



# Silhouettes

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The Associates of the Provincial Archives of New Brunswick

## When the Eudists came to Caraquet



*The Eudists believed that outdoor physical activity and intellectual development went hand-in-hand. Here a group of students from the Collège du Sacré-Coeur clamber over a schooner locked in ice near Caraquet. The picture, taken by Father Joseph Courtois, is one of hundreds this excellent photographer took of the college, its activities, and the way of life on the Acadian Peninsula at the beginning of the 20<sup>th</sup> Century.*

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## Silhouettes

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**O**N A JANUARY DAY in 1899, five brave priest-professors convened their first classes at a new college in Caraquet, on New Brunswick's Acadian Peninsula. The priests were members of the Eudist Order, from France, and their school was the *Collège du Sacré-Coeur*. Its founding was a landmark moment in the history of Acadian education and culture in the province.

The Eudists were newly arrived in Canada, although their order went back to the 17<sup>th</sup> Century in France. Their founder, Saint Jean Eudes, had joined other priests to form, in 1643, the Congrégation de Jésus et de Marie, dedicated to reforming the priesthood and establishing missions. Later, the French Revolution closed their seminaries and colleges and martyred four of their priests. But the congregation was restored in 1826, and its priests first

came to Canada in 1890.

Now here were five of them on New Brunswick's frozen Northern shore nine years later, invited there by M. Théophile Allard, curé of Caraquet.

Things began to happen when, a few months later, Father Prosper Lebastard arrived. He had been displaced from his old job in Church Point, Nova Scotia, when a fire destroyed the *Collège Sainte-Anne* there, but he'd been happy to leave anyway, because of disagreements with his Superior.

A shy and reserved man, Lebastard was nonetheless a born leader. In Caraquet, he became not just head of the *Collège du Sacré-Coeur*, but also its bursar and prefect of discipline and studies. Under his guidance, the college slowly began to grow. In 1901, he enlarged its building and did so again in 1907; over the same period, the number of students grew from 19 to 118, quite an achievement

## Acadian Peninsula hosts world Congrès of Acadians

**T**WENTY THOUSAND people are expected for the 4<sup>th</sup> *Congrès mondial acadien* this Summer. The event, on the Acadian Peninsula August 7 to 23, will attract participants from round the world. The dates for the gathering include the Acadian National Day on August 15.

The Provincial Archives will have a presence in Caraquet this Summer. It is an exhibition, *La mer est ma domaine*, which traces the relationship between Acadians and fishing from the early 19<sup>th</sup> Century to the present day. Created in partnership with the *Village Historique Acadien* in Caraquet, the exhibit will open at the historic village June 1 and move to the *École des pêches du Nouveau-Brunswick* on August 3, remaining there throughout the *Congrès*.



*Father Prosper Lebastard was master of all he surveyed during his two terms as Sacré-Coeur's Superior.*

in a region of the province that, up to that point, had no opportunity or tradition in classical studies such as Latin, Greek and history. The school opened the door for young men interested in entering not just the priesthood but also professions like law and education.

Equally important was the college's impact on the surrounding community. It became the place people went to for concerts, live theatre, lectures, and meetings. They loved its presence in the community. It became an unprecedented window on a wider world and a place that nurtured Acadian culture and cause.

Lebastard became, as well, something of a community activist, helping establish, in 1908, a local branch of the *Banque Provinciale du Canada*, the first outside Quebec. It gave the Acadiens their first experience with banking. Lebastard also, in 1905, had the college host the fifth *Convention Nationale des Acadiens*, an event that drew thousands of Maritime francophones, and one that will find an echo in this year's *Congrès mondial acadien*.

The imposing structure of the three-storey main college building suggested a cloistered existence for both faculty and

students. But that was hardly the case, as revealed by an outstanding collection of photographs preserved at the Provincial Archives of New Brunswick. The first part of the collection, including images from *Sacré-Coeur's* earliest days, is the work of a priest named Joseph Courtois, and it reveals something about him, too. His sharply registered photographs suggest a man who knew how to handle a camera and who could, as well, seal his results in the darkroom.

