

Regular Selectboard Meeting
17 January 2024
6:00 PM
Town Office at Isle La Motte School and via Zoom

In Attendance: Mary-Catherine Graziano, Cary Sandvig, Joe Deller, Peter Brzozowy, Debra Langlois, Nancy Blaise, Vickie Buswell, Deborah Spaulding, Rusty Spaulding, Mary LaBrecque, Bobby Dean (via Zoom), Cathy Tudhope (via Zoom), Wayne Dengler (via Zoom), Beth Dengler (via Zoom), Erin Gilligan (via Zoom), Pat Treckman (via Zoom), Marie D'Angelo (via Zoom), Jason Wright (via Zoom), Andrea Carbone, and others via Zoom who did not provide full names

1. **Call to Order:** Meeting was called to order at 6:00 PM by Board Chair Mary-Catherine Graziano.
2. **Additions to Agenda:** The American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Committee has requested time early in the meeting to read into the minutes the findings of their work, additional information regarding the Food Shelf has been provided for review, and clarifications have been made to the request for a discussion on Public Safety at Meetings. A motion was made to approve the changes to the agenda by Cary Sandvig, seconded by Joe Deller, all in favor.

3. ARPA Committee

- *Statement of Findings of the Committee* - Chair Steve Stata provided the following statement to be read into the minutes, which was read by Chair Mary-Catherine Graziano. **A copy of which will be included as an attachment to the minutes:**

Attention: Isle La Motte Selectboard

The ARPA committee has met a number of times since its' formation. We have used the meetings to discuss the processes we should use to gather information, analyze results, and determine what to recommend to the Selectboard.

While we questioned some technical aspects of the functions, we believe the best set of data was found in the Planning Committee town wide survey results. The ARPA committee believes any funding should at a minimum not increase and at best reduce the tax burden. And, that a data driven decision can and should be used to determine areas to fund.

Therefore, as illustrated in the survey results, we are recommending that the Selectboard use the remaining ARPA monies to fund any remaining Computer Upgrades/Security needs as initially recommended. And, if after these needs are met, should there be remaining monies, to use those funds to contribute to Matching Grant Funds.

We believe this document explains our decision. And also satisfies the mandate given to us. As such unless we hear different, we will disband.

Thank You,

Peter Brzozowy, Barbara Callahan, Mark Dostaler, Louise Koss, Mary LaBrecque, Carol Stata, Steve Stata

A group discussion followed to clarify the scope of work entailed in the original \$50,000 in ARPA funds earmarked last year for digitization. Two estimates - one for an onsite server solution and one for a cloud-based server solution - for hardware/software upgrades and some digitization work had been sourced by the former Town Clerk, but as the quotes were in excess of \$5,000 additional bids were deemed necessary. Some hardware upgrades have been conducted to date, but the networking portion of the initial work is pending.

Chair Stata indicated that the Committee's request to utilize the remainder of the funds towards ongoing Computer Upgrades/Security was justified as the Town's inventory of equipment required more regular ongoing maintenance and replacement. Furthermore, he stated that not having a more permanent solution for backup and recovery of vital Town records and documents was not acceptable. Peter Brzozowy stated that as indicated by the survey results, utilizing the remaining funds for this purpose was the will of the residents.

Chair Graizano reviewed the charge given to the Committee at the onset of their work, which included soliciting feedback from residents and recommending three to five possible projects to the Selectboard. She had hoped that residents would bring their ideas to the Committee, as they had brought to her in some of her early discussions with residents. Mr. Stata indicated that there had been adequate public outreach: in seven meetings one resident attended and thirty-one residents responded to the specific ARPA Committee questions included on the Town Survey. As such, he feels the requirement for outreach was met, and advised that he did not feel that there was a requirement to provide three to five recommendations.

Mary-Catherine Graziano stated that she was surprised that the Committee deemed their work complete at this time, and Member Sandvig noted he would like additional time to consider their recommendations. Member Deller requested confirmation of the total remaining funds in discussion, to which was advised was approximately \$80,000 to be obligated by year-end 2024 and expended by year-end 2026. At this time, Deborah Spaulding asked why the results of the Town Survey had yet to be made public, and it was advised that the Town Planning Commission would be discussing this at their meeting on Tuesday, January 23, 2024; the Selectboard agrees that the results, which they have also not seen to date, should be made public. Chair Graziano ended the discussion thanking the ARPA Committee for their work, stating that the Board would review the recommendation and continue the discussion at the next regular meeting scheduled for February.

4. Board of Listers/Delinquent Tax Collector

- *Board of Listers - Reappraisal RFP discussion* - Rustam Spaulding provided the following statements, which were requested to be read into the minutes, a copy of which will be included as an attachment to the minutes, to provide historical background on the Town's reappraisals.

As a Lister I was involved in the 2000 reappraisal and the 2006 statistical, then as a Select board member for the 2018 appraisal.

The 2000 reappraisal was completed by Nyberg & Purvis involving approximately 800 - 900 parcels that include the 2 campgrounds. Note - the number of parcels was actually 1,200, but multiple parcels under one deed were counted as one parcel. It was to be completed in 1 year but took a little over 2 years. This gave our business time to gather approximately 30 bills of sales. Gary Fournier was the appraiser. The campgrounds were done last. Of the 230 listings for Lakehurst, when done approximately 180 were not equitable This was pointed out to the appraiser. Gary & I went property to property in Lakehurst and after 20 – 30 parcels he agreed he did not account for the following:

1. *No foundations.*
2. *Lack of insulation in the buildings.*
3. *Poor construction.*
4. *Age of units.*

After this inspection, the bills of sale and the above information were used for both campgrounds.

The statistical in 2006 was done by Nyberg. The Listers picked up all the new construction and any other changes done, and Nyberg used the sales data to adjust the land & building values.

For the 2018 reappraisal the Town hired Vt. Appraisal Company who did approximately 400 parcels in the Town and the Board of Lister's redid the units located in the 2 campgrounds. Once completed the Town was at 101.94% of CLA. The Town spent approximately \$80,000.00 with Vt Appraisal Co., which was split over two years. Listers wages were approximately \$7900.00 for the work on the campgrounds and for a Lister to go around with Vt. Appraisal Co for site visits.

To the best of my knowledge neither campground has ever included the taxes for each unit in the site rental. Lakehurst certainly never has. For many years Lakehurst would pay any unpaid property taxes at the end of the season and then be reimbursed when the customers returned in the spring.

The Towns CLA does not include any of the campground sales as they are not recorded with the Town and in nearly every case the campgrounds are unaware of the sale until the new owners come to the office to change the account to their name. Getting bills of sales is difficult if not impossible. All trailer assessment is done using the NADA Guide and website. And the stick builds on the campgrounds are done with policies developed during the 2018 reappraisal.

A final thought: To spend approximately \$100,000.00 for a reappraisal on \$2.28 million in taxes is necessary. But to spend an additional \$100,000.00 to collect less than \$120,000.00 (\$6 million in property value) does not make any sense when it could probably be done for less than \$7,000.00. Unless a trailer is new, they will all be receiving a reduction in their present evaluation.

I will be the first to agree there is a question of fairness.

- 1. These people do not send children to school here which is ¾'s of our tax bills.*
- 2. They pay a higher rate than the residents do for their house and 2 acres.*
- 3. Have no services for 7 months of the year.*
- 4. Can not borrow money to build, repair or buy a stick built in the campgrounds because there are no leases.*
- 5. Without the full cooperation of the owners of the campgrounds it is almost impossible to identify camps and owners, something the Board of Listers has been dealing with for many years with one of the campgrounds. The owners of the campgrounds are under no obligation to assist in helping the appraisers.*

The Selectboard thanked Mr. Spaulding for his statement and the history of the Town's re-appraisals, and will review it in more detail over the coming weeks as the Board of Listers prepares another RFP for the re-evaluations. Sylvia Jensen asked the Listers present if they could contact South Hero regarding South Hero's approach and mechanics of preparing their request for re-evaluation, as they also have campgrounds, and Mary LaBrecque stated that she has already approached other towns regarding their system of evaluating campgrounds. Deborah Spaulding indicated that the Listers will rewrite the RFP as there were no credible responses to the original bid, and that the one bid received did not include site inspections.

