

unearthed over 100 skeletons buried with cultural artifacts. They are our prime source of knowledge about this ancient people. At nearby Pointe Riche, relics of a Dorset Eskimo culture were discovered dating from 100 A.D. Examples of both these digs are on display.

At L'Anse aux Meadows, the eastern tip of the peninsula, there is evidence of a Norse settlement from approximately 1,000 A.D. It confirms the story in the Sagas. A Norwegian archaeological team found the remains of seven buildings including a 75-foot-by-15-foot great hall. At the entrance to the hall they found a tiny spindlewharf made of soapstone. It is the earliest European household article found in America. You can see the stone foundations and two stone cairns 300 yards west of the building site. The artifacts have all been removed to museums for further study.

As you gaze eastward over the Atlantic swells, you wonder at the courage of these early colonists who travelled so far in their long boats. It's exciting to walk along the same rocky beach where they were first drawn ashore by hardy Viking sailors. □

### Nova Scotia

## Cornwallis, Wolfe & Cook worked here

by Sandra Joan Kwitney

Halifax is the largest city in the Atlantic provinces, the busiest seaport and the scientific, medical, cultural and business leader. Early trade with Europe in fish, furs and lumber was responsible for its early growth.

It was founded in 1749 by Lord Cornwallis who built the first military stockade on Citadel Hill and laid out its first streets. The tiny military community was intended to offset the power of mighty Fortress Louisbourg situated along the coast on the shores of Cape Breton Island. It played a key role in the reduction of the fortress and the conquest of Canada. Then, it became increasingly important as a major British naval base during the American Revolutionary War and in the years immediately following.

Halifax privateers harassed the Atlantic trade. Booty and prizes

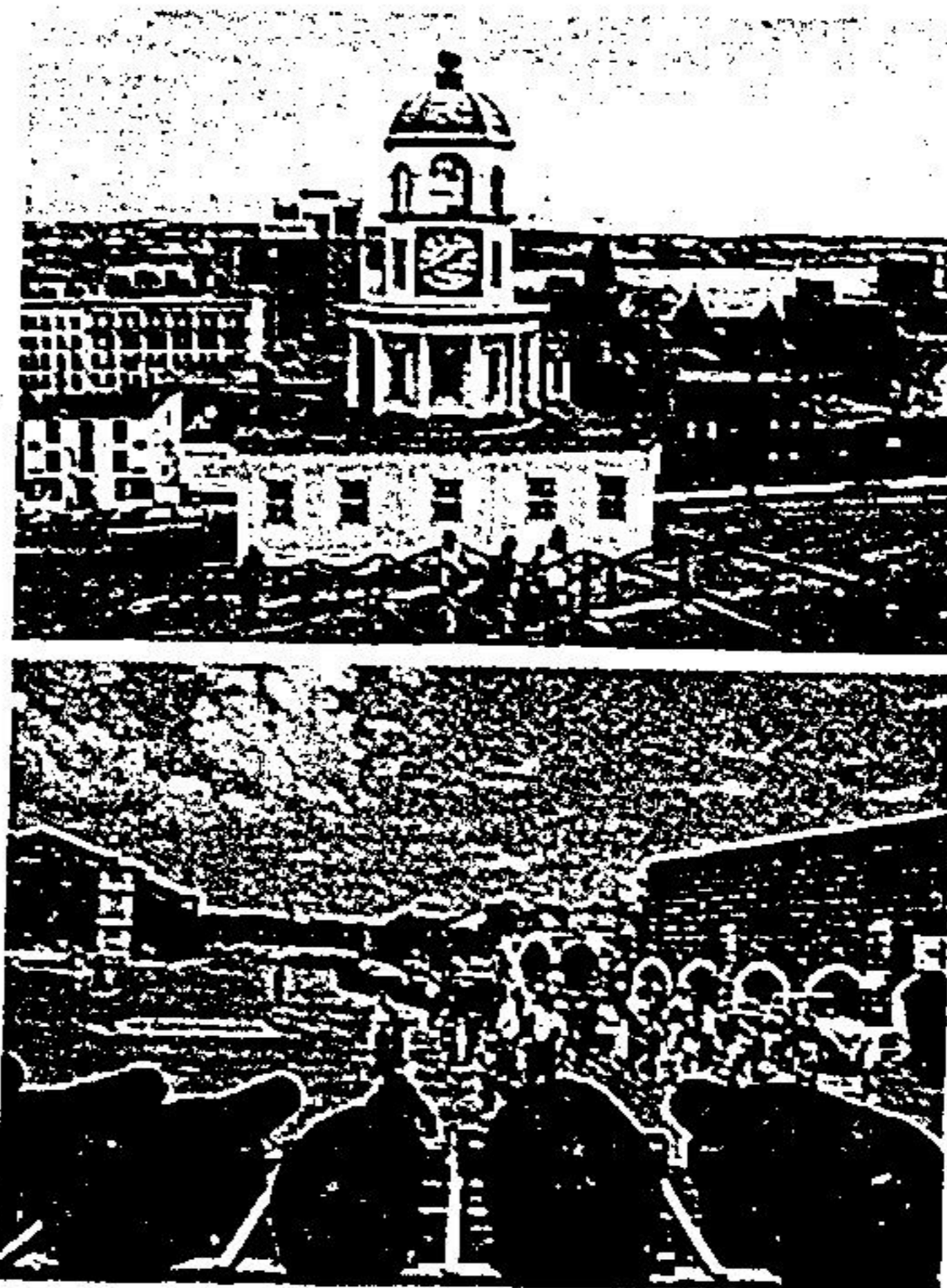
were brought back to the harbour and openly auctioned off to the highest bidder, a practice which enriched such accomplished privateers as Capt. Enos Collins, who became what may have been Canada's first millionaire. The city seethed with activity and early stories tell of Knock 'Em Down Street and a brothel called Seven Steps to Hell.

