



L-R: French River and Park Corner History Committee, 2006: Grace MacLeod, Calvin Burt, Enid MacKay, Ruby Cousins and Wallace MacLeod.

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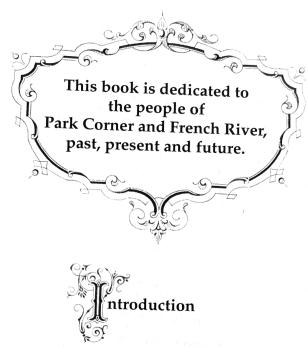
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Back Cover: Park Corner, Lake of Shining Waters Glistening Waters Subdivision Website



At a meeting held on January 25, 1972, a proposal was put forward to complete the first history of French River and Park Corner. The meeting was called to consider and recommend local participation in the Prince Edward Island Centennial Program for 1973 and was representative of the Park Corner School District, as it was then constituted. A two part program was recommended. The first part was the erection of a stone and plaque commemorating the early settlers of the district. It then seemed logical to follow with a second step; writing a local history. Some of the research work was already being done on the pioneers of the community. The commemorative plaque stands at the entrance of one of the two pioneer cemeteries in "Old New London Town". The original written history was compiled for the Coronation W.I. by Eldon and Janet Foster. They wrote, "The research, interviews and compilation have been both time consuming and rewarding. We have found everyone most willing to help and have had the opportunity to meet and know many people in a relatively short time." The History Committee of the second edition are indebted to Mr. and Mrs. Foster for their work. We also give thanks to those who have helped us in any way, as we worked on this project.

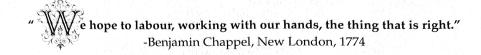
Coronation W.I. decided, in 1999, to work on Edition number II of the "Park Corner and French River History". An application was made for a 2000 Millenium Grant and \$2,000.00 was received toward the compilation of the history. Money was also set aside by the W.I. to help finance the printing with the book sales revenue going toward the work of the Coronation W.I. This book endeavors to present the history of the life and community of Park Corner and French River. Please know that any errors or omissions on our part are unintentional.

The French River and Park Corner History Committee Ruby Cousins, Grace MacLeod, Wallace MacLeod, Robert Montgomery, Calvin Burt and Enid MacKay



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1973 Centennial Project

The Community Centennial Project was carried out by a committee elected at a general meeting held in the Park Corner School on January 25, 1972. The meeting elected the following committee: Chairman: Waldon Duggan; Secretary: Eldon Foster and Committee members: Cecil Harding, George Howatt and Paul Paynter.

The finished project is a commemorative bronze plaque placed on a stone in a concrete base. It stands inside the gate of a right-of-way leading to Sims' Cemetery. One problem encountered was that of obtaining the right-of-way to the cemetery as none had previously been granted. The committee obtained the necessary permission of the owners of the property. Wm. Elmhirst and Mrs. Ash had a survey made and arranged for the right-of-way to be deeded to the Heritage Foundation. The stone on which the plaque is mounted was at one time a door step at the late Fred Bernard home in French River. It was donated by the Bernard Family. The Women's Institute members held two suppers at Mrs. Fred Bernard's home to raise money for the project. Mrs. Gertrude Lamont donated a quilt which was raffled and the proceeds donated to the project fund.

COMMEMORATING THE ARRIVAL OF EARLY SETTLERS IN THIS AREA 300 YEARS AGO

1979 HEW LONDON SETTLEMENT STARTED BY ROBERT GLARK
1979 JAMES TOWNSEND SETTLED AT PARK GORNER WHICH HE WAMED CORNER WHICH HE WAMED BY ICH HEALE WERE BURIED HEAR HERE

2021 HEAR HERE

223 TEA LA LA LAND GENERAL SECTION OF THE WAMEN WHEN HERE WAS A CORNER BORDON DISTRICT



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arly History and Settlement - French River & Park Corner

Property Ownership

When one first sets eyes on New London Bay, its natural beauty is enough to make both visitor and resident take a second look. But what you cannot see is that not only is this area rich in beauty, but that it is equally rich in history. Some twenty-five thousand years ago, with the retreat of the Wisconsin ice age, the land we now call Prince Edward Island was formed, and along with it the bay we know today as New London Bay. Park Corner School District includes the settlements of Park Corner and French River. Park Corner has maintained its original name since it was first settled. "James Townsend of Berkshire, England was given a grant of land for military service and with his wife, two sons and three daughters, settled here in 1775, calling his new estate "Park Corner" after his old home in England "1 French River has known a variety of names throughout its past. In 1773 the settlement at the harbour was known as Elizabethtown and the area around it as New London.² The first mention of French River is in 1775, when Benjamin Chappell refers to a river of that name in his diary. Yankee Hill was used in D.J. Lake's map of 1863 as the name of the settlement at the harbour entrance. This name came about because a number of Americans came to the rich fishing grounds of New London Bay, and a "Yankee" merchant is said to have kept supplies for them on the west side of Elizabethtown. More recently, this name has been used for one of the pioneer cemeteries and the farm on which the merchant kept the supplies. The 1863 map by D.J. Lake shows New London as covering the general area around what is today called French River and Spring Brook, although an inset map of New London shows the principal location to be that around French River inlet.3

