ABSTRACT

In many museums, the expertise for the treatment of portrait miniatures often resides in the objects or paintings conservation labs, while in archival related institutions, it often resides in one of the paper conservation labs. As with any specialty, the ability to maintain expertise over the long term requires a transfer of knowledge to other conservators. Since 2003, Library and Archives Canada (LAC) has invested in the development of in-house expertise for the conservation of portrait miniatures (Trojan-Bedynski et al., 2011). In 2015, a condition survey of LAC’s portrait miniatures collection was conducted by conservators, with two main goals; to use as a tool in succession planning, to identify and address items requiring condition reports, conservation treatment, further monitoring or additional preservation care, such as re-housing or frame repair.

Portrait miniatures are subject to a wide variety of physical problems, often a result of inferior materials, poor handling or improper storage conditions. This paper will focus on the recent conservation treatment of several miniature portraits on ivory at LAC. Specific case studies will examine various conservation activities, including; documenting the condition of portrait miniatures, opening various types of encasements, cleaning and mould removal, consolidation of flaking paints, humidification and flattening of warped ivory, repair of cracked or broken ivory supports and the often lengthy process of acquiring and replacing a missing or broken cover glass.

INTRODUCTION

Early miniatures in Europe were painted with opaque colours on vellum. In 1705, Venetian artist Rosalba Carriera introduced ivory as a replacement for vellum. Artists recognized the translucent quality that an ivory support could lend to a miniature painting, which led to a rapid change from the use of opaque paints to more transparent watercolours. By 1720 ivory had replaced vellum as the most common support for portrait miniatures. (Aiken, 2000)

The portrait miniature collection at Library and Archives Canada consists of over 130 miniatures, which are part of a much larger portrait collection documenting the history of Canada. Though there are several early portraits as well, the majority of LAC’s miniatures were created during the 19th century by European, American and Canadian artists, trained in French or English miniature painting methods. (Trojan-Bedynski et al. 2011) The majority of the collection is painted in watercolour on ivory, though the collection also contains enamel on copper, porcelain, card, vellum and glass supports. 

SURVEYING AND CONDITION REPORTING

The recent condition survey of LAC’s portrait miniatures collection, has allowed conservators the opportunity to assess and document the condition of each miniature and to transfer knowledge related to past treatments and history of the object. During the survey, photographs were taken of every item and a spread sheet was created specifically for conservation, which included the materials of each miniature and whether condition reporting, conservation treatment, monitoring or re-housing was required. (figure 1)

LAC conservators reviewed a variety of sample condition report forms from other institutions, which had been designed specifically for the documentation of portrait miniatures. A new, narrative condition report was created for LAC’s miniatures, which allowed for the insertion of images and expandable fields of information. The 4 major components of each miniature; the paint layer, support, glass and frame components were described and assessed by grading their condition on a scale of 1-5. An overall condition rating for the object was then assigned and used to prioritize items most in need of conservation treatment. (figure 2) Condition reports were completed for all new items to the collection and included treatment proposals when conservation treatment was necessary. Conservation treatment of the miniatures
**The Recent Conservation Treatment of Portrait Miniatures at Library and Archives Canada**

**St-Jacques and Trojan-Bedynski**

### Fig. 1. (LAC collection survey spreadsheet).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Intelect. Container label</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>homo loc barcode #</th>
<th>Container barcode #</th>
<th>Media type</th>
<th>Mean #</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1984-119-1 MIN-079</td>
<td>Major John Norton, Taylorsibaldtown, the Melchior Chief, painted by Mary Ann Knight, 1810</td>
<td>1134022800065</td>
<td>2000792899</td>
<td>Watercolour, gouache, and wash on ivory</td>
<td>2836984</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1984-17-1 MIN-071</td>
<td>Address Miss Jessie White, painted by Hugo Mekel, ca. 1826</td>
<td>1134022800066</td>
<td>2000792898</td>
<td>Watercolour</td>
<td>2836571</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1984-11B-1 MIN-071</td>
<td>Captain John Ross, R. N., painted by Mary F. Hamilton, ca. 1834</td>
<td>1134022800067</td>
<td>2000792899</td>
<td>Watercolour on ivory in lg gold frame</td>
<td>2837341</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1984-108-1 MIN-073</td>
<td>Portrait Of Unknown Male (possibly a member of the Siau Family?)</td>
<td>1134022800068</td>
<td>2000792899</td>
<td>Vellum, soft ground, and wash</td>
<td>2839421</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1942-102-1 MIN-074</td>
<td>Admiral Sir Charles Ogilvie, Bt., painted by Cometes B. Thurnham in 1895.</td>
<td>1134022800069</td>
<td>2000792894</td>
<td>Watercolour, varnished, on ivory, adhered to 2 sheets of paper</td>
<td>2837556</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1985-052-2 MIN-075</td>
<td>Madame Georgette Chausse, mother of the artist, Painted by Juliette de Lavois, ca. 1926</td>
<td>1134022800063</td>
<td>2000792895</td>
<td>Watercolour on ivory with 3pc hinged display case</td>
<td>2837358</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Fig. 2. (New condition report created for LAC miniatures).**

