

LOST MAYSVILLE

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A BRIEF HISTORY OF AROOSTOOK COUNTY'S FORGOTTEN TOWN

A Research Study

by

Evan Zarkadas

"I had visited many parks in Europe and America, where great wealth had been expended, and great displays were exhibited, but none had the same charm that compels me to visit it and admire its beautiful and valuable farms as had Maysville, whenever I can"

- Francis E. Clark

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Introduction.....	7
Land and Resources	11
Land Acquisition.....	13
Aroostook War and the Webster Ashburton Treaty .	27
Settlement after the Webster Ashburton Treaty	35
Agricultural Development	41
Economic and Political Development.....	49
Civil War.....	68
Post-Civil War Development.....	70
Conclusion	77

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

This work would have been impossible without the support and guidance of Dr. Kimberly Sebold from the University of Maine at Presque Isle and her love for local history, the Presque Isle Historical Society, Kim Smith and Craig Green for their tremendous assistance.

I am grateful to all those that helped me in the process of compiling and completing my research. This is a research project for the community and this is where it belongs.



**Bradley's Island in the Aroostook River, just north of
Presque Isle. "Where settlement began"**

INTRODUCTION

History is not just about the great empires, the wars and the old kings, it is also about the everyday community and the people who live in that community and form associations. As Shakespeare noted, there is a history in all men's lives.¹ *Nearby History* according to David E. Kyvig is the expansive range of historical possibilities in a person's immediate environment. Everything has a starting point, a cause and a reaction. Every single village or town has a purpose for its existence, and that purpose sometimes has a very interesting story.

History isn't a continuous circle, it is linear, and it has layers like an onion. You have to peel back the different layers. The top layer is the world history, the next layers are national history, state history, county history, town history, family history and finally individual history. There is a relationship of one level of history that affects the others. At the base of every history there is the personal everyday struggle for survival, then the small community history, which can range from a small family history to a town history. The major events that we always see all around us, such as political decisions, wars, and even economic changes, have their roots in these previously stated local changes and relationships. Your very own past, your family and community shaped you to who you are. Uncovering the past of an area, personal biographies, or

the origins of a small agricultural community, helps us understand and reevaluate our surroundings, and the way things developed into, with a great deal of changes and development which were the reasons for the present circumstances. This work follows the previous explained ‘recipe’ for writing and evaluating history by revealing the story of a small agricultural town in Northern Maine, that its history has been almost forgotten by the majority of the population living in that area.

The State of Maine started as a collection of small agricultural and industrial communities spread over its vast and distant lands. Each township has its very own distinct identity and history. As it is with the case of Maysville a small agricultural town in Aroostook County in Northern Maine, where its existence and its impact on the area’s history had and still has long lasting effects on the community, environment, and culture of the area today. Some of these effects include, the alternation of the landscape from an uncultivated forest to productive and successful agricultural land, the establishment of the northernmost US boundary line, and the economic success that they provided for the Maine and the US. From the early settlers, to the first settlers of the Aroostook War, all the way to the progressive farmers of the 1870’s, the vivid history of Maysville needs to be preserved and remembered for the future generations of the area, while establishing a historical presence in the wider historical accounts of Maine history.

Maysville was a small town in central part of Aroostook County which makes up northern Maine. It originated as Letter G, Range 2 on the first survey of the area done by Joseph Norris in 1825. It did not officially become Maysville until its incorporation in 1859; at that time the name changed from Letter G, Range 2 to Maysville. The origin of the name, Maysville, is thought to be related to a story that residents passed down over the generations. The story goes that once a year, the community held a picnic on a nearby mountain on the first Sunday in May. The mountain was called the 'May Mountain' and hence, the name, Maysville, originated. While it is nice to know the origin of the town's name, it is more important to understand the role of the town in the development of the area. Over the years, Maysville's history has been rolled into the history of Presque Isle since the two towns joined together in 1883; this, however, hinders our understanding of the independence Maysville had for the first 70 years of its existence. While the following sometimes refers to Presque Isle history, this work teases out the separate history of Maysville.²

Lumbering business and agriculture attracted the first settlers to the area during the early 1800's. Maine's statehood brought more people to the Maysville area in 1820 but a continuous flow of settlers started in 1842 when the US and Great Britain finally defined the border. Many of these settlers knew about the area because they participated in the Aroostook War. The "Bloodless War" as it was called, began in 1839, the

same year when Aroostook County was officially established. In 1842 the Webster-Ashburton treaty ended Aroostook War and created the final border line between the two nations. The soldiers stationed in the area returned after the war; they found available land and a new beginning for their lives. Maysville and other central Aroostook towns developed in the 1840's and 1850's. This development included schools, newspapers, churches, roads, bridges and everything else a town needed to survive. Personal development occurred as well. By 1859, when the state incorporated Maysville as a town, it had a well-developed social and economic infrastructure. Soon after incorporation, Maysville's citizens sent their men to war from 1861 to 1865, Maysville contributed to the Civil War, by sending fifty-seven men, to defend their national identity and support their ideals and beliefs. After the Civil War, Maysville's economic identity focused on agriculture, and the success of its farmers. The town grew and in 1881 it received its first railroad; The New Brunswick Railroad which provided new means of travel and increased the economic opportunities. Unfortunately, Maysville, as an independent entity lasted only seventy years, since on April 4, 1883 it merged with its Southern neighbor, Presque Isle. Because of this, the distinct history of Mayville has been integrated with that of Presque Isle, leading to the loss of Maysville's distinct identity and history. Thus, this work focuses on the history of Maysville separated from that of Presque Isle.

LAND AND RESOURCES

The Aroostook River, that runs through Central Aroostook, and along the Maysville township provided nutrients and fertility to the land and transportation for the early settlers. Like many frontier towns, Maysville was located along rivers to generate power to operate grist and saw mills.³ The islands in the middle of the Aroostook River in the area of Maysville attracted early settlers as well. These islands were located in the Aroostook River above the Presque Isle Stream. The first settlers built their crude log cabin homes on these islands.⁴ The Islands provided a great terrain where agriculture and cultivation could take place and where the settlers could start their new lives. The alluvial nature of the river replenished the soil with nutrients on a yearly basis. This rich soil that is washed from the wooded watershed of the river is annually deposited on the surface to a depth that insures a never-failing yield.⁵ Because these islands attracted the first settlers in the region and proved that the area had a great agricultural potential, they are considered a great part of the area's history and the birthplace of Letter G Range 2.

The story of Maysville begins with land. The number one source that the land of the Aroostook treasured highly was lumber. Due to isolation, the access only by river, and the heavy forestry, Aroostook land had a very limited accessibility and was nevertheless available for use. When it comes to farming, the area was overflowing with a prime growth of

trees, and with a limited primary agricultural-ready soil, it was impossible for a large farming family to support itself.⁶

LAND ACQUISITION

The acquisition of land insured success for settlers in Letter G, Range 2, which would become Maysville, as with other places in Aroostook County. Land provided soil for farming and trees for houses, barns, fences and a multitude of other lumber products. Timber could also be sold on the open market and the rivers provided access to those markets. Colonized nearly two hundred years earlier, New Brunswick provided the early settlers to the area. The land and the nature surrounding Aroostook had plentiful of resources and ways in which the pioneers could be self-sufficient. One description of the area stated:

The woods were also full of fur-bearing animals, the wild pigeons were very plenty, while one was hardly out of hearing of the drumming partridge in their season. The river swarmed with trout, chubs and suckers, while salmon annually ascended the river in such numbers that people were enabled... to secure enough, when salted and smoked, to supply the table during the long, inclement winters. The forests were the home of the lordly moose, while the deer and caribou browsed among the pines unmolested.⁷

When the settlers arrived, they found an unbroken forest and no roads. The river provided the main form of transportation for anyone coming from New Brunswick in the east. Settlers from Southern Maine traveled over land to the St. John River

and then on to the Central Aroostook area via tributaries of the St. John including the Aroostook River.

The occupation of Central Aroostook began in the early 1800s before the US and Great Britain established a permanent boundary. The first Maysville settler was Ferdinand Amesley Armstrong.⁸ Ferdinand was the son of Richard Armstrong, and Catherine Elizabeth Schaffner. Richard was from Greta Green, Scotland. Catherine was born in Lunenburg, Nova Scotia from one of the local German Protestant families. Ferdinand was born and raised in Wilmot, Annapolis County, Nova Scotia, Canada in 1789 and he first came west around 1816 with Jonathan Park, a friend and later a family member. According to genealogical records, the two men had heard of the place called Aroostook from one of their relatives John Bradley, an Englishman who had heard about the area while acting as a scout the Benedict Arnold invasion of Quebec. They may have also heard of what the area had to offer because, “Others told of a land, where the deer and Moose abounded, and the Pine Trees were so large and tall that their tops tore the clouds as they passed over”.⁹

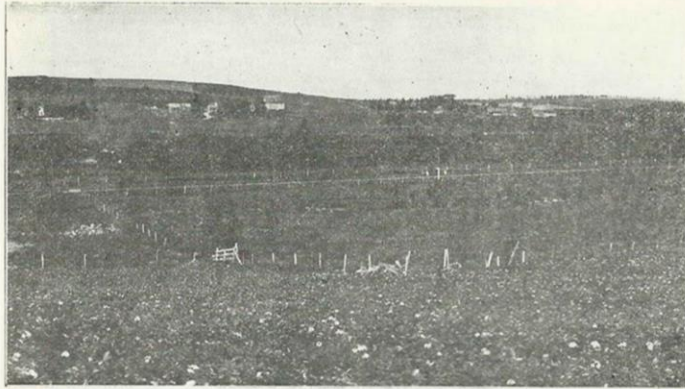
The two men saw the potential of what the Aroostook River and its islands and adjacent land had to offer. They acquired permission from the land agent of Massachusetts at Portland to cut great pines for a shilling a tree and then they hewed and floated this timber down the Aroostook to the St. John and to the market at Fredericton, New Brunswick. The

timber earned each man \$400 in gold, a vast amount for that period.¹⁰ The area had an abundance of white pines and these settlers used these trees as a valuable cash crop. This timber encouraged more settlement and the rapid transformation of the land from forest to agriculture.¹¹ Armstrong and Parks settled in the area to cut timber, they thought of themselves as semi-permanent residents since they only visited their homes in New Brunswick and Nova Scotia occasionally.¹² While working in the area, they encountered along the river, men from New Brunswick who traveled to the area to cut timber and then go home. The relationship between these New Brunswick men with Armstrong and Parks was contentious. These people cut timber and they did not like the idea of strangers competing with them for the valuable wood. W.T. Ashby mentioned, in his *Complete History of Aroostook County*, that infuriated Canadians pelted Armstrong with decayed eggs; as a result, Armstrong sided with the Americans for control over the area.¹³

The next time that Armstrong came to area was through Montreal and through the forests to Norridgewock. The two-man brought with them a yoke of oxen, and on a rude sled, loaded their camping belongings. Then they traveled the Penobscot River which lead them to the Aroostook River. When they reached the Aroostook, they connected with the mouth of the Presque Isle Stream where they built their campsites and commenced their operations. Under very limited resources and accesses in the wilderness of Aroostook, one of

the great natural resources that they used to conduct their operations was the Aroostook river.¹⁴ They cut and rafted the timber down the Aroostook River to the St. John River ending at the Canadian markets of New Brunswick and Nova Scotia. After couple of good years in this new country, Armstrong and Parks decided to settle permanently.¹⁵

