



Old Broad Bay Family History Association

E. WILDER FARLEY SCHOONER

John Henry Mohrmann, Painter
1891

NS Volume 22 No. 3 SUMMER 2024 *To Search and to Share*

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Happy Summer Dear Friends, I hope you are all well! There are moments in every season that seem to embody the best weather one can hope for in that season. Several of those fine moments occurred on June 15th, Waldoboro Day, the annual showcase of Waldoboro civic pride. The weather was perfect! Bright blue skies, puffy white clouds, and comfortable temperatures. The gardens around town were blooming, and the lupine were breathtaking. Deirdre and I spent the day hosting an informational table for the OBBFHA at the Waldoboro Historical Society Museum. As always, WHS President Bill Maxwell made us feel right at home, even as he coordinated the day's events throughout the town. Archeologist Harbour Mitchell was the docent on duty at the museum and we had the pleasure of spending the day talking with him about his latest field work in Waldoboro (see article below). We also had the opportunity to speak with several of our members, including Mark Benner, Peter Achorn, Dr. Jim Cooney and his daughter, Carlie.

Early Records Project: Over the last twenty-two months, I have been in contact with Tim Weston, a member of the Board of Trustees of the German Protestant Society, the caretakers of Old German Meeting House. On behalf of the OBBFHA, I had made a proposal to Tim that we work together to get the early church records copied and

digitized. Our board of directors had authorized me to offer to completely cover or contribute to the cost of this project. I contacted the Maine State Library and learned that they have copying machines specially designed for use on old historical documents. These machines can produce paper copies, or digitized copies on disks. Additionally, they charge nothing for the use of these copiers by individuals or groups from Maine. I submitted a written proposal to Tim to present at the spring meeting of the entire meeting house board of trustees. On June 17th I received an email from Tim informing me that the board had approved the proposal, and that he would get back to me with further details.

The Old German Meeting House records are some of the earliest written records of Broad Bay/Waldoboro. I suspect that they are a trove of genealogical information, particularly dates of birth, deaths, marriages. This information has been unavailable to genealogists for many years. On behalf of all the members of the OBBFHA, I want to thank Tim Weston and the Board of Trustees of the German Protestant Society for approving this proposal, and I look forward to its completion.

Annual Meeting: Don't forget our annual meeting will be held on Saturday, August 3rd, 2024, at the Safe Harbor Community Chapel, 50 Mill Street, Waldoboro. There will be a brief business meeting starting at 9:00 AM, followed by our main speaker, Ms. Heather Moran, of the Maine State Archives. Heather spoke to our group last year about genealogical resources at the Maine State Archives. She was fabulous! She agreed to return this

year and speak to us about Maine in the Civil War. The meeting will be broadcast on our Facebook page, www.facebook.com/waldoboromaineancestors. Snacks, lunch and beverages will be offered. There will be time for questions and the exchange of information. A \$5.00 donation will be accepted at the door.

Research Tip: At last year's annual meeting I was speaking with members Cece and Pat McGuiness of Surrey, UK, and they informed me of a research website that I have found quite useful and remarkable. The site is **Internet Archive** (archives.org). This site is a non-profit venture dedicated to providing a comprehensive online archive of books, newspaper articles, ephemera, and web sites. I have found two out-of-print family genealogies that were useful in researching other branches of my family. I often receive inquiries from members about where they can acquire a copy of **Broad Bay Pioneers**, which has been out-of-print for many years. This book can now be accessed online through Internet Archives. Stahl's and Miller's histories of the Waldoboro can also be viewed on this site. The site also has features that allow you to search for a particular word or name within each text or download text from the website. If you wish, you can listen to a creepy electronic voice read the book for you! There are currently over 44 million books and texts available to be viewed on this site, as well as 866 billion webpages! I recommend that you familiarize yourself with this extraordinary research website.

New Member: I would like to welcome a new member to the OBBFHA, Daniel Vannah of Waldoboro. Dan is also a member of the Waldoboro Historical Society. Thanks for sharing your genealogical journey with us Dan!

Thanks! Thanks to member Charles Welfare Jr. for his generous monetary donation. As always, thanks to everyone whose hard work and generosity make this newsletter possible.

