



# Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island





# Nova Scotia and P.E.I.

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# **Nova Scotia and P.E.I.**

## **Introduction**

**Here are pictures from a short visit to Nova Scotia's Cape Breton Island and a side trip to Prince Edward Island.**

**I flew into Sydney, rented a car for my tour, and returned from Sydney.**

**The weather was sunny for the first day and a half, but mostly cloudy and often rainy after that. You will get a sense of the land and its people from the pictures, but the sparkle that only sunshine can deliver is often missing.**

**There is a lot of Canadian history here. Because this area is at the eastern side of North America, this is where the Europeans came first, and much of our early history is here.**

**I have assembled this for several people with very different backgrounds and interests. You are not likely to be equally interested in all parts of this. It's presented in this PDF format so that you can spend your time in the sections that interest you the most.**

**– Bruce McKay**



**Cape Breton and P.E.I.**

**PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND**

**CAPE BRETON ISLAND**

**NOVA SCOTIA**

**Legend:**

- ① This trip starts in the Sydney area,
- ② loops around northern Cape Breton,
- ③ makes a side visit to P.E.I. and
- ④ returns to Nova Scotia to Baddeck.

- 1 This trip starts in the Sydney area,
- 2 loops around northern Cape Breton,
- 3 makes a side visit to P.E.I. and
- 4 returns to Nova Scotia to Baddeck.





**Sydney**

Sydney is Cape Breton's largest city,  
and Nova Scotia's second-largest.





**Sydney**

The world's largest fiddle is to promote tourism.  
Sydney's coal mines and steel mills shut down years ago.





**North Sydney**

*MV Caribou* is Canada's largest super-ferry,  
and can carry 340 vehicles.

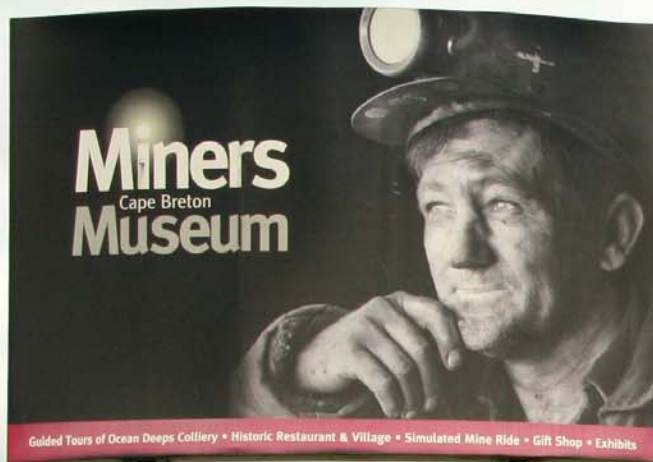




**North Sydney**

**Marine Atlantic's ferries are the main commercial connection to the island of Newfoundland.**





**Glance Bay**

**The Cape Breton Miners' Museum is all that's left of Sydney's once-massive coal mining industry.**





**Glace Bay**

Sydney's coal mines stretched 7 miles /  
11 km out under the Atlantic.





