

SEBAGO HISTORICAL SOCIETY PRESENTS



NEIGHBORHOODS OF SEBAGO 2017

January 2017

Pink Street

in the 1930's and 1940's

Pink Street in East Sebago (now called Baldwin Rd.) is the short section of route 11 from route 114 to where it begins the uphill climb towards Baldwin. In the early part of the last century it was a close-knit community, with a store, boarding house, community hall, two garages and a boat building shop. At the beginning of the street was Sanborn's store, pictured at right, owned by LaGrove and Julia Sanborn. LaGrove was also the postmaster of the East Sebago Post Office, which was next to the store on Rt 114. The store was built over a brook and had a trap door cut in the floor to allow patrons to fish while they exchanged tall tales. Gas pumps were installed later, when the need arose. After the store was torn down, the post office moved to the Sanborn home, where their daughter Eva continued as postmaster. Eva's son Gordon Sanborn, and his wife Barbara, took over the post office until it was moved to its present location.

La Grove was a carpenter and boatbuilder by trade. Pictured at right is the Minnetta, a steamboat that he built in the early 1900's. He is on the far right with a group of passengers. They were picked up at Sebago Lake Station in Standish, where the train from Portland stopped every day and brought to this end of the lake.





Next on the street was the Blake House. It was a popular boarding house run by Jenny Blake. Small portable cabins, pictured at right, were across the street and contained sleeping quarters to accommodate overflow guests. With Sebago Lake so close, the boarding houses were fully occupied during all the warmer months. Meals were prepared in the main house by Mrs Blake, with help from her daughters and summer staff. Henry worked as a clerk in Sanborn's Store.

February 2017



March 2017



Next was the former home of Alvah and Flora Ward, with Lionel (Lonnie) Burnell and his wife Sarah living there in the 30's and 40's. Lonnie was a fishing guide in the 1920's and then became gardener at Rockcraft Lodge, working there for about 40 years. Their son Francis lived next to them in the little house pictured below. He married Rachel Brown in 1936. Rachel worked at Eddie's Dairy Delight in its early days and was known for her wonderful clam cakes. A sister to Barbara Sanborn, the postmaster, she also worked as a clerk in the post office for 30 years. Francis worked at Fitch's Mill.



The Community Hall, left, was built in 1937 to hold meetings of the Community Club. The club itself was organized in 1926. The ladies worked on service projects for retirement and nursing homes and held public suppers to raise money for their projects. Several local groups and organizations used the hall, as well as Sunday School classes, which were held here for many years. An annual halloween party was held every fall for Sebago school children. Dr Bischoffberger from Naples and his nurse came regularly and gave health exams to the local children.

April 2017



Moving down Pink St on the left side we come to the former home of Oscar and Ida Martin, which his mother, Caroline Davis Martin, had built for them. Oscar was the local barber, having a shop right in his home. Weekend card games were popular entertainment with the neighborhood men. Pictured here is Frank Sawyer on the left and Oscar Martin on the right. Oscar was also a woodworker, helping brother Carlton in his boat shop.

Next to the Martins was the former home of Frank and Elsie Sawyer, above right. Frank was a Maine hunting and fishing guide in the Sebago Lake region for nearly 50 years, serving as president of the association at one time. They had two daughters and a son. Elsie was a Johnson from Bridgton and descended from the Knapp family, some of the earliest settlers in the area. Her grandfather was B.F. Knapp, one of Sebago's founding fathers.



May 2017

CARLTON D. MARTIN
BUILDER OF
FINE CEDAR ROW BOATS
STEAM AND MOTOR LAUNCHES - REPAIRING
Telephone 5-7 East Sebago, Maine



Carlton Martin learned the boatbuilding trade from LaGrove Sanborn. He built his shop with a loft, where he made the boats. The aroma of cedar shavings and varnish were the first things everyone noticed when entering the building. Carlton and brother Oscar and nephew Bunk Martin made the row boats by hand, carefully crafting each piece. The boats were all double ended until the invention of an outboard motor, called a kicker, which required a square ended boat. The large work area in the loft was occasionally cleared for dancing. Nell Cartret played the piano and Oscar Martin accompanied her on the banjo.

Lumber and completed boats were stored downstairs. Silent movies were shown on this floor. One of the neighborhood ladies, usually Nell, played the piano while the movie projector was hand cranked by the owner, who brought it up from Portland.



Bunk Martin, left and Carlton on right.

