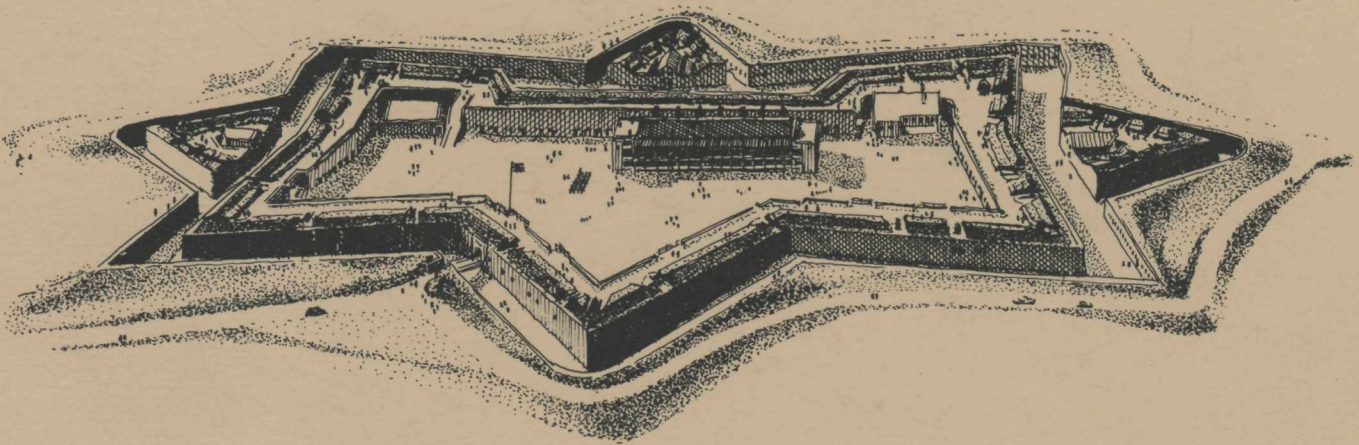




Parks
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Halifax Citadel National Historic Park Management Plan Summary

**Halifax Citadel National Historic Park
Management Summary**

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Foreword

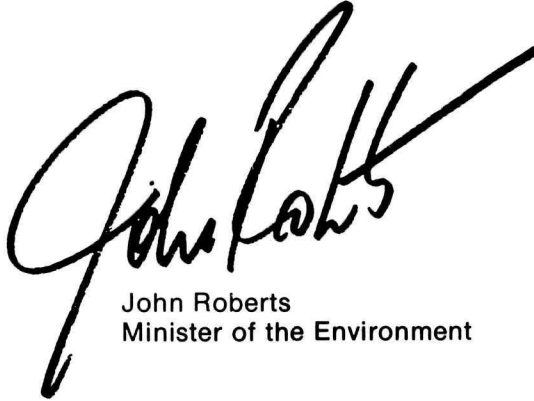
This document is a summary of the Management Plan for the Halifax Citadel National Historic Park. The Management Plan is a long-range comprehensive plan for the Park's restoration and development. This Summary is a shortened form of the Management Plan, intended to indicate concisely what is going to happen in the restored fort and why.

The plan is the result of an extensive study of the most appropriate means of preserving and developing the Citadel so that Canadians might better appreciate its place in the history of their country. The study included a thorough review of existing Park resources, programs, and facilities, and visitors' use of them. An important part of the study was the consideration of the views of people interested in or affected by the Park. These views

were expressed through letters, and meetings with the general public, special interest groups, interested organizations, and representatives of various levels of government.

This information was analyzed and incorporated into the Plan. Its implementation will ensure the restoration of deteriorated structures, the development of improved facilities, and the systematic telling of the Citadel's story. More detailed information about the Plan is available at the office of the Park Superintendent.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all those people who contributed to the formulation of this Plan. Your continued interest in the Park is encouraged, and any contribution you may wish to make to its future improvement will be most welcome.



John Roberts
Minister of the Environment

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LOCATION

The Citadel is located on a hill looking east over Halifax Harbour and the downtown business district of Halifax. Well-known landmarks for Halifaxians and for many other Canadians, the Citadel and the Town Clock are two of the best-known images of the city. For over two hundred years, forts on this hill have protected the city as it evolved from an outpost of the British Empire to the business centre of Atlantic Canada.

To the west of the Park are the Halifax Commons, a

recreation area where British troops once trained. To the north is a long-established residential neighbourhood, and the naval dockyard, while to the south is a neighbourhood of shops, houses, and Royal Artillery Park, an active Department of National Defence establishment.

From the top of the hill, some 80 metres above sea level, there is a view of the Harbour, Dartmouth, and portions of Halifax County. The Naval Dockyard, almost as old as the city itself, is also visible, along with several of the other surviving historic fortifications.



Several major city streets border the Citadel, including two of the main arteries for vehicles entering the downtown from the west. There are two automobile entrances to the 19.83 hectare Park, one on Sackville Street, at the southeast, and one at the corner of Ahern Avenue and Rainnie Drive, at the northwest corner of the Park. There are also a number of pedestrian entrances, which are heavily used in the summer, particularly by people from the downtown.



Brunswick Street entrance
Parks Canada photo by J.P. Camus

HISTORY

In 1749 one phase of a global struggle between France and Britain to dominate world trade drew to a close. In order to achieve peace, Louisbourg, captured and occupied by the English in 1745 at the cost of hundreds of lives, was returned to France. The decision was an unpopular one. To placate public opinion, and to establish a firm presence in Nova Scotia, which was still largely French-speaking in 1749, the British government decided to establish Halifax.

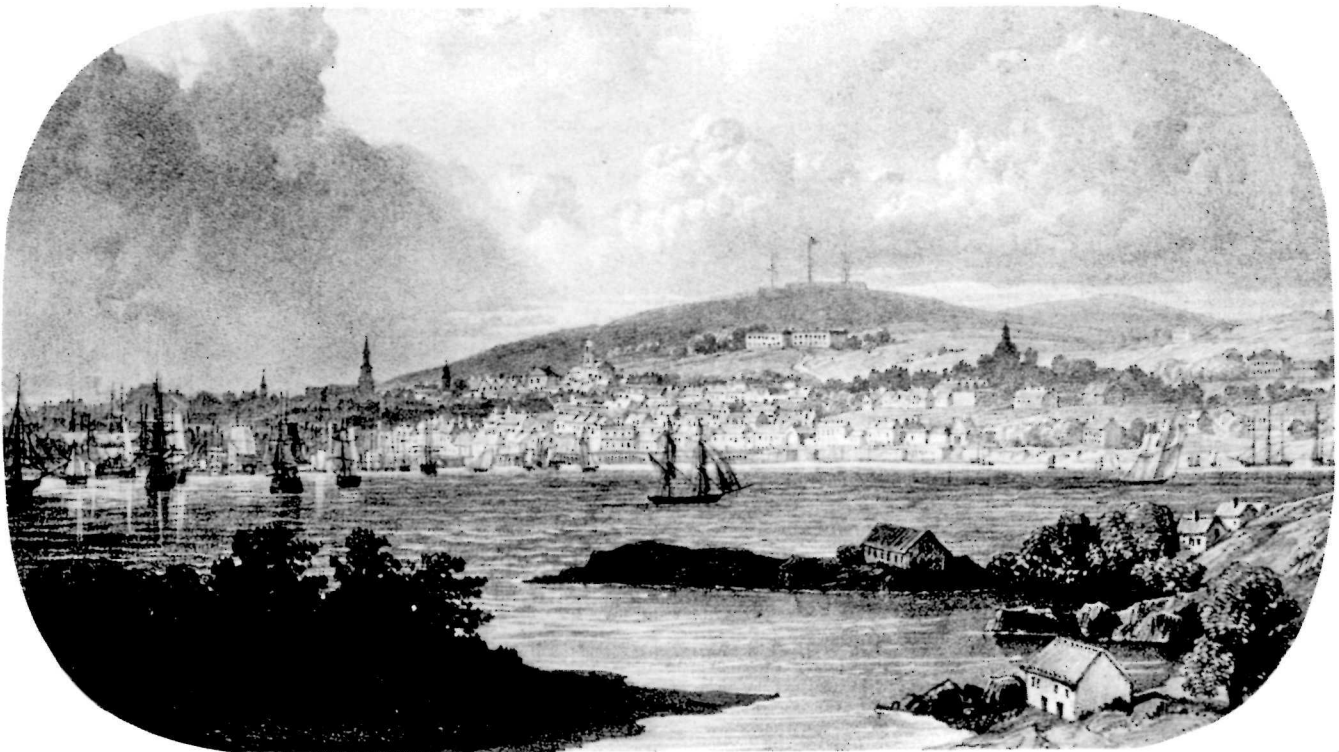
In order to protect the fledgling settlement on the shores of Chebucto Bay from Indian attacks inspired by the French, a palisade and a series of small wooden forts were erected on the landward side. One of these forts, near the top of the hill overlooking the town, soon became known as the Citadel.

Over the years, as the town grew and requirements for protecting it and the harbour changed, so did the Citadel. In 1756, Britain and France went to war

again. As this contest drew to an end in the early 1760's plans were drawn up for new fortifications. Some work began, but the war ended before the proposed works could be finished, and the British government, burdened with war debts, allowed the works to crumble.

When the American Revolution broke out in the 1770's, the authorities in Halifax feared for the security of the city and of the province generally. Many of the colony's residents were from New England, and sympathized with the Revolution. Almost every coastal settlement in the colony was attacked by American privateers before the war was over, and at one point rebels assaulted Fort Cumberland (now Fort Beauséjour National Historic Park.) The Citadel was rebuilt again, but with the British Navy at Halifax, the city was never really threatened, and after the war the fort, with its three-story blockhouse and rambling outworks, fell into disrepair.

In the 1790's Britain and France were once more at war with each other. Most of the fighting took place



Halifax from Dartmouth in 1832
Public Archives of Canada



One of the last parades from the Citadel
Nova Scotia Legislative Library

in Europe and Asia, but the French Navy did pose a threat to Nova Scotia and the other British colonies on the east coast of North America.

To protect Halifax and its strategic harbour, the British enlarged or rebuilt many fortifications and added several new ones. Much of the work was inspired by the Duke of Kent, Queen Victoria's father. During his tenure as Commander-in-Chief in Nova Scotia the Citadel was rebuilt and the various forts in the area were linked by signal masts. Before he left, the Duke ordered the erection of a Town Clock, which was built on the edge of the Citadel Hill at the top of George Street.

