

THE ACADIAN VILLAGE OF NOVA SCOTIA/ LE VILLAGE HISTORIQUE ACADIEN

MANDATE AND MISSION

- » To present the story of the Acadian people and where the major groups lived in Nova Scotia before and after the expulsion of the late 1750s.
- » To develop a village setting in which to promote an understanding of Acadian culture and traditions, language, religion and way of life as they developed in Nova Scotia from the 17th century.
- » To tell the special story of the extended d'Entremont Family of the Pubnico Region in the late 19th and early 20th centuries.
- » To encourage exploration of the natural history of the Village's shoreline, adjacent marshlands, islands and waterways.

PROPOSED CONTENT

*Note: Topics are drawn from the NS Interpretive Master Plan Content Framework.

I. CONTENT TO MAINTAIN

B. EVOLVING

B.4 Migration, Outmigration, Exodus

- Expulsion and Return of the Acadians: Story of the Acadians in the region.

B.5 Response to Place

- Coastal Communities: Local history of settlement and development.

E. LIVING

E.1 Life at Home and Work

- Gender Roles and Home Life
- Childhood Experiences

E.4 Cultural Expression

- Folklore and Celebrations

II. CONTENT TO ENHANCE

B. EVOLVING

B.1 Vegetation

- Diversity of Plant Life

B.2 Birds, Fish, and Animals

- Bird and Fish Environments & Habitats
- Diversity of Birds and Fish: Inland, Coast, Sea
- Mammal Environments & Habitats
- Diversity of Mammals
- Amphibians and Reptiles

B.4 Migration, Outmigration, Exodus

- French Colonization: Acadia: Provide a wider context by discussing the 400 year-old Acadian experience in Nova Scotia.

C. EXPLOITING

C.2 Resource Development

- Agriculture
- Fishing

C.3 Industry

- Boat and Shipbuilding

C.6 Environmental Values

- Endangered Environments/Species: There is a tern colony.

D. RELATING

D.1 Peoples of Nova Scotia

- Indigenous
- European: Acadians

D.3 War and Defence

- Clash of Empires: Britain/France

D.4 Communications

- Other Forms

E. LIVING

E.1 Life at Home and Work

- Food on the Table

E.2 Communities

- Coastal Towns/Villages
- Shore-based Industry

E.4 Cultural Expression

- Music
- Cuisine as Cultural Expression
- Clothing and Costume

III. NEW CONTENT TO DEVELOP

A. FORMING

A.2 Making Landscapes

- Bays & Harbours: Nature of the Nova Scotia south shore and the attractions for settlement.

A.4 Ocean Environment

- Currents and Tides
- Coastal Intertidal Environments

A.5 Biodiversity

- Life Forms and Ecosystems: Shoreline ecosystem.
- Species Diversity
- Ecosystem Diversity

B. EVOLVING

B.3 Exploring & Settling the Unknown

- European/Mi'kmaq Contact: How these cultures overlapped, supported, and used each other.

C. EXPLOITING

C.1 Energy

- Solar/Wind Power: The Acadians used wind power.

C.6 Environmental Values

- Protecting Cultural Resources

D. RELATING

D.2 Governance and Politics

- Minority Rights and Governance: What was the nature of the struggle for identity and to what extent was it successful and when?

D.5 Education

- Universal Education, 1864/5: History of French education in Nova Scotia.

D.6 Religion and Spirituality

- Catholicism & Identity

E. LIVING

E.1 Life at Home and Work

- Places of Community Interaction

E.4 Cultural Expression

- Literature/Poetry/Drama: Who was writing and what was their influence in the 20th century?
- Heritage Preservation

E.5 Social Development and Organizations

- Religious Observance
- Volunteerism

CONCLUSIONS

The wider context of the Acadian experience in Nova Scotia needs attention before bringing it back to the Pubnico region. The importance of religion to every Acadian community should be improved. The site offers great opportunity to discuss the natural history of the landscape and seascape, as well as local flora and fauna. The site needs to focus mainly on the return of the Acadians and the lives they made for themselves along Nova Scotia's coast.