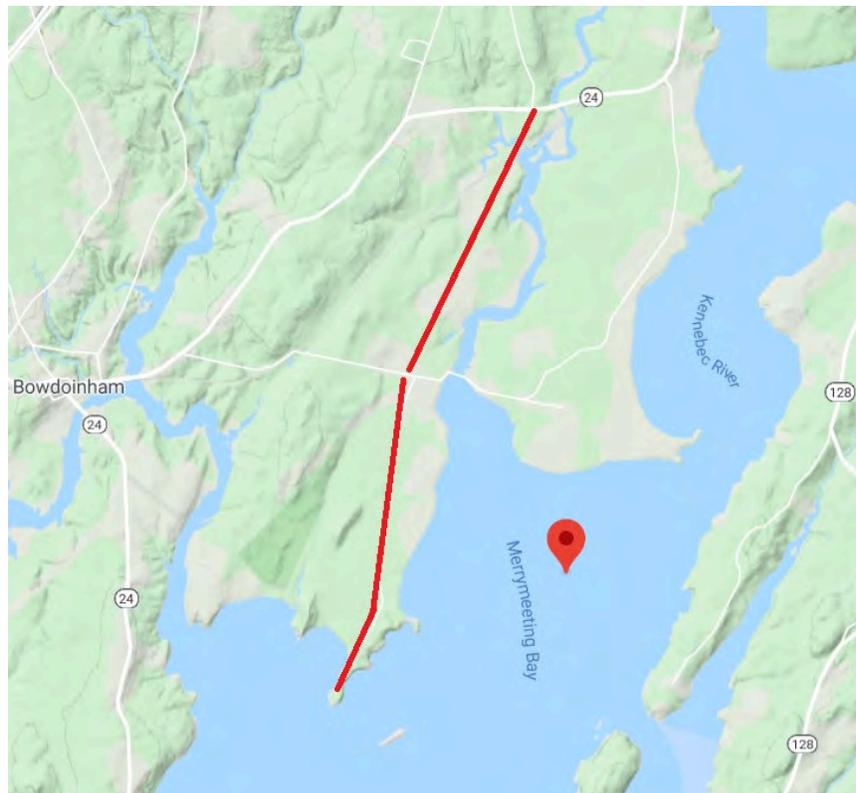


# A History of Settlement Along Abbagadasset Road in Bowdoinham, Maine (From Centers Pt. to Hall's Corner)

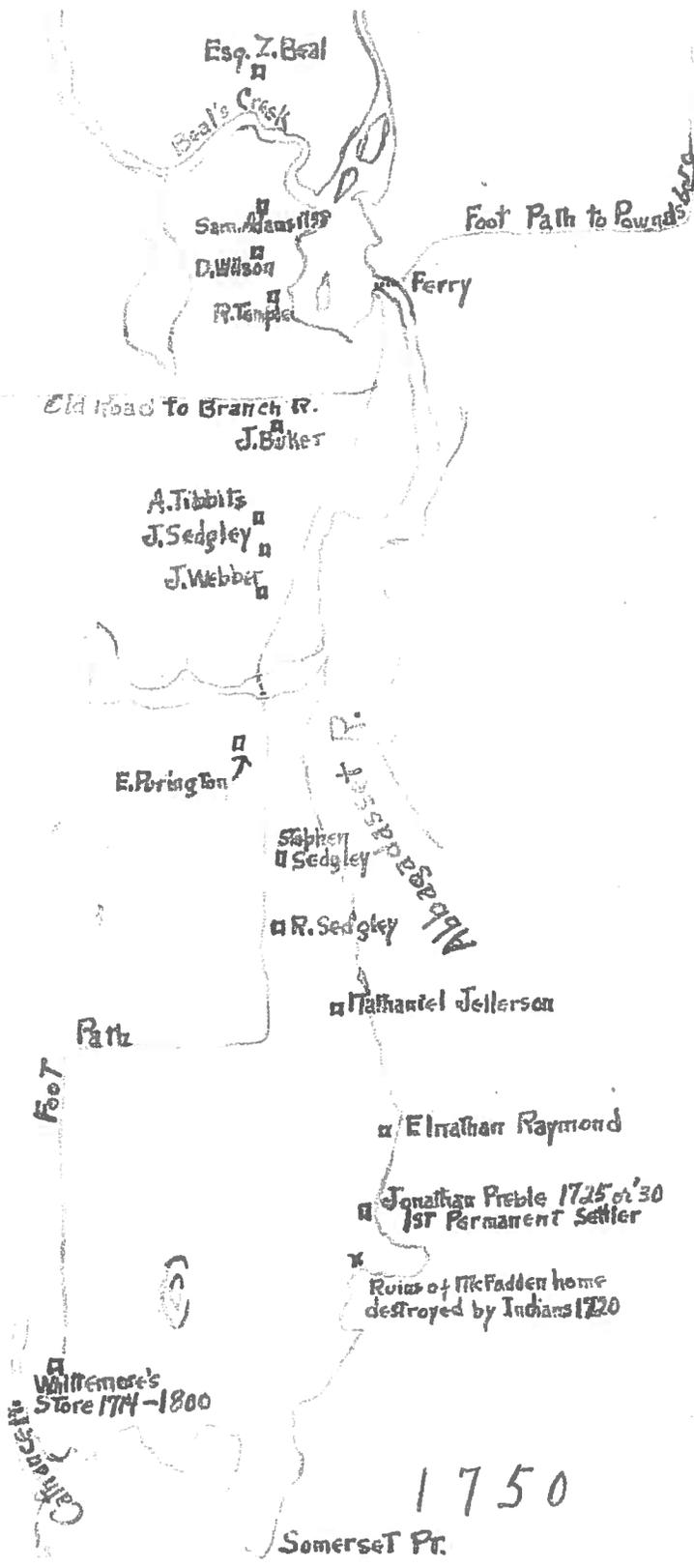
Minerva Dunlap, 1982



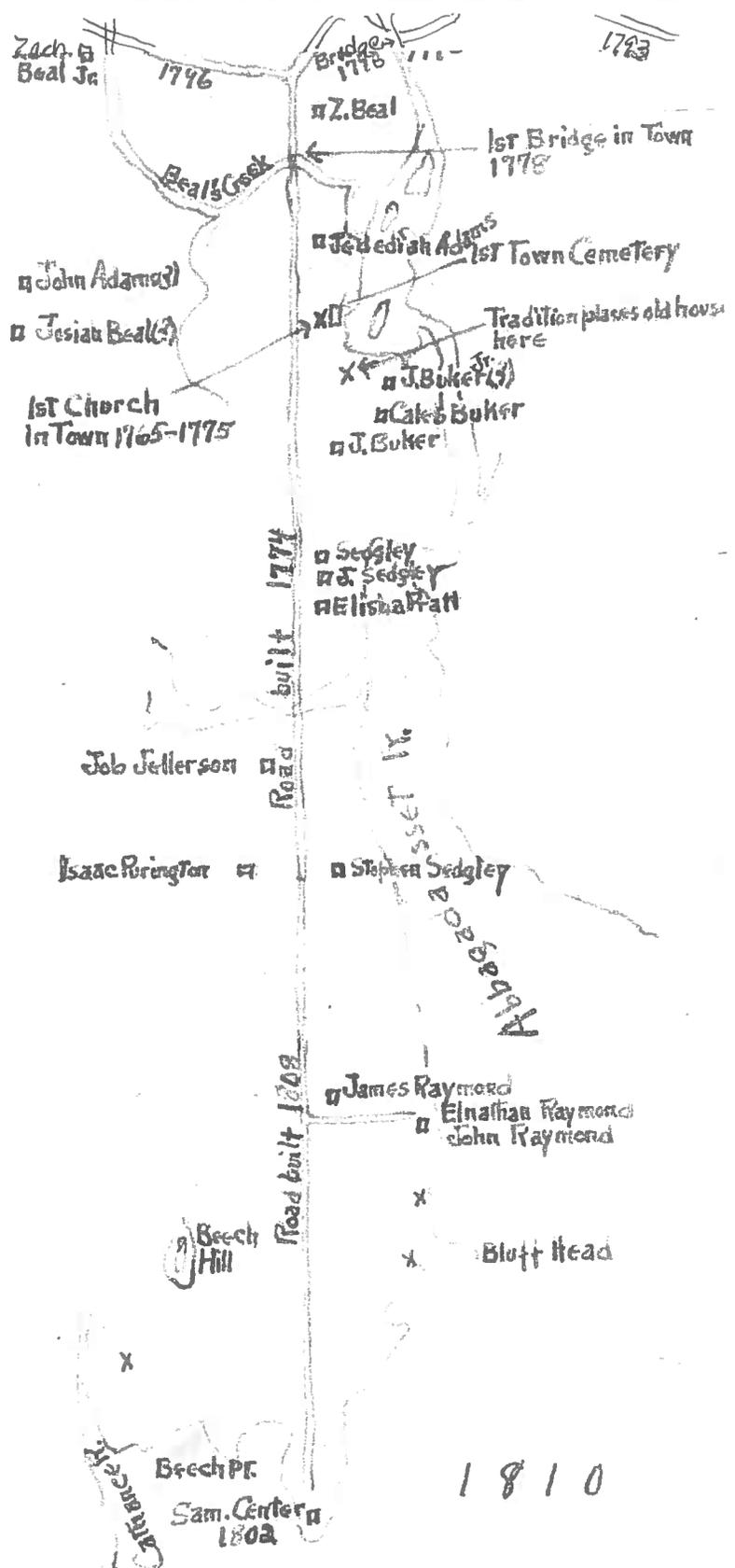


George Sproule, 1772

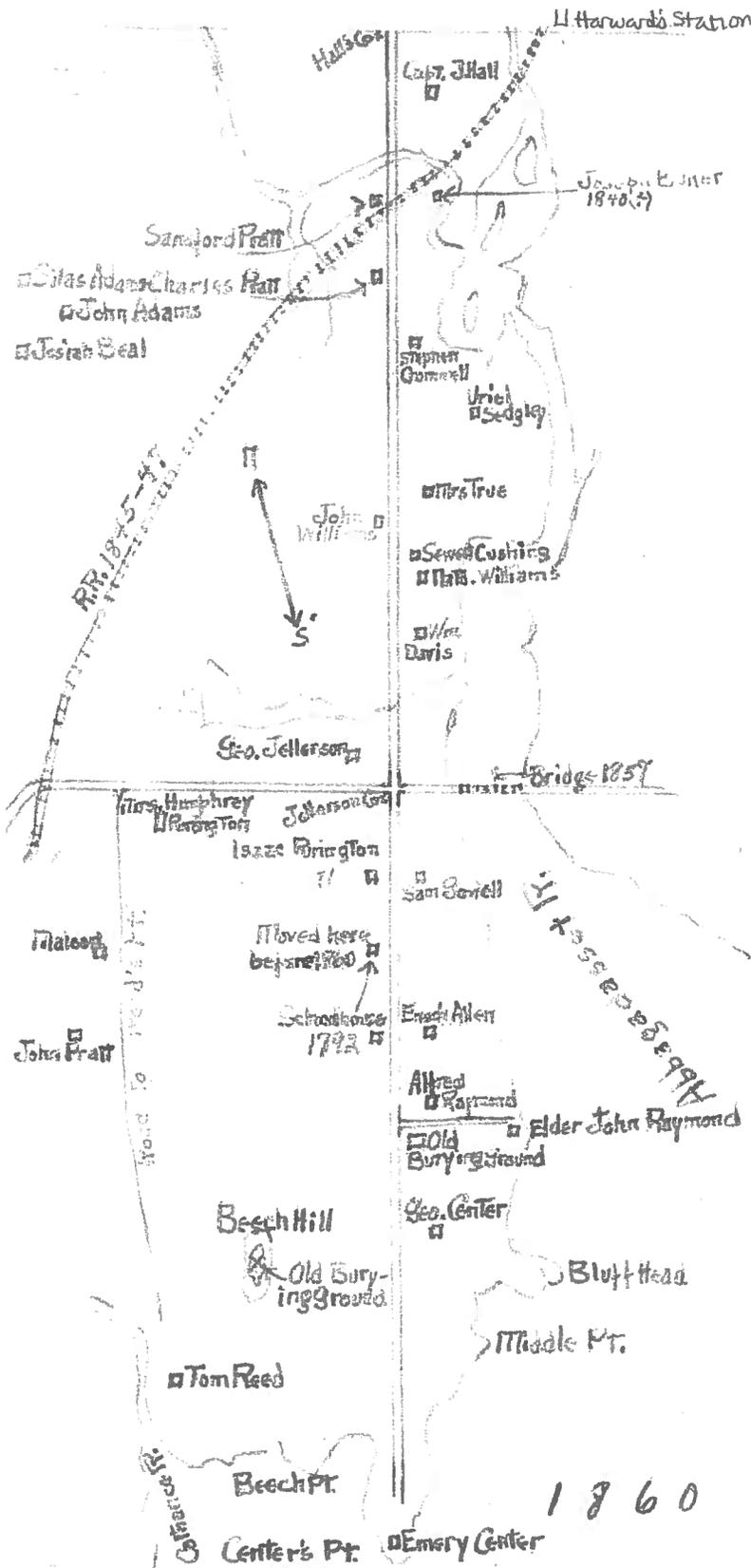
(early settlement along west side of Abbagadasset River where road was later built)



