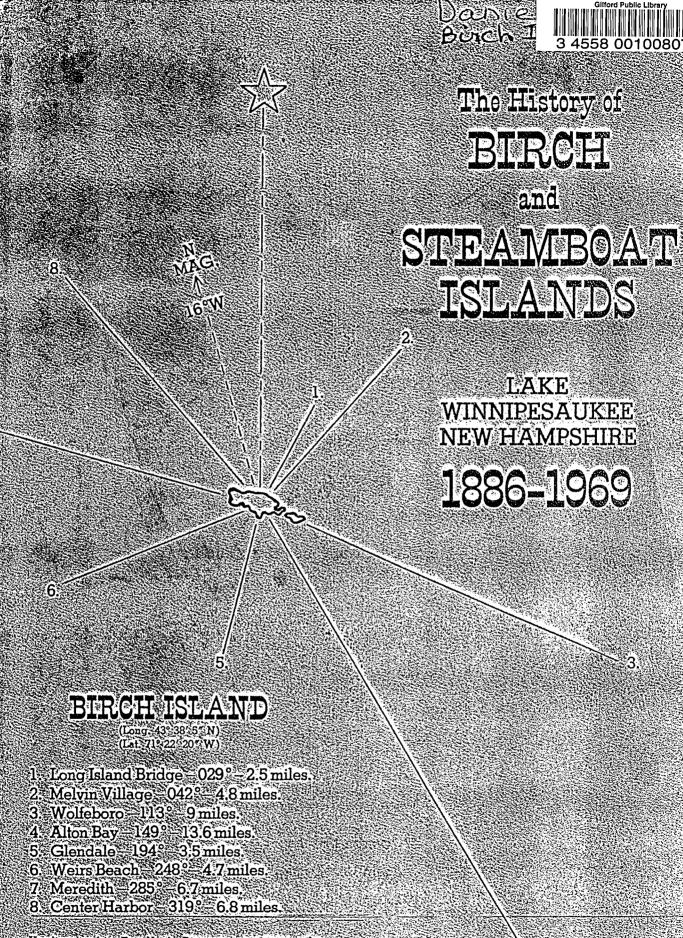
BIRCH & STEAMBOAT ISLANDS

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Gilford Public Library

# THE HISTORY of BIRCH and STEAMBOAT ISLANDS

# LAKE WINNIPESAUKEE

NEW HAMPSHIRE

1886 - 1969

Part One: 1886 - 1936

Rev. Emery L. Bradford

Part Two: 1936 - 1969

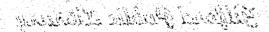
Dr. Clarence Prouty Shedd

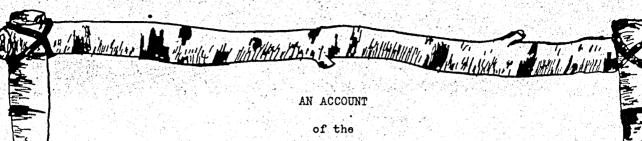
Pg. 9

Compiled by

John H.-Lyman

February 12, 1970





ORGANIZATION and DEVELOPMENT

of the

BIRCH ISLAND CAMP COMPANY

LAKE WINNEPESAUKEE

NEW HAMPSHIRE

1936

\*\*\*\*\*\*

I have compiled this account from many sources and from many individuals. It would never have been completed but for the untiring help and interest of Mr. William I. Ward. His firsthand knowledge of all the original facts and his keen and accurate memory have been patiently and with painstaking devotion placed at the service of the effort to gather the material and put it into shape before it was too late. Mr. Ward is the last surviving member of the group that started the enterprise.

.... Emery L. Bradford

Birch Island July 1, 1936

O Christ! it is a goodly sight to see what Reaven hath done for this delicious land.

Childe Harold's Pilgrimage Lord Byron



# SUNSET ACROSS THE BROADS

## WINNEPESAUKEE

Have you seen the "Smile of God,"
girt about by mountain shores
With its Islands, Hills, and Silence;
and eternal out-of-doors,
Where the verdant round of forest
meets the coming of the day,
Where the fleecy clouds of Summer
on the sky-line melt away,
and there's not an ounce of trouble
ANYWHERE?

Where the loon-cry in the morning
will be sounding at the door
With the whisper of the west wind,
and the swish along the shore:
Where the mighty voice of thunder
rumbles down the valley dim,
And the beauty of the sunset
leads our tranquil thoughts to Him.
Where the stars are shining brightly ME FOR THERE!

# HISTORY AND DEVELOPMENT OF BIRCH ISLAND

Between the years 1880 and 1885 a group of Methodist ministers from southern New England were accustomed to go, during successive summers, on vacation trips to Lake Winnepesaukee in the State of New Hampshire, making temporary camps at various convenient points.

In the year 1886, two of them - Walter J. Yates and George H. Bates - purchased from Mrs. Charles F. Brown of Lakeport, New Hampshire, the small island known as "Belknap" Island, each of them acquiring an undivided half ownership. The record of the deed at the County Registry is:

Ellen R. Brown

to

Martha B. Yates and George H. Bates "Steamboat" Island. Dated September 2, 1886.

(This island has been variously called - sometimes "STEAMBOAT" - sometimes "BELKNAP." The reason seems to be: In 1848 the first steamboat on the Lake, called "Belknap", was run ashore and wrecked and went to pieces off the northeast end of this island. On a calm day her timbers may still be seen half buried on the bottom of the Lake. Since then the island seems to have been called as individual fancy directs - "Steamboat" or "Belknap." The present owner, Mr. W. E. Tucker, has adopted the name "Steamboat" and that will probably henceforth be the official name thereof.)

For several years thereafter, Mr. Bates and his family lived during vacation days in tents on the northern half of this island, while the Yates family built and occupied a wooden lodge on the southern shore. In the Spring of 1893 Mr. Bates, having purchased another small island (for some time known as "Little Three Mile", but afterward called "Hawkes Nest"), sold his share of Steamboat Island to Mr. Yates.

The record at the Belknap County Registry at Laconia is:

George H. Bates
to
Walter J. Yates
Undivided half of Steamboat Island
Dated September 7, 1893

About this time, or possibly a little earlier, Mr. Yates, wishing to protect himself against the possibility of undesirable neighbors on Birch Island, which was near by and for sale, obtained from the owner, Mrs. Charles F. Brown, to whom reference has been made, an option on Birch Island which was to hold for a certain specified period of time. The purchase price, in case Mr. Yates should take up the option, was to be \$1,200.

In the early part of this year, 1893, Rev. William I. Ward, then Pastor of the Methodist Church in Niantic, Connecticut, having heard attractive descriptions of the Lake region and knowing something of Mr. Yates' experience there, made some careful inquiries of him concerning the Lake and the conditions of camp life. Out of this investigation, there slowly grew a plan to bring together a sufficient number of congenial families who would acquire Birch Island and establish there a colony of summer homes.

By mid-summer of the year 1893 the following persons:

Walter J. Yates and his wife, Martha B. Yates, of New London, Connecticut Winslow W. Avery and his wife, Mary A. Avery, of Plymouth, Massachusetts — William I. Ward and his wife, Emma L. Ward, of Niantic, Connecticut Edward Luce and his wife, Susan K. Luce, of Niantic, Connecticut Mary J. Rogers of New London, Connecticut

had organized themselves into a Company bearing the name, BIRCH ISLAND CAMP COMPANY, and

became incorporated under the laws of the State of Connecticut. The Secretary of the State thus writes under date of May 13, 1936:

"The Birch Island Camp Company is a corporation without capital stock and its Articles of Association were approved by this office August 12, 1893. The subscribers were:

Pres. Walter J. Yates
Secy. William D. Ward\*
\*(Evidently this should be William I. Ward.)

This Corporation ordered the purchase of Birch Island at the price agreed upon in the option held by Mr. Yates. A committee consisting of Captain Luce, Mr. Ward, and Mr. Yates, were appointed to visit the island, make a careful and exhaustive examination of the property, and if everything was found satisfactory they were authorized to complete the deal with Mrs. Brown.

This committee, having performed its appointed duties and being entirely satisfied as to the value of the property, and convinced of the desirability of establishing a colony of summer homes on Birch Island, completed the deal with Mrs. Brown as they were authorized to do. The record of the deed at the County Registry in Laconia is:

Ellen R. Brown
to
Birch Island Camp Company
Birch Island. Dated August 3, 1893

Mr. and Mrs. Yates, who already owned Steamboat Island, agreed that this island should become an integral part of the Company property and should share in all the privileges, responsibilities and obligations of the Company.

As soon as necessary arrangements could be made, Birch Island was surveyed, May 3, 1894, by Charles H. Sleeper of Gilford, and the lots laid out and marked with proper bound stones as directed by the Company.

There were to be twelve building lots, each to contain approximately one acre and to have ample shore frontage. These lots were to be so arranged that the narrow, curving peninsula at the east end of the island, which nearly incloses the water known as the "Lagoon" should remain in possession of the Company as "Common Land", as should also a strip of land extending westerly from the shore of the Lagoon through the center of the island until it should meet the easterly boundary of the two lots at the western end of the Island, thus establishing a "neutral corridor" belonging to the Company, and making it possible for the owners or occupants of the several lots, to pass without trespassing to any other lot, or to the Lagoon and bathing beach on the southern shore. The winter fishing camp, often spoken of as "The Old Camp", which had been built a number of years previously by other owners of the island, was also reserved as been built a number of years previously by other owners of the island, was also reserved as Company property together with the land immediately around it, with a strip extending northerly from the water and the "big ledge" on the south side of the island to the "neutral corridor" running through the center of the island. The purpose of this was to afford free access from each lot to the steamboat wharf which it was proposed to build at the site of the "big ledge" on the southern side of the island.

#### ALLOCATION OF LOTS

By the survey of the island by Mr. Sleeper in 1894, the island was divided into twelve lots as ordered by the Company. Each lot contained "about one acre" except the lot lying north and east from the "Old Camp", which contained one and one-half acres. The lots were priced at \$100 and so sold except the larger lot which was priced at \$150.

Each member purchased a lot:

Mr. and Mrs. Ward Mr. and Mrs. Avery

Capt. and Mrs. Luce

Mrs. Robers, who took the acre and one-half lot

Mr. and Mrs. Yates, already owning the two lots on Steamboat Island

This left five lots unsold on Birch Island.

I do not know the method of the original choice and distribution. This, however, is perfectly true. Each owner at the beginning, and each successive owner, has been absolutely sure that his lot was the best situated, with the most beautiful outlook, the purest air, the coolest breezes, the most genial sunshine, and from which was the shortest possible distance to Heaven. To establish this beyond argument or controversy, you have only to accept the individual owner's invitation to stand on his piazza and L O O K ! QUOD EST DEMONSTRANDUM.

The sale of these lots provided more than half the money needed for the purchase of the island. Enough money to complete the transaction was borrowed from Mrs. Luce, who gave the Company very easy terms for the loan. This loan was cancelled within a few years after the remaining lots were sold.

When the Company was organized, the disposition of the lots was as follows:

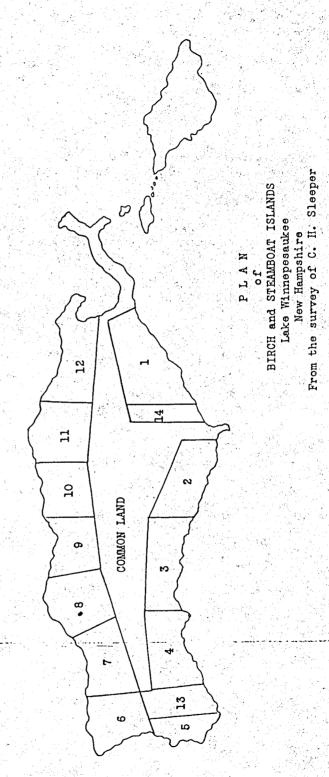
- Lot No. 1. Mrs. Rogers
  - 2. Captain Luce
  - 3. Held by the Company
  - 4. Held by the Company
  - 5. Captain Luce
  - 6. Mr. Ward
  - 7. Mrs. Ward
  - 8. Held by the Company
  - 9. Held by the Company
  - 10. Held by the Company
  - ll. Mr. Avery
  - 12. Mrs. Avery

Steamboat Island - Mr. Yates

The location of these lots can be seen by referring to the map.

# LOT OWNERS 1936

9. Mr. C. P. Shedd	10. Mr. E. R. Lyman	11. Mrs. Ruth B. Canterb	12. Mr. M. C. Avery	13. Mrs. J. R. D. Oldham	14. Dr. A. W. Tucker	15. Mr. W. E. Tucker	
o. 1. Mr. W. E. Tucker	2. Mrs. Virginia Walsh	3. Rev. K. R. Forbes	4. Mrs. W. F. Buck	5. Mr. J. R. D. Oldham	6. Rev. W. H. Tinker	7. Mr. J. E. Sherman	8. Mr. E. F. Mongan



# ORIGINAL ARTICLES OF ASSOCIATION AND INCORPORATION of the Birch Island Camp Company

The original Articles of Association and Incorporation under the laws of Connecticut were as follows:

#### BIRCH ISLAND CAMP COMPANY Articles of Association

- I. We, the undersigned, associate ourselves together under the name and style of Birch Island Camp Company, for the purpose of forming Camp and Cottage homes on Birch and Belknap Islands, so called, in Lake Winnepesaukee, New Hampshire.
- II. This Company shall be composed of the owners of buildings and camping sites on the above mentioned Birch and Belknap Islands. In the meetings of the Company the members shall be entitled to one vote for each lot owned by them individually.
- III. The officers of the Company shall be a President, a Secretary, a Treasurer, whom shall be elected annually and shall hold office for one year or until their successors are elected. The duties of these officers shall be such as usually appertain to such officers.
- IV. The annual meeting of the Company shall be held in New London, Connecticut, in the month of July at the call of the President. Other meetings shall be held at such times and places as circumstances may require, at the call of the President, or upon the request of any five members of the Company. All members shall be notified of the meetings by the Secretary. At any meeting the votes may be cast in person or by proxy.
- V. This Company shall purchase Birch Island, in Lake Winnepesaukee, New Hampshire. Of the land in this Island twelve (12) acres shall be platted into twelve (12) lots of one acre each for building or camping sites, each of which lots shall extend from the shore to the common land hereinafter described. These lots shall be conveyed in fee simple to the members of the Company. The remainder of the Island, consisting of eight (8) acres, more or less, with the house and barn now standing on the island shall always be held as the undivided common property of the Company.
- VI. In case any member of the Company wishes to sell his property he shall secure the approval of the Company to such sale, or shall offer the property to the Company at the market price of the same. In case of disagreement as to the market value the question shall be settled by three arbitrators, one to be chosen by the member and one by the Company and these two to choose the third.
- VII. Each member shall be at liberty to make such improvement on his own lot as he may choose, provided there shall be no felling of timber and general clearing of land as shall destroy its use and beauty as a place of residence and pleasure resort, or detract from the value of other lots for the same purpose; it being agreed that these lots are for the specific purpose of forming a Camp and Cottage Colony for the families of the owners, and not for commercial, speculative or other purposes, but the common property of the Company shall be under the sole charge and oversight, for improvement, of an agent elected by the Company.
- VIII. No intoxicating liquors shall ever be manufactured, landed or sold on these Islands for use as a beverage.
  - IX. An annual assessment, not to exceed \$5 per lot, may be levied upon each member for the payment of taxes and common expenses and improvements of the property of the Company. All other assessments and expenditures shall be by unanimous consent of the members of the Company.

- X. The Secretary shall keep a book in which shall be preserved a plat of the property, together with a record of the ownership of private lots and all transfer of the same
- XI. The Company shall adopt By-laws for its government.
- XII. Amendments and alterations to these Articles may be made at any meeting of the Company by a two-thirds vote, previous notice of proposed changes having been given to each member.

Because of a change of residence and a more widely distributed ownership of lots it became increasingly difficult as the years went by to get a quorum of owners together for the annual meeting of the Company in the State of Connecticut.

Accordingly, the Company was reorganized and incorporated under the laws of the State of New Hampshire so that the annual meeting might be held on Birch Island on some date when a majority of the owners were present.

The Articles of agreement and re-incorporation under the laws of New Hampshire were as follows:

# ARTICLES OF AGREEMENT FOR A VOLUNTARY CORPORATION

We, the undersigned, persons of lawful age, do hereby associate ourselves together for the purpose of forming a Corporation, under the provisions of Chapter 147, of the Public Statutes of the State of New Hampshire, by the following articles of agreement.

- ARTICLE I. The name of this Corporation shall be the Birch Island Camp Company of New Hampshire.
- ARTICLE II. The object for which the Corporation is established is to maintain summer homes on Birch and Belknap Islands, situated in Lake Winnepesaukee, in the town of Gilford, in the County of Belknap and State of New Hampshire, and to promote the general common interests of owners of lots of land on said islands; to purchase, hold and convey such real estate, and personal estate as may be necessary for the business of the corporation, and to do and perform such other business as may from time to time be necessary, conveniently connected therewith.
- ARTICLE\_III. The place in which the business of the Corporation shall be carried on shall be in the town of Gilford in the County of Belknap and State of New Hampshire.
- ARTICLE IV. The first meeting of the corporation shall be held at the house of William I. Ward, on Birch Island, in the town of Gilford, County of Belkmap and State of New Hampshire on the 29th day of August, A.D., 1910, at 2:30 o'clock in the afternoon.

Dated at Gilford, New Hampshire, this seventeenth day of August, A.D. 1910.

#### NAMES

Walter J. Gates
Robert F. Raymond
William I. Ward
Payson W. Lyman
Emery C. Bradford
Elmer E. Sherman
Mary A. Avery

#### RESIDENCE

Atlanta, Georgia
Newton, Mass.
Providence, R. I.
Fall River, Mass.
East Weymouth, Mass.
118 Highland St., Roxbury, Mass.
Plymouth, Mass.

State of New Hampshire, Office of Secretary of State. Concord, August 24. 1910.

A true record:

Edward N. Rearson Secretary of State.

(The above is a copy of the photo-record sent me by the office of the Secretary of State, June 18, 1936. Evidently two names are wrong - should be Walter J. Yates, Emery L. Bradford.)

(It will be noticed that these articles of agreement are quite different from the original under which the company was formed.)

At the first meeting of the new company, the following by-laws were adopted:

BY-LAWS OF THE BIRCH ISLAND CAMP COMPANY OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

Officers and Their Duties. ARTICLE I.

The Officers of the Company shall be:

A President Clerk Treasurer Agent

Board of Seven Directors

These Officers shall be elected at the Annual Meeting of the Corporation and shall hold office for one year and until their successors are elected and qualified. The duties of these officers shall be as usually appertain to such officers.

The Board of Directors shall also constitute an Executive Committee and shall have charge of maintaining good order and sanitary conditions on the Island and in all the camps and make and issue all necessary rules and regulations to enforce the same.

The Clerk shall keep a plat of the Islands showing the boundaries of the Corporation, and property-of-all-the-private-lots, and a record-of the ownership of the lots, and all transfers of the same.

Membership.

A person shall become a member of this Company as soon as he shall sign the Bylaws and produce to the Clerk a deed or other satisfactory evidence of his ownership of a lot on Birch or Belknap Island.

ARTICLE III. Meetings.

The Annual Meeting shall be held on Birch Island in Lake Winnepesaukee, in the town of Gilford, New Hampshire, on the first Thursday of August in each year.

Special meetings may be called at any time and place by the President, or on the request of any five members of the Corporation.

A quorum shall consist of at least five members personally present. At all meetings absent members may be represented by proxy.

Notice of all meetings shall be given by the Clerk and not less than seven days notice shall be given of all meetings.

