

MONSON, MAINE

HISTORY

1822 - 1972



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FOREWORD

The following data has been gathered and assembled with as much accuracy as possible.

This history could not have been compiled without the many hours of help freely given by the citizens of Monson.

The main sources of information for this book are listed at the back, for the convenience of the reader.

May this history bring pleasure to the readers now and in the future, but especially to those with memories of the past.

Jeanne Brown Reed
Althea Haggstrom French
Elizabeth Emanuelson Davis

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

June 19, 1972

TO THE PEOPLE OF MONSON, MAINE

The observance of your one hundred and fiftieth anniversary is an occasion of deep pride for you as well as for the nation.

The high purpose and vital community spirit that are reflected in your eventful history are in the best tradition of our American way of life.

Armed with these same qualities in the years ahead, I know that you will strive to be in the vanguard of constructive civic accomplishment. I welcome your full partnership in the demanding tasks we face as a nation, and in the good that promises to come from our united efforts.

Richard Nixon

HISTORY OF MONSON, MAINE



STATE OF MAINE
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
AUGUSTA, MAINE
04330

KENNETH M. CURTIS
GOVERNOR

May 3, 1972

Citizens of Monson
Town Manager's Office
Monson, Maine

Dear Citizens:

As Governor of the State of Maine I want to express the best wishes of all citizens in congratulating you on the occasion of your 150th Birthday.

My schedule for June does not permit me to attend the celebration you have planned for June 24 to commemorate this Birthday, but I want to convey my best wishes and trust that this milestone in your history will be one that leads you into a new era of prosperity for your community.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kenneth M. Curtis".
Kenneth M. Curtis
Governor

KMC:jk

SESQUICENTENNIAL COMMITTEE



Names - Back Row, L. to R.: Robert Lander, Linda Rongner, Joyce Kelley, John Ruksznis, Joyce Brown, Dorcas Leavitt, Althea French, Eloise Stevens, Kendrick Benton. Seated: Elizabeth Davis, Aimee Kugler, Esther Pennington, Elza Smith, George Rongner, Front Row: Vikki Leavitt, Jeanne Reed.

Chairman: Kendrick Benton.

Co-Chairman: George Rongner.

Treasurer: Elizabeth Davis.

General Committee: R. Lander, J. Ruksznis, A. French, L. Rongner, J. Kelley, D. Leavitt, V. Leavitt, J. Reed, E. Stevens, and J. Brown.

United Circle Committee: A. Kugler, E. Pennington, and E. Smith.

HISTORY OF MONSON, MAINE

SELECTMEN



L. to R.: Paul B. Allen, Frank W. Nelson, Worden W. Smith

TOWN MANAGER



Robert E. Lander

TOWN CLERK



Stanley A. Robinson

HISTORY OF MONSON

1822 - 1972

EARLY HISTORY:

Monson was incorporated as a town by an act of State Legislature on February 8, 1822. This territory was first in the possession of Massachusetts. On February 27, 1811, Massachusetts granted 11,520 acres to Hebron Academy and on June 17, 1811, granted 11,520 acres to Monson Academy. In 1820, Maine became a State.

April 22, 1822, was the setting of the first meeting to form a town government. The inhabitants of this town, in response to a warrant issued by Samuel Pingree, Esq., of Parkman, met at the house of Whitney, Hyde & Co., for the purpose of completing the organization as a town by the choice of the necessary officers. This they did by choosing Andrew Cushman, Moderator; Samuel Whitney, Town Clerk; Samuel Whitney, Andrew Cushman and Abel Goodell, Selectmen and Assessors; Lucius Hyde, Treasurer; Austin Newell, Constable and Collector; Abel Goodell, Lucius Hyde and Chauncey L. Colton, School Committee; and filling the other offices by the choice of good and true men. The number of voters in the town at the time of its organization was twenty-one, namely: Amos Atkinson, Wm. Blunt, Amasa Chapin, Calvin Cushman, Geo. Douty, Abel Goodell, Wm. A. Hyde, Lucius Hyde, Joseph Jackson, Austin Newell, Abiel Packard, Shepherd Packard, Asa Piper, Horatio Sherman, Isaac Tyler, Samuel Whitney and Samuel Weymouth. The total population numbered ninety at that time. Monson continued to run on the Selectmen form of government until 1943, when they decided to elect a Town Manager to run the business of the town. The Town Manager also serves as

Tax Collector, Road Commissioner and Treasurer. The first to be elected for this office was Lyle Towne who held the position until 1955. To date Monson has had four town managers.

The first settler in this town was Joseph Bearce, who came from Hebron in 1816. He had been here the previous year and felled a few trees. He commenced on lot numbered nine in the second range. During that summer, 1816, he cleared a field and built a small log house. This was the first house in town. It was situated a few rods north of the road now leading from our village to Blanchard, and near where the road formerly known as the "Dudley Road" leaves the Blanchard Road. In the spring of 1818 he married Nancy Ricker of Paris. In the autumn of the same year death claimed him for its victim.

While Mr. Bearce lived in this town, the path from Abbot to the settlement diverged from the path leading to Million Acres, now Blanchard, and finding a pair of moosehorns, Mr. B. placed them upon a post as a guide-board. From that time on they served as a guide-post for the many settlers traveling on these spotted trails. In 1882, William Weeks shot a moose and put its horns on the post. He painted Million Acres on one horn and Monson on the other horn. On Aug. 25, 1914, the Piscataquis Historical Society held a dedication ceremony replacing another set. Several pairs were stolen over the years and some were simply demolished from the elements. In June of 1955, still another pair was mounted on the iron post. This was the sixth set of moosehorns dating from 1817 to 1955. On Oct. 29, 1961, the D.A.R. Tisbury Manor Chapter placed a bronze marker at the "Moosehorns" to preserve the historic landmark.

In 1816, Geo. Doughty from Gray, and Simeon Irish, from Hebron, commenced to fell trees in what has since been known as the "Witham Neighborhood". Mr. Irish built a small house that fall and moved into it in 1817.

This was the first frame house in town, and was covered with shaved clapboards, without any boarding. It was situated on what was afterwards known as the Fogg place near J. B. Draper's the now abandoned Moose-horn to Blanchard Road. (The Draper Farm was destroyed by fire.) Mr. Doughty raised some crops on his land in 1817, and built a log house, into which, with a wife and five children, he moved in March, 1818. These were the first children in town. Samuel Rowe and wife from Hebron came to Monson the same year.

In the fall of 1818, James Stanchfield came from Albion, and in February 1819, moved with his family into the house built by Mr. Bearce. The house he built was the first house built in the east half of Monson, or on that part granted to Monson Academy, and the place where, for some length of time, the people were accustomed to meet for religious worship and for other purposes. This house was used for several years as a dwelling-house, meeting-house and school-house. It stood on the spot where Joseph Daine's buildings stood in 1872. (Located in the general area opposite the Finn Hall on Rt. 15.)

In the spring of 1819, Joseph Jackson and wife, with a family of eight children, came from No. 7, now Abbot. He had been here the fall before and felled some trees on the place occupied by David B. Cotton in 1872 (now Woodlands about one-half mile north of the Moose-horns on Rt. 15). Here he erected a log house and lived several years; after which he moved into the east half of the town, living on the farm occupied by H. C. Pullen in 1872 (Now Stanwood Pullen's farm). The same season, Samuel Weymouth, Amos Atkinson and Abial Packard came with their families and commenced making homes for themselves. Mr. Packard bought Mr. Irish's house, and Mr. Atkinson located on the north side of Hebron Pond, this was the first settlement north of the pond.

The first birth in the town was a child born to Simeon Irish and wife, in the summer of 1818. The second was in the family of Samuel Rowe, the next summer; and the third was a son of Amos Atkinson, in the autumn of 1819, while they were living so far from neighbors, on the north side of the pond. A. Atkinson's child died suddenly between the ages of two and three months old.

In the summer of 1818, the trustees of Monson Academy sent Abel Goodell to explore the township, thus to be able to recommend to others to come here to find or rather to make themselves homes.

In the fall of 1819, Capt. Amasa Chapin traded with the trustees of the Academy for one mile square of land, in the east half of this town, taking the same in part pay for his farm in Monson, Mass. (His home was built on the present site of Edward Kugler's farm, N. Guilford Road.)

In May, 1820, Capt. Samuel Whitney, Justin Colton and William A. Hyde, with their families, and Calvin Colton and Lucius Hyde, leaving their families behind until the next winter, and Royal Day, Austin Newell and Horatio Sherman, single men, seventeen in all, came from Monson, Mass., and commenced a settlement, where the village now stands, and in the southeastern part of the town.

They left Monson Mass. in April. They were about three weeks on the way, and spent the Sabbath, May 7th, at Capt. Chapin's in Abbot, where they left the women and children for a few days, coming here on Monday, May 8th. They stopped a few days in Mr. Stanchfield's house, and then went to Mr. Atkinson's where they found a home until they could clear away the forest sufficiently to build a house, which was soon ready for their reception. This house stood on the spot where H. G. Sherman's house stood in 1872 (now known as Louise Grover's home) and was the first house in the village and the second framed house in town. It was the home of Capt. Whitney as long as he was a resident of this town, and

for several years was a temporary home for quite a number of other families, they stopping here until they could construct some sort of house for themselves.

In the winter and spring of 1822 and 1823, no less than five families found a home in this house at the same time. These were the families of Samuel Whitney, James Whiting, William A. Hyde, Lucius Hyde, and this in a house twenty-two feet by thirty and unfinished. In this house, the first birth in the east half of the town, and the first in the families from Massachusetts after their arrival here, occurred on the first day of January, 1821. This was a daughter to William A. Hyde and wife. This child was known as Mrs. Catherine M. Giddings of Portland in 1872.

In the summer of 1820, the dam was built across the outlet of the pond, thus flooding the little pond and rendering more valuable the water power. At this time, the water-power, with one mile square of land - lot No. 10 was the property of Whitney, Hyde and Fay. In the summer and autumn of 1821, they erected a saw-mill and grist-mill. A second grist-mill was built by T. Davee, from Blanchard, in the year of 1841. Mr. Fay never came here to live and soon after sold out his interest to Frederic F. Gates, who with his family, came here in the spring of 1823 to make a home. Soon after this the partnership was dissolved, Mr. Whitney keeping the mills, Mr. Gates the northern and Mr. Hyde the southern part of their tract of land.

In the spring of 1820, about three weeks after the first emigrants from Monson, Mass. arrived, Isaac Tyler came from New Gloucester and started to clear land. On March 10, 1822, he and his wife moved into his home.

In February, 1822, Andrew Cushman and wife with a family of seven children, came from the Town of Oxford. Mr. C. had been here the previous year and felled trees. Mr. Cushman's was the fifteenth family in town. The same spring, Austin Newell brought his wife, whom

he had returned to Monson, Mass., to marry; and with them came Hiram Vinton.

In the spring of 1822, there also came from Oxford County, Cyrus Packard, William Bowker and Cornelius Barrows. Zibeon Packard came about the same time. Abel Goodell who came in 1818 to explore the township, left Monson, Mass., in the spring of 1821. Leaving his family in Harmony, he came here and cleared his farm. The next winter he moved his family as far as Guilford, where they stayed one year. He was considered a resident in this town, voting and holding office in 1822, although his family did not arrive here until May, 1823.

Although there appears to have been but twenty-one voters here in April, 1822, and only twenty-five votes cast for Governor in September of the same year, yet upon an old tax list of 1822 there were names of thirty-two resident taxpayers. The names on that list, not already mentioned, are Nathaniel Bennett, Reuben Cushman, Samuel Tobin, George Hathaway and Isaac Stone. Hathaway and Stone were young men employed that season by Capt. Chapin. The others lived here with their families and probably came in 1821 or the spring of 1822.

In October, 1822, James Whiting and family, five in all, came from Wrentham, Mass., and lived with Mr. Whitney and Mr. Atkinson, until Mr. Whiting could build a house, when they moved on to the place known as the Whiting farm (now Bessie Doble's on Water Street).

In the spring of 1823, Alexander Greenwood, Esq., who had been employed by the trustees of Hebron Academy in 1811, to lot their portion of this township, and afterwards by Monson Academy to survey and lot the remainder of the town, moved from Hebron and settled on the land formerly known as the Watson farm (now owned by Andrew Sophrer of Dexter) and located beyond the R. Mathews' farm.

In the same summer Samuel Robinson, Zenas Scales, Abel Janes and Daniel Wallace came and settled in this

town. In October of the same year Joseph Goodell and Dr. A. Davison came from Vermont. Mr. Goodell lived on the present site of Lloyd Kelley's home and orchards and Mr. Davison moved into Dea. Hyde's house, which had been built that summer. This house belonged to J. P. Haynes in 1872 and was the second house built in the village. Here Dr. Davison lived until 1825, in the summer of which year he built the house which is the present home of Mr. and Mrs. Fred Finley on Center St. and moved into it in the autumn. Sometime during this year Samuel and Zebedee Thomas and John Packard settled in the west part of town. Daniel Briggs also came the same year.

In 1824, William Connor, Simeon Davee, John Crafts, Solomon Cushman, John Morton and Oliver Eveleth, became residents of this town.

In 1826, no less than nine men, most of them having families, moved into town. They were Capt. J. Mathews, R. K. Packard, Joseph Barrett, Roland Taylor, Warren Dudley, Joshua Buck, David Goodell, Benjamin Ward and John B. Packard. In 1827 came Joseph Booth, H. G. O. Harmon, George Dunham, William Goding and Abel Jewett. In 1828, Abner Brown, William D. Hoar, Milton Hoar, Thomas Towns and Solomon Bray. Mr. Bray probably had the largest family ever living in this town, fourteen children, seven sons and seven daughters, all of whom lived to be men and women.

POST OFFICE:

In the year 1824 or 1825, the Post Office in this town was established. Before this, all the mail matter designated for this place stopped at Sangerville, and the inhabitants were obliged to go twelve miles to mail or to receive a letter or paper. Frederic F. Gates was the first post master and Hiram Doughty the first mail carrier. Mr. D. was succeeded, in a short time, by Benjamin

Stanchfield, who every Saturday for two years, went on foot to Esq. Kelsey's in Guilford, returning in the same day, with the mail, and being obliged to cross the Piscataquis River twice each way - in the best manner he could for there was no bridge - in order to leave the mail at the Post Office in Abbot. For this service the government paid these men two shillings a trip, or a little more than one cent for each mile of travel. They usually had some errands to do for the inhabitants, for which they received some trifling compensation. As they approached the Post Office, and sometimes as they passed the houses, they sounded a trumpet before them to inform the people that the mail was coming, and that there was an opportunity for any one who wished to send errands. In 1827, the mail was carried by Deacon Fuller from Bangor to Monson, once a week; and in 1831 mail arrived in Monson three times a week. After 1883 Monson had mail twice daily except on weekends. On February 6, 1960, the new metro system was introduced and mail arrives at 8:00 A.M. and leaves at 5:00 P.M. daily except Sundays.

The Postmaster was chosen according to the political party in power to which he belonged. (Note: This no longer applies as it is a civil service position.) Therefore, the Post Office has been housed in several buildings in town: 1882, the present C. Bickford home; 1889, present Monson Light and Power Co. Block; 1910-1911, present T. Moore Block; 1912, present M. L. & P. Co. Block; then, present Monson Variety Store; 1940's, moved to its present location in the T. Moore Block. (Note: Recent Postmasters: Alner Gilbert, Edward Johnson, Harvey Gilbert, Harland Johnson.) Erma Johnson Small is the present postmaster with the following part time employees: Neola Jacobson, Eloise Stevens, and Dagmar Greenleaf.

(Note of Interest — The shed now attached to the present home of Paul Allen on Garage St. was built on Main St. after the fire of 1911. It was used temporarily as a drug store and postoffice.)

FIRST ELECTRICITY IN MONSON:

On January 25, 1908, Monson had its first electricity. The power was generated right here in Monson by using water power from Lake Hebron. Later, when the water couldn't generate enough power for the Monson, Maine Slate Co. to run their machines, they purchased the power from Greenville which was generated at Wilson Pond.

Monson Light and Power Co. was incorporated in December of 1907, with the Monson, Maine Slate Co. owning all the stock. In June of 1944 Francis Marshall bought all the stock of the Monson Light and Power Co. from the Slate Co. and bought the electricity wholesale from Central Maine Power Co. Then in June of 1964, Central Maine Power took over the distribution facilities in the town.

FIRST TELEPHONES IN MONSON:

There are no records to confirm this statement, but it was said that the first telephones in Monson, were at the Monson, Maine Slate Co. Quarry and quarry offices, and that it just "grew like Topsy" from that time on. Mr. Fred Crane was superintendent of the Monson Slate Co. at that time, and he took over the telephone business and carried it on as a private enterprise as long as he lived, although it was never a paying proposition. The Southeast Monson Telephone Co., more commonly known as the "Farmers Line" was formed by the residents in the southeast part of Monson and was connected to the outside through Fred Crane's Co. The telephone business was sold in 1946 to the New England Telephone

Co. which established a nice telephone office in Monson in the present Donald Keene block (now used as a barber shop) and employed several people at the time. On July 28, 1955, Monson went onto the dial system at 12:01 a. m. and from that time on operators were no longer needed. At the present time, Monson cannot dial direct as can many of the other cities and towns, but is in hope of being able to do so in the near future.

MONSON FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY:

January 16, 1909, seven citizens of Monson petitioned the State expressing their desire to be incorporated under the provisions of Chapter 57 of the Revised Statutes of 1903 and amendments and maintaining a free public library. February 4, 1909, a certificate of organization of the Monson Free Public Library Association was filed in the office of the Secretary of State at Augusta, and said organization was duly notified. The first books purchased were books written by Stevenson, Harte, Dickens and history books, numbering 90 in all. By Feb. 6, 1910 the library had 636 books. In 1947, the Womans Club of Monson appointed a committee to work with one of the State Librarians discarding all outdated books. At this time, the library was completely redecorated and the books catalogued according to the Dewey Decimal System. It was located at this time in what is now the Monson's Historical Museum.

On April 19, 1969, the library moved into its new home in the new municipal building in back of the town office. It contains approximately 5000 volumes. The complete interior facilities were donated by the Moosehead Mfg. Co. Miss Vivienne Bray is the present Librarian; Mrs. Van Wentworth and Mrs. Mary Williams, Assistant Librarians.

MONSON'S SCHOOLS

The early settlers were very anxious for their children to be educated and the very first schools were held in private homes, this being before the town was incorporated.

In 1823, a schoolhouse was erected near the center of the town. Traveling conditions being very difficult, it soon became necessary to have neighborhood schools. In 1827-28, a school was built in the Day District, and by 1848, there were schools in various localities. There were eight rural school houses, those being: (1) Old Burma School - Located on Blanchard Road, abandoned 1906. This building no longer stands. (2) New Burma School - Located on the Blanchard Road, opened in the spring of 1906. This building still stands and is privately owned and now called the Wagon Wheels. (3) New Long District School - Located on the Monson-Guilford road. Presently it is known as the Finn Hall used by the Finnish Farmers Club. This one was in use in 1907. (4) North Neighborhood School - Located up by Drake's Corner, Elliottsville Road near Esmond Richards' home. This building has tumbled down. (5) Vinton School House - Located at the corner of the Willimantic and S. E. Monson Roads. This building was moved to its present location across from Charles Strom's home in Southeast Monson in 1921. This is the original building and has never been used for anything but a schoolhouse. (6) Red School House - Located on N. Guilford Road below Day's Crossing and Southeast Monson Road. This building is now gone. (7) Barrows Falls School - Located between Blanchard and Barrows Falls. This building was in use

in 1906-07, but is now gone. (8) Old Long District School - Located on the Guilford Road near Ladd Brook below Arthur Nelson's house. Building now gone.

Monson Elementary School - The first grammar school building called "Old Schoolhouse" was located between Monson Academy and the Church Cemetery. This building burned March 31, 1899, and was rebuilt on the present site. This school being centrally located made it possible to transport boys and girls to the village by bus. The District schools were closed by 1939.

Monson Academy owes its birth to private enterprise. There was a group of people who were determined that the boys and girls of this little hamlet should have all the advantages of the times. This group was made up of fifty-four citizens who were later named as corporators. The corporators proved their eagerness for an institution of higher learning by subscribing \$1,000.00 for the purpose of establishing an Academy for the education and improvement of youth. A committee of three petitioned the Legislature for its incorporation June 14, 1847, and the act of incorporation was approved by Gov. John W. Dana, and can be found in Chapter 62 of the Acts of that year. The corporate name was "Stockholders of Monson Academy", each subscriber holding a number of shares corresponding to his subscription.

The corporators met for organization at "Centre School House" in Monson on Sept. 4, 1847. Dr. Alpheus Davison was chosen chairman and Ephriam Flint, Clerk. On Sept. 18, 1847 the following were chosen: Lucius Bradford, Pres. - Zenas Scales, V. Pres. - Ephriam Flint, Clerk and Aretus Chapin, Treas., with fifteen trustees.

The building was erected by Joseph Lombard, for \$935.51, the total cost including a heating system being \$1,014.87. The building was dedicated Aug. 28, 1848.

The Legislature granted the institution a half township, which was sold Dec. 2, 1852, for \$3,000.00. For several years the sum constituted the entire endowment of the Academy. The original building was two stories high measuring 37 by 40 feet with the school on the ground floor and the hall above being used for a recreation room and for concerts, lectures and other public purposes. The Academy had a small, well-selected library.

The first session of school was held in the fall of 1848 with 106 persons in attendance.

March 1860, the Academy was burned to the ground. Reconstruction was started immediately and the framework of this structure measuring 37 by 56 feet was still uncovered when fire again selected Monson as its victim, destroying the greater part of the village. In spite of all obstacles the stalwart people of Monson finished building the Academy in 1860. The 1861 Legislature granted Monson Academy one fourth of a township in Aroostook County, which the trustees sold Jan. 24, 1864, to George K. Jewett of Bangor, for \$2,000.00. The interior of the building was finished on the strength of this grant. The first session of school was held in the new Academy in 1861, and continued under the direction of the trustees until 1872, when the Academy united with the High School in exchange for a grant made by the town for this purpose. The Academy was then governed by the trustees and the school committee.

On July 1, 1892, the first floor of the Academy was made into two school rooms and the high school was calcimined.

On January 2, 1901, the Academy was made free for the students of Monson Village.

On January 16, 1908, arrangements for a laboratory were made.

March 16, 1922, \$100.00 was spent for installing electric lights for the Academy.

February 27, 1924, \$3,000.00 was spent remodeling the Academy.

The Academy celebrated its one hundredth birthday in the summer of 1947.

The same building was used with slight changes in remodeling the inside with up-to-date heating, lighting and plumbing facilities until 1968, when the Academy consolidated with School Administrative District No. 68. The Academy and Elementary Buildings were remodeled to house the grades from Kindergarten thru the sixth grade. The seventh thru twelfth grades travel by bus to Dover-Foxcroft to attend Grammar School and Foxcroft Academy.

A gymnasium was one of Monson's big needs for a great many years. In 1940 & 1941, the Monson Community Hall fund was organized and a campaign was launched to raise \$20,000. By August of 1941, \$4,600. in cash and 50,000 feet of lumber had been donated. The plan was to have a wooden building with a slate roof. When \$10,000 was on hand the building would be started. Before the end of the year, World War II disrupted all the plans. A few donations continued to come in, and the local organizations and school classes continued to make annual contributions. All organized campaigns were suspended for the next five years.

A Monson Academy Alumni Association was organized in June of 1947. The first meeting for organization was held at the Masonic Hall June 13, 1947 with Esther Pennington acting as Chairman of organization for the Alumni Association. At that meeting the following were chosen as officers: Pres. - Stanwood Pullen; V.-Pres. - Harland Johnson; Sec. - Eloise Stevens and Oswald Poole as Treasurer.

Prior to this meeting the by-laws for the association were written by Millard Emanuelson as early as 1937.

This group decided to back the Gym project. There was \$16,000. in the treasury, and the Alumni Association

hoped to double the amount. The project was known as the Monson Gym Fund from that time on.

The steady rise in cost of materials and labor made the original type of building beyond reach. It was decided to have a pre-fabricated type of aluminum building. The sum of \$22,437.50 was needed to have an outlined building with foundation, walls and insulation.

The structure was started and once more an appeal was made for subscriptions. The response was generous, but there was only enough funds to carry on work for a few months.

At the town meeting on March 11, 1950, the town voted to borrow the sum of ten thousand dollars for the completion of the Monson Gym and the same to be paid back by the Alumni Association in ten notes, with each one being for a thousand dollars plus interest.

The same year monthly committees were appointed to raise at least \$100.00 a month. The enthusiasm with which these committees worked is a credit to any community. For five years there was a project every single month in this little town of less than one thousand persons and very seldom did a committee fail to raise the minimum, in many cases going way above the hundred dollar mark.

In March, 1951, Monson had the honor of having the late Harland Ladd, then State Commissioner of Education, dedicate the new Gym. The last note on the Gym was paid June 13, 1955, and the note burned with fitting ceremony at the Alumni Banquet June 24, 1955.

At one time, the seventh and eighth grades sold refreshments at recess time under the supervision of the late Pete Gattrell, to earn money to add to the sum of two thousand dollars to buy stage curtains, chairs, bleachers, showers and other necessities.





North Neighborhood School



Vinton District School



Old Burma School



New Burma School



Long District School



Monson Academy and
Old Grammar School



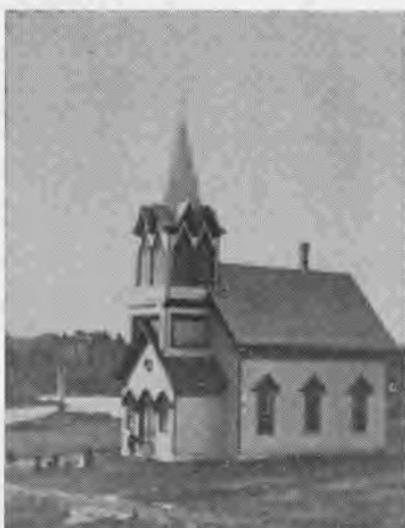
Present Monson Schools and Gymnasium



Congregational Church
Main Street



Baptist Church
Pleasant Street



Swedish Lutheran Church
Wilkins Street



Swedish Methodist Church
Water Street



Rev. Douglas P. Braydon



Monson Community Church
Main Street



Community Church Parsonage on Center Street
(Former Baptist Parsonage)

MONSON'S CHURCHES

In May, 1820, a colony came from Monson, Mass. These were men of character and influence, men who had provided well for their families and who were determined to maintain the same high standard in this new sparsely-settled town.

