

11. Bell Rock (251 John St.)



The site where Bell Rock now stands was once the location of Deacon's Castle (at left), a small hand built rock and log outlook inhabited by a local recluse. In 1907, the present mansion was constructed from local stone for lumber baron W.J. Bell and his wife. Only three of the original buildings remain: the mansion, the coach house and a stone out-building. At one time the estate also had a gazebo/greenhouse and a barn that housed a horse, two cows and numerous chickens. When Mrs. Bell died in 1954 the property and most of the contents were left to the Memorial Hospital. The mansion served as a residence for hospital staff until a major fire in late 1955 gutted the entire interior of the mansion with the exception of part of the sunroom. In 1966, the property was purchased by the Centennial Committee of the Chamber of Commerce who transferred Bell Rock to Laurentian University to serve as the Art Gallery of Sudbury.

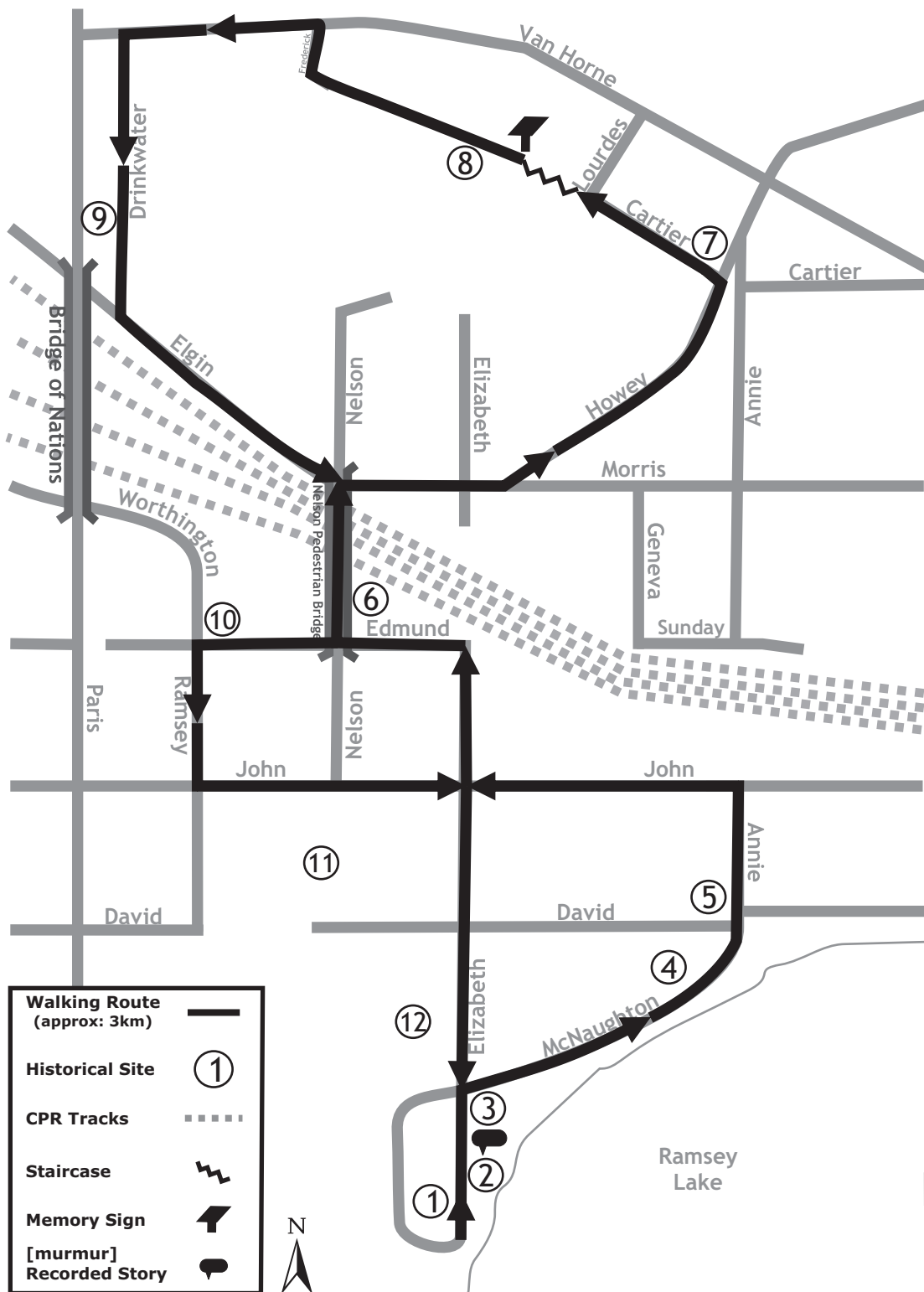
12. Gardner Residence (483 Elizabeth St.)

The Gardner Residence was built in 1934 on the previous site of the Bell Rock vegetable gardens. The home's owner, Percy Gardner, was a friend and employee of W.J. Bell and, in 1911, Gardner operated Bell's automobile, the first new automobile in Sudbury. Bell had Gardner enlist in an eight week driving course in Toronto and Detroit so he could assume the role of Bell's chauffeur. Driving conditions were often treacherous, with the journey along the logging trails to Massey taking upwards of eleven hours. In 1921, Gardner opened an automobile garage with his brothers and in 1978 it became the oldest Dodge dealership in Canada.

