



Kaniatarowanenneh The Upper St. Lawrence River Canadian Heritage River Nomination Document

Submitted by the Thousand Islands Alliance of River Advocates
(aka Thousand Islands Area Residents' Association)

FEBRUARY 2024

*In memory of Peter T. Macklem
(1931 - 2011)*

Cover Image

"Thousand Islands Beautiful Autumn Sunrise Aerial Vista From Bridge"

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Thousand Islands International Bridge, Ontario, Canada

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River Nomination

Whereas: the Kaniatarowanenneh region shows evidence of prehistoric Indigenous occupation as early as the Paleo-Indian period (9000 – 5000 BCE);

Whereas: the Upper St. Lawrence River, known to some Indigenous peoples as Kaniatarowanenneh (the majestic and magnificent river), was the central artery for exploration, commerce and cross-cultural contact between Indigenous Peoples and European settlers.

Whereas: Europeans arrived in the Upper St. Lawrence region in the 1600s, providing Canadians with almost 400 years of history related to exploration, trade, conflict and settlement;

Whereas: the Upper St. Lawrence River was and continues to be a vital transportation route, helping to sustain earlier fur and timber trades and present-day international trade;

Whereas: numerous fortification-based communities can be found along the north shore of the Upper St. Lawrence, revealing the stories of relations among Indigenous and Europeans and between Canadians and Americans;

Whereas: the Upper St. Lawrence offers a rich social history of trade between Canada and the U.S. spanning more than a century;

Whereas: the region was the scene of many battles that marked significant points in the development of Canada as a nation — from the Beaver Wars and the French and Indian War, to the War of 1812 and Rebellions of 1837 — and was a hotbed of activity during the American Civil War;

Whereas: the construction of the Seaway on the Upper St. Lawrence River offers a unique and poignant story of the Lost Villages and the industrial development of Canada;

Whereas: well-preserved homesteads and buildings showcase a range of building and living styles from the nineteenth century;

Whereas: the Upper St. Lawrence traverses an area that represents more than one billion years of evolutionary history;

Whereas: the Upper St. Lawrence River consists of a complex array of habitats including more than 1,800 islands, 2,000 shoals and thousands of hectares of coastal wetlands;

Whereas: the Kaniatarowanenneh is situated in the centre of one of the most compelling areas of ecological connectivity east of the Rocky Mountains, with Algonquin Provincial Park to the north and Adirondacks State Park in New York State to the south;

Whereas: the region is home to the Frontenac Arch Biosphere, one of 18 UNESCO-designated Biospheres in Canada;

Whereas: the Upper St. Lawrence is home to 31 species at risk and supports more than 88 species of fish in the Thousand Islands area alone;

Whereas: the Upper St. Lawrence has an impressive network of scenic roads and hiking and biking trails along both its north and south shores, most prominent of which is the Thousand Islands Parkway;

Whereas: the Upper St. Lawrence River includes the full range of water-based activities such as boating, angling, camping, hiking and natural and cultural appreciation, which work together to form a unique river-touring experience;

Whereas: environmental, cultural and recreational groups on both the Ontario and American sides of the Kaniatarowanenneh work together to conserve and celebrate the river's rich heritage;

TIARA recommends that the 230 kilometer section of the Upper St. Lawrence River bordering the Province of Ontario, from the headwaters at Kingston on Lake Ontario to Lake St. Francis, be nominated to the Canadian Heritage Rivers System for the purpose of recognizing, celebrating and conserving the river's outstanding cultural heritage values.

February 2024,
Kaniatarowanenneh/Upper St. Lawrence River Heritage Committee
of the
Thousand Islands Alliance of River Advocates
(aka. Thousand Islands Area Residents' Association)

Ontario Minister Signature: _____

Date: _____



Mural "Kaniatares" (The Long River) by John Thomas. Courtesy of R.H. Saunders Generating Station.

Ohèn:ton Karihwatéhkwén

Thanksgiving Address: Giving Greetings to the Natural World

These words that come before all else are the ones that open everything.

And we say whenever we are gathered, one of us is chosen to do a greeting and thanksgiving and I'd like you to think about the **people of this world**. There are many people that aren't as well off as we are and they live across this world and across this River. And I would say to you that my sons and daughters and your sons and daughters live in that water as well. So I ask you to bring together your minds and think about the peoples of this world, and can we agree that they are important to us?

I ask you to think about the **Mother Earth**, for she continues to carry out her responsibility to us, never ceasing in her responsibility. We say that if you look at the colours of the soils of that world, in those colours of those soils you see the colours of every one of our skins and we know that she is our mother and that she will continue in her responsibility. So I ask you to bring together your minds and think about the Mother Earth, and can we agree that she is important to us?

Today we are concentrated on the **waters of this world**, and in particular the rivers, and our great river the St. Lawrence. They have been most important to our history and we know that they will continue to carry out their responsibilities. And they don't need anyone to teach them what their responsibilities to us are, but they continue to do this. And I ask you to think as well about the **fishes of this world** and all the life that lives in



our waters. So I ask you to bring together your minds and think about the waters and the aquatic life like our fishes, and can we agree that they are important to us?

I know that we think about the **plants of this world**. The Haudenosaunee looked at the plants and we have a special relationship with them. We have three, called the Three Sisters: corn, beans and squash, that have helped sustain our populations. But we also know that in the waters have been many medicine plants that can help us and it seems that the waters and the marshes and the wetlands seem to be those places where those medicine plants are. And then we talk about the trees, the trees that give so much to us and all of the things we see around us that are beneficial to make our lives a better place to live upon this world. So I ask you to bring together your minds and think about the plants of this world, and can we agree that they are important to us?

We don't live here alone. We live here with many other species and this morning I rose and heard the crows crying in my backyard, waking me as usual. But we also have other animals; the four-legged type. Some of them living in our own homes and we call them our pets but we treat them like they're our brothers and sisters. And so I would say to you that all of the **animals and birds of this world** deserve the same respect and deserve the same as our brothers and sisters. And so I ask you to bring together your minds and think about the animals and birds of this world, and can we agree that they are important to us?

Today as we look outside we see the **Four Great Winds** getting ready to blow us a blustering night I think, and during that time we will hear the voices of our grandfathers. We call those the Thunderers, and they speak to us. But what they tell us is to be ever vigilant as we live upon this land for the land is changing and we must be ready for it. We must be the ones that help fulfill our responsibilities to the world around us. And so I ask you to bring together your minds and think about the Four Great Winds and those Thunderers, and can we agree that they are important to us?

This morning our elder brother the **sun** rose as he has done millennium after millennium, never ceasing in his responsibility to us and to all of creation. That we could carry out our responsibilities as such, this would truly be a wonderful thing. So I ask you to bring together your minds and think about our elder brother the sun, and can we agree that he is important to us?

This evening we'll see our grandmother **moon** as she turns her face to us every 28 days, and that 28-day cycle is the cycle of all female things in this world. And without that 28-day cycle it would truly be a lonely



place. But she's also very powerful and she has the ability to move all of the waters of this world, even the waters of the first environment: the womb. And so I ask you to bring together your minds and think about grandmother moon and through her all female things upon this world, and can we agree that she is important to us?

In the evening we see the **stars** as they shine down upon us, and the Haudenosaunee say these are our aunties and uncles and they are still here with us looking down upon us. They guide us across the surface of this Earth and foretell of great events that will occur in our communities, but they too are carrying out their responsibilities to us. And so I ask you to bring together your minds and think about those stars, and can we agree that they are important to us?

Again we know that we don't exist here alone but we know that there's a **spiritual world** that surrounds us and that there are many spirits out there that can help us in our deliberations. The Haudenosaunee say that whenever our deliberations are so tough and that we really need to think about our answers and questions, that if we look deep into our souls those answers will come to us and lead us to peace and harmony upon this world. And so I ask you to bring together your minds and think about the spiritual world that surrounds us, and can we agree that it is important to us?

We know that there are many other **teachers** in this world and we think about the problems that we have, but we know that we have the knowledge that comes to us down the corridors of time from elders and ancestors that have preceded us and each of us have those trusted elders that we have listened to in the past and hear their knowledge today and we will build on that knowledge that this will be a better place. And so I ask you to bring together your minds and think about those teachers of the world, and can we agree that they are important to us?

Henry Lickers, Canadian Commissioner
International Joint Commission
Haudenosaunee Citizen of the Seneca Nation, Turtle Clan

The Thanksgiving Address is the central prayer and invocation for the Haudenosaunee. It begins and ends every social and religious event.

The roots of these words reach back thousands of years to the very origins of the Haudenosaunee as a people.

We are grateful to Akwesasne elder, Dr. Henry Lickers for his explicit permission to use the traditional words of the Thanksgiving Address to provide an introduction and a closing to this document.



Photo and quotation, Ian Coristine ©1000IslandsPhotoArt.com

*"I seldom know what a predawn wake up and takeoff will bring until the day reveals itself.
If it's a disappointment, I've learned not to give up too quickly.
Circumstances like this "skylight" opening in the cloud cover occasionally reward me when I am patient."*

Executive Summary

This document presents the case in support of the nomination of the Kaniatarowanenneh/the Upper St. Lawrence River for inclusion in the Canadian Heritage Rivers System. The nomination is based primarily on the river's cultural heritage values, and covers the area from the St. Lawrence's headwaters at Kingston to the Ontario-Quebec border (See map on page 26).

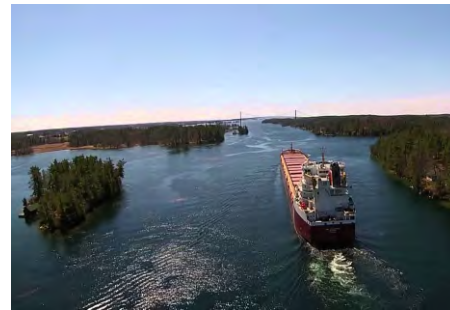
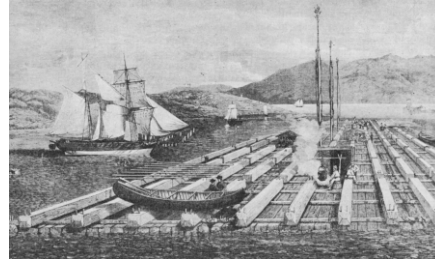
The Kaniataraowanenneh has a long and storied role in the land we now know as Canada. Activity on the river can be traced back to centuries before Europeans began trading in furs and harvesting lumber. Indigenous peoples fished, hunted, farmed and traded along the river. The St. Lawrence River served as the shipping link between the Atlantic Ocean and the Canadian interior, and was used by Indigenous and European communities alike. Long before European settlers arrived, the Haudenosaunee people, "the People of the Longhouse", were thriving on the shores of the river. By enabling the trading of Canada's natural resources, the river was a key facilitator of modern Canada's development.

Today, the Upper St. Lawrence boasts abundant historic sites and museums along its length, offers a stunning and internationally-recognized riparian environment in the Thousand Islands, and remains a vital transportation route linking the Atlantic Ocean to the Great Lakes.

Designating the Ontario portion of the St. Lawrence River would address recognized gaps in the Canadian Heritage River network. This section of the river crosses both international and provincial boundaries; has been the backdrop for Indigenous and European cross-cultural contact; boasts distinctive architecture inspired by the river; and is home to well-developed and nationally recognized land-based tourism attractions.

Future designation of the Ontario portion of the St. Lawrence will build on the considerable community support and momentum that exists on both the Canadian and American sides of the river and from the Mohawks of Akwesasne. There already exists a strong grassroots commitment to sustainable living and stewardship of cultural and natural values built by initiatives such as the Frontenac Arch Biosphere Reserve. Disparate communities in the region are working together and building networks.

Designating the Ontario portion of the St. Lawrence River as a Heritage River will build upon this strong foundation in the interests of protecting, enhancing and publicizing the cultural and natural heritage of this special waterway.



Introduction

1.1 The Upper St. Lawrence River Heritage Designation

The St. Lawrence River holds a unique and special place in the development of Canada. The Kaniatarowanenneh (the majestic and magnificent river), as the St. Lawrence was named by the Haudenosaunee, is a mother river of Canada. The story of the Indigenous people who lived by the river is told in the oral traditions of the Haudenosaunee people, describing how they learned to govern themselves and live in harmony with the bountiful nature that surrounded them. The St. Lawrence River was the central artery for exploration, commerce and cross-cultural contact between Indigenous peoples and European settlers. Linking the Atlantic Ocean to the Great Lakes, the St. Lawrence River was and continues to be a vital transportation route. For these reasons and more, the St. Lawrence is a worthy addition to the Canadian Heritage Rivers System (CHRS).

There has been a growing interest within the communities along the Canadian and American sides of the river and from the Mohawks of Akwesasne to seek Heritage River status for the St. Lawrence. It is felt that such a designation would significantly increase awareness of the river's cultural, natural and recreational values and encourage its conservation and sustainable management.

In August 2007, the Thousand Islands Area Residents' Association (TIARA) accepted the leadership role in preparing the nomination for Heritage River status for the Ontario section of the St. Lawrence River, from Kingston to the Québec border.

TIARA is a grassroots organization of some 300 members. They are drawn from Canadian and American landowners in the Thousand Islands and along the shoreline of the St. Lawrence from Kingston to Brockville, Ontario.

TIARA embarked on an extensive round of meetings with all local governments along the Ontario side of the river, including the Band Council of the Mohawks of Akwesasne. As well, in the summer of 2008, TIARA commissioned an extensive study of the cultural and natural values of the St. Lawrence River.

Finally, TIARA created the St. Lawrence Heritage River Advisory Committee to advise on the nomination process and to set in motion a Management Plan for the river. [See Appendix D].

1.1.1 Indigenous Support

The Kaniatarowanenneh is the traditional territory of the Anishinaabe, Huron-Wendat, Haudenosaunee (Iroquois), Oneida and Haudenosaunee (St Lawrence Iroquois) peoples. From the inception of this project, TIARA's Upper St. Lawrence Heritage River Committee developed a working relationship with the Band Council of the Mohawks of Akwesasne. TIARA recognizes the ancestral bond that local Indigenous people have with this land and water and are honoured by their contributions to this document. In early 2007, TIARA embarked on an extensive round of meetings with all local governments along the Ontario side of the river including the Band Council of the Mohawks of Akwesasne.

On 23 July, 2016 TIARA received a letter of support from Abram Benedict, Grand Chief, Mohawk Council of Akwesasne who wrote:

"We believe designating the Upper St. Lawrence River as a Canadian Heritage River is not only consistent with our mission and core values, but will be a valuable support and will aid us in achieving the mission and core values that are of utmost importance. The superlatives that can rightfully be applied to the St. Lawrence are too many to be recapped here, but the application prepared by TIARA captures and presents them well - from geologic to Indigenous peoples, First Nations Communities, to early settlement in present time."

TIARA is strengthened by the knowledge that local Indigenous people are profoundly invested in the health of the Kaniatarowanenneh and its surrounding ecosystems. Henry Lickers, previously serving as the Environmental Science Officer, Mohawk Council of Akwesasne has provided invaluable support to TIARA for the nomination of the Upper St. Lawrence as a Canadian Heritage River. The Band Council of Akwesasne has long been involved in the ecology of the lands adjacent to the St. Lawrence River. For example, in 1994 a four-way partnership was established, comprised of the Mohawk Council of Akwesasne, the University of Ottawa, the City of Cornwall, and the United Counties of Stormont, Dundas and Glengarry. A 1995 Conference entitled, "Sharing Knowledge, Linking Sciences: An International Conference on the St. Lawrence Ecosystem," was held in Cornwall. The conference successfully led to the launching of the St. Lawrence River Institute of Environmental Sciences, later called The River Institute. With the St. Lawrence River as the natural laboratory the Institute quickly earned an international reputation for research excellence.

A major component of the River Institute's success is the ability of scientists, researchers and communities to gain from the Naturalized Knowledge System as passed on to them by their partners, the Mohawk Community of Akwesasne. This system includes both community knowledge and the ways in which knowledge is connected to a given place as passed from one person to another, one group to another, and one nation to another. The key principles of the Naturalized Knowledge System are: The Earth is Our Mother; Cooperation is the way to survive; Knowledge is powerful, only if it is shared; Responsibility is the best practice; Everything is connected to everything; Place is important; and The Spiritual World is not distant from the Earth.

1.1.2 Community Support

There is widespread support on both sides of the river for nominating the Upper St. Lawrence as a Canadian Heritage River. Many individuals representing organizations in Ontario and New York State are contributing to this initiative. Meetings have taken place in communities along the river, tapping into considerable enthusiasm. During the course of our engagement with the diverse communities there has been continuous and unanimous support for this project. Every group and individual that we consulted recognizes the obvious fact that the Kaniatarawaneh is indeed the primary heritage river of Canada.

In December 2009, a meeting was organized in Brockville that brought more than 50 representatives together to discuss the culture and environmental status of the St. Lawrence River. Members of municipal governments, the Canadian and American governments, non-governmental agencies, the Akwesasne First Nation and academic institutions discussed holistic approaches for managing the river through collaborative partnerships. Several participants made the case that securing Heritage River status would be an effective way to promote and protect the historical aesthetic values of the river and to spur the creation of a management plan and stewardship council.

The Heritage River nomination process is a natural outgrowth of existing and well-supported initiatives to secure the cultural and natural health of the region, such as the Algonquin to Adirondack project and the Frontenac Arch Biosphere Reserve.

1.1.3 Methodology

The Upper St. Lawrence River Nomination Document identifies significant cultural, natural and recreational values found on the Ontario section of the St. Lawrence River, as defined by Canadian Heritage Rivers Board guidelines. The nomination is based on the river's outstanding cultural heritage values.

1.2 The Canadian Heritage Rivers System

The mandate of the CHRS is to promote, conserve and enhance Canada's river heritage and to ensure that Canada's leading rivers are managed and celebrated in a sustainable manner. One way it fulfils its mandate is by recognizing rivers with significant natural or cultural heritage values and outstanding recreational values that are backed by community support for a management plan.

Designating a Canadian Heritage River is a two-step process overseen by the Canadian Heritage Rivers Board. The Board is made up of members appointed by federal, provincial and territorial governments. First, typically working with a local group of interested citizens, a province or territory submits a nomination proposal to the Board that shows how the proposed river meets the selection criteria. If the nomination is accepted by the Board, the local group will develop a designation document and will develop a management plan with wide community involvement ensuring that the river's heritage values will be protected for future generations. The Board will consider, and if appropriate, endorse the designation document to the minister responsible for CHRS. The river is officially designated once jurisdictional and federal ministerial approval has been granted. Currently, in February 2024, there are forty-three designated Canadian Heritage Rivers.

1.3 Location and Description of the Upper St. Lawrence River

Jacques Cartier's name for the St. Lawrence River is often quoted: "The Great River of Canada". Although he had only sailed up as far as the Iroquoian village of Hochelaga, located on the present day island of Montreal, he was already aware of its majesty. He did not know that the mighty river he was navigating was part of a huge hydrographic system including the Great Lakes which would, in years to come, lead explorers over 3,000 kilometers into the heart of North America.

In its entirety, the drainage basin of the St. Lawrence covers some one million square kilometers. The farthest headwaters are in the United States, in Minnesota. The Great Lakes, the world's largest system of freshwater lakes, drains into the St. Lawrence River which is usually considered to begin at Everett Point in Kingston at the Eastern end of Lake Ontario. From there the river heads roughly north-east with the Canadian province of Ontario on its northern shore and the American state of New York on the south. A short distance past the city of Cornwall is the Ontario/Qubec border and from there on both sides of the river are within the Province of Qubec. Around the city of Qubec, where salt water and tides begin to be noticed, the River is considered an estuary. Further down, around Anticosti Island, it widens out into the Gulf of St. Lawrence and eventually opens into the Atlantic Ocean. Today, as in Cartier's day, the St. Lawrence River is one of the world's major waterways, connecting the interior of Canada with the world.

This document nominates the Kaniatarawanneh/Upper St. Lawrence River as a Canadian Heritage River. This is a stretch of approximately 230 kilometers starting from Kingston, at the east end of Lake Ontario, to the border between Ontario and Quebec, some 30 kilometers east of Cornwall. This important stretch of ecological connectivity includes the Canadian Shield and Algonquin Provincial Park to the north and the Adirondack State Park in New York to the south. Within this short distance is contained the evidence of centuries of human history, starting with the Indigenous peoples who lived here for thousands of years on the shores of what the Mohawks called Kaniatarowanneh (meaning "big waterway").

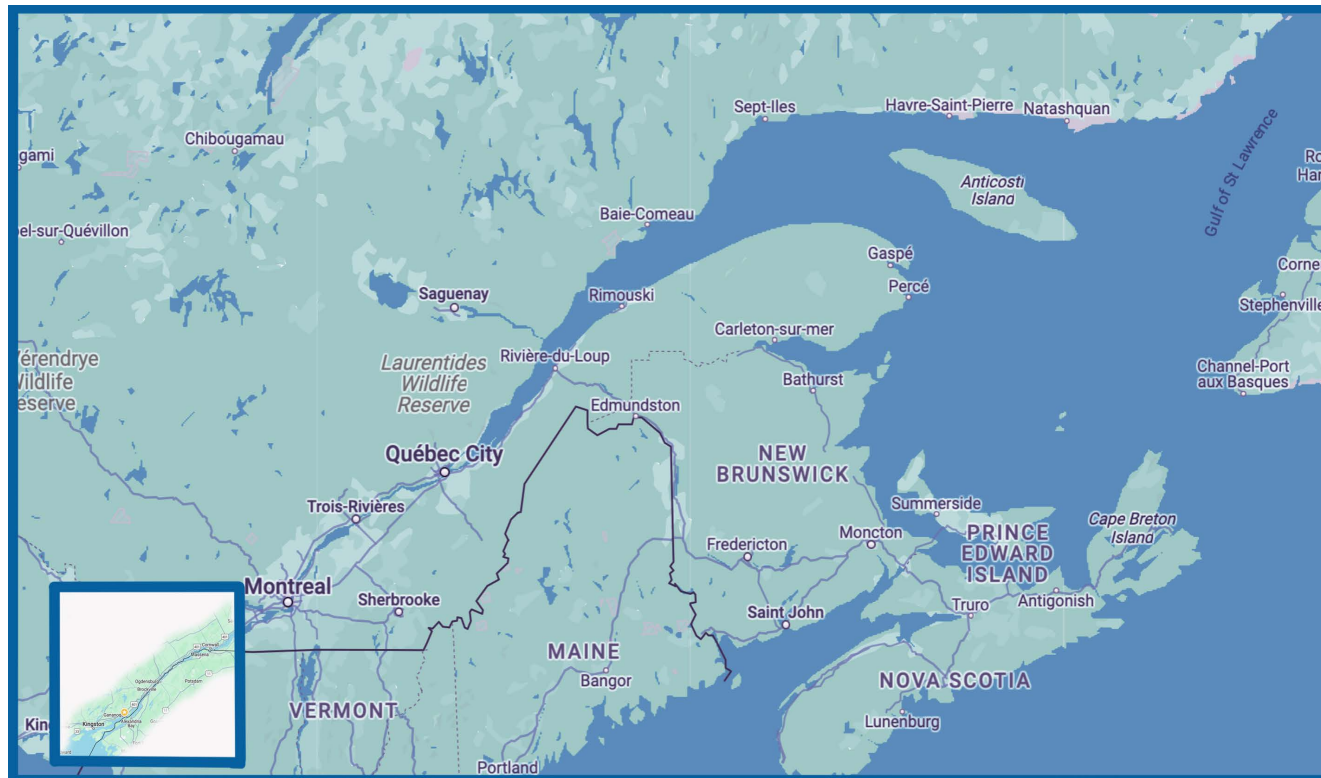
The Upper St. Lawrence can be divided into four sections. The first section runs from Kingston to Mallorytown Landing, mainland headquarters of the Thousand Islands National Park. In this zone, the hydrology transitions from lake to river. In this stretch lie the beautiful Thousand Islands, starting with Wolfe Island and Howe Island off Kingston. Below Gananoque, the granite band of the Frontenac Arch crossing the river produces even more dramatically beautiful islands dotted with summer cottages and admired by tourists. In the heart of the islands, Canada and the United States are joined by a system of bridges and roads totalling 13.5 kilometers connecting Highway 401 in Canada to Highway 81 in the United States. From the Canadian mainland near Ivy Lea a suspension bridge leads to Hill Island. A short bridge spans the narrow International Rift between Canadian Hill Island and American Wellesley Island. The highway then traverses Wellesley Island to lead to the final bridge which crosses over the St. Lawrence Seaway to the American mainland near Alexandria Bay, New York.

