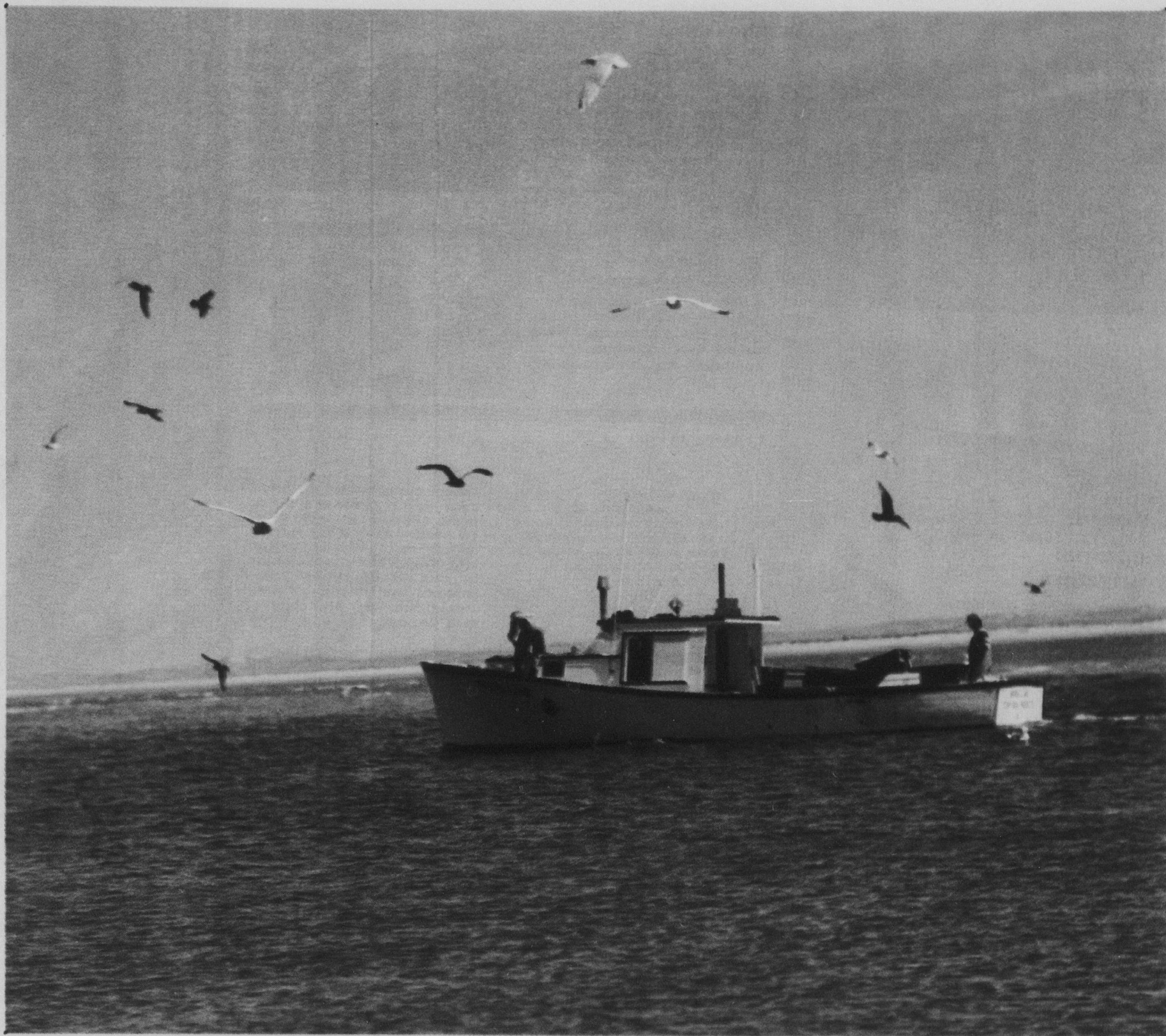


The Magdalen Islands

Volume 1

June July August 1988

16 pages



Daniel Miller

A welcome to all tourists
visiting the Islands.
Come in and see our large
assortment of baked goods

The largest selection

of breads and pastries in the Islands!

Fresh bread baked daily---Pizza dough---Baked beans
Pastries ---Fine cheeses



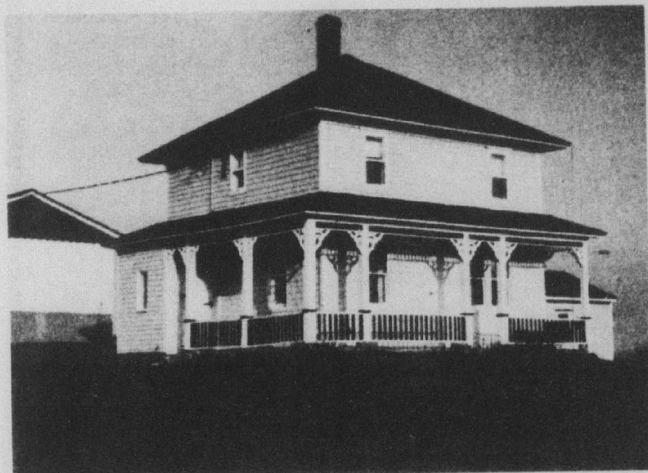
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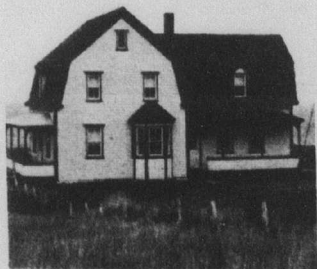
Supplement to: SPEC, New Carlisle, THE ALMER BULLETIN, THE RECORD, Sherbrooke, THE LOW DOWN TO HULL & BACK NEWS, THE STANSTEAD JOURNAL, THE EQUITY, THE WATCHMAN, Lachute, THE QUÉBEC CHRONICLE TELEGRAPH, WEST QUÉBEC POST, THE GLEANER, THE FIRST INFORMER.

Cultural Overview



Traditional Architecture

The Islanders' traditions and history are reflected in the architecture of their buildings. Two types of traditional architecture dot the countryside: official architecture with its churches, commercial, and institutional structures; domestic architecture with its houses, barns, and "baraques" — a small barn with a movable roof used for holding hay.



Housing

Houses in the Islands are quite simple and painted in a variety of bright colours. The Acadian origins of many of the Islanders are shown in the Acadian inspired architecture of their homes. As a result of their historical pilgrimages, the settlers brought two different architectural tendencies to the Islands. The first tendency is French — more specifically from the Normandy region — with acute angle roofs often complicated with a "L" or "T" type house construction. The second tendency is Anglo-American with upside down "V" shaped dormers, fine American inspired woodwork, and various roof constructions: flat, mansard, and hipped gable.

Îles-de-la-Madeleine — islands for island lovers

Off the beaten path, off the Gaspésie peninsula, lies an archipelago of 11 islands called Îles-de-la-Madeleine. They're not next door. Access is by air, passenger ship or car ferry. But, oh! the island joys you find here:

Warm gulfstream waters for bathing or windsurfing and more than 150 miles of soft, white sand beaches. Traditional fishing villages complete with lighthouses, boats and sleek seabirds. The islanders, many of them descendants of the

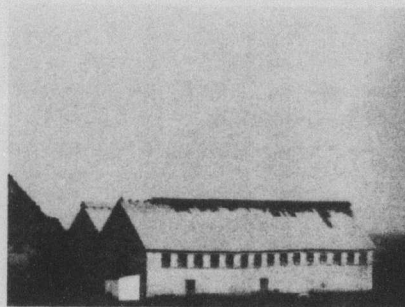
Acadiens who were the original settlers, will charm you with their warmth and unique way with words. By day, you'll fish, explore, take an excursion, dive for sunken treasure, and shop for handicrafts. At night, you'll dine on unforgettable seafood: lobster, crab, mussels, scallops, sole, cod, etc. — You may never want to leave.

- 1 Fun in the surf
- 2 Impressive red cliffs
- 3 Boats at anchor
- 4 Fascinating age-old rock formations
- 5 A landscape of emerald and sapphire

Gouvernement du Québec
Ministère du Tourisme

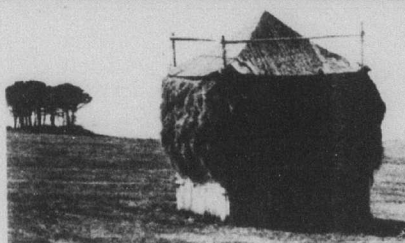
The Herring Smokehouse

The most distinctive architecture among all the fishing industry buildings belongs to the herring smokehouse. These structures and their unique architecture can still be seen near most of the Islands' fishing ports. For the most part unoccupied and no longer in use, the smokehouses are being considered for other uses in order to pay for their continual maintenance costs.



The "Baraque" (Island hay barn)

A little square barn with a sliding roof controlled by a pulley system, the baraque is used to protect hay from bad weather. Until recently, these picturesque shelters were used by most farmers.



Artists and Craftsmen

The skilled workers from the Islands offer a range of unusual and unique art and craft workmanship. Inspired by the Islands' environment, their creations are original and made of such diversified material as alabaster stone, sandstone, glass, and clay. Arts and crafts from the Islands can be found in many of the shops.

Painters, photographers, and water-colour artists explore space in two dimensions. Art lovers will be able to satisfy their curiosity about these local artists at the various expositions located in certain public establishments. The artists use a unusually colourful, representational style and technique often showing picturesque views of the Islands' landscape.



La Rotisserie

MENU Deliveries On Request

Quarter of chicken (leg) -----	\$5.90
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Club sandwich -----	
brown meat -----	\$6.25
white meat -----	\$6.85
Poutine of chicken -----	\$5.20

Side Orders

Cole slaw -----	\$1.00 / \$2.00
Sauce -----	\$0.50 / \$0.75
Fries -----	\$1.15
Soft drinks -----	\$1.25
Tea, Coffee -----	\$0.95

Desserts

Mellefeuille -----	\$1.50
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Rapid delivery in Grindstone and House Harbour. Open 6A.M. to 1A.M. 986-5432



CAMI

This insert is sponsored by the Council for Anglophone Magdalen Islanders -- C.A.M.I. -- with advice, technical expertise and equipment of The First Informer.

C.A.M.I., a nonprofit organization, was formed in 1986 in an effort to protect the rights, culture and heritage of Anglophone Magdalen Islanders. A similar organization to the Committee for Social Action - C.A.S.A. - on the Gaspé Coast, but more suited to the needs of Islanders.

In the short time since its conception, with volunteer members now totaling 18, C.A.M.I. is beginning to accomplish many of its aims.

A student was sponsored in the Challenge '87 Program, and another for the current year. A year long Community Works Project sponsoring an office worker is drawing to a close.

The worker was responsi-

ble for developing our assets from a battered suitcase to a fully equipped office. The equipment is used by the staff of The First Informer as well in the production of the newspaper, which, in itself, is a part of informing the community members and their far-flung families of the news and information in their mother tongue.

Future plans at the moment are centered on an old school house in the community of Old Harry. We are hoping to restore it to its original state, using the building as a mini-museum and tourist attraction.

We hope this insert will play no small role in introducing the Magdalen Islands to prospective tourists, not just on behalf of the Anglophone communities, but our Francophone neighbours too.

Contributed by:
Robina Goodwin
President

Canada's Shangri-la



Daniel Miller

Magdalene Memories

Azure sea and ruddy cliff
Miles of golden sand,
Scenes to ponder, sounds to soothe
Fill this lovely land.

Blazing sunsets linger on
Waves, their rhythms beat,
Those who visit nature's hospice
Anxious thoughts soon fleet.

Waving wheat on wind-blown dunes
Sea birds soaring low,
Island memories, treasured ever
Warm hearts where'er they go.

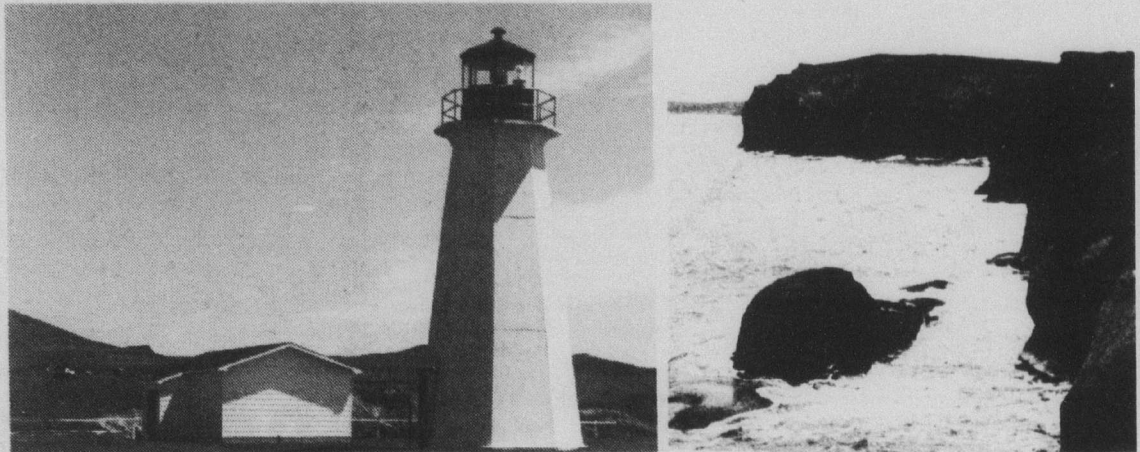
By: Rose McColm Roussy
May, 1988

This supplement, sponsored by C.A.M.I. will be in the Regional English Media Of Quebec during the months of June, July, and August 1988.