**Glace Bay**

**Marconi achieved a wireless breakthrough  
on the Atlantic coast just east of Sydney.**

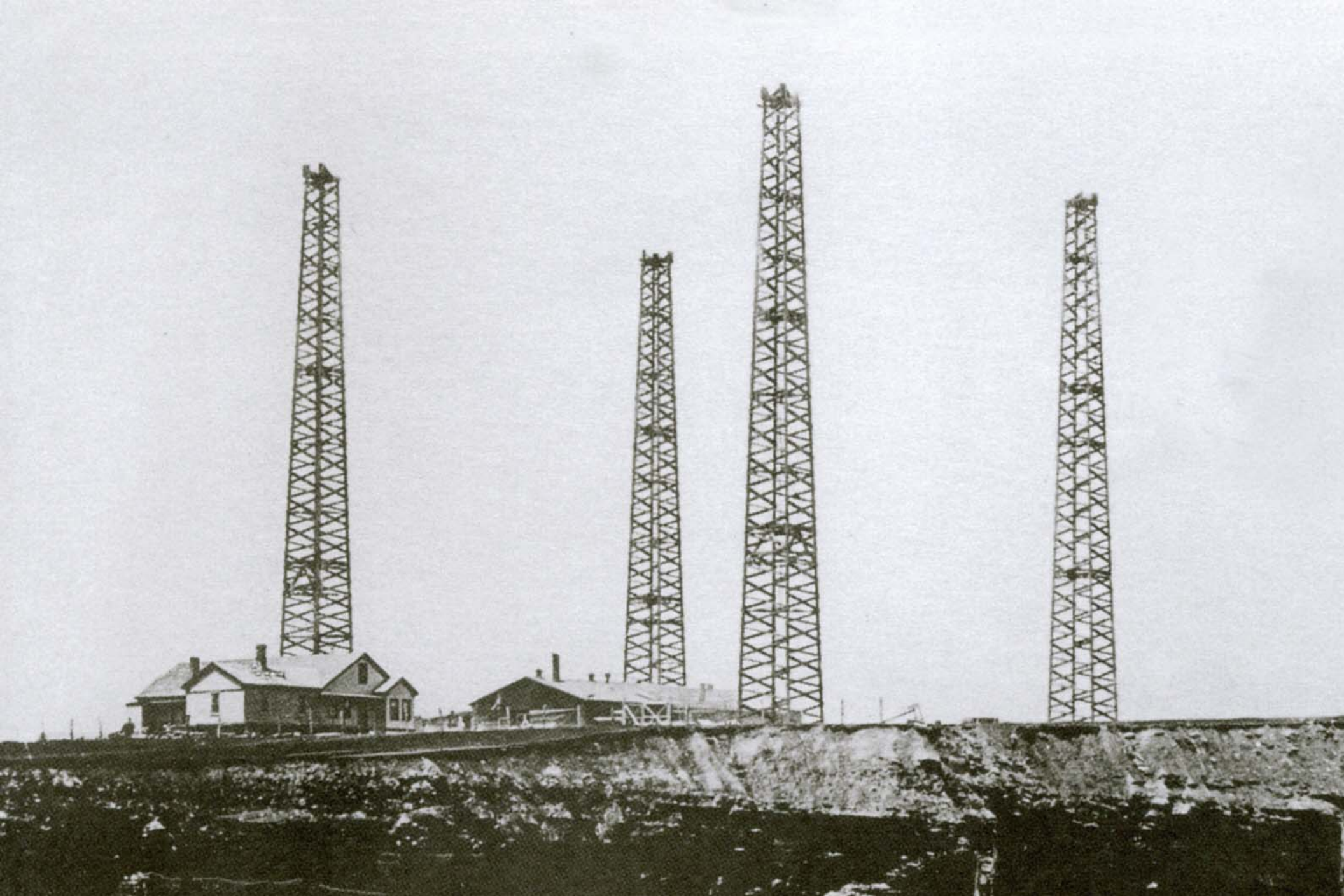




**Glace Bay**

**In 1902 Marconi sent a message from here that was received in England, the first from North America to Europe.**





**Glace Bay**

Marconi had constructed a huge antenna array and a series of support buildings.





## **Main-à-Dieu**

**Main-à-Dieu, a small fishing village south of Glace Bay, is Nova Scotia's most easterly community.**





Main-à-Dieu

Main-à-Dieu harbour





Louisbourg

Louisbourg is a larger fishing community.





Louisbourg

Population densities are not high.





**Louisbourg**

**Canada's first lighthouse was built here  
in 1716. It burned cod liver oil.**





## Fortress of Louisbourg

From the early 1600s the French and English battled on the Atlantic coast for access to fish for cod.





**Fortress of  
Louisbourg**

**The only territories France retained here under a 1713 treaty  
were what are now Cape Breton and Prince Edward Island.**





**Fortress of  
Louisbourg**

**In the 1600s and 1700s there was great demand  
for new-world dried cod throughout Europe.**





## Fortress of Louisbourg

In 1719 the French began to construct  
a fortified town at Louisbourg.





## **Fortress of Louisbourg**

**The current Fortress of Louisbourg is the largest reconstructed 18th-century French fortified town in North America.**





**Fortress of  
Louisbourg**

**In 1961 Canada began a \$ 25 million project to reconstruct about one-quarter of the town as it was in 1744.**





**Fortress of  
Louisbourg**

**The reconstruction was based on original plans  
and provided much needed local employment.**





**Fortress of  
Louisbourg**

**Louisbourg became an important trading centre because of its near-perfect location on the Atlantic edge of North America.**





**Fortress of  
Louisbourg**

**In the 1740s the population was about 7,000 soldiers, sailors and settlers. The harbour handled about 150 vessels a year.**





**Fortress of  
Louisbourg**

**In its day the King's Bastion Barracks was one  
of the largest buildings in North America.**





**Fortress of  
Louisbourg**

**Reconstructed Louisbourg includes the full spectrum of civilian life – government offices, businesses, warehouses, stables, apartments, homes and gardens.**





**Fortress of  
Louisbourg**

**Louisbourg is presented to visitors as a  
functioning town with a working population.**





**Fortress of  
Louisbourg**

**“Talk to a soldier. You’ll find them happy to tell you about guard duty, living conditions, security, food and a soldier’s life in general.”**





**Fortress of  
Louisbourg**

**Parks Canada recruits summer soldiers and citizens, schools them in the life of the fortress, and encourages dialog with visitors.**





**Fortress of  
Louisbourg**

**The soldiers stage demonstrations  
such as musket firing ...**





Fortress of  
Louisbourg

... and cannon firing.





**Fortress of  
Louisbourg**

**Period restaurants serve delicious meals  
based on 18th century recipes.**





Fortress of  
Louisbourg

These officials are off to a Public  
Punishment demonstration ...





**Fortress of  
Louisbourg**

**... but this drummer has a more pleasant assignment,  
supporting a folk dance demonstration.**





**Fortress of  
Louisbourg**

**A special week-long program for young children outfits them in period dress, teaches them about colonial life, and rehearses them for public dance performances.**





Fortress of  
Louisbourg

Sweaty costume, but  
cool program just the same.





**Fortress of  
Louisbourg**

**In 1745 Louisbourg fell to a siege by a New  
England force backed by the Royal Navy.**





**Fortress of  
Louisbourg**

**Three years later Louisbourg was restored  
to the French under a treaty in Europe.**





**Fortress of  
Louisbourg**

**Britain attacked Louisbourg again in 1758 with 27,000 troops on 150 ships. Louisbourg fell after a seven-week siege.**





**Fortress of  
Louisbourg**

**The British destroyed the fortress in 1760  
to prevent any future use by the French.**







## Cabot Trail

The Cabot Trail is a 185 mile / 300 km scenic loop around northern Cape Breton Island.



