Government House

Government House, also known as Fanningbank, is the official residence of the Lieutenant Governor of Prince Edward Island, the personal representative in the province of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, the Queen of Canada.

In 1834 Government House was built with funds advanced through an issue of Treasury Notes to be repaid with monies raised for the purpose by an Assessment on Land. It cost, in the currency of the day, £3,142.17.3, and was intended to serve as a Vice-Regal residence for the Lieutenant Governors of the then British colony of Prince Edward Island.

The architectural design of the house is Georgian, with echoes of the Palladian tradition, and was the work of Isaac Smith. The wooden building was constructed by the architect in association with Henry Smith and Nathan Wright, a firm of local builders. The main structure is 95 feet long by 65 feet wide with two wings at the rear of the residence measuring 28 feet long by 25 feet wide, under which was placed a full Island sandstone foundation, most of which still supports the residence. The sills are 15 inches square and the floor joists are 4 inches by 11 inches and are laid 18 inches from center to center.

Government House is located on a parcel of land set aside by Governor Edmund Fanning in 1789 as Crown land, with the specific stipulation that it be used as the site for a residence for the Lieutenant Governor. The original parcel, known as Fanning Bank or Fanning’s Bank, contained approximately 100 acres, and included farm land for the use of the incumbent. However, in 1876, part of the Government House property was given to the City of Charlottetown and is now known as Victoria Park. The remaining parcel of approximately 10 acres was retained for Government House and its grounds, and the property has been known more recently as Fanningbank. Upon completion of the building, the Lieutenant Governor of the day, Sir Aretas William Young, became its first occupant.

For more information on Government House (Fanningbank) please refer to the Lieutenant Governor’s website at http://www.gov.pe.ca/olg

Sources: Elections P.E.I.
Journals of the Legislative Assembly
Canadian Parliamentary Companions, Canadian Parliamentary Guides
Confederation Centre Public Library
Public Archives and Records Office
The Dictionary of Canadian Biography Online

Prepared by: Researched, compiled and edited by Lowell Croken and Norma E. Palmer
(Special thanks to Janice Thompson and Darren Hatfield, Dept. of Development and Technology, for their contributions.)

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FOREWORD

It is with great pleasure that this publication has been compiled and it is hoped that much knowledge and pleasure will be generated by all persons interested in reading these brief biographies of Prince Edward Island’s Governors, Lieutenant Governors and Administrators.

The purpose behind this publication is twofold: (1) To compile and preserve the limited information available on Island Governors, Lieutenant Governors and Administrators who collectively - past and present - play a very large role in Prince Edward Island’s history as Britain’s representatives. In addition, it is our hope that this publication serves as (2) an informative and educational tool for all persons interested in the history of the individuals who earned the title of Governor, Lieutenant Governor and Administrator for the Island.

Elections P.E.I. has tried to be as accurate as humanly possible in presenting this information; however, if you should find an error or omission, please contact our elections office so we may continue with our mission of providing accurate information on the history of Prince Edward Island’s Governors, Lieutenant Governors and Administrators.

Elections P.E.I. telephone: (902) 368-5895, fax: (902) 368-6500

Website Links can be found through:

Lieutenant Governors Gallery: http://www.gov.pe.ca/olg

Elections P.E.I.: http://www.electionspei.ca
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<td>Dr. Sir William Joseph Parnell MacMillan, M.D., C.M., F.A.C.S., L.M.C.C., K.C.M.G.</td>
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**For ease of use of this booklet . . . .**

- Governors and Lieutenant Governors are listed in chronological order from 1769 to 2006.
- Administrators are listed in chronological order following the Governors and Lieutenant Governors.
- On 1st February 1799, by Royal Assent the name for St. John Island was officially changed to Prince Edward Island by the *Act for altering and changing the name of this Island, from St. John to that of Prince Edward Island* which was presented to the Council on 26th November 1798.
- Please note that the term “Governor” appears for all Governors from the time of the creation of the Colony in 1763 until Prince Edward Island entered Confederation on 1st July 1873. Following 1st July 1873 all persons appointed were identified as “Lieutenant Governors”.

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For ease of use of this booklet . . . .
Governor Walter Patterson

*Governor from 14th July 1769 to 4th November 1786*

Photograph courtesy of the PEI Archives and Records Office, Reference Number 2230/54-7

Walter Patterson is reported to have been born at Foxhall, County Donegal, Ireland in 1742. He fought with the British Army, 8th Regiment in America during the Seven Years War, at which time he rose to the rank of Captain. In 1758 the British had invaded the fortress of Louisburg for a second and final time, rounding up the French (Acadian) settlers on Prince Edward Island and had them deported. There were only about 300 Acadians remaining, mostly south of Malpeque Bay and also around Rustico and Souris, when the Island was formally awarded to Britain in 1763. In 1763 Island of St. John (Prince Edward Island) was formally created as a Colony.

In 1764, Patterson requested grants for some of the Island land. Three years later, as a result of the 1767 land lottery, he and his brother, John Patterson, became proprietors of Lot 19, located in the general area of the present town of Kensington. On 30th May 1769 the British Privy Council separated the St. John Island from its annexation with Nova Scotia and gave it a separate government. Patterson was appointed Governor of St. John Island (Prince Edward Island) on 14th July 1769, just a few weeks after the Island was officially made a separate colony. Governor Patterson arrived on the Island on 30th August 1770.

Upon his arrival, the Island population was somewhere in the vicinity of 300. Between 1770 and 1775 approximately 1,000 new settlers arrived on the Island mostly from Scotland. The capital, Charlottetown, existed only as a name on the map. In September of 1770, he took the Oath of Office, had an Executive Council sworn in, and began the actual task of administration. One of the early ordinances passed by the Governor and Council was to enforce the payment of quit rent.

In 1773 the first elections were held and the first Assembly met. Governor Patterson acquired in excess of 100,000 acres of land from proprietors who had not paid their quit rents and their lands were put up for sale. Proprietors who had their lands sold petitioned the British government asking to have their sold lots returned and, failing the return of the lots, then they asked to have Governor Patterson removed from office. Following the petitions from proprietors, the Secretary of State from the British government sent Patterson a dispatch on 24th July 1783 ordering him to present an enclosed bill to the Assembly, and for Patterson to recommend that the bill pass. The bill in question provided for the annulment of the 1871 land sales. Patterson refused to obey and he managed to obtain a majority decision of the Executive Council in support of his position. This was one of the main factors that forced the British government, on 17th June 1786, to inform Governor Patterson that he had been recalled and removed him from his position as Governor. In 1789, Patterson returned to England where he died on 6th September 1798.
General Edmund Fanning was the second Governor of the Island St. John, then later called Prince Edward Island, since the creation of the Colony in 1763. Edmund Fanning was born in Long Island in 1737 and died in London, England, on 28th February 1818. He graduated from Yale in 1757 and settled as a lawyer in Hillsborough, North Carolina, where he was elected Colonel of Militia in 1763, Clerk of the Superior Court in 1765 and subsequently went to the Legislature. Among the offices held by him was that of Recorder of Deeds and it was alleged that to his abuses of this trust and his exorbitant charges was due to the rebellion of the regulators in Governor Tryon’s administration. By his vicious character, “nearly all the estates in Orange County were loaded with doubts as to their titles and new and unnecessary deeds were demanded.” Through his actions as Recorder, added to his zeal in quelling opposition to the severe exactions of the government and in bringing the leaders of that opposition to the scaffold, he became obnoxious to the people and, to escape the popular indignation, he accompanied Governor Tryon, who was his father-in-law, to New York as his Private Secretary in 1771.

He subsequently applied to the North Carolina Legislature, through Governor Martin, the successor of Governor Tryon, for reparation for losses from destruction of his property; but the petition was unanimously rejected and the governor was rebuked for presenting it and thus “trifling with the dignity of the House.”

In 1774 Fanning received from the British government the lucrative office of Surveyor General as a reward for his services to the crown and his losses in North Carolina. In 1777, he raised and commanded a corps of 460 Loyalists, which bore the name of the “Associated Refugees” or “King’s American Regiment.” While his regiment was on Long Island, some of his men entered a house, tied the owner of it to a bedpost and held a candle under the ends of his fingers to force him to disclose the hiding place of his money. Fanning was equally severe towards all. During the war he was twice wounded and in 1779 his property was confiscated. He moved to Nova Scotia near the close of the war and was appointed Councilor and Lieutenant Governor on 23rd September 1783. Three years later, on 4th November 1786, he was appointed Governor of St. John Island (Prince Edward Island). This office he held for 18 years.

Fanning was made Major General in the British army in 1793, Lieutenant General in 1799 and General in 1808. The degree of A.M. was given him by Harvard in 1764 and by Kings in 1772; the degree of D.C.L. by Oxford in 1774 and that of LL.D. by both Yale and Dartmouth in 1803. His brother, Thomas, of Suffolk County, New York, delivered the address before Governor Tryon in November 1776 and was deputed to present the submission of the committee of that County. In June of 1778, Fanning was captured and carried off by a party of Whigs.
Governor Joseph Frederick Wallet DesBarres

Governor from 10th May 1804 to 5th August 1812

Photograph courtesy of the PEI Archives and Records Office, Reference Number 2320/60-2

Joseph Frederick Wallet DesBarres was the third Governor of Prince Edward Island since the creation of the Colony in 1763. During his long life, covering the last half of 18th century and the early part of the 19th century, J. F. W. DesBarres was to witness many of the dramatic events which made up the history of Nova Scotia during these times. He was an army officer, military engineer, surveyor, colonizer and colonial administrator.

Joseph Frederick Wallet DesBarres is thought to have been born at Basel, Switzerland, in 1721 and was a member of a Huguenot family. His parents were Joseph-Leonard Vallet DesBarres and Anne-Catherine Cuvier; he was the eldest of three children. After an educational grounding in mathematics in the schools of Switzerland, DesBarres, like so many young Huguenot men, left Europe for England. He enrolled in the Royal Military Academy at Woolwich. At Woolwich, DesBarres was trained as a military engineer which, as such, was to give him a superior knowledge of the building of fortifications and of how to destroy them; his training at Woolwich was to also give him a solid grounding in land surveying and in the preparation of maps.

With England and France having declared war on one another (The Seven Years War, 1756-63), Lieutenant DesBarres was sent off to the North America Theatre, which, as a practical matter, was the only theatre for this particular war. In 1757, it seems, he was operating in the area which we now know as upstate New York (Lake St. George); but, in 1758, he was to be with Amherst at the Siege of Louisbourg. He then went with Wolfe to Quebec in 1759. By 1761 DesBarres was at Halifax. In April of 1762, news was heard at Halifax that St. John's, Newfoundland, had been attacked and captured by the French. Because of this there was a frenzy of activity at Halifax: batteries were added to those already in existence on George's Island, more were erected at Point Pleasant and near the Dockyard, the walls of the eastern redoubt at Dartmouth were repaired, and a boom of "timber and iron" was bolted, shore to shore, at the mouth of the Northwest Arm. DesBarres, being the military engineer that he was, was in the thick of this activity. In September an English force was launched from Halifax, of which DesBarres was a part, aimed at St. John's, which, in short order, was retaken by the British. It was during this time that DesBarres worked with James Cook, who was to learn much from DesBarres, in the Admiralty business of charting the coasts of Newfoundland. On his return to Halifax, DesBarres was charged by the Admiralty to make accurate surveys and charts of the coast and harbours of Nova Scotia. This was to lead to an effort which was to continue for a number of years and to the eventual publication of The Atlantic Neptune. It was for this work that DesBarres was to take his place in the history books. The Atlantic Neptune, was a magnificent contribution to hydrography and a classic of the minor arts.

DesBarres was to take his leave of Nova Scotia sailing from Halifax for England during October of 1773. He was to leave behind, there at Castle Frederick, his common law wife, Mary Cannon (known to her intimates as "Polly") and the five children born to them. In England, incidently, he was to take up with another, Martha Williams; but, yet, DesBarres was to keep up correspondence with his "beloved friend," Mary Cannon. More children, indeed eleven children were to come of the DesBarres/Williams union.
DesBarres was not to see Nova Scotia again until 1784. During this time in England (1773-84) he saw to the publication of his *Atlantic Neptune*. While there, in England, he developed his connections, such that, in 1784, Lord Sydney, there having been a determination that Cape Breton was to have a separate administration, was to appoint DesBarres as its new Governor. DesBarres arrived at Halifax from England during 1784, and, within a few weeks, he was off to take up his duties in Cape Breton. He was to spend time both at St. Peters and at Louisbourg. Though, given its history, Louisbourg might well have been chosen as the capital of the Cape Breton colony, DesBarres, for his own reasons, determined to relocate to Spanish Bay. His new capital was to be renamed, Sydney. He arrived there, at Sydney, on 7th January 1785. He came by sailing ship (the *Blenheim*) stepping off with 129 persons, the nucleus of a new English settlement. Within two years, after a stormy administration, DesBarres was relieved of his post. The storm revolved around a turf fight that DesBarres had with the local army commander, Colonel John Yorke.

