

# ECOTOUR<sup>®</sup>

of the Trans-Canada Highway  
**Nova Scotia**





# Introduction

Within the space of 300 miles this route spans all of earth's known history, from Precambrian deposits that predate life to sandpipers probing mud flats that will form tomorrow's rocks. Between these extremes, this region has seen lofty mountains lifted and worn down twice; volcanoes aflame, oceans advance and retreat, coal forests and dinosaurs appear and vanish; modern plants and animals emerge; vast ice-sheets bulldoze the land — and, in the last wink of geologic time, seen man appear.

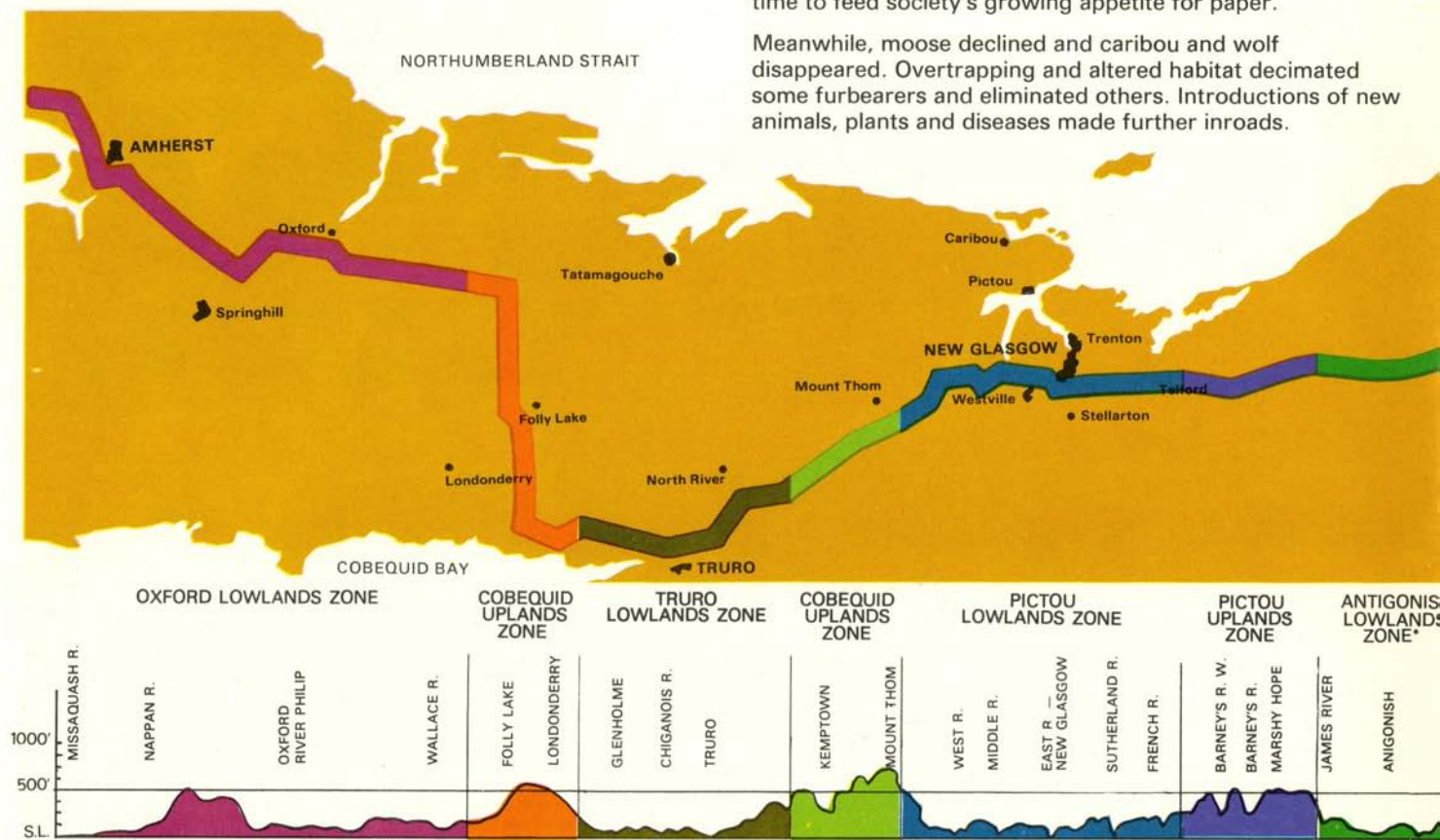
Naturally, man's imprint intrigues us most. His earliest traces here reveal a nomadic Ice Age hunter of caribou 11,000 years ago, when Minas Basin was an Arctic plain. Then from 5,000 to 2,000 years ago, as climate warmed, a forest people occupied the peninsula. The Micmacs followed.

Europeans made a stronger imprint. As early as 1622, Acadians began dyking sea marshes. Lumbering of virgin pine and spruce started soon after. Then, while French and English grappled from strongholds at Louisburg and Halifax, waves of immigrants arrived, pushing back a fifth of the original forest with axe and fire.