Final Thoughts: "Knowing your generational story firms the ground upon which you stand. It makes your life, your struggles, and triumphs, bigger than your lone existence. It connects you to a grand plotline." Cicely Tyson

Keep on Searching and Sharing

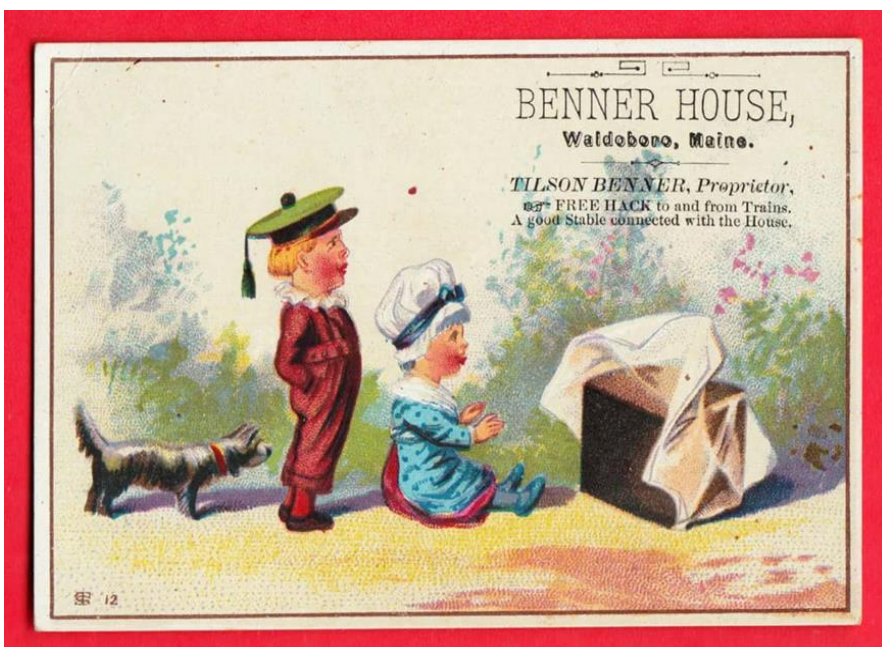
Note from Deirdre Putnam, Membership/Treasurer

Sept. 2nd



Don't forget to renew your membership!

Our membership year runs from July 1, 2024, to June 30, 2025. You can find renewal information in the newsletter, or on our website OBBFHA.org under the "Membership" heading. If you have any questions about your membership, please send an email to OBBFHA@gmail.com - I am happy check your account.



BENNER HOUSE

Waldoboro, Maine.



TILSON BENNER, Proprietor,
FREE HACK to and from Trains.
A good Stable connected with the house.

Submitted by Mark Benner

Ancient Mills on the Medomak River

Tracie Gross Ott, tracott@comcast.net July 2024

The Old Broad Bay Family History Association website (OBBFHA.org) offers past newsletters and found in the *Bund und Blatt*, Vol. 4, No. 4, 1995, a transcription by Lois Hoch of the George Hoch Deposition^[1] describing ownership and usage of an ancient mill. Her article also has a source of 44 with loads of information about genealogy, deed references, and much more. Then, while I was looking for the original Hoch deposition on the Lincoln County Deeds website, I found the Samuel Trousant Deposition^[2,3,4] about the same case.

The 1795^[5] survey map by Jennison helps to visualize the mill(s) at the head of the tide discussed below. These depositions and map set up the scene of my next article in October about the odd-looking plan of 1774 now shown on the OBBFHA website under Explore.

Hoch's Deposition

I George **Hoch** of Waldoboro, in the county of Lincoln, State of Maine, of the age of eighty seven years [b. ~1748] last [1835] March on oath do depose testify and say, that Martin **Hoch** was my **Father**, he came from Germany and settled on and owned the land on which John **Bulfinches** Esqr's house *now stands*, my **Fathers** house was erected about four rods from the large rock on the Falls **to which the Mill dam was afterwards joined**, from the mills *now called Kinsells mills* in Waldoboro. My **Father** came to Waldoboro in 1753 & that was the first land he settled on, which was soon after he came, & was more than eighty years ago. I lived with my **Father** *before* any Mill or Dam was erected on said Falls, & also at the time the first mill & Dam was built thereon, I was about twenty years old [~20] when the first mill & Dam was built on said Falls [~1768].

Mr. John **Ulmer** purchased the land on the South west of the river & he came to my **Father** & said, we have a notion of building a mill, and will you allow us to join the dam on your land.

My **Father** said *he would consider of it*, and about a fortnight afterwards, they had another conversation and my **Father** then said, you may join your dam to my land, but if I should hereafter be able, or my son, or my heirs to build a mill on my side, we shall make use of the dam to which Ulmer agreed, and that *he should have the same right to the dam as they had on the South side to open the dam for the mill.*

Ulmer said *you may build a grist mill, but not a saw mill. Ulmer said that a saw mill would be a great benefit to you and others, there is plenty of pine logs to make boards to cover your buildings in lieu of bark.*

My **Father** said to **Ulmer** *this is the only conditions, that if you build a dam to land on my side that I have the same right to the dam, as you have your side.*

To this they both agreed.

