

# Conservation tribute to Picton's "H.J."

PICTON - Harvey J. McFarland, the self-made millionaire contractor who served as mayor of this town for 22 years, had a profound effect on Picton and Prince Edward County, says George Vincent, chairman of the Prince Edward Region Conservation Authority (PERCA).

At dedication ceremonies for the H.J. McFarland Conservation Area on Glenora Road (Highway 33), Vincent last Friday recalled that nothing

was more important to the late mayor, than his community and its people.

"This park will be an integral part of Prince Edward County," he said, referring to a seven-acre parcel of waterfront property, which has been donated to the county by the McFarland family, for use as a public park.

The conservation authority will manage the site.

A commemorative plaque, paying tribute to the late H.J. McFarland and his outstanding career was unveiled by his widow, Arlie McFarland. Also present for the ceremonies were McFarland's sons, Harvey jr. and Malcolm, and several other family members.

Prince Edward-Lennox Liberal MPP Keith MacDonald, who took part in the opening of the park site, said he has been associated with the McFarland family for more than 30 years.

"I remember the small construction company that became one of the largest in Ontario."

MacDonald also played with the Belleville McFarlands, a local hockey team that won the Allan Cup in 1958 and the World Hockey Championship in 1959. The team was sponsored by H.J. McFarland.

When he was inaugurated as the warden of Prince Edward County in 1974, MacDonald said he looked forward to working with McFarland, who was mayor of Picton, but two days after the inauguration ceremonies, McFarland died.

Prince Edward County warden Clare McFaul observed that McFarland's first contract here was a five-mile stretch of road on Highway 33, near Glenora.

"He had a life-long loyalty to Prince Edward County."

Highway 33 is being developed as the Loyalist Parkway and McFaul predicts the area will become an Eastern Ontario tourist attraction.

"This park is appropriate as a tribute to a man so closely tied to the parkway and the town."

The trail will be paved to permit wheelchair access, he added.



Family of Harvey McFarland-Picton's long-time mayor and regional construction tycoon -- were at ceremonies dedicating conserva-

tion area near Picton in his memory. They included sons Harvey jr. (left) and Malcolm.

(Staff Photo)

*Intel Oct 19/87 PECo - Parry - Mc*