## SCHOOLS OF SEBAGO

presented by



SEBAGO HISTORICAL SOCIETY

1997 Calendar



Brick schoolhouse on Rt. 107. Picture taken about 1900.

Those known: Belva Decker — 3rd girl standing from left, Jesse Decker — boy standing on right, Roland Decker — dark-haired boy kneeling. Mame White — teacher

Part of the foundation of the Old Dike School. This school was located on Douglas Hill Rd. about 300 feet up the hill on the opposite side of the entrance to Tower Road, Channel 6 TV.



The first schoolhouse in town was south of Howard C. Whites on the west side of the road. We believe the location of this to be what is now called the Town House Ledges. Sebago held its first town meeting here in 1826. Miss Rebecca Hale was said to be the first school teacher in Sebago, prior to 1798. In 1830, Sebago had two hundred and seventy-one school children and was divided into six districts, drawing one hundred and seventy six dollars and fifty cents for their support. Each district was required to have a schoolhouse 18' x 24', well boarded and shingled outside; ceiled to the windows and plastered inside; with seats, writing tables and a desk for the master; a good chimney, panel door and windows shuttered outside and to have at least 72 squares of 7" x 9" glass.

Sebago Historical Society honors the memory of Sebago Historians William Haley, Fred Meserve, and Larry Nason, as well as record keeper Sadie Fitch, Emma Douglas, May Fitch and Grace Snow. We thank everyone whose contributions of history have made this calendar possible.

Contributors

Carroll & Barbara Cutting Neal & Jill Allen A Friend Alfred & Mariemma Jordan Sebago Lion's Club Marty & Al Chambers Mr & Mrs Harry Martin A Friend

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## THE BRIDGTON NEWS

Subscribe by calling 647-2851, or pick up a copy every Thursday at Jordan's Store, Fitch's or Four Seasons.



Sebago Historian: Franklin Irish pointing to part of the foundation of the old Potter School built in 1860. This school was located on Rt. 107, across from the entrance to Peabody Pond Road.



The East Sebago School was located about 200' above Fitch's Store on the opposite side of the road. Dr. LE Barnes, a former student, wrote of having his knuckles rapped twice for "accidentally" dipping Ruth Wormwood's long golden braids in his inkwell. This school was used until 1951. It is now the private home and business, Sebago Millworks, of David and Helen Twombly.





## Convene School

District No. 17 Sebago, Maine June 8, 1934

all a

Isabelle Gray, Teacher

Celin H. Sanborn

Supt.