On their first Sunday after their arrival, they had a meeting for religious worship in the house built by Mr. Bearce. As far as anyone can trace, this was the first service held in Monson for the purpose of worship with the exception of two funerals. Arrangements were made to have religious services for the first Sunday in June at Mr. Abiel Packard's house, being more centrally located for Monson people and for the families who had settled at Million Acres, now Blanchard. The next Sabbath, they met again at the same place and also organized a Sabbath School. Services were held here for the rest of the summer. For the next two years all worship services were held in the home of James Stanchfield. By this time a schoolhouse had been built in the center of the town, and public worship was held there until a church building could be erected.

In August, 1821, Rev. John Sawyer visited Monson, and a Congregational Church was formed consisting of seven members. It was not until Nov. 1824, that Rev. Lot Ryder came to be the regular minister and was ordained in the barn of Capt. S. Whitney. In 1831, the first church building north of Bangor was erected and was dedicated as a Congregational Church. This church, which was framed by R. K. Packard, and was the first building framed by the square rule, was destroyed by fire in 1860, and rebuilt the following year.

August 10, 1827, marked the founding of the Baptist Church in Monson, with 14 members. The meeting house

was erected in 1845. During the pastorate of the Rev. Joseph Grossa, (1918-1924) the church was remodeled, being raised two feet with a concrete sub-foundation and a back upper foundation. A furnace, the gift of Mrs. Brown Steward, was installed in the basement and the old-fashioned pews were replaced by new ones. The old windows were replaced by lovely stained glass memorial windows. A vestibule was built onto the front of the building with one large entrance. The belfry and steeple were raised and the church was redecorated inside and out.

The Baptist and Congregational Church began holding united services in 1933. Church was held in the summer for six months in the Baptist Church, and in the Congregational Church in the winter of the remaining six months, with the Rev. Martin Sorenson officiating.

After 10 years of planning the two churches (Baptist and Congregational Churches) merged their buildings into one well-designed structure on August 14, 1959, to be called the Monson Community Church. In May, 1958, a building fund campaign was launched to finance the joining of the two churches. By late November of that year the new foundation for the Baptist Church at the Congregational Church site on Main Street was completed and the church, minus its steeple, was on skids ready to be moved.

Through donations and sales during the year, the move was possible in the spring of 1959. The Rev. Donald F. Blanchette was pastor at the time.

The church members who helped to make the merger possible were: George (Bill) Wentworth, Record Pullen, Mrs. John Durham, Mr. and Mrs. Philip Knight, Mrs. Clifton Weymouth, Miss Vivienne Bray, Mrs. Arvid Anderson and Mr. and Mrs. Sherwood Johnson.

One year later, to the day, on August 14, 1960, the new sanctuary was dedicated. Rev. William R. Huber

was minister at the time of this dedication. The lights in the steeple were given in memory of Samuel Pennington by Mrs. Esther Pennington. On August 20, 1961, Dr. Charles Gilky dedicated the pulpit in the sanctuary in memory of Dr. Shailer Mathews.

In the summer of 1960, plans were made to make the Congregational Church Building into an Educational Building with three classrooms, a lounge, and restroom downstairs with an auditorium upstairs.

\$1,000.00 was left to the church by Mrs. Sarah Huff. This money was the "starter" for the Educational Building. The Committee borrowed \$3,000.00 from the Guilford Trust Company and the carpenter, Mr. Clarence Case, started the work.

In March of 1961, the Educational Building was dedicated, and the United Circle donated the lounge chairs to the church.

Water and rest room facilities were installed in 1962.

In 1963, the final payment on the \$3,000.00 note was made.

In the fall of 1966, the Monson Community Church joined with the Abbot and Sangerville Churches and formed the S.A.M. Larger Parish. Before this, the Churches could not afford to hire a full time minister and relied on inexperienced students who could only stay for short periods of time. After forming, they were able to hire Rev. Douglas Brayton as full time minister devoting his time equally between the three churches. The S.A.M. stands for Sangerville, Abbot and Monson.

1971 brought the completion of the kitchen and dining room area, giving the various church and town organizations a place to hold their activities.

It was about 1874-1875, that the Swedish people began coming to Monson, most of them working in the slate quarries. The Swedish people did not understand the language of this country, and wanting to worship

God in their own tongue, they built a Swedish Mission Church in 1890. Some of the members of this church were Lutheran, which is the State Church of Sweden, and some held other beliefs. There was a break in the organization, and in 1892 the Swedish Methodist Church was built. From that time on the Swedish Mission Church was known as the Swedish Lutheran Church. Both Churches had Swedish ministers and conducted their services in their native tongue. There were services in these churches for many years. The Saturday night Church suppers which were held in the members homes were very popular. The Swedish Lutheran Church on Wilkins Street was sold to the American Legion in 1946 and made into a Legion Hall. On Dec. 8, 1970 the American Legion sold the hall, and it is now privately owned. The Swedish Methodist Church was sold to the Assembly of God, which is the church located on Water Street, and is now known as the Open-Door Full Gospel Church.

There were a few Universalist people in town in 1884. A parish was organized, and a few services were held. A Ladies Circle was organized, and a fund raised which was turned over to the Universalist State Convention, held in trust for Universalist work in Monson.

The Congregational Parsonage was located between the homes of Charles Brown and Robert Greenleaf on S. Main St. This building is now owned by D. Luce.

The following is a list of the church organizations:

In-active	Active
Stella Grace Philathea	Youth Fellowship
Baptist Circle	United Circle
Congregational Circle	Margaret-Lister Philathea
Entre Nous Club	
Swedish Mission Circles.	

BUSINESS HISTORY

SLATE QUARRIES:

The summer of 1870 is a date that changed the pattern of living for the inhabitants of Monson. As William Giffith Jones was driving his horse along and gazing at the countryside, suddenly he saw slate. Mr. Jones, having come from Wales, knew slate and its commercial value. Bill bought the land from a hotel keeper and started the development of the first slate quarry in Monson within a few days. The first slate quarry was called the "Eureka" which means, "we have found it". Thus started the industry that was to be the main source of livelihood for Monson's inhabitants for many years to come.

The next quarry to be opened was called "Hebron Pond". This was operated by a Mr. Chapin. A year afterwards it was sold to Henry Carter and the quarry was afterwards called "Carter Quarry".

In 1872, the "Norris Quarry" opened and was operated by Mr. Norris. He was the first man to install steam power. The buildings burned in 1877.

1873 - Fred Jackson founded the Cove Quarry in which the machinery of the Norris Quarry was installed. Also that same year the "Dirigo" was opened and operated by Dexter and Portland companies.

1874 - Forest Quarry opened and operated by Salem parties.

1877 - Oakland Quarry opened and operated by John Tripp.

The Monson-Maine Quarry was in operation in 1880 by Allen Williams and abandoned in 1943.

1882 - Kineo Quarry - operated by outside parties.

1882 - Burmah Quarry.

1870-1875 - Underground Quarry - operated by Charles Folsom.

1895 - "West Monson" - operated by W. M. Jones.

1902 - Mathews Quarry - operated by Mr. Mathews.

1906 - Portland-Monson Quarry.

1910 - "Farm Quarry" and Wilkins Quarry.

1919 - "Eighteen Quarry" - abandoned around 1922.

1922 - There were three quarries in operation - Portland-Monson, Monson-Maine Slate Co. and the General Slate Co.

The Coleman Family, having the largest shares of stock, ran the Portland-Monson Slate Co. until April 1, 1965, when it changed hands. It's now privately owned by the Tatko family. Monson slate is considered the finest in the world and is particularly famous for its color, being black. Monson slate is shipped all over the United States and into many foreign countries. A couple of the more noted places it can be found is on the flooring of the New Monson Town Office. Along with the black slate from Monson, there is a mixture of green and red squares from New York and Vermont quarries. The floor of the Northeast Bank of Guilford, Maine, also has added the beauty of Monson slate to its floors.

Monson slate was used as the Kennedy Memorial stones marking the resting places of the slain President John F. Kennedy and two children at the Arlington National Cemetery. St. Patrick's Cathedral in New York City also has a slate roof made from Monson slate.

MONSON RAILROAD:

In the early days transportation was by foot, horseback or a team of oxen. Later came the stage from Bangor to Greenville. In 1871, the railroad company of Bangor hired a man to survey a road from Guilford to Greenville. The road he surveyed would have run be-

tween the saw mill and the G.A.R. Hall (now Monson's Historical Museum), and through Henry Grover's orchard (below where Louise Grover now lives). But soon the people found out that the Railroad Company had sent a surveyor to survey a road following the Piscataquis River from Guilford to Greenville via Blanchard. With this misfortune the townspeople later felt that they needed some means of transportation. In June, 1883, our little narrow gauge railroad, which was six miles long running from Monson to Monson Jct., came into existence. The equipment, which was original or close to it, consisted of two engines, one combination car, 28 flat and box cars, one snowplow and one spreader. It was commonly known and called the "Two-by-six", being two feet wide by six miles long. It can be found in some reference books that the Monson Railroad was 8.16 miles long when it's only 6.16 miles from Monson to Monson Jct. However, it was necessary to add the extra two miles of tracks going through to Eighteen Quarry which was beyond Monson-Maine Quarry.

The first two engines number 1 and 2, 0-4-4-T were Hinckleys and were built in 1882. The next two engines were numbered 3 and 4. No. 3 0-4-4-T was built by the Vulcan Iron Works in 1912 as was No. 4 0-4-4-T which was built in 1918. The latter two were nearly identical except that No. 3 had one stirrup to lift you up into the cab whereas No. 4 had a double step. The railroad was owned by the Monson-Maine Slate Co., and its primary purpose was to haul slate from the quarry to Monson Jct. It also carried passengers, mail and freight. The "Peanut Roaster", as we fondly called the little train, never turned around. She always backed the whole six miles from Monson Jct. to Monson Station. The narrow gauge railroad was chartered in 1882, built in 1883 and abandoned in 1945.

Bus service was in existence in 1955 and ceased

functioning in 1958, operated by Hasey's Bus Lines.

The first store in town was opened in 1825, belonging to Oliver Eveleth. Later that same year Solomon Cushman opened a store. They remained the only two traders until 1830, when T. S. Pullen from Winthrop came to Monson and started his own trade. From that time on Monson's businesses have continued to grow.

After the fire of 1860, Mr. Aretas Chapin, son of one of the early settlers, constructed a hotel holding fast to all the principles of Temperance. This hotel was burned in 1882.

In 1886, Monson had a Refrigerator and Butter Box Factory. The wooden boxes were lined with slate, the theory being that slate kept out heat and retained the cold. The project was not a success.

MOOSEHEAD MFG. COMPANY:

After the closing of the Monson, Maine Slate Co. in 1943, a Board of Trade was formed by the merchants for the purpose of interesting an industry to locate in town.

In 1945, the Moosehead Woodcrafter's plant in Greenville was destroyed by fire. It was rumored that they did not plan to rebuild in Greenville. The Board of Trade then met with the officials of the Moosehead Woodcrafters and they agreed to locate in Monson for \$50,000.

The Board of Trade called a meeting of all interested citizens and it was decided to finance this venture by selling shares of stock. The quarry buildings were purchased, remodeled, and work was begun at once. The Woodcrafters made a wooden chair with a seat and a back of webbing. The Woodcrafters operated about a year and a half and failed, leaving Monson shareholders with nothing but worthless pieces of paper. The spirit of the founders of Monson showed in this generation, and a Creditors Committee was formed. The stockholders

raised twenty thousand dollars more and the plant operated for another six months, but could not keep going.

The situation was really looking black when John Durham of Belfast, Maine, became interested in the project. Mr. Durham had formerly been employed by Diamond Match Co. for a number of years and as he says, his job was "putting sick factories onto their feet again".

The Board of Trade appealed to the stockholders and ten thousand dollars was offered to John and Tolford Durham to take over this "sick plant". The Durhams invested heavily in the plant and put long, hard days trying to straighten out a very bad situation.

John Durham had to learn the furniture business from the bottom up. It was "nip and tuck" for the first three years; then things began to look brighter.

In 1954, the Moosehead Manufacturing Company was able to pay a dividend to their stockholders.

On October 29, 1959, Moosehead Mfg. purchased an abandoned woolen mill in Dover-Foxcroft to extend the production of their beautiful furniture and opened for business in 1960. Both plants today have roughly 200 employees.

The company has sales offices in New York City, Los Angeles, Chicago, and San Francisco with showrooms in New York and North Carolina.

Tables and chairs are the Monson plant's major production, while the Dover-Foxcroft plant manufactures upholstered and bed room furniture.

1972 MONSON BUSINESSES WITH THEIR EARLY HISTORY AND FORMER OWNERS

MILTON BARTLETT'S GULF STATION - The land and buildings owned by French & Curtis - they bought the land from Arthur Bessey in 1956. The first manager - John Ruksznis followed by Ronald Clukey, Maurice

Davis, Frank Templeton and in 1967, it was opened by its present operator - Milton Bartlett.

YANKEE TRADER - The present building was built for Daniel Champion in 1935 by Percy Smith and was then known as Champion's Filling Station. It was later acquired by Arthur and Edna C. Haggstrom and in turn sold to Alanson Robbins in 1971.

MONSON GARAGE - The bottom story of the now John Ruksznis home was previously located on Main St. between A. Haggstrom and D. Williams houses. At that time the building which is now Monson Garage was a barn situated in back of this house. After it was moved, it was used as a livery stable by P. W. Knight and then as a leased garage. Former business owners were: Archie Greenleaf and Stanley Stevens; Archie Greenleaf; Daniel Champion; Will Champion (operated by Leslie Robinson); Edward Dutra; Lloyd Butterfield; Hal Stanchfield. The present owner, John Ruksznis has been in business for 26 years.

STORER'S HOME CARE CENTER - This was a hardware store owned by Billy Eldridge and later by Luther Colbath. It was then bought by John Strom, then by Sam Ulman and used as a meat store. The American Legion bought it from Ulman and they in turn sold it to Ira Bishop. Next Arnold Grant owned it and he sold out to the present owner, Berwin Storer. (Note: The Civil Defense had a lookout tower built on top of this building during World War II to report airplanes that passed the area.)

J & J GENERAL STORE - Attorney John Sprague's house stood here before the 1910 fire. It was rebuilt by Arthur Brown and made into a general store. It was then taken over by Clarence Brown. The block was sold to the following people in the proper sequence: Ethel & Arvid Holmquist, Paul Hoyle, Laurice Goodwin, Joseph &

James Quartararo and the present owners, C. Leavitt and James Quartararo. (Rent upstairs.)

MONSON LIGHT AND POWER BUILDING - In 1889, C. W. Folsom had a drug store on one side of the building, and a Post Office was on the other side. Roy Hescock had the drugstore - Post Office when the building burned in the 1910 fire. In 1912, it was rebuilt by Alner Gilbert. Since that time it has been used as a Variety Store, A&P Store, Grocery Store and Post Office. The annex was used as a garage. It is now owned by Francis G. Marshall as an office and storage. Rents upstairs - vacant.

POOLE'S MARKET - Former owners - Ladd, W. A. Bray, Arthur Bray, Nadeau. Oswald Poole bought it from Nadeau. It has always been a grocery store. It was damaged by fire in 1955 when Nadeau owned it. Rent in back was gutted by the fire and was removed. Rent upstairs - vacant.

MASONIC BLOCK - Burned in 1911. Arthur Brown had a store on the street level and a house owned by him was located out back of the Masonic Hall. A stable was underneath which also burned. Rebuilt. The first floor housed two businesses. One side was a hardware store with the following proprietors: Bill Eldridge, George Pullen, and Gordon Hall. The other side has been used as a restaurant, office and dress shop. Second floor - Banquet room, Dentist and Doctor's offices, Barber and Beauty shops and club rooms. Third floor - the main hall was used by the Masons, Odd Fellows, Rebekahs and Star. The building was damaged by fire July 12, 1969, and is now vacant. The present owner of the building is Edward Adams.

MONSON VARIETY STORE - The fire of 1911 started in this building. At this time Sam Hughes had a clothing store and barber shop housed here. The rent upstairs was occupied by Storer Flint who died in the fire. A

bowling alley was in operation in the basement. The building was rebuilt by Henry Grover for Edward Johnson and was used as a grocery store then a Post Office. Rent upstairs remodeled. Purchased by Evold Jorgensen about 1944-45 and is now owned and run by Madeline Jorgensen.

TERRIS MOORE BLOCK - Alner Gilbert sold the building, which presently houses the Post Office and Coffee Shoppe Restaurant, to Roy Hescock after the 1910 fire. R. Hescock had a drugstore and Post Office there which burned in 1911. R. Hescock rebuilt in the same spot, and housed a drug store on one side with a Barber Shop on the other side of the building. Hescock then sold it to Aubrey Williams who ran a drugstore with a Post Office in operation on the other side at that time. The building is presently owned by Terris Moore, who lives in the upstairs apartment.

BLUE GOOSE - Owned and operated by Joe Davison as undertaking parlor. Burned in 1911 - Rebuilt and used as undertaking parlor. It was then used as a feed store by Guy Hammond - Danny Guilds then had an antique store called the Blue Goose. It now belongs to Edward Adams who uses it for storage.

VAINIO BUILDING - This building belonged to Jesse Rogers then Harry Daw. H. Daw had a grocery store. Rent upstairs. This building burned in the 1911 fire. Rebuilt. After Daw died Harry Hughes had a grocery store - Then Austin Robinson - grocery - store vacant. Galen Vainio now owns the building which he bought in December 1969 and is his residence.

DONALD KEENE BUILDING - Built after 1897 fire. Owned by Orrin Rice, and used as a barber shop and dwelling. Then sold to D. Keene who had a barber shop one side of the building with a bakery, that now houses

Dr. Isaac Nelson's office on the other side. Rent upstairs - vacant. (Note: the telephone office was once housed here when operators were employed.)

MONSON LAUNDRAMAT - This building belonged to Coombs & Johnson between 1883 and 1885 and it burned in 1897. Henry Grover owned it about 60 years ago and used it as a Country Store. H. Grover's son, Merton Grover then ran a bakery and later opened a saloon. Louise Grover sold to Humphrey in 1963. Humphrey in turn sold out to Laurice Goodwin who is the present owner. Rent upstairs.

KNIGHTS STORE - 1888 bought by P. W. Knight from C. S. Pullen & Co. and was known as P. W. Knight & Sons (Amos & Henry). It was always used as a Dry Goods and Clothing Store. Rent upstairs is presently occupied by Katherine Knight. Store is closed.

TOWN HALL (GAR BUILDING) - First building built after the Civil War. Destroyed in the fire of December 28, 1888. Rebuilt. The annex built in the 1930's by W.P.A. men. The GAR turned the building over to the Town of Monson in the early 1940's. When the town owned it they housed the Town Office, Fire Dept. and Public Library on the first floor. Second floor - was used for many activities. In 1972, the town deeded it to the Tisbury Manor Chapter D.A.R. and it presently houses Monson's Historical Museum. (Note: In 1889 the town meeting hall was located in [Tarr] Spencer's Hall.)

WAYMOUTH'S GARAGE - Located on road to Greenville. Built by Dennis Weeks for Arthur Day in the late 1920's. Arthur Day owned and operated it until 1942. Closed from 1942-45. Reopened by A. Day and run for a short time then sold to Earl Waymouth in late 1940's who operated it as a garage. Business closed by Waymouth in 1971.

DAIGLE & DAIGLE - Built by Patrick and Jerry Daigle. Opened in the summer of 1970. Hardware and lumber goods. Located on Rt. 15.

MONSON SPRING WATER CO. - This was originally started by A. W. Chapin for his own use who was then the owner of the building which presently houses Brown's Nursing Home. Will Bray bought the water company from Percy Smith on Dec. 4, 1925. W. Bray then to Maude Bray on Oct. 8, 1945. M. Bray in turn sold it to Elwin & Marguerite French on Oct. 25, 1948. On April 8, 1955, E. French sold his half to Esmond Richardson. E. Richardson & M. French sold out to Thaxter Jones on June 20, 1962. In July of 1968 a town meeting was held and it was voted to buy the Water Company for \$6,000. On Oct. 1, 1968, the Town of Monson took over the Water Co. from Thaxter Jones. The town owns the company at the present time.

C. V. (TAD) TURNER, INC. - Forest products and general trucking, bulldozing, shovel, back-hoe, crane work, and excavating. Located on the William Hughes Farm on the Willimantic Road.

INSURANCE:

Francis G. Marshal - Hartford Insurance Co. and
Monson Light and Power Co.

Robert E. Lander - General Insurance

Stanley A. Robinson - insurance and real estate broker

FOREST PRODUCTS:

Merton Carr - woods operator

Bjork Bros. - William and Harlan - woods operators

Robert Brown - pulp buyer

Wayne Reed - pulp and logs

Hollis Nelson - woods operator

Lloyd Kelley - building camp roads and backhoe work

Kelley Bros. - apple orchards

C. V. Tad Turner - forest products and contractor

BEAUTICIANS:

Me Me's Beauty Salon - Amelia Daigle, prop.
Jo L's Toppe Knott Shop - Joyce Lander, prop.

MISCELLANEOUS:

Phyllis Ruksznis - bakery
Raymond Anderson - painter (buildings)
Berwin Storer - painter (buildings)
Dennis Casey - "Wildwood Camp Ground" Monson Pond
Herbert Bishop - snowmobile dealer - Bishop's Great Outdoors
Joyce Kelley - antiques
Brown's Nursing Home - Raymond Bishop, prop.
French's Boarding Home - Marguerite French
Robert L. Greenleaf - electrician
Robert Leavitt - electric motors
Olive Hammond - seamstress
Leon Piela - carpenter
Lawrence Hammond - bookkeeper
William Erickson - crawlers (bait)
Earl Waymouth - live bait
Ed and Audrey Higgins - live bait
Kendrick Benton - photographer
Gerry Weymouth - artist and teacher
Elinor Brayton - artist
Mrs. Elizabeth Seitz - The Shell Studio
Coffee Shoppe Kahvila - Helen Johnson, prop.
Bessie Doble - antiques
Patrick & Jerry Daigle - carpenters
Edna Haggstrom - knits and crochets articles for sale
Harry Lindie - radio repair
F. Elwin French - repair shop and makes novelties

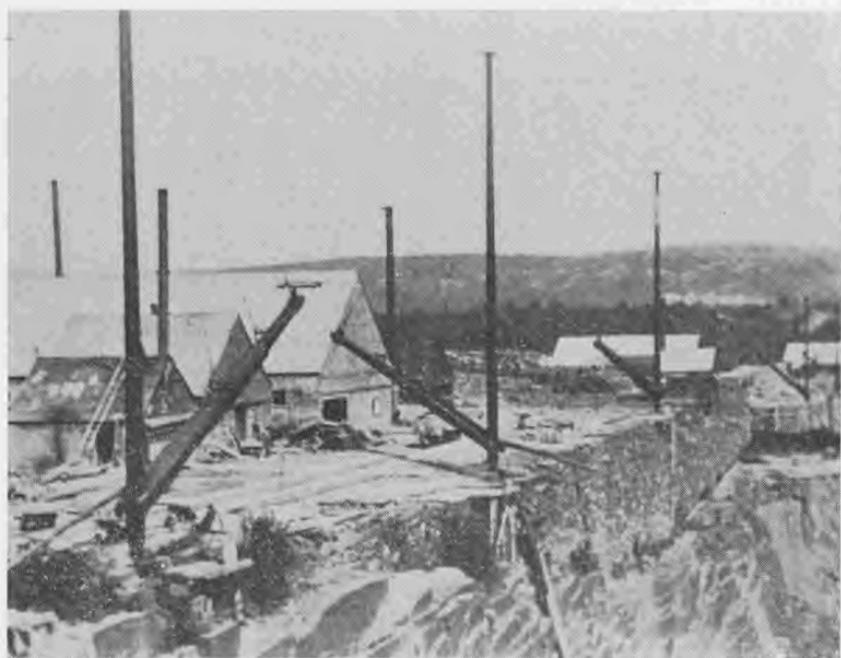
TWO ACTIVE FARMS:

John Sandberg - Southeast Monson
Forrest Stevens - (Old Steward Farm) Southeast Monson





HEBRON POND QUARRY (Abandoned)



KINEO QUARRY (Abandoned)
Building Now Used As Town Sand Shed



PORLAND-MONSON SLATE CO. 1910-12



PORLAND-MONSON SLATE CO. 1972



MONSON, MAINE SLATE CO. (Old Photo)



MOOSEHEAD MANUFACTURING COMPANY - 1972
Formerly the Monson, Maine Slate Co.



Products Manufactured by
Moosehead Mfg. Co.



Kennedy Marker Came from Portland-Monson Slate Co.



M. R. R. No. 3 Engine at Monson Station on Water Street



M. R. R. No. 4 Engine - Engineers: Albion Johnson & Elwin French



CHAMPION'S FILLING STATION - NOW YANKEE TRADER
Built in 1935



MONSON GARAGE IN 1923
Arthur Haggstrom and Archie Greenleaf
Present Owner - J. Ruksznis



MAIN STREET LOOKING SOUTH (Old Photo)

R. - L: Masonic Block, G. Vainio's, Restaurant and Post Office, E. Adams, Former A. Anderson's, D. Keene, Laundramat, and Knight's.



MAIN STREET LOOKING NORTH (Old Photo)



MAIN STREET LOOKING SOUTH (Old Photo)
J. & J. General Store, Monson Light & Power Co.,
Masonic Block, Etc.



POOLE'S MARKET



G.A.R. Hall - taken before Annex built in 1930.



Former American Legion Hall
with Civil Defense Tower.
Taken in early 1940's. Present
Storer's Home Care Center.



