

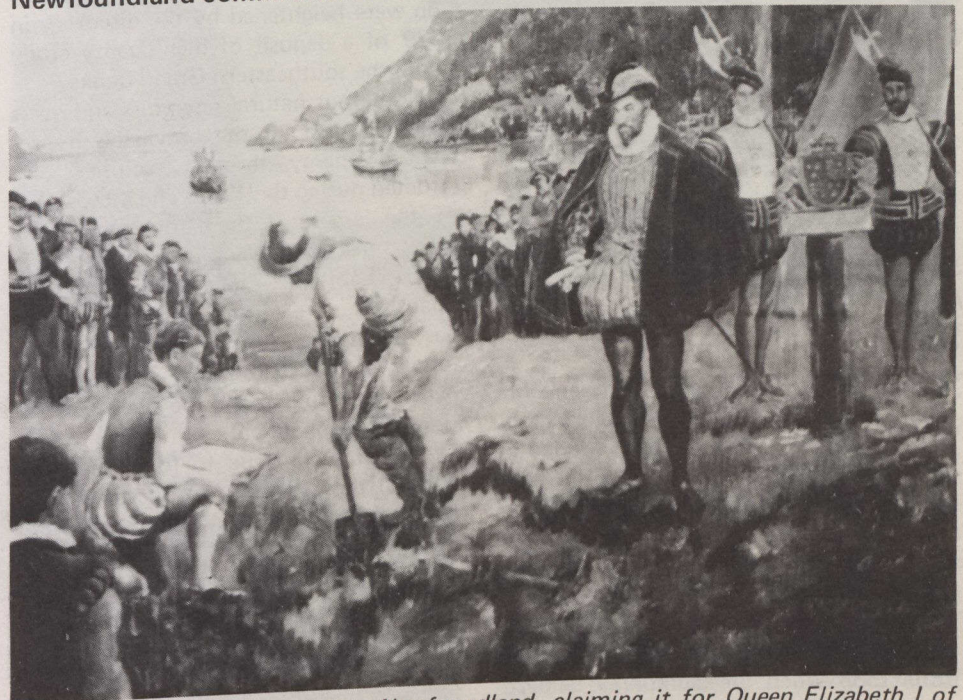
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Newfoundland commemorates four-hundredth anniversary



Sir Humphrey Gilbert landed in Newfoundland, claiming it for Queen Elizabeth I of England, in 1583. It became Britain's first colony in North America.

Newfoundland, the first British colony in North America, is celebrating its four-hundredth anniversary this year. The festivities, which will last four months, will be held mainly in St. John's, the provincial capital and the spot where England's Sir Humphrey Gilbert landed on August 3, 1583.

The festival program is rich in variety. The highlight will be a re-enactment of Sir Humphrey Gilbert's landing and the affirmation of English title to Newfoundland by proclamation two days earlier. Also of special interest is the St. John's regatta, North America's oldest sports event, to be held on Lake Quidi Vidi, August 3.

Throughout the summer, the port of St. John's will be visited by the vessels of several NATO countries. Musicians from the United States, Norway, Sweden, Italy, Germany and other countries will perform in several different centres during the festival of traditional music. As Canada's contribution to the four-

hundredth anniversary, the Canadian Heritage Festival is touring the province. Also marking the celebrations, 20 sailing vessels of 9.5 metres or more will travel from Hamilton, Ontario to St. John's, a return trip of 4 800 kilometres. The *Snowbirds*, the aerobatic flying squadron of the Canadian Armed Forces, will perform province-wide and the RCMP's popular Musical Ride will tour the province. Other activities include art exhibitions, concerts, plays and sports events. The celebrations will take place both on the island of Newfoundland and in Labrador, the mainland portion of the province.

From Sir Humphrey to Joey Smallwood
The island of Newfoundland, with its rugged topography, dense forests, swift-moving rivers and lakes teeming with fish is, with the exception of Greenland, the closest North American point to Europe. Because of its geographical location and the shape of its coasts, its deep bays and

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