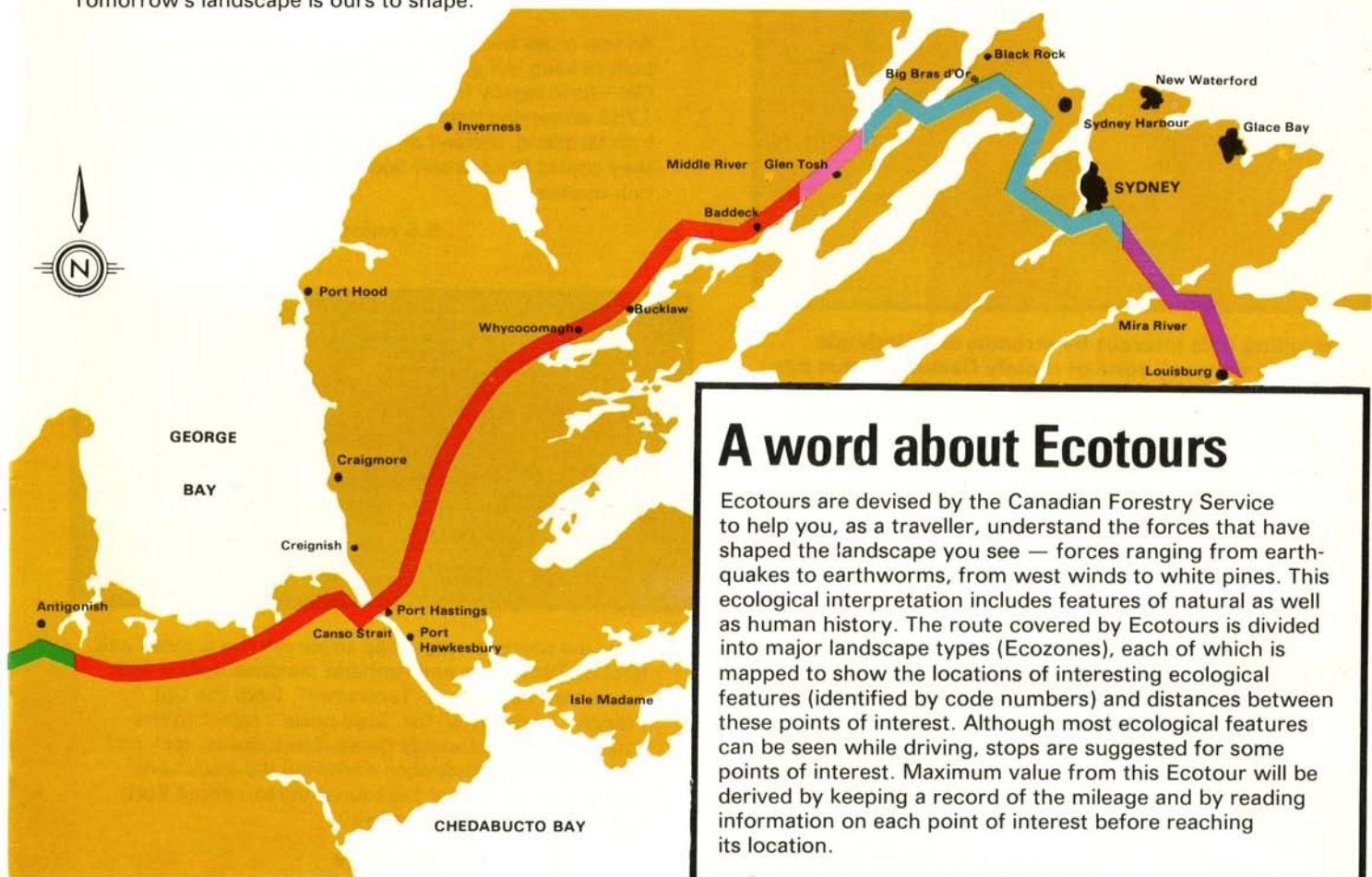
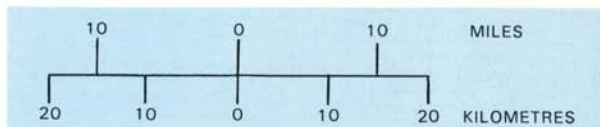
Shipbuilding boomed. For a few heady decades after 1800, Nova Scotians built and sailed the highest per capita tonnage of wooden windships in the world. Steam power and iron changed all that; but rich coal deposits opened new industrial vistas.

Railways and roads came, stitching together isolated communities, unlocking new timberlands, sparking huge forest fires — and beckoning farmers to the city. Pulpwood forests began to reclaim the fields and burntlands, just in time to feed society's growing appetite for paper.

Meanwhile, moose declined and caribou and wolf disappeared. Overtrapping and altered habitat decimated some furbearers and eliminated others. Introductions of new animals, plants and diseases made further inroads.



All these things fashioned the landscape you see today. Slowly and painfully, Nova Scotians are evolving a new awareness of nature's intricate bounties and penalties. Tomorrow's landscape is ours to shape.



## A word about Ecotours

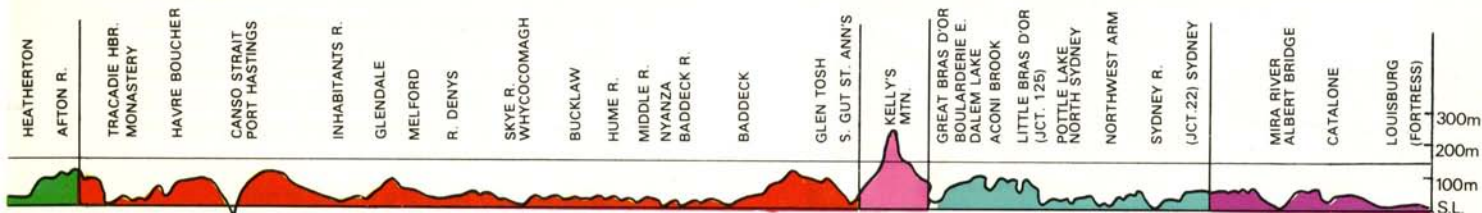
Ecotours are devised by the Canadian Forestry Service to help you, as a traveller, understand the forces that have shaped the landscape you see — forces ranging from earthquakes to earthworms, from west winds to white pines. This ecological interpretation includes features of natural as well as human history. The route covered by Ecotours is divided into major landscape types (Ecozones), each of which is mapped to show the locations of interesting ecological features (identified by code numbers) and distances between these points of interest. Although most ecological features can be seen while driving, stops are suggested for some points of interest. Maximum value from this Ecotour will be derived by keeping a record of the mileage and by reading information on each point of interest before reaching its location.