In 1799 the name for St. John Island was changed to Prince Edward Island. An *Act for altering and changing the name of this Island, from St. John to that of Prince Edward Island* was presented to the Council on 26th November 1798, was approved and received Royal Assent on 1st February 1799.

In 1794 DesBarres was made Lieutenant Colonel; and, in 1798, full Colonel. In 5th May 1804, after kowtowing in London for sixteen years, DesBarres, notwithstanding his old age, was appointed the Governor of Prince Edward Island. DesBarres was to hold onto his governorship of Prince Edward Island longer than he did of that of Cape Breton; though, similar problems led to his recall. He made a public display of his dislike of the Chief Justice of the province; and, in any event, the authorities, no doubt, figured it was time that the ninety year old governor ought to be replaced, particularly since war had broken out with the United States of America. In 1812, DesBarres left Prince Edward Island and lived for a period of time on his lands at Amherst where he lived until he moved to Halifax in 1817. At Halifax he continued on and lived to the ripe old age of 103.
Charles Douglass Smith was the fourth Governor of Prince Edward Island since the creation of the Colony in 1763. Governor Charles Douglass Smith was born in 1761 in England. He was the eldest son of John Smith and Mary Wilkinson and in 1790 he married Frances Woodcock and they had at least four sons and four daughters.

His military career started when he entered the 1st Horse as a cornet in 1776 and later transferred to the 22nd Light Dragoons as a lieutenant in 1779. He also served for a time in the Thirteen Colonies and became a captain in 1782, but was placed on half pay when the regiment was disbanded the following year. In 1795, he resumed active service in the 32nd Light Dragoons and in 1796 transferred to the 21st Light Dragoons but was again placed on half pay in 1798. He had risen in the army to become major in 1794 and a lieutenant-colonel in 1798. His brother, William Sydney Smith, had influence with Lord Bathurst, the Secretary of State for War and the Colonies and in 1812 Lord Bathurst was seeking “an active and efficient officer” to replace Joseph Frederick Wallet DesBarres as Governor for Prince Edward Island and Smith was appointed Governor on 5th August 1812.

Smith arrived in Halifax, Nova Scotia, on 29th December and remained in Halifax for the remainder of the winter. He assumed control of the government on 24th July 1813. Governor Smith convened the General Assembly in November of 1813. The Assembly would not approve his revised Militia Act and, for the following two years, he fought in vain to have the local garrison under his command. When his authority to revise the militia regulations was challenged and a number of militia units refused to obey his orders during a parade on 2nd November 1815, he ordered George Wright, a militia officer, to punish his men for insubordination. Wright resigned his commission rather than carry out this order. Smith tried to dismiss him from the Council as well as the new Chief Justice, Thomas Tremlett, for refusing to “do his duty” in quelling the disturbances, and when Captain Charles Barrington, whom Smith had instructed “to have his ammunition ready” would not use the regular troops against the militia, Smith placed him under arrest. In 1816, Barrington was released and Sir John Coape Sherbrooke, Commander of the Forces in the Atlantic region, who reduced the local garrison from a company to a mere 22 men because of Smith’s tendency “to interfere unsuccessfully with the troops.” This action served merely to increase Smith’s fears. He compelled the militia to mount a permanent guard, winter and summer, outside the officer’s barracks, which he had sequestered upon his arrival for an official residence, and he repeatedly appealed, without success, for a larger garrison to protect him against threats that appear to have existed only in his mind.

In June of 1820 Smith called another general election but when the Assembly met on 25th July 1820 and prepared an address criticizing his arbitrary actions, he prorogued the House on 10th August and proclaimed “there is no necessity for calling a General Assembly for years.” Because of the productivity of various permanent revenue acts placed at the government’s disposal many years earlier, the Provincial Treasury had a steady increasing surplus. By the end of his tenure the Island Council had become, as his critics alleged, a body lacking “weight and influence.”

Smith treated the Island as if it were a large country estate and its people as if they were his tenants. He tackled the
land question in such a clumsy way that he provided the proprietors with additional reasons to argue that they were justified in not living up to their commitments because of the misgovernment of the Island, and thus he may have delayed a more substantial reform of the landholding system.

When Thomas Heath Haviland received latter appointments and applied for a leave of absence, Smith forced him to appoint his son, Henry, who was not yet 19, as his deputy. Smith’s son-in-law, John Edward Carmichael, would become Acting Receiver General of quit rents; Colonial Secretary; Registrar and the Clerk of the Council. Another son-in-law, Ambrose Lane, was appointed Registrar and Master of the Court of Chancery and was given a seat on the Council. Son, John Spencer Smith, became Collector of Impost and son, George Sidney Smith, acted as his father’s Private Secretary. Toward the end of his career on Prince Edward Island, Smith became a recluse, surrounded by his relatives and a handful of sycophants. Smith died on 19th February 1855 in Dawlish, England.
Governor Colonel John Ready

Governor from 19th April 1824 to 16th August 1830

Photograph courtesy of the PEI Archives and Records Office,
Reference Number 2320-55-7

Colonel John Ready was the fifth Governor of Prince Edward Island since the creation of the Colony in 1763. Governor John Ready was born in England in 1777. In 1796 he entered the British army as an ensign. In 1804 he married Susanna Bromley and had four children. He served on the Duke of Richmond’s staff as a Lord Lieutenant and in 1818 accompanied the Duke to Canada and continued to serve as the Duke’s Military Secretary and later as his Civil Secretary.

On 19th April 1824 he was appointed Governor for Prince Edward Island. The Island legislature had not sat since 1820 because of difficulties between the former Governor Smith and the elected House of Assembly. One of Ready’s first acts was to dissolve the Assembly and call a general election. Governor Ready’s wife passed away in March of 1825 and three of his four children died within the next two years. Personal tragedy did not deter the Governor who traveled the Island inspecting new roads and bridges. During this period of time, there was division between the Legislative Assembly and the Legislative Council pertaining to expenditure matters and Governor Ready, with the help of the Colonial Office, resolved this issue by the passing of the 1829 Appropriations Bill. Ready urged the legislators to deal only with “essential” matters in the first session. Money was appropriated for road and bridge building and the support of schools. At the beginning of Ready’s term of office there remained in the treasury a considerable balance of funds that his predecessor had not used. It was with these funds, and those granted by the Assembly, that Ready was able to undertake a generous program of road and bridge building. During the summer he made numerous tours of the Island to tour the work completed and to make plans for additional construction. Ready’s numerous visits and travels throughout the colony had a deep and positive impact on Islanders.

The Island was served well by Governor Ready however in June of 1830 the Colonial Office advised Governor Ready that he was to be replaced. In April of 1831 the Royal Gazette observed, “perhaps no public officer ever retired from so elevated a station, more unfeignedly and generally regretted.”

The day after his departure in October of 1831, the same newspaper concluded that he would always be remembered as a gentleman “endeared to our recollection by qualities of his heart and his numerous acts of unostentatious benevolence ... by his general conciliatory deportment in the exercise of his official duties and in (his) ... social life.”

In August there was news that his successor, Sir Murray Maxwell, had died in England and shortly there after Sir Aretas William Young was appointed as the Governor. The following year, Ready was appointed Governor of the Isle of Man and was sworn in 1832. In 1836 he married again, to Sarah Tobin, and they had two children. In 1841 he was promoted to Major General and he remained as Governor until his death. He was buried with full military honours at Malew, Isle of Man, on 17th July 1845.
Little is known about Sir Murray Maxwell, other than he was to replace Governor Colonel John Ready following the completion of his term in June of 1830. However, in August there was news that the successor, Sir Murray Maxwell, had died in England.

Shortly thereafter Sir Aretas William Young was appointed as Governor for Prince Edward Island.
Governor Sir Colonel Aretas William Young

*Governor from 26th July 1831 to 1st December 1835*

Photograph courtesy of the PEI Archives and Records Office,
Reference Number 2320/55-4

With the untimely death of Sir Murray Maxwell, Sir Aretas William Young became the sixth Governor of Prince Edward Island since the creation of the Colony in 1763. He married Sarah Cox, of Coolcliffe, Wexford, England, and they had several children, one of whom was Sir Henry Edward Fox Young, Governor of South Australia (1848-1855) and Tasmania (1855-1861).

Sir Aretas William Young, British soldier, was born about 1778. He entered the army in 1795 as ensign, was captain in the 13th foot in 1796 and served in Ireland during the Rebellion of 1798. In 1801, he was on duty in Egypt and in 1807, he was advanced to the rank of major in the 47th Regiment. Subsequently, he was engaged in many battles of the Peninsular War and from 1813 he served in the West Indies as Lieutenant-Colonel, chiefly at Trinidad.

In 1815 he was sent to join the expedition against Guadaloupe and received one of the badges of the Order of Merit from Louis XVIII. He was next placed in command of the troops in Grenada and, on his being ordered back to Trinidad, the Council of Assembly presented him with a sword valued at 100 guineas. From this time to the final disbandment of the 3rd West Indian Regiment in 1825 he administered the government at various times during the absence of Sir Ralph Woodford and was rewarded for the “candor, integrity and impartiality which had marked his administration” by 150 guineas for a sword and plate valued at £250. In 1826, he was appointed protector of slaves in Demerara (Trinidad). Young was appointed Governor of Prince Edward Island on 26th July 1831, a position he occupied until his death in office at Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island on 1st December 1835. In 1834 he was knighted.

George Wright filled in as Administrator for the period of time following Governor Young’s death (1st December 1835) until the appointment of Sir John Harvey on 30th August 1836.
John Harvey was the seventh Governor of Prince Edward Island since the creation of the Colony in 1763. John Harvey was born in England on 23rd April 1778. He entered the British army in 1794 and rose slowly through the ranks because he did not have the private wealth which would have enabled him to purchase promotions. He served in the Netherlands, France, Ceylon and Egypt. From 1803 to 1807, he was in India. In 1813, Harvey, now a Lieutenant Colonel, came to Upper Canada and saw action in the War of 1812.

His future became uncertain after 1815, but in 1828 he managed to obtain the appointment of Inspector General of Police in the Irish Province of Leinster. On 30th August 1836 he was appointed Governor of Prince Edward Island, moving to New Brunswick the following year. He was recalled from New Brunswick because of his handling of the Maine boundary dispute, but was appointed Governor of Newfoundland in 1841.

The political situation in Newfoundland was troubled and volatile. Harvey was in part responsible for the revised constitution introduced in 1842, which amalgamated the two houses of the Legislature and he deliberately implemented a policy of conciliation and fairness. He ensured that the Roman Catholics received government patronage and were represented on the council and persuaded Bishop Fleming to withdraw from politics. At the same time, he managed to maintain the support of Conservatives, helping the Chamber of Commerce in its efforts to obtain better postal and steamship services, reforming the police force and actively promoting the development of agriculture. In short, Harvey gave the colony a political respite between storms of the 1830s and the bitter divisions surrounding the campaign for Responsible Government that was just beginning as he left.

In August of 1846 Harvey became Governor of Nova Scotia. He died in Halifax on 22nd March 1852.
Governor Sir Colonel Charles Augustus Fitzroy

*Governor from 31st March 1837 to 2nd November 1841*

Photograph courtesy of the PEI Archives and Records Office,  
Reference Number 2320/60-8

Charles Augustus Fitzroy was the eighth Governor of Prince Edward Island since the creation of the Colony in 1763. Charles Fitzroy was born on 10th May 1796, the eldest son of Lord Charles Fitzroy by his first wife, Frances Mundy.

He obtained a commission in the House of Guards, and was at the battle of Waterloo. He retired from active service, and was elected member for Bury St. Edmunds in the British House of Commons.

On 11th March 1820 he married Lady Mary Lennox (died in 1847), the daughter of Duke of Richmond and on 11th December 1855 he married Margaret Gordon.

He was appointed Governor of Prince Edward Island on 31st March 1837 and was knighted before his departure. He returned to England in 1841, and was subsequently appointed Governor of the Leeward Islands (1841-1845), Governor of South Wales (1846-1850), and Governor General of Australia (1850-1855). He died in London on 16th February 1858.
Governor Sir Henry Vere Huntley

Governor from 13th November 1841 to 1st November 1847

Photograph courtesy of the PEI Archives and Records Office, Reference Number 2320/60-9

Sir Henry Vere Huntley was the ninth Governor of Prince Edward Island since the creation of the Colony in 1763. Henry Vere Huntley was born in Gloucestershire, England in 1795 and was the third son of Rev. Richard Huntley. He entered the navy in 1809 and in 1839 he was appointed the Governor of the settlements on the river Gambia. In 1841 he was knighted.

On 13th November 1841, he was appointed Governor of Prince Edward Island and he held the office until 1847.

He published several not very important works, among them Peregrine Scramble, or, Thirty Years’ Adventures of a Blue Jacket (2 vols., London 1849), Observations upon the Free Trade Policy of England in Connection with the Sugar Act of 1846 (London, 1849), Seven Years’ Service on the Slave Coast of Western Africa (2 vols., London 1850) and California, Its Gold and Its Inhabitants (2 vols., London, 1856). He died in Santos, Brazil, on 7th May 1864.
Governor Sir Donald Campbell

Governor from 9th December 1847 to 18th October 1850

Photograph courtesy of the PEI Archives and Records Office, Reference Number 2320/56-5

Sir Donald Campbell was the tenth Governor of Prince Edward Island since the creation of the Colony in 1763. Donald Campbell was born on 3rd August 1800, the son of Sir Colin Campbell.

