



Newsletter
of the
Chebeague
Island
Historical
Society

Spring 2013
Issue

the Sloop's Log

Editor's Notes

Dear Sloop's Log Readers,

Welcome to the Spring 2013 Edition of the Sloop's Log. It has been a long snowy winter on the island; but we have now come through to the time of rising temperatures, lawn raking, blooming daffodils, and the sound of the "snow-birds" singing in the land. The Sloop's Log this time contains the usual serious history articles and some perhaps not so serious anecdotes. We hope you enjoy them all.

Included are:

- The history of farming in the 1840's and 1850's by Donna Damon.
- An article about the 1850 census and a record of the census itself by Toby Webb.
- A response to our picture of Martins Lobster House on the Stone Wharf by Jim Millinger.
- The story of how Fred and Eileen Symonds came to Chebeague by Barbara Hamilton.
- A continuation of the story of the Chebeague Island Fire Department by Ken Hamilton.
- A poem of Martha O. by Sylvia Ross and an 1944 PTA report lent to us by Sylvia.
- A continuation to the present of the Gift Shop story by Jane Frizzell.

Iwish to thank our tellers of stories, our providers of pictures, and our readers of Chebeague history. And a special thanks goes to Ken Hamilton for his won-

derful series on the Chebeague Volunteer Fire Department.

Sincerely,
Jane Frizzell,
Sloop's Log Editor

Our address is:

Chebeague Island
Historical Society
PO Box 28
Chebeague Island, ME
04017

Some locals hit the links.

*Alice Cleaves, Warren Hamilton, and
Cecellia Cordes at the 8th tee of the
Great Chebeague Golf Course.
Probably late 1920's.*



Photo-Jane Frizzell Collection

Chebeague in 1840: A Community of Farmers

by Donna Miler Damon

David Hamilton's Farm.

Thomas Jefferson once commented that America was a nation of farmers. In 1840 Chebeague was certainly an island of farmers.

Many questions come to mind when we imagine Chebeague as an agricultural community. Who were these farmers? Where did they live? What did they raise? Did they produce more than they used? Were the islanders producing cash crops or was Chebeague still practicing subsistence agriculture? Can the location of these farms inform us about the potential of agriculture on Chebeague today? While we cannot thoroughly answer all of these questions, we are able to glean some information about agricultural production and practices on Chebeague in 1840 from the archives of the Town of Cumberland. The State of Maine conducted a State Census in 1837, which when combined with the Federal Census provides excellent population data. However, the 1840 Cumberland Assessor's Records fleshes out the story of farming on Chebeague.

A housing shortage existed on Chebeague in 1840. There were only 39 dwelling places to house the fifty-nine households! Thus, in many cases multiple generations and /or families lived together in the same house. The Assessor's Records show that brothers, Nathaniel and Joseph Thompson and their ten family members shared a house in 1840 – presumably the Thompson house now owned by the Bisharats. James Mitchell and his family probably lived with his father, Benjamin Mitchell Sr., in the middle section of Ellen Goodman's and Bob Levey's home. Although James had his own barn and was in the process of developing the land, which now includes Roses Beach, the Assessor's Records do not show that he had a house. Such was the template for affordable housing on Chebeague during the nineteenth century!

Barns and out buildings were as essential to farmers as fish houses were to fishermen. As is true with the fish houses and other vernacular architecture, when the barns lost their usefulness they deteriorated and fell down. Unfortunately, none of the 26 barns from 1840 survive, although the barn shown in the photograph of



Photo: CHS Collection

David Hamilton's farm (Coffin/Statler) was dismantled by a previous owner. Many of the barns were large structures. The foundations or footprints of many barns of this era are visible today. James Hamilton, son of Ambrose Hamilton, the original settler, helped three of his sons acquire the property known today as the Island Center. Eldest son, James Jr., bought the parcel that runs from the wall between the Mansfield and Passano/Howe houses to the stone wall that runs between the Ross and Boxer/Priest houses. Simeon Hamilton's farm ran from that stone wall to the northeast corner of his brother, Benjamin's lot, which was near Cap Leonard's barn. Benjamin Hamilton's farm extended to the stone wall between the old Wharf Road to Central Landing and the Gilmartins. These three saltwater farms were laid out on more than 137 acres and extended from their respective shores inland. While these barns are gone two of the houses remain and both belong to descendants of the original farmers. Both Simeon Hamilton's (Charlotte St. Cyr's heirs) and Benjamin Hamilton's (Mark McGee and Betsey Wemesfelder) houses face the water as is typical of saltwater farms. Benjamin's barn was built in 1839 and appears to have been the newest Chebeague barn in 1840. The barn sat in front of what is now the Grange Hall, and it can be located by looking for a depression in

the ground. Simeon Hamilton's foundation is visible in the Damon's yard. Doug Damon's new 30'by30' barn sits inside the barn foundation! James Hamilton Jr.'s house sat below the Slow Bell Café, and the barn foundation can be found in the woods on the left hand side of the road to the shore. Evidence of other barns are found all over Chebeague.

By 1840 Joel Ricker Jr. acquired his grandfather, Wentworth Ricker's 65 acre saltwater farm overlooking the Little Chebeague Sandbar (now Susie Stavropoulos). This parcel was the 6th most valuable farm on Chebeague in 1840 due in part due to the clearing and cultivation of Wentworth Ricker who bought the property in the late eighteenth century and had worked the land for nearly 50 years. Ricker was one of five islanders who tilled four acres of land that year. He had a team of oxen and was one of the top potato producers raising 200 bushels! He made 150 pounds of butter from his 3 cows and sheared 25 pounds of wool from a dozen sheep. He realized 200 pounds of pork from the one swine he raised, while five acres of his land was woodland, which had more value than land that was under cultivation. 20 acres was deemed to be unimproved or wasteland.

Some islanders seemed to specialize in certain crops. Barnewill (sic) Johnson, whose farm was located on Johnson's

Cove (now Paul Cleary), raised 400 bushels of potatoes, which were twice as many as Joel Ricker Jr. and more than four times as many as the average Chebeague farm in 1840. Was he selling some of his potatoes or was his family of five eating them? He doesn't seem to have raised many other crops but he had four cows and produced 200 pounds of butter, which may also be a clue that he was growing and raising cash crops. Interestingly, Johnson was the sole owner of the 40 ton vessel, *Nymph*. The Census taker reported that two members of his household were employed in agriculture while one person was involved with navigation. Did the income derived from using his vessel allow him to sell some crops while buying grains and corn from other islanders?

In 1840 Ambrose Hamilton's children and grandchildren farmed all of the land from what is now Jane Frizzell's home to the shore beyond the Transfer Station. These ten contiguous farms benefited from the natural fertilizer of mussel mud and seaweed on the adjacent shore. While stone walls and cellar holes can be found on the lots, David Hamilton's house is the only dwelling place that is extant (now Coffin/Statler). Some of these farms were more productive than others. Islanders such as John and Jane Hamilton Curit, whose house was in the KomLosy field, were aging and their farm was in decline. Eventually the younger generation took over, but that had not occurred in 1840. Even with that said the output of the farms, as a whole, is impressive. The farmers tilled 14 acres of land and mowed 67 acres of upland and orchards resulting in 48 tons of hay. More than five dozen sheep yielded 82 pounds of wool. These farmers grew 48 bushels of wheat, 55 bushels of



Photo-CIHS Collection

The Aaron and Caroline Curit Cleaves Farm. The photo was taken looking from the South Road across the field to the North Road.

Indian corn, and 650 tons of potatoes. When compared to the rest of Chebeague's farms, these Hamilton descendants grew 20% of the island's potatoes; 30% of the wheat; 30% of the corn; 20% of the hay; and produced 20% of Chebeague's wool.

While the majority of Chebeague farms were on the water, several high producing farms were inland. The Thompson and Littlefield farms on Grasshopper Hill were separated by a stone wall, which can be seen from Littlefield Road. All that is left of the Enoch Littlefield's house is a depression in the ground adjacent to a small family cemetery. The Thompson house, occupied by brothers Nathaniel and Joseph Thompson and their families, is extant. The current owners,

the Bisharats, are Thompson and Littlefield descendants. Together the Littlefields and Thompsons owned about thirty-nine acres, tilled seven acres, mowed 11 acres, and grew 10 bushels of corn, 15 bushels of wheat, 23 bushels of other grains, 350 bushels of potatoes, and 10 tons of hay. Littlefield's livestock was valued at \$116, which was more than the livestock on any other Chebeague farm! In 1840, Robert Littlefield one of Enoch Littlefield's sons was developing the adjacent land, which would become Chuck Varney's Second Wind Farm. Another son, William, was establishing his farm on fifty acres, which included the present boatyard. Dick and Joan Phipps own William Littlefield's home, while the Durgins recently restored Robert Littlefield's house.

In 1840 much of Chebeague was cleared, therefore woodlots were valued at a higher rate than improved lands. Unimproved land was assessed at a rate of between \$3-\$4/acre; improved land such as tilled, mowed, or pastureland was valued from \$8-\$9/acre; while woodland was valued at \$20/acre!

Chebeague's agricultural history provides a basis for future land use planning. As interest in locally produced foods increases, knowledge about the location of fertile well-drained soils is important. The data that is derived from studying past agriculture practices and patterns must be part of that discussion. The Cumberland Assessor's Records will be an important resource.



Photo-CIHS Collection

The Wentworth Ricker House. The photo looks northwest at the hook and the umbrella tree.

Farming on Chebeague in 1850: Growing More than a Family Can Use

by Donna Miler Damon

Toby Webb points out in his accompanying article about the 1850 Census that the economy of Chebeague went through a major transformation during the 1840s as the population shifted from primarily subsistence agriculture to an increased dependence on maritime activities such as rock slooping. For the first time since Chebeague was settled, more people worked on the water than on the land, and the mariners brought money into the community. The vast majority of the 60 Chebeaguers, who were identified as sailors were under 30. While some of these young men invested in the sloops, most of the investors and owners were from the older generation. Many of the people with the largest farms also owned vessels (see list at end of article). According to the Cumberland assessor, of the 21 Chebeaguers who owned shares in vessels only 12 were sailors, while the others were farmers. The 1850 Census identifies 33 Chebeaguers as farmers, but the 1850 United States Agricultural Census only lists 23 farms on Chebeague. What constituted a farm?

Chebeague experienced great growth during the decade of the 1840s. The population increased by about 20% and the number of houses increased by about 45%! Fewer families were sharing homes. As islanders created their own homesteads more barns were built. According to the 1850 Cumberland Assessor's Records, Chebeague had 40 barns as compared to 26 in 1840 – an increase of 35%! But even islanders without barns had farm animals. Of the 86 households on the island, 68 landowners owned livestock. That is to say 18 island families must have had sheds or lean-tos to protect their animals from the cold. With so many of the young men going to sea, did some Chebeaguers produce more than they needed, so that they could sell the excess to other islanders who didn't have time to provide for themselves?

The 1850 Agricultural Census of 23 farms on Chebeague may not tell the entire story of farming on the island, but it does provide some interesting data that taken collectively may provide a picture of a mid-nineteenth century Chebeague farm. The farms ranged in size from Jona-



Photo-CHS Collection

William Littlefield owned rock sloops and built a stone wharf below his house. It is the foundation of the present Boat Yard wharf. The stone walls and foundations of his out buildings are evident today. The barn (pictured) which was there in 1850 was dismantled c. 1915 and rebuilt by Roy Hill as the Howard's barn house. All of the cottages near the Boat Yard and Phipps house (original Littlefield house) were built on William Littlefield's farm.

than Webber's 80 acres on the lower Cottage Road to Robert Hamilton's 20 acres on the East End. The average farm comprised about 40 acres of improved land, with most having additional acreage that was unimproved (not cleared or under cultivation). All of the farms had some farm equipment of value. Innovations in agricultural equipment made work easier, but it cost money. So the quest for better machinery may have stimulated island farmers to begin to plant more than one family could use. Henry Mansfield, who lived near the Little Chebeague Bar, owned \$100 worth of equipment, which was double the value of the machinery belonging to either Samuel Ross or James Hamilton, Jr. Most Chebeague farms owned less than \$20 worth of equipment.