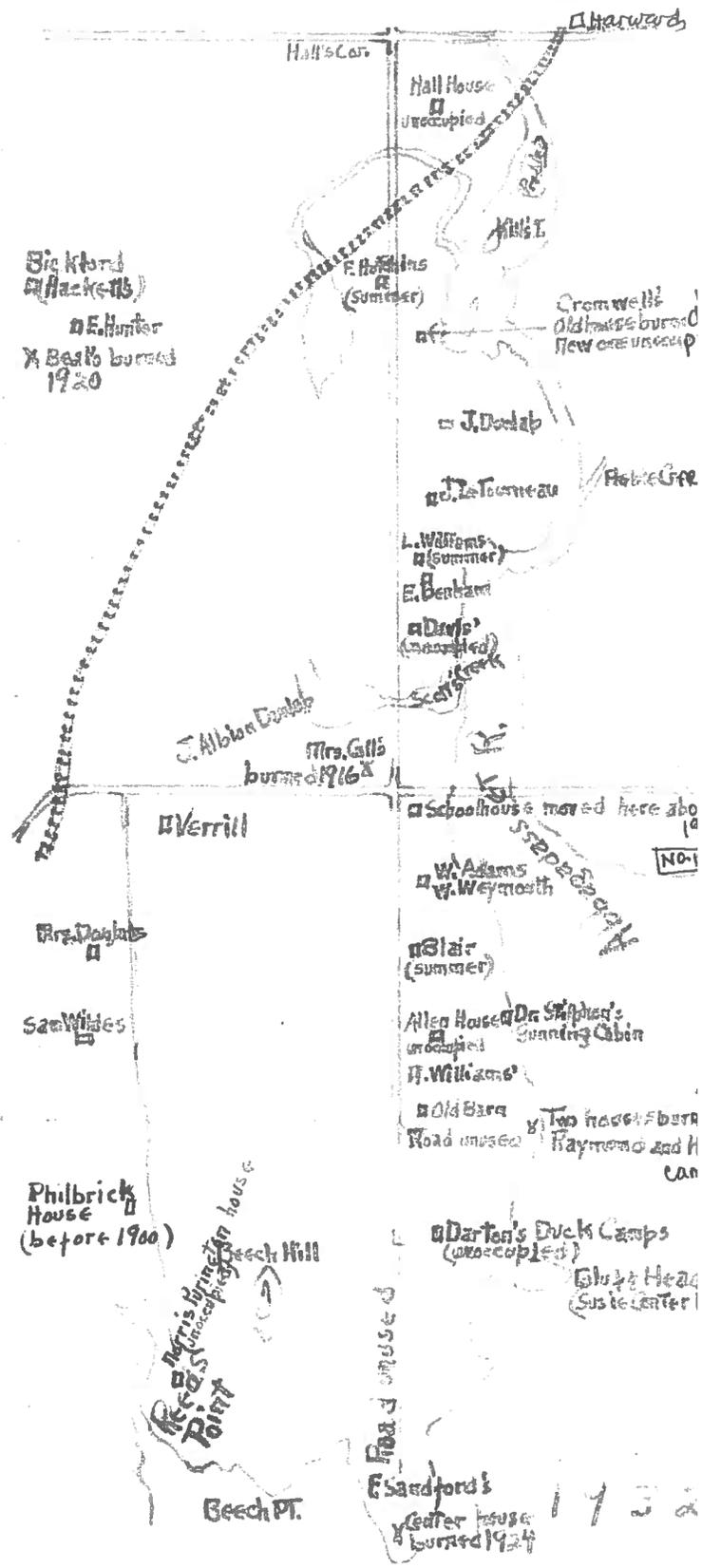
Abbagadasset Road  
Hall's Corner to Center's Pt.  
about 1750



The Same  
about 1810



Abbagadasset Road from Hall's Corner to Center's Mt. about 1860



The Same 1932

## THE ABBAGADASSET ROAD

(from Center's Point to Hall's Corner)

by Minerva Dunlap

The following is an attempt to make some record of the families that have settled along the Abbagadasset Road from Center's Point to Hall's Corner, and to note the material changes that have been brought about in this neighborhood since the first settlement by white people.

Although free use has been made of Silas Adams' Town History, Especially in regard to the early history of the section, yet the bulk of the material has been supplied by my mother who has lived on this road over seventy years, whose father lived here from 1840 on, and whose grandmother coming from the Town of Bowdoin settled on this road about 1835. My father, also, has been well acquainted with the inhabitants of this part of town since 1870 and because of a good memory for names and facts, has rendered much assistance. Other older inhabitants have also contributed much important data.

Silas Adams, the town historian, was born and raised within half a mile of the Abbagadasset Road. His father, "Uncle Johnny", was well known by the residents of this section. He had an exceptionally good memory and, it is said, could repeat agenda of town meeting or Church services attended years before as though reading from minutes. It is more probable that Silas' old grandfather was born on this road, near or on the Cromwell Farm and that his great grandfather was the Samuel Adams who settled in that same place about 1738, one of the very first settlers in the Town of Bowdoinham. "Uncle Johnny" Adams lived in the house afterward owned by Frank Hall, and at present by Ernest Hunter. Silas lived on the Hackett farm which is now in the possession of Mr. Bickford. No doubt Silas profited from his father's good memory as he wrote his history, and thus secured for us many facts concerning the early settlement of this part of town which would have otherwise been lost.

Two other interesting citizens observed the changes along this road during the Nineteenth Century, men whose combined ages would very nearly reach the 200 year mark, from whom the present inhabitants received many stories and traditions of the preceding century and a half. They were "Uncle" Charles Pratt, who lived on this section of the road all his life; and "Uncle" Eben Lancaster, whose home was a short distance above Hall's Corner. In neighborhood discourse, "Uncle" Charles, or "Uncle" Eben used to tell, were frequent prefaces for over forty years. If their wealth of information concerning the population from the middle of the eighteenth century to the middle of the nineteenth century could have been transcribed, many a hiatus in our present record would be eliminated and many an uncertainty resolved. However, we are grateful to them for all they passed on by word of mouth.

### CENTER'S POINT

Samuel Center settled here in 1802. Emery Center was living in the same place when grandfather came here in the forties, and was about fifty years of age then, so it is safe to assume that Emery was the son of Samuel Center. Another son was George Center, who lived on the adjacent farm. Emery's wife was a Sedgeley, sister of the father to the Emery Sedgeley who lived at the village, and a sister of Joseph Sedgeley, who lived on the Nathaniel William place before grandfather came there.

#### Emery's children:

Daughter Serena, Married Mr. Bailey  
Children, Fred  
Lila, married William Brookman  
Children, William  
Ralph  
Eliza, married Mr. Clark-1  
Children, Annie  
Augusta  
Ruth, married John Welch  
children, Charles  
(Charles Married Alice Gowell, dtr. of Albert T. Gowell,  
who lived where Mrs. Douglas lives now)  
Children, Mina, married Perley Clark  
no children  
Hannah, unmarried  
Emery  
Susie, married Mr. Davis (Calif.) both old when  
Rachel, died about 40, unm., lived at home.

The old house was roomy, large, a two story affair that burned in 1920. Susie sold out to Sanford of Shiloh; place now owned by John Sanford.

Emery married a Miss Geal, lived in the southeast room of the old house downstairs; moved to Bowdoinham village and built a home on Main Street, near that of Doctor Irish. Emery had two children; Minnie, married Ed Warren

The wife of Emery Center Sr, died when Rachel was small and her sister Ruth Sedgeley, took care of the children.

When Susie (susan Love) sold the farm she retained Bluff Head. Just south of Bluff Head, following the shore, is at present a small clearing bordered by apple trees and woods, at the highest point of which is a curious depression grown up with raspberry vines and weeds, and fast filling up with rocks and soil. It has every appearance of having been, many years ago, a cellar. I am convinced that this is the same cellar which Samuel Center told of finding when he moved here in 1802. He reported a tree several inches in diameter growing out of the center. That was known to be the cellar of the Mcfadden house which was probably the first house built on this road. That house was burned by the indians and that family was driven off; about 1720.

### CHICKAHOMINY

On the shore a little north of Bluff Head there are remains of an old cellar which "Aunt" Sally Weymouth pointed out to my mother. This was no doubt the site of the home of the Abbagadasset Road's first permanent settler, Mr. Jonathan Preble, who settled on the west side of the Abbagadasset River about 1725. Records show that there was a Jonathan Jr., but nothing more is known of this Preble Family. The ruins were about East of the present Darton building, and by 1867 only a few scattered bricks were left to mark the place where Aunt Sally said the ancient place stood. The encroachment of the shore line has

converted its location into river flats and all around are alders and swamp grass. George Center was the next occupant of this farm, but he lived in a house that he probably built, nearer the road, afterward occupied by the Welches. George was living on Chickahominy earlier than 1850, probably many years before. George Center was accidentally shot while out gunning, but he managed to drag himself back to the house. His wife had died years before the mishap.

#### George Center's Children

George, m. , went to Lynn, Mass.  
Had two sons  
Maria, m. Elbridge Raymond  
children, John, married Annabelle Brown  
Mary Eliza, Married a Mr. Hutchinson  
no children  
Rebecca(?) called "Bertie", married a Mr. Jewell  
no children  
Joe, married a girl from Lynn, Mass.  
John, married Nellie Beal, niece of Fred Beal, dtr. of Boynton  
no children

Of these children of Center's, Maria was the only one who did not move to Massachusetts. She died when her son was only a baby.

Mary Eliza, after Hutchinson died, married Fred Geal, no children. She sold the place to George Weymouth and moved to Massachusetts. George Weymouth moved here with his wife, Martha Jones Weymouth and his mother and father; "Uncle" Archibald and "Aunt" Sally Weymouth.

Nathaniel Williams and his brother Ira, then owned the place for a number of years. They sold it to Tilden Gould of Wiscasset. His wife and son Edward, with his wife and two children lived here for a few years, then sold it to John Welch of Richmond. John and wife, Ruth Center Welch and son, Charles moved here. Charles married Alice Gowell, daughter of the Gowell who lives where Mrs. Douglass now lives, on the Tom Pratt Road (to Reed's Point). She had two sisters and a brother, Lily, Belinda, and Herman (see Center's Point). Charles Welch sold out to Mr. Darton.

John Welch and daughter Alice died here. Charles and his mother, Ruth, moved away for a while to the Cromwell place, then to Richmond. Ruth died there. Mr. Darton enlarged and improved the buildings and established a gunner's camp for duck hunters. He died in 1931 and Mrs. Darton now owns the place.

#### ELDER RAYMOND FARM (Harvey Campbell's)

The farm north of Chickahominy was settled first by Elnathan Raymond who had a house near the shore where the Harvey Campbell house afterward stood. The old house was burned about 1870, while Campbell was living there. He built the second house on the same spot. The second house burned while Warren Wood was living there, about 1902. Another house was built there subsequently by James Pratt which was burned after Darton came into possession of the farm.

Elder Raymond lived here when grandfather moved onto the road about 1840. Elder John was spoken of as John Jr., and the old Raymond burying ground contains a slab that shows there was another John Raymond, b. 1765, d. 1842; no doubt the son of Elnathan and obviously the father of elder John who was born in 1809, and died in 1862. The latter was prominent in church affairs and held several town offices. His wife, known as "Aunt" Betsey, was Lizzie Coombs, who was born in the house where Sibyl Briry now lives. She was a fine old lady, a great talker with an exceptional memory. Elder Raymond and his wife were buried in the old Raymond Burying Ground in the southeast corner where the old road branches off to Harvey Campbell's.

Elnathan Raymond's children (inference)

John Raymond 1765-1842; voter in 1808

c. Elder John, m. Elisabeth Coombs

c. Ellen, m. George Blair of Woolwich

Marilla m. Harvey Campbell

Charles, Died of starvation in a rebel prison,  
Salisbury, N.C., 24 December, 1864.

