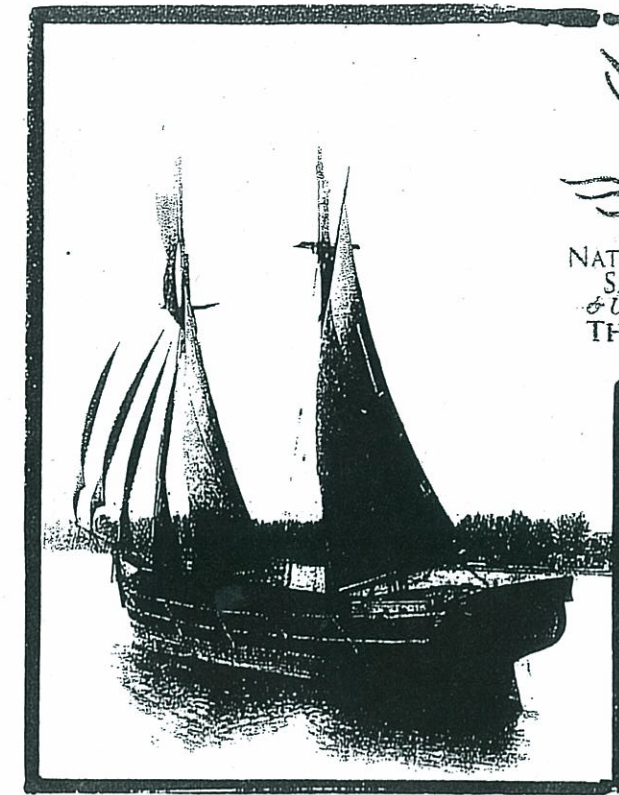
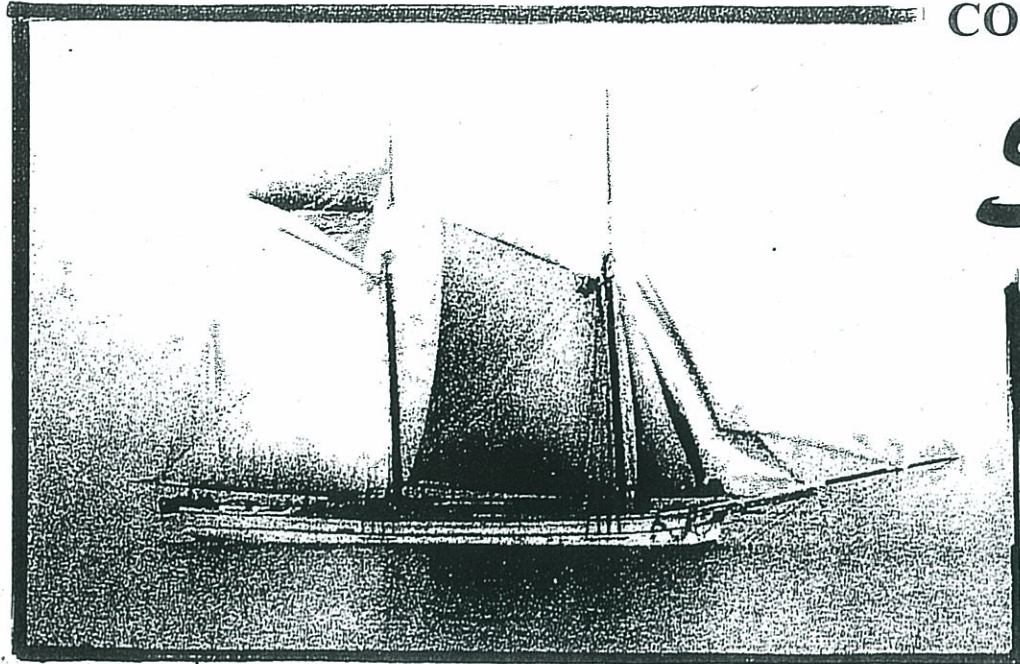


COME EXPLORE THE

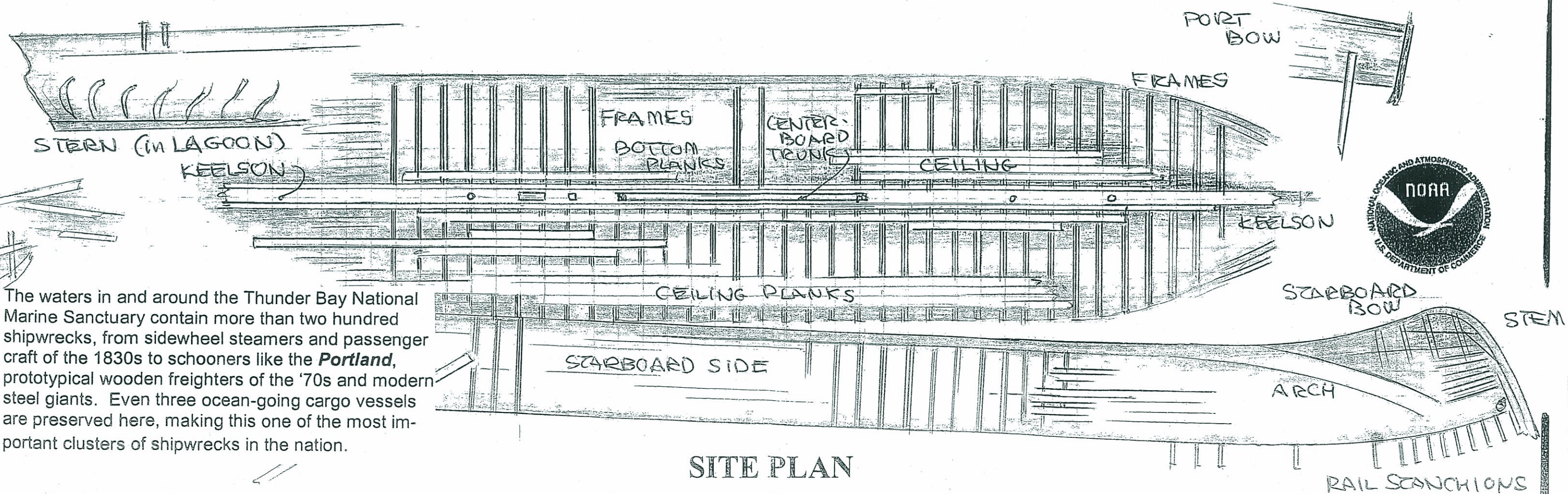
Schooner *Portland*

During much of the 19th Century, the Great Lakes' commercial fleet was made up largely of sailing craft. In 1870 there were nearly two thousand schooners on the Inland Seas and about four hundred steamers. The typical sailing vessel was a two-masted schooner 140 feet long, designed to fit through the locks of the Welland Ship Canal that connected Lake Erie with Lake Ontario.

The schooner *Portland* was a "canaller", built in 1863 at Oswego, New York. She was driven ashore at Bolton's Point (also called "False Presque Isle") during a gale on October 10, 1877, carrying 300 tons of rock salt. Her wooden hull went to pieces a few days later and she became a total loss.




NATIONAL MARINE
SANCTUARIES
& Underwater Preservation
THUNDER BAY



The waters in and around the Thunder Bay National Marine Sanctuary contain more than two hundred shipwrecks, from sidewheel steamers and passenger craft of the 1830s to schooners like the *Portland*, prototypical wooden freighters of the '70s and modern steel giants. Even three ocean-going cargo vessels are preserved here, making this one of the most important clusters of shipwrecks in the nation.