The present Citadel came about as a result of tension between Britain and the United States in the 1820's. Halifax, with its important naval station, had to be safeguarded. The British authorities decided to level the old Citadel and build stone works to replace the rotting wooden fort. The news was undoubtedly welcome in Halifax, which usually boomed in wartime and declined in peacetime. Now there was the prospect of additional jobs and markets for supplies.

Construction began in 1828 and was completed in 1856, twenty-two years later than first estimated and at twice the cost originally estimated. The delay and extra cost were due to engineering miscalculations, poor workmanship, and design changes. The first engineer had designed a fort to accommodate half a regiment. His successors kept adding quarters until the fort could house an entire regiment, its stores, workshops, and offices. For various reasons, two walls collapsed shortly after completion, and had to be rebuilt, adding to the delay.

This fort was intended primarily to defend the city from any enemy force which landed to the northwest of the city and marched overland towards the downtown. The fort was initially armed with smooth-bore guns, the standard artillery weapon for over two hundred years. But in the period in which the fort was completed, these guns were made obsolete by the introduction of much more advanced weapons. The introduction of these weapons in Halifax made dramatic changes in the area's fortifications.

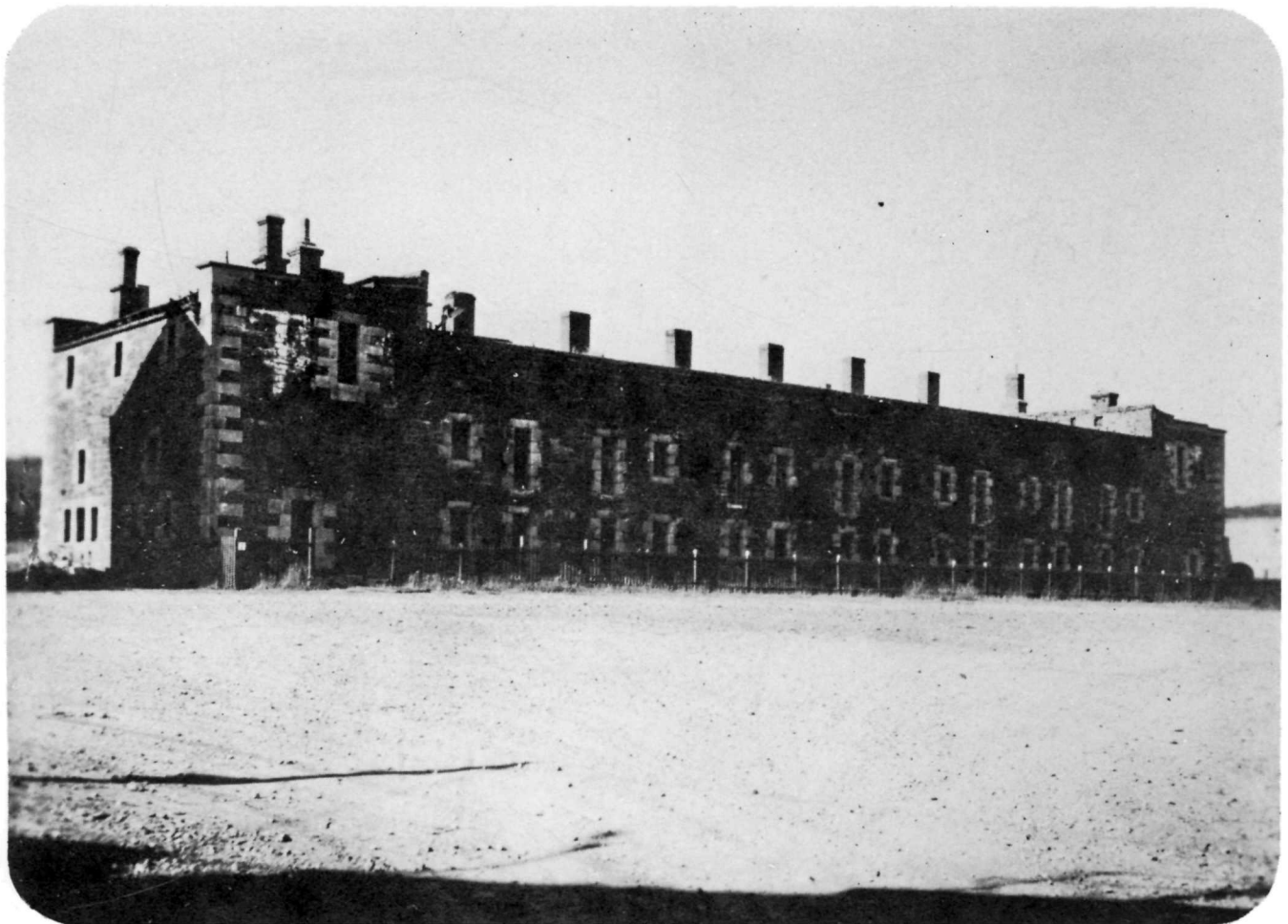
With the new guns, called RML's (rifled muzzle-loaders), the Citadel could now easily defend the city. But, more importantly, outer harbour sites such as York Redoubt and the new fortifications on

McNab's Island could prevent an enemy fleet from even reaching the inner harbour. As these forts were re-armed the Citadel became the last line of defence, although it remained the communications centre for all of the fortifications.

The Citadel also changed in this period as a result of social reforms in the British Army. These reforms came about after the Crimean War when the public became aware of the brutal conditions which prevailed in the Army, when barracks were overcrowded, badly lit, and poorly ventilated. Common pastimes for the men were drinking and brawling when off-duty. At the Citadel the reforms led to reductions in the number of men in the barracks, lighting and ventilation were improved, and better recreation facilities were provided.

When the British left in 1906 the fort was taken over by the Canadian Army, primarily as a barracks. During World War I prisoners of war were kept here. During the depression of the 1930's, Army troops vacated the Citadel, and the Department of National Defence permitted an Unemployment Relief Project in the fort. It carried out extensive repairs to the walls. In World War II the Citadel was used as a temporary barracks for troops going overseas and as the centre of anti-aircraft operations for Halifax.

After the war the Department of National Defence had no further use for the fort and stopped maintaining it. The Royal Commission on National Development in the Arts, Letters and Sciences (known as the Massey Commission), set up a special committee to study the site. As a result of its



The derelict Cavalier in 1950
Public Archives of Canada

investigations, the Commission recommended that "special and immediate provision be made to stem the progressive dilapidation of the Halifax Citadel . . ." and that it become a National Historic Park. As the Commission noted, the Citadel was "the last view of the country to so many thousands of soldiers outward bound and the first landmark to those who returned"

In 1951 the Citadel was declared a National Historic Site and a five-year clean-up and repair program began as a preliminary to operating the site as a National Historic Park. At that time the Cavalier was derelict and the slate roof of the South Magazine

was badly deteriorated. These structures were repaired, the brick barracks and old wooden buildings removed, the site cleaned up, and approach roads improved. Many of the walls also required attention. Funds were allocated each year for restoration and repairs of an urgent nature. More systematic restoration was deferred until a later date.

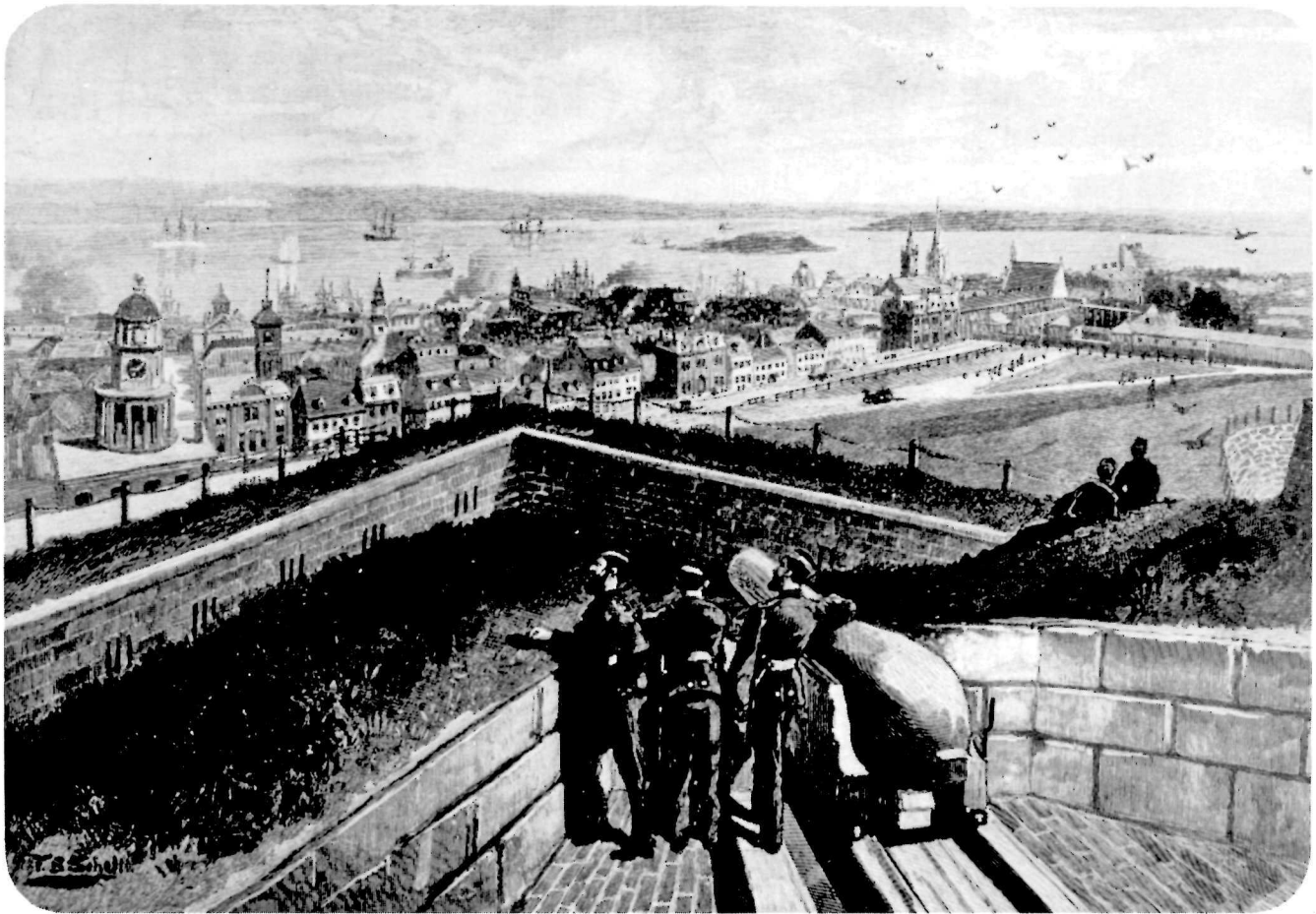
Once it was opened to the public the Citadel quickly became a major tourist attraction. Today more people visit this Park than any other National Historic Park in Canada.

