

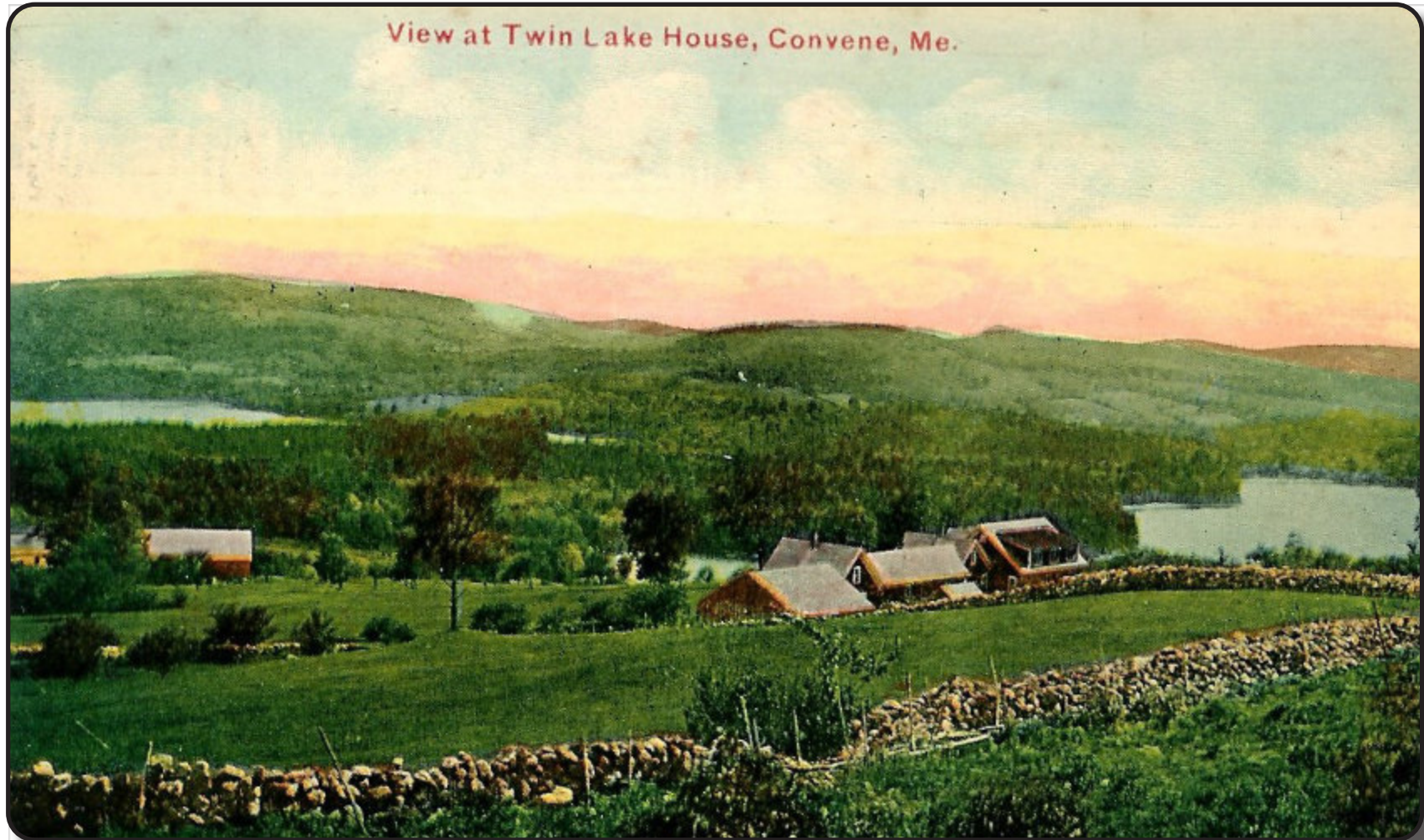
# SEBAGO HISTORICAL SOCIETY PRESENTS



## NEIGHBORHOODS OF SEBAGO HOGFAT HILL 2021

# January 2021

## *Twin Lake House*



1900 was a busy year for Annie Laurie Douglass. She was cooking for the Douglas Farm boarding house on Douglas Hill and building a boarding house of her own at the top of Hogfat Hill. Arthur Flye, her sister Delia's husband, did the construction of what would be named the Twin Lake House. Large enough

to accommodate 50 guests, this inn looked down on Barker and Southeast Ponds. Annie married Charles Hunt in 1905 and they continued in the business until their deaths in 1932 and 1937. Sometime after Charles's death it was sold by their son. A tragic fire in August of 1940 consumed the entire inn.