Courtois's pictures show the students, and sometimes their professors,

in various extra-curricular activities: playing baseball, skating, riding a hand-car during an excursion on the Caraquet and Gulf Shore Railway and sawing wood with a cross-cut saw. It is clear that the college recognized that ordered physical activity was part of the education of the mind. The collection also includes photographs of several Acadian villages on the peninsula, religious events, and commercial fishing operations.

Father Courtois eventually left Caraquet for another posting on the North Shore of the St. Lawrence. Here he continued his picture-taking which, in time, also came to include moving

pictures, and his portrayal of life in that part of Quebec as it was being settled is a remarkable record in its own right. Largely unheralded, Joseph Courtois deserves a place on the roster of pioneering photographers in Canada.

Meanwhile, the *Collège du Sacré-Coeur* turned out to have a relatively short life in Caraquet. It burned in 1915, after which it was relocated to the larger town of Bathurst, a move that did not win Father Lebastard any friends in Caraquet. As luck would have it, the Bathurst *Sacré-Coeur* also burned, less than a year after it opened. Lebastard stuck to his guns, though, and worked

toward rebuilding in Bathurst.

Construction finally began in 1920, but by then he had returned to France, where he died of a heart attack a few months later. When the Bathurst college finally did re-open, the Eudists fathers proceeded to operate it for another half-century. They also eventually established another school, *Saint-Louis*, in Edmundston. Other priest-photographers came along, too, and their work, including photos of a seminary the Eudists had at Bathurst and a range of other subjects in New Brunswick, is also part of the collection at the Provincial Archives. ■



*An empty shell was all that was left of the college at Caraquet after it burned in 1915.*

# A 'found' account book and what it contains

SOME HISTORICAL documents come to the Provincial Archives in unusual ways. Several years ago, a provincial civil servant spotted an old account book in office waste materials headed for a landfill site. He was given permission to save it, and his widow later turned it over to the Archives.

The account book had been kept by a Loyalist settler in Fredericton, Robert Smith. On May 7, 1793, Smith and his brother-in-law, Francis McBeath, contracted with Anglican church wardens and vestry to supply materials and complete a church on the Green, near where Christ Church Cathedral stands now. The amount of the contract was 690 pounds, four shillings, eight pence. Smith's careful record-keeping details how the money was spent and, as well, provides early insights into the way of life at the Capital.

Smith and his partner, McBeath, who was a carpenter, began their work in June, 1793. The job included finishing the belfry and attic, making pews and building a closet. The work was largely paid for by subscription. Contributors were many of the leading figures of the Capital, including Governor Thomas Carleton, Provincial Secretary Jonathan Odell, and military men Isaac Allen and David Fanning. The account book entry for August conveys a sense of the nature of construction in those days.

[Note: currency is British; amounts are presented as pounds-shillings-pence]

To 6.5 days work	@7/6	£ 2 - 8 - 9	Debit
6 days work	@5/	£1 - 10 - "	
Sundrys to McNeel & Flanningan		£" 5 - "	
McLeod & Vanderbeck for			
Carriage of Lime		£1 - " - "	
13 Bushels [horse] hair	@2	£1 - 6 -	
2 water casks		£ - 7 - 3	
Mending casks		£ - 1 - 9	
Carriage of water etc.		£ - 6 - "	
			£ 7 4 -

Later that year, Smith opened a general mercantile business in Fredericton, where he sold household goods, food-stuffs, liquors, molasses, yard goods, schoolbooks, and building supplies. He devoted a good deal of time to minding the

store, but also continued to do work for socially prominent customers, including Governor Carleton.

His account book contains the names of Loyalist residents of Fredericton, shows the goods they bought, including luxury items, and contains at least three hints of slavery. An example is the entry for September 8, 1794:

8th September Francis McBeath			Debit
Amount assumed for Black Woman		£ - 3 - 9	

Another possibly revealing entry is the following from nearly a year later:

12th August 1795 Contract for the Church			Debit
2 days work per self	@7/6	£ - 15 -	
4 days per Harned		£1 - 10	
Harry a black man 4 days	@3/	£2 17 - 9	

In such ways as this, the Smith account book is an exceptional little mirror of life in Fredericton after the American Revolutionary War. The entries shown here are merely examples of the material in the book, which can be accessed at the Archives, reference MC2440. ■

## Annual General Meeting

September 17, 2009 • 7:00 p.m.