HISTORIC THEMES

When the Citadel's history is examined, certain aspects of the story stand out clearly. These aspects, or themes, can also be broken down into sub-themes, as follows:

- A. **Halifax Harbour**
 - A-1 **Physical Setting**
 - A-2 **Settlement and Commerce**
- B. **Imperial Naval Station**
 - B-1 **British Garrison**
- C. **Defence of Halifax Harbour**
 - C-1 **Fortifications — landward**
 - C-2 **Technology of Defence**

The themes provide direction for the team planning the restoration and development of the Citadel. They are particularly helpful in planning exhibits for the Park, as they suggest aspects of the Citadel's history on which exhibits should be prepared. The sub-themes suggest aspects of the themes which should be emphasized.



View from the Citadel in 1882
Public Archives of Canada

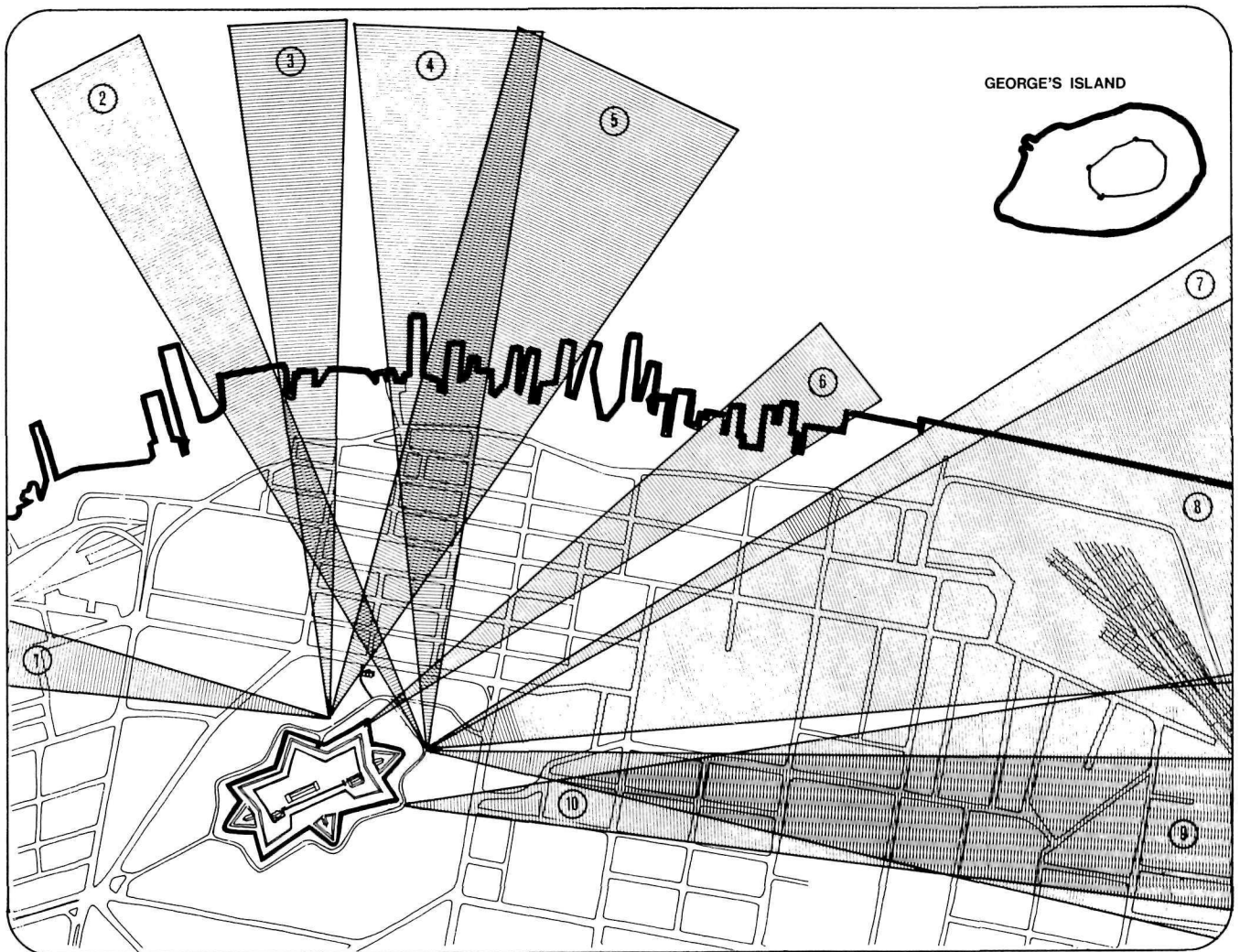
THE PLANNING PROCESS

Parks Canada's role is to protect and interpret Canada's natural and cultural heritage. It has long been recognized that the Citadel represents an important element in Canadian history and that it would eventually require a major effort to restore and interpret the site properly. In the 1950's and 1960's, however, other priorities ruled out such an effort, although considerable sums were spent to prevent further deterioration and to ensure that people enjoyed their visits.

In the mid-1970's, as the Fortress of Louisbourg National Historic Park neared completion, attention

and resources became available for the Citadel. Another important factor in the decision to restore the Citadel was a commitment by the City of Halifax to protect views from the Citadel.

In 1974 the City passed a View Planes By-Law protecting ten views from four locations in the Park. At the same time, the City decided to limit the height of new buildings on the east side of Brunswick Street, across from the Citadel. These decisions are reflected by the City's official Municipal Development Plan, passed in 1978. Thus the City acknowledged the Citadel's significance and ensured that visitors to the fort would continue to enjoy views of the harbour, thereby gaining an



View planes

appreciation of the relationship of the Citadel to other fortifications in the area. Further progress was made in 1975, when Treasury Board gave approval in principle to the restoration. The following year the Minister responsible for Parks Canada announced the beginning of the restoration, in a ceremony at the Citadel itself.

In 1976 a team of specialists from different disciplines was assembled to develop plans for the Park, based on the following objectives:

- to restore the Citadel in such a manner as to achieve the general appearance and character it had in the mid-nineteenth century while preserving significant historic resources from later periods.
- to provide an interpretive program which will enable the visitor to understand and appreciate the Citadel as a key element in the military establishment at Halifax and the role it played in the history of North America in general and Halifax in particular.
- to provide services sufficiently comprehensive to permit the visitor to appreciate fully the historic nature of the Citadel. This may be done by ensuring easy access to the site, and accommodation of visitors at acceptable levels of convenience, comfort and safety.

By 1977 the team had prepared an inventory of the Citadel's resources, analyzed the Park's operations, identified issues and formulated some basic approaches to the restoration and development of the site.

Public Participation in the planning of the Park began in March 1978 and lasted almost six months. It included general public meetings in Halifax and Dartmouth, a number of follow-up meetings with individual organizations, and discussions with the City of Halifax. The meetings provided interested parties with an opportunity to review the development proposals and to express their views on them. A wide range of topics was discussed at these meetings, and in correspondence with people interested in the Project.

The essence of the proposals and options discussed was that Parks Canada planned to restore the fort to the appearance and character it had in the mid-nineteenth century. This would require the elimination of parking from the fort. Also, in order to do justice to the Citadel's story a major effort would be launched to develop new interpretive exhibits and programs. This would mean a reorganization of the use of existing space inside the fort.

PUBLIC CONCERNS

Public contributions to the planning exercise indicated broad support for Parks Canada's proposals for the preservation and interpretation of the fort, although a number of important concerns were raised. These included:

- concern about the public's ability to continue to use the existing Park roads to view the city and harbour;
- support for interpreting the history of the Citadel in the Canadian period as well as in the British period;
- concern about the future of the Army Museum;
- support for additional protection of the views from the Citadel, and for controls over the height of buildings throughout the downtown, particularly along Brunswick Street;
- a desire for improvements to street crossings in the vicinity of the Citadel.

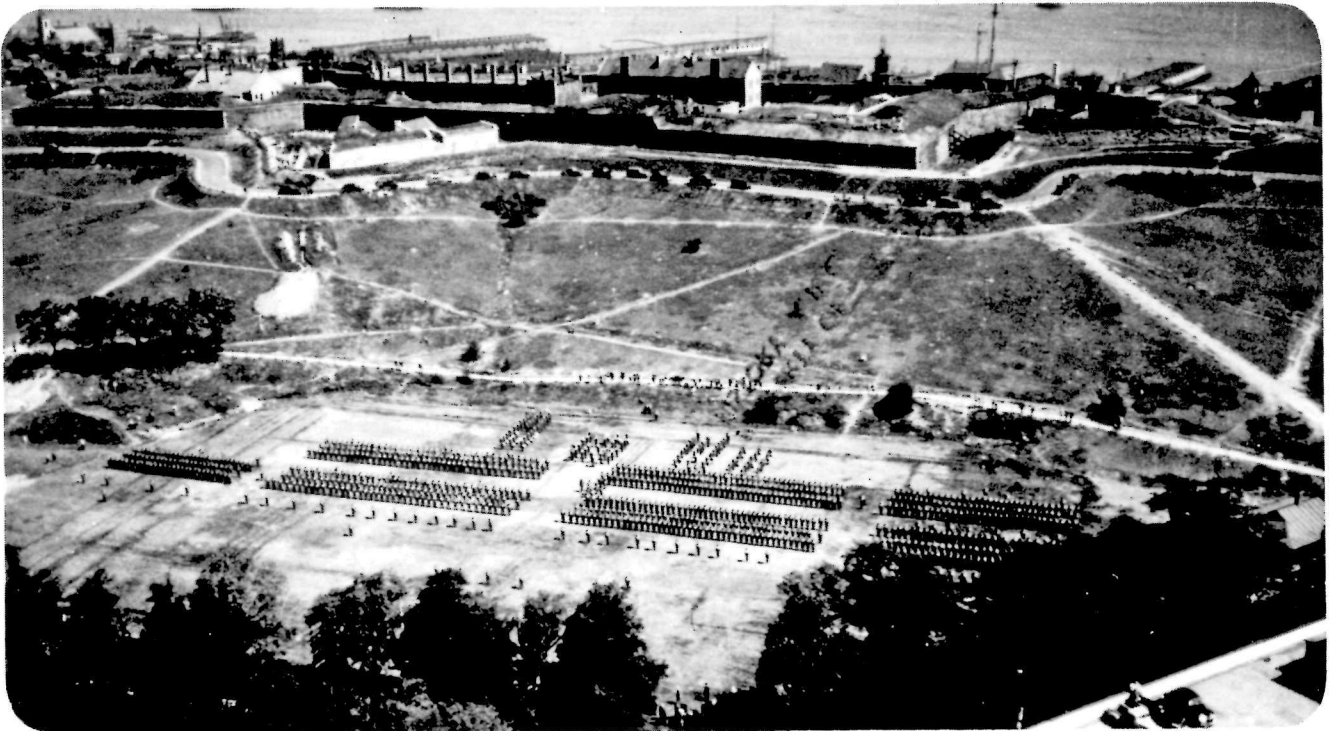
As a result of the comments made, the concepts developed for the Citadel were refined and clarified, as follows:

Garrison Grounds

At the present time the Garrison Grounds playing field is used occasionally for summer sports such as rugby and soccer, and in the winter for sledding. Public celebrations are held here on Dominion Day and on Halifax's Natal Day. Part of this field is under the jurisdiction of the Department of National Defence. Agreement has been reached that this area will be transferred to the Park when surplus to DND requirements, and many present uses will continue on this open area.