# Northern Cape Breton

-  Cabot Trail
-  Ceilidh Trail







**North-eastern  
Cape Breton**

**We are headed up the eastern coast. 50,000 Scots came here in the 1800s because of the Highland Clearances.**





**North-eastern  
Cape Breton**

**A piper is always on duty to welcome travelers  
at the Gaelic College at St. Anns.**





**North-eastern  
Cape Breton**

**The Gaelic College is devoted to the preservation  
of Gaelic language, arts, and culture.**





**North-eastern  
Cape Breton**

**St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church is named  
for the patron saint of Scotland.**





**North-eastern  
Cape Breton**

The area's Scottish heritage is  
useful in the tourist business.





**North-eastern  
Cape Breton**

**The rugged coastline near Little River,  
half way up the coast towards Ingonish**





North-eastern  
Cape Breton

Little River is one of the tiny fishing  
communities along the eastern coast.





**North-eastern  
Cape Breton**

**Slowly the hills become higher,  
and the roads more winding.**





**North-eastern  
Cape Breton**

**This is inviting terrain for  
motorcycle tourists.**





North-eastern  
Cape Breton

Wreck Cove





**North-eastern  
Cape Breton**

**The cliffs at Cape Smokey Provincial Park**





Ingonish  
Beach

The Keltic Lodge Resort at Ingonish Beach





Ingonish  
Beach

The Lodge's dining room  
has a spectacular view.





**Ingonish  
Beach**

**No Keltic resort could be complete without  
an 18-hole golf course by the sea.**





Ingonish  
Beach

Ingonish Harbour





Ingonish  
Beach

Ingonish Harbour





Ingonish  
Beach

Rugged coastline





Ingonish  
Beach

A cloudy day at the beach





**Ingonish**

**Ingonish fishing fleet back  
home in the late afternoon**





Northern  
Cape Breton

First stop heading north next  
morning is Neils Harbour.





Northern  
Cape Breton

Grey skies over White Point





Northern  
Cape Breton

Bay St. Lawrence is at the  
northern tip of Cape Breton.





Northern  
Cape Breton

Cape Breton actually consists  
mostly of well-irrigated green trees.





Parks Canada

Parcs Canada

## Cape Breton Highlands

National Park  
of Canada

## Hautes-Terres- du-Cap-Breton

Parc national  
du Canada

Canada 

Northern  
Cape Breton

Cape Breton Highlands National Park covers 365  
square miles / 950 km<sup>2</sup> of mountainous terrain.





**Northern  
Cape Breton**

**But it's raining so hard we can't see the mountains.  
No more pictures until the weather improves.**





**Pleasant Bay**

Pleasant Bay, a fishing and tourism village  
on Cape Breton's north-west coast





Pleasant Bay

Whale-watching boat tours  
are a growth industry here.





**North-western  
Cape Breton**

**This view south at Cap Rouge is the most  
frequently seen image of Cape Breton.**





North-western  
Cape Breton

At Cap Rouge





**North-western  
Cape Breton**

**Looking back up the coast  
towards Cap Rouge**





**North-western  
Cape Breton**

**Hills south of Cap Rouge**





**Chéticamp**

**Chéticamp, largest community  
on Cape Breton's west coast**





Chéticamp

Fishermen in the area specialize  
in catching snow crab.





## Chéticamp

The French language and Acadian culture predominate in the north-western region of Cape Breton.





Western  
Cape Breton

Grand Etang





**Western  
Cape Breton**

**At Margaree Harbour we switch from the Cabot Trail  
to the Ceilidh Trail to continue down the west coast.**





**Western  
Cape Breton**

**Whale Cove,  
south of Margaree Harbour**





**Inverness**

**Inverness still has commercial fishing ...**





**Inverness**

... but its large fish processing facilities are largely idle.





**Lake Ainslie**

**An inland detour to scenic Lake Ainslie**





Lake Ainslie

The land here is more suitable for farming.





South-western  
Cape Breton

The Red Shoe Pub at Mabou is owned by sisters in The Rankin Family, probably Cape Breton's most famous musical group.





South-western  
Cape Breton

South of Mabou





**South-western  
Cape Breton**

**Near the south-western end of Cape Breton**





**South-western  
Cape Breton**

**The Canso causeway links Cape Breton  
Island to mainland Nova Scotia.**





## Pictou

Pictou is the departure point for ferry service to Prince Edward Island, but interesting on its own.





Pictou

"The Hector Heritage Experience" celebrates Pictou's Scottish heritage.





**Pictou**

**A full-scale reproduction of the tall ship that brought the first wave of 189 Scottish immigrants to Nova Scotia in 1773.**





Pictou

The replica *Hector* was built by local craftspeople and volunteers, some of them descendants of the original *Hector* passengers.





**Pictou**

**Visitors can tour the ship and the shops used in its construction.**





Pictou

*Hector Captain's quarters*





**Pictou**

**The Interpretive Centre explains how Pictou became the “Birthplace of New Scotland”.**





### Ferry to P.E.I.

The ferry ride across to Prince Edward Island takes 75 minutes.  
This is a busy route during tourist season.