The First Peoples

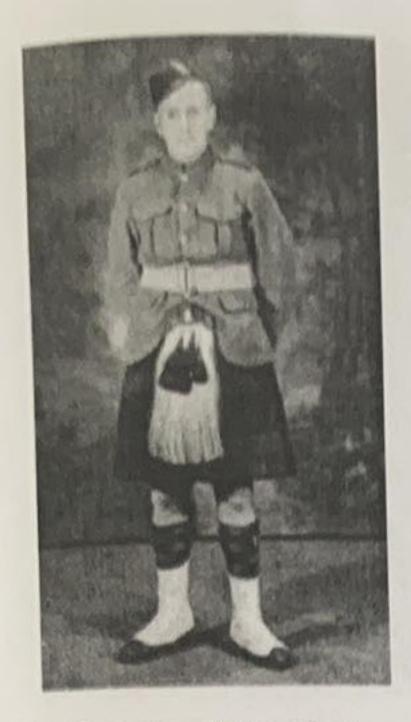
The New London Bay area was first known to the Mi'kmaq as "Kitcheboogwek Booktoba" or bay of shoals. Surrounded by ancient forest on the land side and a dune system running along its water side, the native people would have made good use of the bay's natural protection for a summer camp. It was from this bay that they would have had easy access to the North Shore waters for fishing and traveling.

The First Europeans

The precise date of discovery by European explorers of the Island may never be known. It is believed, however, that Cabot sighted it in 1497 and named it in honor of the day he discovered it, June 24, St. John the Baptist Day. It was in 1534 that Jacques Cartier landed at four different sites on the Island and recorded what he saw. An interesting tradition dates to 1750 when two men by the name of McKay and Grant from the mainland spent a winter on the Island, and for part of this time they lived on Lot 20 ⁴. There is little known of whom these men were or where they came from.

- ^{1.} French River and Park Corner History, 1773-1973
- ² Historic Hightlight's, Prince Edward Island, 1955, page 92
- 3. French River and Park Corner History, 1773-1973
- 4. The Prince Edward Island Magazine, 1899

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Parker MacRae (age 19), Nova Scotia Highlanders



Gunner Arthur E. Paynter, son of Mr. and Mrs. Charles B. Paynter, Kensington.



Elizabeth Bessie (Cousins) Meek, WW2







Three in family in active service - Sgrt. George S. Harding, Bdr. Lena C. Harding and Sgrt. Urban Harding, sons and daughters of Grace and Wm. Harding, Eropoly River.



Gnr. Austin Haines (left) and Lac. Cpl. Percy Haines (right)



Fred MacLeod

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had a decided edge in the first period, the fast skating forwards carrying the play deep into Sea View territory. Arch Pidgeon and Oliver Bernard, bruising French River defensemen, had little difficulty in checking the Maple Leafs."

Members of this team included: Goal: Hillard Meek; Defense: Oliver Bernard, Arch Pidgeon; Centre: Ken Pidgeon, G. MacLeod, Oliver Meek; Wingers: Bruce Crozier, Ted MacDonald, Pat Stewart, H. MacLeod, J. Campbell, H. Bernard; Coach: Roland Paynter.

The Merchant's Hockey League began in 1948 and continued until 1953. The storeowners of Sea View, French River, Long River, and the New London area put up the Merchant's Cup. The teams in this league consisted of Sea View, French River, Long River, Norboro, Graham's Road, Stanley Bridge and Breadalbane. The first part of the season would be held in the open-air rinks with the playoffs being held in Kensington.

The following is taken from the book, From Roots and Ashes the Gardens Grow:

"One year, in a playoff between Long River and French River with a large crowd present, the French River team were leading by 6-0 going into the third period. Fans started leaving the rink, but before the twenty minutes had ended, Long River scored six goals to force the game into overtime. It is remembered that Waldon Duggan was pretty excited as the teams went into overtime. Finally, he told Ivan Duggan what to do and Ivan scored to make French River the winners for the year on a 7-6 score."



Hockey Team
O Right, Back Row: Parker MacRae, Harold MacRae, Hollis MacKay, Earl MacKay, Clayton MacLeod, Waldon Duggan, Bob
Nore
O Right, Front Row: Hillard Meek (Coach), Lloyd MacRae, Arthur Paynter, Gordon MacKenzie, Ivan Duggan, Archie

bell, Willard Stewart (Manager)

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with the intent to do bodily injury. She got off very lightly with only a six month sentence, She had been described during the trial as an evil, designing and disorderly person with a wicked, malicious mind and disposition not regarding the Laws and Statutes of this Realm.

Unfortunately present day researchers found the original court record of the convic-

Unfortunately present day researchers found the original court record of the conviction and sentencing marred by someone who substituted other names for the perpetrator and victim, in pencil, but the document was still readable. Some of the words may be incorrect as the handwriting and the language is a bit arcane.

