



Self-Guided Tour  
of the English-speaking  
Community of the

*Magdalen  
Islands*



CAMI is very pleased to present you with the very first Self-Guided Tour Book of the English-speaking community of the Magdalen Islands. This venture was made possible with financial assistance from the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Regions within the framework of the Fonds d'aide au développement des territoires program.

Our goal has been to create a handy, practical tool that will support you in touring the English-speaking community of the Magdalen Islands with little or no assistance. This tour highlights the touristic and historical sites of the English-speaking community. It also offers a short description of each site, its patrimonial significance and is complimented with a photo.

Highlights include:

- Holy Trinity Church
- The Portage
- The East Point National Wildlife Reserve
- Old Harry Beach
- St. Peter's by the Sea Church
- All Saint's Church
- Entry Island Heritage Museum
- Big Hill



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# Grosse Ile

Grosse Ile, the largest of all English-speaking communities on the Magdalen Islands, holds a population of approximately 400 people year round, not including East Cape and Old Harry. Unlike the rest of the Magdalen Islands, which are under the management of the Municipalité des îles, Grosse Ile is governed by its own municipality, Municipality of Grosse Ile. The Mayor and Municipal Councillors are all elected locally.

In Grosse Ile you will find a cornucopia of trees, fresh water ponds, rolling hills, white sandy beaches, as well as red sand-stone capes. There are also many trails and paths in the wooded areas of the south-western part of Grosse Ile. The history of this small municipality is equally as rich and interesting as the rest of the Magdalen Islands.

## Salt Mine (Mines Seleine):

Mines Seleine, the salt mine, is located just on the outskirts of Grosse Ile and is the first thing you see when entering the community. The depth of the mine itself is approximately 300 meters and has a diameter of approximately 1.6km. Mines Seleine, which was created in 1983, produces an average of 1.5 million metric tons of salt per year. Dynamite is used to blast the rock salt, or halite, in the mine. The product is exported throughout Eastern Canada and the United States to be used on roads for de-icing. Mines Seleine generates revenues that average 12 million dollars annually and has also created jobs for about 200 people. The mining activity only ceases for about 1 or 2 months a year. Unfortunately, there are no underground tours available.

## The Oldest House in Grosse Ile:

Built circa 1864, the home of Jean and Nicole LeBourdais is the oldest house in Grosse Ile. It is situated in Grosse Ile North, near the graveyard and wharf. The builder of this home is unknown. Jean LeBourdais is the great-grandson of the late Mr. J. Augustin LeBourdais, who was shipwrecked on the Magdalen Islands in 1871 and stayed in this same house with Simeon Clarke, who was the owner at the time. The name of the vessel was the Wasp and Mr. LeBourdais was the only survivor of this shipwreck. Due to the circumstances and freezing temperatures, he developed gangrene and both of his feet had to be amputated by a local Anglican minister. This "medical procedure" was carried out using only a fish knife, a hand saw, a half gallon of rum, and loads of courage. The "operation" was a success. However, LeBourdais travelled to Québec to have both his legs removed, and was fitted with two prosthetic legs. In 1880, he became the first telegraph operator at Grosse Ile and Superintendent of the Telegraph system on the Magdalen Islands, which all took place in this very house. Jean and J. Augustin LeBourdais have not only the same last name and common dwelling interests; they also share the same birthday.



### 3 Grosse Ile Harbour:

Grosse Ile Harbour is home to approximately 35 lobster-fishing vessels. Some lobster fishermen from Grosse Ile keep their boats docked at Grande Entrée harbour during the lobster fishing season and catch other types of fish from Grosse Ile, such as mackerel, halibut, quahogs, and whelk. The wharf at Grosse Ile is under the management of the Grosse Ile Harbour Authority, which is a board of seven directors, who are chosen through an annual election. The fee for a boat visiting Grosse Ile for one day is \$30.00 plus tax. This rate applies for a maximum of 3 consecutive days, after which the yearly fee of \$250.00 plus applicable taxes applies.

### 4 Grosse Ile High School and Gymnasium:

It is believed that in 1872 there was a one-room schoolhouse in Grosse Ile Head said to have been the first school in Grosse Ile. Between 1908 and 1910, a new school was built and featured only one room. This school continued to operate until 1935, which is when the building was sold, moved, and renovated into a home. Arthur J. C. Goodwin and Douglas Clarke of Grosse Ile initiated the construction of the next school in 1934 and it was opened in January 1935. This school was much larger than the previous ones and it consisted of two classrooms, one on each side of the building. The western side, which was the first to be completed, held elementary classes, and the eastern side, opened in the fall of 1935, was for high school students.

A new school was constructed in 1954, before the previous one was demolished, and was positioned in front of the previous school. It was built by a Mr. Gauthier (in an east-west direction) and didn't open until September 1955. This school had three classrooms and was heated by a coal furnace. In 1963, a company called Turbide & Jomphe built on another section, which ran in the opposite direction (north-south). An oil furnace was also installed at this time. This second portion had two more classrooms, two offices, and a dwelling. Two additional classrooms were built on the existing structure in the early 1980's.

The next series of renovations was carried out in May of 1996. Prior to this, the east-west wing was used for elementary students and it had three classrooms, an office for the principal, a nurse's office, a small lunchroom, and a small bathroom. The north-south wing was used for high school students and consisted of three classrooms, a secretary's office, a small bathroom, a staff room, and a small office. The basement of this section held the girls' and boys' bathrooms and also the gym area until the new gymnasium was built across the street. After the opening of the new gymnasium, the library was relocated to the basement of the north-south wing. During the renovations in 1996, classes were held at the Municipal Hall, the gymnasium, and also at a building in Grosse Ile North that was rented for this purpose. The transformation of the current school was completed before September 1996.