GUYSBOROUGH - BRAS D'OR LOWLANDS ZONE

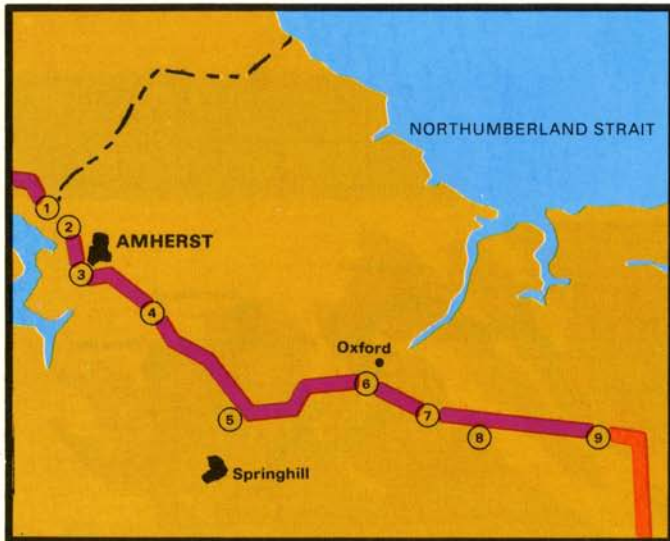
CAPE BRETON HILLS ZONE

GUYSBOROUGH - BRAS D'OR LOWLANDS ZONE

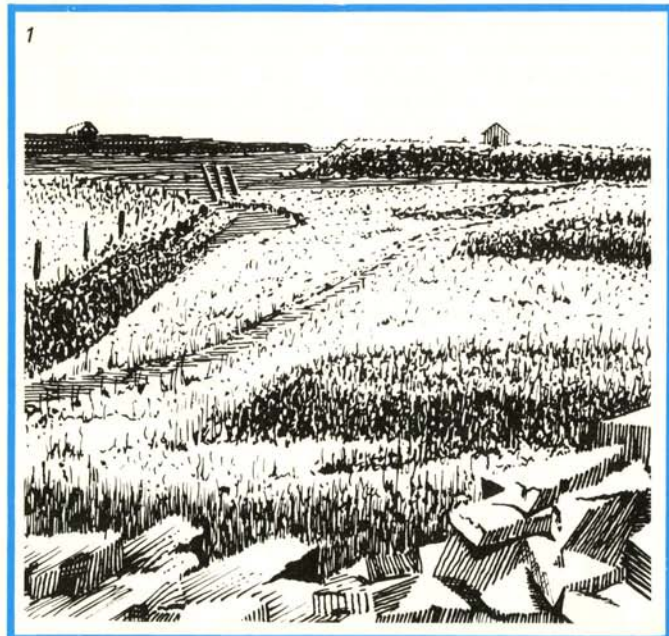
EASTERN SHORE ZONE







Low rolling hills intercut by streams and flatlands typify this softrock zone of mostly Carboniferous age. Salt marshes along the drowned Northumberland shore are vital breeding and resting areas for waterfowl winging the Atlantic flyway. Widespread landclearing, lumbering, and fire have largely replaced magnificent timber stands with pulpwood forests and brush fields.



## Oxford Lowlands

1. As you cross the Missaguash, note earthwork ridges built to keep out giant Fundy tides. The dykes are an Old-World legacy from Acadians who from 1672 to 1755 converted these lush sea meadows into equally lush farmland. Instead of manuring to fertilize their land they copied the sea and flooded it at intervals with rich marine silts.

**0.5 miles**

2



2. Near the tourist bureau stop to survey the drained and ditched Tantramar and Amherst marshes dotted with weathered hay barns. "Tantramar", from the Old French "Tintamarre" for "loud noise", refers to the sound of myriad Canada geese, black ducks, teal, and other waterfowl that once darkened the skies here spring and fall. Ask at the tourist bureau about Fort Lawrence and the ship railway.

**4.0 miles**

3. Along here you see alders reclaiming abandoned pasture. Advancing by sprouts and seeds, these moisture-loving shrubs will in time shade out the grasses and herbs. Later, they will in turn give way to evergreen forest. Meanwhile, their roots enrich the worn-out soil with nitrogen and the brush fields attract woodcock and ruffed grouse, and songbirds like the yellow warbler and white-throated sparrow.

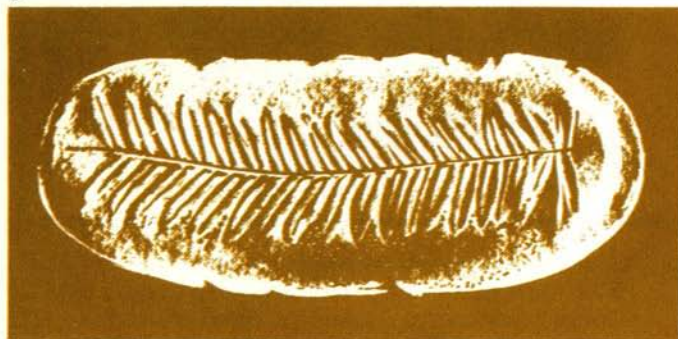
**Mileage to feature 5: 13.8 miles**



4. As you ride, reflect on how much land it takes to sustain modern road transport. For every 20 miles of four-lane highway we trade a square mile of wildlife habitat, timberland, cropland, watershed, or real estate.
5. To many, "Springhill" means "coal-mining". You travel over a Coal Age landscape. Here flourished 350 million years ago swamps of giant tree-ferns and horsetails populated by insects, fishes, amphibians and the first reptiles. Repeatedly buried under vast depths of water-borne silt and sand, the pressed plant remains became the burnable rock we call coal. Later, unwarping and erosion exposed the coal seams to mining. For Springhill's full story, visit its mining museum.

**6.6 miles**

5



6. Oxford has a lake as salty as the sea. Just before the Coal Age a shallow arm of the ocean, cut off from all but the highest tides, extended inland past here. In the hot sunny weather of that era, rapid evaporation deposited thick beds of rock salt and gypsum. Rainwater, dissolving these soft rocks, has pocked the landscape with many lakes and sinkholes, some brackish. Just east of town is a fine trout stream, where you may spot a kingfisher diving for a meal.

**Mileage to feature 8: 7.1 miles**

7. Watch for dead porcupines on the highway, often attended by nature's "cleaning crew", a squad of scavenging crows or ravens. The slow-moving porcupine (Latin *porca*—swine, *spina*—spine) increased after the fisher, their chief natural enemy, was almost wiped out in the 1920's by logging and over-trapping. To restore the balance government biologists have re-introduced fishers from Maine.

