

CHINA, MAINE:

BICENTENNIAL HISTORY

BOOK I HISTORY

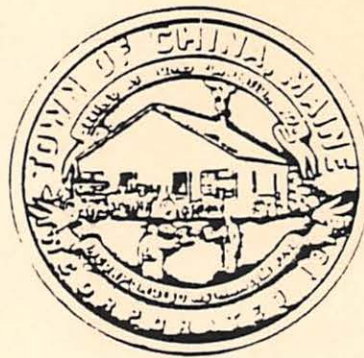
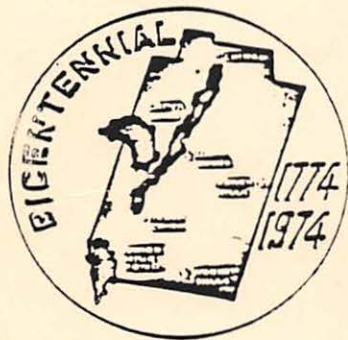
BOOK II GENEALOGY

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Weeks Mills, Maine 04361
1975

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INCLUDING 1984 REVISIONS

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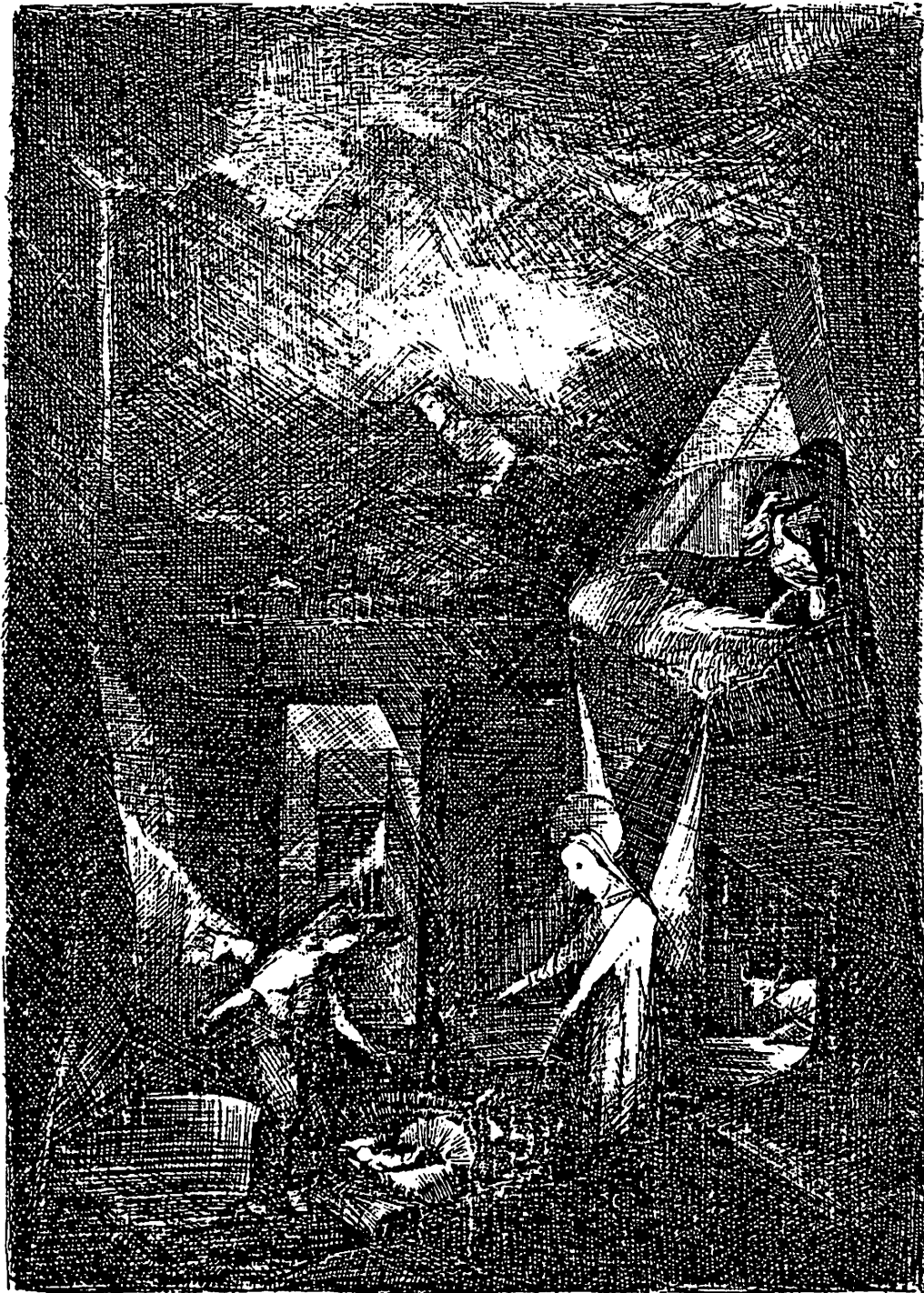
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This history of China is dedicated
to the late

CLINTON F. THURLOW

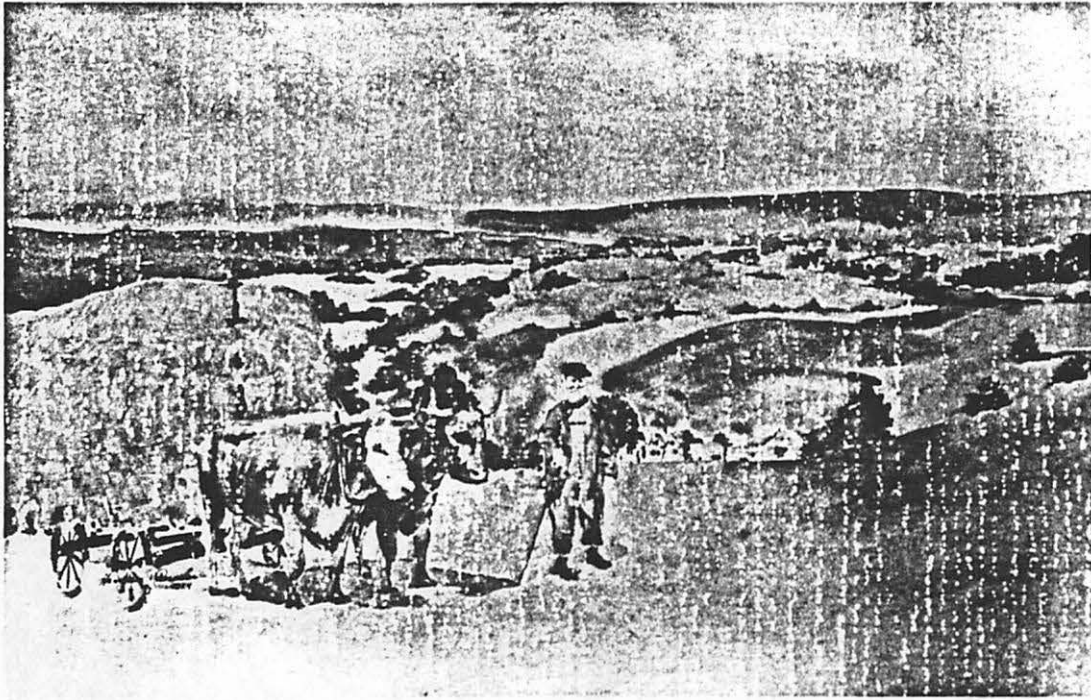
who knew that it should be written.



Courtesy Museum of Fine Arts, Boston

Nativity--Adoration of Jesus

Pen drawing by Herman Roessler, 1952



China Landscapes by Herman Roessler

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Acknowledgements

The late Clinton F. Thurlow of Weeks Mills began gathering information for a bicentennial history of China in 1965. After his death, in February 1968 Mrs. Thurlow suggested that the China Historical Society complete the work. Mrs. Thurlow gave the society the material her husband had collected and offered to coordinate the project and to assume the financial and technical responsibility of publishing the work. Most of the Historical Society's active members found additional information to go in the book, and in June 1973 Mrs. Thurlow acquired the assistance of Miss Mary Grow of China Village as editor and writer.

In the next two and a half years, the original plan for the history expanded greatly, and so did the material needed. The information gathered by Mr. Thurlow and the Historical Society members was supplemented by articles, research, interviews, and random answers to questions from over a hundred people in China and outside. (Rumors that the editors have even interviewed local dogs, cats, and chickens are untrue.)

The editors are very grateful to the people who have supplied the information which made this book possible. Some have courteously answered our impertinent questions about their parents and grandparents; others have researched and written whole sections of the book. We have tried to acknowledge these contributions in footnotes throughout the book.

We are also grateful to those who lent us photographs from which to choose the book's illustrations. The frontispiece pictures were supplied by Mr. and Mrs. John Hatch. Hand-drawn maps were prepared by Mrs. William Grow and Mrs. Charles Jackson, whose time and talent we appreciate. The pictures and maps were printed by J. S. McCarthy Company, Inc., of Augusta.

The exacting work of proof-reading was done by Mr. and Mrs. Edwin Kenney, Mrs. William Grow, and Dr. David Van Strien. Mrs. Harriet Haskell did the equally exacting and more tedious job of checking and collating the printed pages. Without such patient attention to these necessary details, this book would never have been fit to publish.

We would also like to thank the members of both our households, who have uncomplainingly endured disrupted schedules, clicking typewriters, and almost daily trips between Weeks Mills and China Village.

Any errors, of commission or omission, are the responsibility of the editors. Corrections and additions may be sent to either of us, and will be carefully filed for use in the tricentennial history of China.

Mary M. Grow, editor-writer
Marion Thurlow Van Strien, editor-publisher

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reverse China landscapes by Herman Roessler

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- Map 2 Localities and roads in China, 19th and 20th centuries facing p. 6

Adapted by Mrs. William Grow from a base map by Mrs. Charles Jackson.

- Map 3 Charles Hayden's plan of Harlem, 1814 facing p. 7

Plan 20, Book 3, p. 14, Kennebec County Registry of Deeds, photographed by Gregory Hart. The title of this map reads: "A Plan of the Town of Harlem [Now China] Kennebec Co. Maine Taken from Plans of John Jones and Bradstreet Wiggins By Chas. Hayden, Sept. 14, 1814."

- Map 4 Changes in Harlem's and China's boundaries, 1801-1830 facing p. 27

Adapted by Mrs. William Grow from Charles Hayden's plan of Harlem, 1814.

Henry F. Hill's Kennebec County, Maine: Legislative descriptions of boundaries... gives the following descriptions of changes in the boundaries of Harlem and China:

February 17, 1801, Harlem-Vassalboro line:
"...That the line between the towns of Vassalboro and Harlem, shall extend forty rods on an east-south-east course from the south-east corner of Vassalboro, from thence on a line that will meet a line running west-north-west, one hundred and four rods from the north-east corner of said Vassalborough; and the aforesaid line shall, in future, be considered and taken to be the dividing line between said towns of Vassalborough and Harlem, anything in the Acts of incorporation of said towns to the contrary notwithstanding." [p. 75]

February 23, 1813, parts of Winslow and Fairfax annexed to Harlem:

"...That so much of the following lots of land as the same are numbered in the town of Harlem, and lying within the towns of Winslow and Fairfax, viz. so much of lot number twenty-four as is lying within the town of Winslow, and so much of lots number eleven, twenty-five and eighty-five, as are lying within the town of Fairfax, be, and they are hereby set off from the respective towns of Winslow and Fairfax, in the county of Kennebeck, and annexed to the town of Harlem, in the same county." [pp. 75-76]

February 5, 1818, parts of Harlem, Winslow, and Albion set off to form China:

[See below, p. 26.]

January 15, 1822, China and Harlem combined:

"...That the town of Harlem, in the county of Kennebec, and the inhabitants thereof, be, and the same are hereby annexed to the town of China, in said county." [p. 77]

February 18, 1829, part of China set off to Vassalboro:

"That all that part of the south-west corner of the town of China, lying west of the three mile pond, so called, be, and the same hereby is set off from the town of China and annexed to the town of Vassalborough...." [p. 77]

March 15, 1830, China-Palermo line:

"That from and after the passing of this Act, the dividing line between the towns of Palermo, in the county of Waldo, and China, in the county of Kennebec, be, and hereby is established as follows, viz. beginning at the northeasterly corner of lot number eighty six, in said China; thence south, thirty two degrees west, by the easterly line of said lot, and lot number eighty-seven, to the north end of the gore, so called, in said China, as lotted or laid out by Broadstreet [sic] Wiggins; thence on the same course, following the easterly line of said gore, to a stone monument, erected on the southerly side of the county road, near the house of Joseph Hacker, in said Palermo; thence on the same course, following said line, to a beech tree, standing on the northerly side of a county road leading from Augusta to Belfast; thence on the same course, following the said gore line, to the south easterly corner of said gore, having more particular

MAPS, continued

reference to said line and monuments than to the course." [pp. 77-78]

The map of the 1816 annexation of the Brackett and Washburn lands was copied by Mr. and Mrs. William Foster from a "Bill to set off J. C. Washburn and John Brackett from Fairfax to Harlem, February 10, 1816," No. 2821, Maps and Plans, Massachusetts Archives.

Map 5 China schoolhouses, 1856 and 1879 facing p. 104

Adapted by Mrs. William Grow from a base map by Mrs. Charles Jackson. Schoolhouse locations were taken from the Map of Kennebec Co., Maine, From actual Surveys by Baker & Co., Published by J. Chace Jr., Philadelphia and Augusta, 1856; and the Atlas of Kennebec County, Maine, Compiled and Drawn from Official Plans and Actual Surveys by H. E. Halfpenny, published by Caldwell & Halfpenny, Philadelphia, 1879.

Map 6 China cemeteries facing p. 164

Prepared by Mrs. Charles Jackson.

Map 7 China Village, 1856 and 1879 facing p. 197

Photographed by Gregory Hart from the Maine State Museum copy of the Map of Kennebec Co., Maine, From actual Surveys by Baker & Co., Published by J. Chace Jr., Philadelphia and Augusta, 1856; and from the Atlas of Kennebec County, Maine, Compiled and Drawn from Official Plans and Actual Surveys by H. E. Halfpenny, published by Caldwell & Halfpenny, Philadelphia, 1879, p. 68.

Map 8 South China, 1856 facing p. 207

Photographed by Gregory Hart from the Maine State Museum copy of the Map of Kennebec Co., Maine, From actual Surveys by Baker & Co., Published by J. Chace Jr., Philadelphia and Augusta, 1856.

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- Map 9 Weeks Mills, 1856 and 1879 facing p. 215

Photographed by Gregory Hart from the Maine State Museum copy of the Map of Kennebec Co., Maine, From actual Surveys by Baker & Co., Published by J. Chace Jr., Philadelphia and Augusta, 1856; and from the Atlas of Kennebec County, Maine, Compiled and Drawn from Official Plans and Actual Surveys by H. E. Halfpenny, published by Caldwell & Halfpenny, Philadelphia, 1879, p. 69.

- Map 10 Branch Mills, 1856 and 1879 facing p. 227

Photographed by Gregory Hart from the Maine State Museum copy of the Map of Kennebec Co., Maine, From actual Surveys by Baker & Co., Published by J. Chace Jr., Philadelphia and Augusta, 1856; and from the Atlas of Kennebec County, Maine, Compiled and Drawn from Official Plans and Actual Surveys by H. E. Halfpenny, published by Caldwell & Halfpenny, Philadelphia, 1879, pp. 68-69.

- Map 11 Town of China, 1856 between pp. 236 and 237

Photographed by Gregory Hart from the Maine State Museum copy of the Map of Kennebec Co., Maine, From actual Surveys by Baker & Co., Published by J. Chace Jr., Philadelphia and Augusta, 1856.

- Map 12 Town of China, 1879 between pp. 236 and 237

Photographed by Gregory Hart from the Atlas of Kennebec County, Maine, Compiled and Drawn from Official Plans and Actual Surveys by H. E. Halfpenny, published by Caldwell & Halfpenny, Philadelphia, 1879, p. 39.

Part I. Before China

The land now occupied by the township of China was included in the part of America claimed by the British crown on the basis of voyages of discovery by such men as John Cabot and his son Sebastian, who explored the coasts of New England and Nova Scotia in 1497 and 1498. On April 10, 1606, James I of England issued charters to the London and Plymouth Companies granting them rights to colonize Britain's new world possessions between latitude 34° N and latitude 45° N. This area thus included the southern part of the present state of Maine, and present-day China lay within it. Several attempted settlements on the Maine coast under these royal charters failed to achieve permanence. A new charter was granted a reorganized Plymouth Company on November 3, 1620, embracing the territory between 40° N latitude and 48° N latitude. Under authority of this charter, the Plymouth Company in turn issued territorial grants to prospective colonizers. One of these grants was to the Pilgrim settlement at New Plymouth (Massachusetts); the New Plymouth settlers had been trading up the Kennebec River, giving corn to the Indians and receiving beaver and other furs in exchange, since 1625, and in 1628 had established a trading post near the mouth of the river. A vaguely defined charter from the Plymouth Company in 1627 (the first Kennebeck Patent) was superseded by the Kennebeck Patent of January 13, 1629, including an area fifteen miles wide on each side of the Kennebec River from below Swan Island to above the confluence of the Kennebec and the Wessarunset. Within this area of about seven hundred square miles, the Plymouth colony received exclusive trading rights and the right to establish settlements and to make the necessary laws to govern them.

New Plymouth soon established trading posts, including one at Cushnoc (now Augusta) in 1628, and for some thirty years controlled the area. The New Plymouth colony was interested in the profit from the fur trade, rather than in encouraging permanent settlement; therefore most of the population were transient trappers and there were fewer than three hundred permanent settlers. William D. Williamson writes that the government of the area "was of a non-descript character, under which neither the laws nor the rulers were respected...."¹ The fur trade was leased to others by the New Plymouth colony throughout the 1650's, as profits gradually declined due to the greed of an increasing number of traders and the non-cooperation of the Indians, who were disaffiliated by mistreatment by the Kennebec traders and by incitements against the English by French Catholic missionaries who had established the first permanent missions among the Indians of the Kennebec in 1646.

On October 27, 1661, the New Plymouth colony sold the Kennebec

1. Williamson, History of the State of Maine, Vol. I. p. 370. Most of the information about the pre-1775 period is from Williamson's history and from Henry D. Kingsbury's The Illustrated History of Kennebec County, Maine, 1625-1892 (hereafter cited as Kingsbury). Publication data on works cited is given in the bibliography.

Patent to Artepas Bois (or Antipas Boies), Thomas Brattle, Edward Tyng (or Twing), and John Winslow. These gentlemen and their heirs controlled this area, including what is now China, until 1816, when, having sold most of the land in individual lots, they auctioned off their remaining parcels and dissolved the association. During these years various changes in overlordship occurred, of which the most significant was probably the purchase of the province of Maine--including the Kennebeck Patent--by Massachusetts from Ferdinando Gorges (grandson of the original proprietor) in 1677. This action, culminating and legitimizing the gradual extension of Massachusetts authority over Maine during the preceding twenty-five years, was affirmed in the 1691 Massachusetts charter granted by the British crown.

For almost a hundred years the Kennebec proprietors did little to develop their territory. One important reason for the slow settlement in the area was the hostility of the Indians. The originally friendly Indians of the Kennebec valley had had bad experiences with whites who treated them as sub-human; they had been cheated by white traders who thought them stupid. Further, since the Indian land use system did not include the British concept of exclusive land ownership, first there were misunderstandings and then the Indians began to fear the loss of their land to whites whose pieces of paper allowed them exclusive control over vast areas and excluded Indian hunters and trappers. The natural resentment of the Indians was exploited by the French from Canada during periods of French-British hostility; French emissaries incited Indian attacks on English settlements throughout the northeast frontier. The Indians of the Kennebec raided nearby English settlements from 1675 to 1678 (during King Philip's War) without French support; they raided repeatedly with French support during the Franco-British wars between 1688 and 1713 (King William's War and Queen Anne's War). Ernest Marriner says that in 1680 over a hundred white families lived along the Kennebec between Merrymeeting Bay and Skowhegan; by 1725 only two remained upriver from Woolwich.¹

Another reason for the lack of settlement in much of Maine in the eighteenth century was the frequent emphasis on short-run speculative profit from land dealing, instead of long-run steady returns. The owners of large tracts of Maine land seemed unwilling to make any substantial investment to improve their territories and thus entice settlers. A partial exception to this statement can be found in the history of the Kennebec patent; in 1716, the proprietors built a stone fort at Cushnoc (Augusta) to protect prospective settlers and agreed to keep a small garrison there. Simultaneously, settlers were offered hundred-acre tracts of land and financial aid in moving to the Kennebec, and the proprietors promised to help support a minister there.

Such measures as these did encourage potential settlers to come to the region, with the result that the Indians were again aroused against the intruding whites. The Indian raids of the 1720's were believed to be supported by the French missionaries, especially the Jesuit Sebastian Rale, who had been living at Norridgewock since 1693, so in August 1724 the Indian village at Norridgewock was destroyed and Father Rale was killed. In December 1725 a peace treaty was signed between the English and the Indians, ending this fourth Indian war (sometimes called Lovewell's War). The peace was broken in the summer of 1744, when another Franco-British war (King George's War) led to renewed hostilities lasting till the fall of 1751 (a treaty was signed in 1749, but

1. Marriner, Kennebec Yesterdays, p. 26.

unrest among the Indians continued another two years) and costing the lives of between two and three thousand of the inhabitants of Maine. Yet another major outbreak, the French and Indian War (1754-1763) cost more settlers' lives, despite the strengthening of forts and garrisons at many points and the building in 1754 of Fort Western in Augusta and Fort Halifax in Winslow.

Those who did want to settle in Maine despite the Indians and the indifference of the land-owners sometimes found it difficult to obtain a clear title to their land. There were many conflicting claims of ownership, since many patents with vaguely defined and often overlapping areas had been granted in the seventeenth century. Yet other obstacles to settlement were the Maine climate and the lack of transportation, especially inland. Along the coast and the rivers towns grew and trade and industries like fishing and shipbuilding developed, but much of interior Maine in the eighteenth century was sparsely and intermittently inhabited by trappers and lumbermen.

Thus when the proprietors of the Kennebec patent were revitalized in 1749--the heirs of the original four proprietors held a series of meetings between September 1749 and June 1753 and decided to reincorporate and to develop their holdings--they first turned their attention to the banks of the river. In 1754 they urged and contributed to the building of Forts Halifax and Western; in 1758 they drew up a plan to promote settlement at Fort Halifax, as a further defensive measure against the Indians (although by then the war was nearly over). In 1761 the proprietors hired Nathan Winslow to survey a swathe three miles wide on each side of the river from Chelsea to Vassalboro. This area was laid out in 125-acre lots which were granted to settlers on condition that they build houses and begin farming, and between 1762 and 1766 most of these riverside lots were taken up. On April 26, 1771, Hallowell, Vassalboro, and Winslow were incorporated as towns. Over two years later, in the fall of 1773, the Kennebec proprietors hired John "Black" Jones and Abraham Burrill (or Burrell) to survey the area east of Vassalboro, away from the river, and thus began the establishment of China.¹

Prior to this 1773 survey, China had been best known by the Indians. The Canibas tribe, called by the English the Kennebecs, one of the Abnaki tribes, dominated this part of Maine, living and traveling along the Kennebec River valley from Moosehead Lake to Merrymeeting Bay. The Kennebecs habitually wintered toward the head of the river, some at Norridgewock and some around Moosehead Lake, and summered on the coast. In the fall groups would gather at Damariscotta for a seafood feast. From there, they sometimes walked to the Sheepscot River and paddled up it to a point about two and a half miles from China Lake, portaged to the south end of the lake, and paddled diagonally across it to the Outlet Stream which led into the Sebasticook and so to the Kennebec.

One of the most enduring and puzzling reminders of the Indian Tenancy of China Lake is the Sacred Heart, the outline of a heart about eighteen by twenty inches carved into a large granite boulder at the tip of a point

1. The town of China was created in 1818 from parts of the towns of Harlem, Fairfax (Albion), and Winslow; the rest of Harlem was later annexed. It is therefore incorrect to talk about China before 1818. However, it is often simpler to use the modern names, especially in discussing the individual villages, and the editor will do so.

on the southwest side of the lake, still visible when the water is not too high. The Indians used to bring clams from the coast and cook them here, and the point remained a favorite picnic spot for later white inhabitants. No one knows when or why the heart was carved. Rufus Jones, in an address at South China in 1942, linked it to survivors of the 1724 burning of Norridgewock; but he said the story he was telling was partly true and partly imagination, and unfortunately the part about the carving of the heart is imagination (for he says in historical writings about South China that the origin of the heart is unknown).¹

The area east of Vassalboro that the Kennebec proprietors ordered surveyed in 1773 surrounded China Lake (then known as Twelve-mile Pond because it was twelve miles from Fort Western) and included three smaller ponds (later named Evans Pond, Mud Pond, and Three-Mile Pond) and the high ridges east of China Lake. The land was heavily forested, with mostly hardwoods on the ridges and enormous pines along the lake-shore. The total area was about 32,000 acres, half of which the proprietors planned to give to settlers in 200-acre lots. Apparently John "Black" Jones and Abraham Burrill began the survey in the fall of 1773 and finished in the spring of 1774; Jones spent the winter of 1773-1774 in Gardiner, where he met several of the Clark brothers, formerly of Nantucket and Nova Scotia. According to the Clark family history compiled by Raymond Clark in the 1960's, Jonathan Clark Jr. and Edmund Clark accompanied Jones to China in March 1774 and chose their lots on the west side of the lake just south of the Narrows, and soon after their brother Ephraim and their parents, Jonathan Sr. and Mariam (or Miriam, or Merriam)² settled on the east shore on lots numbered 39 and 40 on the Jones plan.² Other accounts, including Kingsbury's,³ say that Ephraim was the earliest settler, followed later in 1774 by Jonathan, Edmund, another brother named Andrew who settled at the south end of the lake, and a brother-in-law, George Fish (husband of Jerusha Clark), who also settled on the east side of the lake near Ephraim.⁴ With these men in the summer of 1774 was a man who identified himself as Benjamin Dow of Lancaster and who kept a diary. A diary entry dated July 17, 1774, read: "the first blow was struck today to fell a tree. We call it Jones Plantation. With me are--Clark, Bely Burrell, Job Chadwick, Michael Norton."⁵

1. The story is in "Addresses About South China" by Rufus M. Jones, published by the South China Library Association in 1955.

2. Clark, History: Family of Thomas and Mary Church Clark, p. 3.

3. Kingsbury, p. 1139.

4. On the east shore of the lake on land now owned by Miss Mary Hoxie Jones is a monument to the first Clark settlers, erected in 1926 by the Clark family. Miss Jones says that it marks the site of the earliest Clark burial place, and was located for the Clark descendants by Wilson Hawes, who remembered mowing the field around a small fenced-off graveyard late in the nineteenth century. Raymond Clark, in his Clark family history, says the stone marks the site of Ephraim Clark's first log cabin.

5. There is no way to tell which Clark was meant; Bely Burrell is presumably Abraham Burrill. Benjamin Dow was born in Plaistow in 1732 or 1733; he had a younger brother, Peter, some of whose descendants later came to China. One of Benjamin's sons, also named Benjamin and born in 1763, lived in China; and the family records show another son, Moses, was born in Jones Plantation in 1784. This information was obtained by

Later in 1774 or in 1775 Abraham Burrill settled on the east shore about three miles from the head of the lake; Josiah Ward settled just north of him; and Michael Norton settled about midway of the east shore of the lake, between Burrill and the Clarks, just south of the site of the present town house and town office. Abraham Taylor, James Lancaster, and George McLaughlin also came to China in the 1770's. According to the family monument in the China cemetery, James and Susan Lancaster arrived in 1776 and were the first settlers on China Neck; they had seven children, and James was active in town affairs for many years and lived to be over one hundred years old.¹ George McLaughlin had fought at Quebec during the French and Indian War and been severely wounded, but he recovered and lived in Georgetown until he moved to China in 1776. His deed to lot #28 on the Jones survey was recorded in 1796.

Over the next thirty years or so settlement expanded from the lake shore to most of the rest of the present town of China. Among the earliest settlers on China Neck were David Lewis, Joshua Hanson, Thomas Jones, Levi Maynard, Isaac Jones, James Spratt, Samuel Morrell, John Page, Samuel Mitchell, and David Spratt. Westward toward the Vassalboro line, Colonel Nathan Stanley built an early house on a hill known first as Stanley Hill and later as Ward's Hill. Abijah Ward and his sons Thomas, Samuel, and Abijah Jr. arrived in the area in the 1780's; they founded a family still numerous in China in the late nineteenth century, and Ward's Hill and Ward's Corner were named for them.

Near the north end of the lake Nathaniel Wiggin (or Wiggins) and his son of the same name settled and took up several lots. In 1803 one of them was living in a log house near Wiggin Brook, which flows into the lake from the west; he had twenty-five children. Reuben Fairfield, Hezekiah Cloudman, George McLaughlin 2nd, Enoch Brown (old records show that Enoch Brown sold one-half of lot #11 to George McLaughlin in 1786 for "36 pounds lawful money"), and Jabez Lewis also lived in this north-western corner of town. Early settlers in China Village were John Brackett, Japheth C. Washburn (who arrived in 1804 with his father, Japheth Washburn, and founded a family famous for its contributions to town business and government), Deacon Wing, and William Hunnewell.²

Mrs. Gordon R. Ballantyne Jr. of Branch Mills, who had access to the Book of Dow compiled by Robert Piercy Dow. Robert Piercy Dow used as one of his sources an unfinished genealogy by Edgar R. Dow, who had excerpted passages from Benjamin Dow's diary, but the diary itself had been lost before Robert Piercy Dow began his work.

1. In the summer of 1974 two descendants of James Lancaster were supervising the erection of a monument to mark the Lancaster homesite. The monument is on Miss Carolyn Muzzy's land on the west side of the Neck Road eight-tenths of a mile south of the brick Masonic building in China Village. Mr. Alden Lancaster of Bangor, Maine, wrote to the China Historical Society (July 20, 1974) about the monument, mentioning that James and Susan Lancaster chose lot 12 on the Jones survey map.

2. Mr. Washburn and Mr. Brackett both owned tracts of land in Fairfax (now Albion) abutting the north line of Harlem (now China) and extending west to the Winslow line; in early 1816 the Massachusetts legislature passed an act separating these "estates" from Fairfax and annexing them to Harlem, thus enlarging the town. See Map 4 facing p. 27. Harlem accepted the annexation on condition that Mr. Brackett and Mr. Washburn should pay for maintaining the roads and bridges on their properties if the town highway taxes were insufficient; and the two men put up a

Joseph Evans and Caleb Hanson settled near Evans Pond, Mr. Evans before the Revolution (his wife and children remained in China while he served in the Revolutionary army¹) and Mr. Hanson in 1802. Presumably the names of the pond and of the locality known as the Hanson Neighborhood derive from these men and their descendants. Other settlers on the east side of China Lake included Deacon Nathaniel Bragg (an original and active member of the First Baptist Church of Harlem), Jedediah Jepson (a Friends minister who lived near the present town house site before 1782²), and Dr. John Hall (who lived over toward Crossman's Corner and is titled Dr. but not mentioned among the early physicians in town). Abel Jones, father of the world-famed Quaker Eli Jones, moved from Durham to the northeast shore of the lake before 1806, when he and Susanna Jepson were married; about 1815 he and his family moved to South China. Years before that, Andrew Clark, the original settler at that end of the lake, had been joined by Thomas Jones, Levi Jackson, and others.

At the place where the west branch of the Sheepscot River widened to form a small natural pond, Branch Mills settlement was started in 1790 or 1800 by John Dow, Stephen Greeley, Jeremiah Towle, B. F. Bragg, and other men named Andrews, Bryant, Longfellow, Buffam, and Foye.³ It has not been established which of these men was first to claim property here. The little settlement was called Johnsons Mills and was a part of the town of Palermo (until the gore was surveyed in 1805; the area was not finally annexed to China until 1830). Nearby Parmenter Hill (by the 1850's called Parmeter Hill) was settled about 1807 by the Parmenter family and the Balcom family. In 1807 Caleb Parmenter of Attleboro, Massachusetts, purchased Lot 93 from James Apthorp and others, Plymouth grantees. Caleb Parmenter himself never came to Maine, but he sent his two sons, Caleb Jr. and Joseph (a third son, Welcome, came in 1821 but removed to Rhode Island in 1826). Between the Parmenter lot and Branch Mills, heirs of David Balcom purchased Lot 94 on December 2, 1809, from

five thousand dollar bond--a large sum in 1816--to ensure performance of their obligation. Town Clerk's Book of Records, from the Incorporation of Harlem, Highways section, n.p.

1. Other early settlers who fought in the Revolutionary War included James Chadwick, Dr. John Hall, William Haskell, Captain Charles Jackson, Michael Norton, and Japheth Washburn (according to the list of Revolutionary War veterans buried in China cemeteries provided by Mrs. Charles Jackson).

2. Kingsbury, p. 1153. However, the Jepson genealogy has a Jedediah Jepson getting married in Berwick, Maine, in November 1781, and he and his wife having children (including a daughter Susanna, born in May 1784) in Wells between 1782 and 1803. This Jedediah died in China in 1822. Further, the Jones family histories relate that Jedediah Jepson's daughter Susanna came from Berwick with her father and her brother John in 1804 or 1805 and soon after married Abel Jones. Unless there were two Jedediah Jepsos, both Quakers, both connected with China, Kingsbury is probably in error.

3. Wm. Bradstreet Wiggins' Plan of Harlem Gore, Plan Book 3, p. 29, Kennebec County Registry of Deeds. The editor is grateful to Mrs. Ballantyne and Mrs. Kenneth Dinsmore for information about the earliest settlements in Branch Mills and on Parmeter Hill. See also Kingsbury, p. 1149, for a slightly different list (including some later arrivals); and see Dowe's History: Town of Palermo, p. 7.

James Bowdoin (son of Governor Bowdoin of Massachusetts).¹

Josiah and Jedediah Fairfield, Aaron Buffum, and John Priest were among the earliest settlers around Crossman's Corner (which later came to be called Dirigo), between Branch Mills and South China. Deer Hill, in the southeastern corner of town, was settled in 1811 by Frederick W. Hammon and William Haskell Jr., the latter moving there from the Pond Road; neighboring settlers included Nathaniel and David Gray, Oshea Hatch, Samuel Gray (who came from Berwick in 1809; Nathaniel and David also came from Berwick), Deacon Moses Gray, Jesse Prentice, and Jonathan Gray. Chadwick's Corner was first settled by, and named for, Ichabod Chadwick, who was there in 1797 with his three sons. Their neighbors included Sylvester Hatch, Captain William Mosher, Moses Goodspeed, and Abner Starett. Captain Charles Jackson, a Revolutionary War soldier buried in Chadwick cemetery, must have been another of the early settlers, for his obituary in the Augusta weekly American Advocate in October 1831 describes him as "one of the oldest settlers in Kennebec and the survivor of 32 battles in the old French War."² He was ninety-one years old when he died on September 14, 1831; his wife of seventy years, Elizabeth, survived him by three weeks. Other names which appear early in the history of China include Farwell, Webber, Martin, Meader, Robinson, Burgess, and McAllister.

From 1774 on, the men who came to China brought their families with them and settled down to stay. Edmund and Rachael Clark's fifth child, a daughter named Annie (or Anna or Anny), was born in China in 1774, and the same year Michael Norton's wife gave birth to a son named Thomas. Abraham Burrill and his wife Hannah had fourteen children, all but the oldest born in China between October 30, 1775, and October 16, 1800.³ Settlers who did not bring wives with them found them; for example, Thomas Ward married Edmund and Rachael Clark's oldest daughter Miriam sometime between 1784 and 1790,⁴ and Ephraim Clark married Olive

1. Some accounts describe the Balcoms as squatters, and Kingsbury says (p. 1151), "it does not appear that they had title to the land." However, Mrs. Ballantyne suggests that, as often happened, land titles overlapped and the Balcoms and the Parmenters both believed they owned the same piece of land. She cites two deeds: one, dated March 20, 1807, transferred Lot 93 from James Apthorp to Caleb Parmenter (Book 13, p. 324, Kennebec County Registry of Deeds), and another, dated April 4, 1806, and recorded March 4, 1807, transfers lot 94 from James Bowdoin to the heirs of David Balchom (Book 11, p. 97). The Parmenter family history asserts Caleb Parmenter's title to Lot 94; but surveyors for the James Sewall Company with whom Mrs. Ballantyne spoke said that in their research they had found no deed to substantiate the Parmenter claim.

2. American Advocate, October 21, 1831; information supplied by Mrs. Ballantyne.

3. See the Burrill genealogy. Another child, unidentified in history, was buried in the Clark cemetery in April 1775, traditionally the first white burial in town.

4. Miriam's younger sister Eunice married Thomas's brother Samuel. One of Miriam and Thomas's sons and all five of Eunice and Samuel's sons lived in the China Neck area; hence Ward's Hill and Ward's Corner.

Braley in 1795 (she was about twenty-one years old, he was forty-four; they had twelve children).

The records of daily life in China in the eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries are sparse and sometimes contradictory; what little information is available is mainly from reminiscences recorded later. Most of the early families lived in log cabins (or in at least one case in a combination of log cabin and cave). The cabins lacked glass windows or screens against insects; they were heated by fireplaces, with chimneys of stones (later of brick) mortared with clay. The first frame house in China Village was built by Josiah Ward; by 1796 Abraham Burrill also had a frame house.¹ The settlers worked outdoors and indoors with the heavy, mostly wooden and iron, tools of the period; they clothed themselves in moosehide (apparently moose were much more numerous than deer in the 1780's) until sheep were introduced; they cooked over wood fires and ate from wooden dishes. Their food was mostly game--moose, deer, bear, raccoons, and other animals and birds--and fish, and after the first few years the grain and vegetables they raised. The settlers traded lumber for the necessities they could not produce, including, for the first few years, corn. The American Revolution thus brought double hardship to the small settlement: not only did some of the men go south to fight, but the interruption of trade cut off supplies of corn and of ammunition for hunting and caused at least one winter and spring of near-starvation.

Several accounts written in or around 1850 recall the hardships of life in this primitive area two generations earlier. Thomas Burrill's 1850 letter to A. H. Abbott, mentioned previously, includes about two pages of stories about the depredations of bears and wolves; the wolves were particularly a problem for people trying to raise sheep. The settlers also feared the Indians who still wandered the woods, and for protection used to "work together alternately in each others [sic] fields with their arms about them." Such precautions must have been either successful or unnecessary, for there are no accounts of hostile Indian acts. During the War of 1812, after the British seized Castine, disorderly retreating militiamen briefly threatened the food supplies of China residents, but again there seem to have been no serious difficulties.

Another account² includes the reminiscences of Randall Clark, Edmund Clark's older son, who was two years old when the family moved to China in 1774. He had no shoes until he was at least a teenager, and in winter he used to cut wood barefoot and bareheaded in the snow. Later in his life he cleared nine acres, apparently for his own farm,

1. Letter from Thomas Burrill to A. H. Abbott, February 16, 1850; copy in Miss Margaret Clifford's possession. Mr. Abbott seems to have been planning to write a history of the settlement of China; he also solicited and received a letter about early days from Japheth C. Washburn, by then living in Calais. In the same notebook with these letters, but copied in a different hand, are excerpts from still other accounts of China's earliest days, with the addressee's name not given. The editor is grateful to Miss Clifford for permission to use these records.

2. By Charles B. Clark, referring to a history of China by Horace Dow assisted by Randall Clark. This account is also in Miss Clifford's notebook, so perhaps it was written for Mr. Abbott.

and it seems to have been during this period that he often lived for weeks on game, moose and bear but also hedgehogs, squirrels, and woodpeckers, and sometimes just on boiled beech leaves. The account written by Labun Spratt¹ puts even more emphasis on poverty, hunger, and hard work. As Mr. Spratt's father remembered the old days, men returned from the Revolutionary War without any money, unable to afford help or even tools to clear their land, so they tried to make a living by hunting or lumbering or hiring out as farmers. Meanwhile their wives cut trees, raised corn and carried it to the mill, hunted the cows in the woods, and otherwise tried to feed their families. When there was corn to plant, the crows ate the seed out of the ground; and if any grew and ripened, raccoons and bears were likely to get the crop. It was not unusual to be without bread for several weeks at a time. China Lake provided edible fish, but during the Revolution salt to preserve them could be obtained only by traveling to the coast and boiling down sea water. Moose were useful as food and for their skins, and the men used to go out on the lake at night in canoes to shoot them as they came to drink. One night, Mr. Spratt relates, a party of moose-hunters accidentally shot George McLaughlin's only cow, and Mr. McLaughlin had "a family of small childred and [was] destitute of all kinds of provision."

Another story of the early settlers comes from Branch Mills.² In 1807, when Caleb Parmenter sent his sons Caleb Jr. and Joseph from Massachusetts to settle his newly-purchased two hundred acres, both men were married and each had two small children. They left their wives and children behind and came by horseback into the wilderness, where they built cabins and began clearing the land, building long walls with the stones they dug out of their fields. In the spring of 1808 Joseph's wife Roxa (Richardson) and her two children came by boat up the Kennebec to Riverside in Vassalboro and her brother Seth's home at Cross Hill. There she purchased a horse to make the rest of the trip. Because the trail from Vassalboro to Branch Mills was so difficult to follow, Joseph sent his hired man, Washington Haskell, to meet her at Dirigo and escort her the rest of the way. Joseph worked for John and Moses Bradstreet to earn money to pay his father for his share of the land; he finally got his deed in 1812. He and Roxa lived in his original cabin until 1830, when he built a house. During these years, Joseph raised flax which Roxa spun to make the family's clothes; he made their shoes from animal skins worked into leather. Any supplies the family could not produce were purchased in Gardiner, the nearest market. Joseph's sister-in-law Lidia (Pullen) also came to join her husband Caleb Jr. in the spring of 1808; soon after she arrived, both their children died, and are said to have been buried under two young crab-apple trees. In 1852, Joseph and Caleb drove a horse and wagon to Attleboro, Massachusetts, to visit their parents for the first time since they left there in 1807.

Joseph Parmenter was one of many China men who served against the British in the War of 1812 (although his service was for only eighteen days). By 1812 all the able-bodied men in the province of Maine were members of local militia companies and had some practice in drilling

1. Mr. Spratt was writing down, in or before 1852, things his ninety-four-year-old father told him; excerpts from his account are in Miss Clifford's notebook.
2. This story was excerpted by Mrs. Ballantyne from the Parmenter family history.

and military maneuvers. At the beginning of the war two militia companies were raised in China, both for Lieutenant-Colonel Herbert Moore's regiment,¹ and other local men served in companies from neighboring towns. According to Kingsbury, the smaller company from China was under Captain David Crowell and had twenty-four privates, and Captain Robert Fletcher's company had fifty privates.²

Captain Fletcher's company was among these sent to Wiscasset to meet a threatened British landing in September 1814. Thomas Burrill³, the company drummer, wrote in his diary an account of this episode. Captain Fletcher woke him at midnight on a Sunday and ordered him to report to Thomas Norton's at nine the next morning with his military equipment and three days' provisions. The next morning Thomas' mother and the girl who worked for the Burrills filled his knapsack with biscuits and cheese and a wool blanket, and the colored servant, Pero, who had been in the Revolutionary War, gave him advice on how to behave in battle. Young Thomas, with knapsack and drum, went to Nortons', where the company was assembled and inspected to make sure that each man had the required "gun and ramrod, bayonet, priming wire and brush, two spare flints, a cartridge box and knapsack." They marched to Cross Hill in Vassalboro and spent the night in barns and other available shelter. On Tuesday they joined the rest of the Third Regiment at Brown's Corner and marched to Pittston, where they again slept in barns, this time with more military formality--sentinels were posted around the encampment and guards watched the magazine and the regimental colors. They stayed in Pittston two days, eating the rest of their provisions and a "beef ox" provided for Captain Fletcher's company by selectmen Josiah Ward, Nathaniel Johnson, and Constant Abbott.

Mr. Burrill continues:

Friday morning, at break of day, a horseman with foaming steed appeared at headquarters with orders to march at once to Wiscasset, where the enemy was expected momentarily to sack and burn the village. The regiment was immediately formed into line after taking a slight repast. The articles of war being read to us, we proceeded on our march to Wiscasset where we arrived at sunset weary and hungry, having marched in a rainy day through mud and water. Col. Nathan Stanley⁴ who accompanied us had lately returned from the serious

1. Lieutenant-Colonel Moore's regiment was in Major-General Henry Sewall's First Brigade of the Eighth Division of Maine Militia at the beginning of the war, but by 1814 it had become the Third Regiment in the Second Brigade. See Kingsbury, pp. 111 and 121.
2. Kingsbury, p. 113. See Appendix II for lists of China men who served in the militia during the War of 1812.
3. This account is taken from a newspaper clipping, undated (but after 1889), sent to Miss Mary Washburn of China by F. N. Fletcher in 1953 and now in Miss Clifford's possession.
4. Kingsbury lists Nathan Stanley and Daniel Stevens, China, as the two majors in Lieutenant-Colonel Moore's regiment when it went to Wiscasset (see p. 121). Other sources refer to Nathan Stanley as a colonel in the War of 1812; he is listed as a colonel in the Third Regiment of the Maine militia in the 1820 Maine Register. Robert

battle of "Shattaga Woods" and had had some war experience. He rode to the front when he reached Wiscasset and ordered the houses to be at once opened for our reception, the families having left the place through fear of the enemy. Saturday at Wiscasset living upon government rations, viz: salt beef and sea bread, coffee without milk or sweetening, and one gill of rye whiskey per day. We marched through several streets, merely to let the citizens know how formidably they were protected. Perhaps one-half or more of the guns would not discharge if called upon to fire.

Sunday morning the regiment formed a line and marched about the village until the church bell tolled for meeting when we marched into the meeting house where we behaved ourselves very well, and received the earnest prayers of the pastor for our safety through the perils of our expected bloody engagements with the British red coats. After church service and rations we took boats across the bay to Edgecomb Heights where our tents were pitched in straight line, into each six soldiers were to lodge. Camp kettles were hung upon poles fires lighted under them and supper prepared.

Thomas Burrill remained at Wiscasset about three weeks. The British never did attack, although one false alarm called the regiment out. Mr. Burrill described the daily life in the camp on Edgecomb Heights:

Monday our regular routine of duties commenced at day break. At reveille the men would turn out, form a line and have the roll called and guard for the day drafted, then break ranks, (after receiving our gill of whiskey) and go to breakfast, our food being spread upon rough boards, and consisting of salt beef and hard bread, which was not always exempt from worms: and coffee in a tin dipper. Such change of diet from our accustomed food at home, soon had its effect by bringing on sickness among the soldiers. After breakfast a line would be formed for the purpose of drill, marching &c., commanded generally by Col. Stanley, who was a splendid officer, with large experience. Break ranks at 11 A.M. and no more duty until near night when the line would be again formed and the retreat played in front of the regiment from the right to left and back. After receiving the thanks of the colonel if we deserved them, and if not, his censure which would be poured out upon us without stint, we would again break ranks.

Aside from the adventures of the militiamen, the War of 1812 made little

Fletcher was lieutenant-colonel in the same regiment in 1820 and had succeeded Stanley as colonel in 1821, according to the 1821 Maine Register.

impact on China. There are no records of war casualties. The Harlem town records show no extraordinary political or financial effects. It is easy to infer that events outside the town boundaries had little effect on, and little interest for, most of the townspeople, except when, as in the fall of 1814, their daily routines were temporarily disrupted.

As the number of people in China increased between 1775 and 1818, transportation from farm to farm, and soon from farm to school, mill, meeting-house, and muster ground, improved significantly. From the beginning the lake served as a principal artery of travel; for example, Kingsbury comments that it was easy for the Quakers on the east side of China Lake to get to the East Vassalboro Friends meetings (between 1797 and 1803), "as the whole journey could be made by boat in summer and across the ice in winter."¹ To get from China to the Kennebec River, the earliest settlers followed blazed trails; from the Branch Mills end of town, the trail went to Dirigo, through Alder Park or the Hanson Neighborhood to the lake, down to South China, and then another six miles or so through the woods to the river. For some years the nearest blacksmith was on the Kennebec, probably at Vassalboro. Local history says that the nearest grist mill was in Gardiner, thirty miles away by foot and canoe, until 1783 or 1784, when a grist mill was built near the head of China Lake.²

By the 1780's, roads were laid out from Vassalboro to both ends of the lake, one to South China and one to the head of the lake.³ The road to the head of the lake may have come across Stanley Hill and intersected the road running out the Neck on the same pattern as the present roads (although not necessarily in the same places) or it may have been farther north than the present roads. The Neck Road was described in the 1790's as a private road frequently barred by fences (and at the April 2, 1804, Harlem town meeting the voters agreed to allow the bars to remain for at least another year⁴). The road on the east side of the lake was laid out before 1796: as of June 1796, the town accepted a road described as running from a point on the north line of the town six rods east of the lake about seven and two-thirds miles southwest (that is, to the south end of the lake), then two and a third miles northwest, a little less than a mile and a half northeast, and almost another half-mile northwest again.⁵ A town road had been laid out from Branch Mills to China Lake by 1803. By 1810 two other roads ran from Branch Mills; one

1. Kingsbury, p. 281.

2. But Kingsbury says a Winslow saw mill built before 1770 "probably" had and adjoining grist mill (p. 546); if so, this mill would have been closer to the northern end of China.

3. Randall Clark remembered, according to the account in Miss Clifford's notebook, that he and Joseph Webber laid out and cleared the road on the west side of the lake in 1800, but this date seems too late to be the first road on either end of the west shore.

4. Town Clerk's Book of Records, Harlem, p. 66.

5. Ibid., Highways section, first page. The Harlem town reports are accompanied by descriptions of various early roads, identified by their point of origin and direction, as in the example above, or by other characteristics; for instance, one road ran from the "west end of Abner Weeks's lot at the county road... [on a specified course] to a white birch tree...." (Town Clerk's Book of Records, Harlem, Highways section, n. p. [1805].) Since many of the landmarks used to locate these roadways are long gone, it is nearly impossible to trace the roads, although diligent work with the town

went more or less parallel to the west branch of the Sheepscot toward Weeks Mills, and the other went the opposite direction, over Parmenter Hill.¹ Several early county roads also passed through China.²

Many of the roads, especially those originally laid out by private individuals, began as widened trails passable by people on horseback and were gradually widened, straightened, and smoothed until they were improved enough to be used by wagons as well. Some of the roads were laid out by the town selectmen and were supposed to be maintained at town expense, while private roads were maintained by their owners. Gradually the town took over the private roads, by vote at town meetings--the first example seems to have been in 1802, when Article 2 of the June 7 town meeting warrant asked the town to accept the road between Joseph Evans' dwelling and the lake.³ As early as 1796 the town began to set standards for road-building, specifying that all roads accepted for town use had to be three rods wide. There were annual appropriations for road maintenance, and at the March 17, 1800, town meeting it was voted--for the first time--to keep some of the roads open all winter. Apparently the maintenance was unsatisfactory, for in 1806 the roads were "Complaned of" and at the September 10 town meeting the town voted an assessment of three hundred dollars for repairs.⁴ Any change in the location of a road was also subject to approval at town meeting.

There was a bridge across the west branch of the Sheepscot at Branch Mills by 1800, according to property descriptions in early deeds found by Mrs. Ballantyne.⁵ The first bridge across the north end of the lake was built in 1808. The head of the lake was still in Fairfax then,⁶ and the Fairfax town meeting voted in November 1807 that the bridge should be built of wood and that the contract would be awarded by bid. James Brackett bid \$375 and was commissioned to build the bridge. Apparently his work was not substantial enough, for in 1814 Fairfax voted to rebuild the bridge.

The hard work of living in an isolated and primitive area made the inhabitants of China both independent and interdependent. A family was expected to take care of itself, and the people worked long hours on their own

reports and the Jones and Wiggin maps permits location of some stretches. The first map clearly showing roads is the 1856 map of Kennebec County; many of the roads on this map conform more closely to contemporary roads than to the descriptions of routes in late eighteenth and early nineteenth century documents.

1. Mrs. Ballantyne gathered this information from an 1803 deed transfer of Lot 73 and the 1810 Wiggin plan of Harlem Gore. The road down the Sheepscot is now discontinued beyond the end of Water Street in Branch Mills.
2. The Kennebec County Commissioners' office in Augusta has maps of four or five early county roads in China, but the maps are mere sketches with few geographical or man-made features shown.
3. Town Clerk's Book of Records, Harlem, p. 53.
4. Ibid., p. 83
5. Milton Dowe's History: Town of Palermo says that settlement began there in 1778; the dividing line between Palermo and Branch Mills was drawn for the first time in 1800, when Palermo township was formally laid out (see pp. 3 and 11); so probably Palermo residents built the bridge.
6. Mr. and Mrs. William Foster of China, who found the information about the bridge in the Fairfax town records, calculate that the Harlem-Fairfax line was 2393 feet south of the east end of the bridge.

homesteads, but there was also constant awareness of the neighboring families. In addition to the cooperative events of daily life--hunting parties and house-raising, celebration of births and marriages and mourning of deaths--the sense of community was early shown in such spheres as government, education, and religion.

The area surveyed by Jones and Burrill in 1773 and 1774 is not coterminous with present-day China, and the name of the town has changed twice. The original survey area was incorporated in 1774 as Jones Plantation, apparently named for John Jones, surveyor (although some sources mention an early settler named Jones from whom the name was taken). By an act of the Massachusetts legislature approved by the governor on February 8, 1796, Jones Plantation was incorporated as a town and named Harlem. Ava Harriet Chadbourne says it was named after Harlem in the Netherlands.¹ The boundaries of the new town of Harlem ran from the northeast corner of Vassalboro six miles on a southeast course; then southwest for eight miles and 180 rods; then northwest about six miles to the southeast corner of Vassalboro; and the fourth boundary was the Vassalboro line. The northern end of present-day China lay outside these boundaries; it was first called the Freetown settlement, and in 1804 was incorporated as part of Fairfax, now Albion. In 1813 and in 1816 small areas were taken from Winslow and Fairfax and added to Harlem by acts of the Massachusetts legislature. By the 1816 annexation of the Brackett and Washburn lands, the north line of Harlem was moved from a point near Wiggin Brook to a line presently dividing the Grow and Kenney properties in China Village; thus the head of the lake and the causeway were for the first time included in Harlem rather than in Fairfax.²

As an incorporated town, Harlem was governed by annually-elected selectmen, assisted by the town clerk, the town treasurer, and such other officials as were necessary. These normally included one or more constables (who also served as tax collectors); assessors and overseers of the poor (jobs filled by the selectmen); a school committee or supervisor of schools; road commissioners (responsible for the maintenance of town roads and bridges); field drivers and pound keepers (the field drivers caught and brought to the pound animals running loose; the pound keeper fed them until the owner claimed them); fence-viewers (whose job was to decide disputes between adjacent landowners over building and maintaining boundary fences); surveyors of lumber and wood and bark (early consumer protection agents who inspected and measured these products before they were sold); sealers of weights and measures (who checked the accuracy of commercial scales and measures against the state standard); and tithing-men (empowered to arrest anyone creating a disturbance in a religious meeting or assembly). In Harlem, a small group of men dominated town affairs most of the time, rotating the various town offices among themselves. Thus, for example, James Lancaster, who was one of the selectmen elected in 1796, also served as a school committeeman (1802, 1803, and 1805), fish warden (1800), highway surveyor (1800, 1803), and tithing man (1802, 1812).

Election of town officers was one of the functions of town meeting, which was held three or four times a year during most of Harlem's existence.

1. In Maine Place Names, Kennebec and Somerset Counties, p. 23; but Miss Chadbourne gives neither authority nor explanation for this choice of name, and there is no evidence of a Dutch settlement in China.

2. These changes of land from town to town greatly complicate research into the early history of the northern end of China, as Mr. and Mrs. Foster have discovered.

The first meeting was called at 11 a.m. on March 28, 1796, at the house of Shubael (or Shubal, or Shubel) Bragg.¹ Ebenezer Farewel (or Farwell, or Farrwell) Esq. was elected moderator; he then supervised the election of the rest of the officers to run the newly organized town. The election results were as follows:

Town clerk: Edward Fairfield

Treasurer: Ephraim Clark

Selectmen and assessors: Abraham Burrel
Ephraim Clark
James Lancaster

Constable and collector: James Chadwick

Surveyors of highways: Ichabod Chadwick
Josiah Ward
Shubael Bragg
Thomas Ward
Edward Fairfield

Fence viewers and field surveyors: Nathaniel Bragg
Joseph Webber
Samuel Ward

Surveyor of lumber: Ephraim Clark

Hog reavers: Heman Clark
Michael Norton
Abijah Ward Jr.

Tything man: Ichabod Chadwick

It was voted that taxes would be assessed during the weeks following the meeting, and that Mr. Chadwick would receive one shilling on the pound for his work as collector.²

The next two meetings were held in June and November 1796 at Michael Norton's house. At the November 7 meeting Jonathan Bowman Esq. was chosen as the town's representative to the Massachusetts legislative assembly.³ At a meeting on February 6, 1797, Harlem voters for the first time participated in the election of a representative to the United States Congress, with Henry Dearborn receiving eleven votes. The first record of voting for Massachusetts governor and lieutenant governor and for United States senators is in April 1798. For the first few years, all the votes for state, county, and federal offices were unanimous, but beginning with the gubernatorial election in April 1801 the records show Harlem's votes divided between two (or more) candidates.

The requirements for voting in Harlem were listed in the warrant for the April 1801 town meeting. A voter had to be male, over twenty-one years old, and propertied: the last qualification could be met by a freehold estate bringing an annual income of at least three pounds or by any sort of property worth at least sixty pounds. In 1804 the property requirement was changed to an income of ten dollars a year or a total value of two hundred dollars. For the next twelve years it was expressed sometimes in dollars, sometimes in pounds. In 1816 the requirement of a specific amount of property was dropped and voting rights were granted to all taxpayers.

1. According to Mr. Clinton Thurlow, referring to a paper written by Thomas Burrill in 1874, Mr. Bragg lived in the Clark neighborhood on the west side of China Lake, and there were twenty-nine voters present at this first meeting.
2. Town Clerk's Book of Records, Harlem, pp. 4-5. Lists of Harlem town officers are in Appendix I. Most of the information about town government in Harlem comes from these town records, and was supplied by Mrs. William B. Grow.
3. Presumably Harlem should have elected a representative to the Massachusetts General Court (as the legislature was and is called) annually. However, in

The eighteenth century Harlem town meetings were held in private houses. After the first meeting at Shubael Bragg's, the meetings were moved to Michael Norton's for the rest of 1796 and all of 1797. Then for some years the location varied--the three 1799 meetings were held in three different houses (Abraham Burrill's, Nathaniel Bragg's, and Ephraim Clark's). The Friends Meeting House was first used in April 1809, and from 1810 to 1818 was the regular site for town meetings. For the last few years of Harlem's existence, after Harlem and China had separated with the Friends Meeting House in China, Harlem town meetings were held either in the schoolhouse near Deacon Silvanus Hatch's or in the schoolhouse near John Worth's.

Town meetings were called upon to decide a great variety of questions. Town officers were elected and their duties, responsibilities, and recompense (if any; in 1797 and in 1808 it was voted to allow the selectmen a dollar a day for their services to the town, but it is unclear whether they received any compensation without such a specific authorization) were defined. Roads were laid out, repaired, accepted as town roads (if laid out originally by private citizens), and "disannuled" (that is, the town repudiated its previous responsibility for a road, for example--as in April 1810--when a better road was made along the same route). It was the assembled voters in town meeting who were supposed to control the educational system, including setting up school districts, building schoolhouses, providing supplies and teachers, and making necessary administrative rules (although some of these responsibilities were soon delegated, in 1801 to the selectmen and from 1802 on to various sorts of elected school committees).

The problem of supporting the town poor was also brought before town meetings, and several different solutions were devised. It was common practice to pay some substantial citizen to care for a pauper, as in 1800 when Josiah Ward was paid five shillings a week to care for a Negro named Jack. The next year, the voters agreed to allow Joseph Evans thirty dollars and the use of a cow for a year for taking care of Jack, provided that Jack stayed with him all year; if not, Mr. Evans was to receive an appropriate proportion of the remuneration. In 1814 and 1815 a poor man named Mr. Yulen was directly subsidized by the town, being granted half a bushel of corn and half a cord of wood a week. In April 1813 the voters ordered a poorhouse built, but they rescinded the vote the next month. In 1817 they again voted that the selectmen should provide a poorhouse and take care of the poor. In 1821 it was voted to auction off the care of the poor to the lowest bidder.

Unrestrained domestic animals became a nuisance requiring town action, so in 1804 it was voted that adequately fettered horses would be allowed on the town commons, but geese, sheep, and swine could no longer run at large. To implement these regulations, an animal pound was ordered built on Ephraim Clark's land "near where George Fish formerly lived"; Isaac Bragg was commissioned to build the pound, and the selectmen were to be a committee to inspect it.¹ Ephraim Clark was chosen as the first poundkeeper, and is said to have held the post for the rest of his life,² a report substantiated by

May 1811 the town voted not to send anyone; in 1812 and 1813 the article in the warrant calling for the election was ignored; and in 1814 voters again decided not to send any representative.

1. Town Clerk's Book of Records, Harlem, p. 66. Mr. Clinton Thurlow spent a great deal of time trying to pinpoint the location of this pound or of any of the later animal pounds in China, but he was not successful.

2. Kingsbury, p. 1142. Actually, for one year--1815--the post was held by Isaac Bragg instead of Mr. Clark.

the reference to him as poundkeeper when it was voted to rebuild the pound (Jonathan Clark promised to do the job for two dollars) in 1821.

Town meetings also considered questions arising from Harlem's relations with neighboring towns. In 1800 and 1801 there was a territorial dispute with Vassalboro, involving two surveys of the Harlem-Vassalboro boundary and a special Harlem town meeting which approved a petition to the Massachusetts legislature countering Vassalboro's previous petition. The line between Harlem and Palermo was resurveyed in 1805 in response to a petition from a group of Palermo residents that their homesites be incorporated into Harlem. After the town of China was created, taking away the whole northern part of Harlem, the remaining Harlem residents voted in May 1818 to petition the legislature to re-extend Harlem to its former boundaries. Apparently the petition was not favorably received. In April 1819 Harlem voters empowered their selectmen to act as a committee to "Settle the dispute between the town of Harlem and China";¹ in December of that year they accepted the annexation of Harlem to China as a solution.²

Harlem voters showed only limited interest in affairs beyond the boundaries of the town. As mentioned previously, they did not always elect their representative to the Massachusetts legislature; and when a convention was called in Hallowell in the fall of 1798 to discuss dividing Lincoln County, Harlem voted not to send any delegates.³ One issue which aroused attention, however, was the question of separating Maine from Massachusetts, which was presented in the Harlem town meeting warrants several times.⁴

1. Town Clerk's Book of Records, Harlem, n.p.

2. The annexation was not effected until early 1822, and Harlem town government continued for another six years after that; the last Harlem town meeting was in 1828.

3. In February 1799 Kennebec County, including Harlem, was divided out of Lincoln County.

4. The idea of separating Maine from Massachusetts became a topic of public discussion as early as 1784. In October 1785 the first separatist convention was held in Falmouth, and the movement continued, more or less vehemently, until Maine became a state. The first convention in Falmouth called a second one in January 1786 which called a third one in September 1786; reports and requests to elect delegates were sent to the towns and plantations in Maine. The September 1786 convention ordered a popular referendum, but when the votes were counted in January 1787 only 970 people had been interested enough to vote (although there was nearly a two to one margin in favor of separation among those few people). This early agitation attracted the attention of the Massachusetts legislature, which in 1792, 1797, and 1807 ordered votes on separation in Maine; each time more district voters opposed than favored statehood. The War of 1812 gave new impetus to the separation movement, for many Massachusetts people violently opposed the war and the United States government conducting it, while in Maine there was more emphasis on loyalty to the United States. A separation resolution was introduced in the Massachusetts Senate in February 1815, but was defeated; and the Senate also opposed suggestions for another referendum. This latter position was reversed the next year, owing to renewed pressure from Maine separatists, and a vote was ordered taken on May 20, 1816, in which--with fewer than half the eligible voters participating--the separatists won a majority. The Massachusetts legislature then called for yet another referendum and a convention in Maine in the fall; these were duly held, but despite intensive

On May 10, 1797, Harlem cast twenty-nine votes against separation and none in favor. Sentiment had changed slightly by 1816, when a convention was called in Brunswick to discuss separation: thirty-six Harlem voters then favored Maine's becoming a state, while sixty-five were opposed. However, in 1819 (after China had been created out of Harlem) forty-eight Harlem voters favored separating Maine from Massachusetts and only nine were opposed.¹ When the constitutional act of separation creating the state of Maine was presented for action in December, it was approved by a vote of thirty-three to one.

By the time China was taken out of Harlem in 1818, Harlem was a relatively well-populated and self-sufficient town. The population of Jones Plantation in 1790 was 244 people, in thirty-nine families.² By 1800 134 heads of families were named, and by 1810 147; the total population of Harlem in 1810 was 939 people.

Although the majority of the inhabitants of Harlem were primarily farmers, there were also professional men, storekeepers, artisans, and industrial entrepreneurs. A Dr. Bennett who lived on China Neck is recorded as the first physician in town, but apparently he did not stay long, for the same source says that the first permanent physician was Dr. Daniel Stevens, who settled at the head of the lake in 1807 or 1808. A lawyer named Abisha Benson had arrived by 1816 or 1817. Jonathan Clark's son-in-law, Reuben Page, was a carpenter by trade. Several of the early inhabitants are identified by titles of some sort; there were several deacons, and several captains, as well as Major Abner Weeks (for whom Weeks Mills is named) and Colonel Nathan Stanley.

The first store at the north end of the lake was established by Japheth C. Washburn in 1804; he built a frame house and store about where Blaine Bailey's house now stands. When they burned in 1806 he built another store across the road.³ Colonel Robert Fletcher, who came to China Village around 1807,⁴ built a second store, noted especially for the night the heavy stock

political maneuvering the results were inconclusive. In 1818 and 1819 the separationist movement gained important political influence, with all the state senators and most of the state representatives from Maine electoral districts separatists. The Massachusetts legislature (working through a committee containing many of these Maine members) therefore called yet another vote, which the separatists won by a majority of ten thousand votes out of over twenty-four thousand votes cast, and agreed that Maine would become a separate state on March 15, 1820, with the prior consent of the United States Congress. Despite the complications caused by Missouri's pending application for statehood and the debate between pro- and anti-slavery factions, the bill admitting Maine was passed and was signed by President James Monroe on March 3, 1820; and Maine officially became a state on March 15. See Hatch, Maine, pp. 107-165.

1. In May 1819 China voters were asked whether the selectmen should petition the Massachusetts legislature in favor of a separate state of Maine; they voted yes. In July 1819, thirty-eight China voters favored Maine's becoming a separate state under the conditions prescribed by the Massachusetts legislature, and only five people were opposed. Records of the Town of China, n.p.

2. The 1790 census lists each head of family by name, and the number in the family. The spelling is unusually original—for example, Burrel, McGlothlin (for McLaughlin), Evins and Evens (but not Evans), and Clerk (for Clark).

3. Kingsbury's information (see p. 1145) is supplemented by Thomas Burrill's Masonic History: Lodge No. 45, China, Maine, p. 2.

4. Kingsbury's date; Thomas Burrill says 1810.

of rum broke through the floor and fell into the cellar.¹ In the south end of town, the stores in South China and at Crossman's Corner were probably in operation before 1818. Japheth C. Washburn also started the first tavern in the north end, about 1812; some of the taverns recorded in the south end in the 1820's may have been opened before 1818.

The industrial history of the northern end of Harlem is confused, because apparently the name Wiggin was applied to both the brooks furnishing water power at the north end of the lake. The present Wiggin Brook (also called Broad's Brook) comes into the west side of the lake; the brook now called Meadow Brook or Hunter's Brook or Starkey Brook which comes into the east side of the muldoon north of the causeway also went through Wiggin land in the early days. One or both of these brooks also provided water power for successive sawmills, a grist mill, and a tannery. The first grist mill was built in 1783 or 1784 by George McLaughlin and Benjamin Dow; Mr. Dow's diary says he built it with an "old gun-barrell & an adze, and a hollow log composed the floom,"² and Kingsbury adds that the gears were made of wood and the gun-barrel was used as a spindle.³ By 1804 Nathaniel Wiggin Jr. operated a grist mill, to which James Brackett Jr. had added a sawmill by about 1807.⁴ Japheth C. Washburn had a potash works at the north end of town, near the western brook, before 1818 (he wrote in 1850: "Before the Incorporation of China, at one period, my Dwellinghouse was in Winslow--across the road, directly opposite, stood my store, in Albion, and 40 rods south, stood my Potash, in Harlem."⁵).

At the south end of the lake, two more brooks served as sources of water power: early sawmills were built on Jones Brook (in South China village, just west of the present church) and on Clark Brook (also called Tannery Brook; it runs into the east side of the lake about a mile north of South China village). The original Clark settlers built the first sawmill on Clark Brook; a second one was built by some of the next generation of Clarks and a brother-in-law, Josiah Braley. Mr. Braley also ran a grist mill, and there was a small tannery built by Joseph Hoxie. In Weeks Mills, a sawmill and a grist mill were in existence by 1807, with David Doe and Abner Weeks among the early proprietors.⁶

1. These early stores stocked a variety of merchandise, though not in as many different colors and brands as a modern store. Among the major commodities were rum, molasses, tobacco, sugar, salt, coffee, and tea. Customers paid for their purchases with farm produce--grain, vegetables, butter, eggs, meat, wood--or by working for the storekeeper, or, once in a while, in cash, either American or British.

2. Excerpt quoted in the Book of Dow.

3. Kingsbury, p. 1144. The Fosters think this mill was on Wiggin Brook.

4. Mr. Foster thinks this mill was probably on Meadow Brook. When the brook was dammed, a substantial lake was created east of the northern end of China Lake and south of Dutton Pond. Later in the century the dam was allowed to fall into disrepair and the lake drained, leaving a meadow from which excellent hay was harvested. The Fosters have an 1802 map showing the lake; it is not on the 1856 map.

5. Letter from Japheth C. Washburn to A. H. Abbott, January 14, 1850.

6. Mrs. Ballantyne has found deeds dated in November 1807 by which (in typically complicated transactions) David Doe sold Abner Weeks one-eighteenth of Lot 60 with sawmill; and Benjamin Brown, Jr., of Vassalboro sold Abner Weeks half of an undivided four-ninths of the west half of Lot 60 with sawmill and grist mill. Benjamin Brown had previously purchased his share from David Doe, suggesting that Mr. Doe may have been the founder or co-founder of the mills. (See Book 13, Kennebec County Registry of Deeds.)

The early landowners in Branch Mills included Stephen Greely (or Greeley; son of Jacob Greely, a Revolutionary War veteran who came to Palermo after 1782), the Longfellows, and the Foyes.¹ Jacob and Elizabeth (Healey) Worthen (or Worthing) arrived about 1792 (according to the inscription on a plaque in Branch Mills cemetery); they had twelve children and many of their descendants still remain in the area. By 1800 Thomas Bragg had settled (probably where the Dinsmore Library now stands, between Manley Nelson's garage and Dinsmore's store). There was a mill pond, mentioned in deeds, and Benjamin Dow had a mill below the bridge which he sold to Jonathan Pullen in 1800.

In 1802 John Johnson recorded a Plymouth grant for mill lot #4, a large lot above the bridge including the site of the present Dinsmore mill. Here he built a mill complex including a sawmill and a grist mill. In 1807, he deeded to John Dow part of mill lot #4 with one-fourth part of the sawmill, all of the grist mill, and all of the land and millyard between the mill and Andrew Boney's (Bonney's) northeast line.² Mr. Johnson said in the deed that it was the land he had purchased from Moses Carlton of New Milford, and the August 5, 1807, deed from Carlton to Johnson described Johnson as already having possession of the property. In May 1809 Mr. Johnson sold to Andrew Bonney a piece of land identified as "part of what is commonly called the mill lot, the same as I bought from Nathan Winslow";³ in March 1810 he sold the grist mill to Lewis Worthen.

Lewis Worthen in turn sold the grist mill to Moses Dow. Moses Dow also purchased, from Ephraim Jones⁴ in 1815, the carding machines on the upper floor of the mill. In 1817, Joseph Hacker of Brunswick, Robert Patten, Stephen Jones, Stephen Jones, Jr., and Edmund Whitehouse purchased Moses Dow's interest in the mill property. An 1817 deed from John Dow to Joseph Hacker conveys one-fourth part of sawmill privilege situated in Harlem on Sheepscot western branch, being the one-fourth part of the same privilege whereon the former sawmill was builded and stood, being the same that formerly was owned and occupied by John Johnson, Andra Bonney, Jacob Worthen and others; but now demolished and another builded on or near the same place; together with one-fourth part of the sawmill erected and now standing on said privilege above described; together with one-fourth of sawmill dam and millyard and irons and the land and rock on which it stands with all privileges belonging.⁵

1. Information on the early history of Branch Mills was supplied by Mrs. Ballantyne and Mrs. Dinsmore.
2. Book 15, p. 11, Kennebec County Registry of Deeds. Andrew Bonney's land is now owned by Mr. Kenneth Dinsmore; it is between the Parmeter Hill road and Branch Mills.
3. Book 17, p. 290, Kennebec County Registry of Deeds. In the description in this deed there are references to Dow's grist mill and mill pond. What is now called Branch Pond was identified by Bradstreet Wiggins as Dow's Mill Pond on his 1810 plan of Harlem Gore and as Johnson's Pond on his 1808-1809 plan of Harlem. Mr. Johnson is referred to as "from Vassalboro" in early deeds, and is not listed in the Harlem census of 1790, 1800, or 1810. In 1817 he built the house in Branch Mills now occupied by Miss Dorothy Dinsmore.
4. Ephraim Jones' name appears in many deeds between 1815 and 1840; he seems to have had at least a part interest in many properties in Branch Mills and Weeks Mills.
5. Book 194, p. 169, Kennebec County Registry of Deeds.

There were other mills in Branch Mills in the nineteenth century, farther south down the stream, and some of them may have been in operation before 1818. Stephen Jones' foundry and blacksmith shop may also have been in business in the early days, since he was among the first settlers in this part of Harlem.

Existing records make it difficult to tell what kind of mail service Harlem had and whether there were any post offices in the town.¹ At the north end of China Lake, for some years Japheth C. Washburn took care of mail. Sometime before 1810 his daughter Abra (later Mrs. Thomas Burrill) and son Oliver Wendell began carrying the mail once a week from Getchell's Corners (in Vassalboro) to Japheth's store. They traveled through the woods on horseback; Abra was about ten years old then, Oliver two years younger. One source says that around 1812 regular mails into China were established as the government entered into contracts with different carriers. Asa Burrell succeeded the Washburn children in bringing mail from Vassalboro; another mail specifically recorded as coming through China was Peter Gilman's weekly Augusta to Bangor trip, beginning in 1812. Another post road through China was established in 1816, according to post office records: the route was from Augusta to Palermo via Brown's Corner and Harlem. Some sources indicate that there was a legally-established post office at Washburn's store by 1810 or 1814, but the most authoritative sources date the China Village post office from 1818, after the division of Harlem and the establishment of the new town. Dow's Maine Postal History and Postmarks lists a Harlem post office, established in 1810 and in 1828 changed to the South China post office; but no other source mentions a post office at the south end of the lake before 1828.

Education was a concern of the citizens of Harlem from the earliest days.² The first school in town began in 1795; it met in a house on Michael Norton's land midway of the east side of China Lake (or, one source says, in a

1. The earliest postal routes in Maine were established by the Massachusetts legislature before the American Revolution. After the revolution, the federal government took charge of postal service. A bill passed by the United States Congress in September 1789 appointed a federal postmaster-general; it was followed by a series of acts establishing post roads, setting rates, and regulating the transportation of mail. The Postmaster-General's duties included recommending post roads, that is, the routes over which mail was to be carried. According to an early post office record, the first route near China was the one established through Vassalboro in 1810. Early postal rates were determined by weight and distance, and were high; for example, under a 1799 law the postage for a single-sheet letter (the cheapest category) went from eight cents for under forty miles to twenty-five cents for over five hundred miles. In 1845 the rates were reduced and simplified; a single-sheet letter under the new rates cost five cents for less than three hundred miles and ten cents for more than three hundred miles. Postage was normally paid by the recipient rather than the sender; in 1851 Congress set a lower rate for prepaid letters than for collect ones, and in 1856 the present system of prepayment became law.

2. The editor is grateful to Mrs. William Carpenter of China for much of the information about Harlem schools.

log cabin built to serve as a school) and was taught by Reverend Job Chadwick. Voters attending the second Harlem town meeting in June 1796 voted to raise money to support the schools--they appropriated two hundred dollars for schools and three hundred dollars for roads--and to empower the selectmen and the constable to allocate the funds. School money was appropriated annually from then on, although the appropriations were sometimes diverted to other uses: for example, a 1798 town meeting voted to "use last year's school money for the town's stock of powder," and in 1800 voters decided to use the school money to run the town line.

The Harlem schools were established on the basis of the division of the town into school districts, pursuant to Massachusetts law. Each district had a great deal of independence; the district residents elected a district school committee empowered to oversee such matters as the purchase of land and building of schools and the collection and expenditure of school money (which included hiring the teacher and deciding the length of the school term). The first town-wide supervising school committee in Harlem was apparently elected in 1802.

In February 1803, at a town meeting held at Jonathan Dow's house, the warrant included an article asking the voters to appropriate money to build a school house, and another article suggesting the use of the 1801 school money for the same purpose. Instead, the voters decided to raise fifty dollars and pay Mr. Dow that sum for his house, using the 1801 school money to refit it as a school house. Shubael Bragg, Lewis Webber, and Owan Clark were elected to supervise the project. By 1804 several school districts had been established; they were rearranged that spring, and the May 1804 town meeting voted to use the school money to build school houses in five districts. There were eight districts by 1807, and that year's town meeting voted to establish a ninth district on China Neck. By 1814 there were sixteen districts. Not every district had a school house; some of the schools were taught in rooms in private houses.¹ Other money-saving devices in some districts included boarding the teacher with the families of the district in turn, and having the wood used to heat the school house contributed by district families.

The number and the boundaries of school districts changed frequently in Harlem as new families moved into town and as children dropped out of school or moved from one district to another. To add to the confusion, children were allowed to attend school in whatever district they wished with the permission of the selectmen. If a school enrollment became too small--the law required a minimum of eight students for a school, but this provision was not strictly followed--the school was closed and the students transferred to another district.

There are few records of what actually went on in the schools. The typical eighteenth century curriculum was based on reading and arithmetic; a 1789 law expanded it to include reading, writing, English language, orthography (spelling), arithmetic, and proper behavior. Thomas Burrill wrote that English grammar was introduced about 1814 by a "foreigner" named

1. Mrs. Ballantyne thinks that there was a school house in Branch Mills in the early 1800's, built on the road to Parmeter Hill just above the church, on the south side of the stone wall near Mr. Kenneth Dinsmore's sheep pasture; unfortunately, she has been unable to find any records of this building.

McNeil, who taught in the school young Burrill attended (it was on the east side of China Lake about three miles from the north end, which means it must have been very close to Abraham Burrill's house). Thomas was at first the only student to try "that...unprofitable branch," but later it became more popular.¹ School books were scarce, and for many years each child was required to provide his own, a financial burden on the family. Reverend Chadwick, the first teacher in China, used as his main texts Noah Webster's spelling book, the Psalter, and Adams Arithmetic. There was almost no paper, and slate was not yet in common use. The records do not show what Harlem schoolchildren used as a substitute for paper, but a contemporary school teacher (Abigail Ford of Bangor) taught her students to write on the inside of birch bark, using goose-quill pens and ink made from maple bark.²

1. Letter from Thomas Burrill to A. H. Abbott, February 16, 1850.
2. One of the teachers in the Harlem schools was a man named Paul Chadwick, always identified in the history books as the man who was killed in the Malta Indian War. According to standard histories like Kingsbury's (see pp. 410-11), the Malta War of 1807, 1808, and 1809 was between groups of squatters, settled--by mistake or deliberately--on land to which they had no deeds, or challenged deeds, and the land agents and other law officers working for the Kennebec proprietors. The law officers tried to drive off the squatters, who reacted with violence against them and against the symbols of their authority; for instance, in March 1808 the jail at Augusta was burned (apparently by a prisoner; but everyone at first assumed that the squatters had done it) and the courthouse set afire but saved. Legal settlers and townsmen were frightened of the squatters and armed themselves and organized night patrols for defense. One of the groups of squatters was living in Malta (now Windsor), and Paul Chadwick was one of them. When the legal owners of the land decided to evict the squatters, they began by making an accurate survey of the area--and Paul Chadwick was hired as a surveyor. The other squatters felt that Mr. Chadwick had traitorously joined the enemy, so on September 8, 1809, some of them disguised themselves as Indians and went to Mr. Chadwick's to force him out of the settlement. He resisted, shots were fired, and he was killed. The Augusta sheriff arrested seven of the squatters and jailed them (in the newly-built stone jail). For several uneasy weeks Augusta citizens feared a rescue attempt, and bands of armed squatters roamed the woods outside town. After one attempted incursion, three hundred militiamen were called out to supplement the volunteer patrols guarding the town. In November the prisoners were acquitted after a two-week trial--the verdict surprised most of the spectators--and their friends left Augusta peacefully. Ernest Marriner says:

The only tangible result of the Malta War was the passage of a legislative act making it a high crime for any person to disguise himself as an Indian or otherwise, with intent to molest a sheriff or surveyor in discharge of his duty. (Remembered Maine, p. 77)

The other public buildings recorded in Harlem, besides the small schools built in different parts of town, were churches. The Society of Friends and the Baptists were the predominant religious groups in Harlem; each of these denominations had a place of worship by the time the town of China was organized in 1818.

The Society of Friends, or Quakers, were numerous among the early settlers in the entire Kennebec region. The Vassalboro Friends began holding regular worship meetings in 1780 and built their meeting house near the river in 1785 and 1786; by 1787 they were also holding preparative and monthly meetings (the business meetings for, respectively, one and more than one group of Friends). In 1797 a second meeting house was built in present-day East Vassalboro. The China Friends--including Andrew and Ephraim Clark, their brother-in-law George Fish, Anne (or Anna) and David Braley (who came to China in 1795; their daughter Olive married Ephraim Clark), Benjamin Worth (who came in 1798), Lemuel Hawkes (who came around 1802), the Jepsens (who probably arrived in 1804 or 1805), and others--worshipped first in their own homes. Between 1780 and 1797 they walked ten miles to the Vassalboro meeting, and between 1797 and 1807 they crossed the lake to the East Vassalboro meeting.

From the time Lemuel and Abigail (Winslow) Hawkes moved to China around 1802 and built about two miles from the south end of the lake, local worship meetings were usually held in their house. Here, too, Susanna Jepson and Abel Jones were married in 1806, the first Quaker marriage in town. Meetings continued to be held at Hawkes' until the Pond Meeting House was built in 1807. The original plan for this meeting house, located on the east side of China Lake about three miles from the north end, called for a building thirty by forty feet. Members shared the building costs, and the labor; the building took several years to complete, and was used in an unfinished state. The first business meeting of China Friends was held in 1809, and by 1813 they and the Albion Friends were joined in a monthly meeting.

The other important denomination in Harlem besides the Friends was the Baptists. The first Baptist church in Maine was at Kittery in the 1680's, but its members were so looked down on and legally harassed that they moved south. By the 1760's, however, Baptist missionaries from Massachusetts were traveling in Maine again, and Baptist churches were established at Gorham and Berwick in 1768. From this base the sect expanded rapidly and by the 1780's its ministers were visiting China. Apparently they were well received by the early settlers there, for the membership register of the First Baptist Church of Harlem, organized in 1797, includes among the thirty-two founding members Deacon Nathaniel Bragg, Michael Norton and Betsey Norton, Joseph and Nathaniel Evans, Ezekiel Lancaster and Polly Lancaster, Abraham Burrell, Hannah, Esther, and Betsey Burrell, Thomas Ward, and other old family names. This group of Baptists met for a time in a school house, and did not build their first church until sometime after 1819.¹ Reverend Job Chadwick was the preacher for the first eight years and at intervals thereafter.

The second Baptist church in this area was organized by thirty-nine residents of present-day Albion, China, and Vassalboro in May 1801; it was added to the Bowdoinham Baptist Association in 1802 as the Freetown Church, that being the name for the southern Albion-northern China area in those days. After some years of worshipping in schools and private houses, the church members built a meeting house in 1814 on a knoll near the old muster ground

1. Kingsbury says (p. 1154) that in the 1890's the former church building was used as a house by Deacon Bragg's daughter, a Mrs. Rowe.

at the north-east end of the lake, in what was then Fairfax.¹ A brook close to the church was dammed to make a pond for baptisms.

By 1818 many of the leading families in Harlem had replaced their log houses with more substantial buildings, a few of which still stand today. Among the houses in present-day China built before 1818 are the following:

the house on the northwest corner of the Winslow road intersection, now owned by the Kiesows; it was probably built about 1812, by William Hunnewell, a prosperous farmer, and remained in the Hunnewell family for about a century.

the house just south of the China Village post office now owned by the Fosters; it was built by Dr. Daniel Stevens in 1809 or 1810.

the large white Farnsworth house on the west side of the Neck Road just south of the Masonic hall; it was built about 1805.

the Sidney Brown farmhouse, the large house sitting back from the west side of the Neck Road where Mrs. Euleta Brown now lives; this may be the oldest house in the north end of town.

the house half-way up the hill between the four corners in South China and the stop sign at the route 202 intersection, built in 1815 and now owned by Mrs. Miriam Jones Brown.

the house in Branch Mills now occupied by Miss Dorothy Dinsmore, built in 1817 by John Johnson and purchased by the Dinsmore family from the Johnson family in 1836.

Other houses in the north end of town probably built around 1818 are the ones now owned by the Kenneys (on the east side of the main street in China Village); by Mrs. Ethel Lamson (on the west side of the Neck Road; this house was J. C. Washburn's until he sold it in 1825); by the Lawrence Drakes (on the Parmenter Hill road at the first intersection, on the left; this house was in existence in 1821); and by the Farrises (the first house on the right on Pleasant Ridge; this was Nathaniel Wiggin's after he sold the Farnsworth house).²

1. Willis W. Washburn said in an address around 1930 that this church was built "on the site of the old cemetery on Howard Hunt's farm. This cemetery is marked now only by a growth of bushes."

2. Mr. and Mrs. Foster have traced the history of many of the older houses in and near China Village, including those listed above. There may be more houses of equal age in other parts of town, but the editor has not received information about them.

Part II. China

On February 5, 1818, the governor of Massachusetts approved an act of the legislature which combined the northern part of the town of Harlem with parts of the towns of Fairfax and Winslow to create the town of China.¹ The boundaries of China were described as follows:

beginning at the northwest corner of the town of Harlem, thence southerly on the line between the towns of Harlem and Vassalborough to the center of Twelve Mile Pond [China Lake]; thence southeasterly to the southwest corner of Lot numbered 35 in said town of Harlem; thence east south-east to the east line of said town of Harlem; thence northerly on said east line to the northeast corner of said town of Harlem; thence west northwest on the dividing line between said towns of Harlem and Fairfax to the southwest corner of a lot of land in said Fairfax numbered 30; thence northerly to the northeast corner of Lot numbered 33 in said Fairfax; then west northwest to the southwest corner of lot numbered 18; thence northerly to the southeast corner of Lot numbered 7; then west northwest to the outlet of Mud Pond in Winslow; thence southerly by said stream and Mud Pond to the original north line of said Harlem; thence west northwest to the bounds first mentioned.²

The act further provided that until a new tax evaluation was made, China should pay five-eighths and Harlem three-eighths of the state and county taxes levied on the area. One-twentieth of the valuation of Fairfax was added to China; China was to assume part of the debts of Winslow and Fairfax, as well as a share of the Harlem debt. Military supplies previously owned by Harlem were evaluated and divided between Harlem and China.

The name of the new town was chosen by Japheth C. Washburn, then representative to the Massachusetts legislature. The name originally selected--for unknown reasons--was Bloomville, but the representative from Bloomfield,³ farther up the Kennebec near Skowhegan, objected, fearing that the similarity of names would create problems with mail delivery. So Mr. Washburn chose instead the name China, which was the title of one of his favorite hymns and was not duplicated anywhere else in the United States.

1. The editor has found no authoritative explanation for the decision to create a new town. Mr. Foster theorizes that Mr. Brackett, Mr. Washburn, and other large landowners in northern Harlem resented southern Harlem's monopoly of town offices and wanted their own local government. Some rivalry between north and south has always existed in China, as old records intimate and as Dean Ernest Marriner mentioned in a Commemoration Day address on July 20, 1974.

2. Most of the information on China's boundaries and boundary changes was provided by Mr. and Mrs. Foster. See also Hill, Kennebec County, Maine: Legislative descriptions of boundaries.... Information on the combining of Harlem and China was provided by Mrs. William Grow from the records of the two towns.

3. Bloomfield had been created by a February 6, 1814, act of the Massachusetts legislature separating it from the town of Canaan. It existed until February 1861 when it was combined with Skowhegan. Louise Helen Coburn, Skowhegan on the Kennebec, Vol. I, pp. 44, 48.

As mentioned earlier, after China was created Harlem voters first tried to reclaim their northern territory and then, on December 6, 1819, voted for annexation to China. This vote was not well received in China. The December 18, 1820, China town meeting voted unanimously to appoint a committee (consisting of Japheth Washburn, Dr. Daniel Stevens, and Jonathan Fairfield) to remonstrate against Harlem's petition for annexation, to appoint an agent to present the remonstrance to the next session of the state legislature (by then the Maine legislature rather than Massachusetts), and to instruct their representative to the legislature to oppose the petition. The state legislature apparently approved the merger of the two towns, for on June 18, 1821, China voters expressed opposition to a legislative order for the annexation of Harlem (eighty-one voters opposed the annexation, one favored it) and appointed a five-man committee (the three selectmen, Dr. Stevens, Mr. Washburn, and Isaac Jones, plus Mr. Fairfield and Abraham Burrell) to meet with a legislative committee. Negotiations with the legislature and with Harlem officials were fruitless, and in January 1822 the Maine legislature passed the definitive act combining the two towns. Even after that, an article in the warrant for the January 4, 1823, China town meeting asked the voters to petition the legislature to divide China into two separate towns; but the voters decided to pass over the article, thus in effect killing it.

The 1822 act combining Harlem and China provided that each town should be responsible for its own pre-combination debts, and allowed the Harlem tax assessors and collectors to continue in their posts until Harlem's debts were paid. Harlem continued to exist as a corporate entity until 1828; town records show that town meetings were held at least once a year and officers were elected and charged with final settlement of the town's affairs. In 1822 the voters raised two hundred dollars to pay debts; in 1824 another hundred and ninety dollars was voted for the same purpose, and in 1828 seventy dollars. Then the remaining property of the town of Harlem was transferred to the town of China, and the Harlem town records were given into the care of the China town clerk.

Meanwhile, an argument over the dividing line between Harlem and Palermo had begun in 1805, when a group of inhabitants in the western edge of Palermo had asked to be included in Harlem. A surveyor from Montville ran a new line starting at the north end of the common boundary and deviating three degrees east from the old line, forming a long triangular gore. Apparently, however, the gore was not formally incorporated into Harlem, for when China claimed the northern end of it in 1818 and began to tax the population, Palermo objected. The 1827 Palermo town meeting instructed the selectmen to negotiate with China to regain the land, but instead the selectmen (for unknown reasons) joined with the China selectmen in petitioning the legislature to give the gore to China. This was done in March 1830. The description of the new dividing line between Palermo and China, which was also the Kennebec County line, was typical of nineteenth century property documents: the line ran along the east lines of lots numbered 86 and 87 in China, then along the east line of the gore to a stone monument "on the southerly side of the County road near the house of Joseph Hacker" in Palermo, then to "a beech tree standing on the northerly side of the county road leading from Augusta to Belfast," and so on to the southeast corner of the gore as surveyed twenty-five years earlier.¹

1. See Map , opposite.

Another small change in the geographical area of China was approved by the legislature in February 1829: the southwest corner of China west of Three-Mile Pond was taken from China and annexed to Vassalboro.

China Lake

China Lake has always been one of the most important features of the town. As mentioned earlier, it served as a major transportation artery for both Indians and white settlers; they traversed it in summer in canoes or rowboats and in winter on snowshoes and later in vehicles drawn by horses or oxen. In the 1850's a ferry was operated across the Narrows between the Neck and the southern shore.¹ In the nineteenth century the lake in winter was a highway for local people's sleighs, an especially good shortcut from the Neck to South China or to the east shore. In the twentieth century, the frozen lake continued to serve as a roadway for the Model T and its contemporaries; Mrs. Ruth Woodsum Pace, who grew up in China, remembers one clear winter day when the drivers of two of these early vehicles, alone on the lake, one going north and one going south, managed to collide in mid-lake. Today highways provide preferred transportation from one end of the lake to the other, but ice fishermen and other winter recreationists drive trucks, cars, and snowmobiles on (and occasionally through) the ice.

After the completion of the Erie Canal in 1825 sparked enthusiasm for canal-building in the northeastern United States, China residents began to consider their lake as potentially part of a more comprehensive water transportation system. Several plans for canal connections with other bodies of water were suggested, including a link between China Lake and Gardiner² on the Kennebec River. None of the various proposals was implemented.

The lake also played a role in the economic life of local people. It was an important source of food for Indians and whites alike, full of various kinds of edible fish. The first settlers spoke of great numbers of herring, and Rufus Jones, writing of life in China in the 1860's and 1870's, says that people speared pickerel and netted smelts early in the spring, and picnicked in the summer on fresh-made perch chowder. He also describes how his gang of boys routed some men from Waterville who were illegally netting enough fish to sell.³ The brooks running into the lake provided water power for the saw and grist mills that were essential to nineteenth-century life in China. And for many years ice from the lake was used in local iceboxes; there were no commercial icehouses in China, but local residents went to the lake and cut enough for their own use.

The lake was also a major recreational resource for China residents. Most nineteenth-century boys (and some girls) learned to swim, row, and perhaps paddle or sail at an early age. In A Small-Town Boy Rufus Jones writes of the activities of the 1870's. In summer, there were swimming, fishing, and camping out--favorite sites for cook-outs and camping included

1. Clark, History: Family of Thomas and Mary Church Clark, p. 15.
2. Marriner, Kennebec Yesterdays, pp. 79-81.
3. Jones, A Small-Town Boy, pp. 109-116.

Indian Heart point and Round or Birch Island (now called Indian Island). This island, Mr. Jones writes, had once been thoroughly dug over by prospectors seeking rumored gold; but all they found was fools' gold, and the island had been allowed to grow a new forest of birches. In the winter, the boys went ice-fishing and sledding on the ice, and Mr. Jones remembers ice-skating with special pleasure: after the ice was at least a foot thick, boys would spend all day dragging old pine stumps (from piles left on shore as the land was cleared) to build an enormous bonfire around which they would skate all evening. Ice-fishing and skating have remained common winter pastimes in China. By the early twentieth century ice-boating was another favorite sport.

China's development as a summer resort area began in the 1880's and 1890's. Summer houses were built on the shore of the lake, some by local people, others by "foreigners" from out of town or even out of state. Most of the earlier cottages were built near South China and on the Neck; the development of the north and east shores of the lake is a more recent phenomenon, with most of the cottages dating from the 1920's and 1930's.

Among the most permanent summer residents in China are the group in South China formally called the South China Inn Association, informally known as the Quaker summer colony.¹ This group, Mrs. Wilmot R. Jones, Jr., says, was "founded by friends who shared an enthusiasm for China Lake... nurtured by 'women's lib' and perpetuated by a strong sense of community." The colony originated in the nineteenth century, when Wilmot Rufus Jones, Sr., of South China, brought a Haverford classmate, George L. Crosman (who had relatives in Dirigo) home with him. Wilmot's enthusiasm for the beauty of the lake was contagious, and the two young men bought adjacent lots on the bluff just south of the Town Landing Road. George Crosman built a cottage in 1893; for several years Wilmot Jones had only a sailboat, which he tied to a leaning elm nearby. When he did decide to build, he discovered that the boundary line between the two lots ran through the cottage chimney; so he sold that lot and bought the next knoll north, behind the Brick House. Here he built his cottage in 1898, and named it Leaning Elm.

Between that year and 1925 six more cottages were built, each one added by friends of these founding families. Wilmot Jones' friends Hezekiah and Ella Weed were invited to visit and in 1900 built their own cottage next to his. George Crosman's cousin Charles built another in 1900, the first of five which Rufus Jones built in the Pond Field and rented to the occupants. Adeline (Allen) Davidson, a Smith College classmate of Wilmot's wife, Mary B. Jones, came with her husband and children; their cottage was built in 1906. Then came the Davidsons' friends, the Nathan Dennetts, whose cottage was built between the Davidsons' and the Charles Crosmans'. When the Dennetts had to make other summer plans some years later, their cottage was taken over by Charles and Margaret (Gifford) Sisson and family; Mrs. Sisson was a life-long friend of Charles Crosman's older daughter Marion. In 1915 a small cottage was built for Charles Crosman's sister Marianna. The last cottage in the colony was built in 1925 for the Norman Tabors, who were friends of the Sissons. Neither the Sissons nor the Tabors continued to occupy their cottages very long; two of the five Davidson children took them over.

1. The editor is grateful to Mrs. Wilmot R. Jones, Jr., for the information about the South China Inn Association.

As the children and grandchildren of the original colony wanted to summer in South China, additions had to be made to the cottages to accommodate them. Hezekiah and Ella Weed's son moved the carriage shed originally brought from the Friends' meeting house to the field near their cottage, renovated it, and christened it "Escape"; Wilmot R. Jones, Jr., built what is called the "Bolt Hole," attached to Leaning Elm cottage by a short boardwalk. In the summer of 1973, the cottages and additions were all occupied by second, third, fourth, and fifth generation descendants of some of the early arrivals.

The colony believed from the beginning that the women as well as the men deserved a summer vacation, and that it was no vacation when they had to haul water and cook over kerosene stoves. Therefore the group began taking meals with Bert and Minnie Whitehouse, first in their home on the Belfast Road, later in a larger house (now the home of Mr. and Mrs. Howard Comfort) on the Town Landing road closer to the cottages. Here Minnie's dinner bell could be heard three times a day from one end of the colony to the other. Breakfast was served promptly at seven.

The community eating became an important force binding the summer colony together. When Mrs. Whitehouse grew tired of cooking for so many people, a new solution had to be found. The Inn Association was formed, the Brick House was rented for the summer of 1913, a cook and waitress were hired, and a cooperative dining room was established. When the Brick House was sold (it is now the home of Chandler and Geneva Starret Holton), the Inn had to move; so in 1927 Hugh Weed (son of Hezekiah and Ella Weed) bought the Jackson-Elwood and Anna Jones house next door. Using plans drawn by Marion Philips (Charles Crosman's older daughter), the sheds were transformed into pantry and kitchen and the barn into a spacious dining room. Since 1949 the Inn has flourished under the guiding hand of Doris Lloyd.

One of the cottages on the Neck in the early twentieth century was Willis W. Washburn's,¹ which stood on the same lot as the present Washburn camp but was smaller and closer to the lake. Mr. Washburn's daughter, Mrs. Edith Clifford, and Mrs. Miriam Shaw both remember the pleasant summer evenings before World War I when the Washburn youngsters and their friends would wind up the gramophone, sprinkle cornmeal on the floor to make it slippery, and dance. Mrs. Shaw used to hear the music from her room in the Main house² across the lake (now the home of Mr. and Mrs. Bruce Chandler) and slip out and row across the lake to join the fun; at the end of the evening the Washburns would tow her home with their motorboat. In the daytime, the young people amused themselves with a forerunner of water-skiing: Edith's brother Ned would start the motorboat while the others hung onto a rope trailing behind it, and then he would jump out and join them as they were towed about the lake by the unmanned boat. A string tied to the switch let them turn off the motor from the water, and they steered by pulling the rope to one side or the other. Mr. Washburn, watching this sport, said, "Those kids can't swim without gasoline."

Many of the lakeside dwellers, summer and year-round, had sailboats; the first sailing regatta was held in 1895, and was won by the Swallow, owned by Richard Mott Jones of South China.³ The Swallow won the next three years'

1. At first owned jointly by Mr. Washburn, Willis R. Ward, and Henry C. Rice.
2. An almost identical house, also owned by the Maiss stood on the Neck Road just south of the Brown farm, so the two faced each other across the lake.
3. The editor is grateful to Mrs. Dorothy Bragdon of China for much of the following information about boating on China Lake.

ances, too. Then Mr. Jones sold the Swallow to Everett Farnsworth of China, and in the fifth annual regatta in 1900 Mr. Farnsworth used it to beat J. P. Jones, W. R. Jones, and Bert Whitehouse of South China and Sidney Brown of China.

There were large piers at China, South China, and East Vassalboro from which, in the 1890's and following years, several steamboats, motor launches, and large sailboats ran excursions around the lake and to points on it. The China pier at the north end of the lake had a shelter at the end with benches in it, and even people not eager to go boating enjoyed a promenade out the pier and the view from the end. By the 1890's Bradley's Island (about a mile and a half from East Vassalboro) had an elaborate amusement park, including facilities for bowling, croquet, and horseshoes, and a dining room seating a hundred people where a delicious bowl of fish chowder cost fifty cents (pie and ice cream extra). The island was reached via the steamboat Una, operated by William Bradley (whose father, Albert, had built and owned the Revere House at East Vassalboro¹). On the shore of the lake south of the Narrows was a South China dance pavilion, reached by boat or by buggy or by narrow-gauge railroad.

In 1909 Everett Farnsworth built the last of the big boats on China Lake, the thirty-five-foot motor launch Frieda. For about ten summers, until the automobile became more common, the Frieda made regularly scheduled trips around the lake twice daily. Captain Farnsworth would leave the old clubhouse pier at the north end of the lake at 8 a.m. and go to South China, picking up passengers along the way and arriving there about 9 a.m.; then he would go through the Narrows to East Vassalboro (about a half-hour run), where the electric trolley could take his passengers to Waterville or to Augusta for a day's shopping. The return trip was over the same route in reverse; after an hour lunch break at home, Captain Farnsworth would make the same journey in the afternoon, with a two-hour stop-over in East Vassalboro. After the Frieda was retired from this service, she sat in the boathouse for about twenty years and then was sold to a Massachusetts man who moved her to the Saugus River near Lynn.

1. Mr. and Mrs. Foster have found that in February 1379 Albert M. Bradley received a charter from the Maine legislature giving him a ten-year monopoly of passenger steamboats on China Lake. He was permitted to "clear channels, dredge bars, and remove stones," and anyone else who carried passengers in a steamboat without his authorization had to pay Mr. Bradley from twenty to one hundred dollars fine for each offense. The monopoly was broken, the act said, if Mr. Bradley failed to run a steamboat on the lake for two consecutive years. A small advertising poster in the Albert Church Brown Memorial Library's Washburn room museum, dated July 1884, describes the pleasures of a summer vacation at the Revere House, including trips to Bradley's Island and around the lake on the Una. The proprietors, A. M. Bradley and son, say the Una can travel at eight to ten miles an hour and carry up to thirty passengers. To reach the Revere House, they recommend the train from Boston to East Vassalboro (leave Boston 9 a.m., arrive East Vassalboro 4:23 p.m., at a cost of \$4.50) or the steamer Star of the East from Boston to Augusta (an overnight journey, the round trip fare \$3 with staterooms and meals extra) and the coach from Augusta to East Vassalboro.

There have been or are several commercial camps of different sorts on China Lake: Camp Teconnet, Camp Abenakis, Camp Bel-barn and Camp Ney-a-ti, the Friends Camp, Killdeer Point Lodge and development, Willow Beach Camps, and Candlewood Camps.

The earliest camp on the lake was Camp Teconnet for Girls, established in 1911 on Moody Island, toward the north end of the lake.¹ It was founded by Herbert L. Rand and Charles F. Towne of Salem, Massachusetts. Mr. Rand also ran Camp Winnecook for Boys in Unity, so Mr. and Mrs. Towne ran Camp Teconnet. The name is an Indian word meaning "the place to cross."

Camp Teconnet was reached by boat from a landing on the east shore of the lake. There were also facilities for horseback riding on the mainland. A large dock on the east side of the island sheltered the camp motorboat and a fleet of smaller boats and canoes. The camp buildings included a large hall at the upper end of the island and a dining room and refrigerator building at the center. The campers and staff slept in tents on wooden platforms. There were two tennis courts on one side of the dining area and a basketball court on the other.

At capacity, Camp Teconnet accommodated one hundred campers, ranging in age from nine to sixteen; the staff numbered about twenty-five counselors and help. Activities included swimming and other water sports, tennis and basketball and riding, and crafts. There were religious services on Sunday morning, and the Sunday supper was an outdoor picnic, weather permitting. Evening trips by motorboat to China Village and "Bill Bailey's store" were a treat. Once a summer the whole camp provided an evening of public entertainment in the village, with the proceeds going to aid some local project.

The camp was sold in 1925.

Camp Abenakis, which ran from 1929 to 1939, was a boys' camp located on the east shore of China Lake.² Mr. Frederick Hussey had worked in summer camps for some years; deciding in 1928 to start one of his own, he searched New England for a suitable site and finally bought thirty acres of land and an old farm-house (built in the 1820's, he believes) on the Pond Road about three miles from China Village. The house, with a dining room added on the back, served as main lodge and headquarters; to the south were a large barn used for carpentry and an infirmary building, and there was a stable north of the house (sheltering the horses and two pinto ponies for the younger riders). The grounds also included tennis courts, a rifle range, a riding ring, and waterfront facilities.

The campers and counselors slept in tents near the lake, one counselor and three boys in each tent; with a staff of eighteen (plus a cook and helpers, handymen, and other personnel) and fifty campers a summer, Camp Abenakis offered more individual attention than the average summer camp. Counselors had to be at least twenty-one years old, and many were older men; each was proficient in and responsible for one or more of the camp activities. The campers ranged in age from eight to sixteen years, and were mostly from out of state--the Boston area was well represented, and other campers came from New York and from Washington, D.C. They stayed at Abenakis all summer. Each morning at breakfast each boy chose his program for the day from the varied offerings, which included riding, tennis, baseball, riflery, canoeing,

1. The editor is grateful to Miss Della M. Towne late of China and her sister-in-law for information about Camp Teconnet.

2. The editor is grateful to Mr. Frederick Hussey, Sr., for information about Camp Abenakis.

boating, swimming, sailing, and other activities. Proficiency in a sport was recognized by awarding a large feather (a different color for each different sport), so that a boy could earn a multicolored Indian headdress over the course of the summer. There were frequent overnight hikes, and each summer groups went on week-long canoe trips in various parts of Maine.

The Indian theme was further carried out by the weekly pow-wows, held in the council ring in the woods near the lake. Visiting parents--visits were welcomed any time after the third week of camp--watched these pow-wows, sitting quietly outside the council ring, and were impressed with the seriousness with which the boys participated in the ceremonies.

Mr. Hussey found camp directing a year-round job, taking up winter weekends (spent recruiting campers and counselors) as well as the whole summer. In addition, he served a year as president of the Maine Camp Directors Association and was instrumental in starting the Maine Junior Guide Association. After ten years, he decided to close Camp Abenakis. Mr. Hussey kept the property and still lives in the house. He has such souvenirs of the camp as a round pine dropleaf table from the dining room and a hundred and fifty million year old shark's tooth found on the shore and given to him by a camper, and men who used to be counselors and campers still return for visits.

Camp Bel-bern was a boys' camp on China Neck which was opened in the early 1930's. It was owned and operated by a New York City industrial arts teacher named Saul Greenfield, who (with the assistance of his neighbors, Mr. Edwin Doe and his father) built most of the present main lodge, five cabins, the small house on the west side of the Neck Road (designed to house girl campers), and the building presently used as a boathouse. This last used to be a two-story cottage where Mr. Greenfield lived until he became ill and moved to the lodge. Mr. Greenfield was a skilled and conscientious craftsman, and the lodge is solidly built and furnished with mahogany shelves and hand-crafted furniture. Mr. Greenfield named the camp after two of his daughters. While it operated, two pine trees were planted each summer beside the path going down from the lodge toward the lake, creating a lovely avenue. Bel-bern must have been a warm, pleasant camp; the present director of Camp Ney-a-ti says that former Bel-bern campers still come back to visit occasionally, and one of the Bel-bern traditions still remembered is that each morning Mrs. Greenfield used to kiss the boys goodmorning.

After Mr. Greenfield's death around 1950, the camp was closed for a few years. In the winter of 1955-1956 the property was purchased by Mr. and Mrs. Warren Huston. The Hustons were from Newton, Massachusetts, where Mr. Huston was an assistant director of athletics in the public schools; they had previously directed summer camps, and had been looking for one of their own. They rechristened the camp Ney-a-ti (this phrase may be Indian for "place by the lake") and opened it in 1956 with fifteen campers. In the ensuing years changes were made: the plumbing was modernized and the old water tank over the well taken down, the boathouse was reduced to a one-story building (because of an infestation of carpenter ants), and a new cabin was built on the hill north of the lodge.

Camp Ney-a-ti owns about a hundred acres of land, thirty between the road and the lake and seventy across the road; on the latter are the rifle range, a ballfield built in 1968, and trails and an outpost camp. The camp's capacity is sixty-five campers; most of the boys come from the Boston area, but

1. The editor is grateful to Mr. Robert True and Mr. Bradford Harding, co-directors of Camp Ney-a-ti for information about Camp Bel-bern and Camp Ney-a-ti.

there are some from New York, Pennsylvania, and various foreign countries, as well as a few from Central Maine. The staff of about twenty sometimes includes local people. The present owner and co-director, Bob True, first came to Ney-a-ti in 1958 as a camper; then he became a staff member for some years, and he purchased the camp in 1970.

In 1973 and 1974 the camp directors started several projects aimed at protecting and enhancing the natural beauty of their land. The row of pines planted during Camp Bel-bern days was thinned to allow each tree room to grow, and the custom of planting a pair of pines each summer was revived; two outstanding campers are selected to plant the trees as a sort of merit award. A larger-scale tree-planting program has been started on the hill sloping to the lake north of the main lodge, where erosion has been a problem. Campers dig small evergreens in the woods across the road and transplant them to the hillside. Each tree is tagged with a metal plaque on which the camper has punched his name, and each boy is responsible for keeping his tree watered. Mr. True and Mr. Harding hope ultimately to create a forest of several hundred trees.

One of the more conspicuous features of Camp Ney-a-ti is a regulation yellow and black highway sign, suspended from a tree near the entrance on the Neck Road, which reads "Cool It." This sign was put up after the ball field was constructed in 1968. The road past Ney-a-ti, originally a dirt road, had been paved in 1963, encouraging faster driving, and completion of the ball field meant more campers crossed the road more often than in the past. Conventional pedestrian warning signs had little effect, so Mr. Harding and a fellow counselor inscribed the unconventional phrase on a blank highway sign provided by a friend. Mr. Harding says the sign gets results: passing motorists not only slow down, but stop and back up to make sure they read what they thought they read.

The China Friends Camp was opened in 1953.¹ The old Friends Meeting House on the east shore of China Lake had stood unused for several years, and the Friends Yearly Meeting decided to take advantage of the beautiful surroundings and the nearness to China Lake and convert the property into a summer camp. For the first few years it was a work camp, with the campers helping on projects in the China area; they painted church fences, helped take care of graveyards, and did other sorts of work on community-owned property. In recent years the emphasis has shifted to study and recreation.

The camp began with just the one building where the campers ate, slept, worshipped, and had supervised craft classes. As more people began to appreciate the benefits of the camp, contributions made possible the building of a director's cabin, several campers' cabins, and a new dining room building with a well-equipped kitchen and a large fireplace. The camp also has a beach house on the shore and keeps several boats; the campers enjoy swimming and boating. Other activities include sports and games, hiking, and nature study, and time is set aside for serious discussions and for traditional Quaker worship.

The present facilities can accommodate twenty-five to thirty campers, two counselors, and a cook. The twelve or more staff members come from all over the world; the campers, ranging in age from five years into the

1. The editor is grateful to Mr. Edwin Hinshaw of Orono and Mrs. Ralph Austin of South China for information about the Friends Camp.

teens, come from all parts of New England. There are three camp directors, Edwin Hinshaw of Orono, Harrison Smith of Providence, and Carlton Cates of East Vassalboro. Besides the directors, the camp is supervised by a local China Camp Committee, including Ralph Austin, Benjamin Cates, and Willard Ware, appointed by the Friends New England Yearly Meeting.

The camp facilities are open for retreats and other special activities in May and June and September and October. A family camping session is held during the last week in June. During the regular camp season in July and August, neighbors and friends are often invited to attend special musical programs and lectures.

The development and resort at Killdeer Point were started in the 1920's by Earle Eli Wagner of China, who had played a role in the development of Hollywood, Florida.¹ Mr. Wagner was inspired to buy the property by a casual landing for lunch during a fishing expedition; after lunch he climbed to the top of the point and was so taken with the view over China Lake, with Mt. Blue and the Rangeley mountains and Bigelow and Sugarloaf in the background, that he decided more people should see it, and there should be a development there. He named the point Killdeer Point because at the edge of the water he saw some young birds he thought were killdeer; according to Mr. Ben Dillenbeck of China, Mr. Wagner's brother-in-law and the present owner of Killdeer Lodge, they were probably sandpipers. Mr. Wagner organized the Killdeer Maine Corporation, bought about two hundred and fifty acres of land, built a road toward the shore, planned and surveyed a development of one hundred cottage lots plus store, theater, chapel, and recreational facilities, and in the summer of 1929 opened for business. The old Bragg barn, which had been on the Edson farm since the early nineteenth century, was converted into a "Sleep Lodge" and a new dining and recreation hall was built with a porch over a hundred feet long facing the magnificent view to the west. Mr. Wagner provided weekend excursions to the new development, advertising them in the Boston, Providence, Worcester, and New York newspapers; and despite the Depression he had some success in selling lots, though some buyers were later forced to suspend payments and lost their land. There are now twenty-eight cottages in the development, two of which have been converted into year-round residences.

The Depression really hit Mr. Wagner's project around 1934; the selling of lots stopped, and Killdeer Lodge took in tourists for a few unprofitable summers and closed for a few more. For a couple summers two Colby students hired the dining hall as a dance hall, calling it Dreamwold. There was a revival after World War II; from 1946 to 1962 Mr. and Mrs. Ben Dillenbeck ran Killdeer Lodge and Dining Hall, supplementing the modest income from guests by renting the facilities to such organizations as Colby College, the Kennebec Bar Association (Senator Edmund Muskie helped arrange the first Kennebec Bar Association banquet at Killdeer), the Hathaway Shirt Company, St. Joseph's Church in Waterville, and the Masons. In 1960, 1961, and 1962 the dining hall was rented to Fr. Guillet of St. Bridget's Church in North Vassalboro for Sunday masses during the summer; Mr. Dillenbeck believes that the good attendance at these masses contributed to the decision to build St. Peter's Chapel.

1. The editor is grateful to Mr. Ben Dillenbeck of China for information about Killdeer Point.

In March 1963 the roof of the dining hall at Killdeer collapsed under a heavy weight of snow; the insurance did not cover this type of damage, and the dining hall has never been rebuilt. From 1963 to 1970 Killdeer Lodge continued to provide overnight accommodations but no meals.

Willow Beach Camps, on the east shore of the lake near the north end, stand on land purchased from George Morrell, founder of Burnham and Morrell Packing Company (who had bought the land from the Haslems to obtain water rights for the corn cutting plant across the road), by William E. Bailey and his son, Nelson W. Bailey, in the spring of 1932.¹ After they had divided the land into lots and sold most of it, Nelson traded with his father for an area considered worthless because its five hundred foot shoreline consisted of an alder swamp behind a sandbar overgrown with willows (hence the name of the resort). Nelson Bailey cleared the land and built two tennis courts, holding a successful tournament in 1934; in 1935 he added a food stand (made from a garage moved from Solon) from which Miss Hazel Coombs sold home-made food. In 1936 Willow Beach Cabins opened: a footbridge was built across the swamp to the beach, a restaurant and a bathhouse and four cabins were built, and the roadside stand was converted into a fifth cabin. Mr. and Mrs. Bailey were assisted by a staff of two people, and Miss Coombs continued to provide cookies, doughnuts, cakes, and pies to order, baking them in her wood stove at home. In the fall of 1936 Mr. Perley Thurston, who had one of the first bulldozers in Maine, felled the willow trees on the sandbar and filled in the swamp with them and with sand from the bar, creating a sandy beach which has continued to grow by natural accretion. In 1937 four housekeeping camps were built for guests who wanted to stay longer than overnight, and the name was changed to Willow Beach Camps. Since then additional land has been acquired and buildings constructed, until there are now twenty-two cabins, the Sawyer Lodge, a dining and recreation building, and quarters for the staff, which now numbers eighteen. Many local people have been employed at Willow Beach Camps.

Candlewood Camps was opened in 1936 as Cole's, owned by and named after a great-uncle of Mrs. Albert Adams.² The camp quickly became known as one of the best places to eat in Central Maine; there were initially six overnight cabins, for which Mr. Cole refused to accept reservations. After his death in 1943, the camp was owned and operated by Mr. and Mrs. Warren Moses of Waterville, who renamed it Lakeview. After Mr. Moses' death, Mrs. Moses sold the property to Mr. Robert Clifford, head football coach at Colby College, who ran the camp for about five years. It was he who named it Candlewood Camps; after the resort where he and his wife had spent their honeymoon. Mr. Clifford sold to an out-of-state corporation who ran the camp for one season. In 1962 Mr. and Mrs. Albert Adams bought the property and have run Candlewood Camps since, with their son Lawrence becoming a partner in the business in 1973.

Candlewood Camps now has twenty-three cottages and can accommodate 130 guests. There are two recreation halls with color television sets, pianos, and space for card games and other indoor amusements. On the

1. The editor is grateful to Mr. Nelson W. Bailey of China for information about Willow Beach Camps.
2. The editor is grateful to Mrs. Albert Adams of China for information about Candlewood Camps.

grounds are clay tennis courts illuminated for night use and areas for basketball, shuffleboard, volleyball, and horseshoes. Waterfront facilities offer guests opportunities for swimming, sailing, canoeing, waterskiing, and skindiving; riding horses have recently been acquired. The Adams supervise a staff of about twenty people, and have a policy of hiring inexperienced local youngsters to give them training, summer income, and a chance to meet a variety of people from many different backgrounds.

Among the prominent guests who have stayed at Candlewood, often for many summers, have been Dr. Paul Dudley White and bridge expert Dr. Philip Feingold. The camp has been the site of such major gatherings as the international convention of the Christian Civic League. Many local people also take advantage of its facilities to hold school outings and reunions, Colby and Unity College fraternity and sorority activities, anniversary celebrations, and wedding receptions.

Overnight accommodations were also provided for some summers by Cony Webber and his son-in-law George Starkey, who opened four cabins for vacationers in 1937. These cabins were on the east shore of China Lake across the road from the Webber farm and from the present site of the Starkey and Marois store.

None of the other lakes wholly within China--Evans Pond, Mud Pond, and Dutton Pond--is large enough or deep enough to sustain development. There are some cottages on the shores of Three-Mile Pond, which is bordered by China, Vassalboro, and Windsor; and Mr. and Mrs. Rodolphe Morais own and operate Sunset View Campground, set on seventy-five acres of land on the east side of the pond in China.¹ The Morais opened the campground in 1961 with about fifty campsites, a ranger's cottage, a recreation room, and toilet facilities; since then they have added about seventy-five more campsites, another toilet, and a store. The campground, open from May 20 until Labor Day, is visited by vacationing families in recreation vehicles and by such groups as Boy and Girl Scout troops (some from as far away as Pennsylvania) and cyclists resting on their way to Canada. The Morais also let the regional Girl Scout Council use Sunset View as a day camp site for a few years.

Transportation and Communication

Before the days of railroads and automobiles, public transportation between China and the rest of the world was provided by stagecoaches. These in turn depended on wide and strongly built roads. In 1827 there were only half a dozen major, year-round roads in Maine, and one of them, the Portland-Bangor road, went by way of Augusta, Vassalboro, China, and Albion. The stage line operating over this route had a scheduled stop in China Village in 1827; by 1830 there was also a stop called Stage Tavern somewhere between East Vassalboro and China. By the 1840's stagecoaches were a principal means of travel. Shaw and Billings' Augusta to Bangor stage, for example, carried mail and passengers each way daily, changing its six horses at frequent intervals and thus covering the distance in about twelve hours. Leaving Augusta, the first three stops to change horses were at Vassalboro, China, and Unity; probably about fifteen or eighteen horses were kept in China. By this time two principal roads intersected in China Village, the Penobscot

1. The editor is grateful to Mrs. Rodolphe Morais of South China for information about Sunset View Campground.

road which went north to Albion and Bangor and the Belfast road which went east across the end of the lake and over Parmenter Hill to Palermo and Belfast.¹ The road west from China Village to Waterville had probably been built by the 1840's, too; it is one of the later main roads in the area. In 1827 and 1828 Waterville residents petitioned the state to establish a route from Waterville to Belfast, beginning near the junction of the Kennebec and Sebasticook rivers in Winslow and running to China Village and thence to Palermo and the Augusta-Belfast road.²

South China was on the mail stage route from Augusta to Belfast, and as a result had a plethora of taverns in the 1830's and 1840's; travelers could refresh themselves at Sam Taylor's (later Andrew Furbush's, and then his brother Reuel Furbush's) near Three-Mile Pond; at Elijah Crowell's in South China (where two stores also sold rum); at either of the two taverns at Crossman's Corners (now Dirigo; one of the taverns was run by Bounds Crossman, and the other was John Priest's Travelers' House, which was later run by Otis Priest, then by Case McAllister; it burned in 1835 and was rebuilt, burned again in 1843, and finally--ironically--the ruins became the site of Eli Jones' house); and yet again at the tavern in Branch Mills.

The stagecoach was followed, but not replaced, by the railroad. In fact, for some years railroads were supplemented by stage lines carrying passengers from railroad stations to towns not on the rail line. In the 1850's, for example, a traveler could get off the train at either Augusta or Waterville and take a stagecoach to China.

Although the first railroad in Maine, a line between Bangor and Old Town, was in operation by the end of 1836, general expansion of rail service did not begin until the late 1840's. Two of the early ideas for Maine railroads were of significance for China: the plan for a line between Quebec and Wiscasset (or some other Maine seaport; Belfast and Portland were also considered) and the plan for a line between Portland and Bangor. -Two rival pairs of lines received legislative charters to implement this latter scheme. Between Portland and the Augusta-Waterville area, the Kennebec and Portland Railroad had an 1836 charter and the Androscoggin and Kennebec an 1845 one; from around Augusta-Waterville to Bangor, the Penobscot and Kennebec had an 1845 charter (and was closely connected with the Androscoggin and Kennebec), and the Somerset and Kennebec (affiliated with the Kennebec and Portland) received one in 1848. The complex history of the competition between these sets of companies in the 1850's included rivalries between towns bidding for a railroad, and an additional complication was that the two lines used different gauge tracks; in 1847 the Androscoggin and Kennebec adopted broad gauge (five feet six inches) so that it could interconnect with Canadian lines, while the Kennebec and Portland adopted the narrow gauge

1. The Fosters guess that the Belfast road went out the Dutton road, past properties now owned by the Carl Percys and the Mortimer Lenks, across the Yorktown Road, and "under the mountain" to Palermo and the county road to Belfast. They have found an 1853 deed to the Carl Percy property which describes it as "lying on the road from China Village to Belfast." The 1856 map of Kennebec County, however, shows the Yorktown Road incomplete and seems to show the more westerly route over Nigger (or Pleasant) Ridge and Parmeter Hill to Branch Mills and Palermo as a principal road.

2. The Fosters, who found these petitions, have not found out when the road was built, but it was obviously after 1828.

(four feet eight and one-half inches, now the standard gauge) used by the Massachusetts lines with which it planned to connect. Eventually railroads were built, reaching Waterville (via Lewiston and Belgrade) in 1849 and Augusta (via Brunswick and Gardiner) in 1851; in the 1870's the various surviving lines were merged into the Maine Central system. The significance of all this for China is that it looked for a time as though the Augusta to Waterville section of the proposed railroad might go through China. The original survey for the line around 1830 ran through China Village. However, a few years later a resident of Vassalboro offered the railroad company a free engine if the line were run through Vassalboro instead, and the change was made. To some, this decision condemned China to relative economic and commercial backwardness.

The Wiscasset to Quebec railroad idea had a more immediate effect on China. A charter for a Wiscasset and Quebec Railroad line was issued by the Maine legislature in 1854. It lay dormant for forty years, during which the two-foot gauge track (now called the narrow gauge, since the former narrow gauge has become standard) became popular in Maine and other parts of the country because it was comparatively economical to build. In the 1890's the Wiscasset and Quebec Railroad was revitalized; stock was sold, with the town of China purchasing 150 shares for \$15,000 (the enabling vote at the November 15, 1893, town meeting authorized the expenditure on several conditions, including the condition that the line go through China), and in 1894 and 1895 a narrow gauge track was laid from Wiscasset forty-three and one-half miles to Albion via Sheepscot, Head Tide, Whitefield, North Whitefield, Cooper's Mills, Windsor, Weeks Mills, Palermo, and China.

The Wiscasset and Quebec went on to lay track beyond Albion, but the desired connection to Quebec was not achieved. Another effort to reach Quebec via a more westerly route through Farmington also failed in 1899, but in the process a narrow gauge line was built from Weeks Mills to Winslow. In 1900 the Wiscasset and Quebec went into receivership; in 1901 its assets were taken over by a new company, the Wiscasset, Waterville, and Farmington (which never went to either Waterville or Farmington). The WW&F (also known as the Little Wiggler, and sometimes as the Weak, Weary, and Feeble) ran trains through China until June 15, 1933, and its story is part of the economic history, and the folklore, of the town.

The WW&F started out with the tracks from Wiscasset to Albion and the nearly finished line from Weeks Mills to Winslow; it also inherited three engines and fifty or more cars, mostly freight cars. A fourth engine was purchased in 1902 with the completion and opening of the line to Winslow. The line was again in receivership in 1906, and Carson C. Peck, of New York and Maine, bought it at auction for \$93,000; he and his heirs managed it for almost twenty years. Mr. Peck bought three more engines in 1907, and over the years many freight and passenger cars were purchased, with the line frequently owning ninety or a hundred cars at a time.

The railroad provided extensive passenger and freight service to China and surrounding towns. Freight loads included potatoes, lumber, milk, cattle, grain, farm machinery, and all sorts of miscellaneous supplies. For a few years the large textile mill at North Vassalboro relied on the WW&F to bring in its coal and raw materials and take out its finished cloth. Mail was also carried; the Wiscasset and Quebec had a mail contract between Palermo and

1. Clinton F. Thurlow of Weeks Mills wrote three delightfully illustrated little books on the WW&F and other narrow gauge railroads (see bibliography), from which much of the information in the following pages is taken.

Wiscasset in 1895 and one between Albion and Wiscasset by 1896, and the WW&F still had a mail route in June 1933, the last route in the country to use a narrow gauge line. The service was good; at one time, for example, the railroad provided Weeks Mills with two mail deliveries a day. Besides the regular passenger runs, of which there were one or two round-trips a day for most of the life of the railroad, special excursion trains provided transportation to fairs, holiday outings, meetings, and other such events. The Wiscasset Echo had an account of the "last excursion for the season" in 1895: passengers were taken to Albion where the townspeople met them with twenty-five teams and drove them to the Grange Hall and the Town Hall for a free dinner and reception. As late as June 1925 the WW&F ran an excursion to Wiscasset, at special low rates ("cheaper than gasoline," as the advertisement said), to see Captain Donald McMillan leave on one of his Arctic expeditions.

The WW&F stations in the town of China were at Weeks Mills, Palermo (actually west of Palermo in China), China, and South China, the last on the Winslow line. The Palermo and China Village stations were well away from the center of the village. All of these were small, one-story, rectangular wooden buildings with the typical overhanging roof. They were painted two shades of green, the colors of the WW&F. There were potato houses next to the South China and China stations, and a freight house beside the Weeks Mills station. One of the line's five watertanks was at Weeks Mills; it had a concrete foundation and a six thousand gallon capacity, and was built in 1913. After the railroad stopped running, the rails and most of the rolling stock were sold for scrap, and the stations were moved away (China and South China), converted to houses (Palermo), or allowed to fall down (Weeks Mills).

Until about 1912 the Wiscasset to Winslow run (from Weeks Mills through South China, East Vassalboro, and North Vassalboro) was the main line and the Albion line the spur track. From Winslow people could easily get to Waterville to shop, and the North Vassalboro textile mill provided quantities of freight. The dance pavilion on the lake outside South China was served by a train that carried passengers out from Winslow early in the evening and took them home around midnight. The engine frequently used on this line had an oversized smoke stack which let sparks escape; this engine was responsible for so many trackside fires that in dry spells a handcar followed the train to spot them. The WW&F offered highly personalized service: for example, once Edna Weeks Van Strien reached East Vassalboro just as the electric car she planned to take to Augusta pulled out. The WW&F obligingly stopped across the trolley tracks, blocking the trolley until Mrs. Van Strien was aboard. These electric cars soon provided too much competition for the WW&F between Winslow and Vassalboro, and in 1912 the WW&F cut back its service on this line to a freight and excursion service between Weeks Mills and North Vassalboro. Even this limited service was soon discontinued, and around 1915 the track was taken up.

The decline of the Winslow branch made the Wiscasset to Albion route again the main line. On this line, there were usually two scheduled trains each way daily, and sometimes extras--excursions, or extra freight trains--were run. The entire trip from Wiscasset to Albion took two hours in the best days of the railroad; in fact, in June 1911 the road's General Manager forbade engineers to make the trip in less than two hours. The last five and one-half miles from China station to Albion was often made in six minutes. The fare in 1908 was \$1.50 for the whole trip. Hazards along the line included moose, deer, cows, pigs, sheep, and other livestock. In winter, even with the two big plows the railroad kept one at each end of the line, the trip from Wiscasset to Albion might take all day--or not be made at all.

By the 1920's the WW&F was not making a profit. The rise of the automobile and of the freight trucking industry was undoubtedly a major factor in its decline; competition from the standard gauge Maine Central was another problem. In 1926, Carson Peck's heirs sold the line for \$60,000 to individuals and towns along the way; the town of China, by vote of a December 8, 1925, town meeting, bought six hundred shares for \$6,000. Under this new ownership, the line still lost money, with the result that service and maintenance were cut, leading to a still further decline in business. In 1930 Frank W. Winters, a lumberman who wanted transportation for his timber, bought enough stock to gain control of the railroad for about \$6,000. China sold its six hundred shares in December of that year for \$1,200. By this time the 1929 Depression was beginning to spread into Maine, yet another blow to the WW&F. As freight volume dropped to almost nothing, Mr. Winters cut expenses as much as possible. Rather than repair the WW&F engines, he bought two secondhand ones, one of which gave out almost immediately. The track maintenance crew was reduced to half a dozen men for the whole line, so the track deteriorated and derailments became more frequent. Derailments were not necessarily a major problem on a narrow gauge; with a full crew and a full budget, it was routine to repair the loose track and heave the cars and engine back onto the rails. But by the 1930's the WW&F was far below normal. On June 15, 1933, a rail broke under the eastbound train just outside Whitefield, and the engine and the first cars of the four or five car train went off the track. No one put them back on.

By the time the WW&F ceased operations, the automobile was well established in China. The first cars appeared in town in 1903 or 1904. In South China Richard Jones bought an Oldsmobile runabout, with a lone handle to steer by, for \$875, probably in the spring of 1903. The car was shipped to Boston, and Mr. Jones sent Bert Whitehouse there to work with the mechanics and learn to drive; then Mr. Whitehouse and the car came by boat to Gardiner, whence Mr. Whitehouse drove the car to Pine Rock. Mrs. Virginia Jones Webber writes that this car was "the terror of the town"; on Missionary meeting days the members would ask her father please to stay at home, as the ladies were afraid to drive to their meeting if he was out. The car was sold in the fall, and in each of the next two years Mr. Jones bought a White. In the spring of 1912 his daughter Virginia bought a Studebaker, and sometime after that Dr. Leach and Ham Whitehouse also acquired automobiles. Will Woodsum probably had the first car in China Village; it was a 1904 one-cylinder Cadillac, and he bought it in Boston sometime between 1904 and 1909.

Another fairly early car in China was the second-hand Packard that Sewall McCartney and Buford Reed bought in 1911. Years later it was learned that it was the second Packard ever built (the first fifty Packards had converted buggy bodies, with the whip socket still on the dashboard). Mr. McCartney and Mr. Reed bought the car in Albion, and it took them two days to drive it home. The original engine never did produce enough power, so they replaced it with a stationary engine (intended for such uses as sawing wood) which they mounted behind the seat, producing a peculiar-looking but functioning vehicle. (The original Packard engine was sold to Verne Denico, who used it for many years-for sawing wood.) It was also around

1. The editor is grateful for information on early cars to Mr. and Mrs. Chandler Holton and Miss Mary Hoxie Jones of South China, Mr. Robert Reed of Weeks Mills, Mrs. William Carpenter of China, and the people with whom they talked, including Mrs. Virginia Jones Webber, Mr. Ralph Austin, Mr. Fred Plaisted, and Mr. Donald Farnsworth.

1911 that Charles Getchell bought his Buick, and Will Woodsum's father, John Woodsum, bought a Velie in 1912. Another early automobile was A. C. McCartney's 1902 Columbia, which he owned around 1915. About the same time Elmer Haskell had a very early Buick with a squeeze-bulb horn and an outside gearshift.

The increasing use of increasingly sophisticated cars required improvements to China's roads, a process most noticeable on the numbered routes through town, especially state route 3 and U. S. route 202. The rebuilding of these two roads to modify curves and hills and by-pass the villages took many years and was complicated by the terrain, the hills and especially the bogs. On September 19, 1930, a newly completed section of route 3 about a mile east of South China collapsed into a hidden bog. As contemporary newspaper accounts¹ described the problem, highway engineers had known there was an old lake, gradually filled in and converted to marshland; but since the corduroy road over it had withstood year-round traffic, they believed the new gravel-based road would also last. However, the gravel was too heavy and some two hundred feet of road disappeared beneath water and mud. The initial cave-in gradually extended itself until about four hundred feet of road had vanished; the highway department had to pour thousands of yards of gravel into the gap to make a firm foundation.

Both roads and the railroad were utilized to provide mail service to the residents of the town of China. Most of the mail came in by horse-drawn vehicles through the nineteenth century and into the twentieth; from the 1890's to 1933 these deliveries were supplemented by the mail carried on the WW&F. By the 1930's trucks had replaced horses on mail routes.

As mentioned earlier in this history, official government mail routes through Harlem had been established before China came into existence in 1818. In 1820 two new routes were established to Harlem (that is, to the southern part of present-day China), one from Hallowell and one from Vassalboro. A daily Augusta to Bangor run was set up in 1827, by way of China, and Calvin Hamlin of China was one of the drivers. By 1837, according to the description of routes over which the government sought mail-carriers,² China Village was one of the stops on the Portland-Bangor route, run daily with four-horse mail coaches; the weekly post rider from Waterville to Palermo also had a stop in China Village; and South China was on the Augusta-Belfast route, which was traveled thrice a week with a wagon or sulky. By the 1870's South China, too, was served by a stagecoach, for Rufus Jones remembers walking down the road toward Augusta to meet the stage: the driver would take him up and let him "guide the four flying horses through the village to the post office," where Rufus would carry in the mailbags.³ Long-time residents of South

1. In the possession of Mrs. Ballantyne. Gradual earth movements gave warning of the collapse, which "was spectacular. The road went down lifting either side of the highway some six feet and tilting trees which previously had been erect in a downward stance." Thousands of people came to look at the area over the weekend.

2. The United States Post Office department ran advertisements in newspapers describing the routes and asking for bids; a contract, in 1837 for four years, was awarded to whoever asked the least money to provide the service required.

3. A Small-Town Boy, pp. 58-59.

China remember gathering at the Hawes store on summer evenings early in the twentieth century to wait for a similar horse-drawn stagecoach.

Almost as soon as the town of China was organized (in February 1818), a post office was established in China Village (in June 1818). The post office was in Japheth C. Washburn's store, and he was the first postmaster.¹ Until the middle of the twentieth century it was the custom to locate the post office in whatever store or house or other building was most convenient for the postmaster, so China post offices have made many peregrinations. For example, Kingsbury thus describes the early history of the South China post office:

The South China post office was established May 5, 1828.... Silas Piper was the first postmaster, in his grocery store. He was succeeded in 1829 by Francis A. B. Hussey; 1834, Joseph Stuart; 1842, Ambrose H. Abbott in the store where the G. A. R. Hall stands.... The next postmaster was Corydon Chadwick, 1853, in a store on the point between the roads opposite Jackson's shop. The post office was given to John L. Gray in 1857, who moved it to a house where Gustavus Wyman lives. The next postmaster was Edwin T. Brown, 1863, in a house near Meiggs' store, and he was succeeded in 1868 by John F. Wyman, post office in the store formerly occupied by A. H. Abbott. The office was then moved to the hotel near the meeting house, and James Savage was postmaster from 1873 to 1876.... Samuel Stuart was the next postmaster, in his store....

Samuel Stuart's two successors kept the post office in the same store.² In later years, the location of the post office varied according to election results: during Republican administrations it was in Wilson Hawes' store, on the northwest side of the crossroad in the center of the village, but when the Democrats were in power the office moved to Tim Farrington's store southwest of the library. Later still it was located in Victor Stimpson's store northeast of the church and then in his Chevrolet agency (the latter in a building which is now the front part of Farrington's store).³

The Weeks Mills post office was established in 1838; one of its postmasters, William Percival, served from 1846 to 1885, setting a local record for tenure of office. Branch Mills has been served by the Palermo post office, although there may have been a separate Branch Mills post office for a short time around 1900. At Dirigo Corners there was a post office from 1860 to 1875, with Horatio Nelson, Eli Jones, and Matthew F. Hoxie, successively, as postmasters. There are also records of an East China post office from 1828 to 1832; and in 1891 a West China post office was planned but probably never actually opened.

The first building in the town built specifically and exclusively as a post office was the South China post office, built by George B. Glidden, postmaster, and opened for business on July 15, 1956. In January 1961 the China Village post office on the main street opened,

1. For a list of all China postmasters, see Appendix IV. The editor is grateful to Mrs. Esther C. Jones of China for preparing the list and for providing information about China post offices.

2. Kingsbury, pp. 1147-1148.

3. Ibid., pp. 1147-1148, and information supplied by Mr. and Mrs. Holton.

the formal dedication being held on March 19. Weeks Mills does not have a post office building, even though it, like China and South China, ranks as a third class post office; the Weeks Mills post office is presently located in the basement of the Russell Cram house, on the North Road, and Mrs. Cram serves as postmaster.

China is one of the few towns in the state still served by an independent telephone company. The China Telephone Company was organized in 1904 by Mr. W. J. Thompson, originally for the benefit of local businessmen.¹ There were twenty-nine original subscribers. The March 1905 New England Telephone and Telegraph Company's Eastern Section Directory lists China (including Palermo and East Vassalboro) alphabetically between Cherryfield and Columbia Falls. Mr. Thompson is named as president of the China company, and he had a telephone in his house; there were a few other residential phones, several in stores, the railroad stations, and like places, and three public pay stations, one in W. F. Hawes' store in South China (right by the central switchboard), one in E. A. Dudley's house at Dirigo, and one in Boynton and Merrill's store in Weeks Mills. In China Village, as older residents remember, one of the first telephones was in the general store at the south end of Main Street; all calls for village residents came on the store phone, and people in the store shouted up the street for whoever was wanted.

Mr. Thompson served as manager and president of the China Telephone Company until he had to resign for health reasons in 1947. He was one of the organizers and for many years the president of the Maine Independent Telephone Association, which through its conventions helped improve and standardize the services offered by the small companies. Mr. Thompson's two principal assistants were Mr. Howard L. Fuller, who began work in 1904 and succeeded Mr. Thompson as manager in 1948, and Mr. R. C. Maxwell, who was with the company from 1906 until his death in 1948. At first there were only two telephone lines, the one at the south end of town and one in China Village; service was gradually expanded to more subscribers, and Mr. Thompson made connections with the New England Telephone Company lines in North Vassalboro to provide long-distance service. The switchboard--with only about a dozen pairs of plugs in the early days--was first in Wilson Hawes' store in South China, tended by the Hawes family and Mr. George Graves, and later moved next door to the Saunders'.

Mr. Thompson, Mr. Fuller, and Mr. Maxwell, and their families, did all the work of running the company, from buying supplies and making out bills to climbing poles in bad weather to repair lines. Since the Thompsons wintered in Florida, Mr. Maxwell and Mr. Fuller had full responsibility for coping with the problems Maine's winter weather causes. Mr. Maxwell's son Maynard remembers when Mr. Maxwell used to go out door-to-door bill-collecting, at first in a sleigh;² he would sometimes come back with potatoes or apples instead of cash. These he would keep, and pay the company the corresponding amount of cash out of his own salary of \$2.50

1. The editor is grateful to Mr. George C. Twombly, president of China Telephone Co., for information about the China Telephone Company.

2. After the sleigh, Maynard Maxwell writes, Mr. Thompson bought a company motorcycle for "the boys"--Mr. Maxwell and Mr. Fuller--but it did not last long; Mr. Thompson lost control one day and started to drive it up a ladder. Then came a second-hand Model T, and a second-hand Dodge touring car, both with the backs always full of telephone equipment, and later a pick-up truck.

a day. On his monthly stops at the more remote farms, he was often invited in to see the new baby and consulted on the family's minor medical problems.

Controlling interest in the China Telephone Company remained in Mr. Thompson's family after his death; in 1958 his daughter sold it to George C. and Francis H. Twombly of Standish, Maine, owners of the Standish Telephone Company, another independent. The Twomblys supervised the conversion to dial telephones, beginning in China Village in 1959 and extending to East Vassalboro in 1960 and South China in 1962. The press release announcing the 1959 change said that opening the dial exchange office in China Village would improve service for 150 customers (out of a total of 650 then served by the company) and would make it possible to add new subscribers. In 1959 Mrs. R. C. Maxwell, who had begun assisting her husband with the billing years before, was the company's bookkeeper and billing clerk. Mrs. Gladys Cook had been chief operator for three years; Mr. Donald Farrington and Mr. Harry Studley were responsible for maintenance and repairs.

Since that time the China Telephone Company has continued to expand and modernize its service, including introducing in 1967 the first touch-tone telephones in New England. In 1973 the company had about 1200 subscribers.

Town Government

The official records of the town of China,¹ incorporated February 5, 1818, begin with a copy of the act of incorporation passed by the Massachusetts legislature, the provisions of which have been summarized previously.² This document is followed by the warrant for the first town meeting, addressed to Abraham Burrill and signed by Japheth C. Washburn (the act of incorporation had empowered any Kennebec County Justice of the Peace to issue the warrant). The meeting was held "at the dwelling House of John Brackett" on Monday, March 2, beginning "at ten of the Clock in the forenoon." It began with a prayer by the Reverend Daniel Ricker. Nathan Stanley was chosen moderator, and the following town officers were elected:

Town clerk: Japheth C. Washburn
Selectmen and assessors: Daniel Stevens
Nathan Stanley
Robert Fletcher
Treasurer: John Brackett
Constable and collector: Zalmunna Washburn³

1. From February 1818 to January 1822 China included only the northern part of the present town; see above, pp. 26-27. Except where otherwise indicated, the information in this section is taken from the mostly hand-written Records of the town of China, Vol. 1-10 (1818-1974), available in the town office, and from the printed town reports (usually entitled Report of the Municipal Officers of the Town of China for the Year Ending...), 1846, 1850-1974, copies of which are preserved in the town office and at the Albert Church Brown Memorial Library, among other places.

2. See above, p. 26.

3. Mr. Washburn "bid off the collection of taxes for one half perct."

Surveyors of highways: David Burges
Nathan Stanley
David Spratt
Jonathan Fairfield
Thomas Ward Jr.
Daniel Woodsum
Jedediah Hussey
Joseph Parmeter
Andrew H. Hanson
Daniel Ward
Robert Fletcher

Surveyors of lumber: Jonathan Fairfield
Ebenezer Varney

Tythingmen: Nathan Stanley
Thomas Ward Jr.
Michael Norton Jr.

Fence viewers and field drivers: James Wiggin
William Hunnewell
Cyrus Shaw
Obediah Hussey
Abner Jepson¹
Robert Fletcher
James Spratt

Hogreeves: Samuel Ward
Jonathan Doe
Benjamin Lewis
Caleb Parmeter
Abner Jepson
Robert Fletcher

Poundkeeper: John Brackett

School agents: Jeremiah Crowell
David Spratt
John Brackett
Zalmunna Washburn
Leonard Bolkom
Andrew H. Hanson
Thomas Norton
John Burrill
Isaac Jones

Select school committee (also empowered
to divide the town into school districts): J. C. Washburn
Jonathan Fairfield
Daniel Stevens

Committee to settle with the towns of
Harlem, Fairfax, and Winslow: J. C. Washburn
Nathan Stanley
John Brackett

1. Mr. Hussey and Mr. Jepson must have been members of the Society of Friends; for the other selectmen, surveyors of highways, surveyors of lumber, tythingmen, fence viewers and field drivers, and hogreeves were sworn into office, but after Mr. Hussey's and Mr. Jepson's names is written "aff" (for "affirmed").

After these elections, the meeting adjourned to Monday, April 6, when the voters completed the election of officers by choosing the following:

Auditors of accounts:¹ Nathaniel Johnson
Jonathan Fairfield
Samuel Burrill

Town agent:² Daniel Stevens

This meeting was then "dissolved," but another was held the same day for the election of state and county officials (Japheth C. Washburn received one vote for governor) and to act on a variety of articles dealing with roads, schools, and other local matters (the selectmen issued two separate warrants, one for the state election and one for the town business meeting, as has been done ever since). Three more China town meetings were held in 1818, on May 11, June 13, and November 2; at the May 11 meeting Japheth C. Washburn was elected China's representative to the Massachusetts legislature.

In 1819 there were again five town meetings; in 1820 there were three (with the warrants for the first time issued "in the name of the State of Maine" instead of Massachusetts); and in 1821 there were five. From April 1818 until the fall of 1820 China voters met in the Baptist meeting house or--in May and June 1818--at the schoolhouse near the head of the lake; from November 1820 through September 1821 six meetings were held in J. C. Washburn's hall; and the meeting of December 31, 1821, was again at the Baptist church. Town officers were elected annually; Japheth Washburn was consistently re-elected town clerk and John Brackett town treasurer. Daniel Stevens was a selectman for all four years, Mr. Washburn served for three years, and Mr. Brackett for a year. Mr. Washburn was re-elected to the Massachusetts General Court in May 1819, defeating Mr. Brackett by 56 votes to 26. In April 1820 Mr. Washburn received eight votes in the election for the first governor of Maine (William King, who won the election, received 59 votes).

The voters also concerned themselves with maintaining the schools, laying out and repairing the roads, keeping the bridge at the head of the lake in passable condition, taking care of the poor, and the other business of running the town. An article to repair the bridge first appeared in the April 5, 1819, warrant. On April 3, 1820, Jacob McLaughlin was allowed ten dollars to keep the bridge in repair for a year; on November 6, 1820, Benjamin Lewis, as low bidder, got a contract to maintain the bridge for ten years for \$178. An article requesting a reconsideration of the contract went into the June 18, 1821, warrant, and a committee (Abisha Benson, Jonathan Fairfield, and Japheth C. Washburn) was appointed to "examine" the bridge and the contract. In September 1821 the voters instructed the selectmen to reduce the contract from ten years to seven, and Mr. Lewis agreed.

1. At the May 3, 1819, meeting, the voters specified that the three selectmen (J. C. Washburn, John Brackett, and Daniel Stevens) were to be "Auditors of all accounts except their own," while three other men (Jonathan Fairfield, Samuel Burrill, and Timothy Hamlin) were to be "Auditors of the Selectmen's accounts."

2. A town agent was elected annually only for the first few years of China's existence, and frequently one of the selectmen took the post. Apparently the agent was a (limited) forerunner of the town manager, empowered to perform some administrative acts on instructions from the town. After the regular election of agents was discontinued, agents were occasionally chosen for a specific purpose, as in the controversies with the owners of the Vassalboro dam (described below):

As described previously,¹ China voters were nearly unanimous in wishing to keep China a separate town from Harlem, but the Maine legislature unified the two towns in January 1822. An immediate effect of this change was an almost complete turn-over of town offices: three new selectmen, Nathaniel Johnson, Joseph Hacker, and William Mosher (all of whom were listed in Harlem in the 1820 census) were chosen, and John Weeks (also of Harlem in 1820) replaced Japheth Washburn as town clerk. In fact, Mr. Washburn's name does not appear in the reports of the 1822 town meetings;² in March 1823, however, he became an auditor, and he was chosen moderator of the June 30, 1823, meeting. Mr. Brackett remained as town treasurer through 1822,³ and was succeeded in 1823 by Silas Piper, yet another Harlem resident.

Despite the personnel changes, many local problems remained unaffected by the merger of the two towns. For example, the only item of business at the February 1822 meeting, the first meeting of both Harlem and China residents in four years, was the bridge-repair contract with Benjamin Lewis. The voters agreed to settle up to the present for \$55; Mr. Lewis agreed, "the contract was accordingly closed and given up to the said Lewis," and he was paid an order for \$55 drawn on the town treasury by the selectmen. The March 1823 meeting voted to auction off repairing the bridge for a year (and John Worth bid \$28 to "keep it in repair and passable"), and also established a committee (John Brackett, Silas Piper, and Josiah Fairfield) to examine the bridge and report at the next meeting "what method will be best for the town to take to Build Sd Bridge after one year from this date March 17th 1823." At the April 7 meeting these three men and Robert Fletcher and Joseph Stuart were chosen as a committee to "superintend the Building of the Bridge at the head of the pond." The job was to be auctioned to the lowest bidder on May 1; beyond this, the voters left it to the five-man committee to decide how and when to order the bridge built. On March 8, 1824, the voters approved the expenditure of \$694 "To Build the Bridge at the head of pond." Apparently the bridge was built, and satisfactorily, for there are no more references to it in the town clerk's records for some years.

From 1822 through 1880 China voters had a minimum of two town meetings a year, and frequently three, four, or five. One important meeting was usually held in March (and was usually, but not always, the first meeting of the year); town officers were chosen for the year and the major money bills--for roads, schools, support of the poor, and other town charges--were approved. State and county elections were held in September, and the voters were bidden to assemble to vote; frequently, especially in the early part of the nineteenth century, a second warrant was issued for the same day and place (but a different hour) setting out further articles of local business to be considered. National elections were held in November every fourth year, and for these, too, a warrant calling the voters

1. See above, p. 27.
2. That is, after the election of the new selectmen on March 21; as one of the incumbent selectmen, he signed the documents calling and recording the February meeting and the warrant for the March meeting.
3. The 1823 selectmen were Mr. Hacker and Joseph Stuart from the south end of town and Abisha Benson from the north; in 1824 there were two northerners, as Alfred Marshall replaced Mr. Hacker; in 1825 there were two southerners, as John Weeks replaced Mr. Benson.

together was issued. And in many years at least one additional meeting was convened, usually in April, May, June, or July. 1872 set some kind of record, with eight town meetings (March 4, continued on March 7; March 18 and 25; June 17 and 24; July 3; September 9; and November 5) in that year, and a ninth one on January 3, 1873. In 1880 the state changed from annual legislative elections to the biennial system; consequently, there was no need for a fall election meeting in 1881, and the March meeting was the only one. 1885 was another year in which a single meeting was sufficient, but by way of compensation, there were four meetings (counting elections) in 1892, and five (counting elections) in 1896. As late as 1940, seven separate warrants were issued, five of them for elections (a special primary and election in the spring, followed by the regular primary in June, the September state election, and the November national election), one for the March town meeting (by then referred to as the annual meeting; any other town meeting during the year was by definition a special meeting), and one for a special meeting (to take care of some road problems) in June. The 1960's was another busy period; the town records contain warrants for four meetings and two elections in 1960, four meetings and one election in 1961, three meetings and three elections in 1962, four meetings and an election in 1963, three meetings and two elections in 1964, a mere two meetings and one election in 1965, three meetings and three elections in 1966, and two of each in 1967 and in 1968. The elections included referendum questions submitted by the state legislature; many of the special meetings in the early 1960's were called to try to settle controversies over proposed additions to the China Elementary School.

The day and hour of the annual March meeting became a subject of discussion after World War II. For some years it had been held on a Monday, beginning at 9 a.m. At the March 3, 1947, meeting, the voters assembled, elected a moderator and the town clerk, and then unanimously approved a recess until 9 a.m. on Saturday, March 8. The next year an article in the warrant proposed changing the annual meeting day to the first Saturday in March, but the voters passed over it, and the Monday meetings continued. In 1951 the voters instructed the school committee to make town meeting day in 1952 and following years a school holiday. In 1954 there was again a warrant article to change the meeting day to the first Saturday in March, and this time it passed.

The 1954 meeting also, under the "any other business" article at the end of the warrant, asked the selectmen to appoint a ten-member committee to look into the use of the Australian or secret ballot for the election of town officers. In March 1955 the town meeting was held on Saturday morning and began with the election of officers;¹ the voters then decided to elect the municipal officers by secret ballot on the first Friday in March and to continue the business meeting on Saturday morning, beginning in 1956. Since that time (to 1975), the annual meeting has begun Friday afternoon with the election of a moderator and the opening of the polls, and has continued on Saturday with the rest of the warrant.

After China and Harlem were united, town meetings were held at the Friends meeting house from 1822 until September 1841, when the newly built town house on the Pond Road was ready to use. After that, meetings

1. This meeting is one of the few for which the records show the approximate time elapsed. The moderator was sworn in at 9:15 a.m.; at 11:45 the new officers were sworn in; and the next recorded action was the adjournment of the meeting.

and elections were held at the town house until 1963. For the 1963 annual meeting, the Friday voting was done at the town house, but the Saturday business meeting was held in the gymnasium at Erskine Academy. At the end of the meeting, the voters instructed the selectmen to hold future annual meetings there. So from 1963 until 1970, voting was done at the town house and most of the special town meetings were held there, but the annual meeting was at Erskine. The 1970 annual meeting was at the new auditorium at the China Elementary School, and in 1971 and following years the meetings, both regular and special, and the elections were held there.

Not all the town meetings were productive. Some special meetings were called to act on a single issue, and the proponents failed to muster the necessary majority. For example, a meeting was called on January 17, 1882, to consider reconsidering a vote of the March 1881 annual meeting requiring the tax collector to have all the tax money in by March 1, 1882. The voters elected A. W. Chadwick moderator, and then they voted to adjourn. Unfortunately, the town clerk's records do not indicate how much time elapsed between these two votes. Similarly, an April 16, 1906, meeting was called to discuss three articles dealing with roads; the voters chose W. H. Jones moderator and then voted to pass over each of the other articles, one by one. Special meetings were held on April 27, 1909, and on August 11, 1911, to try to get the town's consent to keep the Clark school open (it had so few students that state regulations required it to be closed unless the town voted otherwise), but in each case the interested parties were outnumbered; the records show that after the election of moderators (J. A. Woodsum in 1909, W. H. Jones in 1911), all the other articles were passed over. A March 23, 1939, meeting must have taken some time to decide not to act: the meeting was called to decide whether to continue a WPA project with state aid funds and to discuss "any other business" that might come up. The voters elected W. H. Cole moderator, used a written ballot to reject extension of the WPA project, and passed over the final article. A recent example of determined non-action occurred at the November 1964 meeting to discuss plans for a new town office; the voters elected Donald Pauley moderator, then passed over Article 2, passed over Article 3, voted down a motion to reconsider Article 3, and passed over Article 4. The townspeople can also take affirmative non-actions. For example, a special meeting was held on May 10, 1972, to ask the voters to rescind three decisions made at the 1972 annual meeting (a regional planning board appropriation and the adoption of town land use and sub-division ordinances); it was voted to let all the decisions stand. A final warrant article for this meeting proposed reopening a road closed in 1964, and this article, too, was not approved.

At one early meeting, the voters seem generally to have been in a negative mood. The meeting was convened on December 5, 1835, to consider a warrant of four disparate articles. Article 1 called for the election of a moderator; Article 2 dealt with acceptance or discontinuance of roads (a frequent topic, and the records do not show which particular roads, if any, were discussed); Article 3 asked the town to take on the support of a certain poor family; and Article 4 asked if the voters would buy Wiggin's Hill to use as a town burying ground. According to the records, the assembled townsmen elected Edward Breck moderator and then "Voted to pass over the 2d, 3d & 4th Articles in the Warrant."

The word townsmen is appropriate in the preceding sentence, for women did not vote nor hold office in China until after the 19th amendment

to the United States Constitution came into force in August 1920. The only role women played in town affairs before then was as bondsmen for the tax collector (for example, in 1905 Charles R. Getchell was collector and Mercy Getchell one of his three bondsmen; in 1907 Theron E. Doe was collector and Annie A. Doe a bondsman; in 1911 Frank A. Doe was collector and Bertha Doe and Anna Morse among his seven bondsmen), a recognition of women's financial power antedating their political rights. In September 1917 the men of China voted on some proposed amendments to the state constitution, including one which would give women the vote; on this proposed amendment, the vote in China was 68 yes, 69 no. In September 1920 (after the 19th amendment was in effect), a 1919 female suffrage law was a referendum question in China. This time the local vote was 286 yes to 51 no. Emma F. Whitehouse, elected a school committee member at the March 1921 town meeting, seems to have been the first woman in China elected to a town office. At the 1922 meeting, she was elected an overseer of the poor, along with Cony Webber and Ida G. Bailey. This election was especially significant, because before (and after) 1922 the men elected to the Board of Selectmen had also served as assessors and overseers of the poor (elected on a single ballot part of the time, and part of the time on separate ballots for each office); in March 1922 three men were elected selectmen and assessors, but two of them were deposed in favor of the two women for the third position. The first woman elected to the Board of Selectmen was Juliette F. Oliver, in 1966.

During the years from 1822 to the present, both the town offices and the method of filling them have changed. For instance, in March 1865 the town voted no longer to elect tythingmen. Pound keepers were elected annually--the number varied between three and seven--through March 1910; in that year four men were elected pound keepers, but the word void is written across the list. After 1910, pound keepers are not included in the list of town officers. One or more sealers of weights and measures were elected annually until 1913; in March of that year China elected two local men to this office, but in June a new state law changing the selection procedure came into effect. In June 1913 the China selectmen met with representatives from Windsor and Palermo and agreed that the three towns (and Albion and Liberty if they wanted to join) would jointly appoint a sealer of weights and measures and share the costs of his equipment and services. George Crommett of Palermo was the first man chosen as sealer of weights and measures for the three towns.

Increasingly, especially in the twentieth century, the lesser town officials came to be appointed by the selectmen rather than elected by the town meeting. Beginning in 1926, the surveyors of lumber, scalers of logs, fence viewers, surveyors of wood and bark, and weighers of coal and hay were thus selected. There were occasional variations in the procedure, however. For a few years in the early 1940's the voters at the annual meeting nominated people for these positions and the selectmen appointed them, and in the mid-1950's the selectmen's appointments were approved at the town meeting. All these offices except that of fence viewer seem to have been quietly discontinued in 1965; names of the men holding the other positions are listed in the town report for 1964, but not in the reports for 1965 and following years.

In March 1932 an important new elected town committee was initiated: an article in the warrant for the 1932 annual meeting called for election of a budget committee of three, five, or seven members. This committee was to recommend the amounts to be appropriated for various town departments

and activities for fiscal 1933 and 1934. Cony N. Webber, G. Wayland Jones, and Howard L. Fuller were elected. The warrant for the 1933 annual meeting for the first time contains budget committee recommendations following appropriation articles. This first committee made fifteen recommendations, of which the voters accepted thirteen without change; they added ten dollars to the committee's suggested amount for maintenance of street lights and increased the wages for road work beyond the committee's recommendation. Apparently three men were not enough for the budget committee's work, for the 1933 meeting elected a seven-member committee. In 1934 they tried five members, and in 1935 and succeeding years went back to seven. In these experimental years some of the selectmen were frequently budget committee members, as in 1937 and 1938 when all three selectmen were on the committee, but in 1939 and following years no one served simultaneously on both the budget committee and the Board of Selectmen.

Normally, the voters at town meeting accepted most of the budget committee's recommendations (as they do in the 1970's), and when the committee and the voters disagreed, the latter tended to spend more money rather than less. At the March 1946 meeting the disagreement was wider than usual--the voters appropriated \$2000 for a school building fund and ordered purchase of a road machine (although the final decision was made at a later meeting), against the budget committee's advice, and paid off \$1000 on the town debt instead of the \$500 the committee had suggested. Perhaps because the 1945 committee had been so thrifty, the 1946 meeting elected seven new committee members, the first time in years that at least one incumbent (and often five or six) had not been re-elected. And the next year, 1947, the method of electing budget committee members was changed. The committee was elected early in the meeting, along with the other town officers (until then the budget committee election had been among the last items of business each year); and a warrant article was approved providing that in 1948 and following years the committee was to consist of seven members, a chairman and a secretary elected from the town at large and five others each elected from a specified area of the town.¹ The seven members were to be elected separately by the town at large, and the committee's function remained unchanged.

The change to secret balloting in 1956 led to further consideration of which posts should be elective and which appointive. In March 1956 the town clerk, the selectmen, the treasurer, and a school committee member were elected by secret written ballot. A special meeting later in the month decided that the road commissioner and the tax collector should also be elected by secret ballot, and that the offices of treasurer and tax collector (two offices which had been held by a single person each year for many years) should be combined on the ballot. Since the tax collector and the road commissioner had in past years bid for their jobs (the collector bid a percentage of the amount collected, the road commissioner a fixed sum for his services), it was decided that each candidate's bid should be included on the ballot sheet beside his name. The outcome of all these changes was that in 1957 the written ballot listed candidates for town clerk, Board of Selectmen, collector of taxes and treasurer, road commissioner, and school committee member. The Saturday town meeting elected a constable, elected the three selectmen fire wards, elected the budget committee, and authorized the

1. This procedure was used in the 1947 election, although it had not yet been adopted by the town. Only one member of the 1946 committee was re-elected.

selectmen to appoint an auditor, the surveyors of lumber, scalers of logs, surveyors of wood and bark, fence viewers, and weighers of coal and hay; these last were "appointed by the Selectmen and approved by the Town." By 1962, the voters elected only the budget committee on Saturday; the selectmen appointed constables, as well as the other officers they had previously appointed.

The Board of Selectmen remained comparatively immune to change for many years--the number of members was fixed at three, and the members were elected for one-year terms at the beginning of the annual meeting. At the March 1905 meeting, the voters instructed the town clerk to record a resolve "that we recommend in the future, that we select one new member to the Board of Selectmen each year, and the other two be re-elected." However, this injunction was violated in 1906, when all three men elected in 1905 were re-elected, and repeatedly in succeeding years. For many years the selectmen were paid expenses and little more, until the March 1957 meeting approved paying the first selectman \$1000 a year, the second selectman \$800, and the third selectman \$600.¹ These salaries were approved annually through 1962. In March 1962, there was also an article in the town meeting warrant which proposed electing the selectmen to staggered three-year terms; in 1963, one man would have a one-year term, one a two-year term, and one a three-year term, and after that only one person would be elected each year. The budget committee recommended passing over this article, but the voters approved it. In 1963 three men were elected to staggered terms, and in 1964 there was only one seat on the board open. On February 4, 1965, there was a special town meeting to discuss a single proposal:

To see if the Town of China will vote to change the number of selectmen from the present three in number to five in number and the term of office to one year. The elected board of five to choose a chairman of the board.

The idea was defeated, on a written ballot, by 13 votes out of 118 votes cast. An identical article was in the warrant for the annual meeting in March, and this time it passed (by written ballot, 65 in favor to 44 opposed). A five-man board was therefore elected in 1966, and in the succeeding years to the present. The March 1975 meeting turned down a proposal to institute staggered terms for the five-man board.

Meanwhile, however, China had supplemented the Board of Selectmen by adopting, in 1962, the town manager system of government. The idea was first suggested at the March 1957 town meeting, and the voters authorized the selectmen to appoint a committee to investigate the town manager form of government and report at or before the next annual meeting. The committee, according to its brief report in the town records, met first on February 11, 1958, and decided more information was needed. After some investigations, it met again on February 26, with the selectmen present by invitation, and all there unanimously agreed "that at this time a Town Manager would not be for the best interest of our Town." The report does not give the reasons for the

1. The other paid town officer then was the town clerk. In March 1960 the voters raised the clerk's salary from \$25 a year to \$100 a year; they also decided to put all town employees under Social Security and raised \$500 for the town's share of the payments. The 1959 town meeting had passed over a Social Security article and had asked the selectmen and the school committee to study the question.

committee's conclusion. The voters agreed, and the question was dropped for three years. Then the March 1961 town meeting, under the "any other business" article at the end of the warrant, appointed a five-man committee to investigate again the town manager system. The committee was supposed to report at a reconvening of the annual meeting which had been scheduled earlier (to discuss the elementary school addition). But the report of the reconvened meeting on June 10 does not mention it, nor is there a committee report in the town clerk's record book. However, the March 1962 meeting approved two articles adopting the town manager system, effective March 1, 1963, and making the manager the agent for the overseers of the poor, road commissioner, deputy town clerk, constable, tax collector, treasurer, and fire ward. Earl A. White was China's first town manager; he took office around June 1, 1963, and resigned around May 1, 1964.¹ He was succeeded by Frederick Olson, who took office at the end of June 1964 and resigned October 30, 1965; Clarence H. Bessey took over on November 23 and served until his retirement in March 1975, when Ira Singer took the post.

The warrant for the March 1963 town meeting requested a total of \$12,000 for town officers' salaries and expenses. They were itemized: the selectmen received \$100 each plus \$10 a day for assessing (the latter, being an unknown total, was not included in the \$12,000), the town clerk \$100, the town manager \$5,000 and an office girl \$2,000.

With the 1963 change, the town offices were separated into elective and appointive in the way still in effect in the 1970's. The selectmen (who are also assessors and overseers of the poor), the town clerk, the school committee, and the budget committee are elected. The selectmen then appoint, as of 1973 and 1974, the following: a town manager, who is also appointed tax collector, treasurer, road commissioner, agent to overseers of the poor, constable, Civil Defense director, and in 1975 code enforcement officer; a health officer; a registrar of voters; a dog constable; one or two fence viewers; a chief of police and several constables; an election warden and election clerks; fire chiefs, departmental and town; members of the Planning Board and the Board of Appeals (to the Planning Board); and the plumbing inspector.

The major concern and responsibility of China voters and town officers have always been town finances. In the nineteenth and early twentieth century money was obtained primarily from local taxes, occasionally supplemented--especially in the last half of the nineteenth century and succeeding years--by state and federal funds. After World War II, state and federal contributions to local budgets were gradually enlarged. Until the Civil War, the total China town budget was very small, by today's standards, but even minor sums caused concern. For example, the first notice in the town records listing delinquent tax-payers by name appears in 1861: Thomas Dinsmore Jr., the 1859 tax collector (and 1861 town treasurer) listed unpaid 1859 property taxes and threatened that if the arrears were not paid by 10 a.m. April 27 he would auction off the properties. The amounts owed varied from \$1.98 (by George Washburn for a house and lot near China Village) to a high of \$11.88 (by John Kitchin for a farm); the average amount due was \$4.60. Mr. Kitchin did not pay, and on April 27 his property was sold to selectman Josiah H. Greely "for the inhabitants of the town of China" for \$15.88, the amount due for back taxes and the expenses of the auction.

1. The town report for 1963 has the first town manager's report; Mr. White said that when he applied for the job, he was warned that it would be "too hot to handle," but he had had gratifying cooperation from the town.

The town of China incurred its first town debt between its foundation in 1818 and the annexation of Harlem in 1822.¹ On June 3, 1822, the voters assembled at the third meeting of the combined towns voted to "raise \$300 to pay off the debts of China proper which were Contracted previous to Harlems being annexed thereunto." At the December 19, 1825, meeting, voters were again asked to raise money to pay town debts; after first passing over the article, they reconsidered it and decided to raise \$500. Two meetings with separate warrants were held on March 19, 1827, the afternoon meeting being only to ask the voters to "authorize the Selectmen to hire a sum of money" to pay town debts; the voters allowed the selectmen to "hire what money they shall think proper" for that purpose.

In the 1830's, the percentage allowed the tax collector as his fee (by then up to four per cent of the amount collected) was sometimes ordered forfeited if he failed to collect all taxes due within the year, suggesting that town revenues were lagging. The March 21, 1836, town meeting appropriated \$2100 for "payment of debts owed, and interest," the first time this item had been listed separately in the town clerk's recapitulation of appropriations approved at an annual meeting. The next year China received "surplus revenue" from the federal government, via the state treasurer.² It appears from the not-entirely-clear records of 1837 and 1838 town meetings that this windfall was intended to be distributed to heads of families within the town, as recorded in an 1837 census, and that China town officials were not aware of this requirement when they received the money. At the March 27 town meeting, a good part of the money (over \$3000) was ordered used to buy a farm on which to support the town poor; a committee recommended that another \$500 be used to pay the town debts, and that the remainder be put in a loan fund (Corydon Chadwick, Benjamin Libby, and John Brackett were chosen to manage the fund, from which one-year loans of from \$50 to \$500 could be made to townspeople). This last provision was reconsidered at a September 1837 meeting, and the voters agreed "to distribute the fourth installment of the surplus revenue, per Capita, to the several heads of Families, taking their notes for the same." In succeeding meetings the treasurer and selectmen were ordered and authorized to make more payments to individuals, even though they had to borrow money to do so. Finally, in May 1838, the voters raised \$500 to pay "the outstanding orders and other debts of the town" and directed the selectmen to borrow that sum for a year; they ordered the town farm sold and all loans from the loan fund recalled immediately; and they specified that the money thus realized was to be distributed among the local inhabitants. If the town treasurer did not have enough cash on hand by May 28 (sixteen days after the meeting) to pay each family's share, he was authorized to issue town notes redeemable for cash after the town farm was sold.

1. The measures taken to pay Harlem's pre-combination debts have been described above, p. 27.

2. The Deposit Act of June 23, 1836 (which marked President Andrew Jackson's victory over the Bank of the United States: it required the Secretary of the Treasury to withdraw federal monies from the Bank of the United States and distribute them among designated state and territorial banks) included a provision for "the distribution of the surplus revenue in excess of \$5 million among the states as a loan subject to recall," which was never recalled. The first payments to the states were made on January 1, 1837. See Richard B. Morris, ed., Encyclopedia of American History (New York: Harper & Brothers, 1953), pp. 175 and 177.

Another example of pre-Civil War financial problems occurred in 1859. The selectmen (Thomas B. Lincoln and Eli H. Webber, both serving their first terms, and Josiah H. Greely, who had previously served in 1857) investigated the town's finances and expressed concern at the outstanding bills which the town had no way to pay, and which were costing interest charges. The March 1860 town report showed that the selectmen had paid some ten year old bills, mostly small sums for road work and such, totaling \$190.69. They urged the new tax collector to work diligently, for some of the town's largest taxpayers had paid no taxes for two or three years. And the selectmen had instituted a lawsuit against J. McCorrison, the previous tax collector, and his bondsmen, since Mr. McCorrison owed the town \$2792.41 in taxes collected but not turned over to the town. By the spring of 1862, the amount Mr. McCorrison owed had been reduced to \$2594.01. The town meeting that March voted to accept \$1200, which was to be paid, with interest, by September 1863; the remaining \$1394.01 was described in the town report as a discount. Meanwhile, the spring town meetings of 1862, 1863, and 1864 appropriated \$800, \$2050, and \$2100, respectively, to pay off town debts.

It was fortunate that the town did make an effort to establish a financial balance, for the Civil War cost a great deal of money.¹ In March 1865 the town voted to pay \$3000 in interest on the town debt--the first time the interest was itemized in the record of the meeting--and \$5000 on the principal. By 1866 China owed over \$46,000 and had resources of \$2,045.72. In 1867, 1868, and 1869 the interest on the town debt cost \$2500 a year; and the selectmen were twice authorized to borrow more money to pay off old orders against the town.

