



PARK ENTRANCE — The new gate house at Presqu'ile Park is pictured above. Like all provincial parks, there is now a \$1 annual fee charged at the gate. The pass is good for the season in any park in the province.

Sept. 1953 By HARVEY HICKEY
 OTTAWA.
 IN some rocks 400,000,000 years old on the outskirts of Ottawa, the federal government has erected the first plaque ever to be mounted in this country to draw attention to a site of geological interest.

Across the country there are hundreds of such plaques marking historic sites. At the instance of Dr. F. J. Alcock, chief curator of the National Museum here, a start has been made on similar markings for rocks which because of their age or formation will be of interest not only to geologists but to the general public.

This first plaque of its kind has been set up at the Hog's Back, a waterfall on

the Rideau River in the southern extremity of Ottawa. Formerly the water above the 30-foot fall was a popular bathing spot but there were so many drownings that swimming is now prohibited there.

The plaque states: "These rocks, sandstones and limestones were formed on the bottom of a shallow sea which covered this region in Ordovician time some 400,000,000 years ago. Note the ripple marks formed by the ancient waves."

"Later the region was uplifted and the strata here were folded and broken. A major break or fault can be seen at low water just below the east end of the bridge."

This refers to a bridge across the Rideau at this point.

"The present course of the river over these rocks was established at a still much later date," the plaque states in conclusion.

Over 1,000 Gulls, Terns Banded At Presqu'ile Point

More than 1,000 ring-billed gulls and common terns were banded at Presqu'ile Provincial Park on Monday by Alf Bunker and Gordon Lambert of Oshawa, members of the Ontario Bird Banders' Association.

Presqu'ile Point is the site of one of six bird banding stations being operated this year by the association on the north shores of Lake Erie and Lake Ontario. The others are located at Pelee Island, Point Pelee, Long Point, Ajax, and Rice Lake.

Last year several thousand gulls, terns and other birds were banded at Presqu'ile by licensed bird banders.

Mr. Bunker and Mr. Lambert left Tuesday for Riviere du Loux, Quebec, where they expect to spend the next ten days banding birds along the St. Lawrence River.

957