In 1823, he married Carolina Elisa (daughter of Sir William Plomer) and they had four sons and one daughter.

He was created a baronet of the United Kingdom in 1836. On 9th December 1847, he was appointed Governor of Prince Edward Island. He died in office in Charlottetown on 18th October 1850.
Governor Sir Alexander Bannerman

Governor from 10th March 1851 to 11th July 1854

Photograph courtesy of the PEI Archives and Records Office,
Reference Number 2320/60-12

Sir Alexander Bannerman was the eleventh Governor of Prince Edward Island since the creation of the Colony in 1763. Bannerman was born in Aberdeen, Scotland on 7th October 1788, the eldest son of Thomas Bannerman. He received a grammar school education and attended Marischal College in Aberdeen. Bannerman made his reputation and money running the family wine business after his father’s death in 1820. Bannerman was also involved in banking, whaling, an iron foundry and a cotton mill. In 1832, he became MP for Aberdeen and continued to sit as a Whig until he retired in early 1847, never having faced a serious challenger.

On 14th January 1825, in London, Bannerman married Margaret Gordon who was born in Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island. Ms. Gordon was the granddaughter of Margaret Hyde and Walter Patterson, the Island’s first Governor. Bannerman was knighted in February 1851 prior to his departure to Prince Edward Island where he was appointed Governor on 10th March 1851 and during his term of office he instituted Responsible Government. In 1854, he was appointed Governor of the Bahamas and in 1857 became Governor of Newfoundland.

Bannerman’s term began in the midst of heated negotiations between the colony, France and Britain regarding French fishing rights along the French shore. Bannerman found the Newfoundland government, under John Kent, unreasonable in its dealings and corrupt. He argued that undeserving people received relief aid and that funds were misappropriated. Characteristically, Bannerman tried to fix the problems. During the 1859 elections, he called for an enquiry into election procedures at Harbour Grace and Burin after reports of disorderly conduct took 10 days to reach him. He also held an independent inquiry into reports of undue influence within the Assembly. The most sensational political drama ensued when Bannerman dissolved the government during a dispute over a currency bill when Premier John Kent questioned the Governor’s authority. The dissolution resulted in a tense election of the opposition party to power and crowd violence in St. John’s. Troops quieted the riots, however, and the government resumed its work. Bannerman ended his term in 1864.

Upon returning to London, Bannerman, who was planning to return to Aberdeen, contracted a bad cold and, weakened, fell down a flight of stairs. He died on 30th December 1864.
Sir Dominick Daly was the twelfth Governor of Prince Edward Island since the creation of the Colony in 1763. Sir Dominick Daly was born in 1798 and died in Adelaide, South Australia, on 19th February 1868.

He was acting Chief Secretary in Canada for nearly twenty-six years and in 1851 was appointed Governor of the Island of Tobago.

In 1854, he was knighted and transferred to Prince Edward Island. On 11th July 1854 he was appointed Governor of Prince Edward Island and served until 1859. In 1861 he was appointed Governor of South Australia.
Governor George Dundas, C.M.G.

Governor from 8th June 1859 to 22nd October 1868

Photograph courtesy of the PEI Archives and Records Office, Reference Number 2320/60-14

George Dundas was the thirteenth Governor of Prince Edward Island since the creation of the Colony in 1763. George Dundas was born in England in 1819 and entered the British army in 1839. After serving in Bermuda and Nova Scotia, he resigned his commission in 1844 and from 1847 to 1858 he represented Linlithgow in the British House of Commons.

On 8th June 1859 he was appointed Governor of Province of Prince Edward Island. In 1875 he was appointed governor of the Island of St. Vincent and the Antilles. In 1879 he was created a Companion of the Order of St. Michael and St. George (C.M.G.) and he died at St. Vincent and the Antilles on 18th March 1880.
William Cleaver Francis Robinson was the fourteenth Governor of Prince Edward Island since the creation of the Colony in 1763 and on 1st July 1873 (as of this date all appointments were hereafter referred to as Lieutenant Governor) became Lieutenant Governor for the Province of Prince Edward Island when the province entered Confederation. Mr. Robinson was born on 14th January 1834 and was the fifth son of Admiral Hercules Robinson. He entered the service of the Colonial Office in 1858 as private secretary to his elder brother, Sir Hercules Robinson, afterwards first Baron Rosmead, who was Lieutenant Governor of St. Kitts.

In 1862 he married Olivia Edith Dean, daughter of the Right Reverend Thomas Stewart Townshend, Bishop of Meath. They had three sons and two daughters.

In 1866 he was appointed Governor of the Falkland Islands and then on 10th June 1873 he was appointed as Governor for the Province of Prince Edward Island. It was during his administration, and partly as a result of his judicious counsels, that the inclusion of Prince Edward Island in the Canadian Confederation took place on 1st July 1873.

He was created a Companion of the Order of St. Michael and St. George (C.M.G.) in 1873, a Knight Commander of St. Michael and St. George (K.C.M.G.) in 1877 and a Knight, Grand Cross of St. Michael and St. George (G.C.M.G.) in 1887.

After leaving Prince Edward Island he occupied successively important posts as Governor of Western Australia, the Straits Settlements, South Australia and Victoria, and he retired from active service in 1895. He was a musical composer of some note, and was the author of a number of well known songs. He died in South Kensington, London, England on 2nd May 1897.
Lieutenant Governor Sir Robert Hodgson, LL.B.

Administrator from July to December 1865, 22nd October 1868 to 6th October 1870 and from August 1873 until 4th July 1874, Also served as Lieutenant Governor from 4th July 1874 to 14th July 1879

Photograph courtesy of the PEI Archives and Records Office, Reference Number 2702/117

Sir Robert Hodgson was the fifteenth Lieutenant Governor of Prince Edward Island since the creation of the Colony in 1763. Robert Hodgson was born at Charlottetown in 1798, the eldest son of Robert Hodgson, esquire,( formerly Speaker of the Prince Edward Island Assembly) and Rebecca, daughter of Lieutenant Colonel Joseph Robinson of the South Carolina Royalist Regiment. He completed his education at King’s College in Windsor, Nova Scotia. Hodgson studied law with Simon Bradstreet Robie and James W. Johnston in Halifax, Nova Scotia and was called to the bars in Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island in 1819. In 1827 he married Fanny Macdonald, daughter of the late Captain Ranald Macdonald of the Glengarry Light Infantry and Town Major of Charlottetown. Hodgson took residence in Charlottetown and took up an active career as a lawyer, land agent and politician. They had two sons and one daughter. Hodgson did not remarry after his wife died on 2nd May 1832.

Robert Hodgson entered public life in 1824 by successfully contesting an Assembly seat for Charlottetown. He was appointed Attorney General and Advocate General Surrogate and Judge of Probate for Prince Edward island in May of 1828 on an interim basis. A year later, the appointments became permanent and he resigned his Assembly seat. He was then appointed to the Executive Council and the Legislative Council and became President of the Legislative Council in 1840 and Acting Chief Justice in 1841. In 1850, during a crisis in the struggle for Responsible Government when it seemed as though the Reformers might assume office, they offered to allow Hodgson to retain the office of Attorney General and his seat on the Executive Council if he would join them. He declined, and when the Reformers did take power in 1851 he resigned from both positions. He remained President of the Legislative Council for one more year. The Executive Council of George Coles appointed Hodgson to the vacant Chief Judgeship in 1852. He administered the government of Prince Edward Island from July to December 1865, October 1868 to October 1870 and from August 1873 until 4th July 1874 when he was appointed Lieutenant Governor of the Province of Prince Edward Island a position he held until 1879. In January of 1869 he was knighted. Hodgson retired in 1879 and died in Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island, on 15th September 1880.

Sir Robert Hodgson was a longtime office seeker; in fact, his indefatigable quest for offices, honours, and pensions more than once betrayed a lack of taste. Nonetheless, he was undeniably a man of distinction in the history of Prince Edward Island. He was the first native Chief Justice, the first native Lieutenant Governor, and the first Islander to be knighted. When he died, the Patriot newspaper described him as, “An excellent specimen of the English gentleman... he will long be remembered as the Good Sir.”
Thomas Heath Haviland was the sixteenth Lieutenant Governor of Prince Edward Island since the creation of the Colony in 1763. Thomas Heath Haviland was born in Charlottetown on 13th November 1822 and educated at Brussels in the Kingdom of Belgium. He was the son of the late Honourable Thomas Heath Haviland, formerly of Gloucestershire, England, who was, for many years before the introduction of Responsible Government in 1851, a member of the Executive and Legislative Councils and Colonial Secretary of P.E.I.

In 1847 he married Annie Elizabeth, daughter of John Grubbe, of Horsenden House, Buckinghamshire, England. He was called to the bar of Prince Edward Island in 1846 and created a Q.C. in 1865. He was a director of the Bank of P.E.I., a Master in Chancery, a Notary Public and a Colonel in the Volunteer Militia. He was a member of the P.E.I. Executive Council from April 1859 to November 1862; for a short period in 1865; from 1866 to 1867 and from September 1870 until April 1872 during which several periods he held the office of Colonial Secretary almost constantly - except in 1865 when he was Solicitor General. He was Speaker of the Provincial Assembly from 1863 to 1843 and Leader of the Opposition in that Chamber from 1867 until the general election in 1870.

He entered local Cabinet again on 13th April 1873 and held the office of Provincial Secretary, which he resigned in 1876. He was a delegate to the Quebec Union Conference in 1864 and to Ottawa, with Hon. Messrs. Pope and Howlan in May of 1873 to arrange final terms upon which Prince Edward Island was admitted as a Province of the Dominion. He sat for Georgetown in the Provincial Assembly since 1846. When Prince Edward Island was included in the Dominion of Canada he was called to the Canadian Senate on the 18th October 1873 and in 1879 he resigned from the Senate on his appointment as Lieutenant Governor of Prince Edward Island on 14th July 1879. He died in Charlottetown on 11th September 1895.
Andrew Archibald Macdonald was the seventeenth Lieutenant Governor of Prince Edward Island since the creation of the Colony in 1763. Andrew Archibald Macdonald was descended from the Clanronald branch of the Macdonalds of the Isles, the son of Hugh and Catherine Macdonald of Panmure and grandson of Andrew Macdonald who purchased a large tract of land in the province and, with his family and retainers, emigrated from Inverness-shire, Scotland and settled at Three Rivers, P.E.I., in 1806 where he and his sons carried on an extensive mercantile business for many years.

Andrew Macdonald was born in Three Rivers on 14th February 1829. He was educated at a county grammar school and by private tutor and became a merchant and shipowner. He was a member of the Legislative Assembly of Prince Edward Island from 1853 to 1858. In 1863, he married Elizabeth, the third daughter of the late Hon. Thomas Owen (formerly Provincial Postmaster General) and they had four sons. He was the U.S. Consular Agent at Three Rivers from 1849 to 1870. He sat as representative for Georgetown in the House of Assembly from 1854 until 1870. When the Legislative Council became elective in 1863, he was returned as a representative of 2nd Kings District in the Legislative Council and again reelected in 1867. On the inclusion of the Island in the Dominion of Canada in 1873 he became Postmaster General in the provincial cabinet and he retained this portfolio until his appointment as Lieutenant Governor of the province on 1st August 1884, an appointment he held until 1889. He was one of the delegates to the Charlottetown Conference on the Union of the Lower Provinces in 1864 and in September of the same year, a delegate to the Quebec Conference which succeeded it and arranged the basis of union for all the B.N.A. Colonies. He was a delegate to the International Convention at Portland, U.S., in 1868 and a member of the Board of Education from 1867 to 1870, a public trustee under the Land Purchase Act (1875) and Chief of the Caledonia Club.

Andrew Macdonald was a member of the Executive Council from 1867 to 1872 and again from 18th April 1872 until Confederation. He was leader of the Government Party in Legislative Council for some years. He first returned as a representative of the Liberal Party in carrying out Responsible Government and extended Franchise. When the Conservative section of the party joined the Liberal section of the Conservative Party, he united with them in perfecting the Free Education Act, the Land Purchase Act, the Railway Act, Confederation and other progressive measures.

In 1891 Mr. MacDonald was appointed to the Senate of Canada and he remained in the Senate until his death in Ottawa on 21st March 1912.
Lieutenant Governor Jedediah Slason Carvell

Lieutenant Governor from 2nd September 1889 to 14th February 1894

Photograph courtesy of the PEI Archives and Records Office,
Reference Number 2320/60-19

Jedediah Slason Carvell was the eighteenth Lieutenant Governor of Prince Edward Island since the creation of the Colony in 1763. Jedediah Carvell was born at Newcastle, New Brunswick, on 16th March 1832. In his early years Carvell was a merchant.

Mr. Carvell married Alice Caroline, the second daughter of Thomas Hanford, esquire, in St. John, New Brunswick, in June of 1861.

