

## SUNSET CAMP ROAD ~ BAILEYVILLE, MAINE

This road runs southerly from the Airline Road about a mile west from the Route One intersection. Robert Flood and John Dudley collaborated on the research and welcome additions and corrections. We also hope that residents of Baileyville will consider creating their own historical society to collect and preserve its history.



*Interior View of Casey Camp from a picture post card loaned by Ralph Stewart and mailed in 1933*

The lot plan for Township No. 7 PS, surveyed and drawn by Rufus Putnam in 1784, and filed in the plan book of Eastern Lands, page 211 is quite unlike the lot plan that exists today. It does show "Meddy Bemps" Lake and the cove on which we find the six seasonal dwellings that will be described in this article. PS is for Putnam Survey, and TWP 7 today is Baileyville. Number 7 was part of the Bingham Purchase and the agent for William Bingham's Heirs was first General David Cobb, and later Colonel John Black. Both of these men had sub-agents and Samuel Kelly served in that roll in this area.

The lot bounded by the Baring town line and Meddybemps Lake was acquired on February 9, 1853 from the Proprietors of Baileyville (Bingham Heirs) by E. C. Gates and G. M. Wentworth of Calais. (Gates and Wentworth held water and mill rights on the St. Croix River). This lot also bounded Patrick Clarrissey and Paul Knight. Edmund Flood bought this lot from Gates and Wentworth on December 16, 1882. We will note here that Paul Knight later resided in Alexander south of the Nellie Berry Road (issue 63, page 4) and that his wife Lavina (Averill) was buried

in the Alexander cemetery when she died on April 20, 1874.

All of the land described in this article was owned by the Catherine (Robb) Dawson – Flood family in the later part of the nineteenth century. Catherine was married first to Michael Dawson and second to Edmund Flood. The first record of a Dawson we find is in the 1830 census of Baileyville. A Dennis Dawson is listed as head of household with three males and three females living with him. An 1841 map used in a court case indicates that Dennis Dawson resided at 230 Airline Road, where Eva Sadler has lived until recently.

The Town of Baileyville has not assigned addresses to Sunset Camp Road, so we will revert to using numbers and letters to tie the described places to the map.

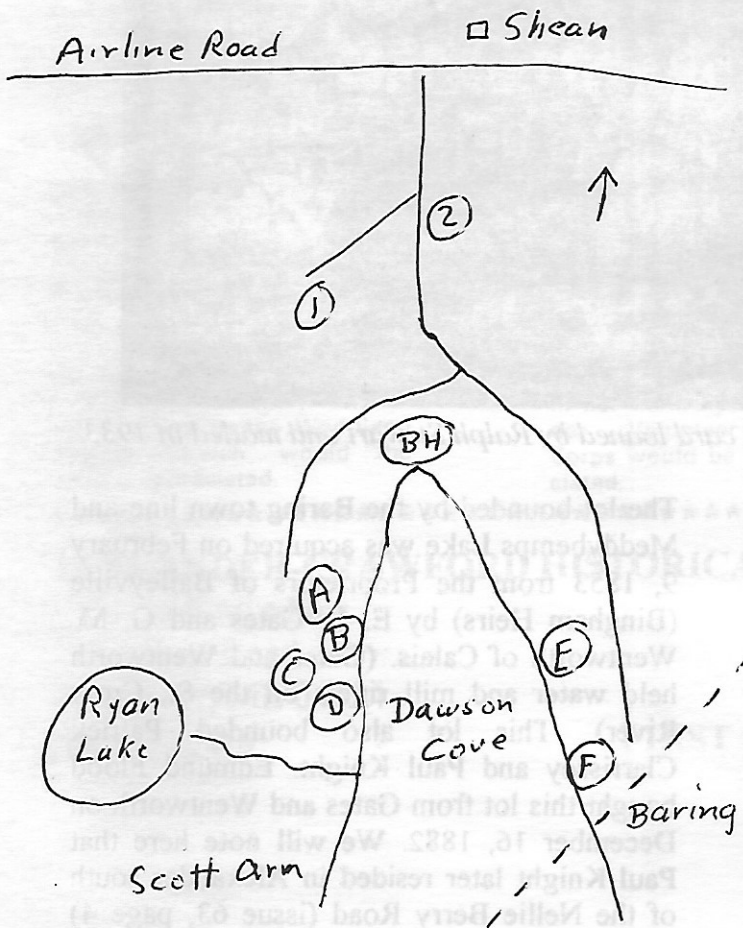
1) At this site today is a foundation and the remains of buildings. In the 1840 census we find Michael Dawson with a wife and two young children, a boy and a girl. The 1841 map indicates that Michael was residing half a mile south of the Airline. By the 1850 census, Michael has disappeared, died we believe. His widow, Catherine (Robb), age 46, has married Edmund Flood, age 40. In this household are John Dawson (18), Mary Dawson (12), Michael Dawson (9), Sarah Dawson (6), and Dennis Dawson (4), and Edmund Flood (1).

