



Two of the great figures in western Canadian exploration were John Palliser, left, and James Hector. From 1857 to 1860, the Palliser Expedition explored and mapped a vast region of the prairies, foothills, and mountains.

The Hector M

Tributes to Sir James He



by

Robert Lampard

The Sir James Hector cairn, now nearing 100 years of age, is the oldest monument in the Banff and Jasper National Parks. It was erected to acknowledge the scientific contributions of James Hector as a member of the pre-confederation Palliser expedition of 1857–1860 and for his identification of the Kicking Horse Pass.¹

The eight-foot high cairn now stands isolated on the top of the pass named after Hector's near fatal accident on August 29, 1858, forty-three kilometers to the west of that point. It faces north between the four CPR rail lines and the Great Divide interpretive site on old 1A highway, twenty kilometres west of Lake Louise, or nine kilometres east of the Trans-Canada Highway-Lake O'Hara turnoff. The cairn rests at its third location where it has been for over seven decades. Years have passed since the last CPR train stopped for passengers to disembark and admire the beauty of Mounts Niblock, Richardson, St. Piran, and Pope's Peak, to confirm that the wa-

Memorials of 1906

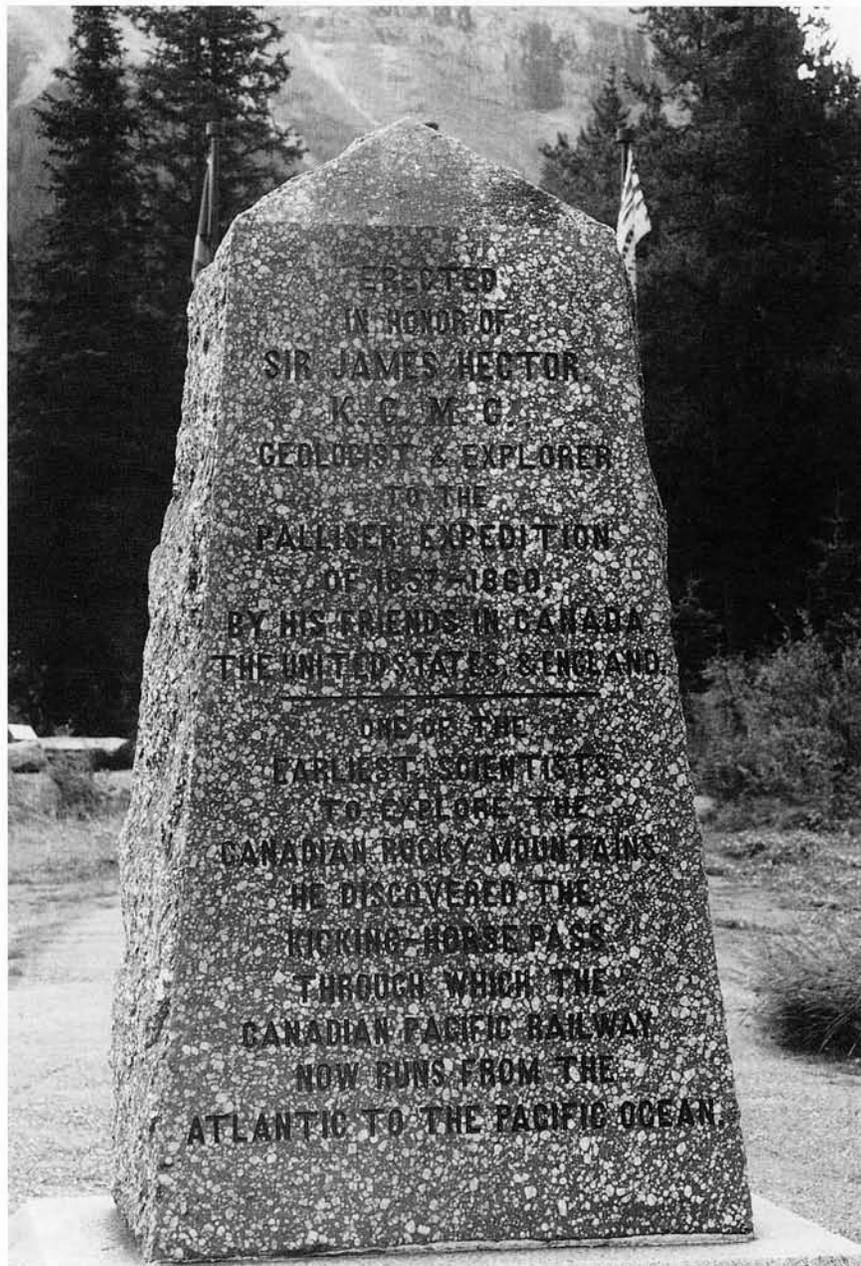
Hector and Douglas Hector

streams divide, with half flowing to the Pacific Ocean and the other to Hudson Bay, to stand astride the two provinces of Alberta and British Columbia, and to reflect on the significance of the cairn and the explorer it honours.