Jedediah Slason Carvell was Mayor of Charlottetown from 1877 to 1878. He was a merchant and Spanish Vice-Consul for Prince Edward Island and was appointed to the Senate on 18th December 1879 and remained there until 2nd September 1889 when he was appointed Lieutenant Governor for the Province of Prince Edward Island.

Carvell died at Charlottetown on 14th February 1894 at the age of 61 years.
George William Howlan was the nineteenth Lieutenant Governor of Prince Edward Island since the creation of the Colony in 1763. George William Howlan was born in Waterford, Ireland, on 19th May 1835. He emigrated with his parents to P.E.I. in 1839 and was educated at the Central Academy, Charlottetown. He became a merchant and shipowner interested in the fisheries. From 1862 to 1873 he represented Queens District in the Legislative Assembly of Prince Edward Island and from 1866 to 1873 he was, almost without interruption, a member of the Executive Council. On 1st October 1866 he married Miss Olsen of St. John, New Brunswick. She died in April 1876 and in 1881 he married Miss Doran of Kingston, Ontario.

George Howlan was a merchant, Vice-Consul for Sweden, Denmark and Norway and Vice President of the Prince of Wales College. He entered the P.E.I. Executive Council, the Dominion Board of Trade and a Governor of 1866 and remained a member of the government, part of the time being co-leader almost uninterruptedly up to 30th June 1873. He was a delegate to Washington Trade matters in 1869 and at Ottawa with Honourable Messrs. Pope and Haviland in May 1873 to settle terms of union with Canada which terms were unanimously adopted by both Houses of the Legislature. He sat for 1st District of Prince in the Provincial Assembly from 1862 until June 1873 when he was appointed Collector of Customs in Charlottetown, an office he resigned in September following in order to contest Prince for the Commons for the purpose of strengthening the Conservative Party. He was defeated by a small majority.

He was in the Provincial Assembly a strenuous advocate of the building of the P.E.I. Railway and the building of a tunnel between P.E.I. and the mainland. He was called to the Senate on P.E.I. entering the Dominion on 18th October 1873. After resigning in 1880, he was reappointed on 5th January 1881. In 1891, he resigned his seat to become a candidate for Prince County, P.E.I. at the then general election for the House of Commons. Being defeated, he was reappointed to the Senate in March of 1891.

In March 1891 Mr. Howlan was a delegate to England for the P.E.I. Government to confer with Sir Douglas Fox, C. E., on the practicability of building a tunnel across the Strait of Northumberland; also, a delegate in the same year from the Dominion government to confer with the Newfoundland government on the bait question with a view of bringing about an amicable settlement between both governments.

George William Howlan was appointed Lieutenant Governor for the Province of Prince Edward Island on 21st February 1894 and remained in this position until 1899. Howlan died at Charlottetown on 11th May 1901.
Lieutenant Governor Dr. Peter Adolphus McIntyre, M.D., C.M.

Lieutenant Governor from 23rd May 1899 to 3rd October 1904

Photograph courtesy of the PEI Archives and Records Office, Reference Number 2320/60-21

Peter Adolphus McIntyre was the twentieth Lieutenant Governor of Prince Edward Island since the creation of the Colony in 1763. Peter McIntyre was born at Peterville, Kings County, P.E.I., on 19th July 1840. His paternal grandfather came from Long Island, Inverness-shire, Scotland, about 1785 and settled at Cable Head in Prince Edward Island. His maternal great-grandfather fought under Wolfe at the taking of Quebec.

He was educated at St. Dunstan’s College, Charlottetown, the Quebec Seminary, Laval University and he graduated as a medical doctor from McGill University in 1867 and began his practice at Souris, P.E.I. On 15th February 1871 he married Agnes, only daughter of Angus McDonald, esquire of Souris. Agnes died on 15th February 1885. Mr. McIntyre married for the second time on 27th October 1886 to Barbara (Rigg) of Dumfries, Scotland, widow of the late Honourable P. Walker of Charlottetown.

From 1872 to 1873 he was one of the commissioners appointed to look after the construction of the P.E.I. railway and was coroner for Kings County for many years. He held a first-class military certificate from the Montreal School. Peter McIntyre was a railway commander on P.E.I. from May 1872 to August 1873. He was elected as a Liberal to represent Kings County in the Parliament of Canada in the general election held on 22nd January 1874, was defeated in 1878 and reelected on 20th June 1882 and 22nd February 1887. He was appointed Lieutenant Governor for the Province of Prince Edward Island on 23rd May 1899.
Donald Alexander MacKinnon was the twenty-first Lieutenant Governor of Prince Edward Island since the creation of the Colony in 1763. Donald Alexander MacKinnon was the son of William MacKinnon and Katherine Nicholson, both of Scottish descent. Donald MacKinnon was born in Uigg, Belfast, Prince Edward Island on 21st February 1863. He was educated on the Island at Uigg Grammar School, Prince of Wales College and Dalhousie University Law School, Halifax (LL.B.) in 1887. He married Adelaide Beatrice Louise Owen of Georgetown, Prince Edward Island, in 1892. MacKinnon was a member of the Presbyterian church.

He was Chairman of Georgetown School Trustees. He was admitted to the bar in 1887 and granted Kings Counsel in 1901. He joined the Hon. A. B. Warburton, Barrister, of Charlottetown in a partnership firm known as Warburton and MacKinnon in the law business, in the Cameron Block, about 1897. In 1893, he was elected to the Prince Edward Island Legislative Assembly for Murray Harbour District in Kings County and was reelected in 1897. He was appointed Attorney General of Prince Edward Island in 1899.

Donald MacKinnon was elected by a majority of 7 votes as a Liberal to represent East Queens District in the Parliament of Canada in the general election held on 7th November 1900. The election was declared void on 1st February 1901 and a new election was held on 20th March 1901 when MacKinnon was again returned by a majority of 394. MacKinnon was later elected to the Parliament of Canada as a Liberal to represent Queens District in the general election held on 6th December 1921 and was unsuccessful in the following general election held on 29th October 1925.

Donald MacKinnon was appointed Lieutenant Governor for the Province of Prince Edward Island on 3rd October 1904 and remained in this position until 30th May 1910.

Earlier in his career, he had been a public school teacher. During his terms as a parliamentarian, he took a prominent place in striving to obtain transportation, and other facilities for his native province, including the first railway and traffic bridge to be built across the Hillsborough River about the beginning of the 20th century, and the rail addition from Charlottetown to Murray Harbour, and trying to aid the agriculture and fishing industries.

The Montreal Star once wrote of him, “an able lawyer and a wise and prudent administrator.”
Lieutenant Governor Benjamin Rogers

Lieutenant Governor from 30th May 1910 to 2nd June 1915

Photograph courtesy of the PEI Archives and Records Office,
Reference Number 2320/60-23

Benjamin Rogers was the twenty-second Lieutenant Governor of Prince Edward Island since the creation of the Colony in 1763. Benjamin Rogers’ parents emigrated from Wales and Benjamin was born at Bedeque, Prince Edward Island, on 7th August 1837. He was the son of the late Joseph Rogers. Rogers became an export merchant. In 1863 he became prominent in politics as a Liberal candidate. Rogers was first elected to represent the First District of Prince in the Provincial Legislative Council in November 1872. He was elected to the Legislative Council in 1878 where he remained until 1897. Rogers was a Commissioner of Small Debts and a Justice of the Peace. He was Leader of the Opposition in the Legislative Council from 1883 to 1886. Rogers married Susannah Abell, third daughter of Captain William Hubbard at Tignish on 20th February 1862.

In 1900 he was appointed Commissioner of Agriculture and Provincial Secretary Treasurer. He retired from active politics in 1905. He participated with Premier Peters and Hon. Mr. Whear in the Conference of Provincial Premiers that dealt with the fishery awards and the redistribution of provincial representation. He was a delegate to the Ottawa Liberal convention in 1893 and was one of the committee of forty that framed the platform.

Benjamin Rogers was appointed Lieutenant Governor for the Province of Prince Edward Island on 30th May 1910 and remained in this position until 2nd June 1915.

Rogers died at Alberton, Prince Edward Island on 16th May 1923.
Augustine Colin Macdonald was the twenty-third Lieutenant Governor of Prince Edward Island since the creation of the Colony in 1763. Augustine Colin Macdonald was the son of Hugh Macdonald, esquire, who came to Prince Edward Island in 1805 from Moydart, Inverness-shire, Scotland, and was married to Catherine, daughter of A. Macdonald of Rhue Arisaig, Inverness-shire. Augustine Macdonald was born at Panmure, Prince Edward Island, on 30th June 1837. He was educated at the Georgetown grammar school and at the Central Academy in Charlottetown and became a merchant. On 27th June 1865 he married Mary Elizabeth, sixth daughter of the late Hon. John Small Macdonald. They had a family of seven children.

Augustine Macdonald was a Commissioner for managing the Exhibition of Local Industry for Prince Edward Island on several occasions. He was a captain in the Voluntary Militia. Macdonald sat in the Provincial House of Assembly representing the 3rd Kings District from 1870 to 1873 and was reelected in the 1873 Provincial General Election. He resigned from provincial politics in September 1873 and ran in the federal by-election for the District of Kings County and was elected by Acclamation on 29th September 1873 as a Liberal-Conservative. Augustine Macdonald re-offered as a Liberal-Conservative candidate in the federal election on 22nd January 1874 for Kings County District and was defeated and then re-offered as a Liberal-Conservative in the federal election held on 17th September 1878 for Kings County District and was elected. Again, on 20th June 1882, he re-offered in the federal election and was defeated. He was elected in the 3rd March 1891 federal election for Kings County District and defeated in the federal election on 17th November 1900 for Kings County District as a Conservative candidate. He was appointed Lieutenant Governor for the Province of Prince Edward Island on 2nd June 1915.

Lieutenant Governor Macdonald died in office on 16th July 1919.
Lieutenant Governor Murdock MacKinnon

Lieutenant Governor from 8th September 1919 to 8th September 1924

Photograph courtesy of the PEI Archives and Records Office,
Reference Number 2320/60-25

Murdock MacKinnon was the twenty-fourth Lieutenant Governor of Prince Edward Island since the creation of the Colony in 1763. Murdock MacKinnon was born 15th March 1865 at Brooklyn, Prince Edward Island, the son of Lauchlin MacKinnon and Mary MacDonald, both of Scottish descent. He was educated at Prince of Wales College and he became a farmer. He married Perle Beecher Taylor, daughter of the late Dr. F. P. Taylor, on 21st October 1914. They had one son. MacKinnon was a member of the Presbyterian church.

Mr. MacKinnon was elected to represent the Conservatives in the 4th Kings District in the provincial legislature in the 28th July 1897 General Election and was reelected in the general elections of: 12th December 1900; 7th December 1904; 18th November 1908; 3rd January 1912; 16th September 1915 and 24th July 1919. He was Commissioner of Agriculture and Provincial Secretary Treasurer in the Mathieson administration from 1911 to 1917.

As Lieutenant Governor, he made constitutional history in the province by refusing his assent to the Church Union Bill of 1923.

Murdock MacKinnon was appointed as Lieutenant Governor for the Province of Prince Edward Island on 8th September 1919. He died at Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island, on 12th October 1944.
Frank Richard Heartz was the twenty-fifth Lieutenant Governor of Prince Edward Island since the creation of the Colony in 1763. Frank Heartz was born on 7th January 1871 in Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island, son of Benjamin Heartz and Henrietta Davison, both Canadians. He was educated at public schools, Prince of Wales College and Upper Canada College.

On 25th September 1895 he married Bessie, daughter of Uriah Matthew of Souris, Prince Edward Island. They had one child, Frances Ruth, who studied at McGill University. Heartz was a member of the United Church of Canada.

Frank Heartz ran as a Liberal political candidate for the 1st Kings District in 1909 and was defeated. Mr. Heartz was appointed Lieutenant Governor of the Province of Prince Edward Island on 8th September 1924.
Charles Dalton was the twenty-sixth Lieutenant Governor of Prince Edward Island since the creation of the Colony in 1763. Charles Dalton was born on 9th June 1850 in Tignish, Prince Edward Island. He was the son of Patrick Dalton and Margaret McCarthy, both of Irish descent. He was educated in public schools. Farming was his first occupation, later he became a druggist.

In 1874 he married Anne Gavin and they had seven children: Charles Howard, M.D., C.M. (McGill); Freda (married to A. J. Ortseifen); Nora (married to Paul A. Murray); Zita (married to William J. Cox); Edith (married to Walter A. Spillane); Irene; and Joseph Gerald (B.A. St. Dunstan’s University, B.Sc. Massachusetts Institute of Technology).

Charles Dalton was one of the pioneers of the silver fox ranching industry, having commenced ranching as far back as 1887 and formed a partnership with Robert Oulton in 1894. This was the first joint venture leading to the founding of the silver fox industry. Dalton sold his fox holdings in 1914 and was able to retire a millionaire. He made substantial gifts for charitable and education purposes. After losing a daughter to tuberculosis, Dalton became interested in the fight against TB on P.E.I. Dalton gave a generous donation to help make possible the construction of a sanatorium on the Island. He also contributed heavily to the reconstruction of St. Dunstan’s Cathedral in Charlottetown and built and equipped Dalton Hall now part of the University of Prince Edward Island.

