

DAVIS COVE

- Population 1940: 104, 1966: 247
- Located on the western side of Placentia Bay.
- It was a fishing community from the early 1800s until resettlement, and was possibly named after the surname Davis which was prominent in that area of the bay.
- In 1845 Davis Cove had a population of 35
- Although there was one family of the Church of England there at that time, the community remained exclusively Roman Catholic until its demise in the 1960s.
- The population growth of Davis Cove was very slow.
- By 1857 the population was recorded as 31 with five families living there.
- In 1884, the population had increased to 53, all of whom were Catholic.
- The congregation now had a church, and three acres of land were under cultivation.
- In 1911, the community had a school
- The number of families had increased to 14 and the acres of land under cultivation had increased to nine.
- The 1921 census records a population of 96 Roman Catholics.
- At that time the fishermen were also heavily engaged in the lobster fishery as well as the cod fishery.
- The people of Davis Cove resettled in the 1960s.
- Families moved to various communities in the bay as well as St. John's.
- Fishermen still return to the community each year to fish.
- Fishing settlement on the west side of Placentia Bay, inside of Merasheen Island
- A resettled fishing settlement that was located on the west side of Placentia Bay was in a small sheltered Cove, Davis Cove, which was probably named for an early settler, was first reported in the census (1845) with a population of thirty-five, mainly Roman Catholics, including twelve fishermen engaged in the small-boat inshore fishery.
- The early population of Davis Cove included two people born in England and two born in Ireland; only one family was reported to be Church of England in 1845 and 1875, and the population, which did not exceed 100 until 1935, was reported to be exclusively Roman Catholic in later censuses.
- Family names listed in Davis Cove in 1928 were
 - Brewer
 - Caul
 - Connors
 - Davis
 - Emberley

- Greene
- Hickey
- Palfrey

(list of Electors: 1928); according to E.R Seary (1976) most of these names were common in the Placentia Bay West area by the 1850s and 1860s.

- The economy of Davis Cove was based almost entirely on the inshore cod fishery from the earliest days of settlement.
- In the late 1950s the majority of the labour force was engaged in the fishery, with a small number reported to be working outside the community.
- Davis Cove had a Roman Catholic school to serve a growing population of 183 in 1956 and 206 in 1961; however, the lack of roads and the isolation led to the resettlement of the majority (209) of the residents of Davis Cove by 1969, with six households reportedly remaining in that year (Bonavista Peninsula study religion study 1969-1979: 1969).
- A total of 282 Davis Cove residents had resettled in St. Johns, Swift Current, Jersey side, Freshwater, Southern Harbour, Arnolds cove, Long Harbour and Stephenville by 1975.

E.R Seary (1976), Bonovista Peninsula study religion study 1969-1979 (1969), Census (1845-1966), List of Electors (1928), Statistics: federal – provincial Resettlement program (1975?), Hand Book Gazetteer and Almanac, Newfoundland 1940, Abandoned Communities of Placentia Bay (Oct. 2002), Arnold's Cove: A Community History (1997)