ARTICLE IV. Lots and Their Improvement.

Each member shall be at liberty to make such improvements on his own lot as he may choose, provided there shall be no such felling of trees or general clearing of land as shall do away with the character as forest land, or destroy its usefulness and natural beauty as a place of residence and pleasure resort, or detract from the pleasure of other lots for the same purpose. It being agreed that these lots are acquired and held for the specific purpose of maintaining summer homes for the families of the owners, and not for commercial, speculative, or other business purposes.

The number of lots shall not be increased beyond fourteen on Birch Island, and two on Belknap Island, and no more than one residence or camp shall be built on each lot.

#### ARTICLE V. Assessments.

An annual assessment not to exceed \$5.00 per lot may be levied upon the members of this Corporation for the payment of taxes upon Corporation common land and of ordinary expenses in improvements of the Corporation.

At the Annual Meeting, August 4, 1923, this Article was regularly amended by striking out the words "NOT TO EXCEED \$5.00 PER LOT."

#### ARTICLE VI. Amendments

Amendments and alterations in these By-laws may be made at any meeting of the Corporation by a two-thirds vote, notice of the proposed amendment for alteration having been given in writing to each member in the call for the meeting.

In the Records of the Annual Meeting held August 3, 1911, there is this item:

The President then made a statement covering the action of the Birch Island Camp Company of Connecticut transferring its property, rights, privileges, resources and liabilities to the Birch Island Camp Company of New Hampshire. Which was ordered placed on file with the papers of the Company.

The President also handed over the original deed of the Island, recorded in Belknap County Records, Book 90, page 156.

Also the Articles, A Quit-claim Deed, executed by him in accordance with the vote of the Birch Island Camp Company of Connecticut, transferring said Island to the Birch Island Camp Company of New Hampshire, recorded in Belknap County Records, Vol. 131, page 492.

It was voted that these papers be declared satisfactory and that they be kept on file with the papers of the Company at the Clerk's office.

#### BUILDING OF THE CAMPS

The Island was originally laid out with twelve lots. Two have since been added. Lot No. 5, first owned by Captain Luce, was divided on account of the controversy over the Everett Camp's having been built thereon. Then, that part of the "Common Land" at the head of the main dock (on which there was a small building called the "Old Camp", at the time the Island was bought) | 8 was set off as a small individual lot (somewhere about 1906) and sold to Captain Luce. There are at this time, 1936, fourteen camps on Birch Island and one on Steamboat Island.

As near as can be determined, the following is a brief account of the date and order of the erection and ownership of the various camps:

- 1. THE OLD CAMP (Lot No. 14) See P9.

  On the island at time of purchase, there was a small building. Owned by the Company. Somewhat improved and rented by the Company to various persons. After Captain Luce bought it he further improved it and rented it for several years to Mr. Scoby of Montclair, New Jersey. Mr. Scoby later established his summer home on Moultonborough Neck in the section known as "The Gold Coast." In 1920, Dr. A. W. Tucker of Lynn, Massachusetts, bought this lot, greatly improved the building and furnished it with "modern equipment." This was the first camp with private electric lighting and power outfit.
- 2. THE WARD CAMP (Lot No. 6)

  This was the first new camp built on the island built in 1894 which Mr. Ward named "Camp Passaconaway." The camp has twice been enlarged by additions. Mr. Ward continued to own it until he became the last of the original incorporators remaining in membership of the Company. In 1928, he sold the camp to Mr. W. H. Tinker of Montclair, New Jersey.

Mr. Ward thus narrates the arrival of himself and family when they came for their first camping summer:

"Having built the original small cottage, which I called Camp Passaconaway, early in the season of 1894, I brought my family for a three weeks' stay in the camp early in August. The last stage of the journey was memorable. When we left Jolly Island wharg our row boat was well filled. In it were Mrs. Ward, her sister, Mrs. Austin, two children, (one a baby of four months and the other just two years older) a good sized trunk, various hand bags, and a lot of housekeeping utensils and provisions. Of course, I was there too, for I was the carsman.

"All went well until we passed the camp now owned and occupied by Mr. A. L. Holmes. Then we met a strong northwest wind, against which I pulled HARD, until we were off the west end of our island. At that time, there was no dock, even for small boats, on Birch Island. It was more than a year later that I built the first one - a small landing at the rocky shore in front of my camp and the forerunner of a more substantial one which was constructed a little later. The best landing place in the year mentioned, was at the small sandy beach beside the "big ledge" in front of the Old Camp, but to carry little children and a big trunk over a rough and narrow footpath which ran through the thick underbrush to Camp Passaconaway was too much of a task. That path had been made by the carpenters who built my cottage, walking to and from the Old Camp in which they had lived while doing the work. To guard against losing their way they had marked it by nailing shingles on trees by the way. We could not land on the rocks in front of our own place because of the driving wind and the pounding waves. The best that could be done was to run the bow of the boat up on the pebbly beach near where Camp Moosilauke was built the next year. Of course, the waves drove straight over the stern of the boat and began to spill over it at once. Only a hurried scramble got us ashore without serious wetting.

"Then we picked our way, not too easily, through the trees and bushes and over the rocks, carrying the children in our arms, and returning to get the trunk by the "end-over-end" process and to lug the bags and supplies to the three-room house which was waiting for us. It was quite hidden among the trees. One passing in a boat needed to look sharply to discern it, and we could not see much of the water from the front door until the underbrush had been cut away

and the lower branches of the trees had been removed. We surely had to "rough it" that first summer, but it was a good beginning of many happy days spent at a lovely summer home."

- 3. THE ROGERS CAMP (Lot No. 1)

  A little later in the summer of 1894 Mrs. Rogers built a camp on her lot which she owned until 1923 when she sold it to Mr. William E. Tucker of New York.
- 4. THE FIRST LUCE CAMP (Lot No. 5).

  In the Spring of 1895 Mrs. Luce built a camp on her lot at the southwest end of the island, naming it "Camp Moosilauke." This camp was located quite near the little pebbly beach which is bisected by the boundary line between this lot of Mrs. Luce and the lot owned by Mr. Ward on which Camp Passaconaway was built. Mrs. Luce continued to own this camp until 1912 when she sold it to Mrs. J. R. D. Oldham of East Providence, Rhode Island.
- 5. THE FIRST EVERETT CAMP (Lot No. 5, afterwards divided and numbered 13)

  The next year, 1896, saw another cottage erected on Mrs. Luce's lot. This was in conflict with an agreement among the members of the Company that only one cottage should be built on each lot. This disregard of the verbal agreement came about in this way:

The lot on the south side of the island adjoining this lot of Mrs. Luce had been purchased by Rev. Thomas J. Everett, then of New Bedford, Massachusetts. While considering the location of their camp on this lot, Mrs. Everett, who realized at once the very-much-to-be-desired corner of the Luce lot which joined her own land and from which a sandy point extended into the water from which Mount Washington could be seen, expressed to Mrs. Luce that her camp might be built on this spot. Out of the casual conversation which ensued came the permission from Mrs. Luce, who was one of the most generous and kindly persons, to allow the Everett camp to be built on this attractive spot. And it was agreed that the boundary line between the two lots be changed, giving the Everett lot a small part of the Luce lot. The first Everett camp was built in accordance with this friendly agreement. This arrangement proved to be very much opposed by some members of the Company and was the occasion of considerable bickering. Truly St. James was right - "Behold, how great a matter a little fire kindleth."

The Everetts, possessing a quiet and magnanimous spirit, soon sold this first camp of theirs to Captain Luce. Some time afterward, however, this Luce lot was divided by the consent of all concerned, new bounds were established, and the southern part, including the camp built by the Everetts, was sold to Mrs. Charles E. Hancock of Providence, Rhode Island. By her the camp was named "Ardenwold."

Some years later, when the Hancock family had established a new summer home on Moulton-borough Neck, Mrs. Hancock sold this Birch Island camp to Mr. J. R. D. Oldham. By him the camp was re-named "Camp Pasquaney" meaning "The Place of the Birch Bark." The original Luce lot thus became once more in the possession of one family.

- 6. THE AVERY CAMP (Lot No. 12)

  In the summer of 1896 Mrs. Avery, who had built a small camp the previous year, put up the permanent camp which she named, "Rock Pine Lodge." This is the lot No. 1 on the north side of the island nearest the lagoon. After the decease of Mrs. Avery the property came into the possession of her son, Marcellus C. Avery of Long Island City, New York.
- 7. THE FORD CAMP (Lot No. 8)

  In 1897 Mr. Myron P. Ford of East Weymouth, Massachusetts, became a member of the Company by buying a lot on the north side of the island. This is the second lot east of the Ward lot on which Passaconaway was built. Mr. Ford built his camp the same summer which he called "Camp Wessagusset." After the title to this camp had changed hands several times within the Ford family, it was finally sold to Mr. W. L. Rice of Providence, Rhode Island. Mr. Rice

remodelled and greatly enlarged the camp. After the death of Mr. Rice, the camp was sold to Mr. E. F. Morgan of Providence, Rhode Island, Mr. Morgan has renamed the camp "Narragansett."

- 8. THE SPEAR CAMP (Lot No. 3)
  In September, 1896, Rev. Francis H. Spear, then living in Attawaugan, Connecticut, bought the lot on the south side of the island next to the Everett lot. As near as can be established, he built a camp on this lot in the year 1899, calling it "The Hemlocks." Some years later Mr. Spear sold this camp to Judge Robert F. Raymond of Newton Centre, Massachusetts. In 1922, this camp was bought by Rev. K. R. Forbes, then living in Roxbury, Massachusetts.
- 9. THE SECOND EVERETT CAMP (Lot No. 4)
  In 1901 Mr. Everett built a camp on his original lot. He occupied it for a few years, then, having moved West, he rented the camp for a number of seasons. In 1917 he sold to Mrs. William F. Buck of Melrose Highlands, Massachusetts. During her ownership the camp has been enlarged and improved.
- 10. THE SECOND LUCE CAMP (Lot No. 2)

  One of the lots originally selected and bought by Captain Luce is on the south side of the island. This lot was unimproved until 1903 when Captain Luce built a camp thereon which he called "Camp Niantic." After the death of Captain Luce, this camp was bought by Mr. Harry G. Thompson, of Melrose, Massachusetts. It is now owned by his daughter, Mrs. Virginia Walsh.

For some ten years after the formation of the Company the four lots on the north side of the island were unoccupied. The lot farthest east, next Rock Pine Lodge, was owned by Mr. Avery. The next two lots to the northwest were owned by the "Presby Brothers" who seem never to have taken any interest in their island property. The other unoccupied lot was owned by Mrs. Ward and lay between the Ford lot and Camp Passaconaway.

11. THE BRADFORD CAMP (Lot No. 11)

In 1903, Emery L. Bradford, then living in East Weymouth, Massachusetts, rented the Ford camp for his summer vacation. During the summer, Mr. Elmer E. Sherman, then Superintendent of the Weymouth schools, was the guest of Mr. Bradford for a number of days. Both men were looking for a place to establish a permanent summer home, and both were greatly taken with the situation and conditions at Birch Island.

Mr. Bradford bought the Avery lot and built his camp in the Spring of 1904, which he called "Maple Point Camp." There was at this time, and for many previous years, a large maple tree growing out of the cleft in the big rock on the shore of the lot and the point of land had long been known as "Maple Point." Mr. Bradford owned and occupied the camp until 1930, when, upon her marriage, the property came into the possession of his daughter, Mrs. Ruth (Bradford) Canterbury.

- 12. THE SHERMAN CAMP (Lot No. 7)

  Mr. Sherman bought Mrs. Ward's lot and built his camp in 1905, calling it "Camp Maskwamozi."

  After Mr. Sherman's death, the property came into possession of his son, Mr. James Sherman.
- 13. THE WALTER CAMP (Lot No. 9)

  In 1904; Mrs. E. H. Walter, a resident of one of the suburbs of Providence, Rhode Island, became the owner of the lot next east of the Ford lot. She built a camp thereon and called it "Camp Pequawket." Afterward a Mr. Richard owned this camp for a number of years, selling it in 1934 to Prof. Clarence P. Shedd, of New Haven, Connecticut.
- 14. THE LYMAN CAMP (Lot No. 10)
  The lot between the Bradford and Shedd lots was bought by Mr. Spear who at that time owned

the "Hemlocks" on the south side of the island. He sold it in 1904 to Rov. Payson W. Lyman of Fall River, Massachusetts. Mr. Lyman built his camp in 1905 and occupied it until his death. Since then the camp has been occupied by his son, E. R. Lyman of Woburn, Massachusetts, who has greatly improved and made additions to the camp.

Steamboat Island, which became an integral part of the Birch Island Camp Company at the time of its organization by agreement with the then owner, Walter J. Yates, came into the possession of his son, Howard D. Yates, after his father's death. He sold the island in 1933 to Mr. William E. Tucker, of New York City. Mr. Tucker removed the camp built by Mr. Yates and built a larger and more modern structure. He also built the long-desired bridge across "the gap" connecting Steamboat Island with Birch Island.

The present ownership of the lots, July 1936, is as follows:

Lot No. 1. Mr. W. E. Tucker

- 2. Mrs. Virginia Thompson Walsh
- 3. Rev. K. R. Forbes
- 4. Mrs. W. F. Buck
- 5. Mrs. J. R. D. Oldham
- 6. Mr. W. H. Tinker
- 7. Mr. James Sherman
- 8. Mr. E. F. Morgan
- 9. Prof. C. P. Shedd
- 10. Estate of Rev. P. W. Lyman
- 11. Mrs. Ruth Bradford Canterbury
- 12. Mr. M. C. Avery
- 13. Mr. J. R. D. Olcham
- 14. Dr. A. W. Tucker
- 15 or Steamboat Island Mr. W. E. Tucker

(The location of these lots can be seen by referring to the map)

#### OWNERSHIP OF LOTS

The following is a list of the various lots with the changes in ownership that have occurred up to July 1936:

- Lot No. 1. Mrs. Rogers
  Sold to Mr. William E. Tucker in 1923 and now occupied by Mr. Elmer
  Tucker.
  - 2. Captain Luce
    Sold to Mr. H. G. Thompson in 1917. Now owned by his daughter, Mrs.
    Virginia (Thompson) Walsh.
  - 3. The Birch Island Camp Company
    Sold to Rev. F. H. Spear in 1896.
    Sold to Judge R. F. Raymond in 1908.
    Sold to Rev. K. R. Forbes in 1922.
  - 4. The Birch Island Camp Company
    Sold to Rev. T. J. Everett in 1895.
    Sold to Mrs. W. F. Buck in 1927.
  - 5. Captain Luce
    This lot was entangled in the "Everett Controversy." It was finally subdivided making an additional lot on which the first Everett camp was built. This second lot was sold by Captain Luce to Mrs. Charles E. Hancock. Mrs. Hancock sold it to Mr. J. R. D. Oldham.
  - 6. Rev. William I. Ward Sold to Mr. W. H. Tinker in 1928.
  - 7. Mrs. William I. Ward
    Sold to Mr. E. E. Sherman in 1905.
    Now owned by his son, James Sherman
  - 8. The Birch Island Camp Company
    Sold to Mr. Myron i. Ford in 1897. Owned by various members of the Ford family. Finally sold to Mr. W. L. Rice, and by his widow to Mr. E. F. Morgan.
  - 9. The Birch Island Camp Company
    Sold to "Presby Brothers." Sold to Mrs. E. H. Walter in 1904. Sold
    to a Mr. Richard. Sold to Prof. C. P. Shedd.
  - 10. The Birch Island Camp Company
    Sold to "Presby Brothers." Sold to Rev. F. H. Spear. Sold to Rev.
    P. W. Lyman in 1904. Since Mr. Lyman's death occupied by his son,
    Mr. E. R. Lyman.
  - 11. Mr. W. W. Avery
    Sold to Rev. E. L. Bradford in 1904. Sold to his daughter, Mrs. Ruth
    Bradford Canterbury in 1930.
  - 12. Mr. W. Avery.

    After Mr. Avery's death owned by his son, Mr. M. C. Avery.
  - 13. The subdivision of Lot No. 5

    See Lot 5 now owned by Mr. Oldham

- Lot No. 14. The Birch Island Camp Company
  Originally part of the "Common Land." Set off as a separate lot.
  Sold to Captain Luce. Sold to Dr. A. W. Tucker.
  - 15. Steamboat Island
    Owned originally by Rev. W. J. Yates. After his death, by his son,
    Howard Yates. Sold to Mr. W. E. Tucker in 1933.

#### A SURT OF WHO'S WHO

- Lot No. 12. AVERY, Mr. and Mrs. Marcellus C.

  Mr. Avery is a Certified Public Accountant. Head of the Avery Company,

  Accountants and Auditors. Bridge Plaza North, Long Island City, New York.
  - 4. BUCK, Mr. and Mrs. William E.

    Mr. Buck is an Electric Sign Manufacturer. Business house in Boston.

    Residence, Melrose Highlands, Massachusetts.
  - 11. CANTERBURY, Mr. and Mrs. Nathan D.

    Mr. Canterbury is Superintendent and Manager of the Yale Forest Reservation and Instructor in the Yale Summer School of Foresty. Winter residence, Stafford Springs, Connecticut.
  - 3. FORBES, Rev. and Mrs. Kenneth R.

    Mr. Forbes is Rector of St. Andrews Episcopal Church, Stamford, Connecticut.
  - 10. LYMAN, Mr. and Mrs. Elihu R.

    Mr. Lyman is owner and President of the Massachusetts Gear and Tool Company.

    Woburn, Massachusetts.
  - 8. MORGAN, Mr. and Mrs. Edward E.

    Mr. Morgan is a banker Assistant Cashier of The Rhode Hospital Trust
    Company, Providence, Rhode Island.
  - 5. OLDHAM, Mr. and Mrs. J. R. D. and 13. Mr. Oldham is Superintendent of Schools, East Providence, Rhode Island.
    - 9. SHEDD, Prof. and Mrs. Clarence P.

      Mr. Shedd is Professor in the Department of Religious Education in the Divinity School of Yale University, New Haven, Connecticut.
    - -7. SHERMAN, Mr. and Mrs. James E.

      Mr. Sherman is at the head of Text Book Department of Little & Brown, Boston,
      Massachusetts.
    - 6. TINKER, Rev. and Mrs. Wellington H.

      Mr. Tinker is Retired Executive Secretary of the New York Young Men's Christian Association.
    - 1. TUCKER, Mr. and Mrs. Elmer
      Mr. Tucker is a Retired Building Contractor.
    - 14. TUCKER, Dr. and Mrs. Arthur W.

      Dr. Tucker is a practicing physician in Lynn, Massachusetts
    - 15. TUCKER, Mr. and Mrs. William E.

      Mr. Tucker is a lawyer of the firm of Mudge, Stern, Williams & Tucker, New York City.
    - 2. WALSH, Mr. and Mrs. Frank
      Mr. and Mrs. Walsh are both connected with the firm of Jordan Marsh Company,
      Boston, Massachusetts.

# TRANSPORTATION

Transportation facilities to Birch Island were rather primitive and not entirely convenient or satisfactory during the early years of the Company.

The small steamer "ROXMONT", owned by Dr. Greene of "Nervura" fame, made daily round trips during the summer between Weirs and Melvin Village.

(Dr. Greene had built what was known as "Greene's Castle" on Long Island)

This boat stopped, unless rough weather forbade, at Jolly Island, where a wharf had been built one built in a better location on the southwest shore.)

