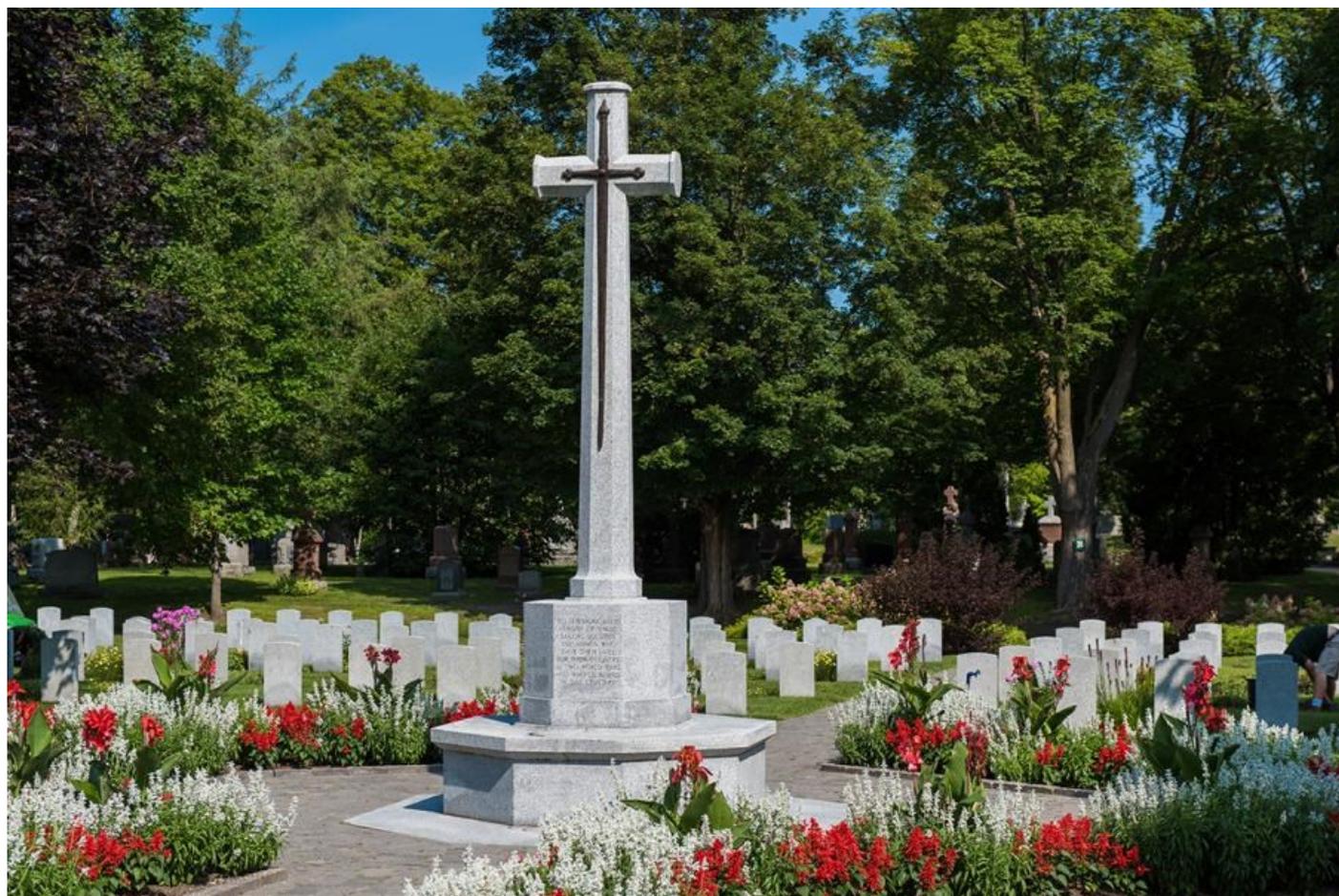


Tenth Annual Historical Walking Tour

The Knights of Beechwood



Fondation du Cimetière
Beechwood
Cemetery Foundation

SIR HENRY NEWELL BATE

Born in Cornwall, England on April 9, 1828, Bate came to Canada in 1833 and made his way to Ottawa in 1854. He was successful as a wholesale grocer and as a real estate investor. The Bate real estate holdings were extensive, particularly in Sandy Hill. At his own expense, Bate built and equipped All Saints Church at the corner of Chapel Street and Laurier Avenue. Bate was the first chairman of the Ottawa Improvement Commission (later the National Capital Commission). He was instrumental in securing Rockcliffe Park as a public playground for Ottawa and in constructing the Queen Elizabeth Driveway with its connecting boulevards, parks and gardens. In recognition of his services, he was knighted in 1910 by Governor General Earl Grey. Sir Henry Bate served as the third president of Beechwood Cemetery between 1907 and 1917. He was also a director of the Bank of Canada, General Trusts Corporation and the Protestant Home for the Aged, president of the Russell Hotel and Theatre Co., Perfect Brick & Tile Co., Aylmer Road Co. And Metropolitan Loan Co., and vice president of the Canadian Casualty Co. He passed away on April 6, 1917.

SIR ROBERT LAIRD BORDEN

Born in Grand Pré, Nova Scotia on June 26, 1854, Borden was a successful lawyer early in his career. His political background was Liberal, but he disagreed with Nova Scotia Liberals, who wanted to secede from the Canadian union. He left the party in 1886. Ten later, at the request of Prime Minister Charles Tupper, Borden ran for Parliament as a Conservative from Halifax. He won, but his party lost. This happened again in 1900; in 1901 Borden became the leader of the Conservative Party. He was defeated in the general elections of 1904 and 1908. In 1911, he won the election and formed the first Conservative government in 15 years. He was knighted in 1914, at the beginning