The second stretch of the Upper St. Lawrence runs from Brockville through Johnstown. This stretch is straight and fairly narrow. The water is fast-moving and has great clarity, offering superb scuba diving opportunities. The river becomes heavily channelized from approximately Prescott to Johnstown. The area features a fortification from the early nineteenth century and has excellent fish habitat just east of Prescott.

The third section is Lake St. Lawrence, an artificial lake dotted with islands, which was created during the construction of the St. Lawrence Seaway in 1959. This is where the original character of the river has been altered the most. Originally, boats had to deal with rapids and shallows, and so a series of small canals were built in the 19th Century to respond to an increasing demand for commercial transportation. The Seaway brought dams, locks and flooding which inundated 10 Ontario villages, now collectively known as the Lost Villages. The now placid waters are populated by carp and walleye. Effects on water quality from industrialization are the primary management challenge.

The fourth section begins at the Moses-Saunders Dam which straddles the international border between Cornwall, Ontario and Massena, New York. Below the dam the river widens naturally into Lake St. Francis where the south shore of the river is now the Province of Qubec. The lake contains islands large and small and costal wetlands are rich in biodiversity. The Mohawk Nation at Akwesasne is situated approximately where the boundaries between Ontario, Qubec and New York State meet. On the south side of the river, surrounded by New York State, it is known as the St. Regis Mohawk Reservation; but both entities consider themselves to be all one community.

The stretch which this document is nominating as a Canadian Heritage River ends part-way down Lake St. Francis, at the Quebec border. All along this part of the river are cities, towns and villages full of history, opportunities for recreation and education, and areas of geological and biological interest as well as great natural beauty. For all these reasons, it richly deserves the designation of a Canadian Heritage River.



'Upper Saint Lawrence River' location map

1.4 Summary of Values

Cultural Heritage

The Upper St. Lawrence is arguably the most important river in Canada because of its influence since pre-colonial times on the historic development of modern Canada. The Kaniatarowanenneh has a rich history of Indigenous presence dating back over 9,000 years.

- An axe-head found in the 1000 Islands area has been identified as dating from between 600 BCE to 700 CE. (Refer to picture on page 42)
- There is archaeological evidence of fishing, hunting, farming and trapping by Indigenous peoples since pre-colonial times..
- The community that became the Mohawk Nation at Akwesasne was founded in the mid-18th century by Mohawk families from Kahnawake (also known as Caughnawaga) a Catholic Mohawk village that developed south of Montreal along the St. Lawrence River. Today Akwesasne has a total of approximately 12,000 residents, with the largest population and land area of any *Kanien'kehá:ka* community.
- A vital use of the river has been for transportation, from the earliest days of human-powered canoes and bateaux, on through the days of steam-powered vessels to the diesel-powered "lakers" of today's St. Lawrence Seaway.
- In the 19th Century, logs were floated down the river. Some were destined to be sent to Britain to build the great ships of the British Navy.
- The river has been, since the earliest times, a roadway for trading, exploration and surveying, connecting the interior of Canada with the world beyond.
- There were trading posts in many river locations such as Fort Frontenac in Kingston, Darlingside and the forwarding station at Prescott.

- Navigation along the river for larger vessels was gradually developed with dams and canals, such as the Williamsburg Canal, and more recently by the St. Lawrence Seaway.
- Many 19th century riverfront buildings are still in use today. Some have been moved and preserved at Upper Canada Village at Morrisburg telling modern generations the story of early settlers in this area.
- Before reliable roads, riverfront communities on both islands and mainland in the Thousand Islands used the river as a vital water highway. Ferries kept these communities in touch with one another, including on the American side of the river.
- Ritual or ceremonial sites such as churches and burial grounds still exist today in river-front communities.
- Since the late 19th century, colonial and post colonial organizations have promoted the Thousand Islands as a popular destination for recreation, vacationing, pleasure boating and angling.
- The river's history is celebrated all along the stretch of the river in museums such as the Marine Museum in Kingston, the 1000 Islands History Museum in Gananoque, the Forwarders' Museum in Prescott and the Lost Villages Museum near Long Sault, to name a few.
- A large part of the colonial history of the St. Lawrence is concerned with battles which were seen as extensions of wars being fought elsewhere. They often led to the establishment of boundaries that influenced international history.
- The Upper St. Lawrence River is an international river, with the boundary between Canada and the United States running right through it.

Natural Heritage Values

The Kaniatarowanenneh is worthy of being nominated on the basis of its outstanding cultural values alone, but it has significant natural and recreational values as well.

- The Upper St. Lawrence River is approximately 230 kilometers from Kingston to the Québec border. Fed by the Great Lakes, it is the primary river in the vast St. Lawrence Drainage Basin, the second largest drainage basin in Canada and the thirteenth largest in the world.
- The Kaniatarowanenneh region is comprised of two geologically unique characteristics: the sedimentary rock formed in Paleozoic times, and the much older igneous and metamorphic rock of the Canadian Shield formed in the Mesoproterozoic era about 1.3 billion years ago.

- The beautiful Thousand Islands between Brockville and Kingston appear where the river passes over the ancient rock of the Frontenac Arch, a band of the Canadian Shield granite linking Algonquin Provincial Park with the Adirondack Mountains
- The Upper St. Lawrence has two lakes: Lake St. Lawrence and Lake St. Francis. Lake St. Lawrence is man-made, formed when the river was dammed to form the St. Lawrence Seaway in 1959. Lake St. Francis (which extends past the Ontario/Québec border) is natural although its level is now controlled by dams.
- The wetlands which exist along the river are highly biologically diverse environments and many have been designated provincial or regional Areas of Natural and Scientific Interest (ANSIs).
- Two main eco-regions are present in the Upper St. Lawrence and this contributes to the diversity of the plant and animal life of the area, including 31 species at risk. The St. Lawrence Lowlands is dominated by agricultural land cover with mixed wood forest, successional woodland and scrub. However, the Frontenac Arch Eco-region has acidic soil and is also regulated by a micro-climate.
- The Upper St. Lawrence is home to a number of rare plant species, endangered or threatened. The Thousand Islands National Park includes more than 20 island properties and is home to many of these species which it helps to protect.
- The Upper St. Lawrence has a diverse range of fauna within its various eco-regions which contribute to the bio-diversity of the river. There is a wide variety of fish, mammals, birds, reptiles, amphibians and invertebrates, some of which are extremely rare. One example is the grey rat snake, Canada's largest reptile and a threatened species.

Recreational Values

The Kaniatarowanenneh, a wide, swift river with areas of spectacular beauty, is famous for its outstanding recreational values. Indigenous people have a long tradition of recreational use along the river, including canoeing, festivities, swimming and more.

- Ever since the late 19th Century, visitors have enjoyed boating and angling all along the river.
- The Thousand Islands, with its world-famous scenic beauty, have attracted visitors and seasonal residents since the late 1800s.
- The federal Thousand Islands National Park and the provincial Parks of the St. Lawrence offer many facilities for interpretation of the rich history and natural heritage of the area.

- Fishing is a big draw with 88 species of fish including about 20 popular game fish.
- Swimming, waterskiing, paddle-boarding, canoeing, rowing and kayaking are popular summer activities as well as scuba diving on numerous wrecks.
- Along the shore, tourists and residents alike enjoy the many facilities for hiking, cycling and camping. The same trails attract cross-country skiers, snowshoers and snowmobilers in the winter.
- There are many facilities such as museums, events, historical sites and plaques which bring the history of the Upper St. Lawrence to life for visitors and residents.
- Tourist attractions abound for visitors to the area. The Aquarium Discovery Centre in Brockville is educational as well as entertaining. The Skywood Eco Adventure Park near Brown's Bay has ziplines and aerial activities for all ages. The Thousand Islands Playhouse in Gananoque is Canada's Dockside Playhouse. Several companies provide boat tours of the Thousand Islands.

1.5 Role of the Upper St. Lawrence River in the Canadian Heritage Rivers System

For the first 10 years of the program, the primary goal of the CHRS was to cooperatively build a system with heritage rivers in each province and territory. For the second decade, the program focused on building value and recognition in the system and sustaining river heritage.

For the program's fourth decade, the 2020--2030 Canadian Heritage Rivers System Strategic Plan defined four priorities. They are: "Advancing Indigenous reconciliation on Canadian Heritage Rivers"; "Strengthening the Canadian Heritage Rivers Network"; "Excellence in river management and conservation"; and "Engaging Canadians in celebrating and stewarding heritage rivers."

In considering future rivers for designation, the CHRS is most interested in those that have heritage and cultural values that are under-represented in the system.

Where are those gaps? The Canadian Heritage Rivers Board commissioned a report to help answer that question. The report concluded that, for cultural heritage values, the eight most under-represented cultural framework elements are: Agricultural Extraction, Architectural Responses to River Locations, Human Consumption, Indigenous-European conflict, Interprovincial-Territorial Boundaries, Trans-boundary Rivers, Collection of Shellfish, and Land-based Touring.

The Kaniatarowanenneh/Upper St. Lawrence River would help fill some of these gaps in the following ways:

- **Architectural Responses to River Locations:** Many of the Georgian-style houses built by Loyalists who settled in the area following the American Revolution represented architectural responses to river locations. The riparian style was also reflected in barns, farms and fences, such as the Schoharie style of barn. Summer cottages, elegant houses, and a castle are distinctive features of the Upper St. Lawrence River.
- **Indigenous-European Conflict:** The Iroquois-French Wars involved a series of intermittent conflicts, mostly in the form of small skirmishes and raids, taking place over most of the seventeenth century. Sporadic Mohawk raids on colonial French farms of the Lower St. Lawrence were the norm. At least 100 men from the Mohawk village of Akwesasne joined the Loyalist forces during the American Revolution. Mohawks also fought alongside their Canadian allies in the War of 1812, the Patriot Rebellion of the 1830s and the Fenian Invasion of the 1860s.
- **Trans-boundary Rivers:** At the junction of both an international and provincial boundary, the Upper St. Lawrence serves as a prime example of a trans-boundary river.
- **Land-based Tourism:** Today, the Upper St. Lawrence has an impressive network of scenic roads and hiking and biking trails along both its north and south shores. Most prominent is the Thousand Islands Parkway, which extends approximately 40 kilometres from Gananoque to west of Brockville. The Parkway features a well-used hiking/biking trail and dramatic views of small islands and the river habitat.

In terms of natural values, the gap analysis commissioned by the Canadian Heritage Rivers Board cites five rivers not part of the CHRS that support rare fish species: the St. Lawrence, Columbia, Kootenay, Milk and Shubenacadie. The Upper St. Lawrence, for example, supports populations of lake sturgeon, bridal shiner, pugnose shiner, and northern sunfish, all species designated at risk according to Ontario Regulation 230/08.

The Kaniatarowanenneh is home to several other species of concern including Blanding's turtle, bald eagles, osprey and black tern.

The Great River Rapport is a project of The River Institute that will focus on an ecosystem health report of the Upper St. Lawrence River. It will be undertaken in partnership with the Mohawk Council of Akwesasne-Environmental Program. The project will help inform annual and ten year monitoring reports for the Upper St. Lawrence River initiated by TIARA and The River Institute.

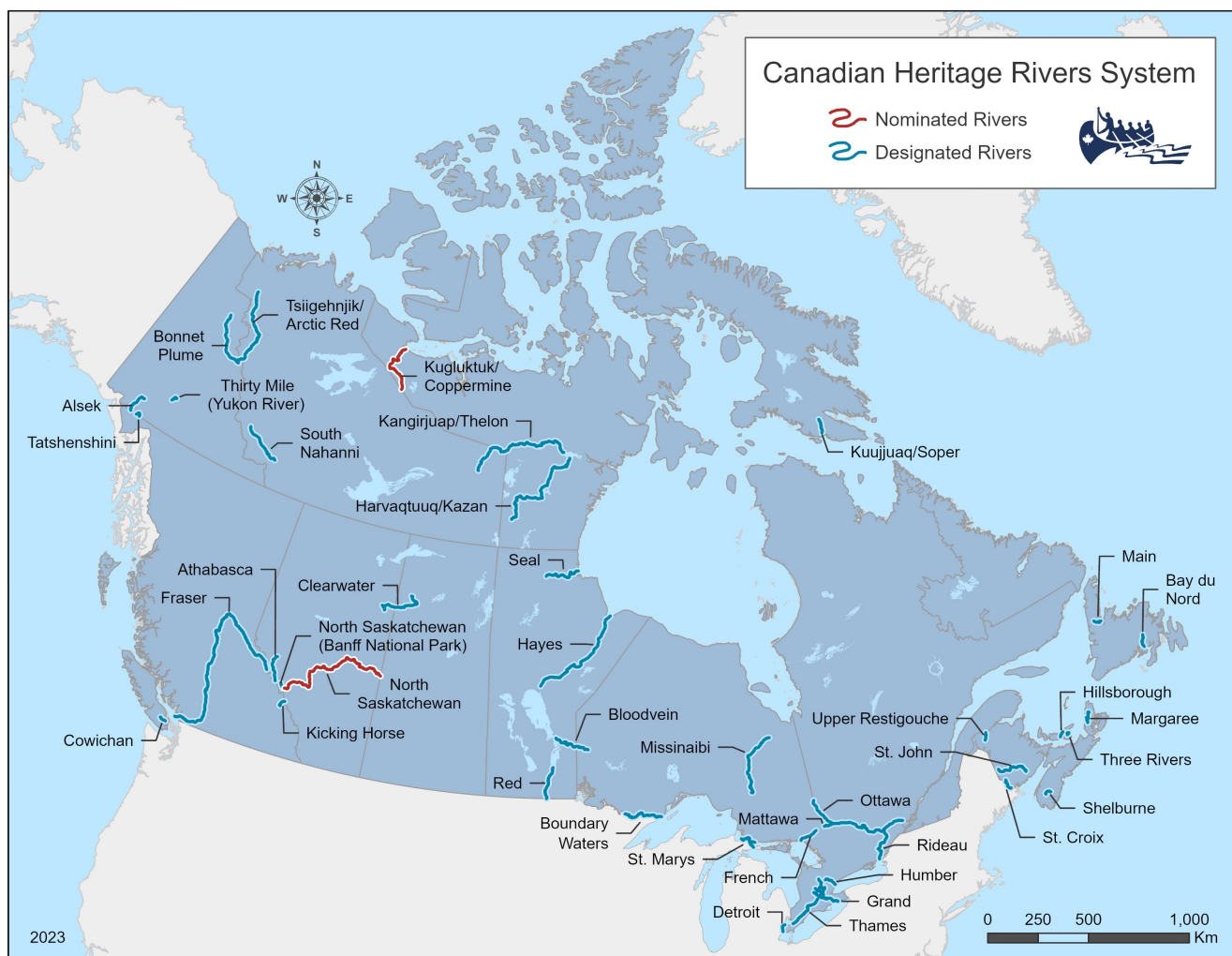


*William Henry Bartlett, "St. Regis, Indian Village, St. Lawrence," 1840.
Steel engraving on chine collé, on wove paper.*

*The first Catholic Church at St. Regis was established by the Jesuits at Akwesasne in 1755.
Services were performed in the Mohawk dialect of the Iroquois language.*

Courtesy National Gallery of Canada

Status of the Canadian Heritage River System



The St. Lawrence River

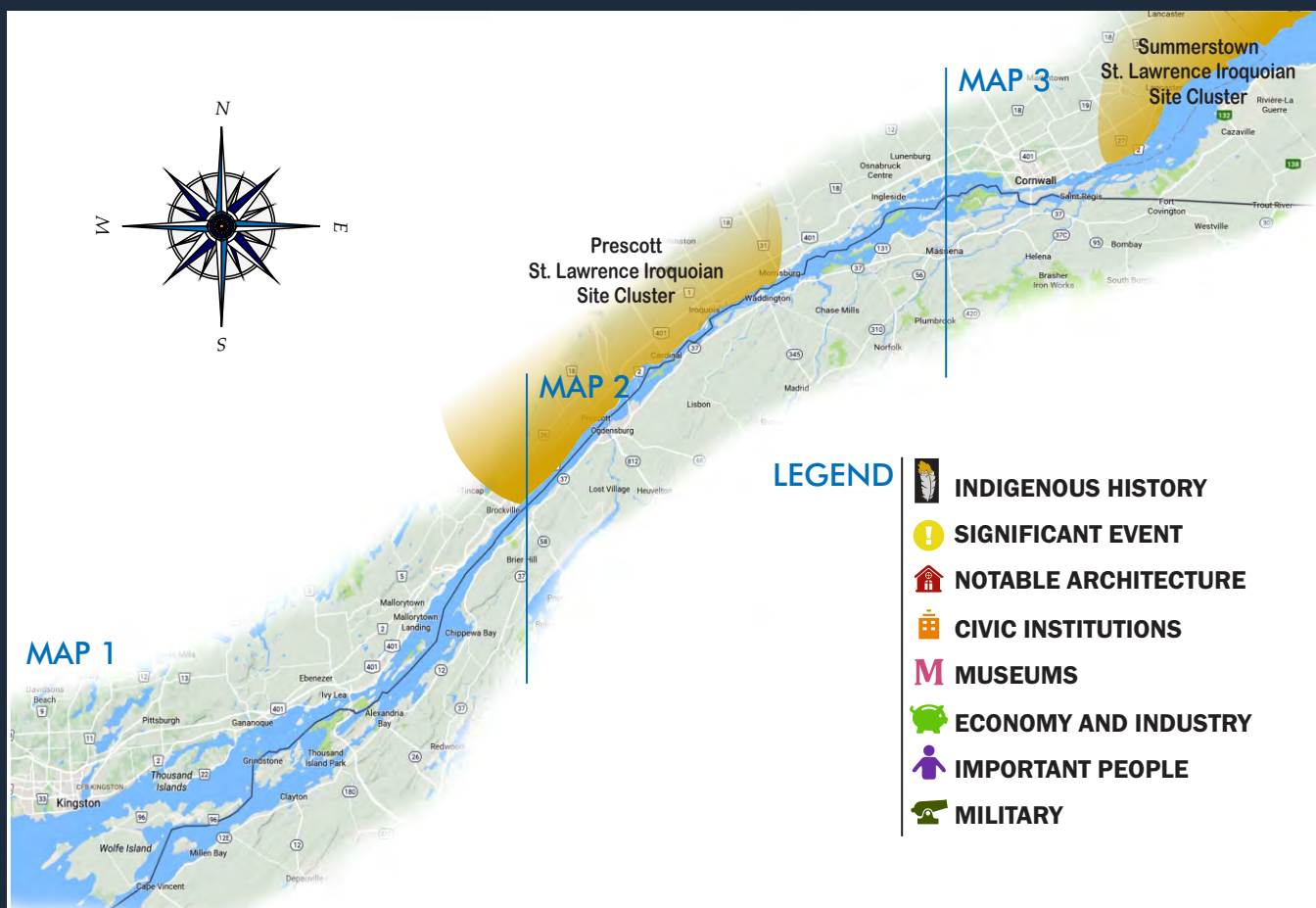
By Jean Deshayes, Royal Hydrographer for France, Published 1702