In the spring of 1820, Armstrong brought his wife, Mary from New Brunswick. Mrs. Armstrong was born in Carleton County, New Brunswick, Canada in 1796. She was the sister of his friend Jonathan Parks, and they were both descendants of the great war chief Crooked Knife from the powerful St. Francis tribe.¹⁶ Ferdinand and Mary married on October 14th, 1823 in the Anglican Church of Woodstock, Carleton County, in New Brunswick. They moved to Bradley's Island located at the west side of the Aroostook River, just north of the mouth of Presque Isle Stream for two years up until 1822; then they moved down the river to what was known as Armstrong Flat on the east side of the river where they

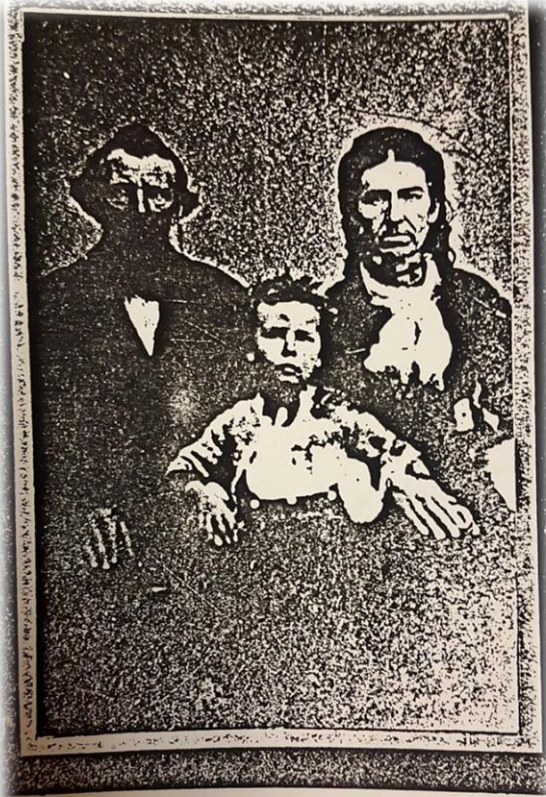


SITE OF ARMSTRONG HOUSE

Figure 4:
The site of the Armstrong house in “Parkhurst Siding”
which was later destroyed.
Picture taken from the 1820-1920 Booklet
Commemorating the history of Presque Isle, Maine.

cleared land and created a farm.¹⁷ They lived there until their deaths in 1860 and 1886.¹⁸ Jonathan Parks on the other hand, moved to Fort Fairfield to farm.

As such, the first place of settlement in the history of the town of Maysville was Bradley’s Island. On September 22, 1822, Mary Armstrong gave birth to Catherine; she is considered to be the first “white” child born in Letter G, Range 2 even if she had Native American heritage as well as European.¹⁹ Life on the frontier challenged the Armstrong’s. Catherine captured these conditions in an article she wrote for *The Aroostook Republican* before 1920.



James Ashby

Catherine Armstrong
Ashby

W.T. Ashby

Figure 3:
James Ashby and Catherine Armstrong
Ashby with their son W.T. Ashby.
Photograph taken from the History of
Aroostook by W.T. Ashby

When a girl at home, their nearest neighbors were six and eight miles away, the nearest one living where Presque Isle village now stands, while the other family resided two miles farther up the river. There were no roads at that time and the nearest trading post was Andover, New Brunswick. Fort Fairfield had a few settlers, but where Caribou stands was a gloomy and dismal forest. Schools were unknown. The settlers scattered along the river supposed they had settled in New Brunswick.²⁰

Her last sentence reflects the fact that since the border had not been settled, early settlers did not know which country deserved their loyalty. This changed with the Webster Ashburton Treaty of 1842.

Lewis Johnson, Charles Johnson and William McCrea came to Maysville via the river from New Brunswick after Armstrong and Parks in 1826. They settled at the mouth of the Presque Isle stream and farmed for a living. From 1823 to 1826, more men from either New Brunswick or Nova Scotia followed: Nathaniel Churchill, Oliver Bradley, Thomas Beckwith, Samuel Gardiner, Benjamin Weeks, William Pile, Andrew McCrea, John Dorsey, Thomas Gross, William Elliott, Patrick Connelly, James Campbell, Michael Cumming, Peter Fowler, Charles Bubar, John Rafford, Peter Bull, and James Rand lived along the river as well.²¹

Like the Armstrongs, the Oakes family settled on an island that became known as Oakes Island. Originally from Nova Scotia, the family created a farm on this forty-acre island making it the largest and most valuable island in the Aroostook River. Reverend George Park recounted in his *History of Presque Isle*, the hardships on Oakes Island.

During spring, there would have been the spring freshets, when the river overflowed the island and the cabin floor, so that the family had to climb to the attic. The horses and cows in hovels were almost immersed in water for days, and dwellings almost floated from their weakened bearings. For days and nights, the family had to

anxiously wait for the water to subside and dry land to appear.²²

The ability to recover from floods and other problems reflects the tenacity of these early settlers, like the Oakes. This strength provided them with the ability to deal with the turmoil of boundary issues that came with the events leading to the Aroostook War in 1839.

Maine became a distinct of Massachusetts in 1647. By the late 18th century, its population felt that Massachusetts no longer met its needs. Finally, in 1820 with the Missouri Compromise, Maine separated from Massachusetts to become its own state. The state of Massachusetts accepted the separation on the provisions that it receives the proceeds from the sale of half of the newly settled lands in Maine, particularly those in the northern part of the state. Earlier purchases and state grants did not apply to this policy.²³ By the 1840s, farmers in the southern part of the state encountered a loss of fertility in their land, in addition, available land was limited. The Maine government encouraged younger farmers from going west through land grants for farms, saw mills and grist mills in Aroostook County; this opened the development in the area.²⁴

To acquire the land, settlers cleared fifteen acres of which ten acres were reserved for grass cultivation and the building of a house within four years. A person could purchase as many as five hundred acres; however, the government required them to bring two extra individuals to live on purchases of three

hundred acres or more. These policies show the urge from the state to push for the settlement of its northern lands. While Maine was implementing these new land policies, in the west the *Land Act of 1820*, was requiring for the interested buyer to pay in full at the time of purchase. That difference in the legislation of the time shows the great need for keeping local population in Maine, while also developing its underdeveloped lands.

The Survey of 1825, conducted by Joseph Norris, established the township and range system in northern Maine. Each township and range constituted an area of thirty-six square miles. Norris identified each range that included unsettled townships with letters. For example, Presque Isle was Letter F while Maysville was Letter G. Once the townships became settled a number was added so that Presque Isle was Letter F, Range 2 and Maysville was Letter G, Range 2. In his report to the government, Norris stated that 20 settlers lived along the Aroostook River at that time. As per requirement of Maine splitting from Massachusetts, Massachusetts received all the proceeds from land sales in Letter G, Range 2 which became Maysville and Maine received the proceeds from land sales in Letter F, Range 2 which became Presque Isle. At that time Massachusetts retained the ownership of half of the available unsold land in Maine.

Men like Chandler and Bean settled the land despite the fact that the border between the US and Great Britain had not

been defined. In 1835 the state made the land even more attractive for settlers by pricing it at fifty cents an acre and by establishing that settlers could pay for the land through public work such as road labor. In addition, the legislature through the *Act to Promote the Sale and Settlement of the Public Land* increased the amount of land to be sold by requiring more land be surveyed and plotted before it could be sold. Finally, in 1835 Maine purchased unsold land from Massachusetts within the Maine borders, again increasing the amount of land to be sold. While many young men in Southern Maine moved West to purchase land others realized the potential for success in the lands of northern Maine. But before this final push into the County could occur, the dispute over the border had to be settled.

The Norris survey opened the area to settlers from Southern Maine. Veranus Chandler arrived in Maysville in 1834 from the southern part of the state. Chandler was born in the town of Montville located in Waldo County on May 22, 1815. Chandler was part of a great Revolutionary War family. Chandler's trip from Montville to Township G was not easy, nor was he the only one who endured this route. Many from Southern Maine traveled over land to Houlton and from Houlton went as described by George Park in *History of Presque Isle*.

The only way, then, of reaching Northern Aroostook was the route as follows: first was the 12 mile trip from Houlton to Woodstock,

New Brunswick, then up the St. John River 48 miles over rocks, roots and cradle knolls, the road being only bushed; next over 6 miles of similar road to the Aroostook river to Fort Fairfield; then up the shore of the river 2 miles, then across 3 miles of what was called the Portage, the first half being poorly bushes and through a swamp, and the rest of the way over a hardwood ridge to the Presque Isle stream, which was finally reached by fording the river twice and struggling with brush and bushes along the shores.²⁵

Chandler arrived at a time when land was readily available and inexpensive. He purchased his land from the state. In 1839 after building his house he got married to Elizabeth Nevers Hooper. His main occupation was lumbering, but he and his wife also engaged in subsistence farming. George Park described Chandler in his history of Presque Isle as:

An energetic, resolute, strong minded and intelligent man; a great reader and thinker; a student of affairs and condition in State, Nation, and the World. He was a fine conversationalist, well informed, quick-witted, apt and keen in repartee, able for a farmer of his time, and gifted in active ability.²⁶

Chandler became a prominent figure among the pioneers of Aroostook. In 1858 Chandler's involvement in the community lead him to petition the legislature for a new survey of the land because of insufficient land distribution and organization as to the distribution and the understanding of land ownership in the area. Noah Barker completed this survey in 1859. Chandler

also petitioned the legislature for funds to build a bridge across the Aroostook River as well as roads.

Philo Bean settled in Township G in 1859. Bean traveled from Readfield in Kennebec County to Letter G, Range 2 by boat through the St. John and Aroostook River, since roads were not opened yet. Bean settled on lot number eleven and farmed the land. He had several marriages and many children. He participated in the Whig Party and contributed to his community through his contributions to the construction of school houses, the Grange, roads and bridges. He and his family watched Letter G, Range 2 grow and develop into Maysville. Like many families, the Beans watched sons leave the area to fight in the Civil War.²⁷



Figure 1:
Ferdinand and Mary Armstrong, 2018. Mr. and Mrs. Armstrong were prominent and well-respected figures in both the town of Maysville, Presque Isle, and Fort Fairfield. They are both buried in the Union Cemetery of Fort Fairfield. Photograph taken by Evangelos Zarkadas.

Form R-3 (For old records only)

**COPY OF AN OLD RECORD
OF A DEATH**

Place of Death
Street.....No.....
Name *Richard Armstrong*
How long a resident
Previous residence
Sex.....Color..... Married, Single
Widowed
or Divorced
Deceased was husband of
" " wife of
Date of Birth: Year *1798* Month.....Day.....
Age: Years *62* Months.....Days.....
Occupation
Place of Birth
Name of Father
Birthplace of Father
Occupation of Father
Maiden Name of Mother
Birthplace of Mother
Date of Death: Year *1860* Month *July* Day *17*
Cause of Death

Form R-3 (For old records only)

**COPY OF AN OLD RECORD
OF A DEATH**

Place of Death
Street.....No.....
Name *Mary Armstrong*
How long a resident
Previous residence
Sex.....Color..... Married, Single
Widowed
or Divorced
Deceased was husband of
" " wife of *Richard Armstrong*
Date of Birth: Year *1796* Month.....Day.....
Age: Years *90* Months.....Days.....
Occupation
Place of Birth
Name of Father
Birthplace of Father
Occupation of Father
Maiden Name of Mother
Birthplace of Mother
Date of Death: Year *1886* Month *Feb.* Day *15*
Cause of Death

Figure 2:
Both the records of death from Mr. and Mrs. Armstrong.
Records taken from the Ancestry Website.