of the First World War. By 1917, many of years Canada's volunteer soldiers had died and replacements were badly needed. Borden therefore called for conscription. During also the war, Borden's Government introduced the Emergency War Measures Act and the first direct federal tax. His health failing, Borden resigned in 1920. Later, he was chancellor of Queen's University in Kingston, Ontario. Canada's eighth prime minister and a Father of Confederation, Borden passed away in Ottawa on June 10, 1937, at the Age of 82.



SIR JOHN GEORGE BOURINOT

Born in Sydney, Nova Scotia on October 24, 1837, Bourinot was educated at Trinity University and became a journalist. In 1860, he founded the Halifax Herald and for several years was its editor. The following year, he was appointed chief reporter of the legislative assembly of Nova Scotia. In 1871, he transferred to the Canadian House of Commons as an assistant clerk. He eventually became chief clerk, a position he retained until his death. He devoted himself to the study of the constitutional law and history of Canada and became an authority in these fields. He contributed many papers to the transactions of the Royal Society of Canada, of which he was secretary in 1882 and president in 1892. Bourinot died in Ottawa on October 13, 1902.

SIR LOUIS HENRY DAVIS

Born on Prince Edward Island on May 4, 1845, Davies studied law at the Inner Temple in London, England. He was called to the English bar in 1866 and to the bar of Prince Edward Island in 1867. From 1872 to 1879, he was a member of the legislative assembly of Prince Edward Island, and from 1876 to 1879 he was premier of the province. In 1882, he was elected to the Canadian House of Commons for Queen's. He was one of the leaders of the Liberal opposition from 1882 until 1896, and served as minister of marine and fisheries in the Laurier government from 1896 until 1902. In 1901, he was appointed a judge of the Supreme Court of Canada and in 1918 he became its chief justice. He passed away on May 1, 1924.

