

B. HISTORY

The historical record for Pembroke and Perry that follows was adapted from the Pembroke Comprehensive Plan (1996) and the Perry Comprehensive Plan (1994) and historical references listed below.

Native Americans and Early Settlement

Undoubtedly, Native Americans traveled through and seasonally resided along the tidal and riverine shorelines of Pembroke and Perry. There is evidence of shell middens according to the Maine Historic Preservation Commission. They would have used the waters of the St. Croix River and Cobscook Bay as transportation routes and as sources for food. Encampments of Passamaquoddy Indians were still in Pembroke into the twentieth century. Part of Perry also included Pleasant Point Reservation which consisted of 100 acres on the Passamaquoddy and Cobscook Bays. The first Indian village was located across the Bay at St. Andrews. When the British settlers began to arrive the Indians moved to Indian Island, just off Eastport. When Indian Island was declared British Territory, the Indians once again relocated to Pleasant Point.

During the European Wars when Bonaparte stopped the import of timber by the English from the Baltic, this area profited greatly by the sale of lumber to England. Fed by the trade this business brought, St. Andrews NB grew very rapidly and surrounding places obtained some share of the in-flowing wealth. This was then the El Dorado of the state. One man alone cut timber in ten days that brought him \$300; and it was not an uncommon event for a man to come home with \$500 or \$1000 in his pocket, the proceeds from the sale of lumber. Money could be obtained so much more easily by lumbering than by the slow returns of agricultural toil that when the timber was gone, general poverty followed.

Government and Early Development

The original Townships of eastern Maine were depicted on a survey created by Rufus Putnam for the Massachusetts Land Lottery which divided the township into 55 lots. Ownership of the Townships, excepting those twelve lots won in the lottery, passed through several owners until, in 1793, virtually the entire area between the St. Croix River and the Penobscot River was purchased by William Bingham of Philadelphia. The towns of Perry, Pembroke and Dennysville were originally part of the "Township No. 1 east of Machias" which was later divided into Plantation No. 1 (Perry) and Plantation No. 2 (Dennysville and Pembroke).

In 1800 a plantation form of government (named Plantation No. 2) was established in the area currently included within the towns of Dennysville and Pembroke. Public meetings were held in various private residences and money was raised for schooling and the construction of roads and bridges.

In 1817 a committee drew up a petition for incorporation and on February 13, 1818, an Act of Incorporation was passed by the Legislature of the Commonwealth and signed by the Governor. Plantation No. 2 became the Town of Dennysville. By the mid 1800s, town and county roads were established in their present locations. Two principal centers of the commercial activity developed in town. One was on the banks of the Dennys River, now the village of Dennysville. Mills, lumberyards and shipbuilding facilities were founded. Some distance away, a village in

present day Pembroke on the Pennamaquan River, developed separately and had its own shipyards and iron foundries.

Some of the earliest settlers in the Pennamaquon section of Dennysville left their names in a geographic legacy to Pembroke: Leighton Point, the Herseyside, Mahar's Falls, the Clarkside, Sip's Bay, Coggins Head, among others. Hatevil Leighton made his way from New Hampshire to the neck that now bears his name as early as 1768, discovered the lumbering opportunities here and formed a partnership with Robert Wilson and William Clark from Campobello to harvest timber. Edmund Mahar, who may have been a deserter from the British army, signed on as a helper, learned to navigate the treacherous reversing falls, and piloted many a vessel through, many bearing new settlers from Hingham, Mass.

The Hingham migrants were attracted to eastern Maine by their fellow townsman, General Benjamin Lincoln, patriot of the Revolution, who became a Maine "proprietor," purchasing with two partners in 1786 almost 50,000 acres of timberland that now comprise the towns of Dennysville, Pembroke and Perry. Later Lincoln bought out the other owners, and offered 100-acre parcels to officers and soldiers who had served under his command if they would bring their families, settle the area, and populate it with the workforce he needed for his business. The descendants of many of the Hingham families are still here: Sprague, Cushing, Wilder, Hersey, Gardner, Reynolds, Smith, Kilby, Benner.