Meanwhile, some of the citizens were confused and suspicious about the financial management of the town. The March 16, 1868, meeting warrant included an article put in at the request of a number of voters which called for the appointment of a committee "to investigate all the proceedings of the town from the time the books were burned to the present day."² The voters created the committee and chose as its members Warren Percival of Vassalboro, Stephen F. Pierce of Windsor, and Amasa Hammond of Albion. The selectmen were instructed to give the committee "free access to all books and papers of the Town, and permission to take copies thereof," and \$200 was appropriated for the expenses of the investigation. Nothing more appears in the town clerk's records about this committee. But at the beginning of the annual meeting on March 18, 1872, the voters, instead of electing a moderator and going on to elect officers and raise money as usual, immediately called for appointment of a six-man committee "to investigate the financial affairs of the town and see if they could account for the discrepancy between the report of the town debt for this present year and last year." A nominating committee was chosen, met on the spot, and nominated as the committee Eli Jones, Jabez Lewis, Fredus O. Brainerd, J. F. Chadwick, John Reed, and J. W. Jacobs. The committee was unanimously elected and the meeting adjourned for a week, until March 25, instructing the committee to report then. The March 25 meeting began normally with the election of a moderator and town officers and continued, as far as the records show, normally to the end: there is no mention

1. The effects of the Civil War on China are described in the section entitled "China and the World," below.

2. There is no other reference to books being burned, and no indication what books they were. Mr. Clarence Bessey believes they may have been the valuation books.

of the committee chosen the week before. But several pages farther on in the town record book appears "Report of Investigating Committee accepted by the town of China March 25th 1872." The committee's report amounts to an indictment of the present and recent selectmen for careless bookkeeping, but not for dishonesty. The town was approximately \$24,000 in debt, the committee's figures show, and another \$1000 plus had to be appropriated at once to cover interest payments recently made. The committee

suggest that advantage would accrue to the town, from having a suitable book in which to keep account of orders issued, and taken up, and that the selectmen be instructed to procure such book, and enter therein all orders now out, and unpaid, and also to procure such other books as are needed, in which to record other matters; so that at anytime a correct account of the financial standing of the town may be attained.

They also praised the "War Book," records maintained by the Civil War selectmen, for its "business like appearance" and concluded that "much labor was performed by that Board and we should think well done."

In 1876 and 1877 there was a small revolution in China town government. In March 1876, the voters elected three new selectmen, Dana C. Hanson, Samuel C. Starrett, and Freeman H. Crowell; they also, as they had frequently done before, passed over an article asking for an appropriation to pay off part of the town debt, appropriated money (\$1500) to pay interest, and authorized the selectmen to borrow money to pay old orders. At the March 1877 meeting, Mr. Hanson, Mr. Starrett, and Mr. Crowell were again elected selectmen, \$1500 was appropriated for interest payments, and it was "Voted to raise a sufficient sum of money to pay off the Town Debt." A special meeting was held in May and the townspeople were asked to rescind this last vote and instead to "instruct or authorize the Selectmen...to fund said town debt for a term of years to the best advantage they can for the town." They refused.¹ As a result of this decision, the town tax receipts jumped from \$10,341.57 in 1876 to \$29,791.98 in 1877. The selectmen, in their annual report for 1877 (dated March 20, 1878, and included in the printed town report), commended E. D. Jepson, the tax collector, and recommended that he be re-elected. They also said:

The vigorous and self-denying effort of many of our citizens of limited resources, to wipe off the town debt at once, is most remarkable, while the conduct of the town has been regarded by our neighboring towns as a wild experiment, which they dare not try. A little longer of the cheer and pluck which has been manifested by all, will remove from us the most serious obstacle to prosperity. Real estate has already received an impulse in a readier sale and advance in price.

Mr. Hanson, Mr. Starrett, and Mr. Crowell did not run for re-election in the spring of 1878, indicating in their report that they felt their job was done.²

1. It was probably at one of these two 1877 meetings that Eli Jones made an effective speech in favor of paying off the debt.

2. Yet these same three men served as selectmen from 1881 to 1883, and again resigned their office. It is not clear from the town reports what they intended or accomplished in this second term; indeed, in March 1885 their successors commented on how they had improved the town's financial condition since 1883.

The town debt was not brought to the attention of the voters again until the 1920's. From the early 1920's on, warrants for the annual town meeting usually included a request for money to pay interest on the town debt and a request to authorize the selectmen to take out a tax anticipation loan (that is, to borrow money in the spring and summer to be paid back from the current year's tax receipts). In the late 1920's these loans were limited to \$5000 annually; the limit was raised to \$7000 in 1930, to \$10,000 in 1950, to \$15,000 in 1955, to \$20,000 in 1957, to \$35,000 in 1958, and was dispensed with in 1959. Each town meeting from 1959 through 1962 also authorized the selectmen to borrow money to cover town expenses during the three or four weeks from the meeting date to April 1, indicating that the budget approved the previous year had been inadequate. The interest on the town debt was around \$300 a year in the 1920's; it fell in the 1930's and early 1940's, and has risen sharply since World War II, as the following incomplete table shows:

Year	Appropriation for interest payment	
1948	\$	250
1949		900
1954		200
1955		1100
1962		1800
1963		2500
1965		3500
1968		4500
1969	12,800	(from 1969 on the warrant
1972	11,000	specifies interest on debts
1975	9,000	and tax anticipation notes)

The town debt rose more or less correspondingly (although fluctuations in interest rates make an exact correlation impossible). Through the 1920's, 1930's, and 1940's, the voters were usually given the opportunity at the annual meeting to raise money to pay off part of the principal; sometimes they did, sometimes they refused. By the late 1940's, and continuing into the 1970's, there were also separate accounts and separate appropriations for repayment of loans for school buildings, school busses, and highway maintenance equipment.

The total amount of money appropriated by the voters at town meeting (most of it raised by property taxes, some of it appropriated from excise taxes, surplus, or--recently--federal revenue-sharing funds) increased at about the same rate as the debt and interest payments. In the 1920's, the voters were responsible for the allocation of about \$22,000 annually. After slightly higher totals in 1930 and 1931, the impact of the Depression cut the amount raised and appropriated in 1933 to under \$19,000. The 1941 town meeting raised about \$21,000. In 1960, the amount raised and appropriated topped \$100,000 for the first time in China's history. Eight years later, the March 1968 meeting raised \$198,766. In March 1969, the total was \$268,667.17. The dramatic increase included about \$55,000 more for schools (including payments on buildings and busses), \$7000 more for snow removal and sanding, and an \$8300 increase in interest payments. Two years later, in March 1971, the sum disposed of by the voters exceeded \$300,000.

Apparently dealing with such large sums of money made some voters uneasy, for the town report for the year 1961 contains a special report from the selectmen (Manley Tibbetts, Wallace Jones, and Roscoe Pelton, Jr.)

explaining the procedure for spending the town's money and emphasizing how little discretionary power the selectmen have. A lot of the money received, they explained, was turned over to other bodies--the school board and superintendent of schools, the local fire departments, the state highway commission, the health council--and "the town has no control of these funds except to pay the amount appropriated to the respective departments." Other charges were fixed by outside authorities; for example, the county tax was determined by the county commissioners, and the price of electricity (for blinker lights and street lights) was set by the Public Utilities Commission. Some money spent on such things as porcupine bounties and aiding non-resident paupers was refunded by the state or by other towns. In sum, out of \$245,453.14 in total cash disbursements (the income represented by this figure includes property and excise taxes, borrowed money, and funds from the state and federal governments), \$215,980.38 was spent on non-discretionary activities, "leaving a balance of \$29,472.76 for the selectmen and road commissioner to use to maintain the highways and bridges, to use for all the special road appropriations, maintain the town snow plows, plow snow and sand, support the poor, and make miscellaneous purchases."

In the early part of the nineteenth century, most of the money provided by China taxpayers was used for education, roads, and the support of the poor. The first two categories have remained financially important to the present. A break-down of 1964 town expenditures in the town report for that year shows education taking 60% of the total and highways 16.3%, followed by administration, 8%; by then welfare costs amounted to 3.7% of total spending.¹

In the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, roads usually cost more than the support of the poor did, and frequently, especially in early years, the road appropriation was larger than the appropriation for schools. In 1836 highways accounted for more than half of the total expenditure authorized at the March town meeting (\$4350 out of \$8450), and as late as 1883 the town appropriated \$3590.76 for roads out of total appropriations of \$12,833.84. This latter large expenditure was partly a reaction to the unusually low highway expenditures of the previous year; it was also caused by the large number of bridges that had to be rebuilt or covered and by "some dangerous places" that had to be "made safe for public travel." The town roads were supported almost entirely on a local basis for many years; the inhabitants maintained them by their tax money, and by labor in lieu of taxes. The town was divided into highway districts, and--usually--a highway surveyor for each district was elected at the March town meeting (occasionally the system varied, as in March 1837 when the selectmen were chosen to be highway surveyors for the whole town). Highway taxes were fixed by the assessors (that is, the selectmen) and--frequently--collected by the surveyors (see, for example, the vote at the April 6, 1818, town meeting authorizing the surveyors to be collectors of highway taxes). Collection often meant notification of labor due, rather than presentation of a tax bill. The March 2, 1836, town meeting, for example, instructed each highway surveyor to notify the people taxed in his district

when it may be necessary to clear the snow from the roads, or beat the tracks, and allow for each man so laboring, fifty cents per day, and one dollar per day for each yoke of oxen. And if any person so notified shall neglect

1. Education in China, including school costs, is discussed in the following section of this book.

or refuse to work out his tax or a part thereof, the same shall be added to his money tax the next year.

The rate to be credited against taxes or paid for work on the roads was and is fixed annually by vote at town meeting. The warrant for the April 6, 1818, meeting, the second meeting of the town of China, asked the voters to raise money "for the repair of Highways and town ways" (Article 2) and to decide how much to "allow per day for men and oxen on the Highways" (Article 5). The voters raised \$800 "for Making and repairing Highways" and allowed \$1.25 a day for a man or a yoke of oxen working on the roads "previous to July next" and \$.75 a day "after that time." The same kind of wage differential appears in 1819 and 1821; in 1820 the rate was \$1 a day up to July 1 and \$.75 thereafter; and in 1822 and several following years the rates for work done "before haying" were higher than those for work done after haying. Probably the hope was to get the winter and spring damage to the roads repaired as early in the summer as possible. The rate was expressed in shillings and pence in 1825; that meeting also specified the rate for "breaking snow" in the winter, which had previously been left to the selectmen to determine. In 1830, and in one or two later years, the wages were computed hourly rather than on a daily basis. Until 1841, wages were paid only for men and oxen; in 1841, the March town meeting voted to allow a yoke of oxen or a man \$1.25 daily before haying and \$.75 after, and to allow horses \$.75 each before haying and \$.62 1/2 after. These rates remained nearly constant, with only occasional minor adjustments, for the next seventy years. In March 1915, the voters raised the pay for labor on the roads, men from \$1.50 to \$1.75 for a nine hour day and horses from \$1 to \$1.12 1/2 for a nine hour day. No mention was made of oxen. A special town meeting was called (by petition of some of the voters) in September 1917 to review the rates, and daily wages were raised to \$2.50 per man and \$5 for a man and a span of horses, for that fall only. The March 1918 annual meeting set the rate at \$2.25 for a man and \$2.75 for a team, for a nine-hour day. In the March 1920 meeting the rate went up to \$3 for either a man or a team, with the proviso that the new scale was "not to take effect until the present winter's snow is broken down." The 1930's saw the wages lowered slightly, and for the first time an allowance was made for trucks. In 1933 a man was paid \$2, a man and team \$4, and a man and truck \$8 for a day's work. About that time, too, the day was reduced from nine hours to eight. By 1944 the budget committee was recommending \$3.20 for a man, \$6.40 for a team, and \$10 for a truck, but the town adopted the higher state rate: \$4.40 per man, \$8 for a team and man, and \$10.40 for a truck and man, for an eight-hour day. In succeeding years the town usually adopted the state rate (often without specifying in the records what it was). Rates for teams are listed as late as 1950, when the voters decided a man or a team was worth \$.75 an hour and a three-yard truck was worth \$1.80 an hour.

Although China spent some money for laying out new roads, most of the road money went for maintenance and for snow removal. During the early days of the town's existence many new roads were laid out, frequently at the expense of the landowner who benefited from the road rather than at the town's expense. Later on, there was less need for additional roads (although new ones continued to be made occasionally, like the road from Pullin's Mills to Deer Hill, built in 1853 for \$223.79), but maintenance became increasingly costly.

The March 21, 1822, meeting of the newly-combined towns of Harlem and China voted to raise \$1500 for roads. The selectmen were empowered to "order some Labor to be done on the new County road" if they thought it necessary. This same county road was a major topic at the next meeting, held on June 3.

It was to run from Jonathan Wentworth's to an intersection with a town road near Abe Jones' and then on to Captain Jedediah Fairfield's. A contract was written specifying that the road should be three rods wide, with fifteen-foot-wide bridges over streams and causeways through "wet and miry places," with adequate clearing along the right of way, and with the whole passable both summer and winter and suitable for carriages. A five-man committee was to inspect the road and make sure the criteria were fulfilled before the town paid for it. Should the committee and the contractor disagree, they were jointly to choose another committee of three men from out of town to settle the dispute. The contract was awarded to Jason Chadwick, who bid \$790; John Brackett, William Pullen, Daniel Stevens, Joseph Hacker, and William Mosher were appointed to the inspection committee; and the town raised \$400 toward paying for the road.

Despite the \$1500 highway appropriation in March 1822, the warrant for the September 9 meeting that same year asked if the town would raise money to repair roads that had been the subject of complaints, and under this article the voters decided that the road from Robert Fletcher's at the head of the lake over Stanley Hill should be repaired that same fall and paid for out of the next year's highway taxes. They further instructed the selectmen to see to the repair of the road from Weeks Mills to the Palermo line, and they agreed to accept one of two roads laid out by the selectmen, on condition that Mr. Benjamin Williams, to whose land the road ran, "clears the town of China of all expense both for the land to make said road on, and from making sd road." The next town meeting, on October 14, directed the raising and expenditure of another \$1000 for highway repair, specifying that men and oxen would each be allowed a dollar a day for their work and that the repairs were to be completed by November 10. The next spring there was a minor revolt: the June 30, 1823, meeting raised only \$600 for road repairs, to be spent at the discretion of the selectmen, and the voters refused to accept a road laid out by the selectmen and passed over an article asking whether the selectmen were to lay out any more roads. But in September the road rejected in June, and another one, were accepted as town roads. As the result of this kind of decision, by March 1824 China had enough roads so that an article in the warrant provided that the town take measures to erect "guidboards" at intersections, and the voters agreed to accept those already set up by Josiah Fairfield, on condition that if the selectmen wanted any changes made in them Mr. Fairfield would make them at his own expense. There were by this time--had been since 1822-- twenty-four surveyors of highways elected annually. The March 1824 highway appropriation was \$1500, even though the allowance for labor was reduced to a dollar a day before haying and half a dollar after haying. An additional \$500 for fall road and bridge repairs was approved on September 13, and two of four roads laid out by the selectmen were accepted as town roads. Several more roads were laid out and accepted in 1825 and following years.¹

1. One of the roads recorded had an unusually brief existence. Running from the west end of the fence dividing lots 53 and 54 east southeast 110 rods to Reuel Robbins' land, it was accepted as a town road (on condition that Mr. Robbins pay the expenses) on September 13, 1830, and discontinued on March 21, 1831. The March 1831 meeting also voted to discontinue a road between H. W. Piper's land and Thankful Ballard's land, "accepted at a Town meeting of Sept. 1830," but the records of the September 1830 meeting do not mention this road. The road to Mr. Robbins' land was ordered laid out again, again at his expense, during 1837 (the September 12, 1836, meeting ordered it made and completed by June 1, 1838), but the March 1837 meeting reversed that order and again voted to discontinue the road.

By 1829, the annual highway appropriation had increased to \$3000, and the rates for labor on the roads had been raised: men and oxen received \$1.25 a day up to July 15 and \$.75 a day thereafter, and for "breaking roads in the winter" men were paid \$.50 a day and oxen \$1. Acceptances, alterations, and discontinuances of roads were discussed at town meetings in April, July, and September that year. A meeting on June 3, 1833, was devoted almost entirely to roads. The town voted to build a bridge and some county road near it at Branch Mills; to open bids for a county road from Weeks Mills to the Windsor town line; to have the road from Weeks Mills to the Palermo line repaired; and to direct the highway surveyors to have the bridge at the head of the lake (which had recently been rebuilt) and nearby roads and the Eastman road repaired.

Despite the appropriations, and the no doubt lengthy discussions of road problems, there was frequent dissatisfaction with road conditions, which occasionally appears in the town records. For example, at the March 1852 meeting the town accepted (paragraph by paragraph) a long report from a five-man committee on roads. The committee's recommendations for future road maintenance set up a system under which the selectmen served as road commissioners, drawing highway district boundaries in town, supervising district surveyors or overseers whom they appointed annually,¹ and allocating the total annual road appropriation among the districts. Each district surveyor was to hire men, oxen, horses, and tools as needed, giving preference in hiring to the inhabitants of his district. A surveyor could not overspend the district's allocation; if he ran out of money, the selectmen had to inspect the problem area and "make such additional appropriations and give such directions" as they thought necessary. The residents who provided labor and materials presented bills and collected pay from the town. This report also recommended assessment of a \$1000 "winter tax" to break out the roads in the winter of 1852 and to pay bills left over from the winter of 1851.

A different sort of road problem began later in 1852. On December 4, Charles Mosher and others petitioned for a road (actually two segments of road, one running northwest from a specified point on "the county road leading to Weeks Mills" to an ash tree near Jonathan and Nathan Robbins' barn, and the second running from the ash tree northwest to an elm tree on the Stuart road²), which the selectmen laid out early in 1853. The voters refused to accept the road. Therefore, Silas P. Mosher and twenty-one others appealed to the December 1855 session of the Kennebec County Commissioners, saying that the selectmen had properly laid out the road and presented it at town meetings, but the "town unreasonably refused and delayed to allow and approve said town ways." The appeal continued:

Therefore your petitioners, believing said

1. In 1893 the selectmen did not appoint any highway surveyors, according to the town records, although apparently they should have.
2. The habit of defining road locations by near-by property owners did not die in 1852. One hundred years later, the 1952 town meeting warrant contained articles about the road "from Bumps' corner to Fred Thurston's," the road "from Bumps' Corner to Harry McCaslin's," the "Tyler's Corner Road, so-called" from the Weeks Mills post office to the Windsor line, and the road "from the Crane Place to William Thomas'." Similar descriptions appear in town meeting warrants all through the 1950's, and occasionally later.

town ways to be of great public convenience and necessity and considering themselves aggrieved by such delay and refusal, pray that your honors would agreeably to law in such cases made and provided accept and approve said town ways....

The County Commissioners held a public hearing at "Laban's Tavern in China" on April 22, 1856; they inspected the roads and heard witnesses, and decided the town had been unreasonable in not approving the first segment of the road. The Commissioners therefore approved it and ordered the China town clerk to record it. In March 1857 the selectmen again recommended acceptance of the other segment of the road, and this time the voters agreed. The same road was discussed again in October 1857; the voters first decided to build it that fall and to raise the money for it by assessment, but then they reconsidered these votes and ended up telling the selectmen to take bids for building the road in the spring.

Another and major problem with the roads in China was that the appropriations and labor the town provided were seldom sufficient to keep the roads in passable condition. The town records are full of notations of payments to individuals for injuries sustained on the town roads. One of the earliest examples was in 1834; at a meeting on July 8 that year, the voters agreed

to allow David Starrett and Sarah Starrett one hundred and twenty five dollars for damage by them sustained in consequence of a Bridge being out of repair (as they say) to be voted at the next March or April town Meeting, and assessed and collected with other Monies then raised.

At the March 23, 1835, meeting, a committee was chosen to settle the Starretts' claim "with discretionary instructions to adjust the sum as they may think proper." The town records do not show how much the Starretts actually received. At the first town meeting of the year 1841, the only action not pertinent to building the town house was a vote instructing the selectmen to pay James Trask "Such Sum as they may deem just and right" for "the loss of a Horse, in consequence of bad road." In 1850, Dr. Alexander Hatch was awarded \$200 in compensation "for the injury he sustained in upsetting his gig" on a bad road. In March 1853, voters authorized the selectmen to compensate Joseph McCurrason (McCorrison?), who claimed damages against the town "in consequence of obstruction in the highway," and to find out "who left the obstruction" in the road and "prosecute if he is responsible." These are not isolated incidents; almost every nineteenth-century town report lists several payments, usually between two and ten dollars per case, "for damages on road." Some of the reports are quite specific, like the 1865 one, which lists under the category of highway expenditures:

Paid J. F. Carr, damage to wagon	12.00
Paid Wm. M. Dow, damage to horse	25.00
Paid N. Maxfield, damage to wagon	3.00
Paid O. Parmeter, damage to wagon	7.00

In 1872 three lawsuits were instituted against the town to try to

recover damages for road accidents. The selectmen commented disapprovingly that if the parties had "met us on more friendly terms, and felt disposed to have delayed their suits until they could have laid their claims before the town they could have been more satisfactorily settled, thus saving cost both to themselves and town." One of the suits was by Noah Jones, and one by Amos Jones. The next year the selectmen reported that they had not yet been able to bring them to trial, and that meanwhile V. M. Peasley of Somerville (who became V. M. Peaslee the next year) had brought a third suit, "the town having refused to pay his claim." During that same year (1873) the town had paid out \$150 for four other claims for damages on the roads which were settled without recourse to the courts. The selectmen's report covering the year 1874 chided the voters for not appropriating enough money to pay expenses, including:

The town, in legal meeting, instructed the selectmen to fight those who claim damages for injuries on the public ways 'to the bat's end'—to use their own phrazeology, yet neglected, or refused, to furnish the means of doing so.

They also reported that Noah Jones' suit against the town "was decided in favor of the town, which now holds an execution for costs of \$100.09, of the value of which the town can judge."¹ The other two suits, by Amos Jones and by Mr. Peaslee, were still pending. During 1875 the Jones case was finally decided; Mr. Jones won, and was awarded \$1,097.04. The town also incurred about \$500 worth of legal fees and other expenses in connection with the case. The selectmen commented, "In compliance with the instructions of the town we have fought the Amos Jones case and been badly beaten." They also pointed out that there were other, similar cases pending, on which the voters should instruct them whether to fight or settle. They added that, from all these claims, "the inference is drawn that our roads are exceptionally bad, or that this town is a rich lemon--to squeeze." Since they also reported that the stage road from South China to Branch Mills was under court indictment, the former may be the correct inference.

Indictment of a road, in the nineteenth century, meant that someone made an official complaint, apparently to county authorities, about its condition. According to the town records, the first time the condition of China's roads came to the notice of the courts was in 1828. The town records for that year contain a document, signed in Augusta on February 16 by the Kennebec County clerk and addressed to the county sheriff, which reads as follows:

We command you that immediately, without delay you summons the inhabitants of the town of China in said County of Kennebec (if they may be found within your precinct) to appear before our Justices of our Court of Common Pleas, next to be holden at Augusta, within and for our County of Kennebec, on the Second Tuesday

1. In 1876 the amount owed by Mr. Jones was deducted from the town's resources, suggesting that the selectmen had given up hope of collecting it.

of April next; then & there, in our court, to answer US upon an information against them for not repairing a certain public road or highway in Said town of China leading from Nathl. Johnsons dwellinghouse in sd China & by the dwellinghouses of J. C. Washburn & Bela Burrill to the north line of said town of China....

The warrant for the March 24, 1828, town meeting noted that the county road from Captain Johnson's to Wards Corner and thence through China Village to the Albion line was under indictment and asked the voters to raise money for repairs. The voters appropriated thirty dollars and chose Captain Thomas Ward to supervise the expenditure of the money. Besides the 1872 indictment mentioned above, the records show that in August 1858 the road from Abbot's Corner¹ to Branch Mills was indicted, so money had to be appropriated for temporary repairs and for more permanent improvements to get the indictment lifted. And in August 1866 a road from "the town road near John Webbers House to the Vassalboro line" was indicted. This time the local taxpayers found a new way to handle the problem: at an October town meeting they voted to discontinue the road.

Meanwhile, the problem of the bridge at the head of the lake had reappeared in the town records in the spring of 1831, when a special April meeting was held mostly to discuss it. The voters chose a five-man committee, and the meeting was recessed for twenty minutes while the committee conferred. They then recommended, and the voters agreed, that the bridge should be raised two feet. Eight hundred dollars was appropriated for this project, and the bridge committee was instructed to appoint one member to inspect the work as it was being done. The difficulty with a seven-year-old bridge, and the recommendation to make it higher, are explained by the warrant for and record of the September 12, 1831, meeting. At this meeting the voters decided to sue the owners of the outlet dam in Vassalboro (at this time, according to subsequent discussions, the dam was owned by some of the mill owners there) "for damage done to the Bridge and road at the head of the Pond by flowing." Ephraim Jones was chosen agent to prosecute the suit; he was ordered to begin "forthwith" to collect evidence and to confer with the dam owners, and was allowed to request a special town meeting on the subject (before beginning the lawsuit) if he thought it advisable. The warrant for the March 5, 1832, town meeting asked what instructions the voters would "give their agent with respect to the subject of flowing"--they gave him none, passing over the article--and also whether they would pay the contractor for rebuilding the bridge; they voted to pay the balance due as soon as the contractor put up a bond sufficient to guarantee completion of the work according to specifications. These two related topics were again on the agenda in September 1832. This time the voters passed over an article asking what else should be done to repair the bridge "so as to make safe and convenient for travellers." The other article asked "what instructions the town will give their agent, with respect to a settlement with the Proprietors of Mills on the outlet Stream." Mr. Jones was instructed to settle with the mill owners on the

1. At one time South China was called Abbot's or Abbott's Corner, so the road described here may be the main South China to Palermo route, part of the Augusta-Belfast road.

following terms:

That said Mill owners and their successors, shall not at any time flow or suffer to be flowed, said pond, to within one foot of the average height of the present Bridge, said Mill owners paying two hundred and fifty dollars to the town of China for damage, and costs which may have arisen by the suit now pending. (Said damage refers exclusively to the Bridge at the head of the pond, in consequence of flowing.)

The mill owners were apparently reluctant, for the warrant for the July 8, 1834, meeting included an article "To see what measures the town will take to prosecute the suit against the dam owners in Vassalboro...." The voters appointed the selectmen as a committee "to advise and act with the town Agent, in prosecuting or disposing of the suit." And here the matter disappears from the China town records.

On May 29, 1843, a meeting was called to consider the following warrant articles:

- 2nd To see if the Town will commence a Suit against the Millowners in Vassalboro for damages by flowing, and act thereon as they may think proper.
- 3rd To see if the Town will vote to raise a Sum of money to repair the bridge, at the head of the Pond, and act thereon as they may think proper.

The voters elected Joseph Stuart and S. A. Kingsbery agents to either bring suit or compromise with the mill owners, as they thought proper; and they appropriated \$149.50 for repairing the bridge, specifically for "Railing Said Bridge--by setting cedar Posts, and Planking the Same."¹ As usual, the work was to be contracted, and John Hunnewell was put in charge of the preparations to receive bids. In September the selectmen were instructed to work with him on the repairs and if necessary to borrow money to complete the work. The voters assembled in September also passed the following resolution:

Whereas it appears that the Town has sustained but trifling damage by the flowage of last Spring by the Outlet dam, and
Whereas it is uncertain whether property can be found to respond any verdict for damages that might be obtained
Therefore
Voted that the agents of the Town be instructed to Suspend any further proceedings until they shall be directed by the Town to proceed.

1. Although the railings were wooden, the bridge is referred to in articles in town warrants in the fall of 1843 and spring of 1844 (asking that it be widened) as a stone bridge. (The articles were passed over.)

On April 13, 1844, another \$450 was voted to repair the bridge, and a committee chosen to decide specifications, let the contract, and accept or reject the completed work. The March 1846 meeting appointed Joseph Stuart as an agent to investigate and act as he thought best "to prevent further damage by the Mill owners at the Outlet, flowing the Pond."

In 1850 the whole process began yet again: a special meeting was held in June, and the voters were asked

2nd To see if the town will vote to raise a Sum of Money to raise the Bridge at the head of the Pond, and also to raise the Road, at the foot of the same, so as to make it safe and convenient, or to take measures to lower the water in said Pond....

3rd To see if they will vote to commence an action against the Mill owners, or persons that have raised or caused the dam to be raised, at the outlet of the Pond in Vas-salboro....

The outcome was the establishment of a three-man committee (Alfred Marshall, Joseph Stuart, and Alfred Fletcher) instructed to "investigate the right of the Mill Owners of Flowing"; if the committee decided China could not win a lawsuit, then they were to look into the cost of raising the road and the bridge. They were further instructed "to see if the Mill and Dam owners will consent to establish a high-water mark." No report from this committee appears in the official records, but in May 1851 China voters chose committees to supervise letting contracts to repair the bridge at the head of the lake and the road from Josiah Jones' west across the foot of the lake. In March 1852 \$750 was raised to pay "in part" for these repairs, and the selectmen were authorized to borrow another \$700. According to the town report, the bridge alone cost \$1175.¹ It was again rebuilt in 1885, at a cost of over \$500, and again in 1903.

The next appropriation specifically for the bridge at the head of the

1. Although in later years rebuilding the bridge is not accompanied by discussion of the outlet dam, the dam problem also continued to concern China residents. A special town meeting was held on April 23, 1870, to consider an article calling for action "in regard to the flowage of lands roads and bridges adjacent to the shores of China Lake caused by the unlawful height of the dam at the Outlet of said Lake." Fredus O. Brainerd was elected moderator, and he presented a motion which the voters adopted. Mr. Brainerd's plan called for the election of an agent who, with the assistance of a lawyer, would investigate and report to the selectmen on the history of the outlet dam, the rights of the dam owners to control water level, and the rights of China either to prevent high water or to collect damages. The selectmen were instructed, if the agent's and lawyer's reports justified it, to bring suit against the dam owners for damages and to prevent future flooding. Mr. Brainerd was elected as the agent. Again, the town records contain no report of the outcome, although the town report for the year 1870 includes expenditures of \$20 to Mr. Brainerd as "agent in flowage case" and \$5 to J. W. Bradbury "for legal advice on same."

Action was again taken in March 1958, when the town meeting authorized the selectmen to choose a permanent committee of eight members, five resident and three non-resident owners of shore property, "to ascertain, and so far

lake was not until 1916, when the March town meeting approved the expenditure of \$800 to build a concrete bridge there. The money remained unspent for some time. In September 1918 a special meeting was held to consider building the concrete bridge "according to plans proposed by the State Highway Commission"; the voters decided that the project should be "deferred until some future time" and meanwhile told the selectmen to "raise the side-walls" and make other necessary repairs on the existing bridge. The \$800 appropriation was carried in the town accounts until 1930, when the town spent \$2,868 (the original \$800 and state aid funds) on the bridge. The state had provided enough money so that there was some left over, which was carried over to the Riley Holt bridge account; \$1625.51 was spent on that bridge in 1930.

Other bridges also cost the town money. References to the Branch Mills bridge appear in the records in 1833 and in 1885. High water in December 1901 and in the spring of 1903 made more repairs necessary; in December 1901 the Weeks Mills bridge was completely destroyed, and the town rebuilt it in the summer of 1902. After the spring 1903 flooding two bridges at Branch Mills were replanked and railed and the bridge at Sproul's Mill was repaired. The June 1908 Branch Mills fire consumed the bridge there (as well as most of the buildings in the center of the village), and a special town meeting was requested and held in July to raise funds to replace it. The voters decided to buy an iron bridge (this seems to have been the first iron bridge in town) and to have the selectmen see to the erection of "suitable stone abutments" for it. The selectmen were authorized to borrow up to \$600 for this project, which was not enough; at another special meeting on August 15 the voters decided to complete the bridge and authorized the selectmen "to hire money sufficient to pay for the same." The total cost was \$1247. In March 1912 \$400 was appropriated to build an iron bridge over the Sheepscot at Weeks Mills, six feet wider than the bridge then in use; the state paid a small sum on the project, which cost over \$700 to complete. At the annual meeting in March 1971 there was a request for \$17,600 to pay "the Town's share of the construction of a new bridge at Weeks Mills village"; it was explained that the state would contribute \$39,000 and Kennebec County \$16,400.¹ A motion authorizing the selectmen to borrow the necessary amount was approved. Apparently this method of fund-raising was unacceptable, however, for the next year a similar article asked the town to raise or appropriate \$17,600. The article was approved, and the town report covering the year 1972 has a picture of the new Weeks Mills bridge on the

as possible to make recommendations to the Town to protect the rights of the Town and of property owners of the Town in the maintenance of the water level of China Lake." No appropriation for expenses was made, but the committee was given "any and all investigative authority which the Town has and can lawfully delegate to such Committee." The authorizing article specified that the committee would continue to exist by annual confirmation until the town cancelled it. However, there was no confirmatory article in the warrant for the March 1959 meeting, and the committee apparently died. The water level problem has not yet been satisfactorily solved; high water in spring of 1974 flooded many cottages and eroded beaches, and there were more complaints in the spring of 1975.

1. According to notes taken by the editor at the meeting.

front cover and inside the information that the actual cost to the town was only \$13,455.

State aid for roads in China began at the beginning of the twentieth century. The first clear evidence of the availability of state funds appears in 1903, when the March town meeting voted to appropriate \$200 "to be expended together with an equal sum from the State for a State Road," under a 1901 state law. Similar matching funds were set aside annually for several succeeding years. The March 1908 meeting approved some 1907 state regulations (no details were given in the warrant) making the town eligible for state aid highway money and earmarked part of the highway appropriation for work on state roads as provided in a 1907 state law. Ever since then, the state has contributed to road-building and winter and summer road maintenance. A special town meeting on August 17, 1953, discussed state road aid almost exclusively; the voters authorized the selectmen to transfer \$666 from surplus to the highway fund in anticipation of additional matching state money, and they decided that the state money available should be used on the Dirigo road rather than the China Neck road.

As the state's influence in decisions about roads increased, so did uneasiness among some people in town. In March 1960, the annual meeting warrant contained the following proposed resolution:

Resolved, that the condition of the street and highways within the limits of the villages of the Town, especially nearly all the principal street or highway in China Village, South China Corner, and the street or highway lying on Route 32 from the Corner to South China Post Office, is indescribably wretched at all seasons of the year, and disgraceful in any self-respecting community; that the sentiment of the Townspeople is not in sympathy with the condemnation of land for super-highway purposes, within the limits of the Town to facilitate the travel of strangers to unknown remote destinations, at a time when the places of daily travel of the Town's responsible and law-abiding citizens are neglected and dangerous; that the Selectmen and the Road Commissioners are to regard themselves as charged with a definite and serious responsibility to provide a prompt, adequate and permanent remedy to this situation; that the Town Clerk be instructed to transmit to the State Highway Department, and to the Commissioners of Kennebec County, duly authenticated copies of this resolution.

Near the beginning of the meeting Mr. Francis Jacob moved that this article be taken up earlier than scheduled, before the lunch break; and when it came up, he introduced a longer¹ and much stronger substitute resolution. Mr. Jacob's version was rejected and the resolution in the warrant was passed. Mr. Jacob then moved to hold a special town meeting

1. It covers pages 202 to 206 in Volume 9 of the town records.

within the next few weeks, and that motion passed. The special meeting was held on April 15 to talk about the town dump and to consider again Mr. Jacob's long resolution, which was again turned down.

Town officials and road crews are responsible for keeping town-maintained roads open and safe in the winter, a major problem. Expenses for "breaking down snow" annually constituted a large proportion of total highway expenditures in the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. The winters of 1855-1856, 1858-1859, and 1860-1861 brought major and unexpected expenses for snow removal. The selectmen in those days repeatedly recommended that some new method of keeping the roads open be adopted, but there is no indication that their suggestion had any effect. Present-day China residents remember that very early in this century the snow was still plowed, or perhaps flattened would be a more accurate description, by heavy triangular plows, often of iron, pulled by several teams of horses or oxen. Men paying their road tax by helping "break snow" would bring their teams and hitch them up; then the men would ride on the iron wedge to help weight it down. Sometimes the result of this procedure would be a road full of snow packed so firmly that it was hard enough to drive on and would last well into the spring, leaving an elevated snow-way after the surrounding fields were nearly bare. One recorded effort to change the system came in 1921, when a warrant article for the March town meeting requested purchase of a heavy road roller to use to pack snow; the request was denied that year and again in 1922. In 1931, the voters at the annual meeting passed over an article to buy snow fence; another article presented a choice of buying town snow removal equipment or allowing the selectmen to contract for breaking snow, and the voters chose the latter course, allowing the selectmen to "contract for the removal of snow on as much of the road as they may deem it advisable." The contract system was approved again in 1934 (and the voters passed over an article "to maintain a snow plow at Weeks Mills"), and after that the problem was left to the selectmen for some years. Finally, in March 1942, the voters decided, in line with the budget committee's recommendation, to buy snow removal equipment. The selectmen borrowed money and bought a tractor and plow for \$7717.50 and two truck plows for \$1219.29.

By this time the town owned other highway equipment as well. The "road machine" first appeared in China in the 1880's. The voters were asked to buy one in 1885, and refused, but in March 1886 they allowed the selectmen to buy one for not more than \$250, to "be placed in their hands and run under their instruction." The town report for 1886 included the comment that the road machine was no longer experimental "but a success" and should be used more. An article in the March 1887 warrant asked "what method the town will take to work the Road Machine," and the answer was "Voted to use the Machine and to leave it in the hands of the selectmen. And that they shall hire two men and one span of horses." But the 1887 selectmen (James B. Fish, Orren F. Sproul, and John F. Plummer) thought it better to use road money in other ways, and so used the machine only where it was absolutely necessary for repairs or where it was not too expensive. The next year, the selectmen did use the machine more; the town was charged \$236.25 for its use, three times the previous year's total, and an additional \$17.20 for repairs to the machine.

Meanwhile, the 1888 annual meeting had created a seven-man committee instructed to report to the next meeting "some practicable method of breaking down snow and repairing the highway." This committee reported in March 1889 that they had met twice and had studied other towns' approaches to road problems. The collection of money taxes, they said, worked in some places but not in others, and, "China being an agricultural town composed of honest laboring men with more labor than money at their disposal," did not seem a

wise method here. Therefore they recommended a continuation of the present system--assessed taxes payable in labor or money--with stricter regulations to ensure work and cash were paid promptly and fully. They also advised removing "fences, bushes, and other obstructions" beside the roads to stop snow accumulating in the roadways; and they suggested

that the road machine be put in operation earlier in the season, and that it be worked more vigorously during the best part of the year for making roads...while most of the farmers and their teams are closely occupied in putting in corps &c. in the busy spring.

The town responded to these recommendations by appropriating \$400 specifically for "running the Road Machine," out of a total \$2100 appropriation for repair of roads and bridges. However, the voters passed over an article on building a place to house the machine.

In 1892, and repeatedly in later years, town meeting warrant articles requested money to buy another road machine, but the voters almost always refused. In 1914, a warrant article asked if the town would buy or rent a "tractor engine for use on the highway"; the voters cautiously allowed the selectmen and road commissioner "to investigate the merits" of this machine "with the privilege of contracting for the use of one for the period of one week." Apparently the trial was unimpressive, for in March 1915 the voters passed over a request to buy a traction engine and the necessary equipment to operate it. In 1927, after repeated efforts, the town meeting approved purchase of another road machine, to be paid for out of the highway repair appropriation.

At the end of World War II some group in town began a new effort to get better highway equipment. An article requesting money to buy a road machine was passed over, as the budget committee had recommended, in March 1945. During that year, according to the town report, the town paid \$687.92 to repair the town tractor (presumably the one bought in 1942; Mr. Lawrence Hall remembers, about this time, an old town tractor that had to be started with a blow-torch) and \$219.63, including the price of a new wing, for truck plow repairs. At the 1946 annual meeting, on March 4, disagreement erupted. First, under the appropriation for snow removal, the voters specified that the \$3000 approved should include the "purchase of two sanders." Then Mr. A. V. Perrino moved that the town use its machinery for some snow removal and contract out the rest. Action on his motion was postponed until consideration of the article dealing with the proposed purchase of a snowplow (Article 37). Meanwhile, Article 36 was a request to buy a "road machine or power grader"; the budget committee recommended passing over it, but the town appropriated \$1500 for a down payment, authorized the selectmen to borrow additional money, and specified "that no power grader be purchased without previous road demonstration." Then came Article 37, which the budget committee again thought should be passed over. Mr. Guy Sheaff moved that the town buy a power grader with a snowplow attachment. In light of this motion, Article 36 was reopened, by unanimous consent. After some discussion, it was decided to adjourn the meeting (after the warrant was finished) until March 25, and to postpone until then the Sheaff motion "and amendments thereto, as well as unconcluded matters connected with" all three articles; and in the interim the selectmen were to appoint a citizens' committee to investigate and make recommendations. When the meeting reconvened on March 25, the citizens' committee and the budget committee both reported; then the Sheaff

and Perrino motions were both voted down, the action on Article 36 was rescinded, and instead the voters appropriated \$2000 for a drawn road grader (to be available that summer if possible) and authorized the selectmen to buy road equipment, "not less than an eight ton truck with Frink plow and double-wing equipment." Even these decisions did not solve every problem: a special meeting had to be held in October "To see if the Town will ratify emergency action taken by the Board of Selectmen in the temporary substitution of a Ross Plow for a Frink Plow...." The budget committee, which had been informed in advance, thought "the situation" was indeed "an emergency" and recommended ratification, and the voters ratified. The 1946 town report shows \$14,383.50 due Waterville Savings Bank for "Oshkosh Truck and Ross Plow"; the loan was subsequently paid off, a few thousand dollars at a time, with the final payment in 1953.

Since then the town records show various other appropriations for highway and snow removal equipment, including \$1000 for a snowplow wing for the road grader in 1963; \$800 for a sander in 1964; \$2040 "for a snow wing for the town grader" in 1965; up to \$19,000 for a new grader in August 1966; \$1800 for two sanders in 1968; up to \$5000 for snow removal equipment in September 1969 (a "V plow and blade" were bought, according to the town report for 1969, which has them pictured on the front cover); and \$4500 for a "new V plow for snow removal" in 1970. Despite these expenditures, the winter highway problem has not been solved. Town Manager Bessey commented in his report for 1971, "Trying to keep nearly fifty miles of winter roads in safe traveling condition with many small storms turning to ice seems to be one of our major problems," and in 1972 he said, "Nearly two thousand yards of salt and sand was used in December alone with sanding nearly every day that month indicating again winter highways as one of our major problems."

Support of the town poor has also been a continuing problem in China, although it seldom costs the taxpayers as much as road maintenance does. In the nineteenth century, China supported its paupers in three different ways. Some of them received subsidies from the town (as, in the 1970's, people unable to support themselves still do, but with the difference that today's state and federal assistance programs did not exist then). Some were cared for by more affluent local families, who were reimbursed by the town. And some were kept on the town poor farm, also called the almshouse.

In the earlier part of the nineteenth century, it was common practice to have paupers supported by other townspeople. In 1824, for example, the town raised at the March meeting \$1100, part of which was for direct assistance to the poor,¹ and seven paupers were bid off to the people who would support them most cheaply. Benjamin Haskell asked \$18 to support Captain David Doe's wife for a year and \$21.50 to support Sephrona (Sophronia) Baker; Andrew Hanson was to care for Hannah Baker (for \$14.75, and he had to go to Sidney to fetch her) and Sally Dow (for \$16.75) for a year and for Mary Fish until she became eighteen years old (for \$16.75 in three annual payments); and John Hall took in Betsey Fish² (for \$8.75) for a

1. In the report of that meeting support of the poor is lumped with defraying town charges in a single appropriation.

2. Both Hannah Baker and Betsey Fish were children, for in March 1828 (four years later) the town instructed the selectmen to find a place for these two paupers until they became eighteen years old. The town records do not describe the treatment the paupers received from the people who supported them, who were, under nineteenth-century customs, entitled to receive labor from the paupers (and from family members, for that matter) in return for room and board.

year and John Sewall, "a Black Boy," until he became twenty-one (for \$42.50 in three annual payments).¹ At the June 6 meeting three other paupers, one a man with a family, were bid off; about one of them, the town clerk's record of the meeting reads:

Voted to except Caleb Hansons offer to keep Joshua Hanson a town pauper, whitch is to keep said Joshua Hanson till next March Meeting if he lives so long for one dollar per week....

The next year, 1825, John Hall got Sophronia Baker and Joshua Hanson; Hannah Baker became Amos Hatch's responsibility; Betsey Fish was bid off to John Whitley; and the Widow Fish went to Hiram Brackett.

A revised system was tried in 1827 and several years following, when all the town paupers were bid off together to one person. In 1833 the system of individuals being bid off separately was reinstated; several paupers, listed by name, were to be cared for by the citizens who bid on them, while "other Town Paupers" were "to be under the care of the Overseers of the Poor" (who were the selectmen). After a town poor farm operated briefly in the late 1830's and was discontinued, the system of having one man responsible for all the poor was revived. When this method was first used, in 1827 and 1828, it cost the town slightly under \$300 a year. In 1840 Bounds Crossman agreed to support all the paupers for a year for \$775, more than double the figure of twelve years earlier. That same year, the town appropriation for support of the poor reached \$1000.² The town continued to bid off a group of paupers to one person for another few years, but apparently there were difficulties. Once or twice the low bidders later asked for additional money; and at the March 1842 meeting the voters authorized the selectmen to take care of the poor as they thought proper, "with this restriction, that they shall not all be put out at one place."

Another important form of assistance to the community's poor in the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries was the town poor farm, finally purchased in 1845 and closed, more or less, in 1911. Harlem town meetings had proposed providing a poor farm;³ the idea was brought up again at the January 3, 1825, China town meeting, when Article 3 of the warrant asked the voters to consider erecting or providing "a house for the reception support and employment...of the poor and indigent...." The voters⁴ created a committee (the selectmen, Joseph Stuart, Abisha Benson, and Alfred Marshall, plus Silas Piper, J. C. Washburn, and John Weeks) to investigate the question and report at the next annual meeting. The committee's report,

1. Mr. Haskell and Mr. Hall were also low bidders on the contract for militia rations, offering to feed the men of "the Several Companys in Sd town" for nine cents per ration.

2. The national depression of 1837 may be one reason for the increased expenses.

3. See above, p. 16.

4. At the election of Congressional representatives held the same day, a total of eighteen votes was cast, suggesting that this January meeting may have been sparsely attended.

if there was one, is not recorded in the town clerk's book. The question was revived at the March 1837 meeting, when the warrant included an article "To see if the Town will purchase or hire a farm for the use of the poor, or determine in what way they will support the poor...." Since the town had just received its first installment of the federal surplus revenue, the voters authorized the selectmen to spend up to \$3000 to purchase a farm, and to take additional money from these same funds to provide livestock, tools, and other necessities. Then, as described above, the town decided the federal money could not legally be used for this purpose. Consequently, the warrant for the May 12, 1838, meeting contained the following articles:

4. To see if they will vote to sell their poor farm so called, which was purchased with the surplus money granted to the town; together with the stock and appurtenances thereto belonging And to distribute the money so raised per Capita among the Inhabitants, agreeably with law; likewise to see if they will distribute in the same way the remainder of said surplus income belonging to said Inhabitants.
5. To see if the Town will vote to purchase a farm to support their poor upon, also to furnish said farm with Stock and farming tools house-hold furniture sufficient for the same....

The voters agreed to sell the farm and its belongings for not less than \$2860; and they voted to raise another \$2860 to buy another farm, provided the first one was sold. Then, at the March 1839 meeting, they reversed themselves and decided not to sell the farm and to support the poor there for the next year. Two weeks later, on April 6, the town farm was the major issue at another town meeting, and the voters again reversed their judgment. They decided the farm should be sold, and voted in detail on the terms of sale (the farm was to be offered at private sale for \$3500 until April 15, when, if not sold, it would be auctioned off) and payment (a committee was chosen to oversee a complicated schedule of down payments and mortgage terms).

At the March 23, 1841, meeting the voters decided to "purchase a Farm to support the Poor on" and chose a three-man committee (Robert Fletcher, Samuel Hanscom, and William Mosher) to look over available farms and report back to the town; but the meeting was adjourned for a week, and on March 29 the voters reconsidered their previous action, decided to leave the poor as the selectmen's responsibility, and voted \$700 for support of the poor. Then, they voted to choose a five-man committee "to correspond with other towns, or in any other way they think proper to ascertain the best practicable way of supporting the poor." The committee members were to "serve without pay"; they were to have six hundred copies of their report printed for distribution at the September meeting.¹

1. Six hundred copies was not necessarily too many. At the September 1841 election, 516 votes were cast for governor and 514 votes for representative to the state legislature. (In the voting for representative, Samuel Hanscom and Francis Kenrick so nearly tied that, with the scattered votes counted in the total, neither had the necessary majority to be elected

Joseph Stuart, Corydon Chadwick, Lot Jones, Jacob Dennis, and F. W. Hammond were elected to the committee. The record of the September 1841 meeting makes no mention of the report or the poor; in March 1842 the voters passed over an article asking them to authorize purchase of a poor farm.

When a similar article was brought up on March 31, 1845, the voters elected another five-man committee (William Mosher, John Estes 2nd, Sullivan Erskine, Augustus Jones, and Samuel Foster) "to see on what terms a farm can be procured" and report back to an adjourned meeting to be held one week later. The committee reported as follows:

We have examined a large number of such [farms] as to us appeared most likely to answer the purpose (say between 20 and 30) and are of the opinion that the present is a favorable opportunity to make such an investment, as we find several farms that in our opinion would answer the purpose, offered at unusually low prices, and on liberal terms of payment.

Your committee are united in recommending, (all things considered) location, size of the farm, buildings, &c.--the purchase of Seth Brown's farm at \$2000, being the same the town formerly owned. Several other good farms have been offered varying in price from 11 to 1800 \$, but the one above mentioned, your Committee have thought most likely to meet the views of the town, as most of the others would require a larger sum to fit them for the accommodation of the poor.

In relation to visiting other institutions of this kind, to obtain information that might be useful to the town, the time has been so limited, and the passing so bad, we have not been able to attend to that part of the subject....

The voters approved the report and authorized the selectmen to buy the recommended farm for \$2000, to obtain livestock and tools, to repair the buildings, and to hire a farm superintendent. The \$2000 was to be paid in four annual installments of \$500, plus interest, the first payable in September 1846. In March 1846 the town voted to raise the first \$550; in March 1847 \$1025 was appropriated to support the poor and make the next payment on the farm; in March 1848 \$612 was raised for the town farm payment; and in March 1849 another \$675 was raised, completing the payments. By then, however, the farm had proven not entirely adequate; in March 1850 the voters approved a motion to enlarge the farmhouse and appropriated \$200.

This town farm stood on the east shore of the lake on a rise just north of Tannery(or Clark) Brook, and was considered one of the best-situated farms in town. It had a large house and several barns and sheds. Here lived those of the town poor who could not find lodging elsewhere,

under the election laws then in effect, although Mr. Kenrick was ahead, 251 to 236. Another ballot was held September 20, and Mr. Hanscom got 244 votes to Mr. Kenrick's 223, but again there was no majority. At a third vote on September 27, Mr. Hanscom got 240 votes, Sewall Owen, who was not listed as receiving any votes on the previous two ballots, got 198, and Mr. Kenrick's name is not listed.)

often the aged, infirm, or mentally deficient.¹ The farm was run by a superintendent hired by the town;² he and his wife, with the assistance of the able-bodied paupers and sometimes with hired help, were expected to provide a decent and somewhere near self-sustaining living for the residents.

In the 1850's, the town farm cost China around \$200 a year, including the salary of the superintendent (Mr. and Mrs. E. Roberts retired in March 1853, and were succeeded by Mr. and Mrs. Orison Parmeter; they stayed three years, and in 1856 Mr. and Mrs. James A. Hutchins were hired; they could not agree on a second year's contract, so Mr. and Mrs. Mark Fernald took the position in 1857). There were fifteen or sixteen paupers living there most of the time, most of them old and infirm. The March 1859 inventory showed that the farm had over \$600 worth of stock and provisions, including two oxen, six cows, sixteen sheep, three swine (in 1854 the town had appropriated money for materials to build a hoghouse on the town farm), and substantial supplies of hay, corn, oats, wheat, vegetables, beef, and pork. The next year, however, a drought ruined the crops, and the town farm was unable to raise its own food.

By the late 1860's the town farm had become a greater expense to the town, even though the number of paupers living there had declined slightly. The warrant for the March 1866 town meeting contained an article asking to sell the farm, but it was passed over. The March 1868 selectmen's report showed over \$540 spent on the farm (and the cost of aid to paupers not living on the farm was only about \$400, after several years when the off-farm paupers had cost the town two or three times as much as running the farm). The selectmen explained that the higher expenses were caused by generally higher prices, the need to buy hay, and considerable sickness among the residents, so that only three or four of them were able to work and the superintendent (Mr. S. P. Mosher) had had to hire help. The farm had sold some oxen, a colt, two calves, nine lambs, and such products as butter, cider, potatoes, and eggs (laid by the hens acquired in 1867), but had not been able to meet expenses. The selectmen also commented that the buildings were in bad condition, especially the house; all of them leaked.

Through the 1870's the farm expenses remained fairly high. By this time the superintendent's salary was around \$300 a year (Mr. Henry C. Hamilton started in 1869 at \$250, and got a raise to \$300 in 1870; his successor, Mr. J. F. Plummer, was earning \$325 by 1874; and two succeeding men earned \$300 each in 1875 and 1876). 1869-1870 was a bad year for crops; and the population of the farm in the 1870's was frequently twenty or more people, many of them too old or too ill to help with the work.

1. That the poor were sometimes reluctant to live on the farm is suggested by an action taken at the March 1881 town meeting: the townspeople voted to reimburse Elihu Hanson and Francis Jones, selectmen, for expenses they had incurred in defending themselves against an assault and battery charge brought by a town pauper, Mary Coro, "while in the discharge of their official duties as Overseers of the Poor in removing her to the poor house."

2. Except, perhaps, in 1867; the March 1867 town meeting "Voted to accept the proposition of Jacob S. Randall" to support all the town's paupers for \$500 plus the use of the town farm, livestock, and utensils, which Mr. Randall was to leave in as good condition as he found them. The selectmen were instructed to make a contract with Mr. Randall to this effect. However, the contract is not in the town records, and in the town report for 1867 the selectmen praise superintendent S. P. Mosher, whose salary was paid as usual.

The condition of the farm buildings remained a major concern. In March 1873 the selectmen (Alexander H. Chadwick, John S. Hamilton, and Caleb Jones) rebuked the town:

...the House is wholly unfit for an Alms house, being very cold and void of nearly every convenience which the wants of the inmates and those who have the charge of them demand. The farm is very much run out, yielding but a small amount of hay and other crops; consequently the income is but small compared with the amount required to meet the wants of so large a family. The poor are a class of unfortunate beings who are entitled to our warmest sympathies, and demand from us all respect and kindness, and we believe it is a duty which we owe to them and to God, to provide them with comfortable homes and render them as happy as we possibly can.

Despite this plea, the voters at the March 1873 meeting passed over an article calling for repairs to the house, and it was not until 1876 that the town spent any substantial amount on the farm buildings; the town report for the year 1876 shows \$161.87 worth of repairs to the house. The selectmen (the trio of Dana C. Hanson, Samuel C. Starrett, and Freeman H. Crowell previously mentioned) requested more money to complete repairs the next year, but the article asking for funds to "make the alterations and complete the repairs" on the almshouse was passed over, and only a trivial sum left over from the earlier appropriation was spent.

In 1878 the selectmen (Elihu Hanson, Francis Jones, and Enos T. Clark) advised buying a new town farm "better adapted to the wants of the town"; their advice went unheeded. The farm continued to exist, but with fewer residents; there were an average of twelve paupers living there in 1880-1881, but only six for most of the time from 1887 to about 1905 (there were four in the spring of 1896; in the spring of 1904 there were eleven, but five of them were only temporary residents). In addition, the 1897 town report mentioned that nearly a hundred tramps had been given supper, a night's lodging, and breakfast during the preceding year. The superintendent's salary decreased with his responsibilities. In 1880 H. H. Freeman and his wife were hired for a year for only \$200, and in 1890 Frederic Bragg and his wife received the same stipend, although by 1892 they were earning \$300 a year. Minor repairs were made occasionally, as in 1887 when the town repaired one of the barns and bought a new cooking stove. In 1895, after repeated comments in town reports, the voters agreed to spend nearly \$300 on repairs to the buildings, and in 1900 another \$68 was spent to repair one of the two barns and partly reshingle the house. In 1908 a well was sunk at the south end of the barn, finally providing an abundant water supply.

Meanwhile, the superintendent of the town farm had acquired a new responsibility. In 1891 and 1892 China built a building called a hearse house and bought a hearse to keep in it, pursuant to a vote of the March 1891 town meeting. The selectmen were empowered to supervise the hearse, and they decided that the town farm superintendent should be in charge of it. In 1892 Superintendent Bragg earned \$15 for letting the China hearse be used out of town, and the selectmen in their March 1893 report suggested the town adopt a policy on the use of the hearse beyond the town boundaries.

In February 1911 the town farm, under the superintendence of Mr. and Mrs. Wesley Haskell, had \$482.75 worth of livestock, supplies, and equipment, including a horse, three cows, two shoats, forty hens, fourteen cords of stove wood, and a lot of machinery. However, according to the selectmen's report, "One of the three inmates of the almshouse reported last year has left the State, two have died, and none have been admitted during the year." Therefore the selectmen thought "...it will be well for the town in its annual meeting to consider if some different management in relation to the Town Farm and hearse may not be advisable." To implement this suggestion, an article in the warrant for the March 1911 town meeting asked "what instructions, if any" the town would give the selectmen about the town farm and hearse; no specific proposal was printed in the warrant. The voters left the decisions to the selectmen, who apparently decided to rent out the farm; for in 1911 and 1912 Mr. P. A. Thompson leased it for \$125 a year, and in 1913 the house was rented separately for \$15. Under the conditions of the lease, Mr. Thompson was responsible for care of the stock and produce, which were to remain with the farm subject to normal attrition and use, and if any paupers were sent to the farm he was to board them for two dollars a week (in the spring of 1912 the town paid Mr. Thompson \$14.75 for boarding a pauper). The 1911 meeting also left the hearse to the selectmen's discretion, except that they were "instructed to change the Hearse as may be necessary so that it may be the better changed from wheels to runners." They seemingly did not get around to the necessary work, because in March 1912 they were given the same instructions again. Mr. P. C. Thurston was engaged to care for and drive the hearse; in 1911 he earned \$18, at the rate of two dollars a trip, but in later years he earned forty or fifty dollars annually.¹ The farm was rented each year until 1920 (the 1914 town meeting specifically authorized this procedure), with the rent ranging from \$90 (in 1918) to \$111 (paid by Wesley Haskell in 1916). In some years crops, stock, equipment, or wood was sold, and there were very few expenditures for repairs, so the town made money from this use of the farm. Nonetheless, not everyone was satisfied with this arrangement. The warrants for the 1912 and 1913 town meetings contained articles asking for new instructions on the use of the farm, and in 1918, 1919, and 1920 there were articles requesting permission to sell it. The article in question was passed over in 1918; the matter was left to the selectmen in 1919; and permission to sell the farm was given in 1920. The farm was sold in April of that year to Carrol Jones for \$2000.

While the almshouse was operating, the town still helped support paupers off the farm, and closing the farm had little effect on these expenditures. In the 1920's, support of the poor cost about \$700 a year (the total varied; for example, in 1924 only \$400 was appropriated, but over \$1000 was spent, so in 1925 the appropriation was doubled). Beginning in 1931, the cost rose sharply with the Depression; the most expensive pre-war years were 1937 through 1940, when the town appropriated \$2000 annually. These appropriations were supplemented by repayments from other

1. The hearse appears occasionally in town records until 1929. In 1916 the town appropriated \$60 for the selectmen to buy "a set of harness to be used with the Hearse." Elmer E. Haskell was the driver for most of the 1920's, earning a low of \$7 in 1925 and a high of \$104 in 1926. In 1928 and 1929 the hearse account was listed with the town officers' miscellaneous expenses.

towns and from the state for China's aid to transient paupers, and actually, in those years, China was spending over \$4000 annually. In the 1940's, expenditures declined, but in the 1950's they rose rapidly:

Year	Amount appropriated for support of poor
1952	\$1200
1956	2000
1958	3000
1959	4000
1960 ¹	3500 and \$2000 to match ADC funds
1962	4500 and 2000
1964	3000 and 3000
1965	2500 and 4000
1970	2500 and 5000

In 1974 and 1975 the voters appropriated \$3500 annually to aid the poor; the 1974 appropriation was not all spent.

The town of China owned and kept up various other buildings besides the town farm. Of these, the town house on the Pond Road is the oldest still standing. As described above, China town meetings from 1822 into 1841 were held at the Friends meeting house. On January 11, 1841, a meeting was held there primarily to discuss building a town house as a permanent place for meetings and other town business. The voters approved the idea. They created a committee of men from the various parts of the town "to locate and build Said House" and elected to the committee Elisha Clark, Nathaniel Spratt, Daniel Crowell, Larned Pullen, and Sullivan Erskine. These men were empowered to "draw a plan of Said House," make arrangements to receive bids for building it, and purchase the land to build it on; they were instructed to have the work done in time for the September 1841 meeting. In March, the voters appropriated \$423 "for Building Town House and paying for the Land."

According to the specifications drawn up,² the new town house was to be forty-five feet long and thirty-five feet wide. The foundation was to be

under pinned with good Split under pinning
Stones not less than one foot wide and 6
inches thick and said Sills to be one foot
up from the ground at the lowest part.
Said under pinning to be put under in a
good workman like manner. The 6 middle cross
Sills to be well under pinned with stones in
4 places each The floor timbers to be of joist
4 inches square and not more than 2 feet apart

1. A 1951 state law forbade publishing paupers' names in town reports unless the town meeting voted to do so. The 1952 town meeting refused to allow publication of aid recipients' names, but in March 1960 the voters authorized the selectmen to publish the names and the amount of aid received. Such lists appeared in the town reports for the next few years. Veterans receiving aid were not named, but were listed as Veteran #1, Veteran #2, and so on.

2. These specifications were found by Mr. Thurlow in the course of his research; they are not in the town clerk's record book.

The specifications for the sills are not completely legible, but there were to be posts and sills and

five beams...well supported from the rafters all the above to be of good sound timber not less than 8 inches Square to be 4 braces 2 on each side from the plats into the middle beam of 4 by 6 joist and of Sufficient length 7 pair of rafters not less 7 by 9 inches at the feet and 7 inches Square at the top and to be 3/5 as long as the beams with 9 tier of ribs on a side and a rige pole Said rafters to be well braced Kings posts Said ribs and braces in the roof not less than 4 inches Squire joist Said frame to be braced at the feet and top of the posts and have Sufficient braces and Studs of joist not less 4 by 5 Squire The whole to be well fraimed and put (together in a good workman like manner)

The outside of the building was

to be boarded with good Square edged boards, well nailed....The walls and ends to be Clabboarded with good pine clabboards and painted with good white led and linseed oil 3 good coats....

There were to be nine windows, two on the front and two on each end and three "near the center on the back side so as to give light to the Stand for Town officers." Each window was to have twenty-four 8 by 10 inch panes of good quality glass "well sat with putey," frames and casings made of pine that was "clear of sap," white-painted sashes, and shutters. The "2 good pannel doors" of "clear pine plank and boards the plank to be 1 inch and 3/4 of an inch thick," with "stout hinges" and latches and a bolt on one of them, were to be on the front of the building, and also painted white. The roof was to be covered with pine shingles, and there was to be

1 Chimney in the North end built from the beams through the rige and 4 feet above the rige and arched over Said Chimney to be built of good brick Sufficient large enuf for a Stove funnel

Inside, the specifications called for

Two floors the under one to be of good Squire edge hemlock or pine boards The upper floor to be of good marchantable pine boards jointed and lade tite & naled and a Stand built near the middle on the North End of the room rise 3 feet from the floor with steps to go up. Said Stand to be 12 feet long 4 feet wide with a good pine Seat whole Length aganst the wall. Said Stand is to be built in

the form of Vassalbour Town House Stand with good clear pine board well plained and boarded up 3 feet on the front and 6 ends Said room to be Sealed up to the Windows With marchant-able pine boards plained and the edges jointed so as to be tite

The whole of the boards to be of good seasoned Stuff that is worked into said House

One row of seats round the Room against the walls made of pine plank 2 inches thick planed made secure

On August 28, 1841, the selectmen signed a warrant¹ calling upon the voters "to assemble at the new Town House" on Monday, September 13. Town meetings and elections continued to be held there until the 1960's, when they were shifted first to Erskine Academy and then to the China elementary school. During these years, the town kept the town house in repair (though not as well as some people thought necessary; requests for appropriations for repairs were occasionally turned down at town meeting, as in 1877 and 1882). In 1866 \$84.16 was spent to shingle the roof; the selectmen's report for that year observed, "It was necessary to shingle the roof of the Town House in order to preserve the building." The March 1881 meeting authorized the selectmen to "Shingle the South end...[and] repair the floor and under pinning," but provided no appropriation for this project. The same meeting passed over an article to move the town house to South China and build a new building there. In 1913 the building was reshingled.

In 1921 and 1922 there was all sorts of commotion over the town house, apparently caused in part by the 1920 federal constitutional amendment giving women the vote. In the warrant for the March 7, 1921, town meeting there was a request to change the local polling place to South China or some other village "where more adequate environments exist, especially for our feminine voters." The article was passed over. The warrant for the March 6, 1922, meeting (held at the town house) indicates two schools of thought. One group favored abandoning the town house--hence the warrant included four articles which 1) asked that the town "hold its annual town meeting alternately at China Village and So. China, provided the selectmen find it feasible"; 2) asked that a polling place be established at Weeks Mills; 3) asked that a polling place be established at Branch Mills "in the schoolhouse or other suitable place";² and 4) asked that the town appropriate money for "a building or shelter for horses near the Town Office³ on land owned by the town near the said office." Another group wanted improvements in the town house to make it more suitable for the conduct of town business.

1. The warrant is signed by Larned Pullen and John Weeks, but not by the third selectman, Daniel Crowell. Mr. Crowell and Mr. Pullen were both members of the committee in charge of building the town house.

2. In 1920 a state constitutional amendment permitting towns to have more than one polling place for state and federal elections was presented; although China voters disapproved of it (65 yes to 141 no), apparently it had passed, so both Branch Mills and Weeks Mills could legally have had polling places.

3. The town office was then a separate building near the town farm, a mile or more south of the town house.

Their articles included: 1) a request for an appropriation "to build sheds and erect windbreaks and hitching posts at the Town House"; 2) a request for an appropriation to buy seats for the town house; and 3) a request "to instruct the selectmen to remove the Town Office from its present location and attach the same to the Town House or make such additions to or changes in said Town House as may be necessary for convenience of the voters." The voters passed over all the articles embodying these various proposals except the one on the sheds, windbreaks, and hitching posts at the town house; they appropriated \$200 for this project. The town report for the year shows that the windbreak and hitching posts were built at a cost of \$58.16.¹

After this flurry of discussion, the records show no expenditures beyond minor maintenance until March 1940, when \$25 was appropriated to put in electric lights in the town house. A note by town clerk Willis Washburn (in the back of Volume 7 of the town records) says that the work was done on May 13. Earlier in the twentieth century, Mr. Lawrence Hall remembers, illumination was provided by kerosene lamps; when elections were held running into the evening, the Halls would lend the election officials their lamps. Sometimes a table for the town clerk's use was also borrowed from the Halls. The main room in the town house never has had any heating except wood stoves; there is no indoor plumbing and no running water (except, people used to say, when the roof leaked). The inconveniences apparently were tolerable, however, for in 1948 the voters again passed over a request for money for repairs. In 1951 they instructed the selectmen to have the town house doors "corrected to open outward according to state law, before the next town meeting," a job which Wilfred Bouchard took care of for seven dollars. More substantial repairs were finally made in 1955, when the selectmen spent \$370.54 (out of the miscellaneous account) for shingles, and in 1962, when they spent \$464.24 on repairs, including lumber, paint, and labor.

The position of caretaker for the town house has been filled by three generations of the Hall family, all of them living in the house across the road from the town house.² The first listed caretaker was John Greenwood Hall, who served from 1850 through 1893, earning two dollars a year at first and getting his salary raised to three dollars a year in the 1860's. John Greenwood Hall was the grandson of Dr. John Hall, and, on his mother's side, the great-grandson of Michael Norton, one of the first settlers in China (Michael Norton's son Thomas was John Greenwood Hall's mother's father).³ From 1894 through 1950 John Greenwood Hall's son Hubert Harvey Hall (known as Bert) took care of the town house, for an annual salary of three dollars until 1917, five dollars until 1933, and eight dollars until 1946. He also earned extra money for special jobs, as in 1920 when in

1. According to Mr. Lawrence Hall, townspeople used to drive their sleighs across China Lake on the ice for the March meetings; they would climb the hill behind the Halls' house and stable their horses in the Halls' barn across the road, just north of the town house. Perhaps during the meeting some of the men might slip over to the barn for a drink. The Halls worried that the barn might accidentally be set on fire, and they suggested to the selectmen that some other shelter for the horses be provided. The windbreak, Mr. Hall says, was built of cedar posts and boards and extended east and north from the town house.

2. The editor is grateful to Mr. Lawrence Hall for information about the Hall family and about the town office and other town buildings.

3. Kingsbury, p. 1165.

addition to his regular five dollar stipend he was paid \$6.65 for "labor and material for voting booths." For several years in the 1940's he was listed in the town reports as Superintendent of Buildings, but this promotion did not bring a higher salary. In 1951 the position of caretaker was taken over by Bert Hall's son, Lawrence Hall, who continued to maintain the building until 1963. His duties included sweeping the floor, mowing the lawn, building fires in the two wood stoves before cold-weather meetings, and taking care of the small room on the back of the town house, where the selectmen met on Monday evenings.

After the decision was made to hold town meetings and elections at the elementary school, beginning in March 1970, the main room in the town house was no longer needed for town business. The March 1970 meeting therefore approved an article giving the recently-formed China Historical Society "custodianship" of the assembly room. Since that time the Historical Society has done most of the work of maintaining the building, aided by annual \$200 appropriations from the town.

For most of the twentieth century China has had a town office as well as the town house. In 1904, the warrant for the March town meeting requested an appropriation to convert a schoolhouse near the town farm into a town office. The town appropriated \$100, and the 1905 town report shows \$51 spent on the town office. In 1916 the town spent \$153 (out of a \$300 appropriation) to provide a fire-proof cement vault for the town records. A safe was purchased for \$75, and the rest of the money was spent for freight to the Weeks Mills station of the Wiscasset, Waterville, and Farmington narrow gauge railroad, transportation from the station to the town office, and setting the safe in cement. In 1925 and 1926 requests for \$300 to build a shed at the town office were passed over at town meetings; in 1927 the price tag rose to \$400, and the article was again passed over. The next mention of a town office in the records is in 1935, when the March town meeting appropriated \$300 "to provide a Town Office," the site to be determined by the selectmen. The town report for that year lists among town receipts five dollars for "Materials sold from Town Office"; this sum was added to the \$300 appropriation, and the town spent \$285.87 on lumber, material, supplies, trucking, chairs, a stove, and other such items. Mr. Hall says that the old town office down by the town farm burned--passing tramps used to sleep there, and somehow the building caught fire. The new office in 1935 was built onto the east side of the town house; the room is still there, though no longer used except for storage. The safe from the old office was still useable, and was moved to the town house in Carrol Jones' "jigger wagon," the only vehicle around sturdy enough to transport it.

In the 1950's and 1960's town clerk Mary Washburn kept the clerk's records in her house in China Village (as her father had done before her). In March 1954 the town appropriated \$500 and bought her a safe, which was moved from her house to the brand-new town office in the late summer of 1971. In the 1950's, the office added on the east side of the town house in 1935 was used mainly for selectmen's meetings and storage of some of the selectmen's records and tax records. It, like the main room in the town house, was heated by a wood stove. With the adoption of the town manager system in 1963, new town office space was needed. The March 1963 town meeting (the first one held at Erskine Academy) considered a warrant article requesting provision of a town office and facilities; the voters elected a three-man committee (Elwood Tobey, Ellsworth Mackbach, and Donald Pauley) to study the question and report at a special meeting in June. When the special meeting was actually held, on October 3, the voters acted

on a variety of topics covered in the warrant, including authorizing the selectmen to provide "adequate rental quarters for the Town Manager at a sum not to exceed four hundred...dollars." They reappointed the committee elected in March to "look into plans for construction of Town Office space" and report in March 1964. According to town clerk Joyce Cowing, the town rented the former telephone office in South China (on the northwest side of the intersection, near the present telephone office). The selectmen were unhappy with this arrangement, writing in their report for 1963 that lack of office space was the main problem with the whole town manager system in China and adding:

...the temporary office at South China does not lend itself to efficient handling of the Town affairs. The Town's equipment, the stock piles of sand and salt and the old Town records, which we must refer to from time to time, are too far away for convenience and correct supervision.

The South China office was therefore given up, and until the present town office was completed in the fall of 1971, the town manager was accommodated in the small office off the town house.

The decision to build the new town office was reached after the careful study and frequent hesitations characteristic of most major actions in China's history. In March 1964 a warrant article asked for action "regarding a permanent Town Office Building and facilities" or anything related. The budget committee's recommendation was "Repair and add to original Town House." The town re-elected the 1963 committee and instructed them to get bids on renovating the town house into a town office and report at a special meeting. This special meeting was held on April 25, and the committee said there was no room for an addition to the town house and recommended a new building to the west of it, at an estimated cost of \$13,200. They were instructed to check into the title to the land involved and report back. Another special meeting was held on November 17, to consider three proposals: one called for action on a town office building and authorized the selectmen to borrow up to \$15,700; a second concerned "plans submitted by the Selectmen for a Town Office Building" and authorized borrowing up to \$9000; and a third asked the town to consider "the proposal of the China Lake Sportsmen's Club for a Town Office Site." The voters passed over all three articles. The March 1965 annual meeting raised \$300 to buy folding chairs "for town meetings and other town affairs," and also voted to put money from the sale of tax acquired property into a municipal building fund to provide a town office. Here the matter rested until 1970, when at the annual meeting the selectmen, the budget committee, and the planning board were asked to be a planning committee for a new town office building. The building should not cost more than \$20,000; the committee's plan was to be submitted to a future town meeting for approval and funding. The committee was authorized to draw on the existing building fund for architects' fees and for test borings if necessary. The committee's recommendations were submitted to a special town meeting in August 1970, which turned them down: it was voted not to authorize the selectmen to borrow money for a new town office and not to use the rest of the building fund to provide a well, landscaping, and other accompaniments. However, similar articles in the warrant for the 1971 annual meeting were approved. The voters, by a written-ballot vote of 74 to 52, authorized the selectmen to

build a new town office for not more than \$20,000 on town-owned land¹ beside the town house, and they approved using what was left in the building fund for the well, landscaping, and office equipment. The new building was to be dedicated to Miss Mary Washburn, who had just retired as town clerk, and a motion to move the town clerk's office and records to the new building was passed.

Once these decisions were made, construction followed swiftly; the new town office was dedicated the afternoon of September 19, 1971. The March 1972 meeting appropriated \$5000 from surplus and raised \$15,000 from taxes to pay off the building costs. The new brick office building has two rooms, as well as storage space; there is a toilet and a sink with running water (although the well is so contaminated by salt from the town sand pile, which was behind the town house until the spring of 1975, that drinking water has to be brought in). The town manager and the town clerk both work in the town office, which is also used for meetings of the selectmen and other town officials and committees.

The town has also spent money to provide and maintain other buildings at various times, although the references to them in the town records are scattered. One of these was the previously-mentioned hearse house. The article requesting its construction appeared in the warrant for the 1891 annual meeting, and the townspeople

Voted to raise the sum of seven hundred dollars to be expended by the Selectmen, or a committee appointed by them, for the purchase of a suitable Hearse and Harness, and to erect a suitable Hearse House, the same to be located by the Selectmen....²

The selectmen chose a location on the town farm land, close to the lake almost across from the Narrows. Five hundred dollars was spent for the hearse; the building materials and other necessities for the hearse house cost \$170.39. There are no other recorded expenditures for the hearse house, and no definite information on how long it was used. When Carrol Jones bought the town farm in 1920, the hearse house was included.³ Mr. Jones used it to store his farm machinery for some years, and then gave it to his daughter and son-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. William Nye, who turned it into a summer cottage. Mrs. Nye says that the roof and one wall of the original building still remain very little changed.

There was also a town garage before the middle of the twentieth century, indicated by a decision of the March 1947 town meeting authorizing the selectmen to sell "the old tractor house located at Dirigo Corner." The present garage behind the town house was probably built the preceding year, for the town report for the year 1946 has an account headed "town garage" and showing expenditures of \$982.26 for labor, lumber, shingles,

1. Part of the town office lot was a gift to the town from the abutting landowners, Mr. and Mrs. Lewis Skinner.
2. This expenditure for a hearse and hearse house was one of the few new projects approved the first time it was presented to a town meeting; as many preceding examples have shown, a new proposal is likely to be rejected at least once.
3. The editor is grateful to Mr. Charles Jones of South China and Mrs. William Nye of Fairfield, Carrol Jones' son and daughter, for information on the disposition of the hearse house.

wiring, and "Wrecking barn and framing garage." Mr. Hall says that the barn was from the Pearson place in South China; it was torn down and the material transported to the town house. An additional \$300 or so was donated in the form of "money, labor and material" by local residents, according to the town report. There are no further references to the town garage until 1965, when the annual meeting appropriated \$500 to reroof it.

Yet another town building, of sorts, was the tramp house, which Miss Doris Young remembers as an old Wiscasset, Waterville, and Farmington railroad boxcar set up east of South China, near where Edmund Dowe's vegetable stand now is. The town report for 1935 shows that J. R. Tobey was paid \$12.50 for "moving house for tramps," and in 1936 B. A. Reed received \$3 and Arthur Choate \$2.50 for "labor on tramp house." The boxcar was burned after a fairly short time, Miss Young says.

Another minor but persistent expenditure, particularly in the nineteenth century, was the lawsuits in which China was frequently engaged. The 1865 town report showed almost \$200 spent on legal bills in various cases--A. Marshall vs. China, China vs. Winslow and Albion, A. Taylor vs. China, Clark et als. vs. China, the Veazie case, the Parmeter case, and others. The great majority of such suits were for damages supposedly caused by the town, especially on the town roads.¹ In 1867 China was involved in at least six legal cases, including J. W. Estes' suit for water damage to his cellar and the town of Ripley's suit for the support of John M. Dow and family. In 1869 and 1870 G. A. B. Whitley tried to collect \$100 for damages received on a town road in August 1866; he refused to settle for a smaller sum and so went to court, where, the selectmen triumphantly reported in March 1870, he was awarded \$15 damages plus \$3.75 costs. In the March 1871 town report, the selectmen reported that other lawsuits had been settled, and thought it worthy of comment that "There are now no suits pending against the town." But new lawsuits were soon under way. Several of the town reports of the later nineteenth century list expenses for litigation as a separate category of expenditures; total amounts spent annually were usually several hundred dollars, and in 1875 (the year Amos Jones won his damage suit) litigation cost the town \$1,841.81.

The wandering animals which had plagued Harlem² remained a problem in China. The April 7, 1823, meeting warrant³ asked the voters "to prohibit neat cattle from going at large" anywhere in town;⁴ the article was passed over. At the March 14, 1825, meeting, a more specific article requested a vote "to restrain neat cattle from going at large" within a half

1. See above, pp. 63-64. A more unusual damage claim, which did not go to the courts, is recorded in 1905: an article in the warrant for the March meeting asked if the town would pay Mr. C. L. Buzzell five dollars or some other sum "for damage to crops by the schoolchildren." The town voted to pay him six dollars.

2. See above, p. 16.

3. There were on April 7 the continuation of an adjourned March meeting and two separately-summoned new meetings, one for elections and one for the conduct of other town business; the article mentioned above is in the warrant for the last-described meeting.

4. The term "neat cattle" means both cattle and oxen, as distinguished from horses, sheep, and goats.

mile of the intersection in China Village (then referred to as "the village at the head of the pond"), but no action was taken. The more comprehensive article was passed over again in 1826; it reappeared at the March 19, 1827, meeting and was finally approved. The approval was for the following year only; consequently, nearly every March meeting for the next ten years or more passed the same provision. The 1827 meeting passed over an article calling for the building of an animal pound, but on March 24, 1828, an order to build a pound was approved. The selectmen were appointed a committee to select a site and supervise construction. In September the voters ordered that "there be three pounds erected in China."¹ In succeeding years, until the office of pound keeper was discontinued in 1910, from three to seven pound keepers were elected annually (for example, three were elected in 1841, seven in 1842, and three again in 1843, with no explanation for the sudden change), but the records do not indicate the number or location of the town's animal pounds.

The law restraining cattle was enforced at least once, according to the town records. On September 14, 1829, Jedediah Fairfield, Justice of the Peace, issued to Constable Thomas Ward an order to sell "one two year old steer, and two two year old Heifers," property of Bounds Crosman: field driver Samuel Read had impounded them for straying, and Mr. Crosman, though duly notified, had not paid the necessary \$1.50 field driver's fee to redeem them. By the time the cattle were sold on September 16, the fees for field driver's expenses, warrant, constable's sale, and the animals' feed and water came to \$6.09; the cattle were sold for \$8.40. Apparently animals were impounded in later years, too, for town records show that in May 1866 the selectmen decided to allow the pound keepers fifty cents a day "for board of Cattle whilst in pound."

Official acts by the town occasionally showed concern about animals for the animals' sake, as well as for the convenience of humans. For example, on October 11, 1869, a town meeting was held to consider a single substantive issue: "(The horse of Daniel L. Clark a citizen of China having been taken from his pasture and maliciously killed) to see if the town will vote to offer a reward for the arrest and conviction of the person or persons committing the deed." The voters not only approved a five hundred dollar reward for the arrest and conviction of the villain, they also appointed a five-man committee and adopted unanimously the following resolution prepared by the committee:

Resolved: that we as citizens of China desire to place on record our indignation at the recent fearful atrocities which have disgraced our town and express our determination to bring to justice as far as lies in our power, those who have thus disgraced our position as a community, and that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Augusta Newspapers for insertion.

1. From 1822 through 1829 two pound keepers were elected annually, implying that China had two pounds in those years. In the spring of 1830 three pound keepers were elected, suggesting that a third pound (the one mandated in March 1828) was in operation. Apparently the September 1828 vote to have three pounds erected did not mean three new pounds, but a total of three (perhaps the two old ones were repaired or rebuilt at this time).

A later example of kindness to animals appears in the town report for 1930, which lists under miscellaneous expenses payments of one dollar each to B. F. Clark and J. W. Logan, Jr., "for getting dog out of lake."

Some of the items which appear in China town meeting warrants in the 1970's date back to the nineteenth century. The annual appropriations for schools, highways, and support of the poor are the most consistently enduring. The custom of the town's providing financial aid for Memorial Day celebrations is another example: in March 1885, the voters agreed to give each GAR post in town \$25 for "the proper observance of Decoration day, May 30, 1885." In 1837 the GAR posts requested \$15 apiece for Memorial Day, but the request was passed over. In later years, small amounts were usually granted. The March 1975 meeting, following precedent, appropriated \$100 "to be divided equally between the China and South China American Legion Posts for observance of suitable ceremonies for Memorial Day."

The town has also been concerned with fire protection since very early days, although the type of action taken has varied over the years. At the March 1838 town meeting, the voters elected seven town fire wardens (or fire wards); they also voted to pay Rev. Daniel Stevens \$50 "for his sheds which were pulled down to stop the progress of a fire." Fire wardens were elected again in 1839 and in 1840, but not afterward; there is no indication in the records of their duties. The next reference to fire protection as a town responsibility is in 1891, when (on September 25) the selectmen, in conformity with an 1891 state law, divided the town into three districts and appointed themselves forest fire wardens, one in each district. In 1914, election of a town fire warden was included in the warrant for the March meeting; W. W. Washburn was elected, and the voters agreed to pay him twenty cents an hour "while employed." The selectmen still served as forest fire wardens. The next year, the three men elected selectmen were also elected fire wards; and this procedure was repeated in subsequent years. Meanwhile, lists of town expenditures in the twentieth century frequently included payments to men for fighting fires, watching fires, or watching forest fires.¹ In 1946, for example, the town paid about \$50 to seven different men for watching fires, and there were three entries marked "payroll" for three forest fires, one at Ivan Austin's, one at William Boivin's, and one at Wyman Webber's; the town paid a total of \$197.34 for fighting these three fires.

Beginning at the annual meeting in March 1944, the town voters have provided financial assistance to the village volunteer fire departments in the town. The 1944 meeting appropriated \$1500 to be divided equally between the South China and China Village departments for the purchase of fire hose. In March 1945 the budget committee recommended that \$500 be appropriated and divided between the departments for "maintenance expenses"; the town voted an \$800 appropriation. Beginning in 1950, the Weeks Mills fire department also received a share of the money raised. Until 1959, the three departments received equal amounts of town money; a 1958 proposal to give Weeks Mills a smaller share, on the grounds that that department needed less because Weeks Mills had only one piece of equipment and China Village and South China each had two, was turned down. However, in 1959 the budget committee recommended, and the voters agreed, that Weeks Mills should receive \$550 and the other two \$650 apiece. In later years the total amount appropriated and the distribution varied; total appropriations for aid to village fire departments increased from \$1850 in 1959 to \$3000 in 1962 and \$8000 in 1972. Beginning in 1950, China

1. Watching a fire or a forest fire meant staying near the fire area, often overnight, to make sure the fire did not flare up again after it had supposedly been extinguished.

also made a contribution to the Palermo fire department, since Branch Mills depends primarily on Palermo for its fire protection. Palermo received \$100 annually from 1950 through 1960, \$125 from 1961 through 1965, \$200 from 1966 through 1970, and \$250 from 1971 through 1975. Since 1963 the town has also appropriated between \$700 and \$900 a year for the Red Network System, the telephone fire warning systems in the town.

Another kind of question which has been presented to China voters at intervals for over a hundred years, in various forms, is the liquor question. Now a fairly routine local-option ballot at state election time, this issue caused much agitation in earlier years. The first mention in the records is in the report of the March 1855 town meeting, when the voters decided--without any article in the warrant to justify the action--"that the Selectmen be instructed not to appoint any town Agent for selling spirituous Liquors." Nevertheless, on June 29 the selectmen appointed Harrison Chadwick the agent "to sell intoxication within and for said town for medicine and mechanical purposes" for a year.

On June 7, 1858, a special town meeting was held to let China people vote on the April 1856 act to "restrain and regulate the Sale of intoxicating Liquors, and to prohibit and suppress drinking Houses and Tipling Shops" and on the March 1858 act "for the suppression of drinking Houses and tipling Shops," otherwise known as the license law of 1856 and the prohibitory law of 1858. China voters cast 15 votes for the 1856 license law and 132 votes for the stronger 1858 prohibition law. Another meeting was held on June 3, 1867, to vote on an amendment to the 1858 law, which apparently aroused little interest in town; only 53 ballots were cast, 47 in favor of the amendment and 6 opposed. In September 1884, there was a state referendum on a constitutional amendment to prohibit permanently the manufacture, sale, or keeping for sale of intoxicating liquors, except cider or liquor designed "for medicinal and mechanical purposes and the arts." In China, the amendment was favored by 221 voters and opposed by 150.¹ The town had an even larger anti-liquor majority in the fall of 1934, when a constitutional amendment to repeal the prohibition amendment of 1884 was presented: China voted against repeal, 115 yes to 247 no.

The repeal passed, nonetheless, as had the national repeal of prohibition about a year earlier. Liquor questions then became local issues again. The March 1935 China town meeting voted to "grant 'no licenses' for the sale of intoxicating liquor within the limits of the town." In March 1936 it was voted "to issue 'no licenses' for the sale of malt beverages" within China. The first local liquor referendum, quite similar to the ones which are presented in the 1970's, appeared in the fall of 1936. On the question of a state liquor store in China, the vote was 113 yes to 307 no; on granting licenses for the sale of wine and spirits to be consumed on the premises, the vote was 98 yes to 337 no; and on granting licenses for the sale of malt liquor, the vote was 129 yes to 300 no. In ensuing years China voters did allow take-out sales of beer and malt liquor, but none of the other liquor questions has been approved. A majority of the China residents who voted in the February 1966 referendum on Sunday liquor sales in Maine disapproved of that idea; the local vote was 145 yes to 252 no.

Yet another town issue with a fairly long history is the question of China's relations with the Kennebec Water District, which controls shore property

1. This constitutional amendment was ratified by the people in September 1884 and in January 1885 became Article XXVI of the Maine constitution. The repeal amendment was approved by the voters in September 1934 and took effect October 1, 1934.

in China and Vassalboro around the western part of China Lake. When the Kennebec Water District was first chartered by the state in 1899, it was given an exemption from all taxes on its property, wherever the property might be located.¹ About 1909 the district began buying land around the western basin of China Lake in order to reduce pollution of its water supply by sewage and other wastes from cottages on the shore. Under the 1899 charter, these purchases had the effect of removing valuable land from the China (and Vassalboro) tax rolls. Consequently, a special town meeting was called by petition in China on September 24, 1910. The voters authorized the selectmen to sue the water district for their 1910 property tax, and further allowed them to borrow up to \$1000 to bring the suit "and for the protection and defense of the town's rights in its relations with the said Kennebec Water District." The question was resolved by a 1911 state law amending the district's charter to allow taxation of property owned by the district outside its service area, and since then the Kennebec Water District has been a taxpayer in China.

However, disputes over the amount of taxes due have arisen at least twice since 1911. The China town records contain the February 18, 1919, report of three referees on the question of a fair valuation of Kennebec Water District lands in China. The referees had examined the property, compared it with other shore property, and taken testimony, and their decision--which both the district and the China tax assessors had agreed in advance to accept--was that the district's land on the north shore of the lake should be valued at \$9000 and its land on the south shore should be valued at \$6000. The revaluation of the town in 1963, revised in 1966 and again in 1969, led to a new dispute between the Kennebec Water District and the town over the valuation of the district's land (many private citizens were also unhappy with the new valuation, as town manager Clarence Bessey's report for 1969 mentions). The district protested that the valuation was too high and refused to pay taxes in 1969, 1970, and 1971; by the time the town report for 1971 was printed, the Kennebec Water District was listed as owing \$28,557.60 in back taxes. Negotiations between the selectmen and the water district did not resolve the disagreement, and in 1971 the district initiated a suit against the town in Kennebec Superior Court for an abatement of its 1969 to 1971 taxes. Background information reprinted within the decision of the court,² which was rendered in July 1973, stated that the Kennebec Water District owned about 228 acres of land in China, with about 46,627 feet of lake frontage, of which about 35,627 feet surrounded the west basin; the rest was on the west shore of the eastern part of the lake. The total assessed value of this land (which is in three separate parcels in the China tax records) had increased from \$255,300 in 1968 to \$510,500 in 1969 and 1970 and to \$1,189,000 in 1971 (while the question was awaiting judicial action).³ The superior court

1. The editor is grateful to Mr. Sherman Smith, superintendent of the Kennebec Water District, for historical information about the district.

China voters apparently thought one water district in town was enough: the March 1903 town meeting voted--without a warrant article, at the end of the agenda--"unanimously and emphatically" to protest against "any Legislation looking to the flowage or drainage of China Lake by making it a source of water supply for the proposed Augusta Water District." Representative J. W. Thompson and the town officers were instructed to argue against any such legislation before appropriate legislative committees.

2. A copy of the decision is in the town office. The editor is grateful to Mr. Clarence Bessey for telling her of its existence.

3. Mr. Edward W. French, chairman of the China Board of Selectmen, explained that the revaluation was done to bring the valuation of the district's property up to a level closer to the valuation of other lake-front property.

judge distinguished between the land on the west shore of the eastern part of the lake, which he found was fairly assessed in 1969 and 1970 (though not in 1971), and the larger area around the western basin. Because of the 1931 law forbidding swimming in the western basin, he said, shore frontage there had a lower market value than shore frontage elsewhere, and therefore should have a lower assessed value. He rejected the Kennebec Water District's contention that the land should be valued only for agricultural and forest use, and ordered a compromise value between the town's and the district's figures. The result was a valuation for the district's land in China of \$380,527 (\$129,973 or about 25% lower than the town's 1969 and 1970 valuation). The district was ordered to pay China the requisite taxes, based on that valuation, for 1969, 1970, and 1971, plus 8% interest for late payment.

Another recurring question at town meetings is the fish screen at the outlet dam in Vassalboro, first brought to the attention of the voters in March 1913. An article in the warrant explained that the screen had been installed by the state and was then being maintained by Vassalboro, and asked China residents to pay half the maintenance cost. The matter was left to the selectmen. The next time voters were asked about it was in 1954, when a warrant article at the March meeting asked for \$200 for repairs on it; the budget committee advised further study, and the voters passed over the article. The question appeared again in 1967; China voters contributed \$100 of town money to build a new fish screen, with the town of Vassalboro and the China Lake Sportsman's Club paying the rest and the state engineering department doing the work. From 1972 through 1975 China has contributed \$125 annually to help maintain the screen.¹

In the late nineteenth and especially in the twentieth century, an increasing number and variety of problems became the responsibility of town governments rather than of individual citizens. This trend, frequently spurred by state laws, made new demands on local citizens and officials, contributed to the governmental changes described previously,² and required the creation of new local committees and offices. For example, a China Board of Health was appointed for the first time in 1887, in compliance with a new state law; annual reports from the board to the town began in the town report covering the year 1887.

Before the creation of this board, health problems had been primarily individual concerns, although they had occasionally been handled by the town officials, as in 1848, when the March town meeting

Voted that the Selectmen be instructed to pay Ambrose Sewall, a reasonable compensation for Furniture burnt, in consequence of being infected with the Small Pox-- also to pay the expense of cleansing his house &c--

In March 1851, the selectmen were instructed to settle with William Fairbrother "on account of using his House for Persons having the Small Pox." In May, the town voted to raise \$25 "to pay William Fairbrother for loss sustained by the burning of his house." There is also a record of the selectmen dealing with a

1. Although the amount of money involved is small, the fish screen article has several times precipitated discussion at town meetings attended by the editor, as voters sought to determine by whom and how efficiently the money is used and also aired their grievances about water levels in the lake and other related matters.

2. See above, pp. 51-54.

public nuisance; in the summer of 1873, Fredus O. Brainerd complained that the so-called Healy store in China Village, owned by Winthrop W. Gilman of New York City, was "dilapidated and in a dangerous condition." The selectmen, after due notice to Mr. Gilman and the public, held a meeting in Mr. Brainerd's store, heard the parties, viewed the property, and decided

that said building was a public nuisance by reason of its dilapidated condition and being in danger of falling and endangering the lives of people passing and dangerous to the public health by reason of its filthy and noisome condition.

They ordered the building and "the filthy and noisome substance therein" removed from its lot "forthwith."

The first members of the China Board of Health were Dr. Gustavus J. Nelson, appointed for a three-year term; Mr. Fredus O. Brainerd, appointed for two years; and Mr. Willis W. Washburn, appointed for a one-year term. Mr. Washburn was elected chairman. The board met quarterly; its main responsibility was the control of contagious diseases, and it was also given the power to deal with public nuisances. The board's by-laws and some rules to help control contagious diseases were adopted on August 26, 1887; they were approved by a justice of the supreme judicial court, published in the Waterville Sentinel, and included in an attested copy in the China town records. The regulations prescribed measures to prevent the spread of scarlet fever, typhoid fever, smallpox, cholera, typhus, and diphtheria, including detailed instructions for disinfecting clothing, bedding, blankets, and mattresses and for fumigating rooms. To accomplish the last, it was necessary to burn three pounds of sulphur for every thousand cubic feet of air space, "in an iron kettle set in a tub containing a little water"; the instructions continued:

Ignite with a little alcohol or kerosene oil. Leave the room quickly and close the door tightly for twenty four hours. Then air thoroughly for several days.

Rule 4 said, "A public funeral shall not be held for any person who has died of scarlet fever, dyptheria, smallpox, or typhus fever, but not typhoid fever." The board's regulations also forbade accumulations of refuse and garbage "that may decompose and generate disease germs, or unhealthy gases, and thus affect the purity of the air" near any house or business place.

The first busy year the Board of Health had was 1895, when China had more contagious diseases than in any of the preceding eight years. Two households had diphtheria, one had typhoid fever, one had smallpox, and one had scarlet fever. Dr. Nelson, secretary of the board, described in the annual report the procedure for handling the smallpox case. It was first reported to Dr. Johnstone of South China, who was doubtful whether it was chickenpox or smallpox; he consulted Dr. Nelson the next day, and the two of them called in the Augusta health officer, and the smallpox was confirmed. Thereupon the three doctors vaccinated themselves, and Dr. Johnstone vaccinated the rest of the infected household (three people escaped the disease entirely, three had mild cases, and no one died). The Board of Health met and directed Dr. Nelson to hire a male nurse; Dr. Nelson hired Freeman C. Ward, who took care of the family and disinfected the premises. "The town highway was also ordered fenced up and that red flags be displayed from the fences and premises and danger lanterns by night." Such precautions apparently were valuable, for Dr. Nelson's report commented that since the Board of Health was organized infectious diseases

had been confined to single households and there had been no epidemics in China.

The outbreak of diphtheria in the spring of 1900 could be described as an epidemic, however; there were twenty-four cases in town, five of them fatal. The local physicians and the Board of Health were kept busy. The board supervised the quarantine of infected households, ordered schools closed when a case developed among the students, and otherwise worked to prevent the spread of the disease. The national influenza epidemic of 1918 and 1919 also hit China; the Board of Health report for 1918 said:

There have been fifty cases of influenza and eight cases of pneumonia during the past two quarters. Seven deaths from these diseases. Homes have been fumigated. Due precautions have been taken to lessen the spread of these diseases.¹

The 1919 report said that during that year "influenza has been prevalent and is still raging."

The Board of Health was replaced by a single health officer in 1920.² Like the board, the health officer dealt with infectious diseases, public nuisances, and similar problems. J. H. Mosher served as health officer from 1920 through 1934; he was succeeded by Fred E. Earle, M.D., who served until 1948. The health officer's report for the year 1948 described the emergency which arose when Dr. Earle died:

At the time of Dr. Earle's passing, the Selectmen were faced with a very urgent decision; a case of scarlet fever in the China Village School made it imperative that someone to fill out the unexpired term be appointed at once.

Mrs. Earle consented to take over the work previously done by her husband. It was through the quick action and speedy caution of Mr. W. Jones, the teacher, and others concerned that an epidemic was prevented.

The school and school bus were properly taken care of, the case quarantined and the school closed until such time as all danger was passed.

Mrs. Earle kept the post for about six months, but resigned due to ill health and was succeeded by Fred Mosher, who finished out the 1948 term and served until 1951. China's health officers since then have been:

June 1952-1953	Mrs. Audrey Moore
1954-1956	Mrs. Pauline Grimshaw
1957-1962	Mrs. Madeline Mosher
1963-present	Mrs. Faith Wentworth, R. N..

1. This 1918 report was signed only by J. H. Mosher, secretary of the board, not by all three members as was usual. Perhaps this omission, and the terseness of the report, reflected the unusual demands on the board members' time during the fall of 1918 and winter of 1919.

2. Apparently the transition was easy. The 1919 town report contained the thirty-third annual report of the Board of Health, signed by three members including J. H. Mosher, secretary; the 1920 town report contained the thirty-fourth annual report, headed Report of Health Officer and signed by J. H. Mosher, Health Officer. Mr. Mosher had been on the Board of Health since 1905, and had been secretary since 1909 or before; he served as health officer for another fifteen years, through 1934.

Health officers' reports in the annual town reports are concerned with communicable diseases and other problems of sanitation and community health. In the 1957 report, for example, there was a comment that the Asian flu "hit our community and spread so rapidly we were unable to report the cases by number." In 1964, Mrs. Wentworth praised the townspeople for reporting infectious diseases and pointed out that such information enabled her to help protect other residents, for example by providing an inoculation for a pregnant woman who had been exposed to German measles.

Beginning in 1950, the work of the town health officer was supplemented by assignment of a state public health nurse to China. The first nurse's report, signed by Dorothy Deck, R.N., described such programs as child health clinics and immunizations and home visiting. Written in 1950 in the atmosphere of Korea and the Cold War, the report commented,

During this year, the Civil Defense program will undoubtedly become active and immunizations will be stressed. In the event that an emergency arises and Maine is used as an evacuation area, it will be essential to have our own population as well protected against communicable disease as possible.¹

The public health nursing program continued active in China until the early 1970's, costing the town around \$300 a year. Nurse Mildred M. Priest described typical activities during 1964 as follows:

Home visits were made to families in China, under direction of their physicians, for the purpose of assisting patients in carrying out orders for treatment and care, helping with referrals to various divisions of the State Department and other agencies and promoting better understanding and improvement of individual and family health conditions.

Children of preschool age, if found to be without

1. Actually, it was not until March 1955 that China voters were asked to appropriate any local money for civil defense, and, despite annual \$200 appropriations, not until 1957 that the town report showed the first civil defense expenditure, \$22.55. Milton H. Farrington was appointed the local civil defense director in December 1961, and in 1962 and 1963 spent over \$1000 on the program, including in 1962 buying a road grader and paying for some "unexpected repairs" on it. Mr. Farrington's first report, in the town report for 1961 (that is, the town report for the year ending January 31, 1962), gave a comprehensive summary of the civil defense program's plans and goals. However, in 1963 a \$1000 appropriation was not spent. In 1964, town manager Frederick Olson reported that a two-way radio costing almost \$500 had been purchased with town and county civil defense funds, and advised that "A definite program for Civilian Defense should be established." Little has been done since 1964 to carry out his suggestion. Although the local program is inactive, town clerk Joyce Cowing says that the town office receives a test disaster-alert telephone call about once a month. When a real disaster strikes and a state of emergency is declared, the town manager, as Civil Defense director, can apply to the State Civil Defense program for funds to repair such damage as roads washed out by floods. And during the gasoline shortage in the winter of 1973-1974, the Augusta Civil Defense office gave the town manager information on available supplies for town vehicles.

a private physician, were invited to the child health conference. Child health conferences have been expanded from a series of three a year to eight, offering the following services: Physical examinations and health guidance of well children by a pediatrician, nutritional and child care counseling by the public health nurse, and immunization against polio, diphtheria, whooping cough, tetanus and smallpox.

The public health nurse also assisted with the school medical program, which in 1964 included medical examinations and urine tests for children in the second, fifth, and eighth grades (and any others "referred by school personnel"), immunizations against diphtheria, tetanus, and polio when needed, tuberculin tests, and hearing tests.

About 1971, according to town clerk Joyce Cowing, the state stopped providing public health nursing services; since then, China has received similar services from the Kennebec Valley Regional Health Agency. Since 1971, China voters at the annual town meetings have approved donations of about \$370 a year to support the regional health agency's work.

The town health officer, public health nurses, and school physician have been assisted in their work by the China Health Council, a volunteer group organized after World War II by Charlotte Tatham and Marion Boynton at the request of public health nurse Theresa McDermott.¹ The leaders of the health council for the last few years have been Laura Fischer, chairman of the council; Dorothy Lajousky, chairman of the school health program; and their assistants, Irene Belanger and Shirley Fitzgerald, who is secretary of the council. These women, aided by many other local volunteers, assist the health officials in such activities as the well child, preschool, and school clinics and immunization programs.

Purity of water and proper disposal of wastes became town concerns in the twentieth century, and such problems as these, along with state regulations, led to the creation of a China Planning Board and later a Board of Appeals, and to the appointment of a plumbing inspector and later a code enforcement officer. The health officer had some responsibility in these areas; in 1962, for example, Mrs. Madeline Mosher's report mentioned improperly installed septic tanks and similar problems. In the report for 1968, Mrs. Faith Wentworth said:

Next year with our new Plumbing Inspector [and] Planning Board hope to help with any sewerage, pollution water problem and take care of any existing one. Only ones interested about these problems are really the ones that will see to it the job is done. Together we should see that our natural resources are kept attractive to our visitors and people planning to live here.

In 1972 she reported that she had met several times with the Planning Board, and added: "This position becomes more demanding with increased building and environmental or pollution conditions."

The March 1967 town meeting authorized the selectmen to create a town planning board, in accordance with state law, and further authorized China

1. The editor is grateful to Mrs. Laura Fischer and Mrs. Dorothy Lajousky for information about the China Health Council.

to join in the formation of a regional planning board, appropriating up to \$400 for the latter. A special meeting was held on April 28 to try to rescind these actions, but the voters refused to change their minds. The town report for 1968 contained the first planning board report (including a list of the board members, who were Russell D. Cram, chairman; Philip Taber, Albert Adams, Bruce Chandler, and Ben Dillenbeck; and Arthur Verville and Al Althenn, associates). The board had prepared a town road ordinance, which was adopted at the March 1968 town meeting, and it had begun arranging to delineate the boundaries of town landings on the lake. The report said that the planning board had also studied local problems "and considered water pollution as most important"; to help improve water quality, their next project was to prepare a plumbing ordinance. This brief ordinance was presented and accepted at the March 1969 town meeting. During the rest of 1969, the board worked on a town mobile home ordinance, adopted at the March 1970 town meeting.¹ The planning board then prepared local land use and sub-division ordinances, which were adopted by the town at the March 1972 meeting, the land use ordinance by a written-ballot vote of 54 to 30. On May 10, a special meeting was held to consider rescinding these two ordinances, but both were retained; this time, 164 people favored the land use ordinance, while 106 voted to abolish it. The planning board report for 1972 commented on these ordinances:

The members of your planning board appreciate your support of the Land Use and Sub-division Ordinances. Your healthy interest in our local environmental needs and problems has encouraged us during the past year. We conducted 24 meetings, inspected five proposed sub-division sites and approved three preliminary and one final plan. Three sub-divisions started prior to the ordinances were discussed and unofficial recommendations made. As a result of the guidelines provided by your ordinances, we were able to convince sub-division planners to change or abandon plans threatening your environment.

A Board of Appeals has been appointed providing assistance for anyone disagreeing with any of our interpretations. We have learned a lot during the past year, but ultimately, despite our efforts to be fair and firm, a difference of opinion will occur and the Board of Appeals is available to settle it.²

The 1972 planning board report also reaffirmed the board's concern with water quality in China Lake and encouraged cooperation with the town plumbing inspector. The 1974 planning board report stated an explicit connection between land use and water quality, pointing out that enforcement of the land use and sub-division ordinances was

for the purpose of protecting the water quality of

1. China has also recently adopted a dangerous buildings ordinance (March 1968) and an outdoor festival ordinance (August 3, 1970).
2. The first appointments to the Board of Appeals were made early in 1973; the members listed in the 1973 town report were Edward Hagen, chairman; William Learned, Donald Pauley, Clarence Thurston, and Harold Doe, Jr.

the lake, the value of property and the welfare of the inhabitants, all of which would have been severely damaged by uncontrolled development.

During these years, the town appropriated money to support planning activities on the local and regional levels. The local planning board received \$300 for each of several years in the 1970's, while regional planning board appropriations have risen from about \$400 in 1968 to \$980 in 1975. In its report for 1974, the China Planning Board expressed gratitude to the North Kennebec Regional Planning Commission and the Maine Municipal Association "for expert and reliable assistance on technical and legal questions," specifically mentioned Elery Keene of the NKRPC, and continued:

To have obtained equivalent authoritative information in other ways would have been expensive in time, energy and money. Continued membership in the NKRPC is an invaluable aid to the effectiveness of the Planning Board.

In the 1970's, national and state disagreements over the proper solutions to interrelated environmental problems made it difficult for local citizens and the Planning Board to understand their responsibilities under complex and changing regulations. The Planning Board report for 1974 reminded China citizens that "The Board's function is to help...people to understand the ordinances and the necessary steps to comply with them rather than to prevent development." And town manager Bessey commented, "It is becoming increasingly difficult to keep abreast of new rules and regulations on sewerage,...Land Use and Sub-Division."

Another area related to sanitation problems and land use, and also recently recognized as a problem for local government to handle,¹ is the disposal of solid waste. One town dump operated in the 1930's and 1940's in an old gravel bank on Mr. Harry Austin's land beside Route 3, across the road and a little east of Mr. Edmund Dowe's present vegetable stand.² There was no supervision there; people just dumped until the place filled up (although, as Mr. Dowe pointed out, in those days people threw away less than they do now), and the rats were sometimes an annoyance to the surrounding area. In March 1954, the town meeting authorized the selectmen to buy land for a town dump and appropriated \$300 to pay for it. This money was apparently used to purchase the site of the present dump on the Alder Park road (now partly paved, but until 1968 a dirt road not always passable in the mud season). The town now owns the dump lot of approximately thirteen and a half acres and an adjoining fourteen-acre lot. Soon after the dump went into operation, it was subject to misuse: a special town meeting on May 14, 1956, authorized the selectmen to draw up an ordinance prohibiting the dumping of "dead animals, fowl or carrion, also offal from septic tanks or otherwise" at the dump or along the roads; and another ordinance limiting the use of the dump to China residents and non-resident property-owners and their guests. Both these ordinances were to include reasonable fines or other penalties for non-compliance and were to be enforced

1. Although in the 1967 health officer's report, Mrs. Wentworth observed that people's private dumps should not be so offensive to the neighbors as to cause complaints, suggesting that not everyone accepted the town dump as the only waste disposal area in town.

2. Mrs. Cowing, who told the editor about this dump, also remembers a dump on the Horseback road used by her father and many others despite the efforts of the owners of the land to close it. The editor is grateful to Mr. Edmund Dowe of South China for information about the Route 3 dump.

in court if necessary.

The 1960 annual meeting appropriated \$200 to reroute the entrance to the dump, and from 1961 through 1963 each annual meeting warrant contained an article asking for money to hire a caretaker for the dump. The 1961 article specified that the dump should be open three days a week; the budget committee suggested Wednesday, Saturday, and Sunday, and recommended a \$400 appropriation. The voters raised \$1200 and authorized the selectmen to see to the care of the dump. In 1962, the budget committee recommended the same three days of operation and a \$1200 appropriation; the voters approved \$1200 to hire a caretaker and specified that the dump should be open five days a week, the days to be decided by the selectmen. In 1963, the budget committee again recommended Wednesday, Saturday, and Sunday as dump days and a \$1200 appropriation; the voters raised the \$1200 (specifying \$800 for the caretaker and \$400 for gravel and bulldozing) and again said that the dump should be open five days a week, but this time they left it to the caretaker to decide which days. Through the rest of the 1960's, the voters annually appropriated from \$1100 (in 1965) to \$1500 (each year from 1968 through 1971) for the dump. In the following years, appropriations rose to \$1800 in 1972, \$2000 in 1973, and \$5000 in 1974 and again in 1975.

The March 1960 town meeting had also considered an article to let Palermo residents use the China dump if Palermo contributed \$75 toward maintaining it; the budget committee recommended approval, but the voters passed over the article. A special meeting was held the next month (on April 15, 1960) to try to change the local dump ordinance to give Palermo residents the same dumping privileges as China residents, but this motion also failed to win approval. In 1971, however, Palermo residents were granted permission to use China's dump, and Palermo was asked to contribute \$150. Palermo's costs, like China's, have increased steadily since then; the dump accounts in the town reports show that Palermo contributed \$200 in 1972, \$500 in 1973, and \$1000 in 1974. Discussion of the dump at the March 1975 China town meeting indicated that in 1975 Palermo was expected to pay \$2500.¹

Caretakers at the China dump have been Mr. Leslie Crommett (1964-1967), Mr. Harlan Childs (1968-1973), and Mr. Wallace Pelton (1973 to the present). Part of the discussion of the dump at the March 1975 meeting concerned the caretaker's wages; it was established that Mr. Pelton was to receive at least the state minimum wage for his work.² In his report for 1974, town manager Bessey commented more fully than usual on the dump, saying:

Wallace Pelton and Mr. Brown again have done a commendable job at the Town Dump. Undoubtedly, China has one of the best maintained dumps in the state. To date there is much uncertainty as to what changes will have to occur after July 1, 1975 in regard to dump maintenance.³

The twentieth century also saw the creation of a publicity committee in and for the town of China. From 1928 on, China frequently appropriated small sums, usually \$50 a year, to be spent by state of Maine publicity agencies to help advertise state and local "natural resources, advantages and attractions."

1. According to notes taken by the editor at the meeting.
2. According to notes taken by the editor at the meeting.
3. In March 1975, China was facing a July 1, 1975, ban on open burning dumps in the state; the state legislature later extended the deadline. China officials had for some time been considering alternative waste disposal methods and searching unsuccessfully for a site for a land fill dump in town.

In 1965, the March town meeting elected a three-member publicity committee (consisting of Carroll Farrington, Wayne Frankenfield, and Al Althenn) to work with the selectmen and town manager and appropriated \$100 for "advertising and publicity." This committee existed for three years. Its report for the year 1965 described its activities:

Your committee decided that, initially, a sign should be erected at a prominent spot, facing heavy traffic, on Route 202 to advertise the presence of our lovely lakes area. In addition, an attractive brochure was designed and 2,000 printed, some of which were sent to Maine Publicity Bureau inquiry centers. They were also distributed by the Town Office in response to the numerous inquiries precipitated by the sign.

Since the town funds in 1965 had been inadequate and had been supplemented by \$165 in local contributions, in 1966 the committee was given a \$400 budget, of which over \$325 was spent for putting up another sign on Route 9 and printing and distributing more brochures. The 1966 town report had one of the signs pictured on the front cover. In 1967 the committee spent another \$100 appropriated in March of that year; but the warrant for the March 1968 meeting did not contain a request for funds for the local committee, and it has not been active since. The March 1968 meeting did appropriate \$100 for the state publicity bureau; identical actions were taken again in 1969 and in 1970, but not in subsequent years.

The newest committee in China is the town recreation committee, created at the March 1974 town meeting. The voters approved using the snowmobile tax money that was refunded to the town as a recreation fund, "including but not limiting to snowmobiling and Town lake landings," and created a five-member committee, two people appointed by the China Region Snowmobilers and three appointed by the selectmen, to administer the fund. The committee (which consisted initially of Robert Boynton, Wayne Bengston, Richard Grimshaw, Harland Young, and Preston Mosher) reported in the 1974 town report on expenditures for such activities as Little League baseball, improving snowmobile trails, and buying equipment for swimming lessons. The bulk of the money available to them (\$910 out of \$1410) was "set aside...for the development of future recreational areas within the town for public use." The March 1975 town meeting approved designation of two recreation areas in town, to be developed by the recreation committee under the selectmen's direction.

In the twentieth century, the steadily more complex tasks of local government, in China as in other towns, devolve primarily on the elected selectmen, budget committee, and school committee, and on the officers and committees hired or appointed by them, especially the town manager, the superintendent of schools, and the planning board and related bodies. In view of the responsibilities these people have, it seems obvious that elected officials should be chosen with care and their appointments and other decisions closely supervised by the citizens in whose name and for whose interests they act. According to the town clerk's records, there were 1182 registered voters in China in the spring of 1974, out of a total population somewhat larger than the 1850 recorded in the 1970 census. Yet town meetings in the early 1970's were usually attended by fewer than three hundred people.¹ As mentioned above, only 270 votes were cast at the special

1. The editor's conversations with townspeople have revealed two opposite kinds of disillusionment with town meeting. Some people complain of the time wasted on irrelevant issues, and want more efficiency; while others regret the old days

meeting on the 1972 land use ordinance. In the 1975 elections to the Board of Selectmen, with seven candidates for the five seats, the five winning contestants were elected with from 159 votes to 125 votes. Town manager Clarence Bessey's injunction in his 1967 report to the town was and is a useful reminder:

It is the duty of all the qualified citizens of China to go to Town meeting...for election of officials and voting to provide the funds for the various projects that you desire.

Schools

When the town of China was created in 1818, it inherited some of Harlem's sixteen or so school districts and schoolhouses.¹ China also took in one and perhaps two of the former Albion school districts.² However, the changes in town boundaries required a redrawing of school district lines, so the first town meeting held in China, on March 2, 1818, elected a select school committee (J. C. Washburn, Jonathan Fairfield, and Daniel Stevens) empowered to lay out the school districts in town. This first meeting also elected nine school agents; and at the April 6, 1818, meeting, the select committee's recommendation that nine districts be created was accepted.³ The April 6 meeting also appropriated \$400 for support of the schools for a year (and twice that amount for roads). In 1820 the number of districts was reduced to eight by combining the sixth and seventh districts established in 1818. A three-man school committee was elected for each of these districts at the April 3, 1820, town meeting; at the March 5, 1821, meeting, the voters returned to the system of electing a single agent for each district. This 1821 meeting took several other actions pertaining to education. The voters expanded the select school committee to seven members; they raised \$150 for the support of schools and decided to apportion it among the districts according to the number of students in each

when town meeting was an opportunity to air opinions and grievances, regardless of relevance, and would prefer more discussion even at the expense of efficiency.

1. The editor is grateful to Mrs. William Carpenter for much of the information about China elementary schools. Additional material has been obtained from the China town records and from the annual town reports.

2. The original (1804) district 1 in Albion was in the southwestern part of town. In 1806 the Wiggin, McLaughlin, and Washburn families were set off from district 1 to form their own school district, presumably making two districts in the southwestern corner of Albion. In 1818 most of district 1, and perhaps its schoolhouse, were incorporated into China. Wiggin, Albion on the Narrow Gauge, p. 207. The Wiggin-McLaughlin-Washburn school district may also have become part of China in 1818 or in the earlier land transfers of 1813 and 1816. See above, p. 5, footnote 1, and p. 14.

3. The boundaries of the districts are set forth in the town record, but are of little value to the historian without an accompanying map. For example, district 3 ran "From Saml Mitchells north line to George McLaughlins north line," district 7 was "To include the Hanson Neighborhood so called," and district 8 was "To include all the lands and inhabitants North of John Sewalls and Samuel Strongs South lines."

district; and they voted "that the people of colour be set off into a separate School District."¹

With the unification of China and Harlem early in 1822, the number of China school districts more than doubled. According to the lists of school agents in the town records, there were eighteen districts in 1822, seventeen in 1823, and nineteen in 1824. The drawing of the district boundaries seems to have been either controversial or confusing. For example, Article 6 of the warrant for the March 8, 1824, meeting asked the voters whether to alter the school districts. The voters first passed over the article; then, after completing the rest of the business in the warrant, they voted to reconsider it. On the reconsideration they changed the boundary of district 13 and voted to unite districts 6 and 18. Then they reconsidered the latter vote and decided to let the selectmen decide whether to combine districts 6 and 18. On June 26, they again considered districts 6 and 18, and also 5 and 17; they rearranged the boundaries, specifying which families were to be "annexed" to what district, apparently with the effect of eliminating a district (probably number 18), since only eighteen school agents were elected in March 1825.

In subsequent town meetings school district boundaries were often redrawn, frequently by "annexing" a specified family to a specified district. The March 23, 1835, meeting voted to allow the Friends in district 6 to form a separate district, building their own schoolhouse "for their own use and at their own expense," and at the same time allowed the people on the second range in district 6 to form a new district. There had been twenty-one school agents elected in 1835; there were twenty-two in 1836, reflecting the division of district 6.² However, the March 1836 meeting also voted "to annex the Friends to the School District to which they formerly belonged." Two more districts were created about 1838, and by 1846 there were twenty-six numbered districts; the March meeting that year reduced the number to twenty-five by combining district 25 with district 12. The meeting also changed some other district boundaries and asked the select school committee to make recommendations for reorganizing the districts. At the March 15, 1847, meeting, the voters accepted the committee's report and promptly requested another one on the same subject. In 1848 the second report was passed over at the town meeting, and the voters themselves approved several specific rearrangements, including annexing district 22 to district 13 and setting off one house "from District No. 15 to District No. 14 in Vassalboro."³

Other rearrangements in succeeding years culminated in a more sweeping change in 1852. Districts 18 and 20 were joined into district 13; the former districts 25, 24, and 23 were renumbered 18, 20, and 22 respectively. From 1852 until an 1894 state law established town schools to replace the district schools, China remained divided into twenty-two school districts. A partial list of the locations of the twenty-two district schoolhouses, and the years

1. The 1820 census records twenty-four colored people in Harlem and China, fifteen male and nine female, out of a total population of 894. There are no further references to a colored school district.
2. The 1835 meeting also voted to allow Benjamin Stickney to be added to the school district on China Neck, and to separate Reuel Robbins from district 13 and annex him to district 14; and the selectmen were given authority to make necessary alterations in two other districts, but the numbers are left blank in the town clerk's record of the meeting.
3. A reverse example of crossing town boundaries appeared in 1857; the selectmen and school committee reported to the March 23 China town meeting that Amasa Taylor Jr. of Albion wanted to send his children to school in district 7 in China. The committee reported that the Taylors lived at the very edge of the Albion district and far from the district school, so that the children could

they were used, follows:¹

1. Stanley Hill After the 1894 rearrangement a new school was built in this area, which closed in 1930 due to lack of pupils; the remaining students were transported to China Village.
2. China Neck District 1 was established here in 1807; it was re-numbered 2 when Stanley Hill became district 1. The China Neck school closed in 1902.
3. China Neck road This district was united with district 4 for the winter terms 1888-1892; in 1892 the school had only two pupils, so it was permanently annexed to district 4 in 1893. The former schoolhouse is now used as a storehouse by the China Lake Conference Center.
4. China Village An early school here was on the present church park lot by the lake; its successor was built in 1888 on the academy lot where Mr. and Mrs. Gerald Wilson's house now stands. The latter remained in operation until the consolidated elementary school opened in 1949.
5. ? This school was closed in 1894. The editor guesses that the schoolhouse still standing, in poor condition, on the west side of the Pond Road just south of the former Wagner property was the district 5 schoolhouse.
6. Lakeside This school was closed in 1904, reopened in 1916, and closed again in 1927. The last of the district's schoolhouses is now the home of Mrs. Doris Newcomb, just off the Pond Road on the Cross road to the Hanson neighborhood.
7. Dutton The third Dutton district school was built at the corner of the Dutton road and the Bumps Flat road. It was closed in 1902.
8. Parmeter (or Parmenter) Hill This schoolhouse was built before 1840, near the intersection of the China Village and Western Ridge roads on the north side of Parmeter Hill. The school was closed in 1904.
9. Branch Mills This school remained in operation until 1949.
10. Dirigo This district around Dirigo Corner was united with district 17 for the winter terms in 1886 and 1887, and with districts 11 and 17 from 1889 to 1893; the school was suspended in 1894, reopened in 1903, and closed in 1911.

more conveniently attend the China school; they also said that Albion town meeting had voted to set the Taylor land off from the Albion school district to China's district 7. The selectmen and school committee therefore recommended extending the limits of district 7 across the town line to include the Taylor property; the voters agreed.

1. See also Map 5, facing p. 104.

11. The Plains The school at Pigeon Plains between Dirigo and Weeks Mills remained in operation until 1949.
12. Deer Hill This school was closed in 1919 or 1920.
13. Weeks Mills This school remained in operation until 1949.
14. Chadwick Hill The primary school building here was used as part of Erskine High School in 1886 and 1887. In 1890 a primary school called the Mosher school was re-opened in district 14. The town voters and the selectmen approved a request from several families (mostly Moshers) to transfer from district 13 to district 14, because the district 14 schoolhouse had been moved from its former location "near the Erskine High School-house over on the road leading from the said high school-house to Weeks Mills" to "a place about 60 rods east of Abner Chadwicks," which brought it closer to the petitioning families than was the district 13 schoolhouse. The school was suspended in 1899 and closed in 1902 and the building was sold. A new schoolhouse was provided in 1916 and the school operated until 1936, with a brief hiatus in 1923 and 1924.
15. ? This school was combined with the Clark school in 1900. See Map 5 for the editor's guess at its location.
16. Clark The first school in this district was built in 1805. A new one was built in 1863 at the corner of the present route 32 and the road leading to Frances Clark's. The school was closed in 1906 and the building torn down. A new building was erected across the road in 1910 and the school reopened in 1911; it was closed again in 1925.
17. South China This school remained in operation until 1949.
18. ? The district 18 school was a small one, often with only two students; according to the 1871 school supervisor's report, it met in a room in a private house. In 1878 district 18 was permanently consolidated with district 8.
19. ? This district was in the extreme northwest corner of China, near the Winslow line. In 1875 it was annexed temporarily to district 1. In 1893 the school was suspended; some of the students were sent to the "red school house" in Vassalboro and the rest to the "Hobby" schoolhouse in Winslow. The district 19 school was closed in 1894.
20. ? This district adjoined districts 7 and 8, which would locate it on or near the Pleasant Ridge road (see Map 5 for a possible location). The school was united with district 8 in 1889-1892 and closed in 1894.
21. Hanson This school was closed in 1894, reopened in the fall of 1900, and closed again in the spring of 1913.

22. Clarke? This district adjoined districts 6 and 17; therefore it probably lay on the southern part of the Pond Road. If so, the schoolhouse for district 22 might have been the one near the town farm that was converted into a town office in 1904.

Each district had a school agent, normally a resident of the district (but in 1886 Dirigo district was so factionalized that an outsider was chosen as agent). These agents were usually elected at the annual town meeting in March, although in 1826, 1837 and 1838, and 1888 the town voted to have each district separately elect its own agent and, except for 1888, there are no lists of school agents in the town records for those years. The name of the agent for the Dutton district is not listed in town meeting records from 1858 through 1875, although the agent was chosen annually and listed in the printed town reports. The agent's responsibilities included collecting the district school tax (except during periods when this was done by the town), deciding how to spend the available funds, and recommending on the time and length of the school term and the hiring of teachers. Sometimes, as in 1871, the agents had complete power to choose teachers; the March 1871 town meeting voted to authorize the agents to hire the teachers instead of having the supervisor do it as in the preceding year.

The district agents were answerable to the superintending school committee or the supervisor of schools; China had a three-man committee until 1857 and again from 1863 to 1870, and a single supervisor the rest of the time. Each agent notified the committee or supervisor before each term of school in his district when the term would begin and who would teach it. The committee or supervisor (usually) approved the proposed teacher, by examination in the case of a new teacher and usually on past performance in the case of more experienced ones. The committee or supervisor also visited each school, ideally at least twice a term (but often no one told them when the school was going to close, and it closed before a second visit could be made), and on the basis of these visits prepared a report on each teacher and school which was published annually in the printed town report. In the opinion of A. H. Jones, J. F. Chadwick, and J. H. Estes, the committeemen during the year 1867:

The teachers as a class have been well qualified and faithful in the discharge of their duties, stimulated in some measure, we have no doubt, by a desire to stand well in our printed reports. These reports have a wide circulation. Almost every one in town as well as many abroad will read and criticise the standing of the teachers, and no one has become so neglectful of his own interest and so regardless of public opinion, as to look on these reports with indifference. Perhaps no one thing has done more to raise the character of our schools than this.¹

The school committee or supervisor was also empowered to select textbooks for the schools. However, the choice was subject to review at town meeting. For example, the 1867 committee mentioned above introduced Landers' Union Readers as the new series of reading books, and indicated in their report to the town in spring of 1868 that they were pleased at the "lively interest" this change caused and the "entire satisfaction" of both teachers and students. In September 1868 the committee ordered Walton's series of arithmetic texts to replace all other arithmetics immediately. The warrant for the March 22, 1869, town meeting included

1. Report of the Superintending School Committee of the Town of China, in the Annual Report of the Municipal Officers of the Town of China, Maine for the year ending in March 1868.

an article to substitute Greenleaf's arithmetic series for Walton's for five years, and another article proposing use of Town's Progressive Readers "or any other series" instead of the ones then in use. The voters approved the article overturning the school committee's decision on arithmetic books, but refused to replace the Landers' readers.

The amount of money raised at town meetings and spent on schools increased very gradually during the years from 1852 to the 1894 reorganization. The town report for 1852 shows \$1,414.19 spent on schools (and a receipt of \$202.94 from "school fund of State"). Over the next sixteen years, this sum increased by about one-third:

Year	Amount spent on schools
1858	\$1,914.87
1862	1,940.25
1864	1,780.81
1867	2,167.88

In 1868, for the first time, the March meeting did not specify an appropriation to support the schools; instead, the voters that year and in 1869 voted to raise "such sums of money as the law requires." During 1868 the town spent \$2,739.32, and in 1869 \$2,841.52. In 1870, the former method of raising a specified sum was resumed; the voters raised \$2700, which was supplemented by \$61.49 in state aid. From 1878 until (and after) the 1894 reorganization, the voters annually raised an unspecified amount "required by law," except in 1887 and 1888, when they voted to raise one dollar per inhabitant for the support of schools. School expenditures during those years were as follows:

Year	Amount spent on schools
1878	\$2,592.87
1883	2,345.78
1886	2,170.70
1887	2,398.57
1888	2,636.96
1889	2,288.14
1893	2,143.04 and \$66.29 for schoolbooks and expenses

The length of time children spent in school varied from year to year and from district to district, depending mostly on how much money the district voters would appropriate for the teacher's salary and other costs of running the school. As the nineteenth century progressed, school terms became gradually longer. The usual school year was divided into two terms, summer and winter; the former was sometimes only five or six weeks long, but sometimes as long as eleven or twelve weeks (especially in the 1880's and 1890's) and occasionally broken by a July vacation. The summer terms usually had only the youngest students, since those old enough to do farm work--especially the boys--were needed at home. The winter term varied from nine or ten weeks to twice that long.

The dates of opening and closing the schools were decided by the district and were not standardized throughout the town. Consequently, an ambitious teacher could arrange to teach two consecutive summer terms in two different districts. Such flexible scheduling worked to the advantage of district 22 in the winter of 1882-1883. Their original teacher, a young man from Knox, got homesick and after a week closed the school and started for home (on foot); but the district found an excellent teacher from Windsor who was free. This man had been hired for the winter term in Albion, however, and after a few weeks had to leave China,

being unable to get the opening of the Albion school postponed. District 22 was fortunate enough to find yet another good teacher free to finish out the planned term.

Sometimes only one term was taught in a year, especially in the smaller schools; it might be in summer, fall, or winter. District 18 habitually had only one term (one year there were two short terms, and in 1864-1865 and 1874-1875 no teacher was hired for this district). District 3 was another one where students frequently had only a few weeks of schooling a year; 1860-1861 was particularly bad, since there was no summer term and the winter term closed early due to the teacher's illness. Several other small districts had single terms for several years in succession, and frequently the terms were shorter in these small districts than in the larger ones. In his report for 1872-1873, supervisor of schools A. I. Brown said:

One great reason why our schools accomplish so little, is the shortness of the terms and comparative length of the vacations. In the interval between the summer and the winter terms, much knowledge...becomes too indefinite for use, and a long and wearisome school review is necessary, frequently requiring half of the term; consequently we find our scholars, year after year, applying themselves to the same tasks and conning the same lessons.¹

Mr. Brown's suggested remedy was that the parents give their children review work in reading, spelling, penmanship, and other studies during the vacations.

Disasters also reduced the school year. In 1862-1863, Branch Mills had no winter term due to sickness in the district, and district 18's one term ended early when a diphtheria epidemic decimated the classes--six children in one family, over half the school, died. Two years later, diphtheria killed ten students and caused a shortened winter term in the China Neck district. District 22 had no winter term in 1862-1863 because the schoolhouse burned down (a new one was built for the next year; and a September 14, 1863, town meeting ordered the selectmen to assess town-owned property in district 22 a share of the school tax to help pay for the new schoolhouse). The same thing happened in district 3 the next year (after a summer term with only eleven students enrolled); again, a new school was immediately built, with the superintending school committee commenting that this was an extremely generous action since many residents of the district had no school-age children.

The number of students per school varied considerably from one district to another. The four village districts were usually the largest, running from forty to over a hundred students at different times. In 1866-1867 the Plains district was one of the largest in town. Weeks Mills had one hundred students enrolled in the summer of 1855, and 162 in the winter of 1857-1858. In 1858-1859 the winter term teacher was allowed an assistant, but the superintending school committee found conditions still poor: the classroom was so crowded that confusion was unavoidable, and the ventilation was so bad that everyone in the room suffered "languor and oppression." In the summer of 1860 a new school room was built. That summer one teacher handled a summer enrollement of 125 (average

1. Report of the Supervisor of Schools of the Town of China, For the Year Ending March 17, '73. The next year Mr. Brown pointed out that since the school in district 19 usually had only one eight or nine week term a year, the students made little progress.

attendance 100), but for the winter term the school was divided into upper and lower levels and two excellent teachers, Joseph W. Chadwick and Mary N. French, were hired, with very good results. The school remained divided until the summer 1866 term, when the enrollment had dropped enough so that the voters "unwisely" (in the opinion of A. H. Jones and J. F. Chadwick, that year's superintending school committee) decided to save money by combining the two levels; as a result, the summer term teacher had about 75 students. For the winter term the school was again divided, and remained so, except for some of the summer terms in the 1870's, until 1886. In that year Supervisor E. E. Parmenter urged combining the classes and hiring only one teacher so that the district could afford a longer term. The teacher had classes of about fifty; Mr. Parmenter thought the change was successful, although there was some criticism in the district. The critics apparently prevailed, for in the following years the Weeks Mills school was again divided (and the money was found to provide three terms, summer, fall, and winter).

Eli Jones' supervisor's report for 1870 gives an idea of the size of the small schools. In district 3 there was a maximum of ten students in the winter term; in district 19, a maximum of eight; in district 20 four students on one visit and eight on another. These districts each taught only the winter term. In district 18, only the summer term was taught; Mr. Jones found two students present when he visited, and reported that "a few others occasionally attend." When G. J. Nelson was supervisor in 1878, he included in his report the average attendance for each term in each district. District 3 averaged nine in the summer and seven in the winter; district 19 averaged eleven in the single winter term; district 20 had an average attendance of four, and Mr. Nelson recommended that it follow the example of district 18, which had just consolidated with the Parmeter Hill district, district 8.¹

The curriculum in these primary schools centered on reading, writing, grammar, spelling, and arithmetic. Geography and algebra were sometimes added; "intellectual arithmetic" was studied in several schools; and United States history was taught part of the time. The concept of proper behavior permeated the educational process; teachers and supervisors expected the students to be attentive, dutiful, diligent, and quiet and orderly in class, and the books used as texts clearly differentiated vice and virtue and showed the former punished and the latter rewarded.² The more advanced scholars frequently wrote and read original compositions at the schools' closing exercises, while others in the class declaimed famous poems and speeches. More sophisticated studies were sometimes available in some of the schools. For example, in the Stanley Hill district in the winter of 1860-1861 algebra, Latin, and philosophy were taught by Mrs. Laura Emery of Waterville. In the China Village school in the 1860's and 1870's Latin was offered at intervals. In the winter of 1871-1872 Caro M. Young of China taught history and drawing there; the next winter Charles E. Dutton of China offered algebra; and in 1878-1879 the school was taught by

1. Districts 8 and 20 had previously been consolidated, by a vote of the March 1875 town meeting, but separate schools were resumed, probably the next year. The selectmen ordered the two districts combined again for the fall 1888 term, there being only two students in district 20. The district 8 school agent was authorized to spend the rest of district 20's money on the district 8 school. The consolidation was annulled in May 1889, re-ordered in November 1890, and annulled again in May 1892.

2. Nevertheless, the 1863 school committee (G. B. Chadwick, D. C. Hanson, and S. F. Jepson) commented in their report for that year: "The most casual observer cannot fail to notice a very great moral obliquity of the young at the present day. Practices which were once concealed from parents and teachers, are now household words. Language which once would shock the sensibilities of not the most refined is now common parlance."

a Colby College sophomore who included algebra and trigonometry in the curriculum. In the South China Village school, Augustine Jones taught algebra, geometry, and philosophy to some of the older students in 1856.

In 1885 the Maine legislature required all state-aided schools to include instruction "in physiology and hygiene, with special reference to the effects of alcoholic drinks, stimulants and narcotics upon the human system." Teachers were required to pass an examination in this area to be certified. China therefore adopted another textbook containing the required information, a change not entirely popular in the town. By 1888, however, the new subject had fully taken hold, and supervisor J. F. Hammond, commenting on the excellent final examination of the winter term classes in Branch Mills, said, "The recitations by topic, upon the injurious effects of alcohol and narcotics on the human system, were worthy of especial note."¹

Although most of the teachers in the China district schools were unqualified by today's standards, occasionally the school committee reports mentioned some academic credentials. Among others, there were two students from Farmington Normal School who taught in Dirigo in 1870-1871, and others in later years; a student from Castine Normal School in Branch Mills in 1881-1882; and several students from Colby, the first one in the winter of 1877-1878 in China Village school. In 1879-1880 there were two Colby students in town; the young man in the Chadwick district did well with his school of about two dozen students, but in the Stanley Hill district there was trouble. The teacher there was certified by the supervisor, Charles E. Dutton, without examination, because of his academic credentials; after a few weeks it was reported that he could not do arithmetic and was generally incompetent. The supervisor investigated and, finding the allegations valid, dismissed the young man. The district members then relented and petitioned that he be reinstated; he was, but remained incompetent, and Mr. Dutton felt that the students' time had been wasted.

Another academically trained teacher, much more successful than the young man from Colby, was Mary E. Chadwick, a resident of Chadwick Hill district. She taught for the first time in the Lakeside district in the summer of 1866, probably just out of district school herself; the next summer she taught in Deer Hill, and that winter in her own district, Chadwick Hill.² In the winter of 1871-1872 she returned to teach in her own district as "a graduate of the New Jersey Normal School." By 1873, when she taught two terms in Branch Mills with great success, Miss Chadwick was being described as "an old and well trained teacher." Another local girl who went to teachers' college was Annie W. Bean, who taught seventeen weeks in Branch Mills in 1885-1886 while she was a student at the Farmington Normal School. The school supervisor remarked that her training there contributed to her success as a teacher.

The China schools also had many teachers who were qualified by experience, if not by formal academic training. Some started teaching as youngsters and

1. Report of the Supervisor of Schools for the Year Ending March 1889.
2. In 1867-1868, in the Chadwick district the agent was G. B. Chadwick, the summer term was taught by Miss C. W. Chadwick (an experienced teacher), and Mary Chadwick, after teaching the summer term in Deer Hill, taught the winter term. In district 15 the agent was A. W. Chadwick, and Anna M. Chadwick (who, like Mary Chadwick, had begun teaching in the summer of 1866) taught the winter term, after teaching the summer term in Branch Mills. In Weeks Mills, Mrs. L. D. Chadwick, a resident of the district, taught the primary school both summer and winter. J. F. Chadwick was a member of the town's supervising school committee.

remained in the local school system much of their lives; others, men of prominence in town affairs, taught off and on during their mature years. At least two of the principals of China Academy taught in district schools, James P. Jones in the China Village school in 1860-1861 and J. H. Estes in district 5 in 1866-1867. In Weeks Mills, Arthur I. Brown taught the upper level for many winters in the 1860's and 1870's, at first coming over from Belfast and later moving to Weeks Mills. His wife Hattie taught the lower division from 1871 to 1875. Other teachers whose names appear over and over again in the school reports, usually with favorable comments, include Silas F. Jepson, J. F. Chadwick, Thomas D. Ward, Charles Dutton, H. D. Doe, Frank E. Jones, Helen M. Johnston, Amanda J. Dow, Abbie B. Crommett, Mary E. Breed, Hattie Tilton, Mary W. Clark, Addie E. Ward, Mary Farrington, Lizzie S. Gould, and Caddie Fall.

Probably the majority of the teachers were young men and women barely out of district schools themselves, and the school reports frequently include the notation that a teacher was completely inexperienced. In 1880 Charles Dutton commented that one-third of the schools were taught by beginning teachers, and in 1890 J. H. Mosher made the same observation. Most of these new teachers did well, and the reports are full of praise for their energy and ability and the progress made by the students. Literally hundreds of them are described as successful, and only a handful as unsuccessful.

The unsuccessful teachers fell into two categories, those unable to maintain discipline and those totally incompetent. School supervisors' reports often commented that even the better teachers allowed too much whispering in the room and occasionally a new teacher was driven out of the school by unruly students. The incompetents were a more serious problem; for example, A. H. Jones and G. G. Winslow reported on the 1865-1866 winter term in district 15, taught by Mr. A. P. Doe of Vassalboro, as follows:

This was Mr. Doe's first attempt at teaching. At our first visit we entertained hopes that the school might meet the wishes of the district, though we were not without fears that it would prove otherwise. Subsequently we were notified that a considerable uneasiness existed in the district, and that our assistance was needed. The charges alleged were lack of qualifications, want of energy and inaccuracy in conducting the recitations. After full investigation we came to the conclusion that there was more truth than poetry in some of the charges at least, and proposed the proper remedy, but we have since learned that the teacher totally disregarded our instructions, and continued the school until the scholars nearly all leaving, he ingloriously retired.¹

In the summer of 1874 the Parmeter Hill district deliberately hired a novice teacher, Miss Carrie Burgess of China, with results that displeased the new supervisor, J. F. Chadwick:

This was Miss B.'s first attempt at teaching and in my opinion should be the last, at least until she becomes more thoroughly acquainted with the text books, and is able to impart instruction with more correctness.

1. Report of the Superintending School Committee of the Town of China, For the Year Ending March 19, 1866.

Miss Burgess was certified to teach, he explained, because the district wanted her since she would work for a small weekly salary and thus enable this small, poor district to have a longer term. Mr. Chadwick thought a shorter term properly taught was preferable to a longer one "with wrong impressions liable to be daily made."¹ Despite Mr. Chadwick's opinion, Miss Burgess also taught a summer term in district 20 that year.

More typical of the new teachers, however, was Miss Annabelle Clark, who began teaching in district 22 in the winter of 1869-1870. The supervisors were rather apprehensive, for she had just graduated from that district school and was now teaching a large group of students, mostly her relatives; but she maintained good order, and the next year taught both terms successfully. In the summer of 1871 she again taught the school, maintaining "her well earned reputation as an efficient instructor of youth" (at the end of that term she married and moved to Vassalboro). Similarly, in the winter of 1884-1885 Julian H. Merrill of China began his teaching in the district where he had been educated; though he had recently been the schoolmate of many of his students, in thirteen weeks his school was rated the most improved in town in terms of order and general appearance.

Although some teachers taught in the same school year after year, it was more common for a school to have a different teacher each term. In 1850-1851 only three districts had the same teacher for two consecutive terms; in 1860-1861, none did. The China Neck district in 1870-1871 had two summer terms, of five weeks and four weeks, and a winter term, with a different teacher for each of the three. As late as 1891-1892, of a total of thirty-six teachers employed in China, only eight taught in the same school all year; China Neck school again had three different teachers for its three terms.

The teachers were not paid very generously, and the discrimination against women was flagrant. In 1850-1851 the nine male teachers employed in China earned an average of \$17.68 a month; the twenty-five female teachers (two designated as Mrs., the rest as Miss) earned an average of \$1.68 a week. In 1883-1884, the wages for the two dozen women employed in the China schools ranged from \$1.80 a week, excluding board, for a beginning teacher (who was praised for her work; a beginning teacher in another district, Miss Helen N. Brainerd of China, was paid \$4 a week) to \$5.50 a week, excluding board, for an experienced teacher in the Weeks Mills primary school. All but one of the seven male teachers were paid by the month, and the lowest monthly salary recorded was \$16, excluding board, for a beginning teacher. F. E. Jones of China got \$35 a month, including board (board was worth about \$2 a week) for a twelve-week winter term in China Village, and C. F. Donnell got \$28 a month, excluding board, for a ten-week winter term in district 5 and \$32 a month, excluding board, for another ten-week winter term in the upper division of the Weeks Mills school.

Each school district had its own one-room schoolhouse (except, probably, for district 18), and part of the school money went for keeping up these buildings. Sometimes some of the buildings were neat and comfortable; for example, the 1886 school committee reported that the new school buildings on China Neck, on the China Neck road, in China Village, in the Dutton district, and in district 22 were attractively painted inside and outside and had such amenities as ante-rooms for the children to leave their coats, blackboards, and space to keep the firewood dry.

More frequently, however, the school reports contained adverse comments on

1. Report of the Supervisor of Schools of the Town of China For the Year Ending March, 1875. The school district agent for Parmeter Hill that year was Gustavus Burgess. Not infrequently the district agent and one or more of the district's teachers had the same surname.

the condition of the school buildings. The Chadwick Hill schoolhouse burned down in the winter of 1868-1869, and past and present school committee members must have been pleased: their reports had included derogatory comments about the condition of the building for about fifteen years. In 1854 it was described as "the meanest in town" and "a disgrace to the district." Repeated complaints brought no action; in 1860 it was described as "so old and worn as to require continual watching, to keep it from falling down," and in the fall of 1865 the visiting supervisors were disagreeably impressed by the "piercing cold and howling winds" entering through "dilapidated and decaying walls." Other buildings were nearly as bad, or worse; the Branch Mills school had to be moved to another building for a term (and a new schoolhouse was built the next year). Of the schoolhouse in district 2, the China Neck district, the 1856 school committee wrote:

A visit to the school-room in this district would, undoubtedly, gratify the antiquarian. Its ancient origin is unmistakable, and its style of architecture is such as we presume will soon be learned only from the records of the past.¹

Thirty-six students attended this school then; by the next year, the district had a new building. Supervisor Dana C. Hanson, elected in 1857, was also critical of the condition of the school buildings he inspected. He said of the district 22 schoolhouse, "This schoolhouse is better adapted to a southern latitude." And the China Neck road (district 3) building moved him to a more poetic description:

The plastering having fallen from the ceiling, permitted the heat to take an aerial flight, while Boreas, from without, forcing his way inward through numerous horizontal and perpendicular openings, prevented a vacuum.²

As late as March 1890, supervisor Clyde O. Spaulding mentioned in his report that many of the town's schoolhouses were "cold and uncomfortable" and needed substantial repairs.

Two other problems plaguing the schools, besides untrained teachers, indifferent students, and inadequate buildings, were the lack of a uniform system of division into grades, and the lack of uniform textbooks. Maine state law provided for graded schools in the late 1820's, but the custom spread very slowly, especially in the rural areas, and until after the Civil War there were few graded schools in Maine. In China, as noted, the Weeks Mills school was frequently taught in two divisions; the China Village school was also occasionally divided by sending the more advanced scholars to China Academy. Otherwise, throughout the nineteenth century the students were simply divided into recitation groups determined by each individual teacher for convenience in handling a large number of students at various levels of accomplishment.

The problem of diversity of textbooks was not solved until nearly the end

1. Annual Report of the Superintending School Committee of the Town of China, for 1856-7, by Alfred Fletcher, Eli Jones, and Silas F. Jepson, March 20, 1857.
2. Annual Report of the Supervisor of Schools of the Town of China for 1857-8, by Dana C. Hanson, March 22, 1858. There must have been a great contrast between this China Neck road building and the "neat and commodious" brand-new schoolhouse in the adjoining China Neck district in 1857. There is no record of a new building in the China Neck road district until 1864, after the old one had burned in 1863.

of the nineteenth century. As mentioned previously, the choice of texts was the responsibility of the town school committee or superintendent. However, the students bought their books; therefore when cash was short, a student would often bring schoolbooks used by older members of the family or borrowed from graduates of other primary schools instead of the officially-selected texts. Local educators recognized that a multiplicity of books made teaching more difficult. In an editorial in the China Orb in 1836,¹ Japheth C. Washburn recommended the hiring of good teachers and the provision of uniform textbooks as essentials in improving education, and suggested the school committee select appropriate texts. The March 30, 1846, town meeting ordered the school committee "to introduce a uniformity of books." In some instances the school committee did recommend a new text, and most of the districts accepted the change--thus were Sargent's series of readers and Colton and Fisk's geographies introduced in 1857, and the Landers' Union Readers in 1867. However, the districts were not obligated to conform to the supervisors' recommendations or other districts' practice. In 1879 supervisor Charles E. Dutton reported that there were twenty different series of geography books in use in the town, some of them so old that they listed only the first thirty-three states in the United States. Grammar and arithmetic books varied nearly as much. On Mr. Dutton's recommendation, the March 1879 town meeting chose a five-man committee (Mr. Dutton, Eli Jones, Fredus O. Brainerd, E. B. Hanson, and Gustavus J. Nelson) to investigate both the "expediency of consolidating School Districts" and the value of establishing uniformity of textbooks in the town. A special meeting was held on May 5 just to hear the report of the committee. The voters adopted the texts selected by the committee, directed the supervisor to introduce them in the schools, and voted "to sustain him" as he made them the only allowable books. Mr. Dutton arranged to provide the recommended texts (and gave his commission on the price to the students to help defray their expenses), so by 1880 textbooks in reading, spelling, arithmetic, grammar, and geography were mostly identical throughout the town. In 1880 the Spencerian system of writing was introduced on a town-wide basis.

Unfortunately, the principle of uniformity was not well enforced, and as students coming from other towns and youngsters just starting school brought miscellaneous texts with them, diversity again proliferated. The school supervisor arranged for additional supplies of the approved books to try to remedy the situation. But by 1886 supervisor E. E. Parmenter was suggesting in his report that the only way to provide a uniform and ample supply of texts was for the town to buy and own them.

A state law requiring towns to provide free textbooks came into force in August 1890, so Mr. Parmenter's suggestion was carried out. Apparently in preparation for the change, a committee on textbooks was appointed at the March 1889 China town meeting. Their long report, made and adopted at the March 1890 town meeting, showed what China schools were teaching then. The committee was satisfied with the texts in use in algebra, United States history, geography, hygienic physiology, and penmanship (the Spencerian system); they recommended changes in the reading series, the spellers, the arithmetics, the grammars, and the bookkeeping text. They further recommended that the town buy and own the books and lend them to the students in these ten required subjects; "pupils wishing to pursue other studies, or other books in such studies as are designated above," were expected to "do so at their own expense." Arrangements were made with publishers to trade in some of the old texts on the new ones; the old grammar books were exchanged for the full price of the replacements, and in other cases the town had to pay only a few cents per book. The prices of the

1. Vol. 3, No. 16, April 16, 1836.

new textbooks ranged from 21 to 75 cents each. The committee requested, and the town appropriated, a total of \$450 to get the recommended texts for the whole town; a little over \$500 was actually spent on schoolbooks in 1890. In March 1891 the town meeting authorized the supervisor of schools to introduce an intermediate physiology text and appropriated \$75 to buy the books. Altogether the town spent \$862 to buy textbooks in 1891; by the end of 1892 China owned 1730 texts.

Yet another problem in the schools was truancy, frequently abetted by parents who considered their children more usefully employed at home than in school. School supervisors' reports from the nineteenth century occasionally compared the number of children of school age in a district with the number actually attending school, and recorded a considerable discrepancy. Mr. Charles E. Dutton described an extreme case in district 16 in 1879: the planned summer term was postponed till fall, and when Mr. Dutton visited the school soon after it opened he found only three students present. He promptly went to see some of the district parents, who told him they simply were not ready to have their children gone for five or six hours a day. Mr. Dutton ordered the school to continue, and since this meant the parents' money was being spent, the students soon appeared.¹ Truant officers were listed among the town officers elected at the annual meeting in 1888, for the first time.

Mrs. Isabell (Haskell) Mitchell, who celebrated her ninety-eighth birthday in China in June 1975, attended the district 21 school before the 1894 consolidation. Among the teachers she remembers are Olive Wiggin, who taught there in 1880, and Maggie Turner, the teacher in 1887 and part of 1888. The schoolhouse stood at the corner of the Cross Road and the Hanson Road. It was white-washed a pinkish color, with a white door. There was a yard between the schoolhouse and the road, and an old burying ground behind the schoolhouse.² Inside, the school building was a single room heated by a wood stove. There were a long back seat and one single seat and four rows of double desks. On one side of the room was a shelf for the water barrel and dipper, and on the other the blackboard. There was a cupboard for books and a shelf for the teacher's Bible and her watch or clock.

The schoolhouse was about three-quarters of a mile from Mrs. Mitchell's house on the Hanson Road, so she took a lunch with her. School went from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., with the noon hour off. The farm next to the schoolhouse had apple and pear trees, and the farmer did not mind if the children wandered over and ate some fruit, as long as they were not wasteful. In school, Mrs. Mitchell studied reading, writing, grammar, spelling, geography, arithmetic, bookkeeping, and algebra; her last teacher had never had algebra, so Mrs. Mitchell got only half-way through that course. There were only half a dozen students in the Hanson school during Mrs. Mitchell's years there, although she says her mother

1. Mr. Dutton was a determined educator. In addition to the firmness shown in this example, he also lacked patience with unruly students. One district he thought should get a male teacher who could "whale out" some of the older boys who whispered in class; in another district the teacher was charged with abusing the students, but Mr. Dutton after investigation concluded that had he been the teacher, "the abuse would have been greater." All these incidents are described in his Supervisor's Report of March 1880.

2. Mrs. Mitchell's mother told her a colored woman was buried there. The graves have been moved to the Branch Mills cemetery.

could remember when there were fifty. Mrs. Mitchell remembers that the Hanson schoolhouse burned, and part of her education was at the schoolhouse on the Pond Road, a mile and a half walk from her home.

Like several other young women in China in the nineteenth century, Mrs. Mitchell had a chance to pass on what she had learned in the Hanson schoolhouse. In 1894, Hanson district parents wanted a summer session of school in their own district, small as it was; Mrs. Mitchell (Belle Haskell, as she then was and as she was listed in the town report) was persuaded to teach it, although she did not really want to. She was then barely seventeen years old. Her teaching was apparently adequate, for the school supervisor's report made no critical remarks (although he did point out that it was uneconomical to operate a school for so few students).

The efficiency of the district system was sometimes publicly questioned before 1894. For example, in 1878 supervisor G. J. Nelson suggested that the town either eliminate the district system altogether or at least consolidate some of the smaller schools. He pointed out that under contemporary laws and practice, twenty per cent of the total school fund was apportioned among the smaller school districts, with the smallest district getting the largest share; if there were fewer districts, each remaining school would get more money. Although there were some consolidations in the late 1870's and 1880's, many small schools remained. Supervisor E. E. Parmenter, in his 1885 report, made an even stronger plea for abolition of the district system, buttressed with per-pupil expenditure figures indicating the undesirability of the existing system. For example, in the Dirigo district only four students (of thirteen of school age in the district) went to school at all, yet the school cost the district seven dollars a week. Similar situations existed in other small districts. In the Plains district, the schoolhouse needed costly repairs, and Mr. Parmenter pointed out that in this case, too, it was in the district voters' interest to favor abolition or consolidation of districts.

The March 1886 town meeting, perhaps swayed by Mr. Parmenter's arguments, appointed a seven-man committee to examine consolidating school districts or "adopting the town system of schools" and report in a year. The committee's report was passed over at the March 1887 town meeting. The selectmen did continue the occasional, step-by-step consolidations of the preceding decade. In February or early March 1887 they had ordered the school agents in districts 10 and 17 to "enter into such contracts and to perfect such arrangements," conformable with state law, as were needed to combine their two districts for the winter term, there being only two potential students in district 10. In October 1888, as mentioned previously, districts 8 and 20 were temporarily consolidated. In November 1888 the selectmen received a petition "signed by every legal voter in Dist. No. 3" asking that district 3 be joined to district 4; the selectmen unified the two and ordered all present and future district 3 money to be spent in district 4. They later relented and allowed district 3 a separate school for the summer terms in 1889 through 1892. After the school supervisor commented in 1892, "The money of this district cannot be profitably expended with but two scholars in attendance," the school was permanently united with district 4 as he recommended.

In 1894 the question was taken out of local voters' hands by a state

1. Mr. Parmenter was a member of the committee, with Orren F. Sproul, Elihu Hanson, Dana C. Hanson, J. E. Greeley, A. B. Fletcher, and F. E. Jones, all prominent men with much experience in local school administration.

law establishing the town rather than the district as the basic school unit. The law was intended to improve primary education by making possible larger consolidated schools which could readily be graded. Under its provisions, China schools were supervised by a volunteer superintending school committee, at first of seven members (reduced to five in 1897 and later to three). Their responsibilities included "the care and custody of the school property of the town, the furnishings of wood and supplies, and the incidental repairs";¹ deciding how long the school year should be (the China superintending school committee sometimes specified the number of weeks in the spring and fall terms and ordered the winter term to run as long as the school money lasted); deciding what pupils should get town transportation to school; and, after about 1903, formally recommending to the town voters whether small schools (under state law, those with fewer than eight students) should be kept open. A paid superintendent of schools was responsible for direct supervision of the schools and took care of such matters as selection and purchase of textbooks, changes in curriculum, hiring and salaries of teachers, providing the transportation authorized by the school committee, and other such matters. J. A. Jones and Clyde Spaulding and Alvano Goddard were among the early China superintendents, but the dominant figure around the turn of the century was Dr. Gustavus Nelson, who was superintendent in 1896 and 1897, from 1899 to 1901, and from 1903 through 1907. In the spring of 1908 China voted to form a school union with Vassalboro, and the two towns hired Glenn W. Starkey as superintendent. Later Winslow joined the union. Mr. Starkey was succeeded in 1911 by George E. Paine, who served until 1921.²

Everything the superintending school committee and the superintendent did was subject to scrutiny by the voters of China at the annual town meeting, and the voters were not particularly happy with the 1894 state law. The main problem was that in China in the early twentieth century consolidation of schools required uncomfortable and expensive transportation. As superintendent Nelson pointed out in his 1900 report, China had the disadvantage of the new law--a big transportation bill--without being able to realize the alleged advantage--consolidated schools.

The first effect of the new law was that in 1894 the schools in former districts 3 (China Neck road), 5, 15, 19 (northwest corner of town), and 20 were closed permanently, while the schools in districts 6 (Lakeside), 7 (Dutton), 12 (Deer Hill), 16 (Clark), 21 (Hanson), and 22 (Clarke?) were closed part of the year. Fifteen schools were open at least part of the year, compared to eighteen in 1893. Town expenditures for schools included \$3,502.39 for "Cost of school-houses and furniture";³ \$128.80 for textbooks; \$90.50 for repairs; and \$2,604.86 for support of the schools. The last was itemized: \$2,227.85 for teachers' salaries, \$237.80 for transportation, and \$139.21 for "wood and incidentals."

The March 1895 town meeting voted to discontinue the schools in the

1. Annual Report of the Town of China for the Municipal Year Ending March 10, 1900.
2. For a list of China school supervisors and superintendents, see Appendix VA.
3. This item suggests that the town purchased the school buildings from the former school districts.

former districts 1 (Stanley Hill), 3, 5, 6, and 19. The selectmen were ordered to dispose of the buildings in districts 1, 6, and 19; then, however, they were instructed to re-establish schools in the Stanley Hill and Lakeside areas. As a result of decisions by the town meeting and the school committee, only thirteen schools were open in 1895. Support of schools cost \$2,080.76 (\$1,808.45 for teachers' salaries, \$131.50 for transportation, and \$146.19 for wood and incidentals), plus small separate accounts for repairs and textbooks totaling around \$170. Unfortunately, neither the school committee nor the supervisor explained in the town report how it was possible to reduce both the number of schools and the transportation costs; and, even more unfortunately, they were unable to repeat this achievement in following years.

At the March 1895 town meeting, the voters ordered a new school in former district 1 to be built near the town line on the Ward Hill-Vassalboro road; \$100 was appropriated to buy a lot and move the district 3 schoolhouse onto it. The school committee looked at a quarter-acre lot "at the corner of the road leading from Stanley Hill to Vassalboro and Crescent Avenue road (so called)," but, they reported to the selectmen in November 1895, they and the lot owner could not agree on price. In February 1896 the selectmen inspected the lot and, in what sounds from the records like an eminent domain proceedings sanctioned by state law, bought it for \$25. The March 1896 town meeting appropriated another \$150 to move the former district 3 schoolhouse. Apparently moving the building was impossible, and the lot purchase may have run into difficulties, too; for a special town meeting in August 1896 ordered the selectmen to have a new schoolhouse built in the former district 1, using what material they could from the old district 1 and 3 buildings, \$275 previously appropriated to move and repair the district 3 schoolhouse, and a new \$300 appropriation from surplus to pay for the lot and the new building. The Stanley Hill school cost \$551.15, and was in operation in 1897; it remained open until 1930, when it was closed due to low enrollment, and the students from that area were conveyed to China Village.

The school mandated in the Lakeside district (former district 6) at the March 1895 town meeting was supposed to meet in the old district 5 schoolhouse; the voters appropriated \$50 to move the building, and another \$250 in March 1896. Again, this method was not feasible. The March 1897 meeting ordered this \$300, and \$350 more, used to buy a quarter-acre lot off the Pond road on the north side of the Cross road to the Hanson neighborhood and to build thereon a new schoolhouse. The contract, to be let to the "lowest responsible bidder," was to include the schoolhouse itself, a wood shed, two outhouses, and the cost of grading and fencing the lot; and the appropriation was also supposed to provide "hard-wood school desks and seats, stove, curtains, blackboard, book cupboard, and other necessary furniture." The school building actually cost about \$660, only slightly over the appropriation. Seven years later, in 1904, the Lakeside school was closed because there were so few pupils; in 1916 the building was repaired and the school reopened, running until 1927.

By a vote of the March 1900 town meeting, the Hanson district school, closed in 1894, was reopened in the fall of 1900 in a new schoolhouse, built on a newly-purchased lot on the west side of the road at a cost of almost \$400. In 1906, the same year that new seats were installed in the new Hanson schoolhouse, the attendance was below eight students. In 1907, 1908, and 1909 the superintending school committee recommended, and the town voted, that school be kept there despite the tiny attendance, since the facilities were new and since if the school were closed the students

would have to travel a great distance to another. From 1911 to 1913 the school had a bare minimum attendance, but after the spring term of 1913 it was discontinued and the students transported to Branch Mills. When the March 1915 town meeting decided to reopen a school at Chadwick Hill, the voters ordered the Hanson schoolhouse moved over there. Although this order does not seem to have been exactly carried out,¹ by 1916 there was a vacant lot in the Hanson district, which the selectmen were authorized in March to sell.

The Clark district school was combined in 1898 with the adjoining district 15 school, and the voters authorized building a single school building to serve the two former districts. No money was appropriated, however, and the Clark schoolhouse continued to be used. Superintendent Nelson recommended in his March 1900 report that this schoolhouse be moved to a location more central to the two districts to reduce transportation costs, and in 1903 the school committee recommended either a new schoolhouse or extensive repairs. Nothing was done, and in the winters of 1903-1904 and 1904-1905 there was no winter term in the Clark district because the schoolhouse was unfit for use in the colder months of the year. In 1905 attendance fell below eight, and the school was closed in 1906. A special town meeting was held in April 1909 in an unsuccessful attempt to get it reopened. Then, in its March 1911 report, the superintending school committee recommended a school in the Clark district, and articles in the warrant for the 1911 town meeting requested the establishment of a school and an appropriation to build a new schoolhouse on Daniel Clark's land. The town appropriated \$500 for the building. Another special meeting was called by petition on August 12, 1911, to try to get the new building built on Harry Doe's land near the top of Bassett Hill instead of on Mr. Clark's land, but the change was not approved. The schoolhouse was built, for \$639.06, and opened the next year. It operated until 1925, with attendance usually very small.

The result of the changes just described and of similar ones in other school districts was a slow decrease in the number of schools in China in the first third of the twentieth century. There were twelve schools in 1903, ten in 1904 (Lakeside and Parmeter Hill were closed), nine in 1906 (Clark was closed), eight in 1910 (Dirigo was closed),

1. The town's vote was not rescinded, and Mrs. Mitchell says that the Hanson schoolhouse was moved to Chadwick Hill. However, the town report for 1915 contained three items indicating that a new building was built for Chadwick Hill. First, there was an account headed "New School House, Chadwick Hill," which included payment to I. H. Reed for taking down an old schoolhouse (not named, but since the old Chadwick Hill building had been sold in 1904, it was probably the Hanson schoolhouse) and \$325 paid to a firm of contractors (with no indication whether they were paid to build or to rebuild). Second, the school committee report listed among the committee's achievements for the year "...built a new Schoolhouse at Chadwick Hill." And third, superintendent Paine said in his report, "In accordance with the vote of the town a new schoolhouse was built in the Chadwick hill district....The building should be painted both inside and out another year." The only reference to the Hanson school by name was in the miscellaneous receipts: L. E. Haskell paid the town \$5 for "wood shed in Hanson District." See the Annual Report of Municipal Officers of the Town of China for the Year Ending February 19, 1916, pp. 5, 11, 27, and 30. Since the Hanson schoolhouse did apparently disappear that year, perhaps it was torn down and the material used in a new building at Chadwick Hill.

nine in 1911 (Clark was reopened), eight in 1913 (Hanson was closed), nine in 1916 (Chadwick Hill was reopened), ten in 1917 (Lakeside was reopened), nine in 1921 (Deer Hill was closed), eight in 1924 (Chadwick Hill was closed) and in 1925 (Chadwick Hill was reopened, but Clark was closed), seven in 1927 (Lakeside was closed), six in 1930 (Stanley Hill was closed), and five from 1936 (when Chadwick Hill was closed) to 1949.

After the Parmeter Hill school was closed in 1904, the schoolhouse was dismantled and moved by Mr. Charles Parmenter to the place "under the mountain" in Palermo where Mr. William Davis now lives (formerly the Elijah Shorey place). It was rebuilt as a barn and used as a paint shop. The Dirigo schoolhouse was sold by the town sometime after the school was closed in 1910, and the former school building is now the home of Iva Austin. The Hanson schoolhouse, as described previously, disappeared in 1915 and may have rematerialized as the Chadwick Hill schoolhouse. The 1915 Chadwick Hill building was still in use when the school closed in 1936; it afterwards became a fire hazard and was demolished and burned by Mr. Kenneth Ingraham. The last Clark district school is now used as a garage on Mr. Harold Wentworth's property on route 32. The former Lakeside schoolhouse was purchased by Mr. Clarence Esancy in 1930; he sold it in 1933 to Mr. Ralph Esancy. Later it was sold to Mr. Ardelle Bumps, and it is now the home of his widow, Mrs. Doris Newcomb, and her husband. The Stanley Hill schoolhouse at the corner of the Maple Ridge and East Vassalboro roads was purchased by Mr. Louis LaRoche, who began converting it into a home; he sold it to Doris Sproul, who completed the renovations and sold it in 1952. It is now the home of Mr. Donald Wayne.

An immediate effect of the new school system introduced in 1894 was the standardization of the length of the school year throughout the town. In 1894 there were twenty-seven weeks of school, with the schools that operated all year offering an eight-week summer term, a nine-week fall term, and a ten-week winter term. From 1895 through 1906, the school year was shorter than in 1894. In 1895 and 1896, there were only two terms, nine weeks in the summer of 1895 and ten in the summer of 1896 and a twelve-week winter or fall term each year (fall terms were substituted for winter ones in the schools where the buildings were too dilapidated for cold-weather use or where there were many young pupils). In March 1899, the superintending school committee voted to have three terms of school: an eight-week spring term beginning the first Monday in May, a nine-week fall term beginning the second Monday in September, and a winter term beginning the first Monday in December and running as long as the money lasted. The winter term turned out to be seven weeks, and the town overspent \$47.90 to do that, since increased transportation costs were taking up so much of the school budget. The next year, twenty-two weeks of school were scheduled; the spring term began May 7, 1900, but a diphtheria epidemic resulted in the suspension of nine of China's thirteen schools, either by order of the Board of Health or through fright. So the superintending school committee closed these

1. Information on the disposition of the Parmeter Hill schoolhouse was obtained by Mrs. Ballantyne from Mr. Parmenter, who lives at the Parmenter Farms outside China Village. Mr. Parmenter, aged 86, is one of three former students of this school known to be living; the others are Gertrude Jordan and Eli Snell. Information about the other schoolhouses discussed here was provided by Mrs. Carpenter.

schools until the end of August, when they reopened for a thirteen-week combined spring and fall term. Meanwhile, in the Hanson district the new school building was not completed until October, so there the term began October 29 and was still running in March 1901.

In 1907 China had twenty-eight weeks of school, in 1909 thirty, and in 1910 thirty-one; in 1910, superintendent Starkey commented that other towns in Maine were running from thirty-three to thirty-six weeks of school. During World War I China continued to support over thirty weeks of school annually, despite rising costs, doubtless encouraged by a 1915 state law requiring a minimum of thirty weeks instead of the previous twenty-six. When a school had a short term in one year, as when sickness forced an early closing, the time was made up by an extended term the next year. Through the 1920's and 1930's China school years ran around thirty-three to thirty-five weeks long.

The town school system was designed to help standardize school sizes, but this uniformity was difficult to achieve in China. In 1921 the enrollment at the Lakeside school was nine and at the Clark school ten; while the Plains school had twenty-five, Weeks Mills twenty-six, and China Village a total of fifty-seven. Some of the small rural schools could not be closed without incurring high transportation costs and parental wrath. The village schools were not equal in size, either. In 1900, the Branch Mills school had fewer than eight students for part of the year, and it was kept open in 1901-1902 only by a vote of the town; that year the average enrollment was twelve. Meanwhile, the China Village school in 1901 and 1902 had an average enrollment of around forty-five and was divided into two sections, a primary school and a grammar school. In 1924, enrollments ranged from seven at Clark and nine at Lakeside to forty-eight in China Village; Branch Mills, with twenty-two, was still the smallest of the four village schools. In 1935, enrollments were as follows:

Branch Mills	28
Chadwick Hill	17
Plains	27
South China	37
China Village	49
Weeks Mills	36

In 1936, Chadwick Hill school was closed; the resulting five-school enrollment was:

Branch Mills	34
Plains	30
South China	36
China Village	71 ¹
Weeks Mills	38

By 1943, Branch Mills was down to eleven registered students, while the other four schools had from thirty-one at the Plains to fifty-nine in China Village. The next year thirty-one students were enrolled at the Branch Mills school, including fifteen tuition-paying children from Palermo.

1. These figures suggest that the Chadwick Hill students were transported to the China Village school, not the closest one by any means.

Enrollment figures were not always indicative of the size of classes, however. School superintendents' reports often complained about chronic truancy. In 1913 George Paine, in his second year as superintendent, calculated that out of the 145 day school year, the average attendance was only 47 days, or about a third of the class days. Since some students attended faithfully, others must never have come. Mr. Paine reported that such truancy was one factor explaining why 30.6% of the total students enrolled in town schools (75 out of 245 students) had not been promoted at the end of the year. Superintendent Carl Lord wrote in his annual report for 1928:

Some parents evidently do not realize the stringency of laws relating to compulsory school attendance, as they have taken the liberty of keeping children home from school when they have had no legal right to do so. The compulsory school age is from seven to sixteen, and children between these ages must be in school, unless they are ill or excused from attendance by the State Department of Education.¹

Two other factors besides truancy that handicapped students, Mr. Paine wrote in 1913, were inadequate school facilities and poorly trained teachers. Only a few of the school buildings were really unsafe; besides the ones that were too drafty for winter use, the only other serious problem mentioned in the town reports was the buckled wall at the China Village school in 1940. On the other hand, few of the school buildings were really satisfactory. For example, in 1912 there were double desks in every school in town, although the teachers thought single desks would be more conducive to quiet study.² Criticism from school superintendents about lighting, heat, ventilation, and sanitary facilities were common, mounting in the 1940's as the campaign for a consolidated school gained momentum. China spent several hundred dollars (usually about five hundred) annually on repairs to the schoolhouses, but there was always more work than money. The school committee reported in 1922 that they had "remodeled and shingled the out buildings at Plains schoolhouse, laid a new floor and put down the new desks purchased by the community at the Weeks Mills school house," and made minor repairs elsewhere; "The Plains school, the So. China and Lakeside schools were screened by the efforts of the teachers and pupils." In 1924 the committee supervised the laying of a hardwood floor, the construction of "approved toilets," and "other much needed repairs" at the South China schoolhouse. The next year they reported "quite extensive repairs" on the Stanley Hill schoolhouse and outbuildings and the China Village schoolhouse; the former was brought up to state standards, the latter still needed more work. In 1926, superintendent Lord said necessary repairs to meet state requirements included "the connect-

1. Annual Report of the Municipal Officers of the Town of China Maine For the Year Ending February 16, 1929, pp. 33-34.

2. At least there were desks; in 1906 superintendent Nelson had reported that some of the students in the China Village primary school had been sitting on dry goods boxes.

ing of toilets at Lakeside and Chadwick Hill."¹ Various buildings also needed paint and hardwood floors, and when funds were available "the matter of heating and ventilating in all school rooms should be given consideration." The next year, he reported that much of the agenda he had suggested had been completed, but more repairs were needed, including replacing stoves that were "in bad shape" with modern combination heaters and ventilators. More modern heaters were installed at Branch Mills and South China in 1930, at Weeks Mills in 1933, and at China Village in 1934. Electricity was brought into the Weeks Mills and Branch Mills schoolhouses in 1937, and the South China, China Village, and Plains buildings were wired the next year.

