July 2019 Newsletter

August 5th Annual Cookout -

5pm at the Eliot Boat Basin. The grill will be fired up. You are asked to bring your main course (something to cook on the grill, if you would like) and something to share along with your drinks and eating implements.

June in review:

The Eliot Historical Society held two very special and memorable events in June in honor of Society member and friend Jeanette Paul.

Family and friends joined us at our June meeting which was devoted to Jeannette. On display were pictures and items of hers. People recounted how devoted Jeanette was to her church and to the children of her church, teaching Sunday school for many years; of her sense of humor and spunk; her love of her





1

Address: PO BOX 3, Eliot, ME 03903 Website: <u>www.eliothistoricalsociety.org</u> Phone: 752-0174 (Rosanne)



Eliot's Maine Bicentennial Committee

The Committee has been formally recognized by the Select Board and is in the process of building a calendar of events for the coming Maine Bicentennial year (Sept. 2019-Sept. 2020). The hope and plan is to have organizations, groups, churches, and businesses, each in their own creative way, sponsor an event (or events) during the coming year. The committee will not be sponsoring their own events but will help coordinate a master calendar of events to help keep events, during the year, from overlapping. They will also help to publicize the events, much as the Eliot Bicentennial Committee did in 2010.

To kick off our Maine 200th Celebration the Committee is urging town-wide participation in the Eliot Festival Day parade by our many organizations and groups. Get your group together and put together a float for the parade, build an outhouse for the "Outhouse Race", or just drive/ march in the parade.

If you have questions or want to find out how to be a part of the celebration come to the next meeting on July 22, 4:30pm at the William Fogg Library or call Jan 748-0932 or Lydia at the Library. family and as a caring neighbor who went out of her way to get to know her neighbors; her great love for the town and knowledge of its history; her involvement and dedication to the restoration of our schoolhouse and the many years she devoted to welcoming the children to it each year. They also talked about their memories of working, visiting, and traveling with her and wonderful poetry which she shared with others over the years. Our second event was held at the #8 Schoolhouse where we dedicated a plaque in Jeanette's honor. Members of her family came from out of town to be here. Rosanne Adams spoke about Jeanette's life and her many gifts of time, knowledge, love, compassion and creativity which she shared with others. Refreshments were then served and we all had an opportunity to visit with family members and



Jeannette Paul 1923 - 2018



Dedicated to preserving Eliot's history and educating the children of Eliot about 1 room schoolhouses

learn even more about Jeanette. Her grand-daughter presented the Society with the dress Jeanette wore in the parade as Eliot Bicentennial's Poet Laurette in 2010. We learned about her travel across the country to receive an award for her poetry and a song that Jeanette sang when she was 6 at one of the Eliot Minstrel Shows – *The Sleepy Town Express*.

A great thank you to our committee who organized these events - Helen Sullivan, Cindy Lentz, Julie Johnson, Silvia Moynahan and to Pam Ashley who arranged for the plaque.

UNCOVERING THE PAST

WEBSITE QUERIES (Part 1 of 3 or maybe 4!)

The fall of 2018 started out with the first of several inquiries that came to us through our website and continued into the spring, keeping Eric and I VERY busy. Thankfully we have a new member of our historical society, Phil Swan, who has offered his help going forward.

Carol Edwards wrote us looking for the tavern of James Chadbourne, Jr. (b. 1684). He was the son of James Chadbourne (b. 1665-1702) and Elizabeth Heard (1679-1708). James, Jr. was married to Sarah Hatch Downing, the widow of Joshua Downing. James was a blacksmith and a tavern keeper. Carol had found tavern licenses for him in Kittery for the years 1710-1720 and deeds and wills gave his property as being on Stony Brook and at Sturgeon Creek. It is well known that the Stony Brook property owned by James Chadbourne, a name referring to a part of the York River that comes down from Brixham Road to Frost Hill Road, is was not the same as the Sturgeon Creek property.

James' maternal uncle, Captain John Heard also had property at Sturgeon Creek and the Chadbourne and Heard lands abutted each other. There was also a tavern license for John Heard, in 1722, leading Carol to believe that James' tavern may also have been near that of Heard's at Sturgeon Creek which today would be Goransson's land on Depot Road.

James Chadbourne, by 1739, had moved to Phillipstown (Sanford), taking up an offer he couldn't refuse. He had to meet some requirements, including building a house within 3 years and staying for 7 years in order to retain the land. It must have been a "no brainer" for he stayed and in return received Lot Number 20 which consisted of 50 acres, together with 80 adjoining acres and thus became one of the first 12 proprietors there.