The inscription reads: "Erected in Honor of SIR JAMES HECTOR, K.C.M.G. Geologist & Explorer to the Palliser Expedition, 1857-1860. By his friends in Canada, the United States & England. One of the earliest scientists to explore the Canadian Rocky Mountains, he discovered the Kicking Horse Pass through which the Canadian Pacific Railway now runs from the Atlantic to the Pacific Ocean. Erected in 1906."

In early 1857, Sir Roderick Murchison of the Royal Geological Society selected the twenty-three year old James Hector for the Palliser Expedition because of his medical and natural science training, love of the outdoors, powers of observation, and penmanship skills.

By late 1857 the Palliser Expedition had reached western Canada. The field-men were Hector, Eugene Bourgeau, Thomas Blakiston, and John Sullivan, under the supervision of Captain John Palliser. Only Palliser and Hector remained with the expedition for the full three years.



In recognition of Hector's great contribution to western history, this monument was erected in 1906 at Laggan, the present Lake Louise station. Over the years it was moved twice to various locations on the Kicking Horse Pass.



James Hector was kicked by his horse along this river in 1858. Because of this incident, the mountain stream was named Kicking Horse River.

The two returned to London in March 1860 to write the Palliser Report and draft the Great Map, labouring at their own expense for most of that year.

While on the prairies, Hector left behind a lasting reputation amongst contemporaries and aboriginals as the “scientific gent” who was level headed, friendly, yet of sound judgement and common sense. He was never deterred from his focus on the Expedition’s objectives to record and analyse the geological and environmental information gathered by the members, to identify the possibilities for settlement, and to locate any navigable passes on the prairies and contiguous Rocky Mountains. Hector diarised his travels on a daily basis. He traversed over 3,000 kilometers in present-day Alberta covering up to one hundred and fifty kilometres in a day. His Metis guide, Peter Erasmus, described Hector as one who “could walk, ride, or tramp snowshoes with the best of our men ... and his fame as a traveller was a wonder and a byword among many a teepee that never saw the man.”²

After the expedition, Hector would be known as the geographer, geologist, surveyor, cartographer, meteorologist, ethnologist, physician, botanist, and data recorder who co-authored the Palliser Report and authored the two major scientific articles that followed. Until the CPR Reports of Progress of 1872, 74, 77, 80 and the Geological Survey of Canada Reports of 1882-5, the Palliser report, map, and Hector’s articles were the primary sources of information on the eastern slopes of the Rocky Mountains from the 49th parallel to the North Saskatchewan River.

In the summer of 1858, Palliser split his expedition into three teams. The two led by Hector and Blakiston began the search for passes through the Rocky Mountains. With five companions (Samuel Ballenden, Robert Sutherland, Joseph Brown, Nimrod,

and Peter Erasmus) Hector headed for the Devil’s Head at the east end of Lake Minnewanka to search the Bow River system for passes, following landmarks described by George Simpson in his book, *Journey Around the World* in 1841. Once in the mountains the party was guided by a birch bark map drawn by an aged Stoney Indian. The Hector party ascended the Bow River to Castle Mountain which Hector named before heading west over Vermilion Pass and down to the ochre beds of Marble Canyon. Then turning southwest, the party followed the Vermilion River to Hector Gorge.

Hector recognized he had reached the upper Kootenay River which flowed southward as shown on David Thompson’s maps of the Columbia River region. He turned his party northward one ridge short of the Columbia River valley and, finding no game, headed over the watershed and down the Beaverfoot River. Deadfall reduced travel to as little as nine kilometres per day.

The starving party reached the junction with a stream soon to be named the Kicking Horse River, turning eastward up the river early on August 29, 1858. Later that morning, a short distance above the forty-foot high Wapta Falls,⁴ a packhorse fell over a steep embankment into the water. With difficulty the party retrieved the badly skinned horse in the shallow water. Hector then proceeded to retrieve his own horse.

As he walked around the rear of the animal to reach for the trailing reins, the skittish horse unexpectedly kicked Hector in the chest, rendering him unconscious. His friends assumed that his motionless body meant Hector was stunned, if not dead. Sutherland is reputed to have stayed with him while the rest went to fish for much-needed food.

Hector suggested on his 1903 visit to Canada that they were digging his last resting place and were about to lower him into his shallow grave

when a guide noticed him blink. By all accounts within two hours of the traumatic incident, Hector showed signs of life. His friends, more than a little relieved, made him as comfortable as possible despite his chest pain. However, he was in no condition to travel for two days.