In response to several comments in the community, Ms. Spaulding continued, stating that since 1998 she has been a Lister and has never given preferential treatment to the tenants at her campground property, treating each of those owners as equals to the Island's other residents. Mary LaBrecque stated that had Ms. Spaulding provided incentives to her own customers it would have actually increased her tax burden and not have been financially beneficial. Ms. Spaulding then reminded the attendees that she would no longer be a Lister when the re-evaluation took place, as her term ends in March and she is not running for another three years.

In closing, Ms. Spaulding noted that, given the choice, most residents would elect to have the Listers perform the campground re-evaluations at a cost of \$20,000 in lieu of spending up to \$125,000 for a private firm. Member Sandvig asked if bidding the re-evaluation in conjunction with another town would be an incentive, and the Listers advised that it was unlikely to be a benefit to a re-appraiser. The Board of Listers will advise when they are prepared to present the next draft of their RFP.

- *Delinquent Tax Collector - Tax Sale Discussion* - Mary LaBrecque advised that when properties are put up for tax sale the Selectboard is required to approve the act as legal fees will be expended. Ms. LaBrecque requested permission to initiate the tax sale process by requesting that Stitzel, Page & Fletcher be retained as the lawyer of record for two possible sales. The current owners of the two properties have already been notified and must respond and arrange settlements by February 5, 2024. Both properties did not pay taxes in 2022 and remained delinquent for the entire calendar year 2023, triggering their tax sale status. The attorney of record will not be subject to payment until a title search begins, so if either owner settles, there will be no fee. A motion was made to approve the request to initiate the tax sale and retain the attorney by motion of Cary Sandvig, seconded by Joe Deller, all in favor.

Ms. LaBrecque further advised that she has issued fifteen delinquent tax letters for 2023 which will be forwarded to small claims court if payments are not negotiated by February 5, 2024. Cary Sandvig motioned to approve the payment of expenses for the court filings, seconded by Joe Deller, all in favor.

5. Administration

- *Town Clerk - Upcoming Elections* - Town Clerk Vickie Buswell asked if the Selectboard could advise when the voter roll had last been updated, confirmed to be September 2023. Ms. Buswell advised that no articles had been presented by residents for inclusion in the Town Warning, and that the due date for submissions was the following day, January 18. A Board of Civil Authority (BCA) meeting will be held on January 25, 2024 at 6:30 PM to review election checklist items. Ms. Graziano reviewed that warnings of the BCA must be issued five days in advance of meetings.

- *Approve Selectboard Budget Meeting Minutes from past meetings*
 - 3 January 2024 - A motion to approve the regular meeting minutes was made by Cary Sandvig, seconded by Joe Deller, all in favor.
 - 11 January 2024 - A motion to approve the budget meeting minutes was made by Cary Sandvig, seconded by Mary-Catherine Graziano, all in favor.
- *Warrants for payroll & payables - A copy of the warrant will be included as an exhibit to the minutes.*
 - 17 January 2024 - Payroll for \$2,361.03; motion to approve was made by Cary Sandvig, seconded by Joe Deller, all in favor. The signature block on the payroll warrants requires an update with the new Selectboard member's name.
- *Town Health Officer* - The current Town Health Officer, Jim Senesac, Jr., has agreed to continue his position for another three-year term. A motion to approve Mr. Senesac was made by Cary Sandvig, seconded by Joe Deller, all in favor. *A copy of the paperwork will be included as an exhibit to the minutes.*
- *Town Planning Commission Grant - review/approve* - The Town Planning Commission has been approved for a grant to cover the cost of two community workshops and to offset labor expenses associated with the Northwest Regional Planning Commission's (NRPC) support of the initiative. A motion to approve a contract between the Town and the NRPC for services associated with the grant was made by Cary Sandvig, seconded by Joe Deller, all in favor. *A copy of the contract will be included as an exhibit to the minutes.*
- *Town Office Food Shelf - discuss solutions for frozen food on Thursday drop offs* - The Selectboard updated the community on the discussion which began last week regarding the Isle La Motte food shelf. Food has previously been stored inside during the winter months, and the Town Office staff agreed to open early on Thursdays beginning January 25 to allow for deliveries to be made directly indoors. David Wales was thanked for seeing to the disposal of leftovers over the past months, and the Board will work to find someone who may be able to use the leftovers for livestock going forward.
- *Public Safety at Meetings - discuss resident request to have sheriff attend* - Concerns over public safety at meetings has been a topic in the past, with Member Sandvig stating that each situation should be reviewed to gauge the level of concern and ensure there will not be aggressive behavior at public meetings. Member Sandvig is comfortable mitigating mild aggressiveness which may arise at meetings and it was announced that the Sheriff would be called in if there was a credible threat. Chair Graziano stated that the recent threat was targeted at her and that it was not necessary to have law enforcement present at community meetings, with Member Deller agreeing that the need was not warranted if there is no evidence of public distribution at meetings. In closing, Peter Brzozowy added that a credible threat would result in the cancellation of a public meeting.
- *Unified Assessment District - ongoing discussion* - Continuing the conversation from the prior meeting, the Selectboard discussed with Sylvia Jensen the possibility of a unified assessment district as all Grand Isle County towns must reappraise. Ms. Jensen would like to discuss the possibility of investigating a North Hero/Grand Isle/Isle La Motte pilot unified assessment district and the Selectboard sees no issue with a discussion to be had with the School Board. Chair Graziano will speak with the Selectboards in North Hero and Grand Isle, while Ms. Jensen will discuss the possibility with the Isle La Motte Board of Listers and begin discussions of a conceptual agreement. Ms. Jensen confirmed with Mr. Brzozowy that legislation permits the organization of a unified assessment district. Moving forward with the plan as noted above was motioned by Cary Sandvig, seconded by Joe Deller, all in favor.
- *Isle La Motte Community Organization (ILMCO) - upcoming events update, annual report request* - Sylvia Jensen provided an update on upcoming community activities being planned by ILMCO. An annual appropriation will not be requested this year, though it is hoped that the group may be eligible for support through the increased Special Events allowance proposed in the 2024 budget.
- *Town Conflict Management/Community Healing project - continuing conversation about creating a stronger community* - Ms. Graziano has circulated to the other Selectboard members documentation for review and discussion to be reviewed at the first February regular meeting.

6. Animal Control

- *New Road Update* - Member Deller will be holding a conference call in the coming week to continue this discussion and develop a protocol for future Selectboards to follow. It was noted that law enforcement has visited the house, but has yet to enter the premises. Jim Senesac, Jr., as Health Officer, has discussed this issue with the owner in the past, who agreed to have pest management services implemented; more details of this conversation will follow.
- *East Shore Road Dogs* - Member Sandvig reviewed the recent incident involving two East Shore Road dogs being retrieved by a Main Street resident. The owners have previously been warned and fined for roaming dogs.

- *Main Street Vicious Dog Update* - There has been no follow-up from the owners on the status of the assessments for the two dogs. Animal Control Officer Nancy Blaise will again contact the owners.

7. Roadways

- *Current status report* - Chair Graziano is in the process of discussing winter maintenance of pot holes with John Yartz, an update on what areas may be addressed is pending.
- *West Shore Road Flooding* - A resident on West Shore Road requested that the area near the fishing access be addressed as there is the potential for flooding this spring as the Lake is already three-feet above normal depth. This area flooded in 2011 and remedies were put in place, but the impact of another flood would be devastating. The Emergency Management Director will be contacted regarding possible mitigation efforts, perhaps to include support of the Governor's office who was part of the rebuilding in 2011. This was discussed again later in the meeting, when Member Deller inquired about the possibility of a flood survey, to which Ms. Graziano noted there are already flood maps prepared. Marie D'Angelo echoed the need for preventative measures now before the Lake rises to critical levels.
- *Road Issues Submissions* - The Board reviewed the list of reported issues, and reiterated that pot holes will be repaired as weather permits. A review of the water intrusion at the Dengler's home prompted a discussion of the circumstances under which the property is flooding, history of which will be reviewed by Mary-Catherine Graziano and Sylvia Jensen. The Selectboard will work together to contact the various landowners impacting this issue in an effort to develop a resolution.
- *Roadside Tree Trimming* - Trees on Main Street have been trimmed at all critical locations, with work on hold until Vermont Electric Cooperative has initiated their planned tree trimming exercises. Ms. Graziano will advise the Town's contractor on possible other locations to trim in lieu of the remainder of Main Street.
- *North Seawall* - NRPC has provided several solutions which will be reviewed in the coming weeks.

