

Monday, August 14 – Annual Cookout at Eliot Boat Basin (Dead Duck Inn). **5:00pm**. The grill will be going. Bring your own food, drinks and eating utensils. If you’d like to bring something for the “sharing table” it is always welcome!

With the August meeting coming up, we thought it was a good time to share with you the story of “Dead Duck Inn” You can also find a copy of it on our website.

Story of Dead Duck Inn

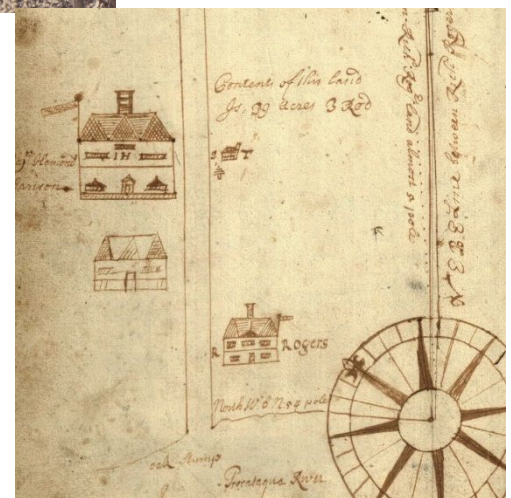
As told to Wade Eisner by Alden Torrey

Alden Torrey lived on the old Victor Junkins Farm property at Junkins Lane later renamed Hammond Lane with Freda Junkins and her children Roland Jr. and Faye from the early 1940’s until his death in 2008. Roland Junkins Jr. aka “Bud” was Alden’s best friend at the Eliot High School.



My home at 10 Hammond Lane was built in 1873 by Lyman Hammond, son of Joseph Hammond who lived in a garrison house located

to the southeast of the lilac bush still standing in the clearing at the Eliot Boat Basin. Sylvester had a daughter Mary Hammond (born in 1869). Mary would later marry Victor Junkins. Victor and Mary had two children Roland Junkins and a daughter whose name I can’t recall. The entire 25- or 30-acre farm that included my property, Alden Torrey’s property, the Atlantic Gas Company property and the Eliot Boat Basin property was commonly known then as the Victor Junkins Farm.



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Roland Junkins and his sister inherited the Victor Junkins Farm upon their parents' death, around 1950. They had to sell some of the property and a sale of Victor and Mary's home and the Eliot Boat Basin property was made to "George Varney and Carl Durgin" who had formed the *Duva Land Company*. During the process of transferring title to the southeasterly portion of the former Victor Junkins Farm; Roland Junkins walked the boundaries and viewed the structures on the property with the buyers. There was a small red roofed camp (photo attached) located approximately 30 feet from the top of the riverbank about midway between the top of the existing concrete stair and the upriver tree line of the park property. When the three men approached the camp there was an inverted box or bucket by the corner of the building. Someone in the group tipped up the box or bucket for whatever reason. Underneath there was a dead duck. Roland Junkins, having quite a sense of humor, first looked at the dead duck and then looked up at the two men and jokingly said: Well.... It looks like you fellas just bought yourself a "DEAD DUCK INN."



10am – 2pm

FREE – DONATIONS WELCOME

Also, by appointment. Call Jan at 207-450-6874



Editor Note: Lyman P. Hammond died at the age of 90, in 1916. He was a Boston Post Cane recipient, as the oldest person in the town.

#8 Schoolhouse Museum open every Saturday through September 23.

While going through the lap desk, donated by Wade Eisner, Jan found a postcard with a very

familiar picture of an item that we have in our collection – a wool bathing suit top, that is presently displayed at the schoolhouse.