There are currently 70 students attending the school at Grosse Ile, ranging from pre-k to grade 11. There are 8 teachers employed here and subjects are taught in 11 different classrooms. The east-west wing is still used to hold elementary classes and the north-south wing is used to house the high school students. The gymnasium is currently owned jointly by the Municipality of Grosse Ile and Eastern Shores School Board. It is used by Grosse Ile High School during school hours and is available to the whole community during the evenings and weekends.

### 5 Grosse Ile Church (Holy Trinity):

The first Anglican Church on the Magdalen Islands was located at Grosse Ile North. It was built in 1852 with wood from a shipwreck. The first service was held on September 11, 1853 even though the church was unfinished. This church was only used during the summer months and was never completed. In 1877 this church was demolished and in the same location, construction was started on a new one. This second church was completed in 1883. In October of 1923, the church, which was in need of repairs, blew off its foundation

during a strong gale and was later condemned and destroyed. The cemetery however, is still used today and here you can find headstones dating back to the 1850's.

Douglas Clarke and Arthur Goodwin began building the Holy Trinity Church in 1924 and it was completed one year later. This church featured a high steeple in the beginning, but Ralph Goodwin later lowered it because it was deteriorating and strong winds made it unsafe. There have been several other repairs and restorations on the church over the years. During one of these repairs, two shingles were discovered bearing the names of the two builders, Douglas Clarke and Arthur Goodwin. Services are held here bi-weekly, as in Old Harry and on Entry Island.

### 6 Tourist Halt and Small Playground:

Before the Portage, there is a tourist halt that features bathrooms, a small playground, picnic tables and also free parking.

### 7 The Portage:

On the Portage, located between Grosse Ile and East Cape, is a boardwalk. It was designed to enable pedestrians to get a closer look at the birds and marine life with minimal disruption. It also ensures the protection of the fragile wetlands. At the end of the boardwalk there is a bench, where you can rest and admire the surrounding natural setting.

### 8 East Point National Wildlife Reserve:

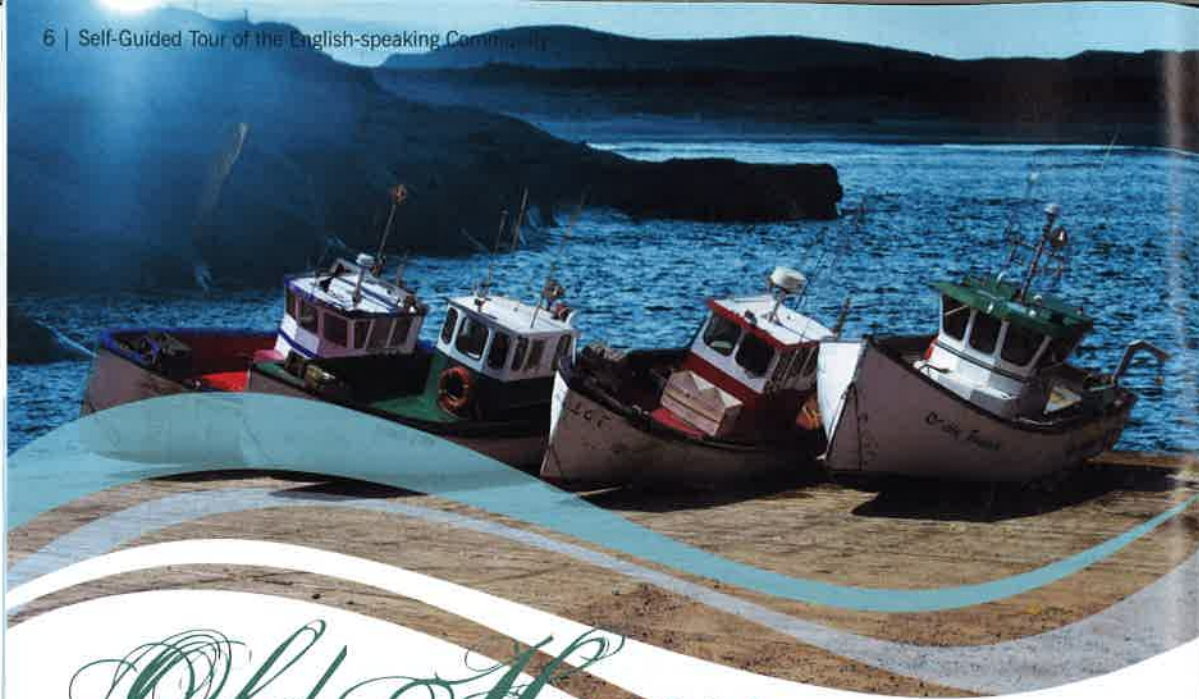
East Point accounts for a large portion of Grosse Ile and creates a link to the neighbouring community of Old Harry. In total, East Point consists of 684 hectares of land. Because of the vulnerability of the vegetation and the presence of endangered species during breeding periods, such as the piping plover and the horned grebe, East Point is under the protection of the Canadian Wildlife Service. The area is also a major landing site for many species of wildlife, including shorebirds and ducks, during their annual migration to the South. The most abundant species of bird in the dunes of East Point is the Savannah Sparrow.



## East Cape

East Cape year round. It is also home to the Grosse Ile Fire Department, which is made up of several local volunteers.

The oldest house in East Cape currently belongs to Foster Clarke, which Fredrick Clarke built in 1885. Arthur J. C. Goodwin built a school in East Cape in the early 1930's. It was a simple one-room schoolhouse where grades one through eight were taught. Once the students completed grade eight, they were required to attend Grosse Ile School to complete their education. The exact date that the school closed is uncertain; however, in 1963 Arnold Clarke acquired the structure and renovated it into a family home. He lived in this home for 12 years and presently, his grandson, Timothy Clarke, owns and occupies it with his family.