Philene, m. Enoch Allen (see Allen Farm)

James, also a voter in 1808

c. James, (see Alfred Raymond Place)

Ellen, with her husband, stayed for awhile on the old place, then went for a few years later to Lynn. Afterward she returned to buy a part of the Gowell Farm where George Blair built his home.

Ellen, m. George Blair, of Woolwich

c. Charlie, m. Virginia Richardson, and lived on the place  
for a number of years. Children born here

c. Eric, m. Ethel Longden

Harold

Gladys, m. Mr. Reddick

c. Norman

Jerry

Barbara Ann

Glenice, m. William Schoen

c. Oscar

Richard

Gretchen

Bessie, died in early teens

Ellen was buried in the yard near Myrick Heath's, as was Bess

Marilla and Harvey stayed on the old home place

c. Carrie Lenora, m. Fred Rackley

c. Harry, m. Winifred Smith

c. Christine

Jessie, m. Arthur Edgecomb

c. Ralph

Fredrick

Dorothy

Charles

Doris, m. Pembroke Edgecomb

c. George

Stanley

Leroy

Marjorie

Carrie and Fred lived on the old place until after some of the children were born, then took Carrie's parents with them and moved to their new house on the Brunswick Road.

Will grover next lived here with his wife and daughter, Gertrude.

After that, it was sold to Warren Wood, who lived here a few years, then sold to James Pratt, afterward to Darton.

#### ALFRED RAYMOND PLACE

North of the Elder Raymond place, James Raymond had settled previous to 1840. The children of James Raymond:

Benjamin, went away, never again heard from.

Alden, m. Miss Call

Alden, m. Miss Call(Continued)

no children

Alfred, m. Margaret Cobb, sister of John Cobb

James R., m.

c., one son, Alden

Edward, m. (1st) Miss Call, (2nd) Adelaide Curtis

Elbridge, m. (1st) Maria Center, (2nd) Lydia Ella Buke

Elmirs, m. Capt. Dan Preble (Harvey Preble Farm)

Melinda, m. Charles Call

c. Lavina, m. Mr. Lumas

Ada, m. Scott Stilphen

c. Alfred

Alden

Alice

another girl

Elmirs, m. Higgins

no children

Alden went to California and died there when he was still a young man

Emma, unmarried

Emeline, m. (1st) Call

no children

m. (2nd) John Totman of Richmond

c. John Jr., m. Martha Babbidge

c. Marjorie, m. Perkins

c. Martha

Thad, m. Gladys Whitten

two children, both died

Lena, m. Milton Baker

c. John, m. Edith Lane

c. John

Pauline

Stanley

Arabelle, m. Ira Williams, brother of Nathaniel

Susan, unmarried

Alfred remained on the home place. The house was on the west side of the Abbagadasset, just nothecf the cross road to Harvey Campbell's. His children were: Mary, died young, a twin of Susanna

Susanna, m. John Runnell; lived on the cross road between Will dinsmore's and Pearl Card's, later moved to the village.

c. Gertrude, m. Ed Graves

Charles (Honey)

Amanda, m. Frank Hall, lived on the Johnny Adams place

c. Martin, died at about 12.

Wilbar, m. Marian Peters, lived in Topsham

c. Frank

Samuel G. Cogh,unmarried, lived on the home farm alone for years. Sold out to Mr. Darton, became town charge, died in 1933.

Lafayette, went out west, never heard from again.

Edward, and Adelaide lived on the Fisher Road

c. Mary, unmarried

Lizzie, m. Willard Blake

c. John, m. ?

Curtis

Raymond, died

Vinnie, m. ?

c. Willard

Edward was asked once to spell "pitchwood," by his teacher in school. He answered, "l,n,t,, pitch, o,r,r, wood,... pitchwood!" His second wife was rather hard on him. One afternoon when he was making a call he was given some shad for to take home with him. He made the remark that now he would have some good fried shad for supper. His wife rejoined him, "all the fried shad he'll get for supper won't hurt him a bit!"

Arabelle and Ira lived on the Amasa Williams place, where Ira built the house that is now standing.

c. Nancy, m. Augustus Stimpf, of Dresden.

c. Mable, m. Doe

c. Cleora

Lily, died at the age of one year.

Bertha, m. McDonald

c. Lyle

Arthur, m. Carrie Berry

c. Norman

Elnor

Charlie, m. Fanny Hope

Edgar, m. Lily --

c. Norris

Ethel, m. John Dickson

c. Kenneth (and a girl)

Walter, m. Bessie Green

c. Myrtle

Wesley, m. Amanda Buker, a cousin  
no children

Delphina, died when about 7 years old.

The first two children were born on this place, then Arabelle and Ira moved across the river onto the farm now owned by Wesley Williams. There was then an old house located east of the present stand, called the Wiggie house. It was built in much the same style as Myrick Heath's. As the bridge over the lower Abbagadasset was not built until some years after they moved to the east side of the river, they had to be ferried across whenever they came over. Ira was instrumental in getting the bridge built and helped in actual construction. Wesley was about three when it was built in 1857. Ira and Arabelle lived over there and Ira died before the new house was built. Wesley built the present stand; Ira and Arabelle were buried in the cemetery near Myrick Heath's,

Elbridge, m. 1st Maria Center

c. John m. Annie Belle Brown

" m. 2nd Lydia Ella Buker

c. Alvin m. Emma Briry

c. Pearl

Gladys

William m. Miss Sloan, graduate of Bates

Doris

Emma Belle m. Fred Townshend

Frances m. Harry Hawkes

c. Raymond m. Bernice Stimpson

Elmer m. Miss Wear

c. Elmer Wesley

Annie Lou, unmarried  
Horace, m. Melvina Williams  
C. Shirley  
another girl that died young.

Elbridge and Ella first lived in the Beehive at the village, then for a while in the Bob Sedgeley house on Clay Hill, then moved to a part of the old Coombs Estate. (the Annie Raymond farm).

Susan R. lived at the Curtises below the village with Edward's wife's brothers and father. It was said the brothers both wanted to marry her. She said she liked one as well as the other, so she wouldn't marry either.

Elmira, m. Capt. Preble (Daniel) lived on the East bank of the Abbagadasset River. (the Harvey Preble place).

c. Charles, m. Susie Curtis  
c. Attie Emma, m. F. Brown, Lawrence, Mass.  
no children

William H., enlisted 1862- Co. F, 24th Maine- went to La, discharged 1863. Drowned at Abbagadasset Bridge, 1867.

Emma, m. Harvey Preble, a cousin. Lived on the Capt. Preble (Daniel) place.

c. Allie, m. Alice Pratt  
c. Viola  
Willie, m. Inez Nelson, Mass.  
no children

Allie died in Insane hospital.

#### THE ALLEN FARM

This farm may have been purchased from Nathaniel Jellerson, who was living near the river about 1750 or before. Enoch Allen, who married Phile Raymond, lived in the old house still standing. Enoch used to go off for years at a time, no one knew where, leaving his wife and children, then he would come back for a while.

Philene, m. Enoch Allen  
c. Winifred  
James  
Peter Cooper (Loring)  
Mary  
John, died of Typhoid Fever when a young man.

Winfield, m. Nancy Cooper of Pittston  
c. Annie, m. Warren Wood

c. Annie Ada, died when about 15 yearsold.

Warren Wood and family lived on Harvey Campbell's place for a while.

James, m. Priscilla Pratt, sister of Tom Pratt, daughter of John Pratt of the Pratt Road (to Norris Purington's). They had no children but took Gracie Pratt, a neice, to bring up from her first year. She married Fred Nelson, lived at Bowdoinham village, Richmond and Gardine

Gracie Pratt, m. Fred Nelson  
c. Jay, m. Margaret Douglas  
c. Grace Etta

S

Sara May

Wesley, m. 1st -

no children

Peter Cooper Changed his name to Loring C., He married a Miss Purington, of Bowdoin.

Mary was never married, lived at home until she died. She was very pleasant.

When the schoolhouse was opposite the present Blair house, in my mother's childhood, the children used to go down to the Allen's for their water at noon. Philene was a great story teller and used to entertain them. They had a great well sweep over the well. There was no house then where Blair's is now. The land was then a part of the Gowell Farm. The strip of land on which the schoolhouse stood then, called the Davis Lot, now belong to Nat. Williams. James Allen lived on the place until he was an old man, then moved to Richmond to live with the Nelson's, where he died. The place was sold by Jay Nelson to Dr. Stilphen of Richmond.

### The SCHOOL HOUSE

In 1792, the town voted to build a school house for District No.3, which included the inhabitants of Bowdoinham on the West side of the Abbagadasset to the East side of the Cathance; opposite the old Allen house, on the west side of the road. My mother's oldest sister went to school when the building was in that location. John Raymond built it. meetings were held here by Free Will Baptist and Old School Baptist Church. The Free Will Baptists also held Sunday School there. When my mother was a child, Elder Brice W. Edwards-father of the Chief of Police Edwards- from Brunswick, used to preach in that building. Around 1860, when a new building was made by Elder John Raymond, up the road a ways and across the road from the present Blair house (that wasn't there then however) About 1920 this building was moved to the present location on the corner. As the only other school houses built in this town before that in District No.3 were East of the Abbagadasset on the Kennebec, and none of those are still standing, the school house must be the oldest in the District. (and in the town.)

### THE DAVIS LOT

\* 1910

North of the Allen Farm is a strip of land, stretching from the Abbagadasset River to the Pratt Road, that used to be called the Davis Lot. The School house stood on this lot after the first moving. It was sold to Albert Purington and by his heirs to a Mr. Jack, and by him to L.N. Will:

### THE PURINGTON FARM

One Elihu Purington is given in the Town History as an early settler on this road. About 1750 he was living on the Jellerson Place (Mrs. Call's). An elder Elihu Purington is also given as one of the voters in 1808. as there was no east to west road in those days for a division line, it is reasonable to assume that Elihu or his sons owned the land between the Davis lot on the south and Scott's creek on the north. When grandfather came here, an Isaac Purington owned the land south of the crossroad to the Davis lot and a Capt. Humphrey Purington lived on the Newell Purington Place (Verrill's). Elihu, Isaac and Capt. Humphrey are all buried on the hill south of the Newell Purington house and it is safe to assume that Elder Elihu was the son of Elihu and that Isaac and Capt. Humphrey were the sons of Elder Elihu. The home of Isaac was located on the west side of the road opposite the present Weymouth house. No one seems to know about the Robert and Stephen Sedgeley houses which Silas Adams places near the sites of the present Blair and the Weymouth houses, respectively. No houses were there when my mother was a child, nor did she hear of anything ever having been there. The Purington house stood until a few years ago, when it was either taken down or moved.

It was used by the Gowells for a number of years for a shop.

Elihu Purington at Mrs. Call's before 1750

- c. Elder Elihu Purington 1767-1846, m. Isabella 1757-1833
  - c. Isaac, d. in 1871, m. Rachel, d. in 1846
  - Capt. Humphrey, 1792-1841, m. Rebecca, 1791-1877
  - James, 1800-1821

Isaac and Rachel Purington

- c. Elder Wm. Purington, m. Mary Quint
  - no children
  - Clarissa, m. Ben Whitmore
  - Esther, m. Carlton Lancaster (1st wife)
  - Mary, m. Mr. Cummings

Elder Wm. Purington attended common school summers, got most of his education by the light of a pine pitch knot in the fireplace. He was a fine student of Hebrew and on the Bible. He loved to sing. Preached in the Old School Baptist Churches of North Berwick, Washington, and Hopewell, New Jersey; where he died

Clarissa Whitmore lived on the River Road on the Leon Richardson place

- c. Clara, m. C. Morse
  - c. one boy
  - Will, unmarried, went west.
  - Julia, m. Gallagher
  - Charles, m. Miss Collins
    - c. Eva, m. Dunn
    - Gladys
    - Benjamin
  - Fred
  - George, m. Miss Patterson

Mary was a Spiritualist, wrote books, lived in Brunswick

After Isaac Purington died, the farm was sold to the Gowells. Samuel Gowell lived there for a while and then built on the east side of the road a new house that burned about 1893.

Samuel Gowell and wife

- c. Angeline, m. Cole York, of York and Abel, painters
- Dan, m. Miss Marang
- Albert, m. Miss Cloby (correct to Colby) of Wiscasset
- Alonzo, m. after moving to Litchfield.
- Ellen, unmarried

Daniel lived in the east side of the house, while his father, mother and Ellen had the west side, then moved to the Fisher Road about 1877.

