

River and the island shore of the Georgian Bay, making the trip in frail canoes and over innumerable difficult and unfamiliar portages. The Penetanguishene Bay was known several years previous to the first visit of French traders to Toronto Bay, as only in 1735 was Fort Rouille, on the present site of Toronto, established. Situated near the shores of Outouacha Bay was the Huron town of Otouacha, with a population of several hundred souls, whose inhabitants hailed the advent of the strangers with joyful acclaim and dispensed savage hospitality with a liberal hand. This locality was later to attain historical notoriety as the centre of thrilling events connected with the Huron missions of the Jesuits. Proceeding westward, calling at Carmaron and two other towns on the way, Champlain arrived at Carhagouha, a Huron town with a population of about two thousand Indians, enclosed with triple palisades thirty-five feet high, situated somewhere in the vicinity of Lafontaine. Here he met the Recollet, Father Caron, who had preceded him a few days with some Frenchmen, and together the company knelt at a temporized altar and celebrated the first mass in the Huron country. Champlain, in the course of his journey, visited Touaguainchain, the nearest Huron prototype of Penetanguishene, situated near the head of the bay, then several other villages on the way. The party continued their progress, passing through a succession of native towns till they reached Cahiague and the Narrows, near Orillia. Here we leave Champlain busied with his commissariat preparatory to his second expedition against the Iroquois. Champlain's history and career are familiar to all and need not be further repeated.

Father Martin located the former site of Ihonatiria, on the banks of a small stream falling into Outouacha Bay and some distance above its shores. There is a slight difference of opinion among archaeologists as to its exact location, but until the question is authoritatively decided to the contrary we must assume Father Martin's view as the correct one. At Ihonatiria the first Jesuit Mission was established by the heroic Brebeuf in 1634, and called the Mission of St. Joseph. This was the opening scene in that great wilderness drama of the Jesuit Huron Missions of seventeen years, during which struggling missions were established in many Indian towns and villages, entailing untold hardship, suffering, and death. The main Central Mission House of St. Marie I. (Old Fort), on the River Wye, near the town of Midland, was built in 1639,