A few soldiers from the defeated British army — including James Blackwood, Joseph Dudley, and Richard Smith — found their way to Youngs Cove. The Bridges family was established here by Joseph, whose home at Ox Cove was the first meeting place for the town's elected leaders; his descendants included Styles Bridges, who moved to New Hampshire as a young man and became that state's Governor and U.S. Senator.

Not all of the early settlers were of white European stock. Scipio Dalton, a black man who was reputed to be a runaway slave from a Boston household, had a cabin on the shore of what is now called Sip's Bay.

Municipal Incorporation

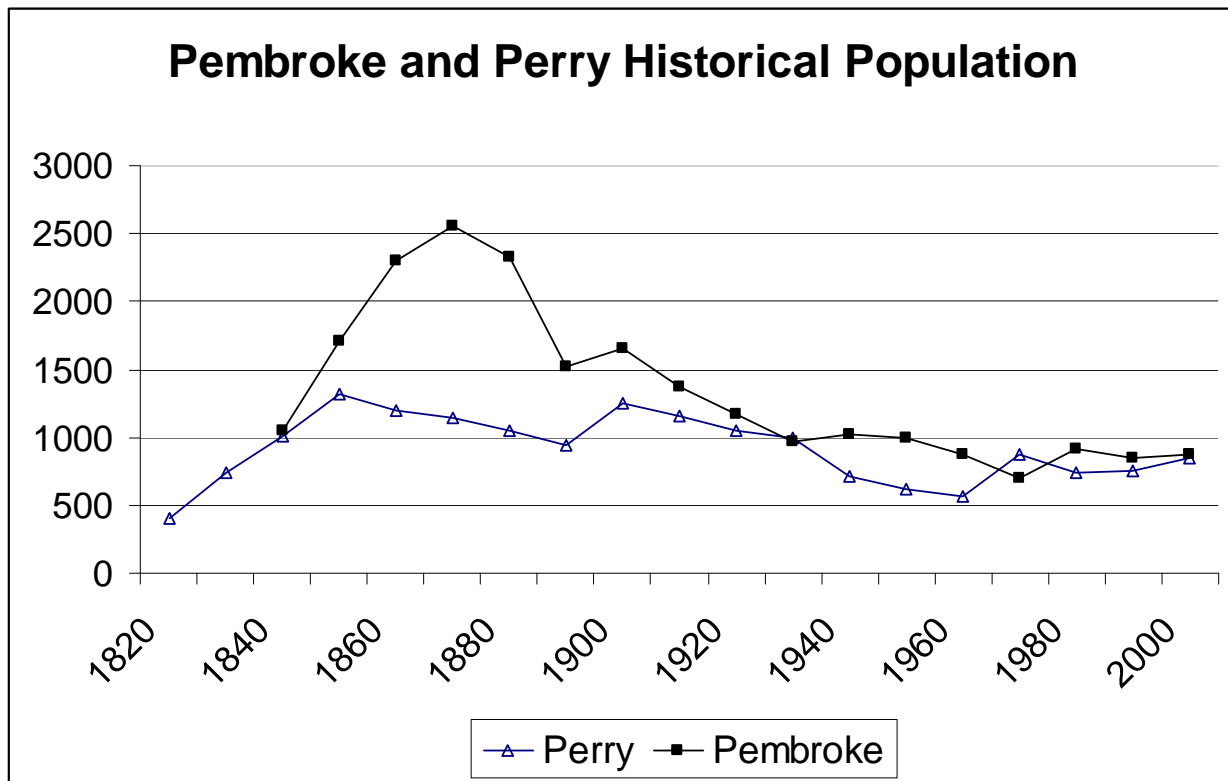
The residents of Maine voted in 1819 for separation from Massachusetts, and in the following year, the State of Maine entered the Union. In 1832, a petition to the state for the division of the town of Dennysville into two smaller towns was granted. The village on the Pennamaquan River became part of the newly formed town of Pembroke.