@ Connell House – Permanent Home of the  
Carleton County Historical Society  
128 Connell St., Woodstock, NB

In conjunction with the AGM  
"A Treasure of the Provincial Archives"  
– an exhibition honouring the 225<sup>th</sup> anniversary  
of the founding of New Brunswick

An open invitation to all

# A fond reminiscence



A sketch of the Anglican church on the Fredericton Green that Robert Smith worked on. Opened to public in 1788, the Georgian-style meeting house wasn't finished until Smith and Francis McBeath completed their work six years later. It stood near where Christ Church Cathedral is today.

AMONG THE PEOPLE who remembered the original church on the Green in Fredericton was Canon G.G. Roberts, father of writer Charles G.D. Roberts. He wrote about it in this 1897 report, "Progress in 7 Rural Deaneries," presented at the final meeting of the Diocesan Church Society, which was replaced by the Diocesan Synod.

"In 1836 the old parish church, a large wooden meeting house, solidly built in the old N.B. style of architecture, stood a little nearer to the river than the present

cathedral. How vividly I remember its appearance, both external and internal! For me a thousand pleasant memories cluster about that sanctuary, so long ago replaced by one in every way more worthy of its sacred purpose. Its small, plain altar, and great three-decker pulpit, both at the west end of the church, its broad galleries, especially that occupied by the organ and choir at the east end, with red curtains all across it, strung on a long brass rod so that they could be drawn close at any time and completely conceal the singers whenever they desired, for whatever reason, to secure the complete

privacy of their devotions; its boxed-in pews, comfortably cushioned in a variety of styles and colours; all these things seem to me now grievous defects and gross anomalies. And yet I loved the old church, because I loved and revered those who ministered within it; because there I worshipped in my boyhood, there I was prepared for confirmation and received that apostolic ordinance, there I made my first communion, there I formed and offered before God my purpose of life-long service in the ministry of His Church." ■

# Associates host two important website launches

TWO IMPORTANT new databases added to the Provincial Archives website were launched at events hosted by the Associates last fall and this spring.

The first, called *Where Is Home? New Brunswick Communities Past and Present* is a virtual encyclopaedia spanning more than 150 years of over 4,600 places New Brunswickers call home.

The launch of the website was held at the Archives on November 18, 2008, in conjunction with the Annual General Meeting 2008 of the Associates.

Through the efforts of Associates board member Joan Pearce, another reception was held on April 20, 2009 to launch the *Brenan's Funeral Home Records* — more than 70 years of the company's records now available as a searchable database on the Archives website. Over 40 people, including the Minister responsible for the Archives, Dr. Ed Doherty, were in attendance at



From left: Dana King, senior programmer / analyst, Department of Supply and Services; Ed Doherty, Minister of Supply and Services; and Joan Pearce, board member of the Associates of the Provincial Archives. Photographed at the website launch in Saint John, April 20, 2009.

the Saint John Free Public Library where the event was held.

To view these new databases, visit

the PANB website at:

<http://archives.gnb.ca/> ■

## PHOTO CORRECTION:

In the Spring, 2008 edition of *Silhouettes* we ran the photo at right of hockey legend Gordie Howe golfing in 1966 with some New Brunswickers at what we said was the newly-constructed Mactaquac golf course. We erred. In fact, Mr. Howe is fondly remembered by Paul-Emile Theriault, seen to Mr. Howe's left, wearing sunglasses. Mr. Theriault was a sports reporter with the *L'Evangeline* at the time that Mr. Howe spent 3 days in Moncton, June 9-11, 1966. Pictured with Howe and Theriault on the far right in the photo is Eddie St. Pierre, then a



sports reporter and columnist with the *Moncton Times*. To the right of Mr. Howe is, we believe, Guy Theriault, then an announcer

with *Radio-Canada* in Moncton, although we are not certain of this. The picture was taken at the Moncton Golf & Country Club.