For the first three years of the Birch Island Company, passengers for Birch and Steamboat Islands took passage on the "Roxmont" at Weirs, landed at Jolly Island, and proceeded thence in row boats to their respective destinations. After the first year, the Campers on Birch Island paid the Jolly Island Company one dollar per camp per year for wharf privileges, which included the right to have all their living supplies and other merchandise landed at Jolly Island.

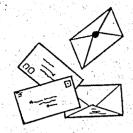
This meant two trips in a row boat from Birch to Jolly every day. Once in the morning to meet the boat from Melvin Village at 7 o'clock to get the day's supply of milk, and send the order for daily supplies to the general store in Lakeport owned by E. L. Cram. The second trip was made about 4 o'clock in the afternoon to meet the boat on its return to get the supplies and the mail which came to the Island through the courtesy of Mr. Cram. These trips had to be made, "rain or shine, blow high or blow low", and oftentimes it was no easy task. What ice was had at the Island came in the same way and when the wind was "high", it took "brain, muscle, brawn, and nerve" to negotiate a hundred-pound cake of ice off the dock into the tumbling row boat and then from the row boat into mother's ice box. If the wind was too "high" as frequently heppened, the ice was dragged across the island in a gunny sack.

There is a well-authenticated and unimpeachable testimony and proof that Mr. Ward used to supplement this cross-lake steamboat service by ROWING TO WEIRS before breakfast to get some small article needed in household service. Those were the "good old days" of husky Young America!

This arrangement with Jolly Island continued until 1896 when the Birch Island Company built its own wharf running it out from its own land at the "big ledge" nearly in front of the Old Camp. The building of the wharf was directed by Mr. Charles F. Brown from whom the island was purchased and who had always manifested a lively interest in the development of the Colony. This wharf has experienced the usual vicissitudes and disasters of Lake Winnepesaukee wharves and has been rebuilt several times. Since the building of the wharf all regular across-lake public passenger boats have had Birch Island on their list of regular stopping places. This arrangement and service continued until the private ownership of many individual motor boats has driven about all the public traffic from the lake. The only regular public conveyance to the island at this time, July 1936, is by the Mail boat, making a morning and afternoon trip.

Not many years after the wharf was built, the "Shelter" was erected on the Company land at the head of the wharf. This has proved of great convenience and comfort as a waiting room for passengers in case of storm and as a store room for merchandise.

#### MAIL FACILITIES



Mail accommodations were fairly satisfactory from the beginning. In the early days the grocery firm of E. L. Cram at Lakeport, from whom commodities of almost every known kind could be obtained and who supplied both Birch and Jolly Islands, allowed the campers to have their mail addressed in care of the firm. This was put in a special pouch and sent to the Island with the regular supplies which were ordered daily. This gave Birch Island one mail a day in the late afternoon. Outgoing mail

was handled in the same manner, going to Lakeport on the morning boat.

This continued until the government mail route was established on the Lake. This route was established in May 1902. Dr. George H. Saltmarsh of Lakeport and Mr. Archie L. Lewis were the prime movers in this enterprise. It was necessary, in order to establish the route, to show the Government a bona fide list of at least one hundred families that would be benefited by the delivery of their mail. There were not so many families around the Lake then as now, but by persevering effort Captain Lewis succeeded in locating the required number and the route was approved by the Postal authorities.

Dr. Saltmarsh held the first contract for carrying the mail, but Capt. Archie L. Lewis, who also took the Civil Service examination, was Dr. Saltmarsh's substitute and the actual carrier of the mail. Dr. Saltmarsh owned a small steamboat twenty-five feet long called the "Robert and Arthur" and in this boat Captain Lewis carried the mail beginning in May 1902; running the boat and handling the mail himself.

Directly after the route was established, Dr. Saltmarsh had the steamboat "Dolphin" built. This boat was forty-three feet long and licensed to carry seventy-five passengers. The "Dolphin" went into service in August 1902. Captain Lewis bought her from Dr. Saltmarsh in May 1903 and carried the mail in her until he built the "Uncle Sam" in the winter of 1906, putting her in commission in May 1907.

This service continued until 1953 when the Government changed the carrier giving the contract to Claude Dane.

This service gave the Island two mails daily through the summer months; the morning mail reached the Island about ten o'clock and the afternoon mail about four o'clock.

#### SPORTS AND EVENTS



#### TENNIS

In 1909 there was a great desire for some additional resource and equipment for the use and entertainment of the young people. Some one suggested a tennis court. The matter was brought up in the Annual Meeting of the Company and much opposition was developed largely on the ground that it meant the sacrifice of some of the beautiful birches in the center or the island. However, by judicious and kindly discussion, the opposition was overcome and with a large amount of "private" help a tennis court was made in 1910.

At first the court was of restricted size to save a few trees, but a few years later it was enlarged to regulation size. This has proved a very great asset to the athletic and social life of the island. It is in well-nigh constant use, it being necessary to "sign up" in order to reserve time for all to play. Matches are arranged between different groups through the summer, especially for the Field Day events.



#### BALL GAMES

It is usually possible to muster a baseball "nine" to play against the Y.M.C.A. Camp on Bear Island. Some old college "star" will warm up his blood, limber his unused musles, and swing a bat or pitch a ball in the old-time style, and the "Y" boys do not mlways win the game.



#### FIRE\_WORKS -

In 1920, the year Doctor Tucker bought the Old Camp, he began the practice of bringing to the Lake a goodly supply of fire works and to entertain the children and stir the patriotic blood of the old folks with a fine display on the glorious Fourth. This he has done at his own expense each succeeding year, always increasing the volume of the show.



In 1927, Mr. W. E. Tucker gave a birthday party in honor of his son, "Billy", who was then 9 years old. There were games and sports, and then a picnic lunch and a present for each of the children present, all provided for by Mr. Tucker. This was the beginning of the Annual Field Day.

The next year there was an unusually large group of young people on the island who through the summer had engaged in all sorts of sports and out-of-door games. Near the close of the season by a natural act

of "spontaneous combustion" these young folk "caught fire", and they said, "'Go to, let's go and do likewise, the memory of the former year is as a 'flame in the marrow of our bones.'"

They proceeded to take counsel with Doctor Tucker who is always ready to further any enterprise that will give the young people pleasure. An Executive Committee was appointed, details were arranged, events listed, the schedule posted, contestants entered - everybody entered into the scheme with great enthusiasm and it was carried out with entire success and satisfaction.

There is an ideal spot for the carrying out of such an affair at the main wharf with Doctor Tucker's camp and lawn well shaded with trees as a background for the setting of the show and a place of rendezvous for the audience and a parking space for the picnic. This, Doctor Tucker, with his usual public spirit, places at the disposal and use of the occasion. Every year this

is carried out with increasing interest and success.

The finest thing about this side of the island life is the perfectly fine spirit of good sportsmanship and good will with which all the contestants have entered into the games and competition. Nobody gets sore, nobody gets beeved, nobody is envious, it is all carried on with good comradeship just for the joy of life and good sport.

The prizes are spread out on a big table and in the order of the number of "points" won, each contestant is "called" and selects what he or she likes best, AND EVERYBODY GETS A PRIZE, ever to the youngest baby in arms.

The events scheduled include the following and a lot more:

Swimming and diving in all forms and styles - some "styles" have never been seen before.

Motor boat races - inboard and outboard.

Row boat races.

Canoe races.

"Whale" boat races.

Obstacle races.

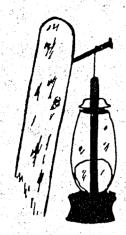
Tub races:

Potato races.

Tennis matches.

And if the "Committee" forgets anything, some bright boy or girl "reminds" them.

#### LIGHTING TRIPS



For many years Mr. George W. Greene of Center Harbor was "Caretaker" for the Company, looking out for the property during the winter and getting the camps ready for use in the summer - making himself a general, all-around friend and "big brother" to everybody - caring for the interests of the island and people.

Among his many duties and responsibilities on the Lake, for he was always taking upon his shoulders to do more than any one man could accomplish in the twenty-four hours given as the divine limits of one day, Greene was always trying to stretch it to thirty-six, one of his responsibilities was to care for the lighting of the lanterns on the channel buoys in a large section of the Lake. This was before the days of the gas and

electric light buoys that burn all summer. These lanterns had to be renewed once or twice a week.

One of the real sports and good times of the young people was to take a "lighting trip" with Mr. Greene when he went on his rounds to change the lanterns. This trip was always made at night - daylight was too precious for such work as this. There was always something to eat on board the motor boat, and with songs, stories and games the time on the long round passed quickly in good fellowship. Mr. Greene always

Mr. Greene also knew every inch of the territory all through this region of New Hampshire. He used to take groups of young people off on hiking and mountain-climbing trips. And through all the years there never was an accident of any sort, nor any unfortunate experience with the young people. Parents and guardians always felt at ease when the children "were with Mr. Greene."

In 1908 two bath houses were built by the Company at the bathing beach. And a diving raft was made and anchored off the beach. At the time there was an insistent demand for them. They proved, however, to be of little use. The very next summer the bathers found that they greatly preferred to dive and seim from the main wharf rather than from the rather unstable diving raft. And the wharf itself proved a much more attractive and comfortable place for the social end of the pastime. The Company has added some equipment for use of the young people, such as a spring board, diving slide, life preservers, etc.

In 1934 the Company sold one of the bath houses to Mr. Avery who had it moved to his lot near Rock Pine Lodge.

# FAUNA and FLORA OF BIRCH ISLAND - Part 1

Mr. John Ripley Forbes, who is now Curater of the Museum of Natural History in Stamford, Connecticut, sends the following list of birds which he has seen on or from Birch Island.

#### RESIDENT BIRDS

"N" before the name of the bird indicates that the bird has been found nesting on Birch Island.

Common Loon Great Blue Heron Wood Duck American Merganser Bald Eagle Osprey N Ruffed Grouse N Ruby-throated Hummingbird N Flicker Pileated Woodpecker N Hairy Woodpecker N Downy Woodpecker Eastern Kingbird Phoebe N Least Flycatcher N : Wood Pewee Tree Swallow N N. Barn Swallow Bank Swallow Cliff Swallow N Crow N Black-capped Chickadee

N White-breasted Nuthatch N Robin N Veery Cedar Waxwing N Blue-headed Vireo N Red-eyed Vireo N Black and White Warbler N Yellow Warbler N Black-throated Green Warbler N Myrtle Warbler 'N Blackburnian Warbler N Chestnut-sided Warbler N Black-poll Warbler N Pine Warbler N Oven-bird N American Redstart Cowbird Gold Finch Chipping Sparrow Swamp Sparrow Song Sparrow

> TOTAL 43 NESTING 30

#### MIGRANT BIRDS

Canada Goose
Common Black Duck
Redhead
Sharp-shinned Hawk
Red-tailed Hawk
Red-shouldered Hawk
Broad-winged Hawk
Pigeon Hawk
Sparrow Hawk
Sparrow Hawk
Spotted Sandpiper
Solitary Sandpiper
Herring Gull
Night Hawk
Chimmey Swift
Belted Kingfisher

Yellow-bellied Sapsucker
Red-breasted Nuthatch
Brown Creeper
Olive-backed Thrush
Golden-crowned Kinglet
Ruby-crowned Kinglet
Parula Warbler
Magnolia Warbler
Northern Water-Thrush
Northern Yellow-throat
Canada Warbler
Rusty Blackbird
Fox Sparrow
Black-throated Blue Warbler

TOTAL 29

## ANIMALS SEEN ON BIRCH ISLAND

Mink
Cotton-tailed Rabbit
White-footed Mouse
Red Squirrel
Chipmunk
Brown Bat
Common mole
Skunk

#### SNAKES SEEN ON BIRCH ISLAND

Garter Snake
Storer's Snake
DeKay's Snake
Milk Snake
Banded Water Snake
Ribbon Snake
Ring-neck Snake

NONE ARE POISONOUS!

# BIRD LIFE ON BIRCH ISLAND

by John Ripley Forbes



For the last twelve years I have spent my summer vacations at Birch Island, in Lake Winnepesaukee, where bird life is exceptionally abundant. Not only do many birds nest on the island, but hundreds besides stop over during migrations. Several of my pleasant, unusual, and even exciting experiences with the birds there are worth recounting.

Whenever I see the Bald Eagle, sailing in majestic circles high up in the sky, I recall a close view I once had of this king of birds. After walking the length of the island I arrived at the lagoon where my boat was kept just in time to see two large

birds fly overhead. Thinking they might alight on the other shore I got my boat and poled in that direction. Just as I was about to round the point a Bald Eagle swept down to the water within but a few feet of the boat, followed at a distance of about twenty yards by its mate. The Eagle, I believe, was so intent upon fish that he failed to notice me as I poled quietly from behind the shore.

One morning somewhat later, just across the lagoon from the point where the Bald Eagle had so unexpectedly swept down, I had another interesting adventure. Hearing a heavy hammering noise coming from a clump of trees on the point (sounding as though someone were chopping wood) I approached the spot. As I neared the trees, I caught a glimpse of a large bird disappearing into the woods. On a nearby tree, however, I saw another similar one which was about the size of a crow. It clung to the side of the tree, I noticed, as does a woodpecker. It was black and white with a large red crest and a long chisel-like bill. As the bird edged around the tree I realized that I was seeing for the first time the largest and most striking of our woodpeckers (now that the Ivory-bill is on the verge of extinction), the Pileated Woodpecker.

As I watched it I thought about a tree near our island camp and of several red pines on a nearby island all of which evidenced the remarkable work done by these birds. The tree on our island, a tall hemlock, had twenty-one holes in it, some of which measured fifteen by four inches, penetrating clear into the heart of the tree. The red pine on a nearby island had as many as thirty such holes in it, the largest of which measured twenty-eight by seven inches. Needless to say, the birds do much good; in ridding certain trees of borers, they contribute to saving the hearby trees (and tree surgery would easily save the bored ones.)

Another incident of interest took place along the path to the same lagoon. Near the center of the island I saw a young warbler, a Black-throated Green, I believe, struggling to devour some large insect along the path, a Dragon Fly, I realized as I approached within a few feet When I had come slowly within a few inches of him, I bent over and lightly rubbed his head. He continued, intent upon this meal. As he was having difficulty separating the meat from the wing, I thought I would again intervene and took hold of the insect's wing, expecting the bird to fly away. Instead, he continued with his meal. As a final test of his apparent fearlessness I took the Dragon Fly away from him, holding out my finger as a perch in front of him, and in my other hand holding the tempting morsel. Unafraid, he promptly flew upon my finger and finished his meal. Then he wiped his bill and flew off to a nearby shrub. This bird's apparent unconcern for man is not so surprising as one might be led to think. On occasion I have seen others of this particular species almost as unafraid. I noticed the adult Black-throated Green Warblers which nested about the house were quite undisturbed by the people who passed near them every day. For three seasons they have built a nest of birch bark and evergreen twigs in the hemlocks about the house. Once while the parent birds were busy getting food for the young, who were fluttering about clumsily, the male darted out right in front of me to catch a small brown butterfly, a wood sarter, which he promptly devoured at my feet, instead of flying away to eat it or give it to his young. (Edward Howe Forbush, I notice, in his "Birds of Massachusetts and Other New England States" tells of a similar experience withthis warbler.)

A short distance from the meeting site of the Black-throated Green Warbler, near a neighbor's, is a Redstart's nest built in a small white birch, one of the many for which the island is named; indeed the Redstarts nest all over the island. Also, among the island's most common residents are the Song Sparrows, which, I have noticed, nest each year in approximately the same locations. (In fact, one has been nesting in front of our camp ever since I can remember, some fifteen years. Earn Swallows, too, raise their young every year in the island boathouse located in the lagoon, where they are not annoyed by the boats and people coming and going every day. A short distance from the lagoon the island shore-line joins by way of a shallow gut, a small island called Little Birch or Steamboat. One day while running along the shore watching Kingbirds launch themselves out of their lofty perches to chase crows, I noticed three birds acting rather strangely. They were Cedar Waxwings, perched close together on the limb of a tree, seemingly occupied in some queer game. Upon close observation I found that they were courteously passing a small red berry from one to the other until the remains of it were finally dropped. This most curious procedure was no doubt due to the fact that the birds were well gorged, for the Waxwing is famous for its gluttony. For bush tells of observing as many as twelve of these birds passing a single berry back and forth to one another for what he considers the same reason. Nevertheless, the manner in which they proceeded in their apparent "table manners" proved most interesting to watch.

Near this island an American Merganser raises her young, numbering from twelve to seventeen, which may be seen early each morning swimming together along the shore. The Kingfisher's hoarse rattle is heard along the shore as he goes about his fishing activities. Sometimes he will hover over the water waiting for the catch and other times perch on a dead limb or atop the flag pole.

In the fall the honking Canada Geese are seen winging their way across the sky as early forerunners of the coming migration. The Great Blue Heron flies slowly over the island about sunset time to his evening roosting place at a nearby island. Towards evening, the song of the
Veery Thrush is heard and the chorus of the many Veeries throughout the island is beautiful
to hear. Often is heard the familiar "teacher, Teacher, TEACHER" of the Ovenbird coming from
the center of the island. On clear and calm evenings, the song of the Whippoorwill comes
across the Lake from nearby Bear Island. During the night the uncanny cries of the Loons are
heard about the island.

# FAUNA AND FLORA OF BIRCH ISLAND - Part 2

Mrs. Ward and Mrs. Buck have been keenly interested in the Flora of the Island. They furnish the following lists. Some of these may have disappeared because of the "March of Civilization" but they have all been found within the confines of our small island.

#### FLOWERS

Asters High Bush Blackberry High Bush Blueberry Checkerbury (Teaberry) Cornel (Red Osier) False Solomon Seal False Spikenard Goldenrod, White Goldenrod, Yellow Green Brier (Cat Brier) Ground Hemlock Indian Pipe Labrador Tea Partridge Berry Poison Ivy (Poison Oak) Rhodora Sarsaparilla Shad Bush (Service Berry) Swamp Huckleberry Viburnum, Hobblebush Viburnum, Mapleleaved Viburnum, Sweet White Baneberry Wild Rose Wintergreen (Pyrola Elliptica) Wintergreen (Pyrola Secunda) Witch Hazel

Pipsissewa Sweet Pyrola Red Clover White Clover Star Flower Canada May Flower Self Heal Boneset Loosestrife Sweetbrier Button Bush Woodbine Mountain Holly Beechdrops Indian Cucumber Root Meadow Rue Black Eyed Susan Meadow Sweet Daisy Flea Bane Lion's Tooth Wild Bean St. Johnswort Primrose Joe Pye Weed Violet Pond Lily Arrow Head Blue Flag

Four or five Ground Evergreens and many different species of Mushrooms have been found.

#### ORCHIDS

Coral Root
Habernaria Hookeri
Ladies' Tresses
Microstylis
Rattlesnake Plantain
Stemless Lady's Slipper

#### FERNS

Bracken Interrupted
Cinnamon Marsh
Flowering Polypody
Grape Rattlesnake (Two varieties)

### TREES

American Mountain Ash Spruce Aspen (Quaking Aspen) Wild Hazel Nut Aspen, Large Toothed Balsam American Beech Willow Birch, American White Alder Birch, Canoe Common Hemlock Maple, Red Maple, Striped (Moosewood) Oak Pine, Pitch Pine, Red Pine, White Pepperidge (Black or Sour Gum)

# MOTOR BOATS



The first motor boat at Birch Island was owned by Rev. Bradford. During the winter of 1906-07 Frank Bickford of Meridith built for him a twenty-five foot "torpedo-stern" boat called the "Norfolk", powered by a two cylinder, two cycle, McDuff motor.

He sold this boat in May 1920, was without a boat during that summer, used the Burbeck boat, the "Gypsy" for a week weeks in 1921, and Mr. Johnson of Lakeport built for him the "Essex" powered by a Kermath motor, which went into commission in July 1922.