The project funded by local advertising, Secretary Of State, Regional School Board Of Gaspesia, Provincial Government departments, Municipal Corporation Of Grosse Ile.

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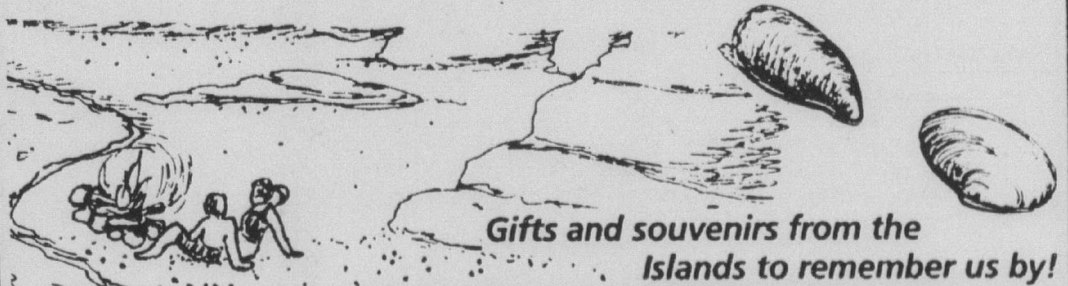


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"Visit us for your special Souvenirs."

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Gifts and souvenirs from the
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ROOMS FOR RENT

Newly renovated rooms for rent with sink in each unit and kitchenette service.
Near the beach.

For information call Albert or Blanche Gaudet
986-5433 or 986-3344



General Information



Access to the Region

By Plane

Inter-Canadian connects the Îles-de-la-Madeleine to the rest of the Province of Québec with two daily flights. Connections can be made in Montréal for most destinations.

Information and Reservations

Québec and Ontario (area code 613)

Dial toll free 1-800-361-0200
 Montréal (514) 636-3890
 Québec City (418) 692-1031
 Îles-de-la-Madeleine (418) 969-2764 or 969-2771

Canadian International serves the Îles-de-la-Madeleine with a daily flight from Montréal making connections throughout the Maritime provinces. Connections can be made in Montréal and Halifax (N.S.).

Information and Reservations

Québec and Ontario (toll free) 1-800-361-7413
 Montréal (514) 286-1212
 Maritime Provinces (toll free) 1-800-361-2697
 Newfoundland (toll free) 1-800-361-2114
 Îles-de-la-Madeleine (418) 969-2525 or 969-2725

Air-Madeleine offers the flight Îles-de-la-Madeleine/Gaspé/Mont-Joli with connections to Québec City and Montréal. Chartered flights available.

Information and Reservations

Québec City 1-800-463-5830
 Îles-de-la-Madeleine (418) 969-2271 or 966-6067

By Car

Travellers must drive to Souris (P.E.I.) in order to take the ferry to the Îles-de-la-Madeleine. To get there:

From Montréal, take highway 20 to Rivière-du-Loup. There are two ways to get to Moncton and Shediac (New Brunswick) from Rivière-du-Loup. You may go through the Matapédia Valley in the Gaspésie or you may take the Trans-Canada highway to Edmundston (New Brunswick).

Through the Edmundston region, take highway 185 to Edmundston then highway 2 to Moncton. Through the Matapédia Valley, take highway 132 to Matapédia. Cross the bridge towards New Brunswick and then take highway 11 to Bathurst. Take highway 8 to Chatham and then again highway 11 to Shediac.

From Moncton and Shediac, take highway 15 and then highway 16 to Cap Tourmentine from where you can board the ferry (55 minutes) to Borden, Prince Edward Island. From Borden, take highway 1 to Charlottetown and then highway 2 to Souris. The ferry crossing aboard the Lucy Maud Montgomery to the Îles-de-la-Madeleine is 5 hours long.

By Boat

There is ferry service from Souris (Prince Edward Island) to Cap-aux-Meules (Îles-de-la-Madeleine) from the first of April until the end of January. The ferry crossings schedule changes according to season.

From June 16th until September 13th, the ferry leaves Souris at 2 pm everyday (except Tuesdays), and leaves Cap-aux-Meules at 8 am. On Tuesdays, the departure from Souris is at 2 am; and from Cap-aux-Meules, it is at 8 pm.

If demand warrants it, the ferry will make extra crossings at 2 am from Souris and at 8 pm from Cap-aux-Meules.

Reservations are not taken in Souris. However, the boarding attendant will give priority tickets to motorists upon arrival at the wharf. It is recommended to reserve from Cap-aux-Meules for the return crossing and this can be done up to seven days in advance at the C.T.M.A. office near the landing stage. Out of season, the ferry crossing schedule is subject to change.

Information:

Cap-aux-Meules (418) 986-6600
 Souris (P.-E.-I.) (902) 687-2181

Reservations:

Cap-aux-Meules (418) 986-3278

From Montréal to Cap-aux-Meules (Îles-de-la-Madeleine), the CTMA-Voyageur, a passenger and cargo vessel, makes a weekly trip and can accommodate 15 passengers.

Information and Reservations

Inter-Voyages, Montréal (514) 866-8066
 Cap-aux-Meules (418) 986-4224

Touring the Islands

By plane

Icarus, Havre-aux-Maisons, (418) 969-2271. Flights over the Islands, l'île Brion, and Rocher aux Oiseaux.

By bus

Service d'Autobus Madeleiniens, Cap-aux-Meules (418) 986-2845 or 2245 969-2655, for guided visits of the Islands.

By boat

Gertrude-Béatrice, Cap-aux-Meules, (418) 937-2716 or 986-5690. Captain Yvon Renaud. Ferry to Île d'Entrée Monday through Saturday. Boarding in Cap-aux-Meules in front of the Coast Guard building at 8 am and at 3 pm and at the port of Île d'Entrée at 9 am and 4:10 pm.

Tourist Information

A wide variety of promotional literature and information Québec's 18 tourist regions is available to visitors.

By telephone

Monday through Saturday, from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Call toll free:

From Montréal and its surroundings (local number) 873-2015

From elsewhere in Québec 1-800-361-5405

From Ontario and the Atlantic provinces 1-800-361-6490

From the Eastern United States 1-800-443-7000

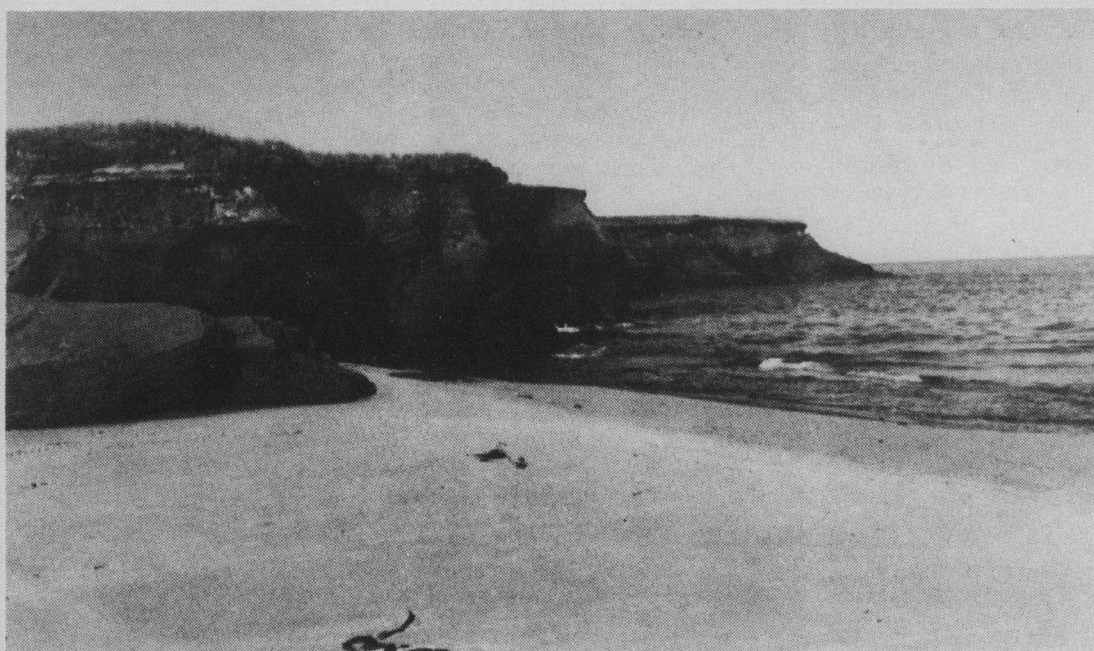
By mail

Tourisme Québec
 C.P. 20 000
 Québec (Québec), Canada
 G1K 7X2

Association touristique des
 Îles-de-la-Madeleine
 C.P. 1028, Cap-aux-Meules
 Îles-de-la-Madeleine, (Québec)
 G0B 1B0

Important Phone Numbers

Ambulance	986-2612
Hospital	986-2121
Emergency	0
Police	986-5555
Fire Station	
Cap-aux-Meules	986-4444
Havre-Aubert (bell boy)	985-4633
Community Radio, CFIM	986-5233
Weather Office	986-3700
Canadian Coast Guard — marine telecommunications	986-2740
Coast Guard Lifeboat Station 141	986-5333
Transportation	
C.T.M.A. (ferry) Cap-aux-Meules	986-3278
Souris (902)	687-2181
Inter-Canadian	969-2525
Canadian International	969-2525
Telegrams	986-2745



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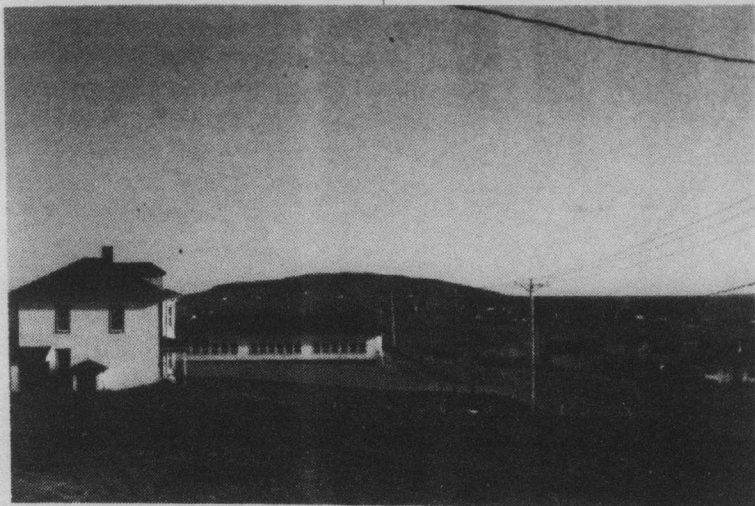
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Communities



The Magdalen Islands' principle Anglo municipality, Grosse Isle, is where some 700 people of Irish and Scottish descent live. At the turn of the 18th century, it was the large schools of fish that brought people, mainly from Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island, to the Magdalen Islands. Today, most of the residents are fishermen.

Grosse Isle, with its woods sloping down to the sea, the isolated area of East Cape and Old Harry are very pretty. One of the most beautiful beaches of the islands is in the community of Old Harry. It is on the far end of the beach of Old Harry at East Point that a cross was erected in 1969 in memory of the "Miracle", one of our largest documented shipwrecks, and of all the fishermen who have lost their lives in these waters. Over the years the cross has blown down, but remains of it can still be found if you are energetic enough to tramp the sand dunes and search.



The ecological reserve of Brion Island is 16 km from the Grosse Isle breakwater. This island was inhabited by several families for a century. Afterwards, it was then seasonally inhabited for fishing until the beginning of the 1970's. Today, it is totally uninhabited by the human race.

This island has preserved a large variety of flora and fauna that represents the islands as they used to be.

Brion Island's virgin forest, stunted by the ever blowing wind and its storm-

lashed cliffs are home to more than 140 species of birds. The vegetation found on this island astonished explorer, Jacques Cartier, as well as the eminent botanist, Marie Victorin.

Another reserve and sanctuary worthy of mention in Grosse Isle is the National Wildlife Reserve at East Point, which represents the various types of terrain found in the islands.

The presence of birds in this area is one of its most valuable resources. Migratory birds use the reserve on their migrations.

Bird Rock, an elevated rocky outcropping 20 miles northeast of Grosse Isle, is one of the most important bird watching sites in eastern North America. Bird Rock became a bird sanctuary 20 years ago.

Before leaving Grosse Isle, you must stop at Cap Dauphin -- from here you will have a most magnificent view of both East Point Beach and North Beach.

From the high promontory

life of the fishermen.

Entry Island is the only inhabited island not linked by land to the archipelago. To get there, you must take a ferry from the Grindstone Harbour. Some 200 Anglophones live here. When visiting, plan a full day visit to really discover the island.