# Tribute to Wanda Lyons

WANDA LYONS has worked at PANB for over 20 years. Her career has been concentrated in private sector records, oral history, and photographs but like so many at PANB she has pitched in whenever an extra pair of hands was needed. Archives really wasn't in her career plans but the opportunity to participate in a Job Re-entry program in 1986 led her down the path of connecting the past with the present. A program of the then Employment and Immigration Canada, afforded 20 women, who had remained at home with their children, the chance to re-enter the workforce through a work experience program at PANB. It was the largest project the Archives had ever participated in and saw the participants take classes in New Brunswick history and intern in each of the archives' sections as part of their work exposure.

Following the project Wanda stayed on and tackled a number of fonds and collections. Many researchers have benefited from the numerous records she worked on during those early years, among them the W.G. Clark and the Dixon Family fonds. One of the major holdings she worked on has seen much use over the years – Destecher, Miller, and Associates. A property appraisal company, it recorded a great deal of information about properties in Saint John, especially in the area that underwent urban renewal during the 1970s. (1970s) These records have been heavily used over the years and were the basis of a book on how the face of Saint John changed during that era.

Wanda was instrumental in the success of the fledgling oral history program and also began working part-time in the photograph section. She tran-

scribed the recordings and dealt with the material that interviewees inevitably would bring in to augment the story they had to tell. Her welcoming personality and attention to detail brought added reassurance to the people she dealt with; some of whom previously had little or no exposure to archives. During this time, Wanda enjoyed learning about the individuals and issues the section dealt with, be it Maritime Union, Molly Kool, or Muriel McQueen Ferguson. These holdings will be important for years to come and will be used by many types of researchers.

Throughout the 1990s the amount of technology used by the archives to provide access had been increasing and demand for the photographs held by the archives was growing. The full implementation of digital reproduction provided PANB with the means of meeting these expanding requests. Wanda's hesitation with embracing such technology mirrored her self-effacing manner throughout her time at PANB but such hesitation, as was the case previously, belied her innate skills and strong work ethic and in no time she was up to her neck in digitization. She continued the hard work and dogged determination exhibited in her other responsibilities, and soon was instrumental in the success of the photograph section. Over the years Wanda has contributed to the success of nearly every initiative in the province and beyond (which) that has utilized images from PANB. In addition to providing scans, often for last minute requests, she plumbed the holdings of PANB to



Wanda Lyons

ensure clients were able to access the best image for their project. Even for first time users, she always made the effort to go beyond the tried and true images popularly linked with PANB to identify images never before used in publications and exhibits. Her efforts did much to enhance the projects of Ted and Anita Jones, the New Brunswick Labour Project, and the YMCA's 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary, to name but a few.

Despite all of these accomplishments perhaps Wanda's biggest contribution to the Provincial Archives has been her cheery demeanor. Whether solving a researcher's problems, lightening the atmosphere with a stodgy user, or providing a student or young staff member with some encouragement, Wanda has made working at PANB that much more fun. The staff at PANB will miss her but wish her well in retirement, which we know will be full of grand children, the lake, and plenty of volunteer activities. ■

## NEW AT THE ARCHIVES

### New Finding Aids

#### Government Records

**RS194 Agricultural Resource Study Records, 1969-1979; 4.5m.** The New Brunswick Agricultural Resources Study was begun in 1974. The objectives of the study were "to initiate a major study of all aspects of the management and utilization of the Province's agricultural resources... find ways to promote the fullest (utilization) of agricultural resources in such a way as to maximize farm income, to strengthen the vitality of the family farm, to encourage new job creation in food processing industries and to increase food production." Arthur C. Parks was appointed Executive Director of the Study. The final report was presented 30 November, 1977. The correspondence, studies and reports in this series cover every aspect of agriculture in the province. The finding aid is revision of an existing box list.

#### Private Records

**MC642 The humble address of the Learned Goose, Hannah, and Company.** Mock election handbill circulated in Campobello in 1802 provincial election; 2pp.

**MC1077 David Lambert and Samuel Lambert letters, 3 cm; [1798, 1801, 1828-1833] (revised).** Letters written by Henry Smith (Fredericton) and Robert Crookshank (Saint John) and sent to this New York father and son.

**MC1103 Stephen Bunting letter: [8 July 1877].** Shortly after the great Saint John fire, Bunting's brother, Frank, a Saint John resident, describes its progression and relates his activities and losses in a letter to Stephen Bunting. (photocopy of a typed transcript).

