

archives of St. Mary's College, shows that at that time there was no tradition surviving in the Marquette family relative to the existence of a portrait of the famous missionary explorer.."

... "Out of this darkness there has at last come a hopeful ray of light. Feb. 19, 1900, the artist McNab wrote to the editor from Toronto declaring that he had discovered what he believed to be a contemporary portrait of Marquette.. McNab reported that in the winter of 1896-97, while walking along Little St. James street, Montreal, he overtook two french boys drawing a hand cart loaded with rubbish and scraps of broken boards on top of which was thrown an old panel, the shape of which attracted my attention. Picking it up I enquired as to where they had found it.—O, all of this wood is from an old house.—But they would not speak further whether from fear or ignorance, however they were pleased to part with it for a little silver... After keeping it until the autumn of 1899 he began to remove the dirt which was held fast by many coats of varnish.. with much time and great care... The face is a wonderful fine example of modeling and coloring and could be mistaken for a work of Rembrandt, were it not for the signature R. Roos, 1669, above which are two lines which I take as explanatory of the model; though cracks and dirt have defaced most of the words; save "Marquette de la Confrérie de Jésus"—which is quite legible. On the back of the panel... there has been carved "Pere Marquette... but not by a Contemporary..."