- c. Ella, m. Amasa Williams (see A.W. Place)
- Lincoln, m. Miss Wyman, moved to California.
  - c. Joe
  - Mame, m. Jode Hyde, of Topsham.
    - c. one daughter, died when young.
  - Theresa, m. Wm. Thorpe, of Topsham.
    - no children

Albert and wife

- c. Lillian, m. 1st (staples)
  - 2nd Young
  - no children
- Annie, m. Bickford, a barber-lived in the village.
  - no children
- Alice, m. Charles Welch (see Chickahominy)

Children of Albert and wife- (continued)

c. Linda, m. Bosworth

no children

Herman, m. Miss De Weir, lived in Bath.

Alonzo bought a part of his father's farm and built the house where Blair's now is. This place he sold to Goerge Blair, who built the present place after the old house burned. Alonzo moved to Litchfield. Dan Gowell sold his part of the farm to George Weymouth and wife. The Gowell house was burned after the Weymouth came there and Goerge Weymouth built the present house. The Barn is the old Gowell barn and was shared at one time by Dan and Alonzo/

Ellen never married, took care of her mother, then went to Litchfield to live with her brother Alonzo. She used to spin and knit.

George Weymouth and wife Martha

c. Willie, never married, born before parents moved to Town.

Winnie, m. Bert Adams, lived at the village, came back to farm in later years, where Bert died. Winnie born before parents came here

c. George Carlton, m. Dorothy Alden, lived in Brunswick

c. Norman

Pauline

#### CAPTAIN HUMPHREY PURINGTON FARM

Captain Humphrey with his wife and family were living on this place around 1840. Mrs Humphrey Purington was a Miss Wilson, sister of "Betsey" Wilson, who married William Maxwell. Mrs. Purington was more precise, while Betsy was a jollier sort.

Capt. Humphrey and wife

c. Newell, unmarried; lived at home; d. 1897, 71 yrs. c

Eleanor

Albert, unmarried; committed suicide-hanging; 1870,

Norris

Courtney

Amanda

Eleanor lived on the old home place until she died. She kept house for Newell. She married J. Marstin Merrow, son of Col. Josiah Merrow of the village.

c. Josiah, m. Arlene Wood

c. Gertrude E (ship named for her)

Ellen Rebecca, kept house for Newell after her mother died. Then married Isaac McLain. The children, three boys, were born here then they moved to Nova Scotia and Newell hired a housekeeper.

Norris married Jane Davis Higgins, sister of Scott Davis. They lived on the Tom Reed place on the Pratt Road. Norris was a lame man. No children

Courtney married Sam Randall of the Post Road, Sylvester Place.

c. Charles, m. Stella Yeaton

c. a girl, found smothered

Ellen, m. John Curtis

no children

Humphrey, never married, became a salesman

Nettie, m. Frank Umberland, no children

Amanda, m. Sam Randall after Courtney died

no children

After newell Purington died, the place was rented for a number of years to different families: Will Denham, and Varina Minott Denham; a Mr. and Mrs. Clinch; Ira Allen; Lip Allen; a Mrs. Leman; and Melvin Pratt. It was finally sold to Mr Verrill, the present occupant.

### THE JELLERSON FARM

The Town History places E. Purington on the Jellerson Farm about 1750 in 1840, Capt. Job Jellerson was the owner. Whether he was a son or a relative of the Matthew Jellerson placed on the Allen Farm about 1750, I have no proofs.

Capt. Job Jellerson, m. Margaret Goodwin. They lived in the old brick house today owned by Mrs. Call.

c. George, unmarried, lived at home.

Capt. Stephen, m. --- *Mary Braclberry*

c. one boy - *Walter Kidney*

2nd boy - *George*

c. Louise

Margaret

Job, unmarried, died of consumption, about 40 years old.

James, unmarried, lost att sea.

Elizabeth, m. Capt. Nicholls

c. Allie, went to sea, died of Yellow fever.

Bethia

Harriet, unmarried

Susan Love

Octavia, unmarried

Margaret, m. Thomas Reed, lived on Reed's Point

c. James, m. Miss Wing (Rosie)

c. Julia, m. William Dexter Davis

c. Scott, (University of Maine)

Margie, m. Albert Henderson

c. James

Bernard

Donald

Herbert

Emma, m. Jim Lilly

c. Mary, unmarried

Bowdoin, m. Mary Hildreth

c. Richard

Allie, died when about 40, unmarried.

Bethia, m. Dan Fulton

c. Robert, unmarried, a painter.

Horace, went west, never heard from.

Twins: Hattie, unmarried

Henry, m. lives in California

c. James

Dollie Day, died when about 8 years old.

William, unmarried, lived in Mass.

Susan Love and Harriet traveled some as ladies' companions. Susan married first a Mr. Powers, c. Melvin Scott, unmarried; second husband, Mr. Call, of Dresden. She lived in Dresden with him for a while. He died

and she came home and lived in the brick house until it burned in 1916. Then she went to live with the fultons on the Bay Road and died there whe over 80 years old.

Octavia died at an old age. She lived in the brick house part of the time. She was subject to crazy spells and died in an insane hospital. She was blind for some years before her death.

The Jellerson place was sold by its heirs to J. Albion Dunlap in 1926.

### THE SCOTT DAVIS FARM

In the Town History no one is placed on this farm on the map showing settlers in 1750. It must have been settled soon after this however, as an old cellar which can be located today between the Davis house and the old family cemetery was there before 1840, and it is known that "Uncle" Charles was born in the house that stood on this spot. He was born probably some years before 1800. the only Pratt listed among voters for 1806 is one Elisha Pratt and it is probable that this was "Uncle" Charles' father, especially since Charles had a brother, also named Elisha. It is probable then that Elisha Pratt or possibly his father, settled on this place and built the house on the spot marked today by the cellar.

Elisha (?) Pratt, and wife.

c. Elisha, m. Miss Hobbs

c. a girl, died aged 4 or 5.

Charles, m. Lois Wilson

Ben

Eleanor, m. Mr. Oliver, of Gardiner.

William, m. Minerva Campbell, sister of Harvey Campbell, who married Marilla Raymond. These Campbells were the children of "Uncle " Ale Campbell who lived on the Hal Cheney place.

William lived on the present Foss Pratt Farm.

c. Leforest, m. Miss Blanche Mac Farland

c. Thelma

Ruth

Elisha Settled on the present Heinie place. (It is probable that his father moved to this place about 1800, before the family had separated, perhaps some of the younger children were even born here.) Elisha and William both married women from adjacent farms.

The barn on the Foss Pratt place was a very old one; the present barn was built by Foss Pratt about 1895. Elisha Jr. built the present house, but there was probably a house here before the present one. Elisha must have bought his land, extending between two roads, from Zacheus Beal.

Charles told about seeing a white faced bear when he was a boy. It was on the hill in the woods to the south of their place, near Alec Campbell' Charles settled on the part of the farm on the west side of the road below Pratt's Crossing. (see Pratt Farm.)

Eleanor Cliver

c. two girls- one, Cora, m. Albert Cromwell of Bowdoinham Villa

c. Jennie, m. Mr. Cromwell, of Bath

Jessie, unmarried

Eleanor kept house for a while for Uncle John Williams, after the death of his first wife, Minerva.

The old Pratt place was bought probably of Elisha Sr. by Scott Davis father, who, without a doubt, built the present buildings. There were two old barns across the road from the present house, one of which fell down about 1880; the other fell about 1925. Both the barns must have belonged to the original Pratt stand.

William Davis, died-8 Oct., 1870, aged 80 years; and wife Margaret, died-2 June, 1890, aged 88 years.

c. William W, died at sea, 1874, aged 48 years.

Lois

Nancy, died young

Uriel H.

James, unmarried, died at sea, aged 18 years.

Jane

Scott C.

Arris, m. , went to mass.; no children

Arabine

William was a sailor, had been given a beautiful gold watch for bravery during a storm at sea off the coast of California. He was terribly pitted with small pox scars. He was sick at home and nursed by a friend, Mr Hillings, who was a painter and who did a scene from the Battle of Sebastip on the wall of Grandfather William's west hall-this has since been papered over. He also painted a girl's head for the Davises. The eyes of this picture which hung in the southwest corner of the parlor, followed one around the room. A painting of a ship at sea still decorates the north room, with Hilling's signature below it.

Lois, m. 1st Tibbits

c. John, m. Annie Bacon

c. Ray, m. Mrs. Coughlin

m. 2nd Washington Small-after he died she took the boys to Rick

c. Kossuth, m.

no children

Gussell, m. Miss Norton, d.

m. 2nd

no children

George, died when a young man.

Jane, m. 1st --- Norman Maxwell, uncle of John Maxwell, lived in the same house as William Maxwell, father of John. Norman went to sea and Jane lived at the Davis' place. Norman was lost at sea.

2nd husband, Higgins

c. Maria Bradford, m. Guy Farnham, d. 1933

no children

3rd husband, Norris Purington

no children

Scott, m. Lucia Arvilla Heath, sister of Myrick and Frances Heath Williams.

c. William, m. Julia Reed

c. Scott, attending University of Maine.

Ida, m. Will Brooks, of Mass.

Scott stayed on the home place, lived there alone for a number of years after his wife died and the children were married. Died at his son's home Brunswick.

Arabine, m. John Hall, of the Bay Road

c. girl, died when young

Mary, unmarried, teacher at Brunswick High School.

#### DEACON WILLIAMS PLACE

North of Scott Davis' farm the land seems to have been taken up early as the Town History mentions a Joseph Sedgely settling there before 1750. was without doubt the Father or Grandfather of Robert (Bob) Sedgely who di

recently at the village (Clay Hill) and who was born on this place. His father was Joseph Sedgeley, and he had an uncle, Jim Sedgeley, who lived where Mrs. Goddard lived afterward. Bob Sedgeley's mother was buried at the town cemetery, at Cromwell's, hers the only grave in the yard still having a headstone. Bob and Mrs. Octavia Sedgeley Gordon were cousins. The Sedgeley name was one of the most common during the early history of this road. Joe Sedgeley served in the Revolution in '75 and again in '79, enlisting both times. He (Joseph) was buried in the oldest town cemetery, near Cromwell's. A Joseph Sedgeley is listed as a Civil War Veteran also, but died near Philadelphia, on the way home.

The Sedgeleys sold their place to Nathaniel Williams, whose mother, with her family had moved to the old Amasa Williams farm some years before. The old Sedgeley house was a little south of the present stand, the old doorsteep still marks the location. Ira and Nathaniel Williams built the present house and either built or moved the barns. The house was built in the early forties.

Nathaniel Williams and wife, Lois Ann Campbell

c. Ella Amanda, '45

Infant son, Achsah, May- Dec. '40, 7 months.

Nathaniel Webster, '46-'75

Abby Loreda, died 18 days

Nathaniel Everett

Levie Mustard, died at about 14 years.

Judith Angie

Anniebelle

Abbie Victoria

Alice Lizzie

Ella Amanda (Williams) m. Forris Chick, went to Reisterstown, Md.

c. Alice, m. Frank Zouck

c. A girl and a boy who died when young.

Marguerite (Goucher College)

Ada, m. Edward German (Goucher College)

Dorothy, m. William Merrick (Goucher college)

Edith Evelyn, died, six months old

Nellie Mabel, m. (1st) Albert Atkinson, MD

c. William Forris, died, 20 years old

Nellie Mabel, m. (2nd) Marna Poulson

c. Lucy Eleanor, died when 3 years old

Harper Waite (Oberlin '32)

Annie Evelyn, m. Warren Pratt, Hopewell, N.J.

c. William, m. H. Lentz (Lafayette College)

c. Caryll Elaine, b. November 3, 1933

Mary Elisabeth, m. Fred Sixt, 1931

Alan, (LaFayette College)

Florence

Bonnie, m. Selbey Fisher 1930

Lucy, m. Rev. J. Johnston, N.Y. City

c. Glen (College and Aviation School)

Nathaniel Everett, m. Etta Ward; settled on the Sedgeley Place

c. Leroy (Bates A.B., A.M.) m. Maizie Danskin

c. Hope

another girl, died when 1 year old

Bertha (Radcliffe) m. William Kern

c. Leon

Dorothy

Philip

Nathaniel, m. Laura White

c. Stanley

Melvina, m. Horace Raymond  
 c. Shirley  
 another girl, died when 1 year old  
 Judith Angie, m. W.W. Thomas (sister of Nathaniel)  
 c. Charles Frederick, unmarried  
 George Harward, m. Gertrude Buckley  
 Elisabeth Briryhurst  
 Anniebelle, m. James Dunlap (see James Dunlap)  
 Abby Victoria, m. Edwin Denham and stayed on the old home place. Had the southwest room and chamber until Anniebelle and Angie married, then moved out and took charge.  
 c. Edna, m. Thomas Ward, died 1931  
 c. Maxwell (Colby College) — *Deceased*  
 Georgia, unmarried  
 Helen, unmarried  
 Alice Lizzie stayed at home until she was 54 years old, then married J. Pearl Card, 2nd wife died in 1930.