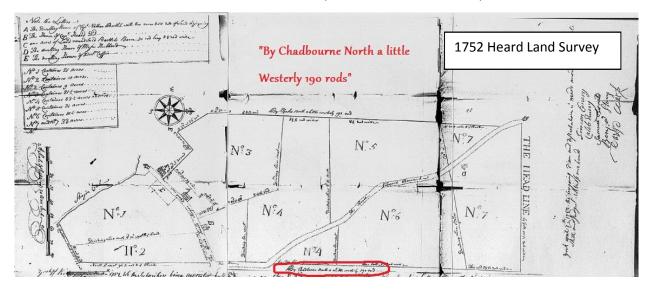
So, Eric and I began by looking at a survey done in 1752 of the Heard lands where later the Bartletts lived, and now the Goranssons.

Further investigation would reveal that the tavern was more probably in another location. This was based on two survey maps - one done upon the death of John Heard in 1752 and the other - a 1701 Godsoe map of the Chadbourne, and Frost properties at Sturgeon Creek. The 1752 Heard survey showed where the Heard lands, on what is now Depot Road, abutted those of Chadbourne which were described as "North, a little westerly 190 rods". The 1701 Godsoe survey showed the property of Humphrey Chadbourne that was inherited by his grandson James Chadbourne, Jr., however, this land was not

Address: PO BOX 3, Eliot, ME 03903
Website: www.eliothistoricalsociety.org
Phone: 752-0174 (Rosanne)

3

located on Depot Road but rather it was the area between what were called the Sturgeon Creek Marshes and what is now Goodwin Road. Shown on the map is the home of Maj. Charles Frost, who had recently died in 1697 at "Ambush Rock" as well as the Chadbourne house (or is it the tavern??).



The location nearer the Frosts was further confirmed by a 1714 deed from James Chadbourne Sr. and wife Sarah in which he gives "part of the farm where he now dwells", containing 3 acres to Charles Frost. This land adjoins

the farm where Charles Frost "now dwells" and is bound partly by the highway that leads from Charles Frost's dwelling house towards Kittery. Mentioned also is a brook that lies east of "James Chadbourne's Nursery", and a red oak tree at the northwest corner of "ye pound" and speaks several times of the "turn of the way". These features speak directly to those seen in the 1701 survey.

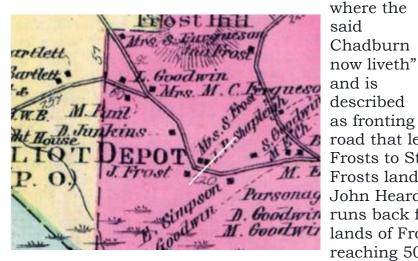
Eric then looked at the 1856 and 1872 maps of the town, comparing them to present-day parcels in the area shown in the 1701 survey.



4

Address: PO BOX 3, Eliot, ME 03903 Website: <u>www.eliothistoricalsociety.or</u> Phone: 752-0174 (Rosanne) He noted that on the 1856 map there was a house between Depot Road and the sharp corner of Goodwin Road, said to belong to Capt. M. Paul and then a house near the corner of Depot Road and Goodwin Road was also M. Paul, which on the 1872 map showed D. Junkins living there. He asked if the house still existed. Since that was my family (Paul) I knew exactly where those lands and homes were and to whom they had belonged. The land and home of M. Paul/D. Junkins was land that Moses Paul (Jane), son of **Daniel**, bought in

1777 from John Moffett. Indeed, it was later owned by Daniel Junkins whose family cemetery is on the property. Moses and Jane Paul also have a cemetery on that property (643 Goodwin Rd.) Doing further research I found that the land that James Chadbourne received [21/204] from his grandmother Lucy Chadbourne he then sold to John Moffett, of Portsmouth, in 1739. That land is described as "being part of the homestead land



Chadbourne's land

as fronting on the north side of the road that leads from Mr. Charles Frosts to Sturgeon Creek; Charles Frosts land on the East and Capt. John Heard's land on the West and runs back from the road between lands of Frost and Heard until reaching 50 acres out to Humphrey

The information that Carol provided us on the Chadbourne family and the 1701 survey further explained how the land came down to the Chadbournes before being sold by James, Jr. to Moffett. She wrote that "Humphrey Chadbourne had bought this land, which at the time consisted of 150 acres from his uncle Nicholas Shapleigh in 1663 and settled here. This is the property shown on the 1701 survey. Humphrey had left all his land and meadow at Sturgeon Creek to his two youngest sons James and William to be equally divided and then to go to their ". Lucy, of course retained use of the land during her lifetime and when Lucy (Treworgye)(Chadbourne)(Wills) Stileman, died in 1704 her land at Sturgeon Creek was confirmed to her grandson James Chadbourne, Jr. James Sr. had died in 1686. Lucy's will states that she gives her grandson James Chadbourne, the son of James

Chadbourne ¹/₂ part of "all my land and Meddow which Is lying and being Att or ny Sturgeon Creek In the Province of main which was granted me by A Deed of gift or Joynter from My former Husband Humphry Chadborn Duering My Natural Life".

