

SALMON RIVERS OF NEWFOUNDLAND

South Coast – St. Mary's Bay to Bay de Leau

from C.H. Palmer's 1928 book of the same name



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Publishing information
Library and Archives Canada Cataloguing in Publication

Palmer, C. H., author
Salmon rivers of Newfoundland.

Originally published in 1928 in 1 volume and re-published by Mobilewords Limited in 2005.

Contents: Volume 5. South coast--St. Mary's Bay to Bay de Leau
ISBN 978-0-9958183-2-3 (v. 5 : PDF).

1. Atlantic salmon fishing--Newfoundland and Labrador. 2. Rivers--Newfoundland and Labrador. I. Title.

SH685.P35 2016

799.17'5609718

C2016-907316-5

ISBN: 978-0-9958183-2-3

Cover: The 1928 edition included a folded, onionskin paper, hand-drawn map of the Island; in 2005 the map was reproduced and personalized with the owner's name. The cartographer probably was a railway or government employee, and is very accurate when compared to later 20th century maps.

SALMON RIVERS OF NEWFOUNDLAND
South Coast – St. Mary’s Bay to Bay de Leau

Vol. 5 of 6

Introduction

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22 other rivers and brooks

Palmer’s 1928 SALMON RIVERS OF NEWFOUNDLAND remains popular. Much sought after, in the late 20th century, original copies were selling for as much as \$500. Mobilewords Limited re-published Palmer in 2005, using most of the information, maps and pictures and added a gazetteer of rivers in Labrador which Palmer didn’t fish.

Palmer fished each river from its mouth to its headwaters, usually by boat, and occasionally, by train. His hand-drawn maps show the pools, falls, steadies, rocks, campgrounds, and other features. Most maps are oriented with the ocean at the bottom ascending up the page as one would go *upriver*.

In this extraction, Palmer’s maps are annotated with general geographic information such as tributary names, where the river rises, topographic map references, and a list of pools taken from the map. Some items from 1928, which were left in the 2005 edition, are now removed.

Pictures from the 1928 edition, colour images of salmon flies found on the Internet and relevant map sections are included for reference.

continued

S sold the idea to the Newfoundland Government and it was published by a partnership between the government tourism department and the Newfoundland Railway. In some ways it is another in the long history of Newfoundland writing, tracing its roots back to the *Discourses* of John Mason, Richard Whitbourne and William Vaughan some three centuries earlier, extolling the island for its many natural virtues.

The original and re-published *Salmon Rivers of Newfoundland* included the whole island in one volume. Issued as a collectible in 2005, some purchasers indicated their interest was primarily in the rivers of smaller regions. This volume, then, is one of six extracted from the complete volume, each a separate region as set out here below.

West Coast – Port aux Basques to Bay of Islands, Vol. 1

West Coast – Bay of Islands to Strait of Bell Isle, Vol. 2

East Coast – Hare Bay to Exploits Bay, Vol. 3

East Coast – Notre Dame Bay to Bonavista Bay, Vol. 4

South Coast – Cape Race to Lawn Bay, Vol. 5

South Coast – Fortune Bay to Port aux Basques, Vol. 6



BISCAY BAY RIVER

Location—

At the bottom of Biscay Bay, Trepassey Bay at the south end of the Peninsula of Avalon.

Season—

June and July are the best months.

General Remarks—

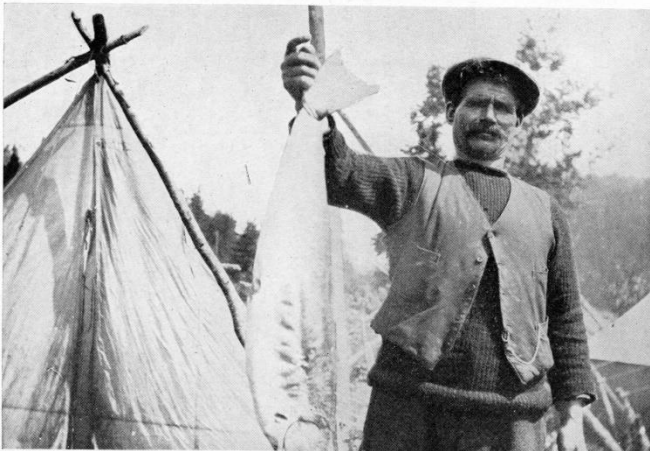
Splendid sea-trout fishing between the sea and Biscay Bay Pond. The river proper, flowing into the pond, runs through flat-lying country, there being only a few small pools, until Watson's Pool is met about 8 miles from the sea. This is a splendid pool, well known for fishing.

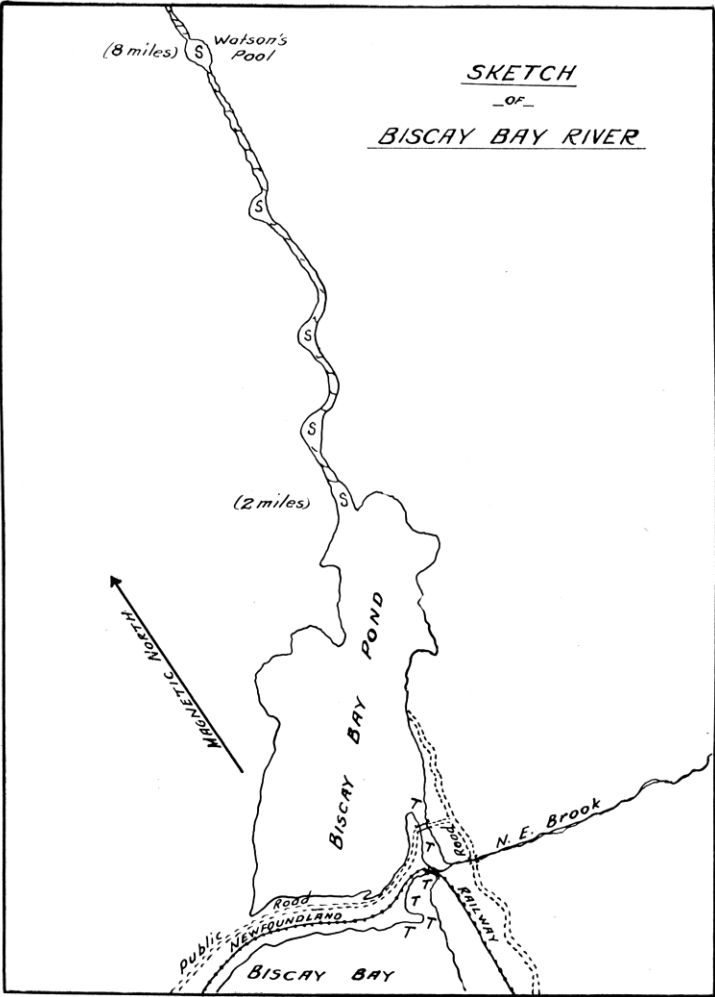
Tributaries:

Black River	1K/14
Chidleys River	1K/14
Back Brook	1K/14

Pools:

Watson's Pool, 4 unnamed pools





NORTH EAST RIVER

Trepassey Bay

Location—

At the bottom of Trepassey Bay at the south end of the Peninsula of Avalon.