So much expenditure of time and money brought meager rewards, in the opinion of some observers. Superintendent Lord wrote in his 1938 report:

If the townspeople are going to be satisfied to continue with one-room schools indefinitely, plans should be made to put them in a much more satisfactory condition than they now are. Only one school building has the benefit of running water, none has sanitary toilets, three have lighting that approximates State Department recommendations, three have satisfactory school desks, and satisfactory blackboards are few and far between.²

The training and qualifications of the men and women who taught in China's one-room schools gradually increased in the twentieth century, usually as state laws became more stringent. In 1911, according to superintendent Paine's report, all thirteen teachers in China schools had had some experience; five had had some normal school training, and two held state teachers' certificates. By 1914, when a new state law required all teachers to have either the state certificate or a permit, China had fourteen certified teachers and one teaching on a permit. In 1926, Branch Mills teacher Mrs. Jennie Ilsley attended a "school for helping teachers" in Castine and returned to apply her knowledge; superintendent Lord commented, "Her assistance has been definitely instrumental in raising the standard in the one-teacher schools." The next year Mr. Lord commented favorably on the "policy of offering financial inducement to teachers for attending summer school"; this was valuable, he said, to the superintendent, who could thus indicate to a teacher that he thought training was needed, and to the teacher who received new ideas from other teachers attending the sessions.

Teachers' salaries, meanwhile, had risen substantially, but school superintendents seldom thought them high enough. Twentieth-century superintendents' reports often praised the teachers, but also expressed the fear that with its small schools, comparatively short terms, and low salaries China could not attract and hold the best teachers. In 1893,

1. The report is ambiguously worded to the contemporary reader thinking of flush toilets connected to pipes and septic tanks; in 1927, a toilet was an outhouse. Superintendent Toner had warned in 1921 of a new state law making it "necessary by the fall of 1924 to have all toilets attached to the school building...." The Lakeside school was closed at the end of 1926.

2. Annual Report of the Municipal Officers of the Town of China Maine for the Year Ending February 14, 1939, p. 39. The school with running

the average pay for teachers was \$3.29 a week for spring and summer sessions and \$5.39 a week for winter sessions. The women were consistently paid by the week, and one new teacher taught a seven-week term with seven students for \$2 a week. The men were still paid by the month; one novice male teacher received \$18 a month (to teach twelve students), while C. O. Spaulding, a veteran teacher, earned \$32 a month in the Weeks Mills school. The next year, salaries ranged from \$2.75 a week (for a beginning teacher, a woman, in a small school) to \$10.50 a week for an experienced male teacher in a larger school.¹ The difference between minimum and maximum wages decreased in following years, until in 1898 the lowest weekly wage was \$5 and the highest \$8.

Just before World War I the salary range in China was from \$7.50 to \$11.25 a week. During the war, the shortage of labor included a shortage of teachers; by 1919, superintendent Paine reported considerable difficulty finding teachers for China schools, a problem which he attributed partly to low wages. He pointed out that while China teachers' salaries had risen by 1919 to between \$10.25 and \$14 a week, the cost of food and clothing had doubled, so the pay offered the teachers was inadequate in terms of the 1919 cost of living.² By 1922, teachers' salaries ranged from \$13 to \$17 a week; and superintendent Hamlin commented, "China is fortunate in having local teachers who are willing to teach for the small salaries which the town sees fit to pay." In 1928, when salaries had reached an average of \$17.38 a week, superintendent Lord's annual report to the town drew together the issues of salary and qualifications:

Each year we expect better trained teachers without offering additional compensation for the improved qualifications. At present we have on the teaching staff one college graduate; three normal school graduates, and the remaining four teachers have had from seven to thirty-four years of teaching experience. A corps of teachers with as high a record as this should be receiving a higher average salary than the one stated above. A few of these teachers need a term at summer school in order to become more closely in touch with the newer methods, but in making this requirement financial inducement should be made a consideration.³

A teacher's yearly earnings were still affected by the length of the

water was probably Weeks Mills; since 1923 the town had been paying a small annual fee (from \$4 to \$12 at first) to have pure water provided from the village water supply.

1. The discrimination in favor of men soon declined; in the twentieth century, the few men who taught in China's one-room schools were paid exactly or nearly the same rate as women with comparable qualifications.
2. In 1918-1919 there were twenty-three different teachers in China's ten schools, with Chadwick Hill and the Plains each having four different teachers during the thirty-week term. This was a difficult period for the China schools anyway. The influenza epidemic of 1918-1919 forced some of the schools to close. The price of fuel, books, and supplies had of course risen; the appropriated school money was overspent by almost \$500 in 1918 and by \$770 in 1919.
3. Annual Report of the Municipal Officers of the Town of China Maine For the Year ending February 16, 1929, p. 33.

school year, at least until the early 1930's, since salaries were calculated on a weekly basis and paid only for and during the weeks the teacher was in the schoolroom; there were no arrangements for year-round paychecks. Miss Doris Young of Branch Mills, who began her teaching career in the Clark district in 1920, remembers that initially she was paid \$11 a week and had eleven students, representing most of the grades from sub-primary through grade eight. The school was heated by a barrel stove in which Miss Young built the fire on cold mornings; with no banking and no storm windows, warm clothing was necessary indoors. Miss Young's janitorial duties, for which she was paid an additional dollar a week, also included keeping the schoolhouse swept and clean and filling the bucket of drinking water. For a while the children all shared a single drinking cup, but later each brought his own. The toilet facilities were outside. Miss Young recalls the closeness between school and home in those days; the parents of her students were interested and helpful.

In the early 1930's teachers' salaries were listed in the town reports by the year rather than by the week. In 1932, full-time teachers earned between \$573 and \$748 in actual pay from the town. These rates declined substantially in subsequent years as the Depression affected Maine; not until 1943 did the salaries paid experienced teachers again exceed \$700 a year. In 1944 superintendent Lord reported that the elementary teachers were all paid \$900 a year, and he added, "Some of the surrounding towns are paying higher salaries, which makes the constant possibility of losing some of our teachers to these other towns." Two years later, in 1946, China teachers were receiving \$1200 a year, and the school committee requested additional funds to meet the expected state law establishing a \$1500 minimum wage for teachers. The law actually passed established the \$1500 minimum for certified teachers; those with three years' training were to receive \$1600 and those with four years' training, \$1700. Superintendent Lord reported in 1947 that China was paying the required minimum salaries.

The introduction of a standardized division into grades in the China schools was a gradual process. As mentioned previously, the larger schools were sometimes divided into primary and grammar schools in the nineteenth century. In 1909 superintendent Starkey reported the adoption of a formal course of study, designed to guide the teachers and ensure coverage of all necessary material, and also intended as a step toward graded schools. As superintendent Paine described this plan of study in his 1911 report, its purpose was to give all China's elementary students a "command of written and spoken language," an understanding of logic through the study of arithmetic (with emphasis on practical matters), and a knowledge of geography, history, and government.

By 1915 China schools were divided into grades. In 1921, incoming superintendent E. L. Toner announced his intention of revising the grade system to have a sub-primary and eight grades. This change was apparently made, for in 1924 the new superintendent, Carl Lord, recommended abolishing the sub-primary; he said it was unusual to have one, and the work done during that initial year "could be distributed over the lower grades." After discussion with the state education department, he changed his mind and the nine-grade system continued through 1928. The change to eight grades in 1929 served superintendent Lord as an argument for a longer school year (thirty-five weeks instead of thirty-three), since more work now had to be covered.

The controversial aspect of school consolidation in China in and after 1894 was the transportation problem. With twenty-two or even

eighteen schools, most students could walk to the schoolhouse. As the number of schools decreased, the number of students needing transportation increased. Beginning in 1899, state law ordered transportation to be made available and empowered the superintending school committee in each town to decide which students should be transported. Consequently, in 1899 China spent \$328.80 for transportation and therefore could afford to provide only twenty-four weeks of school. At that, the superintending school committee reported regretfully,

...your Committee have endeavored to deal justly between the rights of the pupils in transporting and the rights of all the pupils in town to have all the schooling possible with the money appropriated. We have not responded to all the calls for transportation; we could not.¹

In 1902 the superintending school committee planned three terms of school, but transportation used up so much of the budget that they cut back to two terms. By 1907 superintendent Nelson was complaining,

...it seems to me that our State laws relating to schools should be thoroughly revised....The longer I consider the subject the more convinced I become that our present school laws work to the disadvantage and injury of our rural schools....

Our transportation bills are something enormous and rob children of their schooling, which is not done in the larger towns and cities of our State. In our own town, it takes nearly one-third of our entire school money to transport our scholars to their schools, and this makes every school in our town one-third shorter....²

In 1907 the town's total school budget was \$2,995.88 (mostly from the town appropriation of \$2000 and the state aid, \$952.74), and transportation cost \$914.20. By 1921, the total school budget had risen to \$8,185.30 (with the town appropriating \$6000 and the state providing most of the rest) and transportation cost \$2,382.90. In 1936, when the Depression had lowered teachers' salaries, it cost nearly as much to get the children to school as it did to educate them once they were there: the town paid \$3,240.70 for teaching and \$2,881.71 for conveyance.

The transportation provided in the pre-World War I period was horse-drawn. Around 1900, most children would make the slow, bumpy trip to and from school in an open pung drawn by work-horses; in winter the children's legs were protected by horse-blankets, frequently cold and damp. In 1904 the school committee ordered the use of covered vehicles for all permanent transportation supported by the town. Transportation contracts were let to the lowest bidders, and the drivers supplied their own vehicles.

1. Annual Report of the Town of China for the Municipal Year Ending March 10, 1900, pp. 17-18. The members of the committee were F. O. Brainerd, E. M. Dowe, and W. F. Hawes.

2. Annual Report of the Municipal Officers of the Town of China for the Year Ending February 24, 1908, p. 44.

In 1921, the town of China had seven "conveyance teams" (compared with eleven in Winslow and twelve in Vassalboro). Soon after that the horses began to be replaced by cars or converted trucks, depending on the number of children to be conveyed from an area.

In the opinion of several China school superintendents, the solution to the financial problem was greater consolidation of schools. Superintendent Nelson was an early exponent of this idea, which he mentioned in his annual reports for 1899, 1900, and 1901. In 1900 he pointed out that four of the town schools had fewer than eight students, thus requiring a special vote of the town to approve the necessary expenditures to keep them open. His report ended with a recommendation:

The falling off from year to year in the number of our scholars and the constant reduction in the size of our schools are causes of alarm to those having the welfare of our schools at heart. After long thought and mature deliberation upon the subject, we have come to the conclusion that consolidation of our schools is the only remedy under our present law. We are well aware that transportation of scholars is very unpopular with the people of our town, and we will admit that it certainly has its disadvantages; but we certainly are wasting money in running our little schools. No interest, enthusiasm, or advancement can be made in these small schools, nor can suitable teachers be secured for these schools. Good teachers can command good wages and large schools, and they will only occasionally consent to teach in these small schools, so that necessarily cheap and inexperienced teachers only can be secured for our little schools.

Therefore we would advise to make our schools larger in size, even if it be necessary to transport the scholars who will certainly receive far greater benefits than they are now receiving and at less cost to our town.¹

Town meeting actions at the beginning of the century seemed to validate Dr. Nelson's opinion that transportation, and therefore consolidation, were unpopular ideas. In March 1900 and March 1901 the voters approved continuing schools in those districts "where a vote of the town is necessary"; in March 1902 a similar article was passed over, but a special meeting in October voted to maintain a small school at Dirigo (as the school committee had recommended). When the March 1904 town meeting was asked to allow the selectmen to dispose of the China Neck, Dutton, and Chadwick Hill schoolhouses, the voters instead requested the school committee to run at least one term of school in each of these former districts. At a May 7 special meeting, however, this vote was apparently annulled by approval of an article allowing the selectmen either to sell or to move the three buildings.²

1. Annual Report of the Town of China for the Municipal Year Ending March 1, 1901, pp. 30-31.

2. In March 1905 the selectmen reported that they had sold two of the buildings (the town receipts showed \$25 for the Dutton schoolhouse and

In his 1931 report to the town, superintendent Carl Lord began a serious and extended campaign for a reduction in the number of elementary schools in China. He said that \$1000 of the requested school appropriation for 1932 was to be set aside to start a building fund, and explained:

The present arrangement of a one-room school in each district could be much improved by a central school, and I recommend that an appropriation be made each year until the fund is adequate to start such a building; in fact until both the northern and southern parts of the town are provided with modern school buildings. \$1000 each year would not seriously affect the tax rate, and by having at least a part of the building fund in advance the town would be saved considerable interest money.¹

Unfortunately for Mr. Lord's dream, by 1932 the Depression had reached China; he advised that "the plan of a consolidated school should be postponed rather than forgotten, for the need is still with us." In 1936 he judged the time opportune to renew his suggestion. A new building had just been completed at Erskine Academy, and he commented favorably on it and added,

An ideal arrangement would be to have a consolidated elementary school building in the vicinity of Erskine Academy and to convey both elementary and secondary pupils in the same buses.²

Other specific references to a consolidated school appeared in his reports for 1937, 1938, 1943 (when he argued that consolidation would eliminate both the imbalance in enrollment among the five town schools and the continual need for repairs to the old buildings), 1945, and 1946. By 1940, the school committee was also in favor of consolidation; its report covering that year expressed the hope that the voters would start a school building fund and continued, "Without doubt a change in housing will have to be made in the near future and by establishing the fund now it will make it that much easier then." In 1941 the committee advised that it did "not seem economically sound" to carry out repairs on the old schools, "as a time will come when a change in housing will be made. This town should and could afford much better housing conditions."³ In 1945, both superintendent Lord and the school committee cited the overcrowding in the town schools as another reason to build a

\$30 for the Chadwick Hill schoolhouse), but feared an attempt to sell the third might result in a lawsuit. No explanation was given for this apprehension.

1. Annual Report of the Municipal Officers of the Town of China Maine For the Year ending February 16, 1932, p. 34.
2. Annual Report of the Municipal Officers of the Town of China Maine For the Year ending February 14, 1937, p. 37.
3. The 1940 report was signed by school committee members Fred M. Plaisted, M. Adelaide Krick, and Paul L. Johnson; the same three served on the 1941 committee, Mr. Plaisted having been reelected in March 1941. By "housing," of course, the committee meant school housing.

consolidated school; and both endorsed the idea of a building fund. The Weeks Mills school, with fifty-one students, was so strained that twelve children from the Deer Hill area had to be sent to Windsor; South China had forty-five enrolled, and the thirty-two at the Plains was more than the small building could comfortably accommodate. The next year the superintendent commented that Branch Mills, with twenty-five enrolled, was the only school that was not overcrowded.

Although superintendent Lord had first suggested the building fund in 1931, it did not get started until 1946. The superintendent no doubt prepared the article in the warrant for the March 1932 town meeting asking for \$1000 "to be set aside as a building fund for a consolidated school"; the voters passed over it. In 1939, a similar article was voted down. In 1941, another similar article received the partial support of the budget committee, which recommended setting aside \$750 instead of \$1000, but was again passed over. Finally, in March 1946 the voters overrode the budget committee's negative recommendation and voted to set aside \$2000 as a school building fund. They added another \$2000 in 1947, and \$6000, twice the budget committee's recommendation, in 1948.

Meanwhile, the 1938 meeting had appointed a committee, composed of the school board chairman, the first selectman, the president of the Parent-Teachers Association, and six other people to be co-opted by these three, "to investigate the cost of locating, building and maintaining a Consolidated School" and to report in March 1939. On September 28, 1938, a special meeting was called at the request of P. L. Johnson¹ and sixty-two other voters to consider building a consolidated school with federal PWA funds. If the voters approved, they were further asked to authorize borrowing up to \$22,000 and to appoint a supervisory committee. "After discussion," the voters turned down the idea. There is no report from the 1938 committee in the record of the March 1939 town meeting.

In March 1947, as the school building fund rose to \$4000, the voters instructed the selectmen to appoint a committee to report on the consolidated school plan at the 1948 town meeting. This school fact-finding committee had twenty-nine members. Its lengthy report, printed in the town report for the year 1947 (which was issued early in 1948), began with a description of the existing school facilities in China:

The buildings are quite typical, old, rural school buildings. Although they were probably considered adequate at the time they were built, conditions have changed to such an extent that they are no longer considered at all desirable.

Every building is so located that, in terms of modern school building standards, they are now considered entirely inadequate.

The rooms are inadequately lighted, poorly heated, and contain no provisions for ventilaiton.

According to a school law each school was required to have its water supply tested by the

1. P. L. Johnson is probably Paul Johnson, who had been elected to a three-year term on the school committee in March 1937. For the report of this special meeting see the Records of the town of China, Vol. 7, pp. 435-437.

Department of Sanitary Engineering. Every supply but one, namely Weeks Mills, who have a municipal water supply, was condemned. This alone is enough to set every parent thinking.

The committee estimated that to modernize every classroom in the existing schools, "including running water, flush toilets, central heating, improved lighting and ventilation," would cost about \$5000 per classroom, resulting in an estimated annual cost increase of \$2500 for twenty years (or \$3.10 on every thousand dollars valuation). For comparison, they projected the cost of three other possible improvements: building four two-room schoolhouses would cost about \$40,000 (\$3700 annually, \$5.30 on a thousand); building two four-room schools would be about \$90,000 (\$9850 annually, \$14.07 on a thousand); and building one eight-room school would cost about \$80,000 (\$8250 annually, \$11.80 on a thousand).

The committee also surveyed the preferences of 136 residents, with the following results:

- 34 in favor of a six or eight room building
- 32 in favor of two four-room buildings
- 50 in favor of four two-room buildings
- 7 in favor of modernizing the existing buildings
- 13 in favor of making no change at all

The committee itself made no recommendation among the various options, although the members' opposition to continuing the present schoolhouses unchanged could clearly be inferred.¹

The opinion of the fact-finding committee was seconded by a long report from the 1947 school committee (Delmont F. Meader, Myrtle Austin, and Ben S. Dillenbeck, none of whom served on the fact-finding committee). They emphasized the overcrowding in the schools and the "unsanitary condition of our antiquated buildings, which...have a detrimental effect upon the mental and physical health of our children and which may at any time blossom out into an epidemic of dangerous disease." As an immediate step to alleviate overcrowding, the committee planned to redistribute students among schools, even if this meant higher transportation costs. The report continued:

It is imperative that something be done to improve the sanitary conditions of the schools which, according to local research, range in age from seventy to over one hundred years. It would without question be good business and common sense to build something new and modern, instead of trying to fix up our old buildings but until this can be achieved something must be done to protect the health of those children who are required to spend their school hours in our present set-up. The greatest handicap from the point of view of sanitation is the lack of pure running water....Samples of our water were analyzed by the State Dept. of Health and in each case were pronounced unsafe for human consumption because of dangerous bacteria or organic pollution. Since then some of our schools have been able to obtain

1. Town of China, Maine Annual Report for the Year Ending February 10, 1948, pp. 33-35.

pure water from other approved sources but safe supplies are still being sought for China Village and the Plains Schools. Only the Weeks Mills School has a sink and running water where the children may drink and wash their hands properly. Where approved safe water is available it is carried in a pail (sometimes uncovered) and dumped into a two or three gallon dispenser. In those schools which do not have approved supplies children either carry their own water or go without, all day. It may logically be concluded that when water for a forty pupil school room must be hauled and dispensed in such small quantities, that there is very little drinking, very little hand washing, and rare use of it made for washing floors, furniture or toilet seats....¹

A majority of those who attended the 1948 town meeting were at last convinced that a new school was needed. They voted to postpone action on the fact-finding committee's report until Saturday, April 3, and instructed the selectmen in the interval to appoint a five-member committee "to recommend some definite plan." The April 3 meeting decided to build a four-room school immediately.² It was to be located within a mile of the town house. The estimated cost of \$40,000 (a slightly high estimate) was to be met by using the \$10,000 already set aside and borrowing the rest. The new school was to accommodate grades four through eight, leaving the sub-primaries and the first three grades in the old school buildings. Those at the meeting voted 110 to 49 "to set up a plan for a school system according to the plan outlined in the report" and authorized the selectmen to borrow needed construction money within the town's legal debt limit. In July 1948, the selectmen authorized the issue of twenty-five \$1000 bonds, at 2 1/2 % annual interest.

Work on the new school began in June 1948 and was completed as the 1948 town report went to press in February 1949. The building committee reported that preliminary figures showed an expenditure of \$37,799.84 out of \$37,951 available, leaving a balance of \$151.16 to turn over to the school committee to buy equipment. The school committee recommended a \$500 increase in the operating fund, since "the maintenance of the new building during the first year will be somewhat experimental," and a \$500 increase in the repair fund to patch the old furniture before moving it to the new building and to keep the new school "in perfect condition."³

1. Town of China, Maine Annual Report for the Year Ending February 10, 1948, pp. 35-37.
2. Somewhere between planning and execution the school was changed from four to five rooms.
3. For comparison, town meetings approved the following school budgets in the late 1940's:

Year	Common school	Repairs	Texts & supplies	Building fund
1945	\$ 8,000	\$ 400	\$ 600	0
1946	8,700	500	600	\$2,000
1947	10,500	500	800	2,000
1948	12,000	1,000	1,000	6,000
1949	12,500	2,000	1,000	(4,950 pd. on bonds)
1950	14,000	1,500	1,000	(4,000 pd. on bonds)

The committee also recommended the consolidation of all the town grammar schools into the new school and the closing of the old buildings. Mrs. Richard Norton of China says that this change of plan came about because after the townspeople saw how nice the new school was, they did not want the younger children to stay in the old buildings any longer. The March 1949 town meeting approved, voting to close all the old schools after the 1949 spring vacation; and the consolidated elementary school was opened for classes a week or two before the formal dedication on April 25, 1949.

The move to the new school was an exciting change for the students.¹ Books, pictures, chalk, blackboard erasers, pencils, and other supplies were packed in each of the five small schools in anticipation of the big day. Then, on the first day at the new school, there was "an awful mess" as everything was unpacked and sorted into the right classrooms. Mrs. Norton was ill and missed the first two weeks of classes in the new building, but she remembers some of the differences between the old school and the new:

Blackboards had become green. Clanging bells turned to a buzz. The desks in the fifth-sixth and seventh-eighth grade classrooms were double width. That seems to be the major thing that impressed other classmates I have talked to, as well as myself. Since the school was planned and built for fewer children than ended up there, each desk, intended for two students, had to have three occupants. This didn't help the discipline problem, but it certainly helped us get acquainted with new classmates.

It was a new experience to hear other teachers instructing or scolding from across the hall and having about four times as many pupils participating in class discussions.

When a child reached grade five back at the little school in China Village, it was a major event in his life. This was a "two room" school as opposed to the "one room" schools in the other villages. One room was downstairs and one was upstairs; so going "upstairs" to grade five was a big thing. My particular class achieved this major step in the fall just prior to the move to the new school in the spring. Upon reaching the seventh-eighth grade room, the same prestige was ours all over again.

The other major changes were such things as indoor plumbing, a furnace rather than wood stoves, an eat-in cafeteria, musical instruction both instrumental and singing and a roving math teacher.

We had really gone modern!

Mrs. Wilson went to the new school as first-grade teacher and principal. She, too, remembers the green boards (which were really black

1. The editor is grateful to Mrs. Richard Norton and Mrs. Letha Wilson for their reminiscences of the move. At the beginning of 1949 Mrs. Norton was a student at the China Village school and Mrs. Wilson taught the four lower grades there.

boards from the old schools, carefully repainted) and such improvements as flush toilets instead of outhouses, and running water so that the younger children could be taught to wash their hands before lunch. She was particularly struck by the "melting pot" aspect of the consolidated school, the need to get people from five different schools to think and work as a single unit.

The position of school principal was new in China. Mrs. Wilson's duties included keeping track of the school lunch money, supervising the playground (there was room for a playground area behind the school then), disciplining unruly students referred to her by the teachers, and occasionally talking with parents (most of whom were co-operative and helpful). The principal's office in the new building was very tiny. In those early years the principal taught full-time; and Mrs. Wilson also found time to promote such projects as an Arbor Day tree-planting and the presentation of two operettas to raise money for reference books, playground equipment, and other school supplies.

When Mrs. Wilson resigned as principal, effective December 31, 1951, Mrs. Edna P. Taber became acting principal. She was succeeded later in 1952 by Mr. Ronald Susee, hired by the school committee in response to requests from the townspeople for a male principal.¹

With the new school about to go into operation, the voters at the town meeting in March 1949 had to decide what to do with the five old school buildings, the four village schools and the one at Pigeon Plains. They approved of letting the China Grange rent the South China schoolhouse; and at the end of the meeting they authorized the selectmen to try to rent the others. In 1950, the March meeting authorized turning over the Weeks Mills schoolhouse to the village residents for use as a community center, a transaction that was completed in the next few years. The selectmen were authorized to dispose of the other four schoolhouses. The 1951 meeting voted to apply \$1000 of the \$1369 received from the sale of the four buildings toward paying off the bonded indebtedness on the new school. The China Village schoolhouse was purchased by Mr. Ray Riggs, who converted it into a poultry house and raised chickens there until the late 1960's. In 1969, he sold the lot and building to Mrs. Letha Wilson; the building was knocked down and the lot regraded and Mr. and Mrs. Wilson built a new house on the site. The Branch Mills school became the property of Mr. James Pratt and his son Howard; the latter moved it to the corner of the Weeks Mills road and route 3 in Augusta, where it was used for many years as a store, first Pratt's Store and later Ron's Market. Mr. James Pratt also bought the former Pigeon Plains schoolhouse at public auction in 1950; the building is now the home of Mr. and Mrs. George Witham. The South China schoolhouse, on route 3 near the junction with route 32, was purchased by Mr. Howard Fuller, who sold it to Mr. Carlton Farrington who converted it into an automobile-repair garage called South China Sales. The building was later sold to Mr. Elliott Williams whose son Daniel now uses it as a garage.²

1. For a list of China Elementary School principals, see Appendix VB. Mrs. Wilson agrees that the principalship is appropriately a man's job, especially since some of the boys needing discipline are well-grown. According to the town reports, Mrs. Wilson was paid less than \$2000 annually in 1949, 1950, and 1951; in 1952 Mrs. Taber received \$1,157.31 and Mr. Susee \$1,250; and in 1953 Mr. Susee was paid \$3,241.60

2. Information on the disposition of these buildings was provided by Mrs. Carpenter and, on the Branch Mills schoolhouse, by Mrs. Ballantyne.

The opening of the consolidated school in the spring of 1949 was the beginning rather than the end of China's school building program. In the town report for 1949, published early in 1950 when the school had been in use for less than a year, superintendent Lord pointed out that the school had an average of forty-three pupils in each classroom and said that unless enrollment dropped "it would be advisable to plan for additional rooms when it becomes financially possible." The same theme appeared in his reports for 1950 and 1951.¹ Although not all the members of the 1951 school committee agreed with the superintendent, the committee put an article in the warrant for the March 1952 town meeting asking the town to start planning for an addition to the school. The budget committee recommended passing over the article, but the voters instructed the selectmen to appoint a twenty-five member committee (they added, "Said committee shall be empowered to add more members if it sees fit") to study plans for additional rooms and report in 1953.

This committee's report² said that China had "a good school building to take care of 150 pupils," but there were 225 pupils then in it, an overcrowding which contributed to the students' low scores on achievement tests in comparison with Winslow and Vassalboro and which made the teachers' work nearly impossible. The committee suggested three alternative building plans: adding four classrooms and a teachers' room and an office for about \$40,000; adding three classrooms, an auditorium, and a teachers' room and an office for about \$45,000; or raising the building and making three additional classrooms in the basement at a cost of about \$60,000. As a fourth possibility, the committee suggested moving the seventh and eighth grades from the new school to Erskine Academy, "either on a rental basis, or as a junior high school." The budget committee recommended that the March 1953 town meeting pass over this committee's report, but their opinion was again overruled and the voters asked the selectmen to establish "within the next two weeks" a five-member planning committee "to draw up definite plans and specifications including size and cost for additional rooms at the China Consolidated School."

The planning committee members were Alfred L. Johnston, Edwin C. Kidder, Rudolph H. Morais, Francis F. French, and Winfield Martin. Dr. Johnston and Mr. French had previously served on the twenty-five member committee appointed in 1952. Their report, prepared in time for inclusion in the 1953 town report and for action at the March 1954 town meeting, unanimously recommended the addition of four more classrooms. The report included detailed proposals for the size and construction of the rooms, estimated the cost at between \$33,000 and \$36,000, and proposed to borrow this sum and repay it over a ten-year period without affecting the local property tax rate. Voters at the March 1954 town meeting "Voted to build an addition to the China Elementary School," instructed the selectmen to appoint a five-member building committee, and authorized borrowing up to \$40,000 for the project.³

1. The overcrowding was caused by the decision to transfer all grades to a school designed to accommodate only the upper four. Since the students could not be distributed evenly among the rooms without unreasonably dividing the grades, the "average" of forty-three to a room was sometimes exceeded: in 1949 and 1950, for example, the fifth and sixth grade room, taught by Mrs. Helen Johnston, had fifty-four students.

2. A typed copy of this report is inserted in the Albert Church Brown Memorial Library's copy of the town report for 1952.

3. The town records also contain a copy of the May 1, 1954, agreement between the town and the contractor setting forth the specifications for the addition and fixing the cost at \$37,958.

The addition was completed during the summer of 1954 and was ready for use in September. The 1953 town report had pictured on its cover the 1948 building; the 1954 report showed the new addition on the south end almost doubling the original size of the school. The 1954 report from the building committee (the same five men who had served on the planning committee) proudly described the construction of the four new classrooms, principal's office, and clinic; the work also included a new heating system for the whole building, weather-stripping all the windows, and adding insulation to the 1948 section. The school committee's report commented on the increased comfort in the building with a new heating system, thermostats in each room, and fewer drafts from the windows. The additional classrooms made it possible to provide a separate room and teacher for each grade, so three new teachers were hired in the fall of 1954.

This school was used for ten years, with various finishing and repair projects.¹ However, in 1957 superintendent Houston reported overcrowding in four classrooms; in 1958 he said there were five very crowded classrooms, and in 1959 six. Such congestion, he pointed out, interfered with learning and made the teachers' jobs difficult and undesirable. Meanwhile, in 1958 the March town meeting appointed a committee--five people plus the school committee and the selectmen--to investigate the effect on China of the Sinclair Act authorizing creation of school administrative districts. Mr. Houston recommended in his report for 1958 that this committee

be continued; and after this legislative session if the Committee does not find it feasible for China to join with other surrounding communities, the Town should immediately take steps to build the needed classrooms.

The March 1959 town meeting continued the committee's existence.²

In March 1960 the voters authorized the selectmen to appoint another committee, including representatives from the Parent-Teachers Association and the school committee, specifically "to study the school housing facilities." This school study committee was to consult with the state education department and to report to a special China town meeting within six months. The special meeting was duly held on September 30, 1960, and the committee made a report which presented figures on present and projected elementary school enrollments and concluded that the existing school building was too small. The meeting adjourned without taking any action, so

1. For example, in 1955 and 1957 the grounds were improved; new gutters and a new water pump were installed in 1955; the building was repainted in 1957, and it was also in that year that the school committee reported, "School door tumblers changed and new keys made and redistributed to proper persons."

2. The committee's extensive report on the possibility of China joining an SAD is in the Records of the town of China, Vol. 9, pp. 173-175. A new committee to study SAD possibilities was created in March 1967 and continued on a year-to-year basis through 1973. Reports from this SAD study committee appeared in the annual reports for 1967 (p. 51) and 1969 (p. 56). A March 1970 appropriation of \$100 for expenses was not used, and after 1973 was no longer carried in the town accounts.

another special meeting was held on October 13, at which the voters approved the appointment of a committee composed of engineers, contractors, economists, and similar specialists to investigate the possibility of additional school space. The February 1961 report of this last committee, known as the fact finding committee and consisting of twenty members, with Mr. Wayne Frankfield as chairman, was printed in the town report for the year 1960. The fact finding committee took as its basis the September 30, 1960, report of the school study committee showing more classroom space was needed and recommended an addition "parallel to and in back of the existing structure," reached by a corridor through what was then the principal's office. The addition should include, they suggested, five classrooms, toilets, a teachers' room, a clinic, a new principal's office, and an underground boiler room capacious enough to provide heat for the whole school. The estimated cost for such an addition was \$75,500, which the committee figured would cost each local taxpayer 5-1/2 cents a day over the next several years, assuming the money was borrowed and repaid and the state contributed to the operation and maintenance of the building.

This report was not adopted, and the years 1961, 1962, and 1963 saw frequent and often heated discussion of school expansion, some of it at regular and special town meetings which were often prolonged and occasionally confusing. Superintendent Houston annually reminded the townspeople of the crowded conditions, and the school committee endorsed an enlargement of the building in 1961¹ and strongly in 1963. The March 1961 town meeting warrant included one article to implement the fact finding committee's report by adding five more rooms to the school and another article to build a new school on the site of the existing one. Both articles were taken up out of order early in the meeting, and after discussion the voters postponed their decisions until June 10 and authorized the selectmen, in the interim, to appoint a building committee to prepare specifications for an addition or a separate school. Later in the March meeting related articles asking for money to surface the driveway, finish the basement, and provide a building for the heating unit at the elementary school were also postponed to the June meeting. On May 10, a special meeting rejected by secret ballot a request for \$3000 as part of the architect's fee for planning an addition to the school. On June 10, the reconvened annual meeting began with the reading of a letter from Maine Municipal Association advising rejection of the two building articles postponed from the March meeting, since the articles were too complex and would require borrowing more money than the town's legal debt limit allowed. The voters then rejected all the postponed articles, refusing to finance any of the proposed projects. Then a motion to reconsider the question of an addition to the school succeeded; and the voters passed, as a substitute for the plan proposed in March, an article authorizing the building of four classrooms and an all-purpose room. For this proposed addition, the selectmen were authorized to borrow up to \$75,500; the building committee elected at the March meeting was to supervise the project. The record showed a vote of 47 in favor of this motion and 18 against.

The next action was a local referendum on June 27, 1961, on building a four-room addition to the school for \$45,000.² The proposal was defeated,

1. The town report for 1961 contained no school committee report, but superintendent Houston said that the committee had recently favored a four-room addition.
2. The town records do not explain what happened between June 10 and June 27. However, the records do contain a letter from the Maine Municipal Association to town clerk Mary Washburn, written in July, saying that the June 10 action was illegal because the money required exceeded the town's borrowing capacity.

142 in favor and 151 opposed. At the March 1962 annual meeting the argument was renewed, and the town "Voted to construct an addition to the China Elementary School," elected a building committee, and appropriated \$5000 to hire an architect to draw plans. No construction money was requested at that meeting. A special referendum was held on November 6, 1962, however, to vote on spending up to \$105,000 for an addition to the school; the proposal was defeated by a margin of 100 votes (out of 579 ballots cast).

By early 1963, there were two separate proposals for enlarging the school. One called for a \$50,000 four-room addition and the other for a \$105,000 addition containing five classrooms and an all-purpose room. Both proposals were presented at a public hearing on February 18, 1963, and were on the written ballot as referendum questions (along with the election of the selectmen and other officials) in the warrant for the March 1 and 2, 1963, town meeting. Both were defeated in the written balloting on Friday, March 1, with the smaller addition proving even less popular than the larger one. The proposal for the \$105,000 addition was listed again in the warrant for discussion and action on Saturday, March 2. The projected cost was amended to \$104,000 and the plan was approved by a written ballot, 86 in favor and 59 opposed. The selectmen were authorized to issue the necessary bonds.

To implement this decision to enlarge the school, a special meeting was held three weeks later, on March 25, 1963, to receive a report from the building committee appointed at the March 1962 meeting. The voters were asked to approve specific plans for the addition of five classrooms and an all-purpose room, to choose a committee to prepare the building contract, and to appropriate \$100,000 for construction. They accepted the building committee's report (by a written vote of 162 to 136), but turned down the specifications for the addition (by a written vote of 149 to 171, with 2 defective ballots). This action killed the project, so the last two articles were passed over. Another special meeting was held on May 8 to seek approval for the same size school addition for \$93,051; 127 voters favored this plan and 183 opposed it.

No further official action was attempted during 1963, but the town report for the year suggests that study and discussion continued. The report, which was available for the March 1964 town meeting, contained a reprint of the February 1961 report of the school fact finding committee; a letter from ten teachers, superintendent Houston, and the school committee members recommending five more classrooms and four more teachers and defending the recommendation; and an annual report from the school committee calling attention to the "urgent need for additional classrooms" and endorsing both the 1961 report and the teachers' letter. The March 1964 meeting approved (by a vote of 67 to 41) appropriating \$75,000 for additional classrooms. On April 25, a special meeting authorized (by a vote of 57 to 15) raising up to \$75,000 for an addition consisting of five classrooms, a principal's office, a teachers' room, a library, toilets, and a boiler room to serve the whole school. This work was done over the next several months, and the town report for 1964 (printed early in 1965) pictured the latest school addition on its cover.

The new classroom space provided for the 1964-1965 school year was adequate for the next two years. However, in his report for the year 1966 superintendent Houston warned:

A look at our class set up shows that next September all 14 classrooms in the school will be in use with two divisions of each grade from one through six and one division of grades seven and

eight. Therefore, when the fall of 1968 comes we will have an unworkable situation to grade seven and following year, 1969, in both grades seven and eight.¹

The school committee asked the March 1967 town meeting to appoint a committee to investigate the need for more school space; the voters did so, instructing the five-member committee to report by August 1. The town records show no special meeting on schools in 1967, but the committee's report was printed in the town report for 1967.² The committee "considered a new cafeteria to be the number one need:"

The present cafeteria was built in 1952 to accommodate a school population of approximately 100 students. We now feed over 300 students in two shifts of 150 students each. The cafeteria is less than one half the size specified by the State Dept of Education for this number of students. It has inadequate kitchen facilities, as well as inadequate ventilation and lighting. With the over-crowded condition and unsafe exits the cafeteria is a fire hazard.

They recommended building a multi-purpose room which could be used as a cafeteria, auditorium, and gymnasium. Four new classrooms were the second priority. The present too-small remedial reading room, the committee suggested, could be used as a health room; and an "adequate" remedial reading room was needed.

The March 1968 town meeting, on the basis of this study, passed a warrant article which read "To see if the Town will vote to construct an addition to the China Elementary School." A five-member building committee (Mr. Plaisted, Mr. Hamilton, and Mr. Chase, who had served on the 1967 study committee, and Mrs. Muriel Adams and Russell Cram) was elected. A requested appropriation for architect's fees, which the budget committee had opposed, was turned down.³ The building committee reported to a special meeting on April 24, 1968, at which the townspeople voted 110 to 55 to build the recommended addition and to authorize the selectmen to borrow up to \$160,000 for it. By the end of 1968 work was so nearly completed that the addition could be pictured on the cover of the town report, although superintendent Houston's report said that the cafeteria had not yet been moved from the basement to the new all-purpose room. Besides the large all-purpose room, the 1968 addition included four more classrooms, a kitchen, a clinic room, and toilets. The March 1969 town meeting raised \$4300 to equip the addition and authorized the selectmen to borrow up to \$13,000 more.

1. Annual Report of the Municipal Officers, China, Maine for Year Ending December 31, 1966, p. 40.

2. Annual Report of the Municipal Officers, China, Maine For Year Ending December 31, 1967, pp. 49-50. The report was signed by Leon Plaisted, Robert Boynton, Donald Hamilton, and David C. Chase; the fifth member of the committee was Norman Dwelley.

3. The 1968 town meeting also paid off \$7500 on the 1964 addition; the auditor's report in the town report for 1967 showed \$52,500 still owed on this loan, to be repaid at the rate of \$7500 annually. At the end of 1968, China owed \$45,000 on the 1964 addition (at 2.75% interest) and \$160,000 on the 1968 addition (at 4.15% interest). The 1964 addition was fully paid for in 1974.

During the years from 1949 to the mid-1970's school costs increased almost every year. Repairs, insurance, equipment, and minor improvements for the school building were a continuing expense. Elementary school enrollment increased gradually from 1951 through 1973,¹ requiring larger expenditures for supplies and other necessities as well as for teachers' salaries. Textbooks had to be replaced to keep them up to date and as new teaching methods were developed; for example, superintendent Houston reported in 1965 that "We completed the installation of the new Math Program through Grade 8, this past September." The superintendents' reports also described various supplements to the basic educational program, such as music instruction (which was offered from 1950 to 1961; reintroduction of a music program was discussed at the March 1975 town meeting), physical education classes, an art course (added in 1958 and apparently not continued for very long), and a remedial reading program (begun in 1957).

China first adopted a teachers' salary schedule in 1955. In 1965 and 1966, superintendent Houston pointed to the high rate of teacher turnover as an indication that China's salary levels were inadequate. In 1967, he reported:

The implementation of a new and competitive teacher salary schedule last year enabled us to gain in the employment of degree teachers. The salary schedule planned for the coming school year was adopted with the thought of encouraging teachers to come and remain in China, with built in incentives to encourage them to continue to study which is bound to improve their efficiency as teachers.²

Early in 1969 the school committee again adopted a new salary schedule, and at the end of that year the superintendent said:

We were very fortunate in employing several young and enthusiastic teachers this past year. There is no doubt but that the new and modern facilities; the low pupil-teacher ration and the very competitive salary schedule have had a great deal to do in the hiring of replacement teachers.³

1. The town reports give the following enrollment figures:

1949	216	1964	342
1951	203	1967	353
1953	231	1970	439
1955	264	1972	449
1957	273	1973	419
1959	300	1974	400
1961	301		

In most of the years when elementary school enrollment declined, like 1954, 1961, 1973, and 1974, high school enrollment increased; so the total number of children China taxpayers were helping educate climbed steadily.

2. Annual Report of the Municipal Officers, China, Maine For Year Ending December 31, 1967, p. 36.

3. Annual Report of the Municipal Officers, China, Maine For Year Ending December 31, 1969, p. 45.

The 1969 schedule offered the beginning teacher with a bachelor's degree \$6400; and the highest salary listed was \$9560 for a teacher with twenty-seven credit hours beyond the bachelor's degree and at least ten years' experience. By September 1975, a beginning teacher with a bachelor's degree received \$7500, someone with twenty-seven additional credits and ten years' service could earn \$12,000, and the highest listed salary was \$12,625 for a person with a master's degree and eleven years' experience.

Transportation of students was another increasingly expensive part of the educational process. The system of contracting for school transportation lasted until 1961. After the 1949 consolidation, the town first hired three busses owned by Mr. Benjamin Dodge. When he went out of the business, Mr. Robert Buzzell bought four busses; later Mr. Lawrence Drake owned two. The owners of the busses hired the drivers. At the March 1961 annual town meeting, the voters decided that the town should take over ownership and maintenance of the busses and should hire the bus drivers. The selectmen were authorized to borrow up to \$25,000 with which to buy a fleet of four busses. The March 1968 meeting voted to buy two new busses; in March 1969 \$7600 (increased at a special meeting on September 15 to \$8450) was authorized for another one; in March 1970 up to \$9000 for another; in March 1971 two more were approved, which cost \$19,160; and in March 1975 the voters authorized borrowing \$14,001 (presumably to be repaid by the state under the controversial 1974 school funding law) for yet another school bus. The school committee now hires the bus drivers, after the applicant has passed the state examinations, both written and oral, and a physical examination. In the mid-1970's, the six town-owned busses together were driven some 83,000 miles a year, with some of the drivers traveling more than twenty-five miles a day. In 1973, China spent \$23,882.31 on school transportation; in 1974, \$24,300 was appropriated, but \$30,557.55 was expended. This unplanned increase was no doubt attributable partly to the higher gasoline prices in the winter of 1974-1975, for the China school busses, on the average, require a gallon of gasoline to travel five miles. Anticipating still higher fuel prices later in 1975, the school committee requested slightly over \$44,000 for transportation in the school budget presented to the March 1975 town meeting.

In China, as in many small towns, elementary education has been supported by an active group of townspeople. Among these should be counted the members of the elected school committee, who were paid \$50 apiece in 1974, as well as those who have served on the various study and building committees in the last twenty-five years. Community interest in improving the schools resulted in the formation, early in the twentieth century, of School Improvement Leagues, made up of parents and students. Superintendent Paine praised the work of the Leagues in his annual reports for 1914 and 1915; during 1914, he said, the parents and the School Improvement League in the Plains area had raised enough money to buy an organ for the school, and in other schools the Leagues had undertaken such activities as providing screens for schoolhouse windows and doors and supporting school libraries. By 1920, there was a School Improvement League for each school in town; in Weeks Mills the League raised \$74.75 and bought a victrola for the school; and at Stanley Hill the League provided hot lunches.

In 1927 a Parent-Teachers Club was formed.¹ This group sponsored

1. The editor is grateful to Mrs. Carpenter and to Pastor Harold N. Tollefson of South China for information on the China Parent-Teachers Club and Parent-Teachers Association.

several public programs in the early 1930's, in which the school children participated, to stimulate parents' awareness of the activities and the needs of the several town schools.

The Parent-Teachers Club was succeeded in 1934 or 1935 by the Parent-Teachers Association. This group was organized on a town-wide basis, mitigating the competition among schools and uniting them in efforts to obtain adequate equipment and supplies from the town. Monthly meetings of the PTA were held in the different villages in rotation, thus allowing citizens from the various parts of the town to become better acquainted and to work together to improve the school programs. Officers were elected annually, with an individual limited to two consecutive terms in a given office. Pastor Harold N. Tollefson of South China was the first president; Mrs. Gladys Pratt of Weeks Mills was the first secretary, and later served as president.

Members of the PTA did a great deal to make China's elementary schools more attractive and comfortable and to broaden educational opportunities for local children. One of the PTA's achievements was the establishment of a kindergarten at the South China school. In 1936, superintendent Lord gave the PTA credit for the decision to hire a music teacher for the town schools and mentioned the "health and reading activities which have now become routine work for the association." These activities included dental clinics and eye clinics, and the support of libraries in the schools. During World War II the gasoline shortage made it difficult for the PTA to be active, but it revived after the war and became an enthusiastic promoter of the plan for a single consolidated elementary school.

After the town had accepted the idea of a single school, the PTA voted in November 1948 (while the new school was being built) to provide and equip a school cafeteria so that the students could have hot lunches. In a copy of The China Egg,⁴ the PTA newspaper, the late Mrs. Emilie Dillenbeck described how money was raised through food sales, auctions, suppers, cookbook sales, and other means. These receipts were supplemented by donations of cash and labor--local men did the electric wiring and built the tables and benches, for example. In April 1949 the PTA voted to borrow \$600 for kitchen equipment; \$200 was soon loaned interest-free by townspeople, and the other \$400 was borrowed commercially. Since no money was available for dishes, the PTA asked each child who could do so to bring a plate, bowl, and set of silverware to be left in the cafeteria; adults attending a supper meeting were asked to make a similar donation. After the cafeteria opened (Mrs. Edna Meader was the first manager, assisted by a volunteer staff), contributions continued to come in from individuals and from such local organizations as the 4-H clubs in China and South China. Students at the school put on a minstrel show, and more suppers and sales were held; and by April 1950 the cafeteria was paid for, at a total cost of \$1,722.65.

Since 1950 the cafeteria operation has grown as the elementary school population has increased. Three or four people now staff it; the annual budget in the mid-1970's was nearly \$30,000. Money is obtained mostly from the sale of lunches, the price of which has increased from 15 cents in 1950 to 30 cents, and from the state subsidy (which is federal funding channeled through Augusta). The town has sometimes appropriated a few hundred dollars to help support the school lunch program. The state subsidy means that the cafeteria must meet state standards for sanitary con-

1. The China Egg, January 1955, pp. 11-12.

ditions, workers' health, and the nutritional value of the meals served.

Although the provision of the cafeteria was the most ambitious project the China PTA undertook, it was not the only one. In the year 1954-1955 alone, the organization furnished a clinic room at the school, provided curtains for the cafeteria and door markers for the rooms, bought a Lincoln Library for the sixth grade and \$40 worth of other books and educational materials, and put out seven issues of The China Egg. In 1955-1956 the PTA had 101 members.

The China Egg began publication in November 1954 and continued until early 1958. It was started and edited by Mrs. Florence Pearson and PTA president Mrs. Mabel Charles, who decided a monthly bulletin would be a useful means to inform local citizens of school activities and problems. The account of the naming of the paper appeared in the April 19, 1956, issue:

This paper was named the "Egg" by Mr. Maurice Pearson. After an hour or two of anything but quiet debate by the present editors, F. & M., on appropriate titles, he yelled from the next room, "If you HENS are going to lay an EGG why call it something else?"

The paper was printed by the commercial department at Erskine Academy; it sold for 10 cents an issue, and an issue usually ran twelve or thirteen pages. The December 1956 issue claimed a circulation of 230 copies. The newspaper printed reports of PTA meetings and activities, elementary school news, reports from Erskine Academy, and a variety of short historical articles about China. It provided such useful information as school bus regulations, summaries of new state laws on education, an explanation of the school ranking system by principal Ronald Susee, and an article on the Sinclair Act by superintendent John Houston. Sometimes material written by the elementary school children was included. In several issues, teachers wrote brief autobiographies to introduce themselves to the townspeople. Such town activities as wedding anniversaries, meetings, sales, public suppers, and church services were also both announced and reported in the pages of The China Egg.

Declining interest led to the discontinuance of the China PTA in 1970. A China School Club was organized instead; it was legally disbanded on June 20, 1973. In 1974 a new Parent-Teachers Organization was started.

Elementary schooling was not necessarily the limit of a child's education in China in the nineteenth century, any more than it is now; in fact, there were more high schools in China in the last half of the nineteenth century than there are in the last half of the twentieth. Although only a small percentage of high-school-age children continued their education at that level, the lack of transportation meant that schools had to be fairly close to the students' homes. At various times in the nineteenth century, China had high schools in Branch Mills, in South China, at Dirigo, in China Village, and at Chadwick's Corner. The last two operated as private academies; China Academy closed nearly a century ago, but Erskine Academy on Chadwick Hill is thriving today.

The Branch Mills high school, also called the East China high school, was established about 1851 in a building constructed for that purpose by Mr. Brazillai Harrington. The large building stood on the southwest side of the road from Branch Mills to South China, a few hundred feet from the bridge near the present site of the Community House; the building appeared on the 1856 map of Branch Mills, identified as "B. H., Academy," but it was not on the 1879 map.

The Branch Mills high school was mentioned in the town report for 1852: the school report included the information that the district school-house was in such poor condition that the elementary classes were temporarily moved to Mr. Harrington's high school building. An August 26, 1856, advertisement for the school described it as follows:

BRANCH MILLS HIGH SCHOOL, EAST CHINA--The Fall Term of this institution will commence Monday, Sept. 1st and continue eleven weeks, under the instruction of Claudius B. Grant as Principal. The tuition for Common English, \$3.00; High d.o., \$3.50; Languages, \$4.00. Board can be obtained in private families at from one dollar to two dollars per week, and every facility will be afforded such as wish to board themselves.

/s/ B. Harrington, Secretary.¹

According to the town reports, a high school was taught in Branch Mills in the fall of 1857; in the fall of 1865 by Stephen A. Jones of China; in the spring of 1881 and the fall of 1882 by Thomas W. Bridgham of Palermo; and in the spring of 1883 by J. A. Jones. It has not been possible to determine whether the school operated uninterruptedly during these years. It must have closed not too long after the 1883 term, for the building was sold in the 1880's.²

The Dirigo high school appeared only once in the town reports: in 1877-1878 there were two free high schools in China, a seven-week term at South China and a twenty-week term at Dirigo. The latter was taught by Fred D. Jones of China, and the supervisor of schools commended the residents of this quite small school district for supporting so long a term.

The free high school at South China village dated from the 1860's. In the 1865 school report, T. W. Bridgham was recorded as teaching the spring 1865 high school term in South China, having taught the primary school very successfully the preceding fall. The seven-week high school term in 1877-1878 was taught by A. W. Warren. In the fall of 1880 F. E. Jones had a total of fifty-one students in the South China free high school; in the spring term J. E. Jones also taught there, with the expenses being borne by three adjacent school districts. From the spring of 1881 on there is no record of a high school in South China; apparently students went to Branch Mills or to China Village (where the former academy was by then a free school) or, after 1883, to Erskine Academy.

China Academy was chartered by the Massachusetts legislature in June 1818 "for the purpose of promoting piety, and virtue, and for the education of youth in such languages and in such of the liberal arts and sciences as the Trustees...shall order and direct."³ The first five trustees, appointed in the charter, were Rev. Daniel Lovejoy, Dr. Daniel Stevens, Jonathan

1. This advertisement was copied by Mrs. Ballantyne from the original poster in the Dinsmore family's collection. The editor is grateful to Mrs. Ballantyne for much of the information about the Branch Mills high school.
2. In 1894 the school committee recommended a term of high school at Branch Mills, but the town records provide no evidence that it was held.
3. The editor is grateful to Mr. Nelson Bailey of China for the information on China Academy.

Fairfield, Col. Nathan Stanley (a veteran of the War of 1812), and Abraham Burrill; the bill to charter the school was introduced in the Massachusetts legislature by Japheth C. Washburn. All these men were residents of the China Village area except Reverend Lovejoy, who was a Congregational minister in Albion; his two famous sons, Elijah Parish Lovejoy and Owen Lovejoy, later attended the Academy, and Elijah was the preceptor (or principal) in 1827.¹ An amendment to the original charter in 1819 enlarged the board of trustees to fifteen, allowing for a broader geographical representation, and at this time Japheth C. Washburn became a trustee.

On March 20, 1820, the academy trustees obtained from John Brackett a parcel of land containing about twenty-four square rods on the lake shore across the road from the present church. The deed of sale indicated that Mr. Brackett, one of the largest landowners in town at that time, gave them the land "in consideration of the love and good will" he had for them; the only condition was an agreement that the trustees would maintain the fence around the lot. Here a wooden building was constructed--Japheth C. Washburn is reputed to have hewn the first timber--and classes began in September 1823 (or possibly a term earlier). The first principal, Henry Stanwood, a graduate of Colby College (known then as the Maine Literary and Theological Institute, and later as Waterville College), served in 1821 and 1822; he was succeeded in 1823 by Rev. Hadley Proctor, another graduate of Colby who was also serving as the minister of the China Baptist Church. The president of the Board of Trustees in 1823 was Rev. Jeremiah Chaplin, who was simultaneously president of Colby, and a Colby professor was on the board. Mr. Bailey infers from this overlap in personnel that China Academy served as a sort of preparatory school for Colby in the 1820's.

On February 23, 1825, the Maine legislature passed an act granting to the academy a half township (11,520 acres) in the state's unappropriated lands, to serve as a source of revenue. The tract was located in what is now Carroll Plantation, Penobscot County. The trustees decided that selling the land was the best way to get money, so on November 9, 1829, they sold it to Charles Ramsdell of Bangor for \$3,400 (or about thirty cents an acre).

Meanwhile, on the strength of the land grant and an encouraging student enrollment, the trustees voted to build a new building. It was located on the lot in China Village where Mr. and Mrs. Gerald Wilson's house now stands, on the east side of the main street across from the present library. The old academy building by the lake was given to the town for a district school. The new building was of brick, two stories high; it was occupied for the first time in November 1828, with an enrollment of 89 students (more than double the 1827 enrollment of 30 males and 10 females).

The school prospered in the 1830's and 1840's, receiving increasing numbers of students from all parts of Maine (though the majority came from China). Mr. Henry Paine was an able and experienced principal from 1835 to 1844; the school had peak annual enrollments of 221 students in 1835 and again in 1844. In these years, the school year was divided into four quarters usually separated by two-week vacations. Terms began on the first Mondays of March, June, September, and December. At the end of each term, examinations were required in all courses taken. Tuition rates, as advertised in the China Orb, were \$3 per quarter for the "common English

1. A complete list of the China Academy preceptors is in Appendix VC.

branches" (reading, spelling, and composition); \$4 per quarter for advanced English studies; and \$5 per quarter for Latin, Greek, and French. The school sold books and stationery to its students; books used in 1835 included (in the lower-level courses) Potter's Rhetorical Reader, Webster's Dictionary, Emerson's Arithmetic, Molte-Brun's Geography, Smith's Productive Grammar, and (in the senior courses) Goodrich's United States History, Whelpley's Compend of History, Colburn's Algebra, Grund's Geometry, Flint's Surveying, Comstock's Philosophy, Burrett's Geography of the Heavens, Newman's Rhetoric, Bennett's Bookkeeping, and Abercrombie's Mental Philosophy. Advanced Latin students read Sallust, Virgil, Cicero, Livy, and Horace; the Greek students read Xenophon. In the spring of 1836 the teachers were Mr. Paine, the principal, and Mr. William E. Worthing, a senior at Colby. That fall Mr. Paine was assisted by Mr. Hall Roberts, a graduate of Colby who taught classics, and Miss Sarah A. Shearman, who was responsible for "instruction in the ornamental branches" (according to the advertisement for the school in the September 17, 1836, *China Orb*).

The academy's advertisements said that room and board were available, at rates ranging from \$1.33 to \$1.50 a week. What this meant was that the academy helped arrange for out-of-town students to board in houses within walking distance of the school. Several people have theorized that the large houses in China Village were built or enlarged in the 1830's to provide extra rooms to rent to academy students and teachers.

In the late 1840's China Academy went into a period of decline, caused in great part by Mr. Paine's departure and by the rise of nearby Waterville Academy (later Coburn Classical Institute), chartered in 1842 and developed successfully by James H. Hanson, who was, ironically, a graduate of China Academy (and Colby College, class of 1842; after getting Waterville Academy started between 1843 and 1854, he taught in Eastport and Portland and returned to be principal of Waterville Academy from 1865 to 1894). By 1850 China Academy had only about fifty students a term. During the Civil War it closed completely; after the war it reopened and survived until 1880. In 1872 the academy had a staff of five who were teaching forty to sixty students a term. The tuition had increased slightly--common English was now \$3.50, higher English \$4.50, languages or bookkeeping \$5.50, and twenty music lessons cost \$10--and the term had been shortened to ten weeks. Students received marks for recitation and deportment, and their records included the number of words misspelled, the number of times tardy, and the number of days they were caught whispering in class. The annual prize declamation was instituted at the end of the 1873 spring term; the first prize in the gentlemen's class went to Franklin E. Jones of South China and the first prize in the ladies' class to Estelle M. Brainerd of China. The next year Walter S. Brainerd of China took first prize among the gentlemen--Newell W. Brainerd was an unsuccessful contestant--and Amelia McClellan of China was first among the ladies. (The vice president of the academy's board of trustees in 1872-1873 was Fredus O. Brainerd, a local merchant and the father of Estelle, Walter, Newell, and Helen; he later served as president of the board. A term report for China Academy for the February 1883 term lists N. W. Brainerd as the principal and Miss E. M. Brainerd as his assistant.)

In 1880 the Maine state legislature passed an act calling for the creation of free high schools, and from 1880 to 1887 a free high school was taught in the brick academy building. This institution still called itself China Academy and was supervised by a board of trustees. There were 54 students in the spring of 1883, 70 in the fall of 1884, and 88

in the spring of 1885, and there were more women than men in all three terms, in contrast to the 1870's when the men were almost always more numerous. The 1884-1885 catalog listed a four-year course sequence including English, math, geography, history, bookkeeping, sciences, and philosophy, and said that Latin and Greek courses would be offered if requested. Local residents who taught in the China Village free high school included Newell and Estelle Brainerd, E. E. Parmenter, F. E. Jones, Caddie Fall (of Albion), Mabel J. Austin, James O. Fish, Clyde O. Spaulding, and J. Albert Jones. The school ran two and sometimes three terms a year and was supported by the village school district, often with contributions from the two districts on China Neck and the Dutton district and even from district 2 in Albion. In 1889 school supervisor J. F. Hammond observed that the China Village free high school "is one of the schools in which a dollar invested seems to give one hundred cents worth of good results."

By that time China Academy no longer existed. In 1887 the brick academy building was eliminated by blowing it up, because it was considered no longer safe. The trustees then sold the land to the China Village school district, and Willis R. Ward built a wooden schoolhouse at a cost of \$1000 which served as both high school and elementary school from 1888 to 1909.

In 1897, the town did not appropriate any money to support free high schools, so China Village organized one anyway and received state aid. Miss Olive A. Gould and Miss Ella M. Wixon ran the school. Erskine Academy also received state assistance that year; superintendent Nelson's annual report explained that the state would assist only two free high schools per town, so if any others were desired the town would have to pay for them. The next year, the same two high schools were continued; superintendent Goddard reported that the high schools taught the same subjects as the elementary schools with the addition of advanced English, mathematics, and science, and, in China Village, a five-student Latin class. In 1899, the China Village school was supported by contributions and subscriptions as well as state aid, and Miss Gould was again or still the teacher.

In 1903 a new state high school law required all towns either to support local free high schools or to pay tuition at other schools for local students desiring a high school education (with one-half of the tuition money, up to \$250, to be repaid by the state). Superintendent Nelson and the school committee agreed that China would save money by appropriating \$250 (to be matched by the state) to support two free high schools, one in the north end of town and one in the south. The March 1904 town meeting appropriated money for both secondary school tuition and the support of free high schools. Superintendent Nelson and the school committee worked out a curriculum, modeled on that of Coburn Classical Institute, which gave the students a choice of two courses of study, called English Scientific and College Preparatory.¹ The superintendent gave achievement tests to grammar school graduates desiring to enter high school. When the China Village high school opened in March 1904, twenty-

1. In 1904 superintendent Nelson said that of the nineteen students entering the China Village high school, sixteen took the college preparatory course and three the English scientific; at Erskine, among the thirteen students admitted two chose the college preparatory course, ten the English scientific, and one apparently dropped out.

two students took the entrance examination; eight passed, and eleven more were allowed in on condition that they review one or more subjects and retake the examination. Thirteen more students were admitted to Erskine Academy in the fall of 1904, ten of them conditionally.

The town reports give the impression that the China Village high school was not very successful in the first decade of the twentieth century. In 1906 Mr. Joseph Leighton, who had been teaching there for several years, left because Bar Harbor offered him a better salary; he was replaced by another Colby College student, Mr. Leon S. Gilpatrick. In 1908, the attendance had dwindled to the point where superintendent Starkey suggested that the town consider closing the school. The superintendent explained that the town had three alternative ways to provide the high school education required by state law. First, the voters could agree to pay high school tuition, up to \$30 a year, for any child "attending a school of standard grade." Second, they could support one or two free high schools in the town, "one of which must be of standard grade," in which case the town would not have to pay tuition for students who chose to attend out-of-town high schools. Or third, they could tell the school committee to contract for high school education "with some academy in the town" (Erskine was the only academy in China in 1909).¹ The March 1909 town meeting passed over an article to appropriate funds to continue the China Village high school and instructed the school committee to make a contract with Erskine Academy to provide a high school education for local students. In his report for the year 1909, superintendent Starkey said that Erskine had served satisfactorily as the town high school. He also told the townspeople that the thirty-week high school year recently required by state law was impossible in China Village, since the high school had to share the elementary school building, and was uneconomical for so few students anyway.

As a result, after 1908 only elementary classes were taught in the China Village schoolhouse, and except for the winters of 1914-1915 and 1915-1916 there was no high school in China Village. When the high school was re-established for two years, the classes met on the second floor of the building on the corner of the Neck Road that later became the American Legion Hall. In 1914, the town expended \$236.82 for the China Village high school, but no information about it was given in the school report for that year. In 1915, the rent for the schoolroom was \$72, and Miss Edith Washburn was paid \$525 as the teacher. In 1916, the town accounts showed \$247.89 spent on the school, and the school accounts recorded Mr. Thomas Blanchard's teacher's salary as \$525, an amount which apparently paid him from the fall of 1915 to July 1916.

Erskine Academy, which first opened in September 1883, was named for the Erskine family through whose generosity it came into existence.² Sullivan Erskine and his wife Mary came from Newcastle, Maine, about 1830 and settled on a large farm near Chadwick's Corner. Through thrift and hard work they acquired a considerable fortune, which was left to

1. In another paragraph of his report Mr. Starkey agreed with the critics who said that high school standards in China were too low, but he said that the problem originated in the lack of adequate preparation in the town's elementary schools.
2. The editor is grateful to Mrs. Robert Reed of Weeks Mills for information about Erskine Academy.

Mrs. Erskine when her husband died in 1880. Since there were no Erskine children, Mrs. Erskine decided to use the money to benefit the town. She consulted the executor of her husband's will, his nephew John K. Erskine; and the latter suggested leaving the town a trust fund to be used for a free high school in the Chadwick Hill school district. Having been deprived of a high school education himself, John Erskine had always wanted to give other children the opportunity he had lacked. Mrs. Erskine readily agreed that this would be a good use for her money.

A specific plan was therefore agreed upon, and on the petition of thirteen people a special town meeting was held on November 13, 1880, to let townspeople vote on accepting a \$1500 trust fund to support a free high school in school district 14. The voters accepted the Erskines' proposal, agreeing that the town would use the \$1500 as the selectmen thought best and would pay 6% interest annually to support the free high school. However, the March 1881 annual meeting voted to annul this action and asked the town treasurer to give back the \$1500.¹ A year later, the March 1882 annual meeting passed over an article asking the town to accept the trust fund and specifying that the town would not pay for providing the school building.

Distressed at the town's actions, Mr. Samuel C. Starrett and his friends Dana C. Hanson,² J. Frank Chadwick, and Abner D. Chadwick met with Mrs. Erskine in April 1882 and proposed that she appoint a board of trustees and let them establish a high school. Mrs. Erskine willingly accepted their plan and named as trustees Eli Jones, Dana C. Hanson, John K. Erskine, Samuel C. Starrett, and J. Frank Chadwick. These men, with legal assistance, drew up the deed of trust establishing the school and organized their board, choosing Mr. Jones president, Mr. Erskine vice-president, Mr. Hanson secretary, and Mr. Starrett treasurer.

Mrs. Erskine gave the board of trustees \$500 to acquire a school building. They bought the seven-acre Chadwick common from A. F. Trask for \$100. An abandoned Methodist church stood on one corner of the lot; at Mr. Starrett's initiative, the owners met in the spring of 1882 and voted to sell the church at auction. Mr. Starrett bought it for \$50, and it was moved to the center of the lot and repaired. A bell tower and other necessary buildings were built, and the trustees held a tree-planting picnic, inviting all the neighborhood to come with trees and basket dinners; about 250 trees were set out. In the spring of 1883, the bell and furniture donated by Mrs. Erskine were put in place, and the trustees decided to open Erskine High School in September.

The original teachers at Erskine were Mr. William J. Thompson of Ash Point, Maine, a graduate of Castine Normal School, and Miss Julia E. Winslow, a graduate of Colby College. The school duly opened in September 1883, with all the trustees and a very happy Mary Erskine present on

1. Mrs. Reed says that the refusal of the money resulted from either jealousy on account of the location of the school or the "timidity" of certain people. The town clerk's report of the March 1881 meeting showed that the motion to annul acceptance of the fund was made by Elihu Hanson; the clerk did not record the names of any other sponsors of motions at the meeting. Mr. Hanson had just ended three consecutive terms as a selectman; in 1881 all three incumbents on the board were replaced (see above, p. 57, footnote 2). The records do not show whether Mr. Hanson had sought a fourth term.

2. Mr. Starrett and Mr. Hanson were elected to the Board of Selectmen in 1881 and re-elected in 1882.

opening day, and had a successful first term with more than fifty students. Mr. Thompson remained as principal until 1902; Miss Winslow was succeeded in 1885 by Miss Carrie E. Hall of East Madison, who became Mrs. Thompson in May 1887 and taught with her husband until her death in the spring of 1900.

Erskine High School in the 1880's operated for two eleven-week terms each year, with a shorter summer term some years. Courses offered included reading, grammar, elocution, arithmetic, algebra, history, geography, natural philosophy, bookkeeping, ancient languages (Latin and Greek), botany, geology, astronomy, and anatomy and physiology. By 1887 the number of students had increased enough so that the school building was raised ten feet to make room for more classrooms underneath and a third teacher was hired. Many of the Chadwick district students attended this high school, as well as others from other parts of the town; in 1886, for example, many students from South China village had a term at Erskine and then returned to the district school for another term also taught by Miss Hall. With students attending Erskine by the term rather than by the year and leaving when they felt they had enough education, it was not until 1892 that four students finished four years apiece so that the first formal graduation could be held.

In 1891 the trustees, feeling that more money was needed to run the school, persuaded the Maine legislature to incorporate it as Erskine Academy and to provide an annual appropriation of \$300. A girls' dormitory (until recently the home of Mr. Fred Jackson) was built in 1900, and a boys' dormitory later. The dormitory students brought their own food and fuel from home and prepared their own meals.

Although local students attended the Erskine school from its beginning, the academy and the town school authorities seem to have had fairly limited co-operation until 1904.¹ In 1904, Erskine became one of the two high schools supported by the town; superintendent Nelson and the Erskine trustees agreed on a financial arrangement, and the trustees accepted Dr. Nelson's ideas about such matters as curriculum and entrance examinations. In the fall of 1904 three local students passed the superintendent's entrance examination, and ten more were admitted conditionally. After the China Village high school closed in 1909, Erskine Academy was the only high school within the town limits, except during the brief re-appearance of the China Village school in 1914-1916.

Early in 1913, the enrollment at Erskine fell so low that the school was downgraded from a state class A school (a four-year school with at least two teachers) to class B (a two-year school with one teacher). However, beginning in September 1913 attendance rose rapidly; the fall 1913 term began with sixteen students, and by February 1914 there were thirty-two and the one teacher was overworked. Superintendent Paine recommended that the school regain its class A rating, which it did in 1915. By the fall of 1916 forty-six students were registered, and the school officials had raised money through contributions to paint the building and to provide one classroom with a new hardwood floor and new blackboards.

The principal's report for 1919 showed even more expansion. Fifty pupils were enrolled, twenty-one of them from out of town, and the enter-

1. Reports from the trustees of Erskine Academy appeared in the town school reports in the 1880's and 1890's; and in August 1896 a special town meeting authorized the school committee to pay tuition to Erskine for one term of high school for interested and qualified local students.

ing class of twenty-six was the largest on record. There were three teachers for the first time in many years. A military training course had been started, and the teacher training course was in its second year and had received state approval, so that any of the three students enrolled who finished it would be eligible for a state teaching certificate. With the large freshman class, more dormitory space was needed, so Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Ford of Whitefield, who were related to the Erskine family, had bought the old Mitchell house just south of the academy, converted it into a boys' dormitory, and given the school the use of it; it was named Ford Cottage. The school had also converted the "old Longfellow house" into the Erskine Cottage Annex, which accommodated four girls and a teacher. This project was financed by \$150 from the state and \$450 to be paid out of funds raised by student activities. The students had also raised the funds for a noon hot lunch program.

As the enrollment continued to increase over the next few years, the school trustees supervised further improvements. The Ford gymnasium was completed in November 1925, and in the fall of 1926 a 130-foot well was drilled south of the gym and plumbing was installed. Sports have always been popular at Erskine, especially baseball and basketball. In the pre-gymnasium days, the first basketball game was played against Unity, in an old potato house lighted by lanterns. Unity won, 3 to 2, and the Erskine team was disappointed at losing, after all the practice they had had in Harry Boynton's old barn.

On November 5, 1926, the schoolhouse burned down. The fire was discovered about 2:30 in the afternoon, and it had already made so much headway that the building could not be saved, although principal Philip Woodworth and the students rescued some of the textbooks and furniture. The next Monday classes were resumed in the newly built gym, where they met for the next ten years. A new classroom building was completed in 1936, allowing the gym to revert to its original purposes, basketball and other sports and dramatics; the bell from the old school's steeple, rescued from the fire and stored in the gym basement, was mounted on campus (and remained until it was stolen in the fall of 1971). The 1936 building has been twice enlarged, and in 1952 a shop was erected across the road for the newly established agricultural course. This building is now used for industrial arts courses. Other additions to the curriculum have included a music department, introduced in 1928 under the direction of Mrs. Lewis Tatham, whose husband was principal of the academy from 1927 until after World War II; a home economics department; and a commercial department. By the early 1970's Erskine Academy had a full-time faculty of sixteen, plus a part-time music instructor, and there were about 280 students enrolled annually.

From 1909 through 1913 and from 1916 to 1952, the town school committee annually contracted with Erskine to educate China high school students. In the 1920's the tuition cost was around \$2000 or \$2500 a year; in 1925, for example, Erskine charged the town \$1930 for thirty-three students, or an average of about \$58.50 per pupil. In 1939, town school superintendent Lord reported that high school tuition would rise from \$3000 to \$3750; the school committee's report explained that the town was not paying the academy as much as it actually cost to educate the town students. During the 1940's the rate continued to rise, usually with the support of the town school officials. For example, in 1944 superintendent Lord observed that the \$71.50 per pupil payment was "low in comparison to most high schools," and the school committee

agreed with him in supporting an increased tuition payment. In 1950, the superintendent reported that Erskine had just expanded its classroom space and had an enrollment of almost 200; in his opinion, "As long as a reasonable contract price can be obtained, it would seem best for the town to continue the present arrangement for its high school pupils."

In 1951, the unusually long and outspoken school committee report (the committee members were Francis W. Jacob, chairman; John M. Thurlow; and Mrs. Ruth E. Colwell, who had succeeded Mrs. Myrtle Austin in August 1951) discussed relations between the town and the academy. The committee had the "impression that the community at large is in general well satisfied with the service Erskine Academy is giving." They had little direct contact with the academy, and especially had not been able to obtain necessary figures to support the amount requested for high school tuition. The committee report continued:

The Committee has had a request from the Secretary of the Board [of Trustees of Erskine Academy], communicated through a third person by telephone, to ask the Town to appropriate \$12,500 to a contract with Erskine; and has received a letter from another member of the Board stating that that amount was computed on erroneous data, and is too large.¹

Despite this difficulty, superintendent Lord wrote in his 1951 report:

It is my hope that arrangement can be made to continue the close relation between the town and Erskine Academy, since it is a profitable combination for both parties. Occasional differences of viewpoint have thus far been reconciled and I hope they may continue to be.²

The March 1952 town meeting appropriated \$9500 for high school tuition, but the school committee did not make a contract with Erskine; instead, the town paid tuition wherever a student went to high school. As superintendent Lord pointed out, this new policy, which is still in effect in the mid-1970's, resulted in very little change, since almost all the students went to Erskine anyway. The breakdown of high school expenditures in the town report for 1952 showed tuition payments of \$10,979.47 to Erskine, \$94.05 to Augusta, and \$89.55 to Winslow.

In the following years, the high school enrollment and the attendant costs increased steadily. Although some students attended high school in Winslow, Augusta, Waterville, and occasionally other towns, the majority continued to go to Erskine. By 1974, there were 214 high school students in nine schools, with 120 at Erskine Academy, 43 at Winslow High School, 21 at Cony High School in Augusta, and 17 at Waterville High School. Per-pupil tuition charges ranged from \$971.20 at Erskine to \$1,261.68 at Gould Academy, Kent's Hill School, and Oak Grove-Coburn; Winslow cost \$1,004.05 per pupil, Cony \$1,053.45, and Waterville \$1,186.68, according to the town report for 1974.

1. Annual Report for the Year Ending February 8, 1952, Town of China, Maine, p. 29.

2. Ibid., p. 32.

Churches

Religion has always played an important role in the lives of the people of China. As described earlier, the first settlers in the area were mostly either Quakers or Baptists, and these two groups had established churches by the time the town of China was created. The Quakers and the Baptists were soon followed by members of other denominations, among whom the Methodists and the Adventists seem to have been most numerous in the nineteenth century. The twentieth century saw the development in the villages of China of community churches, each serving the needs, both spiritual and social, of several protestant groups.

The Society of Friends had built their first meeting house in 1807.¹ As the Quakers in China increased in numbers and spread through the town, additional meeting houses were built at West China (China Neck), Dirigo, and in 1885 at South China. In 1884 the Dirigo meeting house was abandoned; the building was moved and used as a barn on the Hussey farm, and in 1968 burned down. The Friends bought the former site of the Second Baptist Church in South China, paying one dollar for the land on condition that they build a house of worship there. The committee which constructed the building still standing (now the Community Fellowship Church) included Josiah Philbrook, William A. Jones, Walter E. Jones, J. R. Jones, and Frank E. Jones. Until the middle 1930's this was the Friends Meeting House, and Friends Meeting was held every week. However, as time went on the group of Quakers became too small to carry on the meetings and support a pastor. A religious survey conducted under the direction of Harold Tollefson, the last Quaker pastor, showed many denominations in the area; therefore, although the Friends still own the building, the church was reorganized as the South China Community Fellowship Church.²

Much of the growth and spirit of the China Quakers was attributable to the numerous and active Jones family.³ Lemuel Hawkes was one of them, a first cousin to Abel Jones. Abel and Susanna raised eleven children, the first four born in a log cabin before they moved in 1815 to a house Abel built in South China. By this time, two of Abel's younger brothers, Elisha and James, and three cousins, Stephen Jones Jr. and his brother Josiah, and Isaac Jones, had moved to China. Elisha and James were both recognized as Friends ministers. Elisha and his wife Tryphena settled on the Pond Road; James and his wife Hannah settled on China Neck, probably in 1812, and were joined by his sister and brother-in-law, Lydia and Thomas Tittle. Isaac and his wife Nancy lived first near the present China Neck cemetery and later farther out on the Neck; it was probably around 1820 that they built the brick house on the west side of the road now owned by Mr. and Mrs. H. Douglas Archibald. Stephen settled in Branch Mills where he ran a foundry and blacksmith shop; Josiah built a house in South China, near Jones Brook.

The Joneses, and other China Quakers, appeared frequently in local records—they served as town officers and ran businesses, several of

1. See above, p. 24.

2. See below, pp. 156-157.

3. For further information on the Jones family, see Book II, Genealogy, pp. 52-76.

TERM REPORT of China Academy.

SPRING TERM, 1873.

Term Commenced Monday, Feb. 24th. Term Closed Tuesday, May 2d

GUSTAVUS J. NELSON, Principal.
Miss LIZZIE S. PIERCE, Assistant.

GENTLEMEN.		DEPARTMENT.	NO. DAYS PRESENT.	NO. TIMES ABSENT.	NO. TIMES TARDY.	NO. DAYS WHISPERED.	AV. RANK IN REPUTATION.	NO. WORDS MISPELLED.
1	Alley, Charles S.	5	2	0	0	0	3.84	20
2	Brainerd, Walter S.	5	0	0	0	0	4.98	1
3	Briggs, Charles Q.	5	34	0	0	0	4.00	4
4	Brann, George B.	5	1	0	0	0	3.70	4
5	Brainerd, Newell W.	5	1	0	0	0	4.76	4
6	Coombs, Leslie	5	34	4	13	3	3.30	4
7	Clark, Norris	5	1	0	0	0	4.18	4
8	Clark, Preston	5	4	0	0	0	3.90	4
9	Colley, William	5	3	0	10	1	4.33	1
10	Clifford, John R.	5	2	5	1	1	4.49	1
11	Drake, Wesley	5	1	0	0	0	4.55	13
12	Fish, Arthur E.	5	0	0	0	1	4.50	12
13	Fish, Jamie O.	5	0	0	0	1	4.46	12
14	Foster, Eddie W.	5	1	0	0	2	4.06	12
15	Fish, Bennie F.	5	1	0	0	2	4.68	12
16	Farnsworth, Simon	5	2	0	0	9	3.95	12
17	French, Nattie	5	4	1	4	4	4.45	10
18	Farnsworth, Willie L.	5	0	1	13	4	4.43	10
19	Fletcher, Fred N.	5	0	0	6	4	4.14	10
20	Fletcher, Melville S.	5	24	0	0	0	3.80	10
21	Freeman, Philander	5	0	0	10	4	4.20	10
22	Foster, Thomas M.	5	0	1	3	3	4.21	10
23	Hawes, Frank	5	24	0	14	4	4.77	10
24	Hasey, Fred	5	64	0	2	4	4.84	10
25	Jones, Franklin E.	5	14	0	0	0	4.56	10
26	Jones, Daniel R.	5	2	0	0	7	3.91	10
27	McLaughlin, Walter C.	5	6	1	0	4	4.75	10
28	McLellan, Valorous	5	4	0	13	0	4.75	13
29	Roberts, Charles A.	5	0	0	0	8	3.21	11
30	Sturgis, Nelson H.	5	0	0	0	7	3.50	11
31	Sturtevant, Arthur	5	0	0	0	8	3.21	11
32	Stratton, Earnest L.	5	44	1	7	2	2.50	11
33	Thwing, Melville C.	5	1	3	16	4	4.54	11
34	Taylor, Woodbury	5	0	0	7	3	3.50	11
35	Taylor, Ernest	5	3	0	0	4	4.44	11
36	Ward, Herbert A.	5	24	2	9	8	4.01	11
37	Weymouth, Frank	5	5	2	8	2	2.88	11

LADIES.		DEPARTMENT.	NO. DAYS PRESENT.	NO. TIMES ABSENT.	NO. TIMES TARDY.	NO. DAYS WHISPERED.	AV. RANK IN REPUTATION.	NO. WORDS MISPELLED.
1	Brainerd, Estelle	5	0	0	0	0	4.93	2
2	Clark, Alma	5	4	0	5	4	4.00	13
3	Clark, Alice	5	3	0	9	3	4.74	4
4	Coombs, Myrtia	5	5	0	3	3	4.20	4
5	Copeland, Angie	5	5	0	3	3	4.20	4
6	Dow, Frankie	5	24	0	5	4	4.04	4
7	Doe, Annie A.	5	1	0	0	4	4.92	4
8	Gould, Lizzie L.	5	5	1	5	4	4.29	4
9	Mosher, Ella	5	24	0	4	4	4.40	7
10	Main, Jennie A.	5	74	3	4	4	4.57	7
11	McLaughlin, Alice M.	5	4	1	1	4	4.30	7
12	McLellan, Amelia	5	24	0	8	3	3.84	7
13	Nichols, Sadie L.	5	6	0	4	4	4.67	6
14	Russell, Etta M.	5	10	1	7	3	3.90	11
15	Stackpole, Fannie M.	5	3	0	0	4	4.27	5
16	Thwing, Annie S.	5	1	0	10	4	4.43	5
17	Varney, Louise E.	5	1	0	0	4	4.81	5
18	Wentworth, Nellie M.	5	5	1	4	4	3.86	5

* Spelled above each day.



Three of the people might be Frank E. Jones, Elmer Parmenter, & Norman Pearson



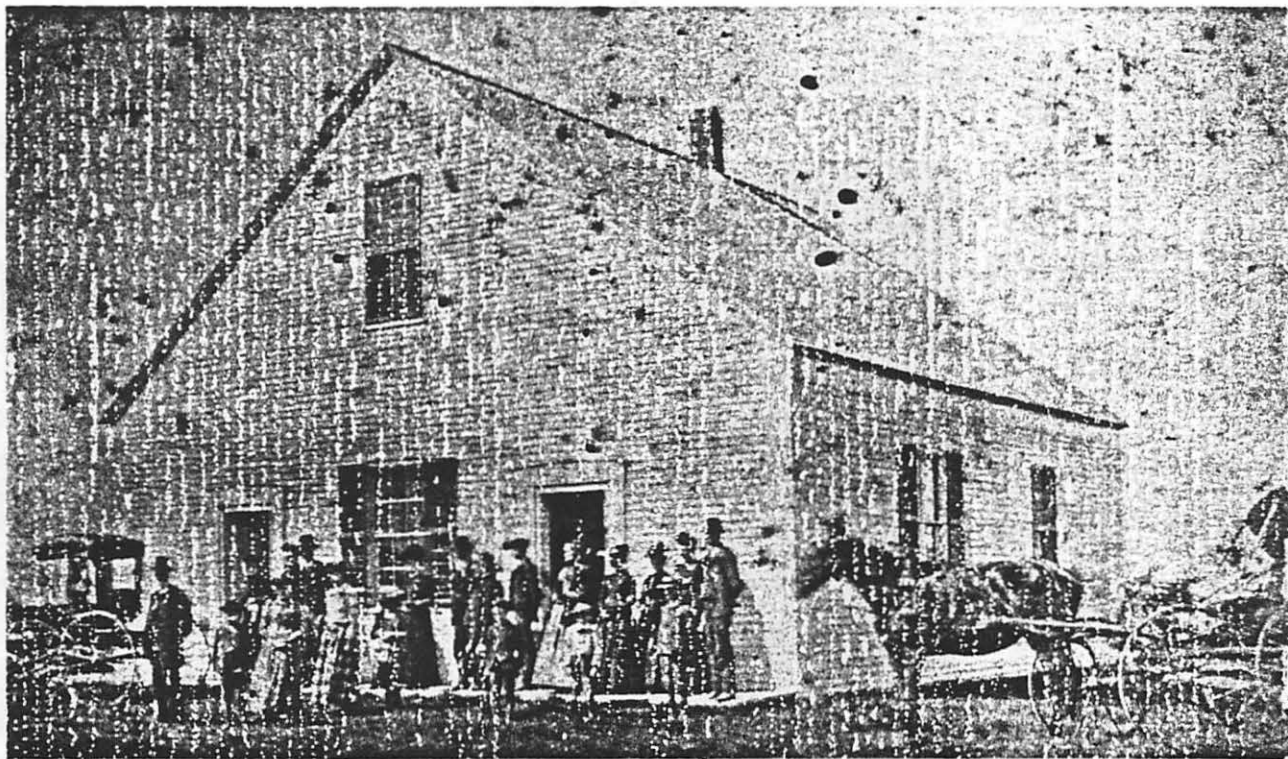
Courtesy of Robert Reed

Two views of Erskine Academy, after 1887



BAPTIST CHURCH, China, Maine

Courtesy of Stanley Grimshaw



Courtesy of Mr. & Mrs. Wm. Foster

Friends Church, China Neck (West China)

them were excellent teachers in the town schools, and they often took the lead in promoting education, temperance, and other causes. Eli and Sybil Jones and their nephew, Rufus Matthew Jones, gained national and international prominence as well.

Eli Jones was Abel and Susannah (Jepson) Jones' oldest child, born in 1807; his wife Sybil, born in 1808, was the oldest daughter of Ephraim and Susannah (Dudley) Jones, who lived near Dirigo. They were married in 1833 and lived in South China for a time, then moved to Dirigo Corners. Eli earned his living as a farmer, and also had an interest in and helped run mills in Albion and in China. He found time to play an active role in town affairs. In 1827 he helped found both the South China public library and the Sons of Temperance, of which he was secretary for some years. Later he helped support Oak Grove Seminary (as it was then called), started in 1850 by Friends in Vassalboro; Eli was chairman of a committee of local people who raised \$15,000 to re-open Oak Grove in 1857, and he served as principal for a year. Later still he was involved in the founding of Erskine Academy. He held several town offices in China, including serving as supervisor of schools in 1870 and 1871. One year he was appointed town liquor agent, the official who, under state law, had a monopoly on the distribution of alcoholic beverages; China had a dry year.

In 1854 Eli Jones was elected to the state house of representatives, to his surprise. He immediately established himself as, in his own phrase, a "speckled bird," rather an oddity: in accordance with Quaker precepts, he refused to take the oath of office with the rest of the legislators, but stood separately to affirm that he would fulfill his office faithfully. After this beginning, he worked diligently on his committee assignments, especially the committee on temperance, but so seldom spoke in debate that in order to get a speech from him a group of his friends arranged to have him elected a major-general of the Second Division of the Maine militia. His speech refusing this office, on the ground that he would immediately disband the militia and that this pacific idea was "a little in advance of the times," was widely publicized in the United States, Britain, and parts of Africa, for by this time he and Sybil had become internationally known.

In the intervals between international engagements, Eli and Sybil Jones returned to China. Sybil died in South China in December 1873; Eli lived at Dirigo until 1884, then moved back to South China, where he died in February 1890. They are both buried in one of the two Friends' cemeteries at Dirigo.

Rufus Jones was the third child of Eli's youngest brother Edwin, who was born in 1828 and in 1852 married Mary Gifford Hoxie of Albion. Rufus was born in 1863. He began his education in the South China and Weeks Mills elementary schools, with a term at Oak Grove. After graduating from Haverford and teaching in New York and Rhode Island, he returned to Oak Grove in 1889 as principal, a post he kept until 1893 when he began his teaching career at Haverford. In the following years he became a famous teacher and writer and, like his aunt and uncle, traveled extensively. Yet he always considered the village of South China his permanent home. In 1915 he and his second wife, Elizabeth (Cadbury) Jones, decided to build a house on the land they owned on the east shore of China Lake. Over the 1915 Christmas vacation Rufus and his younger brother Herbert cut trees for lumber and designed

1. His first wife, Sarah (Coutant) Jones, died in 1898, and their son Lowell in 1903.

the house, which was built the next spring and named Pendle Hill. Here Rufus, Elizabeth, and their daughter Mary Hoxie Jones spent most summers, enjoying their beautiful natural surroundings, entertaining their relatives and friends, especially at the annual Fourth of July celebration, and receiving the many out-of-town visitors who came to talk to so famous a man.

By this time the summer colony of Friends was an important aspect of South China.¹ Richard Mott Jones and his family had purchased Pine Rock, the next property south of Pendle Hill, in 1890. Richard Mott Jones was Rufus Jones' first cousin; he had graduated from Haverford in 1867, and had taught at China Academy and served as principal of Oak Grove (1870-1874) before returning to Philadelphia. After his death in 1917 his wife and daughter lived at Pine Rock, raising high-quality apples, asparagus, and strawberries. The rest of the summer colony was in South China village, where Wilmot Rufus Jones had built Leaning Elm in 1898 and persuaded friends and relatives to build or buy around him.

With the 1818 incorporation of the town of China, the Freetown church, organized in 1801,² became the First Baptist Church of China. In 1822 the church building was moved across the end of the lake to the site of the present China Village church. Around 1833 the congregation decided to sell the old church, but, finding no buyers, in 1835 tore it down and used the good lumber to build its replacement, the present church.³

The China town records include several transfers of pews in this church.⁴ The earliest transaction was on June 20, 1823: Nathan Dexter, of No. Eight in Hancock County, yeomen, sold to Sherman Lincoln of Ligonias⁵ in Kennebec County, yeoman, "a pew in the Baptist Meeting house in China...Said pew is situated on the lower floor and is numbered Nine." The price was \$25. In September 1830, Daniel Ward, yeoman, sold Samuel Mitchell, yeoman, pew number 6 "on the ground floor of the Baptist Meeting house...near the head of the twelve mile pond" for \$24. Less than a year later, in July 1831, Bela Burrill, Esquire, sold pew number 25 "on the lower floor of the Baptist Meeting house in China Village" to Thomas R. Lincoln, cabinetmaker, for only \$15. The specification of the lower or ground floor in each of these transactions implies that the 1822 church had pews on two different levels. When on October 29, 1842, George Abbot, yeoman, of Winslow sold to William Hunnewell, yeoman, of China pew number 26 in the China meeting house "near the west end of the Bridge at the head of Twelve Mile Pond, So called" for \$38, there was no mention of upper or lower floors.

The original 1835 church had a high gallery for the choir across

1. See above, pp. 29-30.

2. See above, pp. 24-25.

3. Or, Mr. and Mrs. Foster suggest, possibly the old church was left standing but considerably rebuilt to make it wider.

4. There are no page numbers in the first two volumes of China town records, and the pew transfers are not in their proper chronological positions. The 1830 and 1831 sales are recorded in Vol. 1 near the end, between births and deaths; the 1823 sale is on the next to last page of Vol. 1; and the 1842 sale is near the end of Vol. 2.

5. The town of Albion was named Ligonias or Lygonias from March 1821 to February 1824.

the front, above the two entrance doors. The wooden pews had doors on them. The ten-foot-high pulpit towered above the congregation. The building was heated by two stoves, one on each side of the entrance, and light for evening services was provided by oil lamps on a table in front of the pulpit. In the following years, the pulpit was lowered several times. The pew doors were removed in the 1860's for the convenience of women in hoop skirts. In 1900 there was an extensive remodeling in preparation for the 100th anniversary celebration in 1901; the old windows were replaced by the present ones, a single entrance door was substituted for the two earlier ones, and the choir gallery was replaced by a vestibule. The stoves were superseded by a wood-burning furnace sometime before 1905, and by 1919 the church was lighted by electricity.¹ In 1927, the church acquired the bell from the Methodist church which was being torn down. A new steeple was built in 1953 after the old one was struck by lightning. In the summer of 1974 the interior of the church was re-decorated; Mr. and Mrs. Norman Dwelley were co-chairmen of the superintending committee, and Mrs. Dwelley designed the reredos which Mr. Manley Punker carved. At an open house held as part of China's bicentennial celebration, hostesses pointed out the church's piano, dedicated in honor of Miss Mary Washburn, and the organ honoring Mrs. Ethel Fish Brann, a former church organist and the mother of the present organist, Mrs. Joseph Banks.

The church real estate includes the parsonage, a pleasant-looking house at the intersection of Peking and Canton streets, with a view of the lake. This house was purchased in 1869 for \$1300. A porch was added to the south side of the house in 1910, and in 1911 a stable was built; it was torn down in 1949, and the next year a garage was built. During the summer of 1974 a new well was drilled.

The Baptist vestry for many years was a small building originally situated on the lot now owned by Mr. and Mrs. Robert Fletcher, just south of the Masonic Hall. As the 1879 map of the village shows, the vestry sat on the lawn beside the larger house. On November 6, 1883, the building was moved by ox-teams from the Fletcher lot to a site just east of the church. Heated by a wood stove and illuminated by oil lamps, this building was used for Thursday evening services as well as for suppers and meetings. At intervals the church records show discussion of moving or replacing the vestry, but nothing was done until after the January 1966 fire which destroyed the building. The congregation then decided to build a new vestry on the west side of the church. Construction began in May 1966; Herbert Cates, a Vassalboro contractor, laid the foundation and framed the building, and most of the inside work was done on a volunteer basis by church members and friends. The new vestry, much larger and better equipped than its predecessor, was dedicated in the summer of 1971.

Behind the church and between the church and the old vestry were horse sheds, three-sided buildings owned by church members and large enough to shelter a horse and buggy while the passengers attended services. The former schoolhouse lot on the point of land across the road from the church, Church Park, was given to the church by the town in 1955. The church also owns Indian Island, the gift of Mrs. Eli Wagner in 1956. In 1963 some land northeast of the church building was given to the church by the village fire department.

1. This date, like much of the rest of the history of the China Baptist church, is from Bailey, A Heritage and a Trust: China Baptist Church 1801-1964. It is earlier than other dates given by local residents for the introduction of electricity in the China Village area.

The membership of the China Baptist Church has fluctuated over the years. There were 284 members in 1829. Some left to join new churches elsewhere, and apparently there were fewer than one hundred members at the time of the great 1835 revival, for the hundred new members admitted then more than doubled the membership. By 1837 or 1838 there were about three hundred members. The importance of the China Baptist Church in the 1820's and again in the 1840's is indicated by its role in regional and state church affairs: the Lincoln Baptist Association met in China in 1822 and 1828, and in 1844 the state convention was held in China. Apparently the membership again declined after the 1840's, however. There was an increase in 1869, when the Albion church with twenty-four members was received as a branch of the China church.

The church celebrated its centennial--May 23, 1901--and sesquicentennial--August 3-5, 1951--and on June 1 and 2, 1935, there were special services to celebrate the centennial of the present church building. The following have served as pastors of the China Baptist Church:¹

Rev. Jabez Lewis ²	
Rev. Stephen Dexter	
Rev. Hadley Proctor ³	
Rev. William (?--probably Daniel) Bartlett ⁴	
Elder Henley Kendall	
Dr. B. F. Shaw ⁵	
Rev. W. H. Kingman	Jan. 1854 to Feb. 1858
Rev. W. H. Evans	Aug. 1858 to 1860
Rev. Hosea Pierce	Mar. 1861 to Dec. 1863
Rev. William Hurlin	May 1864 to Mar. 1866
Rev. A. J. Nelson	Apr. 1866 to May 1869
Rev. E. S. Fish	May 1870 to Jan. 1874
Rev. A. J. Nelson	Sept. 1874 to Sept. 1878
Rev. F. A. Vinal	Sept. 1878 to Nov. 1881
Pulpit filled by supplies	Nov. 1881 to Feb. 1883
Rev. E. C. Stover	Feb. 1883 to Oct. 1884
Rev. Ira Emery	Apr. 1885 to Mar. 1887
Rev. J. C. Sheldon	June 1887 to Dec. 1888
Rev. W. P. Palmer	Jan. 1889 to Dec. 1890

1. This list is from Bailey, A Heritage and a Trust: China Baptist Church, 1801-1964. It does not agree exactly with the list given by Kingsbury.

2. Rev. Lewis was converted at the Vassalboro revival in 1788 and later ordained.

3. Rev. Proctor, an 1823 graduate of Colby (then Waterville) College, served as principal of China Academy from 1823 to 1826 and died in China on April 12, 1842, at age 48 (Burrage, History of the Baptists in Maine, p. 185).

4. A tribute to Rev. Daniel Bartlett written by C.P.R. (supposed to be a relation of Daniel Bartlett's; source and date of the tribute not known) said that he was pastor of the Baptist church in China from 1833 to about 1837. The writer of the article was one of the "nearly five score souls" joining the church in the great revival which came during Rev. Bartlett's pastorate.

5. Dr. Shaw added more than fifty members to the church in one year, according to Mr. Bailey. In 1846 he helped organize the Baptist Education Society; in the 1860's he was a pastor in Waterville.

Rev. Judson B. Bryant	June 1890 to Feb. 1891
Bro. W. F. Rowley	June 1891 to Jan. 1892
Rev. O. C. Herbert	Jan. 1893 to Jan. 1895
Rev. Albert Leach	Jan. 1895 to Jan. 1898
Rev. H. F. Wood	May 1898 to May 1902
Rev. J. C. Harding	Dec. 1902 to June 1904
Rev. A. E. Bradford	Aug. 1904 to May 1908
Rev. W. P. Palmer	July 1908 to Oct. 1910
Rev. E. E. Longley	Mar. 1911 to Nov. 1917
Rev. W. F. Brown	July 1918 to Aug. 1920
Rev. Alexander Douglass	Oct. 1920 to Nov. 1923
Rev. C. J. Bergman	Dec. 1923 to Aug. 1926
Rev. E. E. Harris	Oct. 1926 to Dec. 1931
Prof. L. O. Haynes	Jan. 1932 to July 1943
Sidney Lovering	Oct. 1943 to July 1946
Rev. David Dunkin	Oct. 1946 to May 1949
Robert Ingraham	Apr. 1950 to Sept. 1951
Robert Dow	Oct. 1951 to June 1953
William Bryan	June 1953 to June 1954
Rev. Robert Ingraham	July 1954 to Jan. 1958
Gordon Sisson	May 1958 to July 1959
Grant Kirker	Dec. 1959 to June 1962
Rev. Algirdas Jurenas	Oct. 1962 to June 1967
Pulpit filled by supplies	June 1967 to Nov. 1967
Rev. Arthur Durbin	Nov. 1967 to Nov. 1968
Rev. Charles Stotsenburg	Nov. 1968

The First Baptist Church of Harlem, organized in the central and southern end of present-day China in 1797, built a small church sometime after 1819.¹ After Harlem was annexed to China in 1822, the First Baptist Church of Harlem became the Second Baptist Church of China. A brick meeting-house was built in South China, on land donated by Ebenezer Meiggs, in or soon after 1827.² The church voted in May 1856 to sell that building at auction. There is no record of the outcome of the auction, but in 1862 the Baptists built a larger wooden building, on the same site as the brick one, which was burned down by an anti-temperance-advocate on October 1, 1869.³ Rufus Jones wrote that William "Bill" Kingsbury, owner of the South China tavern,

1. See above, p. 24.

2. Mr. Meiggs owned a brickyard, and apparently was a member of the building committee for the new church.

3. The Baptists, and other organized religious denominations, were among the leaders of the temperance movement that swept Maine in the 1840's and 1850's and led to the famous state prohibition law passed in 1851. As early as 1806 the Bowdoinham Baptist Association was warning against excessive drinking, and by the late 1820's the Baptists were often leaders in the organization of local temperance societies (which sometimes belied their name by calling for total abstinence). By then the official position of the Maine Baptists, espoused at the state convention in 1829, was support for abstinence. By 1837 there were two secular state-wide temperance organizations, one favoring moderation and the other prohibition. The passage of the 1851 prohibition law was approved by the Baptist meetings in Maine in following years. But the law led to much unhappiness and at least one riot; in 1856 the prohibition law was repealed and replaced by a license law, which was in turn succeeded by another prohibition law in 1858. This last was overwhelmingly approved by popular referendum. The Maine Baptists then began supporting a

sold liquor, even after the Maine Law was passed. And when a temperance meeting was held in the Baptist Church...to protest against his rum business; he hired a neighbor--for a barrel of flour and a barrel of pork--to burn down the meetinghouse....Bill got two years in prison.¹

The land on which the Baptist churches had stood was sold to the Quakers in 1884.

Some of the pastors of the China Second Baptist Church were Rev. William Bowler, 1832-1849 and 1851; Daniel Bartlett, 1850; Enos Trask, appointed in December 1852; Ira H. Brown, appointed in July 1854; Daniel Bartlett, appointed again in October 1855; William Bowler again from May 1857 until he resigned in September 1862; and M. J. Kelley from October 1864 to March 1866. Constant Abbot and Daniel Stevens are also named as ministers in the early days of the church.

From 1812 to 1827 there was a Third Baptist Church in China. It originally had twenty-six members who were given leave to separate from the Vassalboro church. William Bowler and Jabez Lewis both preached to this congregation; the church apparently had no regular pastor. No church building was built, and the membership remained small. In 1827 the Third Baptist Church joined the Second Baptist Church.

China is also the site of a conference center owned by the state Baptist organization.² In the fall of 1961 the United Baptist Convention of Maine, representing almost three hundred churches, bought the former Pulaski property on the Neck Road. The buildings on the property were renovated, and in June 1962 the China Lake Conference Center was officially dedicated. Since then, additional buildings have been built and the beach on China Lake has been developed into a swimming and boating area. The Center's facilities are used by more than four thousand people annually; there is camping for young people in the summer, and many kinds of retreats and educational sessions are held throughout the year.

The South China Community Fellowship Church is an outgrowth of the China Second Baptist Church and of the Friends meeting in South China.³ The Baptist church stood where the South China Community Fellowship Church now stands until it was burned in 1869; in 1884 the Friends bought the land and built the present building; in 1935 the Friends meeting proposed the organization of the South China Community Fellowship. It was agreed that the Friends would continue to own the meetinghouse, while the Community Fellowship, formed in March 1935 with Cony Webber as its first president, would maintain the property, choose the minister, appoint necessary committees, and finance the program. All the families in the area were invited to join the Fellowship, retaining their individual denominational affiliations and working cooperatively

state constitutional amendment forbidding liquor; such an amendment was adopted in 1884. (Burrage, History of the Baptists in Maine, pp. 283-302.) See above, p. 89.

1. Jones, "Addresses About South China," p. 35.

2. The editor is grateful to Rev. Elmer N. Bentley for information about the China Lake Conference Center.

3. The editor is grateful to Mr. and Mrs. Chandler Holton of South China and Pastor Harold N. Tollefson of Richmond, Indiana, for information about the South China Community Fellowship Church.

to promote religious programs for the community. The Fellowship invited Harold N. Tollefson, pastor of the Friends meeting since 1930, to be pastor of the new church; he accepted and served until September 1936, when he left South China to become pastor of the Friends meeting in Woonsocket, Rhode Island. Reverend Thomas Griffiths, a Colby College faculty member, succeeded Pastor Tollefson, beginning as a supply and then becoming the regular minister. He served for twenty-six years, being followed in May 1962 by the present minister, Reverend Dr. David Van Strien.

The Community Fellowship has sponsored Sunday school classes and vacation Bible schools; in 1956 an addition was built onto the church building to provide more space for the Sunday School. The choir was organized in 1935 and has continued ever since, with some of the original members still in it.

In 1963 a Mr. and Mrs. Club, now the South China Fellowship Club, was organized. The primary purposes of this group are sociability and support of the church. Money is raised through contributions and suppers and other activities, and has been used for such projects as paneling the church and the adjoining two-room parish house, redoing and carpeting the church floor, and buying dishes for the parish house kitchen. The Fellowship Club has also played a role in the summer fairs sponsored by the whole church. Another group contributing to the fairs is the Helping Hand, a small women's club which spends the winter on such sewing projects as dressing dolls and making an ingenious and attractive casserole carrier. Their products, sold at the fair, bring the church several hundred dollars annually.

In January 1975, the Community Fellowship Church was given the former home of the late Mrs. Edna Weeks Van Strien in Weeks Mills. This house, which was probably built in the 1870's, is to be called the Edna Weeks Van Strien Memorial Parsonage and will provide a residence for future ministers of the church.

Yet another group of Baptists in Weeks Mills, South China, and Windsor organized in May 1843 what became the Weeks Mills and South China Freewill Baptist Church.¹ Mr. and Mrs. Jones quote from the record of the establishment of this church:

Several Bretheren belonging to the Church of Christ in Windsor together with others without a home in the Church militant here below thinking it to be for the Glory of God and the good of souls to have a church organized in So. China, application was made to Elders John Stevens and E. T. Fogg for advice and assistance, accordingly May the 15th, 1843 was appointed for that purpose.

James Hutchins was the first clerk, and Abel Chadwick and Jethro Howes

1. The editor is grateful to Mr. and Mrs. Merle Jones of Windsor for much of the information about the Weeks Mills Freewill Baptist church and about the Weeks Mills Union church, and to Mrs. Winifred Reynolds, Mrs. Erlena Bartlett, Mr. Voyle Reed, and Dr. David Van Strien for their contributions. See also Kingsbury, p. 1156.

were deacons. Other names appearing in the nineteenth century records of this church include Stewart, Fernald, Merrill, Clifford, Doe, Choate, Weeks, Jackson, Plummer, Mosher, Reed, McCurdy, Cotton, Starrett, and Hatch.

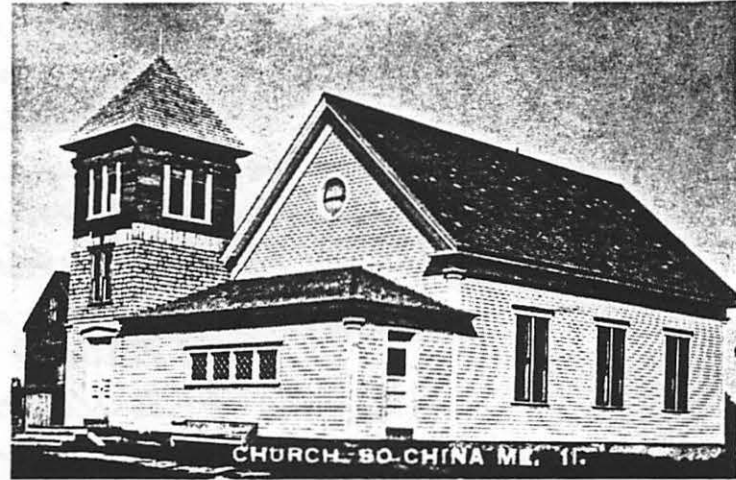
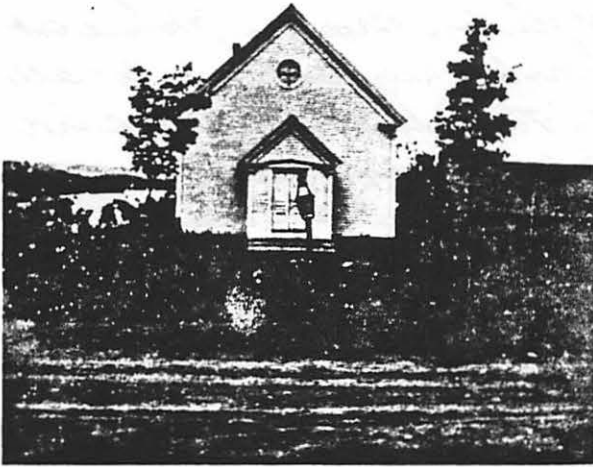
Church records from the 1840's indicate that the Weeks Mills and South China Freewill Baptists met somewhere in Weeks Mills. It is believed that they erected a church building, but this is not certain, nor is the location of the building known. The 1856 map of China showed a building labeled "Ch" (for church) a short distance south of South China village, at the intersection of the Windsor road and the road east to Pigeon Plains.¹ This church building is not accounted for in the known history of any other religious group in the southern part of China, so it may have belonged to the Freewill Baptists. The building did not appear on the 1879 map.

For the first four years, according to Kingsbury, there was no permanent minister for this Baptist group. Rev. A. P. Tracey served for a few years after 1859; in 1866 Rev. W. H. Littlefield was there, followed by Reverends F. Cooper, Mr. McKindsley, and A. C. Brown. The congregation took their religious obligations seriously in the early years. At one of their first meetings, they voted to proceed with the ceremony of washing the members' feet, as commanded in the Bible, and also elected a committee to "furnish suitable vessels to furnish the Communion table." On several occasions a member was delegated to visit some other member who was not living in accord with the church's precepts and to report back to the group. For example, the church records show that Sylvanus Chadwick and E. T. Tyler were sent "to settle a misunderstanding" between James Stevens and Abel Chadwick; at the next meeting, Mr. Tyler reported that the problem had been "settled to the satisfaction of both parties."

Meanwhile, about the same time that the Weeks Mills and South China Freewill Baptist church was organized, another group of interested people organized the South China Christian Union Society in the southern part of China. Mr. and Mrs. Jones have found a deed (dated May 29, 1842, but not recorded until 11 a.m. on July 5, 1849) whereby Joseph Gardiner sold a lot approximately five rods square to the South China Christian Union Society, which soon afterwards built the Weeks Mills Union church there.

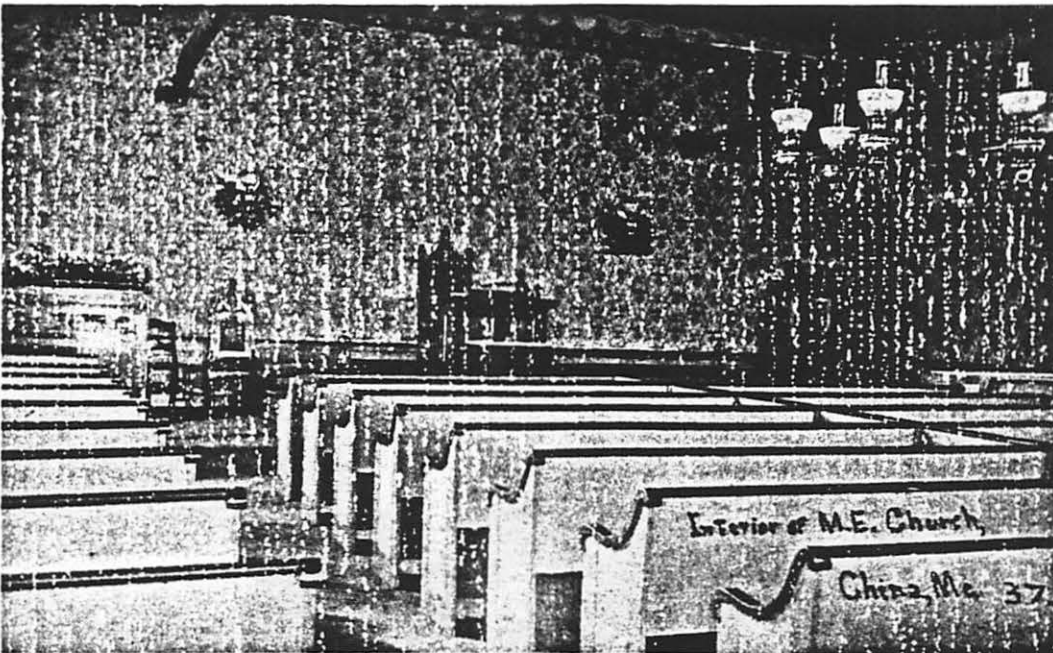
The nineteenth and twentieth century records of this Union church are unfortunately incomplete. The several religious denominations continued to share the building; Mr. and Mrs. Jones have found a record of a June 13, 1891, meeting of the Trustees of the Union Meeting House at which they were "to take such action, as to apportioning to each religious denomination owning in said House their proper proportion of time in which they may occupy said House as may deem best." Mrs. Edith Sproul Shuman remembered that about 1890 the inside of the church was redone. The pews, which used to face the back, were turned around, the choir loft became the pulpit, and the pew doors were removed and sold to local people. Early in the twentieth century ministers from the Advent church or from neighboring communities periodically conducted ser-

1. At that time the present tarred road from the Windsor road to Weeks Mills had not been built; to reach Weeks Mills from South China, a traveler went either across to Pigeon Plains and in the present North road, or south through Chadwick's Corner.



Courtesy of Lena Austin

South China church before and after remodeling



Courtesy of Mr. & Mrs. Wm. Foster

China Methodist church, interior and exterior

To the Trustees of the Union Meeting House
at Weeks Mills, China, Me. —

The undersigned few holders and part
owners in said Union Meeting House at
Weeks Mills, hereby request you to call
a meeting of all the full owners of said
Meeting House to be held at said Meeting
House on Saturday June thirteenth A.D.
1891 at two o'clock in the aft. noon then
and there to be, read the following business.

- 1st - To elect necessary officers to preside on
the meeting
- 2^d - To take such action, as to apportioning
to each religious denomination, owning
in said House, the proper proportion
of time in which they shall occupy
said house, as may seem best

China, Me. 1891

David Malcolm
Frank R. Fielding
Wm Haskell
John J. Gros
Benjamin Clifford

Wm. H. ...
E. W. ...
A. ...
...



BRANCH MILLS PALERMO ME. 9.

Branch Mills
Union Church
before 1912
thunderstorm

vices at the Union church. Among these were two Friends ministers, Mrs. Susan Sisson (mother of Mrs. Annie Berry Kenoyer and grandmother of Mrs. Helen Kenoyer Mosher) and Mr. Albert Smith (father of the late Mrs. Mina Jackson).

After some years of inactivity in the first part of this century, the Waldo County Larger Parish, under the direction of Rev. Harold Nutter,¹ helped encourage a revival of interest in Weeks Mills. A Baptist church was organized and services were again held in the old Union Church building. Summer student ministers were provided, including Howard Kee, Jerry Beaven, and Stanley Washburn; the last-named continued as a full-time pastor. In 1949 Mrs. Winifred Reynolds became pastor; she served until September 1974, when she was succeeded by Richard Chaffee. Late in 1974 the church had between forty and fifty members. Mr. and Mrs. Jones write that with the support of its members and associates the church had prospered to the point where "it is not only self supporting but contributes to the Parish and to many other missionary activities."

Besides worship services and Sunday school, church activities include occasional Fellowship suppers and a vacation Bible school in June which often attracts a hundred or more children. In the late 1960's a new organ was dedicated to Miss Kathleen Whitehouse, who had served as organist and Sunday school teacher for many years, and to Deacon Edwin Kidder. A building fund was started in 1966, with Mrs. Erlena Bartlett as treasurer (a position she still held at the beginning of 1975). Money was donated by the members to repair and maintain the Union Church building. The first major project was undertaken in 1969, with money thus collected and the volunteer labor of the members. The building was jacked up and a cellar was dug which provided space for a furnace room (until then the church had been heated by stoves; Linwood Saben built the fires for many years), a large room for suppers and other activities, Sunday school classrooms, a small kitchen, and toilet facilities. Since then, money from the building fund has been used for such projects as reshingling the outside of the church.

The church building presently standing in Branch Mills was built in 1861 as a Union Church; the three principal groups supporting its construction were the Christian Church, the Baptists, and the Adventists.² The Christian Church was organized on May 28, 1859, in Coombs' Hall in Branch Mills.³ The sixteen original members of this church were Sarah T. Dodge, Arlette Bragg, Martha Anna Clark, Amanda Eliza Foye, Abbie K. Marden, Rosanna Whittier, Mercy Abbie Newhall, Mary Moore, Eliza Bragg, Elizabeth Jones, Hannah Andrews, Israel Jones, Amos Jones, Albert Gardner, Jason Dodge, and Jose Greeley. Jason Dodge was chosen deacon and Jose Greeley was chosen clerk.

Two weeks later, on June 11, 1859, the congregation wrote to the Christian Elders' Conference which was to meet in Albion on June 17, as follows:

Brethren, having as we trust, obtained like
precious faith with you in the love and promises
of God; we have chosen our brothers Jose Greeley,

1. The Waldo County Larger Parish is an interdenominational body, Rev. Nutter a Baptist.

2. The editor is grateful to Mrs. Ballantyne for information about the Branch Mills Union Church. See also Kingsbury, p. 1156.

3. According to Mrs. Ballantyne. Kingsbury calls this group the Christian Connection and says there were forty members.

Chandler Towle and Hartwell Bragg as delegates to sit with you in conference, and have instructed our Clerk to write you an epistle, giving you a concise account of our rise as a Church, and of our past and present condition with respect to the community with which we dwell, as that of our particular Body. And, first with regard to the public where we dwell; for ten or twelve years past, no Church or organized body of Christians has existed here, but here and there, might be found individuals who had made profession of faith in Christ, having removed here from other parts of the country, where they formerly had a standing in the Churches in those different places; and regular public worship has not been maintained in our midst, though occasionally preachers of different orders have come in and held meetings; yet notwithstanding this want of regularity and system in matters of religion, we deem that as a whole, the people of this place would compare favorably with those of most other places, where religious organizations have existed in respect to morality; but we believe [sic] this good is to be attributed mostly to the influences of the religious instruction the inhabitants had received in their earlier lives; for we believe that, from pure religion, springs every good quality that is made to adorn the world of mankind, therefore we cannot or would not, undervalue the institutions of the gospel.

And next, the circumstances and means attendant on the change wrought on the people of this, our place; in February last, Elder Oliver Whitcomb of Monroe came amongst us, and commenced a series of meetings, which, at the first were very thinly attended, but every succeeding meeting was increased in numbers till it was soon found that the District School House, (where they were at first held) would not contain the people who were disposed to attend, and the meetings were ultimately held in a Hall which was originally built to accommodate the Sons of Temperance, the most commodious of any room in the place, and the Sabbaths have been so fully attended, that not one half of the people could be convened in that, and to accommodate the residue, an additional meeting, for a number of Sabbaths, has been held at the School house first named, and notwithstanding the excitement, attending these meetings, has been deep and impressive, wild enthusiasm and undue or groundless fears have found no place with us, but a sense of our obligation to our God, to ourselves, and to our fellowman, has been the evident moving cause of the great change that has taken place in our midst; to our God for his good will to us while we were yet sinners; to ourselves because our happiness is dependent on our obedience

to the commands of God; and, to our fellow man, because the love of God, in the heart, prompts us to wish, and to seek for the welfare of others; and we believe this state of feelings is in no small degree attributable to the wise and salutary course pursued by the preacher, whose labors have been blest to the good of many souls in this place; and not to his labors alone are we indebted for the good work of grace; but much is due to the good will, and kind help of individuals of this place belonging to other orders of Christians, especially of those of the Baptist denomination, who have not only lent their aid in the conversions of souls, but have used their influence to induce their wives, their children and other friends to unite themselves with us in church organization, and we feel that we should prove ourselves ungrateful, were we to withhold from them this tribute of merited praise.¹

In the spring of 1860 the Christian Church began Sunday school and Bible classes, which were well attended.

In 1860 the Christians were still meeting in the temperance meeting room, which had been provided about ten years earlier above Coombs' store and which the local division of the Sons of Temperance still used. They wrote on June 10, 1860, to the Maine Central Christian Conference that weekly division meetings were still held there,

we not having any more convenient place to hold them; though we have made some attempt at erecting a house, but, on account of the lack of water this spring for sawing lumber and of other impediments we have decided to postpone till another season....

By the fall of 1860 they were ready to consider building a church. A group of Christian Church members and other interested citizens met at Benjamin Nelson's hall and voted to buy a lot and build a church. The organizers of this effort included Hiram Worthing, Danforth Parmenter, Thomas Dinsmore, Jr., Isaac Dow, James Small, Benjamin Nelson, J. N. Hanson, Orison Parmenter, and Ebenezer Robbins. The building committee included Jose H. Greeley, Danforth Parmenter, John Bugbee, Jacob Hanson, Orison Parmenter, Thomas Dinsmore, Jr., Albion S. Bean, John Erskine, Benjamin Nelson, Hillman Worthing, Stephen M. Spiller, and Hiram Worthing. A lot was purchased and graded, and J. E. Cary actually built the church, which was completed in 1861 and dedicated February 28, 1862. The total cost of land, construction, and furnishings for the church was about \$1400. Part of the money was raised by selling pews--one sold for \$30.25 in February 1862--and part by contributions; Kingsbury says, "The

1. This letter was excerpted from the Record Book of the Christian Church in China, organized May 28, 1859, by Mrs. Ballantyne. The record book was bought of Edward Fenno, Augusta, by Jose Greeley for thirty-five cents and presented to the church.

bell and pipe organ were obtained by subscription."¹

The Freewill Baptist Society of Branch Mills was organized June 17, 1862, with thirteen original members. When the Branch Mills Adventists organized is not known. In 1869, by petition of the parishioners, the Branch Mills Church Corporation was formed. A Sunday school was organized, at first only in the summer, in 1881 on a year-round basis. Kingsbury, writing in 1892, described the Adventists as occupying the Union Church and supplying a minister (at that time John Robert Hall) every other Sunday. The Freewill Baptists had supported half the preaching in the Union Church for some years, and since 1890 Rev. A. B. Brown had been holding services every Sunday in the afternoon. The Christian Connection, Kingsbury said, had in the past helped support the church for about ten years. Another source cited by Mr. Thurlow mentions the Friends as additional supporters of the Branch Mills Union Church.

According to a paper written by Mrs. James Dinsmore, the church originally had three wing pews on each side of a high pulpit; in the rear of the building was a gallery, raised three or four steps, where the choir sang, accompanied by an organ operated by a hand pump. The wing pews and original pulpit and gallery have been removed in subsequent remodelings, and the organ has been moved to the front, but some of the original pews survive. The first bell eventually cracked and was replaced.

The Union Church was active well into the twentieth century, as the records studied by Mrs. Ballantyne show. For some years the choir, consisting of Charles Dowe, bass, Thomas Bridgham, tenor, Emma Worthing, alto, and Helen Worthing, soprano, was well-known in the area. On February 22, 1912, the church building was damaged by lightning which struck the belfry and destroyed the pipe organ. Repairs were quickly made, with a Mr. McCartney drawing the plans for a new belfry. The church was wired for electricity in 1929. By the 1940's, however, the congregation had become smaller than in past years, and by the 1970's regular services were no longer held. In 1974 the building was kept in repair and the lawn mowed by neighbors, and the church was occasionally used for weddings or other special services. The old maples shading the lawn had begun to decay and lose their branches; a new tree was planted in 1973 under the auspices of the state shade tree program.

Besides the Branch Mills Adventists who helped support the Union church there, another group of Adventists organized in Weeks Mills in the mid-nineteenth century.² In 1871 they bought a building, moved it to a site beside the building housing a shop and on the second floor the Masonic Hall, and converted it into the Advent Christian Church. In April 1890³ church and Masonic Hall burned. The church was soon rebuilt; it still stands on the North Road in Weeks Mills, beside the present Masonic Hall. Adventist pastors in Weeks Mills have included Elder Andrews (who used to come by train from Portland to Augusta and hire a horse for his trip from there to Weeks Mills), J. R. Hall, George Weeks, William Hall, Trundy,

1. Kingsbury, p. 1156. Mrs. Edith Pinkham Burrill writes that she still has the deed to the pew her father purchased. Mrs. Burrill's grandfather, William E. Pinkham, and her father, Herbert L. Pinkham, each served both as Sunday school superintendent and as clerk of the Branch Mills Church Corporation.

2. The editor is grateful to Mrs. Mildred Lowden for information about the Weeks Mills Advent Christian Church.

3. Or, according to some sources, in 1886; Kingsbury, writing in 1892, gives the 1890 date.

Varney, Dow, Blanchard, and O. A. S. Mayberry. The Advent Christian Church was reorganized in October 1905 with the help of William Jackson of Monmouth.

There was yet another nineteenth-century Adventist group organized at Deer Hill, but apparently their records have not survived.

The Adventists in the southern end of China were instrumental in establishing the Maple Grove Campmeeting Association in 1895.¹ The group leased some land on Pigeon Plains (now the property of J. Melvin Haskell, Sr.) from Llewellyn Jackson. During the period when the meeting ground was in use, there were a preaching stand with seats in front of it and sleeping rooms upstairs for the clergy, a large tent for evening services, a boarding house (run for many years by Mr. and Mrs. Jackson), a cottage (owned by Sarah Shuman), and several tents provided by the Busy Bees sewing circle of the Weeks Mills Christian Advent Church. Behind the boarding house was a small building where home-made ice cream was sold. A well supplied clear, cold water. The Wiscasset, Waterville, & Farmington narrow-gauge railroad ran excursion trains from Wiscasset for out-of-state travelers; a train platform had been built right opposite the campground for the passengers' convenience. Campmeetings were important events, well-attended and addressed by preachers from local churches and from farther away.

The property changed hands and the lease was not renewed.

The records of the Methodist churches in China are fragmentary. One group organized in China Village, probably in the late 1830's, and after meeting in schoolhouses for a while built a church on Main Street (about where Dows' house and the China General Store now stand, just north of the grange hall). The lot was sold to the Methodists in April 1843 by Daniel and Thomas Stevens.² The Methodist building committee included Robert Fletcher, Timothy Priest, John Estes 2nd, David Waite, and Zalmuna Washburn, Jr. Kingsbury lists the ministers of this church as follows:

1866, Moses W. Newhurst [Newbert?]; 1868, Charles B. Besse; 1870, David P. Thompson; 1872, B. C. Wentworth; 1876, Jacob F. Crosby; 1878, Charles H. Bray, who died in China in 1879; 1879, William J. Clifford; 1881, J. C. Lamb; 1883, E. S. Gahan; 1886, William B. Eldridge; 1888, E. A. Glidden; 1890, James Byram and Edward Freeman; and in May, 1891, F. W. Brooks. The records of the East Maine Conference show that Elliot B. Fletcher was credited to China in 1861; Benjamin C. Wentworth, 1875-7; and Jacob F. Crosby, 1878-9.³

The house on the Neck Road now owned by Miss Louise Tracey was once the Methodist parsonage. Moses Newbert, who was a Methodist minister, owned the house in 1869 and 1870; in 1886 it was sold to the church for \$500. The China Methodist Church was torn down in 1927.

1. The editor is grateful to Mrs. Lowden for information on the Maple Grove Campmeeting Association.
2. The Fosters have found the record of this sale. Kingsbury (p. 1155) says the Methodist church was built in 1842.
3. Kingsbury, pp. 1155-1156.

Kingsbury also mentions a church built by the Methodists at Chadwick's Corner. This building was abandoned by 1882 when it was purchased by the newly-created Erskine Academy.

The only Catholic church in China is St. Peter's Chapel, dedicated on July 8, 1962, as a mission of St. Bridget's Roman Catholic Church of North Vassalboro. This small building on the Pond Road just south of the Friends Camp is the scene of weekend masses during the summer months only.

The churches described above may not be the only ones that have been organized in China. The 1856 map of the town showed two buildings labeled "Ch" for church, neither of which has been definitely connected with any of the denominations discussed. As mentioned above, the one at the intersection of the Windsor road and the road to Pigeon Plains may have belonged to the Weeks Mills and South China Free Will Baptists. The other church was farther east, on the no longer used road running southeast off the North road from Weeks Mills to Dirigo. Neither building appeared on the 1879 map.

Cemeteries

Within the town limits of China there are twenty-seven known and located cemeteries and two others, the Seco cemetery and the Talbot cemetery near the eastern boundary, known but not located on the map accompanying this history.¹ Some or all of the people buried in these two graveyards, and in the Sewall cemetery (#23 on map 6), were Negroes. Each of the four villages has at least one burying ground; some of the others are denominational, and are or were located near meeting houses, like the Friends cemeteries on China Neck, on the Pond Road, and at Dirigo; and still others are or were originally family burial grounds.

Undoubtedly these twenty-nine are not the only burying places in town. Mention has already been made of the early Clark family cemetery which may have existed near the present Clark monument and of the pre-1819 cemetery at the northeast end of the lake.² Mrs. Jackson has found references in town records to a York cemetery in Yorktown, in eastern China, but has been unable to locate it. Mrs. William Carpenter has been told that there used to be a small family burying ground across the Neck Road from her house, in the corner between the Neck Road and the road going down to the lake. It had apparently been abandoned by the time her grandparents bought the house in 1875. Besides these, and probably other, lost cemeteries, the 1856 and 1879 maps showed two cemeteries which no longer exist, one on the west side of the Neck Road some distance north of the Friends meeting house and one at the corner of the Pleasant Ridge and McCaslin roads. Mrs. Jackson says that these graves, like the ones near the site of the old Hanson schoolhouse,³ have been moved.

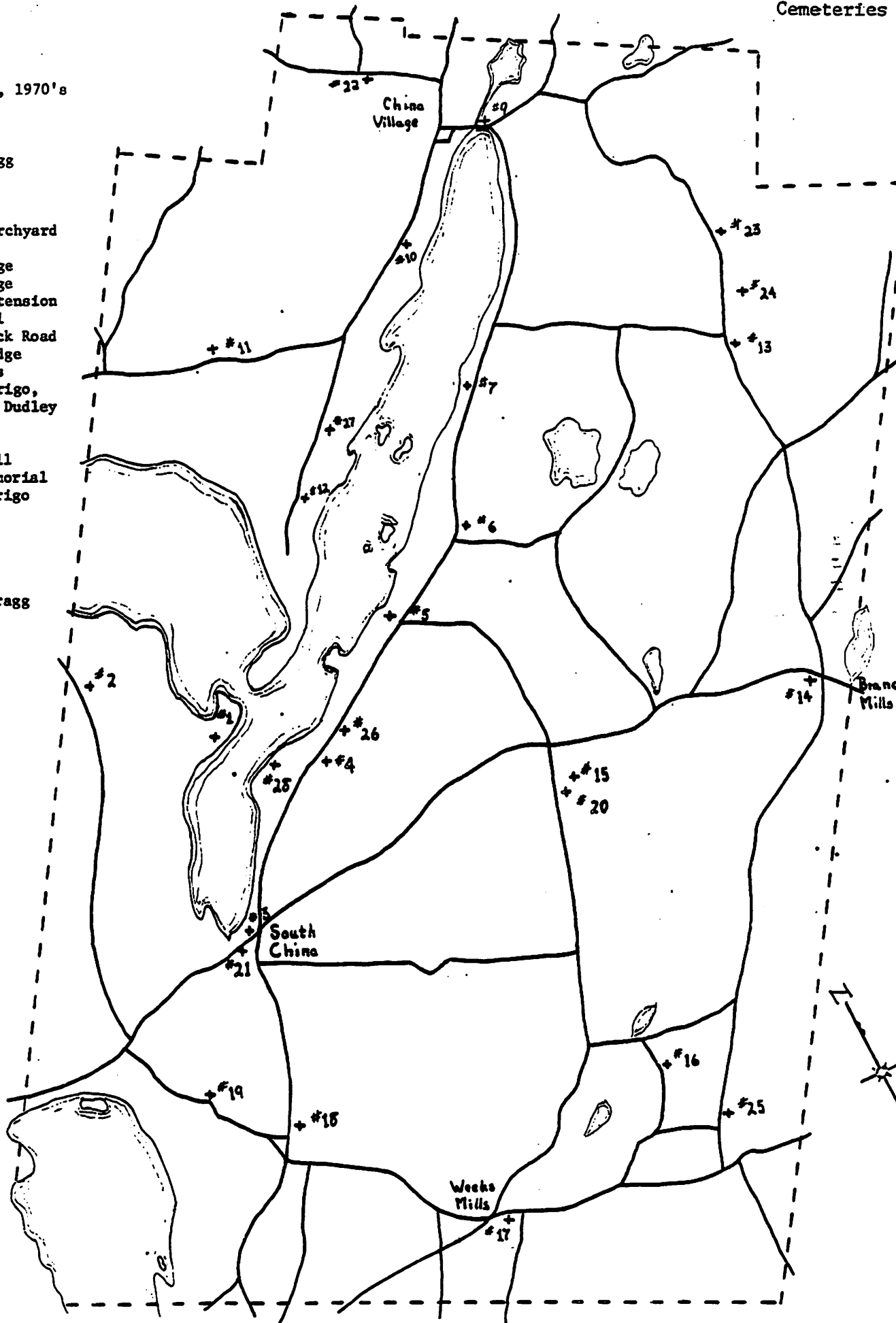
1. The editor is grateful to Mrs. Charles Jackson and others for information about cemeteries in China. Mrs. Jackson prepared the map of China cemetery locations (see Map 6 opposite;) she has also compiled from DAR records, town records, and personal observation a booklet of China cemetery inscriptions. A copy of the first edition of this valuable source is in the town office; a revised edition is now in preparation.

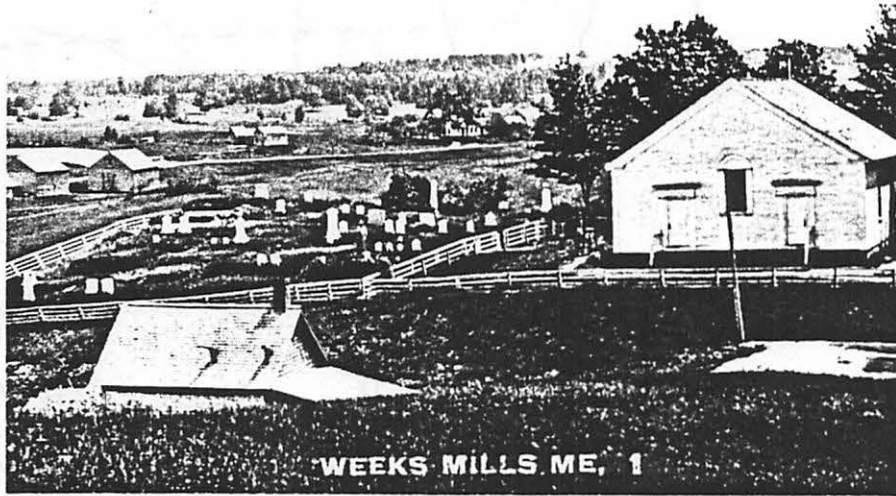
2. See above, p. 4, footnote 4, and p. 25, footnote 1.

3. See above, p. 113, footnote 2.

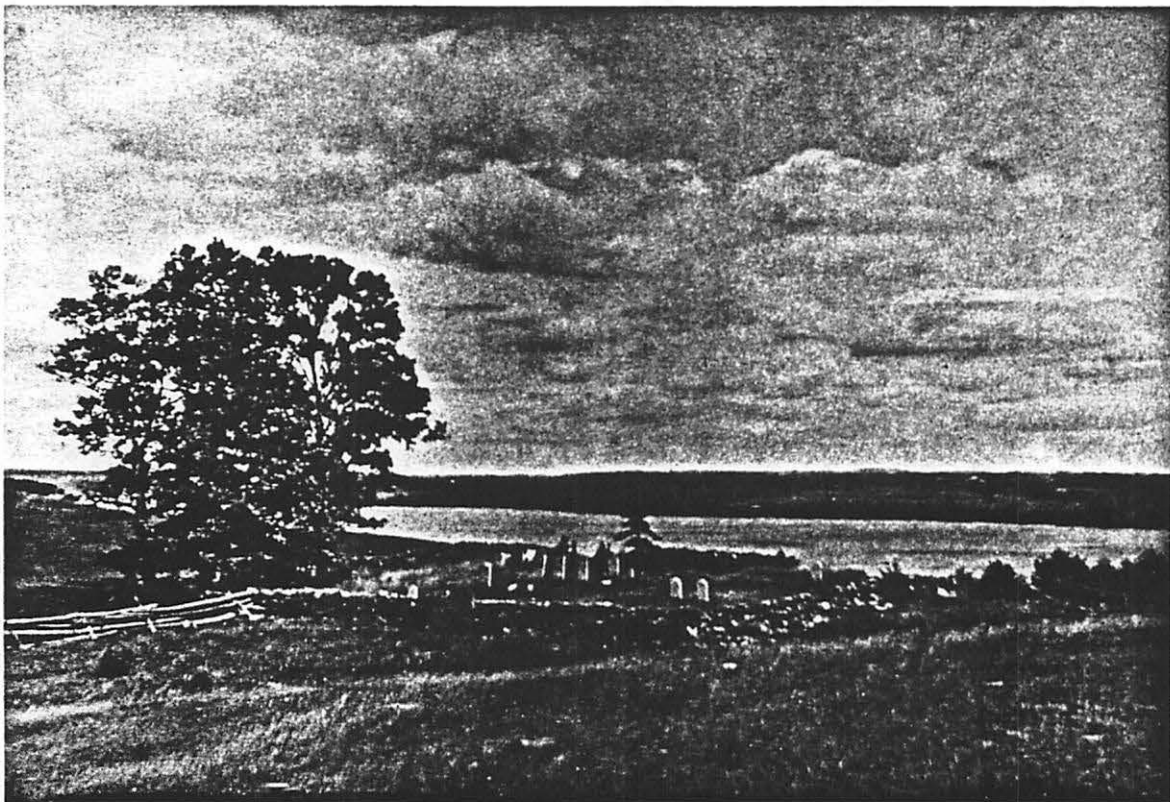
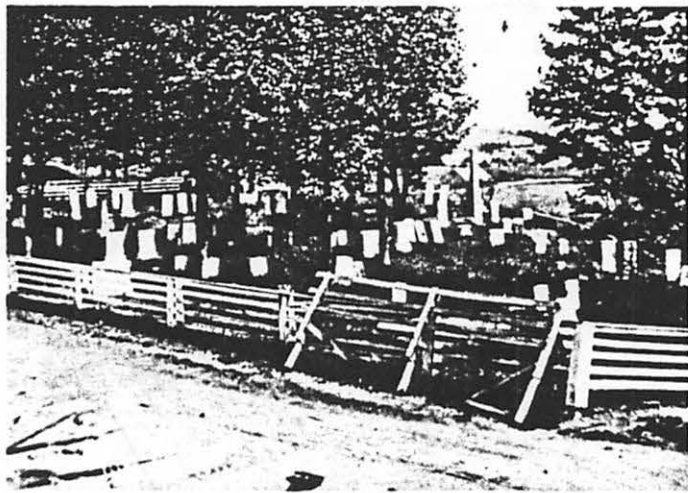
China cemeteries, 1970's

- #1 Clark
- 2 Morrill-Bragg
- 3 South China
- 4 Haskell
- 5 Lakeshore
- 6 Friends Churchyard
- 7 Lakeview
- 9 China Village
- 10 China Village
Extension
- 11 Stanley Hill
- 12 Friends, Neck Road
- 13 Pleasant Ridge
- 14 Branch Mills
- 15 Friends, Dirigo,
or Dudley
- 16 Deer Hill
- 17 Weeks Mills
- 18 Chadwick Hill
- 19 Chadwick Memorial
- 20 Friends, Dirigo
- 21 Jones
- 22 Morrill
- 23 Sewall
- 24 Bussey
- 25 Gray
- 26 Nathaniel Bragg
- 27 Turner
- 28 Number 28





Weeks Mills church
and cemetery



Courtesy of Gertrude Clark
Clark cemetery as it looked in 1910

The China Village cemetery (#9 on Map 6) is situated on a knoll at the northeast corner of the lake. Because of the limited space there, the China Village Extension (#10) was opened on the east side of the Neck Road in the 1940's. Local legend says that the original Washburn family plot was on the point now called Church Park, at the northwest corner of the lake across the road from the lot where the church has stood since 1822, and that the graves were moved from there to the present cemetery.¹ Among the early settlers buried in the China Village cemetery, besides Japheth Washburn (1746-1828),² were James Brackett (died January 3, 1825, aged 99 years) and his wife Margery (died July 7, 1816, aged 85 years). Many of the second generation of such families as the Lancasters, McLaughlins, Wards, and Wiggins were also buried here.

The two China Village cemeteries are maintained by the China Cemetery Association. The association was organized in September 1865, according to Kingsbury; its nineteenth-century presidents included Samuel Hanscom, John F. Hunhewell, Jabez Lewis, S. H. Farnsworth, Abisha B. Fletcher, and Charles E. Dutton. In 1892 Theron E. Doe was secretary of the association;³ he still held that office on May 5, 1911, and the fire which destroyed his house on that date also destroyed the association's early records. A new secretary's book started on June 24, 1911, is still in use.⁴ At the June 1911 meeting, the members present (meeting in association treasurer Willis Washburn's office) instructed a committee consisting of Mr. Washburn, Dr. G. J. Nelson, and Mr. Doe to draw up a new constitution and by-laws. This document was adopted at the June 1912 meeting.⁵ The constitution provided for annual meetings and for election of a president, vice-president, secretary, and treasurer and of a superintending committee and a finance committee. The superintending committee was charged with regulating the price and sale of cemetery lots and with maintaining the cemetery, including mowing grass and cutting bushes, painting and repairing the fence (which Kingsbury says was erected in 1866), and looking after the tombs and righting any fallen stones.⁶

1. However, Kingsbury says (p. 1159): "The family ground of the Washburns was pleasantly situated on the knoll near the present cemetery, and this knoll was selected, embodying that ground." The church park lot is the one that was sold by John Brackett to the China Academy in 1820; the academy gave the lot to the town about 1828 and the village school-house was built there soon afterward.

2. Japheth Washburn's son, Japheth C. Washburn and his first wife Betsey also have stones here, but Miss Clifford (Japheth C. Washburn's great-great-grand-daughter) says that Japheth C. was buried in Calais, Maine.

3. Kingsbury, p. 1159.

4. The editor is grateful to Mrs. Foster for the loan of the Cemetery Association secretary's book.

5. The 1912 meeting was first called for 2:30 p.m. on Monday, June 24; there being no quorum, it was adjourned to 7 that evening, when there was still no quorum; the meeting was finally held on the evening of June 25. The same thing happened in several succeeding years, and in 1919 and 1920 the association never did get a quorum.

6. These 1912 by-laws remained in effect until June 1974, when revised by-laws were adopted. Several minor changes were made, including the institution of nominal membership dues, a change in the annual meeting date from June to May, expansion of the superintending committee from three to five members, and provision for an elected nominating committee.

The officers elected in 1911 were Charles Dutton, president; G. J. Nelson, vice-president; Theron Doe, secretary; and Willis W. Washburn, treasurer. All four were re-elected annually until 1915, when John A. Woodsum succeeded Dr. Nelson as vice-president.¹ He remained vice-president until 1921, when he succeeded Mr. Dutton as president; in that year, too, W. C. Washburn replaced Theron Doe as secretary. Mr. Woodsum served as president until his death in August 1938; he was followed by Carl Stenholm (1939-1945), Willis F. Washburn (1946-1947), William Foster (1950-1954), Edna Meader (1958-1964), Eileen Morris (1965-1968), and Nelson Bailey (1969-present). Willis W. Washburn remained as treasurer until he died in 1942.

The Cemetery Association minutes in the 1920's record the election of officers and committees and occasionally approval of an expenditure for repairs and maintenance. A modern problem first appeared in 1930, when it was voted "to post signs in Cemetery road forbidding parking." In June 1932 the following motion was approved:

Voted that the Superintending Committee be authorized to offer a reward not exceeding \$25.00 for information that will lead to the arrest and conviction of any person or persons removing non-parking signs on the road leading from the highway to the Cemetery.

The June 1932 meeting also instructed the superintending committee to find out what could be done to improve the road. In 1940, Charles and Will Bailey were constituted a committee to repair the road, using good gravel but not spending more than fifty dollars; they reported in June 1941 that the work was done.

Planning for another cemetery in the village began in 1940 when a committee was asked to discuss with Wayland Jones purchase of some of his land. Negotiations were unsuccessful, and in June 1941 the same committee was asked to try to buy a lot ("not more than two acres at \$100.00 per acre with a frontage of at least ten rods") from Bateman Wentworth. The committee was further authorized to "plow, harrow and seed the plot" and otherwise prepare it for division into lots. In 1942 this latter responsibility was turned over to the superintending committee. Three years later, a problem arose: the 1945 meeting authorized test borings to see whether there was ledge too close to the surface, and instructed the superintending committee to dispose of the lot ("at not less than the purchase price") if the topsoil was not deep enough and to buy some other lot "after a similar test." The Wentworth lot turned out to be usable, however, and at meetings held in 1946, 1947, 1950, 1953, 1958, and 1959 the association discussed the laying-out and landscaping of the new cemetery.

With two cemeteries to keep in order, expenses increased in the 1950's and 1960's. The sale of lots in the extension cemetery brought in some revenue. In the 1960's, the Cemetery Association requested donations from local residents for care of the cemeteries and held

1. It was also in 1915 that the finance committee (constitutionally responsible for examining and certifying the treasurer's books annually) changed from a three-man to a three-woman body with the election of Abbie Sturtevant, Ella Bartlett, and Hattie Hamlin.

summer food sales for several years. Money thus obtained was spent to pay the salaries of cemetery caretakers each summer, to provide loam and fertilizer for the extension cemetery, and to maintain the road and the fence at the original cemetery and reset many of the old gravestones there.

The South China cemetery (#3), behind the church in South China village, has stones dating back to the 1830's.¹ Some of the second generation of the Clark family in China were buried here, as were Dr. George E. Brickett, who served in the Civil War; Ebenezer Meiggs (who lived from 1785 or 1786 to 1845 or 1846) and his wife; and many Webbers. There used to be a South China Cemetery Association, organized in 1878 by George F. Clark, Charles B. Stuart, William Crossman, and half a dozen others; this association disbanded when the town took over maintenance of the South China cemetery in 1967.

The Branch Mills cemetery (#14), on the south side of the main street a little west of the church, was laid out early in the nineteenth century. Kingsbury says that the land for the village cemetery and for a Friends cemetery was donated by John Dow, who came to Branch Mills in 1807. The Branch Mills Cemetery Association was incorporated in January 1854 and soon bought additional land around the Dow tracts. Mrs. Ballantyne has found a deed of May 8, 1854, by which Thomas Dinsmore gave the Branch Mills Cemetery Corporation "land to add to the present burial ground which was originally deeded by John Dow to the China Monthly Meeting of Friends." Apparently the Friends maintained one part of the burying ground and the cemetery association the other part for many years, for Mr. Thurlow found that in May 1930 the Friends' part of the cemetery was transferred by lease to the Branch Mills Cemetery Association by the Trustees of the Society of the Friends' Burying Grounds (Harry W. Austin, Charles W. Jones, and Roscoe E. Jones). In March 1975 voters at town meeting approved a warrant article "to accept from the Branch Mills Cemetery Corporation, the funds in trust and in general funds for the perpetual care of the Branch Mills Cemetery."

Mr. Thurlow wrote that the earliest burial in the Branch Mills cemetery was that of Rufus Patten, who died July 26, 1820, aged 12 years and 11 months. Captain Caleb Parmenter (died July 17, 1864, aged 83 years) and his wife Lydia and his brother Joseph (died January 5, 1866, aged 83 years) and Joseph's wife Roxa were all buried here, with many members of their families. There are also graves of Dinsmores, Worthings, Greeleys, Hansons, and other families well-known in the history of Branch Mills and Palermo.

The Weeks Mills cemetery (#17), on the south side of the main street behind and beside the church, has graystones dating from the first two decades of the nineteenth century.³ Among the earliest burials were the children of Captain William Mosher (a veteran of the War of 1812) and his wife Freelove (Weeks) Mosher: of their daughters, Lydia B. lived from 1814 to 1816, Judith C. 1825 to 1826, Vesta M. 1834 to 1848, and Lydia A. 1835 to 1847. The first records pertaining to this cemetery are from the 1840's. The Union Church deed of 1842 refers to the

1. Kingsbury says that the South China cemetery was at one time a Friends cemetery (p. 1159), but Mr. Ralph Austin has found no Friends records substantiating this statement.

2. Kingsbury, p. 1159. The editor is grateful to Mrs. Ballantyne for information on the Branch Mills cemetery.

3. The editor is grateful to Mr. and Mrs. Merle Jones for information on the Weeks Mills cemetery.

graveyard; and by a June 1849 deed William Mosher¹ of China sold to the Weeks Mills Burying Ground Society for thirty dollars the following parcel of land:

...a part of lot No. 60...bounded as follows, beginning at a stake and stones about eight rods from the North West corner of the Union Meeting House Lot at Weeks Mills in a Southerly direction, thence North Westerly about ten rods to the South West corner of the old burying ground, thence Easterly four rods to the North-east corner of said burying ground, thence North-erly four rods to the road at the Northeast corner of said burying ground, thence Easterly by said road to the Meeting house lot, thence Southerly about eight rods to the first mentioned bounds, containing thirty four rods more or less.

The Weeks Mills Burying Ground Society appears in surviving records at least once more, when it was organized again in 1872. Kingsbury wrote in 1892 that the Weeks Mills cemetery

was formerly under the direction of a corpora-tion, which after many years was allowed to be dispersed. Lots on the adjoining lands of Frank Percival are still sold by him, and the grounds present a clean, regular appearance, with good fences.²

In 1913 the Weeks Mills Cemetery Association was chartered as a corpora-tion under state law. The Cemetery Association's first officers were W. B. Shuman, president; George E. Marr, vice-president; M. F. Perkins, secretary; and R. E. Reed, treasurer. This association still maintains the cemetery; in 1973 the members began the task of cleaning from the old stones the moss and lichens which had obliterated many of the in-scriptions.

All of the China cemeteries now associated with a specific reli-gious group are Friends'. There are seven Friends cemeteries in China,³ of which the oldest is behind the former meeting house (now part of the Friends Camp) on the Pond Road (#6). The first burial there is said to have been that of Mrs. George Fish, daughter of Jonathan Clark, one of the original settlers of China. There appear to have been other early burials here, with only fieldstones as markers. The first engraved stone is that of Jedediah Jepson and his family, with the dates 1758-1822. The next oldest date is the February 8, 1829, death of Dorcas

1. The Captain William Mosher mentioned above lived from 1790 to 1854; there is also the gravestone of another William Mosher, who died in January 1876 at the age of 59.

2. Kingsbury, p. 1159.

3. Kingsbury, in 1892, mentioned only three, the Pond road (#6) and Neck road (#12) yards and the South China cemetery (#3). The editor is grateful to Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Austin for information on the China-Friends cemeteries.

Winslow (daughter of Caleb and Peace Jones and wife of Elijah Winslow).

Another early Friends cemetery (#12) is on the lake side of the Neck road near the site of the former Friends Meeting House there. The earliest dated stone there is that of Isaiah R. Jones, son of Isaac and Nancy Jones, who died August 27, 1826, at the age of eight months. There were several more Joneses buried there, with Pinkhams, Wentworths, Winslows, and other families. One stone marks the grave of Denmark Hobby, a former slave of the Vassalboro Quaker Remington Hobby.

There are two more Friends graveyards at Dirigo Corner, again near the site of a former meeting house. The one farther from the road (#15) has a stone, that of Mary Buffum, dated March 1, 1823. Eli and Sybil Jones were buried here; so also was their oldest son, Major James P. Jones, the "Fighting Quaker" of Civil War fame, with his wife Rebecca (who took a second husband, Rev. Moses Newbert, and died in 1899) and two of their children. Major Jones was killed in July 1864, and his widow lost her new-born daughter on August 11 and her three-year-old son on August 14. The other cemetery at Dirigo (#20) is closer to the road and may be the more recent of the two, as the earliest legible date on a gravestone is 1837 (although there are also numerous earlier fieldstones lacking names or dates in the plot).

The Jones cemetery in South China (#21) is also a Friends cemetery; the earliest legible date in this neatly fenced, pine-shaded yard is 1822. Several family names besides Jones are found on the gravestones here. Similarly, in the Hussey cemetery (#24) on the Pleasant Ridge road, another Friends burying ground, most but not all the graves are those of Husseys. The oldest stone in this cemetery is dated 1818, and the others range from 1820 to 1872.

The Lakeview cemetery (#7), a fairly large and well-tended graveyard on the west side of the Pond Road, is also a Friends cemetery, as is indicated by the prevalence of such Quaker names as Austin, Hawkes, Hussey, Jepson, and Jones. The earliest marked stone there is that of E. Hawkes, who died September 4, 1832. Another early stone marks the grave of Lydia M. Hawkes, who died July 14, 1834, aged 18 years. According to the local Friends' records, the first could be the grave of Esther, wife of Isaac Hawkes, who died September 3, 1832, aged 27; and Lemuel and Abigail Hawkes had a daughter Lydia, who was born in Harlem on January 26, 1816.

Expenses for the care of the local Quaker cemeteries are paid from the China Monthly Meeting Burial Ground Fund, administered by a committee of China Friends. Mr. Ralph Austin currently serves as treasurer of this fund.

Two other early cemeteries in China are the Clark cemetery (#1) and the Lakeshore cemetery (#5). The former, now overgrown with brush, can be reached only by walking through the woods from route 32. According to Mr. Raymond Clark's detailed description of this yard,¹ the earliest burial was in 1775, although the earliest dated stone is that of Mary Coffin, who died in 1814. In some cases graves were marked only by fieldstones, and in some of the lots Mr. Clark did not know whether or not there were any burials. Besides several Clark families, Pages, Nortons, and Bassetts were buried in this cemetery.

1. Clark, History: Family of Thomas and Mary Church Clark, pp. 55-57.

The Lakeshore cemetery (#5) covers an area about ten thousand feet square close to the east shore of the lake nearly opposite the Alder Park road. Many of the stones in this yard are fieldstones with no inscription at all or with only initials. Among the marked graves are those of Michael Norton and his wife Hannah, Jacob Norton and his wife Betsey, and Thomas Norton and his wife Abigail. Michael Norton, one of the earliest settlers in China, served in the Revolutionary War and died in 1854 at the age of 94. His son Thomas, the first white male born in China, was 75 when he died in April 1849. Both he and Jacob are identified as veterans of the War of 1812. Dr. John Hall (died April 18, 1836, aged 82), another Revolutionary soldier, was buried in this cemetery; the earliest dated stone is that of his daughter Hannah, who died May 21, 1818. According to Mr. Lawrence Hall,¹ Mr. Thomas Dinsmore of Branch Mills provided some of the funds to help maintain this cemetery; the Hall family used to do some of the work. Years ago cows grazed among the graves and kept the bushes down, but people thought this was disrespectful and the cemetery was fenced.

The Chadwick Hill cemetery (#18) also contains some early graves, including those of Selina Abbott (died December 20, 1820, aged 23 years), Paul Chadwick (died in 1809),² Judah Chadwick (died August 9, 1816, aged 51), and Abner Starrett (died August 14, 1819, aged 43). This cemetery, or part of it, is probably the one shown on a map in the town records for 1872;³ it was purchased in that year by G. B. Chadwick and William N. Rollins, and for some reason the map was recorded and attested by the town clerk. The map shows two rows of lots of varying sizes, with prices beginning at \$6 for each of two 12 by 32 foot lots at the east end (some 9 by 32 foot lots near the west end cost \$6.50 or \$7) and rising to \$12 for the 26 by 32 foot lots near the middle of the area. Names of lot owners on the map include William N. Rollins, Abie Chadwick, Joseph Newcomb, G. B. Chadwick, and A. H. Abbot.⁴

The Chadwick Hill Cemetery Association was organized in 1891; its records include a copy of the documents calling the founding meeting of the association on April 30 of that year.⁵ The meeting was requested by Samuel C. Starrett, A. H. Chadwick, N. Hilt, A. D. Chadwick, O. M. Fernald, F. C. Goodspeed, and Daniel Starrett. Their purpose was to organize

1. A descendant of Michael Norton and Dr. John Hall; see above, p. 82.

2. Perhaps the victim of the Malta Indian War; see above, p. 23, footnote 2.

3. "Plan of a parcel of land purchased by G. B. Chadwick & Wm N. Rollins and laid out into burial lots. Situated at South China." In Records of the Town of China, Vol. 4, n. p. (near the middle of the various records for the year 1872).

4. Mrs. Jackson's revised list of inscriptions on stones in the Chadwick Hill cemetery includes William N. Rollins (died February 7, 1882, aged 57 years), Abel Chadwick (1802-1885), Joseph Newcomb (1790-1877), and Rev. G. B. Chadwick (1832-1900). The only Abbotts buried in the Chadwick Hill cemetery were Constant Abbott (died August 24, 1847, aged 83 years), his wife Thankful, Selina Abbott (Constant's daughter?), John Abbott (Constant's son?), and John's wife Desire. The editor has been unable to find out when Ambrose Abbott died (although Rufus Jones implied that he was alive at the time of the South China fire in April 1872; see Jones, "Addresses About South China," p. 34) or where he was buried.

5. The editor is grateful to the late Mrs. Mina W. Jackson of South China for information on the Chadwick Hill Cemetery Association.

a society to care for the Chadwick Hill cemetery, including "fencing of the grounds, keeping in repair, straightening of walks, rightening up tablets and otherwise improve and beautifying the grounds as said society may determine." At the organizational meeting, by-laws were adopted and officers chosen. In the early days, the association had almost no money; work was done by the members, and occasionally it was necessary to borrow small sums, to be repaid as lots were sold. Beginning around 1916, however, the association began to receive gifts to establish trust funds for care of the cemetery or of specified lots in it. Among the early contributors was Laroy S. Starrett, who sent \$1000 in 1916 to establish a fund for the general care of the cemetery, \$600 in 1917 to provide perpetual care for the lots of his grandparents, parents, brother, sister, and other relatives (with any surplus income to be used wherever else in the cemetery it was needed), and an even larger sum in 1920. Joseph W. and Edward R. Chadwick established a trust fund for the care of the Abel Chadwick lot. Other lot owners followed suit; by the 1970's, all new lots were sold with perpetual care, and money had been donated for perpetual care of many of the older lots.

With the money available for general care of the cemetery, the Chadwick Hill Cemetery Association members have made several improvements. In 1930 a tomb was built. Additional land was purchased both north and south of the original area and laid off into three and six grave lots. Writing in February 1974, Mrs. Mina Jackson expressed appreciation for the work of the late Walter H. Arnold, a past treasurer of the association, and that of C. Frederick Nowland, the sexton. At that time, the following people had served for many years as association officers: Kenneth G. Ingraham, president; Edna Taber, vice-president; Mina W. Jackson, secretary-treasurer; Herman Masse, chairman of the board of trustees; and David Van Strien, Roy Grindle, and Philip Taber, trustees.

In the Chadwick Hill cemetery there is a tall monument to James and Ruth (Hatch) Chadwick, "pioneer settlers" of the southern part of China, who arrived in 1780. Another monument (#19) to these early settlers has been erected a mile or so farther west, closer to the site of their first dwelling. It is near the now impassable road called the Arnold or Old County road which ran from the north side of the Erskine Academy grounds to route 3.¹ According to inscriptions on both these stones, James Chadwick was born in Falmouth, Massachusetts, on July 25, 1725, and died in China (then still Jones Plantation) on September 6, 1786.

The Deer Hill cemetery (#16), like the Chadwick Hill cemetery, is quite large. Several of the burials there in the 1820's and 1830's were children; for example, Frederick and Charlotte Harmon lost two daughters, one three years old and one fifteen months old, in September 1827. Phebe Wight, daughter of Joseph and Mary Wight, was not quite nine years old when she died in February 1833. Two other early burials were Samuel Gray's wives, Lucy (died in 1821) and Abigail (died in 1838); Mr. Gray lived until 1869.

The Deer Hill cemetery is maintained by the Deer Hill Cemetery Association, organized December 28, 1907.² The first officers elected were

1. The editor asserts from personal experience that when the bushes are leaved out this monument cannot be located without a guide who knows where it is.

2. The editor is grateful to Mrs. Delbert Clifford for information about the Deer Hill Cemetery Association.

E. W. Pierce, moderator; F. O. Bonney, secretary; C. W. Hammond, president; C. T. Beale, treasurer; and F. O. Bonney, C. T. Beale, and C. R. Hatch, trustees. The association met twice a year for several years, and then as the number of members declined changed to annual meetings. To provide perpetual care for some of the lots and to pay for general cemetery maintenance, association members pay dues, and the association has income available from several trust funds. As one of its early projects the association erected a fence of wooden posts and iron piping around the cemetery, with an arch over the front gate with the name of the cemetery on it. Maple trees, now large enough to provide ample shade, were planted on the north side. The association keeps the fence repaired and painted, rakes up the maple leaves in the spring, and leads an annual work bee to clean up the cemetery for Memorial Day. G. T. Foster made a map of the cemetery, showing each lot that was owned and those that were for sale and locating them accurately on the north or south side or in the older part at the back on the east side. A record of all burials here has been kept in a special book begun by Miss Mildred Slater and later continued by association secretary Florence Clifford.

The earliest marked stones in the Morrill-Bragg cemetery (#2) near route 32 are in the Pullen and Stone lots. William Pullen lost his eight-month-old son Cyrus in March 1818 and his wife Abigail in August 1819. Miss Charlotte Stone of Portland died in March 1821, at the age of 28, and was buried in this graveyard. As the name suggests, members of the Morrill and Bragg families were also buried here, with various others.

The Pleasant Ridge cemetery (#13) contains stones dated in the 1830's and 1840's, as well as more recent ones. Many different families have been buried here in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. The smaller Stanley Hill cemetery (#11) also records burials in the 1830's and 1840's; many Burgesses were buried here, along with Chapmans, Crowells, and Wards.¹ Otis Burgess died in January 1892 at the age of 83, outliving his wife Eunicey (died August 29, 1856, aged 42), his daughter Susan (died August 30, 1862, aged 16), and his daughter Ellen (died October 13, 1875, aged 26). Captain Moody C. Burgess and his wife Eunice lost at least six children (a seventh stone is broken and illegible) between 1836 and 1858; three sons and a daughter died in infancy, one son lived six years, and another son lived eight and a half years.

Kingsbury concluded his 1892 description of the cemeteries in China with the following sentence:

Throughout the town are family grounds
in conspicuous places, and these are rever-
ently cared for by the descendants who occupy
the farms.

The family burying grounds which are now known are quite small, and in not all cases are they "reverently cared for." For example, the Turner cemetery (#27), on the north side of the fire road number 10 running from the Neck Road to the lake, is in a grove of maple and apple trees whose roots and foliage have toppled most of the gravestones. There are three visible stones here, and perhaps others hidden in the undergrowth.

1. There are no gravestones for Mr. and Mrs. Wilson Ward, but Miss Mary Washburn told Mrs. Jackson they were buried here.
2. Kingsbury, p. 1160.

The tree-shaded and walled Haskell cemetery (#4) on the Pond Road is the largest of the family plots; about thirty people have been buried there. The yard contains three Haskell lots, two Hanson lots, and the grave of Almira P. Kenn. The earliest burials were in the 1820's. The Morrill cemetery (#22) near the intersection of the Morrill road and the old road from China to Winslow contains only three marked graves. The Sewall cemetery (#23) in the woods on the east side of the Pleasant Ridge road has two Sewall gravestones and five or more unmarked fieldstones.

There are four marked graves in the Gray cemetery (#25) on Deer Hill; this cemetery is about twenty-five feet on a side, surrounded by a dry stone wall and shaded by large maples at three corners and two birches on one side. The principal marker is a tall stone with the family name conspicuously carved on it. The Nathaniel Bragg cemetery (#26) also has one noticeable marker, a piece of slate beside a wide-spread lilac bush in the field across the Pond road from the former Kildeer Lodge. The slate is inscribed:

Dea. Nathl. Bragg
Died
Mar. 21, 1838
Aet. 60.

Jesus, my all, to heaven is gone,
He whom I fix my hopes upon,
The track I see and I'll pursue
The narrow way till Him I view.

Mr. Dillenbeck, who mows the field around this graveyard, says that the stone has been there since 1838 or soon after; hidden under the lilac bush are two or three other graves marked with flat fieldstones. The house and the former barn across the road Mr. Dillenbeck believes were built around 1800. The barn was still known as the old Bragg barn in the 1920's.¹

The town of China as a political body took its first recorded action on cemeteries in the 1830's. At the March 5, 1832, town meeting, a committee (William Mosher, Elijah Winslow, and Alfred Marshall) was appointed to investigate the question of establishing public burying grounds. They reported to the March 4, 1833, meeting that they had decided two such cemeteries were enough. The sites they recommended, and the voters approved, were

one half acre on the west side of the Pond near head of Charles McLaughlin, And one half acre of William Pullen in the Southeasterly part of said town near Pullen's Mills, so called.²

If cemeteries were actually laid out and used at these sites, they are

1. See above, p. 35.

2. Records of the town of China, Vol. 2, n.p. (report of the meeting of March 4, 1833). The McLaughlins had settled on the northern part of the Neck Road; the 1856 map has a graveyard symbol, but labeled "S. H.," on the east side of that road. The same map shows a Pullen living near the sawmills on the west branch of the Sheepscot River between Branch Mills and Weeks Mills, but there is no sign of a cemetery in the vicinity.

no longer visible. The one cemetery now known which was (probably) always a town-owned burying ground is #28, the pauper cemetery on the former town farm land on the east shore of the lake. This area contains one marked stone, that of John Chase (died June 19, 1839, aged 38 years), an initialed footstone, and many fieldstones.¹

In 1959, the March town meeting approved the appropriation of \$200 for work on "the old Cemeteries, which have been neglected in Town," and which had no trust funds to pay for maintenance. Since 1961 a similar expenditure has been approved annually, the amount varying between \$250 and \$500. According to town manager Ira Singer, the town has responsibility for fourteen of the town's cemeteries: Clark, Morrill-Bragg, South China, Haskell, Lakeshore, Stanley Hill, Pleasant Ridge, Branch Mills, one of the Friends yards at Dirigo (#15), Weeks Mills, Morrill Sewall, Gray, and Nathaniel Bragg.² The minimum maintenance involves mowing or cutting brush once a summer. When labor is available, the town will mow more than once and will also paint and repair fences and generally clean up as many of the yards as possible. Mr. Frederick Nowland did much of the maintenance work for several years in the 1960's; the annual town manager's reports in the early 1960's and in 1974 commented on the difficulty of finding people to do this sort of labor.

The Villages

China was a relatively large town in the first half of the nineteenth century, and the size and activity of the four villages reflected the progress of the whole town. The census of 1820 showed 894 people living in China and 862 in Harlem, for a total of 1756 inside the boundaries of present-day China. At that time China and Harlem together made up the fourth most populous town in Kennebec County, preceded by Hallowell, Augusta, and Vassalboro; Waterville's population was 1719. By 1850 China's population had increased to 2769, but this was the high point; for the rest of the nineteenth century there was a gradual loss of population, until by 1900 only 1380 people lived in the town.

For most of the nineteenth century and into the twentieth century, the four villages in China were quite substantial commercial and manufacturing centers. Farming provided a living for much of the population, and the villages provided the commercial and professional services the rural population needed. As noted earlier, by 1820 there were stores, mills, and service shops of various sorts in all four villages. All stood on main roads, and China and South China on major junctions of highways: from China, the Bangor road went north and the Belfast road went east, while roads from Augusta to Belfast and from Bangor to Damariscotta intersected in South China. The stagecoach lines passing through China, South China, and Branch Mills provided an additional impetus to

1. Mrs. Jackson has abstracted from the town records and included in her list of cemetery inscriptions the names of other people probably buried here.

2. Mr. Singer added that when other cemeteries in town are not maintained by anyone else, the town may do some work on them, and discussed with the editor the possibility of town work on the Turner cemetery and cemetery #28.

growth. Some writers think that had the main railroad line gone through China, the villages on it might have come to rival Waterville, and they attribute to the loss of the railroad a gradual economic decline, culminating in the small-town status of the mid-twentieth century.

One of the services provided locally for a brief period in the nineteenth century was a weekly newspaper. The China Orb was published from a second-floor office in China Village for three years, beginning December 5, 1833, by Japheth C. Washburn. A year's subscription cost two dollars; a subscriber could get a fifty-cent discount by paying in advance, and was charged fifty cents extra for not paying until after the year was over. Editor Washburn claimed to have three hundred unpaid subscriptions for the first year as he began the second year of publication (see Vol. 2, No. 1, December 6, 1834). At the end of the second year, the paper was still financially insecure; the unpaid subscriptions were doubtless a factor, and Howard Owen¹ suggests that the paper failed to profit because there was so little advertising in a mainly agricultural community. Mr. Washburn announced in the November 28, 1835, issue that publication would be suspended; he also announced a forthcoming meeting at General Marshall's inn to consider "continuing a printing establishment and the publication of a paper in this village." Apparently his appeal succeeded, for the Orb continued publication until November 1836.

The newspaper consisted of a single sheet folded in half to make four pages, with four or five columns on each page closely filled with small type. The front page was usually given over to a miscellanea of interesting anecdotes, pieces of short fiction, historical writing, either true or fictional, and jokes. On the second page appeared Mr. Washburn's editorial column in which he commented on anything that took his fancy. News items--local, state, national, and international--usually ran on the second and third pages, sometimes in columns headed Foreign News and Maine News; items from other papers were reprinted, often describing dramatic events like accidents and crimes in other parts of the United States. There were advertisements on the third and fourth pages, and the fourth page almost always had a column of poetry and an essay on some moral or religious topic. Throughout the paper jokes and anecdotes were scattered as fillers. The only illustrations were in some of the advertisements--a real estate ad might show a stylized sketch of a house, for instance.

The Orb presented selective coverage of national and state politics. When the United States Congress or the Maine state legislature was in session, their activities were covered in some detail; committee assignments were listed, actions summarized, and debates occasionally summarized or excerpted. Editor Washburn was a strong supporter of President Andrew Jackson, and many of his strongest editorials took issue with the editors of such non-Democratic papers as the Kennebec Journal. The December 13, 1834, issue of the Orb was almost entirely filled by a transcript of President Jackson's December 1 speech to the opening session of Congress. During 1836, Mr. Washburn ran favorable reports and comments on the Maine Democratic party convention and on the national convention and policies, featured Martin Van Buren and the rest of the national ticket, and endorsed President Jackson's arguments against the national bank.

1. Author of the chapter on newspapers in Kingsbury's History of Kennebec County.

The Orb also favored the building of railroads, particularly through China, and endorsed the idea of a canal from China Lake to the Kennebec River. In the fall of 1835 a group of China Village citizens organized to plant shade trees along the village streets; the Orb heartily supported this plan, reporting on the group's meeting at General Marshall's inn and encouraging every able-bodied citizen to help in the tree-planting program. Other local events covered included a small fire in Hamlin and Lincoln's second-floor cabinet-making shop (reported December 20, 1834) and the suicide of a China Academy student. When Mathews and Company store was robbed in May 1835 of over one hundred dollars cash and some merchandise, the Orb reported the robbery in detail; and in October 1835 it reported first that the thief had been caught, and later that he had been tried and sentenced to four years in state prison. Some local news items could be found in the advertisements, like the announcement by Jonathan Doe, blacksmith, that he was leaving the area on May 10, 1835, and therefore would like his customers to pay their bills. The paper also gave notice of births and deaths, announced meetings (of school district voters, church organizations, the temperance society, and the China Mutual Fire Insurance Company, for instance), and advertised for runaway apprentices. Another unusual local item was the list of addressees of unclaimed letters at the China post office that appeared at intervals.

Many of the local merchants ran advertisements in the Orb. Dr. Alexander Hatch announced in October 1834 that he had purchased Snell's store and would sell drugs and medicines, paints, oils, and dye-stuffs, West India goods, and groceries, for cash, country produce, or approved credit. Mathews and Co. advertised at different times such diverse wares as chairs from Mr. Leonard Bolcom's factory, English, French, and American dry goods, West Indian goods and groceries, fresh lemons, and hats. Sewell Owen inserted an advertisement whenever he received a new shipment of dry goods from Boston. In October 1835 Freeman Shaw and O. W. Washburn entered into partnership as Freeman Shaw and Co., and advertised their English, West Indian, and domestic fabrics, glass, china, medicines, shovels, nails, shoes, paints and dye-stuffs, fish and salt, leather, books and stationery, and copies of the 1836 Temperance Almanac.

Since the Orb ceased publication in 1836 China residents have relied on the newspapers of New York and Boston and of nearby communities. For most of the nineteenth century, news came mainly from the big-city papers. A lot of the time people in China had little interest in the outside world. But there were times--during the Civil War, and every fourth year when a presidential election was held, for example--when news was eagerly sought. Then the mail-stage would bring copies of the New York or Boston paper, and in the village store some good reader would read the news aloud to the assembled group. Rufus Jones writes of how proud he was when the habitues of the South China general store selected him, still a schoolboy, to read them the latest accounts of political party platforms and other events.