**SEDGELEY PLACE**

North of Nathaniel Williams was the farm known as the Sedgeley place. The town history places the Tibbets here, but when Gardiner Williams came from Bowdoin around 1835, the place was owned by a Sedgeley man who, with his sister, was living in a small house on the place. It is probable that this house was on the west side of the road across from the present stand as there is an old well in that location. Gardiner bought the place and built a house on the east side of the road where the present house stands

Gardiner Williams and Betsey Adams Williams  
 c. Flora Jane, unmarried  
 George, m. Amanda Douglass  
 c. Selden, m. (1st) Annie Given  
     c. Helen, m. Walker Wildes  
         c. Vera, m. Baker  
             c. Caroline May  
                 Stanley  
                 Guy  
                 Gilbert  
                 Keith  
                 Charlie  
                 Eleanor  
                 Arline  
                 William  
                 Catherine, m. Mr. McKinney  
                     no children  
                 Vivien, m. Clark  
 Selden, Sammie  
 Selden, m. (2nd) Eunice Ready  
 Evvie, m. Charles McEwen  
     c. Milton, m. Evvie Gordon  
         c. Charles Milton  
         Ralph, m. Ceola Bugbee  
         c. Bryce Winston  
         Ruth  
 Leona, m. Ed Risteen  
     no children

The place was bought of Gardiner Williams by Sewell Cushing, who came from Durham with his family.

Sewell Cushing and wife, Hannah

c. Fannie  
Hattie  
Royal  
Wesley  
Roswell

Fannie and Hattie taught school here about 1870.

Royal was married and lived in Boothbay. He and his wife died, leaving three children, whom Fannie took care of.

Wesley was kicked by a horse and died in Massachusetts.

When Roswell sold the place here the sisters went to Massachusetts. The old folks and Roswell sold the place here and Roswell went to Durham. The men had worked for the Harwards in their shipbuilding business and when that concern failed they lost heavily. Nathaniel Williams bought the place of the Cushings and rented it to the following families, who lived there for a while:

George Buker and wife  
Elder Campbell and wife  
John Sampson and wife, Ellen Sedgeley, sister to Ben.  
Frank Hall and Amanda

After 1874 Everett Williams married and moved onto this place. (see Nathaniel Williams Place) After his first wife died he married Emily Lawrence, who sold the place after Everett's death to his oldest son, Lero Williams. Everett had the house enlarged and made over in 1896.

#### JOHN WILLIAMS FARM

This farm was originally no doubt a part of the Sedgeley farm on which Everett Williams settled. John Williams, brother of Nathaniel, came here after 1840 and bought the farm, built the house and lived here the rest of his life. He was born in Bowdoin and went to work for the Mustards on the Post Road when he was ten years old. Nathaniel also worked for them. Joe Mustard ran the Tavern and Levi Mustard had a farm. Both of their houses have been burned. The two boys worked for them until they were twentyone years old. Levi left them \$500 each in his will and gave Nathaniel a yoke of oxen as well. (steers). John Williams afterward acquired the ball that hung in front of the Mustard Tavern, and it is, at present, in the possession of his grand nephew, Nathaniel Williams. The house on this place was rather small, all and main part to the west of the road, with a barn on the north side of the place. It faced east with flowering currants and lilacs beside the front door. A strip of land to the east of the road on this farm was only piece that had not been cleared when Nathaniel came onto this road in 1840. John's brother-Ira- probably helped him build the house.

John Williams, m. Minerva Buker, sister to Valentine Buker, who married Susan Williams. (see James Dunlap place)

c. Amasa, m. Ella Gowell

c. Walter, m. Mame Frost, their dau. Irene, m. Mr. Nixon

c. Mary Jeanette (Both are children of Irene)

John  
Willis, m. Sophie Pinkham  
no children

Alice E., b.1860-d.1862 Her mother died soon after

John Williams, m. (2nd) Frances Heath, sister to Myrick and Arvilla  
Heath Davis and Susan Allen.  
no children

John Williams and wife Mervia, were buried in the graveyard by the Myrick's, then taken up and carried to Topsham, for reburial. "Aunt Fannie" is buried in the lot by Myrick Heath's. The old house was taken down, the stable was moved away and the farm now is a part of the LeTourneau Place.

#### AMASA WILLIAMS FARM

It is probable that this farm as well as the James Dunlap farm was owned and settled first by James Buker and his son, James. The town History gives James Buker as living here about 1740. The house then was probably in the same location and no doubt was the same building as that into which my great grandmother moved about 1835. At this time it was situated just west of the old willow tree (now blown down) about halfway between the present houses on this and the Dunlap farms. The barn at that time was to the north east of the house, close to the north line and on the ledge just in front of the James Dunlap house. Great grandmother, Judith Briry Williams, with her son, Gardiner and probably John, Ira and Nathaniel, also, and her daughter, Susan, came from Bowdoin to this place. Her family numbered six boys and one girl. Her husband had been dead for a number of years. She had been working out, doing whatever came her way in order to bring up her family. She was too old to work, however, when she came here, and was afflicted with Tic d'oloreau (neuralgia). The place was sold before she died and for a number of years she lived with her sons and daughter, Susan, at whose home she died in 1856, aged 73 years.

Susan was married to Valentine Buker soon after they came here and went to the house now owned by Sybil Buker Briry, who is her daughter. Ira built the present house, now occupied by J. LeTourneau, and they moved into that. Gardiner married and built a house on the Everett Williams place. (see the Sedgeley Place) Ira married Arabelle Raymond (see Edward Raymond Place). Nathaniel married Lois Ann Campbell of Bowdoin and bought the Joseph Sedgeley place. (see Deacon Williams farm). John married and built on the farm south of his mother's (see John Williams farm). Ira sold the farm to a Mrs. True, Woolwich, grandmother of George Blair, who came here with her son, William. He died of consumption here and the body had to be carried across the frozen Kennebec by men on foot as the ice was so bad that March they did not dare to take horses across. Mrs. True stayed here until about 1870, when she married a Mr. Hobbs and went to live where the Fowlers now live. She sold the farm to brothers of the name of Mustard who intended making a stock farm of it, but one of them died and the other rented it instead. Harvey Campbell was here for a while, a Mrs. Shea of Bath with her family occupied it for a while, then it was bought by Orrington Williams, son of Thomas Williams, another brother of Ira's. Orrington stayed here for a couple of years, then his Uncle John bought it for \$1300, Amasa having put in the \$300. Soon after Amasa married he moved onto this place. (see John Williams Place) Amasa Williams and Ella Gowell Williams lived here about forty years. With them Charles Holbrook resided also and was associated with Amasa in his work. They owned and operated the mill at the bridge and also built a yacht, the Nell G, which they ran down river between Boothbay and the Islands. They moved to Boothbay. Amasa and wife died there and are buried in Topsham. The place was sold to Amasa by Bangs and Douglass, who removed most of the wood. Mr. Barrows and his wife came next, and finally Joseph LeTourneau bought the place and lives on it today with his family.

#### JAMES DUNLAP FARM

The earliest road in this part of town led across this farm to the rocky point used as a landing place where people ferried across to the sandbank on the then,

Maxwell Shore, then westward to near the Kennebec and so north to Pownalsboro. From this farm the road (or path) led in a southwest direction to near James Allen's, where it took a westerly turn to near the top of the ridge, thence Southerly to the store of Abram Whittemore on Reed's Point.

Another early road led to the westward across the pasture in the direction of the bridge later built across the Branch. "Uncle" Charles Pratt told of a girl who started from the point of the "Hill" on this farm to go to Whittemore's Store, probably for salt and other provisions and was never heard from again. No one knew whether she had been killed or captured by the Indians, or killed by a bear or other animal. As no trace was ever found it would seem most probable that the Indians had taken her. Uncle Charles also told of an early house that stood at the southeast point of the "Hill" and of a later one located by the big rock in the field on the way to the shore. He said that a barn stood in this latter position which was very old. He remembered that it stood through a great gale and fell down the next day during a perfect calm. He also recalled that Bukers had lived on this place and it is probable that both these old houses once belonged to Bukers. As the landing at the point is one of the most accessible on the river and as the early settlers had an eye out for desirable fishing privileges, it would have been strange if this place had not been one of the first to be taken up on the river. Uncle Charles always used to refer to the flats as Buker's Flats.

On the site of the second house by the big rock, we have found an old spoon, probably made in England, and other remains from the dwelling. The next house on this farm was located about 100 yards east of the present building in the center of the orchard and was probably built by Bukers. The barn, however, was built just north of the present house, on the big ledge, about 200 feet north of the present ell. These buildings, old barn and house in the orchard must have been built before 1800, and as James Buker and James Buker, Jr. are listed as voters in the Town History in 1801 it is probably that one lived here and the other on the Amasa Williams place in the old house by the willow.

James Buker was selectman in 1770 and was mentioned as a first settler on this place in the Town History. The barns to the houses would then have been not much more than 300 feet apart. The house in the orchard was a low, one story structure, facing south, similar to James Allen's house.

From Sibyl Buker Briary, grand daughter of Caleb Buker and Lydia Coomb Buker, we learned that her grandfather lived on this place and raised his family here. Caleb, she said, was not a well man and knowing that he would die before his last child was born arranged with "Aunt" Betsy Raymond, the wife of Elder John Raymond, to adopt the child and so relieve the mother of its care. Sibyl says that the child was born before Caleb died, but after the child was born, Lydia, its mother, took her family back to her old home which was the place now owned by Sibyl Briary, where she lived until she died. She put the children out to work; Aunt Betsey, adopting the youngest Amanda, and giving her sister, Ruth, also a home. Ruth and Amanda both died when young women and their headstones are to be found in the old Raymond graveyard, just north of the Darton House. Ruth's stone is broken and badly crumbled so that no dates are legible. Caleb was buried in the old Coombs Cemetery on Sibyl Briary's Farm, by the side of his wife, who died eighteen years after her husband. As there is a discrepancy of eight years between Sibyl's story and the inscriptions on Caleb's and Amanda's grave stones to places her death birth eight years before her father's death, I am inclined to credit Sibyl's story and believe that a mistake was made in the records of Amanda's age. I think that it should be 22 instead of 30 years as appears on her headstone. In the Town History a Caleb Baker, probably a misprint

Buker, was an Ensign in a Regiment raised in Bowdoinham in 1814. Amanda and Ruth are both mentioned several times by Silas Adams in connection with Elder John Raymond's Church; of which, it appears, they were both members.

Caleb Buker, 1792-1832, and wife Lydia Coombs, 1792-1850.

- c. Aaron, went south, married there
  - Samuel Cotton, m. Sibyl Cook
  - Valentine (born February 14, 1822)
  - Minerva
  - Ruth
  - Amanda S.

Aaron gained considerable repute in the south while driving a train at an unprecedented rate to carry a dispatch of the President's from Baltimore to Harve De Grace.

Samuel was taken by his mother (so Sibyl Briry tells us) on foot, to a Starbird's in Litchfield where he was hired out to work until 21 years old for \$100 and a yoke of oxen when he was through. Sibyl says he was eight years old, but if he was born before Valentine, he must have been 10 or 11 when his father died, and he was placed out to work after that. His mother told him to "be a good boy, Sammie;" when she left him and then went away, never to see the boy again, although she lived for seventeen years after that. Sam had a good job offered him when he was twenty; accepted it, and the Starbird refused to give him anything for his years of labor. He eventually did well, acquiring more property than the people he left had possessed.

- c. Malcolm, m. Susie Cole, no children
  - Eva, unmarried, lives in Lewiston, once taught in New York.
  - Marshall, died when only a boy
  - Fred, m. Ellen, a daughter of a Rhode Island minister
- c. Harold, became a minister
  - Sibyl, m.
  - Gerald
  - Mary
  - Raymond, minister
  - Richard, Doctor
  - Elisabeth
  - Kenneth

Two were twins, once missionaries to China, graduates of Bates College.

Valentine, m. Susan Williams (see Amasa Williams farm) and remained with his mother on the Coombs Estate. He died there in 1862, when 40 years of age and is buried beside his wife in the Coomb's graveyard. His wife died in 18 at the age of 61.

- c. Alvin, died when 25 years old, unmarried
  - Ella (see Edward Raymond Place)
  - George, m. (1st) Martha Hackett
- c. Mattie, died when 16 years old
  - m. (2nd) Ella Tarbox Furbush
  - c. Lottie, m. John Purington
    - c. Lauris
    - Ralph
    - Ella

- Amanda, m. Wesley Williams
  - no children
- Sibyl, m. Sam Briry
  - no children

Minerva (see John Williams Place)

Ruth, was unmarried and a tailress, making her home with "Aunt" Betsey Raymond. She Died in April, 1862, only a few days before her brother, Valentine, who was sick with a fever and was never told of her death.