7



8



8. Here charred gray tree skeletons, homes of woodpeckers, recall vanished stands of big white pine, hemlock, and red spruce harboring deepwoods animals like wolf, cougar, marten, and fisher. Lumbering and vast wildfires before the 1930's largely replaced them with birch, aspen, and pin cherry, which in turn support open-forest species like deer, hare, and ruffed grouse. Some badly burned soils have reverted to acidic heathlands where black bears fatten on blueberries in autumn.

**6.7 miles**

9. On a clear day you can see the blue line of the ancient Cobequid Mountains rising about five miles south. Three times older than the Rockies and once as lofty, they were upthrust and hardened by a slow-motion collision of crustal plates 300 million years ago. Erosion has since reduced them to today's gentle 800- to 1,200-foot profiles.

**5.5 miles**





## Cobequid Uplands

This ancient plateau of hard granite, syenite, diabase and felsite is mainland Nova Scotia's chief hardwood region and best moose range. Introduced whitetail deer seem to have taken the place of moose on the lowlands. Farming and logging settlements once dotted the interior valleys, and iron was mined along the Fundy slope.

10



10. Here the highway follows the bed of a now-vanished south-flowing river that carved the Wentworth Valley in pre-glacial times, making the only pass through the hard Cobequid barrier for 30 miles east or west. Higher in the valley good moose range is provided by a wind-stunted beech-maple-birch forest undergrown by bracken, hobblebush, and striped maple. Trilliums brighten the ground here in May; in October the hills flame with color. Wentworth's ski trails are among the province's finest.

6.0 miles

11. Spring-fed Folly Lake was formed 10,000 years ago when a melting glacier dammed both ends of the pass with rock debris. Today the dams are a ready source of rock and gravel for road-builders, and Folly's deep cold waters attract many trout fishermen.

7.3 miles



12. For an interesting side-trip to an old iron mine (1849-1906), turn west below the railway cut and drive four miles to Londonderry, where blue wood-smoke from charcoal-makers' fires once scented the air. Railroad buffs will notice how the Intercolonial (now CN) detours westward in what critics called a "Grecian Bend" to service those mines.

6.0 miles

16





# Truro Lowlands

The reddish soils that tint the waters of Cobequid Bay derive from soft Triassic sandstones and shales, the peninsula's youngest rocks. Though cooled by winds and fogs off Fundy's tidechurned waters, this zone supports active mixed farming — much of it on land first wrested from the sea by Acadians.

13. In this area some autumn evening around 9,000 B.C. you might have seen campfires flicker in the blue shadow of glaciers as nomadic hunters gathered to intercept migrating caribou with flint-tipped spears and arrows. The Debert Palaeo-Indian finds of 1963-64 are among Canada's earliest traces of humans.

**2.8 miles**

14. Turn south a half mile at the Debert exit to visit McElman's Pond picnic park and waterfowl sanctuary, where migrating geese stop during spring and autumn to rest, and wood-ducks are encouraged to nest in special tree boxes. In June the nearby dykelands often resound with the songs of nesting bobolinks.

**5.3 miles**

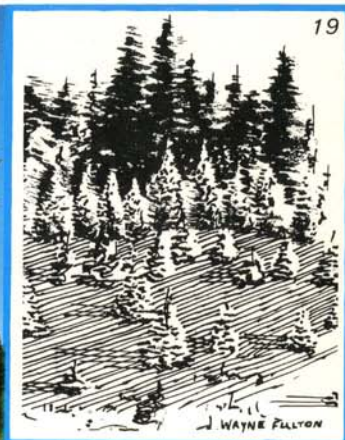
15. Fast-growing Truro is already cramped for space. Note the acreage occupied by rights-of-way for vital roads, railways, telephone and hydrolines alone. At North River, extensive borrow pits point to heavy use of gravel for construction fill. Notice too how the river's winding channel was bulldozed straight to lessen flood risks on Truro's rapidly developing floodplain. After passing Truro, the highway swings northeast and re-enters the Cobequid Uplands.

**10.6 miles**

16. The spindly look of these spruce and fir comes from over-crowding. After cutting or fire these species seed in thickly, especially in eastern Nova Scotia, cramming many times the normal number of trees onto each acre. In such dank, dark thickets growth stagnates. Except for rabbit trails below and the wispy songs of insect-seeking chickadees and kinglets above, signs of animal life are few.

**Mileage to feature 18: 8.8 miles**

17



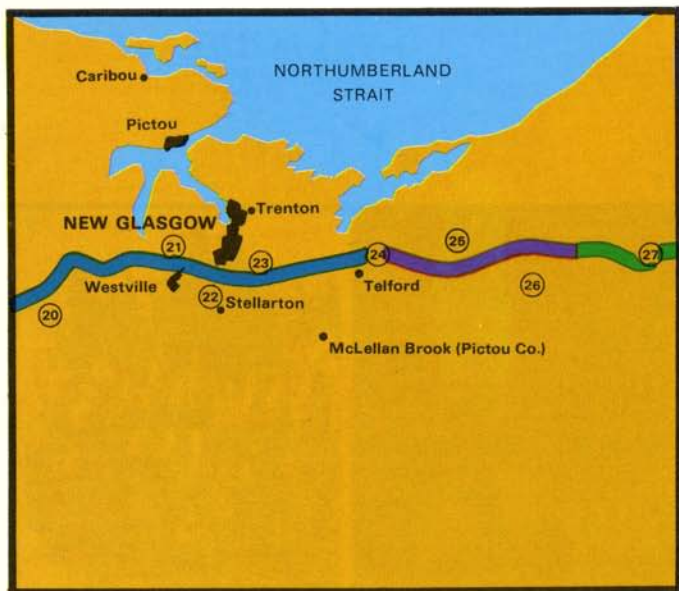
17. Watch for occasional white pines with dead or dying crowns. The usual cause is an Asiatic fungus called white pine blister rust. It kills by girdling the bark, starting near the top of the tree. The disease entered New York on nursery stock from Europe around 1900, and has since spread wherever white pines grow in North America.
18. This hillside stand is mostly sugar or rock maple, the best source of maple syrup. Settlers learned to tap this tree from the Indians, who cut a slanting channel in the bark, collected the clear sweetish sap in birchbark vessels, and boiled it down by placing it with hot rocks in a wooden trough. Making one gallon of good syrup takes about 35 gallons of sap.