The residents of China usually had some choice of regional newspapers, and an enterprising merchant could advertise as widely as he thought worthwhile. In Vassalboro, in March 1886, Samuel A. Burleigh, then aged fifteen, and his younger sister Nettie began publishing the Clarion, a monthly which lasted until 1891 and was succeeded in September of that year by Mr. Burleigh's Valley News, a weekly. Augusta has had one or more newspapers since 1795, and the Kennebec Journal, now widely read in the southern part of China, began publishing in 1823 and became a daily in

1870. In Waterville, the first paper was published in 1823, and the Waterville Sentinel, now widely read in the northern end of China, appeared as a weekly in December 1880 and became a daily in 1904.¹

China also had its own banks, one from 1853 to 1855 and another in 1855 and 1856.² The first, the China Bank, was in China Village, in the house across from China Academy where Mrs. Foster lived (now the home of Mr. and Mrs. Harold Doe), and Zebah Washburn was the cashier. Although the act of incorporation listed a group of China people as incorporators (William H. Healey, Alfred Marshall, Allen Brackett, Oliver W. Washburn, Ebenezer Shaw, Amasa Taylor, Prince Bessey, D. B. Fuller, Sumner Hodskins, George R. Rider, Thomas Fowler, James Fowler, Corydon Chadwick, J. H. Fuller, Thomas B. Lincoln, John F. Hunnewell, Alexander Hatch, James H. Brackett, John Hatch, Jacob S. Marshall, Zebah Washburn, Alonzo Taylor, and John Brackett), the bank's shareholders were mostly from out of town (William Healey subscribed \$2,000, and people from Waterville and New York another \$42,000). There was little public interest in the project; the bank was chartered for \$50,000 (of which \$44,000 was subscribed), and it issued some \$6,600 worth of notes, but it received only \$300 in deposits from local citizens. The state banking commission therefore recommended in 1855 that the bank be liquidated, even though it was in good financial condition, and the state legislature accepted the surrender of its charter.

The Canton Bank in South China was chartered by the state in 1855 for \$50,000,³ of which only \$25,425 was subscribed. It inherited from the China Bank some of the latter's unredeemed notes and Zebah Washburn, who became the Canton Bank's cashier. The people active in forming this bank were local men; the incorporators were Charles A. Russ, Ambrose H. Abbott, Jonathan Clark, and Amasa Taylor, and the officers and directors were Charles Russ, president; Ambrose Abbott, Eli Jones, Abel Chadwick, Joseph Bowman, Francis Tyford, and Jonathan Clark. It is difficult to tell at this distance whether some of these men were dishonest, or whether they were merely incompetent, but certainly the bank was spectacularly unsuccessful. Most of its funds were lent to out-of-state borrowers for Ohio land purchases and never repaid;⁴ the bank put \$78,800 worth of bills into circulation (with only part of them showing on its books) and redeemed almost none of them, leaving the public with worthless paper. An eight per cent dividend was paid to stockholders late in 1856, just before the bank was closed by the state banking commissioners and put into receivership. The 1857 bank commissioners' report described the Canton Bank as "a private speculation and worse than a failure."

1. Information on these newspapers is from Kingsbury, pp. 240-244, 249-251; and Marriner, Kennebec Yesterdays, pp. 274-277.

2. The editor is grateful to Mr. Ralph Austin of South China for information on the banks in China.

3. Researchers for the American Bank Note Company in New York City have found that the 1855 dollar was worth about six 1975 dollars, so this sum then was the equivalent of about \$300,000 now.

4. According to the American Bank Note Company researchers, some of the defaults were part of a chain of financial disasters started by the collapse of the Ohio Life Insurance and Trust Company. In preparing a brochure to accompany a bicentennial silver reproduction of one of the Canton Bank's notes, the American Bank Note Company staff also found that a town in New York state was named China in March 1818, only a month after China, Maine, was christened. According to the 1860 Gazeteer of the State of New

Each of the four villages was a social and cultural center for its surrounding area in the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, and remains so, to some extent, even in the automobile age. Each village had an elementary school and at least one church most of the time; there were high schools at times in China Village, Branch Mills, and South China (and Erskine Academy is within walking distance of South China). Schools and churches provided assembly rooms for their own activities, such as end-of-term recitations at the schools and worship and business meetings at the churches, and for the use of other groups as well. In addition, each village had other buildings and rooms where meetings could be held, like Mr. Washburn's hall and General Marshall's inn in China Village early in the nineteenth century; the three-story building in South China listed by Rufus Jones among the buildings destroyed in the 1872 fire; Mr. Harrington's school building and the meeting room over Coombs' store in Branch Mills in the last half of the nineteenth century; and the several Masonic, GAR, Legion, and Grange halls. The citizens of China have participated in a variety of social, cultural, and civic groups in the last two hundred years; many state and national organizations have had local branches, and some purely indigenous organizations have been formed. For example, a list of organizations in China during World War I included the following:

China Village: Masons
Eastern Star
Grand Army of the Republic
Patrons of Husbandry
Women's Christian Temperance Union
Modern Woodmen of America
China Lake Improvement Association

South China: Grand Army of the Republic
Ancient Order of United Workmen
Patrons of Husbandry
Women's Christian Temperance Union

Weeks Mills: Masons
Women's Christian Temperance Union

Branch Mills: Patrons of Husbandry

The Masons were one of the earliest organized groups in China. At a meeting in Japheth C. Washburn's hall in China Village on December 27, 1823, eighteen Masons (eleven from China, three from Albion, and two each from Vassalboro and Palermo) presented a request for a charter for a China Village lodge.² The charter for Central Lodge, No. 45, was duly granted on April 8, 1824. Japheth C. Washburn was one of the petitioners, and the second master of the lodge. The first master (December 1823 to June 1826) was Abisha Benson, a China lawyer; Colonel Robert Fletcher, described as a "trader and farmer," was the first junior warden; Rufus Rich, an "artificer in Brass and other Metals," was the first tyler; Randal Fish was the first senior deacon; General Alfred Marshall was the first secretary; Captain Freeman Shaw, also a "trader," was the first junior deacon. The other local founding members included Reuben Page, "house carpenter and farmer,"

York, China, New York, was in the southwestern corner of Wyoming County; there were post offices at Arcade (population 637) and at East China.

1. This list is based on information taken from the Maine Register, 1914-1915 and 1916-1917, by Mrs. Charles Jackson.

2. Information on the Central Lodge is from Thomas Burrill, "History of Central Lodge, No. 45, China, Maine" (December 27, 1823, to September 15, 1875); and Charles E. Crosby, History, Central Lodge No. 45, A. F. & A. M., China, Maine, 1875-1951. The editor is grateful to Mr. and Mrs. Foster for the loan of these sources. See also Kingsbury, pp. 1156-1157.

Silas Piper, a farmer and innkeeper from South China, Isaac Bragg, "farmer and blacksmith," and Samuel Beal.

Central Lodge prospered in its first years, adding seventy new members by June 1826 and another seventy-two by February 1829. In March 1825 a committee was chosen "to make a contract with Mr. John Brackett, to erect a Hall for the use of the Lodge." Apparently the work was done rapidly, for the description of the first Masonic installation in China Village on June 28, 1825, mentions "the Hall of Central Lodge." In 1826 Central Lodge made its first recorded charitable donation, \$20 "to a needy Brother"; the next year, the March 7 meeting voted to give J. C. Washburn \$80, G. A. Benson and J. H. Benson \$45 each, and Randal Fish \$30 "in consequence of their loss in the late fire."

From 1829 to 1849 Central Lodge was inactive. Mr. Burrill described their eclipse as follows:

In about the year 1829 or '30, Antimasonry commenced its raid upon the institution of Masonry, increasing in bitterness, until it had assumed a most formidable type of persecution, both against Masons and Masonry. During this period of adversity, many of the brethren became disheartened. They would assemble themselves together, disposed of their Jewels, clothing, furniture, etc., their beautifully painted flooring was afterwards transferred to St. Croix lodge where it now probably remains. The members became scattered; some leaving the place, and many had died. Their Hall in which they had so frequently taken sweet council together became desolate and literally abandoned. As the enemy having spent its fury, persecution began to subside, and Masonry still lived. It is a pleasure to know that during this dark period of some 20 years, but one brother of Central Lodge proved to have been so destitute of the true principles of Masonry as to be unable to withstand the pressure, and he seceded and joined the ranks of the enemy. Let a mantle of Charity be thrown over his departed Spirit!¹

In May 1849 Bros. James H. Brainerd, William M. Maxfield, Thomas B. Lincoln, Oliver W. Washburn, Oliver Hanscom, Alexander Hatch, and Freeman Shaw petitioned for and obtained a renewal of Central Lodge's charter. At an August 1849 meeting Mr. Brainerd was elected lodge master. The other officers then chosen were Thomas B. Lincoln, senior warden; Edward Gray, junior warden; Amasa Taylor, treasurer; Josiah F. Clark, secretary; Thomas Clark, senior deacon; William M. Maxfield, junior deacon; Bela Burrill and Henry White, stewards; Caleb Parmeter, tyler; George D. Strout, chaplain; and Thomas Burrill, marshal. The reorganized group "having refitted up their hall,² and having provided the necessary clothing, Jewels etc. were

1. Burrill, "History of Central Lodge," pp. 14-15.

2. Mr. Burrill described Central Lodge's successive meeting places as follows ("History of Central Lodge," p. 29): "The lodge held their first meetings in a Hall prepared over the store of Bro. J. C. Washburn, afterward destroyed by fire. Their next place of Meeting was in a Hall over the Union Store, which was also burned. Another building was erected on the site of

now again ready for work"; they initiated two new members almost at once, and in October 1849 adopted new by-laws.

Annual reports by Central Lodge secretaries in the following years showed a few new members each year. Meanwhile, in January 1861 a Dunlap Chapter of Royal Arch Masons was organized in China Village, receiving a charter in May 1861. Mr. Burrill wrote that Central Lodge "furnished a large portion of the members of Dunlap R. A. Chapter, which institution we cherish as an honorable offspring." Central Lodge voted in January 1861 to allow the Dunlap Chapter to meet in Central Lodge's hall "when not occupied by Central Lodge," and in July 1862 they voted to allow Dunlap Chapter to share it on a more permanent basis if they would pay half the rent.

In December 1864, Central Lodge chose a committee (Bros. F. A. Roberts, Amasa Taylor Jr., and Jeremiah Mitchell) to "confer with a like committee" from Dunlap Chapter "to arrange for the building of a Masonic Hall." In May 1866, Bro. Mark Rollins Jr. was appointed a one-man building committee and given charge of "the funds of the lodge," which then amounted to about \$300. In September, the lodge had \$45.79 in the treasury, after paying \$386 "to the building committee." Apparently the money was used to help furnish a Masonic hall in the second story of the large brick building at the corner of the Neck Road, which was purchased by the Masons in 1866 and is still the Masonic building. The total expense of buying the upper floor and part of the ground floor of the building and finishing a Masonic hall was around \$3000, Mr. Burrill wrote, and it had been fully paid for before 1875. The new hall was dedicated on October 11, 1866. Further details of the transaction were recorded in the report of Central Lodge's October 9, 1867, meeting:

The committee appointed to make a proper division of the Masonic Hall property now owned by Dunlap R. A. Chapter, submit the following report, viz: That Central Lodge shall pay Dunlap R. A. Chapter one thousand dollars and shall own one half of the Hall, or upper story of their brick building and half of the furniture of the Hall, including the Organ, also one undivided fourth part of the lot on which the building stands, the Chapter reserving to itself the use of two small closets, and the Lodge shall pay one third of the expense of insurance: that the amount of Money the lodge has already paid towards the building of the hall shall make a part of the \$1000. to be by them paid; which report was accepted.¹

Central Lodge met regularly for the rest of the nineteenth century and the twentieth century to date. The organization's records showed annual installations of officers. According to Mr. Charles Crosby's continuation of Mr. Burrill's history, the number of members fluctuated between 100 and

the store first mentioned, a Masonic Hall finished in the third Story by Bro. A. Hatch, which was rented to the lodge in 1850. In this Hall the lodge held their meetings until 1866...." Mr. and Mrs. Foster believe the hall built by John Brackett in 1825 was on the second floor of a building south of the present Legion hall (so-called).

1. Burrill, "History of Central Lodge," pp. 25-26.

150 for the period from 1875 to 1951. Attendance at meetings, when given in Mr. Crosby's history, varied from about 30 to over 50. At an April 17, 1935, meeting honoring the sixty-eighth anniversary of the day Willis W. Washburn received his Master Mason degree, 70 Central Lodge members and 24 guests from 13 different lodges were present. After some years in which the annual treasurer's balance was under \$100, in May 1889 the by-laws were amended to double the annual dues, from \$.50 to \$1.00. For a few years thereafter the treasury contained over \$100 at a time. By September 1897, the balance was down to \$94.18; nevertheless, the annual meeting voted that the 1898 annual meeting

be held at two o'clock in the afternoon and unless the finances be lower than at the present time a supper for the members be furnished at the hotel and be paid for by the lodge.

The report of the 1898 meeting concluded:

The record showed that there were 26 officers and members in attendance and the Lodge paid \$7.75 for suppers at the hotel. It is probable that there were five other members at the supper, making the supper tickets \$.25 each.¹

In November 1901 there was another "banquet" at the China House.

The China Masons also spent money to maintain and improve the Masonic Hall. For example, in 1902 Central Lodge paid Dunlap Chapter \$25 "towards the dining hall." The first time the use of the dining hall was mentioned in the records was in October 1904; Mr. Crosby wrote that the dining hall then was the room that had become the kitchen by 1950, and the 1904 kitchen was "in an addition on the back side of the building." Two separate appropriations in 1908 and 1909, totaling \$58.54, paid one-third of the price of a piano for the hall. It was also in 1909 that Central Lodge voted "to pay ninety-one dollars and sixty-seven cents for one third of the Grange Stable."² Although the Masonic history does not mention it, Mr. and Mrs. Foster have found that in 1919 the Masons bought the rest of the brick building of which they had owned a part since 1866. In July 1924, Central Lodge "Voted to pay one-third expense on building stable \$202.84 and one-third expense on repairing hall \$34.46"; Dunlap Chapter paid the rest. To cover these and other expenses, annual dues were raised to \$1.50 in June 1924 and to \$2.50 in August 1926. Other improvements included wiring the hall for electricity in 1927, reroofing it with metal in 1934, and installing a new furnace in 1940. When "the stable, land on which it stands and right of way" were sold in 1934, Central Lodge received \$50.33, and Dunlap Chapter twice that amount.

Kingsbury writes that there was a third Masonic group in China Village:

Keystone Council, No. 9, instituted at China Village

1. Crosby, History, Central Lodge No. 45, pp. 36 and 38.
2. It is not clear whether this sum was for rent or for purchase; Mr. Crosby wrote that the Masons "hired the use of" the Grange's stable for some years before building their own in 1924.

about 1865, was continued about twenty years by the Royal Arch Masons.¹

In South China, Dirigo Lodge was started in June 1860. Their hall was destroyed by fire in 1872,² and the group transferred its meeting place to Weeks Mills. There they built a second hall, which was dedicated in June 1873. This one also burned, in April 1890, and was replaced the next fall by the present Weeks Mills Masonic building. Kingsbury lists the masters of Dirigo Lodge for its first thirty years as James P. Jones, E. D. Clark, J. F. Chadwick, G. B. Chadwick, Joseph B. Crossman, Chester M. Clark, Dr. D. P. Bolster, Orrin F. Rowe, Hiram S. Gray, Frank C. Plummer, Orrin F. Sproul, Cornelius A. Merrill, John H. Barton, and Robert N. Barton.

Golden Gate Chapter #67, Order of the Eastern Star, was organized in China Village in February 1900, and received its charter in May of that year.³ The first officers were:

Ida S. Jones, Worthy Matron
Charles W. Jones, Worthy Patron
Edith E. Washburn, Associate Matron
Annie A. Doe, Secretary
Nellie M. Randall, Treasurer
Sadie E. Hunnewell, Conductress
Abbie B. Ward, Associate Conductress
Lucy A. Fish, Ruth
Florence Woodsum, Martha
Beulah Woodsum, Adah
Blanche Fletcher, Esther
Edna Hunnewell, Electa
Elmira L. Albee, Chaplain
A. Della Lincoln, Marshal
James O. Fish, Organist
Ella F. Nelson, Warder
William Hunnewell, Sentinel

Other founding members included Annie Woodsum, John A. Woodsum, Theron Doe, Charles Lincoln, Albert R. Ward, Jeremiah H. Estes, Lot Randall, Willis W. Washburn, and Gustavus Nelson. Florence Bragg, Ada Ward, and Willis R. Ward were the first new members to be initiated into the chapter. One article in the by-laws adopted by the organization specified that monthly meetings would be held on the Friday on or just before the full of the moon. This provision was not ritual, but common sense: on a clear night, bright moonlight made travel to and from evening meetings easier.

The Eastern Star chapter began with almost no money. At first there was no regalia; Mrs. Smiley writes, "The Star Point officers wore shirt waists the color of their offices and the other officers wore white shirt waists and black skirts." At the April 6, 1900, meeting, a bill was presented for \$23.85 for jewels; since there was only \$16.65 in the treasury

1. Kingsbury, p. 1157.

2. According to Kingsbury (p. 1157), the Masonic hall burned on May 1, a week after the great fire which destroyed most of the center of South China village.

3. The editor is grateful to Mrs. John Smiley of China for information on Golden Gate Chapter, O.E.S.

at the time, the members voted to borrow the balance. The two Masonic groups allowed Eastern Star free use of the Masonic hall, but it was still necessary to buy furniture. Chairs for the Star Points came from Redington and Company in Waterville and cost \$17.50, and tables from R. K. Soule in Augusta cost \$15.50. Mrs. Smiley quotes from Sister Nellie Randall's history of the chapter's first twenty-five years:

We were destitute of everything but courage; we used to have our refreshments in the anteroom, those who could not get around the table sitting wherever they could get a chance. There was no dining room, and no dishes except a few mugs, spoons and bowls. Then we had to have Rituals, a Star carpet--as a meeting at that time was not legal without one--Jewels, Chairs, Stands, Ribbons in the colors, Charter, Seal, By-laws, Books, and other things too numerous to mention.

In the first twenty-five years, Golden Gate Chapter's membership grew from the original 28 to 149. In 1975, there were 95 members. The chapter has been continuously active, with new members initiated each year and many among the membership accepting the responsibilities of local and in some cases state offices in the Eastern Star organization. Eastern Star and the Masons cooperate in social events and fund-raising activities, to their mutual benefit and enjoyment.

In 1911, a group in Weeks Mills and surrounding communities decided to start an Eastern Star chapter there. They invited members of Golden Gate Chapter to help them organize, and on February 13, 1911, Lily of the Valley Chapter #157 was instituted.¹ A charter was granted by the Grand Chapter of Maine on May 24, 1911. The thirty charter members of Lily of the Valley Chapter were Addie M. Baker, Luella V. Banks, Idella M. Chadwick, Dora L. Choate, Inez Charles, Lulu Gardiner, Gladys Hisler, Marcia Hisler, Jennie T. Holt, Clara J. Miller, Addie M. Moody, Ellen M. Pierce, Lizzie A. Proctor, Mattie M. Reed, Rose E. Reed, Irene S. Segee, Edith Shuman, Vesta M. True, Mary A. White, Joseph A. Banks, Robert N. Barton, Hadley F. Chadwick, Ira M. Choate, William H. Hisler, Riley E. Holt, Levi O. Miller, Fred E. Moody, Welcome S. Reed, Orrin F. Sproul, and Daniel G. True. The first officers included Idella M. Chadwick, Worthy Matron; Orrin F. Sproul, Worthy Patron; and Irene Segee, Secretary.

Lily of the Valley Chapter obtained permission from Dirigo Lodge to meet in the Masonic Hall in Weeks Mills, an arrangement which continues at the present. The chapter pays half the fuel bills for the hall, and its Past Patrons have helped remodel the kitchen and dining room and make other improvements. There are now 183 members of Lily of the Valley Chapter, including 39 Past Matrons and 24 Past Patrons. Annual dues have increased from the original \$.50 to \$2.00; the first dues paid to the state chapter, in 1913, totaled \$6.80, while in 1975 the amount paid was \$91.50. Several members of Lily of the Valley Chapter have held state offices. On December 7, 1961, a golden anniversary celebration was held honoring all past and present members of Lily of the Valley Chapter.

In nineteenth century China the temperance movement spawned several

1. The editor is grateful to Mrs. Rance Greeley of Windsor for information on Lily of the Valley Chapter, O.E.S.

local temperance organizations. According to Kingsbury,¹ the first of these was the South China Temperance Society, founded in South China on April 28, 1830, with Ebenezer Meiggs as president, Dr. James Merrill as vice-president, and Eli Jones as secretary. A second South China temperance organization--Lake Division, Number 100, Sons of Temperance--was started June 20, 1859, and disbanded on February 27, 1864. Eli Jones also served as secretary of this group for at least part of its existence. At temperance meetings held in South China and in neighboring towns, speeches were made and essays were read on the evil of drinking.² There were also divisions of the Sons of Temperance in Weeks Mills and in China Village.

Of the anti-liquor movement in Branch Mills, Kingsbury writes:

Branch Mills soon after 1850 organized a Lodge of Sons of Temperance, which was dropped a few years ago, when temperance had become the prevailing sentiment. In December, 1865, a branch of Good Templars was instituted here, which died in 1869, and in 1874, April 10, a second Lodge, No. 349, was instituted. Young and middle-aged are engaged in the work, and the society owns the building formerly erected by B. Harrington as an academy.

According to Mrs. Ballantyne, the Good Templars bought the former academy building in the 1880's and sold it in March 1908 to the Branch Mills Ladies Sewing Society, who remodeled it into a community house. Apparently the Good Templars had disbanded by that time, for several "former members of the Good Templars" (Mr. and Mrs. James Dinsmore, Mr. and Mrs. Lester Nelson, Mrs. Angie Tobey, Mrs. Walter Tobey, William S. Tobey, Mrs. Elon S. Kitchin, Doris A. Kitchin, Mary C. Richardson, and Myrtle L. Crummett) agreed to donate their share of \$35 in the Good Templar savings account at the Augusta Savings Bank to the community house project.

Since many China residents earned their living as farmers in the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, it is not surprising that agriculturally oriented organizations were created. The town was included, with Windsor, Vassalboro, and Albion, in the Eastern Kennebec Agricultural Society, which was incorporated in March 1868.⁴ This organization immediately bought a sixteen-acre tract in China, laid out a half-mile trotting track, and in October 1868 held the first of a series of livestock fairs and exhibitions. An exhibition hall was built the next year. Mr. Boardman lists J. R. Crossman and Alfred H. Jones of China among the prominent exhibitors at these fairs; and the presidents of the Eastern Kennebec Agricultural Society were Isaac Hamilton, Ambrose H. Abbott, and H. B. Williams,

1. Kingsbury, p. 1158. He apparently had access to the records and minutes of several local temperance groups; the present editor does not know whether these records are still extant.

2. Kingsbury does not say what temperance organization, if any, sponsored the meeting which led to the burning of the South China church in 1869. See above, pp. 155-156.

3. Kingsbury, p. 1158.

4. Samuel L. Boardman, "Agriculture and Live Stock," Chapter VIII in Kingsbury, pp. 187-224, at p. 197.

of whom the last two were China residents.¹ The society ran into difficulties:

The society held seven fairs, the last in 1874, when in consequence of insufficient receipts, due to unfavorable weather at the date of its fairs, the premiums could not be paid in full, and unpaid expenses accumulating, it was deemed prudent to close up its affairs. The final meeting was held December 27, 1877, and the real² estate and other property of the society were sold.

However, China apparently continued to sponsor a local agricultural fair after the Eastern Kennebec fairs ended, for Mr. Boardman lists China among the towns in the county "that have maintained annual fairs" up to 1892.

Of the three branches of the Grange, or Patrons of Husbandry, in China, the first was the South China Grange, Number 295, which was organized December 29, 1887. In the 1890's it met twice a month in the A.O.U.W. hall.³ Kingsbury lists the Grange masters to 1892 as C. F. Cobb, E. C. Dudley, and I. Lincoln Jones. The Grange remained active until about World War II, when it merged with Silver Lake Grange in China Village. There is no record of the building of a Grange hall in South China.

The second Grange in China was the Branch Mills Grange, Number 336, organized on January 1, 1897, at the Good Templars hall by J. H. Barton of Windsor.⁴ There were twenty charter members. The first Grange master was Herbert L. Pinkham, who served in that capacity for four of the first seven years of the Grange's existence; other early Grange masters were G. M. Crommett, H. M. Nelson, and S. E. Bowler. The Grange took in only 17 new members during its first year, but a contest the next year resulted in 90 new members being received. In 1898 the Grange members began discussing whether to buy or to build a hall. By 1900, the group had bought a lot and building (formerly a shop owned by Dean Estes) on the west bank of the Sheepscot (where there is now a vacant lot opposite Eleanor Roach's house). They enlarged and remodeled the building and on March 13, 1902,

1. Ambrose H. Abbott was an important merchant in South China. In the "personal paragraphs" section of the history of China, Kingsbury lists an H. B. Williams, saying of him (p. 1171): "H. B. Williams, in 1860, came from Phillips, Me., where he was born in 1830, and married Ann F., daughter of Jonathan, and granddaughter of Ephraim Clark....This place, known as Greenwood farm, in allusion to rows of evergreens transplanted by Mr. Williams, was settled by one Caleb Hanson. The cellar wall under the house shows the 'pointing up' of Dea. Nathaniel Bragg, one of the early settlers. Mr. Williams also owns an attractive park, called Greenwood Park."

2. Boardman, in Kingsbury, p. 197.

3. A.O.U.W. means Ancient Order of United Workmen, a fraternal society organized in Pennsylvania in 1868. Kingsbury says (p. 1159) that Harlem Lodge Number 39, A.O.U.W., was organized in South China in August 1885. The group began with 13 members; by 1892 it had 72 members and a hall of its own. The "master workmen" from 1885 to 1892 were S. C. Starrett, J. R. Clark, and E. Warren, and E. W. Jones served as "recorder."

4. The editor is grateful to Mrs. Ballantyne and to Mr. Eleon Shuman of Waterville for information on the Branch Mills Grange.

dedicated it as a Grange hall.

This hall was burned in the 1908 Branch Mills fire. Mr. Eleon Shuman was then master of the Grange, at the age of eighteen probably the youngest Grange master in Maine, and it was he who supervised the building of the present Grange hall. The Grange sold their old lot near the bridge for \$100 to Frank Doe; they bought from the Shuman family another lot (the old hotel lot) of about two acres for \$300. Most of the rest of the \$4000 needed for the new building was borrowed (some of it from the Shumans) and paid back in following years. The contractor for the hall was Fred Jordan. He hired Mr. Shuman as a painter (Mr. Shuman had been working for a house painter in China, earning \$1.25 for an eleven-hour day), and suggested that until the building reached the painting stage, Mr. Shuman might do some carpentry; so Mr. Shuman bought a saw and hammer and became a carpenter. One of his jobs was to nail the first rafters to the ridge pole, as the Grange hall was a tall building and no one else wanted to climb that high. Another task was to cut out the figures 1909 (which he did with a keyhole saw in Dow's undertaking shop on Water Street) and nail them to the front of the building.

The 1909 Branch Mills Grange hall is actually situated in Palermo, with its west wall on the China-Palermo town line. The Grange is still active in this location, sharing the hall with the Palermo town office on the ground floor and the Palermo fire department in the basement. The fire department doors open to the west, and the Palermo fire trucks have to cross into China every time they drive into or out of their quarters.

Silver Lake Grange in China Village was organized sometime between 1892 and 1902;¹ it dissolved in the late 1960's. In the fall of 1974 a new China Grange was organized, with Mr. Dennis Harding as the Grange master. This new group has been given a copy of the Bangor Commercial Farmer and Villager of March 4, 1909,² featuring a three-column account of the February 24, 1909, dedication of the Silver Lake Grange hall in China Village. The hall was "designed and built by Fred S. Wallace" of China. The newspaper described it as

a handsome edifice, 34 by 60 feet,...finished in Oregon fir and hard pine, while the floor in the upper hall is laid in maple. The building is two stories high with a hip roof and is shingled and stained on the outside, the upper story brown and the lower story yellow. There is a vestibule at the entrance and the front hall is finished with a flight of wide, easy stairs with neat banisters, with a landing half way, leading to the upper hall. Double doors lead from the front hall to the dining room while on the left of the hall is a pleasant, sunny room for a gentlemen's dressing room. Back of the dining room are the ladies' dressing-room and kitchen, both commodious and convenient.

1. Thomas Burrill of China Village made a February 19, 1876, entry in his diary saying that a Grange was organized at China Academy that afternoon. However, Kingsbury, writing in 1892, does not mention a China Village Grange. Mrs. Ballantyne has found an account of the celebration of the sixth anniversary of the Branch Mills Grange on January 1, 1903, at which visitors from Silver Lake Grange were present.

2. Vol. LXIX, No. 9. The editor is grateful to Mr. Harding for the loan of this newspaper.

Upstairs the hall presents a fine appearance. It is wainscoted in hard pine as is also the hall and stairway. There is a large and convenient stage and the room is fitted with large windows opening at both top and bottom and furnished with attractive shades. The doors all through the building are of Oregon fir and are furnished with handsome hardware. Angle lamps are used for lighting and are found very satisfactory. In short, the hall is a building of which any grange or any town might well be proud.

The dedication ceremony on Wednesday, February 24, 1909, was well attended in spite of "the stormy morning and the consequent disagreeable traveling." The state Grange master spoke at the formal dedication ceremony, which began at 10:30. Lunch was served downstairs, and an afternoon program included several speeches, a piano solo by Miss Ethel Fish, a violin solo by Mrs. Madeleine Gerald, and a vocal duet by the Misses Ethel and Lizzie Fish. After supper, an evening program was presented:

Piano duet, Ethel and Lizzie Fish; dialogue, Where's My Hat, Esther Gilman, Wallace and Wayland Jones and Alice Winslow; violin solo, Madeleine Gerald; scenic reading, At Country's Call, Bartlett Lamson, Wallace Jones, Will Bailey and Alice Winslow; solo, Ethel Fish; recitation, Edwina Colley; illustrated song, Everybody Works But Father, Esther Gilman, Florence Ward, Annie Taylor, Lizzie Fish, Miriam Jones and Bartlett Lamson; solo, Alice Winslow; farce, The Lip-pincott Square Church Scheme, Mises [sic] Sadie Ward, Ethel Fish, Lizzie Fish, Florence Ward, Esther Gilman, Marion Wallace, Mesdames Annie Taylor and Miriam Jones and Bartlett Lamson; recitation, William Cole; scenic reading, The Ruggles Family, which was the hit of the evening and was enacted by Miss Alice Winslow, Wallace Jones, Mrs. Ida Jones, Will Bailey, Mrs. Willette Colley, Mrs. Annie Taylor, Will Cole, Harry Mitchell, Esther Gilman, Mrs. Miriam Jones, Edwina Colley and Harold Doe with their dog; recitation, Marguerite Gerald; violin solo, Madeleine Gerald; tableau song, Nearer My God to Thee.

The account of the dedication concluded:

The proceeds of the day and evening amounted to over \$65, net profit, which, considering the weather, seemed very satisfactory to the Patrons.

Two Farm Bureau Extension Groups also existed in China for a few years after World War II.¹ The South China Extension Group was organized in 1946, with Ruth Colwell the first chairman, Beulah Gould vice-chairman, Gladys Cook, secretary, Alexia Tibbetts, clothing leader, Helen Starkey,

1. Information on these two Extension groups was obtained from two articles in The China Egg, April 1955, p. 7.

foods, and Florence Dodge, home management. The group raised money through sponsoring fairs, food sales, and suppers and by compilation and sale of a cookbook in 1950. The money was used to assist the village school and the South China library; proceeds from the cookbook sale purchased a resuscitator for the local fire department. The China Village Extension was organized December 30, 1947, with thirty members; the first chairman was Katherine Riggs. In the next eight years this group raised funds to provide dental care for needy children, to help the PTA finance the cafeteria in the new elementary school, to help the China Baptist Church buy a new furnace and a new stove for the vestry, and to provide items of equipment for the village fire department.

Organizations of former servicemen have also been important in China's history. South China and China Village each had a G.A.R. post.¹ In South China, James P. Jones Post, Number 106, was organized in April 1884. There were twenty-five charter members; Charles B. Stuart was the first commander, and his successors (to 1892) were Samuel Starrett, Franklin Goodspeed, Augustus Webber, Sylvanus Haskell, and Alvah Austin. The group first met in the A.O.U.W. hall; in 1885 they built a G.A.R. building "containing a large hall, offices, rooms for Sons of Veterans and a Woman's Relief Corps, and suitable banquet hall."² This building stood on the southwest corner of the South China intersection where the park now is. Amos J. Billings Post, Number 112, was started in China Village in June 1884, with twenty original members. Kingsbury lists the commanders from 1884 to 1892 as Llewellyn Libbey, John Motley, B. P. Tilton, J. W. Brown, Henry C. Rice, Robert C. Brann, A. B. Fletcher, and (again) John Motley. This group acquired the old cheese factory building on the Neck Road sometime between 1898 and 1900; they moved it to a lot on the west side of Main Street (just south of the site of Peter Mead's present house) and used it as a G.A.R. hall until about 1919, when Roy Coombs bought it and converted it into a garage. Both G.A.R. posts sponsored appropriate Memorial Day exercises in their respective villages.

The last Civil War veteran in South China, N. Hallowell, died in February 1941, and the South China G.A.R. hall was taken over by Theodore Roosevelt Camp 5, Maine Division, Sons of Union Veterans (organized in April 1927). In January 1949 the four surviving members of that group turned over the hall to Boynton-Webber Post 179, American Legion, which had been organized by a group of World War II veterans in the summer of 1948.³ Ray Spearen was the first commander. The Legion met in the G.A.R. hall for some years; in the early 1960's they decided that the building would have to be abandoned, as it needed extensive repair and remodeling and lacked sufficient land for a septic tank. In 1962 or 1963 Harry Stuart and the Stuart heirs gave Boynton-Webber Post full title to the property on the understanding that the building would be torn down and the lot turned into a park in memory of American war veterans. The hall was torn down in 1963 or 1964; the site is now occupied by Stuart Memorial Park, with a granite monument, a flagpole, and attractive shrubbery.

1. Kingsbury, pp. 169-170.

2. According to Mr. Chandler Holton of South China, in 1892 the A.O.U.W. used the G.A.R. hall and paid the G.A.R. for the lamp-oil they burned. The editor is grateful to Mr. Holton for most of the information about the South China G.A.R. hall.

3. The editor is grateful to Mrs. Laura Fischer of South China for information about the American Legion and the American Legion Auxiliary in South China.

Boynton-Webber Post then built a new, single-story hall about two blocks east of the old one, between the former route 3 and the new route 3. This building was constructed mainly by members of the group. In 1974 and 1975 an addition was built on the west end. In recent years, the American Legion post has been active in community affairs, especially youth activities; they have sponsored Cub Scout and Boy Scout troops, sent high school boys to the annual Dirigo Boys' State, and awarded scholarships.

The same year that Boynton-Webber Post was organized, a group of mothers, wives, sisters, and daughters of World War I or World War II veterans organized Boynton-Webber Unit 179, American Legion Auxiliary. Like its male counterpart, the Auxiliary has sponsored many projects, including starting four Girl Scout troops, sending two representatives annually to Dirigo Girls' State, conducting poppy poster and essay contests in the China and Windsor grammar schools, and joining with the Legion in scholarship awards.

China Village has also had an American Legion post and an American Legion Auxiliary unit since after World War II. Washburn-Brann-Ward Post, Number 195, was named in honor of Edward E. Washburn, the first man from the area to die in World War I, and Leon F. Brann and Donald E. Ward, the first and second local men to die in World War II. For the first few years the Legion met in the fire department headquarters and other public places; then they bought the building on the corner of the Neck Road opposite the present Adams house, which they owned from the middle 1950's until 1972. In the last few years, meetings have been held in members' homes. In 1974, Washburn-Brann-Ward Post bought a lot on the Morrill Road and began raising money to build a Legion hall. Both the Legion and the Auxiliary conduct sales, suppers, and other fund-raising projects; and the Legion post, which now has members from Albion as well as China, has led local Memorial Day observances for more than twenty years.

A rather different type of organization from the above is the Branch Mills Sewing Circle, organized March 10, 1853, by a group of neighborhood women.¹ Mrs. Ballantyne has excerpted the following provisions from the original by-laws of this group:

Any lady may become a member by signing the constitution and pledging the sum of 12 1/2 cents....no religious controversy shall be allowed and no disrespectful language about anyone shall be used....in providing refreshments, it shall be a rule of this society that no member shall entertain her guests with more than two kinds of food.

Minutes of the Sewing Circle showed the progress of one of the group's first projects:

August 24, 1853...Met at Mrs. Spillers' and made cap and robe for Mrs. Freeman, deceased. Voted that the object of our labors would be to procure a pallcloth.

March 1, 1854...Met at Mrs. H. Worthing's. Commenced making a pall. As the ribbon was not considered suitable for trimming, it was voted that it should remain unfinished.

1. The editor is grateful to Mrs. Ballantyne for information on the Branch Mills Sewing Circle.

March 29, 1854...Met at Mrs. Moore's. Voted to purchase satin trim for the pall.

April 29, 1854...Met at Mrs. L. Harrington's. Voted that pall should be free to all within the vicinity of two miles. If carried further that the person who has the use of it shall pay 25¢. The pall shall be kept by the President.

Next, the ladies decided to provide a hearse for the use of the village. According to a 1927 letter to the Sewing Circle from a former member, the hearse was built by Charles Dowe and the iron work was done by Wilder Worthing. The hearse was a long box on wheels, just high enough to receive a pine coffin, with a rear door. It was finished in 1861:

April 17, 1861...The hearse being completed, a committee was chosen to see the same and to report to the Circle. There being a lack of 95 cents to make the sixty dollars to purchase the hearse, voted to borrow the amount necessary which was done and it was claimed by the Circle. Voted that we should keep the hearse in our hands and try to build a house for same.

After an interval during which the Circle concentrated on sewing for Civil War wounded, in 1864 money was appropriated for the hearse house project. The Sewing Circle got in touch with the local Graveyard Company, who built the hearse house beside the east fence of the cemetery. Both hearse and hearse house were used for many years. The hearse eventually became outmoded; it was sold to Raymond Dowe about 1915, and later to a fish peddler, believed to be Frank Downer, for a fish cart. When the hearse house was no longer used, it was sold to Lew Aldred (who lived where Milton Dowe now lives) and moved to his lot, where it still stands behind Mr. Dowe's garage.

The Sewing Circle undertook another major community project early in this century. In 1908 the group purchased the former Harrington academy building from the Good Templars, on condition that it be turned into a community house. The building burned in 1915, with only a little insurance. A newspaper account in Mrs. Ballantyne's possession described the Circle's reaction:

There was a good sized church and grange hall in the village sufficient to meet all ordinary needs, yet rather large to open often for small affairs. Therefore the members began making plans in February, 1921, to erect a building where the circle could hold its meetings whenever desirable. Social affairs could be held, committee meetings and whatever else for community service as deemed advisable. As a consequence, the members went to work to raise money.

At that time the Sewing Circle had only sixteen active members, although a few former members who had moved away still helped when they could. The officers in 1921 and 1922 were Mrs. Netta Nelson, president; Mrs. Winifred Dinsmore, vice-president; Mrs. Emma Worthing, secretary; Mrs. Flora Clark, assistant secretary; and Mrs. Annie Kitchin, treasurer.

The Circle hired Mr. Rufus Colby (who was from Whitefield or Coopers Mills) to build the community house; he began work in June 1922 and finished in September. The cost of the building was \$500, and the group also raised the money to provide furniture and equipment. The newspaper account described the building as

a bungalow type, 25 by 28 feet, with a porch on front, 8 by 20. At the back is a kitchen, 12 by 16 feet, which opens by folding doors into the main dining room and may be used for a stage when needed. This room is nicely fitted with cupboards and drawers, iron sink and range. There is a coat room, toilet, and shed for wood, at the side. The main room is finished in southern pine, with steel ceiling and walls. A fireplace is on one side. All the floors are hard wood. The walls are old ivory with white ceiling. Altogether it is a most attractive building of which the members are very proud.

The new community center was dedicated Saturday evening, November 4, 1922, with about a hundred people present, including some former students of Mr. Harrington's academy and some charter members of the Good Templars. The newspaper described the dedication ceremony:

The program was as follows: Singing, "America;" prayer, Mr. Harold Nutter; welcome by the president, Mrs. W. A. Nelson; response, W. S. Jones; singing, "The Old Oaken Bucket." As Mr. Colby was unable to be present, H. L. Pinkham was appointed to present the keys by proxy to the treasurer, Mrs. E. S. Kitchin, which he did with an appropriate speech. Lighting the fire on the hearth was an impressive ceremony. This was taken from "The Carey Housewarming" by Wiggin. Mrs. Nelson presented a torch made up of emblems, with a speech descriptive of it, to Mrs. Harold Kitchin, who in costume, represented the spirit of flame, lighted the fire and as the blaze leaped up the chimney, recited a beautiful poem. At the close of the ceremony the chorus of "Keep the Home Fires Burning" was sung. James Dinsmore next gave a history of the old academy, at the close of which he read a letter from C. F. Young, Boston, who presented the circle with a very handsome eight-day clock. This was given in honor of David and Louisiana Worthing's descendants. The clock was unveiled and handed to Mrs. E. S. Kitchin, who placed it on the mantle. Mrs. Nelson responded in a fitting manner for the circle. She then read a letter from Mrs. Etta Worthing of Worcester, Mass., who for many years served most efficiently as president of the society. This contained a most interesting history of the circle. A fine picture of her was hung on the wall, a gift from Mrs. Worthing. In memory of the old academy days, "Auld Lang Syne" was sung.

The following ladies presented the farce, "How the Story Grew," which proved very amusing: Mrs. G. A. Worthing, Mrs. Flora Clark, Mrs. Gardiner Illsley, Mrs. H. W. Worthing, Mrs. L. R. Nelson, Mrs. H. L. Pinkham, Mrs. C. A. Worthing and Mrs. Dean Estes. The program closed by singing, "God Be With You 'Till we Meet Again." The guests were shown over the building. A social time enjoyed and games played.

In recent years various new organizations have been formed in China, including several for children and young people.¹ In 1943, the Do It Better 4-H Club was started in South China; Mrs. Ralph Austin was its leader for about fifteen years. The group was reorganized as the Early Birds around 1970. Two other 4-H groups, Stablemates and Hoofbeats, have been organized in Weeks Mills. Boy and Girl Scout troops were started in the 1950's. The first Cub Scout pack began meeting about 1956; after a few years it was disbanded due to lack of members, but later it was revived. In the early 1970's there were three Cub Scout dens, one in South China, one in China, and one in Weeks Mills. The original Boy and Girl Scout troops also disbanded and had to be re-organized, the Boy Scouts in the late 1950's and the Girl Scouts in the early 1960's. In 1974 China had one Boy Scout troop; there were four Girl Scout troops, one of Brownies, two of Juniors, and one of Cadettes.

Two other active organizations are the Boosters of Erskine Eagles (BEE Club of Erskine Academy) and its offshoot, the Boosters of Erskine Academy (organized in the fall of 1972 by members of the minstrel group which the BEE Club had originally sponsored). Both these groups help raise funds for Erskine Academy. Their members, and the Alumni Association and other friends of the academy, are currently sponsoring an ambitious plan for a new gymnasium and recreation center at Erskine.

Other recently-formed organizations also emphasize town-wide rather than village activities. For example, the China Historical Society (organized in 1968), the China Chamber of Commerce, the China Lake Association, and the China Region Snowmobilers (the last two merged in August 1975 into the China Four Seasons Club) each appealed to an interest group rather than to a geographical group within the town.

Three of the four villages in China provide libraries for local residents. The oldest is the South China Library, which was started in 1830.² The founding group, including Captain William Mosher, Joseph Stuart, Dr. James Merrill, Corydon Chadwick, Joseph Chadwick, John Perkins, Sylvanus Chadwick, and Eli Jones, met at the Chadwick schoolhouse in January 1830 and drew up the constitution of the South China Social Library Society. Its purposes were "improving our leisure hours to advantage; cultivating science in the community at large; and encouraging the present and rising generation in the same worthy pursuits." Anyone could become a member of the society by paying the treasurer a dollar for the purchase of a library share, and additional shares could

1. The editor is grateful to Mrs. Fischer for information on these groups.

2. The editor is grateful to Mr. H. Douglas Archibald of China and Mrs. Marion E. Jones of South China for information on the South China library.

be obtained by buying books for the library. No one could take out more than one book at a time unless he owned more than one share. In 1831, the society voted to assess each share fifty cents to buy more books. All the books the library acquired for the first forty or so years were non-fiction, as was indicated in a paper read at a library society meeting¹ in 1870 commenting on the increasing public taste for "worthless" fiction. Constant Abbott was the first librarian; he was succeeded in 1836 by Ambrose H. Abbott, who held the position for thirty years. According to Rufus Jones,² the library was on the second floor of Mr. Abbott's store when the store--and the library with about 500 volumes--were destroyed in the great fire of April 1872. In 1873 the library was revived, with Eli Jones as president, and with eighty donated books and \$6.58 in the treasury. It was housed in people's homes, including Ambrose Abbott's and later Eliza Philbrook's, until 1900, when the present library building across from the church was built on land donated by Wilmot R. Jones. Mr. Jones was president of the library association from 1899 to 1919, and Rufus M. Jones from 1919 to 1948.

The current officers of the South China Library Association are Chandler Holton, president; Dr. David Van Strien, vice-president; Theresa Plaisted, secretary; and Myrtle Austin, treasurer. Mrs. Marion E. Jones has been the librarian for the last twenty-three years. Association members have recently repainted the building's brown siding and white trim and built a new stack to display the Maine books. The library now contains nearly six thousand volumes.

The Dinsmore Public Library in Branch Mills was started early in the twentieth century by Mr. Thomas Dinsmore, Jr., the village's leading philanthropist.³ Mr. Dinsmore bought a lot near the middle of the village, site of the old Bragg house (reputedly built soon after 1800); he planted the lot with pine trees, flowers, and shrubs, and converted the Bragg house into a library. To stock the shelves, Mr. Dinsmore wrote to book publishers explaining his project and requesting aid; the publishers donated dictionaries, encyclopedias, a complete set of Shakespeare's works, and other valuable volumes. Mr. Dinsmore even wrote to a Massachusetts newspaper to which he subscribed asking to buy copies of the books the newspaper had serialized. These, too, he received as a gift. Through such enterprising tactics, Mr. Dinsmore amassed an initial library of about 1700 books, and the number soon grew to over 2500. Mrs. Ballantyne quotes a 1910 Kennebec Journal article reporting that a hundred new books had been added and continuing:

The library has a wide circulation in China, Palermo, Albion and Windsor. Books are loaned for thirty days to accomodate those from a distance. Usually the library is open from 2 to 4 p.m.

1. According to Mr. Archibald, one of the by-laws of the library society read: "The Society or a part thereof may meet any time they think proper for reading, discoursing, or holding any literary communication either written or extemporaneous in literature not inconsistent with virtue and decorum."
2. Jones, "Addresses about South China," p. 34.
3. The editor is grateful to Mr. Archibald, Mrs. Ballantyne, Mrs. Kenneth Dinsmore, and Mr. Eleon Shuman for information on the Branch Mills library.

Mr. Dinsmore served as librarian until he was forced to resign by failing health in December 1915.

After Mr. Dinsmore's death in 1916 the library passed, according to his wishes, to the Branch Mills Improvement Society. With it went a small trust fund established by Mr. Dinsmore, the interest to be used for library maintenance. Mr. Dinsmore's son James made extensive improvements in the library, installing new ceilings, adding windows, and building new shelves. Local citizens also helped raise money to buy more books. The library was well patronized for many years, but has become inactive in recent years, supplanted by the state bookmobile, which visits Palermo regularly. The library lot has become overgrown and the building needs repair.

Mr. Archibald quotes the following from a letter written by Thomas Dinsmore early in this century:

There is a curiosity [sic] at the door of the Dinsmore Public Library. It is what might be called by a stretch of the imagination an Indian grist mill. It consists of a slate colored stone, smooth as if planed, about 2 1/2 feet square (used as a door step) which might be called the nether stone. Then there is a pestle stone (runner stone) about 10 inches long, 2 1/2 inches in diameter, perfectly round, tapering slightly from the center to the ends. The history of said mill dates back more than 100 years when a certain part of the Penobscot tribe lived in woods in this vicinity. Jo Mohock was the leader when they came to move to join the full tribe on the Penobscot. Jo Mohock presented the mill to one Thomas Bragg who lived on Parmenter Hill and who died in 1840 nearly 90 years of age, when the mill went to his son who lived in the building containing the library, where it has remained to this day.

In China Village, the Albert Church Brown Memorial Library was started in 1936.¹ An informal group of summer residents headed by Professor and Mrs. Newell C. Maynard of Medford, Massachusetts, donated a hundred books, and in August a dozen people organized by Willis Washburn met in Charles Bailey's house and began the activities leading to the formation of the China Village Library Association in November. By that time over 750 books had been collected, and through the generosity of friends the association was given the use of the second story of the Woodsum (later American Legion) building at the corner of the Neck Road. Tables, chairs, bookcases, and a stove were donated. For a librarian's desk the pulpit was retrieved from the old Methodist church and cut down to a usable size. Firewood was donated to heat the library in winter. One winter the fuel supply dwindled to the point where it was feared the library would have to close, but a public-spirited citizen took his truck and collected an armload of wood from each house in the village and surrounding country, returning with a more than adequate supply.

1. The editor is grateful to Mr. Archibald, president of the Albert Church Brown Memorial Library Association, for information about the library.

In 1938 the Library Association received enough money from individual contributions to buy the Fletcher-Main house on Main Street, a few hundred feet north of the Legion Hall. This large, attractive house, built around 1827, had been occupied by the interrelated Fletcher and Main families for several generations.

Meanwhile, in the summer of 1936 Mrs. Albion Brown, granddaughter of Rev. Pascal P. Morrell, a former Methodist minister in China, had visited from Massachusetts looking for her family's house where her three aunts had lived in the 1880's. The house was occupied in 1936 by Misses Estelle and Helen Brainerd; they were helping collect books for the new library, and Mrs. Brown became interested in the project. She shared her enthusiasm with others of her family, including two sisters-in-law, Mrs. Walter Coddling and Mrs. Albert Church Brown. Albert Church Brown was born in Winslow, Maine, in 1843; he spent most of his childhood in China, moving away when he was sixteen. He served in the Civil War with Company C of the 16th Maine Regiment. Later he became a successful businessman in Malden, Massachusetts, where he died in 1922. One evening in 1939 when Mrs. Coddling and her daughter were visiting Mrs. Albert Brown, the latter offered them some of her late husband's books for the China library. The Coddings were so pleased with the gift and so enthusiastic about the library that Mrs. Brown began to consider what else she could do, and the result was the establishment of a fund for the operation and maintenance of the China library in memory of Albert Church Brown.

With this generous gift, the Albert Church Brown Memorial Library was opened with a tea on New Year's Day, 1941. A formal dedication was held on July 19, at which Mrs. Coddling spoke of and for the Brown family; Mrs. Albert Brown, then "ninety years young," was reluctant to travel and, Mrs. Coddling explained, modest enough to prefer to remain in the background. The library has operated continuously since 1941; it now houses over 7,000 books. In the entrance hall is a framed photograph of Mr. Brown in his Civil War uniform, with a summary of his military career. The fiction room is named for Newell and Olive Maynard; the non-fiction room is named the Fletcher-Main room. On the second floor is a museum housed in the Washburn room, named for the Washburn family; Willis Washburn's daughter, Miss Mary Washburn, served as treasurer and librarian for over twenty-five years, and in her will left an endowment for the maintenance of the Washburn room. The museum houses a collection of local historical articles, such as the hundred-year-old spinning wheel donated to the library while it was still in the Legion building, the communion set once used in the China Baptist church, the bedspread made by the South China Ladies Relief Corps with local residents' names embroidered on it, the harnessmaker's horse Willis Washburn once used, and the fife Ezra Wiggin played at musters in the 1880's. The present head librarian is Mrs. Joseph Banks; her assistants are Mrs. Herbert Bridge and Miss Hazel Coombs. The latter is also secretary of the Library Association, a position she has filled for many years.

China Village

At the north end of the lake, China Village had a sudden spurt of growth in the 1830's and was for a generation an important trading and manufacturing center.¹ A large number of enterprising men lived in the area in those years, including the second and third generations of Bracketts, Washburns, and Wiggins; Alfred Marshall, John Brackett's son-in-law and China's only representative to the United States Congress; Dr. Alexander Hatch and his son John Hatch; Dr. Daniel Stevens; Freeman Shaw; Benjamin Libby; Reuben Hamlin; William Hunnewell; Robert Fletcher; Thomas B. Lincoln; Dr. James H. Brainerd and his son Fredus O. Brainerd; and others. The opening of China Academy may have contributed to a building boom in the late 1820's and 1830's as accommodations for teachers and students were needed. At the same time, various industrial enterprises were started, providing employment opportunities and increased circulation of goods and money.

The first primitive saw and grist mills on Meadow Brook had by this time been replaced by a whole complex of mills, combining a shingle mill, sawmill, and grist mill; they and several nearby shops, including a machine shop, burned in 1867. The China Steam Mill began grinding corn in 1835, although the China Steam Mill Company did not receive its legislative charter until 1836. The bill incorporating this company allowed it to grind all kinds of grain, saw lumber, and manufacture "any article or articles from iron, steel, cotton or wool." The shareholders listed in the act of incorporation were Alfred Marshall, Ebenezer Shaw, Benjamin Libbey, Sewell Owen, Oliver Hanscom, Allen Brackett, Reuben Hamlin, Thomas B. Lincoln, Samuel Hanscom, Jonathan Nelson, Sanford A. Kingsbury, Joseph Brackett, Corydon Chadwick, and Timothy F. Hanscom. The mill stood at the north end of the lake just west of the causeway, between the present Coombs house and the present Church Park (then the site of the primary school). In 1842 the property was sold to Nathaniel Gilman Jr. of Waterville and William Healey of China,² who added a tannery. The tannery burned, was partly rebuilt by Mr. Healey, and burned again; the 1856 map of China shows no building on its land.

In 1837 Ebenezer Shaw, Benjamin Libbey, Reuben Hamlin, Sanford Kingsbury, Lot Jones, and Jeremiah D. Estes were incorporated as the China Manufacturing Company, with the right to manufacture leather, cotton, wool, or paper; apparently this corporation remained on paper only. The Hanscom tannery on the south side of Wiggin Brook was built around 1840 and operated for some years. Later, in the 1850's or 1860's, a large sawmill was built on the northeast shore of the lake, a little south of the present site of Willow Beach Camps; this big building was still standing in 1900.

There were also a variety of smaller enterprises in China Village in the middle years of the nineteenth century. D. N. and E. B. Coffin were builders, in China and in Waterville as well. Reuben Hamlin and Thomas B.

1. The editor is grateful to Mr. and Mrs. William Foster for much of the information about China Village.

2. Mr. Healey was worth \$45,000 in 1850, according to the census records studied by Mr. and Mrs. Foster; in 1876 he went bankrupt. Between 1850 and 1876 he owned the present Harold Doe house on the west side of Main Street; the China Bank office was in this building (which a Mrs. Foster owned in 1892, Kingsbury says).

THE O.R.U.

VOLUME I.

NUMBER 16.

By an Association of Gentlemen.
TWO DOLLARS AT THE END OF THE YEAR.

CHINA, MARCH 22, 1834.

J. C. Washburn, General Agent.
\$1.75 IF PAID WITHIN THREE MONTHS.

PRINTED WEEKLY BY
WILLIAM V. WASHBURN.

ed some future good, and Memory had
scarcely any thing to do but cast looks of
reproach, at her young companion.

just as much as I deceive others in the
future."
"What is it you are disputing about?"

part of December the snow fell upon our
mountains to the depth of from two to
four feet; upon this a crust was formed.

to incorporate the Pombour Bridge
to authorize certain persons to build a
bridge across K'ou-shang stream in Haeng

CHINA, MAINE.
VICE PRESIDENTS, DIRECTORS & CO. OF

THE CHINA BANK

Will pay to the bearer on demand **ONE DOLLAR**

(((DR. CR)))

ONE HUNDRED

Washington Cash

New England Bank Note Co. Boston.



CHINA BANK.

\$

China, No. ————— 185

Pay to the order of _____

Dollars 100

TO THE CASHIER OF THE

Cashier.

The President.

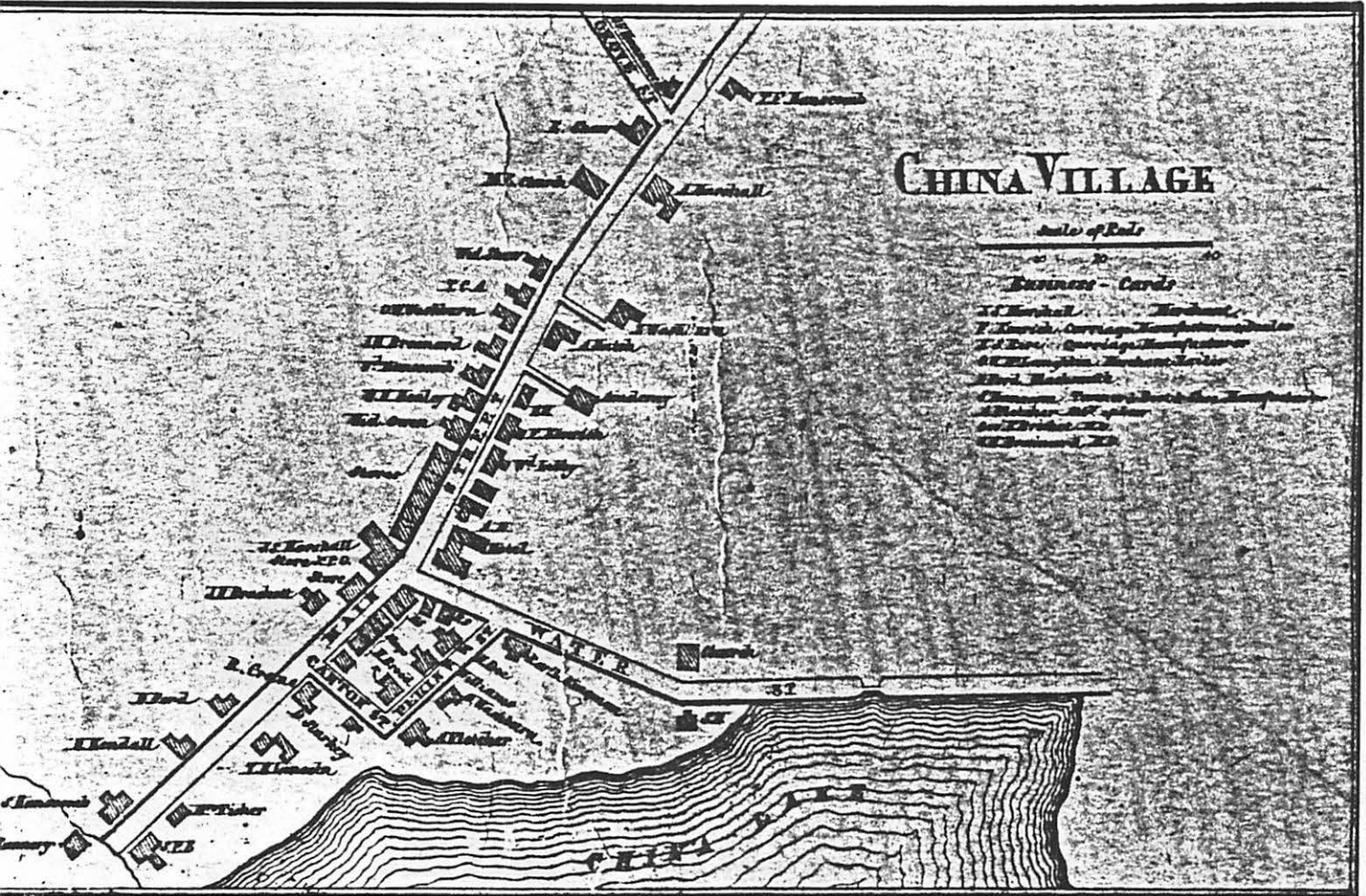
THE CANTON BANK

Will pay **THREE HUNDRED DOLLARS** on demand
to the bearer.

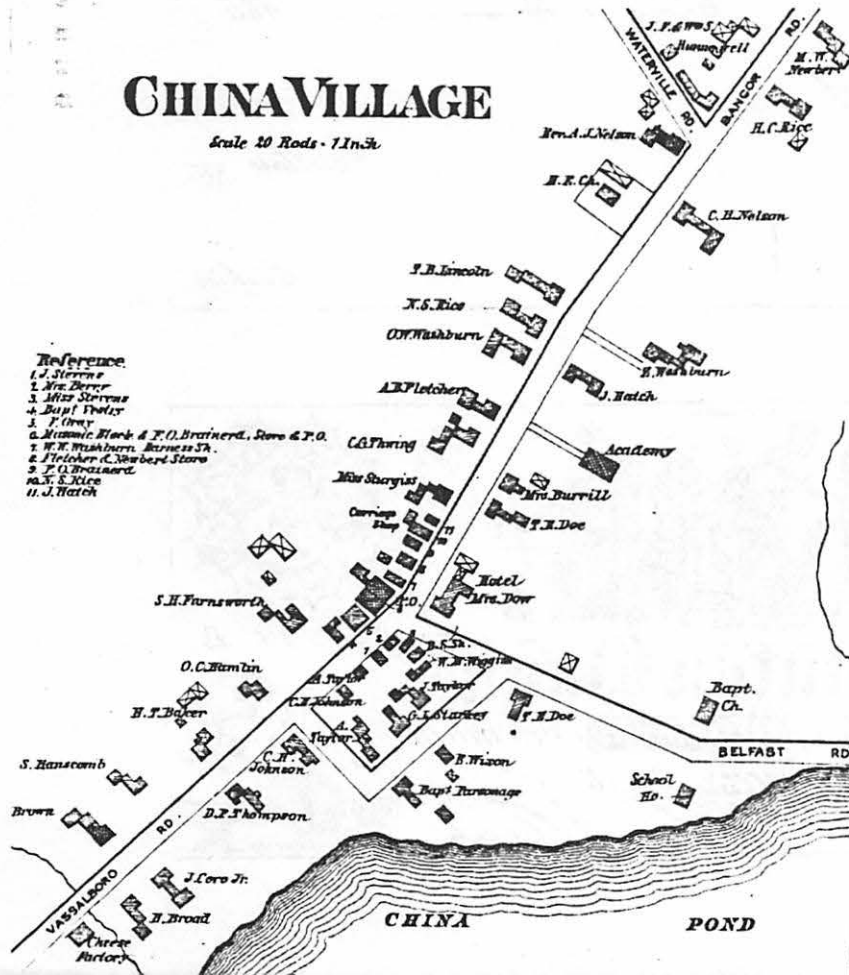
George F. Webb Cash

C. A. Newell Pres

THIRD



Above, China Village in 1856



Left, China Village in 1879

Lincoln had a chair-making and cabinet-making business (and also made caskets) in the 1830's; their shop was probably on the east side of the Neck Road a little north of where Don Farnsworth's boat shop now stands, separated from the Legion hall by a narrow alley. Mr. Hamlin, was probably the builder of several houses in town, including the present Baptist parsonage and the houses nearby now owned by the Coombs and by Miss Louise Tracey. There were shoemakers and blacksmiths and hatters and tailors. Freeman Shaw may well have manufactured stoves, in addition to his other interests. A list of China Village businesses on the 1856 map of Kennebec County included F. Kenrick, carriage manufacturer and dealer; N. S. Rice, carriage manufacturer; O. W. McLaughlin, merchant tailor; D. Ford, blacksmith; and S. Hanscom, tanner and boot and shoe manufacturer.

There were at least three and possibly as many as seven brickyards in China Village in the nineteenth century, for the area had abundant clay, wood, and water, three prerequisites for brickmaking. The clay was shoveled into a circular pond; water was added, and the mixture was stirred with a long sweep propelled by a horse walking around the pond. The wet clay was then moulded in a hand-operated moulding machine which turned out half a dozen bricks at a time. The bricks were sun-dried on a smooth, sandy floor and piled to await hardening by baking in the wood-fired kilns. The finished bricks built houses and chimneys in China and as far away as Portland and Boston.

One of the earliest brickyards in China Village was started on Wiggin Brook by Captain Nathaniel Spratt. One source says the yard was operating before the captain's marriage in 1822, and it was certainly a going concern in the 1830's. In October 1833 Charles Wiggin got \$1.25 credit on his bill with Dr. Timothy Hanscom by hauling 650 bricks "from Capt. Spratt's brickyard."¹ A year later, in October 1834, Captain Spratt was advertising in the China Orb that he had 230,000 bricks for sale at the brickyard. This yard ran until 1865, owned in later years by Samuel Benson and Zalmuna Washburn. Another brickyard, on the east side of the lake near Parmenter's farm, was owned by an ex-slave named Abraham Talbot.

From 1874 to 1886 a cheese factory operated on Wiggin Brook, opposite the site of the old Spratt brickyard. The legislative act incorporating the China Cheese Factory Company, passed in February 1874, listed forty-one incorporators, most of them prominent China citizens, and authorized the issuance of \$10,000 worth of shares in the company. Two of the interested citizens, Thomas Burrill and Willis Washburn, kept diaries² in which they recorded the development of the factory. Meetings were held during March 1874 to make plans. The building was framed on May 8, 1874, and was being shingled when Mr. Burrill visited it on May 12. Production began either July 19 or July 20; Mr. Washburn said the factory took in 1375 pounds of milk to process, and Mr. Burrill recorded that it produced two cheeses. The first cheese was cut on August 15 and, Mr. Washburn wrote, "found to be of first rate quality." The factory shut down in September and started again on June 1, 1875, and apparently closed for the winter in succeeding years as well. After the factory closed in 1886, no use of the building is recorded until it was moved to the west side of Main Street about 1899 and converted into the G.A.R. hall (and later into a garage which burned in 1923).

1. From Dr. Hanscom's account book, found in Fred Gaunce's house and excerpted by Mr. and Mrs. Foster.
2. The editor is grateful to Miss Margaret Clifford for permission to use information from these diaries.

Another, later agricultural processing operation in the China Village area was the Burnham and Morrill corn shop, which was built in 1923 or 1924 on the Pond Road opposite the present Willow Beach Camps.¹ The plant was run by Mr. Granville Brough and Mr. G. Wayland Jones. Corn raised in China and surrounding towns was brought to the factory and placed on an endless chain carrier which lifted it to the upper floor of the building. Then it dropped from bins onto a belt on the ground floor where women fed the ears into the huskers and then into the cutters. The cut corn was put into ten gallon cans (kept cold in ice water) and quickly trucked to a Vassalboro canning factory. The corn shop was also used to prepare string beans--women were hired to snip the beans before they were trucked to Livermore Falls for cutting and canning. For a short time, the machinery was used to shell green peas, and finally to vine shell beans. After the plant closed, the building was acquired by Mr. Nelson Bailey, who has remodeled it and incorporated it into Willow Beach Camps.

Yet another twentieth-century China Village industry was the Jones and Coombs bean cleaning plant. Started by Mr. Roy E. Coombs and Mr. G. Wayland Jones in 1933, the plant began with only four operators; it expanded steadily except for a slight decline during World War II, and by the late 1940's was employing sixteen women and five men processing six to seven tons of yellow-eye and red kidney beans a day. The plant occupied two floors at the rear of Mr. Coombs' garage on the main street. On the upper floor, beans fell through a hopper into a winnowing machine, thence onto a conveyor belt that carried them to another hopper set into the floor. On the floor below, the beans fell onto separate conveyor belts in front of the operators who quickly picked out the stones and defective beans (the latter were sold for sheep food). The sorted beans were then carried to a bagging machine. The beans were obtained from various parts of Maine, some of them being produced by such local growers as Raymond Norton, Clarence Skinner, Elwood Tobey, and Mrs. Carolyn Studley. A large portion of the cleaned beans were trucked to Burnham and Morrill's baked bean plant in Portland; the factory also cleaned smaller quantities of beans for other companies. In September the Jones and Coombs plant did green succotash beans for a Burnham and Morrill packing plant in Livermore Falls; the beans were "vined" at the Burnham and Morrill plant just outside the village, cleaned in the Jones and Coombs factory, and sent to the Livermore Falls plant for canning. The Jones and Coombs plant continued in operation until the building burned in August 1961.

China Village seems always to have had at least one general store, and usually more than one. Kingsbury's 1892 summary of this aspect of commercial life is as follows:

The first store here was kept by Japheth C. Washburn. He erected a building where Ambrose Bartlett now lives, which was burned. He built another across the street, building subsequently a residence and store on the site of his first store. His son, Oliver W., succeeded him in the business. North of Washburn's store General Alfred Marshall started another, which was subsequently burned. Estey N. Doe, in 1835, bought out Matthews & Gilman in the store nearly oppo-

1. The editor is grateful to Mr. Roy Coombs and Miss Hazel Coombs for information on the Burnham and Morrill plant.

site the present hotel barn. Colonel Robert Fletcher, who came to China about 1807, built the second village store, and began trade where A. B. Fletcher's store now is. His successors in the business have been: Alex. Hatch, M.D.; Freeman Shaw, Oliver W. Washburn, The Union Store, Dana C. Hanson, John H. Stevens, John Taylor, Moses W. Newbert and Abishia B. Fletcher....

The double brick store, now standing, was built by General Alfred Marshall, who was succeeded in the north part by his son, Jacob S. The latter was succeeded by O. W. Washburn, Alfred Marshall, Jacob Shaw, jun., Hiram P. Weeks, Worthing & Stevens, John H. Stevens, John Taylor, Philbrook & Rice and George C. Philbrook. The last named was succeeded, about 1872, by F. O. Brainard, the present merchant and postmaster, who had traded here in another building since September, 1866.¹

The other half of General Marshall's brick store, Kingsbury says, was first a harness shop run by Deacon Benjamin Libby; then a succession of tailors and shoemakers set up shops there; and in 1866 it was reopened as a harness shop by Willis W. Washburn. Subsequent proprietors of the harness shop were John E. James, Willis R. Ward, and in 1880 Theron E. Doe.

Actually, the history of the double brick store is even more complicated than Kingsbury makes it. The building has always been divided, with the dividing line marked; Alfred Marshall built the north end--roughly two-thirds of the total area--and Benjamin Libby the south end, around 1825. Until 1866 various stores and shops occupied the two sections of the building, as Kingsbury indicates; sometime before that year a wooden building was attached to the back of the brick one and also used as a store.² In 1866 the Masons bought the south part of the brick building from Ellen Wentworth and the north part from Alfred Marshall. They then sold the north two-thirds of the ground floor and the cellar under it to John Taylor, keeping the rest of the building (and apparently leasing the south end of the ground floor to various tradesmen). Taylor in turn sold to the Philbrooks who sold to Fredus Brainerd, as Kingsbury says; each of the sale deeds specified that what was sold was only the described part of the whole building. By 1919 the Masons wanted the whole building again, so W. B. Bailey bought the north two-thirds of the ground floor and cellar from Fredus Brainerd's daughter Estelle and sold it to the Masons.

Just south of the double brick store, on what is now the Fletchers' lot, was Japheth C. Washburn's three-story store. Built sometime in the 1820's, probably about 1827, it was mortgaged to China Academy in February 1828 (some of the academy classes might have met there before their brick

1. Kingsbury, p. 1145.

2. Mr. Donald Farnsworth remembers that early in the twentieth century the wooden building was moved from behind the Masonic hall to the lot presently owned by Harold Doe, Jr., about a mile and a half out on the Neck Road. The movers had trouble maneuvering the building out onto Main Street through the narrow alley between the old post office and Rowe's store.

building was finished). In 1832 Oliver W. Washburn quitclaimed the building to James Blish; it was occupied by Mathews and Company for a few years and then sold to Sanford Kingsbury. Subsequent owners, all of whom described the building as a store in deeds of sale and probably used at least part of it for commercial purposes, were Dr. Alexander Hatch (1841), John Hatch (1866), John Gould (1866), Thomas Cookson (1866),¹ Philip W. Day (1869), Edmund F. Gray (1873), and Nancy J. Gray (1875). By the time Theron Doe bought the building from Lydia Gray in 1896, it was no longer a store; the Grays may have torn down the store and replaced it with the house, or they may have converted the store to a house.

Across the street from this three-story store, the block between the Legion Hall and the corner of Canton Street (the space now occupied by a grove of trees, Don Farnsworth's boat shop, and a lawn) was a busy commercial area for most of the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. The Legion Hall itself--also known in this century as Woodsum Hall and the Bragdon building--was built by the 1830's, and was used as a store in the 1840's and 1850's.² South of it, the 1856 map of China Village showed five small buildings labeled as shops; the 1879 map indicated three buildings, labeled J. Stevens, A. Taylor, and C. H. Johnson. Photographs taken sometime around 1910 still showed store buildings in this area, fronting directly on the gravel road which was wide enough to allow parking for horses and buggies.³

The rest of the business district extended north from the double brick store along the west side of Main Street to the present Harold Doe house. There were as many as seven separate commercial establishments in that area at one time (as shown on the 1856 map); the number changed as old buildings burned or were torn down, and new ones were built or moved in. Photographs from the first two decades of the twentieth century showed a row of at least four story-and-a-half, steep-roofed wooden buildings, their gable ends toward the street. The Fosters identify these as--from south to north, beginning at the north end of the Masonic building--the old post office, a store (Rowe's, Cole's, or Stimpson's, depending on the date of the photograph), the G.A.R. hall, and Bailey's store. Between the G.A.R.

1. Mr. Burrill's diary recorded a fire in the roof of Mr. Cookson's store at noon on April 9, 1869.
2. Sewall Owen bought the Legion Hall building, probably in 1836. He sold it in 1839 to Henry Rice of Boston, who apparently failed to pay for it, since Mr. Owen sold it again to Thomas B. Lincoln, cabinetmaker, in 1841. Mr. Lincoln sold it to Eliza F. Chadwick who used it for a store until she sold it in 1844 to David Spratt of Albion and Thomas Stevens of China, who also kept a store there for a short time before selling in 1845 to Thomas S. Foster, identified as a mechanic. Mr. Foster sold it in 1849 to William G. Greeley of China, also a mechanic, who sold it the same year to Isaac Ewer. Mr. Ewer sold it to Amasa Taylor in 1857; it passed to John Taylor in 1866, and from him to Harriet N. Berry, who sold it in 1886 to Jediah Hussey. He promptly sold it for \$100 to Theron Doe, who ran a general store there. Harold Doe inherited the property and in 1923 sold it to John Woodsum, who sold it to Kenneth Bragdon, who sold it to the China Volunteer Fire Department, who sold it to the American Legion, who sold it in 1972 to the present owner, Steven Hale.
3. Mr. and Mrs. Foster believe the Union Store was in one of these buildings, not in the Fletcher store building as Kingsbury says.

hall and Bailey's store was a small building where Winfield Martin had a photography studio. Mr. Martin made most of the early twentieth century postcards of China, and he was also an expert printer.

Just north of the brick building was a lot sold by James Brackett to O. W. Washburn in 1843 which remained in the Washburn family's possession until 1964. W. W. Washburn had a harness shop there in the 1870's; when the harness shop building, by then the village post office, burned in September 1923, the building that had been Ed Taylor's horseshoeing and blacksmith shop was moved from the T. W. Washburn property (near the present Gaunce home) to the Washburn lot. It was then used as the post office (hence the lot is sometimes called the post office lot), and, for a while, as an insurance office, until 1961. In January of that year the new post office building farther north on Main Street opened; Leigh Frankenfield bought the old post office in January 1964 and converted it into a garage, which burned in the fall of 1965.

The Fletcher store described by Kingsbury was on the next lot north. According to the records found by Mr. and Mrs. Foster, Colonel Fletcher sold the store to Dr. Hatch in 1829. Dr. Hatch and Freeman Shaw were partners for about five months, and then Mr. Shaw bought out the doctor. Mr. Shaw owned the store until his death, in partnership at times with his brother Jacob and with O. W. Washburn. Mr. Shaw's widow sold to John Taylor in 1865, and ten years later he sold to Fletcher and Newbert. In 1900 Abisha Fletcher sold the store to George and John S. Rowe; John Rowe later sold it to William Cole, who apparently ran it himself for a time before leasing it to Victor Stimpson in October 1921. Mr. Stimpson and Thomas B. James were operating the store when the building burned in September 1923.

Next north of the Fletcher store was the lot where Fredus O. Brainerd had a store in the 1870's. The G.A.R. hall (formerly the cheese factory) was moved there from its original site beside Wiggin Brook between 1898 and 1900 and stood until the 1923 fire. Later the Coombs garage and bean-cleaning plant stood on that site, until they too burned in August 1961. On the lot next north of that, where Peter Mead's house now stands, was a house for part of the nineteenth century; in 1886 W. R. Ward converted it into a store, and in 1919 William B. and Charles Bailey bought it and ran Bailey's store¹ until William Bailey sold to the Fenlasons in late 1957 or early 1958. The Fenlason store burned with Coombs' garage.

There were also one or two small shops east of the Legion hall, down toward the lake, where Mrs. Joseph Banks' garage now stands. In 1856 there were two small blacksmith shops there; the 1879 map showed one blacksmith shop and the milliner's shop formerly run by Miss Harriet Stevens. The latter building was later moved up onto Main Street and converted into the house in which the Dennis Harding family now lives. One or both of these shops also housed shoemakers for part of the time, for George Wentworth, grandfather of former China postmaster John Wentworth, had his shop there. One Fourth of July some prankish local boys (for many years the Fourth of July, like Halloween, was an occasion for mischief-making) perched Mr. Wentworth's cobbler's bench on the ridge pole of the building. The next morning Mr. Wentworth came to the shop as usual; he put on his cobbler's apron, climbed up on the roof, sat down on his bench, and went to work.

1. Charles withdrew from the partnership in 1924 and William ran the W. B. Bailey store alone until after World War II when his son Blaine and later his son-in-law William Foster joined the business, which then became known as W. B. Bailey Company.

In later years Fourth of July pranks included removing wooden doorsteps (especially from the old post office just north of the Masonic building) and taking agricultural implements to unlikely places. One July Reverend Willard Palmer, who lived in the 1920's and 1930's in what is now the Grows' house, decided to protect his machinery; so he chained his hayrake and all his other implements together in the back field, and announced that he was ready to foil any pranks. That year he was the only one in the village whose possessions suffered. The heavy chain was cut into short segments, the hayrick was taken to pieces and reassembled on the Legion hall roof; the haybin was thrown into the lake, and the rest of his machines met similar fates.

Another important building in China Village was the hotel, in the present Adams house on the corner. Built sometime in the 1820's by John Brackett, it was purchased in June 1827 by Mr. Brackett's son-in-law, Alfred Marshall, who was already living there (and who paid only \$100 for it: Mr. Brackett was a wealthy man and generous in providing for his children). It was known as General Marshall's hotel into the 1850's, and was a gathering place for many local groups as well as a famous resting place for travelers. Among its distinguished guests might have been General Winfield Scott, who is said to have stopped overnight on his way north to deal with the Aroostook War in 1839. General Marshall owned the inn until 1864, although apparently part of the time it was operated by others, including George Ricker and John Hussey.¹ The General sold it to Jane A. Coombs² for \$2200 in February 1864. In the next eight years the property changed hands several times before it was purchased in 1872 by Charles Dow, who in April of that year deeded it to Caroline Dow; Kingsbury says that in 1892 Charles Dow's widow was running the hotel.³ Caroline Dow's heirs sold the hotel in 1905 to a group of local entrepreneurs, including John Woodsum, Theron Doe, and Willis Washburn. They sold it to Everett and Roy Gordon in 1907, and the hotel was called the Gordon House for some years. In 1916 Everett Gordon sold it back to the same group of businessmen, who in 1919 sold it to Mrs. Charles Bailey.

1. Mr. and Mrs. Foster have found references to Ricker's Hotel in deeds; and the deed of sale from General Marshall to Mrs. Coombs described the property as "now occupied as a tavern stand by John Hussey."
2. The Fosters have found the deed, which contained the following complicated condition: "...sd. estate is to be the property of said Jane A. Coombs during her natural life. At her decease to [become] the property of Leslie A. Coombs, son of Nathaniel D. Coombs, and in case Leslie A. Coombs should decease before he arrives at the age of 21 yrs. then and in that case, premises shall be the property of the heirs of Nathaniel Coombs Sr., the whole to be under the control of N. D. Coombs with full power to sell and convey." After all these elaborate provisions for the future, Nathaniel and Jane Coombs sold the property in March 1866 (to William Crane, for \$1500).
3. Kingsbury lists the proprietors of the inn at China as General Marshall, George Ricker, Luther Lamb, John Hatch, John Hussey, N. D. Coombs, N. D. Coombs' son, William Crane (the Fosters found that within two years after he bought the property in 1866 it had reverted again to Nathaniel and Jane Coombs), James Huntoon (the Fosters have found a record of a James Hinton foreclosing a mortgage and selling the property to Charles Dow in 1872), E. G. Davenport (a Catherine Davenport bought the inn from the Coombses in December 1867), and Charles H. Dow.

In 1938 Mr. and Mrs. Bailey turned over the property to their daughter and son-in-law, Letha and Karl Wilson, who operated the China Inn there from 1939 through the early 1940's. Among their guests in these years were many of the people involved in remodeling the Main house up the street into the Albert Church Brown Memorial Library. Mrs. Addie Coddling, sister-in-law of Mrs. Brown and a principal instigator of the library project, stayed at the China Inn, as did the architect, John Addin. An even more renowned guest was E. B. White; he and his wife and son were on their way home from Waterville when a winter storm caught them, and they spent the night at the China Inn. Mr. White later mentioned Mrs. Wilson in his book One Man's Meat.

In 1946 the Wilsons sold to Mr. James Allen from Waterville. The Allens had a snack bar for a while, but did not accommodate guests. They sold the building to the present owners, Mr. and Mrs. Albert Adams.

Besides its industries and its stores¹ and its inn, China Village also had the various G.A.R., Masonic, and Legion halls; the academy; and two churches. A variety of professional men lived and practiced in the village as well. Nineteenth century doctors included Alexander Hatch, George E. Brickett, James H. Brainerd,² Daniel Stevens, Timothy Hanscom, all of whom practiced in China in the first half of the century, and Gustavus J. Nelson, who returned to China with a medical degree in the 1880's and practiced in Weeks Mills and then in China Village for many years. Nineteenth century lawyers included Sanford Kingsbury, Zebah Washburn, Abisha Benson, Alfred Fletcher, and Jacob Smith. From 1864 to 1869 a dentist named Hart lived in what is now Miss Louise Tracey's house.

In the twentieth century, changes in life-styles, particularly the use of the automobile, slowly changed the character of China Village. The number of commercial establishments declined, and for a few years in the late 1950's and early 1960's several of the old houses were empty and deteriorating. A resurgence since the mid-1960's has seen increased occupancy and the establishment of new businesses. The China General Store on Main Street, Mr. Donald Farnsworth's boat shop on the Neck Road, and the snack bar and Mr. Charles Rhoades' garage at the northeast corner of the lake have been joined by such enterprises as Harding Brothers' contracting firm, run from Mr. Dennis Harding's home and the former hotel barn,

1. Besides the stores described in the preceding paragraphs, there was the Healy store, ordered torn down by the China selectmen in the summer of 1873 (see above, p. 92) and actually torn down, according to Thomas Burrill's diary, on September 18, 1873.
2. Dr. Brainerd lived in a small house, no longer standing, between the Albert Church Brown Memorial Library and Miss Margaret Clifford's house. In 1831, his wife died, leaving him with several small children, and he fell upon hard times and was unable to pay his debts. Mr. and Mrs. Foster have found records of appraisals and court orders for seizure of specified parts of his land and specified rooms in his house to satisfy his creditors. One appraisal valued the "easterly half of the westerly fore-room" in his house and all the house lot except the part under the rest of the house at \$78.05; the land and the half room were set off to satisfy a debt to John Mower of Vassalboro. A second appraisal eleven months later valued at \$102.78 "the northerly front room on the lower floor, the front entry-way, one half of the westerly front room on the lower floor together with the land on which the same stands meaning to include all the front of the lower story of the dwelling house in which the said Brainerd lives except the 1/2 of 1 room which has been set off on execution John Mower."

and Mr. Peter Mead's fire-fighting equipment agency across the street from the old hotel barn.

Central Maine Power Company electricity became available in the village about 1927, according to local residents. Before that, according to Mr. Farnsworth, Mrs. Bragdon, and Mr. Foster, at least two enterprising citizens ran their own generators. At the south end of Main Street (or the north end of the Neck Road), Mr. Everett Farnsworth's gasoline-powered generator in the building where Don Farnsworth now has his boat shop provided power for the Farnsworth house across the street and the Woodsum house (now owned by the Diehls) on Peking Street. Mr. Farnsworth began producing current about 1912; other family members wired the houses. The generator ran all day on Saturdays, with a racket audible all over town, to provide a week's supply of power for the two houses. Mrs. Bragdon remembers that the lights were less bright than contemporary ones, and by Friday evening had dimmed still more. The other generator was owned and operated by W. R. Ward, Mrs. Florence (Ward) Taylor's father; he lighted his own brick house at the north end of Main Street, and when the Taylors bought the present Sylvain house he ran poles and wires down there so the Taylors, too, could have electricity.

China village acquired fire protection during World War II. The China Village Fire Company was formed on April 5, 1943, when sixteen local men donated five dollars each and elected officers.¹ Stanley Young was fire chief, Donald Farnsworth president, Harry Mitchell vice-president, Willis Washburn secretary-treasurer, and Thomas James, Delmont Meader, and Ralph Esancy assistant fire chiefs. Other original members were Joseph F. Banks, Joseph M. Banks, Ernest Black, Arnold Boivin, Carroll Bumps, Ed Doe, S. C. Fletcher, Lawrence Harding, Karl Wilson, and George Woodsum.

The fire company began its career with South China's old Ford fire truck, a gift to the new department. In the next few months a Packard fire truck was purchased from Belgrade and the necessary hose, ladders, and Indian pumps were accumulated. The old Legion Hall building at the corner of the Neck Road was purchased and renovated for a fire station. The fire department was formally incorporated, and fire drills were held to acquaint the volunteers with the use of their equipment. At first the fire department members considered themselves self-sufficient and refused the services of other local residents, but this policy was reversed after the first big fire in town, when Charles Parmenter's barn burned. Ralph Esancy, who clerked in Bailey's general store, was the only fireman around when the fire was reported. He took the Packard engine; Roy Coombs, whose garage was near the fire station, drove the Ford engine; and John Wentworth figured out how to start the pump. Despite the lack of a trained crew, the volunteers pumped water from Starkey Brook and saved the Parmenters' house and henhouse, although the barn was lost.

During the succeeding years, most of the able-bodied men in and around China Village served as fire department volunteers. Roy Coombs became fire chief in 1945 and served until he was succeeded in 1962 by Frank Lockhart. Since then Stanley Young and Jack Sylvester have served as fire chiefs. The summer of 1947 was an unusually dry one, and the high risk of forest fires imposed especially heavy burdens on the volunteers. To meet the emergency situation, the telephone company installed a telephone

1. The editor is grateful to Mr. John Wentworth of China for most of the information about the China Village volunteer fire department. Additional information has been obtained from The China Egg, May 1955, pp. 9-10.

in the fire house (without charge) and John Wentworth moved into the building for the duration of the drought. Other department members, working in four-man crews, drove through wooded areas in two-hour shifts throughout the nights.

The fire department improved and expanded its equipment as funds permitted. In 1946 Roy Coombs gave the department a used International truck, and the organization bought a Reo. In 1948 the department purchased its first brand-new truck, a Chevrolet onto which department members built a fire-truck body. This truck was still in use in 1974, primarily as a hose truck and for fighting forest fires; the current body was built by Stanley Young. To raise money for this expensive acquisition, the fire department held a mammoth auction (and the firemen's auction has been an important event in China Village in many summers since). In 1951 a resuscitator was purchased with funds donated by the summer residents in the Rollinsville area. The next year, Mr. Vincent Peters of Fairfield gave the firemen an International tank truck, which was equipped for fire-fighting and, in 1954, given a new engine. In 1954, also, the department bought a portable pump to pump out cellars and wells. This service had been performed with the big pump in the past; but in the spring of 1954 the firemen fighting a blaze on the lakeshore had walled through deep snow to the lake with the pump, only to find it would not work. Later they found the pump was fouled with dog hair and matches from a recent cellar-pumping operation. So the portable pump was obtained.

In 1966 the department bought its first commercially-built fire truck, a GMC with a 500 gallon-per-minute pump and a tank capacity of 850 gallons of water. In 1973, a new International truck was purchased and Stanley Young and Peter Mead, with the assistance of other members of the department, installed a 750 gallon-per-minute pump and a thousand gallon water tank. The department raised enough money through such activities as the auctions, firemen's suppers, and fishing derbies to provide thousands of dollars' worth of equipment for this truck, including new ladders and hose, resuscitators, Scott air-breathing apparatus for firemen to wear in smoke-filled buildings, and special first aid kits for burns.

The mortgage on the original fire station was paid off in 1947, and a building fund was started in 1951. In 1955 the department bought Albert Adams' filling station just west of the church and remodeled it into a fire station. Volunteers built an addition to it in the early 1960's. Until 1959, fire alarms were rung by the telephone operator; the signal was one long ring on all the lines. When the advent of dial telephones made this system obsolete, the red network went into operation, with emergency phones in stores, the chief's residence, and the fire station. An airhorn mounted on the fire station can be operated from these lines.

In 1974 the fire department had about thirty members. Ray Riggs was president of the fire department association and Richard Norton was the secretary-treasurer. Fire chief Sylvester was supported by assistant chiefs Harlan Young and Frank Lockhart and captains Sheldon Bumps, George Studley, and Peter Mead. Peter Mead also served as training officer; under his direction members of the department spent several hours a month improving their fire-fighting skills. In the winter there were filmstrips, lectures, practice in first aid, and other indoor work, and in milder weather the firemen participated in outdoor drills with such equipment as ladders, hoses, and Indian pumps.

In 1974 there was a single general store in China Village, standing on the former Methodist church lot well north of the earlier business district. Mr. Thomas James bought the store lot and the house next south of it around

1940; in September 1961, a month after the Fenlason store had burned and left the village without a local source of groceries, he and his son-in-law, Roy Dow, began building the present China General Store.¹ Most of the work was done by Mr. Dow and some of the neighbors, although the cement blocks were laid up by Benjamin Avery of Coopers Mills. The store opened in February 1962 under the corporate ownership of Mr. and Mrs. James and Mr. and Mrs. Dow, and has operated successfully as a general store ever since. A thirty-foot addition was built on the back about 1967. In May 1974 the store was purchased by Mr. and Mrs. John Sylvester.

South China

The commercial history of South China village was shaped by its location at the intersection of two roads and by the great fire of 1872.² The 1856 map labeled the Augusta-Belfast road, running approximately east and west, as Main Street; the road running north toward China Village was Lake Street, and the Windsor road was South Street. Before the 1872 fire, the village's commercial axis ran north and south, with stores and shops on all four corners of the crossroads and on Lake and South streets. New buildings after the fire also surrounded the crossroads, but tended to extend east and west along Main Street.

Two landmarks untouched in 1872 help orient the historian. After one turns off route 202 to come into South China from the north, there stand on the east (left) side of the road the Jones farmhouse and on the west side the brick house now owned by the Holtons. The Jones house was built in 1815 by Edwin Jones and was Rufus Jones' early home; it now belongs to Mrs. Miriam Jones Brown, principal of a Friends school in Pennsylvania. The brick house, the only one in the village, was built in 1846 by Ebenezer Meiggs, a local entrepreneur who was owner or part owner of a brickyard and of at least one of the town's general stores. Mr. Meiggs still owned the house in 1872, and it narrowly escaped destruction in the fire.

Just south of Mr. Meiggs' house stood Theodore M. (Theed) Jackson's carriage-making and blacksmith shop, opened in 1855. Rufus Jones described in loving detail Mr. Jackson and the life of his shop in the 1870's.³ The shop

was two stories high, with a carriage shop above.

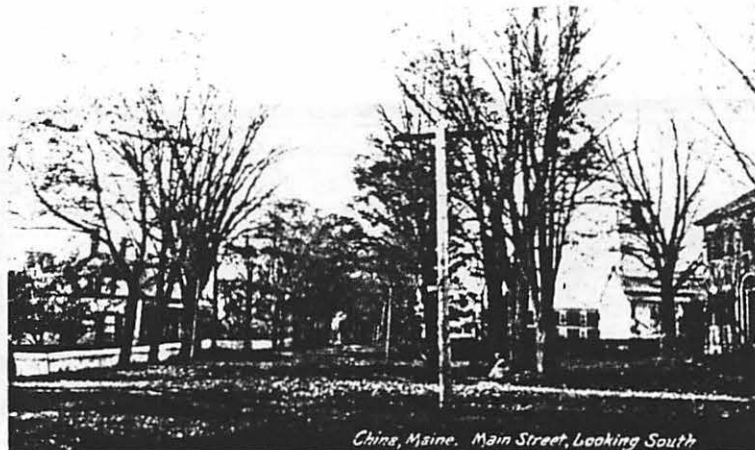
There was a great platform on the south side of the upper story, where newly painted carriages were put out to dry and a run-way went up from the ground for pulling the carriages up after the tires were set.

1. The editor is grateful to Mrs. Roy Dow for information about the China General Store.

2. Most of the information about South China has been collated from the following sources: 1856 and 1879 maps of Kennebec County; Kingsbury, esp. pp. 1147-1148; Rufus Jones, "Addresses about South China" (esp. "Our Blacksmith Shop as a Center of Democracy" and "South China as It Was Before the Great Fire"); and information supplied by Mr. and Mrs. Chandler Holton. The editor is grateful to Mr. and Mrs. Holton and the people with whom they spoke, and to Mrs. Fanny Maxwell, for their assistance.

3. "Addresses about South China," pp. 23-33.

China Village



Methodist Church & Grange
Hall 2nd & 3rd on right

Courtesy of Stanley Grimshaw



Looking north; brick Masonic
Hall 2nd left

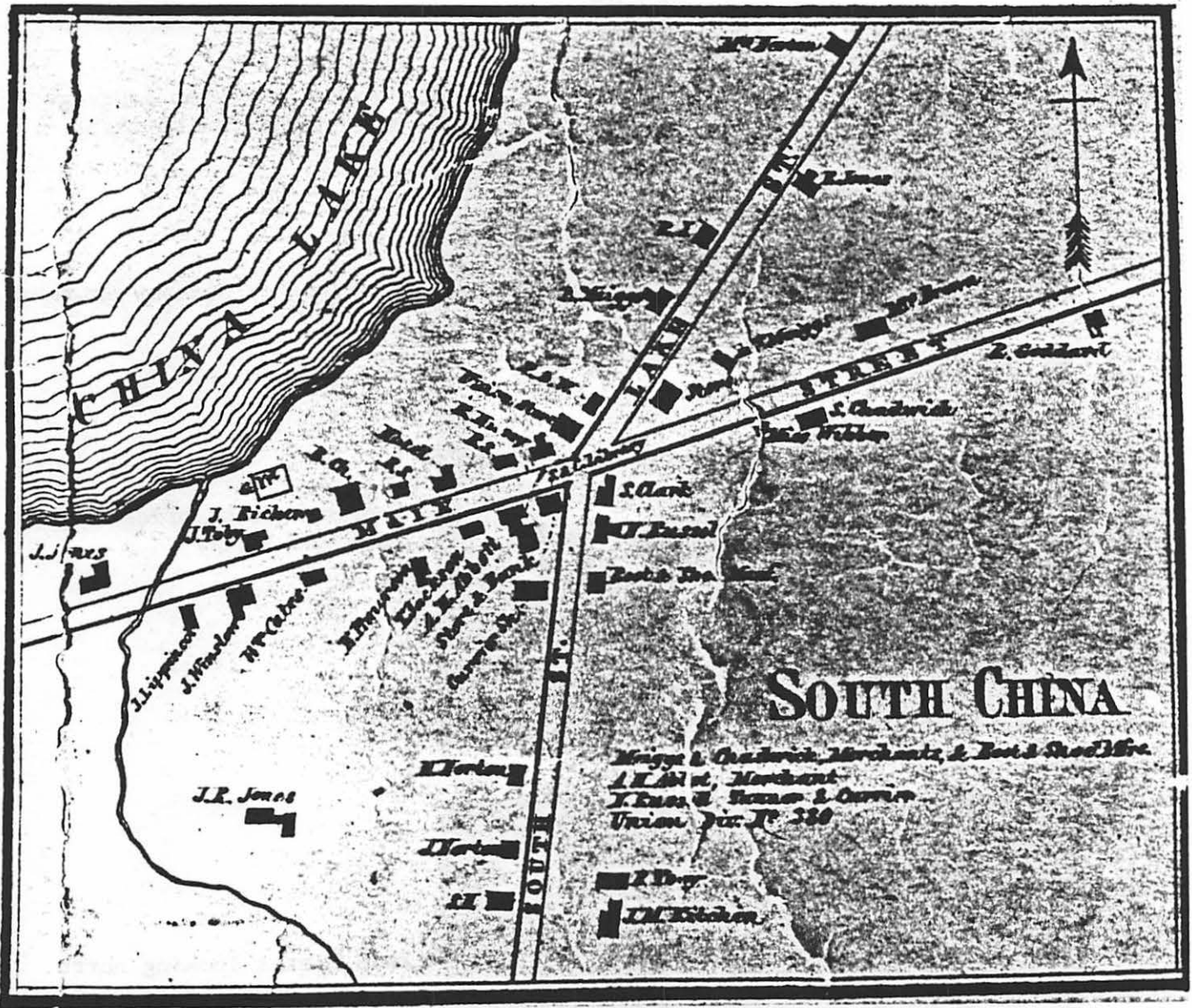


Main Street looking north



Old hotel on left

Courtesy of Stanley Grimshaw



South China in 1856



Views of South China, early 20th century

Inside on the ground floor were an enormous anvil and a forge which burned soft coal. Here Mr. Jackson shod horses, mended all sorts of metal implements, and told his stories and anecdotes (many of them with a moral unsympathetic to the Republican party, for he was one of the few Democrats in town). The shop burned in the 1872 fire, but apparently another one was built on the site,¹ and Mr. and Mrs. Holton say that Walter Jerolmen and Charles Allen later worked as blacksmiths there. The shop went out of business in 1917 and Mr. Allen went to Berea, Kentucky, to teach blacksmithing at Berea College.

South of Jackson's were William Kingsbury's huge barn and his tavern. The lot on which his buildings stood was probably the former site of one of the first stores in South China, opened in or before 1833 by Horace Baker. Next south, the corner lot had been occupied by a store most of the time from the 1830's on. Ebenezer Meiggs apparently had the first store there, in the 1830's. A Union Store seems to have been in that building in 1856.² At the time of the fire, Samuel Stuart owned and ran the store; he shipped local eggs to the Boston market, and sold Puerto Rican molasses, "dried codfish, smoked herring and pickled tongues and sounds." All these buildings were crowded together; Mr. Jones wrote that "When the Stuart store burned the Kingsbury buildings were doomed; and so, of course, was the Jackson shop." Mr. Stuart rebuilt his store after the fire. About 1879 his son Charles Stuart took it over and ran it until, in September 1888, he was bought out by Elwood Jenkins, who

joined the stock with that of his other store, which he had purchased in 1886 of Alden W. Sweetland & Co., who succeeded James Savage in the store where C. W. Randall is.³

Both the Stuarts and Mr. Jenkins were postmasters, and Mrs. Virginia Jones Webber remembers Jenkins' store around 1890 as the place "where you could express a package, mail a letter, get all the gossip and buy your groceries."⁴ Later, she says, Wilson Hawes ran the store, and the Holtons add that later still Spearen's store was on this lot.

Running west from the crossroads to the church lot, the 1856 map showed a blacksmith shop, a vacant lot, a hotel,⁵ and another blacksmith shop. Rufus Jones' description of this section as it was fifteen years later says that the road to the town landing went down to the lake near Stuart's store. Across the town landing road from Stuart's stood John Wyman's two story store; Mr. Wyman also operated a bowling alley near the lake. James Savage's store (later Sweetland's and in 1892 Randall's) was apparently built after the fire near where

1. The Kennebec County atlas published in 1879 showed Jackson's blacksmith and carriage shop on the map of the whole town of China; this atlas included detail maps of China Village, Weeks Mills, and Branch Mills, but not of South China. Kingsbury, writing in 1892, refers to Jackson's wagon shop (p. 1147) in a context which suggests--but does not say--that it was in the same place after the fire as before.

2. The 1856 map labeled the large building just barely north of the intersection the Union Store. However, both Kingsbury (p. 1147) and Rufus Jones (p. 34) place the Union store on the other--east--side of Lake Street.

3. Kingsbury, p. 1147.

4. Mrs. Webber, in a letter to Mr. and Mrs. Holton.

5. This hotel was probably the South China House. Dean Ernest Marriner, taking his information from the list of public houses in the 1855 Maine Register, wrote, "China had the China House at the village and the South China House, run by Sabin Lewis, at the other end of the lake." (Marriner, Kennebec Yesterdays, p. 226.) The 1856 map of South China showed a hotel

Wyman's had been. In 1930 Edmund Dowe built his first diner in this area of the village; he sold it in 1946 and moved a second diner onto the next lot south. In succeeding years he added a grocery store to the second diner and bought back the old one to use as a filling station. The diner remained open until the late 1960's; since 1973 the building has been the "Shoe Box," the shoe department of Farrington's Clothing Outlet.

Between the Dowe lots and the church is the lot where, around 1900, Louis Masse and Samuel Starrett built a store with an apartment above it. Mr. Starrett's son George was the first to live there and run the store; he was followed by Henry Cooper, Frank Hawes (son of Wilson Hawes), Alvin Brown, Victor Stimpson, and Lincoln S. Reed. Mr. Reed closed the store when the route 202 bypass was completed in 1960 (and opened another one on the new road); he converted the first floor into an apartment where he lived for the next twelve years.

On the south side of Main Street, almost across from the church, there was about 1890 Tim Farrington's store and dance pavilion. This was one of at least three such pavilions in South China. Between 1902 and 1912, the WW & F narrow-gauge served a dance hall on Orrin Bragg's property west of the village;¹ and in 1937 Edmund Dowe bought the Weeks Mills corn factory and used the material from its packing house to build a pavilion where he ran dances each summer until 1967. His pavilion was set back in the field on the south side of the road down to the town landing; a few remaining timbers still indicate its site, Mr. and Mrs. Holton say.

The other imposing building on the south side of Main Street before the fire stood at the intersection, just south of the Windsor road: Ambrose Abbott's store. Apparently Mr. Abbott opened his first store on that lot in or before 1842, because by 1842 he was South China's postmaster, with the post office in his store. That store, Kingsbury says, was later moved, and in 1892 was occupied by Hattie Hoxie. Mrs. Webber

on the north side of Main Street, two doors east of the church. The 1879 map of the town of China showed a hotel on the southeast corner of the intersection, identified as the J. R. Crossman Hotel, and Kingsbury, perhaps using the map as his source, wrote, "In 1879 J. R. Crossman kept a public house here." (Kingsbury, p. 1148.) Rufus Jones did not mention either of these hotels in his description of the village as it was before the 1872 fire, although he did describe William Kingsbury's tavern and barn. The 1892 Maine Register listed under hotels the Jackson House in South China, run by T. M. Jackson. This establishment, Mrs. Webber wrote, was "a model of New England neatness." Mr. and Mrs. Jackson "served meals, and there we all learned to love South China. Never were people more royally treated than we, through sickness and health." Between 1914 and 1917, according to the Maine Registers covering those years, H. F. Whitehouse was proprietor of a hotel called Whitehouse. One person with whom Mr. and Mrs. Holton spoke mentioned a hotel and stable, the hotel having two large fireplaces and a brick oven and a secret room which had sheltered runaway slaves in the 1850's, and said the hotel was on the southeast corner of the intersection and operated "prior to 1906"; two other long-time South China residents could not remember such a hotel. Besides the hotel or hotels in the village, another South China hotel operated for part of the twentieth century south of the village, just off route 32 on the road from Chadwick's Corner and Erskine Academy to Weeks Mills.

1. Thurlow, The WW&F Two-Footer, p. 39.

writes of

Aunt Hattie Hoxie's little dry goods store in what is now the Norton house. A bright, cheerful woman who could just get around because of arthritis but I never heard her mention her troubles.

Mr. Abbott must have built another store on the same site, for the 1856 map showed his house and his store and bank (the Canton Bank of 1855-1856), and Rufus Jones says:

Straight opposite Wyman's store, on the corner where the Grand Army Hall now stands, stood the massive store of Ambrose Abbott, and next to his store on the Augusta road stood his splendid home buildings elegantly painted and marked with style and a picket fence. He was the village nabob, one of the founders of the bank and one of the founders of the Library which was housed in the second story of his store and so went up in the flames.¹

The Grand Army hall Mr. Jones mentioned was the one built in 1885 by the James P. Jones G.A.R. Post as their meeting place; the corner where it stood is now the memorial park.

South of the Abbott store, on the west side of the road to Windsor, the 1856 map showed a currier shop (probably Mr. Russell's) and a little farther from the center of the village the schoolhouse. By 1872 there was a large three-story building on this road, "a few rods to the south of Abbott's store," of which Mr. Jones wrote:

There is a good deal of mystery about what was done in the first and second stories, but there is no doubt about the third. This was a large public hall used for lectures, meetings of all kinds, Sunday School classes and school exhibitions.

The last major building in South China before the fire was another store, also large, on the heater-piece, the wedge-shaped north-east corner of the intersection. Kingsbury says that this store was run by Ebenezer Meiggs and Corydon Chadwick, and later by Warren Estes, Ebenezer Meiggs, Jr., E. T. Brown, and W. G. Kingsbury, "besides the unsuccessful Union store enterprise."² Mr. Jones wrote that this store was "built as a Union store, a kind of early cooperative experiment," and that William Jacob was the first storekeeper there.³ The 1856 map showed a goodsized building on the heater-piece labeled store and listed "Meiggs & Chadwick, Merchants, & Boot & Shoe Mfrs." among the town's merchants; but it showed the Union store on the northwest corner, across Lake Street from the heater-piece. The building which

1. "Addresses about South China," p. 34.
2. Kingsbury, p. 1147.
3. "Addresses about South China," p. 34.

now stands on the heater-piece was used as a garage for some years; the proprietors included Stanley Cook, Norman Prime, Robert Dowe, Carlton Farrington, and Elder Davis. In 1974 the building was owned by the China Telephone Company and used for storage and as a workshop.

The best descriptions of the great fire that ravaged South China on April 23 (Kingsbury's date) or April 24 (Mr. Jones' date), 1872, are found in Rufus Jones' writings. In "Addresses about South China," he wrote that the fire began around midnight on April 24 in Wyman's store. Thence it spread quickly to Stuart's store, Kingsbury's tavern and barn, and Jackson's shop; west, burning houses and outbuildings, nearly to the church; across Main Street to Ambrose Abbott's store and house, and south to the public hall and John D. Jones' house and shoe shop.¹ In all, some twenty-two buildings were destroyed, including most of the commercial buildings; and most of the beautiful elms which had shaded the yards and streets were killed. A hastily assembled bucket brigade of local men and boys managed to contain the fire and save Ebenezer Meiggs' brick house and Dr. Tebbetts' house, although the Tebbetts' stable burned.²

Despite this stunning disaster, the village was not permanently destroyed. As mentioned earlier, some of the leading businessmen, like Samuel Stuart and Theodore Jackson, apparently found means to rebuild their establishments soon after the fire. They were aided by the passage of a warrant article at the March 1873 town meeting granting 1872 tax abatements to these two men and to J. F. Wyman and William G. Kingsbury "on property burnt at South China."³ Houses and barns were replaced, new trees were planted, the church remained active, the G.A.R. hall was built, and by the late 1880's the beginning of the summer tourist trade exerted a quickening influence on village commerce. Early in the twentieth century the first automobiles and the establishment (in 1904) of the China Telephone Company began changes in transportation and communication whose effects are still felt. Electricity came to the village after World War I: in 1920 Mr. W. J. Thompson, manager of the telephone company, approached the Central Maine Power Company, which agreed to supply power if the village residents would furnish poles, labor, and money. The local people were delighted at the prospect of this new convenience; the Ladies' Aid Society led a fund-raising drive, and wires were initially installed

1. John D. Jones was a shoemaker who made the long cowhide boots everyone in South China wore in the winter, as well as shoes that were shipped out of town for sale. He was told in a revelation how to build a perpetual motion machine, and worked on it for some years. He asked the town to exempt his machine and its products from taxes for ten years, and in town meeting described his invention so convincingly that the voters passed an article granting a ten-year tax exemption to "the mills which may be built by J. D. Jones of South China." (Records of the Town of China, Vol. 5, p. 7 [report of the March 16, 1874, town meeting].) The whole story is in "Addresses about South China," pp. 17-22.

2. The former Tebbetts' house was purchased by Eli Jones in 1884, and in the 1940's it was the Maxwells'.

3. Records of the Town of China, Vol. 4, n.p. (report of the March 24, 1873, town meeting).

as far out as Albert Jones', W. J. Thompson's, and Coney Webber's houses. Mrs. Fanny Maxwell remembers that her house was electrified in 1922, and that her family soon had electric lights and an electric pump. Streetlights in the village were subsidized by the Ladies' Aid Society for the first few years, until the town began appropriating funds for them.²

Several small stores and businesses have been operated in South China in the twentieth century. The 1914-1915 Maine Register listed F. W. Hawes' general store, Charles W. Allen's blacksmith shop, and H. and H. F. Whitehouse's steam sawmill. The only real estate agency in town, Odlin and Odlin, with H. F. Chadwick as agent, was in South China. Two years later, the Register showed the general store run by A. C. Brown and Son. By 1940, the two general stores listed in the Register were run by William H. Wood and by Laflin and Jordan, and there were also two retail grocers, Hayden's Store and C. M. Hisler. A business directory published by The China Egg in May 1955 listed the two general stores still remembered by many local residents, Lincoln S. Reed's and Donald Spearen's. Besides the several general and grocery stores and Dowe's diners and service station, already mentioned, there were two automobile salesrooms in the village. Victor Stimpson ran a Chevrolet agency, and in 1949 Carlton Farrington bought the old schoolhouse from the town and ran a garage there until 1955. Then he continued in the used-car business until 1959, in the center of the village. Edmund Dowe had several other business interests in the village besides running his diners and store. In the winter he cut ice from the lake and sold thousands of cakes. In connection with his lumbering and pulpwood operations, he ran a gasoline-powered sawmill in the early 1950's. This mill was located about a mile east of the village on the road to Belfast, near where, in the late 1960's, he opened his present roadside fruit and vegetable stand.

The completion of the route 202 bypass in 1960 led several commercial establishments to move from the village center to the new main road. Mr. Dowe built a new diner, which he sold two years later to

1. According to the first permits to Central Maine Power Company for electric poles and lines recorded in the China town clerk's books, poles were allowed in April 1922 along the following roads out of South China:

Augusta road, from South China west to the Vassalboro line;
Pond Road on the east side of the lake, from South China west about six and a half miles to the China Village Road; and
Weeks Mills Road, from South China south and east about three miles.

(Records of the Town of China, Vol. 7, pp. 61-62, 70-72.)

2. The town records showed a 1923 appropriation of \$100 to maintain street lights at South China (Vol. 7, p. 80). Similar requests were passed over in 1924 and 1925. In 1926 and 1927, \$100 was appropriated to pay part of the cost of the South China street lights (Ibid., pp. 141 and 168); an additional \$75 was allocated in 1927 for China Village street lights. In 1928, the voters approved an expenditure of \$420 to maintain street lights in the whole town (Ibid., pp. 178-179), and since then the town has regularly paid these expenses.

Pearle Cowen, who still operates it; Mr. Reed opened a new general store and a diner west of Cowen's. The Reed property was sold in September 1973 to Candlewood Enterprises of China Village, run by the Adams family, who now operate Adams Country Market and restaurant there. Other businesses on route 202 close to the village in the middle 1970's included Robie's agency for motorbikes and snowmobiles, run by C. Robie Lampher, and Cal's garage just southwest of the intersection of routes 202 and 32 north.

The most prominent commercial establishment in the village center in the 1970's was Farrington's Clothing Outlet, started in 1952 by Cecil Farrington. He first ran the business in his home on the Windsor road, but soon needed more space and so bought Mr. Dowe's first diner. In the fall of 1955, the Farringtons bought the buildings occupied by Suburban Motor Sales. Cecil Farrington died while on a buying trip to Boston late that year, but his widow and their five sons have continued to operate the expanding business. For two years, the store occupied only the front building purchased in 1955; in 1957 part of it spread to the back building, in 1959 a middle section and entryway were added to connect the two buildings; and in 1961 an ell was added to the rear.

The fire department in South China was organized in 1934, after several damaging fires had occurred within a short time.¹ Thirty local men attended a meeting on March 26, 1934, and appointed a committee to decide how fire protection could be arranged. Victor B. Stimpson was elected chairman of the group, Harold N. Tollefson secretary, and Harry W. Austin treasurer. The men conducted a subscription drive around the village and surrounding countryside; enough interest and money were forthcoming to organize a volunteer fire company and to buy a fire truck. The truck was a Model A Ford, equipped with a 75 gallon-per-minute pump, a hundred-gallon water tank, two hundred feet of one-inch hose, two ladders, and some buckets and Indian pumps. In following years, the department slowly improved its equipment, aided by contributions and by town funds; for example, the March 1938 town meeting raised \$200 for the department "to help pay its bills," and in 1941 another \$200 was appropriated "for new hose and equipment for the South China Fire Truck." About the same time,² the department bought a 1927 Reo truck with a 400 gallon-per-minute pump and other equipment. Despite a \$100 donation, fund-raising by the department and through salvage of scrap metal, and town funds, the purchase of this second truck left the department several hundred dollars in debt. The Reo took two and a half inch hose, too, so new hose had to be obtained.

In 1947 the South China department was given a Chevrolet car and two other prizes for a fund-raising raffle. With the money thus ob-

1. The editor is grateful to Mr. and Mrs. Norman Prime of South China for information on the South China fire department. Information has also been taken from The China Egg, April 1955, pp. 9-10, and from the Records of the Town of China.

2. The account in The China Egg implied that the second truck was purchased in or before 1941, but the March 1943 town meeting appropriated \$200 "to be added to the \$300.00 raised from scrap salvage for the purchase of a new truck to replace the South China fire truck."
(Records of the Town of China, Vol. 8, p. 56.)

tained the men bought a Boyer 500 gallon-per-minute combination truck with two stage pumps, a 300-gallon tank, and other equipment. This newest truck was too big for the garage the department was then using, so planning began for a new firehouse. Land was donated, and during 1948 volunteer labor built a two-stall building. The old Reo truck was sold to help finance the project, and contributions of money as well as labor were received. Meanwhile, the droughts and accompanying forest fires of 1947 and 1948 made heavy demands on the company's equipment and time. The tank truck needed to fight woods fires effectively was obtained in 1948, when the financial backing of one of the trustees of the fire company made possible purchase of a 650-gallon tank mounted on a 1937 Chevrolet truck. In 1949, the inside of the firehouse was finished. Later, another door was made to accommodate a third truck.

The South China fire department now has three trucks, a 1946 Chevrolet pumper and two Chevrolet tank trucks, a 1967 and a 1973; the two tank trucks have a combined capacity of 3700 gallons. A 1960 tank truck has been loaned to the Weeks Mills department. The trucks are equipped with a variety of fire-fighting and rescue devices, including two recently-purchased Scott air packs. The present fire chief, Mr. Norman Prime, has been chief for over twenty years, succeeding Kenneth Gerald, Stanley Cook, and Fred Jackson.

Several South China natives have gained fame beyond their birthplace, including Eli and Sybil Jones and Rufus Jones.¹ Another local man who earned a wider reputation was Larooy S. Starrett, inventor and manufacturer.² Born in 1836, he left the family farm at the age of seventeen and took paid jobs on other farms to help his father pay off a mortgage. Then, although his rented farm in Newburyport, Massachusetts, produced bumper crops bringing high prices and blue ribbons at fairs, he turned to machine work and metal casting. His first invention was a meat chopper, patented in 1865; the Maine State Museum has a model of this device. Soon afterward he patented a washing machine and a butter worker. Production of Mr. Starrett's chopper began with limited capital and equipment; a search for new capital and for water power led him to Athol, Massachusetts, where he became associated with, and later bought, the Athol Machine Company.

Mr. Starrett ultimately patented some 100 inventions, including bench vises, a shoe hook fastener, and a great number of precision tools (such as a combination square, steel measuring tapes, calipers, dividers, micrometers, and various types of saws and gauges). Many of these tools were and still are made by the Athol factory and its branches in Scotland and South America. During these productive years, Mr. Starrett's wife died, leaving him with four small children to care for. In his later years he lost his hearing, becoming totally deaf for the last eighteen years of his life. These misfortunes checked neither his career nor his generous concern for others, and he used his earned wealth for such projects as helping provide a church building and the YMCA in Athol and helping endow the Chadwick Hill cemetery in South China.

1. See above, pp. 151-152.

2. The editor is grateful to Mr. and Mrs. Holton for information about Mr. Starrett, who was Mrs. Holton's great-uncle.

Weeks Mills

Since Kingsbury and other writers agree that the first settlers at Weeks Mills sought a source of water power, it seems safe to assert that the location of the village was determined by the configuration of the west branch of the Sheepscot River.¹ Early records of mills and of the mill dam are lacking, but a sawmill and a grist mill were standing by 1807.² The mill pond appeared on the 1856 map, implying that the dam had been built before that time; the 1814 map of China showed the mill pond at Branch Mills, but none at Weeks Mills. According to Kingsbury, the first saw and grist mill, built by Owen Clark, was later run by Thomas Giddings, Sr. Abraham McLaughlin also built a mill.³ Perhaps the big buildings the 1856 map showed just north of the main street on both sides of the stream were these mills--the one on the east bank was marked GM (for grist mill) and was apparently the McLaughlin mill, while the connected buildings on the west bank were labeled CH or GH and E.⁴ The 1879 map did not identify any building as a mill; however, the mill on the east side of the stream must have been there (perhaps between the Percival store and post office and E. Merrill's carriage shop), for Mr. Eleon Shuman says that his father, Alton Shuman, acquired, in 1892 or 1893, that mill, which was said to have been built by a member of the Weeks family and was already very old.⁵

Alton Shuman owned the mill until about 1909. The main part of it was a grist mill where local farmers' corn, oats, wheat, and barley were ground. The grain was raised in an elevator to the top story, then fed by gravity to the grindstones. These were two stones shaped like wheels, with hollow centers, each about four feet in diameter. They lay on their sides, one above the other, the bottom one was fixed, the upper one was suspended, and the upper one turned (by water power) to grind the grain between the two. The grinding surfaces were carved with rows of teeth, called fins, and the top stone could be pivoted clear of the lower one so that these teeth could be sharpened with a stone-cutting hammer when they became dull. By varying the distance between top and bottom stones, the grain could be ground coarser or finer. Mr. Shuman also stored grain for Burrill's store across the street; after the railroad came through Weeks Mills in 1894,⁶ corn was delivered loose in box-cars, and a man with a tight box-wagon brought loads to the mill.

1. Most of the information about Weeks Mills has been collated from the following sources: 1856 and 1879 maps of Kennebec County; Kingsbury, esp. pp. 1148-1149; and information supplied by Mr. Eleon Shuman of Waterville, Mr. and Mrs. Merle Jones, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Reed, and Mrs. Harriet Haskell of Weeks Mills, and Mrs. Ballantyne. The editor is grateful to these people, and to the many other Weeks Mills residents with whom they have spoken, for their assistance.

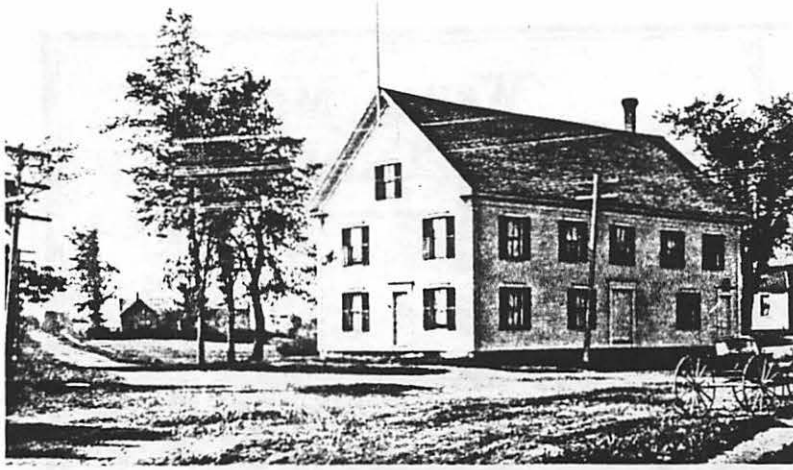
2. See above, p. 19, footnote 6.

3. From Kingsbury's phrasing (p. 1148), it is difficult to tell whether the McLaughlin mill was a successor to the Clark-Giddings mill, or a different property entirely.

4. The editor has not found anyone able to interpret these abbreviations.

5. Kingsbury (p. 1148) confirms that in 1892 the former McLaughlin mill was "owned and run by Alton Shuman," but does not mention the Weeks family in connection with it.

6. The first narrow-gauge rail service to Weeks Mills began in 1894;



The Hall

Hawes Store
& Post Office



Library

Summer cottages



Mr. Shuman also had a shingle saw in the mill. Sixteen-inch-long logs (called bolts) were delivered to the mill and fed into a carriage, where a workman fixed them in place with a clamp. The carriage moved the bolt back and forth in front of the saw, at the same time tipping it alternately toward and away from the blade to taper the shingles from butt to point. Then a machine called a jointer trimmed the bark off and tapered the edges. The finished shingles were bunched--packed in bales and tied with tarred rope--, a job done part of the time by Archie and Delbert Beals from Deer Hill. After arranging the shingles with all the tips in the middle and the rows uniform in length, the Beals put their weight on the wooden binders to compress the bunch for tying. In the spring when there was plenty of water to provide power, the shingle saw ran twenty-four hours a day, with the man who clamped the bolts in place on the night shift working by the light of a kerosene lantern.

The third important section of the Shuman grist mill was the cider press, which occupied the two-story all built onto the back of the mill. Local farmers brought their apples to the mill; the apples were ground to a juicy pulp, called pomace, in the upper story of the mill, and the pomace came down a chute onto a platform on the lower floor. The platform had a drain around the edge which led into a tub. On the platform was placed a frame about four feet square and six inches deep; a piece of burlap was laid on the frame, the pomace fell into it from the grinder and was spread evenly by a workman, the burlap was folded over the top of the pomace, and a birch-lath grating was laid on top of that. Then another frame was placed on top of the pomace-filled one and the filling process was repeated. When there were about six layers of apple pomace in burlap, with the juice already beginning to run into the tub, it was time to begin pressing. The press consisted of two large timbers which were laid across the birch-lath gratings, with two heavy screws, one right-threaded and one left-threaded, coming down onto the timbers. Each screw had a hole in it in which the tip of a lever could be inserted to turn the screw. A man inserted the tip of the lever into the hole in the screw and walked the length of the press, with the lever tightening the screw and its outer end sliding along on an iron rod. At the end of his beat, the workman slipped the inner end of the lever out of the first screw and into the second one; as he retraced his steps, the lever tightened the second screw. Thus by walking back and forth one man could tighten each screw alternately, forcing the timbers downward to press the apple pulp. The juice which ran out of the press into tubs then was filtered: a funnel was filled with barley or oat straw and the cider was poured through it into barrels. Mr. Shuman got his cider barrels from the Togus Old Soldiers' Home (now the Veterans Administration hospital), which received such commodities as molasses, syrup, whiskey, and wine (since the state prohibition law was in effect then, the whiskey and wine were for medicinal purposes) in them; sometimes a barrel would reach the mill still containing a quart or two of molasses, which gave the cider an unusual richness. The filled barrels were rolled out into the grist mill and left to work off; the pomace that had not been filtered out bubbled up through the bung-holes and ran off. Each barrel was kept full by repeated refillings, and when no more pomace ran off the bung-hole was stopped and

after several reorganizations, the WW&F took over and served the village from 1901 to 1933. See above, pp 39-41.

the barrel of clear cider was ready for distribution. Most of each batch of cider was usually returned to the farmer who had raised the apples, and Mr. Shuman kept a small proportion of it as his fee for pressing. Mr. Shuman sold his share to the Old Soldiers' Home, where it was made into vinegar.

The 1856 and 1879 maps showed buildings behind the grist mill lot, stretching north along the east bank of the stream to the mill pond. In 1856, there were a carriage shop, probably E. P. French's, and a blacksmith shop in this area; the carriage shop was still in operation in 1879. By the 1890's, Mr. Shuman remembers, an alley ran in behind the mill to the bank of the pond, and there were still two buildings on this alley. Nearer the road was Frank True's cobbler shop and leather works, in a building which Charles Giddings later bought, moved onto the street in front of the mill, and turned into a store. At the end of the alley, about where the building labeled E. Merrill sat in 1879, was a hall that belonged to the Percivals. There was a blacksmith shop on the ground floor, which Chester Clark occupied early in the 1890's, and on the upper floor was a town public hall. Among the activities here were indoor concerts by the Weeks Mills brass band. Mr. Shuman describes this all-male group--in which several members of his family played--as more a marching band than a dance band, so most of the concerts were outdoors. The band members built a bandstand, with a flagpole, at the intersection of the North Road and Main Street. Few of the band members could read music, and the band director transcribed their pieces into a simpler notation called the tonic sol fa method which they could follow.

On the west bank of the stream, the 1879 map showed a house and barn labeled C. Clark. These probably belonged to the best-remembered village blacksmith, Chester Clark. Chester Clark began life as a farm boy, but in April 1860 he left his home at the south end of China Lake and went to Theodore Jackson's blacksmith shop in South China, where he spent a year learning the trade. The outbreak of the Civil War unsettled business and cost him his job; during the war years he worked in Rockland, Belfast, and East Vassalboro. In 1865 he bought his own blacksmith shop in Weeks Mills, where he worked for over sixteen years before selling out to Cyrus Davis. The 1879 map showed his shop on the east bank of the river south of Main Street, behind the Gray store. After a few years of blacksmithing in Waterville, Gardiner, and Hallowell and running a livery stable in Augusta, Mr. Clark returned to Weeks Mills in 1888 for a few years before moving back to Augusta. Kingsbury wrote of him in 1892:

Chester M. Clark, the village blacksmith at Weeks Mills, is a son of Jonathan Clark, 2d, grandson of Randall and great-grandson of Edmund Clark. He was born in 1838. His first wife was a daughter of William Church, and his second is a daughter of Charles B. Bassett. Mr. Clark has been at the Mills since 1865, excepting the five years preceding 1888, in the building which was erected for a wagon shop by Eben French, who was drowned in the stream while watering his horse.¹

By the 1890's, Alton Shuman owned a house, previously owned by a True family, on the west bank of the river, across from his mill.

1. Kingsbury, p 1149.

A spring in the foundation of this house provided drinking water--and a damp cellar--for the inhabitants. The Trues had had a wooden spout in the cellar, but Mr. Shuman put in a pump to bring the water up into the kitchen.¹ While the Shumans were living there, someone built a sawmill right over the river, between the Shuman house and the Shuman grist mill, with a loading platform that ran over to the bridge. This mill was later owned by Albert R. Burrill, who sold it in 1905 to Louis Masse. Mr. Burrill also bought the Shuman mill, around 1909.

Although most of the stores in Weeks Mills were on the south side of Main Street, there were usually a few on the north side, in the area between the grist mill and the corner of the North Road. The 1856 map showed a store and post office just east of the mill. Since Kingsbury says that the post office was in the Percival store from 1838 to at least 1885, this building must have been the Percival store. It was built about 1832 by Charles A. Russ; William Percival bought it about 1845, and on his death in 1885 his son Frank took it over. Frank still ran the store in 1892.² Early in the twentieth century, there were two Reed stores, a general store on the corner of the North Road and a drugstore just west of it, both of which were opened after the 1901 fire and burned in the 1904 fire.³

On the south side of Main Street was a long commercial block extending most of the way from the bridge to the top of the hill. In 1856, there was a blacksmith shop just east of the stream, then a store, and then a building labeled C. Russ. Directly behind this building was another, and behind that a tannery which the map showed as built right over the stream. This tannery was once owned by a Mr. Larrabee; Charles A. Russ, John Reed, and A. B. Fletcher bought it from him and ran it until about 1870. The 1879 map showed a tannery in about the same place, but beside the river rather than over it, owned by True and Palmer. The tannery closed before 1892; Kingsbury speaks of it in the past tense, and Mr. Shuman remembers that by the middle 1890's only the foundation was left.

The 1879 map showed H. S. Gray and Company store just east of the bridge on the south side of Main Street, about where the blacksmith shop stood in 1856. Of this site, Kingsbury writes:

Charles A. Russ, John Reed and A. B. Fletcher... had a shoe factory in the building, that was burned in 1862, on the site of the present store of A. R. Burrill, and in their business employed eighty men. In 1866 J. F. Chadwick and John Reed rebuilt the building and opened a general store; they were suc-

1. For years after the house was taken down, local people could draw water from a pump standing above the covered spring; the spring cover and a rusty, disconnected pump still marked the site in 1975.

2. The store and post office also appeared on the 1879 map, but the mill did not (although, according to Mr. Shuman, it must have been there), and the store looked closer to the river than in 1856.

3. A map accompanying a newspaper account of the 1904 fire, described by Mrs. Ballantyne, showed the store on the corner owned by H. D. Reed and the drugstore next to it owned by H. K. Reed. Mr. Shuman, and other local residents, say that both stores belonged to Harry Reed (whose middle initial was P.).

ceded by Abram McLaughlin, who sold to J. F. Chadwick, and he to H. S. Gray. In December, 1889, A. R. Burrill, the present merchant, obtained the goods.¹

However, Mr. Shuman remembers the Hiram Gray store and the Burrill store as two different buildings in the early 1890's. His description of the south side of Main Street begins with Dean Estes' coat shop on the river bank; next east was the Gray store, and next to that the A. R. Burrill store, with the alley running to the tannery site just east of it. Mr. Shuman's parents lived in the apartment over the Gray store when he was very young; the store was later run by George Percival, and at the time of the 1901 fire Harry Reed ran it and got burned out--for the first, but not the last, time.

Dean Estes' coat shop, which was also burned in 1901, was a major village industry for a few years. Mr. Estes made coats and suits for a Boston store, which sent him the cut-out cloth; he delivered it, by horse and buggy to local women who sewed the pieces together at home.² He also sold sewing machines to women who needed them. Ada Hewett was one of these workers, a clever seamstress who could make four coats a day and earn a dollar, as much as her husband earned at his job. The sewed-together coats were returned to the shop where the buttonholes were made and the buttons sewed on. Downstairs in the shop were the pressing room and the buttonhole machine. Ralph Estes, Dean Estes' brother, ran the buttonhole machine and did some of the pressing, using an early tailor's press which consisted of a frame holding a big flatiron, with a foot treadle to apply pressure. The flatiron (which Mr. Shuman says was called a geese) was heated on a box stove (a fire was kept going all year round, making the shop unbearably hot) and lifted with a long handle into the frame of the press iron. Otis Trundy, an itinerant Christian Advent preacher, and George Varney, a Seventh-Day Adventist, both worked as pressers, with Ralph Estes often starting a religious discussion just so he could listen to them argue as they worked.³ Upstairs in the coat shop was the busheling department, where local women, including Edith Shuman, Maud Studley, and Georgia (Hallowell) Weeks, worked.

East of the group of stores just described, there was by 1879 another complex of shops and the hotel, owned by A. McLaughlin, with an alley running in from the street and making a right angle to go behind the hotel, between it and the tannery. Kingsbury writes:

About 1865 Daniel W. Tyler opened a tavern where the present hotel is. Henry Hamilton had purchased it and run it a few years when Tyler took it. Alden McLaughlin bought it and ran it till November, 1887,

1. Kingsbury, pp. 1148-1149.
2. Almost every village family had at least one woman working for Mr. Estes, and many of the seamstresses continued to make coats and dresses for their families for years after the shop burned.
3. Otis Trundy lived farther up the hill on the south side of the road, and George Varney lived in the next house up, the last house before the cemetery. Mr. Varney ran a cobbler's shop, doing shoe repairs, harness mending, and other leather work. He used to object to the children sliding down the hill on Saturday, since it was his Sabbath, and on Sunday he sat by his front window cobbling noisily as people went past on their way to the Union church.

when Abram McLaughlin, the present landlord, took possession.¹

The hotel was named the Union Park House for at least part of its existence. It served as headquarters for traveling salesmen canvassing the stores in Windsor, China, and Palermo, who arrived on the WW&F and rented the horses and carriages that were always available from the hotel stable just east of the main hotel building. The idea of Weeks Mills as a central location for traveling salesmen may seem incongruous to contemporary readers; but the 1879 map showed the village as a meeting-place for roads leading to Augusta (via Windsor), South China, China Village, Belfast, and Windsor. The intersection of the Windsor road and the Belfast (now the Deer Hill) road was a secondary commercial area in 1879, with two stores, a blacksmith shop, and several houses.

Early in the twentieth century the village suffered a series of disasters. In September 1901, a fire in the downtown area destroyed the hotel, Dean Estes' coat shop, and the former Gray store run by Harry Reed.² Three months after the fire, on December 17, 1901, Weeks Mills suffered the worst flood in its history. A weekend rain swelled the Sheepscot; a newspaper account of the disaster recorded:

...25 feet of the dam on the east side [,] part of the cider and shingle mills belonging to Merrill and Marr, a stable belonging to A. R. Burrill, and the bridge were carried away. The buildings swept away were ground into bits and totally destroyed. Had a jam been formed before the bridge gave away everything east of the railroad would have gone.

One of the heavy water wheels from the grist mill was carried downstream as far as the meadow behind the cemetery. The newspaper estimated the damage at over \$2000, and apparently the residents had to endure the inconvenience of a missing bridge until the next summer.³

On May 26, 1904, another fire devastated the business section of the village, doing an estimated \$15,000 damage. This fire, like the September 1901 one, started during the night; and at that time Weeks Mills (like the other villages in China) had no fire department to coordinate the efforts to check the flames. The fire burned everything

1. Kingsbury, p. 1149. Mr. Shuman, who was born in 1890, remembers Alden and Hannah McLaughlin owning the hotel, with their daughter Alice running it and doing the cooking.

2. The Burrill store between the Gray store and the hotel must also have burned; but the newspaper article quoted by Mrs. Ballantyne said that the fire consumed the hotel "together with two stores and their contents...." The accounts of this fire, of the December 1901 flood, and of the May 1904 fire are all taken from newspaper articles copied by Mrs. Ballantyne.

3. See above, p. 68. The town report for 1902 listed among highway expenditures in the summer of 1902 \$475 paid to "Levi and Eben Hallowell for building bridge at Weeks' Mills." (Annual Report of the Municipal Officers of the Town of China for the Year Ending, March 6th, 1903, p. 15.)

on the south side of Main Street from the mouth of the alley behind the hotel to the top of the hill, including (from west to east) Sanford Ward's stable, the hotel which A. R. Burrill was still in the process of rebuilding after the 1901 fire, Abraham McLaughlin's house and stable, Annie McLaughlin's house and stable, and Lilla Brown's house and stable. On the north side of the street, the two Reed stores just west of the North Road were destroyed. The other two buildings on the north side of Main Street, P. G. Brown's store and A. R. Burrill's saw, grist, and shingle mills on the east bank of the stream, escaped the flames.

The hotel was rebuilt yet again after the 1904 fire. Alonzo and Bessie Rogers bought it in November 1908 from Mr. Burrill; they ran it as a hotel for about four years, providing at least six and perhaps more bedrooms, with meals cooked by Mrs. Rogers. Then the Rogers rented the building to various people, including at least one doctor,¹ before they sold it to Nelson Brown in the early 1930's. During these years the building was seldom used as a hotel. However, there was a hotel in the village for a few years after World War I, for the WW&F train crews used to stay there when bad weather stopped a train in the middle of its run. Mrs. Wiggin wrote of one storm in late February and early March 1920 when two WW&F trains spent several days sitting in snowdrifts, one derailed and the work train snowbound; finally, the work train reached the derailed train near Palermo, and after surveying the situation

the work train backed back to Week's Mills where the men spent the night at the hotel operated by Mr. and Mrs. George Foster. All of them had been without a good night's rest for several days and it didn't take them long to get to sleep that night. Mr. Foster was supposed to call them at six o'clock the next morning, but when he called them at seven, he said they were all sleeping so peacefully and soundly that he didn't have the heart to call them earlier.

After a nice hot breakfast, the crew returned to the task ahead of them and by late afternoon No. 6 was back on the track and ready to roll. Then they all returned to Week's Mills where No. 6 pulled onto the siding and let the work train by. After another bite to eat, the Albion boys headed north once more....²

The old hotel building still stands; it was in 1974 the home of the Higgins family.

Other commercial enterprises, too, flourished in Weeks Mills in the first half of the century after the fires and flood. West of the hotel, Frank Doe had a store in the 1920's or 1930's. East of the hotel, about

1. Alonzo Rogers' son, Alonzo Rogers of Windsor, believes Dr. Eastman had an office there and so did Dr. Morrison before he bought the former Louis Masse house next door toward the river; Mrs. Mildred Hussey of Windsor agrees that Dr. Eastman's office was in the hotel building for a while.
2. Wiggin, Albion on the Narrow Gauge, p. 270.

where the Kelleys' general store now stands, was Everett Evans' bakery.¹ Mr. Evans started in the bakery business in Somerville, and had a delivery route running into China and Windsor. His horse-drawn wagon dispensed unwrapped, unsliced bread at five cents a loaf and cookies at two for a penny. Later, probably sometime before 1920, he moved the bakery to a small building in Weeks Mills and supplied the area with home-cooked food for several years. His son Arthur acquired the building and lot, and built a larger building where he ran a garage for many years and then added a store. Subsequent proprietors of a store in this building have included Herbert Lockhart, Clifford Crane (March 1947 to November 1967), Andrew and Ruth Young (November 1967 to October 1968), and Mr. and Mrs. Charles Kelley (October 10, 1968, to the present). On the lot next north of this store lot, Mr. Shuman remembers that Perley Brown had a store and the post office on the ground floor of a building he built after the 1904 fire across from the end of the North Road.

Across the road from the Brown store, Harry Reed rebuilt his store, according to Mr. Shuman and Mrs. Haskell, and Mr. Shuman believes that it burned yet again. Mrs. Haskell says that a later building on about the same site as the Reed store had a motion picture theater on the second floor in the 1920's. Hugh Mosher, a talented local craftsman who built boats and painted saleable paintings, drew the pictures on the curtains that closed off the screen between shows. Yet another twentieth-century business was the cooper's shop in the old gravel pit beside the school, across the road from the Union church. Late in the nineteenth century, there was no building there, and the area was a sandbank which the school children used as a playground.

The sawmill was still in existence in the early twentieth century; it escaped the 1904 fire, and in 1905 Mr. Burrill sold the mill and the water rights to Louis Z. Masse. Mr. and Mrs. Jones write:

The dam for this power system backed up water for some distance and was used as a source of ice harvest for most of the local farmers. In the spring the winter's harvest of logs was rolled into the reservoir and sawed at the mill.

On the west side of the stream, the railroad tracks crossed the main street only a short distance from the bridge. On the north side of the street, about a hundred feet west of the stream, stands a small one-story wooden building that was once the Weeks Mills meeting hall for the Modern Woodmen of America. This group had an earlier meeting place above one of Harry Reed's stores; the store burned, and the MWA built its meeting hall on the west side of the stream. After the MWA became inactive, the Weeks Mills ladies' sewing group (known at first as the 'Busy Bees, and later as the Community Circle) bought the hall, probably in the early 1930's. The women planned to move the building to the North Road, but being unable to obtain land there, left it near the stream and used it as a clubhouse for a few years. This group, which both sewed and knitted,

1. On this same lot, before the 1904 fire, Mr. Shuman remembers a small house where a lady (probably Savory Rowe) ran a dress-making and millinery shop.

mostly for the Red Cross and other charitable groups, disbanded around 1940, and the former clubhouse became a private dwelling.

On the south side of the street between the river and the railroad, Charles Giddings had a store early in this century. West of that was the railroad station, and west of that Malcolm's barn. Allen Malcolm and his son, Allen, Jr. (known as Bub) owned the land around the railroad station, as well as some land and a house (no longer standing) across the road.¹ About 1893, Mr. Shuman used to walk from the center of the village to the Malcolm farm to buy milk, at about five cents a quart. The Weeks Mills railroad station had south of it a roundhouse big enough to accommodate four locomotives (though there was unlikely to be any need to fill it on so small a railroad as the WW&F),² and south of that a turntable to shift locomotives to either the South China or the Albion line. The turntable had a ball-bearing center, two tracks across it, and an outer rim set on a wheel that ran in a circular track. Two men could turn the turntable with a locomotive on it.

Near the Malcolm house on the north side of the road was Frank Noyes' canning factory. This enterprise was started early in the twentieth century and operated until 1931, canning corn and, in the fall, apples. Farmers from China, Windsor, Vassalboro, and other nearby towns brought their corn to the factory in wagons. At first the farmers raised white corn, which produced large, handsome ears; then a yellow strain was introduced, and since the farmers were unenthusiastic about the change, Mr. Noyes raised the price he paid them from 2 1/2 cents a pound to 3 cents a pound for the new variety. To ensure a regular supply of corn, Mr. Noyes employed a field man, who contracted with farmers during the winter to plant for the factory and in the fall went from field to field advising when the corn was ready to harvest.

The farmers brought their corn to the husking sheds on the west side of the factory and dumped it in assigned stalls. Local women and children husked it there, protected from the weather by the shed roofs, earning five cents a basket, paid not in cash but in tickets which could be redeemed in cash or used as money in the local stores. For many years Mr. Harrison Merrill checked the baskets of husked corn and distributed the tickets; if a basket was not full enough, the husker had to fill it up to earn her or his pay. The husked ears were brought into the main building, put into a trough, and fed on a conveyor belt into the cutters which took the kernels off the cobs. The cobs were ejected out the front windows, where local farmers picked them up for cattle feed. Men then weighed the cut corn to determine how much to pay the farmer who had raised it. Next, the corn was run through the silker, a revolving cylindrical screen tended by a girl with a small rake who raked out the loose silk. Then the kernels were scooped into a cooker which got the corn hot enough to cause a vacuum after the kernels had cooled in a sealed can. (If Mr. Noyes was canning succotash, dried lima beans were added at this stage.) From there, a machine put the corn into cans, and the cans traveled on a conveyor belt to the sealing machine, where women and girls put a small plug in the top

1. Both the 1856 and the 1879 maps showed the A. Malcolm house on the north side of the road at the fork, and the 1879 map showed the barn on the south side of the road.

2. After the railroad stopped running, the roundhouse was used to store hay for a while.

3. The factory was probably built in 1904, for the March 1904 China town meeting voted to "exempt from taxation for a term of five years any corn-canning factory that may be erected at Weeks Mills during the ensuing year." Records of the Town of China, Vol. 6, p. 130.

of each can and a round hot soldering iron descended to seal the plug in place as the can passed under it.

The sealed cans were placed on large metal trays which were loaded into steam retorts and cooked completely under pressure. When the factory was in full production, five or six retorts were going simultaneously, with a cook (Perley Merrill had this job for some years) and a helper to load and unload them and watch the temperature and pressure indicators. The cook kept an alarm clock nearby and set it to go off each time a retort was done. The cooked cans were placed on a loading platform beside the railroad tracks where a man with a hose sprayed them with cold water to hasten cooling. An inspector tapped each can with a rubber hammer to detect swelled heads (an indication that the corn had not been hot enough when it went into the can); any defective cans were opened and reprocessed.

Once cool, the cans were brought indoors again and labeled. Mr. Noyes packed for many different wholesalers, receiving labels from as far away as California. He also packed several different grades, depending on the quality of the corn--corn picked too early was likely to be slushy, and corn picked too late was hard. The labeled cans were packed in wooden crates, about two dozen cans to a crate, and shipped out on the WW&F. The crates were made at the factory; Mr. Noyes bought the wood already cut to size and factory workers nailed the crates together.

In the late fall and early winter the factory canned apples from local orchards. The peelings and waste were pressed to make cider, barrels of which were shipped out on the WW&F. Most of the energy for canning both corn and apples came from steam produced by a huge wood-burning boiler; Hugh Mosher tended the boiler for many years. The factory's water supply came from a spring up the hill, above what is now Mrs. Julie Oliver Jackson's farm.

Part of the canning factory burned in 1918. Local people were invited to salvage tons of canned corn, some labeled and some not. Contents of damaged cans were fed to animals, and the better cans were stored in cellars for miles around. Full production was resumed after the fire, but the Depression finally closed the factory. Mr. Noyes could not sell the corn he canned in 1931 at a price high enough to be profitable, so he quit the business. The factory building was sold to Edmund Dowe of South China about 1937 and torn down.

Near the canning factory and the railroad track, a building built as a potato house early in this century was used as a general store for about ten years after World War I. Mr. Wilson Manning took over the business about 1928; the store burned around 1932.

Telephones and electricity came to Weeks Mills as early as they did to South China. In fact, Mr. Reed remembers that Weeks Mills had telephone service before the China Telephone Company was organized. He writes:

One of the early telephone services in China was a single line connecting houses in the vicinity

1. This farm once belonged to an Ephraim Clark, and many years later Wilson Manning owned it. The spring was a valuable resource, providing water for the canning factory and the railroad (the Weeks Mills water tank was originally just across the tracks from the factory) as well as the farm.

of Dirigo Corner and extending along the road to Weeks Mills. It had no connection with any other part of town. As the line expanded, service became poorer and the line was split at the home of Edward Dudley, near Dirigo Corner. A telephone on each of the two new lines was installed on the kitchen wall and they were connected with a knife-blade switch, which was ordinarily left open, separating the lines. When someone on one line wanted to call someone on the other one, they called Dudleys' number and told Mrs. Dudley their problem, whereupon she called the other party, and when the call was established, closed the switch allowing the two parties to talk. This was the first 'central office' in China. When W. J. Thompson organized the China Telephone Company, a line was built from South China to absorb the old lines.

Mr. Shuman remembers the Dudley office as existing--or continuing to exist--after South China had service, for when his family, by then living in Palermo just across the town line from Branch Mills village, wanted to call South China they had to go through the process described by Mr. Reed. Electric lines ran from Weeks Mills north through Dirigo to the Pond Road, south out the Windsor Neck Road to the Windsor line, and west out the Windsor West Road to the Windsor line, in 1922 or soon after, according to the China town clerk's record of pole permits granted to Central Maine Power Company.¹

Weeks Mills is unique among the villages in China in having a village water system. The system was originated by Mr. Louis Z. Masse,² who organized a water company in September 1916, mostly to provide better fire protection for the village. He began by pumping water from the river to about twenty subscribers, each of whom paid \$50 to join the system and was responsible for digging from the central water main to his own house; there were also three hydrants in the village. The quality of the river water was unsatisfactory, so Mr. Masse dug out and lined with cement a spring on the east side of the village (the land on which the spring is located is now owned by and leased from Mr. Clayton Reed) and installed a windmill to pump the water into a reservoir on top of a hill on the east side of the North Road, whence gravity carries it to the subscribers' houses. The windmill was first supplemented and then supplanted by a

1. Records of the Town of China, Vol. 7, pp. 61-62, 70-72.

2. Mr. Masse was one of the leading citizens of Weeks Mills early in this century. Born in Quebec, he moved to Fairfield, Maine, and later attended Erskine Academy. In 1898, at the age of twenty-three, he married Samuel C. Starrett's daughter Edith, a lovely young lady of eighteen. For some years he worked as a carpenter, constructing frame barns in China and Windsor and building several houses, including one for himself and his family in 1903 near Erskine Academy. He bought the Weeks Mills sawmill in 1905, and after the 1908 fire built a home in the village west of the hotel and lived there for some years. Mrs. Jones remembers him as a good man who did a lot for the community. Later Mr. Masse moved to Vassalboro, continuing and expanding his construction business; one of his projects was building the original (1949) China consolidated elementary school.

gasoline pump, which in turn was replaced by an electric pump. Mr. Masse sold the water system in October 1943 to Everett A. Evans; Fred A. Pierce acquired it in December 1947, and it now belongs to his widow, who runs it with the aid of her son-in-law, Mr. William Thomas. The spring water is chlorinated and tested in accord with state regulations. The system still serves about fifteen customers, whose bills are based on the number of faucets in the house. Residents are sometimes asked to conserve water in dry summers, but the spring is said never to have run dry.

The Weeks Mills fire department was organized in the spring of 1949, in reaction to the dry summers and forest fires of 1947 and 1948.¹ Hearing that the China Village department had a fire truck for sale, a group of Weeks Mills citizens (including Mr. and Mrs. William Weeks, Mr. and Mrs. James Pratt, Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Hold, William Hisler, Earle Malcolm, Myron Day, Fred Pierce, Walter Clark, and George Thornhill) formed an investigating and fund-raising committee. A public supper was followed by a public meeting at which it was voted to buy the fire truck; proceeds from the supper, donations from village residents, and \$50 from the South China volunteer fire department provided \$263 for the purpose. Earle Malcolm offered land on which to build a fire house. Another meeting was soon held to approve by-laws and elect the first officers of the Weeks Mills Volunteer Fire Protective Association (in January 1952 the name was changed to Weeks Mills Volunteer Fire Department).

Two years later, as interest in the department waned, Mrs. Elsie Gordon played a leading role in the organization of the fire department auxiliary. The department and the auxiliary held a membership drive which increased the number of members from 26 to 118. In August 1951 the department bought a newer fire truck, and about the same time Mr. Clayton Reed gave the department a more centrally located piece of land on the North Road where, in the summer and fall of 1952, the volunteers built a small fire house. Minutes of the fire department meetings in the 1950's and early 1960's showed fewer than a dozen men at most meetings; in 1953, there were 58 members on the roster, only 17 of whom were listed as active members. Nevertheless, the firemen discussed and approved expenditures for maintaining and equipping the fire truck and providing insurance on the truck and the fire house. Clifford Crane resigned as fire chief in February 1952 and was replaced by Lester Schulte, who was succeeded in February 1954 by Clarence Thurston. In January 1956 Mr. Crane was again elected fire chief, a position he still held in 1974.

Meanwhile, in 1953 the town gave Weeks Mills residents the old school-house opposite the Union church for a community center, and the fire department auxiliary took over the conversion and maintenance of this building. Money was raised by public suppers, auctions, card parties, and food and rummage sales. Folding chairs were purchased, and local volunteers made tables. Dishes, silverware, and kitchen utensils were donated or purchased, and the auxiliary bought an electric stove. Installation of a new oil space heater made it possible to use the building in the fall and spring, although there was not adequate heat for the winter months. A

1. Information on the Weeks Mills fire department was obtained from The China Egg, April 1955, p. 11; from Mr. and Mrs. Clifford Crane; and from the records of the department, lent to the editor by Mr. Perley Thomas, president. The editor is grateful to Mr. and Mrs. Crane and Mr. Thomas for their assistance.

new ceiling was put up in the main hall, and the old plaster walls were paneled. The two attached outhouses were torn down and replaced by more modern indoor facilities. In 1972, an addition was made on the kitchen, and a second stove and a refrigerator were donated. Mr. Merle Jones and Mr. Voyle Reed, with assistance from other local people when needed, did most of the construction and repair work, and during 1973 repainted the outside of the building. The fire department auxiliary uses the community house for its meetings and for public suppers; other local organizations and individuals sometimes rent the building for suppers, wedding receptions, and other such functions.

As the preceding pages have shown, Weeks Mills remained a lively commercial center through the nineteenth century and well into the twentieth. The Depression, bringing about the closing of the canning factory, struck a blow to the village's economy. The collapse of the WW&F two years later was an even greater disaster, in Mr. and Mrs. Jones' opinion; a source of transportation for farmers disposing of their produce, and for local entrepreneurs bringing in raw materials and shipping out finished goods, was gone. At the same time, the trucks and cars that had helped put the railroad out of business made it easier for local farmers to trade in other villages and towns. As fewer people traveled into and out of Weeks Mills, the main roads were improved elsewhere; for example, the Deer Hill Road, a former through route toward Belfast, now ends on Deer Hill, and Belfast-bound travelers use route 3 past South China and Branch Mills. Weeks Mills after World War II had neither industries nor hotel. The village school closed in 1949. In 1955 there were two general stores in the village; twenty years later, Charles Kelley owned the single general store (and across the street from it Guy Gay ran a garage and equipment salesroom). Nevertheless, in the mid-1970's the houses that remained from the more prosperous 1920's were occupied; small modern ones were built on the outlying roads; and in Weeks Mills, as in the rest of China, an influx of new residents with jobs in Augusta and elsewhere intermingled with the old village families.

Branch Mills

Branch Mills village, like Weeks Mills, was originally located on the west branch of the Sheepscot River so that water power would be available.¹ As a consequence of eighteenth and early nineteenth century surveys and legislative decisions, the village now lies partly in China and Kennebec County and partly in Palermo and Waldo County, administratively divided by

1. The editor is grateful to Mrs. Ballantyne, Mrs. Margaret Dinsmore, and Mr. Shuman for most of the information about Branch Mills. Mrs. Ballantyne and Mrs. Dinsmore had access to many Dinsmore family records and were assisted in their work by Gertrude Jordan, Eli Snell, Allen Keller, Kenneth Dinsmore, Charles and Delia Parmenter, Isabelle Haskell, and Milton E. Dowe, all of whom the editor thanks. Additional information has been obtained from the 1856 and 1879 maps of Kennebec County; Kingsbury, esp. p. 1150; and Milton E. Dowe's History, Town of Palermo. The editor is grateful to Mr. Dowe for permission to quote from his work.

Weeks Mills

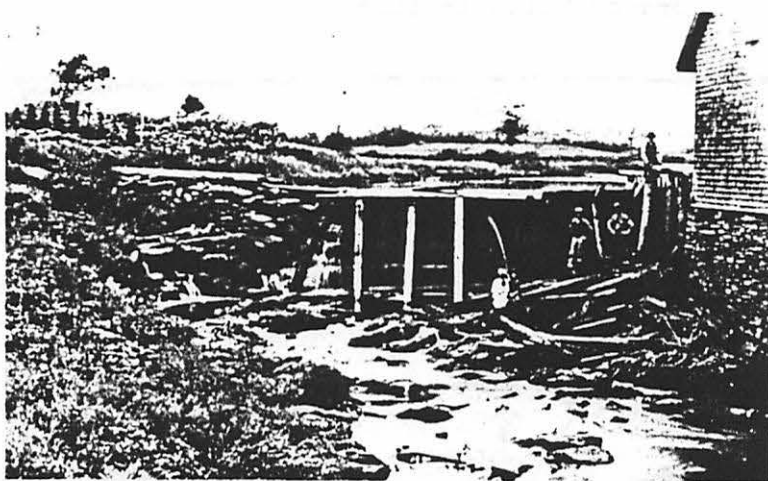


View north out the North Road



After 1904 fire

On left, hotel with attached stable 2nd, Masse house 3rd, Malcolm barn in background; right foreground, Reed's store



Dam & grist mill

Hubbard White & Alton Shuman standing below dam on right



Courtesy of Eleon Shuman

a line crossing the main street east of and roughly parallel to the river.¹ The river is and has been in China; and on the river were, in the nineteenth century, two (and at one time, apparently, three) mill dams and mill sites.

The dam south of the main road through the village, sometimes called the Tobey dam, seems to have been the first one built. Here a mill existed by 1800, owned first by Benjamin Dow and then by Jonathan Pullen, and another mill was built in 1823.² By around 1830 Robert Patten and Jacob Buffam owned the sawmill on this dam--Kingsbury writes that the mill had "an upright saw--so slow that 'up to-day and down to-morrow' was almost literally true of it." In 1838, Kingsbury says, Nathaniel Johnson had a fulling and carding mill here; Larned Pullen and Ara C. Patten took over the business, and later "Nathaniel Lincoln added a tannery to the plant." Mrs. Ballantyne, however, writes:

Larned Pullen had a dyehouse and tannery on land which he and his wife, Mary, bought from Isaac Dow. In 1837 he sold the tannery to Nathaniel Lincoln of Winthrop.

A few years later, she has found, a group of Boston merchants bought the Lincoln tannery and tanyards, and Ara Patten's water-powered sawmill. Mr. Harrington purchased these properties in 1851.³ Kingsbury writes that after Mr. Harrington (whose purchase of the mill he dates 1846), Wilson Whitten ran the mill, which burned in 1868. In 1881⁴ William S. Tobey began building a new mill on this site; eventually he equipped it "with saws, planer, stave machine, cider mill and lath and threshing machines."

By the first decade of this century, the Tobey mill on Water Street belonged to Sylvester (Ves) Tobey. The mill complex included a sawmill built out over the river, a planing mill in an adjoining building on the east side of the stream, and a cooper's shop closer to the main street. The mill produced lumber of various sorts, and from the cooper's shop came nicely-finished barrels for shipping apples. The barrel staves were sawed on a cylinder saw, a toothed cylinder into which logs were fed and from which they emerged curved to conform to barrel curves. A machine called an

1. Mrs. Ballantyne emphasizes that the village has always been economically and socially united across the town and county line. Nevertheless, descriptions of buildings and commercial sites in this history will be limited, for the most part, to those on the China side.

2. See above, p. 20. Kingsbury says that the Dinsmore mill north of the main street was earlier, but he dates the south mill from 1829 only. Mrs. Ballantyne, however, writes: "Benjamin Dow's mill was not on the present mill site but below the bridge, which he sold to Jonathan Pullen in 1800 and where, many years later, Sylvester Tobey operated a sawmill. This would be the same location, on the east side of the Tobey Dam, mentioned by Allen Goodwin in his history of Palermo. He says that a Silas Hamilton was struck by a falling timber on December 7, 1823 while helping erect a sawmill. This would have been a later mill than the Benjamin Dow mill."

3. Book 174, p. 544, Kennebec County Registry of Deeds. The tannery was shown on the 1856 map of the village, and B. Harrington was listed as a tanner.

4. The mill pond south of the main road, backed up by the Tobey dam, appeared on the 1856 map of Branch Mills but not on the 1879 map, suggesting that during the 1868-1881 period when there was no mill, there was no dam either.

edger tapered the staves; a jointer cut them to the correct length and simultaneously cut a chime (the little notch into which the barrel-head fitted) in each one. The machine which made the barrel-heads (of several half-inch boards fitted tightly together) tapered the edges to fit into the chime. The barrel hoops were hand-made from split birch bushes, shaved with a draw-shave. They were soaked in water to keep them pliable. The cooper, working at a special bench with a semicircle cut out of it to hold the barrel, bent the hoops around the barrel, notched the ends with an adze, and tucked them into each other to hold firmly. The finished barrel was then dried over an open fire to take out the moisture before the head was put in.

A few rods south of the Tobey dam, Kingsbury writes,

... Thomas Dinsmore, deceased, built a shingle and lath mill in 1845. This sufficed until 1852, when he built another dam fifty rods below, and there his son and surviving partner, William Dinsmore, continued the mill until his death. It then passed into other hands and was burned in 1882.¹

The other important mill complex was at the dam just north of the main street, where Dinsmore's mill now stands. Here, too, a mill was operating very early in the nineteenth century. In 1817 Joseph Hacker and others bought it;² later, Mr. Hacker passed it on to his son-in-law, Jose Greeley. The 1856 map indicated that Mr. Greeley was one of the largest propertyowners in the village; he had a mill, which was then a combined sawmill and grist mill, and another building west of it, and east of the mill there was a building labeled Store J.G. which might also have been his.³ By 1879 the mill was Dinsmore and Greeley's. With Mr. Greeley's retirement, his son-in-law Thomas Dinsmore took over the mill, which he in turn passed on to his son James Dinsmore. Mr. Dowe says that the nineteenth century mill was about half as long as the one built after the 1908 fire, and not as high; it had a horse shed attached at the east end, with "a door leading out to the dam." The Dinsmores also owned a storehouse beside the mill to store grain and flour.

1. Kingsbury, p. 1150. There have been three Thomas Dinsmores in the southern part of China. The one who built the mill in 1845 was born in 1788 or 1789 and married Eunice Crossman; they had sixteen children, including the William Dinsmore Kingsbury mentions and Thomas Dinsmore, Jr. (1824-1916). Thomas Dinsmore, Jr., was the well-known Branch Mills philanthropist. He married Jose and Anna (Hacker) Greeley's daughter Delphina in 1857. Thomas, Jr.'s great-grandson Thomas, born in 1946, is now a Branch Mills resident. See the Dinsmore genealogy in Book II of this history, pp. 22-23.

2. See above, p. 20.

3. The 1856 map's business directory for Branch Mills listed Jose Greeley, manufacturer. An 1859 Palermo business directory quoted by Mr. Dowe listed

J. & J. H. Greely, Manufacturers of Lumber, Flour and Millowiers.

J. H. Greely, Counsellor and Attorney at Law.

Jonathan Greely, Counsellor and Attorney at Law, Dealer in Stock.

Jose Greeley's son Josiah was born in 1826. and by 1856 might have owned some of the properties labeled J.G. shown on the map.

The mills were by no means the whole of the Branch Mills economy in the nineteenth century. There were a variety of shops and stores on the main street (which was called Mill Street on the 1856 map) and on Water Street (called Mechanic Street in 1856 and the Weeks Mills road in 1879).¹ Water Street was then a through road; it was the preferred route from Branch Mills to Weeks Mills, being a mile shorter than the road through Dirigo, although south of Branch Mills it was a swampy road and difficult to maintain. Businesses on Water Street, besides the Tobey mill, included the coffin shop on the east side of the street and the blacksmith shop on the west. The coffin shop was owned by Everett Dow² in the nineteenth century; by 1909 his son Raymond, still a very young man, owned the shop and ran an undertaking business there. J. S. (Shep) Parmenter's blacksmith shop was on the west side of the street, just south of his house and almost across the road from the Tobey mill.³ This blacksmith shop was later converted into a garage. The old Parmenter house burned in the early 1970's, but the sagging remains of the shop building still stood in mid-1975

On the north side of the main street, both the 1856 and 1879 maps showed a store east of the Greeley-Dinsmore mill, close to the Palermo town line. The store belonged to J.G. (one of the Greeleys, presumably) in 1856 and to C. F. Achorn (Kingsbury's Charles F. Acorn) in 1879. Mr. Dowe writes of this area between the mill and the town line:

To the east...[of the Dinsmore storehouse next to the mill] was another building used as a meat market by Elias Gove, who also had living quarters overhead. Francis Moody had a shoe and harness repair shop in the same building. Later Frank Doe was proprietor of the meat market and Charles Seekins lived upstairs and cared for the repair shop at that time.

Next to the meat market, also to the east and situated on the cellar beside the present Branch Mills Grange Hall, was a general store owned by S. B. Jones about 1897. Among the later owners were Ed Moody and Edson Worthing. The building also had a residence overhead. A platform extended along the front of these two stores and a flight of stairs was built be-

1. Kingsbury is less helpful than usual in locating and attributing the various stores in Branch Mills. He writes (p. 1150): "Wilder H. Worthing, J. R. B. Dinsmore and Sylvanus B. Jones are now doing in three stores the mercantile business of the village. Among the former traders here a Mr. Robinson, Isaac Hacker, Hiram, David and Charles Worthing, Jose Greely, A. B. Longfellow, Nathaniel Lincoln, George F. Frye, Barzillai Harrington, John P. McCurdy, Bernard Hanscomb, William Coombs, William Lincoln & John O. Turner, Homer Cole, Benjamin Black, Stephen M. Spiller (of paring machine fame), Gove & Norton, Ensign L. Worthing, John G. Slater, Benjamin Nelson, Thomas Dinsmore, jun., Roscoe L. Worthing, Stacey Whitehouse, Charles F. Acorn and Nowell O. Jones are still remembered."

2. See the 1879 map

3. On the 1879 map Mr. Parmenter's house was labelled. This map also showed, on the east bank of the stream and the south side of the main street, a blacksmith shop and a barn or shed with J. S. Parmenter's name attached to one or both of them. Mr. Dowe and Mr. Shuman call this shop Eli Worthing's, but Mr. Parmenter may have had his shop here before Mr. Worthing did.

tween the two buildings, which were about ten feet apart, serving the residence of both. A stable was attached to the store and Elon Kitchen had a grist mill on one end of it. Here a gasoline engine was used to run the grinder.¹

There was a spring about under Frank Doe's store, from which water was piped into a watering trough at the northeast corner of the bridge. The trough had a square box from which people dipped drinking water and carried it home in buckets; the overflow ran into a box long enough to water two horses simultaneously.

On the south side of the street between the Palermo line and the river, the 1879 map showed several houses. The one labeled C. E. Dow belonged to Charles Dow, of whom Milton Dowe says:

Charles Dow had a house where Manley Nelson's garage is located. When he lived here he had a carpenter shop on the west side of the bridge. Later he bought the house where Mrs. Nettie Haskell lives and made his old home into a carriage shop where he made wheels and repaired wagons etc. He used the ell for a paint shop.²

West of this was the building which became the Dinsmore library, set back from the road, with in 1879 another house in front of it; and R. L. Worthing's store was the next building west, with another building behind it. Mr. Dowe writes that sometime after 1879 George M. Crommett and George Allen (Allie) Bradstreet ran this store, which Mr. Shuman says was started originally by Thomas Dinsmore, Jr. West of this store, right at the edge of the bridge, was the blacksmith shop that Mr. Dowe and Mr. Shuman know as Eli Worthing's.

Across the stream stood another blacksmith shop, owned by Wilder Worthing between 1879 and 1885. On the second floor of the building was Charles Dow's carpenter shop. This building burned in 1885.³ In a subsequent building on the same site, according to Mr. Dowe, Wilder Worthing had a store which went out of business and was followed by a coat shop run by Dean Estes from Weeks Mills and then by a pant shop run by Joe Northrup. Later still, the Grange bought and remodeled the building,⁴ which was still the Grange hall at the time of the 1908 fire. West of the Grange

1. Dowe, History, Town of Palermo, pp. 33-34. According to Mr. Shuman, Ed Moody's widow Nettie later lived in a two-story house on the west side of Water Street, the second house in from the main road; the next house south was Edson Worthing's, after he moved out of the apartment above his store.

2. Ibid., p. 35.

3. Mrs. Ballantyne says (and Mr. Shuman implies) that the 1885 fire destroyed all the buildings along the main street "between the west bank of the river and Water Street," including Dow's and Worthing's shops and "other buildings including stores and post office." Mr. Dowe specifically mentions only the Dow-Worthing building as burning in 1885.

4. See above, p. 185.

hall was the former Parmenter Hill schoolhouse, moved and turned into a house and then a store. Herbert Mitchell, whose enterprises included a grocery store, a jewelry store, and a soda fountain (which was well patronized when there were dances at the Grange hall next door), owned this building in 1908.¹ West of this, the 1879 map and Mr. Dowe locate Northrup's store. And next west, on the southeast corner of the intersection of Water Street and the main road, was a building owned by Sylvester Tobey. Mr. Dowe says that Mr. Tobey rented the building

to Thomas and James Dinsmore, who had a store and Post Office there. Behind this was a large livery stable. It was known as the 'Clara Stable'.²

Mr. Shuman remembers that the building on this lot burned in 1885; he believes that another building burned in the same location, perhaps before it was even finished, leaving only a set of stone steps at the corner of Water Street; and in (or before) 1908 Ed Moody (who had previously been in business with Edson Worthing) had a general store there, selling groceries, dry goods, and other merchandise.

The Branch Mills fire of June 26, 1908, began about 11 a.m. in the Dinsmore mill; within three hours most of the businesses and many homes in Branch Mills and Palermo had been totally destroyed, and the bridge and part of the dam had burned. The number of buildings consumed is variously estimated; Mrs. Ballantyne cites a contemporary newspaper account saying sixteen buildings were destroyed, Mr. Dowe says twenty-six, and Mr. Shuman estimates fifty. Mr. Dowe writes that when the fire started,

There were few people in the village as it was a very good day and many were out in the fields working. An alarm was sent out over the telephone that there was a fire at the 'Branch'. It being in the days before the fire department and the automobile, it was some time before help arrived and the fire had made considerable headway. The fire was being fought at the mill when someone shouted that the barn of L. E. Aldred had caught fire from a flying spark.

1. Mr. Mitchell wrote a book called The Inhabitants of Mars, based on his visions of life on Mars. One of his ideas was that the Martians had automatic electric railways: standing on the station platform caused a train to stop, and boarding the car started the train again.
2. Dowe, History, Town of Palermo, p. 36.
3. Mrs. Ballantyne writes, "In addition to the gristmill, the buildings included the Branch Mills Grange hall, the Shuman House which was a wooden hotel with accommodations for twenty-five guests, Frank Bang's grocery store and market, the general stores of Edwin L. Worthing and E. N. Moody, H. L. Pinkham's 10¢ store, the post office, the storehouses of J. R. B. Dinsmore and the residences of H. L. Pinkham, Pomeroy Worthing, Alton Doe and C. F. Irving and half a dozen others." This list disregards the town line (as the fire did) and includes buildings in Palermo as well as in China. On the China side of the town line, almost every building on both sides of the main street between the town line and Water Street was destroyed. By some chance, the Dinsmore library survived the flames.

Goods and rixtures from the stores, furniture and clothing, bedding and household goods from the hotel and dwellings were hastily taken out, as the fire began to envelope the buildings, as it roared from the mill toward the east. This was all in vain as the fire was rapidly coming down the other side of the street in a westerly direction where it burned what little had been saved, as it lay there in the center of the street or on the lawns. The fire burning, as it was, in two directions and on both sides of the street, made the center of the village an inferno.¹

Like South China and Weeks Mills, Branch Mills was soon rebuilt after the disaster. The lower bridge across the Sheepscot, by Shep Parmenter's, was used until the town replaced the burned one with an iron bridge.² A temporary post office was set up in what is now Eleanor Roach's house--one of the two brief periods that the Palermo-Branch Mills post office has been on the China side of the town line. James Dinsmore rebuilt the Dinsmore mill with grain elevators and more modern machinery, in 1935 his son Kenneth installed the water-powered sawmill equipment, and the mill remained in operation until the mid-1960's. East of the mill on the north side of the main street, Mr. Dowe says,

The first building to be built after the fire was the store owned by Elon Kitchen. This was built on the cellar that is just west of the present Branch Mills Grange Hall. Later this store was known as the Farmers Union, then that of Cain and Nelson. It burned on a Sunday afternoon October 1st, 1933.³

Across the street from the mill, Mr. Shuman says that Mr. Bradstreet rebuilt the store that is now Dinsmore's, adding an ornate false front; he ran the store for a while before moving to Augusta. Mr. Dowe writes:

Crommett and Bradstreet moved their goods into the present Roach barn and held store there for a while. Bradstreet later moved into the building that Myron Glendenning now uses for his store.

Frank Doe, who was living in 1908 in a house just west of the lot where the community house now stands,

used his front room for a meat market until he built another store later where the old 'Dowe's

1. Dowe, History, Town of Palermo, pp. 36-37.

2. See above, p. 68.

3. Dowe, History, Town of Palermo, pp. 37-38. Mr. Shuman says that George Crommett (Allie Bradstreet's former partner) had a post-1908 store on the site of Edson Worthing's pre-1908 store, just inside the town line; the editor is not sure whether Mr. Dowe and Mr. Shuman are talking about the same store.

tea room' now stands. The building had living quarters overhead.¹

Later, Ed Moody built a store west of Doe's new one, between it and Water Street; "a Mr. Averill" had a harness and shoe repair shop on the upper floor. These two stores and a house behind them on Water Street burned in April 1916.

The Branch Mills station of the WW&F was located almost a mile west of the village on the road to Dirigo, and was the center of a small commercial area. Near the station, down the tracks toward Weeks Mills a short distance, was a grain storage shed with a siding running to it.² Between 1901 and 1903 Charles Clark from Solon converted the building into a creamery, which he ran for about five years and which had at least two later owners before it closed around 1909 or 1910. The creamery collected milk from local farmers; some of it was pasteurized and sold to other creameries, and some of it was made into butter. Mr. Shuman, who worked in the creamery, remembers two 300-gallon cream vats and a churn big enough to make 400 pounds of butter at a time (although it was seldom filled to capacity). The machinery was powered by a steam engine with a wood-burning boiler. The first butter mold used read "Solon" (for the Solon Creamery Company which Mr. Clark represented); later, one reading "Palermo" was used. Mr. Clark also made butter for a Boston customer who had his own mold, and shipped some in tubs to Boston to be sold on commission. Mr. Dowe writes that the creamery produced an average of 3000 pounds of butter a week; Mr. Shuman remembers that the butter sold in stores for 25 cents a pound. By-products of the creamery operations included buttermilk and sour milk, which were sold for a cent a gallon for pig feed.