Amanda S., unmarried, died 8 January, 1854. Adopted daughter of John and Elisabeth Raymond, the latter being Amanda's own aunt, Elisabeth Coombs Raymond.

Probably Paran Estes was the next occupant of this farm as we know he was here in 1835 or earlier. Paran Estes' father, a Quaker of Durham, bought the farm for Paran, but when Paran failed to make payments on the mortgage, the father foreclosed and his son was forced to get out.

Brackett Andros then bought the place and came here to live with his wife. A daughter, Libby, was born here, but died when either three or four years old. She was buried in the field next to the line where Uriel Sedgeley was buried later. A son, Robert, was born here who married and moved to Bath. He later was drowned when his boat was swamped in the Kennebec. He had a son Millard, who lived here for a while with his grandmother, and moved with Ben Sedgeley to his new home half way to Richmond on this same road, where he died. Brackett Andros married Margaret Wiley, sister to Frances Wiley, the wife of Solon Hatch. This Brackett Andros is not to be confused with a shoe maker in Bowdoinham village. Our Brackett died on this place and Mrs. Brackett married Uriel Sedgeley. He lived on this farm for 25 years. The children were Ellen and Ben. Ellen married John Sampson, lived at the village at Everett Williams place, Baggor. There were three girls. Ben married Annie Stinson, moved about three miles up this road. His children were...

- Myrtie, m. Tom Cairns
- Ray, m. Bessie W. Gardiner
  - c. Alberta G.
  - Doris M.
  - Norman E.

The old house in the orchard was burned on St. Patrick's Day, 1872. The fire caught upstairs in the chimney at noon. The ground was covered with three or four feet of snow. Uriel then built the main part of the present house in 1873. Alfred Wilson, master workman, George Buber and George Curtis did the work. Uriel died about 1878 and his widow had the house and land to the east of the road, as right of dower. Mrs. Sedgeley lived with Ellen a while, married a peddler, West, and lived for a while at the corner (Hall's). In 1879 the place was bought at auction by James Dunlap and son, James A., who moved here with Mrs. Octavia Dunlap and a daughter, Malissa, who later married Sam Main and lived in Woolwich. The ell was built in 1880, the stable in 1886. The old barn was blown down in 1891 during a cyclonic gale and the new one was built the same year. James Dunlap died in 1880, and his wife in the year 1902.

- James A. Dunlap, m. Anniebelle Williams
  - c. James Albion, m. Martha Robinson
    - c. Eleanor Robinson (Simmons College, B.S.)
      - Allison Frances
      - James Albion Jr.
    - Lois Ann, m. Walter Ingram, 1914 - died 1917
    - Minerva Frances, unmarried, (Bates, A.B.)
    - Vining Campbell, (Bates, A.B.) (Cornell, A.M., Phd)
    - Genevieve, m. Philip R. Webb, Portland, (Bates, A.B.)
      - c. Dorothy Dunlap Webb, m. Lawrence Quimby (both Bates students)
      - Marilyn Marshall, m. George Meyhew (Bates College)
    - Jeanette Dunning, R.N., m. Wilfred Burrell
      - c. Lois Roberta
      - Ronald Dunlap
      - Albert Atkinson, (Bates, B.S.) (Yale, M.S., Phd.)

The land to the west of the road stretching to the railroad was bought from the Maxwells about 1887, the stretch of land from the road to the river including the hill, was acquired at the same time. The Maxwells had taken these parts of the farm long before from the Androses, but before Brackett's time the place was entire. When Brackett first acquired the farm, it stretched from the Abbagadasset to the Branch River.

In the southeast corner of this farm, there is a little patch of about four acres of meadow ground, now overgrown with bushes, and to any who may be enlightened still a part of the Dunlap farm, which harbors a story. In the days when the farm was acquired by Brackett Andros, this same four acres had not yet distinguished itself. On a fatal day however, "Brack" had hired Jim Sedgeley with his yoke of fine oxen to do some plowing for him. Jim happened to mention afterwards, to friends, the fine ham he had partaken of at dinner with Brack. Now Brack was no raiser of pigs, but a certain Graves of the Will Graves place had lost, not long before, some fine hams; and one Melee, then Sheriff was on the search for them. The case was proved against Brack, whose reputation seems to have been of little assistance to him at the trial, and he was ordered to pay. Brack was unable to pay in gold, but land he did own. The Puringtons helped him out by exchanging the needed coin for four acres of his then highly valued meadow-land. Newell Furington who next came into possession of the plot used to drive over with scythes, rakes a hay rack and some hired men each summer to cut, rake and haul away the hay. Since his time, Charles Randall has owned the place. In Brack's time it was probably worth about \$20. per acre. My father offered \$100. for it once and was refused. At present it is absolutely valueless, especially to any one who did not own the adjacent land.

#### CROMWELL PLACE

The town History places a Richard Temple on this place before 1750. He was selectman for nine terms between 1764 and 1782, and in 1763 he served as the Town Clerk. He is not included in a list of voters in 1808, so it is probable that long before this the place came into the hands of the Adamses where we find it as early as 1830. In the Town History there is placed as early as 1738-39, between the Cromwell and Pratt Farms on the west bank of the Abbagadasset River one Samuel Adams whose eldest son was captured by the French and taken to Quebec where his father later found him and managed to bring him home. This Samuel was no doubt the father also of Jedediah and John Adams mentioned as voters in 1808. Jedediah served in the Revolutionary War and was buried in the cemetery on this same place. It was Jedediah's daughter Henrietta Adams, who, as Mrs. Stephen Cromwell was living on the place, in the old house as early as 1830. Her husband came here from down river. She was a sister to John Adams, father of Silas, the Historian. Stephen had been married before he came here, and brought his two children, Thomas Walker and Elisabeth, to the new home. They soon left however, as living with their stepmother was none too pleasant; Thomas went down river.

Elisabeth, m. Mr. Mc Padden, of the village

c. Sarah, died when about 15 years old.

Allie, m. at the village, moved to Mass.

Stephen Cromwell, and wife Henrietta Adams

c. Oliver, went to war, 1863, Died of starvation in a rebel prison.  
October, 20, 1864.

Jere Millay      Twins      b 1837

James Albert      d 1893

Jere, m. Eliza Booker, daughter of Benjamin Booker and a niece of Herrick Booker.

c. Girl who died when two or three years old

Abbie, m. Sherman Denham, kept old place, no children.

Stephen Oliver, m. Minnie Ward

c. Wallace, in Navy

two girls, one in Bath and one with her mother in Richmond.

Boy, cripple, died at home for feeble mind

Oliver, Jr. with Abbie (Cont'd., son of Stephe  
Emma, m. Robert Webber (daughter of Jere)  
c. Merton  
Robert, m. Ellen Todd, lives in Freeport  
c. Marceline  
Maxine

Elmore  
J Eleanor  
James Albert, m. Cora Oliver of Gardiner  
c. Jessie  
Jennie, m. Mr. Cromwell, of Bath

<sup>1884</sup> Jere and Albert both served in the civil War. Jere shot himself by accident years after he returned home, while picking a shell from his gun, about 1885. He had stayed on the old home place. Albert went to the village and had a thriving photographer's business there. The old man, Stephen Cromwell built the house in which his family was brought up on the spot where the old house had stood and this second house was burned about 1912, and partially rebuilt by Sherman Denham and Abbie who lived there then. Mrs. Eliza Cromwell died after they had moved to Richmond, more than 80 years old. They had added to the farm the woodlot west of the road and the field north of the woods, these having been purchased from Santa Pratt. In the Cromwell upper field, quite a distance from the road to the east, were remains of an old cellar, which may have been on the spot the David Wilson <sup>place</sup> stood, the one mentioned in the Town History. David is mentioned in that record as having served as selectman in 1763. "Uncle" Charles Pratt married a Wilson and she may have belonged to this family.

#### FIRST CHURCH IN BOWDOINHAM

The Cromwell farm is for a number of reasons one of the most historic in town. It was the land just to the north of the barn that the settlers chose on which to build their first meeting house, and my father has picked up glass on the spot where this building once stood. In 1765 the money was raised by the town to build the church and in 1775 it was all finished but for the pews, according to the town History. It was burned the same year, some thought by Tories because anti-British meetings had been held within its walls.

#### OLDEST TOWN CEMETERY

East and south of the church building was the oldest Town Cemetery. To one approaching from the river, the south entrance is marked by a steep granite ledge rising from the river's edge like a great tombstone which nature had prepared beforehand in commemoration of the intrepid spirit of those brave frontiersmen who would rest here in otherwise unmarked graves. Records which told their names have been burned. Headstones and markers have fallen and lie buried under soil or tangled roots of weeds and the shadowing trees, all claimed now by the shadowing tree's inhabitants, the partridge and the kingfisher. Only one stone still stands to tell its tale; "Lois, wife of Robert Sedgely, died 1852, aged 40 years,"

#### THE PRATT FARM

Before the railroad was put through in 1850, a family of Bukers lived near the shore on a strip of land that joins the tracks just south of Pratt Crossing. Mr. Joseph Buker was killed on the track by a train while drunk. His wife used to hum a tune when she ate.

Joseph Buker, and wife, Eunice.

c. Orrington, m. Miss Spear, sister of Artelle Spear, whose father once saved my father from a burning building at the Harward Shipyards.

Jim, m. Jane Colby, lived in Bath.

Lydia, m. John A. Hammond, lived in Brunswick.

Orrington, Lydia and Jim are now dead. This old Buker house disappeared many years ago.

Charles Pratt built the house that yet stands.

Charles Pratt, m. Lois Wilson

c. Santa, "Old Sant"

Esther, m. Bill Johnson

Ellen

Clarinda

Santa, m. (1st) Angeline Sedgeley, lived just north of his father's across the railroad track, west side of the road. Had a house that he hauled from Lancaster's.

C. Charles, m. and went to Massachusetts.

c. David, died at home.

James, m. Lois Crockett of Chesterville

c. Angie, m. Thibideau

Lila, m. T. Campbell

Mabel, m. Maynard Hinkley

Erland

Geraldine, m. Wilson Grady

c. James, m. Dorothy Ludwig

c. Dorothy

James

Kenneth, m. Elsie Leavitt

c. Vada

Mary, m. Frank Page

c. Marvel

Melvin, m. Mary Ranks

c. Foster

Shirley

Beulah

Maurice, m. Gertrude Thurston

no children

James, m. Thelma Bachelder

c. Lois

Charlie

Bessie

Ruby

James Jr,

Clyde

Sam, crazy, buried in Pratt's field

Santa, "Young Sant"

Caroline, m. Eldridge, fortune teller in Portland

c. Angie

Mary, drowned, about four years old

Everett, m.

two children

Annie, died when about two years old.

Santa, m. (2nd) Mrs. Pratt (Albert Pratt's widow)

m. (3rd) Mrs. Hilton

Santa, "Old Sant" one day when a boy, got hold of a girder under the railroad bridge and was hanging there, unable to get up. Eunice Buker ran out screaming and yelling that Santa was going to be drowned. "He be drowned, he'll be drowned, he'll be drowned!" Lois said, "get into the

house, old Eunice Buker b\_\_\_\_\_ you'll discourage the boy. He can hang one year as well as one day. Hang Santa, Hang!"

Esther, m. Bill Johnson

c. Charlie

Fannie, Crazy, sent to Augusta

Ellen, m. Sewell Johnson, Civil War Vet, died in the Army or soon after returning home.

c. Henry, m. \_\_\_\_\_ went away up country

Charlie, died when seven or eight years old

Annie, unmarried, lives in Portland

Ellen lived in a little house across from the station in the woods, now standing. She got a pension after her husband died until she married a Bill Cooper. They had two children, both boys. They moved to Portland.

Clarenda, a dwarf, disappeared. People thought that Bill Johnson took her away.

Lois and Charles, died on the old place and were buried in the field near the river. "Uncle" Charles was about 90 years old when he died. Jim lived in Charles' house after the latter died. He sold the place to a Mr. Johnson and now it is owned by Francis Hutchins. Jim Pratt lived for a while on the Harvey Campbell Place, then on the old Preble Place, then bought the Brown house at Harvard's Crossing.

#### OLD HALL PLACE

Zacheus Beal, an ancestor of Fred Beal, owned a large plot of land south of Hall's Corner, on both sides of the Abbagaddasset Road. His Home is placed at about the same location as the old Hall House in the Town History while his son, Zacheus Jr., had a house just west of Beal's Creek, south of the cross road. Zacheus Beal was selectman for fifteen years, between 1763 and 1803, town clerk for four years, between 1772 and 1788. A Zacheus Beal and a Josiah and a Joshua Beal were voting in 1808. This Josiah was probably the grandfather of Fred Beal who inherited a part of the big estate. Fred said once that he wished his grandfather had kept a little better piece of land for himself. Fred's father was Josiah Beal.