Canadian Period

In meetings with the public, considerable sentiment was voiced in favour of telling the story of the period beginning in 1906, when the Citadel became a Canadian fort. The Management Plan provides for an exhibit on the history of the Citadel from the departure of the British in 1906 until the end of



Troops parading on the Garrison Grounds during World War II
Canadian Forces Photo

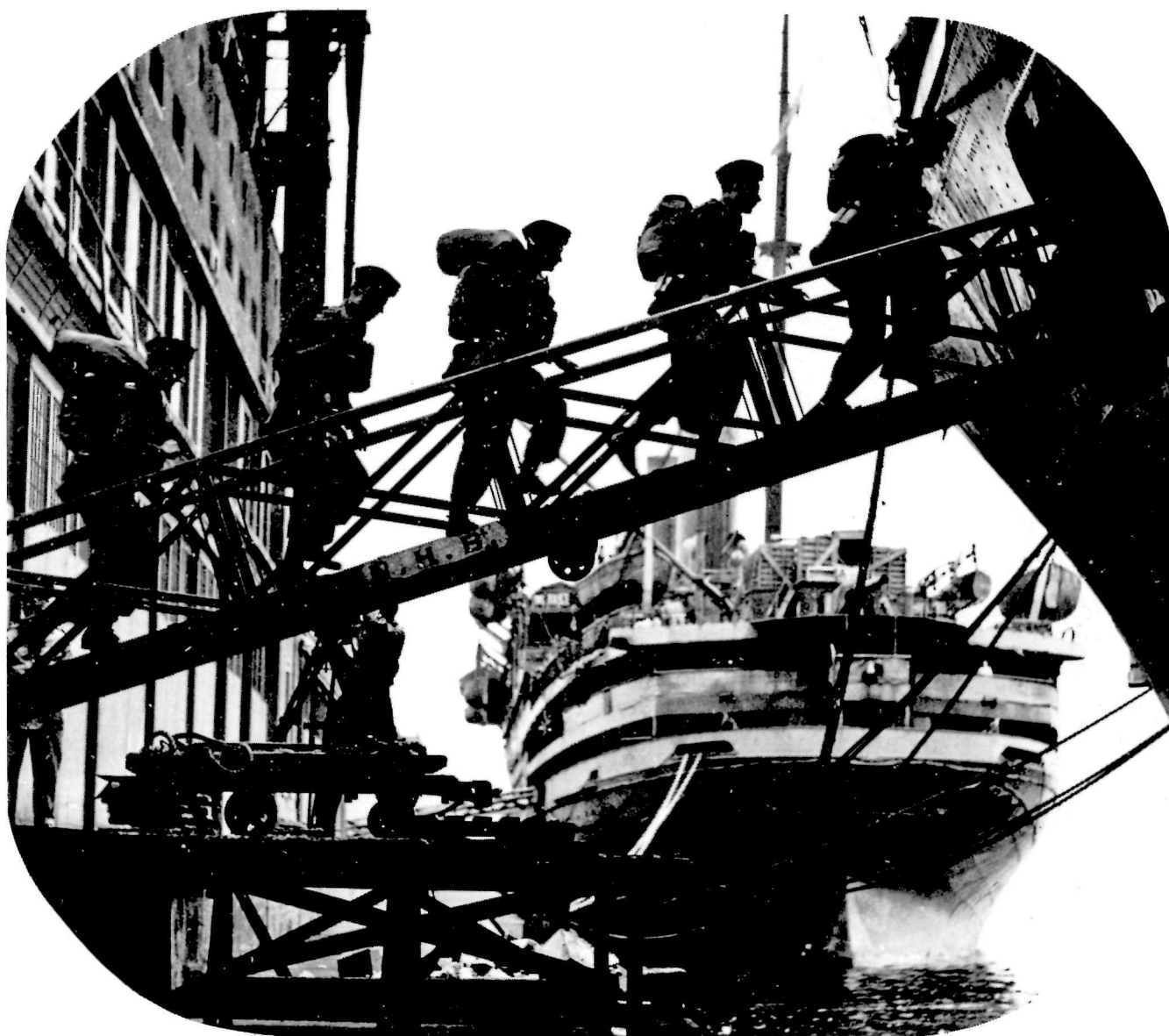
World War II. This is consistent with the thoughts of a number of groups which have commented on the Citadel in the past. The Massey Commission stressed the desirability of preserving the Citadel because it was the last landmark seen by thousands of Canadian soldiers on their way overseas, and the first seen when they returned to Canada after two world wars.

In addition, the Historic Sites and Monuments Board, which serves as an advisory body to the

Minister responsible for Parks Canada, has always viewed the complex of which the Citadel is a part as being important down to the end of World War II. It therefore is appropriate to interpret this forty-year period in the Citadel's history.

Army Museum

The area in which the Army Museum is located was originally used for officers' quarters. It is the most



Troops going overseas in World War II
Public Archives of Canada

appropriate area of the fort in which to tell the officers' story, and will be restored for that purpose. Other space in the Citadel has been identified for the Army Museum where it can continue its present program. At the same time, an expanded role for the Museum in interpreting the Citadel's history is proposed.

Parking

To create a more authentic historic atmosphere and to eliminate conflict between pedestrians and visitors' cars, parking will be removed from the fort. A new parking lot, suitably landscaped, will be developed on property now under the jurisdiction of the Department of National Defence on Ahern Avenue, on the west side of the Park. This property will be transferred to Parks Canada when surplus to DND's requirements. Public transportation to the fort will be provided.

Roads

No major physical changes in Park roads will be made. The public will continue to enjoy access to the roads in order to drop off visitors at the entrance of the fort and to drive around the top of the Hill taking in the views. It was originally proposed to

close the northwest entrance road, near the Commons. It was suggested at public meetings, however, that this road should be retained as an exit, to improve circulation generally and to ensure that there are always two exits from the Park. By restricting this road to an exit, and re-designing it to exit only onto Rainnie Drive, it is also hoped to reduce the number of vehicles taking shortcuts through the Park. This will improve the safety of visitors to the Park.

Municipal Cooperation

A number of issues raised by the public — street crossings, sidewalks, development controls, and views — may be resolved through cooperation with the City of Halifax. The City installed a new sidewalk on the north side of Sackville Street in 1979, and is considering improvements to the intersection by the northwest entrance to the Park. The City is preparing a detailed plan for the area across Brunswick Street from the Citadel, which plan will help guide the development of that area. In addition to the view planes already protected, the City's Municipal Development Plan calls for the preservation of, and possibly improvement to, views along east-west streets in the area between the Citadel and the waterfront in the downtown area.

A DAY AT THE CITADEL

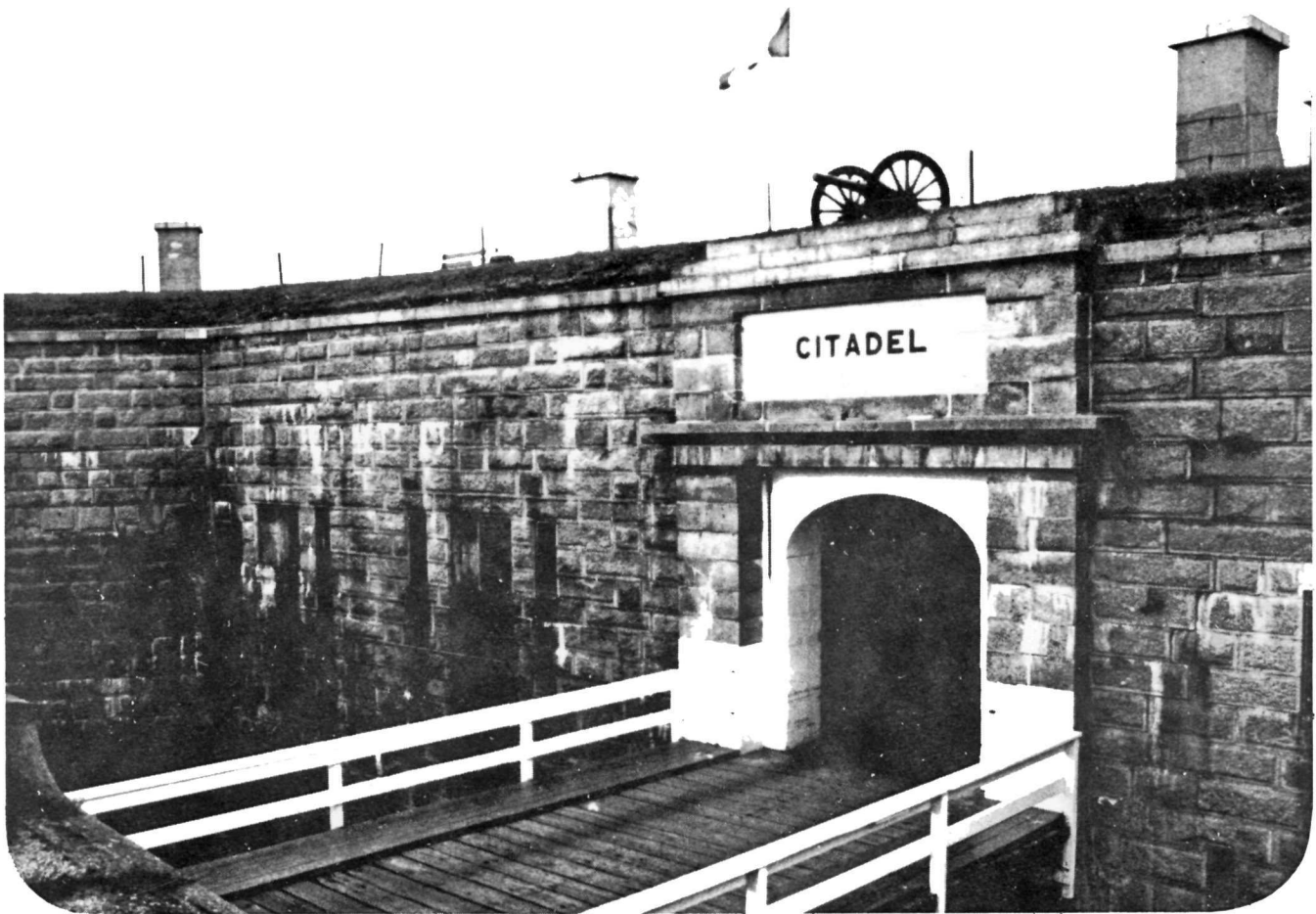
A visitor could easily spend an enjoyable full day touring the Citadel once restoration and development are completed. A typical visit might be as follows:

Most visits will start at the new parking lot on Ahern Avenue, at the base of the western slope of Citadel Hill. Visitors will have the option of either walking up the walkway to the west side of the fort and around to the front entrance, or taking a shuttle bus to the main gate. During the brief trip, those on the bus will receive some preliminary information about the fort and its history. Whether walking or riding, visitors will gain an appreciation of the Citadel's strategic location.