The first season the Norfolk was housed in a temporary shelter built in the lagoon where Mr. W. E. Tucker's boat house now stands. In the Fall of 1907 Mr. Bradford, having obtained permission from the Company to do so, built a permanent, one-slip boat house in the lagoon about where the present Company boat house now stands, with a long walk running out to it from the Company-land. This boat house was built by Mr. Greene, and by some misunderstanding was not located in the precise spot intended and because of a "trespass warning" it was moved a few feet by Mr. Greene in the winter of 1909.

The sheltered lagoon is the only part of the island where a boat house can be located with any assurance of withstanding the onset of the ice-break under high wind in the spring. Other camp owners having acquired motor boats and needing housing facilities, the Company voted at the Annual Meeting of 1911 to build a four-slip Company boat house in the lagoon with a breakwater running out from the northwest arm of the shore from the Avery lot, permission having been obtained from the owner to do so. Mr. Bradford agreed to abandon his individual boat house and rent a slip from the Company with the others.

In October of that year, 1911, Mr. Ward and Mr. Bradford went to the Lake, located the precise position where the boat house was to stand, and awarded the contract for building it to George Merrill of Bear Island. An extra slip has been added to each side of this boat house, making six slips. In 1934 the Company built a two-slip boat house on the opposite shore of the lagoon, both slips being rented by Mr. W. E. Tucker.

In 1936 the Company built an additional slip on the north side of the original boat house for the use of Mr. E. R. Lyman.

There are now quite a fleet of motor boats owned at the Island:

9 inboard motors
10 outboard motors

The total cost of the original boat house was \$872.00. The piles were driven by William Raymond.

The house was built by George Merrill.

The total cost of the breakwater was \$173.15.

#### RELIGIOUS SERVICES



As early as 1893, the year of the organization of the Birch Island Camp Company and the purchase of Birch Island, the campers on Jolly Island had already established the custom of meeting on Sunday afternoon for a religious service at which a discussion of the current Sunday School lesson was a regular feature.

When the people began to come to Birch Island they were invited to attend these gatherings and share in the fellowship of worship. When the number of families on Birch Island had increased it was proposed and agreed that these meetings be held alternately on the two islands. For several years these meetings were held at the camps of the various owners - some forty or fifty being present. Then the custom was established of meeting in the open under the trees, and seats and a speaker's desk were provided, first on Jolly Island and then on Birch Island. At first these seats were rather crude and makeshift affairs.

In 1926, under the efficient administration of Doctor Tucker, the Agent of the Birch Island Camp Company, and the practical planning and direction of his father, Mr. Elmer Tucker, permanent and comfortable seats were built on Birch Island, and since then all services have been held there. In 1904 the discussion of the Sunday School lesson was dropped and a regular preaching service conducted by the resident or visiting clergymen of the two islands.

The meeting place has long been known as "The Birch Island Cathedral."

At the afternoon service on August 12, 1934, Mr. Bradford christened his grandson, Bradford Canterbury, a lad of a little more than a year old.

At one of these Sunday afternoon services in the summer of 1909 the Reverend Edward H. Smith, home on his first furlough from his work in China, told the people of his missionary work in that country. The interest manifest was very great and as a result, a movement was started which has provided financial support ever since for the maintenance of a Chapel in Dai Kau, Foo Chow Mission, China, of which mission Mr. Smith is in charge. At the suggestion of Judge Raymond the Chapel was given the name, "SMILE OF GOD CHAPEL." Mr. Smith writes an annual letter telling of his interesting experiences through the year which is read on the Sunday when the annual collection is taken. This collection amounts to one hundred dollars or more each year. Whenever Mr. Smith returns to this country he comes to the Lake and speaks of his developing work in his chosen field where he has been eminently efficient and successful.

In 1897 some one suggested the very happy idea of meeting out on the Lake an hour before sunset, there to sing some of the old hymns of the Christian faith. Captain Luce would anchor his cat boat in some quiet spot either in the lee of Birch or Jolly Island from which the going down of the sun could be seen. He usually had on board the "baby organ" still in existence at the Thompson camp. Other row boats would gather around, tying each to each, and with some one to "lead", the old hymns would be sung. Some one would offer a brief prayer at the end and as the sun sank below the horizon the boats would quietly drift away singing "God be with you till we meet again." It was an exceedingly beautiful, reverent, and impressive service.

After the coming of the motor boat era, people would come from all the round-about islands. As many as 150 persons have been counted at one of these services.

For a long time Mr. Frank H. Scoby of Montclair, New Jersey, who for a series of years rented the Old Camp, was the leader of this song service and did very much to establish its ideal

tone and character. After he left the idland, Mr. J. R. D. Oldham has been the devoted and efficient leader for which his voice and personality are eminently well fitted.

When is absent Miss Edna Holmes of Jolly Island takes the leadership. Those who have heard her rendering of "Taps" at the close of the service, her clear, sweet, musical voice sounding out over the calm waters of the Lake away into the western sunset, will never forget it.

Day is done Gone the sun From the Lake From the hills From the sky All is well. Safely rest God is nigh.

#### WEDDINGS



ا بداین محالی

There have been two weddings in the history of the island colony, both of them on Steamboat Island.

The first was in 1903 when a Miss Carrie Thomas was married to Severn Tyler. When they left on the regular passenger boat from the main wharf at Birch Island, their guests could be seen waving them "Farewell" from the shore of Steamboat Island.

The other wedding was in 1934 when Doris J. Tucker married Mr. Gerald Trautman at her father's new house on Steamboat Island. To this wedding all the islanders were invited. The ceremony was to have been "al fresco", but seldom is there a heavier downpour than through all that afternoon, so the ceremony was "under cover."

The guests came through the wet undergrowth and dripping overbrush or in equally wet open row boats or motor boats. Mr. Bradford, who married them, said it was the first time he ever went to a wedding standing up wearing a sailor's "sou'wester" and jacketed in a tarpaulin to shed the rain from his clerical garb. However, it all added zest and merriment to the occasion. The sun came out for the "get-away" of the wedding party, this time not in the dull passenger boat, but in "daddy's" swift private speed boat with all the guests crowding close around for their farewells. "All's well that ends well."

# And Other Interesting Happenings in the Year 1911 by Mr. Ward



For several reasons the people who were on Birch Island during the season of 1911 will remember the summer quite definitely. One of of these reasons is the very low level of water in the Lake. Most of the private docks were entirely out of water and at some places dry and stony flats extended several rods outside of the usual shore line. At Weirs the water in the channel running under the bridge was so shallow that the mail boat, Uncle Sam, and other steamers were obliged to go slowly and cautiously to avoid grounding.

Some cases of serious illness occurred on the island during the season. Mr. Burbeck, who, with his family, occupied what was then known as the Walter cottage (now owned by Mr. Shedd) for several summers, became very sick one day and was taken, the day following, to the Laconia Hospital for surgical treatment. Less than a week

later, Mrs. Barden, Mr. Sherman's aunt, developed such a severe ailment that she was carried to the same place for medical attention. Fortunately, good recoveries were made in both cases.

ع ك<u>م بين</u> وينها فأروان

One night that year, Mr. Bradford's row boat got adrift because of a heavy northwest wind that sprang up in the night. The next day Judge Raymond took a number of men in his motor boat and search was made around all the islands in the eastern part of the lake, but no boat was to be found. A pleasant feature of the affair was a sumptuous luncheon that was served at the hotel in Wolfboro. Sometime later the boat was found on the northern side of Long Island and was recovered by Mr. Bradford the next summer. But how it ever got to the back side of Long Island, under the impulse of a northwest wind is one of the mysteries of "Old Man Lake."

This was also the year in which the first Company boat house was built in the lagoon. The tennis court was also made the same year.

But the spectacular and thrilling event of the season was the severe tempest and tornado which struck Birch Island in the afternoon of July 4 and which tore down many of the larger trees on the western end. A goodly number of the island's people went to Center Harbor on that day to witness and share in the holiday doings at that place. As the afternoon wore on, a fairly heavy thunder shower interrupted the proceedings. There were indications that it was more intense somewhere "down the Lake." When George Greene came to Center Harbor in the evening to take the party home in his motor boat, he brought the news that Birch Island had been hard hit.

How much damage had been done was not fully realized until the ground was looked over by day-light the next morning. The most serious results were on the two lots at the west end, those on which stood Camps Mooselauke and Passaconaway. On each of these lots stood, near the shore, an unusually large pine tree. Both of them were highly prized and greatly admired for their size and symmetry. Both of these trees were laid low. One was so near Camp Mooselauke that as it fell it broke down one corner of the house and tore away a part of the verandah. Fortunately the house at Camp Passaconaway was not injured, but the damage to the trees was very great. The one which was monarch of the whole island, nearly ninety feet tall, and having a girth of eight feet, crashed down carrying many smaller trees with it.

Camp Mooselauke was occupied that year by Mr. Frank H. Scoby and his femily. With them was their friend, Miss Reed. When the storm was at its worst, Mr. Scoby was helping the Hancocks who had just arrived get into their camp, Ardenwold, but Mrs. Scoby and Miss Reed were in Mooselauke when the crash came there. All the family at Camp Passaconaway were in the Center Harbor party except Mrs. Ward. She had gone to meet the afternoon boat from Lakeport and, overtaken by the rain, had stopped at Camp Niantic. No one, therefore, was where the tornado was most furious.

More than fifty trees were blown down, many of them rather large pines. This number included a few on the lot then owned by Mr. Myron P. Ford, and some on the "boulevard."

As if to make sure of doing a good job the wind again got busy with tempest accompaniment, on the night of September 2. It was a northwest wind which made the trouble in July. The later wind was from the southwest. The climax came at about ten o'clock. Some fifteen or twenty trees were uprooted on the Camp Passaconaway lot, six of them fairly large pines.

The work of reducing the large logs to marketable form and getting them off the land, as well as the falling of the trees, broke down much of the underbrush and smaller growth. It also entailed a large amount of labor and expense. When the ruin was cleaned up a goodly portion of the west end of the island looked pretty bars. But Mother Nature, having had her fun (?) began at once to repair the damage and in a few years the west end took on much of its former beauty.

# HISTORY OF BIRCH ISLAND LAKE WINNIPESAUKEE, NEW HAMPSHIRE

1936 - 1969

Clarence Prouty Shedd

# SUMMER BY THE LAKESIDE Lake Winnipesaukee

I. Noon

"O isles of calm! O dark, still wood! And stiller skies that overbrood Your rest with deeper guietude!

"I read each misty mountain sign, I know the voice of wave and pine, And I am yours, and ye are mine.

"Life's burdens fall, its discords cease, I lapse into the glad release Of Nature's own exceeding peace."

II. Evening
"Lake of the Northland! keep thy dower
Of beauty still, and while above
Thy solemn mountains speak of power,
Be thou the mirror of God's love."

Quoted from John Greenleaf Whittier

Dick Oldham in his comments regarding the Island said a very true thing, that the early pioneers on our beautiful Birch Island were ministers and professional men who came for rest and communion with nature and nature's God. He further indicated that they viewed life on Birch Island as "retreat" and not resort only. These comments caused me to look up a poem of Whittier's, from which I have quoted four stanzas.

The fantastic changes in the community and national life -- automobiles, roads, boats, wars and rumors of wars -- must be blamed for some of the changes that are taking place.

Dick indicated that we tended to bring the world to the Island instead of retreating from the world. If ever there was a time when we needed to retreat from many of the ugly facts of contemporary life, that time is now. I believe in the hearts of all of us there is a mingling of the ideas of resort and retreat.

I had not expected to become excited about the task of editing the History of Birch Island. I may say that the task now claims my enthusiasm. I am now making a carefully organized historical statement. What I am doing is putting together data that has been collected from various sources and that largely came to me through the "Do It Now" questionnaires. The real authors of this historical statement are the four "gals" on the Island who for the past five years have made the preparation for a history of the Island from 1936 a passionate mission of love. They are Margaret Restall, Shirley Lyman, Hutch Taylor and Dot Smith. Their faith and patience and untiring activity have brought together the materials on which this statement is based. I hope that the history I submit now is reasonably accurate and satisfactory. I know the family data needs to be checked by every member of the community. For me, this is a labor of love because I have found peace and great happiness on this island of calm.

It is only fair to say that this History of the Island could never have been completed without the faithful and competent help of my former secretary, Miss Edna Blackledge. There have been many retypings of the manuscript and reordering of the material and Miss Blackledge has been patient as well as extraordinarily competent. I am deeply in her debt.

Clarence P. Shedd, Editor

#### CAMP OWNERSHIP AND IMPROVEMENTS

## Since 1936 - The Date of Dr. Emery Bradford's Historical Brochure

Lot No. 1 - Tucker, -William E., Jr., -and Beryl W.

Some Reminiscences of Camp Massasoit by Bill Tucker.

"After my father built the house on Steamboat -- shortly after 1933 -- he retained title to the Birch Island camp on Lot No. 1 known as Massasoit, and my Grandfather and Grandmother, Mr. and Mrs. Elmer E. Tucker, used it until the mid forties when they stopped spending their Summers at the Lake. There are a number of things from the period of my Grandparents' occupancy which I think are worth recording.

"In the early and mid 1930's my cousins, Dorothy and Betty Tucker were regular Summer residents and this fact is still evidenced by mark alongside the fireplace showing their ages and progressive growth. Betty Tucker was later the tragic victim of leukemia while still a student at Wellesley College. Dorothy, Mrs. Hazen Chase, and her husband and three blond children are now occasional visitors to the Island.

"In my mind those days will always be associated with Grand-mother's Saturday night 'bean parties'. At these affairs the whole family would gather around the greatly expanded dining room table and enjoy home made Boston baked beans, brown bread, and the family repartee. . . .

"My father first transferred title to the camp to me in 1939, when I reached 21, but with the proviso that his father and mother should have the use of it as long as they wished. Then, in 1942, I went to California with every intention to make a career there, and the title was transferred back to father, only to transfer it once again in 1945 when Beryl and I returned from the West Coast to stay. Later, in 1961, the camp was placed in the joint ownership of Beryl and myself. Principal improvements have been a two bedroom and bath annex known as The Motel and a shoreside terrace."

#### **Boats**

#### Bill Tucker writes:

"Camp Massasoit came equipped with a 'double-ender' of questionable age and condition called the Rosalie. She has since quietly disappeared from the scene. In about 1925 as a birthday present, my Grandmother gave me a Johnson-built rowboat on which was installed, a few years later, a Johnson (no relation to the other Johnson) light-twin. For several years in the mid fifties this sturdy craft, over-

turned, served ably as picnic table, bar, and general resting place for people and things. After resisting pressure to upright it and fill it with topsoil as a planter, I spent a season scraping, caulking, and painting, and with a new Evinrude 5-1/2 it was dubbed The Yar Craft and served very well as transportation for the girls and for Father's Sunday morning 'round Island cruises until 1965, when it was reluctantly replaced by a nameless (and, alas, characterless) aluminum hull. The Yar is still serviceable as it enters its 42nd season and last year made a tour of the Island under power with the original light twin!

"For basic transportation we have depended on the Sandbar, an 18 ft. Gar Wood (one of the last of that species) acquired from a previous owner in 1948. And she is still serving us well although it was touch and go toward the end of the Summer of 1969! In 1968 we acquired a 22 foot Jafco of questionable age and after reconditioning christened it SANPAM with appropriate Chinese ceremony."

Lot No. 2 - Taylor, Warren J. (Dr.) and Marjorie H. (Camp Niantic or Taylor Camp)

By Dr. Warren J. Taylor.

"In 1936, our camp was owned by the estate of Eva M. Thompson, with lifetime interest to my Mother, Virginia Thompson, and at that time Walsh. In 1957, the ownership was transferred from the estate through Kenneth Thompson to my Mother, at that time Virginia Thompson Dukelow, and to me, in joint ownership. I became the sole owner upon my Mother's death in 1957, and we placed it in joint ownership with Warren J. and Marjorie H. Taylor in 1962."

The New Taylor Camp and New Dock - 1958.

When fire destroyed the camp, the Taylors built a new and modern camp on the site of old Camp Niantic. They also built a new and very adequate dock. The boathouse (associated with the camp) was remodeled in 1947.

#### Boats

"From Warren's Johnson-Kermath lake boat purchased in 1938, through the 'Essex' (originally the Bradford Canterbury boat, then Reg Brown's), and the 'Mary Rowe' (owned by Mrs. A. W. Tucker), the Taylors now own a 20 foot Bertram inboard-outboard plus two aluminum outboards, a canoe, and a sailfish."

### Lot No. 3 - Forbes, John R. and Margaret S.

In 1936, camp was in the name of Rev. Kenneth Ripley Forbes. In 1947 he changed the ownership to include Ellen E. Forbes as Joint Tenants with right of survivorship. In 1949 they changed the ownership to Ellen E. Forbes and John Ripley Forbes as Joint Tenants with right of survivorship.

In 1956 John Ripley Forbes received ownership of "The Hemlocks" upon the death of Ellen E. Forbes. He changed ownership to John Ripley Forbes and Margaret Sanders Forbes as Joint Tenants with right of survivorship.

#### The First Camp

In September 1896 Rev. Francis H. Spear of Attawaugan, Connecticut purchased Lot No. 3 on the south side of Birch Island. The lot is narrow, but has a long shore front and a fine beach. Because it is distinguished by numerous large hemlock trees, the Rev. Spear named his camp built in 1899 "The Hemlocks". Some years later the property was sold to Judge Robert F. Raymond of Newton Centre, Massachusetts. In 1922 Judge Raymond sold the property to Rev. Kenneth Ripley Forbes, then of Roxbury, Massachusetts.

#### Death of Ellen E. Forbes on Birch Island

In 1954, shortly after John and Margaret Forbes arrived on Birch Island, Ellen E. Forbes died of a sudden heart attack at "The Hemlocks". Dr. Arthur W. Tucker pronounced her death. Ernest Abbott returned Ellen Forbes to the mainland for her last trip. Her death was the first of an island resident on Birch Island.

#### The New Camp

In the Winter of 1965-66, the first camp was purposely burned by Merrill Fay to make way for a new "Hemlocks". Its A-Frame style; with glass front and open deck on three sides, reflects the love John and Margaret have for the out-of-doors. Redwood was chosen for its durability and memories of early married years in California. A large fireplace combines native fieldstone with "rocks of friend-ship" supplied by many of the island neighbors. The cathedral ceiling and balcony is made of southern pine, a reminder of their Georgia home.

In the Summer of 1968 native ferns and flowers were transplanted around the deck. Red and white pine were planted, and hemlock and pine needles were carried in baskets by Rip and Anne from the nearby grove to carpet the naked effect of recent construction. Finally, baskets of Spanish moss from their Georgia home hang from beams on each side of the door and the stone planter in front of the porch is filled annually with gay colored plants.

#### Boats

A small row boat supplied the only transportation, as well as skill and prowess in rowing for the Forbes boys -- Charles, John and Fred -- until the family became the proud owners of an Evinrude motor, and distances then began to take on a smaller dimension. The small rowboat eventually was replaced by a heavy duty Dory, equipped with lights, both bow and stern, and a second hand motor which was a match for the great northwesters.

In 1942 John's dream of an inboard became a reality, for when Gus Frances salvaged a 1941, 16 Ft., 95 H.P. Chris Craft from Glendale Harbor, John bought it. Christened The Hemlocks, it remained afloat through 26 Summers, finishing the 1967 season. In October of that year its final voyage was made; John limped her into shore on Lockes Island, where Merrill Fay later towed her to safety and final haven in his museum at Fay's Boat Yard. In May 1968 "The Hemlocks" was replaced by a 120 H. P. Pen Yan.