8. Budget Review

- *Budget Revenue + Expense Review* - The Selectboard reviewed the budget to date, noting that costs to address flood damage, the re-evaluation fund reserve, and other reserve funds will all need to be considered as the final modifications are made to the outlook; there are significant expenses pending in the near future that will need to be reserved for beginning in 2024. The 2023 audit is planned to begin next week, though the bookkeeper will be reconciling the year through month-end.
- *Warnings + Articles* - The Selectboard reviewed the Articles, making changes to the question regarding the expansion of the Selectboard.
- *Town Report Progress Review* - Chair Graziano requested that the members forward to her their bullets for the Selectboard Letter to be included in the Town Report.
- *Calendar Review + Next Meeting Scheduling* - The next budget meeting is scheduled for 6:00 PM on January 24 in advance of the January 29 due date for issuing the Town Report to the printer.

9. Other Business:

- *Remember Baker Plaque Dedication Update* - Sylvia Jensen provided for the minutes a copy of the original 1927 program for the Commemoration Exercises and Tablet Unveiling for the monument at Burying Yard Point. A similar program may be developed for the Remember Baker plaque unveiling. The program will be attached as an exhibit to the minutes.

10. Adjourn: The meeting was adjourned at 9:19 PM, motioned by Cary Sandvig, seconded by Joe Deller, all in favor.

Respectfully submitted on 21 January 2024 -
Andrea Carbone

Mary-Catherine Graziano

Cary Sandvig

Joe Deller

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01/17/24
10:07 am

Town of Isle La Motte Payroll
Check Warrant Report #18100
Check date 01/17/24 to 01/17/24

Employee	Gross	Fringes	Reimburse	FWT	FICA	MEDI	SWT	SDI	Local	Oth Dedu	Net Amt	Elec Amt	Check No
BUSWELL, VICKIE L.													
719.23	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	44.59	10.43	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	664.21	0.00	5664
CARBONE, ANDREA M.													
300.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	18.60	4.35	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	277.05	0.00	5665
D'ANGELO, MARIE S.													
562.50	0.00	97.02	0.00	0.00	34.88	8.16	14.66	0.00	0.00	0.00	601.82	0.00	5666
LABRECQUE, MARY E.													
480.61	0.00	0.00	0.00	8.45	29.80	6.97	6.12	0.00	0.00	0.00	429.27	0.00	5667
LANGLOIS, DEBRA J.													
432.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	26.78	6.26	10.28	0.00	0.00	0.00	388.68	0.00	5668
2494.34	0.00	97.02	0.00	8.45	154.65	36.17	31.06	0.00	0.00	0.00	2361.03	0.00	

To the Treasurer of Town of Isle La Motte
we hereby certify that there is due to the several persons whose
names are listed hereon the sum against each name and that
there are good and sufficient vouchers supporting the payments
aggregating \$ ***2,361.03
Let this be your order for the payments of these amounts.


Cary Sandvig


Mary Catherine Graziano


~~Rustan Spaulding~~
Joseph Deller



Town Health Officer Oath / Affirmation

In taking actions as a Local Health Officer under the authority of 18 VSA Chapters 3 and 11, I do solemnly swear/affirm that I will be true and faithful to the State of Vermont, and that I will not, directly or indirectly, do any act or thing injurious to the Constitution or Government thereof, so help me God (oath)/under the pains and penalties of perjury (affirmation).

I do solemnly swear/affirm that I will faithfully execute the office of Local Health Officer for the municipality named below and therein do equal right and justice to all persons, to the best of my judgment and ability, according to law, so help me God (oath)/under the pains of penalties of perjury (affirmation).

(Signature)

(Name Printed)

Local Health Officer for the Municipality of

Date

AGREEMENT FOR PLANNING SERVICES

by and between the
NORTHWEST REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION
and the
ISLE LA MOTTE, VERMONT

I. AGREEMENT FOR SERVICES

- A. It is agreed by and between the NORTHWEST REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION (hereinafter called the Regional Commission) and the TOWN OF ISLE LA MOTTE (hereinafter called the Town) that the Regional Commission shall assist the Town to develop portions of a Town Plan and associated community outreach.
- B. This agreement consists of the body and the following attachment that is incorporated herein:

Attachment A: Scope of Work

II. GENERAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS

- A. It is understood that the Regional Commission may retain qualified help to assist with this work. Whenever feasible, local labor shall be used to assist professionals in the gathering and compilation of data, thus minimizing expenses.
- B. The maximum dollar amount for all services performed under this Agreement shall not exceed \$4,286 unless otherwise amended. The Town will be charged for only that portion of the \$4,286 actually incurred by the Regional Commission.
- C. The period of performance under this Agreement shall commence **on 1/17/2024 and run through 11/30/2025** unless otherwise amended.
- D. Ownership of all materials produced under this agreement shall remain with the Town. The Regional Commission may use information and/or materials for regional planning activities, but may not distribute copies of materials produced under this agreement without the Town's consent, except as provided for by state law.
- E. Changes, modifications, or amendments in the terms, conditions and fees of this Agreement shall be written and signed by the duly authorized representatives of the Regional Commission and the Town.
- F. The parties agree that the Regional Commission, and any agents and employees of the Regional Commission shall act in an independent capacity and not as officers or employees of the Town.

- G. The Town, by any authorized representative, shall have the right at all reasonable times to inspect or otherwise evaluate the work performed under this Agreement.
- H. Reasonable extensions of time for completing the work may be granted in writing by the Town, if the Regional Commission can demonstrate that it was unavoidably delayed by circumstances beyond its control.
- I. The Town shall appoint one person as the principal contact for this project.
- J. If, through any cause, the Regional Commission shall fail to fulfill in a timely and proper manner its obligations under this Agreement, the Town shall have the right to terminate this Agreement by giving written notice to the Regional Commission and specifying the effective date thereof, at least thirty days prior to the effective date of such termination. All costs and fees earned prior to the date of termination shall be reimbursed to the Regional Commission by the Town.
- K. The fees charged for services to the Town for the duration of this contract are as outlined below:
 - (1) Planning Services: actual costs (labor and overhead);
 - (2) Materials at cost;
 - (3) Reimbursement for incurred expenses;
 - (4) Advice at no charge.

Optional Products and Services:

Additional printouts of text drafts or data beyond those listed in "Deliverables" in the attached scope of work are available for the cost of reproduction.

- L. Attachments: This contract consists of 10 pages including the following Attachments that are incorporated herein:

Attachment A:	Specifications of work to be performed (Work Plan in Grant)
Attachment B:	Payment Provisions (Budget in Grant)
Attachment C:	Pertinent State Grant Provisions

III. OBLIGATIONS OF THE REGIONAL COMMISSION

- A. The Regional Commission will work with and be responsible to the Isle La Motte Planning Commission and Selectboard in providing the services specified in Attachment A: Scope of Work.
- B. The Regional Commission shall maintain all books, documents, payrolls, papers, accounting records and other evidence pertaining to costs incurred under this Agreement and make them available at reasonable times during the period of this Agreement.