# *February 2021*

## *Norman Douglas House*

The second house from the top of Hogfat Hill, on the west side (left as you go up the hill), was built on land conveyed to Norman Douglas in 1948 by his uncle and cousin, Oliver Morton and John Douglas. Norman and brother Ken began construction on the house in 1952. The family

lived there until after Norman's death in 1968. The property was sold a couple of times and has been owned since 1980 by Jackie Andrews. She has been enjoying the beautiful view with companion Glenn Grant for many years.



# *March 2021*

## *John Douglas House*

John, son of Morton and Susie Douglas, and his wife Phyllis were deeded a plot of land just south of Norman Douglas on the west side of Hogfat Hill in June of 1943. They built a house

there and raised their family of four children. The house has remained in the family since then, now being occupied by a grandson, Ron Willey and his family.





Oliver Morrill Douglas and wife Laura first lived in a small house in front of the one pictured, where, according to a great granddaughter, 11 of their 12 children were born. The large house was built sometime before 1887. Morrill's son Morton later lived here, with his son Grover Douglas on the first floor and Morton and Susie Douglas upstairs. After

Morton died, Susie continued to live there. Their daughter Dot and husband Richard Lamb inherited the house and lived upstairs. The house was owned for many years by George and Betty Tinkham, who ran the Stop and Chop Christmas Tree Farm there. It is now Hogfat Hill Farm, owned and operated by Seth and Amanda McAllister.

# May 2021

## Rufus Douglass House

*This is an excerpt from an article written by Harriet Pinansky. The Pinanskys are the current owners of the property, on the east side of Hogfat Hill Rd.*

“John Douglass bought this land on Hogfat Hill from Francis Strout of Limington in 1822 and deeded it to his son Rufus Douglass in 1842. We believe the current house was built circa 1840-1850, by Rufus Douglass, after his marriage to Lucy Gray, although there may have been an earlier dwelling on the property. Before his death in 1886, Rufus sold the house and land to his son Charles, who lived there with his wife Abbie Whitney Partridge Douglass until his death in 1916. Abbie inherited the house after Charles’ death and we think she lived there until 1942, when she sold it to some of her Whitney relatives.”



Ann and Bob Brown bought the house and land in 1962 and moved their family of three children into it. Bob, son of Herbert and Marion, had grown up at the foot of Hogfat Hill.

## *Alonzo Jewell House*

*June 2021*



In 1885, Alonzo Jewell, son of Thomas Jewell, bought the land and farm on the west side of the road that had formerly belonged to John Meserve. Alonzo moved his family of four girls and wife Alice to this new home. According to his daughter Ada (Bert), the home was one story when he bought it. His father-in-law Samuel Paine was a carpenter, and he added the second story and wrap-around porch. The larger

picture is of the front of the house. The smaller was taken around 1908 with the whole family on the side stairs of the home. In 1909 the property was sold to William Cushman. The Cushman family resided there until after Bill's death in 1936. The house eventually fell into disrepair and was torn down. Daughter Verna Cushman stayed in the neighborhood and became the housekeeper for neighbor Shirley Usher.

## *Morrell Jewell House*

Morrell Jewell built this small cape on the east side of the road in 1828. It is the oldest house in the neighborhood that is still standing. Its construction is rather rare. Instead of using 2x4 boards to construct the framework, plank construction was used. Boards approximately 1 ½ inches thick and 10-12 inches wide were vertically set directly into the sill. The lath boards were nailed to that on the inside and the plaster was applied to the lath. The outside siding was nailed to the planks. Another curious feature was that the lintel, which is built in the cellar and holds up the fireplace and chimney, was made of 8 x 8" timbers, not the usual granite. The fireplace bricks were laid on top of these timbers. The house

is mostly original, or has been restored to a period condition. A narrow steep stairway leads to the upstairs, which is still one large unfinished room. The area between the second story floor joists was filled with corn cobs, which must have been used as insulation.