After the creamery closed, the building was turned into a canning factory which canned apples.³ Processing of milk from local cows was taken over by the Wiscasset creamery, to the extent that Mr. Dowe says:

Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays were known as 'cream days', these being the days that farmers hauled the milk and cream to the station to be hauled by the railroad to the creamery at Wiscasset. Not only did the farmers bring their milk and cream to the station on these days, they also brought butter, eggs and beans to the stores and did their trading, had their horses shod or loafed around the local stores spinning their yarns.⁴

1. Dowe, History, Town of Palermo, p. 37. The "tea room" was on the south side of the main street between Water Street and the river.

2. According to Mr. Shuman, this building belonged to a Mr. Bowler of North Palermo when it was used for storing grain; on another siding across the road was another grain storage house owned by James Dinsmore.

3. When apples were not canned locally, they were shipped out on the WW&F; Mr. Dowe writes (p. 31): "During the apple season in the fall, teams would be lined up for over three quarters of a mile waiting their turn to unload at the station. Some apples were of eating and cooking quality, while a large percentage was used for the making of cider. One week in 1920, 3,000 bushels of cider apples were hauled here with 75 teams waiting to unload."

4. Dowe, History, Town of Palermo, p. 31.

The WW&F also carried wood products--lumber, pulp, and bark for tanneries-- and potatoes. Mr. Dowe writes that there were three potato houses near the station;

two were 40 feet by 60 feet and the other 40 feet by 40 feet. Here potatoes were bought, weighed, graded, bagged and shipped to various places, Boston receiving the bulk of them. One year 100,000 bushels were handled there, the farmers receiving \$1.00 a barrel.¹

With the closing down of the railroad, these subsidiary operations also closed, and the economic life of Branch Mills again centered on the stores and shops near the Sheepscot.

The Branch Mills Village Improvement Society, organized in the spring of 1906,² took the lead in providing street lights in the village. Mr. Dowe describes the first steps: in April 1908 the society

appointed W. H. Dailey, Raymond Dowe, and G. A. Bradstreet as a committee on lighting. June 2, 1908 W. E. Dailey reported \$2.80 received from supper and entertainment. The Society voted to purchase three kerosene lights.

On April 12, 1909 at a meeting in Old Academy Hall four lamps at \$1.50, one at fifty cents and one at \$1.75 were reported on hand.

By around 1915, a generator in the Dinsmore mill was providing electricity for six or seven houses in the village. In the spring of 1919, the Village Improvement Society established a committee to try to bring Central Maine Power Company electricity to Branch Mills. The committee was re-elected, with changes in personnel, in 1921 and 1922. In 1927, Harold A. Kitchen was empowered to re-open discussions with Central Maine Power, and in 1928 electricity reached the village, coming from South China by way of Weeks Mills and Dirigo. To obtain power at a reasonable price, local residents provided the poles, dug the holes for them at a lower cost than Central Maine Power had estimated, and cut and trimmed trees along the route of the power line. Mr. Dowe's account of this effort concludes:

The lights were first turned on August 8, 1928.

A celebration was held at the Branch Mills Grange Hall on the evening of August 10, 1928.

Mill-owners in Branch Mills were frequently leading citizens of the village and town. Barzillai (or Brazillai) Harrington, who acquired the mill south of the bridge in or before 1851, also built the academy

1. Dowe, History, Town of Palermo, p. 30.

2. Mr. Dowe (p. 47) lists the first officers of this group as J. R. B. Dinsmore, president; Emma B. Worthing, vice president; Myrtie L. Crommett, clerk; and Harriet G. Estes, treasurer. Mr. Dowe's account of the installation of kerosene street lights and then electricity in Branch Mills appears on pp. 41-43 of his history.

building and established the academy, of which he served as secretary for some years. If the initials B. H. on the 1856 map referred to him, he owned three other buildings besides the mill and the academy. Another mill-owner and important landowner in 1856 was Jose Greely; Mr. Greely was elected the first clerk of the Branch Mills Christian church in 1859, and he was on the building committee which erected the Branch Mills Union church building. Thomas Dinsmore Jr., Mr. Greely's son-in-law and business successor, was even more active in the community, and became famous for his gifts of money to local causes and individuals.

The Dinsmore family moved from Pigeon Plains to Branch Mills in 1836, when Thomas, who was the ninth of sixteen children, was twelve years old. As a young man, Thomas Dinsmore traveled extensively, including a trip to California in 1848. He married Delphina Greeley in 1857 and settled down to make his living from the mill, farming, and an insurance and real estate business. Interested in public affairs, he served as town treasurer (1859-1861) and on the board of selectmen (1862-1863). Later his support helped ensure the building of the narrow-gauge railroad from Wiscasset, and he served as a director for some years. Early in the twentieth century, the town records showed three gifts of money to the town from Mr. Dinsmore. The March 1904 town meeting accepted \$100; \$50 for work on the Lakeshore cemetery in the next year and \$50 for a trust fund, the interest to be used for maintenance on the cemetery every ten years; the March 1909 meeting accepted a \$500 trust fund, "the income to be expended for indigent women"; and the March 1910 meeting accepted another \$500 in trust, the income to be used to aid indigent people not supported by the town.¹

Mr. Dinsmore also contributed to such village projects as the Union church building fund, to which he donated \$75 in January 1862. He conceived and, with assistance from other local families, erected the monument to the early settlers of China and Palermo which stands at the triangle near Mr. Dowe's store in Palermo. For many years every child born in the village received a five-dollar bank account from Mr. Dinsmore, and in 1904 he gave each local high school student a one-dollar bank account, "hoping by his small gift to instill in their minds an incentive to economy, thrift, industry and business affairs." Children delighted him; he had a merry-go-round installed on his lawn so that he could watch them play. The Dinsmore library was both a gift to the town and a haven for Mr. Dinsmore. Here he could sit at his desk in the bay window, surrounded by the pine trees he had transplanted from the woods, overlooking the mill and the stores by the river. As he lay dying in the spring of 1916, one of his last remarks was that he wished he might go over to the park and shake hands with the pines once more.

1. Records of the Town of China, Vol. 6, pp. 130, 263, and 284

The Countryside

Although the villages in China were and are economically and socially important, the town has until recently been considered primarily a rural and agricultural area. John Hayward's 1839 New England Gazeteer, for example, described China thus:

This is a township of excellent land, which produced, in 1837, 12,953 bushels of wheat. China is watered by a lake, or "Twelve Mile Pond," a fine miniature of the beautiful Skaneateles, in the state of New York. At the outlet of this pond, into the Kennebec, are excellent mill privileges. On the bank of the pond is a very flourishing village, a steam saw-mill, and an academy. A visit to this place, Albion, Clinton, Dixmont, and the neighboring towns, where wheat is worth a dollar and a half a bushel in the barn, is a good specific against the western fever.

In 1850, according to the census of that year, there were 140 farms in China valued at \$1000 or more. The size of these farms varied from 20 acres to 300 acres. The largest farms listed included:

Owner	Acres	Dollar value
Corydon Chadwick	300	\$3500
Jonathan Nelson	250	3500
Russel Furbush	225	2500
Sullivan Erskine	200	3000
Joseph Stuart	200	2000
John Crossman	200	1500
Thomas Dinsmore	200	1100
Oliver Harmon	200	1000

The 1850 census also listed the "Profession, occupation or trade of each male over 15." Part of this list, excerpted by Mr. and Mrs. Foster, showed the following distribution of occupations:

Farmers	126
Manufacturers (including tanner, carriage maker, cabinet maker)	12
Harness maker	6
Miscellaneous craftsmen (including potter, tailor, mechanic, ostler, carpenter, joiner, ship carpenter, sailor, machine maker, fisherman, carrier)	19
Shoemaker	16
Blacksmith	7

1. The Fosters included in their excerpts properties and families in China Village and north to the Albion line, on the Neck Road, and on the northern end of the Pond Road.



Thomas Dinsmore
in foreground



Before the fire; Dinsmore's
mill 1st on left, Eleon
Shuman in sleigh, Harvey F.
Doe standing in street



Grange hall frame
left, Dinsmore
library right

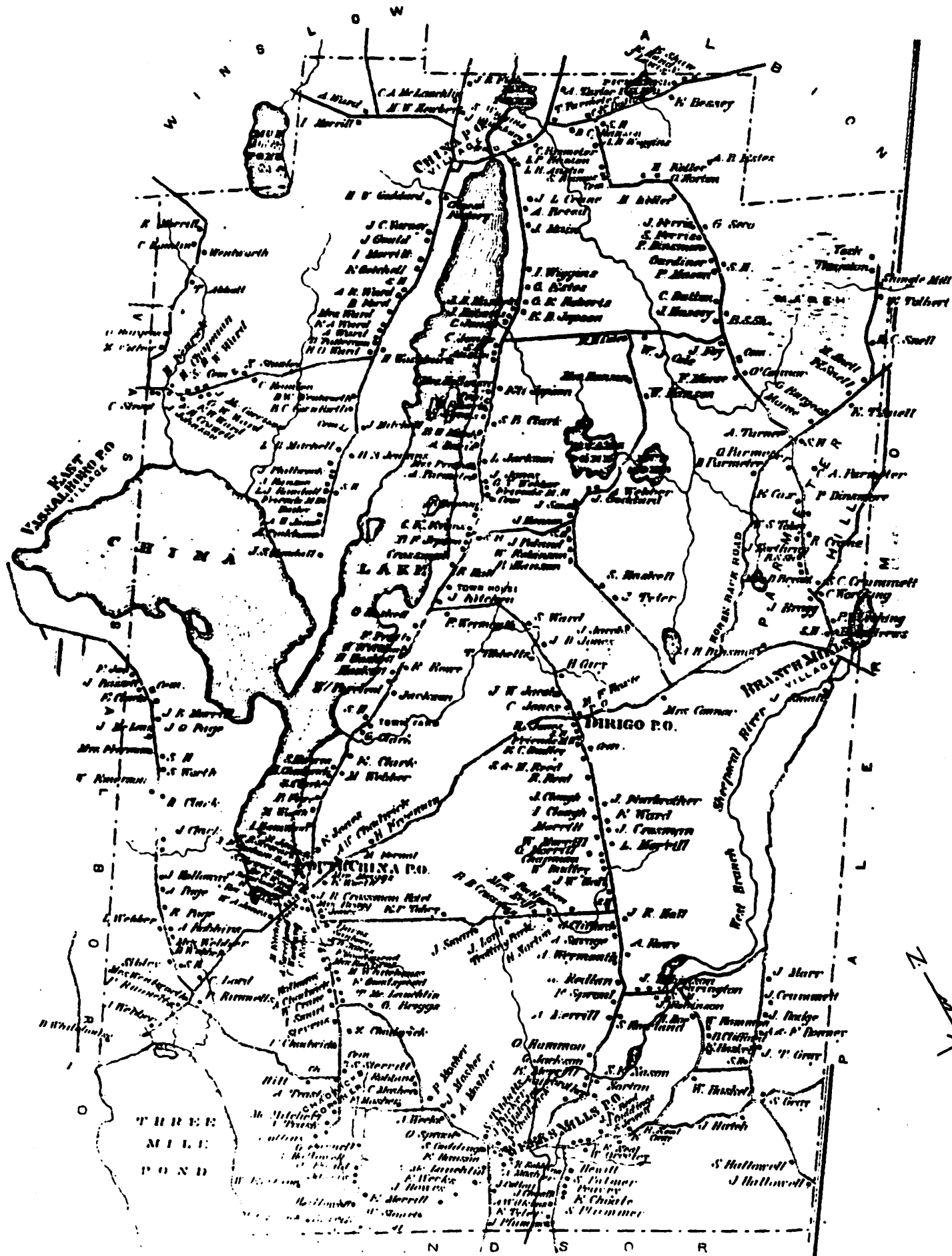


After the fire; Frank Doe's
store 1st on left, Dinsmore
house and mill on right



Courtesy of Maine State Museum

Map of Town of China



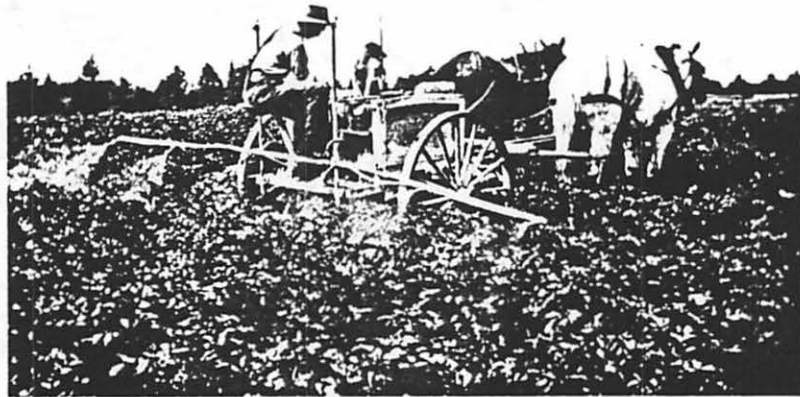
1879 Map, Town of China



Haying on Getchell farm;
Charles Getchell on hay rake,
Jane (Carpenter) Eames and
Ben Sarty on hay rack

Courtesy of Myrtle Carpenter

Spraying potatoes on
Getchell farm



Courtesy of Myrtle Carpenter



Frank E. Hall
in potato field
Weeks Mills

*Courtesy of
Myrtle Carpenter*

Professionals and officials (including High Sheriff, lawyer, clergyman, physician, clerk, teacher, landlord)	15
Merchants and traders	7
Students	6
Laborers	12

These figures showed that in the part of China included in the Fosters' list, more men were farmers (126) than pursued all other occupations combined (100).

Nearly a quarter of a century later, The Maine Farmer hailed China's centennial celebration. The article gave a brief historical summary, described China as "one of the most thrifty and enterprising towns in the state," listed the "principal villages" as "China, South China, Weeks Mills and Dirigo" and added that Branch Mills village "is mostly in China, although the post-office is in Palermo," and concluded:

One hundred years have wrought wonderful changes in the valley of the Kennebec, as well as in other portions of the State and country. It was about one hundred years ago that the second tier of lots from the river began to be settled, and from a dense forest the face of the country has been changed to cultivated fields, dotted with the thrifty homes of an industrious, intelligent and happy people. We trust our friends in the good old town of China may enjoy this centenary occasion which none of them may expect to live to see repeated.¹

The historical section of the 1879 Kennebec County atlas² described the county as "one of the best agricultural counties in the State" and, after summarizing China's history, went on:

China is an excellent agricultural town, having a soil well adapted to cereals, grass, and fruit culture. The people are industrious and frugal.

Kingsbury's 1892 history of the county also devotes attention to agriculture. Samuel L. Boardman, author of the chapter on agriculture and live-stock,³ emphasizes the ideal location of the county, not too close to ocean fogs or mountain cold; its abundant water; and its diverse but fertile soil types, particularly suitable for grazing and for fruit orchards. In this generally well-favored area, he writes, "China and Vassalboro, east of the Kennebec, and Sidney, Manchester, Winthrop, Readfield and Monmouth, west of the Kennebec, are without question the garden towns of the county." The principal agricultural endeavors in Kennebec County in the nineteenth century included several breeds of cattle, some for work, some for beef, and an increasing number for milk; trotting horses; orchards, especially apple orchards; hay, wheat, and

1. Copy of an article from The Maine Farmer for October 24, 1874.

2. Written by Dr. W. B. Lapham of Augusta. The quotation is from p. 8.

3. Kingsbury, pp. 187-224; quotations are from pp. 189, 205, and 222-223.

corn; a few sheep; and a few cranberry bogs. Four men from China are mentioned as eminent in various agricultural fields: John F. Hunnewell, breeder of Shorthorn (or Durham, as they were first called) cattle, received credit for giving "much effort to stock improvement between 1835 and 1853"; Mr. Palmer, of South China, bred a fast trotting horse named Arthur T.; Albert R. Ward was listed among "the largest orchards and most intelligent, progressive fruit growers in the county"; and in 1876 H. B. Williams of South China owned one of the six Kennebec County nurseries selling apple trees.

Nineteenth-century China was rural not only in the sense that it was a farming area, but also in the sense that commerce and industry and public buildings were scattered over the countryside (although, as described earlier, each village had a concentration of mills, stores, shops, meeting halls, and so forth). The town house and the town farm were both located outside any village, the former in an effort to provide a central location equally convenient--or inconvenient--for everyone in town. The schools were well distributed throughout the town until the twentieth century consolidations. Most of the Friends meeting houses were in the countryside, though most of the Protestant churches were in the villages. For the first hundred years or more of China's existence, poor roads and relatively slow and uncomfortable conveyances made it difficult for outlying residents to go to the villages; so small shops sprang up on the back roads, wherever a craftsman happened to live with enough neighbors to create a demand for his work.

The 1856 map of the town of China showed many examples of this phenomenon. Four shoemakers and a blacksmith were distributed along the Pond Road between China Village and South China.¹ Between Weeks Mills and Dirigo Corner, two more shoe shops stood close together at Pigeon Plains, near the intersection of the North Road and the Tobey Road. There was a blacksmith on Parmeter Hill north of Branch Mills, and another still farther north on the east side of what is now the Pleasant Ridge Road. Both these blacksmith shops were still in business when the 1879 map was made. The shop on Parmeter Hill might have been Orison Parmenter's; Mrs. Ballantyne writes that he was a son of Caleb and Lidia Parmenter² who learned the blacksmith's trade from his father and

erected a shop about 1840 at the north side of Parmenter Hill where the road forks toward China village and Western Ridge in Palermo. By this time a school had been constructed near his blacksmith shop. Orison and his father taught school as the first teachers (district No. 8). Many evenings were spent holding spelling bees in the schoolhouse as entertainment. In later years, Orison moved back up onto the hill, where he cared for his parents in their last years in return for the farm.

1. The abbreviation S. S. meant shoe shop. One of these shops was between the homes of E. Roberts and J. Roberts; the 1850 census had listed as shoemakers Elijah Roberts Jr., then 25 years old and living with his 21-year-old wife Betsey, and John Roberts, who was then 30 and had in his household his wife Sybil, aged 31, and two children, 7-year-old George and 4-year-old Miriam.

2. See above, pp. 6 and 9.

The family history says that because of Orison's love for fast horses he was to make many bad investments which eventually resulted in his losing most of his Parmenter Hill holdings.

The 1856 and 1879 maps also showed the importance of water power to industry. Any damnable stream, however isolated, was likely to have a mill of some sort on it. In 1856, for example, the west branch of the Sheepscot below Branch Mills ran for two or three miles through empty country; then, near a road running from the North Road to Water Street, J. Hammond had a saw and shingle mill. Not much farther downstream, at the point about two miles above Weeks Mills which has been called Pullen's Mills, Sproul's Mills, and McLaughlin's Mills, there were a dam and two sawmills. Below that, another dam created a small pond with a tannery beside it. A little below that, the map showed an unnamed stream (called Meadow Brook on later maps) joining the Sheepscot; this stream came from the north, and where it crossed the Tobey Road there was another mill. On Hunter (or Meadow or Starkey) Brook (which runs north on the east side of China Lake and eventually into the head of the lake) and its tributaries, there were four mills, one just off the Horseback Road and three farther north between the Bog Brook Road and the Dutton (or Starkey) Road. In the northwest part of town, there was a mill on Mill Stream (which runs into the west basin of China Lake from the north); and in the extreme northeast corner there was a mill off the Yorktown Road, on a stream so small it barely showed on the map. This mill site was still in use twenty-three years later; the 1879 map showed a shingle mill there. Most of the other mills had disappeared by then, but there was still a sawmill at Pullen's Mills on the Sheepscot. Mr. Eleon Shuman, whose father once worked in a mill there, says the last one had closed by 1900.

Paradoxically, both the lack of transportation in the nineteenth century and the abundance of transportation in the mid-twentieth century have contributed to the scattering of small businesses all over the town. There were fewer rural businesses in 1879 than in 1856, and probably fewer still in the early twentieth century, but the widespread use of automobiles since World War I has again made possible the establishment of commercial enterprises away from the village centers. In South China, for example, in the center of the village there are the post office, the volunteer fire department's fire house, the church, the library, the telephone company office, and Farrington's Clothing Outlet. Just outside the village on route 3 are a grocery store, two eating places, a gas station, and a snowmobile and motor bike agency. South on the Windsor road are Norman Prime's garage and Winnie's Beauty Shop. The latter, run by Winifred Cooper, opened in July 1962 with a single operator; as more and more customers began coming (most of them by automobile), two more operators were added. Still farther from the village, almost on the China-Windsor town line, is South China Plumbing and Heating Company, which sells fuel oil and sells and services heating and plumbing equipment. North of South China, on the Pond Road, is Lakeside Auto Sales, operated by Clifford Bourassa; and north of this are Starkey and Webber's store and filling station (opened in 1965) and laundromat (opened in 1968). Two more filling stations are located on route 3 east of South China; and there are also two antique shops on this road, one east and one west of the village.

China Neck, also known as West China, was intensively farmed for most

of the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. The 1856 and 1879 maps showed numerous houses along the Neck Road, and the maintenance of two school districts on the Neck for a good part of the nineteenth century testified to the size of the population. Kingsbury describes the area as "a fertile farming district" and adds:

Between 1845 and 1865 two shoe manufactories flourished on the neck, each employing several men. Josiah Philbrook owned one, and John and Thomas Pinkham the other.¹

Captain James Brown of Milbridge, Maine, moved to China Neck about 1885, bringing with him his second wife, a young son, and two daughters. The younger daughter, Lucy, published in 1896 an autobiographical tale which included her impressions of China.² Captain Brown and his wife and son made the 115-mile trip behind the family team, stopping to visit relatives in Ellsworth and Belfast; the two girls took the steamboat to Portland and the train to Getchell's Corner, where Captain Brown met them and drove them to their new home. The captain was delighted with China and the farm, but Lucy was less pleased, at first:

I didn't see much to admire in the much-lauded scenery, as we drove along. Nothing but a hilly country road, with here a few houses, there a small strip of woods, until we reached the top of Stanley hill, and stopped a minute to rest the horse. On either side rolled hill and dale, clad in softest spring verdure, the vivid green of the young grass, and the darker color of the evergreen trees, making a pleasing contrast. A number of neat white houses were clustered together on top of the hill, while off to the right gleamed the blue waters of a lake.

Our farm was only two miles farther on, and we soon drove up to the door.... [The farmhouse] was large, roomy, and comfortable. At one end stood a noble elm, while three or four other shade trees adorned the yard. The scenery was fine. The white road wound past the house, and on the opposite side the fields of undulating green sloped down to the edge of the lake, which lay like a broad ribbon between the fair, smiling shores. From its centre rose a small, thickly wooded island, its dark green foliage making a pleasing contrast to the bright, blue waters of the lake.

1. Kingsbury, p. 1152.

2. Lucy Brown Reynolds, Drops of Spray From Southern Seas. Quotations are from pp. 266-267 and 273-274. Mrs. Reynolds wrote that her father "bought a farm in the town of China," in the spring of a year that was about a year after the family's return to Milbridge when her half-brother Sydney (born in 1882) was about a year and a half old. However, Mr. and Mrs. Foster have found deeds to the Sydney Brown farm showing that the Brown family did not buy it until 1893. Mrs. Foster suggests that the Browns may have rented the farm for the first few years.

Lucy lived on the farm for a few years, married and moved away for a year, and returned--her book was written in China. She was not much interested in farming, but she did mention that the farm had cows, including a herd of Jerseys, and a carriage horse (in addition to work horses). The captain and a hired man named Irving did the plowing. There were fields of grain, fenced to keep the cows out, and hayfields raked with a horse-drawn hay rake. Lucy's amusements included carriage-rides around the countryside, fishing and swimming in China Lake, and in the winter ice skating. She and her sister

attended the high school in the village two terms, and we also went to the district school a few terms. This was kept in the traditional little red schoolhouse, situated a mile from home. Inside, it was a revelation to us, but was only a pattern of hundreds of other country schoolhouses, with its rough benches, hewn and whittled by many a mischievous hand, its uneven floor, huge barrel stove, and ample wooden shutters....

We were very fond of walking, and never rode to school, unless the weather was unusually bad. I liked the scholars very much, but there was one among them, a tall, slender girl with laughing black eyes, who was a veritable tease. She it was who used to catch big green grasshoppers, or tiny toads, and pop them under the teacher's bell, and her face always expressed innocent concern, when, on lifting the bell, out would spring the unwilling prisoner, and the teacher would generally emit a feminine shriek.

The Brown farm¹ was passed on from Captain Brown to his son Sydney (whose widow still lives there). Sydney Brown was born in March aboard the bark Illie, sixteen days out of Boston on a voyage to Sydney, New South Wales, and was named for that seaport. Returning from Australia with a load of coal for the Philippines, the Illie was wrecked on a reef in the Solomon Islands, and the Browns (Captain and Mrs. Brown, Lucy, who was about fourteen years old, and Sydney, then about a year old) and the crew took to small boats in which they spent three days among the islands, encountering natives who, Mrs. Reynolds wrote, were cannibals. Picked up by an inter-island trading ship, the castaways were taken to the principal trading station on the island of Ugi, where they spent eight weeks among barely-civilized natives, protected by the Scottish trader.² The heat was oppressive and the food was monotonous,

1. The earliest deed to this property that the Fosters found was a June 14, 1786, deed from a much earlier Brown, Enoch, to George McLaughlin (see above, p. 5). The farm remained in the McLaughlin family until 1855.
2. The trader, Mr. Craig, had been in the Solomons for eighteen years and had a native wife and three children. Mrs. Reynolds' descriptions of the natives' barbarity are horrifying; Mr. Craig was "comparatively safe," she wrote, because he had been there so long and because his wife warned him of plots against his life. Drops of Spray, pp. 183-205.

there were earthquakes, Captain Brown caught a tropical fever and nearly lost a foot when a cut became infected, and both Sydney and one of the crew were seriously ill. At last a British government survey ship came by, and the Illie's crew were able to arrange passage back to Brisbane. Thence the Browns returned to Sydney, and in late June or early July they arrived in San Francisco by ocean liner. Once the family reached Milbridge again, after a transcontinental train ride, Captain Brown apparently stayed at home for a year or so and then moved to China to become a farmer.

Mrs. Wallace Jones, who has lived on China Neck for many years, remembers that just after World War I the farmers there raised yellow corn (or Indian corn), oats for their cows (whose milk was shipped in five-gallon cans on the WW&F to a creamery at Turner Center), potatoes, and apples. The apples were sorted, packed in barrels, and sent out on the WW&F destined for Boston and sometimes England. Many farms also had a pear or a plum tree for home use, the housewife making preserves from the fruit.

The apple orchards on the Neck and elsewhere in town were threatened in the early twentieth century by an outbreak of browntail moths, whose caterpillars defoliate fruit trees. Because the apple crop was important to the farmers and to the various cider presses and canning factories, from 1910 through 1917 the town of China helped protect the orchards by paying people for destroying browntail moth nests. The first bills appeared in the miscellaneous account disbursed by the selectmen, but from 1912 through 1917 the town reports included a separate browntail moth account. In 1912, \$239.10 was spent (but the account also took in \$79.92 "Collected of individuals on tax"), in 1913 \$290.63, and in 1914 \$184.21 (out of \$200 appropriated at town meeting). After that, the infestation apparently slackened, and only small sums were paid out in 1915, 1916, and 1917. Apples remained a commercially important local product until the winter of 1933, when a warm spell followed by "a week of continuous cold, when the thermometer hovered around 40 degrees below zero, with winds" killed almost all the trees.¹

The China town reports also contained, from 1908 to 1964, lists of livestock in the town, compiled by the tax assessors. These lists showed some of the changes in farming practices in the twentieth century. For example, there were 48 oxen in town in 1908; the number declined until, in 1931, 1932, and 1933, no oxen were listed. In 1934 there were two, and from then until 1943 there was at least one yoke of oxen in town every year. The number of horses also declined, from 575 in 1908 (492 horses and 83 colts) to 499 horses and mules (the only time mules were listed) and 78 colts in 1912, 397 horses and 5 colts in 1926, 271 horses and 9 colts in 1932, 172 horses and 5 colts in 1936, 76 horses and no colts in 1950. In 1964 there were 30 horses in China. Sheep and swine have also become less numerous, as the table below shows. From about 1920 on, fewer than 35 sheep in a flock and fewer than 10 swine in a herd were not taxable, but the assessors listed them anyway; each year, most of the sheep and swine were in small flocks and herds, and there is no evidence of large-scale commercial operations.

Year	Sheep	Swine
1908	1633	264
1910	849	186

1. Merle and Doris Jones, "Agriculture and Industry in Windsor," in Millett et al., A History of Windsor, Maine, p. 8.

Year	Sheep	Swine
1912	808	253
1920	595	216
1922	437	152
1924	428	92
1926	468	106
1934	327	54
1936	262	48
1938	321	104
1940	230	61
1948	185	27
1950	202	18
1952	208	38
1954	202	16
1960	118	25

The number of cattle, by contrast, was nearly the same in 1960 as in 1908, although there seemed to be a higher proportion of beef to dairy cattle in 1960.¹ In 1908, there were 1236 cattle (excluding oxen) in China. The number increased at the end of World War I, then declined slightly to an average of around 1300 annually through the 1920's. A decline in the early 1930's, reaching a low of 825 in 1936, was followed by a rebound in 1937. Through the 1940's the figures varied from year to year, averaging around 950 cattle in a typical year. In 1953 the number of cattle rose suddenly and remained over 1000 until publication of full lists ceased in 1960, in which year there were 1281 cattle in China. In 1908, however, 798 of the 1236 cattle were listed as cows; in 1960, only 634 were in this category, and the other 647 were classified as "bulls and beef cattle" or as heifers of various ages.

The most dramatic change the town reports showed was in the poultry business. Hens, or domestic fowl, as they were soon called, were first listed by the tax assessors in 1924; there were then 8,110 of them in China, the majority in (non-taxable) flocks of less than fifty. The number fell to around 5000 for the rest of the 1920's and early 1930's. In 1933, there were 7,225 domestic fowl in China, over half of them still in small flocks; in 1934, there were 9,180, and for the first time more than half were in flocks larger than 50. The following table illustrates the growth of the commercial poultry industry up to 1964 (after which the town reports listed the hens only by assessed value, not by numbers):

Year	Number of domestic fowl
1937	8,822
1940	6,920

1. Cattle have been categorized by the assessors in several different ways. One, two, and three-year-olds were listed separately for a while; later, eighteen months became the dividing age; and in 1947 the category "bulls and beef cattle" was introduced. Cows were almost always listed separately, although in 1958 the assessors lumped bulls, cows, and beef cattle all together (and found a surprisingly small number of them).

Year	Number of domestic fowl
1941	4,802
1942	10,448 (8,770 in flocks larger than 50)
1943	14,695 (12,315 in flocks larger than 50)
1945	16,415
1948	19,518
1949	47,187 (44,492 in flocks larger than 50)
1950	46,605
1951	62,915
1952	70,392
1953	112,748 (111,708 in flocks larger than 50)
1954	36,145
1955	90,080
1956	163,610 (162,820 in flocks larger than 50)
1957	192,315 (191,315 in flocks larger than 50)
1960	214,569 (214,370 in flocks larger than 50)
1962	201,868
1964	156,443

In the mid-1970's there were still several large chicken-houses operating in China, mostly in the northern and central parts of the town. Most of the chickens were transients, raised for a few weeks or months by China poultry-men on contract for large companies. Selectman Edward French explained that taxes on these birds are based on the average number of chickens in each chicken-house during the year and are computed according to a state formula.

An area in the northern part of China that was locally famous in the first part of the twentieth century, though not for its agricultural land, was Yorktown. In this wooded, hilly northeast corner of town there lived a clan of Yorks with a reputation for lawlessness and self-sufficiency. Local people remember them as skilled hunters and trappers, in and out of season. The girls could shoot as well as the boys, and dressed like the boys (long before unisex costumes became fashionable). Almost everyone went barefoot, even in cold weather. Violent family brawls were not uncommon. Occasionally the neighbors would call the sheriff to settle a particularly noisy fight; the sheriff, fearing his badge would not be respected, would try to find one or two husky young men to go with him. The Yorktown residents are also associated with a wagon train of "gypsies" who used to pass through China and Albion twice a year, supposedly visiting Yorktown friends on the way. The gypsies dressed in odd-looking clothing, traveled in battered wagons drawn by thin horses and oxen, carried an assortment of dilapidated odds and ends, and had a bad reputation, but apparently merchants and craftsmen who dealt honestly with them received honesty in return.

The whole southeastern part of China, from Deer Hill to Dirigo and over Parmeter Hill, was thickly settled farming country in the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. Mrs. Harriet Haskell remembers the Tobey, Dirigo, and Alder Park roads lined with farmhouses surrounded by cleared fields; there were enough families in and around Pigeon Plains from 1900

1. The 1879 map showed one York family living there, perhaps the nucleus of the clan. Sometime after 1879, the middle stretch of the Yorktown road was built across the Albion-China line, connecting the two dead-end roads shown on the 1856 map.

into the 1920's to make Herbert J. Haskell's general store on the North Road profitable. The farmers supplemented their incomes by trapping, hunting, and lumbering. On Parmeter Hill, the Parmenter family gradually sold off their holdings and the hill became divided among various families. The 1856 and 1879 maps showed some of the family names; there were still Tobeys and Northrups on the hill early in the twentieth century, Mr. Shuman says. By then, the farms were mostly open fields and pasture, and most of the agricultural produce was for the family's own use, though a few farmers still grew commercial quantities of potatoes or grain. Mrs. Ballantyne writes:

Gertrude Jordan, who lives on nearby Western Ridge, tells us that at the age of twelve years, she helped her father with the haying of the hill. There were five divisions of fields up the hill which she raked with a horserake.

Luther Dodge, who now lives on the Hanson Road, writes of Deer Hill:¹

I was born on Deer Hill, as was my father also my oldest son. Three generations all born in the same room and so far as I can ascertain in the same bed. I lived there thirty years, going to school, pitching hay all summer and shoveling snow all winter....

One of my first recollections is when my father tore the old barn down at our place on Deer Hill. He hooked some chains to the plate, got the old mare on a wild run and the barn came tumbling down. He then proceeded to build a new barn. It has withstood gale after gale for seventy five years and as far as I can see as good as ever. The old man must have been a better builder than I realized.

I figure the first settler on that hill was Jesse Prentice. He built some kind of a habitation on the highest pinnacle and the wind must have hit him from all directions. There is still a depression in the ground where his house stood and when I was a kid there was one old apple tree down over the bank. That tree is long gone. Jesse died in the War of 1812. There is a stone with his name on it just east of where my father and mother are buried in the Deer Hill Cemetery. That barn father built and Dell Clifford's are the only ones left on the hill. Barns are getting scarce....

One of the earliest settled parts of China was the Hanson Neighborhood, the fairly level, slightly elevated area west of Parmeter Hill and Pleasant Ridge and east of the lakeside ridge.² In 1837, Elihu Cole and

1. The editor is grateful to Mr. Dodge for writing an informative memoir of Deer Hill and the Hanson Neighborhood.

2. See above, p. 6. The editor is grateful to Mr. Dodge, Mrs. Florence (Dodge) Clifford, and Mrs. Isabell (Haskell) Mitchell for their reminiscences of the Neighborhood. Mr. Dodge, born on Deer Hill, has lived in

his family bought a house, now called the Belle Mitchell place, in the southern part of the Neighborhood. Elihu's daughter Mary was three years old then; she lived in the same house until she died in 1933 at the age of 99 years, 9 months, and 3 days. In 1854 she married Samuel Haskell,¹ and they had six children, two girls and four boys. Three of the boys, Leander, Wilson, and Ulysses, worked away from home to earn money and then bought farms in the Neighborhood, and one of the girls, Isabell, spent most of her life there.² The Tyler farm was on the next hill to the Haskell (now Mitchell) place;² in the winter children from the two farms used to slide together. Going north from her home, Mrs. Mitchell remembers there was a Robinson family,³ and then some Pullens, on a place later owned by the Roswells. At the intersection of the Cross and Hanson roads was a Hanson farm, later bought by Mrs. Mitchell's brother Wilson Haskell. The other two Haskells, Ulysses and Leander, owned the next two farms. The next house was James and Maggie Turner's, on the northwest side of the road at the top of the hill going down to Evans Pond; it is now the home of Luther and Iva (Turner) Dodge. John Slater lived on the next farm beyond the pond toward Cole's Corner, Mrs. Mitchell says;⁴ then there were some Hansons, including William and Aunt Elsie. Mrs. Mitchell's grandfather, Elihu Cole, lived at Cole's Corner.⁵

Mr. Dodge describes how he and his wife⁶ came to live in the Hanson Neighborhood and what it was like:

the Neighborhood since 1927. Mrs. Mitchell was born in the Neighborhood in 1877 and lived there until the late 1960's, except from 1904 to 1909 when she and her husband lived on the Neck Road.

1. Both the 1856 and the 1879 maps showed this house as S. Haskell's.
2. The name J. Tyler also appeared on the 1856 and 1879 maps.
3. Mrs. Clifford writes, probably of the same farm: "William Sproul II lived on what was the Cony Robinson place. His wife, Marcia Marcella Putnam was great granddaughter of Gen. Israel Putnam. He moved from there to Deer Hill in 1872 and then to California in November 1876 when the oldest son was 19 years old. He was one of the first residents of Norwalk, California. In 1961 the City of Norwalk purchased his home to be used as an historical museum. It was moved from its location at 12187 Sproul St, next door to the park which used to be part of his ranch. He left two married daughters in Maine. Etta had married Henry Marden. They had two sons, Elwood and Harry. Older people remember buying Henry Marden's home made ice cream at Windsor Fair. The second daughter, Carrie, married Oren Sproul of China and was mother of seven children."
4. Mrs. Clifford writes that a Slater family "once lived in Leander Haskell's home."
5. The house at Cole's Corner was shown as belonging to E. Cole on the 1856 and 1879 maps.
6. Mrs. Dodge was the granddaughter of Mr. and Mrs. Amos Jones, who lived on the Horseback Road in the 1860's. Their daughter Margaret married James Turner of the Neighborhood August 10, 1881, and in 1924 Iva Turner married Luther Dodge of Deer Hill. Mr. Dodge writes of his family and his wife's: "My grandfather had a brother Jason. He was long before my time. We have Elijah Varney's log book. In the year 1860, we find this notation: paid Jason Dodge thirty cents in forenoon for driving steers. Paid Jason Dodge thirty cents in afternoon for working on house. That was Amos Jones' house where my wife's mother was born. Elijah Varney's daughter Elizabeth married Amos Jones. He came back from the war a cripple. He had a hard

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In 1927, we bought the Leander Haskell place right side of her folks. They were getting old and she wanted to be near them. As it turned out her father and mother died in a year or so and we were left with both farms on our hands. The depression soon caught up with us and our economy was soon at a very low point. She was teaching school but fifteen dollars a week is no fortune. I had a good butter market sometimes selling seventy five pounds a week but that faded out. Interest and taxes finally caught up with us. We deeded the big place back to the Land Bank and moved into her old home. In the meantime, we have raised five kids and enjoyed pretty good health.

This old house we live in has quite a history. I can't find out who built it but it was before the advent of saw mills. George Robert's grandmother, Flavilla Roberts, was born in this house in 1841. All the houses on this road have had cut granite underpinning and that was all carted up from Granite Hill in Hallowell by ox teams. Considering the long haul, the means of transit, the weight of stone (some twelve feet long) it was quite remarkable. Jim Turner installed a hard wood floor in the kitchen. He had the lumber carved out, took it to Oakland to be machined and kiln dried and I suppose made another trip over there to bring it home. The floor is still in pretty good shape except in front of the sink where countless feet have trod....

Jim Turner was a mighty man. Some of his exploits seem incredible. The year they bought this place he mowed the whole farm with a hand scythe and wheeled the hay into the barn on a wheelbarrow. Of course, those days a hand scythe was a way of life but it still was quite a job. Jim had a job in a sawmill at the end of Turner's mill pond in Somerville--a good ten or eleven miles. For awhile he walked it every day. One time he and his wife's brother were pressing hay over in Vassalboro. One night they started to walk home and got caught in a blizzard on China Lake. By the time they reached the east shore, Uncle Woodbury played out and refused to go any further. He was quite a big man but Jim took him on his back and carried him the rest of the way....

time of it. He finally died with a heart attack lugging in a pail of water. That Jones place as it is called was once quite a farm. Years back, Weeks and Getchel had it all in potatoes. It long since reverted to forest and had been cut off several times."

1. Another "mighty man" was Joseph and Roxa Parmenter's son Caleb, of whom Mrs. Ballantyne writes: "This Caleb was a very strong and huge man; said to have weighed over 360 pounds. Supposedly one day Caleb went to Augusta to buy a barrel of pork. At that time there was a toll bridge over the Kennebec river. Toll was charged on the weight of the goods being carried across.

John Dodge, my grandfather, once told me he helped move a house from Cole's Corner down here by Evans Pond. I never found out where they landed it--John wasn't one to elucidate. By calculation that was in the year 1860. He told me they had a hundred pairs of steers. It must have been quite an episode. Frank Sproul was what was called The Master Carter. When they got down here by the pond the string of cattle was so long they couldn't get around the cove. Frank told them, 'Put 'em into the water, jump on their backs and keep 'em moving'. They did just that. Those gents probably had plenty to drink, they usually did. It took some incentive to gather a hundred pairs of oxen or get a crew big enough to lift the frame of a sixty foot barn.

To deviate from the main topic--I can't imagine John Dodge drinking rum. I don't remember seeing him drink any cider and those days cider was as common as water.

In the fall of the year the ground was covered with apples for mile after mile. It was common for everyone to have a barrel of cider. One could get a barrel squeezed out for a dollar. By the next summer, it was quite potent. Some people lived on it. I knew a party who told me once, 'I don't collate to drink much before breakfast and not a hell of a lot before dinner but after dinner get to hitting it up pretty good.' He got most of his farm work done with cider....¹

Back to the main topic--that building my grandfather helped move as near as I can deduct was the ell part of the Leander Haskell house. It was always used as a kitchen. It had no cellar under it and very little of a foundation. The timbers were all axe hewed where as the main house structure was milled out. I lived in that house ten years and it never occurred to me that it was the house or might be that grandfather moved 114 years ago.

...There was a house up the road a ways made entirely (the walls) with 2 x 4's. Frank Sproul sawed out a lot of 2 x 4's and couldn't sell them. He proceeded to build a house, spiking them in a hori-

The toll tender challenged Caleb that if he could carry the barrel of pork on his shoulder, he would not be charged for the toll. Caleb performed the feat and admitted later that the challenge was not so much the weight of the barrel as the cutting into his shoulder, even though he made a pad of his felt hat."

1. Mr. Dodge also tells the story of "a certain gentleman who came home from Augusta in the winter dead drunk. Another fellow came along behind and noting the situation called out 'Whoh!' The old horse stopped. The guy behind proceeded to work a big boulder down off the bank and onto the sled. He then went on ahead into town and alerted everybody to see old John go by with his big boulder for a pay load."

zontal fashion. The walls were plastered inside. One of the unique features of this house were the chimneys. They went up through the first floor and then proceeded at an angle of possibly 30 degrees out through the top of the roof. It was a beautiful job of brick work. They must have used a carriage and after the mortar hardened removed it

Even though it was occasionally possible to assemble a hundred pairs of steers to move a house in the Hanson Neighborhood, a characteristic of the area was its isolation. In the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries each family was busy on its own farm, Samuel Haskell, for example, raised grain and potatoes as cash crops, trading them in Augusta for barrels of flour and other necessities. The successive schoolhouses at the corner of the Cross Road¹ were about the only places where any of the Neighborhood people met on a regular basis, and the school frequently was closed during the coldest and loneliest months. There are no records of stores or shops in the Neighborhood. People from the north part shopped in China Village, while Mrs. Mitchell remembers her father making Friday trips to Branch Mills behind a horse for groceries and the weekly paper. Later, her brothers were old enough to go, later still, Dinsmore's store would deliver the weekly order if Mrs. Mitchell telephoned it in

Nevertheless, Mrs. Mitchell, Mrs. Clifford, and Mr. Dodge all speak cheerfully of life in the Neighborhood, and the loneliness, peace, and privacy were characteristics which attracted the Roessler family to "the lonely farm, located on a little used crossroad" in 1918.² Charles Roessler was a German immigrant who had come to New York in 1890 with his wife Otilie and two-year-old daughter Bertha, his son Herman was born a few months after the family reached the United States. Herman Roessler was artistically talented; trained as a draftsman, he was hired by Tiffany Studios in 1912 as an assistant designer. By 1919, "he was in charge of the drafting unit responsible for the design and completion of all metal decor and fixtures produced by the studio." In 1918, however, Herman's mother and his younger sister Emma died suddenly,

and the shock was such that the rest of the family could no longer bear to remain in familiar surroundings. Bertha broke her engagement to be married and accompanied her grieving father to the farm in Maine where they sought isolation and peace with their loss.

A year later, Herman Roessler followed his father and sister to the farm in the Hanson Neighborhood.

1. Mr. Dodge's mother used to teach at the "old original school house" in the Neighborhood, and boarded at the house the Dodges now live in. The schoolhouse burned while his mother was teaching there, he writes, and she taught "in an old farm house up the road" for a while. Mrs. Mitchell says this temporary schoolroom was the Ward place near her house.

2. The editor is grateful to Mr. and Mrs. John Hatch of Durham, New Hampshire, for a biographical sketch of Herman Roessler, from which the quotations in the following pages are taken.

Having arranged with the Tiffany Studio to carry-on as a free-lance designer, Herman was able to divide his time, over the next ten years; working the farm, preparing sketches and drawings for the studio and now and then visiting New York. By 1928, the fad for Tiffany decor was fading with the fortunes of the nation, and Herman's treks to the China post office with packets of drawings came to an end. This had become something of an event in that when Herman felt pleased with a piece of his work, he made a point of showing it to anyone coming in for the mail....

Charles Roessler died, and the Depression made it impossible for Herman to make a living as an artist,

so he withdrew from the art market and hired-out, in season, as a laborer in the corn and bean processing plants in the area. To work off his taxes, he joined the local road construction crew and later worked for the WPA on local road and airport projects as an aid to the engineers.

Herman enjoyed this new-found contact with his neighbors, even though he knew they were more than a little wary of him. People in China, quite honestly, found this intense, wiry little man with the penetrating eyes, the excited gestures and the Brooklyn accent very hard to understand. In his strange black scull cap, he peered over the community with the wisdom of an owl and the querulousness of a crow. It got to be a regular feature at Town Meeting for Herman to expound at great length. He told his neighbors they should consolidate their small schools to provide a better education for their children. He made an elaborate threedimensional model to help them visualize his proposal....

China people thought Herman's ideas impractical; so he expounded them to Bertha, and expressed them on paper in

lengthy stream-of-consciousness writings or drawings of the local scenes, people or projects that haunted him. In 1937, John Woodsum Hatch, a young art student and summer resident from the other side of the lake, heard his cousin, Donald Farnsworth, describe the art work of the 'hermit' living at the end of the dirt road in the woods. John sought out the artist....

This first encounter began a friendship which lasted the rest of Herman's life.

During World War II, Herman Roessler worked in Washington for the War Production Board, earning a plaque of commendation for his efforts. Returning to China after the war, he found Bertha lonely and the farm deteriorating; and he settled down to remedy both situations.

The fields behind the house had grown up to weed hay and a second growth of trees, but near the back of the house, there were two immaculate garden patches that brought a startling contrast to the yard. Herman was a meticulous gardener and managed to coax a remarkable yield from the seeds he planted with a draftsman's care. Each harvest, however, was a hard won victory over the relentless army of natural predators bent on subverting his labors. Bertha canned or dried as much food as they could grow for, with few additions, it was their winter diet. A trip to the store in the village was a day long hike without a ride from a neighbor or passer-by, so they made-do with what they had rather than go for extra supplies in the colder weather.

As the out buildings caved-in with rot and the roofs on the house gave way to rain, Herman and Bertha confined their living quarters to three small rooms, on the ground floor, that were dark and crowded with awkward furniture. Without heat, the center stairway, hall and parlor on the right side of the house, were preserved as if in homage to the lighthearted simplicity of years past. Herman had, earlier, painted the formal stairway in balanced stripes of light-colored tones keyed to the natural wood of the simple bannister. The walls were light grey and set off the several sconces he had fashioned from metal trivets and wooden spools. The parlor was bright and airy with light curtains and walls, a couch, table and chairs, sideboard and hand-painted screen. Some of Herman's paintings and carvings were carefully placed about the room and an unusual baroque chandelier assembled from silvered horse-shoes, an old copper kettle and plumber's candles crowned the center of the table.

The infrequent visitor, if invited into the house, was ushered into this room and treated to some of Bertha's delicious grapejuice. With their gracious display of hospitality in this setting, the Roesslers effectively concealed the fact that there was not a convenience of any kind in the house. Water had to be carried from the well outside. They did not always have enough kerosene to light both the lamps and the tiny cook-stove. There was, in the latter years, only enough wood cut for use in the old iron stove in coldest weather when the coal burner in the living room demanded reinforcement. In all, the Roesslers had two links to the modern post war world; a battery-powered radio that Herman tried, at all costs, to keep in operating condition and a telephone he'd had installed while he was away in Washington.

Just as their lives began to settle into a working routine again, Bertha was hospitalized for surgery and treatment of a cancerous thyroid. Her illness depleted Herman's savings.... The people of China were warm in their concern over Bertha and supportive in arranging

transportation to and from the hospital in Waterville. They saw to it that groceries ordered by phone were delivered from the store and paid for with town relief funds.

While Bertha recovered, they both found a special pleasure in creating art objects out of the useless remnants of the past all around them. Bertha pieced together a regal black hat of silk and jet beads, as elegant as any ever seen on 5th Avenue. Even in failing health, she was a beautiful woman and made a striking picture when she modeled the hat--half in pride and half in fun.

Herman found the well aged pieces of wood from the broken wagons and fallen sheds to have intriguing surfaces for the allegorical bas relief carvings he then made into functional boxes, lamps and book ends reminiscent of the Tiffany days. Because paints were too expensive, he combined dime-store crayons, pencils and inks in a blend of drawing and painting. His finest works were developed in this medium or were straight pen or pencil drawings, intricately conceived with fine detail and cross-hatching that achieved an indescribable aura of mystery and light. The technique was well suited to expressing the theme that became an obsession in his last works. John Hatch unwittingly provided the impetus for this when he sent Herman and Bertha a Christmas etching of the nativity. Herman took exception to the attitude of the virgin as John had drawn her and responded by return mail with a 'corrected' drawing that was only the first of more to follow. From then on, a two worlds concept, that he had been struggling to visualize, merged into his unending passion for the celebration of the cycle of life, death and re-birth.

In 1952 Herman Roessler was ill, but he recovered and returned to work. By early 1955, he and Bertha were planning to sell the farm to a corporation that would allow them to remain as tenants of the house. Early that summer, Bertha was again taken ill. While she was in the hospital, Herman completed the sale of the farm and with the proceeds made the house more comfortable for her return home:

...the company had wired the house for electricity; a new space heater and bed had been delivered. Early in June, neighbors and town officials, who had been keeping a caring eye on Herman, realized that he was not eating enough to keep going and took him to a local nursing home in hope of restoring his strength. On July 10, Herman asked his friend, Cony Webber, to take him to the hospital to see Bertha. Cony quite literally carried him to Bertha's room where, being too weak to speak, he wrote a brief note on the pad by his sister's bed. She looked at the message and nodded her head. No one knew what they had said to one another but Herman died that night and Bertha died a few days later.

After the Roesslers' deaths, town clerk Mary Washburn and selectman Cony Webber asked John Hatch to act as artistic executor for the estate. Mr. Hatch took a portfolio of drawings and paintings to the Boston Museum of Fine Arts, which bought most of them and held a posthumous showing of seventy-five Roessler works during the 1956 Christmas season. The public and the critics reacted enthusiastically; the museum reproduced several of the works for Christmas cards,¹ and Colby College later arranged a Roessler exhibition in Maine. Since then, Herman Roessler's reputation has grown in the art world. Mr. and Mrs. Hatch write:

Nothing remains of the Roessler farm at the cross-road in South China. Herman's and Bertha's grave markers are barely visible under the edges of grass in the China Village cemetery, but the paintings and drawings... remain a joy and wonder to a world that may, one day, be ready for them.

China and the World

The first settlers who came to Jones Plantation in 1774 could, if they chose, isolate themselves from the outside world. Few so chose. Most families traded in the towns on the Kennebec, a few men left their homes to join the Revolutionary army, and the records of early settlement suggest that people visited or wrote to their relatives and former neighbors to encourage them to come to the newly-surveyed lots around Twelve-Mile Pond. The change from plantation to town in 1796 further promoted outside contacts, for example by giving the new town of Harlem representation in first the Massachusetts and then the Maine legislature.²

As the nineteenth century began, state, national, and world events increasingly impinged on Harlem. The Harlem militia, which included almost every able-bodied man in town, was mustered and even ordered on an out-of-town expedition during the 1812 war between the United States and Britain.³ Harlem citizens were expected to have an opinion on Maine's separation from Massachusetts. Their own division into two towns in 1818 and recombination into the town of China in 1822 were legally ordained by the Massachusetts and Maine state governments. Maine state laws influenced China's local government, commerce, industry, and education, among other spheres. Not only did people move to China from other parts of the United States, but a surprising number of people born in China went elsewhere. Various family histories mention ancestors, usually but not always young men, who went to sea or joined the movement west in search of fertile land or California gold. Some returned; others settled and founded families in distant places, and sometimes a genealogically-inclined descendant of these emigrants comes to China seeking records of his great-great-grandfather.

- 1 Including the drawing shown as the frontispiece of this history.
2. Although Harlem residents did not always make use of their right to representation; see above, p. 15, footnote 3.
3. See above, pp. 10-12.

The outbreak of the Civil War in the spring of 1861 emphasized again the close ties of the town to the state and the country.¹ By this time the militia organizations in most of Maine were nearly non-existent, there having been little reason for lavish funding or extensive training since the settlement of the Canadian and Mexican boundary questions in the 1840's. In the first enthusiasm to quell secession, hundreds of men volunteered to fight; one of the earliest volunteer companies was formed in China. A special town meeting was called for the afternoon of May 13, 1861, entirely to act on military matters. The voters passed over articles asking them to furnish all local volunteers with pay and with Colt revolvers; they authorized the selectmen to borrow up to \$1500 to support the families of volunteers while the men were out of state in the Union forces; and they elected town clerk Ambrose Abbot agent to oversee the disbursement of this money. The town also accepted a resolution presented by Thomas B. Lincoln, Esquire, which began:

Whereas our Country has been invaded [by] Seceders calling themselves the Southern Confederacy, but more properly Rebels or Traitors, and having committed sundry acts of violence against our citizens and property...

and included a resolution by which the legal voters of China "without distinction of party" sweepingly approved the anti-rebellion actions of the President and of the governor of Maine and promised to "help sustain them in their endeavors to put down all insurrectory and unlawful movements which now exist in our country," a resolution to provide men and supplies when requisitioned by the state, and a resolution pledging material support to the families of the company of volunteers already organized in China ("whose appearance speaks well for the young men of China") when the volunteers were called into service.²

Within a year, enthusiasm had waned to the point where the federal government was considering a military draft system and the state and the towns had to offer cash payments to induce men to enlist. The China town report covering the year 1862 listed under militia expenses the sum of

1. As Kingsbury puts it, "When the angry mutterings of the storm that for years had been gathering over the institutions which held in check the aggressions of a despotic feudalism culminated, on that memorable 12th of April, in the crash which dismantled the walls of Fort Sumter and jarred the foundations of the nation, no section of the federal territory was more prompt and energetic in rallying to the protection of the loyal colors than Maine." (p. 122) Most of the information on the Civil War is from Kingsbury, pp. 122-169; Whitman and True's Maine in the War for the Union; the untitled booklet prepared by Mrs. Jackson containing lists of war veterans; and the China town records and town reports.

2. Records of the Town of China, Vol. 3, n.p. (report of the May 13, 1861, meeting). At the March 1862 meeting, the voters agreed to reconsider the vote of May 13, 1861, to raise money to support volunteers' families, but they also authorized the selectmen "to hire money to support the families of volunteers as the law directs." Ibid., report of the March 24, 1862, meeting. The town records for the spring of 1862 listed all the men eligible for enrollment in the China militia; there were 261 men, ranging in age from 18 to 44.

\$8,881.94 (out of a total town expenditure of \$14,556.64; the total expenditure for the preceding year had been \$5,778.64) for enrolling and paying bounties to volunteers and for aid to their families.¹ This great outflow left the town over \$10,000 in debt; the state was to pay back about \$1100, and the rest the town borrowed. In the next year, 1863, the town borrowed over \$11,000 more to pay for soldiers. When, pursuant to a law passed in 1868, the state established a system of compensation for the towns, the final account showed that China had paid out \$47,735.34 to provide Civil War soldiers (and the state repaid \$12,708.33).

Meanwhile, the federal government began a modified draft system. Quotas were assigned to each state, and within the state to each city and town, on the basis of population; these quotas could be filled by volunteers, but if there were not enough volunteers additional men were drafted. A typical notice from the Adjutant General's office in Augusta to the China selectmen in October 1863 read:

The quota of your town on the call of the President of October 17th, is Thirty Seven (37). If this number is not furnished before January 5th, 1864, a Draft will be made upon you by the United States authorities.

Imposition of a draft posed an unpleasant choice for town voters and officials. The size of town bounties in Maine varied, despite state attempts to compel uniform payments, so enlisting men sometimes tried to swear residence in more generous towns, making it difficult for the less generous--or poorer--ones to meet their quotas. Caught between high costs and reluctant draftees, China voted in August and in December 1863 not to pay bounties to draftees or their substitutes,² and in

1. These sums were not raised and expended without considerable discussion. At a July 25, 1862, town meeting devoted entirely to Civil War matters, the voters approved payment of a bounty of \$100 to "each and every volunteer who may hereafter enlist from this town into any of the Regiments in this State, the number to be not less than this towns quota (29) [corrected to 30 at the meeting] of the three hundred thousand men called for by the President. Said volunteers not to be paid until the above number shall have been mustered into the service of the U.S.A." To make these payments, the selectmen were authorized to borrow \$3000 on the town's credit. Records of the Town of China, Vol. 3, n.p. (report of the July 25, 1862, meeting). Another meeting the next month passed what sounded like the same article again, authorizing \$100 bounties to "those who may enlist towards filling the quota of the town of China," and again allowed the selectmen to borrow money to pay the bounties "on a term... not exceeding fifteen years." The voters also chose a committee to find out how many China men had already enlisted, and elected four recruiting officers. Ibid., report of the August 28, 1862, meeting. At a continuance of the meeting on September 8, it was agreed that each volunteer would get the first \$25 of his bounty as soon as he passed the medical examination and was "mustered into the State service." Ibid., report of the September 8, 1862, meeting.

2. Ibid., reports of the August 10, 1863, and December 12, 1863, meetings. At the August meeting, the vote against the bounties was 52 to 49.

November the bounty to volunteers was raised to \$250 (to be paid with borrowed money).¹ In March 1864, the voters authorized the selectmen to "fill the quota of the last call at not exceeding twenty five dollars per man," thus authorizing payments to draftees.²

A meeting on June 16, 1864, was again devoted entirely to war questions. A wordier-than-usual set of articles asked the voters: 1) to ratify what the selectmen had done to fill past quotas and prepare for future ones; 2) to authorize provision of bounties for future volunteers; 3) to authorize payment of bounties to draftees, both those who went and those whose substitutes went; and 4) to allow the selectmen to borrow money for these bounties. The voters passed over the first proposition; they instructed the selectmen "to furnish men if possible to fill this town's next quota at the lowest prices they may be obtained by them"; they voted draftees (if they or their substitutes were actually mustered into service) \$300; and they authorized the borrowing of the necessary money.³ On July 25, 1864, the voters were asked to authorize bounties for men who furnished substitutes "in advance of the draft-(said substitute to count on the quota of said town of China"; and to decide how "to get men on the quota of the town for anticipated calls." On the first point, they approved a scaled subsidy--\$300 if a man provided a substitute for three years, \$200 for a two-year substitute, and \$100 for a one-year substitute, to be paid after the substitutes were in the service "and duly credited to the Town of China." The selectmen received no guidance on filling the quota.⁴ A December 1864 meeting was even more willing to burden the selectmen--articles about amounts of bounty payments for volunteers, payments to men who provided substitutes, and means to obtain men to fill future quotas were all left to the selectmen. The selectmen were authorized to borrow more money to fill the quota under the President's December 1864 call for volunteers, and the voters approved of furnishing men for the army and navy.⁵ The December 1864 quota was still unfilled in February 1865; and when a meeting was held to discuss how to fill it, the voters said they would "sustain the Selectmen in any measures they may take in filling the quota of this town."⁶

Local men who became officers when Maine regiments were first organized included first lieutenants Everett M. Whitehouse and Willard Lincoln, of companies G and H, respectively, of the 19th infantry regiment, mustered into service in August 1862. The 19th regiment participated in numerous battles, mostly in northern Virginia, and was one of the Maine regiments at Gettysburg in 1863, by which time each lieutenant had been promoted to captain of his company. In Captain Whitehouse's company were

1. Records of the Town of China, Vol. 3, n.p., report of the November 19, 1863, meeting. This meeting also authorized the selectmen "to appoint four or more recruiting officers."

2. Ibid., report of the March 21, 1864, meeting.

3. Ibid., report of the June 16, 1864, meeting.

4. Ibid., report of the July 25, 1864, meeting.

5. Ibid., report of the December 27, 1864, meeting.

6. Ibid., report of the February 18, 1865, meeting. Although the Civil War did not end until April 1865 (Lee surrendered the Army of Northern Virginia on April 9), there was no recorded discussion of military matters at the March town meeting (Records of the Town of China, Vol. 4, n.p. [report of the March 20, 1865, meeting]).

Corporal William Worthing and a dozen privates from China; private Joseph Coro and musician Henry Washburn were in Captain Lincoln's company. In the fighting at Gettysburg, private Winthrop Murray received a head wound; private Amos Jones was wounded in the arm;¹ and private Elias Tyler was wounded so severely that he died on July 15. Private Coro was wounded in the arm and side, and Captain Lincoln received a head wound. The captain recovered; he was mustered out of service on June 10, 1865, one of the four original officers still with the regiment (Captain Whitehouse had been discharged when his enlistment expired in October 1864).²

Company B of Colonel Edwin Mason's 7th infantry regiment was commanded by Captain James P. Jones of China and lieutenants William Haskell of Poland (who was mortally wounded at Antietam in September 1862) and Eli H. Webber of China (a former town selectman; promoted to first lieutenant by July 1863 and to captain in the fall of 1864, he transferred to the 1st regiment, veteran infantry, after the 7th regiment was disbanded in September 1864). James Parnell Jones, oldest son of Eli and Sybil Jones, was raised a Quaker and a pacifist, but, like others of his persuasion, found his duty to his country and to the anti-slavery cause more compelling than his religious upbringing. The Jones genealogy relates:

The Civil War started in 1861 and there was a rally in China to secure volunteers. Both James and his younger brother, Richard Mott Jones, were present, James aged twenty-three, married and with one son; Richard, eighteen, unmarried. Richard immediately raised his hand when the call came but James walked over to his brother, pulled down the raised arm and slowly raised his own. "Thee's too young, Richard."³

Chosen company captain, he was evidently an excellent soldier, known in the army as "the fighting Quaker." The 7th regiment fought during much of 1862; in 1863 it was sent first to the Fredericksburg area (where in early May Captain Jones' company held its position against an attack by a rebel brigade), then to Gettysburg, and then back to Virginia for the rest of the year. In December 1863 Captain Jones was promoted to major of the 7th regiment. During the Wilderness fighting in May 1864, southern troops surrounded the 7th on three sides and demanded its men surrender: Major Jones is quoted as replying, "All others may go back, but the Seventh Maine, never!"⁴ In further fighting there he was wounded slightly, but was well enough to be with the 7th when it participated in the defense of Washington in July. Here he was killed as he helped lead a charge which drove Confederate forces away from the Fort Stevens area.

China also furnished non-combatants to the Union forces. Dr. George E. Brickett was first assistant surgeon and later surgeon in the 3rd infantry regiment, created in the spring of 1861; he either resigned or was discharged in late August,⁵ but when the 21st infantry regiment was raised

1. He recovered and lived until 1904; he is buried in the Branch Mills cemetery.
2. Maine Commissioners, Maine at Gettysburg, pp. 303-4, 308, 322-3.
3. M. H. Jones, Descendants of Thomas and Thankful Jones..., pp. 26-27.
4. Whitman and True, p. 187.
5. Maine at Gettysburg, p. 157. At a September 9, 1861, town meeting China voters elected a new supervisor of schools to fill the vacancy caused by Dr. Brickett's appointment as assistant surgeon in the army.

in the summer of 1862 Dr. Brickett again went as surgeon, with David P. Bolster of China as his assistant.¹ The chaplain of the 7th infantry regiment was James A. Varney of China.

In all, nearly three hundred men from China served in many of the thirty-three infantry regiments raised in Maine, as well as in cavalry and artillery units.² The school report in the town report for 1863 commented that attendance at one of the district schools was unusually small, "the large boys having gone to the war." Of these soldiers, at least forty died of wounds or disease during the war years.³ Stones in the Weeks Mills cemetery tell one tragic story: here are buried the five oldest of the seven sons of Ezekiel and Mary Farrington, all killed between 1861 and 1864. Horatio died June 1, 1861, aged 27; Reuben, aged 20, died eleven days later; Byron was killed in August 1862 at 19 years old; 25-year-old Charles died on June 20, 1864; and 18-year-old Gustavus died on October 30, 1864. No records show how many of those who returned home were more or less seriously incapacitated for the rest of their lives. Mr. Eleon Shuman remembers one survivor, a Jesse Hatch of Deer Hill who was a veteran of the Confederate army.⁴ Mr. Hatch had been so disfigured when a powder magazine blew up that his appearance frightened the neighborhood children, but his friendly words and gifts of apples made him less terrifying.

In the generation or so after the Civil War, it was particularly economic developments on the national scene that affected China. The odd economic character of the times--low prices for farmers, boom and bust financial cycles, sharp recessions in 1873 and 1893, the immense growth of industry and railroads--had mixed consequences in central Maine. There was poverty; the China town records in the 1870's and 1880's sometimes showed small expenditures for caring for tramps or transient paupers, for example. But by the end of the century, railroads were encouraging businesses in China, and the first of the summer people had begun to appear, heralding a new source of growth and income for the town.

World War I was less politically convulsive for China as a town than the Civil War had been; the town records contained almost no reference to the war. Local residents were again affected. Many China men were in the armed forces, and many women spent long hours sewing for the Red Cross and doing other war-related work. All endured the shortages and

1. Colby's 1884 Atlas of Maine listed George E. Brickett, M.D., among the physicians then practicing in Augusta (p. 109).

2. Another officer from China was Captain Alfred Fletcher, company G, 24th infantry regiment. Mrs. Jackson's records also list Captain Seth C. Farrington, company F, 12th infantry; but Whitman and True gave his home town as Fryeburgh (p. 289). Because the available lists of Civil War soldiers from China are lengthy and not always mutually consistent, they are not included in the appendices to this history. Two of the most inclusive lists are Mrs. Jackson's and Kingsbury's (pp. 126, 142-143, 162, and 165).

3. At the beginning of the 1866 China town records is a list of 37 China men who died in service or in consequence of service-incurred wounds or disease since April 12, 1861. The list includes only two Farringtons; beside it, the town clerk noted that five Farrington boys had died in the Union army.

4. Jesse Hatch had a brother Bub on Deer Hill and a sister, Rose Tibbetts, in Weeks Mills; Mr. Shuman does not know how he came to fight for the South instead of the North.

deprivations caused by the war, and all suffered from the wartime inflation, which saw the total appropriations at annual town meetings rise, from \$9,783 in March 1915 to \$15, 158 in 1918 and to \$21,558 in 1920.¹ These higher spending levels continued through the 1920's, but were of necessity reduced in the 1930's: with the national Depression spreading into Maine, money became scarcer. The figures for town meeting appropriations, as annually summarized by the town clerk, are indicative:

Year	Total appropriated at March town meeting
1929	\$ 22,982
1930	25,479
1931	26,824.50
1932	23,196.87
1933	18,791.50
1934	18,152
1935	18,625.50
1936	19,855
1937	18,979.80
1938	19,445
1939	19,585
1940	20,148.50

The growing inability to pay taxes was another indicator of the state of the local economy:

Year	Delinquent taxes	Tax abatements ²
1928	\$ 603.81	\$ 69.84
1930	1205.13	147.61, with a higher proportion due to poverty than in previous years and with the Purington Brick Co. bankrupt.
1932	1693.54	185.27, with 9 out of 21 due to poverty.

Much of the available evidence suggests that the year 1933 was the depth of the Depression in China. The town's total assets hit a four-year low of \$48,965.36, and this sum included not only a bank loan, but "temporary" loans of sums ranging from \$275 to \$1000 from townspeople, including selectmen Frank Doe and Cony Webber, W. R. Webber, W. J. Thompson, H. W. Austin, and W. C. Washburn. Town taxes dropped from over \$24,000 in 1932 to \$19,608.57. Delinquent taxes totaled \$982.63, and four of the

1. See above, p. 122, for the effects of inflation on the China schools.
2. Tax abatements were commonly granted for one of the following reasons: taxes paid elsewhere, overvaluation, out of town or whereabouts unknown, exempt soldier, or poverty.

fourteen tax abatements recorded were for poverty.¹ Appropriations for highway repairs declined from \$6500 in March 1931 to \$5000 in 1932 and \$4000 annually in 1933 and 1934. The total elementary school appropriation was \$7700 in 1931, \$6100 in 1932, \$5300 in 1933, and \$5100 in 1934. (At the same time, however, between 1932 and 1936 the voters annually paid off \$1000 of the town's debt.)

The effect of the Depression also showed in town expenditures for the poor, as the table below indicates:

Year	Appropriation	Total resources ²	Total expenditures ³
1929	\$ 700		
1930	700		
1931	900	\$2,641.23	\$ 3,106.09
1932	1500	3,514.80	4,314.75
1933	1700	3,906.21	4,210.63
1934	1700	4,988.49	4,710.55
1935	1700	4,862.78	4,979.13
1936	1700	4,743.59	4,797.88
1937	2000	4,729.50	4,614.51
1938	2000	5,064.68	5,049.30
1939	2000	4,469.04	4,518.15
1940	2000	3,296.48	4,416.77
1941	1800		
1942	1000 (budget committee recommended \$1400)		
1943	1000		

In addition, the town paid for the "tramp house,"⁴ and local people were reimbursed by the town for expenses incurred in aiding transient paupers. Edmund Dowe of South China says that when he had his first diner he used to feed tramps and charge the meals to the town, and if the wanderers needed a place to sleep he sent them to the tramp house. From 1938 through 1941, the town reports showed payments to truckers for transporting surplus commodities into China. WPA programs also operated in China.

The effect of the economic crisis on the China schools appeared most conspicuously in 1932 and 1933. Superintendent Carl Lord included in his annual report for 1932 an appropriations recommendation which, he said, "will necessitate a further reduction in salaries and other school expenditures." He added,

1. Annual Report of the Municipal Officers of the Town of China, Maine, for the Year Ending February 16, 1934, pp. 5-6, 31-34.
2. In addition to the town appropriation, China received money from other towns for whose paupers it had cared (and reimbursed other towns if China residents received assistance from them) and from the state.
3. Some of the total expenditure was money owed to China by other towns, which would be repaid and put into the next year's account.
4. See above, p. 86.
5. The March 1937 town meeting warrant had an article, including an appropriation request, about continuing WPA work; the voters left the decision up to the selectmen, and appropriated no funds. Records of the Town of China, Vol. 7, pp. 388 and 395.

If it is possible to continue the health work [in the schools] I believe it should be done, since the present economic conditions are making health problems more numerous than usual.

He also realized that it was then impossible to get town approval of the consolidated school he had been promoting, though he suggested "the plan of a consolidated school should be postponed rather than forgotten, for the need is still with us."¹ The next year, Mr. Lord reported that the school year had been shortened by a week and the teachers' salaries "considerably reduced." The effect on salaries can be shown by looking at the earnings of two China teachers who taught all through the Depression years. Erlena Bartlett, Weeks Mills teacher, was described in 1939 as having a year's training at Farmington and eleven years teaching experience; Edna Taber, teacher in the China Village school, was a Bates College graduate with, in 1939, sixteen years teaching experience. Their annual earnings for teaching (teachers still served as janitors also and received small additional payments for this service) were as follows:²

Year	Erlena Bartlett	Edna Taber
1929		\$770
1930		836
1931	\$324	770
1932	626	748
1933	512	604
1934	476	544
1935	474	518.40
1936	519	544
1937	541.20	560.88
1938	524.40	543.40
1939	556.40	576.40
1940	560	580
1941	563.50	580
1942	619	619
1943	765	765

The great drop from 1931 to 1935 was system-wide. Myrtie Brown earned \$612 in 1931, \$421.20 in 1935; Doris Young's wages declined from \$700 in 1931 to \$518.40 in 1935.

The Depression may even have affected voting patterns in China, although there were undoubtedly additional factors promoting changes. In the 1928 presidential election, the Republican electoral slate received around 270 votes and the Democratic slate around 40;³ no other parties' electors were listed. In 1932, the voting results were:

1. Annual Report of the Municipal Officers of the Town of China, Maine for the Year Ending February 16, 1933, p. 36.
2. Since these figures are actual amounts paid, as shown in the detailed school expenditures in the annual town reports, there are slight variations, probably for absence, deductions, and so forth.
3. Since not every voter voted for every elector, the figures for individual electors of each party differed from each other by a few votes.

Republican	304
Democrat	93
Socialist	9
Communist	1

In 1936, the Republicans gained ground and third parties proliferated:

Republican	320
Democrat	93
Socialist	2
Prohibition	1
Union	4
Communist	1

The one Communist vote appeared again in 1940, but not afterwards; in 1944 there was a Socialist Labor vote, and in 1948 one Socialist vote and one Progressive vote. In 1952, for the first time since 1928, everyone in town who voted chose one of the two major parties.

Since the Depression years--indeed, since the 1920's--it has been difficult to think of China as isolated from the rest of the world. National and international economic and political events, national and state laws, fashions and fads and trends were and are echoed here, brought to the town by newspapers, magazines, radio, television, automobiles, and the myriad unseen and often only half realized interdependencies linking everyone in China with thousands of distant, unknown people. When the United States became involved in World War II, the economic and personal effects in China were similar to the effects in every other small town in the country. Cold War politics in the 1950's, debates over reforms in civil rights and education in the 1960's, inflation and recession and oil embargo in the 1970's, have all affected China people.

In the last ten years, the outside world has intruded more directly on China. Like many other semi-rural towns, it has had a sudden increase in population. Newcomers move to China to escape overcrowding, pollution, and crime; and inevitably, as new houses are built the open spaces and woods disappear; more people bring more waste, septic tanks, and automobiles to threaten the cleanliness of land, water, and air; and with a larger population both the number of potential law-breakers and the invitations to larceny and vandalism increase. In the first half of the nineteenth century, to be sure, China was more populous than it is today, as the census records, the maps, and the miles of stone walls now separating abandoned fields from abandoned roads all testify. But in the first half of the nineteenth century, the economic base of life was agricultural self-sufficiency; institutions like the schools and the churches provided clear and enforced social and moral guidelines; and the family--often at least a three-generation family in the same household-- was considered a permanent and responsible structure. Perhaps most important, the majority of people in China then had limited opportunities and limited aspirations, compared to the great range of possibilities--for good and for bad--now offered.

The early nineteenth century was not an ideal time, but it was in many ways a simpler time. Parents, teachers, and ministers told children the right things to do, and children who did the wrong things were beaten, not

1. Compare, for example, the variety of occupations now represented in the northern part of China with those listed in 1850 (see above, pp. 236-237).

psychoanalyzed. The winter's heat (or lack of it) depended on physical exertion in the woodlot, not on the whims of Arab sheiks and Washington rule-makers. A man who needed a cowshed built it himself, without worrying about bank loans, building permits, or subcontractors; and if he built it right beside the lake, no one thought of disputing his right to ruin the drinking water. Compared to these people, contemporary China residents have both immense freedom--to make the choices which create their lives--and little freedom--to control the man-made environment in which they live.

It is impossible to return fully to the simpler ways; both things and ideas have changed irreversibly. China's people are an integral part of the twentieth-century world, whether they want to be or not. Yet they still have the same fundamental responsibilities that the settlers of Jones Plantation had two centuries ago. As individuals and as a community, they must do what they can do on the local level to create a better world; and they must help each other endure the things which cannot be improved.

APPENDIX I HARLEM TOWN OFFICERS, 1796-1828

(Prepared by Mrs. William B. Grow)

Appendix IA Selectmen of Harlem

1796	Abraham Burrell Ephraim Clark James Lancaster	1808	Nathaniel Johnson Ichabod Chadwick Josiah Ward Jr.
1797	Abraham Burrell Ichabod Chadwick Josiah Ward	1809	Nathaniel Johnson Ichabod Chadwick Josiah Ward Jr.
1798	Abraham Burrell Ichabod Chadwick Josiah Ward	1810	Nathaniel Johnson Jedidiah Jepson Josiah Ward Jr.
1799	Edmund Clark Ichabod Chadwick James Chadwick	1811	Nathaniel Johnson Jedidiah Jepson Josiah Ward Jr.
1800	Edmund Clark Ichabod Chadwick James Chadwick	1812	Nathaniel Johnson Jedidiah Jepson Samuel Burrell
1801	Abraham Burrell Ichabod Chadwick Josiah Ward	1813	Nathaniel Johnson Jedidiah Jepson Constant Abbott
1802	Abraham Burrell Ichabod Chadwick Ephraim Clark	1814	Nathaniel Johnson Josiah Ward Constant Abbott
1803	Jesse Martin Ichabod Chadwick Ephraim Clark	1815	Nathaniel Johnson Josiah Ward Robert Fletcher
1804	Abraham Burrell Ichabod Chadwick Edward Fairfield	1816	Nathaniel Johnson Josiah Ward Joseph Stewart
1805	David Doe Ichabod Chadwick Ephraim Clark	1817	Nathaniel Johnson Josiah Ward ¹ Constant Abbott
1806	Nathan Stanley Ichabod Chadwick Ephraim Clark	1818	Edward Fairfield Elisa Clark John Dow
1807	Nathan Stanley Ichabod Chadwick Josiah Ward Jr.	1819	Elisha Clark Joseph Stuart John Weeks

1. On May 1, 1817, John Dow was elected selectman, replacing Josiah Ward.

Appendix IA Selectmen of Harlem, continued

1820 Joseph Hacker
John Weeks
William Mosher

1821 Joseph Hacker
John Weeks
William Mosher

1822 Joseph Hacker¹
John Weeks
William Mosher

1823 Joseph Hacker²
John Weeks
William Mosher

1824 Jonathan Dow
John Weeks
Elisha Clark

1825 Johnathan Dow
John Weeks³
Elisha Clark

1826 Joseph Stuart
Elisha Clark
John Weeks

1827 Joseph Stuart
William Mosher
John Weeks

1828 Ebenezer Meigs⁴
William Mosher
John Weeks

1. Joseph Hacker and William Mosher were also China selectmen in 1822.
2. Joseph Hacker was also a China selectman in 1823.
3. John Weeks was also a China selectman in 1825, 1826, and 1827.
4. Ebenezer Meigs and John Weeks were also China selectmen in 1828. In 1828, six years after Harlem and China were combined and the last year that Harlem elected town officers, Mr. Weeks was a selectman in both towns, treasurer in both towns, Harlem town clerk, and a fence viewer and field driver in China. In September 1828 he was elected China's representative to the Maine legislature. In the China elections in the spring of 1829 he was chosen highway surveyor and town auditor, and in the fall of 1829 he was again elected representative to the state legislature (and also received two votes for state senator).

IB Harlem Town Clerks

1796	Edward Fairfield	1813	Constant Abbott
1797	Edward Fairfield	1814	Constant Abbott
1798	Edward Fairfield	1815	Constant Abbott
1799	Edward Fairfield	1816	Constant Abbott
1800	Ephraim Clark	1817	Constant Abbott
1801	Edward Fairfield	1818	John Weeks
1802	Edward Fairfield	1819	John Weeks
1803	Edward Fairfield	1820	John Weeks
1804	Edward Fairfield	1821	John Weeks
1805	Edward Fairfield	1822	John Weeks ¹
1806	Edward Fairfield	1823	John Weeks
1807	Edward Fairfield	1824	John Weeks
1808	Edward Fairfield	1825	John Weeks
1809	Edward Fairfield	1826	John Weeks
1810	Samuel Burrell	1827	John Weeks
1811	Samuel Burrell	1828	John Weeks
1812	Samuel Burrell		

IC Harlem Town Treasurers

1796	Ephraim Clark	1813	Josiah Ward Jr.
1797	Ephraim Clark	1814	Josiah Ward Jr.
1798	Ephraim Clark	1815	Josiah Ward Jr.
1799	Ephraim Clark	1816	Nathaniel Johnson
1800	Ephraim Clark	1817	Josiah Ward ²
1801	Ephraim Clark	1818	Thomas Giddings
1802	Ephraim Clark	1819	Thomas Giddings
1803	Abraham Burrell	1820	Silas Piper
1804	Abraham Burrell	1821	[no record]
1805	Josiah Ward Jr.	1822	Silas Piper
1806	Josiah Ward Jr.	1823	Silas Piper ³
1807	Josiah Ward Jr.	1824	Silas Piper
1808	Josiah Ward Jr.	1825	Silas Piper
1809	Josiah Ward Jr.	1826	Henry W. Piper
1810	Josiah Ward Jr.	1827	Henry W. Piper
1811	Josiah Ward Jr.	1828	John Weeks ⁴
1812	Josiah Ward Jr.		

1. In 1822, 1823, and 1824 John Weeks was also the China town clerk.
2. On May 1, 1817, Abraham Burrill replaced Josiah Ward.
3. In 1823, 1824, and 1825 Silas Piper was also the China town treasurer.
4. In 1828 John Weeks was also the China town treasurer.

APPENDIX II HARLEM IN THE WAR OF 1812

Appendix IIA Roster of companies raised in Harlem for service
at Wiscasset, September 1814

(Prepared by Mrs. Charles Jackson)

Regiment: Lt. Col. H. Moore

Company: Capt. David Crowell

Officers: Capt. Daniel Crowell	Musician, Ephraim Clark, 3rd
Lt. Nathaniel Spratt	Musician, Jonathan Doe
Ensign Zalmana Washburn	Cpl. Samuel Branch
Sgt. Jonathan Thurber	Cpl. David Spratt
Sgt. Elisha Clark	Cpl. Samuel Ward
Sgt. Jabish Crowell	Cpl. James Wiggins
Sgt. Thomas Ward, Jr.	

Company: Capt. Robert Fletcher

Officers: Capt. Robert Fletcher	Cpl. Nathaniel Evens
Lt. Nathaniel Bragg	Cpl. Daniel Fowler
Ensign Caleb Parmenter	Cpl. Daniel Bragg
Sgt. John Weeks	Cpl. Ephraim Weeks
Sgt. John Whitley	Musician, Thomas Burrell
Sgt. Jedeiah Fairfield	Musician, Timothy Waterhouse

Privates

Baker, Jonathan	Evens, Thomas
Balcomb, Lina	Getchell, David
Bean, Daniel	Givens, Ebenezer
Bragg, David	Gray, Daniel
Bragg, Isaac	Gray, Jonathan
Bragg, Nathan	Gray, Nathaniel
Bragg, Nathaniel, 3rd	Gray, Samuel
Bragg, Royal	Hamlin, Isaiah
Bryant, David	Hamlin, Josiah
Burgess, David, 2nd	Hanson, Andrew H.
Burgess, Richard	Hanson, Caleb, Jr.
Burrell, Abram, Jr.	Hanson, Joshua
Chadwick, Sylvanus	Hanson, Samuel
Chase, Moses	Harmon, Frederick
Crowell, David	Haskell, Benjamin
Crowell, Elbridge (Waiter)	Haskell, William
Crowell, John, Jr.	Hatch, Ezra
Crummet, John	Hawes, James
Doe, Andrew	Lancaster, James, Jr.
Doe, David	Lancaster, Joseph

Appendix IIA Roster of companies raised in Harlem..., continued

Lancaster, Robert	Prentice, Philo
Lombard, John	Prentice, Saul
McLaughlin, Abram	Purkins, Ephraim
McLaughlin, Benjamin	Rundel, Reuben
McLaughlin, Jacob	Spratt, George
McNull, Vryling S.	Spratt, James
Monk, William, Jr.	Stewart, George
Moore, Oliver	Studley, Daniel
Moore, Robert	Tarbell, Josiah
Morrell, Jedediah	Thompson, John
Mosher, William	Varney, Jedediah
Norton, Jacob	Ward, Nehemiah
Norton, Joseph	Ward, William
Norton, Nathaniel	Webber, Sylvanus
Norton, Thomas	Weeks, Braddock
Norton, Zachariah	Whitley, Benjamin
Palmenter, Joseph	Whitley, William, Jr.
Pratt, William	Woodbridge, Paul D.
Prentice, Jesse	Wyman, Ezekiel, Jr.

Appendix IIB Roster of Captain Robert Fletcher's Company, Lieutenant-Colonel H. Moore's Regiment

Raised at Harlem, September 12, 1812
Service at Wiscasset, Maine

(Copy of an undated typed list in the possession of Miss Margaret Clifford of China)

Robert Fletcher, Captain
Nathaniel Bragg, Lieutenant
Caleb Palmeter, Ensign

John Weeks, Sergeant	Nathaniel Evens, Corporal
John Whetely, Sergeant	Daniel Fowler, Corporal
William Bradford, Sergeant	Daniel Bragg, Corporal
Jedediah Fairfield, Sergeant	Ephraim Weeks, Corporal
Thomas Burrell, Musician	
Timothy Waterhouse, Musician	

Privates

Baker, Jonathan	Haskell, Benjamin
Balcomb, Lima	Haskell, William
Bean, Daniel	Hatch, Ezra
Bragg, David	Haws, James
Bragg, Isaac	Lombard, John
Bragg, Nathan	McLaughlin, Abraham
Bryant, David	McNull, Vryling S.
Burrell, Abram Jr.	Moore, Oliver
Chadwick, Sylvanus	Moore, Robert
Crummet, John	Morrell, Jedediah
Doe, Andrew	Mosher, William
Evens, Thomas	Norton, Jacob
Getchel, David	Norton, Joseph
Givens, Ebenezer	Norton, Thomas
Gray, Daniel	Norton, Zachariah
Gray, Jonathan	Palmeter, Joseph
Gray, Nathaniel	Prentice, Jesse
Gray, Samuel	Prentice, Philo
Hammon, Frederick	Prentice, Saul
Hanson, Andrew H.	Purkins, Ephraim
Hanson, Caleb Jr.	Stewart, George
Hanson, Samuel	

APPENDIX III CHINA TOWN OFFICERS, 1818-1975

Appendix IIIA Selectmen of China

1818	Daniel Stevens Nathan Stanley Robert Fletcher	1828	Ebenezer Meigs ⁴ Gustavus A. Benson John Weeks
1819	J. C. Washburn John Brackett Daniel Stevens	1829	Ebenezer Meigs Benjamin Libby Nathaniel Spratt
1820	Daniel Stevens J. C. Washburn Isaac Jones	1830	Ebenezer Meigs Benjamin Libbey Jr. Nathaniel Spratt
1821	Daniel Stevens J. C. Washburn Isaac Jones	1831	Benjamin Libbey Jr. Nathaniel Spratt Jedediah Fairfield
1822	Nathaniel Johnson Joseph Hacker ¹ William Mosher	1832	Nathaniel Spratt Jedediah Fairfield Ephraim Jones ⁵
1823	Joseph Stuart Abisha Benson Joseph Hacker ²	1833	Alfred Marshall Joseph Stuart Jason Chadwick
1824	Joseph Stuart Abisha Benson Alfred Marshall	1834	Joseph Stuart Jason Chadwick Freeman Shaw
1825	Joseph Stuart Alfred Marshall John Weeks ³	1835	Jason Chadwick Timothy F. Hanscom Edward Breck
1826	Alfred Marshall John Weeks Ebenezer Meigs	1836	Timothy F. Hanscom Edward Breck Jonathan Clark
1827	John Weeks Ebenezer Meigs Gustavus A. Benson	1837	Edward Breck Jonathan Clark William Mosher

1. Joseph Hacker and William Mosher were also Harlem selectmen in 1822.
2. Joseph Hacker was also a Harlem selectman in 1823.
3. John Weeks was also a Harlem selectman in 1825, 1826, and 1827.
4. Ebenezer Meigs and John Weeks were also Harlem selectmen in 1828.
5. Ephraim Jones refused the election and was replaced in May 1832 by Elisha Clark.

Appendix IIIA Selectmen of China, continued

1838	Corydon Chadwick William Mosher Daniel Crowell	1849	Thomas B. Lincoln Lot Jones John L. Gray
1839	Daniel Crowell Elisha Clark Thomas B. Lincoln	1850	Thomas B. Lincoln Lot Jones John L. Gray
1840	Corydon Chadwick Samuel Hanscom Daniel D. Starrett	1851	Corydon Chadwick Oliver Hanscom Alfred Fletcher
1841	Larned Pullen John Weeks Daniel Crowell	1852	Corydon Chadwick Alfred Fletcher Oliver Hanscom
1842	Corydon Chadwick Nathaniel Spratt John Weeks	1853	Corydon Chadwick Alfred Fletcher Samuel Taylor
1843	Corydon Chadwick Nathaniel Spratt John Weeks	1854	Alfred Fletcher Samuel Taylor Sullivan Erskine
1844	Corydon Chadwick Nathaniel Spratt William Mosher	1855	Alfred Fletcher Edward Emerson Amos McLaughlin ²
1845	Corydon Chadwick William Mosher John Estes 2nd	1856	Alfred Fletcher Edward Emerson Nathaniel Wiggin
1846	Corydon Chadwick William Mosher John Estes 2nd	1857	John F. Hunnewell Josiah H. Greely Alfred H. Jones
1847 ¹	Corydon Chadwick William Mosher Thomas B. Lincoln	1858	John F. Hunnewell Alfred H. Jones Samuel Taylor ³
1848	Thomas B. Lincoln John Weeks Lot Jones	1859	Thomas B. Lincoln Josiah H. Greely Eli Webber

1. In the 1847 election there were three separate ballots for selectmen, assessors, and overseers of the poor; the three men elected selectmen were also elected assessors and overseers.

2. An article in the warrant for a December 1, 1855, town meeting asking the voters to "choose a Selectmen in place of Amos McLaughlin" was passed over.

3. Samuel Taylor died within a few months; at a September 1858 town meeting the voters passed over an article to fill the vacancy.

Appendix IIIA Selectmen of China, continued

1860	Thomas B. Lincoln Josiah H. Greely Eli H. Webber	1872	A. H. Chadwick John S. Hamilton Caleb Jones
1861 ¹	Thomas B. Lincoln Josiah H. Greely Eli H. Webber	1873	A. H. Chadwick Jabez Lewis Charles E. Dutton
1862	Thomas B. Lincoln Thomas Dinsmore Jr. Daniel Webber	1874	A. H. Chadwick Jabez Lewis Charles E. Dutton
1863	Thomas B. Lincoln Thomas Dinsmore Jr. Daniel Webber	1875	Jabez Lewis Charles E. Dutton Francis Jones
1864	Ambrose H. Abbot Nathan Redlon John Libbey	1876	Dana C. Hanson Samuel C. Starrett Freeman H. Crowell
1865	Nathan Redlon Alfred Fletcher Rollin Reed	1877	Dana C. Hanson Samuel C. Starrett Freeman H. Crowell
1866	Nathan Redlon Alfred Fletcher Rollin Reed	1878	Elihu Hanson Francis Jones Enos T. Clark
1867	A. H. Chadwick Caleb Jones Jabez Lewis	1879	Elihu Hanson Francis Jones Theodore M. Jackson
1868	Gustavus B. Chadwick Francis Jones Abisha B. Fletcher	1880	Elihu Hanson Francis Jones Theodore M. Jackson
1869	Gustavus B. Chadwick Francis Jones Abisha B. Fletcher	1881	Dana C. Hanson Freeman H. Crowell Samuel C. Starrett
1870	Gustavus B. Chadwick Francis Jones Abisha B. Fletcher	1882	Dana C. Hanson Freeman H. Crowell Samuel C. Starrett
1871	A. H. Chadwick John S. Hamilton Caleb Jones	1883	Charles E. Dutton Theron E. Doe Henry B. Reed

1. By September 1861 there was a vacancy on the board of selectmen (apparently Eli Webber's position, since the warrant for the September town meeting was signed by Mr. Lincoln and Mr. Greely), but the voters decided not to fill it.

Appendix IIIA Selectmen of China, continued

1884	Charles E. Dutton Theron E. Doe Henry B. Reed	1895	Orren F. Sproul Alvah P. Mosher Elijah D. Jepson
1885	Charles E. Dutton Theron E. Doe Henry B. Reed	1896	Orren F. Sproul Alvah P. Mosher Elijah D. Jepson
1886	Charles E. Dutton Theron E. Doe Henry B. Reed	1897	Alvah P. Mosher Elijah D. Jepson James O. Fish
1887	James B. Fish Orren F. Sproul John F. Plummer	1898	Alvah P. Mosher James O. Fish John N. Hall
1888	James B. Fish Orren F. Sproul John F. Plummer	1899	Alvah P. Mosher James O. Fish E. A. Dudley
1889	James B. Fish Orren F. Sproul John F. Plummer	1900	Alvah P. Mosher James O. Fish E. A. Dudley
1890	Orren F. Sproul John F. Plummer James W. Brown	1901	Alvah P. Mosher James O. Fish E. A. Dudley
1891	Orren F. Sproul John F. Plummer James W. Brown	1902	Fred B. Foye ¹ A. R. Ward Irving H. Reed
1892	Orren F. Sproul Willis R. Ward Alvah P. Mosher	1903	Alvah P. Mosher Irving H. Reed A. N. Goodwin
1893	Willis R. Ward J. H. Mosher Martin Webber	1904	Alvah P. Mosher Irving H. Reed A. N. Goodwin
1894	Orren F. Sproul Alvah P. Mosher Elijah D. Jepson	1905	Irving H. Reed A. N. Goodwin Fred O. Bonney

1. Elected on March 17, 1902, Mr. Foye resigned on March 24 and was replaced by Alvah P. Mosher. At the March 17 meeting, after the moderator and town clerk had been elected and just as the balloting for selectmen was to begin, a motion to adjourn for one week was made. It was defeated by a vote of 21 in favor to 26 opposed.

Appendix IIIA Selectmen of China, continued

1906	Irving H. Reed A. N. Goodwin Fred O. Bonney	1917	Orren F. Sproul Thomas W. Washburn Harry W. Austin
1907	A. N. Goodwin Alvah P. Mosher E. L. Worthing	1918	Orren F. Sproul Thomas W. Washburn Harry W. Austin
1908	A. N. Goodwin Fred O. Bonney E. L. Worthing	1919	Cony N. Webber Thomas W. Washburn Irving H. Reed
1909	Orren F. Sproul Cony N. Webber Frank D. Rand	1920	Cony N. Webber Thomas W. Washburn Irving H. Reed
1910	Orren F. Sproul Cony N. Webber Frank D. Rand	1921	Cony N. Webber Thomas W. Washburn Irving H. Reed
1911	Orren F. Sproul Cony N. Webber Frank D. Rand	1922 ²	Cony N. Webber Irving H. Reed C. Alfred Jones
1912	Orren F. Sproul Cony N. Webber Frank D. Rand	1923	Cony N. Webber Frank A. Doe C. Alfred Jones
1913	Orren F. Sproul Cony N. Webber Frank D. Rand	1924	Cony N. Webber Frank A. Doe C. Alfred Jones
1914	Orren F. Sproul Cony N. Webber Frank D. Rand	1925	Cony N. Webber Frank A. Doe Charles A. Pinkham
1915	Orren F. Sproul Howard L. Fuller Frank D. Rand	1926	Cony N. Webber Frank A. Doe Charles A. Pinkham
1916	Orren F. Sproul Cony N. Webber W. H. Arnold ¹	1927	Cony N. Webber Frank A. Doe Charles A. Pinkham

1. Mr. Arnold resigned for reasons of health "and other conditions beyond my control" on April 25, 1916; a special town meeting on May 22 elected Thomas W. Washburn to replace him.

2. For some years before 1922 selectmen, assessors, and overseers of the poor had been elected on separate ballots, but the same three men had been elected to all three offices. In 1922, however, Mr. Webber, Mr. Reed, and Mr. Jones were selectmen and assessors, but the overseers of the poor were Mr. Webber, Emma F. Whitehouse, and Ida G. Bailey.

Appendix IIIA Selectmen of China, continued

1928	Cony N. Webber Frank A. Doe Charles A. Pinkham	1941	Howard L. Fuller G. Wayland Jones Delmont C. Gerry
1929	Cony N. Webber Frank A. Doe Charles A. Pinkham	1942	Howard L. Fuller G. Wayland Jones Delmont C. Gerry
1930	Cony N. Webber Frank A. Doe Charles A. Pinkham	1943	Howard L. Fuller G. Wayland Jones Delmont C. Gerry
1931	Cony N. Webber Frank A. Doe Charles A. Pinkham	1944	Howard L. Fuller G. Wayland Jones Delmont C. Gerry
1932	Cony N. Webber Frank A. Doe Ralph W. Austin	1945	G. Wayland Jones Fred L. Jackson Earl E. Malcolm
1933	Cony N. Webber Frank A. Doe G. Wayland Jones	1946	G. Wayland Jones Fred L. Jackson Earl E. Malcolm
1934	Howard L. Fuller Frank A. Doe G. Wayland Jones	1947	G. Wayland Jones Fred L. Jackson Earl E. Malcolm
1935	Howard L. Fuller Frank A. Doe G. Wayland Jones	1948	G. Wayland Jones Manley Tibbetts George A. Starkey
1936	Howard L. Fuller Frank A. Doe G. Wayland Jones	1949	Fred L. Jackson Manley A. Tibbetts George A. Starkey
1937	Howard L. Fuller G. Wayland Jones Delmont C. Gerry	1950	Fred L. Jackson Manley A. Tibbetts George A. Starkey
1938	Howard L. Fuller G. Wayland Jones Delmont C. Gerry	1951	Fred L. Jackson Manley A. Tibbetts George A. Starkey
1939	Howard L. Fuller G. Wayland Jones Delmont C. Gerry	1952	Manley A. Tibbetts George A. Starkey Philip N. Taber
1940	Howard L. Fuller G. Wayland Jones Delmont C. Gerry	1953	Manley A. Tibbetts George A. Starkey Philip N. Taber

Appendix IIIA Selectmen of China, continued

1954	Manley A. Tibbetts George A. Starkey Roland C. Dostie	1964	Frank L. Lockhart Manley A. Tibbetts Wallace W. Jones ³
1955	Manley A. Tibbetts George A. Starkey Wallace W. Jones	1965	Manley A. Tibbetts Wallace W. Jones Donald Pauley ⁴
1956	Manley A. Tibbetts George A. Starkey Wallace W. Jones	1966 ⁵	Donald E. Farrington Edward E. Fredrikson Juliette F. Oliver Donald G. Pauley John A. Sylvester
1957	Fred L. Jackson Wallace W. Jones Maurice Bickford	1967	Donald E. Farrington Edward E. Fredrikson Edward W. French Juliette F. Oliver Donald G. Pauley
1958	Fred L. Jackson Wallace W. Jones James R. Hapworth	1968	Donald E. Farrington Edward E. Fredrikson Edward W. French Juliette F. Oliver Donald G. Pauley
1959	Maurice E. Bickford Wallace W. Jones James R. Hapworth	1969	Claton C. Ames Jr. Donald E. Farrington Edward W. French Donald G. Pauley Arthur A. Poulin
1960	Clifford B. Crane Wallace W. Jones Roscoe E. Pelton Jr.	1970	Claton C. Ames Jr. Donald E. Farrington Edward W. French Seth H. Higgins Jr. Arthur A. Poulin
1961	Manley A. Tibbetts Wallace W. Jones Roscoe E. Pelton Jr.		
1962	Lincoln S. Reed ¹ Elden B. Davis William E. Roby		
1963 ²	Merle S. McCartney Frank L. Lockhart Manley A. Tibbetts		

1. Mr. Reed resigned on July 7, 1962, and was replaced on August 7 by Merle S. McCartney.
2. The March 1962 town meeting adopted a staggered election system, effective in 1963; so Mr. McCartney was elected for a one-year term, Mr. Lockhart for two years, and Mr. Tibbetts for three years.
3. Mr. Jones was the only one elected, for a three-year term.
4. Mr. Pauley was the only one elected, for a three-year term.
5. The March 1965 town meeting expanded the board of selectmen to five members, with one-year terms; this change took effect in March 1966.

Appendix IIIA Selectmen of China, continued

1971 Claton C. Ames Jr.
Donald E. Farrington
Edward W. French
Seth H. Higgins Jr.
Arthur A. Poulin

1972 Claton C. Ames Jr.
Donald E. Farrington
Edward W. French
Seth H. Higgins Jr.
Arthur A. Poulin

1973 Claton C. Ames Jr.
Donald E. Farrington
Edward W. French
Seth H. Higgins Jr.
Arthur A. Poulin

1974 Norman L. Bushey
Donald E. Farrington
Edward W. French
Seth H. Higgins Jr.
Arthur A. Poulin

1975 Norman L. Bushey
Gloria Ellis
William Flood
Edward W. French
Arthur A. Poulin

Appendix IIIB China Town Clerks

1818	Japheth C. Washburn	1852	Ambrose H. Abbot
1819	Japheth C. Washburn	1853	Ambrose H. Abbot
1820	Japheth C. Washburn	1854	Ambrose H. Abbot
1821	Japheth C. Washburn	1855	Ambrose H. Abbot
1822	John Weeks ¹	1856	Ambrose H. Abbot
1823	John Weeks	1857	Ambrose H. Abbot
1824	John Weeks	1858	Ambrose H. Abbot
1825	Gustavus A. Benson	1859	Ambrose H. Abbot
1826	Gustavus A. Benson	1860	Ambrose H. Abbot
1827	Thomas Burrill	1861	Ambrose H. Abbot
1828	Thomas Burrill	1862	Ambrose H. Abbot
1829	Thomas Burrill	1863	Ambrose H. Abbot
1830	Japheth C. Washburn	1864	Ambrose H. Abbot
1831	Japheth C. Washburn	1865	Edward Emerson
1832	Japheth C. Washburn	1866	Edward Emerson
1833	Japheth C. Washburn	1867	Edward Emerson ²
1834	Japheth C. Washburn	1868	Fredus O. Brainerd
1835	Japheth C. Washburn	1869	John H. Stevens
1836	Japheth C. Washburn	1870	John H. Stevens
1837	James H. Brainerd	1871	John H. Stevens
1838	James H. Brainerd	1872	Willis W. Washburn
1839	James H. Brainerd	1873	Willis W. Washburn
1840	Oliver W. Washburn	1874	Willis W. Washburn
1841	Oliver W. Washburn	1875	Willis W. Washburn
1842	Oliver W. Washburn	1876	Willis W. Washburn
1843	Oliver W. Washburn	1877	Willis W. Washburn
1844	Oliver W. Washburn	1878	Charles B. Stuart
1845	Oliver W. Washburn	1879	Charles B. Stuart
1846	Oliver W. Washburn	1880	Charles B. Stuart
1847	Oliver W. Washburn	1881	Charles B. Stuart
1848	Oliver W. Washburn	1882	Charles B. Stuart
1849	Oliver W. Washburn	1883	Charles B. Stuart
1850	Oliver W. Washburn	1884	Charles B. Stuart
1851	Ambrose H. Abbot	1885	Charles B. Stuart ³

1. Mr. Washburn signed the report of a February 25, 1822, meeting of the inhabitants within the 1818 boundary of China. Mr. Weeks signed the call for and report of a March 21, 1822, meeting of the enlarged China created by the addition of the rest of Harlem. There is no record of the election of a clerk at that meeting; John Weeks was annually elected Harlem town clerk from 1818 through 1828, and in 1823 and 1824 he was also elected China town clerk.

2. Mr. Emerson was succeeded on December 21, 1867, by A. H. Chadwick.

3. Mr. Stuart kept the town records through 1885; at the end of a neatly printed report of a February 15, 1886, juror meeting he wrote:

Charles B. Stuart

Town Clerk of China

"Amen."

The warrant for the March 1886 town meeting was signed by Willis C. Hawes; at the meeting, Mr. Stuart, as a Justice of the Peace, swore in Mr. Hawes as town clerk.

Appendix IIIB China Town Clerks, continued

1886	Willis C. Hawes	1931	Willis W. Washburn
1887	Wilson F. Hawes	1932	Willis W. Washburn
1888	Willis W. Washburn	1933	Willis W. Washburn
1889	Willis W. Washburn	1934	Willis W. Washburn
1890	Willis W. Washburn	1935	Willis W. Washburn
1891	Willis W. Washburn	1936	Willis W. Washburn
1892	Willis W. Washburn	1937	Willis W. Washburn
1893	Willis W. Washburn	1938	Willis W. Washburn
1894	Willis W. Washburn	1939	Willis W. Washburn
1895	Willis W. Washburn	1940	Willis W. Washburn
1896	Willis W. Washburn	1941	Willis W. Washburn
1897	Willis W. Washburn	1942	Willis W. Washburn ¹
1898	Willis W. Washburn	1943	Mary A. Washburn
1899	Willis W. Washburn	1944	Mary A. Washburn
1900	Willis W. Washburn	1945	Mary A. Washburn
1901	Willis W. Washburn	1946	Mary A. Washburn
1902	Willis W. Washburn	1947	Mary A. Washburn
1903	Willis W. Washburn	1948	Mary A. Washburn
1904	Willis W. Washburn	1949	Mary A. Washburn
1905	Willis W. Washburn	1950	Mary A. Washburn
1906	Willis W. Washburn	1951	Mary A. Washburn
1907	Willis W. Washburn	1952	Mary A. Washburn
1908	Willis W. Washburn	1953	Mary A. Washburn
1909	Willis W. Washburn	1954	Mary A. Washburn
1910	Willis W. Washburn	1955	Mary A. Washburn
1911	Willis W. Washburn	1956	Mary A. Washburn
1912	Willis W. Washburn	1957	Mary A. Washburn
1913	Willis W. Washburn	1958	Mary A. Washburn
1914	Willis W. Washburn	1959	Mary A. Washburn
1915	Willis W. Washburn	1960	Mary A. Washburn
1916	Willis W. Washburn	1961	Mary A. Washburn
1917	Willis W. Washburn	1962	Mary A. Washburn
1918	Willis W. Washburn	1963	Mary A. Washburn
1919	Willis W. Washburn	1964	Mary A. Washburn
1920	Willis W. Washburn	1965	Mary A. Washburn
1921	Willis W. Washburn	1966	Mary A. Washburn
1922	Willis W. Washburn	1967	Mary A. Washburn
1923	Willis W. Washburn	1968	Mary A. Washburn
1924	Willis W. Washburn	1969	Mary A. Washburn
1925	Willis W. Washburn	1970	Mary A. Washburn
1926	Willis W. Washburn	1971	Joyce G. Cowing
1927	Willis W. Washburn	1972	Joyce G. Cowing
1928	Willis W. Washburn	1973	Joyce G. Cowing
1929	Willis W. Washburn	1974	Joyce G. Cowing
1930	Willis W. Washburn	1975	Joyce G. Cowing

1. Willis W. Washburn died June 22, 1942, and was succeeded as town clerk in July by his daughter, Mary A. Washburn. A newspaper report of the March 1942 China town meeting had a photograph of Mr. Washburn and began: "Willis W. Washburn, 96, was elected Town Clerk for the 61st year at Town Meeting held here today...." (Undated clipping in the front of the Albert Church Brown Memorial Library's copy of the town report for the year ending February 10, 1942.)

Appendix IIIC China Town Treasurers

1818	John Brackett	1864	Justus Greely
1819	John Brackett	1865	Justus Greely
1820	John Brackett	1866	Ambrose H. Abbot ³
1821	John Brackett	1867	William Percival
1822	John Brackett	1868	Ambrose H. Abbot
1823	Silas Piper ¹	1869	Ambrose H. Abbot
1824	Silas Piper	1870	Ambrose H. Abbot
1825	Silas Piper	1871	C. K. Evans
1826	Benjamin Libby Jr.	1872	Amasa Taylor
1827	Benjamin Libby Jr.	1873	John C. Tucker
1828	John Weeks ²	1874	John C. Tucker
1829	Ebenezer Shaw	1875	John C. Tucker
1830	Ebenezer Shaw	1876	C. K. Evans
1831	Ebenezer Shaw	1877	C. K. Evans
1832	Freeman Shaw	1878	C. W. Clark
1833	Freeman Shaw	1879	John Taylor
1834	Samuel Hanscom	1880	John Taylor
1835	Thomas B. Lincoln	1881	Caleb Jones
1836	Daniel Crowell	1882	Caleb Jones
1837	Daniel Crowell	1883	Russell D. Woodman
1838	Reuben Hamlin	1884	Edward C. Dudley
1839	Reuben Hamlin	1885	Edward C. Dudley
1840	Charles A. Russ	1886	J. E. Crossman
1841	Reuben Hamlin	1887	Elijah D. Jepson
1842	Charles A. Russ	1888	Elijah D. Jepson
1843	Charles A. Russ	1889	Elijah D. Jepson
1844	Daniel Crowell	1890	Elijah D. Jepson
1845	Ebenezer Meigs Jr.	1891	Martin Webber
1846	Ebenezer Meigs	1892	Martin Webber
1847	Ebenezer Meigs	1893	J. W. Northrup
1848	Ebenezer Meigs	1894	J. W. Northrup
1849	Ebenezer Meigs	1895	J. W. Northrup
1850	Ebenezer Meigs	1896	Fred O. Bonney
1851	Ebenezer Meigs	1897	Fred O. Bonney
1852	Ebenezer Meigs	1898	Fred O. Bonney
1853	Ebenezer Meigs	1899	Fred O. Bonney
1854	Ebenezer Meigs	1900	Fred O. Bonney
1855	Nelson Russell	1901	Fred O. Bonney
1856	Nelson Russell	1902	Fred O. Bonney
1857	Abisha B. Fletcher	1903	Orren F. Sproul
1858	Abisha B. Fletcher	1904	Orren F. Sproul
1859	Thomas Dinsmore Jr.	1905	Charles R. Getchell
1860	Thomas Dinsmore Jr.	1906	Charles R. Getchell
1861	Thomas Dinsmore Jr.	1907	Theron E. Doe
1862	James E. Cates	1908	Charles R. Getchell
1863	James E. Cates	1909	Perley C. Thurston

1. In 1823, 1824, and 1825 Silas Piper was also the Harlem town treasurer.

2. In 1828 John Weeks was also the Harlem town treasurer.

3. Spelled Abbott in the town records, but when Mr. Abbot was town clerk and kept the records himself, he spelled his name Abbot.

Appendix IIIC China Town Treasurers, continued

1910	Frank A. Doe	1948	Edna W. Weeks
1911	Frank A. Doe	1949	Edna W. Weeks
1912	Frank A. Doe	1950	Francis H. Jones
1913	Frank A. Doe	1951	Francis H. Jones
1914	Frank A. Doe	1952	Francis H. Jones ²
1915	Frank A. Doe	1953	Francis H. Jones ²
1916	Frank A. Doe	1954	Marion L. Boynton
1917	G. Wayland Jones	1955	Marion L. Boynton
1918	G. Wayland Jones	1956	Marion L. Boynton
1919	Frank A. Doe	1957	Clayton H. Reed
1920	Buford A. Reed	1958	Clayton H. Reed
1921	Buford A. Reed	1959	Clayton H. Reed
1922	Norman B. Jones	1960	Clayton H. Reed
1923	Norman B. Jones	1961	Clayton H. Reed
1924	Norman B. Jones	1962 ³	Hazel B. Reed
1925	Norman B. Jones	1963 ³	Evelyn Durrell
1926	Norman B. Jones		Earl White
1927	Norman B. Jones	1964 ⁴	Arleen Morais
1928	Norman B. Jones		Frederick Olson
1929	Norman B. Jones	1965 ⁵	Frederick Olson
1930	Norman B. Jones		Patricia G. Mosher
1931	Norman B. Jones		Clarence H. Bessey
1932	Buford A. Reed	1966	Clarence H. Bessey
1933	Buford A. Reed	1967	Clarence H. Bessey
1934	Buford A. Reed	1968	Clarence H. Bessey
1935	Buford A. Reed	1969	Clarence H. Bessey
1936	Buford A. Reed	1970	Clarence H. Bessey
1937	Buford A. Reed	1971	Clarence H. Bessey
1938	Buford A. Reed	1972	Clarence H. Bessey
1939	Buford A. Reed	1973	Clarence H. Bessey
1940	Buford A. Reed	1974	Clarence H. Bessey
1941	Buford A. Reed	1975	Ira S. Singer
1942	Buford A. Reed		
1943	Buford A. Reed		
1944	Buford A. Reed ¹		
1945	Edna W. Weeks		
1946	Edna W. Weeks		
1947	Edna W. Weeks		

1. Mr. Reed was succeeded on June 27, 1944, by Edna W. Weeks.
2. Mr. Jones was succeeded on March 28, 1953, by Marion L. Boynton.
3. No treasurer was elected at the March 1963 town meeting; on March 11, the selectmen appointed Mrs. Evelyn Durrell treasurer and excise tax collector. She resigned on May 31 and was succeeded by town manager Earl White.
4. Town manager White resigned around May 1, 1964, and on May 4 the selectmen appointed Mrs. Morais treasurer. She was succeeded on June 29 by the new town manager, Frederick Olson.
5. Mr. Olson resigned as town manager on November 1, 1965, and Mrs. Mosher was appointed treasurer on October 29. She was succeeded on November 23 by the new town manager, Clarence Bessey.

APPENDIX IV CHINA POSTMASTERS

(Prepared by Mrs. Esther C. Jones)

China Village

	Date of appointment
Japheth C. Washburn	June 25, 1818
Jacob Smith	[Date not shown]
Benjamin Libbey	December 11, 1833
Oliver W. Washburn	August 12, 1841
Jacob S. Marshall	February 7, 1853
Alfred Marshall	September 4, 1860
Jacob Shaw	June 18, 1861
Alfred Fletcher	November 15, 1864
Henry W. Maxfield	November 29, 1865
Fredus O. Brainerd	April 16, 1867
Theron E. Doe	July 31, 1886
Fredus O. Brainerd	April 4, 1889
Theron E. Doe	May 31, 1893
Willis W. Washburn	August 27, 1897
Theron E. Doe	October 17, 1914
Thomas W. Washburn	February 2, 1921
Mrs. Estelle D. Washburn	August 9, 1941
John H. Wentworth	August 27, 1942
Mrs. Eleanor B. Foster	November 1, 1956

South China (established May 5, 1828)

Silas Piper	May 5, 1828
Francis A. B. Hussey	July 13, 1829
Joseph Stuart	February 15, 1834
Ambrose H. Abbot	January 22, 1842
Corydon Chadwick	June 21, 1853
Ebenezer Meigs	April 5, 1856
John L. Gray	July 29, 1857
Edwin T. Brown	May 30, 1860
Edward Emerson	September 25, 1862
Edward T. Brown	July 9, 1863
John F. Wyman	April 13, 1868
James Savage	November 20, 1873
Samuel Stuart	January 4, 1876
Charles B. Stuart	December 5, 1879
Elwood H. Jenkins	November 30, 1888
Timothy S. Farrington	April 17, 1893
Wilson F. Hawes	April 12, 1897
Roscoe E. Jones (declined)	February 28, 1919
Alvah C. Brown	March 31, 1919
Victor B. Stimson	December 18, 1923
Mrs. Stella G. Farrington	May 15, 1954
George B. Glidden	September 15, 1955
John R. Colwell	September 25, 1964
Carleton F. Farrington	October 7, 1966

Appendix IV China Postmasters, continued

Weeks Mills (established March 16, 1838)

Charles A. Russ
William Percival
Albert R. Burrill
Alton C. Doe, Jr.
Frank Percival
Albert R. Burrill
Harry P. Reed
Perley G. Brown
Mrs. Bertha N. Manning
Mrs. Isabella E. Cram

Date of appointment

March 16, 1838
February 14, 1846
September 23, 1885
October 16, 1885
March 29, 1889
April 17, 1893
April 12, 1897
October 17, 1914
January 1, 1942
December 13, 1968

APPENDIX V CHINA SCHOOL ADMINISTRATORS

Appendix VA Superintendents of Schools, 1857-1975

1857 and 1858	Dana C. Hanson
1859 and 1860	George E. Brickett
1861	A. Fletcher (served only part of the year) George E. Brickett
1862	G. B. Chadwick
1863	committee: G. B. Chadwick, Dana C. Hanson, S. F. Jepson
1864	committee: Dana C. Hanson, S. F. Jepson, A. H. Jones
1865	committee: S. F. Jepson, A. H. Jones, G. G. Winslow
1866	committee: A. H. Jones, J. F. Chadwick
1867	committee: A. H. Jones, J. F. Chadwick, J. H. Estes
1868	committee: J. F. Chadwick, J. H. Estes, D. P. Bolster
1869	committee: J. H. Estes, D. P. Bolster, Caleb Jones
1870 and 1871	Eli Jones
1872 and 1873	A. I. Brown
1874	J. F. Chadwick
1875	Orren F. Sproul
1876	A. T. Stinson
1877	Frank E. Jones
1878	Gustavus J. Nelson
1879 and 1880	Charles E. Dutton
1881 and 1882	Frank E. Jones
1883	D. A. Ridley
1884 and 1885	E. E. Parmenter
1886	Orren F. Sproul
1887 and 1888	J. F. Hammond
1889	Clyde O. Spaulding
1890	J. H. Mosher
1891 and 1892	Justus G. Hanson
1893 and 1894	J. A. Jones
1895	Clyde O. Spaulding
1896 and 1897	Gustavus J. Nelson
1898	Alvano C. Goddard
1899-1901	Gustavus J. Nelson
1902	J. A. Jones
1903-1907	Gustavus J. Nelson
1908-1911	Glen W. Starkey (served until July 1911)
1911-1921	George E. Paine
1921-1922	E. L. Toner
1922-1924	J. W. Hamlin
1924-1953	Carl B. Lord
1954	Earl A. McKeen
1955-1975	John Houston

Appendix VB China Elementary School Principals, 1949-1975

(Prepared by Mrs. William S. Carpenter)

1949-December 1951	Letha Wilson
1951-April 1952	Edna Taber
April-June, 1952	Erlena Bartlett
1952-1956	Ronald Susee
August 1956-1958	Leland Feeney
1958-1962	Aubrey Lush
1962-1972	James Cookson
1972-1975	Norman Dwelley

Appendix VC Preceptors of China Academy

(Prepared by Nelson Bailey)

1821-1822	Henry Stanwood (special theology certificate)
1823-1826	Rev. Hadley Proctor A.M.
1827	Elijah Parish Lovejoy A.B.
1828	Thomas Robinson A.M.
1829	John Stevens Abbott A.M.
1830-1831	Phineas Barnes A.M.
1832	James Burnham A.M.
1833-1834	David Worcester (special theology degree)
1835-1844	Rev. Henry Paine A.M.
1844-1845	John Barton Foster A.M., L.L.D.
1846-1848	Josiah Hayden Drummond A.M., L.L.D.
1849-1850	William Hoyt Humphrey A.B.
1850-1852	Versal Jesse Walker A.M.
1853-1855	James P. Jones
1856-1857	G. C. Wilson
1866 ¹	Austin Thomas
1867-1871	Richard Mott Jones
1872-1875	Gustavus J. Nelson
1876	Gilgore Brothers
1877	H. W. Ring
1878-1879	Leander Moulton
1880 ²	E. C. Ryder
1881-1883	Newell C. Brainerd

1. According to the school reports in the China town reports, James P. Jones was principal of the academy in 1860-1861 and J. H. Estes in 1866-1867.
2. From 1880 to 1909 a free high school was taught in China Village, first in the brick academy building and (after 1888) in a wooden building on the same site.

Appendix VC Preceptors of China Academy, continued

1884-1886	Frank E. Jones
1888-1889	C. B. Keen
1890-1892	N. A. Webb
1893	F. N. Brown
1894-1895	Florence E. Bragg
1896	J. Foster Philbrook
1897-1899	Olive Gould
1900-1902	Alger O. Hall
1903	Alvah A. Towne
1904-1906	Joseph W. Leighton
1907-1908	Nelson I. Nixer
1909	Mr. Earle

In 1914 and 1915 high school classes were taught in the second story of the Legion Hall building; principals/teachers were

1914	Thomas Blanchard
1915	Edith C. Washburn

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The Sacred Heart

Carved near the base of a boulder on the lake shore



First House of James Chadwick, built in 1782, and destroyed by fire in 1786.

Courtesy of Mary Washburn

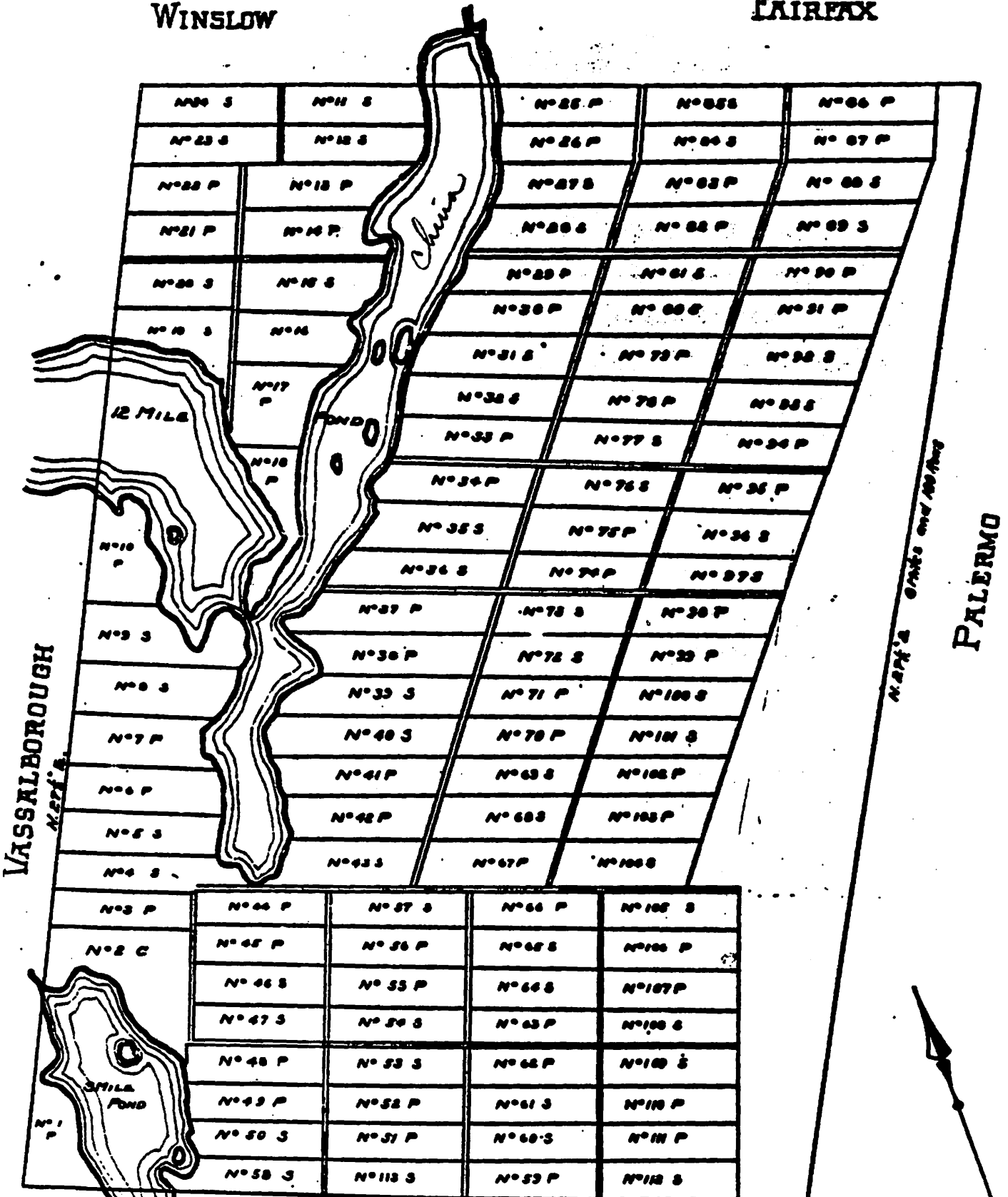


Clark Monument

Erected in 1926

WINSLOW

FAIRFAX

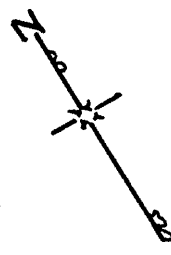
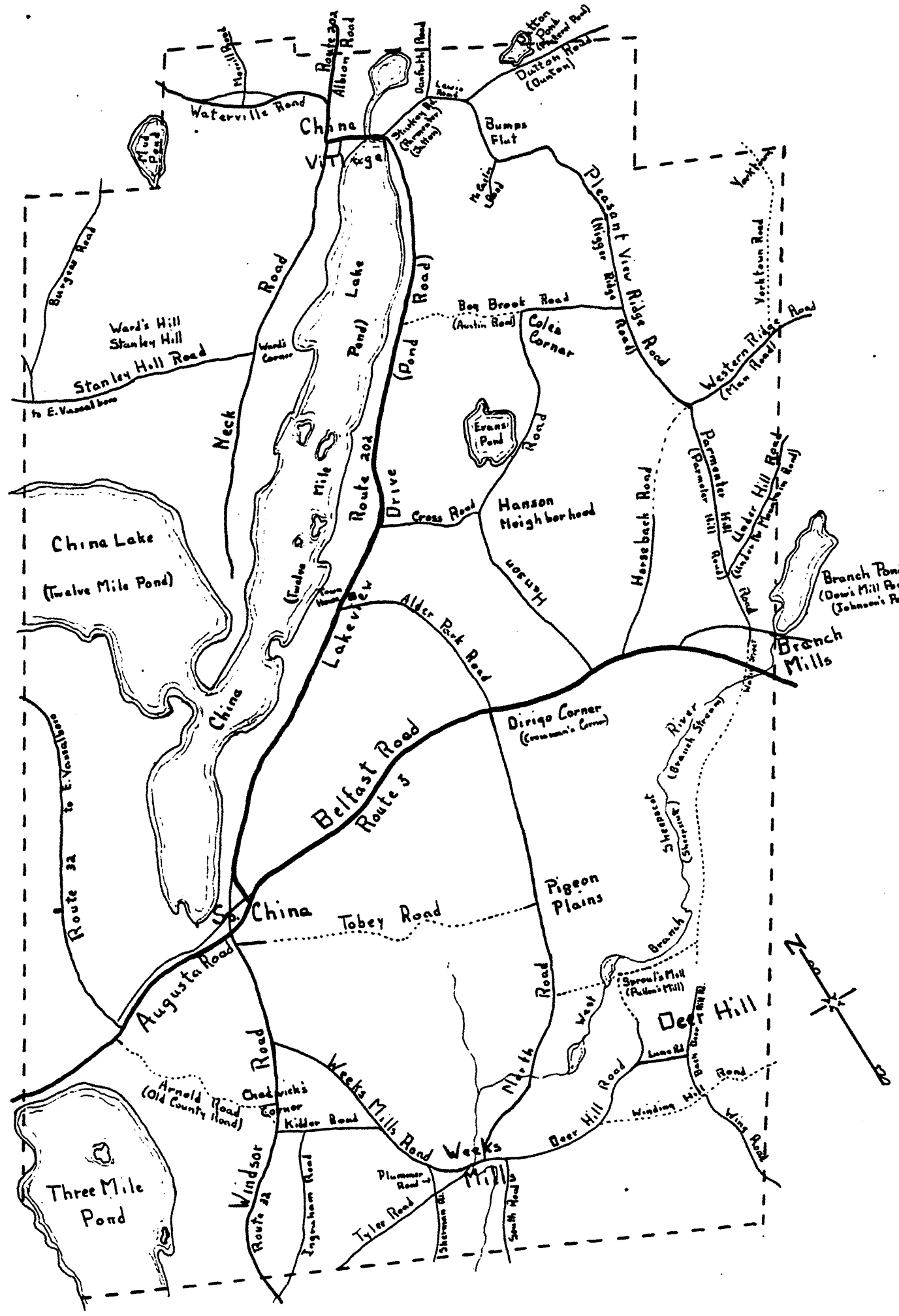


This Southernly line of Harlem was designed for an E. S. E. course measured but there was a variation of Compass.

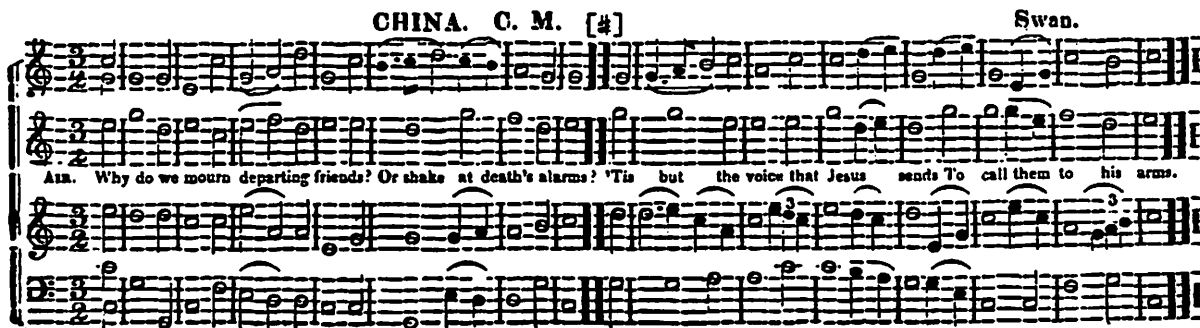
MALTA

This plan represents the Town of Harlem as delineated on a plan of Survey made by John Jones dated May 15. 1787. Partments for Proprietors lots. 3 for settlers lots.

Localities & roads



CHINA. C. M. [♯] Swan.



Aia. Why do we mourn departing friends? Or shake at death's alarms? 'Tis but the voice that Jesus sends To call them to his arms.

*Why should we tremble to convey
Their bodies to the tomb?
There once the flesh of Jesus lay,
And left a long perfume.*

*Then let the last loud trumpet sound,
And bid our kindred rise:
Awake, ye nations under ground,
Ye saints ascend the skies.*

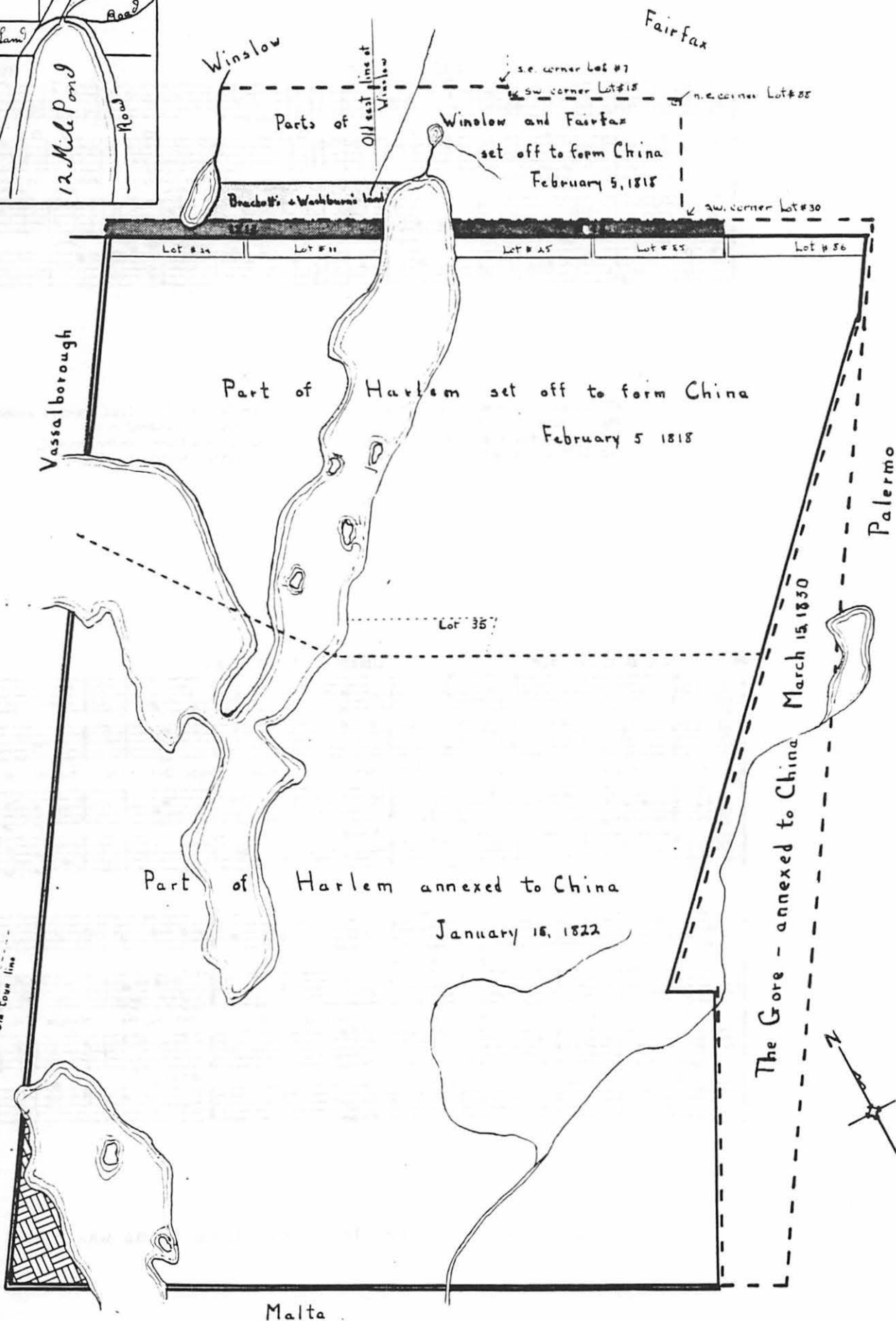
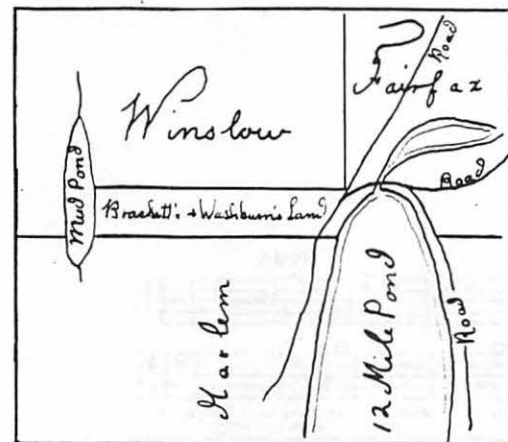
56 H. 23. H. 2. No. 326. CHINA. L. M. [♯] Cuzens.



Aia. O, what a - - mazing joys they feel, While to their golden harps they sing, And sit on ev' - ry
heav'n - - ly hill, And sit on ev' - ry heav'nly hill, And sing the triumphs of their King.

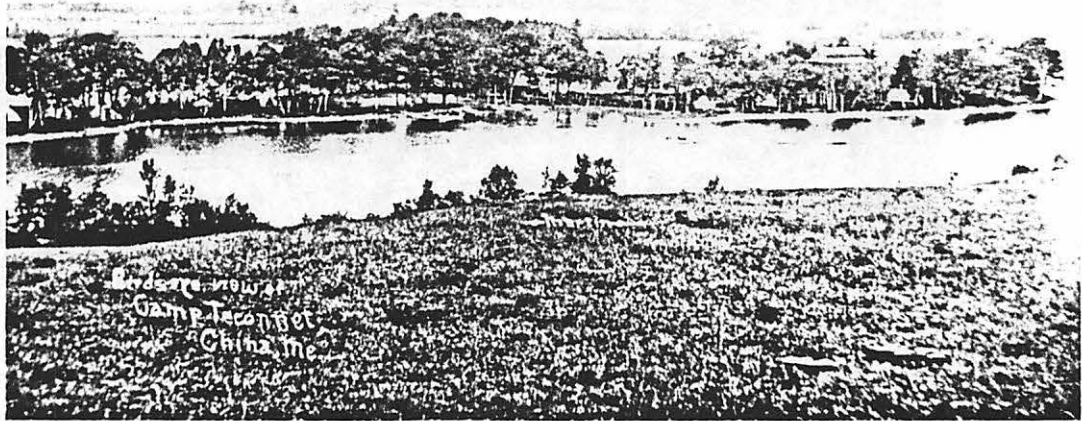
Two versions of the hymn for which China was named

Boundary Changes



Part of China
set off to
Vassalborough
February 18, 1829

Malta



Courtesy of Della Towne



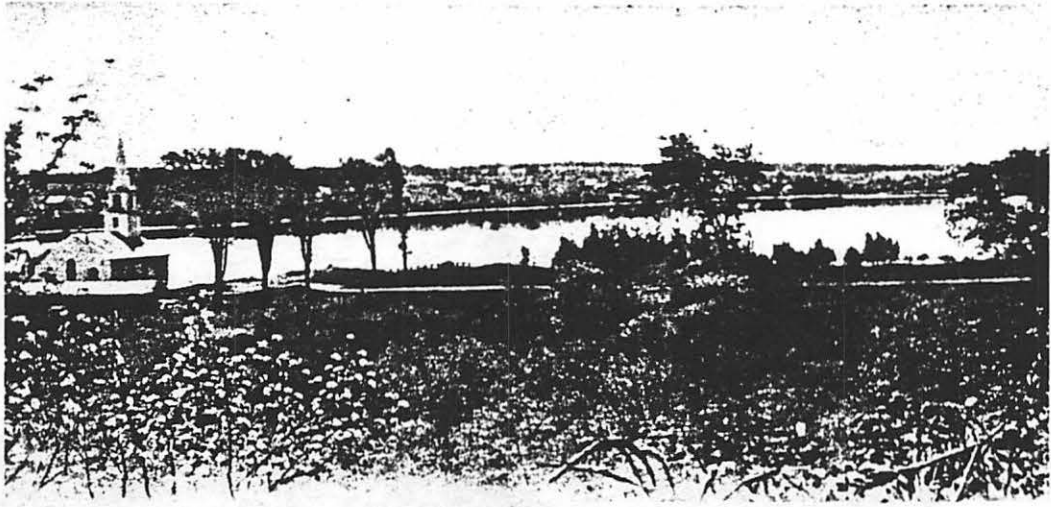
The Lodge
at Camp Tecomet

*Courtesy of
Della Towne*



Courtesy of Della Towne

Canoeing at Camp Tecomet



11464 View of Lake from Village, China, Maine.

Courtesy of Stanley Grimshaw



Club house
at the head
of China Lake
1902



Courtesy of Stanley Grimshaw

Cherryfield, Me.—China Tel. Co.—Columbia Falls, Me.—Conway & Snowville Tel. Co.—88

CHERRYFIELD, ME.

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- 2-4 Campbell & Haycock, Lawyers
- 3-13 Freeman G G, r.
- 4-3 Freeman Wm, r.
- 3-11 Gardiner & Monohon, Groceries
- 3-12 Matthews A M, Merchant
- 3-2 McGouldrick Chas, r.
- 5-6 Morelen A W, Physician, Office, r.
- 5-11 "Narraguagus Times," Newspaper
- 4-6 Nash F O, r.
- 4-5 Nash J W M, r.
- 4-11 Nash W M & Son, Lumber Mfrs
- 2-3 Nickels P S, Physician
- Nickels E S, Pay Station, Express Office
- 5-3 Perkins W E, r.
- 3-5 Shoppee C C, r.
- 5-12 Stewart A L & Son, General Store
- 3-4 Tucker Chas E, r.
- 3-3 VanWart W A, Physician, r.
- 5-4 Ward O G, General Store
- 3-5 Washington County Railway Co, Ticket Office
- 5-5 Wilson E K, Lumber Mill
- 5-2 r.
- 2-7 Wyman Jasper & Son, Blueberry Factory

CHINA TELEPHONE CO.

W. J. THOMPSON, President, South China, Me.

PUBLIC PAY STATIONS.

Central Offices, W. F. Hawes' Store, South China, Me., and Hotel East, Vassalboro, Me.

- 3-2 Dirigo, Me, E A Dudley
- 4-3 Palermo, Me, P H Worthing
- 3-3 Weeks Mills, Me, Boynton & Merrill

SUBSCRIBERS.

- 3-3 Boynton & Merrill, Pay Station, Store, Weeks Mills, Me
- 4-6 Bradstreet G A, r, Palermo, Me
- 3-11 Brown F G Store, Weeks Mills, Me
- 1-3 Gates Geo, Store, East Vassalboro, Me
- 1-13 Clark Charles, r, East Vassalboro, Me
- 1-12 Clark Geo S, r, East Vassalboro, Me
- 4-24 Creamery, Palermo, Me
- 4-23 Crommett & Bradstreet, Store, Palermo, Me
- 4-13 Dally W H, r, Palermo, Me
- 4-4 Dinamore J E B, r, Palermo, Me
- 4-15 Doc F A, r, Palermo, Me
- 3-2 Dudley E A, Pay Station, r, Dirigo, Me
- 2-21 Earle F E, Physician, South China, Me
- Hawes W F, Pay Sta, Store, South China, Me
- 2-13 Jones Elwood, r, South China, Me
- 4-5 Jones I L, r, Weeks Mills, Me
- 4-11 Kitchen E S, r, Palermo, Me
- 4-22 Parmenter S G, r, Palermo, Me
- 3-12 Perkins May Mrs, r, Weeks Mills, Me
- 1-4 Pope Will, r, East Vassalboro, Me
- 3-4 Reed H P, Store, Weeks Mills, Me
- 4-32 Shuman Nellie Mrs, Hotel, Palermo, Me

- 2-3 Starrett S G, r, South China, Me
- 1-11 Station E E, East Vassalboro, Me
- 2-12 South China, Me
- 3-13 Weeks Mills, Me
- 4-21 Stinson, Physician, Palermo, Me
- 2-2 Thompson W J, r, South China, Me
- 4-12 Worthing A W, r, Palermo, Me
- 4-3 Worthing P S, Pay Station, Post Office, Palermo, Me
- 4-31 Worthing & Moody, Store, Palermo, Me

COLUMBIA FALLS, ME.

G. H. ADAMS, Supt. Tel. Portland, Me., 850.

PUBLIC PAY STATION.

Central Office at Chas. F. Wilson's Store.

SUBSCRIBERS.

- 1-11 Chandler A H, r.
- 1-3 Columbia Falls House, Hotel
- Wilson Chas F, Pay Station, Store

Conway & Snowville Tel. Co.

A. G. KENNETT, Manager, Conway, N. H.

PUBLIC PAY STATIONS.

Central Office at A. C. Kennett's Office.

- 3-6 Conway, N H, Conway House
- 2-31 Eaton Centre, N H, Caleb Shackford
- 2-22 Snowville, N H, Edwin Snow

SUBSCRIBERS.

- 2-5 Russell C P, Physician, Conway, N H
- 2-11 Clark E F, Conway, N H
- 2-6 Conway House, Pay Station, Conway, N H
- 2-14 Davis E S, Livery Stable, Conway, N H
- 2-12 Horne B T, Physician, Conway, N H
- 2-3 Kennett A G, Office, Conway, N H
- 2-1 r, Conway, N H
- 2-21 Kennett W O, r, Conway, N H
- 2-31 Shackford Caleb, Pay Sta, Eaton Centre, N H
- 2-15 Shackford O & Son, Conway, N H
- 2-22 Snow Edwin, Pay Sta, Store, Snowville, N H
- 2-2 r, Snowville, N H
- 2-4 Stanley Everett, r, Snowville, N H
- 2-23 Sturtevant B F Co, Conway, N H

Residence Telephone Service

Saves Letter-Writing,
Overtakes Telegrams,
Outruns the Messenger Boy,
Lengthens Your Life.

Courtesy of Charles Mosher

From the March 1, 1905, Eastern Section Directory
New England Telephone and Telegraph Co.

WW&F station
China Village

(Note train
approaching,
right)



WW&F station
Weeks Mills

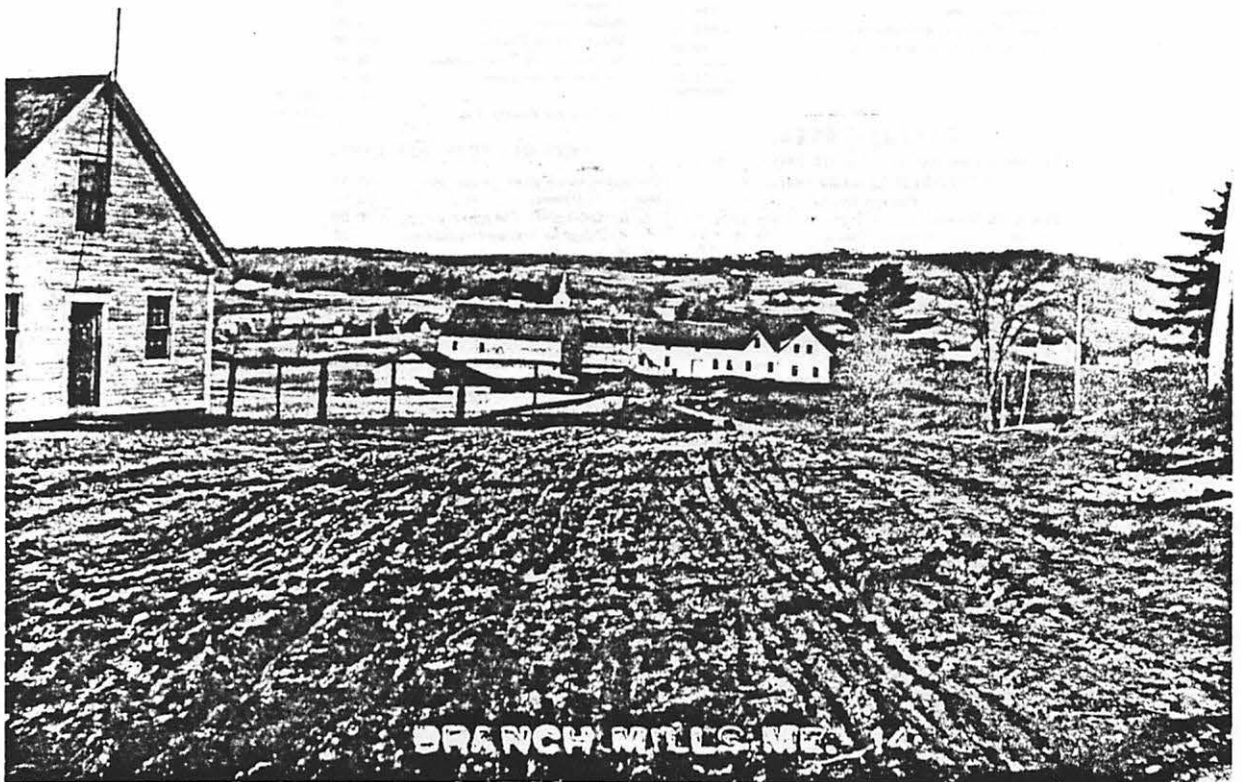
Foreground;
James McLaughlin



WW&F station
and potato house
Branch Mills

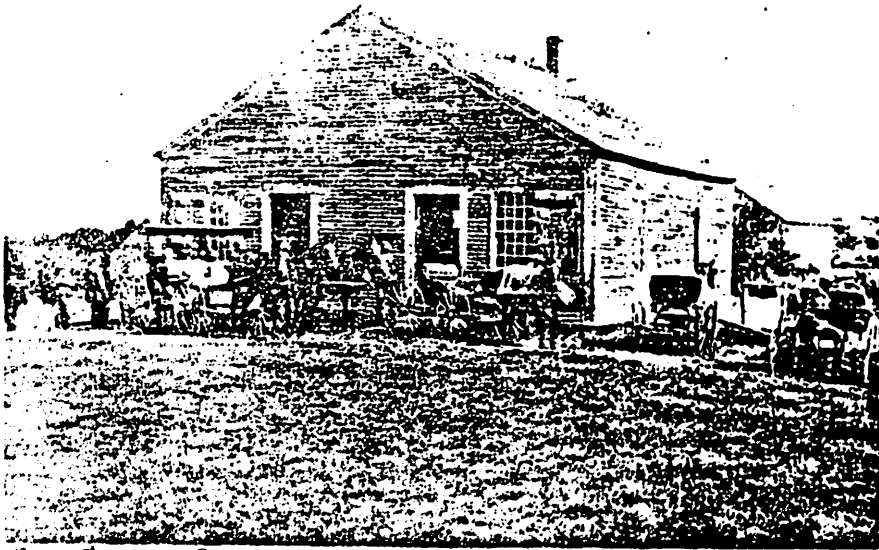
REPORT OF THE SELECTMEN OF CHINA, ON THE FINANCIAL CONCERNS OF SAID TOWN FOR THE YEAR 1839.

RECEIPTS.			
Amount received for State Treasurer's note,	\$2,062 50	Support of schools,	1,467 96
Amount of tax bills,	4,165 54	For use of meeting-house,	10 00
	\$6,228 04	Soldiers' rations,	80 00
		County Tax,	357 20
		Taxes remitted,	108 08
		Constable and Collector's bill,	123 55
		Printing and postage,	19 98
		For damages of carriages and repairs of bridges,	25 16
		For repairs on Taber road, by vote of town,	25 00
		Corn and grain notes taken up,	1,539 23
		First Selectman's bill,	42 00
		Second do. do.	46 50
		Third do. do.	52 00
		Treasurer's do.	17 00
		Town Clerk's do.	10 00
			\$6,177 38
		Whole receipts,	\$6,228 04
		Whole expenditures, including pauper bills, up to	
		April 16, 1840,	6,177 38
			\$50 66
		Debts due, as far as ascertained,	\$100 00
		Balance in the treasury, as above,	50 66
			\$49 34
		Due from the estate of Dr. Crocker,	\$84 50
		Debts due from the town, as above,	49 34
			\$35 16
		There will be in the hands of the Treasurer, after paying all demands, when the amount is received from Dr. Crocker's estate, the sum of \$35 16.	
		DANIEL CROWELL, } ELISHA CLARK, } Selectmen of China. THOS. B. LINCOLN, }	
EXPENDITURES.			
Paid demands previous to April 16, 1839—			
Outstanding orders of 1838,	\$807 07		
Pauper bills paid to other towns, and demands that became due in this town previous to the above date,	274 48		
Hadley Proctor's bill, School Committee for 1838,	46 00		
Zebah Washburn's bill for same	\$39 00		
Cost of suit on Washburn's bill,	15 55		
	54 55		
Alfred Marshall's bill for blanks in 1833, with interest,	7 80		
Caleb Estes' bill, balance due him on new county road,	82 59		
Other outstanding bills,	55 12		
	\$1,391 01		
EXPENDITURES FOR THE PAST YEAR.			
Pauper expenses from April 16, 1839, up to April 16, 1840—			
Chadwick & Jackson's contract,	\$675 00		
Joseph Haskell's bill for Dr. Crocker,	75 00		
Dr. Fletcher's bill for do.	7 50		
Amount of bills paid other towns, and all pauper expenses exclusive of Chadwick & Jackson's contract,	69 67		
	\$827 17		
Paid Caleb Estes for job on new county road, by vote of the town,	43 95		



Courtesy of Eleon Shuman

Muddy road into Branch Mills
Early 20th century



E. M. + H. N. B.

REPORT

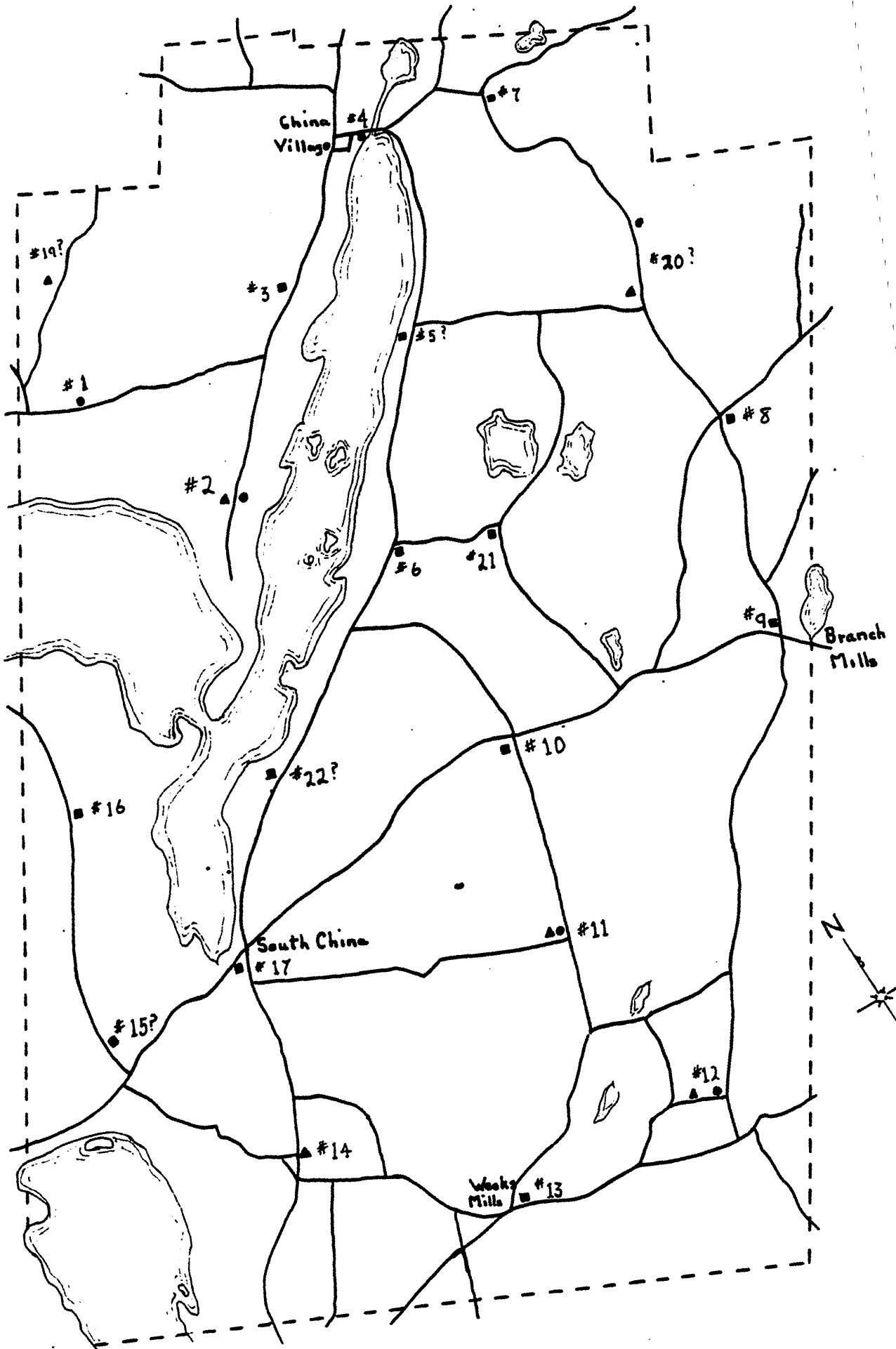
OF THE
SELECTMEN OF CHINA,
ON THE
FINANCIAL CONCERNS OF SAID TOWN,
For the years 1841--'42.

RECEIPTS.		PAID TAXES REMITTED,	
Amount of money received of C. A. Russ, Treasurer for 1840,	\$175 35	" First Selectmen's bill,	103 73
Amount received of the State, for school fund and soldiers' rations,	334 29	" Second " "	70 50
Amount of tax bills committed Collector,	\$237 74	" Third " "	48 00
Received of S. Crooker's estate,	20 00	" Treasurer's "	39 50
	\$4,807 38	" School Committee's bill,	10 00
		" building Town House,	19 00
		" for Land for the Town House,	300 00
		" the building committee,	25 15
			23 50
		" the State and County Tax,	1,083 90
			1,763 91
EXPENDITURES.		DEBTS DUE FROM THE TOWN.	
Paid damage due previous to April 16, 1841,	\$611 11	Outstanding orders given the past year,	609 90
EXPENDITURES FOR 1841--'42.		Due A. H. Hanson,	16 00
PAUPERS BILLS.		" for keeping Mrs. Chapman,	20 00
Paid A. H. Hanson,	334 74	" E. Talbot for keeping two children,	7 05
" for F. Duley, at Inmate Hospital,	77 49	" E. Moore for keeping his son,	26 00
" for Mr. Jacobs' daughter, to Augusta,	53 00	Other outstanding debts as far as ascertained	103 35
" for Wm. C. Ferr, to Thompson,	15 76	Due school districts,	56 41
" for R. J. Talbot's children,	18 23	" on wheat and corn bounty,	10 00
" Moses Goodspeed, for keeping Hannah,	18 00	" A. H. Hanson for extra clothing, not settled,	30 00
" Samuel Stover,	6 15	Outstanding orders previous to 1841,	30 00
" for John Coburn, belonging to Brunswick,	18 00		863 53
" for Ebenezer Moore's son,	26 00		
" for Richard Varney,	2 47	Total expenditures,	\$6,515 90
" for Samuel Graves,	13 34		
" J. H. Breinard's bill for Mrs. Chapman,	1 00	DEBTS DUE THE TOWN.	
" Wilder Moore, at Brooks,	6 00	Due from Dr. S. Crooker's estate,	77 00
	1,000 00	" from the State for soldiers' rations,	90 00
" for the support of schools,	26 15	Balance in the Treasury,	683 37
" interest on orders,	67 78	In the hands of Mr. Walker of Newport, due	
" for damage of carriages, and repair of roads,	2 50	R. J. Talbot, about	30 00
" for guide-board,	25 21	Due from the town of Brunswick, for keeping	
" for other town expenses,	23 00	J. Coburn,	27 00
Money expended on the Taber road, by vote of town,	90 00		877 37
	166 03	Total receipts of the town,	\$4,604 75
Paid the soldiers' rations,	100 00	Total expenditures of the town,	\$6,515 90
" money expended on the old County road, by vote of the town,	7 50	Balance in the Treasury, of the town	\$168 96
" for use of Friends' meeting house,	18 90		
" postage and cost,	100 13		
" Cornish bill and per centage for collecting,			

LARNARD PULLEN, } Selectmen
JOHN WEEKS, }
DANIEL CROWELL, } China.

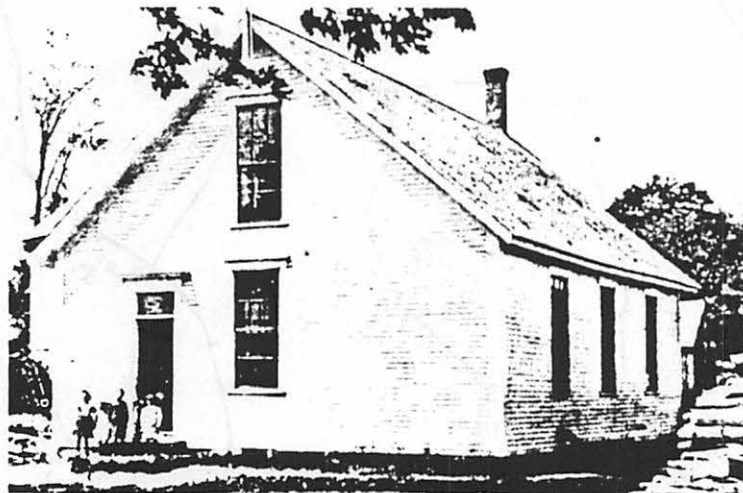
Schoolhouses in China
as shown on the 1856
& 1879 maps

- 1856 & 1879
- ▲ 1856 only
- 1879 only



China Village elementary school, 1888-1949

Foreground: Edith Washburn (Clifford) and Mary Washburn



School House, Weeks Mills, Me.

1487K PUBLISHED BY H. P. BERT.

Courtesy of Myrtle Carpenter



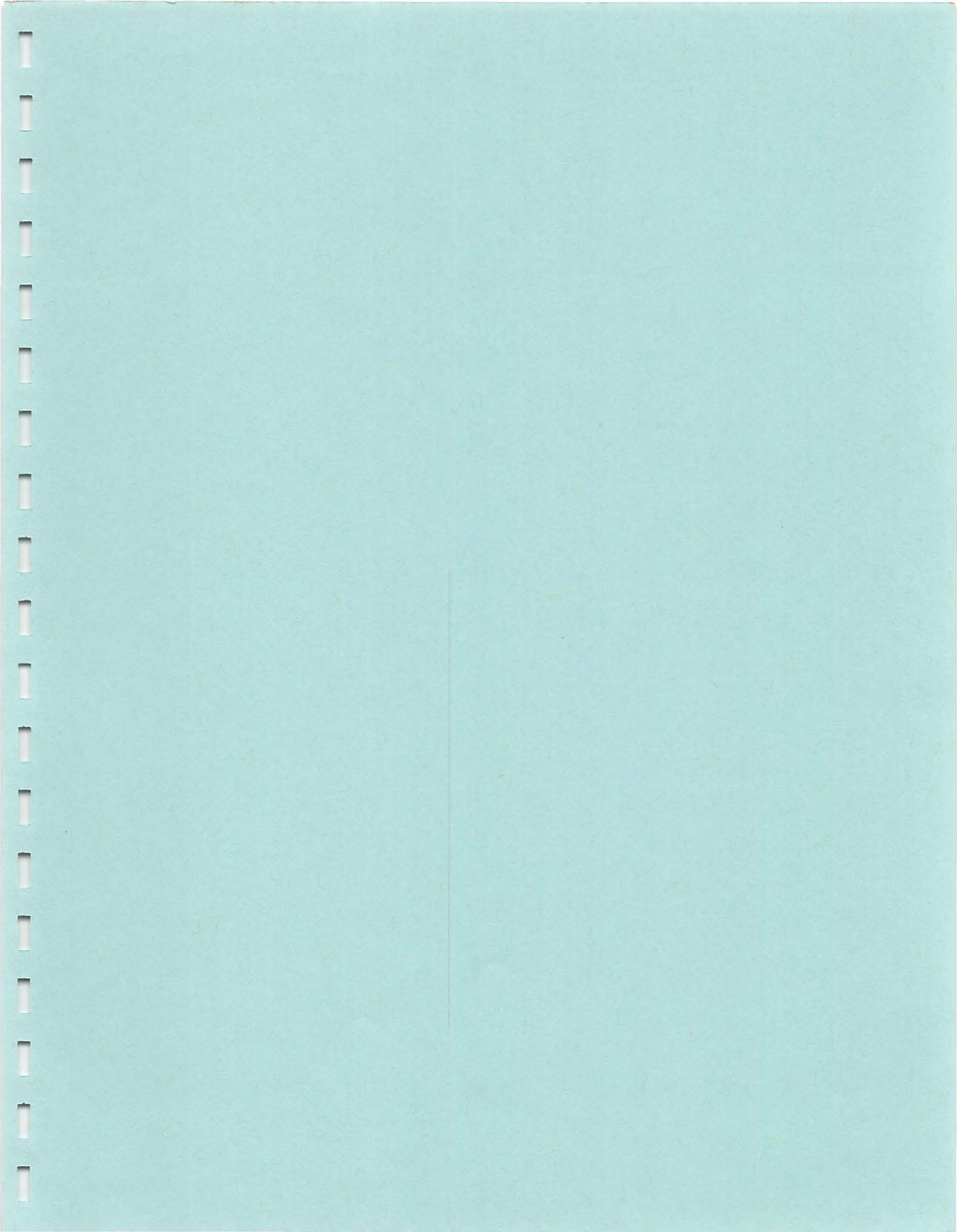
Courtesy of Gertrude Jordan

Parmenter schoolhouse about 1894

3rd row (1. to r.): Belle Thurston, Nell Thurston, Jessie Jacquith, Maude Martin, Gertrude Jordan, Blanch Jacquith (teacher), Fred Thurston, Caroline (Parmenter) Worthing, Annie Shorey, Pearl Thurston, Ed Thurston, Frank Jacquith, Everett Thurston

2nd row (standing): Ella Snell, Jennie Shorey, Georgie Sprague, Emma Snell

3rd row (seated): Delos Sprague, Ida Parmenter, Charles Parmenter, Ross Thurston, Elmer Thurston, Arthur Jordan, Carl Bessey



BOOK II

GENEALOGY

A N C E S T O R S *

*If you could see your ancestors all standing in a row,
Would you be proud of them or not, or don't you really know?
Some strange discoveries are made in climbing family trees,
And some of them, you know, may not particularly please.
If you could see your ancestors all standing in a row,
There might be some of them, perhaps, you wouldn't care to know.
But here's another question which requires a different view -
If you could meet your ancestors, would they be proud of you?*

* *The above poem appears in the frontispiece of THE DESCENDENTS OF NICHOLAS DOE, 1631-1918, and which had previously appeared in the Somerville JOURNAL (publication date unknown).*

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

The editor is grateful to the following people for their assistance in preparing this section of the History of China:

Mrs. Charles Jackson compiled the following genealogies:

AUSTIN	HATCH
BASSETT	JENKINS
BRACKETT	JEPSON
BURRILL	McLAUGHLIN
CHADWICK	MOSHER
CLARK	PINKHAM
DOW	STARRETT
DUDLEY	TAYLOR
ESTES	WORTHING

The AUSTIN genealogy was supplemented by Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Austin.

The ESTES genealogy was supplemented by Mrs. Kenneth Bragdon.

The MOSHER genealogy was supplemented by Mr. and Mrs. Charles Mosher.

The STARRETT genealogy was supplemented by Mr. and Mrs. Chandler Holton.

The WORTHING genealogy was supplemented by Mrs. Gordon R. Ballantyne Jr.

The CLIFFORD genealogy was prepared by Mrs. Delbert Clifford.

The DOE genealogy was prepared by Harold Doe and supplemented by Mrs. Merle Jones.

The JONES genealogy was prepared by Miss Mary Hoxie Jones.

The SPROUL genealogy was prepared by Mrs. Merle Jones.

The WASHBURN genealogy was prepared by Miss Margaret Clifford.

The LANCASTER genealogy was prepared by Mrs. James Stanley Brown II.

The following genealogies were prepared by Mrs. Gordon R. Ballantyne Jr.:

CROMMETT	DOW
DINSMORE	PARMENTER (PARMETER)

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AUSTIN

Thomas Austin of Dover, N.H., son of Joseph (d. 1662) and 2nd wife Sarah Starbuck, dau. of Elder Edward Starbuck); m. Anne Otis (dau. of Richard Otis (of Glastonbury, England) and Rose Stoughton).

Benjamin Austin (3rd child of Thomas and Anne Austin) (Thomas, Joseph) b. July 31, 1704; m. Nov. 19, 1729 in Dover, N.H., Sarah Pinkham (dau. of Thomas and Mary Pinkham). They were Friends and lived in Somersworth.

Benjamin Austin, Jr., (2nd child of Benjamin and Sarah Austin) (Benjamin, Thomas, Joseph); m. Nov. 28, 1759 in Dover, N.H., Susannah Varney (b. May 20, 1744, dau. of Ebenezer Jr. and Elizabeth (Hanson) Varney).

Jedediah Austin (2nd child of Benjamin Jr. and Susannah Austin) (Benjamin, Benjamin, Thomas, Joseph); b. July 30, 1762 in Falmouth; d. March 21, 1839 in Pownal; m. (1st) Oct. 5, 1791 in Falmouth, Miriam Winslow (dau. of Job and Mary (Robinson) Winslow); m. (2nd) Anna Torrey (b. April 29, 1780, dau. of James and Judith (Hanson) Torrey of Dover, N.H.) before 1824. Miriam, b. Oct. 6, 1774, Falmouth; d. Oct. 16, 1816. Jedediah and Miriam had 11 children; Jedediah and Anna had 1 child.

Job Winslow Austin (Jedediah, Benjamin, Benjamin, Thomas, Joseph); b. Dec. 12, 1799 in Pownal; d. June 4, 1865, at So. Brooks, Me.; m. (1st) March, 1820 in Windham Mary Ann Lane (b. Sept. 17, 1803 in Freeport, Me., d. Dec. 5, 1857 in So. Brooks, dau. of John and Sarah (Winslow) Lane); 11 children of 1st marriage; m. (2nd) July 27, 1860, widow Martha (Russell) Hathaway.

CHILDREN:

1. Miriam, b. Nov. 22, 1821 in Pownal; d. May 27, 1881; m. Feb. 23, 1843, Oliver Jones (b. Dec. 22, 1815). Lived in New York.
2. Sarah Ann, b. Sept. 10, 1823 in Pownal; d. Sept. 17, 1852 in So. Brooks, Me.; m. Jan. 28, 1841, Daniel Jones (b. July 23, 1809); lived in Brooks. Had 6 children.
3. William, b. Oct. 10, 1825 in Pownal; d. Oct. 13, 1825.
4. Almira Fry, b. Feb. 3, 1827 in Pownal; m. Dec. 1845 (1st), Lewis Robinson (1817-1851); m. (2nd) Mar. 27, 1866, Adrian Davis.
5. Cynthia, b. Feb. 22, 1829; d. Sept. 1, 1859; m. 1855, Gilman Roberts, (b. 1841); had 2 children.
6. Lucy Ellen, b. Feb. 21, 1831, Pownal; d. Feb. 24, 1832, So. Brooks.
7. Mary, b. Nov. 27, 1832, Pownal; d. July 17, 1855; unmarried, teacher.
8. Lydia, b. Nov. 29, 1837 in So. Brooks, Me.; d. 1914 in N.Y.; m. Sept. 22, 1859 in Brooks; Charles Griffin (b. Jan. 10, 1832; d. May 10, 1918;)-they had 8 children.
9. John Winslow, b. Aug. 6, 1839; d. Feb. 25, 1840, So. Brooks, Me.
10. Charles Lane, b. Jan. 10, 1841 in So. Brooks, Me.; m. Sept. 16, 1876, Lizzie M. Clifford; d. July 23, 1910; they had 1 child.
11. James William, b. Apr. 19, 1842, So. Brooks; d. Apr. 6, 1916, So. China; m. Nov. 18, 1874, Boston, Annie Elizabeth Gay of Waldo, Me. (b. Apr. 4, 1852; d. May 21, 1928, Athol, Mass., dau. of James and Elizabeth T. (Goodell) Gay).
Children: (James W. and Annie (Gay) Austin)
 1. Harry Winslow, b. Oct. 20, 1875 in So. Brooks, Me.; m. Jan. 1, 1902 in So. China, Lena Etta Jones (b. Jan. 2, 1881, dau. of Linwood and Mary E. (Graves) Jones); d. Dec. 31, 1960, Vassalboro.
 2. Aurie May, b. Sept. 19, 1877, So. Brooks; m. Oct. 20 1902, So. China, Ernest R. Starrett (b. Nov. 28, 1876, son of Samuel and Emily (Mosher) Starrett; d. Dec. 11, 1960, So. China); d. March 27, 1963, So. China, Me.

CHILDREN:

1. Geneva, b. May 10, 1904, Athol, Mass., m. Chandler H. Holton, July 25, 1940, (b. Sept. 11, 1907, Northfield, Mass.)
2. Austin Leroy, b. Sept. 18, 1907, Athol, Mass.
3. Edith Pearle, b. Sept. 26, 1881, So. Brooks; m. Oct. 20, 1912, George Arthur Wicks (b. July 18, 1884, Cincinnati, Ohio).
4. Percy Gay, b. Nov. 15, 1887 in Calif.; d. Sept. 2, 1916.

Harry Winslow Austin (James, Job, Jedediah, Benjamin, Benjamin, Thomas, Joseph) b. Oct. 20, 1875 in So. Brooks; m. Jan. 1, 1902 in So. China, Lena Etta Jones (b. Jan. 2, 1881, dau. of Linwood Wilson and Mary Emma (Graves) Jones of So. China).

CHILDREN: (born in So. China, Me.)

1. Carrol Eli, b. April 17, 1903; d. May 18, 1903.
2. Ralph Wilmot, b. Oct. 25, 1904; m. July 2, 1940 in Dover, N.H. Myrtle Alta Huff (b. March 3, 1907, Cape Porpoise, Me.).

CHILDREN:

1. Leroy Winslow, b. April 30, 1941, Augusta, Me.; m. Ann Elizabeth Miller in Whittier, Calif., July 22, 1967.
Child: Aurie Lynn, b. May 30, 1972, Calif.
2. Aurie Maybelle, b. July 28, 1945, Augusta, Me.; m. Aug. 8, 1970; Robert Spender in So. China.
3. Aurie Marion, b. July 11, 1906, So. China; m. Oct. 1, 1938, Thomas Winder Young Clark (b. Feb. 26, 1892).