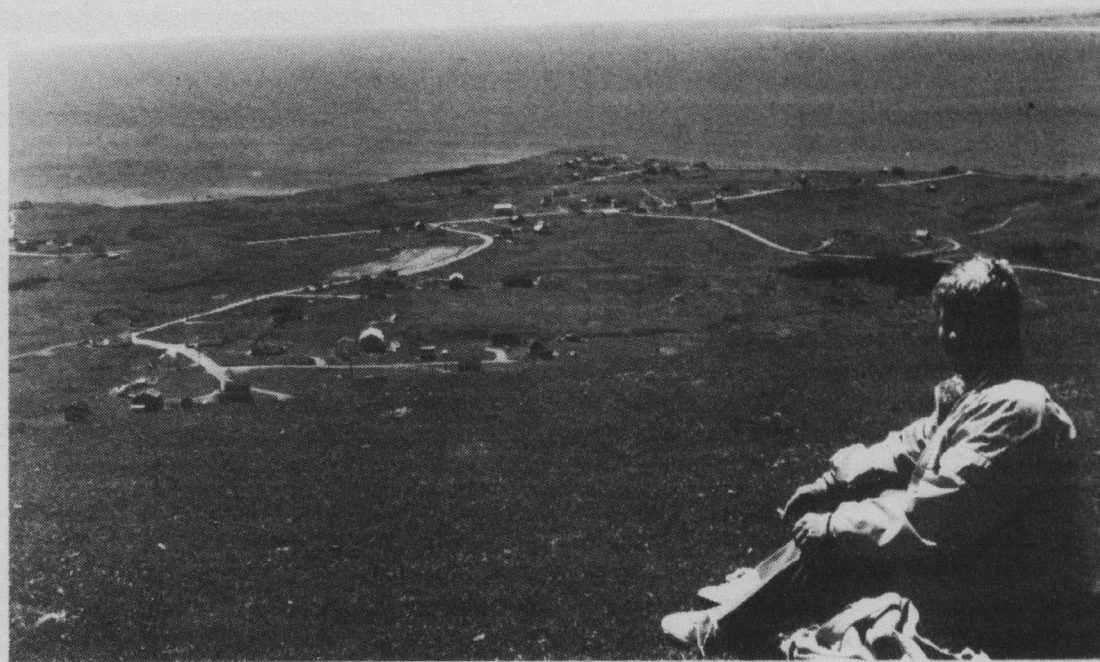
There are many footpaths, which encircle the island

and entice visitors to go hiking. At the end of these paths, you can observe birds nesting in the cliffs and diving into the sea for food.

The highest point on the Magdalen Islands is "Big Hill" and is located at Entry Island. From the harbour you must take Main Road then Post Office Road, follow

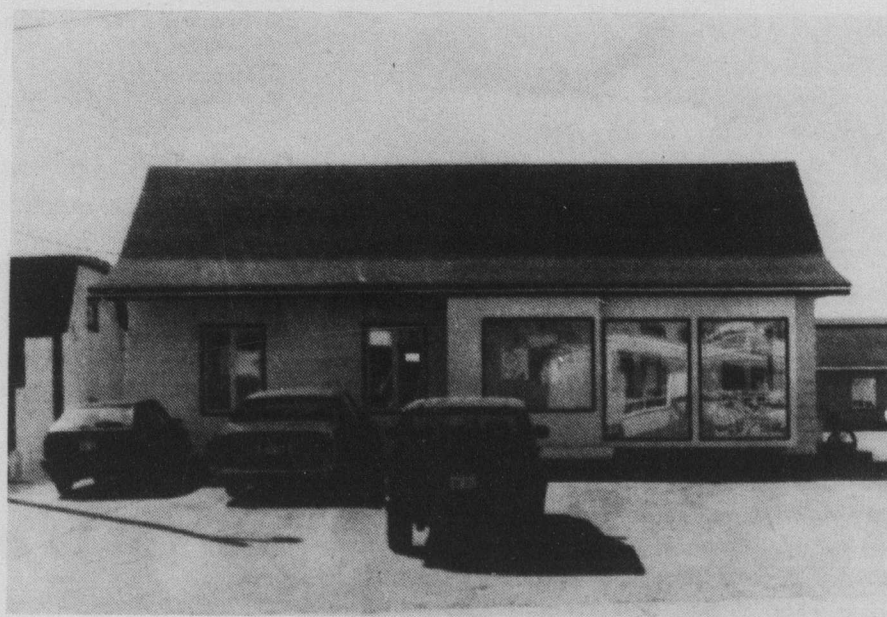
a path across the field and this will bring you to the top of the hill. Such a magnificent view of the islands archipelago will not soon be forgotten.

Entry Island is the only municipality on the Magdalens that has truly kept up with Scottish traditions.



Casse Croute Chez Raymonde Enr.

"The quality is our worry"



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*Homemade fries
Submarines*



Open

6a.m. to 4p.m.

7 days a week

Breakfast served daily

400Ch. Principal Cap-aux-Meules 986-6070
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Summer Activities & Attractions

July 15, 16 & 17 - Grand Entry Lobster Festival

Cultural activities, outdoor games, entertainment and lobster suppers. For information call (418) 985-2273.

Mid-July - Madelicourons

Twenty-five kilometer marathon. The only one of its kind in Quebec directed by La Federation d'Athletisme du Quebec. For information call (418) 986-5233.

July 15th through to the 20th - Fishermen's Festival

Outdoor activities, boat christenings, Fishermen's Mass, social evenings and various tournaments in Etang-du-Nord. For information call (418) 986-4552.

July 25 - C.F.I.M. Show

Local artists are featured. For further information call (418) 986-5233.

August 4th through to the 7th - Festivaile

Picnics, games, sailing regatta, laser trips. Contact the Centre Nautique de Istoniet at (418) 937-5266.

August 6 - Sand Castle Contest

On the Sandy Hook Beach in Amherst. For information call the C.F.I.M. Community Radio Station at (418) 986-5233 OR Les Artisans du Sable at (418) 937-2917.

August 15 - Acadian Holiday (Hello Acadia)

August 15th through to the 22nd - Visual Arts Week

At La Grave in Amherst an art event will be happening! Contact Au Vieux Trevil at (418) 937-5138.

August 21st through to the 30th - Transat '88

Sailboat race from Quebec to Saint-Malo (France). The fastest sailboats in the world will leave Quebec on August 21, 1988. Between the 23rd and the 24th of August, the Magdalen Islands is the place for the double buoy bypass.

Labour Day - The Island Tour

Sailboat races. For further information call 986-5233.

FISHING, FISHING ON THE MAGDALEN ISLANDS

CHORUS:

*Fishing, fishing on the Magdalen Islands
Lots of hard work and a very few smiles,
You can't loaf around, when there's work to do
Ask any fisherman and he'll tell you.*

*My father was a fisherman all of his life
He had to work hard with nine kids and a wife,
Up every morning at the break of dawn
Jump in his boat and away he was gone.*

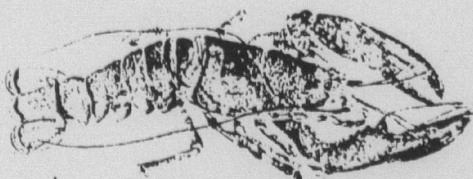
CHORUS:

*You can't go fishing in a leaky boat
You bail all day just to keep the thing afloat,
Bail out water all the way to shore
Bail out your fish and bail some more.*

CHORUS:

*Lobster traps are as heavy as lead
Many a time you wish you're home in bed,
Salt water on your face, rubber boots upon your feet
Boils on your hands and piles on your seat.*

COOKING LOBSTER

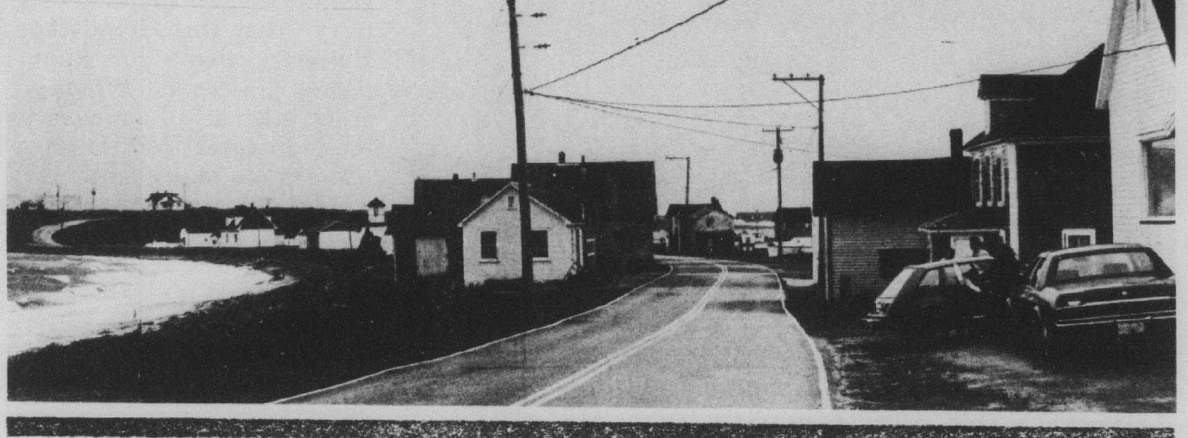


Pour in a large pot, 2 cm (about one inch) of salt water. Bring to boiling point and put the lobster in, head first. Steam with cover on tightly for 8 to 12 minutes. The lobster is cooked when after breaking it into two parts, the flesh is firm and white.

Bon appétit!

la grave

île du Havre-Aubert



The Restaurants

Going to a restaurant in the Islands is a real outing. It's an ideal way to make the day last longer while in good company.

The Islands' restaurants offer a large selection of many types of cuisine. In this way the visitor has the choice of everything from traditional cooking to nouvelle cuisine; from the finest table to the simplest snack-bar. Obviously prices vary accordingly. Overall, the Islands' restaurants and their cuisine deserve high praise.

A cuisine from the sea

Its fish and seafood has earned the Islands a good reputation on international markets and your stay here is the best time to treat yourself to a seafood delight.

A luxury at a reasonable price, lobster will please every connoisseur. It boasts a special place on every table. During the season, lobster is found in most restaurants. Unfortunately, lobster season is short and it becomes rare in August. The fine taste of crab meat goes well with many dishes.

Scallops, known for their culinary qualities, are delicious on kebabs, in "pot-en-pot" or in butter and parsley.

Mollusc lovers can savour blue mussels, clams and cockles all year long.

Fresh and well prepared fish will satisfy the most distinguished palate. The selection is amazing: Cod, Haddock, Ocean Perch,

Regional Cuisine

The Madelinots make the most of the sea's abundant variety of fish and seafood. They have created a style of cooking of their own. "Pot-en-pot" is a delicious Island style dish made with fish, seafood and potatoes in a flaky pie crust.

Flounder, etc. Ask for the fish of the day to savour the best!

Soups, stews, bouillabaisse, seafood "croque-monsieur" and crab mousse are delicious dishes for special occasions.

Lobster and crab keep their fresh flavour when boiled quickly for a couple of minutes.

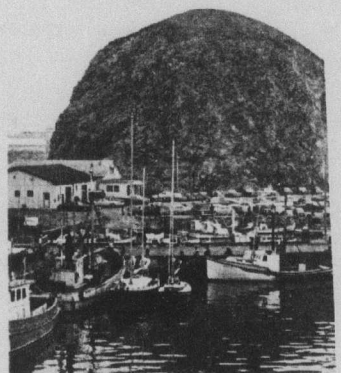
Seal

Seal meat is a dark meat and has a strong taste. It is a remarkably tender meat with a slight taste reminiscent of the sea. Some restaurants prepare it Island style or any other way you prefer.

To wrap it up

Many restaurants prepare desserts with local wild berries such as strawberries, raspberries, blueberries, cranberries, gooseberries and more. Then they top it all off with thick fresh Island style cream! Spoil yourself!

There are also many other dishes available and you can consult restaurant menus at the Tourist Information Office in Cap-aux-Meules.



Outdoor Activities

There are plenty of activities to be enjoyed on the Islands. Hiking, mollusc gathering, wild berry picking, horseback riding, golfing, bicycling and pedal-boating are more outdoor activities besides those already mentioned.

Hiking is the most interesting way to dis-

cover the Islands. You can take paths leading to who knows where without any danger. You'll never be very far away from houses.

Two places, Base de Plein-air Les Îles and Anse-aux-Baleiniers organize hikes and nature walks and other outdoor activities.

Lobster Festival 15, 16, 17 of July 1988

For the 10th consecutive year, Grand Entry will host it's lobster festival. This weekend will be full of activities that will be sure to please you. In all there will be clowns, musicians, fiddle players, volleyball tournament, etc. All activities will be held outside.

As, well, we want you to enjoy our fresh lobster which will be available during the festival.