Many older Sebago people will remember this as the Shirley Usher house. He lived in this house with no electricity,

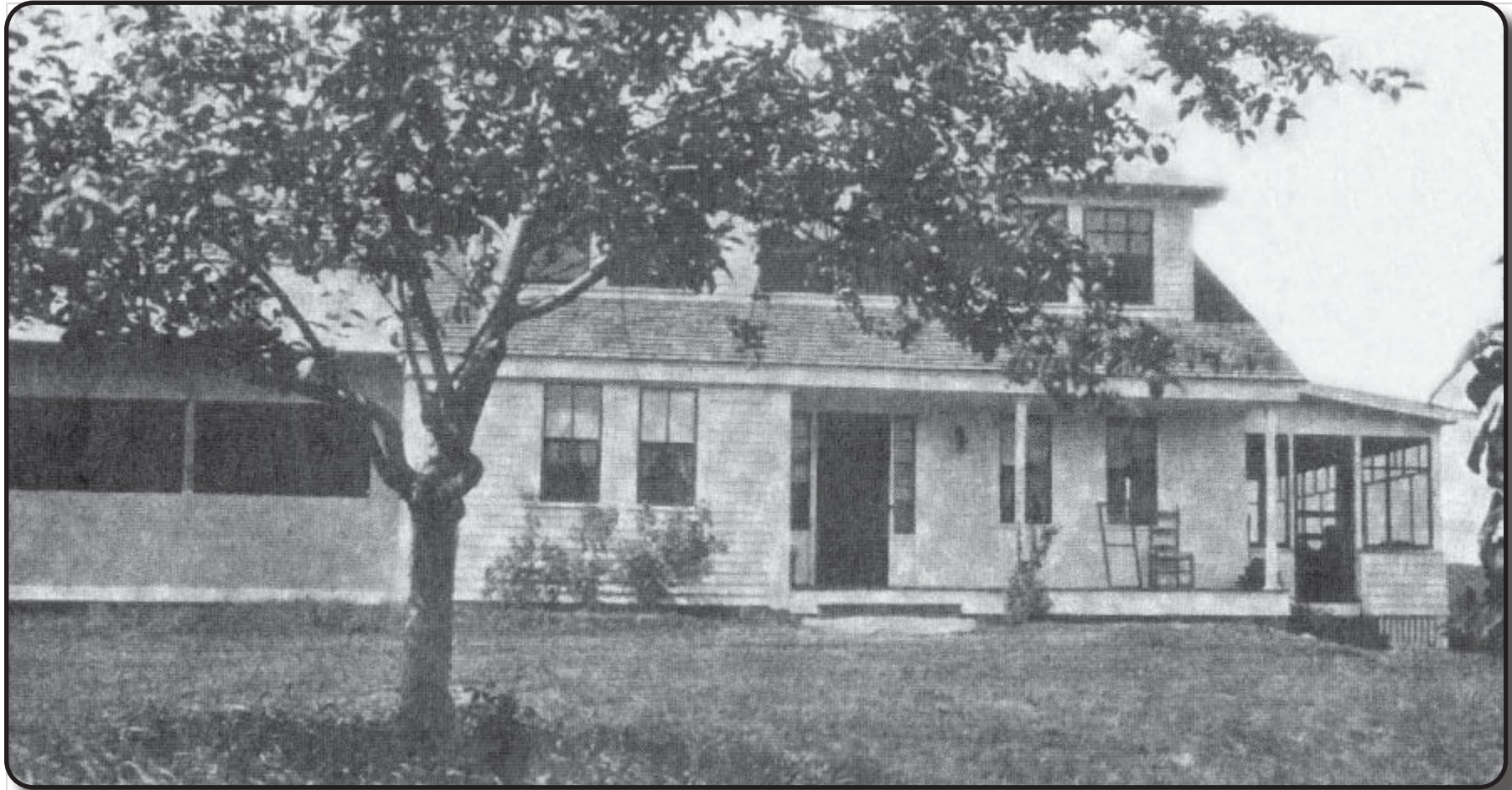
## *July 2021*

running water or central heat for over 40 years. His water came from a well across the road and he heated the house with 3 fireplaces and a wood stove in the kitchen. In 1995 Grosvenor Newcomb bought it and made restorations to the property, adding a kitchen onto the end of the house. It's now the home of Tom and Debbie Taylor.



*August 2021*

*Frank Jewell House*



This property, below the Morrell Jewell place on the west side of the road, was originally part of the Jewell family lands. It went from Morrell Jewell and eventually down to Frank Jewell in 1911. Frank sold it to Jefferson Parsons Richardson in 1914. It is not

known when the house was built, but deeds have referred to a house and outbuildings since the mid 1800s. In the early 1920s the property was sold and became Camp Kuhnawaumbek. The addition on the left was the dining hall.

