

FOUNDING CULTURES AND FARLY HISTORY

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In 1713 the French ceded Acadie to Great Britain as part of the Treaty of Utrecht, and a period of simmering conflict between the English Crown and the French colony began. In 1755 that came to an end, and Governor Charles Lawrence expelled the Acadians from Nova Scotia, causing a wave of French migration into New Brunswick. The Acadians were also expelled from the Saint John River area by 1758, and permanent British settlement began in the 1760s.

Fort Charnisay National Historic Site

• Under Route 1 near the end of King St. W, Saint John

This longtime French fort was burned as part of the retreat from Colonel Robert Monckton at the beginning of the Seven Years War (1756-1763). Monckton rebuilt the fort in 1758, naming it Fort Frederick.

Fort Howe National Historic Site

• Magazine St., Saint John

The British constructed Fort Howe in 1777 to protect the mouth of the Saint John River from attacks by American privateers. With its location on a towering rock offering unmatched views of the harbour and up the river, Fort Howe and its garrison provided protection to the surrounding settlements through the end of the War of 1812.

Carleton Martello Tower National Historic Site

Q 454 Whipple St., Saint John

Carleton Martello Tower was built by the British between 1812 and 1815 to protect Saint John from American attack during the War of 1812. The tower was briefly used during the First World War, and it boasts a terrific 360-degree view.









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Irish Loyalists began to arrive in the Saint John region around 1783. In 1815, after the Napoleonic Wars, thousands of unemployed Irish workers and ex-servicemen immigrated to Saint John aboard wooden sailing vessels conducting trans-Atlantic trade. Nearly 30,000 Irish immigrants came to Saint John during the Great Potato Famine (1845-1847).



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Partridge Island Lookoff

🔾 Fort Dufferin Rd., Saint John

Partridge Island Quarantine Station National Historic Site of Canada, North America's first quarantine station, became a military outpost and navigational aid as early as 1785. The island contains six separate graveyards where nearly 1,000 mariners, immigrants and Canadian residents are interred – most were Irish who died during the 1847 typhus epidemic. During the 1890s over 78,000 immigrants a year were examined or treated on the island. The best view of the island can be had at Tin Can Beach. Please note: crossing the breakwater to Partridge Island is both unsafe and against the law.

Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception

• 91 Waterloo St., Saint John

This imposing building had its foundation stone laid in 1853, under the direction of Irish-born Bishop Thomas L. Connolly. Work on the building, with mostly Irish labour, was so rapid that the first Mass celebrated was at midnight on Christmas Eve 1855. Finishing details took many more years and the spire was not erected until 1871.

St. Patrick's Square

Prince William St., Saint John

Reed's Point at the foot of Prince William Street, was re-named in 1967 to honour citizens of Irish heritage. It overlooks Partridge Island, and a replica of the island's Celtic Cross stands in the square. In 1997, a Memorial Marker erected by the St. Patrick's Society and Famine 150 was unveiled by Hon. Mary Robinson, president of Ireland.

O'Leary's Pub

Q 46 Princess St., Saint John

Established in 1987, O'Leary's claims to be the best Irish pub in New Brunswick. It regularly hosts live traditional and East Coast music, and acts as home base for the Saint John branch of Comhaltas Ceoltóirí Eireann, an international organization devoted to the preservation and promotion of traditional Irish dance and music.

