

J. Nolan

then 86 yrs. old

On July 27th, 1957 in company with James P. Nolan, I went to Liscomb, Guys. Co. A short distance beyond the village and at the newly built cement bridge crossing the Gasperaux River or Brook, (about 120 miles from Halifax-Dartmouth bridge) we turned south about a hundred feet on the east bank of the brook, and went down a steep bank to the mouth of the brook. The place is completely shut in from the sea by a large island called Hemloe Island and beyond it a somewhat larger island, called Liscomb Island.

On the side of the brook there are many large stones scattered about. On one higher up, probably beyond the reach of high water, and surrounded by spruce trees, we found a somewhat defaced inscription.

Nolan said he had first been shown the inscription in 1750 and made a copy of it and had made enquiries of several aged persons in the neighbourhood. One old man told him that for many years the inscription had been covered up by the roots of a spruce tree which grew from the top of the rock. This tree had been blown down a few years previously by a big storm, exposing the inscription. The old man said he learned of the inscription from his father who knew of it from his own father who had seen it when a boy, which Nolan reckoned would be about 125 years previously or about 1825. He had verified his calculations by other enquiries.

Today the inscription certainly looks to be very old and weather-beaten and somewhat broken and defaced. Some dry moss clings to the top of the rock. I took four photographs of the inscription, two after sprinkling flour over the inscription.

A man by the name of Jordan from Sherbrook was fishing near by with others and were very interested in what we were doing.

This inscription includes the name

KIDD - the date 1670 - the initials J M D - two cross flags - a jackboot - the letters I E F - a carpenters square - and other undecipherable marks.

Rvii

www.ontario.ca