G. A. R. Hall, Then Town Hall, Present D. A. R. Building.

HISTORY OF MONSON, MAINE



1972 - MAIN STREET LOOKING NORTH



1972 - MAIN STREET LOOKING SOUTH

NEW MUNICIPAL BUILDING

On February 14, 1968, the town approved an earlier proposal of building a new municipal building to house the Monson Town Office, Library, Fire Department, Highway Dept. and Youth Activities room. Ground was broken in April of 1968 for the new building which was designed by Dan Edgerton at the site of the former Willer Hotel. The cost of the new building was \$39,200. On June 16, 1969, open house was held dedicating the new addition to the town.

FIRE DEPARTMENT HISTORY

Prior to the organization of the Monson Volunteer Fire Department, the town had no fire fighting equipment and depended on the help of the townspeople.

In 1877, Alvin Gray, who was the selectman, bought an engine, and an old hand tub and some hose for \$400 which the town appropriated for that use. At that time much was said against the purchase until the fire of 1897 which burned the buildings from the canal to Knight's Store. This section was rebuilt as follows from Knight's Store to the canal - Grover's now the laundramat owned by Laurice Goodwin - Orrin Rice - now Donald Keene block - E. McIver - last known as Arvid Anderson's Store which was demolished in 1966 - J. Davison - now Edward Adams and used for storage. The first fire apparatus is now in a museum in Meredith, New Hampshire.

The Monson Fire Department was organized in 1937, with Dennis Weeks as Chief, and sixteen members who were Arthur Day, Merton Grover, Clair Sargent, Stanley Stevens, Cliff Simpson, Henry Knight, Erick Erickson, Arthur Haggstrom, Fred Berry, Anselm Swanson, Paul Jackson, Guy Hammond, Thomas Mountain, Elwin French, Robert Benton and Eugene Bickford.

The first fire house was in the old GAR Hall known as the old Town Hall on Main Street and remained there until 1968 when the new Municipal Building was built.

In 1937, the first motor driven fire engine was purchased which is still being used today. The department presently has two fire engines, two tank trucks and an Army Surplus truck. An alarm system was installed on the top of the old town hall building. Prior to this the church bells were used as a means of an alarm. On May 3, 1946, Arthur Haggstrom became Fire Chief, a post he held until March 28, 1961, when John Ruksznis became Chief and who holds this office at the present time.

The fire department now consists of 20 men who attend regular meetings and training sessions.

Monson has been the victim of many fires over the years. In May, 1824, a fire which started on what is now the common, where the forest was being cleared away, threatened to destroy what buildings there were in the vicinity. All the help that could be found worked hard for a day and night to save the mills, two houses and one or two outbuildings then standing where the village is now.

Then another fire struck the town in the autumn of 1825. This fire swept across a large portion of this state destroying great tracts of timber land. Many of the buildings were in danger, but through strenuous efforts, none were destroyed.

Again in the spring of 1831, the village was threatened once more.

THE GREAT FIRE (Taken from the 1914 Pharetra)

It is quite a look backward over the nearly fifty-four years since the great fire in Monson. Within this period Monson has been visited by a number of serious conflagrations but none of them has destroyed so large a

proportion of the buildings as that on May 27, 1860, which swept away most of the village. Few who were then of adult age are now living, and those who were then children are well along in years.

Prior to 1860, Monson enjoyed a remarkable exemption from serious fires. The town in common with others suffered from the great forest fires of 1825, but from 1818 to 1860, according to Reverend Charles Davison's semi-centennial address, only four dwelling houses had been destroyed by fire; namely, that of Samuel Rowe in the winter of 1818-19, that of Calvin Colton in the spring of 1823, that of George Doughty in 1836 and that of Alexander Greenwood Houston in November, 1852. For seven years after this last fire the sound of the fire bell had not been heard. Its silence was first broken March 31, 1860, when the Academy burned, to be followed by a greater conflagration not quite two months later.

In May, 1860, the weather had been for several weeks warm and dry. There were no slated roofs in Monson then and the shingles on the roofs were dry as tinder. Sunday, May 27, was a calm and pleasant day with a light south wind.

Shortly after the close of the morning services the sabbath stillness was broken by the wild cry of "Fire" and the ringing of the bell in the Congregational Church. Looking across the little pond from the window of my father's house, then standing on the site now occupied by I. P. Wing's residence (now the home of Edwin Holmbom's), I saw the flames pouring from the roof of the stable connected with Nelson Savage's hotel called the "Mansion House", the hotel being on the site now occupied by Peleg W. Knight's store, and the stable a little south and in the rear. In the few minutes required to reach the spot, the flames had spread to the hotel and the inmates were throwing, out of doors and windows,

beds, bedding and furniture in frantic effort to save something from the wreck. The heat generated an active air current and the flames with a wild roar devoured everything they touched in an incredibly short time. The burning shingles were swept high in the air and were carried by the now accelerated south wind northward, immediately setting fire to any roof on which they dropped. The flames mocked the puny efforts to stay their onward rush with water pails and buckets - the only fire-fighting apparatus in the village.

It was a spectacle at once grand and awful to see almost the entire village in flames at once. The fire began about one P. M. or a little earlier and by three P. M. the work of destruction was substantially complete. When the sun set on that eventful day, little was left in the central part of the village but a mass of smoking ruins.

Except a small shop next north of the canal, every building on the west side of Main Street from the Mansion Hotel north was destroyed. This included Tarr's and Knight's blacksmith shops, Tenney's wheelwright shop, J. H. Pullen's store and home of Deacon Ward on the lot afterwards of A. S. Garland (now Gordon Hall's home). The fire also destroyed a cabinet shop of Elias T. Andrews and dwelling of Albion Jackson, both on Pleasant Street the latter on the site of Mrs. Hattie Crafts' residence (now known as Esther Pennington's home). Only a change of wind prevented the flames from sweeping up Church Street. On the east side of Main Street every building north of the canal to and including the Congregational Church was burned, including Aretas Chapin's extensive farm buildings, Oliver Eveleth's store (now Erma Small's home) and dwelling occupied by A. G. Houston (former D. A. R. Chapter House) and the hotel called the "Monson House" (located in the general area of Berwin Storer's home) then kept by Solomon J. Chandler. (Note: Aretas

Chapin's farm was about where Louise Grover's home now stands.)

In the midst of the excitement a dwelling house on Central Street formerly occupied by Honorable J. H. Rice on the lot afterwards of A. F. Jackson (now the home of Edward Laverty which was formerly owned by Ansel LaPointe), caught fire from the flying embers and was speedily burned to the ground. In the space of two hours, about forty buildings were totally destroyed with a large portion of their contents. So rapidly did the flames spread that there was little opportunity to save anything. The buildings destroyed included one church, two hotels, three of the four stores, six dwellings besides shops, one law office, barns and outbuildings. The business part of the village was practically wiped out. Some of the sufferers were stripped of substantially all their earthly possessions. Some had no insurance and others while less unfortunate never recovered from their losses. To crown all, certain disreputable characters from outside added plunder to the troubles of the sufferers.

The total losses were estimated at \$22,750 and insurance only \$9,600. At the scale of prices prevailing this meant much more than the same figures would represent today and gives a very imperfect idea of the magnitude of the misfortune which for the moment overwhelmed the little village. The heaviest losers were Nelson Savage, \$1,300; J. H. Pullen, \$2,800; Congregational Society, \$1,200; with no insurance; Solomon J. Chandler, \$3,000; Oliver Eveleth, \$2,200; and Aretas Chapin, \$3,000. The figures are those given in the Observer at the time, and those losses except in the case of the church were partially covered by insurance.

The business men sought such accomodations as they could find. The post office was for some time kept in the rear wing of Horace Flanders' house (now Tolford

Durham's). Some who had been in business at Monson sought other fields of activity. It was many years before the village regained its former prosperity.

The cause of the fire was never certainly known. One rumor attributed it to certain half intoxicated persons smoking in the hay loft of Nelson Savage's stable. Others believed that the fire was deliberately set by an offender who had been arrested in Monson shortly before and who threatened vengeance upon the town. No attempt was made however (perhaps from lack of evidence) to bring the culprit, if such he was, to justice.

Incidentally the fire resulted in one important benefit in ridding Monson (let us hope forever) from hotels in which intoxicating liquor was kept for sale. Shortly after the fire Aretas Chapin opened a hotel (built on the site of the now Bartlett's Gulf Station), which until it burned on March 25, 1882, maintained a consistent and honorable record as a temperance hotel, and this excellent record has, I believe been maintained by hotels since opened in Monson.

Dudley P. Bailey

The alarm of fire rang at 4 a. m. on Friday the 28th of December of 1888. The engine house with the G.A.R hall above, the building owned by Hilman Bros. and used as a furniture and tailor's shop, and Mr. Boynton's fine new buildings, store and dwelling with barn adjoining and a dry house filled with lumber belonging to the Monson Refrigerator Co. were swept away in an hour's time. It was the most disasterous fire since 1860. The town lost the road machine for which it paid \$225.00 just two years before. The buildings burnt nearly together and almost everything in them was destroyed. The hearse was saved. (Note: This is the fire which burned from Water Street to the residence of Alvin Gray's - now A. Haggstrom's This event was taken from the private

journal of Miss Sadie Emerson, daughter of the Rev. Emerson, and loaned by her grandson, Vernon Wilson.

January 12, 1897, everything was burned from the canal to P. W. Knight's store. Later in 1899 the old hotel stable (situated where the Bartlett's Gulf Station now stands) burned. Then on January 6, 1910, the Lake Hebron Hotel which opened in 1882 was consumed by fire. In the winter of 1910 (Dec. 11) fire destroyed all the buildings from the Bray Block (now Poole's Market) to the corner of Pleasant and Main Street.

Fire broke out on the night of Nov. 9, 1911, in the business section and swept everything from the Spencer Block (former A. Anderson Block - now a vacant lot) to W. A. Bray's Store (now known as Poole's Market) including the Masonic Hall.

During the night of Nov. 3, 1919, there was a bad fire in one of the Railroad buildings, which destroyed all the engines belonging to the road, leaving us now without any rail service. (Taken from Alvin Gray's diary.) (Note: damaged engines, No. 3 and 4, repaired by D. Weeks.)

On Nov. 5, 1939, there was a fire at Clarence Brown's store (now known as J & J General Store) which damaged the interior.

If one should ask some of the older citizens in Monson what the longest night they've ever had, they might recall the fire on December 17, 1942, when the fire started in the crating room of the Portland-Monson Slate Co. From 8:30 to 10 p. m., they fought hard to save the building which they did quite successfully. Then one hour later, fire was discovered in the big mill which lasted until 8 o'clock the next morning.

A fire always ends up as a loss for someone, but perhaps one of the most tragic losses was on March 2, 1950, when Elwood Smith, his six children and his mother Harriet Smith were burned to death. His wife was badly burned and hospitalized. Their house was situated be-

tween what is now A. Swanson's and A. Small's on South Main St. (the latter sold to E. Casey). The Smith house was the oldest house in town at that time and was once located where Brown's Nursing Home now stands.

On Feb. 7, 1955, Poole's Market, then owned by Nadeau, was damaged inside by fire.

The interior of the Masonic Hall which housed Pullen's Hardware and Robinson Insurance Agency on the first floor, burned July 12, 1969.

ORGANIZATIONS

AMERICAN LEGION POST NO. 116 AND AUXILIARY

Towne-Holmbom Post No. 116

The Monson American Legion was started on May 1, 1921 with 16 charter members: Ira F. Bishop, August Peterson, Byron A. Kallgren, Frank A. Larson, William Lindie, Thomas Mountain, Lawrence Johnson, Paul Nelson, Elmer Lindie, Erick Holmquist, Robert Bigger, and Byron W. Harmon. Ira Bishop was the first commander, and in later years, served as County Commander.

The Auxiliary was instituted on Dec. 12, 1922, with 38 charter members: Lizzie Towne, Mary Davis, Mary Larson, Edith Carlson, Lottie Grant, Margaret Bigger, Elizabeth LeClair, Elizabeth Bodge, Margaret Steward, Myrtle Homer, Florence Hughes, Addie Wing, Pearl Dore, Ruth Larson, Edith Brown, Nettie Kallgren, Margaret Bishop, Margaret LeClair, Isabella Brown, Amy Kronholm, Hilma Holmquist, Marjorie Hughes, Sadie Grover, Audrey Flint, Jennie Lindahl, Ida Roberts, Esther Johnson Pennington, Madeline LeClair, Marion Billings, Rubena Johnson Fenlason, Blanche Hescock, Wilhelmina Stanchfield, Estelle Lindie, Harriet Flint, Hattie Larson, Judith Natyeks Venott, Alice Jackson, and Laurice Harmon.

The Monson Post was named in honor of Oral A. Towne, who was killed in action July 22, 1918 in Bois LeFere, France. On September 24, 1951, the American Legion of Monson voted to change the name to Towne-Holmbom Post No. 116 in honor of Oral A. Towne and Lawrence Holmbom. The latter died in England during World War II.

For many years, both the Monson American Legion and the Auxiliary held their meetings in what is now Storer's Home Care Center. There, they held many food sales and card parties to raise money and provide relaxation for their members. In 1925, they erected the flag pole that stands in the square.

In 1946 the American Legion bought the Swedish Lutheran Church and held their meetings and activities there until Dec. 8, 1970, when they sold the hall and became inactive. Previous to this they held their fairs, suppers, and dances at this location. Each year they held a Field Day in by Monson Pond which consisted of baseball games, skeet shooting, swim races, potato bag races, etc. They also sold hot dogs at this annual event.

Each year, past and present, the American Legion and Auxiliary have participated in the Memorial Day exercises. The American Legion Auxiliary Unit No. 116 is still active.

DAUGHTERS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION

Tisbury Manor Chapter, D. A. R.

The Tisbury Manor Chapter, D. A. R. was organized Nov. 5, 1952, with 19 charter members: Elena J. Quillian, Genevieve J. Beckwith, Gwendolyn M. Allen, Beatrix J. Bray, Stella P. Hughes, Edith D. Jackson, Grace J. Jackson, Faye D. Mithee, Agrandece R. Pullen, Priscilla C. Robinson, Hazel P. Warran, Josephine S. Emanuelson, Eloise S. Stevens, Ada B. Wyman, Ivy P. Leighton, Bern-

ice J. Young, June J. McDonnell, Melvina D. Jacobson and Marie S. Pullen.

The first event of the Monson D. A. R., was placing a marker on the grave in the church cemetery of Lydia Oldham Jackson, widow of Revolutionary patriot Barnabas Jackson, on Aug. 29, 1954. They also placed a slate marker on the grave site of Alexander Greenwood, surveyor of the Town of Monson and surrounding areas, in the church cemetery on June 30, 1961.

A small museum in the Old Town Hall (G. A. R. Hall) was established on Aug. 21, 1955. Plans are being made to re-establish in this building this year it having been at the Chapter's Gray House since 1959. (Note: The Museum opened officially on June 24, 1972.)

The Monson chapter also sponsored the J. A. C. Clubs, D. A. R. Good Citizen Girls and the American History Essay Contests in the Monson Schools until its consolidation into S. A. D. No. 68.

In 1959, they acquired the title to the Gray House which was bequeathed to the Chapter by Genevieve Jackson Beckwith and maintained it until this year when the Town of Monson deeded the Old Town Hall building to them for the museum.

OTHER *PAST AND PRESENT ORGANIZATIONS

*Gerry Relief Corp. No. 38

American Sunshine Club

J. E. Club

*Sons of Veterans

*Men's Club

Woman's Club

*Woodman's Lodge

*Loon Club

W C T U

- *Monson Doric Lodge No. 149
- *Onaway Lodge No. 106 I.O.O.F.
- *North Star Rebekah No. 38
- *Euclid Chapter No. 58 O.E.S.
 - Finnish Farmers Club
- *G.A.R. Gerry Post No. 5
- *P. of H. Juanita Grange
- *Farm Bureau (both men and women)
 - Formed in 1919

YOUTH GROUPS

Boy Scouts	Girl Scouts	Youth Recreation Club
Troop No. 119	4-H Club	
	(Started about 1927)	

MONSON CITIZENS DEDICATE HONOR ROLL

(Taken from the Piscataquis Observer dated Aug. 3, 1944
Written by Earle Jackson)

Sunday, July 30th, 1944, will go down among the outstanding days in the history of the Town of Monson. The occasions was the unveiling, presentation and acceptance of the Honor Roll erected to honor those in the armed forces in World War I and World War II from this town.

The site of the Honor Roll is on the vacant lot owned by Doric Lodge, F. & A. M. between Masonic Hall and the Post-Office. Early in the day a group of townspeople took it upon themselves to give Main Street, through the business section a good cleaning. This done, Main Street looked spic and span.

The residence of W. Harry Hughes being directly across the street and opposite the Honor Roll, made a fine place to carry out the prepared program. The veranda at the Hughes residence was prettily decorated with

baskets of flowers and served as a platform for those taking part in the ceremonies. A loudspeaker system was installed so all could hear throughout the business section.

Long before the hour set for the dedication exercises, two o'clock, P. M., people began to gather and autos took available parking space. Arthur L. Bray very efficiently presided. Monson band was assembled on the spacious lawn in front of the Hughes home.

Very soon after 2 o'clock, Mr. Bray announced the opening of the program, a selection by the band. Prayer was offered by Rev. Joseph Griffiths, pastor of the Methodist Church in Guilford. The Honor Roll was unveiled and God Bless America sung by the all male chorus - Fred M. Hescock, Paul A. Jackson, Guy O. Hammond, George P. Pullen, W. W. Pullen, Robert I. Roberts of Dover-Foxcroft, and audience.

Mr. Bray next read the names on the Honor Roll and as the Gold Star Names were read, five in number, three in World War I and two in World War II, beautiful baskets of flowers were placed in front of the Honor Roll by five girls - Lucinda Forbus, Janet Bjork, Carolyn DeSano, Evelyn Simmons and Doris Nelson in memory of the boys who have made the Supreme sacrifice. This was followed by the playing of the Star Spangled Banner by the band.

Mr. Bray introduced the guest speaker of the afternoon, Captain Brower L. Pernet of the Air Force, Dow Field, Bangor, Maine. Captain Pernet expressed his great pleasure at being present at this occasion and complimented the people of Monson for their deep interest in erecting such a beautiful Honor Roll. After another selection by the band, Chief Dennis C. Weeks of the Monson Fire Department, sponsors of the Honor Roll, presented it to the town and it was accepted by Lyle C. Towne, chairman of the board of selectmen of the Town of Monson. The band played several more selections and Rev. Griffiths pronounced the benediction.

THE HONOR ROLL

The plot of ground where the honor roll stands had been previously leveled and seeded and is now covered with green grass. Iron posts set in cement support the tablet which is seven feet wide and eight feet high. The frame is of wood painted white, on either side a raised victory V adorns the top with U. S. A. perpendicularly arranged below and the letters also raised, these emblems being painted in gold color.

The panels enclosed in the frame are of slate, the top bears the inscription - Monson Honor Roll - on a field that has been sand-blasted. The main panel is of slate 48 x 60 inches, in the upper section the names of World War I veterans, 58 in number appear and in the lower section those of World War II, 109 at the present time. The names are in bronze and fastened to the slate background. Plate glass covers the entire main panel.

Much credit is due to the members of the Monson Fire Dept. for their untiring effort and hours of work to complete this beautiful Honor Roll.

SURRENDER OF JAPAN CELEBRATED IN MONSON

(Taken from the Piscataquis Observer, Aug. 23, 1945,
Written by Earle Jackson)

Elaborate programs carried out Tues. and Wed. nights —

The citizens of this quiet little town, nestled among the beautiful hills and mountains of Piscataquis County, were on the alert Tues. evening, August 14th, as they have been for the past 4 or 5 years, for the welcome news all have been longing to hear - the end of the war. Early evening broadcasts announced that at 7 o'clock important news would be given out and it is safe to say that every radio was tuned in to get that announcement.

It came as scheduled and the townspeople let loose the joy in their hearts in their own individual ways.

The fire siren blew for a full 15 minutes, it sounded sweet to the ear, much sweeter than in the dead hours of night for a fire. Automobile horns took up the refrain throughout the town and in the distance the powerful Portland-Monson Slate Co. whistle echoed back. The peal of the church bells added to the noise.

Monson band quickly assembled in front of the town hall and dispensed stirring music until darkness covered their music. An impromptu parade of happy mothers, wives, sisters and sweethearts, as well as many children, grabbing anything they could make a noise upon, paraded back and forth on Main Street and the band played on. At times the whistles, horns and noise of the paraders nearly drowned out the band. Later during the evening several cannon shots reminded the inhabitants that the war was ended. The American Legion opened their hall and free dancing was enjoyed for several hours, music furnished by Frank Hughes, Alvin Cowan, Orman Kronholm and Archie Johnson.

For several days previous, this momentous moment had been anticipated and a group of business men had gathered to quickly formulate a plan for celebrating the glad news, if and when it came. The final arrangements were left with George P. Pullen, president of the local board of trade, and prominent hardware dealer and Eugene E. Bickford, the local efficient electrician.

Wednesday, August 15th was Monson's big day and the history of the town will record it as a most outstanding. An overcast sky dashed the hopes of early risers but in the early forenoon this burned away and the remainder of the day was most beautiful.

A church service opened the day's program at 8:30 o'clock conducted by Rev. Ruth Jackson, pastor of the United Church and held in the Baptist Church which was

filled with people who attended to give thanks for a victorious end to this most terrible war of all time. Appropriate hymns were sung, Mrs. George P. Pullen, organist. Scripture reading, Mrs. Jackson. The speaker of the service was Rev. George Flower, pastor of the Assembly of God Church and his remarks was listened to very attentively. A moment of silent prayer was given in memory of those who have made the Supreme Sacrifice.

At 10 o'clock a parade of the town was started with George P. Pullen leading dressed as Uncle Sam, next came the Monson Band followed by Oral A. Towne Post, A. Legion including service men and ex-service men of W. W. II. A thrill passed over the throngs of people on the street and in the cars to see Sgt. Robert L. Greenleaf of the Air Force marching in the ranks, a prisoner of war in Germany for 14 months. Troop 119, Boys Scouts, Eugene E. Bickford, Scoutmaster, followed and two columns of women, many of them dressed in costume, numbering more than 50 together with a lot of children. Last but not least was D. C. Weeks' truck bearing an effigy of Hirohito.

The line of march was upper Main to Center to Pleasant to Main to Tenny to Lower Main to Water and back to the Town Hall where it disbanded at noon.

The program for the afternoon was held at the bandstand on Monson Academy grounds. Hundreds of cars parked upon the grounds and along Main Street to enjoy this program.

The Program:— Prayer, Rev. George Flower; salute to the flag, led by Troop 119, Boy Scouts, Selection "Dawn in the Forest", Monson Band; singing "America", audience and band; selection, "Faith of our Fathers", male quartet, Paul A. Jackson, Fred M. Hescock, Winifred W. Pullen, George P. Pullen; address, Albert Boyer; duet, Rev. and Mrs. George Flower; selection, "Stella

Polka", Paul Jackson, baritone and band; selection, male quartet.

At this point in the program all service men and ex-service men were asked to assemble near the bandstand and Arthur L. Bray, in behalf of the citizens of Monson welcomed them and assured them Monson deeply appreciated the fine work done in this war. Chorus singing led by George Pullen, Mrs. Pullen, pianist, was entered into very enthusiastically and greatly enjoyed by all. This program came to an end with Star Spangled Banner - played by band.

Special mention should be made of the address given by Albert Boyer, a veteran of W. W. II and served in the Merchant Marines in W. W. II. His talk was timely and intensely interesting. Monson is proud to have as fine a speaker among its citizens.

The day ended with street dancing at 7 o'clock in front of the bandstand, this section having been roped off and traffic routed via Center Street and this lasted until late into the night, music being furnished by the same group that played the night before assisted by Urho Suomi, accordion and Philip Knight, drums.

A highlight in this street dance was the presence of Mr. and Mrs. John R. Flint, octogenarians, who tripped the light fantastic along with the teenagers. The burning of Hirohito ended a great day for Monson.

The committee did a fine job of arranging this day's program and the committee are very grateful to all who assisted in carrying out the program. Much credit is due the Monson Band for their music and one committee man said "A band such as Monson possesses, aided greatly in the celebration".

V—E DAY

(Note: the end of W. W. II was celebrated quietly in May of 1945.)

MONSON ACADEMY CELEBRATES AUG. 23, 1947

(Taken from Piscataquis Observer dated Aug. 28, 1947)
Written by Earle H. Jackson

The founding of Monson Academy 100 years ago was fittingly observed Saturday by the citizens of the Town.

The parade was formed at Sears field near the former Monson Railroad station. Soon after 1 o'clock the line was ready to move, headed by State Police Officer Harold Gleason; Uncle Sam in costume (J. Record Pullen); color guard from the American Legion; Monson band, Earle H. Jackson, director; Trustee's float; class of 1892-1893 (wagon); Winter Carnival float; Class of 1902, 1905; Dramatic Club float; class of 1913, 1917, 1921; Amos S. Knight's car with the oldest male citizen in town, Wallace E. Howard, 88; class of 1922, 1927; Merchants' float; class of 1928, 1932; Tenny Hill float; class of 1933, 1937; Monson Fire Department, Arthur E. Haggstrom, chief; Class of 1938, 1943; Moosehead Woodcrafter's float; class of 1944, 1947; girl scouts on bicycles, school boys on bicycles, doll carriages (decorated), boys and girls in costume.

The floats were all very nice as were the many cars carrying the different classes, the bicycles were decorated and the doll carriage section, numbering more than 25, was very pretty to view.

The Tenny Hill float scheme was the Little Red Schoolhouse, teacher, pupils, school bell, dunce and boys playing hookey from school fishing. This float took first prize; 2nd prize, class of 1892-1893; 3rd prize, class of 1913; 4th prize; merchants' float.

The parade proceeded up Water St. to Main, to Pleasant, to Center St., to Main St., going south to Tenny St. across to Main St., going north to the Academy grounds where the parade disbanded.

Immediately following the parade, the band gave a short concert in the bandstand on the Academy grounds. Their opening number was a stirring march, "Pride of Maine", composed by Heywood S. Jones, director of the Shrine band, Anah Temple, Bangor. Their next numbers were "Dynamic Overture", Huff; and "Garden of Dreams Serenade", Lincoln.