SIR SANDFORD FLEMING

Civil engineer, born at Kirkcaldy, Fifeshire, Scotland, on January 7, 1827, the son of Andrew Greig Fleming and Elizabeth Arnot. He studied surveying and engineering in Scotland, came to Canada in 1845, and entered the service of the Northern Railway. He became chief engineer in 1857. He was chief engineer of the Intercolonial Railway during its construction; and in 1871 he was appointed engineer-in-chief to superintend the surveys for the Canadian Pacific Railway. Though never a member of Parliament, he played a prominent part in public life. He was an ardent imperialist; and in 1849 rescued from the burning Parliament Buildings at Montreal the portrait of Queen Victoria. He became a vice-president of the United Empire League; and he was one of the Canadian representatives at the Colonial Conferences of 1887 and 1894. In 1855 he married Ann Jean, daughter of Sheriff Hall of Peterborough, Upper Canada, and he had six children. In 1882 he was chosen a charter member of the Royal Society of Canada, and in 1888 he became its president. Sir Sandford Fleming was for thirty-five years (1880-1915) the chancellor of Queens University in Kingston. He was also for many years a director of the Hudson's Bay Company and of the Canadian Pacific Railway. He died at Halifax, Nova Scotia, on July 22, 1915.

MAJOR GENERAL SIR JAMES H. MACBRIEN

Born in Myrtle, Ontario, on June 30, 1878, James MacBrien had a keen interest in the military life from a young age. With experience in the militia, he engaged with the North-West Mounted Police in April 1900 and served until the following February, when he joined with the South African Constabulary. He returned to Canada in 1906 and embarked on a distinguished military career, including overseas service during the First World War. MacBrien was promoted to Brigadier General in 1916 in command of the 12th Canadian Infantry Brigade. Returning to Canada in 1920, he was promoted to Major-General and appointed Chief of Staff, a position he held until his retirement from the Canadian Army in 1927. In August 1931, MacBrien was appointed Commissioner of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP) and for the next seven years, until his untimely death in 1938, he transformed the Force into one of the most modern police forces in the world. He championed the use of science in crime detection, improved training and education, and was instrumental in establishing RCMP Air Services in 1937. During his commissionership, police dog services were introduced, the Marine Section was formed, and the Force assumed provincial policing responsibility in Manitoba, Alberta, New Brunswick, Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island. MacBrien modernized the RCMP in a few short years and left a legacy of professionalism and sound Commissioner management. MacBrien died in Toronto on March 5, 1938.



SIR DONALD ALEXANDER MACDONALD

Born in Cornwall, Ontario, on October 31, 1845, Macdonald was commissioned to join the Canadian militia in 1863. He served in the Fenian raid in 1866, in the Red River expedition of 1870, in the North West Rebellion of 1885, and joined the 2nd Cornwall Volunteer Militia Company in 1863. In 1904 he was appointed Quarter-Master-General of the Canadian militia and kept this position until 1918. He was responsible for the equipment of the Canadian forces at the outbreak of the Great War and for most of its duration. He was placed on the retired list in 1918 and he died in Ottawa on May 4, 1920.

MAJOR GENERAL SIR EDWARD WHIPPLE BANCROFT MORRISON

Morrison was born on July 6, 1867 in London, Ontario. He began as a journalist in Hamilton where he worked for the Hamilton Spectator. He was appointed editor in chief of the Ottawa Citizen as of July 1, 1898, and retained this position until his retirement in 1912. Morrison joined the Militia in 1898 and served in the South African War in 1899 and 1900 where he received the DSO and was mentioned-in-dispatches. In 1913, he was gazetted a Lieutenant-Colonel in the Permanent Force and eventually served as Commanding Officer of the 8th Artillery Brigade. Morrison went overseas with the first Canadian contingent in 1914 and from 1916 to 1919, he served as General Officer commanding the Canadian artillery. After the war, Morrison was appointed Inspector-General of Artillery, Master-General of Ordnance and Adjutant-General. He passed away on May 28, 1925, at Ottawa.



SIR GEORGE PERLY

Born in 1857, Perley took over the family business in the Ottawa lumber trade. His ambition led to Parliament, where he represented Argenteuil from 1904 on. Perley became a cabinet minister under Prime Ministers Borden, Meighen and Bennett. From 1914 to 1922 Perley most notably served as High Commissioner to the United Kingdom. He also served briefly as Minister of Overseas Military Forces, and after returning from London, recaptured his seat in Parliament. Sir George Perley, politician and diplomat, passed away in 1938.