- C. The Regional Commission shall invoice the Town quarterly and at the end of the contract period (or at project completion, whichever is sooner). The Regional Commission shall submit periodic progress reports describing the progress of work to date. The final invoice and progress reports shall indicate the total hours worked.
- D. Regional Commission staff shall review any work contracted with third parties by the Regional Commission under this agreement for conformance with statutory requirements. Written comments and recommendations will be submitted to the consultant and/or Planning Commission as needed. The Regional Commission shall retain overall control of draft preparation to ensure timely and coordinated delivery.
- E. In accordance with Vermont Agency of Administration Bulletin 3.5, the Regional Commission may not assign, subcontract or sub-grant the performance of this Contract or any portion thereof to any other subcontractor without the prior written approval. If subcontracting is approved by the State, the Regional Commission remains responsible and liable to the State for all acts or omissions of subcontractors and any other person performing work under the Contract. When a contract involves subcontracting (sub-agreement), the State encourages the Regional Commission to follow a fair and open award process and create clear and thorough subcontracts to enable the Regional Commission to properly monitor the performance and compliance of the subcontractor(s). The Regional Commission shall include the provisions of Attachment C listed in this agreement, in the Regional Commission's subcontracts for work that is to be performed solely for the State of Vermont or performed in the State of Vermont.
- F. All statutory requirements under Vermont law in effect at the time will be observed by the Regional Commission and any third party hired by the Regional Commission.

IV. OBLIGATIONS OF THE TOWN

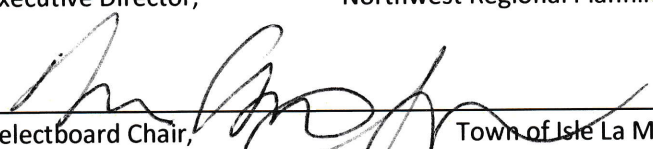
- A. In consideration of the services to be provided by the Regional Commission, the Town agrees to pay the Commission after review and approval of invoices submitted in accordance with the provisions of Section III.C. The invoices shall be payable to the Regional Commission within 30 days following delivery of all final products under this Agreement and/or receipt of the invoice.
- B. The Town agrees to organize and sponsor meetings with Regional Commission's staff and/or consultant as necessary to review various reports or drafts as called for in the attached Scope of Work. The meeting schedule and structure shall be flexible; however, the Regional Commission agrees to a minimum of four meetings during the period of this contract for the purposes of gathering information and/or draft review.
- C. The Town agrees to make available to the Regional Commission and/or its consultant, at Town expense, if any, relevant information, data, reports, plans, bylaws or ordinances as requested. All materials belonging to the Town will be returned.

D. The Town agrees to cooperate with and administratively assist the Regional Commission's staff and/or consultant without charge in carrying out planning tasks. This shall include but not be limited to:

- (1) assisting in the verification of documents and information;
- (2) making photocopies of reports and/or documents prepared for distribution;
- (3) paying for publishing and mailing costs related to public participation efforts, legal notices and public hearings;
- (4) providing any additional available reports, studies, bylaws and/or ordinances as requested;
- (5) assisting with public participation in the planning process;
- (6) holding the Regional Commission and/or its consultant harmless for any liabilities resulting from inaccuracies in information provided by the Town.

E. The Town agrees to review the draft(s) delivered by the Regional Commission's staff and/or consultant for final editing and production to satisfy this project.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties hereto have caused this agreement to be executed this ___ day of January, 2024 at _____, Vermont.

Executive Director,	Northwest Regional Planning Commission	Date
		1/17/24
Selectboard Chair,	Town of Isle La Motte	Date

Project Contact: MARY CATHERINE GRAZIANO
Address: Box 42 School St, Ext
Isle La Motte, VT 05463
Telephone Number: (802)

Billing Contact: Same
Address: _____
Telephone Number: _____

**ATTACHMENT A
SPECIFICATIONS OF WORK TO BE PERFORMED**

Task Name	Description of Task	Hours	Hourly Rate	Materials	Total Cost
Community Workshop #1	Initial community workshop on community facilities & enhancing community connections through recreation. The results of the Town Survey will be presented, followed by break-out groups to discuss the Old Town Hall, New Town Hall (School), and Recreational Opportunities	20	78	100 (Food and Meeting Supplies)	1660
Draft Plan Sections	Draft plan sections on community facilities, recreation and community connectedness based on the survey and first community workshop.	12	78	30 (Copies)	966
Community Workshop #2	Second community workshop. Results from the first community workshop & survey will be reviewed and residents will have an opportunity to comment on draft plan language.	20	78	100 (Food and Meeting Supplies)	1660
				Total	\$ 4,286
				Match	\$ 429
				Grant	\$ 3,857

I. GIS Work

For any projects including a GIS component:

1. The Grantee shall ensure that any contracts, subgrant agreements or subcontracts that are issued through this grant to develop GIS data shall require that the contractor, subgrantee, or subcontractor complete the [GIS Data Submission Online Intake Form](#) as part of its final work product.
2. With the GIS Data Submission Online Intake Form, Grantee shall also submit digital copies of GIS data produced with the Grant Award or any portion thereof if such data is not already available in the Vermont Open Geodata Portal. Digital GIS data includes spatial and tabular data attributes, documentation files, and must meet applicable standards as to data format and documentation of all products using the VGIS metadata standard. *Note: It is not necessary to submit subsets of data layers that are already listed in the VGIS Data Catalog (data hosted at the Vermont Open Geodata Portal). A subset would be an extract of existing data, such as road centerline data, for example.*
3. Digital Spatial Data will be submitted via the GIS Data Submission Online Intake Form as a single .zip file with documents in the Vermont State Plane Coordinate System, as specified in Title 1, Chapter 17 § 671- 679. Any of the following file formats is acceptable:
 - a. .shp (Shapefile – which also consist of files with other extensions such as .dbf and .shx)
 - b. .dwg (CAD file)
 - c. .dxf (CAD file)
4. All data and materials created or collected under this Agreement – including all digital data – are public records. The parties may utilize the information for their own purposes but shall not copyright these materials.

[Technical assistance and information on these GIS standards, guidelines and procedures are available from the Vermont Center for Geographic Information, Inc. (vcgi.vermont.gov or 802-585-0820).]

II. Final Documents

All paper and electronic documents, plans, data, materials, and work products produced with State grant funding are public records. The parties may utilize the information for their own purposes but shall not copyright these materials. No proprietary products may be produced without authorization in writing by the Department of Housing and Community Development.

**Attachment B
Payment Provisions**

1. Budget:

Task Name	Hours	Hourly Rate	Materials	Total Cost
Community Workshop #1	20	78	100 (Food and Meeting Supplies)	1660
Draft Plan Sections	12	78	30 (Copies)	966
Community Workshop #2	20	78	100 (Food and Meeting Supplies)	1660
			Total	\$ 4,286
			Match	\$ 429
			Grant	\$ 3,857

2. Invoice procedure: The Regional Commission shall invoice the Town quarterly and at the end of the contract period (or at project completion, whichever is sooner). The Regional Commission shall submit progress reports describing the progress of work to date. The final invoice and progress reports shall indicate the total hours worked.

**ATTACHMENT C:
STANDARD STATE PROVISIONS
FOR CONTRACTS AND GRANTS
REVISED DECEMBER 15, 2017
PERTINENT PROVISIONS:**

This contract/subcontract is being made using funds of the State of Vermont. The following provisions **must be included** in all sub-agreements made using State funds. These provisions are those made pertinent via Clause 19 of Attachment C: Standard State Provisions for Contracts and Grants.

10. False Claims Act: The Party acknowledges that it is subject to the Vermont False Claims Act as set forth in 32 V.S.A. § 630 *et seq.* If the Party violates the Vermont False Claims Act it shall be liable to the State for civil penalties, treble damages and the costs of the investigation and prosecution of such violation, including attorney's fees, except as the same may be reduced by a court of competent jurisdiction. The Party's liability to the State under the False Claims Act shall not be limited notwithstanding any agreement of the State to otherwise limit Party's liability.

11. Whistleblower Protections: The Party shall not discriminate or retaliate against one of its employees or agents for disclosing information concerning a violation of law, fraud, waste, abuse of authority or acts threatening health or safety, including but not limited to allegations concerning the False Claims Act. Further, the Party shall not require such employees or agents to forego monetary awards as a result of such disclosures, nor should they be required to report misconduct to the Party or its agents prior to reporting to any governmental entity and/or the public.

