is often referred to for the construction of the house, but it has not been substantiated.
Ken Hyatt Barn and Net House (private property) is associated with Hyatt Residence. Hyatt property, buildings and structures remain as last physical associations with fishery in this part of Prince Edward County. Situated northwest of the Hyatt Residence. Probably constructed after 1925 by Ken Hyatt for use in his fishing operations. Relocated north of road.
· Site Inventory Reference No. 17
Name: MacDonald Century Farm House
Statement of Significance: Designated ‘Century Farm,’ the house was constructed by Alexander MacDonald in 1876. Identified in Belden’s Atlas (1878). House is a typical Ontario-Gothic farmhouse of 1 1/2 storeys, with centre gable and Gothic and segmental surrounds on the windows. In later years, a substantial end-gable addition was attached to the east side of the house, to which in turn two further additions, on its south and east sides have been attached. The house is set back from the roadway on a landscaped, well-maintained lot. Trees along the western edge of the lot serve as a windbreak, while those along the roadway provide shade. The house faces south toward the road, with a door on its east side to accommodate those arriving by vehicle. The location is picturesque and enjoys a fine view of Athol Bay. The Lakeland Lodge and MacDonald-Hyatt Wharf were located directly south of the house.

The MacDonald’s agricultural activities have reflected the historical pattern one finds throughout Prince Edward County. Alexander’s son, Philip, supervised the major change, moving from hops and grains to fruit and vegetables. Canning crops are still produced, along with livestock and maple sugar. The MacDonald Century Farm and outbuildings should be maintained as an active farm for interpretive purposes.
MacDonald Century Farm - Barns and Outbuildings reflect the changing pattern of agricultural and recreational land use in Prince Edward County. Included are a large barn near roadway, machine shop, hog shed, garage, quarters for summer workers, grain storage sheds and silo, and a beauty salon once associated with Lakeland Lodge. The various outbuildings are not clustered but are spread out along a small service lane, a short walk from one another.

The farm offers potential for park visitors to experience a major theme agriculture and land settlement. It is important that farming activities continue and where possible the visitors to the park should be able to participate in farm life. This could take the form of visits to the farm, farm theme vacation, bed and breakfast, trips to the sugar bush as well as other agricultural processing and husbandry activities. Reconstruction of the wharves at the Hyatt site and housekeeping cabins would provide the most suitable area for more intense development.
Site Inventory Reference No. 18

Name: Site of Lakeland Lodge; the buildings exist but not at original site.

Statement of Significance: A prominent local lodge and an important local recreation facility. Significant for its representation of the shift from agricultural to mixed agricultural/recreational land uses. With the decline of the agricultural grain trade after the turn of the century, local farmers were forced to diversify in order to secure sufficient income.

At the MacDonald farm, a grain shed and dock used for shipping during the ‘Barley Days’ were torn down to clear a site on a small projection of land on Athol Bay opposite the farmhouse. Here, in 1929, Lakeland Lodge was constructed. The lodge had seven units and 12 adjacent housekeeping cottages. In 1974, Lakeland Lodge became the property of the Ministry of Natural Resources, and the lodge and cottages were dismantled and removed from the site. The lodge is now in the possession of a Mr. Lester, and is stored on his property on West Lake Road. Many of the cottages are still in use having been moved to other areas.
Site Inventory Reference No. 19
Name: MacDonald-Hyatt Wharf
Statement of Significance: One of the largest privately-owned wharf complexes in western Prince Edward County, was a centre of agricultural produce during the 'Barley Days' when the county was one of the most important agricultural areas in the province. Wharf and grain storage sheds were located on the point of land south of the MacDonald Farm House. Owned by Robert MacDonald and John Hyatt. Identified in Belden's Atlas (1878). All grain, barley and hopes from southwestern Hallowell Township was shipped from this point to the market in Oswego, New York. During the 'Barley Days' (1860s-90), schooners made as many as three trips a week across Lake Ontario.
INDIVIDUAL ELEMENTS

Features Associated with Individual Elements

- Site Inventory Reference No. 20
  Name: Lakeview Farmhouse; private property
  Statement of Significance: One of the oldest properties in Sandbanks area. House constructed in 1863 by David MacDonald. Representative of traditional agricultural/recreational mixed land use. House faces Lake Ontario and is set back about 500 feet. Basic end gable, centre hall plan which has undergone extensive additions and alterations. Situated on a well-treed lot by a roadway lined with mature trees. Lakeview farm consists of about 180 acres; 110 of these are farmed, 45 developed for housekeeping cottages and family camping. Major crops grown are hay, oats, used in the feeding of horses. The Waits operate a pony ride and trail ride attraction on their farm. A miniature golf course and driving range are situated on 5 acres of land leased from the Watts. Like most farms in the area, a shift from purely agricultural to mixed agricultural and recreational uses was made after the turn of the century in response to less favourable conditions for agriculture.
Site Inventory Reference No. 20
Name: Lakeview Farm - Barn; private property
Statement of Significance: Associated with Lakeview Farm. Gambrel roof.
Site Inventory Reference No. 22
Name: Outlet Park Office Buildings
Statement of Significance: Representative of park building construction throughout Ontario provincial parks. The office has a residential character is nicely sited.
Site Inventory Reference No. 25
Name: Site of West Point Park
Statement of Significance: Associated with Lakeshore Lodge. A significant local recreation attraction. This park was developed shortly after the construction of Lakeshore Lodge. Situated at the tip of West Point, the park offered spectacular views of Lake Ontario, Athol Bay, Wellington and Salmon Point. The park was situated in a grove of larchwoods, with a grassy floor and numerous domestic and cultivated shrubs and flowering plants. The park was linked to the Lodge by the boardwalk.

