

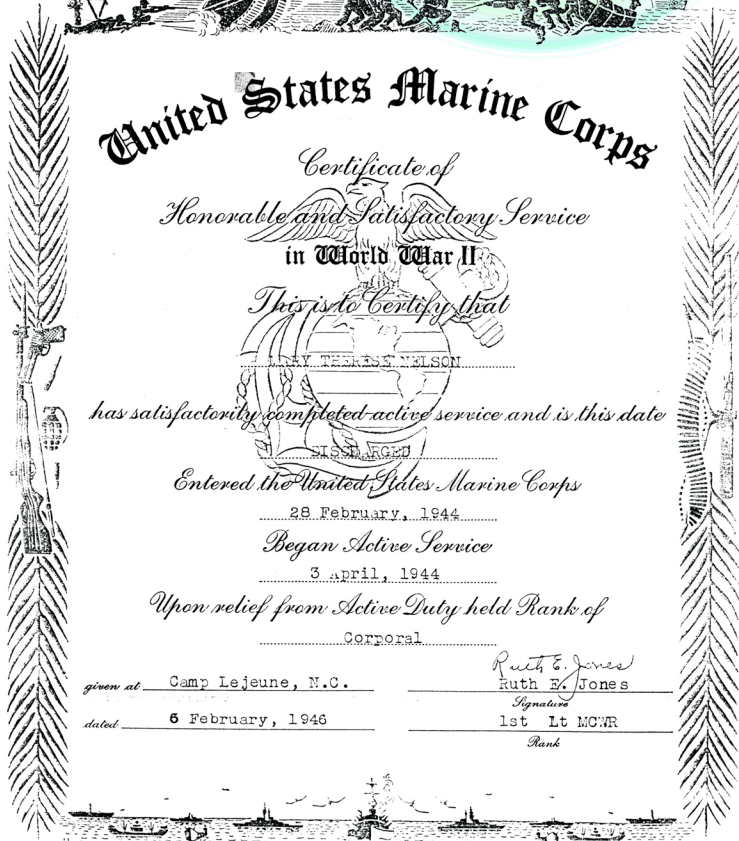
Patsy Mary Therese Nelson

Her friends and family know her as "Patsy." Patsy was born on November 14, 1923, on Indian Island and lived there until the age of 8. Her mother, Opal Jones, moved Patsy to the town of Monson, Maine, near Moosehead Lake. Patsy moved because her father, Roland Nelson, went on the road to become a performer.

On February 28th, 1944, at the age of 21, Patsy became one of the first women in Maine to join the Marine Corps. Patsy was the first Penobscot woman to join the Marine Corps.

On Thursday August 5, 2004, at the age of 82, Mary Therese Nelson was honored with a Distinguished Service Award from the Marine Corps League Greater Bangor Area Detachment 1151 for being the first Penobscot Indian woman to join the United States Marine Corps. Several Marine Corps veterans, State officials and Tribal Representatives turned out on the Penobscot Nation Reservation on Indian Island to witness the honor.

First Penobscot Woman Marine



An advertisement for "NEEDAHEB Entertainer Exhibitor". It features a photograph of a Native American woman in traditional dress. The text includes: "Will have INDIAN RELICS, CURIOS and Beautiful HAND-MADE INDIAN BASKETS ON EXHIBITION AT Hotel Plaza - Monday Feb. 19, 1936 At 8 P.M. Lecture on History, Traditions, Arts and Music. Ceremonial Songs and Dances. These Baskets are Designed, Colored and Woven by Genuine Indian Designers and Basket Makers - - unsurpassed by any other tribe in the world. All are invited to see this BEAUTIFUL DISPLAY of the HAND-WORK of the PENOBSCOT INDIANS. Penobscot Tribe - Old Town, Maine". To the right of the advertisement, the name "Roland Nelson" is written in a large, bold font.

Advertisement for Patsy's father. He was known as Needahbeh which means "friend" in Penobscot. At the time, many Penobscots acted as performers.



Micmac Wars 1606-1616

On the left is an epic poem by Marc Lescarbot. Lescarbot was a Jesuit Priest who lived among the Native people at Port Royal. This poem speaks of the revenge of a Micmac (Souriquois) Chief Membertou.

This is sometimes referred to as the "Tarratine Wars."

This war raged for many years. The Micmac warriors had the upper hand because they were supplied with guns and ammunition from Port Royal. They attacked the coast of Maine killing Indians on the Kennebec, Androscoggin, and Saco Rivers. In 1616 they killed Bessabez.