Season—

June and July are the best months.

General Remarks—

This is a rough and rapid river, but it contains many fine fishing pools which can be fished daily, staying at Trepassey.

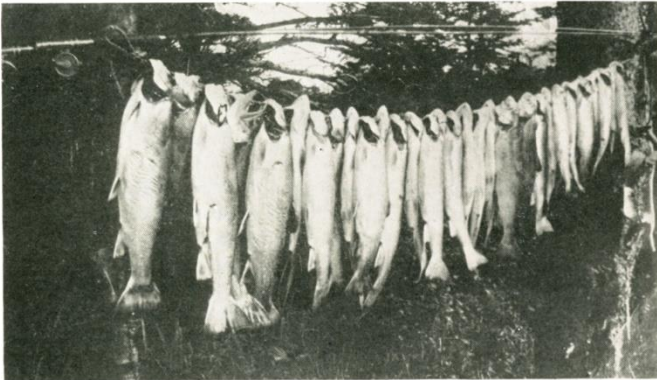
Notes:

Now Northeast River.

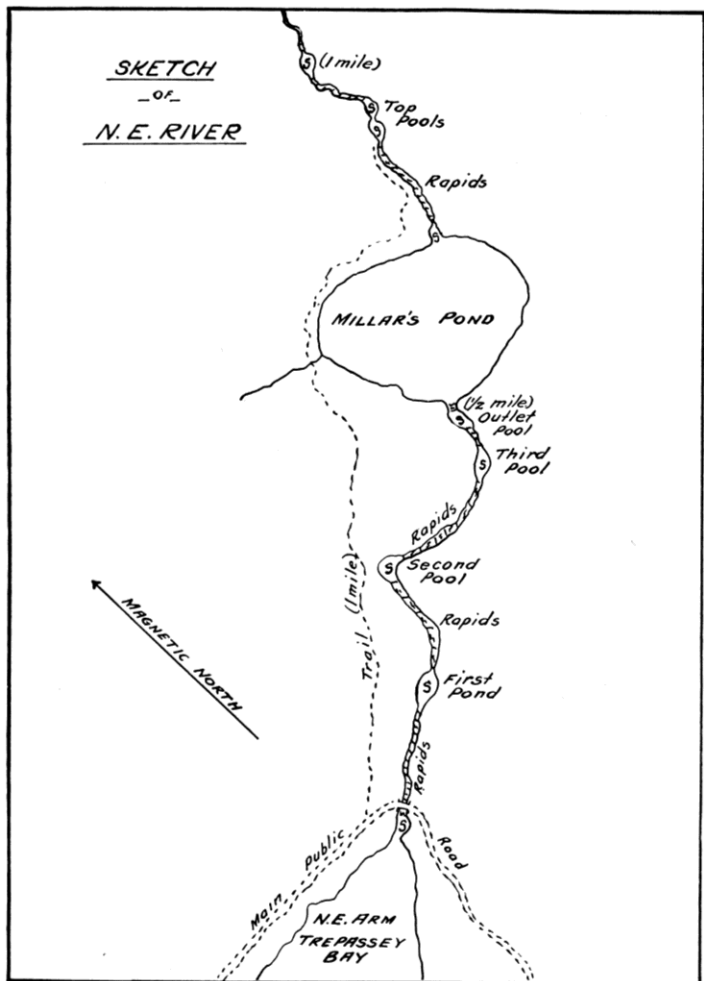
1K/14

Pools:

First Pond, Second Pool, Third Pool, Outlet Pool, Top Pools



SKETCH
-OF-
N. E. RIVER



NORTH WEST RIVER

Trepassey Bay

Location–

At the bottom of Trepassey Bay at the south end of the Peninsula of Avalon.

Season–

June and July are the best months.

General Remarks–

A road runs on the west side of the river and from this road the various pools are of easy access. The river can be fished daily, staying at Trepassey.

Tributaries:

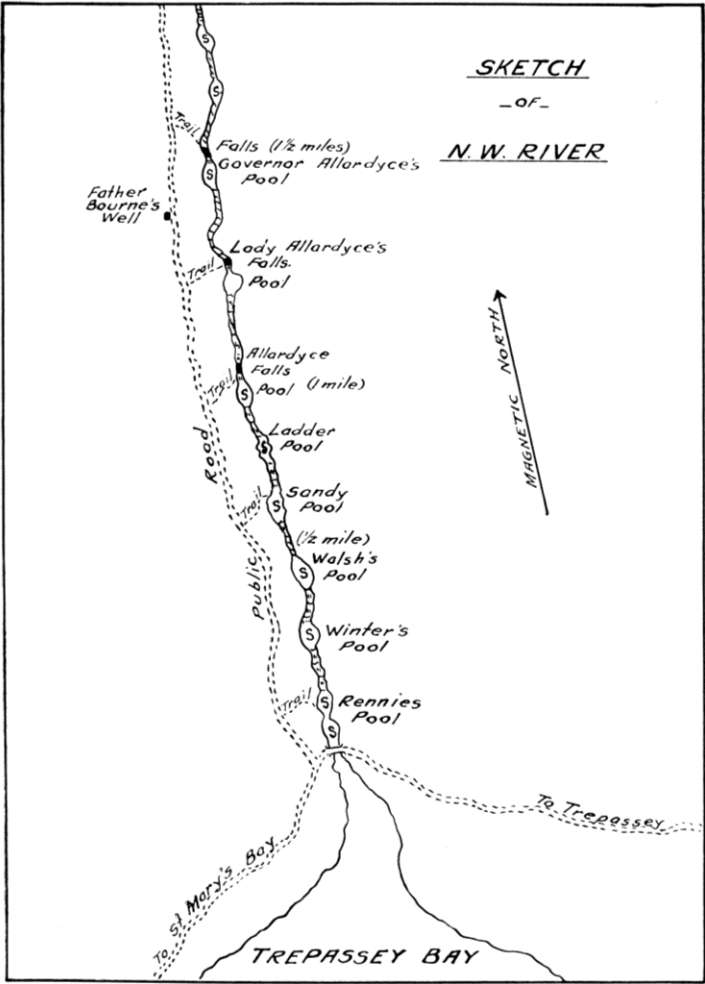
Ambies Brook	1K/14
Beaton Brook	1K/14
Mars Brook	1K/14
Tochers Brook	1K/14
Mount Misery River	1K/14

Notes:

Now Northwest River.	1K/14
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Pools:

Rennies Pool, Winter's Pool, Walsh's Pool, Sandy Pool, Ladder Pool, Allardyce Falls Pool, Lady Allardyce Falls Pool, Governor Allardyce's Pool



SALMONIER RIVER

Location—

At the bottom of St. Mary's Bay, Avalon Peninsula.

