

FHBRO HERITAGE CHARACTER STATEMENT MALLORYTOWN LANDING PAVILION, ST. LAWRENCE ISLANDS NATIONAL PARK

FHBRO number: **93-26**
DFRP number: **09431**
Resource name: **Mallorytown Landing Pavilion**
Address: **Mallorytown Landing, St. Lawrence Islands National Park, Ontario**
FHBRO status: **“Recognized” Federal Heritage Building**
Construction: **1904**
Designer: **unknown; constructed by John D. Warwick for the Department of Indian Affairs**
Original function : **picnic shelter**
Current function : **visitor centre**
Modifications: **Wooden columns replaced by stone piers (ca. 1920s or 1930s); structure enclosed with wood infill walls, clapboard siding, flagstone steps and a ramp with railing (ca. 1970s).**
Custodian: **Parks Canada Agency (PCA)**

Reasons for Designation

The Mallorytown Landing Pavilion is a “Recognized” Federal Heritage Building because of its historical associations, and its architectural and environmental values:

Historical value:

The Mallorytown Landing Pavilion is associated with the development of recreational facilities by the federal government at the beginning of the 20th century as a result of increased public demands. The site was donated to the federal government and set aside for park use in 1904, in response to increasing private development in the Thousand Islands and concern over the lack of public park space. The Mallorytown Landing Pavilion was one of several picnic shelters commissioned by the Department of Indian Affairs in response to the public demand for camping and picnicking facilities. The Pavilion, constructed in 1904, is one of the oldest picnic shelters in the national parks system. The area was later established as St. Lawrence Islands National Park (SLINP) in 1914.

Architectural value:

The Mallorytown Landing Pavilion is a good example of the Picturesque aesthetic used for recreational facilities in urban and suburban parks during the late 19th and early 20th centuries. It is one of three extant picnic shelters at SLINP built at the same time to a similar design. The Mallorytown Landing Pavilion retains several original features which reinforce the picturesque aesthetic, including an octagonal hip roof, decorative exposed rafter ends and large, gabled dormers. During the 1920s or 1930s, it was altered by the substitution of heavy stone piers for the original paired wooden columns, thereby bringing it closer to the dominant national park vocabulary of the period. During the 1970s, it was further altered to serve as an enclosed visitor centre by the addition of wood infill walls with clapboard siding, flagstone steps and a ramp.

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Environmental value:

The Mallorytown Landing Pavilion reinforces the picturesque character and is located on a rocky bluff overlooking the St. Lawrence River. The site has been altered by the addition of a modern building about 350 feet distant, which houses a local ship wreck. In keeping with the picturesque and rustic aesthetics, the Pavilion is in harmony with its natural surroundings. Due to its significant age and its function as a visitor centre, the Pavilion is familiar to both park visitors and the local population.

Character-Defining Elements

The following character-defining elements of the Mallorytown Landing Pavilion should be respected:

Its role in providing public spaces in the St. Lawrence Islands at the turn of the century, is reflected in:

- its direct aesthetic connections to urban park amenities of the period.

Its picturesque aesthetic as manifested in:

- the octagonal hip roof with large, gabled dormers and decorative, wooden rafter ends;
- the heavy, stone piers;

The manner in which it reinforces the picturesque character of the setting as evidenced in:

- its location on a rocky bluff overlooking the St. Lawrence River;
- the relative absence of other structures in the immediate vicinity;
- familiar to park visitors and the local population.

For guidance on interventions, please refer to the FHBRO Code of Practice. For further information contact FHBRO.

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