**Eastern Prince  
Edward Island**

**Point Prim Lighthouse on P.E.I.'s  
south shore, built in 1845**





**Eastern Prince  
Edward Island**

**The island is flat, the soil is rich,  
and agriculture flourishes here.**





**North-central  
P.E.I.**

**Off to the north shore,  
to Tracadie Harbour.**





North-central  
P.E.I.

Tracadie Harbour





**North-central  
P.E.I.**

**Sand dunes are the only  
remarkable hills on P.E.I.**





**North-central  
P.E.I.**

**Brackley Beach, one of many  
along the north central coast**





**North-central  
P.E.I.**

**Brackley Beach,  
on an overcast day**





**North-central  
P.E.I.**

**North Rustico, a fishing village  
on the north shore.**





**North-central  
P.E.I.**

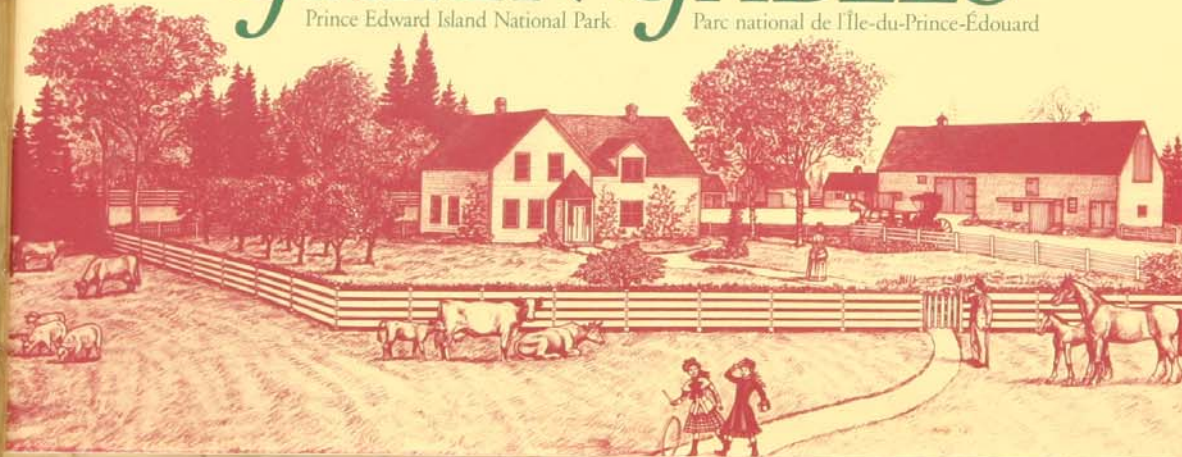
**Nautical motifs are good  
for attracting tourists.**



# GREEN GABLES

Prince Edward Island National Park

Parc national de l'Île-du-Prince-Édouard



**Cavendish -  
Green Gables**

**Green Gables was the inspiration for the setting in  
Lucy Maude Montgomery's *Anne of Green Gables*.**





**Cavendish -  
Green Gables**

**Green Gables is the most popular  
tourist destination in P.E.I.**





## **Green Gables**

The Green Gables house was the model for Anne's home in the novels, which have sold over 50 million copies in 36 languages.





**Green Gables**

The site also includes the “Haunted Wood” trail featured in the novels.





**Green Gables**

The site includes a period farm ...





Green Gables

... compete with harness and agricultural exhibits.





### **Green Gables**

*Anne of Green Gables* is especially popular in Japan, and many make a pilgrimage to this special site.





## **Green Gables**

The house is open for tours,  
but there are long lineups.





