

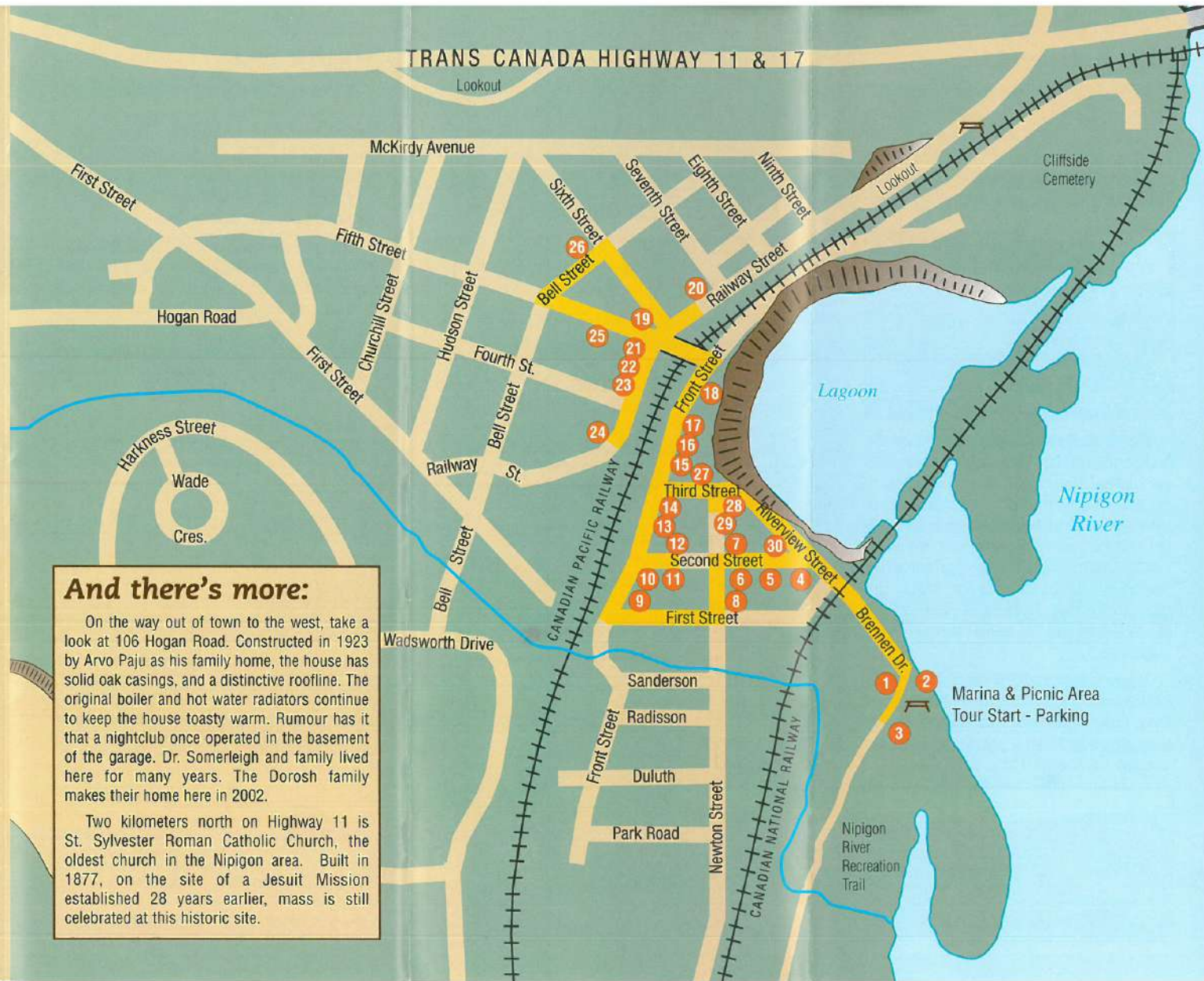
Historical Sites

- 1 Red Rock Post
- 2 CPR Bridge
- 3 Mudflats
- 4 Dampier/Delaronde (Rowley) House
- 5 First Catholic Church (Ukrainian Church)
- 6 Anglican Church
- 7 Skandia House (O'Neill House)
- 8 Flanagan House (Scharf-Murray House)
- 9 Jail (KDL Florist)
- 10 Nipigon Inn
- 11 Presbyterian Church (Chiropractic Office)
- 12 First School (Municipal Building)
- 13 Hudson's Bay Company
- 14 Revillion Building (Foulds Rexall Pharmacy)
- 15 McKirdy's Store (Docs)
- 16 Saunders Building (Museum)
- 17 Pool Hall (By the Tracks)
- 18 Taylor House (Normandie Hotel)
- 19 Nipigon Service Garage/Palace Theatre (Mike's Mart, Zechners Parking Lot)
- 20 Mural CPR Station
- 21 Mural Nipigon River Drive
- 22 Mural F. Zechner Clothier
- 23 Consumers Coop (Family Place, Pelletier's Jewelers)
- 24 Nipigon Café
- 25 Maple Leaf Ski Factory (Harbinson House)
- 26 Consolidated School (George O'Neill Public School)
- 27 McKirdy/Vivone House
- 28 Post Office (Hotchkiss House)
- 29 Fraser House (Cloutier House)
- 30 Anglican Rectory (Horton House)

And there's more:

On the way out of town to the west, take a look at 106 Hogan Road. Constructed in 1923 by Arvo Paju as his family home, the house has solid oak casings, and a distinctive roofline. The original boiler and hot water radiators continue to keep the house toasty warm. Rumour has it that a nightclub once operated in the basement of the garage. Dr. Somerleigh and family lived here for many years. The Dorosh family makes their home here in 2002.

Two kilometers north on Highway 11 is St. Sylvester Roman Catholic Church, the oldest church in the Nipigon area. Built in 1877, on the site of a Jesuit Mission established 28 years earlier, mass is still celebrated at this historic site.



Early History

Archaeological evidence indicates that people may have lived in the Nipigon area for 9000 years. In the more recent past, rock paintings on the mouth of the Nipigon River show an Aboriginal presence and predate European contact by several hundred years.