AROOSTOOK WAR AND THE WEBSTER ASHBURTON TREATY

The Aroostook War occurred due to the lack of an agreed upon boundary between Maine and New Brunswick.²⁸ The arrival of settlers in the Aroostook River Valley increased the tensions over the border. Great Britain believed that this land which the state of Maine sold to settlers belonged to it and not to Maine and the US. To make matters worse, lumberjacks from New Brunswick arrived to cut trees and stake a claim for Great Britain; they also kidnapped the American land agent during the winter of 1838-1839.

There were numerous reports of aggression between the two sides, and the situation reached the point that the state of Maine sent Charles Stewart Daveis, a Portland attorney, to report on the aggressions by the New Brunswick citizens on the Americans in the area. Daveis's report included numerous examples of instances when New Brunswickers tried to impose their land and regulations on the Americans. The report reflected that the New Brunswick government included the area of Aroostook even beyond the American border line, decided in 1783 by the legislature of Massachusetts and the British crown. The first instances of trespass and aggression involved New Brunswick lumbermen coming into the area were upon the trespassing of the border lines to cut timber.²⁹ One of Daveis reports, states that an official from the New

Brunswick side exercised his power over citizens in the American side of the border. “Early last spring he appeared among them, and forbid of clearing and cultivation, to get a living... and marked parcels of lumber, which they had cut, for seizure”.³⁰ Due to the absence of American government, the New Brunswick province had established its authority over the Aroostook River Valley despite the fact that the people in the area followed American laws and saw themselves as Americans, more specifically Mainers. The consequence of such actions was the Aroostook War. Maine sent 10,000 troops to Fort Kent, Fort Fairfield, and Houlton and the US Congress agreed to send 50,000 men if needed. This conflict slowed settlement in the area until the Webster-Ashburton Treaty defined the boundary in 1842.

During these tense times between the American and New Brunswick, daily terrorism and harassment on the part of both groups almost led to war. An example of these tensions involved the Armstrong family of Maysville. A small party of New Brunswick men kidnapped James Armstrong, son of Ferdinand, put him in a canoe and took him to New Brunswick. The men took his clothes and other possessions on his person in order for him to pay for his release.³¹ Because of these actions, the settlers along the Aroostook River feared traveling along the St. John River. This fear led to loss of access to mills and stores; while people lost access to their everyday resources. In order to regain some semblance of order, the Americans in the area built a road to Houlton because that allowed them

access to the military road to Bangor (See Appendix D). This also gave the Maine militia and US Army access to the area if war broke out.³²

Two important events that brought the Maine militia to the area are The Incident of Baker's Liberty Pole in Madawaska and the Incident of Arnold's Cow in Maysville.³³ The story of Arnold's Cow involved neighbors, Joseph Arnold and William McCrea, over the ownership of a cow. Arnold favored the American authority over the area, while McCrea favored New Brunswick. On September 17, 1827 McCrea used the authority of the Canadian Constable, Stephen McNeil, to seize the cow for him. Arnold saw McNeil's authority questionable, since he believed Maysville to be under American jurisdiction. As a result, Ferdinand Armstrong, Joseph Arnold, John and Thomas Beckwith, William Brown, Peter Bull, Joshua Christie, William Dalton, Thomas Feevy, Morton and John Rafford, James Rand, and Seth Steward armed themselves, overpowered McNeil and his men, and retrieved the cow from them; then they told McNeil to never cross the river again.³⁴

By late November 1839 persisting tensions forced Governor John Fairfield to send the Maine militia into the area. Most of these men came from the Southern part of the State. The Maine militia set up encampments in Fort Fairfield and Fort Kent while the US troops built more permanent structures at these forts once they replaced the Maine militia in the fall of

1839. The Aroostook War was a cold war as no actual fighting occurred.

In mid-February 1839, Maine land agent Rufus McIntyre, the Penobscot County Sherriff and a volunteer militia went to the Central Aroostook area to arrest New Brunswickers for unauthorized lumbering. The New Brunswickers instead captured McIntyre and imprisoned him in Woodstock. The Americans responded by capturing the New Brunswick land agent McLaughlin. Eventually, both sides exchanged prisoners once Washington mediated the exchange. Settlers along the Aroostook River including Maysville who did not want to be part of the United States, moved back to New Brunswick.³⁵ Some of these individuals include Peter Bull, James Fitzherbert, Richard Hox, George Rogers, John Twaddle, John Bradley, and David Wark.³⁶

The Aroostook War is known as the Bloodless War because no fighting occurred. However, one soldier deserted, one soldier died from disease and a bear became the only real war related death. The story of the bear became part of local history and has been passed down as such:

In the pioneer days, the settler's cows were allowed to roam the woods or any old place they chose, and the patches of grain were fenced. One night, Polly Armstrong's cow did not come home, and her husband was away to work on the fort, she had to go far the next morning to look for her. When she got near the Armstrong brook, she was attacked by a bear and she was driven up a tree. The bear attempted to come up

the tree, when Ms. Armstrong unloosed her red flannel petticoat and dropped it down over the bears head. The bear then ran away with the skirt around his head. Some soldiers had been set out from the Fort to look for English spies who were said to be lurking around. At a distance, they saw a red object running through the woods and thought that it was a British soldier. The Yankees fired a volley at the bear and killed it.³⁷

This story is a great addition to the local history despite its questionable authenticity; it shows that the communities along the Aroostook feared that British spies lurked around every corner and that they could trust the soldiers to track them down and dispose of them even if it was only a bear with a red petty coat on its head.

In 1840, Maine officially created Aroostook County to reinforce its control over the area. In the spring of 1842, Lord Ashburton represented the British government and Daniel Webster, Secretary of the State, represented the US to determine the boundary between the US and New Brunswick. On August 9, 1842, the two sides signed the Webster-

Ashburton Treaty (See Figure 7), which was then ratified by the U.S. Senate on August 20, 1842.³⁸ This treaty finalized the boundary line, the citizenship question of each resident and the overall ownership of the disputed land. According to the treaty, every man, woman, and child residing in Aroostook County became an American citizen, all male citizens under the legal age were given the right to vote, and every man with a family was also given one-hundred acres of land (See Figure 9).

The Aroostook War paved the way for the development of Central and Southern Aroostook County. With the boundary settled, people now felt more secure in their land ownership. Men in the Maine militia and US Army who defended Fort Fairfield saw the potential of the available land along the Aroostook River. Instead of going west for cheap land, they could travel north. As a result, more families from the Southern part of the state arrived in the 1840s and 1850s while some still came from Nova Scotia and New

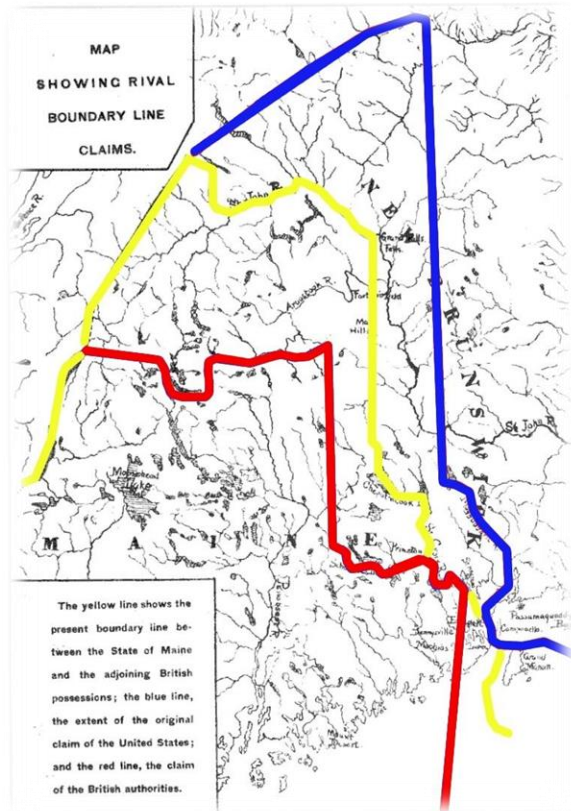


Figure 7:
Map showing the extreme boundary claims (red = British, blue = United States), and the final border (yellow). Picture taken from Wikimedia Commons.

Brunswick. The border was established but it was fluid. As more people settled in the area farmers cleared land, agriculture gained importance and the timber industry boomed. Letter G, Range 2, which would later become Maysville, benefitted from this migration and state land policies as well.

John Tyler,
President of the United States of America,
To all and singular who shall see these presents Greeting:

Whereas, a Treaty to settle and define the Boundaries between the Territories of the United States and the Possessions of Her Britannic Majesty in North America: For the final Suppression of the African Slave Trade, and For the giving up of Criminals, fugitive from justice in certain cases, was concluded and signed in this city, on the ninth day of August instant, by their respective Plenipotentiaries: And whereas the Senate of the United States, by their resolution of the twentieth day of the same month (two thirds of the Senators then present concurring), did advise and consent to the ratification of the said Treaty:

Now therefore, I, John Tyler, President of the United States of America, having seen and considered the said treaty, in pursuance of the aforesaid advice and consent of the Senate, by these presents, accept, ratify, and conform the said treaty, and every clause and article thereof.

In faith whereof, I have caused the seal of the United States of America, to be hereunto affixed. Given under my hand, at the city of Washington, this 22nd day of August in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and forty-two, and of the Independence of the said States, the sixty seventh.

John Tyler

By the President,
David Mallon Secretary of State.

Figure 9:

**Webster-Ashburton Treaty Ratification, 9 August 1842.
(courtesy National Archives / 596319)**

SETTLEMENT AFTER THE WEBSTER ASHBURTON TREATY

The depletion of good farmland in the southern part of the state led to the increase of migration into central Aroostook County in the 1840s and 1850s. Shortly after the treaty the unorganized letters were incorporated into townships and new valuable for the development of the area families started to arrive in Aroostook County. New state land increased the interest for settling the area; these policies ensured secure land agreements from the state. Although these generous offering tried to attract farms in the state, and convince them not to move West, the outcome of the sales was disappointing for what the state had hoped to gain. The state's generous land policies helped establish socio-economic development similar to that in areas just west of the Mississippi River. The abundance of land and natural resources attracted settlers looking to improve their lives. The land and its abundant resources helped to settle this frontier and with frontier life came great possibilities for improvement, reduced social stratification and diminished differences between individuals; on a frontier everyone is equal. This resulted in a newly formed society that pushed for rigorous improvement of infrastructure and economic development. While new land policies helped the new settlers, those that had settled prior to the boundary settlement and the division of the land based on the township

and range system were granted their title through a legislative resolve in 1840.

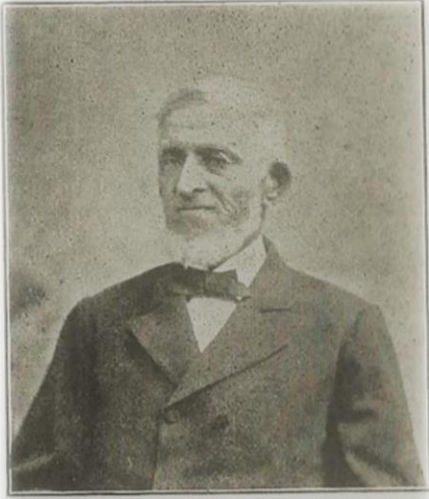


Figure 10:

Squire John Allen, picture taken from the 1820-1920 Booklet Commemorating the history of Presque Isle, Maine.