**Northern  
P.E.I.**

**Cavendish is awash with Green Gables tourist traps.  
I headed out of town. This is the French River.**





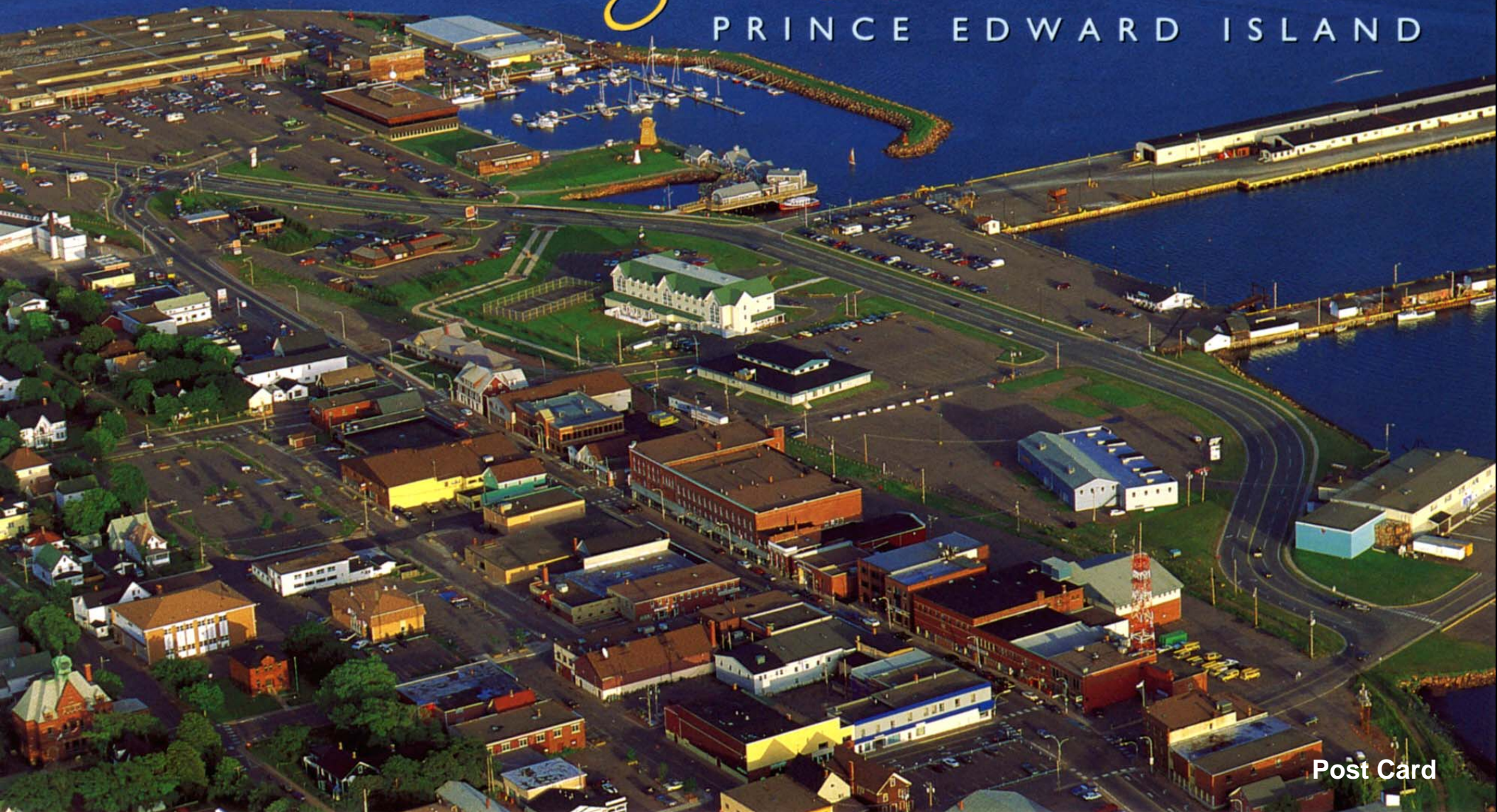
**Northern  
P.E.I.**

**Malpeque, on the north-west  
corner of central P.E.I.**



# Summerside

PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND



Post Card

Summerside

Summerside, on the south shore of P.E.I., is apparently a pretty city.  
I have a nice room in the Lakeview Hotel on the waterfront ...





Summerside

... but the weather isn't cooperating.



# Confederation Bridge



**NEW BRUNSWICK – PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND**

South-central  
P.E.I.

This 13 km / 8 mile long bridge has linked Prince Edward Island to mainland Canada since 1997. It cost \$ 1.3 billion.





**South-central  
P.E.I.**

**But today the only parts of the bridge  
that are visible are the toll booths.**





South-central  
P.E.I.

At Victoria the weather is  
beginning to improve.





South-central  
P.E.I.

Southern P.E.I. is prime farming country.





**South-central  
P.E.I.**

**P.E.I. is famous for its potatoes  
(and its sandy red soil).**





Parks Canada

Parcs Canada

**Port-la-Joye—  
Fort Amherst**

National Historic Site  
of Canada

**Port-la-Joye—  
Fort-Amherst**

Lieu historique national  
du Canada

Canada

**Port-la-Joye—  
Fort Amherst**

The French began to settle Port-la-Joye, on the south coast of P.E.I. across from what is now Charlottetown, in 1720.





**Port-la-Joye—  
Fort Amherst**

**The colony had great potential – a good harbour, good farmland,  
a rich fishery, and a short sail to other French centres.**





**Port-la-Joye—  
Fort Amherst**

**Port-la-Joye went through the same European war reversals as Louisbourg. It was taken by the British in 1745 and again in 1758.**





**Port-la-Joye—  
Fort Amherst**

**In 1758 the British decided to deport all French and Acadian persons.  
More than 3,000 persons were loaded onto 13 ships headed for France.**