A public address system had been installed and President Stanwood R. Pullen of the Alumni Association called upon Dr. Jesse Thomas of New York to offer prayer. Earl Hutchinson of the State Department of Education, Augusta, was the speaker of the day and his address was listened to very attentively by the large crowd assembled.

The Academy building was open to visitors and registration of those entering was conducted by members of the alumni. Many photos, diplomas, and graduation dresses of years gone by were on display. From 5:30 to 7:00, supper was served in the Masonic banquet rooms by the Community Church Circle and many partook of this fine meal.

At 8 o'clock an entertainment program was presented in the Masonic hall. The program: address of welcome, Mrs. Esther Pennington; response, Lawrence W. Rogers, class of 1905, manager of school and library division of the Encyclopedia Britannica, Inc. New York, N. Y.; selection, quintet, W. W. Pullen, G. P. Pullen, G. O. Hammond, F. M. Hescock, P. A. Jackson; selection, musical saws, F. M. Hescock and Frank Hughes; piano solo, Miss Corrine Johnson; history of Monson Academy, Mrs. Donald MacPherson; clog dance, Frank Hughes; selection, quintet. Piano accompanists were Mrs. Mabel Pullen and Miss Pearl Sargent. Dancing followed with music by the Four Joes, with nearly 300 in attendance.

Special mention should be made of the Trustees' float, decorated in red, white and blue and drawn by W. W. Pullen's span of horses with Mr. Pullen, President of the Trustees, driving. It depicted the old M. A. school room with Donald MacPherson impersonating Prof. W. S. Knowlton seated at the old desk. Pupils, Irene Korsman, Beverly Ulman, Edward Simpson, and Arthur Nesberg. Further mention and description of the 2nd prize award was that of a well decorated surry, the driver was Andrew Bates of the class of 1893, and seated in the back seat were Mrs. Ethel Hescock and Mrs. Mary Davis, class of 1892, looking charming in attire worn in the '90's.

A class showing loyal spirit was that of 1902, with all of their living members present and who marched in the parade: Bessie Jones Thombs, Eda Johnson Anderson and Lilla Lambert Smith. The class of 1939 had the largest number registered. Prof. Ray Jones of Baltimore, Maryland, came the longest distance to attend. The Masonic hall and dining room were most attractively decorated.

Much credit is due the very efficient chairman, Esther Pennington, and her committee for making this a red letter day in the history of Monson Academy. The first prize of \$5 received by the Tenny Hill group for their float was given by them to the Community Hall fund. (Note: the two pictures printed were - The Red School House [Tenny Hill], and the Trustee's float.)

On the Little Red School House float were Mrs. Maila Korsman, Mrs. Gertrude Donahue, Mr. & Mrs. Jorma Ranta, Mrs. Lona Suomi, Mrs. Sadie Lewis; and the following children: Rena Korsman, Eleana Ranta, Kenneth Donahue, Sonny Conley, Jerry and Janet Daigle, Barbara, Peter, Robin and Peggy Weymouth.

OLD HOME SUNDAY

Sunday, Aug. 24, 1947, will be observed as Old Home Sunday and it seems fitting that Rev. Jesse Thomas of New Rochelle, N. Y., will be the speaker as he is the son-in-law of the late Dr. Shailey Mathews who for many years delivered the sermons on Old Home Sunday.

Following the church service those who desire to do so may take their lunches to the Pullen farm for a picnic, weather permitting. Bray's bus will run. Plan to make August 23 and 24th a red letter day for you and your family.

Soft ball game at 10:30 a. m. and 3:00 p. m. between a town team and Alumni team.

\$1.00 prize for best decorated doll carriage.

\$5.00 prize for best float in parade.

General Committee: Chairman, Esther Pennington. Eloise Stevens, Oswald Poole, Dana Williams, Arthur Day, Roy Davis, and Amos Knight.

Program Committee: Mrs. Dorothy Thomas, Mrs. Madeline Pullen and Mrs. Jeanette Hall.

Decorating Committee: Mrs. Erma Johnson, Mrs. Helen Johnson and Mrs. Lurene Houston. Sports in charge of Oswald Poole.



NEW MUNICIPAL BUILDING - Built in 1969



MONSON VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPT.
(Photo taken by Stan Stromback in July 1971)



MAIN STREET - BEFORE THE FIRE OF JANUARY 12, 1897



MAIN STREET - After the fire of Jan. 12th, 1897.

(Note: Lake Hebron Hotel in background)



L.-R.: J. Davison, Sprague's Law Office and Meeting Room (Rat-Hole), Jesse Rogers, Mills & Sprague - before 1911 fire. Main Street.



L.-R.: Mills & Sprague, A. F. Jackson, Masonic Hall. Before 1911 fire. (Jackson's Store now present site of Veterans' Honor Roll.)



MAIN STREET - L.-R.: A. Bray Store, Post Office, R. Hescock's Drug Store, Lars Sellberg and A. S. Garland House, before 1910 fire. (Note: Bray's Store wasn't burned.)



MAIN STREET. R.-L.: J. F. Sprague's House, R. Hescock, A. Bray, Masonic Block, etc. Before 1910. (Note: Left on Photo - A. Daine's Hardware Store - 2nd Story: Telephone Office.)



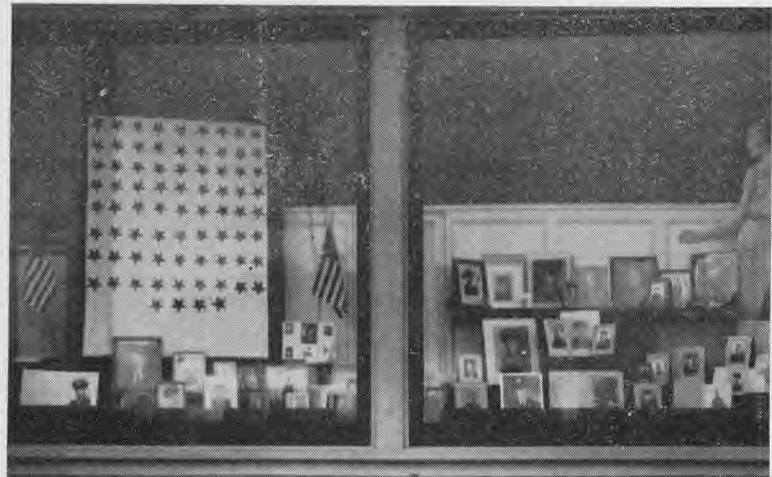
Genevieve Jackson
Beckwith, Organizer
of the Tisbury Manor
Chapter D. A. R.



Dedication of
Moosehorns by
D.A.R. on
Oct. 29, 1961.



V-J DAY PARADE - Aug. 15, 1945

V-J DAY PARADE
C. B. Bickford, G. Pullen,
and A. H. French

KNIGHT'S STORE WINDOW - W. W. II Soldiers Pictures



MONSON HONOR ROLL
Main Street



MONSON BANDSTAND



MONSON ACADEMY
100th Anniversary Parade
"Carnival Ball King & Queen"



MONSON ACADEMY
100th Anniversary Parade
"Little Red Schoolhouse"
Tenney Hill Float



BAND LEADER - Walter C. Jackson



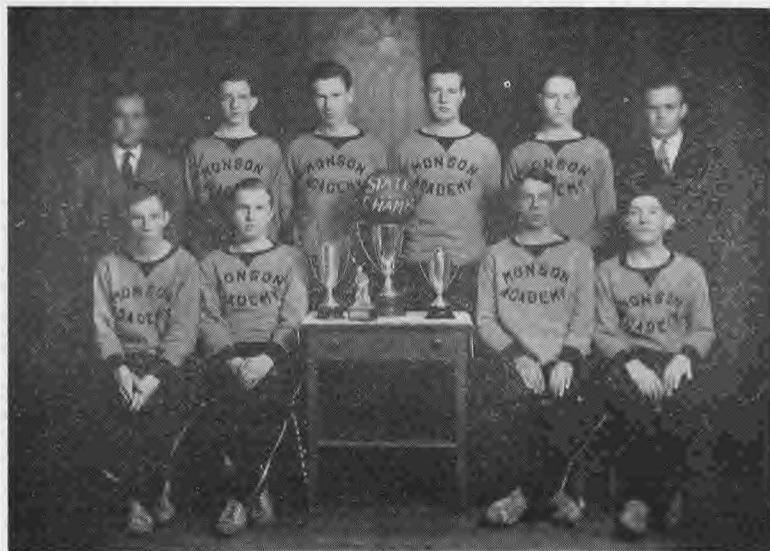
MONSON BAND (Early Picture)



MONSON BAND ON MAIN STREET (Photo taken in late 1930's)

1909 Basketball State
Champions. (Note: Players'
names listed in write up.)





1932 BASKETBALL STATE CHAMPIONS

(Note: Players' Names Listed in Writeup.)



1968 BASKETBALL STATE CHAMPIONS

(Note: Players' Names Listed in Writeup.)

HISTORY OF THE MONSON BAND

(Taken from the history written for the 25th
Anniversary of the Band)

The Monson Cornet Band was organized September 15, 1887, largely through the efforts of John S. Greenlief, E. T. Hescock, and Walter C. Jackson. Mr. Greenlief was at that time leader of Dyer's Band of Foxcroft. Mr. Hescock had been a member of the Abbot Band, and W. C. Jackson had played in orchestra for about two years. Those present were H. E. Morrill, G. H. Wilkins, E. T. Hescock, George Jule, Samuel Sanborn, E. H. Wheeler, F. M. Hescock, W. M. Knight, John Hall, E. M. Pullen, and W. C. Jackson. The following officers were elected: G. H. Wilkins, Business Manager; W. C. Jackson, Leader; H. E. Morrill, Assistant Leader; E. T. Hescock, Secretary and Treasurer, and a committee was chosen to draw up a code of by-laws. John C. Greenlief was engaged as teacher.

The first lesson was given in one of the office rooms of the old Masonic building. The following were present: George Jule, Samuel Sanborn, W. C. Jackson, E. H. Wheeler, F. M. Hescock, W. M. Knight, John Hall, E. T. Hescock, G. H. Wilkins, H. E. Morrill, E. M. Pullen, Lewis Hall, William Pennington and Roy Hescock. The instruments were picked up in different places, several being purchased from parties in Milo where a band had just disbanded. The band received one lesson each week from their teacher, and rehearsed one evening under the direction of the leader. This was continued during the winter and such good progress was made that on February 22, a concert was given with the assistance of local singers and players, at which a good sum was realized. The lessons were continued until the last week of March, when Mr. Greenlief decided to go West.

The M. C. Band made its first appearance on parade, May 30, 1888, when they furnished music for the Memorial Day exercises at Monson. On June 18, 1888, the ladies of Monson gave a benefit from which some \$42.00 was obtained. The first engagement out of town was August 17, 1888, when they played for a rally at Greenville. During the campaign the band played in several different towns in the county and on Sept. 1st, with two other bands, played for a county mass meeting at Dover, at which the late Hon. James G. Blaine was one of the speakers.

November 13, 1888, Prof. H. R. True was engaged as instructor, and he gave them fourteen lessons in all, and under his able instruction the band was much improved. At this time the band was meeting in the G.A.R. Hall, but on the night of December 28, 1888, this building, with two others, was entirely destroyed by fire. The band lost a cornet, two drums, and several music books, and until the hall was rebuilt, they held their rehearsals in the schoolroom in the Academy.

On May 15, 1889, they purchased their first uniforms from Henderson & Co., Philadelphia. They were navy blue trimmed with gilt braid, and they made their first appearance on May 30, 1889. On July 4, 1889, the band got up a celebration, furnishing music, and in the evening having a drama at Tarr's Hall. On April 22, 1890, the band gave a concert in which they were assisted by the late Miss Mammie Bush of Foxcroft, whose whistling solos were a feature. On July 4, 1892, the band furnished music at the opening of the Milo driving park, and as the bass section was a little light at this time, the late H. G. Pratt of Foxcroft was hired for this job, and he aided much in making it a success.

Up to this time, the band had been purely a brass band, but now clarinets were added, which was a great

help to the organization both as regards to tone and efficiency, as they were now able to take up music, before they were prevented from touching for lack of a reed section. About this time the word "cornet" was dropped from the name, and the organization has since been known as the Monson Band.

In November, 1892, arrangements were made with Prof. W. S. Ripley of Boston, to come and give the band lessons for a week, and he gave the first lesson on Nov. 7th. Every member was present each night, and such good work was done that on the next Monday evening a concert was given under the direction of Prof. Ripley from which enough was realized to pay for the lessons, and the band was much benefited by this work. On June 28, 1893, the band accompanied Gerry Post G.A.R. to Abbot, the occasion being the dedication of the soldiers' monument. On Oct. 21st, they accompanied the same organization to Foxcroft for the purpose of dedicating a soldiers' monument at that place. On June 13, 1903, a set of new uniforms were purchased from the Cincinnati Regalia Co., Cincinnati, Ohio. These were dark blue, trimmed with black mohair braid. July 15, 1904, the band accompanied Onaway Lodge to Guilford on the occasion of the dedication of the Odd Fellows' Hall.

In all these years there have been but a few players who have come in from other places, and all additions had to be made from new material, started at the beginning, and worked up. The spring of 1905, brought a player of unusual ability. Knut Felix Ohman, who was Finnish, and a baritone player equal to any in New England. Having played for many years in the old country, his work on this beautiful instrument was a marvel to all. With his help the band was able to handle a much higher grade of music, and they soon became known as a concert band of much ability. Mr. Ohman remained with the band about a year and a half. The band attended the grand

carnival at Dover, Aug. 22, 1908, at which there were ten bands present. One of the features was the rendering of several numbers by a consolidated band of 209 players.

On Sept. 9, 1910, the band attended the band carnival at Penobscot Park where nine bands were present. May 9, 1911, a new set of uniforms were bought. These were the regulation A. F. and M. uniform, and up to date in every particular.

May 12, 1911, the band gave its concert and dance, with a good program, and the full band furnished the music for dancing.

October 1, 1912, in company with three other bands, they furnished music for the Centennial Parade and celebration of the Town of Foxcroft. The band played at every Decoration Day at Monson since it was organized, and for several years for the memorial services of fraternal orders in June.

There were many changes in the membership of the band over all the years, and in 1912, the director was the only one of the original members that remained.

At the close of the season of 1912, the following made up the band: Earle H. Jackson, Frank Wentworth, Levi Flint, Arthur Fogg, J. H. Gilbert, W. C. Jackson, G. L. Brown, Harold Campbell, J. R. Flint, L. A. Thomas, Fred Stanchfield, Austin Brown, Frank Hughes, Carroll L. Jackson, Fred W. Elliott, W. W. Pullen, E. W. Farrar, A. L. Farrar, H. W. Wing, Malcolm Dane with W. C. Jackson as director.

The band was under the direction of Walter C. Jackson for 34 years. W. C. Jackson's father taught him to read music, and as there was no one nearer than Dover to instruct him, he taught himself. He was chosen leader because he could play a little, and the others could not, as he quaintly expressed it. Each winter he taught between 10-20 pupils, each on different instruments.

After the death of W. C. Jackson in January of 1922, the following directed the band: Carroll Jackson, Frank M. Larson, Paul Nelson, Paul Jackson, and Earle H. Jackson.

From 1920 until its disbandment, the following are those members who participated in the Monson Band: (Note: dates of memberships were unavailable and we apologize for those names that have been excluded through lack of information and unavailable records.)

Frank Larson	Felix Mattson	Max Forbus
Harvey Gilbert	Evolv Jorgensen	Francis Marshall
Earle Jackson	Roland Jacobson	Frank Wentworth
Thayer Smith	Carroll Jackson	Fred Stanchfield
Frank Hughes	Bill Jacobson	Austin Brown
Paul Nelson	Anselm Swanson	Oscar Nelson
Milton Stanchfield	Frank Nelson	Elmer Lindie
Sam Ulman	Walter Steward	Merton Grover
Arthur Bjork	Byron Kallgren	Harry Wing
Grace Nelson Nace	Leroy Jacobson	Junior Larson
Robert Zimmerman	Lawrence Hammond	Ernest Farrar
Kenneth Simpson	Oscar Ulman	Alex Stromback
Arthur Farrar	Fred Elliot	Maurice Lebree
Donald Davis	Thor Stromback	Swen Nelson
Millard Lord	Elwood Lord	Lawrence Gilbert
Horace Gilbert	Pauline Gilbert Mattson	Merle Finley
Edward Gilbert	Harold French	
Therese "Patsy" Nelson Johnson		

Flag Bearers - Althea French, Carlene B. Bickford, Marion J. Sandy
(for the years 1943, 44, 45)

In the 1940's, the Monson Band traveled to Guilford and Abbot to play and march for their Memorial Day Celebration. The last uniforms were bought in the late 1930's.

A bandstand was built about 1930 by the Monson Band under the direction of Frank Bray, on the lot which was then owned by Fred Crane and where Lake Hebron Hotel once stood (the lot which is now between John and

James Durham's present homes). The lumber was donated by George Pullen and other townspeople donated time, labor, and other needed materials. Arthur L. Brown gave the address at the dedication ceremony. On June 21, 1944, it was moved to its present location in front of the Academy building.

Band concerts were held every Thursday night in the bandstand.

Around 1950, one of Monson's most enjoyable assets was brought to an end. Many of the instruments were donated to Monson Academy for use in school activities.

MONSON ACADEMY'S STATE CHAMPIONSHIP BASKETBALL TEAMS

Monson has been the home of some of the finest basketball teams in the state. Three Monson Academy basketball teams proved themselves by winning the State Championship titles in 1909, 1932, and 1968.

In 1909, the Monson Academy five were: Elmer Bigger, Howard Sanborn, George Pullen, Merton Grover, Merton Sears, with Edward Johnson as their coach.

In 1932, Monson Academy was victorious over Washington Academy with the score 37-26. That year the team was made up of the following line-up: Oscar Suomi (captain), Oswald (Cookie) Poole, Millard Emanuelson (Ollie), Stanford Stromback, Earl Brasier, Philip Soderquist, George Carlson, Forrest Stevens (Mike), George (Savve) Larson was their coach. Harold E. Carson was principal of Monson Academy at that time.

In 1968, the Monson Academy Slaters once again took the title which was the last ever to represent Monson Academy as an entity. The Varsity team won over the Casco "Loggers" at the Exposition Building in Portland with a score of 64-57. Those responsible for the

great showing were Roy Taylor (Captain), Cyril (Bud) Leavitt, Richard (Dick) Woodard (Co-Captain), Gregory Lander, Stuart Anderson, Jeffrey Greenleaf, Steven Bray, Edward Kronholm, with Gary Webb as their coach. Douglas Nelson and Ronald Harris were managers. Craig Anderson and James Crockett were on the varsity squad the first half of the year.

March 9, 1968 was the big day for the Slaters. That night the townspeople gave a victory homecoming reception for the team. The bus was met at the Abbot-Monson Town Line by a Cavalcade of cars, sirens, police, and fire engines which escorted them to the gymnasium. The Main Street and school yard were both lined with lighted torches. A small program followed with speeches by Principal Antonio Paradis, Coach Gary Webb, and Rev. Douglas Brayton. Refreshments were served and a social time followed with a musical program by Bob and Charles Denbow on the electric organ and the guitar. Later dancing was enjoyed with the music by the Vipers of Greenville.

On April 11, 1968, the 1968 State Championship team was once again feted at the annual Basketball Banquet sponsored by the Alumni Association.

MONSON SLATER TOWN BASKETBALL TEAM

In 1932, Monson also had a victorious professional Basketball Team. Those participating in that were the following: Aubrey Kronholm, Mike Bennett, Wilbur Kronholm, Roland Johnson, Charles Douglass and Edwin Holmbom. This Monson Slater Town Team won the Professional County Basketball Championship and also won a championship for professionals in Bangor.

MONSON ACADEMY TRACK TEAM

The first County Track Meet was held at Dover-Foxcroft on May 19, 1934. Although it was the first track meet in the history of the county it proved very successful. Monson Academy, led by Captain Eino Suomi, won the County Championship with a total of 48.75 points while Milo High School came through with 46.50 points to win second honors. The letter men were: Captain Eino Suomi, Robert Zimmerman, Philip Soderquist, Clayton Jackson, Clifton Jackson, Galen Wentworth, and George Carlson.



MONSON POND

ELLIOTTSVILLE ROAD



HOMER HILL

Foreground - Dore Farm Background - Homer Farm



INDIAN POINT ON LAKE HEBRON (Old Photo)



LAKE HEBRON Looking Towards Russell Mountain



Rain-In-The-Face and Family
Last Indian Family to live on Indian Point



INDIAN POINT
Boat with stack is The Molly Tomah II. (Old Photo)



MRS. MAUDE BRAY



MRS. ADDIE WILLIAMS



MRS. MARGARET POOLE

SETH W. STEWARD
Artist

PERSONALITIES

1972 - MONSON'S OLDEST SENIOR CITIZENS:

MRS. MARGARET BROWN POOLE - was born November 25, 1877, on Prince Edward Island. She came to Monson at the age of six and attended Monson's public schools. Mrs. Poole married Carl Poole of Monson on June 8, 1895. She is the mother of five children: Margaret Poole Bishop, Monson; Hazen, deceased; Thomas, Greenville; Sheldon, Miami, Florida; and Oswald, Monson. Mrs. Poole has 12 grandchildren. She is a former member of the North Star Rebekah Lodge and is a member of the Church Circle. (She died at Brown's Nursing Home on September 17, 1972.)

MRS. MAUDE YOUNG BRAY - was born January 31, 1878 in Sherman Mills, Maine. She came to Monson to attend Monson Academy. She later taught rural school in Sherman Mills. Mrs. Bray married Willie Alden Bray March 7, 1896. They owned and operated a grocery store in Monson for many years. Mrs. Bray was active in all civic projects and President of the Baptist Circle and a Past Noble Grand of North Star Rebekah Lodge. She was Librarian of Monson Public Library for several years. She did some practical nursing, but was especially interested in maternity cases. In the beginning she went to the homes of her patients then later took maternity cases in her home and helped deliver 100 babies. Mrs. Bray now lives in her own home and is a semi-invalid.

MRS. ADDIE H. WILLIAMS - born Addie Alice Hayden, May 7, 1879, in Brighton, Maine. Until her marriage in 1902, to Richard Williams she had worked in the woolen mills in Sangerville, and hotels in Monson and Kineo. She has two sons, Aubrey of Guilford, and

Dana of Monson. Mrs. Williams has two grandchildren and two great grandchildren. Addie is a member of the Monson Congregational Church, a former member of the United Circle, Mission Circle, and the Stella Grace Philathea Class. She is also a former member of the North Star Rebekah Lodge, of which she is a Past Noble Grand, and of Euclid Chapter, Order of Eastern Star. She also belonged to the Woman's Club for many years. Mrs. Williams had spent most of her life in Monson except for a few years in Dover-Foxcroft, Clinton, and Bangor. (She died at Brown's Nursing Home on Sept. 4, 1972.)

MEMORABLE CITIZENS:

HARRY DAVIS - The memory of Harry Davis will not soon be forgotten to young and old alike. The elderly will always remember him as the "Spruce Gum King", being the manager of the Eastern Gum Co. of Monson, also as a frequent contributor to the Down East Magazine and the Bangor Daily News "Maine Street" column. Mr. Davis was active in the business life of Monson and served in many town offices. He was an orchardist, lumberman, and saw mill operator.

The young will always remember him delivering the Gettysburg Address each year at the Memorial Day Exercises. He was born in Elliottsville, the son of Harrison and Voda (Corliss) Davis, came to Monson after marrying Bessie Hebbard of Brooklyn, N. Y. in 1905 and resided on Center St. until his death at the age of 89 on April 29, 1969.

SETH STEWARD - Seth Wyman Steward, Jr., was born at Monson, Maine, May 4, 1844, the son of Seth W. and Eliza (Baker) Steward. He married Mary Coan in 1875. They had five children: Walter (married Margaret Bigger); Bertha; Maude (married Ernest Farrar); Bar-

bara (married Dr. Guy Dore); Raphall. Bertha and Raphall never married.

Mr. Steward served in the Union Army. He lived at Monson, Maine, Dorchester, Mass. and Plainville, Conn., where he died July 10, 1934. He was buried in Monson, Maine.

He was in his own words, "a painter, decorator, and artist in oil". He also "hung paper and painted carriages". Mr. Steward's only formal training was from a Mr. Cameron, a California artist who spent his summers at Kineo.

PROFESSOR WILLIAM SMITH KNOWLTON - was born in East Sangerville, Maine, on Oct. 21, 1839, the son of Isaiah and Lydia (Pollard) Knowlton. Professor Knowlton received his higher education at Foxcroft Academy and Waterville College. He lived some 25 years in Monson (at different times) and married a Monson girl in 1867 - Ellen Carr Flanders. They had two daughters, Grace and Ethel. William and Ellen Knowlton were married about 40 years. Prof. Knowlton taught at Monson Academy for the first time in 1862 and taught 17 years here in all, the last time being from 1895-1905. He taught in many different schools in Piscataquis County and in other parts of the state. Dr. Knowlton also practiced for a short time as a lawyer and was a pastor in Monson for four years. He represented Piscataquis County of Maine in both the House and Senate. William S. Knowlton wrote the book "The Old School Master" which was printed in 1905. A book was also published about Monson people written in poetry form.

Prof. Knowlton died in Newport, Maine, in May, 1926 at the home of his daughter Miss Ethel Knowlton at age 86.

An address which he gave on Aug. 19, 1922, at the Monson Centennial Program on the educational and

religious development, can be found in the Centennial Book.

JOHN FRANCIS SPRAGUE - was born June 16, 1848, in Sangerville, Maine, the son of Elbridge Gerrish Sprague and Sarah Parsons Sprague. He was the editor of Sprague's Journal of Maine History for fourteen years. He also was a lawyer, legislator, and historian.

In 1874, Sprague was admitted to the Maine Bar Association. He moved to Monson in 1879 and lived here until 1910, then moved to Dover.

