

like two islands was mainland lying south-southeast and north-northwest to a very fine cape called Cape Orleans (Kildare Cape). All of the said land is low and flat and the fairest that may possibly be seen, and full of beautiful trees and meadows; but we could find no harbour there, for it is a low land all ranged with sands. We, with our boats went on shore in many places, and among others we entered a goodly river, but very shallow, where we saw boats full of savages, who were crossing the river, which on this account we named River of Boats (Richmond Bay). But we had no further acquaintance with these savages, for the wind came up from the sea and so beat us against the shore that we were constrained to return with our boats to our ships. Till the next morning at sunrise, being the first of July, we sailed north-east, in which time there arose great mists and storms, and therefore we struck our sails until about ten of the clock when it became clear and we recognized the said Cape Orleans (Kildare Cape), and another which lay from it about seven leagues north and by east, which was named Cape of the Savages (North Cape).

“On the northeast of this cape, for about half a league there is a very dangerous reef and banks of stones. While we were at this cape we saw a man running after our boats that were going along the coast, who made signs to us that we should return towards the same cape again. We, seeing such signs, began to run towards him, but he, seeing us come, began to flee and to run away before us. We landed in front of him, and set a knife and a woollen girdle in a staff for him, and then came to our ship again. That day we sailed along the said land nine or ten leagues (the N. W. coast of P. E. I.), hoping to find some good harbor; but it was not possible, for, as I have said already, it is a low land and shoal. We went ashore that day in five places to see the trees, which are marvellously beautiful and sweet smelling; we found them to be cedars, yews, pines, white elms, ash trees, willows, and many other sorts to us unknown, but all without fruit. The ground where no woods are, are very fair and all full of peas, white and red gooseberries, strawberries, black raspberries, and wild wheat, like rye, which seemed to have been sown there and cultivated. This land is of the best climate than can be possibly be, and very hot. There are there many pigeons and ring doves and other birds; they want nothing but good harbors. The next day, the second of July, we discovered land to the northward of us, which joined unto the land continuously, and we found that it formed a bay of about twelve leagues in depth and as much in breadth. We named the bay Saint Laurino. We went to the cape on the north (Cape Escuminac) with our boats and found the shore so shoal that at more than a league from land there was only a fathom of water.”

Whether or not Cabot discovered Prince Edward Island is a matter of much conjecture, and the weight of evidence