**1.8 miles**

19. Mount Thom's slopes offer good close-up examples of white spruce seedlings invading pasture, a common sight along the route. "Pasture spruce" not only survives heavy grass and weed competition, but browsing animals bypass it in favour of less prickly fir or maple. These weedy fields were first cleared by Highlands Scots, who after a nightmarish 13-week Atlantic crossing, kindled the first fire in a pioneer home near here in December, 1801.

**5.5 miles**





## Pictou Lowlands

Lying snug between the Cobequid and Pictou uplands, this fertile softrock basin early attracted settlers. They found a shipbuilder's dream: fine harbours with gentle rivers winding into virgin pinelands. Large coal deposits later triggered heavy industry and the growth of five major towns.

20. Rich green bottomlands like these at West River were the first to be farmed. Later settlers had to take the poorer uplands — most of which should never have been cleared. Before commercial fertilizers appeared in the 1950's, farmers came from miles around to Lime-rock across the river to burn limestone to "sweeten" their fields. The large vase-shaped trees along the river are water-loving native white elms which took root when spring floods planted their seeds in fresh silt.

9.1 miles

21. At the P.E.I. ferry exit, native red pine occurs along the sandy ridge. Its seedlings grow best where a light fire has killed competing vegetation, opened the resin-sealed cones of the parent trees, and released seeds. South of here thousands of acres of burnt land have been planted with red pine.

2.6 miles

21



22. The toppling grey stone structure just west of the bridge marks one of the New Glasgow district's many abandoned coal mines. Starting in 1866, miners descended an 800-foot shaft here to work the 39-foot Foord seam, said to be the world's thickest. Underground explosions plus competition from oil forced closure of most of the area's mines in the 1950's. But with today's rising oil prices, waste heaps are being reworked for discarded coal. Stellarton's mining museum is well worth a visit.

1.5 miles

22





23. Here McLellan Brook has cut down through many feet of blue-gray shale that originally settled as clay in level layers under quiet water and then hardened to rock. Later when the whole region bulged upward and became dry land, enormous side-pressures folded the layers. Then erosion shaved off the tops of the folds, leaving only the tilted slopes you see today. The crumbly rock is quarried for making bricks. Its dark hue comes from "coal oil."

**8.8 miles**

24. It is just before noon on June 7, 1967. South of here a forest fire is spotted. Fed by bone-dry fuels and fanned by 50 mph gusts, the roaring blaze swiftly grows beyond human control. Only a sudden downpour finally halts it that evening. Next morning 7.5 square miles of forest lie blackened and steaming. Since then, nature has been bandaging the Telford landscape with a succession of fireweed, cherry, aspen, and red maple.

**5.7 miles**

25. Until 1968 a beaver colony lived here. Such a colony requires a guaranteed supply of fresh water, enough mud and saplings to build and maintain its dam and lodge, and plenty of food trees like aspen and red maple within safe reach. Once these trees are all cut the beavers move on. While the dam lasts the pond makes a good home for ducks, trout, frogs, and water insects. When it drains, its mucky bottom becomes a fertile "beaver meadow". This in turn may grow aspen to attract more beavers and start another cycle.

25

**7.2 miles**



## Pictou Uplands

**These rolling hardwood-covered hills of hardened quartzite, slates, and lava form an eastern outlier of the Cobequid Uplands—only more worn down, and exposing older rocks. Marked temperature differences between hills and valleys commonly divide the forest into distinct layers. Rough terrain and frost-prone valleys restrict farming, but moose hunters do well each fall.**

26



26. There is a clear illustration on these hills of the "layer-cake" principle that typifies eastern Nova Scotia's upland forest: deciduous trees on upper slopes, evergreens in valley bottoms, and mixed woods between. Air temperature differences at different altitudes, acting on species of varying hardiness, may be the cause of this forest zonation.

**3.0 miles**

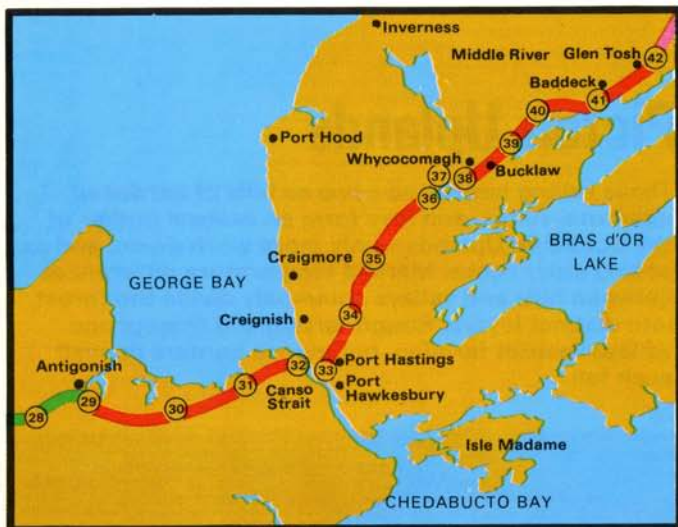
27. Beside the Glen Bard church on nearby Route 4 is buried Nova Scotia's renowned Gaelic poet John MacLean, who expressed the pioneer's cordial hatred of the forest thus:

*"Before I make a clearing and raise crops and tear the tyrannous forest up from its roots . . . I'll be worn out, and almost spent before my children have grown up . . . Piling tree trunks on top of each other in bonfires has strained every muscle in my back, and every part of me is so black that I'm just like a chimney-sweep."*

— "Oran do dh'America" ("Song of America")

**1.2 miles**





## Antigonish Lowlands

A mild dry climate plus fertile loams derived from pre-Coal Age conglomerate, sandstone and shale make this zone one of mixed farming and lumbering. In spring lobster fishermen work from the many harbors, and sea trout attract anglers.

28. Pause to examine curious layerings of pebbles, sand, and silt in the banks of this gravel pit. Melting glaciers built the layers as they dropped their loads of rock debris. The rounded stones and pebbles were dumped by stronger currents. Quieter waters laid down coarse sands. The gentlest flow deposited rock flour.

