

**FHBRO HERITAGE CHARACTER STATEMENT  
BEURIVAGE ISLAND PICNIC SHELTER,  
ST. LAWRENCE ISLANDS NATIONAL PARK**

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FHBRO number: **93-37**  
DFRP number: **09431**  
Resource name: **Beaurivage Island Picnic Shelter**  
Address: **Beaurivage Island, St. Lawrence Islands National Park, Ontario**  
FHBRO status: **“Recognized” Federal Heritage Building**  
Construction: **1950 (to plans prepared in 1929)**  
Designer: **Architectural Division, National Parks Branch, under W.D. Cromarty**  
Original function : **picnic shelter**  
Current function : **picnic shelter**  
Modifications: **replacement of wood components in the course of maintenance**  
Custodian: **Parks Canada Agency (PCA)**

**Reasons for Designation**

The Beaurivage Island Picnic Shelter is a “Recognized” Federal Heritage Building because of its historical associations, and its architectural and environmental values:

Historical value:

The Beaurivage Island Picnic Shelter is associated with the establishment of national parks through the subtheme of growth of the parks in the 1950s. At St. Lawrence Islands National Park (SLINP), this necessitated the construction of additional recreational amenities, including picnic shelters and docks.

Architectural value:

The Beaurivage Island Picnic Shelter is a good example of the late rustic aesthetic devised by W. D. Cromarty during the 1920s and 1930s for Parks buildings. It also illustrates Cromarty’s use of milled-wood frame construction as a practical alternative to log construction, achieving a rustic image at minimal cost. The Beaurivage Island Picnic Shelter differs from other SLINP picnic shelters in the enclosure of its rear wall, while standard components include a hip roof, exposed rafters, vertical support posts with wood brackets, and concrete slab foundation. The structure deviates from the 1929 plan in the shape of the overall structure, the shape and finishing of the enclosed area, and the design of the railing.

Environmental value:

The Beaurivage Island Picnic Shelter is the only structure, with the exception of a nearby privy, on a wooded site, on an island in the St. Lawrence River. The rustic character of the shelter is appropriate to this setting. This well-known and well-used shelter is conveniently located near a dock.

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**FEDERAL HERITAGE BUILDING REVIEW OFFICE**  
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### **Character-Defining Elements**

The following character-defining elements of the Beurivage Island Picnic Shelter should be respected:

Its role as an illustration of the vast increase in the number of visitors to national parks during the postwar period is reflected in:

- its simple open, design, in keeping with its role as a public picnic shelter.

Its rustic aesthetic and conformity to standard designs for national park picnic shelters, as manifested in:

- the open design and unpartitioned interior space;
- the hipped roof, exposed rafters, vertical wood support posts, wood brackets, low surrounding railing at the front of the structure, and concrete slab floor;

Its unusual design features, as manifested in:

- the enclosed space at the rear of the structure.

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

- its location on a remote, wooded site, on an island, with a privy and a dock nearby.

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

January 2003