Most of the islanders were dependent on oxen to plow fields and do the heavy lifting that was necessary to clear land and keep it cleared. All of the farmers except Stephen Curit and David Hill owned at least one yoke (2 oxen), while Henry Mansfield, William Littlefield (lived near the boat yard), and Barnewell Johnson (Jenks Farm), each owned two yoke of oxen. Every farm had at least one milk cow. 9 farms had two cows, 7 farms had three, while John Hamilton 2nd, Benjamin Mitchell

(Levey/Goodman), and Barnewell Johnson each had four milk cows. It is not surprising that they are also the top producers of butter with Mitchell producing 400 pounds. In total 5,300 pounds of butter was produced by 23 farms on Chebeague in 1850. That is the equivalent of 16.5 pounds per year for every man woman and child on the island! But when it came to cheese Ebenezer Hill was the only cheese maker. He made 75 pounds in 1850.

In addition to the oxen and milk cows, nearly every farm had at least one head of cattle, and William Littlefield had 6. Some of the cattle may have been yearlings that would eventually become oxen; others may have been raised for meat. Most families also raised a swine, which provided fresh pork, hams, bacon, lard, and sausage. Samuel Ross and Henry Mansfield raised three and four hogs respectively. They operated stores on opposite ends of the island, so they had a ready market for the surplus.

More than half of the farmers raised sheep. Islanders such as Samuel Ross, William Littlefield, John Hamilton 2nd, and James Hamilton Jr. owned shares of Bangs and Stockman Islands and grazed their sheep on these islands during the summer. There must have been

a market for wool because John Hamilton 2nd produced 85 pounds while his brother, James Jr. and store partner, Sam Ross raised 53 and 50 pounds respectively. The 23 farms in this study produced 380 pounds of wool. Interestingly, there were no horses on Chebeague at this time, which meant that islanders did not have sleighs or carriages - everybody walked! With all of these cows to feed it is not surprising that these 23 farms grew 299 tons of hay. Livestock on these farms valued at \$430 were slaughtered. From island store records of the era we know that farmers sometimes traded meat and hides for groceries. Fresh meat was difficult to keep so selling the excess to the store or a neighbor would have been a win-win for Chebeague farmers.

Nearly every farmer grew Indian corn. They produced a total of 621 bushels. Once again the storekeepers grew the most corn with Johnson, Mitchell, Littlefield, and the Hamiltons not far behind providing more support to the thesis that at least some Chebeaguers were engaged in commercial agriculture. Two thirds of them raised 115 bushels of wheat, but only one farmer grew oats, which amounted to only six bushels. Only six farmers grew barley. Together, Henry Mansfield and Barnewell Johnson grew 120 bushels of the island's 155 bushels of barley. Three quarters of the farms raised significant amounts of peas and beans. These crops could be eaten fresh or dried for winter use. Henry Mansfield raised 25 of the 88 bushels of peas and beans. Twenty-one Chebeague farmers grew 1,944 bushels of

potatoes. Ross, Littlefield, Johnson, Mansfield, and Stephen Orr grew more than half of Chebeague's potato crop. Nine other islanders grew between 50 and 175 bushels each. Some of the potatoes were kept for seed, and potatoes were a staple, but it appears that some of these potatoes may have been sold to some of their neighbors who had gone to sea.

The assessor determined that 646 acres of land was improved meaning that it was cleared and in use, while 933 acres was unimproved. Woodlots comprised an additional 139 acres and were considered a valuable use of land. It is unclear if the wood was market quality for lumber or was used for fuel. But distinctions were made regarding the value of the various lots. It is apparent that not all wood was thought of in the same way! James Hamilton's 14 acres of woods were valued at \$420, while his brother, Ambrose Hamilton's woodlot, which was also 14 acres was valued at \$200. It is unknown if one lot was hardwood and the other soft wood or if one lot had a variety of trees. Perhaps one lot had been cut over to a certain extent. The story goes that Ambrose had a sawmill in the gully near the Kaufmann's house, which is below the Cobbler Shop. Had he cut off some of his trees while his brother, James still had large trees? We'll never know for sure. The assessor appears to have recorded property values at about 50% of their market value.

While many people may have had an apple tree, at least four orchards had been established on

The Stephen Orr farm. Stephen Orr was a rock slooper as well as a farmer. At least one of these barns had been built in 1850. Note that the door is NOT in the gable end. This is the older style known as an English barn. (Formerly Higgins now Dayton's)



Photo: CFHS Collection

Chebeaguers Listed as Farmers in the 1850 Agricultural Census

**Also owned shares in a vessel*

Stephen Bennett
 Stephen Curit*
 David Hamilton
 Ambrose Hamilton
 Ambrose Jr Hamilton
 James Hamilton
 John2 Hamilton*
 Robert Hamilton*
 James2 Hamilton*
 Simeon Hamilton
 Charles Hamilton*
 Ebenezer Hill
 David Hill*
 Barnewell Johnson
 William Littlefield*
 Henry Mansfield
 Benjamin Mitchell
 Daniel Morse
 Stephen Orr*
 Samuel Ross
 Edmund Sawyer
 Eunice Soule*
 Jonathan Webber

Chebeague in 1850. David Hill, who lived in what is now the Golf Club House, had an orchard valued at \$40. Other orchards belonged to Ebenezer Hill at Division Point, Ambrose Hamilton Esq. near the Grunkos; and Ambrose Hamilton Jr., located near the Knight Cottage below the Cobbler Shop each had an orchard of some sort. It will be interesting to see if the numbers of orchards increase in coming years!

While the 1850 US Agricultural Census provides much information about crops and livestock, it also informs us about land use and land value. In addition, it listed three islanders engaged in home manufacturing which covers many possibilities. Samuel Ross, James Hamilton Jr. and Simeon Hamilton all raised sheep. Were some of them spinning yarn? Were they weaving? Were they churning butter? Perhaps a careful study of the Ross and Hamilton store account books may hold a clue, or maybe it will all be spelled out in the 1860 Agricultural Census. Stay tuned to see if some Chebeaguers are still growing more than a family can use in 1860!

Chebeague in the 1850 U.S. Census

By Morrison "Toby" Webb

Over several issues of the *Sloop's Log*, we have reviewed how the United States government has counted the people of Chebeague. The U.S. Constitution requires a census every ten years and so, beginning in 1790, a count has been taken of every household every decade.

For the first six censuses, the name of the head of the household was listed and then a tally was made of the number of persons in that household in various age groups and genders. But in 1850, a major shift occurred. For this census, the government for the first time listed, by name, gender and age, every person in the country. Lemuel Shattuck, a public health innovator and statistician in Boston (a distant relative of the Chebeague Shattucks), had pressed in the 1830s and 1840s for the use of statistical surveys in managing public health. He expanded the scope of local census reports in Boston in 1845 and Congress adopted his ideas in planning the 1850 federal census. The result is much richer information about individuals and communities.

The 1850 census of Chebeague was taken between September 17 and 20 by Joel Prince, Jr. As with earlier censuses, it is possible to construct the census-taker's route around the island from the order in which the households are listed. Prince began at Division Point and the farm of Ebenezer Hill and worked northeast around the East End, down along the eastern shore to Deer Point, made several visits to Cumberland's outer islands, and then continued around Chandlers Cove and the Hook, back up the inner shore to the starting point.

He recorded a community that had grown from 328 in 1840 to 379 in 1850. Of these, 226 were below the age of 20 and 139 were attending school. From eleven recorded

households in the first census in 1790, there were now thirty-nine, most of them headed by second, third or fourth generation islanders. Ambrose Hamilton, the son of the original Hamilton settler and now eighty years old, still owned a large farm, but there were 117 other Hamiltons on the island with him, along with 30 Doughtys, 28 Rosses and 19 Webbers.

The 1850 census showed a major shift in the island economy from the prior census. In 1840, 115 people had been employed in agriculture and only twelve in ocean navigation. But, as land for farming proved too small to fully support the island's population and as stone slooping became profitable, younger men turned to the sea. In 1850, thirty-three men still called themselves farmers, but sixty were employed as sailors. There were three laborers, one merchant, and two clergymen, a Baptist and a Methodist.

The census included a question about the value of real estate. Other records show that some islanders were investing in shares of vessels, but much of the wealth of the community remained in land and it was the most-established farmers who owned that land. Henry Mansfield's farm was worth \$3000, nearly twice Benjamin Mitchell's \$1700. Then came five pieces valued at \$1500 each, only one of which, that of Barnwell Johnson, belonged to a man listing himself as a sailor rather than a farmer. The farmers with these valuable properties were John Hamilton 2d, James Hamilton Jr., William Littlefield and Jonathan Webber.

Sailing might provide an income, but it also took a young man away from his studies. In identifying the students who had attended school in the prior year, the census showed an unusual pattern: the young men who became sailors often attended school well into their early adulthood. Many sailors in their late teens are listed as students. Seven men in their twenties attended school, including sailor Ambrose Hamilton 3d, in school at 23.

Of concern to the U. S. Congress in 1850, in addition to the public health issues raised by Lemuel Shattuck, was the movement of the American populace to the west. A question was asked therefor about each individual's birthplace, so that patterns of migration across the country could be tracked. This question showed that almost all the inhabitants of Chebeague had been born within the state. There was one sailor born in Scotland, one teenage girl from Ireland, and ten people who had been born in Massachusetts. Everyone else on the island had been born in Maine, and most had probably been born on Chebeague.

The 1850 census is of unique importance to people studying family history. Not only does it record each individual's name, age and birthplace, but it places each individual in an identified household. Later censuses would ask what the relationship was of each person to the head of the household, but from arrangement and age in 1850, one can usually identify the father, mother and children in each family and pick out young in-laws or help if they are living there too. Census-taker Prince appears to have added one further clue to family history in the record he created, even though it had not been required of him: he added a capital W after the last name of individuals who were widows or widowers. This helps bracket the year in which a spouse may have died. Those capital Ws have been retained in the every name transcription which accompanies this article. Also retained have been Mr. Prince's spellings, as best they could be determined from his handwriting.

