

## Changes in Public Places

Many things have changed over the years as St. Augustine grew. The services that were offered in St. Augustine went through many changes. This was the case of the post office along with other public buildings such as the school and the churches.

To begin, the postal services in St. Augustine have had many different postmasters. For many years the mail service was managed from the homes of the postmasters. The first person in St. Augustine to provide mail service for the community was Mr. Bill Kennedy who managed the postal service from his home and following him was Mr. Walter Kennedy who managed it from his home for twenty-five years. Following Mr. Kennedy, Mrs. Cathleen McKinnon and Mrs. Bertha Fequet each managed the postal service from their home for a few years. In 1973, Mr. Monford Driscoll and wife Mrs. Sally Driscoll took over the postal service and would become the permanent postmasters here in St. Augustine. In 1985, St. Augustine received another post office that would be used until St. Augustine would receive the present day post office.

Another public building that has gone through many changes are the churches of St. Augustine. To begin with the Catholic church, there have been five churches over the years. There are no definite years as to when the first two Catholic churches were built in St. Augustine, but the third Catholic church built in St. Augustine was in 1931 and stood until 1954. The fourth Catholic church of St. Augustine was built in 1957 but it was tragically burned down on September 1, 1976. The church was burned to the ground and damage was also done to some of the surrounding homes. However the statue of Mother Mary that was in the church yard was left untouched as if there was no fire at all. Since the church was burned to

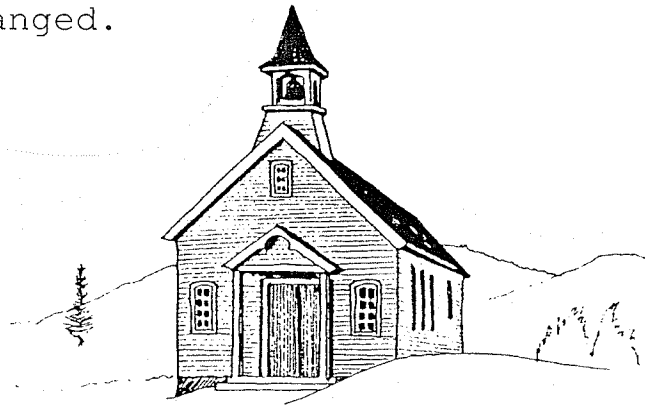
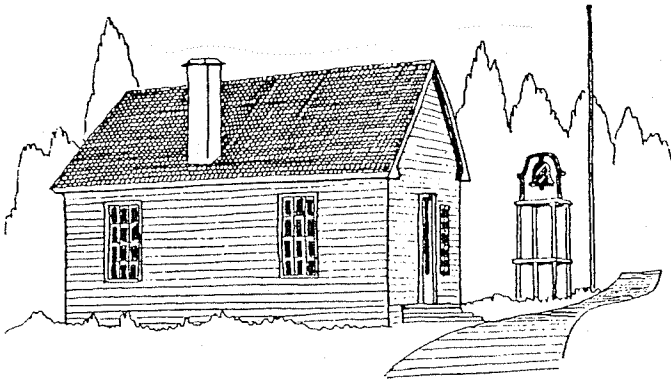
the ground, services had to be held at the school until a new church was built. The fifth Catholic church was opened in 1977 and it is the church that still stands now. It was renovated several times, the first being in 1982, the next renovation to be carried out was in 1991 and lastly it was renovated in 2001.

The Anglican churches in St. Augustine have also had many churches over the years. From the early 1900's to the present day, there have been a total of four Anglican churches in St. Augustine. The first Anglican church to be built was in the the early 1920's and it was used as a church and a school for the Anglican students. In the mid 1930's another church was built. However, the previous church was still used as a school and the new church was just for religious services. Sadly, the new church burned in February 1966. In 1967 another church was built which stood until the fall 2000 when the upper level of the church was removed and the lower half was renovated. It wasn't complete but the Anglicans were able to have a Christmas service in what was to become their new church. The churches in St. Augustine are constantly changing and being improved when needed because they are cherished buildings in our town.

