

# A Short History of my Neighbourhood

Part 6

## The Irish

# The Irish Arrive

In 1847, many Irish landed in Canada, victims of a famine caused by a disease to the potato.

The crossing weakened them and many arrived ill.

They were housed in barracks in Village-aux-Oies (Goose Village).

An outbreak of typhus would bring death to many.



# The Black Rock

- While the Victoria Bridge was being built, workers raised a 30 tonne boulder from the river and brought it ashore.
- It was placed on the mass grave in memory of the Irish who lost their lives.
- The granite block is surrounded by grillwork which is decorated with shamrocks, the emblem of the Irish.



# Walk to the Black Rock

- Every year, the Order of Ancient Hibernians organizes a walk to the Black Rock at the end of the month of May.
- The Irish thus commemorate the ancestors who died in the barracks before having a chance to settle in their new country.

Photo by Fergus Keyes



Walk starts from St. Gabriel's Church  
on Centre St.