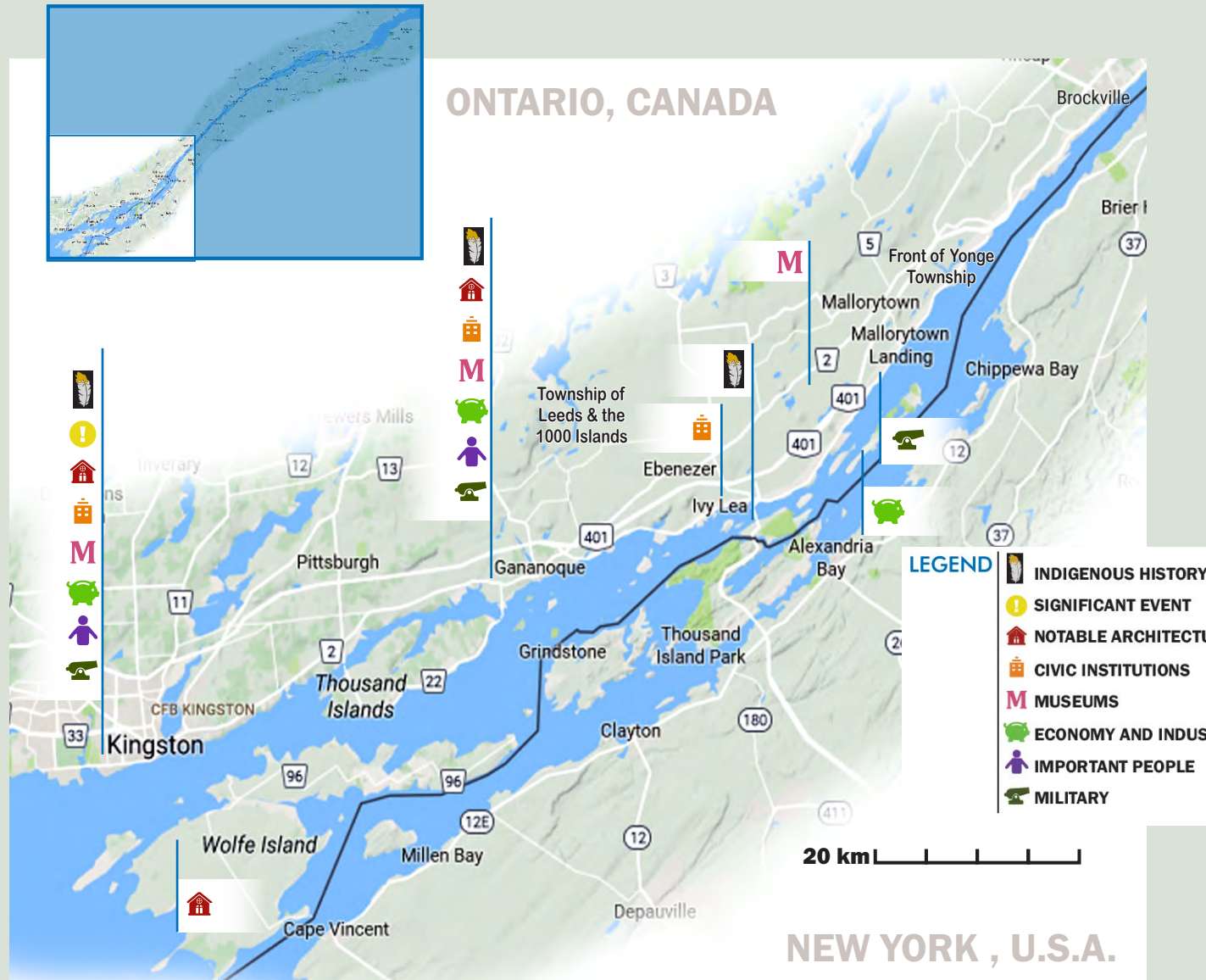


Maps & Listing

Cultural Heritage River Values

The Upper Saint Lawrence River, Ontario, Canada

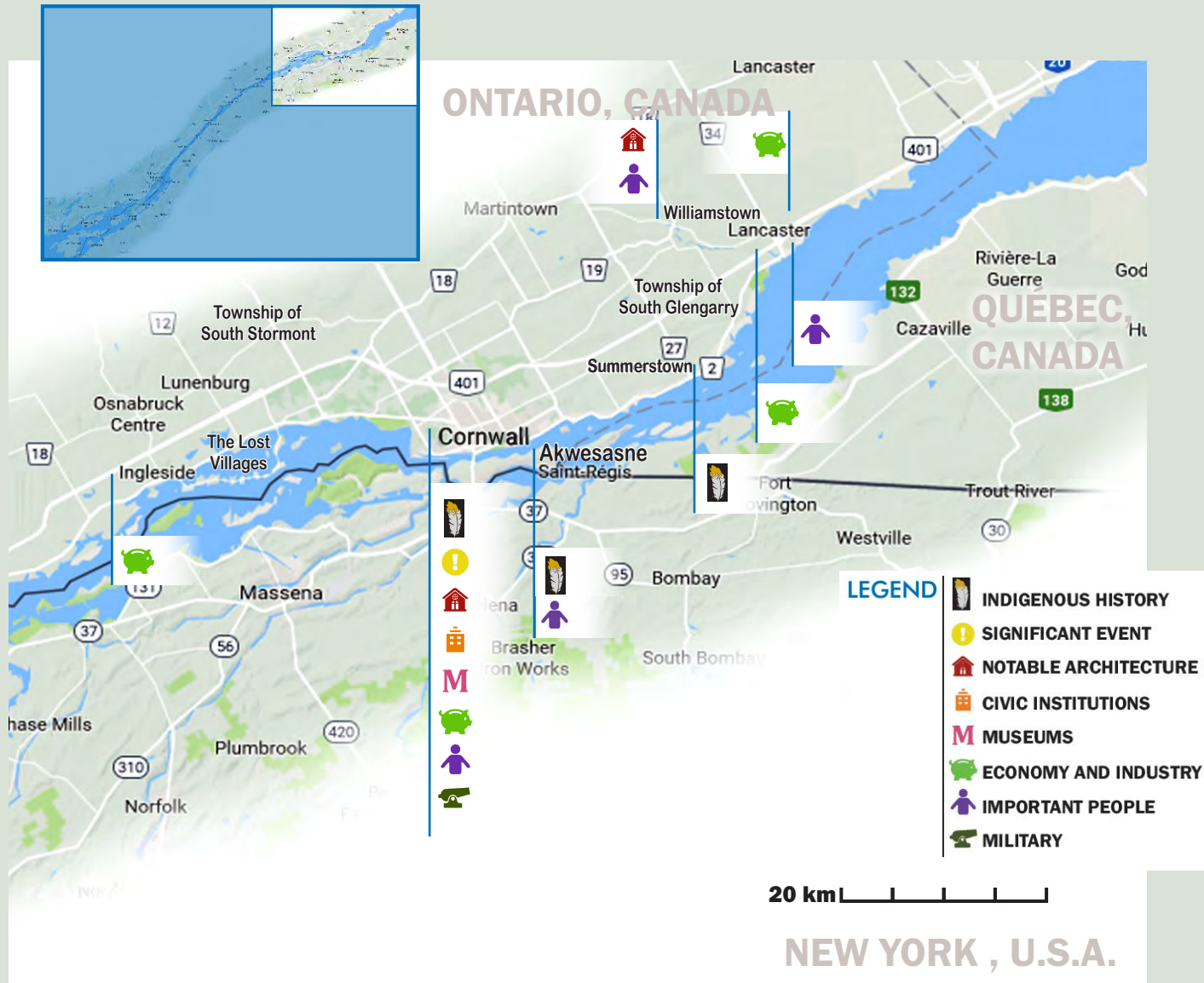




St. Lawrence River CHRS Nomination

28





Kingston MAP 1



Belle Island	300-900	Hunting, fishing and burial ground. Middle Woodland Period - Point Peninsula Complex.
Katarokwi (Kingston)	1200-1600	Late Woodland Period - Pickering Complex and Middleport Complex. Artifacts show interaction between the Huron-Wendat and the St. Lawrence Iroquois.



Ann Baillie Building	1904	One of the earliest nurses' residences in Canada.
Elizabeth Cottage	c.1840	Attractive Victorian house, Gothic Revival style.
Frontenac County Court House	1858	Neo-Classical architecture, imposing building.
Kingston City Hall	1844	Ambitious size, expensive, built when Kingston was capital of the Province of Canada.
Kingston Custom House	1856	1856-59 for the government of the United Canadas.
Kingston Fortifications	1846-1848	Built to protect the Rideau Canal from the U.S.
Summerhill	1839	When Province of Canada's parliament met in 1841 members were housed here.
The Stone Frigate	1820	Built in 1820, first used to store gear & rigging from British warships dismantled after the Rush-Bagot agreement.
Kingston Penitentiary	1835	Canada's oldest reformatory prison.
Fort Frontenac	1673	Built by Frontenac as a fur trading post, later restored by LaSalle, taken by English in 1758.
Government House (Alwington)	1832	Built in 1832, it was enlarged in 1841 to serve as vice-regal residence when Kingston was capital of the United Province of Canada. Destroyed by fire in 1958.
Heathfield	1841	No longer exists. Occupied for a while by Sir John A. Macdonald.
Hillcroft	1853	Occupied for a while by Lieutenant Governor of Ontario.
Kingston Post Office	1856	Heavily rusticated and vermiculated stonework architecture.



Kingston General Hospital	1835	One of Canada's oldest functioning hospitals. Most of the early buildings (1835) have survived. When Upper and Lower Canada were united to form Province of Canada, parliament met in the then unoccupied buildings.
Sydenham Public School	1853	Opened 1853 as Kingston County Grammar School. Elegant symmetrical exterior, dressed stonework architecture, still survives.



Bellevue House built	1840	Home of Sir John A. Macdonald 1848/49. Italian Villa architecture.
Fort Henry	1836	Present fort built 1832-37 to replace earlier 1812 fort. Protected the naval dockyard at Point Frederick, the entrance of the Rideau Canal and the town of Kingston.



Legislature of the Province of Canada	1841-1844	Upper & Lower Canada united 1841 to form Province of Canada. Kingston remained the capital for 3 years.
Queen's University	1842	Earliest degree-granting liberal arts college in the United Province of Canada.
Regiopolis College	1837	Incorporated as a college. In 1892 building formed nucleus of Hotel Dieu Hospital.
The Royal Military College of Canada	1876	Opened 1876 on site of former Royal Naval Dockyard.



Kingston Dry Dock	1890	Kingston was one of the foremost shipbuilding centres on the Great Lakes 19th C.
Kingston Navy Yard	1789	1789 site of trans-shipment point for Great Lakes. Large squadron of ships built here during War of 1812.
Kingston Observatory	1855	Site of first optical observatory in Ontario in 1855.
La Salle builds ship the Frontenac	1678	Early ship-building in Kingston.
Garden Island - Calvin Company	1862	Early industry - shipbuilding and lumber.
Rideau Canal	1832	Amazing accomplishment. A UNESCO World Heritage Site.

M

Marine Museum of the Great Lakes	1975	Situated at the first federal dry dock on the Great Lakes.
Pumphouse Museum	1851-1952	One of Canada's oldest original water works.
The MacLachlan Woodworking Museum	1967	Holds one of the most extensive collections of woodworking tools in Canada. 1855 log house, originally built by the White family in Lanark County.



Charles Edward Poulett	1799-1841	First Governor General of the new United Province of Canada 1840.
Thomson, Baron Sydenham Charles Sangster	1822-1893	One of the most significant Canadian poets of the pre-Confederation period. Born Point Frederick 1822.
Dr. Jenny Trout	1841-1921	First woman licenced to practice medicine in Canada 1875.
Louis de Buade, Comte de Frontenac et de Palluau	1622-1698	Governor of New France 1672-1682 and 1689-1698.
Mary (Molly) Brant (Tekonwatonti)	c. 1736-1796	Mohawk Loyalist, influential during American Revolution.
René-Amable Boucher	1735-1812	Born here, political figure in Lower Canada.
René-Robert Cavalier de La Salle at Cataracoui	1673	Took over Fort Frontenac in 1675, expanded the fur trade.
Sir Charles Bagot	1781-1843	Governor General of the United Province of Canada 1842 when capital was in Kingston.
Sir John A. Macdonald	1815-1891	First Prime Minister of Canada 1867. Political life started in 1844.



Sir Oliver Mowat	1820-1903	Born in Kingston, one of the Fathers of Confederation.
Sir Richard Bonnycastle	1791-1847	Defended Kingston during Rebellions of 1837-38.
The Reverend John Stuart	1740-1811	Came to Kingston 1781 as Loyalist. In 1785 first resident Anglican minister in (what is now) Ontario. Responsible for building Kingston's earliest Anglican church, wooden structure, in 1792.
Agnes Maule Machar	1837-1927	Born in Kingston, she was a prolific author and poet and influential social commentator, advocating for women's rights.



Militia Garrison	1837-1838	Assembled to defend Kingston during Upper Canada Rebellion in 1837.
Point Frederick	1788	1788 location was reserved for defence of loyalist settlement. In 1875 it was chosen as the site for the Royal Military College.
The King's Royal Regiment of New York	1776	Largest Loyalist corps during the American Revolution.
Murney Martello Tower	1846	Part of naval defences against US.
Point Frederick Buildings	1846-47	Major British naval base during War of 1812, many buildings survive from this period.
St. Lawrence mapped	1685 - 1686	Jean Deshayes, Royal Hydrographer of New France, drew the first maps of the St. Lawrence River.
Crawford Purchase (Carleton Is.)	1783	Expanse of land purchased from the Mississauga First Nation by the British Crown (north shore of the Upper St. Lawrence River and the eastern end of Lake Ontario).
Early land survey in Ontario	1783	John Collins did the first major survey under civil authority in Ontario.



Loyalist Landing at Cataracoui	1784	Camp established for Loyalists coming from Montreal to settle.
First Meeting of the Executive Council of Upper Canada	1792	First meeting of the government of Upper Canada (following the Constitutional Act of 1791).
Upper and Lower The Typhus Epidemic	1847	About 1400 immigrants from Ireland died.
The Rush-Bagot Agreement	1817	After the War of 1812, an arms limitation agreement between US and Britain: dismantle armed ships, no new war ships to be built.

Wolfe Island MAP 1



Wolfe Island Township Hall	1859	Typical of community halls erected in small municipalities after Municipal Act in 1849.
Old House Museum	Early 1800s	Oldest home on Wolfe Island was also once Wolfe Island's only school.

Gananoque MAP 1



Iroquois	1300-1400	Late Woodland Period - Middleport Complex. Gananoque Drainage System artifacts.
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Gananoque Town Hall	1831	Built in 1831, as a private residence of John and Henrietta McDonald, good example of late Neo-Classic style. Gananoque was first settled in the late 1790s and incorporated in 1862.
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Mills and manufacturing	c. 1900	By the early 19th Century, Gananoque had several thriving mills on the Gananoque River.
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1000 Islands History Museum	1995	Museum of local history.
Thousand Islands Boat Museum	2014	Waterfront museum showcasing collection of antique watercraft in the 1000 Islands.



Colonel Joel Stone	1749-1833	Loyalist, came to Canada in 1786. Colonel of 2nd Leeds Militia, defended Gananoque in the raid in 1812.
Pirate Johnston	1782-1870	Bill Johnston was a Canadian who fled to the US during the War of 1812. He became a trader and smuggler and took part in raids on Canada during the 1837 Rebellions.



Raid on Gananoque	1812	During War of 1812, U.S. regulars & militia raided Gananoque.
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Township of Leeds & The 1000 Islands MAP 1



Palaeo-Indian Presence	7000 BCE	Stone hunting point found on Gordon Island, Thousand Islands National Park.
Iroquois	700 BCE -1600 CE	Middle - Late Woodland Period. Traditional hunting and fishing grounds.



Springfield House	1871	Located in Escott, building was an Inn in the 1870s. It now houses the Township archives.
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Frontenac Arch Biosphere	2002	Recognized in 2002 as a UNESCO World Biosphere Reserve.
Thousand Islands National Park	1914	Established 1914, comprises some mainland areas and 21 islands.



Thousand Islands International Bridge	1938	A system of 4 bridges from Canada to the USA, a distance of 13 km, opened in 1938.
Darlingside	1845	A busy trading station, where steam vessels could obtain firewood.
Farms on islands: Tar, Grenadier, Club Is.	1818	Families lived and farmed on these large islands year-round, starting in 1818.

Front of Yonge Township MAP 1



Chimney Island (Bridge Island)	1814	Fortified British garrison during the War of 1812.
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Brockville MAP 2



Former Brockville Post Office	1886	Superb stonework and a central pedimented gable with flanking gables.
Fulford Place	1899	Built in 1899-1900, typical of industrial elites' houses.
Johnstown District Court House and Gaol	1808	Original brick courthouse and gaol erected here in 1811.
Leeds Grenville County Court House	c.1840	Grandiose 19th C. district court house along the Upper St. Lawrence River.



Brockville Tunnel	1860	Canada's first railway tunnel, begun in 1854.
Brockville, Westport and Sault Ste Marie Railway	1888	Began in 1888 service between Brockville and Westport. Last train ran in 1952.
Jones Mills, Robert Shepherd Grist Mill		Active in the first half of the 19th C.

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Brockville Museum	1981	Museum of local history, housed in one of many 19th C. stone buildings in Brockville.
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George Chaffey	1848-1932	Born in Brockville, inventor, shipbuilder, irrigation expert.
James Morris	1798-1865	Emigrated from Scotland, first Postmaster-General of Canada in 1851.
Ogle R. Gowan	1803-1876	Established the Grand Orange Lodge of British North America in 1830.
Senator George T. Fulford	1852-1905	Successful in patent medicine business, built Fulford Place.
Sir William Buell Richards	1825-1889	Born in Brockville, eventually first Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Canada 1875.
William Buell Sr.	1751-1832	Founder of Brockville, donated his holdings for settlement lots, County Court House.



Forsyth's Raid	1813	US Major Forsyth led a successful raid on Feb. 6, 1813 from Morristown across the frozen river.
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Blockhouse Island (Cholera Epidemic)	1832	Formerly known as Hospital Island because of the sheds housing the sick during the Cholera Epidemic of 1832. During the Rebellion of 1837 a blockhouse was erected for the defense of Brockville.
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Augusta Township MAP 2



Blue Church	1845	Built in 1845, replaced a previous church built in 1809.
Homewood	1800	Architecture combined British Palladianism with French influence of its builder. Built in 1800. Owner Solomon Jones.
St. James Church	1826	Early Gothic Revival architecture, consecrated in 1830.



Lieutenant-Colonel Thain Wendell MacDowell	1890-1960	Awarded the VC for Vimy Ridge. Brought up in Maitland.
Barbara Heck	1734 - 1804	Settled in Augusta in 1785. A devout and inspiring Methodist, with others she founded the earliest Methodist society in Canada.



Pointe au Baril	1758	Shipyard where last French war ships built. Fell to the British in 1760.
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Founding of Maitland	1824	Village plot laid out in 1824, a point of access to Rideau Canal, flourished during the building of the Canal 1826-1832.
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Prescott MAP 2

Iroquois	c1500	Prescott Village Cluster. Seven sites - St. Lawrence Iroquoian villages. Roebuck Site (William J. Wintemberg excavated in 1912 & 1915). Maynard-McKeown Site (1987) - The largest excavation of a St. Lawrence Iroquoian site in North America to date.
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Fort Wellington	1812	Built during the War of 1812.
Prescott Barracks and Hospital	1810	Front portion is one of the earliest surviving military buildings in Ontario. Used as a barracks and hospital 1812-1817.



Bytown and Prescott Railway Company	1850	First train ran 1854, connection to capital, later named Ottawa.
Forwarding Trade	1810 - 1847	Big warehousing, shipping, shipbuilding trade here, declined in 1847 when railways etc. came.
First ferry Prescott to Ogdensburg	1770s	Flourished 1830 to 1970.
Grand Trunk Railway	1853	Incorporated 1853, the railway went from Sarnia to Portland, Maine. Prescott station built 1855, typical of smaller stations.



Forwarders' Museum		Was a post office and customs house in the 1820s, now a museum about forwarding trade.
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Colonel Edward Jessup	1735-1816	Raised Loyalist Jessup's Rangers. Prescott built on land he was given.
Justus Sherwood	1747-1798	Played a leading role in settlement of Augusta in 1784.
Major James Morrow Walsh	1840-1905	Born in Prescott, active in North West Mounted Police in Saskatchewan and Yukon.
Sir Richard William Scott	1825 - 1913	Born in Prescott, prominent politician.
Susannah Jessup	1775-1846	Came to Upper Canada in 1785. She continued the laying of the foundations of Prescott begun by her father-in-law Colonel Edward Jessup around 1810.



Capture of Ogdensburg	1813	In retaliation for raid two weeks before.
Battle of the Windmill	1838	British troops and militia defeated a raid by Canadian rebels and American "Hunters".

Township of Edwardsburgh/Cardinal MAP 2



Johnstown	1789	Thrived in 1790s, good location but shallow harbour. (Close to present-day bridge.)
Galop Canal from Iroquois to Cardinal	1847	The Williamsburg canals were built 1844-56, used until the Seaway was built in 1959.
Edwardsburgh Starch Co. later Canada Starch Co.		Was established in Cardinal 1858.



Fort de Lévis	1760	Built in 1760, last stand of France in Canada, taken by British under Sir Jeffrey Amherst.
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Founding of Cardinal	1796	In 1796 a small settlement gathered around a grist mill, gradually grew, incorporated in 1880 with a population of 800.
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Township of South Dundas MAP 2



Upper Canada Village	1961	Heritage tourist attraction. Many buildings from Lost Villages preserved. Museum of 1860s rural life.
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The McIntosh Apple	1811	Popular cultivar developed by John McIntosh. Many hybrids derived from it.
The Williamsburg Canals	1844-56	Used until the Seaway was built in 1959.
Construction of the St. Lawrence Seaway	1954-1959	Built between 1954-59, transformed shipping by allowing ocean-going vessels access to the Great Lakes.



Battle of Crysler's Farm Interpretive Centre	1959	Commemorates a battle fought during the War of 1812
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Sir James Pliny Whitney	1843-1914	Born in Williamsbug, lawyer, politician, 6th premier of Ontario.
The Reverend Johann Samuel Schwerdtfeger	1734-1803	First Lutheran minister to settle in Ontario, fervent Loyalist.
John McIntosh	1777-1846	Moved to Upper Canada in 1796, developed the McIntosh apple.



Battle of Crysler's Farm	1813	One of the decisive battles of the War of 1812. 800 well-trained British, Canadian and Indigenous troops routed 4,000 American soldiers.
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Lake St. Lawrence	1958	A widening of the St. Lawrence River made possible by the flooding of the Lost Villages.
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Township of South Stormont MAP 2



Iroquois	c1300	Morrisburg Site - St. Lawrence Iroquois.
Iroquois	c1450	Beckstead Site - St. Lawrence Iroquois.



Maple Grove Cemetery		One of the Lost Villages.
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Holstein Friesian Cattle in Ontario	1881	First Holstein Friesian cattle imported in 1881, leading milk-producing breed.
Dickenson's Landing	1669	One of the Lost Villages. Trading post established by LaSalle.



Mary Whitmore Hoople	1767-1858	Taken hostage as a child by the Delaware Indians, she learned traditional native healing practices. When later she came to Upper Canada after the American revolution, she applied this knowledge to heal the sick.
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Lost Villages of the St. Lawrence	1958	Seven communities over 8,000 hectares inundated in 1958 when Seaway flooded them. First settled in 1780s. 6,500 residents moved.
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Cornwall MAP 3



Inverarden	1816	A fine example of Regency architecture. Built in 1816 for John McDonald, a wintering North West Company partner.
District Court House and Gaol	1833	The main block of the present building is one of the province's oldest public structures.



Cornwall Grammar School	1806	In 1806 John Strachan built a school which eventually became Cornwall Collegiate and Vocational School in 1938.
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Cornwall Canal	1843	From Dickenson's Landing to Cornwall, a lift of 48' to bypass the Long Sault Rapids.
Moses-Saunders Dam	1954	Between Massena NY and Cornwall. Begun in 1954, opened 1958.



Captain Samuel Anderson	1736-1836	One of the first persons to settle on the site of Cornwall.
Right Reverend John Strachan	1778-1867	Bishop and prominent educator.
The Reverend John Strachan	1804	John Strachan built Cornwall's first Anglican church in 1884 and a boys' school.



United Empire Loyalists		Loyalists played a large role in settling this part of Canada. Came after fighting in the American War of Independence (1775-1783).
The Glengarry Fencibles	1812	The Glengarry Light Infantry Fencibles was raised in 1811-12 largely from the Highland settlers of this region.



The French Presence in Cornwall	1870s	In the late 1870s a large scale industrial expansion drew workers and tradesmen from Quebec.
Founding of Cornwall	1784	This site, then called Point Maligne, was visited by Indigenous peoples and French traders and explorers. Settled by Loyalists in 1784, incorporated in 1834.

Akwesasne MAP 3

Akwesasne - Founding	c. 1755	Mohawk Territory, inhabited by Indigenous peoples for centuries.
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Salli Kawennotakie Benedict	1954-2011	Salli was many things: an artist, a teacher, a cultural historian and published writer, constantly working to preserve and pass on her people's Indigenous traditions, The Naturalized Knowledge, as it had been done verbally for thousands of years.
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Township of South Glengarry MAP 3



Iroquois	c. 1425	Summerstown Village Cluster. Eight sites - large inland villages of St. Lawrence Iroquois.
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Bethune-Thompson House,	1784	Built in 1784, the original log house on this property is one of the oldest in the province. The main house was built in 1804, both have interesting and unique construction and architecture. Explorer and cartographer David Thompson lived here.
Fraserfield	1812	Began in 1812, one of the finest country residences of the day.
Sir John Johnson House	1784-1792	One of the oldest standing buildings in Ontario, started around 1784 and added to subsequently. Excellent record of vernacular building in early Canada.



The North West Company	1779	In 1779, a band of Scots revived the French fur trade with the North West Company, many of whose partners and employees were drawn from the highland settlers of Glengarry County.
Sir John Johnson's Mills	1790	Sir John Johnston built a grist mill and a saw mill in 1790 on the banks of the Raisin River in Williamstown.



Lieutenant-Colonel John Macdonell	c.1750-1809	Loyalist, soldier and prominent politician.
"Cariboo" Cameron	1820-1888	Born in S. Glengarry, he was a successful gold prospector in BC in 1862.
Glengarry Cairn	1837	On Cairn Island, off South Lancaster in the St. Lawrence. Cairn commemorates Sir John Colborne for his military services during the Rebellion of 1837/38.
The MacMillan Emigration	1802	In 1802, over 400 Highland immigrants, including over 100 MacMillans, landed in Montreal and eventually many settled in Williamstown.

Axe head from the Point Peninsula Complex of the Middle Woodland period (600 BCE to 700 CE) found in the 1000 Islands.



“Rapids Queen” shooting the rapids in the St. Lawrence River at Long Sault. Built in 1892, the ship sailed under the names “Columbian” and “Brockville” before being rechristened “Rapids Queen” in 1909 to run the rapids on the Prescott to Montreal run.

*Courtesy of the
Thousand Islands
Boat Museum*



Cultural Heritage Values

This section describes the outstanding cultural heritage features of the Ontario portion of the St. Lawrence River upon which this nomination is based. The description is organized according to the five heritage themes of the Cultural Framework for Canadian Heritage Rivers, Second Edition, 2000.