Today the Micmac and the other Wabanaki Tribes are friendly and at peace.

The Maliseet, Micmac, Passamaquoddy, and Penobscot are part of the Wabanaki Confederacy.

*I sing of Membertou and the happy victory
Which acquired for him a short time ago an immortal glory.
When he littered with dead the fields of the Armouchiquois (People
in Southern Maine, Ancestors of Penobscots)
To avenge the Souriquois (Micmac) people....
To say what moved Membertou and his followers
To undertake such a bloody pursuit for his death
He was Panoniac (for such was his name)
Once a savage of great renown among his people....
Because this Panoniac ten months ago
Having gone to see them (for the last time)
Carrying in his boats some merchandise...
Without mercy they slaughter their neighbor,
Pillage what he had and divide it.
The companions of the dead man escape by swimming away and
Hide themselves for a time in the shadow of a rock....
[The body is retrieved, embalmed, and brought back to Port Royal.]
And to the body present there, Prince Souriquois
Starts to cry out in a frightful voice:
What then, Membertou, (he said in his language)
Will he leave unpunished such a vicious outrage?
What then, Membertou will not have satisfaction
For the excesses against his own and even his house?....
We have close to us the support of the French
To whom these dogs have done a similar wrong.
It is resolved, it is necessary that the countryside
Soon be bathed in the blood of these murderers.
Actaudin my dear son, and your youngest brother
Who have never once abandoned your father,
It is now necessary to arm yourselves with force and courage
Now then, go quickly one following the shore,
From here to Cap Breton, the other through the woods
Towards the Canadians and the Gasperiquois,
And the Etechemins (Penobscot) to announce this insult,
And say to our friends that I beseech them all
To carry in their souls a spirited resentment,
With the result that they arm themselves promptly
And come to find me near this river,
Where they know I have planted my banner*

-Marc Lescarbot "The Defeat of the Armouchiquois Savages by Chief Membertou and his Savage Allies, in New France, in the Month of July, 1607." Translated by Thomas H. Goetz.

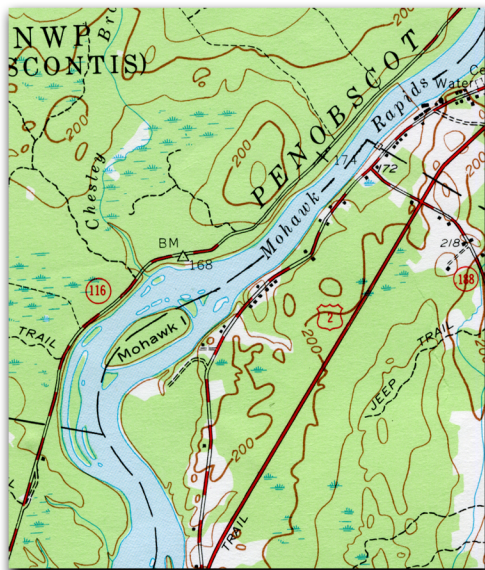


Mohawk Conflicts



Between the 1630's and 1700, the Mohawk Indians began warring with the tribes in Maine. The Mohawk, an Iroquios tribe, traditionally lived in the area of up-state New York and Canada. From a Penobscot perspective, they were west beyond the large lake called Champlain. During the fur trade the Mohawk traded with the English and Dutch. When the beaver population began to decline in the home of the Mohawk, they sought territory in Maine. The Penobscot, for protection, sought closer relations with their allies the French. Between 1638-1655 the Beaver Wars waged in Maine. Mohawk expansion into Maine showed their desire to take over the fur trade in Maine. In the 1650's and 1660's the Mohawk raided Penobscot villages and other Native American villages all over Maine.

In the *History of Penobscot Indians* by Florence Nicolay Shay, she wrote about the Mohawk. "The Mohawk attacked them [Penobscot] on every occasion. The Penobscots always had a scout watching for any sign of them and the surest sign that they were approaching were small chips of wood that came floating down the river." She continued, "One memorable event is told of a Mohawk woman who was friendly with the Penobscots, foiling the plans of the Mohawks. She was left on guard one night while the men rested and after they were all asleep she took a hatchet and killed as many as she could, then took a canoe and came to the Penobscot reservation and gave the alarm that they were to be attacked. When the Mohawks came they were slaughtered in great numbers."