Claude Greysolon Dulhut established the first permanent trading post on the mouth of the Nipigon River in 1679, making Nipigon the oldest settlement on the north shore of Lake Superior. Development took off when the Hudson's Bay Company built Red Rock Post in 1859. Their 350 foot wharf permitted steamboats to make regular stops, and by 1871, the Post was the acting headquarters for the entire Nipigon River watershed.

The arrival of the CPR changed the focal point of the community from the river to Front Street. Red Rock Post became known as Nipigon, and later Nipigon. The first town election was held in 1909.



E.C. Everett

For more than fifty years, E. C. Everett chronicled the history of Nipigon in photographs, from the opening of churches and commercial establishments, to the royal visit, the Prisoners of War Camp, fires, snowstorms and floods. An astute businessman, he sold clothing and dry goods as well as his own photographs. Everett was also a showman, known to walk on his hands, juggle and recite his own poetry. His first store was at the site of the Plaza Theatre.

After he passed away in May 1984, his daughter Ruth kindly donated several thousand of his photos to the Nipigon Historical Museum. Fortunately, most of them survived the 1990 museum fire.



Thank You

The research would not have been possible without the assistance of many residents, especially seniors, who were willing to share their time and stories. And a special thank-you goes to those who have kindly consented to have their home or business included on the Nipigon Historical Walking Tour.

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All the photos are courtesy of the Nipigon Historical Museum, A. Lange, R. Hotchkiss, R. Martin, and George O'Neill Public School.

The tour strives to present accurate information. However, history is part legend and part fact. We apologize for any errors or omissions. Winter 2003.



For more information please contact:
Township of Nipigon,
Economic Development Office,
Hwy. 17, Box 160, Nipigon, ON P0T 2J0
Telephone: (807) 887-3188
Fax: (807) 887-3189
Toll Free: 1-877-596-1359
www.nipigon.net



Human Resources
Development Canada

Développement des
ressources humaines Canada

Nipigon Historical Walking Tour



Take a walk through time
and savour the tales old
buildings have to tell.

Tour length is a relaxing 2.6 kilometres.
All sites are accessible by road.