

Christie's Look-Off



Travelling across St. George's Bay on a calm day. Cape George is appr. 33 Km from Christies look-off.

Cape George

Cape George Point
Ballantynes Cove

Lakevale

St. George's Bay

In its time St George's Bay has witnessed many types of vessels, the canoes of First Nations Peoples, the era of three-masted schooners, and the passage of large freighters from the Great Lakes, travelling via the shortcut through the Strait of Canso, to Halifax or to the eastern USA.

Today you may see a tugboat moving gravel from the quarry in Auld's Cove, or a cargo ship heading to the pulp and paper mill at Point Tupper. In May and June the local fishermen set lobster traps and fish herring. Sailboats and pleasure crafts are visible during the summer months, tuna and mackerel boats are offshore in early fall.



Photo: Fisheries & Oceans Canada, Port Hood

The shallow waters inshore beneath Christie's Look-off claimed a pod of "Blackfish" in the fall of 1982.

These Longfinned Pilot whales came to the distress calls of a member trapped by the retreating tide.

Blackfish are the most commonly seen whales in this region as they follow the squid in from the ocean.

St. George's Bay is the birthing ground for numerous gray seals in January and February when the "big ice" moves down from the north and shuts down navigation.

Background photo: Fisherman Andrew McKillop, by Sandra Buker

Inverness



Gray seal pup
Photo: Rowan MacIver

Mabou Highlands

Mabou

Lake Ainslie

After the ice breakup, 1966

Antigonish

Antigonish Harbour

Pomquet Harbour

Tracadie Harbour

Cape Jack

Havre Boucher

Low Point

Strait of Canso

Troy

Long Point

Christies Look-Off
GPS N 5077671
E 0618066

Creignish

Creignish Hills

Baxters Cove

Judique

Henry Island

Little Judique Harbour

Maryville

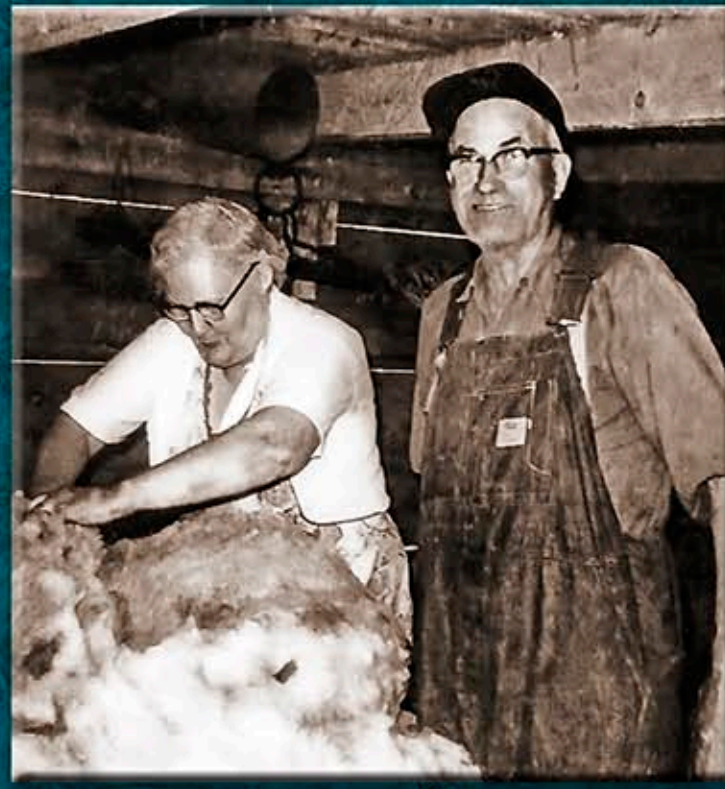
Port Hood Island

Cape Linzee

Port Hood

Mabou Harbour

Mabou Mines



Shearing sheep, Christie and Angus "Cooper" MacEachern

Sit and rest awhile, Christie welcomes you!

Christie "Cooper" MacEachern grew up on this land. Her ancestors, like the other pioneers from the west coast of Scotland, arrived in the early 19th century. These Gaelic speaking people lived off the land and the sea. St George's Bay was central to their way of life. It provided lobster, salmon, herring, mackerel and cod for their families, and a highway for transportation.

In the early years, relatives on both sides of the bay communicated by lighting bonfires on the hilltops. They sent messages of celebration of the old Gaelic festivals, of the change of seasons and of the deaths of family members.



Alex Angus MacEachern, Allan & Dan Gillis.
Photo: Lawrence MacEachern, July 1969



Long Point lobster cannery workers, 1914

In 1913, 3 lobster canneries operated in the immediate area. Today we have fewer fishermen, but the size of their boats and number of traps have increased.



John Joe Mac Eachern, 1966
Photo: Colin Mac Eachern



Passengers from Centennial Rear at Craigmores station, located about 1/2 km to the north of here, was one of over a dozen stops for "The Judique Flyer" which ran on this former railway line for almost 60 years until 1959.



Text: Ceilidh Trail Committee
Photos: Chestico Museum collection, Port Hood, NS
Photo restoration and layout by MV Design, www.wdmv.ca

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