In 1922-23, he served as Senator from Piscataquis County. John Francis Sprague was crippled in the feet and was called Uncle John by many people. He published the following books: "Sebastian Rale" a Maine tragedy of the 18th century; "Piscataquis Biography and Fragments"; "The Northeastern Boundary Controversy and the Aroostook War"; "Three Men from Maine" - history of the Doric Lodge; "Backwoods Sketches" - articles published in Maine Historical Society Journal of American History and the Lewiston Journal Magazine.

Sprague was a self-educated man. He attended common schools until he was 14 years old. He adopted the vocation of peddling in the county until 22 years of age. He read law in 1873-4 with Alvah Black of Paris Hill.

Sprague published his journal from March of 1913 until his death on May 7, 1926.

SCENIC POINTS

LAKE HEBRON:

In 1890-91, the people of Monson first began to appreciate the beauties of the lake and its value as a summer resort. The first cottage on Indian Point was owned by Mrs. P. W. Knight (now owned by Charles Finch of N. J.). Soon after, more cottages were built

namely: Bartlett's (1892) which is now owned by Clair and Beatrix Bray of Sangerville and Mrs. Harriet Crafts (1892) now owned by Millard and Billie Emanuelson. The latter one was built by B. B. Steward. In 1922, there were quite a number of summer cottages situated at Indian Point. This land was given by Eben and Lucy Bray in 1890, when a corporation was formed and lots were laid out. An Indian family whose name was "Rain-in-the-Face" were the last to live on Indian Point.

Mrs. Mary F. Jones' father, W. Farrar, built and owned the now Wilson Wilkins cottage at Indian Point. Judson Cushman owned a cottage on Indian Point that at one time was used as a little store. He owned the cottage at the time he had his tailor shop. This cottage is now owned by Millard and Billie Emanuelson.

The "Loon Club" was organized around the 1890's and was situated where Francis Marshall's camp now stands.

Camp Comfort which was built before 1889, then owned by Estabrook, is one of the oldest camps on the lake. The property is now owned by Mr. and Mrs. Leon Savage of Pennsylvania.

Another unforgettable fixture on the lake was the old Molly Tomah which was built around the 1900's and burned in 1911. It was said that she used to carry passengers to and from the Loon Club and Indian Point.

Today Lake Hebron is surrounded with new and modern camps, most of them with electricity. The last few years have brought about the development of a bathing beach at Whiting's Cove with supervised swimming during the summer months.

MONSON POND:

This pond is located on Elliottsville Road and is another vacation spot about two miles from Monson

Village. It is surrounded by several cottages and in 1971 a camping and tenting area was built. Kelley's Orchards are located across the road from the pond which is still another scenic spot when the apple trees are in a full bloom in the spring of the year.

HOMER HILL:

William Hoar came to Monson in 1826 and located on the land and built a house where the present house stands. The only other family living on the hill was a family by the name of Gates which sold their land and house (building no longer standing) to W. Hoar giving him the title to the whole hill. He sold two small parcels of land to the quarries to dump rubbish on. Homer Hill has always been a farm.

From that time on Homer Hill has remained in the family, generation after generation, as follows:

William Hoar married Betsy Goodell (daughter of Abel Goodell, surveyor). They had two sons - James and Henry. James went to Ohio where he changed his name to Homer. Henry also changed his name at the same time in 1874.

Henry Homer married Sarah Mathews (sister to Robert Mathews' father). They had two sons - Edward and Wallace and two daughters who died young. Wallace never married.

Edward Homer married Eliza (Annie) Pennington. They had one daughter - Dorothy. Eliza Annie died and Edward remarried Myrtle Cook. They had one son - Henry.

Dorothy Homer married Max Forbus. They had two daughters, Lucinda and Candida. Max Forbus died in Jan. 1970. Dorothy Forbus is the present owner and resides at the same location on Homer Hill.

Henry Homer moved the house where Goldsmith Harris now lives from below the Dore Farm on Homer Hill. This house was where William and Betsy Hoar lived in their later years.

MOUNTAINS:

The following mountains are seen from several points in and around Monson. The most prominent and well-known to the townspeople are:

(Looking East from Monson)

Squaw Mountain
Burnt Jacket Mountain
Barren Mountain
Boarstone Mountain
Mt. Rochelle
Lilly Bay Mt.
Mt. Baker
Mt. Houston

(Looking West)

Mt. Russell
Bald Mountain Range.

SEMI-CENTENNIAL COMMEMORATION

The citizens of Monson, Maine met in Academy Hall on Monday, April 22, 1872.

Selection by the Choir.

Chairman A. Chapin, Esq. called the meeting to order and made a few remarks about the past fifty years.

Prayer offered by Rev. R. W. Emerson.

Selection by the Choir.

Historical address by Charles Davison, Esq.

Appropriate remarks followed the address by Rev. A. H. Tyler and Hon. S. A. Patten.

Poem delivered by W. S. Knowlton.

Poem by Thomas N. Lord, Preceptor of the Academy.

Anecdotes of the early settlers pioneer life and "ye olden tyme" were related by J. D. Jackson, Dea. Cushman and Joseph Green.

Selections by the choir of grand old times. The exercises were closed with the singing of "America".

Audience invited to the room below and partook of an old fashioned supper, prepared by the ladies. Toasts were drank and responses made.

The attendance was very good in spite of the bad condition of the roads.

THE MONSON CENTENNIAL

(Taken from Piscataquis Observer,

Thurs. Aug. 24, 1922)

(Written by - Earle H. Jackson)

Monson very appropriately celebrated the 100th anniversary of the incorporation of the town on Saturday, Aug. 19, 1922. The weather man kept the people guessing in this town as well as the surrounding towns during the early morning hours, but evidently had the affair at heart and early in the forenoon brought forth the sun and a better day could not be asked for.

The citizens of the town were awakened at 6 o'clock sharp by the peal of the church bells and the boom of the cannon. At 8 o'clock the flag raising took place.

Soon after 9 o'clock Chairman A. L. Bray of the parade committee and marshal of the day got the parade started which was at least as fine as any parade ever seen in this section of Maine. Thirty-five different floats, automobiles, and characters made up the parade as follows: Marshal of the day, A. L. Bray; Uncle Sam, represented by L. A. Stanchfield; Monson Band, C. L. Jackson, director; Oral A. Towne Post, American Legion, August V. Peterson, commander; G.A.R., represented by I. P. Wing and Mrs. I. P. Wing represented the W.R.C.;

Spanish War Veterans, Chas. Johnson; American Flag, 20 x 10, carried by school girls; Almon Vinton, Monson's oldest grand old man, aged 94 years, and Mrs. Amelia Knight, our dear old "Aunt Amelia", aged 83, in an old fashioned attire and wagon. The next in line were beautifully decorated cars with the "Over Eighties", Baptist Church, H. L. Stanchfield represented "Uncle Ben" of the early days and pioneer mail carrier of the early days of Monson. A float representing 1822 was followed by A. Stromback's prettily decorated touring car, a float by Onaway Lodge, I.O.O.F., North Star Rebekah Lodge, Auxiliary to the American Legion. Special mention should be made of this float for its beauty and touching effect upon all eyes that rested upon it. The driver of this float was C. C. Towne whose eldest son was Monson's first contribution to "Flanders' Field" in France. Floats representing the Boy Scouts and B.S.W. club were very handsome and attractive.

Monson's old hand tub and new gasoline fire engine were followed by a fine float representing the Portland-Monson Slate Co., G. P. Pullen's float, representing his sporting goods department of his hardware store, brought forth many favorable comments. Dover-Foxcroft Band, J. H. Taylor, director, was followed by handsome floats representing Davison & Hammond's Grain and feed mill, D. C. Weeks, wood working, A. L. Brown's general store, P. W. Knight & Sons, dry goods, Tom Leeman's mule team, a float arranged by campers at Indian Point, Lake Hebron; a float representing the Blaisdell Auto Co. of Dexter, E. H. Jackson, Local salesman and containing Miss Beatrix Jackson as a Butterfly and the Jackson twins, Clifton and Clayton representing frogs, W. A. Bray's beautifully decorated car, Harry Daw's grocery store, A. L. Bray's grocery store, The Eastern Gum Co., Harry Davis, Manager, Chase & Kimball's Ford Station and the General Slate Co.

Both the slate companies represented had trimming machines and men actually splitting roofing slate and were very interesting, especially to those from out of town. The parade lasted an hour and covered the principal streets of the town.

The winners of the floats were as follows: First prize, The Auxiliary to the Legion, representing Flanders' Field; second prize, Indian Point; third prize, Mrs. W. A. Bray. The judges were Dr. O. F. Larson of Machias, Dr. Simonson of Connecticut and G. F. Barnard of Worcester, Mass. Special mention should be made of the B.S.W. Club's float which was very dainty and handsome.

After the parade the Monson band went to Emerson cove where the water sports were held. Mrs. Josephine Sherburne of Brookline, Mass. was in charge and presented the following: 100 yd. race, won by Milton Prentiss; 50 yd. race for girls, won by Vivian Wing; 50 yd. race for boys, won by Roland Jacobson; floating contest, won by Vivian Bray, midget race, won by Miss Billie Sherburne of Brookline, Mass.; fancy swimming, Vivian Wing; motor boat race, won by H. E. Smith.

During the water sports the Dover-Foxcroft band furnished pleasing music in Sherman Square and for the track events on Main Street opposite the Academy buildings. The track events were in charge of Elmer Bigger, a Monson boy and athletic teacher.

THE PROGRAM:

50 yd. dash for boys, won by James Wing; 100 yd. dash, won by Toiva Anderson; 220 yd. dash, won by Toiva Anderson; 440 yd. dash, won by Aril Palmer; potato race, won by Lyle Towne; standing broad jump, won by Laurence Inky; 12 lb. shot put, won by Laurence Inky.

At noon excellent dinners were served by the Auxiliary in the Masonic banquet rooms, The Monson Baptist

Society, The Congregational Society and numerous individuals. Dinner was served at 50 cents a plate.

At one o'clock thousands of people gathered on the Academy school grounds to listen to the centennial program for which Monson band furnished excellent music. Dr. William Smith Knowlton presided, dressed in the garb of his greatgrandfather. Dr. Knowlton always has something of interest to say and his witty poems are always pleasing to listen to. Hon. Dudley P. Bailey of Everett, Mass. and son of the first Baptist minister in Monson, was introduced and spoke on "Reminiscences" which was very interesting. "A Toast" given by Arthur L. Brown, Monson's gifted reader, brought forth a round of applause, John Francis Sprague, A. M., editor of Sprague's Journal of Maine History, gave a fine address on "Our New Citizens". Dr. W. S. Knowlton, Maine's Old Schoolmaster's Address on "Educational and Religious Development", was extremely interesting. "A Look Backward after Fifty Years", given by Roland T. Pattern of Skowhegan was very interesting and ably given. The speaker of the day was Dr. Shailer Mathews, Dean of Chicago University. He took for his subject "Challenge of the Past" and those who did not hear his address certainly missed one of the most interesting and able talks ever given before an audience here.

At 3:30 the great ball game at Chapin Avenue ball grounds between Guilford A.A. and Greenville A.A. was called and hundreds of baseball fans attended. Score: Greenville, 6, Guilford, 5.

At seven o'clock the Dover-Foxcroft band rendered a very fine and pleasing concert in Sherman Square. The grand ball in Spencer's hall at 8:30 with music by Cobb O'Brien, seven piece orchestra of Bangor, closed the great day, a day long to be remembered by all present.

Chairman F. H. Crane of the Centennial Committee has worked unceasingly for weeks that this event might

be successful as have all the other committees. The town was very prettily decorated with flags as were many private buildings. The stores made special decorations among which Harry Daw's window representing 1822 and the other window 1922 was very attractive. The Eastern Gum Co. had a beautiful display in one of the windows of Welch's Restaurant. An estimated 4,000 to 5,000 people were in town from far and near and we hope enjoyed themselves as much as Monson people enjoyed having them come.

During the day nearly 700 people visited the store of Edward Johnson where hundreds of antiques were on display. Among some of the antiques were some of the furnishings of the famous Blaine Mansion which have been handed down to the family of Mrs. Charles Smith, who is a descendant of the original owners of the building. A brooch over 600 years old was also loaned by Fred Larson. There was also a large collection of relics taken from the battlefields of seven wars. The rooms were in charge of Mrs. John Rice Flint and Andria Towne Gerrish.

Floats: 1st prize - \$15.00 - Legion Auxiliary "Flanders Field". 2nd prize - \$10.00 - Indian Point.

Prizes for the other events ranged from \$1.00 - \$3.00.



LEONARD STANCHFIELD
Uncle Sam 1922



CENTENNIAL PARADE — MAIN STREET 1922



22

Monson Centennial Aug 17 1922

First Prize — American Legion Auxiliary
1922 "Flanders Field"



23

monson Centennial Aug 17 1922

Second Prize — INDIAN POINT FLOAT — 1922



BAPTIST CHURCH FLOAT — D. H. Champion, Driver and
Rev. Joseph Gerosa, Baptist Minister — 1922



A. L. BROWN'S GROCERY STORE FLOAT — 1922



GRIST MILL — Built 1841 — Water Street



SAW MILL — BUILT 1858 (Earliest Date Known)
Located on Upper Water Street



TARR'S, THEN SPENCER'S HALL
Located on Route Number 15



LONG SLATE SHED ON CHAPIN AVENUE
Owned by Monson Maine Slate Co. — Building Gone



Photo — 1900-1903. L.-R.: Grover's Market now V. Erickson's Home. Present T. Dickinson's Home Before Renovation. - Lower Water St.



MAIN ST. — MERTON GROVER'S After 1897 Fire.
Present Laundramat



LAKE HEBRON HOTEL — BUILT 1882 — BURNED IN 1910



MAIN STREET — HEBRON HOUSE (Willer House)
Torn Down in 1966. Site of New Municipal Building.



HEBRON STREET — (Old Photo.) On Left Sherburne's Photo Shop, Moved from Opposite Congregational Church. On Right: Hartley E. Smith's Cobbler Shop, Buildings are Gone.



LITTLE POND LOOKING TOWARD FLINT'S LIVERY STABLE ON RIGHT HAND SIDE OF PHOTO. Some of These Buildings are Non-Existent Today.



MAIN STREET LOOKING NORTH SEVERAL YEARS AFTER THE 1860 FIRE. Left: Knight's Store. Background, Homer Hill, School and Church.



WILKINS STREET. CEREMONY LAYING CORNER STONE OF SWEDISH LUTHERAN CHURCH IN 1890. Right of Photo Seth Steward's Home. Present Home of Robert Tompkins.



LOWER PLEASANT STREET — LOOKING ACROSS MAIN ST. TO CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH. House on Left Moved Across the Street. Present Home of Viola Michele. (Old Photo.)



LOOKING WEST UP PLEASANT STREET



MAIN STREET — A. F. JACKSON'S STORE (W. Harry Hughes', Now C. Bickford's Residence) Looking Towards Water Street.



MAIN ST. — PRESENT C. BICKFORD HOUSE. L.-R.: Prescott Knight, Levi Bray, Carlos Folsom (with bicycle), Horace Sherman, Benjamin Cowan, Nathan Knight and Dave Evans. (Old Photo.)



MAIN STREET — MOVING BARN NOW ATTACHED TO V. TURNER'S HOME ON SOUTH MAIN STREET. Photo Taken Around 1910.



LOWER TENNY HILL (Rt. 15). L.-R.: Present J. Durham's and A. Howard's Homes. (Old Photo.)



GREENVILLE RD. TO THE LEFT AND THE ELLIOTTSVILLE RD. TO THE RIGHT. Old Photo Showing Road Before it was Rebuilt.



CENTER STREET — Present Eric Brown's Home at Right of Photo with the Baptist Church at the Left in Background.



SOUTH MAIN STREET AND RT. 15. — Present Brown's Nursing Home in Background.



SOUTH MAIN STREET (Old Photo). — On Left: Present A. Knight and D. Williams' Homes.



MAIN STREET. L. R.: Present Laudramat, D. Keene Block, Former A. Anderson's Store, E. Adams, and Temporary Building Erected After 1911 Fire to House P. O. and Drugstore.



MAIN STREET — Looking North on Left: J. F. Sprague's Residence (Burned 1910) and Garland Home, Present G. Hall's.



EAST SIDE OF MAIN STREET LOOKING NORTH. Foreground
The Present C. Bickford's House. Note How Buildings Situated in
Reference to the Picture Below.



EAST SIDE OF MAIN STREET LOOKING NORTH.
Present C. Bickford's Home.



Photo of a Kick-Sled
Which was Made by
Gustaf Johnson. (Note:
Perley Lambert on Sled.)

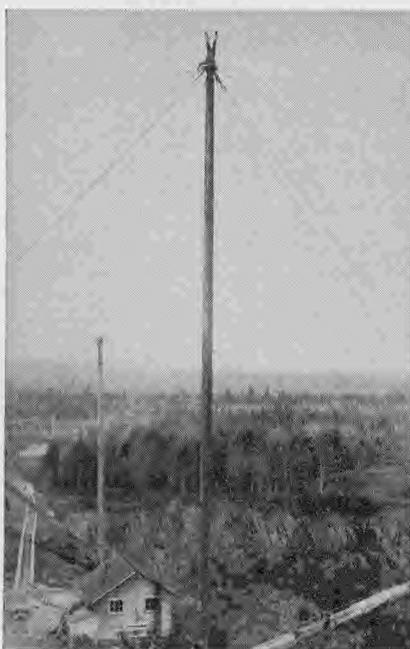
(Old Photo)



TAKEN FROM MAIN STREET LOOKING WEST AT LAKE
HEBRON AND RUSSELL MOUNTAIN. (Old Photo.)



OVERLOOKING LAKE HEBRON IN THE DIRECTION OF TENNEY HILL. Notice Old Ice House in Background on the Right of Photo. (Old Photo.)



At Monson Maine Slate Co. The daring young man on top of the mast is Oscar Suomi (Old Photo.) Mr. Suomi, a quarryman, who lived on Chapin Ave. Was of Finnish descent.

REMEMBER THESE???

HARTLEY SMITH SHOE SHOP — This building was built before 1913 and was first used as a photograph shop followed by a cobbler shop. It was formerly a one-story building, then later a second-story was added. H. Smith's daughter, L. Lambert, sold the building to Harold French in 1948, who used it as a shoe repair shop. It was torn down in 1963. Located on Hebron Street.

LARS SELLBERG — This building owned by L. Sellberg was used as a candy, ice cream, etc., store located between the now Monson Light & Power Building and J. & J. General Store. This store had a rent upstairs. The building burned in 1910.

HEBRON OR WILLER HOUSE — In 1888, H. T. Boynton had a store and sold stoves and tinware. His store was originally situated nearer to the old town hall (G.A.R., now Historical Museum). It burned on Dec. 28, 1888. It was then rebuilt as a one story building on the same location. Elise Jones then bought it and moved it to the location on which the New Municipal Building now stands, where it was put on a basement and a second story was added. In the basement a store was opened that sold hot dogs, etc. A Millinery Shop operated by Etta Williams was on the first floor and a rent was in the back. Second floor - a rent. In the 1940's it was owned by the Willer's and known as the Hebron House. The building was torn down around 1965-66, and the land was bought by the Town of Monson. The New Municipal Building now stands in this location and houses the Town Office, Public Library, Fire Department, Highway Garage, and a Kitchen with a large room for social activities.

SHERBURNE PHOTO SHOP — This building was once located across from the Congregational Church and was later moved to Hebron Street and placed where the old garages are now located by the little pond. It was torn down to make way for the garages.

ARVID ANDERSON BLOCK — Once owned by Fred Spencer who ran a sporting goods store. Rents on the first and second floors. Then the following owned it: Luther Colbath - meat store; Bob McIver - meat store; Carroll Jackson - meat store; Clarence Sargent - general store with gas pumps; then Arvid Anderson who had a meat and grocery store for 17 years; closed the store in 1965. It was then torn down about a year later. (Note: the building burned in the 1897 fire and later rebuilt.)

BLACKSMITH SHOPS — A. Walter Farrar worked in the shop of James Tarr located on the premises of the now L. Simpson home on Main St. Then A. W. Farrar built his own shop in back of his home, now owned by A. Lindie Beckwith on Water St. Later moved to a shop on S. Main St. located between J. Hennigan and E. Cope-land homes. Building torn down about three years ago.

BLACKSMITH SHOP — Located between B. Doble and the Open Door Church, on Water Street, which was formerly owned by William Sentner; then sold to Ernest Farrar; then sold to Charles Bradford. Sentner lived in and owned what is now B. Doble's home. Building torn down in the 1940's.

KICKSLED — In 1914, Mr. Gustaf Johnson introduced Monson to the favorite sport of "kick-sledding". Having learned the blacksmith trade from his father, Mr. Johnson came to America from Sweden when he was about 19 years old and was employed by the Monson

Slate Co. for 34 years. He made kick sleds in his spare time in the rear of his home (now the home of Merle and Viola Woodard on Chapin Ave). Since Monson's climate was identical to Sweden's the kick-sled's popularity grew and became an immediate success. It was a great thrill to fly downhill and over icy lakes. Unfortunately, plowed and sanded roads retired this delightful pastime.

TARR'S HALL (SPENCER'S HALL) — This was first built for a woodshed for Mr. Chapin around 1872. In 1877, it was remodeled into a hall by James and Will Tarr - then sold to Fred Spencer. Spencer owned it about 1900. Then Perro Morris owned it around 1914 and held moving pictures there. In 1924 movie prices were 15 cents and 25 cents. It was called Spencer's Hall at the time of the Town's 100th birthday. Oscar Carlson bought it in 1930-31; remodeled in 1940 and used as a personal garage. Used as the Town Hall in the 1889 era. School functions such as graduations, plays, and basketball games were held in the hall, also roller skating, movies, and town meetings until 1940.

LAKE HEBRON HOTEL — The former M. Pearl house on Route 15 (now D. Burns) was moved to make way for the hotel in 1882 which was built by Hildreth. It contained twenty rooms with an annex which was added later on. It overlooked the lake and was always overflowing with summer guests. Monson Maine Slate Co. were proprietors in 1889 with Fred Crane as operator. It burned January 6, 1910 and it was located on Rt. 15 between James and John Durham's present homes.

GRIST MILL — Located below the present Storer's Home Care Center on upper Water Street. Built by T. Davee in 1841. Many different people operated and owned it. Alvin Gray was owner in 1873. Later sold to

the Monson Maine Slate Co. - they rented to Joseph Davison and Guy Hammond as a grain and feed store - then G. Hammond and his son Lawrence Hammond. Closed in the 1940's. Fell down and remains cleared away. The land is now owned by the Town of Monson. (Note: Upstairs in the Grist Mill, slate-lined butter boxes were manufactured at one time.)

SAW MILL — This was located below the old Grist Mill on upper Water Street. In 1858 owned or operated by J. P. Haynes. Owned by Alvin Gray in 1873. Later the Monson Maine Slate Co. acquired the property and years later they sold to Harry Davis. No buildings standing and the land is now owned by the Town of Monson. Below these two mills (Grist and Saw Mills) there once was a shingle mill plus a cider mill.

PHILLIPS SAW MILL — This was located below the present residence of Adolph Burke on lower Water Street. Owned by T. Phillips before and in 1858, afterwards his son Nelson Phillips owned it. The water rights were controlled by the mills up in the village. Phillips Mill and stable were destroyed by fire May 26, 1891. (Note: Every winter different men hauled logs in with teams and sleds - later by trucks - and piled them on the little pond behind the stores on Main Street. In the spring when the ice went out, the saw mill commenced sawing, sluicing the logs through the canal under Main Street.

FLINT'S LIVERY STABLE — Located behind Knight's Store by the little pond. Built around 1900 by Henry Grover for J. Lord and operated by him and then by Merton Grover. In 1917 it was owned by Engene H. Flint. The building collapsed and years later the rubble was burned by the Monson Fire Department in the late 1950's.



Present home of Mr. & Mrs. Fred Finley on Center St. Built by Alpheus Davison in 1825. Once used as the Old Baptist Parsonage. Oldest house still standing in town. Renovated. (Old Photo.)



The land for the site of this house was granted to Joel Norcross of Monson, Mass. in 1817. It became the property of William Kirk in 1835. Since that time it has been owned by some member of the Kirk Family. Restored by William and Judy (Stanchfield) Bjork. W. Bjork direct descendant of W. Kirk. (1972 Photo). Located in the southeastern part of Monson.



The present home of Mr. & Mrs. Edward Kugler. Land first owned by Capt. Amasa Chapin of Monson, Mass. in 1820, one of the first settlers of Monson, Maine. Other owners: Pillsbury's and Partinens. Located on North Guilford Road. (1972 Photo.)



Built circa 1830 by Timothy Morton who came from Hebron, Maine. This farm remained in the Morton family until 1903. One of the more recent owners was Oscar Mackie. Barn has been torn down. Located on the North Guilford Road. (Old Photo.)



This house is located on the site of the first house built in the village and the second framed house in Monson. At this time it was owned by Capt. Samuel Whitney. Burned in 1860. Owners have been A. Chapin, H. Sherman and H. Grover. Presently owned by Louise Grover and is located on the corner of Main and Water St. (Old Photo.)



Land originally owned by Roland Taylor who came to Monson in 1826. Property purchased by: Horace Sherman (1845), J. S. Prescott (1866), H. Grover (1908), J. Strom (1917) and Signe Strom Ranta in 1942 the present owner. Located in Southeast Monson. (Photo taken in 1960-61.)



First recorded deed Jan. 21, 1836. At this time it was used as a store owned by James Leighton. Property purchased by: H. Folsom (1836), and S. Tubbs (1855). It then became a residence (date unknown) with the following owners: L. N. Knight, W. S. Knight, Annie Stevens and S. S. Stevens. Bought and restored by Charles and Zelma Stevens in 1951. Located on Main Street (Rt. 15). (1972 Photo.)



This house is located in the section of town which was settled first and is the only occupied home in the southwestern part of Monson. Most of the original farms are gone and replaced by woodlands. Owned by A. Goding in 1858. Other owners: Roberts, P. Haggstrom, M. Crockett, and presently owned by George and Linda Rongner. Located on the Blanchard Road in the Burma Neighborhood. (Old Photo.)



Originally known as the Whiting Farm. Settled on by J. Whiting circa 1822. Later owned by Guy Hammond. Purchased by Bessie Doble in 1957. Located on upper Water Street. (1972 Photo.)