2.1 Description of Cultural Heritage Values

2.1.1 THEME 1: Resource Harvesting

Archaeological evidence indicates that the Kaniatarowanenneh region was inhabited by Indigenous peoples as early as the Paleo-Indian period (9000 – 5000 BCE). Darren Bonaparte (Akiatonharonkwen), Tribal Historic Preservation Office Director of the St. Regis Mohawk Tribe at Akwesasne has written extensively about the history of the Indigenous people living along the St. Lawrence River. He has graciously allowed us to quote from his work *Kaniatarowanenneh: River of the Iroquois*.

The St. Lawrence River Valley which the Mohawks call Kaniatarowanenneh, or the, "Big Waterway," has a rich history of Indigenous use and occupation dating back over 9,000 years. The first occupants that we know of were the hunters who roamed the shores of what was then the Champlain Sea. As the climate continued to improve the waters of the Champlain Sea receded as well, leaving behind the Lower St. Lawrence River, the Richelieu River and Lake Champlain to a steady progression of human occupation and development. While these early inhabitants may have lived a simple hunting lifestyle there is ample evidence that they enjoyed extensive trading networks that brought them quartzite from the far north, copper from the western shore of Lake Superior, jasper from eastern Pennsylvania, and flint from the Gulf of St. Lawrence to name just a few.

Archaeological studies conducted on islands on the Akwesasne territory indicate that this area was extensively used by Indigenous groups that hunted, fished, and gathered berries and plant life. The islands themselves seemed to have been used primarily as a place to process the fish they caught before sending it on to the bigger villages situated deeper inland. Some islands were used for burial mounds indicating an advanced concept of an afterlife. Like the earlier hunters before them these later inhabitants shared and traded resources and technology with those around them.

Fishing

Although it is estimated that Indigenous people were living along the Kaniatarowanenneh as far back as 9000 BCE, the first evidence of fishing dates back to 4000 BCE. The remains of campsites indicate that nomadic people camped there seasonally to fish for sturgeon, walleye, eel and catfish, leaving behind bear, deer and beaver bones.

Historical domestic fishing was recorded in the eighteenth century during the Seven Years War by Captain François Pouchot of the French Navy when he visited Grenadier Island. In his memoirs, he wrote:

At five leagues from Point au Baril is the Island of Toniata. The main channel of the river is between this island and the south shore. The north part of the river is filled with rushes, and in summer, it is famous for a thriving eel fishery.

Commercial fishing in the Upper St. Lawrence was mostly at a small scale, supplying the local markets and restaurants. Eel, however, was popular in Europe and Japan, allowing the eel fishing industry to access commercial markets. During the Depression, the sturgeon fishery was also a significant enterprise. Lake St. Francis had the largest commercial fishing network on the river.

Shoreline Resource Harvesting

The Kaniatarowanenneh offered an abundance of resources for Indigenous peoples during the spring, summer and fall. Although not as widespread as other areas of Canada, trapping of fur bearing animals, particularly muskrat, was still performed in the Upper St. Lawrence on a limited basis in the protected coves and bays of the river. The collection of aquatic plants was in the form of wild rice for food and marsh grass for weaving baskets.

There is also evidence of early hunting practices in the area, including stone spear-points, which have been excavated at Lake St. Francis, and stone hunting tools, which were discovered on Gordon Island in the Thousand Islands. Duck hunting was very popular in the area, resulting in many of the original decoy designs coming from the Upper St. Lawrence – created by the people who used them most. Many artefacts have also been uncovered at Grenadier Island and at Kerry Point.

As Darren Bonaparte describes it in his article *The History of Akwesasne from Pre-Contact to Modern Times*, Akwesasne's Mohawk name translates as, "Place of Partridges," or "Land Where the Partridge Drums" and was a reference to the abundance of the game bird along the shores of the Kaniatarowanenneh and its tributaries:

Mohawk and other native peoples frequented the region to fish, hunt, and trade, as evidenced by the diverse archaeological remains on the many islands and mainland north and south of the river. Upriver from Akwesasne, natives using the St. Lawrence were compelled to portage around the tumultuous Long Sault Rapids. In times of war this provided enemies with a chance to attack, but in times of peace it usually gave the weary traveler a chance to camp, rest, fish, hunt or trade before continuing on.

Extraction of Water

The waters of the St. Lawrence were a key factor in the region's growing settlements and participation in trade. Direct drive power generation came in the form of mills, which in turn helped establish commerce and trade. Edwardsburg Starch Company and the Canada Starch Company, for example, harnessed power from locks at the Galop Canal. Other mills included Jones's Mills (Brockville), Robert Shepherd Grist Mill (Brockville), Stone's Mill/Gananoque Mills, George Longley Grist Mill and Tower (Maitland), Beach's Sawmill (now at Upper Canada Village), and Steam Flour Mill (now at Upper Canada Village).

Industrial water extraction was important to the development of businesses such as tanneries, distilleries and ice cutting.

2.1.2 THEME 2: Water Transport

Providing access from the Atlantic Ocean to the Great Lakes, the St. Lawrence River was an important transportation route and continues to be so today.

Commercial Transportation

Transportation along the St. Lawrence River took a range of forms, from the earliest methods such as canoes and bateaux to the horse boat ferries. There was also winter travel such as sleighs along the "bushed roads", where cedar branches were placed along the edges of the frozen roads to mark the path. During fall freeze and spring thaw, ice boats were used to cross the river.

The early fur trade saw the use of historic human-powered freight often in the form of bateaux — shallow-draft, flat-bottomed boats. The distinct clandestine nature of the early French fur traders makes it difficult to gauge who came up the St. Lawrence and when. There are, however, some lasting pieces of evidence. For example, it is argued that Cardinal, a small town on the Upper St. Lawrence situated between Brockville and Cornwall, took its name from the voyageur landmark at the Galop Rapids, Pointe au Cardinale. As the men poled their bateaux past the rapids, they may have stopped here to refill their pipes and break from the hard labour. The Narrows between Kerry Point and Grenadier Island was another well known pipe stop. Persons passing through this area for the first time were subjected to an initiation much like crossing the equator.

In the nineteenth century, larger vessels such as the paddlers and steamships, as well as the timber barges, overtook the smaller vessels in popularity. The new powered commercial freight provided a vital service to the public and businesses on the Upper St. Lawrence, while the river itself provided a vital water highway on which they could operate. Vessels that have a rich and memorable history with the people of the river include the *Rapids Prince* and the *Great Britain*.

The Upper St. Lawrence River also played a key role in the surface bulk transportation of logs for the booming lumber trade. The timber industry used the Upper St. Lawrence to ship its product to Montréal and across the Atlantic. Of particular importance is the Calvin Co. of Garden Island, who were not only master shipbuilders but were deep in the business of cordwood and lumber. Thousands of log drams set off from Garden Island to make the journey down the river, over the rapids, to be loaded on ocean-going vessels in Montréal.

Transportation Services

Fur trading posts such as Fort Frontenac, built in 1673 by Governor General Louis de Buade Frontenac, extended the fur trade into the hinterland and helped control the fur-rich Great Lakes basin. Several habitant houses, an Indigenous peoples village, a convent and a Recollet Church grew about the young outpost of French expansionism. Until the War of 1812, when the fort was deemed obsolete, it served as a barracks for British forces and a stomping ground for passing fur traders.

At the same time Fort Frontenac was being constructed, a small trading post and fortified depot was established at the present day site of Johnstown. Fort La Galette, at the head of the Galop Rapids, became a regular stop for traders and troops making their way up the St. Lawrence to Fort Frontenac and beyond.

Excerpt from Letter dated July 16 1804. From Joel Stone to wife Abigail, describing his venture over the Long Sault Rapids on a log raft:

“...with enough to do I got on board the Canadian Boat wind fare and very strong_ Evening com on, I went to Sleep and Did not wake until we were going down the Galoos and not thinking [my associate] near behind _ Did not stop untill I got to the famos Esquir Reed oposit Bramharts _ so here I found my mistake then stopped my trunk_turned about and went back as far as Ephraim Jones Esq. _ then saw my raft underway and was informed by him that they had loaded on 300 barrels flower and was underway_ I tacked about again went to the head of the Long Suit [Sault] waited there until I saw my rafts coming in Dis order _ she struck in the Galoos struck on the cribb there_ and the next parted coming down two by too O and Or [over and over] and some without any body on them. I got hands forthwith Collected together [unclear word] Cribbs and secured them at the head of the Sew [Sault]_ this on Saturday, Sunday Stephen went back after the Other Cribb, I went down the Suit with Six Safe and this Day I have heard Stephen had got all his Cribb and near coming Down will I hope to be underway Soon and to stick with my raft...”

Compeau, Timothy J., <http://www.colonelstone.ca/July16letter.html> (Accessed October 27, 2010)

Owners of wharves (known then as “Wharfingers”) provided an essential service to the shipping industry. Farmers and lumber dealers, for example, would sell their product to the Wharfinger who would then sell it to companies that shipped it down the river and eventually exported it. Many, such as Thomas Darling and his sons, sold cordwood as fuel for the vessels. The Wharfingers' stores sold essential goods to people of the town as well as those vessels making their way up and down the river. Notable locations along the river included Darlingside, Moulinette and Dickinson's Landing.

Navigational improvements along the St. Lawrence came in the form of dams and canals, essential for shipping as well as for providing power to the riparian communities. The Upper St. Lawrence has had 200 years of alterations, beginning with small-scale canals at Long Sault and Galop. Some of the early canals, such as the Williamsburg Canals (composed of the Farran Point, Rapide Plat, and Galop canals), can still be seen today.

Undoubtedly, the most dramatic navigational improvement was the construction of the St. Lawrence Seaway, which opened in 1959. Construction of the 306-kilometre stretch of the Seaway between Montreal and Lake Ontario is recognized as one of the most challenging engineering feats in history. Particularly daunting was the International Rapids Section, covering 70.8 kilometres from Cornwall to Prescott, which involved the flooding of 10 villages and hamlets.

Once completed, the Seaway transformed shipping on the St. Lawrence River. It led to the creation of a new generation of larger, more efficient vessels designed specifically to fit as snugly as possible into the Seaway's locks. Ships measuring 222 metres in length, with drafts of 7.6 metres, could now travel up and down the river, whereas the old system could only handle 76 metre vessels — known as canallers — with drafts of under 4 metres.

Today, the primary carrier vessels fall into three main groups: “lakers” (bulk carriers and self-unloaders with their own onboard equipment for unloading cargo); ocean ships or “salties” and tug-propelled barges.

Smuggling and Bootlegging

Smuggling and bootlegging have always been a fact of life on the Upper St. Lawrence. As early as the days of the U.S. embargo on Canadian and British imports during the War of 1812, smuggling has been common. There's even an area on the river in the Thousand Islands that bears a reminder of this clandestine industry: Smuggler's Cove.

The region has a long history of ship building. The first sailing ship on the Great Lakes, the *Frontenac*, a barque, was built by La Salle at Cataraqui (now Kingston) in approximately 1678. In 1758, the French built a shipyard at Pointe au Baril, now Maitland. At the Marine Museum of the Great Lakes in Kingston, visitors can view an exhumation of a French warship's bow from the Cataraqui harbour. For Pointe au Baril, the two barques – French corvettes – *l'Outaouise* and *l'Iroquoise*, were the pride and last defenders of water sovereignty for the French. Other shipyards along the river include the naval dockyard at Kingston and the large-scale operation of the Calvin Co. at Garden Island.

The forwarding business boomed for a short while before the introduction of the large canals and vessels that could shoot the rapids. Facilities for loading and provisioning passengers were established in new towns at the head and mouth of a set of rapids, such as Prescott and Cornwall. Hotels, inns, taverns and wharves met the demands of the ships and cargoes, including passengers, that had to be transferred in order to pass the rapids. Today, The Forwarders' Museum in Prescott is housed in a building that was originally owned by William Gilkison, the first forwarder to establish his business in Prescott in 1811.

French and British Exploration and Surveying

Although the French heritage on the Lower St. Lawrence River is still strong and vibrantly apparent, the Upper St. Lawrence region was not out of the reaches of New France. The French had a significant, if not well-documented,



James Peachey - Loyalist Encampment, 1784.

presence on the Upper St. Lawrence River. Aspects such as the history of Fort Frontenac, missionary work and high-profile exploration have been recorded through such resources as journals, correspondences and the seminal *Jesuit Relations*. Yet, this represents but a fraction of the human presence on the Upper St. Lawrence in the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries. It remains difficult to gauge how many *coureurs de bois* escaped colonial life in Québec and set out to what was to them *terra incognita* to trade with Indigenous peoples for valuable furs. Many were illiterate and most left little written traces of their lives.

In 1654, Jesuit missionary Father Simon Le Moyne became the first recorded European to ascend the Upper St. Lawrence, which he recorded in his diary. La Salle, however, is among the most recognized of all the French explorers in North America. As Frontenac's follower, he accompanied him up the St. Lawrence to Fort Frontenac. He not only left his mark at Fort Frontenac by expanding the structure, but was also influential elsewhere as a result of his intrepid nature and frequent journeys. One known site was the small trading post he established in 1669 at what would become Dickinson's Landing, a town of the Lost Villages.

By the time Jean Deshayes was sent on a surveying expedition to New France in 1685, he had already earned a name for himself as a skilled hydrographic surveyor. He immediately accompanied Governor General Denonville to the trading post, Fort Frontenac, charting the route along the way. His map of the Upper and Lower St. Lawrence was first published in 1702 and then again in 1715. His study became the standard chart of the river until British surveys of the 1760s. For his work, Deshayes was named Royal Hydrographer of New France. Deshayes' legacy continues today as he is credited for giving the Thousand Islands their name when he called the region, "lac des mille îles" (See his map on page 25).

Mural at Crysler's Farm
 Visitors' Centre
 near Morrisburg:
 "The Climax of the Action
 at Crysler's Farm"
 by Adam Sherriff Scott.

Courtesy of St. Lawrence
 Parks Commission



It has been argued that the American Revolutionary War created not one, but two nations. This is certainly the case for what was to become the English-speaking province of Upper Canada, established in the Constitutional Act of 1791. Whether they fled persecution for loyalty to the Crown, or chased the opportunity of land and commerce, the United Empire Loyalists who left the United States, originally called the Thirteen Colonies, endured all the hardships of establishing a new life in a rough land. A Historic Sites and Monuments Board of Canada plaque titled, "The Crawford Purchase", outside the new Fort Frontenac barracks in Kingston marks their migration to and settlement in the area with the following text:

In October 1783, at Carleton Island near here, Captain William Redford Crawford of the King's Royal Regiment of New York met with local Mississauga Indians led by the elderly Mynass. Crawford, acting for the British government, purchased from the Mississaugas for some clothing, ammunition and coloured cloth a large tract of land east of the Bay of Quinte. The land was subsequently settled by United Empire Loyalists and Britain's Indian allies who had been forced to leave their homes in the new United States.

The Loyalists moved to the Upper St. Lawrence from Montreal in droves in the Spring of 1784. Arriving on flotillas of bateaux, they arrived to re-establish their lives with what little they had managed to escape with from the Colonies. Prior to their arrival, Sir Frederick Haldimand, Governor of Quebec had the north shore of the Upper St. Lawrence surveyed and drawn up. Under the leadership of Sir John Johnson who was charged with allotting the land, and the Deputy Surveyor, Captain Justus Sherwood, the Loyalists were granted property gratis. Landing at such sites as New Oswegatchie and the Johnstown base camp, Loyalists drew lots and were strategically placed in townships according to ethnic background (i.e. English, Scottish, Dutch) and regiment.

The Loyalists immediately set to clearing the land. Constructing small working log shanties, they hewed at the rich virgin forests until enough land was cleared for farming. From the shanty, they eventually upgraded to a larger structure, many opting for the vernacular loyalist stone dwellings brought from the northern colonies.

2.1.3 THEME 3: Riparian Settlement

Siting of Dwellings

Archaeological evidence suggests Indigenous peoples lived along the Kaniatarowanenneh prior to European contact. Iroquoian-speaking people came from the interior and gathered in larger groups in shoreline seasonal dwellings to fish, hunt and gather food. Stone tools, bones and (later) ceramic cooking pots serve as evidence of their presence. Later, these nomadic people would gradually establish permanent dwellings. The word "Haudenosaunee", describing the confederacy of the Iroquois (also called The League of Five Nations) means People of the Longhouse.

These lodgings, which were at times more than 75m (246') long and 5m to 7m (16' – 23') wide, were made of poles, saplings and bark and held anywhere from 5 to 20 families. (See illustration on page 7.)

Darren Bonaparte has given TIARA permission to include these words from his *Kaniatarowanenneh: River of the Iroquois*:

When Europeans first arrived in North America, the St. Lawrence River Valley was occupied, by a people that archaeologists have termed the St. Lawrence Iroquoians. They get this name because they were more closely related to other Iroquoians such as the Huron and Iroquois than to the Algonquian peoples of what is now New England and Canada. Oral traditions of the Iroquois confirm that our ancient ancestors were once part of a single group that migrated this way from the Ohio River Valley before encountering an Algonquian people on the Upper St. Lawrence that forced them to find refuge south and southeast of Lake Ontario.

This old tradition states that there was once a great confederacy that had villages on the St. Lawrence River. After a shooting star destroyed one of their villages on the St. Lawrence the confederacy broke down, leaving two or three smaller confederacies in their wake who eventually became hostile to each other. The Huron Confederacy, North of Lake Ontario, and the Iroquois Confederacy were two of those: a third would be the people archaeologists refer to as the "St. Lawrence Iroquoins."



Francis Bass - St. Lawrence Iroquois Settlement.
 Large settlements were inland with fishing outposts located along the river.
 © Raphaëlle & Félix Back, francisback.art@gmail.com

The region's first European explorers encountered the latter as they made their way up the mighty St. Lawrence. Jacques Cartier visited two major settlements of these St. Lawrence Iroquoians at what is now Quebec city and Montréal in 1535. His observations tell us a great deal about these people. Like their cultural cousins, the Huron and Iroquois, they lived in bark longhouses surrounded by multiple rows of palisades and extensive gardens.

When the Loyalists came from the Thirteen Colonies, they brought with them ideas and styles typical of their region (i.e. New England, Schoharie Valley of New York). Riverside homesteads and farms were first tents and then log shanties. The settlers hacked out the surrounding wilderness to establish themselves. Many families later transitioned from the temporary shanty – which became the barn – to a permanent log house. The wealthier families were able to make another transition into the limestone structures that characterize towns along the river such as Kingston and Brockville.

The Georgian House, a common style in the area, is found in various forms and is commonly referred to as American or Loyalist Vernacular for its American roots and Georgian influences (symmetrical and simple). These types of homes were the quintessential Loyalist homes. There were more elaborate variations such as Homewood of the Georgian Classicism style.

The typical riparian style was also reflected in barns, farms and fences. A representation of the Schoharie-style of barn can be found at Upper Canada Village in the form of two barns from the early 1800s moved from Kirkwood

K. Howard - Springfield House
Loyalist Vernacular style building
built in 1874 in Escott, Ontario.



near Aultsville. There are also churches, inns, taverns and hotels that reflect the style. Upper Canada Village hosts originals such as Cook's Tavern and Willard's Hotel.

A permanent riverside dwelling of particular note is the Morrisburg Stage Coach Inn, now a home located on the water in the west end of Morrisburg. It was recently purchased by Dr. Traer Van Allen and has been converted into a period home and archives. From Dr. Van Allen, it was learned that the home used to be operated as an inn for those travelling the original King's Highway to bypass the rapids – the original road passing between the home and the river, facing a section of the Williamsburg Canal.

River-based Communities

Along the St. Lawrence, fortification-based communities established around forts such as those at Oswegatchie/Fort La Présentation (Ogdensburg). Fort Frontenac, for example, saw the construction of longhouses, which served to build a strong relationship between Indigenous peoples and European traders that fueled the fur trade. Although it had a tenuous existence in relation to ongoing wars, Fort Frontenac saw a small hamlet grow around its walls prior to war in 1680. From such resources as correspondences, maps and plans, it is evident that those that garrisoned the trading post brought their families to settle the surrounding area.

The Akwesasne are one of Six Nations of Canada (called the Tsiata Nihononhwentsià:ke in the Mohawk language), a confederation of First Nations living in and around the Kaniatarowanenneh. They are recorded as living in and around the Upper St. Lawrence valley in the 18th century and were allied with New France during the early colonial conflict.

Horse towing
through the canal,
Upper Canada Village.

Courtesy Pam Hudson



From bateaux to the memorable steamships, the river has been used both out of necessity and convenience in a commerce that has allowed towns and cities to thrive on the river. Communities were built based on the growing shipping industry. As a result, these many towns became the stomping grounds of the sailor and the transient. Hotels and taverns were commonplace on the ubiquitous “Water Street”. Places such as Cook’s Tavern, which was moved to and restored at Upper Canada Village, and the Stage Coach Inn at Morrisburg were perfect haunts for the traveller and mariner.

Island farming owed its existence to the river. Certain islands such as Grenadier, Tar, Club, Wellesley and Grindstone supported substantial farming communities that enjoyed an advantage over their mainland counterparts. The river provided a ready-made highway. Island farmers, for example, were able to row their milk to the doorstep of the cheese factory in Rockport until its destruction by fire in the 1930s.

River-influenced Transportation

Steamships, paddlers, and ferries provided a vital service to the public and businesses of the river, while the river itself provided a vital water highway on which they could operate. The first ferry service from Prescott to Ogdensburg started in the 1770s, initiating a long history of ferry transportation on the Kaniataraowaneneh / Upper St. Lawrence River. Ferries that hold a rich and memorable history with the people of the river include the *Rapids Prince*, the *Great Britain* and *The River Girl* (the first ferry at Prescott). For some time, there was also a significant triangular route encompassing the Ottawa, Rideau and St. Lawrence rivers.

During winter, sleighs served as a viable transportation option to cross the river at frozen crossings, while fall freeze and spring thaw saw the employment of ice boats.

In more recent times, the Upper St. Lawrence inspired the creation of a significant land-based route for vehicles. King’s Highway 2S was a scenic parkway constructed during the late 1930s through the Thousand Islands region between Gananoque and Brockville. Highway 2S was intended as one of Ontario’s earliest divided highways. In 1970, it was officially renamed as the Thousand Islands Parkway and today offers one of the most memorable scenic routes in the province.

2.1.4 THEME 4: Culture and Recreation

Spiritual Associations

Indigenous peoples have spiritual associations integrated into their ways of life, encompassing a sacred relationship with nature that honours the land and waters. The Assembly of First Nations describes the spiritual association of water:

Water is the most life sustaining gift on Mother Earth and is the interconnection among all living beings. Water sustains us, flows between us, within us, and replenishes us. Water is the blood of Mother Earth and as such, cleanses not only herself, but all living things. Water comes in many forms and all are needed for the health of Mother Earth and our health. The sacred water element teaches us that we can have strength to transform even the tallest mountain while being soft, pliable, and flexible. Water gives us the spiritual teaching that we too flow into the Great Ocean at the end of our life journey. Water shapes the land and gives us the great gifts of the rivers, lakes, ice, and oceans. Water is the home of many living things that contribute to the health and well-being of everything not in the water.

All life requires water and yet our global water supplies are quickly being dried up and polluted. The First Nations peoples of North America have a special relationship with water, built on our subsistence ways of life that extends back thousands of years. Our traditional activities depend on water for transportation, for drinking, cleaning, purification, and provided habitat for the plants and animals we gather as medicines and foods. Our ability to access good water shapes these traditional activities and our relationships with our surroundings. As Indigenous peoples, First Nations recognize the sacredness of our water, the interconnectedness of all life and the importance of protecting our water from pollution, drought and waste.