Six descriptions of the August 29, 1858 incident have survived:⁵ two by Erasmus, three by Hector, and one perhaps by Joe McDonald. Erasmus recalled that when the doctor went to pick up his sorrel horse “he [the horse] whirled and kicked the man with both feet in the chest ... one man stayed and watched the unconscious doctor ... until Sutherland yelled for us to come up; he was now conscious but in great pain. Hector must have been unconscious for two hours.” In a letter to Hector on June 27, 1900, Erasmus reminisced, “The [rail] cars pass within 10 yards from the spot where the Blonde horse kicked you ... I was so much afraid you was killed ...” Irene Spry quotes Hector from the original Palliser Papers saying “... but I had luckily got close to him [the horse] before he struck out ... however it knocked me down and rendered me senseless for some time.” Mary Schaffer recounts in *Rod and Gun in Canada* that Hector on his 1903 visit as saying, “yes, I’m sure I can go to the exact spot ... [my horse] showed his dislike of finding an unknown angry torrent by a most emphatic kick which struck me on the left side, breaking several ribs. I dropped of course and after working over me for some time my men concluded the end had come and proceeded to dig my grave. But that’s a good many years ago and I did not use that grave.” Schaffer added to the story in a speech to the Kiwanis Club of Calgary about 1929, quoting Hector as saying, “I was trying to re-catch my own pony when I went to the other side to join the rest of the party and received a good kick ... I awakened with a grave yawning for me.” Joe McDonald, who was not mentioned

as a member of Hector’s party, described the incident as if he were there. He wrote that he “saw Dr. Hector’s Cayuse kick up his heels and throw the doctor over a precipice. After he was carried up, the little man lay senseless for six hours.”⁶

Weakened by the incident and almost starving, Hector sent Erasmus and Nimrod to hunt for food that afternoon. Neither was successful. The next day, the two were sent out again, but Nimrod’s foray resulted in a sliver in his foot and no food. Meanwhile, Erasmus went hunting on nearby Mount Hunter which Hector had named after British surgeon John Hunter. According to one story, Erasmus found one sheep but after shooting it, the animal fell into a ravine. Recovering the carcass, Erasmus brought it back to the camp, only to discover it was not in season and was inedible. So Hector divided his private cache of five pounds of pemmican he had saved for emergencies. By this time he was feeling much better and was able to take an accurate meridian reading.

On August 31 the party started up the river, covering nineteen kilometres. The next day they had only one meal and none the day after. At the foot of the “Big Hill” seven kilometres east of Field, they found many large blueberries, which quenched their thirst but not their appetites. On September 2nd the party reached the top of the Kicking Horse Pass and killed a grouse, and so avoided having to shoot one of the packhorses for food. On September 3, five days after the incident, Nimrod shot a moose. As they ate their first real meal, Hector realized how depressed the starving party had become. During the feast they were joined by a Stoney Indian who came from a camp eight miles up the valley, close to the present Mount Hector. He invited them to join his band next day for a Sunday church service. Hector briefly visited the camp,



One of the participants in the Palliser expedition was Peter Erasmus, seen here in the 1890s. He was a guide and interpreter and also wrote a book about his experiences. Erasmus was present when Hector was kicked by a horse and for a while the men believed he had been killed.

Douglas Hector, son of Sir James, accompanied his father from New Zealand to Canada in 1903 but died of appendicitis shortly after their arrival. A monument was later erected in Revelstoke in his memory.



then headed north across Bow Summit to reach the North Saskatchewan River, ascended the Howse Pass, and returned to Edmonton on October 7, 1858.

The Kicking Horse incident was enshrined for posterity when Palliser and Hector named the river after the event on their draft map. The "Great Map" was first printed on May 18, 1863 and was finalized by Sanford as Part IV of the Palliser Papers in 1865. After Hector completed his part of the report, Murchison recommended him for jobs in India and New Zealand. Hector went to New Zealand in 1861 and became the Director of the New Zealand Geological Survey in 1865. He subsequently established the New Zealand Institute and the New Zealand National Museum, contributed seventy-one papers to the literature, and became Chancellor of the University of New Zealand.

Twenty-five years after the Palliser Expedition, the CPR completed the transcontinental railway through the Kicking Horse, Rogers, and Eagle passes in November of 1885. The company immediately sought to publicize the beauty of the Rockies

by building a series of strategically placed hotels, commissioning artists to paint the most prominent vistas, hiring Swiss guides to assist climbers seeking first ascents, and bringing out the famous mountaineer Edward Whymper of Matterhorn fame. And in 1903, the CPR invited James Hector back to Canada to point out the place where the kicking horse incident had occurred.

Hector had already been encouraged to return to Alberta by F.W. Godsall, a Pincher Creek rancher. Godsall had been visiting a brother in New Zealand when he met Hector in Wellington in the spring of 1903.⁷ Later that spring CPR President Sir Thomas Shaughnessy offered Hector an all expense paid trip to Canada. Hector, who was now seventy, agreed and took an early leave from his planned November retirement, after serving eighteen years as Chancellor of the University of New Zealand. He and his son Douglas arrived in Vancouver on August 7, 1903, and commenced the rail trip to Field on August 11 where a group of well-wishers were waiting to receive them. On August 12, Hector wrote to his sister Martha from North Bend, BC indicating he and Douglas expected to arrive at Glacier House near the Summit of the Rogers Pass on August 13.⁸ Shortly after their arrival, Hector was talking to the hotel receptionist when Mrs. Mary Schaffer (later Warren) overheard his comment, "I mean to see my grave." Although she had not read the Palliser papers, she knew that only James Hector could make such a statement.⁹

