

The Scenic Route to Peggy's Cove *A Visit to Peggy's Cove and Nearby Coastal Villages and Vistas*

Village of Terence Bay

Terence Bay, today, is a quiet rural village. Terence Bay village consists of six distinct settlements known as "Lower Prospect", "Back Bay", Sandy Cove", "Terence Bay", "Up the River" and "Across the River". The best-known village landmark is a cairn that stands as a memorial to those who lost their lives on April 1, 1873 when the "SS Atlantic" sank off the coastline of Terence Bay and Lower Prospect. (See accompanying sheet).

Records show German families settled in the area as early as 1753, but formal land grants for Terence Bay were offered in 1852 to a number of families of Irish or foreign Protestant descent, including the Slaunwhites (originally Schlagenweit from Germany) and the Jollimores (first called Jolimois, from France).

The first Catholic Church, *Saint Peter's*, was built in 1849, and a school soon followed. When Terence Bay became a separate parish, the first Pastor, Rev. Gerald Mabey, erected a beautiful grotto in honour of Our Blessed Lady. When a new and larger church was needed in 1925, a site overlooking Back Bay was chosen and dedicated to Our Lady, Star of the Sea (Stella Maris).

In 1939 the Sisters of Charity arrived and built the *Star of the Sea Convent*, from where the Sisters began house to house visitations to distribute clothing and medical supplies. The convent's kitchen served as the local clinic. The Sisters also taught courses in home nursing, physical education, sewing, home economics, decorating, dramatics and music. In the 1940s they provided weaving training that led to the commercial production of the Nova Scotia Tartan.

A fish plant operated for many years, both for processing and salting fish, but it closed in the 1990s.



In 1943, Albert R. Williams came to Terence Bay during the summer and began operating "Buddy's Canteen" which served as a gathering place for local residents. Its main feature was a jukebox where youngsters danced jive and jitterbug. Mr. Williams, a Municipal Councillor for many years, was also a professional ballroom dancer. He never held a liquor license and allowed no drinking in his canteen.

