

A History of Dunany

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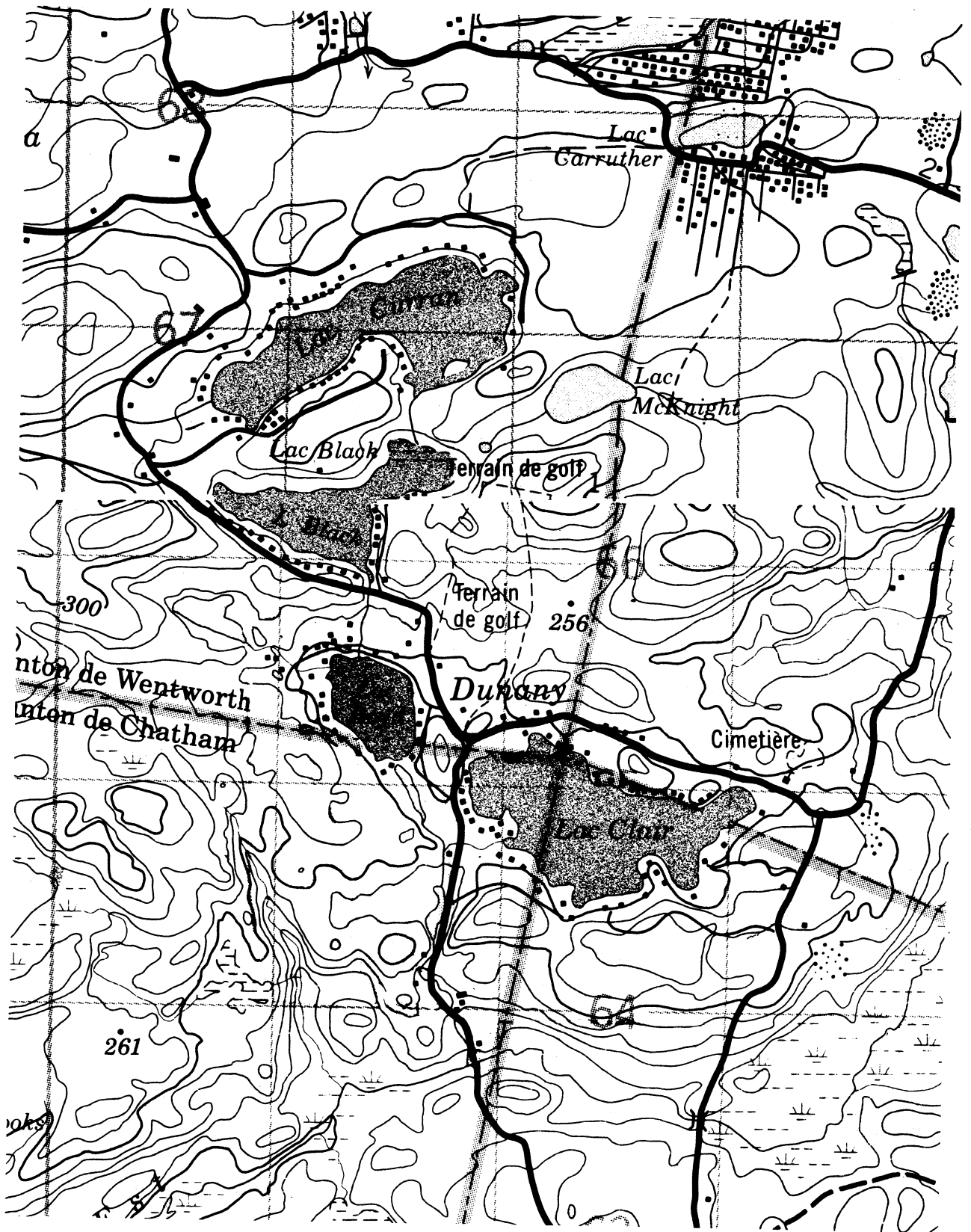
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A HISTORY OF DUNANY

Dunany is a cottage community of four lakes centered around the Dunany Golf and Country Club, about 50 miles north-west of Montreal and seven miles north of Lachute, Quebec. Families relax and have fun and grow closer in its beautiful setting. It is a friendly community where neighbours all know one another, and since it is an environmentally safe haven in these days of extensive pollution, the people of Dunany have come to feel it is a very special place.

"A HISTORY OF DUNANY" covers the years from 1816 to 1990. It describes the life of the earliest settlers and recounts how they established St. Paul's Anglican Church, the Dunany School and local industries and services. The focus of this history is on the land holdings and on the successive families who have lived on a particular property to the present day. The life of these families has been researched through Land, Church, School and Census records and through interviews with descendants.

Farming was difficult in the inhospitable terrain but the early settlers, hardy souls, carved out a good life for themselves and raised fine families, some with as many as fourteen children. Inevitably the land could not sustain this expansion and there wasn't a family which did not lose some members to greener pastures.

While the old farms have grown over as residents found more profitable ways to make a living, there are still many descendants of the original settler families in the area. The little Church, St. Paul's, is now one hundred and twelve years old. It is well attended in the summer by cottage families and by these descendants. St. Paul's Cemetery, where Dunany residents have traditionally been buried, reflects this blend of old and new.

Fish and game helped the early settlers to survive, and they also brought the fishermen and hunters from Lachute and Montreal. When the roads became passable, and with the invention of the automobile, families followed and the era of the cottagers began. Many cottage families are now in the fourth generation and many an old cottage has been made into a year-round residence. The Community of Dunany lies around four lakes, Clear, Boyd, Black and Curran. The Dunany Golf Club was established in 1922 by a group of early cottagers. It is a lovely little nine-hole course, beautifully maintained. The focus of Dunany's recreational and social life for all ages is around the programs in the Clubhouse and on the Golf Course.