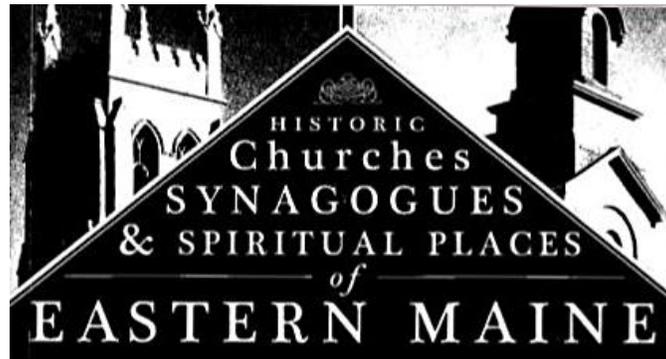


St. Timothy's Church – Historical Information

Excerpts of text are from the following book, used with the permission of the authors.



**Authored by Jim & Jane Diggins Harnedy
Communicants of St. Peter the Fisherman Parish**

The earliest reference to religious life on Campobello Island can be traced to the journal of Captain William Owen. He recorded that he had conducted an Anglican service in a shed for all members of his new settlement on June 10, 1770. For the better part of the next century, the Owen family ran Campobello Island as their own fiefdom. The late 1880's saw the end of the Owen family saga and the beginning of the development of the island as a summer colony for wealthy families from Boston, Montreal, New York, and Philadelphia. During the next decade, the Campobello Land Company constructed hotels and large private cottages for wealthy clients.

When the wealthy summer colony residents arrived at their cottages, they brought with them their household help. Many of these domestics were young Irish Catholics. A few of the Summer colonists were also Catholic, as were some local residents. To meet the spiritual needs of this Catholic community, Masses were celebrated in private homes on an irregular basis.

In 1910, Saint Timothy's Catholic Church was built in Welshpool by Monsignor O'Flaherty under the supervision of Bishop Casey. From 1910 until 1938, St. Timothy's was a mission church of Saint Andrew's Parish, at Saint Andrews, New Brunswick. In 1938, the mission assignment was transferred to Holy Rosary Church, Saint Stephen, New Brunswick. A year later, St. Timothy's was made a mission of the St. John New Brunswick Cathedral Parish.

St. Timothy's church building also has a connection with the Owen family, as Grizel Cochrane, the daughter of Cornelia Ramsey Cochrane and granddaughter of Captain Robinson Owen, was a major financial contributor for the building of the church in the memory of her mother.

Stained glass windows were obtained from Saint Elizabeth's Church in Musquash, New Brunswick, which was being torn down. These were installed in 1936, along with a major renovation of the church's altar. Through the years, the church has been well-maintained. Like most coastal communities, Campobello Island sees an influx of visitors during summer months,

and as an outcome, the attendance at Mass increases dramatically at Saint Timothy's during that time.

In 1977, an arrangement was made between the Roman Catholic Diocese of Saint John New Brunswick and the Diocese of Portland Maine, whereby the priest assigned as pastor to the town of Lubec, Maine would administer to the spiritual needs of Saint Timothy's parishioners.