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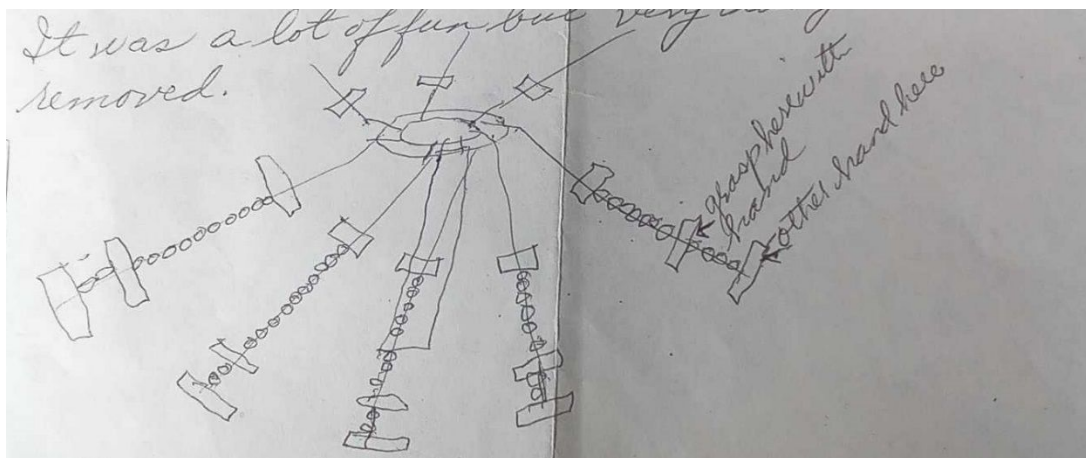
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Recently Jan Cerabona was visiting Helen Sullivan and Helen pulled out a scrapbook belonging to her mother who was a teacher in Eliot. They came across pictures of Laura V. Dame School and one picture really caught Jan’s eye. Jeannette Paul, years ago, drew a picture and described a piece of play equipment that they had at the school a “stride”. – “While running in a circle you would soon be flying almost



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straight, the danger was when one would let go and the chain and the metal hand holders would hit the next person – but it was fun.” It was, as she said very dangerous and was eventually removed. The pictures of the stride are from 1935 and the teeter-totter from 1936.



Helen Goransson wrote to tell us about a project that her husband Paul and his cousin worked on during all those rainy (non-hay) summer days. An interpretive “kiosk” has been erected on the former electric railway "right of way" on their property on Depot Road. It sits on a spot, across from where the old trolley depot probably was located, known as Rosemary Junction.



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The approximate location, of the kiosk, is where the right-hand trolley is in this old picture.



Remnants of the foundation of the trolley depot house (waiting station) can be seen directly across the right of way from the



kiosk.

The trolley lines met at Rosemary Junction where one line went toward Dover, NH and the other to York Beach, ME. For those who live in the area this right of way will be remembered as being used by the old Marshwood High School (MMS) as part of the track running route. Today it is used by pedestrians, those riding horses, snowmobiles and snowshoeing

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Posted inside the structure are old pictures of the area and location and a history of the old electric trolley right of way.

We thank the Goranssons for helping preserve Eliot's history by marking this location of one of Eliot's first methods of transportation - the electric trolley line and waiting station.

Depot Road and this area has a lot of history, in a condensed area, easily walked. Beginning at Marshwood Middle School you can see the old trolley line stanchions across 236, the site of the Railroad Depot, freight house and post office and then, walking up Depot Road to Rosemary Hill and the historic Rosemary Cottage, is Sturgeon Creek - the area where some of the first settlers lived; the grave of the Heard and Bartlett families, along with two of their oldest homes and the Heard Garrison site; the area where the first hunting accident in Maine occurred; the Bartlett mill house; and then at the top of Rosemary Hill, several old homes and the 1697 grave of Capt. Charles Frost is located.



Paul Helen welcome people to come take a look. It is hoped that Eliot residents and students from Marshwood Middle School will take advantage of all the history in this area and stop to see this newly erected kiosk.

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Another piece of Eliot’s early transportation history has come to light. In cleaning out Eliot’s town garage two “silent policemen,” also referred to as “pedestal beacons” were found. These were used, here in our town, at the intersections of Depot Road and Old Dover Road and ran on propane. It is said it was during the time that the electric trolleys were running. Trolley service ended in the Eliot/South Berwick area in March 1923 but the train service lived on.



Phil Morse at the Seashore Trolley Museum, in Kennebunkport was

contacted. He wrote that most likely they were placed either after or at the tail end of trolley service, based on when he found they were being sold in Maine.