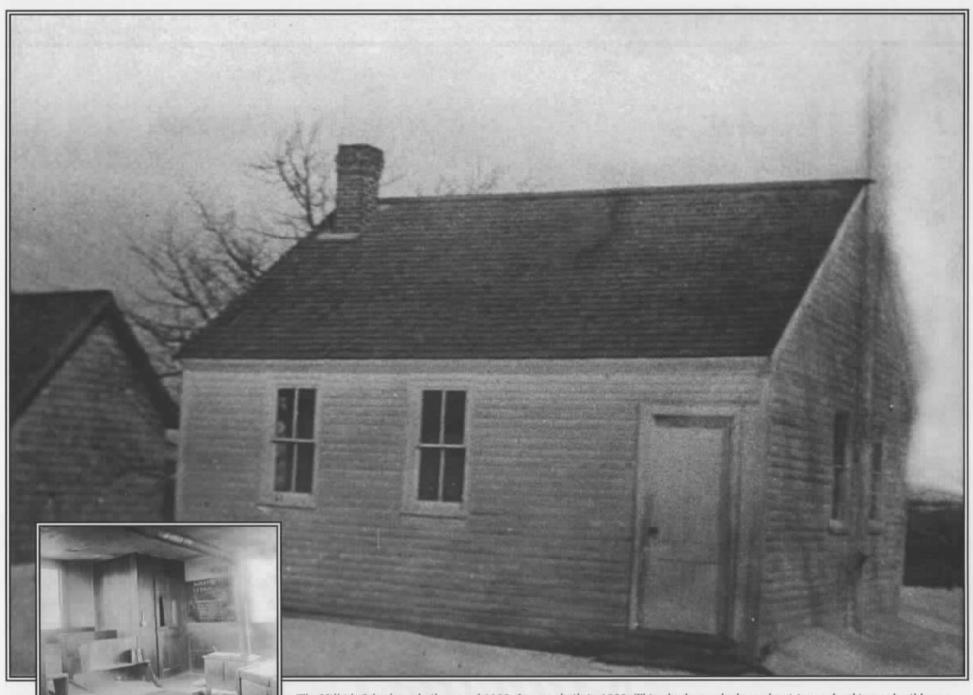
School Board

Cecil L. Barnes

Clarence E. Ward

Everett L. Chadbourne

New Limington's (now Convene) first schoolhouse was just west of the Convene Church on the Hiram Road. In 1847 a new schoolhouse was built west of the present one. It burned in 1873 and the present one was built in 1874. This school closed in 1951. It is now owned by Roberta Douglass.



The Hillside School was built around 1832. It was rebuilt in 1922. This school never had any electricity or plumbing, only oil lamps and an outhouse. It was closed in 1931 due to the failure of maintaining an average of eight pupils. Franklin and Helen Irish lived there from 1934-1937 and their son Richard was born there. It is now owned by Jennifer Rairigh.



The Folly School was built in 1854 near the intersection of the Folly Road and Peaked Mountains Road. In picture is Lunetta Poor Chessey, first resident teacher and known for her poetry about Sebago. At one time Madge Douglass taught here, having some male students in their twenties. There was a known drug problem as they chewed tobacco. A pan had to be placed in the center of the schoolroom for a spittoon.

Known on left seated: Leon White, Florence White Frost, G. Cleveland White. On left standing: Cora White Weed, Teacher - Lunetta Poor Chessey.



The Larabee School was Located on the left side of Peaked Mountain Road just a short distance from Jim Shaw Hill Road. Around 1920, a belfiy was added. Students earned money for this by holding socials and selling chances. Records show that in 1916, this school had wallpaper and that H.A. Gregory was paid \$2.00 for cleaning the vault (privy). After closing it was used by loggers who worked in the area.



Picture taken in 1916. Known - Left to Right: Orinda Dyer, Edward Dyer, ?, Lionel Hutchins, Lloyd Hutchins, Everett Chadborne, Cuyler Poor, ?, Bernard Poor, Florence Poor, Teacher - Edna Lane.



Picture taken in 1910. Left to Right: Albert Anderson, Herbert Blake, Irving Shaw, Elmer Blake, Vernie Gregory, Cecil Turner, Ola Burnell, Lulu Gregory, Ira Nason, Edna Bacheldor, Lila Bacheldor, Ada Shaw, Lizzie Gregory Front Row: Florence Gregory, Elmer Shaw, Helen Stickney, Helen Nason, Chub Anderson, Charlie Nason

The North Sebago schoolhouse was built in 1859 on land donated by the Robinson Family of Lila Bacheldor Coford. Church services were held here until the present Methodist Episcopal church was built in 1903. Lila purchased the schoolhouse in 1951 and it is now the summer home of her son Donald Coford.



The Sebago Elementary School is located in East Sebago on Rt. 114 at junction Rt. 11. It was formerly the home of many generations of the Fitch family and purchased from Harry and Edna Fitch. It was donated to the town by Dorothy Spaulding and accepted at the March town meeting in 1951. The school opened in November of 1951. It has had two major additions and is still in use today.