The Schaffers and Dr. Hector spent an evening chatting about the expedition and his return forty-three years later. That next evening Mary Schaffer learned that Douglas Hector was unwell and had developed a pain in his abdomen. Mary's husband, Dr. Charles Schaffer, feared that he had an appendicitis and that time was of the essence. The next morning, Mrs. Schaffer arranged to have Douglas

and his father taken on the west-bound train to the hospital at Revelstoke. Later that day Douglas underwent emergency surgery for an acute appendicitis. His condition stabilized and then peritonitis supervened and he passed away on Sunday, August 16. He was twenty-six – the same age as Dr. Hector was when he left British North America in 1860.¹⁰

Edward Whymper arrived at Glacier House shortly after the sad tidings of Douglas Hector's death had been received by the Schaffers. The small party boarded an early morning freight train on August 18 and arrived at the Revelstoke church where a private service was conducted by Reverend C.A. Procnier of St. Peter's church. The funeral procession consisted of Dr. and Mrs. C. Schaffer, Mr. and Mrs. H.W. Cleason, Mr. and Mrs. T. Kilpatrick, Edward Whymper, James Hector, Mr. C. Attwood, and a few others from Glacier House.¹¹

Back at the hotel, Mary Schaffer persuaded the distraught Sir James to have his photograph taken with Edward Whymper, a friend with whom he had corresponded but never met. Then, despite a personal appeal from CPR President Shaughnessey to return to Field, Hector went directly to New Zealand. He passed away in Wellington, November 6, 1907.

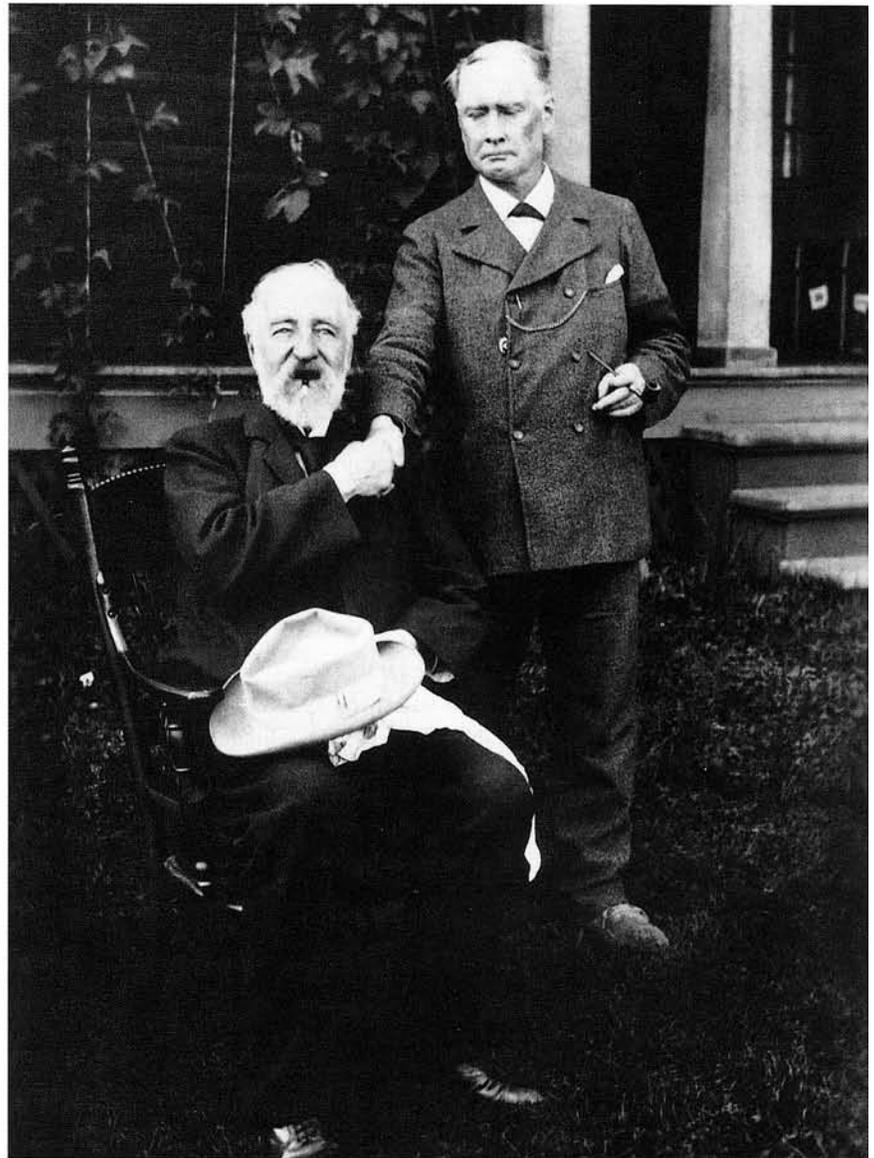
A short time after Hector returned home, actions were taken to commemorate his achievements and the incident at Kicking Horse Pass. According to A.O. Wheeler, a meeting occurred at a Glacier House in the fall of 1903; shortly before or afterwards the Schaffers returned to Philadelphia where Dr. Schaeffer passed away. Mary Schaffer commented in a letter in 1928, "my first husband started the monument that stands there [on the Great Divide] now."¹²