# Old Harry

It is believed by some that Old Harry obtained its name from British sailors in the early eighteenth century. These sailors felt that this place resembled the Old Harry Rocks that are off the Dorset Coast of England. Adding to the plausibility of this theory is the fact that no one seems to know exactly who "Harry" was or just how old he lived to be.

Despite the uncertainty surrounding its name, Old Harry has spectacular views, a renowned beach that gracefully stretches for miles, some of the richest history on the Magdalen Islands, and much more. Approximately 90 people are permanent residents of Old Harry.

## 9 Les Marais Salé and L'Échourie:

On route 199 between East Cape and Old Harry, there are two entrances to the East Point National Wildlife Reserve. These two entrances are known as "Les Marais Salé" and "L'Échourie". Free parking is available at both of these entrances to beautiful East Point. At Les Marais Salé, you will find a small boardwalk that leads to a wooden structure, which was built to house signs and posters. These signs and posters contain rules and regulations, descriptions of some of the species of wildlife and flora found in the area, as well as a map indicating the dunes, lagoons, freshwater habitats, and the stunted forests in East Point.

## 10 Old Harry Beach:

Old Harry is home to one of the most beautiful beaches on the Magdalen Islands. It stretches more than 10km (6 miles) and it makes up the coastline of the East Point National Wildlife Reserve. This beach was once one of the richest "échouries" or "haul-out" sites, where sea cows (walrus) were slaughtered to near extinction during the late 1700's. At the entrance to the beach in Old Harry, parking is available, as well as picnic tables, a small playground, showers and rest room facilities.

## 11 The Jacques Cartier Site:

Across the street from the restaurant in Old Harry, you can find a sculpture that was erected in 1984 by the Municipality of Grosse Ile. This sculpture was created to commemorate Jacques Cartier's discovery of the Magdalen Islands in 1534.

## 12 Old Harry Head and Old Harry Wharf:

One time, Old Harry Head was lined with fish canneries and the wharf was once full of small boats, whose captains were content to be docked nearest to the best fishing grounds on the Magdalen Islands. Between 1890 and 1930, five canneries were in operation here. The last one closed in 1943. Due to erosion, lack of efficient management, as well as inadequate funding, the port began to deteriorate considerably and was eventually deemed no longer safe by the Department of Fisheries and Oceans Canada. The wharf was barricaded in 1999 and use of this port became prohibited. Now, fishermen who live in Old Harry, inevitably have to dock their vessels at another port. Most have chosen the much larger Grande Entrée Harbour due to its proximity.

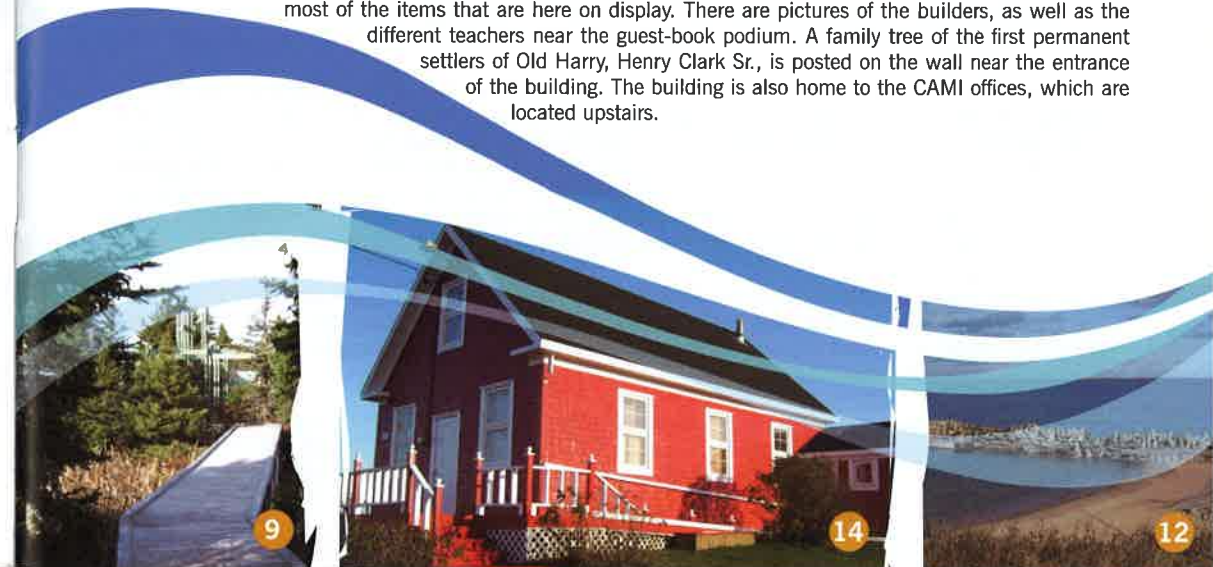
## 13 Oldest House in Old Harry:

The oldest house in Old Harry is that of Rhoda Davies. This home is presumed to have been built during the 1870's and is located near Old Harry Head. It was the home of her great-grandfather, Henry Clark, the first permanent settler of Old Harry.

## 14 The Little Red School House:

The first school in Old Harry was initiated in the early 1870's and continued until approximately 1922. After Henry Clark Sr. built a new house, he used his first dwelling as a school. It was in this one-room schoolhouse that Henry Clark Sr., the first teacher in Old Harry, taught independently. It was located on the left side of the road, approximately where the restaurant is located today. Arthur Goodwin and Douglas Clarke built the second school in Old Harry, the Little Red School House, in 1922. Here, one teacher taught students of all ages. It was closed in 1973 and the students were transferred to Grosse Ile School. From 1985 to 1989, the schoolhouse was used as a community center.