Season—

Good fishing can be had on this river from end of June till close of season.

General Remarks—

The motor road from Holyrood follows the course of this river from its mouth for approximately 10 miles, making the various pools of easy access. Motor cars can be hired at either St. John's or Holyrood. This river being in close proximity to St. John's by motor car, many local anglers visit its various pools during the season. Salmon ranging in weight from 5 to 15 lbs. are caught in abundance.

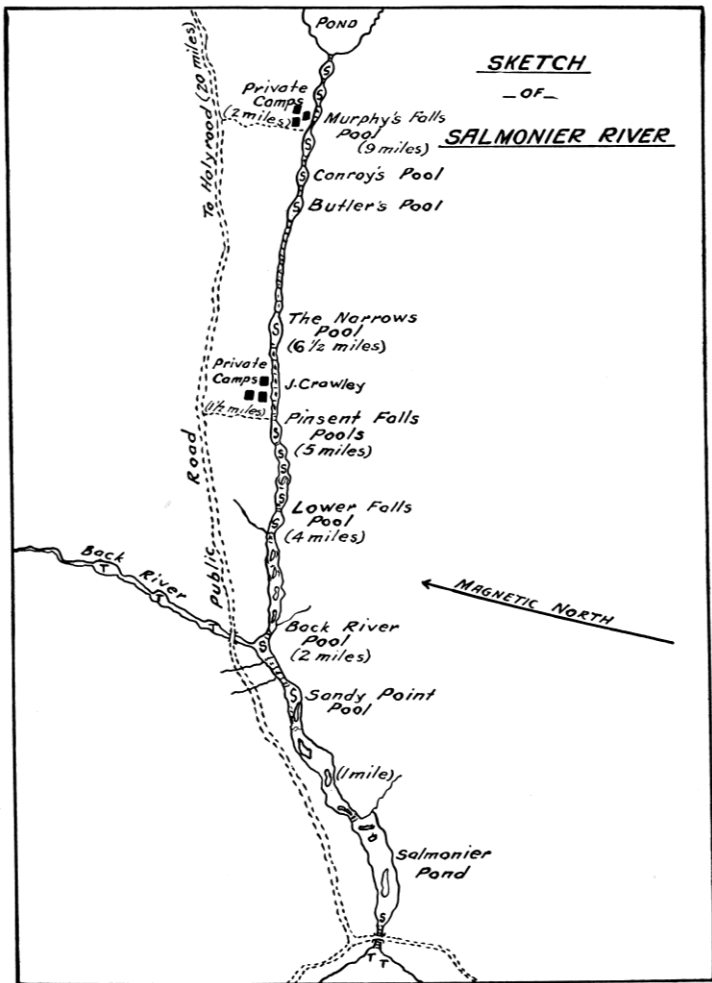
Tributaries:

Back River 1N/3

Pools:

Sandy Point Pool, Back River Pool, Lower Falls Pool, Pinsent's Falls Pools, The Narrows Pool, Butler's Pool, Conroy's Pool, Murphy's Pool





COLINET RIVER

Location—

At the bottom of St. Mary's Bay at the south end of the Peninsula of Avalon.

Season—

From 15th June till the end of August.

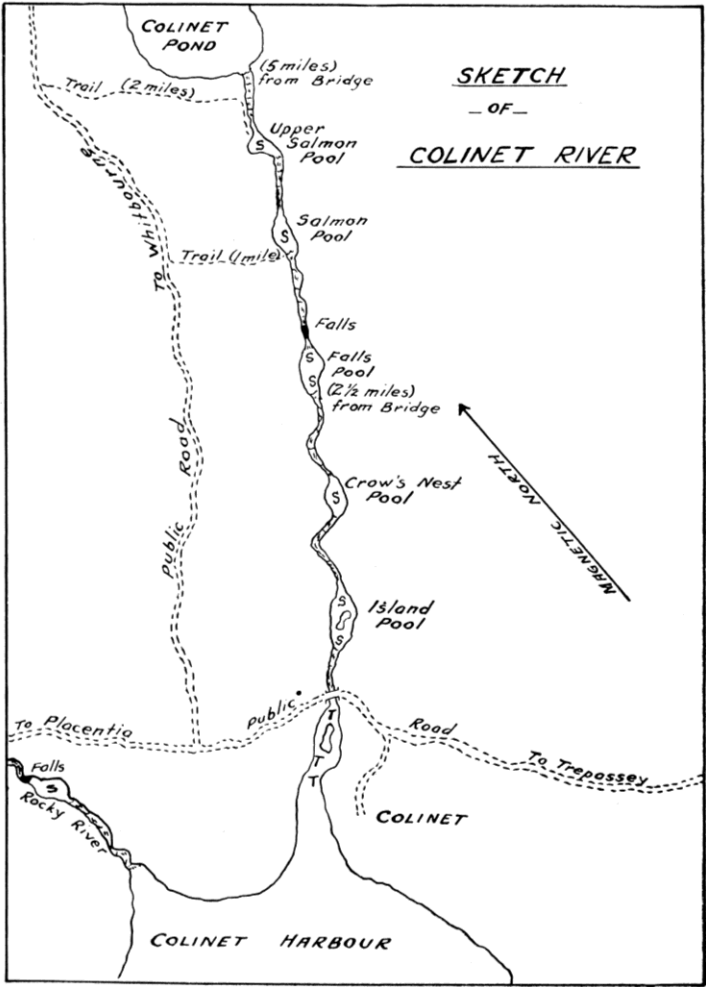
General Remarks—

This river is readily accessible from the main road to Whitbourne, which parallels the river on its north side. A fine run of salmon, up to 15 lbs. in weight, and sea trout frequent this river. The town of Colinet is at the river's mouth, and from here the river can be fished daily. The river is 14 mile from Whitbourne.

Pools:

Island Pool, Crow's Nest Pool, Falls Pool, Salmon Pool, Upper Salmon Pool





NORTH HARBOUR RIVER

St. Mary's Bay

Location—

At the bottom of St. Mary's Bay at south end of the Peninsula of Avalon.

Season—

15th July to the end of season.

General Remarks—

This river contains many fine salmon and trout pools, all of which are accessible. The run of salmon up to 15 lbs. in weight is abundant. The river can also be reached from Colinet, by the use of a motor boat, the run being about 18 miles.