9.9 miles

28



29. In this marsh grow several acres of the familiar cattail, which one writer has called the "supermarket of the wilderness". Nearly all its parts are edible. The dried roots yield over two tons per acre of excellent flour. Its lower shoots are nutritious all year, as muskrats know. In spring, when noisy red-winged blackbirds nest among the wind-blown stalks, the cigar-shaped flower heads can be boiled and eaten as a vegetable. Or the pollen can be made into tasty yellow pancakes or muffins. Fringing the marsh is tough "hardhack", or *Spiraea*.

Mileage to feature 31: 22.8 miles

29



30. You are likely to see pulpwood trucks, especially near the Pictou and Canso Strait mill sites. Most of the Province's annual forest harvest now goes to feed five pulp mills. Before 1961, sawmills absorbed most of the harvest. The newer pulpmills opened markets for large volumes of wood that was unsuitable for lumber. They also buy sawmill residues to make paper, thus ensuring full use of all timber cut from the forests.



# Guysborough- Bras d'Or Lowlands

This complex series of low hills is far enough removed from the open Atlantic to be warmer and drier than both the highlands and the coast. Much of the land was early cleared for sheep pasture, and until the early 1900's was well settled. From the mainland portion come frequent cougar reports.

31. In logged areas along these coastal lowlands, balsam fir often seeds in "as thick as hair on a dog's back". With thinning and weeding, these fragrant thickets produce good Christmas trees. Local growers pioneered many of the cultivation techniques used in this province-wide industry, which now exports two million trees to U.S. and Caribbean markets each fall.

4.5 miles

31



32. From here you can see the Canso causeway, built in 1955. Though creating a huge ice-free harbour to the south, it plugs the northern half with drift ice in winter. This seasonal ice-bridge has allowed the adaptable bobcat to invade Cape Breton Island, driving its secretive northern cousin, the lynx, into retreat to the snowy Highlands.

4.1 miles

33. Stop beside the tourist bureau at Port Hastings to see why Cape Breton is an island. During the last Ice Age the whole region buckled under a mile-thick load of ice. As the ice-sheet melted, the sea rose much faster than the land could recover, turning basins into bays and valleys into fjords. Canso Strait, an ancient river valley, was flooded too.

32



34. Once this peat bog was probably a shallow lily pond. After centuries such ponds are often overgrown inch by inch toward the center, first by water-loving sphagnum mosses, and finally by trees. The tamarack invading this bog came by seed, but the black spruce and balsam fir can spread by rooting their bottom branches in wet moss. Meanwhile the area supports a rich flora including bog rosemary, leatherleaf, sedges, soft rush, and bog laurel. Spruce grouse, snowshoe hare and vole frequent the encroaching forest.

8.9 miles

34





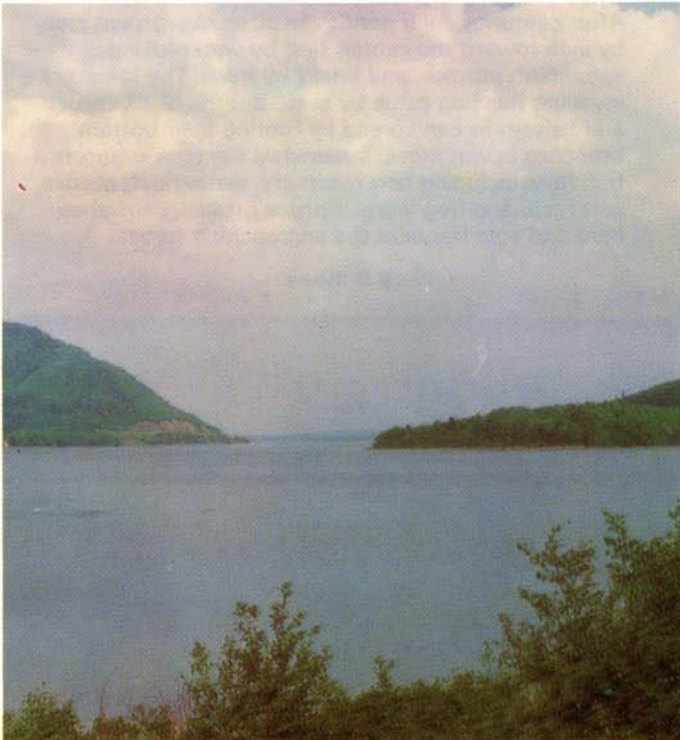
35. This area was clearcut for softwood pulp around 1970. Immediately suckers shot up from aspen roots and sprouts appeared on red maple stumps. Nourished by oversized root systems, these grew several feet a year, providing food for rabbits and deer until their tips grew out of reach. Later, tiny spruce and fir seeds from nearby trees drifted in and germinated under the hardwood shade. In time these invaders will overtop and shade out most of their shorter-lived nurse-trees.

**9.0 miles**

36. Here you skirt the Bras d'Or Lake, an inland sea formed at the close of the last Ice Age when the Atlantic advanced 100 miles from its old shoreline near Sable Island. With a tidal range of only 18 inches, these sheltered "Arms of Gold" offer ideal saltwater sailing. Oysters and introduced rainbow trout thrive in the lake's clear waters. Abundant fish support eastern North America's best remaining bald eagle populations.

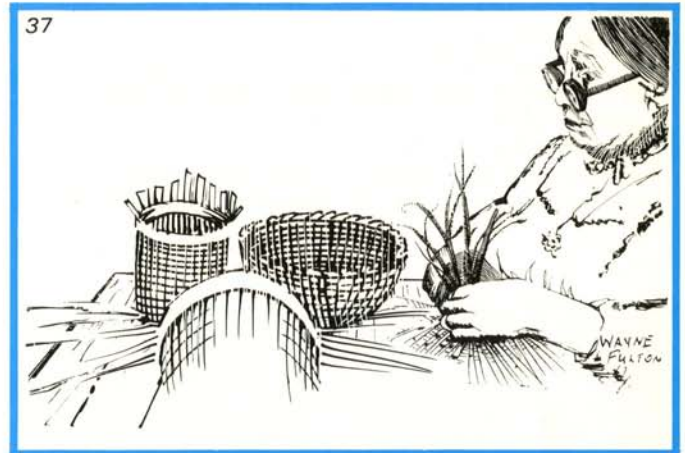
**1.8 miles**

36



37. At the Indian Reserve in Whycocomagh (Micmac for "Head of the Waters"), pause to consider the Micmac's changed lifestyle. His ancestors summered in such places to fish, hunt whales, collect shellfish and eggs of seabirds — and to escape the mosquitoes. With winter's onset they moved inland to hunt bear and moose. Today's Indian villagers stay put; but they are still craftsmen and fishermen, skillfully weaving baskets and snowshoes, and farming oysters on the bay.