When Perry was incorporated in 1818, it was named for Commodore Oliver H. Perry who, as commander of a squadron in 1813, had defeated the British under the Commodore Barclay on Lake Erie. For this victory he was made Captain and received from Congress a gold medal.

In accordance with their act of incorporation, Solomon Potter, a freeholder of Perry, was required to warn and notify the inhabitants to assemble for their first town meeting. Moses Lincoln was chosen moderator; John Dudley, Solomon Potter and Moses Lincoln, selectmen; and Eliphalet Olmstead, constable. At a later meeting, other officers were chosen. For many years the principal occupation of the people was getting out timber, spars, shingles, and other articles. They transported these to St. Andrews and Robbinston and later Eastport and brought back provisions and rum.

The first meeting in Perry was held in 1812 when a few sturdy pioneers met to devise ways and means to defend their property from smugglers and other lawbreakers. Because of its location, Perry offered a depot for storing smuggled goods from Grand Manan, which was British land, and afforded an excellent opportunity for carrying on illicit trade across international waters. By 1818 the town had grown considerably and had 57 voters.

Figure B-1 PEMBROKE AND PERRY HISTORICAL POPULATION



Source US Census

In 1820, when Maine separated from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts it assumed treaty obligations between the Passamaquoddy Indians and Massachusetts. Today the Reservation has elections for Tribal Governor, Lt. Governor, and Tribal Council once every 4 years. A representative to the State Legislature is also chosen every 2 years. The Pleasant Point Tribal Community purchased 217 acres from farmers on Route 190 and this land was part of the approximately 400 acres annexed through the approval of Perry voters (Article 40 in 1985 town report describes the annexed land).

Lumber exports were the major business of the County in the years following the Revolution. Fishing, especially sardine packing, became a major industry by the end of the nineteenth century, peaking during World War II and declining afterward. In the mid-1800's Pembroke rode a wave of prosperity based upon its Iron Works and ship-building industries. Many lived in a company compound of 15 houses known as the "English village". Except for the charcoal, water power and some of the labor force, virtually nothing used in the operation was from the region - everything had

to be shipped in. Also products had to be shipped out to faraway markets. By 1880 these obstacles became too great and the Works closed.

Shipbuilding flourished through the 1870s. Among the more famous vessels built in Pembroke were the clipper ships Queen of the Pacific (1,336 tons) and Western Continent (1,222 tons). The clipper barque Comet sailed from New York to San Francisco in 112 days. This was an excellent time, considering that the record, held by Flying Cloud, was 89 days. In the early 1880s ship building went into a sharp decline as steam propulsion and iron hulls replaced the wooden sailing ships. The sardine industry which began in 1885 took up some of the slack. At one time there were five factories in Pembroke. The most modern, built in 1920, employed up to 100 persons. The last, Sunset Packing Company, closed in 1962. In 20 years the population of Pembroke dropped by over 1,000 and it has never regained the 1870 high of 2,551 persons.

Perry also has a history of building ships. Forty-eight ships were built ranging from 20 ton to 330 ton ships. The most illustrious sea captain is perhaps Daniel F. Hibbard who was born in Perry in 1849. He worked with the ship building crews and then went further to sail them. In 1874 he set a record trip from Calais to New York in 72 hours with a two-master. Along with shipbuilding was the lumber business and agriculture business.

The Perry Grange was organized on May 5, 1895. In April of 1896 the Grange had discussions on building a hall. In November of 1896 land had been given to the order by John Humphries and work was begun on a two-story building. On May 14, 1898 the first meeting was held in the new Grange Hall.

Seasonally, wreath making was also a large business. In the 1940's a pioneer in the business was the Dore and Jacobson Novelty Plant at Gleason's Point. They would ship upward of 3200 wreaths on one truck to Southern States.