I advised my **Father** to the agreement because I thought it would be a benefit.

While said **Ulmer** and others were framing a saw mill in front of my **Fathers** house, one John **Martin**, with pen ink and paper, wrote the agreements that **Ulmer** and the others might join the dam to my **Fathers** land and that my **Father** might build a grist mill as before stated, and that he have all privileges before stated, but not to build a saw mill.

There were two papers written. Mr. **Ulmer** had one and my **Father** the other.

My **Father** could not write nor read. Mr. **Ulmer** could not either, in English.

Mr. **Martin** read the agreements in English, and **Ulmer** explained them to my **Father** in Dutch. **Ulmer** could talk well in English.

The frame then framing was the first mill that was built there, and was owned by John **Ulmer** aforesaid, John **Martin** and George **Varnier**.

I never saw the agreements (before mentioned) afterward as I did not care anything about them, and do not know what became of them. There was no Justice of the Peace present when the papers were written, now none nearer than Pemequid Point. I do not remember whether there were any seals to the papers, I cannot tell, I do not remember, I do not know, I cannot tell.

My **Father** always claimed all the land he took up on his side of the River until he deeded the same to Jacob **Schwartz**, who married my sister. My **Father** gave the deed in consideration of his after maintenance.

The dam was no damage to my **Father**, but the mill and dam was considered a benefit about getting boards. Some seven eight or ten years after [1775-1778] the first mill was built, I purchased a part of their inshore saw, when the said **Ulmer** went away he put all his property into the hands of **old Captain Schenck**, the tanner, and **Schenck** sold to me the part that I purchased.

Six of us owned one saw. They were as follows viz.

myself, George **Light**, Fred and John **Proct**, William **Kaler**, Joseph **Ludwig**, old John **Kaler**, but his son sawed in his turn. This mill was a double saw mill. I owned in the mill and used her my part of the time about three years, then I [23 May 1773] sold my part to John **Benner**.

While I owned in the said mill I never claimed any title or right to the land on the North side of the stream, nor did any of the owners of said mill ever claim any right to the land on the north side to my knowledge.

This first mill, I heard went downstream with the freshet.

John **Kinsol** (deceased) married the said **Vanner** daughter, one of the first owner of said mill. Danil **Achorn** married the youngest daughter of said **Vanner** and John Martin.

George (his X mark) **Hoch** State of Maine. Lincoln. Town of Waldoborough, This sixteenth Jan 16th day of ~- January in the year of our Lord, one thousand eight hundred and thirty six [16 January 1836]. personally appeared before us the subscribers two Justices of the Peace in and for the County of Lincoln *quorum unus*, the aforesaid George **Hoch**, deponent, and after being carefully examined and duly cautioned to testify the whole truth and nothing but the truth, made oath that the foregoing deposition by him subscribed (by making his mark) is true.

Taken at the request of John **Bulfinch** Esq. **to be preserved in perpetual remembrance** of the thing. And we duly notified, John **Kinsell**, John **Achorn** and George **Achorn**, being all the persons living within twenty miles of this place of caption or in this state we know to be interested in the property to which the said Deposition relates and the said **Kinsell** and **Achorn's** with M. **Smith** Esq. their Atty. attended.

Payn **Elwell**, Joseph **Clark**, Justices of the Peace *Quorum unus* **Reed**

March 4, 1836 and entered and examined by Warren **Rice** Reg .

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Question by Atty. To John Kinsel At the time the first mill was built was there any place north of the rock proper to set a grist mill on? **Answer:** No, there was not, there was no stream there then.

Q by same: When the agreement you have spoken of was written was there or not three letters cut out on the large rock where the dam was to join? **A:** No, there was not. They were made afterwards, as I heard, I don't know when.

Q by same: Was there then any mill privilege where Mr. **Bulfinch's** mill now stands? **A:** There was no water run there then, there stood there then two large hemlocks and small growth.

Q by same: Did your fathers land include the land on which Mr. **Bulfinch's** mill now stands? **A:** It was, he owned to **Hilts** land.

Q by same: How old was you when the first mill was built **A:** about twenty. [20]

Q by same: Did you leave home when you was twenty one years old. [21] **A:** I did

Q by same: Did your father deed all his land to **Schwartz**. **A:** I expect he did, I cannot say to the contrary.

Q by same: Have you ever deeded away any part of or title in your fathers land? **A:** I never deeded any part, I never owned any.