Tributaries:

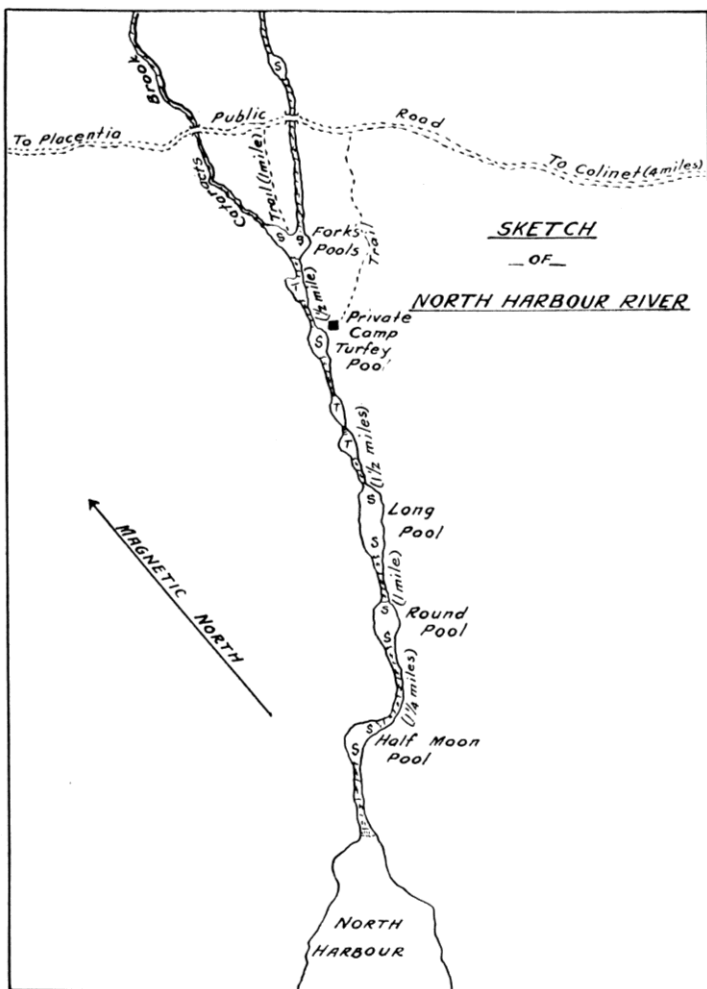
Cataract Brook

1N/4

Pools:

Half Moon Pool, Round Pool, Long Pool, Turfey Pool, Forks Pools





LITTLE SALMONIER RIVER

Location—

This river is on the west side of St. Mary's Bay, at the south end of the Avalon Peninsula, and is about 15 miles from Salmonier.

Season—

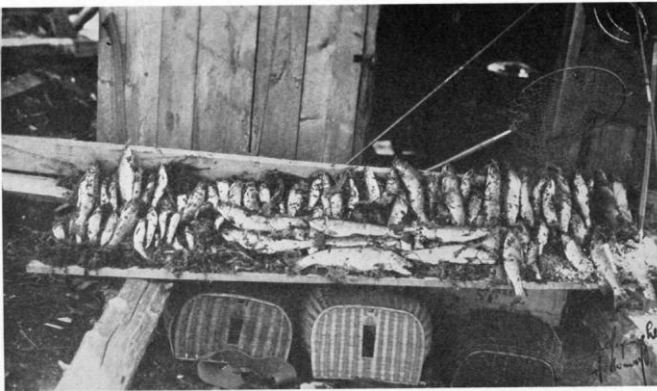
15th July till 15th August is the best time.

General Remarks—

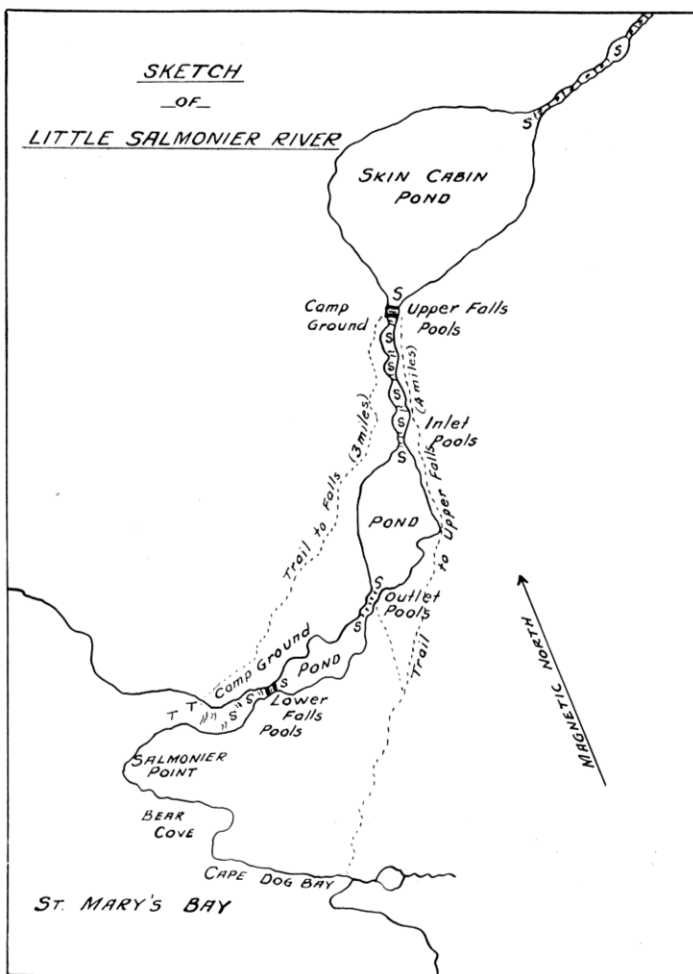
This river offers good fishing within a short distance of its mouth. Splendid sea trout fishing can be had in the ponds. Good trails run from the sea to the upper falls. Camping sites are present alongside the various pools and ponds.

Pools:

Lower Falls Pools, Outlet Pools, Inlet Pool, Upper Falls Pools



SKETCH
OF
LITTLE SALMONIER RIVER



SOUTH EAST RIVER, PLACENTIA

Location–

At the bottom of South East Arm of Placentia, in Placentia Bay.

Season–

From 20th June till 15th August.

