

## *Day 8 – Brackley Beach to Tatamagouche Bridged – July 12<sup>th</sup>*

The day was young the sun was bright. We went for breakfast early because a tour bus was scheduled to leave at that morning. Breakfast was much the same as yesterday except that I had salty mouth from the vast supply of mussels yesterday and drank tons of water. A unique part of the resort was the exercise machines on the hiking trails – we tried to use the machines but did master the trails with success.



Exercise on the Trail

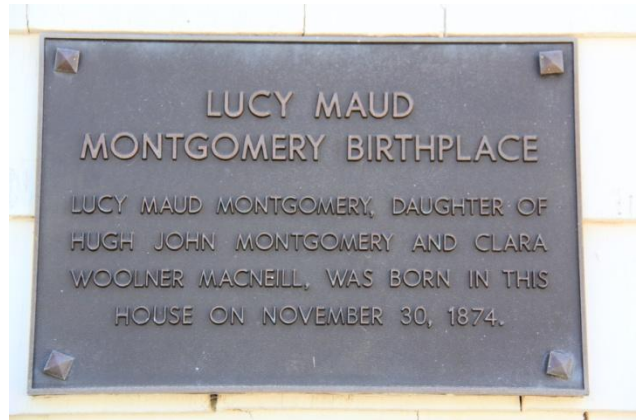


Our room was lower level far left corner





We left Brackley Beach heading towards the Confederation Bridge. We stopped in New London - Birth house of Lucy Maude Montgomery long enough for a couple of pictures.



We took a side road to a spectacular church. St Mary's Church in Indian River.



Unfortunately the doors were locked and we were unable to view the interior artwork, stained glass windows and fine décor of the church.



The short drive later we stopped at a viewpoint and could see off in the distance the Confederation Bridge. From the distance it looked like a finely picked skeletal remains of a sea creature perched upon the sea. Gateway Village fudge is wonderful!



The Confederation Bridge (French: Pont de la Confédération) (Wikipedia) is a bridge spanning the Abegweit Passage of Northumberland Strait, linking Prince Edward Island with mainland New Brunswick. It is commonly referred to as the "Fixed Link" by residents of Prince Edward Island prior to its

official naming. The 12.9-kilometre (8 mi) long bridge opened on 31 May 1997. It is a multi-span beam bridge with a post-tensioned concrete box girder structure. Most of the curved bridge is 40 meters above water, and it contains a 60 m high navigation span to permit ship traffic. The bridge rests on 62 piers and is bridge is 11 m wide. The bridge crossing takes about 12 minutes at the posted speed of 80 kilometers per hour.

Rest stops at each end of the bridge offer a variety of services for the weary traveler.





We were in New Brunswick briefly and picked up the Nova Scotia Sunrise Trail that skirts the Northumberland Strait.



We drove along the Sunrise Trail through Amherst to Port Howe for lunch.



Ditch Farming



Lighthouse Cottage



Amherst

We stopped at the Sandpiper Restaurant for a lunch special of fresh fish and chips.



With bellies full and bladders empty we loaded into the blue rig for our destination of Tatamagouche – That is where my grandmother was born (Martha Jane). Tatamagouche is situated on the Northumberland Strait. The village is located along the south side of Tatamagouche Bay at the mouths of the French and Waugh Rivers. Tatamagouche derives its name from the native Mi'kmaq term Takumegooch, roughly translated as 'meeting of the waters'. The Intercolonial Railway constructed its "Short Line" from Oxford Junction to Stellarton through Tatamagouche in 1887. The ICR commissioned the Rhodes Curry Company of Amherst to build a passenger station in



the village immediately east of the creamery. The ICR was merged into the Canadian National Railways in 1918 and CN operated this line as part of its "Oxford Subdivision", servicing mainly agricultural communities, as well as the salt mines at Malagash and Pugwash as well as a quarry in Wallace. Passenger service through Tatamagouche was discontinued in the 1960s and the station was used as an office for railway employees handling freight until 1972 when it was closed and sold in 1976. CN discontinued freight service on the line in 1986 when the Oxford Sub was abandoned; the rails were removed in 1989.

Today the passenger station is a bed and breakfast with restored historic rail cars located on the property. The rail line through the village is a recreational trail, designated as part of the Trans Canada Trail making Tatamagouche a good starting point for a short waterfront walk or a major biking expedition.



Salt Mine near Pugwash

The Creamery is a museum and industrial heritage site on the old rail line that is a trail called "The Butter Trail". It is an intact creamery building with artifacts that illustrate the butter making process. The Creamery was supplied by farmers from 1925-1992 and produced Tatamagouche Butter. The Creamery Museum preserves local history including butter production and is home to the North Shore Archives. From the people



inside the Creamery we were able to find directions to Millard Gift and Bayview Cemeteries resting place of my ancestors.









## Tatamagouche Train Station Bed and Breakfast





Our bedroom at the train station was a caboose made into a bedroom. Our room #4 was a bright orange unit.



Room # 4



Coffee Table



Bunk Beds

It was very warm out and we wanted a drink. We had a drink in the dining car then were allowed to take a cold adult beverage back to our room. After a bit I showered before supper. The bathroom in our caboose did not really have a curtain and once I had naked myself I realized that where I stood I look into the dining car kitchen and see the prep cooks at work – OOPSY – I found the blind that kind of went down and completed my shower – nothing lost – nothing gained. We went to the dining car for dinner. We shared mushroom caps as an appetizer. Sheri had a lobster pot pie and I had a New York strip steak. Both meals were perfect. For dessert we shared strawberry cheesecake. A few sips of good Nova Scotia wine and we were about ready to fall asleep.