Fred, m. Annie Hackett

c. Harry

Josie, (1st) m. Mars Schuff

c. Muriel, m. Ray Tibbetts

(2nd) m. Peiro

(3rd) m. Theo Lang

Fred had two sisters, one married an Ayer.

The Halls came here about 1830, in winter, with an ox team from Phill so the story goes. Joseph Hall and wife Mary probably built the old house that stands now east of the road and south of Hall's Corner. They owned the land south of the crossroad on both sides of the Abbagadasset Road.

Joseph Hall, and wife, Mary

c. Joseph, born 1826, married Hannah Rummell

James, carpenter in Richmond, m. twice

Martin, went off, never heard from

John, farmer, m. Arabine Davis

William, lawyer in Richmond

George, m. Lydia Webber

Eliza, m. William Denham

Rebecca, m. Joel Card

Jerry, m. Jennie Campbell

Sarah, m. Lyman Patten (his second wife)

Frank, m. Amanda Raymond (see Alfred Raymond Farm)

Joseph lived on the Ridge Road across from Pearl Card's and just north of Card's. The house is now in ruins. His wife lived on the crossroad west of Walt Dinsmore's. They had no children.

John bought his farm of the Pattens on the Bay Road. He was a butcher. He had lost an arm below the elbow while blowing a well

John and wife, Arabine

c. a girl, died when young

Mary, teacher in Brunswick

William, married Elvira Coburn, was a lawyer in Richmond

c. Mary, unmarried

Elvira, unmarried

Rachel, unmarried

Jane, m. Rhodes

c. Mary

William, unmarried, lawyer in Bath

George, lived on the Hall Farm above the corner

c. John, unmarried, lived at home

Joe, unmarried, born 1875, died January 18, 1930

Mame, m. Ryan Blenn, lived at home

c. Bertha, m. Schöfield, no children

Hall, m. Helen Foss

Hattie, died when 14 years old

Eliza, m. William Denham, Richmond Road

c. John, died when 24 years old

Corinda, m. Charles Blair

c. Florence, died when about 12 years old

Edwin, m. Abbie Williams ( see Nathaniel Williams Place)

Will, m. Varina Manott

c. John, m. Verna Davis

c. Lillian

Caroline

Helen

Ralph, m. Susie Maloom, no children

George, m. Hannie Nichols

c. Richard, m. Hazel Tibbetts

c. Raymond

Cynthia, m. Harold Hobart

Sherman, m. (1st) Chapman

c. Cecile, m. Daniel Craney

c. Daniel

Hall

m. (2nd) Abbie Cromwell

J. Hall, born 1871, m. Cora Young

Emma, unmarried, lived at home b. 1869- d. 1942

Mame, unmarried, lived at home b. 1874- d. 1947

Rebecca, m. Joel Card, lived on the Ridge Road

c. Mary, m. (1st) Ben Rugan

c. Mary, lived about ten years

m. (2nd) M. Blackburn, lived in Old Folks Home, Lewiston

Belle, m. Mr. Haywood, Portland

Josephine, m. Mr. Berger

c. Mabel

Alice

Joe

Dr. Albert, Alna unmarried

Peiro and Muriel Tibbitts; James Buker and James Buker Jr., through Caleb Buker to Sibyl Briary, the children of Ella Buker Raymond and many other Buker descendants, also Lottie Buker Purington and children; Elnathan Raymond through Elder John Raymond, Ellen Raymond Blair to Carrie Campbell Rackley etc. to the children of Charlie Blair, to Wesley Williams, to the children of Fred Rackley and Amanda Raymond Hall, etc.; Samuel Center through Emery and George Center to Susie Center Davis and the children of Lila Bailey Brookman and Fred Bailey.

The only sections of land still owned by descendants of the first settlers on this piece of road are Bluff Head of the Samuel Center Estate, (still owned by Susie Center Davis,) and possibly a portion of the upper Cromwell field, if that was a part of the land on which Samuel Adams settled in 1738, which is very reasonable to believe.

About 1860, when the population of this section seemsto have been the greatest, the persons residing on the various farms from Center's Point to Hall's Corner were as follows:

Center's Point: Emery Center and wife, Ruth Sedgeley, sister of Mrs. Center, Liza, Serena, Hannah, Susan Love, Emery Jr., and Rachel, children of Emery.

Chickhominy: George Center and wife, Mary Eliza and husband, James Hutchinson, Rebecca, Joseph and John.

Harvey Campbell Place: Elder John Raymond and wife Elisabeth, Ellen, Marrilla, Charlie, also "Aunt Betsey's" niece, Ruth Buker.

Sam Raymond Farm: Alfred Raymond and wife Margaret Cobb, Susanna, Amanda, Samuel G.C.

James Allen Farm: Enoch Allen and wife Philena, Wilfred, James; Loring (Peter Cooper), Mary, John, James' wife Priscilla Pratt Allen.

No House at Blair's.

Newell Purington Place: Mrs. Humphrey Purington, Mrs. Eleanor Merrow, son, Josiah, Daughter Ellen Rebecca, Newell, Norris, Albert, Amanda.

Mrs. Call's Place: Mrs. Jellerson, George, Job Susan Love Powers, Joe Mrs. Elisabeth Nicholls and son, Allie, Octavia, Harri

Scott Davis Place: William Davis and wife Margaret, William, Arris, Jane Maxwell Higgins, Scott, Arabine, Maria Higgins.

Deacon Williams Place: Nathaniel Williams and wife Lois Ann Campbell, Amanda, Achsah, Everett, Levi, Angie.

Everett Williams Place: Sewell Cushing and wife, Hannah, Royal, Wesley, Fannie, Hattie, and Roswell.

John Williams Place: John Williams and wife, Manerva Buker, Amasa.

Amasa William Place: Mrs. True and son, William True.

James Dunlap Farm: Uriel Sedgely and wife, Margaret, Ellen, Ben.

Cromwell Place: Stephen Cromwell and wife Henrietta Adams, Oliver, Jerry and Albert.

Pratt Farm: Charles Pratt and wife Lois, Esther, Clarenda. Lived this side of the Railroad; other side of railroad, Sanford Pratt and wife, Angeline Sedgely, David.

Old Hall House: Captain Joseph Hall, John, Sarah, Frank.

About 1920 when the population was least, there were three persons living below Jellerson's Corner: Sammie Raymond on the Alfred Raymond Place, and Willie Weymouth and his mother, Martha, on the Gowell Farm.

Deacon Williams Place: Edwin Denham and wife, Abbie, Georgia and Helen.

Everett Williams Place: Everett Williams, Emily Lawrence.

Amasa Williams Place: Amasa Williams and wife Ella, Charles Holbrook.

James Dunlap Farm: James Dunlap and wife, Anniebelle.

Pratt Farm: Francis Hutchins, housekeeper, and son.

#### OCCUPATIONS

The early settlers were busy clearing the land, farming, and fishing. The <sup>Y</sup>nowi

## OCCUPATIONS

The early settlers were busy clearing the land, farming and fishing. They built their homes, stonewalls, cared for their oxen and other cattle, mowing and raking their hay by hand, raising their crops. The first mowing machine came onto the road about 1868 and was owned by the Jellersons. Fishing for shad and herring later eel spearing and smelt fishing and sucker catching claimed a good part of the time of many of the inhabitants. Women and girls knit the nets, helped to salt and smoke the herring, and salt the shad. Many of the latter, before the Civil War, were packed in barrels and sent to the southern states to feed the slaves on the plantations. Afterwards they were packed fresh in ice and sent to Boston or New York. A barrel would hold about fifty shad. The highest price my father ever got for a barrel was \$27.50, the lowest, \$1.50. Sometimes barrels were shipped that did not pay for express. The river used to be so full of drifters at night that some fishermen would not even get a chance to "throw out". It has been over ten years since drifters have been seen on the river. Many weirs were built also for the shad and herring. The latter smoked sold in the local markets, sometimes two for five cents, sometimes three cents, later one cent a piece.

Shipbuilding brought lucrative employment to many. The yard at Harward's ~~inhabitants-ef-these~~ was convenient and many men living on this road at that time went there for work. Many also suffered when the crash came and lost the returns for years of hard labor.

The ice business was another industry that brought hundreds of dollars to the inhabitants of these regions. Norton's gave the greatest amount of employment on the Kennebec. Nathaniel Williams and Newell Purington had an ice house on this road, at Harvey Campbell's farm and employed some men. There were also houses at Reed's Point where men from this section worked. At one time there was a big impetus toward the mills and factories in the cities. Many worked for a while and then returned home. Others entered the professions and different trades. Some went to the wars.

Many of the women along this road have helped support their families and furnish their homes by making coats and vests during their spare time in their own homes. The material was furnished by Crocker and Carr in the village.

For many years the farmers found a good market for hay in Bath and would be seen early in the morning in winter time, hauling their sled load across the bay, sometimes a string of twenty or more in a line. Many took other products, potatoes, apples, butter,

eggs, etc. Dressed poultry was often the gist of the load. Hardly anyone at the present time ever carries products to Bath from this road.

Milk is gathered by truck for the creameries; broilers and fowl are sent alive to Boston, eggs are sent to the cities.

A list of those who have served in the various wars follows. I have listed those veterans who were born on this road or lived here when the wars broke out. This material was taken from the Town History in great part and may be incomplete due to lack of statistics.

#### REVOLUTIONARY WAR VETERANS

- Jedediah Adams, Records show service in Continental Army during 1777-1780. Buried in Cromwell Family Lot.
- Joseph Sedgeley, Private in Captain Young's Detachment. Served during-17-80 in Penobscot Expedition and other places 1775-1779. Buried in Town Cemetery near Cromwell's.
- John Sedgely Served during 1780. Was buried on Center's Point and removed to Ridge.

#### CIVIL WAR VETERANS

- James A. Cronwell, Co. B., 15th Maine. Discharged May 1862.
- Edward F. Raymond, Co. F., 24th Maine. Served with his regimen in Louisiana. Was buried with his first wife and child on Amasa Williams' Farm, afterward taken up and carried to old Topsha burying Ground..
- Elbridge G. Raymond, Co. D., 19th Maine. ~~Taken-prisoner-1864,~~ Wounded in Battle of Wilderness.
- Oliver Cromwell, Co. D1, 19th Maine. Taken prisoner 1864, June 22nd at Petersburg. Died of starvation in Rebel Prison Oct. 20, 1864.
- Sewell H. Johnson, Co. D. 19th Maine. Wounded at "Wilderness". Died of fever in Phila. July 22, 1864. May have been buried in the cemetery near Myrick Heath's, as he and his wife lived near Bob Brown's at one time.
- Charles E. Raymond, In Baker's D.C. Cavalry, transferred to 1st Maine. Taken prisoner 1864, Sept. 16, at Coggin's Point on the James River and died of starvation in Salisbury Prison, N.C. December 24, 1864.

Jere M. Cromwell, Co. D., 19th Reg. Infantry

WORLD WAR VETERANS

Erick Blair, Served in France. Enlisted June 5, 1917,  
103rd Inf. 26th Div. Served 3 years, 8 mos.  
Enlisted U.S. Navy Dec. 23, 1923, Disch. Dec. 23, 1924

Vining Campbell Dunlap, Sergeant, 102 Ammunition Train, 77th  
Div. "New York's Own". One year in France.

*Blair's - Dunlap*  
*1924*

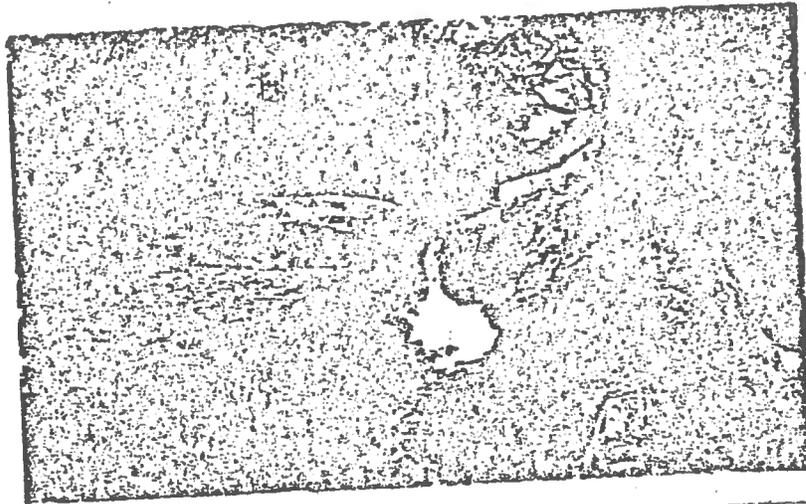
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BOWDOINHAM HISTORICAL SOCIETY  
BOWDOINHAM, MAINE 04008

ALONG THE ABAGADASSETT  
1758-1934  
Helen M. Graves

An effort to make a record of the quiet  
dignity and stalwart strength of the older  
people and their homes.