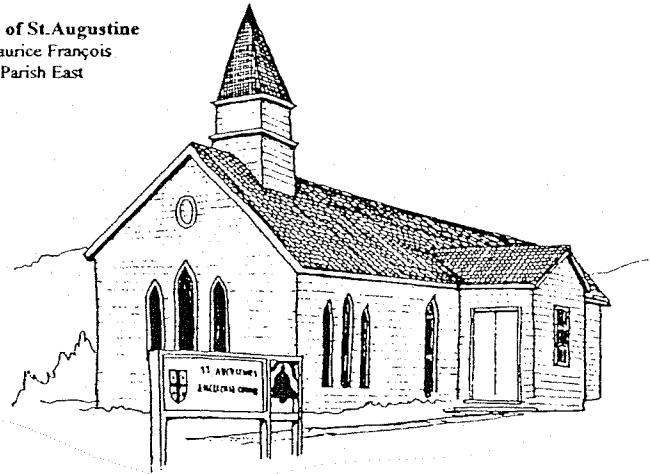
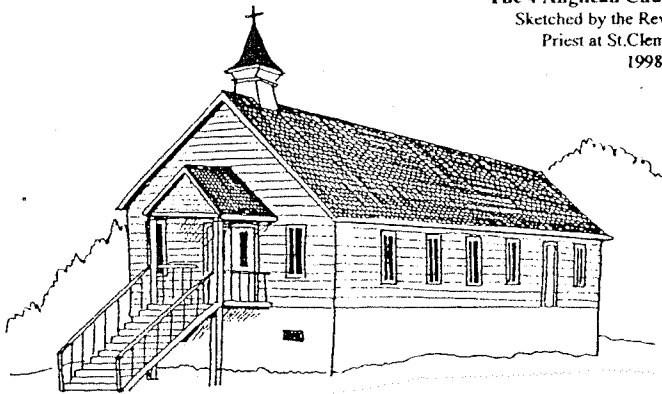
The last public building that has gone through many changes are the schools here in St. Augustine. The earliest memory of a school in St. Augustine was in the early 1920's and it changed constantly until the present day. The schools have changed from the students being separated according to religion and at one point the native children also went to the same school as the children of St. Augustine. Eventually a school was built where all the students went to the same one. This new school was also renovated where there was an addition to the school. After all the renovations were completed, it was November 15, 1987 that the new school was inaugurated. There was a big

celebration in honor of the new school.

Many, many things have changed over the years and this is just a brief idea to have an idea as to how they actually changed.



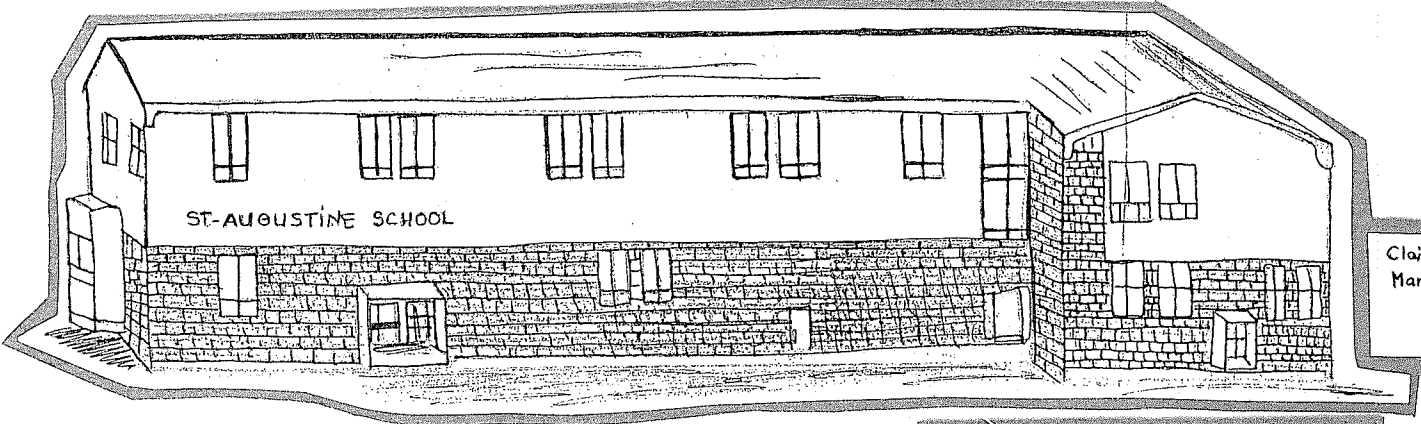
The 4 Anglican Churches of St. Augustine  
Sketched by the Rev'd Maurice François  
Priest at St. Clement's Parish East  
1998-2001