During the First World War he donated a fully equipped motor ambulance to the Dominion Government, and for his native Tignish, which had at that time a population of just 431, he built a $20,000 school. The Dalton Sanatorium was opened in Emyvale in March 1915. The federal government took over this sanatorium during the First World War to treat soldiers suffering from tuberculosis, but returned it too the province in 1920 after expanding the building significantly. The province decided the now larger sanatorium was to much to maintain, it was returned to Dalton who closed the building in 1922 and donated all equipment and furnishings to the Charlottetown hospital.

In recognition of his “generous benefaction towards education and his charity for suffering humanity” that His Holiness Pope Benedict XV had made Charles Dalton a Knight Commander of the Order of St. Gregory (K.C.M.G.) in June 1916, the first time a citizen of eastern Canada was so knighted. He was a keen sportsman and controlled some of the finest trout streams and wild fowl areas in the province. Dalton was a member of the Roman Catholic church. Dalton became a minister without portfolio in the government of H. A. Matheson.

Mr. Dalton was elected to represent the 1st Prince District for the Conservatives in the Provincial Legislature in the 3rd December 1912 Provincial General Election and was reelected in the general elections on 16th September 1915 and was defeated in the general election held on 24th July 1919. He was appointed as Lieutenant Governor for the Province of Prince Edward Island on 29th November 1930 and served until 28th December 1933.
Lieutenant Governor George DesBrisay DeBlois

Lieutenant Governor from 28th December 1933 to 1st October 1939

Photograph courtesy of the PEI Archives and Records Office,
Reference Number 2320/60-28

George DesBrisay DeBlois was the twenty-seventh Lieutenant Governor of Prince Edward Island since the creation of the Colony in 1763. George DesBrisay DeBlois was born on 21st October 1887 in Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island, son of Robert Fitzgerald DeBlois and Ethel Helen DesBrisay, both of English descent. He was educated at St. Peter’s Collegiate, Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island.

On 15th June 1915 he married Marion, daughter of Arthur and Ella Newberry of Charlottetown. They had three children; Robert; Gordon and Helen. DeBlois was a member of the Anglican church and attended St. Paul’s Church in Charlottetown.

George DeBlois was a wholesale merchant and exporter and President of the firm DeBlois Brothers. He was President of the Conservative Association, Queens County and Commissioner of the Provincial Tuberculosis Sanatorium.

Mr. DeBlois was appointed Lieutenant Governor for the Province of Prince Edward Island on 28th December 1933.
Lieutenant Governor Bradford William LePage

Lieutenant Governor from 1st October 1939 to 30th May 1945

Photograph courtesy of the PEI Archives and Records Office, Reference Number 2320/60-29

Bradford William LePage was the twenty-eighth Lieutenant Governor of Prince Edward Island since the creation of the Colony in 1763. Bradford LePage was born on 19th February 1876 in Anglo Rustico, Prince Edward Island, the son of Elisha Christopher LePage and Sarah Millicent Woolner. His father was of French Huguenot descent and his mother of Scottish descent.

On 24th February 1898, Bradford LePage married Harriett, daughter of James A. Christie and Matilda Sands Williams of Mayfield, Prince Edward Island. They resided in Rusticoville where LePage operated a general store. The LePage’s moved to Charlottetown in 1920 with their two children, William Reuel and Hilda Ruth. He was a general merchant, lobster packer and President of LePage Shoe Company Ltd. LePage was a member of the United Church of Canada.

Bradford LePage was elected to represent 2nd Queens District in the Provincial Legislature on 24th July 1919. He was acting Premier of Prince Edward Island. He was a sworn member of the Saunders ministry on its formation on 12th August 1927. Mr. LePage was a member without portfolio in the Lea government. He was reelected in the general elections held on 6th August 1931 and 23rd July 1935 and appointed minister without portfolio in Mr. Lea’s cabinet on 15th August 1935. Mr. LePage was appointed President of the Council in Premier T.A. Campbell’s cabinet on 14th January 1936. He was reelected in the General Election held on 18th May 1939.

Mr. and Mrs LePage represented the Province of Prince Edward Island at the coronation of King George V1 and Queen Elizabeth in 1937.

In the last year in his term of office Lieutenant Governor LePage refused to assent to the Cullen Amendment to the Prohibition Act.

Bradford LePage was appointed Lieutenant Governor for the Province of Prince Edward Island on 1st October 1939. Bradford LePage died in Charlottetown on 4th December 1958. He is buried in the Peoples Cemetery.
Lieutenant Governor Joseph Alphonsus Bernard

*Lieutenant Governor from 30th May 1945 to 4th October 1950*

Photograph courtesy of the PEI Archives and Records Office,
Reference Number 2320/60-30

Joseph Alphonsus Bernard was the twenty-ninth Lieutenant Governor of Prince Edward Island since the creation of the Colony in 1763. Joseph Alphonsus Bernard was born on 27th March 1881 at Tignish, Prince Edward Island. He was the son of Theodore Bernard and Ann Perry. His grandfather was the Honourable S. F. Perry, M.P. and the Honourable Angus L. MacDonald was his first cousin. He was educated on the Island at the Tignish grammar school, Christian Brothers, and Union Commercial College.

On 21st September 1909 he married Zoe Chaisson, daughter of Joseph Chaisson of Tignish, Prince Edward Island, and they had thirteen children. Five sons, one daughter and two sons-in-law served in World War II. Joseph Bernard was a merchant and President of Morris, Bernard and Co. Ltd and the Tignish Merchants Association. He was the Chairman of the Tignish Library and also Civilian Recruiting Director. He was a member of the Roman Catholic church.

He was elected to represent the Liberal Party in the 1st Prince District in the Provincial Legislature on 15th September 1943 and was appointed Lieutenant Governor for the Province of Prince Edward Island on 30th May 1945.
Lieutenant Governor from 4th October 1950 to 31st March 1958

Lieutenant Governor Thomas William Lemuel Prowse

Photograph courtesy of the PEI Archives and Records Office,
Reference Number 2320/60-31

Thomas William Lemuel Prowse was the thirtieth Lieutenant Governor of Prince Edward Island since the creation of the Colony in 1763. William Prowse was born 31st August 1888 in Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island. He was the son of Lemuel Ezra Prowse (English) and Frances J. Stanley (Irish). He was educated in Charlottetown Public School, Sydney Academy and Prince of Wales College, Charlottetown.

On 4th February 1913, he married Annie, daughter of John B. Martyn of Ripley, Ontario. They had four children: Dr. Doris H. (married to Dr. J. A. Denne); Margaret F. (married to Dr. F. H. MacLeod); Fairlie C. (married to Dr. Allan Ernst) and Dr. Lemuel E. (married to Pauline Williston). He was a member of the Presbyterian church.

William Prowse was President and owner of Prowse Brothers Ltd. in Charlottetown and Vice President of the Charlottetown Forum. He was mayor of Charlottetown from 1930 to 1932 and a councillor for eight years. He was also a member of the Charlottetown Club and the Rotary Club.

He was first elected to represent the Charlottetown Common and Royalty District in Queens County in the Provincial Legislature on 23rd July 1935 and reelected on 15th September 1943. William Prowse was appointed Lieutenant Governor for the Province of Prince Edward Island on 4th October 1950.
Dr. Sir William Joseph Parnell MacMillan, M.D., C.M., F.A.C.S., L.M.C.C., K.C.M.G.

MacMillan was named Lieutenant Governor on 22nd November 1957 but died on 7th December 1957 before being officially installed. Photograph courtesy of the PEI Archives and Records Office, Reference Number 2320/61. 25

Dr. William J. P. MacMillan was born 24th March 1881, at Clermont, Prince Edward Island. The son of Joseph MacMillan, Scottish descent and Mary L. Hogan, Irish descent. First married on 12th January 1909 to Mary B., daughter of Hugh S. MacDonald of South Boston, Massachusetts and they had six children: Dorothea; Bernadette; Joseph; Stephen; Nora and Allan. MacMillan married for the second time on 3rd May 1922 to Letitia Roberts of South Boston. MacMillan resided at 205 Kent Street, Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island.

His youth was marked by an outstanding scholastic record at Prince of Wales College and McGill University where he graduated in 1908 with a degree of Doctor of Medicine. He was the recipient of the Holmes Gold Metal from McGill. He returned to the Island and established a medical practice first in Kinkora and afterwards in Charlottetown in 1910. In 1935, Dr. MacMillan was awarded an honorary Doctor of Laws degree from McGill, one of the few Islanders to be granted this honour.

In 1923, he entered politics, not with a political motive but to try and obtain a grant for his favorite charity, The Red Cross Society. However, he remained in the Legislature after he achieved his first objective and served continuously until 1955 except for the "clean sweep" made by the Liberals during the years 1935 to 1939. In 1932 he was named the first Minister of Health and Education in the province and took over the role of acting Premier during the illness of Premier James D. Stewart. MacMillan was elected as a representative of the Conservative Party in the Charlottetown Common and Royalty District in the general elections held on 24th July 1923, 25th June 1927 and 6th August 1931. He was reelected in the by-election held on 16th September 1931. He was unsuccessful in the 23rd July 1935 General Election and was reelected in the general elections held on 18th May 1939 in the 5th Queens District and was reelected on 15th September 1943, 11th December 1947, 26th April 1951 and was unsuccessful in the general election held on 26th May 1955.

On Stewart's death in 1933, he was named Premier and served until 1935. He served as Premier for only two years, but was the leader of the Opposition and head of the Island Conservative Party for more than 15 years. Dr. MacMillan entered the provincial administration at a time when finances were strained as a result of two fires which destroyed Prince of Wales College and Falconwood, the then Provincial Mental Hospital. He had them both rebuilt and at the same time, elevated Prince of Wales College to Junior College status. Perhaps his greatest success was his procurement of a Carnegie Foundation endowment for the establishing of a Provincial Library System which still serves the Island.

A member of many service clubs, charitable organizations and a member of medical associations, Dr. MacMillan was awarded an O.B.E. for his work during the Second World War. He was named a Knight Commander of the Order of St. Gregory (K.C.M.G.) the Great in 1947 and installed by Bishop James Boyle in Charlottetown in February 1948. He had been named Lieutenant Governor of Prince Edward Island on 22nd November 1957, but passed away on the 7th December 1957 before he was able to be installed.
Frederick Walter Hyndman was the thirty-first Lieutenant Governor of Prince Edward Island since the creation of the Colony in 1763. Mr. Hyndman was born on 13th February 1904 in Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island, the son of Walter Eardley Hyndman and Winnifred Sarah Cotton. He was educated at West Kent School and Prince of Wales College in Charlottetown. On 10th October 1934 he married Norah Cecile, daughter of the late Charles Matthew Shannon of Georgetown, British Guiana and Charlottetown. They had three children: Nancy (B.Sc. Dalhousie); Frederick and John. He was a member of the Anglican church.

Frederick Hyndman was President of Hyndman and Company Ltd. (established in 1872) with offices in Charlottetown, Summerside, Montague and Alberton. He was Major and Second in Command (at the outbreak of war) of the Prince Edward Island Light Horse Brigade. He held M.S.C. Certificate and was Staff Officer, Army Headquarters, from 1942 to 1945. He was a member of the Charlottetown Club Rotary, a life member of the United Services Officers’ Club, a member of the Newcomer Society and former President of the Charlottetown Board of Trade and Gyro Club.

He was a candidate for the Conservative Party in the Prince Edward Island Legislature in 1955 for the 5th Queens District and was defeated. Frederick Hyndman was appointed Lieutenant Governor for the Province of Prince Edward Island on 31st March 1958.
Lieutenant Governor Willibald Joseph MacDonald, B.A., E.D., M.S.C.

Lieutenant Governor from 1st August 1963 to 6th October 1969

Photograph courtesy of the PEI Archives and Records Office, Reference Number 2320/60-10

Willibald Joseph MacDonald was the thirty-second Lieutenant Governor of Prince Edward Island since the creation of the Colony in 1763. Mr. MacDonald was born on 27th January 1897 in Souris West, Prince Edward Island. He was the son of Archibald J. MacDonald and Catherine MacDonald. He was educated at Souris West School, Prince of Wales College and St. Dunstan’s University. He obtained a Bachelor of Arts degree from Laval.

J. MacDonald and Catherine MacDonald. He was educated at Souris West School, Prince of Wales College and St. Dunstan’s University. He obtained a Bachelor of Arts degree from Laval.

On 5th August 1925 he married Agnes Smith Flynn, daughter of William M. Flynn and Catherine Lewis. They had seven children: Inez, R.N. (Mrs. Justin Kelly), Sarnia, Ontario; Joan, R.T., (Mrs. Dr. A. Raymond Grant), St. John, New Brunswick; Dr. Douglas A.C. MacDonald, Anesthesiologist, Charlottetown, PEI; Stephanie, B.Sc. (Mrs. P. R. MacDonald), Halifax, Nova Scotia; Dr. Louis V. A. MacDonald, Washburn, Maine; William MacDonald (deceased) and G. Vernon MacDonald, B.Sc., medical student, Dalhousie University. He had fifteen grandchildren. He was a member of the Roman Catholic church.