John Allen gives us a great example of settlement after the boundary was established. Allen settled in Maysville after the Aroostook War and profited from the new land policies; he also helped in the development of Maysville.

Allen arrived in Letter G, Range 2 in 1839. Born on December 10, 1800 in New Sharon, Maine and descended from one of the oldest families in New England, Allen worked as a teacher in southern Maine until he decided to settle in Letter G, Range 2 in 1839.

Allen, an Aroostook War veteran, knew the potential of the land and claimed 1,000 acres in the new township of Letter G and some in Letter F. He worked as a miller, a farmer, a lumberman, and a merchant, eventually he became the wealthiest man in town. When he moved to the area, he bought a large quantity of groceries with him including molasses, spices, and other things which were easy to haul. The supplies also included several chests of tea—a 25, 50, and 100-pound chests of tea to have for his home while clearing his new claim of 1000 acres.³⁹

While building his home in the wilderness, Mr. Allen required a place to live, hence he made an offer to the owner and occupant of one of the islands on the Presque Isle stream. The occupant replied that he would sell the island for \$100. Mr. Allen agreed to the price but offered to pay in kind rather than with currency. Like the bear killed during the Aroostook War, this story has become part of local history.

I have brought with me some groceries bought in Hollowell, among them chests of tea weighing 25, 50 and 100 pounds. Would you like some of these? The man stated that he would like a chest of tea. "How much?" inquired Mr. Allen. The man stated that he would like a 100-pound chest, and thus Allen purchased the island for the price of only \$25, since at that time, tea was scarce in Aroostook and very costly, being worth one dollar a pound, while in Hollowell or Gardiner it could be purchased for 25 cents per pound. Therefore, after he purchased the island, his family and him resided there until they had established their home upon their 1,000-acre lot that they had purchased.⁴⁰

Allen cleared land and built a successful farm.⁴¹ In 1843 he signed a contract with the state, since he was planning to settle on lot thirty-seven that Thomas Sawyer had just established in his new land survey map of Letter G, Range 2. This contract reflects the way in which many settlers in the area paid for their land.

Mr. Allen had to initially make a down payment of thirty-nine dollars and sixty-seven cents, which was one-fourth of the cost of the lot. Additionally, Allen or his assignee had to perform all duties required of a settler. The remaining one hundred and nineteen dollars had to be paid in road labor within three years of the contract date. Within the first year the settler had to show some improvement on the land, within the second year he was expected to establish his residence. During the fourth year he had to clear fifteen acres of land, ten of which must have been planted to grass. Once all these requirements were met by the settler then he received the land deed from the state. Few lots in this township were recorded as sold for money. Most lots were awarded by legislative resolve or for road labor and settling duties.⁴²

In addition, he established industries, cleared more farm land, and expanded the local populations which helped the overall development of both Maysville and Presque Isle. Meanwhile, Allen became known on the west coast as well. Since he had family in California, he visited them every winter and helped to establish another home on the west coast. He was known as a pioneer of both frontiers, since he helped establish two different towns in both the West and the East.

Allen's friend, Captain Henry Rolfe, also a veteran of the Aroostook War settled in Maysville around the same time. Rolfe traveled over land to come to Maysville and is perhaps the first settler to come by land instead by the St. John River. According to oral tradition, Rolfe was the first farmer to plant potatoes in Central Aroostook. Rolfe cleared 16 acres of land

just two miles north of the Presque Isle Stream and planted one acre of potatoes, one acre of wheat, and the rest in oats.⁴³ At that time, oats and potatoes sold for \$50 cents per bushel, buckwheat \$1.00 per bushel and wheat for \$2.00 per bushel, hay bought \$20.00 per ton.

When Capt. Rolfe took up his lot it was amid a dense wilderness, with no roads in all this region and nothing but a spotted line to guide him on his way to the river. The custom was to cut the timber upon the bank of the river and could be easily rolled into the water, drive it to Fredericton and boat back the supplies purchased with the proceeds of its sale. Capt. Rolfe used to carry his wheat on his back two miles through the woods to the mouth of Presque Isle Stream and boat it up the stream to Fairbanks mill, where it was ground and then boated down the stream to the Aroostook River and carried on his back to his home in the forest. His first clearing consisted of 16 acres, one acre of which was planted to potatoes, one acre sown to wheat and the remainder to oats. At that time oats sold for 50 cents, potatoes 50 cents, buckwheat \$1.00 and wheat \$2.00 per bushel. Hay bought for \$20 per ton.⁴⁴

Rolfe's success reflects the opportunities that the Aroostook River Valley offered to these settlers. Hard work and determination made it possible for men like Rolfe and Allen to succeed.

Agricultural Census

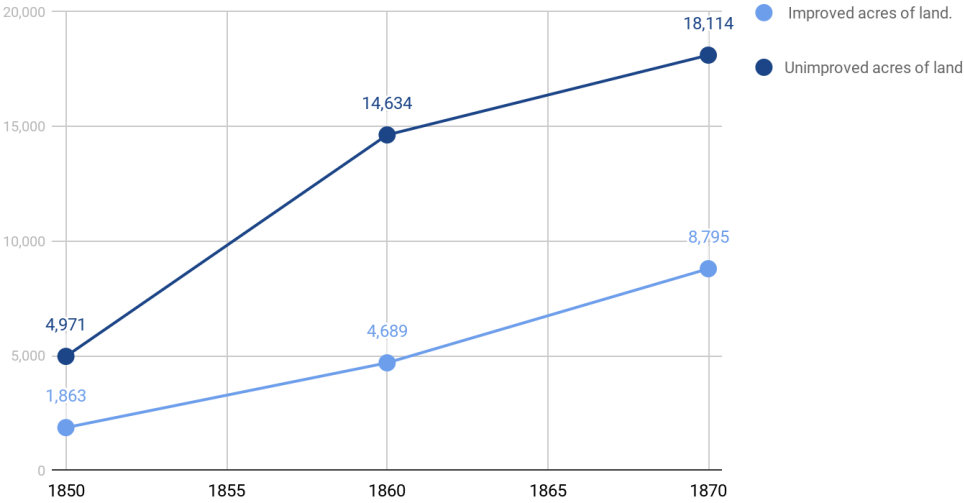


Figure 11:
The Maysville agricultural census from 1850-1870 using the Ancestry Census records.

AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT

With increased population in Maysville came huge changes in the economy and landscape as more farms were developed. The process of the preparing landscape for farming was slow and labor intensive. The average settler cleared and planted between three and seven acres of land per year. Settlers along the Aroostook River and Presque Isle Stream would have to also built cabins and planted enough crops to sustain them for a year. They would have used the surrounding woods for lumber and fire wood and continued to clear it to increase the size of their farm.⁴⁵ Between 1851 and 1879 settlers continued to improve land as the state land policy stipulated land clearing and development as a requirement for ownership.⁴⁶

By 1850, Letter G, Range 2 had fifty-eight families among 361 residents. The work force consisted of forty-one farmers and sixty-six laborers. Settlers had improved 1,863 acres of land valued at \$19,000. Ten years later, Letter G, Range 2, now Maysville, had 114 families and 641 residents. The number of farmers had increased to 98 and farm laborers maintained at 66. Improved acreage was 4,689 with a value of \$81,921. The state still had more land to sell in Maysville and some of the original settlers sold their farms to others who wanted to move to the area. As more land sold, more extensive clearing of unimproved land occurred once again alternating

the landscape. By 1870, Maysville had 8,795 acres of improved land valued at \$180,970 with a population of 758 people making up 135 families.⁴⁷

Maysville farmers grew a variety of crops because of the rich and fertile soil. Farmers initially planted hay and oats which they sold to lumbermen who came from New Brunswick. In the 1840s, they also manufactured shaved pine shingles as well as cedar shingles which they sold in Houlton. Eventually, farmers profited from potatoes that they sold for starch production. Short growing seasons made it difficult to raise crops such as corn and land in the area adapted easily to potato production.⁴⁸

By the 1870s, potatoes for the production of starch brought increased economic development to Maysville and Aroostook County. The lack of adequate transportation for shipping large quantities of potatoes made starch the most valuable solution to this transportation issue. The starch industry increased the production of potatoes. Clarence Day in his *Farming in Maine, 1860-1940*, noted that census figures showed the potato crop of 1889 was seven times larger than that of 1869.⁴⁹ In his history of Presque Isle, George Park reflected on the importance of the starch industry for the area and how a New Hampshire starch producer opened the County to this industry.

The starch makers from New Hampshire were surprised to learn that potatoes flourished in Aroostook and were of an excellent quality and

that the winter was cold and clear, just what was needed in the making of starch. The result was that one of the starch men came to Aroostook and looked the county over the next year. He examined the fine potatoes raised, the fine water power and streams and cold, clear water. He believed that this would someday become the greatest potato country in the world. This was in the summer of 1874.⁵⁰

After this visit Maysville and Presque Isle saw the benefits of this industry and promoted the planting of potatoes and the building of starch factories. With the increased demand for potatoes came new ways of farming. At that time most farmers in Maysville, planted small patches of potatoes and dug them by hand and with a hoe. With the starch industry came new technology like the horse-hoe which made harvesting potatoes easier and cheaper. Because of this, farmers cleared more land to increase field acreage available for more potatoes.⁵¹

Starch producers from New Hampshire established the first starch factory in 1875 on the east side of the Presque Isle Stream in Maysville. Unfortunately, these men found that the cost of hauling starch long distances due to the lack of a railroad did not produce them with the profits they had hoped. They sold the factory to the Johnson and Phair family. The Johnson and Phair operating proved more profitable and eventually Phair became the “Starch King” of Aroostook County because of his ownership of thirty starch factories. The largest of Phair’s operations was located in Maysville.

The importance of the Maysville starch factory and its size is exemplified by the outcome of the Mapleton Forest Fire of 1877. During that fire, Mapleton lost its starch factory, mill



Figure 15:
Elisha E. Parkhurst. Picture taken from Page 19 from the *History of Aroostook* by Edward Wiggin.

and bridge. This forced the Mapleton farmers to use the Maysville starch factory. More revenue was brought in to the factory and ultimately, the town.⁵²

Elisha Emery

Parkhurst arrived in Maysville in the late 1850s early 1860s from Dresden Maine where he was born in 1834. Educated at Unity School, he farmed with his father and later in life became a successful merchant who traveled

throughout Penobscot and Aroostook counties. In 1858, he bought a 320-acre farm in Maysville where he settled permanently. He built a starch factory on the East side of the Aroostook River. Later the Canadian Pacific Railroad tracks passed by that area and it became known as Parkhurst Siding. Parkhurst ran the starch factory for ten years. He was also one of the largest potato shippers in the county. In addition, he sold farm machinery, and invented a spraying machine for potatoes.

Parkhurst's work helped to develop the Maysville area economically and agriculturally.⁵³

The two stages of frontier development reflect the uses of natural resources. The first involved early pioneers such as Armstrong's who used a smaller portion of the natural resources but still improved them with his cutting of timber and clearing of land for his farmstead. The second once involved people like Parkhurst who had capital to buy new farm equipment which led to more intensive use of the land. His starch factory also dramatically transformed the landscape. These stages reflect the economic development of Maysville as well. During the time of Armstrong, settlers depended on natural resources, such as timber and crops to earn a living. They also relied on the Aroostook and St. John Rivers as transportation. Parkhurst on the other hand, still depended on the soil but he also had the means to transform or process potatoes into starch which adds another layer to the economic development of the town. Finally, he also saw the arrival of better roads and the first railroads to the area.