Dwelling	Family	First Name	Last Name	Age	Sex	Occupation	Value of Real Est.	Birth-place	At School
209	220	Ebenezer	Hill	48	M	Farmer	1200	Me.	
		Caroline	Hill	39	F			Me.	
		Lucy A.	Hill	2	F			Me.	
		Susan G. S.	Chase	18	F			Me.	
		Lavinia A. B.	Chase	16	F			Me.	
		Lucy	Hill W.	67	F			Me.	
		Ruben	Hill	23	M	Sailor		Me.	
210	221	David	Hamilton	53	M	Farmer	1000	Me.	
		Mary	Hamilton	42	F			Me.	
		Rufus	Hamilton	16	M	Sailor		Me.	X
		Ruthann	Hamilton	14	F			Me.	X
		Eliza F.	Hamilton	12	F			Me.	X
		David Jr.	Hamilton	8	M			Me.	X
		Maryetta	Hamilton	4	F			Me.	
		John A.	Hamilton	1	M			Me.	
211	222	Ambrose	Hamilton	80	M	Farmer	1400	Me.	
		Ann	Hamilton	66	F			Me.	
212	223	Ambros Jr.	Hamilton	42	M	Farmer	500	Me.	
		Harriet	Hamilton	43	F			Me.	
		Lucinda	Hamilton	18	F			Me.	X
		Mary E.	Hamilton	16	F			Me.	X
		Dorcas	Hamilton	13	F			Me.	X
		Mabala	Hamilton	12	F			Me.	X
		Edward W.	Hamilton	10	M			Me.	X
		Ambrose	Hamilton	6	M			Me.	X
		Harriet A.	Hamilton	1	F			Me.	
	224	Sarah F.	Hamilton	1	F			Me.	
		Betsey	Hamilton	45	F			Me.	
		Sarah F.	Hamilton	35	F			Me.	
		Nathan	Hamilton	21	F [sic]	Laborer		Me.	
213	225	Aaron	Cleaves	40	M	Sailor	500	Me.	
		Eliza	Cleaves	35	F			Me.	
		Ruben	Cleaves	9	M			Me.	X
		Aaron Jr.	Cleaves	7	M			Me.	X
		Mary E.	Cleaves	5	F			Me.	X
		Almyra C.	Cleaves	1	F			Me.	
214	226	James	Hamilton	70	M	Farmer	1000	Me.	
		Sarah F.	Hamilton	47	F			Me.	
		Sarah F.	Hamilton	37	F			Me.	
		Byron C.	Hamilton	14	M			Me.	X
		Henry W.	Hamilton	5	M			Me.	X
215	227	Dorcas	Ross W.	55	F		200	Me.	
		Amelia M.	Ross	16	F			Me.	
	228	David O.	Ross	28	M	Sailor		Me.	
		Sophrona A.	Ross	23	F			Me.	
		Sarah F.	Ross	11	F			Me.	
216	229	John J.	Hamilton	34	M	Sailor	200	Me.	
		Jane	Hamilton	9	F			Me.	
		Martha J.	Hamilton	9	F			Me.	X
		John H.	Hamilton	10	M			Me.	
		Ephraim	Hamilton	7	M			Me.	
217	230	John	Curt	71	M	Farmer	200	Me.	
		Jenney	Curt	77	F			Me.	
	231	Joseph T.	Hamilton	28	M	Sailor		Me.	
		Lydia	Hamilton	26	F			Me.	
		Franklin A.	Hamilton	1	M			Me.	
218	232	David	Hill W.	48	M	Sailor	1000	Me.	
		Hill		9	F			Me.	X
		David Jr.	Hill	8	M			Me.	X
		Phebe	Henly W.	30	F			Me.	
		Matilda	Henly	10	F			Me.	
		Horace	Henly	8	M			Me.	X
219	233	Jacob	Sawyer	26	M	Sailor	300	Me.	
		Sarah F.	Sawyer	25	F			Me.	
		Calvin	Sawyer	1	M			Me.	
220	234	Edmond	Sawyer	41	M	Farmer	1000	Me.	
		Nancy	Sawyer	38	F			Me.	
		Joseph	Sawyer	11	M			Me.	X
		Solomon	Sawyer	10	M			Me.	X
		Mary A.	Sawyer	8	F			Me.	X
		Stillman	Sawyer	5	M			Me.	X
		Freeman	Sawyer	5	M			Me.	X
		George E.	Sawyer	3	M			Me.	
		Donald	Smith	17	M	Farmer		Me.	
221	235	Jane	Webber W.	54	F		300	Me.	
222	236	Eunice	Soule W.	40	F		1200	Me.	
		John	Soule	15	M			Me.	X
		Eunice	Soule	13	F			Me.	X
		Dejana	Soule	10	F			Me.	X
		Rufus A.	Soule	4	M			Me.	
		Phylarda	Soule	2	F			Me.	
		George W.	Littlefield	27	M	Sailor		Me.	
		Lucy	Littlefield	25	F			Me.	
		William	Dixon	27	M	Sailor		Scotland	
223	237	Abner E.	Hill	26	M	Sailor		Me.	
		Mary F.	Hill	28	F			Me.	
		Emma L.	Hill	10	F			Me.	
224	238	John 2d	Hamilton	44	M	Farmer	1500	Me.	
		Polly	Hamilton	46	F			Me.	
		Polly	Hamilton	23	F			Me.	
		Isaac	Hamilton	22	M	Sailor		Me.	X
		Benjamin	Hamilton	21	M	Sailor		Me.	X
		John 4th	Hamilton	16	M	Sailor		Me.	X
		James	Hamilton	19	M	Sailor		Me.	X
		Jeremiah	Hamilton	14	M			Me.	X
		Julia	Hamilton	13	F			Me.	X
		Rebecca	Hamilton	11	F			Me.	X
225	239	Robert	Hamilton	47	M	Farmer	1000	Me.	
		Serena	Hamilton	42	F			Me.	
		Robert Jr.	Hamilton	20	M	Sailor		Me.	
		Lorenzo	Hamilton	15	M			Me.	X
		Roswell	Hamilton	13	M			Me.	X
		Harriet	Hamilton	10	F			Me.	X
		Alford	Hamilton	8	M			Me.	X
		Emery	Hamilton	3	M			Me.	
		Serena A.	Hamilton	19	F			Me.	X
		Sally	Henly W.	19	F			Me.	
226	240	Samuel	Ross	50	M	Farmer	1000	Me.	
		Emma	Ross	46	F			Me.	
		Lavinia	Ross	28	F			Me.	

Dwelling	Family	First Name	Last Name	Age	Sex	Occupation	Value of Real Est.	Birth-place	At School
		Elias	Ross	23	M	Merchant		Me.	
		Alexander	Ross	21	M	Sailor		Me.	X
		Samuel Jr.	Ross	19	M	Sailor		Me.	X
		Luther	Ross	17	M	Farmer		Me.	X
		Susan J.	Ross	13	F			Me.	X
		Edward	Ross	10	M			Me.	X
		Ellen	Ross	8	F			Me.	X
		George	Ross	6	M			Me.	X
227	241	Richard	Webber	58	M	Sailor		Me.	
		Lucy	Webber	58	F			Me.	
		Charles	Webber	21	M	Sailor		Me.	
		Simeon	Webber	16	M	Sailor		Me.	X
		Jonathan	Webber	12	M			Me.	X
		Lucy A.	Webber	23	F			Me.	
228	242	John Jr.	Bibber	24	M	Sailor		Me.	
		Martha	Bibber	20	F			Me.	
229	243	James	Wallace	40	M	Sailor	300	Me.	
		Mary	Wallace	38	F			Me.	
230	244	James Jr.	Hamilton	49	M	Farmer	1500	Me.	
		Sally	Hamilton	51	F			Me.	
		Lavinia	Hamilton	23	F			Me.	
		Louisa	Hamilton	20	F			Me.	
		Julia	Hamilton	16	F			Me.	X
		Deborah	Hamilton	14	F			Me.	X
		Deborah	Hutchinson W.	82	F			Me.	
231	245	Simeon	Hamilton	44	M	Farmer	1000	Me.	
		Sarah	Hamilton	40	F			Me.	
		Ellemira	Hamilton	21	F			Me.	
		Hiram	Hamilton	20	M	Sailor		Me.	X
		Martha	Hamilton	18	F			Me.	X
		Simeon Jr.	Hamilton	17	M	Sailor		Me.	X
		Sarah C.	Hamilton	15	F			Me.	X
		Rachel E.	Hamilton	13	F			Me.	X
		William R.	Hamilton	10	M			Me.	X
		Stephen B.	Hamilton	8	M			Me.	X
		Albion	Hamilton	7	M			Me.	X
		Sumner	Hamilton	4	M			Me.	
		Alonzo	Hamilton	2	M			Me.	
232	246	Mary E.	Hamilton	3 m.	F		1000	Me.	
		Eliza	Hamilton W.	37	F			Me.	
		John R.	Hamilton	15	M			Me.	
		Caroline A.	Hamilton	13	F			Me.	
		Benjamin	Hamilton	11	M			Me.	X
		Henry C.	Hamilton	8	M			Me.	X
		Royal	Hamilton	6	M			Me.	X
	247	David	Webber	25	M	Sailor	200	Me.	
		Caroline A.	Webber	25	F			Me.	
		John A.	Webber	4	M			Me.	
		David E.	Webber	2	M			Me.	
233	248	Solomon	Hamilton	40	M	Sailor	500	Me.	
		Mary J.	Hamilton	36	F			Me.	
		George W.	Hamilton	16	M	Sailor		Me.	
		Mary J.	Hamilton	14	F			Me.	
		Katina	Hamilton	12	F			Me.	
		Ruile	Hamilton	10	M			Me.	X
		Francis	Hamilton	6	M			Me.	X
		Mellen	Hamilton	4	M			Me.	
		Rothcas	Hamilton	4	M			Me.	
		Henry	Hamilton	1 m.	M			Me.	
234	249	Enoch	Hamilton	40	M	Laborer	200	Me.	
		Mary	Hamilton	35	F			Me.	
		Clarinda A.	Hamilton	14	F			Me.	X
		Helen M.	Hamilton	12	F			Me.	X
		Cyrus	Hamilton	10	M			Me.	X
		Sylvanus B.	Hamilton	8	M			Me.	X
		Allen J.	Hamilton	6	M			Me.	X
		Louisa	Hamilton	2	F			Me.	X
235	250	Robert	Littlefield	40	M	Sailor	200	Me.	
		Deborah	Littlefield	40	F			Me.	
		Julia	Littlefield	20	F			Me.	
		Emerline W.	Littlefield	17	F			Me.	
		Nathaniel	Littlefield	16	M	Sailor		Me.	
		Eunice A.	Littlefield	15	F			Me.	
236	251	Isaac	Webber	27	M	Sailor	500	Me.	
		Lydia	Webber	26	F			Me.	
		Lydia E.	Webber	4	F			Me.	
		Isaac H.	Webber	2	M			Me.	
		Barnville Jr.	Johnson	29	M	Sailor		Me.	
		Dorcas A.	Johnson	25	F			Me.	
		Isabell	Johnson	4	F			Me.	
		Sophrona H.	Johnson	2	F			Me.	
237	252	Jacob	Littlefield	27	M	Sailor	800	Me.	
		Elizabeth	Littlefield	26	F			Me.	
		George W.	Littlefield	4	M			Me.	
		Charles W.	Littlefield	2	M			Me.	
		Henry	Littlefield	7 m.	M			Me.	
		Sarah	Littlefield W.	60	F			Me.	
238	253	Joseph	Thompson	45	M	Farmer	150	Me.	
		Deborah	Thompson	51	F			Me.	
		Walter J.	Thompson	20	M	Sailor		Me.	X
		Charles W.	Thompson	18	M	Sailor		Me.	X
		Joseph F.	Thompson	18	M	Sailor		Me.	X
		Elijah J.	Thompson	10	M			Me.	X
238	254	Nathaniel	Thompson	38	M	Farmer	150	Me.	
		Jane	Thompson	38	F		</		