**CONDITION AND TREATMENT REPORTS**

Map & Manuscripts Conservation Lab

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Accession No.</th>
<th>0000-002-0420059-MIN-003</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Work ord No.</td>
<td>NA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Description of Object</td>
<td>Title: Portrait of a Young Highland Dragoon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Artist</td>
<td>Unknown</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Date of Execution</td>
<td>ca. 1800-1810</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Object Materials</td>
<td>Treatment: primary support to be confirmed, card secondary support, push file, cold set card frame with hanger, blank paper label on verso, white paper real spine, and convex glass</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Manufacturing Technique</td>
<td>Watercolour miniature portrait</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Object Medium</td>
<td>Dimensions: 18.5 x 14cm, T.O. 5.5cm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Primary support</td>
<td>Possibly paper, to be confirmed after opening</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Secondary support</td>
<td>White card</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Frame/Dressment type</td>
<td>Push in metal frame, with a hanger at top.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Glass type:** Convex, convex glass

**Condition:**
- Surface layer: Possibly good condition; no evidence of surface dirt or dirt.
- Paint layer: There are losses along the bottom edge, in the red area of the jacket, likely due to abrasion as the part of the layer does not appear to be peeled or flaking.
- Primary support: Stringing, stringing, stringing. Shifting from the primary support at the bottom edge, though appears to be securely adhered overall otherwise.
- Secondary support: White card is slightly cocked and has paintbrush strokes around the miniature.
- Dressment:
  - There are losses along the bottom edge, in the red area of the jacket, likely due to abrasion as the part of the layer does not appear to be peeled or flaking.
  - There are losses along the bottom edge, in the red area of the jacket, likely due to abrasion as the part of the layer does not appear to be peeled or flaking.

**Recommended treatment:**
- Open the frame, remove the miniature and clean the interior and exterior of the frame and glass. Inspect and record the support material of the miniature. Seal (if possible) any exposed areas of the metal beneath the finish to slow future corrosion. Replace the current paper spacer with a properly cut spacer, made to the miniature. Reassemble the miniature, spacer, glass and dressment.

**APPROVAL FOR TREATMENT AS PROPOSED**

Recommended by: Denis B-Brulie Date: May 14, 2015
began with the items determined to be at the greatest risk, starting with any items containing mould. Miniatures were only opened if necessary and only if they were able to be treated at that time.

In 2011, the Journal of the Canadian Association for Conservation, published an article entitled ‘A Portrait Miniature Project at Library and Archives Canada’, by conservators Maria Bedynski of Library and Archives Canada, Carol Aiken, private conservator from Baltimore Maryland and Alan Derbyshire from the V&A museum. Tables in the article provide guidelines for the treatment of various repairs to miniatures on vellum or ivory and were a valuable resource for determining appropriate methodologies for recent portrait miniature treatments.

CASE STUDY 1: SIR JOHN SPARROW DAVID (JSD) THOMPSON, FORMER PRIME MINISTER OF CANADA

Our first case study is a 3.7 x 9 cm mourning brooch containing a portrait of Sir John Sparrow David Thompson by artist Bonne de Bock. (figure 4) Following Thompson’s death, the brooch was presented to his wife, by their good friends Lord and Lady Aberdeen, the Governor General of Canada and his wife. The miniature is adorned on the recto with pearls and bull’s eye agate stones. The pin clasp on the verso can be unscrewed and removed, allowing the locket to be attached to the accompanying bracelet and worn on the wrist.