In the late 1800's and early 1900's there were many weirs lining the shores of Perry with thousands of "hogsheads" (a unit of measure used for the purchase of herring - 1250lbs or 17 ½ bushels) of herring being caught each season and up to seven canneries in operation. Another industry was small dairy farms which sold their products daily to markets in Eastport, Pembroke, Robbinston, Calais, and Woodland. Also around this time there were several stores, the Farmers Union, Pottle's in North Perry, Morrison's Cash Store were the Wigwam is located now, and Arthur Lincoln's at East Bay, and there were two garages, two restaurants, a motel, a doughnut shop, and two trailer and tenting sites.

Perry is also home to the halfway marker between the equator and the North Pole. In 1888, the United States Coast Guard and Geodetic Survey Crew thought it important that they had located the 45th parallel and put up a temporary marker on the spot, saying it was within 12 inches of being exactly on the mark. On July 4th, 1899 a permanent stone was put in place with due ceremony. It is still there today located about two miles from Perry Corner set back from the road.

Education

Pembroke's earliest school building was built in 1812 at the Head of the Tide, across the road from the site that is now a small park commemorating a school built to replace it in 1842. A school on the Herseyside was erected in 1820, and later district schools were added until the

town had 11 in 1855 serving almost 900 town elementary students. The first high school, Washington Hall opened in 1872, burned in 1918, and was replaced by a new school in 1920 that burned in 1923. It too was replaced and graduated its last class in 1973. Since then, Pembroke students have been tuitioned to secondary schools in other towns, with the majority attending Washington Academy in East Machias.

The Pembroke Elementary School on Route 1 opened in 1982, with the addition in 2006 of a four-classroom modular structure. Since the 1960s, Pembroke has been a part of School Union 104, along with Eastport, Perry, Charlotte and Dennysville. With the announcement in the summer of 2007 of the Governor's School Consolidation Plan, Union 104 schools are in the process of planning for the significant changes in school organization and governance that have been mandated for the state of Maine.

The first schools in Perry were in various homes until 1822, when the first schoolhouse was built. People were poor and money was scarce, so the building was only 18' x 20' with the door at the end. Inside, the seats or benches went from the center to the sides of the building. Boys sat on the north side of the building and the girls on the south, each facing the center where there was a vacant space. The teacher's desk was at the east end, and a fireplace was at the west end. For firewood, trees were cut nearby and dragged full length to the schoolhouse, where the older boys cut them up in four foot lengths. The back log was usually about 15 inches in diameter. The flint, steel, and tinder box were the only means of getting a fire.

By 1846 there were thirteen school districts in Perry. At the Perry Town Meeting on March 7, 1885, a Supervisor of Schools was elected for the first time and \$834.40 was raised for the support of schools. Each district appointed its own agent or elected an agent at the Town Meeting. The teachers of the early schools usually were relatives of the agents, without much more education than the older pupils themselves; however, as time went on, some young people went to Gorham and Castine Normal Schools to study teaching. Even as late as 1910 there were no sanitary drinking facilities in the schools. Each building had a pail and tin dipper. Older pupils would carry the water from a nearby spring.

For a few years Perry, Pembroke, Dennysville, Charlotte, and Robbinston united to form a district, SAD #69, but this district was dissolved in 1971. School Union 104 was later formed and regional school consolidation is now under review in the entire State.

Organized Religion

Pembroke had four active churches in 2007:

1. Pembroke United Methodist Church, formed in 2001 when the Ironworks Methodist Church united with the Peoples' Methodist Church. The new congregation is housed in the former Ironworks church building on Little Falls Road. The structure dates to 1863.
2. Grace Christian Chapel established in Pembroke in 2003 in the former Peoples' Methodist Church on Leighton Point Road. The building was erected in 1869 as a Methodist vestry.
3. St. John the Evangelist Catholic Church, built about 1855 by Irish immigrants who had come to the area for employment in the Pembroke Ironworks. Many of the founders are buried in the churchyard, their grave marked by stones proudly inscribed with the Irish county of their birth.