Today this area still retains some of its park-like qualities, having been maintained as a picnic area until 1970. Although there is now a dense shrub layer throughout most of the area, domestic plants and maple and oak trees persist.
Preserve character of rural crossroad.

Focused access and concentration at traditional entrance nodes.

Utilize interior core area as camp sites and expanded mixed camping.

Industrial zone and conservation area preserved with limited interpretation.

Develop cross-site nonvehicular corridor to link Wellington Bay and Athol Bay.

Maintain camping.

Preserve archaeological area.

Develop node at entrance to west point as visitor service interpretation area.

Lakeshore lodge area developed as recreational use full facility hotel and spa.
AGRICULTURAL CHARACTER ALONG ROADS AND FENCE LINES AND FIELD PATTERNS

VIEW LODGE AS HOTEL.

DEVELOP WHARF AND FARM AS THEME BED AND BREAKFAST LIMITED TO FAMILY HOLIDAY

LEGEND

- ENTRANCE AND CONTROL POINT
- CULTURALLY AND HISTORICALLY SIGNIFICANT AREAS
- AREAS WITH POTENTIAL FOR RECREATIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND/OR CAMPING
- HIKING AND NONVEHICULAR CROSS SITE CORRIDOR LINKING WELLINGTON BAY AND ATHOL BAY
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>FEATURES LEGEND</th>
<th>CLUSTER NO.</th>
<th>LEVEL OF SIGNIFICANCE</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Prizen Barn and Outbuildings</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>High ✓, Medium ✓, Low ✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kleinstuber Barn and Outbuildings</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>High ✓, Medium ✓, Low ✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Barrett House</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>High ✓, Medium ✓, Low ✓</td>
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<tr>
<td>Site and Ruins, West Lake Brick and Products Company Plant</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>High ✓, Medium ✓, Low ✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sandbanks and Ives Prehistoric Sites</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>High ✓, Medium ✓, Low ✓</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sugar Shack, Site of Evergreen House Hotel, Hermitage, Parkview Variety Store and Gas Station</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>High ✓, Medium ✓, Low ✓</td>
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<tr>
<td>Site of Jacob Young House, Fire Tower, Provincial Forestry Substation and Provincial Transplant Nursery</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>High ✓, Medium ✓, Low ✓</td>
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<tr>
<td>Site of &quot;Ontario House&quot; and Cottages of Holm, Campbell, Carson and Mills</td>
<td>6</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lakeshore Lodge Prehistoric Site</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>High ✓, Medium ✓, Low ✓</td>
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<tr>
<td>Foundation for Windmill and Sites of Lakeshore Lodge, Recreation Hall, Swimming Pool, Dance Pavilion, Wharf, and Cottage Row (ruins)</td>
<td>6</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cottages of Boyle, Peterson, Kraick</td>
<td>7</td>
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<td>Cottages of Jacques, Kitchen, Low, Jack and Wilben</td>
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<td>Lakeview Lodge (&quot;Gray House&quot;)</td>
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<td>High ✓, Medium ✓, Low ✓</td>
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<tr>
<td>Site of Shoreacres Hotel and Barn</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>High ✓, Medium ✓, Low ✓</td>
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<td>Site of Daniel Macdonald House</td>
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<td>Ken Hyatt Residence and Site of Tenant's House and Hyatt Barn and Net House</td>
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<td>Macdonald Century Farm House, Barns and Outbuildings</td>
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<tr>
<td>Site of Lakeland Lodge, Tenant's House</td>
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<td>Lakview Farmhouse and Barn</td>
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<td>Swindon House, Barn, Outbuildings (private)</td>
<td>Indiv.</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hawker's Holiday Store and Dari-Twist (demolished)</td>
<td>Indiv.</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sites of West Point Park, McCulloch Cottages Hepburn Cottage and Le-Hemp Cottages and associated Outbuildings (private)</td>
<td>Indiv.</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Site of Tierney Cottage (Bolton Property)</td>
<td>Indiv.</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Outlet Commercial/Cottages (private)</td>
<td>Indiv.</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Outlet Beach Provincial Park, Prehistoric Burial Site</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>High ✓, Medium ✓, Low ✓</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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