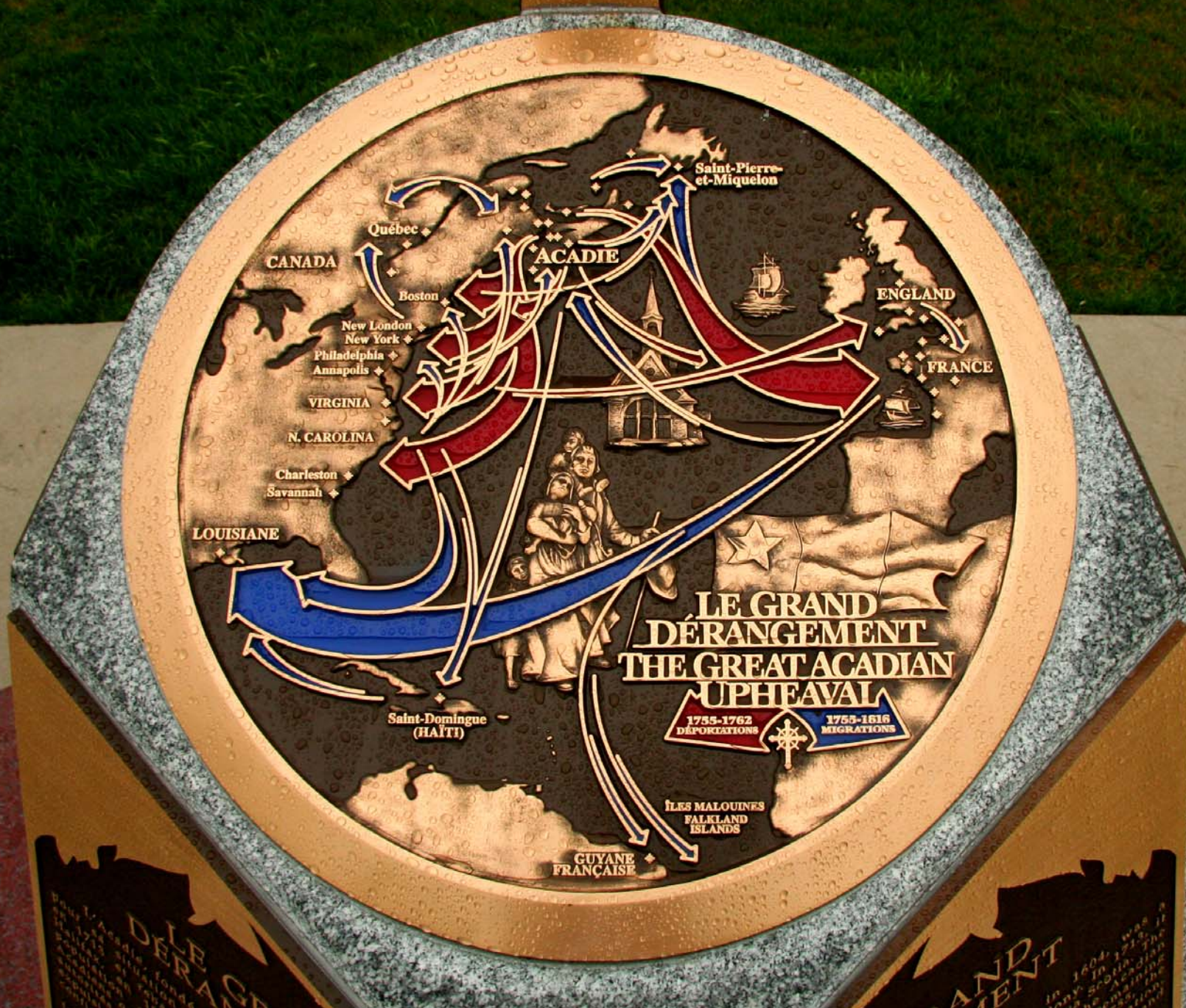




**Port-la-Joye–  
Fort Amherst**

**Over half died. Three overloaded ships sunk drowning 700. Disease and illness on the other overcrowded ships killed another 900. About 1,600 escaped capture.**





Port-la-Joye—  
Fort Amherst

After the Great Acadian Upheaval some of the deportees returned to join those who had escaped. Others moved to other parts of the world.





## Charlottetown

Charlottetown is a bustling but charming city of 32,000, P.E.I.'s largest city, and the capital of the province.





## Charlottetown

Charlottetown is an active commercial centre, but the pace of life is relatively relaxed.





**Charlottetown**

And of course there's no escaping Anne  
in the capital of Green Gables Island.





**Charlottetown**    Waterfront park and tourist facilities





**Charlottetown**

**Peake's Quay Restaurant**





**Province House** Province House is the most important historic site on the island.





Welcome to Province House National Historic Site of Canada  
*the Birthplace of Confederation.*

Bienvenue au lieu historique national du Canada Province House,  
*le berceau de la Confédération.*

During your visit, be sure to see the 17 minute video presentation, "A Great Dream" in the theatre on the first floor, as well as the Confederation Chamber, other 1860s restored rooms and the Legislative Chamber on the second floor!

A wheelchair accessible entrance is available on the opposite side of the building.

Enjoy your visit!

Ne manquez pas la vidéo de 17 minutes intitulée Un rêve extraordinaire, dans la salle de projection du premier étage, ainsi que la Salle de la Confédération, d'autres pièces restaurées dans le style des années 1860 et l'Assemblée législative au deuxième étage.

Une entrée accessible en fauteuil roulant se trouve de l'autre côté de l'édifice.

Bonne visite!







**Province House** The union of British colonies that led to the formation of Canada was first discussed in this room in September 1864.





**Province House** Province House is both an historic site and the seat of the P.E.I. provincial government.





## Confederation Centre

The Confederation Centre of the Arts is Charlottetown's major cultural centre.





**Confederation  
Centre**

The Memorial Hall offers  
free noon hour concerts ...





**Confederation  
Centre**

... but the main stage production is (surprise)  
*Anne of Green Gables, The Musical.*





## Wood Islands

Time to head back to Cape Breton. The Wood Islands lighthouse, near the ferry dock, was built in 1876.





**Wood Islands**

This will be our ride to Nova Scotia once it unloads the incoming trucks and tourists.





**Baddeck**

**Presto. The town of Baddeck on an arm of  
Bras d'Or Lake in central Cape Breton.**





**Baddeck**

**The Bras d'Or Lake region is every  
bit as beautiful as advertised.**





**Bell Museum**

**Baddeck was the favourite home  
of Alexander Graham Bell.**





**Bell Museum**

Bell lived and worked at his *Beinn Bhreagh* estate for most of his last 35 years.





## Bell Museum

The architecture is pleasant but deceptive.  
Most of the complex is hidden below grade.





## Bell Museum

The story of Bell's life is told in displays. He was born in Scotland, but spent most of his life in Canada.