4. First Baptist Church of Pembroke, built in 1853, with many modifications over the years to the original Greek revival structure. Most recently, vinyl siding was added, along with a new roof, furnace, fluorescent lighting, carpeting and renovations to improve accessibility.

Perry had three main churches. On October 7th, 1822, the First Congregational Church was formed with 9 members. Father Kellogg preached on the Sabbath to the people of the town and devoted the rest of his time to the instruction of the Indians. His efforts raised two thousand dollars in Perry to build a meeting house. Rev. Bennett Roberts was the first pastor for the church. The Perry Baptist Church was organized on March 27, 1880. Rev. E. Turner was chosen as the first pastor of the church with 21 members. On March 7th, 1909 the North Perry Methodist church was dedicated. The first pastor to preach at the church on a regular basis was Rev. B. W. Russell who was pastor at South Robbinston and Perry. The Perry Bible Fellowship (formerly Perry Baptist) was formed in 1971 from land given by Marshall Kinney of Perry and is located on Route 1.

Some Famous Pembroke Natives

Thomas W. Pomeroy (1832-1926) was a stonemason and a laborer at the Ironworks when he was struck by the revelation that he possessed clairvoyant powers to diagnose illnesses and prescribe herbal remedies. He practiced in New York City, but returned to his hometown every summer during his long life. He built an elegant mansion overlooking the Pennamaquan River and Union Square. Unfortunately, the ornate home burned to the ground in the 1940s. He wrote his autobiography, *Clairvoyant Reminiscences and Herbal Recipes*, which was reprinted by the Pembroke Historical Society in 1997.

William R. Pattangall (1865-1942) was a lawyer, writer, editor and politician. He served as Attorney General, four-term state legislator, and Chief Justice of Maine. He was a political satirist, noted for lampooning Maine politicians of his day. He was the author of a widely read collection of caustic comments published as *Meddybemps Letters*, and its sequel, *Maine Hall of Fame*.

Charles H. Best (1899-1978) was the son of Pembroke's longtime physician, Dr. Herbert Best. Charles, in 1921, was the co-discoverer with Sir Frederick Banting of Insulin, the "miracle drug" that has allowed millions of diabetics to live normal lives.

H. Styles Bridges (1898-1961) was born into one of Pembroke's oldest families — his ancestor, Joseph Bridges, was involved in town government at its inception. As a young man, Styles went to New Hampshire where he became the youngest state Governor in the nation at the time. He later served five terms in the U.S. Senate, and died while serving the sixth. He was a powerful force in the Republican Party, and was a candidate for his party's presidential nomination in 1940.

SELECTED TIMELINE

1793 Perry, Pembroke and Dennysville part of the "Township No. 1 east of Machias".
1800 Plantation No. 2 established including the towns of Dennysville and Pembroke
1812 Head of the Tide School built in Pembroke
1812 First meeting in Perry on town affairs

1817 a petition for incorporation to form the Town of Dennysville
1818 Incorporation of the Town of Dennysville (including area now known as Pembroke)
1818 Incorporation of the Town of Perry; named for Commodore Oliver H. Perry
1819 Maine votes for separation from Massachusetts
1820 Maine entered the Union
1822 First schoolhouse built in Perry
1822 First Congregational Church in Perry formed
1832 Pembroke incorporated as a town
1846 Thirteen school districts in Perry; 11 in Pembroke
1840-1870s shipbuilding flourishes in Pembroke and Perry
1861 Civil War started.
1863 State Aid to wives and dependant children of soldiers was started.
1870 Highest population of Pembroke - 2,551
1880 Perry Baptist Church organized
1891-1892 First Parish Meeting House in Perry built
1895 Perry Grange organized and Farmers Union established
1899 permanent stone placed at 45th parallel
1909 North Perry Methodist church dedicated
1920 Highest population in Perry - 1245
1952 Clark School built in Perry
1985 Land annexation by Pleasant Point Tribal Community
1973 Last class graduated from Pembroke High School
1988 Perry Elementary School built
1982 Pembroke Elementary School built
1995 Pembroke Historical Society formed
2001 Pembroke Fire Station built
1971 Gleason Point purchased by the State of Maine for a state park
1979 Gleason Point Leased to the town of Perry
2006 Library was opened in the former Grange Hall