Phoebe lived in the French River area until her death in 1896, leaving questions in the minds of this generation as to what really happened that made her shoot Hugh Mac Leod.

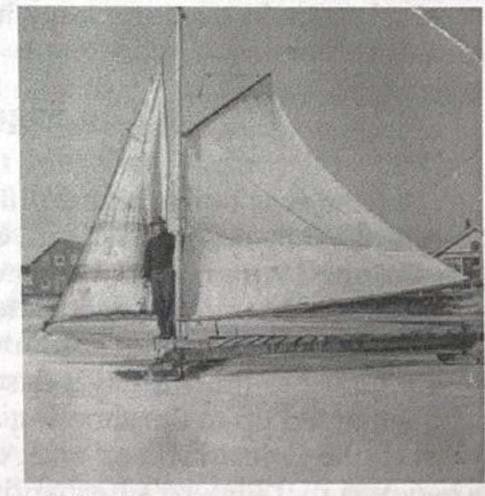
Memories of an Organist: St. Thomas' Bessie H. MacKay

Bessie (Harding) MacKay (1894-1971) was well known and loved at St. Thomas Church where she was the organist for 23 years having started at only 13 years of age. On Saturday she would work outside on the farm all day, and late at night she would practice the hymns for the next day. On Sunday (no cars) she would hitch the driving mare in the light wagon and drive to church. She also taught Sunday School. She took her daughters, Elsie, (Mrs George Stewart) and Mayme (Mrs Lester Champion), with her. The Church always had a good choir with Reagh Meek and Family singing from their front row seat. Everyone loved to sing. After church, Bessie and family would drive home, change out of their good clothes and read the Bible. No one was allowed to do anything on Sunday in those days, not even cook. In her later years, after she suffered small seizures and was dependent on others for a ride, Bessie would arrive at church late. She would stop to say hello to everyone on both sides of the aisle as she made her way to the organ. The Rector, The Rev. W.E. Ingraham, would be standing at the front of the church waiting to start the service. Bessie, her hat on her head and her hymn book in her hand, was never in a hurry. Every Sunday the same thing happened. The service would begin in time and not necessarily on time. Story by her daughter, Mrs. Mayme Champion, 2001.

The Ice Boat

In 1960, Waldon Duggan and Hollis MacKay decided to build an ice-boat to have

some fun on the river. They called it *Sputnik II* as the Sputnik space ship had been launched previous to their invention. As you see in the picture, it had one sail which they made and sewed on their own. It was raised and lowered by block and tackle. The boat was approximately 15 ft. long and 15 ft wide. The skates on the bottom were made from angle iron and sharpened. The steering was made by a tiller arm, the same as the old back shore boats, on the stern. They had lots of fun on this. It went at a great rate of speed, a bit faster than they expected. Betty (Duggan) Cox said she had a lot of fun on this. Jim says he only remembers getting an awful scare.



Sputnik II

variets but atrangely unough, sine was found guilty of the interffit or a

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Geneology is part of every life story. Even the Hebrew Scripture and the New Testament use genealogies to tell people where they had come from. No Island history would be complete without a section of genealogies. From our earliest colorful families of "Elizabethtown", to the farming and fishing families of the 1800's and 1900's, to the present day families, there is a recognition that we all, at some point, have come "from away". While some of our families are large and take up many pages, others are much smaller and take very little space. No matter the size, each and every family, and person, is an important part of who we are. We are indebted to Ruby Cousins and her passion for the early families of the area. Without her work those early stories would not have been told. The earliest families, whose names no longer resound in the area, played an important part of the early settlement. We are thankful to Grace MacLeod who sought to ensure that every family and household might be included. And our thanks goes to Enid MacKay who helped to bridge the stories and generations together. For the tireless efforts and invaluable leadership of Calvin Burt, we are also thankful. He directed our "metaphorical train of historical data and facts" and skillfully kept it on the rails to completion.

We are indebted to the families who took the time to submit information for this book. It would be impossible to include every branch of every family from the beginning to the end. We have tried to include as much data as possible on families that inter-mingle with those who call Park Corner and French River home. You will find a number of references that will help you to cross reference to other families. We were unable to include them all, so please take the time to check out other family connections that may be in this book.

Finally, the book is only as accurate as the submissions that were made to it. Our committee has spent hours in research and time, attempting to check as many facts and figures as possible. Please rest assured that any errors or omissions are not intentional. It is our hope that this part of the book might become a well used tool for research on the people of Park Corner and French River for generations to come. That is why we have chosen to dedicate this book to the people of Park Corner and French River - past, present and future.

People In Our Community Over 80 Years of Age



Miriam Bernard



Everett Burt



Ruth Campbell



Charity Bernard



Elizabeth "Peach" Duggan



Mary Oakley



Elva and Henry Meek



Anna MacLeod







Grace Cousins



Walter and Clara Giovannini



Arthur and Despina (Kalgperopoulos) Adamopoulos Family

Arthur Adamopoulos (1927-2004) son of Virginia and Anthony Adamopoulos married Despina (Desi) Kalgperopoulos(1931), daughter of Virginia and Heracles Kalgperopoulos, in 1958. They lived in Groveland Ma. USA. They were both teachers. Family of Arthur and Desi

- Charles, married Beth Stewart in 1987 they have four children: Catherine, Zachary, Molly and Brian. They reside in Groveland Ma.
- William, married Georgette Tan in 1994 and they have two children; Li-Anne and Zoe and they reside in Singapore.