Beginning in 1960 other boats have been added: the old Dory was replaced by a fiberglass outboard, named the Ripper-Anne, and a 10 H. P. Evinrude. In 1964 Anne received "Bubbles", a smaller rowboat, for her own use. In 1968 Rip added a 14 Ft. Crestliner, with a 45 H. P. Mercury to the Birch Island Navy.

### Lot No. 4 - Restall, Margaret B. and Henry L.

Tupelo Cove was the property of Mrs. William Buck until her death in 1949 when it became the property of her three daughters, Margaret Restall, Phyllis Jordan, and Barbara Metcalf. In 1951, ownership went to Margaret and Henry Restall. With the advent of electricity, a bathroom was added to the house and the kitchen was modernized.

#### Boats

The Restalls own a Garwood inboard, named "Tupelo Cove", and two outboards.

## Lot No. 5 - Oldham, Nellie M. Speakman, Florence K. and Lee, Dorothy Ellen

"Camp Moosilauke in the past has had its history closely related to that of Camp Pasquaney. Both camps belonged to the Oldham family, Pasquaney in Dad's name and Moosilauke in Mother's name. In 1958 Camp Moosilauke was given to us. Officially, the camp is recorded in the names of Florence Speakman and Ellen Lee. Until 1953 Dad enjoyed spending his Summers at camp, cruising on the water, sitting on Breezy Point and actively participating in camp life. Mother, who spent every Summer at the lake, stopped coming to the lake in 1958. The Lees were regular residents from 1943 on. The Speakmans were able to visit only occasionally until 1956 when they retired from the navy and were able to have more frequent vacations on the island. It might be interesting to note that in the Summer of 1968 Kimberly, the daughter of Virginia Lee Woodruff, spent her first vacation here at the ripe old age of two weeks.

#### Boats

"The original camp launch, the "Moosilauke" was built by Johnson of Lakeport for J. R. D. Oldham about 1916. For many years she did yeoman service as a carrier and private launch. The Moosilauke is

now in a-boat-museum in Reno, Nevada. It has its original McDuff motor. When the Moosilauke was retired in 1960, it was replaced by the "Forusall", formerly the "Bedelia" owned by Mrs. Sarah Ransom of Meredith, New Hampshire. A red fiber glass canoe, a small aluminum outboard and a twin motored outboard runabout round out the fleet."

## Lot No. 6 - Tinker, Rev. and Mrs. Wellington H. (Clara) Brown, Gertrude F. and Reginald

Camp Passaconaway was owned by Rev. and Mrs. Wellington H. Tinker until 1946. In 1946 it was sold to Mr. and Mrs. Reginald Brown who had rented the first Taylor camp (Niantic) for a number of years. In 1950 they renovated the camp by adding a bathroom, extensively remodeling the kitchen, and building a stone porch. In 1957 they had a waterfront patio built. In 1963, they sold a small pie-shaped piece of property to the Speakmans and Lees in order to give them more shore property.

#### Boats

In 1953, the Browns bought the "Essex" formerly owned by the Rev. Mr. Bradford. It was sold to Warren Taylor in 1957, and a Chris Craft named the "Regert" was purchased that year. In addition, the Browns own an outboard which Reg uses almost daily for fishing. For many years he has been Birch Island's number one fisherman, replacing Dr. Tucker, Jim Sherman and other island rod and reel greats.

## Lot No. 7 - Sherman, James and Doris Lyman, Shirley C. and John H.

This camp in the first part of the period following 1936 was owned by Helen S. Sherman, who died in the Fall of 1952. The camp was inherited by James Sherman who owned and occupied it until September 1961.

"Camp Maskwamozi" remained virtually unchanged until electricity same on the island. Then, in 1958, a bathroom and modern kitchen were added. Even a dishwasher. A picture window with a view of Mt. Washington was installed in the outhouse, complete with pink nylon ruffled curtain and matching paper and candle. Mrs. Reginald Brown was the interior decorator!

In September 1961, Camp Maskwamozi was purchased by John and Shirley Lyman. They have screened in the back porch and built out into the water, from materials scrounged from various parts of the lake region, a cocktail terrace of modestly substantial size.

#### Boats

The Sherman boats included a 20 Ft. Jafco inboard named "Snooks". Major surgery was performed on the "Snooks" to make its bottom leak-proof. This took three Summers while various new names were chosen and then discarded as the fiberglassing went on. Finally, in September 1964, the boat was rechristened "No-Name" and launched with the help of all able-bodied men and women on the island that day.

The other Lyman boats include two small outboards, the "Angle Worm Two" and the "Poodlebug", and the "Sally III", a 16 Ft. Chasebuilt with a 65 H. P. Mercury outboard.

### Lot No. 8 - Morgan, Mr. and Mrs. Edwin F.

Mr. and Mrs. Edwin F. Morgan of Providence, Rhode Island purchased Camp Narragansett in 1932, and since Mr. Morgan's death in 1961, Mrs. Morgan has retained ownership.

Shortly after the Morgans purchased the camp, they added a dining room by enlarging and closing in a small porch on the side of the house, and later added a bathroom, running hot and cold water, and the other comforts that electricity made possible.

#### Boats

The Morgan boats include the "Cleve", a double-ender rowboat, the "Maribar", another rowboat, and a canoe. Wheaton and Carolyn Thomas also have a Chris Craft inboard, and outboard runabout, and a Dory sometimes powered by a vintage 1-1/2 H. P. Johnson outboard.

## Lot No. 9 - Shedd, Gladys V. and Dr. Clarence P.

The Shedds first came to Birch Island in 1916, and have occupied on a rental basis many camps — Old Camp Niantic and the E. R. Lyman Camp, among others — until they were able to buy the Rickard house in 1932. Like all the other camps, many changes were made when electricity was brought to the island — including the adding of the bathroom. Many exterior changes were made, including the widening of the porches up stairs and downstairs. In 1967 the camp was transferred to Kathleen Shedd Wright and Charles V. Shedd.

#### Boats.

Molded fiberglass 15 Ft. boat with an 18 H. P. outboard, and an old canoe.

### Lot No. 10 - Lyman, Elihu R. and Sarah E. H.

The Lyman camp is the one camp on the island owned by members of the original family. The camp was built in 1906 and owned by Rev. Payson W. Lyman until his death in 1924, then owned by his son, Elihu R. Lyman, until he died in 1937. It is now owned by his wife, Sarah E. H. Lyman, who has continuously summered here with her chil-

In 1930, Elihu Lyman had a bathroom and large tool and storage room built on the west side of the camp. In 1940 John built on a bedroom and small shed behind the tool room and a Delco generator was installed in the shed for pumping up the water and for electric lighting. When electricity arrived on the island the original tool room was turned into an elegant bedroom, the small bedroom became the tool room and the shed became the wood house.

#### Boats

Garwood inboard boat, the "Sally II", and a canoe.

## Lot No. 11 - Canterbury, Ruth Bradford and Donald Smith, Dorothy M. and E. Stuart

In 1930, Ruth Bradford Canterbury became the owner of "Maple Point Camp", formerly owned by her parents, Rev. and Mrs. Emery Bradford.

In 1962, Ruth Canterbury sold the camp which had been enjoyed by four generations of her family. It was purchased by Dorothy and Stuart Smith.

Since the Canterburys had not had the camp wired for electricity, this was the first project undertaken by the Smiths, along with modern plumbing and a bit of modernizing in the kitchen. Next, two partitions were taken out from the second floor and two spacious closets built. In 1964 and 1965 a new porch was built to replace the old one across the front of the house. Islanders have been led to believe that the next project is a new dock.

#### Boats

The Canterburys have the distinction of having owned the "Essex" which boat became in turn the property of the Browns, the Taylors, and the Ed Morgans. When Ed Morgan acquired a new boat, the "Essex" left Birch Island for the last time, August 27, 1966. She had been a part of Birch Island history continuously since the day she was launched for Rev. Bradford in July, 1922.

The Smiths' boats include a "Cruisers" outboard, an aluminum outboard and a canoe.

## Lot No. 12 - Avery, Mr. and Mrs. Walter W. (Elizabeth) Morgan, Edwin F., Jr., and Barbara Tinker

This is one of the earliest camps, built in 1898 by Mrs. Mary Avery on the land owned by Winslow E. and Mary Avery. The name that she gave to the camp was Rock Pine Lodge. The camp was transferred to their son Marcellus Avery, and then to his son Walter W. Avery, who took title to the camp in 1958. His Mother, Mrs. Abbie Avery, died in 1961.

The camp is now owned by Edwin F. Jr., and Barbara Tinker Morgan.

#### Boats

The Averys owned a sailboat and also an inboard motor boat which they named "Rock Pine", after the name of the camp.

In 1966 the Morgans purchased a 19' Century inboard. In 1968 they sold this boat and purchased a 23' Dunphy inboard and an Old Town canoe.

Lot No. 13 - Oldham, J. R. D.

Oldham, Nellie M.
Oldham, William D. G. and Marion L.

Camp Pasquaney was the property of J. R. D. Oldham until 1953 when Nellie M. Oldham inherited it. It was deeded to W. D. G. and Marion L. Oldham in 1957. A three foot right of way to the main path from Moosilauke property bordering Restall's was included in the deed. Among many improvements made to Camp Pasquaney are the installation of one of the first profax systems, a septic tank, running water and a lavatory originally powered by a gasoline engine later by electricity. For a part of many seasons Camp Pasquaney was rented to Mr. Warren Mathewson, an avid fisherman, and his wife. Another enthusiastic Summer tenant was Rev. J. Homer Slutz with his family. Mr. Slutz often preached at the Sunday service on the islan Aunt Lily Oldham was a regular guest for many, many Summers.

#### Boats

"Baralong" purchased from Mr. Pearsall was replaced by "Ariel". The present speedster is the "Baba Yaga". Other boats include Jimmy's Arkansas Traveler with outboard motor and a grey Peterboro canoe which was followed by an Alumacraft canoe.

### Lot No. 14 - Tucker, Dr. Arthur W. and Rubie H.

"Old Camp" was the original camp on the island (the only one) at the time of the purchase of the island in 1893. The camp was purchase by Dr. Tucker in 1920. At the time of the writing of Emery Bradford history the camp was still owned by Dr. Arthur W. Tucker. It came in the ownership of Mrs. Rubie H. Tucker at the death of her husband December 26, 1956.

The "Old Camp" remains essentially the way it was in 1893, although a closed-in porch was added across the front along with dining and kitchen facilities on the east side. Dr. Tucker also built three separate buildings, two sleeping cabins with baths, and the "O.P.D." for recreation and storage. The "Old Camp" is still the warmest on the island and has been known to "defy frost and storm" on many a winter's night.

#### Boats

After the sale of the "Mary Rowe" (the first Chris Craft Irwin Marine sold on the lake) to the Taylors and the "Angle Worm Two", a rowboat with a  $5\frac{1}{2}$  H.P. Johnson outboard, to the Shermans, there have been no beats at this same

#### Lot No. 15 (Steamboat Island)

Tucker, Mr. and Mrs. W. E. Sr. (Christine)
Tucker, Christine Wilson
Tucker, Stuart G.
Armen, Seth A.

From Emery Bradford's History (1936): "Steamboat Island which became an integral part of Birch Island Camp Company at the time of its organization by agreement with the then owner, Mr. Walter J. Yates, came into the possession of his son Howard D. Yates, after his Father's death. He sold the island to Mr. William E. Tucker of New York City. Mr. Tucker removed the cabin built by Mr. Yates and built a larger, more modern structure. He also built the long-desired bridge across 'the gap' connecting Steamboat Island with Birch Island."

This house with its 9 bedrooms and 7 bathrooms, and its charming living room, was very different in character from the "camps" on Birch Island, but for thirty-three years it made a very happy home for the Tuckers, and in their younger years, Doris and Bill Tucker, Jr., and their other children Stuart and Carol.

On the death of William E. Tucker, January 8, 1958, the title to Steamboat passed to his wife Christine. On her death, June 2, 1964, the title passed to their son Stuart G. Tucker of Poughkeepsie, New York. After two Summers of occupancy by the Stuart Tuckers, Steamboat was sold on August 8, 1966 to Mr. Seth A. Armen of Norfolk, Massachusetts.

#### Boats

Stuart Tucker writes:

"As for boats: The 'Carol Wilson' I guess is about my age. I can't remember not having it. Chris Craft, mahogany, two seats in front of the engine and one behind it....then there was the 'Doris Joy', usually just called the 'D. J.'. I really don't kno its age or make. It was the classic long, narrow style of the twenties. (Per W. E. Tucker, Jr., the "Doris Joy" was built about 1924 by Johnson).

"The last year we were at Steamboat we had a 17-1/2 Ft. inboard-outboard called 'The Wreck' (after the steamboat wreck), a sailboat called 'Tubby' and Sandy's Father's red raft called 'The Lobster'.

#### FAMILIES OF THE ISLAND

Unto the Third and Fourth Generations

#### Lot 1 - Tucker

Members of the Family

Mr. and Mrs. William E. Tucker, Sr. (Edith Noel)

Their Children - William Ellsworth, Jr. and Doris

Marriage -

William E. Tucker, Jr. to Beryl Weisman

Their Children Sandra Ackerson born February 8, 1949, N.Y.City
Pamela Sanborn born June 16, 1953, N.Y. City
Marriage - Sandra A. to Carlos E. Castellanos

#### Lot 2 - Taylor

Members of the Family

Mrs. Virginia Thompson Walsh held lifetime interest in 1936 Marriages -

Virginia Thompson to John Dukelow - September 7, 1948

Dr. Warren J. Taylor, son of Virginia Thompson, to Marjorie M. Hutchins - September 15, 1945

Their Children Wayne Jonathan born June 2, 1947
Leigh Whitham born September 30, 1949
Jane Stewart born May 29, 1951
Virginia Martha born March 10, 1958

"The four Taylor children have spent at least a part of every Summer of their lives on Birch Island ... all of these children have been christened in the Birch Island Church by Dr. Clarence P. Shedd. Christenings:

Wayne Jonathan Taylor, 1948; Leigh Whitham Taylor, 1950; Jane Stewart and Virginia Martha Taylor, 1962."

### Lot 3 - Forbes

Members of the Family

Rev. Kenneth Ripley Forbes and Ellen E. Forbes

Their Children - Charles B; Fred A. and John R.

Marriage -

Fred Alden Forbes to Virginia Major, Boston Massa-

Their Children Frederick Alden, Jr., "Mickey" born September 19,
1946, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
Brenda born December 15, 1948, Trenton, N. J.

Nancy Karen born June 7, 1952, Charleston, W. Va.

Marriage -

John Ripley Forbes to Margaret Sanders, Atlanta, Georgi December 10, 1951 Their Children -

Ernest Ripley "Rip" born February 10, 1953, Sacramento, California Margaret Anne "Anne" born January 11, 1957, Greenwich, Connecticut

#### Lot 4 - Restall

Members of the Family

Mr. and Mrs. William F. Buck

Daughters - Margaret, Phyllis and Barbara

Marriages -

Phyllis - married Thomas E. Jordan
Barbara Metcalf - married Frank J. McDonald
Margaret - married Henry L. Restall

Children of Henry L. Restall and Margaret Restall

Hollis

Barbara - Barbara Restall married Robert Horne, 1957

Children of Barbara and Robert Horne -

Holly and Heidi, twin girls, born in April, 1963 Robert, born in June, 1965

### Lot 5 and Lot 13 - Oldham - Lee - Speakman

Members of the Family

Mr. and Mrs. J. R. D. Oldham

Their Children -

William D. G.
Elizabeth Munroe
Florence Kathryn
Dorothy Ellen

Marriages -

William D. G. to Marion Lovell

Elizabeth M. to Walter L. Holmes

Florence K. to Harry E. Speakman, Jr.

Dorothy Ellen to Robert A. Lee

Children of W.D.G. and Marion Oldham

Marcia Elaine Merle Aleria James Winthrop

Children of Elizabeth and Walter Holmes
Elizabeth Valerie
Jeanne Laurie

Children of Ellen and Robert Lee Virginia Ellen William Robert

Marriages -

Marcia E. Oldham to Edward Vann
Their Children -

Frederick Denton born March 1958
Michael Edward born April 1960
Kristina Elaine born September 1962

E. Valerie Holmes to Ralph B. Mantecon Their Children -

Laurie Elizabeth born April 1963 Scott Blair born February 1967

Jeanne Laurie Holmes to Martin J. O'Malley Virginia E. Lee to John A. Woodruff

Their child -Kimberly Lee born July 1968

### Lot 6 - Tinker and Brown

Members of the Tinker Family

Rev. and Mrs. Wellington H. Tinker (Clara)

Their Children -

Wellington H., Jr. Charlotte Philip Barbour Barbara

Marriages -

Wellington H. Jr. to Margaret Helvenston, 1938 Charlotte to Mansfield Beshears, Jr. "Bob", 1944 Barbara to Edwin F. Morgan, Jr., 1938 Philip B. Tinker to Margaret Riblet, 1942 Members of the Brown Family

Reginald and Gertrude Brown

Their Children -

Mary Frances (Sawyer) Richard (Sawyer) Betsy Laura

born October 2, 1920 born November 4, 1921 born April 25, 1931

#### Marriages -

Mary Frances Brown to H. Lloyd Philpott Their Children -

Jeffrey Lloyd Andrew Crispin Aimee Marcia

Marguerite Elizabeth born November 5, 1946 born November 16, 1949 born July 12, 1953 born September 29, 1954

Richard Brown to Lois Brown

Their Children -

Lizabeth Anne Reginald

born February 24, 1956 born January 13, 1959

Betsy Laura to Bruce Cramer

Their Children -

Betsy

Scott Nowell Sara Butterfield

born June 4, 1953 born February 12, 1955 born September 29, 1961

### Lot 7 - Sherman and Lyman

Members of the Families

James and Doris Sherman (until 1961)

Children - Jim writes: "Just Doris and me".

John H. and Shirley C. Lyman

John H. Lyman married Shirley Carroll November 10, 1945 Their Children -

Jeffrey Carroll

born December 8, 1946, Providence, R. I.

Sally Hargraves

born September 16, 1949, Boston, Mass.

Both children were christened on Birch Island by Dr. Clarence P. Shedd, Jeffrey in 1947 and Sally in 1950 (with Leigh Taylor and Scott Smith).

#### Lot 8 - Morgan

Members of the Family

Mr. and Mrs. Edwin F. Morgan

Their Children -

Edwin F. Jr.

Richard

Grace

Dorothy

Carolyn

#### Marriages -

Edwin F. Jr. (See Lot 12)

Richard Morgan to Barbara R. James - May 29, 1943
Their child -

Marilyn born May 5, 1945, and married to Roger R. Cranshaw, May 4, 1968

Grace Morgan to Millard H. Pierce, March 10, 1945 Their Children -

Millard H. Jr. born July 2, 1946
Sally M. born June 14, 1947
John F. born January 28, 1949
Linda F. born May 21, 1954
Joan E. born September 27, 1959

Dorothy M. Morgan (See Lot 11)

Carolyn Morgan to H. Wheaton Thomas, July 1, 1945 Their Children -

Ralph W. II born February 16, 1947 Richard M. born February 18, 1955 Frank W. born May 19, 1959

#### Lot 9 - Shedd

Members of the Family

Clarence P. and Gladys Van Mater Shedd

Their Children -

--Kathleen Hadwin Charles Van Mater

Marriages -

Kathleen Hadwin Shedd to Dr. Myron Wright - January 10, 1942 (divorced 1968) Their Children -

Peter Farnum born January 10, 1943
Karen Van Mater born November 30, 1946
Andrew Beattie born March 2, 1948
Margot Shedd born May 26, 1950
Mark Bate born February 27, 1952
Jonathan Hadwin born October 25, 1957

Charles Van Mater Shedd to Virginia Evelyn Edge, October 3, 1953

Their Children -

Dennis Allen born November 8, 1954

Jeffrey Thomas born September 14,1956

Nancy Gail born December 8, 1959

Michael William born June 19, 1961

Robert Charles born November 27, 1963

Peter Farnum Wright to Penelope Fraser, August 14, 1964

Their Children -

Timothy Fraser Wright born April 19, 1967 (This Great Grandson of Clarence and Gladys Shedd was christened by Dr. Shedd on Birch Island in 1967).