HISTORIC BUILDINGS AND PLACES

No town-wide professional survey for historic archaeological sites has been conducted in Perry or Pembroke. Specific Archeological studies have been conducted at Reversing Falls in Pembroke and Falls Island in Trescott. The MHPC recommends that comprehensive surveys for both towns of the above-ground resources be conducted in order to identify those properties which may be eligible for nomination to the National Register of Historic Places. Listing in the National Register does not restrict an owner from making changes to his/her property. Rather, it protects the property against actions by federal agencies or involving federal funds. If, however, the property is altered, it may lose its listing.

The Charles Best house, a Greek revival style house on County Road in West Pembroke, is the only structure in Pembroke listed on the National Register of Historic Places. Other houses of note include: The Gothic Revival style George Hatch house, a good example of the cottage plans of Andrew Jackson Downings which were popular in the 1850's; Bridges house; Farnsworth house; and the Pattangall house.

St. John's Roman Catholic Church is a unique structure featuring a facade with a single small triangular window, a simplified gothic arch over the door and extremely simplified Greek revival pilasters. The plain interior is highlighted by a gold and white altar with a simple-yet-ornate gothic backdrop. This building is clearly eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places. People's Church is unique for its small size.

The 1996 Pembroke Comprehensive Plan indicated a need for a historical museum where the many artifacts and records now scattered about Town could be safely stored and displayed. Existing buildings which might be appropriate for museum purposes include: Head of the Tide School, Odd Fellows Hall, the old Post Office, Bret Wilder clothing store next to it (which was later the Dead River offices), and the old mining complex buildings across from Crossroads Motel.

Since the 1996 Comprehensive Plan, Pembroke can boast of several new landmarks. A fire station was constructed in 1998 on the site of Washington Hall, the former town high school. In 2003, a public boat landing was constructed on the Herseyside. A historic building that once a private residence and later the Grange hall, was restored and converted to new use as the Pembroke Library, the town's first. The Pembroke Historical Society, formed in 1995, purchased in 2000 the former hardware store, Johnson's "Anex," and renovated it as a meeting place and museum of Pembroke history. The society also constructed a "vest-pocket" park, in 2001, on the site of the former Head of the Tide Schoolhouse at the corner of Old County and Leighton Point roads.

The Pembroke Fairgrounds, unused for more than a decade, was revived for equestrian events by the revitalized Pembroke Trotting Association in 2001. The property dates to the nineteenth century when it was used for agricultural exhibitions. From the 1940s to the early 1980s, the site was a popular destination for fans of horseracing, when Pembroke was the only town in the state where Sunday racing was permitted.

While there are no National Register properties listed in Perry, two buildings are listed in the 1979 publication *Sunrise County Architecture: Significant Buildings of Washington County*. These are Warren Hall and the First Parish Meeting House.

Warren Hall is a two and one-half story brick building built by John Gleason in 1827. It was named after General Joseph Warren, who was killed at the Battle of Bunker Hill. The building is made of bricks from the Perry yards, and shows Greek revival influence with its distinctive pediment and gable end facing the street. The building was used as a schoolroom until the construction of the Clark School in 1952. Warren Hall was used by the town for meetings until the late 1920's and was sold by the selectmen in 1952 to private individuals.

