

People and the Bay

What Makes Great Bay Great?

We have seen that the Estuary is rich in food for many different kinds of plants and animals. It has also been a treasure for the people of New Hampshire.

Land of Plenty

400 years ago, the Squamscott Indians knew that Great Bay was a land of plenty. Every spring they would move here from the inland forests to live along its shores to fish, hunt, and grow corn. Scattered around Great Bay are the remains of their feasts, mounds of empty oyster and clam shells called kitchen middens.



Gundalow

Great Bay TREASURES

Land of Beauty

Later settlers, too, knew that the Estuary was special. Farmers from miles around came to harvest the salt



Wigwam

marsh hay in late summer. They hauled it back upriver in flat-bottomed boats known as gundalows. Still later, people who bought the old farms around the edge of the Bay realized that its beauty must be

pre-served. In 1989, they helped form the Great Bay National Estuarine Research



Hay staddle

Reserve to protect the waters and land of the Bay. Scientists and volunteers are studying the Bay every day to learn more about its treasures.