June 2017



GALL AT
C. H. WORMHOOD
GARAGE
 FOR
FORD PARTS, EXPERT REPAIR WORK
COURTEOUS TREATMENT,
REASONABLE RATES
Convene, Maine



Wormhood's Garage was at the end of Pink St, moving there from its original location in Convene. Chet Wormhood was the son of Dora Martin and her first husband Lewis. He learned auto mechanics while in the service during WW I. Pictured above is Chet and his first wife Avis, who died shortly after their second daughter was born. Chet then married Susie Stone and they had two daughters. He maintained the equipment for the town of Sebago and was the first person to plow the roads in the town using a tractor plow. His health began to decline due to a brain tumor so he and his third wife went to New York City to try to find a cure. He died there in 1939 at 45 years of age. The former garage is now the home of Hartley and Ruth Shaw. Chet's office became Ruth's hair salon.



CHET'S
GARAGE & TRAILER SHOP

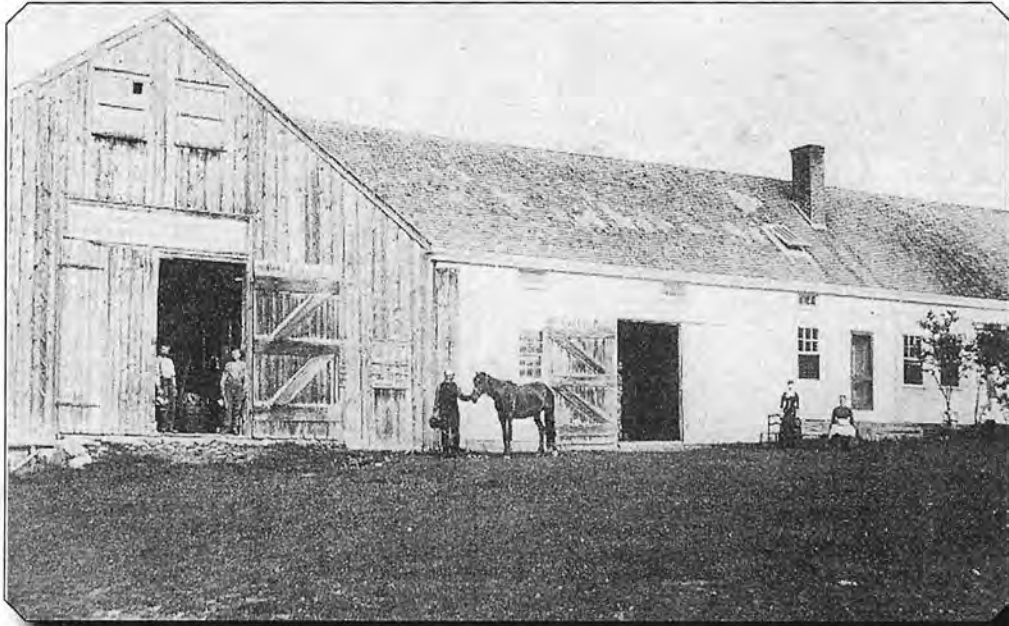
GENERAL REPAIRING
 TRAILERS FOR SALE
 ALSO MADE TO ORDER

PHONE



Hillside Area Jackson Farm

July 2017



The area we know as Hillside runs north on Rt 107 from Poor's Hill to the Swamp Rd.

The Jackson farm, located on the right side of 107 at the foot of Poor's Hill was originally built by Daniel Johnson Hill. He was the son of Daniel Hill and Polly Lakin, early settlers of Sebago. D.J. Hill and his second wife Mary had a daughter named Ella, who married Thomas Jackson of Naples. Thomas helped run the farm until the elder Hill was no longer able. Thomas and Ella had twin boys, one of whom died in infancy. The other son, Daniel H Jackson may be remembered by some as the one who took over his father's farm and cared for him in his infirmity. Thomas died in 1939, and Daniel died in 1940 as the result of a hunting accident. At left is the farm, with Thomas Jackson holding the horse. In the open barn door is possibly Daniel Jackson and a hired hand. To the right is Ella and possibly a cousin, Mary Martin, who lived with them.



The farm was then purchased by Ralph and Achsah Flint, and later by Al and Mariemma Jordan. They lived there quite a few years before selling to their daughter and son in law, who spend summers there. Photo at left is as the farm looks today.