The Congregational Church or First Parish Meeting House was built in 1891-1892 and dedicated on October 4, 1892. It is located across from one another at the corner of Shore Road and Gleason Cove Road. The First Congregational Church in Perry was formed in 1822, and a meeting house erected in 1828, but this burned in 1890. The present church is built in wood, and its design reflects Gothic Revival influence with the pointed arched windows, steeply gabled roof, and tall spire with gabled bell tower.

There are other buildings in town that may be of historic significance. For example, several of the old homes that date from the days of early white settlement.

REHABILITATION GRANTS

The Federal Historic Preservation Tax Incentives program rewards private investment to rehabilitate certified historic structures (building listed individually in the National Register of Historic Places or a building located in a registered historic district and certified by the Secretary of the Interior as contributing to the historic significance of the district). The building must currently be used or will be used for commercial, industrial, agricultural, or rental residential purposes, but not used exclusively as the owner's private residence. Under PL 99-514 Internal Revenue Code Section 47, tax incentives include:

1. A 20% tax credit for the certified rehabilitation of certified historic structures.
2. A 10% tax credit for the rehabilitation of non-historic, non-residential buildings built before 1936.

For both credits, the rehabilitation must be a substantial one. That is, during a 24-month period selected by the taxpayer, rehabilitation expenditures must exceed the greater of \$5,000 or the adjusted basis of the building and its structural components. And, the rehabilitation must involve a depreciable building. The National Park Service must approve, or "certify," all rehabilitation projects seeking the 20% rehabilitation tax credit. Owners seeking certification of rehabilitation work must complete the Historic Preservation Certification Application.

A Maine State taxpayer is allowed a credit equal to the amount of the Federal credit claimed by the taxpayer under section 47 of the Internal Revenue Code for rehabilitation of certified historic structures located in Maine. The credit is nonrefundable and is limited to \$100,000 annually per taxpayer.

CEMETERIES

The town of Pembroke has 5 large public cemeteries and numerous private family plots. The public cemeteries are depicted on Map 2 Public Facilities and include:

- Forest Hill Cemetery
- Hersey Cemetery
- St John's Catholic Church cemetery
- Clarkside Cemetery
- Settlers cemetery

The town of Perry has no public cemetery but 55 cemeteries, some large and some small family plots. These are mapped and described in detail in the publication *At Rest in Perry, Maine, 1990* by Jeanne O'Shea Wagner and Colon S. Morrison, updated in 2006 by Frances M. Raye. This publication is available on the town of Perry web site at www.perrymaine.org.

ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITES

Archaeological resources include locations with evidence of the early presence of human beings, including the structures, artifacts, terrain features, graphics and/or remains of plants or animals. Archaeological resources refer to those resources found underground, and include those which are prehistoric and historic. *Prehistoric archaeological* resources are those associated with Native American archaeology and generally date prior to the 1600s. *Historic archaeological* resources are those associated with the earliest European settlers.

According to the Maine Historic Preservation Commission (MHPC) there are thirteen prehistoric archeological sites in Pembroke. Twelve are shell middens or eroded shell middens along the shore of Cobscook Bay. ("Midden" is an archeologist's term for "refuse heap", those of the coastal Indians are primarily composed of clam shells, but often valuable artifacts are found in these heaps.) The thirteenth site is located on the outlet of Pennamaquan Lake. The site at Mahar Point (Reversing Falls) is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. The Pennamaquan River valley is recommended by MHPC for survey to identify other sites. The MHPC notes that a reconnaissance survey of the shoreland zone in Pembroke is complete except for Hersey Neck and the east side of Leighton Neck, and that an archaeological survey of the Pennamaquan river valley is necessary.

In Perry there are twelve known *prehistoric archeological* sites, allocated along tide-water shorelines. MHPC indicates that erosion has been extensive and that only about half of these sites retain significant information and that systematic, professional archaeological survey has been primarily focused on gas pipeline and LNG terminal proposed areas. MHPC indicates that a systematic professional survey of the marine shoreline has not been completed and that Boyden Lake shoreline also needs survey.