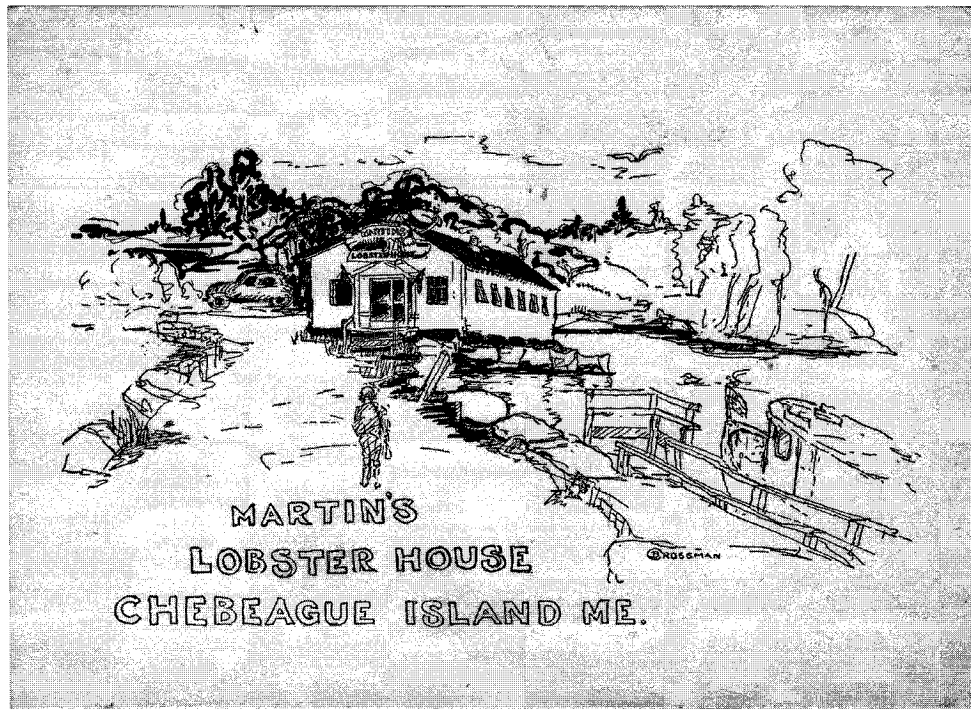
Dwelling	Family	First Name	Last Name	Age	Sex	Occupation	Value of Real Est.	Birth-place	At School
		Susan H.	Littlefield	33	F			Me.	
		Enoch	Littlefield	13	M			Me.	X
		Serena G.	Littlefield	9	F			Me.	X
		William V.	Littlefield	7	M			Me.	X
		Davies F.	Littlefield	5	M			Me.	X
		Susan	Littlefield	3	F			Me.	
		Amno R.	Littlefield	1	M			Me.	
		Elinor	Baker	16	F			Ireland	
242	258	James	Mitchell	51	M	Farmer	800	Me.	
		Martha	Mitchell	42	F			Me.	
		George	Mitchell	14	M			Me.	X
243	259	Benjamin	Mitchell	52	M	Farmer	1700	Me.	
		Hannah	Mitchell	51	F			Me.	
		Elizabeth	Mitchell	26	F			Me.	
		Sarah	Mitchell	19	F			Me.	X
		Albertina	Mitchell	1	F			Me.	
244	260	David	Upton	65	M	Farmer	400	Mass.	
		Mary	Upton	53	F			Mass.	
		David Jr.	Upton	27	M	Sailor		Mass.	
		Mary P.	Upton	23	F			Mass.	
		Sarah	Upton	23	F			Mass.	
		Henry	Upton	18	M	Sailor		Me.	X
		Betsey	Upton	13	F			Me.	X
245	261	Michal	Plennida	35	M	Sailor		Me.	
		Sarah A.	Plennida	25	F			Me.	
		Sarah E.	Plennida	7	F			Me.	X
		John F.	Plennida	5	M			Me.	X
		William H.	Plennida	3	M			Me.	
		Della	Plennida	1	F			Me.	
		Jedediah	Foss	67	M	Laborer		Me.	
246	261	James	Johnson	39	M	Sailor		Me.	
		Susan A.	Johnson	35	F			Me.	
		Barnwill	Johnson	11	M			Me.	
		Margaret J.	Johnson	9	F			Me.	X
		Huldah A.	Johnson	8	F			Me.	X
		Pamela	Johnson	6	F			Me.	X
		Robert	Johnson	3	M			Me.	
247	262	Alexander	Johnson	70	M	Farmer	200	Me.	
		Mary	Bates W.	75	F			Me.	
		Jane	Bates	30	F			Me.	
		Mary E.	Bates	9	F			Me.	
		Sarah	Bates	7	F			Me.	
		Rosanna	Bates	4	F			Me.	
248	263	Barnwill	Johnson	60	M	Sailor	1500	Me.	
		Mary	Johnson	44	F			Me.	
		Jane	Leonard	12	F			Me.	X
249	264	Stephen B.	Orr	35	M	Farmer	1000	Me.	
		Abigail	Orr	37	F			Me.	
		Tezgar	Orr	11	F	[sic]		Me.	X
		Charles S.	Orr	9	M			Me.	X
		Deborah P.	Orr	7	F			Me.	X
		Lydia C.	Orr	3	F			Me.	
250	265	Stephen	Bennet	67	M	Farmer	400	Me.	
		Rachel	Bennet	71	F			Me.	
		Susan	Bennet	24	F			Me.	
		Stephen Jr.	Bennet	10	M			Me.	X
	266	David	Ross	28	M	Sailor		Me.	
		Rachel	Ross	30	F			Me.	
		Martha	Ross	7	F			Me.	X
		Frederick	Ross	4	M			Me.	
251	267	David	Bennet	45	M	Farmer	200	Me.	
		Hannah	Bennet	50	F			Me.	
	268	William	Ross	36	M	Sailor		Me.	
		Mary	Ross	35	F			Me.	
		James	Ross	8	M			Me.	X
		Freeman	Ross	6	M			Me.	X
		Susan	Ross	4	F			Me.	
252	269	William	Bennet	28	M	Farmer	100	Me.	
		Serena	Bennet	29	F			Me.	
		David H.	Bennet	4	M			Me.	
		Mary E.	Bennet	3	F			Me.	
		William F.	Bennet	2	M			Me.	
253	270	Stephen	Doughty	49	M	Sailor	100	Me.	
		Charity	Doughty	47	F			Me.	
		Stephen	Doughty	22	M	Sailor		Me.	
		Mary	Doughty	19	F			Me.	X
		Oliver	Doughty	17	M			Me.	X
		Elijah	Doughty	14	M			Me.	X
		Andrew	Doughty	11	M			Me.	X
		Asa	Doughty	10	M			Me.	X
254	271	Ebenezer	Doughty	24	M	Sailor		Me.	
		Mahala	Doughty	24	F			Me.	
		Frances E.	Doughty	2	F			Me.	
		Stephen 3d	Doughty	9	M			Me.	
		Mary E.	Hicks	19	F			N. S.	
255	272	Job	Doughty	36	M	Sailor	100	Me.	
		Lucretia	Doughty	32	F			Me.	
		Emmon	Doughty	15	M			Me.	X
		James	Doughty	13	M			Me.	X
		Cristiana	Doughty	10	F			Me.	X
		Margret	Doughty	8	F			Me.	X
		Rachel E.	Doughty	7	F			Me.	X
		Job Jr.	Doughty	5	M			Me.	X
		Daniel W.	Doughty	blur	M			Me.	X
		Stephen W.	Doughty	7	M			Me.	
256	273	David	Doughty	40	M	Sailor	100	Me.	
		Elmyra	Doughty	33	F			Me.	
		Emily J.	Doughty	12	F			Me.	
		Caroline	Doughty	10	F			Me.	
		Job 3d	Doughty	8	M			Me.	
		David Jr.	Doughty	6	M			Me.	
		Hannah	Doughty	4	F			Me.	
		Louisa	Doughty	2	F			Me.	
257	274	James	McNeal	40	M	Laborer		N. S.	
		Mary	McNeal	40	F			N. S.	
258	275	Albert	Coffin	28	M	Farmer	500	Me.	
		Elizabeth J.	Coffin	24	F			Me.	
		James A.	Coffin	4	M			Me.	
		Alexander	Coffin	1	M			Me.	
		Charles A.	Coffin	1	M			Me.	

Dwelling	Family	First Name	Last Name	Age	Sex	Occupation	Value of Real Est.	Birth-place	At School
259	276	Jacob	Johnson	85	M	Farmer	1000	Me.	
		Abigail	Johnson	75	F			Me.	
		Alexander	Camel	48	M	Laborer		N. S.	
260	277	Nathaniel	Pettingill	52	M	Farmer	600	Me.	
		Deborah	Pettingill	46	F			Me.	
		Nathaniel Jr.	Pettingill	21	M	Sailor		Me.	
		Moses	Pettingill	18	M	Farmer		Me.	X
		Samuel	Pettingill	16	M	Farmer		Me.	X
		Lydia	Pettingill	10	F			Me.	X
		Mial	Witham *	22	M	Farmer		Me.	
		Deborah	Witham *	20	F			Me.	
261	278	Joseph	Hor	31	M	Sailor	100	Me.	
		Charlotte	Hor	27	F			Me.	
		Henry	Hor	7	M			Me.	
		Mary	Hor	6	F			Me.	
		Martha	Hor	5	F			Me.	
		Joseph E.	Hor	3	M			Me.	
		Orrison (?)	Hor	1	M			Me.	
262	279	Joseph	Small	23	M	Sailor	100	Me.	
		Hannah	Small	23	F			Me.	
263	280	Nathan	Buckman	46	M	Farmer		Me.	
		Hannah	Buckman	51	F			Me.	X
		Charlotte	Buckman	17	F			Me.	X
		Henry	Buckman	15	M			Me.	X
		Martha	Buckman	7	F			Me.	X
		Woodbury	Buckman	6	M			Me.	
		Georgianna	Buckman	4	F			Me.	
		John	Sprague	28	M	Sailor	400	Me.	
		Margaret J.	Sprague	23	F			Me.	
264	281	Jonathan	Webber	67	M	Farmer	1500	Me.	
		Elizabeth	Webber	62	F			Me.	
		Mary	Webber W.	30	F			Me.	
		Pamela	Webber	3	F			Me.	
265	282	Joel	Ricker	38	M	Sailor	600	Me.	
		Delight	Ricker	34	F			Me.	
		Robert	Ricker	12	M			Me.	X
		Rufus	Ricker	9	M			Me.	X
		Stephen	Ricker	7	M			Me.	X
		George	Ricker	4	M			Me.	X
		John C.	Ricker	2	M			Me.	
		Sarah E.	Ricker	4	F			Me.	
266	283	Henry	Mansfield	36	M	Farmer	3000	Me.	
		Rachel	Mansfield	38	F			Me.	
		William H.	Mansfield	17	M	Sailor		Me.	
		Ellis G.	Mansfield	16	M	Farmer		Me.	X
		Eunice	Mansfield	13	F			Me.	X
		James E.	Mansfield	10	M			Me.	X
		John F.	Mansfield	8	M			Me.	X
		Rachel	Mansfield	8	F			Me.	X
		Joseph	Mansfield	6	M			Me.	X
		Josiah	Mansfield	4	M			Me.	X
		Lemuel C.	Mansfield	3	M			Me.	
		Lucy E.	Mansfield	2	F			Me.	
267	284	Joseph	Whittum	75	M	Farmer	300	Me.	
		Sally	Whittum	64	F			Me.	
	285	Rebecca	Sawyer	60	F			Me.	
268	286	Charles	Hamilton	48	M	Sailor	600	Me.	
		Betsey	Hamilton	51	F			Me.	
		Ambrose J.	Hamilton	23	M	Sailor		Me.	X
		Elijah	Hamilton	19	M	Sailor		Me.	
		Lucinda	Hamilton	17	F			Me.	
		Orintha	Hamilton	14	F			Me.	X
		Eliza	Hamilton	11	F			Me.	X
		Charles	Hamilton	26	M	Sailor		Me.	
		Martha	Hamilton	27	F			Me.	
		Sylvina	Hamilton	4	F			Me.	
		Martha A.	Hamilton	1	F			Me.	
269	287	Elijah	Soule	39	M	Sailor	900	Me.	
		Elizabeth	Soule	39	F			Me.	
		Mariam	Soule	16	F			Me.	X
		Alonzo	Soule	14	M			Me.	X
		Lotis	Soule	9	F			Me.	X
270	288	Daniel	Morse	64	M	Farmer	500	Mass.	
		Mary	Morse	63	F			Mass.	
		Mary J.	Patten	30	F			Mass.	
		Lucena	Patten	10	F			Mass.	X
		Eutis	Patten	5	M			Mass.	X
		Michal	Costlo	13	M			Me.	X
271	289	Ammi R. M.	Cleaves	38	M	Baptist Clergy		Me.	
		Mary S.	Cleaves	40	F			Me.	
		Edmond	Cleaves	3	M			Me.	
272	290	John	Hamilton	84	M	Farmer	500	Me.	
		Mehittrable	Hamilton	60	F			Me.	
		Ann	Hamilton	25	F			Me.	
		David F.	Hamilton	16	M	Sailor		Me.	
273	291	Eben	Hamilton	25	M	Sailor		Me.	
		Olive	Hamilton	27	F			Me.	
		Charlotte	Hamilton	3	F			Me.	
		Mary F.	Hamilton	1	F			Me.	
274	292	Richard	Lombard	69	M	Methodist Clergy		Me.	
		Eunice	Lombard	67	F			Me.	
275	293	Henry	Mansfield	61	M	Farmer		Mass.	
		Thankful	Mansfield	56	F			Me.	
276	294	William H.	Ross	23	M	Sailor	200	Me.	
		Mahala A.	Ross	29	F		</		

Still Something of a Mystery

The picture and caption below originally appeared in the last fall Sloop's Log issue where we asked if any of our readers knew or remembered the restaurant and the family who owned it.

by Jim Millinger.