## *Camp Kuhnawaumbek*

Minnie Mathews was one of three Mathews sisters from Waterville, Maine who attended Colby College in the late 1870s. Minnie was the only woman in her class, and graduated Phi Beta Kappa in 1880. She married another Colby graduate, William Mann, who became a Congregational minister. Minnie voted in 1892 in Colorado, a time when few states granted women suffrage, according to her daughter Lois in a letter to Colby College in 1952.

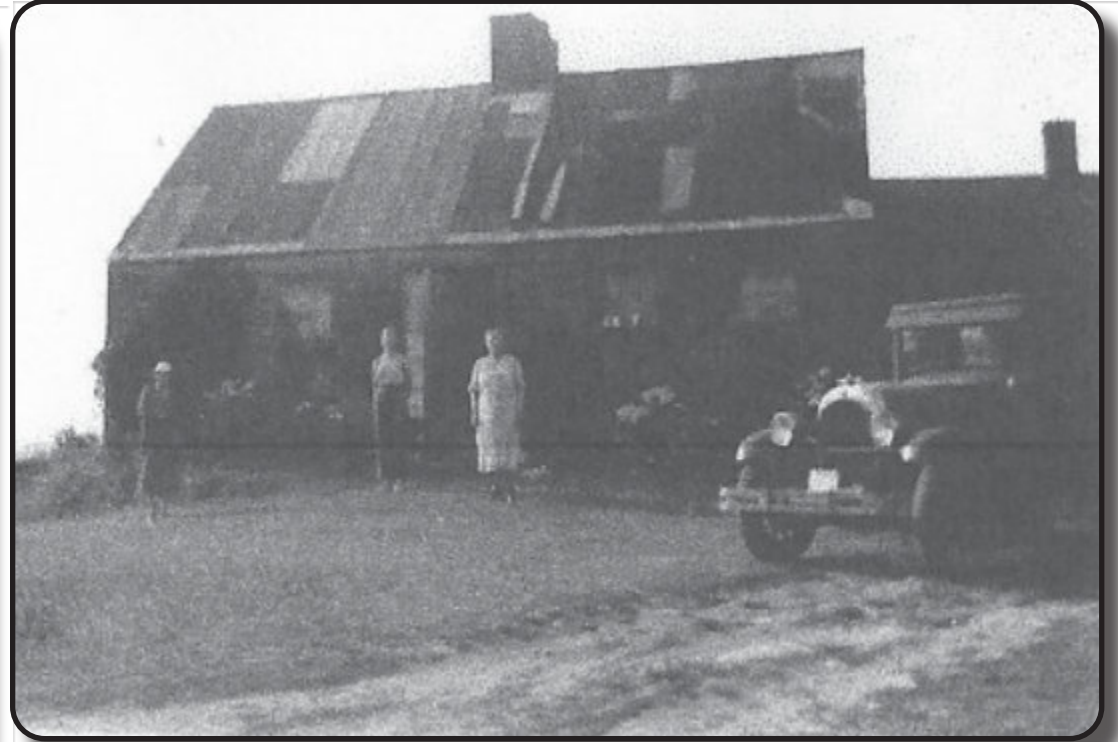
After her husband's death in 1921, she lived with her three daughters and opened a girls camp called Camp Kuhnawaumbek in Convene, Maine. Mother Mann, as she was called, was remembered as always being in bed, as her health was not good. Her daughters, Lois, Helen and Gertrude were directors at the camp, which operated for about 30 years before being sold and reopening as Camp Winaco for boys in 1952. Horseback riding was a major activity at summer camps.