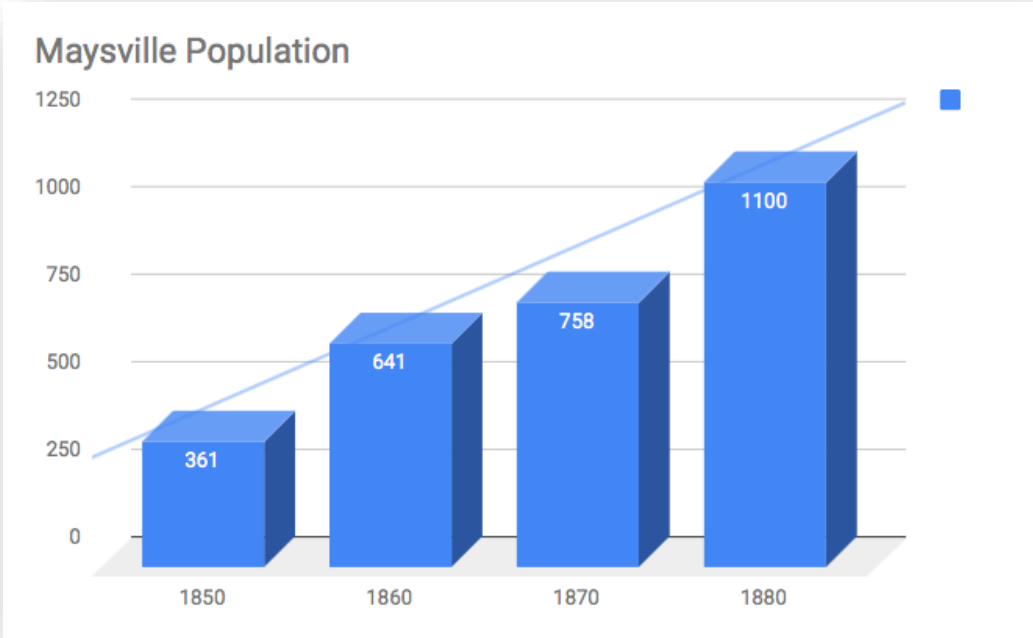


Figure 12:
Maysville Population from 1850 to 1880 using the Ancestry Census records.

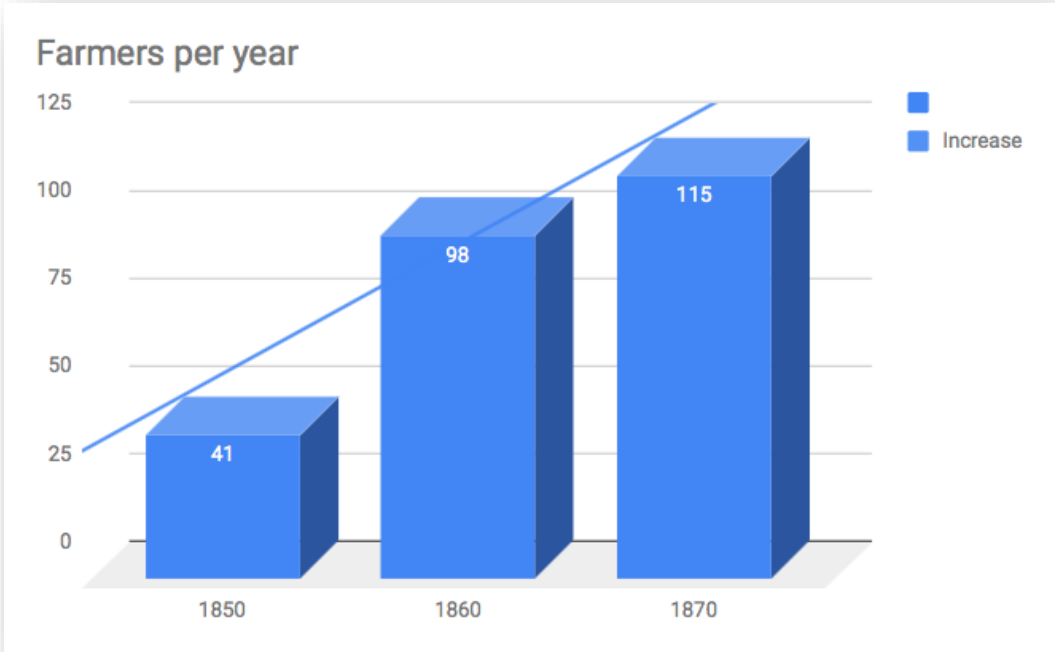


Figure 13:
Maysville Farmer account per year from 1850 to 1870 using the Ancestry Census records.

Total Value of Real Estate Owned Per Year

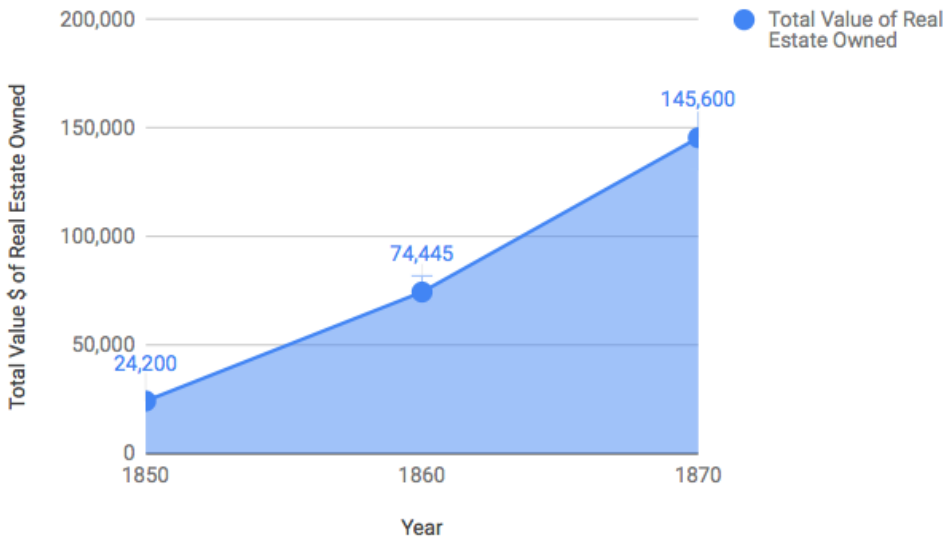


Figure 14:
Total value of real estate owned per year from 1850 to 1870
using the Ancestry Census records.

ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL DEVELOPMENT

Increasing population expanded the occupations in Maysville. Initially, the early settlers did everything for themselves because they were on a frontier and lacked easy access to markets and specialized occupations; if they needed something, they made it for themselves. This started to change in the 1850s. The first occupations included farmers, blacksmiths, millers and carpenters. Twenty years later, the 1870 census reflected more than these five initial occupations; there were over 20 specialized occupations including, but not limited to, shoemakers, lawyers, tailors, teachers, watchmakers, painters, etc. (See Figure 20 and 21). These occupations show that Maysville had developed economically so that its residents had enough extra money to purchase non-essential items. It also shows that Maysville could support a community infrastructure with the development of schools. Many of these occupations started in homes and later when Maysville merged with Presque Isle some of them moved to a more central location on Main Street in Presque Isle.⁵⁴

The successful development of Maysville's agricultural sector made farming one of the more profitable ways to make a living. By the second half of the nineteenth century, Maysville farmers joined a larger cooperative movement for farmers called The Grange.

The grange allowed farmers to unite in order to negotiate more reasonable transportation costs with the railroads and to get better market prices for their crops. The grange had a political side to it as well where farmers could choose and support candidates to political offices that favored agriculture as well as hire lobbyists, so their voices could be heard by state and national legislators. However, the grange is best known for being a social organization where farm families met for social events and informative talks about the newest farming techniques and machinery. The grange was the voice of progress that united farmers and rural communities.⁵⁵



Figure 22:
A picture of the Maysville Grange in 1865. Picture was given for this research by Kim Smith from the Presque Isle Historical Society

On April 8, 1875, farmers organized the Maysville Center Grange No. 153 at the Maysville combination Town Hall and Schoolhouse. The town built this building in 1865.⁵⁶



GRANGE AND SCHOOL – In 1923 this photograph was taken of the Maysville Center Grange and School on the Caribou Road. School was in session and a game of softball was in progress.

Figure 23:

A picture of the Maysville Grange, this time still being operated as a schoolhouse in 1923. Picture was given for this research by Kim Smith from the Presque Isle Historical Society.

The building that housed the Maysville Grange burned several times. It burned in 1875, in 1916, and 1939. After the 1839 fire, the one room building replaced the burnt building on its same site and this building still exists today as the Maysville Museum. The

Congregational Church held Sunday afternoon church services and the Maysville Center School District had classes in the building as well. It was in this hall that the first steps were taken to organize the later Aroostook Pomona Grange. It was also in this hall in 1902 that Aroostook Pomona Grange endorsed the establishment of the Aroostook State Normal School. Many movements in both agricultural development and agricultural markets that shaped the future of the area had their origin within the Grange.⁵⁷

The grange played a very important role in the community and its decisions influenced the development of the area, but also the future of its people. Later, in 1949, the school system discontinued its use of the building, and sold the building to the Grange. During the late 1980s, The Maysville Center Grange disbanded due to lack of membership and the City of Presque



Isle bought the building.

Figure 24:
A picture from 1927 of the one room schoolhouses being operated in the Maysville Grange. Picture was given for this research by Kim Smith from the Presque Isle Historical

The town of Maysville valued education. These first settlers, many of whom were illiterate believed education offered advantages for their children. Families contributed to the establishment of schools and the hiring of teachers in the Maysville community. In Maysville, family-based schools aided in the education of the community.⁵⁸

Ferdinand Armstrong established the first schoolhouse in his log cabin home at Armstrong Flat. A teacher, from Nova Scotia taught the local children evening classes where Armstrong's children read from any obtainable reading material such as almanacs. He taught them to write with a quill plucked from the family's goose. They made their ink from

blue vitriol and juice of white maple tree, and for paper they used birch bark. The Hooper family from Fredericton, NB who lived at the Parson's Farm started the second school at their residence as well. Miss Hooper himself was the one that taught the Hooper children. The third schoolhouse was in a room of a blacksmith shop on the Houlton Road. The school had seats made from logs hewed on two sides around the room, a fireplace made of stone, and a cut chimney.⁵⁹

A private school was then opened in Fairbank's Grist Mill in the village. The school was taught by Mr. Fairbank's daughter in the 1830s. The fifth school build was on the Rackliffe's and Pratts property on the Center Line Road, which was the center of attraction of society.

Sumner Whitney built the first official school in Maysville located north of Church Street. He hired the first teacher for the school and paid for all of the expenses. The first Academy building, located at the Colonel C. P. Allen's property, focused on advanced education and for educating better educated individuals. The school burned on Sunday,

May 13, 1860. Other schoolhouse existed in Maysville, but the specific information has been difficult to find.⁶⁰

While the community of Letter G, Range 2 grew in population and economic development in the 1850s, the residents decided that incorporation as a town would provide them with much needed state services. The residents published the following reasons for incorporation in a local paper, *The Aroostook Pioneer*.