Willibald MacDonald was a professor at Prince of Wales College in Charlottetown. During the First World War, he served in England and France from 1916 to 1919. He was wounded 1st October 1918. He served in the Second World War from 1939 to 1946, first as Company Commander of the Prince Edward Island Highlanders (Black Watch) and finishing as Commanding Officer, E.D. and held a M.S.C. certificate.

He was a charter member and Past President of the United Services Officers’ Club; Past President of the Charlottetown Branch of the Canadian Legion; Past President of the Abegweit Athletic Association; Past State Deputy Knights of Columbus, Civil Service.

Willibald MacDonald was appointed as Lieutenant Governor for the Province of Prince Edward Island on 1st August 1963.
John George MacKay was the thirty-third Lieutenant Governor of Prince Edward Island since the creation of the Colony in 1763. Mr. MacKay was born in Albany, Prince Edward Island, on 6th November 1893, the son of David MacKay and Almira Harvey. He was educated at Albany Public School with special courses in teacher training and public speaking.

On 31st January 1918 he married Muriel Beatrice, daughter of Major M. Freeman Boulter, of Albany. They had five children: Bruce Sutherland (dec.); Audrey Beryl; Lois Reta; John Howatt and Muriel Phyllis (dec.). George MacKay was president of the Tryon Dairying Company and Tryon Farmers’ Institute. He was a director of the Swine Breeders’ Association and Secretary and Manager of the Borden Line Shipping Club. MacKay was a member of the United Church of Canada.

He enlisted in the Halifax 10th Siege Batter (WWI) and was a Sergeant in the Prince Edward Island Light Horse. He was a member of the A.O.T.S. Men’s Church Club, the Canadian Commonwealth Parliamentary Association and a delegate to the Conference in Jamaica in 1964.

George MacKay was elected by acclamation to represent the 4th Prince District in the Prince Edward Island Legislative Assembly on 18th July 1949 and reelected in the General Elections of 26th April 1951, 25th May 1955, 1st September 1959 and 10th December 1962. He was Minister without Portfolio in the 1952 Administration of Premier John Walter Jones and Minister of Public Works and Highways in the Administration of Alexander W. Matheson from 1955 to 1959.

George MacKay was appointed as Lieutenant Governor for the Province of Prince Edward Island on 6th October 1969.
Lieutenant Governor Dr. Gordon Lockhart Bennett,
B. Sc., M.Sc., D.C.L.

Lieutenant Governor from 24th October 1974 to 14th January 1980

Photograph courtesy of the PEI Archives and Records Office,
Reference Number 3177/253

Gordon Lockhart Bennett was the thirty-fourth Lieutenant Governor of Prince Edward Island since the creation of the Colony in 1763. Mr. Bennett was born in Charlottetown, on 10th October 1912. Mr. Bennett’s elementary education was obtained in local schools prior to his obtaining his higher education at Prince of Wales College, Charlottetown and Acadia University from which he holds B.Sc. (1937) and M.Sc.(Chemistry, 1947). In 1976, he was awarded the degree of Doctor of Civil Laws (D.C.L.) from Acadia.

He was engaged in teaching in Prince Edward Island for thirty-two years. The first three years were in a two-room rural school in St. Eleanor’s, the same school in which both his mother and father had also taught. Following two years in the Charlottetown schools, he was appointed in 1939 to the Faculty of Prince of Wales College, Department of Chemistry. In 1957, he assumed the additional responsibilities of Registrar and Director of Studies. He remained at Prince of Wales until 1966. He married Doris L. Bernard of St. Eleanor’s, Prince Edward Island, and they have one married daughter, Mrs. David Campbell, and three granddaughters. Bennett was a member of the United Church of Canada. Entering provincial politics in 1966 as a Liberal candidate, Mr. Bennett was elected on 30th May of that year as a representative of 5th Queens District (Charlottetown and suburbs). He was reelected in 1970 and in 1974. From 1966 to 1974, he served in the government of Premier Alex B. Campbell in several capacities: President of the Executive Council, 1966-1974; Minister of Education, 1966-1972; Minister of Justice, 1970-1974; Provincial Secretary, 1972-1974 and Chairman of Provincial Centennial Commission in 1973.

Many significant changes in both the Departments of Education and Justice were effected during his years in government. Among these were the establishment of larger administrative school units, collective bargaining for teachers and members of the public service; sabbatical leave for teachers and the creation of the University of Prince Edward Island and Holland College. A complete study of the court and judicial system, the introduction of legal aid and the commencement of plans for a new correctional institute were carried out during his term as Minister of Justice. He was interested in sports and recreation. During his teaching years he carried out coaching duties in football and hockey. He was Past President of the Canadian Curling Association and a member of the Canadian Curling Hall of Fame as a builder. He served as Chairman of Charlottetown’s first Recreation Council and is a Past President of the Prince Edward Island Musical Festival Association and the Prince Edward Island Canadian Club.

Active in Freemasonry, Mr. Bennett was Past Grand Master of Masons in Prince Edward Island and for six years was Deputy Commander of Scottish Rite Masonry in the jurisdiction of Nova Scotia, Prince Edward Island and Newfoundland. He was also Grand Chancellor for Scottish Rite Masonry in Canada. Bennett represented his province at the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association meetings in Sri Lanka in 1974 and was Vice-Chairman of the Canadian Educational delegation to UNESCO in Paris in 1972.

He was created a Knight of Grace of St. John of Jerusalem in 1975. Gordon Bennett was appointed Lieutenant Governor for the Province of Prince Edward Island on 24th October 1974.

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Lieutenant Governor Dr. Joseph Aubin Doiron, B.A., D.D.S.

*Lieutenant Governor from 14th January 1980 to 1st August 1985*

Photograph courtesy of the Lieutenant Governor’s Office.

Joseph Aubin Doiron was the thirty-fifth Lieutenant Governor of Prince Edward Island since the creation of the Colony in 1763. Mr. Doiron was born in North Rustico, Prince Edward Island on 10th June 1922. Dr. Doiron attended local schools prior to obtaining his B.A. degree from Sainte-Anne’s College, Church Point, Nova Scotia and his D.D.S. degree from the Faculty of Dentistry, University of Montreal in 1951.

He was married to Rose Bernice Gallant, originally from Duvar, Prince Edward Island. They had seven children: Paul, Robert, Pierre, Simonne, Colette, Omer and Marc. Doiron was a member of the Roman Catholic church and attended St. Paul’s church in Summerside.

From 1951 until his appointment as Lieutenant Governor he maintained a dentistry practice in Summerside, Prince Edward Island. On 14th January 1980, he was appointed Lieutenant Governor for the Province of Prince Edward Island.

Long interested in Acadian affairs, he was the Founding President and Chairman of the Acadian Mardi Gras Association and a charter member and President of the Acadian Museum Association. He is also a member of the La Societe Saint-Thomas d’Aquin, the cultural organization that represents Acadians in Prince Edward Island.

Dr. Doiron was a Past President of the Dental Association of Prince Edward Island and a past representative on the Board of Governors of the Canadian Dental Association.

He was a member of the Bishop MacEachern General Assembly Fourth Degree Knights of Columbus and a member of the Greater Summerside and Area Chamber of Commerce.

Active in community life, Dr. Doiron was a Past President of Summerside Kinsmen and K-40 Clubs and a Past Grand Knight of Summerside Council 2070, Knights of Columbus. He had served as Past Director for the Summerside Cooperative Association, St. Paul’s Credit Union Ltd., and the Prince Edward Island Heritage Foundation.

Dr. Doiron was a member of St. Paul’s Roman Catholic Church in Summerside and was a Past President of the St. Paul’s Parish Council. He was a member of the 1973 Prince Edward Island Centennial Commission, a past Island representative on the Canadian Folk Arts Council and a past member of the Summerside Board of School Trustees.

His hobbies included choir singing, curling, golfing, woodworking, painting, deep sea fishing and angling.

In October 1994 Dr. Doiron was awarded the Order of Canada. “He was extremely proud to receive it” said Marion Reid, personal friend and former schoolmate and Lieutenant Governor at the time of Doiron’s death. “He was such a true gentleman. He made so many friends with his geniality and hospitality.” He was 72 at the time of his death, on 28th January 1995.
Lloyd MacPhail was the thirty-sixth Lieutenant Governor of Prince Edward Island since the creation of the Colony in 1763. Mr. MacPhail was born on 22nd March 1920 in New Haven, Prince Edward Island, the son of Robert Archibald MacPhail and Catherine C. MacLean. He married Helen MacDougall, daughter of John W. MacDougall of Argyle Shore, Prince Edward Island. The MacPhail’s had four children: Judith Anne (Mrs. Martin Halman); Lynn (Mrs. Jack Duffy); Ferne (Mrs. Ronald Halman) and Robert (married to Carolyn Thomson).

Mr. MacPhail was educated at the local public school in New Haven and at Prince of Wales College in Charlottetown. He operated the family business in New Haven for some three decades, incorporating a general store and a farm supply business.

Mr. MacPhail was first elected to the Prince Edward Island Legislative Assembly in a by-election on 17th July 1961, running as the Progressive Conservative candidate for the 2nd Queens District. He was reelected at all subsequent general elections held on 10th December 1962; 30th May 1966; 11th May 1970; 29th April 1974; 24th April 1978; 23rd April 1979 and 27th September 1982 until his appointment as Lieutenant Governor.

During the administration of Premier Walter R. Shaw, he served as Minister of Industry and Natural Resources and of Tourism Development from 1965 to 1966. During his years in Opposition (1966-1978), Mr. MacPhail was the finance critic for the Official Opposition.

In the administration of Premier J. Angus MacLean, 1979-1981, he was named Minister of Finance and also served as Chairman of the Treasury Board. Mr. MacPhail also held the portfolio of Minister of Development until that department was phased out in 1980. Following Premier MacLean’s retirement in November of 1981, Mr. MacPhail was confirmed as a minister in the Cabinet of Premier James M. Lee, again holding the Finance and Treasury Board responsibilities and the additional responsibility for Tourism.

Mr. MacPhail had a long involvement in community and church activities. For fourteen years, he was a Director of both the Provincial Exhibition Association and of the Charlottetown Driving Park. For many years, he was a school trustee of his local school before consolidation of the Prince Edward Island school system. As a member of the Clyde River Baptist Church, he has served as a deacon, Sunday school teacher, trustee and congregational secretary.

Lloyd MacPhail was appointed as Lieutenant Governor for the Province of Prince Edward Island on 1st August 1985.
Lieutenant Governor Marion Loretta Reid, O.P.E.I.

Lieutenant Governor from 16th August 1990 to 30th August 1995

Photograph courtesy of the Lieutenant Governor’s Office.

Mrs Marion Loretta Reid was the thirty-seventh Lieutenant Governor of Prince Edward Island since the creation of the Colony in 1763. Mrs Reid was also the first female to hold this position on Prince Edward Island. Mrs Reid was born on 2nd January 1929 in North Rustico, Prince Edward Island, the daughter of Michael Doyle and Loretta Whelan. She was the fifth child in a family of eight. On 29th June 1949, she married Lea P. Reid, son of Leander S. Reid and Florence Turner. They had eight children: Maureen and Colleen (twins); Kevin; Bethany; Marylea; David; Andrew and Tracy. Ms. Reid was a member of the Roman Catholic church and attended church at St. Ann’s, Hope River.

Mrs. Reid was educated at North Rustico, Stella Maris School and Prince of Wales College, where she graduated with her First Class Teacher’s License at the age of seventeen. While at Prince of Wales College, she won the John H. Bell Prize for debating and the Lord Strathcona Prize for physical education. Following her graduation, Mrs. Reid taught school for three years in North Rustico and Hope River, on the North Shore of Prince Edward Island. After the birth of her twin daughters in 1950, Mrs. Reid took leave from teaching and remained at home for a number of years in order to raise her family.

Mrs. Reid taught school for twenty-one years, with her last four years as principal of St. Ann’s Elementary School in Hope River. During her tenure, she was awarded sabbatical leave to return to university (1972-73), where she completed the requirements for a Certificate 5 Teacher’s Licence and she was awarded two scholarships for academic excellence.

Mrs. Reid served as Secretary on the Board of Governors of the Prince Edward Island Teachers’ Federation for seven years. As a board member, she served on the following committees: Status of Women; Negotiating Strategy Committee; Teachers’ Recruitment Team; Pension Committee and Curriculum Committee. As an active community worker, Mrs. Reid was President of the Sterling Women’s Institute; the Catholic Women’s League; a Leader in 4-H work; a charter member of the Queen Elizabeth Hospital Foundation and a member of the Zonta Club of Charlottetown.

Mrs. Reid served as a Member of the Legislative Assembly for 1st Queens District for ten years. Elected in the general election held on 23rd April 1979 and reelected on 27th September 1982 and 21st April 1986. During that period she served as Deputy Speaker of the Legislative Assembly, and on 6th March 1984, was elected Speaker, the first woman in Prince Edward Island to hold this position. Mrs. Reid also served as Opposition House Leader. Mrs. Reid was invested as a Dame of Grace in the Most Venerable Order of the Hospital of St. John of Jerusalem in Ottawa on 26th October 1990. Mrs. Reid was appointed as Lieutenant Governor for the Province of Prince Edward Island on 16th August 1990.

