



Hello,

On June 16h I visited Grand Pre' with my son's grade 5 class from St.Margaret's Bay Elementary School. I brought along a photo of my mother in an Acadian costume from 1955 when she was a Grand Pre tour guide.

Her name is Marie "Rose" Comeau à Arcade à Robin from Comeauville (mother Marguerite Saulnier of Saulnierville).

She gave me the following additional information to pass on to you for your park records.

She worked with one other girl, Marie-Adele Muisse, now Marie-Adele Deveau of Meteghan Station.

They were hired by Alain Doucet (since deceased) who wrote an Acadian Dictionary and at least one Acadian History book. He had been the guide for a year or two before my mother and Marie-Adele.

Dr. Phillip LeBlanc of Clare phoned my mother and Marie-Adele to offer them the job at Grand Pre for the summer. My mother was known to be a smart girl who won the "Concours de Francais" for Claire and Argyle many times. They got the Grand Pre job offer because they were both award winning students and got good grades in school.

They stayed at the house of Kay and Ralph King for the summer. The last my mother heard, the house had been purchased by an Acadian family and housed an Acadian souvenir shop.

They were not hired by the Dominion Atlantic Railroad but they did receive their mail by D.A.R. during the summer.

They were employed by La société L'Assomption Assurance based out of Moncton. Their pay came from donations. They made about \$125 for the summer.

My mother said they would provide guided tours, sing Acadian songs and explain some of the artifacts around the property. Occasionally they would be corrected by a senior acadian who knew better from experience the purpose of some items. My mother thinks they were hired to be costumed, Acadian speaking guides as part of the 200th Anniversary of the Expulsion of the Acadians.

That year a 150 person choir sang on the Grand Pre Grounds by the church to celebrate the August 15th Feast of the Assumption..

She went on to work in Halifax at Maritime Telephone and Telegraph where she met my father Paul Gerard Napier and married in 1962.

I hope you find this information useful.

Margaret Napier