The Adamopoulos family purchased the property on PEI in 1970. Desi says "We have enjoyed many happy years with our family and all our dear PEI friends".

Claude and Maisie Adams Family

Claude Adams (1902-1943) was born in Sea View and married Maisie Winnifred Patricia Lamont (1913-2000), daughter of Hugh John and Mary (Duggan) Lamont on Aug. 6, 1934. He was a fisherman for a time after his marriage then farmed in Springbrook. He gave up farming due to ill health and, in 1940, he became the lighthouse keeper at New London Harbour. When Claude died with cancer, his wife, Maisie continued to operate the lighthouse until 1955. Maisie and her family moved to Summerside where she worked at the Summerset Manor until her retirement in 1975. (See P.E.I. Only Lady Lighthouse Keeper)

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John and Elizabeth (Wright) Adams Family John and Sarah (Harrison) Adams Family

John Adams was born November 4, 1734 in Hilton, Derbyshire, England and died May 7, 1815 in New London, P.E.I.. He married Elizabeth Wright on August 18, 1757 in Hilton, Derbyshire, England. He later married Sarah Harrison on August 14, 1766 in Hilton, Derbyshire, England.

Family of John Adams and Elizabeth Wright

- William Adams, born November 30, 1757, Hilton England, died June 21, 1765 in Hilton
- Thomas Adams, born March 18, 1759, Hilton, England, died April 25, 1759 in Hilton
- John Adams, born 1761, Hilton, England, died March 16, 1843.
 (See John Adams and Mary Cole Family)

Family of John Adams and Sarah Harrison

- Ann, born November 25, 1766 in Hilton, England, died Febuary 1842, New London
- Mary, born 1768, in Hilton England married William Vincent
- Thomas, born 1770 in Hilton, England

(See Thomas Adams and Isabella Brown Family)

- William, born 1772 in Hilton England, died 1848 in P.E.I.
- Catherine, born 1774, New London, died in 1872, married James Murphy.
- Richard, born 1776 in New London, died Febuary 7, 1859
- Elizabeth, born 1778 in New London, died 1827, married William Cole

Generation #2

John and Mary (Cole) Adams Family

John Adams was born in 1761 in Hilton, Derbyshire, England and died March 16, 1843 in New London P.E.I.. He married Mary Cole in 1789. John was the son of John Adams and Elizabeth Wright. Their Family:

- Mary, born August 5, 1790 in New London, married John Graham. One daughter:

 Mary Ann Graham, born May 27, 1814, married William Henry Adams on July 26, 1834
- John, born January, 4, 1798 in New London, died October 17, 1868.

(1)Married Jane Marks. Their Family:

-Elizabeth Adams, 1816-Nov.17, 1862, married Walter Lock on

June 12, 1841

- -John F., born 1821, married Sarah Delaney on August 1, 1843
- -Henry, born March 22, 1826
- -Anne, born April 3, 1827, married Adolphus King in 1848
- -Thomas Billing, born June 3, 1830, married Nancy Jane MacCarthur
- -David Adams, June 12, 1832-1887, moved to Texas.

Married (1)Mary Borum, (2) Elizabeth Emory

- -William, February 19, 1835-1926, married Hanna Bumstead
- -Christie, born December 7, 1837
- -Jonathan, born October 10, 1939
- (2) Married Catherine MacDougall, Their Family:
 - -Duncan, 1849-1921, married Annie Leonard on April 18, 1883.

Lived in Saginaw, Michigan

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Pearl folt a part of their lives. After being here only a few short months, James and Pearl felt a part of this warm and kind community.

Hamilton Family

Some of the Hamiltons were on the Stewart farm: a father, Alexander, and a son, Thomas. We don't know if it is the same family as Elizabeth & Mary Hamilton, who lived where Wayne Cole now lives. Mary, Mrs. Sy Felch, was a Hamilton and she is buried at St. Thomas Cemetery, Spring Brook, with Elizabeth. It is believed they were sisters.

Elizabeth A. Hamilton, 1835-1931

Mary Felch (Mrs. Sy), 1833-1905

Elizabeth spent her last years with the Duncan MacKenzie family (taken from MacKenzie Family Tree). Alexander Hamilton died Jan.7th, 1869 age 66 yrs. He was born on the Island of Aron, Scotland and emmigrated to America in 1831. There was also a Willard Hamilton around the area; he worked for Lemuel Orr in Spring Brook. No other information at present.