Present home of Harry Lindie located on Pleasant Street. Originally used as an Inn and Tavern possibly when the Old Stage (Coach) Road crossed the narrows. Other owners have been C. Morrill and M. Stanchfield. (1972 Photo.)



This is one of the early houses to be built in Monson, located on Pleasant Street. The first owner known of which we have any record is Horace Flanders. Later owned by Prof. Knowlton. Built in the 1830's. The present owner is Tolford Durham. (1972 Photo.)



Originally the Hiram Vinton place. H. Vinton came from Monson, Mass. in 1825. Later known as the Kurki Farm; presently owned by Andrew Kurki. Located on the Willimantic Road. (Old Photo.)



Birthplace of Seth Steward located in Southeast Monson and called Seven Pines Farm. It still remains in the Steward family. Now occupied by Forrest and Eloise Steward Stevens. One of the remaining active farms. (Photo taken in 1966.)



Built in 1840 by Alden Crafts and located on the Greenville Road. Purchased by R. Jones and presently owned by Opal Jones Nelson. (Old Photo.)



Built circa 1845 by Major J. Norris. Purchased by J. H. and H. C. Pullen. Presently owned by Stanwood and Marie Pullen. Active farm until 1965. Located on North Guilford Road. (Old Photo.)



This is one of the early houses to be built in Monson, circa 1830-40. Owners: W. Tenney, Rev. Emerson, and D. Casey. Bought and renovated by James Durham. Barn was destroyed by fire. Located on lower Tenney Hill. (Photo taken in 1957.)



This old photo found with the following data on it: Former residence of James Hill. The oldest house in Monson, Me. built in 1823 by Dea. Lucius Hyde. (Note: Location of home is unknown. Possibly occupied by Elwood Smith family on S. Main St. when it burned in 1950.)



Built circa 1840. Former home of Dr. S. A. Patten in 1850's; then A. Gray in 1873. Purchased by D. H. Champion in the 1930's. Presently owned by Arthur and Edna Haggstrom. Located on Main St. (Old Photo.)



Land surveyed by Alexander Greenwood for the purpose of building a Congregational Church Parsonage. Dec. 11, 1838, property conveyed by Joseph Booth to the deacons of the church, S. Robinson and P. Muzzy. Became a residence in 1883. Presently owned by Mrs. Annie Carlson Howard. Located on lower Tenney Hill. (Photo taken in 1959.)



* The Mathews Place - Photo taken in 1885. (Note: more data on pages following.)



EARLY HOMES

THE MATHEWS PLACE — Located two miles north of town on "The Old Stage Road", the north fork of the Elliottsville Road, was first acquired by Capt. Jonathan Mathews, of Sidney, Maine, in 1825. Since then it has remained in the Mathews family, being successively owned by Elijah, Jonathan B., Shailer and now Robert E. Mathews. Until about 1860, the family lived there year around, but later rented the place, or left it unoccupied, until it was rehabilitated in 1905 and used thereafter for vacations only.

The 80-foot long red ell was built first, probably completed in 1826. The large white conventional colonial portion in front was constructed a few years later. The house contains six open fireplaces, one having a built-in oven. The whole structure is built of hand-hewn pine, morticed and held together with sturdy wooden pegs. The roof, once shingled, was covered with Monson slate by the present owner in the 1940-50's.

For nearly 50 years, the cleared parts of the farm were devoted to an orchard of 1100 apple trees planted by Shailer Mathews. These were abandoned in 1951. It is now a Tree Farm and a vacation spot.

Note: Some of the houses pictured have hand hewn beams, wooden pegs and square metal nails.

Some of the houses have what are called Christian doors. They are designed in such a way that the shape of a cross can be seen on the front of the door, thus giving them their name.

DATA ON OTHER HOMES IN MONSON
NOT PICTURED

MARY FARRAR JONES HOUSE — Located on Pleasant St. and was built by Elias Andrews in 1856. Residents have been L. P. Bray family, J. H. Pullen and

Charles and Clara Pullen. It is now owned and occupied by Ansel and Rachael (Jones) LaPointe and Mary Jones.

ALANSON ROBBINS HOUSE — Located on Center St. and was built by Capt. Peabody H. Rice in 1852. It was then bought by one of his heirs, John Rice Flint, in 1896 and remained in the family until the 1960's. Recently sold by A. Robbins to R. Turco.

STANLEY A. ROBINSON'S HOUSE — Located on Main St. and once housed J. F. Sprague's law office.

GERALD STANCHFIELD'S HOUSE — Located on Lake Hebron Pond Road about one mile from the village. It was once the site of the Eben Bray farm. The original house and barn burned around 1950. A portion of this land was given by E. Bray to the Indian Point Association.

JOHN DURHAM HOUSE — Located on the Tenney Hill-Guilford Road. It was owned by James Tarr in 1858. Later, ownership went to William Tarr. The Tarrs built Tarr's Hall across the road.

EDMUND ARSENAULT HOUSE — Located on Pleasant St. and built by F. Jackson. This housed the Eastern Gum Co.

DANA WILLIAMS HOUSE — Located on S. Main St. It was built before 1858 and at that time the residence of Nathan Knight. It was then later owned by Rose Sibley Thomas. Bought by Dr. Phillip Thomas in 1940's. It once housed Dr. Thomas' office and later a dentist office.

MERLE WYMAN FARM — Located on top of Tenney Hill. Owners: Fred LaBree, M. Huff, M. Wyman and the present owner is Clarence Pratt. Used by Huff and Wyman as a dairy farm.

LLOYD KELLEY HOUSE — Located on the Elliottsville Road about two miles from the village. It was owned by J. Goodell in 1858. Later owned by Lyman Davis. Purchased from heirs of L. Davis by L. Kelley. Original house was torn down and replaced with a new home. However, the old barn is still standing. Apple orchards are located on these premises.

FORMER HARRY DAVIS HOUSE — Located on Center St. and built before 1858. Premises conveyed to H. Davis in 1926. Now owned by his daughters D. Finley and B. Story as of 1964 and now occupied by Dolores Hughes.

MILTON BARTLETT HOUSE — Located on Norton Hill, Willimantic Rd. This house was owned by Americus Norton in 1858. Other owners: Greeley, V. Leighton, and Clifford Douglass. The house has been renovated. The barn burned accidentally.

JAMES AND JOYCE KELLEY'S FARM — Located on the Elliottsville Rd. about one mile from town. Built circa 1850. A few of the owners being Roland Taylor, J. Mathews, L. Viles, Evander McIver, Sr. & Jr. It was purchased by J. Kelley in 1953. Sold to Pat Ficera in 1970.

THE FOLLOWING HOMES WERE MOVED FROM
ONE LOCATION TO ANOTHER:

HILMA HOLMBOM HOUSE — Located on North Main St. Originally belonged to the Gates family and was located in back of the present home of Berwin Storer on Main St. Berwin Storer's home was built after the 1860 fire.

SHELDON STANCHFIELD HOUSE — Located on Pleasant St. Originally located on Main St. site of the present D.A.R. Chapter House.

ROBERT LANDER HOUSE — Located on the east side of South Main St. Originally was the main part of a house located on Lake Hebron Road owned by Wallace Brown. The ell and shed remain at its original location and is occupied by Mrs. Ann Erickson.

VALENTINE TURNER'S HOUSE — Located on the east side of South Main St. Originally located on Lake Hebron road across from where Mrs. Ann Erickson now lives. It was owned by Brown-Steward before it was moved.

CLARENCE "TAD" TURNER HOUSE — Located on the N. Guilford Road. Originally Dr. Sampson's office located by the present home of Maude Bray on S. Main St. Renovated after it was moved.

ARTHUR SMALL HOUSE — Located on the east side of South Main St. Formerly located across the street from the present residence of Jettie Hennigan's on S. Main St. A. Small house sold in 1971 to E. Casey.

ELWOOD SMITH HOUSE — East side of S. Main St. Burned in 1950. Originally located on the present site of Brown's Nursing Home on S. Main St.

HOUSE OWNED BY WORDEN SMITH — Located on corner of Pleasant and Wilkins Streets. Originally located on present site of Worden and Glenda Smith's home on Pleasant St. Housed a millinery shop and carriage shop. Once owned by Fred Jarvis.

The ells attached to the present homes of Oswald Poole and E. Casey, on S. Main St., were originally a house located on the Lake Hebron road across from the present house occupied by Mrs. Ann Erickson.

NOTE: Henry Knox and John Butler moved many of the homes. Many homes in the village had barns which have now been torn down.

THUMBNAIL SKETCHES

Monson was called "Cademy" town until the town was incorporated and named Monson.

The first deeds of Monson property were under Somerset County.

Piscataquis County was incorporated March 23, 1838. Formerly a part of Penobscot and Somerset. On March 12, 1844, a portion of its wild land territory was annexed to Aroostook. Contained 20 towns, 4 Plantations, area 3626 square miles in year 1919-1920.

MOTHER TOWNS:

Monson, Massachusetts was once part of Brimfield, Mass. and became a district in April 25, 1760. Given its name by the Royal Governor in honor of his friend, Sir John Monson, who was president of the British Board of Trade. In August 23, 1775, it was made a town with representation in the legislature. County-Hampden. Location-Southern Mass., bordered on the north by Palmer, on the east by Brimfield and Wales, on the west by Wilbraham and Hampden and on the south by the State of Connecticut. It is 17 miles from Springfield, 40 miles from Worcester and 78 miles from Boston.

The territory originally known as the Plantation of Shepardsfield was granted March 8, 1877, by the General Court of the Commonwealth of Mass. to Alexander Shepard, Jr.

In 1792, Shepardsfield Plantation was incorporated as the Town of Hebron. In 1829, Hebron was divided - the western part becoming the Town of Oxford. It is surmised that the name of Hebron was taken from the Hebron Baptist Church and Society.

Act of Incorporation of Monson Academy was passed by the Massachusetts House of Representatives on June 21, 1804, and half the Township of Monson, Maine was granted as an endowment. They offered 100 acres.

Hebron Academy - The west or southwestern part of Monson was granted by the Legislature of Mass. to Hebron Academy, Hebron, Maine in 1811. They offered 50 acres to actual settlers.

Alexander Greenwood came from Hebron, Maine and was one of the surveyors employed by Hebron Academy, who in the year 1822 or 1823, lotted out Monson and other towns in the county. Greenwood Pond and Greenwood Mountains were named after him. He was killed in 1827 in the Town of Willimantic and was buried in the old Churchyard Cemetery in Monson Village.

Abel Goodell came to Monson in 1818 as a surveyor for Monson Academy in Monson, Mass. He went back to Massachusetts and didn't return to Monson until 1821, moving his family here in 1823. He left Monson in 1833, went to Illinois, and then started west, became ill, died and was buried on the prairie.

The location of Sherman Square is in the center of Main St. between the canal and Water St. (Note: it is now referred to as the Town Square.)

The Old Savage Road was a stage coach road which left Monson and went up by the Matthews farm, up the now power line right-of-way to a town called Wilson (incorporated in 1836 - dismembered in 1848) and on to Greenville. The land that Wilson consisted of was divided between Shirley, Elliottsville and Greenville. (Note: Nelson Savage started Town of Wilson.)

Stage coach drivers - Henry Norcross, W. M. Bradford, Jeremiah MacDonald and Lem Nichols.

Oliver Eveleth born in Stow, Mass. Jan. 3, 1792, died in Greenville, Maine on June 4, 1874. First store-keeper to come to Monson in 1824. He opened the store in 1825. He later moved to Greenville in 1850. (The Eveleth house in Greenville owned by him and son John was destroyed by fire. His son John also owned a store, timberlands and steamboat on Moosehead Lake.)

Solomon Cushman opened the second store in Monson about 1825. He lived in Monson until 1856 when he returned to Monson, Mass. He then became a prominent business man there and owner of Monson Woolen Manufacturing Co.

The first operator of the divining rod who settled in Piscataquis County of whom there is any record was Royal Day. He came from Monson, Mass., in 1820. Being a small, quiet man, he became an expert in locating wells and was called to all sections of the county and even back to Mass. to exercise his art or gift. He was one of the few who could not only locate the vein but would tell at what depth the water would be found. He used an instrument made by himself. It is a quarter circle made from a hardwood board mounted on a tripod and has a plumb bob attached to tell when it is level. This quarter circle is sub-divided by lines into lesser quarter circles with a scale of figures along each line.

Another divining rod operator who lived in Monson, was Edwin R. Haynes. Born in Canaan, New Hampshire, in 1836, he came to Monson in 1842. He was commissioned postmaster Dec. 12, 1864 and held this office for nearly 21 years.

As this history is being written, a divining rod operator or dowser (waterwitch) is W. L. Dauphinee, age 87. He is called to various parts of his town and county to exercise his gift. To find water, he uses a pliable piece

of limb from a tree. Almost any wood works for him, but he really prefers hazelwood. He is retired from farming and lives quietly with his wife on their farm in Southeast Monson.

Mr. John Carlson - A quarryman of Swedish descent made skis as a hobby. His grandson, Dr. George C. Howard of Guilford, owns the first kicksled made by Gustaf Johnson.

Bangor and Aroostook Railroad was first the Bangor and Piscataquis Railroad. The little Monson Railroad connected with this line at what was called Monson Jct.

Wilmot L. Estabrooke was for many years Supt. and Conductor of the Monson Railroad. Died in 1904 in Monson.

Two road crossings were made by the M.R.R. on its way to and from Monson Jct. in Abbot, Maine. One was called Days Crossing located below Pullen's farm on the North Guilford road and Stevens Crossing located by Brian Turner's home on the Willimantic Road.

From the diary of Alvin Gray - longtime resident of Monson:

Sept. 4, 1883 - First train of cars arrived at station, bringing a good number of visitors.

Sept. 28, 1883 - Went to Abbot on the narrow railroad. Paid assessment - \$1.00.

Oct. 22, 1883 - First passenger train to Abbot.

Feb. 26, 1887 - 6 degrees below zero. The train returning from the Junction last night was snowbound at Day's Crossing where it remained with passengers all night.

March 16, 1918 - 6:00 P.M. train stalled in snow drift one mile from destination. The next morning passengers walked to the Jct.

One of the modes of traveling to reach Boston, Mass. in 1880's from Monson was to take the train from Monson to the Jct. and then on the B. & A. Railroad to Bangor; then by boat to Boston Harbor.

Some of Monson's engineers of the Monson Narrow Gauge Railroad were Julius Carlberg, Stanley Stevens in 1914, Albert Kronholm who was engineer for thirteen years, Albion Johnson, and Elwin French who was engineer for the last twelve years it was in operation.

Harold Morrill was Ticket Agent, Conductor and Superintendent for the Monson Railroad.

Accident in Hebron Pond Quarry. Three men injured and one so badly he died next day April 1, 1881.

In 1882 - Five quarries operating in which there was \$150,000 of capital invested.

25,000 squares of roofing slate was manufactured annually or 620 car loads. 200 men employed. 35 horses and 12 teamsters engaged in drawing it to the B. & A. Railroad. 2,500 cords of wood consumed annually. \$6,000 was paid out to laborers and others.

After opening of the slate quarries, many men and families of English, Scotch and Irish descent came in from New Brunswick and Nova Scotia, Canada and settled here.

Burma or Burmah Quarry Co. founded in 1882. Portland-Monson later owned this quarry. Thus the neighborhood on the Blanchard Road was called Burma.

The present Walden Pride house on Water St. was the Monson Maine Slate Co. Office in 1889.

Buildings at West Monson Slate Co. burned Jan. 16, 1897.

Monson had two immense slate belts. The village belt is about 200 feet in width. Ten quarries were started originally. The Monson, Maine Co. and the Portland-Monson Co. slate veins all run east and west.

There was an error made on a deed giving one person the ownership of all the land where Monson Maine Slate Co. was. One of the owners of the company convinced him to change the deed for which he was paid \$25.00. (Rumor.)

Monson Maine Slate Co.'s. big mill was renovated in 1916 - now Moosehead Mfg. Co.'s big mill.

The little mill located between the big mill and finishing building at the Portland-Monson Slate Co. was built from lumber of the Doughty barn located on Doughty Hill (Greenville Road) and was owned by John Flint when the barn was torn down. Hedley Heaney cut a piece of lumber from the ceiling of this mill and used it to make the face of a fiddle. Hedley Heaney worked for many years as a quarry man in the mill for Portland-Monson Slate Co. The mill no longer stands - torn down.

The present Tolford Durham's house on Pleasant Street was the first house to be shingled with slate.

Over the years there have been numerous slate pit accidents at the quarries - with workmen being injured and killed. Several children have drowned in abandoned pits. Also, others have been killed by accidentally falling into the open slate pits.

Hon. William W. Thomas was the Commissioner of Immigration and brought Swedes to Maine in 1870. Later the Finnish people arrived.

In 1870-1880, the Baptist Church had a ladies circle called Chataugua. Disbanded about 1888.

In 1888, Mr. Whitcomb's study in his home (Baptist Parsonage) got afire and burned his books and smoked the house. (Present location of what was then his home is unknown but probably on Pleasant or Center Street.) Note: Mr. Whitcomb preached at the Baptist Church.

Sadie Emerson, daughter of Rev. Emerson and Elizabeth Tenny, lived in the now James Durham house on Tenny Hill. Her diary was used for a reference.

The tradition that the religious affiliation of the two academies reflected in the division of the township, the Baptist settling and building their church on the west of Meridian Road and Congregational Church to the east.

A resident of town owns an original blueprint of the horse shed that used to be by the Congregational Church. There were also horse stalls attached to the Baptist Church with members names on them.

An original constitution of the Maternal Association of Monson, Maine, which was an association in existence in 1830's and 1840's is owned and held by a resident of Monson. Only mothers belonged. They subscribed to a Mothers Magazine published in New York which cost \$1.00.

Church groups had suppers to raise money and bought a hearse. It had wheels for the summer months and runners for the winter months.

In the Church Cemetery the earliest birthdate is 1749, the earliest death date is 1824 and the last burial was in 1895.

Lakeroad Cemetery - First burial - May 12, 1962.

Lower Hillside Cemetery - First burial around the 1850's and the Upper Hillside Cemetery - First burial around 1922.

A tribe of Indians called Kickapoos pitched tents down by Tarr's (now John Durham House). They gave free entertainment every night and sold Indian medicine in the summer of 1888. (Taken from the journal of Miss Sadie Emerson.)

Indians from Indian Point were marooned in town for one week and stayed in what was then known as the Long Barn at the now Erwin and Erma Small house on Main Street, because of a snow storm in late October (year unknown).

August 27, 1886, Explosion in Dr. Hall's office at 1 a. m. His office was located on the premises beside the house now owned by Dennis Casey on Main Street. (Note: Dr. Hall resided in Monson from 1876-1888). October 23, 1886, Colby Moore and Al Sears were arrested for blowing up Dr. Hall's office.

June 14, 1940, Pat and Harry Mackie were murdered and their camp burned up on the hill behind the Old Clark Towne farm on Greenville Rd. Marshall Lovejoy was found guilty of this crime and died in prison.

William Partinen was murdered in the house now owned by Edward Brown on Tenny Hill. A man by the name of Stone was found guilty and sentenced to prison. Was released after he served his time.

KIDDER SWINDLE

In the year 1835, many farmers became discontented because of the severe winter and late spring. A Mr. Elliot J. Kidder learned of the state of affairs and came to Monson. After figuring slyly with some of the residents, he was ready to buy farms, stock, produce, etc. But he could not pay money. He had wild lands in northern New Hampshire and some old notes against certain parties in the vicinity of Norridgewock and Athens, which he called

good paper. He secured a secret accomplice, a resident of Monson, a man of influence, who affirmed that Mr. Kidder was all right.

The hard working farmers, eight or ten, were swindled out of their property, which they had legally conveyed to Mr. Kidder, and paid by him, in bogus securities. When this state of affairs was learned, the only recourse for them was to arrest him for fraud. He learned of this and made haste to Number Eight (Willimantic) and came upon James Johnson's cabin. After many promises, Johnson concealed him. The sheriff and company arrived but Johnson said he had not seen him. Later a few favored ones, directed by the silent partner, went to the camp and obtained payments from Kidder. Soon after, he got away, going out of State. Some of the farms he conveyed to new owners. One such farm was the Capt. Amasa Chapin farm (Kugler's) on North Guilford Road, which he exchanged for a hotel in New Hampshire. So Col. Samuel Pillsbury and his father became occupants. Nothing more was heard of him. (No more information found.)

Where the Dr. Varney (now Dennis Casey) house stands, on Main Street, there once stood a quaint old house with a creaking old signboard announcing to the public that the place was Captain Rice's Tavern. The old building burned in the big fire of 1860. Captain referred to was Peabody H. Rice, came to Monson in 1835 from the Kennebec region. He was engaged in trading, lumbering, tavern keeping and farming. He was an office holder in Monson for many years and represented Monson in the Maine Legislature in 1860.

His brother, John Hovey Rice, became a lawyer. He started his practice in Monson being burned out in 1860 and moved to Foxcroft.

On January 31, 1884, Joseph Mitchell's blacksmith

shop burned. The shop was located just north of the canal on Main Street.

Onaway Lodge No. 106 - founded 1884.

North Star Rebekah Lodge No. 30 - founded May 8, 1891.

Doric Lodge No. 149 F. & A. M. - founded 1889.

Masaic Lodge Free and Accepted Masons of Dover. Charter given July 16, 1827. Charter members from Monson were Solomon Cushman and Andrew Cushman (maybe Hiram Folsom). First meeting held in Sangerville in November 1827.

Eda Johnson Anderson was the first Swedish girl to graduate from Monson Academy in the year 1902.

In the early fall of 1921, in order that the district schoolhouse would be located in a more central place, the Vinton schoolhouse was moved from its original site at the junction of the Steward Road with the Willamantic Road to a spot across the road from the present home of Charles Strom in S. E. Monson.

This move of nearly one mile was accomplished using rolls and skids with double teams of horses and took two days.

The teams belonged to Frank Steward, William Champion, Lawson Dauphinee, John Strom and August Nelson.

Classes were then transferred from the "Grover" house where school had been held for about five years. This house stood where Philip and Bernice Knight now live in S. E. Monson.

The school was closed in 1939 and is now privately owned.

Graduation exercises, held in band stand when it stood on old hotel lot, between James and John Durham's

houses, after Carlson's (Tarr's) Hall torn down. Also graduation exercises and senior plays held in Baptist Church on Pleasant Street in 1943-1944.

The Monson Academy yearbook called the "Phar- etra", was first published in 1885. The last in 1969. There were a few years in between that it wasn't published.

Peter Haggstrom and family were the first Swedish family to settle in Monson. Settled here in August 1882. John L. Johnson and family were the second Swedish family to arrive. Note: Esther Johnson Pennington's parents.

Albert Whitney Chapin, son of Aretas Chapin and grandson of Capt. Amasa Chapin was born in Monson, Maine in 1841 and died in 1914. Prominent businessman dealing largely in real estate and aided much in developing the slate industry. Held various town offices. He built many homes on what we now call Chapin Ave. He built a few others, namely: O. Poole's, Brown's Nursing Home, and C. Leavitt's.

One of the early settlers, Timothy Morton, came to Monson about 1828-29, and built a 10 room house on Morton Street (now known as North Guilford Road.) He was a carpenter, made furniture and caskets, which he sold in the neighboring towns.

Fred Spencer, businessman on Main Street in 1900's bought the Tarr Hall, renamed-Spencer's Hall. He was shot by a hunter in Blanchard, Maine. He owned a house on upper Water Street where G. Beckwith now lives,

Levi Flint was the reporter for the Monson Centennial Celebration on August 19, 1922.

Earle Jackson was Monson's reporter for the Piscataquis Observer for 50 years.

In the 1930's, Charles Grover and Henry Grover made baskets (clothes baskets, etc.) and sold them.

The building known at the "Rat Hole" was located on Main Street before 1911 fire. It was moved before the fire to the alley behind Charles W. Stevens house and was the residence of Tom Gerry.

The Thomas house - H. M. Thomas and wife, Lottie Thomas, Prop. Located on S. Main Street - rooming house. Now the residence of their daughter, Jettie Thomas Hennigan.

The Sears House - located on Water Street - rooming house. First owned by L. Littlefield and then Mrs. Calvin Sears. Now the residence of Harriet Kronholm.

Arthur Kronholm had a broom factory on Chapin Ave., the now Albert Kronholm house. Arthur Kronholm lost his eyesight by fire works (crackers) on July 4th as a young man. He learned to make brooms at school for the blind.

Will Bray owned a Canning Factory which was located between Monson Academy and the old cemetery. In operation about 50 years ago.

Erwin and Erma Small's house - Main Street - Sara Poole had a telephone office upstairs in the 1920's. Downstairs there was a hardware store run by Allie Daine about 50 years ago.

Telephone office also in B. Storer's house in the 1930-1940's.

Will Bray owned a Tin Shop located where the present D.A.R. building is. This shop became a dwelling house once owned by Lu Carter Gray. The house was moved to Pleasant Street and is now where Sheldon Stanchfield lives. Lu Carter Gray owned the present D.A.R. house.

Building last owned by Harold Flint was once a pool hall and shooting gallery and sold beer, candy, etc., and

was owned by Thomas Crawford. It is located in the alley behind Charles Steven's house.

Edward and Wallace Homer made paddles of all sizes. Seth Steward decorated (painted) pictures on them. These were sold at the Boston Sportsman's Show years ago.

Wallace Homer was a state licensed taxidermist. He did small birds, animals, deer heads, etc.

Monson band furnished music for a V-J Day celebration in Guilford on Thursday evening, August 16, 1945.

Hammonds' Orchestra played for a V-J dance in IOOF hall in Greenville on Wednesday night, August 15, 1945. Members were Lawrence and Olive Hammond of Monson and Lewis Plummer, of Dover Foxcroft, Maine.

A. S. Garland house sold to Henry & Mary Haley and they opened a rooming house under the name of Haley's Tourist Home in 1940-50. Bought by Gordon and Janette Hall and now used as a private residence, Located on Main Street.