To further confirm the location of the Frost, Heard, and Chadbourne lands I searched back in the deeds for the properties shown in that 1701 survey. I found that the property on Map 73/Lot 25 was described as being the former homestead place of Moses A. Frost and includes a piece of land adjoining the Old Frost homestead lot, which was formerly conveyed by Daniel A. Junkins and on which the barn is located. The marshland on the south is described as Frost land. [11594/240] Back around 2010 Tad Baker & company came down to look at the brook/stream that is shown on the 1701 survey. The owner of the property had some large log pieces that appeared in the brook after the road had flooded over. The State was coming in to repair the damage to the culvert under the road and when we notified them the work was halted so an investigation could be conducted. It was determined that the large logs and pieces of wood were the remains of an old dam that was built before the lands were clear-cut back in the 1600s. It was not uncommon for the clear cutting done that was done by the early settlers to cause the streams to flood and dams to break free. For generations the logs had remained hidden until the enormous amount of rain during that year. Tad Baker, with whom we shared our joint research, would later write "it is hard to believe that when we were looking at that washout of the brook that we were within a couple hundred feet of the Chadbourne and Frost homes on that map! I went to the Eliot GIS map and looked at a version with 2-foot contours (see attached) and the locations you indicate make perfect sense, as they are terraces, right at the edge of where the hill drops off. I'm attaching it. It would be fun to walk over those parcels someday".

In their respective deeds, the lands adjacent and to the east of the Chadbourne lands (613 and 625 Goodwin Road) were also described as being part of the Old Major Frost Homestead that were passed down to the Joseph Frost family in 1973 by the estate of Charles Edward Frosst, of Quebec. [2034/336] This information led Eric to believe the tavern to be somewhere on the present-day Town Tax Map 73 Lots 25-27.

Eric then took that information and using our present-day tax maps began to draw the lines of the property using the 1701 survey. The lines of the Frost and Chadbourne lands were easily seen as they have not changed much from those of today and he used his mapping skills to compare present day measurements with the old survey. He wrote "The Godsoe map shows the Chadbourne house near the inside bend of that brook with the Frost Garrison

6

July 2019 Newsletter



on the opposite side. The map shows 62 poles (1023 feet) from Sturgeon Creek to where the boundary line bends to the east to follow the brook. Using the GIS tools, I measure anywhere from 1, 000 to 1100 feet from Sturgeon Creek to the end in this brook."

"Measuring between these two modern parallel property boundaries in that area depicted on the

Godsoe map. The Godsoe map states 58 poles in width which is 957 feet. I measured 961 feet using the GIS tools." [Close enough!]

Eric surmised then that the Chadbourne tavern would be someplace on lot 73-25. (617 Goodwin Rd) "I have

7



drawn the approximate locations here, but Godsoe did not measure distances



from the houses to the boundary lines."

Address: PO BOX 3, Eliot, ME 03903 Website: <u>www.eliothistoricalsociety.org</u> Phone: 752-0174 (Rosanne)

Area News and Events



June 1 – November 2: Over the Clothesline: Fashion Inspired by Historic New England Photography. Exhibit featuring fashion designs inspired by Historic New England's archival images. Sarah Orne Jewett House Museum, 5

FREE For more information call 207-384-Portland Street, South Berwick. 2454.

July 26 -28: Don't miss the 24th annual RAITT

TRACTOR & **ENGINE SHOW!**

\$7/person and children under 12 are FREE. Friday: 8am-7pm Sat. 7am-7pm Sunday 7am-12pm. Highlights include a Pasta **Dinner Friday** night and hundreds of tractor and engine



displays, games of skill, tractor pulls and live entertainment!

8

info@raittfarmmuseum.org www.raittfarmmuseum.org

Address: PO BOX 3, Eliot, ME 03903 Website: www.eliothistoricalsociety.org Phone: 752-0174 (Rosanne)