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***Just Passing Through:* Travelers' Experiences of Sport and Pastimes in Nineteenth-Century Canada**

This paper represents preliminary research dealing with travelers' perceptions and experiences of sport during the 1800s in Canada. The primary area of concentration is Upper Canada and Ontario; however, the study draws upon the experiences of visitors from across the country. Initial research questions include the following: In what sports and pastimes did travelers and tourists engage? Was the sporting experience of travelers similar or different to that of resident Canadians? If so, why? If not, why? Do the recollections of these individuals support or conflict with the current historical understanding of Canadian sport in the 1800s?

The majority of evidence for this paper is drawn from published primary sources written by nineteenth-century travelers. These include: Thomas William Magrath, *Authentic Letters from Upper Canada with an Account of Canadian Field Sports* (1833); Frederick Tolfrey, *The Sportsman in Canada in the Year 1816* (1845); Charles Lanman, *Adventures of an Angler in Canada, Nova Scotia and the United States* (1848); Fred Lillywhite, *The English Cricketers' Trip to Canada and the United States* (1860); and Susan Margaret St. Maur, *Impressions of a Tenderfoot During a Journey in Search of Sport in the Far West* (1890). The study draws from the reminiscences of women and men, as well as both the upper and lower classes, to offer the broadest range of experiences possible.

In terms of historical significance, an examination of the experiences of travelers offers an outsider's perspective on nineteenth century Canadian sport. In this regard, the perceptions of these individuals may offer a more objective viewpoint on sport than first hand accounts from regular patrons, spectators and participants.