

ensued, culminating in the sinking of the *Eagle*, and the *Growler* being run ashore. American losses were 1 killed and 19 wounded. All 112 crewmen were captured. The British lost no vessels, but were reported to have taken heavy casualties. The loss to the American Navy couldn't have been more devastating. The tide had turned, naval superiority was now in the hands of the British. They would put the spoils of war to good use. The *Eagle* and *Growler* were refitted and renamed HMS *Broke* and *Shannon*. Soon, these vessels would be turned against their builders.



Ash Island in the Richelieu River. It was here, just below the British base at Isle aux Noix that Lieut. Sidney Smith became trapped in the river, resulting in the loss of the *Growler* and *Eagle*. Photo courtesy of Roger and Doug Harwood.

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“At three o'clock in the morning Lieut. Smith found himself at Ash Island while the enemy's row-galleys had taken refuge under the guns and fortifications of Isle Aux Noix. Retreat against the current of the lake and in the face of a strong south wind, was impossible and in the four-hour engagement that followed the Americans were forced to surrender. The officers, among whom were Lieut.