The Single Pole Magneto Telephone used at the Philadelphia Exposition.

Le Transmetteur Magnéto Téléphonique à Pôle Unique utilisé à l'exposition de Philadelphie.

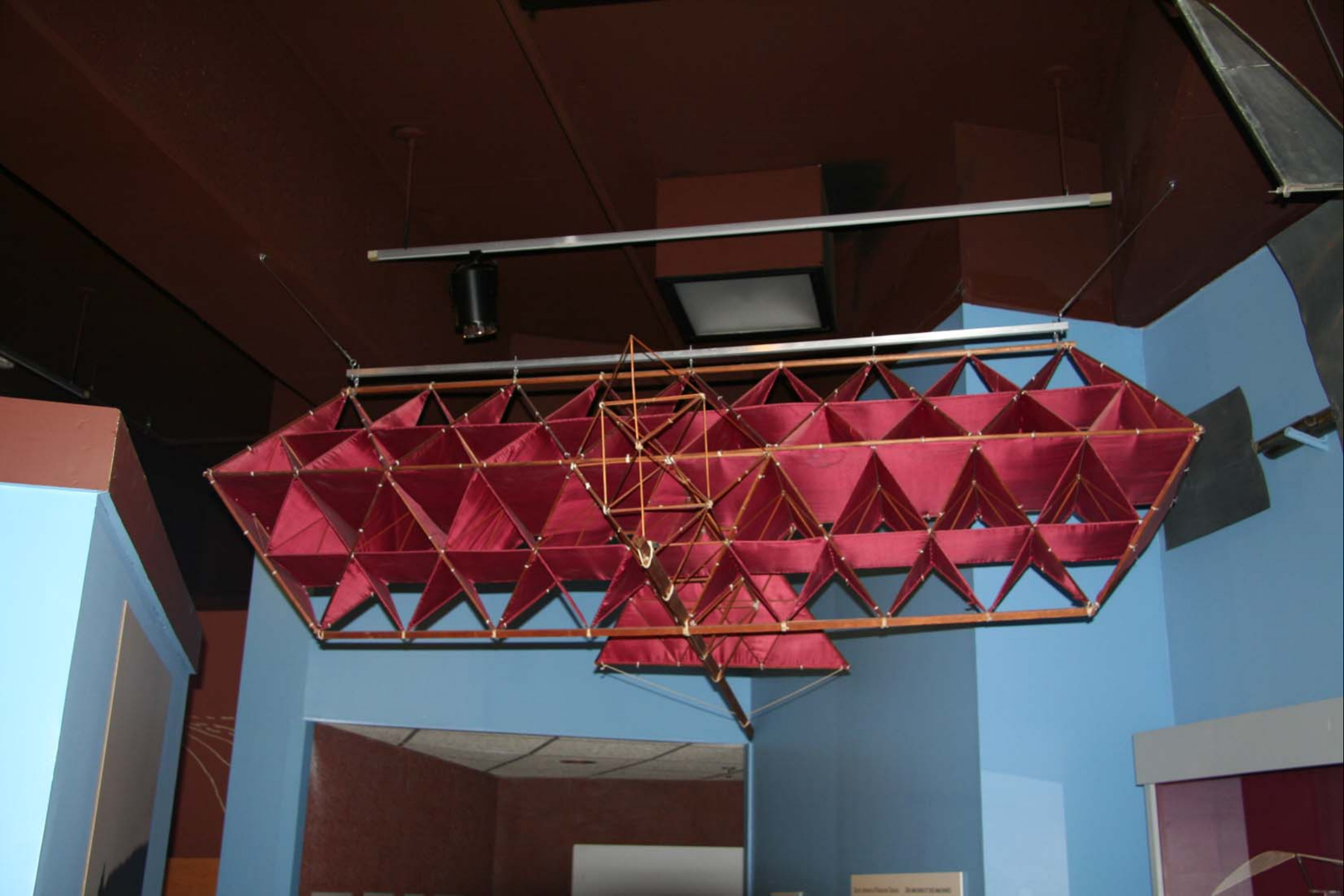




The Double Pole Magneto Telephone  
Transmitter used in the first long distance trials  
at Brantford, Ontario.

Le Transmetteur Magnéto Téléphonique  
Bipolaire employé au cours des essais du





**Bell Museum**

Bell was a pioneer in aeronautics. His worked with kites made of multiple tetrahedrons (3-D triangles).





Engine with counter-rotating propellers used on the Demoiselle.

Motor & flywheel counter-rotating propellers installed on the Demoiselle.

The Liberty.

**Bell Museum**

Bell and his associates tested propeller designs and counter-rotating propellers, preparing to design flying machines.

