

Geographic Note

WOLFSDEN LAKE BECOMES SPECTACLE LAKES
~ Renaming made official in 1965 ~

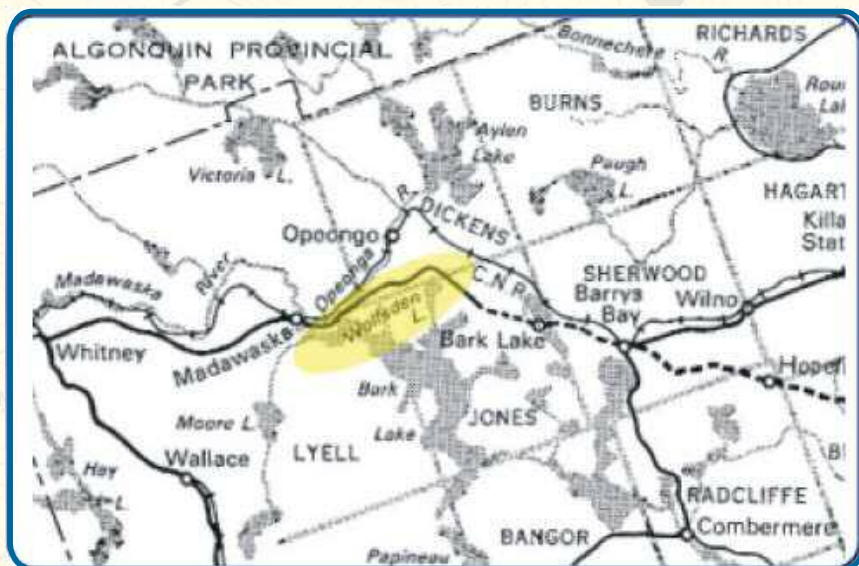
On 22 January 1965 Wolfsden Lake was renamed to Spectacle Lakes. As to what prompted the name change, that has yet to be determined as of this date. The Geological Survey of Canada, Natural Resources Canada, merely records the change of name.

The name "Wolfsden" was given to the lake at time of construction of the Opeongo Colonization Road in the mid 1850's.

This was one of the "colonization roads" authorized by the Province of Canada in an attempt to open up the districts lying inland from the settled townships. Surveyed in 1852 by Robert Bell, P.L.S., 100 miles were completed by January 1854 as a winter road from the Ottawa River at Farrell's Landing to Opeongo Lake.

By 1867, some 78 miles of road were open for year-round traffic, but further construction had been abandoned. In 1855, T.P. French was appointed to supervise settlement, and free 100-acre lots were offered along the road, which brought many settlers to Renfrew County and aided the region's important lumbering industry.

Wolfsden Lake is identified on map above, which was published in 1967 along with an article on the Opeongo Colonization Road.



Extract from map published in Canadian Geographic Journal, Vol. 74, No. 3 (March), 1967, that accompanied article on the Opeongo Colonization Road.

A lesser body of water along Hwy 60 has been named Wolfsden Lake. Located north side of Hwy 60 about 1.8 km west of junction with Cameron Track road (see map page2).

Editor's Note: If you have information, or can identify sources, as to the story behind the name change please drop us a line via e-mail listed at bottom.

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Spectacle Lakes prior to 1965 were named Wolfsden Lake. The name "Wolfsden" has now been assigned to a lesser body of water along Hwy 60.