Martin's Lobster House.

The Martin family owned this building and restaurant in the mid to late 1940's. This is a postcard representation of the Stone Wharf and the store/restaurant drawn by Bea Crossman. The original sign was made by Fred KomLosy Sr. and is presently at the Slow Bell Cafe. We would like to know whether anyone remembers the restaurant and the family.

I may be of some help on your cover drawing.

I do not remember the name Martin in conjunction with this building in the 1940s.

1. I think it was owned and operated by Ged Grover from beginning through summer of 1947.
2. I think it was leased and run by a Mrs. Lane in the summer of 1948.
3. Therefore earliest by the Martin's in summer of 1949?
4. BUT, Nellie G. III is in her 1948 configuration.

I have consulted my memory (not always reliable), my father's Diary (very reliable) and notes made by my mother (usually reliable) in her "House Guest" book in which she kept track of house guests as well as the goings and

comings of her kids and self and husband.

My recollection is that Bea Grover Bowen's brother, Gerald (known as "Ged" perhaps spelled "Jed"), upon return from World War II used his G.I. Bill to buy and move one of the barracks buildings from the East End to the Stone Wharf and opened a restaurant in it.

My Mom bought our cottage in the spring of 1947. When we came to the island that summer, Ged was operating the restaurant with the help of his parents, Mr. & Mrs. Grover. They lived for the summer in the little bunk house behind Richard and Bea Bowen's summer cottage. Mrs. Grover did the cooking. I was in and out of the restaurant and the kitchen a lot because my sister began working as a waitress for Ged in July, 1947 [Dad's

Diary: "July 5, 1947 Kay (my sister Carolyn) begins work at Gerald Grover's."] and because the Grovers were residents of York Village and members of my Dad's church there and well-known to my parents. I was twelve at the time and often rowed my sister Carolyn across to work and then went back to get her. I remember helping washing dishes on one particularly busy day and was rewarded by Ged by being invited to sit up at the counter (which I had never done before) and eat a free hamburger.

My Dad's Diary: "June 9, 1948 Ged has leased restaurant to Mrs. Lane."

"June 21, 1948 Kay takes job as waitress at Lobster House."

Again, I was in and out. I remember "Bucky" Lane who manned the counter (with stools) and I believe that his sister (who also waited on table?) was Leila Lane. Their mother, Mrs. Lane, did the cooking.

My Dad's Diary: "July 1, 1949 Kay works [as waitress] at Island View"

I do not remember Kay working for the Martins so earliest for that sign 1949?

I do not recall the name "Martin" which is a bit strange as I was always over at the float catching the Nellie G. III's bowline. On August 9, 1949 I became the deckhand/purser on the Nellie G. III when Freddie Ross got ptomaine poison. Once he was well he came back to work but I still worked part-time. The Nellie G. III, at that time, was still a "bell" boat and required an engineer as well as a deckhand/purser.

#4 Pictorial evidence. In the postcard, the vessel at the float is the Nellie G. III and the drawing represents her no later than the summer of 1948 when her Jack flag was still on a short staff. In 1949 it was on a tall staff. [Cf. The Nellie G.s on Casco Bay, page 70, and photos on p. 12 and back cover.]

HOW MY FAMILY CAME TO CHEBEAGUE ISLAND

by Barbara Hamilton



Photo: Barbara Hamilton Collection

Fred and Eileen Symonds

It was during the summer of 1957 that my parents, Fred and Eileen Symonds, came to Chebeague and stayed at the Hillcrest Hotel for the weekend. Their connection to Chebeague was through Carleton (Bep) and Evelyn Morse from Massachusetts.

Fred and Eileen fell in love with Chebeague immediately. They came home to Natick, Massachusetts and had a "parlor meeting" with their children, Marilyn, Barbara, and Doug, to see how they felt about the decision to go back to Chebeague and look at houses for sale.

Marilyn was entering her sophomore year at Springfield College. I was beginning my first year of college at the Chandler School for Women. Doug was a junior in high school. We were all ecstatic about their new idea.

Two weeks later they were back at the Hillcrest for another weekend. Phil Seabury was the island realtor and he showed them two homes for sale. One was the present day home of David Keyes and Wanda Buczynski. The other home

was on the North Road where I live now. They purchased the home in August of 1957.

My folks were originally from fishing villages in Nova Scotia. Fred was from Darlings Lake and had one brother. Eileen was from Port Maitland and had five sisters and six brothers.

Part of their dream was to come weekends and vacations until Fred could retire. They came every weekend, if possible, from March through October 12.

After all three children had graduated from college, my father came home one day and said, "Eileen, let's live out the rest of

our dream." He was fifty-three years old when he came to the island. Their dream was to semi-retire and go lobster fishing.

Dad worked for the William H. Porter Construction Co. in Waverlytown, Massachusetts for thirty-three years. He was Vice-President and Office Superintendent to one hundred and twenty five men.

They moved to Chebeague in May of 1965. Fred went to Nova Scotia to purchase a lobster boat. He and a friend brought it across the Bay of Fundy and the Gulf of Maine to Chebeague Island. He refurbished it, put in a new diesel engine, and built 400 traps-Nova Scotia style which were traps with the round ends. He hand knit all of his potheads, etc. and named his boat the Eileen M.

My mother went lobstering with him for twelve years. When she was no longer able to go, he downsized to the Eileen M. II, a 17' punt he purchased from Bob Walker. He hired Herb Rich to build it for lobster fishing.

They lived for twenty-seven years on Chebeague. They never had a car on the mainland and were very content to live here.

Fred and Eileen's grandson Douglas with Nova Scotia style traps built by Fred.



Photo: CHS Collection

Chebeague Fire Department

by Kenneth Hamilton



Photos-Kenneth Hamilton Collection

Left to right: Al Malony, Tad Runge, Amanda Campbell, Ben Hillicos, Dave Stevens, Ralph Munroe, Art Lynch, Jason Hamilton, Mike Conroy, Ginny Ballard, Nancy Earnest, Doug Ross, Don Buxbaum, Malcolm Rice and Mike Adams.

In 1985 Wayne Dyer became Deputy Chief. During this year we received our first tank truck. This was a 2000 gallon truck with a quick dump discharge. We also got two more folding portable tanks. These tanks allowed for storing water at the scene for the attack trucks to maintain a steady flow of water. The quick dumps let a tank of water be discharged into the folding storage in an almost instantaneous manner.

The Deputy Chief reported 1986 that our training with the mainland firefighters had been a great benefit because we were learning from more experienced men. In 1987 Deputy Chief Dyer wrote that our department could provide the following:

Engine 4
capacity 750 gal
50 gal per min pump

Engine 6
capacity 1000 gal
200 gal per min pump

Engine 8
capacity 500 gal
500 gal per min pump

Engine 9
capacity back up pumper
500 gal per min pump

Tank 1
capacity 2200 gal

This capability made a big difference from the 1930's when our capacity was 50 gal per min with pressure supplied by soda/acid gas.

Our Forestry Dept. pump was transferred from the trailer (which at times was hard to maneuver) to the body of a truck from the mainland.

Along about 1989 the firemen began some collaborative training with the Rescue Squad in the correct response to a vehicle accident. Method of attack as well as training in extrication was stressed.

In 1990 we lost two friends from the town of Cumberland; David Rawnsley, who liked to come the island meetings whenever possible, and Chief Kenneth Wagner, who tried hard to bring the island fire and rescue departments up to the standards necessary for the safety and welfare of the island citizens.

Wayne Dyer stepped down in 1991 and Meredith Bowen stepped up to take over the duties of Deputy Chief. During this period permission was obtained from the telephone company to allow the fire dept. to start the generator in the island telephone station and to start the generator whenever the power was lost during a severe storm. Before this change the line crews were busy on the mainland and the island could be without telephones for lengthy periods of time. Of course the use of cell phones has changed the need for this service.

The island firefighters had been concerned for some time that our only dependable source of water in the center

of the island was not adequate for a distant fire. In 1993 Bob Levey allowed us to install a dry hydrant in his pond. This helped a great deal for fires on the West End. During this period we acquired a Class A Foam Machine along with a new portable pump.

1995 turned out to be a memorable year for the island firefighters. First, we lost Mary Doughty's home during a Feb. storm with 60 mph wind gusts. This was Ed Jenks old farmhouse home containing many historic books and other family heirlooms. It was very sad to watch this loss take place. Second, we were able to extinguish a fire at Robert Wheldon's home very effectively and with little damage with our new foam machine. And the third occurrence of importance was the acceptance of our first female firefighter. This was Alna Doughty, who took to the job with great enthusiasm.

1999 was the year that our first carbon monoxide detector arrived. Although we had not had a need previously, it was a very valuable acquisition. In this year Chief Bowen reported that the island now had three dry hydrants and the ability to roll 4500 gal of water at one call. The dept. acquired a new truck for Chebeague. It became Engine 8 and it could pump 1000 gal per minute. The following year Med resigned and Tom Calder took over as Deputy Chief.

The following few years were thankfully free from fires, and the Chebeague Fire Dept. concentrated on developing a system of mutual aid between our department and

Chebeague Fire Department Continued

those on the mainland as well as those on Long and Cliff Islands. The Fire Department had for many years requested the town to appropriate money for a flagpole with no success. In the year 2001 a pole was mounted on the corner of the firehouse. Now the appearance is official. Chief Calder reported that the island is getting a new fire truck. This was the first really new vehicle since 1972 rather than a used one from Cumberland. At the 2006 annual banquet on the mainland Jason Hamilton and Ralph Munroe received their 25 years of service pins. Ken Hamilton and Dick Calder have received plaques for 50 years of service from the Town of Cumberland.

Chebeague became its own town in 2007. In 2008 Ralph Munroe became the new Fire Chief for Chebeague Island. In 2009 the Fire Department applied for a grant which allowed us to receive all new turnout gear. Grant money also purchased a new generator for the Public Safety Building. This allows the dept. and volunteers to offer citizens a place to go for warmth and warm food during storms when power is out on the island. In 2011 the Town of Chebeague bought a new truck built to the specifications of the island personnel. A formal christening ceremony took place at the firehouse with many people present. This truck replaced the 1972 and 1976 trucks that had come over from the Cumberland Fire Department.

It should be noted in closing that the Chebeague Rescue and Fire Departments changed from two organizations to a single public safety organization. Also over the years, more volunteers have joined the Rescue so that unlike the early days when five individuals handled all calls, two units now exist to handle the calls for help. Finally, the volunteers are better trained with more individuals holding advanced licenses, which makes Chebeague Island very fortunate to have the dedicated folks who serve us.

In the forgoing history I have used the information provided over the years in the Island Newsletter, the Cumberland Town Reports, my personal papers, and my recollection of events as I remember them during the last 50 plus years as a volunteer fire fighter on Chebeague Island. K.H.

Sylvia Ross wrote the poem below for the celebration of Martha Komlosy Hamilton's 90th birthday on March 2nd. It was a grand occasion. If you were not able to attend, we hope you saw all the wonderful pictures online

Martha's 90th Birthday

by Sylvia Ross

Today this is a special day to celebrate with her
With fun and food and laughter-and what further may occur!
It does seem quite appropriate to reminisce a while
Recalling special moments so sure to bring a smile.

Martha is a thrifty one who stashes things away
In anticipation of a party or a play
So if you need a costume-a real out-dated rig,
You'll find it no other place than Martha's on Chebeague.

Martha's feats are many. Her endeavors never cease.
She's a member of the D.A.R. She's a Justice of the Peace.
She has a string of interests one could wrap around the world
And her broad array of talents could never come unfurled!
Just name it; she has done it from painting A-Z,
Scads of posters, and many signs for our community.
Her hobbies are her pastimes, with these she does abide.
Her magic work with scissors and her artwork by her side.