Indigenous spirituality advocates for responsibility and stewardship for the earth. Our relationship to the land defines who we are; we are the caretakers of Mother Earth. What is sacred then is more than a single burial location. The location of medicines, ceremonies, stories, burial sites, traditional harvesting and hunting ground, villages and trading areas are all locations that are 'sacred'. The locations of these sites are living; they are not 'artifacts' relegated to antiquity. As well, instruments created to celebrate stories and ceremonies, protect medicines and honour our ancestors are sacred. The definition of what is 'sacred' is determined by the First Nation community itself and is reflective of the community's values of what is sacred.

- Chiefs of Ontario, Ontario Human Rights Commission

In 1755, French Jesuits established the St. Regis Mission on the site of Akwesasne as an offshoot of Kahnawake near Montréal. The intent of the Mission was to attract Mohawk and other Iroquois people away from their homelands and into an alliance with New France.



Sunday evening
service at
Half Moon Bay,
Bostwick Island,
c. 1900



Sunday Evening Service, Half Moon Bay, near Gananoque Canada.

In many instances, settlements along the river still have standing ritual or ceremonial structures and sites, such as churches. The “Blue Church” of New Oswegatchie, for example, was a focal point for Methodism and Loyalists in Upper Canada. Half Moon Bay, a small, natural amphitheatre has served as a location of worship for more than 100 years with worshippers attending services by boat. Butternut Bay was home to a Methodist Episcopal summer retreat. An Indigenous burial ground dating to c.1500 BCE has been discovered on Sheek (Sheik) Island. European burial places dot the Upper St. Lawrence River. One of note is the Maple Grove Cemetery, the only graveyard moved in its entirety during the Seaway Project. Jeremiah French, a Loyalist in the American Revolution and the first Member of the First Ontario Legislature for Stormont, is interred at Maple Grove Cemetery.

Cultural Expression

Examples of cultural resources along the Ontario portion of the St. Lawrence River are abundant. Upper Canada Village is one of the most impressive examples of a riverside museum, art gallery and commemorative structure in the area, if not the country. The 60-hectare site includes more than 40 heritage buildings, as well as costumed interpreters who recreate examples of life in the area in the 1860s. The buildings are restored heritage buildings from the area, or reconstructed based on historical research. Some of the buildings were relocated from villages that were flooded during the construction of the St. Lawrence Seaway in 1958.

The Lost Villages Historical Society's Museum also includes heritage buildings from villages flooded in 1958. It holds 10 buildings that were moved to and restored at the museum site at Ault Park in Long Sault. Other museums that have cultural significance for the river include the Marine Museum of the Great Lakes in Kingston, the 1000 Islands History Museum and the Thousand Islands Boat Museum in Gananoque, the Brockville Museum, the Forwarder's Museum in Prescott, and the Battle of Crysler's Farm Interpretive Centre.

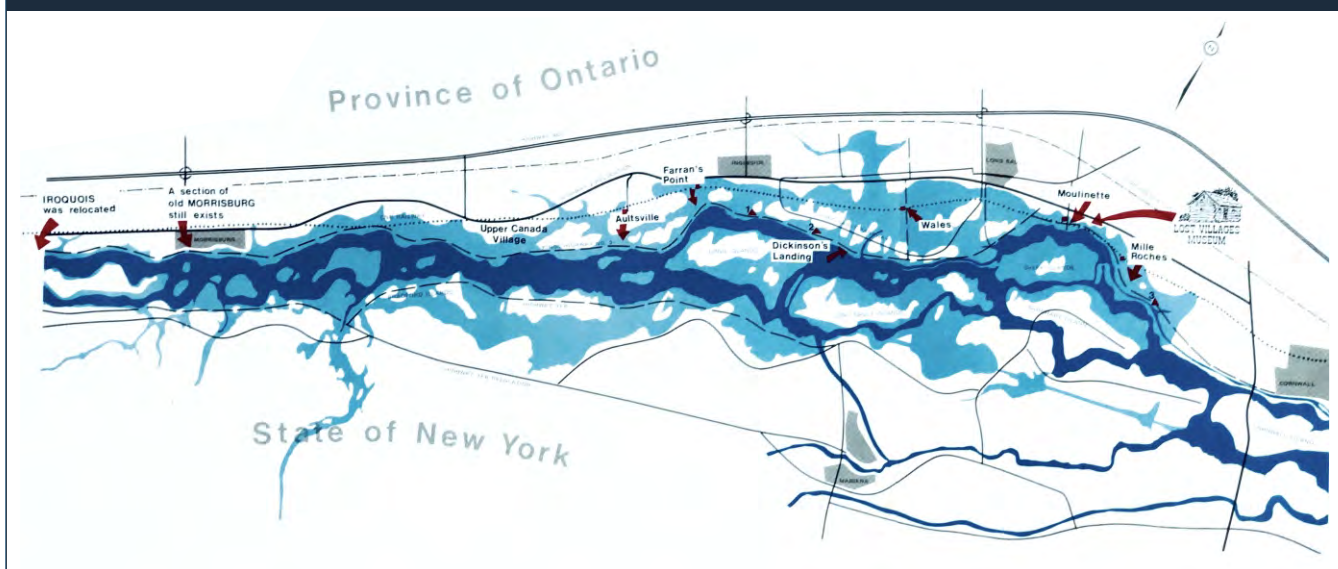


The Lost Villages

In 1951, the Canadian government established the St. Lawrence Seaway Authority with the objective to construct and operate a canal system either wholly in Canada or with the United States. By 1954, the U.S. Government set up a similar organization for alterations to the US side of the river system. The project was an elaborate undertaking. In addition to the construction of canals, locks and dams, the riverbed needed to be deepened in areas and large areas of land needed to be flooded, including some towns and villages.

In all, ten villages and hamlets were affected by the flooding: Mille Roches, Moulinette, Wales, Dickinson's Landing, Farran's Point and Aultsville, as well as the hamlets of Maple Grove, Santa Cruz, Woodlands and the farming community of Sheik's/Sheek's Island. Approximately 6,500 residents and 550 dwellings were relocated to two new towns: Long Sault and Ingleside.

The flooded towns and villages became known as The Lost Villages. Some of the heritage buildings relocated prior to the flooding can be seen today at the Lost Villages Museum outside Long Sault. (Photo: Lost Villages Museum)



Culturally associated sites also prove abundant in the area. In Kingston alone, there is Fort Frontenac, which was key to the fur trade, as well as Fort Henry, Martello Towers, Fort Frederick, Cathcart Tower, Murney Tower and Shoal – all of which have been designated historic sites.

As mentioned in the Riparian Settlements section, many of the homes built by Loyalists who settled in the area following the American Revolution represented architectural responses to river locations in their typical Riparian style.

Early Recreation

Lacrosse is an ancient sport first played by Indigenous peoples in North America. In the 1600s, French Jesuit missionaries documented that they saw lacrosse being played by Indigenous people in the St. Lawrence River Valley and the French settlers gave lacrosse its name from the curvature of the stick. In Mohawk, lacrosse is called *tewa: arton'* pronounced de-wa-ah-lah-doon' which translates to, "It has a dual net."



*"Thousand Islands", drawn by Elizabeth Simcoe,
wife of John Graves Simcoe, first Lieutenant Governor of Upper Canada in 1796.*

During the last half of the nineteenth century, the Thousand Islands area of the St. Lawrence saw the development of resorts, designed to take advantage of the area's recreational possibilities. A guide book published in 1881 suggested three possible reasons that a visitor might come to the Thousand Islands: "1st) health and happiness, 2nd) enthusiasm and poetic feeling, as a substitute for dullness and dry prose, 3rd) love matches".

Recreational boating was popular. The St. Lawrence Skiff, similar to a canoe but with its own unique design elements, was constructed and used in the Thousand Islands area. Angling was also a popular recreational activity, often led by guides. The muskellunge, a large freshwater fish, was one of the most popular sport fish.

By the 1890s, hotels and privately owned islands became popular. Hay Island and Tremont Park Island near Gananoque were home to popular guest houses.



*"Long Sault Rapids, from the Canal, Eastern Ontario." Nineteenth century engraving
 Artokoloro Quint Lox Limited / Alamy Stock Photo.*

2.1.5 THEME 5: Jurisdictional Use

Government, Conflict and Military Associations

The Kaniatarowanenneh is the traditional land of the Haudenosaunee Confederacy, also known as The Iroquois Confederacy or The League of Five Nations. It was formed sometime between 1450 and 1600. The Confederacy originally consisted of five nations: the Mohawks, Oneidas, Cayugas, Senecas and Onondagas. Delegates from each nation met at Onondaga, on the south shore of the Upper St. Lawrence, to resolve disputes and discuss matters of mutual interest. The Confederacy's peaceful and consultative means of decision-making set an example to those who came later to this area from Europe. Historians have even suggested that the Iroquois system of government influenced the development of the United States Constitution. It is one of the first and longest-lasting participatory democracies in the world. The Haudenosaunee system of government still exists today, but a federally-recognized Band Council has also been enacted by the Canadian federal government.

The exact date of the joining of the nations is unknown, but its spirit and philosophy are expressed in the story, passed down orally from one generation to the next, of how the nations received The Great Law. It tells of how the Great Peacemaker, along with the leader Hiawatha, observed the conflicts between the Indigenous nations, and showed them how to unite, guided by the main principles of The Great Law: peace, power and righteousness. Peace is a personal, interior peace, including the ability to negotiate rather than wage war. Power comes from unity when nations gather into a family. Righteousness is found through living a proper life, taking on the responsibility of following the will of the Creator.

The word "Haudenosaunee" means "People of the Longhouse" and the image of these large houses, in which many families dwelt together, is a metaphor for the unity of the nations. Besides the principles of participatory democracy, the nations also passed down the philosophy of looking after the earth. It means that we are only borrowing the earth from our children's children, and that it is our duty to make decisions that will protect it for the future generations that will inherit it. Reverence for the earth included the knowledge and skill to use healing plants.

Numerous conflicts have occurred on and along the Kaniatarowanenneh. Historian Darren Bonaparte writes: "The old tradition states that there was once a great confederacy that had villages on the St. Lawrence River. After a shooting star destroyed one of their villages on the St. Lawrence, the confederacy broke down, leaving two or three smaller confederacies in their wake who eventually became hostile to each other. The Huron Confederacy, north of Lake Ontario, and the Iroquois Confederacy were two of those; a third would be the people archaeologists refer to as the "St. Lawrence Iroquoians."

Conflict between the Iroquois and the French, often referred to as the Beaver Wars, was an example of Indigenous European conflict. Sporadic Mohawk raids on colonial French farms of the Lower St. Lawrence were the norm. The Beaver Wars, as the name suggests, were ostensibly wars for dominance over the fur trade.

Although the Seven Years' War began in 1756 in Europe, small-scale war had already erupted two years earlier in the interior of North America. The Seven Years' War in North America is often referred to as the French and Indian War, with New France capitulating in 1760. This long and gruelling European internecine conflict took place on many fronts. On the Upper St. Lawrence, it was known as the Battle of the Thousand Islands.

During the War of 1812, Upper Canada's colonial government went to great lengths to ensure the sovereignty of the river from American incursions, especially following the intensive settlement of the Loyalists after the American Revolution. The Upper St. Lawrence was now a water boundary and vital shipping highway that connected Upper Canada to Montreal and the Atlantic.

Boundaries

The St. Lawrence is part of Canada's most significant border – the international border with the United States. It runs almost the entire length of the Upper St. Lawrence and was established following the War of 1812 by the Treaty of Ghent. Soon thereafter, the Rush-Bagot Treaty of 1818 laid the groundwork for the demilitarization of the Canada-U.S. border. There have also been treaties of reciprocity and navigation, as well as the seminal Boundary Waters Treaty in 1909 that set an international precedent for waterways as an international boundary between friendly nations.

Although this nomination refers to the Ontario portion of the St. Lawrence River, the river itself flows through Ontario's neighbouring province of Quebec. The interprovincial border that separates Ontario and Quebec was a result of the Constitutional Act of 1791 and remains today.

A historic land use boundary includes the current Akwesasne Reserve. In 1749 a mission was established in what is now Ogdensburg, New York. Then in 1755, French Jesuits established the St. Regis Mission on the site of Akwesasne as an offshoot of Kahnawake near Montreal. Haudenosaunee had used this territory for thousands of years before that, as evidenced by archaeology and oral traditions, but 1755 marks the first permanent settlement there. The present-day Mohawk Nation of Akwesasne straddles the intersection of the international border between Canada and the United States and the provincial boundaries between Ontario and Quebec on both sides of the Kaniatarowanenneh.

Environmental Regulation

The Upper St. Lawrence River has a history of flood control and improvements to water management. The building of the Seaway and the installation of dams in the late 1950s allowed for the generation of hydroelectricity and the regulation of water levels. The Moses-Saunders Power Dam, which crosses the St. Lawrence River between Cornwall, Ontario, and Massena, New York, regulates Lake Ontario outflows. A second dam, located near Long Sault, Ontario, acts as a spillway when outflows from Lake Ontario are larger than the capacity of the power dam. A third dam at Iroquois, Ontario, is used to assist in the formation of a stable ice cover in the winter as well as to prevent water levels from rising too high in Lake St. Lawrence.

2.2 Assessment of Cultural Heritage Values

The following assessment applies Selection Guidelines for Cultural Values and Cultural Value Integrity Guidelines as required for the Nomination of Canadian Heritage Rivers (CHRS, 2001). The assessment demonstrates that the Ontario portion of the St. Lawrence River satisfies all of the required Selection and Integrity Guidelines for cultural values.

2.2.1 Selection Guidelines: Cultural Values

Therefore, outstanding Canadian cultural value will be recognized when a river and its immediate environment...

...is of outstanding importance owing to its influence, over a period of time, on the historical development of Canada through a major impact upon the region in which it is located or beyond.

The Upper St. Lawrence River is of outstanding importance to the historical development of modern Canada due to its role as a major trade, travel and transportation route. Utilization of the river can be traced from pre-contact use by Indigenous peoples to recreational, commercial and industrial use today. Even before the fur and lumber trades, the Kaniatarowanenneh served as the link between the Atlantic Ocean and the Canadian Interior and was used by Indigenous and European communities alike. By enabling the trading of Canada's natural resources, the St. Lawrence River was a key facilitator of European settlement.

...is strongly associated with persons, events, or beliefs of Canadian significance.

Explorers including Father Simon Le Moyne, Jean Deshayes, Rene Robert Cavalier, and Sieur de La Salle were among the first Europeans to map the Upper St. Lawrence River. The region quickly became the scene of many battles which marked significant points in the development of Canada as a nation – from the Beaver Wars, the French and Indian War, to the War of 1812 and Rebellions of 1837. The borders that now exist in the region can be traced back to these historical conflicts. The river was also a hotbed of activity during the American Civil War, with agents from both sides operating on American and Canadian sides of the border.

...contains historical or archaeological structures, works or sites which are unique, rare or of great antiquity.

The Kaniatarowanenneh contains numerous historical and archeological structures, works or sites which are unique, rare or of great antiquity, for Lake St. Francis and Gordon Island, where archaeological evidence indicates pre-colonial Indigenous use of the area; Sheek (Sheik) Island, home to an Indigenous burial ground that dates back to c1500 BCE; possible burial grounds on Grenadier and Belle islands; the c1300 Morrisburg Site and the c1450 Beckstead Site of the St. Lawrence Iroquoian in South Stormont; and Fort Frontenac, first built in 1673 and relating to seventeenth century exploration and the fur trade.

...contains concentrations of historical or archaeological structures, works or sites which are representative of major themes in Canadian history.

As the concentrated location of numerous heritage buildings from the region, Upper Canada Village stands out as an excellent example of a significant era in Canadian history.

Other concentrations of historical or archaeological structures, works or sites which are representative of major themes in Canadian history include Fort Frontenac, Fort Henry, Martello Towers, Fort Frederick, Cathcart Tower, Murney Tower and Shoal – all of which have been designated historic sites. Furthermore, the abundance of settlements that line the Upper St. Lawrence attest to its role in the fur and lumber trades, as well as its historical role as a summer destination. (See Appendix A and B)

2.2.2 Integrity Guidelines: Cultural Integrity Values

In addition to meeting one or more of the above cultural heritage selection guidelines, a river must also meet cultural integrity guidelines to demonstrate its outstanding cultural heritage value.

The nominated section is of sufficient size to include significant representations of all of the features, activities or other phenomena which give the river its outstanding cultural value.

The nominated area of the Kaniatarowanenneh includes the 230 kilometres on the Canadian side of the Canada-US border. from the Great Lakes to the Ontario/Quebec border. This portion of the river was integral to the development of the fur and lumber trades that stimulated early economic development in modern-Canada. It was also home to numerous battles and wars that defined the colonial period. The nominated portion of the river is sufficient in size to include significant representations of all the features, activities or other phenomena which give the river its outstanding cultural value.

The visual character of the nominated section enables uninterrupted appreciation of at least one of the periods of the river's historical importance.

Although the river is highly settled, there are many periods of historical importance that remain uninterrupted for purposes of appreciation and interpretation. Many remaining forts serve to represent times of trade as well as war.

The Thousand Islands Bridge is an historic site, significant border crossing and visual icon. Old mills, such as those at La Rue's Creek and Jones Creek, mark locations of early settlements.

The key artefacts and sites comprising the cultural values for which the river is nominated are unimpaired by impoundments and human land uses.

Despite a number of impoundments along the St. Lawrence River, there are many outstanding cultural heritage values along the Kaniatarowanenneh which remain unimpaired by impoundments and human land uses. Many of these artefacts and sites are protected as designated historic sites.

The water quality of the nominated section does not detract from the visual character or the cultural experience provided by its cultural values.

The water quality of the St. Lawrence River is considered to be intermediate to good, and in fact has experienced significant improvements in recent decades. There are numerous areas of the river and along its shore that are suitable for fishing and swimming. The water quality of the nominated section does not detract from the visual character or the cultural experience provided by its cultural values.

"Sister Ship"

Old charts used the name Three Sisters, though today it is known as Sister Island. The explanation came when I purchased a sketch dated 1870, the year the lighthouse was built. It reveals three individual islands joined by bridges. The gaps were later filled, creating a single island."

*Photo and quotation,
 Ian Coristine
 ©1000IslandsPhotoArt.com*



Natural Heritage Values

The following describes the outstanding natural heritage features that the Kaniatarowanenneh would contribute to the CHRS. This description is organized according to the six themes of the Framework for the Natural Values of Canadian Heritage Rivers, Second Edition, 2001.

3.1 Description of Natural Heritage Values

3.1.1 THEME 1: Hydrology

Drainage Basin

The St. Lawrence system differs from other large rivers in two important ways. One, it is fed by the Great Lakes and bears the hydrological characteristics of lake runoff rather than that of free running streams. And two, it is relatively straight, with water from the Great Lakes occupying the central area of the river bed while the tributaries hug the shorelines.

The St. Lawrence River is the primary river in the St. Lawrence Drainage Basin, giving the river a stream number of zero. The western edge of the St. Lawrence Drainage Basin is located slightly west of Duluth, Minnesota and stretches to the Atlantic Ocean, covering an area of more than 1,344,000 square kilometres if both land and water are included.

"The St. Lawrence–Great Lakes is one of the largest hydrographic systems in the world. It drains more than 25% of the earth's reserves of fresh water and influences the environmental processes of the entire North American continent. Its drainage basin is the second-largest in Canada, after that of the Mackenzie River, and the third-largest in North America, after that of the Mississippi and Mackenzie rivers." (Environment Canada, 2007).

On an international level, the hydrographic system of the St. Lawrence–Great Lakes compares as follows:

- It has the world's thirteenth largest drainage basin, at 610,000 square kilometres.
- It ranks sixteenth for its mean annual flow: 12,600 m³/s just off Quebec City.
- It is the seventeenth longest, at 3,260 kilometres, from Lake Superior to the Cabot Strait.

Seasonal Variation

Despite the strict regulation of water levels on the Upper St. Lawrence since the installation of dams in the late 1950s, water levels do vary according to season. Water levels in the Upper St. Lawrence reach their maximum height sometime between May and July corresponding to the winter thaw in the Upper Great Lakes. The period of the lowest water levels occurs in the early winter, typically around December.

Water levels on the Upper St. Lawrence are regulated in accordance to International Joint Commission guidelines using control dams at Iroquois, Cornwall/Massena and at the east end of Lake St. Francis. Water levels in the International Rapids section between the Iroquois Dam and the Cornwall Dam help maintain a buffer between Lake Ontario water levels and the power dam at Cornwall and are adjusted to provide optimal conditions for power generation and shipping.

Before regulation of water levels in Lake Ontario and the Upper St. Lawrence in 1960, the historical water levels were not that different. From 1918 to 1959, the mean water level for Lake Ontario and the Upper St. Lawrence west of the Iroquois Dam was 74.70m, with a maximum monthly mean of 75.76m and a minimum monthly mean of 73.74m. The range of mean water levels was 2.02m pre-1960 compared to 1.90m post-1960.

In the coming years, water levels will also be affected by climate change. Modelling suggests that the flow of water from Lake Ontario into the St. Lawrence River could decrease by 4 to 24 percent annually by 2050,



Deer Berry, *Vaccinium stamineum* - a federally designated species at risk.

largely due to warmer weather and increased evapotranspiration. In 2016, both Canada and the USA ratified the International Joint Commission's Plan 2014, an improved water level control plan to help restore riparian ecosystems.

Water Content

The physical properties of the Kaniatarowanenneh vary greatly along the river as a result of its diverse ecosystems. In terms of the chemical properties of the Kaniataraowaneneh / Upper St. Lawrence River, the system has been greatly affected by the release of toxic substances from industrialization, agriculture and urban development. In the Cornwall area, sediment was found to be contaminated with mercury and other metals, however these concentrations have declined substantially. The overall health of the river is now considered to be intermediate to good.

Size of the St. Lawrence River

The size of the St. Lawrence River can be determined by looking at both the length of the river, as well as the discharge volume.

The length of the St. Lawrence River is somewhat debatable given that there is no clear start or endpoint to the river. The most commonly cited length of the river is 1,197 kilometres. The Ontario portion of the river is approximately 230 kilometres long.

The discharge volume of the St. Lawrence at Ogdensburg, New York, had an annual average of 6986 m³/s, with an annual high of 8946 m³/s and an annual low of 5219 m³/s.

3

3.1.2 THEME 2: Physiography

Physiographic Regions

The Upper St. Lawrence River crosses two physiographic regions: the St. Lawrence Lowlands (specifically the Central St. Lawrence Lowlands) and the Laurentian region of the Canadian Shield (also known as the Precambrian Shield).

Geological Processes

The Upper Kaniatarowanenneh region is comprised of two geologically unique characteristics, each formed during different time periods: paleozoic geology, which accounts for the sedimentary rock found around Kingston and east of Brockville; and the much older igneous and metamorphic rock of the Canadian Shield's Grenville Province formed during the mesoproterozoic era, about 1.3 billion years ago during the formation of the continent Rodinia.

It is believed that during the breakup of the supercontinent Rodinia some 570 million years ago, two rifts formed: the Ottawa-Bonnechère Graben and the St. Lawrence Rift. The St. Lawrence Rift created a large gouge in the earth's lithosphere along the length of the present day St. Lawrence River extending into Lake Erie, which has remained ever since the breakup of Rodinia. The sedimentary rock found in the Upper St. Lawrence region was formed at this time.

During the breakup of Rodinia, the Shield's surface (Cashel Peneplain) sagged downwards allowing the Iapetus Sea to inundate the Shield creating broad shallow seas over Southern Ontario during the Paleozoic era between 300 and 600 million years ago. The inundation of the Iapetus Sea occurred on either side of the present day Frontenac Arch, which has resulted in the varied geology of the Upper St. Lawrence. Sedimentation from the broad shallow seas on either side of the Frontenac Arch eventually lithified, turning into limestone plains over many millions of years. Thus, to the west of the Frontenac Arch lies the limestone belonging to the Simcoe Group, while to the east of the Arch lies the limestone and shale of the Ottawa Embayment.