The 1860 census finds Catherine has gone back to the Dawson name as her second husband, Edmund Flood has disappeared. Catherine ages but 2 years in the decade and lists her age at 48. With her are John, Mary, Michael, Sarah, Dennis, Edmund, all ten years older than in 1850, plus Catherine, age 8. (Actually, the 1861 map has J. Dawson residing at this site, likely the 29 year-old son, John). In 1870, Catherine Flood, age 60, has living with her Edwin and Catherine Flood, Michael and Dennis Dawson, plus Mary Ann Logue (14) and Henry Lawler (8).

In the 1880 census, Catherine Flood, age 68, has under her roof her Flood children, Edmund and Catherine. Also in the household are Henry Lawler (19) and Henry O'Neil (14) both described as adopted. Her son Michael Dawson (40) and her grandson James Dawson (8) complete this extended family.

Our last census of Baileyville is 1900. In that we find Michael Dawson, age 66 and single, living alone in dwelling 122, likely this site. It is possible that all this activity took place at a site described as (41B) in issue 111, page 3 which is between our site (1) and John Ryan's house on the Staples Road. However, our site (1) has been called the Dawson place for years and thus we feel this is the place.

Also in 1900 we find Edmund Flood, age 48 and single, living alone in dwelling 124. He is the son of Edmund and Catherine (Robb) Dawson) Flood and a half brother of the Michael just described, Edmund must be



living on the 50-acre farm described in issue 114, page 10.

Apparently the Dawson place (1), occupied by Michael Dawson, was heirship property for in 1913 and 1914 we find a series of quit claim deeds to a Michael Dawson. This son of Michael would have been 80 at the time. Those signing-off were Frank, Clement, Michael, and James Dawson, Annie Mahar, Samuel, Daniel, and Edwin Robb, Mary E. and Margaret Shean, Alice J. Casey, Annie Gildart, John McGarvity, Theresa Kelley and Catherine McDonald. It appears that these grantors are all grandchildren of Catherine (Robb) Dawson Flood.

Harry Everett and Clara Maude (Keen) Rogers lived at the Dawson Place after Michael Dawson. Eldon Hunnewell told me that Harry moved out of the Dawson Place in 1939. Eva (McArthur) Sadler and her husband Ross moved into the Shean Place, across the Airline from Sunset Camp Road, in 1940. She states that the Dawson Place was unoccupied at that time and never lived in after that, except possibly by hunters.

*In the 1870 census we find John Shean (28), his wife Sarah (27) and son Robert (1). Living with them were William Ryan (90) and a Linkletter (25). The family was living at the Dennis Dawson site on the Airline. Sarah Shean was Dennis Dawson's granddaughter, fourth child of Michael and Catherine. By 1880, the family has added Mary (5), William (2), and Margaret (1). The name does not appear in the 1900 census, apparently the family had moved to Calais. Two more daughters were born to the Shean family, Alice who married Arthur J. Casey of Milltown, NB in 1901 and Annie who married Charles Gildart of Calais in 1903. Mary Dawson married Hugh Robb; their sons were Samuel, Daniel and Edwin.*

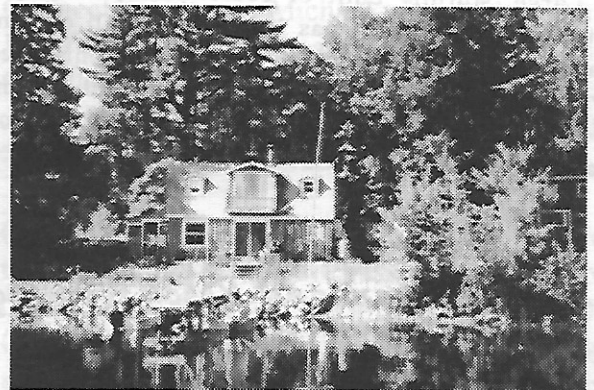
2) The 1861 Wallings Map of Washington County shows P. Classy living at this site. We have not located a house site here. Patrick Clarrissey bought a lot in October 1855. The

price was \$100.00. He paid Samuel Kelly \$6.25 and Kelly held the mortgage. This was the easterly part of the Haycock lot. The 1881 Atlas and 1929 US geological survey map do not show this house.



*Sunset Camps (A) Chapman camp - 2002*

In 1914, Michael Dawson transferred to sisters Mary A. Shean of Portland and Alice M. Casey of Calais his interest in the property. In 1927, they transferred ownership to Alice M and J. Arthur Casey. Camp (D) was built in 1916 and eventually the Caseys constructed four camps on the west side of Dawson Cove and rented these out, first under the name Casey Camps and later as Sunset Camps. The Maine Register lists Sunset Camps from 1927 until 1943. The camps were open in September 1944 for Dyer and Hilda Crosby stayed there during their honeymoon. An excerpt of a post 1935 advertising folder for this business appears with this article.



*Sunset Camps (B) Carl Mahar camp - 2002*

The telephone line to these camps went from the Airline up the Staples Road to John