Associations? Many! Martha is faithful to them all.
From the Grange, the Council, the Ladies Aid, and we won't forget the Hall!
The Historical Society she'll never shirk
While planning an exhibit of Chebeaguers' handiwork!
The Library was her baby for many, many years.
She organized and planned it and saw it built-with tears.
Reverting back in history to nineteen forty-four
Martha and some others brought the P.T.A.-and more.
Secretary and President I believe, recording all the notes
And writing in the journal-keeping track of numerous votes.

Because of you we're here today to wish you all the best
As we remember many things you've done from East to West!

THANK YOU MARTHA AND HAPPY BIRTHDAY!!

CONCERTED ACTION FOR IMPROVEMENTS ON CHEBEAGUE ISLAND

Please find below a document from the mid-1940's. This a great example of what Martha and her fellow islanders were up to more than 65 years ago. Things have changed for sure over those years, but we still have issues that "hang fire".

In November 1944, citizens of Chebeague organized a Parent-Teachers Association to work for the island betterment.

In the four months of existence the Association has already:

1. Attended town meeting at Cumberland in a body and voted through an appropriation for plans for a new central school to be used also as an island social center, small hall, library etc.
2. Appointed an executive committee to work for better roads.
3. Called for an investigation of the tax situation in order to get more funds for island needs.
4. Begun moth control on the island, with a visit from a member of the State Department of Agriculture, and appointing a day for clearing of moth nests from the trees.
5. Voted to form an executive council consisting of an equal number of summer residents and year-round residents to work for better conditions on the island.
6. Taken up the matter of a permanent physician for the island.

The new Chebeague PTA has already met enthusiastic response on the island but finds itself confronted with problems that have been hanging fire for many years. At a time when state and federal help seem available, it is proposed to take action to secure help, as do other communities. After the war there will be many residents on the island, the schools are overcrowded and primitive, and the advantages of the island have been little advertised. The two hotels are gone, the roads are in bad condition as the result of army use, there are no public lights on the island, and the lack of moth and mosquito control has been only too evident.

To you, as property holders or renters of property on Chebeague, the PTA makes an appeal for your interest. It is not a question of money, but one of interest. This island has been a neglected corner on the town, but with proper development can be one of the most valuable assets of the town. The residents of the (Cumberland) Center have been asked to cooperate, and certain rights which the island possesses are to be asked for. The island has a right to its share of town taxation money as well as the Center, with its school, library, gymnasium, 32 miles of paved roads (the island has a mile and a half), and it has the right of calling a town meeting on the island for a proportionate share of the time.

In the matter of taxation, the last town report gives the Island the benefit of about \$2,000 more than was paid in taxes. However, since the Foreside pays the greater part of the taxes in the town, there is more money available for Chebeague as well as for the Center which hitherto has received the benefit of the Foreside taxes. The old division of the town into Mainland, and Islands seems unfair, and a new division into Chebeague, Foreside, Center and West Cumberland would tell the story more fairly. The PTA has put on monthly programs for its members, -- it has aided the schools in several ways, particularly in its efforts to get water in the schools and hot lunches for students. It has contacted all the people possible for plans of a new school building, and taken action on the road situation. Plans for the formation of a Council have been discussed to handle the affairs on the island, with a small room for possible headquarters in the center of the village. It is planning to aid in the coming graduation at the High School. It is asking for the Federal Government for school plans. But there is much work ahead, and in this work the PTA asks you to take an active interest this summer in promoting the welfare of the island.

Martha Hamilton, President
Executive Committee-Ralph Small, Chairman
Cliff Leonard, Warren Hamilton, Eric P. Kelly



Martha Komlosy Hamilton

GIFT SHOPS OF CHEBEAGUE PART II

edited by Jane Frizzell

In the fall issue of the Sloop's Log I wrote an article about Chebeague gift shops from the beginning of such enterprises until the 1940's. For this edition I have asked those Chebeaguers, or their descendants, who have owned and operated gift shops on the island from 1940 to the present to write a story about each of those establishments. We hope you remember shopping at these stores and will continue to frequent the shops which still operate.

Just so you know, the editor does not take responsibility for some for the naming of names in a couple of these sections. The writers are on their own.

Martha's in the Center



Photo-CIHS Collection

MARTHA'S

by Martha O. Hamilton
as told to Jane Frizzell

Name of shop: Martha's

Owner: Martha Oliver Komlosy Hamilton

Years of operation: 1948-1952

Location: the Center

MARTHA'S was owned initially by the Komlosy family. It was opened in 1944 with the purpose of displaying and selling the art work of Frederick A. Komlosy, Sr. In 1948 Mr. Komlosy died and Martha O. took over the operation of the store until c.1952. The store was located in the Center in the building from which Henry Bowen operated a gift shop for many years.

The business was a "one-stop" shopping place for the island. Among the many types of merchandise she sold, Martha lists "patent drugs, candy, magazines, daily paper, percale, socks, toys, hardware, screws, nails, and dry goods."

In those days stores were often equipped with a potbellied stove and were great places to hang out in the winter. Martha O. recalls a customer: "I used to sit on a counter and put my feet on the railing around the stove. Harry Miller used to chide me about this. If he heard someone whistling, he would say, 'You're blowing yourself, kid.'"

"B.R.T. Collins used to come and visit and tell stories which annoyed his wife very much."

"Ed Jenks would come to buy socks. He wore a pair until it was threadbare and come buy a new pair."

When the roads were snow covered, "Bim" Arnold Ross would come to the store and break a trail home for Martha at the end of the Day.

Martha had several helpers: a teenaged Joan Robinson, Alice Cleaves Blackwell, Anne Komlosy, Sr. and Jr. and Fred and Jim Komlosy.



Photo-CIHS Collection

BENNETT'S AT THE SIGN OF THE STONE SLOOP

By Suzanne Bennett Jackson

Name of shop: Bennett's at the Sign of the Stone Sloop

Owner: Gladys Bowen Bennett

Years of operation: 1951-1972

Location: 18 Firehouse Road

My father, Albert Bennett, was running a garage. He had gotten lead poisoning and became very sick so my mother decided to start a variety store. They had moved a building from up back of their home across the road and added on to it. They did work on the inside and made it into a store.

They sold hardware, oilcloth, some clothing, Sunday papers, candy, ice cream, souvenirs, cigarettes, tobacco, and many other items. During the warmer weather she took orders for larger items. She planned to do her buying each week. She would drive her station wagon to Portland to shop and then come to Cousins Island where my father would come over and pick her up and bring

Above: "Hot Dog" Buses in front of Bennet's store. Inset: Gladys Bowen Bennet, Agnus Nicoles, Melba Miller by the old fire house.

Note the great saddle shoes.

her back to Chebeague with the items purchased. In the summer my mother also served lunches and cooked her own brownies for those lunches.

Casco Bay Lines brought people on tours to Chebeague. They came into Chandlers and were picked up in the "hot dog" busses that were run by Clyde Bowen. They then were delivered to Bennett's. I was working this day and the busses arrived with a lot of tourists. They came in and ordered. While we were busy getting the lunches ready, a friend came in and said very loud, "All aboard, all aboard, all busses leaving." Everyone started leaving and the store emptied as we tried to tell them this was a joke. We didn't do too well that day. (This "friend" was Bill Stilphen. No surprise there.)

SUNDAE SUGGESTIONS	
Butterscotch Sundae.....	.25
Butterscotch Nut Sundae.....	.30
Chocolate Sundae.....	.25
Chocolate Nut Sundae.....	.30
Maple Nut Sundae.....	.30
Marshmallow Sundae.....	.30
Marshmallow Nut Sundae.....	.25
Pineapple Sundae.....	.30
Chocolate Marshmallow Sundae.....	.25
Cherry Sundae.....	.30
Nellie G. Special.....	.35
Banana Split.....	.40
Brownie Delight.....	.30
Ginger Ale Floats.....	.20
Milk Floats.....	.25
Five cents extra for each extra sauce and nuts.	
STONE SLOOP SPECIAL	
Lobster Sandwich	
Roll, Potato Chips, Pickle	
Coffee, Brownie Delight	\$1
SANDWICHES	
Egg Salad.....	.35
Tuna Salad.....	.40
American Cheese.....	.30
Peanut Butter.....	.20
Lobster Sandwich	.65
Five cents extra for toasted Sandwiches.	
Tea-Coffee-Milk.....	.10
Iced Coffee & Tea.....	.15
All kinds of Soft Drinks.....	.10
Home Made Brownies.....	.10

Menu from Bennet's

EVE'S GIFT SHOP

by Sam Birkett

Name of shop: "Eve's"
Owner: Eva Conrad
Years of operation: ?
Location: Above the Boatyard
on the South Road



Photo-Sam Birkett Collection

In the early 70's my grandmother, Eve Conrad, opened her first gift shop in her shed, which she called the Sugarshack. It was a small space but she made the most of it. She originally wanted to offer things to keep kids busy on rainy days; little trinkets, toy boats, coloring books. She also had a large scale hanging in the corner of the shed to weigh the vegetables she sold which she grew in her garden. A few years later her brother Ted Harper bought a house up the hill on South Road, next to his own house, and let her move the gift shop into it to have the larger space. She then had two large rooms and it was at that point that she renamed the gift shop "Eve's Gift Shop". Now she had space for t-shirts and sweatshirts, antiques, candy, basic hardware items and some home made crafts...she really had quite a variety of inventory!

When she moved the shop she still sold vegetables from her front porch at home in the evenings.

Eva especially appreciated her youngest customers and made sure that if the pile of change they brought didn't add up to enough for their father or mothers day present, that they still walked away with something special wrapped. I loved to help her and remember as I got older how excited I

was when she let me run the cash register for the first time and then even go to the trade show in Portland to help choose the inventory for the following season.

What amazes me still until today was how she did it all. She ran the gift shop, kept an amazing garden, a tidy house, was a remarkable cook and still had time to play cards in the evenings with family and friends around the table. She was the best Nana I could ever imagine!



Photo-Sam Birkett Collection

Eva Conrad

PEGGIE'S PLACE

by Peggie Jones

Name of shop: "Peggie's Place"
Owner: Peggie Jones
Years of operation: 1985-1995
Location: Next to my house in the red barn. Now 403 South Road.

The story behind the name is that I had asked my fellow volunteers at the library if they had any suggestions for a name. I got everything from "Windjammer" to "Sea Breezes". Then Martha Hamilton quietly said, "It doesn't matter what you call it. Someone is going to ask where somebody got something and they will say "At Peggie's Place". So the name was born!

I had heard that Eve Conrad was going to retire and shut her shop. I decided I would like to have a shop that offered more than souvenir tee shirts and sweatshirts. I wanted to also offer things not readily available like nice cards, giftwrap (before Sally Foster arrived on the island), books for kids as well as adults, and fun things as well as a nice selection of gift items. It was nerve wracking every year to purchase the new sweatshirts and tee shirts for the shop. I always felt it was a big gamble to guess what people would be willing to buy. One of my favorite things was taking island crafts on a low commission. These were extremely well received by people and it was a great outlet for the crafters too. I sold different types of jewelry, but Gail Miller's hand crafted jewelry was the most popular.