Construction  
of the  
Catholic  
Church

By: Jenna Shattler  
2004

# Official Opening of St. Augustine School



Clair Dow,  
Margot Hébert  
Nov, 15-78'

## LE SEXTANT THE SEXTANT INAUGURATION OF ST-AUGUSTIN RIVER SCHOOL

November 15, 1978 - the population of St-Augustin has the sense of memorable dates as was stressed to me, with humor, by the president of the School Committee - everything is ready, decorated and served to celebrate the official inauguration of the St-Augustin River School.

Starting in the afternoon we felt an atmosphere of celebration in the population. At the school, the women of the village, especially the members of the School Committee and the wives of the members of the School Committee bustled about and, like fairies, transformed the school and gymnasium.

At five o'clock everything is decorated and beautiful. Our little cameras could not render justice to all these splendid decorations realized by the children of the school and the parents. - Good example of contribution.

And the table. Abundance! Only this word can describe the table prepared for this reception. Abundance and delicious. I will try to describe it. No I won't! But I can tell you that I ate well and...drank!

Towards 8 o'clock, the cutting of the ribbon presided by Mrs. Caroline Maurice officially inaugurated the "St-Augustin School". After the cutting of the ribbon, Mr. Falardeau made a speech in the name of the Ministry of Education. Mrs. Caroline Maurice was, in 1949, the first teacher originally from St-Augustin. It's with much pride that I got to know and accompanied this gentle lady the night of the inauguration.

Before entering the gymnasium, we received a very nice button hole for men and a corsage for the ladies; very nice indeed.

Immediately after the "O Canada" anthem (in English and in the official language of Quebec) the population listened to a line of speakers; the Reverend Father Lavoie, o.m.i. (and now new priest at St-Augustin) Richard Salt, Anglican minister, John Ford, Anglican minister who was one of the first teachers at St-Augustin River around the '30's and, also Minister of the cult for many years, (his speech was good and very humorous!!!) Mr. Gilles Monger, in the name of Mr. Poisson, Mr. André Maurice, president of the School Committee at St-Augustin, Dr. N.F. Richards, principal, Lorne Hayes of the C.S.R. Gaspesia, Sparkes of the E.T.R.S.E., Bob Wyse of the M.E.Q. and also Mrs. Gloria Nadeau, President of the Parents Committee of the Littoral School Board.

After these interesting speeches, Mr. Mederick O'Brien who was a formidable master of ceremony, offered a toast to the new school.

The buffet eaten, the wine drank, the people had the choice of: visiting a montagnais diorama in Sr. Germaine's class; visit an exposition of scallop shells and to choose one, and admire crafts made by the montagnais and exposed in the library.

Briefly, a fantastic night. The School Committee of St-Augustin showed themselves very resourceful as do the people of the coast and they are capable because they did more than prepare the inauguration which was a great success, the School Committee of St-Augustin was also host of the Parents Committee

Dan.

Le Sextant.