To the west are a number of government institutions and the Halifax Commons. At one time most of this area was kept clear of buildings at the insistence of the military, who wanted a clear range of fire from the Citadel in case of an attack from the west. To the east and south lies the panorama of the harbour, and to the north, the naval dockyard, once one of the Royal Navy's main overseas bases.

At the entrance to the fort, visitors can see the Central Business District of the city, and beyond it George's Island, honeycombed with fortifications. In the distance are York Redoubt and the forts on McNab's Island, guarding the outer harbour.

Heading into the Citadel visitors cross the drawbridge, and are met by an armed sentry,



Entrance to the fort
Parks Canada photo by J.P. Camus

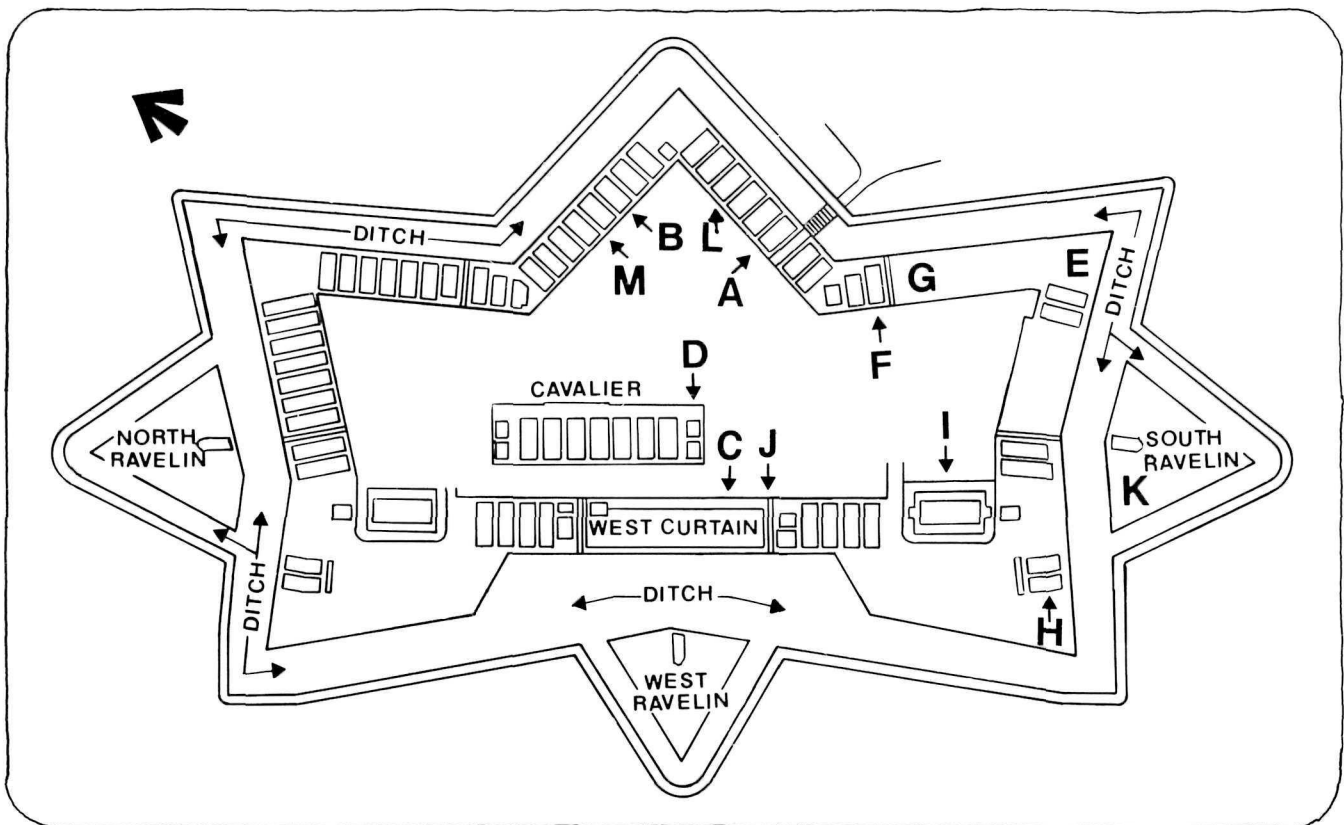
wearing the uniform of one of the many regiments which manned the Citadel. The sentry directs visitors to the orientation area immediately to the right of the entrance (see **A** on the accompanying plan). Here there are pamphlets listing attractions and explaining where they are, and outlining possible self-guided tours. Guided tours are also available, some dealing with special aspects of the fort's history. On the wall are the Garrison Orders, indicating special events of the day, such as the Morning Parade at 9:30, and the Royal Artillery gun drill at 10:30.

The children's centre **B** where younger children find special activities designed just for them, will keep the active youngsters busy while their parents tour the fort. Here there are games like those played by the children of soldiers who lived at the Citadel, colouring books showing what life was like in the fort, and staff to help the children enjoy themselves.

Meanwhile, visitors armed with pamphlets or

accompanied by guides are fanning out across the Parade. Many decide to start their tour by seeing the "Tides of History" presentation **C** where the story of the Citadel and the other Halifax forts unfolds in a dramatic hour-long sight and sound show in four theatres.

Once the show is over refreshments are in order. The obvious place to go for a quick break is the Coffee Bar in the Cavalier **D**. It is furnished much like the original Coffee Bar established at the Citadel after the Crimean War, when British officials became concerned about social conditions in the Army, and wanted to provide the men with an alternative to the Canteen, with its alcoholic beverages. The food provided is the same as that available to the soldier who wanted a snack — bread, cheese, pickles, tea, coffee, or lemonade. For more substantial fare, there are light meals served in the casemates next to the Coffee Bar. The menu includes nutritious coarse bread and tasty beef dishes much like the meals the troops received.



Proposed Location of Facilities

It is now noon. A gun on the walls signals the time for the benefit of the garrison and the city, maintaining a tradition as old as the City itself. It is now time to see the exhibits in the rest of the Cavalier. The exhibit on the Imperial Naval Station makes clear why Halifax was so well defended, while the exhibit on the Canadian period explains what happened to the Citadel after the British Army left in 1906. The Army Museum, on the second and third floors, contains an extensive and valuable collection of military artifacts as well as exhibits on particular aspects of Army history. There is more in this building to occupy a visitor on another day, and so the decision is made to return on another occasion.



Men working in powder magazine
Parks Canada painting by J.C.H. Forster

On leaving the Cavalier, one can see soldiers hoisting signal balls and flags on the masts over the Southeast Salient **E**. The activity draws attention to this area of the fort, and to the technology tour suggested for it. It starts with exhibits on the defence of the harbour and on earlier Citadels **F**, and then leads to the Ramparts **G**, where the signalmen and Royal Artillery crews carry out their duties.

Farther on, buried deep in the Southwest Demi-Bastion **H**, are two defence casemates. They housed guns which could fire on any attackers who managed to get into the ditch, and at the same time served as military prison cells. The damp and cold provide a good indication of how unpleasant punishment for breach of regulations could be. The South Magazine **I** is a further reminder of the military function of the fort. It has a restored portion inside, full of racks and powder barrels, where soldiers are busy shifting the barrels.

A sloping passageway, called a sallyport, **J** draws attention to the ditch around the fort. A walk around the corner along the sheer walls then reveals the South Ravelin **K**, one of three “mini-forts” in the ditch. Inside the guardhouse there is an exhibit on the changing view from the fort, and stairs which lead to the top of the Ravelin and a view of the harbour as it is today.

Out on the Parade there is a drill taking place. A woman with a small child is carrying laundry to the barracks below the hill, and a horse and cart arrive with supplies.

It is now late in the afternoon. Time for a leisurely, stylish meal at the Officers’ Mess **L**. Full course meals are served here, with the appropriate wines, in the fashionable setting enjoyed by officers stationed at the Citadel. The officers had their own kitchen and staff. In contrast to the ordinary soldiers’ menu, the officers’ menu included lavish meals reflecting the officers’ status in the Army and their position in society.

Exhibits in an adjacent part of the Redan **M** flesh out the story of the officers and their work. Some of the casemates are furnished exactly as they were when officers lived in them. Others contain modern displays. The captain’s quarters reflect his personal taste and his income. The furnishings are almost all English. There is a finely crafted shotgun standing in the corner, and shooting trophies on the walls.

Around the corner, there is a court-martial taking place in the library **N**, presided over by a field officer. The soldier being tried is found guilty of drunkenness and neglect of his duties. He is led away to 28 days imprisonment. The field officer mounts his horse and rides off to one of the other barracks in the city.