In 1996, Mrs. Reid was invested as a member of the Order of Prince Edward Island (insignia of the Order - O.P.E.I.), the highest honour awarded to an Islander.
Lieutenant Governor Gilbert Ralph Clements, O.P.E.I.

Lieutenant Governor from 30th August 1995 to 28th May 2001

Photograph courtesy of the Lieutenant Governor’s Office.

The Honourable Gilbert Ralph Clements was the thirty-eighth Lieutenant Governor of Prince Edward Island since the creation of the colony in 1763. He was appointed as Lieutenant Governor for the Province of Prince Edward Island on 30th August 1995.

Mr. Clements was born 11th September 1928 at Victoria Cross, Prince Edward Island. He was educated at Montague Memorial School and Mount Allison. Mr. Clements is married to Wilma Catherine MacLure of Montague. They have three children; Robert; David and Gail and five grandchildren.

Before entering politics Mr. Clements owned and operated a successful electrical contracting and appliance sales business and later owned and operated a real estate and insurance business. He was active in community affairs serving in many organizations. He also served a number of years as a school trustee, town councillor and a fireman. He is a member of the United Church of Canada and Saint Andrews Masonic Lodge No.13 AF and AM, Montague. Clements attended the Hillcrest United church in Montague.

Mr. Clements served as Chancellor of the Order of Prince Edward Island and was invested as a member of the Order of Prince Edward Island (insignia of the Order - O.P.E.I.) in August 1996. He is also the recipient of the Canada 125 Medal and the Queen’s Jubilee Medal. In October of 1996 Mr. Clements was invested as a Knight of Justice in the Order of St. John at an Investiture Ceremony at the Notre Dame Basilica, Ottawa and served as Vice Prior for the Province of Prince Edward Island.

First elected to the Legislative Assembly on 11th May 1970 as a Member for the 4th Kings District, Mr. Clements was reelected at the general elections held on 29th April 1974; 23rd April 1979; 27th September 1982; 21st April 1986; 29th May 1989 and 29th March 1993. He served as Opposition Critic for Finance and Environment during the period 1979-1986 and held various ministerial portfolios in the government of Premier Alex Campbell including Municipal Affairs, Tourism, Parks and Conservation and Community and Cultural Affairs. In the government of Premier Joseph Ghiz, he served as Minister of the Environment and Minister of Finance.

Mr. Clements was Chair of the Canadian Council of Environment Ministers on two separate occasions. In 1976 he was recognized as the only elected official to receive the Travel Industry Association of Canada Crandall Award, given for the greatest contribution to preserving the environment in Canada. He attended Conferences on the Environment in England, U.S.S.R., Venezuela and the U.S.A. (Alaska). In 1992, he was an official member of the Canadian Delegation to the “Earth Summit” in Rio de Janeiro.

Lieutenant Governor Clements hobbies included photography, fishing and wood working.
The Honourable J. Léonce Bernard is the thirty-ninth Lieutenant Governor of Prince Edward Island since the creation of the colony in 1763. He was appointed as Lieutenant Governor for the Province of Prince Edward Island on 28th May 2001.

Mr. Bernard was born 23rd May 1943 in Abram Village, Prince Edward Island. He received his early education and graduated from Evangeline School and later completed bookkeeping and accounting courses while a member of the Royal Canadian Air Force. Mr. Bernard is married to Florence Gallant of Cape Egmont. They have four children; Michel, Pierre, Francine and Charles and two grandsons.

Before entering politics, Mr. Bernard was employed as office manager with McGowan Motors in Montague, Prince Edward Island, and as General Manager of the Evangeline Credit Union in Wellington, Prince Edward Island. Since leaving politics, he served as General Manager and Accountant with the Coopérative Le Village Pionnier Acadien ltée and once again as Manager of the Evangeline Credit Union.

Mr. Bernard is a strong supporter of the co-operative movement both provincially and nationally having served as President of the Conseil de la coopération de l'Î.-P.-É., as well as a member, Vice President and Treasurer of the Conseil Canadien de la coopération; served on Advisory Committee for the Federal Minister responsible for co-operatives; member of the Credit Union Deposit Insurance Corporation and member of the Regional Community Development Cooperative Board.

He was active in community affairs serving in executive positions in the following organizations: Village of Wellington; Federation of Prince Edward Island Municipalities; United Way; French Language School Board; Wellington Fire Department and Firemen's Club; Wellington Boys and Girls Club; Wellington and Area Minor Hockey and Evangeline Tourism Association. He is a member of the Wellington Royal Canadian Legion (Branch No. 17), the Club Richelieu Évangéline and the Immaculate Conception Church.

First elected to the Prince Edward Island Legislative Assembly as Member for the 3rd Prince District at a by-election held on 3rd November 1975, Mr. Bernard was re-elected in five subsequent general elections in 24th April 1978; 23rd April 1979; 27th September 1982; 21st April 1986, and 29th May 1989.

Mr. Bernard was in Opposition from 1979 to 1986. In the government of Premier Joseph Ghiz, he served as Minister of Industry and Chairman of the P.E.I. Development Agency from 1986 to 1989 and from 1989 to 1991 was Minister of Fisheries and Community Affairs.

Mr. Bernard serves as Chancellor of the Order of Prince Edward Island and was invested as a member of the Order of Prince Edward Island (insignia of the Order - O.P.E.I.) on 28th May 2001.
Lieutenant Governor Barbara A. Hagerman, O.P.E.I., DStJ

Lieutenant Governor from 31 July 2006

Photograph courtesy of the Lieutenant Governor’s Office

The Honourable Barbara A. Hagerman is the fortieth Lieutenant Governor of the Province of Prince Edward Island since the creation of the colony in 1769 and the twenty-seventh since Confederation. The installation ceremony was held on July 31, 2006.

Born in Hartland, New Brunswick where she received her early education, Ms. Hagerman graduated from Mount Allison University in 1965, specializing in voice and organ. Barbara Hagerman has had a distinguished forty year performance and teaching career as a teacher in the Island school system, private voice teacher, guest performer with the PEI Symphony, adjudicator of Music Festivals in the Atlantic provinces, solo recitalist and church musician. She was host of a CBC Maritime-Radio School Broadcast and conducted the Summerside Community Choir for seventeen years. She has appeared on local television and Vision-TV with her choir and at a Canadian Choral Celebration at Carnegie Hall, New York City in 1997.

In addition to her music career, Ms. Hagerman has volunteered in many areas of Island life, including the PEI Music Festival Association, figure skating, gymnastics, Cubs and church.

Formerly, Ms. Hagerman has served on the National Boards of the Federation of Canadian Music Festivals, the Canada Council, the Association of Canadian Choral Conductors and the Fathers of Confederation Buildings Trust. She is held in high regard by her professional colleagues and makes a positive impression on people she meets from all walks of life across Canada.

Her life story is included in the book “In Their Own Words” by Holly Higgins Jonas.

His Honour, Nelson Hagerman, is a Chartered Accountant and Business Consultant with an office in Charlottetown. They have two children; a son Kurt lives in the Bahamas with his wife Rupal and their two children Kyle and Asha; their daughter Brynne and husband Matthew Trites live in Chilliwack, British Columbia.

Ms. Hagerman serves as Chancellor to the Order of Prince Edward Island, and was invested as a member of the Order of Prince Edward Island (O.P.E.I.) on July 31, 2006. She was installed as Dame of Justice of the Order of St. John (DStJ) on April 12, 2007.
Administrators of Prince Edward Island
1769 to 2002

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**Definition of “Administrator”**

In the Past . . .

In the Lieutenant Governor’s absence, the Administrator would carry out routine business of the Lieutenant Governor’s office. Prior to Confederation the acting Administrator chaired meetings of Council, sent reports to the British Colonial Office, acknowledged, dispatched and forwarded petitions and papers.

*The Constitution Act* (1967 - 1982) in section 67, states as follows:

"The Governor General in Council may from time to time appoint an Administrator to execute the office and functions of the Lieutenant Governor during his absence, illness or other inability."

Currently . . .

In the absence of the Lieutenant Governor (either through out-of-province commitments or if there were unforeseen time lapses between Lieutenant Governors terms of office) the practice has been for the Federal Cabinet to appoint the Chief Justice as Administrator.
Administrator Phillips Callbeck

Administrator from 1775 - 1779

Phillips Callbeck was born in 1744 with little known about his early life, although family tradition suggests he was born and educated in Ireland. He came to St. John Island in 1770 and in September of that year he was appointed to Governor Walter Patterson’s first council. In the same year he became Attorney General and Surrogate General and Judge of Probate. Callbeck married Ann Coffin in 1772. He had a law practice as well, and Patterson, writing after the death of Chief Justice John Duport in May of 1774 noted that Callbeck’s appointment to the position could not be allowed since it would leave the Island without a single lawyer. Callbeck also ran a mill and a store.

As Senior Councillor, Callbeck became Administrator in 1775 when Patterson left for England to fight for a commitment to funding the Island government. Callbeck had occupied the post for only four months when the colony was attacked in November by New England privateers. Charlottetown was looted and Callbeck, together with Surveyor General Thomas Wright, were taken as American prisoners from 8th December 1775 to 1776. Mr. Callbeck was released in Salem, Massachusetts and he was in Halifax by January 1776.

After his return to the Island in May, Callbeck attempted to improve the defensive state of the colony. He raised an independent company of militia and, as engineer, attended to the fortifications of the Island. But he overstepped his authority in the construction of defense works and was never able to raise the full complement of 100 men for the company. According to Chief Justice Peter Stewart, all this activity made for him “an independent fortune” in addition to his salaries as Administrator and Attorney General and profits made as the colony’s principal merchant and storekeeper. Callbeck collected perquisites as acting engineer and militia colonel.

Governor Patterson returned to the colony in 1780 and the next year seized several townships for arrears in quit rents. Callbeck was among those who supported the action and who purchased land at the auction which followed in November 1781. The reaction of proprietors was strong and they pressured the British officials to reverse the move. Probably in the fall of 1783 Patterson received a draft bill from Lord North, Secretary of State for the Home Department, providing for the land’s return to the original owners. Patterson put off introducing this legislation until he could secure an assembly more sympathetic to his own views. In the election held on March 1784 Callbeck ran unsuccessfully for an assembly seat, which resulted in a victory for the Country Party. A new election in March 1785 resulted in a more compliant assembly, and Callbeck assisted Patterson in forcing defeat of the draft bill in November 1786. Patterson then introduced a private members bill which returned all land to its original proprietors save that bought by Callbeck, Thomas DesBrisay, and Peter Stewart, provided that the 1781 purchases were compensated. In the same month Lieutenant Governor Edmund Fanning arrived to serve as acting governor in the place of Patterson, who was summoned by the Home Secretary to explain his actions. Patterson clung to office until June 1787, when he returned to England. Fanning, now governor, set about establishing his own factions.

Callbeck had no real place in the new government. He attended meetings of Council infrequently and, when present, obstructed the passage of motions and the conduct of business. Dropped from the Council by Fanning as a result, Callbeck was reinstated the same year, but he did not attend any more meetings. The summer of 1787 saw the election of an anti-Fanning assembly led by Captain Alexander Fletcher. Callbeck, who was elected as a member of Fletcher’s party, was voted the speaker in January 1788. In London, the last of a series of events begun in 1781 was being played out before the Privy Council. Criminal charges against Patterson and the members of his administration were maintained, and in July 1789 Callbeck was removed from his seat on the council and dismissed.
as Attorney General. His death followed within a year on 21st February 1790 in Charlottetown.

Callbeck’s career had been ruined by the land question, which would destroy many more before it was settled. He, like Patterson, had been judged harshly by historians, but he appears to have had a dedication to the struggling colony’s interests as well as to his own. After his death the Assembly voted to place a monument on his grave as “grateful tribute to the General Benefactor of this Island.”
Thomas DesBrisay was born in 1733 in Dublin (Republic of Ireland) and was the son of Theophilus DesBrisay and Magdalen de Vergese d’Aubussargues and in 1753 he married Ellen Landers (Landen) and they had 16 children.

Thomas DesBrisay was appointed an ensign in the 35th Foot (Donegall’s) at the age of ten. He attained the rank of Captain in the Royal Irish Artillery on 7th February 1760. This career was terminated when, on 31st July 1769 he was commissioned Lieutenant Governor, Secretary and Registrar of St. John’s (Prince Edward) Island. Ten years would lapse before he took up the appointment. Having acquired land on the Island, he busied himself for a few years with attempts to recruit settlers in Ireland. In 1773, however, the British government unwilling to encourage emigration, expressly forbade him to continue his efforts.