General Remarks–

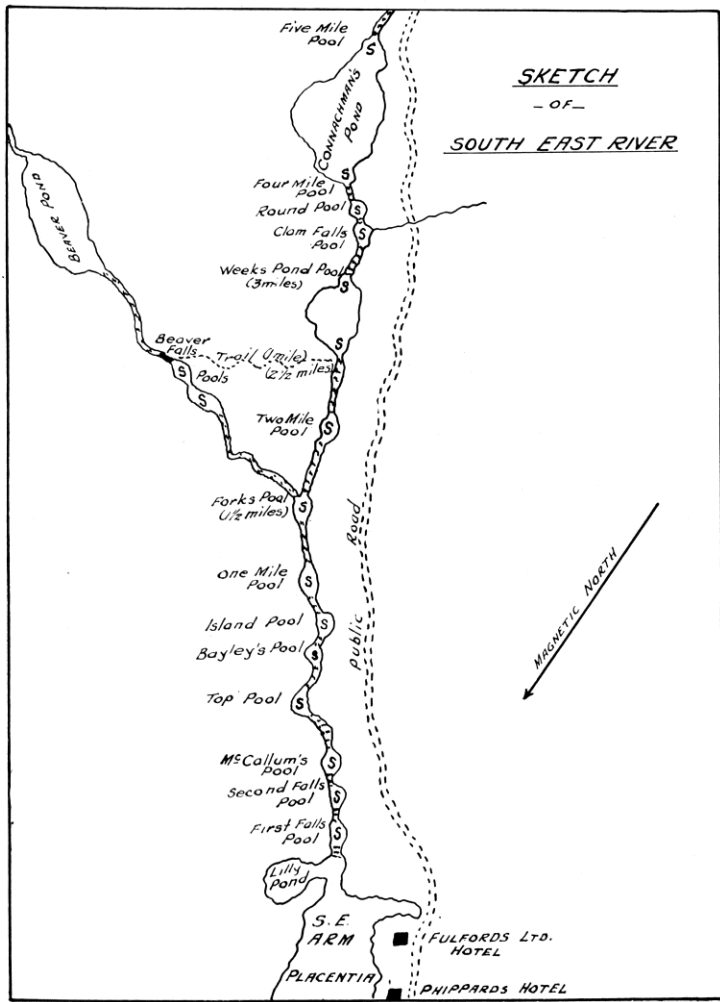
The motor road parallels the river for 10 or 12 miles and as the fish move upstream they can be followed with ease. There are many splendid pools, and in the beginning of the season the lower pools are within 5 minutes' walk of the hotels at South East Arm. Good sea trout fishing can be obtained.

Tributaries

Clam River 1N/4

Pools:

First Falls Pool, Second Falls Pool, McCallum's Pool, Top Pool, Bayley's Pool, Forks Pool, Two Mile Pool, Weeks Pond Pool, Clam Falls Pool, Round Pool, Four Mile Pool, Five Mile Pool



NORTH EAST RIVER, PLACENTIA

Location—

At the bottom of North East Arm of Placentia, in Placentia Bay.

Season—

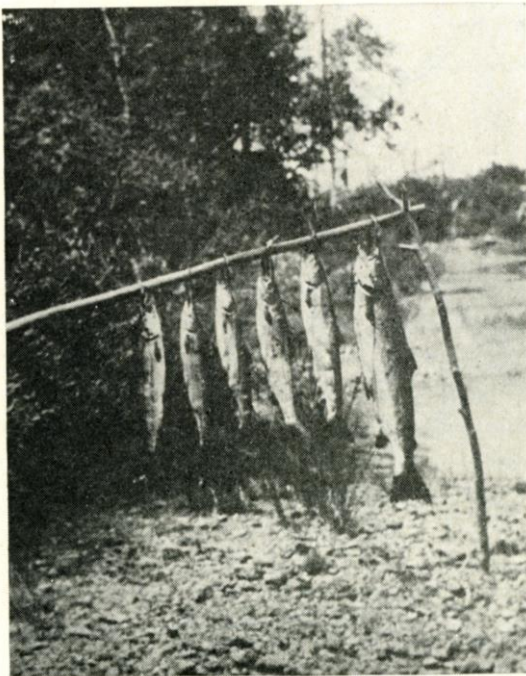
From 10th July till the end of the season.

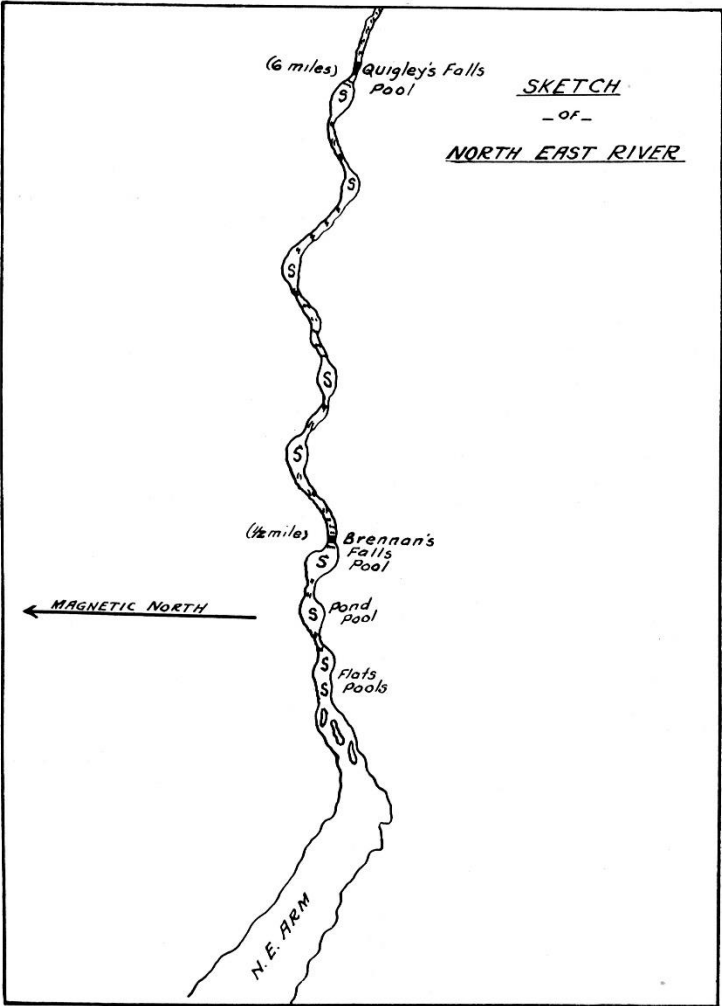
General Remarks—

The river flows through flat country. Brennan's and Quigley's Falls are noted pools. The headwaters run back to the railway near Placentia Junction. Salmon up to 10 lbs. in weight are abundant. There is also good sea trout fishing.

Pools:

Flats Pools, Pond Pool, Brennan's Falls Pool, 4 unnamed pools, Quigley's Falls Pool





COME-BY-CHANCE RIVER

Location—

At the bottom of Placentia Bay.

Season—

July and August are the best months.