Figure 25:

A picture of a Maysville Grange ribbon from one of the members. Picture was given for this research by Kim Smith from the Presque Isle Historical Society

We are very glad to notice in this community, a growing feeling in favor of the incorporation of a number of townships in this vicinity. We have long been of the opinion, that we should be in better condition, as a people, to be incorporated. We should have better roads, better schools, better regulations, besides enjoying other privileges that towns enjoy, of which we are, at present deprived.⁶¹

Residents of Letter G, Range 2 sent a similar letter to the state legislature asking for the right to incorporate. While many residents supported the incorporation as the town of Maysville, others did not. Arguments against incorporation included, the requirement of paying State and County taxes, and the implementation of community duties, such as donating land to the state, building extra roads, etc. Those against it argued that the community of Letter G, Range 2 was not ready to comply with all these requirements once incorporated. The State Legislature resolved some of these issues by passing a law that required all the plantations, especially the large ones like Maysville, to be officially recognized by the end of March of 1859.

I came into this plantation in 1840. Then it was almost a dense wilderness, with here and there a new log cabin in the woods and brush. With much interest have I watched its growth, and also other towns around us, till we have the growth and conditions which render us ripe for incorporation.⁶²

The legislature pushed for this in order to ensure that communities organized local governments. Many community discussions and meetings occurred to discuss the incorporation and come to a consensus. Joseph Hall responded to the editor of *The Aroostook Pioneer* stating that he supported incorporation. The need for more state funds to improve the infrastructure in the area became an important argument for

incorporation. Additional support came when Noah Barker surveyed the area again and legitimized all land claims. (See Figure 28).

Most of the thirty-six sections of Letter G, Range 2, under the new survey of 1858 had multiple odd shaped subdivisions. Since Armstrong and others settled Maysville earlier than Presque Isle, they carved out their own lots. When John Gardiner surveyed Maysville in 1858, he found the job difficult because of these odd-shaped lots that had been created prior to the establishment of the township and range system in the area. (See Figures 26, and 27).

After many petitions, requests, surveys, debates, and arguments, on April 4th of 1859 the township of Maysville was officially incorporated. At the same time the town of Presque Isle was also incorporated, and both townships were under the Presque Isle Plantation because of insufficiency of local government structure.⁶³

Officials of the newly incorporated Maysville focused on the construction and improvement of roads because business and communications depended on good roads. The roads that served Maysville included the Washburn Road, the Reach Road, and the Houlton Road. Settlers and soldiers cut some of these roads prior to or during the Aroostook War, but the residents of Maysville completed the subsequent roads either as a requirement to pay for their land or through funding they petitioned from the state. These roads served as the location of homes, schoolhouses, town meeting houses and industries.

As the town population grew and economy developed, Letter G, Range 2 residents realized the need for more infrastructure, particularly a bridge that connected the northern and southern parts of Maysville over the Aroostook River. Without a bridge, the residents used canoes, boats, and rafts to traverse the river. In winter months when the river froze, they walked across the river. When the bridge was completed residents realized how much easier it made things.⁶⁴ In his *History of Presque Isle*, George Park lamented about the hindrance the lack of a bridge to the people.

Forty years this condition confronted the settlers, hindered the development of that now rich and noted section of our town, where none but the bravest dare venture, or had patience to wait the better days.⁶⁵

State Senator Sumner Whitney proposed a bill to the state legislature to appropriate \$3,000 to build the new bridge; the bill passed both House and Senate. Maysville citizens raised the rest of the money. This bridge cost \$7,000.00 to build. Once the workers completed the 465-foot-long bridge, residents found it easier to take goods to market shops in Presque Isle and communicate in a more timely and efficient manner.⁶⁶



AROOSTOOK BRIDGE

Figure 29:
A picture of the first covered Aroostook Bridge. Picture taken
from *History of Aroostook* by Edward Wiggin.

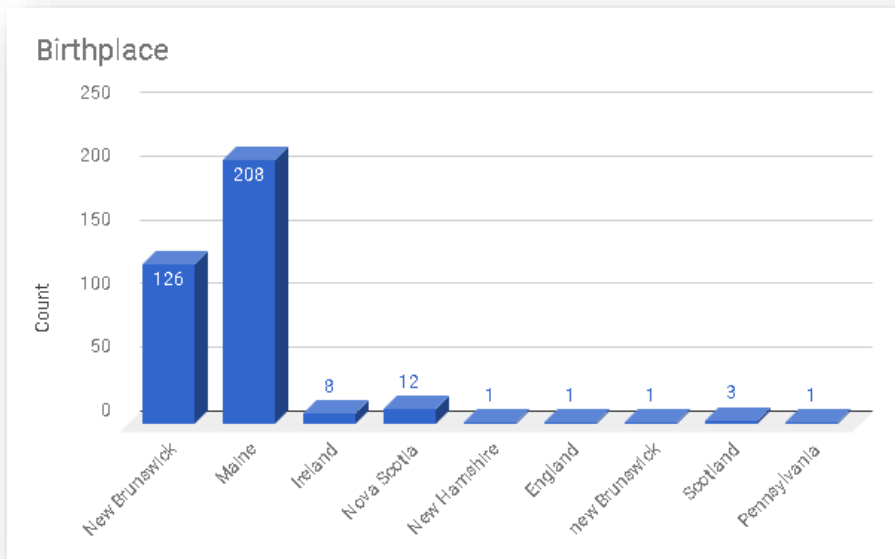


Figure 16:

Birthplace of the 1850 Maysville population census. Information used from the Ancestry Census records.

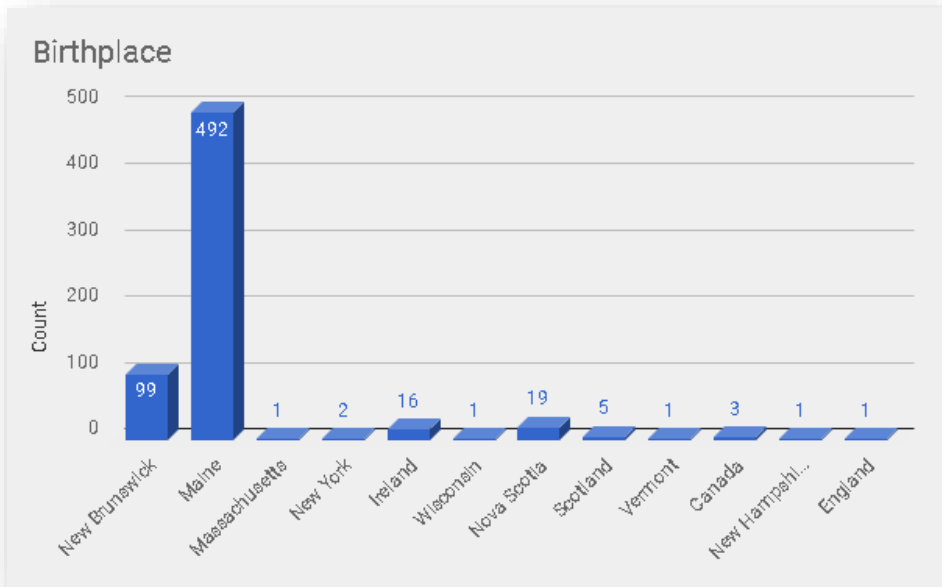


Figure 17:

Birthplace of the 1860 Maysville population census. Information used from the Ancestry Census records.

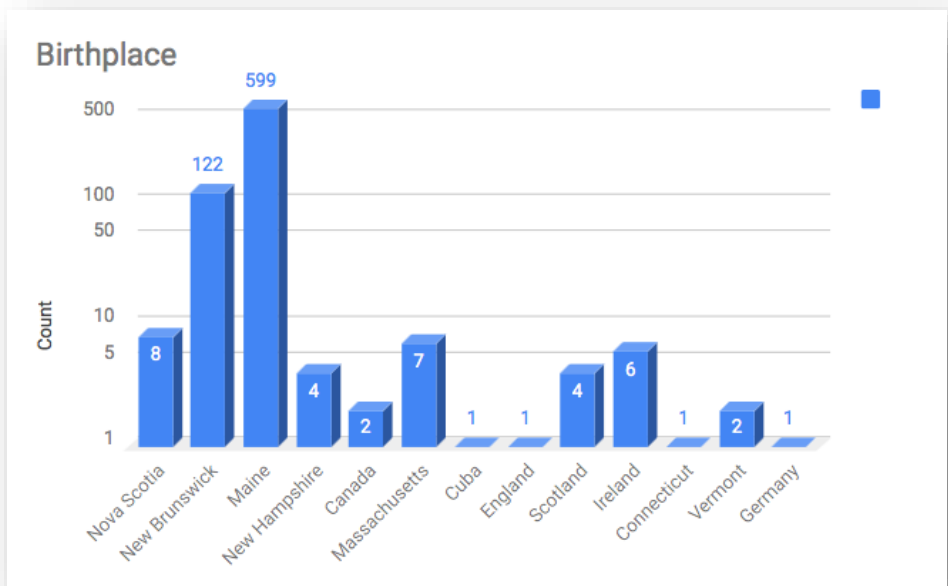


Figure 18:

Birthplace of the 1870 Maysville population census. Information used from the Ancestry Census records.

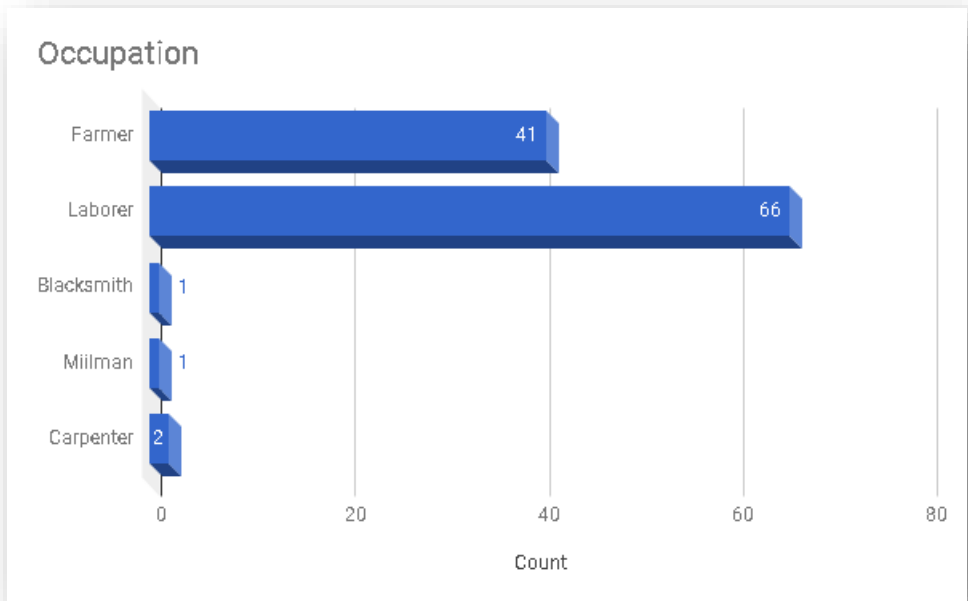


Figure 19:
Occupation and number of people in the occupation for the 1850's. Information used from the Ancestry Census records.