August 2017

Poor Family Farm

Settled in 1802 by Jonathan Poor, this 200 acre farm, located on the right at the top of Poor's Hill, was kept in the same family for over 180 years. Jonathan and his sons Tyler and Leander were Founding Fathers of Sebago, signing the 1825 petition to separate from Baldwin. Another son, Jonathan D., was a talented landscape artist, painting many well-known murals with his uncle, Rufus Porter. After the early deaths of Jonathan D. and his wife, their young son Leander A. moved into the Poor Homestead to live with his grandparents, and uncle Leander, Aunt Martha and her son Charles Pendexter.

Leander A. and Charles both served as officers during the Civil War. By 1880, Major Leander A. and his wife Mary moved their family from Denmark back to the family farm. Two more generations of Poors followed them, living in this same house.

Summers were spent there by cousins in the 70's and 80's and then the homestead finally left family hands in the mid 1980's when it was sold and divided into separate lots. Mike Kipikas bought the house and 88 acres for his family. He has spent many hours renovating it, and bringing it back to the way it once looked. The photo at right is as it currently looks.



White Farm

The White Family Farm was also at the top of Poor's Hill, but on the left. Passing from the Boulter family to the Weemans, it was purchased in 1916 by Grover Cleveland White, who lived here with his siblings Leon, Mamie, and Annie. It was a working farm with cattle and milk cows. Notice the second story covered walkway connecting the two barns, which was a more convenient way to walk between them in cold or inclement weather. Mamie was a school teacher who taught in many of the local one room school houses, while the men ran the family farm and dairy. Milk was sold to the Hiram Creamery. Annie was a caregiver for elderly folks who needed someone to assist them in daily tasks. After the family members passed away, the farm was sold to Lester Irish, who never lived there, but sold it to Dan Axtman. Dan's son Chris lives there now.



Photo at right is the White family, with mother Celestia holding her youngest granddaughter. Photo taken in 1923 shortly after father Cassius' death, with eight of the 10 children and their spouses present.



September 2017



October 2017

Down the hill a ways, on the right side was the Irish family homestead. Charles Irish purchased the John Pierce homestead from widow Ruth. He lived there with his wife Almira and family, as well as his father Asa, until Asa's death. It then passed to Charles and Almira's son Howard and his wife Lucy. They raised their family of five and added a third story, pictured below. In 1897 Howard Irish was named postmaster of Hillside Post Office and operated it in this home. A number of years later Howard and Lucy moved next door and son Harry and family took over the homestead. Harry and his family lived there until 1974 when it was struck by lightning and burned to the ground.



At left is Franklin Irish age 15 and mother Lucy Weeman Irish. Photo taken 1924.



November 2017

Some of the Pleasant Drives.


	Miles.
Hancock or Peabody Pond, -	1
Perley's Mills Station, -	2
Elm Cottage, - - -	2
South Bridgton Church, -	3
Around the square, - - -	4
Sebago Center, - - -	4
Sebago Lake via Sandy Beach,	7
Bay of Naples Inn, - - -	7
Bridgton House, - - -	8
Mt. Pleasant, - - -	12
Fryeburg, - - -	13
North Conway, - - -	22
Portland, - - -	34
Top of Mt. Washington, -	48



On the same side, further down the hill, was the home of Lewis and Maude Merrifield Dolloff, who bought the former Elias Witham farm in 1897 and raised their 12 children there. It soon became a boarding house, which they named Sunset Villa. The advertising card at the right boasted of a wide piazza with a view of the White Mountains. Being very close to the Bridgton and Saco River Railroad line afforded guests easy access to their lodging along with daily mail delivery. The house was rented after Lewis' death and eventually fell into disrepair. After it was torn down, a smaller house was built on the same foundation and Connie and Ted Flint lived there. Brian Grady now has his home and business there.

WIDE PIAZZA,
GOOD FISHING AND BOATING.

**HIGH LOCATION,
VIEW OF WHITE MOUNTAINS FROM HOUSE.**



"SUNSET VILLA," L. A. DOLLOFF, PROP.

DAILY MAIL.

**FINE SCENERY,
R. R. STATION, PERLEY'S MILLS,
BRIDGTON & SACO RIVER RAILROAD.**

HILLSIDE, MAINE.

December 2017

At the foot of the hill on the left side, just past the Swamp Road, is the former Merrifield home, where Loren and Edna raised eight children. Belonging in the 1850's to Loren's grandparents, Simeon and Parmelia Merrifield, it then went to Loren's mother Sarah and then to Loren after he married.