12. Location of State Data: No State data received, obtained, or generated by the Party in connection with performance under this Agreement shall be processed, transmitted, stored, or transferred by any means outside the continental United States, except with the express written permission of the State.

14. Fair Employment Practices and Americans with Disabilities Act: Party agrees to comply with the requirement of 21 V.S.A. Chapter 5, Subchapter 6, relating to fair employment practices, to the full extent applicable. Party shall also ensure, to the full extent required by the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, as amended, that qualified individuals with disabilities receive equitable access to the services, programs, and activities provided by the Party under this Agreement.

16. Taxes Due to the State:

- A. Party understands and acknowledges responsibility, if applicable, for compliance with State tax laws, including income tax withholding for employees performing services within the State, payment of use tax on property used within the State, corporate and/or personal income tax on income earned within the State.
- B. Party certifies under the pains and penalties of perjury that, as of the date this Agreement is signed, the Party is in good standing with respect to, or in full compliance with, a plan to pay any and all taxes due the State of Vermont.

- C. Party understands that final payment under this Agreement may be withheld if the Commissioner of Taxes determines that the Party is not in good standing with respect to or in full compliance with a plan to pay any and all taxes due to the State of Vermont.
- D. Party also understands the State may set off taxes (and related penalties, interest and fees) due to the State of Vermont, but only if the Party has failed to make an appeal within the time allowed by law, or an appeal has been taken and finally determined and the Party has no further legal recourse to contest the amounts due.

18. Child Support: (Only applicable if the Party is a natural person, not a corporation or partnership.) Party states that, as of the date this Agreement is signed, he/she:

- A. is not under any obligation to pay child support; or
- B. is under such an obligation and is in good standing with respect to that obligation; or
- C. has agreed to a payment plan with the Vermont Office of Child Support Services and is in full compliance with that plan.

Party makes this statement with regard to support owed to any and all children residing in Vermont. In addition, if the Party is a resident of Vermont, Party makes this statement with regard to support owed to any and all children residing in any other state or territory of the United States.

19. Sub-Agreements: Party shall not assign, subcontract or subgrant the performance of this Agreement or any portion thereof to any other Party without the prior written approval of the State. Party shall be responsible and liable to the State for all acts or omissions of subcontractors and any other person performing work under this Agreement pursuant to an agreement with Party or any subcontractor.

In the case this Agreement is a contract with a total cost in excess of \$250,000, the Party shall provide to the State a list of all proposed subcontractors and subcontractors' subcontractors, together with the identity of those subcontractors' workers compensation insurance providers, and additional required or requested information, as applicable, in accordance with Section 32 of The Vermont Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (Act No. 54).

Party shall include the following provisions of this Attachment C in all subcontracts for work performed solely for the State of Vermont and subcontracts for work performed in the State of Vermont: Section 10 ("False Claims Act"); Section 11 ("Whistleblower Protections"); Section 12 ("Location of State Data"); Section 14 ("Fair Employment Practices and Americans with Disabilities Act"); Section 16 ("Taxes Due the State"); Section 18 ("Child Support"); Section 20 ("No Gifts or Gratuities"); Section 22 ("Certification Regarding Debarment"); Section 30 ("State Facilities"); and Section 32.A ("Certification Regarding Use of State Funds").

20. No Gifts or Gratuities: Party shall not give title or possession of anything of substantial value (including property, currency, travel and/or education programs) to any officer or employee of the State during the term of this Agreement.

22. Certification Regarding Debarment: Party certifies under pains and penalties of perjury that, as of the date that this Agreement is signed, neither Party nor Party's principals (officers, directors, owners, or partners) are presently debarred, suspended, proposed for debarment, declared ineligible or excluded from participation in Federal programs, or programs supported in whole or in part by Federal funds.

Party further certifies under pains and penalties of perjury that, as of the date that this Agreement is signed, Party is not presently debarred, suspended, nor named on the State's debarment list at: <http://bgs.vermont.gov/purchasing/debarment>

30. State Facilities: If the State makes space available to the Party in any State facility during the term of this Agreement for purposes of the Party's performance under this Agreement, the Party shall only use the space in accordance with all policies and procedures governing access to and use of State facilities which shall be made available upon request. State facilities will be made available to Party on an "AS IS, WHERE IS" basis, with no warranties whatsoever.

32. Requirements Pertaining Only to State-Funded Grants:

A. Certification Regarding Use of State Funds: If Party is an employer and this Agreement is a State-funded grant in excess of \$1,001, Party certifies that none of these State funds will be used to interfere with or restrain the exercise of Party's employee's rights with respect to unionization.

(End of Standard Provisions)

COMMEMORATION EXERCISES

AND

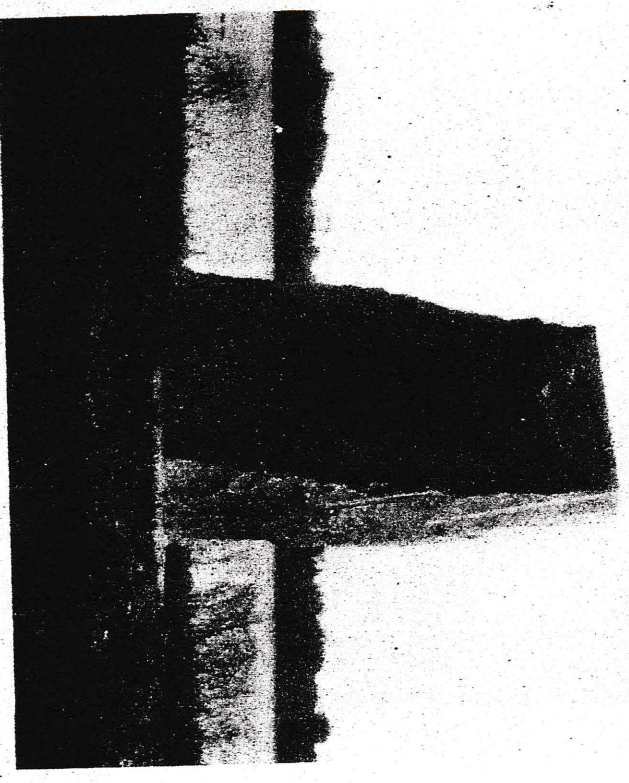
TABLET UNVEILING

AT

“BURYING YARD POINT”

ISLE LA MOTTE, VERMONT

1927



Issued by the

ISLE LA MOTTE HISTORICAL SOCIETY
ISLE LA MOTTE, VERMONT

ISLE LA MOTTE HISTORICAL SOCIETY
ISLE LA MOTTE, VERMONT

Officers and Committees for 1926-1927

MISS MARY MONTGOMERY	President
ALLEN M. HALL	First Vice-President
MRS. HELENA H. SKEELS	Second Vice-President
ARTHUR H. HILL	Corresponding Secretary
MRS. KATHLEEN S. HILL	Recording Secretary
WALTER T. CONNELL	Treasurer

Committees

Restoration of Town Records

HAROLD B. HAYDEN
WILLIAM FLEURY

Genealogy

WILLIAM A. HILL
WYMAN C. HOLCOMB
HAROLD B. HAYDEN

War Records

ARTHUR H. HILL

Old Families and Homes

MRS. FRANK SEVERANCE

Burial Ground Records

Mrs. UDGAR FLEURY
JOHN K. DOOLAN

Memorials

WILLIAM A. HILL

Publications

D. T. TROMBLY
WILLIAM A. HILL

ISLE LA MOTTE HISTORICAL SOCIETY
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Advisory