Occupation

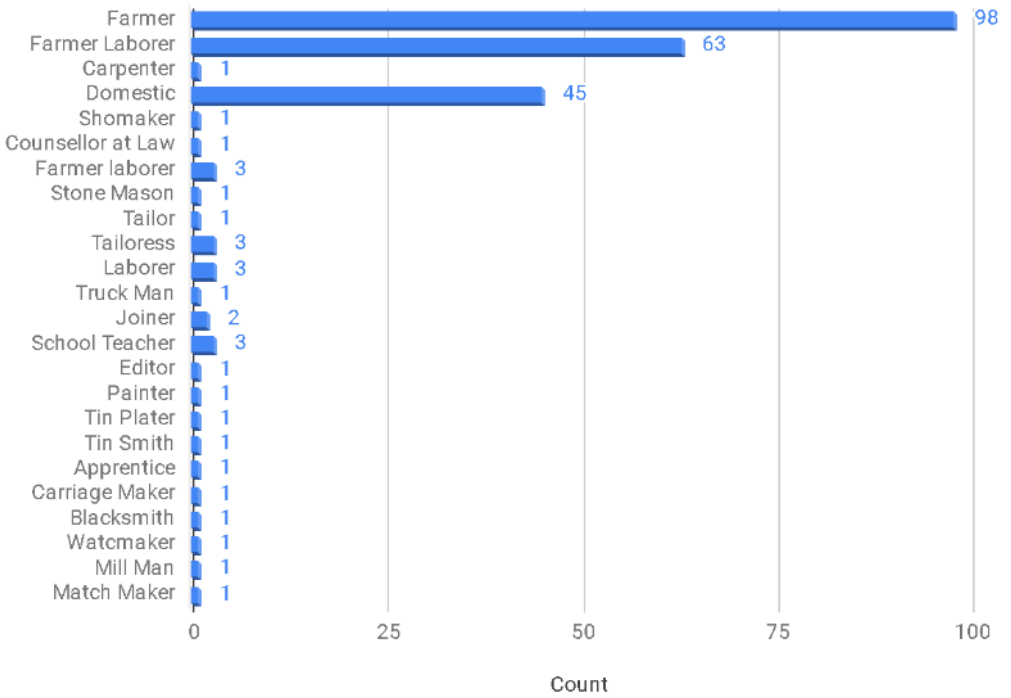


Figure 20:
Occupation and number of people in the occupation for the 1860's. Information used from the Ancestry Census records.

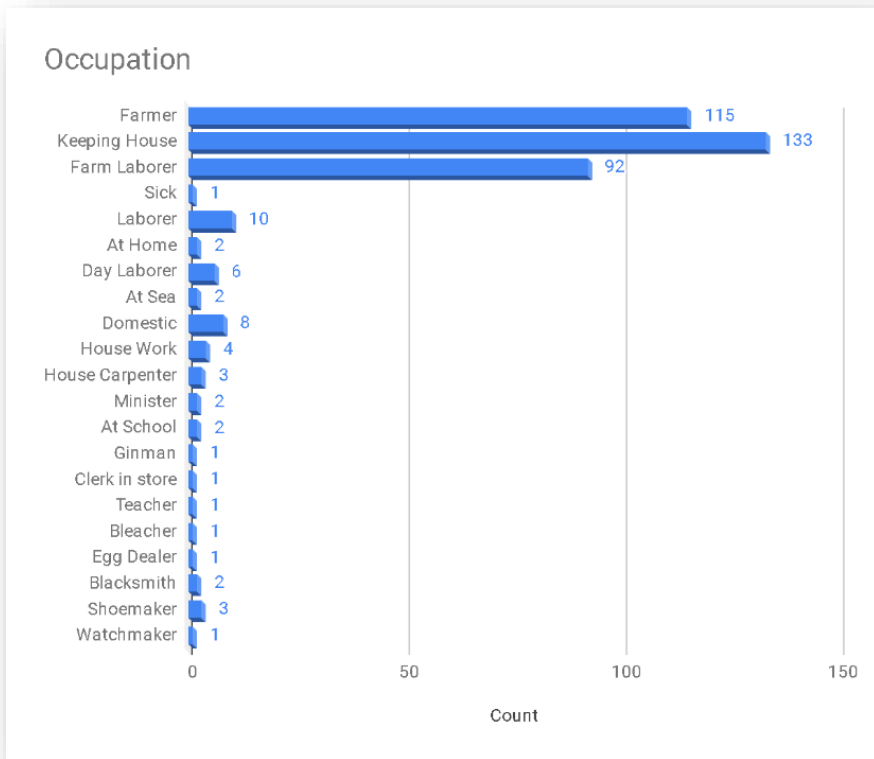


Figure 21:
Occupation and number of people in the occupation for the 1870's. Information used from the Ancestry Census records.

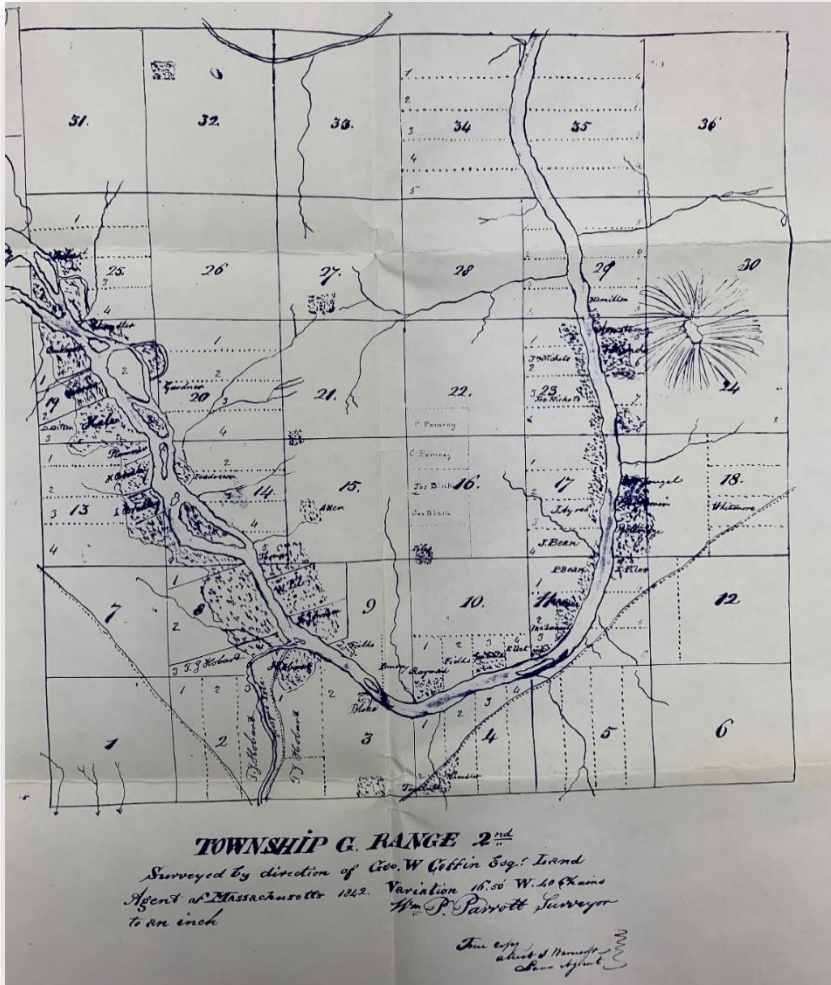


Figure 26:

Land Survey of 1842, by George W. Coffin, the Land Agents of
 Massachusetts, and surveyor W. P. Parrott.

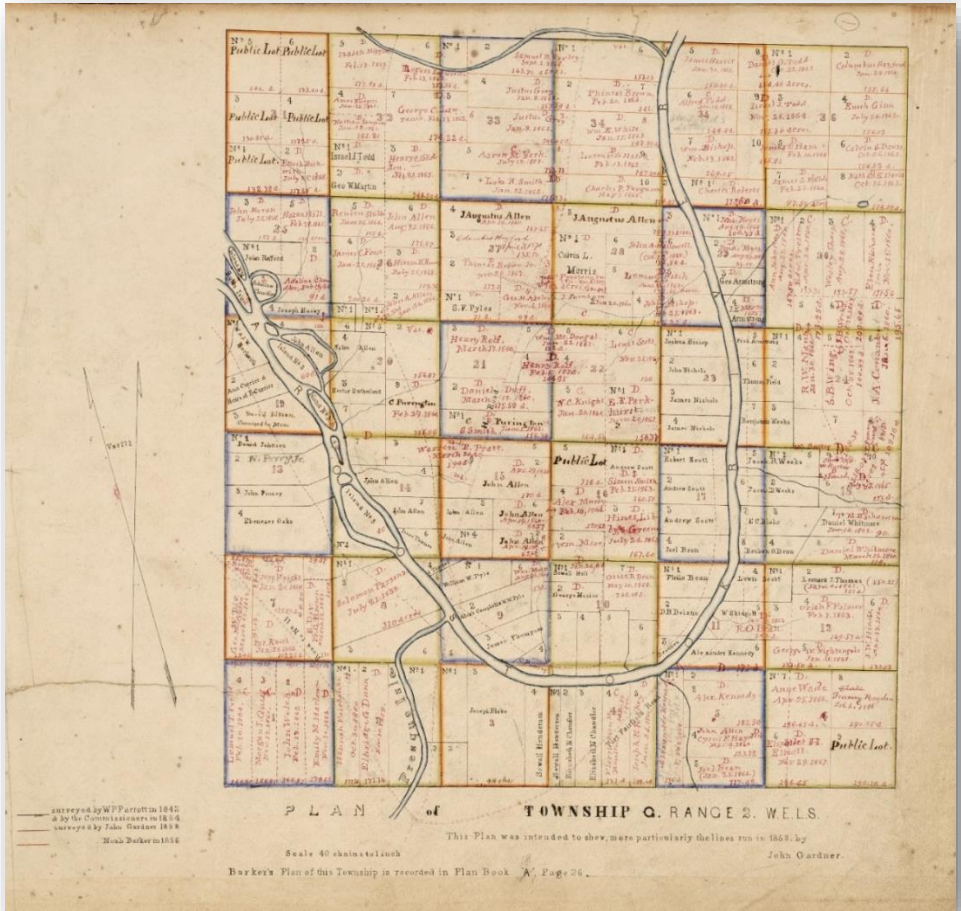


Figure 27:

Survey and Plan by John Gardner in 1858, that includes all previous land surveys and claims into a final survey.



Figure 28:
Map of the Town of Maysville with all the final land divisions. This was the land known as Maysville after the incorporation. Map taken from the 1877 Atlas of Aroostook County Maine.