Q by same: You say your father could not write. Did he or not sign the agreement of which you speak by making his mark. **A:** I cannot tell whether he did or not.

Q by same: Who were present when the agreement was written. **A:** Mathias **Remeley**, Elisha **Hastings**, and one **Murafée** and John **Ulmer**, and John **Martin**.

Q by same: Was it the first or second mill that was built that you owned in **A:** It was the **first mill** that I owned in .

Q by same: How long was it after the first mill was built until it was carried away by the freshet. **A:** I cannot tell, I guess it stood about twelve or fifteen years [12 or 15 yrs].

Q by same: Who witnessed the agreement of which you have spoken. **A:** I don't know, I expect it was **Remeley** and others. I did not see anyone.

Q by same: Did you enlist as a soldier in the army of the United States in the war of the Revolution and if so how old was you? **A:** I did not enlist but was drafted; every fifth one was drafted for **Bagaduce**. I was twenty six years old or older [**26 or older**].

Q by same: Did you not then desert and join the enemy (Mr. Bulfinch objects to his answering the question and to the question) **The deponent objects to answer.**

Q by same: Was you or not taken Prisoner by the enemy at **Bagaduce**? **A:** I never was a prisoner.

Q by same: Was you or not in **Bagaduce** while it was in possession of the enemy. **A:** I was not.

Q by same: Did you after you was drafted and went to **Bagaduce** ever swear allegiance to the King of Great Britain? Mr. Bulfinch objects to his answering the question. **The deponent objects to answer, and the Justices decides the question improper .**

Q by same: Was you or not at anytime with the English troops at **Bagaduce**? **A:** Yes, after the Seige I was.

Q by same: Did you or not go to **Halifax** with the English after the Seige of **Bagaduce**. **A:** Yes, I went to **Halifax** with the English.

Q by same: Can you write or read writing. **A: I cannot write nor read writing**

Q by same: After the first mill was built did or not your father quarrel with Mr. **Elmer (Ulmer)** for joining the dam to his side of the river and tell him he should not let him join it there. **A:** I don't know whether he ever did or not.

Q by John Bulfinch: Did or did not Jacob **Schwartz** claim all the land which father claimed after your father deed his land to him? **A:** Yes, Jacob **Schwartz** claimed the whole.

Q by same: Did or did he not claim the whole of the mill privilege on the north side of the river?

A: He did and talked of building a mill there.

Q by same: At the time the agreement of which you have spoken was written was there any man present by the name of **Razor**? **A:** No, no man by the name of **Razor** was present.

Q by same: Did or did not your father always refuse to sell any of his land till he deeded it to Jacob **Schwartz** for his maintenance? **A:** My father would not sell one inch of his land, to anybody, until he deed it to Jacob **Schwartz**.

Q by Atty to John Kinsel:

A: Who settled your father on the land on which he lived: Waldo brought him over and promised him one hundred acres, on the salt water, but it was all taken up and he had to settle there.

Q by same: Are you certain your father sold all his land to **Schwartz**? **A:** I cannot tell to the contrary but that he did.

Q by same: Are you deaf - are you partly blind? **A: I am some deaf and blind with one eye.**

Q by Jn. Bulfinch: Can you walk about your farm and do you assist in carrying it on? **A:** I do, and get all my own firewood and go in the woods with the team; and further saith not.

Trouants Deposition

I Samuel **Trousant**, of Bremen, of the County of Lincoln, State of Maine, aged sixty nine years [**b. ~1767**] next Monday, do depose & say, I moved to this place I now live, in the year **1797**. the first grist mill I went to was Mr John **Kinsols**, in Waldoboro (deceased.) the Mill I then went to, was below the **Chace Bridge** (so called,) & near the same, to wit, near where the filling mill now stands [**1836**], at a time when I went to the mill, while waiting for my grist, I went above, about where the **Kinsol's Mill** now stands, there was a ditch between the rocks I thought was a good place for a mill, I told Mr **Kinsol** it would be a good place for a mill, he said there were so many owners they could not agree, they did not agree about the saw mill there, when I & Mr **Achorn** can buy out all the owners, we will build a good grist mill there, I was there again after a heavy rain; I saw Mr **Kinsol** coming out of his mill, he said he could not grind there was so much back water caused by the freshet,^[7] I went with Mr **Kinsol** & some other man at his request where the saw mill now stand. Mr **Kinsol** said this is the best place for a Mill on the River, If Mr **Achorn** & I, could own all the privilege over the river to a certain object a stump or rock, I dont remember which, we would put up a good grist mill, this is near as I can recollect his words, it was a great while ago, in the year **1797**. this conversation took place, near where the present Saw Mill now stands.