Festival Du Homard Des Îles

C.P. 68, Grand Entry

Îles-De-La-Madeleine, QC. GOB IH0

Telephone: (418) 985-2273



This engraving represents "le Ponchon", a "sail" barrel used to send the Îles-de-la-Madeleine's mail during the winter of 1910. This method replaced the telegraph cable which broke, leaving the Islands completely cut off from the continent.

Modern methods of communication have eased the Islands' isolation but the Islanders still maintain a unique way of life and a distinctive accent. This Acadian accent with its characteristic melody, nautical expressions and archaic words from ancestral France will intrigue the visitor.

Faites relâche aux Îles-de-la-Madeleine

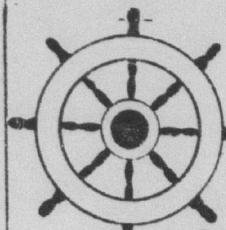


*La Coopérative
du Gros Cap*

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ILES DE LA MADELEINE (QUEBEC) Gerant: Jean-Yves Cyr
Ass. gerant: Michel Leblanc
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**Festival
du Homard des Îles**
(lobster Festival)

July 15, 16, 17

Come and have a weekend of fun in
Grande-Entrée

Activities-Shows-Lobster meals
Loisirs G.E. 985-2273



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REGIONALE des ILES
INC

Fresh baked bread,
pastries and pizza
dough.

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Live, cooked, and canned
lobster.
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MUSÉE DE LA MER
(Ocean Museum)

Open In Summer

From June 15 to August 15

Mon. - Fri. 9 to 5

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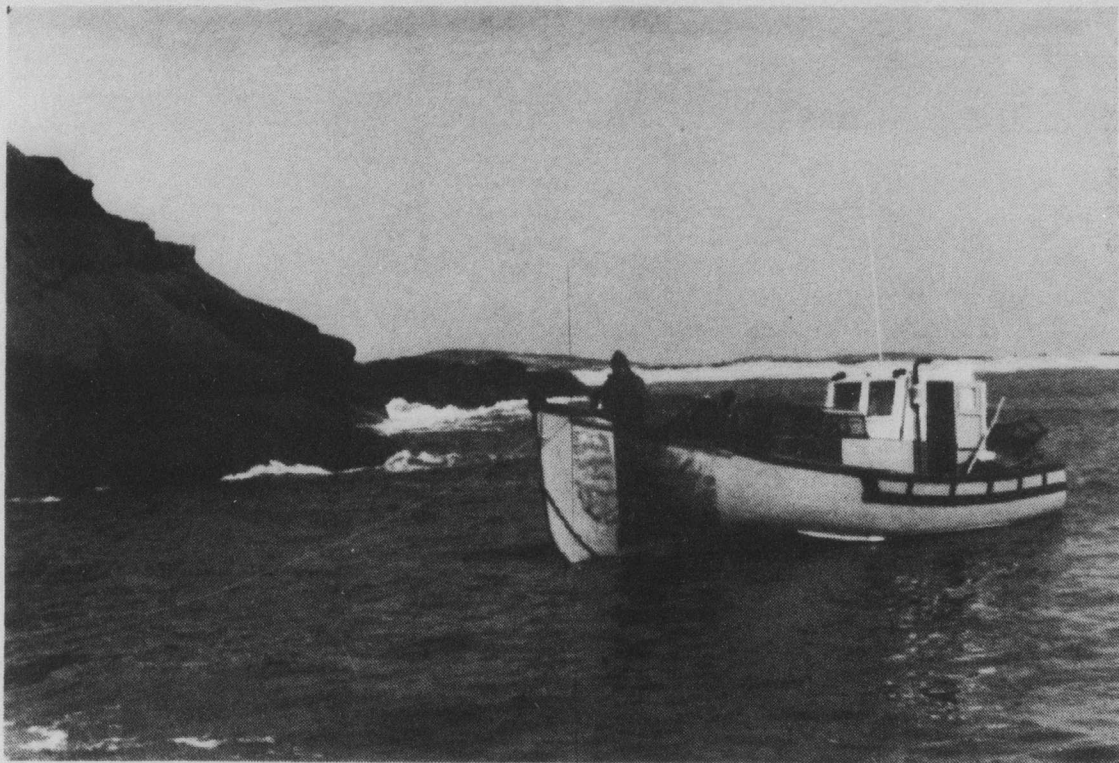
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Things To Do And See



"Let's go somewhere that's different." So many Canadians are travelling today, and most want a holiday that is unique.

The Magdalen Islands, called "Menogoesenog" by the Micmacs meaning "islands swept by waves", will provide this experience.

You may come to the "Islands" by bus, plane or ferryboat. The "Lucy Maude" has been in operation since 1975, and, if the sea is calm, it can give one a true sense of a short sea voyage. A more luxurious cruise would be leaving Montreal with your car and boarding the C.T.M.A. "Voyageur" to travel up the St. Lawrence via Gaspé.

Inter Canadian has two daily flights to the Magdalen Islands from Montreal or the Maritimes. Small daily flights and charters are provided by Icarus Airlines. Of course, there are tour packages during the sealing season for people to photograph or film the "whitecoats". During the summer other packages may be arranged.

The colours, sights and smells of the sea will enchant you. The Magdalen Islands are an archipelago in the Gulf of St. Lawrence composed of many small islands joined by sand dunes. Bring hiking shoes, bikes, binoculars and a wind jacket.

You will be aware at once that you have entered a world of the fisherman.

A wonderful and sometimes sad history of Maritime life surrounds you. The boats of every size and lobster traps and buoys on the water and on the land tell us more. The Madelinots have weathered many storms and have undergone tremendous changes since Jacques Cartier's first sighting.

Lobster fishing remains the prime industry and May 7th - 10th is an exciting day

because the season opens. The salt mine is a new but important commercial industry as well. Tunnels of up to 1000 meters in diameter lie under the dunes and seabed. It is up to 223 meters deep.

A paved highway links all the Islands and the visitors can spend several days exploring the unique terrain. In Amherst one can find artists, craftsmen, the museum, summer theatre and of course, enchanting restaurants. The delicious entrees are usually seafood. Here, too, windsurfers can practice their techniques because there is always a breeze.

Entry Island is a charming separate Island and you must go there by boat or plane. The tallest point on the Island is "Big Hill", and you should test your hiking shoes by climbing the hill, having a picnic and gazing at the sea around you. You might have to dodge the "three-legged cows"!

Grindstone is the hub of the Islands. Here, you will find anything you need and more. The motels, inns and restaurants will delight you. There is a shopping mall, fresh fruit and vegetable stands, boutiques, bistros and depanneurs.

Visitors should not miss the lovely churches, some elegant and some tiny but charming. Most are open to visitors during the tourist season.

In Etang-du-Nord and Fatima everything an outdoor enthusiast could want -- weather-beaten cliffs, sand beaches, camping areas, fills, forests and always, the sea crashing against the rocks.

Grosse Isle is one of the English speaking villages on the Islands. You can't miss the Anglican Church here with its most beautiful stain glass windows. Some breathtaking views from the

high hills, a Natural Wildlife Bird Sanctuary and the first glimpse of East Cape will delight the visitor.

Absolutely astounding beaches lie around Old Harry -- miles and miles of them. The final village is Grand Entry and it encompasses all of the qualities of the Islands. The fish plant, the boats, the lobster traps tell you what is happens here. But the bluffs and beaches and forests hold many surprises.

House Harbour is a picturesque village with winding roads and hills. Fresh mussels, crab and lobster, in season, can be found here. The dunes are prominent and the bogs abound with cranberries in September and October.

Pointe-aux-Loups is surrounded by dunes and beaches and is a quaint little fishing village.

However, you must come and see for yourselves. Talk

the history. Hear the traces of Acadia, Micquelon, Scots and Irish. Listen to the expressions so characteristic of these Islands.

The Ministry of Tourism of Quebec produced an excellent Tourist Guide called "Iles de la Magdaleine" which outlines the highlights of the Islands.

"The good you do is not lost, though you forget it"



Daniel Miller

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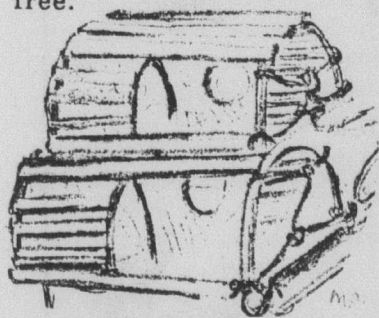
Fishing, Fishing, Fishing



Daniel Miller

The islands' economy is based almost exclusively on fishing. Each species is fished using a different technique and during a specific season. The Magdalen Islands' seafood has an enviable reputation on the national and international markets.

Lobster fishing is, without a doubt, one of the main activities on the islands. Off the coast every year in May, fishermen set their lobster traps made during the winter. The lobster season, from mid-May to mid-July, is strictly regulated: the crew of each boat (2 to 3 persons) cannot set more than 300 traps and fish lobster not meeting regulation size -- these undersized are set free.



Lobster fishermen leave port at three o'clock in the morning to arrive at their fishing ground where they bring up and empty their traps for their days' catch. With the catch on board, the fishermen return to their home ports in the afternoon, after which, they must prepare and gather the necessary supplies for the next days' fishing.

The snow crab, a deep-sea shellfish, has been fished commercially in the islands for the past ten years. Fishermen go more than 30 miles from the islands in 65 foot vessels to set their traps. The snow crab is fished for a period of about ten weeks starting in April.

Scallop is fished mostly on the south side of the islands

in 45 foot vessels from April until September. The scallop fishermen scrape the seabed with the help of special drags and then bring up the shellfish. The fishermen quickly shell their catch before returning to port so that they will only have to unload a few white-webbed sacks containing their total catch.

Since the spring of 1984, the blue mussel has been grown domestically in the island lagoons. Government research and experiments on mussel cultivation in the bays around the islands have led to positive results in the past few years.

The domesticated mussel has many obvious advantages in quality over the wild mussel. Suspended in water while it grows, the mussels contain no sand, nor small bits of gravel usually found in the common wild mussel. Its cleanliness allows the domesticated mussel to grow faster and offers two to three times more meat than the

wild mussel.

The technique used for cultivating mussels is rather simple. The mussel farmers put into the water, collections which capture and fix young mussels in compact groups. The collections are put into the water in May and are taken out in September. At this time, the mussels are between the measurement of a half an inch to an inch in length. They are then placed in growing rolls made from netted sack. The mussels are suspended in lagoons for one year before they reach their commercial size of two inches in length.

In December of 1987 a ban was imposed on Magdalen Island mussels to determine whether a toxin carried in the mussels was to be blamed for at least two deaths and 129 illnesses. It was later identified that demoic acid was present in areas other than Prince Edward Island where the problem originated.

ed. Several shipments of island mussels were sent to Ottawa for testing and results proved that the Magdalen Island mussels were free of demoic toxin and that a ban on island mussels should never have been imposed.



The ocean perch are fished from several hundred meter trawlers owned by Madelipeche. The ocean perch is processed at the modern fish plant in Grindstone. Other trawlers, 65 meters in length or larger, catch cod in organized fishing fleets. Smaller boats equipped with movable devices or fixed devices also fish for flounder and cod.

Thousands of harp seal give birth to their young in mid-February each year on the ice floes in the Gulf near the Magdalen Islands. For the islanders, it is the time to go to the ice. Seal hunting is more than just a way to make a living, it is one of the oldest traditions to Madelinots.

Several years ago, seal hunting became the center of intense controversy, which finally led to the closure of



the markets for seal pelts. In order to replace this market, islanders have taken some innovative steps in the tanning industry and fabrication of items by local craftsmen.



LOBSTER PASTE

Clean the lobster bodies completely. Put all the contents into a blender. Add salt and pepper. Add 1 TSP. cornstarch per blender load. For colour and extra flavour, add lobster meat. Blend, bottle and bathe 3 hours.



EXCURSIONS
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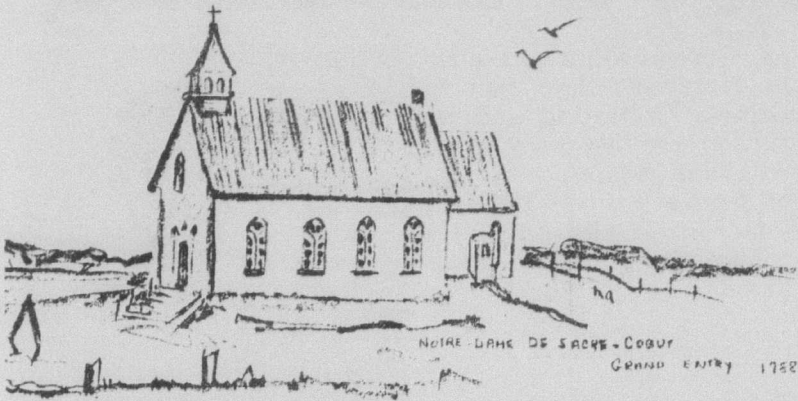
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CENTRE D' EXCURSION DE PLONGEE
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Daniel Miller

Island Schools and Churches



When the fishermen lived together, bonded by family and work, it was evident that they needed and wanted a church and a school. The first priests used to travel by sea from Gaspé, Charlotte-town, Cape Breton and the North Shore as missionaries. Father Isidore and Father F. Pain of the Récollets were the first names recorded in 1714-20.