The surficial layer is shaped by bedrock topography with low areas filled with glacial deposits. Glacial deposits are largely the result of the Wisconsin Glaciation period which covered Ontario 75,000 BP (before present), with the most recent ice sheet (the Laurentian) retreating approximately 12,000 BP.

The formation of surficial deposits in the area between Brockville and the Ontario–Québec border can be categorized three ways: deposits of the Sangamonian optimum, deposits predating the Late Wisconsinan glacial maximum, and postglacial deposits dating from the end of the Late Wisconsinan and the beginning of the Holocene. Sub-till deposits found at Pointe-Fortune, on the Ontario-Québec border, are representative of deposits from the Sangamonian optimum, the interglacial period preceding the Wisconsinan Glaciation. The Pointe-Fortune till deposit consists of unfossiliferous sand overlying organic-bearing sand, massive clay and sand-clay. Aside from the Pointe-Fortune deposits, evidence of deposits predating the last glacial maximum in the Upper St. Lawrence are hard to come by. Evidence of post glacial deposits is plentiful in this region, however, largely as a result of the Champlain Sea's dominance over the area as far west as Brockville.

The western and southern parts of the Upper St. Lawrence east of Brockville are underlain by glacial deposits (till). Wave action removed the silt and clay from the till, leaving behind sand and gravel.

Hydrogeology

The floor of the St. Lawrence River consists of a series of terraces and stepped plains formed by the littoral and fluvial processes during the regression of the Champlain Sea at the end of the Wisconsinan Era.

The surficial deposits of the St. Lawrence Hydrogeological Region east of Kingston are composed primarily of sand deposits which originated either as beaches of the glacial era Champlain Sea or as high terraces formed during the early stages of the Ottawa and St. Lawrence Rivers. Water quality in this region varies from less than 500ppm

Total Dissolved Solid (TDS) in the west to a range of 500 to 2500ppm TDS in the east. Yields are commonly from 0.5 to 2 litres per second.

The St. Lawrence Lowlands Hydrogeological Region, an area of low relief and humid climate, is underlain by unfolded Paleozoic rocks. This region is divided into three distinct areas by Precambrian rocks. The western part, which comprises most of Southwestern Ontario, is separated from the central part by a projection of the Canadian Shield region intersecting the St. Lawrence River to the east of Kingston. The central part is similarly separated from the eastern part by the Canadian Shield region crossing at the confluence of the Ottawa and the St. Lawrence rivers. Groundwater occurs in the pore spaces and fractures in these rocks, with inter-granular flow being dominant in the sandstones and fracture flow predominating in the carbonates.

Topography

The natural flow of the St. Lawrence River is influenced by the relief and sloping evident in the region's topography, however, it has been drastically altered since the damming of the river in 1959. Gone are the mighty Long Sault Rapids. Since the building of the dams at Cornwall/Massena and the Iroquois Dam, the descent of the river's flow has been levelled off. Consequently, the rapids have been flooded and a reservoir lake named Lake St. Lawrence has formed upriver of the Moses-Saunders Power Dam.

3.1.3 THEME 3: River Morphology

Valley Types

The walls of the St. Lawrence Valley vary according to the river's bedrock geology. In the Frontenac Arch where the Canadian Shield is prominent, straight slope valley walls are evident. In the area east of the Frontenac Arch (known as the Central St. Lawrence Lowlands), where sedimentary rock underlies the river, the valley walls are much broader and far less defined.

Channel Patterns

The Kaniatarowanenneh is a relatively straight river, with few bends in its course. Those bends that do exist tend to be very slight in nature. The portion of the river between Prescott and Lake St. Francis is more sinuous in nature. In this portion, the river displays characteristics somewhat like a delta where it empties into Lake St. Francis. The river's flow in this area has been drastically altered due to damming of the St. Lawrence at Cornwall.

The Upper St. Lawrence has two lakes on its course to the Québec portion of the river. Lake St. Lawrence rests above the Moses-Saunders Power facility. It is a man-made lake created when the damming of the St. Lawrence was completed in 1959. Lake St. Francis, which lies in Ontario, Québec and New York, is not man-made; however, the present water level of the lake is controlled by dams at each end of the lake.

Channel Profile

Historically the horizontal profile of the Kaniatarowanenneh could be considered stepped, being level in some spots with areas of steep decline and rapids. However, since the damming of the St. Lawrence, the infamous rapids on the Upper St. Lawrence have been flooded. There are areas of swift water, particularly where the underwater waterfalls occur in the Raft Narrows section near Ivy Lea.

Fluvial Landforms

One of the more noteworthy phenomena resulting from the influence of climate on fluvial activity is the 'glacial' process that occurs every spring. Tributaries are frozen during the winter; flooding and stream flow during spring break-up results in the transport of debris and shore erosion by seasonal ice.

Over thousands of years the river has flowed over the underlying bedrock of the St. Lawrence River. Variation in bedrock resistance in the Frontenac Axis region where the river passes over Precambrian Shield has resulted in the formation of the picturesque Thousand Islands.

3.1.4 THEME 4: Biotic Environments

Aquatic Ecosystems

The Upper St. Lawrence has various aquatic ecosystems, including: riverine systems, lake systems and wetland systems along its course. The river displays characteristics of a middle-order riverine system. Common characteristics of a middle-order riverine system include: sediment transport, broad seasonal water temperatures, variable discharge and common invertebrates comprised of collectors and grazers.

Wetlands of the St. Lawrence River.

*Courtesy of Thousand Islands
 Watershed Land Trust*



The Upper St. Lawrence flows through two lacustrine systems: Lake St. Lawrence and Lake St. Francis. As mentioned previously, Lake St. Lawrence is the result of damming at Cornwall and Lake St. Francis, which existed prior to European settlement, is also regulated with dams at each end of the lake.

A number of wetlands exist along the Kaniatarowanenneh, many of which have been designated provincial or regional areas of natural or scientific interest (ANSI) by the Ministry of Natural Resources. These wetlands are highly biologically diverse environments and are crucial for the maintenance of a healthy river ecosystem. In the entire St. Lawrence Valley, wetlands account for 9 percent of total surface area, with marshes and peatlands accounting for less than 1 percent. There has been significant wetland loss since 1800 along the Upper St. Lawrence.

Terrestrial Ecosystems

The Upper St. Lawrence River is part of two terrestrial ecosystem zones (or eco-regions): Mixed Wood Plains and Boreal Shield. The Mixed Wood Plains can be further divided into two sub-regions: Manitoulin-Lake Simcoe and the St. Lawrence Lowlands. The Frontenac Arch of the Algonquin-Lake Nipissing sub-region is within the Boreal Shield ecosystem.

The Manitoulin – Lake Simcoe Eco-region

This eco-region is located around Kingston on the limestone plains to the west of the Frontenac Arch and only constitutes a small portion of the proposed designation length for the river. This region is primarily dominated by agricultural land cover, with significant areas of mixed wood forest, successional woodland and scrub.



Blanding's Turtle
- *Emydoidea blandingii*

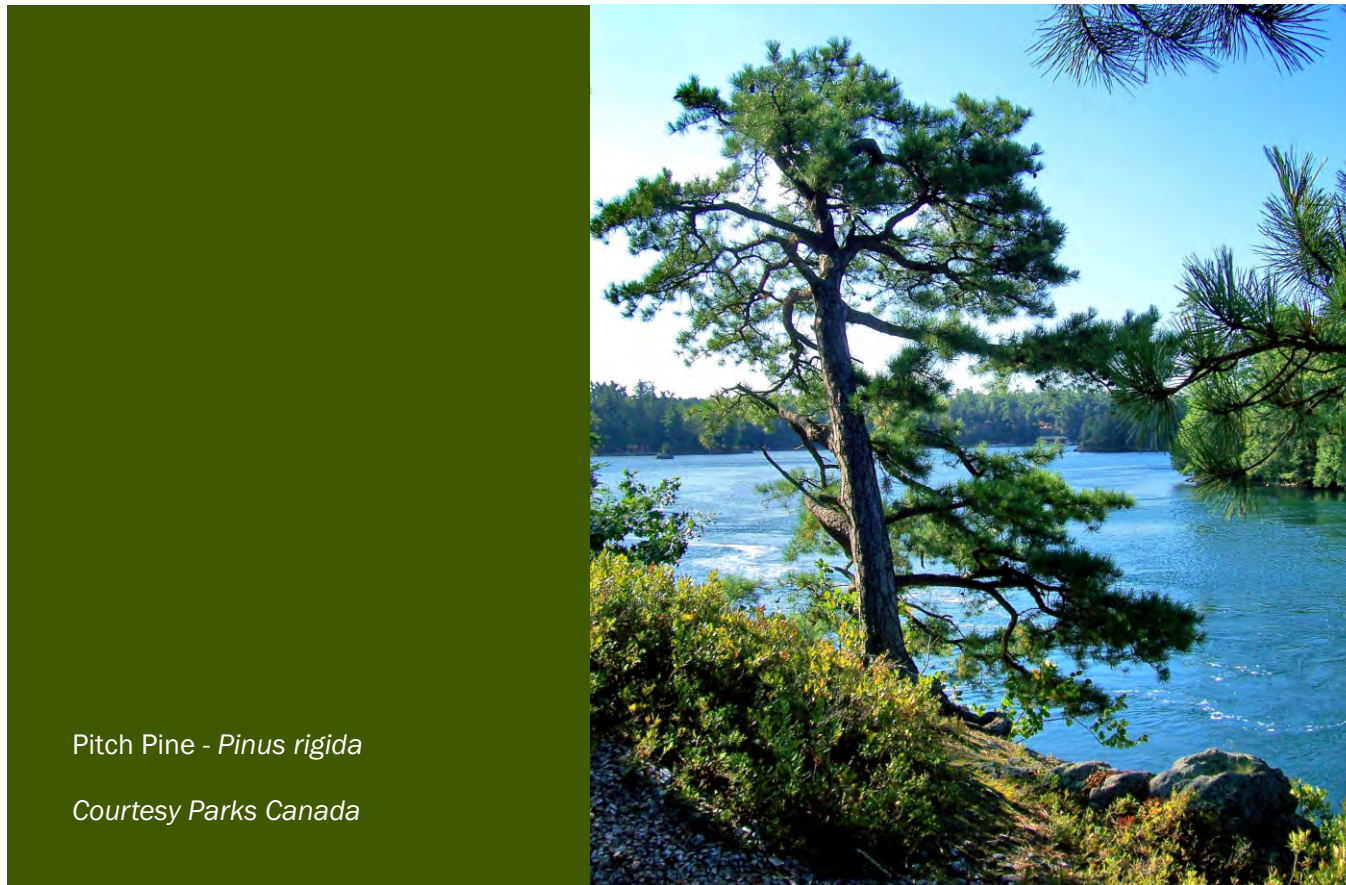
© Robert Scholl /
Alamy Stock Photo

The St. Lawrence Lowlands Eco-region:

This eco-region to the east of the Frontenac Arch sits on top of the sandstone and shale created by ancient marine sediments. Soil in this area tends to be suitable for a diverse eco-system. Similar to the area around Kingston, this region is primarily dominated by agricultural land cover, with significant areas of mixed wood forest, successional woodland and scrub.

The Frontenac Arch Eco-region:

This eco-region sits on the Canadian Shield. It acts as the connection corridor between Algonquin Highlands and the Adirondacks. The Frontenac Arch ecosystem differs from its neighbouring ecosystems for a number of reasons: thin acidic soil chemistry limits some plants and animals in favour of others; and the Thousand Islands region is also regulated by a micro-climate which contributes to differences in ecosystem composition.



Pitch Pine - *Pinus rigida*

Courtesy Parks Canada

3.1.5 THEME 5: Vegetation

The fast flow and the depth of the Kaniatarowanenneh generally restrict the growth of in-stream vegetation to algae and macrophytes (larger aquatic plants). Wetlands along the banks of the St. Lawrence and among the islands also provide an example of in-stream vegetation.

Variation in the trees and shrubs found along the Kaniatarowanenneh generally coincide with a particular eco-region. The Manitoulin-Lake Simcoe eco-region, which can be seen around Kingston, displays examples of mixed wood forest. The dominant species are sugar maple, beech, eastern hemlock, red oak and basswood. The Frontenac Arch eco-region is typified by sugar maple, beech, basswood, red and white ash, yellow birch, red maple, eastern hemlock, white pine, and red, white and bur oak trees. The St. Lawrence Lowlands eco-region east of Brockville displays examples of sugar maple, yellow birch, eastern hemlock, and eastern white pine, red pine, eastern white cedar and red oak. Wetter sites support red maple, black ash, white spruce and tamarack.

The Upper St. Lawrence is home to a number of rare plant species. Thousand Islands National Park, which includes more than 20 island properties in the St. Lawrence River between Kingston and Brockville, is home to the following species identified as either endangered or threatened: American ginseng, blunt-lobed woodsia, butternut, eastern prairie fringed orchid and deerberry. On Hill Island, one of the largest of the Thousand Islands, is Canada's largest stand of the rare Pitch Pine (*Pinus rigida*), a vulnerable species at the northern limit of its range in Canada.

The Indigenous peoples who live along the Kaniatarowanenneh have an extensive understanding of how to use native plants for medicinal and ceremonial purposes. This traditional knowledge continues to be passed on from generation to generation. The Department of Environment of the Mohawk Council of Akwesasne has published records of some of these traditional uses. The following are some examples. The tiny *Ken'niiohontesha'* the strawberry (*Fragaria spp.*) is considered a "leader of all plants." The leaves, roots and berries can all be used as medicine. *Tsionerahtise'ko':wa* the White Pine (*Pinus strobus*) is "the tree of peace" to Haudenosaunee people. Poultices and teas can be made from its pitch, twigs, bark and needles. As the sap of *Watha* the Sugar Maple (*Acer saccharum*) starts to flow in the spring this tree is given special recognition and thanks as, "a reminder that life is returning to the forest."

3.1.6 THEME 6: Fauna

The Kaniatarowanenneh has a diverse range of fauna within its various eco-regions, which contribute to the biodiversity of the river. The river hosts a wide variety of fish, mammals and birds, reptiles, amphibians and invertebrates, some of which are extremely rare.

The Upper St. Lawrence is home to a number of rare animal species. Thousand Islands National Park identifies the following resident species as either endangered or threatened: Eastern Loggerhead Shrike, Henslow's Sparrow, King Rail, Northern Bobwhite, Blanding's Turtle, Eastern Rat Snake, Golden- Winged Warbler, Least Bittern, Peregrine Falcon, Pugnose Shiner and Stinkpot Turtle. Species of special concern include: American Eel, Bridle Shiner, Broad Beech Fern, Cerulean Warbler, Eastern Milksnake, Eastern Yellow Breasted Chat, Five- Lined Skink, Grass Pickerel, Lake Sturgeon, Monarch Butterfly, Northern Map Turtle, Northern Ribbonsnake, Red Headed Woodpecker, Short-Eared Owl and Yellow Rail.

Fish

Due to the numerous different types of water habitats, the Kaniatarowanenneh supports a large variety of fish. It has been estimated that there are over 88 species of fish in the Thousand Islands region alone (Ross, 1983). Smallmouth bass, northern pike and muskellunge have traditionally lured sport fishers to the area. Southern fish such as bowfins and long-nosed gar can also be observed in the river. The mighty sturgeon has been a fixture on the river, particularly Lake St. Francis where a large commercial fishery operated for many years before the decline of the sturgeon. It is now a threatened species.

Mammals

The Upper St. Lawrence has seen a considerable shift in mammal species since the arrival of Europeans during the seventeenth century. Cougars, lynx, moose, martens, wolverines, black bears and timber wolves were all part of the Kaniatarowanenneh landscape. These mammals, however, have disappeared from the area as a result of settlement, trapping and land clearing. Today, common mammals include: the white-tailed deer, snowshoe hare, coyote, red and grey squirrel and chipmunks. Examples of rare animals in the area include the grey fox, which returned to the area in 1942 after a 300- year absence, and the occasional opossum has been sighted in the Thousand Islands (Ross, 1982).

Birds

The Upper St. Lawrence is host to many different bird types, in part due to its location on a migratory bird route. The most identifiable bird on the Upper St. Lawrence is likely the blue heron, which is particularly prevalent in the Thousand Islands Region.

Snow Geese at the
Upper Canada Migratory
Bird Sanctuary.

*Courtesy
Brian Morin*



Reptiles and Amphibians

The Upper St. Lawrence River, particularly the Thousand Islands region, has one of the richest populations of reptiles and amphibians in Canada. This area represents a “tension zone” where many populations are at their southernmost or northernmost range. A notable example is the gray rat snake, Canada's largest reptile and a threatened species.

Species at Risk (see Appendix F)

3.2 Assessment of Natural Heritage Values

The nomination of the Ontario portion Upper St. Lawrence River meets many of the Natural Heritage Values selection guidelines. However, any deficiency in the Natural Heritage Values is more than compensated for by the outstanding strength of the Cultural Heritage and Recreational Values.

Grey Rat Snake
 - *Pantherophis*
spiloides

Courtesy
 Parks Canada



The following assessment applies selection guidelines for Natural Heritage Values and Natural Value Integrity guidelines to the St. Lawrence River. It also explains which Natural Integrity Values the St. Lawrence River does not possess, thereby preventing it from being nominated on the basis of its natural heritage values.

3.2.1 Selection Guidelines: Natural Heritage Values

Outstanding Canadian natural heritage value will be recognized when a river and its immediate environment:

...is an outstanding example of river environments as they are affected by the major stages and processes in the Earth's evolutionary history that are represented in Canada.

The Kaniatarowanenneh traverses an area that represents more than one billion years of evolutionary history. It crosses two physiographic regions and is comprised of two geologically unique characteristics.

...contains outstanding representations of significant ongoing fluvial, geomorphological or biological processes.

The Kaniatarowanenneh continues to experience seasonal variations in water levels despite the strict regulations of water levels along the river. Further, the influence of climate on fluvial activity is illustrated by the glacial process that occurs every spring. Tributaries are frozen during the winter, while flooding and stream flow during spring break-up results in the transport of debris and shore erosion by seasonal ice.

...contains along its course unique, rare or outstanding examples of biotic and abiotic natural phenomena, formations or features.

The Frontenac Axis, or Frontenac Arch, is a narrow isthmus that links two important North American landforms – the Canadian Shield and the Adirondack Mountains. This link, which crosses through the nominated section of the river, creates a continuous ecosystem and provides habitat for a high diversity of reptiles and amphibians, as well as a number of rare species. It is also the only place in Ontario where pitch pine grows.

...contains along its course habitats of rare or endangered species of plants and animals, including outstanding concentrations of plants and animals of Canadian interest and significance.

The Kaniatarowanenneh is home to several species at risk, including the gray rat snake, Henslow's Sparrow, peregrine falcon and monarch butterfly. The river is also estimated to support more than 88 species of fish in the Thousand Islands area alone. In 1942, the area saw the return of the grey fox, after a 300-year absence. (See Appendix F)

3.2.2 Integrity Guidelines: Natural Integrity Values

In addition to meeting one or more of the above natural heritage value guidelines, a river must also meet natural integrity guidelines to meet CHRS criteria for designation.

...the nominated section is of sufficient size to include significant representations of all of the natural processes, features, or other phenomena which give the river its outstanding natural value.

The nominated area of the St. Lawrence River includes the 230 kilometres on the Canadian side of the Canada-US border, from the Great Lakes to the Ontario/Québec border. It includes all the natural processes, features and phenomena which give the river its outstanding natural value.

...the nominated section includes those ecosystem components that contribute significantly to the provision of habitat for species in need of protection.

The nominated section includes those ecosystem components that contribute significantly to the provision of habitat for species in need of protection, including riverine systems, lakes and wetlands, as well as mixed wood and boreal forests.

...there are no human-made impoundments within the nominated section.

There are various impoundments within the nominated section, particularly those associated with the construction of the St. Lawrence Seaway and hydroelectric stations.



"Marsh", 2016, Acrylic, ink and pastel on stone paper. 250 x 110 cm. Artist, Jennifer Macklem

...all key elements and ecosystem components are unaffected by impoundments located outside the nominated section.

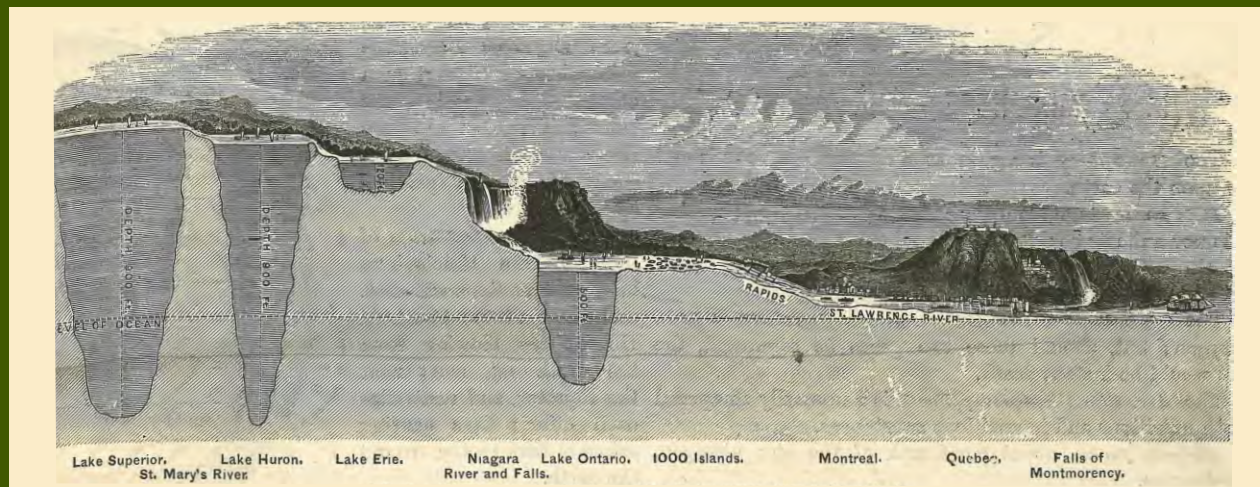
The St. Lawrence River is subject to various impoundments, even outside the nominated section. Protected parklands along the river, however, still maintain a high level of natural ecological integrity.

...the water in the nominated section is uncontaminated to the extent that its natural aquatic ecosystem is intact.

The water in the nominated section has been heavily affected by the various land and water uses in the area. The area most contaminated has been part of a Remedial Action Plan process since 1988, and water quality is now considered moderate to good.

...the natural aesthetic character of the nominated section is free of, or not adversely affected by, human developments.

There are areas within the nominated section of the Kaniatarowanenneh that are free of, and not adversely affected by, human developments. There are, however, areas within the nominated section that have been adversely affected by development.



*"A Sectional View of the Great Lakes and the St. Lawrence River, looking North"
 Creator: James Monteith - Monteith's Physical and Political Geography*

Courtesy Metropolitan Museum of Art

Recreational Values

The following section describes the outstanding recreational values that the Ontario portion of the St. Lawrence River will contribute to the CHRS. The section is organized according to the following categories: boating, angling, swimming and water contact sports, water-associated activities, winter activities, and natural and cultural heritage appreciation.