Captain James and Elizabeth (Bernard) Harding Family

Capt. James Harding was born on April 05, 1786 in England. We know that his mother's name was Elizabeth. She immigrated from England and she is buried in French River. Captain James Harding came to the Island and settled at French River as early as 1826 and perhaps in 1816 as there is a record of James Harden leasing 50 acres from the Cundall's in that year. In 1826, the farm once owned by Cecil Harding was survayed by James Stewart and described as the property of James Harding, spelled "Harden" in the survey. It is assumed the property was leased until 1831, when it was deeded to James Harding (Harden) by John Cambridge. In 1840, James Harding purchased the adjoining 100 acres from John MacKenzie. Captain Harding had been in the Royal Navy before coming to the Island. Capt Harding died at sea on April 3, 1853, and is buried in Benson Cemetery in Mt. Desset Island, Maine. He married Elizabeth Bernard, born September 16, 1793, and died April 21, 1880. She is buried in St. Thomas Anglican Church Cemetery. Elizabeth was the daughter of Samuel Bernard (1753-184?) and Elizabeth Vine, born 1758. Capt. James sent for his brother, Robert, who came with his family, and Elizabeth Harding, widowed mother of James and Robert. The mother died at 97 years of age in 1853.

Capt. James and Elizabeth Bernard Harding Family

James, died in Bahamas, married Rebecca Palmer (born 1812) on Dec. 23, 1829.

William, died New Orleans

Charles, born Jan. 26, 1812 at French River, died Feb. 21, 1902, married Mary Calder in Scotland. Mary was born Jan. 1, 1809, died Dec. 27, 1907, in New London.

Samuel, born 1812 in French River, died Nov. 13, 1905, Norboro. Married Hester Baker on Dec 15, 1839. Ester was born Oct 23, 1815, died May 18, 1911.

Robert, born 1814 in French River, died 1808, Rexton N.B. Married (1) Rachel Haywood, (2) Euphemia K. Ross, and (3) Nancy McAlmon.

Elizabeth, born 1820 in French River, died Feb. 10, 1907 in Alma P.E.I. Married Wm. Jos. Thom View and died Wm. Jos. Thom. Vincent on Feb. 11, 1841. Wm. was born Mar. 9, 1818, and died April 23, 1871.

Sarah, born 1823, French River, and died June 2, 1908. Married Samuel Brook

Durant, born May 25, 1821 in France and died Dec. 8, 1868. ٠

Mary, born Jan. 29, 1825 in French River, died Dec. 4, 1916. Married Ebenezer

Beaisto on Dec. 29, 1842. Ebenezer was born Feb. 22, 1816, and died Sept. 26, 1998. Lydia Lousie, born June 15, 1827 in French River, died Feb. 13, 1910 in Alma P.E.I.. ٠ Married Alexander Rankin on Aug 30, 1844. Alex was born Feb. 27, 1820, and died Nov. 9, 1903. See Family Below

Joseph Davidson, born 1832 in French River and died there in Aug. 25, 1919. Married (1) Sarah Waugh, who was born 1832, and died Dec. 15, 1854. (2) Helen (Mary Ellen) Sims, born 1832 and died September 14, 1906. They were married in

1856 and inherited the family farm.

Joseph Davidson Harding and Helen Sims Family

They had five children:

Wallace, 1856-1894

Harry, 1866-1950, married Mary Esther Harding (1873-1935), daughter of James and Catherine (MacPhee) Harding. Their family:

-Bessie Iola, (1894-1959) see Jack MacKay Family

-Ellen Alantha, "Nellie", born 1895, married Arthur Lewis Ross in 1918. He was the son of Lewis G. Ross and Catherine Mellish of Bridgetown, P.E.I.

-Georgie Anna, (1897-1964), married Ronald Sturgeon in 1919

Boyd, 1871-1952, married Josephine Hiltz (1878-1939)

-Harry Milton, (1898-1966), married Rose Watson

-Heath Fulton, (1899-1983,) married Virgie Adams (1901-1983). They had one son:

-Joseph, married Edna Mann

-James Arnold, (1900-1901)

-Marion Winfield, (1901-1960) (See MacRae Family)

-Cecil George, (1903-1987, married Hazel Jane Cousins (1905-1988) daughter of James Cousins and Mariah Mae Gunn of Hunter River. Cecil purchased the homeplace which was in the Harding name when it was purchased. Cecil and Hazel had no children.

-Alma Augusta, (1905) married Wallace Adams. They have two sons: Gerry and Boyd. After Wallace died, she married Morley Stewart. She lives in Ont...

-Preston Wallace, (1907-1947). See Preston Wallace Harding

-Mary Josephine, (1909) married Leslie Campbell. She later married Grafton Campbell (1900-1987) in 1953. She lived in the U.S.

