

Saving a Life at Ballantynes Cove - 1912

"Presented by the Government of the Dominion of Canada to Arthur McMillan in recognition of his services in saving life at Ballantynes Cove, NS 7th June 1912."



This lovely watch was found by family in the possession of a woman who had passed away. They wondered who Arthur McMillan was. The woman's maiden name was McMillan so there was an obvious family connection.

Investigation into the Sessional Papers of the Dominion of Canada for 1914 - the Annual Report of the Department of Marine and Fisheries for the Fiscal Year of 1912-1913 revealed some details.

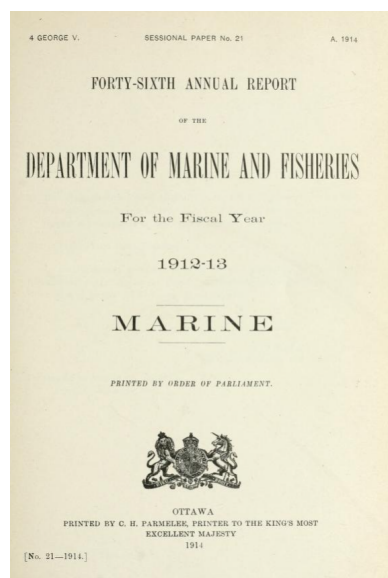
"August 28, 1912 - Two silver watches to Stuart A. McMillan and Arthur McMillan for saving life at Ballantynes Cove, N.S."

The awards were approved by Henry Thompson, Commander, Royal Navy, General Superintendent of Life Saving Service. The date of presentation was August 28, 1912. So, there were two watches!!

Despite no one from 1912 still being alive in the community, there was a recollection of the event passed down by neighbors. Arthur and Stuart lived in the big, white two storey house that is on the corner lot of the Marsh Road and Hwy 337. It still stands today. They were up

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on the roof, reshingling it. Because they were so high up they were able to hear cries from down on the water despite it being some distance from the house. They went down and found that a boat of some kind had overturned and at least one person was in the water clinging to the boat or debris from the boat. They men took a dory and rowed out and saved the person(s) who were in the water.



REWARDS FOR SAVING LIFE FROM APRIL 1, 1912, TO APRIL 1, 1913.

April 23, 1912.—One gold watch to W. L. Thompson for endeavouring to save the life of Toralf Wingen.

June 8, 1912.—One silver cup, one pair of binoculars and one silver watch to Captain Philip Tocque, O. J. Lee, R.N.R., and W. Berry, respectively, for services at wreck of Schooner *Hibernia*.

August 28, 1912.—Two silver watches to Stuart A. McMillan and Arthur McMillan for saving life at Ballantyne's Cove, N.S.

September 17, 1912.—Three silver watches to Wm. Tzouhalem, Bob Klutwhalem and Donnet Charley for rescuing three passengers from the wreck of the ss. *Iroquois*.

September 27, 1912.—Two silver watches to Wm. A. Bagnell and Howard Bagnell for rescuing Isaac Townsend.

October 9, 1912.—Three gold medals to Wm. Tzouhalem, Bob Klutwhalem and Donnet Charley for rescuing three passengers from the wreck of the ss. *Iroquois*.

October 25, 1912.—One silver cup and one gold watch to Captain F. H. Larnder and Jas. Himmelman in connection with rescues from the steamer *Caledonia*.

December 2, 1912.—Four silver watches to James Manuel, Allen Delorey, Samuel Wagner and John Doliver in connection with rescue of the crew of the schooner *Flora*.

December 2, 1912.—One silver watch to Chas. A. Moses for rescuing Captain Poland of the schooner *Mary M. Lord*.

January 16, 1913.—One pair binoculars to Mr. R. Legate for saving crew of schooner *Caledonia*.

February 11, 1913.—Two silver watches to Gabriel Chiasson and Constant Aucoin for rescuing two fishermen.

HENRY THOMPSON,
Commander R. N. General Superintendent of Life Saving Service.