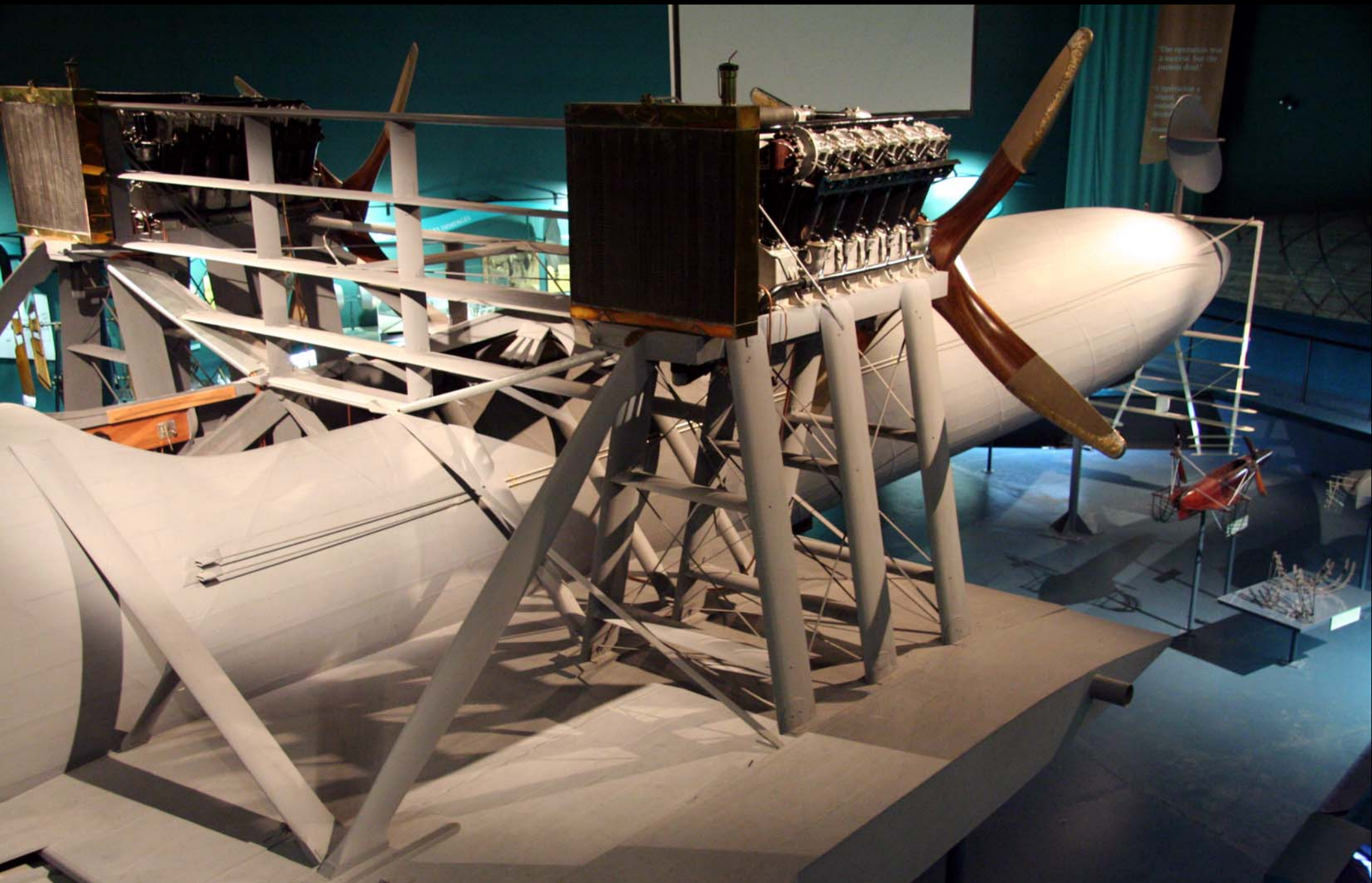




**Bell Museum**

**With success. *The Silver Dart* made the first powered airplane flight in Canada on February 23, 1909.**





Bell Museum

Some of Bell's most innovative work was on hydrofoils. This replica of Bell's *HD-4* incorporates some original parts.





**Bell Museum**

A hydrofoil rises up out of the water and “flies” on underwater wings that provide lift as in airplanes.





**Bell Museum**

Bell's *HD-4* set a marine speed record of 71 miles per hour on September 9, 1919.





## Bell Museum

It turns out the building design was inspired by Bell's tetrahedral box kites.





## **Bell Museum**

**Bell died at Baddeck in 1922. He and his wife are buried on their estate, south-west of this museum site.**





**Bras d'Or Lake**

**Time for a sail on Bras d'Or Lake.  
*The Amoeba takes tourists out from Baddeck.***





**Bras d'Or Lake**

**Captain John sails on Bras d'Or Lake in the summer  
and in the Caribbean during the winter.**





### **Bras d'Or Lake**

**Bras d'Or Lake is a large body of salt water in the centre of Cape Breton. The surface area is 425 square miles / 1100 square kilometres.**





**Bras d'Or Lake**

**Captain John entertains us with demonstrations by the eagles he feeds on a regular basis.**





**Bras d'Or Lake**    The lake offers ideal sailing conditions.





**Bras d'Or Lake** And today's weather is perfect.





**Bras d'Or Lake**

**Alexander Graham Bell's *Beinn Bhreagh* estate.  
*Beinn Bhreagh* is Gaelic for "beautiful mountain".**





**Bras d'Or Lake**    And then it's back to Baddeck.





**Central  
Cape Breton**

**Next day – a totally unnecessary detour on the way back to Sydney. I spotted a causeway across St. Anns Bay earlier on the way to the Cabot Trail ...**





**Central  
Cape Breton**

**... and couldn't resist the temptation to experience the world's shortest ferry run at the tip of the causeway. Five-minute ride. \$ 5. Good fun.**





**Central  
Cape Breton**

**But it's time to go, taking fond memories of striking landscapes,  
fascinating and diverse cultures, and genuinely friendly people.**



< End >

**Nova Scotia and P.E.I.**