### Lot 10 - Lyman

Members of the Family

Mr. and Mrs. Elihu R. Lyman (Sarah E. H.)

Their Children -

Caroline R. John H.

Marriages -

Caroline R. Lyman to Dr. Howard N. Simpson, January 1, 1938

Their Children -

Richard Lyman born August 22, 1939 --Barry-King born June 27, 1941 Donald Howard born November 3, 1943

John H. Lyman (See Lot 7)

### Lot 11 - Bradford, Canterbury and Smith

Members of the Bradford and Canterbury Families (1936-1962)

Rev. and Mrs. Emery Bradford

Their Daughter Ruth

Ruth Bradford married Donald Canterbury

Their Children -

Mary Caroline Bradford

Marriages -

Mary Caroline Canterbury to Charles S. Hatch, 1952

Their Children -

Victoria born October 4, 1955 Alexander born February 8, 1957

Bradford Canterbury to Muriel Elvin, in 1958

### Members of the Smith Family

E. Stuart and Dorothy M. Smith

E. Stuart Smith married Dorothy M. Morgan, December 4, 1943
Their Children -

Stephen Morgan born February 19, 1947 Scott Cleveland born May 24, 1950 Laurie Frances born August 3, 1964

Lauri Frances was christened at the Island Chapel on August 15, 1965 by Dr. Clarence P. Shedd as was Scott Cleveland (with Sally Lyman and Leigh Taylor) in 1950.

Marriages -

Stephen Morgan Smith married Karen Anne Leonardson on December 28, 1967.

Karen's family have lived on Welch Island for many years, and her Great Uncle, Eliot White, was married to Edith Yates by Rev. Walter J. Yates on Steamboat Island.

#### Lot 12 - Avery and Morgan

Members of the Avery Family

Mr. & Mrs. Marcellus Avery (Abbie)

Their Children -

Walter W.

Ruth

Marriages -

Walter W. Avery to Elizabeth Lougee Their child - Stephen

Ruth Avery to Robert Johnson

Their Children -

Susie - married Roger Engel in 1963

Barbara

Mark - born Feb. 27, 1950

Members of the Morgan Family

Edwin F. Jr. and Barbara Tinker Morgan, married Oct. 22, 1938

Their Children -

Robert Edward born June 11, 1942 Carol Virginia born December 31, 1946

Marriages -

Robert Edward Morgan to Marilee Moseley July 30, 1966 Carol Virginia Morgan to Jack C. Hanover, Aug. 12, 1967

#### Lot 14 - Tucker

Members of the Family

Dr. & Mrs. Arthur W. Tucker (Rubie)

Their Children -

Arthur W. Jr.

Mary Rowe

Marriages -

Martha Ransom to Dr. Arthur W. Tucker, Jr. Aug. 10, 1940

Their Children -

Susan B. - born Jan. 8, 1942, married Gerald C. Davis, June 13, 1964

Their Children -

Robert W. born July 20, 1966

Thomas C. born March 6, 1968

Nancy A. - born February 25, 1944, married Arthur J. Lockhart, Jr. June 5, 1965

Their child -

Arthur John III born Sept. 4, 1968

Mary Rowe Tucker to Prof. Hugh B. Staples, May 28, 1949 Their Children -

Elisabeth born Sept. 7, 1953 Hugh Arthur born April 18, 1957

Not to be forgotten is Auntie Kay Hilliker, a very close school friend of Rubie.

## Lot 15 - (Steamboat Island) - Tucker and Armen

Members of the Tucker Family

Mr. & Mrs. William E. Tucker, Sr. (Christine)

Their Children -

Stuart Gordon born June 21, 1933

Carol Wilson born 1930

Marriages -

Stuart G. Tucker to Sandra Legler, March 23, 1957

Their Children -

Wendy born March 24, 1959
Peter born October 5, 1960
Susan born May 31, 1962

Members of the Armen Family

Mr. & Mrs. Seth A. Armen (Eloise)

Their Children -

Hartley S. Born October 28, 1946 Christopher born October 23, 1953 Theodore born June 22, 1955 Rebecca born April 24, 1957

## Business or Professional Positions

The instructions of the committee were for a detailed and non-modest Who's Who. In handling the material gathered by the four devoted "gals", the editor found himself in a very difficult situation. It is very hard to compare business and professional work in terms of a so-called "Non-Modest Who's Who". For this reason he has taken the liberty of indicating only the character of the position held by the "Man of the House" or in some cases also by the wife, eliminating all of the detailed non-modest Who's Who material.

It is significant that three members of our honored community are in the "Who's Who in America" (Forbes, Shedd, Sherman), but in a way this is not as significant as the types of business positions held by other members of the community. If the editor were to single out any members of the community for greater distinction in service during these years since 1936, it would not be difficult to settle on three names on which there would be complete agreement:

- Dr. Arthur W. Tucker, whose ministries to our camp community as doctor, suggeon and Island agent will put us all forever in his debt,
- The Reverend Emery Bradford ("Uncle Em") who might well be called the spiritual pilot of our community, and
- Mrs. Sally Lyman, whose succeeding birthdays are celebrated by scores of birthday cards from the mail-boat and whose gift to the community is the sunshine of a very happy heart.

Beyond this the editor is not willing to go in making compartive statements regarding the significant services and distinctions of the members of our island community.

It is a striking fact that we have in the community such a wide variety of business and professional talents as will be evidenced by the listing below:

- Armen, Seth A. Certified Public Accountant and Assoc. Professor, Northeastern University, Boston, Massachusetts.
- Avery, Walter W. Sales Engineer, Communication and Electronics Division, Motorola, Inc.
- Brown, Reginald District Sales Manager, Socony Mobil Oil Company (retired).

Brown, Richard S. - Certified Public Accountant, own business, Sacramento, California.

Canterbury, N. D. - Consulting Forester, Houston, Texas.

Canterbury, Ruth B. - Librarian, Catalog Department, Fondren Library, Rice Institute, Houston, Texas.

Cramer, Bruce - Vice Pres. and General Manager of Catalyst Development Corporation.

Forbes, John - President, Natural Science for Youth Foundation, Creator of Museums for Youth.

Forbes, Rev. Kenneth R. - Episcopal Rector; Organizer and Founder, (Deceased 1965) St. Johns-on-the-Lake, Bear Island Chapel.

Horne, Robert - Vice President - Pacific Southwest Region, The Hertz Corporation.

Lee, Robert A. - Industrial Insulation Specialist.

Lyman, Elihu R. - First President, Massachusetts Gear and Tool (Deceased 1937) Company.

Lyman, John H. - President of Geartronics Corporation, North Billerica, Massachusetts.

Lyman, Shirley C. (Mrs. John H.) - Dog Breeder.

McDonald, Barbara M.-Director and owner (with her husband) of Camp Nokomis, on Bear Island.

Morgan, Edwin F. - Banker; Vice President of Rhode Island (Deceased 1961) Hospital Trust Company, Providence, R. I.

Morgan, Edwin F.Jr. - Director of Engineering, Fram Corporation, East Providence, Rhode Island.

Morgan, Richard F. - Cost Accountant, Kenney Manufacturing Company, Warwick, Rhode Island

Morgan, Robert E. - Investment Counsellor.

Oldham, J.R.D. - Superintendent of Schools, East Providence, (Deceased 1953) Rhode Island.

Oldham, Marion - Physical Education Instructor.

Oldham, W.D.G. - High School English Instructor.

Philpott, H. Lloyd - Purchasing Manager, Refineries and Tanker Fleet, Mobil Oil Corporation.

Pierce, Millard H. - Lieutenant Colonel, U. S. Army. (Retired)

Restall, Henry L. - Staff Engineer, Boston and Maine Railroad.

Restall, Hollis - Park Department, Melrose, Massachusetts.

. Y.,

- Shedd, Charles V. Industrial Relations Manager, Foster-Wheeler Company, Dansville, New York.
- Shedd, Dr. Clarence P. Professor (Emeritus), Religion in Higher Education, Yale Divinity School.
- Sherman, James Publisher, Little, Brown and Company Boston, Massachusetts. General Manager from 1955 -(Retired).
- Simpson, Barry K. Partner, Environmental Dynamics Corporation,
  Warren, Vermont. Co-Designer, Optor Housing
  System.
- Simpson, Donald H.- Educational Instructor and Writer, Systemation, Inc., Colorado Springs, Colorado.
- Simpson, Dr. Howard N. Internist and Medical Director, Monarch Life Insurance, Springfield, Massachusetts.
- Simpson, Richard L.-Director, Camp Goodwill, Child and Family Service, Washington, D. C.
- Smith, E. Stuart General Manager, M. B. Claff & Sons, Inc., Brockton, Massachusetts.
- Brockton, Massachusetts.

  Speakman, Harry E. Jr. Naval Aviator, Commander, U. S. Navy. (Retire

Taylor, Marjorie M. (Mrs. Warren J.) - Registered Nurse.

- Taylor, Dr. Warren J. Thoracic Surgeon, Boston, Massachusetts.
- Thomas, H. Wheaton Vice President, Commercial Division, L. G., Balfour Company, Attleboro, Massachusetts.
- Tinker, Rev. Wellington H. Y.M.C.A. Secretary. (Deceased 1951)
- Tinker, Wellington H. Jr. Director of Camp Lawrence on Bear Island, and associates camps and travel projects.
- Tucker, Dr. Arthur W. General Practitioner, Lynn, Massachusetts. (Deceased 1956)
- Tucker, Dr. Arthur W. Jr. Obstetrician and Gynecologist, Boston,
  Massachusetts.
- Tucker, Beryl W. (Mrs. W. E. Jr.) President, Beryl Tucker Young Trends, Inc., New York, New York.
- Tucker, Martha R. (Mrs. A. W. Jr.) Cytologist, Boston, Massachusett
- Tucker, Stuart G. Senior Engineer, Developments Division, I.B.M. Corporation, Poughkeepsie, New York.

Tucker, William E. - Lawyer, Senior Partner, Mudge, Stern,
Williams & Tucker (now Nixon, Mudge, Rose,
Guthrie & Alexander), New York, New York.

Tucker, William E. Jr. - Executive Vice President, Caltex
Petroleum Corporation, New York, New York.

Wright, Dr. Peter F. - Pediatrician.

#### THE ANNUAL MEETING

For some years now, back even before the date of 1936, the Annual Meeting of the Birch Island Camp Company has come on the first Saturday of August. It has been the meeting at which all of the business of the Company has been carried through. Its business included: Dock Repairs ... Boat House additions ... Lifters ... Reports on Church Committee, Tennis Court, and Emergencies such as the Hurricane and Fire.

The decisions made at the Annual Meeting about assessments have depended from year to year on the repair work that needed to be done on the boat house and the main dock and, of course, clearances occasioned by such calamities as the Hurricane. I find in the listing of boat house repairs from year to year that there were two items that were rather special; in 1964 electricity was extended to the boat house and Steamboat Island, and in 1950 there was major boat house construction behind the main boat house and on each side of the cat walk, adding three inboard boat slips on one side and four outboard boat slips on the other. Also, I find a record of the fact that in 1950, I believe under Mr. Elmer Tucker's direction, repairs were made on the outdoor chapel and it was painted. Also, again, through the voluntary action of Bob Lee, it was painted in 1960.

The main dock has annually been the subject of concern; for example, in 1961 the Company voted to put on the dock the spring-board for diving. In 1948 and 1964 we had major reconstruction work done on the main dock, and in 1968 enough was added across the front to extend it a safe distance beyond the rocks in the crib. Also in 1968 four new and substantially large piles were installed across the front.

The boathouses and main dock have obviously been our major items of expense. Rev. Bradford's history reports a total boathouse and breakwater cost of \$1045.15, but the original cost of the main dock is not reported. Since then, somewhat less than complete records show that approximately \$13,911 has been expended on the boathouses, and approximately \$8,630 on the main dock.

Compiler's Note: The most recent repair work on the boathouse complex was done in the Summer of 1969. Warren Taylor and Bill Tucker led a band of young island residents and guests in re-building the catwalk from shore to main boathouses. This ambitious task was accomplished in one day, notwithstanding a drenching rain and the un-necessary advice of several catwalk superintendents.

#### ANNUAL FIELD DAY

The Annual Meeting has traditionally been followed by a Field Day with swimming events and boat races. In the evening there has been the family picnic in Dr. Arthur and Rubie Tucker's Grove under the big trees that in spite of the Hurricane survived to leave a beautiful shore and tree lined grove. This has been the one big event in which all the Island, including the children, have had fun together. Each family has brought the materials for supper for the family group, and cooperatively there has been provided an ample supply of ice cream. Also this was the time at which the Awards for the sports were given out.

In 1967, on August 5, there was an innovation -- a Joint Birch and Jolly Island Field Day. Thirty boys and girls participated, fifteen from each island. They ranged in ages from 3 to 14. Some of the young people took part in Special Events, such as Water Ski Demonstrations, Greased Watermelon Contest, and the Whale Boat Race. In place of the evening picnic dinner, refreshments were shared and gifts distributed at the end of the afternoon.

This Joint Field Day was a great success, thanks to the committee made up of the following members of both Birch and Jolly Islands:

Birch: John Forbes, Chairman

Mrs. Dorothy Smith, Charades and Prizes

Charles Shedd, Swimming

John-Lyman, Skiing

Stewart Smith, Treasure Hunt

Mrs. Margaret Forbes, Prizes and Refreshments

Seth Armen, Score Keeper

Jolly: Lauder Miller, Boating Walter Holmes, Score Keeper Mrs. Dorothy Miller, Prizes and Games Mrs. Rose Borden, Games

Although it seemed appropriate to list above the committee members of this first combined Birch Island - Jolly Island Field Day, it should be particularly noted that other committees in other years would have included every other name on Birch Island.

#### BY-LAWS

The major Indoor Sport of every organization is to revise its By-Laws. Birch Island Camp Company has done that on five different dates beginning with August 4, 1923, and carrying through August 3, 1963. Obviously, the changes that have taken place since Mr. Bradford concluded his history are those beginning with August 2, 1958. It is important that we register here in this history the present By-Laws:

BY-LAWS of the BIRCH ISLAND CAMP COMPANY

of NEW HAMPSHIRE (Inc.)

as amended

August 4, 1923, August 19, 1933, August 2, 1958, August 4, 1962 and August 3, 1963

Article I

Name and Object

The Birch Island Camp Company of New Hampshire (Inc.), herein after called the "Company" is a non-profit voluntary corporation with a principal place of business at Birch and Steamboat Islands, Lake Winnipesaukee, in the town of Gilford, New Hampshire, Incorporated August 17, 1910 for the purpose of perpetuating a suitable location for the Members of said Company to maintain Summer homes but not for commercial, speculative, or other business purposes.

## Article II Membership

Section I: A camp owner(s) shall become a Member (s) of the Company upon producing to the Secretary an instrument proving ownership of property on Birch or Steamboat Island, upon signing the BY-LAWS, and subject to the approval of a majority of the Members of the Company.

Section II: In order to be a Member of the Company an individual must have attained the age of twenty-one years.

Section III: All Members shall have the right to submit Article(s) for inclusion on the Agenda of the Annual Meeting. Any such Articles shall be sent to the Secretary not less than thirty (30) days in advance of the Annual Meeting.

#### Article III Officers

Section I: Any Member as defined in Article II, may hold office.

Section II: The Officers of the Company shall be President, Vice President, Treasurer and a Secretary. These Officers and three elected Directors at Large shall constitute a BOARD OF DIRECTORS consisting of seven (7) Members.

Section III: The Officers and Directors shall be elected at the Annual Meeting of the Company and hold office for one year and until their successors are elected and qualified. No Officer except the Treasurer shall hold office for more than two consecutive years. The election of Officers and Directors for the ensuing year shall be the last item of business at the Annual Meeting.

Section IV: The President shall be the CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER of the Company. He shall preside at all meetings at which he can be present, appoint all committees as necessary and be an ex-officio member of such committees. He shall have access to the Company's safe deposit vault.

<u>Section V</u>: The duties of the Vice President shall be to assist the President as requested and preside at any meeting in the President's absence.

Section VI: The duties of the Treasurer shall be to receive and disburse all monies for which the Company is liable, maintain proper records of all financial transactions, render a full and complete report of such transactions at each Annual Meeting and at such other times as the President may direct. He shall render statements for such annual and special assessments due to the Company as have been approved by a majority of the Company at a regular meeting. He shall prepare and submit to the President and Secretary not less than 30 days in advance of each Annual Meeting an estimate of anticipated income and expenditures for the ensuing year. He shall have access to the Company's safe deposit vault.

Section VII: The duties of the Secretary shall be to keep full and accurate records of all Company Business. He shall make up the Agenda for all meetings, including therein all Article(s) submitted therefor. He shall record the minutes of all meetings and submit a copy thereof to each Member. He shall notify all Members of the Annual Meeting at least fifteen (15) days in advance of said meeting, including a copy of the Treasurer's Estimate of anticipated income and expenditures as recommended by the Board of Directors and a copy of the agenda for said meeting. He shall notify all Members of special meetings, and their purpose, as promptly as possible in advance of said meeting. He shall keep a plan of Birch and Steamboat Islands showing the boundaries of common and privately owned properties. He shall maintain a record of ownership of individ-

Section VIII: The Board of Directors shall constitute an Executive Committee to assist the President, enforce the By-Laws and enforce such rules and regulations as have been approved by a majority of the Members as they may seem indicated, and supervise the maintenance of the physical properties owned by the Company. They may authorize repairs and incur obligations under emergency circumstances but subject to the ratification of the Company at its next Annual or Special Meeting. The total obligation (s) incurred by the Board of Directors shall not exceed the uncommitted resources currently available within the treasury.

Section IX: In addition to the Officers listed previously, a Clerk shall be elected annually. This individual must be a New Hampshire resident but is not necessarily a camp owner.

Section X: A Caretaker also shall be appointed annually.

## Article IV Meetings

Section I: The Annual Meeting shall be held on Birch Island in Lake Winnipesaukee in the town of Gilford, New Hampshire, on the first Saturday of August of each year.

Section II: Where there is a joint ownership of a camp, the two or more joint owners should be present, if possible, and share in discussions at the Annual or Special Meetings, but only one vote for each camp may be cast on any question.

Section III: A special meeting may be called at any time and place by the President, the Board of Directors, or on request of any five member camps of the Company.

Section IV: A quorum at any meeting shall consist of qualified voters representing personally five camps. At all meetings absentee Members may be represented by proxy.

## Article V Lots and their Improvements

Section I: The number of lots shall not be increased beyond fourteen on Birch Island and two on Steamboat Island, and no more than one residence or camp shall be built on each lot; however, additional buildings under separate roofs are permitted but without cooking facilities, subject to prior approval of the Company.

Section II: All camps for sale shall be listed with the Secretary. A person wishing to buy a campsite on Birch or Steamboat Island shall so notify the Secretary. In either of the above cases, the Secretary shall notify all Members. The Secretary shall notify all Members of all changes in ownership.