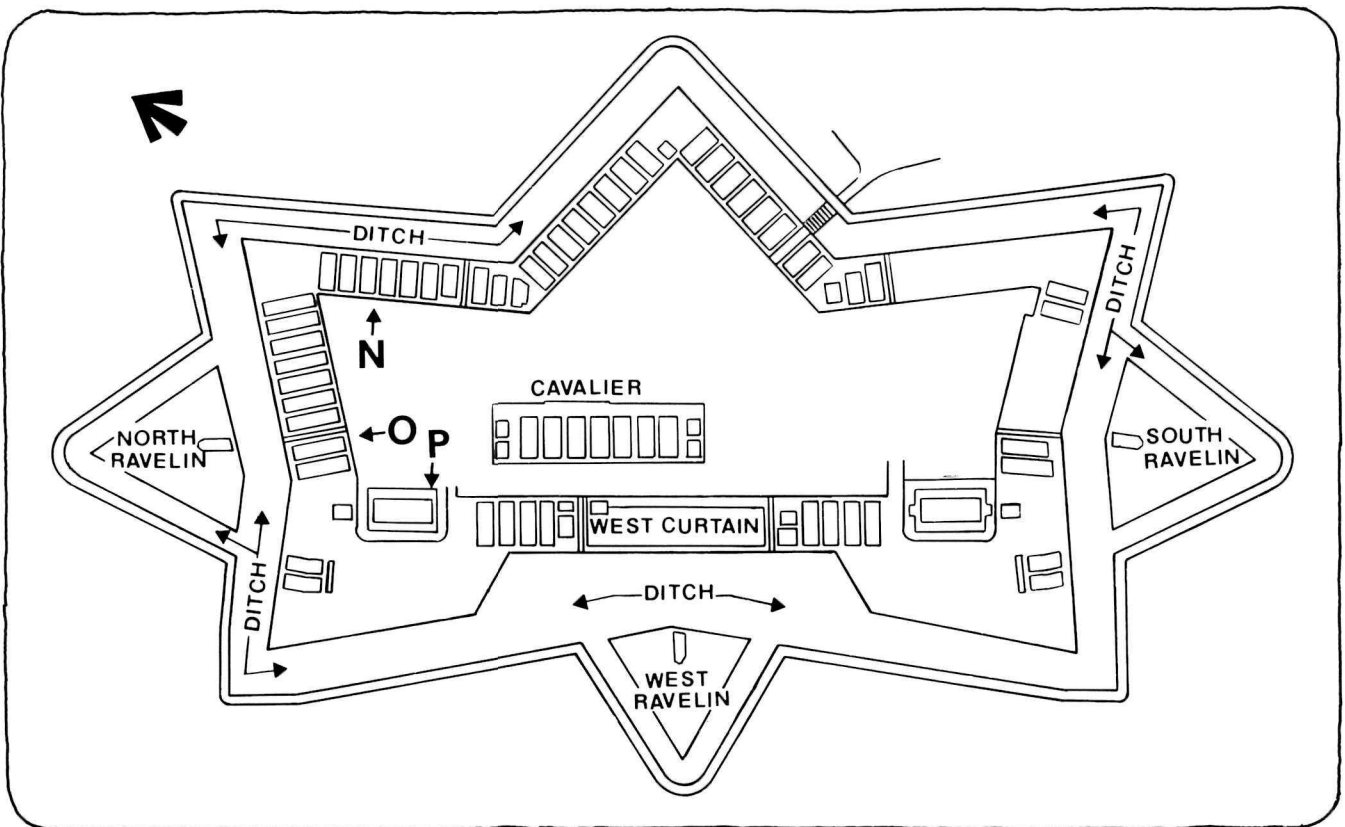
One of the nearby casemates is furnished as barrack rooms were prior to the Crimean War. Crowded into their casemate, the 28 men had little privacy. Married soldiers with families received no extra space, although a blanket hung from the ceiling provided them with some slight privacy. Neighbouring casemates, furnished as they were after reforms, are airier and more spacious. Each man has his own fold-up iron bed with a rack above to store his equipment. The ablutions room next door illustrates another aspect of a soldier's life. It was in this starkly whitewashed casemate with its washtubs and an atmosphere of cold and damp that the men would come every morning to wash and

shave. Their wives would also come to wash clothes and linen with water drawn from one of the Citadel's two wells.

One of the exhibits in this part of the fort deals with health and medicine. Florence Nightingale once said that soldiers enlist to die in barracks. She was exaggerating, but only to a degree. Other aspects of the soldier's life, are the subject of an audio-visual production in Casemate 26 **O**, entitled "A Day in the Life of A Soldier."

The final stop is a brick building in the northwest corner of the fort **P**. There are public washrooms on one level, and a gift shop upstairs, where publications about the Citadel and reproductions of historic items used in the fort can be purchased.

As the evening gun sounds, the visitors leave the Halifax Citadel National Historic Park. They have not seen everything, but have noted many attractions to take in on another visit.



Proposed Location of Facilities

PRESERVATION OF THE FORT

Basic Objective

- **to restore the Citadel in such a manner as to achieve the general appearance and character it had in the mid-nineteenth century while maintaining significant historic resources from later periods.**

Nature of the Problem

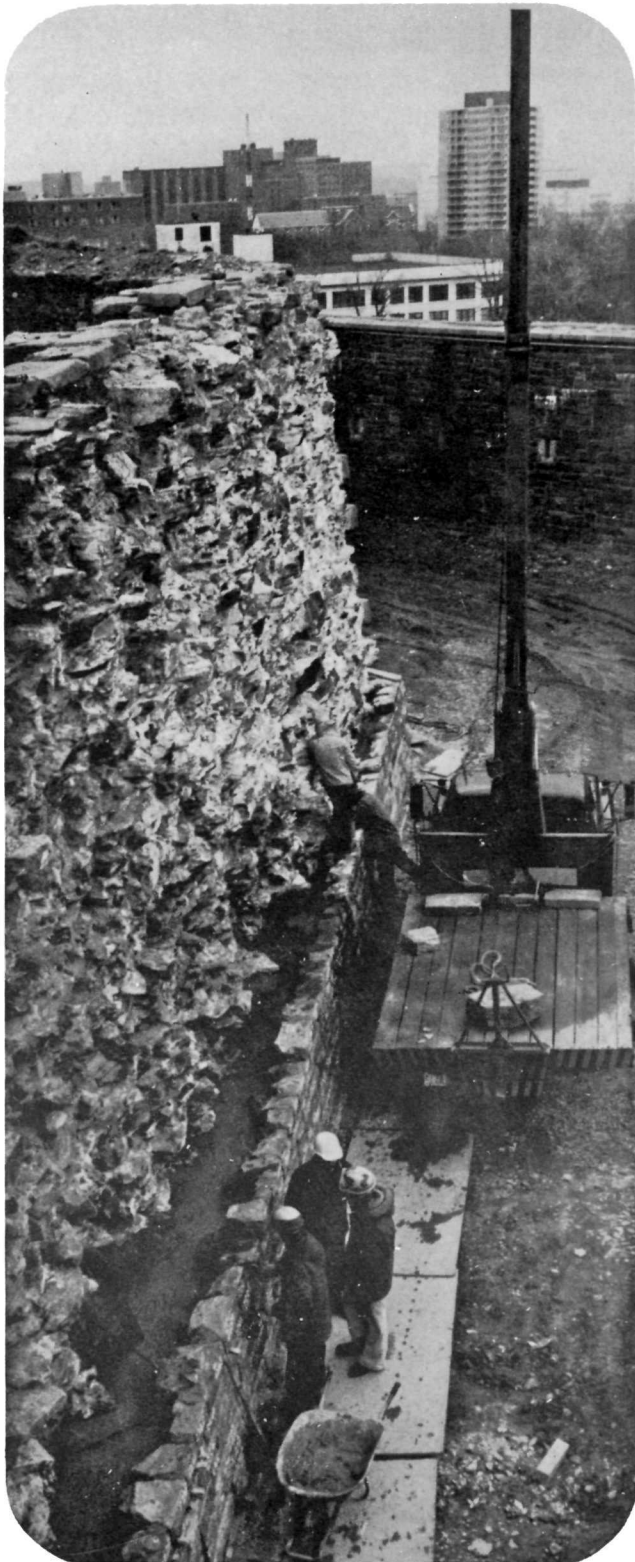
Engineering miscalculations, imprudent attempts at construction economies, the Halifax climate, and simple neglect have all taken their toll on the

Citadel. The original British engineers deviated from standard design when they drew up the plans for the Citadel. Poor work by contractors and the freezing and thawing which occur during the Halifax winter resulted in some walls at the Citadel collapsing within a few years of their construction. Some of the early miscalculations were corrected, but the climate, and later neglect have combined to cause continued deterioration of the walls and buildings at the Citadel. These factors greatly increase the magnitude of the task of preserving the Citadel.

Complicating the picture are the changes which occurred in the Citadel during the fifty years it was



Deteriorated Wall in 1950
Public Archives of Canada



Restoration in progress
Parks Canada photo by R.J. Young

occupied by the British after its completion, and the changes made subsequently by Canadians. Not only did Parks Canada have to decide how best to preserve the basic fort, it also had to decide what changes to accept.

Basic Principle

The Management Plan stipulates that the fort be restored to the general appearance it had in the middle of the nineteenth century. This position is consistent with the Objectives formulated for the Park, and with the general feeling by the public that the restoration should respond to the broad sweep of the fort's history and not be locked rigidly into a narrow period of time.

Methods

Existing structures will be preserved by restoring deteriorated walls (interior and exterior), by waterproofing them and by improving drainage. The last point is very important. The earth fill behind the walls exerts tremendous pressures when it is saturated with water and freezes. Unless drainage problems are corrected when the walls are repaired damage will continue to occur. To waterproof structures under the walls the earth fill will be removed and a waterproof layer laid over the top of the structures. To repair walls and make them stable, some will have to be dismantled and totally rebuilt. In other instances just the top courses of stone need resetting, and in some areas the walls only need repointing.

North Magazine/Canteen

As indicated above, significant features from later in the nineteenth century will be retained, in order to convey a feeling of the Citadel's evolution. The most obvious example is the North Magazine/Canteen. In 1902 the British built a brick canteen on the foundation and lower walls of what had been the North Magazine. The structure represents the changing role of the Citadel, from fort to barracks, and therefore will be retained.

Casemates

Other surviving changes of note include changes in the window arrangements of the casemates (the arched rooms built into the walls.) Originally each casemate had only one small window. After the Crimean War there were major reforms in the British

Army including improvements in the living conditions of the troops. At the Citadel the number of men per room was reduced and an additional window installed in each casemate.