In 1989, the Council for Anglophone Magdalen Islanders (CAMI) began transforming the building into a mini-museum and attempted to preserve the buildings schoolhouse characteristics. At the Little Red School House you can find the original hardwood floors and chalkboard, as well as two desks that were original to the schoolhouse as well. The Museum holds many photos, artifacts, books, legends, and anecdotes. Community members donated most of the items that are here on display. There are pictures of the builders, as well as the different teachers near the guest-book podium. A family tree of the first permanent settlers of Old Harry, Henry Clark Sr., is posted on the wall near the entrance of the building. The building is also home to the CAMI offices, which are located upstairs.



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**15 The Memorial Park:**

The Memorial Park is situated between the Little Red School House and the Veterans' Museum. It was created in 2000 to pay homage to the 23 men from the Magdalen Islands who died in the Second World War. These 23 men include 8 men from Entry Island who perished in the Hong Kong POW camps. There was also a man from Entry Island who suffered so severely from the effects of the camps that he died shortly after his release. Each wooden post that is erected in the park represents a Magdalen Island service man.

**16 The Veterans' Museum:**

The Veterans' Museum is situated beside the Memorial Park in Old Harry. It contains artefacts, photos, and information pertaining to the Magdalen Island War Veterans. Among the artefacts displayed, is the diary of William Welsh, kept while in a POW (Prisoner of War) camp where he eventually died. There are also newspaper clippings and articles that family members kept during the war. The upstairs of the building mainly serves as an office and a storage area.

**17 Sea Cow Path and the Elimination of the Walrus:**

Although the Micmac Indians were already present here, the Basque and Breton fishermen were the first to truly exploit the thousands of sea cows lying on the beaches and échouries, almost on top of one another. The British were the next to come and try to take advantage of the hunt. However, the French fishermen and Micmac, aware of the intentions of the British to seize control of the fishery, scared them off. This encounter in the late 16th century is believed to have been the first confrontation between the French and the British in North America. The French continued hunting undisturbed until the end of the French régime, when the British were granted exclusive rights to the lucrative hunt.

The infamous walrus hunt was an imperative part of the permanent settlement of the Magdalen Islands. When the British granted Richard Gridley exclusive rights to the walrus fishery in 1762, he brought with him 22 men, 17 of whom were French from Nova Scotia and 5 English. These Acadians from Nova Scotia came to the Islands not only to take part in the lucrative walrus fishery, but also to escape the perils of the Grande Dérangement. Others came to join these settlers, mostly from Prince Edward Island and some from St-Pierre-et-Miquelon. Gridley built homes for these workers in Amherst and also set up try pots here, even though most of the hunting took place on the eastern part on the Islands, where the walrus were found in greatest numbers.

Sea Cow Path was one of the areas on the eastern end of the Islands that was rich with walrus. It was here they seemed to assemble the most abundantly. These 2000-3000lbs mammals covered the beaches and rocks where they basked in the sun and also slept at night. The areas that the walrus climbed up on were referred to as échouries or haul-out sites.

While they were sleeping, the hunters would sneak up on them and spear them in the back mimicking another walrus. This would help the hunters to separate a manageable amount of cows and then they could lead them to

the killing grounds, which were usually about a 1/4 mile from the échouries. Here, the hunters would shoot the walrus, shed the mammal of its rough, bark-like skin, and then remove the blubber. The skin was dried and the blubber was transported to Grosse Ile in small boats to be melted into oil in something called a try pot. This oil was considered to be the purest of oils and was known as train oil. It was transported to Europe and was used for oiling machinery, as lamp oil, and also was used to make soap. The demand for train oil in Europe continued to grow, as did the price of it. The greedy hunters and fishermen ransacked the échouries and slaughtered as many sea cows as possible. Unfortunately, these massive mammals were hunted so intensely that they were virtually extinct on the Magdalen Islands by the turn of the century. The last sea cow spotted here is said to have been in 1798 or 1799.

**18 Old Harry Church (Saint Peter's by the Sea):**

On December 12, 1915, a Norwegian ship named the Kwango was sailing near Brion Island. The Kwango, loaded with a cargo of timber, ran aground and sank. Eventually, much of this timber was found along the shores of Old Harry and Grosse Ile. It was then used to construct the frame of the church in Old Harry, which was named "Saint Peter's by the Sea". The fabrication took place in 1916 by Symond Taker and Colin Turnbull, along with the help of Wilson Chenell and the Rev. Arthur W. Reeves. Saint Peter's by the Sea is the oldest Anglican Church on the Magdalen Islands; the others have been replaced over the years.

Two of the most notable attributes of this church are the interior doors. These beautiful wooden doors were hand-carved by Madeline St-Jean and François Lapierre in 1988. The two artists named their creations, "Les Portes de L'Infini/The Gates to Infinity". These "Gates" were made to honor the memory of Aaron Clark, a young man from Old Harry. On August 21st, 1986, 25 year-old Aaron gave his life while rescuing two young girls from drowning. The exterior doors of the church were dedicated to Peter Clark, another young man from Old Harry who lost life to the sea. On July 18th, 1990, 31 year-old Peter drowned while scuba diving alone, near Sea Cow Path Rock in Old Harry.



# Brion Island

Jacques Cartier discovered Brion Island in June of 1534. It has a surface area of 670 hectares and is located 16km North of Grosse Ile. During the 1800 and 1900's, the main occupants of the Island were the lighthouse keepers and a family called the Dingwell's. Their home, which was built in the 1850's, can still be found on Brion Island, however, only the frame of the house remains.

The occupants of the Island eventually left and it became only seasonally inhabited by fishermen until approximately the beginning of the 1970's. The bottom of the ocean that surrounds this special island is home to some of the best lobster fishing grounds on the Magdalen Islands. Many fishermen from Grosse Ile place all of their traps on these bottoms, hoping to benefit from what Brion Island has to offer.

Today, Brion Island is uninhabited and is an Ecological Reserve. There are many species of birds and an impressive collection of vegetation on the Island. It is also very easy to spot many seals in the water that surrounds Brion Island. Boat excursions and guided tours are available to the Island during the summer months.

