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News Release Communiqué

MINISTER COPPS ANNOUNCES HISTORIC COMMEMORATIONS IN CANADA

Ottawa, February 21, 2002 -- The Honourable Sheila Copps, Minister of Canadian Heritage, today announced nine new designations of national historic significance. These designations were made upon the recommendation of the Historic Sites and Monuments Board of Canada (HSMBC) and include places and events.

"The designations I am announcing today have had a profound effect on the lives of Canadians and on other nations. These include places that depict Canada's rich natural resources. Coal mining, gold extraction and the Atlantic fishery have made an extraordinary contribution to Canada's economy" said Minister Copps. "From the evolution of Prairie settlement, with its fur trade and agricultural development, Métis settlement and European immigration, to a representation of Freemasonry's Enlightenment ideas, these national historic sites symbolize Canada's great and diverse heritage," the Minister added.

Two other designations announced by the Minister involved a place and event of national historic significance that were of vital importance to the war effort during the Second World War. "With the designation of the role of the Canadian Merchant Navy, we salute its 12,000 sailors and remember the 1,629 men and women who sacrificed their lives in a valiant effort to help win that war," said Ms. Copps. "We also remember Canada's wartime contribution through the designation of BCATP Hanger No. 1, one of the 701 hangers constructed to train more than 130,000 Commonwealth airmen at Canadian air bases under the British Commonwealth Air Training Plan," the Minister concluded.

One of the federal government's key objectives is to ensure that the system of National Historic Sites of Canada and of national commemorations reflects the country's evolving and diverse history.

Today's designations comprise the following:

Places of National Historic Significance

Atlas No. 3 Coal Mine, Drumheller Valley, Alberta

Banc de Pêche de Paspébiac, northeast of New Carlisle, Quebec

British Commonwealth Air Training Plan (BCATP) Hanger No. 1, Brandon, Manitoba

Coleman, Alberta

Masonic Memorial Temple, Montréal, Quebec

Nordegg, Alberta

Old Territorial Administration Building, Dawson, Yukon

Victoria Settlement, Alberta

Events of National Historic Significance

Role of the Canadian Merchant Navy During the Second World War

Furthermore, the Honorable Andy Mitchell, Secretary of State and Member of Parliament for Parry Sound-Muskoka, recently announced the designation of the Norwegian Training in Canada During the Second World War

Created in 1919, the Historic Sites and Monuments Board of Canada advises the Minister of Canadian Heritage regarding the national historic significance of places, persons and events that have marked Canada's history.

Information:

Kerry Edmonds
Press Secretary
for the Minister of Canadian Heritage
(819) 997-7788

Michel Audy
Executive Secretary
Historic Sites and Monuments Board of Canada
(819) 997-4059

Backgrounders associated with this News Release.

[Atlas No. 3 Coal Mine National Historic Site of Canada, Alberta](#)

[Banc de Pêche de Paspébiac National Historic Site of Canada](#)

[BCATP Hangar No. 1 National Historic Site of Canada, Brandon, Manitoba](#)

[Coleman National Historic Site of Canada, Alberta](#)

[Masonic Memorial Temple National Historic Site of Canada, Montréal](#)

[Nordegg National Historic Site of Canada, Alberta](#)

[Norwegian Training in Canada During the Second World War](#)

[Old Territorial Administration Building National Historic Site of Canada, Dawson, Yukon](#)

[Role of the Canadian Merchant Navy During the Second World War](#)

[Victoria Settlement National Historic Site of Canada, Alberta](#)



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