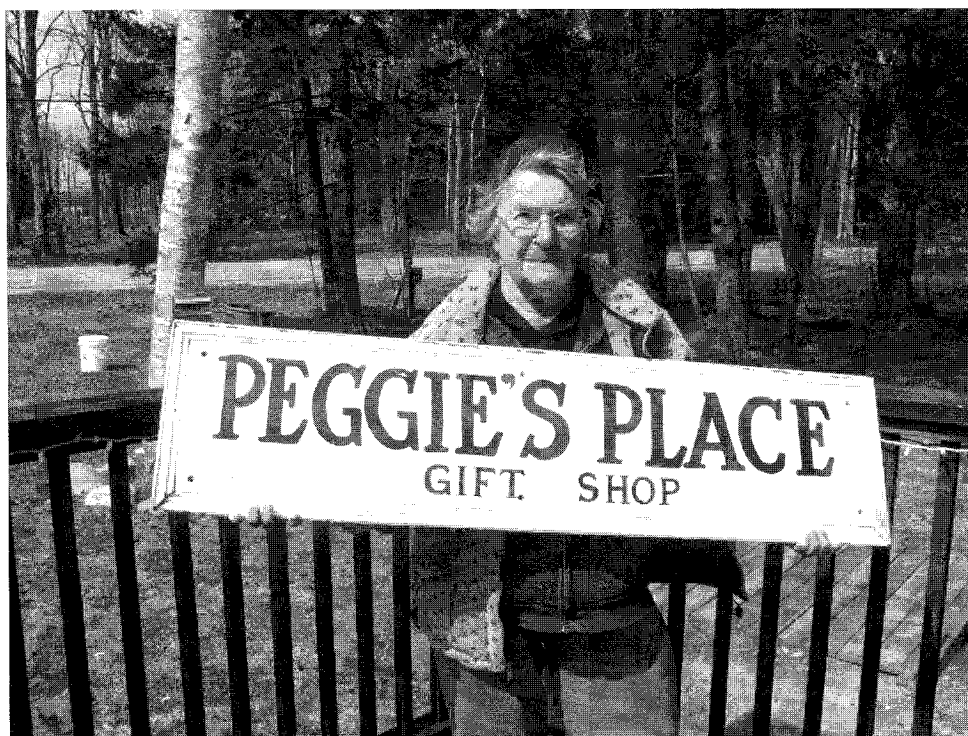
One of the most popular things I offered was the penny candy and the old-fashioned candy sticks. I had old-fashioned printed paper bags for them to put their penny candies in. The kids loved the treats and it was great to listen to their chatter while choosing their favorites. I had children's puzzles as well as children's books. There was a little girl who loved to visit the shop. She would come in and sit on the floor and do a puzzle or read a book or two and then go on her way. In the later years I got a small refrigerator so people could have a cold drink, especially after having walked or ridden a bike up our hill.

*Peggie's barn.
The location of her
former shop.*



The one story I remember most vividly was when I was on the phone with a supplier with my back to the open door. All of a sudden I could feel that I was being watched, so I turned and there was a humongous (to me) snake coiled on my top step staring at me. I quietly came and around the counter and then slammed the door. The snake stayed. Shortly after, a car drove in. It was Pam Curran with her sister and mother. I was frantically waving at them to warn them about the snake before they got to the stairs. Their reactions scared the snake away! I bought an air conditioner for the shop shortly after that and did not leave the door open very often.

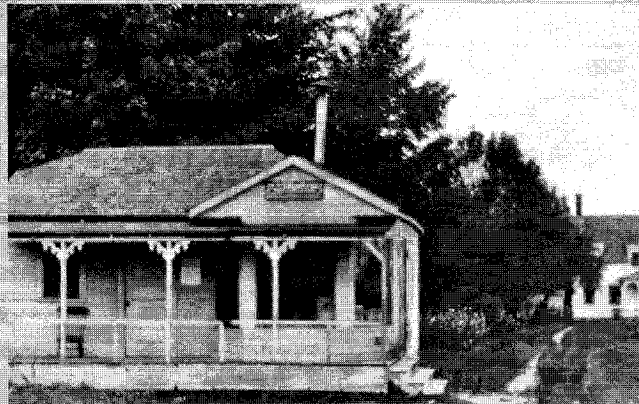
I loved having the gift shop, but after being open seven days a week for ten years, I was beginning to think of “retiring”. Then my first grandchild was born and the family came to visit. I realized I wouldn’t be able to have any quality time with him if I was still running the shop. The family could only visit in the summer, since both parents were teachers. So the decision was made and Beverly Johnson started the Cobbler Shop the next year. One of the neatest things was that I had bought Gladys Bennett’s glass counter that she had had in her store. When I closed, Beverly bought the counter to continue the tradition and then Bea Pettit had it in her shop. The large mahogany and glass counter was donated to the historical society, so parts of the shop still live on.



*Martha O. with the
sign she made for
Peggie Jones*

Photos-Carhy MacNeil

THE FIRST COBBLER SHOP



Above: Ambrose Hamilton at the door of the first "Cobbler Shop". Ambrose was a real cobbler. He also sold sneakers and candy to a lot of island children in the late 19th and early 20th century. Notice the Keds sign in the background.

Left: The original "Cobbler Shop". Before it was moved just a little.

Photos-Bea Petrit Collection

COBBLER SHOP TWO

by Beverly Johnson

Name of Shop: "Cobbler Shop"
 Owner: Beverly Johnson and Becca Rich
 Years of operation: 1994-1997
 Location: 109 North Road

I started this business as an investment and hobby opportunity when I saw that the Trower house and the accompanying small building were for sale by the David and Ann. I knew that the little building on the property had been a cobbler's shop at the beginning of the 20th century. As Peggie Jones was closing Peggie's Place, I thought it would be fun to fix up the small building and make a gift shop.

Doug Ross helped with the rebuilding and lots of family members helped out too: brother Glenn, his wife, Nancy, and their daughter, Katie; sister Charlotte's children, Ben and Adam; sister Nancy's daughter, Mandy. My niece Becca Rich also worked with me to get the store fixed up and operating and was with me while in college.

I sold all kinds of things similar to what Peggie sold and bought her left over inventory. I had fun doing consignments and show casing islanders' creative works.

Right: Bev Johnson doing some shingling.

Far right: The sign which Bev had made for her shop.



Photo-Bev Johnson Collection

COBBLER SHOP THREE

by Bea Pettit as told to Barbara Hamilton

Name of shop: "Cobbler Shop"
Owner: Bea Pettit
Years of operation: 1997-2008
Location: 109 North Road

Beverly Johnson established the Cobbler's Place- Bed and Breakfast and the Gift Shop. Master plumber, artist, frequent volunteer, shop owner, Bev's life had to slow down temporarily when she adopted two siblings from Russia. The new business took a back-seat to establishing her new family and the property was put on the market.

Being the great granddaughter of Stephen B. Hamilton and Harriet Webber Hamilton of Chebeague, I was ready for a change and a return to the island and decided to buy the property located at 109 North Road on the spot.

With no previous retail experience and with only the encouragement of family and friends, my daughter, Brooke, and I kept the shop open for the summer of 1997. "I guess I decided to give it a try because the building was there. Also if there was one skill I had acquired living on Long Island, NY it was how to shop. That first summer the inventory was limited, but we enjoyed the new adventure filling people's needs for all things 'Chebeague.'"

Top sellers were t-shirts, hooded sweat-shirts, jackets, and hats, all bearing the Chebeague Island logo. One senior island resident said sternly to me, "Make sure you don't put 'Maine' on the logos. Confused, I responded, "Why not?" "Because the senior said, "We'll be invaded!"

Being able to walk or ride your bike to the Cobbler Shop without parents was a privilege most children waited for with anticipation. On arrival the little customers made a beeline for the toy counter where inexpensive stuffed animals, wooden boat kits, plastic lobsters, as well as Swedish Fish, Tootsie Pops, Nerd Rope, and chocolate beach "rocks" found their way home in the pockets of the pint-sized shoppers.

Grownups bought Chebeague mugs, etched glassware, candles, jewelry, Christmas ornaments, nautical notes, magnets, Chebeague Island bumper stickers, shot glasses, key chains, and greeting cards. Local artists sold watercolors, photos, original cards and postcards, balsam pillows, and carved sea birds.

There were many very enthusiastic and charming helpers who would visit me and help by hanging displays outside or bringing them inside according to the time of day. Many days you would find youngsters sweeping the deck or bringing in the

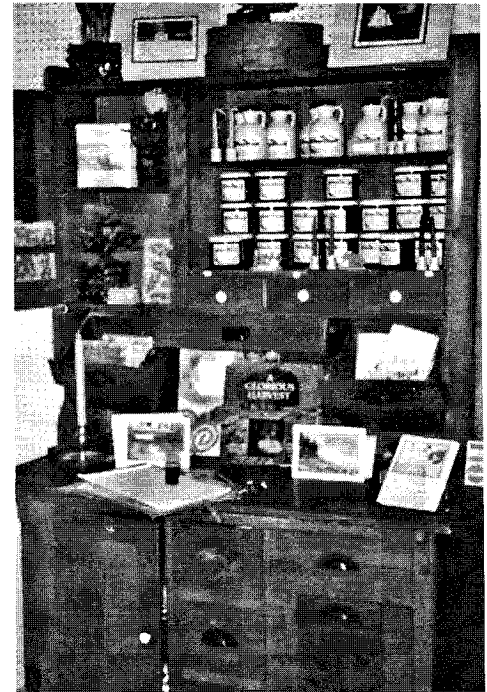


Photo-Bea Pettit Collection

Merchandise on display inside the Cobbler Shop

flag at closing time. Michael Green, Kerry Wessel, Amanda Campbell, Alyssa Hamilton, and Anna Maine were just a few. A free candy bar or discounted toy was a treat for them. My most pleasant memories of the shop have been watching the children grow into young adults and knowing they too have fond memories of summers spent at the Cobbler Shop.

After running the shop for ten years and dealing with health issues, I closed the shop. Often I miss seeing the visitors and islanders who stopped at the shop, but I am grateful for their past visits which made the store so successful and such a pleasure to operate.

I remember one especially funny incident: "Once a customer's car broke down in my parking area, frantic she insisted I call a local. Making the call I explained that my customer was leaving the next day and wanted something done now. Slow and sure the reply came, 'Just stah-ted a pay per view, not going anywhe-ah.' Abruptly she learned we were on island time and it would have to wait until Monday."

My favorite moment was: "A small boy came in the shop alone and spent quite some time checking everything out. He stopped at the cash register and said sweetly, 'You have a nice store, lady!' That made my day."