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- 1) History Hikes of Downtown, Flour Mill, Copper Cliff, Capreol
- 2) Descriptions of the historical photos
- 3) Acknowledgments & Bibliography

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McNaughton Subdivision

HISTORY HIKES:

Rainbow Routes de l'arc-en-ciel
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1. Ramsey Lake and Bell Park

Ramsey Lake was originally named Bimitimigamasing by the First Nations people. As Canadian Central Railway surveyors moved westward through the Sudbury area they could not locate the lake so renamed it Lost Lake. The name was changed again to Lake Ramsay/Ramsey for W.A. Ramsay, the lead surveyor who first missed the lake.

The showcase of Ramsey Lake, Bell Park, has a history that includes two of Sudbury's original landowners - W.J. Bell, for whom the park is named, and Count Frederic Romanet du Caillaud. In 1907 Caillaud introduced the idea of establishing a public park on the shores of Ramsey Lake. However, it was not until 1917 that the newly created Municipal Parks Board, of which Bell was a member, purchased seven acres of the land formally owned by Caillaud and in 1919 converted it into a popular public park. In 1926, four-and-a-half additional acres were donated by Bell and joined to the Caillaud land to form Bell Park.

2. Former Site of the Jodouin Ice Company (506 Elizabeth St.)

The Jodouin Ice Company was established by Louis Jodouin in 1888. The company's icehouse stood beside Sudbury Boat and Canoe and was used to store ice that was harvested from Ramsey Lake during the winter months. Ice blocks were delivered to homes for use in ice boxes before electric refrigerators were common and were also used in the CPR's air-conditioned coaches.

3. Former Site of Austin Airways (322 McNaughton Terr.)

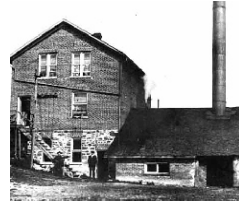


This building was once the home of Austin Airways which began as a charter service and flying school in 1935. Float planes would be parked at docks that once stood in front of this site. Austin Airways most famous pilot is Rusty Blakey. Relying on the directions of First Nations and Inuit people, Blakey flew for cartographers and photographers, delivered equipment to mines in Canada's north and piloted medical evacuation flights. He was also the first pilot to drop dry ice crystals, a method that revolutionized forest fire fighting. Blakey's indispensable contribution to opening up northern Canada garnered him much recognition and many awards including the Order of Canada.

4. Former D. Morin Residence (356 McNaughton Terr.)

This home was built in 1928 for businessman Dolfis Morin. Morin purchased the White House Hotel on Elm Street in 1905 and replaced it with the elegant and now demolished Nickel Range Hotel in 1915. The McNaughton Terrace residence was purchased soon after its construction by the Silverman family, owners of Silverman's Department Store in downtown Sudbury. The street on which the residence sits deserves mention as it was named for Andrew McNaughton who owned and subdivided the land in the late 1880's. McNaughton Street and McNaughton Terrace still hold the family name while Annie and Elizabeth Streets are named for two of McNaughton's daughters.

5. Sudbury Power and Light Station (David St. at McNaughton Terr.)



The steam-powered electric light plant on David Street was opened in 1896 to supply the fledgling Town of Sudbury with electricity to power streetlights and downtown buildings. This helped to mitigate the risk of fire caused by gas-powered lamps. The operation of this facility made Sudbury the first Ontario municipality to own and operate its own electricity plant. The pumping station was erected one year later and was supplemented with a wooden water tank which increased water pressure for fire fighting and other uses. The now vacant lot adjacent to the site was previously home to the City of Sudbury's greenhouses.

6. Nelson St. Pedestrian Bridge

The first bridge on this site, the Nelson Street Iron Bridge, was replaced by a pedestrian bridge soon after the completion of the Paris Street Overpass (see Site 8). Originally the main route into the south end of Sudbury, the iron bridge was removed because it was too low to allow for the passage of double-stacked boxcars on the railway beneath.

7. The Howey House (394 Howey Dr.)

Dr. Howey and his wife, Florence, came to Sudbury in 1883 and are considered the area's first Caucasian settlers. Howey was the original CPR doctor for Sudbury and at the time was the

only doctor between Sudbury and Ottawa. The Howey House was built in the Arts and Crafts or American Craftsman style of architecture popular in the early 1900's. From ownership records it appears that the house was built for the Howey's in the late 1910's when the CPR mainline was moved from its route along Howey Drive to its present location.

8. Lourdes Grotto



Count Frederic Romanet du Caillaud purchased a large piece of the property extending from this site to the eastern end of Ramsey Lake in 1892. He commissioned the creation of the Grotto shrine in 1907 as thanks to Our Lady of Lourdes for the recovery of his wife from illness. He was a proponent of Francophone culture in the Sudbury area, evident from the Grotto's inscription "Regina Gallorum" (Queen of the Gauls) as opposed to "Queen of the Heavens" or "Queen of the Skies." Caillaud also donated money to the construction of Sacred Heart College in the Flour Mill.

9. Drinkwater St. and the Bridge of Nations

Although now a small roadway, Drinkwater Street previously ran north to south from Elm Street to McNaughton Street before curving west and becoming Paris Street. The majority of the street was demolished in the early 1970's during the construction of the Paris Street Overpass. The overpass underwent a major change of its own in 2007 when the Flags of the World project was unveiled on Canada Day. The flags represent the multicultural composition of Sudbury and two months after their unveiling city hall announced that the Paris Street Overpass would be renamed the Bridge of Nations.

10. Former W. McVittie Residence (250 Edmund St.)

This home was built in 1900 for William McVittie who gained eminence by assisting in the discovery of the Frood Mine and other local mine sites. In 1904, he partnered with future Sudbury mayor Frank Cochrane to construct a hydro-electric plant on the Wanapitae River providing Sudbury with a reliable source of electricity. Many have speculated that Thomas Edison was a frequent guest at the home in 1901 when he came to Sudbury to explore for nickel and cobalt.