There are four known *historic archeological* sites in Pembroke and nine in Perry. These are summarized in the table below.

| Site Name | Type | Site Number | Era | Town |
|-------------------------|---------------------------|-------------|------------------------------------|----------|
| Pembroke Iron Works | Works American ironworks | ME342-001 | 1832 to at least 1882 | Pembroke |
| "John Dexter" | American wreck, Schooner | ME342-002 | 1904 | Pembroke |
| E. Cushing Homestead | American domestic | ME 342-003 | mainly latter half of 19th century | Pembroke |
| Ayers Jct. Siding House | American railroad, house | ME 342-004 | 1898-1978 | Pembroke |
| "Kennebec" | American wreck, Schooner | ME345-001 | April 25, 1923 | Perry |
| "Rough Rider" | American wreck, Gas yacht | ME345-002 | 1900-1927 | Perry |
| Unnamed vessel | unidentified wreck | ME345-003 | unknown | Perry |
| "Levake" or Levuka" | Canadian wreck, Schooner | ME345-004 | November 27, 1898 | Perry |
| "Harp" | Canadian wreck, Schooner | ME 345-005 | c. 1851 | Perry |
| "G.B. Otis" | American wreck, gas screw | ME 345-006 | March 10, 1918 | Perry |
| P. Doyle Homestead | | ME 345-007 | 1860s to about 1911 | Perry |
| Eastport Road Homestead | | ME 345-008 | late 19th and 20th century | Perry |
| "Harp" | Canadian wreck, Schooner | ME345-005 | circa 1800 | Perry |

MHPC indicates that no professional survey for historic archeological sites has been conducted in Pembroke or, except for a liquid natural gas project, in Perry. They indicate that future such fieldwork could focus on agricultural, residential, and industrial sites relating to the earliest Euro-American settlement beginning in the late 18th century in both towns.

THREATS TO EXISTING SITES

The greatest threat to historic buildings and archaeological sites is the lack of knowledge among landowners. Many old buildings have been intentionally destroyed without measurements and photographs. Many cellars and wells are filled and leveled without first creating a GPS record.

Historic Buildings: Even with an inventory of existing sites and buildings that may be of historic significance the town is vulnerable to the loss or conversion of sites or buildings that are important to the town’s history.

Archaeological Sites: The locations of archaeological sites are protected under Shoreland Zoning and Flood Plain Management Ordinance provisions that have been adopted by the Town.

LOCAL HISTORIES and SELECTED REFERENCES

"History of Pembroke, Maine written by Carl K. Hersey for the Historical Souvenir Book published in 1982 for the Pembroke Sequiscentennial.

“Maine Place Names and the Peopling of its Towns” by Ava Harriet Chadborne. 1957.

Town of Perry 1974 “Planning Policy Statement,” and an article by Ed Nadeau in the November 16, 1989 “Calais Advertiser.”

Historical Souvenir Book – Pembroke, Maine 1832-2007 The Terquasquicentennial Edition 175th Anniversary. Pembroke (Maine) Historical Society. July 4, 2007. Gail Menzel (Ed.)

Public Opinion Survey

A public opinion survey was mailed to all property owners in both towns in the summer of 2007. Respondents were asked in one part of the survey to identify those public investments that they favored. Recreational facilities, recycling facilities, scenic view protection, historical buildings and public access to water rank among the highest priorities for public investment in both Pembroke and Perry. In addition a majority of Pembroke respondents favored improvements and expansion of public cemeteries. Opinions were generally favorable on the establishment of a public cemetery in Perry but many respondents had no opinion on the issue.

SUMMARY

The history of Pembroke and Perry is based upon the natural resources that drove the local and regional economy, including logging, shipbuilding, canning, fishing and more recently, tourism. Many current residents can trace their families back to the town's early days. Both towns enjoy many of the benefits from our past. The town seeks to maintain a link to its heritage and support for development that retain the scale and appearance of the town as well as preserve its historic character.