EXAMINATION
Initial examination indicated the presence of mould, seen as a cloudiness on the underside of the glass. (Figure 5) The right side of the brooch containing the portrait, was filled with what appeared to be tiny wood fibres and dust. (Figure 6) An archivist at LAC had requested that the miniature be examined to determine the possibility of it being a painted photograph on ivory. Due to the presence of the mould and the dirt particles inside the locket, as well as the request from the archivist, it was necessary to open both sides of the locket to allow for proper cleaning and further examination.

The cover glass and portrait were held inside the locket by a pressure fit. It was possible to remove the materials from the locket by gently prying the metal bezel upward. The slightly deeper metal bezel on the right half of the locket, held the portrait and the cover glass together by means of metal prongs. (figure 7) These prongs required straightening to allow the portrait and the cover glass to be removed from the bezel. The cover glass was very slightly convex even though it was less than two millimeters in thickness, making it extremely delicate and impossible to replace if broken.

Once the bezel containing the portrait had been removed from the locket, it was evident that the support wasn’t ivory as initially believed, but was white milk glass. Tin or Zinc oxide, lead arsenate and phosphates were among the most valuable resources for determining appropriate methodologies for recent portrait miniature treatments.
The use of milk glass in painted portrait miniatures resulted in a similar luminescence to portraits painted on ivory and milk glass was a much less expensive alternative to ivory.

**Milk Glass and Opaltypes/Opalotypes**

Further examination of the miniature was conducted by LAC conservators and photo conservator Greg Hill of the Canadian Conservation Institute, who agreed on the presence of a gelatin-based, positive photographic image under the paint layer.

The portrait was determined to be an opaltype, or opalotype, referring to the milk glass used as the support. The original opaltype technique was patented in 1857 by Glover and Bold of Liverpool, and involved wet collodion and silver gelatine. In general, opaltypes can be created using one of two basic techniques. Either a carbon print is transferred onto the milk glass, or a light-sensitive emulsion is coated on the glass surface, a negative image is exposed onto the surface and the emulsion is then processed. Analysis at the Canadian Conservation institute would be required to determine the exact photographic process used in this particular opaltype, as much of the image is heavily overpainted with an opaque bodycolour. Regardless of the exact type of photographic process beneath the overpainted image, only small areas of the miniature required conservation treatment. The consolidation of these areas would not inhibit further analysis of the miniature. The image used for this particular opaltype may possibly be a re-print of a photograph of Sir Thompson, by the famous Canadian photographer William Topley, taken in Ottawa in 1891, 3 years prior to Thompson’s death. (figure 8) The Topley photograph is shown at the left, and the painted opaltype miniature is shown on the right.

These two images of the face and neck areas, have been photographed at slightly different angles to reveal the reflective qualities in some of the grey, yet unpainted areas of the miniature. (Figure 9) On the left, there are several grey areas around the mouth, the chin and the base of the neck. The image on the right shows those same grey areas as quite reflective, though the source of the reflectance cannot be attributed to the milk glass shining through, as these areas are grey in normal light, not white, as they would be if the milk glass was showing through. This is another indication of the presence of an emulsion layer.

An assessment of the condition of the paint layer revealed cracking and curling of the paint on the figure’s lips, cheek and in the hair. (figure 10a-b) Tiny beads of gum Arabic had been applied around the edges of the lapel to simulate a satin trim on his jacket. (figure 11) A small area near the top left of the unpainted background was also flaking, though this area
Fig. 10a-b. Flaking paint in the hair, cheek and lips of the Thompson miniature

Fig. 11. Gum arabic on the lapel of the jacket, to simulate a satin trim.

Fig. 12. An area of the unpainted, flaking background.

Fig. 13. Hand inscribed name of A Moreau and the date of 1895 inside the brooch.

Fig. 14. Cleaning the underside of the metal bezels.

Fig. 15. Application of a 1% gelatine consolidant to areas of flaking paint.
was unpainted, so the flaking was further indication of the presence of an emulsion layer on the glass. (figure 12)

**CLEANING AND CONSOLIDATION**
Following the removal of the contents of the brooch, two inscriptions of the name A. Moreau were revealed; they were scratched into the metal, along with the date of 1895, the year the locket was presented to Mrs. Thompson. (figure 13) The significance of the Moreau name remains unknown. The inner edge of the bracelet is stamped with the ‘Birks’ jeweller’s name, indicating that the bracelet may have been fabricated at a later date than the locket, which does not bear the ‘Birks’ name.