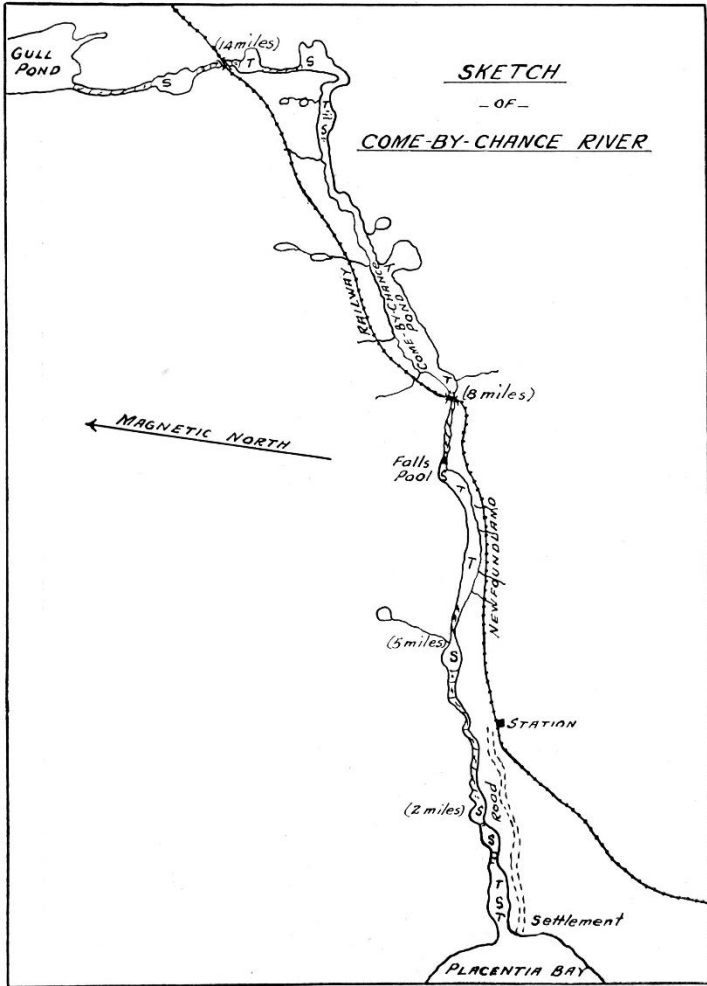
General Remarks—

A fine river for sea trout and medium salmon is easily accessible from the railway which follows the valley for 10 miles.

Pools:

4 unnamed pools, Falls Pool, 6 unnamed pools





NORTH HARBOUR RIVER

Location—

At the bottom of North Harbour, Placentia Bay.

Season—

July and August are the best months.

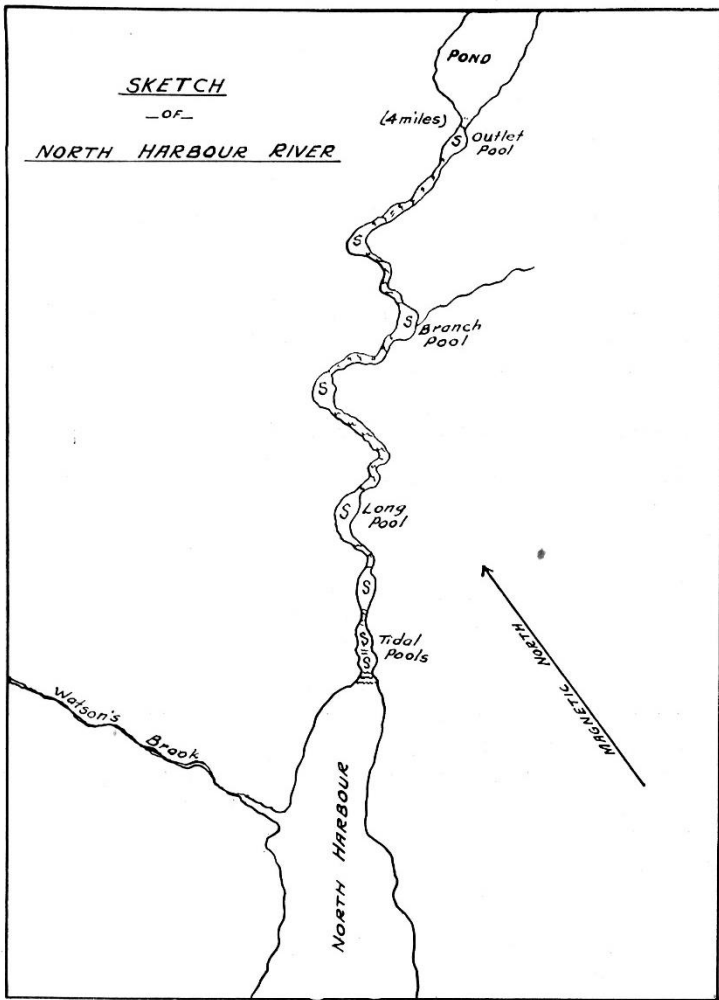
General Remarks—

The upper reaches of the river are near the main line of the Newfoundland Railway, Goobie's being the nearest station. It contains a number of fine pools, which offer excellent fishing. Watson's Brook near the river's mouth offers excellent sea trout fishing.

Pools:

Tidal Pools, 1 unnamed pool, Long Pool, 1 unnamed pool, Branch Pool, 1 unnamed pool, Outlet Pool





PIPER'S HOLE RIVER

Location–

At the bottom of Placentia Bay.

Season–

July and August.

General Remarks–

This is a fine large river and contains some splendid pools that offer excellent fishing. River boats or canoes can be used to advantage on this river, especially above the falls where the river is flat and contains numerous ponds. A fine run of fish frequent the river and fish ranging in weight from 5 to 20 lbs. can be caught.

Tributaries:

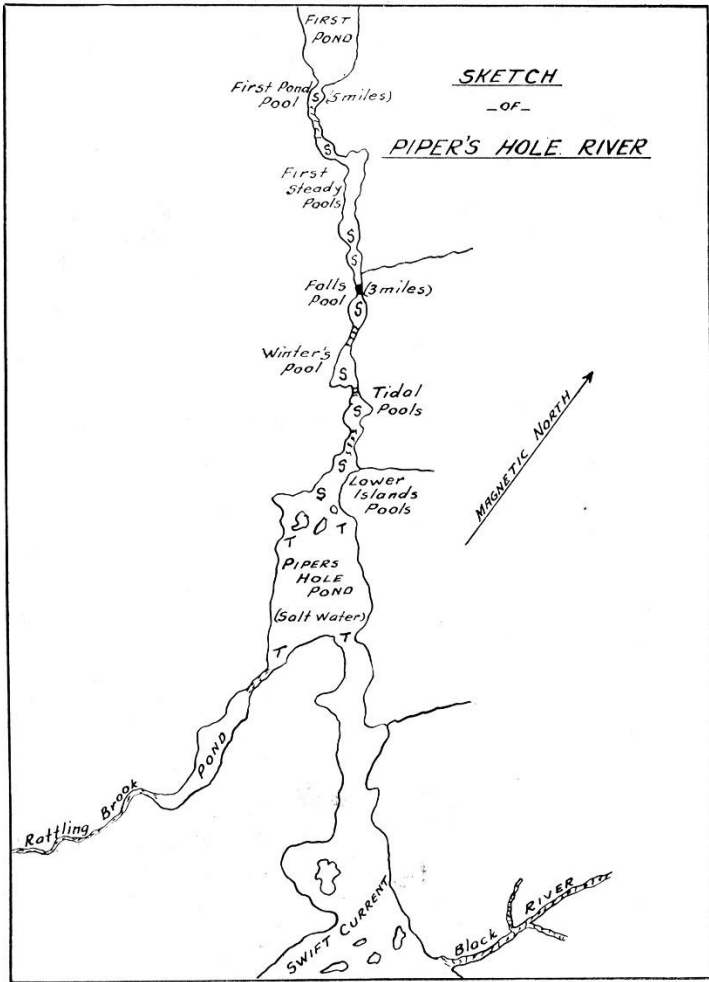
Mothers Brook

1M/16

Pools:

Lower Island Pools, Tidal Pools, Winter's Pool, Falls Pool, First Steady Pools, First Pond Pool





SANDY HARBOUR RIVER

Location—

On the west side of Placentia Bay, approximately 15 miles from the bottom of the bay.