CHILDREN:

1. Joan Elizabeth, b. Oct. 15, 1939, Baltimore, Md., m. Michael Petty, 1970.
Child:
Lawan River Dakota Tarn, b. March 4, 1972, Baltimore.
2. Robert Hoag, b. March 13, 1943, Baltimore.
4. Wendell Linwood, b. Jan. 1, 1908, S. China; m. Jan. 30, 1932, Weeks Mills, Gladys Proctor (b. Aug. 3, 1910) d. July 7, 1943, Waterville.

CHILD:

1. Richard E., b. Nov. 17, 1932, S. China.
5. Morris Leslie, b. Oct. 28, 1909; m. Aug. 29, 1942, Audrey Elizabeth Sheeler; d. Feb. 6, 1970, Baltimore, Md.

CHILDREN:

1. Gail, b. April 22, 1945, Baltimore, Md., m. Oct. 18, 1969, Harry M. Curry (he had children by 1st wife).
2. Neal Jay, b. Dec. 26, 1948, Baltimore, Md.
6. Kenneth Percy, b. May 6, 1912, So. China; m. Sept. 8, 1937, High Point, N. Carolina, Bera Arlita Brown (b. March 18, 1910, Randolph County, N.C.).

CHILDREN:

1. Judith, b. Oct. 7, 1938, Bangor, Me., m. July 26, 1959, at Las Vegas, Nev., David Ning (b. July 29, 1932, Hong Kong, B.C.C.).

2. Marion Ellen, b. Oct. 26, 1939, Bangor, Me., m. July 22, 1967, Robert Barbour (b. Oct. 18, 1925, Lowell, Mass.).
3. Alan Wilmot, b. June 15, 1943, Augusta, Me., d. Nov. 7, 1947, Salisbury, Md.
4. Nancy Jane, b. May 1, 1947, Salisbury, Md.
5. Mark Douglas, b. June 30, 1949, Salisbury, Md.
7. Amy Sybil, b. Feb. 12, 1918; m. April 23, 1938, Glen Everett Baker (b. May 2, 1918, Edmunds, No. Dak.).

CHILDREN:

1. David Harry, b. June 8, 1939, Little Falls, N.Y. m. April 20, 1963, Indian Harbor Beach, Fla. Olivia Anne Coker (b. May 16, 1941, Chattanooga, Tenn.).

CHILDREN:

1. Gerri Lynn, b. Feb. 1, 1965, Melborne, Fla.,
2. Julie Ann, b. May 30, 1966, Melborne, Fla.
3. David Gregory, b. April 9, 1969, Melborne, Fla.
2. Betty Ruth, b. April 10, 1941, Rolla, No. Dak., m. April 6, 1963, St. Clair, Mich., Charles Franklin Cox (b. Jan. 30, 1942).

CHILDREN:

1. Jeffrey Stuart, b. Nov. 14, 1963, Mt. Clemen, Mich.
2. Bradley Austin, b. Dec. 11, 1968, Ann Arbor, Mich.
3. Donald Everett, b. April 18, 1946, Carrington, No. Dak., m. Nov. 22, 1969, Farmington, Mich., Linda Rae Rade, (b. April 21, 1947, Detroit).

CHILD;

1. Carly Ann, b. May 23, 1972, Michigan.
4. James Austin, b. Nov. 19, 1952, Mendota, Ill.
5. John Alfred)
8. Ruth Emma, b. April 10, 1921; m. Nov. 6, 1943, John Roy Colwell (b. Jan. 4, 1921).

CHILDREN:

1. Linda Jean, b. Sept. 14, 1944, Augusta, Me., m. So. China, Me., Aug. 26, 1966, Cyrus Currier III (b. Dec. 3, 1943, Bangor, Me.)

CHILD:

1. Karen Susan, b. Dec. 11, 1972.
2. Ronald Austin, b. Dec. 5, 1947, Augusta, Me., m. May 4, 1974, Crystal Williams (b.
3. Thomas Jay, b. June 22, 1957, Waterville, Me.

Geneva Starrett Holton (dau. of Ernest R. and Aurie May (Austin) Starrett), b. May 10, 1904, Athol, Mass., m. Chandler H. Holton, July 25, 1940, (b. Sept. 11, 1907, Northfield, Mass.).

CHILDREN:

1. Wilfred Ernest, b. July 5, 1941, Atlanta, Ga., m. at Auburn, Me., June 18, 1966, Susan W. Chapin (b. April 20, 1942, Lewiston, Me.)

Child: Robert Ernest, b. Nov. 3, 1967, Brookline, Mass.

Austin Leroy Starrett, (son of Ernest R. and Aurie May (Austin) Starrett),
 b. Sept. 18, 1907, Athol, Mass., m. at Cambridge, Mass., Aug. 15, 1936, Mahaha Whitman,
 (b. Dec. 25, 1909, Cambridge, Mass., d. July 30, 1966, Atlanta, Ga.)

CHILDREN:

1. Martha Elizabeth, b. Nov. 23, 1938, Atlanta, Ga. m.
 at Decater, Ga., Sept. 10, 1960, James A. Stubbs Sr.,
 (b. May 13, 1937, Atlanta).

CHILDREN:

1. Larry James, b. Oct. 26, 1961, Florida.
2. William Austin, b. March 19, 1965, Fla.
2. David Austin, b. March 30, 1942, Atlanta.
3. Robert Ernest, b. March 12, 1945, Atlanta.

Edith Pearle Austin, (dau. of James W. and Annie (Gay) Austin), b. Sept. 26,
 1881, So. Brooks; m. Oct. 20, 1912, Athol, Mass., George Arthur Wicks (b. July 18,
 1884, Cincinnati, Ohio).

CHILDREN:

1. Erwin Winslow, b. Sept. 4, 1913, Cincinnati, Ohio,
 m., So. China, Me., Aug. 17, 1957, Evelyn Marie
 Jones (b. Jan. 17, 1921, Augusta, Me., dau. of
 Roscoe and Marion Jones)
 Child: Steven Jeffrey, b. March 10, 1959
 (adopted).
2. Donald Kenneth, b. May 19, 1916, Cincinnati, Ohio,
 m. London, England, Oct. 16, 1943, Ethel Maureen Bennett
 (b. Sept. 12, 1916, Kingston, Ontario).

Children:

1. Kathleen Austin, b. March 16, 1949, Detroit,
 Mich.
2. Glen Austin, b. July 27, 1950, Detroit,
 Mich.
3. Philip Jacob, b. Jan. 27, 1920, Cincinnati, Ohio;
 m. (1st) June 6, 1944, Mary Jane Nellans (b. Sept. 4,
 1922, Cincinnati).
 Child: Barbara Carol, b. Jan. 20, 1946, Cincinnati
 m. (2nd), Washington, D.C., Oct. 6, 1950, Eppie
 Aspazia, (b. May 26, 1929, Spain)

Children:

1. Constance, b. Dec. 26, 1952.
2. Ian K., b. Nov. 13, 1954.
3. Patricia C., b. May 6, 1956.

B A S S E T T

Capt. Jonathan Bassett (Joseph, Zenas, Daniel, Daniel, Daniel, Joseph, Nathaniel, William) came from Yarmouth, Mass. about 1776;

CHILDREN:

1. Phebe, m. Randall Clark of China, Me.
2. Mary Ann, m. Edmund Thatcher of Vassalboro, Me.
3. Joseph, m. March 30, 1806, Phebe Weeks of Harlem, resided in Moscow, Maine.
4. Benjamin; settled at Riverside in Vassalboro.
5. Moses, b. May , 1782; m. Aug. 21, 1803, Abigail Clark (dau. of Andrew Clark, d. Dec. 27, 1863) d. May 1867; settled in China 1800.

Moses Bassett (Capt. Jonathan, Joseph, Zenas, Daniel, Daniel, Daniel, Joseph, Nathaniel, William), b. May, 1782; came to China, Maine about 1799 and on Aug. 21, 1803, he married Abigail Clark, b. March 1782, d. Dec. 27, 1863, (dau. of Andrew Clark); Moses d. May 5, 1867

CHILDREN:

1. George, b. Nov. 9, 1803; d. April 21, 1885; unmarried
2. Jonathan, b. Dec. 21, 1805; m. (1st) Roxana Chadwick; m. (2nd) Mary H. Webber.
3. Octavia, b. 1817; m. Reuben Weeks

CHILDREN:

1. Frank
2. Ella, m. Albert Ward of China
3. Hattie

Jonathan Bassett (Moses, Capt. Jona, Joseph, Zenas, Daniel, Daniel, Daniel, Joseph, Nathaniel, William), b. Dec. 21, 1805; d. Jan. 27, 1894; m. Nov. 1854, Roxana Chadwick, (dau. of Corydon Chadwick); Roxana d. Aug. 13, 1861; m. (2nd) Nov. 22, 1865, Mary H. Webber (dau. of John Webber - son of Lewis Webber of China) Mary H., died Feb. 7, 1888;

CHILDREN: (Jonathan and Roxanna (Chadwick) Bassett)

1. Alexander C., b. Nov. 29, 1857; m. July 24, 1888; Bertha L. Sanborn, (1871 - 1948; dau. of David S. Sanborn).

CHILDREN:

1. Edna May, b. 1895; d. 1908
2. Greta E., b. 1902
3. Lee M., b. 1906
2. Abbie A., b. Dec. 1859; m. Lorenzo Robinson.
3. Infant son, b. July, 1861; d. Oct. 1861.

B R A C K E T T

Dea James Hervey Brackett (Samuel, Samuel, Thomas, Anthony) b. April 10, 1726 in Berwick, Me., son of Samuel and Sarah (Emery) Brackett; m. July 19, 1750, Margery Lord (d. in China, Me., July 7, 1816, dau. of Benjamin and Patience (Nason) Lord). In 1794 with his youngest son, John, he removed to Vassalboro, where he lived for sixteen years, then in 1810 removed to China, Maine where he died Jan. 3, 1825 at the age of 98 yrs.

CHILDREN:

1. Joseph, b. June 6, 1751; m. Feb. 21, 1782, Jemima Roberts; resided in Ossipee, N.H.
2. Patience, b. May 20, 1753; d. young.
3. Patience, b. Aug. 6, 1755, in Berwick.
4. Lydia, b. March 16, 1760, d. young.
5. Stephen, b. April 11, 1762, d. young.
6. James, b. April 2, 1764; m. Bethula Beal.
7. Lydia, b. March 24, 1767 in Berwick.
8. John, b. August 16, 1769.

James Brackett (James, Samuel, Samuel, Thomas, Anthony) b. April 2, 1764 in Berwick; son of Dea James and Margery (Lord) Brackett; m. March 22, 1789, Bethula Beal (b. Feb. 2, 1762; d. Feb. 1, 1848, dau. of Samuel and Sarah Beal). In 1791, James and Bethula Brackett were living in Vassalboro, later moving to Winslow where he died Oct. 13, 1831.

CHILDREN:

1. Sarah, b. May 11, 1790; m. (1st) Samuel P. Carr; m. (2nd) Wiggin; d. May 31, 1876.
2. James, Jr., b. Jan. 1, 1792.
3. Samuel, b. Jan. 23, 1794; d. Jan. 5, 1821.
4. Lydia, b. Jan. 24, 1796; m. Feb. 2, 1823, Wm. Laurence; d. Sept. 13, 1867.
5. Sophia, b. Feb. 22, 1798; m. Ruel Hawks of Vassalboro.
6. George W., b. Jan. 5, 1800; d. March 25, 1821.
7. Maria, b. July 22, 1802; d. Jan. 30, 1821.
8. Mary, b. March 31, 1805 in Vassalboro; d. Jan. 12, 1885; m. Jan. 21, 1823, Luther Rice Lamb - had 13 children.

Joseph Brackett, (James, Samuel, Samuel, Thomas, Anthony), b. June 6, 1751 in Berwick, Me.; resided in Ossipee, N.H., where he died May 3, 1816; m. (1st) Feb. 21, 1782 Jemima Roberts, (dau. of Joshua and Ruth Roberts); m. (2nd) Dec. 27, 1797, Anna Winchell from Waterboro, Me. (dau. of Job Winchell).

CHILDREN: (Joseph and Jemima (Roberts) Brackett)

1. Margaret, b. Dec. 27, 1782; m. Thomas Wiggin of Wakefield.
2. James, b. March 30, 1784; m. Abigail Fairfield.
3. John, b. Feb. 9, 1786.
4. Hiram, b. Feb. 14, 1788; m. Nancy Burrill of China, Me.
5. Mary, b. April 8, 1790; m. in 1807, Samuel Hurd; d. Aug. 18, 1868.
6. Joseph, b. March 4, 1792; m. Lucy (Lovejoy) Twist.
7. Lydia, b. March 4, 1794; m. Nov. 12, 1812, John Hill of N.H., d. Jan. 17, 1871.

CHILDREN (2nd wife Anna Winchell)

8. Charlotte, b. April 15, 1799; m. Ham Garland.
9. Levi, b. April 15, 1800.
10. Betsey L., b. Sept. 18, 1802, in Ossipee, N.H. m. Nov. 1, 1827, Jacob J. Bodge; d. July 5, 1886.

11. Azriah, b. April 21, 1804.
12. Thomas, b. Jan. 11, 1807.
13. Sally, b. Oct. 20, 1808; m. (1st) Oct. 11, 1835, Wentworth Hayes; m. (2nd) Benjamin Mason.
14. Jemima, L. b. Aug. 2, 1810 in N. H.; m. Charles Hosea Shorey, Jr.
15. Patience L., b. Jan. 13, 1814 in N.H.; m. July 19, 1834, James D. Robey

John Brackett (James, Samuel, Samuel, Thomas, Anthony), b. Aug. 16, 1769, in Berwick, Me., son of Dea. James and Margery (Lord) Brackett; removed to Vassalboro in 1794, and about 1810 he purchased a farm bordering on China Village. He was a resident of China for 45 years; he died May 5, 1855; m. Sept. 30, 1797, Lydia Allen (b. June 5, 1774; d. Aug. 13, 1853, dau. of Barsham and Mary Allen).

CHILDREN:

1. Allen, b. Aug. 15, 1798; m. Octavia Allen.
2. Mary, b. March 29, 1800 in Vassalboro; d. in China, Nov. 9, 1838; m. Dec. 29, 1818, Ebenezer Shaw of Albion.
3. Lydia, b. March 15, 1802 in Vassalboro; d. May 2, 1874; m. Dec. 21, 1824, Alfred Marshall. He held the rank of Gen. in the militia.
4. Sally, b. May 29, 1804; d. March 3, 1814.
5. James, b. June 30, 1807.
6. Betsey, b. March 3, 1811, in China; m. Franklin Kimball.
7. Ruby, b. Oct. 30, 1813; d. April 12, 1816.
8. Harriet, b. Sept. 6, 1816 in China; d. Sept. 10, 1894; m. July 3, 183?, Esty Nicholas Doe, son of Nicholas and Nancy (Esty) Doe.

James Brackett (Joseph, James, Samuel, Samuel, Thomas, Anthony), son of Joseph and Jemima (Roberts) Brackett, b. March 30, 1784 in Berwick, raised in Ossipee, N.H.; m. Abigail Fairfield (b. March 30, 1787 in Vassalboro); resided in Albion, Me. from 1810-1830, then moved to China, Me., later moving to Weston, Me. where he died April 7, 1845; his wife died in Weston, Me., Dec. 9, 1855.

CHILDREN:

1. Luther, b. April 25, 1806.
2. Caroline, b. Feb. 29, 1808; m. Levi Pearl.
3. Henry H., b. March 4, 1810.
4. Emeline, b. May 4, 1812 in Albion; m. Hosea Littlefield, resided in Auburn, Me.
5. Lucy F., b. July 4, 1814 in Albion; m. Leonard Smith, resided in Weston, Me.
6. William, b. Oct. 5, 1816.
7. James C., b. Sept. 28, 1818.
8. Mary, b. June 28, 1821; m. Guilford Smith.
9. Laura, b. Dec. 26, 1824; m. (1st) George Small; m. (2nd) George Brann.
10. Nancy, b. Feb. 5, 1826, in China, Me.; m. Wm. Chase, removed to N.Y.
11. Elmira, b. Nov. 27, 1827; m. Wm. Biather.
12. Abigail, b. Nov. 3, 1831; m. Josiah Brewer; m. (2nd) Alonzo Libby.
13. Margaret E., b. Oct. 21, 1836 in Weston, Me.

Hiram Brackett (Joseph, James, Samuel, Samuel, Thomas, Anthony), b. Feb. 14, 1789 in Ossipee, N.H., son of Joseph and Jemima (Roberts) Brackett; removed to China, Me., later to Weston, Me., where he died Nov. 10, 1862; m. Jan. 18, 1813, Nancy Burrell of China, Me., (dau. of Abraham and Hannah (Cushing) Burrill.

CHILDREN:

1. Harriet Newell, b. May 5, 1818; d. Dec. 6, 1858; m. Charles Clark.
2. George Washington, b. Oct. 24, 1821.
3. Nancy Jane, b. Aug. 3, 1824; d. June 11, 1887; m. Lewis B. Smart.
4. Alva Ann, b. April 5, 1829; d. Dec. 18, 1863; m. Jenny Newman.
5. Hiram C., b. May 6, 1832; m. Susan Wilkins.
6. Charles H., b. Aug. 25, 1836 in China; d. April 1893; m. Harriet Wilkins, resided in Danforth, Me.
7. Luther, b. Dec. 8, 1839.

Joseph Brackett (Joseph, James Samuel, Samuel, Thomas, Anthony), b. March 4, 1792 in N. H., son of Joseph and Jemima (Roberts) Brackett; and like his older brothers, he removed to China, Me., where he lived with his Uncle John and his grandfather, Dea. James Brackett; m. Lucy (Lovejoy) Twist; he later removed to Ashland, where he died Feb. 26, 1841.

CHILDREN:

1. Abigail, b. June 11, 1815, in China; m. James McCann; d. July 17, 1843 in Ashland.
2. Hiram, b. Nov. 11, 1816.
3. John Y., b. March 20, 1818; d. Nov. 2, 1841 in Ashland; never married.
4. Louisa, b. July 25, 1821; m. Elbridge Dunn; d. in St. Johns, N.B.

George Brackett (Hiram, Joseph, James, Samuel, Samuel, Thomas, Anthony) b. Oct. 24, 1821, in China, Me., m. (1st) Frances Hickey (b. 1823); m. (2nd) Rebecca Mandy; resided in Weston, Me.; d. Feb. 11, 1894.

CHILDREN: Hiram, Nancy, Alva, Thomas, Sarah, Elvira and James.

Charles Allen Brackett (Allen, John, James, Samuel, Samuel, Thomas, Anthony), b. Dec. 31, 1830 in China, Me.; m. in Boston, Sept. 29, 1853, Abby B. Doe (b. July 3, 1834 in China; d. in Cal., Oct. 26, 1857, dau. of Rev. Dudley W. and Elizabeth (Benson) Doe).

CHILD: Abbie O., b. Oct. 8, 1857 in Calif., m. Alvah P. Mosher; resided in China, Me.

CHILDREN:

1. Sarah Brackett, b. 1889, d. 1901.
2. Alice, b. 1896; m. Earnest Perry Rose, 1920.

Children:

1. Harrington, b. 1921.
2. Arthur Mosher, b. 1926.
3. Emmett Earnest, b. 1928.

Allen Brackett (John, James, Samuel, Samuel, Thomas, Anthony), b. Aug. 15, 1798 in Vassalboro, son of John and Lydia (Allen) Brackett; m. Dec. 23, 1829,

Octavia Allen (dau. of Charles and Sally (Mitchell) Allen of Vassalboro);
resided in China, where he was a blacksmith, later removed to Lincolnville
where he died April 11, 1876.

CHILDREN:

1. Charles A., b. Dec. 13, 1830.
2. Horace W., b. Oct. 26, 1833.
3. John Allen, b. Feb. 23, 1836 in China, Me. prepared himself
for the practice of medicine in Giles Co., Virginia;
d. April 20, 1898; unmarried.

B U R R I L L

Abraham Burrill, who assisted in the survey of Jones Plantation, built his log cabin near the shore of the lake approximately across from where the China Elementary School now stands. He was born in Hingham, Mass., Aug. 20, 1750; m. Sept. 23, 1773, Hannah Cushing (b. Nov. 10, 1753;) he later removed to Canaan, Maine. He died Aug. 21, 1822, and his wife, Hannah, d. Dec. 23, 1822.

CHILDREN: (All born in Harlem (China))

1. Abraham, Jr., b. June 15, 1774; d.....; m. Sarah Dickey of Vassalboro.
2. Samuel, b. Oct. 30, 1775; d.....; m. Nov. 4, 1798, Esther Dexter.
3. Lucy, b. April 18, 1777; d. Feb. 14, 1863; m. Nathan Dexter of Albion, Me.
4. Hannah, b. Sept. 19, 1778; d. Dec. 24, 1849; m. Sept. 17, 1797, Job Billings.
5. Jane, b. July 2, 1780; d. Jan. 6, 1808; m. July 21, 1799, Abisha Washburn.
6. John, b. March 6, 1782; d. Oct. 25, 1868; m. Jan. 13, 1806, Betsey Dexter.
7. Asa, b. Nov. 1, 1783; d. April 5, 1860, Dedham, Me.; m. May 25, 1806, Priscilla Washburn (b. 4/18/1786; d. 9/9/1859).
8. Esther, b. March 23, 1786; d. April 5, 1826; m. May 22, 1806, James Spratt.
9. A child, b. Nov. 11, 1787.
10. Bela, b. Sept. 27, 1789; d. August 15, 1868; m. Dolly Lowney of Fairfax (Albion); m. (2nd) Lettice B. Wiggin, 5/12/1832.
11. Grace, b. June 11, 1791; d. March 13, 1866; m. (Int.) Dec. 7, 1811, Ralph Baker of Albion.
12. Nancy, b. Jan. 19, 1793; d. April, 1866, m. Jan. 18, 1813, Hiram Brackett. Removed to Weston, Me.
13. Thomas, b. Jan. 19, 1796; d. March 29, 1878; m. (1st) Sarah Harlow of Albion; m. (2nd) Abra L. Washburn.
14. Frederick, b. Sept. 1, 1798.
15. Abisha W., b. Oct. 16, 1800; d. July 16, 1877; m. April 3, 1823, Adah Morrison.

Samuel Burrill, son of Abraham and Hannah (Cushing) Burrill; b. Oct. 30, 1775; m. Nov. 4, 1798, Esther Dexter (b. June 29, 1780).

CHILDREN:

1. Marabah Dexter, b. Oct. 23, 1799; d. May 30, 1843; m. Jan. 10, 1820, Thomas Clark (son of Ephraim and Olive Clark; b. June 23, 1800).
2. Jane Washburn, b. April 28, 1801; d. April 19, 1834 in China; m. Aug. 26, 1819, Jonathan Clark (b. Nov. 22, 1797; d. Aug. 31, 1877; son of Ephraim and Olive Clark).
3. Esther Robinson, b. March 12, 1804; m. Feb. 5, 1822, Amos Clark (son of Ephraim and Olive Clark).
4. Stephen Dexter, b. July 1, 1806.
5. Elvira, b. Feb. 20, 1809; m. July 19, 1829, Scott Clark (b. July 8, 1808; son of Ephraim and Olive Clark)
6. Bethany, b. Feb. 4, 1811.
7. Mary, b. Feb. 3, 1813.
8. Samuel Cushing, b. February 9, 1814; d. young.
9. Samuel C. b. April 16, 1816; d. February 3, 1848; m. Dec. 25, 1836, Cordelia F. Norton.
10. Hannah Cushing, b. Mary 22, 1818.
11. Sarah Jane, b. Aug. 26, 1820.

Lucy Burrill, dau. of Abraham and Hannah (Cushing) Burrill, b. April 18, 1777; d. Feb. 14, 1863; m. Nathan Dexter, Jr. of Albion, Me. (b. Aug. 22, 1772).

CHILDREN: (Surname DEXTER)

1. Hannah, b. March 2, 1796.
2. Sarah, b. July 30, 1798.
3. Abraham Burrill, b. Sept. 8, 1800.
4. Lucy, b. April 16, 1805.
5. Stephen, b. Nov. 19, 1807; m. June 17, 1827, Olive Gowen of Albion, Me.
6. Nathan, 3rd, b. March 22, 1810

Nancy Burrill, dau. of Abraham and Hannah (Cushing) Burrill; b. Jan. 9, 1793; d. April, 1866; m. (Int.) May 12, 1813, Hiram Brackett.

CHILDREN: (Surname BRACKETT)

1. Harriet Newell, b. May 5, 1817.
2. George Washington, b. October 24, 1821.
3. Nancy Jane, b. August 3, 1824.
4. Abra Ann, b. April 5, 1829.

Thomas Burrill, son of Abraham and Hannah (Cushing) Burrill; b. Jan. 19, 1796; d. March 29, 1878 in Albion, Me.; m. (1st) Sept. 23, 1819 Sarah Harlow (b. Dec. 29, 1797; d. May 6, 1820); m. (2nd) Abra L. Washburn (b. Feb. 14, 1803; d. May 25, 1892, m. Nov. 25, 1821; dau. of Japheth C. Washburn).

CHILDREN: (Thomas and Abra L. Burrill)

1. Augustus Washburn, b. April 21, 1824; d. June 4, 1824.
2. Ann Elizabeth, b. June 13, 1825; d. Nov. 28, 1826.
3. Thomas Waldo, b. March 12, 1828.

Bela Burrill, son of Abraham and Hannah (Cushing) Burrill; b. Sept. 27, 1789; d. Aug. 15, 1868 in Albion, Me.; m. (1st) Jan., 1812, Dolly Lowney of Albion, Me. (b. Dec. 20, 1791; d. April 19, 1829); m. (2nd) May 12, 1832, Lettrice Wiggin.

CHILDREN: (Bela and Dolly (Lowney) Burrill)

1. William Henry, b. Dec. 14, 1812; m. Rebecca Atherton.
2. Emeline Almeda, b. Oct. 25, 1814; m. Dec. 9, 1838, Zelotes Downs; had a dau. Caroline A., b. June 28, 1842.
3. Frederic N., b. Oct. 1, 1816; m. Aug. 31, 1843, Martha Parkshurst.
4. Greenwood C., b. May 3, 1819; m. Dec. 15, 1859, Sophia J. Moody (b. July 25, 1837).
5. Mary, b. June 6, 1821.
6. Hadley P., b. Jan. 19, 1824; m. May 24, 1854, Thomazine Pearce.
(by 2nd marriage)
7. Charles Edward, b. Jan. 1, 1832; d. Dec. 26, 1866.
8. Hellen M., b. Sept. 12, 1833.
9. Bela Frances, b. April 17, 1835; resided in Albion, Me.
10. Albert, b. May 14, 1837; d. March 17, 1895; (? 1885)
m. March 11, 1861, Martha E. Wiggin (b. Aug. 14, 1838;
d. Dec. 28, 1928, aet 90 yrs. 4 mos. 14 days.)

C H A D W I C K

James and his wife Ruth (Hatch) Chadwick came to "Jones Plantation" in the spring of 1782 with them their then unmarried children, Job, Ichabod, Elizabeth and Judah, Their married sons, John and James followed the year after their parents departed taking with them their youngest brother, Lot, who, being too young to endure the hardships of pioneer life had been left with his grandmother, Elizabeth. Gayer, the first born of James and Ruth Chadwick, went to Pennsylvania, later to No. Carolina where he died. John, 2nd child born to James and Ruth Chadwick removed to N. H. later to Bradford, Vermont where he died in 1821.

James Chadwick, Jr., son of James and Ruth (Hatch) Chadwick was bapt. Feb. 25, 1753; m. Sept. 30, 1779, Rhoda Weeks; James settled in Jones Plantation near his father, 1/2 mile south of So. China Village, on the farm later known as the "Esq. Stewart" place. He was first constable and collector of the town (1796); he d. in Harlem, now China, Oct. 25, 1826.

CHILDREN:

1. Sarah (Sally), b. May 17, 1780; d. in Corinth, Me., June 22, 1858; m. Charles McLaughlin.
2. Sylvanus. m. (Int.) May 19, 1809 to Eunice Webber.
3. Henry, b. July 29, 1783; m. Patience Kelly (b. Oct. 22)
4. Lydia, m. Luther Pierce.
5. Ruth, m. Jerry Blaisdell.
6. Susan, m. Joseph Stewart Esq.
7. Charlotte, m. Frederic W. Harmon.
8. Rosannah, m. Enoch Gray.
9. Nancy, m. Veranus Pierce.
10. James, d. young.

Job Chadwick, son of James and Ruth (Hatch) Chadwick, b. in Falmouth, Mass., Dec. 4, 1756; m. Mercy Weeks (b. in Falmouth, Dec. 5, 1757) in Harlem (China) Sept. 13, 1784; Job d. Jan., 1832; Mercy, d. March , 1826. They had settled near the present town house in China.

CHILDREN:

1. Abigail, b. Nov. 30, 1785; m. Joseph Linn, 1816.
2. Paul, b. May 30, 1787; m. Hannah Leeman; d. Sept. 10, 1809.
3. Abraham, b. May 27, 1790; d. Oct. 1817; unmarried.
4. Lot, 2nd., b. Sept. 24, 1792; m. Sally Linn (b. Sept. 29, 1798).

Elizabeth Chadwick, only dau. of James and Ruth (Hatch) Chadwick, was b. in Falmouth, Mass.; m. (1st) Daniel Fairfield of Vassalboro; m. (2nd) to his brother, Jeremiah Fairfield.

CHILDREN: (Daniel and Elizabeth Fairfield)

1. Ruth, -
2. Nancy, -
3. Daniel, Jr., -

CHILDREN: (Jeremiah and Elizabeth Fairfield)

4. Jothan, -
5. Alpheus, d. Feb. 26, 1879, aet 84 yrs. 8 mos.
6. Paulina, -
7. Paulina, m.Butt.

Ichabod Chadwick, son of James and Ruth (Hatch) Chadwick, b. in Falmouth, Mass. in 1763; d. in China, March, 1844 aet 82 yrs.; m. Priscilla Hamlin

(b. in Falmouth, 1770; d. in China, 1855, aet 87 yrs.) Ichabod settled near the Winslow Line.

CHILDREN:

1. Zeruah, b. June 27, 1790; m. John Norton, removed to Ohio in 1817; had 15 children.
2. Clement, b. April 2, 1792, left home, never heard from.
3. Esther, b. April 14, 1794; m. Jan. 25, 1816, Ephraim Webber and lived in China, d. 1863.
4. Chloe, b. Aug. 6, 1796; m. 1816 James Patten (b. in Surry, 1793; d. in Newport, Me. 1833) m. (2nd) Rev. Clark.
5. Tryphena, b. June 23, 1798; m. Jan. 25, 1816 Allen Carter of Stetson; lived in Etna, Me. Grandmother of "Holman Day".
6. Tryphosa, b. May 3, 1800; m. David Spratt, March 3, 1822; lived in China and Carmel, Me.
7. John, b. Feb. 21, 1802; was a whaler; d. in Illinois, unmarried.
8. Eliza F., b. Oct. 23, 1804; d. in China, Me. 1875; unmarried.
9. Priscilla, b. Sept. 6, 1806; m. Dr. James Brainerd, May 11, 1831, she removed to Mass. and d. July, 1890, aged 85 yrs.
10. Lucy, b. Nov. 3, 1808; m. Sullivan Abbott, Jan. 6, 1841; lived in Winslow, Me.
11. Julia Ann, b. July 30, 1810; m. Freeman Shaw, resided in Albion, Me.
12. Mary A., b. April 4, 1813; m. Thomas Stevens, Nov. 21, 1838.

Judah Chadwick, son of James and Ruth (Hatch) Chadwick, b. 1765; m. (1st)Ward, of Vassalboro; m. (2nd) Sally Webber; d. 1816; Judah had one child by 1st marriage, Lucinda who married Samuel Tucker of Palermo.

CHILDREN: (Judah and Sally (Webber) Chadwick)

1. David, b. 1795; d. June 17, 1829; m. Mary V. Chapman, (M. Int. Mar. 28, 1817) she was of Thomaston, Me.
2. Jason, b. 1799; m. Rebecca Hamlin (? Bethamy) in 1822.
3. Melinda, b.; d. unmarried.
4. Abel, b. Feb. 2, 1802; d. July 5, 1885; m. Elizabeth Starrett (b. July 6, 1807; d. April 20, 1900)
5. Saphronia, b.; m. Nathan Freeman of China, Me.
6. Corydon, m. Cyrene Hamlin of China, Me.
7. Caroline, m. Abram Long of China, Me.
8. Joseph W., d. young.

Lot Chadwick, youngest child of James and Ruth (Hatch) Chadwick; m. Betsey Belden of Palermo; settled in Branch Mills.

CHILDREN:

1. Lydia, m. Samuel Dennis; 4 children.
2. Stephen, m. (1st) Ruth Dennis; m. (2nd) Margaret Plummer.
3. Benjamin, m. Susan Light.
4. Naomi, m. (1st) Ephraim Sims; m. (2nd) Silas Fish.
5. Aaron, d. young.
6. Joseph, m. Mrs. Mary Longfellow (Nee Worthing).
7. Francis Cobb, m. Hannah Staples.
8. Eliza, m. William Wilson.
9. Dousilla, d. unmarried.

C L A R K

Jonathan Clark, son of Thomas and Mary (Church) Clark; b. in Nantucket May 18, 1704; d. 1780; m. Oct. 5, 1728, Miriam Worth (b. Jan. 2, 1710; died 1776).

CHILDREN:

1. Jerusha, b. Dec. 20, 1732; d. Sept. 25, 1807; m. George Fish; had a son Bolton Fish, who m. Feb. 22, 1792, Anne Bragg.
2. Church, b. Jan. 1, 1735; m. Hannah Long.
3. Jonathan, Jr., b. June 29, 1737; m. Susanna Swain in Nova Scotia (b. March 22, 1751; d. in China, Sept. 14, 1821) Susanna's Great Grandmother, Experience Folger Swain was a sister to Benjamin Franklin's mother Abiah.
4. Miriam, b. July 21, 1740.
5. Edmund, b. Jan. 9, 1749; d. Feb. 11, 1822; m. in 1776, Rachael Coffin (d. Feb. 1829).
6. Andrew, b. Aug. 20, 1747; m.(unknown)
7. Ephraim, b. July 15, 1751; m. Olive Braley, d. Oct. 20, 1829.

Jonathan Clark, Jr. (Jonathan, Thomas), b. June 29, 1737; d. June 12, 1816 in China, Me.; m. in Nova Scotia, Susanna Swain (b. March 22, 1751; d. Sept. 14, 1821).

CHILDREN:

1. Lydia, b. Nov. 4, 1769; d. April 8, 1853.
2. Heman, b. Oct. 6, 1771; d. Sept. 30, 1844; m. (1st) Polly Fairfield; m. (2nd) May 4, 1823, Betsey Barton of Vassalboro.
3. Ruben, b. Sept. 16, 1773; d. April 13, 1775.
4. Rhoda, b. June 8, 1775; d. June 10, 1849.
5. Owen, b. June 8, 1777; d. May 27, 1859; m. Aug. 18, 1799, Jemima Worth.
6. Stephen, b. Oct. 6, 1779; m. Hannah Bagley.
7. Reuben, b. June 23, 1781; d. Nov. 25, 1805.
8. Rebecca, b. Sept. 20, 1783; d. Oct. 14, 1865; m. Reuben Page, had children; John O., Rufus, Alfred, Gustavus.
9. Eunice, b. April 24, 1785; d. March 28, 1869; m. (1st) William Bradford, in 1806; m. (2nd) Wm. Perkins, resided in Windsor, Me.
10. Phebe, b. Oct. 10, 1787; d. Oct. 20, 1857; m. Levi Rogers; Resided in Augusta, Me.
11. Ephraim, b. Jan. 6, 1791; d. Feb. 17, 1858; m. Pena May Nickerson.
12. William G., b. Dec. 4, 1794; d. March 30, 1880; m. Jane Coburn, in 1842, removed to Augusta, Me.
13. Mary, b. Dec. 13, 1796; m.....Norton.

Edmund Clark, (Jonathan, Thomas); b. Jan. 9, 1743 (? 1749); d. Feb. 11, 1822 in China; m. in 1776, Rachael Coffin (d. Feb. 1829).

CHILDREN:

1. Miriam, b. March 2, 1767; d. July, 1803; m. Thomas Ward.
2. Elizabeth, -
3. Eunice, b. Oct. 3, 1770; d. June, 1845; m. Oct. 29, 1795, Samuel Ward.

4. Randall, b. Sept. 1, 1772; d. 1863; m. Phebe Bassett.
5. Annie, b. Nov. 1774; d. 1865; m. June 23, 1799, Peter Pray.
6. Mary, b. June 12, 1779; d. June, 1847; m. Sept. 29, 1799,
John Worth.
7. Elisha, b. Feb. 15, 1785; d. Oct. 21, 1865; m. (1st)
Mary Rogers; m. (2nd) Jan. 27, 1820, Eliza Ann Worth
(dau. of Capt. Henry Worth)

Ephraim Clark, (Jonathan, Thomas), b. July 15, 1751; d. Oct. 20, 1829;
m. Sept. 23, 1795 in Vassalboro, Olive Braley (b. Nov. 16, 1773; d. May 23,
1860, dau. of David and Anne (Kelley) Braley).

CHILDREN: (Born in Harlem)

1. Miriam D., b. June 26, 1796; m.Dalton;
removed to Ohio.
2. Jonathan, b. Nov. 22, 1797; d. Aug. 31, 1877; m. Aug. 26,
1819, Jane Washburn Burrill (b. 1801; d. 1854;
dau. of Samuel and Esther (Dexter) Burrill).
3. Anna, b. March 31, 1799; m. Josiah Fairfield;
removed to Patten, Me.
4. Thomas, b. June 23, 1800; d. March 6, 1885; m. (1st) Jan. 10,
1820, Meribah Burrill; m. (2nd) Nov. 26, 1843, Hannah
Marble.
5. Amos, b. Jan. 8, 1802; d. Aug. 8, 1838; m. Feb. 5, 1822,
Esther Burrill (dau. of Samuel and Esther (Dexter)
Burrill).
6. Hannah, b. June 12, 1803; m. William Varney.
7. Lydia, b. Sept. 30, 1804; m. Paul Taber (m.Dow)
8. Church, b. Feb. 25, 1806; m. Dec. 20, 1827, Loranna
Pullen (he did not come to China with his brothers,
but his third son, Ephraim Clark came to China in the
early 1800's).
9. Scott, b. July 8, 1808; m. July 19, 1829, Elvira Burrill
(b. Feb. 20, 1809; dau. of Samuel and Esther (Dexter)
Burrill); they had a dau. Sarah, who married Theodore
Jackson of China
10. A. Kempis, b. Oct. 10, 1809; d. Oct. 21, 1884; m. Nov. 20,
1828, Hannah Dow.
11. Olive, b. July 11, 1811; m. Sept. 3, 1833, Micajah Dudley.
12. Paulina, b. Apr. 8, 1814; m. April 26, 1838, Thomas K. Dow.

Heman Clark (Jonathan, Jonathan, Thomas); b. Oct. 6, 1771; d. Sept. 30,
1844 in China; m. (1st) Feb. 19, 1795 Polly Fairfield (b. 1774; d. Nov. 27,
1821) in China; m. (2nd) May 4, 1823, Betsey Barton of Vassalboro; about
1829 he removed to St. Albans.

CHILDREN: (Heman and Polly (Fairfield) Clark)

1. Obed, b. 1798; d. Oct. 8, 1853; m.
2. Reuben, -
3. Heman, Jr., b. Sept. 6, 1810; m. Matilda S. Goodwin, resided
in East Corinth, Me.; they had a son, Samuel Goodwin
Clark; m. Sarah E. Plummer.
4. Charles, b. m. and resided in East Corinth.

Ephraim Clark (Jonathan, Jr. and Susanna (Swain) Clark), b. Jan. 6, 1791

d. February 17, 1858; m. March 25, 1813, Penah-May Nickerson (b. July 10, 1792; d. January 31, 1876, dau. of Elisha and Rebecca Nickerson)

CHILDREN:

1. Deacon Henry, b. Nov. 9, 1814; d. July 24, 1881; m. Emeline Webber (b. Sept. 12, 1814; d. Aug. 18, 1881, dau. of John and Meribah Webber).
2. Phoebe, b. Feb. 17, 1816; d. July 18, 1834.
3. Emily Ann, b. Aug. 16, 1817; d. Aug. 10, 1842.
4. Susannah S., b. Sept. 11, 1821; d. May 12, 1900; m. Moses Caldwell.
5. Rebecca N., b. Aug. 9, 1823; d. Jan. 10, 1903; m. June 18, 1847, William Kingsbury.
6. Reuben P., b. June 30, 1825; d. Nov. 14, 1892; m. (1st) Margaret Page.
7. Charlotte S., b. May 14, 1827; d. June 20, 1856.
8. Almira G., b. Aug. 18, 1829; d. Aug. 23, 1830.
9. Elisha N., b. Aug. 11, 1831; d. Aug. 15, 1847.
10. Benjamin F., b. Feb. 5, 1834; d. Feb. 18, 1902, m. Nov. 6, 1853, Bethia Thurston.

Randall Clark (Edmund, Jonathan, Thomas); b. Sept. 1, 1772, son of Edmund and Rachael (Coffin) Clark; d. 1863; m. Phebe Bassett (dau. of Capt. Jonathan Bassett)

CHILDREN:

1. Jonathan, b. 1798; d. Sept. 2, 1866, in China; m. Celia Pullen.
2. Edmund, married and resided at So. China, his wife died and he remarried and removed to Bangor where he died.
3. Daniel, b. Jan. 1811; d. July 24, 1884; m. April 25, 1834, Martha G. LeFavor (from France, b. Feb. 1816; d. June 2, 1892).
4. Phebe, m. Harris Bragg of Vassalboro.

Elisha Clark, (Edmund, Jonathan, Thomas) b. February 15, 1785, son of Edmund and Rachael (Coffin) Clark; d. Oct. 21, 1865, in China; m. (1st) Mary Rogers (b. March 21, 1790); m. (2nd) Jan. 27, 1820, Eliza Ann Worth (dau. of Capt. Henry Worth, b. in Nantucket, Apr. 8, 1800).

CHILDREN: (Elisha and Mary (Rogers) Clark)

1. Harriet A., b. June 13, 1812; m. (1st), 1834, Emery Bragg; m. (2nd) Dec. 18, 1850, John Palmer of Albion.
2. Sarah R., b. Feb. 2, 1814; d. Feb. 5, 1835.
3. Eunice, b. Jan. 4, 1816; d. 1818.

CHILDREN: (Elisha and Eliza Ann (Worth) Clark)

4. Albert H., b. Oct. 18, 1820; m. Jan. 17, 1847, Eliza Ann Worth, b. Feb. 20, 1823; d. May 31, 1885.
5. Henry W., b. June 20, 1822; d. August, 1826.
6. Marietta, b. Aug. 4, 1825; m. Charles Bragg of Vassalboro.
7. Eveline R., b. Feb. 27, 1829; d. 1860; m. Oct. 4, 1846, Joseph W. Stuart of Belgrade (b. May 25, 1819).
8. Melvina E., b. June 27, 1832; d. Feb. 21, 1860.
9. Sanford K., b. Dec. 9, 1838; d. Aug. 2, 1909; m. Sarah Hubbard of Wiscasset, (b. Feb. 11, 1846).

Jonathan Clark (Ephraim, Jonathan, Thomas), b. Nov. 22, 1797, son of Ephraim and Olive (Braley) Clark; d. Aug. 31, 1877 in China; m. Aug. 26, 1819,

Jane Washburn Burrill, (d. Apr. 19, 1834; dau. of Samuel and Esther (Dexter) Burrill).

CHILDREN:

1. Stephen B., b. 1820; d. July 17, 1882; m. June 26, 1842, Miriam B. Cross (d. June 22, 1872).
2. Ann, b. ; m. Hattel Williams.
3. Samuel A., b. 1827; d. Apr. 17, 1909; m. July 4, 1849, Mahala Hussey (d. Apr. 11, 1889 (?)).
4. Aurelia, b. ; m. Harrison Chadwick.
5. George F., b. ; m. March 5, 1854, Olive Hussey of Vassalboro.
6. Enos T., b. 1831; d. March 8, 1891; m. Feb. 12, 1854, Lydia F. Bragg (d. May 10, 1904; dau. of Isaac Bragg).
Children:
 1. Alice, who married Edwin F. Weston
 2. Norris-H., d. June 1, 1892.
7. Melissa Jane, m. Nov. 25, 1858, Edwin T. Brown in China.

Thomas Clark (Ephraim, Jonathan, Thomas), b. June 23, 1800; son of Ephraim and Olive (Braley) Clark; d. March 6, 1885; m. (1st) Jan. 10, 1820, Meribah Burrill (b. Oct. 23, 1799; d. May 30, 1843, dau. of Abraham Burrill); m. (2nd) Nov. 26, 1843, Hannah Marble.

CHILDREN: (Thomas and Meribah (Burrill)-Clark)

1. Asenath, b. May 24, 1820; m. Oct. 21, 1839, Cyrenius K. Evans.
2. Josiah, b. March 9, 1823; m. July 3, 1843, Louisa Brown in China.
3. Miriam D., b. Jan. 17, 1826; m. Feb. 9, 1851, Alvin Brown in China.
4. Elvira B., b. Sept. 5, 1829; d. Aug. 2, 18__.
5. Bethany B., b. Dec. 17, 1830; d. May 30, 1832.
6. Louisa M., b. Aug. 27, 1839; m. Oct. 12, 1856, William F. Upham of Camden.

A. Kempis Clark (Ephraim, Jonathan, Thomas), b. Oct. 10, 1809, son of Ephraim and Olive (Braley) Clark; d. Oct. 21, 1884; m. Nov. 20, 1828, Hannah Dow, b. in Jefferson, Me., June 18, 1808; d. July 2, 1893.

CHILDREN: (b. in China)

1. Ephraim, b. Nov. 5, 1829; d. Feb. 26, 1847 in China.
2. Warren, b. Dec. 24, 1830; m. (1st) in Fairfield, Me., June 7, 1861, Angelia-Hall of Abbott, Me., she d. in Fairfield March 9, 1863; m. (2nd), Jan. 26, 1865, Sarah Farnham of Belgrade, Me.
3. Sarah S., b. Nov. 6, 1833; m. Nov. 1853, Hartson Hammond of China.
4. Mary F., b. March 23, 1840; m. in Fairfield, Nov. 20, 1860 Calvin Totman.
5. Amos F., b. Oct. 5, 1844; m. in Fairfield Jan. 1, 1865, Nellie Fisher; they went west; she d. in Iowa, Aug. 10, 1870.

Jonathan Clark (Randall, Edmund, Jonathan, Thomas), b. 1798, son of Randall and Phebe (Bassett) Clark; d. Sept. 2, 1866 in China; m. Celia Pullen (b. Jan. 20, 1802; d. Aug. 8, 1862).

CHILDREN:

1. William P., m. March 8, 1852, Abby P. Clark

2. Edmund B., b. Jan. 4, 1825; m. Laura Devereau.
3. Randall W., b. Nov. 30, 1826; m. Sarah Prentiss.
4. Jonathan B., b. Jan. 7, 1829; d. July 29, 1912; m. Laura A. Norton, Sept. 2, 1852.
5. Emery D., b. Nov. 8, 1831; m. (1st) Elvina B. ;
m. (2nd) Emma Gray.
6. Dean P., b. June 9, 1834; d. Aug. 29, 1859; m. March 11, 1858
Rebecca J. Church.
7. Chester M., b. Nov. 17, 1838; m. (1st) Esther A. Church (d.
June 26, 1875); m. (2nd) Sept. 26, 1882, Jessie H. Bassett.
8. Emline S., b. June 19, 1836; d. June 15, 1900; m. June 7, 1891,
Augustus Raynes of Vassalboro.
9. E. Everett, b. July 28, 1842; d. March 11, 1921; m. Nov. 1, 1891,
Mary W. Clark.
10. Eliza Ann, b. July 5, 1845; m. Dec. 9, 1869, Woodbury Emerson
of China.

Church Clark (Jonathan, Thomas), son of Jonathan and Miriam (Worth) Clark, never came to China with his brothers, but his son, Ephraim Clark, came in the early 1800's and settled on the west side of the lake near the Vassalboro line; he was b. July 12, 1775; m. Sept. 10, 1805, Rebecca Webber, dau. of Lewis and Kezia Webber.

CHILDREN: (Ephraim and Rebecca (Webber) Clark)

1. Maria, m. (1st) John Burrill; m. (2nd) James Stewart; had
dau. Charlott M., ; son by 2nd marriage, Alfred Stewart.
2. John A., m. Rosalinda Jackson; resided at Weeks Mills.
3. Robert, m. (1st) Sarah Hamlin; resided in Augusta; m. (2nd)
Martha Rolfe.
4. Charles H., m. Betsey Stoddard.
5. Julia, b. 1815; m. John Bishop Morrill.
6. Alfred, m. Charlotte Bragg; children: Anita,
b. 1896 and Lucille.
7. Heber, m. (1st) Betsy Bragg; m. (2nd) Sarah Bragg; removed
to Eau Clair, Wisconsin.
8. Hannah, b. 1824; m. Robert Rowe.
9. Rebecca, m. James L. Savage; removed to Auburn, Me.
10. Obed, d. in infancy.

Dea. Henry Clark (Ephraim, Jonathan, Jr., Jonathan, Thomas), b. Nov. 9, 1814; d. July 24, 1881; m. Emline Webber (b. Sept. 12, 1814; d. Aug. 18, 1881, dau. of John and Meribah Webber). He was Deacon in the Baptist Church at So. China.

CHILDREN:

1. Phoebe E., b. June 12, 1839; d. June 6, 1918; m. Charles
Crowell; resided in No. Vassalboro.
2. Mary W., b. March 5, 1844; d. March 21, 1922; m. Everett E.
Clark; resided in China.
3. Mattie P., b. Sept. 26, 1846; d. Oct. 9, 1879; unmarried.
4. Joseph R., b. July 13, 1852; d. June 3, 1925 in Waterville;
m. May 18, 1878, Helen F. Warren of So. Vassalboro (b.
March 19, 1855; d. March 28, 1949).

Joseph R. Clark (Dea. Henry, Ephraim, Jonathan, Jr., Jonathan, Thomas)
b. July 13, 1852; d. June 3, 1925 in Waterville; m. Helen F. Warren.

CHILDREN: (b. in China)

1. Wallace B., b. July 30, 1879; d. August 14, 1923; m. Ella McGuire Flanders of Jefferson.
2. Mattie P., b. March 6, 1881; d. Nov. 20, 1966; was a teacher.
3. Agnes Mabel, b. June 24, 1883; d. March 26, 1934; m. Frank M. Reynolds;

Children:

1. Marie Ernestine
 2. Martha Alice
 3. Winston Warren
4. Raymond H., b. April 5, 1885; m. Dec. 23, 1911 in Waterville, Gertrude M. Russell; had a dau. Emily (b. Sept. 9, 1921, d. Feb. 12, 1973); she was an R.N. and m. Frederick W. Schenk, II) d.

CROMMETT

(See History of Boothbay, Maine for earlier records)

Joshua Crommett, d. before 1908, address: Weeks Mills; m. Dorothy Bartlett (she "Widow Crommett" in 1908); b. 1811.

CHILDREN:

1. Francis A., b. 1831, retired, res., Somerville, Mass.
2. John O., b. 1833, farmer, Detroit, Minn.
3. Sarah J., b. 1835, d. 1895; m. John E. Dodge.
4. Timothy B., b. 1838, carpenter, Ashland, Me.
5. Abbie B., b. 1840, m. Montgomery; res.,
St. Cloud, Minn.
6. Martha J., b. 1842; m. Whitman; res. St. Cloud,
Minn.
7. Celeste, b. 1844; d. 1896; m. Smart, St. Cloud,
Minn.
8. Hollis M. (H?), b. 1846; add.: Weeks Mills, Me.
m. Lilla J. Slater, (b. 1861) July 3, 1884 (TR).

CHILDREN:

1. Archibald, b. 1886; a stenographer in
Spokane, Wash.; d. in Italy.
2. Jasper L., b. 1887; m. Susie C. Nelson;
d. Jan. 31, 1968.
3. Lawrence K., b. 1891; m. Blanche Nelson.
9. Emma B., b. 1849; m. A. W. Worthing, May 28, 1873 at
China (TR).

Silas Crommett, b. 1847; farmer, address: Albion; m. Abbie E. Worthing, (b. 1842); d. 1905.

CHILDREN:

1. Myrtie L., b. 1865; teacher.
2. Julia A., b. 1869; m. Nelson, Palermo.
3. George M., b. 1872; merchant.
4. Hillman W., b. 1875; miller, address: Palermo;
m. Mary M. Hyslar, b. 1878; children: Marietta M.,
b. 1905. Leslie, b.

Jasper Crommett, son of Hollis M. (H?) and Lilla J. (Slater) Crommett, b. Dec. 8, 1887; m. Susie C. (Nelson) (d. Jan. 31, 1968); d. July 31, 1949.

CHILDREN:

1. Hazel, b. Dec. 1, 1911; m. Irving Bailey, 1930; d.
Feb. 8, 1974.

CHILDREN:

1. Arland, b. Feb. 20, 1932.
2. Barbara, Aug. 13, 1942.
3. Pauline, Dec. 30, 1934.
4. Madeline, Feb. 2, 1939.
5. Paul, July 1, 1941.
6. Glendon, Oct. 24, 1944; d. Oct. 6, 1968
7. Joseph, b. March 19, 1946; d. Jan. 27, 1974.
8. Carolyn, b. Feb. 8, 1947.
9. Nancy, b. Aug. 26, 1948.
10. Norman, b. Dec. 26, 1950.
11. James, b. March 14, 1952.
12. Diane, b. Oct. 20, 1953.

2. John, b. Apr. 6, 1913; m. Lillian Brooks, Sept. 7, 1940.

CHILDREN:

1. John Jr., b. Oct. 10, 1941.
2. Stanley, b. Oct. 5, 1944; d. Oct. 6, 1968.
3. Dennis, b. Aug. 6, 1918; m. May 5, 1945, Rose Shaia, div.
one child: Laureen, b. Sept. 1, 1947; m. (2) Mary
Robinson, July 3, 1955.

DINSMORE

REF: "Ancestral Record" of the late Mrs. Winnifred (Worthing) Dinsmore who spent many years tracing genealogy.

1. Thomas¹Dinsmore, b. May 17, 1737; m. Nov. 23, 1774, Susannah Whitmore, dau. of Capt. Francis and Mary (Hall) Whitmore of Bowdoinham, Me. (b. Sept. 14, 1757 at Medford, Mass.); he d. July 17, 1813.

CHILDREN: (from Bowdoinham, Me. Town records)

1. Philip, b. Feb. 28, 1776; d. Nov. 6, 1799.
2. Jethro, b. Nov. 14, 1778; d. Nov. 14, 1780.
3. Fannay, b. Sept. 13, 1780.
4. May, b. July 26, 1782.
5. Samuel, b. July 3, 1784.
6. Andrew, b. Aug. 18, 1786.
- 2 *7. Merrel Thomas, b. Sept. 29, 1788.
8. Elizabeth, b. Feb. 2, 1791.
9. David, b. July 4, 1793; m. Sept. 5, 1836, Rebecca Chapman of China, Me. (T.R.)
10. Elisha, b. July 5, 1795; d. June 4, 1804.
11. Lucindia, b. April 30, 1799.
12. Phillip, b. May 5, 1801.

*From G. R. (Branch Mills Cem.): "Thomas Dinsmore, b. Dec. 12, 1789".
From Quaker Records: b. Sept. 12, 1789.

2. Thomas²Dinsmore, son of Thomas and Susannah (Whitmore) Dinsmore, b. prob. Dec. 12, 1789; m. int. Jan. 25, 1812, Eunice Crossman, (b. Jan. 18, 1793 (F.R.), dau. of David and Sarah (Bounds) Crossman;) settled on "The Plains" China, Me. (See elsewhere in history for Thomas²).

CHILDREN:

1. David.
2. Henry.
3. William.
4. Esther.
5. Cynthia.
6. Phillip.
7. Alfred.
8. Bounds.
- 3 9. Thomas.
10. Eunice; m. Ensign Worthing.
11. Sarah.
12. George.
13. Charles.
14. Lindley; m. Mary French April 24, 1858.
15. Pliney Earl.
16. Susan Hannah.

3. Thomas³ Dinsmore, b. Feb. 5, 1824, son of Thomas and Eunice (Crossman) Dinsmore; m. Aug. 31, 1857, Delphina Greeley, (dau. of Jose and Anna (Hacker) Greeley; b. Feb. 10, 1828 at China, Me.; d. April 28, 1882 at China, Me.) d. May 17, 1916 at China, Me. (See separate sketch elsewhere in history for Thomas).

CHILDREN:

- Several who d. in infancy
- 4 1. James R. B.

4. James⁴ R. B. Dinsmore, b. 1858, son of Thomas and Delphina (Greley) Dinsmore; m. (1) Alice Longfellow (b. 1860; d. 1897.); m. (2) 1899 Winnifred, dau. of Alfred Wallace and Emma (Crummett) Worthing (b. Feb. 6, 1876; d. Sept. 20, 1971).

CHILDREN: (all born in China, Me.)

1. Paul, b. 1900; d. 1901.
 2. Dorothy, b. 1902.
 - 5 3. James Kenneth, b. 1907.
 4. Donald, b. 1911; d. 1925.
5. James Kenneth⁵ Dinsmore, b. 1907, son of James R. B. and Winnifred (Worthing) Dinsmore; m. Feb. 26, 1943, Margaret, dau. of Chester and Lula (Arno) Cushman, (b. 1913).

CHILDREN:

1. Donald, b. 1944.
2. Thomas, b. 1946.
3. Suzanne, b. 1950; m. Hugh Krajewski (b. Manchester, Conn., Oct. 1948).

Child:

Aaron, b. March 1974.

DOE

In order to be brief, genealogies and doings of Does in this country before China became a town and Maine became a state will be largely disregarded by the writer. Suffice it to tell that Nicholas Doe was of Norman-French descent and that he settled in Oyster River, now Durham, N.H. That area and Parsonsfield, Maine were headquarters for Does for many years. The line of descent for the writer's branch of the family is as follows:

Nicholas, Sampson², Nicholas³, Gideon⁴, Nicholas⁵.

Estey Nicholas Doe⁶, (Nicholas⁵, Gideon⁴, Nicholas³, Sampson², Nicholas¹), b. 1815, Parsonsfield, Me. Was a farmer, settled in China, Me. in 1835; m. Harriet, dau. of John and Lydia Allen Brackett, b. May 10, 1816.

CHILDREN:

1. Theron Estey, b. Aug. 17, 1850.
2. Annie Allen, b. 1855 in China; d. Jan. 2, 1936.
She never married.

Theron Estey Doe⁷, (Estey Nicholas⁶, Nicholas⁵, Gideon⁴, Nicholas³, Sampson², Nicholas¹) b. Aug. 17, 1850, China, Me.; d. Jan. 26, 1921; m. Annie Augusta, dau. of Capt. Benjamin B. and Susan Higgins Jackson, May 11, 1898, who was born Oct. 12, 1866 and d. July 18, 1900, Wiscasset, Me. He was a merchant and three-times postmaster in China.

CHILDREN:

Harold, b. May 3, 1900, China, Me.; m. Evelyn Byrd Lee, Feb. 6, 1926, dau. of Asa Rogers Lee and Mary Rogers Lee, b. Jan. 9, 1907, Brooklyn, N.Y.

Harold Doe⁸, (Theron Estey⁷, Estey Nicholas⁶, Nicholas⁵, Gideon⁴, Nicholas³, Sampson², Nicholas¹) b. May 3, 1900, China, Me.; m. Evelyn Byrd Lee, Feb. 6, 1926, dau. of Asa Rogers Lee and Mary Rogers Lee, who was b. Jan. 9, 1907, Brooklyn, N.Y. He served 28 years in U.S. Navy, graduated U.S. Naval Academy, Annapolis, Md., 1923 and retired 1946 as Commander. Taught high school 3 years, and at U.S. Naval Academy 4 years. Resides China, Me.

CHILDREN:

1. Nancy Lee, b. 1926 in San Francisco; d. in infancy.
2. Harold, Jr.
3. Randolph Marshall.
4. Lucinda Lee, b. Feb. 12, 1941, Boston, Mass.; m. Leigh Ross Frankenfield, Nov. 30, 1962, son of Wayne and Caroline Frankenfield of China. He was b. Aug. 16, 1940. He operates a garage and is a farmer.

Children:

1. Mary Ann, b. Jan. 7, 1964.
2. Liana Lynn, b. Feb. 4, 1966.
3. David Ross, b. Dec. 4, 1971.

Harold Doe, Jr., (Harold, Theron Estey, Estey Nicholas, Nicholas, Gideon, Nicholas, Sampson, Nicholas) b. Sept. 5, 1927, Charleston, S.C.; m. Jacqueline G. Matte, b. Apr. 4, 1932 dau. of Richard C. and Eva Matte, of Waterville, Me., Aug. 18, 1950, at Quantico, Va. Served 22 years in U.S. Marine Corps, retired as Master Sergeant, lives in China.

CHILDREN:

1. Beverley Lee, b. May 28, 1951, Quantico, Va.; m. Stephen Field Lord of Vassalboro, Me., Dec. 16, 1971 who was b. June 11, 1945. They reside in Pemaquid, Me.

Child

Jason Field Lord, b. May 18, 1972.

2. Harold 3rd¹⁰, b. Dec. 18, 1957. Is a student.

Randolph Marshall Doe⁹,² (Harold⁸, Theron Estey⁷, Estey Nicholas⁶, Nicholas⁵, Gideon, Nicholas, Sampson, Nicholas¹) b. Mar. 6, 1930, Richmond, Va.; m. Bonnie Reis, b. Jun 6, 1931 dau. of Arthur and Virginia Reis, at Hingham, Mass., Nov. 27, 1954. Is vice president of United Electric Controls, Watertown, Mass. Resides in Hingham, Mass. He served in the U.S. Navy and U.S. Marine Corps.

CHILDREN:

1. Susan Lee, b. Aug. 28, 1955. Is a student.
2. Molly Reis, b. Mar. 25, 1957. Is a student.
3. Randolph Marshall, Jr.¹⁰, b. Jun. 9, 1960. Is a student.

The DOES who settled in Weeks Mills were also descendants of Nicholas Doe¹. In 1810 Deacon Andrew Doe moved from Vassalboro to Weeks Mills and built the house in which Robert and Marcia Reed now live. He was married Jan. 20, 1803 to Abigail Weeks, born on Cape Cod. He was a soldier in the War of 1812.

Of his twelve children two of the boys went south and settled. The girls married and moved away but Alton Chapman Doe married Sarah T. Perkins of Alna and stayed in Weeks Mills. He was a farmer and a carpenter. In 1867 he bought the property now owned by Merle and Doris Jones of John and Benjamin Clifford. His children: Alton, Alonzo, and Sarah are all in the Weeks Mills Cemetery.

Alton married Susan Welt of Waldoboro and lived in Branch Mills. His daughter, Mary, married Snow and lived in Hartford, Conn. His son, Frank, kept a store in Branch Mills. After the second fire in Branch Mills he and his wife, Bertha Harvey of Fairfield and their two children: Harvey and Alta, moved to Weeks Mills to the house now occupied by the Viens family. He again kept store in a building just east of the stream, by the bridge. Harvey became a doctor, died in Ohio and is buried in Arlington Cemetery in Alexandria, Va. Alta married Harry Maher. She was a very popular school teacher. She is buried at Weeks Mills.

Alonzo moved to Mass. but his son Wilfred always enjoyed coming to Weeks Mills and is buried there. Wilfred's son, Raymond, is the X-ray technician at the Thayer Hospital in Waterville.

Sarah taught school in Waldoboro, married Samuel Shuman then came home to care for her parents. Her children were: Alton, May and Willis. Alton married Nellie White and lived his life in Weeks Mills and Branch Mills where he ran the Shuman House, a busy hotel. Their son, Eleon, lives in Waterville. May married Hubbard White, a carpenter. They lived their lives in Weeks Mills. Their daughter, Edna, was born in the house under Meeting House Hill where the Bickfords now live. They soon moved to the present residence on North Street. Edna worked for years for Buzzell and Weston, Needlecraft, Depositors Trust Co., and was Registrar of Deeds for 20 years. She married, first, Augustus Weeks descendant of the Weeks for whom Weeks Mills was named. He died in 1952. In 1961 she married Rev. Dr. David Van Strien who is the much loved and respected minister of the Community Fellowship Church at So. China. Edna died June 19, 1974.

CLIFFORD

Willis B. married Edith Sproul, daughter of the late Oren and Carrie Sproul. Their children were: three daughters, Mildred married Harland Hussey; they built a good business, Hussey's General Store in Windsor. Ruby married O. K. Berry of Litchfield; his life work was with the Kellogg Co. Doris married Merle Jones; their lives were given to education; in retirement they live on the property Alton Chapman Doe bought of the Cliffords in 1867.

CLIFFORD

A part of China, near Weeks Mills, is called Deer Hill. It was settled first by two families by the name of Prentiss. One built a home on Upper Deer Hill. The road at that time (not much more than a trail) went past the back part of what used to be the John T. Gray property and continued on to join a road through woods owned by Joshua Crommett and on to Palermo.

The second Prentiss family settled on land now owned by Delbert Clifford whose grandfather Benjamin Clifford purchased it from Ruel Hatch in 1867.

The great grandfather of Delbert, Benjamin I, was a doctor who left Candia, N.H. with his wife, two sons, a horse, a cow and a few belongings. He finally settled on a farm now owned by Merle and Doris Jones. It was then mostly woods with no roads but horse paths. The doctor rode his horse when visiting patients at a distance and had saddle bags to carry what was needed. The doctor's fee was not large in those days. He would deliver a baby for the sum of one dollar. He had his own remedies which he used and referred to them in two small books which he had published. He believed in using heat rather than ice packs in some of his treatments. He would travel quite a distance and be gone for days caring for a patient. Then the land was cleared enough for a garden, and boys kept watch for bears that they didn't get into the corn or other vegetables.

One of the sons, also named Benjamin, moved to Deer Hill, as was mentioned before, when his son Benjamin Wilbert was 12 years old. The place was one formerly owned by a Doe. At the present time it is in the hands of the great grandson, Delbert Freeman Clifford.

The other son of Benjamin I, whose name was John, moved to what was then called Pigeon Plains and is now Dirigo, into a house now owned by James Melvin Haskell. John's wife, his son and daughter having died and he being in ill health, moved to Deer Hill to stay with brother Benjamin II till his death.

Benjamin III died in 1941 at the same home on Deer Hill. He was father of three sons: Roy L. who died in 1923, Ray W., a patient at the Augusta Convalescent Home and Delbert F. of Deer Hill.

Moses Dow, son of John and Patience (Swett) (dau. of Moses and Mary (Hussey) Swett) Dow; b. Jan. 7, 1734; d. Nov. 7, 1816 in Berwick, Me.; m. Dec. 8, 1756, Hannah Gove in Hampton, N. H. (she d. Sept. 30, 1799; dau. of Jonathan and Hannah (Worthen) Gove)

CHILDREN: (All born at Berwick - except Pelatiah)

1. Pelatiah, b. at Hampton, May 11, 1759; d. Oct. 11, 1792.
2. Jonathan, b. Sept. 26, 1762; m. (1st) May 21, 1788, Huldah Beede, (dau. of Jonathan and Anne Beede) m. (2nd) July 22, 1793, Abra Wentworth, (dau. of John and Hannah Wentworth) in Berwick.
3. Mary, b. Jan. 20, 1765; m. John Buffum (d. Jan. 9, 1812) Aug. 23, 1787.
4. Hannah, b. May 29, 1767; m. David Gove.
5. John, b. May 18, 1769; d. Sept. 15, 1771.
6. John, b. June 4, 1771; m. Zilpah Lincoln, removed to Vassalboro, Me.
7. Moses, b. April 5, 1773; m. Abigail _____ (b. July 13, 1781).
8. Paul, b. Sept. 22, 1775; m. Lydia Neal, July 1, 1802; (dau. of James and Lydia Neal in Berwick).
9. Richard, b. July 22, 1777; removed to Vassalboro.

John Dow, son of Moses and Hannah (Worthen) Gove Dow; m. (1st) Feb. 22, 1797 in Bristol, Me., Zilpah Lincoln (b. Feb. 20, 1774; d. in China, Me. June 15, 1826; dau. of Isaac and Lucy Lincoln) m. (2nd) March 4, 1829, Mrs. Jane Bickford Hussey (dau. of Moses and Priscilla Bickford); John Dow was born in Berwick, Me., June 4, 1771; d. in China, Me. Aug. 16, 1839.

CHILDREN:

1. Hannah, b. Feb. 5, 1798; m. Jan. 1, 1818, Tobias Jones (son of Edward).
2. Otis Little, b. Nov. 5, 1799; d. July 10, 1888; m. (1st) Jane Young.
3. Mary J., b. in Berwick, May 25, 1801; d. in China, Me., May 29, 1846; m. June 23, 1830, Elijah Winslow (son of Wm. & Phebe Winslow); child - Zilpah Jane Winslow, b. April 24, 1831; d. at St. Albans; m. (1st) Benj. Shephed; m. (2nd) D. Foss.
4. Oliver, b. Dec. 27, 1802; d. June 13, 1874; m. Elizabeth Milburn (b. 1810).
5. Isaac Lincoln, b. Dec. 5, 1804; m. Jane Hussey.
6. Huldah Beede, b. Feb. 12, 1807 in Harlem, Me.; m. Sept. 13, 1831, Geo. H. Collins (son of Paul and Mary Collins of Litchfield).
7. Rhoda Lincoln, b. May 15, 1809 in Harlem; d. Jan. 2, 1911, aet 102 yrs.; m. Thomas Farr (son of Noah and Abigail Farr).
8. Abigail L., b. March 15, 1812 in Harlem; d. May 1, 1887; m. in 1837, Rev. Isiah Rogers.
9. John Meader, b. June 8, 1814 in Harlem, d. in Brooks, Me.; m. Elizabeth Magoon (b. in St. Albans).
10. Sarah Lincoln, b. Oct. 16, 1820; d. Sept. 18, 1826; (Cem. stone has "Adopted dau.")

Isaac Lincoln Dow, son of John and Zilpah Dow; b. Dec. 5, 1804; d. in

China, Me., Jan. 12, 1875; m. Sept. 4, 1830, Mary Jane Hussey, (b. 1810 in Dover, N.H.).

CHILDREN:

1. Charles Edwin; b. March 9, 1832; d. Jan. 5, 1905; m. Mary Roxanna Worthing (dau of Hiram and Allie (Marden) Worthing), Shoemaker.
2. William Mellvill; b. Jan. 15, 1834; d. Nov. 6, 1912; m. May 18, 1856, Ellen M. Buffum of Palermo, (dau. of Wm. and Mary (Worthing) Buffum); b. 1835; d. 1896.
3. George Lincoln; b. June 11, 1836; d. June 30, 1892 in China, Me.; m. Sept. 18, 1858, in China, Almira Pullen Babcock. One child, Frederick B., b. 1849.
4. Everett Newton; b. Aug. 17, 1837; d. young.
5. Amanda Jane, b. Sept. 4, 1839; d. June 26, 1903 in Branch Mills; m. as (2nd) wife, Wm. E. Pinkham (son of John and Mary (Cole) Pinkham).
6. Everett Milton; b. Jan. 10, 1842; d. May 12, 1903 at Branch Mills; m. Sept. 29, 1867, Mary Black.

CHILDREN:

1. Edgar E., b. 1869; d. 1893.
2. Bertha A., b. m. Chadwick
3. Augusta, b. 1872.
4. Elva L., b. 1878; d. 1896.
5. Clifton O., b. 1881; m. Hattie M. Dodge (b. 1883).
6. Earl R., b. 1887; Undertaker.
7. Newton Russell, b. April 12, 1844; d. June 9, 1862 at Branch Mills.
8. Roscoe Greenlief, b. Sept. 4, 1846; d. Sept. 11, 1871.
9. Elwood Weston, b. Oct. 30, 1852; d. Aug. 3, 1888 at Branch Mills; m. June 28, 1874, Nellie O. Bridgham; had son Percy LaForest Dow, b. March 17, 1877.
10. Ella Adelaide. b. Aug. 3, 1854; d. July 24, 1907.

Oliver Dow (John, Moses, John), b. Dec. 27, 1802, son of John and Zilpah (Lincoln) Dow; d. June 13, 1874; m. Elizabeth Milburn (b. 1810 in England).

CHILDREN:

1. John W., d. Sept. 1, 1834.
2. Isaac Washington, b. N. B. May 7, 1833.
3. Sarah Jane, b. Grand Manan, Feb. 8, 1835.
4. John Oliver, b. in Milltown, Nov. 15, 1837.
5. Isaiah L., b. June 3, 1839.
6. Edwin Jeremiah, b. April 1, 1842; d. April 6, 1842.
7. George Willard, b. July 1, 1849.

Paul Dow (Moses, John), son of Moses and Hannah (Gove) Dow, b. Sept. 22, 1775; d. June 7, 1816; m. July 1, 1802, Lydia Neal, (dau. of James and Lydia Neal of Berwick) (Lydia, m. (2nd) Nathan Mower in Vassalboro, Nov. 27, 1817).

CHILDREN:

1. Eliza, b. Aug. 6, 1803; d. in China, Dec. 1893.
2. Cynthia, b. March 20, 1805; m. Asa Morrill, Oct. 27, 1825, son of Peter and Hannah Morrill.

3. Mary, b. July 22, 1808; m. Peter M. Stackpole, May 30, 1828, son of Thm. and Sarah Stackpole.
4. James Neal, b. Dec. 2, 1812; d. June 12, 1813.
5. Lydia Neal, b. June 13, 1813; d. Nov. 21, 1815.

Jonathan Dow (Moses, John), b. Sept. 26, 1762, son of Moses and Hannah (Gove) Dow; d.....; m. (1st) May 21, 1788, Huldah Beede (dau. of Jonathan and Anne Beede; she d. Aug. 27, 1789) m. (2nd) July 22, 1793, Abra Wentworth (dau. of John and Hannah Wentworth of Berwick) .

CHILDREN: (Jonathan and Huldah (Beede) Dow)

1. Moses, b. in Vassalboro, Aug. 15, 1789.

CHILDREN: (Jonathan and Abra (Wentworth) Dow)

2. John, b. in Vassalboro, April 5, 1797.
3. Richard, b. in Harlem, April 10, 1799.
4. Elijah, b. in Harlem, June 2, 1801; d. Oct. 2, 1816.
5. Daniel, b. in Harlem, May 18, 1805; m. (Int.) Aug. 26, 1826, to Mary Dickey of Vassalboro.

Rhoda Lincoln Dow (John, Moses, John), b. May 15, 1809; d. Jan. 2, 1911 aet 102 yrs.; m.....Thomas Farr (son of Noah and Abigail Farr).

CHILDREN: (Surname, FARR)

1. Lincoln Dow, b. March 12, 1835; d. Jan. 14, 1883; m. Nov. 30, 1860, Hannah Maria Bailey.
2. Mary Ellen, b. July 30, 1838; d. Aug. 30, 1867, unmarried.
3. Cynthia Maria, b. Feb. 23, 1844; m. June 2, 1869, James Nelson Jones (son of Silas and L. Jones)

Abigail L. Dow (John, Moses, John), b. March 15, 1812 in Harlem; dau. of John and Zilpah (Lincoln) Dow; d. May 1, 1887; m. in 1837, Rev. Isaiah P. Rogers.

CHILDREN:

1. Mary, b. April 25, 1838; d. March 31, 1865; m. Henry Winslow.
2. Martha A., b. Oct. 10, 1839, d. Aug. 1, 1885.
3. Charles Byron, b. March 13, 1842; killed at Gettysburg, July 3, 1863.
4. John Wesley, b. June 11, 1843; d. at Washington, D. C., Sept. 1, 1865.
5. Emma F., b. July 13, 1845.
6. Ellen A., b. Feb. 27, 1850

Charles Edwin Dow, b. Branch Mills, Me., March 9, 1832, son of Isaac and Mary Jane (Hussey); d. Jan. 5, 1905; was a carriage maker; m. Mary Roxana Worthing (d. Palermo Jan. 2, 1905, aet 68 yrs., dau. of Hiram and Ally (Marden) Worthing).

CHILDREN:

1. Allston Marden, b. July 18, 1867, a plumber in Augusta, d. Oct. 5, 1919; m. at Danvers, Mass. April 30, 1890, Katherine Eliz. Doyle, b. Kenmore, Ireland.
CHILD: Bernard (see Book of Dow p. 209).
2. Frank Newton R., b. Feb. 9, 1869; m. Feb. 23, 1893, Nellie M. Robinson of China, age 17, (d. May 3, 1894, dau. of Lorenzo B. and Clara (Lane) Robinson). No children.

Everett Milton Dow, b. Jan. 10, 1842, son of Isaac and Mary Jane (Hussey) Dow; carpenter, d. May 12, 1903; m. Sept. 29, 1867, Mary Cinderella Black.

CHILDREN:

1. Edgar Everett, b. Jan. 5, 1869; d. April 3, 1893.
2. Bertha Alma, b. Aug. 6, 1872; m. Jan. 1, 1901, Frank L. Chadwick of So. China. They had one child Hugh Elden, b. Augusta, Oct. 7, 1904; d. 1973.
3. Elva Leila, b. April 29, 1878; d. July 2, 1896.
4. Clifton Osma, b. Aug. 5, 1881.
5. Earl Raymond, b. July 30, 1887.

Clifton O. Dow, b. Aug. 5, 1881, son of Everett M. and Mary Cinderella (Black) Dow; farmer at Palermo; m. Oct. 23, 1902, Hattie May Dodge of Palermo, age 19 (dau. of Edmund T. and Hardie (Bradstreet) Dodge).

CHILDREN:

1. Edmund Everett, b. China, April 5, 1904; m. Sept. 8, 1928 at Augusta, Me., Alice L. Lander of Augusta.
2. Anne b. m. Elmer Tibbetts

CHILDREN:

1. Manley
 2. Esther McKeen
- 1887, undertaker, m. Margaret

Earl Raymond Dowe, b. of Cape Breton, N.S.

CHILDREN:

1. Milton, b. m. Virginia Wescott
2. Christine, b. m. Kenneth Coffin, DDS, resides Brunswick, Me.

Edmund Everett Dowe, son of Clifton and Harriet (Dodge) Dowe; b. April 25, 1904 at Palermo, Me.; m. Sept. 8, 1928 at Augusta, Me., Alice L. Lander of Augusta, Me.

CHILDREN:

1. Richard Edmund, b. March 28, 1929 at Augusta, Me.; m. July 22, 1951 at China, Me. Barbara Cushman of China, Me.

CHILDREN:

1. Linda Barbara, b. Aug. 25, 1952.
2. Sherri Lynn, b. Aug. 11, 1956.
3. Rhonda Madelene, b. Jan. 8, 1958.)
4. Richard Edmund II, b. Jan. 8, 1958 (twins

2. Dorothy Alice, b. China, Me., Dec. 2, 1933; m. Robert McKean of China, Me., April 23, 1949.

CHILDREN:

1. Patricia Alice, b. Feb. 6, 1952
2. Joyce Ann, b. June 5, 1956.
3. Pamela Kay, b. Nov. 24, 1962.

3. Barbara Ann, b. China, Me., Dec. 2, 1933; m. Arthur A. Poulin of Winslow, Me., Dec. 4, 1950.

CHILDREN:

1. Cheryl Lynn, b. Aug. 26, 1951.
2. Craig Arthur, b. May 14, 1954.
3. Alison Barbara, b. March 22, 1959.

4. Ruth Lander, b. China, Me., Jan. 11, 1936; m. Richard Hussey of China, Me., April 13, 1959.

CHILDREN:

1. Laura Jean, b. Oct. 10, 1962.
2. Jennifer Ann, b. Nov. 27, 1968.
5. Gloria Harriett, b. China, Me., May 26, 1938; m. Joseph C. Pinette at China Aug. 27, 1955.

CHILDREN:

1. Brian Edmund, b. Aug. 11, 1956.
2. Lori Ann, b. Nov. 24, 1958
3. Scott Joseph, b. May 17, 1960.
4. Gregory Dowe, b. Sept. 28, 1967; d. July 13, 1970.
6. Marilyn Frances, b. China, Me., Nov. 1, 1938; m. J. Russ Colby of Coopers Mills, Me., June 11, 1960; div. Nov., 1973.

CHILDREN:

1. Brenda Lee, b. Jan. 7, 1962.
2. Bonnie Jean, b. Jan. 17, 1965.
3. Jamie Lynn, b. Nov. 29, 1972.
7. Robert Clifton, b. China, Me., Dec. 22, 1940; m. Madelene Bailey of China, Aug. 28, 1959.

CHILDREN:

1. Robert Clifton, b. Oct. 7, 1963.
2. Julie Ann, b. June 9, 1965.
3. Kelley Sue, b. Aug. 17, 1966.
4. Glen Paul (adopted) Aug. 15, 1969.
5. Donald Edmund, b. July 31, 1970.
8. Roger Alan, b. Waterville, Me., July 18, 1944; m. Geirlaug Gudmanderlotter in Iceland, June 2, 1966.

CHILDREN:

1. G. Ronald (adopted), Apr. 12, 1964.
2. Michele Maria, b. July 7, 1968.
9. Ronald Lander, b. Waterville, Me., March 6, 1948; d. April 29, 1972.

Edmund Everett Dowe owned and operated Doves Diner for 38 years in South China Village. He also operated the Lakeview Pavillion for 38 years. For many years he cut tons of ice on China Lake, and others, for customers. He was engaged in the lumbering business and many other interests in China until he retired in 1968. Upon retirement, he began a roadside vegetable stand on Route 3, South China, which flourishes in the summer and fall months.

D U D L E Y

Micajah Dudley, son of Samuel Dudley, was born in Brentwood, N. H., Sept. 27, 1751; m. Susanna Foster, dau. of Timothy and Sebella (Freeman) Foster. She was b. at Attleborough, Mass., March 16, 1751 and d. in China, Me., Jan. 8, 1838. Micajah Dudley went to Winthrop (now Readfield) in 1774 and lived on lot No. 130, one half of which he conveyed to Thomas Dinsmore in 1778. He moved to Durham about 1785 and died there March, 1798. He was a minister of the Society of Friends.

CHILDREN: (Micajah and Susanna (Foster) Dudley)

1. John, b. Nov. 5, 1775; m. Eunice Winslow; d. in China, Oct. 27, 1847.
2. Samuel, b. Feb. 22, 1777; m. Anna Wing; d. in Sidney, Feb. 1, 1847.
3. Susanna, b. Dec. 18, 1778; m. Ephraim Jones. Their dau., Sibyl Jones married Eli Jones and both were distinguished preachers and missionaries among the Friends.
4. Mary, b. Sept. 3, 1780; m. Aaron Buffum.
5. Sibyl, b. March 16, 1782; m. Benjamin Dunham.
6. Thankful, b. March 31, 1784; m. Chandler Allen of Greene.
7. Micajah, b. Jan. 26, 1786; m. Jan. 17, 1810, Experience Wing; d. at China, March 24, 1837.
8. Lydia, b. Oct. 22, 1788; m. March, 1807, Robert Jones of Durham.
9. William, b. July 5, 1790; m. Nov. 29, 1812, Sarah Davis of Lewiston; d. in China in 1860.
10. Austras, b. April 30, 1792; d. 1796.
11. David, b. April 15, 1794; m. Eunice Buffum; lived in China, Me., but d. in Gardiner; he was a preacher among the Friends. His wife Eunice, was the dau. of Joshua and Patience Buffum; they were m. March 14, 1817.

John Dudley, son of Micajah and Susanna (Foster) Dudley, b. Nov. 5, 1775; d. in China, Oct. 27, 1847; m. Eunice Winslow.

CHILDREN:

1. Jane, b. in Durham, Me., Dec. 13, 1806.
2. Micajah, b. in Durham, Oct. 12, 1808; m. Sept. 3, 1833, Olive Clark.
3. John Morrison, b. in Durham, Dec. 7, 1809; m. June 5, 1842, Fanny Clough.
4. George, b. in Durham, Feb. 23, 1812.
5. Mathew Franklin, b. in Harlem, (China) Sept. 9, 1813; m. Nov. 28, 1847, Patience Hutchins.
6. Henry, b. in Harlem, Feb. 9, 1815; m. March 6, 1845, Emily E. Parker, dau. of Geo. and Deliverance Parker of Vassalboro.
7. Lydia, b. in Harlem, April 23, 1818.
8. Charles, b. in Harlem, Feb. 10, 1821.

David Dudley, son of Micajah and Susanna (Foster) Dudley, b. April 15, 1794; m. March 14, 1817, Eunice Buffum, dau. of Joshua and Patience Buffum.

CHILDREN:

1. Anstress, b. in Harlem, Feb. 5, 1818.

2. Elmira, b. May 1, 1820, in Harlem.
3. Sarah B., b. in China, March 18, 1822.
4. Chandler A., b. in China, May 2, 1824.
5. Daniel, b. August 24, 1826, in China, Me.

Samuel Dudley (James, Stephen), b. 1720 at Exeter, N. H.; d. Aug. 30, 1797; m. (1st) Miss Ladd; m. (2nd) Mrs. Sleeper; m. (3rd) Mrs. Clark.

CHILDREN:

1. Daniel, b. about 1744 at Raymond, N. H.; d. July 20, 1811;
m. Miss.....Dinsmore.
2. Samuel, b.; d. 1795, drowned in Sheepscot River, Me.
m. Sarah Young (dau. of Aaron Young).
3. Micajah, b.1750; d.1789.
4. Jeremiah, b.1753; d.at Bath, N. Y.
5. Moses, b.1755; m. MissSleeper.
6. Eliphalet, b.1759; d.West Virginia;
m. Miss Gilman.
7. James, b.1761; d.1809 at Hampton, Me.
8. Mary, m. Mr. Haines.
9. Mehitable, m. Mr. Stephens.
10. Lydia, m. Mr. Ingraham.

E S T E S

Jonathan Estes, (Simeon, Henry, Benjamin, Richard, Robert) b. in Windham, Me. March 31, 1780; d. Jan. 30, 1864; m. Sept. 10, 1812 Mary Varney (b. Oct. 12, 1783; d. Jan. 1, 1870; dau. of Nicholas and Mary (Estes) Varney)

CHILDREN:

1. Joseph, b. in Poland, Me. Aug. 28, 1813; d. March 9, 1868; m. April 27, 1837 Sybil Dunham.
2. Valentine M., b. in Poland, Dec. 20, 1814; d. Aug. 8, 1886; m. (1st) Louisa T. Rowe; m. (2nd) Lavinia Cook;

CHILDREN: (by Louisa)

1. Mary E.
2. Louisa B.
3. Cyrus, b. in Durham, Me., Oct. 6, 1816; m. June 1, 1842, Phebe Wing (b. March 12, 1801; dau. of Bachelor and Mary Wing of Leeds, Me.;) m. (2nd) Mary V. Winslow (dau. of Ebenezer and Lois (Jepson) Winslow of Albion, Me.) No. children.
4. John, b. in Pownal, July 17, 1818.
5. Elizabeth, b. in Pownal, May 2, 1820; unmarried; d. May 16, 1847.
6. Simeon, b. in Pownal, Dec. 30, 1821; unmarried; died April 5, 1843.
7. Mary A., b. in China, Me., Dec. 7, 1824; m. Feb. 27, 1845 Joseph Maxfield.

CHILDREN:

1. Jessie S., b. May 5, 1846; m. Jan. 1, 1869, Abbie Pullen.
2. Cyrus E., b. Dec. 13, 1847; d. Sept. 3, 1855.
3. Loise R., b. Sept. 20, 1849; d. Aug. 2, 1872.
4. Hattie S., b. Jan. 3, 1853; m. E. L. Baker.
5. Cyrus E., b. July 4, 1855; m. Frances Fowler.
6. Charles A., b. Feb. 11, 1858.
7. Herbert N., b. July 29, 1860.
8. Jonathan, Jr., b. in China, Me. Nov. 2, 1827; m. (1st) June 20, 1851, Eunice Wing (b. March 3, 1827; dau. of Sands Wing); m. (2nd) May 8, 1856, Julia A. Wardsworth (b. June 18, 1826; dau. of Ephraim Wardsworth).

CHILDREN: (Jonathan and Eunice Estes, Jr.)

1. Eunice W., b. May 4, 1852; m. Dec. 18, 1872 Lucian A. Doe

CHILDREN: (Jonathan and Julia A. Estes)

2. Mahlon D., b. in Vassalboro, Me. June 10, 1858; m. Sept. 15, 1883 Lucy M. Slipp of Presque Isle, Me.
3. Melvin W., b. Nov. 27, 1859; d. young.
4. J. Stanley, b. May 13, 1861
5. Frances H., b. April 9, 1864.
6. Wilbur A., b. Feb. 22, 1869
9. Isaiah Carr, b. in China, Me. July 15, 1830; d. Feb. 11, 1875.

Isaiah Carr Estes (Jonathan, Simeon, Henry, Benjamin, Richard, Robert),
b. in China, Me. July 15, 1830; d. Feb. 11, 1875; m. Feb. 22, 1854 Eliza E.
Jackson (dau. of Alexander and Hannah (Osborn) Jackson).

CHILDREN:

1. Ella E., b. Nov. 31, 1855; m. Aug. 11, 1875 Llewellyn Jackson.

CHILDREN:

1. Morris, b. May 11, 1877.
2. Dora, b. March 6, 1879.
3. Eliza E., b. July 26, 1886.
2. Dean, b. April 21, 1862.
3. Ralph, b. Jan. 24, 1866.
4. Eugene, b. March 3, 1874; d. Dec. 19, 1875.

Charles Estes (John, Simeon, Henry, Benjamin, Richard, Robert),
b. in China, Me., May 7, 1823; m. Jan. 28, 1849, Maria Betsey Greeley (b. Aug.
18, 1830; dau. of Burnham Greeley)

CHILDREN: (born in China, Me.)

1. Charles Henry, b. April 21, 1850; d. Jan. 1862.
2. James Burnham, b. Jan. 1853; d. April, 1853.
3. William Marshal, b. in Augusta, Me., June 10, 1854;
m. in California, Nov. 23, 1884, Addie Garwood.

CHILDREN:

1. Ethel May,
2. Roy Melvin.
4. Melvin Burnham, b. Feb. 1857; m. Emma Churchill.
5. Frederick Butler, b. in Fort Fairfield, Me. Sept. 14, 1860;
m. Hattie Ella Dyer, Sept. 22, 1886;

CHILDREN:

- Mabel, b. Aug. 5, 1887.

Robert Knowles Estes (John, Simeon, Henry, Benjamin, Richard, Robert)
b. in China, Me. May 14, 1829; d. Feb. 19, 1881; m. Dec. 28, 1851 Eliza H.
Strout.

CHILDREN:

1. Albert B., b. Oct. 24, 1852; m. Jennie L. Bailey;

CHILDREN:

- Alberta H.
- Arthur G.
- Mabel J.

2. Daniel W., b. Nov. 2, 1855; m. Dec. 14, 1873 Annie G. Elkins;

CHILDREN:

1. Lillian J. b. Oct. 9, 1875.
2. Charles C., b. May 15, 1878.
3. Charles W., b. Nov. 22, 1857; m. March 17, 1881, Addie M.
Ward.

CHILDREN:

1. Harry W., b. March 12, 1882.
2. Jessie E., b. April 17, 1883.

Caleb Estes (Caleb, Edward, Richard, Robert), b. April 6, 1778 in Durham, N. H.; m. in 1805 (1st) Charlotte Day (b. Aug. 28, 1780; d. Sept. 12, 1821; dau. of Josiah and Thankful (Blithen) Day, a native of England) He removed to China, Me. about 1814; d. May 25, 1864; m. (2nd) Sarah Robinson (b. Feb. 25, 1799; dau. of James and Sarah Robinson; she d. Feb. 22, 1829).

CHILDREN: (Caleb and Charlotte (Day) Estes)

1. Wealthy D., b. Jan. 6, 1807 in Durham, N. H.; m. Ezra Robinson (son of Daniel and Ruth Robinson), Jan. 23, 1828 in China, Me.
2. Jeremiah, b. March 6, 1808; d. at Vassalboro, Me., June 3, 1885.
3. George, b. Oct. 25, 1809 in Durham; resided in China, Me.
4. John, b. Aug. 18, 1811 in Harlem (China) Me.; d. May 10, 1885.
5. Valentine, b. April 25, 1815; m. Amy Jones (dau. of James and Hannah Jones)
6. Lydia, b. Oct. 31, 1816.
7. Caleb Estes, Jr., b. Dec. 23, 1819 in Harlem, Me.

(2nd marriage)

8. Charlotte, b. July 31, 1824 (Mrs. Lothrop, China, Me.)
9. Mary, b. Aug. 8, 1826; unmarried.
10. Sarah, b. Oct. 14, 1828 (Mrs. Taylor, Mass.)
(3rd marriage) to Eunice Robinson (dau. of Daniel and Elizabeth Robinson) Aug. 24, 1831 in China, Me. (She was b. in Wales, Me. April 5, 1784;) no children.

Caleb Estes, Jr. (Caleb, Caleb, Edward, Richard, Robert), b. in China, Me., Dec. 23, 1819; d. July 29, 1879; m. Nov. 28, 1838, Emily Clark (dau. of John Clark of Windham, Me.)

CHILDREN:

1. Sarah C., b. in China, Me. Nov. 8, 1839; d. Feb. 27, 1842.
2. Eunice E., b. in China, Oct. 19, 1840; d. Nov. 6, 1840.
3. Hannah Melisa, b. in St. Albans, Me., Sept. 23, 1841; m. April 7, 1864, Albert R. Lewis (son of Almon Lewis of Lee, Me., b. May 20, 1841).

CHILDREN:

1. Freddie, b. Oct. 16, 1865.
2. Emily Lucy, b. in Lee, Me.
3. Caleb Albert, b. in Winn, Me. Mar. 28, 1880.
4. Leola Alberta, b. in Lee, Nov. 29, 1882.
4. Orren Caleb, b. in Newport, Me. Oct. 5, 1842; d. Jan. 7, 1865.
5. Eunice C., b. in China, Oct. 14, 1843; d. July 26, 1844
6. Julia Frances, b. in China, Oct. 11, 1844; m. Nov. 29, 1886, John D. Stanwood (son of James)
7. George Wallace, b. in China, April 3, 1846; m. Jan. 1, 1880 Leah S. Fifield (b. Aug., 1855; dau. of Jeremiah Fifield)
CHILD: Margie E., b. Oct. 21, 1880
8. Prince Joseph, b. in Vassalboro, Me. Oct. 31, 1847; m. Nov. 25, 1875 Mary Andie, (b. 1856; dau. of Joseph W. Bradbury of Burlington, Me.)
CHILD: Horlinse May, b. in Brockton, Me.

9. Sarah Ella, b. in Vassalboro, Me. Aug. 18, 1849; m. July 10, 1873 Melvin Page (son of John Page of Burlington, Me. b. May, 1847).

CHILDREN:

1. Prince Caleb, b. in Lee, Me. 1874.
2. Julia Emily, b. in Burlington, Jan. 12, 1875.

10. Jere Edward, b. in Vassalboro, Oct. 5, 1850; m. Dec. 24, 1872, Mary Eva Hanscom (b. May 16, 1858; dau. of John C. Hanscom)

CHILDREN:

1. Francisio Owen, b. March 2, 1874.
2. Blanche Ethel, b. June 4, 1876; d. Nov. 11, 1883.
3. Edward, b. April 8, 1886.

11. Emily A., b. in Vassalboro, Dec. 19, 1851; d. Sept. 27, 1852.

12. Willis Alfred)

13. Willie Albert) Twins, b. in Vassalboro, April 29, 1853.

Willis died May 4, 1877.

Willie, m. April 21, 1877 Mary Eva Graves.

CHILDREN:

1. Carrie Melissa,
2. Willis A.
3. Lizzie M.

14. Frank Clark, b. in Vassalboro, Me. June 24, 1855; m. April 7, 1877, Nellie Frances Bradbury

CHILDREN:

1. Ralph
2. Grace.

Jeremiah D. Estes (Caleb, Caleb, Edward, Richard, Robert), b. in Brunswick, Me., March 6, 1808; d. June 3, 1885; m. May 2, 1830 Sarah J. Kendall (b. June 6, 1807; d. in Vassalboro Jan. 24, 1876; dau. of Joseph and Hannah (Smith) Kendall of Milton, Mass.)

CHILDREN: (born in China, Me.)

1. Elvira A., b. Jan. 3, 1832; m. (1st) George Haskell, m. (2nd) March 20, 1859 Andrew J. Basford (son of Jonathan M. Basford of Belfast, Me.)

CHILDREN: (George and Elvira (Estes) Haskell)

1. Sarah M., b. July 9, 1853; m. Levi Small Jr.
2. Minnie H., b. April 13, 1855; m. Fred Power of Bath, Me.
3. William A., b. Feb. 26, 1860.
4. Charles H., b. Dec. 21, 1862.
5. Edwin E., b. April 9, 1866

2. Gustavus A., b. Dec. 24, 1833; m. Was in Co. I, 1st D.C. Cavalry; killed in Battle, Oct. 27, 1864.

CHILDREN:

1. Gustavus Kendall, b. Oct. 16, 1863.
3. Hannah M., b. February 3, 1836; d. Nov. 21, 1837.
4. Jeremiah A., b. April 26, 1838; was in Co. I, 1st D. C. Cavalry; killed Aug. 25, 1864.
5. Redford M., b. Nov. 11, 1840; m. (1st) June 28, 1868, Helen M. Estes (b. June 4, 1848; d. March 9, 1876, dau.

of William A. Estes); m. (2nd) June 23, 1878 Lizzie J. Pinkham (b. Jan. 26, 1853; dau. of Albert Pinkham of China, Me.). Was in Co. H. 19th Regt. Me. Inf.; wounded at Gettysburg, July 2, 1863.

CHILDREN (Redford and Helen Estes) (born in China)

1. John Henry, b. June 16, 1869.
2. Vira Basford, b. April 4, 1874.

CHILDREN: (Redford and Lizzie Estes)

3. Redford A., b. Jan. 24, 1879.
4. Edward J., b. Nov. 5, 1880.
6. John H., b. March 23, 1843; was in Co. H. 19th Me. Infantry; killed July 3, 1863 in the battle of Gettysburg.
7. Caleb F., b. April 17, 1845; m. Jan. 12, 1870 Every A. Hathorn of Richmond, Me. Served in Co. G., 7th Me. Regt.

CHILDREN:

1. Annie H., b. Dec. 9, 1870
2. Arthur D., b. Oct. 24, 1875.
8. William A., b. Sept. 29, 1848; d. July 5, 1849.

George Estes (Caleb, Caleb, Edward, Richard, Robert); b. Oct. 25, 1809 in Durham, N. H.; m. Rebecca Austin (b. Sept. 23, 1812).

CHILDREN: (born in China)

1. David Lindley, b. Dec. 24, 1831; m. Dec. 24, 1854, Emily N. Ward in China.
2. Jeremiah, b. Feb. 25, 1833; d. April 27, 1834.
3. Jeremiah, b. Dec. 18, 1834
4. Susan Ellen, b. Jan. 14, 1837; m. Nov. 18, 1863, Edward F. Parker (son of Joseph Parker of Yorkshire, England).

CHILDREN:

1. Lulu M., b. Aug. 6, 1868.
5. Caleb, b. Jan. 25, 1839; d. Jan. 25, 1842.
6. George Everett, b. May 15, 1841; d. Feb. 4, 1842.
7. Elizabeth C., b. April 30, 1843.
8. Annie M., b. 1847; m. John A. Woodsum.
9. Mary, b. 1849; m. Fred B. Foy.
10. Emma, b. July 17, 1854; m. A. S. Lord.

Elizabeth Estes (George, Caleb, Caleb, Edward, Richard, Robert), b. April 30, 1843; m. April 27, 1873, Albert N. Turner (son of Alfred N. Turner).

CHILDREN:

1. George, b. March 5, 1874.
2. Charles W., b. July 11, 1876.
3. Helen Alberta, b. Sept. 6, 1877.

Wealthy Estes (Caleb, Caleb, Edward, Richard, Robert), b. Jan. 6, 1807; d. Jan. 11, 1880; m. January 21, 1828, Ezra G. Robinson (b. Sept. 22, 1806 in Ware, N. H.; d. April 26, 1882; son of Daniel and Ruth (Green) Robinson)

CHILDREN: (born in China, Me. - surname Robinson)

1. Charlotte D., b. Dec. 3, 1828; d. June 29, 1889; m. Sept. 13, 1854, Joseph L. Holmes.
2. John Estes, b. Sept. 13, 1833; m. Orphena Johnson; d. Aug. 31, 1872.
3. Ruth G., b. Aug. 10, 1835; m. (1st) March 4, 1854, Charles L. Robbins; m. (2nd) William P. James.

4. Ellen B., b. March 4, 1837; d. Nov. 2, 1863.
5. Sewell Z., b. April 8, 1842; m. Julia E. Brown.

Sarah R. Estes (Caleb, Caleb, Edward, Richard, Robert), b. in China, Me., Oct. 14, 1828; m. Dec. 28, 1861 in Lawrence, Mass., Garvin Taylor.

CHILDREN: (surname Taylor)

1. Caleb Walter, b. Sept. 22, 1864; d. June 6, 1867.

Valentine Estes (Caleb, Caleb, Edward, Richard, Robert), b. in China, Me., April 25, 1815; m. Jan. 23, 1839 (1st) Amy Jones (dau. of James and Hannah Jones; d. Nov. 1845); m. (2nd) April, 1847 Mrs. Sarah S. Ridley (Stewart) of St. Albans) d. April 13, 1887.

CHILDREN: (Valentine and Sarah Estes)

1. Charles H., b. Jan. 16, 1848
2. Edwin D., b. March 31, 1850.
3. Horace B., b. March 13, 1854.
4. Rosa B., b. Feb. 6, 1856; m. ... Sleeper.

Charlotte Estes (Caleb, Caleb, Edward, Richard, Robert), b. July 31, 1824; m. Feb. 18, 1845, John Northrop in Palermo, Me.

CHILDREN: (surname Northrop)

1. Mary A., b. June 21, 1849; m. Jan. 1, 1869, Sylvester Tobey.
2. Joseph W., b. Aug. 30, 1855; m. Dec. 24, 1876, Ada Erskine.

John Estes (Caleb, Caleb, Edward, Richard, Robert), born in China, Me., Aug. 18, 1811; d. May 10, 1885; m. (1st) Elizabeth Kennedy; m. (2nd) Nancy Ayer; m. (3rd) Esther P. Hammett.

CHILDREN: (John and Elizabeth (Kennedy) Estes)

1. Caroline Kennedy, b. Feb. 22, 1834; m. April 17, 1850,
Peleg H. Berry

CHILDREN:

1. John E., b. June 4, 1853.
2. Laura Adelia, b. July 12, 1856.
3. Addie, b. July 1, 1861.
4. Frank Peleg, b. March 19, 1866.
2. Julia Elizabeth, b. March 25, 1836; m. Oct. 31, 1855,
Andrew J. Bang.

CHILDREN: (surname Bang)

1. Oliver H., b. Nov. 3, 1856.
2. Minnie E., b. in Houlton, Me., Nov. 28, 1865; m. James Feeley.
3. Fred Levi, b. Smyrna, Me., Nov. 25, 1873.
4. Julia Laura, b. April 22, 1878.
3. George M., b. Sept. 26, 1838; m. July 22, 1866, Emma L. Libby (dau. of Richard Lilly of Mattawamkeag, Me.).

CHILDREN:

- Eben, Willie W., Mary E., Ferdinando,
George B., Lottie E., John R., Elwin.
4. Anna Maria, b. Feb. 16, 1841; m. June 24, 1860, Taylor C. Woodbury.

CHILDREN: (surname Woodbury)

Howard C., Addie May, Jerome Eugene, Delia H.,
Charles P.

CHILDREN (John and Nancy Estes)

5. Susan A., b.
6. Charles A., b. June 14, 1847; m. Sept. 6, 1871, Elizabeth
P. Knapp;

CHILD:

- Eveline Ayer, b. Sept. 4, 1872.
7. Edwin Palmer, b.
 8. Willie, b.
 9. Mary A., b.

Lydia Estes (Caleb, Caleb, Edward, Richard, Robert), b Oct. 31, 1816;
d. July 10, 1874; m. July 3, 1836, Rufus Cram of China, Me.

CHILDREN: (born in China - surname Cram)

1. Elizabeth, b. Sept. 11, 1838; d. February 12, 1842.
2. John L., b. Sept. 1, 1841; d. Nov. 24, 1863.
3. Maria F., b. Oct. 31, 1850.
4. William A., b. Aug. 1, 1853 in Vassalboro, Me.; m. Oct. 8,
1887, Leonora W. Saunders of N.S.
5. Albion B., b. June 21, 1855; d. Oct. 31, 1856.

Annie M. Estes (George, Caleb, Caleb, Edward, Richard, Robert), b. China, 1847;
d. 1926; m. John A. Woodsum, 1869 (b. Albion, 1849; d. 1938).

CHILDREN: (surname Woodsum)

1. George A., b. Somerville, Mass., 1871; d. 1968; m. Annie Russell,
at Sagus, 1918.
2. Willard F., b. Somerville, Mass., 1873; d. 1959; m. Florence
Brown at China, 1912.
3. *Beulah M., b. Somerville, Mass. 1875; d. 1965; m. Everett Farnsworth
at China, 1903.

CHILDREN:

1. Donald W., b. China, 1904; m. Eula Curtis of
Danvers, 1932;

Children:

Everett C., b. Danvers, 1937;
m. Priscilla Levy, Melrose, 1964;

Children:

Gary, b. 1966.

Pamela, b. 1969.

2. Dorothy, b. 1905, China; m. Kenneth W.
Bragdon, Westbrook, 1927;

Children:

1. Beverly E., b. (Waterville),
1929; m. James Allen, 1947.

Children:

1. James Kenneth,
b. (Waterville), 1948;
m. M. V. Ferland, 1972.

Children:

James Bragdon Allen,
b. (Waterville) 1974.

* Only one to live in China.

2. Mary Margo, b. Water-
ville) 1953; m. Roger
Hallee, 1973.

2. Margaret M., b. (China) 1932;
m. Wm. T. Shoemaker, 1953.

Children:

1. Kimberly, b. Winches-
term, 1957.

2. Jesse W., b. Winches-
term, 1960.

3. Phyllis, b. (China) 1909; no children

4. A. Florence, b. (Albion), 1877;
d. 1969; m. Herbert Hatch (Saugus),
1905.

H A T C H

Sylvanus Hatch (Sylvanus, Moses, Moses, Jonathan, Thomas), b. at Falmouth, Mass., 1760; was a Revolutionary soldier and removed to China, Me. after the war and drew a pension; later he removed to Chester, Me., where he died at 100 years.

CHILDREN:

1. Moses, b. Dec. 25, 1787; m. (Int.) May 12, 1809, Sally Watern (?Waters) of Vassalboro, Me.
2. Sylvanus, b. March 16, 1790; m. Margaret Palmer.
3. Ira, m. Martha Packard.
4. Ezra, b. at China, Me.; m. Bethulah Freeman of Vassalboro, Me.

CHILD:

- Hartwell Freeman, b Jan 8, 1820.
5. Nancy, m. Sept 2, 1819, Joseph Mosher.
 6. Betsey,
 7. Ballard, d at the age of 16 yrs.

Sylvanus Hatch, (Sylvanus, Sylvanus, Moses, Moses, Jonathan, Thomas) b. at China, Me., March 16, 1790; m., 1811, Betsey Waters (d. in China, Me., March 31, 1818); m. (2nd), (Int) Oct 11, 1818, Margarett Palmer (b. March 2, 1801). He resided in China, until 1829 then removed to Chester, Maine and later to Maysville, Me., where he d. Feb. 14, 1871; his wife d. 1876.

CHILDREN:

1. Jonathan, b in China, Dec. 6 1811; m. Mary Ann Loveitt.
2. Hiram, b. in China, June 16, 1813; m. Eliza Ann Haskell.
3. Nancy Jane, b in China, Feb. 11, 1815; m. Clark Hanson; resided at Belfast, Me

CHILDREN.

- William, Maria, Rose, Edgar F.
4. Sylvanus Ballard, b. in China, Oct. 20, 1816; m. Jane Cleaves.
 5. Lemuel, b in China, March 31, 1818; m. Eunice Wood
- (children by 2nd marriage)
6. William Palmer, b. Sept. 23, 1819; m. Louisa Nute.
 7. Elizabeth Waters, b. Dec. 14, 1821; m. John Smith;

CHILDREN:

- Wm., Margaret F., Augustus, Charles W., Frank, Ella, Edward, George, Ida Willie.
8. Margaret Flavilla, b. May 20, 1823; d. Dec. 2, 1834.
 9. Orilla Boober, b. July 19, 1825; m. William Moore;

CHILDREN:

- Emeline, Rosilla, George W., Delano, Melissa, Ellis, Milissia, Ada, Laura, Roscoe.
10. Ezra, b. July 27, 1827 at China, Me.; m. Emeline Stimans Keene.
 11. Sarah Palmer, b. Nov 25, 1829; d. Sept. 1, 1903 at Kenduskeag, Me.; m. June 17, 1846 Nathaniel Fellows (son of Moses and Lydia (Bassett) Fellows; b. Sept. 30, 1807 in Winthrop, Me.; d. July, 1883 at Portland, Me.)
 12. Floretta, b. Oct 18, 1831; m. (1st) James Edwin Hardy; m. (2nd) John Hay.
 13. Roxana Merrill, b. Sept. 27, 1833; m. Sept. 27, 1850, James Fernald Barto.

14. Lorenzo Dow, b. Oct. 16, 1835 at Old Town, Me.; m. Margaret Getchell.
15. Flavilla, b. Nov. 12, 1837; m. Kenry Parsons, m. (2nd) Edwin Savage.
16. Samuel Palmer, b. Dec. 1839.
17. Hildanus Willis, b. Jan. 7, 1844.
18. Margaret L., b. April 28, 1847.
19. Hildanus Willis, b. Jan. 6, 1849.

Moses Hatch, (Sylvanus, Sylvanus, Moses, Moses, Jonathan, Thomas) b. at China, Me., Dec. 25, 1787; m. Sarah (Sally) Waters (b. July 16, 1785 at China, Me.) (Int.) May 12, 1809.

CHILDREN:

1. Abigail, b. in China, April 11, 1810.
2. Thomas W., b. in China, Nov. 21, 1811.
3. Betsey, b. in Mercer, Me. Aug. 22, 1813.
4. Angeline, b. in Vienna, Me., Sept. 18, 1817.
5. Julian, b. in Chesterville, June 25, 1819.
6. Moses Carlton, b. Oct. 25, 1822.

Jonathan Hatch, (Sylvanus, Sylvanus, Sylvanus, Moses, Moses, Jonathan, Thomas) b. at China, Me., Dec. 6, 1811; d. Feb. 29, 1892 at Lisbon, Me.; m. Feb. 26, 1834, at Enfield, Me., Mary Ann Loveitt (dau. of Israel Loveitt, she b. in Windsor, Me., Dec., 1810).

CHILDREN:

1. Ira W., b. April 2, 1835
2. Mary Luella, b. July 28, 1838; m. Alfred Hollis Keene of Chester, Me
3. Moses Israel, b. May 18, 1840; d. Oct. 14, 1873.
4. Martha J., b. Jan. 1, 1843; d. Aug. 12, 1852.
5. Sarah E., b. Nov. 14, 1844; d. Aug. 15, 1852.
6. Nancy Rebecca, b. April 10, 1846; m. James Cook.
7. Flora A., b. Sept. 15, 1849; d. Nov. 8, 1850.
8. Aaron H., b. Nov. 30, 1851;
9. Madora Ada, b. March 25, 1853; m. Elisha Hopkins.
10. Aaron P., b. July 25, d. Sept. 30, 1856.

Hiram Hatch, (Sylvanus, Sylvanus, Sylvanus, Moses, Moses, Jona, Thomas) b. at China, Me., Jan. 16, 1813; d. Sept. 29, 1888 in Rockland, Me.; m. March 23, 1851, Eliza Ann Haskell (b. Aug. 11, 1819 at New Gloucester, Me., dau. of Isaac and Jane Boardman; she d. Aug. 30, 1896).

CHILDREN: (born in Rockland, Me.)

1. Nathan Grover, b. June 22, 1853; d. Nov. 14, 1857.
2. Ann Eliza, b. Sept. 2, 1858; d. Sept. 12, 1861.
3. Jessie Waters, b. Sept. 8, 1861; m. Charles Alton Haskell (son of Samuel).
4. Katie Jane, b. Sept. 4, 1856; d. Nov. 2, 1857.

Sylvanus Ballard Hatch, (Sylvanus, Sylvanus, Sylvanus, Moses, Moses, Jonathan, Thomas) b. at China, Me., Nov. 20, 1816; m. Jane Cleaves of Windsor, Me.; resided at Chester, Maine.

CHILDREN:

1. John Brown, d. in the army; b. Sept. 1, 1836.
2. Pamela Augusta, (twin to John) b. Sept. 1, 1836.
3. Betsey,
4. Mary Frances,
5. Deborah,
6. Sylvanus, d. unmarried (Civil War)
7. Hiram,
8. Emma,
9. Ida.

Lemuel Hatch (Sylvanus, Sylvanus, Sylvanus, Moses, Moses, Jonathan, Thomas), b. in China, Me., March 31, 1818; d. in Maysville, Me., Oct. 10, 1876; m. 1841, Eunice Wood (dau. of John and Hannah (Messer) Wood; b. Nov. 11, 1821; d. at Easton, Me., 1910).

CHILDREN:

1. Elizabeth S., b. Feb. 19, 1843; m. Charles D. Thompson.
2. Adaline M., b. Oct. 1, 1845; d. Feb. 18, 1848.
3. Adaline M., b. Aug. 24, 1848; m. Edgar W. Moulton.
4. Evelyn, b. Aug. 4, 1850; m. John D. Colby.
5. Oren C., b. Oct. 10, 1852.
6. Silas G., b. Oct. 24, 1854.
7. Daniel P., b. July 9, 1859.
8. Annie E., b. Aug. 20, 1861; m. Amos P. Roberts.
9. John Wood, b. March 2, 1863.

Ezra Hatch, (Sylvanus, Sylvanus, Sylvanus, Moses, Moses, Jonathan, Thomas) b. in China, Me., July 27, 1827; d. Dec. 5, 1861 (Civil War); m. Emeline Stimans Keene (b. March 7, 1839 at Chester, Me.; dau. of Seneca and Mary (Stimans) Keene).

CHILDREN:

1. Lewis C., b. June 13, 1854.
2. Julia Jane, b. June 10, 1856; m. Perley Lott Chase.
3. Ernest Everett, b. Jan. 23, 1859.

William Palmer Hatch (Sylvanus, Sylvanus, Sylvanus, Moses, Moses, Jonathan, Thomas), b. at China, Me., Sept. 23, 1819; d. at Chester, Me., Aug. 1863; m. Louisa Nute.

CHILDREN:

1. William Palmer, b. Jan. 9, 1843.
2. Ira, b. Aug. 7, 1844.
3. Sarah Palmer, b. November 28, 1846.
4. Willis Dana, b. Nov. 28, 1850.
5. Jefferson Joseph, b. March 6, 1853.
6. Henry Edward, b. March 13, 1855; m. Carrie Everett.
7. Mary Ella, b. Jan. 30, 1859.
8. John Edwin, b. May 18, 1863.
9. Margaret Clara,
10. Percival,

Oshea Hatch (Joseph, Moses, Moses, Jonathan, Thomas), b. at Falmouth, Mass., Dec. 30, 1766; moved to China, Me. and m.1793, Lydia Goodspeed, (dau. of Nathaniel Goodspeed of Vassalboro, b. Jan. 18, 1763 at Barnstable, Mass., d. in China, Me.)

CHILDREN:

1. Hannah, b. June 18, 1794; m. John Hodgdon (b. Nov. 19, 1793); resided in Cornish, Me.
2. Allen, b. June 26, 1796; m. Oct. 18, 1822, Abigail Marsh.
3. Ruel, b. July 14, 1798; m. Sybel Prentiss; d. April 18, 1865.

4. Mehitable, b. Aug. 22, 1800; m. Thomas Whittier.
5. Amasa, b. Nov. 29, 1802; m. Priscilla Baker.
6. Elizabeth, b. Nov. 30, 1807; m. 1833, William Lougee, of Exeter, Me.

Allen Hatch (Oshea, Joseph, Moses, Moses, Jonathan, Thomas), b. at China, Me., June 26, 1796; m. Abigail Marsh; he resided near the town line of Windsor.

CHILDREN:

1. Henry M., b. Dec. 26, 1817; m. Mary Longfellow.
2. Ira, b. in China, 1828; m. May 24, 1858, Mary M. Bussey (dau. of Robert and Elizabeth Bussey).
3. Hartwell, b.; m. Omene Webb.
4. Abigail,
5. Mary Abbey, b. in China, Oct. 11, 1834; m. Albert Henry Saunders, Aug. 27, 1857, at Newburyport, Mass.; d. at Nashua, N.H. Nov. 11, 1873; had eight boys.
6. Hannah Jane, m. Perkins.
7. Emeline, m. Harry Fuller; resided in Hallowell, Me.
8. Euphemia, m. Robinson.

Ruel Hatch (Oshea, Joseph, Moses, Moses, Jonathan, Thomas), b. at China, Me., July 14, 1798; m. May 3, 1820, Sybel Prentiss; d. April 18, 1865; widow resided at Weeks Mills.

CHILDREN:

1. Joseph, b. June 19, 1821, at China, Me.; m. Mary Calnon;
2. Rosannah, b. Oct. 26, 1823; m. Samuel Tibbets, d. 1905.
3. Jesse Prentiss, b. Nov. 23, 1826; unmarried.
4. Ruel Otis, b. April 23, 1829, at China, Me.; m. Susan Plummer.
5. Lucinda, b. June 23, 1831; m. Jonathan Moody of Albion, Me., March 18, 1868; d. April 23, 1894; had one son.
6. Damaris Rollins, b. Sept. 14, 1835; d. unmarried Oct. 26, 1909.
7. Sylvester Lougee, b. Oct. 23, 1840; (Civil War); d. in Texas, Sept. 23, 1865, unmarried.

Amasa Hatch, (Oshea, Joseph, Moses, Moses, Jonathan, Thomas) b. at China, Me., Nov. 29, 1802; m. (1st) Oct. 1820, Priscilla Baker (dau. of Ansel and Priscilla Baker; b. May, 1802 at China and d. Oct. 29, 1849, at Garland, Me.); m. (2nd) at Dexter, Me., May 15, 1850, Deborah Toothaker; resided at China, Garland and Alton, Me.

CHILDREN:

1. Nathaniel G., b. Nov. 27, 1821, at China; m. Jane Fisher.
2. Benjamin C., b. July 11, 1824, at China, m. Mary E. Crocker.
3. Amasa, b. October 4, 1826, at China; m. Ploma Skinner.
4. Andrew Jackson, b. Oct. 26, 1829, at Garland, Me.; m. Mary Knox.
5. Ruel, b. May 28, 1832 at Garland, Me.; m. Mary Jane Jones, dau. of Wm. G. Jones.
6. George W., b. May 3, 1834, at Garland, Me.; m. Nancy Ann Young; resided in Alton, Me.
7. Priscilla A., b. June, 1839; m. at Milo, Me., Henry M. Prescott.

8. Angie, b. April 13, 1843; m. Sumner Knox.
9., dau., b. 1851; m. at Bradford, Me. John Q. A. Ellis;
resided at Alton, Me.

Henry M. Hatch, (Allen, Oshea, Joseph, Moses, Moses, Jonathan, Thomas)
b. at China, Me., Dec. 26, 1817; d. in California; m. Mary Longfellow.

CHILDREN:

1. Charles L., b. May 22, 1854 in China, Me.
2. Ella Frances; m. Will L. Eames of Lewiston, Me; d. 1908.

Hartwell Hatch, (Allen, Oshea, Joseph, Moses, Moses, Jonathan, Thomas)
b. ; d. at a Soldier's Home in Mich.; m. Omena Webb of Windsor, Me.,
resided in Windsor, Me.

CHILDREN:

1. Abigail,)
2. Eva,) Twins
3. Ashbury H., m. July 3, 1890, Blanche Troop of Pittston, Me.

CHILDREN:

1. Linwood A., b. Oct., 1894
2. A dau.

Joseph Hatch, (Ruel, Oshea, Joseph, Moses, Moses, Jonathan, Thomas)
b. in China, Me.; d. June 8, 1906; m. at Antwerp, Belgium, Mary Calnon (b.
March 7, 1829 in London, England; d. March 4, 1894, at China, Me.) He completed
a voyage around the world, April 26, 1855, which took 11 months and 26 days; he
was mate to a sea captain and followed the sea from time to time from the age
of 17 years, until the outbreak of the civil war.

CHILDREN:

1. Josephine Louise, b. August 13, 1866; m. Jan. 17, 1902,
Hubert Wm. Hopkins (son of Robert and Susan (King)
Hopkins; b. in Manchester, May 5, 1862; d. in
Hallowell, Apr. 26, 1925).
2. Cornelius Ruel, b. Oct. 29, 1867. m. Alice E. Corbin (b. 1875).

CHILDREN:

1. Reginald J. b. 1897.
2. Reuel J., b. 1899.
3. George M., b. 1900.
4. LaForest G., b. 1905.

Ruel Otis Hatch (Ruel, Oshea, Joseph, Moses, Moses, Jona. Thomas)
b. at China, Me., April 23, 1829; d. Aug. 18, 1895; m. Oct. 1, 1856 (town
records) Susan Plummer, (dau. of Samuel Plummer, d. Oct. 11, 1883).

CHILDREN:

1. A child, b. (?) 1857.
2. A child, b. (?) 1859.
3. Harriet D., b. July 9, 1864; d. March 20, 1871.

Nathaniel G. Hatch (Amasa, Oshea, Joseph, Moses, Moses, Jona. Thomas)
b. at China, Me., Nov. 27, 1821; m. at Corinth, Me., 1847, Jane Fisher;
resided at Kenduskeag, Me.

CHILDREN:

1. Ida, b. Sept. 3, 1848, at Garland, Me. d. July, 1880.
2. Hattie, b. Aug. 20, 1850 at Kenduskeag; m. Jerome Keezer.
3. Viola, b. Oct. 12, 1854; m. at Bradford, Me., Melville Chase.
4. Fannie, b. 1856; m. at Hudson, Me., Fred Preble.
5. Herbert L., b. March 28, 1859; m. Kate Dempsey,
6. Charles, b. 1863, at Bradford, Me.

Benjamin C. Hatch (Amasa, Oshea, Joseph, Moses, Moses, Jona. Thomas) b. at China, Me. July 11, 1824; d. at Bradford, Me., Dec. 17, 1881; m. at Kenduskeag, Me., Nov. 1849, Mary E. Crocker (dau. of Lee Crocker; b. April 13, 1832).

CHILDREN:

Mary E., Benjamin F., Addie, Eugene, Nettie, Lizzie.

Amasa Hatch, (Amasa, Oshea, Joseph, Moses, Moses, Jona. Thomas) b. at China, Me. Oct. 4, 1826; m. (1st) at Garland, Me., June 5, 1851, Ploma Skinner (b. at Garland, Me. March 9, 1826; d. June 19, 1866; dau. of Mason and Rebecca Skinner;) m. (2nd) at Alton, Me., Jan. 1, 1868, Martha E. Farnham.

CHILDREN:

Winfield S., Rebecca E., Edwin A., Frank A., Sarah L.;
(by 2nd m.) Gyrus L..

J E N K I N S

Jabez Jenkins, son of Renold Jenkins,; m. Elizabeth Dennett.

CHILDREN: (born in Kittery, Me.)

1. Renold, b. Nov. 26, 1741; m. Lydia Allen.
2. Anne M., b. June 4, 1743; died.
3. Ebenezer, b. June 11, 1746; died.
4. Sarah, b. June 3, 1747; died.
5. Isaiah, b. Dec. 28, 1749/50; m. (1st) Sarah Hanson;
m. (2nd) Abigail Cartland.
6. Jabez, removed to Falmouth, Me.; m. Elizabeth Varney.

Jabez Jenkins, (Jabez, Renold) b., son of Jabez and Elizabeth (Dennett) Jenkins; d. Oct. 25, 1838; m. March 24, 1784, Elizabeth Varney (d. Aug. 7, 1814, dau. of Stephen and Deliverance Varney)

CHILDREN:

1. Deliverance.
2. Moses, m. June 26, 1822, Sarah Fry, dau. of Joshua and Mary Fry in Vassalboro.
3. William, d. Nov. 10, 1830.
4. Jabez, b. June 16, 1799; d. July 8, 1890; m. (1st) Mary Nichols; m. (2nd) Sarah Nichols.
5. Isaac, b. in Vassalboro, March 24, 1802.
6. Stephen, b. February 6, 1788; m. Sept. 24, 1812 in Vassalboro, Hannah Hobby, dau. of Remington and Anstrus Hobby.

Stephen Jenkins (Jabez, Jabez, Renold), b. Feb. 6, 1788, son of Jabez and Elizabeth (Varney) Jenkins; d. June 12, 1847, in China, Me.; m. (1st) Sept. 24, 1812 in Vassalboro, Me.; Hannah Hobby (dau. of Remington and Anstrus Hobby; b. June 3, 1791 in Vassalboro, d. Nov. 17, 1842;) m. (2nd) Sept. 23, 1844, Lydia Tuttle (widow).

CHILDREN: (Stephen and Hannah (Hobby) Jenkins)

1. Henry, b. July 19, 1813 in Freedom; d. May 20, 1814, in China, Me.
2. Eliza E., b. April 29, 1816; d. Sept. 5, 1841; m. , Winslow.
3. Henry, b. Aug. 16, 1821 in Vassalboro; d. Feb. 13, 1844 in China, Me.
4. Hartwell A., b. Nov. 27, 1822 in Vassalboro; d. in China, Me., March 14, 1897.
5. Howard Cary, b. July 22, 1825, in China,; d. Feb. 26, 1847.
6. Emeline, b. July 4, 1829, in China, Me.,; d. Feb. 26, 1847.
7. Gideon Hobby, b. Oct. 8, 1831, in China; d. April 20, 1838, aet 6 yrs. 6 mos. 12 dys.

CHILDREN: (Lydia (Tuttle) Jenkins by her 1st marriage)

1. Sarah Jane Tuttle, b. Oct. 16, 1826.
2. Elisha Tuttle, Jr., b. April 7, 1830

Hartwell Albert Jenkins, (Stephen, Jabez, Jabez, Renold) b. Nov. 27, 1822 in Vassalboro, son of Stephen and Hannah (Hobby) Jenkins; d. March 14, 1897 in China, Me.; m. (1st) in China, June 2, 1847, Sarah Jane Tuttle (b. Oct. 16, 1826; d. Jan. 3, 1852, dau. of Lydia J. Tuttle Jenkins); m. (2nd) in China, April 28, 1853, Hannah Tuttle (d. March 17, 1919, aet 94 yrs., 2 mos. 1 dy.)

CHILDREN: (Hartwell A. and Sarah J. Jenkins; b. in China, Me.)

1. Henry Alonzo, b. April 14, 1848.
2. Thomas T., b. Feb. 24, 1851; d. April 20, 1851.
3. Frances, died young.

CHILDREN: (Hartwell A. and Hannah (Tuttle) Jenkins)

4. Stephen H., b. March 20, 1854; d. April 9, 1854.
5. Sarah J., b. 1856; d. 1856.
6. Frank E., b. 1858; d. 1858.
7. Thomas E., b. 1859; d. June 26, 1864.
8. Elwood H., b. 1863.

J E P S O N

Jedediah Jepson, b. Dec. 18, 1758; d. in China, Me. April 9, 1822;
m. Nov. 1, 1781, at Berwick, Me., Margaret Robinson (b. Dec. 1, 1759; d.
April 16, 1822, in China, Me.).

CHILDREN: (Born in Wells, Me.)

1. John, b. Aug. 24, 1782; d. Sept. 23, 1822, China, Me.;
m. Lydia Runnels (dau. of Benjamin and Rebecca
Runnels, b. April 15, 1789;) in Vassalboro,
Oct. 23, 1806;
2. Susanna, b. May 2, 1784; d. April 28, 1877.
3. Mary, b. April 6, 1786; d. Aug. 8, 1855; m. Sept. 27, 1815
in Harlem, John Caswell (son of Job and Mary Caswell).
4. Lois, b. Oct. 14, 1788; d. May 10, 1879; m. April 24, 1816,
Ebenezer Varney (son of Hanson V.)
5. Lydia, b. Feb. 7, 1791; d. May 18, 1830.
6. Abner, b. May 1, 1794; d. Nov. 6, 1841; m. Comfort Frye.
7. Judith, b. June 7, 1796; d. March 16, 1864; m. Nathaniel
Austin (son of Nathaniel and Mary Austin).
8. Oliver, b. November 28, 1798; d. May 1, 1846 (?1856)
m. Syrena B. Ricker.
9. Margaret, b. March 12, 1801; m. in China, April 18, 1854,
John Deane of Temple, Me. (son of Cyrus and Mary Deane.)
10. Elizabeth, b. April 2, 1803; d. Dec. 6, 1828.

John Jepson, (Jedediah and Margaret (Robinson) Jepson) b. in Berwick, Me.,
August 24, 1782; d. Sept. 23, 1822; m. Lydia Runnels, Oct. 23, 1806 (b. April
15, 1789, Rochester, N.H., d. in China, Me., March 30, 1822).

CHILDREN:

1. Jedediah, 2nd, b. Sept. 8, 1807 in Harlem; m. Rebecca Meader
2. Benjamin R., b. July 24, 1809; m. Patience Meader; m. (2nd)
Hannah R. Briggs.
3. Daniel, b. Dec. 27, 1811 in Harlem; d. Nov. 12, 1822.
4. Isaac, b. Feb. 24, 1814 in Harlem.

Abner Jepson, (Jedediah) b. May 1, 1794, at Wells, Me.; d. Nov. 6, 1841;
m. Feb. 26, 1818, Comfort Frye (b. June 5, 1793 in Kittery; dau. of Silas and
Mary (Folsom) Frye; d. Dec. 2, 1850).

CHILDREN:

1. Thomas Watson, b. May 23, 1819 in China, Me.
2. Samuel R., b. March 10, 1821 in China, Me.; m. Sarah C. Cook.
3. Silas Fry, b. May 16, 1824; m. Sarah Jane Cook.
4. Henry A., b. Oct. 10, 1829; m.Almira P.

CHILDREN:

1. Edward M.
2. Albert L.
5. Isiah, b. Sept. 28, 1831; d. Sept. 25, 1832.

Oliver Jepson (Jedediah), b. Nov. 28, 1798; d. May 1, 1856; m. Nov. 25,
1829 in China, Me., Syrena B. Ricker (b. Oct. 2, 1807 in Dover, N.H.; d. April,
1856; dau. of Eliphalet and Mercy Ricker).

CHILDREN:

1. Elizabeth B., b. Aug. 22, 1830 in China.
2. Eli, b. July 25, 1832; m. Clara C. Runnels, dau. of Daniel and Mary Runnels, Dec. 19, 1854, in China

CHILD:

Oliver A. b. 1859.

3. Mary F., b. July 26, 1834; d. Oct. 15, 1859.
4. Lucy Ann, b. Sept. 2, 1839; m. Feb. 25, 1863 in China, Joseph C. Coombs (son of Jos. and Jane Coombs of Wilton).
5. Flavilla, b. Oct. 9, 1841.
6. Lois Maria, b. Feb. 5, 1844.

Benjamin R. Jepson (John, Jedediah), b. July 24, 1809 in China, Me.; d. in China, Me. Dec. 4, 1882; m. (1st) June 1, 1831, Patience Meader (b. May 10, 1809 in Durham; d. March 2, 1866); m. (2nd) Dec. 2, 1868 in China, Hannah R. Briggs (dau. of Timothy and Elizabeth Robinson).

CHILDREN: (born in China, Me.)

1. Elijah D., b. Sept. 1, 1831; m. Nov. 24, 1853 (1st) Lovina H. Robbins (b. Dec., 1831; d. July 12, 1887); m. (2nd) Mrs. Hattie E. Woodsom of Montville, Sept. 22, 1888.

CHILD: (1st marriage)

John F., b. Aug., 1854; d. Dec. 31, 1879; m. Mabel Goddard (who m. (2nd) Charles E. Bailey, parents of Letha Bailey Wilson and Edna Bailey Meader)

Child: (John and Mabel Jepson)

H. Kelsey, b. May 1, 1899; d. Dec. 19, 1918.

2. Benjamin F., b. Aug. 27, 1838; d. 1916; m. (1st) Julia S. Porter (b. 1846; d. 1889); m. (2nd) Addie A. Handy, Jan. 3, 1891 (b. 1856; d. 1938).

CHILDREN: (1st marriage)

1. Geo. E., b. 1871; d. 1900.

2. Mary E., b. 1881; d. 1882.

3. Lydia R., b. May 14, 1844; d. April 29, 1866 in China, Me.

Silas Frye Jepson (Abner, Jedediah), b. May 16, 1824 in China, Me.; m. Sarah Jane Cook.

CHILDREN:

1. Ellen Maria, b. July 8, 1850.
2. Clara Ann, b. June 11, 1854.
3. Charles Henry, b. June 11, 1854.
4. Eva A., b. 1858.

Thomas Watson Jepson, (Abner, Jedediah) b. May 23, 1819 in China, Me., m. (1st) Dec. 27, 1838, Eliza Cook (b. May 29, 1818 in Vassalboro); m. (2nd Oct. 24, 1844, Abigail B. Dean (b. November 12, 1827)).

CHILDREN: (Thomas and Eliza Jepson)

1. Isaiah Clarkson, b. Nov. 22, 1839 in China (2nd marriage).
2. John A., b. Feb. 12, 1847 in China, Me.
3. Ella Zimena, b. Sept. 18, 1850.

Samuel Jepson, (Abner, Jedediah) b. March 10, 1821, m. June 2, 1842 in China, Sarah Cook (dau. of John and Sarah Cook of Vassalboro, b. Dec. 29, 1815 in Vassalboro).

CHILD:

Eliza C., b. Dec. 19, 1843, in China, Me.

Eli Jones,⁵ speaking at a Jones Reunion held at South China on August 9, 1887, said one of the leading characteristic traits of the Jones race was strong will. "The early Joneses were as unconquerable as their Welsh ancestors." Charles H. Jones⁵ added that "self respect, sturdiness and independence were traits of the name." [Waterville Sentinel, August 11, 1887.]

The name of Jones has been associated with the Town of China (Harlem) since its beginning, but the earliest one, referred to as "Black Jones" was, as far as can be ascertained, no relation to the later Joneses. His name was John (why was he called Black?) and with Abraham Burrell helped in the survey of the plantation in 1774. Abraham did come back and settle in the town but it is not certain that Black Jones did. A John Jones signed the wedding certificate for Abel and Susannah Jepson Jones in 1806. Was this Black Jones? There was no other John Jones available at the time.

"Our earliest known Jones ancestor sure, without guessing" wrote Augustine Jones,⁶ in a letter to his first cousin, Rurus N. Jones,⁶ "was Thomas Jones¹ of Hanover, Massachusetts, who came, it is supposed, from Wales. . . . He resided in Hanover and lived finally in Durham, Maine (spending some time in South Harpswell.) The said Thomas was an active member of Falmouth Monthly Meeting in 1759. . . . Lemuel, son of Thomas, who married an Estes, was born at Hanover 1730 and was a Friends Minister about 1751." [Letter dated June 4, 1907] 1751 was the year of Lemuel's marriage to Wait Estes.

The "sure Jones" ancestor is, however, shrouded with some mystery. Lemuel² seems sure, for his birth is recorded in the Hanover church records as the son of Thomas and Thankful Jones, in 1730. There are some conflicting views on the actual month and day, and whether he was the eldest or the youngest son. It seems likely he is the eldest. The Jones legend has been that Thomas and Thankful Jones came from Wales in 1690 to Hanover. No records of this arrival can be found, it seems unlikely that they would have a son forty years later. Eli Jones has made a rough chart showing that the Thomas married to Thankful was son of Thomas, but there is no information.

The supposition has been that Thomas¹ and Thankful were Quakers but if their son appears in a church register it could not have been the case. Lemuel² must have joined the Society of Friends prior to marrying his Quaker bride, Wait Estes. A copy of the wedding certificate proves that they had a Quaker marriage and in the same year, 1751, Lemuel was recorded as a Friends Minister in Harpswell.

Thomas¹ and Thankful had two other sons, Thomas,² said to have been lost at sea and Noah who married Patience Joy and may have lived somewhere along the Androscoggin where he is said to have had a ferry. Their son, Ephraim,³ features in this account. Lemuel² and Wait Estes Jones had twelve children, none of whom, as far as is known, came to Harlem. This account is concerned with their grandchildren - children of Marcy,³ Caleb,³ Lemuel Jr.,³ Stephen,³ and Lydia.³ It is possible that some will be omitted, not intentionally, but it is almost impossible to keep track of this network.

The first member of this Jones family to come to Harlem, but not bearing the name of Jones, appears to be Lemuel Hawkes,⁴ son of Mercy Jones³ and Nathaniel Hawkes. He was born in Windham in 1774. "Soon after 1798, [probably about 1802] came Lemuel Hawkes, a man of precious memory, settling on the lot afterwards owned by Bowdoin Haskell, about two miles from the south end of the

lake. In his house the first regular Friends meeting in the town was held and meetings continued here until 1807 [when the Pond Meeting House was built - now the Friends China Camp]. Hence the Friends Meeting in China dates from 1802." (History of Kennebec County, p. 281, chapter by Rufus M. Jones.) Augustine Jones,⁶ in Centennial address for the Pond Meeting, 1907, states that the first meeting was held in October 1802 at the home of Lemuel Hawkes⁴. He had married Abigail Winslow in 1799, and their second child, Isaac, was born in Harlem in March 1802 indicating that they had arrived sometime before that date.

The History of Kennebec County mentions a "Thomas Jones whose cabin was where Philbrook's brick house is." (p. 1147.) This Thomas cannot be traced and does not seem to have been part of this Jones family.

The first Jones bearing the name was Abel⁴, a first cousin of Lemuel Hawkes. Born in Durham in 1781, eldest son of Caleb³ and Peace Goddard Jones, he made this eventful journey in 1803 or 1804. "Like Abraham of old," wrote Abel's⁴ grandson, Rufus Jones,⁶ "Abel 'went out' . . . not quite knowing whither he went and pitched his tent on the east shore of China Lake, about two miles from the northern end of it, cleared a farm out of the primitive woods, built a log cabin and had the extraordinary good fortune to marry Susannah Jepson, the daughter of Jedediah." (Small Town Boy, p. 17.) The marriage with Susannah in 1806, at the home of Lemuel and Abigail Hawkes, was the first Quaker marriage in the Town. The original marriage certificate still exists with the signatures of the Friends present - Clarkes, Hawkes, Jepsons but, besides Abel and Susannah Jepson Jones, only one other Jones, - John.

Abel⁴ and Susannah began their married life with very little. Legend in the family says that Abel built a log cabin to which Susannah brought her "spider", the black iron frying pan she carried with her when she, her brother John and her father, Jedediah Jepson, came from Berwick on horseback in 1804. Abel and Susannah's eldest child, Eli⁵, and three other children were born in the log cabin. In 1815 when the fifth child, Peace, arrived she was born in the new house Abel⁴ built near the south end of the lake. At least, again, this has been the legend that the house was ready for daughter Peace⁵ by February 1815. But the warranty deed of property, lot 42 of the Town of China, came from Robert Hallowell to Abel Jones, November 1815. Was the house built first and the deed given later? Six more children were born to Abel and Susannah in this house which still belongs in the family. The present owner is Abel's great-granddaughter, Miriam E. (Jones)⁷ Brown.

Abel was, for the grandson who never knew him, a hero who lived in the stories told him by Grandmother Susannah. "Abel Jones was rugged," Rufus Jones wrote, "an active, driving man who did things, and he soon had his land feeding his growing family. . . In 1815 he decided to move southward and clear another farm, this time near the south end of the lake where he built my birthplace and created an excellent farm out of the wilderness. First and last he cleared seven farms and made them blossom like the rose, one for each of his sons." (Small Town Boy, p. 19.) The sons may have been Eli⁵, Rufus⁵, Cyrus⁵ and John⁵. The youngest, Edwin,⁵ lived in his parents' home. Perhaps Abel cleared farms, also, for sons-in-law, - Richard Mott Jones⁴ married to daughter Eunice⁵ and Ebenezer Cook, married to daughter Mary⁵.

Grandmother Susannah "was a woman of remarkable qualities," her grandson wrote. He was fourteen when she died. "She had breadth of mind and depth of heart, and a culture whose source and origin nobody could explain. She was practical. . . All the clothes the family wore came from her spinning wheel and loom; all the butter and cheese the family ate came from her churn and cheese press. All the soap they used came from her big iron kettle." Obviously kitchen

equipment had increased as the children came. "She was an Elder in the Quaker meeting, . . . she smoked her T D. pipe and . . . in spite of the nicotine, she lived to be ninety-three years old. She was a practical mystic and she passed on to her children and grandchildren her mystical strain." (Ibid, pp 21-22) When some sixty years after her death, the big fireplace was opened up and rebuilt, one of her clay pipes was found in the hearth.

After Abel⁴ came two younger brothers, sons of Caleb³ from Durham about 1812. A Minute from that meeting, dated in August mentions that James Jones⁴ "has removed within the range of Vassalboro Monthly Meeting" which had been established by 1780. There seems to be no Minute concerning James⁴ older brother, Elisha⁴. Durham Monthly Meeting Minutes before 1812 have been destroyed or lost. Along with Elisha⁴ and James⁴ came their first cousin, Stephen Jones Jr.⁴, and probably in that same year. Isaac Jones⁴, his wife Nancy (Randall) Jones and two small children, Lot⁵ and Noah⁵. Their third child, Ruth⁵, was born in China in 1814. Isaac⁴ was son of Lemuel Jr.³ younger brother, as was Stephen³ of Abel's father, Caleb³. Josiah⁴, younger brother of Stephen Jr., came in 1814 so that by that time there were six brothers and/or first cousins who were settled in the Town of China. One other Jones had arrived, perhaps c. 1812. This was Ephraim³, son of Lemuel's brother. Noah² therefore a generation older than Abel and the others. A Minute from Durham Monthly Meeting for May 1812 transfers Ephraim³, his wife Susanah (Dudley) Jones and four small children, Richard Mott⁴, Thomas⁴, Sybil⁴ and Eunice⁴. Martha⁴ then six weeks old, was not mentioned. Four more children were born later.

Elisha⁴ was already married to his first wife, Tryphena Stewart, and father of a daughter when they moved to China. Three more children arrived. After Tryphena's death he married Sophia Sydleman and they had seven children. He and his family lived somewhere along the Pond Road, perhaps not far from Abel's original log cabin, and he is listed as "an approved" minister of Friends. His greatnephew, Augustine Jones⁶, grandson of Abel⁴ and of Ephraim³ found his preaching unsatisfactory. "Uncle Elisha's gift in the ministry was less than any assignable quantity. His voice was mighty and shook the house, but it was not tender or persuasive. He was of a fine figure and agreeable to look at and withal an excellent man. He made a good record, an example for us all." (Augustine Jones, Pond Meeting Centennial, 1907.) His sons, Francis⁵ and Caleb⁵, refused to speak to each other because of a feud, about what is not known. They both served as Selectmen of the Town. His daughter, Emma Aubine⁵, married Horace Nelson, breeder of the famous trotting horse, Nelson. One of Nelson's colts belonged to Edwin Jones⁶, Abel's youngest son, and it was killed in the 1860s when Edwin's barn blew down.

James Jones⁴ settled on China Neck probably in the summer of 1812⁴. One would like to know why he decided to go there and not stay in the growing community nearer to South China. He married Hannah Sampson at the very end of that year and a Minute of Vassalboro Monthly Meeting in January 1813 reported that the marriage was "conducted orderly." He too was a recorded Minister, specially marked by his power of prophecy. "Nearly all who remember [him] . . . remember how he marked out the course in which the Lord would lead some one present [in the meeting]." (History of Kennebec County, p. 283.) He apparently enjoyed worldly temptations for a time but eventually was able to keep away from them. "Uncle James⁴ was short, stout and full of voice, power and unction, always edifying." Once more in a letter to Rufus Jones⁶, Augustine Jones⁶ referred to Uncle James. "How I once revered that ancient oracle in my tender youth. . . . He had the voice of authority directly above the throne. He did not doubt it."

In 1858 he travelled to visit Friends in the mid-west in his own horse and carriage and he travelled also to the mid-west with Augustine's step-father, James Van Blarcum. In 1849, even before the above-mentioned journey, he was in England,

and a Friend wrote that "we had a most precious visit from James Jones." (Journal Friends Historical Society, Vol. iv, no. 3, p. 96.)

"I liked Uncle James," Augustine continued, "No higher criticism ever sent Scotch mist into his brain. He knew what he was talking about. He spoke with the assurance of the great law giver of Sinai. No bees of doubt buzzed in his bonnet. I felt that he was built up out of solid chunks of goodness. If he opened his mouth truth would leap forth in original packages, undiluted, vast." (Letter to Rufus Jones, 1907)

Lydia Jones⁴, Caleb's³ eleventh child, younger sister of Abel⁴, Elisha⁴ and James⁴, married Thomas Tuttle. Tuttles and Joneses intermarried with confusing genealogical results, though not as complex as the Jones intermarriages. Lydia⁴ and Thomas settled on China Neck. When they came is not clear. Did James and Hannah Jones and perhaps Lydia and Thomas Tuttle persuade Isaac⁴ and his wife, Nancy (Randall) Jones, when they journeyed over from Windham? Where James and Hannah lived is not certain, nor where Lydia and Thomas settled.

However, Isaac⁴ and Nancy lived in a house below and across the road from China Neck Cemetery. In 1818 Isaac bought property farther along on the Neck road, building, about 1820, the beautiful house, using bricks which were probably made right there. When Isaac⁴ and Nancy and their children moved in to this new home, the smaller house was given to the second son, Noah.⁵ Two sons, Lot⁵ and Noah⁵ married sisters, Mary⁵ and Lavinia⁵ Hawkes, daughters of the Lemuel⁴ and Abigail Hawkes who were the first Jones arrivals in the Town.

Augustine Jones, in his reminiscences of Quaker worthies in the Town, had little to say of Isaac Jones⁴ "who seemed to me like negative goodness. Doubtless he had opinions and influence but they were not active enough to impress tender age and childish minds." (Pond Meeting Centennial, 1907)

Isaac⁴ and Nancy Jones' fourth child, Mary Randall Jones,⁵ later inherited the brick house, after she had married her cousin, Alfred H. Jones,⁵ in 1847. It came to their son, Charles Wheeler Jones⁶ and his wife, Ida (Learned) Jones, and to their sons, Charles Alfred⁷, Wallace Warren⁷ and George Wayland⁷. It was sold about 1941 to Ellerson T. Jetty of Waterville who, in turn, sold it to the present owners, Douglas and Dorothy Archibald in 1955. (Letters from Marguerite Gerald Jones and Douglas Archibald, 1973.)

Stephen Jones Jr.⁴ settled in the Branch Mills⁶ area, probably about 1813 where he had a foundry and blacksmith shop, the site now part of the Branch Mills Cemetery (History of KC. p. 1150) He married in 1816, in Vassalboro, Rachel Worth who had been born in Nantucket. All of their nine children were born in the Town and it was their fifth child, Alfred H. Jones,⁵ who married Mary R. Jones⁵ and moved to China Neck.

Stephen⁴ must have been an interesting man for he elicits enthusiasm from both Augustine and Rufus Jones. The latter wrote: "Stephen was a man of shrewd and careful judgment, looked to not only in his own home meetings, but of great influence in the Yearly Meeting. . . . a man of 'ancient dignity', slow of speech, but with a clear mind to perceive and set forth the suitable line of action. He, as well as his two cousins, [Elisha⁴ and James⁴], was marked by spotless integrity and they made their lives felt widely in the country. Perhaps three men who were nearer the ideal of the oldtime Friend could not be found in the state." (History of KC. p. 283.)

Elsewhere Rufus Jones wrote that Uncle Stephen⁴, not actually his uncle, "was one of the most dignified and kindly solemn persons I have ever seen. He

would have graced the Vatican and might have presided without a flaw at a papal conclave. He was nearly six feet and four inches tall, straight as Trafalgar monument and dressed with the last touch of Quaker precision. . . . I never knew how he could be a farmer and milk cows and still look as though he had spent the entire week in a band box. . . . Exaggeration would have shocked him as much as an oath. He always understated: 'I think, or at least I think that I think!'" (Rufus Jones, Finding the Trail of Life, p. 95)

Augustine⁶ Jones said that "Stephen is a man whose memory I venerate. He was strong and great. To see him sit two hours at the head of a religious meeting without recrossing his legs or winking or breathing is a super-human effort only matched by the Sphinx!" (Diary of Augustine Jones, p. 41) After Stephen had sat thus immobile, "at last . . . he began to show signs of life . . . and towering at last to his full height and dignity he said, 'I apprehend that it would be a seasonable time to close the shutters and proceed to the business of the Monthly Meeting.' . . . Oh, the inexpressible deliverance to the child whose little feet did not rest on the floor!

" . . . He was a wise and noble man. Men and courts honored him all over New England. He was strong with the Penobscot and Passamaquaddy Indians having visited them both many times with ministering Friends and as their friend. The Indians greatly loved and admired him." (Pond Meeting Centennial 1907)

Josiah Jones,⁴ Stephen Jr.⁴'s younger brother, came to China in 1814 and in the following year, 1815, he built a house, perhaps simultaneously with his cousin Abel, just beyond the Jones brook in South China. Here he brought his first wife, Comfort Austin, at the time of their marriage in January 1816. Their five children were born here. After Comfort's death, he married her sister, Mary Austin, who had three sons. This house was one of the finest in South China with its large barn and it passed from Josiah⁴ to his son, William A.⁵ and to William's third son, Josiah Albert,⁶ but when he died and his family moved to Oregon, the house was sold. It burned to the ground in the 1930s in a fire caused by children playing with matches in the barn.

Josiah⁴ regarded Augustine⁶ as "one who needed the care of the Church. He often called me to account for my worldly way of taking off my hat when I entered the Meeting House." He did not approve of Augustine's beard but, withal, Augustine says, Josiah⁴ "was a good-hearted man, a stern, Puritan character who fearlessly spoke his mind." (Pond Meeting Centennial, 1907) Josiah's third wife, Annie (Winslow) Rogers Pope, had no children. The piece of road from Josiah's house to the woodlot, along the end of the lake was known as "Aunt Ann's Trotting Park". The reasons for this are somewhat mysterious but she evidently whipped her horse in the wagon to full speed to enjoy a bit of horse-racing.

Ephraim,³ and Susannah (Dudley) Jones - the latter always known as Grandmother Jewell - apparently settled in a house near the Dirigo Four Corners on the Dirigo-Weeks Mills Road. The Dirigo Friends Meeting House was eventually built next door to this house. The Meeting House was later, about 1885, moved over to serve as the barn for the Hussey house on the Pond Road and eventually burned about 1968. The Minute for Ephraim's removal is dated 1812, but the last three of the nine children are listed as born in Augusta, the last one in 1824. It is possible that Susannah did not come to live in China permanently until later.

The house where Ephraim seems to have lived was across from the Dudley and Meeting Cemeteries and later became the home of Edward and Josephine (Whitehouse) Dudley and then belonged to their son, Edward and his wife, Gertrude (Webber) Dudley. Ephraim was perhaps the builder of the saw mill at Branch Mills but was certainly connected with it.

"Ephraim was a 'noble man' and a strong character," wrote Rufus Jones. "He was often deeply lost in thought (but) . . . he did not want in vigor of mind, and he was one of the marked men of the town." (Life of Eli and Sybil Jones, pp. 27 - 28.) Not only was he often deeply lost in thought, he seems to have been extremely absent minded. He is reported to have ridden his horse carrying

a bag of corn to be ground at a mill. Not until he walked into the brook where he always watered his horse did he remember that he had left the horse at the mill. Setting the bag of meal down, he returned to get the horse. Another time, having finished his barn chores he sat down in the kitchen to enjoy his usual night cap of warm, milk. Susannah came in and called out in dismay, "Why Ephraim, thee's drinking my dish water!"

Even so, like many Friends of that period, he seems to have had a gift of psychic awareness. His daughter, Sybil,⁴ who was struggling with inner conflict over her feeling that she must offer herself to missionary service ever seas, wrote in her diary early in 1851, shortly before her father's death, "Dear father seems near his eternal joy. He told me today that he had been thinking I had a prospect of some service in a distant land, and wished to know if I had thought of such a thing. As I had not named it to any one . . . I hesitated, but at length opened my feelings . . . and he desired me to be faithful." A brother who died a month after the father had the same sort of opening about his sister. (Life of Eli and Sybil Jones, by Rufus Jones)

Descendants of Ephraim³ and Susannah (Dudley) Jones and of Abel⁴ and
Susannah (Jepson) Jones.

Ephraim³'s eldest son and eldest daughter, Richard Mott⁴ and Sybil⁴, married Abel⁴'s eldest daughter and eldest son, Eunice⁵ and Eli⁵. They were of different generations, second cousins once removed but near of an age. Eli⁵ and Sybil⁴ began their married life in 1833 on a farm at South China; where has not been indicated. Richard⁴ and Eunice's⁵ son, Augustine Jones,⁶ says: "I have been told I was born in [1835] in the northwest front room in a house at Dirigo" when the north end of the house was occupied by his parents and the south end by Eli⁵ and Sybil⁴ Jones. Their eldest son, James Parnell,⁵ born that same year, may have been born there also. (Augustine Jones, Journal MS.)

Very soon afterwards, Eli⁵ and Sybil⁴ moved into the house on the southwest corner of the Dirigo-Belfast road, now belonging to the Bussell family, where Eli⁵ lived until he moved to South China in 1884 to the house now belonging to Fannie Maxwell. Eli was a farmer, he also helped run mills in China and Albion. "Uncle Eli," wrote his nephew, Augustine, "began in his own neighborhood by founding libraries, building temperance societies, teaching school, preaching the gospel, uplifting the whole community to higher thinking and holier living. He blazed on every tree a pathway for the next generation of boys and girls. I own myself to be an humble and grateful debtor to his noble lifegiving energy. He lived to proclaim the everlasting gospel on more continents than St. Paul ever knew." (Augustine Jones, Pond Meeting Centennial, 1907) The Friends Meeting at Dirigo was started about 1833, the date of Eli and Sybil Jones' marriage.

Eli Jones⁵ managed to have three months' schooling at the Friends School, Providence, Rhode Island during the winter of 1827, some of which was lost due to a severe attack of typhoid fever, but he was a person who knew how to "school himself and be a teacher to himself and he was a good mathematician." (Life of Eli and Sybil Jones, by Rufus Jones, pp. 22 - 23) He managed to overcome a speech impediment, perhaps a cleft palate, but always had a pronounced nasal twang.

Aunt Sybil⁴'s "face was radiant and sparkling with inspiration," Augustine Jones writes, "her voice was very sweet and penetrating, tuned to a perfect utterance. She had no doubts to contend with." After reading some of her Journal, one could question this statement. "She knew the truth and you were sure she felt in her own soul and saw with her inward eyes the glories of that

light 'never seen on sea or land'. She was indeed a sybil, a holy prophetess. ... People in the wide world have told me that it was the vital spark from her which had kindled their souls to newness of life, under the power of God." (Pond Meeting)

Eli and Sybil Jones had a tremendous influence on their five children, their nieces and nephews and the great numbers of people with whom they had contact in their village, their state, in large sections of America and the many countries abroad to which they travelled. It was in large part due to them that well-known Quakers visited in the Town of China. Eli was a prime mover in the founding of Erskine Academy, Oak Grove Seminary and two schools in the Middle East, Brummana, in the Lebanon, and the Friends Girls School in Ramallah, Palestine (now Jordan).

Richard Mott⁴ and Eunice⁵ Jones soon moved from Dirigo to a house a mile away which their son, Augustine, says was an underground station for negroes. Later still, they moved to South China where Richard Mott joined Eunice's brother, Rufus,⁵ in the tanning business. This turned out to be a poor venture, and Richard soon was unable to carry on. "Father was six feet two inches in height and physically the strongest man in that vicinity, but he took a fatal cold coming from Augusta on a load of merchandise and died after a painful illness in 1842." (Diary) Augustine⁶ was seven, Sarah Ermina⁶ was two. Their mother moved away, later marrying James Van Blarcum, Augustine was sent off to an uncle in St. Albans, Richard and Sybil's brother Augustine.⁴

What happened to Rufus⁵ or his tannery is not known. He married Sarah Tuttle, Jr. - various Tuttles married Joneses - and apparently moved to Durham where he⁵ died in 1862, just a few months before the birth of his nephew, brother Edwin's son, who was named Rufus.⁶ Because of this, Sarah Jones left young Rufus the sum of \$50. This money, later, enabled the boy to purchase sheep. The proceeds from selling the wool were sufficient to pay a term's tuition at Oak Grove. Sarah Tuttle Jones later married Randolph Crosman. The story is told of his proposal to Hattie Hoxie, sister of Edwin's⁵ wife, Mary, and William A's second wife, Lizzie; after Sarah's death he took Hattie to the cemetery, and pointed to the graves of his two wives. "How would thee like to lie between?" She indicated that she would not. She and Randolph lie in the Dirigo graveyard, but she is beside her father, Matthew Hoxie.

Peace Jones⁵ never married, though her nephew, Rufus, hints that there may have been a Philadelphia suitor, and her greatniece, Miriam E. (Jones)⁷ Brown says that Aunt Peace was expecting to marry a friend named Hoag, Miriam's great-grandfather, whose wife had died soon after the birth of a daughter, Miriam Cartland Hoag, who later married Charles Webber. Friend Hoag, swimming his horse out to an island in Squam Lake, where he pastured his sheep, was drowned. Friends from Sandwich rode over to South China to break the tragic news to Peace. She shut herself in the parlor and refused to see them. "I know already what their message is and there is no need for me to hear it from them."

She cared for her parents and for Eli and Sybil's children when the parents went off to Liberia in 1852. Following the death of Clarkson Jones's⁵ wife, Alvina, and the birth of their newborn son, Isaac Lincoln,⁶ she went to Dirigo to help in that family. She travelled in the ministry to the mid-west and to North Carolina but she was certainly at home early in 1863 when her nephew, Rufus Matthew Jones⁶ was born. This story, he says, illustrates "a characteristic trait in the member of my family who did very much to shape my life... As soon as I came into the arms of my Aunt Peace, one of God's saints, she had an 'opening' such as often came to her, for she was gifted with prophetic vision. 'This child,' she said, 'will one day bear the message of the gospel to distant lands and to

peoples across the sea." (Finding the Trail of Life, by Rufus M. Jones, p. 20) Peace⁵ left South China after the death of her brother, Edwin,⁵ in 1904 and lived with her niece Alice Jones⁶ and her family near Lisbon Falls until her death in 1907..

Peace⁵ and her sister, Mary,⁵ were known as "the Heavenly Twins", though Mary was two years younger. Mary's first marriage, to Ebenezer Cook, was of short duration as he died four years later, leaving Mary⁵ with one daughter, Lydia,⁶ three years old and another on the way. Mary Eliza⁶ was born six months later. It is not clear where Mary and Ebenezer lived. Eight years later, Mary married her second cousin, Jeremiah Jones,⁵ a widower, whose first wife, Phebe (Pope) Jones had died⁶ the year before leaving two small sons, George Henry⁶ and Alton Pope Jones.

Jeremiah⁵ was the son of Josiah,⁴ and had grown up in the big house by Jones Brook. He had built himself a home in sight of his father's farm, back from the main South China - Augusta road, across from the site of the old Baptist Church where the Quaker Meeting House was built about 1884, now the home of the South China Community Fellowship Church. It has been said that son George Henry⁶ helped in the building but he was only three years old when Jeremiah⁵ married Mary.⁵ Eventually the family settled there. It was reported that Mary used to say to Jeremiah, "Thee go out and tell thy children and my children to stop fighting with our children." Jeremiah⁵ and Mary⁵ had four more, Juliette,⁶ Everett Cyrus,⁶ Linwood⁶ and Wilmot Rufus⁶

Jeremiah's preaching never got his nephew anywhere, Rufus Jones said. His habitual message in meeting for worship was: "We must know of a digging deep, yes, deep Down to that foundation which is beyond the reach of human scrutiny, yes, scrutiny, and we must know of a riding through the gates, yes, gates." (Small Town Boy, by Rufus Jones, p. 45.)

John,⁵ Abel⁴ and Susannah's tenth child, married Lydia Runnells, - four sisters married four Joneses - and they lived in the house next door to the Pond Meeting House. It is still⁶ standing but does not belong to any member of the family. His nephew, Rufus,⁶ used to quote Uncle John's⁵ plaintive cry: "Lyddy, why can't women knit mittens without holes in them?" This couple had three children, Lizzie,⁶ who married Gustavus Webber, Cyrus⁶ and Daniel.⁶ Cyrus⁶ and his second wife, Grace (Hilton) Jones, who for years returned to South China and their summer cottage, Birch Point, at the end of the lake, had no children. Daniel⁶ and his son Telford,⁶ occasionally returned for brief visits.

The eleventh and youngest of the family was Edwin,⁵ who married red-haired Mary Gifford Hoxie of Albion. It was always told that they met picking hops on China Neck. They were married in 1852 and came to live in the family home, a year before Abel's death in 1853. Mary's son says of this arrangement, Mother "had to fit into and manage a home in which lived these two strong, dominant women, Grandmother and Aunt Peace, who had long preceded her in the family and were powerfully entrenched, but Mother was plainly enough the head of the family, and there was never a sign of contention to mar the ordering of love. It was a home that 'nurtured' in the things that matter most for the shaping of life. We possessed little of this world's goods, though we were hardly conscious of the narrow limits, but we were very rich in those things which count as the foundations of life and character." (Small Town Boy, pp. 24 - 25)

Edwin as a boy had had attacks of a strange illness, something like epilepsy, but these attacks diminished as he grew older and disappeared altogether. His son says that Father "had a powerful body. He was physically the strongest man in our community ... and skilled in the technique of all types of labor on

the farm, an expert with any tool . . . and from him I learned the woodsman's art. . . .

He was quiet, meditative with no gifts of easy conversation and unable to express himself easily in public speech." His speaking in Quaker meeting was repetitive, but practical, "He insisted on a religion for this life here and now and on making a little 'heaven on the way to heaven'. He was a straight, honest, faithful, rugged man who in his small round did his plain duty . . . and supported our large family with his hands."

"One of the things Father loved best, after due care for his immortal soul, was to own and drive a fast horse. . . We had a remarkable colt, with a Morgan pedigree." Was this the colt killed in the barn or a later one also from "Nelson"? "Father always took Fannie a turn round the trotting park [at the fair] and it was hard to tell whether Father was thinking of his immortal soul or of Fannie's marvellous speed!" (Small Town Boy, pp. 25-28) Edwin⁵ was killed in July 1904 when he walked across the trestle at Winslow. He had been at the circus in Waterville and took a short cut to catch the Narrow Gauge train back to South China. He was almost stone deaf and did not hear the train approaching, in spite of the engineer's efforts to warn him. The train could not stop in time.

Edwin⁵ had been given the nickname, "Doc", for he was supposed to be the seventh son of the seventh son and thus endowed with mysterious healing powers. Edwin was the seventh son of Abel, but Abel⁴ was the third child and first son of Caleb. Caleb³ was the third child and first son of Lemuel.²

Mary G Jones had died twenty four years earlier, succumbing to the effects of rheumatic fever. Her death was almost more than her seventeen year old son could bear. "There was a tenderness and a sacrificial love in [Mother's] dealings with me which could only come from a mother. In the supreme crises of [my] life, she was there and her magic touch opened the right gate." (Small Town Boy, p 24.) There were four children of this marriage, Walter,⁶ Alice,⁶ Rufus⁶ and Herbert.⁶

Children of Elisha,⁴ James⁴ and Lydia⁴ (Jones) Tuttle brothers
and sister of Abel Jones.⁴

Elisha⁴'s third child, Amos Peaslee Jones,⁵ married his second cousin, Miriam Austin Jones,⁵ daughter of Josiah and his first wife, Comfort. She evidently died when her sixth child, Miriam,⁶ was born. Caleb,⁵ fourth child by Elisha's second wife, evidently had a brief exposure to teaching. The Town Report for 1855 said his "government was mild." Four years later he was listed as "breaking snow and doing road repair," perhaps with greater success. He married Eliza Jane Breed, not a Quaker, and they lived at Weeks Mills, adopting two boys. Caleb⁵ was elderd by China Monthly Meeting Overseers for marrying "out of the Society", in those days a crime punishable by disownment. To the leading question of "why he had committed such a misdemeanor, he replied . . . that he had tried every available woman in the Society and been refused and he felt justified in taking a Gentile. The Overseers were touched with sympathy and . . . quashed the indictment." (Letter from Augustine Jones to Rufus Jones, April 1915.)

James Jones⁴'s eldest daughter, Harriet⁴ B.,⁵ married Alvan Austin,⁵ brother of Comfort and Mary, wives of Josiah Jones.⁴ Two other daughters, Amy³ and Irena,⁵ married Estes men, Valentine and Stillman, not brothers, and a sixth daughter, Hannah Sampson Jones,⁵ married Josiah Philbrook, who was a shoemaker living on the neck. Here we get into a complicated series of marriages. Hannah⁵ and Josiah's second son, George Crossfield Philbrook,⁶ married Julitte.⁶ daughter of Jeremiah⁵

and Mary (Cook) Jones;⁵ Their eldest child, Beulah Rogers Philbrook⁶, married Philander Turner; their grandson is Leon Tebbetts,⁸ married to Dorothy Haskell of South China, and owner of the second-hand bookstore in Hallowell. Returning to Josiah Philbrook, after Hannah died, he married Mary Cook Jones⁵ daughter, Mary Eliza Cook⁶ and they lived in the brick house at South China.

Thomas and Lydia (Jones)⁴ Tuttle had four children. The third child, Sarah,⁵ married Hartwell Jenkins and they had two sons, who died young. When Sarah⁵ died, Hartwell married her older sister, Hannah,⁵ and they had five children, all but the youngest dying as infants. Elwood Hobby Jenkins⁶ lived on China Neck, in South China and Augusta. "Aunt Hannah" Jenkins lived in South China part of the time.

Children of Stephen Jones Jr.⁴ and his cousin, Isaac Jones.⁴

Alfred H. Jones,⁵ was the fifth child of Stephen⁴ and Rachel (Worth) Jones and cited as an excellent teacher. The Town Report for 1860 says that when such men as James P. Jones,⁶ [son of Eli and Sybil Jones] and Alfred H. Jones⁵ ... are put into our school houses, we expect to have the very best schools." Long before that date, Augustine Jones⁶ says, "Alfred H. Jones was our teacher in the winter of 1848 - 49 " The teacher was twenty-three the pupil thirteen. "He had married one of my former lady teachers, Mary Jones from the Neck, and went to the Branch Mills to live in a part of his father's house. . . Alfred I loved as a teacher more than almost any other I ever had." (Augustine Jones, Diary, pp. 24; 41)

He married his second cousin, Mary Randall Jones,⁵ Isaac's⁴ fourth child, in 1847 and they eventually moved into the big brick house on the Neck. They had nine children, three of whom died in 1865 apparently from an epidemic of diphtheria or typhoid. Both Alfred⁵ and Mary⁵ were active in the Society of Friends. He was a Recorded Minister, she was an Elder. "She was an active worker in the Friends Church, loving and devoted in her family, strong in faith and Christian character." (American Friend, May 31, 1906.)

Alfred⁵ was employed for twelve years conducting schools for freedmen in Virginia and North Carolina. He was principal of a colored school in Danville, Virginia, superintending nineteen schools in other areas. One of his sons, Charles Wheeler Jones,⁶ was assistant principal, and teachers included Ida Learned, who married Charles, and his youngest daughter, Delia,⁶ who was in charge, at the age of fourteen, of the primary department. (National Cyclopaedia of American Biography; and Danville News, November 20, 1877.) Delia died six years later.

Alfred H. and Mary R. Jones' eldest son, Stephen Alfred, attended the Friends Boarding School in Providence and then Dartmouth College. He graduated in 1872, receiving both MA and PhD from that institution. He married Louise Coffin - no relation, as far as is known to the Coffin family mentioned later - and their elder son, Herbert, was born while Stephen A. was teaching Greek and Latin at William Penn College, Iowa. The second son, Augustine, was born in Germany while Stephen was studying at Bonn. He became president of the University of Nevada and remained there from 1889 - 1894, retiring to San Jose, California. He returned occasionally to Maine as did his two sons who retained great affection for both China and their family connections.

Stephen Alfred, like his parents, was a good teacher. He taught the fall term of 1865 at Branch Mills "with excellent results. He was an excellent disciplinarian and a live teacher." In 1867 he was reported to be a young man of excellent literary qualifications. He was a "man of large stature and commanding presence,"

pleasant but firm, who won the respect and confidence of his students and had a strong influence over them. He was a member of the Society of Friends and combined a reverend religious faith, stability of purpose and unselfish devotion in the promotion of the welfare of mankind." (National Cyclopedia of American Biography)

His younger sister, Julia Emmeline Jones, was a beautiful, gifted young woman, a graduate of the Friends School in Providence, who married her second cousin Wilmot Rufus Jones, in 1883. But Julia developed tuberculosis and died three years after the marriage.

After Charles Wheeler Jones - Stephen Alfred's younger brother - and Ida Learned Jones were married in 1880, they lived in Benton with Ida's parents but moved back to China Neck sometime in 1891 or 1892 with their three sons, Charles Alfred, Wallace Warren and George Wayland. They lived in the big brick house with Charles' parents Alfred H. and Mary R. Jones, and continued to live there until Charles died in 1939. The house was then put up for sale and purchased by Ellerton Jette. Charles Wheeler Jones was an excellent teacher and an important citizen of the town serving in various capacities for several years, as auditor and moderator. He was also in the local legislature.

His three sons remained in China. Charles A. was a wholesale dealer in apples and had the school as a selectman clerk, as an assessor and selectman. He married Elizabeth and they had two children. Wallace was a farmer and lived in a house opposite to the Friends Cemetery on the Neck, a short distance from the old brick house. He died in 1972 but his wife, Marguerite Gerald Jones, still lives there. Like his father, Wallace was a deputy sheriff for a number of years, a selectman for nine years. He was a member of the China Fire Department, a 32nd Degree Mason and active in all community affairs. Wayland never married. He lived for a while in the old brick house, until it was sold, then moved to a smaller house next door. He too was a selectman, an assessor from 1934 to 1948, a member of the First Legislature, manager of the B and M factory in China which canned corn and other beans and a member of the Jones and Coombs Dry Bean Cleaning Company, a trustee of the Albert Charles Brown Memorial Library and, like his brother, a Nazarene. He died in 1953.

Descendants of Josiah Jones.

Josiah and his first wife, Comfort (Austin) Jones had five children, the eldest, Cynthia Austin, married Jonathan Shaw Gushee and went to Appleton. Jeremiah Rogers Jones has been mentioned previously as has Miriam Austin Jones who married Amos Peaslee Jones. The last two children died young. A year after Comfort's death, Josiah married her sister, Mary Austin, and they had three sons, William A. (Alfred? named for his little half brother who died two years earlier, perhaps), Samuel Hopkins and Clarkson. William, who married Mary Ann Runnells, lived in Josiah's home, where their four sons were born.

The Town Report for 1852 - 53 lists William⁵ as an experienced teacher, with good scholars. "The school was what every such school will be, first on the list." His name does not appear again and from then on he must have devoted himself to farming. Mary Ann was a Recorded Minister but there is no reference to her preaching. When she died, William married Elizabeth K. Hoxie, - Lizzie - sister

of Mary G. Hoxie Jones and Hattie Hoxie, mentioned earlier. They had no children.

Samuel Hopkins Jones⁵ is mentioned briefly by Augustine Jones as a carpenter. "He made a nice warm house of rough boards for our hens... I have had to do with the rearing of many buildings since, but this home of hens takes the lead." (Diary, p. 8) Samuel⁵ does not seem to have taught in the Town. He married Margaret Buffum (Hawkes)⁶ Nichols, whose grandparents were Lemuel⁴ and Abigail Hawkes, referred to in the opening of this account. They had eleven children, the first five perhaps born in South Brooks; some were born in Manchester; seven of the children died as infants. The eldest, Ann Maria,⁶ married Rowland Hill in Richmond, Virginia. Their eldest daughter, Mary Barnard Hill,⁷ married Lindley M. Binford and lived in Portland, Maine making occasional visits to South China. Another daughter, Grace Annie Hill,⁷ became interested in Jones genealogy and did a great deal of work on the intricate Jones line, gathering an enormous amount of information.