## *September 2021*



# October 2021

## *Coleman Brown House*



It is not known exactly when this house on the east side, bottom of the hill, was built, but the first known family to live there was in the 1850s. The Coleman and Joanna Libby Brown family raised six children there, leaving the house to their son Charles E Brown. Charles and wife Alice had four children, one of whom was Herbert. He and wife Marion raised seven children in this very small cape. For awhile it was also used as the Convene Post Office, using the end of the house for mail sorting, operating there from 1936 to 1955. After Marion died, their youngest daughter Marie and husband Clarence Crawford made it their home. Their daughter Mary Lou now lives there. It has remained in the same family for over 160 years.

## *The Parsonage*

Rev Walker B. Parker, pastor of the Convene Church of the Nazarene from 1866 to 1883, bought this property on the west side of the road from John Haley the same year that he became its pastor. In 1883 Rev. Parker sold this house to Reuben M. Dyer of Boston. After Reuben's death in 1910, his wife Rachel sold it to Leon "Will"

## *November 2021*

Dyer, a second cousin of Reuben's. Will's widow Bertha sold the home to the Convene Church of the Nazarene in 1950. A number of families have owned it since, and it is now owned by Joshua and Jessica Vincent. The house is the first one on the left of Hogfat Hill Rd, directly behind the Sebago Historical Society museum.