## Article VI Common Land

Section I: The Common Land, as well as the Tennis Court, the Church, the Dockhouse, the Boathouses, the Bathhouse and the Main Dock are to be keptin order and good repair by the Company. Use of the Common Land is limited to Members, their families and guests. The Company shall maintain a path through the center of the Island providing egress from each lot to all Company-owned facilities.

#### Article VII Boathouse Slips

Section I: Boathouses are maintained for the use of all Members and upon application, the Company shall provide each Camp with a boat slip, but the Company is not obligated to provide more than one slip for each Camp. These slips are assigned and rented by the Company as landlord to the Member as tenant and are subject to reassignment upon mutual agreement between the Company and the Member or by the Company alone in case of necessity. Sale of a Camp only carries the promise of the Company to provide an appropriate slip for that Camp, but does not carry any real interest upon the slip previously rented by a former Member.

Section II: The amount of assessment for the rental of Boathouse Slips shall be set at each Annual Meeting.

## Article VIII Assessments

Section I: An Annual Assessment may be levied upon the Members of this Company for each camp owned for payment of taxes upon the Company's Common Land and physical properties, and of ordinary expenses. All regular assessments, unless otherwise specified, are due and payable within thirty (30) days of billing.

<u>Section II:</u> Special assessments may be levied upon the Members upon majority vote of the Company and will be due and payable as voted.

Section III: All financial obligations of the Company shall be met out of funds received from Boathouse rentals and assessments levied upon the Members of the Company, which assessments are voted at the Annual Meeting or at any regularly called special meeting. All motions involving any expenditures of Company Funds in excess of \$100 shall state the period of years over which the expense involved is to be collected through assessments and in case the obligation is one that will be spread over a number of years, the motion shall state how the expense is to be financed until such time as it is met in full through assessments.

## Article IX Amendment of By-Laws

Section I: Amendments and Alteration in these By-Laws may be made at any regularly called meeting of the Company by a two-thirds vote of the Members. Notice of the proposed Amendment or Alteration will be given in writing to each Member in the call for said Meeting.

## BIRCH ISLAND CAMP COMPANY OF NEW HAMPSHIRE (Inc.)

## RULES AND REGULATIONS

## Effective August 2, 1958

- 1. Owners of camps shall be allowed the privilege of privacy in front of their own camps. Camp owners and their guests are not at liberty to use the paths in front of the various camps for passage from their camps to the Sandy Beach and other physical properties of the Company, such as Main Dock, Boathouses, etc.
- 2. Boathouses or other buildings will not be constructed along the shore line.
- Garbage and offal will be suitably buried in pits maintained for this purpose.
- 4. Burning of waste products and roughage in open incinerators or similar containers is expressly prohibited. Closed incinerators with properly screened chimneys are permitted.
- 5. Open fires are permitted in suitably prepared fireplaces at the water's edge for purposes of outdoor cooking. It is expected that all due precautions will be observed so that the fire hazard is maintained at a minimum.
- 6. Each Member shall be at liberty to make such improvements on his own lot as he may choose, provied there shall be no such felling of trees or general clearing of land as shall do away with its character as forest land; or destroy its usefulness and natural beauty as a place for pleasure residence, or detract from the pleasure of other lots for the same purpose.

#### SAGA OF THE TENNIS COURT

The early history of the tennis court was given in Emery Bradford's History of Birch Island up to 1936. James Sherman, at the request of Beryl Tucker, adds a little bit to this:

"As closely as I can figure it, at this date, we must have started to clear out the area for the tennis court on Birch about 1910 or 1911. All the work was done by a few of the camp owners. I can remember how hard my Dad and Doctor Tucker slaved over it. I can remember how many hours I was made to put in - every day. - forced labor! It was more than one full Summer before there was even a small surface, ledgy and full of put holes, ready for play. I'm sure others worked and helped, but for the life of me, as I take census of the campers at that time, I can't figure who they were. Mr. Ward, I guess (Reg. Brown's camp), and Bob Raymond, perhaps (Forbes camp)."

We owe the passion for the upkeep of the tennis court more to Beryl and Bill Tucker than to any other members of the Island. From their return to the Island in 1945, they worked physically and with the Camp Company to get the tennis court in good playing shape, and the editor's debt to Beryl for the information in regard to the tenn court is very great. I want to give a few quotations from her state ment regarding the problems faced on the upkeep of the tennis court since 1945:

"1945 was our first Summer at the Lake, following our return from San Francisco. The tennis court was a sorry sight at this point. During the years of World War II it had fallen into disrepair with no manpower available at Birch Island to keep it playable. Over the next few Summers, when we were guests at Steamboat, Tuck and I enlisted the aid of some of our group to get the court into somewhat playable condition although it left a lot to be desired. It was obvious that there was need for a professional overhauling. At the annual meeting in 1952 it was agreed that Dr. Tucker, agent, should contact John F. Goodwin at the Weirs to find out what he would charge to do the job. Goodwin had the necessary equipment and labor to be able to undertake the job was the consensus of opinion."

Finally, on August 1, 1953, a proposal by John A. Goodwin for the complete re-building of the tennis court was made and considered at the annual meeting. The proposal was accepted on September 21, 1953, through a letter on behalf of the Birch Island Camp Company signed by W. E. Tucker, Jr.

Beryl Tucker writes further:

"Permission had been obtained from Hutch and Warren Taylor to allow a path to be bulldozed through their property, near the Niantic ruins, to the main path, so that material could be taken by jeep up to the tennis court site. Work did get under way, as I recall, in June of 1954, and we were playing on the court that Summer. In looking back, certainly it would seem that we should have had a champagnelaunching, but no such picture comes to mind.

"The tennis court continues to provide fun-filled hours for a number of the island population. However, there is no doubt that tennis does have to compete today with water skiing, sailfishing and boating among the younger set. The magnum opus performed in 1954 has held us in good stead, so that the court is today in very good condition and does not require an excessive amount of upkeep. In the Spring of 1961, I did approach several parties with the hope that they would be interested in maintaining the court each year prior to the Summer season and readying it for use for a nominal sum..."

A letter to Mr. Robert Colby, of Colby Marine, Lakeport, brought an estimate of the cost of annual care. His price was \$834.00. Beryl says:

"This ended any further quests for outside assistance. We've all done the job with our children being considered able help during the past four years.

"About 1963, during one of our Fall vacations at Birch - Tuck and I extended the fencing all the way around the court as insulation against a repeat of the previous Winter's romp by moose. Their hooves had left great pits in the clay. A sign was later affixed to one of the ersatz doors, I believe by one of the six Taylors, which read - 'Keep Out, Moose!"

Beryl adds this postscript to her information statement. She recognizes, as do all of us, that tennis now has to compete with water skiing and the general use of boats -- which is too bad but it is the way of so-called progress.

"I recall one Field Day when Ned Morgan organized a doubles match, 3 out of 5 games, between the Bob Johnsons (Avery camp) and the Tucker, Jrs. What made it special was that we had to play in tennis

shoes that had no laces! Ned served as a very official umpire in white flannels and all. I don't recall who won, but know we provided quite a bit of comedy for the spectators as we slipped and stumbled around."

#### LIFE ON THE ISLAND

### Transportation To and From the Island

There was always the mail boat service which one could get at Lakeport or the Weirs - providing only their time of arrival by car coincided with the mail boat schedule. The usual plan was to make an appointment with Ernest Abbott to meet you at Glendale with his boat "The Limit", which could take all your provisions and which in 40 minutes would get you to your dock and would give a leisurely chance for all the news of the island's families - news, not gossip.

If Ernest made an appointment with you he would surely keep it. He has been known to be found asleep in his boat while waiting for your arrival at night. If you were delayed, you could depend upon him to be waiting for you awake or asleep. His service extended to helping you unload his boat and taking things into your camp.

Today most of the islanders own boats of sufficient size to provide their own transportation to and from Birch Island.

# The Social Event of the Day The Mail Boat's Arrival

Where else could you get two deliveries of mail a day -- at 10 A.M. and 3 P.M.?

The morning mail boat's arrival is a gala event! Rarely missed by islanders. Letters, packages, birthday and anniversary cards are handed out by Captain Lavalee. Milk, cream, bread, ice cream are delivered (as ordered the day before). On our "Field Day" a special event for the sake of the boat's passengers who are touring the islands is the late appearance of a "man and his wife" who are quarreling about getting on the boat before it leaves and who in the end jump into the lake (or are pushed in), much to the entertainment of the boat's passengers.

The present mail boat "Sophie C", as did all previous mail boats, has on hoard a regular U. S. Post Office which supplies us with stamps, postcards and stamped envelopes. The younger set climb in and out of the boat while it is at dock, buying souvenir cards, candy and ice cream.

The afternoon mail boat is less of a social event than the morning boat, but it delivers and receives mail.

#### Food Service

Three times weekly a boat calls for grocery, vegetable and meat orders, delivering them on the next day. Most islanders also use their own boats and cars and shop for their food in Lakeport, Laconia and Center Harbour.

#### Fall and Winter Trips

Many who live in the neighborhood of Boston make occasional Fall trips to the Island (after Labor Day) -- even when the air is a bit "nippy". Some of us have enjoyed the island on Columbus Day when the colors of the leaves and the bushes on the island shores make it a fairy land and when the silvery moon is beginning its mission of waxing towards full moon.

It is possible to drive across the ice (four miles) when there is heavy covering of ice -- it has been done!

#### A Late Fall Visit

Florence Oldham Speakman writes of the experiences during a five months stay on the island, a stay that lasted until Ernest told them, with snow and ice on the island, that it was his last trip! I have abbreviated this story because of space.

"Our longest stay at Camp Moosilauke was in 1956 when we spent nearly five months on Birch Island from the middle of July until the end of November . . . .

"In the Summer and Fall of 1956 there were many northwest breezes with a lot of rain and bad weather . .

"Despite the bad weather a number of campers were on Birch Island in the Fall of 1956. The Restalls were at their camp for several weeks. Mary Tucker and her family spent a part of September on the island and there was someone at Mrs. Canterbury's. The mail boat ran into October bringing us mail and a daily paper. . . .

"My Mother gave us the use of the launch, the Moosilauke. Without her motor boat we would not have considered staying on the island so late in the season, for a motor boat is a necessity to life on the lake and especially in case of an emergency. Harry put the boat in top running order and she served us well. We used the Moosilauke for our trips to the mainland and also to explore the lake. ". . . An enormous amount of wood was burned that Fall of 1956, but so much wood was salvaged from the fallen timber that there were still stacks of wood by both camps this year when we were at Camp Moosilauke. .

"Indian Summer came two weeks before Armistice Day. The temperatures soared in the seventies by day. All Fall from mid-October on the foliage was gorgeous. During the Indian Summer the lake was like glass, and the gaily colored leaves which fell onto the lake seemed to be floating above the water instead of on it. Great flocks of birds flew across the lake winging their way south. There were Canadian geese and canvas back ducks and many species we did not know. Some would land on the water for a rest before continuing their journey.

"The exodus of the loons was most spectacular. One afternoon early in November when the lake was smooth as flass a flock of twenty-five loons appeared off Brown's point between Birch Island and Six Mile. Other loons joined these birds both singly and in groups. It was as if the loons had a date at a certain time and place. It was late afternoon when we first saw them, and as we watched them through the binoculars the group of loons increased in numbers until by sunset over two hundred loons had congregated at the rendezvous. They were out on the lake when the sun set, but by dawn they were gone. We did not see any more loons during the remainder of our stay.

"On the morning of 19 November a blanket of snow covered Birch Island which was turned into fairy land. The pipe branches bent low under the snow. Everything was white. A mink wandering across the beach stood out against the snow. Any plans for play in this new world were shattered by a hail from Ernest who advised us we must leave. When Ernest dropped us at Glendale just after sunset on 20 November, our off season sojourn at Camp Moosilauke ended. There are special problems and compensations in off season camping. It is well worth a try."

# The Iceman Cometh, or Does He?

For some time after 1936 a number of the camps were dependent on the delivery of ice by Mr. Wilbur Fay, or his son, Merrill Fay. This was before the days of the use of electricity in refrigeration. Actually, a number of camps after 1936 did have bottled gas-operated stoves and refrigerators. However, Dick Oldham's picture of the

problem that was faced in many of the camps even after 1936 is vivid and stirs up emotional reactions on the part of many of us. His "Do It Now" gives a vivid description of how one camp was affected.

"There was a time in the 30's, 40's and even the 50's when the delivery of ice was essential to life at Camp Moosilauke. The arrival of the iceman was anticipated three times a week and some one was on the lookout for the ice boat to make sure the box was ready for fresh ice. When extra ice was needed it was routine to run over to Bear Island in the Moosilauke to pick up a fifty pound cake of ice."

It may have been 'routine" for Dick but it was tough on some of us. As Dick indicated, the iceman did not always arrive and then we were obliged to go over to the ice house on Bear Island and get by our own ingenuity a fifty pound block of ice.

# Sherman's Vegetable Garden

We have this interesting account of a vegetable garden on Lot No. 7, the Sherman-Lyman camp:

"The hurricane of 1938 felled a number of trees between the Sherman and Brown camps allowing the sun to shine on a good sized patch of ground. So for many years, Ernest Abbott planted a garden there -- most of the vegetables were ripe after the camp was closed, and so Ernest, the deer, and raccoons had a healthy vegetable diet each Fall."

Ernest Abbott's death in 1964 marked the end of the vegetable garden.

#### THE GREAT HURRICANE OF 1938

# Eye-Witness Accounts

# A. Report of John Ripley Forbes

"The day after the 1938 Hurricanehit New England, David Myers, Fred and myself drove from Stamford, Connecticut, up to Glendale, New Hampshire, to survey the damage on Birch Island.

"Upon reaching our camp we saw at once that nearly all large trees on the left hand side of the cottage, between our property and the Bucks (Restall) were down. The camp suffered no serious damage with only some minor damage to the porch as a result of some hemlock trees which rested against it. The two large Red Pines, one on the right of the porch and the second on the shore front on the left hand side of the house, were blown down as were many hemlocks and smaller trees. Our lovely hemlock grove (scene of many birthday parties and family affairs) on the left hand side of the house was completely gone with but four hemlocks left standing. From the grove almost across to the other side of the island and to the side of the Buck property were almost all of the large trees blown down especially pine and hemlock. A large tree here and there remained, but most of these were topped or damaged. could (as we did) walk on fallen trees from one side of the island to the other. The entire island was a scene of tragic destruction.

"Serious as the damage was at the 'Hemlocks' with a total of 75 major trees destroyed, we suffered far less than many of our neighbors. The right hand side of our property, which is three fourths of the land, between our cottage and the Thompson (Taylor) property was almost without any serious damage. A beautiful and very old Beech Tree on the right of the house was undamaged as were most of the hemlocks and pine throughout that part of the property, the only exception was one large white pine in the middle of the property which was blown down. Two large Red Pine near our 'Oak Lodge Building' were not damaged and the old oak tree in front of the lodge (now gone) survived.

"After clearing up most of the critical damage in the immediate area of the house, we took photographs and returned to Stamford. My brother Charles spent a good part of the Winter at work on the property and did a miraculous job of clearing up our damage, getting the roots out, cutting up fallen trees and placing others in our swamp as fill. A good number of damaged trees were pulled up and wired by steel cable and many kept these cables for fifteen years. . . . "

B. The Lyman-Simpson Trip to the Island on the Weekend Following the Hurricane.

Sally Lyman's Account:

"On Wednesday, September 21, 1938 was the big Hurricane that struck Birch Island with destructive force, taking down many beautiful trees. The following Sunday my daughter Caroline Lyman Simpson, her husband Howard and I went to the Island. Our boat, the Sally II, was at the Channel Marine ready for use.

"We docked at the William E. Tucker wharf and started out for the Lyman Camp. It was heartbreaking to see so many trees down. More on Birch Island than on Steamboat Island. It took us over a half hour to get to the Lyman Camp. We could not even find the paths for the fallen trees, roots standing higher than any one of us. Many of those roots are still visible."

In the light of the fact that the camping season was over, a special meeting of the Birch Island Camp Company was called for Boston on Saturday, November 5, as indicated,

"There will be a meeting of the Birch Island Camp Company in Boston on Saturday, November 5th, at 2 P.M. in Hotel Bellevue. This is an exceedingly important meeting and every member of the Company who can possibly be present ought to be there.

"The purpose of the meeting is to plan some concerted action in respect to the condition of the island as a result of the hurricane. The fallen trees in their present condition present a serious fire menace.

"The time is to act now, and we ought to act together. If you cannot be present, please have your camp represented by proxy and write us your views on this subject."

The decision of this Special Meeting of the Birch Island Camp Company on November 5, 1938 in Boston was:

"Although the N. H. Forestry Department in conjunction with the W. P. A. would clear the island, probably without cost, it was voted to hire Ernest Abbott and any help he needed to clean up the island including disposal of logs from both the common land and the camps alike." A second meeting was held at the Island in August of 1939, at which time there was further discussion of the disposition of the trees that were still blocking the pathways:

"N. H. State Forestry Department would be willing to send a man to advise the Island on how to dispose of marketable lumber. However, no help would come from the State or W. P. A. in actual work of clearing the land.

"Mr. Lavalee would be willing to come in with a tractor and lumber men, for \$268 and the lumber. The Company turned down this proposal as more trees would have to be cut in order to bring in the tractor, and for two roads to facilitate removal of the lumber and slash.

"After due consultation with the N. H. Forestry Department, who advised against the use of a tractor, recommending rather the cutting up and burning on the island of all the lumber and slash excepting the larger pines which he thought Mr. Lavalee would remove with little damage, using his large cable and derrick, the Company contracted with Mr. Lavalee for the larger lumber and Mr. Abbott for the cutting and burning lumber and slash on the common land."

Again, in 1940 the further clearing of the island was discussed at the Birch Island Camp Company meeting with the decision:

"Since there was a balance from allocated funds for clearing common land, it was voted for Mr. Abbott to burn the remaining trunks of trees on common land."

Also, there was a decision in 1941 that during the Winter more clearance work be done by Ernest Abbott.

## THE GREAT FIRE OF JULY 4, 1946

# Camp Niantic Burned to the Ground Threatening the Whole Island

Camp Niantic burned to the ground on July 4, 1946, in spite of gigantic effort on the part of the islanders, and with a significant assist from Camp Lawrence. These efforts prevented spread of the fire. The real story of the fire cannot be better told than to quote from the account in Dr. Arthur W. Tucker's log:

## An Account from Dr. Arthur W. Tucker's Log

"Warren and Hutch (Taylor) arrived about an hour before morning mail boat. Came over to mail boat and spent about 1/2 hour in front of Old Camp when Warren went over to Niantic and hollered 'Fire'. When we arrived and went in the front door, the whole back of the camp was one mass of fire - evidently started in the back of the tool room. Warren got a few personal belongings and when he came out, fire and smoke were coming up through the piazza floor. Pine trees were 'exploding' and the camp was evidently doomed. Island people arrived and bucket brigades formed to try to save the island. After about fifteen minutes Camp Lawrence crowd arrived with brooms and axes and surrounded the fire to keep it from spreading on the ground. People began to arrive from Jolly, and Shep Brown who had been notified by the tower man on Red Hill that Steamboat was afire. The Gilford Fire Department finally arrived with a portable pumper and began to wet down all around and before leaving at 3 P.M. killed all the fire in the ruins. Mother gave them all a full course dinner before they left - leg of lamb, peas, beans, coffee, etc. Mrs. Forbe furnished the coffee. John Forbes served as mess sergeant.