Wheeler launched the campaign to build monuments for Hector and his son when he sent out a circular from

Calgary, March 25, 1904. He wrote, "at a subsequent meeting held at Glacier, it was suggested that a fund be raised for the purpose of erecting a suitable monument over his son's grave, as a tribute to the memory of the great explorer and scientist." Wheeler ended his circular by saying "... and it is earnestly hoped that Canadians, who are the ones most interested in the past work of this fine old man, will not be backward in helping to raise a tribute to his memory, while he is still able to recognize their appreciation of his work, an appreciation that is very dear to him."¹³

Wheeler sent copies of the circular to forty-six prominent Canadians

During his short visit to Canada in 1903, Sir James Hector met the famous alpinist Edward Whymper. They are seen here, with Whymper standing at right. The photo was taken at the CPR Revelstoke hotel, shortly after the death of Hector's son. The old explorer was so distraught that he immediately returned to New Zealand.



with the request that they send it to four colleagues “to whom you think the object would appeal.” The circular asked for five dollars from each recipient. The request was extended to three continents by the formation of a fund raising committee. Wheeler was responsible for canvassing Canada with the help of Sandford Fleming and William Pearce; Dr. Charles Fay in the United States; and Edward Whymper in Great Britain. The treasurer of the fund was Revelstoke CPR Superintendent Thomas Kilpatrick. By November 27, 1907, despite \$50 contributions by the CPR and the Canadian Alpine Club, the Hector Memorial Fund was still \$160 short of covering its expenses. A financial statement at that time indicated contributions and bank interest totalling just over \$500 while the cost of a memorial and headstone, grave plot, and other expenses came to \$660.82.¹⁴

Silas Card, the stone mason selected to quarry, carve, and inscribe the memorials, submitted his bill after the two stones were finished and delivered to Laggan in April of 1906.¹⁵ The cairn and monument were in place in Laggan and Revelstoke by June 2 and work on the foundation for the Hector cairn continued through July to September.

A 10-foot x 10-foot square and elevated site for the James Hector cairn was completed by adding a double chain link fence that joined the four white cement corner Posts.

Card was initially paid only \$350 on May 31, 1906. Accordingly, Wheeler released a second fund raising circular on November 30, 1907 to the original circulants.¹⁶ The suggested donation was \$2.00 “but any contribution will be acceptable.” The letter included a sad note acknowledging “... the recent death in New Zealand of Sir James Hector, the distinguished scientist who, as geologist attached to the Palliser expedition of 1857-1860, was one of the earliest explorers to make prominent the now

famous mountain regions of the Dominion of Canada, renders appropriate a statement concerning the handsome granite monument erected in his honor at Laggan station on the Canadian Pacific Railway, in full view of the noble Castellated Mountain that bears his name.”

On September 26, 1910, Card claimed he was still owed \$13.00, stating that his total bill was \$599.02, which consisted of \$278 for the Hector memorial, \$122 for the Douglas Hector stone, \$14 for lettering the stone, and \$185.02 for labour.¹⁷ There is no record of the resolution of Card's bill.

The stone for the Hector memorial was obtained by Thomas Kilpatrick, Superintendent of the B.C. District/Section of the CPR. The location of the quarry is not known except that it was a CPR quarry “in the Cascade Range.” Wheeler indicated that it came from the original Rocky Mountains Park which would place it somewhere between the Great Divide and Lake Louise. For the cairn, Silas Card chose a piece of big grain granite 68x36x25 inches to be set on a base of fine CPR cornerstone granite measuring 31x52x41 inches. It was tapered by one-third to the top and trimmed to create an eight-inch cap for an overall height of ninety-nine inches.

For the Douglas Hector monument, Card chose a similar piece of big grain granite roughly 6x3x2 feet. The big grain granite was similar to the Hector cairn but of lesser quality. It has white blemishes about two or three inches across on the east facing engraved end of the monument. The memorial inscription erroneously gives the date of Douglas Hector's death as August 15, not Sunday, August 16, 1903. It reads: “Douglas Hector, Wellington, NZ, Died August 15, 1903. Age 26 Years.”

Initially, there was a difference of opinion amongst the fund raisers over the preferred location of the Hector cairn. One group, including

Kilpatrick, preferred the more symbolic Great Divide. A second group felt it would be seen by more people if the cairn was located at the Laggan station. Wheeler made the final decision to locate it at Laggan. The cairn was originally sited 100 feet east of the 1885 log CPR station. It was 19 feet back from the front line of the platform on a raised cement and rock base where it could be seen for all those who stopped to admire it.

When the CPR decided about 1909 to replace the original Laggan station with one that was four times larger and more impressive, it chose the site occupied by the cairn. As a result, the cairn had to be moved. The new station, which is still in existence today as a restaurant, was built in 1909/1910. By then, the cairn had been moved to its second location, at the Stephen Siding on the Great Divide at Divide Creek.¹⁸ The actual date of the move is unknown. It was positioned 30 to 40 feet off the main line on the CPR right-of-way.