The filigree wire around the hair strand in the left side of the locket was carefully cleaned with a fine bristled brush to remove green copper based corrosion products from between the twisted strands of wire. The cloth behind the hair was also cleaned to remove loose copper corrosion particles which had been transferred from the filigree wire. The undersides of both metal bezels were cleaned with a lightly dampened swab and soft brush to remove the loosened residue. (figure 14) The cover glasses were each immersed in water for several minutes to soften any surface dirt, and then cleaned with a non-abrasive glass polishing cloth.

Following testing of various adhesives, gelatine was selected as the consolidant using a 1% solution of 200 bloom Type B gelatin in reverse osmosis (RO) water. The cracked paint layer in the lip and cheek areas were consolidated by brush application, and the flaking emulsion layer in the background near the top of the miniature, was also consolidated with a 1% gelatin solution, applied with a Becker Ultrasonic mister. (figure 15) A fine application tip was used for the application, along with a Mylar mask, to confine the consolidant to the flaking area. The miniature was allowed to dry thoroughly.

The verso of the milk glass was cleaned using a lightly dampened swab to remove loose surface dirt and the remnants of a water soluble paper tape. A soft brush was used to clean the recto of the locket between the edges of the bezel and the stones. As both methods of consolidation were successful in closing the gaps in the cracked paint, no in-painting was necessary. The components of the locket were then re-assembled.

**CASE STUDY 2: ETHEL AND ROBERT MCKENZIE**

Our second case study includes the portrait miniatures of Mrs. Ethel McKenzie and her husband Robert Tait McKenzie, painted by Russian born artist Leo Dubson, in 1927. (figure 16) Dubson lived in Paris for many years, eventually working in the United States. The miniatures are 9.5 x 13 cm and both are painted in watercolour and heavily applied gouache bodycolour on very thin sheets of tangentially cut ivory. Leo Dubson used a stippling effect to create fine detail, combined with a scratching technique using fine needles to create highlights and add texture. (figure 17)

**CONDITION**
On each of the two miniatures, an acidic wood pulp paper backing has been adhered at the corners with a proteinaceous adhesive, causing the backing paper to cockle as a result. The cockling of the paper caused distortion of the thin sheets of...
ivory. Each miniature was out of plane and warped along both axes. (figure 18)

Paper fibers were embedded in a gummy adhesive residue on the corners of the recto of both miniatures. Conservators were able to remove most of the adhesive mechanically with tweezers, though it was necessary to apply a small amount of 75% ethanol: water on a nearly dry brush, in order to sufficiently soften and remove the remaining adhesive without disturbing the paint layer. A thick layer of glossy adhesive was also present along the left edge of the recto of the Ethel McKenzie miniature, though it was water soluble. (figure 19) The thick adhesive was locally reduced with the use of lightly dampened swabs, without disturbing the paint layer beneath. Several areas in the paint layer on both miniatures were cracked, flaking and often they were no longer in contact with the ivory. (figure 20) There were many losses in the paint layer which was cracked and flaking, and the bare ivory was exposed in several areas. The areas containing green and yellow paint were badly cracked, while most of the blue painted areas were quite powdery and easily damaged.

PAINT CONSOLIDATION AND REMOVAL OF THE BACKING PAPER

Various adhesives were tested to find one which would not alter surface gloss, would be sufficient in strength to secure the flaking areas and would not alter the colour or solubilize the media. A 2% methylcellulose solution was selected as the consolidant for brush application to the cracked and flaking paints, coaxing them back into contact with the ivory. (figure 21) The blue powdery pigments were treated with a single application of 1.5% methylcellulose, applied with a Becker ultrasonic mister. Loss areas were not in-painted.

To reduce the humidity required for the removal of the backing paper, the paper was removed dry, leaving some paper fibres and the adhesive remaining on the corners of the ivory support. To protect the ivory from the application of too
much moisture during the removal of the adhesive, a Mylar mask was created to protect the ivory, exposing only the areas where the paper fibres and adhesive remained. (figure 22) Squares of a rigid 3% gellan gum were applied to the corners exposed by the mask, allowing conservators to monitor the progress through the clear gel. After approximately 5 minutes, the gellan gum was removed, lifting the paper and much of the residual adhesive with it. (figure 23) The remaining adhesive was quickly removed from the ivory with swabs. This process was also repeated for both miniatures.