**MC1111 Robert Parker family fonds, 3cm; 1751-1760, 1783-1892.** This fonds sheds light on the interests and accomplishments of members of a prominent Loyalist family, during the 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> centuries. Included are records relating to Robert Parker, Sr., his sons, Robert Jr. and Neville; and Neville's sons, Neville Parker, Jr. and Frederick Wyer Parker. Two letters, between Robert Parker, Sr. and Ward Chipman, Sr. are particularly interesting as they discuss the Napoleonic Wars, a romance between Miss Coffin and Captain Edward Foy that resulted in her father, John Coffin, challenging Foy to a duel. Notable also is a deed showing Massachusetts resident, John Murray, as purchaser of 4 slaves from John Temple in the mid-18<sup>th</sup> century.

**MC1120 Thomas Pickard fonds, 2cm; 1837-1841.** Letter book pertaining to the business dealings of Thomas Pickard (1783-1866) who in 1837 was operating a general store in partnership with a Mr. Coburn, under the name of "Pickard and Coburn." After April 1839, he was in business for himself, probably on Queen St., Fredericton, and was owner (or part owner) of the steamer "Reindeer" and of a steam-powered ferry, that operated between Fredericton and St. Mary's.

**MC1132 Charles Moffitt fonds: [1854-1902].** Microfilm F593-F595. Copies of Charles Moffitt's diaries providing information about the Moffitt family and numerous Fredericton residents, including Bishop Medley and Mrs. Medley, details about the structures he helped build (as a house carpenter and joiner). He also reports on local, national, and international events, such as the fall of Sebastapol (1855); the 1860 visit of His Royal Highness Albert Edward, the Prince of Wales, to New Brunswick; the 1862 Fredericton fire; provincial and local elections; and the laying of the first stone for the iron bridge at Fredericton by Lady Macdonald (1887). Also detailed genealogical information on the Moffitt family and a 20 pp. typescript entitled, "Items of Interest from the Diary of Charles Moffatt, Senior," by an unknown author.

**MC1133 A few of the happenings which 84 years recalls...teaching in the Common Schools of New Brunswick / by George A. Inch [1932?], 57 pages.** This manuscript documents George A. Inch's lengthy career as a teacher and principal in New Brunswick schools, particularly in Rothesay, St. George, Milltown, and Fredericton. He also discusses his own education at the Normal School and Mount Allison University where he earned a B.A. & B.Ed., in 1877

and 1878 respectively, as well as his leisure activities, including fishing, hunting, and camping and his trip to Europe in the 1880s. In addition, he comments on the professional activities of his uncle, James R. Inch, who served as principal of the Ladies College at Mount Allison University, as president of Mount Allison University, and as Chief Superintendent of Education for New Brunswick.

**MC2464 T. B. Coburn Burpee general store fonds.** Retail trader or merchant, Thomas B. Coburn Burpee was born about 1829, probably in Sunbury County. He may have been the son of David Burpee (1786-1830) and Sarah E. Coburn (d. 1874), of Sheffield Parish. T.B. Coburn Burpee married Henrietta C. Barker, the daughter of Enoch Barker, on 18 March 1856. They had at least 3 children: Helen A., Lydia K., and Mary K. In 1861, the Burpees were living in Sheffield Parish where T. B. Coburn was a retail trader. He sold foodstuffs, household supplies, tools, tobacco, and other goods. This fonds consists of two day books for T. B. Coburn Burpee's general store, located at Sheffield, Sunbury County, for the periods 1854-1860 and 1856-1857. The names of customers are recorded along with items purchased and payments made.

**MC2776 Harry L. Ingraham collection.** Farmer, Harry Lee Ingraham, the son of Damaris Adelaide Hagerman and John Ira Ingraham, was born on 7 April 1880 in Queensbury Parish, York County. He was interested in the history of Queensbury Parish and the people who lived there. He served as secretary and treasurer of the Queensbury School District for a time. For a number of years he lived in Lower Southampton, York County. He died on 12 April 1963 and was buried at Bear Island, Queensbury Parish, York County. This collection consists of records for School District #3 Queensbury Parish (1903-1947); records for Queensbury Division No. 196, Sons of Temperance (1869-1877); and an account book for A. J. Brown and George A. Cliff's lumbering operation at St-François, Madawaska County, N.B. (1854-1857).