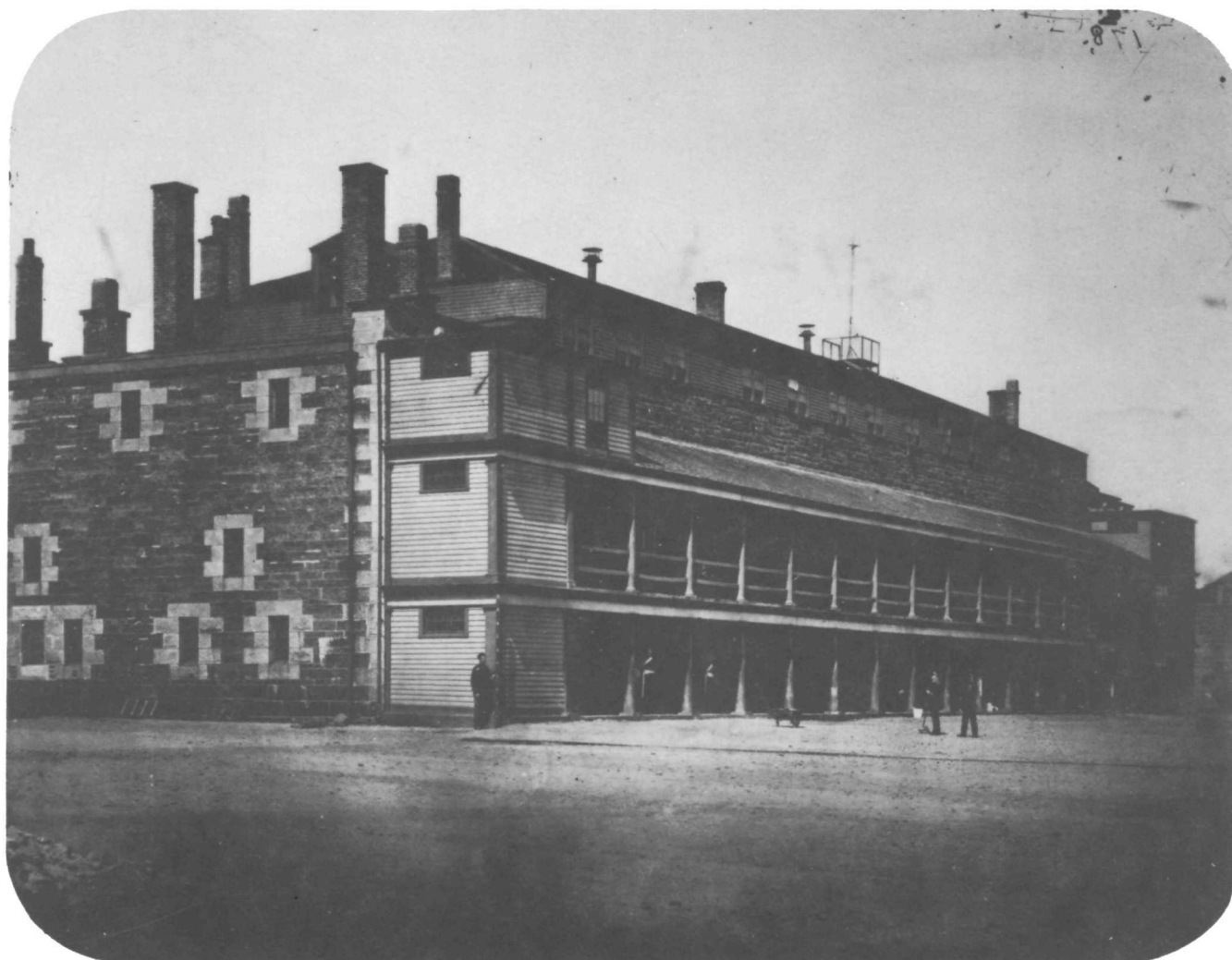
Cavalier

There is one major building at the Citadel which will be restored to depict the fort's evolution. This is the Cavalier. Originally it had a flat roof which could accommodate guns. Unfortunately, this roof leaked badly so the British added a peaked roof. That roof was replaced several times by other roofs with slightly different design until a modern roof was

installed in the 1950's. This roof will be replaced with a roof similar to the one which existed in 1877. In addition to providing dramatic further evidence of the Citadel's evolution, this particular design will create usable space on the third floor of the building. At the same time, it will preserve the original gun emplacements on the old flat roof.

Signal Masts

Finally, a small number of structures which once existed in the fort will be reconstructed in part or whole. For example, there are the signal masts which towered over the ramparts for over 100 years.



The Cavalier ca. 1880
Public Archives of Nova Scotia

A set of these masts will be reconstructed at the southeast corner of the fort, along with the signal hut, used as storage for the flags and as a post for the signallers. These latter two features will provide visual links between the Citadel and the town, and with other sites in the Defence Complex.

with an authentic nineteenth century appearance. It is hoped that eventually the exterior of the Town Clock will be restored to its original appearance.

Town Clock

On the Hill outside of the fort there is a striking reminder of an earlier era in the Citadel's history. It is the Town Clock, the Duke of Kent's legacy to the city. Work carried out on the building in the early 1960's left it structurally sound, but did not provide it



The Town Clock and signal mast ca. 1915
Parks Canada

TELLING THE CITADEL'S STORY

Basic Objective

- **to provide an interpretive program which will enable the visitor to understand and appreciate the Citadel as a key element in the military establishment at Halifax and the role it played in the history of North America in general and Halifax in particular.**

The Citadel is of national historic significance because it recalls the reality of the Imperial military presence in Canada. The Citadel's history encompasses a period in which striking changes were taking place in weapons, changes which,

along with social reforms in the British Army, transformed the fort, in some cases subtly, in other cases dramatically. The Citadel was never the famous battlefield that Louisbourg was. It was a fort that never 'fired a shot in anger.' It was a rather uncomfortable barracks for British soldiers, and after them for Canadian soldiers.

An interpretation program should convey a convincing impression of what the Citadel was and what it represented. The Army formed a very peculiar and interesting society. Military rituals, parades and drills were essential parts of the fabric of that society. So were the courage, endurance, and sense of duty of the soldier and officer. But the Citadel will convey much more than just a



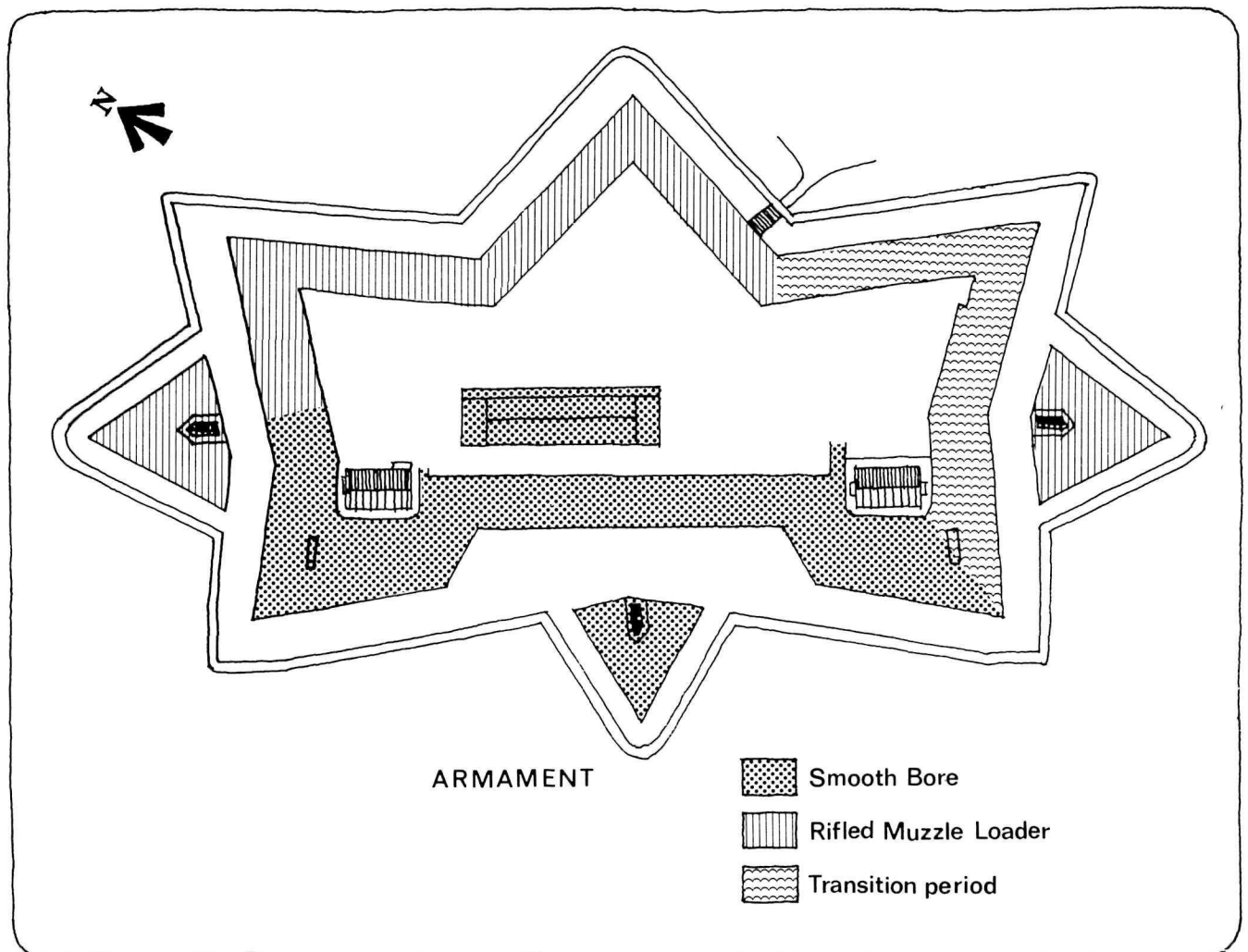
Gun detachment — animation 1979
Parks Canada photo by J.P. Camus

romanticized version of the Army and Army life. It will also convey a sense of the banal and brutal aspects of the nineteenth century soldier's existence, of the boredom of daily routine, and the harshness of military discipline.

The story of the Citadel will be told by means of a combination of exhibits, programs, and services, ranging from selected rearmament and historic food services to period-furnished rooms and costumed staff performing historic functions. The program is extremely varied, as the complexity of the Citadel's history cannot be conveyed adequately by any single method.

Exhibits

The exhibits will be a mixture of period-furnished rooms and modern exhibits located throughout the fort. The south end of the fort will be devoted to the technology of defence and related subjects. For instance, an exhibit on engineering will include a detailed description of the design and construction of the present Citadel. The Redan will concentrate on the Citadel's officers, while the exhibits in the north end of the fort will deal with the common soldier. The Cavalier will house the Army Museum, and exhibits on Halifax Harbour, the Imperial Naval Station, and Settlement and Commerce.



Proposed Armament

Eating at the Citadel

At times the Citadel housed almost 800 soldiers. The various kitchens and messes, canteens, and coffee bars required to sustain them were an important part of the fort's operations. In addition to exhibits on this subject, the fort will also contain restored eating establishments where visitors may eat the type of food available to the officers and men stationed at the Citadel.

There will be an Officers' Mess, where visitors can enjoy a full course meal served in a setting comparable to the Officers' Mess which existed here in the nineteenth century. Across the parade, in the Cavalier, there will be a coffee bar and several casemates in which visitors can obtain meals such as the ordinary soldier received. The coffee bar was originally introduced in the 1870's, as an alternative to the canteen. The soldiers ate their main meals in their barrack rooms, rather than in a mess hall, but would supplement their meals with items from the coffee bar or the canteen.