"Embers flew all over the eastern part of the island - wind moderate southwest. Fire started in front of our camp - pine needles an at corner of camp. Canvas cover on Mary's boat in back of OPD caught fire and a large area in back of OPD started up. Was spotted quickly by a friend of Jim Sherman's after it had got to the size of the rug - the living room. It looked as if the whole island was going up, but when the crowd from Lawrence arrived the bucket line and axes and rake worked much faster and after about an hour we had it well hemmed in arcontrolled.

"Embers landed over near Avery's and almost down to the Boat Hous In fact, Bill Tucker went to Glendale and the embers were landing in t water as he came out of the Boat House. He said when he came back he did not expect to find our camp standing. The roof, ground and piazza were covered with embers.

"We held a company meeting after the 3 P. M. mail boat, and had watchers patrolling the island in two hour shifts all night. On the ten o'clock shift Mary and Hutch found an old stump afire over near Gramp's camp, which was quickly extinguished. At 6 A. M. a little fire broke out in the ruins.

"The meeting voted to look into fire apparatus. Each camp certainly needs a fire pumper which can be carried. Not so much to save a camp which is probably impossible if it gets much of a start, but to prevent a forest fire from cleaning out the island. Jim Sherman was the only one who had such an apparatus, and did good work with it. The bucket brigade did excellent work, however."

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#### ISLAND COMMUNITY SOCIAL EVENTS

# The New Taylor Camp and New Dock

When fire destroyed the camp, the Taylors built a new and modern camp on the site of the old Camp Niantic. They also built a new and very adequate dock. On August 20, 1958, the whole island shared in the housewarming and made the gift of a lovely floor lamp to the new home.

\_Ernest\_Abbott Day - August 22, -1959

## From The Laconia Evening Citizen -

"Ernest Abbott had his day August 22 and the big doings took place on Birch Island, Lake Winnipesaukee. Every day is Ernie's day according to the folks who live on the following islands - Birch, Jolly, Steamboat, Kinneho, Crescent, Mark, East Bear, Dollar, Fish, Breezy, Six Mile, Eagle, Whortleberry, Camp and Meredith Neck mainland, and to show their appreciation they got together Saturday and gave the biggest wingding of a surprise party that was ever thrown on Birch Island.

"The guest of honor is still so surprised that at this writing he still is wondering what happened. This surprise was in the form of an ice cream social with more than 162 islanders gathered together to honor this fine man."

The Ernest Abbott Day, August 22, 1959, is one that will never be forgotten, just as Ernest will never be forgotten.

Speeches of appreciation were made by a number of members of the island communities. It was found that his Lakeport Camp needed both a good TV and a lounging chair. He was presented with the chair, the TV and two hundred \$1 bills that had been linked together and made a long chain when pulled out of a box by two of the children at the right psychological moment.

The major part of the work in preparing for Ernest Abbott Day was done by John Ripley Forbes, as Chairman of the Ernest Abbott Appreciation Day Committee. The following were members of the committee:

John Forbes, Chairman Reginald Brown John Lyman Mrs. A. W. Tucker Mrs. Edgar Caffall Walter Holmes Miss Ruth True Leslie Woodcock John Forbes reported as follows:

"We had 60 contributors from 14 islands, Birch, Jolly, Steamboat, Kinneho, Breezy, Camp, Crescent, Mark, Dollar, East Bear, Six Mile, Whortleberry, Eagle, and Fish, as well as Meredith Neck mainland. These gifts totaled \$797.00."

# The Shedds Golden Anniversary Party August 1, 1963

All of the campers were eager to see the many new things that had been done by Dot and Stuart Smith at Maple Point Camp, formerly owned by the Canterburys. The campers included Gladys and Clarence Shedd. They were so innocent about the real purpose of the "At Home" party of August 1, 1963 that they told their grandchildren to remain back in their camp as this "At Home" would not be of interest to them. Imagine their real surprise when on arriving inside the Smiths' camp they saw spread out before them a Golden Wedding Anniversary cake together with a little tree with fifty \$1 bills attached to it. This was a never-to-be-forgotten occasion. Of course we sent back home for the grandchildren and told them they were also included. It was a grand and gracious party — one that we will never forget.

# Compiler's Note:

It seems appropriate to mention at the end of this section certain events of which Dr. Shedd probably has little or no know-ledge.

It should be at least noted here that Messrs. Tucker, Smith, and Lyman, while on a perfectly innocent outing to "The Weirs" in company with several of the younger set, suddenly discovered themselves in the midst of the Weirs Beach Riot of June 20-21, 1965. Their distressingly close and candid confrontation with several armed New Hampshire National Guardsmen certainly could not be characterized as "social", but it was indeed the event of that Summer.

The night before Labor Day 1967, discussion of a trip the next day to Mark Island to help friends Ruth and Hal Lewis take in their swim float somehow evolved into the formation of the Birch Island Navy. Accordingly, a fleet of some thirteen or more craft rendez-voused on Labor Day morning and headed for Mark Island. Due to the element of surprise, the island was taken without a fight, and a very social event followed.

Labor Day morning, 1968, dawned on a bright blue lake, and on a peaceful Birch Island. Then from the west without warning the Mark Island Navy swarmed to attack --- cannon flaming --- the element of surprise again --- Birch was theirs before we could muster our forces. However, the victors had brought along the ingredients for another social event which was thoroughly enjoyed by victors and vanquished alike.

The Birch Island invasion of Mark Island in 1969 was no surprise -- in fact, it was scheduled at the convenience of the enemy. What was a surprise was the magnitude, split-second timing and overwhelming superiority of the Birch Island attack. Our fleet was headed by a barge loaned to us by Ronald Hook of Glendale Barge and Crane Service, and was flanked by every last Birch and Steamboat ship available. The barge, replete with battle flags, a command post for Admiral Tucker, an 800 watt generator and a vast electronics complex, social event ingredients, and a full compliment of islanders, led the rest of the fleet away from the Main Dock at high noon. It was an impressive sight as it steamed the straights between Jolly and Bear, and by the time we were abreast of Mink and the southern point of Mark, we had gathered great numbers of waterbourne lake residents and tourists. Surely, the Mark Islanders must have thought it was Armageddon as we swept past their forces and on into Deep Cove precisely on schedule. With only token resistance and no bloodshed, they succumbed happily to another fine social event.

Who can tell where this will all end? We can only say at this writing that the Mark Island Navy has already held an extraordinary Winter meeting, at the foot of the Zoomer Chair on Cannon Mountain, to formulate initial strategy for 1970. En garde, Birch Island!

#### RELIGIOUS SERVICES

CHAPEL - THE SMILE OF GOD CHAPEL (Close Connection with Chapel in China)

The Chapel in the center of the Island has constantly been a source of special interest and care of the Island community. It has been named—"The Smile of God Chapel". This, even though the competition of the fast boats and guests frequently stood in the way of having church services. As long as Emery Bradford (Uncle Em) was alive and had his home in the camp community there were regular services every Sunday, led either by himself or by guest preachers invited by him.

Jolly Island has joined in the services at our chapel and it was always announced at Jolly when there was to be a service. There has been a church committee for many years. Evidence of the concern of the Island has been shown by the action of the Camp Company on securing volunteers for repairing and painting the chapelbenches and the pulpit.

In recent years, with no clergyman on the island and with the need to relax from the pace of present-day life, the impulse to have regular weekly services has been weakened. Actually, during the last dozen years services have been held about once a year in the chapel, generally at the time of the christening of the babies born to families of the island community.

Although not an ordained clergyman but ath cological school graduate and professor and a Doctor of Divinity, I have frequently been invited to conduct these occasional services and take the responsibility for christening — and there has usually been a service and sermon at the same time. This has been a "labor of love" for me and I am proud of the fact that I have had the privilege of baptizing so many children in the island community. On August 6, 1967, I had the privilege of christening my great grandson, Timothy Fraser Wright. These baptisms, of course, have fitted into ecclesiastical requirements since a layman with theological background may baptize.

# Sings on the Lake

The first "sings" on Lake Winnipesaukee were held in 1897. Captain Luce would anchor his cat boat in some quiet spot either in the lea of Birch or Jolly Island. From here all could see the going down of the sun. He usually had on board the "baby organ". Other row boats would gather round, and with someone to "lead" all the old hymns would be sung. Someone would offer a brief prayer

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at the end, as the sun sank below the horizon, the boats would quietly drift away singing "God Be With You Till We Meet Again". It was an exceedingly beautiful, reverent and impressive service.

During the period of J.R.D. Oldham's lifetime he would lead the "Sing" on the lake at sunset. Motor boats, row boats and canoes would come from all over the lake to join in this sunset hymn sing. As many as 150 persons have been counted at one of these services. These sings have been continued up to the last few years -- one hopes that they can be revived.

Often Edna Holmes, a gifted singer from neighboring Jolly Island, would sing "Taps" at the close of the service:

"Day is done,
Gone the Sun,
From the Lake,
From the Hills,
From the Sky,
All is well,
Safely rest,
God is nigh."

# St. John's-on-the-Lake

Rev. K. R. Forbes erected at the "Hemlocks" a beautiful outdoor altar for the purpose of family religious services in the Episcopal tradition. As an outgrowth of this family altar, a movement developed to establish an island church on the lake. After some years of strenuous effort on the part of Rev. Forbes, this resulted in the development of St. John's-on-the-Lake at nearby Bear Island. Funds were raised by Rev. Forbes, and the site purchased on the highest spot of land on the large island where an old observation tower was located. The tower was strengthened and a beautiful field-stone church built on the site. The church is owned and was dedicated by the Episcopal Church of New Hampshire.

### THE MIRACLE OF ELECTRIFICATION

In the pre-electrification days (when kerosene lighted our homes and cooking was done by wood stove or bottled gas) four camps had independent electrical plants -- the Lymans, the Forbes, the Dr. Tuckers, and Steamboat. Of these plants Stuart Tucker made the appropriate comment:

"They are cussed things. We had the usual 4 cylinder Kohler, which generated 110 volts D. C. when it felt like it!"

The first discussion of the possibility of having electricity on our island took place on a fishing trip when our boat was anchored off Bear Island. Those who shared in the fishing trip were John Forbes, Clarence Shedd, Charles Shedd and Donald Canterbury. This took place on a Summer evening in 1945. From this point on John Forbes and the senior and junior Shedds carried the ball.

The proposal that the island ask for service from the New Hampshire Electric Cooperative, Inc. was widely discussed during the Summer of 1945, in advance of the August 1945 Camp Company meeting. It was the consensus of the members of the Company then that the clearing of a 25-foot strip of land through the island would destroy too many beautiful trees, hence it should not be considered. (In reality it has provided a "Main Street", "let a little sunshine in" and has given the island a "fire-break"). Underground cables would not be practical because of the character of the terrain.

The matter was brought up again in the Summer of 1947, when permission was granted to cut the necessary trees for installation of lines, but there was grave question about the adequacy of the service that the Electric Cooperative could furnish at that time. This was given substance by the following report of the Committee appointed for this purpose:

"The Electrical Committee met Friday evening, August 29, 1947, and held a full discussion regarding the electrical project.

"By unanimous action of the four members present the following recommendations were adopted.

"Because at the present time the R.E.A. frankly admits the necessity of building a sub-power station near Bridgewater, N. H., to supplement their present station near Sunapee, N.H., before they can give reasonable assurance to the good people of Birch Island of service adequate to carry the full requirements of all the various devices which may be put to use, it is recommended that the installation of electrical service be postponed

"When the Bridgewater Sub-Station has been completed (and the project has been planned and is awaiting the necessary equipment which is now on order), it is recommended that the island project be brought up again for further action.

"Provided at that time the proposition is approximately the same and that reasonable assurance of full service can be given to the satisfaction of the Birch Island folks, it is assumed that a majority of the Birch Island people will wish to go along.

"(Signed) Nathan D. Canterbury,
Chairman
John Ripley Forbes
R. Brown
A. W. Tucker"

In 1954 a new committee consisting of Edwin F. Morgan, Chairman, Reginald Brown and Harry Resall contacted the New Hampshire Electric Cooperative, Inc. of Plymouth and arrangements were made for an underwater cable from Bear Island and overhead wires down the main path of Birch Island. Individual contracts were signed in 1955 and the installations began.

When this was really achieved we not only shouted "Let there be light", but almost every camp had new construction projects — pumps to pump our water from the lake, bathrooms, refrigerators and even dish washers. We knew that we had achieved "a consummation devoutly to be wished." The service we have been given, considering our island problems, has been superb. In 1960 this service was extended to Steamboat Island which previously had its own plant. To both committees that worked on this project, the debt of the island is very great.

# THE DEATH OF ERNEST ABBOTT

Ernest Abbott's death on our island on September 7, 1964, was a great shock to the island community. The story is best told in Bill Tucker's words:

"A word about the facts of Ernest Abbott's death at our camp on the afternoon of September 7, 1964. It was a clear, warm summery afternoon. Beryl and I had just had a late luncheon snack on our lakeside terrace as we often do in good weather. I had retired to the hammock for a moment of repose. It was almost time for afternoon mailboat.

"My rest was disturbed by the loud and persistent barking of Brandy, our miniature white poodle, This was not unusual, and I didn't pay much attention to it. Brandy leaped against the screen door, left the house and ran to the northwest corner of the camp where he stopped, barking even more violently. This seemed odd, and I got up to see what it was all about. As I neared the spot where Brandy was barking I heard a strange sound, neither a cry nor a sigh, but a combination of the two. My first thought was that one of the boys was in the woods taunting the dog, but as I rounded the corner of the camp, I saw that someone was prostrate on the ground. I ran to him and found Ernest face down on the ground, his head caught under the water pipe where it enters the house. I called out to him, at the same time pulling him back away from the pipe, and turning him over in my arms. What I had heard was his last sigh, for he was not breathing and his eyes were glazed. While opening his shirt and massaging his chest and calling out to try to revive his attention I called loudly to Beryl. She came running and I asked her to go for help. Showing great presence of mind, she ran directly across the island and fetched Dr. Howard Simpson who was staying with his Mother-in-law, Sally I suppose Dr. Simpson was there within 5 or 6 minutes of the time I first heard Ernest. Dr. Simpson pronounced him dead and Beryl ran to the mailboat which, in the meantime, had arrived at the Main Dock.

"Captain Vernon Cotton radioed and within 10 to 15 minutes more a PUC boat and two officers were at our dock and the coroner was on call.

"I later learned that Ernest had come to our back door and had talked to Theresa to find out whether she needed him in the next week for transportation. She had noticed that he seemed to be perspiring heavily and asked if he wouldn't like to come in and sit down and have something to drink.

He said 'No', he had been working inside all morning at the Shedd's and after saying goodbye to her and wishing her a good Winter, said he would be on his way. Theresa went upstairs and I can only guess that Ernest went down from our back porch and leaned against the woodcutting table, slipped to the ground, and crawled the foot or so to the point where I found him. Since there was no audible call for help, it all must all have happened very quickly.

"It was a shock for us, and a great loss to all Ernest's many friends. But how better for him to go? Quickly, and at a time and a place where his friends were not too far away."

So far as Ernest Abbott had a home, it was in this island community. We believe that if he could have had his choice, this would be where he would want to have his life ended.

The Laconia Evening Citizen also stated:

"Someone said of him, 'We have characters but Ernest Abbott wasn't that. He was a man of character.'"

The Birch Island Camp Company recorded the following appreciation of his life work to the community:

# ERNEST ABBOTT - 1890 to 1964 A Tribute

"'There will never be an end to the good he has done.' These words honoring Stephen Mather, the creator of our system of National Parks, also describe vividly and accurately Ernest Abbott. His death on our island on Labor Day, September 7, 1964, ended a unique partnership of just 40 years and one month as caretaker of our island and our homes. Ernest had not only the key to our homes, but also to our hearts. Our first contact with him each year was likely to be a postcard with the laconic but cheering message, 'The ice has gone - E. Abbott'.

'His was no ordinary caretaker's service. In advance of our arrival, he opened our camps, turned on our electricity, started our pumps and refrigerators and did those odd jobs so essential to our comfort in beginning camp life. On calm or rough seas, he met our families at Glendale with he beloved ship, the Limit I and II). If our arrival was delayed, whether day or night, we could count on his being at the dock and if it were late at night, we might find him, waiting, asleep under the hood of his boat. He took us, our dogs, cats, groceries, bags and household goods from Glendale to our docks and helped carry our goods into our camps.

"He was an exemplar of Yankee honesty, integrity and ingenuity. He was 'every woman's ideal' Mr. Fixit - the envy of every man. His use of string and tape for repairs and his kicking of a sluggish refrigerator to make it work after its long Winter's sleep -- these things amazed us. The greatest mystery was how he ever put out long docks without getting his feet wet -- just by the use of his pole from his boat. Perhaps a greater mystery was his inability to swim when he made his livlihood by boat service on the lake!

"His care of our island and camps during the Fall, Winter and Spring months, making trips over on the ice in the Winter months to inspect and to burn rubbish, was such that we never questioned his bills for services because we knew he would cheat himself sooner than us. We might have disagreed with some of his shrewd Yankee plans for saving us money by repairing instead of buying a 'new part', but we were generally wrong.

"As Captain of the Limit' his word was law to us. We might phone and say meet us at Glendale at 5:00 P. M. and his reply might be 'nope'. We finally agreed on whatever hour he set, knowing he would keep his word...even if we were delayed on the road.

"He was a part of our family life for three generations and gave us news of all our island families, as we made our first trip in the Summer to the island. It was news of the good things or illnesses...never gossip. His Winter visits (like the itinerant preacher!) to our homes (generally unannounced!) helped him keep up to date on family news. In a way quite unique he was a partner in our joys and sorrows. His concern for our welfare and that of our children was kind, generous and self-effacing. Perhaps the fact that he 'drove the mule teams with their chow' to the front lines in World War I made it easier for him to get along with some of our frustrating and mulish ways.

"While Ernest Abbott remained a bachelor throughout his lifetime, he shared in the affection of all our families. To us and our children he was a radiant example of that true happiness which comes from humble and unselfish service.

"In our island life he is irreplaceable. Truly: 'There will never be an end to the good he has done.'"

Compiler's Note: At the request of the Company, this tribute was written by Dr. Clarence P. Shedd. We are grateful to Dr. Shedd for speaking for all of us so beautifully.

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### IN MEMORIUM

### Deaths Since 1936

# (Emery Bradford's History Date)

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Elihu R. Lyman	1937
Rev. Emery L. Bradford	1940
Carrie L. Bradford	1941
William F. Buck	1943
Mrs. William F. Buck	1949
Clara Tinker	1951
Rev. Wellington H. Tinker	1951
Helen S. Sherman	1952
Marcellus C. Avery	1952
J.R.D. Oldham	1953
Ellen E. Forbes	1954
Dr. Arthur W. Tucker	1956
Virginia Thompson Dukelow	1957
William E. Tucker	1958
John Dukelow	1959
Nellie M. Oldham	1960
Mrs. Marcellus C. Avery	1961
Edwin F. Morgan	1961
Charles B. Forbes	1963
Christine Wilson Tucker	1964
Ernest Abbott	1964
Rev. Kenneth Ripley Forbes	1965

#### Crossing the Bar

Sunset and evening star,

And one clear call for me!

And may there be no moaning of the bar,

When I put out to sea.

But such a tide as moving seems asleep,

Too full for sound and foam,

When that which drew from out the boundless deep

Turns again home.

Twilight and evening bell,
And after that the dark!
And may there be no sadness of farewell,
When I embark;

For though from out our bourne of Time and Place
The flood may bear me far,
I hope to see my Pilot face to face

When I have crossed the bar.

- Alfred, Lord Tennyson