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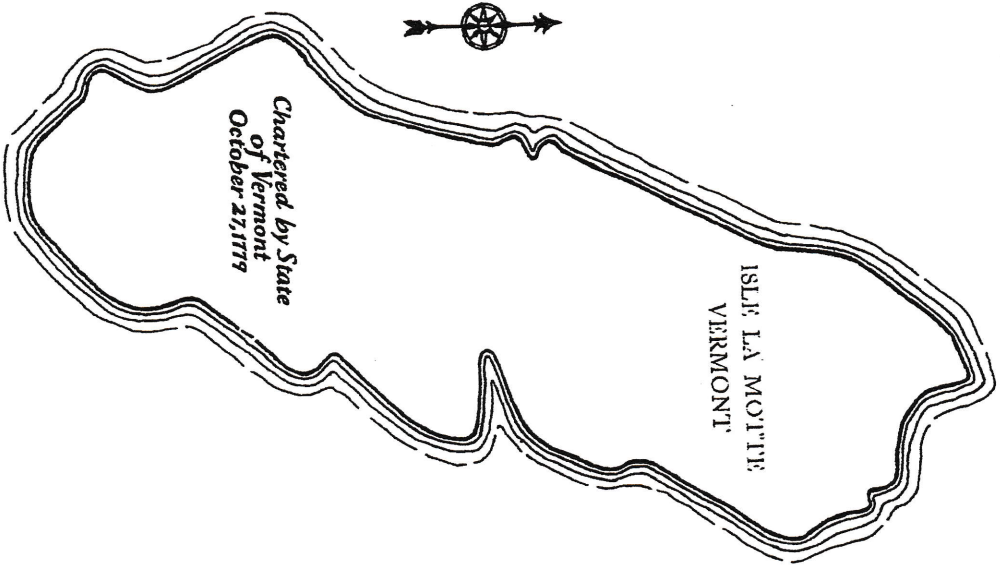
Mrs. EDGAR FLEURY
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WILLIAM A. HILL



COMMEMORATION EXERCISES

and

TABLET UNVEILING

at

“BURYING YARD POINT”
ISLE LA MOTTE, VERMONT

Sunday, August 21, 1927, at 3:00 p.m.

BUCLE CALL - - - - - *Pearl Dawson*
INVOCATION - - - - - *Robert Parsely*
THE DAYS OF DISCOVERY—a Historical Review

Arthur H. Hill
Read by *Harold B. Hayden*

POEM OF WELCOME, “The Isles of Lake Champlain”

Dan T. Trumbly

ISLE LA MOTTE—TODAY - - - - - *Allen M. Hall*
DEDICATION POEM, by

Daniel L. Cady, Vermont’s Poet Laureate
Read by *William A. Hill*

TABLET UNVEILING, by

Dan Hall and William A. Hill, Jr.
Direct lineal descendants of Enoch Hall

“AMERICA”
TAPS - - - - - *Pearl Dawson*

Under the Auspices of the Isle La Motte Historical Society
WILLIAM A. HILL, Chairman of Memorial Committee, Presiding

THE DAYS OF DISCOVERY

A Historical Review by ARTHUR H. HILL

HISTORY is the story of our times, “the torch of truth, the life of memory, the messenger of antiquity.” Written histories concern themselves too much doubtless with wars and with strife for power; and as taught in our schools, history is one of the dullest, hardest and most disliked studies of the average boy. But tell the boy of Charles A. Lindbergh’s story, the story of his flight from San Diego, California to St. Louis, Missouri and from St. Louis the next day to New York, and that he was ready, weather permitting, next day, May 20, with two sandwiches and a bottle of water to continue his flight across the wide Atlantic to Paris, France, and the boy and all the world is thrilled. Lindbergh is our pioneer and is followed by other pioneers, Clarence Chamberlin and Commander Richard Byrd and Lieutenant Hagenberger and Lieutenant Maitland all in rapid succession. But while we remember these pioneers, let us not forget that there were other pioneers of older times and may their fame be as lasting as that of one whom I shall now mention, Samuel de Champlain, who discovered this lake.

Champlain had been an officer in the Navy of France and he was a sailor of whom the bravest of mariners need not today be ashamed. Twenty times did he cross the Atlantic, once in a shallop of 16 tons and once in one of barely 12 tons. He was a world-wide traveler when he entered this lake. He had already visited Mexico and Vera Cruz and Panama, and had explored the whole New England coast. He had seen the best that the continent of Europe had to show. But never before was a scene more beautiful presented to his eager, searching eyes than that he looked upon this second of July, 318 years ago, when he passed up this lake over yonder, about a half mile from, and in plain sight of this point, with a flotilla of 24 birch

bark canoes and 60 men in them. Champlain had with him two French companions whose names will forever be unknown, and there were 60 Montagnais Indians in the party.

They had left the rapids of the Iroquois that morning. Now these rapids are at St. Johns today, 24 miles below Rouses Point and 30 miles from here, and these same rapids were there 318 years ago just as Champlain describes them. Champlain says, "we left the rapids of the Iroquois on the 2d of July, 1609, and continued as far as an Island, three leagues long, covered with the most beautiful pines that I have ever seen. We landed and hunted and caught some wild game. Continuing about three leagues," he says, "we encamped for the night." Now over on the west shore of this Island, about one and one half miles from where we now are, is Sandy Point, still covered with beautiful pines, and this is where Champlain landed. "Continuing about 3 leagues" to the next good sandy beach, brought the party up to the north side of Fisk's point where he says, "we encamped for the night." He then describes how the Indians with him fortified their camp against night attack, as was their usual custom, according to Champlain.

The next day, Champlain says, "we continued our course in the river as far as the entrance to the Lake." He does not say that they continued all day, or that a hard south wind after passing around Fisk's point prevented their continuing their journey on up the lake. He merely says, "we continued our course in the river as far as the entrance to the Lake," and up to this point Champlain considered himself in the river.

Now there is no place north of this that looked like the entrance to the Lake. Heretofore, he had been in landlocked waters and not nearly so wide from shore to shore as the St. Lawrence River is in most places, from Quebec to Chambly through which he had passed. Any man familiar with Lake Champlain and who has sailed its waters for 40 years as I have done, cannot fail to follow Champlain's journey up to this point, as he so accurately describes it.

[4]

When he continued to the entrance of the Lake next day and went no further, he no doubt was held back by a hard south wind and could not continue in birch bark canoes. "The next day," however, which would be July 4th, he says, "we entered the Lake which is of great extent, 50 or 60 leagues long, and I saw as I was observing the country, some very high mountains to the east with snow on their tops. There were others to the south not less high which were perhaps fifteen leagues from us as it seemed to me which the Lake went near, but they had no snow at all. The savages told me that it was there, pointing to the south, we were to go to find their enemies, and that these mountains were thickly peopled.

"They also said it was necessary to pass a rapid, which I saw afterward, and from there to enter another lake." Now when he says, "we entered the Lake," he was just above the head of Isle La Motte, for not till now during his trip from the rapids could he see the mountains to the east; where today Mt. Mansfield looks as though it had snow on its top where the slide has exposed the bare lime rock. Not till now could he see past Point Au Roche, and that the Lake went near some high mountains to the south, possibly some fifteen leagues from us, as he so carefully and accurately describes the view from this point above the head of Isle La Motte. Take the trip in a motor boat any day this summer from St. Johns where you will find these rapids of the Iroquois, and you cannot see these mountains to the east as Champlain describes them till you get above the head of Isle La Motte, for the reason that the horizon line of the land all the way is just high enough to cut off the view of the mountains. And not till you reach the waters above the head can you see that the mountains to the south seem to come down into the lake, or as Champlain says, "the Lake went near the mountains."

Most of the historians, Parkman and Palmer and Bourne and Slaughter, have found Champlain's narrative careless and confused regarding his trip up the Lake, and they have not been able to reconcile his dates nor his latitude with the times and places where they have placed him in

[5]

their ignorance of the country. Parkman, for instance, says this Island "three leagues long" was St. Therese, which is right in the midst of these rapids, three miles below St. Johns. Palmer places his battle with the Iroquois at Crown Point, and there was erected in 1909-10 the Champlain monument. But Champlain says, "now as we began to approach within two or three days' journey of the home of our enemies, we traveled only at night, and by day we rested. When evening came we embarked in our canoes, and as we were going along very quietly and without making any noise, on the 29th of July, about 10 o'clock at night, we met the Iroquois, our enemies at the end of the cape that projects into the Lake on the west side and they were coming to war." "It was agreed between us to put off fighting till daylight in order that we might better recognize each other." And while Champlain and his friends remained in their canoes, the others on shore prepared for the coming battle. They taunted each other through the night, bragging as to what they intended to do to each other.