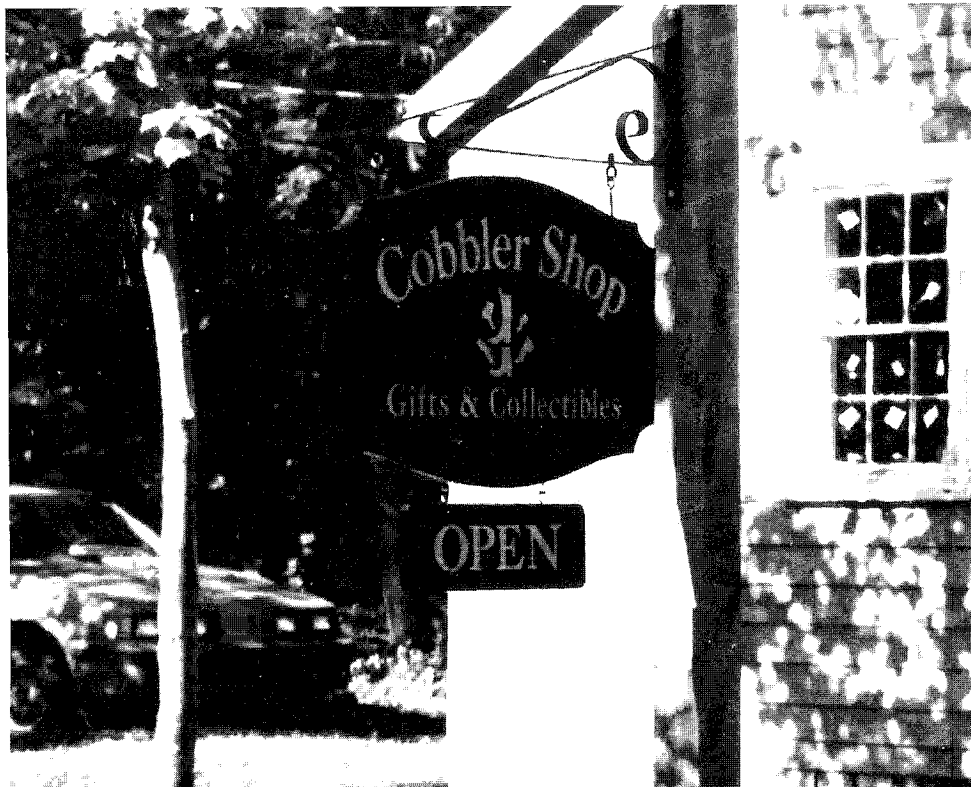


Photo-Bev Johnson Collection

ARTISANS ICEHOUSE

by Vicki Todd

Name of shop: Artisans Icehouse

Owner: Vicki Todd

Years of operation: 2001-2004

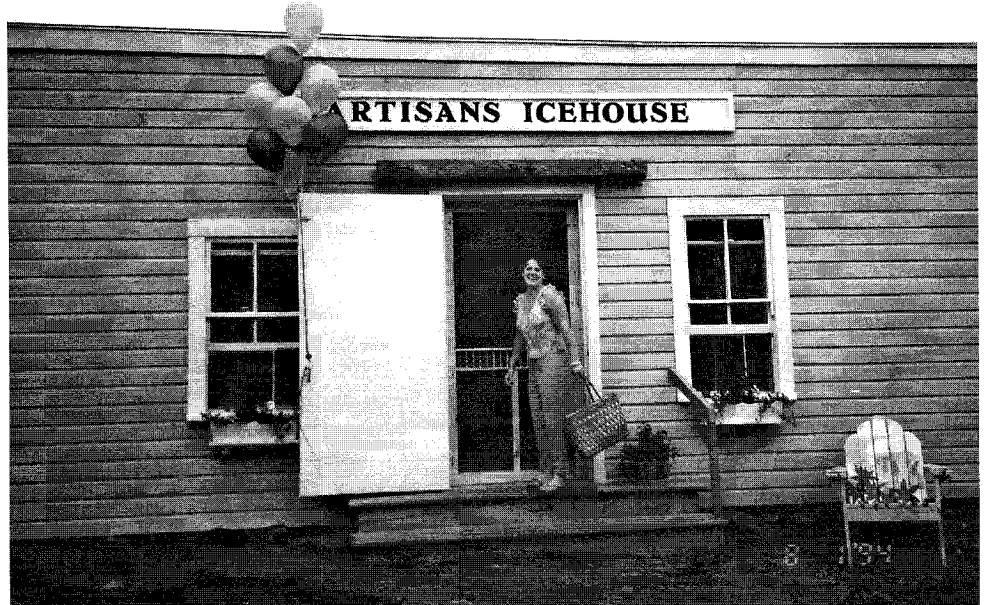
Location: Ken and Jeanette Hamilton's yard on the corner of the South and Firehouse Roads.

This shed was originally built on Mansfield property and used for the storage of blocks of Chebeague ice. Ken Hamilton remembers that the structure as had several other uses- one being the home for a family cow.

I started the business because I wanted a consignment store where island artist could sell their work.

I sold Chebeague made artwork, toys and jewelry I also sold other maine made products and gift items.

My favorite memory is of Cameron sleeping in his "pack and play" when he was a baby in the 2003 season and selling family and other artist work.



ISLAND RICHES

by Florence Rich

Name of gift shop: Island Riches
Owner: Herb and Florence Rich
Years of operation: 2005 to present
Location: next to the Chandler's
Cove Wharf

Florence says she started the business because, "I needed a job."

My sons and husband built the shop for me to use as a craft shop. When my youngest daughter, Angel, passed away, it seemed right to turn it into a gift shop. Angel was a great crafter, and this was something that we had always wanted to do. When I first started, most of the West End pushed me to do it and helped by painting and even getting people to come to the shop. It was some funny seeing a person (I won't say who.) Trying to get people off the Casco Bay Line to come to the shop at the top of the hill.

Island Riches has T-shirts, sweatshirts, handcrafted items, and items on consignment from Chebeague artisans. A real specialty is the jewelry made by Herb from silver flat ware. Florence sells this on E-bay as well as at the shop. She also provides a place for islanders to buy their plants and flowers for Memorial Day and through the summer.



*Florence Rich
at her shop.*

Photos-Carhy MacNeil

THE NIBLIC

by Jen Belesca

Name of Shop: The Niblic

Owner: Chebeague Island Boat Yard LLC

Years of Operation: June 2008 to present

Location: 24 Niblic Circle at the

Chebeague Island Boat Yard

The Chebeague Island Boat Yard provided temporary accommodation for the Post Office in 2006 while planning efforts continued with the Postal Service to create a new, permanent facility at the boat yard. In 2007, a building was designed and constructed that provided a home for the Post Office as well as office space, bathrooms, and the chance to create a new retail space.

The Niblic wanted to provide an opportunity to display local art & crafted works by island residences as well as Maine made gifts & wares. Vicki Todd was initially hired to manage the store and her experience with the Ice House gift store a few years earlier was very important. The collaborative effort by Vicki and Jen Belesca created a team that operated the store,

selected the artisans, and did a lot of the behind the scenes work such as placing orders & designing the clothing. They teamed up with Coffee By Design & owner Mary Allen Lindeman to provide “the best coffee in the bay”. The store has grown to add soup, sandwiches, & baked goods. They pack a lot into a small space, which includes but not limited to: jewelry, pottery, clothing, toys, books, bags, beer, wine, & soda. The saying ‘marine essentials & island necessities’ has stuck and each year they try to add something new to keep things current & appealing.

With Vicki’s departure in 2012, Jen now manages the store with the invaluable office support of Shannon Smith and a great team of summer employees. The Niblic is currently

open from mid-May to Columbus Day weekend.

Though often asked if the store was named after the golf club, “The Niblic” was actually chosen because it was the old, original name or local island reference to the beach and the field in the area. Long time residents may remember that at one time, the name was painted in large letters on the roof of the old tin shed. The Chebeague Island Boat Yard continues to expand and grow, striving to become a destination for boating enthusiasts cruising Casco Bay. The Niblic is an important part of their success and a tremendous incentive to get people to stop by & visit Chebeague.

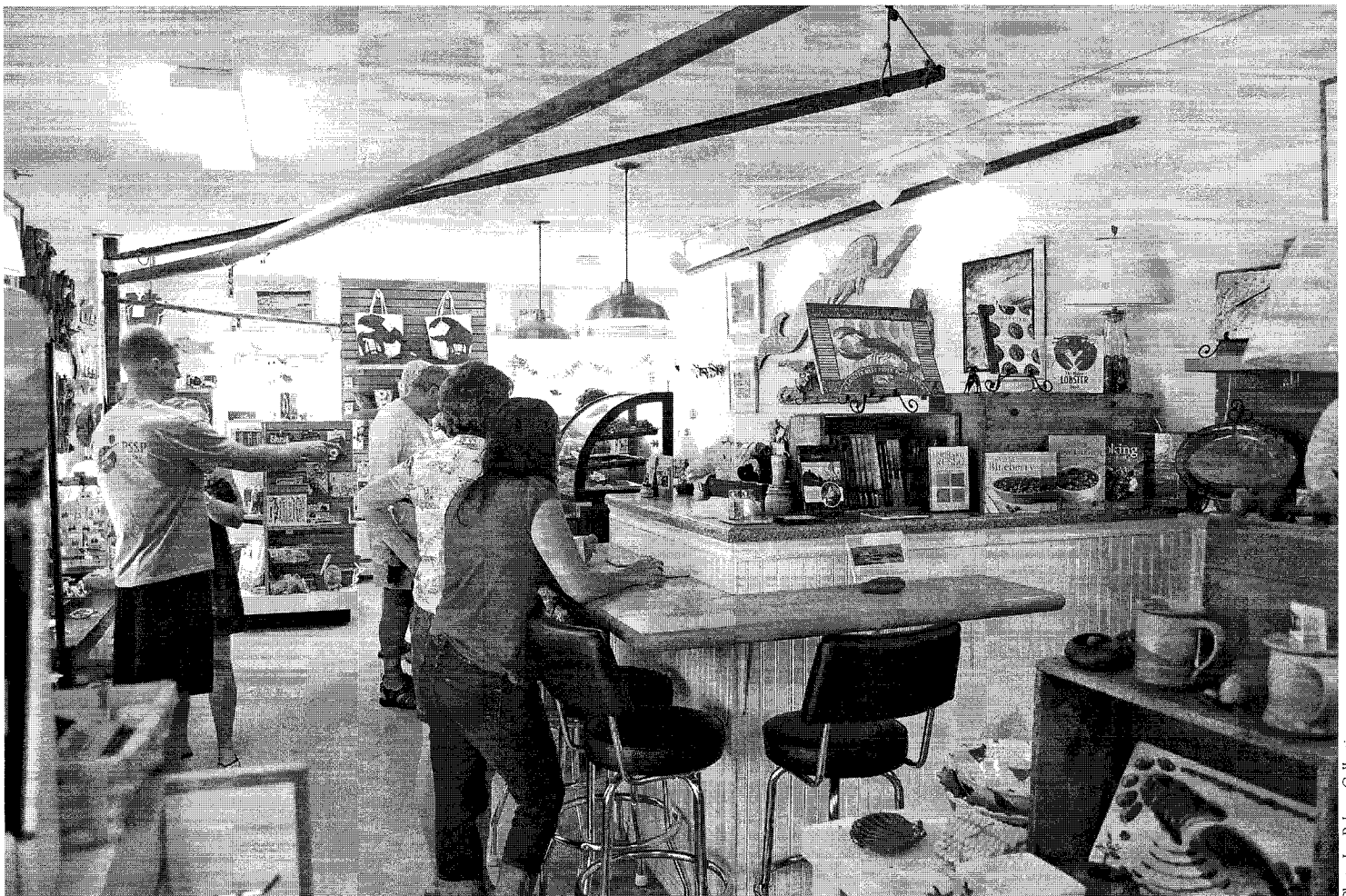


Photo: Jen Belesca Collection

MUSEUM OF CHEBEAGUE HISTORY GIFT SHOP

by Donna Miler Damon

Name of Shop: The Museum of
Chebeague History Gift Shop

Owner: C.I.H.S

Years of Operation: 2003 to present

Location: Corner of South and North
Roads at the "Green A"

The Museum of Chebeague History opened in the summer of 2003. During the first few years volunteers welcomed patrons and sold a few magnets and throws. Over time the Museum and Gift Shop operation grew as the community discovered and enjoyed the quality and content of exhibits. The gift shop is important to the financial stability of the Chebeague Island Historical Society. The proceeds help the CIHS maintain its historic building and preserve Chebeague's artifacts and archival materials.

In 2005 the CIHS hired Sarah Brown as its first summer intern. With regular staff and expanded hours it made sense to stock more merchandise. Tee shirts, books, pottery, glasses, mugs, aprons, and hats have been popular. Several years ago the merchandise committee, under the able leadership of Barbara Hamilton and Mimi Moulton attended the New England Gift Show in Portland where they were able to find vendors who were willing to sell custom products in small lots, which is an important consideration for a small operation. We try to relate the merchandise to Chebeague, Maine, and the maritime world. Last year the gift shop added wind chimes that sound like bell buoys. The merchandise committee welcomes suggestions. Call if you have ideas!

In addition to Sarah Brown, Carly Knight, Robbie Visintin, Eli Bossin, Conrad Birkett, and Cayle Shumacher have worked at the Gift Shop. Volunteers have also contributed greatly to the operation, and Jackie Cross spent many Sunday afternoons behind the counter at the gift shop.

Milo Matrazzo is the current merchandise chair, and Conrad and Cayle will be back this summer. The shop will open prior to July 4th. Come in and see the new exhibit and check out the CIHS Gift Shop. Something is always on sale!



Photo-CIHS Collection



The Sloop's log
Chebeague Island Historical Society
P.O. Box 28
Chebeague Island, ME 04017

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Newsletter
of the
Chebeague
Island
Historical
Society

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Issue

**Mystery
Photo**

Can you identify
this large house and barn?

Send us a note or e-mail

HISTORY@CHEBEAGUE.NET

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