# Bird Rock

Jacques Cartier founded the Bird Rocks in 1534 and he named them "Iles aux Margaulx". About thirty years later Samuel de Champlain renamed the Rocks "Iles aux Oiseaux". Today, they are identified as "Bird Rock" or "Rocher aux Oiseaux". Bird Rock is technically two islands. One, the Great Bird Rock, is about six acres in diameter and rises about 110feet above the ocean. The second, Little Bird Rock, or North Bird Rock, is located about a half mile north of the Great Bird Rock. It is significantly smaller and not even acknowledged on many maps. Bird Rock is 32km Northeast of Grosse Ile.

Due to its location inside the shipping lanes of the Gulf, this remote island was the cause of many shipwrecks. After many years of complaints, a lighthouse was finally erected on this desolate spot of land in 1870. The 50-foot high lighthouse was built on the eastern end of the Island, as was a light keeper's dwelling. These two structures underwent several upgrades and renovations throughout the years. The only source of fresh water on the Rock was rainwater, which was carried via the eaves and pipes to a large cement cistern in the basement of the keeper's dwelling. This "fresh" water was the cause of great sickness and even death for many light keepers throughout the years. There was also a fog gun (cannon) on Bird Rock, which was the cause of many serious accidents and even some deaths.

The Rock was always home to a large number of birds and on March 29, 1919, the Federal Government declared Bird Rock a bird sanctuary. Today, the only access on the Great Bird Rock is via helicopter. The stairs and trolley system that allowed access to the Rock are no longer there, nor is a light keeper. The last light keeper left Bird Rock in 1988. There is only a solar powered blinking light mounted there to warn the passing ships.



# Entry Island



## Entry Island

Entry Island is the sole inhabited community in the Magdalen Islands that is not connected to the main archipelago. It is also the only place in Canada that still uses a shared community pasture. The island only measures approximately 11km around and about 100 people live there year round, most of whom are of English and Scottish descent. The main industry here is fishing, like many other communities in the Magdalen Islands. During the warmer seasons there is a small ferry that travels to Entry Island twice a day and during the winter months there is a small airplane that takes over this service for the community. On this small spot of land, you will not find many trees, shopping malls, or banks but you will find that certain small town hospitality.

### 19 Entry Island Harbour:

The harbour at Entry Island is home to 24 boats, 22 of which are fishing vessels. Most fishermen on Entry Island fish lobster, however, crab, suckers (whelk), scallop, mackerel, herring, codfish, and halibut are also fished here. Some fishermen also hold tuna licenses and go to Prince Edward Island and Nova Scotia to catch these large fish.

The current harbour has undergone several transformations and developments over the years. The first wharf to be built in this particular area was in 1954. Up until then, it was located at an area referred to as James', which is near the area where Benjamin Dickson's building is erected. Rather recently, in 2002, construction began to increase the size of the harbour and extend the anchors and rocks at the end of the wharf. These anchors and rocks help to break the seas at the mouth of the harbour and thus allow for a safer entrance into the harbour. This particular renovation was completed in 2004.

Entry Island Harbour is under the direct control of the Entry Island Harbour Authority, which was created in 2001 and consists solely of locals. If you have a boat and wish to visit Entry Island, the fee for the day is \$5.00 and if you wish to stay in the harbour over night, there is a \$20.00 fee that applies.

### 20 Hydro-Plant:

On March 4th, 1952, a company called La Cooperative d'Électricité des Iles de la Madeleine was formed. On October 15th, 1959, thirty persons from Entry Island requested that the Coop set up electricity on Entry Island. The following year, on November 3rd, a small plant was built and Ernest Welsh was hired as the hydro-plant operator. On February 5th, 1964, Hydro-Québec purchased La Cooperative d'Électricité des Iles de la Madeleine and therefore, gained control of the hydro-plant at Entry Island as well.

Ernest Welsh retired after 23 years of working as hydro-plant operator at Entry Island. Barry Aitkens, who worked with Ernest at the plant, was appointed as the replacement for Ernest Welsh. Today, there are four diesel generators that power Entry Island. Barry Aitkens, along with his brother Reuben, continue to work there as the hydro-plant operators.

### 21 Airport:

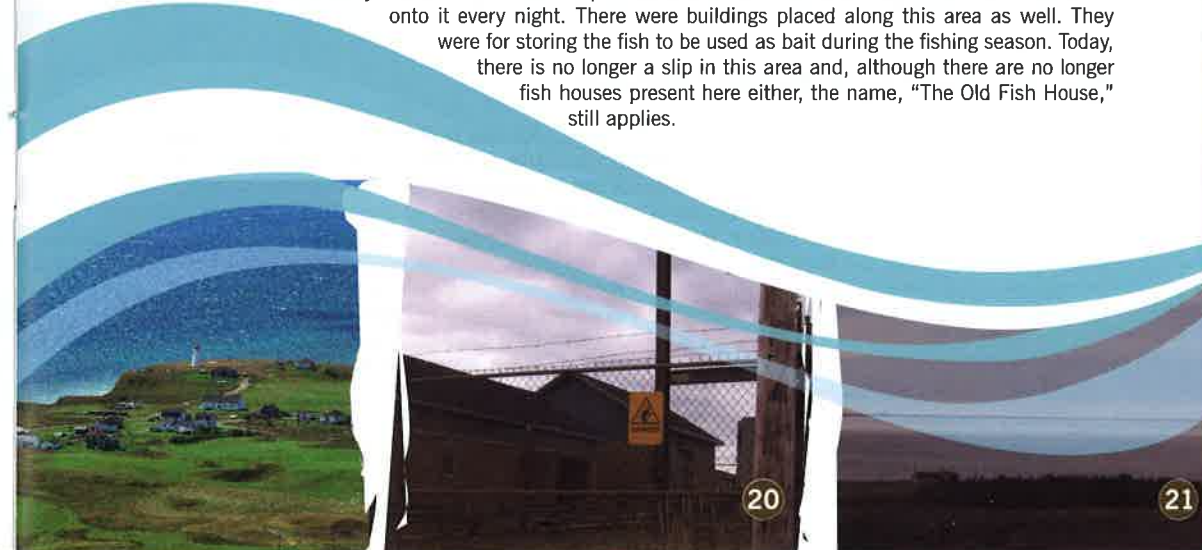
The quaint airport on Entry Island is only utilized seasonally. During the warmer months, a ferry boat travels twice-daily to Grindstone (Cap-Aux-Meules), however, beginning in January, when the forming ice floes hinder the passageway, this vital service is conducted by a small airplane. The plane service is different from that offered by the ferry boat service. Not only due to the mode of transport, but also due to its destination. The airplane does not land in Grindstone (Cap-aux-Meules) as there is no airport there; instead it travels to House Harbour (Havre-Aux-Maisons).