In 1877, the Sisters of the Congregation de Notre-Dame arrived and started the first tiny school with eleven pupils. Then Father Alexis Belanger opened many other small schools in Bassin, House Harbour, Etang-du-Nord and Grindstone. The first church was built at Amherst, made of

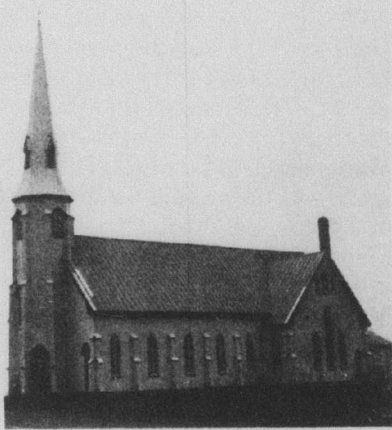
wood chopped by hand in 1793.

By the middle of the 1800's it was necessary to form a "Corporation des Ecole" because there were now eight small schools. Men and women were recruited, locally, to give instruction until a "normal" school was formed in the 1920's.

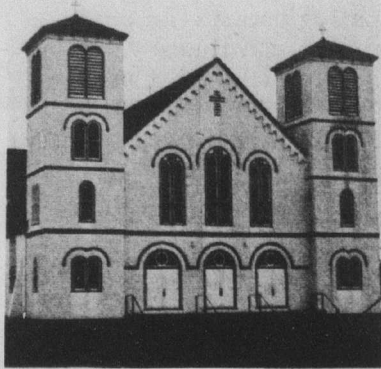
The churches and schools were often attached and the Priests and Sisters performed many other duties as well as religious and educational duties. They acted as the recreational directors, councillors, musicians, even dispensing the law and medicine.

The first convent was built in 1876 in House Harbour and in 1920 the very successful "Golden Age Club" was formed.

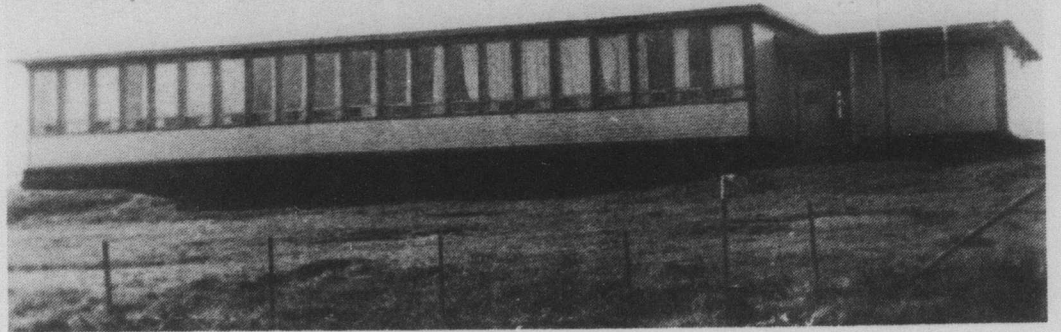
The church at Laverniere is a beautiful wooden structure—the largest on the islands. In Grand Entry, the Notre-Dame de Sacre-Coeur (Sacred Heart) has just celebrated their 100th Anniversary (1987).



As the population grew, each village had their own school and the "Regional School of the Islands" was formed in 1966 for administrative purposes -- not without some disagreement from the small communities. Today the largest school on the Islands is the Regional



School offering various courses from Junior High School to College level. Some students are boarded and



Entry Island School

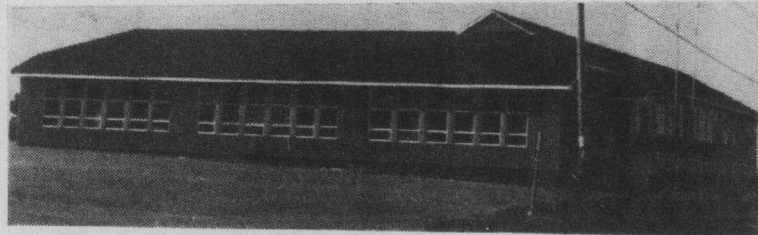
there is a large swimming pool located in the school for the enjoyment of everyone.

Each community has their own church with some services on Saturday evening, because of the fishermen.

So, from the early days of travel by sea, horse and cart and by foot the Sisters and Priests have left a successful legacy of religion and educational life.

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2. Odyssée Missionnaire 1720 - 1900 -- Gaudet, Rose Delima.
3. Cent ans d'éducation aux Iles-de-la-Madeleine 1877 - 1977 -- Gaudet, Sister R. D.



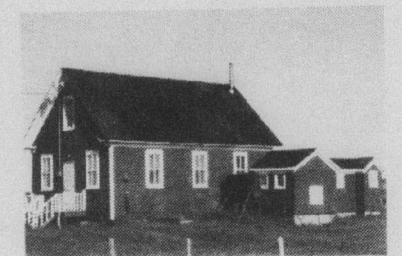
Grosse Ile School

In the past, for the benefit of the Anglophones of the Magdalen Islands there were schools in each community, but the decline of English enrollment forced the closure of the English schools in Grindstone in the early 60's, in East Cape the spring of 47, Old Harry closed in 1972, and we are not certain when the Grand Entry School closed.

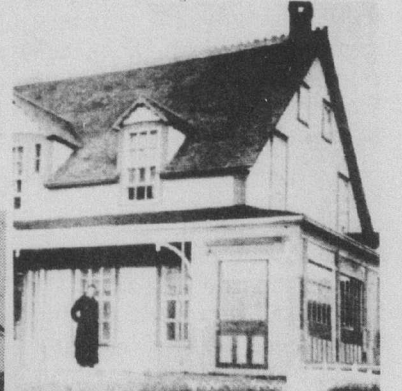
Presently on the Islands there are only 2 Protestant Schools. Grosse Ile High in Grosse Ile which teaches from pre-kindergarten to secondary 5, with a total enrollment of 100 students and 9 teachers.

The school on Entry Island

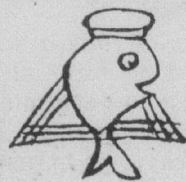
teaches pre-kindergarten to secondary 3, has 26 students and 4 teachers.



Former School at Old Harry



Island's first convent school



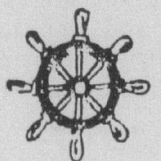
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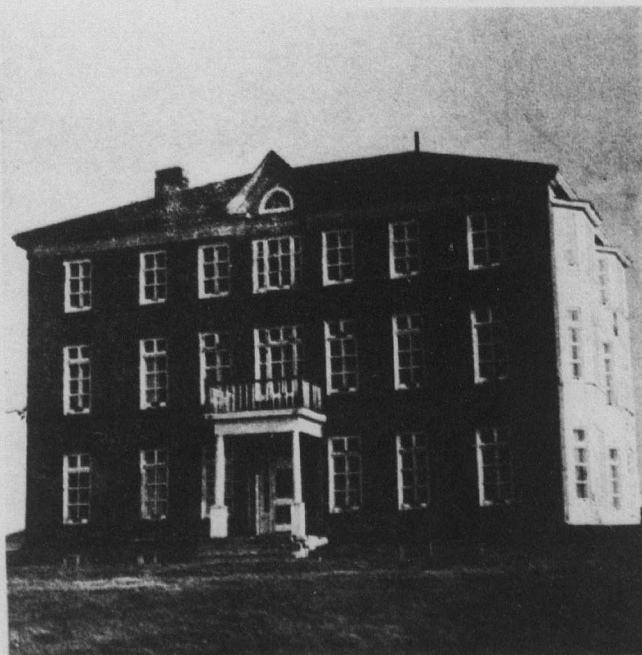


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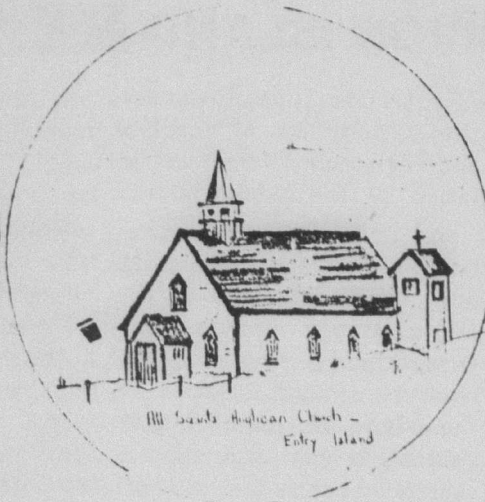
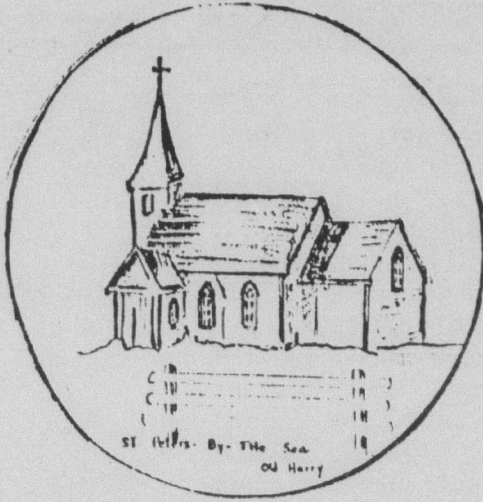
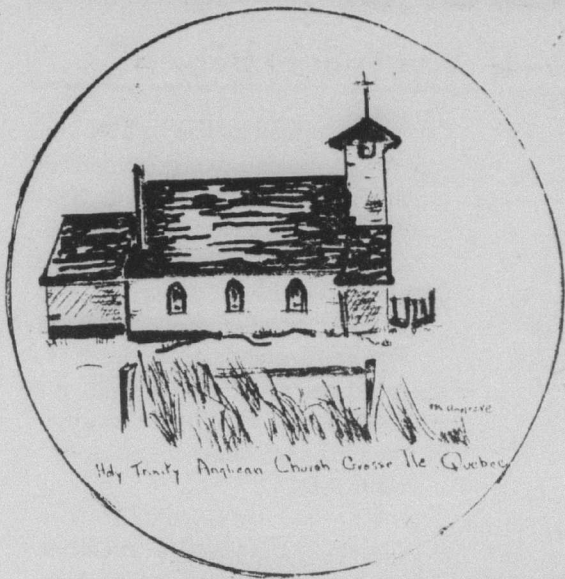
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Island Schools and Churches



The Right Reverend George Jehoshaphat Mountain, third Bishop of Quebec, founded the Anglican Mission of the Magdalen Islands on July 4, 1850.

In 1850 when the Mission was founded, Captain John Townsend Coffin was proprietor of the Magdalen Islands, which had been bequeathed to him by his late uncle, Sir Isaac Coffin, the grantee of the Crown.

A vast change has taken place, not only in the Mission, but in the Islands in general, since that wet July morning one hundred and thirty-eight years ago when a grey-haired Bishop of the Church of England stepped on the sands of the beach at Cabin Cove (Amherst Island), and from the days, just a year later, when the

few scattered Protestant English settlers met in a warehouse on the beach of House Harbour each Sunday to worship with Reverend Felix Boyle, the first Anglican clergyman to serve the islands.

All trace of Protestant worship has long since disappeared from House Harbour, as well as Amherst, where once an Anglican church stood silhouetted proudly against the eastern sky on Cape Shea.

Grindstone, once had the stronghold of the Anglican church on the islands, closed

its doors a few years ago.

Although our churches are small and simple, compared to those of our Roman Catholic friends, they have come a long way since the first little church was built at Grosse Isle North in 1853, which used the timbers of a shipwreck. Two more churches have been built at Grosse Isle since that time. Grosse Isle, today, is the largest of the Anglican communities on the islands.

Early in June, 1987, a twenty-foot high Celtic Cross was placed on the top of Grosse Isle North. It can be seen from almost any vantage point in the Municipality. The cross is placed so that it is within view of Grosse Isle Harbour, and the fishermen coming and going may use the cross as their beacon and point of reference on the horizon.

At the Holy Trinity Church of Grosse Isle, there are three stain glass windows. The light coming through the windows further emphasize the unity of the scene because the brightness obliterates the East wall completely. There is an unusual effect of dimension which a number of people have noticed. If one stops, quiets down, and gazes at the windows for a short time, it is seemingly possible to move into the scene... to put yourself in the window. It is then that the windows seem to be alive.

There is a lot to these windows. Of course, the first thing one notices is the bright colour, and the way the light intensifies coming through it. They are modern, contemporary windows, expressing in concrete, ordinary images, the people and the islands they live on. The background shows the interaction of the land and the sea. A Blue Heron flies overhead, and in the distance, two gulls. On a small hill there is a wooden house representing the traditional domestic architecture of the islands. A fishing boat is at the bottom of the hill, and in the foreground the familiar hay baraque, which has become a symbol of the Magdalens. In the center window the Gilbralter-like slope of East Cape is easily recognized.



