

FREDERICTON AND VICINITY



ACCORDING to the records of the days of Villebon, the site of the present city of Fredericton was then occupied by a small Acadian settlement and was called St. Anne's Point. It was a favorite Indian camping-place as well. The Indians in those early days held their house of assembly about five miles above the city, at Auk-paque, near Currie's Mountain.

In 1768 the Acadians at St. Anne's, as well as at other points along the river, were given free passes to Madawaska, good for the single trip, by the order of King George. At that time the whole of New Brunswick, under the name of the County of Sunbury, was a mere adjunct to the little Province of Nova Scotia. Of course such a fatuous attempt on the part of the tail to wag the dog could not prevail, and in 1786 New Brunswick was created a separate province.

The first governor of the province was Thomas Carleton. He convened in the latter year the first General Assembly of the Province at St. John, but having previous to this made a casual visit to Fredericton (or St. Anne's), he seems to have had no further use for St. John. He at once fixed upon Fredericton as the capital, and the General Assembly met there for its third session, in a little building which is still standing near the present Queen Hotel, on July 18, 1788. Two years before, in this same building, known as the "King's Provision Store," the first sermon ever preached in Fredericton was delivered to an audience of sixty or seventy persons by the first rector