According to oral stories it was said the Mohawks would camp on Mohawk Island near Mohawk rapids just below Lincoln, Maine on the Penobscot River. Here they would make camp before proceeding down river to attack the Penobscot villages on the River. In addition to having a Mohawk Island, there is also an island that was designated as a Mohawk burial place.



1630's-1700

Molly Mathilde

1665-1717



person

Madockawando and Jean Vincent became friends and exchanged cultural beliefs. Pidianiske was baptized and her name was changed to Marie Matilde. Her people couldn't pronounce "R"s and simply called her Molly.

Molly grew up seeing the friendship between the two men that strengthened the relationship between the French and the Penobscots in the area. With war in the area, an alliance between the French and Molly's people was essential.

In 1684, Molly and Jean Vincent got married. Her father insisted on the union because it would strengthen the alliance. Molly protested at first. But her mother pointed out that her marriage to Molly's father was one that strengthened an alliance.

Molly and Jean Vincent had two ceremonies, one a traditional Penobscot ceremony, and one with a **French Jesuit Priest**.

Molly Mathilde was born with the name Pidianiske. Her village was located on the eastern shores of Penobscot Bay on a river called the Bagaduce. The year was 1665 and she was the daughter of a powerful Chief named **Madockawando** and his bride, the daughter of a chief herself, from the Kennebec River Valley.

At that time that region was under constant change. It was claimed by both the English and the French. **Fort Pentagoet** was built near the village and changed hands many times as Pidianiske grew.

In 1670 when Pidianiske was just five years old, Jean Vicent d' Abbadie arrived in the area. Just 18 years old, he was sent by the French to protect the fort. He had the heir to the title of **Baron St. Castin**.

Molly and Jean Vincent had five children. In 1684, Molly Mathilde gave birth to their first child, Bernard Anselm. In 1687, a daughter named Therese blessed the peninsula. Joseph, their second son, came in 1690 and Marie Anastasie along with Jean Pierre in 1692.

Norridgewock Massacre ▲▲▲▲



On August, 22nd 1724, two hundred and eighty (280) English soldiers and **Mohawk Indians**, under the command of Captain John Harmon, and Captain Jeremiah Molton, attacked a Native American settlement called Norridgewock on the Kennebec River. Norridgewock had a **French Jesuit Priest** named Sebastian Rasle. Rasle was accused, by the English, of getting the Native Americans to war against the English colonists. The English attacked the settlement killing men, women, children, and Father Sebastian Rasle. Norridgewock was an important strategic location on the Kennebec and the English didn't want the French to establish a foot-hold.

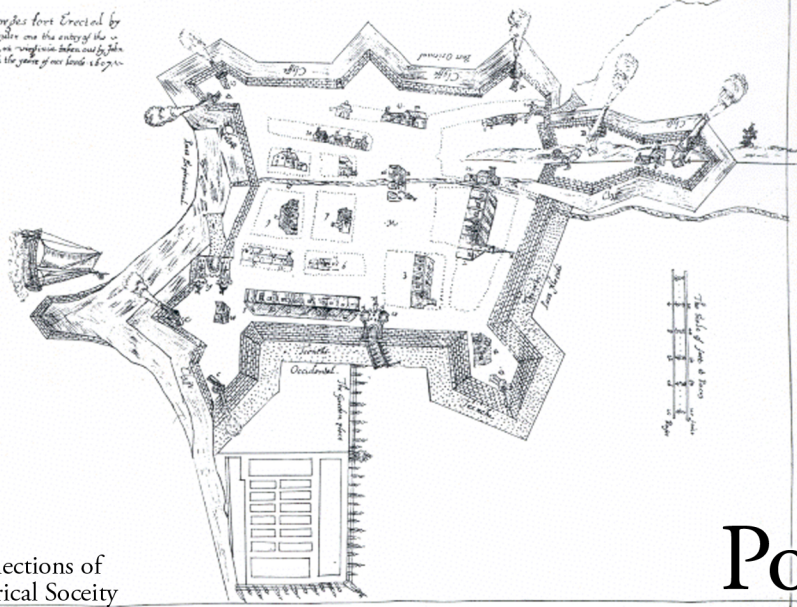
The village was destroyed and the survivors fled to the north and east. These refugees made their way to Canada and to Old Town. One survivor who lost his arm during this massacre carried an iron cross to Quebec, Canada. This cross later made its way to Indian Island and is affixed to the top of the St. Ann's Church steeple on Indian Island.