**HUMIDIFICATION AND FLATTENING OF THE IVORY**

The miniature of Ethel was placed in a tent over humidified Goretex, but the thin sheet of ivory began to react too quickly, so the miniature was quickly moved to a sealable plastic container, containing a bed of loose, non-decrepitating silica gel, conditioned to approximately 10% over the ambient RH. A plastic grate, covered with Reemay had been placed at the bottom of the container, to elevate the miniature off the surface of the silica gel. (figure 24) The container was sealed and the miniatures were turned every 30 minutes until the ivory relaxed easily when flipped over. To dry a humidified ivory miniature, Alan Derbyshire of the V&A museum recommends the use of a silicone-coated paper on either side of the humidified miniature, placed between two sheets of glass and clamped during drying. As LAC conservators were unable to locate a source of silicone-coated paper, a trial was conducted using a silicone-coated Mylar against the recto of the miniature, with a layer of absorbent blotter beneath the miniature to prevent the retention of too much humidity against the ivory. Rare earth magnets were used to secure the layers together onto a metal plate beneath the ivory and blotter. (figure 25) Unfortunately, the strength of the magnets required to hold the layers together risked sudden movement of the magnets toward each other during the setup. As a result, the drying system was modified, placing the miniature between two sheets of silicone-coated Mylar and glass, clamping the edges of the glass to keep the ivory flat during drying. (figure 26) Once dry, the McKenzie miniatures were placed into sealed micro environments to reduce the possibility of future warping of the thin ivory. The sealed miniatures were then returned to their original frames.

**CASE STUDY 3: PORTRAIT OF GENERAL JAMES WOLFE**

This last case study is a portrait of General James Wolfe, who is one of the most frequently painted figures in LAC’s miniatures collection. The miniature is painted by an unknown artist, in watercolour with gum Arabic, onto a 9.2 x 11.8cm sheet of tangentially cut ivory. The portrait is a copy of a painting also by an unknown artist, which is part of the collection of the National Portrait Gallery in London. The frame
The metal frame was a two piece frame, (figure 29) held together with pins, though several pins were missing and those that remained did not have any head, so they could not be pulled out. The pins would need to be drilled or pushed inward. As drilling the pins inward could potentially damage the metal around the pin holes, conservators opted for pushing the pins inward, just far enough to allow the top layer of the frame to slip past the tips of the pins. Some pins moved much more easily than others, which was further explained once the frame was separated. Some pins, which were not original, were tapered, and could only be pushed in a short distance. (figure 30) Once the frame was opened, the exposed...
foil edge was carefully pried outward to allow for the removal of the miniature.

**REMOVAL OF THE SECONDARY SUPPORT**

The ivory support was adhered to two layers of card. The adhesive between these layers was dry and the cards had already partially separated. With the help of a long, flat, single-edged blade, the two layers of card were completely separated, turning the miniature while using the blade to gently cut between the cards. (figure 31) The white, 2-ply card remained adhered to the verso of the miniature but since the adhesive between the miniature and the card was also quite brittle, the majority of the card was able to be removed dry, revealing a white, paper-based tape on the ivory, which had been used to repair the breaks in the support before it was mounted to the cards. (figure 32) A rigid 3% Gellan gum was used to soften the remaining adhesive and the tape, removing the residue with swabs.

**HUMIDIFICATION, FLATTENING AND REPAIR OF THE IVORY**

Immediately following the removal of the card layers and the adhesive, the miniature pieces were placed in the sealed humidity chamber, (figure 33) flipping the pieces every 30 minutes, over several hours, until evenly humidified. The pieces were then placed between silicone-coated Mylar and glass, clamping the edges until dry. (figure 34) The miniature was allowed to remain between the layers for several weeks while other treatments were completed. Breaks in the ivory were repaired from the center outward, beginning with the break along the right edge of the face. (figure 35) The miniature was held in the conservator’s hand, applying gentle pressure to the break edges while applying small dots of cyanoacrylate adhesive to the verso along the break.
The component of a portrait miniature which often poses the greatest difficulty is the cover glass. Miniatures can often contain several pieces of both coloured and clear glass within the same item. (figure 39) Convex glass replacement for small items presents several additional challenges. The metal bezel that the glass rests in is often so thin and so precisely fit to the glass, that once the convex glass is removed from the metal bezel, it is often impossible to fit them back together. If that precisely fit cover glass would ever require replacement, it would be absolutely necessary to provide that metal bezel to the glass maker to ensure a proper fit.