On September 25, 1912, Kilpatrick wrote CPR Vice President Bury suggesting the site be upgraded. Two proposals were put forward. One was for a 150-foot square site which would require one or two acres of land from the federal government. The other was a 50-foot square plot similar to but larger than the original one at Laggan. It would require less mowing and only occasional painting. The smaller plan was accepted. Kilpatrick left the CPR in December 1912 and the upgrading was completed before June 1913.¹⁹

The federal and two provincial governments appointed a boundary survey commission in May 1913 to locate the Rocky Mountain boundary dividing Alberta and British Columbia. The commissioners were R.W. Cautley (Alberta), A.O. Wheeler (B.C.), and J.N. Wallace (Canada). They were to survey and locate the highest points of land between the two provinces, mark them with monuments, and place the boundary line



on the statutory maps of Alberta and British Columbia.²⁰

The boundary commission started at the highest point on the CPR rail line as it crossed the Kicking Horse Pass. That point was marked with Survey Monument 1A and was the starting point for the survey commission as it moved south towards the United States border in 1913 and then north in 1917.

It was now ten years since Hector's 1903 visit. The fundraising was finished. Kilpatrick was gone. Wheeler was in no position to argue that the boundary line should be determined by the straight lines of the Geographical Survey and not the highest point on the CPR. Rather, he preferred the artistic rustic sign and the CPR's realistic presentation of the division of the waters. There the Hector cairn remained from c. 1909 to 1929.

In 1926, Commissioner R.W. Cautley re-examined the site and concluded in a letter to J.B. Harkin on April 23, 1928, "The natural surface of the summit had been interfered with to some extent during railway construction ... and the Commissioner might have made the boundary conform more neatly with the CPR engineers' determination of it." The Geological Survey Monument 1A had already been moved to a location 150 feet to the west, to a site seven feet or two metres lower, but one which was exactly in line with the north and south boundary survey lines on the floor of the Kicking Horse Pass.

When the first auto road was completed from Lake Louise to Field in 1927, the CPR and Federal governments considered moving the Hector cairn and the Great Divide sign to the more accurate site but no agree-

ment was reached over who should pay for the costs involved. As a result, a relocation to the third site did not occur until late 1929 when the government and the CPR each agreed to pay \$1,000 to relocate the cairn, rebuild the Great Divide gate and recount the Divide Creek.²¹

The cairn has remained at its third location since 1929. It still faces north, waiting for railway passengers to stop, look, and listen. The site was upgraded with the building of an archway over the adjacent auto road and a picnic shelter in 1935. The archway was replaced in 1990 when a bus demolished it. An interpretative centre with billboards and an expansion of the picnic grounds also was completed in 1990. With each upgrade the boundary creek was slightly rerouted for tourist, photographic, or natural restorative purposes.

Unfortunately, since 1929 the historical significance of the Hector cairn has faded and the reasons for it forgotten. Misrepresentation over its erection date, assumptions over its ownership, and the closing of the only road to it in the millennium year all reflect a lack of awareness of importance of the cairn, the work it recognizes, and the memorial it represents to Sir James Hector.

The Palliser expedition, and particularly the fieldwork of the youthful and competent James Hector, located the trans-mountain pass through which the CPR railway now passes. In William Pearce's view, Hector "did more than any other individual to bring about the acquisition by Canada of the North West."²²