Quest[ion] by Atty to Kinsel & als: Did or not did Mr **Kinsel** say to you "*that if he & Mr **Achorn** could buy out the other owners, they would build a good grist mill?*" **Answer:** *He did say so in the first conversation but the last conversation was as I have above stated & further sayeth not.*

Samuel **Trouant**. State of Maine Lincoln Co. Town of Bremen this nineteenth day of January in the Year of our Lord, one thousand eight hundred & thirty six [1836]. Personally appeared before us the subscribers, two justices of the peace in & for the County of Lincoln *quorum unus*, the aforesaid Samuel **Trouants**, deponent, & after being carefully examined & duly cautioned to testify the whole truth & nothing but the truth, made oath that the foregoing deposition by him subscribed is true. taken at the request of John **Bulfinch** Esquire to be preserved in perpetual remembrance of the thing & John **Kinsel**, John **Achorn**, George **Achorn**, & Mr **Smith** **their atty** were verbally notified, & they all attended. being all the person being within twenty miles of this place of caption or in the State that we know to be interested in the property to which the said deposition relates.

Payn **Elwell** Joseph **Clark** Justices of the Peace & quorum unus, Recorded March 4, 1836 Warren **Rice** Reg^f

NOTE: Transcription alterations by Tracie = added italics, bold font, and underlining in hopes of making the documents easier to scan for names, dates, and places.

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Lois Coburn Hoch, 1933–2012, author of the “Lincoln County Deeds” article in the newsletter, *Bund und Blatt*, V 4, N 4, [Oct-Dec] 1995, found via (<https://obbfha.org/publications.html>). Lois was married to Elmer R. Hoch, Jr., and Graduate of Waldoboro High School, 1951.

Back in the day... Lois found her information by using an archaic method. It began by ordering Family History Library (FHL) film for a minimal cost at a Latter-Day Saints (LDS) Stake Center. The film took at least six days to few weeks to receive then once received, followed by sitting at a microfilm reader for many hours, carefully scrolling through the film, looking for the desired information, while *not* in the comfort of your own home. This process shows true dedication to sharing and preserving Waldoboro’s history. Today’s process is in marked contrast: Immediate access to the Lincoln County Registry of Deeds online database (<https://www.lincolncountymaine.me/deeds>). OBBFHA “*Search & Share*”

I encourage all of you to browse through years, (Jan 1992-Winter 2023) of published material to discover interesting data about Maine, Waldoboro-specific, and your family. Someone might’ve researched the family or topic before. Thank you to Pat Kriso who recently spent numerous hours indexing the surnames in the newsletters to Fred Snell for posting the index on the OBBFHA website (<https://obbfha.org>).

Sources and Notes

[1] George Hoch Deposition: 16 Jan 1836, Rec’d 4 March 1836 & entered & examined by Warren Rice, Reg^f Lincoln Co. Deed 165: 116-118. (<https://www.lincolncountymaine.me/deeds>) accessed: Jan 2024.

[2] Samuel Trouants Deposition: 19 January 1836, Recorded March 4, 1836, Warren Rice Reg^f Lincoln Co. Deed Book 165: Page 115. (<https://www.lincolncountymaine.me/deeds>) accessed: Jan 2024.

[3] Samuel Trouant: 1830 U.S. Federal Census, *Bremen, Lincoln, Maine*; Series: *M19*; Roll: *49*; Page: *78*; Family History Library Film: *0497945*. Males: 2) 20-29, 1) 70-79. Females: 2) 20-29, 1) 60-69. (ancestry.com) accessed: 27 Mar 2024.

