

PEC Mariners Museum Set to Reopen for 2023 Summer Season May Long Weekend

(Continued from page 2)

significant part of the earliest navigation history of the Great Lakes.

Inside the museum is a giant map of the shipwrecks that have been lost in the waters surrounding Prince Edward County.

“The map is the most popular display among the hundreds of nautical artifacts from early sail and steam vessels on the Great Lakes,” says Chris Palmer, Supervisor of Museums and Cultural Services for Prince Edward County.

But while the map is fascinating, there a quite literally dozens of nautical pieces that draw the eye including displays on early water transportation, dive cases filled with treasures retrieved by local divers, and Mariners Park Museum gift shop.

Established in 1967, the original museum came about because of the efforts of Willis Metcalfe, James Plomer and a crew of passionate volunteers dedicated to the preservation of the area's marine heritage.

“The museum continues to this day to be an evolving exploration of the many ways people have interacted with the beautiful waters surrounding the County,” Chris added.

The artifacts are housed in a one-and-a-half storey frame country store that originally sat on the east side of County Road 10 in Milford, beside the library. Built in about 1870, it was originally known as (G.L.) Ostrander's General Store. Mr. and Mrs. Jack Clark donated the building to the marine museum in 1982.


Another section of the museum hosts exhibits on the navy and Prince Edward County's

involvement in the First and Second World Wars, as well as the War of 1812. Cannon mortars, white tops, ships bells and gun shirts are just a few of the naval relics on display.

Other displays focus on the glory days of ship-making and trade across the Great Lakes.

Sitting outside is a replica of the Fort Kente blockhouse. It

was originally built at Carrying Place on the site of the Kente mission built around 1669 by Jean Talon, a priest from France. It was built to resemble the 1813 fortification built during the war of 1812-14 by the Provincial Dragoons, as part of the vital military highway of supplies. The fort was moved to mariners museum in 2000.



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