NAMES OF STREETS IN 1889 - 1972

Water Street, Forest Ave., Chapin Ave., High Street-Homer Hill; Main Street - from Gulf Station to Elliottsville Rd.; Lake St. - Greenville Rd.; E. Main St. - North Guilford Rd.; S. E. Road - Willimantic Rd.; S. Main St. - from Gulf Station to Fork of Blanchard Rd.; Grove St. - above fork of Blanchard Rd.; Pleasant St., Center St., Wilkins Street, Dirigo Street.

Appalachian Trail goes thru the township of Monson. Monson is the last town before reaching the end of the trail, going north, to Mt. Katahdin. Very heavily traveled in the summer months by young and old, men and women and dogs.

- Center of town marked with a marker in ground located at the lower driveway of Tolford Durham's on Pleasant Street.

Green Hill or Jenne's Hill - power right of way - Elliottsville Rd. past the Matthews farm.

Hebron, Monson, Doe and Spectacle Ponds are the principal bodies of water. Lake Hebron is 3 miles long and 1 mile wide (the largest). The Piscataquis river runs across the Southwest corner.

Streams are Wilson and the outlet of Lake Hebron. Doughty Hill is the highest elevation of land.

Tax valuation of Monson	Population:
1870 - \$ 134,520	608
1880 - 159,460	827
1972 - 1,292,760	In 1970 - 850
167 Poll Taxes	

The Government's elevation mark for sea level was moved from the location of the Gulf Station to where the flag pole stands in the square on Main Street in front of Collin Bickford's house.

Cement sidewalks on Main St. built about 1913-14.

Piscataquis Savings Bank (1882 Atlas) located on Water Street in the Old Railroad Station buildings.

New road around Doughty Hill - October 13, 1915, "Went over the new road around Doughty Hill" taken from Alvin Gray's diary.

August 23, 1884 - Slating the roof of Baptist Church was completed.

February 13, 1913, Ralph Morrill bought the former Baptist Parsonage. (Present Mr. & Mrs. Fred Finley's home on Center St.)

Granite for foundations under many homes in Monson came from Willimantic on Granite Mountain.

Silent policeman or traffic guide stood in the town square opposite the canal in circa 1930's and 40's, silently directing traffic to and from Main and Water Streets. Date removed unknown.

On the Elliottsville Road near where Elmer Kelly lives on the right side of the road was the Sprague barn and across from it, a barn owned by Charles Weeks. (Dennis' father.) In June 1922, there was a storm (small hurricane or tornado). The Weeks barn roof was lifted and set in the middle of this road. The Sprague barn disappeared and only pieces of it could be found way down in the woods.

Rumors have it that Mabel Pullen's house on Main Street was once an ice-house.

Cpl. Reginald Leighton, son of Vance Leighton was prisoner for 3½ years after the fall of Bataan in the Philippines. He was liberated in September of 1945 from Osaka, Japan. He had been in the service about 18 months when taken prisoner during W. W. II.

Arthur Farrar, brother of Mary Farrar Jones, found an old Spanish coin dated 16— when helping in the digging of the cellar for the Baptist Church when it was being renovated in 1920.

In 1885, Smith's printing establishment of Bangor, Maine, published a line of country newspapers, including one for Monson, called "The Monson Slate". Later in 1888 the Gazette in Dexter consolidated with Day & Bunker and the paper became known as "The Dexter Gazette and Monson Slate". It was two newspapers in one. Each editor was free to present his own views upon all subjects. This lasted about eight or nine years.

Many articles of interest were published in the Observer, Spectator and Moosehead Gazette. The latter newspaper doing a series of articles on older citizens of Monson during the summer of 1972. The Spectator ran a series of pictures and articles of the paintings of Seth Steward.

A Committee in town made a replica of the MRR No. 4 engine. It pulled a trailer representing the old Slate Companies. This float was entered in the Piscataquis County parade held in Dover-Foxcroft, in June 1970 to celebrate Maine becoming a state. Driver was Robert Lander. (Note: This float remodeled for Monson's Sesquicentennial parade, 1972.)

The Old Stage Road went across the narrows between the little and big ponds of Lake Hebron. The old dirt road by the Mathews place was a direct stage coach road from Monson to the "Old Savage Opening" and on to Greenville until 1857. Nowadays the Appalachian Trail, from Georgia to Mt. Katahdin, follows the eleven or so miles from Monson to the Savage Opening.

Henry David Thoreau, the famous naturalist-author, traveled this road in September, 1853. His account in "The Maine Woods" shows him to have passed through Monson and on past the Mathews place.

The following are lists of Monson's Sextons, Doctors, Lawyers, Dentists and Ministers:

DOCTORS:

Dr. Alpheus Davison	Dr. Harding
Dr. James Leighton	Dr. Brown
Dr. Josiah Jordan	Dr. Crosby
Dr. Clement	Dr. Varney
Dr. Sumner Patten	Dr. Sampson
Dr. C. C. Hall	Dr. Emerson

Dr. Killam	Dr. Kerr
Dr. Penta	Dr. Philip Thomas
Dr. Hanscom	Dr. MacDuffy, last resident doctor
Dr. Isaac Nelson, office hours twice a week (Tues. & Sat.) lives in Greenville.	

DENTISTS:

Dr. B. M. O'Brien	Dr. C. E. Sawyer
Dr. Edmund Harvey	

SEXTONS:

Leon Thomas	Arthur Haggstrom
Fred Wilkins (1925)	Arthur Bjork
Dennis Weeks	Weldon Connor (1950 -)
Elwood Lord	

LAWYERS:

Hon. Cyrus A. Packard	Lester A. Olson
John F. Sprague	Ephriam Flint
John H. Rice	James Bell

MINISTERS:

The Monson Congregational Pastors Were:

Rev. Lot Ryder, 1824-25	Rev. Charles Bodewell, 1904-05
Rev. Anson Hubbard, 1827-34	Rev. Henry W. Conley, 1905-07
Rev. John Baker, 1835-39	Rev. William Taylor, 1908-09
Rev. Horatio Ilsley, 1840-55	Rev. R. Barrow, 1910-12
Rev. R. W. Emerson, 1856	Rev. Deyo, 1912-14
Rev. J. B. Haines, 1880-82	Rev. Thomas Day, 1914-1920
Rev. William G. Mann, 1882-87	Rev. Bornish, 1922
Rev. R. W. Emerson, 1893	Rev. Thomas Cornish, 1922-24
Rev. H. A. Freeman, 1893-96	Rev. McRea, 1924-25
Rev. G. B. Hescock, 1898-1902	Rev. William Nicholas, 1925-31
Rev. Raymond A. Fowles, 1903-04	Rev. W. E. Davies, 1931-33

MONSON BAPTIST PASTORS WERE:

Lebbens Kingman, 1842-45	Edwin C. Long, 1879-83
Lucius Bradford, 1845-51	F. R. Locke, 1885-86, 1889-91
Dudley P. Bailey, 1852-79	Alfred Chipman, 1886-87
William S. Knowlton, 1872-75	Charles Whitcomb, 1887-89
Fred F. Bickwell, 1876-78	Samuel Pendleton, 1892-93

Stephen Fletcher, 1893-96	George Chambers, 1917-18
Henry Raymond, 1897-99	Joseph Grossa, 1918-24
Henry C. Speed, 1899-1905	H. S. Philpot, 1925-26
Ephriam S. Drew, 1905-08	E. A. Rockwell, 1928-32
T. Ernest Ham, 1909-15	

MONSON COMMUNITY CHURCH PASTORS WERE:

Martin Sorensen, 1934-38	Harold Sheppard, 1954-58
Anson Williams, 1939-42	Donald Blanchette, 1958-60
Emil Ahokas, 1942-43	William R. Huber, 1961-63
Ruth Jackson, 1943-48	Everett Waite, 1963-65
Gard Rowe, 1948-51	George Costillo, 1966-67
Dr. Karl Lund, 1952-53	Douglas Brayton, 1967-Present

**SWEDISH FREE MISSION CHURCH BECAME SWEDISH
LUTHERAN CHURCH — 1890.**

Several Swedish Lutheran Ministers Were:

Rev. Ockbloom	Rev. Anders Anderson
Rev. Darvid Anderson	Rev. Ahlberg
Rev. Peterson	Rev. Zeterholm
Rev. Hogberg	Rev. Hagland

**SWEDISH METHODIST CHURCH — 1893. Several Swedish
Methodist Ministers Were:**

Rev. Svanti Moody	Rev. Hagberg
Rev. Harold Boivie	Rev. Nelson
Rev. Hartwig	Rev. Otto Anderson
Rev. Emil Rydstrom	Rev. Holmberg
Rev. Peter Frost	Rev. Salleen

OPEN DOOR FULL GOSPEL CHURCH:

Rev. Jean Carter and Rev. Alice Lucas, (Present ministers - 1972.)
A. Boyer, J. Palmer and G. Flower

DROWNINGS:

LAKE HEBRON:

John T. Delano — Dec. 4, 1822.
Alfred Ely - Son of Samuel Robinson — July 4, 1831.
Streeter Strout — Autumn of 1840.
Charles M. Tarr — July 10, 1858.

Keith Jones — Dec. 4, 1941.

Walter Hennigan — July 25, 1965.

Little Pond - Norman Stanchfield Son of Milton Stanchfield, July 20, 1931.

MONSON POND:

Ivan Isakson — Aug. 1, 1965

Edgar Kronholm — Nov. 14, 1971.

Robert Bowen — Nov. 14, 1971 (From Carmel).

Robert Bowen, Jr. — Nov. 14, 1971 (From Carmel).

Reginald Hansen — Nov. 14, 1971 (From Bangor).

THE MONSON RAILROAD

The Monson Railroad used to run

Three or four trains a day for fun.

But their net profits the whole year through

Wouldn't buy the engineer one drink of home brew.

So after twenty years they change their style

And now they only run a train once in a while.

Their time-table hangs there high on the wall

And looks like a blank sheet with a pencil scrawl.

Come over quite close or there's something you'll miss

And you'll find that the time-table reads something like this:

Train number one on track number two

Leaves Monson whenever they can find their crew,

If the weather is fair and the wind doesn't blow

They'll be back with the mail in a day or so.

H.D.

Samuel Robinson erected a building in 1827 for carding and cloth dressing. Commenced dressing cloth in 1828 and carding the next year. After a few years he sold to Mr. Thomas Scales, then he in turn sold to Stedman Kendall who afterward moved the machinery to Abbot and the building was converted to other uses. (Note: The location of this building is unknown.) S. Robinson settled on a farm in Monson where he remained until his death.

Silver Mine — Around 1880 there was discovered on the Drake farm (Elliottsville Road) an extensive mine of silver and lead. The ore was assayed and showed a paying quantity of silver contained in it. There is high expectations of rich deposits and a company is forming and preparing to work it. (Account taken from A. Loring's History of Piscataquis County.) (Note: Apparently nothing ever came of it.)

Main St. was rebuilt and paved in 1955-56. The sidewalks were paved, the maple trees removed and extensive repairs done to the canal which runs under the road.

In the old original house which belonged to Capt. Whitney in the 1820's, many important events occurred. The Congregational Church was organized, the first town meeting held, the first post office eventually kept, and the first birth in the village, to Mr. and Mrs. W. Hyde. This house burned, rebuilt and is presently owned by Louise Grover on upper Water Street.

EVENTS OF MONSON SESQUICENTENNIAL YEAR

A committee to properly celebrate Monson's 150th anniversary informally met during December, 1971, with Town Manager Robert Lander, Fire Chief John Ruksznis, Mrs. Althea French, Mrs. Joyce Brown, and Mrs. Milliecent Robinson filling in for her sister, Mrs. Eloise Stevens. This committee, after much discussion and perusal of photographs, designed a Sesquicentennial Medal featuring Monson's Narrow Gauge Railroad, The Moosehorns, Slate, the kicksled which was invented in Monson, Monson Academy, and the first church of Monson which also was the first church edifice north of Bangor. Medals were minted in silver to sell at \$10.00, bronze in lucite to sell at \$6.00, and in bronze at \$2.50. Only 200 silver medals were minted, and all were numbered.

In January, 1972 a formal committee was organized with Kendrick Benton as Chairman; George Rongner as Co-Chairman and in charge of publicity; Robert Lander, Liason Coordinator; John Ruksznis, Parade director; Althea French and Joyce Brown, Floats; Joyce Kelley, Costumes; Dorcas Leavitt and Gerry Weymouth, Art; Vikki Leavitt, Music. Eloise Stevens represented the DAR and Aimee Kugler the United Church Circle. Elizabeth Davis was selected as Treasurer. A History Committee was formed at a later date to update the history of the Town of Monson, this consisting of Jeanne Reed, Althea French, Elizabeth Davis and Joyce Brown.

During its town meeting on March 13, 1972, the citizens of Monson raised \$1,500 for the committee.

On March 25-26, Snow-mobile races were held on Lake Hebron with trophies given as prizes. These races, well attended from area towns, were sponsored by six local men, Jim Quartararo, Bud Leavitt, Sr., Bud Leavitt, Jr., Jake Smith, Bob Lander and Frank Hanscome.

On April 15 the annual Fireman's Supper at the Monson Community Church was attended by approximately 350 people.

On April 22 a Birthday Ball was held in the Monson gym, with prizes awarded for the most authentic and best judged reproductive costumes. Mrs. Joyce Kelley was head judge, assisted by Mrs. Dolores Hughes and Mrs. Helen Johnson. Winners were Mrs. Mildred Johnson of Dover-Foxcroft, ladies costume; Mr. Charles W. Stevens, men; Kelley Canders, girl student; and Joel Greenleaf, boy student. For best reproductions, Mrs. Joyce Lander and Buddy Butterfield were the winners. As there were no student reproductions, prizes were awarded to two additional authentic costumes worn by Bobbi-Jean Brown and Scott Knight. Linda Rongner was in charge of decorations for the ball, which was highlighted by the presentation of a birthday cake, made by Phyllis Ruksznis, and presented by Bertha Blood and Lillian Knight, descendants of Monson's first town meeting moderator,

to Town Manager Robert Lander. Stan Robinson served as Master of Ceremonies and music for the dance was furnished by the Foxcroft Academy Dance Band. The hall was decorated in shades of yellow, blue and white crepe paper.

On April 28th, the 100th anniversary of Arbor Day was acknowledged with a presentation of a flowering crab apple tree from the Tisbury Manor Chapter of the DAR to the Monson Elementary School. Presenting was Mrs. Neola Jacobson and accepting was Town Selectman Worden W. Smith.

On May 20, 1972, a May Festival was put on at the Monson Gym by the Elementary School, complete with a fashion show. A dance followed with music by "Three Jacks and a Queen".

From May 22-27 Monson held a Spruce-Up Week, during which time many old cars were towed away, rubbish collected, roadsides and homes spruced up, etc. The Boy Scouts helped immensely in this community project. 87 junk cars were taken away, Tad Turner loaning a pulp loader for the week to pick up and load the cars onto a truck, which then were taken to the "pit" - Monson's dumping area.

In June a poster contest at the Elementary School was sponsored by the Sesquicentennial Committee, the theme of which was "Keeping Monson Clean". Winners in the sub-primary and grade one were Lorna Gary, with honorable mention to Cathy Durham, Stacy Melia, Bruce Erickson. In grades 2 and 3 winners were Julie Pride, with honorable mention to Jana Sawyer and Donna Allen, and for collective work to Jana Sawyer, Cindy Burke, Tina Roberts, and Alisa Beckwith. For grades 4, 5, 6 the winner was Elizabeth Durham, with honorable mention to Debbie Erickson, Crystal Anderson, Judy Casey, Lorese Freeh, Richard Tompkins, and Ryner Sandberg. Judges were Dorcas Leavitt, Gerry Weymouth, and Eleanor Brayton.

On June 23rd a "get acquainted" party was held at the home of George and Linda Rongner, sponsored by the Sesquicentennial Committee, the Selectmen, and Town Manager for the town's guests from the parent Town of Monson, Massachusetts.

The morning of June 24 (9:00 A.M.) saw the official opening of the Monson Historical Society, sponsored by the DAR, with ribbon-cutting ceremonies involving Mrs. Eloise Stevens, Mrs. Neola Jacobson, Mrs. Myra K. Moulton, President of the Monson, Mass. Historical Society, and Selectman Paul Allen. Robert Lander, Town Manager, presented the Historical Society with its first official donation, a check for \$25.00 from the Monson Sesquicentennial Committee.

Following these ceremonies, the guests from Monson, Mass. were conducted on tours of the Moosehead Manufacturing Company and the Portland-Monson Slate Co.

Monson held its parade under threatening skies, with John Ruksznis, Parade Director, dressed in coats and tails, leading the way, and starting precisely at the scheduled hour of 1:00 P. M. Next in line was "Uncle Sam" in the person of Clifford Douglass. Behind Uncle Sam was the Color Guard, consisting of Oscar Ulman, Jr., Hilbert Butterfield, Ernest Copeland and Edward Kronholm.

The following floats and people participated:

The Hilltoppers 4-H Club

A trailer drawn by a tractor. Trailer decorated with green and white crepe paper. Contained the 4-H emblem - a triangle-shaped board with the theme (Learn by doing - Make the best better). Riding on the float was Seth Sharpe. Riding on the tractor were Madeline Douglass and Bill Sharpe. Marching in front of the float and carrying the American Flag was Nancy Douglass accompanied by Dyanna Bjork carrying the 4-H flag.

Tisbury Manor Chapter - D. A. R.

Flat bed trailer with a replica of the present "Moose-horns" including plaque on rock marker which was presented by the DAR.

Bishop's Great Outdoors

Trailer. A winter scene on a black sleigh (over 100 years old from Plymouth, Maine) with Jean Bishop dressed as Santa Claus. Sleigh pulled by a snow-mobile. Susan Bishop dressed as Rudolph the Red-nosed reindeer. Scott Brett, and Kentt Bishop dressed as elves, who threw styrofoam balls to the crowd.

Appalachian Trail

Walking unit. Official emblem of the trail on a cart pulled by Joel Greenleaf and Kevin Roberts.

Kick Sled

Kick sled on wheels pushed by James Douglass. This was the second kick sled made by Gust Johnson in Monson.

Replica of the Monson Railroad Engine

Constructed on a pick-up frame by Elwin French, helped by Robert Lander, Gerald "Bud" Stanchfield and Clarence "Socky" Pratt. Driver was Bud Stanchfield and riding with him was Elwin French, the last engineer of the Monson narrow gauge railroad.

Robinson's Insurance and Real Estate

An antique car with the name of business on it, driven by Stanley A. Robinson. Riding with him were Mike, Jill, and Jason Hunt.

J & J General Store

An antique fire engine owned and driven by Gordon Mercer, accompanied by Valri Leavitt.

Miscellaneous

A little red and black car made by Elwin French several years ago. Driven by his grandson, James French, with his daughter Julie riding with him.

South-East Monson

Replica of the Vinton District School on a trailer drawn by a team of horses owned and driven by Carl Davis of Parkman. Riding on the float was Mattie Conley, the oldest resident of South-East Monson, born in Monson.

Wildwood Campground

A trailer decorated with trees and greens to depict outdoor camping and recreation. Had picnic tables, etc. Riding were two children, Christine Sears of Abbot, Maine and A. Martin Lowell of Monson.

Indian Point

Pick-up truck decorated with trees and ferns, depicting the woods. In the scene was a teepee with Robert B. Brown, II dressed as a little Indian boy sitting inside. Bobbi-Jean Brown dressed as the Indian maiden, and Harold French, dressed in Chief Needahbeh's original Indian costume, as Indian Chief. Chief Needahbeh belonged to the Penobscot Tribe. Driven by Robert B. Brown, Sr.

Monson Elementary S.A.D. 68

A trailer decorated with the theme "Don't pollute. It doesn't compute". Decorated with crepe paper. Riders: Cathy Durham (1st grade), Thomas Anderson (2nd grade).

In a truck, with S.A.D. 68 sign rode Neil Johnson from Dover-Foxcroft, and Mr. Savage Supt. of S.A.D. 68.

Maila Korsman Float

A wagon depicting the trip 150 years ago with a sign saying "Monson, Mass. to Monson, Maine". Riders, dressed as pioneers, were Maila Korsman and children Douglass and Mike Schass from Arizona and Shirleen Korsman of Monson.

Monson Community Sunday School

Walking unit - a banner with the theme "Jesus loves all the little children" carried by Sam Anderson and Lloyd Inabinet. Next, on a cart, was a replica of the oldest church of Monson, pulled by Tina Roberts and Melissa Robbins. Following were Sunday school pupils dressed to represent children of all lands. With them was Mrs. Douglass Brayton in an outfit of yesteryear.

Portland-Monson Slate Co.

Truck and flat bed trailer, depicting a scene with Ellery Kronholm working as a splitter of slate to represent the mills, a hoister house, mast and boom with box. In box were Paul Erickson and Sterling Hersey (of Abbot) as pit men. Truck driven by James Tatko.

Moosehead Manufacturing Co.

One of their tractor-trailers, driven by William Ranta.

Towne-Holmbom Auxiliary Unit 116

Car decorated with Auxiliary banner on top and the official blue and gold colored crepe paper and decals. Riding was Gold Star Mother of World War II, Hilma Holmbom, and 2 charter members, Margaret Bishop and Esther Pennington.

Bartlett's Gulf Station

Team of ponies owned and driven by Charles Davis of Guilford, Me. hauling an old Gulf gas tank.

Kahvila Coffee Shop

Trailer on which there was a large wooden cup and saucer. Riding in the cup were Vikki and Vanessa Leavitt, Driver: Scott Lander.

Kelley's Orchard

Large truck with scene on back depicting an apple orchard with a tree decorated with pink and white tissues for apple blossoms. Around the area were jugs of cider, apple boxes, pails, and a ladder up in the tree. The bottom was covered with green and white crepe paper. Driven by Millard Perkins and riding on float were Susan Kelley and Arnette Grant (of Blanchard, Me.).

Women's Club

A pick up truck decorated on back with a large birthday cake made from cable spools covered with tissues. On top were the numbers (150) for the 150th birthday of Monson. Driven by President Cindy Turner and riding was Manda Brown (one of the oldest Past Presidents) and children Shelley Greenleaf and Kelley Canders.

Rebekah's

Pick-up truck decorated with flowers made with pink and green tissues, the official colors. Decorated also with the official emblem and an open bible on a pedestal "Friendship, Love and Truth" on each side. On back 1969 the year of consolidation of North Star 38 of Monson with Golden Link 37 of Guilford. Driven by Alfred Grant.

United Circle

A hay wagon drawn by a tractor. A sign with "United Circle" done in gold. Decorated with blue and white crepe paper. Riding and dressed in old costumes and sun bonnets were Elza Smith, Mildred MacPherson, Aimee Kugler, President, Gertrude Cilley, and Kay Baird.

Finnish Farmers Club

Decorated car. Riding were President Sally Olson, and Carl Olson of Harmony, Maine, along with Vice President Veikko Vainio, and musicians Andrew Kurki and Jorma Ranta of Monson.

Blanchard Float

A hay wagon pulled by a team of horses owned by Fred (Fritz) Elliott of Blanchard, Maine. Riding in the wagon was a group of Monson children. This wagon originally belonged to Charles Erickson and was used as a float in Monson's Centennial Parade on August 19, 1922.

Clowns

Ted Jones and Parker Hall of Kingfield, Maine and Irvin Stevens, Corinna, Maine.

Buggy Drivers

"Squeek" Edgerly and Mac Drummond from Guilford, dressed as clowns.

Fire Engines

Monson's 1937 engine led the fire engine division, with other engines from Greenville, Guilford, Sangerville, Dover-Foxcroft. Antique fire drill team from Dexter, Maine, and a marching unit from Sangerville. "40 and 8" engine from Milo, Maine (Replica of a locomotive).

Antique Cars

An entire section of approximately 25 antique cars.

Marching Units

Pink Panthers drill team from Millinocket, Maine.

Greenville, Maine High School Band.

Foxcroft Academy Band.

Officials

Monson, Mass., and Monson, Maine, officials dressed in costumes of yesteryear, rode in antique cars at the head of the parade, behind the color guard. Representing Monson, Maine, were Selectman and Mrs. Frank Nelson, Selectman and Mrs. Paul Allen, Selectman and Mrs. Worden Smith, and Town Manager and Mrs. Robert Lander. Officials from Monson Mass. were as follows:

Selectmen: Chairman Albert B. Coolong; Vice Chairman Robert D. Austin and Emma M. Austin.

Police Department: Robert L. Lawson, Kenneth A. Stanton, Ralph K. Shuemaker, John Carney, Joseph W. Loglisci.

Fire Department: Retired Fire Chief Lloyd E. Partelo and Eleanor M. Partelo. Assistant Fire Chief Roy A. LeGrand and Olga LeGrand. Captain Alfred G. Gola and Matilda Gola. Lt. Roy P. Evasius and Marilyn L. Evasius. Robert L. Meacham, Mary A. Meecham and son James. Ralph S. Weldon, Jr., Elizabeth Weldon and son Richard. Robert J. Weldon and Lea Weldon. Clifton W. Knowlton and Cecelia F. Knowlton.

Historical Society: President Myra K. Moulton, Carlos C. McCray and Elsie B. McCray. Beatrice B. Norcross. Earl E. Coleman and Helen A. Coleman. Paul F. Magrone.

Representing Hebron, Maine was Mr. Roger M. Bearce. Representing the State Legislature were Senator Elmer Violette of Van Buren and Representative Charlotte White of Guilford.

NOTE: 4 generations of the French family participated in the parade, Elwin, Harold, James, and Julie.

Following the parade, the afternoon program at the Monson town gym got underway promptly at 3:30, as scheduled. The hall was decorated in red, white and blue crepe paper and bunting, the decorating committee consisting of Worden and Glenda Smith, Nancy Taylor,

Dawn MacPherson and Dwain Allen. The front of the gym, bandstand, and town buildings and business establishments all were decorated with red, white and blue bunting.

Details of the afternoon program follow.