Past attempts to replace missing or damaged cover glasses for miniatures, have led LAC conservators from high tech optics companies, to blown-glass artists and watchmakers in various countries. At the moment we do not have access to a manufacturer of convex glass within Canada, so to have a very precise fitting cover glass made, it would be necessary to ship the metal bezel which surrounds the glass, to a glass maker outside of Canada, allowing them to customize the glass to fit the bezel. This is problematic, as a result
of the Canadian Cultural Property Export and Import Act, which restricts the movement of cultural property out of the country. As a result, we are in need of a convex glass supplier within Canada and we are always happy to receive new contact information for glassmakers.

CONCLUSION

The recent survey and the development of a new, narrative condition report at Library and Archives Canada, have provided conservators with the opportunity and necessary materials to record the condition of portrait miniatures in greater detail and to use that information to identify miniatures which are at the greatest risk of damage. The ability for conservators to conduct conservation treatments on portrait miniatures in their collections, not only assures that miniatures in their collections will remain accessible, but could also provide institutions with a more detailed description of the materials present in the miniature and the techniques used in its creation. Ongoing work with miniature collections assures further contribution to the body of knowledge available on these unique materials and to the development and continuance of the expertise for those responsible for portrait miniature collections.

MATERIAL NOTES

- Non-decrepitating silica gel: A loose silica gel used to control the RH of the humidity chamber, as the gel does not readily disintegrate upon direct application of water.
- Gellan gum: A high molecular weight exopolysaccharide, used as a gelling agent in food, biomedicine and the pharmaceutical industry. When mixed with water and heated, it forms a gel upon cooling. Gellan gum is used at low concentrations (1-4%) for various conservation treatments, including washing of paper and stain removal, though de-acidification and bleaching agents can be incorporated into the gel for use in paper conservation.
- Opaltype or Opalotype: Also known as a milk glass positive. This is a positive photographic image formed by carbon transfer, or by the application of a light sensitive emulsion onto opal glass/milk glass, onto which a negative image is exposed. The exposed emulsion is then processed. Opal types were never extremely popular and were no longer being created by the 1930’s. (Osterman 2007)
- Milk glass: Also known as opal glass. A translucent white glass, which can be either ‘pot’ or ‘pot metal’ glass, meaning it is solid white, or ‘flash coated’, which coats a layer of white glass over the surface of clear glass. (Whitman 2007)

BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION ABOUT THE PEOPLE BEHIND THE PORTRAITS

Sir John Sparrow David (JSD) Thompson 1845-1894
Over the span of his career, Sir John Sparrow David Thompson served as a court reporter, a lawyer, alderman, attorney general of Nova Scotia, member of the Supreme Court of Nova Scotia, Premier of Nova Scotia and Canadian Minister of Justice, spearheading the revision of the Criminal Code in Canada. He served as Canada’s fourth Prime Minister for only two years, when he suffered a heart attack at Windsor Castle, only minutes after Queen Victoria had sworn him in as a member of the Imperial Privy Council. Out of respect, the queen held an elaborate funeral for him and the ship HMS Blenheim, which later transported his body back to Canada, was painted black for the solemn occasion.

Robert and Ethel McKenzie
Robert was a metal sculptor with over 200 works located worldwide. Among his extensive work history, he was an educator, a surgeon in the First World War and is known as the father of modern day physiotherapy. Prior to marrying, he was the physician to Canada’s Governor General Aberdeen and his wife, who later served as attendants in the McKenzies’ wedding party. Robert’s wife, Ethel (O’Neil) McKenzie was a poet, a musician and an educator, and together the couple lived in both Canada and the United States. They eventually returned to Canada to purchase the Mill of Kintail in Almonte, Ontario, which they restored and is now a well-known conservation area.

General James Wolfe (1727-1759)
General Wolfe was a British army officer, commander of the expedition that took Quebec in 1759. He died from his wounds during battle, on the Plains of Abraham.

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