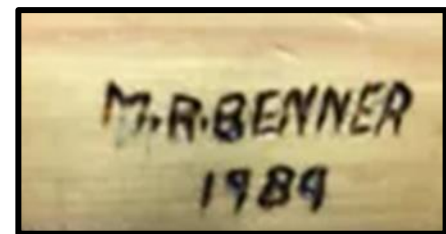
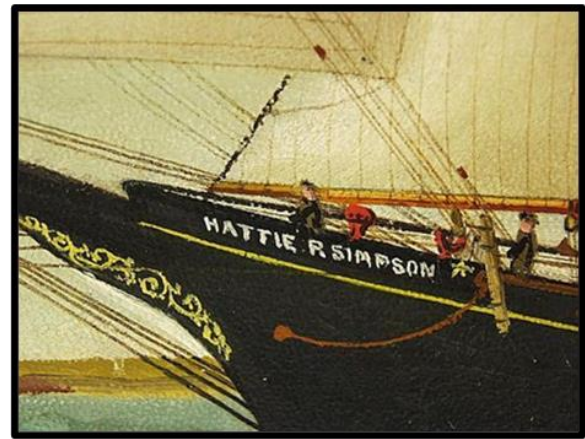
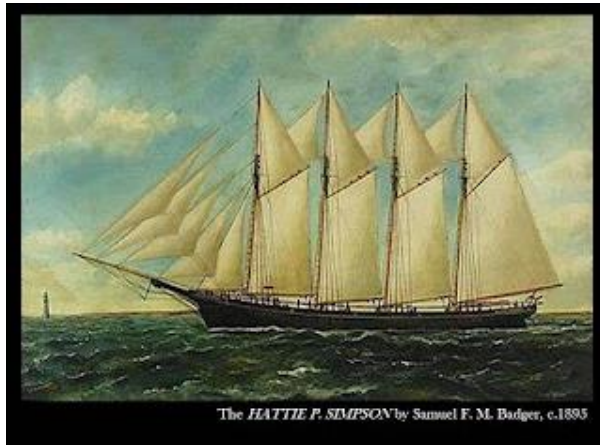
[4] Capt. Samuel Trouant/Trufant b. 1767, Marshfield, Plymouth, MA; d. 1840, Bremen, Lincoln, ME. Wife: Elizabeth “Betsy” Little. (www.findagrave.com) accessed: 27 Mar 2024.

[5] (https://digitalmaine.com/planbook_22/33/). There are two versions of this *copied map*; Found 1st version, Page 24. Plan Book of the Town of Waldoborough on the Muscongus River in the County of Lincoln; 1796. Ebenezer Jennison & Nathaniel Meservey. The 2d version is dated, 1795, Ebenezer Jennison, and sealed “Commonwealth of Massachusetts, Office of the Secretary, Boston, December 30... 1893, Compared with the Original and found correctly copied.” Signed “W^mM. Olin sec’y.”

[6] (<https://www.mainememory.net/record/102767>). Copy of a plan of lands on the westside of Madomack River, Waldoboro, 1774, by David Fales, Surveyor. Contributed by The Maine Historical Society.

[7] Freshet. 1. Archaic: Stream; 2a: a great rise or overflowing of a stream caused by heavy rains or melted snow 2b: a swelling quantity, influx. (<https://www.merriam-webster.com>) accessed: 26 Mar 2024.

HATTIE P. SIMPSON SCHOONER PLAQUE



Woodburning Artist



THE HATTIE P. SIMPSON a four masted schooner was built in Waldoboro in 1891 chartering shipments of coal and lumber tonnage = 1,220 - depth = 210.2-- beam = 41 depth = 21-6
WALDOBORO

German Hessian Deserters

Submitted by Anette Ruppel Rodrigues

Listing of Brunswick deserters from Fort George: (compiled by Robert C. Brooks, Lion G. Miles)

Ahrend, Johann Friedrich	18 y	<i>Occupation: barber</i>
Bartholomaei, Johannes	16 y	<i>Drummer, catholic</i>
Fricke, Johann Heinrich	18 y	
Görsch, Johann Andreas	24 y	<i>Occupation: Hat maker, deserted with J. F. Ahrend</i>
Herbst, Johann Adam	25 y 4 mo	<i>Occupation: Baker. Name may now be Herbest</i>
Kayser, Joh. Wilh.	23 y 10 mo	<i>Occupation: metal worker. He deserted with Schilling. Possible spelling of name: Keizer, Keiser, Kizer</i>
Müller, Joh. Ax.	25 y 5 mo	
Müller, Andreas	20 y 7 mo	
Schilling, Carl Chr. Ludwig	23 y 7 mo	<i>Occupation: Cobbler. He married Hanna Blagdon and settled in Maine. Other spelling of this name "Skilling". His descendant, Merrylyn Sawyer, wrote an excellent article in the Hessians Journal of the Johannes Schwalm Historical Association. (JSHA) Vol. 17, 2014</i>
Wuth, Johann Michael	25 y	<i>Occupation: miller</i>

Brunswick soldiers who received discharges on 14 July 1783 (from Robert C. Brooks' list)

Scheel, Friedrich (or Ludwig Scheele)	31 y	<i>Occupation: shop keeper</i>
Gude, Johann Georg,	26 y	<i>Profession: Organist</i>
Guth, Johann Friedrich	28 y	<i>Occupation: Stocking weaver</i>

Additional names Capt. Cleve mentioned in letters to his Duke:

Rosenhahn, Christian	21 y	<i>Occupation: tailor/ linen weaver</i>
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"Musketeers **Rosenhahn** and **Bogg** have incurred suspicion of having broken into Lieutenant von Anschield's quarters. ... I am willing to take the two scoundrel's on board, but I shall send them back ashore as soon as possible and leave them to their own fate. These are both young fellows, one is a painter, the other a tailor; they can take care of themselves."