4.1 Description of Recreational Values

4.1.1 Boating

Many Indigenous inventions were adopted by European immigrants. Birchbark canoes of Algonquian origin were used by colonial explorers. Indeed, the early birchbark canoes were the prototypes for boats made today of canvas or fiberglass. Options for canoeing and recreational kayaking in the Upper St. Lawrence River are abundant and available for almost any skill level, including the Thousand Islands Water Trails, a series of water trails of varying lengths that take paddlers to various islands and points of interest. The Upper St. Lawrence River has hosted recreational boating enthusiasts since the late 1800s. Numerous marinas dot the shore, providing mooring for both power boats and sailboats. With about 1800 islands in the Thousand Islands area, boaters enjoy stunning scenery as well as historic sites along the way. The options for canoeing and recreational kayaking are abundant and available for almost any skill level, including the Thousand Islands Water Trails, a series of water trails of varying lengths that take paddlers to various islands and points of interest.

4.1.2 Angling

With 88 species of fish, including about 20 popular game fish such as small and large mouth bass, northern pike and pickerel, fishing has been a popular recreational activity in the region for more than a century. The muskellunge, a large fish from the pike family, is one of the most popular game fish, attracting sport anglers to the region in the summer months. Numerous guides and outfitters take out fishing groups along the Upper St. Lawrence.

4.1.3 Swimming and Water Contact Sports

There are a number of sandy beaches along the Kaniatarowanenneh, including Mille Roches Beach, Glengarry Park and Brown's Bay, which attract swimmers during the summer months. Water skiing, wakeboarding,

windsurfing and water tubing are also popular activities along the river, with numerous outfitters supplying the necessary equipment.

The Upper St. Lawrence is one of the world's best freshwater diving spots for shipwrecks, attracting divers from all over the world. Numerous outfitters supply equipment and take out tours to see remnants of the region's history.

4.1.4 Water-Associated Activities

The Kaniataraowaneneh is lined with trails, providing the opportunity to enjoy the water from a different perspective. Among the many waterfront trails are the St. Lawrence Recreational Path, which extends more than 75 kilometres from Morrisburg to Lancaster; the majority of the trail follows the St. Lawrence River shoreline and is open year-round. Activities on the trail include hiking, walking and cycling. The Thousand Islands Bike Path runs for 37 kilometres along the Thousand Islands Parkway, from Gananoque to Brockville. These trails make up an extended Waterfront Trail that follows the St. Lawrence River from the Québec border to Lake Ontario.



Tiger Muskellunge -
Esox masquinongy
x *Esox lucius*

A number of campgrounds are run by Parks of the St. Lawrence and Thousand Islands National Park, providing various types of camping throughout the region, including canoe-in camping on the park's islands. The Upper St. Lawrence also has a strong history of duck hunting which continues today. The area attracts goose and duck hunters from Canada and the US.

4.1.5 Winter Activities

A number of trails are open year-round in the area. The St. Lawrence Recreational Path, for example, becomes an excellent trail for snowshoeing during the winter months. Ice fishing, skating, snowmobiling and cross-country skiing are popular pastimes along the shores of the Upper St. Lawrence.

4.1.6 Natural Heritage Appreciation

The Kaniatarowanenneh is rife with opportunities for natural heritage appreciation. The Upper Canada Migratory Bird Sanctuary, Thousand Islands National Park and Frontenac Arch Biosphere provide access to protected spaces from which to view and interpret the diverse ecosystems of the area. The Frontenac Arch Biosphere is one of 18 UNESCO-designated biospheres in Canada.

The natural rock bay of Half Moon Bay is a unique geological feature that has attracted visitors since at least the late 1800s.

4.1.7 Cultural Heritage Appreciation

The culture and history of the Upper St. Lawrence is marked by numerous museums, historical sites, events and plaques. Kingston alone has 20 museums and national historic sites to attract visitors wishing to learn about the rich cultural heritage of the region. Historical plaques are abundant in the towns and cities along the river, providing insight into specific people, locations and events of historical importance in the region.

Some of the larger cultural heritage attractions along the Upper St. Lawrence include: Upper Canada Village, an elaborate heritage park which recreates examples of life in the 1860s; Fort Wellington, an original British fort built between 1838-1839 to defend the St. Lawrence shipping route; and Crysler's Farm Battlefield National Historic Site, which marks a critical moment in the history of Canada. Among the region's many events are the Akwesasne International Powwow, Long Sault Regatta, Medieval Festival at Upper Canada Village, St. Lawrence Shakespeare Festival and the Thousand Islands Jazz Festival.

Not all the artefacts of the Upper St. Lawrence's history are found above land; there is much to be found underwater. The popularity of scuba diving in the area gives access to a rich cultural history, with a great many sunken treasures to explore. There is a long list of ships found at the bottom of the St. Lawrence, including: the Comet, a side-wheel steamer built in 1848; the Iroquois, built by the French in 1759 and captured by the British at the battle of Fort de Levis; and the Sir Robert Peel, allegedly stormed and set fire by the pirate Captain Bill Johnson.

4.2 Assessment of Recreational Values

The Ontario portion of the Kaniatarowanenneh provides excellent opportunities for recreation and meets all of the recreational selection and integrity guidelines as outlined by CHRS.

4.2.1 Selection Guidelines: Recreational Values

Outstanding Canadian recreational value will be recognized when a river and its immediate environment possess a combination of river-related recreational opportunities and related natural and/or cultural values, which together provide an opportunity for outstanding recreational experiences.

Recreational opportunities include water-based activities such as canoeing and other forms of boating, swimming and angling, and other activities such as camping, hiking, wildlife viewing and natural and cultural appreciation, which may be part of a river-touring experience.

The Upper St. Lawrence River includes the full range of water-based activities such as boating, angling, camping, hiking, and natural and cultural appreciation, which work together to form a unique river-touring experience. There are currently numerous river tours, both led and self-guided, which include these features. The Aquatarium in Brockville provides a wide range of water-related interactive exhibits for all ages. The Skywood Eco Adventure Park located near Brown's Bay, west of Brockville, offers a variety of adventure courses as well as a zip line tour in the setting of a well-managed forest.

Natural values include natural visual aesthetics, and physical assets such as sufficient flow, navigability, rapids, accessibility and suitable shoreline.

The Kaniatarowanenneh includes a range of natural visual aesthetics, as well as suitable flow, navigability, accessibility and shorelines to make it appropriate for a full range of water sports and water-associated activities.

4.2.2 Integrity Guidelines: Recreational Integrity Values

In addition to meeting both of the recreational value guidelines, for a river to be judged to have outstanding Canadian recreational value, it must meet all of the following recreational integrity guidelines:

The river possesses water of a quality suitable for contact recreational activities, including those recreational opportunities for which it is nominated.

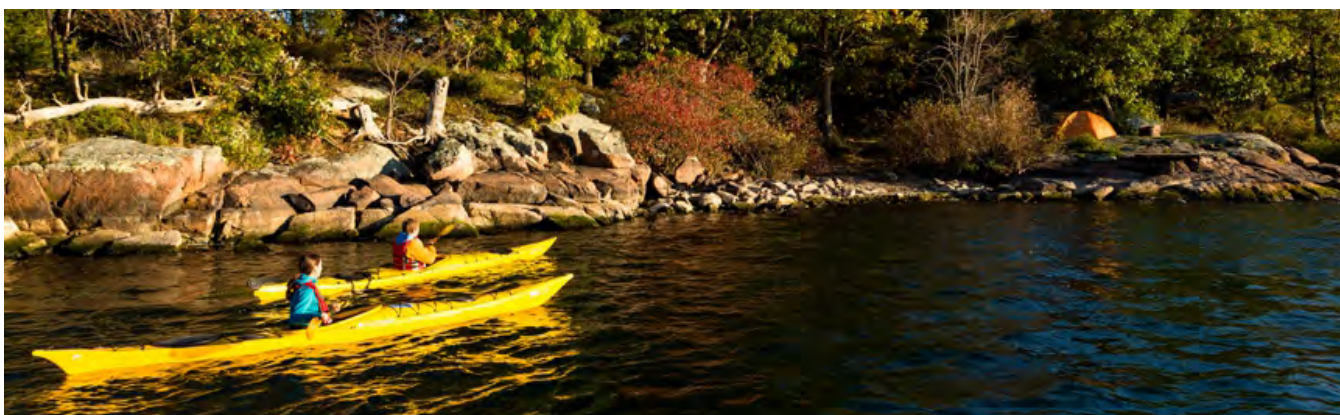
The water quality along the river is suitable for contact recreational activities, such as swimming, scuba diving and paddling, making it suitable for the recreational opportunities for which it is nominated.

The river's visual appearance is capable of providing river travellers with a continuous natural and cultural experience, or a combined natural and cultural experience, without significant interruptions by modern human intrusions.

Although there are towns and cities along the river, there is also extensive uninterrupted natural space. Furthermore, some of the towns and villages provide a combined natural and cultural experience in themselves. The river's visual appearance is therefore capable of providing river travellers with many areas of diverse continuous natural and cultural experiences without significant interruptions by modern human intrusions.

The river is capable of supporting recreational uses without significant loss of, or impact on, its natural or cultural values or its visual character.

The Upper St. Lawrence River is capable of supporting recreational uses without significant loss of, or impact on, its natural or cultural values or its visual character. Recreational activities are already popular on the river and have been for more than 150 years.



Kayaking and island camping in the Thousand Islands National Park. *Courtesy Parks Canada*

St. Lawrence skiffs evolved in the middle of the 19th century. They were built and used from Kingston to Brockville where river guides required a hardy, stable skiff capable of handling the currents, the rougher, open stretches of water, and sudden storms.

*Photo, 2014
Courtesy Thousand
Islands Boat Museum*



*"Ice Sailing on the
frozen St. Lawrence River"*

*Photo ca. 1960s
J.W. King Photography
Collection
Courtsey Thousand
Islands Boat Museum*



Conclusion

The Nomination Document presents the case supporting the inclusion of the Ontario portion of the Kaniatarowanenneh/ St. Lawrence River into the Canadian Heritage River System based on the river's cultural heritage values. The Upper St. Lawrence has long had a central role in nation-building events; the story of Canada can be told along this waterway.

The Ontario portion of the St. Lawrence River would address recognized gaps in the Canadian Heritage River network. It crosses both international and provincial boundaries; has been the backdrop for Indigenous and European cross-cultural contact; boasts distinctive architecture inspired by the river; and is home to well-developed and nationally recognized land-based tourism attractions.

This document also offers compelling evidence of the natural heritage and recreational values of the Kaniatarowanenneh/Upper St. Lawrence River. Because CHRS Guidelines for Natural Integrity Values cannot be met, however, the river is not eligible to be nominated on the basis of its natural values.

Future designation of the Ontario portion of the St. Lawrence will build on the considerable community support and momentum that exists on both the Canadian and American sides of the river. There already exists a strong grassroots commitment to sustainable living and stewardship of cultural and natural values built by initiatives such as the Frontenac Arch Biosphere Reserve. Disparate communities in the region are working together and building networks.

Designating the Ontario portion of the Kaniatarowanenneh as a heritage river will build upon this strong foundation in the interests of protecting, enhancing and publicizing the cultural and natural heritage of this special and storied river.



Ohèn:ton Karihwatéhkwén

Thanksgiving Address: Giving Greetings to the Natural World

It has come that at this time we will cover our Council fire and as the Haudenosaunee would say “unbind that stout cord that bound us all in this place that we could talk about our responsibilities to the world. And I'll cut that cord now that we may each go our own separate way.” But before we do that, the Haudenosaunee say we must never ask anything of the Creator, but on your behalf today I'll ask two things of the Creator: I'll ask that as you proceed from this place to your homes, your lodgings and your communities, that no impediment is placed in your way and that you arrive there safely. And the second thing I'll ask on your behalf is that when you arrive at your homes, your lodgings and your communities, that you see the happy smiling faces of your people and that no misfortune has befallen them while you've been here.

And so now those words have been said and our Council fire is closed but I call on you my friends one last time to bring together your finest thoughts and your finest thanksgiving and we'll pile them in a huge pile before us to send to the Creator of all things for the beauty that surrounds us.

Ne onkwa'nikònra

So be it in our minds.

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Appendix A

National Historic Plaques along the Upper St Lawrence River, west to east

Plaque	Date	Location
Bellevue House	(home of Sir John A. Macdonald 1848)	Kingston
Elizabeth Cottage	c.1840	Kingston
First Meeting of the Executive Council of Upper Canada	1792	Kingston
Fort Frontenac	1673	Kingston
Fort Henry	1836	Kingston
Frontenac Country Court House	1858	Kingston
Kingston City Hall	1844	Kingston
Kingston Custom House	1856	Kingston
Kingston Dry Dock	1890	Kingston
Kingston Fortifications	1846-1848	Kingston
Kingston Navy Yard	1789	Kingston
Legislature of the Province of Canada	1841-1844	Kingston
Mary (Molly) Brant (Tekonwatonti)	c. 1736-1796	Kingston
Sir Charles Bagot	1781-1843	Kingston
Sir John A. Macdonald	1815-1891	Kingston
The Rush-Bagot Agreement	1817	Kingston
Crawford Purchase	1783 (Carleton Is.)	Kingston
Kingston Penitentiary	1835	Kingston
Kingston Post Office	1856	Kingston
Wolfe Island Township Hall	1859	Wolfe Island

Plaque	Date	Location
<u>Raid on Gananoque</u>	<u>(1812)</u>	<u>Gananoque</u>
<u>Darlingside</u>	<u>1845</u>	<u>Leeds & the 1000 Islands</u>
<u>Chimney Island (Bridge Island)</u>	<u>1814</u>	<u>Front of Yonge</u>
<u>Former Brockville Post Office</u>	<u>1886</u>	<u>Brockville</u>
<u>Sir William Buell Richards</u>	<u>1825-1889</u>	<u>Brockville</u>
<u>Homewood</u>	<u>1800</u>	<u>Augusta</u>
<u>Pointe au Baril</u>	<u>1860</u>	<u>Augusta</u>
<u>Battle of the Windmill</u>	<u>1838</u>	<u>Prescott</u>
<u>Fort Wellington</u>	<u>1812</u>	<u>Prescott</u>
<u>Grand Trunk Railway</u>	<u>1853</u>	<u>Prescott</u>
<u>Fort de Lévis</u>	<u>1760</u>	<u>Edwardsburgh/Cardinal</u>
<u>Construction of the St. Lawrence Seaway</u>	<u>1954-1959</u>	<u>S. Dundas</u>
<u>Battle of Crysler's Farm</u>	<u>1813</u>	<u>S. Dundas</u>
<u>The Williamsburg Canals</u>	<u>1844-56S.</u>	<u>Dundas</u>
<u>Inverarden</u>	<u>1816</u>	<u>Cornwall</u>
<u>United Empire Loyalists</u>	<u>1783-1784</u>	<u>Cornwall</u>
<u>Bethune-Thompson House</u>	<u>1784</u>	<u>S. Glengarry</u>
<u>Lieutenant-Colonel John Macdonell</u>	<u>c.1750-1809S.</u>	<u>Glengarry</u>
<u>Sir John Johnson House</u>	<u>1784-1792</u>	<u>S. Glengarry</u>

Appendix B

Provincial Historic plaques along the Upper St Lawrence River, west to east

Plaque	Date	Location
<u>Charles Edward Poulett Thomson</u>	<u>1799-1841</u>	<u>Kingston</u>
<u>Government House</u>	<u>1832 (Alwington)</u>	<u>Kingston</u>
<u>Heathfield</u>	<u>1841</u>	<u>Kingston</u>
<u>Hillcroft</u>	<u>1853</u>	<u>Kingston</u>
<u>Kingston General Hospital</u>	<u>1838</u>	<u>Kingston</u>
<u>Louis de Buade, Comte de Frontenac et de Palluau</u>	<u>1622-1698</u>	<u>Kingston</u>
<u>Loyalist Landing at Cataracoui</u>	<u>1784</u>	<u>Kingston</u>
<u>Militia Garrison</u>	<u>1837-1838</u>	<u>Kingston</u>
<u>Molly Brant</u>	<u>1736-1796</u>	<u>Kingston</u>
<u>Murney Martello Tower</u>	<u>1846</u>	<u>Kingston</u>
<u>Point Frederick Buildings</u>	<u>1846-47 (RMC)</u>	<u>Kingston</u>
<u>René-Amable Boucher</u>	<u>1735-1812</u>	<u>Kingston</u>
<u>René-Robert Cavalier de La Salle at Cataracoui</u>	<u>1673</u>	<u>Kingston</u>
<u>Rideau Canal</u>	<u>1832</u>	<u>Kingston</u>
<u>Sir Oliver Mowat</u>	<u>1820-1903</u>	<u>Kingston</u>
<u>Sir Richard Bonnycastle</u>	<u>1791-1847</u>	<u>Kingston</u>
<u>Summerhill</u>	<u>1839</u>	<u>Kingston</u>
<u>The King's Royal Regiment of New York</u>	<u>1776</u>	<u>Kingston</u>
<u>The Reverend John Stuart</u>	<u>1740-1811</u>	<u>Kingston</u>

Plaque	Date	Location
<u>The Royal Military College of Canada</u>	1876	Kingston
<u>The Rush-Bagot Agreement</u>	1817	Kingston
<u>The Stone Frigate</u>	1820	Kingston
<u>The Typhus Epidemic</u>	1847	Kingston
<u>Colonel Joel Stone</u>	1749-1833	Gananoque
<u>Gananoque Town Hall</u>	1831	Gananoque
<u>Pirate Johnston</u>	1782-1870	Gananoque
<u>Raid on Gananoque</u>	1812	Gananoque
<u>Thousand Islands International Bridge</u>	1938	Leeds & the 1000 Islands
<u>Blockhouse Island</u>	(Cholera Epidemic 1832)	Brockville
<u>Brockville Tunnell</u>	1860	Brockville
<u>Forsyth's Raid</u>	1813	Brockville
<u>Fulford Place</u>	1899	Brockville
<u>George Chaffey</u>	1848-1932	Brockville
<u>James Morris</u>	1798-1865	Brockville
<u>Johnstown District Court House and Gaol</u>	1808	Brockville
<u>Leeds Grenville County Court House</u>	c.1840	Brockville
<u>Ogle R. Gowan</u>	1803-1876	Brockville
<u>Senator George T. Fulford</u>	1852-1905	Brockville
<u>William Buell Sr.</u>	1751-1832	Brockville
<u>Brockville, Westport and Sault Ste Marie Railway</u>	1888	Brockville
<u>Blue Church</u>	1845	Augusta
<u>Founding of Maitland</u>	1824	Augusta
<u>Lieutenant-Colonel Thain Wendell MacDowell</u>	1890-1960	Augusta
<u>St. James Church</u>	1826	Augusta

Plaque	Date	Location
<u>Bytown and Prescott Railway Company</u>	1850	Prescott
<u>Capture of Ogdensburg</u>	1813	Prescott
<u>Colonel Edward Jessup</u>	1735-1816	Prescott
<u>Forwarding Trade</u>	1810-1847	Prescott
<u>Justus Sherwood</u>	1747-1798	Prescott
<u>Major James Morrow Walsh</u>	1840-1905	Prescott
<u>Prescott Barracks and Hospital</u>	1810	Prescott
<u>Sir Richard William Scott</u>	1825-1913	Prescott
<u>Johnstown</u>	1789	Edwardsburgh/Cardinal
<u>Founding of Cardinal</u>	1796	Edwardsburgh/Cardinal
<u>Sir James Pliny Whitney</u>	1843-1914	S. Dundas
<u>The Reverend Johann Samuel Schwerdtfeger</u>	1734-1803	S. Dundas
<u>John McIntosh</u>	1777-1846	S. Dundas
<u>The McIntosh Apple</u>	1811	S. Dundas
<u>Battle of Crysler's Farm</u>	1813	S. Dundas
<u>Holstein Friesian Cattle in Ontario</u>	1881	S. Stormont
<u>Lost Villages of the St. Lawrence</u>	1958	S. Stormont
<u>Captain Samuel Anderson</u>	1736-1836	Cornwall
<u>Cornwall Grammar School</u>	1806	Cornwall
<u>District Court House and Gaol</u>	1833	Cornwall
<u>Founding of Cornwall</u>	1784	Cornwall
<u>Right Reverend John Strachan</u>	1778-1867	Cornwall
<u>The French Presence in Cornwall</u>	1870s	Cornwall
<u>The Glengarry Fencibles</u>	1812	Cornwall

Plaque	Date	Location
<u>The Reverend John Strachan in Cornwall</u>	<u>1804</u>	<u>Cornwall</u>
<u>"Cariboo" Cameron</u>	<u>1820-1888</u>	<u>S. Glengarry</u>
<u>Bethune-Thompson House</u>	<u>1784</u>	<u>S. Glengarry</u>
<u>Fraserfield</u>	<u>1812</u>	<u>S. Glengarry</u>
<u>Sir John Johnson's Mills</u>	<u>1790</u>	<u>S. Glengarry</u>
<u>Glengarry Cairn</u>	<u>1837</u>	<u>S. Glengarry</u>
<u>The MacMillan Emigration</u>	<u>1802</u>	<u>S. Glengarry</u>
<u>The North West Company</u>	<u>1779</u>	<u>S. Glengarry</u>



*"Snow Super Moon and 1000 Islands Bridge" by Duncan Rawlinson
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Appendix C

Timeline of Events Along the Kaniatarowanenneh

9000 BCE	The Upper St. Lawrence Region shows evidence of pre-European contact habitation by Indigenous peoples as early as the Paleo-Indian period.
700 BCE	Indigenous tribes 700 BCE Leeds & the 1000 Islands The 1000 Islands were called "The Garden of the Great Spirit" by the First Nations who lived and hunted in this area.
1450-1600	Formation of the Iroquois Confederacy
1673	Fort Frontenac Kingston Built by Frontenac as a fur trading post, later restored by LaSalle, who used it as a base for his extensive explorations.
1670s	"Iroquois League" Leeds & the 1000 Islands The name used by the French to describe the powerful Iroquois confederacy.
1678	La Salle builds ship the Frontenac Kingston Early ship-building
1685-86	Jean Deshayes, Royal Hydrographer of New France Kingston Jean Deshayes drew the first maps of the upper and lower St. Lawrence River.
1755	Akwesasne Founding - c. 1755 Akwesasne Mohawk Territory, inhabited by First Nations for centuries.
1758	Fort Frontenac taken by English Kingston Taken by English in 1758.
1760	Fort de Lévis taken by English Edwardsburgh/Cardinal Built in 1760, last stand of France in Canada, taken by British under Sir Jeffrey Amherst.
1770	First ferry Prescott to Ogdensburg Prescott First ferry - river transportation.
1779	The North West Company S. Glengarry In 1779, a band of Scots revived the French fur trade with the North West Company. Many partners and employees drawn from the Highlanders settlers of Glengarry county.
1783	Early land survey in Ontario Kingston John Collins did the first major survey under civil authority in Ontario

- 1783 Crawford Purchase (Carleton Is.) | Kingston
Lots of land purchased from the Mississauga Indians for virtually nothing
- 1783 United Empire Loyalists | Cornwall
Loyalists played a large role in settling this part of Canada. Came after fighting in the American War of Independence (1775-1783).
- 1784 Loyalist Landing at Cataracoui | Kingston
Camp established for Loyalists coming from Montreal to settle.
- 1784 Founding of Cornwall | Cornwall
This site, then called Point Maligne, was visited by native and French traders and explorers. Settled by Loyalists in 1784, incorporated in 1834.
- 1788 Point Frederick established | Kingston
Location was for defence of Loyalist settlement.
- 1789 Johnstown | Edwardsburgh/Cardinal
Thrived in 1790s, good location but shallow harbour. (Close to present-day bridge.)
- 1792 First Meeting of the Executive Council of Upper Canada | Kingston
The Constitutional Act of 1791 divided the "Province of Quebec" into Upper Canada and Lower Canada. John Graves Simcoe, its first Lieutenant-Governor, was sworn in and met his Executive Council in Kingston.
- 1796 Founding of Cardinal | Edwardsburgh/Cardinal
In 1796 a small settlement gathered around a grist mill, gradually grew, incorporated in 1880 with a population of 800.
- 1802 The MacMillan Emigration | S. Glengarry
In 1802, over 400 Highland immigrants, including over 100 MacMillans, landed in Montreal and eventually many settled in Williamstown.
- 1812 Raid on Gananoque | Gananoque
During War of 1812, US regulars & militia raided Gananoque.
- 1812 The Glengarry Fencibles | Cornwall
The Glengarry Light Infantry Fencibles was raised in 1811-12 largely from the Highland settlers of this region.
- 1813 Forsyth's Raid | Brockville
US Major Forsyth led a successful raid on Feb. 6, 1813 from Morristown.
- 1813 Capture of Ogdensburg | Prescott
In retaliation for Forsyth's Raid two weeks before.
- 1813 Battle of Crysler's Farm | S. Dundas
One of the decisive battles of the War of 1812. 800 well-trained British, Canadians and Indigenous peoples routed 4000 Americans.