Below are the Merrifield children. Seated from left: Maude, Richard, and Madge, with Flossie next to her. Standing from left are Lee, Beatrice, and Percy.

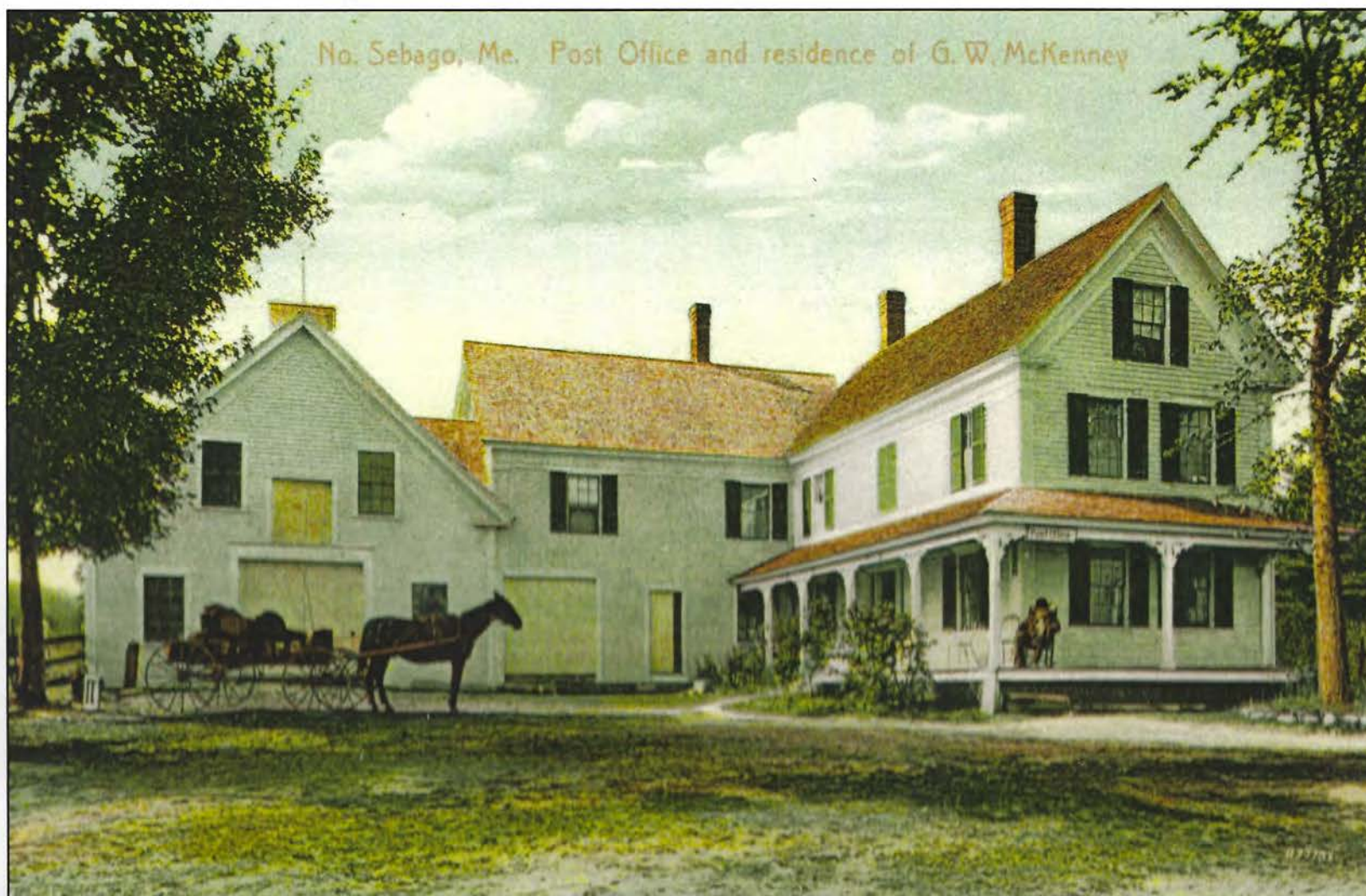


To the right is Edna Merrifield with Madge Merrifield Douglas holding baby Merle. Standing next to them is believed to be Maude with the black cat.