At the bottom of the windows you read the words: "Come with me and I will make you fishers of men." Our Lord is portrayed speaking these words not to the Galilean fishermen of 2,000

years ago, but to the people of the Magdalen Islands in our time. He is dressed in a heavy woolen sweater, jeans and rubber boots! The sun is directly over his head, and two shards of light coming from the sun compass him on both sides. In the elaborate leadwork of this scene, a cross may be discerned, which extends at an angle to the right window.

Around Our Lord are the people of the Magdalen Islands. On the right, the women and children, dressed in windbreakers and exhibiting the red hair characteristics of Scots ancestry. In the background, on the shore, a mysterious figure dressed in blue gazes out to us. It is the Blessed Virgin Mary, and she holds in her arms a bouquet of fleur-de-lys, the lily of Quebec.

In the left window are the two fishermen representing St. Peter and his brother, Andrew. Our Lord has spoken the words to them, and from their expressions, one senses that the message has been spoken through their heads into their hearts. Once again, if you will step and move into this scene, something begins to happen. You begin to 'feel' the scene.

The tension becomes almost discernable. Study the look in Peter's eyes. Here is a man on the edge of faith. Je-

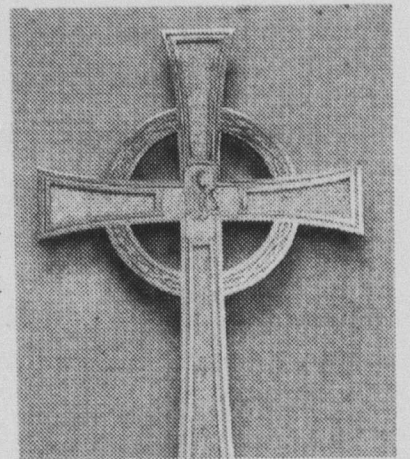
sus, the haunting young man, has captured his heart and his imagination. What will happen to Peter if he leaves his nets and follows? The tension is so well expressed that it is as if Peter were on the edge of stepping off into a new dimension.

Beyond the impact described above, what is so attractive about the windows is that the Christian faith is not a remote religion for a distant people long dead and far away. But they speak of our dignity as people of the Magdalen Islands, and that Our Lord chooses to make his dwelling place even here.

Old Harry has less than half the congregation it had twenty-five years ago, but in the near future Old Harry's church -- St. Peter's by the Sea -- will have new doors made of four inch thick mahogany. The doors will have a carved scene of Old Harry in a storm. A fishing boat will be depicted near Ad's Cove with three people on deck. Above the boat, a shaft of sunlight breaks down upon those in the boat, and in the midst of the sun, there is a phoenix.

On the other side of the doors, inside the church, the phoenix will be depicted in full detail, rising from the ashes and moving toward the sun.

The doors are a memorial to Aaron Clark who drowned in the summer of 1986 while successfully saving the lives of two teenage girls caught in an undertow.



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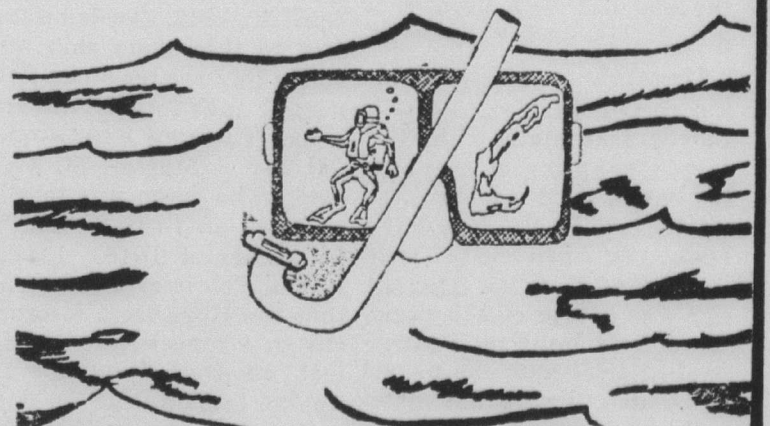
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An Ecological Reserve Unlike Others

WELCOME TO BRION ISLAND

Iles-de-la-Madeleine Tourist Region

For the first time in Quebec, an ecological reserve is accessible to the general public for observation and discovery. Who is responsible for this precedent? It came from a non-profit corporation issued from a modest committee of concerned citizens.

This little group of Madelinots - now numbering over one hundred members - after four years of efforts (mostly unpaid) has succeeded in demonstrating that it is feasible, through an educative approach and a control of the traffic, to reconcile accessibility with conservation.

The Quebec Department of Environment, owner of the island and promoter of the "Ecological Reserve of Brion Island", has decided to entrust the management of the whole island to the Corporation for the Access to and the Protection of Brion Island Inc. This resulted after having acknowledged the value of the actions put forward by this organization of our milieu in its activities of conservation and of education to conservation.

An enclave, located in the landing sector of the island, has been subtracted from the ecological reserve and put entirely under the jurisdiction of the

Corporation. It can then exercise its activities of reception and registration; an interpretation of the natural habitat

and authorize some recreational activities, such as swimming, gathering wild berries and camping, which is otherwise forbidden in an ecological reserve. Having facilities on the island, the managing organization can also allow a controlled access to a vast conservation area for educational ends, next to the main area of integral conservation -- the latter being accessible only for purposes of scientific research -- according to the terms of the law on ecological reserves.

Even if the authorization for access is necessary to get across to Brion Island, one-day visits to and boat tours around the island are possible -- weather permitting. People are able to do so by boat which leave from the communities of Grosse Isle and Grand Entry. Short stays are allowed for restricted numbers at a time.

The interest of this isolated island of the archipelago of the Magdalen Islands is not only ecological, but also historical and archaeological. Described by Jacques Cartier, in 1534, as "the best land we have seen, for

one acre of this one is worth more than all of the Newfoundland", it has attracted walrus hunters and may have been colonized by the Vikings. It also has been the cause of numerous shipwrecks.

Madelinot fishermen have always gone there and stayed on a seasonal basis, whereas others settled there to earn their living from the fruits of the soil and of the sea. As many as about fifty people were living on the island around the end of the last century. The Dingwell family, in particular, had lived there for a century until the 1940's. The lighthouse keepers and their families had stayed there successively from 1904 to 1972.

The new mission of Brion Island as an ecological reserve constitutes a new advantage for the Madelinots and for the visitors of the Islands -- the assurance that this exceptional site will be preserved and, at the same time, remain accessible.

The realization of a "Center for the Interpretation of the Ecological and Historical Heritage of Brion Island" is planned by the Brion Island Corporation, on the piece of land entrusted to it and containing the remains of an ancient fishing



Ecological Reserve of Ile Brion

At 16 km off Grosse Ile is the Ile Brion Ecological Reserve. This island was inhabited by several families for a century and was then seasonally inhabited for fishing until the beginning of the 1970's. Today it is uninhabited. This island has always been difficult to visit, especially on windy days and the remains of an old wharf offer little protection to boats.

However, the Government of Quebec has recently purchased the island for conservation purposes. This island has conserved a large variety of organisms and represents the Islands as they used to be. The island's forest, stunted by the climate, is home to more than 140 species of birds. The vegetation found on this island had also astonished the explorer Jacques Cartier as well as the botanist Marie-Victorin.

The Corporation pour l'accès et la protection de l'île Brion is in charge of the island for the ministère de l'Environnement du Québec. Visits and short stays having educational purposes (conservation, observation, discovering the natural habitat) may be authorized. Only a limited number of visitors may visit the island at the same time (supervised camping). Visit authorization is required. For more information, contact the Tourist Information Office in Cap-aux-Meules at 986-2245.

Corporation Pour L'Acces Et La Protection De L'Ile Brion Inc.

Corporation For The Access To And Protection Of Brion Island Inc.

Island Shipwrecks

By: Leonard Clark

The following is a list of ships lost on and around Brion Island over the years. There are some wrecks mentioned on other maps which I have not listed. I did not find any reference to them in my research, and therefore, I was unable to give details on these vessels.

Alexander -- Master, Donkin. On May 10, 1819, Lloyds List states that the brig **Alexander** of Newcastle, bound to Miramichi, was totally lost on the Magdalen Islands on April 25, 1819. It is believed that the **Alexander** was a brig of 275 registered tons built in Sunderland in 1801 and was owned by Dryden. Part of her materials were saved and taken to Halifax, Nova Scotia, by two schooners belonging to the Magdalen Islands.

Duke of Kent -- Master, Wood. There is very little on this boat. On July 17, 1812, Lloyds List states that she was on a voyage from Glasgow, Scotland, to Miramichi and was totally lost on the Magdalen Islands, Gulf of St. Lawrence. On April 20, 1812, Lloyds List refers to this same ship and states that she hit an ice field north east of Brion and sank. The crew was saved.

Hope -- Master, M. Morland. The **Hope** was totally wrecked on Brion Island in December of 1818. Lloyds List of February 1819 states that the **Hope** from Miramichi to Grenock was totally lost on the Magdalen Islands. Again, Lloyds does not say where. However, the Landry may shows that the ship was wrecked on Brion Island.

Gilbert Henderson -- Master, Pithey. On August 9, 1833, Lloyds List of Arichat, Cape Breton, states that the **Gilbert Henderson** from Quebec to Europe was totally lost on the Magdalen Islands on July 25, 1833. The crew was saved. The **Gilbert Henderson** struck west point of Brion Island. She was a bark of 328 tons, built in St. John's Newfoundland, in 1815. She was owned by Actel.

Margaret Ann -- Lloyds List Liverpool, England, states on December 25, 1823, that the **Margaret Ann** arrived from Miramichi on the

27th day of November, 1823. She had on board, Master Sinclair and three men taken from the wreck of the **Trent** which was wrecked on Brion Island in the Gulf of St. Lawrence. The **Trent** was from London, England.

St - Laurence -- Master, Chiverfells. On May 31, 1828, Lloyds List of Halifax, Nova Scotia, states that the **St-Laurence** of and from Quebec to Denerary was wrecked on the Magdalen Islands on October 10, 1827. This ship struck Brion Island. The crew and passengers were forced to winter on the Magdalen Islands.

Caledonia -- Master, Auld. On July 11, 1831, Lloyds List of Quebec states that the **Caledonia** out bound from the Bay of Chaleur on shore on the Magdalen Islands on June 17, 1831. She was not expected to get off. The **Caledonia** was wrecked on the north-west bar of Brion Island.

Nancy -- Master, M. Cartney. On December 25, 1833, Lloyds List of New York states that the **Nancy** from Restigouche to Marysport was lost on the Magdalen Islands. The **Nancy** struck Brion Island in November of 1833 and became a total loss.

BRION ISLAND CORPORATION MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Name: _____ (Please Print -- Block Letters) Telephone: _____ Organization Member \$25.00
Address: _____ Individual Member \$5.00
City: _____ Postal Code: _____ Individual Participant \$10.00

Return to: CORPORATION FOR THE ACCESS TO AND PROTECTION OF BRION ISLAND INC.
C.P.1167 Etang-Du-Nord.M.I.

Note: A Receipt and Membership Card shall be issued.

☐ I also wish to make a donation of \$ _____ to support Brion Island Corporation

"View From Away"



The "Lucy Maude" moved slowly across the clear blue sea. Suddenly, before our eyes a green pastoral Island rose out of the sea - Entry Island seemed ethereal, the hills so green, the tiny cows on the slopes, the little white church, the light house. "How lovely," I could hear the passengers say. I felt my excitement rising and as we landed at Grindstone, the huge concrete structures, unique in their shape, lined the wharf.

I was pleasantly surprised at the activity, traffic and size of Grindstone. Our early morning drive to our schoolhouse at the far end of the Island was another surprise. Highway 199, paved, took us past all the other Islands. Neat colourful houses freshly painted, the airport sign, the telephone poles, the unused windmill (someones' dream of wind energy) the sand dunes - miles of them - all slipped by us. On both sides, the sea, red rocks rising here and there, white beaches, wooded areas with stunted wind-swept trees and unique villages greeted us.

Our schoolhouse sat in a meadow and almost at the end of the road. Behind us, the old barn and an old "baraque" - peculiar to these Islands. I was astounded to find berries everywhere! Raspberries, blueberries and partridgeberries (called berry by the French people). Cranberries so profuse, you couldn't step without the crunch under your feet. The spicy smells of the lichens and the delight at finding elusive chanterelle mushrooms delighted me. I tried to dry the wild parsley but unsuccessfully. The gorgeous red bluffs in their prehistoric shapes amazed me. I found beaches to explore, and always treasures that had been washed up - especially after a storm. Clam and mussel shells, bits of crab and lobster shells, snails, old glass and weathered wood, bits of lobster traps, rope and old rubber gloves. The sea, telling its stories.

The birds were lovely, keening and crying in the wind. Gulls of every kind, gannets, cormorants and murre. The robins were huge and so were the gros-

beaks. The little finches were flocking about.

I found "mayflowers", so precious to me and filled with childhood memories. All the flowers of spring - no Trillium - violets in sizes and colours so vivid that on the slopes of the hills they were almost a lavender blanket of colour. There were pitcher plants in the bogs, and of course, daisies in the meadows.