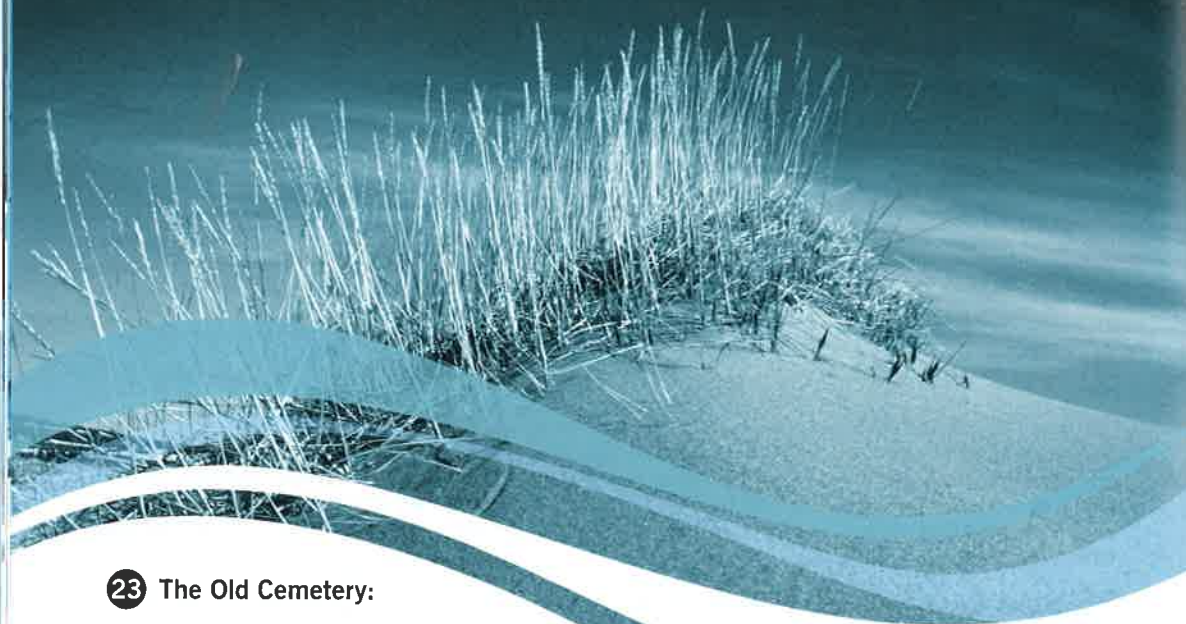
This airplane service is owned and operated by Craig Quinn, who is contracted by Transport Québec. Craig started his career as a pilot in December of 1973. Six years later, the Government situated a small landing strip on Entry Island. Up until this time, Craig was landing in the field near Howard Dickson's house. Shortly after the construction of the airstrip, a hanger was built for the plane, which was located rather close to the landing strip. After some time, the hanger was demolished and the present hanger was constructed. Eventually, another structure was built to accommodate the travellers, which housed a waiting area, washroom, small storage space, and also a telephone.

Craig no longer pilots his small plane; he has someone else hired for this task. The fee for the seven-minute flight to House Harbour is \$12.00 for locals and \$24.00 for non-locals.

### 22 The Old Fish House:

The Old Fish House refers to an area situated between James' and the current harbour. During the late 1940's and early 1950's there was a slip situated here and the fishermen would haul their boats onto it every night. There were buildings placed along this area as well. They were for storing the fish to be used as bait during the fishing season. Today, there is no longer a slip in this area and, although there are no longer fish houses present here either, the name, "The Old Fish House," still applies.





### 23 The Old Cemetery:

The old cemetery is situated on the south-western side of a hill referred to as, "Patton's Hill." It is clearly visible from the current cemetery and church. In the old cemetery, you will find headstones that date as far back as 1826. The most recent is marked February 9, 1903. There are 13 different family names found on these headstones and grave-markers, including Kirk, McPhail, Ross, and Sweet. A complete list of these names and the dates of their deaths is available at the Entry Island Historical Museum.

### 24 James':

In the 1930's, on the western part of Entry Island, the first wharf was constructed. This area of the Island is known as James'. The wharf was built with the financial aid of a Mr. Frank Leslie, who owned fish factories on Entry Island at the time. A slip, which is what the boats haul up and out of the water on, and another factory were built here at James' as well. The new factory, unlike the lobster factory that was closed on the North point of the Island, only processed mackerel and codfish. The fish were salted into large barrels and were then shipped to Amherst (Havre-Aubert) to be sold. James' wharf was closed in 1945, but the boats continued to use the slip until 1947.