Following the Revolutionary War, a number of major stone buildings were constructed, fortifications were considerably enlarged. A number of these late 18th and early 19th century buildings are still standing. You can see the oldest naval dockyard in North America, begun in 1759 by Captain James Cook. The nearby Halifax shipyards repaired more than 7,000 ships damaged in the Battle of the Atlantic during World War II.

Halifax is a delightful combination of old and new. Modern deep-water docks can accommodate the largest ocean vessels. There is a large container facility which tranships goods by rail and truck to warehouses and factories right across the continent. Port facilities accommodate over 3,000 vessels a year. Near modern skyscrapers and expressways are narrow streets where Wolfe and Captain Cook once walked, and where Royal Navy press gangs hunted men to serve on Nelson's ships. Overlooking the harbour and the inner harbour, Bedford Basin, which harboured hundreds of ships for Atlantic convoys in two world wars, is Citadel Hill. Its barracks housed British soldiers until 1906. An army museum now occupies the five upper and four lower casements in the redan bastion.

Its collection includes military equipment, weapons and uniforms used by units who played a decisive role in Nova Scotian and Canadian military history. There is a large model of 1750 Halifax, 1745 Fortress Louisbourg, Fort Anne at Annapolis Royal (1605) and York Redoubt. The latter has been a fortified battery since 1793 at the seaward end of the Halifax defense complex. The base of a Martello tower and some gun emplacements still remain.

Prince Edward, Duke of Kent and Queen Victoria's father was commander-in-chief of the base between 1794 and 1800. He ordered a garrison clock in London. It was installed in its round tower in 1803 where it still



Top: The Garrison Clock Tower given to the city in 1803 by the Duke of Kent. Bottom: Summer visitors invade the Citadel Fortress to see the museums and demonstrations of 19th century weapons.

peals quarter-hours, half-hours and the hours.

St. Paul's Church is the only building standing from the founding of Halifax in 1749. The timbers were brought by sea from Boston. It was the first protestant church in Canada. It is one of the few churches in Canada with a royal pew. A number of people who were important in the early life of the city are buried here. St. Mary's Basilica is one of the oldest stone buildings in Canada with some sections dating from 1820. Its 189-foot granite spire is the tallest of its kind in the world.

The legislative assembly for Nova Scotia meets in Province House. Completed in 1818, this fine example of Georgian architecture is the oldest legislative building in use in Canada. It once housed an assembly, 90% of whose members were ardent separatists. Our first responsible government sat in this house in 1848, nearly two decades before Confederation.

The visitor to Halifax will find every level of accommodation ranging from first-rate downtown major hotels through good motels and tourist homes. Halifax prides itself on its lobster and there are several fine seafood restaurants. Summer is the busy season and we suggest you write to Nova Scotia Department of Tourism, Box 130, Halifax for more information about a holiday visit to the city.