

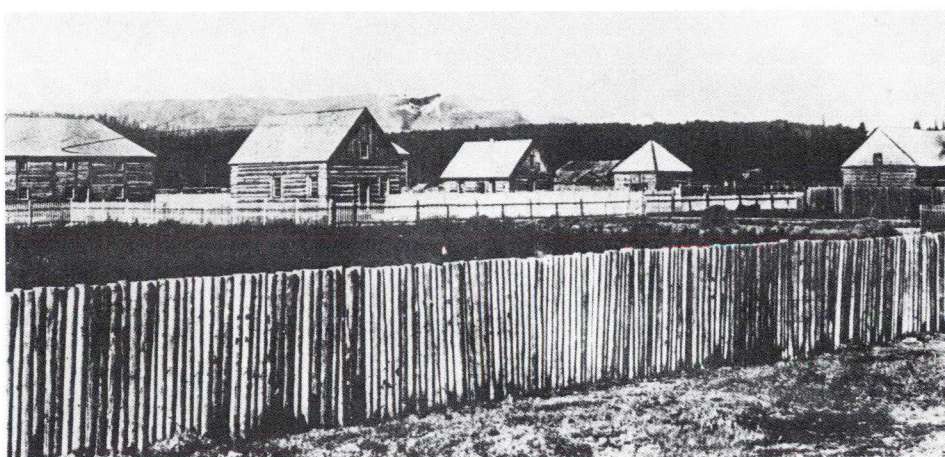
### Expected food-store sales

Food-store sales are expected to increase 10.5 per cent in 1977 to a level of \$14,655.2 million, with chain-stores accounting for 59 per cent of the volume, says the Maclean-Hunter Research Bureau.

Preliminary estimates for 1976 indicate sales of \$13,271.2 million, an increase of 10.7 per cent over that of the 1975 figure. The chains' share for 1976 is estimated at 58.6 per cent, down from 59.3 per cent in 1975. The same source expects Canada's "leisure" market will reach \$5.3 billion this year and rise to \$7.5 billion by 1980.

In addition to these amounts, there are other expenditures which may justifiably be associated with the leisure market — sports clothing, a portion of car rentals and automobile-operation, home entertainment, eating out, etc. Such expenditures added an estimated \$2.4 billion to this market last year.

In 1976, 9.8 per cent of all households owned one or more snowmobiles and 39.1 per cent owned one or more adult-size bicycles. Some 23.5 per cent owned overnight-camping equipment and 20.3 per cent owned skis. (Imports of skis reached a record last year, and are estimated at \$21 million.)



**At Fort St. James, a taste of yesterday**

Visitors to north central British Columbia this summer will have the chance to taste a little bit of the past in the form of Fort St. James, Parks Canada's re-creation of fur trading post in the 1890s.

In the history of Canada, it is the events in the unfolding and development of the West that capture and hold the imagination of many Canadians. Few people do not know at least one story of the Klondike gold rush or of fur trading on the Pacific coast.

Fort St. James recalls much of the excitement and adventure of the fur trade. It was established in 1806 by Simon Fraser as a fur trading post of

the North West Company. When the two great fur trading companies merged in 1821, Fort St. James passed to the Hudson's Bay Company, which used the post until the late 1940s. Their interests as well as that of the local historical society and federal and provincial governments ensured that the old post did not fall into ruins.

Five of the original 12 buildings, on the site in 1890, still remain intact. All are superb examples of Red River frame architecture — a style widely used in the period. It is one of the reasons why the Historic Sites and Monuments Board of Canada did not hesitate to identify the importance of the buildings as historic treasures.

### Restoration

June 25, 1976, marked an important date in the annals of Fort St. James, the date of its official inauguration and opening to the public. Three buildings complete the first stage of restoration — the general warehouse and fur loft, the fish cache and the men's house. The second stage, which will follow shortly, will include the Officer's house and the dairy.

Four more buildings which were demolished or burnt, will be reconstructed.

### Human habitation

Fort St. James was the first trading post in the land of the Carriers, a native people not as well known perhaps as others of British Columbia, the Haida, Kwakiutl and Nootka.

The culture of the Carriers, members of the Athabaskan family, was comparatively rich for the British Columbia interior because of the adoption of

### Canadian trade by principal trading area (\$ millions)

Exports	1974	1975	1976	% change 1976/1975
United States	21,399.5	21,652.4	25,782.5	+ 19.0
Britain	1,928.5	1,789.3	1,848.1	+ 3.2
Other EEC countries	2,174.6	2,347.0	2,646.7	+ 12.7
Japan	2,231.3	2,122.1	2,390.6	+ 12.6
Other OECD countries	1,132.6	911.6	1,054.6	+ 15.6
Other American countries	1,584.9	1,561.6	1,737.8	+ 11.2
Other countries	1,989.9	2,719.6	2,567.7	- 5.5
<b>Total exports</b>	<b>32,441.3</b>	<b>33,103.6</b>	<b>38,028.0</b>	<b>+ 14.8</b>
<b>Imports</b>				
United States	21,356.7	23,559.3	25,661.7	+ 8.9
Britain	1,126.3	1,222.0	1,153.3	- 5.6
Other EEC countries	1,920.2	2,073.9	2,028.4	- 2.1
Japan	1,429.8	1,205.3	1,523.8	+ 26.4
Other OECD countries	1,113.3	1,194.4	1,231.2	+ 3.0
Other American countries	2,015.2	1,802.2	2,051.3	+ 13.8
Other countries	2,730.6	3,578.5	3,741.4	+ 4.5
<b>Total Imports</b>	<b>31,692.1</b>	<b>34,634.6</b>	<b>37,391.1</b>	<b>+ 7.9</b>

Source: *Statistics Canada Daily*