Fort George, Penobscot April 24, 1783, Journal of JSHA, Vol 6, No. 4 page 63

Hummelmann, Johann Stephan	31 y	<i>Occupation: Cloth shearer</i>
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"A few days before embarkation, I have still seen myself compelled to chase from the detachment a bad scoundrel and very wicked arguer by the name of **Hummelmann** with a passport after having him run the gauntlet 12 times."

Fort George, Penobscot July 17, 1783, Journal of JSHA, Vol 6, No. 4, page 67

Ansbach-Bayreuther listed as missing from Penobscot on May 1, 1783 (List by Robert C. Brooks)

Bramm/Pramm, Johann Baptist - Jäger *Could this be the Bram who attempted to desert in Halifax, but returned there again?*

* Edel, Johann Conrad - Musician *Possibly in the OBBFHA family list as Edell*

Gemmel/Gömmel, Carl – Jäger

Gundling, Daniel – Jäger – Musician

Hyenne/Hyene, Johann Anton – Jäger

Reinhard, Carl Friedrich – Jäger

Schmalenberg, Peter – Jäger

*Segeritz, Michael- Jäger *Possibly in the OBBFHA list as Siechrist, Sechrist*

Steinrück/Steinreich, Michael – Jäger

Treu, Johann Carl – Jäger

*Wagner, Johann Heinrich – Musician *Possibly in the OBBFHA list as Wegner*

Welt/Weld, Blasius – Jäger *(Pleosius Welt listed in the 1790 Census at Broad Bay -- Waldoboro) David Putnam is one of his descendants.*

Additional names of “Hessians” not connected to Fort George but with connection to the Waldoboro region:

Isense, [Isence, Easinsy, Esensa,], Hinrich, [Heinrich, Henry] He is listed as one of 18 Dutchmen who worked on getting Lyme and loading the Brig Molly for transporting goods to Fort George on April 24, 1780. He was captured at the battle of Bennington and was paroled to Andrew Schenck. The practice of requesting prisoners of war as workers was common. (Info from Jasper Stahl’s book “History of Broad Bay and Waldoboro) Other info on Isense and Suchfort in “History of the Town of Union” by John Langdon Sibley)

Andreas Suchfort [Sukeforth] According to info in the book “Broad Bay Pioneers”, he was also paroled to Andrew Schenck. Both Isense and Suchfort later made their way to Union. In “History of the Town of Union” John Langdon Sibley writes that the two men worked in the woods together and “so similar were their movements in felling trees and taking hold and lifting logs, that one of them remarked, from this alone he should have known the other to be a Hessian.”



An OFFER to assist in the German language barrier for genealogical research

My interest in Broad Bay/Waldoboro has to do with the “Hessians”, who might have made their way there either from Fort George or as one of the German “Hessian” soldiers who stayed after the Revolution. I am always hoping that members of OBBFHA find those “Hessians” among their ancestors. **I am happy to volunteer to write e-mails to archives in Germany on behalf of those ancestors or be of assistance in ways needed. As a retired German teacher, I am happy to help. Anette Ruppel Rodrigues - unserM@aol.com**

Waldoboro's Archaeology: Goose River

Harbour Mitchell here again. Waldoboro's archaeology continues to get more interesting by the day! Let me tell you about the latest discovery.

Last fall, I was invited to do archaeological testing of an area along the Goose River, at Waldoboro's southern-most boundary. The area forms a point, projecting into the river at a reversing falls. An old, stone-lined cellar hole was present, and the owners wanted to know a little bit about it. So, for a few weeks we tested the site. Over the winter, we washed and dried the artifacts, analyzed the recovered bits and pieces, did some deed research, and mapped the site.



This year we decided to go back; the site is complex and, based on last year's analysis, didn't appear to represent a homestead or farm, or some other "normal" community related effort, like a mill, for example. But before we could begin, we had to prepare the site – mowing is critical, so tape measures can be run out, small pin flags can be placed and seen, and the tall, tick-laden grass is eliminated.