ALONG THE ABAGADASSETT.



Falls on Abagadasset Stream near  
Carding Machine Road.

An effort to make a record of the quiet dignity  
and stalwart strength of the older people and  
their homes.

1758-1934

Helen M. Graves.

## MILLS.

Between 1758 and 1762 a mill was built about two-thirds of a mile below the head of tidewater on the Abagadasset River, by Hatch, Whitmore and Purington.

This proved to be a failure but part of the dam may be seen in 1934.

In 1763 a bridge was built just east of the falls at the head of tide water.

A few years later, exact year unknown, a dam and mill was built by Elihu Getchell and Abram Purington. This mill was burned.

Mr. Purington lived on the east side of the river on a knoll. This may have been about 1790.

Later Abram Purington and Elihu Hatch built a mill there. This was the only mill in town. Elihu Hatch lived and is buried on the Hill farm.

In April 1850, James Thomas bought the mill and in about one month it went out in a flood.

In 1856 the mill was rebuilt by Winfield Allen and Harvey Campbell. Campbell and Allen sold to Elbridge Hatch and Elias Dinsmore.

About 1864 Elias Dinsmore and Thomas Maxwell owned the mill.

A few years later Orin, Elias' Dinsmore's oldest son, bought out Mr. Maxwell, he also bought the house and farm nearest the mill on the west side of the river.

The Dinsmores ran the mill until Orin's death in October, 1908.

They carried on a good business, sawing logs and lumber all those years. Often five men and some teams were employed.

Some time about 1900 Owen Emmons built a house over the cellar on the knoll east of the river where Abram Purington once lived.

In 1858 and 1860 a Johnson family lived there.

Mr. Emmons worked in the mill.

All three of the houses were occupied, it was a pleasant, prosperous and busy place.

After Orin's death, Mrs. Dinsmore sold the mill, farm, and house to Fred Matterson. Mr. Matterson sold to Percy Farmer, who lived there and run the mill for a time but, in a heavy rain, February 25, 1915, the mill collapsed. The wreckage was sold to Robert Hatch for \$50.00

For forty four years the mill had been in the Dinsmore family and for over one hundred years there had been a mill at these falls on the Abagadasset.

Brooks Falls- 1934

In December 1811, Elihu Hatch and Peggy, his wife, deeded six or more acres of land, of Lot No. 5, for a mill privilege, for \$1000.00 to Kidder and Springer, bounded on the southwest corner by land of William Sandford.

Mr. Sandford lived where George Thompson now lives, 1934, on the River Road.

This is true: I have seen the deed, now the property of Miss Annie Brooks, 60 Atlantic St. Portland, Maine.

This mill was about one mill north of the head of tidewater on the Abagadassett where there are large falls.

Kidder and Springer built a mill for grinding wheat and corn, in connection with a dye house.

In 1821 Ara Brooks, a woolcarder, woolpicker, and dyer bought Kidder's half.

In 1823 Mr. Brooks bought Springer's half of the mill and the farm.

At one time Mr. Brooks and his wife, Hannah, lived in the mill which was a large, four story building.

In December 1823, Daniel Marsh took the grist mill to tend at the halves. Nothing more is known of Mr. Marsh.

In 1824, Brooks, Springer, and Kidder owned the mill. I think Mr. Springer lived where there is an old cellar on the cross road going east from the mill to the River Road.

In 1840, Warren Springer was appointed administrator of his father's E. Springer's estate, and it was sold at auction.

Mr. Springer must have had to give up his part of the mill for in 1830 Mr. Brooks again bought out Springer.

About this time the name of P. Brooks appears in old deeds, nothing more is known of him.

The names of Zebulon Preble and his wife, Maria appear in the deeds. Apparently this property changed hands many times.

In 1845 the names of Robbins, Weston, and McClure appear in the deeds.

Ed and George Mc Clure lived near what is now Grant's on the River Road (1936)

In 1856 Hartley Hunter gave Ara Brooks a deed to flow land on Abagadasset Stream.

In later years a shingle machine was added to the mill and run until about 1880.

Luther Brooks, the youngest child of Ara Brooks, married and lived at home.

Luther Brooks died in 1889 and the place was sold to George Libby. The mill was taken down about 1896 or 1897.

~~Deacon Ara Brooks and his wife, Hannah, 1833.~~

The house was taken down in October, 1933.

Deacon Ara Brooks and his wife, Hannah, came from Hanover, Mass. about 1820

Deacon Brooks was a staunch christian, a deacon in the Methodist church in Richmond Village.

Deacon Brooks and his wife, Hannah, were the parents of six children:

Lydia Ann married Joseph Elliott

Elizabeth married a Hunter who lived on the next farm and soon died she then married James Haynes who much later in life married the youngest Brooks daughter, Jane

Hannah married Willie Stinson

Kidder married Louise Tarr

Ara killed in Civil War

Luther married Harriet Libby -five children

The children of Luther and Harriet (Libby) are:

Alice married Sherman Nelson

Annie

Ara married Bertha Haycock -one son Carl Ara

Amy

Fred died young

The Brooks family lived in a house only a few rods from the mill and all of the children were born there. It was on a side hill and had a cellar kitchen which now stands, together with the barn-1936

A short ways north of the house on a pretty knoll beside the stream, is the Brooks graveyard. Most of them have been taken up and buried in Cotton's Cemetery in Richmond.

That road has been closed for some time.

It was called the Brooks Road, Brooks schoolhouse, and Brooks neighborhood.

The road running north and south is still called the Carding Machine Road which was built in 1790.

Perhaps three fourths of a mile up the Abagadasset Stream, north west of the Brooks mill, are more falls where AM. Whitney built a mill sawmill, year unknown. All that remains is a part of the dam.

I can find no one who knows anything about it since 1850.

James Thomas, who was born near there in 1820, told me who built this mill and run it.

Still further north on the same stream, in Richmond near the cement bridge on the County Road, Route 197, are more falls and part of a dam.

Charles Holbrook told Frank Webber that when he was a young fellow a Mr. Jacques had a mill south of the County Road about 1870, perhaps, and that he remembered the mill.

Mrs. who was Maud Jacques, told me her grandfather, Mr. Starbard, built this mill.

Near the mouth of the Abagadasset River, below the bridge, Amasa Williams and William Browne built a mill in 1882, used only for threshing grain and sawing shingles.

In 1884 Charles Holbrook bought out Mr. Browne and the mill was enlarged, having a rotary saw, a bath machine, planer, and matcher.

Four or five men had steady employment.

The shafting and pulleys from the Brooks mill was used in the Williams and Holbrook mill.

This mill was burned in March, 1916.

About 1930 a portable mill was set up at Robbins Corner and the lumber on the Long Hill was cut. Most of the men lived in camps with their families.

Most of the lumber has been cut off in this section but in the fall of 1934 a portable mill was set up on the Blagdon lot, south of Clifford Gray's on the cross road. About twenty men were employed.

DENSMORE- CARLETON FARM.  
1829-1936.



Carleton Home  
1920.

William Dinsmore's house stood on high ground in the field east of the present house.

The farm extends from the Abagadasset Stream on the east to the Carding Machine Road on the west, south to the Mill Road. To the north was land of Joseph Preble.

William Dinsmore was the son of William and Nancy Cook Dinsmore and was born on Bowdoinham Ridge in Nicholas Sparks east field near the stream.

No doubt he built the house and barn but the first record we have is the birth of his first child, Mary.

Mary was born in 1829, died 1913, married Darius Parks, 1853, lived on County Road.

Lettice married Redford Tolman, lived on Swan Island. Lillie

Rebecca died 1844, age 5, buried in McFadden yard.

Winship married Lucy Blair, a neighbor's daughter, lived one mile to the north- 2 children

Abigail married Winter Robbins, a neighbor, lived in Boston 4 children

Benjamin married- one child-Florence

In 1934 All that remains of the old house is the cellar with lillies, lilacs, and a Balm of Gilead tree standing near.

The old house was taken down by Lemuel Carleton after he owned the farm.

The barn burned in a grass fire in April, 1905.

Mrs. Dinsmore died and Mr. Dinsmore married a widow, Mrs. Harmon, with three boys, William Mulbury, Albert, Winchell.

About 1855 or earlier, William Mulbury Harmon married Emma Dinsmore who lived on the second farm to the south.

He had a part of his stepfather's (William Dinsmore) farm and he built the present house up near the road.

Mr. Harmon did not live long and the house was sold to Elbridge

Hatch who had one child Mary,

Mary Hatch, when she was seventeen, married Payson Preble and died soon after her son, Edward, was born.

William Dinsmore, who still lived in the old house, died in 1865. Some years later the house was sold to a Sturtevant family. Their children were William, Fred, Horace, Harrison, and a daughter. Elbridge Hatch, who lived in the house near the road, sold to Milton Jenkins, he did not live long and it was sold to John Morse, who had married Clara Whitmore from the River Road.

They were married August 14, 1870.

She was born October 2, 1852, died February 7, 1927, the wife of Banks Ridley of Litchfield.

They had one son, Walter H. who died November 19, 1926, at the home of his mother in Litchfield.

Mr. Morse died in 1874 and she moved away.

Somewhere about this time, Mr. Sturtevant, who lived in the house in the field, died and the two places were sold to Lemuel Carleton in the fall of 1874.

Mr. Carleton was a master ship carpenter.

Mr. and Mrs. Carleton had three children when they came here. Ellen, Isa, and Charles.

A few years later an older daughter, Caroline and her husband, Charles Blagdon, came from Mass. and bought a farm, one and a half miles away on the cross road to Bowdoinham Ridge.

Charles Carleton died in 1881 of consumption.

Isa married Abner Foye and they lived at home.

In August 1883 a daughter Caroline, was born.

In 1887 Isa died of consumption.

In 1892 Mr. Carleton died.

In 1893 Mr. Foye went to North Dakota.

That winter Mrs. Carleton, daughter Ellen, and granddaughter went to live with Mr. and Mrs. Blagdon.

In June 1893 they moved back to the Carleton farm

In August Ellen died.

In January 1901 Mr. Blagdon died.

In 1895 Caroline Foye went to North Dakota.

Mrs. Blagdon, Mrs. Carleton, and Mr. Blagdon's nephew, Fred Dickinson whom the Blagdons brought up lived there until 1902.

In 1902, February 28, Mrs. Carleton died while sitting in her chair, aged 88.

In August, Fred who had graduated from Bowdoinham High School went to Boston to work.

A few weeks later Mrs. Blagdon closed the house and went away to work.

In 1903 Fred went to Chicago to work, he graduated from the University of Chicago, in 1934 was in New York City, he became a smart business man.

For some years Mrs. Blagdon lived with her cousins, Capt. and Mrs. Thos. Carleton of Cedar Grove.

In April 1905 she sold the farm to Chas Utter of New York, moving some of her things across the road to the home of Viola Graves, furnishing a room for her own use when she cared to come.

In June, 1922 she went to North Dakota to live with the Foyes and died there. Oct. 1926 - a 81 yrs.

Mr. and Mrs. Utter were young people in the late twenties with no children.

In March 1906 Mrs. Utter's brother, Jay Crowell, and four children came here to live. Lucille the youngest being three months, her mother dying at her birth.

Mr. and Mrs. Utter adopted the baby.

In August 1907, Mr. Crowell married Mrs. Audrey Kingsbury who lived on the Robbins place with her small daughter, Dorcas.

Mr. Crowell and his family went to New York to live.

In 1906 or 1907 Mr. Utter built a large barn south of the house.

He kept a large herd of cows and sold milk to the Turner Centre Creamery in Richmond.

In 1919, they moved to Richmond Village and a Hagar family lived on the farm for some months and carried on the farm, one Hagar child was born there.

In November 1920 Mr. Utter sold the farm and stock to William Clark of New Hampshire.

Mr. and Mrs. Clark only staid a few weeks, returning to New Hampshire.

Mr. Utter took the place back but only lived there when haying or farming.

In June 1920 he bought a house on High Street, Richmond Village.

In July 1933 he exchanged this house and the farm for a farm on the County Road, nearly opposite Cotton's Cemetery.

Fred Munster of Mass. bought the Carleton farm.

He has a wife and son, Robert, about ten years of age. 1934