SIR WILLIAM JOHNSTONE RITCHIE

Born in Annapolis, Nova Scotia on October 28, 1813, Ritchie was called to the bar of New Brunswick in 1838. From 1847 to 1851, he represented the city and county of Saint John in the house of assembly of New Brunswick. In 1855, he became a judge in the Supreme Court of Canada, and chief justice of Canada in 1879. On March 5, 1884, he was appointed deputy to the governor general, Lord Lansdowne. He was knighted in 1881 and passed away on September 25, 1892.



SIR COLLINGWOOD SCHREIBER

Born in Essex, England in 1831, Schreiber came to Canada in 1852 and engaged in railway engineering. In 1873, he became chief engineer of the government railways, and in 1880 he succeeded Sir Sandford Fleming as chief engineer of the Canadian Pacific Railway. He held these positions until 1892, when he was appointed chief engineer of the Department of Railways and Canals. In 1905, he became general consulting engineer to the Dominion government; 11 years later, he was knighted for his public services. He died on March 22, 1918.

COLONEL SIR ARTHUR PERCY SHERWOOD

Sir Percy Sherwood was born in Bytown on March 18, 1854 and was educated at the Ottawa Grammar School. In 1877, he was appointed deputy S. sheriff of Carleton County and he was I second chief of police in Ottawa from 1879-1882. Sir Percy was appointed superintendent of the Dominion Police in 1882, promoted to commissioner in 1885, and to chief commissioner in 1913. Coincident with his rapid rise in the police The force was his rise in the militia. He became a lieutenant in the Guards in 1884. He was transferred to the 43rd Regiment as captain in 1886, major in 1889, as lieutenant- colonel he was commanding officer from 1898 to 1904. He was chief commissioner of the Boy Scouts Association from its inauguration in 1908 until 1918. He was first president of the Laurentian Club and also first president of the Canadian Club. Arthur Percy Sherwood, a practical police officer and an organizer with a wide vision, passed away in 1940.

SIR SAMUEL HENRY STRONG

Born in Dorsetshire, England on August 13, 1825, Strong came to Canada in 1836 and studied law in Ottawa and Toronto. He was called to the bar in 1849 and from 1869 to 1874 he was a judge of the Court of Chancery of Ontario. He was subsequently appointed a judge of the Supreme Court of Ontario. In 1875, he became a judge of the Supreme Court of Canada; in 1892, he became chief justice of the Supreme Court. In 1897, he was sworn in as a member of the judicial committee of the Privy Council. He retired from the bench in 1902 and died in Ottawa on August 31, 1909.

SIR CECIL SPRING-RICE

Considered one of the most influential and respected British diplomats of the late 19th and early 20th century, Sir Cecil Spring-Rice was a friend, advisor and confidant to Kings, Queens, Presidents and Poets. A gifted and prolific wordsmith and poet, Sir Cecil's writings, poems and correspondence have been widely published, many documenting his 30 year friendship with Theodore "Teddy" Roosevelt, President of the United States from 1901–1909. Shortly before his death he wrote "I Vow to Thee My Country" which is today one of the most beloved hymns in Britain and was sung at the funeral of Princess Diana on September 6, 1997. Born in 1859, Sir Cecil Spring-Rice attended Eton College before embarking on a diplomatic career that took him to Egypt, Iran and Russia. His crowning achievement was being named Britain's Ambassador to the United States in 1912. His gift for language and his renowned charm served him well as he represented Britain in the United States during the tense years of World War I. Shortly after leaving his Washington post in 1918, Sir Cecil Spring-Rice journeyed to Ottawa to visit the Duke of Devonshire, Canada's Governor General. Speaking to the Canadian Club of Ottawa at the new Chateau Laurier hotel on January 19, 1918 he eerily and prophetically spoke of the end of his journey; almost as if he was delivering his own eulogy. A few days later, on Valentine's Day 1918 he died in his sleep at the age of 59.



Fondation du Cimetière

Beechwood

Cemetery Foundation

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◆ HISTORY TOLD, LIVES CELEBRATED ◆
◆ L'HISTOIRE RACONTÉE, DES VIES CÉLÉBRÉES ◆