Then, there was the wind, it blew and blew. Our little schoolhouse vibrated in the gales, the pictures on the walls were askew after "a blow". In November, the sea grasses and sea oats turned brown and fog and wind blew the sea into a frenzy. The spume blew and the sound of the waves "tinkled" over the small rocks on the beach. The trees grew heavy with pine cones, the wooded floor was covered with roots and pine needles. I saw evidence of rabbits here and there, some foxes, but no other wild animals.

As I expected, my eyes were constantly on the sea. Its colours and movement, its timelessness. Occasionally, I would see a seal playing in the waves. As winter drew near, everything changed. The people were filling their freezers with meat and lobster. They

canned and pickled everything -- jams, jellies, pre-

serves and food from the sea.

Clothes flapped violently on the lines. I was constantly amazed, because they didn't blow away. I found out that they had special clothespins. Piles of wood for the stoves appeared. Boats were put to rest in the yards, traps stacked and sorted. Chimneys were cleaned and houses caulked for the winter.

The long dark season began -- brightened by Christmas and the Carnival in February.

Winter stays for a long time. The sea begins to freeze at the edges and under the coating of the crystals, the waves undulate. Snowfalls blow in a frenzy, so that even a few inches of snow can become a whiteout. The trip to Grindstone becomes treacherous: the ice-coated roads cannot be salted because of the WIND. Like the people of the Arctic, the people must play BINGO, watch VCR movies and do what all other island-locked people do. The Catholic churches are full on Saturday evening and Sunday is family day. There are still wonderful large families in every village, bringing a strong community life. But the winter evenings are dark and long with only CBC for entertainment. People bundle up and walk after supper and the driver must be careful.

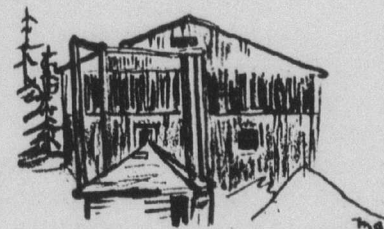
But when Spring arrives, it brings a renewal. Whole communities spring into action. The wondrous fishing boats immerse with new coats of paint and antennae and Loran. The trucks and vehicles fill the road as they rush to the fish plant or to the boat buildings. The traps come out with new rope and lathes all neatly stacked beside the coloured buoys. The harbours are filled with boats and trucks and men, busy and waiting for the opening of lobster fishing. The wharf is stacked with traps, many feet high. The people are happy doing what they do best. The children laughing on their bikes and the women doing spring cleaning. Every line filled with drapes, sheets and rugs.

It was very thrilling to watch the boats move out on the first morning of fishing.

It was dark and cold but out on the point there was excitement. The eager boats were lined up outside the wharf, their lights twinkling and waiting for the signal to go. What a sight! The smell of the engines, the chug of the motors, flags and antennae bending in the wind, the wives on the beach as the first morning light rose in the sky. The gulls making a cacophony of sound as they followed. It is a thrill to be out on the water and watch these men come alive in the knowledge of their craft. Most of the Island schools close on the opening day of the lobster season. I constantly think of what it must have been like years ago.

Summer is said to be a tourist's paradise, and more people come here to escape the pressure of the city. Here, there is tranquillity and feasts for the eyes and palate. Lovely restaurants with seafood specialties. You can walk on the sand for miles without seeing anyone. My favorite month is September. The berries are

Old Baraque
Grand Entry / 87



profuse and the wind is calmer. It is still warm and there are no insects. It is a windsurfer's paradise, and many have discovered it. Bikers and visitors have lots of room to roam and picnic.

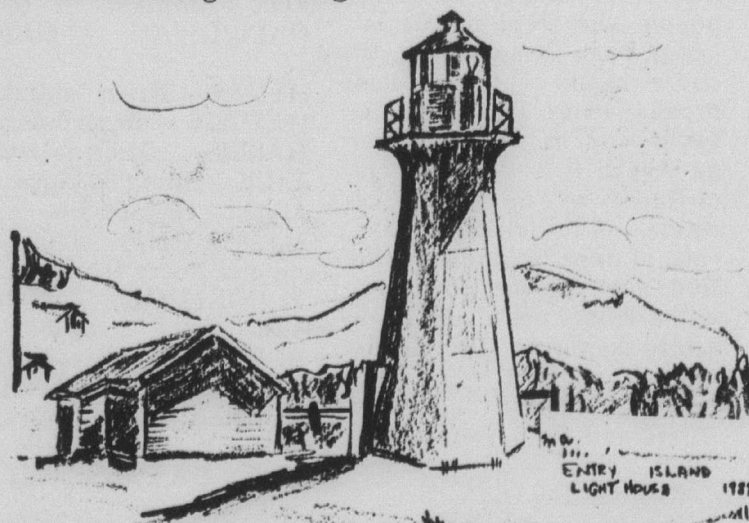
When we travel, I am amused when people ask, "Where do you live?", and I say, "On a sand dune in the Gulf of St. Lawrence." They look puzzled and I smile.

Contributed by:
Margaret Angrave
Grand Entry

"To the artist there is never anything ugly in nature" - Rodin

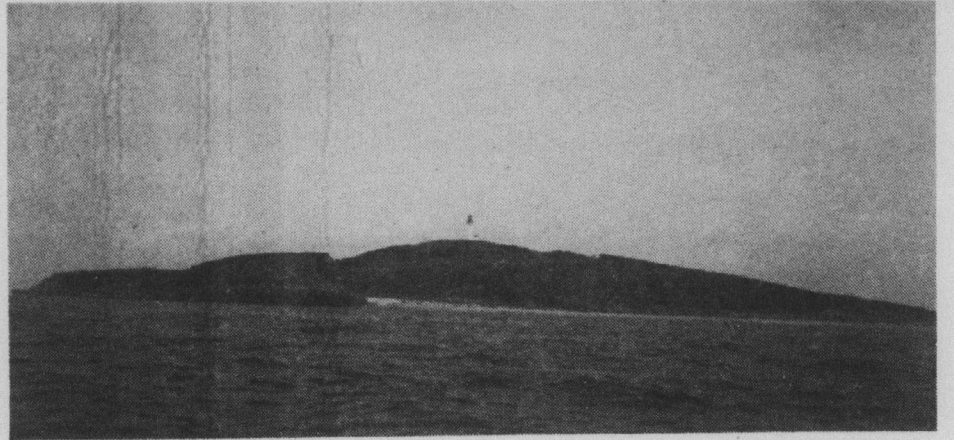
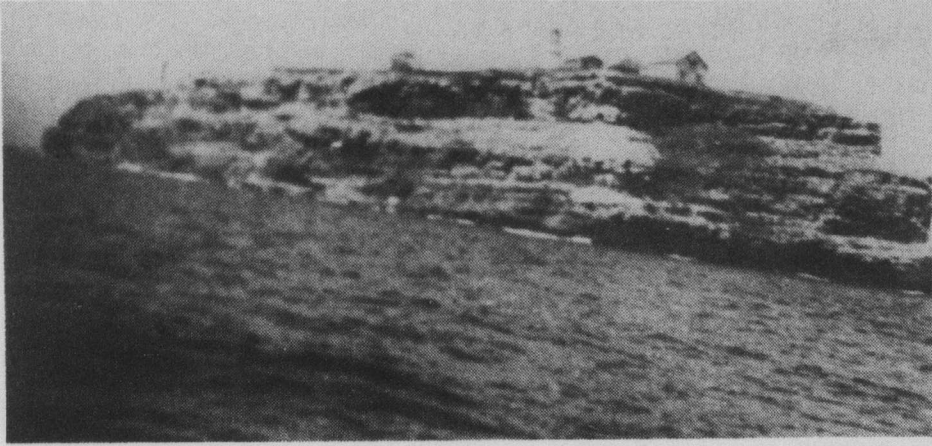


The Old English
School - Grand Entry



ENTRY ISLAND
LIGHT HOUSE 1987

Island History



BRION ISLANDS AND BIRD ROCK ISLANDS

According to the archives, Nicolas Denés, the Governor of Acadia, had land concessions from Canseau, the Ramées -- Brion Islands, Bird Rock Islands, etc., -- as far as Percé. All

that land belonged to him.

At the very beginning, the Magdalen Islands were called the Ramées -- Brion Islands. After a time, the name gave way to Brion Islands, but actually it was just one island. Although the majority of fishermen still say Brion Island, the

islands remained named under the old French expression used in the time of Samuel de Champlain and others.

It is about the same thing for Bird Rock Islands. It has remained in the plural, though it could be said that there are several prominent rocks near

the island. At first there were three rocks, now there are only two big one and a little one. More and more often we say Rock. The fishermen called it "Bird Rock", even though the fishermen have kept the expression "Bird Rock Islands" like Jacques Cartier used to say.

We also talk about a chain of mountains under water that connects Brion Island and Bird Rock. The fishermen called it "Chain of the Islands". It is, perhaps, why the people say Brion Islands and Bird Rock Islands.

Legends Of The Magdalen Islands

FARMER

The story of Farmer, the ocean-going horse of Entry Island, is well known in the Magdalen Islands. In March of 1925, Farmer was traded by his owner, Richard McLean, who took the horse over the ice to Amherst Island three miles away. He then drove the horse across Amherst Island, up along Grindstone, Pointe-aux-Loups, and Grosse Isle, where he delivered him to his new owner. Farmer became homesick, and in June galloped back the route he had travelled, swam the three miles to Entry Island, and reported to his old owner. He had come more than fifty-five miles under strange conditions, but he had accomplished his purpose. Richard McLean allowed Farmer to stay on Entry Island for the rest of his life. And, not unlike Farmer, many former Magdalen Islanders return home, again and again.

KITTY'S BROOK

Not far away from Wash Pond on the south side of Entry Island is a place called Kitty's Brook.

Legend has it that there was a vessel sailing by the island supposedly going into port somewhere on the Magdalen Islands.

Aboard this vessel a little girl about the age of eleven became very ill shortly after they left port. As the days went on, the little girl progressively worsened and around seven o'clock one morning, she died.

The little girl was the Captain's daughter. They brought her ashore at Entry Island and buried her in a beautiful little spot close to a brook that ran down to the sea.

The little girl's name was Kitty.

Her name marks the place known today as Kitty's Brook.

STORY OF WASH POND

It is under a high hill located on the south side of Entry Island. It was used in the early days as a place where people did washing. The main use of water from this pond was to wash many fleeces of wool, because the farmers kept a lot of sheep.

The wool from the sheep was valuable to the people, because it was spun into yarn to make knitted clothing for each family.

There were other sources of water on the island from which the water was carried to their homes. But, it was easier to take their clothing and wool to the pond than it was to go and carry the water home. The clothing and the wool were laid on the rocks around the pond to dry.

The name Wash Pond was given to this place... not only

was the pond called Wash Pond, but the hill was given the name also.

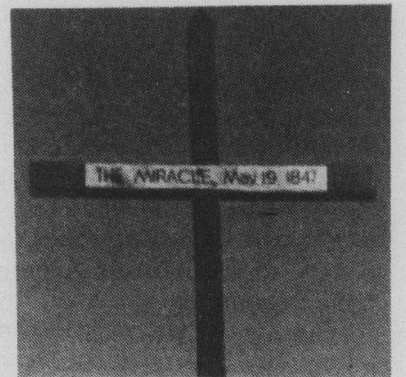
THE "MIRACLE"

The wreck of the Miracle in 1847 was a fireside topic for many years.

The Miracle was a full-rigged Irish immigrant ship sailing from Liverpool to Quebec with approximately 400 immigrants aboard, which floundered in a storm off East Point, on the night of May 19, 1847.

Weak with dysentery, some 150 people died, at least half by exposure, rather than by drowning. The surviving people were taken in by the people of East Island and shared their provisions.

The recovered bodies were buried in a common grave, which is now shadowed by a cross erected on July 6, 1969, in memory of the Miracle disaster and of all fishermen and seamen who lost their lives in these waters.



To keep lobster a quarter of a year very good, take them, being boiled as aforesaid, wrap them in coarse rags, having been steeped in brine and bury them in a cellar in some sea-sand pretty deep. (1600's).

LOOKING BACK

In the past 125 years, a great number of "family" names of English speaking people who lived on the Islands, have disappeared. In some cases the families moved away from the Islands, and in other instances they died leaving no male children to carry on the name. The following is a list of family names who lived here at one time, and when it is known, we have added the part of the Islands where they lived.

BALLANTYNE -- South Beach and Grindstone.

BOUCHEY -- Entry Island and Brion Island.

BUSHEY -- Old Harry.

BLOOME -- Grindstone.

BELL -- Grosse Isle.

CHAPMAN -- Grindstone.

CARR -- Entry Island -- ?

DELISLE -- Grindstone.

DRISCOLL -- Old Harry.

FOX -- Amherst.

GALLICHAN -- Grosse Isle.

HYNES -- Brion Island.

HAYDEN -- Brion Island.

HARRIS -- Brion Island.

JACK -- Etang du Nord.

JEAN -- Grindstone.

McCALLUM -- Brion Island and Entry Island.

McCORMICK -- Grindstone.

ROWE -- Grindstone.

RIX -- Brion Island.

ROMLEY -- Grand Entry.

SMILEY -- Grosse Isle.