### 25 Entry Island Church (All Saint's Memorial):

This is the second church to be built on Entry Island. The first one was built in 1895 and was torn down in the late 1940's due to deteriorating condition. In 1949, Johnny Clarke, with the help of some of the Islanders, built the current church in the same location as the previous one. It was built as a Royal Rifles War Memorial church and is the only one of its kind on the Magdalen Islands. The large cross that is situated outside the church is 23 feet high and was erected in 1988 in memory of all those who lost their lives at sea. At the front of the church, there is a beautiful stained-glass window as well as a plaque. These two items were installed to honor the memory of the five Entry Islanders who lost their lives to the sea in November of 1987. Also near the front of the church stands a hand-carved wooden pulpit. The pulpit came from an Anglican church in Amherst which was torn down in the early 1900's. There are only two other pulpits like this one known to exist in Canada, One is said to be in Halifax, and the other in Ottawa. Services are held bi-weekly, as the minister is responsible for services in Grosse Ile and Old Harry as well.

### 26 The Lighthouse:

The first lighthouse on Entry Island was established in 1874 and was located on top of the Wash Pond Hill, where a foghorn was previously located. In 1904, it was moved closer to the cape, which was closer to the keeper's dwelling as well. Four years later, a severe lightning storm damaged the lighthouse tower and the light was moved to the top of the Wash Pond Hill and placed on a low concrete base. The old tower was then demolished.

In 1910, due to erosion of the cliff, the light was moved to its present location. In 1923 a new fog alarm system was installed. Four years later, in 1927 a combined light and dwelling was built and a coal shed was also constructed for the lightkeeper. Electricity was finally installed at the lighthouse in 1961 and the next year, the light was changed from kerosene vapour to electric vapour. There was a fire at the lighthouse in 1964, which caused a lot of damage; however, the building was still standing. One year later, a single dwelling was built and in 1967 another single dwelling was constructed. Also in that same year, the light was changed from fixed to flashing with a clockwork mechanism.

The current tower was finally erected in 1969, 15 feet from the previous one, and by 1988, a lightkeeper was no longer needed because the lighthouse was completely electrically operated. One of the first lightkeepers on Entry Island was Robert Gray in 1887 and James Cassidy from Amherst (Havre-Aubert) was next in 1888. There were many different lightkeepers and assistants throughout the years on Entry Island. Some of the logbooks that were kept at the lighthouse can be viewed at the Entry Island Historical Museum. Here you can also find photos of the previous lighthouses and the current one, and also several other artifacts relating to these important structures.

### 27 The Wash Pond:

There is a hill on the Southern part of Entry Island that is known as, "The Wash Pond Hill." It gets its name from a pond that lies at the base of the hill. Back in earlier years, before washing machines, this pond was where women would gather to do their washing. The pond was mostly used to clean wool from the sheep. However, the women also brought their soiled clothes here to be washed and then spread on rocks and in the grass to dry. This little body of water has since been named, "The Wash Pond."

### 28 Kitty's Brook:

According to legend, there was once a ship sailing near Entry Island and on this ship there was a young girl, Kitty. Kitty is believed to have been the Captain's daughter. Unfortunately, Kitty had become very sick and died.

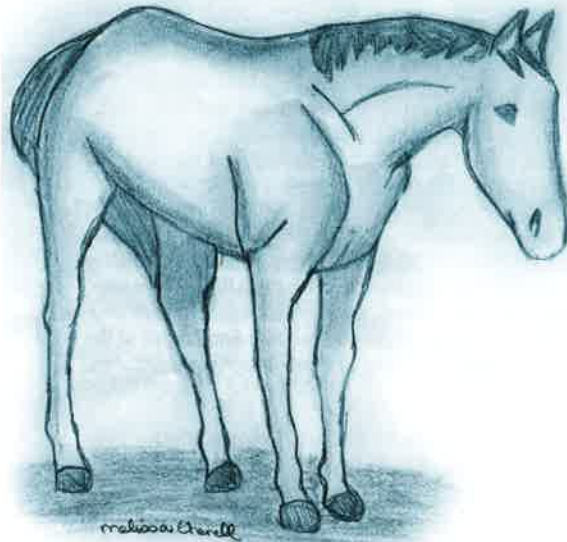
It is said that the Captain brought his daughter ashore at Entry Island. He then buried her in a peaceful place near a brook that flowed into the ocean. This brook is known today as, "Kitty's Brook," and is located inside the confines of the public pasture.





### 29 The Horse Called Farmer:

Farmer was horse that lived on Entry Island and his owner was Richard McLean. Farmer loved Entry Island and had an exceptional sense of smell. One winter in 1923, some of the local farmers harnessed up their horses and traveled across the ice-bridge that formed between Entry Island and Amherst in the wintertime. Sometime during that night, Farmer was sold to a man named Curtis Quinn who lived in Grosse Ile. Farmer grew very lonely and wanted only to be back



on Entry Island. One day in June someone forgot to close the gate and Farmer escaped. He galloped to the ocean and tried to smell Entry Island. He followed the shoreline for four days, all the way back to Amherst and then finally, he could smell home. Farmer started into the water, terrified, and began to swim home. He followed the familiar smells and the sound of the lighthouse foghorn until he finally reached Entry Island. Farmer was home and there he stayed for the rest of his life. There is a children's book written by Peter Cummings entitled, "A Horse Called Farmer". A copy of this story book is available for public consultation at the CAMI museums. (Entry Island Heritage Museum as well as the Little Red Schoolhouse)

### 30 The Historical Museum of Entry Island:

Foster Clarke constructed this building in 1948 for Ivan Quinn. It was a store at this time and was later altered to serve as a dance hall. Eventually, Ivan sold the building to Chalmer Chenell, who made it into a family home. When Chalmer left Entry Island, his son, Blair became the proprietor. In the spring of 2000, the Council for Anglophone Magdalen Islanders (CAMI) bought the house from Blair and began the transformation. In June, the Historical Museum of Entry Island was established.