Once prepared, we began with several large, 1m² units (as you look at the picture, remember, all this excavation is done two inches at a time, using only a hand-held mason's trowel). Some of the excavation units were shallow, 6-8 inches. But others, like the one pictured here, went down over two feet. One of the first things we encountered was a large ditch, filled in over time through erosion and people throwing things in it. The ditch, combined with the now, freshly mowed and visible surface contours, suggested what this site may have been initially – a fort. But what's a possible fort doing there? And when was it built? And by whom?

A review of the physical context helped establish a possible answer to the first question. First, it's important to remember the Goose River is the only navigable waterway off the Medomak River. All travel from the Medomak, into the interior towards Friendship by way of the Goose River, must pass by the site. And the reversing fall can present quite an obstacle to that travel. If the tide is against them, anyone attempting to pass by the site must portage their boat across the point or walk a few hundred yards overland to another boat on the other side. And that is true even today. The site location is strategic! The answer to the second question helped establish who might have developed the site, and why.

Based on analysis of pottery recovered this year and last, the site was occupied for about 20 years, from about 1800 to 1820. Pottery can tell us a lot about when a site was occupied; decoration and glazes change over time. The pottery we've collected thus far includes two different glaze types (creamware and pearlware) and a wide variety of decorations. Creamware glaze dates to between 1775 and 1830 (ish), while pearlware glaze, appearing in the market in the late 1790's, was popular well into the 1820's. Decorations we've seen include multi-colored, early polychrome (c.1795-1815); late polychrome (c.1815-



1830); blue shell edge and green shell edge (c.1800-1820); transfer print (19th c.); variegated “dipped” ware (c.1800); broad brushed cobalt blue (c.1815-1830), and several other wares from the same period. We even recovered nearly whole creamware plates. (to see these pottery types check out the web site <https://apps.jefpat.maryland.gov/diagnostic/>)

Interestingly, when we put together all of the above, the why and the when, we are led to a possible answer as to the who. In 1807, then President Thomas Jefferson placed an embargo on all trade with foreign nations. As you might imagine, that didn’t go over very well in very independent minded mid-coast Maine. Smuggling ensued. In an effort to thwart smuggling, a U.S. federal artillery battery was placed on the St. George River, downstream from Thomaston. It’s possible a similar, but smaller fortification was constructed on the Goose River to keep the “locals” from smuggling goods to and from the Medomak and Muscongus Bay. But there is a second possibility.

In 1812, the United States went to war with England. The British, having a fort only a little way away, in Castine, raised havoc along Maine’s coast, commandeering ships, confiscating cargoes, jailing Maine sailors, and burning and pillaging coastal Maine villages. It’s possible that the British, had they sought to raise havoc along Rt. 220 and area of South Waldoboro, might consider using the Goose River to do so. A fortification at the reversing falls would have stopped them cold! Of course that’s just a theory, at this point. But the recovery of a fair amount of fragmentary gun flint in the site does support the theory.

So, to sum it all up, here’s what archaeological testing is telling us to date... we have a possible fortification with defensive ditches located at a strategic location and comprised of a main building (about 16’x24’ and constructed of hewn logs) with a kitchen ell and a dining hall ell on opposite sides and corners of the main structure. We have a considerable amount of fragmentary gunflint, thousands of pieces of fragmentary pottery, food bone, and other types of cultural material (stuff people left behind). And it all dates to a period of intense conflict between both the U.S. federal government and its citizens, as well as with Britian, c. 1800-1820.

And even if I’m wrong on some of the specifics, and the theories have yet to be unequivocally proven, we have an intact, essentially undisturbed, very early 19th c. archaeological example of what was going on in Waldoboro during that period, how its people lived, and what life was like in extremely difficult economic and personal times. In the year 1816, during which every month of the year saw either frost or snow, and crops failed repeatedly, the people were forced to eat their agricultural animals as there was no hay or feed for them. Many starved, and decided to move to warmer latitudes, like Ohio. And many farms from that period were abandoned in the mid 1800’s. The climactic event was precipitated by a volcanic eruption in Indonesia (Mt. Tomboro - the largest known in history) which ejected so much ash into the atmosphere it cooled the earth, and Maine and New England suffered terribly as a result. Thanks for sharing some of your time with me.

OBBFHA Web Links and Contacts:

The Old Broad Bay Family History Association, on the web at: www.obbfha.org

Editorial comments & queries to pmkriso@gmail.com

Visit the OBBFHA Facebook page at: <https://www.facebook.com/waldoboromaineancestors>

Send general inquiries to obbfha@gmail.com

Masthead: In 1854, B.B. Haskell and Co. of Waldoboro built and launched the **E. Wilder Farley Schooner** weighing 1300 tons. Named for Ephriam Wilder Farley who served as a member of the Maine House of Representatives in 1843 and 1851-1853.

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