Florence

Elizabeth

Samuel and Hester (Baker) Harding Family

Their children:

Elizabeth, July 25, 1840-Nov/Dec. 1909, married Thomas Bell (Jan 8, 1824-Oct. 30, John Ross, April 6, 1842-Mar.14, 1930, married (1) Catherine McMurdo (Oct. 17,

1836-Feb 8, 1891) (2) Bessie McFadyen (1871-1924)

James, June 8, 1844-1904, married Catherine MacPhee, (1843-1925)

-Mary Ester, married Harry Harding

-Bessie Iola, married John E. MacKay

-Ellen Alantha (Nellie), married Arthur Ross

-Georgie Anna, married Ronald Sturgeon

-Annie Ella, married Frank Pidgeon

-Cresyl Jean, married Samuel Holden

-Hilda May, married Angus MacLeod

-Gladys, married Harold Cook (divorced)

-Lorne died age 2

-James Bruce, married Nettie Lock

-Florence Grace, married Forest Brown

-Lucy, married Isaac Russell Bernard

-Nina Esther, married John Stanley Brown

-Charles Nelson, married Beatrice Cady

-William Wallace, married Wilma Campbell

-Ola May, married John Wood

-Samuel drowned at sea

-John William, married Grace Brander (See Below)

-Wallace, married Winnie MacLeod

William, (1846-1927), married Janet Milligan, (1848-1928)

A son died at an early age

Lydia Harding and Alex. Rankin Family

Lydia Louise Harding, daughter of Capt. James and Elizabeth (Bernard) Harding, was born June 15, 1827 in French River, P.E.I.. She married Alexander Rankin on August 30, 1844. Alexander was born in 1820 and died in 1903. Lydia died February 13, 1910. Together they had the following ten children:

Joseph D. Rankin, born in 1849

James Harding Rankin, born in 1850

 Alexander C. Rankin, born in 1852. He married Mary MacDonald on August 19, 1881. Mary was born in Antigonish, N.S.. Alexander died May 7, 1900.

Elizabeth Rankin, born in 1854. She married John Haywood on October 25, 1871.
 John was born January 1, 1842 in Alma, P.E.I. He was the son of John Haywood and Mary Ann Vincent. Elizabeth died in 1921.

 Katherine Rankin was born on February 18, 1855. She married (1) Hudson Clark. She married (2) John Williams, born 1845, died 1931. He is buried in St. Peter's Cemetery in Charlottetown. Katherine died in 1932, also buried in St. Peter's Cemetery in Charlottetowntown, Anglican.

Jessie Rankin was born September 16, 1857

 Mary Ann Rankin was born on May 27, 1860. She married James Warren on June 21, 1880. James was the son of John Warren and Jane Hewitt. Mary died in 1944.

William Rankin was born in 1862

Colin Dyer Rankin was born on October 12, 1865. He married (1) Sadie Wilson and
 (2) Bertha Enriques. Colin died in 1954.

 Gilman Rankin was born in 1868. He married Martha Hopgood, daughter of Thomas Hopgood and Elizabeth Craig. Gilman died in 1953.

John William and Grace Harding Family

John William Harding was born on December 7, 1884 and died February 24, 1942. John married Edna Grace Brander of Sea View who was born March 28, 1894 and died September 18, 1971. They had the following children:

Annie Muriel, married Cyril Lambourn

George Samuel, married Jean Chappell

• Lena Catherine, married Robert Elstone

Urban James, married Alice Colwill, See Below

Thursa, May 2, 1925-March 18, 1928

- Vernon, June 11, 1927-February 5, 1929
 Verna Mae, married Ronald MacElwee
- Wallace Bruce, married Eleanor Noonan

Clarence Victor, married Stella Sawchuk.
 Only two of this family remained to reside on P.E.I., George (deceased) Stanley Bridge, and Wallace, who presently lives in Indian River.

Urban and Alice Harding Family

Urban Harding was born March 6, 1923 and was the son of William J. and Grace (Brander) Harding. He married Alice Colwill who was born March 14, 1928. She was the daughter of Athol and Edna (Ramsay) Colwill of Northam, P.E.I.. Urban and Alice were married in Toronto, Ontario in 1951. They had the following children:

Barbara, born December 3, 1956 and married to Richard Taylor on October 20, 1981

• James, born on May 8, 1962. He married Helene Domoradzki on March 29, 1985. Urban grew up in French River on the hill in the house now the property of Waldon Burt. Urban served in the Canadian Army Signal Corp. in W.W.II. He moved to Toronto, Ontario in 1949. He worked as an elevator mechanic for 20 years and later operated a sewing machine sales and service business until he retired. He then moved to Burlington, Ontario where he now resides.

Preston Wallce Harding and Clare Isobel Quinn Family

Preston Wallace (Pete) (1907-1947), married Clare Isobel Quinn (1917-1969) from Hope River. They had a family of five:

Shirley, born 1936 (see Dube family).

 Pearl, born 1938, married Alex Cain. They have two children, Gregory and Sharon. They live in Halifax.

Louis, (1941-2002) married Jessie Collier. They have three children, James

Fredrick(1961-2000), David Wayne, and Louis Scott.

- Clair, born 1943, married Paula Lund. They have three children, Robert Trent, Stephen Wallace and Heather Amanda. Clair worked for the Dept. of Transportation.
- Ronnie, born 1938, married Vicki Johnson. They have three children, Ronald Preston, Curtis Joseph and Adam Allan Boyce. Ronnie served 33 years in the Navy.