Accessibility—

Bar Haven, on Barren Island, seven miles from the river's mouth, is a port of call for the Placentia Bay steamer. Motor boats can readily be hired at Bar Haven for the run to the river.

Season—

July and August are the best months.

General Remarks—

The first two or three pools on this river are of easy access. The remainder of the river is characterized by steep cliffs on both sides. Sea trout fishing is good at the mouth of the river. A large run of salmon frequent this river, which can be fished up to its headwaters about 18 miles inland.

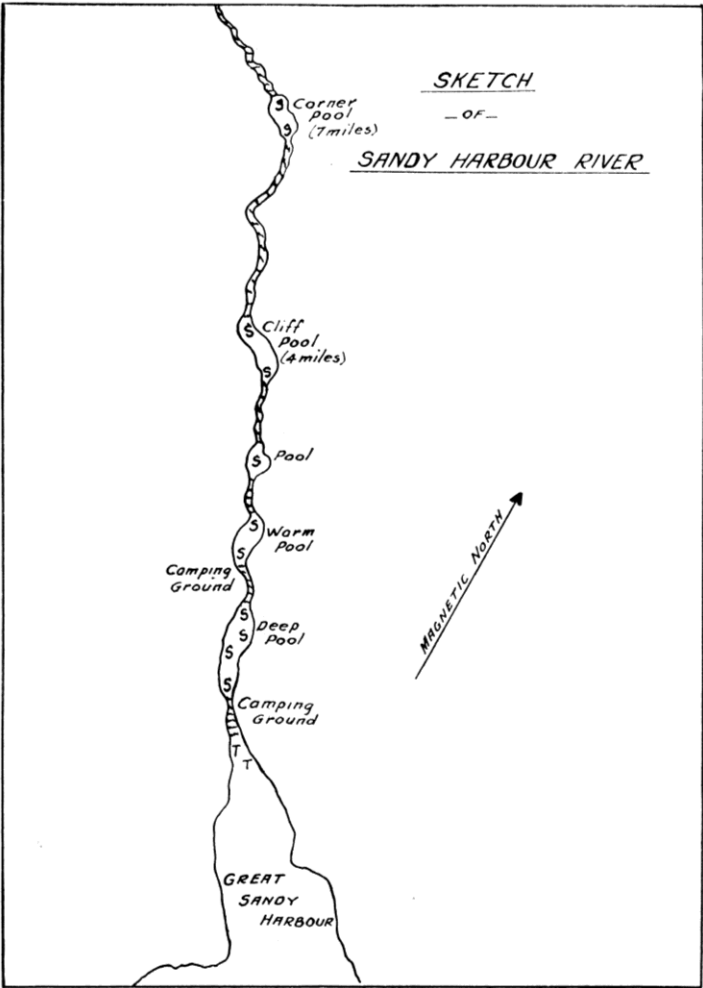
Tributaries:

Wigman Brook

1M/15

Pools:

Deep Pool, Warm Pool, Pool, Cliff Pool, Corner Pool



CAPE RODGER RIVER

Location—

On the west side of Placentia Bay on the South Coast.

Season—

June till early August is the best time.

General Remarks—

This river has a fine run of medium salmon (10 lbs.) and sea trout. Pools are excellent and are easily reached, as trails follow the river as far as the falls where excellent fishing can be had. The falls are high but when the water is low the salmon get over them. The river banks are free from trees and bush, and offer excellent walking and little or no obstruction on the back cast.

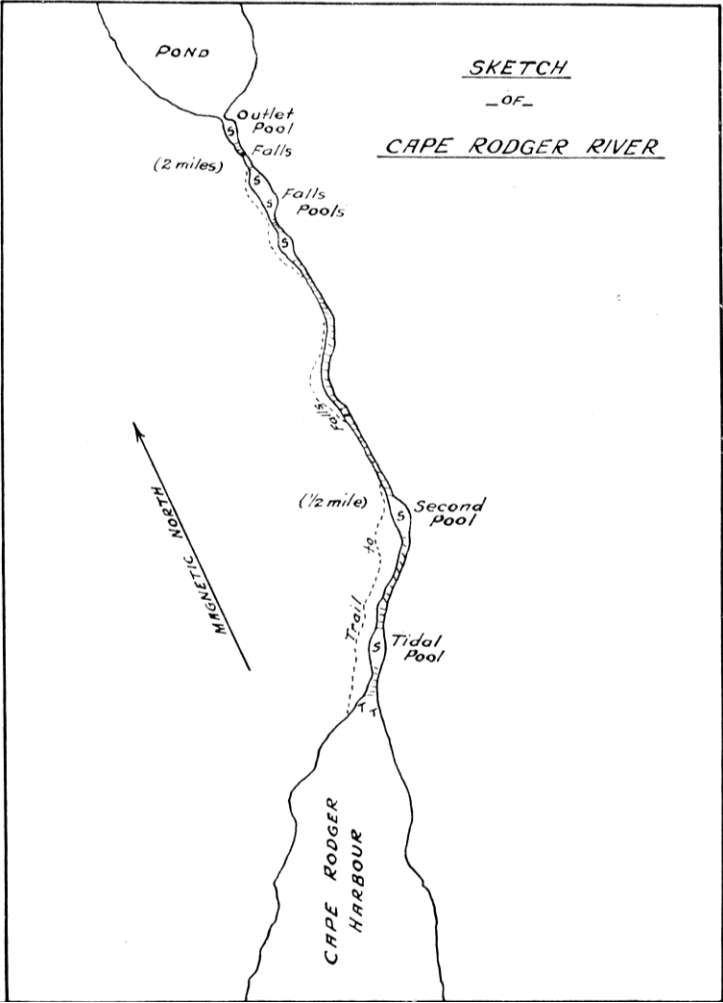
Notes:

Now Cape Roger Brook. 1M/7

Pools:

Tidal Pool, Second Pool, Falls Pool, Outlet Pool





BAY DE LEAU RIVER

Location–

On the west side of Placentia Bay.

Season–

15th June to middle of August.

General Remarks–

The river flows through flat-lying country and is consequently a slow-running river with no falls or rapids. Salmon ranging from 5 to 20 lbs. frequent the river. Sea trout can also be caught.

