

Winter Harbor Historical Society

P.O. Box 93, Winter Harbor, ME 04693

May 2017

NEWSLETTER

pound.

Winter Harbor Historical Society Building

The board of the Winter Harbor Historical Society have continued to devote funds and time to our aging building on Hammond Lane. The second floor of this former grammar school has been repainted and windows were repaired with new rope, weights and glazing. Upgrades for the first floor electric heat were made and windows were, also made weather tight. This building continues to be a labor of love to protect the collections and donations. Diana Young and Johanna Smith have spent hours cleaning, and organizing the museum. Brent Hurd continues as our contractor for repairs.

Christmas in July

Our fundraisers will include an indoor yard sale at the Winter Harbor Gym on July 15. Please contact us to make donations or to set up a table with your own sale items. winterharborhistory@gmail.com or call Debbie Martin at 963-5555

2017 Programs

at

7:00pm *Winter Harbor Historical Society building*

June 21 The Winter Harbor Water Company
speaker Shirley Chase

July 19 John M Hayes, Resident Screenplay Writer
speaker Sanford Phippen

August 16 Area Projected Summer Colony Resorts
(winners-losers) speaker Willie Granston

September 20 Sargent Street Then and Now speaker
Pearl Barto

See Gouldsboro Historical Society Programs at
<http://www.gouldsborohistory.org/2017-programs>

Bangor Daily News Historical Tidbits

1909: School at Lower Harbor opened in local Bickford home.

May 1915: Concrete sidewalks from CE Grover to Winter Harbor Inn built by James Webber.

Oct 1915: Plans underway to organize company of Boy Scouts.

Jan 1916: State traveling library at the WH High School.

1916: Clean up Week by Campfire Girls and Boy Scouts

Mar 1916: Price of lobsters highest for years: 45 cents per

Mar 1916: Morrison home on Thursday had a live butterfly in sun parlor. Definite sign of spring.
Mar 1920: Winter Harbor Free Library, Certificate of Organization; recorded.

1922: work on sewer progressing rapidly.

Dec 1926: First radio set by Ivan Hansen

Jan 19, 1923: Cyclone struck Winter Harbor from 10 AM to 7:30 PM reaching its height. Levelled all in its site.

Mar 7, 1923: Worst snowstorm of the season.

1924: Capt. Hammond gave the Prince of Wales a fast ride on the Hudson.

Apr 25, 1925: Ferry "Schoodic" sold. It ran for 17 years from Bar Harbor to Gouldsboro and Winter Harbor.

Jun 1925: Store and home of Mr & Mrs Richard Farrar wired for electric lights. 1925

1925: Electric street lights.

May 1926: New Sullivan bridge opened

Bickford Homestead/ Littlefield Gallery



Ray Bickford, Sr., son of long time owners, Reynold and M. May Bickford, Hancock County's Registry of Deeds and the memories of late historian, Douglas Torrey are the primary sources of information about this corner of Main and Sargent Street home. The first record of ownership was to Nancy Tupper Weston, born in Jonesboro about 1842 and married to Horace Weston, a carpenter and Civil War Infantry corporal. She transferred the property to her older son; contractor, Frank Weston and his wife, Anna Myrick Weston in 1924. Frank Weston had been active in the development of Gouldsboro Land Improvement and Grindstone Neck. He is known to be the principal contractor for the Grindstone Inn. He and his wife inherited, purchased and sold multiple properties throughout Winter Harbor until his death in 1934. Frank Weston was one of the

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three founding selectmen of Winter Harbor in 1895 and operated a hardware store on Main Street, rebuilding after the 1922 fire.

The Westons sold this house to Mattie Crafts of Calais in 1926. Town treasurer, Bert T. Bickford was kept busy filing and releasing tax liens on the house and Ray recalls stories about the Crafts' attempts at arson. Mary Crafts transferred ownership to Jesse and Gladys Fitzgerald in October 1936. The Fitzgerald family are known to be among the earliest settlers of Gouldsboro. Jesse Fitzgerald was born in 1888 and census data show his occupation as fisherman. World War II left many eastern Winter Harbor homes abandoned, as men were lost or recruited to work in southern factories.

Again this grand old home was transferred to another of Gouldsboro's earliest families. Reynold Bickford bought the property from the Town of Winter Harbor in 1943. Reynold was the second son of Edward Bickford; fourth generation of original land grant owner, Joseph Bickford, veteran of the Revolutionary War. Natahlie Hahn's book: Winter Harbor states that there were no permanent settlers in Winter Harbor until Joseph Bickford arrived before 1800 with his three sons and five daughters. When Reynold Bickford moved his family from a neighboring home to this corner nearly 150 years later, he continued the Bickford presence in Winter Harbor with his own nine children: Ralph, Vernon, Barbara, Ray, June, Betty, Delores, William and Linda. Reynold Bickford was known to be a hard worker for the Grindstone Company, delivering ice and coal throughout the town.

145 Main Street was sold by Bickford heirs in 2005 to Jeffery Ingalls, James Hayes and Julie Cameron of Bangor and Brewer. Contractor, Mert Chipman committed months to the renovation of this stately home, until it was purchased by native Mainers, Kelly and Jane Littlefield in August 2008. The Littlefields have brought new life and function to this property by opening an art gallery and welcoming visitors and neighbors to share their home.

Ask any of the Bickford family to relate their experiences with the resident ghosts of their homestead.

Receive news and updates on Winter Harbor Historical Society Facebook.

Winter Harbor Historical Society
President: Diana Young
Vice-President: Deborah Joy Martin
Secretary: Pearl Follett Barto
Treasurer: Cathy Lilly Carruthers
Building & Grounds: Brent Hurd
Board Members
Johanna Smith Mary Laury
Dan Keegan

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