The residents of Entry Island donated many of the artifacts that are displayed in the museum. There are items that depict the way Islanders lived from the 1800's to present day. There are many photographs of veterans from Entry Island, as well as numerous other types of photographs. At the museum you can learn about the famous horse, "Farmer," as well as Ivan Quinn, a local musician and former mayor. There are exhibits dedicated to the lighthouses on Entry Island, farming and fishing artefacts and photos, butter making tools and supplies, rug-hooking tools, as well as a quaint bedroom set up to replicate how one might have looked in earlier years. The museum is open to visitors from June through to September and is an affiliate of CAMI.

### 31 Oldest House on Entry Island:

Built in 1883, the home of the late Ivan Quinn is the oldest house on Entry Island. It was built on top of the Wash Pond Hill by owner Andrew Welsh and was later towed to its present location, which is near the museum, via horses. The house was then owned by Curtis Quinn, and eventually ownership went to his son, Ivan Quinn. It is currently uninhabited and is owned by Carolyn Quinn, Ivan's niece.

### 32 Ivan Quinn Trail:

The Ivan Quinn Trail is a pathway leading to Big Hill, which is the highest point of elevation on the entire archipelago. The trail measures 1.4km in total and was created in 2003 by the Municipalité des Iles. It was named after a local, Ivan Quinn, who died on January 18, 2002. Ivan was a well-known musician on the Magdalen Islands and was also a former mayor of Entry Island.

Locally known as Joe, Ivan was also a businessman for many years. He owned and operated a grocery store, "Joe's Grocery," where it was not uncommon to find him playing his guitar and singing for a group of tourists. Even years after the closing of his store, Ivan was always more than willing to play for anyone who stopped by and asked him to. For more information on Ivan Quinn, visit the Historical Museum of Entry Island or simply ask any local.

### 33 Big Hill:

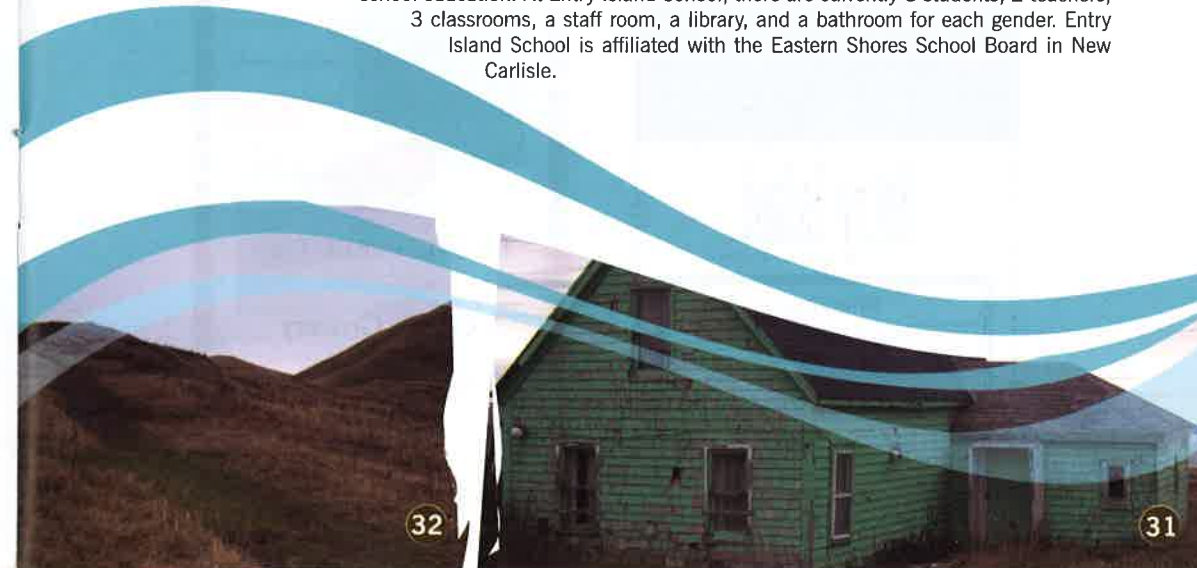
Big Hill holds rights to the highest point on the Magdalen Islands. It measures approximately 580ft above mean sea level and at the summit there is a concrete marker that indicates its height. While on the top of Big Hill, you can enjoy a view of the entire archipelago. Most Entry Islanders will agree that you haven't fully experienced Entry Island unless you climb Big Hill and behold the breathtaking panorama that it offers.

### 34 Entry Island School:

During a visit to Entry Island in September 1853, Bishop Mountain noted that a Mr. John Patton was operating a school in his home at that time. This school is believed to have been the first school on Entry Island. The second school is said to have opened sometime between 1865 and 1871. It was located near the wooded area referred to as "Sam's Woods". Around 1900, it is believed that the third school was built, which was near the area where Earl Chenell's house is situated today. This one-room schoolhouse operated until 1949. It was then sold, used as a barn, and in 1998 the building was demolished.

The fourth and much more modern school was built in 1950. This was also a one-room schoolhouse, however, there was a partition separating grades 1-4 and 5-8, and therefore, had two teachers. After only 12 years of operation, a fire completely destroyed the school.

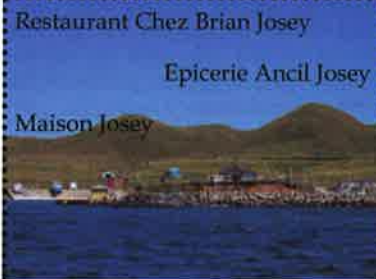
The next year, the present school was built on Entry Island. The grades range from pre-kindergarten to grade 8. Once the students complete grade 8, they must leave the Island to complete their high school education. At Entry Island School, there are currently 8 students, 2 teachers, 3 classrooms, a staff room, a library, and a bathroom for each gender. Entry Island School is affiliated with the Eastern Shores School Board in New Carlisle.



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