NOTES AND SOURCES

1. Palliser John, and James Hector. Explorations of British North America. British Parliamentary papers, 1859, 1860, 1863, 1865; Spry, Irene, *The Papers of the Palliser Expedition, 1857-1860*, Champlain Society, 1968, Spry, Irene, *The Palliser Expedition*, Macmillan, 1963. Communications from the expedition were published as they were received from January 4, 1857 to May 27, 1876, in the Royal Geographical Proceedings A precis of the expedition's findings were reported in the Royal Geographical Society, vol. XXX, 267-314, 1860 Hector analyzed and published the results of the expeditions work twice: "On the geology of the country between Lake Superior and the Pacific Ocean (48-54th parallels of latitude)" in the Proceedings of the Geological Society Quarterly Journal 17(1): 1: 388-445, April 10, 1861, London, and "The Physical features and the capabilities for settlement of the central part of British North America," in the Edinburgh New Philosophical Journal, new series XIV, 212-240, October 1861. Assessments of the geological, historical and medical significance of the expedition are contained in W.O. Kupsch, "Pioneer Geologists in Saskatchewan," Department of Mineral Resources, 50 pages, 1955; R.I.M. Burnett, "The Life and Work of Sir James Hector," Masters thesis, 173 pages, University of Otago 1936; J. Warkentin "The Western Interior of North America", pages 144-160, McClelland & Stewart, 1964, Irene Spry, "Introductory Notes on Sources and an Analysis of Contemporary and Current comments on the Expedition," pp ix-xxviii, 613-634, of the Papers of the Palliser Expedition, v.44, Champlain Society, 1968, and H.C Ballou "Sir James Hector, M.D. 1834-1907," CMAJ 87 66-74, July 14, 1962.
2. Erasmus, Peter, *Buffalo Days and Nights*, Glenbow, 1976, p. 75.
3. *ibid*, p. 74.
4. Haig, Bruce, *James Hector Explorer*, 20-24. Alberta Historical Resources, 1983. At the junction with the Beaverfoot river, the Kicking Horse river curves back on itself. Mount Hunter, is located in the angle of the river. The incident would be a few miles east of the junction and above the Wapta Falls.
5. The two Erasmus descriptions are recorded in *Buffalo Days and Nights*, pp. xix-xxi, 74-78. The original Hector description is recorded in the 1863 Palliser Papers, Part 111, 105-107, and reprinted in the Champlain Society volume 44, 1968, 307-311. Mary Schaffer transcribed Dr Hector's comments from his 1903 return in *Rod and Gun In Canada*, pp 416-418, January 1, 1904, and in a complementary article in the Calgary Herald, "Palliser's Expedition, some intimate glimpses" n.d. circa 1929. A copy is in the Whyte Archives of the Canadian Rockies, manuscript M79: 6.2 The Joe McDonald-Tripper article is written by Barbara A. Johnstone, *Alberta Historical Review*, 5(1).1 6-20, Winter 1957. She transcribed his confusing account from the diary manuscript in the possession of her grandfather, Isaac Cowie
6. All descriptions confirm that Hector was kicked in the chest, stunned, fell and was unconscious for a variable period of time. Hector's memory loss would have occurred from a few minutes before the accident until he regained consciousness. There is no record of spluttering or coughing water so the accident was likely on the shore or in the nearby grass or woods. Hector's description of left sided fractured ribs is unlikely as severe pain and respiratory difficulties would have continued for one or two weeks. A severe chest contusion with bruising or a parasternal cartilage-bone separation is more likely. How long he was unconscious or semiconscious is probably determined by how long it took his guides to notice movement and communicate to each other. Those who were fishing and planned to dig his grave would have been alerted of Hector's recovery when they returned or were called by Sutherland. Sutherland may have added to the unconscious period by wandering about and not wanting to stay with a "dead" body. Although he may not have left Hector alone if he was showing signs of movement or slow recovery. Time passes rapidly under such circumstances and time estimates are in the eyes of the beholder. Hector would have inquired what happened after he was fully conscious but the answers may have depended on who he asked. Hector's nature was to not record or elaborate on such personal incidents.
7. Pearce, William, "Establishment of National Parks in the Rockies," *Alberta Historical Review*, 10(3): 8-17, Summer 1962 Godsal, F.W., "Old Times," *Alberta Historical Review*, 12(4), 20, 1964. Godsal also wrote a letter to Dr. Hector's son, Dr. Charles Monro Hector on October 16, 1929 and noted that one corner of Douglas Hector's heavy gravestone had sunk. He and several friends had undertaken to repair it. The grave was untouched until Dr Peter Allen of Edmonton scraped the moss from the east facing inscription in 1986, revealing once more the error in the date of Douglas' death. After visiting James Hector's New Zealand gravestone in 1992 Dr. Allen noticed its fragile and decaying state. Later that year Bruce Haig contacted the conservator of the Old Taita cemetery in Lower Hutt, Wellington, NZ, indicating the six foot spine atop the triple base had toppled. Partial

Dr. Robert Lampard is Director of Medical Health at Michener Services, Red Deer. He has served on the Archives Committee of the Alberta Medical Association since 1981 and has been president of its successor, the Alberta Medical Foundation, since 1995. He wishes to acknowledge the assistance of Hocken Library, University of Otago/Dunedin; Revelstoke Museum; Archives of the Canadian Rockies; and the CPR Archives.



In 1929 the Hector cairn was moved for the last time and is now located nine kilometres east of the Trans-Canada Highway-Lake O'Hara turnoff. It is situated between four railway lines and is inaccessible by road.

restoration without the spine was completed by 1996.

