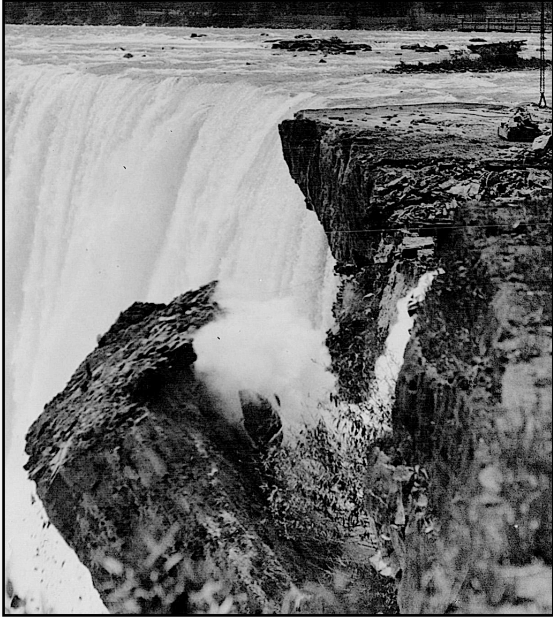
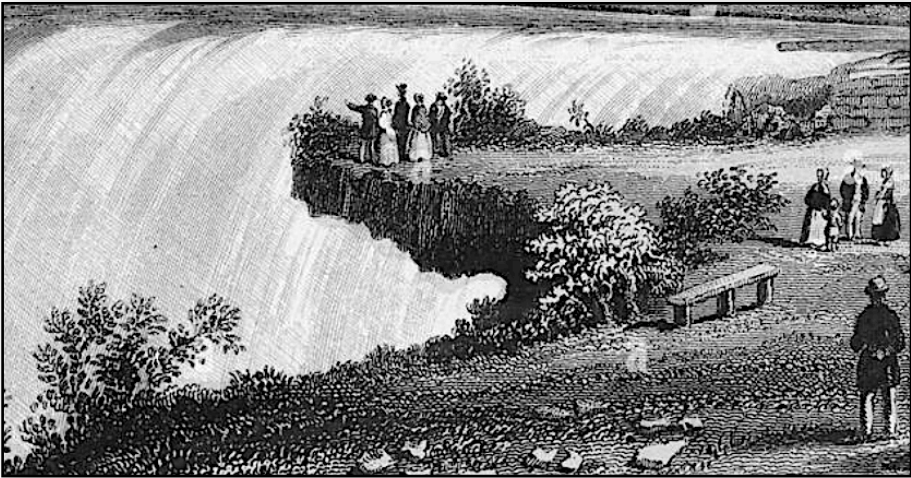


Lewiston History Mysteries

Table Rock Offered Breathtaking Vantage Point for Tourists in the 1800's

Geographic Landmark Appeared in the Mid-1700's

Many locals have heard the term "Table Rock" but only a few know its history, where it was located, or even what it looked like. It was a geographic marvel that first appeared at the brink of the Canadian Horseshoe Falls in the mid-1700's when the falls receded and left a high — very high — and dry outcropping. Thousands of brave tourists ventured out on Table Rock to get a thrilling and dangerous view of the falls. *There were no fences!* The rock was notoriously unstable and there were many rockfalls over the years.



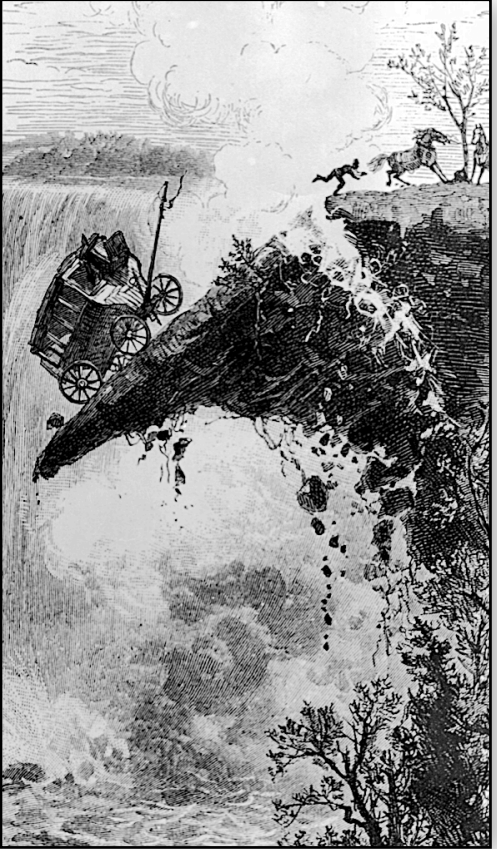
With Only a Second to Spare, Man Escapes with His Life in 1850

Table Rock was not only famous as a tourist destination, but it was also known for continuous rock slides. With no support underneath, pieces of Table Rock were always falling into the turbulent river below.

A gigantic mass of rock, 160 by 40 feet, fell into the river in 1818. Ten years later, during the winters of 1828 and 1829, more supporting rock from under Table Rock disappeared. Other substantial rockfalls took place in 1853, 1876, and 1897.

On the right, you can see one of the most noteworthy collapses which occurred in the summer of 1850.

At the time, a carriage driver had just dropped off a load of passengers near the falls. Reports indicate he was cleaning his carriage and heard a loud cracking beneath his feet. He immediately unhitched his horse and as the ground gave way, he and his horse leapt to safety at the last second. They survived but the carriage was never seen again. Fortunately, no tourists were on Table Rock at the time.



In July 1850, a carriage driver narrowly escaped death when a large portion Table Rock collapsed.

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June 24, 1935
Blast Destroyed the Last of Table Rock
 On June 24, 1935, what was left of Table Rock was finally destroyed in a controlled blast for the safety of tourists and for the nearby Ontario Powerhouse. The area is still known as Table Rock and is home to the Table Rock Centre. Photo by: W. H. Jones, published by the Toronto Star.