**1.9 miles**



38. For an exhilarating view, enter Whycocomagh camping park and hike the trail to Salt Mountain's top. Imagine the landscape below in the 1880's, when Whycocomagh North was a bustling Gaelic community rivalling Sydney in population. Hear the sounds of shipyard and shop: an 1868 directory lists "shipwright, carriage-maker, wheelwright, tanner, two millers, two blacksmiths, two tailors, and a dyer." Today their descendants scarcely number 300, and Gaelic is seldom heard.

**6.1 miles**

39. Near Bucklaw is an important deer wintering area. In heavy winters deer and moose will gather in a well-trampled "yard" rather than burn energy struggling through deep or crusted snow. An ideal yard has plentiful hardwood sprouts for food, and windproof evergreens for shelter. If food fails in the yard the deer will starve rather than travel.

**7.8 miles**





40. Here Middle River, bringing down sand and silt for thousands of years from its highland watershed, is building a delta of rich soil. At its growing edge is salt marsh, an ideal nursery for waterfowl and fish. The older parts of the delta, now covered with water-tolerant shrubs, will eventually support forest vegetation. Watch for the white head and tail of adult bald eagles cruising the shore for stranded fish.

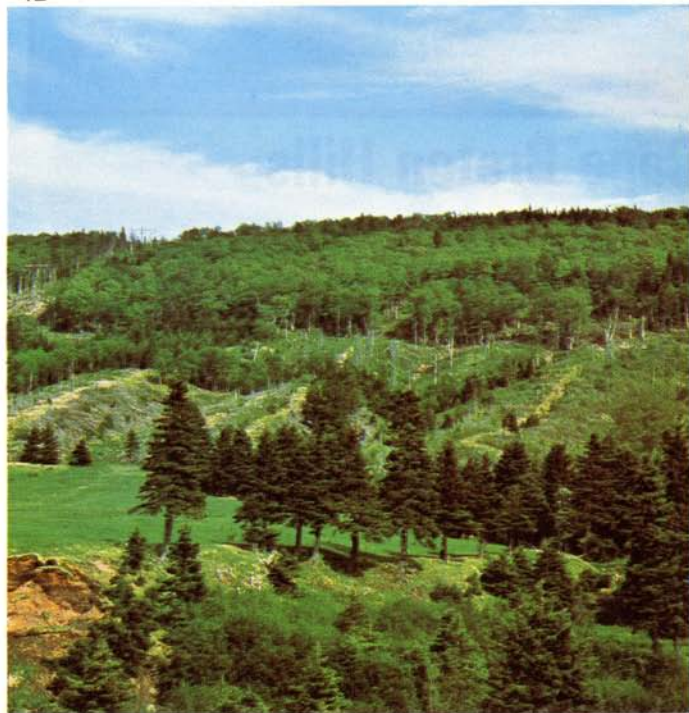
7.2 miles



41. At Baddeck are headquartered forest service personnel serving one of the Province's eight subdivisions. Routine duties include managing forests and wildlife, developing parks, fighting wildfires, planting trees, and carrying out extension work. In mid-channel, look for tiny Toothbrush Island, a provincial bird sanctuary with a cormorant colony. For a fascinating glimpse into ideas that helped transform communications and transport, visit the Alexander Graham Bell National Historic Park.

10.0 miles

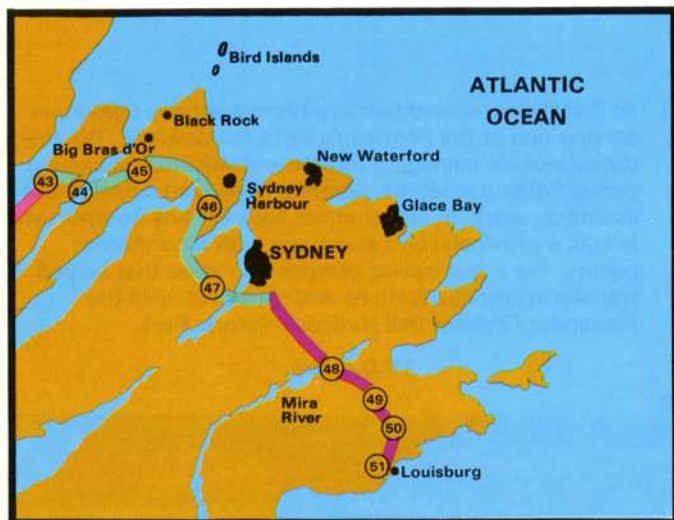
42



42. Clearcutting at Glen Tosh around 1970 denuded the steep hillside to the south. The darker up-and-down strips are brush piles in ravines carved by ancient runoff and by land-slides down the steep shale and sandstone slope. Recent erosion may have deepened the gullies. After logging, the brush piles and thick carpet of mosses on the forest floor impeded the regeneration of softwoods, but by 1973 pioneer shrubs like raspberry, elder, and pin cherry were poking through.

6.5 miles





## Cape Breton Hills

Although the route skirts the ancient Creignish Hills, 1,000-foot Kelly's Mountain is the only place where it crosses this cooler and moister hardrock upland of Precambrian Age. Here the transition from lowland softwoods through hardwood slopes and ridges to a subarctic upland forest is abrupt.

43. Shipbuilding and seafaring are important Nova Scotian traditions. In 1851 a group of St. Ann's people sailed from the harbour below the look-off to Waipu, New Zealand on a 500-ton ship of their own making. After they settled there, another 833 St. Ann's folk built ships and joined them. (Waipu later became a noted exporter of sea-captains.) Across the inlet loom ancient tablelands that predate life.