The Massachusetts Bay Colony ordered the attack on Norridgewock. However, they wanted Fr. Rasle alive. He died in the heat of the attack. It's unclear who killed the Jesuit, the English brought his scalp to Boston as proof of his death along with 23 Native **Scalps**.



The draught of *George's fort* Erected by
Captaine George Popham, Lieutene on the entry of the
Province of Maine, in the year of our Lord 1607.

- A. A long Charnell
- B. A house
- C. A house
- D. A house
- E. The Captaine's house
- F. The Church
- G. The Admiralls house
- H. The Mariners house
- I. The Store house
- J. The Mariners house
- K. The Admiralls house
- L. The Captaine's house
- M. The Captaine's house
- N. The Captaine's house
- O. The Captaine's house
- P. The Captaine's house
- Q. The Captaine's house
- R. The Captaine's house
- S. The Captaine's house
- T. The Captaine's house
- U. The Captaine's house
- V. The Captaine's house
- W. The Captaine's house
- X. The Captaine's house
- Y. The Captaine's house
- Z. The Captaine's house



From the collections of
Maine Historical Society

Plans for the fort at the Popham Colony. Fort George was named after George Popham one of the founders of the colony.

1607

Popham Colony



When **George Weymouth** returned to Europe with five captured Penobscots, he gifted two of them to Sir John Popham, the Lord Chief Justice of England, and three to Sir Ferdinando Gorges, a wealthy English knight. Gorges and Popham gained the rights from the English government to establish a colony in the region that we now know as Maine.

On May 31st, 1607, Sir John Popham's nephew, George Popham, and Raleigh Gilbert, set sail for Maine in two ships. They brought the kidnapped Penobscots, Skidwarres and Nahanada, as guides.

They landed near the home of the taken Penobscots. As they approached, they heard the sound of tribal war cries. The Penobscot were prepared to fight the Europeans who had taken their people captive. The captured Penobscots stepped forward and quieted their people before any bloodshed occurred. Skidwarres stayed in the village with his family.

Popham and Gilbert headed for the mouth of the Kennebec River. They built a fort around the area they planned to colonize. The colony didn't last long. The store house burned and it was a cold winter. Gilbert and Popham fought over who was in charge, and the local Native Americans were not very friendly due to the kidnappings. The Indians were not willing to trade with them to replenish their supplies. Finally, in 1608 the colony was abandoned. This would have been the first English colony in the "New World," just before Jamestown, Virginia.



Revolutionary War

▲▲△ 1776

When the Revolutionary War broke out, General George Washington requested an alliance with the Penobscot people. In 1775, a British warship destroyed a popular trading post for Penobscot at Fort Pownall. The Penobscots received a letter asking them to join with the American colonies to defend the liberty of both parties. Chief **Joseph Orono** urged his fellow Penobscots to side with the Americans.

In June 1777, Colonel John Allan of the Massachusetts militia, negotiated a treaty with the Native Americans of Maine. They were to assist in the Revolutionary War in return for protection of their lands by the United States and provision of supplies in times of need. However, this treaty was never ratified (passed by congress).

Also in 1777, the British still occupied the St. John Valley and 500 Maliseets went south to Machias. In August of that year, the British attacked Machias with four ships and were held back by Wabanaki and American volunteers. A number of Maliseet, Micmac, Passamaquoddy, Penobscot, St. Francis Abenaki, and soldiers remained in the Machias area throughout the war. These actions helped secure that boundary area for the Americans.

REVOLUTIONARY WAR



ATTEAN
ATTEAN ELMUT
CAWQUISH
CHI OSSON
FRANCES MOXES
FRANCIS
FRANCIS JOSEPH
FRENCH MESOR
JOHN NEPTUNE
JOSEPH COOK
JOSEPH ENEAS
JOSEPH MARY
JOSEPH MOLLY

JOSEPH ORONO
JOSEPH PETER
LEWEY
LEWEY VEREION
LITTLE SABADIS
MATIGUOSO
NATTANIS
O HOGAN
PEARL SOCK
PEARL TOCWASO
PENNEWAITE
PETER NICOLA
POLIS

SABATIS
SABATIS JR
SALONSIS
SAYOMICKE
SCARRED JOHN
SHANNOT
SOC ATTEAH
SOC TOMER
SONOR
SOWANOCKEG
TAM HOLET
TOMASES L

The Revolutionary War became an important marker in the history of the Penobscot Nation. It is the first time that Penobscots, like **White Francis**, put their lives on the line in the defense of the United States.