- 1816 Naming of the 1000 Islands | Leeds & the 1000 Islands
British Hydrographer Captain William Fitzwilliam Owen surveys and names the 1000 Islands.
- 1817 The Rush-Bagot Agreement | Kingston
After the War of 1812, an arms limitation agreement between US and Britain: dismantle armed ships, no new war ships to be built.
- 1824 Founding of Maitland | Augusta
Village plot laid out in 1824, a point of access to Rideau Canal, flourished during the building of the Canal 1826-1832.
- 1832 Rideau Canal | Kingston
To protect military and economic shipping from potential American attacks. Amazing engineering accomplishment. Goes from Kingston to Bytown (later called Ottawa).
- 1832 Blockhouse Island (Cholera Epidemic 1832) | Brockville
Formerly known as Hospital Island, because of the sheds housing the sick during the Cholera Epidemic of 1832. During the Rebellion of 1837, a blockhouse was erected for the defense of Brockville.
- 1837-38 Militia Garrison | Kingston
Assembled to defend Kingston during Upper Canada Rebellion in 1837
- 1837 Sir Richard Bonnycastle (1791-1847) | Kingston
Defended Kingston during Rebellions of 1837-38.
- 1837 Glengarry Cairn | S. Glengarry
On Cairn Island, off South Lancaster in the St. Lawrence. Cairn commemorates Sir John Colborne for his military services during the Rebellion of 1837/38.
- 1838 Battle of the Windmill | Prescott
Rebels after 1837 rebellion made a new, failed, attempt to overthrow British rule in Canada.
- 1838 Charles Edward Poulett Thomson, Baron Sydenham (1799-1841) | Kingston
Sydenham won assent from Britain for the union of Upper and Lower Canada. He was the first Governor General of the new United Province of Canada.
- 1841 Kingston made the capital of the United Province of Canada | Kingston
Act of Union 1841: Upper and Lower Canada are united, Kingston is capital (until 1844).
- 1841 Government House 1832 (Alwington) | Kingston
Built in 1832, enlarged In 1841 to serve as vice-regal residence when Kingston was capital of the Province of Canada. Lord Sydenham was the first Governor General to occupy it.
- 1841 Queen's University | Kingston
Earliest degree-granting liberal arts college in the United Province of Canada, it received its charter in 1841.

- 1843 Cornwall Canal | Cornwall
From Dickenson's Landing to Cornwall, a lift of 48' to bypass the Long Sault Rapids.
- 1844 Garden Island - Calvin Company | Kingston
Calvin Company shipbuilding and lumber industry.
- 1846-48 Kingston Fortifications | Kingston
Built to protect the Rideau Canal from the US, following the Oregon Crisis.
- 1847 The Typhus Epidemic | Kingston
About 1400 immigrants from Ireland, fleeing the famine, died of typhus.
- 1856 Kingston Custom House | Kingston
Built 1856-59 for the government of the United Canadas.
- 1856 Treaty No. 77 | Leeds & the 1000 Islands
Alnwick of Mississauga Indians surrender islands in the St. Lawrence to the Crown.
- 1858 Frontenac Country Court House | Kingston
Neo-Classical architecture
- 1867 Confederation | Kingston
Sir John A. Macdonald, first prime minister of Canada in 1867, made Kingston his home town when he and his family immigrated to Canada in 1820, and was buried there when he died in 1891.
- 1870s The French Presence in Cornwall | Cornwall
In the late 1870s large scale industrial expansion drew workers from Quebec.
- 1870 Early days of cottaging in the 1000 Islands | Leeds & the 1000 Islands
Summer cottages, camps and resorts being built in the 1000 Islands
- 1876 The Royal Military College of Canada | Kingston
Opened 1876 on site of former Royal Naval Dockyard.
- 1894 Canadian government publication: "Thousand Islands for sale" | Leeds & the 1000 Islands
Canadian government selling islands to private owners.
- 1904 St. Lawrence Islands National Park formed | Leeds & the 1000 Islands
Name later changed to Thousand Islands National Park.
- 1938 Thousand Islands International Bridge | Leeds & the 1000 Islands
A system of 4 bridges from Canada to the USA, a distance of 13 km, opened in 1938.
- 1954-59 Construction of the St. Lawrence Seaway | S. Dundas
Built between 1954-59, transformed shipping by allowing ocean-going vessels access to the Great Lakes.
- 1954 Moses-Saunders Dam | Cornwall
Between Massena, NY and Cornwall. Begun in 1954, opened 1958.

- 1954 The Lost Villages | S. Stormont
 Seven villages were inundated to create the St. Lawrence Seaway
- 1958 UNESCO World Biosphere Reserve designated | Leeds & the 1000 Islands
 Designated in 2002. Area of 2,700 sq. km. centred on the 1000 Islands, stretching to the north-west. One of only 18 Biosphere Reserves in Canada.
- 2002 Rideau Canal declared a UNESCO World Heritage Site | Kingston
 Built starting 1832, the Rideau Canal begins in Kingston, leads to Ottawa (called Bytown at the time of construction).



Landon Bay, part of the Thousand Islands National Park. *Courtesy Parks Canada*



Canadian span of the Thousand Islands International Bridge System
Courtesy of Gananoque Boat Line

Appendix D

TIARA Board Members

Dr. Mike Bell - Co-chair of the board
Michael Mayerfeld Bell (USA) - Professor of Community and Environmental Sociology, University of Wisconsin-Madison - Co-chair of the board
Marion MacLeod, Treasurer, TIARA
Jennifer Macklem, Associate Professor of Visual Arts, University of Ottawa, TIARA Director
Pierre Mercier, Archivist, Leeds and the Thousand Islands Archives, and TIARA Director
Diane Mayerfeld -TIARA Director
Margot Miller -TIARA Director
Martin Bordt -TIARA Director
Christina McCarthy -TIARA Director
Elizabeth Sterken -TIARA Director
Normand Pepin -TIARA Director
Jonathan Thorburn - TIARA Director

Honorary members:

(Anne) Blu Mackintosh - TIARA Founder
Sandra Lawn - Former Mayor of Prescott
Pamela Forsyth Hudson - Gananoque Public Library
Jeff Ridal - Executive Director, The River Institute
JP Longboat - Board Chair for the LodgePole Arts Alliance - Kanyen'kehà:ka (Mohawk), Turtle Clan



A beautiful reflection on a placid St. Lawrence River, © Pam Code, 2020

Appendix E

Resolutions and Letters of Nomination Support

The following municipalities (listed west to east) passed resolutions supporting TIARA's nomination of the Upper St. Lawrence River as a Canadian Heritage River:

Township of Frontenac Islands
City of Kingston
Town of Gananoque
Township of Leeds and the Thousand Islands
Township of Front of Yonge
Township of Elizabethtown-Kitley
City of Brockville
Township of Augusta
Township of Edwardsburgh-Cardinal
Town of Prescott
Township of South Dundas
Township of South Stormont
City of Cornwall
Township of South Glengarry

The following individuals and associations wrote letters of support for TIARA's nomination of the Upper St. Lawrence as a Canadian Heritage River:

Abram Benedict, Grand Chief, Mohawk Council of Akwesasne
Hon. Senator Robert Runciman
Hon. Gord Brown, 1960-2018, MP for Leeds-Grenville, Thousand Islands and Rideau Lakes 2004-2018
Hon. Steve Clark, MPP for Leeds-Grenville
Hon. Jim McDonnell, MPP for Stormont, Dundas and South Glengarry
Ed Clark 1947-2014), marina owner, historian and photographer of the St. Lawrence River

Sandra S. Lawn, Mayor of Prescott 1977-1992

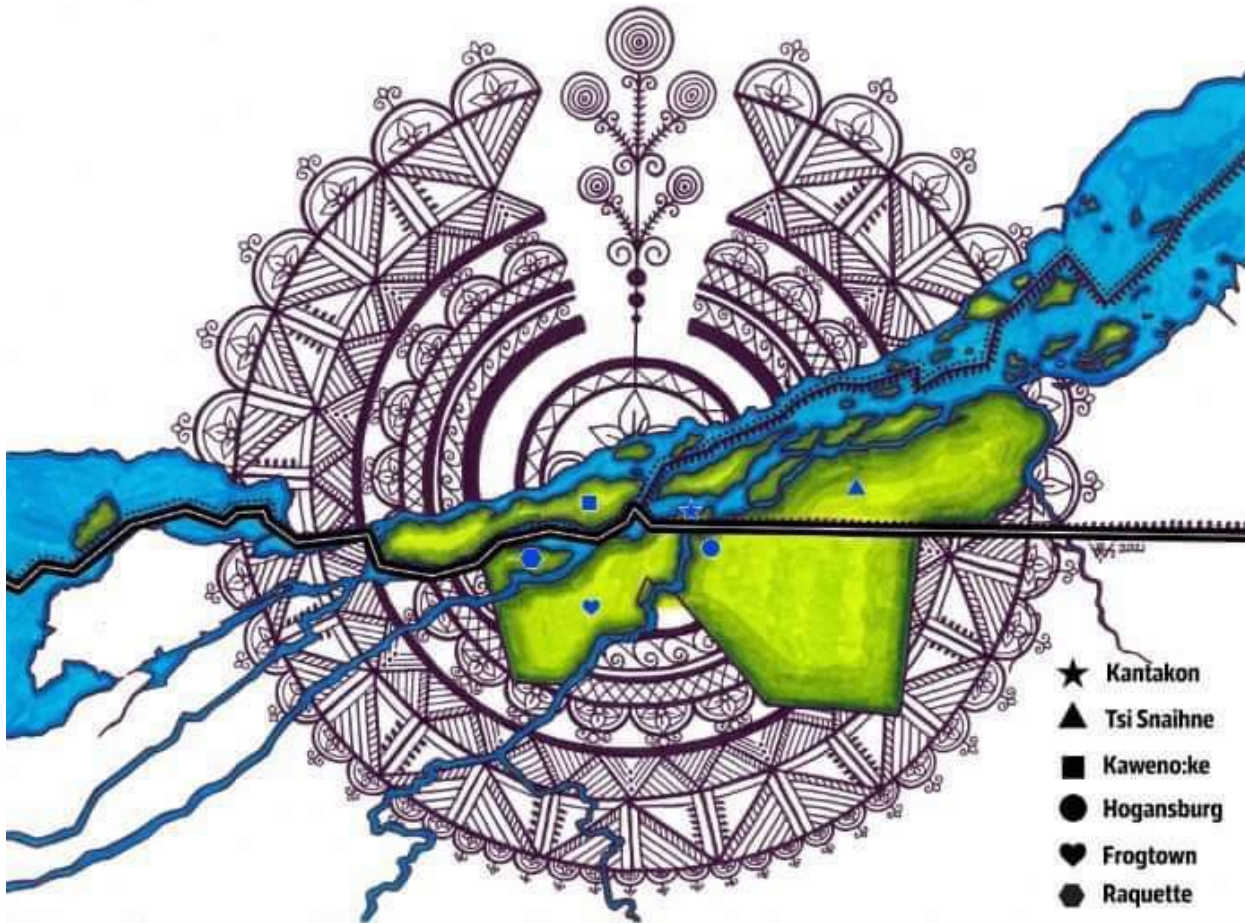
Susan W. Smith, Editor of the Thousand Islands Life magazine, published historian of the 1000 Islands

Maggie Wheeler, published author and Seaway historian

Algonquin to Adirondacks Collaborative (www.A2collaborative.org)

Frontenac Arch Biosphere (www.frontenacarchbiosphere.ca)

Save The River (www.savetheriver.org)



Art by Victoria Ransom
see <https://riverrapport.ca/thanksgiving-address/>

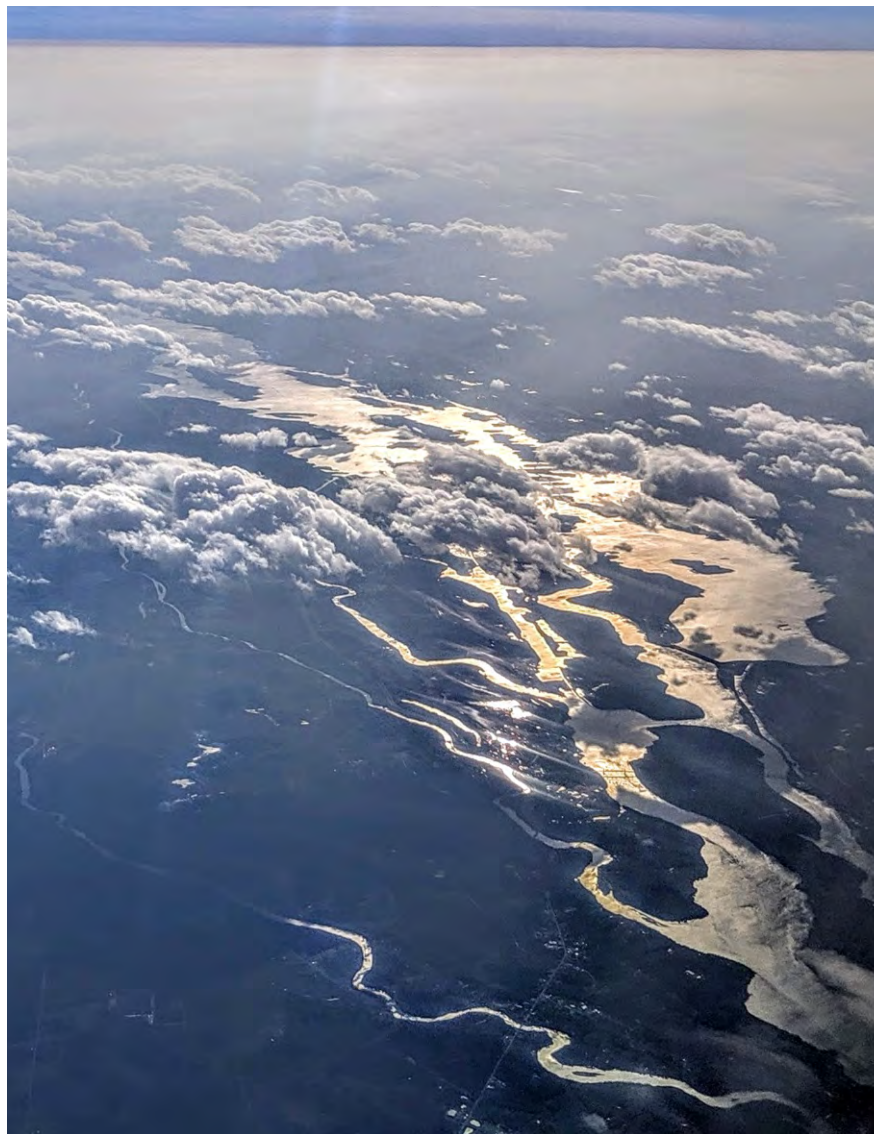


Photo ©Dicklyon, 2019

“Aerial view of the eastern-most part of the Ontario–New York border area, where the border is in the Saint Lawrence River. United States on the left, Canada on the right, including Cornwall

Appendix F

Species At Risk (www.ontario.ca/page/government-ontario)

ENDANGERED SPECIES

MOLLUSCS: Broad-banded Forestsnail; Eastern Banded Tigersnail; Fawnsfoot; Hickorynut; Kidneyshell; Northern Riffleshell; Proud Globelet; Gray Ratsnak; eund Hickorynut; Round Pigtoe; Salamander Mussel; Shagreen; Snuffbox; Striped Whitelip; Toothed Globe

INSECTS: Bogbean Buckmoth; False-foxtail Sun Moth; Gypsy Cuckoo Bumble Bee; Hine's Emerald; Hoptree Borer; Hungerford's Crawling Water Beetle; Laura's Clubtail; Mottled Duskywing; Nine-spotted Lady Beetle; Northern Barrens Tiger Beetle; Pygmy Snaketail; Riverine Clubtail; Rusty-patched Bumble Bee; Suckley's Cuckoo Bumblebee; Transverse Lady Beetle;

FISHES: American Eel; Eastern Sand Darter (West Lake population); Lake Chubsucker; Lake Sturgeon (Great Lakes - Upper St. Lawrence populations); Northern Madtom; Redside Dace; River Darter (Great Lakes - Upper St. Lawrence populations); Shortnose Cisco; Spotted Gar; Warmouth

AMPHIBIANS: Allegheny Mountain Dusky Salamander; Fowler's Toad; Jefferson Salamander; Northern Dusky Salamander; Small-mouthed Salamander; Unisexual Ambystoma (Jefferson Salamander dependent population); Unisexual Ambystoma (Small-mouthed Salamander dependent population) REPTILES: Blue Racer; Butler's Gartersnak; eCommon Five-lined Skink (Carolinian population); Gray Ratsnake (Carolinian population) Massasauga (CHenslow's Sparrow); Queensnake; Spiny Softshell; Spotted Turtle; Wood Turtle

BIRDS: Acadian Flycatcher; Barn Owl; Golden Eagle; Henslow's Sparrow; King Rail; Kirtland's Warbler; Loggerhead Shrike; Northern Bobwhite; Piping Plover; Prothonotary Warbler; Red-headed Woodpecker; Red Knot — rufa subspecies (Southeastern USA / Gulf of Mexico / Caribbean wintering population); Red Knot — rufa subspecies (Tierra del Fuego / Patagonia wintering population); Yellow-breasted Chat; American Badger (Northwestern Ontario population); American Badger (Southwestern Ontario population); Eastern Small-footed Myotis; Little Brown Myotis; Northern Myotis; Tri-colored Bat

Appendix F

Species At Risk

THREATENED SPECIES

MOLLUSCS: Carolina Mantleslug; Lilliput; Purple Wartyback; Threehorn Wartyback; Wavy-rayed Lampmussel;
 INSECTS: Davis's Shieldback; Lake Huron Grasshopper; Northern Oak Hairstreak; Rapids Clubtail; Reversed Haploa Moth; Skillet Clubtail
 FISHES: Black Redhorse; Cutlip Minnow; Eastern Sand Darter (Southwestern Ontario population); Lake Sturgeon (Saskatchewan - Nelson River populations); Lake Whitefish (Opeongo Lake large-bodied populations); Lake Whitefish (Opeongo Lake small-bodied populations); Pugnose Minnow; Pugnose Shiner; Shortjaw Cisco; Silver Chub; Silver Shiner
 REPTILES: Blanding's Turtle; Eastern Foxsnake (Carolinian population); Eastern Foxsnake (Great Lakes / St. Lawrence population); Eastern Hog-nosed Snake; Gray Ratsnake (Frontenac Axis population); Massasauga (Great Lakes - St. Lawrence population)
 BIRDS: American White Pelican; Bank Swallow; Bobolink; Cerulean Warbler; Chimney Swift; Eastern Meadowlark; Eastern Whip-poor-will; Hudsonian Godwit; Least Bittern; Lesser Yellowlegs; Louisiana Waterthrush; Short-eared Owl
 MAMMALS: Eastern Wolf; Gray Fox; Wolverine.

SPECIAL CONCERN

MOLLUSCS: Eastern Pondmussel; Mapleleaf Mollusc; Rainbow Mollusc
 INSECTS: American Bumble Bee; Dukes' Skipper; Monarch; Red-tailed Leafhopper; West Virginia WhiteYellow-banded Bumble Bee;
 FISHES: Blackstripe Topminnow; Bridle Shiner; Channel Darter; Grass Pickerel; Lake Sturgeon Northern Brook Lamprey; Northern Sunfish (Great Lakes - Upper St. Lawrence populations); River Redhorse; Silver Lamprey (Great Lakes - Upper St. Lawrence River population); Spotted Sucker; Upper Great Lakes Kiyi
 REPTILES: Common Five-lined Skink (Southern Shield population); Eastern Musk Turtle; Eastern Ribbonsnake; Lake Erie Watersnake; Northern Map Turtle; Snapping Turtle
 BIRDS: Barn Swallow; Black Tern; Canada Warbler; Common Nighthawk; Eastern Wood-Pewee; Evening Grosbeak; Golden-winged Warbler; Grasshopper Sparrow; Horned Grebe; Olive-sided Flycatcher; Peregrine Falcon; Red Knot — rufa subspecies (Northeastern South America wintering population); Red-necked Phalarope; Rusty Blackbird; Wood Thrush; Yellow Rail; Cougar; Eastern Mole

Appendix G

Record of Engagement

TIARA application for designation of the Kaniatarowanenneh as a Heritage River

2006: Peter Macklem, TIARA President sent letters to the Grand Chief of Akwesasne, municipal and civic leaders, groups and individuals requesting support for this initiative.

2007: Steering committee established to oversee the project.

Budget prepared and submitted to Ms. Ireland-Smith, Ontario Parks for funding for the background study.

TIARA AGM at Mallorytown Landing, St. Lawrence Islands National Park to officially launch an initiative to designate the St. Lawrence River as a Canadian Heritage River.

2008: Two university students hired to research the cultural, natural and recreational use of the river from Kingston to the Quebec border.

2009: Brockville meeting in partnership with the River Institute discussing Heritage River Proposal, with delegates from fifty organizations.

2010: Ottawa-based science author and editor, Alan Morantz, hired to write the nomination document. Completed the following year.

2011-ongoing Alliances established with Algonquin to Adirondacks (A2A); Frontenac Arch Biosphere; Save the River; The River Institute; Thousand Islands Watershed Land Trust.

2014 - 2015: In person visits with municipal councils to present the nomination proposal.

Overnight stay in Akwesasne in the home of Victoria Ransom by Jennifer Macklem, consultation with Henry Lickers.

Letters of support received from Grand Chief of Akwesasne, and municipal councils, organizations and individuals.

2018 – 2019: Attendance at group meetings in Ottawa at St. Margarets Church where the 94 calls to action of Truth and Reconciliation Commission were read out loud and discussed.

Plans established with Jeff Ridal, Director of The River Institute regarding future monitoring of the river.

June, 2020: St. Lawrence Heritage River document submitted to Joslyn Spurgeon, Park Planner, Ontario Parks.

Further consultation with Henry Lickers, Sandra Lawn, Darren Bonaparte, Blu Mackintosh, Research into Truth and Reconciliation.

September, 2022: St. Lawrence Heritage River document resubmitted to Joslyn Spurgeon, Park Planner, Ontario Parks.

Upper St. Lawrence Heritage River Nomination document submitted.

2023: TIARA changes its name to Thousand Islands Alliance of River Advocates (legal status pending).

Board members Marion MacLeod meet with Kayla Sunday, Environmental Services Manager with the Mohawk Council of Akwesasne at 30th Annual River Institute Symposium in Cornwall, ON.

Consultation with JP Longboat and Lodgepole Arts Alliance.

TIARA Attendance at Save the River 34th Annual Winter Environmental Conference in Clayton, NY.

2024: TIARA directors attended the Save the River 35th annual environmental conference in Clayton, N.Y. Final edits and Presentation to Parks Canada Board.