VAN BARNSWELD -- Amherst.

WAXWELL -- Grindstone.



Island History

"This island is the best land we have seen thus far, indeed twenty acres of land here is worth more than all of Newfoundland. We have found it full of beautiful trees, grasslands, fields of wild wheat and flower filled meadows, as varied and as lovely as any we have laid eyes on in Brittany, some of which would seem to have been painstakingly planted. There are gooseberries, strawberries and provencal thickets of parsley and other herbs, all wonderfully sweet-smelling." These few lines were written by the famous Saint-Malo navigator,

Jacques Cartier.

Tracing the Islands' long history proves to be an adventure in itself. It began with the arrival of the French explorer, Jacques Cartier, who discovered the archipelago in 1534. He named it "Les Areynes".

He landed first on an island he called "Brion" in honour of a distinguished French Admiral. Cartier could not have known that three centuries before him, Basque seamen had sailed these waters in search of fish and seal, or that Vikings and Indians had journeyed

there countless centuries before him.

A second French explorer, Samuel de Champlain, arrived several decades after Jacques Cartier. He decided to call the islands the Iles Ramees.

Finally, the name we know them by today was chosen to honour Madeleine Fontaine, wife of the islands' first seigneur.

At the beginning of the 18th century, the colonial wars between France and England had flared up again.

The signing of the Treaty of Utrecht in 1713 made Acadia one of the thirteen British Colonies in North America.

In 1755, the fate of the French-speaking Catholics in Acadia's Annapolis Valley took a tragic turn. Cruelly driven from their homes and deported in masses by the British, many Acadians were assimilated into the English-speaking Protestant lifestyle of New England.

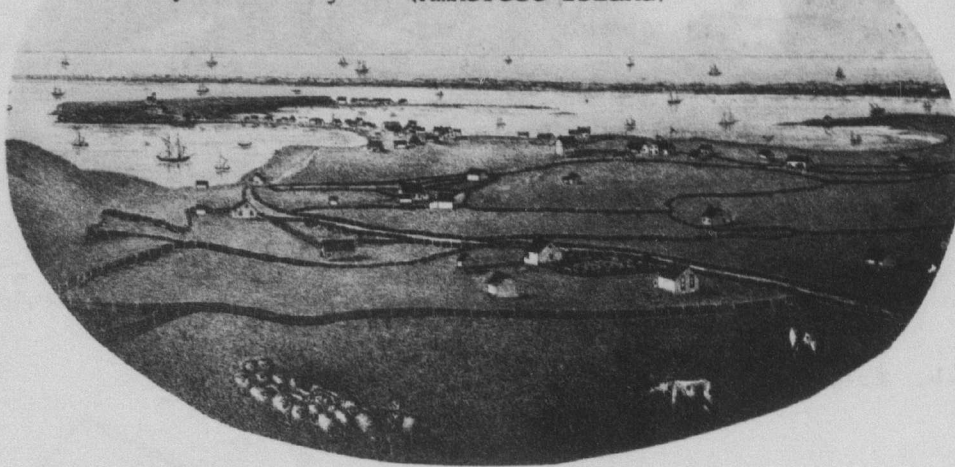
A few families found refuge on the Magdalen Islands, which were, at that time owned by a rich merchant named Richard Cridley. The newcomers proved to be good farmers and skill-

ful fishermen, and with their new arrival the true colonization of the islands began.

Another hard blow came in 1798 when Sir Isaac Coffin was appointed Seigneur of the islands in return for services he had rendered to England during the American Revolution.

The locals were forced to live under feudal domination and were badly exploited by local merchants. Determined to regain their freedom, the proud Acadians took to the sea again, a full century after their first exodus, and sailed off to establish villages elsewhere.

The Islands in 1865
By Thomas Pye (Amherst Island)



Finally, in 1895, a law was passed in Quebec that allowed Madelinots to buy back their land, and the Magdalen Islands began to develop rapidly.

Free of colonial interference, the islanders devoted their energies to achieving self-sufficiency.

While the ocean brought isolation, it also provided them with everything they needed to live free, independent lives.

In 1933, the first fishing cooperatives were formed, and today, most Madelinots still draw their livelihood from the generous ocean.

Long Ago

Mr. Edward Clarke fished for seventy years and says the difference between fishing now and then was "a lot of hard work".

"We fished in sailboats years ago and sold our lobster by the 100 pound until about 1905 or 1906. I think we got about \$2 a hundred pound."

"My fleet of traps was about 480 - 485 traps. Me and my 'moose' (helper) stayed in camps for 45 years and we would walk to Old Harry to fish. We hired them (helper) by the season or by the percentage of lobster caught."

"There were about six factories in Old Harry at that time and about three or four in Grosse Isle. No such thing as lobster being shipped out -- that was about 1965."

"In 1919 we got about \$5 a hundred and I sold my fish to Mr. Ad Clarke's Factory. They sold to the old Portland and Packing Company."

"I had my little book in my pocket (pauses) -- it would be that long and that wide." When you weighed your lobster, you passed your book up to the man and they marked the amount (weight) of lobster in it and then he'd pass



it back -- I was looking at my book yesterday -- I had 37 thousand 816 pounds in 1919."

"I fished very few cod fish. We used to get one and a quarter cents a pound -- that's with the head off and the backbone out. At that time, the mackerel were not as plentiful. We might get 20 barrels for the whole season."

"At that time, the American seiners cleaned the mackerel practically up. The last seinerman I met from the U.S. was Carl Quinn about 50 years ago. He just dropped in to Amherst on his way to Cape Breton to seine mackerel. There were hardly enough here."

"We had to salt the mackerel, put them in wooden barrels and sell them for \$18 per barrel (about 200 pounds)."

"We travelled by horse and cart or boat to Grindstone. In those days, it was an overnight trip and in winter by sleigh, the stay was even longer."

Mr. Edward Clarke was born in East Cape, Magdalen Islands, in 1890. There were three families living on East Cape at this time -- two Clarke families and a Goodwin family. The descendants of these families are still living there. Today Mr. Clarke lives in Grosse Isle with his son and daughter-in-law where he enjoys his family and many friends' company.



Musée de la Mer de Havre-Aubert

Long Ago



four children -- three boys and one girl. He has 11 grandchildren and 13 great-grandchildren.

Mr. Josey was a fisherman. In his time, lobster sold for 3 and a 1/2 cents per pound compared to \$3.15 at current prices. There was no size limit, you kept whatever you caught -- even the spawned lobster. The largest catch of lobster he can remember was 12 thousand 500 pounds.

They fished in sailboats and dories and received 25 cents a pound during World War I.

Mr. Josey is a veteran of the First World War and was stationed in Sydney, Nova Scotia.

French fishermen came to fish in the Spring and usually lived in fishing camps on Entry.

On October 19, 1987, Mr. Josey celebrated his 94th birthday!

He enjoys good health and the company of his family and friends.

Herman Josey is the oldest citizen living on Entry Island. Born in Nova Scotia, Mr. Josey came to Entry Island by boat from Pictou, Nova Scotia, in 1912. The boat was about 60 feet long.

There were only about seventeen houses on Entry when he came to live here. In keeping with their Scottish

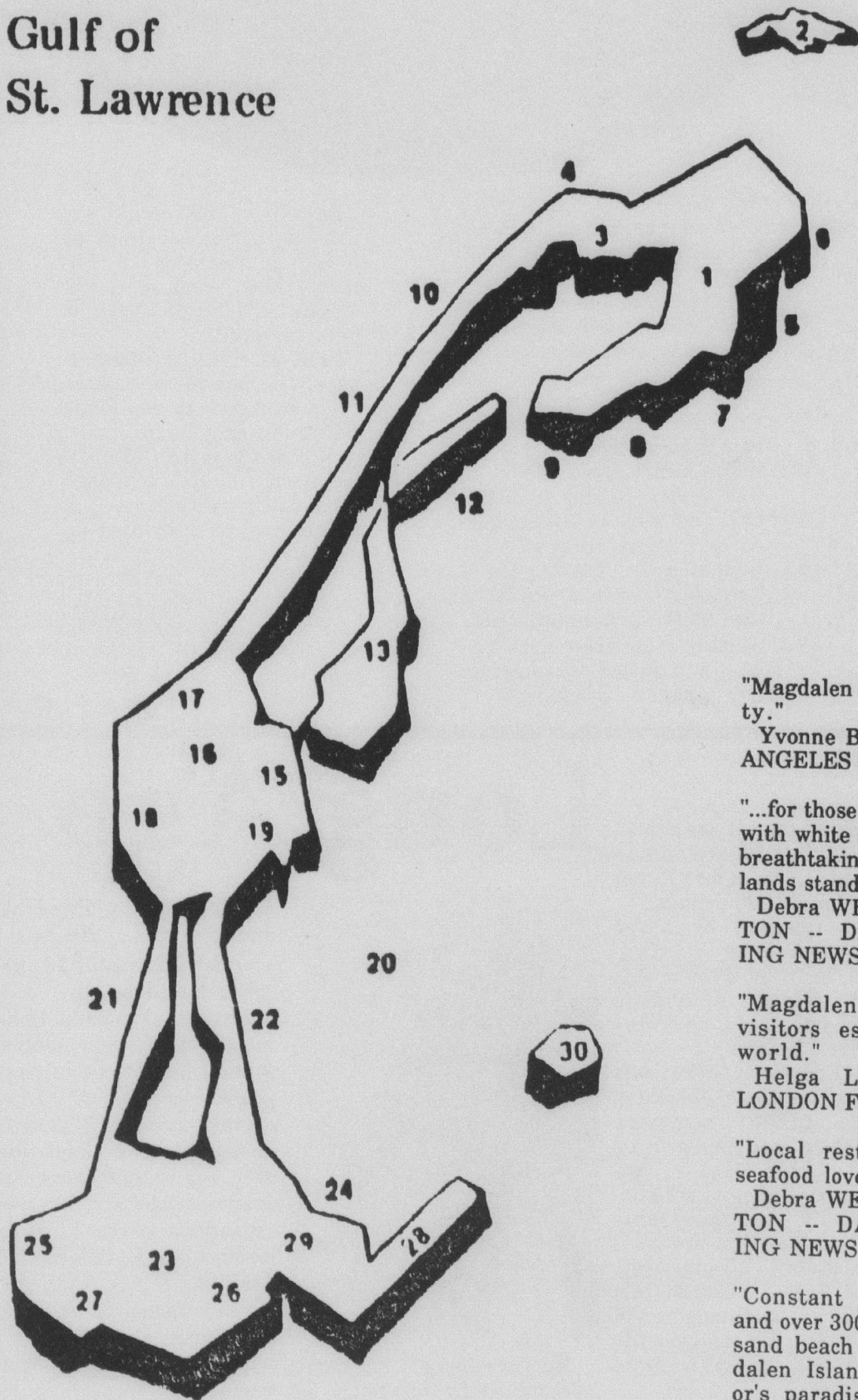
tradition, they divided their labour between fishing and farming. Today, they have a community pasture operated by the Municipal Council.

Mr. Josey married Sylvia Welsh in 1915. They had

The Magdalen Islands Yours to Discover



Gulf of
St. Lawrence



"Magdalen Islands of beauty."
Yvonne BEAUDRY -- LOS ANGELES TIMES

"...for those who are at home with white sand beaches and breathtaking solitude, the islands stand a world apart."
Debra WEARDEN HAMPTON -- DALLAS MORNING NEWS

"Magdalen Islands offer visitors escape from the world."
Helga LOVERSEED -- LONDON FREE PRESS

"Local restaurants are a seafood lover's delight."
Debra WEARDEN HAMPTON -- DALLAS MORNING NEWS

"Constant summer winds and over 300 km of beautiful sand beach make the Magdalen Islands a boardsailor's paradise."
Michel BEAUDRY -- WINDSPORT MAGAZINE

1. East Island
2. Brion Island
3. Grosse Isle
4. Cape Dauphin
5. Old Harry Beach
6. East Point
7. Old Harry Point
8. Grand Entry Island
9. Grand Entry
10. North Beach
11. Pointe - au - Loup
12. South Beach
13. House Harbour
14. House Harbour Point
15. Grindstone
16. Grindstone Island
17. Fatima
18. Etang - du - Nord
19. Big Cape
20. Pleasant Bay
21. West Beach
22. East Beach,
Martinique Beach
23. Amherst Island
24. Amherst
25. West Point
26. Bassin
27. Millerand
28. Sandy Hook
29. Portage - du - Cap
30. Entry Island
31. Bird Rock Island

Summer Festival Song by: Mrs. Lillian Turnbull

When it's Summer Festival time in the Magdalen Islands
We have people who come from far and near,
For it's the beauty and the friendship of the people
That draws them to the place they hold so dear

They love to roam its seas, beaches and mountains
To gather up what nature has to share,
And it makes the celebrations so much happier
When they join in its activities and good cheer

Our lobster suppers are the main attraction
The best that can be found where'er you roam,
And the people who part-take are not disappointed
That is why their path will always lead to home

So we salute our friends and neighbours who come to see us
We are glad to have your presence near,
And we hope you won't forget this summer's gaiety
And make sure your presence's known again next year