The Iroquois were drawn upon shore. Champlain had loaded his arquebus with five slugs or bullets, one for each of the five chiefs of the Iroquois tribes, and his companions had told him how he could recognize these chiefs by a peculiar feather or head-dress each would wear. As they were climbing up the bank, one or two of Champlain's French companions skulked around under the bank and came up behind the Iroquois. Champlain's friends formed a hollow square about him and advanced to meet the Iroquois, when about 60 paces away, the hollow square opened and Champlain stepped forward, raised his gun to his shoulder, took careful aim at the five chiefs and fired. Three of the Iroquois chiefs fell dead. Just then his companions fired from the woods behind the Indians and the battle was over. The Iroquois dropped their arms and fled back toward Lake George whence they had come. "We pursued them fleeing into the depths of the woods and took some prisoners." Now it was while pursuing them toward Lake George along the banks of Ti Creek, that

[61]

Champlain saw this rapid which he distinctly says, "I saw afterwards."

It was the only opportunity he had to see these rapids, for, he says, "after we had gained the victory," they amused themselves by taking a great quantity of corn and Indian meal from their enemies and also their arms which they had left in order to run better. And having made good cheer, danced and sung, "we returned three hours afterwards with the prisoners. This place where this battle was fought is in latitude 43 degrees and some minutes and I named the lake 'Champlain.'" The above is Champlain's own narrative. The more I read Champlain's narrative, the more I learn of Champlain, the more I am astonished that it has taken three hundred years to get at facts so clearly stated by Champlain himself in his narrative.

I wish you to notice that Champlain says "the latitude where this charge was made was 43 degrees and some minutes," while the Government map now makes the site of old Fort Ticonderoga 43 degrees, and Fort Ticonderoga is within a mile of the rapid which he says he saw afterwards, 50 degrees and 10 minutes. There are two places then, one in Vermont here on Isle La Motte, and one in New York at Ticonderoga, recorded by Champlain himself as the places where he landed. On one of these sites should have been erected a permanent memorial to Champlain and not at Crown Point.

In 1665 the French company of 300 soldiers of the famous Carignan regiment came up here under command of Captain La Motte and Lieutenant Chazy, and began building a fort on Sandy Point, and on the west shore of this Island where Champlain first landed. This fort was completed in July, 1666, and dedicated to St. Ann, July 26, 1666, when the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass was offered here for the first time in Vermont. Here later in 1666 Viceroy de Tracy came with 600 soldiers of the Carignan regiment, and 600 "Habitans," and 100 Algonquin Indians, before starting on an expedition against the Mohawks. Here in 1668, came Bishop La Val, first Bishop of Quebec and

[67]

New France, and gave confirmation at St. Ann. "His good bishop made the trip from Quebec and back again in a birch bark canoe. Captain John Schuyler writes in his journal that his party returning from an expedition against Chambly "stopped August 24, 1690, at the ruins of Fort St. Ann on the west side of Isle La Motte."

Montcalm, Leve, Baurimarque and Bourgainsville all visited Sandy Point. Brigadier General Montgomery, with Ethan Allen, Seth Warner and the Green Mountain Boys, waited here at Sandy Point three days in September, 1775, for Major General Schuyler while on an expedition against St. Johns and Montreal. Here later in 1776, but on a different mission, came Benjamin Franklin, Samuel Chase and Charles Carroll, accompanied by the Rev. John Carroll, who afterward became the first bishop of the United States when on their way to Montreal. From September 6th to 19th, in 1776, Benedict Arnold and his fleet, with which he fought the Battle of Valcour against the British, was at anchor over there in Blanchard's Bay, guarding the entrance to the Lake. Captain Thomas McDonough and his fleet, with which he fought the Battle of Plattsburg, September 11, 1814, was at anchor over there in Blanchard's Bay all summer from the time when he sailed out of Otter Creek in May, till August 16, 1814. McDonough had carefully sounded the waters off the north end of Isle La Motte and the reefs out there for the purposes of a naval engagement, but why he sailed away August 20 up into Cumberland Bay and abandoned 25 miles of frontier to the British, is a matter of history soon to be published.

March 10, 1792, a town meeting was held at the house of Nathaniel Wales, and it was voted that the selectmen, Ebenezer Hyde, Enoch Hall and William Blanchard be a committee to pitch a place for a town plot and a burying ground, and here on this very point was located the burying ground, and for the next 20 years it was the only one on the Island. In 1813 the two other cemeteries were located and this one given up. When this bridge was opened, August 14, 1882, this road was laid out right across this old burying ground.

High water, a few years later, washed the top off the bridge in the early spring, and that hole yonder was dug, by order of the selectmen, to repair the bridge. Several skeletons of these pioneers were dug up, and Ira Hill (known as Uncle Ira), then 95 or 96 years old, protested, because he said that Abraham Knapp, our first town clerk, and Lieutenant Enoch Hall, and Nathaniel Wales, our first town Representative, William Utley, our second town Representative and Jesse Welden, of Saint Albans, all old Revolutionary soldiers, and other men he knew were buried here on this point. Jesse Welden, after whom St. Albans has named one of its streets, and after whom the Welden National Bank and the old Welden House, at one time the best hotel in Vermont, were named, was drowned in October, 1795, when returning home from St. Johns with a boat load of salt. His body was not recovered from the Lake until the next spring by his friend William Blanchard, who lived over on yonder point now called Blanchard's Point, and now the home of Mr. Harold Hayden. Lieutenant William Blanchard and Jesse Welden were buddies, both enlisted from Sunderland, Vt., in the Revolutionary Army in 1779. Vermont at this time we must remember was an independent sovereignty, and had not been admitted into the Union. She was not recognized as a State by Congress, or New York or New Hampshire, and yet an armistice was arranged between General Haldemand for Great Britain and Ira Allen for Vermont which protected the frontier. Unless Vermont could be admitted into the Union as a State, rather than become a part of New York, Vermont would have chosen to become a British colony. In October, 1781, a British force came up Lake Champlain under General St. Leger, according to program, to observe the temper of the people and to issue the proclamation of General Haldemand. General Enos, commanding the Vermont troops and Colonel's Fletcher and Walbridge, his subordinates, were in the secret, but to keep up appearances scouting parties were sent out to observe the movements of the enemy.

One of these parties met British scouts with whom they exchanged shots, and Lieutenant William Blanchard, in

command of the Vermont party, was captured in 1782. Ira Allen was a friend of Lieutenant William Blanchard and Blanchard was a trusted Lieutenant and a friend of Ira Allen, for when Blanchard was taken prisoner, four whole companies of Vermont State militia of Colonel Ira Allen's regiment were sent out to recapture Lieutenant William Blanchard in May, 1782. He was found and returned to Vermont, for in October 24, 1782, William Blanchard's name appears again as Lieutenant in Captain Elijah Galusha's Company in Arlington, Vermont (p. 602). Peace between United States and Great Britain came in 1783. In May, 1784, a committee of Congress reported a resolution recognizing Vermont's sovereignty, but an affirmative vote of nine States admitting Vermont to the Union could not be had, and the matter dropped. In the territory relinquished by Great Britain in the peace treaty, Vermont was included. But what was her status? She had not made peace with Great Britain, nor Great Britain with her, unless she was held to be part of New York or New Hampshire.

About that, Ira Allen says, "Vermont was completely independent, and not in alliance or connection with any power on earth. She had a very small debt." The confederation was a failure as a government and a new constitution was needed. The debts of the States would be a problem. It was decided to recognize no titles to land except those derived from New Hampshire or Vermont, and to form no connection with the United States for the time being.