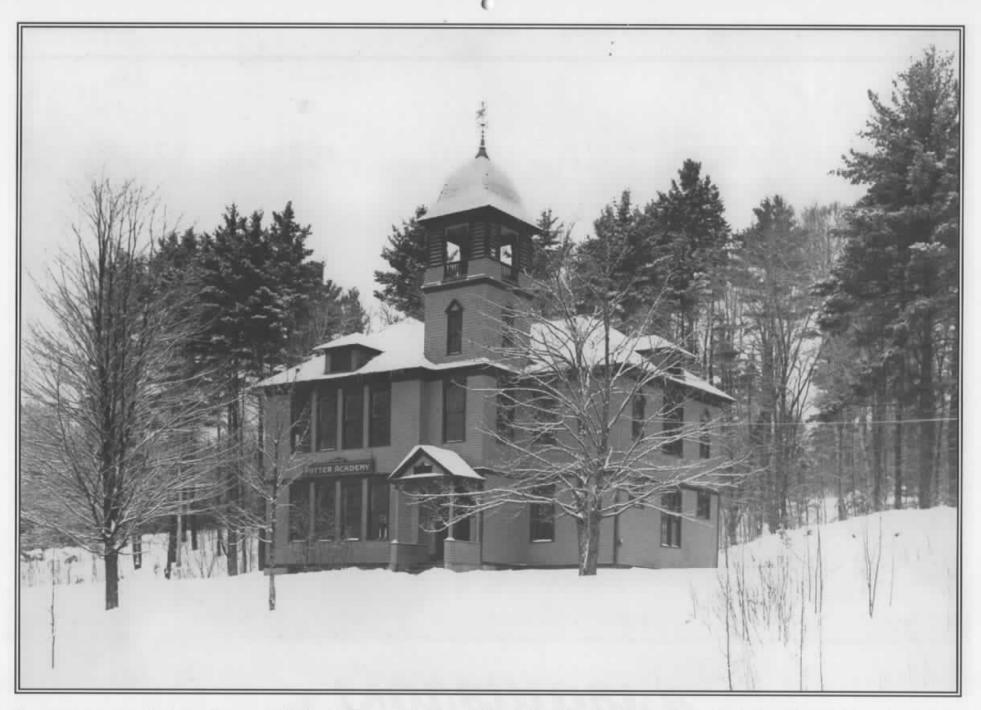
The Sebago Town Hall was located on Rt. 107 across from the present town hall in Sebago Center (Mud City). It was owned by Jim Young and in 1877 used as a general store. It was later sold to the town and in the 20's and 30's used as a boys dormitory. Town meetings and town meeting dinners were held there, as well as basketball games. In 1940 it was divided into several room, kitchen and bathroom and used as a girl's dormitory. The main room and kitchen were used for home economics classes for Potter Academy. The building was torn down in 1976.



The Potter Academy Gymnasium was built in 1941. Downstairs was used as a cafeteria and industrial arts room for the Academy. The building is now the Sebago Town Hall and used for senior citizens noontime meals, suppers, wedding receptions and other private and public activities.



This building known as the Potter Academy principal's residence and boy's dormitory was built by Peter and Almon Young about 1840. It was once a cooper's shop. It was voted to repair the shop for a school. The district agreed to finds boards and nails and at the close of school leave the boards and nails for future building. It was sold to the town for a principal's residence and a boy's dormitory. It is now owned by the estate of Dr. Lowell Barnes.



Potter Academy was located in Sebago Center on the hill above the present town hall. It was built in 1895, Dr. Joseph Fitch Potter left a trust fund to be used for the building and maintenance of the academy, with free tuition to students of Sebago. In 1967, when Sebago joined S.A.D. #61, Potter held its last graduation. It burned in 1974, but the annex was spared. It belongs to the town and is used by Maple Grove Grange #148 and our present Historical Society.

## School Agent's Census Return, 1881.

By Sections 60 and 61, of Chapter 11, of the Revised Statutes, as amended by Act approved February 23, 1876, every School Agent is required to make to the Assessors and Superintending School Committee, in the month of April annually, under oath, certified lists "of the children in his district between four and twenty-one years of age, as they existed on the first day of said month, exclusive of those coming from other places, where they belong, to attend any college or academy, or to labor in any factory therein." Agents will please notice that it is not enough to give the number of scholars in their several districts, but a list of their names is required by law.

I hereby certify, under oath, that the following is a correct list of the names of the scholars belonging to this District, between the ages of four and twenty-one years, as they existed on the first day of April, 1881.

(Signed,) B. H. Whitney } Agent of District No. 2

Cown of Selago

1881.

Personally appeared B Whiting and made oath to the above Certificate.

Before me, Service of the Peace in Structure.

April 1881.

NAMES.	AGES.	NAMES.	AGES.
Annie Le Douglass	15	Edward & Blake	20
Beng MD ouglas	14	Eliza S Brown	16
d M. Douglass	112	Edwin Le Jewell	9
he is M D ouglass	7	Mary & gewell	/
Birtha A Douglas	1	Charles & Willam	18