SESQUICENTENNIAL AFTERNOON PROGRAM
MONSON GYM
3:30 P. M. Saturday, June 24

Mrs. Corinne Bickford, organist for the day, offers incidental music as people enter
National Anthem, Led by Mr. Dana Miller
Invocation, Rev. Douglas Brayton
Pledge of Allegiance, Led by Town Manager Robert Lander
Welcome Address, Selectman Frank Nelson
Greetings from Monson, Mass., Chairman of Selectmen Albert B. Coolong
"Sentimental Journey", Led by Rose Nelson, Jillaine Hunt
Address, State Representative Charlotte White*
"Dear Hearts and Gentle People", Led by singers on stage
Address, State Senator Elmer Violette
Recitation, organ medley, Mrs. Mattie Conley (84 years of age)
Exchange of gifts, (Monson to Monson)
 Town, Selectman Robert Austen (Monson, Mass.)
 Selectman Paul Allen (Monson, Maine)
 Historical Society, Mr. Earl Coleman (Monson, Mass.)
 Mrs. Neola Jacobson (Monson, Maine)
Fire Department, Mr. Roy A. LeGrand (Monson, Mass.)
 Mr. John Ruksznis (Monson, Maine)
Presentation to Hebron, Maine, Selectman Worden Smith, Monson, Maine)
 Mr. Roger M. Bearce (Hebron, Maine)
"America the Beautiful", Led by singers on stage
Address, Mr. Millard Emanuelson
Instrumental, Mr. Harold Ackley (Trumpet) accompanied by Mrs. Corinne Bickford
Closing Remarks, Master of Ceremonies George Rongner
"God Bless America", Led by singers on stage
Benediction, Rev. Douglas Brayton
Audience participation requested for all vocal selections.

*Representative White was hospitalized and unable to attend. In her place, the Master of Ceremonies read a congratulatory letter from President Richard M. Nixon, a telegram from U. S. Senator Edmund S. Muskie, a telephone message from U. S. Senator Margaret Chase Smith.

Musical portion of the program was arranged by Millicent Robinson.

June 24: From 7:30 to 9:00 P. M., dancing was held at the Monson Gym to the music by Musicians of Yester-year, which included Louis Plummer and Delmar Cook of Dover-Foxcroft, Maine, James Brown of Abbot, Maine, and Anna Douglass of Monson.

9:00 P. M. to 1:00 A. M. Dancing at the Monson gym, with music furnished by Melody Lane, with approximately 800 people attending.

Sunday, June 25. Sunday breakfast, at 9:00 A. M. at the Monson Community Church, prepared by Mrs. Thurley Knowles and a group of volunteers. Monson's Town Officials and Sesquicentennial Committee hosted the contingent from Monson, Mass.

July 20, 21, 22: Monson Art Show, sponsored by the Sesquicentennial Committee, held at the Elementary School, in charge of Dorcas Leavitt, assisted by Gerry Weymouth and Kendrick Benton. Featured were area artists, including Seth Steward, Walter Steward, Cora Steward Champion, Bernice Olson, and Fred Varney. Contemporary artists included Gerry Weymouth, Eleanor Brayton, Robert Robinson, Arthur Day, Jolane Brown, Alan Bray, James Wentworth, Parker Hall, Wendy Anderson, Laurence B. Stretz, and Ruby Davis.

July 22: Monson Academy Alumni Association celebrated its 25th Anniversary. Outgoing officers were President Walter Dickison (Guilford), Vice-President Worden Smith, Secretary Roberta Crockett (Guilford), and Directors Beverly Roberts and Althea French. Incumbent and incoming officers were President Dwain Allen,

Vice-President Brian Turner, Secretary Jillaine Hunt, Treasurer Oswald Poole, and Directors Dawn MacPherson and Sylvia Kelley. Millard Emanuelson was Master of Ceremonies. The Shiretown Singers provided the entertainment, followed by dancing with the "Melody Lane" dance band.

July 30: Old Home Sunday at the Monson Community Church, presided by the Rev. Douglas P. Brayton. The regular morning service was at 11:30 A. M., with Rev. Brayton's sermon on the 150 years of the Church in Monson. Supper was held in the church dining room while articles of interest were displayed in the church. A Special Service was held at 7:00 P. M., featuring former ministers Rev. William R. Huber of Ellsworth, Rev. Martin Sorensen of Cape Elizabeth, Maine, and Rev. William H. Nichols of Sandown, New Hampshire. Also featured was an old-fashioned Gospel Choir, attired in period costumes, led by Mrs. Eleanor Brayton, and including Joyce Allen, Althea French, Jillaine Hunt, Millicent Robinson, Janette Hall, Velma Inabinet, and Lindsay Inabinet.

Aug. 19, 1972: Monson's first band concert in 20 years, held in the town's bandstand, with music by the Greenville High School Band under the direction of Miss Marlene Hall. Refreshments, organized by Thurley Knowles, were sold at the rear of the bandstand.

This was followed, from 8:00 P. M. to midnight, by a rock dance at the town gym, featuring the music of the C. Barnaby Rock Group of Bingham. About a hundred youngsters attended. Mrs. Barbara Anderson was Chairman of the dance committee, assisted by Mrs. Barbara Robinson and Mrs. Dolores Hughes.

October 14, 1972: Harvest Supper and Dance:

Supper served at 5, 6, 7 at the Church dining room. Dancing at the Town Gym from 9:00 P. M. to 1:00 A. M., with music by "3 Jacks and a Queen". Thurley Knowles

was Chairman of the supper committee while Joyce Kelley and Kenrick Benton were in charge of decorating the gym.

"History of Monson, Maine" to be published and on sale in December, 1972.

NOTES:

- (1) Copies of the major address on June 24 "The Last 50 Years in the History of Monson" by Millard Emanuelson can be found at the Monson Museum and the Monson Public Library.
- (2) Copies of the sermon delivered on July 30 on the history of Monson's Churches can be found at the Monson Museum and the Monson Public Library.
- (3) Scrapbooks containing publicity, photos, and write ups concerning Monson's Sesquicentennial Year can be found at the Monson Museum and the Monson Public Library.





BIRTHDAY BALL, Apr. 22, 1972, L.-R.: Lillian Knight, Bertha Blood, Robert Lander

BIRTHDAY BALL



L.-R.: J. French, G. Smith, W. Smith,
L. French, L. Hunt, and J. Hunt.
Front Row: F. and B. Butterfield.
(Taken in Monson Gym.)

Roy and Nancy Taylor Led the Grand
March at the Birthday Ball.



Ribbon Cutting Ceremony of the Monson Historical Museum on June 24, 1972 - Eloise Stevens, Chairman of the Museum Committee and Treasurer of the Monson D. A. R.

Sesquicentennial Parade
June 24, 1972.
John Ruksznis, Marshal
Clifford Douglass, Uncle
Sam.





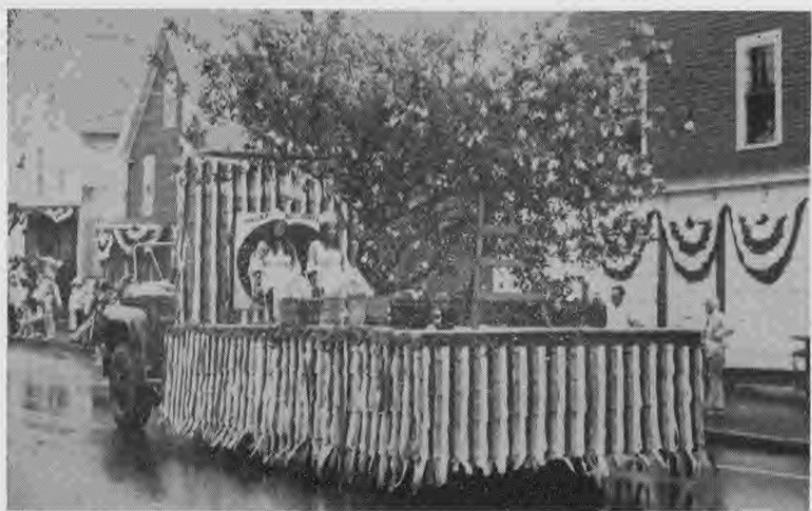
SESQUICENTENNIAL PARADE - JUNE 24, 1972



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JUNE 24, 1972 - PROGRAM AT THE MONSON GYM



PROGRAM AT THE MONSON GYM



OLD HOME SUNDAY - JULY 30, 1972
Ministers: L.-R.: Rev. William Huber, Rev. Martin Sorensen,
Rev. Douglas P. Brayton and Rev. William Nicolas.



OLD HOME SUNDAY - JULY 30, 1972
CHOIR: L.-R.: L. Inabinet, A. French, M. Robinson, and J. Allen.
Front Row: J. Hall, V. Inabinet, and E. Brayton.

HONORABLE MENTION

We wish to acknowledge and express our deepest appreciation and our thanks to the following people who have contributed much of their time, material and photos. For without the cooperation of the Townspeople and former residents of Monson, this book would not have been possible.

Arthur Haggstrom	Mrs. Eloise Steward Stevens
Edna Champion Haggstrom	Mr. George Rongner
Mrs. Opal Jones Nelson	Mrs. Dorcas Benton Leavitt
Mrs. Dorothy Homer Forbus	Mr. Oswald Poole
Mrs. Esther Johnson Pennington	Mrs. Joyce Brown
Mrs. Mary Farrar Jones	Mr. Francis Marshall
Paul Nelson, Dexter	Charles & Zelma Stevens
Evelyn Sanborn Nelson, Dexter	Miss Vivienne Bray
Mrs. Louise Grover	Mr. Webber Davis, Guilford
Mrs. Odessa Johnson Benton	Mrs. Rose Nelson
Mrs. Manghild Olson Emanuelson	Mrs. Judy Brown Judkins
Mrs. Edith Haggstrom Olson, Dover-Foxcroft	Mr. Martin Leighton, E. Corinth Mr. Robert E. Lander
Mrs. Marie Elliot Page, Milo	Mrs. Thyra Peterson
Mr. Tolford Durham	Wilson Wilkins, Poughkeepsie,
Mrs. Beatrix Jackson Bray, Sangerville	New York

To our advertisers we extend our special thanks in helping to defray the expense of publishing. The advertising section was solicited by Robert E. Lander.

REFERENCE

Our sources of material were obtained from personal contacts, newspaper clippings, personal diaries and the following:

ADDRESSES DELIVERED AT THE CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION, 1822-1922, Monson, Maine, Saturday August 19, 1922.

SEMI-CENTENNIAL COMMEMORATION, Main Address by Rev. Charles Davison.

PHARETRA, Monson Academy Yearbook, 1914, 1922, 1925, 1947.

HISTORY OF PISCATAQUIS COUNTY, From its Earliest Settlement to 1880, Loring.

Newspapers: THE BANGOR DAILY NEWS, THE PISCATAQUIS OBSERVER, GAZETTER OF MAINE - By George J. Varney, published in 1880.

MONSON MASSACHUSETTS, 1971 ANNUAL TOWN REPORT.

HISTORY OF THE HEBRON CHURCH, June, 1966, Hebron, Maine.

SPRAGUE'S JOURNALS.

MAPS DRAWN AND PUBLISHED BY GEORGE E. NORRIS, Brockton, Massachusetts, 1889 (List of Mountains).

OLD PHOTOS, F. H. Sherburne - Leon Wilkins and Perley Lambert, photographers.

PRESENT PHOTOS AND REPRODUCTIONS, Kendrick Benton.

COVER AERIAL PHOTO, Terris Moore, 1971.

OLD PHOTOS, Loaned by D.A.R. Tisbury Manor Chapter.

MAP PHOTOS, Photographed by K. Benton from the Map of Piscataquis County from surveys under the direction of H. F. Walling, 1858. Field notes under the direction of L. H. Eaton, Esq., Civil Engineer, Bangor, Maine. Published by Lee and Marsh, 90 Fulton St., New York. In 1858, Population of Monson was 654.

ATLAS OF PISCATAQUIS COUNTY, MAINE, Geo. N. Colby & Co., 1882.

THE MAINE TWO-FOOTERS, by Linwood W. Moody, Howell-North, Berkeley, California, 1959.

All data, names and dates were secured from as many sources as time permitted, therefore, we ask our readers to please forgive any omissions and inaccuracies that may be found throughout the text.

CIVIL WAR 1861—1865

Elias T. Andrews	John Dow
John H. Andrews	Thomas P. Elliott
†Thomas Arnold	*Ezekiel Elliott
Timothy C. Atkinson	Freeman Ellis
George H. Bennett	Stephen Fletcher
Chandler Bickford	Levi C. Flint
James C. Bishop	Thomas W. Flint
†Daniel C. Brasier	Henry M. Folsom
Cyrus Bray	G. W. Frost
George H. Bray	Charles D. Furbush
*William H. Buck	Amasa S. Garland
William Buck, Jr.	†Charles A. Gates
John B. Butler	†Frank Gates
†Albert W. Chapin	Daniel R. Gerrish
John A. Chick	Isaac N. Glidden
Fred C. Coan	Abram Goding
Alonzo J. Cook	Albert Goodwin
Solomon S. Cole	Dexter Goodwin
Charles E. Colomy	Gorge Goodwin
†Moses G. Colomy	Merritt Goodwin
Benjamin Cowan	Samuel S. Goodwin
Daniel Cunningham	Stinson Goodwin
David S. Curtis	George H. Graffam
Eugene W. Curtis	†Herman Green
†Morrill G. Curtis	Joseph Green
†Rufus G. Curtis, Jr.	Thaddeus Green
A. Judson Cushman	John S. Haines
*George H. Cushman	†Marcell W. Hall
Jeremiah Daine	Daniel S. Harrington
Alden B. Davis	Isaiah Heal
†George A. Davis	Gustavus B. Hесcock
Eben P. Davis	Henry A. Higgins
Harrison Davis	Jeremiah Hill
Nathaniel S. Davis	Charles J. House
Richard Davis	Lloyd Howard
William H. Davis	Henry A. Hussey
Samuel C. Davis	William M. Hutchins
Charles E. Dearborn	*Flavel Jackson
George F. Dearborn	George F. Jackson
George Doughty	Albert F. Jackson
Stephen F. Douglass	†Bradish B. Jackson

John H. Jackson	Seth W. Roberts
Joseph T. Jackson	†William L. Sampson
Robert G. Jones	Edward P. Scales
William G. Jones	†William T. Sibley
Thomas W. Knight	Adelbert A. Simonds
Winfield Scott Knight	Eleazar H. Smith
Horatio G. Knowles	J. Calvin Stanchfield
Joseph Lambert, Jr.	Edwin C. Stanchfield
John Lemont	Brown B. Steward
William Lane	*John M. Steward
J. C. Larabee	Mark P. Steward
Sewell Leeman	Moses Steward
Charles H. Lord	Seth W. Steward
William MacDermott	†Sylvanus B. Steward
John MacDermott	William P. Steward
Sylvanus B. Macomber	Leonard Stone
Isaac J. Marble	Warren Sturtevant, Jr.
Cyrus McKinney	Samuel A. Swanton
Granville McKinney	Nathaniel Swett
Daniel McKinney	Bonaparte H. Swift
John H. MacKinney	George W. Tebbetts
W. D. McKinney	John Tebbetts, Jr.
Robert L. Merrill	†Robert T. Thomas
Caleb Moody	Adoniram Towne
Alvin F. Morrill	†Thomas A. Trask
Charles W. Morrill	John C. Tripp
*Almon C. Morton	Eli Veancho
Alonzo S. Norris	Charles A. Wentworth
Melvander Packard	Charles F. Whitcomb
Simeon D. Packard	Ira Pitman Wing
Sumner A. Patten	Samuel A. Wing
S. P. Pendleton	Dennis H. Witham
Orin Piper	William Watt
Thomas Poole	Moses P. Wedgewood
Simon D. Ranlett	

* Killed in battle or died from effects of wounds received in battle.

† Wounded in service.

VETERANS OF THE SPANISH WAR — 1898

Charles J. Johnson Perry F. Thombs Joseph William Russell

VETERANS OF WORLD WAR I (1914—1918)

Staka Atanasoff	Alfred Jacobson
George Bigger †	Arvid Johnson §
Rutherford Benton	Lawrence Johnson
Robert Bigger	Oscar Johnson
Ira Bishop	Urban Jones
Amos Bodge	Byron Kellgren †
Alex Carlson	Harry Kimball
Ernest Coffin	Frank Korn
Harry Coffin	Edwin Knowles §
Kenneth Davis	Oscar B. Kronholm §
Ernest Degestrom	John Emil Larson
Albert Degestrom	Frank A. Larson
Charles T. Douglass	Hillary Le Clair †
Eric L. Erickson	Elmer Lindie
Rudolph Erickson	William Lindie, Jr.
Franklin T. Flint †	William O. Mackie
Levi Flint	Emil Mackie
Leon Frost §	Frank McIver
Raymond Hammond	Thomas Mountain
Kandrat Hann	August L. Nelson
Byron Harmon	Paul Nelson †
Milton Hescok	Elam Olson
Eric Holmquist	Fabian Olson
Howell Hughes	August Peterson
Norman Hussex	Harry W. Sampson
Albert Isackson	Lawrence Sanborn
Oscar Isackson	Elwyn F. Smith
Ivan Isackson	Oral A. Towne *
Dearborn Jackson	Frank Wentworth
Howard Jackson	William Wickman
Herbert Johnson	

* Killed in action

† Wounded in service

‡ Died from sickness

WORLD WAR II VETERANS

(Dec. 8, 1941 — May 7, 1945 (V.E. Day)
 (Dec. 11, 1941 — Sept. 2, 1945 (V. J. Day)

Kenneth Ackerson	Harry L. Drew
Francis Ackerson	Leon Duval
Olavi F. Anderson	Reginald S. Duval
Raymond Anderson	Millard Emanuelson
Toivio Anderson	Merle Finley
Verner Anderson	Harold French
Walter Anderson	Robert L. Greenleaf
George Bessey	Gordon Hall
Clarence Bjork	Wilbur Hammond
Oscar Bjork	Milton Hescock
Raymond Bjork	Lawrence Holmbom *
Grayson Bishop	Theodore Holmbom
Stanley Brasier	William Holmbom
Walter Brasier	Henry Homer
Bryant M. Brown	Raymond Hughes
Clayton W. Brown	Adolph Johnson
George W. Brown	Arthur Johnson
Gilbert M. Brown	Francis Jones
Robert C. Brown	Ivan C. Jones
Robert B. Brown	Thaxter Jones
Henry Carlson	Clayton Jackson
Norris A. Casey	Clifton Jackson
Ray J. Casey	Byron Johnson
M. Christensen	Ruth Johnson
Carlton D. Cook	Lloyd Kelley
Ernest Copeland	Harland Kirk
Clyde Crockett	Philip Knight
James Crockett	Aubrey Kronholm
Carl Dauphinee	Colby Kronholm
L. Dauphinee	Ellery Kronholm
William Dauphinee	Orman Kronholm
Betty L. Davis	Elmer Kuusela
Donald J. Davis	Anton Larson
Dustin Donahue	Frank Larson
Guy F. Dore	Robert Larson
Roy Danielson	Sherwood Larson
Charles S. Douglass	Vanner T. Larson
Chester R. Drew	Robert Landry *
Donovan D. Drew	Reginald Leighton
Frederick T. M. Drew	William Lindahl

Harry Lindie	Willard Sandberg
Robert Lloyd	Max Sidelinger
Roy Lloyd	Eli Simard
Lawrence Lovejoy	Frederick Simmons
Haven Lambert	Kenneth Simmons
Donald MacPherson	Philip Soderquist
Esko Mutanen	Gerald Stanchfield
Viola Mackie	Omar Stanchfield
Robert Nason	Sheldon Stanchfield
Arthur P. Nelson	Stillman Stevens
Dana Nelson	Charles W. Stevens
Edwin Nelson	Kenneth Simpson
Frank W. Nelson	Philip Stinchfield
George Nelson ‡	Uuno Suomi
Mary T. Nelson	Edwin E. Suomi
Lester A. Olson	William Suomi
Russell A. Olson	Philip B. Thomas
Maurice Palm	Eino Tuomi
Eino Partinen	George Ulman
Neil Patterson	Oscar Ulman
Oswald Poole	Onni Vainio
Philip Pratt	Svandi Vainio
Henry Pulkinen	Voitto Vainio
Herbert Pulkinen	Nelda Weeks
Winston Pullen	Roger Wentworth
J. Record Pullen	Lawrence Wilkins
Jorma Ranta	Edwin Wuori
Fidele Richards	Tyyne Wuori
John Richards	Robert Zimmerman
Myron Robinson	Myron Zimmerman
Norman Robinson	

* Killed in action

‡ Died in service

OTHER MONSON REGISTERED SERVICEMEN

Since World War II (1945—1972)

Korean (1950-1955) and Vietnam Veterans and Servicemen
Included (1965-1972)

(Any Omissions and Errors Purely Unintentional)

Anderson, Milton Leroy	Holmbom, David Andrew
Akerson, Sherman Dean	Hussey, Winston Carol
Barrows, Robert Elliot	Hansen, Harlan
Berg, Elmer, Jr.	Hansen, Herman
Bickford, Merle Eugene	Holmbom Paul Lewis
Bjork, John Andrew	Harris, Ronald Cook
Bjork, William Martin	Jacobson, Barry Edwin
Blethen, Philip †	Jacobson, Ronald C.
Brown, Dale Holmes	Jackson, Marvin Eldridge
Brown, Colby Meredith	Johnson, Roger Laurence
Brown, Charles Edward	Johnson, Peter Kendall
Burke, Ronald Ray	Jacobson, Andrew Everett
Bohan, Paul Gregory	Jones, Thaxter Burton, Jr.
Brown, Clowes Lee	Kelley, Edward Varney
Brown, David Morgridge	Kirk, Mahlon Randall
Butterfield, Hilbert Allen	Korsman, Arvo Victor
Crockett, Eron Dana	Kelley, Glen Melvin
Carlow, Florian Vincent	Kronholm, Orman F.
Copeland, Ernest Edwin	Kelley, Lloyd Richard
Douglass, Clifford Charles	Leavitt, Cyril Miles
Drugge, Donald Edward	Lindie, Harry E.
Drugge, Gerald Victor	Lindie, William A.
Durham, James Brook	Lindie, Alan Elmer
Dickison, Douglas	Lord, Brendon Richard
Dickison, Walter Andrew	Lindie, Harry Elmer, Jr.
Douglass, Stephen Alan	Lindie, Robert Allen
Erickson, Paul Andrew	MacDuffee, Robert Colton
Erickson, Laurance Malcolm	(M.D.)
Finley, Richard Warren	Marshall, Charles Andrew
Falconer, George Paul	Marshall, Robert Francis
Flint, Harold Charles	Mackie, Richard Wellington
Flint, Herbert Franklin	McAfee, John David
Flint, Philip Davis	McDonald, Harold Aalto
Greenleaf, James Leslie	Marshall, Richard Allan
Greenleaf, James Archie	Nadeau, Gerald James
Greenleaf, Jeffrey Charles	Nasberg, Arthur Ernest
Grant, Timothy Paul †	Nelson, Robert Sherwood
Holmbom, Garold Leonard	Nelson, Edwin
Hitchborn, George	

Nasberg, Donald Albion	Stanchfield, Lamont Carlton
Nelson, Frank W.	Storer, Henry Judson
Nelson, Hollis Frank	Storer, Berwin Walter
Nelson, David Warren	Sidelinger, Wayne Elwin
Niesar, Lucinda Forbus	Smith, Leo Clayton †
Pullen, Stanwood Record, Jr.	Sandberg, Reginald Irwin
Pullen, Peter Winfred	Spack, Steven Robert
Ponkala, Carl Richard	Spack, Zigmund Walter
Ponkala, John Philip	Storer, Alan Basil
Patterson, Linwood G.	Stanchfield, Carlton Hill
Patterson, Michael Ray	Stone, Wilbur Leroy, Jr.
Patterson, Warren	Sears, Gary Joseph
Roberts, Raymond Carl	Simmons, Kenneth
Richards, Fidele	Suomi, Paul Oscar
Roberts, William Coburn	Taylor, Daniel Leslie Wyman
Robinson, Robert Frank	Ulman, Oscar Carroll
Robinson, Blaine Champion	Vainio, Eric Mathew
Robinson, William Walter	Weeks, Nelda
Ranta, Evelyn	Weymouth, Peter Galen
Reed, Gordon Allen	Weymouth, Robert Douglass
Ranta, William Johnson	Wheaton, Bliss Allan
Raymond, Peter Hollis	Waymouth, Harry Preston
Simpson, Edward Eugene	Williams, Neal Andrew

* Killed in action

† Died in service

In conclusion, equal homage is attributed also to the servicemen who now reside in Monson but are registered servicemen elsewhere, many of whom are on honor rolls or honored lists in their respective registered communities.

"Servicemen should be remembered with gratitude and affection and their devotion to the cause of liberty should be sacredly cherished by us and by those who shall come after us, as worthy of imitation." (Note: Quote made by Rev. Charles Davison, in his Semi-Centennial Commemorative Address, 1872.)

PATRONS AND PATRONESSES

Judge and Mrs. Millard Emanuelson	Portland, Maine
Mrs. Sara Worster	Portland, Maine
Mrs. Blodwen Ward	Monson, Maine
Mr. and Mrs. Aubrey Kronholm	Monson, Maine
Mr. and Mrs. Robert Sawyer, Sr.	Monson, Maine
Mrs. Edmond Richards	Monson, Maine
Mr. Thomas Sawyer	Lakeworth, Florida
Wesley H. Olson, Sr.	Melrose, Massachusetts
Mr. and Mrs. Into Suomi	Augusta, Maine
Mr. and Mrs. Larry Hoyt	Monson, Maine
Mrs. Edith Carlson	Portland, Maine
Mr. and Mrs. George Hupper	S. Portland, Maine
Miss Irene Carlson	Portland, Maine
Mrs. Joyce Marsano	Portland, Maine
Mrs. Manghild Emanuelson	Monson, Maine
Mr. and Mrs. Melvin Olson	Melrose, Massachusetts
Mrs. Esther Pennington	Monson, Maine
Forrest & Eloise S. Stevens	Monson, Maine
Mrs. Manford Knowles	Monson, Maine

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"COMPLIMENTS OF A FRIEND"

HISTORY OF MONSON, MAINE

201

G. C. HOWARD, M. D.

Guilford, Maine



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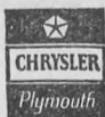
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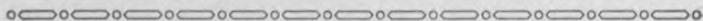
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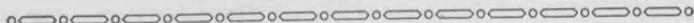
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