

Alexander – Crawford Historical Committee

July 1980

Report No. 3

SIGH! IF ONLY WE COULD ACQUIRE MILLIE'S SCHOOLHOUSE (at the corner of the Pocomoonshine Lake Road and Rte 9). The former one-room schoolhouse where Millie Winckler taught at the age of 16 is to be sold on July 11 at public sale at the Calais office of Atty. David J. Fletcher, main St. at 10:00 am. In spite of needing intensive repair, what a wonderful Historical Society headquarters (and community building) this little old dwelling would make. Should you have any suggestions how this might be bought about, contact one of our building committee members. (Lloyd and Ellen Wells, Don and Audrey Ketner, Ellie Sanford or Donald Frost.

GATES HOUSE: During our June 23 tour of GATES HOUSE, Evelyn Carroll (founder of the Machiasport Historical Society) reviewed the history of activities of that society over the past 16 years. "We hadn't been organized too long," she said, "before we realized we needed a home to place the various papers, furniture and artifacts that friends had given us. At that time Gates House was one of the few remaining buildings on the waterfront, and it was to be dismantled and moved. The new society was able to obtain a year's lease for a nominal fee (\$1.00) which allowed the time for a small group to raise the money needed for the purchase." With a year's leeway, rummage sales were held, bake bean suppers every month, and pens and stationery were sold. We also received several generous gifts which helped make the purchase possible." Incidentally, the Machiasport Historical Society started with only 12 members (we have 30) and now there are 400. Think on this. We would like to thank Mrs. Carroll, and the new president, Ruth Page, for the interesting afternoon at the Port. And for the refreshing punch and cake they so graciously prepared for us. We were sorry so few of our committee members could attend. However an invitation was extended to our group to visit Gates House anytime. (Hours are from 9 am. To 5 pm. Monday through Friday, and other times by appointment.) Incidentally, we all should be aware on our summer tours, whenever no fee is charged, donations are in order.

TO VISIT HISTORICAL EASTPORT (with lunch at the Cannery) Date for our tour of Eastport has been tentatively set for Tuesday, July 22, but we have yet to contact John Pike Grady, president of the Border Historical Society, to see if that date would be convenient for us to visit the barracks House Museum maintained by the society. Please contact your editor should you wish to attend the outing. Guests would be welcome to join us.

HISTORY IN THE MAKING: Construction is being started this summer on Alexander's 2nd passive solar energy house. It is being built on the former Charles and Lucretia Carlow farm on Pocomoonshine Lake Road by John Herbert Dudley, our curator. The first passive solar energy building to be erected in our area is near completion on the old G. W. Bohanon Farmstead (see Colby Atlas of Washington County, 1881). It is being built by Dr. Peter Sears. Peter's roots run deep in our forested community. His Great-grandfather, Fred Harriman, lived on the shore of Pocomoonshine Lake in a home on the exact site where Peter and Karen and their 3 children maintain a year-round home.

OUR COMMITTEE: The sole purpose of our Alexander – Crawford Historical Committee is to bring together those interested in preserving the history of our area, to record the old ways of daily life, and to revive the arts and crafts of the past before they are forgotten. This monthly newsletter exists to report historical research and activities of the committee. We have yet to form an official historical society, hold a meeting or elect officers. Those interested in receiving this newsletter should send \$2.00 (or the stamps) to the editor for the 12 monthly issues planned.