Pete was drowned with three other fishermen on the first day of the season in 1947. The family later moved to Charlottetown. Some of the family have a summer cottage in French River.

Harold and Doris (Wood) Harper

Harold Harper, (1907-1958) married Doris (Babe) Wood (1910-1993), from England. Harold was the son of Annie Ruby Pidgeon (1878-1929) and Arthur James Harper (1877-1932). Harold and Babe built the home now owned by Wayne Woodside. Harold worked with the CNR and was on one of the trains that was involved in the Tignish Train wreck on February 21, 1932. He lost his leg and walked with crutches for the rest of his life. Many homes have a crokinole or cribbage board made by Harper, as he was fondly called.

They moved to Western Canada and lived in Salmon Arm., B.C.. Babe married William (Bill) Miller and lived in BC until her death. She is buried in Regina.

Alexander and Janet (Dunning) Hiltz Family

Alexander Hiltz, born 1876 in Mahone Bay, N.S. was the son of James Hiltz. He came to French River with his parents at the age of 10. He stayed in French River until 1918 at which time he moved to Kensington. He married Janet Dunning, b.1878. Their family:

Boyce, lived in Seattle

George, lived in Kensington
 Ruth, married Austin Bears

E. Ralph and Edith (White) Hostetter Family

Ralph Hostetter (1922) born at Conowingo, Maryland USA son of Abraham and Martha Mae Hostetter, married Edith Ulrika White (1922) born in North East, Maryland USA daughter of Floyd H. and Elsie E. (Carlson) White. They have six children all born in North East, Maryland.

Elsa Ulrika (1949) married George N. Nastase in 1971 and they have two children.

Lisa Jean (1951) married Larry Williams in 1979 and they have two children.
 Leslee Kay (1958) married Brian P Lindouist in 1981. They have four children.

Karla Lee (1958) married Richard Capobianco in 1988 and they have three

children
 Edie White (1961) married Alan Charles Hess 1984. They have two children.

Edward Ralph (1961) twin of Edie White, married Michelle Ferguson in 1991, and they have one daughter.

they have one daughter.

The Hostetter Farm, Camelot East, is located in French River on the west side of Route 20 on a hill overlooking the Harbour of French River and the Cavendish Sand Hills. The farm was purchased from Ivan Paynter in 1973 and the A-frame designed home was built in 1975.

"As an observation from someone who comes from "away", Prince Edward Island is one of the most idyllic places in the world. Having visited over 100 countries in 40 years of travel, this observation comes as no idle comment." says Ralph Hostetter.

Josiah and Jane (Best) Howatt Family

Josiah Howatt (1851-1933) married Jane Best (1849-1945) in 1874 . They purchased a farm in French River in 1879. They had the following children:

Irving Brass (1875-1963). He was a lawyer and lived in Edmonton.

• Charles Mortimor (1877-1942), married Annie MacEwen, divorced and married Pearl Brown. They had four children; Vivian(1916) married William Toombs and they had a family of three; Ronald, Gordon and Dianne. Margaret (1919-2003) married 1. Eric Bell, he died 1960, married 2. William Carson, he died 1971 and married 3. Ben Bears. Harold (1921) married Eileen Chappel and they have six children and Sterling (1928) married Betty Bertrum.

Jean Weir (1878-1948) married Termaine Best 1906; they had one son, Harold.

They lived in the Yukon.

Annie Myrtle (1890-1963) married W J Sharpe (1813-19150) in 1908.
 They had one daughter, Jean (1911) who married Lloyd Lockerby in 1940. They had three children: Earl (1940), Wayne (1942) and Ian (1949). Annie married

second husband, James Sims (1870-1938)

- Eliphalet, (1882-1970), married Annie MacGougan(1880-1978) in 1911 (See Below)
- Bruce Dawson, (1885-1948,) married Edna Smith in 1925. They had one son Gerald.
- Edith Vivian, (1893-1924), married W.E. Johnstone (1892) they had one son, Arthur, he married Amy Johnson in 1944 and they have two children, Ruth (1945) and David (1948)

Eliphalet and Annie (MacGougan) Howatt Family

Eliphalet married Annie MacGougan They farmed with his father (Joshia) in French River until Life, as he was called, was offered a job in Darlington to operate a potato farm for Milligan and Morrison from Northam. They were killed in a tragic car accident in the US. Life and Annie bought the farm in Darlington. Annie was a school teacher. They had the following seven children

George, (1912-1988), See Below

 Eileen, (1914-2005,)married Lloyd MacLeod (1923), they had two children, Betty, (1936) and Fenton (1938-1974)

Jennie, (1916-2005), married James Williams (1911-1990) in 1934, They had two

children, Margaret (1936), and Barbara (1940)

 Lloyd (1918) married Betty Evans (1920-2004) in 1944. They had four children, William, Aannalee, Lois and Jennie Mae

Walter, (1925-2948)

Edith, (1928,) married William Long (1925); they have three children Roger, Allan and Darlene.

John, (1932), married Eleanor Weeks in 1955, they have six children: Doreen, Brenda, Cathy, Heather, Carol Ann and Douglas.