Armament

When the Citadel was completed in the 1850's the walls virtually bristled with guns. Striking changes occurred over the years with the introduction of more advanced weapons. This evolution will be represented on the restored walls (ramparts) of the fort, where the re-introduction of a variety of heavy weapons will mark one of the greatest visual differences between the present Citadel and the restored fort.

The west and northwest walls will be devoted to the original weapons intended for the Citadel: the smooth-bore muzzle-loading guns. This recognizes

the fact that when this Citadel was built, the British were most concerned with the possibility of an attack from the west and armed this side of the Citadel first. The south end of the fort will depict the transition from smooth-bore to rifled guns which occurred at the Citadel in the 1860's. The eastern front will be devoted to the rifled muzzle-loaders.

This arrangement will respond to the changes in the Citadel's armament which took place in the latter part of the nineteenth century. These changes were representative of the first major developments to occur in weaponry since the seventeenth century.

Animation

Animation, the performance of historic activities by people in uniforms or costumes, will provide a living link with the past. It will breathe life into the restored ramparts and make the Parade the focal point of historic activity rather than a parking lot for visitors' cars. Casemates furnished to historic periods will be more than museum pieces — where they are used by animators they will be living theatre.

In the animation program planned for the Citadel some of the guns mounted on the walls will be used in gun drills. There will be dress parades in the courtyard and numerous other activities carried out by animators, all dressed in costumes or uniforms of the mid-nineteenth century. The program may also include women and children since there were soldiers' wives and children living at the Citadel at times in the nineteenth century.

There will be an opportunity for trained volunteers to participate in the animation program. Some of the animators will also provide specialized guided tours.

VISITOR SERVICES

Basic Objective:

- **to provide services sufficiently comprehensive to permit the visitor to appreciate fully the historic nature of the Citadel. This may be done by ensuring easy access to the site, and accommodation of visitors at acceptable levels of convenience, comfort, and safety.**

Planning for visitor services at the Citadel hinges in large part on how many people are likely to visit the Park, and tour the fort, over the next ten to twenty years. When they will arrive is also important. Forecasting such patterns accurately is very difficult to do, but the best available information indicates that the number of visitors to the fort each year will increase from approximately 300,000 at present to almost 500,000 by the mid-1990's. During this period the total number of hours visitors will spend at the Citadel each year will increase four-fold from 300,000 to over 1,200,000.

Washrooms

For the convenience of visitors, there will be several new washrooms, in three locations: at the new

parking area, in the lower level casemates to the immediate right when visitors enter the courtyard, and on the ground floor of the North Magazine/Canteen Building, in the northwest corner of the fort.

Children's Centre

A facility likely to be of great interest to parents visiting the park with young children is the children's centre. This will be located in two lower level casemates of the Redan, to the right on entering the courtyard. Younger children can be left here while their parents tour the fort. More than a day-care area, this facility will provide special programs related to the history of the Citadel.

Sales Outlet

There will also be a sales outlet, in the upper level of the North Magazine/Canteen Building. It will provide reproductions of items used in the restored fort, as well as publications dealing with the Citadel and related subjects.

Parking and Transportation

To establish the atmosphere of an active nineteenth

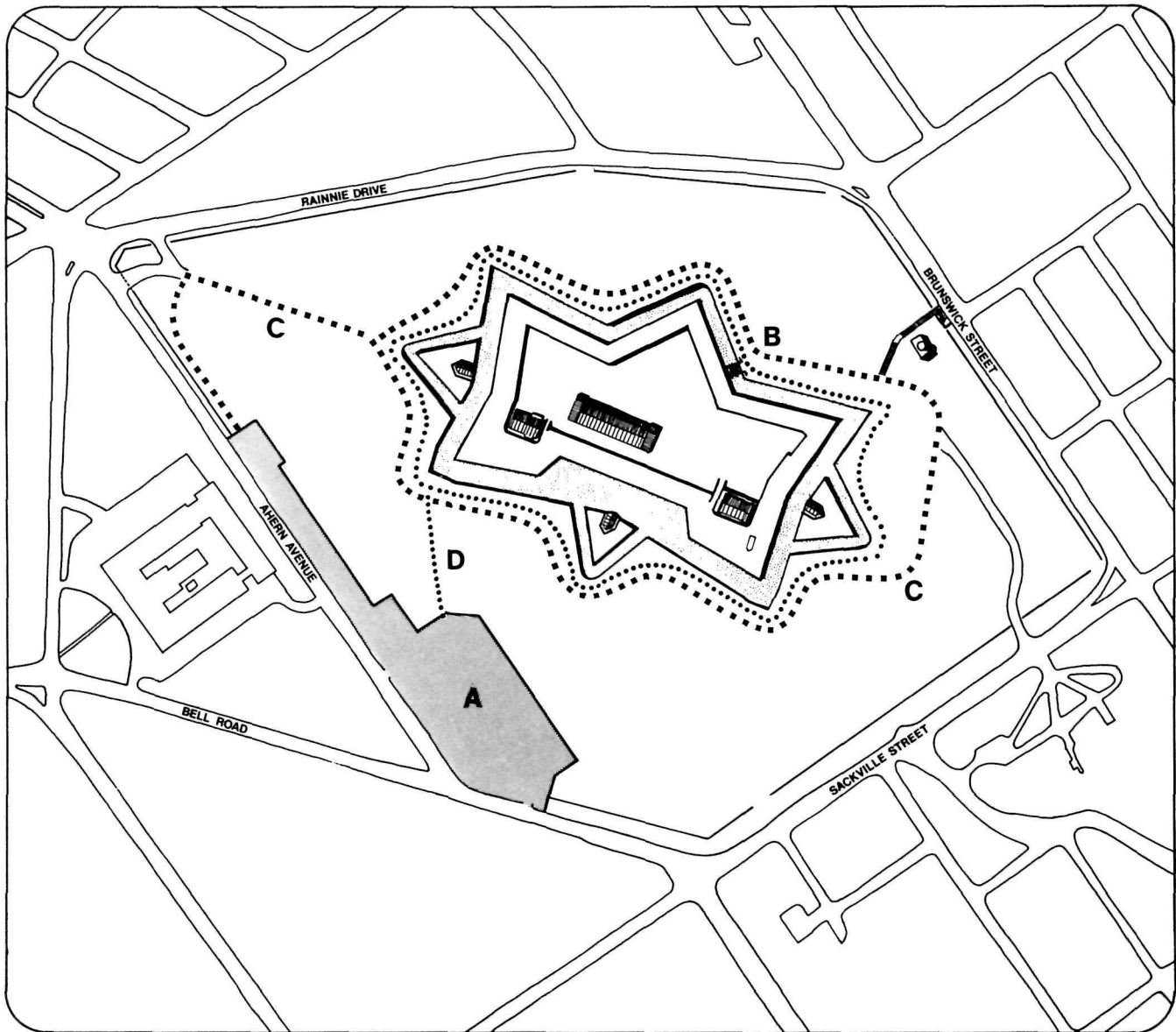


North Magazine/Canteen building
Parks Canada photo by J.P. Camus

century British fort, it will be necessary to eliminate parking from inside the Citadel. A replacement parking area will be developed on Ahern Avenue **A**, on the west side of the Park, when the land required is transferred from the Department of National Defence. Visitors may, of course, still drive up to the entrance to the fort **B**, and drop passengers off there or drive around the fort to enjoy the view.

During the visitor season and at other peak periods

buses will transport visitors from the new parking area to the entrance to the fort. The route **C**, will provide visitors with a panoramic view and will help establish the physical relationship of the fort to the city and the harbour. When the bus service is not operating, limited parking will be provided at the fort. For visitors who prefer to walk, there will be a walkway **D** from the parking area to the fort. Reserved parking for the handicapped will be provided at the entrance to the fort **B**.



Outside The Fort

Outside the fort are the grassy slopes of Citadel Hill, popular for picnicking in summer and sledding in winter. A number of improvements will occur here. Sections of the fence at the edge of the Park will be removed or new gates built to improve access for pedestrians. A new walkway will be constructed from the parking area up the hill to the road around the fort and then around to the entrance to separate vehicles and pedestrians.

Picnic facilities will be provided in the vicinity of the parking lot, and the Garrison Grounds will remain as a green open area.

Views are another important aspect of the area outside the fort. In addition to the view protected from the southeast corner of the fort itself, there are

nine other protected views, from three specific points on the edge of the Park roads. One point is opposite the entrance to the fort, the other two are on the road to the south of the fort. These will be identified and suitably marked. This will complement an exhibit in the South Ravelin on views and the municipal legislation which protects them.

By tradition, the area outside the fort has been popular for viewing the city and harbour, picnicking in summer and sledding in winter. These and other compatible activities are important to the community and to tourists alike, and they will continue. At the same time, regulations will be drawn up which will ensure that activities which would jeopardize the quiet enjoyment and appreciation of the Park by visitors do not take place.



Sledding on Citadel Hill in 1869
Parks Canada

HOW AND WHEN IT WILL HAPPEN

In order to correct some of the more seriously deteriorated areas of the fort and to provide a more satisfying visit for the public, some restoration and development was begun at the Citadel before preparation of the Management Plan began. For example, when the West Curtain Wall, behind the Cavalier, was dismantled for restoration in the early 1970's, it was decided to excavate the earth between the walls, to roof over the gap, and use the space for exhibit purposes. That space now contains the "Tides of History" sight and sound show.

It was decided on the same grounds that restoration and development should also proceed at the south end of the fort. Here some badly deteriorated walls will be restored and several new exhibits developed dealing with military technology. This work was planned so that it could be fully integrated into the overall Plan for the Park.

The complete restoration and development of the Citadel will take place on a phased basis over a number of years and cost over twenty million dollars. Emphasis at first will be on the interim area

at the south end of the fort and on the most unstable walls. Visitor facilities such as the washrooms and parking lot will be constructed in phases as the number of visitors increases. The restoration of the parade surface will be one of the last things to be done, as it cannot be done while heavy construction is underway.

Every effort will be made to provide an enjoyable visit while work is underway, and to minimize the disruption normally associated with such major undertakings. For instance, the Army Museum will not vacate the Redan until alternate quarters are ready for it on the second and third floors of the Cavalier. If possible, a modern canteen will operate until one of the historic food services is ready to open. When parking is eliminated from the fort alternate parking will be provided, along with transportation facilities.

The Management Plan for the Citadel has been accepted, and funding has been approved in principle. The phasing of the Project, however, depends on the approval by Parliament of Parks Canada's annual budget.

For more detailed information about the Citadel and the restoration, please contact the Park Superintendent at:

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