Above are the names of the documented Penobscot men who fought in the Revolutionary War. There may have been many more who were undocumented.

person

Samuel de Champlain

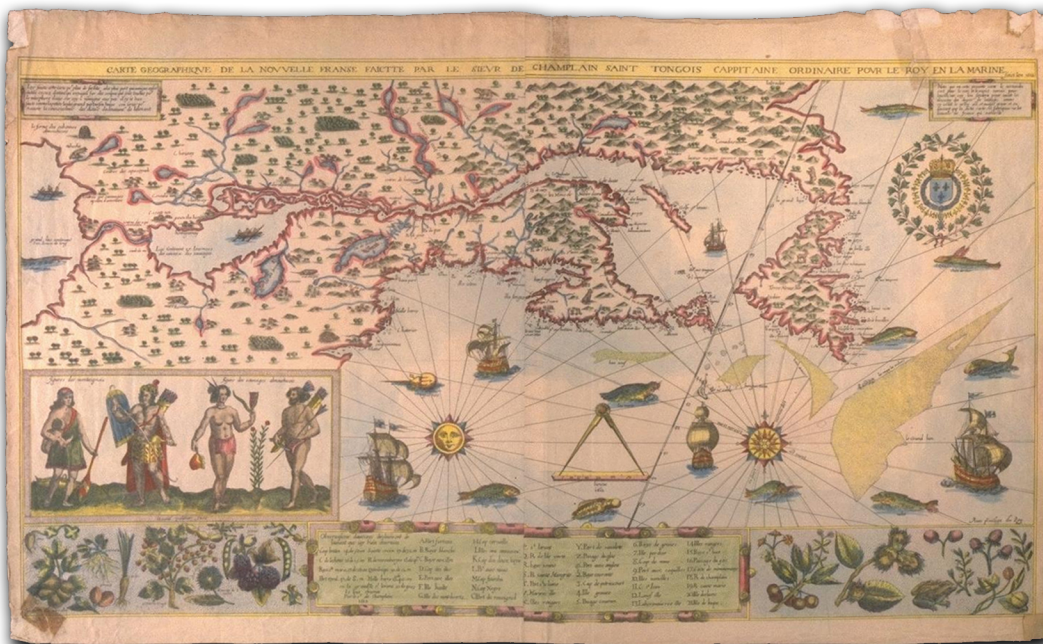
Early in the seventeenth century, the French were interested in establishing a colony in the “New World.” King Henry IV granted nobleman Sieur de Monts the territory known as Acadia. In the spring of 1604, de Monts set sail with explorer and royal geographer Samuel de Champlain. They arrived in Maine and de Monts set up a small settlement on **St. Croix Island**.

Champlain continued south with two Native American guides to chart the coast of Maine. He named Mount Desert Island, and went up the Penobscot River. On the Penobscot, he traveled up the river to present-day Bangor. There he was impressed with the landscape and the Native American people he encountered.

Champlain met the great Penobscot Chief, **Bessabez** (Behss-ah-BAY). Champlain was the first Frenchman to establish an alliance, or partnership, with the Penobscots in Maine. The French were interested in establishing **fur trade** with the Native American groups in the area. In addition, the French were interested in christianizing the Native population. **French Jesuits** soon established missions among Native American communities through Maine and the Maritimes.

The relationship between Champlain and **Bessabez** set the stage for a long history of alliances between the Penobscot and the French in Maine.

1604



Scalp Proclamation

King George II (1727-60 AD) was the King of Britain (England) at the time this proclamation was issued. Born November 10th 1683.

Lolon Saguarrab was the Chief of the Penobscot Nation at the time of the Proclamation. He was a great warrior, a greater diplomat, and an executive of ability. So tireless he spent an entire summer between Boston and Quebec seeking peace for his people.



By His HONOUR

S P E N C E R P H I P S, Esq;

Lieutenant-Governour and Commander in Chief, in and over His Majesty's Province of the *Massachusetts-Bay* in *New-England*.

A P R O C L A M A T I O N.

WHEREAS the Tribe of *Penobscot* Indians have repeatedly in a perfidious Manner acted contrary to their solemn Submission unto His Majesty long since made and frequently renewed;

I have therefore, at the Desire of the house of Representatives, with the Advice of His Majesty's Council, thought fit to issue this Proclamation, and to declare the *Penobscot* Tribe of Indians to be Enemies, Rebels and Traitors to His Majesty King *GEORGE* the Second: And I do hereby require His Majesty's Subjects of this Province to embrace all Opportunities of pursuing, captivating, killing and destroying all and every of the aforesaid Indians.