We are hopeful that the Select Board of Eliot will see fit to keep them,

rather than sell them, so they can be preserved as one of the few pieces of Eliot’s transportation history.



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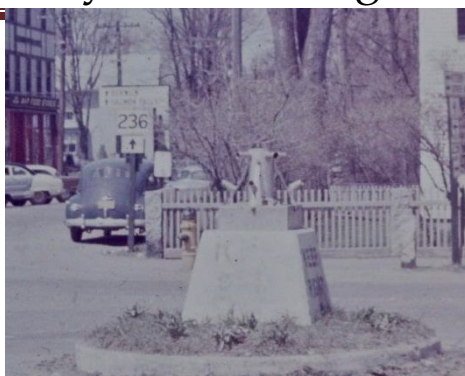


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"Silent Policeman" - Portsmouth and S. Berwick. Photos from Richard Becker, South Berwick.

QUERIES

Can you help?

We get some very interesting questions through our website email, beyond the usual genealogy ones. Jim Delaney wrote asking about a period antique Chippendale mirror, which he purchased through an online auction. Attached was a typed note on the back that said that the "Chippendale mirror with the carved phoenix" originally belonged to Captain Patch who came to work, for Gen. John Frost, after the American Revolution and then stayed until his death. "He was buried at Frost Garrisons, Eliot, Maine". The note goes on to say the mirror was inherited by John E. and Joseph Frost from their father, H. Martyn Frost.

The provenance of the piece was immediately recognizable as at one time belonging to John E. and Joseph W. P. Frost, who were members of our Society and whose family lived at Frost Garrisons, on the crest of Frost Hill (the house that is presently being restored and that we had visited last year). It's possible that their sister Mara (Frost) Marshall inherited the mirror after her brother's death, however, in asking her niece about it she had no further information.

As to who "Captain Patch" might be is not as clear, and that he is buried in the cemetery near Frost Garrisons, where Gen. John Frost lived is interesting because John E. Frost, who originally recorded the cemeteries in Eliot, makes no mention of a Captain Patch there. One would think, if the mirror belonged to his father, as the note says and mentioned Patch that John would have

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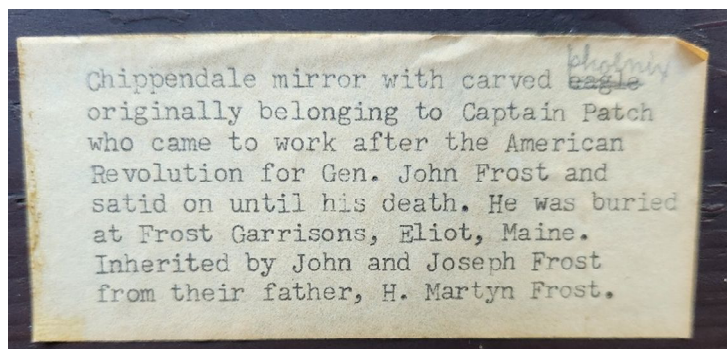
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Edward Jones

recorded that gravesite as well. Checking through Frost’s later notes there is no mention.

Eric Christian did find one possibility - Private George Patch who served in Col. John Frost’s (the same Gen. John Frost?) regiment of Mass. State Troops, 1777-1779 and subsequently in other regiments. “He was elected and commissioned on Aug. 11, 1777, Brigadier General of the York County Militia, serving in this capacity until 1783, enlisting, drafting, examining and forwarding men from the country for the army”. There is a connection for George Patch, to the Frost family going back to William Black (aka Black Will) an ancestor of George’s wife, and to Major Charles Frost who freed Tony, the friend of Sarah’s ancestor William Black. George and Sarah Patch lived in the upper part of the Second Parish in 1786 and he died February 17, 1816. Widow Sarah was living on Gerrish Island, in Kittery when she applied for State bounty. [Massachusetts Soldiers and Sailors in the War of the Revolution, Boston, 1899, PP- 112-3, and Remick, Lieut. Oliver Philbrick, Eliot and Kittery, Maine, in the American Revolution, Boston, 1901]



Gen. John Frost was the son of Col. John Frost who inherited what is now Frost Garrisons (at Frost Hill and presently under restoration) from his father.

