

# SPARKS FLY AND SOME GUESTS SIMPLY REFUSE TO LEAVE



## UNFORESEEABLE CIRCUMSTANCES WOULD ROLL UP THE ALGONQUIN'S WELCOME MAT, BUT THE RESORT WASN'T ABOUT TO GIVE UP THE GHOST.

The years from 1914 to 1919 were tough ones for The Algonquin. On April 11th, 1914 the beauty of all-wood construction would meet its match – literally. Sparks from working roofers ignited flames that would destroy much of the original structure.

The disaster was devastating to the community and loyal Algonquin guests. The estimated \$800,000 in damage was – for the time – unfathomable. But, despite having to jack up the rate to a staggering four dollars per day, in 1915 The Algonquin rose from the ashes... beautifully. Modern construction techniques made for a safer, grander Algonquin. Architects got playful with Tudor styling, and the distinctive red roof that shines like a beacon today. Hotel rooms would now have electricity and telephones – and with that... room service! But soon thereafter, World War I would once again dim the lights on the newly-built hotel.

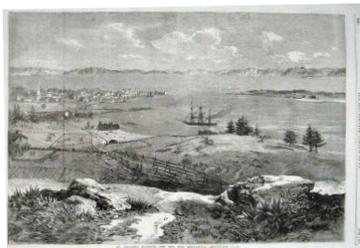


### TEA... WITH AN HISTORICALLY ACCURATE TWIST

Even an afternoon libation in Braxton's Bar has a delicious past. Our Chef, G.F. Braxton was the talk of the culinary town in the late 1800's. And ordering a Minister's Island Ice Tea today, pays homage to Canadian Pacific Railway boss, Sir William Van Horne's not-so-humble summer island retreat.

## TALK OF THE TOWN

The Algonquin owes much of its success to location. The naturally spectacular setting of St. Andrews by-the-Sea was equally as attractive to British Loyalists as it is to tourists today. Founded in 1783 by Loyalists from Castine, Maine, their devotion to the monarchy is reflected in thirteen streets, named after the children of George III. Take a stroll down King, Queen, or Prince of Wales Street to Water – where British soldiers once mingled with merchant marines. The town's savvy merchants and shipowners took full advantage of British American tensions, with a lively trade business. New Brunswick lumber and fish were exchanged for West Indies molasses and rum. After 1840, colonial settlements like St. Andrews lost favour, and the town's population dwindled until the 1880's, when the railway brought tourists, and economic relief to the town. Passamaquoddy Bay is as rich in marine life as it is in tourists. The Federal Government has maintained a biological research station in St. Andrews since 1908. The "Station," is a research and teaching institution dedicated to marine life and the well-being of wild Atlantic Salmon. Internationally recognized, the Station provides year-round employment and invigorates St. Andrews' economy. In 1998, St. Andrews was designated a National Historic Site, assuring preservation of the historical splendour and integrity of the townscape. After 234 years, one could say things are going rather swimmingly by-the-sea.



'Here comes the bride' takes on a whole new meaning at The Algonquin – the perfect backdrop for legendary ghost stories. Our trendiest apparitions are the helpful bellhop; an older woman arranging restaurant place settings at night; and a weepy, jilted bride. And although The Algonquin's rooftop tower is off limits, some claim sightings of an illuminated 'woman in white'. The good news is, all our ghosts are friendly – but when guests claim to 'never want to leave', we take them seriously.

### TIME FLIES WHEN YOU'RE HAVING FUN

- 1883**  
Boston-owned St. Andrew's Land Co. gets to work building the hotel.
- 1889**  
The Algonquin opens its doors to guests.
- 1894**  
The Algonquin Golf Course opens.
- 1903**  
Canadian Pacific Railway take over management of the hotel.
- 1907 to 1913**  
The Algonquin expands. 178 more rooms and 60 additional bathrooms added.
- 1914 to 1915**  
Fire closes the hotel for a year, until June 1915.
- 1916**  
Golf course lengthened to 18 holes. World War I closes the hotel until 1919.
- 1939 to 1945**  
The hotel closes during WW2.
- 1958**  
The last train drops off guests to the Algonquin after CPR discontinues rail service to St. Andrews.
- 1970 to 1974**  
CPR sells hotel to local interests, who, in turn, sell to the New Brunswick government.
- 1991**  
Convention Centre and roof garden added, and the Algonquin is hailed as Canada's Resort of the Year.
- 2001**  
The Spa at The Algonquin opens.
- 2012 to 2014**  
New Castle Hotels and Resorts and Southwest Properties purchase the hotel. An extensive restoration is unveiled to fanfare in 2014.
- 2016 to 2017**  
Renowned golf course architect Rod Whitman leads a generational repositioning of the golf course.



THE ORIGINAL ALGONQUIN BOASTED AN OBSERVATION TOWER, 80 ROOMS, AND CURATIVE POWERS FROM THE WATER OF SAMPSON'S SPRING. NOT BAD FOR THREE DOLLARS A NIGHT.

The year was 1889. Canadian painter Paul Peel's *Venetian Bather* gained recognition at the Salon de Paris, and Sir John A. Macdonald was back as Canada's Prime Minister. In June of '89, the Canadian Pacific Railway finally stretched from coast to coast, and shortly thereafter, the town of St. Andrews, New Brunswick would be forever changed when the iconic Algonquin Hotel welcomed its first guests on June 28th.

The rest is a delicious history, best served with a G & T by the pool.

"...an incomparable resting-place and retreat from the cares of business and the heat and dust and bustle of the city."

Canadian Pacific Railway promotional brochure, 1902



## SALT BATHS AND A SALTY, SPIRITED HISTORY



LONG BEFORE FITBITS AND LYCRA THERE WAS SOMETHING WE CALLED A BIT OF FUN IN THE OUTDOORS.

In 1889, Algonquin bathtubs had four taps; hot and cold, fresh or salt water. Tourists sought the curative quality of life by the sea with its fresh, salty air and malaria-free, rejuvenating atmosphere. And it wasn't long before the healing landscape of the Algonquin Golf Course would be 'ruining a good walk', as it has now for over 123 years. (That's 123 years of golf balls finding their way into the beautiful Passamaquoddy Bay!) Revered as challenging from the start, our award-winning 18-hole golf course has recently been repositioned into an even bolder, modern masterpiece. In 1913, tennis courts and a new building known as 'The Casino' added more ways for guests to work up a sweat. The Casino building featured a ballroom, bowling alleys, and billiards. Of course, the gracious lawn was always the perfect playground for badminton, croquet, or a round of aperitifs before dinner. Today – with our Spa, indoor and outdoor pools, bicycles, and brisk walks to Katy's Cove – the Algonquin offers numerous ways to work off that lunch of fish and chips!

# 59 AW, SHUCKS.

It's hard to be humble when we are #59 in Marriott's exclusive Autograph Collection of unique hotels. The first to open in Canada.

## FLYING COLOURS

Social media and TripAdvisor were a long way off, but word soon spread that The Algonquin was the place to be. Guests arrived by train from Boston, Portland, Montreal, and Upper Canada to get a glimpse of the grand dame of New Brunswick.

The Union Jack and the Stars and Stripes danced harmoniously on the Algonquin flagpole. And despite having to use a separate, female entrance and shared baths, socialites were grateful for a place to show off their golf swings and fashions of the day.

WHAT DO DIANA ROSS OF THE SUPREMES AND PRINCESS DIANA OF WALES HAVE IN COMMON? THEY'VE BOTH SLIPPED INTO AN ALGONQUIN ROBE.