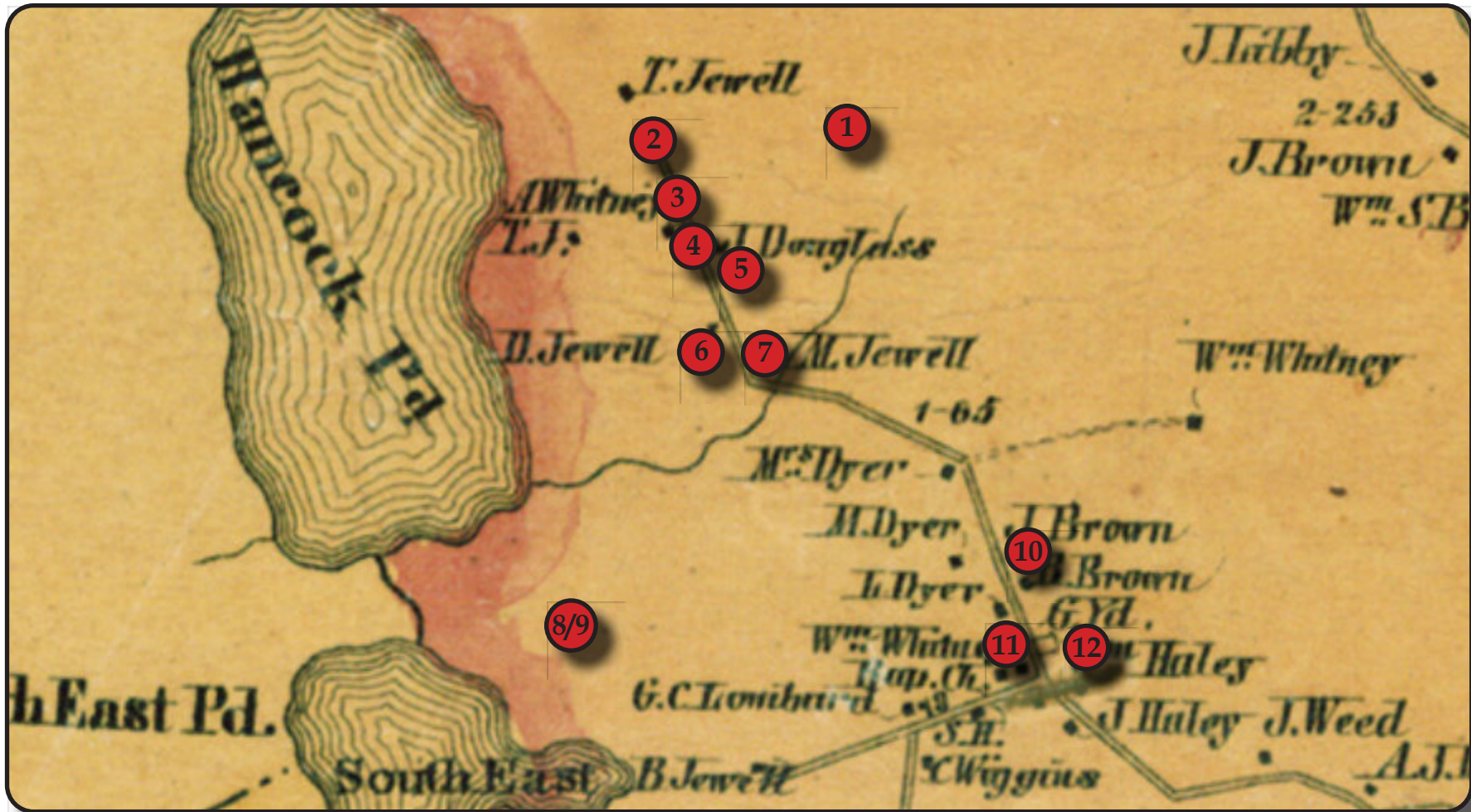


# *December 2021*

## *Charles Davis House*



In 1820 Abraham Shaw of York, bought part of the lot on the right hand corner of Hogfat Hill Rd and Convene Rd. This parcel was later sold to Deacon William Haley, who sold it to Charles Davis in 1868. Charles was the first postmaster in Convene and had the post office in his home. In 1910 he sold the house to Charles M. Haley, and his wife Florence became postmistress in 1913. The Haley's daughter, Gladys Haley Crocker, sold to Sylvia Dauphinee in 1945. Sylvia's daughter Sara Sprague was the last owner before the house fell into disrepair and was torn down. It originally sat very close to Convene Rd. Jeff and Belisa Sprague Harriman built their home on this land, moving it way back from the main road.



## Hogfat Hill Map

Superimposed on the map from 1857 are the approximate locations of this year's photos. (Note that today's Barker Pond was called "Hancock Pond" in those day. Today's Hancock was known then as "Great Hancock.")

- |   |                                    |
|---|------------------------------------|
| 1. Twin Lakes House (January)           | 7. Morrell Jewell House (July)     |
| 2. Norman Douglas House (February)      | 8. Frank Jewell House ((August)    |
| 3. John Douglas House (March)           | 9. Camp Kuhnawaumbek (September)   |
| 4. Oliver Morrill Douglas House (April) | 10. Coleman Brown House (October)  |
| 5. Rufus Dougla House (May)             | 11. Parsomage (November)           |
| 6. Alonzo Jewell House (June)           | 12. Charles Davis House (December) |

# *Coming 2022*

## *The Ridge - Hancock Pond Road*

*If you have pictures and stories to share of your family's home in the last century, please contact a member of the Sebago Historical Society, send a comment to our Facebook page or email us through the Contact page of our website [www.sebagohistoricalsociety.org](http://www.sebagohistoricalsociety.org)*



*James Babb home on Hancock Pond Road*

*The Calendar Committee, Sue Cummings, Susan Gassett, Nancy Sosman and Sherrill Brown, would like to thank all those who invited us into their homes and opened their photo albums and told us the stories behind the pictures. A special thank you to June Allen for taking a ride up the road and pointing out where all of the houses were located. All information is as accurate as can be determined at the time of printing.*