### Selected Recent Acquisitions

#### Government Records

**RS91 Northumberland County Registry Office Records.** Horse pedigree register which contains details on horses used for breeding. 1881-1912. 8 pp.

**RS247 New Brunswick Higher Education Commission Records.** Files of J.F. O'Sullivan, Chairman 1967-1972. .3m.

**RS77 Records of the Deputy Minister of Justice and Deputy Attorney General.** Correspondence which covers all aspects of the administration of justice during the time period. Subject matter includes court services, jails, handling of juvenile offenders, legislative development, legal aid, the parole system, the activities of the Fire Marshal, insurance and corporate affairs, and the re-organization of the justice system as a result of the recommendations of the Byrne Report. 1956-1969. 5.7 m.

**RS319 Livestock and Dairy Branch Records.** Stallion inspection, breeding, and registration records which document a government program designed to improve the quality of pure bred draft horses. 1935-1947. .3m.

**RS163 Emergency Measures Organization Records.** Files from the Office of Civil Defence, department of Municipal Affairs. Includes correspondence of Major-General Hardy N. Ganong and Brigadier W.E.H. Talbot, Civil Defence Co-ordinators; and material relating to the Provincial Civil Defence School in Moncton and communications emergency planning. 1955-1967. .3m.

### Additions to Archives' Website

**RS141C5, Vital Statistics, Index to Death Certificates for 1958 (4,633 records) and 1959 (4,426 records) added.** ■

# A Eudist portfolio

MORE THAN 700 photographs make up the Eudist Fathers Collection at the Provincial Archives. They capture the life and spirit of an early religious school, *Collège du Sacré-Coeur*, at Caraquet, and show the Acadian Peninsula as it appeared early in the last century. The Eudists believed that a healthy body produced a healthy mind. So the range of student outdoor activities included sawing firewood for winter (opposite), skating on a frozen pond (below) and playing baseball in a quilted uniform (inset). The original Caraquet building was destroyed by fire in 1915 and the college was relocated in Bathurst, in

the building shown, below right, in the late afternoon of a winter's day. The Eudist photographers didn't miss much, whether it was a vintage steam engine crossing a wooden trestle of the Caraquet and Gulf Shore Railway as a group from college looked on, or a religious procession that included the student band on a wharf at nearby Shippagan. They also caught the life and look of the local area, as illustrated by the two photos at the bottom of the page, one showing fishermen transferring their catch from a dory to horse-drawn wagons, and the other a view of Caraquet's long main street.



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P38-102, P38-33 (inset/encart)



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## Portefolio des Eudistes

LA COLLECTION des Pères eudistes aux Archives provinciales compte plus de 700 photographies, qui illustrent la vie et l'esprit d'une ancienne école religieuse, le Collège du Sacré-Coeur de Caraquet, et montrent l'aspect de la Péninsule acadienne au début du siècle dernier. Les Eudistes croyaient qu'un corps sain favorise un esprit sain; les activités de plein air des élèves étaient donc variées, telles que le sciage de bois de chauffage pour l'hiver (en haut à droite), le patinage sur un étang glacé (en haut à gauche) et le base-ball dans des uniformes piqués (en médaillon). L'ancien bâtiment de Caraquet a été détruit par un incendie en 1915, et le collège a été réinstallé à

Bathurst, dans le bâtiment qu'on voit en haut à droite vers la fin d'un après-midi d'hiver. Les photographes eudistes n'omettaient à peu près rien : une locomotive d'époque traversant un pont de bois du Caraquet and Gulf Shore Railway sous les yeux d'un groupe de collégiens, ou une procession religieuse incluant la fanfare des élèves sur un quai du village voisin de Shippagan. Ils montraient également la vie et l'aspect des environs, comme on le voit sur les deux photos du bas de la page : l'une montre des pêcheurs qui débarquent leurs prises d'un doris pour les charger sur des charrettes à cheval, et l'autre donne une vue de la longue rue principale de Caraquet.