8. Hector, James, Letter to Martha Farquharson written at the Fraser Canon House, North Bend, BC, August 12, 1903
9. Beck, J.S. No Ordinary Woman, the story of Mary Schaffer Warren, 23-24, Rocky Mountain Books, 2001 Beck comments that the meeting "profoundly touched the Schaffer's lives." Schaffer's Rod and Gun in Canada and Calgary Herald references should be read together as their points of emphasis differ but in a complementary fashion.
10. Kootenay Mail (Supplement) August 22, 1903 "... the son (Douglas Hector) became so ill he was removed to the hospital Friday (August 14) evening " Schaffer differs and indicates she precipitated and organized the move by rail Saturday a.m. and notes Dr. Schaffer spent a restless night "That boy should have been operated on last night." Both sources agree Douglas was operated upon Saturday August 15th. The newspaper says Douglas appeared to be doing well "but on Sunday he died, the cause being peritonitis supervening the neglected appendicitis." Schaffer (Rod & Gun) said he died "after a thirty six hour illness". Towards nightfall on August 16 came the telegram to the Schaffers at Glacier House " ... twenty-four hours too late. We could not save him." To her "it seemed as though the lights of Glacier went out that night".
11. Wheeler, A.O. Fundraising Circular March 25, 1904, Calgary, Alberta, and the Kootenay Mail (Supplement) August 22, 1903.
12. Beck, J.S. No Ordinary Woman, 23-24. This narrows the date of the cairn concept to August 18-November 23, 1903. According to Wheeler the idea arose at a Glacier House meeting, before the Schaffers returned to Philadelphia. Mary Schaffer confirmed her first husband's role in a letter to Raymond Zillmer, February 28, 1928 (J.S. Beck, personal communication). Wheeler's comments are in his circular of March 25, 1904.
13. Wheeler, A.O. First Circular. There is no indication of the original fundraising target amount.
14. Whyte, W.W., to Sir T.G. Shaughnessy May 3, 1904. In response to the Circular, CPR second vice-president Whyte wrote President Shaughnessy and suggested a contribution of fifty dollars towards the "monument to Sir James Hector." Shaughnessy replied in the affirmative on May 11, 1904. William Pearce forwarded the Circular on April 1, 1904 to his friends indicating that anywhere from a dollar upwards would be thankfully received. He asked each of his contacts to extend the fan-out. He closed his covering letter with the note "Canada owes a very great debt of at least gratitude to Sir James Hector. As a guest speaker at Boston's Appalachia Mountain Club annual meeting in May of 1905 Wheeler stayed with Professor Fay who held an "at home" for Wheeler and his wife. That evening would likely have included a discussion of the status of the fundraising campaign and a discussion of the date to begin the construction of the two monuments. At the founding meeting of the Alpine Club of Canada (ACC) on March 27, 1906 in Winnipeg. Wheeler would have had another opportunity to fundraise particularly when the ACC accepted as a priority "the promotion of the historical and scientific study of the mountains, efforts to attract artists who would depict scenery and above all a campaign to make Canadians aware of the extent and grandeur of their mountain heritage." The arrival of the two monuments in April 1906 at the Laggan CPR station and the presentation of the Silas Card bill would have added an element of urgency to the campaign. The first ACC camp at Field, which started July 8, 1906, on the High Saddle of Yoho Pass would have provided yet another opportunity to solicit funds. On January 11, 1907, the ACC did make a fifty dollar contribution to help pay for the "handsome marble monument" as noted by Elizabeth Parker in the Canadian Alpine Club Journal vol. 1, 166, 1907.
15. Kilpatrick to Marpole April 24, 1906 "The stone has been delivered. Asked Mr Wheeler to pick out the location and sketch it nineteen feet back and one hundred feet east. It will need protection from (horse) teams". Revelstoke Mail Herald, June 2, 1906 "Stones now in place in the shadow of Mt. Hector. Hewn out of granite chiseled and polished and inscribed at the CPR quarries Both on fire grain granite corner stones." Railway and Marine World, page 477 August 1906, confirms "a monument has been erected at Laggan to the memory of Sir Jas. Hector"
16. Wheeler, A.O. The second circular included a covering letter dated November 27, 1907, a photo of the cairn and the forty-six names to whom requests to augment their donation were being made.
17. Letter from W.W. Foster to S. Card, October 20, 1910 "I can only find there is \$5.90 owed to you. Please advise ..." Card provided a statement of expenses and disbursements on November 7, 1910. Foster agreed it was correct. Calculation of the days worked times the per diem rate reveals Card underbilled by another \$10.80 and undercharged another .25¢/day while working 55 days at Laggan.
18. Kilpatrick, T to Stockdill, C. E., November 23, 1912. The second log station at Laggan was built in 1909/1910 requiring the cairn to be moved beforehand. Laggan was in the CPR Alberta Division so Kilpatrick of BC's Revelstoke Division may not have known the details of the move to the second site. A study of contemporary postcard photographs reveal two sidebars and a four post chain linked fence were added. The conjectural history of Divide Creek was recounted by Donald Bain in Canadian Pacific in the Rockies, 7:27, May 1981.
19. Letter from George Bury, to T. Kilpatrick in response to his letter of September 25, CPR Vice-President George Bury asked Kilpatrick for a sketch of the Great Divide site on September 28, 1912. Kilpatrick wrote to Stockdill, December 2, 1912 attaching the two site plans. A.E. Stevens wrote to Kilpatrick on December 9 indicating approval of the smaller 50' square plan. A small elevated base was made for the cairn and a cement trough built to divide the waters and prevent erosion. The site was levelled and a 50' square decorative fence added.
20. Cautley, R.W., et al Alberta and British Columbia Boundary, Part 1, 27-31, Ottawa, 1917, A boundary survey photograph taken in 1913 shows the extended Great Divide sign and the cairn.
21. Getty, IAL "A Historical Guide to Yoho National Park" Research paper, 1972 file #70/5R2 12. Contract #WRJ91/71, pages 298-302 Also see Cautley, R. W. et al. *ibid.* The height of land on the CPR railway was 150' east of the 289 chain long boundary line across the floor of the pass.
22. Pearce, William, Circular, April 1, 1904.