Samuel⁵ married a second wife, Mary Thomas, a year after Margaret's death and they had four children.

Clarkson Jones⁵ married Alvina Runnells, sister of Mary Ann, and they evidently lived in Josiah's house for a time after their marriage eventually moving to a house at Dirigo. Alvina became an invalid in the summer of 1860 when she was picking cherries and the ladder tipped over. She suffered greatly, "Oh, the sufferings of this poor body are past description," she wrote in her diary, "May God see fit to heal me." She started her diary the day after her seven months old son, Lindley⁶, died in 1854. A year later, Frederick Dilwin,⁶ was born and when he was eight years old, Alvina feared that she was not being firm enough with him. "He naturally has a very fretty disposition and very wilful, he being the only child, perhaps I have humored him too much." It sounds as though this boy was a true Jones, as described by Eli, the Jones race having a strong will. Fred was very ill when he was five and she nearly lost that son, but he fortunately recovered.

Alvina was obsessed by a sense of sin and her short comings, and she was often miserable both in body and mind. At one dark moment she was able to rejoice because "three of the very best Friends came to see me in the afternoon, ones I always thought the most of and dearly love, ... Mary Cook Jones, Peace Jones, (the Heavenly Twins) and Hannah Tuttle Jenkins. The third son, Isaac Lincoln,⁶ was born a month before his mother's death. Her last entry in the diary was December 12, 1864 a few days before Lincoln's birth on Christmas Day.

How long Peace Jones⁵ stayed to look after Clarkson, Fred and little Lincoln, isn't known. Clarkson⁵ married again in 1866, Lavinia Hawkes Jones,⁶ from China Neck, daughter of Noah,⁵ another instance of Jones marrying Jones; they had three daughters, Edith Maria⁶ (Pope), Eldora⁶ - Dora - (Blackington) and Guliélma⁶ - Julia - (Hanson), who died two months after her marriage. Lavinia died early in 1875 and Clarkson married at the end of that year, Eliza Jane Marden, and they had one daughter, Carrie.⁶

Grandchildren of Abel Jones,⁴ Ephraim Jones,³ Josiah Jones⁴

James Parnell Jones⁶ was the eldest of Eli⁵ and Sybil's⁴ five children and may have been the first of the Jones clan to go to College. He had gone to the Friends School in Providence and entered Haverford College in 1851, completing his undergraduate course in 1856 at the University of Michigan. A year later, he married Rebecca Runnells, sister of Mary Ann, Alvina and Lydia. She had had a

very brief term as teacher in the China schools, and the report for 1852 - 53 says: "Miss Rebecca Runnells being young, [she was only sixteen] became weary in well doing, and school closed prematurely."

James⁶ was, however, an excellent teacher, for he is listed in the Town Report for 1860-61, along with Alfred H. Jones and Harriet Jones "when [such people as these] are put into our school houses, we expect to have the very best schools." In the winter term James⁶ was principal of Fairfield's Select School, and "now principal of China Academy. The scholars appreciated his merits and profited by his instruction."

Alas, his teaching was of brief duration. The Civil War started in 1861 and there was a rally in China to secure volunteers. Both James and his younger brother, Richard Mott Jones, were present, James aged twenty-three, married and with one son; Richard, eighteen, unmarried. Richard immediately raised his hand when the call came but James walked over to his brother, pulled down the raised arm and slowly raised his own "Thee's too young, Richard." Augustine Jones,⁶ double first cousin and inseparable playmate of James,⁶ wrote of their childhood together in Dirigo. One of their neighbors, Sergeant Samuel Graves, was a soldier in the war of 1812. "James and I used to visit him evenings . . . and hear stories. My cousin is said to have caught his martial spirit which led him into the war in 1861." (Diary, p. 25.) James became Captain of Company B, the Seventh Maine Volunteers and in 1863 was made Major of the Company. He was killed at Crystal Springs, near Washington, on July 12, 1864 when a bullet struck a tree and ricocheted to him. Post 106 of the Grand Army of the Republic was named for him, and the GAR Hall, erected in 1885, was torn down in 1964, just one hundred years after his death. None of his three children lived beyond infancy and his widow, Rebecca, married the Reverend Moses Newbert.

Sybil Narcissa Jones,⁶ James Parnell's sister, married at the age of nineteen a young Irish Quaker, Joshua William Jacob, who had been sent over from Waterford, Ireland to live with Eli⁵ and Sybil Jones. He was thirty years old at the time of their marriage. Eli and Sybil Jones had spent some time in Ireland and were much loved by Irish Friends. William and Narcissa Jacob lived in Dirigo and the "Dirigo Elm", still standing high on a hill behind their home, was a landmark even then. They had five children, - the last two were twins who died at the age of two from diphtheria - two daughters also died young but their son, Charles Richard,⁷ fortunately lived to grow up. He went to Friends School, Haverford College and returned to Friends School as a teacher.

William Jacob "had come up through hard and trying experiences," writes Rufus Jones, "but the furnace of trial had added a new quality to the temper of his character and he bore in his face and spirit the marks of his victory. He had rare powers of speech [and his ministry] was full of striking incidents, apt with illustrations. . . This gifted man had a son just my own age, who soon became as dear to me as a brother." (Finding the Trail of Life, p. 88.)

After William Jacob's death, Narcissa married another Irish Quaker, William Beale of Cork, who outlived her by ten years. He built the cottage on China Lake in 1897, the year that Narcissa's eldest grandson, Francis, was born. The cottage was the summer residence of Charles Jacob⁷ his wife, Hattie Jones Jacob and their three sons, Francis, William³ and Donald⁸. Hattie Jones was the daughter of Charles Henry Jones,⁵ grandson of Stephen³ and great-grandson of Lemuel². Two of Hattie's sisters, Alice Whittier Jones⁶ and Mary Jones Smith⁶ were often in South China. Charles Jacob was on the faculty of Moses Brown School and like so many of the Joneses he was a remarkable teacher. He died in 1916.

His sons Francis and William were graduates of Bowdoin College, Francis

became a lawyer, William a teacher and Donald a medical doctor and is still living in Northern Maine. Francis was in Russia in 1917 where he met the daughter of a university professor. He and Olga Sivoloboff escaped at the time of the Russian Revolution after their marriage in Moscow in 1918, and came back to America. They had one son, Charles Richard II, now married with grown children. Olga died in 1932. After Francis' marriage to Hilda McLeod in 1939 they made the cottage their permanent home and their daughter, Susannah Elizabeth, born in 1948, grew up in South China. Francis practised law and was a tax consultant until his death in 1961. Hilda still lives in the "cottage" and is a librarian in the State House Library. She has served on the school Fact Finding Committee and has been active with the South China library. Susannah now lives in Canada with her husband, Richard Stephen Kirsh.

Richard Mott Jones was named for his uncle, his mother's brother. He attended the Providence Friends School and then Haverford College from which he graduated in 1867. He began his teaching career at the China Academy, was principal of Oak Grove Seminary from 1870-1874 and was appointed then to be head master at the William Penn Charter School in Philadelphia where he had a distinguished career until his death in 1917. He was stone deaf from the age of thirty but had remarkable skill in lip reading. While at Oak Grove, he married in 1873, one of his pupils, Annie Virginia Costello, always known as Genie. They had five children, the eldest, Richard Costello, died when he was sixteen as the result of typhoid fever and meningitis. Genevieve was the oldest daughter, who married Warren Jenney; James Parnell II; Madeleine, who married George Walenta, and Virginia, who married Cony N. Webber of South China, were the others.

The family lived in Haverford, Pennsylvania and moved to Philadelphia in 1906 but they came regularly to South China in the summer, first boarding with Theodore and Jeannette Jackson in the house now transformed into the South China Inn. In 1891 they moved a mile up the Pond Road to the house, known as Pine Rock, which had been purchased the year before and which they made blossom, literally, like the rose. Here were gardens, riding horses, an early White Steamer motor car, and a sail boat named the Flying Cloud. This was sold in 1906 to Wilmot Jones and was a beautiful sight on the lake.

In 1917 Genie Jones and her daughter, Virginia, moved to Pine Rock as their permanent home. Genie Jones took courses in farming and agriculture at the University of Maine. Her apple orchard was one of the finest in the state. There were two other crops, asparagus and strawberries and, for a while, raspberries. There is hardly an older China resident now living who, in younger days, did not pick berries under the eagle eyes of "Cousin Genie" and "Dizey", - Eliza Wensley. Virginia took the crates of asparagus or berries and the barrels of apples to Waterville and Augusta in her large Studebaker panel truck.

It may be appropriate to break into the middle of the chronicle of this Jones family to say a word about Dizey, who, though not a Jones, was loved by six generations of Joneses whom she cared for. Eli and Sybil Jones brought Eliza Wensley from Yorkshire, England, when she was about sixteen to look after Sybil's mother, "Grandmother Jewel" who died in 1873. Young Richard Costello gave her the name Dizey which carried down through the years. She looked after the five young Joneses, their parents and grandparents, their children, grandchildren, great grandchildren. She settled in South China in her own little house on the Augusta-Belfast-South Road corner, opposite the GAR Hall. She died in 1943, at the age of 91, just two years after her beloved Genie Jones. She was a devoted, wonderful person, only about four feet tall, an artist with her needle as well as with the hearts of children.

Genevieve,⁷ her husband Warren Jenney, and their six children lived in Anaconda, Montana until 1916 when they came to Pine Rock on their way to Chile where Warren was to be with a mining company. The war upset all the plans and the family returned a year later to Massachusetts. From then on the Jenney family spent summers in the Pine Rock boat house and Sibyl⁸, the eldest daughter, married a South China man, Frank Nary in 1934. They lived for some years in a house on the corner of the Pond and Dirigo Roads with two daughters, Lee⁹ and Sheila,⁹ eventually moving to Bethel, Maine and finally to Virginia. Richard, the eldest of the family, Philip, Sibyl, Stoddard, Beatrice and Virginia have all come back to Pine Rock whenever possible.

James Parnell Jones⁷ the second married a Maine girl, Lillian May Skillings, and they had one daughter, Lillian. James lived in West Virginia and remarried after his wife's death. Lillian lived with the Jenneys until she was eleven and went to West Virginia, returning to spend a year at Pine Rock when she was eighteen. She and her husband Luther Stevens, have three children and live in Pittsburgh, and they have all spent some summers in South China.

Madeleine⁷ married George Walenta who was an Episcopal Minister in Philadelphia. They had two daughters, Madeleine, who died when she was eighteen, and Ruth who died in 1961. In 1912 the annex behind the Pine Rock barn was moved over to the southern side of the property and transformed into Sunset Cottage. Here the Walenta family spent their summers. Eventually Ruth brought her husband, John Hodgkin, and their children, David, who died when he was ten years old, Meg and Christopher.

Madeleine was a keen gardener and became much interested in gladioli. She was a founder, secretary and president of the Maine Gladiolus Society. She had come to live with her mother and sister at Pine Rock in the 1930s and there was plenty of room for her rows of beautiful flowers. She was very much a part of all that occurred in South China and especially in Quaker affairs and the Community Fellowship Church.

Virginia⁷ as has been said, was the salesman for the several crops at Pine Rock. After Genie Jones' death in 1941, the farming was discontinued. Virginia became an active Republican and traveled over the state, attending meetings and speaking. She was an enthusiastic member of the Zonta Club and for many years served at the Veterans Hospital at Togus as a Gray Lady. She was involved in many town activities. In 1957 Virginia married Cony N. Webber and left Pine Rock to live in his home. Unfortunately he died after they had been married only a few years. She continued to live there in the summers and Florida in the winters, but is now making her permanent home in Largo, Florida.

Madeleine continued to live at Pine Rock until the autumn of 1965 when she went to live near her son-in-law, John Hodgkin, and his children in Pennsylvania. She died in 1967. In the summer of 1967 Pine Rock became the property of Genevieve's oldest son, Richard Jenney, and his wife, Clementina H. Jenney as well as of Mary Hoxie Jones, whose cottage, Pendle Hill, is on the other side of the pine trees and the stone wall. Dick's younger brother, Stoddard, his wife Polly and their daughters, Marcia and Marilyn, spend their vacations in either Pine Rock or Sunset. Dick and Tina's son, Peter Jenney, his wife Nancy and their children, Peter and Leah are also summer occupants. Peter's older brother, Dick and younger sister, Betsy, also spend time at South China.

Eli and Sybil Jones had two younger children, Susan Tabor and Eli Grellet. Tabey, as her brother Richard called her, lived at Dirigo with her parents and stayed on with her father, moving with him to South China. After his death she moved to a house on the South Road. Grellet moved away as a young man and

seldom came back. He studied medicine and at one time was professor of Materia Medica at Detroit University. He was married to Cynthia Roberts and had two daughters, Cassina May Jones Watson and Mabel Florence Jones Herd, both of whom lived in California.

Augustine Jones⁶⁻⁵ was the older of Richard Mott⁴ and Eunice⁵ Jones' two children; Sarah Ermina⁶⁻⁵ was the younger. Augustine's writings have been quoted earlier and it is thanks to his love for South China and the Jones family that there is a great deal of historical material. He wrote a paper for the 1907 Centennial celebration of the Pond Meeting House, he spoke at the 1918 Centennial of the Town, he wrote a Journal for his two children, Caroline (Jones) Woodman⁷ and William. He wrote innumerable letters to his first cousin, Rufus Jones,⁶ discussing ancestors and their idiosyncracies. The Jones family would have been the poorer without Augustine, his wit, his peculiarities and his love for the family. He wrote to Rufus Jones in 1908 to report the birth of a grandson, son of daughter Caroline⁷ and her husband, Charles Woodman, "I am an ancestor, one generation removed. It is a boy, (Dudley). . Long live the Clan of Jones under whatever name or sign." His son, William, never married.

Augustine went to Friends School, graduated from Bowdoin College, studied law, became a teacher and went back to law. He taught briefly in the China schools, when he was about twenty-five years old, but the report makes the comment that "Augustine Jones, teacher, who did not succeed so well as was expected."

*Jones Family in Bowdoin College
at old Bowdoin Hall
South of Bowdoin College
Aug. 9, 1887
Rev. J. H. S. C. 8/13/87
"The Jones review on Bowdoin College
history and its connection with the
great work of the 125th Anniversary
by the first Jones who made possible
all the progress"*

He has something to say on the subject. "I taught the winter village school at South China and had 125 students, with no assistant, ages from four to twenty-one. It was not much of a school. I remember one morning the youngest four-year-old began to shed pins . . . and I had to suspend teaching and put her together anew to avoid an exhibition of the nude, which that generation had not learned to appreciate in art." He also taught in the South Vassalboro neighborhood and in 1857 he was dragooned to teach at Foxcroft Academy in northern Maine, actually as assistant principal, when his predecessor had been thrown out by the pupils, literally, from the second floor window. Augustine reported that although the man had not been killed, "it had greatly discouraged him! . . . It was the opinion that I, a peaceful Quaker, was the best person to subdue these violent girls." (Diary pp. 100 - 101) He adds modestly that he had no trouble taming the girls.

He was principal of Oak Grove Seminary from 1860 - 1865, practised law in Lynn, married Alice Osborne, and was asked to be principal of Friends School in 1879 where he remained until retirement in 1904. He lived at his home, in later years, in Newton Highlands where he died in 1925.

Sarah Ermina Jones,⁶⁻⁵ daughter of Richard Mott⁴ and Eunice,⁵ married Rufus Bailey and moved to the mid-west. Her brother, Augustine, when he was a student at Bowdoin, boarded in Brunswick at the home of Mary C. Jones, widow of Charles Jones,⁴ a younger brother of Stephen Jones Jr.,⁴ resident of Branch Mills. Through this cousin by marriage, Augustine became acquainted with a Methodist minister whose name was Bailey and through this friendship, met Mr Bailey's son, Rufus. And Rufus Bailey eventually met Ermina.⁶ Before her marriage, presumably, she taught a year at Oak Grove. They moved to St. Louis and had twin daughters, Alice⁷ and Kitty,⁷ and one son, Rufus.⁷ After Rufus Bailey's death in 1878, Ermina⁶ married Henry Nash and had a son, Carl.⁷

Lydia G. Cook,⁶ older daughter of Mary (Jones)⁵ and Ebenezer Cook, married William Penn Varney, and was from there on always referred to as "Lyddy Penn". William Penn Varney's mother was Lois (Jepson) Varney,
a sister of Susannah (Jepson) Jones, wife of Abel Jones.⁴ They were, of course, parents of Mary Jones Cook,⁵ and thus grandparents of "Lyddy", so that Lyddy and William Penn Varney were first cousins once removed.

They moved to the Aroostook shortly after their marriage and had six children, - Herbert,⁷ Edwin,⁷ Frank Wendell,⁷ Mary Eliza⁷ (Mamie), William⁷ and Everett Wilmot.⁷ Edwin and William died young. The others with their families have returned occasionally to South China for visits. Everett Wilmot's⁷ two daughters, Frances (Varney) Marshall⁸ and Narcissa Peace (Varney) Willard,⁸ have given a great deal of material about their families.

Mary Eliza Cook,⁶ younger daughter of Mary⁵ and Ebenezer Cook, married Josiah Philbrook, the shoemaker from The Neck, who has been referred to earlier under the family of James⁴ and Hannah Sampson Jones. Eliza⁶ and Josiah had no children.

Julieta Jones⁶ was the eldest child of Mary (Cook)⁵ and Jeremiah Rogers Jones,⁵ a beautiful and serious looking young woman [from a tintype]. She married George Philbrook, son of her half-sister's husband, Josiah Philbrook and his first wife, Hannah Sampson (Jones)⁵ Philbrook. This marriage was tragically brief for she died a few months later.

Everett Cyrus Jones⁶ went west as a young man and married Lulu Hogan of Missouri. They had two children, Martha (Mattie)⁷ and Clifford.⁷ The mother died when the latter was a year old, and Everett⁶ married again, Nellie Ormsbie, of Lincoln, Nebraska. She died a year later at the birth of twin daughters, Nettie⁷ and Nellie,⁷ the former died at birth. He married a third wife, Mollie

Hinkle, and there were no children. Rufus Jones⁶ wrote of Everett,⁶ after Nellie's death in 1887, that he "is a fine fellow and we are great friends. . . [he] is loved by every body for he is genuine and good hearted." (RMJ to Sarah Coutant, May 1, 1887)

Linwood Wilson Jones⁶ was the third child of Mary (Cook)⁵ and Jeremiah R. Jones.⁵ He married Emma Graves, whose two sisters married Joneses, and brought her to live in his parents' home. On their twenty-fifth wedding anniversary in 1904, Hattie Hoxie wrote a poem to celebrate the occasion.

"There is a man in our town,
 Linwood W. Jones by name.
 He lives some ways from the public road
 Yet in the state of Maine.
 He lives where his father did on the home farm
 And you would think to hear him preach
 He had never done any harm."

He was a preacher, with a deep powerful voice, urging his listeners to believe in Christ Jesus, and he had an equally deep and contagious laugh which was even more contagious than his preaching. He and Emma had three children, Lena,⁷ Everett⁷ and Marion Eloise.⁷ Linwood, besides being a good preacher and a good companion, was a good farmer. He had a special affection for bees and kept them in hives across from his daughter, Lena Austin's home. "Linwood's honey" was a treat for everyone. The sign indicating "honey for sale" was always covered with a burlap bag on Sundays.

Emma Graves Jones died in 1925 and in 1926 when Rufus Jones⁶ and his family were in China, not Maine but the Orient, a letter came from Genie Jones saying: "Who would have thought Linwood would have done that!?" The family was left in suspense for weeks, as there was no air mail. The news finally came that Linwood had married again, Susan (Cartland) Berry Sisson, whose mother, Almyra (Day) Cartland was Caleb Jones' grand-daughter. She was the mother of Annie (Berry) Kenoyer who came also to South China with her husband, Henry,⁸ and ten children. When Susan died in 1932, Linwood's grandson, Wendell Austin and his wife, Gladys (Proctor) Austin, just married, came to live with him, and he eventually moved up to his daughter's Lena Austin.

Wilmot Rufus Jones⁶ was the youngest of Mary⁵ and Jeremiah's⁵ four children. He attended Friends School, graduated from Haverford College in 1882 and returned that autumn to teach for four years at Friends School, during which time he married and lost his wife, Julia Emmeline Jones,⁶ daughter of Alfred H.⁵ and Mary R. Jones⁵ of China Neck, his third cousin. She died of TB three years after their marriage. He left Friends School to be principal of the high schools in South Hadley Falls, and in Bradford, Mass. In 1890 he married Myrah Judd, the year he came to the high school in Stamford, Conn. and she died in 1897. In 1900 Wilmot married Mary Lee Bufkin, a graduate of Smith College, and in 1902 their only son, Wilmot Rufus Jones Jr. was born.

Wilmot Jones built his cottage, the Leaning Elm, on the China Lake shore in 1898. The story of the Summer Colony, in which he and his family played an important part, is described elsewhere. His enthusiasm for South China has carried through the generations. Wilmot Rufus Jr., his wife Barbara (Hopkins) Jones and their two children, Mary Lee and Wilmot Rufus III, spent most of their summers at Leaning Elm.

After a period of teaching in Pittsburgh at the Allegheny Preparatory School, in 1910 Wilmot Jones⁶ founded Mill Brook School in Concord, Massachusetts

where he was headmaster until his untimely death in 1919 following a mastoid operation. Mary B. Jones was, herself, a gifted teacher and had taught both in Pittsburgh and at Mill Brook. When Wilmot Jr.⁷ entered Haverford college the year of his father's death, she came to Philadelphia and taught for a number of years at the Friends Select School, and after her son joined the faculty at the Choate School in Wallingford, Conn., for a brief period she taught there. She died in 1930.

Wilmot R. Jones Jr. graduated from Haverford College in 1923 and carried on his parents' love for teaching. After several years on the faculties of the Choate School in Connecticut and Storm King in New York, he became assistant head master at the Sidwell Friends School in Washington, D. C. In 1935 he was appointed headmaster at Friends School in Wilmington, Delaware where he remained until he retired in 1962, at the age of sixty. The next five years he taught at the William Penn Charter School in Philadelphia. He was active in many educational committees and after his retirement from Penn Charter School he devoted much of his time to service with Philadelphia Yearly Meeting.

Both he and his father served for many years as presidents of the South China Public Library and he did a great deal in preparation for the sesqui-centennial celebrating the incorporation of China as a town in 1818. One of his close associates, another Quaker headmaster, wrote after Wilmot's death in 1970, "His ties with his ancestral home in South China were strong. He and his wife, Barbara, their children and grandchildren loved China Lake."

Walter Edwin Jones⁶ was the eldest son of Edwin⁵ and Mary G. (Hoxie) Jones. When the great fire swept through South China in 1872, Walter was nineteen and joined the fire fighters while his younger brother, Rufus, only nine years old, was forbidden to leave the house. He had to watch from the window while Walter was allowed to get into the midst of the excitement.

Walter learned the carpenter trade and when he was thirty he left South China for four years, travelling to the west. He worked on the Mormon Temple in Salt Lake City and then in San Francisco he worked on one or more hotels. He got diphtheria during this period and was desperately ill. When he returned, his brother met him in Augusta, and did not recognize Walter who was so changed in appearance.

He married Olive Wiggin of Albion in 1888. She was listed as a school teacher in the Town report for 1883 and "met with her usual good success." Her salary was \$3.50 a week, exclusive of her board. Walter and Olive lived in his father's home for six years, their son, Clarence, was born there in 1891 and their daughter, Florence, (Flossie) was born in 1894. Six months later they moved into their own home at East Vassalboro. Walter "was a fine carpenter and did a good job. Business was opening up for him," his brother Rufus said. He was working on a set of buildings near China Village, either the Estes farm or the Elijah Roberts' place, when he fell from a staging and died soon after from the injuries. This was in 1895 and he was only forty-two years old.

Alice Maria Jones⁶, only daughter of Edwin⁵ and Mary G. Jones, married her second cousin, once removed, John Lewis Jones⁵, son of Edward Jones⁴ Jr., and great grandson of Lemuel². Alice and John⁵ were married in the new Friends Meeting House at South China, built during that year of 1884 when Eli Jones⁵ moved from Dirigo to South China. It was a double wedding, shared with William A. Jones⁵ and his second wife, Lizzie Hoxie, Alice's aunt. John⁵ and Alice⁶ lived in Durham where their one daughter, Ethel (Jones) Sanborn

was born in 1886.

Later the family moved to Webster Corners, near Lisbon Falls. Her Aunt Peace⁵ came to live with this family in 1904, after Alice's father was killed. Alice⁶ died in 1909, after a long period of illness. Augustine Jones⁶ wrote to her brother, "I always entertained great respect for Cousin Alice and I felt she had taken life by a very rugged pathway. I expect her watchful care of Aunt Peace was never known to any but thee and her husband." (Letter to Rufus Jones, February 15, 1909.)

Rufus Matthew Jones⁶ wrote that "I was four years and six months old when, holding my little sister's hand [Alice was eight] I first walked the quarter of a mile down the road to school." (Small Town Boy, p. 73) School was the most important part of life for this boy. He began at four and a half and from that time till his death eighty-one years later, he was connected with some form of learning. He loved Alice, the sister next older to him. Walter was ten years older and too grown up. Herbert was four years younger and not companionable until much later.

So much has been written about Rufus, either by himself, or by others that it must suffice in this account of Joneses to say that he, like many of his cousins, attended Oak Grove Seminary, p one term only - Friends School and Haverford College. He returned to all three, to teach at Friends School and at Haverford, and to be principal for four years at Oak Grove. He married twice. His first wife, Sarah Coutant, whom he met during his first year of teaching after college at Union Springs, New York, died of TB in 1899, after eleven years of marriage. Their son, Lowell Coutant Jones, born in 1892 at Oak Grove, died in 1903 following diphtheria. Rufus married Elizabeth Bartram Cadbury in 1902 and their only child was Mary Hoxie Jones, born in 1904.

For a long time Rufus Jones found visits to South China difficult because of a serious attack of asthma which always afflicted him. Eventually he had an operation on his nose and learned that it was riding behind horses which brought on the attacks. As he improved, and found he could stay without ill effects, he bought the field belonging to Solomon and Jennie Coffin, where the original settlers of the Town built their log cabin, and next door to Pine Rock, his Cousin Richard's summer home, and in 1916 built the cottage, Pendle Hill, where he spent summers with his family. He had always loved this particular field; it marked the beginnings of the town he loved; he had coasted down the hill to the lake and to the Narrows on the ice when he was a boy, he could see the lake spread out before him, the mountains and the sky. In spite of his long absences from South China, the months at Haverford where he lived and taught, or the trips which took him away, South China was always home to come back to. Its families were his dear friends and relatives. No member of the Jones family ever loved the place more than this grandson of Abel and Susannah. "These summers at South China were the 'more yet' of life." (Rufus Jones, by MHJ, p. 65.)

After Rufus Jones' death in 1948, Mary Hoxie Jones became the owner of Pendle Hill. Since her first visit to South China in 1909 she has missed only four or five summers. In 1967 she and her cousin, Richard Jenney and his wife, Clementina, became the owners of his grandparents' home, Pine Rock, which adjoins Pendle Hill. His grandparents were Richard Mott⁶ and Virginia C. Jones. The property includes Sunset Cottage, summer home of Madeleine⁷ Jones Walenta and her family for many years, and the boathouse which had been built in the late 1890s to house the sailboat, Flying Cloud, which in 1906 became the property of Wilmot R. Jones⁶ and later of his son, Wilmot Jr.⁷

Grandchildren, great-grandchildren and great-great-grandchildren of

Richard Mott Jones are coming to Pine Rock in the summer. Genevieve Jones Jenney, her husband, Warren, and their six children began spending their summers here in 1916. The eldest daughter, Sibyl - named for her great grandmother - married a South China man, Frank Nary in 1934 and they lived for several years in the house at the corner of the Dirigo road and rt. 202 until moving to Bethel and later to Vienna, Virginia. Richard Jenney, the eldest son has been referred to above. His younger brother, Stoddard and his wife, Polly and their two daughters, have been regular summer residents.

Herbert Watson Jones⁶ was the fourth and youngest of this family. When he was a very little boy he stuck his forefinger in the cog of the mowing machine and he cried all night long, "I wish I hadn't done it!" In spite of missing the end of a finger he was skillful in the use of his hands and became a jeweller and a watchmaker. He early practised his skills by making an arrow into which he set a sharp pin. Fitting this to a small bow, he aimed at his father's bald head and the arrow went straight to the mark, stuck in Edwin's head and quivered! He had a "penny-farthing" bicycle, a large wheel forward, the small wheel at the back. Riding this presented terrible hazards. He also had a motor boat which was the pride of his life, but it had a recalcitrant motor and he spent much of his time on the lake floating in his efforts to get the motor going.

He was the life of every gathering with his stories, jokes, songs and gay spirits. He was business manager at Oak Grove, while his brother, Rufus, was principal. He had a jewelry store in Freeport, and an optical shop in Waterville. For a while he was a travelling salesman for the Osborne Company. He married Mary Eva Webber, of Durham, in 1895, the grand-daughter of the Friend Hoag who was to marry Aunt Peace, and they had three children, Harvey Herbert, Francis Hoxie and Miriam Elizabeth. Just two months after Miriam's birth in 1918, Herbert was standing in front of Harry Austin's barn when he had a heart attack and died, like his brother, Walter, much too young, for he was only fifty-one.

Harvey H. moved to Auburn after finishing school at Moses Brown, and worked with his uncle, Daniel Webber. He met Jennie A. Bean, a Lewiston girl and they were married in 1921. They continued to live in the Auburn-Lewiston area where their two children, Roland A. and Esther M. were born. Both are now married - Roland has one son, Esther has two daughters and two sons, and they have all lived at a distance away, able to make infrequent visits to South China, although Harvey and Jennie come fairly often.

Francis Hoxie Jones went to Oak Grove and Colby College, and moved to Massachusetts where he learned to be a printer and was employed by the Plimpton Press. He married Ruth Smith of Somerville, Mass. in 1933 and they came to live in South China, in the Jones family homestead. Francis continued to be a printer, working with Mr. French in Augusta, and also maintained a small farm at home. During the World War II he was in the army overseas, returning in 1946 to South China and raising chickens in the barn. For the last years of his life, which ended suddenly following a heart attack in 1953 while fighting a brush fire, he was treasurer and tax collector for the Town of China. His rare gifts of humor, and of friendship served him well in these difficult and demanding tasks. He was much loved and respected by all. Ruth served as librarian in the South China library and was an assistant in the post office. After Francis' death, Ruth left South China for Haverford, Pa. where she was secretary in the Friends School, but after five years she returned to Massachusetts.

Miriam Elizabeth Jones was the last member of the Jones family to be

born in the homestead, and spent her early years in South China, although during the winters the house was closed, and Mary W. Jones, with her Mother, Miriam (Hoag) Webber, and children Francis and Miriam, boarded with other families and in later years the winter home was in Amesbury, Massachusetts. But the family was always resident in South China during the summer. Miriam attended the Lincoln School in Providence, Rhode Island and the State Teachers College in Gorham, Maine, coming to Haverford, Pennsylvania in 1944 to teach in the Friends School of which she became principal in 1950. After Francis' death in 1953, the homestead built by her great-grandfather Abel Jones, became hers and she has returned regularly each summer. In 1970 she married Norman Brown, professor of Material Science and Metalurgy at the University of Pennsylvania. For several years, until 1973, she was president of the South China Public Library.

The four sons of William A.⁵ and Mary Ann Runnells Jones were Elwood⁶ who married Anna Graves; Frank E.⁶ who married Luella Graves; Josiah Albert⁶ who married Ida Coleman; and Arthur Winslow⁶ who married Lenora Hawkes. The three older sons remained in South China. Elwood and Anna had a house on the "heater piece" across from the Theodore Jackson home and later moved into the Jackson house. Their three children were Martha (Mattie), Willis and Grace, all deceased. Willis never married; Mattie (Mrs. Craig Hiatt) and Grace (Mrs. Miles Rogers) both moved to Idaho. Grace's son, Samuel, is the only one of the children to survive.

Frank E. and Ella Jones lived in the first house on the right of the South Road. Their two sons, Harold and Ernest, both graduated from Haverford College in 1905 and 1907. Harold taught in Philadelphia, was a shoemaker, and became superintendent of a condensed milk plant in Ohio. He married Nancy Smith and they had one daughter, Betty. Ernest secured a Master's Degree in Forestry from Yale, 1911, and was in the United States Forest Service, later with the Great Northern Paper Company, living near Bangor. He married a South China girl, Florence Carll and they had three children, Curtis, Sherwood and Faith. Ernest and Florence, with their children, were frequent visitors to South China. Florence now lives in Brattleboro, Vermont, near Faith and her family. Both Harold and Ernest are deceased.

Frank E. Jones was a teacher of excellence. The Town Report in 1879 said of him, when he was 25 years old: "We wish we had more such teachers as Mr. Jones." He was a Friends minister and served as pastor for the Friends Meeting in South China, traveling around to many of the Friends' meetings in the near vicinity. At the time of his death in 1928 Genie Jones wrote to Rufus M. Jones: "The funeral of Frank Jones was the greatest testimony to the man's life that is possible to find. . . Pure goodness was recognized."

J. Albert Jones was another excellent teacher. In 1876-1877 the Town Report says of his first year of teaching: "He bids fair to become one of our best teachers. The school was a success." He was only 17 at the time. Ten years later he and his wife, Ida, were both teachers, he at the China Academy and she at South China, and by 1890 the Report says: "We cannot speak too highly of Mr. (Albert) Jones as a teacher. He seeks to bring his scholars to a practical knowledge of their studies rather than to confine them to the text." It could have been either one of the brothers to whom Rufus Jones referred in A Small Town Boy: "We all very soon adored him, and under his guidance we began to take on new intellectual and moral stature." The students "had come under discipline and could be led whithersoever this teacher wished to lead."

Albert and Ida had three daughters, Clara May, a school teacher who never

married; Ermina who married her Oak Grove classmate from Ramallah, Palestine (now Jordan), Khalil Totah. They returned to Ramallah where he became head of the Friends Boys School and Ermina taught in the Girls School - both schools founded as the result of visits by Eli and Sybil Jones. Ermina died there in 1928. Mary Alice married Perry Macy, who came to South China from the west to be pastor of the Friends meeting. They had two sons, Paul and Maynard, and soon afterwards moved to Newberg, Oregon. After Albert Jones' death in 1926, Ida and Clara moved also to Newberg. Perry and Mary Macy are still living.

Arthur Jones went to the Friends School in Providence, then to Haverford College graduating in 1885. He was a classmate of Rufus M. Jones. He did graduate work also at Haverford, and more at the University of Chicago. He taught Greek and Latin at William Penn College, Iowa and Friends University, Kansas. His wife, Lenora (Nora) Hawkes, was a granddaughter of Lemuel and Abigail Hawkes - the first Jones relative to come to the Town or China - on her father's side, and on her mother's side, she was a granddaughter of Caleb (father of Abel) Jones' sister, Phebe Jones Owen. Arthur and Nora who spent the last years of their lives in Washington, D. C. had two daughters, Ruth Jones and Etta (Jones) Wild. They paid infrequent visits to South China

Clarkson⁵ and Alvina (Runnells) Jones - she was Mary Ann's sister so that their children were double first cousins to William's and Mary Ann's - lived in Dirigo and had two sons, Frederick Dilwin⁶ and Isaac Lincoln⁶. Fred went to Haverford College in the class of 1879 and then took up engineering which he did not enjoy. In 1886 he moved to Los Angeles, California, becoming proprietor, later president and treasurer, of the Jones Bookstore. According to his granddaughter, Jean (MacMaster) McClintic, he made this a thriving and excellent store and was extremely happy there. He married Minnehaha (Minnie) Hanby and had two children, Philip and Margaret, who have visited South China. Granddaughter Jean and her family have come back almost every year since 1967.

Isaac Lincoln Jones⁶ and Lora Sibley were married in 1892. They lived in various homes, until 1909 when brother Fred persuaded Lincoln to move to California and work with him in the bookstore. They sold everything and took their children out west. Barclay Lincoln, the eldest, was 16, Roscoe was 14; Carrol 12, Gladys 9, Harvey Dickinson 7, and Doris was a few months old. The move proved to be a mistake. Lincoln was a farmer at heart and he was not interested in running the store. His South China roots went too deep to transplant and in 1911 he brought the family back to South China, settling in Hillside, the house on the right hand side of the Pond Road, now near the top of the "old road". All the children attended Oak Grove, Barclay, Carrol and Harvey continued at Moses Brown School from which Barclay and Harvey went to Brown University. Barclay secured a graduate degree in chemistry, taught at Westtown School in Pennsylvania and was made headmaster of Friends Central School in Overbrook, Pennsylvania in 1925, where he remained until his untimely death in 1945.

Barclay married Esther Coffin in 1917 and built a summer home on the Coffin property, where their four daughters, Louise, Frances, Hoyland and Irma with their families have been coming all their lives. Solomon and Jennie Coffin, Esther's parents, had moved to South China early in the 1900s, due to their meeting with Herbert W. Jones in Massachusetts. They told him they wanted to settle in Maine; he told them there was a house for sale. Esther and the youngest daughter, Irma, with her children are now permanent South China residents, on the East Vassalboro Road.

Both Roscoe and Carrol remained in South China. Roscoe married his

second cousin, Marion E. Jones, younger sister of Lena (Jones) Austin, daughter of Linwood Jones. He was a chicken farmer and eventually he and Marion, with their two daughters, Evelyn and Sybil, settled at his father's home, Hillside. Roscoe became seriously ill and, like his brother, Barclay, died too young, in 1942. Marion and the two girls moved to the house just below the Fellowship Church. The girls married; Evelyn is Mrs. Winslow Wicke and they have a son, Steven; Sybil is Mrs. Moses Hoskins and they have two daughters, Marion and Margaret. Evelyn and her family come on from Cincinnati each summer. Sybil and her family come less frequently from Fremont, Iowa. Marion has been the librarian for the South China Library for many years, is clerk of the China Monthly Meeting of Friends, and is active in South China affairs.

Carrol and his wife, Ida Marie Davison, settled in the Solomon Coffin home where he maintained a large farm and a fine herd of cattle. Their two children, Marie (Mrs. William Nye) and Charles, were born and grew up in this home where Carrol and Charles continued to live after Ida's death in 1950. Carrol died in 1972 and Charles, who has never married, continues to live there. Marie, her husband and three daughters have built a charming cottage, the basis of which is the old "hearse house" on the lake near Kildeer Point.

Gladys married Harold Tollefson of Rhode Island in 1924, an Oak Grove classmate. He served as pastor for the Friends Meeting at South China for a number of years. They have four children, Robert, Margaret, Elsie and Miriam, who occasionally visit. Harold and Gladys, now residents of Richmond, Indiana, are regular summer visitors, parking their trailer in Marion Jones' dooryard.

Harvey D. - as he was always called to distinguish from Harvey H., the son of Herbert W. and Mary W. Jones, - moved to New York and worked with an insurance company until his retirement a few years ago. He married Cynthia Scales of New York and they have three daughters, Nancy, Peggy and Linda who bring their families almost every summer. Harvey and Cynthia have had a summer cottage on Indian Heart Cove since 1963 and are now residents of Virginia Beach, Virginia.

Doris married Vincent P. Cook of Massachusetts in 1936. As a small boy, Vincent and his parents had spent several summers in South China, living with Herbert and Mary W. Jones. The Cooks were friends of Frank and Adeline Davidson of Auburndale who spent their summers in a cottage on the field in front of the Jones Homestead. Vincent and Doris have two daughters, Kitty and Enid. Kitty and her husband, William Bammer and their three children are in process of building a cottage on the lake shore, just beyond the George and Helen Starkey property. Doris, whose second husband, William Yule, died in 1967, returns each summer from Massachusetts.

Lincoln Jones had four half sisters, Edith (Pope); Dora (Blackington); Gulielma (Julia) (Hanson) and Carrie (Dimock), who have been referred to earlier. Edith Pope and her husband, Edward lived in East Vassalboro and were in close touch with South China. Their two children, Frederick and Marion (Bennett) are living in Massachusetts, but Fred spends his summers in East Winthrop and is able to visit South China and members of the family.

Linwood and Emma Jones' younger daughter, Marion, (Mrs. Roscoe Jones) has been mentioned. The older daughter, Lena, married Harry Winslow Austin in 1902. A complicated genealogical relationship between these two can be worked out. They settled in the Austin Farm, a short distance from South China on the China Village Road, where their eight children were born. Carrol Eli lived only one month, but the others all grew up in South China, - Ralph, Aurie, Wendell, Morris, Kenneth, Amy and Ruth. Three of these children

remained in South China, Ralph who married Myrtle Huff; Wendell who married Gladys Proctor and Ruth who married John Colwell. Wendell died in 1943 following an epidemic of typhoid fever. He and Gladys and their son, Richard, were living in his grandfather Linwood's home, which had been built by great-grandfather, Jeremiah.

Harry and Lena Austin were two of South China's most important citizens. They provided ice before electric refrigerators were in existence, they sold milk, eggs, chickens, meat, vegetables - almost everything that anybody needed. They were active in the Friends Meeting. Harry served as its treasurer and Lena has continued since his death. They were active in many of the town's affairs. Their magnificent barn provided not only shelter for all their animals but a playhouse for all children. Their home was always a home for everybody. "Harryandlena" was just one word which everyone in the village and for miles around knew. Harry's death in 1961 and Lena's broken hip some years later have changed the picture, but Lena at almost 93 still goes on gallantly, braiding her rugs, gathering in children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren. She now lives alternately with Ralph or Ruth and in the summer with Aurie and her husband, Thomas Clark, in their cottage on the lake shore below the Austin Home. The house itself has now been transformed to make three attractive apartments.

Ralph and Myrtle have a house on the left hand side of the South Road. They, too, are important citizens in the Town. Whatever needs doing, whether plumbing, wiring, roofing, building, repairing, it is Ralph who meets the emergency. He has been at everyone's beck and call for nearly fifty years. Cottage residents are completely dependent on Ralph's ministrations and he has been known to come running in answer to a plaintive phone call reporting a bat flying through the living room. He is a trustee of China Monthly Meeting of Friends, care taker of the six Quaker cemeteries in the Town, a trustee of the South China Public Library, a member of the China Historical Association, and has served as Town fence viewer, weigher of coal and hay. He is a member of the Community Fellowship Church choir, a collector of coins, inheritor of his grandfather Linwood's bees, and a farmer in his spare time.

Myrtle, since 1952 until her retirement in 1971, was a member of the Erskine Academy faculty and a coach for the plays. Since her retirement she has served as librarian at Erskine. She has been on the School Committee from 1945 to 1962 and has been, for many years, secretary of the South China Library Association. Ralph and Myrtle have two children, LeRoy and Aurie, who are married. Lee, his wife, Ann Miller Austin, and their little daughter, Aurie Lynne, live in California. Aurie and her husband, Robert Spender, are living in Philadelphia. But they return to South China as often as possible.

Ruth Austin Colwell and her husband, John, are South China residents. For many years they had a home opposite to the Austin farm but have recently built a house in back of the big barn, on a hill overlooking the lake. They have three children, Linda who is married to Cyrus R. Currier III. They, with their little daughter, Karen Susan, live in Montana. Ronald lives in Winslow and has built up a flourishing business of his own, Colwell Disposal. Thomas is still at home and is a student at Oak Grove-Coburn. Ruth is employed in the China Telephone office, is vice-president of the South China Library, sings in the Community Fellowship choir and is active in many South China affairs. She has also served on the China School fact finding committee.

John Colwell, known as Tex from his state of origin, spent many years in the poultry business. He now works as a contractor and carpenter.

LANCASTER

(This genealogy is the result of ten years of research by Alden Lancaster of Bangor, Maine; it was written by Mrs. James Stanley Brown II [née Helengrace Lancaster] of Calgary, Alberta, Canada.)

Near the entrance of the China Village Cemetery stands a foursided white-bronze monument erected by my grandfather, Hartwell Lancaster, in 1899, at the behest of his Aunt Clarissa (Lancaster) Watson of Winslow in her will dated 20 Nov 1894, at Winslow.

One side of this Lancaster monument is devoted to: "Joseph G. Watson born Harmony, Maine, died April 18, 1883, age 74, and his wife Clarissa A. Watson, daughter of Robert and Olive Lancaster. Born here 1810, died June 6, 1898, age -8".

Another side is a tribute to Hartwell's grandparents, Robert born March 4, 1779, died 1862, and Olive Lancaster born 1782, died 1868, and their children who are buried in China:

1. Betsy, wife of Otis Hamblin, died 1837, age 33.
2. Mary A., wife of Ira Morrill, died June 22, 1874, age 67.
3. R. H. Lancaster, died 1889, age 73.

The fourth side lists the children of Robert and Olive buried elsewhere:

1. George A. Lancaster, Presque Isle, Maine.
2. Joshua Lancaster, Riverside Cemetery, Old Town (now Orono), Maine.
3. Olive Emaline Soule, No. Vassalboro, Maine.
4. Charlotte Stanwood and children, New York City.

The fourth side gives information about the first-in-this-country immigrant, as follows:

"In memory of my (Hartwell's) great-grandparents, James and Susan Lancaster, born in England and emigrated to America in 1770, being the first family to settle on the West Side of Harlem Lake in 1776. Susan died 1826, age 84; James died Jan. 30, 1843, age 100 years, 1 month, 8 days." James' death date should be corrected to Jan. 22, 1848, according to two different newspapers of February 1848.

Squire James Lancaster's name also appears on the monument erected by Thomas Dinsmore, Jr. by Dowe's General Store, in the present-day Palermo, as one of the early settlers of the China area, as did that of the first settler on the lake, Ephraim Clark. Lots 39 & 40, Jones Survey.

Lancaster descendents plan to place a field-stone-plaque to James Lancaster on what was his original property, near China Lake, similar to the other two known ones in China, which are:

1. "To Ephraim Clark, his wife, and four sons, the first settlers on China Lake." (Lots 39 & 40 on East Shore of Lake, 2 or 3 miles north of South China. Elmer Rowe of Fitchburg, Massachusetts is a descendent.)

2. "To George McLaughlin, a settler who took part in the Battle of Quebec."

The land encompassing all but the western-most part of China Lake was surveyed by John Jones, called "Black" Jones, consisted of 112 lots, and was called Jones Plantation, as shown on a map of 19 Mar 1774, bordered on the north by Winslow and Albion, on the west by Vassalboro, and on the south by Windsor. The towns on the eastern boundary, being in a different County, are not indicated. The first tree was felled by the settlers on 17 July 1774.

It is rather surprising, then, that it was two years later, according to the aforementioned monument, when James Lancaster became the first settler on the West Side of China Lake, or 12-mile Pond, as his lot 12 of Jones Plantation, must have been a racher choice one, including, as it did, a piece of the waterfront near the head of the lake. However, the existing maps and descriptions do seem to vary along the lake shore, the location of lot 12.

It is impossible to consider China as we know it today, in thinking of its history, for it was inexorably linked with, if not part of near-by towns. For example, neighboring Freetown Plantation in 1802, was incorporated into the town of Fairfax on 4 Mar 1804, the 152nd town in the District of Maine, Commonwealth of Massachusetts; Fairfax changed to Lygonia on 10 Mar 1821 and from Lygonia to present-day Albion on 24 Feb 1824.

Town borders were altered from time to time, and one that directly affected the land owners of (South) China was that of Palermo, Waldo County, on the Kennebec-Waldo Counties line. Other original tracts which are of interest and importance to historians and genealogists, because they affected this locale, are:

1. The Nelson tract surveyed by John McKechnie in 1769.
2. Nathan Winslow's share of the Plymouth Patent, surveyed by Ephraim Ballard in July 1800, and lotted by Charles Hayden in January 1802.
3. That tract assigned to the heirs of William Brattle by the Plymouth Company.
4. The Shaw, Bridge, and Williams right, consisting of eleven lots sold to settlers by the Plymouth Company.
5. The remainder of the property was allotted to the heirs of Sir William Baker on 13 Oct 1809.

I believe that all five of these tracts comprise the present-day Albion.

The China town records say that James Lancaster occupied the following posts:

- 1796 - Selectman (Harlem incorporated as a town),
- 1797 - Surveyor
- 1800 - Fish Warden and Surveyor of Roads and Highways.
- 1802 & 1803 - School Committee.
- 1802 & 1812 - Tithingman

James Lancaster appears in the US Census of 1790 on Jones Plantation, Lincoln County, Maine, and in the ensuing years of 1800, 1810, and 1820, in Harlem or China, as appropriate. His wife Susan having died in 1826, his name as head of family, does not appear in later Censuses.

James is involved in land transactions as follows:

1. 11 Apr 1795 James Lancaster of Jones Plantation bought 50 acres, Settlers Back Lot #37, Vassalboro from Jacob Tabor, Jr., a blacksmith. This deed was signed by Ezekiel Lancaster, among others, including Seth Lithgow, Justice of the Peace. (There was also ? Ezekiel Lancaster 1759-1836 of East Winthrop, New Sharon, and Farmington, Maine, who enlisted four times in the Continental Forces Amer. Rev.)
2. 1804 James gave or sold part of his Jones Plantation Lot.
3. 7 Jul 1807 he deeded away 50 acres of the North Lancaster Lot in Harlem. (Later deeds mention Dudley Doe as being on the North.)
4. 12 Apr 1810 forty acres sold to Olive Lancaster.
5. 8 Jul 1813 thirty acres sold to James Lancaster, Jr.
6. 27 Mar 1818 thirty acres sold to Robert Lancaster, by James Lancaster or James Jr.

From 1818 through 1845, various parcels of land in China and Winslow changed "Lancaster" hands, involving also Alfred Marshall, Stephen Hussey, and Benjamin Libbey, and mentioning James Wiggin and Squire Washburn.

It is believed that the following are the children of James and Susan Lancaster, from an old Bon Bon wrapper handed down in the family:

1. Ezekiel Lancaster b. 8 Jun 1772 (Also ? Ezekiel Lancaster b. 8 Jun 1772 son of James and Mary (Sands or Sando) Lancaster of Georgetown, Maine)
2. Thomas Lancaster b. 9 Apr 1774.
3. James Lancaster (Jr) b. 13 Dec 1776.
4. Robert Lancaster b. 4 Mar 1779, China.
5. Sarah Lancaster b. 1 Mar 1782.
6. E. (assumed to be Elinor) Lancaster b. 22 Jun 1784.
7. M. (assumed to be Mercy) Lancaster b. 9 Jan 1787.

#1 above Ezekiel (James¹) and Mary (sometimes Ester) Ward, both of Harlem were married in Harlem on 20 Nov 1800 by Abraham Burrell, Esq. In 1801 he was Surveyor of Highways, 1802 Fish Warden, both in Harlem, though in 1800 an Ezekiel Lancaster was residing at Unity Plantation. In 1810, 1830 and 1840 Census, he was in Harlem/China.

#2 above Thomas (James¹) without bounds, married in Harlem on 6 May 1798 by A. Job Chadwick, Minister of the Baptist Church, Sarah Lewes (Lewis) of Harlem.

They had five children born in Albion: Lancaster children:

2a. Dorcas b. 27 Feb 1799, possibly married Elisha Winslow.

2b. James b. 8 Nov 1800 m. Jane Billington b. 12 May 1810 Albion, had Lancaster children:

2A. Andrew Lancaster b. 6 Jan 1830.

2B. George Lancaster b. 26 Dec. 1831.

2C. Albert Lancaster b. 8 Dec. 1833, d. 2 Jun 1834.

2D. James Albert Lancaster b. 11 Dec 1835, d. 2 Mar 1867.

James (2b) died in Eddington on 10 Apr 1837, though his death is recorded in Lubec, and his widow Jane (Billington) Lancaster, daughter of Job and Hannah (Burrell) Billington--(Hannah was the daughter of Abraham and Hannah (Cushing) Burrell; Abram was born in Weymouth, Massachusetts, and most of his fifteen children were married in China.) -- Jane married (2) as his second wife, Ezra Roberts of Sebec, Maine, m. in Charleston, Maine and had two daughters. Jane (Billington) Lancaster Roberts died 18 Jun 1877; Ezra died 8 Nov 1880, or thereabouts, both in Bangor, where both are buried.

2c. Thomas Jr. b. 11 Aug 1803 or 1804.

2d. David b. 15 Feb 1806 m. circa 1829 Harriet Bragg, she b. circa 1810 and had 10 Lancaster children:

2B. Hannah b. 1830.

2C. Preston (Presson) B. b. 22 Dec 1836 or 1838, d. 14 Jan 1911 married Nellie _____ who d. 3 Nov 1918. They and their three children who died young are all buried in the Union cemetery, Vassalboro. Nellie was a nickname for Nancy E. nee name unknown.

2D. Amanda b. 1839.

2E. Isabel b. 1842.

2F. Rufus F. b. 1844 Albion, fought in Civil War, married Angie Wells Call or Carl, had one daughter and one son.

2G. Frances, a daughter, b. 1847.

2H. Hadley b. 1849, died young, buried in an unmarked grave, Albion.

2I. Mary E. b. 1852.

2J. Betsy T. b. 1856.

The father of these ten children was farming Lot No. 7, in the town of Albion in 1850. Lot 7 was 50 acres.

On 25 Mar 1789 David Lancaster of Norridgewock, a Tanner, bought 50 acres -- part of Lot 106, with dwelling house thereon, in Winslow--but on the West Side of the Kennebec River, from Elias Tozier and wife Elizabeth (her right of dower).

2e. Levi P. b. 1 Feb 1809, Albion, died 10 Sep 1872, buried in a south Albion cemetery, married Hannah J. Nowell or Newell or Newhall or Noel born circa 1808 died 22 Feb 1883, buried in a cemetery in South Albion (Shaw?), beside her husband. Had 3 Lancaster children:

2A. Gustavus A. B. b. circa 1835.

2B. Willard S. b. 9 Dec 1836, died 1 Feb 1903, buried Shaw Cemetery, Albion married Jennie Brown, removed to Maxfield, Maine area, had six children, and many many descendents, most of whom resided in Maxfield-Milo-Brownville-Lincoln area and Old Town, Maine. Five of the six children were sons.

2C. Alexander H. b. 22 Jan 1844, died age 21+, buried Shaw Cemetery, Albion.

#3 above James, Jr. (James¹) and Mary Priest, both of China, were married in China

on 16 Nov 1819. Two children were (Lancaster):

3a. John Lancaster b 7 Sep 1826, China.

3b. Elizabeth Lancaster b 7 Sep. 1830.

There were many other James Lancasters in Maine, some with wives named Mary or variations thereof. One was James Lancaster, married Mehitable McDonald she b. 15 Nov 1799 m. on 17 Oct 1819 in Lubec (more later), Maine They had three children, and after James died in 1827, Mehitable, of Southeast Harbor, Maine married Alexander Morang on 28 Jul 1837. She died 15 Sep 1849, Lubec.

#4 above Robert (James¹) b. 4 Mar 1779 China, died 1862, China, and is buried there; married in China on 20 Oct 1800 Olive Pillsbury (now Pillsbury) of Vassalboro. She died in 1868 in China. Both are buried in the China Village Cemetery. Robert and Olive lived their lives in China. Robert Lancaster fought in the War of 1812, but there was at least one other Robert in Massachusetts at this time, and it is not known which one was in the military.

Our Robert was a farmer, with twenty of his forty acres "improved" with such crops as corn, wheat, rye, oats, potatoes, and hay; and kept a few animals, i.e., horses, sheep, and swine, as shown in the 1850 Agricultural Census. In this same Census, in Albion are James (III) and Levi P., each farming 40 acres, and Samuel with 6, and David with 50 acres of land.

Robert built a fine brick house, similar to two others in the vicinity which are still standing today, 1973, however, after the late Robert's house had been sold to Fred Gerald, probably by Mr. Morrill, and the two Gerald daughters, Marguerite (Mrs. Jones) and Eileen (Mrs. Morris) had been born there, it burned in October 1901. The property also passed through the hands of Taylor, Rackliffe, Kendrick, Sarty, and Muzzy.

Following are the children of Robert and Olive (Pillsbury) Lancaster; some dates are known and some are conjecture: (Lancaster)

4a. Joshua born in China 1 Jan 1802 - Died 1 Jul 1866 in Old Town, and is buried in Orono, Maine. Joshua removed to Trescott, Maine, where he married, circa 1825, Margaret Beasley, and where their first son, Hartwell, was born on 29 May 1827. When Hartwell was about 1&1/2 years old, Joshua and family returned to China where they are shown in the 1830 Census.

4A. Hartwell had two children, and his descendants are: via his son, Howard Augustus: Mrs. G B (Barbara Alice) Raymond, Portland, Me.; Mrs. J. S. (Helengrace) Brown (writer of this piece), Calgary, Alberta, Canada; Hartwell Charles, Amherst, Massachusetts. Each of the three had two children apiece, also alive and well in 1973. Via Hartwell's daughter, Margaret May (Lancaster) Blanchard: Mrs. T. S. (Emily Louise) Hope of N.Y.C., with one son and five grandchildren.

4B. Bradford born China in 1828, married Helen Antoine Spencer, had three children, resided Orono area, died 5 Apr 1863, and is buried in Great Works, Maine. Helen m. (2) George Caher.

4C. Alfred born China 16 Aug 1831. Alfred stayed on as an ostler with A. C. Pinkham, in China, after the rest of the family had departed for Alton-Orono-Upper Stillwater-Old Town Maine area. He died in Bangor on 16 Sep 1855, unmarried.

4D. Susan born on a date unknown, died of scarlet fever at age 2 years, and is buried in the family farm in China.

4E. Elizabeth called Betsey, born circa 1833, China, married Horatio Nelson Hatch of Bangor, where they resided and had two sons. She died and is buried in Bangor.

4F. Olive Ann born in China 9 Feb 1836, died and is buried in Orono, Maine.

4G. George C., born in China in May 1839 died and is buried in Orono, Maine, unmarried, 26 Sep 1875, served as a Captain in the Union

- Army, a Regular, in the 17th Regiment, after which he fought in Texas.
- 4H. Mary Emma, called Emma, born circa 1845 in China, died and is buried in Bangor, Maine. She married Fred Cummings of Bangor and they had four children.
- 4a. con't. children of Robert and Olive (Pillsbury) Lancaster.
- 4b. Betsey born in China in 1804, married Otis Hamblin of Vassalboro, but both of China when married on 9 Nov 1826 in China. They had two children: (Hamblin) Susan and Ann. The monument says that she died in 1837, and is buried in China, though Cemetery Records do not corroborate this.
- 4c. Mary Ann born in China 1807, filed intentions in China, to marry Ira Morrill on 16 Jun 1849. No issue. She died in 1874 and is buried in China, so states the monument but Cemetery Records known to this compiler do not corroborate this.
- 4d. Clarissa Augusta born China 3 Apr 1810; died in Winslow on 6 Jun 1898, married Joseph G. Watson born Harmony, Maine 1809, died in Winslow on 18 Apr 1883. No issue. They resided Winslow. Joseph left the farm to Clarissa, and she willed it to her nephew, Hartwell Lancaster. Mr. and Mrs. Watson are both buried in China Village Cemetery.
- 4e. Robert Harrison born China 1816, lived and died there, in 1889. He is, no doubt, buried in China Village Cemetery. He was referred to as "R.H."
- 4f. Charlotte married William Stanwood in N.Y.C., where they had two children. The whole Stanwood family is said to have died in N.Y.C. circa 1842.
- 4g. Olive E. or Emaline Olive married _____ Soule of North Vassalboro. No issue. According to the monument, she is buried in No. Vassalboro, but no evidence can be found.
- 4h. George A., probably born China circa 1822, married in Presque Isle, Maine, on 23 Feb 1867 Mahitable Greenlaw born in Charlotte, Maine 10 Jul 1837 and died 12 May 1909. He died 24 July 1889; both are buried in Presque Isle. George A. and Mahitable had two children: (Lancaster)
- 4A. George F. married Ada Sutter and had several children, of whom there are living descendants in 1973 unknown to this writer.
- 4B. Bion Joel changed to Bion B. married in Presque Isle on 28 Nov 1888 Mary Lizzie Perry who died in Portland, Maine 6 Nov 1898. Bion B. died in Presque Isle 24 Oct 1899, and is buried there. They had twin daughters, and a son Frank H., and the latter's only son, Alden Lancaster, resides in Bangor, Maine, has two sons and two grandchildren. Alden has done most of the research on the Lancaster family in China, and has passed the records on to the compiler, mentioned above.

#5 above, Sarah Lancaster born China 1 Mar 1782, and Stephen Tripp were married in China on 24 Dec 1799, by Abraham Burrill, Esq., She was called "Sary" of Harlem and Stephen was without bounds, but he was probably from Sullivan (New Bristol No. 2) Maine.

NOTE: Vol. 1, China Records also show: Sarah Lancaster married either Winn or William Given or William Irvine on 5 Nov 1825, in China.

#6 above E., assumed to be Elenor Lancaster, sometimes called "Polly", filed intentions to marry, on 1 Jul 1804, and did marry on 19 Jul 1804 Mark Wiggins of Fairfax (Albion). Polly was of Harlem (China) when they were married there. They evidently removed to Lubec or vicinity, where the following children were born: (Wiggin)

- 6a. illegible--Lavonia or Sophronia or Spac____ b. 1804.
- 6b. Greenleigh b. 1807, married Anna _____ had son who died age 2 weeks, on 16 Feb 1848, buried Haycock's Harbor (Trescott-Lubec).
- 6c. Mary b. 1811. The facts are as stated, though there may have been other Greenleaf (Greenleigh) Wiggins in the area.

NOTE: The possibility exists that #6 above E., assumed to be Elenor Lancaster, daughter of the original James and Susan might be the following, also in China; Elenor Lancaster and James Wiggins both without bounds, filed intentions to marry 10 Feb 1803, and were married by Jabez Lewis on 15 Dec 1803.

#7 above M. (assumed to be Mercy Lancaster, born in China 9 Jan 1787, was of Harlem when she married Moses Dow of Fairfax on 10 Mar 1809, in China. He was born 8 Dec 1784 at Jones Plantation. Jones Plantation, Harlem, and China have been used interchangeably herein. Their children: (Dow)

- 7a. Hartwell died in infancy.
- 7b. Mary called Polly
- 7c. Dolly married D. C. Holman, resided Bangor..
- 7d. Aaron..
- 7e. David probably resided Bangor, drowned 2 Jun 1889, his body found two weeks later.
- 7f. Elvira - Mrs. Keay of China in 1881.
- 7g. John Orr, born 28 Jan 1822 married Mercy Lancaster, relationship to her mother not ascertained. They removed to Indiana.
- 7h. Lois B.
- 7i. Isaac J. born in Oct 1827, married Rosena Trask who was born in Oakland. Isaac was a Cooper in Ashland, Winslow, and other nearby towns. He died 23 Jan 1899 age 71, a widower, at Unity Plantation.

Soon after their marriage, Moses and Mercy had moved to Albion.

Since other Lancaster families moved to towns near China, it is difficult to compose the families. One was John Lancaster of Winslow who sold five acres of land on the West Side of the Kennebec River to Philip Emerson of Sidney on 25 Dec 1785. Another was David Lancaster of Norridgewock, a Tanner, who bought land with house thereon, also on the West Side of the River, Lot 106, from Elias Tozier and his wife Elizabeth (her dower right).

Other Lancasters in the China area were:

Daniel Lancaster married Mary called Polly Lewes (Lewis), probably sister of aforementioned Sarah Lewis who married Thomas Lancaster. Daniel and Polly filed intentions in China on 16 Nov 1799, both without bounds, and were married on 25 Dec 1799, by Abraham Burrill, Esq. They lived in Albion and had these children: (Lancaster)

- 1. Samuel L. b. 6 Mar 1803, died 5 Mar 1874.
- 2. Marcey b. 11 Apr 1805, died 14 Dec 1848.
- 3. Chloe b. 22 Oct. 1807.
- 4. Lucey C. b. 2 Apr 1810, died 2 Aug 1870.
- 5. Selina Cole b. 15 July 1812.

Mahala Lancaster of China filed intentions to marry Elihu Hale of China on 4 Dec 1830.

Willard S. (Willis?) Lancaster and Daniel Libby were boarding with Mrs. Hollis Broad in China at the time of Daniel's death on 28 July 1876. Daniel Libby, born 7 Dec 1793, Lebanon, Maine, had married (1) Elizabeth Scores of Marblehead, Mass., in January of 1819. She died and he married (2) Nancy B. Palmer of Union, Maine on 3 Oct 1837. He lived China, Albion, Waterville, and finally settled in China, where Nancy died on 4 Dec 1872, at which time he sold his place and went to Mrs. Broad's. There were many many Lancaster-Libby marriages in Maine.

In 1850, Vassalboro, Henry Lancaster was a helper of Mr. Austin, shoemaker.

Edward L. Lancaster of Albion married Lucinda E. J. York of Vassalboro on 15 Apr 1871.

The first US Census 1790 of Maine shows several Lancaster families residing in as many different towns. James is residing at Jones Plantation. Following are some Census of Lancasters in China; or Harlem: 1800 James 1810 James, Robert, Ezekiel 1820 James, Robert, Mary 1830 Joshua, Ezekiel 1840 Robert, Joshua,

Ezekiel, Mary 1850 "R.H." 1850 Molly Lancaster residing at Albert Haskell's, China.

At some time during the period between 1852 and 1878, Levi Lancaster was apparently in arrears on his dues to the Baptist Church, China, and David Lancaster was trying to move his membership to the FW Baptist Church, Vassalboro. Various Brothers were sent out from the church to visit Levi and David, including: Brother David Hanscom, Brother Erastus Metcalf, Jacob Shaw, Jr., Deacon Hamblin, Lowell Stevens.

WARS

Thirty Lancaster men (some duplicates) fought in the American Revolution.

War of 1812 - the following Lancaster men partook: Bartlett, Christopher, Daniel, James Jr., John, Joseph, Joseph Jr., Levi, Nathan, Robert, Thomas, William. In both of the above, they were of Massachusetts at that time, and thus it cannot be determined to which family they belonged. There is record of two Lancasters, not from China, who were Loyalists.

There are hundreds of Lancasters, only a possible three of whom appear above, in the two mainstream Lancaster genealogies, not to mention the lesser booklets and pamphlets, and the records of later arrivals from England. In the early 1600's, several Lancasters appeared in a few States. The two mainstream books, giving descendants of these early Lancasters, along with those descendants of Richard of Rainhill, brother of Thomas, the second heir to the throne of England (the latter not in the genealogies) who came to Maryland, are:

1. The Lancaster Genealogy-Record of Joseph Lancaster of Amesbury, Massachusetts and some of his descendants, compiled for Alston Howard Lancaster, M.D., by Mrs. Henry F. (Josephine S.) Ware, printed for private distribution by The Tuttle Company, Vermont, undated, but circa 1934.
2. The Lancaster Family. A History of Thomas and Phebe of Bucks County, Pennsylvania, and their Descendants from 1711 to 1902 compiled by Harry Fred Lancaster, Columbia City, Indiana, 1902.

There is record of Lancasters and/or descendants having been or now (1973) in all but four of the United States, and many foreign countries.

References

Records of the various towns mentioned herein (second hand except for Lubec, searched personally by the compiler).

Mementos handed down in the family.

Conversations with living descendants and others.

Census Records.

Cemetery visits.

Correspondence.

Kindness of members of The Maine Old Cemetery Association.

Kindness of Mrs. Charles Jackson of Vassalboro, Maine.

Mc L A U G H L I N

George McLaughlin, b. in Coleraine, Ireland, Dec. 25, 1735. After serving through all campaigns in the British colonies in North America in the French and Indian Wars and being severely wounded in the battle of Abram Plains, Canada, he was discharged at the close of the war and went to Georgetown. He m. in 1763, Lois Sands and later removed to Harlem (China) where he d. in 1815. His wife, Lois was born July 16, 1743, dau. of Thomas and Elizabeth (Brown) Sands; she d. Oct. 3, 1831.

CHILDREN:

1. George, Jr., b. Aug. 31, 1765; m. Mary Godfrey.
2. John, b. Nov. 1767; d. Sept. 1783.
3. Gibbons, b. Dec. 1769; d. March 3, 1843; m. Hannah Hodgkins (b. Jan. 8, 1768)
Children:
 1. Eunice, b. Dec. 31, 1805
 2. Deborah, b. May 23, 1807
 3. Elijah Fairfield, b. June 28, 1809.
4. Charles, b. Dec. 31, 1771; m. Feb. 17, 1797 Sally Chadwick.
5. Betsy, b. Oct. 1773;
6. Jacob, b. June 17, 1775; d. Aug. 27, 1840; m. Dec. 25, 1798, Sally Doe.
7. Joseph, b. Nov. 1778; drowned, Nov. 1794.
8. Hannah, b. April, 1780; d. April 15, 1803; m. James Wiggin.
9. Thomas, b. Oct. 1782; m. (Int.), March 18, 1809, Lettes Sawyer.
10. Abram, b. Oct. 1784; d. May 1, 1865, (War of 1812); m. March 1, 1809, Deborah Ward (d. Feb. 20, 1866 aet 78 yrs. 2 mos.) Buried Weeks Mills Cem.)

George McLaughlin, Jr. (son of George and Lois (Sands) McLaughlin), b. Aug. 31, 1765; d. June 28, 1844 (buried China Village Cem.); m. Mary Godfrey (b. March 25, 1771; d. July 31, 1853.)

CHILDREN:

1. Mary, b. Jan. 1, 1791; d. Aug. 3, 1873; m. Sept. 2, 1816, Jonathan Doe (b. Feb. 17, 1792).
2. George, b. Sept. 1792; d. March 20, 1878.
3. David, b. Dec. 31, 1796; d. March 18, 1892; m. Oct. 5, 1821, Mary Mitchell;
Children:
 1. Randal Ward, b. May 29, 1828
 2. Hartwell, b. March 16, 1830.
4. Sophia, b. April 13, 1799.
5. Susan, b. March 23, 1801; d. June 6, 1885 (buried Weeks Mills cemetery).
6. Julia Ann, b. Feb. 22, 1803.
7. Allen, b. Feb. 23, 1805; d. Dec. 27, 1878; m. Margaret Mathews.
8. Olive, b. March 26, 1807; d. Jan. 16, 1835.
9. Amos, b. April 28, 1809; d. Jan. 19, 1897; m. Martha.....
Children:
 1. Edwin M.)
 2. Ellen) Twins
 3. Harriet E.,
 4. John L.,
 5. Julia Frances, d. Dec. 21, 1847 aet 1 yr. 6 mos.
10. Washington, b. Aug. 5, 1811; d. June 20, 1887.

11. Alden, b. April 21, 1813; d. Jan. 16, 1860; m. Hannah Rowe, Oct. 31, 1844 (b. 1822; d. 1913).
12. Hiram, b. May 17, 1815; d. June 17, 1874.

Charles McLaughlin (son of George & Lois (Sands) McLaughlin), b. Dec. 31, 1771; d. Sept. 8, 1860 in Corinth, Me.; m. Feb. 17, 1797, Sally (Sarah) Chadwick, (b. May 17, 1780; d. June 22, 1858 in Corinth, Me.

CHILDREN:

1. Nancy, b. Feb. 20, 1800; m.Tozier.
2. Charles, b. Sept. 19, 1801; d. March 26, 1864; m. May 11, 1820, Tracy Doe.
3. Lydia, b. Nov. 25, 1802; m.Sables.
4. William, b. Nov. 14, 1804; d. in Bangor, Me., Jan. 18, 1882; m. Irene
5. Rhoda, b. Nov. 7, 1807; m. Feb. 11, 1828, William Gay; d. in Portland.
6. James C., b. July 25, 1808; d. in Service, (Mexican War), July 15, 1848.
7. Frederic)
8. Alonzo,) Twins ...d. in Bangor, Me.
9. Joseph)
) Twins 1823; ...d. in Bangor, Nov. 25, 1843.
10. Mary) did not marry.
11. Sylvanus, b. Feb. 16, 1814; d. Dec. 13, 1858.
12. Mercy Clark, b. Oct. 6, 1816.
13. Betsey, b. Oct. 5, 1817 in China.
14. Oliver Wendall, b. Dec. 18, 1822 in China.
15. Martin, b. Oct. 6, 1824; m. Mrs. McCreary; d. in Chicago, Ill., Jan. 17, 1887.

Abram McLaughlin (son of George and Lois (Sands) McLaughlin) b. Oct. 1784; d. May 1, 1865 in China, Me. (War of 1812); m. March 1, 1809, Deborah Ward, dau. of Thomas and Miriam (Clark) Ward; d. Feb. 20, 1866 aet 78 yrs. 2 mos.) buried at Weeks Mills.

CHILDREN:

1. Thomas, b. May, 1809; d. Dec. 2, 1894; m. Oct. 21, 1835, Susan Worth and resided in Vassalboro.
2. James,
3. Rodney, m. Harriet N. (d. Jan. 1, 1901 aet 81 yrs. 4 mos. 7 days.
4. Stephen, b.; d. July 28, 1897, aet 78 yrs.; m. Jane (d. Aug. 3, 1905, aet 85 yrs. 6 mos.)
6. Ezekiel,
7. Mary W., b. Feb. 15, 1826; d. Dec. 3, 1910.
8. Susan W.,

Jacob McLaughlin (son of George and Lois (Sands) McLaughlin), b. June 17, 1775; d. August 27, 1840, m. Dec. 25, 1798, Sally Doe.

CHILDREN: (Cemetery Records)

1. Lucy, d. Dec. 21, 1820, aet 19 yrs.
2. Harry D., d. March 18, 1825, aet 16 yrs.
3. Sarah A., d. Feb. 7, 1843, aet 28 yrs.
4. Infant son, d. Oct. 12, 1818, aet 1 day.
5. Dudley, d. Sept. 29, 1873, aet 74 yrs.

M O S H E R

Elisha Mosher, Jr., born June 19, 1765 in Dartmouth, Mass. and son of Elisha Mosher Sr. (b. March 7, 1743 and Anna (Springer) Mosher.) He d. in Belgrade, Me. in 1847; m. Judith Crowell (b. August 18, 1767, dau. of Lemuel C. Crowell).

CHILDREN:

1. Hannah, b. 1788.
2. William, b. Aug. 5, 1790; m. Freelove Weeks of Sidney, Me.
3. Anna, b. 1792; m. Parker Fletcher.
4. Elizabeth, b. 1794; m. William Herd.
5. Phebe, b. 1796; m. Elias Taylor.
6. Joseph, b. 1798. m. Sept. 2, 1819, Nancy Hatch, dau. of Sylvanus Hatch of China.
7. Elisha, b. 1801; m. Martha Gifford, resided in Unity, Me.
8. Glancey, b. 1803; d. the same year.
9. Lemuel Crowell, b 1805; m Sarah Wellman; resided in Belgrade, Me

Capt. William Mosher, came to China from Belgrade, Me. where he was b. Aug. 5, 1790, the son of Elisha, Jr and Judith (Crowell) Mosher; m July 18, 1813, Freelove Weeks (b. 1794; d. in China, Me. 1881; dau. of Jethro and Penelope (Gorham of Norway, Me.) Weeks). William was a captain in the war of 1812 in China.

CHILDREN:

1. Lydia B., b. Jan. 20, 1814 in China, d. May 7, 1816.
2. Clarissa, b. Oct. 11, 1816; d. Jan. 23, 1874; m. George Safford.
3. William, Jr., b. July 29, 1817; d. January 11, 1875, aet 59 yrs. 5 mos.; m. Betsey M. McLaughlin, Jan. 9, 1842.
4. Freelove, b. Jan. 14, 1819; d. in (?) Moscow, Me m. Alanson Bassett, Dec. 7, 1841.
5. Silas P., b March 4, 1822; d. Aug. 4, 1874; m. April 25, 1847, Octavia B. Crowell.
6. Judith C., b. March 14, 1825; d. Oct. 1, 1826.
7. Charles Weeks, b. in China, June 29, 1823; d. Aug. 27, 1888; m. Susan S. Patch.
8. Elisha M., b. Aug. 4, 1827; d. Jan. 4, 1882; m. Sarah B. Pierce of Windsor, Me.
9. Benjamin R., b. in China, Dec. 14, 1829; d. Dec. 1897 in Orono, Me.; m. (1st) Emily L. Crowell (b. 1829); m. (2nd) Clara Hathorne.
10. Albert B., b. in Weeks Mills, Jan. 13, 1831; d. in Orono, Me., Feb. 8, 1912; m. (1st) Susannah W. Perkins.
11. Vesta M., b. July 9, 1834; d. Nov. 29, 1848.
11. Lydia A., b. Oct. 8, 1835; d. 1847.

William Mosher, Jr. (William, Elisha, Elisha) b. July 29, 1817, son of Capt. William and Freelove (Weeks) Mosher; d. Jan. 11, 1875 in China; m. Jan. 9, 1842, Betsey M. McLaughlin (d. Oct. 13, 1899 aet 82 yrs. 1 mo.)

CHILDREN:

1. James E., b. Dec. 21, 1843; d. Nov. 2, 1929 in China, Me., (Civil War); m. Aravesta E. Pinkham.
2. George Frank, b. Feb. 12, 1844 at Weeks Mills; d. Aug. 16, 1929 in Boston; m. Sept. 23, 1871 Marinda Frances Stewart (b. July 6, 1845 at Laconia, N.H.)
3. Ellen M., d. Jan. 2, 1847, aet 1 yr. 7 mos.
4. Augustus L., b. 1848; d. 1924; m. Sarah Reed (b. 1836).

Charles Weeks Mosher (William, Elisha, Elisha), b. in China, Me., June 29, 1823, son of William and Freelove (Weeks) Mosher; d. Aug. 28, 1888 at Weeks Mills; m. May 4, 1845, Susan Spaulding Patch (b. June 1, 1819 at Knox, Me.; d. June 21, 1906 at Weeks Mills; dau. of Daniel and Polly (Bowen) Patch).

CHILDREN:

1. Ezra P., b. May 4, 1846; d. in China, Dec. 15, 1846.
2. Emily C. b. February 29, 1848; d. Feb. 13, 1919 in Vassalboro; m. Feb. 26, 1869, Samuel C. Starrett (b. April 30, 1844; d. Nov. 5, 1913, son of Daniel and Anna Starrett).
3. Charles L., b. December 30, 1850; d. in China, Me., Nov. 30, 1863,.
4. Henry P., b. May 10, 1853; d. Oct. 3, 1937; m. in 1882, Wealta A. Rounds of Boston (d. 1918).
5. James Harvey, b. January 1, 1859; d. April 27, 1935; m. Mary Elizabeth Moody; he was a teacher in China, Windsor and Bristol. (Mary Elizabeth Moody b. March 23, 1866 in China, Me., d. July 21, 1921, in China)

Benjamin B. Mosher (William, Elisha, Elisha), b. in China, Me., Dec. 14, 1829, son of William and Freelove (Weeks) Mosher; d. in Orono, Me., Dec. 1897; m. (1st) March 2, 1852, Emily L. Crowell (b. 1829); m. (2nd) Clara Hathorne.

CHILDREN: (Benjamin and Emily L. Mosher)

1. George,
2. A dau. that d. young.
(Benjamin and Clara (Hathorne) Mosher)
3. Eva,
4. Benjamin, Jr.,
5. Mildred,

Albert Mosher (William, Elisha, Elisha), b. in Weeks Mills, Jan. 13, 1831, son of William and Freelove (Weeks) Mosher; d. in Orono, Me., Feb. 8, 1912; m. (1st), Susannah W. Perkins (b. 1835; d. in Orono, 1863); m. (2nd) Mary Holt (b. in Orono, 1845; d. 1902, dau. of Obadiah and Permelia Moore)

CHILDREN: (Albert and Susannah (Perkins) Mosher)

1. Charles,
(Albert and Mary (Holt) Mosher)
2. Blanche,
3. Fanny; m. Dr. Averill of Waterville, Me.
4. Ada,
5. William,

Elisha M. Mosher (William, Elisha, Elisha), b. Aug. 4, 1827, son of William and Freelove (Weeks) Mosher; m. Sarah B. Pierce, of Windsor, Me. (b. Aug. 21, 1827; d. May 5, 1908); he d. Jan. 4, 1882, at Weeks Mills.

CHILDREN:

1. William, d. April 13, 1851, aet 4 yrs. 9 mos.
2. Alvah P., b. 1850; d. 1922; m. Abbie Brackett Doe, dau. of Charles Brackett and widow of Dudley Doe (granddaughter of Allen Brackett, and great-granddaughter of John Brackett, who was an early settler of China, Me.)

CHILDREN:

1. Sarah B. b. 1889; d. 1901
2. Alice K., b. 1896.

3. Eben H.
4. Hatty P.

James Harvey Mosher, (Charles, William, Elisha, Elisha) b. in China, Me., Jan. 1, 1859, son of Charles W. and Susan S. (Patch) Mosher; d. April 27, 1935, at Weeks Mills; m. May 22, 1887, Mary Elizabeth Moody (b. March 23, 1866; d. July 18, 1921; dau. of Benjamin H. and Jennie M. (Maxfield) Moody).

- CHILDREN: 1. Fred Moody, b. Aug. 22, 1888; d. June 11, 1959; m. Annie Louise Hall.
2. Ada Gertrude, b. April 10, 1890; m. Arthur R. Tracey; m. (2nd) Adelbert Wright, 1956 (d. Dec. 2, 1964).
 3. Ruth Emily, b. June 2, 1892; m. Arthur Lake Timmons; m. (2nd) Sidney Rand, 1959 (d. 1972, Aug. 17).
 4. Benjamin Harvey, b. in Weeks Mills, Nov. 19, 1898; d. April 3, 1947; m. Doris Main; Vet. of World War I., he resided in Waterville.
 5. Charles Henry, b. June 12, 1911; m. Helen Kenoyer.

James E. Mosher (William, William, Elisha, Elisha), b. Dec. 21, 1843, son of William and Betsey M. (McLaughlin) Mosher; d. Nov. 2, 1929, in China, Me. m. (1st) Juliette Shibles (b. 1842, d. 1870) m. (2nd) Aravesta E. Pinkham (b. June 18, 1852; d. June 12, 1910).

- CHILDREN: (James and Juliette)
1. Carrie M., b. 1870; m. Wentworth,
 2. Ralph, b. 1872,
(James F. and Aravesta E. (Pinkham) Mosher)
 3. Etta May, b. June 13, 1875, m.Giddings, Augusta, Me.
 4. William Chester, b. Dec. 10, 1877; d. April 10, 1916; m.
Blanche E. Smith.
 5. Ethel Isabel, b. Aug. 18, 1881; m. Franklin Noyes.
 6. Freeman Cooper, b. Jan. 16, 1885; m. Sarah M. Miller (b. 1886).
 7. Hugh Pinkham, b. June 30, 1893.

Fred Moody Mosher, (James, Charles, William, William, Elisha, Elisha) b. Aug. 22, 1888, son of James H. and Mary Elizabeth (Moody) Mosher; d. June 11, 1959 at Weeks Mills; m. Nov. 20, 1912, Annie Louise Hall (b. June 11, 1882 in Oakland; Me.; d. at Weeks Mills, May 7, 1951; dau. of Charles Augustus and Aroline Edson (Jennings) Hall).

- CHILDREN:
1. Harvey Jennings, b. Sept. 21, 1918, Portland, Me. m. Phyllis A. Libby, 1940 at Winslow
 2. Preston Hall, b. 6/27/22, Portland, Me.; m. Madeline Georgia Prescott, 1948 at Fairbanks, Me.
 3. Willison, b. 11/16/23, Portland, Me. m. Patricia E. Gleason, 1952.
- Charles Henry Mosher, (James, Charles, William, William, Elisha, Elisha) b. June 12, 1911, son of James Harvey and Mary Elizabeth (Moody) Mosher; m. 1933, Helen Esther Kenoyer (b. Sept. 17, 1915 in Vale, S. Dakota)

- CHILDREN:
1. Richard Charles, b. May 15, 1934, m. Sheila Ann Lowry (b. April 3, 1936, Fairfield, Me.)
 2. Margaret Ruth, b. May 18, 1935, Winslow, Me. m. Frederick Herman Kohler III, (b. Jan. 24, 1936 in Jamaica, N.Y.)
 3. David Arthur, b. Jan. 4, 1939, Benton, Me. m. Marion Barbara Chadwick (b. Nov. 18, 1944, Brocton, Mass.)
 4. Winnifred Ann, b. Jan. 4, 1939, Benton, Me. m. William Porter Cockburn (b. Nov. 27, 1929, Skowhegan, Me.)

PARMENTER (Parmeter)

Reference: Personal papers and collection of Elville Parmeter, deceased; now in possession of his daughter, Caroline (Parmeter) Caswell of Waltham, Mass.

1. Capt. Caleb Parmeter⁹ is the ancestor of all of the China, Maige Parmeters. He was b. April 2, (or 19) 1722 in Sudbury, Mass., son of John⁸ and Martha () Parmenter. (John had seven children by 1st m. to Martha, and two by 2nd m. to Mehitable Livermore.) Capt. Caleb m. (1) Sarah Richardson*, b. Oct. 8, 1720; d. June 23, 1820, age 99 yrs. 8 mos., 4 dys. He resided in Norton, Mass., Attleboro, Mass., Potsdam, N.Y. and York Beach, Maine. He d. 1794, age 72 yrs., 4 mos., and 2 dys.

CHILDREN: (All except the first b. in Attleboro)

1. Sarah, b. 1745 at Norton, Mass.
2. Elizabeth, b. 1747/8.
3. Elijah, b. 1750, settled in Potsdam, N.Y. (many descendants)
4. Hannah, b. 1752,
5. Betsey, b. 1756)
6. Rachel, b. 1755) twins.
2. 7. Caleb¹⁰, b. 1758.
8. Martha, b. 1760.

Capt. Caleb is said to have been divorced from Sara and m. (2) Elizabeth Blackington and had:

9. Eathrion, b. 1762/3 - settled at Parmeter Corner in Attleboro, Mass.

Capt. Caleb m. (3) Cato, widow of Mr. Tiffny. With his 1st wife, Capt. Caleb⁹, settled in the town of Norton, Mass., where their first child was born. He returned to Attleboro and purchased land of "Grandpa Blackington" in 1747. He first built a log house and later, a house which was standing some 200 years later and still occupied by his descendants. He was a Rev. Soldier. At the age of fifty-seven, he was a Corp. in Enoch Robbins Co. He served 1 month and 1 day. He also served in a detachment in R.I. for four weeks in the Regt. of Capt. Samuel Fisher, sworn at Attleboro. He was a Private in Capt. Moses Wilmurth Co., Isaac Dean's Regt. and marched on the alarm on July 31, 1779. It is said that he dropped the "n" in Parmenter and changed it to Parmeter. He is buried alone in a church burial ground in Attleboro; never had a flag and the bence being broken, automobiles have parked on his grave.

2. Caleb Parmeter¹⁰, son of Capt. Caleb⁹ and Sarah Richardson Parmeter, b. 1758 at Attleboro, Mass.; m. 1770 Elizabeth Rounds, (b. Aug. 30, 1758) d. age 94. She d. age 96. Caleb¹⁰ served in the Rev. War. At the age of 18 years he was in the Battle of Lexington and Bunker Hill. He was promoted to the rank of Captain, the title he retained throughout his life. In 1807 he bought land in Harlem, Maine (then Mass.). The tract was four hundred acres which is now Parmeter Hill. (See elsewhere in History). Though three of Caleb¹⁰'s sons settled on Parmeter Hill, only two remained to leave descendants in China, Me. Caleb and his wife Elizabeth were buried in the old church yard in Attleboro. Years later the railroad track passed nearby and when a double track was laid, the remains of Caleb and Elizabeth were removed to Woodlawn Cemetery in Attleboro. A tombstone was erected by a grandson, Caleb Everett Parmeter.

*Sarah Richardson was the daughter of Seth Richardson 1st; grand-daughter of Samuel Richardson of Woburn, Mass. who came from England in 1635.

CHILDREN:

3. 1. Caleb, b. Oct. 5, 1780 at Attleboro, settled in Harlem, Me.
4. 2. Joseph, b. 1782 at Attleboro, settled at Harlem, Me.
3. 3. Welcome, b. 1784 at Attleboro, d. dysentery, age 12 yrs.
4. 4. Draper, b. 1786 at Attleboro, d. dysentery.
5. 5. Dexter, b. 1788 at Attleboro, d. age 7.
6. 6. Betsey, b. July 1792, m. Andrew Johnson, April 9, 1826; resided in Attleboro, Mass.
7. 7. Dexter, b. 1796 at Attleboro. Remained on the homestead in Attleboro.
8. 8. Sally, b. Oct. 25, 1800; m. Mr. Harden.
9. 9. Welcome, b. 1804 at Attleboro. Settled at the foot of Parmeter Hill, Harlem, Mr., 1821-1826; m. Eliza Tobey and removed to Pawtucket, R. I.
10. 10. Draper, b. 1806 at Attleboro, Mass. Remained in Attleboro.

3. Caleb¹¹ Parmeter, b. Oct. 5, 1780, son of Caleb¹⁰ and Elizabeth Rounds Parmeter, m. Lidia Pullen, dau. of Stephen and Mercy (Blackington) Pullen of Attleboro, Mass. (See elsewhere in this history for more on Caleb¹¹).

CHILDREN of Caleb¹¹:

1. Draper, b. probably in Winthrop, Mass.; m. Susan Jewell of Freedom, Maine. He was settled by his father on the two lots totalling 50 acres on what is known as the Horseback Road. (This area was on the west side of Parmeter Hill where now is Kempton Tobey's gravel pits.) His home burned and with his entire family, he moved to Minn. His children were: Milgrove, Lidia, Draper and Waldo.
2. Elizabeth, b. 1806, lived with her parents in the home her father built in the summer of 1807. She d. 1833, age 26 yrs. and is buried in the Branch Mills, Cem. at Branch Mills, China, Me.
5. 3. Columbus, b. 1814.
6. 4. Mary, b. 1816.
7. 5. Orison, b. 1818.
8. 6. Orville, b. 1821.
7. Elizabeth, b. about 1819; m. Olanda Bowman; had two sons: George and Charles; m. (2) _____ Smart and had three daughters: Angilia and two others. Olanda Bowman owned land at the west end of Parmeter Hill and west of the Horseback road.

NOTE: Caleb and Lidia are said to have had two more children before coming to Maine. They died and are supposedly buried near two crabapple trees on the Jacob Dennis farm.

4. Joseph¹¹ Parmeter, b. 1782 at Attleboro, Mass., son of Caleb and Elizabeth (Rounds) Parmeter; m. Roxa Richardson, dau. of Seth and Sarah (French) Richardson of Attleboro, Mass. (See elsewhere in history)

CHILDREN:

9. 1. Joseph, b. 1802 in N.H.
10. 2. Danford, b. 1805 in N.H.
11. 3. Roxa, b. 1809 in Harlem (China, Me.).
4. Sarah, b. Oct. 24, 1810, China, Me., d. Oct. 1831.
12. 5. Constant, b. 1812.
13. 6. Caleb, b. 1814.

- 14. 7. Thomas, b. 1818.
- 15. 8. Jane, b. 1822.
- 9. Seth, b. 1824; d. young.

2ND GENERATION OF PARMENTER (PARMETER) IN HARLEM (CHINA), MAINE

5. Columbus¹² Parmeter, b. 1814, son of Caleb¹¹ and Lidia (Pullen) Parmeter; m. Oct. 30, 1842 (TR) Harriet, dau. of Charles Worthing. He d. April 22, 1854, age 40 yrs. She m. (2) Thomas Bridgham who d. age 80 yrs. Lidia d. age 81 yrs.

CHILDREN:

- 1. Lagrove, b. 1845; d. Civil War, age 18 yrs.
 - 2. Laforest, b. 1847; d. 1870 age 23 yrs., Co. F. 12th Me. Regt. Civil War.
 - 3. Ladora, b. 1852; m. John McNaughton; d. June 2, 1888.
 - 4. Lanora, b. 1854; d. young.
6. Mary¹¹ Parmeter, b. 1816, dau. of Caleb and Lidia (Pullen) Parmeter; m. Nov. 16, 1840, Charles Worthing, (b. 1814 at Palermo, Me., d. 1890, a Civil War veteran.) d. 1880.

CHILDREN:

- 1. Mercena, b. March 28, 1841; m. James Knowles. One dau., Mary Lillian, b. Dec. 10, 1863; m. Wilmot Swift.
 - 2. Clarabel S., b. Dec. 22, 1842; m. Edwin Farris of China. They settled in Lawrence, Mass. 3 children: Mary, Benj., and Bertha.
 - 3. Arolyn F., b. about 1835. She was adopted by her uncle, Orison Parmenter and her name was changed to Parmeter from Worthing. She m. Norris Spaulding from Alexandria, Va. at China on Dec. 23, 1864. (Ref.: TR) Her gravestone reads "Arolyn Parmenter, d. 1913 age 79 yrs."
 - 4. Mary Lizzie, b. 1847; m. Erastus Horne; 5 children: Charles, Emily, Coribelle and William.
 - 5. Charles A., b. 1850; d. 1933.
 - 6. Coriella J., b. June 8, 1853; m. at No. Vassalboro, Me., Aug. 24, 1872, William Currier of So. Hampton, N. H. Two children.
 - 7. Anna P., b. Dec. 19, 1856; m. Peter F. Hanlon of Lawrence, Mass. One son, Orvil L. Hanlon, M.D., b. Mar. 28, 1875; d. Dec. 10, 1938; m. Mildred Woodward of Ridlonville, Me. They had a son, Francis who was also a doctor and resided in Portland, Me. Anna P. Worthing was the only one of Mary (Parmeter) Worthing's children living in 1941. She and her husband are buried in Branch Mills Cemetery in the lot with her parents.
7. Orison¹¹ Parmeter, b. Sept. 14, 1818, son of Caleb and Lidia (Pullen) Parmeter; d. Sept. 4, 1893; m. Flavilla Bragg, (b. 1822, dau. of Nathaniel Bragg, one of the first settlers of Harlem (then Jones Plantation). She d. 1876. (See elsewhere in history) Orison and his wife had no children but they raised as their own, a neice, Sarah, daughter of Roville (No. 8). They adopted two other children:
- 1. Frank Parmeter, son of J. W. and Marcia Thompson; d. age 3 yrs.
 - 2. Arolyn Worthing, dau. of No. 6, Mary (Parmeter) Worthing.

8. Orville¹¹ Parmeter, b. 1821; d. 1863; son of Caleb and Lidia (Pullen) Parmeter; m. (1) Aurilla Sherman, (2) Charlotte Sherman (sisters) of Liberty, Me.; (3) Susan Bradstreet, dau. of Moses, son of John Bradstreet, a Rev. Soldier.

CHILDREN:

1. Emma, b. ; m. Brigel Boynton of Augusta, Me. Their children were: Harry Boynton, Mrs. Charles Johnson of Gardiner, Me., and Mrs. George Brown.
2. Gertrude, b. ; m. _____ Boynton. No issue.
3. Ella, b. ; unm. Was once with Barnum & Bailey Circus.
4. Edward, b. ; m. Mary Varney; d. age 32. They had one son, Orville, d. age 5 mos.
5. Elizabeth, b. 1853; m. (1) James Henry; d. March 19, 1938. They had three children: Hiram, Percy and Gertrude who m. Percy Childs and had one son.
m. (2) Charles Herbert Batchelor of Palermo. He d. and is buried in Palermo. She is buried with her 1st husband, James, at Branch Mills. Her gravestone is engraved "Goody Henry", the nickname given her by her uncle, Orison Parmeter.
6. Mary Abie, b. Nov. 23, 1862; m. Sumner Leeman of Palermo on July 22, 1882. She d. May 18, 1935. He d. 1942, age 81 yrs. Both bur. in Palermo. Their five children (surname Leeman) have many descendants in the Palermo, Liberty area.

9. Joseph¹² Parmeter, b. 1802, son of Joseph and Roxa (Richardson) Parmeter; m. Caroline Bragg, dau. of Nathaniel Bragg, one of the first settlers in Jones Plantation (China). She was a sister to No. 7's wife Flavilla. She d. Jan. 3, 1846, age 37 yrs. He m. May 10, 1846 (2) Cynthia, dau. of Hiram Hussey of Hussey Ridge in China. Joseph¹² and his 2nd wife, Cynthia moved to Mass. about 1865/6 where they died.

CHILDREN by 1st m.:

1. Isaac, b. 1832/3; m. Ann Cillie; had 1 dau. who m. _____ Pierce.
2. Sarah, b. ; d. Jan. 10, 1837, age 3 yr. 11 mo.
3. Ann, b. Mar. 28, 1836; d. Sept. 11, 1897.

CHILD by 2nd m.:

4. Caral (known as Caddie)

10. Danford¹² Parmeter, b. 1805, son of Joseph and Roxa (Richardson) Parmeter, m. Sally Creasy, dau. of Daniel and _____ (Evans) Creasy of Palermo. She was brought up by her aunt, Sally Balcom, wife of Luna Balcom of Palermo. Danford d. 1879, age 74 yrs. About 1830 he moved from Parmeter Hill to Monticello, Maine where he pioneered several farms but later returned to the old homestead, buying of his father.

CHILDREN:

1. Abbie, b. 1826 at her grandfather's home; d. 1862, age 34 yrs. She taught school.
16. 2. Joseph Shepard.
17. 3. Riley Wellington.
4. Sarah, b. 1834 at Monticello Plant., Me.; m. Albert Ide of Corinth, Me.
18. 5. Chandler A.
6. Elizabeth, b. Feb. 23, 1839; m. Dudley Dow of China, Me.

7. Caroline, b. 1842; d. age 23 yrs.; bur. Branch Mills.
 8. Ednarville, b. 1849; d. age 15 yrs; bur. Branch Mills.
 9. Annette, b. 1852; d. age 15 yrs.; bur. Branch Mills.
 *Danford's wife d. 1872 and he m. Oct. 18, 1875, (2) Esther A. French of China, the widow of Barnum French of China, Me. They raised Frederick Parmeter, son of Constant (No. 12) b. 1853; d. 1874, age 21 yrs. He is said to have been the strongest man on Parmeter Hill.
11. Roxa¹² Parmeter, b. 1809, dau. of Joseph¹¹ and Roxa (Richardson) Parmeter; d. Aug. 5, 1872. She m. Hartwell Bragg, son of Nathaniel Bragg.

CHILDREN:

1. Joseph, b. ; d. young.
2. Melissa, b. ; m. _____ Berry.
3. Delia, b. ; d. young.
4. Abra, b. ; m. .
5. Sarah, b. ; m. Benjamin Shorey, son of Benj. Shorey Sen. of Hussey Ridge, China, Me. They had three sons (See Shorey). After the death of her husband, Sarah resided in Belfast with son, Charles. She d. Jan., 1933 and is buried in Branch Mills.
6. Myria, b. ; m. Charles Webb, son of Christopher and Eliza (Greenough) Webb who lived at the foot of Parmeter Hill. They had 2 daughters: Emma and Carrie who m. Charles Littlefield of Albion, Me.
Myria d. April 27, 1927 in her 80's.
7. Roxa, b. ; m. George Clark of Vassalboro. They had 8 children.
19. 8. Arlett, b. ; m. (1) Jason Snell of China, son of Enoch; (2) Ralph Turner of Palermo; four children by 2nd m.

Roxa and Hartwell Bragg lived on Parmeter Hill where Roxa was bedridden for many years and d. 1872 at the age of 60 yrs. Hartwell Bragg was thrown from his wagon and d. Dec. 9, 1863, age 54 yrs. Roxa m. (2) David Turner whose first wife was the daughter of Moses Bradstreet of Palermo.

12. Constant¹² Parmeter, b. 1812, son of Joseph¹¹ and Roxa (Richardson) Parmeter; m. Elizabeth Milliken of Scarborough, Me., whom he had met while working there in a mill. He brought her to the farm where his brother Danford lived. There his first child was born in 1846. (See elsewhere in history). Elizabeth d. after the birth of their fourth child. The oldest child was sent to her grandmother in Scarborough. Two were raised by Constant's sister, Roxa Bragg and the baby was raised by his brother Danford and wife, Sally.
- Constant m. (2) 1856 to Belinda Hussey, dau. of Isaac and Catherine (Weaver) Hussey of Montville, Me. She had a son, Ruel Hussey, who was b. 1851 and his name was changed to Parmeter after her marriage to Constant¹². Belinda is bur. beside Constant's dau. Delia in Branch Mills Cem., China.

CHILDREN of Constant and 1st wife, Elizabeth:

1. Elizabeth, b. 1846; d. Oct. 26, 1926, age 80 yrs.
2. Mary Roxanna, b. 1848; d. 1871, age 24 yrs. She m. Eugene Shorey, son of Benj. Shorey, Sen. They had 3 children: Delia, Gertrude and May, all who d. young and are bur. in Branch Mills Cem. with their parents. Mary d. at childbirth and her husband d. April 26, 1877, age 31 yrs.

20. 3. Abbie
 4. Frederick, b. 1853. His mother having d, he was raised by his uncle Danford. As a young man he went to work in a granite quarry on "Dick Island". He was exceptionally strong and was known to have lifted 1100' lbs. on a lifting machine. He strained himself and d at the age of 21 years.
21. 5. Adopted son of Constant, Ruel Hussey Parmeter.
22. 6. John Constant.
 7. Kate, b. 1862; m. Charles Smith and had one dau., Ada Smith, b. 1883. She resided in the family of Bill Ferris at China.
 8. Ellen, b. 1864; m. A. M. Goodwin of Gardiner, Me.
 9. Abbie, b. 1866; m. Eben Ralph Anderson of Augusta, Me. He was a barber and she ran a boarding house on the east side. Her brothers, Ruel and Joseph worked for her in the stables. She d. 1912 and Eben m. (2) Mary (Varney) Parmeter, widow of Edward¹³, son of Orville¹². Eben Ralph Anderson survived his 2nd wife and committed suicide in Augusta by asphyxiation in his barber chair.
10. Joseph, b. 1868; worked for his sister, Abbie, in Augusta. He m. Esther _____; d. 1919 and they are both bur. in Breed Cem. on Hussey Ridge, China, Me.
11. Frank Dexter, b. 1870; d. of diptheria.
 12. Delia, b. 1872; d. 1888 age 16 yrs.
 13. William, b. 1874; enlisted in Spanish Am. War; was in the West about 36 years. He came home once in Sept. of 1939. He noted the many changes in the area. He was placed in a home in Sidney, Me. and then on Riverside Drive, Augusta, Me. He was last seen on May 1, 1940 heading west.
13. Caleb¹² Parmeter, b. 1814, son of Joseph and Roxa (Richardson) Parmeter; m. Hannah Bragg, dau. of Nathaniel Bragg. (See elsewhere in history) He lived in the Abraham Burrill farm at the foot of Parmeter Hill and later in China Village. After his two eldest children were married, he and his family went west to Stephen Point, Wisconsin and later to Ashland, Wisconsin. Because of his size, it is said that it took six of his sons to lift his casket.

CHILDREN:

1. Allen, b. m. Went west with his wife and parents. Returned in the 1880's and resided in Hinkley, Me.
2. Roana, b. m. Charles Jackson of So. China, Me.
3. Seth, b. m. Remained in the West.
4. Eveline, b. m.
5. Lottie, b. m. _____ Chute.
6. Orrin, b. d. young.
7. Herbert, b. Has descendants throughout the West.
8. Albert, b. Has descendants throughout the West.
9. Inda, b. m. _____ Bessey.
10. Alva, b. m. _____ Last known address was 3200 Cedar Ave., So. Minneapolis, Minn. He had one son who owned and operated the Ashland Dye Works, Ashland, Wis.

14. Thomas¹² Parmeter, b. March 4, 1818 at the old house, son of Joseph and Roxa (Richardson) Parmeter; m. 1841, Jane Webb of China, b. at the foot of Parmeter Hill on the Christopher Webb farm, dau. of Christopher and Eliza (Greenough) Webb. Mr. Webb is said to have been a direct descendant of John Alden and Priscilla Alden. Jane was a sister to Charles Webb who m. Myria Parmeter (See Roxa No. 11). Thomas¹² took care of his parents and had the farm from 1839 to 1844. He then moved to Lot 95 where four of his six children were born. In 1852 he moved to Albion where the last two children were born.

CHILDREN:

- | | |
|----|--|
| 23 | 1. Charles, b. 1842; m. Georgie Bragg. No issue. |
| | 2. John G., b. 1844. |
| | 3. Millard, b. 1846; m. Ella Herbert of Shelbyville, Ind.
He resided in Sidney, Ohio. They had two daughters:
Grace d. age 3 yrs.; Mattie who m. and had at least one
child named Millard. Ella (Herbert) Parmeter d. 1925. |
| 24 | 4. Alvecia, b. 1848; m. Isiah Wiggins of Stanley Hill, China,
Me. |
| | 5. Belle, b. 1852; m. _____ Murch; divorced; Resided in her
old age with brother Elmer at Woodfords, Maine. |
| 25 | 6. Elmer E., b. 1861. |
15. Jane¹² Parmeter, b. 1822, dau. of Joseph and Roxa (Richardson) Parmeter in the log cabin on the east half of Lot 93; m. Chandler Towle and settled on Bragg Hill, China. Chandler Towle was b. Mar. 19, 1819 son of James Towle. He d. Oct. 19, 1860. Jane m. (2) Elder William Lewis of Palermo.

CHILDREN by 1st husband, Chandler Towle:

- | | |
|----|---|
| | 1. Melvin Towle, b. _____ d. 1853 in infancy. |
| | 2. May Towle, b. _____ d. 1861 in infancy. |
| | 3. Clara Towle, b. 1850; d. 1864, age 14 yrs. |
| | 4. Hubert Towle, b. _____ m. Nettie Cox of Liberty, Me.
1 dau., Lottie, m. Perley Boynton. |
| 26 | 5. Warren Towle. |

THIRD GENERATION OF PARMETER IN CHINA MAINE AND SURROUNDING AREA:

16. Joseph Shepard¹³ Parmeter, b. Nov. 1, 1829 at his grandfather's home on Parmeter Hill, son of Danford and Sally (Creasy) Parmeter; m. Abbie Porter of Old Town, Me. He served in the Civil War. He settled on Water St. on the China side of Branch Mills where he had a blacksmith shop. He d. 1913 age 82 yrs., 3 mos., and 3 dys. Abbie d. 1918, age 68 yrs., 9 mos., 24 dys. (She was 20 years younger than her husband).

CHILDREN:

- | | |
|----|--|
| | 1. Harry, b. 1866; d. age 5 yrs. |
| | 2. Edvra Annette (called "Nettie") b. 1869; d. age 19 yrs. |
| 27 | 3. Shepard George, b. 1871. |
17. Riley¹³ Parmeter, b. Jul. 22, 1832 at Monticello, Me., son of Danford and Sally (Creasy) Parmeter. In 1835 he returned with his parents to Parmeter Hill where the family lived on three different Parmeter farms. At the age of 16 he "bought" his time to age 21 for \$300 and started farming for himself. He m. Mar. 25, 1855, (TR) by A. H. Abbott, Esq., Harriet L. (Lizzie) Dow, (TR) b. Apr. 30, 1837 in Vassalboro, Me., dau. of Jonathan and Mehitable (Coleman) Dow. Two children d. young. He later moved to new land in Palermo

where he cleared a fine farm. Here he prepared a cemetery with stones "well laid up" and moved the bodies of his deceased children from the farm in China to the new cemetery, still in good condition (1974). He d. June 5, 1906. Lizzie, his wife, d. Sept. 21, 1891.

CHILDREN:

1. Clarence H., b. Feb. 19, 1857; d. Mar. 8, 1857, age 17 dys.
2. May Florence, b. Apr. 22, 1858; d. Sept. 13, 1859.
- 28 3. Elenora Arville, b. Feb. 29, 1860.
4. Edna Abie, b. Jun. 24, 1862; d. Feb. 3, 1879.
5. Hattie Belle, b. Apr. 20, 1864; d. age 1 day.
6. Infant, not named; d. age 2 days.
7. Mary Lizzie, b. Jul. 26, 1866, m. Edgar H. Wood, b. at China, 1867 at Palermo.
8. Elwood Grant, b. Nov. 3, 1868; m. Laura Brown of Charlestown, Mass.; 1 dau., Ramona Hattie. Elwood d. and is bur. in Rockland, Mass.
9. Clarence Robert, b. Feb. 8, 1871; d. Jul. 5, 1901.
- 29 10. Ernest Joy, b. Jul. 31, 1873.
11. Florence Hattie, b. Jul. 26, 1875; d. Apr. 14, 1879.
- 30 12. Elville Dow, b. Dec. 8, 1877.
13. Daisy Nellie, b. Nov. 24, 1879; m. Bert Holmes of Bridgewater, Mass.; 2 sons, Harold and Russell.
- 31 14. Elvena Abra, b. Nov. 6, 1881.
15. Angie Eliza, b. Dec. 31, 1883.

At the time of their death, Riley & Lizzie (Dow) Parmeter had eight living grandchildren, none by the name of Parmeter; sixteen great grandchildren and fifty-two great, great grandchildren.

18. Chandler A.¹³ Parmeter, b. 1835/6 at China, Me., son of Danford and Sally (Creasy) Parmeter; d. 1883; m. Althea Priest, b. May 10, 1838, dau. of Otis and Martha Priest of China, Me. She d. 1926. Both are bur. at Branch Mills.

CHILDREN:

1. Chandler Freeman, b. 1856; d. 1887.
2. Henry B., b. 1858; d. 1859 age 1 yr.
3. Jennie, b. 1866; d. 1867 age 1 yr.
4. Myra, b. 1862; d. 1863 age 1 yr.
5. Mayvena, b. 1864; d. 1865 age 1 yr.
6. Russell Henry, b. 1860; d. same year.
7. Wesley, b. 1861; d. 1879 age 17 yrs.
8. Otis Danford, b. Feb. 28, 1868; m. Carrie Corson. He was a policeman in Boston, Mass.
9. Martha Emma, b. Jul. 4, 188 ; m. Edson Worthing of Palermo, son of Martin and Roxanna (Gray) Worthing. Children: Gladys who m. Arno Bittues of Augusta; Jasper, Wilbur and Roydon.
10. Henry Oakes, b. Jun. 2, 1872; m. (1) Harriet Plummer of Weeks Mills, China, Me.; m. (2) Carrie Herron; m. (3) Annie (Black) _____ of Florida. By his 1st wife he had a son, Stanley, b. 1903, who m. Grace Haskell of China, Me., b. 1904.
11. Myra Althea, b. Jul. 9, 1874; m. Arthur Melindy of Worcester, Mass. Their only son, Oakley Melindy is a surgeon, practicing in Augusta, Maine. Myra (who will

- be 100 yrs. old in July (1974) is still living at
311 West St., Gardiner, Me.
12. Caroline Sally, b. Dec. 23, 1875; m. Clarence A. Worthing, son of Frank and Sarah (Fowles) Worthing of Palermo, Me. (See Worthing)
 13. Fred Chandler, b. Apr. 15, 1877; d. 1906.
19. Arlett¹³ Bragg, b. _____, dau. of Hartwell and Roxa (Parmeter) Bragg, was raised on the homestead on Parmeter Hill. She m. (1) Jason Snell of China, son of Enoch. She m. (2) Ralph Turner of Palermo and her children were all of that marriage.

CHILDREN:

1. George Turner, b.
2. Audrey Turner, b.
3. Willie Turner, b.
4. Ida (or Ada), b. 1874; m. William Sennett of Albion, Maine. Their children were George H., and Harvey F. Ida d. and William Sennett m. (2) Fannie Shorey. They had: Millard L.; Mildred; Evelyn; Lincoln who is retired after many years as President of Wash. State Teachers College, Machias, Me.; Harold who lives in Palermo, Me., and Sybil.

Joseph Shepard Parmeter (No. 16) was appointed guardian for Arlett. She is said to have had one child by Jason Snell who came to Branch Mills to call on relatives in 1920.

20. Abbie¹³ Parmeter, b. 1850, dau. of Constant and Elizabeth (Milliken) Parmeter; m. Frank Shorey, b. 1848, son of Benj. Shorey, Sen. They lived on Hussey Ridge, China and had ten children as follows:

CHILDREN:

1. Minnie, b. Sept. 25, 1869 at Palermo, Me.; m. Lewis Gowell; children were: Parker, Frank, Eugene, Mial, Lewis, Alfred, Abbie and Nettie. Minnie (Shorey) Gowell d. at Hallowell, Me.
 2. Myra, b. 1869; m. Mial Norton.
 - 32 3. May, b. 1874.
 4. Benjamin, b. 1876; d. young, buried in Breed Cem. on Hussey Ridge, China, Me.
 5. Elizabeth, b. 1878; m. John Sylvester and resided in Eustis, Maine. Children: Burleigh, Hugh, Adelbert and Dorothea.
 6. Annie, b. 1882; m. (1) Percy Huston; m. (2) Frank McDonald.
 7. Jennie, b. 1885; m. Adelbert Turner of Washington, Me. One son d. in infancy. Jennie d. age 19 yrs.
 8. Eugene Frank, d. young, bur. in Breed Cem.
 9. Nettie, b. 1887; m. Hubert Hall of China, Me.; five children.
 10. Frank R., b. 1890; m. Ida Nutt, dau. of George Nutt. Children: Fred, Annie, Robert, Richard, Wilbur, Earl, Frank and Kenneth.
21. Ruel Parmeter, son of Constant's 2nd wife and adopted by him; b. 1852; m. Alice H. Heath, b. 1862.

CHILDREN:

1. Delia, b. 1893; m. Charles R. Parmeter (No. 33).
2. Georgia, b. 1898 in Chelsea, Me.; d. 1928 at Pownal, Me.

22. John¹³ Parmeter, b. Sept. 10, 1857, son of Constant and 2nd wife, Belinda (Hussey) Parmeter; m. Caroline Rhoda Adams, b. Islesboro, Me., Oct. 10, 1862. He d. Mar. 19, 1937. She d. age 77 yrs. Both are buried at Branch Mills.

CHILDREN:

- 33
1. Charles R., b. Dec. 18, 1888.
 2. Hattie Ida, b. Oct. 10, 1890; m. Floyd Jones of Washington Me. One dau. Faye, b. Mar. 3, 1909, unm. a school teacher.

23. John G.¹³ Parmeter, son of Thomas¹² and Jane (Webb) Parmeter; b. 1844; m. Maria Stinson, b. Apr. 2, 1849, dau. of John Stinson of Albion, Me. John¹³ served in the Civil War, Co. F, 7th Me. Regt. For 33 months after the war, he went on a whaling voyage. After his return he bought his father's farm. He did not marry until age 26 yrs.

CHILDREN:

1. Lilla S., b. Oct. 15, 1870; m. Oct. 4, 1898 Dr. Daniel W. Hayes of Dover-Foxcroft, Me. He was killed in a railroad accident in 1912. She was an RN. Their children were: Liston, Erwin Barrow, Mary Charlotte, Daniel William, and Eleanor.
2. Clara M., b. Feb. 4, 1873; m. J. G. Elder of Brunswick, Me.
3. Lena C., b. 1871; m. Percy A. Graham of So. Gardiner, Me.
4. John S., b. Oct. 21, 1877; m. Apr. 1, 1907 Bertha Grover in Kingfield, Me. Their three children, Lloyd, Clay and Audrey were all b. in Foxcroft, Me.
5. Nellie D. Hutchins (adopted child of John G. & Maria) b. Feb. 5, 1891.

24. Alvecha¹³ Parmeter, b. 1848 (1908 Register says 1842); dau. of Thomas¹² and Jane (Webb) Parmeter; m. Isiah Wiggins of Stanley Hill, China, Me. He d. before 1908 as she was listed as a widow in the 1908 Register.

CHILDREN:

1. Hattie W., b. 1863; m. Norris H. Clark. He d. before 1908 as Hattie is listed as a widow in 1908 Register.

25. Elmer¹³ Parmeter, b. 1861, son of Thomas¹² and Jane (Webb) Parmeter; m. Della Fall, dau. of Tristram and Ella () Fall of Albion, Me. Elmer taught school in Branch Mills and other China schools. He graduated from Colby College in 1887; received a Master's Degree in 1890 and was Principal of North Grammar School in Portland, Maine.

CHILDREN:

1. Donald, b.
2. Mae Della, b. May 8, 1897; went to college in Boston and m. there.
3. Laclare, b. ; m. Esther Haley and had two sons, Thomas and Robert. Robert was a pilot in WWI. He d. 1935.

26. Warren¹³ Towle, b. son of Jane¹² (Parmeter) and Chandler Towle; m. Chaty Dodge, dau. of Jason and Rhoda (Tibbetts) Dodge of Liberty, Me.

(See Hist. of Boothbay, Me.)

CHILDREN:

1. Maurice Towle, b. _____ ; m. Gertrude Brown, dau. of Frank Brown. Their children were Warren and Bianche, who m. a Mathews.
2. Hazel Towle, b. _____ ; m. Harry Drake of Palermo. No issue.
3. Gertrude Towle, b. _____ ; m. Frank _____.

FOURTH GENERATION OF PARMETERS IN CHINA, MAINE

27. Shepard George¹⁴ Parmeter, b. Nov. 22, 1871, son of Joseph Shepard¹³ and Abbie (Porter) Parmeter; m. Alice Osgood, b. Feb. 14, 1873. She d. Jan. 3, 1922. He m. (2) Nov. 22, 1936, Ethel A. Spencer, a widow, of Albion, Me. (See elsewhere in history)

CHILDREN, all by 1st m.:

1. Gracia Muriel, b. 1898; d. Jun. 26, 1905.
 2. Alger Osgood, b. Jul. 22, 1913; m. Marion Knowlton, dau. of Marston Knowlton of Liberty, Me. Alger owned and operated a grocery store in Liberty village for many years. Their two children were Judith and Gerald David.
28. Elenora Arville¹⁴ Parmeter, b. Feb. 29, 1860, dau. of Riley¹³ and Lizzie (Dow) Parmeter; m. Augustus Ebenezer Cunningham, b. Aug. 30, 1853. He d. Apr. 9, 1922 (this date must be wrong). She m. (2) Dec. 4, 1884 (or this date must be wrong) to Corydon Elisha Campbell. He d. Aug. 6, 1928, age 72 yrs. She d. Mar. 14, 1942, age 82 yrs. She and Augustus Cunningham raised a child named Sadie _____, b. Aug. 15, 1896 who m. Charles Savage and had three children.

CHILD of Elenora by 1st m.:

1. Hattie May, b. Nov. 25, 1887; d. age 1 yr.
29. Ernest Joy¹⁴ Parmeter, b. Jul. 31, 1873, son of Riley¹³ and Lizzie (Dow) Parmeter; m. Catherine McCoy. For a time they resided on the homestead in Palermo, then moved to Vineland, N.J.
30. Elville Dow¹⁴ Parmeter, b. Dec. 8, 1877, son of Riley¹³ and Lizzie (Dow) Parmeter; m. Sept. 17, 1913, (1) Lucy Idella (Morse) Belcher. They had no children. She was the widow of William Belcher of Foxboro, Mass. She d. Nov. 3, 1917 and is bur. in Springbrook Cem. Mansfield, Mass. He m. (2) Sarah Elizabeth Foye, by whom he had two children:

1. Lucy May, b. Aug. 31, 1945.
2. Caroline Sally, b. Feb. 10, 1949; m. George Caswell; resides in Waltham, Mass. No children.

Sarah Elizabeth, Elville's 2nd wife, had a dau., Dorothy, when she m. Elville. Dorothy is m. and lives in Waltham, Mass.

Compiler's note: It is to Elville Parmeter, now deceased, and his lovely daughter, Caroline (Parmeter) Caswell, that all credit for this Parmeter work is given. Elville and his wife died when the children were young and they were made wards

of the State of Maine, being raised in foster homes. Caroline became the foster daughter of Earl and Elsie Adams of Palermo, Me. Somehow this child managed to maintain possession of her father's manuscripts, clippings and notes which contained all of the early history of Parmeter Hill, China, Maine. Caroline completed one year at the Univ of Maine and then went to Massachusetts to become better acquainted with her sisters. There she married George Caswell, a technician for New England Tel & Tel. Caroline became a receptionist for the Waltham Hospital, where she has been employed for several years.

Elville Parmeter was the last Parmeter to own the farm on Parmeter Hill which had been in that family for nearly 150 years.

31. Elvena Abra¹⁴ Parmeter, b Nov. 6, 1881, dau. of Riley¹³ and Lizzie (Dow) Parmeter; m. Bateman Wentworth in 1904 at the home of her parents in Palermo. He was b. Jun. 2-, 1877 at China, Me., the son of Daniel and Eliza (Mitchell) Wentworth. She d. Jan. 9, 1941 and is bur. in China Neck Cemetery. He d. Jan. 9, 1956 and is bur. there also.

Their only child:

1. Milton Wentworth, b. Mar. 6, 1906; lived in China, Me.
32. May¹⁴ Shorey, b. 1874, dau. of Abbie (Parmeter) and Frank Shorey; m. Herbert Keller, son of Hollis Keller of China, Me.

CHILDREN:

1. Allen Keller, b. Jul. 15, 1892; m. 1913 in Augusta, Me., Alice M. Simpson. They had the following children, all of whom have children living in the China area:
 1. Herbert, b. 1913; m. Fern Brann of Palermo. Residing in Palermo.
 2. Norman, b. Mar. 24, 1916; m. (1) Gertrude Webber, dau. of Ernest and Mildred Webber of Augusta, Me. She d. about 1966 and he m. (2) Doris Duplissi. He had several children by his 1st m.
 3. Mava, b. 1918; m. Herbert Dyer of Palermo. Their children live in China and Palermo.
 4. Virginia, b. Mar. 23, 1923; m. Wayne Reed of Palermo. Have children.
 5. Jean, b. ; m. Merton Haskell; divorced. One dau., Sandra, resides in China.

Mr. & Mrs. Allen Keller celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary in 1973 and greatly assisted the compiler with the Parmeter Hill, Branch Mills history and families.

2. Earl F., b. 1894; m. Muriel Davis.
3. Elwood G., b. 1896; m. Catherine Eckhart, 1914; m. (2) Bessie Levitt (Leavitt ?).
4. Linwood M., b. 1896; d. 1897.
5. Basil W., b. 1898; m. Rosemary Consards.
6. Vara M., b. 1903; m. Lee Stinson.
7. Jennie F., b. 1906; m. Cecil Lovejoy.

P I N K H A M

Elijah Pinkham, (Ebenezer, Thomas, Richard, Richard), son of Ebenezer and Sarah (Austin) Pinkham; b. in Harpswell, Me., Sept. 18, 1756; d. in China, Me., Sept. 10, 1852; m. in Harpswell, Me., 1780, Abigail Farr, (b. in Harpswell, Sept. 27, 1760; d. Oct. 1, 1838;) they resided in Freeport, Me., Hallowell, then China, Me.

CHILDREN:

1. Elijah, Jr., b. Jan. 15, 1781 - went to sea.
2. Abigail, b. Oct. 1, 1783; d. Oct. 1, 1838; unmarried.
3. Patience, b. July 28, 1785; d. Aug. 2, 1845; unmarried.
4. Lorana, b. Aug. 30, 1788; d. Feb. 9, 1870; lived in China and Westbrook, Me.; m. Joshua Winslow, who d. in China, Me., Dec. 12, 1853. (Came to China about 1824)
5. Nathaniel, b. March 2, 1791; d. Nov. 29, 1840; m. April 13, 1814; Hepsibah Edwards (b. March 19, 1788; d. Jan. 7, 1872, dau. of Joshua Edwards).
6. Priscilla, b. April 18, 1793; d. Feb. 2, 1851; m. Abner Lowell, (as his 2nd wife).
7. Thomas, b. Sept. 30, 1795; d. April 19, 1878; m. January 9, 1819, (1st) Phoebe Winslow; m. (2nd) Mary Beede.
8. John, b. Nov. 12, 1797; d. May 21, 1885; m. Mary Coleman.
9. Richard Mott, b. October, 1799; d. Oct. 25, 1877; m. (1st) Mary Bunyan; m. (2nd) Lucy Fisher; m. (3rd) Anne Clough.
10. Noah, b. Feb. 12, 1802; d. July 5, 1886; m. (1st) Abigail Davis; m. (2nd) Phoebe Bailey.
11. Elijah, b. in Freeport, Me. Sept. 8, 1803; d. in Vassalboro, 1854; m. Dec. 24, 1832, Fanny Sampson (b. in Leeds, Me., Jan. 9, 1805; d. March 18, 1881, dau. of Cyrus Sampson).
12. Isaac, b. Sept. 26, 1805; d. Aug. 18, 1807.
13. Catherine, b. Freeport, Sept. 10, 1807; d. March 4, 1874; m. Oct. 21, 1833; Frederick Lowell (b. in Hallowell, Me.).

CHILDREN: (Surname - Lowell)

1. William, b. in Gardiner, Me., Feb. 14, 1834; m. (1st) Jan. 4, 1863, Amelia A. Hanscomb, dau. of Dea. Samuel Hanscomb; m. (2nd) Abbie L. Hanscomb, dau. of Dr. Oliver and Ruth W. Hanscomb; he worked for awhile in the Shoe business in China, with his cousin, Thomas Pinkham.
2. Mary E., b. in Hallowell, Me. Jan. 31, 1835.
3. Greenleaf, b. July 8, 1836.
4. John R., b. July 14, 1838.
5. Charles A., b. Feb. 18, 1844.
6. Abbie Anna, b. Sept. 19, 1846.

John Pinkham (Elijah, Ebenezer, Thomas, Richard, Richard), b. Nov. 12, 1797, in Freeport, Me., son of Elijah and Abigail Pinkham; d. May 21, 1885; m. Sept. 27, 1821, Mary Coleman (b. Jan. 19, 1798, in Bristol, Me.; d. 1874; dau. of Christopher Coleman).

CHILDREN:

1. Albert, b. in Unity, Me., June 25, 1822; d. May 19, 1897; resided in Unity, and China; m. Mrs. Nancy H. Winslow, (widow of Henry Winslow ; nee - Jones)

2. Eliza Brackett, b. Sept. 19, 1825; m. Dec. 1844, Francis Jones (b. in China, Me., Dec. 4, 1822, son of Elisha and Sophia (Sydleman) Jones).
3. Thomas C., b. in Unity, Me., May 26, 1828; d. in Portland, Me. Aug. 9, 1895; m. Caroline Day Cox.
4. John Franklin, b. July 24, 1831; d. Aug. 7, 1892; m. Sept. 16, 1877, Susan Ada Embree.
5. William E., b. Nov. 11, 1833; d. Dec. 21, 1896; resided in China, Me.; m. (1st) Ann E. Mitchell; m. (2nd) June 7, 1877, Amanda J. Dow.
6. Mary Ann, b. July 8, 1836; d. Feb. 2, 1865, unmarried.

Lorana Pinkham, (Elijah, Ebenezer, Thomas, Richard, Richard) b. August 30, 1788; dau. of Elijah and Abigail (Farr) Pinkham; d. February 9, 1870; m. Joshua Winslow (d. in China, Me., Dec 12, 1853;) resided in China and Westbrook, Me.

CHILDREN: (Surname Winslow)

1. Henry B., b. in Westbrook, Me., Sept. 28, 1818; d. in China, Me., April 21, 1846; m. (1st) Eliza C. Jenkins of Vassalboro; m. (2nd) Nancy Jones.
2. Charles, b. Westbrook, Me., Jan. 31, 1823; m. March 15, 1846, Orinda Turner (b. July 14, 1825; d. in Minn., Oct. 3, 1882; dau. of John Turner).
3. Harriet, d. in Louisiana; m. Daniel Carrodl, resided in Augusta, Me.

Albert Pinkham (John, Elijah, Ebenezer, Thomas, Richard, Richard), born in Unity, Me., June 25, 1822, son of John and Mary (Coleman) Pinkham; d. May 19, 1897; he was a farmer and carpenter; m. Jan. 23, 1850 in China, Me., Mrs. Nancy H. Winslow (nee - Jones, widow of Henry D. Winslow and dau. of Andrew and Alice Jones of LeHavre, France)

CHILDREN:

1. Edward Albert, b. Nov. 1, 1850, unmarried, resided in Waterville, Me. d. 1916.
2. Elizabeth Jones, b. Jan. 26, 1853, resided in Waterville; m. June 23, 1878, Redford M. Estes (b. in China, Me. Nov. 11, 1840; d. Nov. 26, 1897, son of Josiah D. and Sarah Estes).

CHILDREN:

1. Redford Albert, b. Jan. 24, 1879.
2. Edward Jeremiah, b. Nov. 5, 1880, m. Jan. 27, 1906, Gertrude Perry.
3. Franklin, b. Nov. 22, 1855, in China; d. Jan. 9, 1856.
4. Martha Phoebe, b. Feb. 18, 1857; d. Nov. 10, 1867.
5. Charles Alton, b. Oct. 12, 1859; resided in China, Me.; m. Nov. 12, 1882, Amanda Scripture Quinn (dau. of Artemas Cross Quinn).

CHILD:

Archibald H., b. 1883.

Thomas C. Pinkham, (John, Elijah, Ebenezer, Thomas, Richard, Richard) born, in Unity, Me., son of John and Mary (Coleman) Pinkham, May 26, 1828; d. in Portland, Me.; m. Jan. 17, 1854, Caroline Day Cox.

CHILDREN:

1. Ida Gertrude, b. Brunswick, Me., April 10, 1855
2. Albert Wallace, b. Brunswick, Me., May 5, 1857, m. Oct. 20, 1879, Annetta Lillian Evans (b. in Brooks, Me., May 23, 1860; mother died at her birth; she was adopted by her uncle Samuel and Elizabeth B. (Jepson) Evans of China, Me.)
3. James Warren, b. in Brunswick, Me., May 22, 1859.
4. Mary Eliza, b. in Brunswick, Me., Dec. 12, 1861.
5. Wilmar Augustus, b. in Durham, Me., 1864.
6. Edith Maria, b. in Durham, Me., July 16, 1866.
7. Eugene, b. in Durham, Me., Sept. 12, 1873.

William E. Pinkham, (John, Elijah, Ebenezer, Thomas, Richard, Richard) b. Nov. 11, 1833, son of John and Mary (Coleman) Pinkham; d. Dec. 21, 1896; resided in China, Me.; m. (1st) Nov. 17, 1861, Ann E. Mitchell (b. April 26, 1835; d. March 30, 1869; dau. of Samuel and Judith Mitchell); m. (2nd), June 7, 1877, Amanda J. Dow, (b. Sept. 4, 1839; dau. of Isaac and Mary J. Dow).

CHILDREN: (William and Ann E. (Mitchell) Pinkham)

1. Herbert Leslie, b. in China, Me., Aug. 18, 1864; m. Jan. 1, 1888, Lucia Amina Worthing (b. in Palermo, Me., Oct. 30, 1867; dau. of Elmar Worthing)

CHILDREN:

1. Roscoe Walstein, b. March 5, 1890, d. Aug. 25, 1891
2. Ida Gertrude, b. Sept. 4, 1892, b. Sept. 4, 1892; m. May 7, 1919, William B. Bailey; d. Dec. 21, 1966.
3. Edith Marion, b. Nov. 20, 1895; m. June 1958, Clifford L. Burrill.

SPROUL

Sproul is of Scotch-Irish origin. The first to come to China was Francis who came from Bristol in 1845. He was a sea captain who sailed the "seven seas", living the life of adventure. Hard work was mixed with the romance of visiting foreign countries and bringing home treasures that fascinated and entertained the neighborhood children. His wife affectionately known by these children as "Aunt Polly" was born in Goldsboro, Dec. 6, 1810, daughter of George Whitaker and Lucy Wilson of Cherryfield.

Francis Sproul had bought the property now owned by Frank Kerns from John Perkins in 1837. Polly kept the home fires burning and in 1850 they built the present dwelling house.

That year on July 17, their son, Oren, was born. He lived his whole life in that house. He was educated in China Schools, and after 20 years of age taught in surrounding schools. For years he was supervisor of schools, then selectman, being chairman of the board. In his golden years he remained active as a Justice of the Peace and Notary Public, one to whom local people went for advice and help with problems.

He married Carrie A., born Mar. 3, 1857, daughter of William H. Sproul II. She was a direct descendant of General Israel Putnam, and regaled their children with stories of the famous general.

Oren and Carrie Sproul had seven children.

Hattie B., born May 21, 1875, married Perley Dodge. Their children: Luther B, married Iva Turner and have five children: Glenn, Sherwood, James, Marilyn, June and Wayne; Florence married Delbert Clifford and lives on Deer Hill.

Edith M., born Feb. 1, 1878, married Willis B. Shuman and had daughters Mildred, Ruby and Doris.

Marcia M., born Oct. 28, 1879, married Henry H. Risley and lived and died in New York state.

Arthur F., born April 6, 1880, died in a construction accident in Brooklyn, N.Y., leaving two children: Arthur and Marie.

Mary W., born May 31, 1883, married Roy Clifford. Their children were Halstead of Augusta, and Carrie Ellen in Conn.

Bert W., born July 15, 1885, married Annie Ware of Bangor, where they had seven children: Calvert, Charles, Donald, Lillith, Louis, Lyonel and Galen. Bert's grandson, James, now resides in China just out of China Village.

Harry M., born Apr. 4, 1890, married Mabel Ladd of Augusta. They had Oren, Margaret, and Madeline. After her death he married Nettie Hoyt of Bangor. She died in 1955. In 1960 he married Marie McDonald of Sherman Mills.

Abner Starrett, son of William and Abigail (Fisher) Starrett, b. September 28, 1776, in Francestown, N.H.; d. in China, August 14, 1819; m. at New Boston, N.H., Sept. 1800, Elizabeth Dane, dau. of Daniel and Sarah (Goodhue) Dane, (b. in New Boston, N.H., January 23, 1779; d. July 2, 1865).

CHILDREN:

1. Abner, b. Oct. 14, 1801; m. Mary C. Weeks and resided in China.
2. Daniel D., b. Nov. 25, 1802; d. Feb. 9, 1896 in China; m. Anna Crummett (d. March 3, 1875, aet 72 yrs.).
3. William, b. Sept. 28, 1804; d. March 29, 1841; m. May 10, 1827, Mary Ann Calder (b. March 20, 1805; d. Dec. 21, 1890).
4. Elizabeth, b. June 6, 1807; d. 1900; m. Oct. 12, 1828, Abel Chadwick (1802-1885).
5. Lucinda, b. Jan. 28, 1809; d. March 17, 1897; m. Apr. 15, 1832, Thomas Giddings (d. Jan. 2, 1870, aet 67 yrs. 10 mos.)
6. Sarah, b. Aug. 28, 1810; d. July 2 (3?), 1864; m. Aug. 24, 1848, Edward Emerson (d. July 1, 1882, aet 67 yrs.).
7. David, b. Dec. 1, 1813; m. Sept. 23, 1838, Sarah D. Chadwick.

Abner Starrett, (Abner, William), b. Oct. 14, 1801 at Francestown, N.H., son of Abner and Elizabeth (Dane) Starrett; d. at China, June 20, 1854; m. in China, Sept. 4, 1823, Mary C. Weeks, b. March 24, 1802, dau. of Abner and Lydia (Clark) Weeks.

CHILDREN: (All born in China; later he removed to Orono).

1. Mary Emily, b. Dec. 29, 1824; d. at Orono, Nov. 12, 1840.
2. William Serville, b. Sept. 24, 1825; m. Mary Ann Custard.
3. Clarissa Morrow, b. Aug. 21, 1827; m. Rev. H. C. Leonard.
4. Sarah Jane, (Twin), b. March 20, 1829; m. at Orono, Israel Washburn.
5. Mary Ann, b. March 20, 1829; m. at Orono, Daniel Robinson.
6. Rebecca W., b. at China, Jan. 7, 1831; d. at Orono, Oct. 13, 1848.
7. Lydia W., b. ; d. May 28, 1848.
8. Elizabeth Ellen, b. Jan. 9, 1837; m. Capt. Charles Pierce.
9. Abner W., b. March 20, 1840; d. at Orono, Oct. 14, 1859.
10. Emily Frances, b. Sept. 7, 1843; d. March 15, 1845.
11. Maria A., b. March 27, 1847; m. at Bangor, March 16, 1867, James N. Coombs.

Daniel D. Starrett (Abner, William); b. at Francestown, N.H., Nov. 25, 1802; son of Abner and Elizabeth (Dane) Starrett; m. Sept. 22, 1825 Anna Crummet, dau. of Joshua and Sarah Crummet of China (b. Jan. 27, 1803; d. March 3, 1875).

CHILDREN:

1. Orissa F., b. at China, Dec. 17, 1826; m. William Newell Rollins; they resided in So. China.
2. Frances A., b. at China, Nov. 4, 1828; m. Henry F. Hussey of Vassalboro.
3. Sarah, b. Dec. 21, 1830; m. June 16, 1875, Ira Smart of So. China (d. Nov. 20, 1879 - no children).
4. Minerva (Nanerva?) K., b. Aug. 6, 1832; m. April 9, 1854 Elihu Hanson of Weeks Mills.
5. John W., b. May 1, 1834; m. May 29, 1860, Sarah Latham of Farmington (dau. of Rev. Harry W. and Sophia (Jenkins) Latham).
6. Leroy S., b. April 25, 1836; m. May 20, 1860, Lydia Bartlett.

7. William R., b. Aug. 21, 1838; m. Nov. 10, 1878, Eleanor Marshall, dau. of Wm. & Eleanor (Boyd) Marshall.
8. Frank D., b. June 14, 1840; d. June 22, 1875.
9. Eliza F., b. June 2, 1842; m. June 26, 1869, John W. Hall of So. China.
10. Samuel C., b. at China, April 30, 1844; m. Emily C. Mosher, dau. of Charles Mosher, Feb. 26, 1869.
11. Annie E., b. at China, Jan. 24, 1846; d. Sept. 21, 1847.
12. Mary V., b. at China, Dec. 27, 1848; m. Jan. 27, 1870, Dr. Horace W. Sibley of Vassalboro; she too was a doctor - no children.

David Starrett, (Abner, William) b. at Francestown, N.H., Dec. 1, 1813, son of Abner & Elizabeth (Dane) Starrett; m. at China, Sept. 23, 1838, Sarah C. Chadwick, dau. of David and Sarah (Chapman) Chadwick; (b. Aug. 6, 1820).

CHILDREN:

1. David, b. July 16, 1840.
2. Edwin Burnham, b. at China, July 4, 1847; m. at Boston, Mass., Jan. 5, 1873, Ellen N. Furbish of China, Me.
3. Edward Payson, b. at China, July 4, 1847 (twin), d. at Alna, Nov. 9, 1861.
4. Adrian Frank, b. at China, Dec. 19, 1851; m. Sept. 29, 1879, Ada Ellen McLaughlin of China.
5. Moody Thurston, b. at China, Sept. 24, 1856; d. at China, Aug. 20, 1868.
6. Winfield Scott, b. at Alna; d. there June 16, 1861.
7. Carlton Elmer, b. at Alna, May 15, 1864.

Elizabeth Starrett, (Abner, William), b. at Francestown, N.H., June 6, 1807, dau. of Abner & Elizabeth Starrett; m. Oct. 12, 1828, Abel Chadwick of So. China.

CHILDREN: (Surname - Chadwick)

1. Loseah D., b. at China, Oct. 3, 1829; d. at China, April 18, 1864; m. Sarah E. Goddard; resided at Weeks Mills.
2. Abner D., b. at China, Dec. 25, 1831; m. Aug. 25, 1859, Drusilla B. Newcomb of China.
3. Joseph W., b. at China, May 8, 1836; m. at Medford, Mass. Oct. 26, 1865, Sarah E. Roberts.

Lucinda Starrett, (Abner, William) b. at Francestown, N. H., dau. of Abner and Elizabeth Starrett; m. at China, April 15, 1832, Thomas Giddings of So. China.

CHILDREN: (Surname Giddings)

1. Sarah E., b. at China, Nov. 12, 1833; d. March 3, 1854.
2. Samuel D., b. at China, Sept. 20, 1835, resided at So. China.
3. Wooster P., b. at China, May 11, 1839; was a Doctor in Gardiner.

Frances A. Starrett, (Daniel, Abner, William) b. Nov. 4, 1828, dau. of Daniel and Anna (Crummett) Starrett; m. Nov. 4, 1851, Henry F. Hussey of Vassalboro.

CHILDREN: (Surname Hussey)

1. Josephine Frances, b. Nov. 2, 1852; m. Nov. 22, 1874, Henry A. Freeman of Vassalboro.

Orissa F. Starrett, (Daniel, Abner, William) b. Dec. 17, 1826, dau. of Daniel and Anna (Crummett) Starrett; m. Sept. 30, 1852, William Newell Rollins, son of William R. Rollins (John, John, Thomas, James); they resided in So. China.

CHILDREN: (All b. in China, Surname - Rollins).

1. Verena J., b. July 16, 1854.
2. Willia Boyden, b. Jan. 25, 1858; d. Jan. 22, 1860.
3. Charlie H., b. Oct. 22, 1860.
4. Annie Frances, b. Oct. 19, 1862.
5. Roswell S., b. Jan. 25, 1864.

Eliza F. Starrett, (Daniel, Abner, William) b. June 2, 1842, dau. of Daniel and Anna (Crummett) Starrett; m. June 26, 1869, John W. Hall of So. China.

CHILDREN: (Surname Hall)

1. Frank P., b. Aug. 17, 1873.
2. Ross W., b. Oct. 15, 1877.

Samuel C. Starrett, (Daniel, Abner, William) b. at China, April 30, 1844, son of Daniel and Anna Starrett; m. Feb. 20, 1869, Emily C. Mosher, dau. of Charles and Susan Mosher, (b. Feb. 20, 1848; d. Feb. 13, 1919) d. Nov. 5, 1913; resided in So. China.

CHILDREN:

1. Preston H., b. Oct. 20, 1871.
2. Charles D., b. Feb. 9, 1873.
3. Ernest R., b. Nov. 30, 1876; d. Dec. 11, 1960.
4. Edith E., b. Jan. 30, 1880; d. 1960.
5. George R., b. Jan. 7, 1882.
6. Pearl A., b. Aug. 19, 1885; d. Jan. 29, 1956.
7. Leroy S., b. Sept. 30, 1887; d. Feb. 11, 1920.

Minerva K. Starrett, (Daniel, Abner, William) b. Aug. 6, 1832, dau. of Daniel and Anna (Crummett) Starrett; m. April 9, 1859, Elihu Hanson of Weeks Mills.

CHILDREN: (Surname Hanson)

1. Everand Byron, b. Oct. 25, 1855; m. April 16, 1876, Lizzie Ella Tucker.
2. Abner Starrett, b. June 17, 1857; d. May 5, 1858.
3. Harvey Renview, b. Dec. 8, 1860.
4. Minerva Olive, b. Jan. 28, 1864; d. May 22, 1865.
5. Justus Greely, b. Jan. 11, 1870.

Ernest R. Starrett, (Samuel, Daniel, Abner, William) b. at South China, November 28, 1876, son of Samuel and Emily (Mosher) Starrett; m. Oct. 20, 1902, Aurie May Austin in China (b. Sept. 19, 1877 at Brooks, Me., d. March 27, 1963 at So. China) d. Dec. 11, 1960 at S. China.

CHILDREN:

1. Geneva May, b. May 10, 1904 at Athol, Mass., m. July 25, 1940, Chandler H. Holton (b. Sept. 11, 1907, E. Northfield, Mass.)

Child:

1. Wilfred Ernest Holton, b. July 5, 1941, Atlanta, Ga.
2. Austin, b. Sept. 18, 1907, S. China; m. Aug. 15, 1936, Mahala (Peggy) Whitman, Cambridge, Mass. (b. Dec. 25,

Starrett - 4

1909, Cambridge, Mass., d. July 30, 1960,
Atlanta, Ga.

Children:

1. Martha Elizabeth, b. Nov. 23, 1938,
Atlanta, Ga.
2. David Austin, b. March 30, 1942
Atlanta, Ga.
3. Robert Ernest, b. March 12, 1945,
Atlanta, Ga.

Pearl A. Starrett (Samuel, Daniel, Abner, William), daughter of Samuel and Emily (Mosher) Starrett, b. Aug. 19, 1885, m. Dec. 23, 1905 Coney Webber in China (b. Jan. 18, 1884; d. Jan. 12, 1961); d. Jan. 29, 1956.

CHILDREN:

1. Richard, b. 1908; d. 1918
2. Marjorie, b. 1910; d. 1918.
3. Helen, b. Oct. 27, 1913; m. July 6, 1935, George Starkey
at China (b. Aug. 20, 1912).

Children:

1. Arlene, b. Feb. 13, 1937.
2. Julia, b. Sept. 14, 1940.
3. John, b. Apr. 4, 1942.
4. Theresa, b. Feb. 18, 1945.
5. Richard, b. Aug. 18, 1951.

Wilfred Holton (son of Geneva Starrett Holton and Chandler H. Holton), b. July 5, 1941; m. June 18, 1966, Susan W. Chapin (b. Apr. 30, 1942 at Lewiston, Me.).

CHILD:

1. Robert Ernest, b. Nov. 3, 1967, Boston, Mass.

Martha Elizabeth (dau. of Austin and Mahala Whitman Starrett), b. Nov. 23, 1938, Atlanta, Ga., m. Sept. 10, 1960, at Decatur, Ga., James A. Stubbs, (b. May 13, 1937 at Atlanta, Ga.)

CHILDREN:

1. Larry James, b. Oct. 26, 1961, Florida.
2. William Austin, b. March 19, 1965, Florida.

* After inventing a meat-chopper, Leroy S. Starrett, son of Daniel D. Starrett, started making tools in Athol, Massachusetts in 1877. The L. S. Starrett Tool Co. is now one of the leading producers of precision tools and gages. He patented about 100 inventions and became a public benefactor. In Athol the Starrett Memorial Methodist Church and the Y. M. C. A. were among his contributions.

Four of his nephews: Preston, Ernest, George, and Leroy left the farm of their father, Samuel Starrett, in South China, to work in the Athol Tool factory. Of these, one, Ernest, returned in 1949 to live in South China, after more than 50 years of service in the graduating department. Ernest and his wife Aurie, purchased the brick house in South China, where they lived out their remaining years.

T A Y L O R

Samuel Taylor (Samuel and Elizabeth (Carver) Taylor,) b. 1727, went from Pembroke, Mass. to Buckfield, Me. and settled prior to Jan. 1, 1784. He served in both the old French and Indian War and the Revolution and was well advanced in age when he settled in Buckfield. He m. Nov. 1, 1750, Priscilla Simmons of Duxbury, Mass. He d. after the Census was taken in 1810 aet 94 yrs.

- CHILDREN: (baptisms of six of his children are recorded in Pembroke, Mass.)
1. Huldah,
 2. Samuel, b. 1757; d. Oct. 1, 1826; m. Hannah Low of Marshfield; lived for a period in Buckfield - removed to Vassalboro.
 3. Asa, bap. July 20, 1755; m. Dec. 20, 1818, Mrs. Rebekah Ames.
 4. Ranah, bap. July 20, 1755; m. Aug. 17, 1780, Isaac Foster.
 5. John, bap. June 15, 1760.
 6. Priscilla, bap. July 10, 1763.
 7. Richard, bap. Oct. 2, 1768; m. April 23, 1794, Mary Roberts; settled in Buckfield, Me.
 8. Jabez, (twin) bap. Oct. 2, 1768; m. Dorcas Irish; settled in Buckfield, Me.

(NOTE: Our sincere appreciation to Mrs. Mildred Mitchell for the loan of the "family records")

Samuel Taylor, son of Samuel and Priscilla (Simmons) Taylor; b. 1757; d. Oct. 1, 1826; m. (? in Marshfield, Mass.) Feb. 15, 1784 to Hannah Low (b. Aug. 22, 1760; d. Jan. 16, 1806; dau. of Jeremiah and Sarah (Thoms) Low). Both buried in Vassalboro.

- CHILDREN:
1. Asa, b. Feb. 14, 1785; d. June 28, 1865; m. Matilda Abbott.
 2. Betsey, b. Nov. 28, 1786; d. Jan. 3, 1827; m. Samuel Lewis of Fairfax (Albion).
 3. Samuel, b. April 20, 1789; d. April 11, 1839; m. Olive Tarbell.
 4. Amasa, b. June 8, 1791; d. May 17, 1866; m. Martha Ewer.
 5. Charles, b. Aug. 18, 1792; d. May 24, 1875; m. Permilla Abbott.
 6. Hannah, b.; m. March 18, 1821, in China, Luther Huff;
CHILD: Samuel.

Asa Taylor, son of Samuel and Hannah (Low) Taylor; b. Feb. 14, 1785; d. June 28, 1865; m. Matilda Abbott (b. Jan. 15, 1791; d. Jan. 28, 1862). Both buried at Cross Hill, Vassalboro, Me.

- CHILDREN:
1. Leonard W., b. March 17, 1814; d. 1895.
 2. Asa Frye, b. Sept. 9, 1817; d. July 8, 1853.
 3. Matilda, b. Sept. 21, 1821; d. 1907.
 4. Sally Maria, b. Feb. 20, 1826.

*Betsey Taylor - see last entry of Taylor genealogy

Samuel Taylor, son of Samuel and Hannah (Low) Taylor; b. April 20, 1789; d. April 14, 1839; m. Nov. 4, 1810, Olive Tarbell, (b. Jan. 1, 1790; d. Feb. 12, 1855).

- CHILDREN:
1. Olive, b. March 4, 1811; d. February 27, 1841.

2. Hannah L., b. Dec. 18, 1814; d. Jan. 3, 1858; m. April 19, 1840,
Andrew H. Furbush.
3. Samuel, b. Dec. 13, 1817; d. May 31, 1858; m. Emeline Percival.

Amasa Taylor, son of Samuel and Hannah (Low) Taylor; b. June 8, 1791; d. May 17, 1866; m. Feb. 9, 1817, Martha Ewer (b. Nov. 11, 1797; d. Nov. 24, 1871; dau. of John and Rhoda (Priest) Ewer).

CHILDREN:

1. Alonzo, b. June 30, 1817; d. April 14, 1879; m. (1st) Abigail F. Vickery; m. (2nd), Sarah Bradstreet.
2. Amasa, Jr., b. Dec. 21, 1820; d. Nov. 17, 1898; m. Martha Whitehouse.
3. Jane, b. Jan. 4, 1819; d. July 6, 1850; m. Almond Osgood.
4. Hannah, b. April 23, 1825; d. Dec. 12, 1909; m. William B. Priest (son of Josiah Priest).
5. Charles, b. Jan. 30, 1822; d. Aug. 24, 1823.
6. Martha, b. May 19, 1823; d. Aug. 2, 1851; m. David Fall
7. Charles, b. Dec. 26, 1826; d. Feb. 5, 1905; m. Mary Parkhurst.
8. Betsey, b. Jan. 18, 1830; d. April 13, 1915; m. George B. Hussey.
9. Euphemia, b. Feb. 18, 1832; d. Dec. 7, 1907; m. (1st) Edward T. Briggs; m. (2nd) Charles Trueworthy.
10. John, b. Sept. 10, 1836; d. Jan. 31, 1901; m. Mary Hunnewell.

Charles Taylor, son of Samuel and Hannah (Low) Taylor; b. Aug. 18, 1792; d. May 24, 1875; m. Permillia Abbott (b. April 30, 1794; d. May 27, 1877) Buried in Vassalboro, Me.

CHILDREN:

1. Charles A., b. Sept. 15, 1818; d. Aug. 28, 1864; m. Lois Whitehouse (dau. of Thomas and Cynthia (Cross) Whitehouse).
2. Joel W., b. Dec. 2, 1821; d. Feb. 18, 1894; (buried with his father - Cross Hill cemetery)
3. Eliza, b. 1824; d. July 9, 1825, aet 17 mos.
4. Hiram B., b. Nov. 11, 1826; d. May 19, 1907; m. Susan H. Whitehouse (b. July 2, 1829; d. Feb. 26, 1900). Buried in Vassalboro, Me.
5. Eliza, b. March 24, 1830; d. Jan. 30, 1916; m. John Whitehouse.
6. Calvin, b. Jan. 15, 1834; d. Feb. 3, 1907; m. (1st) July 31, 1856, Sarah F. Hayward (b. March 27, 1833; d. June 1, 1869; dau. of Libbeus Hayward) m. (2nd) Clementine Lamson (b. Jan. 27, 1833; d. Nov. 14, 1904).

Alonzo Taylor, son of Amasa and Martha (Ewer) Taylor; b. June 30, 1817; d. April 14, 1879; m. (1st) Dec. 30, 1841, Abigail F. Vickery, (d. Dec. 17, 1856); m. (2nd) May 30, 1857, Sarah Bradstreet (b. Jan. 25, 1820; d. Jan. 9, 1904).

CHILDREN: (Alonzo and Abigail F. (Vickery) Taylor)

1. Atwil, b. Sept. 19, 1842; d. March 23, 1843.
2. Joel V., b. March 24, 1844; d. February 21, 1847.
3. Atwil A., b. Sept. 30, 1845.
4. Joel V., b. April 7, 1847; d. December 10, 1901.
5. Adin, b. July 20, 1849; d. June, 1914.
6. Woodbury, b. Jan. 7, 1856; d. March 12, 1921.

CHILDREN: (2nd m. - Sarah Bradstreet)

7. Ernest O., b. Dec. 21, 1859; d. Dec. 22, 1919; m. Susan O. Stewart (b. Nov. 8, 1871; d. July 24, 1938).
8. Samuel E., b. Aug. 6, 1861; d. April 28, 1916.
9. Abby, b. Aug. 30, 186?.

Amasa Taylor, Jr., son of Amasa and Martha (Ewer) Taylor; b. Dec. 21, 1820; d. November 17, 1898; m. (1st) Dec. 5, 1844, Martha Whitehouse (b. Jan. 28, 1827; d. Jan. 11, 1888; dau. of Thomas and Cynthia (Cross) Whitehouse); m. (2nd) April 10, 1889, Ann M. Peaslee (b. Sept. 30, 1841; d. April 4, 1903).

CHILDREN: (All born of first marriage)

1. Cynthia, b. Oct. 31, 1845; d. Oct. 15, 1853.
2. Emily, b. Oct. 7, 1849; d. Sept. 28, 1861.
3. Lucinda, b. Oct. 18, 1851; d. Sept. 28, 1861.
4. Horace Everette, b. March 8, 1858; d. Oct. 11, 1861.
5. George Everette, b. Dec. 18, 1863; d. Sept. 7, 1865.
6. Nettie May, b. Jan. 3, 1869; d. Dec. 12, 1918; m. Frank M. Patterson.
7. Frank Leslie, b. March 3, 1872; d. April 23, 1917; m. (1st) Olga L. Foss; m. (2nd) Georgie Randall.

Jane Taylor, dau. of Amasa and Martha (Ewer) Taylor, b. Jan. 4, 1819; d. July 6, 1850; m. Dec. 30, 1844, Almond Osgood (b. Dec. 24, 1813; d. 1862; Town records state "from Newburg").

CHILDREN: (Surname - Osgood)

1. Cynthia A., b. Oct. 1845; d. Aug. 28, 1847.
2. Charles, b. June 2, 1847.
3. Cynthia J., b. Nov. 9, 1849; d. Jan. 24, 1874.

Hannah Taylor, dau. of Amasa and Martha (Ewer) Taylor, b. April 23, 1825; d. Dec. 12, 1909; m. Jan. 12, 1843, William B. Priest, (b. Dec. 15, 1816; d. May, 1905)

CHILDREN: (Surname - Priest)

1. Hiram, b. Feb. 18, 1844; d. 1863.
2. Hannah A., b. July 24, 1845; d. Nov. 13, 1911; m.McKay.
3. Abby J., b. Dec. 27, 1850; d. March 8, 1852.
4. Alonzo W., b. March 26, 1853.
5. Mary E., b. March 7, 1856; d. April 18, 1874.
6. Isabell, b. July 9, 1858.
7. Ed., b. Feb. 10, 1864; d. Aug. 16, 1891.

Martha Taylor, dau. of Amasa and Martha (Ewer) Taylor, b. May 19, 1823; d. Aug. 2, 1851; m. May 30, 1841; in Albion, David Fall (b. July 15, 1816; d. Aug. 7, 1891).

CHILDREN: (Surname - Fall)

1. Amasa T., b. Dec. 8, 1842.
2. Charles E., b. June 5, 1848; d. Feb. 4, 1872.

Charles Taylor, son of Amasa and Martha (Ewer) Taylor; b. Dec. 26, 1826; d. Feb. 5, 1905; m. (1st) March 19, 1851, Mary Parkhurst (b. March 19, 1831;

d. April 17, 1872); m. (2nd), June 2, 1873, Carrie Foss (b. Feb. 24, 1843).

CHILDREN: (All by 1st marriage)

1. Judith A., b. Jan. 26, 1852; d. Aug. 8, 1853.
2. Charles H., b. Oct. 1, 1853.
3. Infant, d. 1861.
4. Infant, d. 1863.
5. George McLen, b. Jan. 30, 1865.

Betsey Taylor, dau. of Amasa and Martha (Ewer) Taylor; b. Jan. 18, 1830; d. April 13, 1915; m. Nov. 25, 1847, George B. Hussey (b. Dec. 22, 1820; d. March 31, 1886).

CHILDREN: (Surname - Hussey)

1. George W., b. May 2, 1849; d. April 3, 1854.
2. Alonzo T., b. May 25, 1851.
3. George Raymond, b. Sept. 7, 1856; d. March 28, 1911.
4. Everett Eugene, b. Feb. 27, 1859.

Euphemia Taylor, dau. of Amasa and Martha (Ewer) Taylor; b. Feb. 18, 1832; d. Dec. 7, 1907; m. (1st) 1863, Edward T. Briggs (d. May 20, 1882) m. (2nd), March 25, 1903, Charles Trueworthy.

John Taylor, son of Amasa and Martha (Ewer) Taylor; b. Sept. 10, 1836; d. Jan. 21, 1901; m. (1st,) Nov. 13, 1859, Mary Hunnewell (b. Jan. 6, 1840; d. Nov. 18, 1862); m. (2nd) in Albion, Dec. 1, 1864, Charlott Coombs (b. June 8, 1847, dau. of L. F. and Elizabeth Hunnewell).

CHILDREN: (John and Mary (Hunnewell) Taylor)

1. Mary E., b. Nov. 10, 1862; m. Fred A. Coombs of Winslow.

CHILDREN: (John and Charlott (Coombs) Taylor)

2. Melvin Arrch, b. May 4, 1866.
3. Fred Butterworth, b. Dec. 17, 1869.
4. Josie Orton, b. March 11, 1871.
5. Edward B., b. May 25, 1876.

Charles A. Taylor, son of Charles and Permilla (Abbott) Taylor, b. Sept. 15, 1818; d. Aug. 28, 1864; m. June 10, 1843, Lois Whitehouse, (b. Nov. 5, 1816; d. April 10, 1905; dau. of Thomas and Cynthia (Cross) Whitehouse).

CHILDREN: (Charles A. and Lois C. (Whitehouse) Taylor)

1. Charles F., b. July 11, 1844.
2. Thomas H., b. Sept. 14, 1846; d. Aug. 30, 1864.

Eliza Taylor, dau. of Charles and Permilla (Abbott) Taylor, b. March 24, 1830; d. Jan. 30, 1916; m. Feb. 1, 1852, John Whitehouse (b. Feb. 14, 1825; d. June 1886).

CHILDREN: (Surname - Whitehouse)

1. Jonathan, b. Dec. 25, 1852.
2. Dora A., b. April 30, 1855; d. 1934.
3. Hiram C., b. June 16, 1858; d. Sept. 2, 1882. m. Ruth C. Richardson.
4. Osborn B., b. Aug. 2, 1865; d. May 19, 1886.

5. Forest Burton, b. Feb. 13, 1872; d. July 30, 1936; m. Gertrude F. Getchell.

Samuel Taylor, son of Samuel and Olive (Tarbell) Taylor, b. Dec. 13, 1817; d. May 31, 1858; m. Emeline Percival.

CHILDREN:

1. Lillie E., d. May 11, 1883, aet 24 yrs. 11 mos.
2. Lillian M. d. Sept. 16, 1858, aet 1 yr. 1 mo.
3. Harvey S. d. Feb. 9, 1857, aet 6 yrs. 1 mo.

* Betsey Taylor, 2nd child born of Samuel and Hannah (Low) Taylor; b. Nov. 28, 1786; d. Jan. 3, 1827; m. April 23, 1809, Samuel Lewis (b. June 21, 1783; d. Jan. 25, 1861). Buried in China, Me.

CHILDREN:

1. Jabez, b. May 16, 1810; d. Nov. 29, 1887; m. Delia R. Baker; both buried in China, Me.
2. Camilla, b. July 9, 1813; d. March 23, 1892; m. Oliver L. Abbott. Buried in Albion, Me.
3. Rhoda, b. April 10, 1817; d. June 11, 1839.
4. Gustavus A. B., b. March 7, 1824; d. Feb. 14, 1825.

W A S H B U R N

Japheth Washburn, b. Sept. 11, 1746 at Carver, Mass. d. Sept. 6, 1828 at China, Me.; m. Sept. 28, 1868, Priscilla Coombs (b. Nov. 1, 1745 at Rochester, Mass., d. Aug. 5, 1830 at China, Me.) (In Capt. Edward Hammond's Company of "Minute Men", April 19, 1775, Rochester, Mass. Moved to China in 1803-1804 with son Japheth Coombs.)

CHILDREN:

1. Polly, b. March 9, 1770, Rochester, Mass.
2. Zalmuna, b. Sept. 11, 1772, Rochester, Mass.; m. Deborah Wayne, Me. (?)
3. Abisha, b. June 8, 1775, Rochester, Mass.; m. (1st) Jane Burrill, July 21, 1799; m. (2nd) Sarah
4. Chloe, b. June 28, 1777, Rochester, Mass., m. Nathaniel Dexter, (b. 1771).
(Great-great-granddaughter, Elizabeth Wright, living living in Fairmont, Neb., 1924).
5. Japheth Coombs, b. Jan. 20, 1780, Rochester, Mass.; m. (1st) Betsy Lowney; m. (2nd) Sarah Blish.
6. Priscilla, b. April 18, 1786; m. Asa Burrill, May 25, 1808, d. Sept. 9, 1859.

Zalmuna Washburn², b. Sept. 11, 1772, Rochester, Mass.; d. Sept. 7, 1844; m. Deborah, Wayne, Me. (b. Apr. 1776; d. Nov. 1, 1858).

CHILDREN:

1. Zebah, b. Jan. 26, 1797, Wayne, Me.; d. April 12, 1888, China, Me.
2. Koa, b. March 2, 1799, Wayne, Me.; d. Oct. 28, 1818, Albion, Me.
3. Zalmuna, b. Nov. 23, 1801, Wayne, Me.; d. July 13, 1850, China, Me.
4. Caleb Benson, b. May 27, 1804, Albion, Me.; d. Jan. 3, 1817, Albion, Me.
5. Mary Ann, b. Nov. 16, 1808, Albion, Me.; d. Oct. 26, 1833, Albion, Me.
6. Judith M., b. April 24, 1809, Albion, Me.; d. Aug. 9, 1850, m. Sumner Hodgkins.
7. Deborah, b. July 15, 1811, Albion, Me.; d. July 18, 1827, Albion, Me.
8. Henry Benson, b. Oct. 23, 1817.

Zebah Washburn³ cashier, Canton Bank, b. Jan. 26, 1797, Wayne, Me.; d. April 12, 1888, China, Me.; m. May 7, 1822, Susan Newhall, Ligonía (now Albion) (b. Jan. 15, 1792, Charlestown, Mass.; d. July 31, 1870, China, Me.)

CHILDREN:

1. Susan, #1, b. Jan. 30, 1823, Albion; d. Oct. 3, 1825, China.
2. Newell, #1, b. May 7, 1824, Albion; d. Oct. 30, 1825, China.
3. Susan #2, b. Jan. 26, 1825, Albion; d. Jan. 25, 1855, China.
4. Newell #2, b. Sept. 18, 1828, Belfast; d. Jan. 5, 1862, Black River Falls, Wisc.
5. Helen Augusta, b. Oct. 6, 1829, Belfast; d. May 11, 1866, China; m. March 6, 1860, Rev. Moses Newbert.
6. Maria, b. Jan. 26, 1832, China, Me.; d. March 31, 1895, China, Me.

Maria Washburn⁴, b. Jan. 26, 1832, China; d. March 31, 1895, China;
m. May 1, 1855, Fredus O. Brainerd (b. Dec. 15, 1831; d. May 9, 1900).

CHILDREN:

1. Estelle Maria, b. July 2, 1856; d. Dec. 28, 1943.
2. Walter Scott, b. Feb. 2, 1859, Black River Falls; d. Nov. 12, 1930; m. Elizabeth Ward.
3. Newell Washburn, b. Aug. 20, 1860, Black River Falls; lived in Skowhegan; d. Nov. 9, 1900, Boston, Mass; m. Flora T., (dau. of Gen. Brun.... Fairfield (.)).

Zamuna Washburn³, b. Nov. 23, 1801, Wayne, Me.; d. Sept. 16, 1872, China, Me.; m. (1), Oct. 3, 1825, Joanna Cofran (d. July 13, 1850); m. (2) March, 1851, Mrs. Phoebe Vickery, China, Me.; m. (3) Nov. 9, 1856, Emma G. Kitchen.

CHILDREN: (Zalmuna and Joanna Cofran Washburn)

1. John Cofran, b. March 31, 1836, Wheelock, Vt.
2. Georgeanna, b. Nov. 1840; d. Oct. 28, 1859.

Japheth C. Washburn², b. Jan. 20, 1780, Rochester, Mass.; d. Aug. 29, 1850, Calais, Me.; m. April 18, 1802, Monmouth, Me., Betsy Lowney (b. March 13, 1782, Epping, N.H., d. April 13, 1818, China, Me.).

CHILDREN:

1. Abra Lowney, b. Wayne, Me. Feb. 13, 1803.
2. Oliver Wendell, b. Fairfax, Oct. 17, 1804.
3. Rowland Freeman, b. Oct. 5, 1806; d. Aug. 11, 1874; no descendants.
4. Elvira Almeda, b. Fairfax, July 9, 1808; no living descendants.
5. William Vinal Vaughan, Fairfax, b. July 11, 1810; no living descendants.
6. Harrison Gray Otis, b. Fairfax, March 12, 1812; d. July 13, 1866.

m. (2) Sept. 17, 1818, Vassalboro, Me., Sarah Blish (b. July 13, 1798)

CHILDREN:

1. George, b. June 29, 1819, China, Me.
2. Julia C., b. Sept. 16, 1820, China, Me.
3. Emily B., b. May 9, 1822, China, Me.
4. Charles Francis, b. June 6, 1826, China, Me.

Moved from Rochester, Mass., to Wayne, Me., then to Fairfax (now China) in 1803 or 1804. Member of Massachusetts Legislature from District of Maine. First Postmaster of China, first Town Clerk of China. Moved to Calais, Me.

Abra Lowney Washburn³, b. Feb. 13, 1803, Wayne, Me.; m. Nov. 25, 1821, Thomas Burrill (b. Jan. 19, 1796; d. March 28, 1878).

CHILDREN:

1. Augustus Washburn, b. April 21, 1824.
 2. Ann Elizabeth, b. June 13, 1825.
 3. Thomas Waldo, b. March 12, 1828.
- (No living descendants)

Oliver Wendell Washburn³, town clerk, justice of peace, postmaster, merchant, b. Oct. 17, 1804, Fairfax (now China, Me.); m. June 14, 1845, at China, Me., Mary Ann Flye (b. March 6, 1817, Edgecomb, Me.; d. April 27, 1850, China, Me.).

CHILD: Willis Wendell, b. March 18, 1846, China, Me.; m. Jan. 6, 1880,

at Manchester, N. H., Edith Elvin Crosby; d. June 22, 1942, China, Me.

m. (2) Nov. 25, 1853, Albion, Me., Lydia Meggs Hamlen (b. Feb. 2, 1824; d. April 1, 1868) d. Sept. 18, 1885, China, Me. Carried the first mail from China to Vassalboro when he was 8 or 9 years old.

Willis Wendell Washburn⁴, horse and carriage trimming shop, town clerk, justice of peace, postmaster, China, Me., b. March 18, 1846, China, Me.; d. June 22, 1942, China, Me.; m. Jan. 6, 1880, Manchester, N.H., Edith Elvin Crosby (b. Jan. 6, 1855, Albion, Me.; d. Nov. 14, 1925, Detroit, Michigan.).

CHILDREN:

1. Wendell Crosby, b. Nov. 20, 1880, China, Me.; d. Oct. 4, 1936, Thomaston, Me.
2. Thomas Waldo, b. Nov. 10, 1881, China, Me.; m. Estelle May Doe June 17, 1908, Franklin, N.H.; d. April 4, 1941, China, Me.
3. Willis Flye, chemical engineer, b. July 1, 1885, China, Me.; d. May 24, 1950, Waterville, Me.; m. Flora Alice Beckert, Sept. 9, 1924, N.Y., N.Y.
4. Edward Elvin, b. April 13, 1888, China, Me.; d. Oct. 17, 1918, Cleveland, Ohio in U.S. Service, rank of Corporal, Chemical Warfare Service.
5. Edith Crosby, manager of H. B. Clifford Roofing, Co., b. July 8, 1891, China, Me.; m. Harry Benjamin Clifford, April 30, 1919, China, Me.
6. Mary Alida, town clerk, librarian, b. July 25, 1893, China, Me. d. July 5, 1971, China, Me.

Thomas Waldo Washburn⁵, insurance agent, postmaster, China, Me., b. Nov. 10, 1881, China, Me.; d. May 4, 1941, China, Me.; m. June 17, 1908, Franklin, N.H., Estelle May Doe (b. May 7, 1886, Vassalboro, Me.; d. Dec. 18, 1945, China, Me.).

CHILDREN:

1. Lila Estelle, b. April 22, 1909, China, Me.
2. Leone May, b. June 22, 1914, China, Me.

Edith Crosby Washburn⁵, b. July 8, 1891, China, Me.; m. April 30, 1919, China, Me., Harry Benjamin Clifford (b. July 11, 1885, Concord, N.H.; d. Oct. 20, 1931, Detroit, Michigan).

CHILDREN:

1. Mary Esther, b. Nov. 27, 1920, Detroit, Michigan.
2. Ruth Washburn, b. March 24, 1922, Detroit, Michigan.
3. Margaret Crosby, b. Nov. 6, 1924, Detroit, Michigan, music teacher, Livonia, Michigan.
4. Elizabeth Locke, b. July 18, 1928, Detroit, Michigan.

Lila Estelle Washburn⁶, b. April 22, 1909, China, Me.; m. June 22, 1929, China, Me., David Gregory Campbell, banker, (b. Nov. 5, 1902) Boothbay, Me.

Leone May Washburn⁶, b. June 22, 1914, China, Me.; m. Sept. 22, 1934, China, Me., Frederick J. Gaunce (b. May 7, 1904, Ft. Fairfield).

CHILDREN:

1. Edward Washburn, b. Jan. 23, 1939.
2. Ann, b. Sept. 17, 1943.

Mary Esther Clifford⁶, b. Nov. 27, 1920, Detroit, Michigan; m. May 26, 1950, Detroit, Michigan, Robert Clayton Richardson, commercial artist, Detroit, (b. March 28, 1920, Ypsilanti, Michigan).

CHILDREN:

1. Cynthia Ann, b. Jan. 19, 1952, Detroit, Mi.
2. Susan Alene, b. July 11, 1956, Detroit, Mi.

Ruth Washburn Clifford⁶, housewife, Alpena, Mi., b. March 24, 1922, Detroit, Mi.; m. Sept. 9, 1949, Detroit, Mi. Edwin Howe Rosenthaler (b. Nov. 22, 1921, Detroit, Mi.; d. Aug. 18, 1963, Alpena, Mi.).

CHILDREN:

1. Margaret Ruth, b. Sept. 7, 1950, Alpena, Mi.
2. Edith Clare, b. July 26, 1956, Alpena, Mi.
3. Albert Edwin, b. Sept. 29, 1959, Alpena, Mi.

Elizabeth Locke Clifford⁶, b. July 18, 1928, Detroit, Mi.; m. May 30, 1952, Detroit, Mi., Timothy Edmund O'Connor, viro-biologist, (b. Dec. 5, 1925, Bethesda, Md.).

CHILDREN:

1. Kevin Washburn, b. July 9, 1955, Wilmington, Del.
2. Mary Kathleen, b. May 3, 1956, Wilmington, Del.
3. Clifford Edmond, b. July 11, 1957, Wilmington, Del.
4. Ruth Patricia, b. Feb. 22, 1959, Wilmington, Del.
5. Eileen Margaret, b. June 10, 1960, Wilmington, Del.
6. Carol Ann, b. March 15, 1964, Washington, D. C.