On 8th July 1771, apparently believing that DesBrisay was soon to arrive, Governor Walter Patterson had appointed DesBrisay a Justice of the Peace for Queens County. Three years later Patterson was to describe the absentee Lieutenant Governor as “very unfit to hold any offices under His Majesty.” He charged that DesBrisay had attempted to interfere in the proper allocation of Colonial funds; moreover, he had mortgaged his properties and, without discharging the mortgages, sold parcels of land to prospective settlers who were subsequently ruined by the expense of a voyage from the British Isles and the loss of their purchase money, the deeds they had received from DesBrisay being of no effect. DesBrisay was nevertheless retained as Lieutenant Governor and in the summer of 1779 was ordered by the Secretary of State for the American Colonies to take up his appointment.

Because Patterson was absent from the colony when DesBrisay arrived on 10th October 1779 DesBrisay, as Senior Officer, assumed command. During a nine month period he granted some 400 crown lots in Charlottetown Royalty, apportioning 58 town lots and 58 pasture lots to himself and members of his family. The British Government considered his behavior sufficient grounds for dismissal but acquiesced in Patterson’s proposal that instead DesBrisay and the others who had acquired the lots should be made to surrender the bulk of them to the Crown in open court. DesBrisay’s role in this affair no doubt explains why the remarkable number of requests for preferment that he addressed to London went unanswered. His hatred for Patterson, who had exposed him, must have intensified in 1781 when the governor claimed for himself a large portion of the land sold in November because proprietors’ failure to pay quit rents.

With the organization of the colonial administration in 1784 the office of Governor of St. John’s (Prince Edward) Island was eliminated. Patterson, as a consequence, became Lieutenant Governor, and DesBrisay lost both his post and his seat on the Council. He was, however, appointed Clerk of the Council on 22nd January 1785. Unwilling to “sit, as clerk, at the foot of a Board where I was appointed by His Majesty President,” he was permitted to exercise his duties as Deputy, and Charles Stewart was chosen for the position. The presence of a non-member Clerk at the Council meetings, a custom which was continued until DesBrisay’s death, represented a departure from British tradition, and the Upper House of Prince Edward Island became unique in this respect. In 1789 DesBrisay was appointed to the Council by Lieutenant Governor Edmund Fanning.

Injured pride also figured in DesBrisay’s resentment at Phillips Callbeck’s being recommended in 1781 to command a company for the defense of the colony in preference to him, as former Chief Justice Peter Stewart’s claim to precedence over him at Council’s meetings in 1801, and William Townshend’s being appointed temporary
Commander in Chief of the colony in 1813 to the exclusion of his own claim as senior councillor. As late as 1818, when DesBrisay was described as being “infirm and aged even to superannuation,” Lieutenant Governor Charles Douglass Smith remarked that “it would hurt the old man’s feelings much ever to be removed from the Council.”

Because of failing eyesight, DesBrisay had his grandson, Theophilus, assist him in the performance of the duties of Secretary and Registrar for some 15 years before his death. Thomas DesBrisay died in Prince Edward Island on 25th September 1819 at the age of 86.
Administrator George Wright

Administrator from 10th December 1825 to 10th December 1826; 19th May 1834 to 29th September 1834; 1st December 1835 to 30th August 1836; a brief period in 1837 and 2nd November 1841 to 13th November 1841.

George Wright was born on 29th December 1779 in Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island. He was the son of Thomas Wright and Susanna Turner. George worked for many years with his father as Deputy Surveyor. On 28th December 1807 he married Phebe Cambridge, daughter of John Cambridge, a prominent proprietor and merchant. The couple had six children. In 1808 George entered a partnership with the Cambridge family. In 1813 the partnership dissolved and he was left in control of the firm’s brewery and mills at Bird Island (Wrights) Creek, near Charlottetown.

George Wright served as High Sheriff in 1810 and 1811. During the War of 1812 he was rapidly promoted from Captain of Militia to Major to Lieutenant-Colonel. In 1824 he became the JP (Justice of the Peace) with the rank of custos rotulorum, and an Assistant Judge of the Supreme Court in 1828. He was a prominent member of St. Paul’s parish in Charlottetown, a founding member of the Central Agricultural Society (1827), and then its President in (1830).

He was appointed to Council on 10th June 1813, just prior to the arrival of Lieutenant Governor Charles Douglass Smith. In the early years of Smith’s government Wright was regarded as an associate of James Bardin Palmer, and his defiance of Smith in 1815 over a militia disturbance led to Smith’s unsuccessful attempt to dismiss him from Council. Throughout the controversies involving Smith in the early 20's Wright kept a low profile frequently absent from Council for critical meetings but generally supportive of the administration.

As Senior Member and President of Council, he found himself administering the colony from 10th December 1825 the first of several times he served as its Chief Executive Officer on an interim basis. The stewardship, during the absence of Smith’s successor, John Ready, in England, lasted exactly one year. In his role as Administrator, Wright carried out routine business, chaired meetings of Council, sent reports to the Colonial Office, acknowledged dispatches and forwarded petitions and papers.

On 12th November 1827 the complex at Bird Island, consisting of a gristmill, sawmill, and distillery, all fitted with extensive machinery, was burnt to the ground by fire which started in the drying kiln. The structure was completely uninsured. In 1828, following the death of his brother Charles, the Surveyor General, George Wright, assumed his office - the third member of his family to hold this post!

Wright’s stewardship, during the absence of Charles Douglass Smith’s successor, Colonel John Ready, in England, lasted exactly one year from 10th December 1825 to 10th December 1826. Wright again served as Administrator from 19th May 1834 to 29th September 1834 while Lieutenant Governor Sir Aretas William Young visited England, and again from 2nd December 1835 to 30th August 1836 between Young’s death and the arrival of Sir John Harvey. He served briefly again in 1837 and 1841 before and after the tenure of Sir Charles Augustus Fitzroy.

Hardly a major political figure on the Island, George Wright was an excellent exemplar of the prominence enjoyed by descendants of many of its early officers and of the perpetuation in certain position of what amounted to hereditary claims (the day after George Wright’s death his son George was provisionally appointed surveyor general, the fourth member of the family to hold this position). George Wright died on 13th March 1842.
Administrator Ambrose Lane

Administrator from September and October 1847 and
18th October 1850 to 10th May 1851

It is believed that Ambrose Lane was born in 1791 in the County Tipperary (Republic of Ireland). He was the son of Colonel John Hamilton Lane. On 19th August 1817 he married Mary Smith, daughter of Lieutenant Governor Charles Douglass Smith and they had six children.

Ambrose Lane started his long military career in 1807 by joining the 99th Foot (renumbered 98th in 1815) as an ensign. He rose to the rank of Lieutenant in 1811 and in 1812 was posted to North America. Four years later he was given the command of a Subaltern’s Detachment in Charlottetown. With the army reduction of 1818 he went on half pay and settled in Prince Edward Island where he took up his duties of Captain in the militia and, in 1819, Charlottetown Town Major.

In December 1818 Lieutenant Governor Charles Douglass Smith appointed Lane to the council and used him, along with another son-in-law, John Carmichael, to provide his administration with the independence from political factions he desired. Local politicians objected to this nepotism, which not only reduced their own role in government but also confirmed their suspicions of executive corruption. For example, as Registrar (1818), Examiner (1818) and Master (1919) of the Court of Chancery, Lane was in the happy position of setting his own fees as Registrar and then, as Master, ruling on any complaints these fees aroused. Lane’s lack of qualifications for his judicial posts came under particular scrutiny as a blatant example of undue family influence.

In 1825 he lost his post as Master of Chancery, but he retained his other military and judicial posts as well as his seat in Council. From August 1828 to May 1829 he acted as the Island’s Colonial Secretary and was appointed as an unpaid Assistant Justice of the Supreme Court in November 1829 under James Edward Jarvis. In 1831 he was promoted to the temporary rank of Captain on half pay in the regular army and became Sub-Inspector and District Adjutant in the local militia, posts he held until his death.

In Council, Lane remained staunchly Conservative, opposing advocates of escheat and responsible government and promoting proprietorial interests. When Lieutenant Governor Sir Charles Augustus Fitzroy created separate Legislative and Executive Councils in March 1839, Lane was excluded from both bodies, but by September, at Fitzroy’s express request, he regained a seat at the Executive Council without loss of rank. From 1842 to 1853 he was the Council’s senior member and as such twice served as the Island’s Administrator, in September and October 1847 and during the temporary absence of Lieutenant Governor Sir Henry Vere Huntley, and from October 1850 to May 1851 between the terms of Sir Donald Campbell and Sir Alexander Bannerman. He also served on the Central Board of Health; was a trustee of the Central Academy; and became a founding member of the Central Agricultural Society.

Ambrose Lane died on 7th September 1853 in Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island.
Administrator Charles Young
Administrator
25th May 1859 to 8th June 1859

Charles Young was born in Glasgow, Scotland on 30th April 1812, son of John Young, agricultural writer, born in Falkirk, Scotland in Sept. 1773. John Young and family emigrated from Scotland to Halifax, Nova Scotia in 1814 and was representative of Sydney in the provincial assembly from 1825 until his death on 6th October 1837.

Charles studied at Dalhousie College in Halifax where he took honours and entered the law office of his brothers George and William. In 1838 he was called to the bars of Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island, and, forming a co-partnership with his brothers, practiced for several years. On 23rd November 1847, he was the first barrister in Prince Edward Island to be appointed as Queen’s Counsel. At the age of twenty-eight he entered the P.E.I. House of Assembly, and was soon transferred to the Legislative Council, where he sat for twenty-three years (during ten of which he was its president). From 29th May 1851 to 2nd May 1853 and again from 29th June 1858 to 11th April 1859 he held the position of Attorney General and he was also administrator of the government of Prince Edward Island for four years.

Like his brother William, Charles was a warm supporter of the policy of Responsible government and he was the first public man on the island to support that principle. In 1852 he received his appointment as judge of probate, and sixteen years later he became judge in bankruptcy. In March of 1875, Charles retired from the latter post. As a barrister he had a very large and lucrative practice, hardly a case of importance occurring in which he was not retained. In tenantry cases he was almost invariably retained by the tenants, and the peculiar land laws of the island found always in him a ready and logical interpreter. He frequently delivered public lectures, and the Mechanics’ Institute of Charlottetown owes to him its foundation. As of 1845 he was a warm temperance advocate and he had been a local preacher of the Methodist church for many years. In 1854 Charles Young was granted rank and precedence under Governor Sir Alexander Bannerman thus making him a councillor, a senior member and president of the Legislative Council. In 1858 the Queen offered him the dignity of knighthood, which he declined.
Administrator and, later, Lieutenant Governor
Sir Robert Hodgson, LL.B.

Administrator from July to December 1865, 22nd October 1868
to 6th October 1870 and from August 1873 until 4th July 1874, and
Lieutenant Governor from 14th July 1874 to 14th July 1879

Sir Robert Hodgson was the fifteenth Lieutenant Governor of Prince Edward Island since the creation of the Colony in 1763. Robert Hodgson was born at Charlottetown in 1798, the eldest son of Robert Hodgson, esquire, formerly Speaker of the Prince Edward Island Assembly and Rebecca, daughter of Lieutenant Colonel Joseph Robinson of the South Carolina Royalist Regiment. He completed his education at King’s College in Windsor, Nova Scotia. Hodgson studied law with Simon Bradstreet Robie and James W. Johnston in Halifax, Nova Scotia and was called to the bars in Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island in 1819. In 1827 he married Fanny Macdonald, daughter of the late Captain Ranald Macdonald of the Glengarry Light Infantry and Town Major of Charlottetown. Hodgson took residence in Charlottetown and took up an active career as a lawyer, land agent and politician. They had two sons and one daughter. Hodgson did not remarry after his wife died on 2nd May 1832.

Robert Hodgson entered public life in 1824 by successfully contesting an Assembly seat for Charlottetown. He was appointed Attorney General and Advocate General Surrogate and Judge of Probate for Prince Edward Island in May of 1828 on an interim basis. A year later, the appointments became permanent and he resigned his Assembly seat. He was then appointed to the Executive Council and the Legislative Council and became President of the Legislative Council in 1840 and Acting Chief Justice in 1841. In 1850, during a crisis in the struggle for Responsible Government, when it seemed as though the Reformers might assume office, they offered to allow Hodgson to retain in the office of Attorney General and his seat on the Executive Council if he would join them. He declined, and when the Reformers did take power in 1851 he resigned from both positions. He remained President of the Legislative Council for one more year.

The Executive Council of George Coles appointed Hodgson to the vacant Chief Judgeship in 1852. He administered the Government of Prince Edward Island from July to December 1865, October 1868 to October 1870 and from August, 1873 until 4th July 1874 when he was appointed Lieutenant Governor of the Province of Prince Edward Island a position he held until 1879. In January of 1869 he was knighted. Hodgson retired in 1879 and died in Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island, on 15th September 1880.

Sir Robert Hodgson was a longtime office seeker; in fact, his indefatigable quest for offices, honours, and pensions more than once betrayed a lack of taste. Nonetheless, he was undeniably a man of distinction in the history of Prince Edward Island. He was the first native Chief Justice, the first native Lieutenant Governor (Lieutenant Governor No. 15 for the province), and the first Islander to be knighted. When he died, the Patriot newspaper described him as, “An excellent specimen of the English gentleman... He will long be remembered as the Good Sir.”