Tributaries:

Eastern Feeder	1M/10
Middle Feeder	1M/10
Western Feeder	1M/7

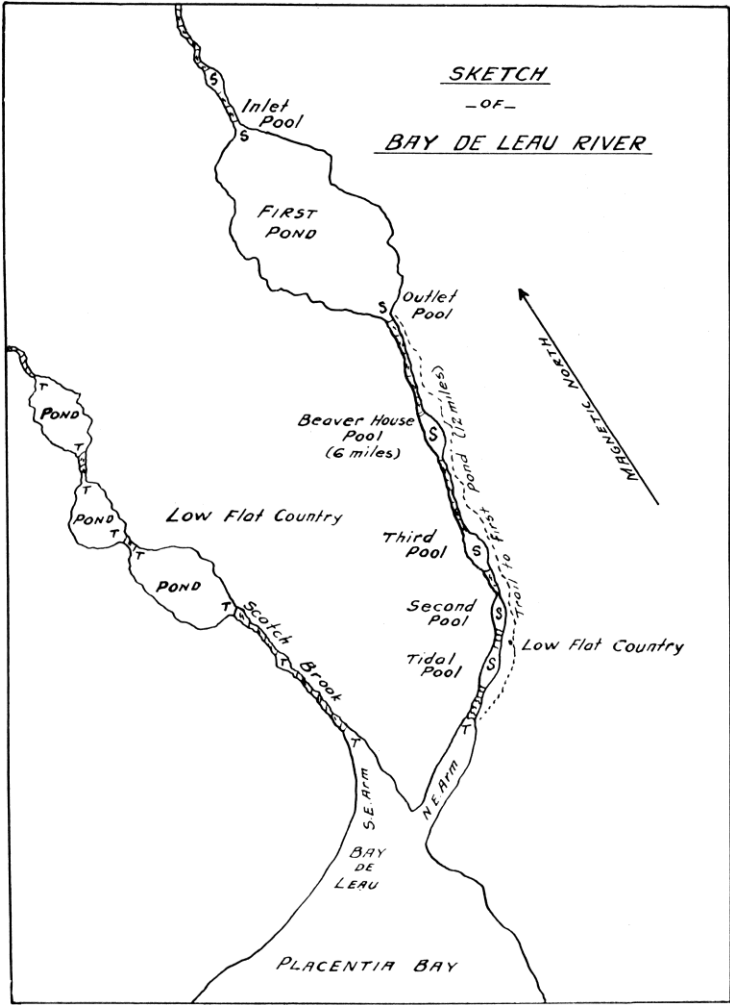
Note:

Bay de Leau River flows into N.E. Arm; Scotch Brook flows into S.E. Arm and Palmer notes it a having 8 trout pools

Pools:

Tidal Pool, Second Pool, Third Pool, Beaver House Pool, Outlet Pool, Inlet Pool





22 other rivers and brooks

STONY RIVER [1N/2]

About 2 miles from Trepassey, Trepassey Bay. Offers good sea-trout fishing. Can readily be reached from Biscay Bay or Trepassey.

PETER'S RIVER [1K/14]

In Holyrood Bay, St. Mary's Bay. Good for small salmon and sea trout.

CROSSING PLACE RIVER [1K/14]

In Holyrood Pond, St. Mary's Bay. A fine river for small salmon.

MALL BAY BROOK [1M/11]

At the west side near the bottom of St. Mary's Bay, is easily reached from St. Mary's harbour. Salmon and sea trout are abundant here in July and August.

HARICOT BROOK

At the bottom of Haricot Bay, St. Mary's Bay. A good sea-trout brook with many fine pools.

ROCKY RIVER [1N/4]

Near Colinet at the bottom of St. Mary's Bay. A high falls near the mouth of the river prevents the fish from going up. Good fishing can be had at the pool below the falls and mouth for sea trout and salmon.

LITTLE BARACHOIS RIVER [1N/4]

Just outside of Little Salmonier River, St. Mary's Bay. A fine large river, with numerous pods and feeders, which carries a fine run of sea trout and salmon in June and July.

RED HEAD RIVER [1K/13]

On the west side of St. Mary's Bay. Offers good fishing for sea trout and salmon in July. Rather difficult to fish as banks are heavily wooded.

BECKFORD RIVER [Not now named; 1K/13]

On west side of St. Mary's Bay. Splendid for sea trout. The settlement of Beckford is at the river's mouth.

BRANCH RIVER [1K/13]

On the west side of St. Mary's Bay. A fine large river that flows through flat lying country. Good fishing pools, over 8 miles of the river, where good sea-trout and salmon fishing can be obtained.

SHIP'S COVE BROOK [At Ship Cove ?; 1M/1]

On the east side of Placentia Bay. Good for sea trout in any but in a very dry season.

GREAT BARACHOIS BROOK [At Great Barasway ?; 1M/1]

12 miles from Placentia on the east side of Placentia Bay.

A fine brook, with pools as far as the pond, six miles from the mouth, which offers excellent salmon and sea trout fishing.

LITTLE BARACHOIS BROOK [Now Little Barasway River; 1M/1]

About 8 miles from Placentia the east side of Placentia Bay. A fine brook for sea trout.

GLENDON'S COVE BROOK

In South East Arm, Placentia Bay. A nice brook for sea trout in any but a very dry season.

SHIP HARBOUR RIVER [Now Ship Harbour Brook;1N/5]

About 5 miles northeast of Argentia, at the bottom of Placentia Bay.

A nice river with some runs and pools, those at the mouth and falls, about 2 miles inland, being noted for their fishing in July.

Salmon run from 4 to 10 lbs. in weight.

BLACK RIVER [1M/16]

In the northeast bottom of Placentia Bay. Good fishing for salmon and sea trout from the mouth to the falls, which is only a short distance. No fishing above the falls as the fish cannot get over them.

PARADISE ROOK [1M/10]

At the bottom of paradise Sound, on the west side of Placentia Bay.

A good brook for salmon and trout.

NON-SUCH RIVERS [Now Nonsuch Arm; 1M/7]

At the bottom of Non-Such Bay, on the west side of Placentia Bay.

The North West River has a high falls close to mouth where the fish cannot go.

The North East offers good fishing for medium-sized salmon and sea trout.

MORTIER BAY RIVERS [1M/3]

In Mortier Bay, on the west side of Placentia Bay. The North West River is a good salmon river and contains many small pools. The other rivers offer good sea-trout fishing. The main road crosses many of these rivers.

BOAT HARBOUR BROOKS [1M/7]

At the bottom of Boat Harbour, on the west side of Placentia Bay. The North West Brook has a high fall at its mouth over which the fish cannot go. Good sea-trout fishing can be had at the pools below the falls. North East Brook is small but offers good sea trout fishing.

RUSHOON RIVER [1M/7]

At Rushoon, on the west side of Placentia Bay. A fine river for salmon and trout with many small but fine pools, easily traversed and fished as the banks are not wooded or bushed. The settlement is at the river's mouth.

RED HARBOUR RIVER [1M/6]

At the bottom of Red Harbour, on the west side of Placentia Bay. A good brook for sea trout and small salmon.