George and Jean (Stewart) Howatt Family

George married Jean Stewart in 1937. They farmed with George's Co

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1935). They had two children:

- Chester, (1911-1981), married Ruth Campbell, born 1915 of Irishtown. They had one daughter, Marilyn R.N, born 1944. Marilyn married B.W. Griffin of Ottawa and they have two children: Stephen and Susan
- Mary Irene, (1915-1936)

The Mackay family sold the farm in Park Corner and moved to Kensington in 1947. The farm was sold to Maurice Cousins and then to Gerard Mulder and then to Delmar Noonan.

George Clark and Clara (MacEwen) MacKay Family

George Clark MacKay was born 1867 and was the son of Captain Daniel MacKay and Eleanor Clark of Campbellton. He married Clara MacEwen who was born in 1872, also from Campbellton. They had the following family:

- Earl, married 1) Elizabeth MacLaren, Scotland. After her death he married 2) Betty Williams. Earl went to Boston as a young man with his Aunt Alberta MacKay, and worked as a street car driver. He had no family.
- Courtney, married Muriel Gardiner, Bedeque. They lived in Nova Scotia and had no family.
- Helen, married Sutherland Henderson, Bedeque and had the following family:

 George married Helen Cameron, R.N., from Crapaud. They moved to
 Lunenburg, N.S. Helen (MacKay) Henderson lived her last few years with them in Lunenburg.

The MacKays sold the farm, to Ira MacLeod, and moved to Bedeque.

John Everett and Bessie (Harding) MacKay Family

John Everett MacKay married Bessie Iola Harding and had a family of two girls and five boys:

- Elsie Evelyn, married George A. Stewart (deceased). She lives in Charlottetown and had five children: Joyce (deceased), Helen, Gail, Phyllis, and Ronald.
- Mayme Kathleen, (deceased) married Lester Champion (deceased). They had three children: Donald, Wayne and Eleanor.
- Hollis Sturgeon, married Bertha Lamont. See Hollis and Bertha MacKay Family Below
- Paul George, married Eleanor Stewart. They are retired and live in New Glasgow, Nova Scotia and had the following three children: David, Lynn (deceased) and John.
- Earl Craswell, married Heddy (deceased). Earl and Heddy had one son Danial and two stepchildren Michael and Gary. Earl is retired and lives in Indian River with friend Eileen Lucas.
- Donald Clair and
- Douglas Clair (twins) (deceased).

Bessie was the organist at the Anglican Church for many, many years.

Hollis Sturgeon MacKay and Bertha (Lamont) Family

Hollis Sturgeon MacKay (1920-1990) was the son of John Everett "Jack" and Bessie Iola (Harding) MacKay. Hollis married Bertha Jean Lamont (Dec. 1928-Oct. 1967), she was the daughter of Gertrude and Donald Lamont. Hollis and Bertha had ten children:

 Douglas Allan, born in December, 1950. Doug married 1) Laura MacKay in 1973 and had the following children:

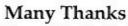
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Wayne and Evelyn (Pidgeon) Woodside Family

Wayne Woodside was born September 8, 1938 in Clinton, son of Roy and Hilda (Cole) Woodside. Wayne married Evelyn Pidgeon October 5, 1957 in Toronto, Ontario. Evelyn is the daughter of Etta (Meek) Pidgeon and the late Archibald Pidgeon. Evelyn was born in French River October 22, 1938. They lived in Toronto for many years. Their family:

- Diane, born February 9, 1958, married Ray Benoit October 1985. They live in Lourdes, Newfoundland.
 - Sherry Elizabeth, 1979
 - Amanda Diane, 1981
 - Gordon Roy, 2006
- Kevin, born July 20, 1960, married Cathy Lainey.
 - Johnny Lainey, 1978
 - Jason David Wayne, 1979, married Andrea MacRae
 - Abigail Evelyn, 2005
- Sandra, born May 11, 1972, married Thomas Blackett Jr., May 25, 1995.
 - Emily Claire, 1995
 - Amy Madelyn, 1997
 - Mark Thomas Wayne, 2004

In June, 1997, Wayne and Evelyn moved to French River and bought the home of George and Mary Pidgeon. This was George's father's home (Arthur Pidgeon). The house was built by Harold and Babe Harper.



The Fosters (Writers of the first edition of the history)
Family of the late Donald Cousins
Family of the late Fred Bernard

Family of the late Jean (Stewart) Howatt (Birthday Book)

Christine Schulze

Elizabeth and Jacob Burt

Our Consultants:

Helen Lamont MacLean

Everett Burt

Layton Stewart

Typists:

Joyce Montgomery (First and Second Edition)

Barb MacKay Janet Haslem

Donna McAndrew (Proof Reader)

Sarah MacKay (Technical Support)

The Archives of Prince Edward Island, Charlottetown The MacNaught History Centre & Archives, Summerside

Corey Montgomery (Sports Writer)

Grace Jenkins (Graphic Design)

Mike and Isabel Smith (MJS Marketing)



