

Port Hood Then and Now – The First in a Series

We are grateful to Chestico Museum & Historical Society member Gordon Smith for sharing a series of articles on Port Hood and Port Hood Island postcards. The original postcards are all pre 1942. Gordon has Port Hood Island roots. He is a grandson of Katherine (MacKinnon) & Robert Marshall Smith.

Early postcards provide documentary information from a time when few newspapers carried images and few people owned cameras. Later postcards sometimes provide us with photographs that an ordinary person may have been able to obtain, such as aerial scenes or views from buildings to which the normal public would not have access.

Picture postcards provide a snapshot of the life of a community. They document features of the natural and built environment and can show us how landscapes have changed and buildings that have disappeared or been altered. They also show things that were seen as noteworthy or important to people at the time – landmarks, significant social spaces, pretty views, and tourist sites.

This article is the first in a series showing the picture postcards of Port Hood and area. The older images of the postcards are matched with modern images taken in the summer of 2021.



View 1: 38 High Road



View 2: "Post Office Square" from the south



View 3: "Post Office Square" from the north

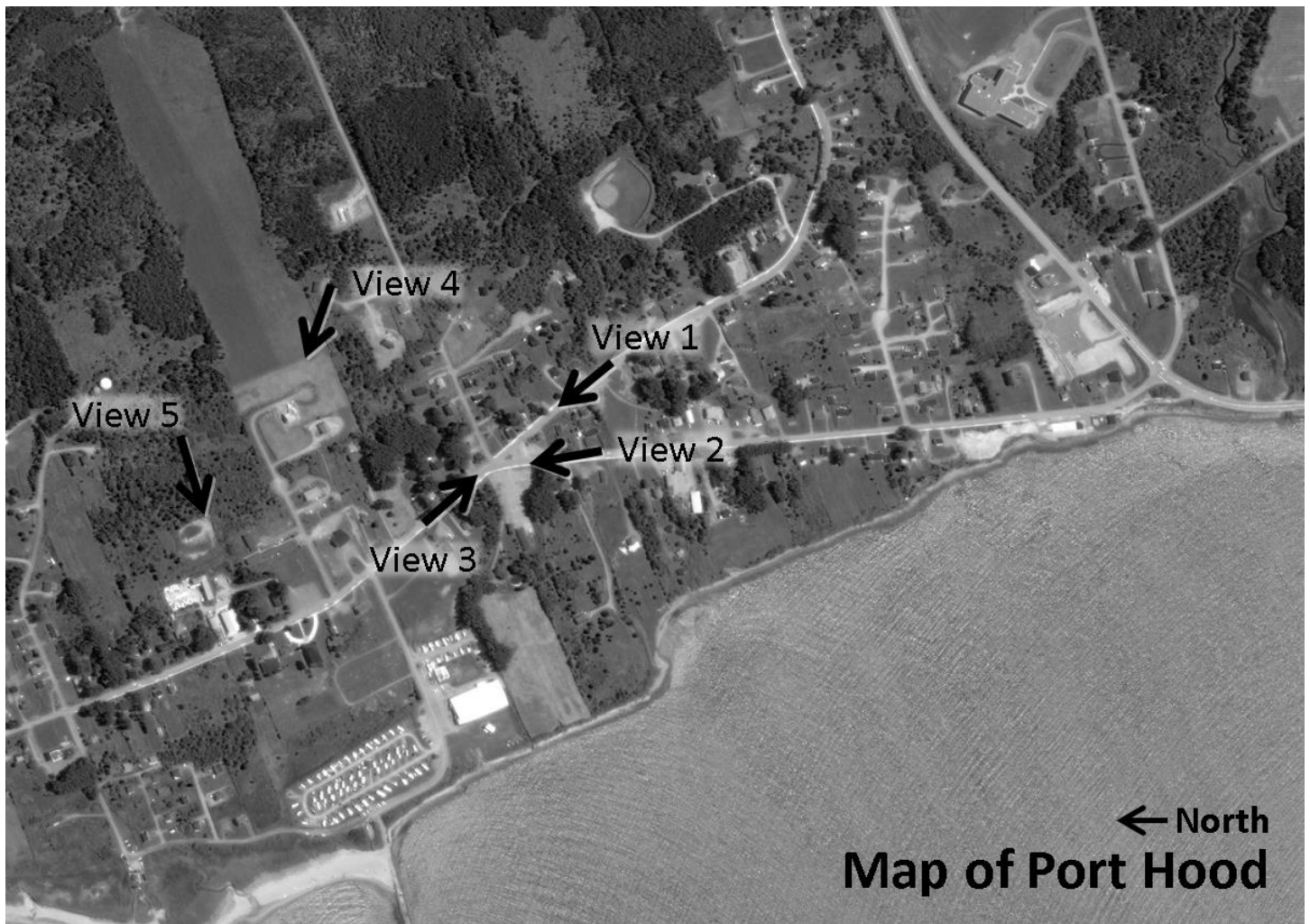


View 4: from the top of Reynolds St.



View 5: from field above the fire department

This aerial view of Port Hood shows the locations from where the photographs were taken.



To be continued in the next issue.

Chestico News

Winter 2022

The Chestico News is published by the Chestico Historical Society three times a year – Spring/Summer, Fall and Winter. Enquiries and submissions may be sent to: John Gillies, Editor, Chestico Museum & Historical Society, PO Box 37, Port Hood, Nova Scotia, B0E 2W0, or email the museum at chesticomuseum@ns.aliantzinc.ca



Port Hood Island from the harbor ice in 1945. View of the homes of Joshua, Hezekiah, Richard, Gordon, Bert and Amos T. Smith as well as the fishing establishment of H.A. Smith & Sons and the church hall.

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