

HERSTORIC SITES AND PEOPLE



Madeleine de Verchères

If someone has done a lot of important things for Canada, the government can name them a National Historic Person. More than 700 Canadians have received this honour. Nova Scotia's **Portia White** (1911-1968) was the first Black Canadian to be a singing star in North America. **Madeleine de Verchères** (1678-1747) defended her family's Montreal-area fort against attack when she was just 14 years old. Ontario's **Harriet Brooks** (1876-1933) was the first female nuclear physicist in Canada. She worked for a brief time with the only woman thought to have been above her in the field, Marie Curie. **Shawnadithit** was the last known member of the Beothuk nation on the island of Newfoundland. The information she



Portia White



Shawnadithit

provided, such as drawings, are nearly everything we know about the culture and history of her people. **Jeanne Dugas** (1731-1817) was an Acadian nurse and midwife who was taken prisoner or relocated 15 times while the French and English fought for control of the Maritimes. **Nellie Yip Quong** (1882-1949), a woman of European heritage, married a Chinese man in 1900 at a time when interracial marriages were almost unheard of. She devoted her life to helping Chinese-Canadians, especially women having babies, and fighting racism by bringing all kinds of people together.

Wander the area around the childhood home of author **Lucy Maud Montgomery** near Cavendish, P.E.I., and visit the historic site nearby devoted to her most famous creation, Anne of Green Gables.



Library and Archives Canada, Ingeborg Marshall, iStockphoto



Learn about the life of **Asayo Murakami** and other Japanese-Canadians in B.C. at Murakami House, part of the Britannia Shipyard historic site in Steveston. When Murakami came to Vancouver to meet the man who was to be her husband, she knew she couldn't live with him. She broke off the contract and bravely built her own life in a new land.



The observatory at the Canada Museum of Science and Technology in Ottawa is named after astronomer **Helen Hogg**, whose research and photographs of star clusters starting in the 1930s are still used today.



Sometimes, women are forgotten who should be remembered. From 1898 to 1910, Winnipeg's **Margret Benedictsson** published an Icelandic-language magazine called *Freyja*. Her work with Icelandic-speaking women helped win all Manitoba women the right to vote.



In Ontario's Niagara region, you can visit the home of **Laura Secord**, the brave woman who walked through forest and swamp with the help of First Nations guides to warn the British of an attack during the War of 1812