43

5.0 miles



44. Seal Island bridge spans the only natural passage for ocean-going vessels plying the landlocked Bras d'Or Lake, and returns the traveller to the Guysborough-Bras d'Or Lowlands. For an interesting side trip, take the Big Bras d'Or road east to Black Rock lighthouse near the famous Bird Island. In June and July immense wheeling swarms of auks, puffins, petrels, terns, and cormorants nest there.

Mileage to feature 46: 14.8 miles

45



45. Any month from May till October, enjoy the shifting spectrum of common roadside wildflowers. In May, just before shadbush, wild cherry and mountain ash explode in frothy white, watch for banks of pink rhodora lighting up the forest edges. More pink comes in June with sheep laurel, while in wet meadows you may spot blue-flag iris. During July and August, black-eyed Susan, hawkweed and golden ragwort spangle dry ditches with yellow, and tall fireweeds flush acres of burnt land with magenta. Finally, goldenrod and aster herald autumn.
46. If you have time, stroll through this pleasant hilltop glade of mature sugar maple, yellow birch, and beech. Unlike pioneer species, these tolerant hardwoods seldom give way to conifers, because their seedlings can withstand the parent trees' shade. Moss-grown hardwood trunks, lying where they fell among delicate bracken fronds, show that the stand is perpetuating itself.

7.9 miles

47. A silent struggle goes on here. The evergreens under these lovely white birch are infiltrators biding their time. White birch seedlings must have full light. This they received when fire removed a spruce-fir forest here around 1890. Now the birch are mature. As they topple from insects, disease, and wind, the patient evergreens will surge up and reclaim this site.

14.0 miles



# Eastern Shore

Thin rocky soils exposed to Atlantic winds and fogs produced this narrow coastal band of spruce and fir sprinkled with birch. Glacier-scoured rock barrens are common. Wetter sites support peat bogs studded with countless ponds that mirror tamarack and black spruce, the favored home of spruce grouse. Commercial fishing is the main activity.

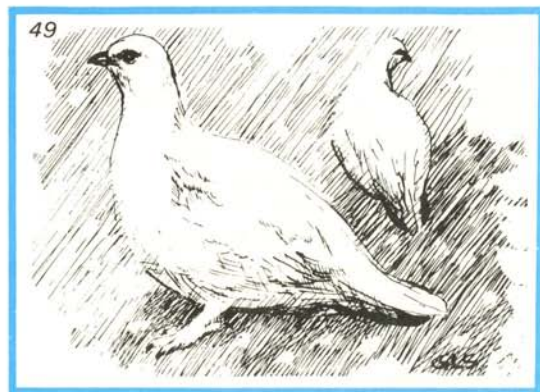
48. In the early 1700's this point on the Mira River was a key link in the Louisburg-Sydney Harbour road. Here the French had a ferry, timber operations, and a large shipyard. Later, under British rule, you might have seen hundreds of select pine mast timbers float past here, branded with the "Broad Arrow" axe-mark that proclaimed them Royal Navy property. A mile downstream at Mira Provincial Park are clay pits that supplied bricks for both French and British colonists.

5.6 miles



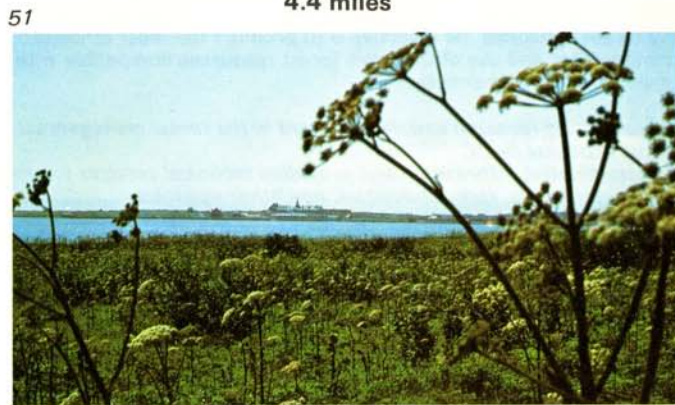
49. Near Catalone in 1969 biologists released 60 willow ptarmigan from Newfoundland. Since then a breeding population of this northern grouse has developed. Hopefully they will colonize the extensive coastal barrens and boglands where meagre rations of willow buds and crowberry would support few other birds of this size.

2.6 miles



50. Here you see the typical landscape of Nova Scotia's Atlantic coast—fir and white spruce on the drier ridges, black spruce and tamarack bogs in the wetter hollows, all stunted by exposure. Gales often lash this coast, driving salt-laden air far inland. Ice sometimes lingers offshore until June. Cold fogs frequently hide the sun, and heavy rains leach nutrients from the shallow granitic soils, encouraging thick moss carpets underfoot. Yet this landscape, where misty spruce islands loom among ochre and russet peatlands and nesting yellowlegs sould intruders, has its own charm.

4.4 miles



51. In the fields north of the Fortress notice the tall, coarse plant with creamy flowers in umbrella-like heads. This is Angelica, an herb much favoured in Europe for its aromatic odor, medicinal root, and stalks that can be candied and eaten. It very likely escaped from herb gardens planted here by French settlers after 1720. As yet it is found only on Cape Breton Island, chiefly in the Louisburg-Sydney area.





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programme L'Homme  
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## Suggested Reading:

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## Our forest environment and the Canadian Forestry Service

The volume and multiplicity of forest products has earned Canada a place of prominence among the forest nations of the world. But now, with a dawning comprehension of its role in the great ecological complex, Canadians begin to perceive the forest's broader value as a stabilizer of desired natural patterns and as a retreat for the relaxation and well-being of a people living in crowded cities.

The Canadian Forestry Service of the Department of the Environment is intimately concerned with the forest environment and the forest industries. Its objective is to promote the most efficient management and use of Canada's forest resources compatible with environmental concerns by:

- conducting research and development in the forest management and forest products fields.
- disseminating information and providing technical services to provincial governments, forest industries, and other agencies.
- preparing and distributing information to the general public.
- providing grants to universities to encourage development of centres of research excellence in forestry.

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