A N D W H E R E A S the General Court of this Province have voted that a Bounty or Incouragement be granted and allowed to be paid out of the Publick Treasury, to the marching Forces that shall have been employed for the Defence of the *Eastern* and *Western* Frontiers, from the *First* to the *Twenty-fifth* of this Instant *November*;

I have thought fit to publish the same, and I do hereby promise, That there shall be paid out of the Province-Treasury to all and any of the said Forces, over and above their Bounty upon Enlistment, their Wages and Subsistence, the premiums or Bounty following, viz.

For every Male *Penobscot* Indian above the Age of Twelve Years, that shall be taken within the Time aforesaid and brought to *Boston*, *Fifty Pounds*.

For every Scalp of a Male *Penobscot* Indian above the Age aforesaid, brought in as Evidence of their being killed as aforesaid, *Forty Pounds*.

For every Female *Penobscot* Indian taken and brought in as aforesaid, and for every Male Indian Prisoner under the Age of Twelve Years, taken and brought in as aforesaid, *Twenty-five Pounds*.

For every Scalp of such Female Indian or Male Indian under the Age of Twelve Years, that shall be killed and brought in as Evidence of their being killed as aforesaid, *Twenty Pounds*.

Given at the Council-Chamber in *Boston*, this Third Day of *November* 1755, and in the Twenty-ninth Year of the Reign of our Sovereign Lord *GEORGE* the Second, by the Grace of GOD of *Great-Britain, France* and *Ireland*, KING, Defender of the Faith, &c.

By His Honour's Command,
J. Willard, Secr.

S. Phips.

G O D Save the K I N G.

B O S T O N: Printed by *John Draper*, Printer to His Honour the Lieutenant-Governour and Council. 1755.

Requires "his majesty's subjects" to "embrace all opportunities of pursuing, captivating, killing and destroying all and every" Penobscot Indian.

They wanted the Penobscot Indians to be submissive to "his majesty."

This Proclamation put a bounty on the heads of women.

More devastating and cruel this Proclamation put a bounty of the heads of children under the age of 12.



Spencer Phips (1685-1757)

Royal Governor of Massachusetts
1749-1753, 1756-1757

Spencer Phips was the nephew of former governor and treasure hunter Sir William Phips.

1755



St. Croix Island

1604

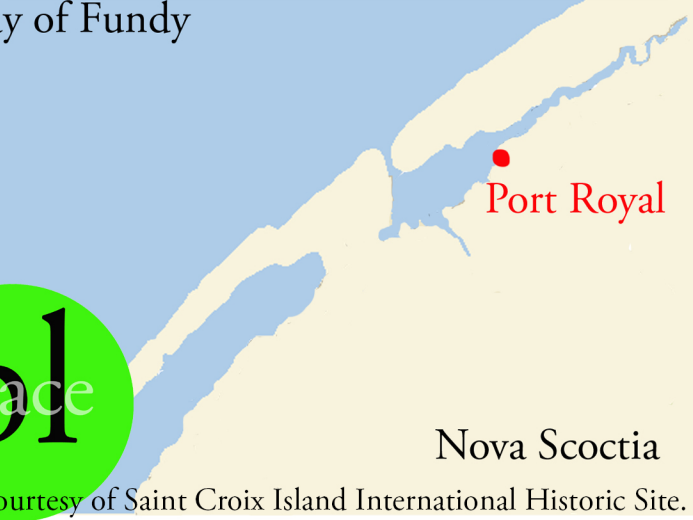
The French selected Saint Croix Island for their first attempt at a settlement. **Samuel de Champlain** brought **Sieur de Monts** to the area. It was a good location, safe anchorage, and apparently defensible. During the summer houses, stores, and a chapel were erected. Gardens were planted on the island. However, lack of fresh food led to an outbreak of scurvy. Thirty-five (35) of **Sieur de Monts'** men died that winter. The harsh winter led to the abandonment of the site. They left for a better location across the bay.



Bay of Fundy



Photos courtesy of Saint Croix Island International Historic Site.



Nova Scotia

In the summer of 1605, De Monts moved the settlement from St. Croix across the Bay of Fundy to a new location at Port Royal overlooking Annapolis Basin in Nova Scotia. The habitation built was a defensive structure that housed the colonists, their supplies, and workshops. During the winter of 1605/6, twelve more men died of scurvy, but the colony was successful.

1605

▲▲ Port Royal