Edward Washburn Gaunce⁷, undertaker, b. Jan. 23, 1939, Waterville, Me. m. Sept. 3, 1961, Pauline June Boynton, Waterville, Me. (b. July 23, 1941, Vassalboro, Me.).

CHILD:

1. Susan Lynn, b. July 30, 1966, Waterville, Maine.

Ann Gaunce⁷, b. Sept. 17, 1943, Waterville, Me.; m. April 4, 1965, John Adelbert Sylvester (b. Oct. 13, 1938, Farmington, Me.).

CHILDREN:

1. Christopher John, b. Dec. 20, 1965, Waterville, Me.
2. Lori Ann Sylvester, b. March 1, 1967, Waterville, Me.

Harrison Gray Otis Washburn³, b. March 12, 1812, China, Me.; d. July 13, 1866; m. (1)

CHILDREN: (1st marriage)

1. Eugene Dennis.
 2. Emma, b. March 2, 1846; d. Jan. 2, 1942; m.Hayward;
- (2nd marriage)
3. William V., d. in teens.
 4. Waldo.

George Washburn³, b. June 29, 1819, China, Me.; m. Sarah Jane Emery, March 31, 1846; m. (2) Eliza Gilmer, Oct. 18, 1849.

CHILDREN:

1. Emily Wendellen, b. Jan. 23, 1850; m. Oct. 4, 1870 Chas. H. Wilson.

2. William Gilmer, b. May 26, 1851

CHILDREN:

1. Edward W.
Son: William, Youngstown, Ohio.
2. Florence.
3. Julia Caroline, b. Feb. 1, 1853. m. at Houlton, 1873.
(Carol Vaughan, great-grand daughter, Rochester, Mass.)
4. George Alexander, b. Jan. 5, 1855.
5. Charles Fremont, b. July 1, 1856.
6. Mary Elisabeth, b. Nov. 20, 1860.

Emily Wendellen Washburn⁴, b. Jan. 23, 1850, m. Oct. 4, 1870, Charles H. Wilson.

CHILDREN:

1. Stella May, b. Aug. 10, 1872.
2. Eva Alice, b. Dec. 28, 1875.
3. Emma Daisy, b. Dec. 1878.
(No living descendants)

Julia Caroline Washburn⁴, b. Feb. 1, 1853; m. Horace Waite, Nov. 24, 1873.

CHILDREN:

1. George Franklin Waite⁵, m. Edith Abigail Brown.
Son: Franklin Temple Waite⁶
(six children)
Carol Waite⁷, m. Vaughan, living in Rochester,
Mass., 1968.

Emily B. Washburn³, b. May 9, 1822, China; d. Oct. 28, 1850; m. Edward B. Taylor, July 31, 1842 (d. Nov. 27, 1845).

CHILDREN:

1. Willis W. Taylor, d. Sept. 16, 1846.
2. Charles Edward, d. Sept. 3, 1850.

Charles Francis (Frank) Washburn³, b. June 6, 1826, China, Me.; m. Sophia McKenzie of St. George, N.B.

CHILDREN:

1. Carrie May)
2. Cate Alice) Triplets
3. Lyman B., b. d. July 22, 1926)
- (4. Frank Louis, b. April 26, 1855.
- Twins (5. Sara Albenia, b. April 27, 1855; d. Feb. 7, 1932, widow of
Walter Pulman Tarr.
6. George Hector, b. Feb. 22, 1857.
7. Annie Laurie, b. Nov. 25, 1858; d. Sept. 4, 1933, widow of
Ernest H. Lee

W O R T H I N G

Jacob Worthing of Candia, N.H., (brother of William Worthing), b. 1765; d. December 17, 1836, at Branch Mills, Me.; m., Elizabeth Healey settled at Branch Mills, Me., about 1794.

CHILDREN:

1. Lewis, b. Feb. 3, 1789; m. (1st); m. (2nd) Louisa Davis.
2. Jacob, Jr., b. June 19, 1791; m. Joanna
3. Polly, b. March 9, 1793; m. Stephen Longfellow, April 2, 1808.
4. Samuel, b. March 29, 1795; m. Sally Towle.
5. David, b. Oct. 9, 1797; m. Louisiana Crane of Corinth, Me.
(dau. of Elijah Jr. and Mary Fisher Crane)
6. Jonathan, b. December 31, 1800.
7. Lovina, b. Feb. 1, 1802, d. young.
8. Louisa, b. January 23, 1804; m. David Greely.
9. Hiram, b. Sept. 30, 1806; m. Alley Marden.
10. Hillman, b. Oct. 31, 1808; m. Julia Tibbetts.
11. Hartson, b. June 27, 1811; m. Seviah Spiller.
12. Charles, b. Sept. 15, 1814; m. Mary H. Parmenter, Nov. 16, 1840.

Lewis Worthing, son of Jacob and Elizabeth (Healey) Worthing; b. Feb. 8, 1789; d. Jan. 29, 1875; m. (1st) Mary (d. March 30, 1822, aet 35 yrs.); m. (2nd) April 18, 1824, Louisa Davis of Montville, Me. (d. Feb. 28, 1874, aet 75 yrs.).

CHILDREN: (Lewis and Mary Worthing)

1. Otis, b. Jan. 3, 1811; d. Feb. 11, 1874; m., Caro A. Spring (dau. of Otis and Mehitable Spring; d. March 4, 1872, aet 33 yrs.)
2. Mary, b. April 20, 1814.

CHILDREN: (Lewis and Louisa (Davis) Worthing)

3. Elizabeth A., b. Feb. 15, 1825.
4. Ruel H., b. Jan. 13, 1828; m. Clara A.
CHILDREN: 1. Kate J. b. 1852.
2. Willie R., b. 1857.
5. Diantha, b. Sept. 15, 1831.
6. Russell S., b. July 4, 1834; Co. G, Me. Inf.

Jacob Worthing, son of Jacob and Elizabeth (Dearborn) Worthing, b. June 19, 1791; d. Sept. 11, 1859 in Branch Mills; m. Joanna, (d. Nov. 22, 1871, aet 72 yrs. 10 mos. 27 dys.)

CHILDREN:

1. Rosanna, b. March 22, 1818.
2. Sarah Jane, b. Dec. 31,
3. Hannah, b. May 28,
4. Wilder H. , b. Jan. 26, 1826; d. Aug. 28, 1900; m. (1st) Sarah C. (d. Feb. 13, 1883, aet 50 yrs. 2 mos. 19 dys.) m. (2nd) Eliza E. Estes, March 1, 1885.
5. Charles W., b. March 19, 1828; d. Dec. 27, 1864. (Civil War)
6. Marshall, b. March 3, 1831.
7. Albina, b. June 22, 1833.
8. Eli L., b. Dec. 22, 1836; d. Feb. 15, 1913; m. Etta T. Jones (b. 1845; d. March 2, 1928) He was a blacksmith by trade.

CHILDREN:

1. Nellie E., b. 1864, m. Charles E. Bridgham, Worcester, Mass., Dec. 25, 1883.
2. Sadie M., b. 1878, m. Robinson, Worcester, Mass.
9. Jacob,
10. Victoria.
11. Arnold, b. Nov. 4, 1842.

Major Samuel H. Worthing, son of Jacob and Elizabeth (Healey) Worthing; b. March 23, 1795; d. Nov. 30, 1869, at Branch Mills; m. Aug. 6, 1820, Sally Towle (d. May 6, 1874, aet 80 yrs.). He served during the War of 1812.

CHILDREN:

1. Harriet E., b. Aug. 21, 1821.
2. Adaline, b. June 23, 1823; d. Nov. 28, 1823.
3. Ensign L., b. March 29, 1825; d. Oct. 18, 1878; m. Emily F., (d. Aug. 18, 1863, aet 32 yrs.); m. (2nd) Dec. 31, 1863, Eunice C. Dinsmore of China, Me.

CHILDREN:

1. Eugene M. 1860.
2. Augusta A.
3. Everett D.
4. Sally Ann, b. Sept. 7, 1827.
5. Helen, b. July 27, 1830.

David Worthing son of Jacob and Elizabeth (Healey) Worthing, b. Oct. 9, 1797; d. March 28, 1885 at Branch Mills, Me.; m. Nov. 20, 1823, Louisiana Crane of Corinth, Me. (b. Oct. 29, 1804 at Eddington, Me. d. July 1, 1890).

CHILDREN:

1. Elizabeth H., b. July 13, 1824.
2. Almeda, b. Aug. 12, 1826.
3. George F., b. Aug. 12, 1828; m. Hannah Palmer (1829 - 1921) d. 1909.
4. Thornton A., b. Sept. 20, 1830; m. (? 1st) Sprague; m. (? 2nd) Lorian Choate (1827 - 1905)
5. Livonia A., b. Sept. 24, 1833.
6. Loela A., b. March 6, 1836; m. Dr. W. Clough.
7. Georgianna, b. Jan. 24, 1839; d. Oct. 17, 1841.
8. Alfred W., b. 1/16/1843 at Palermo; d. 10/27/21.

Hiram Worthing, son of Jacob and Elizabeth (Healey) Worthing; b. Sept. 30, 1806; d. Oct. 24, 1889, in Branch Mills; m. Alley Marden (b. Sept. 8, 1804 in Palermo, Me.; d. Aug. 31, 1873, dau. of Stephen and Abigail Marden)

CHILDREN:

1. Pembroke S., b. May 20, 1835; d. Aug. 18, 1907.
2. Mary Roxanna, b. July 23, 1836; m. Charles E. Dowe.
3. Cassandra M., b. July 16, 1843; m., Jan. 1, 1868, Edward Nelson.

Hilman Worthing, son of Jacob and Elizabeth (Healey) Worthing; b. Oct. 31, 1808; d. May 6, 1879, at Branch Mills; m. Julia Tibbetts of Exeter, Me. (d. Dec. 28, 1890, aet 71 yrs. 1 mo.)

CHILDREN:

1. Abbie, b. April 2, 1842; m. Silas Crowsett, July 17, 1864.

2. Augustine, b. April 12, 1844; d. at Parole Hosp., Md., April 11, 1866; Co. K, 14th Me. (Civil War)
3. Frank E., b. April 20, 1846; d. 1921; m. March 19, 1871, Sarah Snell, of China, (1847 - 1924)
4. Fred E., b. Aug. 22, 1856; d. 1931; m. Helen M. Worthing, (1865 - 1958); m. Oct. 8, 1881

Hartson Worthing, son of Jacob and Elizabeth (Healey) Worthing; b. June 27, 1811; d. May 26, 1876; m. Seviah Spiller (b. May 12, 1815; d. Feb. 26, 1894; dau. of John and Polly Spiller).

CHILDREN:

1. Lucia, b. April 18, 1838; d. Oct. 9, 1876.
2. Ora O., b. Sept. 20, 1839; d. June 22, 1840.
3. Elmer, b. May 18, 1841; d. May 4, 1903; (Civil War).
4. Roscoe L., b. May 16, 1851; d. August 21, 1879; m. June 16, 1879, Addie Whitehouse of Palermo.

Charles Worthing, son of Jacob and Elizabeth (Healey) Worthing; b. Sept. 15, 1814; d. 1890 in Branch Mills; m. Mary H. (1816 - 1880).

CHILDREN:

1. Caroline Augusta, b. May 26, 1838.
2. James Franklin, b. Feb. 23, 1841.

Frank E. Worthing, son of Hilman and Julia (Tibbetts) Worthing; b. April 20, 1846; d. in 1921 in Branch Mills; m. Sarah D. Snell of China, Me. (1847 - 1924).

CHILDREN:

1. Clarence A., b. Feb. 16, 1872; d. 1942; m. Caroline Parmenter (b. 1875) of China, Me.

Fred Worthing, (Hilman, Jacob) b. Aug. 22, 1856, son of Hilman and Julia (Tibbetts) Worthing; d. 1931 in Branch Mills; m. Oct. 8, 1881, Helen M. Worthing (1865 - 1958)

CHILDREN:

1. Flossie, b. March 10, 1883; m. Will Jones.
2. Don W., b. Feb. 15, 1885 (Cemetery stone has it March 18, 1886); d. May 24, 1850; m. Edna L. Osgood, (b. Apr. 29, 1889; d. Sept. 3, 1958).

Alfred Wallace, son of David and Louisiana (Crane) Worthing; b. Jan. 16, 1843 at Palermo, Me.; d. Oct. 27, 1921 at Palermo; m. May 28, 1873, Emma Bartlett Crommett (dau. of Dorothy and Joshua Crommett; b. June 21, 1849 at China, Me.; d. Oct. 24, 1923 at Palermo, Me.)

CHILDREN:

1. Martha Winifred, b. Feb. 6, 1876; d. Sept. 23, 1971; m. James Roscoe Bowler Dinsmore (see Dinsmore).
2. Harry, b. 1878; d. 1964; m. (1st) Eva Chadwick; m. (2) Harriet Clark.
Child: (1st wife)
Arline, m. Snow.

Corrections and Additions

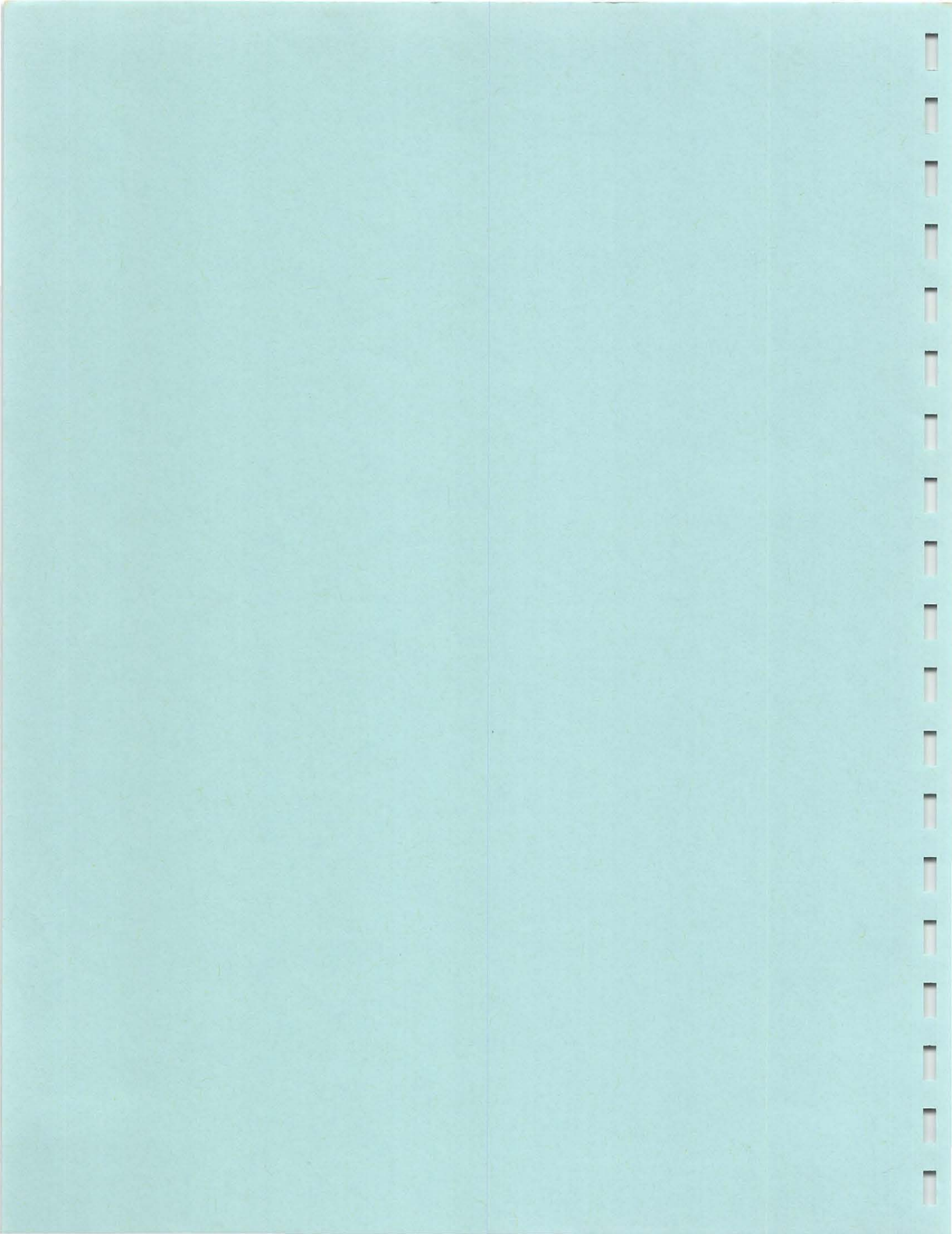
Book I History

- List of illustrations, 1.2, should read: China landscapes by Herman Roessler
- p. 1, l. 36, should read: missions among the Indians
- p. 3, l. 45, should read: reminders of the Indian tenancy
- p. 5, ftnt 2, l. 8, should read: taxes were insufficient;
- p. 9, l. 20, should read: family of small children
- p. 13, ftnt 4, should read: Ibid., p. 83.
- p. 16, ftnt 2, l. 1, should read: one year--1815--the post was held
- p. 18, cont. ftnt, ll. 12-13, should read: and Maine officially became a state on March 15. See Hatch, Maine, pp. 107-165.
- p. 18, ftnt 1, l. 5, should read: Records of the Town of China, Vol. 1, n.p.
- p. 27, l. 15, should read: and Abraham Burrill)
- p. 27, ftnt 1, should read: See Map 4, opposite.
- p. 30, ftnt 2, l. 1, should read: also owned by the Mains,
- p. 32, ftnt 1, l. 1, should read: Towne, late of China,
- p. 33, ftnt 1, l. 2, should read: directors of Camp Ney-a-ti,
- Plate 10, upper right picture, should be captioned: China Academy, 1828-1887
- p. 164, ftnt 1, l. 3, should read: (see Map 6, opposite);
- Plate 15, three bank documents should be credited: Courtesy of Ralph Austin
- p. 215, cont. ftnt, l. 1, should read: after several reorganizations,

Book II Genealogy

- p. 2 Edith Pearle Austin m. George Arthur Wicke
- p. 4 same correction
- p. 2 add to information on Percy Gay Austin: (drowned in China Lake).
- p. 85 add to children of Abram McLaughlin and Deborah Ward:
8. Susan W., b. Aug. 17, 1830; d. Apr. 15, 1912, at Belfast, Me.; m. 1830 Ebenezer Newell, Jr.
9. Betsy W., b.; d. Oct. 13, 1899; m. Jan. 9, 1842, Wm. Mosher, Jr.
- p. 86 Capt. William Mosher d. Apr. 15, 1854
- p. 86 William Mosher, Jr. d. Jan. 11, 1876, aet 59 yrs. 5 mos.
William Mosher, Jr. m. Betsey W. McLaughlin (dau. of Abram and Deborah (Ward) McLaughlin)
- p. 86 James E. Mosher (son of William Mosher, Jr., and Betsey W. (McLaughlin) Mosher) m. (1st) Juliette Shibles of Belfast, Me.; m. (2nd) Aravesta E. Pinkham

- p. 88 add to children of Elisha M. Mosher
3. Edward H., b. Aug. 17, 1853; d. 1928; m. Viola M. Barton (dau. of Theodore and Hannah Quimby Barton; b. Oct. 26, 1855; d. May 5, 1928).
Children:
Maude M. Mosher, b. Oct. 10, 1877; d. 1947.
 4. Hattie P., b. June 28, 1854; d. Dec. 1, 1891, at Belfast; m. Loretto Hayford of Belfast.
Children:
Harry M.
True
Richard H.
Ralph
Marian Edith, m. Benjamin R. Mosher, Jr.
(grandson of Capt. William Mosher)
Harold and Hugh
Hattie Pierce
 5. Eliza C., b. Apr. 1, 1869.
- p. 88 James E. Mosher
m. (1st) Juliette Shibles (dau. of Alexander and Julia (Maddocks) Shibles of Belfast; b. Aug. 6, 1840; d. Dec. 4, 1869 at Belfast); m. (2nd) Aravesta E. Pinkham (dau. of Isaac and Cynthia (Pullen) Pinkham; b. Aug. 18, 1852; d. June 12, 1910).
- p. 88 Children of James and Juliette:
1. Carrie Mabel, b. Dec. 9, 1867, at Weeks Mills; d. Dec. 3, 1927, at Belfast; m. Manus L. Wentworth of Waldo.
 2. Ralph Henry, b. Sept. 13, 1869, at Belfast; d. Jan. 12, 1944; m. Elva Maud Shorey.
- Children of James and Aravesta:
3. Etta May, b. June 13, 1875; d. Feb. 11, 1958; m. Burton Giddings of Augusta.
 5. Ethel Isabel, b. Aug. 18, 1881; d. Jan. 10, 1961; m. (1st) Dr. Lincoln; m. (2nd) Franklin F. Noyes; m. (3rd) Francis A. Shaffer.
 7. Hugh Pinkham, b. June 30, 1893; d. Apr. 18, 1970; m. Dec. 14, 1912, Arolyn M. Hewett.
- p. 114 Japheth Washburn m. Priscilla Coombs Sept. 28, 1768
- p. 115 Zalmuna Washburn



1984 EDITION

CORRECTIONS AND EXTENSIONS

Acknowledgements

In preparing this revised edition of China, Maine: Bicentennial History, the editorial committee has again drawn on many people in China for help. Special thanks go to Peg Darlow, Vi Rollins, Evelyn Wicke, Letha Wilson, and Susie, Jamie, and Annie Kenney for their help with the tedious job of indexing the 1975 edition. Many residents have also provided information. The editorial committee is especially grateful to Mrs. Wicke, who has shared her research on the Jones family, China Friends, and related matters; to Bill and Eleanor Foster, still the experts on the China Village area; and to town clerk Joyce Cowing, who can answer questions on almost any subject.

The revised edition is sponsored by the China Historical Society, initiated while Nelson Bailey was president and continued into Jeffrey Zimmerman's term.

The editorial committee:

Robert W. Reed, chairman
Mary M. Grow
Marion T. Van Strien

CHINA, MAINE: BICENTENNIAL HISTORY

CORRECTIONS AND EXTENSIONS

The following material includes a few corrections to the 1975 text, suggested by people who read it after publication, and summaries of some of the major happenings in China between 1975 and early 1984. Most of the summaries were written by Mary M. Grow. They are based primarily on two sources, China town reports and Miss Grow's files, collected in the course of her work as China correspondent for the Central Maine Morning Sentinel. Page references at the beginning of each section refer to the 1975 edition.

pp. 2 and 3 early history

The late Dean Ernest C. Marriner suggested that reference to the heirs and assigns of Messrs. Bois, Brattle, Tyng, and Winslow would be more accurate.

p. 4 first settlers

Frances Clark of South China has provided additional information on her ancestors' move to China from Nova Scotia, where they had lived since leaving Nantucket in 1763. From Clarks by Georgia Clark of Boston, Massachusetts, she quotes the following brief extract from an old diary:

Sailed from Nova Scotia, Nov. 13, 1773, Saturday;
arrived in the Kennebec the 16th, got as far as the
Nantucket House in Poloulsboro the 20th, got up as
far as Smith's Cobossie the 21th, got up as far as
the mills, and the ice came down and tore us very
bad, but we got in shore and got our families into

1. Private letter to Marion Van Strien, Jan. 24, 1976.

Mr. Philbrook's house and staid until March 13, 1774. Moved back as far as Getchell's Camp in Vassalboro; and April 13th moved our families onto our own lots in Jones Plantation.

Miss Clark's sources say that Jones Plantation was named for the surveyor, John "Black" Jones, not for any early settler. They give the following order of settlement: Ephriam Clark with his father and mother, Jonathan and Miriam (Worth) Clark, settled on lots 39 and 40 on the east side of the lake. These lots, nominally 400 acres, actually had 600 acres, as the east shore curved. Jonathan Jr. and Edmund settled on lots 9 and 8 on the west side of the lake. Andrew Clark soon after located on what is now South China Village. George Fish and his wife Jerusha (Clark) settled on the east side of the lake near Ephriam; George Fish and Ephriam Clark built the first sawmill in town, on Clark Brook.

Miss Clark goes on to repeat what her great-uncle Albert Clark said about Andrew Clark, son of Jonathan Sr. and Miriam, who was born in Nantucket Aug. 20, 1747, and settled in South China:

His family were Peter, who left home quite young, went to western New York and never was heard from after the War of 1812; and Abigail, who married Moses Bassett. Their children were George, Jonathan, and Octavius.

Andrew's wife became insane, finally running away into the woods and was never afterward seen. Some time after a skeleton was found near Sandy River, supposed to be hers.

Miss Clark continues:

This is what I think: there must have been only the two children, Peter and Abigail. I have no records of who his (Andrew's) wife was or when he died, so I don't know where he is buried.

Abigail that married Moses Bassett lived over on my road (Route 32) where the Skillins now live. That was the old Bassett farm. Abigail must be buried in the Morrill cemetery or down here in the Clark cemetery.

My father (Charles Clark) used to tell me that Andrew Clark built his frame house in South China Village before my house was built. That would be before 1789, as my house was built in 1789 after they had lived on the shore of the lake down back of the Clark cemetery for 15 years in a log house.

The cemetery came off my farm. When they had to enlarge the cemetery, my grandfather Sanford gave them the land south off from his farm.

My father also told me many times that Andrew Clark's house was one of the houses that burned when they had the great fire in South China Village (in April 1872). My father always called it the great fire.

Andrew Clark may have come over here and lived with his daughter Abigail in his old age. I don't know, but I don't see anyone else he would have had to live with.

p. 4 settlement -- bicentennial celebration, 1974

In 1974, China celebrated the 200th anniversary of the settling of the town. Plans for the occasion began in 1971 with the creation of a Bicentennial Planning Commission. Its membership changed over the three years that it existed: listed in 1974 were Peter Mead, chairman; Ralph Austin, coin chairman; Nelson Bailey, program chairman; Ronald Gullifer, Dorothy Lajousky, Eileen Williams, Myrtle Austin, secretary, and Elizabeth Corkum, treasurer. This group, with the help of many other local volunteers, organized a series of celebratory events running from mid-July through mid-August 1974. They included a July 13 parade and firemen's muster; a July 20 Commemoration Day with an antique car show, R. B. Hall Band concert, public supper, auction of silver bicentennial coins, and evening program; a July 21 open house in China public and historic buildings; a concert by the Bonyuns; two Sunday afternoons of sailboat races and other aquatic events; a barbershop concert; and a bridge party. In addition, Washburn-Brann-Ward American Legion Post and Auxiliary sponsored a Bicentennial Ball, the China Baptist Church sponsored a gospel concert, and other organizations worked the bicentennial theme into traditional events like the South China church fair and barbecue and the China Village fire department auction.

According to the report in the 1974 China town report, the bicentennial celebration cost almost \$1,900. At the 1972 and 1973 annual town meetings, voters approved \$500 appropriations for the observance. Additional funding came from the sale of commemorative coins (designed by Ralph Austin and Eileen Williams), bottles, plates, wooden nickels, and stationery, from public suppers, and from the China Historical Society and other groups.

p. 25 early houses

the farmhouse on the Clark Road off Route 32 North where Frances Clark now lives; she says it was built in 1789.

p. 28 town lines

The exact location of the China-Winslow town line south of Route 137 was finally settled in February 1981, by three commissioners appointed by Superior Court Judge Daniel Wathen. Commissioners Edward Wood, Herbert Doten, and Lloyd Rowe unanimously decided that the line should follow the middle of the outlet stream from Route 137 to Mud Pond, and then the east shore of the pond, as China had argued. Winslow had argued for a straight-line boundary east of the pond, which would leave Winslow owning some land on the east shore. Each side had a rationale for its description. China cited the 1818 Massachusetts legislative act drawing the town line "by Mud Pond."¹ Winslow relied on a 1962 decision by Maine judge (later Chief Justice) Armand Dufresne, in a suit between two individual landowners, in which the judge said the boundary line was identified by man-made monuments east of Mud Pond. The town line was supposed to be the boundary line between two properties, so about 40 acres on the east shore of the pond were claimed by two people, one paying taxes to China and one paying taxes to Winslow. In 1979, the Maine legislature considered and narrowly defeated a bill sponsored by Winslow representative Donald Carter which would have established the line Winslow favored. The lack of legislative action led to the appeal to Superior Court and Judge Wathen's appointment of commissioners. Whether the land involved was worth the time and money spent on legal and administrative proceedings was a question that was left unanswered during the settlement process.

pp. 37 lake recreation, 65-67 water level, and 89-91 Kennebec Water District

In 1980, Lee and Ann Austin and Ann's sister, Ruth Hanning, and brother and sister-in-law, Don and Lorna Miller, bought Willow Beach Camps from the Nelson Baileys, after the latter had run the resort for 44 years. The Austins rebuilt the lodge and dining room, making a two-story building, added new water heaters for the cabins and new plumbing and electrical systems for the whole camp, and improved the waterfront area. In the summer of 1983, they were renting out 19 cabins, Mrs. Austin said.

Candlewood Camps remain in the Adams family as of the end of 1983. For the summers of 1982 and 1983, Candlewood offered daily excursions around China Lake on the Robin Pearl (named after Albert and Muriel Adams' daughters Robin Lee and Nancy Pearl), a 23½ foot semi-enclosed Chris Craft cruiser. The boat was built in 1936 for L. L. Bean and used on Moosehead Lake. Abandoned later, it came to rest in Belgrade, where Clayton (Cec) Craig of Vassalboro bought and restored it and arranged the tours with the Adams.

1. 1975 edition, p. 26.

Those same summers saw a revival of sailing on the lake. The China Lake Sailing Association, organized by Tom Hicks, Fred Greene, and others, sponsored a series of weekend races, handicapping entries that ranged from 13-foot Lasers to Rhodes 19's. On June 26 and 27, 1982, the Sailing Association, working with the China Four Seasons Club and the China Area Chamber of Commerce, sponsored a laser regatta headquartered at Willow Beach. Eight boats, some from the area and some from Massachusetts, ran a series of races in mostly light winds, with Sally Beck of Fairfield coming in first in the overall standings and Fred Greene and his son Tim second and third, respectively. The weekend events also included a trade fair sponsored by the Chamber of Commerce and rowboat races using two locally-made types of rowboats, Whitehalls built by Harry Sylvester of Albion and Gazelles built by Tom Sturtevant of China.

In the 1980's, the quality and quantity of China Lake water again became public issues, involving two town governments, several private organizations, and many local landowners. Several summers' algae blooms indicated too-high levels of nutrients, especially phosphorus and nitrogen. On Aug. 29, 1983, Department of Environmental Protection biologist Barbara Welch warned a public meeting that water quality in China Lake might be deteriorating. By DEP measurements, she said, phosphorus levels in the lake were "borderline," meaning they sometimes reached or exceeded the 15 parts per billion (ppb) level which is considered likely to trigger excessive algae growth. In the west basin of the lake, which is the Kennebec Water District's water supply, Ms. Welch noted that water quality fluctuations might be an early warning sign of deterioration. Although some area residents remained unconvinced that the situation was any worse than in past years, China selectmen were concerned enough to call for creation of a China Lake Quality Committee. About 20 people expressed interest in working on or with such a committee. Initial meetings in November 1983 led to the selection of a seven-member executive committee consisting of Larry Nash, Norman Dwelley (later replaced by Henry Dillenbeck), Betsy Fitzgerald, Mike Godreau, Bill Powell, Dana DiBiase, and Charles Merrill.

The water level in China Lake is controlled by the outlet dam in East Vassalboro. The dam is owned by the town of Vassalboro. Its management, Vassalboro town officials were saying in 1983, is limited by the flowage rights of downstream residents, including all landowners who have a right not to be flooded out, and especially Herman Masse and his son Kenneth, proprietors of Masse's mill and the East Vassalboro Water Co., who need a minimum flow to avoid stagnation. High water in the spring of 1983 put the old causeway near China Village, the Pine Point Road and several other private roads, and numerous lakeshore homes and camps under water. Although unusually heavy rains were the main cause (they also damaged some of China's gravel roads), some people thought Vassalboro could have opened the dam sooner, and China officials protested to Vassalboro officials.

Meanwhile, the Maine legislature in 1983 passed a law giving the Department of Environmental Protection authority to set water levels on lakes controlled by dams. In the fall of 1983, more than the required 50 China lakeshore property owners petitioned the DEP to begin

the process of establishing a China Lake water level. The first step, DEP officials said, is a public hearing, scheduled for March 1984, snowed out, and rescheduled in April. Simultaneously, in November 1983 Vassalboro selectmen expressed interest in selling the dam, a proposition which stirred up the China selectmen, the Masses, and the Kennebec Water District, among others.

One of the others was the China Lake Fisheries Association, a group organized in South China about 1979 whose goal is to improve the fishing in China Lake. In the spring of 1983, the Fisheries Association replaced the fish screens¹ at the outlet dam, which had been taken out sometime in the late 1970's. This action raised more inter-town controversy: Outlet Stream water users claim that when the screens are clogged with algae, leaves, or other debris, water flow is reduced. The job of raking the fish screens was first undertaken by Fisheries Association volunteers. In the fall of 1983 the Vassalboro public works crew did it briefly, until a Vassalboro resident was hired. China and Vassalboro officials agreed that each town meeting warrant would include an article asking voters to appropriate \$300 toward maintenance of the fish screens, the first time China voters have seen the familiar request since their 1979 meeting (they passed it without discussion).

To help them decide what to do about the dam, Vassalboro selectmen in late 1983 set up an East Vassalboro dam committee, consisting of Vassalboro selectman Montie Cunningham Jr., one China official (selectman Jeffrey Zimmerman until the March town election, then selectman Lee Austin), one Fisheries Association representative (Rick Ferran), one Kennebec Water District representative, and one representative of downstream landowners (Kenneth Masse). The committee held several amicable meetings in the winter of 1983-84. As they planned for their June town meeting, Vassalboro selectmen did not discuss asking voters' permission to sell the outlet dam.

p. 44 post offices -- Weeks Mills

Weeks Mills does have a post office building now, built in the winter of 1975-76, in defiance of cold weather and snow. The post office moved into the new building on Jan. 22, 1976; an open house was held Feb. 29. The Weeks Mills post office is a short distance west of the village center, on the Tyler Road.

1. 1975 edition, p. 91.

p. 54 town manager

In January 1979 Ira Singer accepted a job as city manager in Hallowell. China selectmen appointed as his successor David O. Cole, then 26. Mr. Cole had a 1977 Masters in Public Administration from the University of Maine at Orono; he was assistant town manager in Baileyville before coming to China in February 1979. He served until June 1982, when he became town manager of Lincoln. In his place the selectmen appointed Adele Holmes, a Colby College graduate with a major in German who had worked in the China town office for five years. Her job was untitled until Lynn Meader was hired to fill it and billed as administrative assistant.

In his final report to the town in the 1978 town report, Mr. Singer expressed his appreciation to the townspeople and warned them that the scenery and the way of life many of them seek to preserve would attract many more families:

The Town will soon be facing decisions in all aspects of expanding municipal services to meet changing requirements of a growing population. Although some do not realize it, on an adjusted basis, China has one of the lowest tax rates in Kennebec County.

This could easily change if spending for new services outstrips the growing revenue from new property, particularly if the Town continues to experience residential growth only. It is absolutely essential that balanced growth be encouraged to help China maintain a broad tax base capable of supporting the costs of expanded services.

...

It is obvious to this writer that the Town of China is undergoing growth unparalleled in its history, and I would hope that townspeople will encourage the Planning Board and Selectmen to help shape your future by guiding and directing this change according to your wishes.

Two years later, in the 1980 town report, Mr. Cole seconded Mr. Singer's observations:

Probably the most significant event to occur in 1980 was the national census which confirmed that the Town of China was experiencing very rapid growth. From 1970 to 1980 the Town's population increased 57.9%, or from 1850 to 2916. Most of the growth occurred in residential structures with only minimal increase in commercial structures. Rapid residential growth that is not balanced by commercial or industrial growth usually results in increasing tax rates as demands for services increase faster than revenue generated by new property taxes. This, coupled with continued high inflation, will make it very difficult over the next ten years to maintain or increase the level of services and still retain reasonably low taxes.

p. 83 town house

In September 1982, under the presidency of Nelson W. Bailey, the China Historical Society launched a drive to raise \$10,000 to put a basement under the historic town house, which had been sitting on granite slabs close to the ground. The purpose was twofold: to preserve the building, and to provide space for fire-proof vaults for town and Historical Society records and a meeting room that would be larger than the town office, smaller than the China Elementary School gym, and conveniently located for most residents. After several changes of plans to conform to the contours of the ledge under the building and to state regulations on fire safety and access, in early September 1983 China contractors Dennis and Nelson Harding moved the town house east by about its own width and set it on a new concrete basement with a ground-level entrance on the north. The Historical Society had meanwhile raised more than \$8,000 toward the project, and at the March 1983 town meeting voters approved an \$8,000 contribution.

p. 89 volunteer fire departments

On Feb. 14, 1983, the three China fire departments and the Vassalboro department inaugurated a new fire warning system for the two towns, replacing the red network telephones that had alerted firemen for many years. China and Vassalboro shared the costs of installing the new radio system, costs which included building a transmitting tower in Vassalboro -- at a June 28, 1982, special town meeting, China voters appropriated \$6,000 toward the project. Under the new system, China Telephone Co. subscribers can dial 911 -- an innovation provided without charge by the company -- to reach the Kennebec County Sheriff's Office in Augusta. All other residents of the two towns dial the office's Augusta number. The sheriff's dispatcher then alerts the appropriate fire department members by radio, activating scanners and the belt pagers that the firemen now carry.

The sheriff's dispatcher also handles emergency calls for Windsor Ambulance and the China Rescue Squad. Windsor Ambulance, which China has helped support through town meeting appropriations since 1974 (\$2,000 that year; \$900 annually for a few years in the mid-1970's, then rising to \$4,000 in 1983 and \$4,400 in 1984), serves most of the town most of the time, although Waterville-based Delta Ambulance also responds to calls from China.

China Rescue was organized in 1976 and first funded at the 1976 town meeting. An organization of volunteers trained at least in first aid, with at least one Emergency Medical Technician on its roster, the Rescue Squad provides immediate emergency medical care, but is not licensed to transport victims. Supplementing town funds by donations and fund-raising events, the Rescue Squad buys emergency equipment and supplies. In 1978, the Squad purchased a 1971 Dodge van. By the end of

1983, members were spending as much time underneath the van as in it, and did not expect it to pass its next inspection. A fund drive begun in the spring of 1983 raised \$4,000 toward a new van, and in the fall Rescue Squad members approached the China selectmen seeking town help. At the same time, they found that Wiscasset had an ambulance for sale. Impressed by the China volunteers' zeal, the Wiscasset selectmen sold them the ambulance, worth an estimated \$20,000, for \$3,500. The Rescue Squad had it relettered and in late January 1984 put it into service.

pp. 96-97 planning board

At the March 1976 town meeting and again at a May 25, 1976, special meeting, voters rejected requests to continue to pay dues to the North Kennebec Regional Planning Commission. China has not since renewed its membership, although various planning board members have occasionally endorsed the idea. China is still, in 1984, a member of the Maine Municipal Association.

The period from 1975 to 1983 saw major changes in local attitudes toward land use planning and in the composition and role of the planning board.¹ In June 1975, the planning board began working on a comprehensive plan for China, gathering data, making maps, and surveying residents to ask what they would like to see the town become. The board's report in the 1976 town report summarizes some of the findings. Criticism of the comprehensive plan at public hearings in February 1977 led to the board's recommending no action on it at the March 1977 town meeting; voters complied. While the planning board considered revisions, a Concerned Citizens Committee drafted and presented an alternative land use ordinance, which voters accepted on Sept. 19, 1977. One change, which took effect in March 1978, made the planning board an elected rather than appointed body, establishing four planning board zones and having the chairman elected from the town at large.

Because of the duties defined in the 1977 ordinance and the feeling that townspeople were opposed to land use controls, the planning board spent most of the next three years hearing requests for permits, usually in the shoreland area, and granting variances (exemptions from provisions of the ordinance). In 1981, however, the State Planning Office informed China that an elected planning board should not be granting variances. After long discussion and consultation with legal experts, the board recommended to the March 1982 town meeting ordinance amendments which essentially shifted the variance-granting power to the appeals board (which is appointed by the selectmen).

1. The events of this tumultuous period evoked violent emotion, from which the author, whose mother was a planning board member until the fall of 1977, does not pretend to be immune. The account which follows is therefore taken as much as possible from town reports and not from memory.

During 1982 board members developed a multi-family housing ordinance to regulate construction of apartments and condominiums. The ordinance was enacted at the March 1983 town meeting.

Voters at that meeting also appropriated \$3,000 for a resource inventory, to be supervised by a local committee including representation from the planning and appeals boards and other town bodies, and run by experienced planners from the Center for Human Ecology Studies in Freeport, with a hired local coordinator and a team of college students doing the actual legwork. During the next nine months, the Center for Human Ecology Studies changed its name to the Institute for Community Service and then lost its grant funding, at the end of 1983 announcing that it could no longer support the China project. Ironically, on Oct. 30, 1983, about the time ICS's funding failed, the Maine Sunday Telegram's Volunteer Clearinghouse columnists wrote of the China project: "If the outcome is as successful as its promise, it will become a model for other Maine towns wishing to develop long-range plans or to solve other problems in an inexpensive, non-traditional manner."

In China, meanwhile, local coordinator Hartley Palleschi, a University of Maine at Orono graduate, and a superintending committee chaired by selectman Jeffrey Zimmerman supervised a handful of college students from Colby and UMO and teams of local high school students. The college students prepared maps showing China's natural and man-made resources (the 1975-76 planning board had done similar maps, but the updating was revealing, especially as it showed the number of new houses in China in eight years) and collected information. The high school students interviewed local residents, chosen as much as possible to include proportionate samples of different age, occupational, and other significant groups, asking them their views on China's past, present, and future. Principal concerns, they found, had changed little since 1976. As summarized at a December 14, 1983, meeting, they included a desire to preserve China's rural character and protect China Lake and the need for more local employment and more public recreation.

pp. 97-98 solid waste disposal

The cost of disposing of China's trash has risen significantly in recent years, from \$7,483.14 in 1975 to \$22,650.79 in 1982, partly as population grows and partly as state regulations tighten, forbidding burning and mandating thorough and frequent covering of trash. By 1983, planning board and selectmen were looking at future trash disposal alternatives. There were no reliable estimates on the remaining life of the dump on the Alder Park Road; but a consensus seemed to have developed that when it was full, opening a new landfill in China would not be an economically feasible alternative. At a series of meetings in the summer and fall of 1983, China boards heard presentations on other methods, of which two seemed practical: having China's trash trucked to an out-of-town landfill, or joining the proposed incinerator system being

planned by Waterville and Winslow with the aid of Elery Keene of the North Kennebec Regional Planning Commission. Either method would require collecting China's trash either through a municipal collection system or at a transfer station. Consequently, the March 1984 town meeting warrant included two independent but related articles, one asking voters to appropriate \$7,000 for designing and getting approval for a transfer station (with construction and construction costs to come later), and the other asking whether they would authorize the selectmen to negotiate with the Waterville-Winslow Joint Solid Waste Disposal Corporation. Voters approved both articles.

p. 99 recreation committee

In addition to superintending Thurston Park,¹ the recreation committee's activities to 1984 have included improving the boat landing and swimming area at the head of China Lake and the picnic area at the Narrows, and channeling funds to various youth sports and to snowmobile trail maintenance. In 1981, the committee sponsored two evening public lectures, one on wild flowers and one on canning and freezing produce. In 1982 it began sponsoring aerobic exercise classes, put on by the Waterville Y.

From 1978 on, responding to the 1976 planning board survey finding that residents wanted more recreational facilities, specifically a tennis court, the committee worked on plans for a central town recreation area. At the March 1982 town meeting, the committee offered voters a choice of four proposals. All would locate a recreational facility by the China Elementary School; all were to be funded 50% from the federal land and water conservation fund, administered through the Maine Department of Conservation. The most ambitious plan, for which the town's share of the \$115,650 cost would have been \$40,825, included three playing fields, tennis courts, a physical fitness trail, and playground improvements. Other plans eliminated various elements, until the town's share of the \$66,440 plan (which left out the tennis courts) would have been down to \$16,220. At town meeting, a motion to raise the \$40,825 was discussed and defeated, and after some parliamentary arguments no action was taken on any of the alternative figures.

1. 1984 edition, pp. 23-24.

p. 119 footnote

William Foster says that Chadwick Hill students were not sent to the China Village school; people who went there at the time remember no influx from the other end of town. He surmises that in 1936, some of the former Chadwick Hill students might have gone to the Plains and South China, while others might have ended their education. The jump in enrollment at the China Village school he attributes to natural fluctuations influenced by birth rates and the number of students held back to repeat a year.

p. 137 China Elementary School

In September 1975 China did reinstate a music program, vocal and instrumental, and add physical education. To teach these subjects, the school committee hired Iris Fields, who holds a B.A. from Barrington College and a Bachelors of Music from the New England Conservatory of Music, and Tom Bolduc, a University of Maine at Orono graduate with a B.S. in physical education. Both were still teaching in their respective fields in the 1983-84 school year.

p. 138 transportation

In 1982, the school's annual report in the town report showed \$132,418.28 spent for transportation, with a \$29,407.10 overdraft in the account.

The proposition that the town should provide bus transportation for its high school students was raised several times in the 1970's, and finally accepted, in part, at the June 15, 1983, special town meeting. This time the proposal was made by some Maple Ridge Road residents whose children went to Winslow High School. The school committee developed plans and cost estimates for two alternatives: busing students

1. Since 1977, China has held a June special town meeting every year, mostly to approve the school budget, because the state legislature does not provide state allocation figures in time for the March town meeting. Most of these special meetings have been poorly attended and short. Because of the high school busing question, the 1983 one attracted an unusually high turn-out, about 180 people.

to Erskine Academy, Waterville, Winslow, and Cony high schools, and Oak Grove-Coburn in Vassalboro; or busing students only to Erskine Academy, where the majority of them went. Voters at the special town meeting agreed to appropriate \$16,781.42 for busing to Erskine Academy only. With cooperation between the Academy and the elementary school, including adjusting the opening and closing times of both, the busing program was successfully implemented in September 1983.

p. 140 parent-teacher organizations

Since 1980, FOCES (Friends of China Elementary School), a group of teachers, parents, and friends of the school, has been active. FOCES meets about five times a year, some of the meetings with guest speakers talking about topics of general public interest. It runs fund-raising projects, especially the successful craft fairs it has sponsored each November since 1980, and uses the proceeds for the school, buying playground and classroom equipment, sponsoring cultural and educational presentations, and funding occasional trips for the students.

p. 141 high schools

Apparently James Parnell Jones ran a high school in China for at least part of a year before the Civil War. The only information available on it is the following delightful prospectus, lent to the author by Evelyn Wicke, with a notation that it is copied from an article at the South China library.

Fair Fields - Select school for young men and
boys, So. China, Me.

This Family boarding school is situated in an agreeable and quiet neighborhood, noted for its rural beauty and healthful location. It is easy of access, conveyance being furnished free of charge from the nearest railroad station.

It is the design of the school to furnish a thorough English and classical education, to fit students for any class in college and to prepare them for the active pursuits of life.

Thorough instruction will also be given in French, German and Spanish.

The number of pupils received into the family of the Principal is limited, & constant care is exercised over them to promote their moral, intellectual & physical well being.

The discipline is mild but efficient, ensuring compliance to the rules rather from a sense of duty than by coercion. No effort will be spared to impress upon each pupil the high and responsible position which he occupies in preparing and qualifying himself "to fulfil life's mission best." It is intended to secure to the pupils at as early an age as possible a thorough training in the rudiments of English education, and on this as a basis to fit them for any vocation.

For the accomplishment of this, it is believed that no talents are too great, no attainments too high. Nothing can be more fallacious than the prevalent notion, that it requires but a limited education, on the part of the teacher, to instruct the young in the elementary branches, for false ideas, and incorrect & partial views are then easily acquired which no amount of after training can entirely remove.

The school is so arranged that each pupil receives that attention which his peculiarities require a being in a measure independent of his fellows, yet not beyond the influence of class emulation.

No scholar will be admitted or allowed to remain whose habits are known to be vicious. The study of the Scriptures will be regularly attended to. The price for Board and Tuition, including lights, fuel and washing, is \$160. per annum, payable quarterly in advance. Scholars are admitted at any time when there are vacancies but not for less than a term.

Scholars will please come furnished with towels and napkins, 6 of each, and an umbrella. All articles to be marked with the name in full. The next term will commence Sept. 1, and close 11-18-1859.

James P. Jones, Principal

Mark Bailey, Thomas Belanger, and David Sheehan, 1983 members of Erskine's National Honor Society. The history gives details of one of the major events at Erskine between 1975 and 1984, the building of the new gymnasium, which was dedicated Jan. 22, 1983. It also indicates how the school has grown: Mrs. Kirkpatrick predicts a 1983-84 enrollment of about 330 students, to be taught by a faculty of 27. She points out that in the 1980's Erskine is improving its academic curriculum, strengthening its offerings in science and foreign languages particularly, an emphasis that is supported by the 1983 trustees and by Principal (since 1982) James V. Nelson.

p. 149 high school enrollment and costs

The 1982 town report showed that China had 208 high school students, 107 at Erskine Academy, 55 at Winslow, 24 at Waterville, 14 at Cony, 7 at Oak Grove-Coburn, and one at St. Paul's School in New Hampshire. Maximum tuition, paid to St. Paul's and OGC, was \$2,074.09. Erskine charged \$1,978.47, Waterville \$1,913.01, Cony \$1,784.79, and Winslow \$1,651.96.

For China students going on to college, the China school committee received a pleasant surprise in March 1981: notice of a scholarship fund. Doris L. Young, a long-time China resident and elementary school teacher who died Nov. 18, 1979, left the bulk of her estate to the town of China in trust, "the income to be used for*scholarships for worthy children from China in order that they may attend college, with the decision as to use of said monies and choice of the students to be left to the Superintending School Committee of the Town...." At the March 1982 town meeting voters accepted the trust fund, which then totaled \$233,499.07. In following months, the selectmen decided where to invest the money, and the school committee set up criteria and designed an application form for scholarships. The first 22 scholarships, totaling \$18,722, were awarded in September 1982 for the second half of the 1982-83 academic year. Beginning in 1983, the committee grants scholarships in the spring for the following school year. In May 1983, the committee divided \$21,000 among 37 recipients.

p. 150 churches -- Pond Meeting House

On August 14, 1982, the Vassalboro Quarterly Meeting of Friends sponsored a celebration of the 175th anniversary of the Pond Meeting House. According to a history of the building prepared for the occa-

sion,¹ the 1807 building committee consisted of Reuben Fairfield, James Meader, Isaac Hussey, and Jedediah Jepson. The Harlem Friends held their first preparative (business, as distinct from worship) meeting in the new meeting house in 1809, and after 1813 also held monthly meetings in conjunction with Fairfax (Albion) Friends there. Rufus M. Jones wrote that between 1813 and 1892 939 monthly meetings were held in China, and only once, when the roads were impassable, was a scheduled meeting called off.

Between 1810 and 1818 Harlem town meetings were held in the Pond Meeting House, and from 1822 until the town house was finished in 1841 China voters gathered there to transact town business. For a 1907 centennial celebration, Augustine Jones wrote a reminiscence of the meeting house in which he commented that "Town meeting could not injure the temple and might itself be improved by the association with a virtuous place."

After about 1915, the local Friends population was so small that the Pond Meeting House was no longer used for worship. From 1931 through 1938, the Augusta area Zonta Club sponsored a preventorium there, a summer camp for children from homes where they were exposed to tuberculosis. The state health department closed the camp's well in 1938, because it was too close to the Friends cemetery behind the meeting house. Lack of water and the death in July 1939 of camp director Marion Fox Oakes, R.N., ended the preventorium. In 1953, the meeting house became the nucleus of the Friends China Camp.²

The 175th anniversary celebration, led by New England Yearly Meeting field secretary Louis Marsteller, included a worship service, a reading of the building's history, a pageant directed by Myrtle Austin recreating a 19th-century Friends meeting, and a Vassalboro Quarterly Meeting, the first since 1915 to be held in the Pond Meeting House.

pp. 154-155 churches -- China Baptist Church

William and Eleanor Foster have provided the following list of early pastors of the China Baptist Church, from church records:

Rev. Jabez Lewis	1801 to 1806
Rev. Stephen Dexter	1806 to 1817
Rev. Jabez Lewis	1817 to 1818
Rev. Stephen Dexter	1818 to 1820
Rev. Isaac Smith	1820 to 1823
Rev. Hadley Proctor	1823 to 1827
Dr. Daniel Stevens	1827 to 1829

1. Written by Mary M. Grow on the basis of information provided by Evelyn Wicke.

2. 1975 edition, pp. 34-35.

Rev. Jesse Martin	1829 to 1831
Rev. Horace Seaver	1831 to 1832
Rev. Jesse Martin	1832 to 1833
Rev. Daniel Bartlett	1833 to 1837
Rev. Hadley Proctor	1837 to April 1842
Dr. B. F. Shaw	1842 to May 1853

Rev. Henry Kendall served as a supply for Dr. B. F. Shaw in 1846 for 22 weeks and again in 1853 for 12 weeks.

The list of China Baptist Church pastors in the 1975 China history continues as follows:

Rev. Charles Stotsenberg	Nov. 1968 to Oct. 1978
Dr. Alger Geary (interim)	Nov. 1978 to Feb. 1979
Rev. Ira Ellis (interim)	Feb. 1979 to June 1979
Rev. Vinton A. N. Upham	July 1979 to Oct. 1983
Pulpit filled by supplies	Nov. and Dec. 1983
Rev. Ronald E. Morrell	Dec. 1983 -

pp. 156-157 churches -- South China Community Fellowship Church¹

Susan Sisson, who was the granddaughter of Hannah Jones Day (sister to Abel Jones), came to South China in 1926 when she married Linwood Jones and was the Quaker minister of the South China Friends meeting from 1926 to 1930. She was then the minister of the Weeks Mills Baptist Church from 1930 until her death in May 1932.

The Rev. Dr. David Van Strien served as pastor of the South China Community Fellowship Church until the summer of 1980, when failing eyesight forced him to retire. At the annual meeting in September, he was named Pastor Emeritus for life, and the Rev. Robert D. Hotelling of Augusta, who was retiring as a guidance counselor with the Waterville school system, was elected as pastor. He served until April 30, 1983.

At the 1983 annual meeting, the Rev. Harvey Ammerman was elected pastor, and presently holds that position.

The Rev. Dr. David Van Strien died on April 5, 1982, at the age of 95.

The house in Weeks Mills, given to the church by Dr. Van Strien and his wife, Marion (Thurlow) Van Strien and called the Edna Weeks Van Strien Memorial Parsonage, was the type of building which requires either professional management or a resident owner for proper maintenance. As the church officers could see no need for a parsonage in the foreseeable future, they obtained the donors' permission to sell

1. Information supplied by Robert Reed, who wrote this section, and Evelyn Wicke.

the property. The property was sold on Dec. 21, 1978. The proceeds were invested in the Edna Weeks Van Strien Memorial Parsonage Fund, dedicated for future use by the church.

In the spring of 1984, the South China Community Fellowship Church was planning a centennial celebration of the construction of the church building for the summer of 1984.

p. 164 cemeteries

It appears that the Sewall and Seco cemeteries are the same. When the cemetery marked on Map 6 in the 1975 edition and identified as the Sewall cemetery was visited by the author in the fall of 1983, it contained legible stones for Alton Seco (died in 1904) and George Seco (died in 1909), as well as Ambrose Sewall's stone and three others which from their positions might also be Sewalls, but could not readily be read. An unmarked depression, according to Clarence Skinner of South China, may be the grave of another Alton Seco, a Negro who died in 1928 and had no descendants to put up a gravestone. In 1983, the cemetery was overgrown with trees and brush. It appeared to be triangular in shape, bounded by a stone wall on the north and woods roads on two other sides. In November 1983 town manager Adele Holmes employed Herman Ouellette to clear out the worst of the growth.

p. 186 organizations -- China Grange

The reorganized China Grange lasted only months, partly, Dennis Harding once said, because the young people did not like to use the outhouse. In the fall of 1983 the Maine State Grange sold Silver Lake Grange Hall by bid. High bidders were Ray Riggs and Arthur Kiesow of China, who had tentative plans to convert the building into apartments for senior citizens.

p. 192 organizations -- China Historical Society

In 1977, the China Historical Society began the practice of annually honoring one of China's distinguished past residents. General Alfred Marshall, the only person from China to serve in the United States House of Representatives (so far) was the first person honored. He was followed by Rufus M. Jones, Quaker educator, philosopher, writer, and humanitarian, in 1978; Laroy S. Starrett, inventor, machinist, and philanthropist, in 1979; James Hobbs Hanson, teacher and headmaster at Coburn Classical Institute in Waterville, in 1980; Japheth C. Washburn and his descendants, whose service to the town spanned two centuries, in 1981; Thomas Dinsmore, philanthropist, in 1982; and Eli and Sibyl Jones, Quaker teachers and missionaries, in 1983. The 1983 recognition ceremony was held in conjunction with the Jones family reunion, and saw the listing on the National Register of Historic Places of five properties associated with Rufus Jones: his birthplace in South China, the South China church and library, the family property at Pendle Hill, and the Pond Meeting House.

China already had other National Register listings. China Village was designated a historic district in November 1977, and Dinsmore's mill in Branch Mills has been on the Register since November 1979.

p. 192 organizations -- interest groups

The China Four Seasons Club has built a clubhouse just off Route 202, almost opposite the China town office, and has developed a beach there. For several summers the Club has offered swimming lessons to area children; in the winter, it usually sponsors or hosts at least one snowmobile event. In 1983, the clubhouse was converted to a House of Horrors for Halloween, with¹ the dual purpose of raising money for the China Rescue Squad's new van¹ and keeping children from going trick or treating. The club planned to make the House of Horrors an annual event.

The China Lake Fisheries Association² is another example of a local interest group.

In early 1980, two Weeks Mills couples, Ronald L. and Sharon J. Dyer and Mendall G. and Hope M. Tyler, assembled several other couples and single persons in the area who were adherents of the recreations known as Contemporary Western Square Dancing and as Round Dancing. These are developed from earlier American folk dancing. They are highly structured and are distinguished by constant prompting or cueing by a caller. The result of their effort was the formation of a new club to promote square and round dancing and to conduct classes for new dancers and workshops for the more experienced ones. The club held its first meeting on February 14, 1980, and graduated its first class in September 1980. Each

1. 1984 edition, p. 10.
2. 1984 edition, p. 7.

year since, it has graduated a class of square dancers in April, just in time for the New England Square Dancing Convention. Because a new decade was just commencing when the club was formed, the name chosen was the Square 80's of the China Lake Region.¹

p. 193 South China library

When the South China library celebrated its 150th anniversary on July 27, 1980, Richard Arnold of the Maine State Library told area residents that it was the second oldest public library in the state: the only one older was the Blue Hill library, started about 1796. The 150th anniversary program was moderated by Library Association vice-president Robert Reed, following a script prepared by Association president Ronald Gullifer, who died unexpectedly four days earlier. Guest speakers included Mr. Arnold, Esther Wood, and Miriam Jones Brown. There was a puppet show by Frances Silenzi and a children's story hour.

The next summer, the library dedicated the Myrtis Davidson Langhorne room, primarily a children's room, with a fireproof vault for local records. The addition, which doubled the size of the library, was supervised by a building committee chaired by Evelyn Wicke, with Ralph Austin, John Colwell, Chandler Holton, and Charles Mosher. Mrs. Wicke is the daughter of Marion Jones, who is still South China librarian (with Mrs. Wicke as co-librarian) in 1984; Mrs. Jones is a great-niece of Eli Jones, who helped found the library in 1830. Winslow Wicke and Mr. Colwell did much of the construction work. About 2,500 feet of boarding for the roof and walls was milled from five pine trees on the property which had to be cut down to make space for the addition and for off-street parking. The builders carefully sized and framed the new section's windows and pitched its roof to match the appearance of the 1901 building, while adding such features as combination windows and insulation. The addition has electric heat, supplementing the stove in the front room. Funds for the addition came from local gifts and fund-raising suppers and from Mrs. Langhorne, her daughter, Mrs. Peter Kahril of Florida, and her son, Dr. Alan Langhorne of Camden. The speaker at the dedication was Mary Hoxie Jones, another great-niece of Eli Jones.

1. Information supplied and written by Robert Reed.

p. 194 Dinsmore Library

In the summer of 1982, a group of Branch Mills residents, including Thomas Dinsmore Jr.'s great-grandson, another Tom Dinsmore, his wife Deborah, and his sister, Sue Krajewski, decided to reopen the Dinsmore Library. Volunteers held work bees and fund-raisers, including a rummage sale, and solicited donations of books and money. The library reopened the end of September, with no heat and with only kerosene lanterns for light. In following months, new wiring and a new chimney made electric lights and a stove possible. As of mid-1983, the Dinsmore library had about 3,000 books. Deborah Dinsmore and Mary Ellen Purington were the adult librarians, Susan White the children's librarian. The library was open Tuesday evenings and Saturday afternoons, and occasionally for special activities, including a summer children's story hour one morning a week and, in early 1984, monthly informal discussions of books.

p. 213 South China fire department

In 1980, South China volunteer firemen began raising money and donating materials and labor to build a new fire station on Route 32 South, about half a mile from the old one beside the South China post office. According to fire chief Norman Prime's report in the 1980 town report, a solicitation headed by fund-raising chairman Normand Marois brought \$1,800 in donations, and the firemen's Aug. 16 auction and chicken barbecue raised about another \$1,800. Money-raising and construction continued for another two and a half years. The foundation, walls, and roof were done in 1980, siding and doors in 1981, insulation, the floor, and interior work in 1982. The new station was dedicated July 16, 1983. In the fall of 1983, the old fire station was sold by bid, going to Paul Bulmer of Paul's Plumbing and Heating in South China. He rented it to Danny Oliver and Ronald (Bugger) Johnson, who opened an auto body shop called Auto Unlimited there in February 1984.

p. 240 and footnote 2 Brown family

William and Eleanor Foster have found that when the James Browns moved to China, they first settled on a farm on the west side of the Neck Road just south of what is now Wilkinsons', between Wilkinsons'

and Michauds', south of the Stanley Hill Road intersection. Mr. Foster suggests that that farm once belonged to the same Turner family whose members are buried in the Turner cemetery on the east side of the Neck Road.

p. 244 Yorktown

By the mid-1970's, the town of China owned approximately 380 acres in the Yorktown area, a tract bordered by the Albion and Palermo town lines on the north and east and by Bog Brook and Yorktown Bog on the west.¹ Part of the land had been acquired for taxes, in three lots. In June 1879, Elihu Hanson, for the town, paid \$7.61 in taxes owed by Henry Talbot and acquired about 50 acres with buildings on the road from South China to Albion, then called the Greenfield Road. In February 1922, C. N. Webber (presumably selectman Cony Webber) acquired C. S. Dolley's former property for the town, for \$7.26 in taxes, interest, and charges. And in March 1932, William S. Flood's land was acquired for "the inhabitants of the town of China" for \$9.59. The rest of the land (at the 1975 town meeting, selectmen said about 125 acres, but a map of the area in the town office says 173 acres) was a gift to the town from Everett Thurston in January 1958. Oral tradition has it that he was expressing appreciation for past welfare assistance. Thurston had acquired the property in 1904 from John E. Thurston, "for a family arrangement," with Everett to provide John a home, kindness and respect, the "necessary comforts of life," and "a good and respectable burial" after death.

At the July 22, 1974, selectmen's meeting, the board decided to ask a special town meeting to designate the Yorktown land a town recreation area and name it Thurston Park. The proposition was postponed to the regular town meeting in March 1975, when voters accepted it with little debate. At that time the park was said to be about 337 acres, with the exact boundaries to be established. The China recreation committee was authorized to "supervise the use of the park...and to develop the area in furtherance of conservation and recreational activities under the direction of the Board of Selectmen." Recreation committee chairman Robert Boynton told the town meeting that the committee hoped to do a boundary survey, soils analysis, and topographic map, and then consider possible uses for the park, like nature trails, picnic areas, and children's activities run through the school.

A preliminary boundary survey was made in February 1975. In 1978 and 1979, the recreation committee authorized selective cutting in the park, earning \$3,952 in 1978 and \$3,515 in 1979. That money, set aside for recreational purposes (it would have been used for the 1982 town recreation area, if voters had approved²), had grown to about \$11,000 by the end of

1. Much of the following information is from documents in a folder labeled "Thurston Park" in the China town office.
2. 1984 edition, p. 12.

1983. During 1980, Boy Scouts planted 1,000 white pine seedlings in the park. The recreation committee's report for that year said the park

is available for recreational purposes. Activities such as snowmobiling, camping, hiking, and picnicking have been approved for local residents. Activities also discussed for future use are a rifle range, animal sanctuary and tree farm located in this area.

In 1981, a group of University of Maine at Orono students surveyed the park as part of their timber management course. Their report, presented to the town in the spring of 1982, described the soils and vegetation in the park and commented that it offered "a great diversity of wildlife habitats" and "excellent" recreational potential, although "the property's location will limit visitor use." The UMO students recommended no further timber cutting for a decade, marking the boundaries, and maintaining the roads, trails, and open fields.

The 1983 recreation committee visited Thurston Park in October, with Ian MacKinnon, director of recreation and athletics at the University of Maine at Augusta. MacKinnon's report to the committee suggested providing access from the south end of the park, by improving the discontinued Yorktown (or Greenfield) Road and leveling a small parking area near the dam and waterfall. The selectmen and town manager Adele Holmes learned that they could repair a discontinued road for limited recreational access; town attorney Jeffrey Smith advised them to get the consent of abutting landowners if possible. At the 1984 town meeting, voters appropriated \$500 from the selective cutting proceeds to mark Thurston Park's boundaries.

Appendix IIIA, Selectmen of China

1976	Norman L. Bushey Gloria Ellis William Flood Edward W. French Arthur A. Poulin	1981	Joann Clark Austin Gloria Ellis Edward W. French Arthur A. Poulin Robert Ward
1977	Norman L. Bushey Gloria Ellis William Flood Edward W. French Arthur A. Poulin	1982	Joann Clark Austin Edward W. French Thomas M. Sturtevant Robert Ward Jeffrey F. Zimmerman
1978	Gloria Ellis William Flood Edward W. French Arthur A. Poulin Robert Ward	1983	Joann Clark Austin Leroy Austin Edward W. French Robert Ward Jeffrey F. Zimmerman
1979	Gloria Ellis William Flood Edward W. French Arthur A. Poulin Robert Ward	1984	Joann Clark Austin Leroy Austin Edward W. French Hugh Krajewski Craig Poulin
1980	Gloria Ellis William Flood Edward W. French Arthur A. Poulin Robert Ward		

Appendix IIIB, China Town Clerks

Joyce Cowing continued to serve as China town clerk from 1975 through 1984.

Appendix IIIC, China Town Treasurers

Ira Singer served as treasurer until January 1979, followed by the new town manager, David Cole, until June 1982, and then the present town manager, Adele Holmes.

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Appendix IV, China Postmasters

China Village

Mrs. Joyce Whitney

November 13, 1982

South China

Mrs. Julie O. Jackson

September 6, 1980

Weeks Mills

Mrs. Isabella E. Cram continues to serve as of early 1984.

Appendix VA and VB, China School Administrators

School Union 52 Superintendent John Houston and China Elementary School Principal Norman Dwelley both retired at the end of the 1983-84 school year. In January 1984, the School Union 52 committee chose Leon Duff to succeed Mr. Houston. In March, the China school committee hired Prescott Verrill as the new China principal.

GENEALOGY

This section includes corrections, additions, and new material on the following families:

Austin (following Washburn)

Bailey

Brackett

Burrill

Clark

Dinsmore

Doe

Jones

Lancaster

Sibley

Sproul

Starrett

Abijah Ward

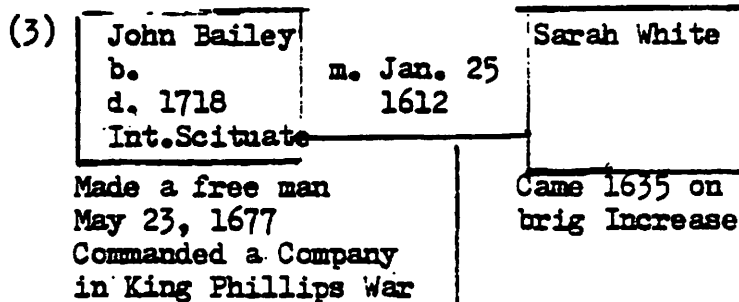
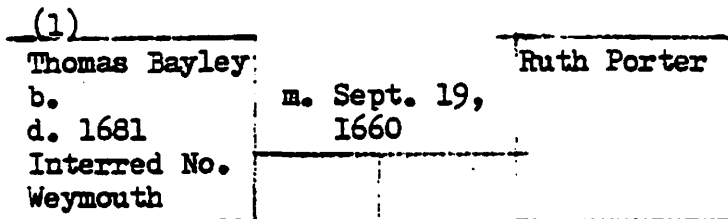
Josiah Ward

Washburn

Except for the Bailey, Sproul, and Ward genealogies, all the information was edited and arranged by Robert Reed.

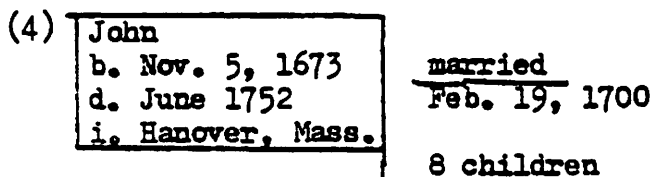
Thomas Bayley admitted as a free man in Mass. Colony May 13, 1640. First by this name to settle in New England. Probably arrived Weston Colony 1622 or 1623.

John Bayley went to Scituate to take charge of farm of Capt. John Williams; given a farm of 175 acres, one of finest in Plymouth Colony.

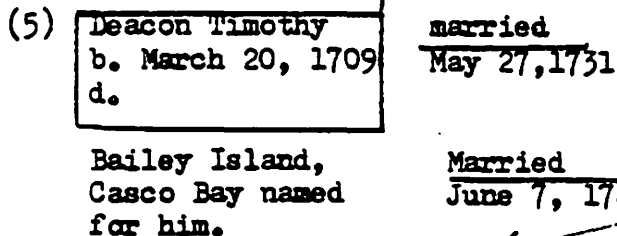


Had nine children

2nd child of John Bailey (above)



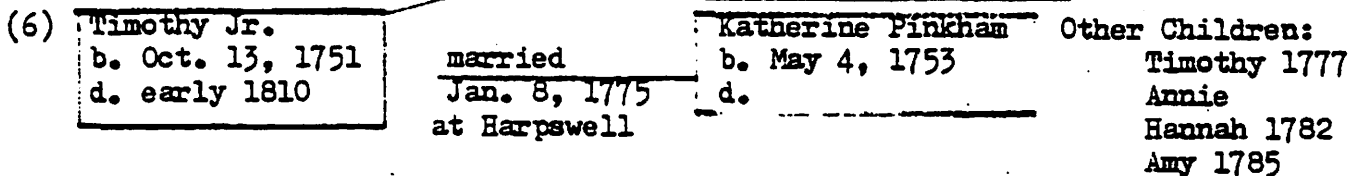
- Jane 1700
- John 1703
- Jacob 1706
- Capt. Dorcal 1708
- Abigail 1712
- Sarah 1714
- Deborah 1717



Children:

Olive
Timothy died young

By second wife:
Timothy Jr.
Delight



1. Prepared by Nelson Bailey of China Village.

- (7) **Ebenezer**
 b. Aug. 11, 1779
 d. 1844
- married
 Sept. 11,
 1800
- Tabitha Clough**
 b. Jan. 21, 1781
 d. Dec. 14, 1864
- Other Children:
 Amos 1801
 Sarah 1804
 Comfort 1808
 Amiel 1811
 Naomi 1819
 Jeddiah 1822
- Settled in West Gardiner
 in 1800 on farm near
 Friends Meeting House.
 Killed by limb from falling
 tree when cutting wood.

- (8) **Nathan C.**
 b. July 2, 1817
 d. Feb. 5, 1898
 interred E. Vassalboro
 Friends Cem.
- married
 May 2, 1845
- Lydia Douglass**
 b. Feb. 26, 1824
 d.
- Other children:
 Anna 1852
 Jennie 1855
 John H. 1857

Lived on Farm in Winslow

- (9) **Eben C.**
 b. March 17, 1850
 d. Aug. 20, 1927
 Int. Roberts Cem.
- married
 May 1875
- (1st) Mary Greenwood**
 b. May 20, 1853
 d. Nov. 20, 1920
 Int. Roberts Cem
- Children:
 Charles E. 1877
 Annie Mary 1879
 William B. 1882
- (2nd) Etta Greenwood
 Townsend Knowles**
 b.
 d.
- Bought Farm in China beside
 Friends Church on Neck Road.

(10) Charles Eben Bailey Family:

- Charles E. Bailey**
 b. May 20, 1876
 d. June 26, 1966
- married
 May 20, 1895
- Mabel Maud Wiggin (1st)**
 b. Oct. 24, 1879
 d. June 25, 1900
- married
 Jan. 19, 1903
- Mabel Hattie Goddard (2nd)**
 b. March 18, 1877
 d. Jan. 22, 1936
- Children (second marriage): Letha Evelyn 1910
 Edna Mabel 1917
- married
 May 10, 1938
- Charity Hodges Horne (3rd)**

(10) Annie Mary Bailey Family:

- Annie Mary Bailey**
 b. Dec. 25, 1881
 d. Mar. 8, 1953
- married
 Feb. 19, 1902
- Edward B. Taylor (1st)**
 b.
 d.
- married
- Robert Clark (2nd)**
 b.
 d.

No children

(11) Letha Evelyn Bailey Family: (Dau. of Charles Eben)

Letha Evelyn Bailey
b. Oct. 11, 1910

married
July 3, 1938

Karl Roberts Wilson (1st)
b. April 28, 1900
d. Jan. 5, 1966

Children:

(12) Charles Howard Wilson
b. Nov. 15, 1941

married
Dec. 24, 1965

Mary Bernice Bradeen
b. March 31, 1944

Their Children: Kristi Lee Wilson, b. Mar. 30, 1967
Scott Ryan Wilson, b. July 16, 1970
(13th gen.) Mark Andrew Wilson, b. Oct. 9, 1973
Karen Lynn Wilson, b. June 26, 1982

(12) Janet Eloise Wilson
b. Jan. 12, 1946

married
Feb. 28, 1970

Phillip Gene Dow
b. Feb. 28, 1945

Their children: Phillip Gene Dow Jr., b. Aug. 11, 1971
Jason Paul Dow, b. Nov. 17, 1972
(13th gen.) Matthew Karl Dow, b. July 24, 1974
Andrew Christian Dow, b. Sept. 29, 1977
Timothy David Dow, b. Dec. 8, 1974

Letha Bailey Wilson

married
Dec. 20, 1969

Gerald Lloyd Wilson (2nd)
b. Jan. 29, 1907

(11) Edna Mabel Bailey Family: (Dau. of Charles Eben)

Edna Mabel Bailey
b. Jan. 9, 1917

married
Dec. 7, 1935

Delmont Fuller Meader
b. July 16, 1914

Children:

(12) Joyce Ann Meader
b. Sept. 21, 1936

married
June 9, 1957

H. Richard Norton
b. Aug. 30, 1935

Their children:

(13) Cheryl Dianne married Dan Gwadosky
b. June 12, 1958 July 12, 1980 b. Feb. 16, 1954
Child: (14) Joshua Joseph Gwadosky, b. Apr. 29, 1983
(13) Douglas Richard, b. July 16, 1959
(13) Stephen Delmont, b. Feb. 5, 1961
(13) Timothy Howard, b. July 24, 1963

(12) Janice Mae Meader
b. April 15, 1938

married
June 23, 1956

Charles Godfrey Overlock
b. May 6, 1930

Their children:

(13) Valerie Jean married Michael Williams
b. Nov. 6, 1957 Sept. 2, 1978 b. May 28, 1957

11) Edna Mabel Bailey Family, cont'd:

Children of Valerie and Michael Williams

(14) Myron Lynn, b. Dec. 5, 1979

(14) Ryan Michael, b. June 19, 1983

(13) Kathleen Marie married Michael Poulin
 b. Nov. 27, 1958 Aug. 25, 1979 b. Oct. 29, 1957

Their children: (14) Katie Ann, b. Oct. 31, 1981
 Nathan Charles Michael, b. 1983, June 28.

(13) Cindy Louise married Michael Collins
 b. June 28, 1960 May 30, 1981 b. Sept. 7, 1960

(13) Bradley Aubert Overlock
 b. May 17, 1964

(10) William Elaine Bailey Family (Youngest son of Eben and Mary):

William Elaine Bailey
 b. April 3, 1883
 d. Aug. 29, 1964
 Int. China Village
 Cem. Extension

married
 April 13, 1905

Mabelle Ward (1st)
 b. Sept. 27, 1883
 d. Feb. 26, 1916
 Int. China Village Cem.

One child: Nelson Ward Bailey 1907

married
 May 7, 1919

Ida G. Pinkham (2nd)
 b. Sept. 4, 1892
 d. Dec. 21, 1966 (Int. China
 Vill. Cem.)

Children (second marriage): Eleanor Mabelle 1920
 Elaine Herbert 1924

(11) Nelson Ward Bailey Family (Son of W. B. and Mabelle):

Nelson Ward Bailey
 b. Jan. 24, 1907
 d.

married
 June 30, 1932

Marion F. Rowe
 b. Jan. 14, 1905
 d.

Children:

(12) Joanne
 b. Oct. 12, 1933

married
 Mar. 20, 1954

Gordon Wells Anderson
 b. Feb. 14, 1933

Their children:

(13) Todd Wells, b. Nov. 3, 1956

(13) Lauren, b. April 30, 1958

(13) Kristian Wells, b. Feb. 20, 1961; d. May 14, 1983 (killed
 automobile accident in
 Washington State.

Nelson Ward Bailey Family cont'd:

Children of Nelson and Marion cont'd:

- | | | | |
|------|------------------------------------|--------------------------|----------------------------------|
| (12) | Nelson Ward Jr.
b. Aug. 3, 1936 | married
July 28, 1962 | Carol Sideris
b. Jan. 7, 1941 |
|------|------------------------------------|--------------------------|----------------------------------|

Their children:

- | | |
|------|------------------------------------|
| (13) | Kim, b. Dec. 2, 1966 |
| (13) | Peter Nelson, b. March 23, 1969 |
| (13) | David Christopher, b. May 31, 1973 |

- | | |
|------|---------------------------|
| (12) | Jean
b. Sept. 10, 1941 |
|------|---------------------------|

Eleanor Mabelle Bailey Family (dan. of W. B. and Ida):

- | | | | |
|------|--|--------------------------|---|
| (11) | Eleanor Mabelle Bailey
b. Aug. 20, 1920 | Married
Aug. 20, 1944 | William Alfred Foster
b. April 2, 1918 |
|------|--|--------------------------|---|

Children:

- | | | | |
|------|-----------------------------------|--------------------------|--|
| (12) | Dale (adopted)
b. May 24, 1948 | married
Nov. 25, 1971 | Robert M. Sturtevant
b. Oct. 16, 1946 |
|------|-----------------------------------|--------------------------|--|

Their child: (13) Heather Dawn Anne Sturtevant, b. Nov. 26, 1971

- | | | | |
|------|---|----------------------|------------------------|
| (12) | Kendall William (adopted)
b. Oct. 29, 1949 | married
Feb. 1973 | Sharon MacDonald (1st) |
| | | married
Nov. 1974 | Phyllis Toland (2nd) |

One child: Daniell Foster, b. Jan. 11, 1979

Elaine Herbert Bailey Family: (Son of W. B. and Ida)

- | | | | |
|------|---|--------------------------|---|
| (11) | Elaine Herbert Bailey
b. Sept. 6, 1924 | married
Oct. 21, 1945 | Beverley Leona Wood
b. July 28, 1927 |
|------|---|--------------------------|---|

Children:

- | | | | |
|------|--|---------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| (12) | Elaine Herbert Jr.
b. Oct. 20, 1946 | married
Sept. 18, 1965 | Sandra Clark
b. Sept. 12, 1947 |
|------|--|---------------------------|-----------------------------------|

Their children:

- | | |
|------|--------------------------------|
| (13) | Christopher, b. March 17, 1967 |
| (13) | Jeffrey, b. July 26, 1971 |

Blaine H. Bailey Family cont'd:

Children of Elaine and Beverley cont'd:

(12) Carol Dawn	married	Robert Beaulieu (1st)
b. May 3, 1950	Sept. 16, 1972	b. Aug. 16, 1950
	married	Paul Andette (2nd)
	June 14, 1980	b. Sept. 13, 1953

Child of Carol and Paul: Jennifer, b. Sept. 30, 1981

(12) Rosemary Ann	married	Joseph James Citro
b. March 18, 1955	July 27, 1975	b. June 18, 1954

B R A C K E T T

Source: Brackett Genealogy, Herbert I. Brackett

p. 6¹

Deacon James Brackett, age at death, 99 years; m. Apr. 10, 1750.

James resided in Berwick, Me. for 68 years; in 1794, with his youngest son, John, he removed to Vassalboro, where he dwelt for 16 years; in 1810, when said son John removed from Vassalboro to China, he accompanied him; in China he dwelt for 14 years and died there....

In Berwick, Deacon James was a farmer; from an early day in his life he attained social and political prominence. The first mention in the town records of his holding office, is that in the year 1763, he was chosen selectman; ...constable in 1766. For eight years following 1770, he was in office continuously.... From the commencement of the struggle between the Colonies and Great Britain, this James Brackett cast his fortune with the former. Well did he know what were the horrors of war, for he had been a soldier in the last conflict with the French and Indians (1754-1763). In the seventies he was past the duty age in the field; but no man in Berwick performed a better part than did this Baptist deacon, in sustaining the cause of the Colonies....

When Deacon James and his wife went from Berwick to Vassalboro, in 1794, they made the journey on horseback, he in the saddle, and she seated behind him on a pillion....

In stature he was below the average height of men, and was slim of figure; in advanced age was a little old man, and in the last years of his life was withered and feeble in the extreme; he had the use of his mental faculties to the last....

It is thought that Deacon James, like his son John, was a member of the Baptist church; that he was deacon of a Baptist church in Berwick. In China he was spoken of as Deacon James Brackett.

Margery, b. 1731.

p. 7

John Brackett, age at death, 85 years.

CHILDREN:

5. James Harvey

Removed to Vassalboro from Berwick in 1794; about the year 1810, he purchased a farm bordering on China village, and on it passed the remainder of his days. Was a firm and sincere Christian, a devoted member of the Baptist church and prominent in its social circles; was one

1. Page references are to the 1975 edition, Book II. This information was provided by William and Eleanor Foster of China Village.

of the most forehanded and thrifty farmers of the town, and accumulated a moderately large estate for his day and locality. For over 45 years he was a resident of China and enjoyed the confidence and esteem of quite all its people.

(It was) related of him that he ordered some Indians out of his meadow, who were picking strawberries and tramping down the grass. An old squaw said to him with a deal of energy, "God gave this land to the Indians first." With bowed head he retraced his steps to his house, well contented to let the original inhabitants enjoy the first fruits of the land.

Ebenezer Shaw, b. 1793; m. Dec. 29, 1818, Mary Brackett; d. Nov. 20, 1862.

CHILDREN:

1. Caroline, b. 1820; m. Allen Lewis who was drowned at sea off Galveston; lived in Texas.
2. Emily H., b. Apr., 1821; m. Jan. 20, 1847, Alfred Moore of New York; d. 1877, in California.
3. John Brackett, b. May 24, 1823; d. Aug. 16, 1826.
4. Ebenezer Nelson, b. Jan. 25, 1826; m. Sarah Sawtelle; d. Sept., 1868, in Damariscotta, Me.

Ebenezer Shaw was a farmer; was high sheriff of Kennebec County.

Kennebec History: "Ebenezer Shaw was a sergeant in a company raised in Fairfax, War of 1812."

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Burrill

B U R R I L L

p. 10¹

Abraham Burrill was born in Abington, Mass., not Hingham. His parents were Abraham and Jane (Dyer) Burrill. He was a descendant of John Alden and Pricilla Mullens Alden; his Mayflower descendants number is 5974, and his daughter Hannah, who m. Job Billington, has number 5969.

Abraham Burrill's wife Hannah (Cushing) was the daughter of Frederic and Grace (Bates) Cushing.

1. Page reference is to the 1975 edition, Book II. This information was provided by Mrs. Beverly Nickerson of Hacienda Heights, California.

C L A R K¹

The earliest known ancestor, Thomas Clark, is first heard of in Scituate, Mass., in 1674, the son of John Clark of Plymouth. Thomas Clark of Scituate m. Martha Curtis, Jan. 11, 1676. The oldest of their eleven children was:

Thomas Clark Jr., b. 1680; m. Mary Church, Dec. 13, 1700. The second birth of their eight children produced twins, Thomas and Jonathan, b. May 18, 1704, in Nantucket, Mass.

Jonathan Clark, son of Thomas and Mary (Church) Clark.

CHILDREN:

5. Edmund, b. Nov. 29, 1743; d. Oct. 3, 1822; m. Rachael Coffin in Nova Scotia.
7. Ephriam, b. July 15, 1751; d. Oct. 31, 1829.

Jonathan and Miriam (Worth) Clark were the parents of the first settlers of what later became the town of China: Jonathan Jr., Edmund, Ephriam, Andrew, Jerusha (her husband George Fish), who came here Apr. 13, 1774, along with the parents.

Edmund Clark (Jonathan, Thomas), b. Nov. 29, 1743, in Nantucket; d. Oct. 3, 1822, in China; m. Rachael Coffin (b. Jan. 9, 1749, in Nantucket; d. Feb. 11, 1822, in China).

CHILDREN:

2. Elizabeth, b. Oct. 19, 1768; d. Jan. 4, 1776, in China.
5. Anna, b. Nov. 20, 1774; d. July 20, 1865.
6. Mary, b. June 12, 1779; d. Apr. 25, 1817.
7. Elisha, b. Feb. 15, 1785; d. May 1, 1865; m. (1st) Mary Rogers of Vassalboro on Mar. 7, 1811 (b. Mar. 21, 1790, d. Apr. 25, 1817); m. (2nd) Eliza Ann Worth on Jan. 27, 1820 (b. Apr. 8, 1800, in Nantucket, d. Oct. 21, 1865).

Rachael Coffin was descended from Richard Coffin who removed from Normandy to England in 1066. He entered the English army, had lands granted to him, and was knighted by William I (the Conquerer). She was a direct descendant of Thristram Coffin, the founder of the Coffin family line in America. He was born at Buffton, Devonshire, England in 1605, where the Coffin family has held the same house and lands for almost a thousand years.

Elizabeth Clark's was the first burial in the Clark cemetery, Jan. 4, 1776.

Anna Clark was the first female child born in China, Nov. 20, 1774, in the log cabin on the west shore of the lake. The house where Frances Clark now lives was built near there in 1789.

Elisha Clark (Edmund, Jonathan, Thomas), b. Feb. 15, 1785; d. May 1, 1865; m. (1st) Mary Rogers; m. (2nd) Eliza Ann Worth.

1. See 1975 edition, Book II, pp. 14-19. Information on the Clark family was provided by Frances Clark of South China.

Clark 2

CHILDREN: (Elisha and Mary (Rogers) Clark)

1. Harriet A., b. June 13, 1812; m. (1st) July 3, 1834, Emery Bragg of Vassalboro; m. (2nd) Dec. 18, 1850, John Palmer of Albion.
2. Sarah R., b. Feb. 2, 1814; d. Jan. 5, 1835.
3. Eunice, b. Jan. 4, 1816; d. Oct. 9, 1818.

CHILDREN: (Elisha and Eliza Ann (Worth) Clark)

4. Albert H., b. Nov. 18, 1820.
5. Henry W., b. June 20, 1822; d. Aug. 11, 1826.
6. Marriet A., b. Aug. 4, 1825; d. 1912; m. Charles Bragg of East Vassalboro.
7. Eveline R., b. Feb. 27, 1829; d. 1860; m. Oct. 4, 1846, Joseph Stuart. They had a son, Edward, who never married.
8. Malvina E., b. June 27, 1832; d. Feb. 21, 1850.
9. Sanford Kingsbury, b. Dec. 9, 1838; d. Aug. 2, 1909; m. Sarah Isabelle Hubbard, July 15, 1869. She was b. Wiscasset, Feb. 11, 1846; d. Dec. 25, 1914.

Sanford Kingsbury Clark (Elisha, Edmund, Jonathan, Thomas) and Sarah Isabelle (Hubbard) Clark.

CHILDREN:

1. Fannie Bell, b. May 5, 1870; d. Aug. 25, 1871.
2. Nellie D., b. July 28, 1872; d. in Mass., 1954.
3. Charles B., b. Sept. 17, 1875; d. Oct. 26, 1956; m. Mar. 7, 1909, Mary H. Pray of Lonsdale, R. I. She was b. Aug. 5, 1882; d. Apr. 13, 1939. They had one daughter, Frances Isabell, b. Jan. 3, 1910.
4. Arthur C., b. Oct. 21, 1876; m. Olive Moody of Danforth, Me. They had two daughters, Bessie and Faye.
5. Frank E., b. May 4, 1878; d. in New Jersey, Aug. 1919.

D I N S M O R E¹

p. 23

James R. B. Dinsmore m. Winifred (not Winnifred) Worthing.

Thomas, son of James Kenneth and Margaret (Cushman) Dinsmore, m. Deborah McKenney (b. Aug. 21, 1952, Hartland, Me.) They have a daughter, Aileen Margaret, b. Apr. 19, 1983.

Hugh and Suzanne (Dinsmore) Krajewski have three children, Aaron, b. March 1974, and twins Sam and Levi, b. June 26, 1978.

1. Page reference is to the 1975 edition, Book II. This information was provided by Thomas and Deborah Dinsmore of Branch Mills.

Doe

D O E¹

addenda to follow pp. 24-26

John Benson Doe was also a direct descendant of Nicholas Doe¹, b. 1842 in Albion. He was in the lumber business in Oregon and Washington, then a sheep rancher in Nevada. He returned to Maine and purchased the "Brick House" on the China Neck Road.

John Benson Doe m. Selina Bender, b. 1855, Staten Island, N. Y., d. 1941.

CHILDREN:

1. Anna Bender, b. 1892, d. 1969; m. Carl Johan Stenholm, b. 1888, d. 1961.

CHILDREN:

1. Dorothy, b. 1924, m. Bernard Rusiecki, b. 1919, d. 1968. Resides in Birmingham, Ala.

CHILDREN:

1. John Rager, b. 1961.
2. Carl John, b. 1925, m. Marie Alice Stein, b. 1929, Hempstead, N. Y.

CHILDREN:

1. Carl Adam, b. 1954.
2. Joanne Marie, b. 1956.

Anna (Doe) Stenholm was raised in China. She taught school in Albion and in Hempstead, N. Y. Carl John and Marie Stenholm live in Wauwatosa, Wis. They still own John Benson Doe's house in China and plan to retire there.

1. Page reference is the 1975 edition, Book II. This information was provided by Carl John and Marie Stenholm.

JONES¹

p. 63

The third son, Isaac Lincoln⁶, was born a week (instead of a month) before his mother's death.

Clarkson's daughter, Eldora (Pope), m. Blackinton (not Blackington).

p. 68

Eyrett Cyrus Jones⁶ (1852-1924) (Jeremiah⁵, Josiah⁴, Stephen³, Lemuel², Thomas¹) and Lulu (Hogan) Jones.

CHILDREN:

1. Martha, m. Edmund Morris. No children.
2. Clifford, m. Ona Norton. Two daughters, Lulu and Mary.
3. (twins) Nettie, m., had one daughter.
4. (twins) Nellie, d. in infancy.

p. 69

Everett L. Jones⁷ (1883-1971) (Linwood⁶, Jeremiah⁵, etc.), m. Sept. 2, 1911, Ethel Rutherford (1879-1967).

CHILDREN:

1. Everett II, b. 1914, d. 1969; m., two children.
2. Margaret, b. 1917; m., two children.
3. Richard, b. 1921; m., three children.

They lived in Michigan and Ohio where Everett L. was an engineer.

Wilmot Rufus Jones II⁷ (1902-1970) (Wilmot R.⁶, Jeremiah⁵, etc.), m. June 20, 1929, Barbara Hopkins, b. Apr. 2, 1906.

CHILDREN:

1. Mary Lee, b. 1931; m. Bernard Hargadon. They have six children.
2. Wilmot Rufus III, b. 1934; m. Joan Ronalds. They have seven children.

Barbara m. (2nd) Nov. 9, 1980, Sidney Haskins.

Geoffrey Hargadon⁸ (Wilmot R. II⁷, Wilmot R.⁶, etc.) m. July 28, 1977, Laura Dillingham.

CHILDREN:

1. Ashley Evans, b. Feb. 10, 1983.

1. Page references are to the 1975 edition, Book II. This information was provided by Evelyn (Jones) Wicke of South China.

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Jones 2

Robert Hargadon⁸ (Wilmot R. II⁷, Wilmot R.⁶, etc.), m. Aug. 8, 1982, Tesa Van Munching.

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Walter Edwin Jones⁶ (Edwin⁵, Abel⁴, Caleb³, Lemuel², Thomas¹) and Olive (Wiggin) Jones.

CHILDREN:

1. Clarence⁷, b. May 4, 1891; m. July 9, 1923, Gladys Tandy (1897-1956); d. Sept. 18, 1970. Their daughter Priscilla, b. June 22, 1931, m. Oct. 11, 1952, Robert De Lisle; they have six children.
2. Florence⁷, b. Aug. 14, 1894; m. June 29, 1918, in Vassalboro, William Bussell (1888-1976). They have an adopted son, Jesse.

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Willis never married. Martha (Mattie) (Mrs. Elvon Hiatt) and Grace (Mrs. Miles Rogers) both moved to Idaho. Grace's son, Miles Samuel Rogers, is the only one of the children to survive. He lives in Los Angeles and has four children.

(paragraph on Frank E. Jones) Harold married Nancy Smith and they had a daughter, Nancy Elizabeth, who married Robert Reese. They have no children.

Elwood Jones⁶ (William⁵, Josiah⁴, etc.). His daughter Grace's surviving child was Miles Samuel Rogers who married Charlotte Fox. They had four children and lived in the Los Angeles area. He and a son teach at UCLA.

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(second paragraph) Arthur and Nora Jones had two daughters, Ruth and Marietta, and a son, Leroy. Marietta married a man named Wild; they had a daughter, who married Norman Huff and had three children.

Mary Jones⁷ (Albert⁶, William⁵, Josiah⁴, etc.). Her husband, Perry Macy, died Oct. 15, 1977, and her two sons, Paul (1917-1967) and Maynard (1921-1975), have died. There were eleven grandchildren, most of whom have lived in Oregon or California.

(fourth paragraph) Lincoln and Lora lived in his father's (Clarkson Jones) homestead at Dirigo, where he was a farmer. They raised six children. Lincoln and Lora sold everything in 1909 and took their five

youngest children (Doris was nine months old) to California. The oldest, Barclay, remained behind to continue his schooling at Oak Grove Seminary and to visit with his grandparents, Oscar and Henrietta Sibley. All six children attended Oak Grove, and Barclay, Roscoe, and Harvey continued at Moses Brown school in Providence.

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Charles Jones was stepfather to Kendall Cook and Willard Cook.

Vincent and Doris (Jones) Cook's two children were Kathleen (Kitty) and Beatrice Enid. Beatrice and her husband, John Sanders, live in Los Angeles.

Lincoln and his half-sister Dora Blackinton (not Blackington); Frederick and Marion (Pope) Burnett (not Bennett).

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Lancaster

L A N C A S T E R

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Stephen Hadley Lancaster, b. Apr. 28, 1849; d. Sept. 23, 1921; m. Minnie Estelle Moody, b. Nov. 6, 1873, d. June 7, 1901. Buried in cemetery between China and Albion on the road to the Lovejoy Memorial.

1. Page reference is to the 1975 edition, Book II.

S I B L E Y¹

In 1877 Oscar Sibley and his wife Lora moved into a farmhouse on the brow of the hill on Route 32 North, a short way from the junction of that road and Route 3. This farm had been purchased by Oscar's father, Eben.

Oscar Sibley (son of Eben and Laura (Perkins) Sibley), b. Mar. 19, 1844, in Vassalboro; d. May 6, 1909, in China; m. Dec. 25, 1868, Lora Henrietta Smiley (dau. of Andrew Park and Elizabeth (Cowan) Smiley).

CHILDREN:

1. Lora Elizabeth, b. Dec. 12, 1870, in Vassalboro; d. Oct. 20, 1952, in Plainfield, N. J.; m. Isaac Lincoln Jones.²
2. Margaret Dickenson, b. Aug. 28, 1875, in San Francisco, Cal.; d. May 31, 1955, in Augusta; m. Herbert Brown.

CHILDREN:

1. Herbert Jr.
2. Margarey.
3. Emma Mae, b. Jan. 13, 1878, in China; d. Feb. 13, 1972, in Augusta; m. Oscar Carvell and had a daughter Stella.
4. Clara Martin, b. Sept. 18, 1880, in China; d. Apr. 4, 1903, in China.
5. Maude Amelia, b. Apr. 28, 1883, in China; d. Apr. 19, 1953, in China.

1. Information on the Sibley family was provided by Evelyn (Jones) Wicke of South China.

2. For Lora and Lincoln Jones' children, see the 1975 edition, Book II, pp. 74-75.

Sproul 1

S P R O U L¹

Franklin⁵ Sproul, son of Capt. Andrew⁴ and Elizabeth² (Little) Sproul (Capt. William³ and Sarah (Plummer) Sproul, Robert², James¹), was born, probably in Washington, Me., on Aug. 29, 1825. He married in Massachusetts on Apr. 27, 1851, Sarah Ann Frisbie (b. July 21, 1827, in Gouldsboro, Me., dau. of Capt./Dr. John and Sarah (Ferguson) Frisbie). Sally died Nov. 23, 1877, Frank died Jan. 23, 1905, and both are buried in the Deer Hill cemetery. Their granddaughter, Flossie Sproul Turner, reported that their home, no longer standing, was near where Mrs. Turner's grandson Bob Reynolds lives. Their children were:

1. John F., b. Aug. 19, 1853; d. May 2, 1878; buried with his parents on Deer Hill.
2. Minnie, b. Apr. 21, 1856; d. 1921; m. (1st) Ellsworth Hall, Aug. 2, 1879, in China and after his death m. (2nd) Frank Blaisdell, a minister. She had two daughters, Ola Hall and Myrtie Hall.
3. Ida C., b. Apr. 3, 1860; d. 1946 in Hawthorne, Cal; m. (1st) a man named Rose, m. (2nd) a man named Helleur.
4. Walter H., b. and d. Mar. 1, 1863.
5. James W., b. Feb. 11, 1865; m. Annie Watson.
6. Mary H., b. Mar. 12, 1867; d. 1912; m. Benjamin Hoskins, a Hallowell stone-cutter. They had twin daughters, Ruby and Ruth.
7. Elizabeth B., b. Feb. 12, 1870; d. 1967; m. Norman Smith. They lived in Bangor and had no children.

James Washington⁶ Sproul, born in Weeks Mills on Feb. 11, 1865, married in China on Oct. 31, 1885, Annie Maria Watson, daughter of George L. and Mary I. (Myers) Watson. She was born in Georgia on Oct. 2, 1869; she was a great-granddaughter of the Joseph Perkins of Harlem listed in the 1820 census. James died in Windsor Mar. 31, 1934; Annie died in Whitefield Nov. 15, 1956. Both are buried in Resthaven cemetery in Windsor. According to their daughter Flossie, he sold the mill in Weeks Mills to Fred McLellan in 1892 when he purchased the sawmill at Maxcy's Mills in Windsor and moved there. James' and Annie's children were:

1. John Robert, b. Oct. 12, 1886, in China; m. Susan Harvey. They lived in Augusta and had 13 children.
2. Adelbert Earl, b. Mar. 11, 1888, in China; m. Inez Cookson. They lived in Windsor and had 9 children.
3. George Leroy, b. Dec. 31, 1890, in China; m. (1st) Helen Clark and had one son, George Leroy; m. (2nd) Elona Pierce and had one daughter, Doris.
4. Fred Turner, b. June 1, 1892, in China; m. Rissa F. Moore of Coopers Mills and had two sons, Manley James and Stanley E. They lived in Windsor and Augusta.

1. This information was provided by Faye (Mrs. Stanley E.) Sproul of South China.

5. Arthur Ellsworth, b. Sept. 3, 1893, in Windsor; m. (1st) Florence Heald and had no children; m. (2nd) Esther Joslyn and had three children, Richard, Arlene, and Russell.
6. Harold James, b. Aug. 31, 1894, in Windsor; d. unmarried in France, Nov. 26, 1918, of pneumonia. He was the only World War I casualty from Windsor; several items which belonged to him are on display at the Windsor Museum.
7. Flossie Mae, b. Nov. 19, 1896, in Windsor; m. Chauncey Turner; they lived in Windsor with 8 children.
8. Beuford Frank, b. June 20, 1898, in Windsor; m. (1st) Mildred Griffin and had three children, and after her death m. (2nd) Madolyn (Reed) Ricker.

Stanley E.⁸ Sproul (Fred⁷, James⁶, Franklin⁵) was born in Windsor Mar. 18, 1920. He married Aug. 23, 1946, Faye Winter, daughter of William W. Jr. and Florence (Small) Winter of Chelsea, Me. He is an attorney and businessman, former Augusta mayor and state representative from Augusta. She is a grandniece of Emily (Winter) Farrington, whose husband Timothy ran a general store in South China at the turn of the century. The Sproul children are:

1. Edward Winter, minister of Resurrection Lutheran Church in Rochester, N. H.; b. July 25, 1948, in Augusta; m. in Augusta Elizabeth B. Runyon, daughter of Dr. William N. and Elizabeth (Worthen) Runyon. Their children are:
 - Brian Edward Sproul, b. Jan. 7, 1973, Portland, Ore.
 - Catherine Mary Sproul, b. Oct. 3, 1975, Saginaw, Mich.
2. Cynthia, a teacher in Great Barrington, Mass.; b. Apr. 23, 1950, in Barnstable, Mass.; m. in Augusta Charles A. Gallant, son of John and Yvonne (Arsenaux) Gallant. Their children are:
 - Laura Ann Gallant, b. Feb. 18, 1972, Augusta.
 - Ryan Charles Gallant, b. Sept. 2, 1973, Augusta.
3. Roger Alan, real estate appraiser for the State of Maine; b. Apr. 3, 1951, in Augusta; m. in West Lebanon, Me., Donna M. Ciccotelli, daughter of Salvatore and Winnifred (Hurd) Ciccotelli. Their children are:
 - Stephanie Lynn Sproul, b. Feb. 10, 1979, Augusta.
 - Sarah Jane Sproul, b. May 27, 1981, Augusta.
4. Donald Fred, state representative from Augusta; b. Oct. 3, 1954, in Augusta; m. in Augusta Kathleen M. Littlefield of Belfast, daughter of Dexter and Patricia (O'Grady) Littlefield.
5. Linda Emily, a student, b. May 23, 1965, in Augusta.

S T A R R E T T

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Preston Starrett d. Apr. 26, 1937.
Charles Starrett d. Nov. 7, 1892.
Ernest Starrett b. Nov. 28, 1876.
Edith Masse d. Sept. 17, 1960.
George Starrett d. Sept. 18, 1962.

Samuel Starrett fought in the Civil War and was wounded in the leg, requiring hospitalization.

Ernest R. Starrett's son was named Austin Leroy.

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Mahala (Peggy) Whitman d. July 30, 1966.

Austin Starrett m. (2nd) Nov. 18, 1977, in Atlanta, Ga.,
Claudine Taylor, b. Nov. 12, 1923, in Campbellton, Fla.

Robert Ernest Starrett m. Mar. 3, 1972, in Bacolad City,
Philippines, Ally M. DeMcCuttac, b. Sept. 18, 1944, in
La Carlota City, Philippines.

Robert Ernest Holton b. in Brookline, Mass. (not Boston).

Helen Starkey (dau. of Pearl and Cony Webber), b. Oct. 13, 1913; m.
July 6, 1935, George Starkey.

CHILDREN:

1. Arlene, b. Feb. 13, 1937; m. Aug. 31, 1956, Ernest J. Smith, b. May 26, 1935.
 1. Jerry J., b. Dec. 27, 1957; m. Oct. 26, 1979, Catherine Lane, b. Aug. 14, 1961.
 1. Sandra, b. Apr. 9, 1980.
 2. Susan T., b. May 28, 1960.
 2. Julia, b. Sept. 14, 1940; m. June 9, 1958, Normand Marois, b. Aug. 22, 1932.
 1. Norma, b. Dec. 3, 1959; m. Aug. 1, 1975, Tim Theriault.
 1. Amanda, b. Jan. 20, 1976.
 2. Scott, b. Oct. 18, 1979.
 2. Nancy, b. Mar. 23, 1961; m. June 5, 1982, Dennis Fortin.
 3. Michael, b. Aug. 2, 1962.

1. Page references are to the 1975 edition, Book II. This information was provided by Evelyn (Jones) Wicke and Geneva (Starrett) Holton of South China.

4. Melinda, b. July 23, 1964; m. Feb. 15, 1980, Michael Wescott.
 1. Jason, b. June 4, 1981.
5. Robert, b. Sept. 5, 1969.
6. Ronald, b. Dec. 15, 1972.
3. John, b. Apr. 4, 1942; m. June 21, 1968, Carlaine Brown, b. Aug. 25, 1949.
 1. John A. Starkey Jr., b. Apr. 24, 1971.
 2. Tina Maria, b. Feb. 1, 1975.
4. Theresa, b. Feb. 1, 1945; m. June 16, 1965, Neal Pottle.
 1. Kenneth, b. Mar. 22, 1966.
 2. Elaine, b. Jan. 29, 1969.
 3. Catherine, b. July 4, 1971.
 4. Timothy, b. May 24, 1979.
5. Richard, b. Aug. 18, 1951; m. Aug. 14, 1976, Diane Cote, b. Aug. 6, 1956.

The Descendents of Abijah Ward

Abijah (Habijah) came to China about 1781-82 via Vassalboro with his three sons; Abijah Jr., Thomas, and Samuel. They lived in the vicinity of what is now called Wards Corner. Abijah lived with the sons, spending one-third of a year with each.

Abijah also had three daughters: Elizabeth, Rebecca, and Mary. They must also have arrived with the family, as Elizabeth, the oldest daughter, was married to Joseph Priest of Vassalboro in 1785. Rebecca and Mary married in 1798 and 1800.

The three sons lived in the section of the town formerly called West China. The sons and grandsons of Abijah all built houses north of what is now called Wards Corner. The first five houses were probably built by Thomas, Edmund, Abram, Samuel Sr., and Randall. The Getchell (Carpenter) house was probably built by Joseph Priest who married Elizabeth (daughter of Abijah). The next house, a brick building which burned in October 1901, may have been built by Ezekiel (son of James) Lanchester, who married Mary, another daughter of Abijah.

It is interesting to note that Abram, Abijah Jr., Randall and Abijah, the son of Samuel Sr., all built brick houses of the same design. The Abijah Jr. house is on the road to East Vassalboro and the Abijah Ward house is on the corner of the Morrell road and the old road to Waterville. The bricks from these houses were doubtless from Capt. Nathaniel Spratt's brickyard. His wife was Betsy Ward, daughter of Thomas Sr.

With so many Ward families living north of Wards Corner, it is not surprising that the area is still called the Ward neighborhood even though no Wards now own the original properties.

The Wards of China and Vassalboro appear to be descended from Abijah and Josiah, who came to China in 1775. Josiah is said to have built the first frame house in Harlem (China).

It is quite certain that Abijah and Josiah were cousins. Both families came to China by way of New Hampshire and the No. Yarmouth-Harpswell area. It is known that Thomas, the son of Abijah Sr., was born in No. Yarmouth. He was a Revolutionary War Veteran. He is said to have served as a drummer. It is interesting to note that he was 5 ft. 3 in. tall.

The Wards of China and vicinity are descended from John Ward of Stratford, Suffolk County, England.

John Ward of Stratford, Suffolk County, England, b.?, d.?

His son, Samuel Ward, b. 1593 England; m. (1st) _____;
(2nd) Frances (Pitcher) Recroft

Samuel's son, Henry Ward, b. 1635; m. Remember Farrow, Feb. 3, 1659; d. April 1715

Henry's son, Edward, b. July 24, 1672, Hingham, Mass;
m. Feb. 24, 1702 Deborah Lane; d.?

Edward's son, Nehemiah Ward, b. Nov. 26, 1708; m. Deborah Bryant; d. June 22, 1728

Nehemiah's son, Habijah Ward, bpt. Jan. 23, 1732; m. 1761
Mary Wilson

Abijah¹ Ward, bpt. Jan. 28, 1732, d.(?), m. 1761; Mary Wilson
b. (?), d. 1800.

CHILDREN:

1. Thomas², b. 1762
2. Abijah² Jr., b. Jan. 1, 1767
3. Samuel², b. Nov. 15, 1773
4. Elizabeth², b. (?)
5. Rebecca², b. (?)
6. Mary², b. (?)

Thomas² Ward, b. 1762, m. Miriam Clark, b. March 2, 1767; d. July 1803;
m. Oct. 4, 1803 (2nd) Mercy Taylor, b. Sept. 20, 1765; d. Feb. 28, 1825.

CHILDREN: (of Thomas and Miriam)

1. Deborah³, b. Oct. 1787; d. Feb. 20, 1866
2. Thomas³ Jr., b. 1790
3. Betsy³, b. Sept. 2, 1799; d. Nov. 16, 1870
4. Eunice³, b. April 9, 1803; d. March 31, 1882

Note: The census of 1810 records six sons which are not accounted for.

Abijah² Jr. b. Jan. 1, 1767 m. Mary Gould, Aug. 26, 1791, b. 1765;
d. Oct. 10, 1841.

CHILDREN:

1. Nehemiah G.³, b. 1794; d. June 15, 1865
2. Wilson³, b. 1796; d. 1815
3. Ariel³, b. 1798
4. Maria³, b. 1800
5. Rev. Martin³, b. 1803
6. Melina³, b. 1805
7. Franklin³, b. 1808; d. Feb. 1, 1863
8. Jane³, b. 1810
9. Lucy³, b. 1812
10. Abijah III³, b. 1814
11. Mahala³, b. 1816 died very young

Samuel² Ward, b. Nov. 15, 1773; d. 1858(?) m. Eunice Clark (daughter of
Edmund), b. Oct. 3, 1770, d. June 1845.

CHILDREN:

1. Samuel³ Jr., b. 1793
2. Edmund³, b. 1796
3. Abijah³, b. 1799
4. John³, b. 1805
5. Abram³, b. 1807
6. Randall³, b. 1809
7. Ann P.³, b. 1815

Elizabeth² Ward, m. Joseph Priest of Vassalboro, in 1785

Rebecca² Ward, m. May 6, 1798 David Mitchell (Harlem Records)

Mary² Ward, m. Ezekiel Lancaster, Nov. 20, 1800 (Harlem Records)

Deborah⁽³⁾, b. Oct., 1797; d. Feb. 20, 1866, m. March 1, 1809 Abraham McLaughlin, b. Oct. 1784; d. May 1, 1865

CHILDREN:

1. Thomas⁴, b. 1809, d. 1834; m. Susan Waters Worth
2. James⁴
3. Rodney⁴, b. 1820, d. Jan. 1, 1901
4. Stephen⁴, b. 1818, d. July 28, 1897
5. Ezekiel⁴,
6. Mary W.⁴, b. Feb. 15, 1826, d. Dec. 3, 1910
7. Susan W.

Thomas³ Jr., (Capt. War of 1812), m. Deborah Doe, April 18, 1811, b. Jan. 1790, d. Feb. 4, 1872

CHILDREN:

- I. Eldridge W.⁴, b. 1811, d. April 10, 1892, m. Susan Nelson, b. 1816, d. 1875.

CHILDREN:

1. Isabelle⁵, b. 1836
2. Augusta E.⁵, b. 1841
3. Zelma A.⁵, b. 1844
4. Uriah E.⁵, b. 1846
5. W. Fillimore⁵, b. 1849
6. Ada C.⁵, b. 1852

- II. Thomas D.⁴, b. 1813, m. Aug. 20, 1836 m. Sarah Crossman, b. 1812

CHILDREN:

1. Thomas E.⁵, b. 1838
2. Francis Q.⁵, b. 1842
3. Adelbert⁵, b. 1848
4. Charles⁵, b. 1855

- III. Emily N.⁽⁴⁾, b. 1816, d. 1893, m. Dec. 21, 1854 David Estes

- IV. Hartwell O.⁽⁴⁾, b. Oct. 25, 1818, d. Oct. 1, 1880; m. Dec. 25, 1849 Hannah F. Frye

CHILDREN

1. Lucius H.⁵, b. July 13, 1851
2. Sarah A.⁵, b. Sept. 2, 1853, d. Dec. 21, 1880
3. Herbert A.⁵, b. March 23, 1858
4. Elbridge T.⁵, b. April 1, 1856; d. Nov. 17, 1856

Betsy Ward⁽³⁾, b. Sept. 2, 1799; d. Nov. 16, 1870, m. Feb 2, 1822 Capt. Nathaniel Spratt, b. June 16, 1789, d. Sept. 18, 1865

CHILDREN:

1. Emmerline Spratt⁴, b. Oct. 7, 1822; d. (?) buried in Waterville.
2. Marion C. or Miriam Spratt⁴, b. Dec. 26, 1824, m. A.B. Fletcher, d. Nov. 23, 1899
3. William C. Spratt, b. Dec. 24, 1826, m. Christine Crawford in Kenduskeag; d. June 19, 1899
4. Thomas Granville Spratt⁴, b. Jan. 29, 1829; d. May 1896
5. Francis D. Spratt, b. April 12, 1831, m. Betsy Kincaid; d. May 26, 1907 (in Alpena, Michigan)
6. Melville Bartlett Spratt⁴, b. Aug. 5, 1833, d. Dec. 29, 1918

6. Melville Bartlett Spratt⁴, b. Aug. 5, 1833; d. Dec. 29, 1918;
m. (1st) Amanda Crawford, (2nd) Margaret McDonald
7. Betsy E. Spratt⁴, b. Nov. 15, 1835; d. Sept. 24, 1841
8. Augustus N. Spratt⁴, b. April 4, 1838; m. Adeline C. Ward
(daughter of Nehemiah Ward); d. Sept. 7, 1915 (buried in
Alpena, Mich.)

Eunice Ward³, b. April 9, 1803; m. Asa Billington Jan. 25, 1823, b. July 2, 1802;
d. Oct. 29, 1869

CHILDREN:

1. Emily Ward⁴, b. Jan. 22, 1824
2. Walton Doe⁴, b. Oct. 3, 1826
3. Sabrina Rogers⁴, b. June 12, 1828
4. Sarah Jane⁴, b. Dec. 23, 1830
5. George Edwin⁴, b. Feb. 1, 1833
6. Betsy Ann⁴, b. Oct. 12, 1835
7. Mary Elzada⁴, b. June 8, 1837
8. Mariam Fannie⁴, b. Dec. 19, 1840
9. Maria⁴, b. Dec. 19, 1840
10. William⁴, b. Nov. 4, 1841

Emily Ward⁴ Billington, b. Jan. 2, 1824; m. Philander Lemon Pond
their son

Henry L. Pond⁵ m. Mary L. McLearn
their daughter

Dorothy Pond⁶ m. J.W. McNaughton (1st) and
(2nd) K. Simpson

Sabrina Rogers Billington⁴, b. June 12, 1828; d. March 1, 1920;
m. Henry Dyson Carr, Jan. 1, 1851, b. Feb. 2, 1820; d. Feb. 15, 1905

CHILDREN:

1. Emma Maria⁵, b. Oct. 3, 1851; d. Feb. 18, 1929;
m. Henry Kimball Small May 17, 1868, b. Feb. 10, 1847,
d. Feb. 15, 1924
their children
Ray Porter Small⁶, b. May 25, 1887; d. Mar. 16, 1979;
m. July 3, 1908 Lucy Renuia Kingston, b. April 9, 1887,
d. Oct. 26, 1962
their children
(1) Waldo Kingston Small⁷, b. July 2, 1911;
m. July 24, 1932 Lorraine Hagen,
b. July 24, 1912
children
Marjorie⁸, b. Sept. 29, 1939
m. Arthur J. Montgomery
son
Michael⁹, b. June 2, 1973
(2) Beverly Jean Small⁷, b. Oct. 2, 1927,
m. Oct. 14, 1950 Robert Curtis Nickerson,
b. Dec. 26, 1927
their children
Nancy Rae⁸, b. Sept. 5, 1954
Suzanne⁸, b. Nov. 5, 1956
2. Lizzie A.⁵, b. Sept. 25, 1853
3. John B.⁵, b. May 30, 1857
4. Freddie H.⁵, b. Sept. 29, 1861
5. Edmund A.⁵, b. April 22, 1865
6. Frank L.⁵, b. Jan. 20, 1870

Abijah⁽²⁾ Ward, Jr., b. 1767, m. Aug. 26, 1791 Mary Gould, b. 1765; d. Oct. 10, 1841.

CHILDREN:

I. Nehemiah⁽³⁾ G., b. 1794; d. June 15, 1865, m. Jan. 1, 1824 Betsy Brewster.

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A. Ward 5

CHILDREN:

1. John L.⁽⁴⁾, b. 1825
2. Louise M.⁽⁴⁾, b. 1828
3. Edwin W.⁽⁴⁾, 1831 (also James Place, b. 1833; d. 1833)
4. Elisha⁽⁴⁾ S., b. 1834
5. Abigail E.⁽⁴⁾, b. 1837
6. Francis P.⁽⁴⁾, b. 1839
7. Adaline⁽⁴⁾, b. 1844
8. Orrin B.⁽⁴⁾, b. 1846

II. Wilson⁽³⁾ Ward, b. 1796; d. 1815

III. Ariel Ward⁽³⁾, b. 1798, m. (int.) Dec. 21, 1824 Mrs. Althea Herbert^{h.}

IV. Maria Ward⁽³⁾, 1800; d. (?).

V. Rev. Martin Ward⁽³⁾, b. 1803; d. Oct. 18, 1843, m. Susan Spratt b. May 10, 1812, d. Dec. 15, 1857

CHILDREN:

1. Martin⁽⁴⁾, b. 1836
2. Olin W.⁽⁴⁾, b. 1838
3. Albert⁽⁴⁾, 1841
4. Sarah⁽⁴⁾, b. 1844
5. Emerline, b. 1832; d. 1844.

VI. Melinda⁽³⁾, b. 1805, m. Robert Hamlin d. (?)

VII. Franklin⁽³⁾, b. 1808; d. Feb. 1, 1863, m. Oct. 25, 1829 Betsy Spratt, b. 1812; d. Feb. 3, 1883.

CHILDREN:

1. Lucinda K.⁽⁴⁾, b. 1831
2. Harriett⁽⁴⁾, b. 1833
3. Danville⁽⁴⁾, b. 1835 (Also Greenleaf Weston b. 1837; d. 1897)
4. Winfield⁽⁴⁾, b. 1840
5. Ellen Adelaide⁽⁴⁾, b. 1843
6. Richworth⁽⁴⁾, b. 1844
7. Frank M.⁽⁴⁾, 1851

VIII. Jane⁽³⁾, b. 1810; d. (?); m. Joseph McCarrison

IX. Lucy⁽³⁾, b. 1812; d. (?); m. Thomas Weir

X. Abijah III⁽³⁾, b. 1814, m. Aug. 27, 1835 Harriet Hawks

CHILDREN:

1. Emily⁽⁴⁾, (lived only 15 months)
2. Henry⁽⁴⁾, b. 1837
3. Emily A.⁽⁴⁾, b. 1840
4. Lucy J.⁽⁴⁾, b. 1844
5. George W.⁽⁴⁾, b. 1844
6. Charles P.⁽⁴⁾, b. 1846
7. Theodore A.⁽⁴⁾, b. 1849
8. Ella Harriett⁽⁴⁾, b. 1851

XI. Mahala⁽³⁾, b. 1816; d. (died very young)

Edwin W. Ward⁽⁴⁾, b. 1831; d. May 26, 1879; m. Jan. 1, 1863 (1st)
Helen Ames (b. (?), d. 1875); m. (2nd) Sept. 26, 1875,
Mrs. Roxanna Bragg (b. (?); d. 1896.

Edwin and Helen (Ames) Ward

CHILDREN:

- I. Oscar Ulysses Grant Ward⁽⁵⁾, b. 1863; d. Oct. 15, 1957;
m. Oct. 11, 1887 Harriett A. Fairfield, b. 1865; d. 1959.

Children:

1. Mabel Dora Ward⁽⁵⁾, b. Jan. 20, 1898;
d. May 3, 1978; m. Aug. 10, 1910 Roy Coombs,
b. Oct. 15, 1889

child:

1. Hazel Coombs, b. Nov. 29, 1913.

2. Edna⁽⁶⁾ (died at 11 mos.)

3. William⁽⁶⁾ Edwin, b. Jan. 29, 1895; d. (?);
m. (1st) Oct. 22, 1915, Marie McLaughlin, b. (?);
d. (?).

child:

1. Oscar⁽⁷⁾, b. (?); d. (?);
m. (2nd) Sept. 20, 1924 Dora
Belle Kitchen,

child:

- Harold⁽⁷⁾, b. Feb. 6, 1924

- II. Dora W.⁽⁵⁾, m. March 16, 1883 Charles Mower

- III. Helen N.⁽⁵⁾, b. 1872. ; m. Frank Miles

Wyott Fillimore Ward⁽⁵⁾ b. July 13, 1849; d. Sept. 10, 1912;
m. Delia Ward⁽⁵⁾, (daughter of Wilson Ward) b. 1853; d. 1927.

CHILDREN:

1. Arthur⁽⁶⁾, b. Nov. 11, 1891; d. April 12, 1983;
m. (1st) Wilma Glidden (b. (?); d. (?))

Children:

1. Margaret⁽⁷⁾, b. Nov. 30, 1914; d. Mar. 3, 1966
m. Maynard Stevens.

2. Rowena⁽⁷⁾, b. Nov. 7, 1917, m. Robert Long.

3. Nelson⁽⁷⁾, b. Feb. 18, 1920.

m. Anita McAuley, b. April 3, 1922.

children:

1. Douglas⁽⁸⁾, b. Sept. 15, 1946.
2. Bruce⁽⁸⁾, b. May 12, 1949.

- Arthur⁽⁶⁾, m. (2nd) Gladys Osier, b. April 20, 1881;
d. Sept. 9, 1969.

Children:

1. Katherine, b. Dec. 13, 1925.

2. Hilda, b. Mar. 10, 1929.

- Arthur⁽⁶⁾, m. (3rd) Sept. 25, 1960, Rita Lachance, b. May
1899

2. Ernest⁽⁶⁾, b. 1888; d. 1967.

The Samuel Ward Family

Samuel Ward⁽²⁾, b. Nov. 15, 1773; d. 1858; m. Eunice Clark (daughter of Edmund), b. Oct. 3, 1770; d. June 1845.

I. Samuel⁽³⁾ Jr., b. 1793; d. June 27, 1866; m. July 12, 1818
(1st) Sarah Spratt b. March 6, 1798; d. March 17, 1833.

CHILDREN:

Also, Solon Ward,
(1st child) b. 1818

1. Wilson⁽⁴⁾, b. 1821; d. Aug. 20, 1898; m. Hannah Crowell, b. 1816; d. Nov. 3, 1892.
2. Sarah Jane⁽⁴⁾, b. 1823; d. Aug. 20, 1843.
3. Eleanor S.⁽⁴⁾, b. March 21, 1826; d. May 6, 1892
m. Abram Marsell.
4. Melinda⁽⁴⁾, b. Dec. 21, 1829; d. Nov. 28, 1897;
m. Charles Gray.
5. Solon⁽⁴⁾, b. 1818; m. Hannah Jackman

Samuel⁽³⁾ Jr., m. (2nd) Esther B. Spratt (sister of Sarah), b. Oct. 21, 1804

CHILDREN:

1. James Warren⁽⁴⁾, b. 1834; d. Sept. 2, 1859 (drowned)
2. Susan Edith⁽⁴⁾, b. 1836; d. April 5, 1863.
3. Frances⁽⁴⁾, b. 1838; d. August 20, 1858.
4. Isabelle⁽⁴⁾, b. 1841; d. June 17, 1863.
5. Josiah⁽⁴⁾, b. 1843; d. Feb. 17, 1862.
6. Edward⁽⁴⁾, b. 1846; d. Sept. 6, 1918.
7. Howard⁽⁴⁾, b. 1846;
8. Sarah Jane⁽⁴⁾, b. May 12, 1848; d. 1848 or 1849
9. Alice⁽⁴⁾, b. 1852;

Wilson Ward⁽⁴⁾, b. 1821; d. Aug. 20, 1898; m. Hannah Crowell, b. 1816; d. Nov. 3, 1892.

CHILDREN:

- I. Delia L.⁽⁵⁾, b. 1853; d. 1927; m. Wyatt Fillimore Ward⁽⁵⁾, (son of Eldridge)
b. July 13, 1849; d. Sept. 10, 1912.

children:

1. Arthur⁽⁶⁾, b. Nov. 11, 1891;
d. April 12, 1983.
2. Ernest⁽⁶⁾, b. (?); d. 1967.

- II. Emma F.⁽⁵⁾, b. June 24, 1856; d. April 10, 1945;
m. January 6, 1875 John L. Goddard, b. June 24, 1847;

children:

1. Mabel Hattie⁽⁶⁾, b. May 18, 1877;
d. Jan. 22, 1936; m. May 20, 1895
George E. Jepson, b. 1871;
d. Oct. 31, 1900.

child:

Howard Kelsey Jepson,
b. May 1, 1900;
d. Dec. 19, 1918

Mabel Hattie⁽⁶⁾, m. (2nd)

Charles Eben Bailey, b. May 20, 18

children; d. June 26, 19

1. Letha⁽⁷⁾ Evelyn, b. Oct. 11, 19

2. Edna Mabel⁽⁷⁾, b. Jan. 9, 1917.

* See Bailey genealogy for their families.

children:

2. Bertha Mae⁽⁶⁾, b. June 6, 1881;
d. Jan 12, 1974; m. Frank McLaughlin,
b. May 30, 1870; d. Oct. 11, 1954.

children:

1. Lucille⁽⁷⁾, b. Mar. 9,
1906;
m. Jan. 18, 1927
Theodore Marnhardt.
 2. Maynard B. ⁽⁷⁾,
b. Mar. 4, 1909;
m. (1st) Oct. 9, 1928
Emily Spooner Shaw ⁽⁸⁾
m. (2nd) Dec. 11, 1947
Mary Rupp
3. Evelyn E. ⁽⁶⁾, b. Aug. 16, 1889;
d. April 7, 1969; m. April 26, 1910
Clarence F. Howard, b. Oct. 29, 1888
d. July 13, 1969.

children:

1. Leota b. ⁽⁷⁾, Mar. 11,
2. Deane Wilson ⁽⁷⁾,
b. Aug. 21, 1912
3. John Erwin ⁽⁷⁾,
b. Aug. 9, 1914

The Edmund Ward Family (son of Samuel Sr.)

Edmund ⁽³⁾ Ward, b. 1796; d. Sept. 1, 1876; m. January 30, 1822
Hannah Crowell, b. 1795; d. Sept. 6, 1872.

CHILDREN:

1. Eunice Clark ⁽⁴⁾, b. March 3, 1825; d. Oct. 23, 1904;
m. Aug. 23, 1845 Rev. Franklin Merriam, b. March 5, 1810;
d. December 10, 1893

children:

1. Edmund Franklin Merriam ⁽⁵⁾, b. Jan. 26, 1847;
d. Nov. 21, 1931; m. Abby Frances Baker.

children:

1. Ida Frances Merriam ⁽⁶⁾, b. Aug. 12,
2. Mary White Merriam
b. Oct. 9, 1881; d. Aug. 25, 1882
2. George Merriam ⁽⁵⁾, b. Nov. 30, 1856; d. Jan. 7, 1914
m. Eugenie Rennell, b. Nov. 2, 1864; d. 1927.

children:

1. George Rennell ⁽⁶⁾, b. June 19, 1883;
d. Aug. 14, 1968.
2. Frank Edmund ⁽⁶⁾, b. July 26, 1885;
d. 1975
3. Arthur Brobston ⁽⁶⁾, b. Dec. 2, 1887;
d. June, 1964
4. Ethel Eugenie ⁽⁶⁾, b. Sept. 7, 1890;
(Weeks) d. June 19, 1971.

5. Thornton⁶, b. Feb. 20, 1894;
6. Helen Eunice⁶, b. July 1895;
7. Ralph Foster⁶, b. June 26, 1897
8. Amy Marguerite⁶, b. Aug 16, 1900;
9. Marion Alice (Hooper)⁶, b. July 2, 19
3. Hattie Ward Merriam⁵, m. Charles Edward Eaton
children:
 1. Harold Merriam⁶, b. Feb. 9, 1891
 2. Guy Edwin⁶, b. June 6, 1895
2. Harriett Ward⁴, b. 1827; d. June 20, 1913;
m. Thomas S. Foster, b. 1824; d. Mar. 10, 186
children:
 1. Delia⁵, b. 1850; d. June 19, 1873
 2. Annie⁵, b. Oct. 14, 1852; d. June 24, 1925.
 3. Thomas Foster II⁵, b. 1857; d. 1944,
m. Georgia Hunnewell, b. May 21, 1875;
d. Feb. 12, 1962
 4. Edmund⁵, b. July 22, 1860; d. April 15, 1928
m. Lucy Spratt, b. Sept. 4, 1866; d. March 16, 189
child:
Lucille Foster⁶, m. Donald Wilson

The Abijah Ward Family (Son of Samuel)

Abijah⁽³⁾, b. 1799; d. Jan. 29, 1880; m. Aug. 16, 1821 Mary Tripp, b. 1800;
d. Mar. 2, 1880

CHILDREN:

1. Mary⁴ Etta⁴, b. 1834; d. Aug. 12, 1853
2. Emma⁴, b. 1838 or 1839 (adopted)
3. Wilbur⁴, b. 1841 (adopted); m. May 20, 1861 Sarah Thombs

The John Ward Family (Son of Samuel Sr.)

John³ Sanford Ward, b. June 18, 1805; d. July 2, 1862; m. Feb. 28, 1845
Charlotte Fowles, b. 1820; d. June 26, 1867.

CHILDREN:

1. John⁴ Sanford Jr., b. April 12, 1846; d. April 12, 1928.
2. Willis Randall, b. Feb. 3, 1850; d. Dec. 23, 1928.
3. Elizabeth Charlotte⁽⁴⁾, b. Dec. 31, 1862; d. Nov. 6, 1962.

John Sanford Ward Jr.⁽⁴⁾, b. April 12, 1846; d. April 12, 1928
m. (1st) Emma Bell Pickett (Greenwood County, Kansas) b. (?); d. 1887.

Child:

1. Albert Bartholomew⁽⁵⁾, b. 1886 (Kansas); d. 1932,
Borger Texas.

John Sanford Ward, Jr.⁽⁴⁾, m. (2nd) Estelle Victoria Hamm, b. 1881; d. 1961;
children of John and Estelle

1. Lucille⁽⁵⁾ Elizabeth, b. 1909;
2. Estelle⁽⁵⁾ Jeannette, b. 1911;
3. John⁽⁵⁾ Sanford III⁽⁵⁾, b. 1915;
4. Edith Elmira⁽⁵⁾, b. 1917;
5. Willis Randall⁽⁵⁾, b. 1920;

Lucille⁽⁵⁾ Elizabeth Ward, b. 1909; m. Albert James Hamm,
b. 1907; divorced 1934.

children:

1. Helen⁽⁶⁾ Irene Hamm, b. 1928 (Bay State, Texas)
m. Aized Joe Yamada, b. 1922 (1st)

children:

1. Sharon Beth⁽⁷⁾ Yamada (Cranford),
b. 1949; m. 1975 Vernon Glen Landrum,
b. 1952;
2. Susan Lynette Yamada (Renard), b. 1955
m. Jesse Franklin Cates, b. 1950
children: (8)
 1. David Isaac, b. 1971
 2. Amy, b. 1976
 3. Benjamin Ernst, b. 1976
 4. Rachel, Clare, b. 1977

Helen⁽⁶⁾ Irene Hamm, m. (2nd) Roy Alton Barge,
b. 1930

Lucille⁽⁵⁾ Elizabeth Hamm, m. (2nd) Robert Thomas Cranford,
b. 1910; d. 1976.

*Note:

Lucille⁽⁵⁾ Elizabeth Ward Hamm Cranford legally adopted
Sharon Beth Yamada, 1952.

*Note:

Helen Irene Hamm Yamada divorced Aized Yamada, and changed
her name to Revard in 1955.

2. Howell⁽⁶⁾ Victor Hamm, b. 1931; m. Mary Dianne
Condon, b. 1935

children:

1. Stephen⁽⁷⁾ Victor, b. 1959;
m. Deborah Ann Hannes, b. 1956
2. Kathleen⁽⁷⁾ Deborah, b. 1959
3. Ronda⁽⁷⁾, Elizabeth, b. 1962

Estelle⁽⁵⁾ Janette, b. 1911; m. 1936 LeRoy Emit Harrison
b. (?); d. 1974

children:

1. Charlotte⁽⁶⁾ Louise, b. 1937; m. (1st)
Edward Stutts.

children:

1. Alan⁽⁷⁾ Lenard, b. 1952
2. Donald⁽⁷⁾ Dean, b. 1958

1. Charlotte⁽⁶⁾ Louise, m. (2nd) 1975
Robert Frazier

child:

1. Robin Louise, b. 1975

2. Leroy⁽⁶⁾ Emit Harrison Jr., b. 1948;
Vietnam veteran

3. Larry⁽⁶⁾ Ernest Harrison, b. 1948
m. Kathy Jean Hadley, 1968

children:

1. Larry Ernest Harrison III⁽⁷⁾, b.
2. Crystal Jean⁽⁷⁾, b. 1970

John⁽⁵⁾ Sanford Ward III, b. 1915; m. 1934 Mary Arl Gilley,
b. 1916;

children:

1. Mary⁽⁶⁾ Arl, b. 1936 (Houston, Texas)
m. 1960 Alton Sparks, b. (?); d. 1965 (1st)

children:

1. Betty⁽⁷⁾ Arl, b. 1962
2. Kemper Ann, b. 1963

Mary⁽⁶⁾ m. L.D. Lowe 1971 (2nd)

2. John⁽⁶⁾ Sanford Ward IV, b. 1936; m. (1st)
1960 Shirley Parten

child:

1. John Sanford Ward V, b. 1962

John⁽⁶⁾ Sanford Ward IV, m. (2nd) 1971
Jane Allen

child:

1. Shane Allen, b. 1977

Edith⁽⁵⁾ Elmira Ward, b. 1917; m. 1933 Fred Atwood Bruner,
b. 1914; d. 1962.

child:

Dolores⁽⁶⁾ Janet, b. 1933; m. (1st) 1953
David Alfred Lewis, b. 1933;

children:

1. David Alfred Lewis Jr., b. 1955
m. 1955 Yolonda Charles

2. Timothy Fred Lewis, b. 1959

3. Denise Janet, b. 1960

Dolores⁽⁶⁾ Janet, m. (2nd) 1932 Clarence Gene
b. 1932.

child:

Angela Dawn, b. 1968

Willis⁵ Randall Ward, b. 1920; Maida Fay Wilson, b. 1925
children:

1. Melvin Randall Ward⁶, b. 1945;
m. 1965 Patricia Myers, b. 1947
children:
 1. Randall⁷ Barrett, b. 1967
 2. Kerri Deanne⁷, b. 1971
2. Allen Ray, b. 1949; m. 1970
Janice Mitchell, b. 1951
child:
 1. Regema Lynn, b. 1971

The Willis R. Ward Family (Son of John³)

Willis Randall Ward⁴, b. Feb. 3, 1850; d. Dec. 23, 1928; m. May 1, 1879
Mary Ada Nelson b. April 1, 1860; d. May 30, 1941

CHILDREN:

1. Mabelle⁵ Nelson, b. Sept. 27, 1883; d. Feb. 26, 1916;
m. William Blaine Bailey, b. April 3, 1883; d. Aug. 29, 1964
child:

1. Nelson⁶ Ward, b. Jan. 24, 1907
m. June 30, 1932 Marion Fisher Rowe,
b. Jan. 14, 1905

children:⁷

1. Joanne⁷, b. Oct. 12, 1933; m. March 20, 1954
Gordon Wells Anderson, b. Feb. 14, 1932;
divorced in 1977

children:⁸

1. Todd⁸ Wells, b. Nov. 3, 1956
2. Lauren⁸, b. April 30, 1958
3. Kristian⁸ Wells, b. Feb. 20, 1961
d. May 14, 1983

2. Nelson⁷ Ward Bailey Jr., b. Aug. 3, 1936
m. July 28, 1962 Carol Sideris, b. Jan. 7, 1941;

children:⁸

1. Kim⁸, b. Dec. 2, 1966
2. Peter⁸ Nelson, b. Mar. 23, 1969
3. David⁸ Christopher, b. May 31, 1973
3. Jean⁷, b. Sept. 10, 1941

2. Florence⁵ Ada, b. Feb. 27, 1888; d. June 30, 1979;
m. Nov. 12, 1912 Percy Taylor, b. April 22, 1887;
d. June 7, 1948.

child:

1. Katherine⁶ Mary Taylor, b. Nov. 15, 1919;
m. Nov. 28, 1946 Ray Riggs, b. Sept. 1, 1915;

children:

1. David⁷, b. Oct. 18, 1949; m. July 25, 1969
Jane Conlogue, b. Sept. 27, 1950
children (adopted)
 1. Megan⁸, b. June 29, 1975
 2. Shawn⁸, b. Aug. 14, 1980
2. John⁷, b. Sept. 20, 1953; m. Oct. 11, 197
Brenda White, b. Jan. 1, 1956;

Elizabeth⁽⁴⁾ Emma Ward Family (daughter of John)

Elizabeth⁽⁴⁾ Emma Ward; b. Dec. 31, 1862; d. Nov. 6, 1962, m.
Dr. Walter Scott Brainard, b. 1859; d. 1930
Dr. Brainard was born in China, and was a family physician in Bristol, Maine
He later moved to Bradford, Mass. His medical office was in Haverhill, Mass.

CHILDREN:

1. Eugene⁽⁵⁾, b. 1886; d. 1887
2. Edith⁽⁵⁾, b. 1889; d. 1891 | buried in Ward plot of
China Village cemetery.
3. Helen⁽⁵⁾, b. 1890; d. 1901
4. Charlotte⁽⁵⁾ Maria, b. 1887; d. 1901
5. Arthur⁽⁵⁾ Travena, b. Nov. 10, 1888; d. 1972
6. Katherine⁽⁵⁾ Elizabeth, b. Dec. 30, 1892
7. Newell⁽⁵⁾ Fredus, b. 1895
8. Walter⁽⁵⁾ Erwin, b. 1896
9. Carroll⁽⁵⁾ Lewis, b. 1898
10. Carl⁽⁵⁾ Emil, b. 1899
11. Dorothy⁽⁵⁾ Spencer, b. 1904

Charlotte⁵ M. Brainard, b. 1887; d. 1976, m. George B. Whitney,
b. 1882; d. 1937

CHILDREN:

1. John⁶ Brainard, b. June 22, 1916, m. Sept. 30, 1939
Edith Sellers, b. June 9, 1907

CHILD:

1. Charlotte⁷ Rae, b. Aug. 8, 1940, m.
April 10, 1963 William Ronald Edwards,
b. Aug. 11, 1940

CHILDREN:

1. Elizabeth⁸ Allison, b. Jan. 31, 1965
2. William⁸ David, b. April 4, 1966
3. John⁸ Matthew, b. Oct. 1, 1969
4. Laura⁸ Suzanne, b. July 28, 1972
2. Cynthia⁶ Ruth, b. March 25, 1942, m. Nov. 5, 1961
John Harrold Billings, b. Nov. 1, 1938

CHILD:

1. Lisa⁷ Marie, b. Nov. 26, 1968
3. Lynda⁶ Jeanne, b. Feb. 19, 1946, m. May 26, 1968
Peter Thomas Sheppard, b. Mar. 9, 1946

CHILDREN:

1. Gregory⁷ Peter, b. Oct. 26, 1974
2. Brian⁷ Whitney, b. Jan. 1, 1976

Arthur⁵ Travena Brainard, b. Nov. 10, 1888; d. May 29, 1972,
m. August 17, 1911 Rena J. Thomas, b. April 30, 1885; d. Sept. 14,
1973

CHILD:

1. Martha⁶ Thomas, b. Mar. 2, 1919, m. Aug. 30, 1941
Henry Seymour Angel, b. Jan. 20, 1919

CHILDREN:

1. Elizabeth⁷ Jeanne, b. Oct. 18, 1943,
m. March 11, 1968, Robert John Sabol,
b. Dec. 5, 1941

CHILDREN:

1. Robert⁸ John Sabol Jr., b. July 7, 1970
2. Scott⁸ Joseph, b. Nov. 19, 1971
3. Theresa⁸ Joanne, b. Nov. 14, 1974

children of Martha and Henry Angel

2. Carol⁷ Joyce, b. April 19, 1945, m. July 8, 1967

John Russell Morris, b. Sept. 27, 1943

CHILDREN:

1. Devon⁸ Gale, b. May 6, 1973

2. Erwin⁸ Angel, b. Dec. 26, 1974

3. Derek⁷ Eliot, b. May 21, 1977

3. David⁷ John Angel, b. April 13, 1949, m. June 23, 1971

Sharon Rose Carl, b. Feb. 17, 1948

CHILD:

1. Heather⁸ Lynn Angel, b. Mar. 4, 1976

Newell⁵ Fredus Brainard, b. 1895; d. 1921, m.

Jessie M. Read, b. 1898; d. 1962

CHILDREN:

1. Marjorie⁶ Read, m. 1946 Donald Alston, b. 1921
b. 1924

CHILDREN:

1. Nancy⁷ Elizabeth, b. 1948, m. 1970

Wayne A. Skogland

CHILDREN:

1. Christoph⁸ John, b. 1974

2. Elizabeth⁷ Jane, b. 1977

2. Jane⁷ Merideth, m. 1974 Robert Solar

b. 1950

CHILD:

1. Matthew⁸ Harry, b. 1977

3. John⁷ Thomas, b. 1956

2. Beverly⁶ Ann, b. 1929, m. 1950 Frederick Hoering,
b. 1929

CHILDREN:

1. John⁷ Frederick, b. 1952

2. Carol⁷ Leslie, b. 1954, m. 1974 Alan Edgar Ralph

3. David⁷ Newell, b. 1956

4. Gail⁷ Beverly, b. 1960

Walter⁵ Erwin Brainard, b. 1896, m. Verl Emma Harlan

CHILDREN:

1. Peggy Jayne⁶, b. 1929, m. Kenneth Rudolph Franklin, b. 1

CHILDREN:

1. Michael⁷ Brent, b. 1954

2. Karen⁷ Sue, b. 1956

3. Steven⁷ Kent, b. 1957

4. Marcia⁷ Ann, b. 1962

2. Carole⁸ Emma, b. 1933, m. Thomas Aaron Hicke, b. 1933

CHILDREN:

1. Linda⁷ Ann, b. 1961

2. Jeffray⁷ Alan, b. 1963

3. Brian⁷, b. 1964

3. Walter⁸ Scott, b. 1936, m. Betty Lynn Waite, b. 1939

CHILDREN:

1. Lisa⁷ Dianne, b. 1965

2. Pamela⁷ Jean, b. 1967

3. Julie⁷ Ann, b. 1969

Carroll⁵ Lewis Brainard, b. 1898; d. 1928; m. Isabelle M. Dey

CHILD: 6

Nancy Ward Brainard, b. 1925; m. Henry John
Ritmeaster, b. 1925

Nancy Ward⁶ Brainard m. Henry John Ritmeaster

CHILDREN:

1. Christine⁷ Beth, b. 1951
m. Gregory Lynn Kosan
divorced
2. Beverly⁷ Ann, b. 1953
3. Henry Carroll, b. 1957, m. 1978
Julie Rhodes Hergenrather, b. 1957

Carl⁵ Eugene Brainard, b. June 5, 1899; m. 1970, approx.

Anna May Coy no children

Dorothy Spencer⁵ Brainard, b. June 1, 1904; m. July 27, 1927

Evert Abram Bancker Jr., M. D. , b. Feb. 2, 1899, Atlanta, Ga.

CHILDREN:

1. Evert⁶ Abram III, b. Aug. 25, 1928; m.
Aug. 23, 1946 Janet Orton, b. Sept. 10, 1928
divorced in 1960

CHILDREN:

1. Pamela⁷ Boelen, b. July 5, 1952 in
Denver, Colo. m. Jan. 1977
Richard Lifton
2. Christopher Brainard, b. Nov. 26, 1957
d. Sept. 15, 1972

2. Belitje⁶ Dayckinek, b. Mar. 18, 1934;
m. Bert Robert Oastler, b. Oct. 19, 1933

CHILDREN:

1. Elizabeth⁷ Bancker, b. Nov. 4, 1957
 2. Elaine⁷ Bryan, b. Aug. 29, 1961
 3. Thomas⁷ William, b. Aug. 5, 1963
3. Katherine Williams, b. June 25, 1935;
m. June 1, 1957 Daniel Johnson, b. Jan. 26, 1934

CHILD:

1. Dana⁷ Bandker, b. 1959
two adopted
 2. Richard, b. Mar. 9, 1961
 3. Lori, b. May 3, 1962
4. Dorothy⁶ Brainard, b. Dec. 8, 1936; m. Dec. 11,
1958 Robert Peel Holmes III, M.D., b. Mar. 28, 1919

CHILDREN:

1. Robert⁷ Peel Holmes IV, b. Sept. 20,
1959
2. Charlotte⁷ Brainard, b. July 2, 1961
3. Thomas⁷ Woolen, b. Feb. 8, 1964

The Ariel⁽³⁾ Ward Family (son of Abijah Jr.)

Ariel⁽³⁾ Ward, b. 1798; m. int. Dec. 21, 1824 Althea Herberth

CHILDREN:

1. Ariel⁽⁴⁾ Herbert, b. 1829; d. 1909; m. Ellen Violet Dearborn
children:
 1. Herbert⁽⁵⁾ Foster, b. 1875; m. Mae Powell
 2. Lauren⁽⁵⁾ Custer, b. 1877; m. Rita Nellie Church
child:
 1. Margaret⁽⁶⁾ Helen Ward, b. 1908
2. Helen⁽⁴⁾ B.
3. Julia⁽⁴⁾
4. Mary⁽⁴⁾
5. Wilbur⁽⁴⁾
6. Eva L.⁽⁴⁾, m. _____ Swift
children:
 1. Maude⁽⁵⁾
 2. Annie⁽⁵⁾
 3. Ida⁽⁵⁾

The Solon⁽⁴⁾ Ward Family (1st son of Samuel Jr.)

Solon Ward⁽⁴⁾, b. 1818; m. Hannah Jackson, b. 1817, in 1847

CHILDREN:

1. Elizabeth⁽⁵⁾, b. 1848
2. Samuel W.⁽⁵⁾, b. 1849

The Greenleaf⁽⁴⁾ W. Ward Family (son of Franklin⁽³⁾)

Greenleaf⁽⁴⁾ Weston Ward, b. 1837; d. 1897; m. Araminter Thomas Brown Nov. 11, 1873

CHILDREN:

1. Mary⁽⁵⁾ Brown, b. 1875; m. Ralph Leighton, b. 1875
child:
 1. Harry⁽⁶⁾ L.C. Leighton, b. 1904
2. Josephine⁽⁵⁾ Thomas Ward, b. 1876

The Frank⁽⁴⁾ Millard Ward Family (son of Franklin⁽³⁾)

Frank⁽⁴⁾ Millard Ward, b. 1851; m. 1st Louise O. Whitehouse, b. 1866

CHILDREN:

1. David⁽⁵⁾, b. 1883; m. Lidu Odett
2. Lulu⁽⁵⁾, B. b. 1885
3. Humboldt N.⁽⁵⁾, b. 1866

Frank⁽⁴⁾ Millard Ward m. 2nd Jennie Anderson, b. 1866

CHILD:

1. Frank⁽⁵⁾ Millard Ward Jr., b. 1902

The Danville⁽⁴⁾ Ward Family (son of Franklin⁽³⁾)

Danville⁽⁴⁾ Ward, b. 1835, m. Ella Brown

CHILDREN:

1. Stella⁽⁵⁾, m. Richard Lloyd
2. Fred⁽⁵⁾, m. John Lloyd
3. Gertrude⁽⁵⁾, m. John Lloyd

The Abram (Abraham) Ward Family (son of Samuel, Sr.)

Abram⁽³⁾ Ward, b. 1807; d. July 6, 1880; m. (1st) Mary Fairfield,
b. Feb. 26, 1814; d. Sept 5, 1902

CHILD:

1. Annette⁽⁴⁾, b. (?) m. March 19, 1851 Asel Stanley
(one child, a daughter, born in Montana Territory.
The whole family is assumed to have been killed
by Indians.)

Abram⁽³⁾ m. (2nd) Mary Crowell *Oct. 21, 1841*

CHILD:

1. Freeman⁽⁴⁾ Crowell, b. 1848; d. Feb. 19, 1929;
m. Etta I. Baker, b. Dec. 21, 1865; d. Oct. 23, 1973

CHILDREN:

1. Hattie⁽⁵⁾, b. May 25, 1890; d. Jan. 2, 1972
m. Everett Johnson, b. Sept. 25, 1894;
d. June 6, 1977

CHILDREN:

1. Byron⁽⁶⁾ Robert Johnson, b. Nov. 21, 1922
m. Irene Chapat, b. July 13, 1921

CHILDREN:

1. Peter⁽⁷⁾ Byron, b. June 19, 1943;
m. Sept. 7, 1968 Helena Webber,
b. March 3, 1947

CHILDREN:

1. Jennifer⁽⁸⁾, (b) Jan. 15, 1970
2. Parker Byron⁽⁸⁾, b. Aug. 31, 1973
2. Rickey⁽⁷⁾ Earl, b. May 16, 1947
m. Lillian Katuska (1st) May 1, 1971
Rickey⁽⁷⁾ Earl, m. (2nd)
Kristin Anderson, b. June 12, 1947
stepCHILDREN:

1. Michelle Dodge Johnson
2. Erin Hanna Johnson

3. Candance⁽⁷⁾, b. June 21, 1952
m. Edward Ketch (1st)
m. Steven F. Vinette (2nd) May 15, 1981
(b) June 13, 1944

2. Karl⁽⁶⁾ Allan, b. Jan. 12, 1930;
m. Florence Curtis, Nov. 27, 1946

CHILDREN:

1. Everett⁽⁷⁾ Alan, b. March 12, 1947
m. Lorne Williams, March 5, 1966

CHILDREN:

1. Barbara⁽⁸⁾ Elaine, b. Aug. 12, 1961
2. Karlene⁽⁷⁾ Dianne, b. Feb. 28, 1948
m. Robert Witham, June 8, 1968

CHILDREN:

1. Amy⁽⁸⁾ Lynn, b. Jan. 11, 1971
2. Becky⁽⁸⁾ Ann, b. Jan. 1, 1974
3. Ruth⁽⁷⁾ Ann, b. Dec. 1, 1952
m. Mark Stone, Oct. 6, 1973

CHILDREN:

1. Jason⁽⁸⁾ Karl, b. June 24, 1975
2. Jared⁽⁸⁾ Kain, b. Jan. 27, 1977

Abram⁽³⁾ m. (2nd) Mary Crowell, cont.

CHILD:

1. Freeman⁽⁴⁾ Crowell, b. 1848; d. Feb. 19, 1929, m; April 12, 1899
Etta I. Baker, b. Dec. 21, 1865; d. Oct. 23, 1973 (107 yrs.)
(Freeman was a Civil War Veteran)

CHILDREN:

2. Carroll⁽⁵⁾, b. April 28, 1896; d. Sept. 8, 1966;
m. Oct. 22, 1921, Ruth Baker, b. June 12, 1903

CHILDREN:

1. Donald⁽⁶⁾, b. Aug. 25, 1925
killed World War II April 6, 1945.
2. Theresa⁽⁶⁾, b. Dec. 19, 1923;
m. Leon Plaisted, Nov. 25, 1945
b. Oct. 22, 1923
3. Pauline⁽⁶⁾, b. Oct. 21, 1926;
m. Elwood Tobey, b. Oct. 31, 1925

CHILD:

- Donald Elwood⁽⁷⁾
b. June 30, 1947
m. Sept. 1, 1967 (1st)
Beverly Bailey, b. May 23, 1942
divorced Sept. 30, 1980

CHILD:

1. Corey⁽⁸⁾ Donald,
b. Aug. 8, 1969
- Donald Elwood⁽⁷⁾,
m. (2nd) Marcia Craig Philbrook,
b. 1953, Aug. 20, 1983 married

The Randall Ward Family (son of Samuel, Sr.)

Randall⁽³⁾ Ward, b. 1809; d. 1849 (in Canada) m. Dec. 30, 1833
Elizabeth Fowles, b. 1811; d. 1887.

(Randall Ward and John Ward married the Fowles sisters)

CHILDREN:

1. Julia⁽⁴⁾ F., b. 1836; d. Feb. 19, 1905
2. Albert⁽⁴⁾ Rand, b. May 19, 1840; d. April 7, 1905;
m. April 18, 1870 Abbie B. Weeks, b. 1846; d. 1926.
(Albert was a Civil War Veteran)

CHILD:

- Sadie⁽⁵⁾ Ward, b. Sept. 22, 1871; d. April 13, 1954.
Dec. 31, 1910, Fred Denico, b. 1876; d. 1934.
3. Edwin A.⁽⁴⁾, b. Oct. 10, 1847; d. April 16, 1922;
m. (1st) Jan. 1, 1874 Esther Jones, b. Nov. 4, 1854;
d. Aug. 14, 1878

CHILD:

1. Willis⁽⁵⁾ E., b. Oct. 7, 1875; d. Mar. 18, 1951;
m. Oct. 26, 1920 Elizabeth (Lizzie) Fish,
b. March 15, 1888; d. Aug. 10, 1966.

CHILDREN:

1. Francis⁽⁶⁾ James; b. Feb. 16, 1922;
d. Dec. 31, 1922
2. Raymond⁽⁶⁾, b. Oct. 8, 1924;
m. Patricia Kearne, b. April 25, 1927
married on June 4, 1949

CHILDREN: See next page ...

children of Willis⁽⁵⁾ E. and
Lizzie Fish Ward

1. Francis⁽⁶⁾ James, b. Feb. 16, 1922;
d. Dec. 31, 1922.
2. Raymond⁽⁶⁾, b. Oct. 8, 1924;
m. Patricia Kearne, b. April 25, 1927

CHILDREN:

1. Susan⁽⁷⁾ Hamilton, b. Oct. 18,
1950
2. Patricia⁽⁷⁾ Anne, b. Aug. 6,
1952
3. Michael⁽⁷⁾ Raymond, b. Oct. 28,
1961
3. Barbara Elizabeth⁽⁶⁾, b. Nov. 14, 1926
d. Mar. 25, 1927.

3. Edwin⁽⁴⁾, b. Oct. 10, 1847; d. April 16, 1922
m. (2nd) Dec. 9, 1883, Clara Haskell, b. 1863

CHILD:

1. Albert⁽⁵⁾ R., b. April 29, 1885; d. June 28, 1962.

Ann P. Ward (daughter of Samuel, Sr.)

Ann⁽³⁾ P. , b. 1815; d. 1853; m. int. Oct. 5, 1851, David Patterson

The Abijah Ward Family genealogy is a joint project of Mrs. Kathryn Jackson and Nelson W. Bailey. Material has been obtained from the Maine State Archives, cemetery records, History of Kennebec County, History of Hingham, Mass., Sinnett's Ward Genealogy, and from many individuals who are descended from Abijah Ward Sr. There are some gaps, especially in the Thomas S. Ward family which we hope to fill. Joanne Anderson has been especially helpful in organizing and typing the material.

The Descendents of Josiah Ward (one of the first settlers of China, Maine)

Kingsbury's History of Kennebec County states that Josiah Ward was one of the early settlers of Jones Plantation (Harlem, China). He is said to have built the first frame house in the town. Josiah was born in Hingham, Mass., and probably came to China at about the same time as his cousin, Abijah and Abijah's three sons, Abijah Jr., Thomas, and Samuel.

Josiah and Abijah Sr. were first cousins. Josiah was the son of Edward Ward, whose brother was Nehemiah, the father of Abijah. Josiah settled on the east side of China Lake and Abijah and his three sons on the west side. Josiah is believed to have arrived in 1775-76.

The census of 1790 indicates that the Josiah Ward family had four males and eight females. If Josiah Jr. and wife lived with Josiah Sr. and wife, we believe we have accounted for all family members except one daughter. The early records are so inadequate that it is impossible to be sure of the family composition.

It appears that the males were Josiah Sr., Josiah Jr., Jonathan, and Nehemiah. Early records cannot place the following females in the Abijah Sr. family thus they appear to belong in Josiah's family.

1. Sarah² who married Stephen Dexter Nov. 30, 1799
2. Eunice² who married Japhthea Thomas June 13, 1802
3. Ruth² who married Silvanus Herlow April 4, 1809
4. Mercy² who married 1st _____ Sylvester; 2nd Labon Spratt
5. Polly² (Mary) who married Elder Nathaniel Robinson, b. 1778; d. Nov. 8, 1868

It is interesting to note that the first town meeting in the new town of Harlem was held on March 28, 1796. Elected as officers were several of the Ward family. Josiah Ward Sr. was elected, Surveyor of Highways. Thomas Ward and Josiah were elected Fence Viewers. Samuel Ward was chosen as Fence Viewer and Field Surveyor. Abijah Jr. was given the unusual position of Hog Reaver.

Josiah Sr. was a selectman in 1797-98 and 1801. His son Josiah Jr. was a selectman from 1807 to 1812 and again from 1814 to 1817. Josiah Jr. was also town treasurer from 1805 to 1816.

Josiah Ward, b. May 5, 1747; d. 1817; m. Dec. 2, 1767 Deborah Bates (she was the 5th generation of Edward Bates, Weymouth, Mass.)

CHILDREN:

- | | |
|--------------------------|------------------------------|
| 1. Josiah ² | 4. Sarah ² |
| 2. Jonathan ² | 5. Eunice ² |
| 3. Nehemiah ² | 6. Ruth ² |
| | 7. Mercy ² |
| | 8. Polly ² (Mary) |
| | 9. unknown (1) |

1. Josiah Jr., b. (1777-78) m. _____
2. Jonathan² b.(?) m. Feb. 21, 1799 Eunice Lord (Vassalboro)

CHILD:

1. Roxanne, b. 1829; d. 1896

Eunice Lord Ward, m. Aug. 24, 1806 John Marden (Palermo) 2nd husband

3. Nehemiah² Ward, b. 1785(?); m. Nov. 10, 1808 Polly (Mary) Linn (Winslow)

CHILD:

1. Nathaniel³, b. 1813; d. June 30, 1855; m. Feb. 14, 1832

Betsy Brewster

- (1) Nancy Ward b. 1799, d. 1889, m. _____ Mitchell, may be the missing daughter of Josiah Sr.

children of Nathaniel and Betsy Browster:

1. Emily⁴, b. 1834
2. Ezra⁴, b. 1836 (Civil War Veteran)
3. Elisha⁴
John⁴, b. 1840 twins
4. Reneville⁴, b. 1842

Ezra⁴, b. 1836; d. 1909, m. 1853 Syltany Andrews (Thomaston);
b. 1836; d. April 11, 1925.

CHILDREN:

1. Ada⁵ R.; b. 1854; d. 1938; m. 1st Herbert Haswell
2nd Henry Melvin
(Civil War Vet)
3rd Thomas Norton
2. Sanford⁵ N., b. July 1, 1856; d. 1919; m.
Nellie

CHILD:

1. Stella⁶, m. Earlin Grover

CHILD:

1. Erline⁷ Grover

3. Walter⁵ John, b. 1859; d. 1937 (Augusta); m.
1st Alice Ames, b. (?); d. 1926 divorced 1899.
2nd Elizabeth Wells, b. 1865; d. 1902; m. 1902
3rd Mariah Bradford, b. (?) d. after 1937

children of Walter and Alice Ward:

1. Harry⁶ W., b. 1881; d. 1918; m. Bertha Jordan (Dorchester,
England)

CHILDREN:

1. Harry⁷, b. 1902
2. Pansy⁷, b. 1905; d. 1977
3. Leola⁷, b. 1907; d. 1972
4. Doris⁷, b. 1910
5. Merthyne⁷, b. 1915
6. Walter⁷, b. 1917

2. Albert⁶ E., b. 1889; d. 1963; m. Amelia Schimek, b. July 10, 1890
Austria;
d. 1976

CHILDREN:

1. Valerie⁷ Alice, b. Feb. 18, 1917; m. 1939
Patrick J. Finnegan, b. 1912

CHILDREN:

1. Alice⁸, b. May 28, 1945; m. Kehoe
Ireland

CHILDREN:

1. Brenton⁹, b. Dec. 3, 1970
2. Dearmuit⁹, b. Aug. 17, 1972

2. Evelyn⁷ Marie, b. Jan. 1, 1921; m. May 30, 1944
Albert C. Althern, b. May 22, 1921; d. Aug. 10,
1983

CHILDREN:

1. Albert⁸ Ward Althern, b. April 27, 1945
2. Ronald Charles Althern, b. May 9, 1947
m.

CHILD:

Ronald Charles⁹ II, b. Feb. 18
1978

children of Evelyn and Albert Althern, cont.

3. Beverly⁸ Maria, b. Dec. 8, 1951,
m. Peter A. Mairs

CHILDREN:

1. Peter Allen⁹ Jr., b. Sept. 19,
1971
2. Suzanne⁹, b. Jan. 6, 1974

3. Alice⁶ Ward, b. 1898; d. 1912 (Providence, R. I.)

The material on the Josiah Ward family has been supplied by Mrs. Evelyn Althern (a seventh generation descendent of Josiah Sr.) with the assistance of Nelson Ward Bailey (a seventh generation descendent of Abijah Sr.). It has been impossible to get exact dates for the early members of Josiah's family. The material presented is believed to be correct.

Page 114:

Japheth Washburn, d. Sep. 6, 1828.

Page 115:

Helen (daughter of Maria Washburn).

Page 116:

Edith Crosby, d. Aug. 20, 1975 in China, Maine.

Page 117:

Cynthia Ann, occupational therapist, Dearborn, MI.

Ruth Washburn Clifford⁶, director of nursing, nursing home, Alpena, MI.,
m. Edwin Howe Rosenthaler (b. Dec. 22, 1921).

CHILDREN:

1. Margaret Ruth, nurse, Ann Arbor, MI.
2. Edith Clare, b. Jul. 26, 1952; m. Jun. 19, 1976, Boris Gerber (b. Jul. 20, 1952).
 1. Edwin Paul Gerber, b. May 18, 1978.
 2. Thomas George Gerber, b. Jun 18, 1980.
3. Albert Edwin Rosenthaler, CPA, Denver, Colo., b. Aug. 29, 1959.

Timothy Edmund O'Connor, cancer researcher, (b. Cork, Ireland, Williamsville, N. Y).

2. Mary Kathleen, m. Jun. 9, 1979, James Edward Crump, (b. Jun. 26, 1957).
4. Ruth Patricia, m. Apr. 30, 1983, William Kay (b. Sep. 4, 1957).

Edward Washburn Gaunce⁷, m. (2nd) Feb. 15, 1979, Marilyn Christino (b. Apr. 28, 1944).

1. See 1975 edition, Book II, pp. 114-118. This information was furnished by Margaret Clifford of China Village.

A U S T I Np. 1¹

Sarah Ann, married Jan. 20, 1841.
 Almira Fry, married Dec. 25, 1845.

p. 2

Austin Leroy, born South China.
 mar. Mahala (Peggy) Whitman, Aug. 15, 1936,
 Cambridge, Mass.
 Mahala Whitman, born Dec. 25, 1909, Cambridge, Mass; died Jul. 30,
 1966, Atlanta, Ga.
 Edith Pearle, died Aug. 4, 1975, Cincinnati, Ohio.
 Gail Austin, born Apr. 23, 1945.
 Leroy Austin Starrett, born Sep. 18, 1907, South China.
 George Wicke, died Feb. 18, 1975, Cincinnati, Ohio.
 Harry Austin, died Dec. 31, 1960, Vassalboro.
 Lena Austin, died May 29, 1978, Waterville.
 Ann Austin, born May 25, 1940, Whittier, Calif.

CHILDREN:

Eric Winslow, b. Jun. 8, 1975, Long Beach, Calif.
 Jonathan Isaac, b. Nov. 27, 1978, Long Beach, Calif.
 Robert Spender, born Nov. 17, 1945, Cheshire, Conn.

CHILDREN:

1. David Don, b. Jul. 13, 1974, Philadelphia, Penna.
 2. Deborah Joy, b. Feb. 15, 1976, New London, Conn.
 3. Joshua John, b. Mar. 27, 1978, New London, Conn.
 Thomas Clark, died Sep. 12, 1978, Baltimore, Md.
 Joan Elizabeth Clark, name changed to Joann Clark Austin.
 Robert H. Clark, mar. Feb. 13, 1975, Baltimore, Md., Marilyn
 Foster, b. Apr. 29, 1946, Lubbock, Texas.

CHILDREN:

Matthew Thomas, b. Oct. 25, 1975, Baltimore, Md.
 Tamara Dawn, b. Mar. 14, 1980, Baltimore, Md.
 Michael David, b. Jan. 8, 1983, Baltimore, Md.
 Audrey Austin, born Dec. 28, 1911, Baltimore, Md.
 Richard E. Austin, m. Dec. 21, 1968, Delmar, Md., Margaret Ann
 Ennis, b. Jul. 28, 1940, Salisbury, Md.

CHILD:

Wendell Warren, b. Dec. 2, 1970, Salisbury, Md.

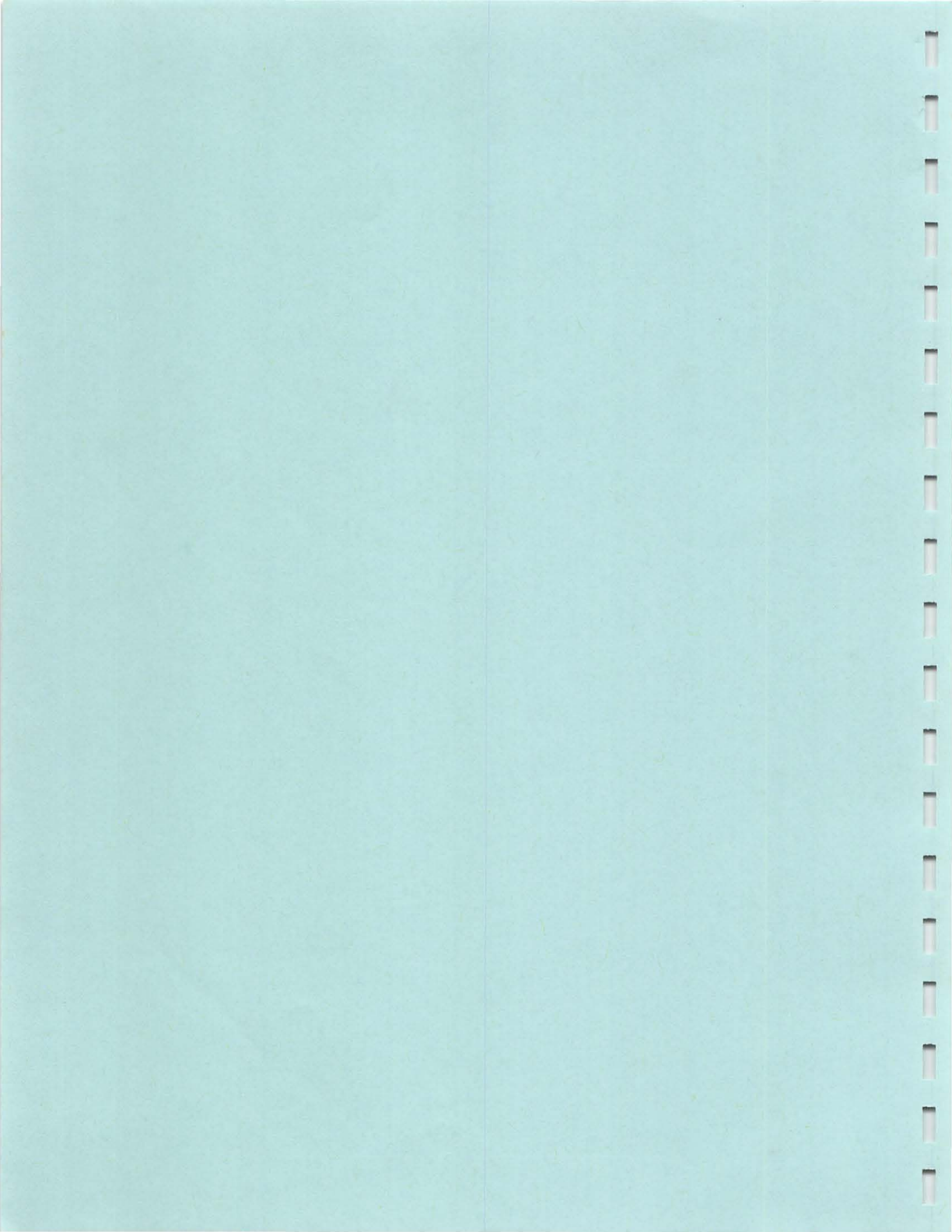
1. Page reference is the 1975 edition, Book II. This information was provided by Marion Jones, Evelyn Wicke and Geneva Holton.

Austin 2

p. 2 Gail Austin, mar., Boone, No. Car.
Judith Austin, divorced David Ning, mar. Wendell Westbrook,
b. Nov. 2, 1933.
CHILD:
Ryan Kenneth, b. Aug. 26, 1975, Albuquerque, New Mex.

p. 3 Linda Mae Rade.
Karen Suzanne Currier.
Nancy Jane Austin, mar., Parsonsburg, Md., Alden Tobias Eash,
b. Aug. 17, 1950, Milford, Del. Mar. Apr. 17, 1976.
Mark Douglas Austin, mar., Ross, Calif., Oct. 4, 1975, Janice Ann
Eichhorn, b. Oct. 27, 1952, Long Beach, Calif.
CHILDREN:
1. Sarah Elizabeth, b. Jun. 29, 1980, San Rafael, Calif.
2. Maggie Catherine, b. Dec. 13, 1981, San Rafael, Calif.
Donald Everett Baker and Linda Mae Rade,
CHILDREN:
1. Carly Ann, b. May 23, 1972, Farmington, Mich.
2. Shana Mae, b. Aug. 15, 1975, Petoskey, Mich.
3. Tarya Amy, b. Jul. 27, 1978, Petoskey, Mich.
James Austin Baker, mar., South China, Geraldine Sayre, Sep. 1, 1979,
b. Oct. 24, 1949, Highland Park, Mich. Her son by first
marriage is Jeffrey Sayre, b. Feb. 28, 1973, Wayne, Mich.
Linda Jean Colwell and Cyrus Currier,
CHILDREN:
1. Karen Suzanne, b. Dec. 11, 1972, Great Falls, Mont.
2. Kristy Lynn, b. Jan. 22, 1974, Great Falls, Mont.
Ronald Austin Colwell and Crystal Williams were divorced. He mar.,
Winslow, Me., Mar. 25, 1979, Kathy Bernatchez, b. Jun. 23,
1956, Waterville, Me.
CHILD:
Ryan John, b. Nov. 22, 1980, Waterville, Me.
Thomas Jay Austin, mar, South China, May 9, 1981, Lynda Jean Laney,
b. Aug. 15, 1961, Gardiner, Me.
Susan W. Chapin (Holton), born Apr. 30, 1942.

p. 4 Austin-Leroy Starrett, born South China.
Philip Jacob Wicke, mar. (2), Eppie Vazquez.
Austin L. Starrett, born South China.
Martha Elizabeth Starrett, mar. Dacatur, Ga.
Robert Ernest Starrett, mar., Bacolod City, Philippines,
Mar. 12, 1972, Ally M. De McCutter, b. Sep. 18, 1944,
La Carlota City, Philippines.
Edith Austin married George Wicke (not Wicks). George died
Feb. 18, 1975, Cincinnati, Ohio; Edith d., Aug. 4, 1975,
Cincinnati, Ohio.



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