Coming 2018 - North Sebago

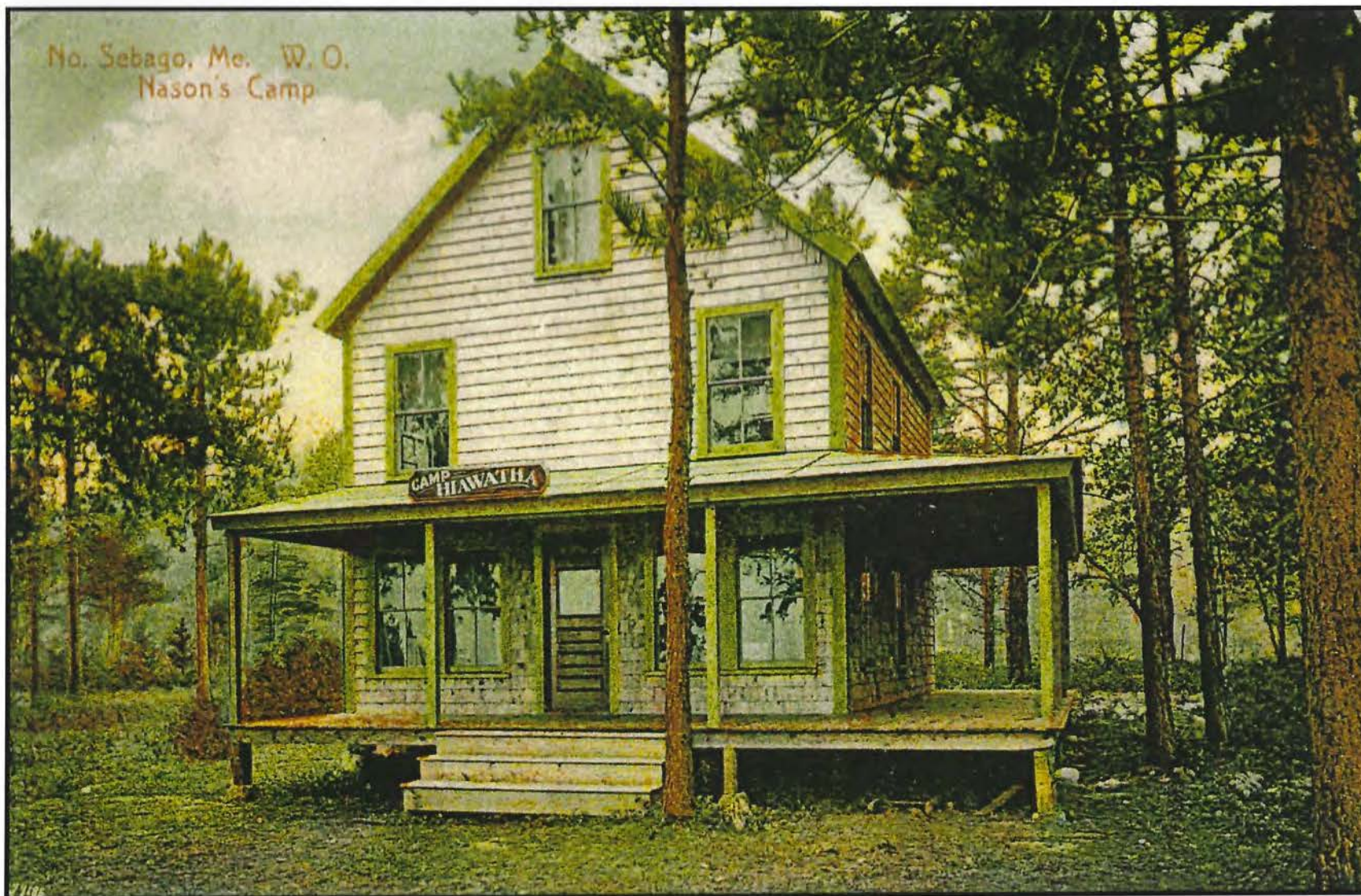
Home of George W McKenney and North Sebago Post Office



If you have pictures and stories to share of your family's North Sebago home in the last century, please contact a member of the Sebago Historical Society, send a comment to our Facebook page or our website www.sebagohistoricalsociety.org

Coming 2018 - North Sebago

Nason's Camp Hiawatha



The Calendar Committee: Sue Cummings, Susan Gassett and Sherrill Brown would like to thank all those contributing photos and stories to our calendar. All information is as accurate as can be determined at the time of printing.