It was decided that Vermont should open commercial relations with Canada. This policy to have no union with the confederation was adhered to until overtures finally came from New York, and New York surrendered all claims to jurisdiction in Vermont. Ira Allen was a Commissioner for Vermont, and Melancthon Smith, of Plattsburg, for New York. This was the same Melancthon Smith who at Poughkeepsie, in the summer of 1788, broke away from Governor Clinton, joined Alexander Hamilton, and took Vermont into the federal Union.

Lieutenant William Blanchard settled here in 1788, under a grant of land from Governor Clinton to Pliny Moore in 1786 which Pliny Moore sold to William Blanchard. A convention of which Ira Allen was a member was held in Bennington in 1791. The Federal constitution was ratified as a preliminary to admission. George Washington signed the act of Congress admitting Vermont to the Federal Union February 8, 1791, and a town meeting was held here in March, 1791, and Abraham Knapp was elected our first town clerk.

Time does not permit the recital of many more facts of great interest to us all, concerning the pioneer days and the men who first wrought out the community of which we are a part and of which we may justly be proud. The sacrifices of these men who faced hardships of every conceivable description will never be fully known. It is fitting, even at this late date, that we should pause for a moment to offer due recognition of that sacrifice in the placing of this memorial. This spot should henceforth recall to mind the price which our pioneer fathers paid for the peace and prosperity which we enjoy.

THE ISLES OF LAKE CHAMPLAIN

By D. T. TROMBLY

Dedicated to the Isle La Motte Historical Society

When apple blossoms scent the air for many miles around
And the oriole is with us once again;
And dandelion blossoms lie thick upon the ground,
Then it's springtime in the Isles of Lake Champlain.

When throngs from crowded cities flock to our lovely shores
To recuperate and rest the tired brain;
And the beauty of our Islands attracts them more and more,
Then it's summer in the Isles of Lake Champlain.

When the big, ripe, golden pumpkin sows the fields of yellow corn,
And the harvest is abundant in the main,
When with heaps of big, red apples our home tables we adorn,
Then it's autumn in the Isles of Lake Champlain.

When Mount Mansfield lies in slumber 'neath its robe of purest white,
And the cold air chills us almost to the vein,
And you hear the sleigh bells jingle in the stillness of the night,
Then it's winter in the Isles of Lake Champlain.

* * * *

Oh, our Islands they are lovely and their beauty is in store
I never can describe them for my efforts would be vain,
To their points and bays and benches and each wooded rocky shore,
We welcome all good people to the Isles of Lake Champlain.

[12]

ISLE LA MOTTE TODAY

By ALLEN M. HALL

IN his address Mr. Hall reviewed briefly the changes which had taken place during the more recent years, and especially emphasized the manner in which the Island people had always responded to the call of country and State. He spoke of the solid strength of her population, the rugged virtues and self-reliance of her citizens.

Mr. Hall was asked to give this address because of the fact that he is a lineal descendant of Lieutenant Enoch Hall, of Revolutionary service, and for the further reason that Mr. Hall has so ably represented Isle La Motte in the Vermont Legislature. In 1910 and 1917 Mr. Hall was a member of the House, in 1919 he was State senator, and again, in 1927, he was sent by his townsmen to the House. In addition to this service he has been selectman of the town for a total of 17 years.

[13]

DEDICATION POEM

*Lines for the Dedication of a Memorial Tablet to
Revolutionary Soldiers, Named and Unnamed, at
Isle La Motte, Vermont, on August 21, 1927*

(By DANIEL L. CADY)

Hail! Isle La Motte, delightful land
Through which the smart world motors;
Hail! fair La Motte, that always fills
Her quants and her quotes,
La Motte, that sends more men to war
Than she has legal voters.

Throned in this northern sapphire sea,
Her fineries never fail her;
The winds her maids, the seasons' round
Her milliner and tailor;
Small wonder she was much admired
By Lord Champlain, the sailor.

Small wonder that he first here moored
With firm-set will to win her;
"A toi mon coeur," he trembling said,
Like any love-beginner;
She smiled and handed him a mess
Of muskellunge for dinner.

Victoria's tube and Brooklyn's bridge
Here found their firm foundation;
The pines that masted royal ships
Still serve for conversation;
The name of Vineyard for these fields
Was no exaggeration.

From here the far-stretched Empire State
A White Man's eyes first sighted;
Here first upon beloved Vermont
A White Man's foot alighted—
La Motte, whose fame should fill the world
And all her sons be knighted.

[14]

Here first was sung the holy mass
In all this pleasant valley;
Here rose the fort that held the Lake
Against a Savage ally;
Here to come we to tell the tale
And keep the glorious tally.

Of this fair Isle a summer through
McDonough lay and waited,
And with himself an hundred plans
Of victory debated;
The kedger ruse that gained the fight
His vision here created.

Here came the word to one who spoke
That his loved Chief was stricken,
A message that in every land
Caused human hearts to quicken;
May we McKinley's courage show
When life's last shadows thicken.

Upon this Point the hands and feet
Released from pioneering—
The men through whom comes down to us
The sum of things endearing,
Were laid to rest against that day
Of His august appearing.

In all our wars La Motte's brave sons
Knew no pacific slumber;
They let no private ends or aims
Their country's cause encumber;
They marched, they fought, they went to graves
That bore nor name nor number.

All who have lived and suffered death,
Of high or low condition,
Deserve a tear, their resting place
Some sign of recognition;
Their souls, a prayer of charity
That Grace accept contrition.

To lifeless bones some rites are due,
Some tokens of affection;
Funeral pomps become a form
That gave a state direction;
A faithful soldier's tomb glows bright,
As 'twere, by love's reflection.

[15]

We may not bring those brave men back,
 But we may guard their glory,
 And bid them act their parts again
 In Isle La Motte's story;
 Yes; bid them live a thousand years
 Till Time himself is hoary.

Each name on this devoted bronze
 Deserves our veneration;
 Soldiers of Isle La Motte at rest,
 Accept this dedication;
 Still lives the land you fought to free,
 Still lives the new-born nation.

Soldiers of Isle La Motte, rest on;
 The order of attention
 That sounds today is not for you,
 Though all your names have mention;
 It sounds for us and we obey
 With happy comprehension.

UNVEILING CEREMONY

THE unveiling ceremony took place near the close of the Commemoration Exercises. A large American flag draped across the marble shaft concealed the inscribed bronze tablet, and at the appropriate moment the flag was drawn aside by Dan Hall and William A. Hill, Jr. These boys, twelve years of age, are direct lineal descendants of Lieutenant Enoch Hall, one of the revolutionary soldiers and pioneers held in remembrance by these exercises. The singing of "America" and the sounding of "Taps" brought the exercises to a close.

TABLET INSCRIPTION ISLE LA MOTTE

1791

1665

1927

This is Isle La Motte "The Island Three Leagues Long" where Samuel de Champlain says he landed and hunted and camped July 2nd and 3rd, 1609.

It was settled in 1665 by the French who built Fort "St. Ann" on the west shore where now is a "Shrine of St. Ann." The fort was dedicated on July 26, 1666, when Mass was celebrated for the first time in Vermont. The Captain of the 300 men of the famous Carignan Regiment who built this Fort was Sieur de La Motte after whom the Island was named.

This tablet on Burying Yard Point was erected by the Isle La Motte Historical Society and the Town, in memory of Revolutionary Soldiers here buried.

WILLIAM BLANCHARD, *Lieutenant*
 ENOCH HALL, *Lieutenant*
 ABRAHAM KNAPP, *First Town Clerk*
 NATHANIEL WALES, *First Town Representative*
 WILLIAM UTTLEY, *Second Town Representative*
 JESSE WELDEN
 OTHERS UNNAMED

This Bridge Was Opened August 14, 1882

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

TO THE TOWN OF ISLE LA MOTTE for its generous contribution of the bronze tablet, which preserves for posterity remembrance of the ancient "Burying Yard Point."

TO THE VERMONT MARBLE COMPANY, which gave the handsome gray marble monument, taken from one of its Isle La Motte quarries.

TO ALL WHO GAVE time, talent and service for the completion of this enterprise in remembrance of early pioneer workmen.

By action of the Isle La Motte Historical Society, the above acknowledgments have been entered on the records of the Society.