We sent Jim to the Portsmouth Athenaeum where a collection from Joseph W.P. Frost resides. If anyone has any further information, please let us know.



We are still getting inquiries about the connection of Simon Spinney to George Pettegrew Spinney (born c. 1760 - died 1849) and Ann Libby Spinney (1765-1842). Missing, but at one time up for auction on the internet is the family bible that, at one time, belonged to Daniel Parker Spinney and Ann Mary Spinney, who

lived on Bolt Hill, here in Eliot. In it are the birth records (1824-1847) for the ten children of Francis Spinney (father of Ann Mary Spinney) and his wife Mary Rogers Paul. It may contain the proof needed to link Simon Spinney.

Acquisitions



Lydia Goodwin recently gave the Society a hooked rug made by Isabelle B. Remick. Isabelle B. Remick (1864-1956) was the daughter of Joseph B. (1834-1918) and Angeline (Brooks) (1834-1906) Remick. Her parents were married 7 November 1858. Their son Elmore L. was born and died in 1860. Joseph was a house carpenter. Isabelle had a twin sister, Inez J. (1864-1942). Neither of the sisters married. Their family home was at what is now 9 State Road, the former home of Charles "Charlie" Remick. Isabelle taught at the #1, #2, #6 and #8 schoolhouses.

Isabelle was educated in Eliot and Portsmouth schools and graduated from Gorham Normal School. She taught in public schools in Maine, Massachusetts and Rhode Island, for over 40 years, with the last 12 years being at the Wentworth-Dennett School in Kittery. In fact, she was one of the original teachers, and the only non-Kittery teacher employed there, when the school opened in 1923, where she taught 5th grade. Those first teachers met monthly for many, many years, well into the 1950s.

Isabella taught in her hometown of Eliot, starting at the District #8 School (1841-1912) teaching the Summer session in 1887. In 1888 she accepted a position at Bristol Ferry, Rhode Island, at the pay of \$450 per year. *The Biddeford Journal*, reporting on the appointment, described her as "one of the ablest teachers in York County". Isabelle then came back to Eliot to teach again in 1891-2 at the Fall, Winter and Spring terms. She taught on and off at the #8 School until 1900. She returned to

teach in Eliot at the District #2 School (1810-1941), located on Stacy/Frye Hill, for the 1905-1908 years.

In the fall of 1908 she began teaching at the District #1 School on Goodwin Road, also known as the Emery School (1810-1934) and taught until the close of the Spring term in 1913, when she transferred to the District #6 School (1810-1928) for the Winter term that year, remaining there until the close of the Winter term in 1915.

She was held in very high esteem by parents and students. When the school session of 1906 closed Miss Florence Rowe, on behalf of the pupils, presented her with a book of poems. A newspaper, reporting on the day, says the room was adorned with flowers, green branches and flags.

She was a member of the South Eliot Methodist Church and its Woman's Society of Christian Service, Eliot WCTU and the Gorham Normal School Alumni.

When Isabelle passed, she left \$8000 and 1/2 of the proceeds from the residue of her estate to the Methodist Church in memory of her parents, to be known as the *Remick-Brooks Fund*, with the income to be used to support the church.



1914/15 – Teacher Isabelle Remick, back row and 5th from the left, is shown with teacher Evelyn Gove, and the students at the # 6 School. From the book *Schools of Eliot*, EHS publication

SEPTEMBER 11- QUARTERLY MEETING. Short Program - History of the Eliot Pre-School Program. This is the 50th Anniversary of the development of the Pre-Kindergarten Program in Eliot. Janice Cerabona

OCTOBER 9- "The Nightingale" Frank Thomas will share with us the history of this famous clipper ship, built at the Hanscom Shipyard in Eliot, Maine.

NOVEMBER 13 - Anne B. Gass, author of many books on woman's suffrage, including "Voting Down the Rose" will join us to talk about her latest book "We Demand - The Suffrage Road Trip".

DECEMBER 11 - QUARTERLY MEETING - ANNUAL MEETING Program: Show and Tell