

THE DORY SHOP MUSEUM

MANDATE AND MISSION

- » To promote understanding and appreciation of the dory and its central role in the success of the deep sea fishery on the Grand Banks of the Atlantic Ocean from the 1860s into the 20th century.
- » To introduce different types of dories and to show how the Shelburne dories were constructed.
- » To demonstrate the making of dories in a functioning workshop.
- » To show the value of dory construction to the local economy of Shelburne by catering to local, regional and international markets at a time when at least seven workshops operated on the community's waterfront.

PROPOSED CONTENT

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

I. CONTENT TO MAINTAIN

B. EVOLVING

B.5 Response to Place

- Coastal Communities
- Age of Sail: 1830 – 1880: Relationship of dories to ships.

C. EXPLOITING

C.2 Resource Development

- Fishing: Crucial role of dories in the operation of the deep-sea fishery.

C.3 Industry

- Boat and Shipbuilding: Shelburne supplied a large market of dories to the Canadian and American seaboard. Techniques, tools, and technology.

C.5 Transportation

- Ships & Watercraft: Reaching and working the fishing grounds.

E. LIVING

E.1 Life at Home and Work

- People in the Workplace: Time on the fishing grounds; conditions and danger.

E.2 Communities

- Coastal Towns/Villages: Shelburne in its heyday.
- People at Sea: Seasons and time at sea.

- Shore-based Industry: Nature and scope of business in Shelburne supporting seafaring, the fishery, and commerce.

E.4 Cultural Expression

- Heritage Preservation: Shop and craftsmanship.

II. CONTENT TO ENHANCE

B. EVOLVING

B.5 Response to Place

- Coastal Communities

E. LIVING

E.4 Cultural Expression

- Folklore and Celebrations: Stories from the fishery.

III. NEW CONTENT TO DEVELOP

A. FORMING

A.2 Making Landscapes

- Bays & Harbours: The significance of Shelburne's harbour.

A.4 Ocean Environment

- Continental Shelf Environment: Deep-sea fishery of the banks; geology of the shelf.

B. EVOLVING

B.6 Agents of Change

- Outmigration Social/Economic Effects: Changing employment opportunities.
- Responses to Deindustrialization: Technological advance and overfishing.

C. EXPLOITING

C.1 Energy

- Animal/Human Power: Operating a dory (skill and energy).

D. RELATING

D.7 Social Equality

- Capital and Labour (incl. indentured)

E. LIVING

E.1 Life at Home and Work

- Childhood Experiences: Going to sea as an apprentice.

E.3 Recreation

- Organized Sports

CONCLUSIONS

Interpret the operation of the fishery and its geographical context, as well as the work of the shop. Explore the nature of the work, its traditions, and folklore.