CIVIL WAR

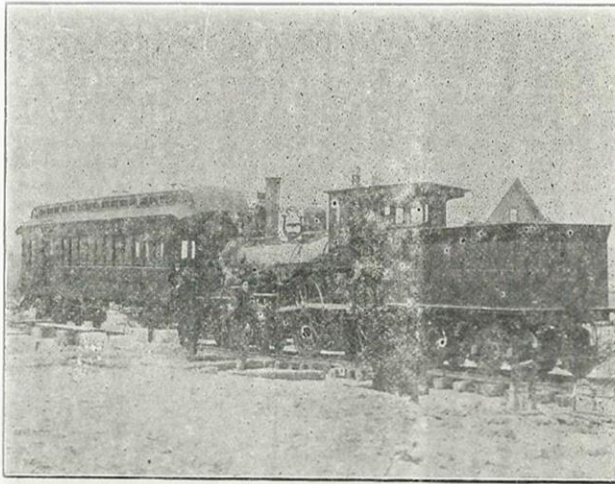
Several years after incorporation, Maysville residents answered the call to arms in support of President Lincoln and the preservation of the Union. Men left farms and other businesses to serve in the Civil War which lasted from 1861 to 1865. Fifty-Seven of Maysville's men fought in the Civil War and served in the 7th Maine Regiment Infantry Company I, which was organized in August of 1861. The 7th Maine originated in Houlton under the command of Maysville's Henry Rolfe. The regiment left Maine for Maryland where it joined the Army of the Potomac until 1862. It participated in some of the most prominent battles such as Antietam, Gettysburg, and the siege of Petersburg. The 15th Maine Regiment Infantry Company C, organized in December 1861, and fought along the Gulf of Mexico helping to secure New Orleans and the Mississippi River. In order to enlist, most of these men walked to Houlton which was the gathering center for troops from Northern Maine.

There were no railroads in Aroostook then, and many of our soldiers walked from their houses and towns a distance of 155 miles to Bangor. Many of them were young and in their teens... Another was Chas. Allen, who had been on his farm for about one year. He left his young wife in the woods and went to war.⁶⁷

For many of these men, the war took them to new places and put them in danger of being killed on the battlefield or by disease. Two hundred and sixty-one men departed from both Presque Isle and Maysville, and twenty-nine of these men died during the war.⁶⁸

POST CIVIL WAR DEVELOPMENT

When the Civil War came to an end, the economic development of Maysville faced a systematic growth and progress. Lumber mills, starch factories, farming and other various agriculture-related industries flourished after the Civil War; these industries relied on the natural resources of the area. A term that was used by Kimberly Sebold in her work, *A Community Carved from the Wilderness: Easton, Maine 1865-2015*, referred to an economic diversification of the region, which was the exact term to describe the change that the Maysville community saw after the war. Besides the presence of these new industries, the area built up its infrastructure; the local government built more roads and promoted the establishment of the railroad. They built more schools and other social organizations emerged.⁶⁹



FIRST ENGINE OVER BANGOR & AROOSTOOK R. R.

Figure 30:
A picture of the First Engine over the Bangor and Aroostook Railroad. Picture taken from *History of Aroostook* by Edward Wiggin.

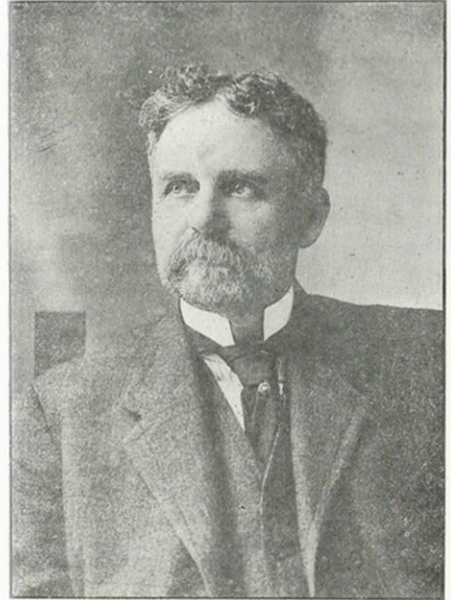
community depended on an efficient transportation system; The Canadian Pacific Railroad partially fulfilled that need with a new branch line to Presque Isle in 1881.

The improved economic development that was created by the starch factory reinforced the need for better transportation systems and more connections and access to new markets. The economic prosperity of the

In 1887, the Northern Maine Railroad Company built lines as well but it lacked a direct connection to other parts of the state; unfortunately, it failed. However, citizens of northern Aroostook realized the need for a rail line that connected the region with the rest of the state.

Businessmen, politicians and residents of the area focused on the idea of bringing the Bangor and Aroostook Railroad to the area. Although the line did not reach the Presque Isle area until 1895, the citizens of Maysville contributed greatly to the cause of the construction and for the petitioning to make this railroad a reality.

The figure behind the Bangor and Aroostook Railroad was a man called A.A. Burleigh. People saw the railroad as the greatest achievement since the Webster-Ashburton Treaty. The railroad brought increased wealth because it opened the door for better transportation of crops; this meant farmers grew more potatoes and built potato houses to store them until shipped. It also meant banks because farmers needed loans for farm machinery and other farming necessities. The Presque Isle-Maysville area boomed



HON. T. H. PHAIR

Figure 31:
A picture of T.H. Phair, the man behind the construction of the Bangor and Aroostook Railroad. Picture taken from *History of Aroostook* by Edward Wiggin.

because of the railroad. In his *History of Presque Isle*, Park pondered the success of the railroad:

How many small settlements were to be transformed into live and growing villages, adding un-computed wealth and population to our country and state, and the size of which no man can tell or foresee?⁷⁰

The opening of Aroostook County by the railroad to other parts of the state meant the immense growth of towns and the economic prosperity of individuals and their communities. Between 1860 and 1880, the value of combined wealth in the area rose from \$1,000,000.00 to \$7,000,000.00. Maysville community members committed to the development of the railroad as seen through their letters to the state legislature and the collection of \$5,000.00 for the railroad line in 1881. The following excerpt from *The Star Herald* in 1895 captures the changes brought by the railroad and reinforces why community members wanted the railroad.⁷¹

The modern freight engine which the Bangor and Aroostook Railroad Company employs can haul a train of thirty loaded cars, each with a capacity of sixty thousand pounds and cover the distance from Presque Isle to Bangor in a day. Yet with this vastly augmented capacity for freight transportation the increase in productiveness has been so great in Aroostook since the era of the old days of transportation.⁷²

The arrival of the Bangor and Aroostook Railroad ushered in a new age of prosperity and economic development for the area, but Maysville especially benefitted because by this time, Maysville had ceased to exist as an independent town and had joined with Presque Isle. The need for infrastructure, like the Bangor and Aroostook Railroad, had caused Maysville to join with Presque Isle. Community leaders understood that they had more bargaining power if they had the backing of Presque Isle and twelve years after giving up their independence, the community of Maysville, now a part of Presque Isle, realized they had done the right thing; now they had a railroad that connected them to the southern part of the state.

The story of Maysville as an independent entity lasted around 70 years when on April 4, 1883, it joined with Presque Isle and took the name of its southern neighbor. As previously mentioned, the Maysville community leaders realized that joining with larger Presque Isle meant more voices for the state politicians to hear.

The movement to combine the two townships into one lasted from 1881 to 1883 and resulted in multiple town meetings being held. In winter 1882, the final town meetings occurred, and most people agreed that the joining of the townships benefitted all involved. After this, community leaders sent petitions to the state legislature.

The bridge over the Aroostook River played a great role in the annexation of Maysville to Presque Isle. Elisha E. Parkhurst one of the first settlers, wrote an article for *The Star Herald* and stated that his personal struggle for living in Maysville was the lack of connection to Presque Isle and points south until the completion of the bridge. Once workers completed, life became easier for him and the other residents.

Before we had the bridge, both in the Fall and Spring we were obliged to ferry across the river to get to Presque Isle. When the water was high in the Spring the ferryman was obliged to pole the boat up the river 20 or 30 fods before crossing, to prevent the strong river current from taking him below the landing place on the other side. It took from one half to three quarters of an hour to get across in high water. I remember how grateful we felt to the people of Presque Isle Village for the assistance they rendered us in building the bridge.⁷³

Concern over the loss of the bridge and the problems this could bring became a reason for annexation; if the two townships became one then this would insure that Presque Isle, should pay to support the bridge. A stable bridge would also continue access to Presque Isle and its business center. Parkhurst continued:

We have, as we felt two good reasons for annexation. First, if we should lose our bridge in some heavy freshet in the Spring, Presque Isle would be obliged to help build a new one. Another point was that we had no stores,

blacksmith shops, or any business places in our town, but were contributing to the building up and growth of Presque Isle Village. At that time there was but a few houses north of lower Main Street R. R. Crossing at Blake St. which was the line between the two towns.⁷⁴

These and many more reasons for annexation was the reason behind the 1882 petitions and the annexation signed in April 4, 1883, and the official bill was signed on April 14 of the same year. After the incorporation all the history of the area was referred to as the history of Presque Isle. In 1920, a writer for *The Star Herald* reflected on the importance of the union of Presque Isle and Maysville as an importance part of the history of the two municipalities.

Maysville brought with this splendid extent of cultivated farms, a body of citizens who represent all the traits and qualities that are best in a community, and we think it is conceded that the union of the two towns was a wise step, and that it brought with its practical advantages as well as increase of influence and prestige.⁷⁵

The annexation of Maysville by Presque Isle benefitted all parties involved. While Maysville's name officially changed to Presque Isle, the identity of Maysville did not disappear. Even today, people whose families link back to the first settlers still think of the area as Maysville.

CONCLUSION

Today, the building that once housed the Maysville Grange sits on the east side of the road at the intersection of Route 1 and Brewer Road and symbolizes the community of Maysville while farm houses and fields between Route 1 and the Aroostook River reflect the individuals who made up the community. The area from Blake Street north bordered by the Presque Isle Stream on the west was also part of Maysville but development has wiped out the starch factories and other reminder of this. So, what gave Maysville its identity and why do the descendants of the first settlers keep the idea of Maysville alive? This question is difficult to answer. Perhaps, it is their connection to the land especially the farm land north of the Aroostook River. After all, the land and its natural resources drew settlers to the area in the first half of the nineteenth century. Perhaps, it is the role that Maysville played in the development of the area including Presque Isle. Men, like John Allen, participated in the politics and development of both towns. Perhaps, we will never know and as years pass, the Maysville identity that some still claim will fade. However, as with all history, knowing it helps us understand origins and create context for the present.

Appendix A

An Act to Incorporate the Town of Maysville

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in Legislature assembled, as follows:

Sect. 1. Township letter G, second range west from the east line of the state, in the county of Aroostook, is hereby incorporated into a town by the name of Maysville; and the inhabitants of said town are hereby vested with all the powers, privileges, immunities and liabilities of inhabitants of other towns.

Sect. 2. Any justice of the peace, within the county of Aroostook, is hereby empowered to issue his warrant to some inhabitant of his town; directing him to notify the inhabitants thereof to meet at such time and place as he shall appoint, to choose such officers as other towns are empowered to choose at their annual town meeting.

Sect. 3. The town hereby created shall take the effects belonging to plantation letter G and shall also assume all the obligations of said plantation.

Sect. 4. The town of Maysville and the town of Presque Isle are hereby united and incorporated into a town by the name of Presque Isle; and the inhabitants of said town are hereby vested with all the powers, privileges and immunities, and subject to all the duties and liabilities of the inhabitants of other towns. And the town of Presque Isle thus created shall take the effects belonging to the towns of Maysville and Presque Isle and shall also assume all the obligations of said towns; provided however, that the provisions of this section of the towns of

Maysville and Presque Isle present at the annual election on the second Monday of September next, shall have thus voted, the first meeting of the town created by this section, shall be called as is provided in section two of this act, and when said town shall have been organized, the clerk thereof shall file a certificate of the fact in the office of the secretary of state.

[Approved April 4, 1859.]

Appendix B

State of Maine Private and Special Laws of 1859

An act to incorporate the town of Presque Isle.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in the Legislature assembled, as follows:

Sect. 1. Letter-F in the second range west from the east line is hereby incorporated into a town by the name of Presque Isle; and the inhabitants of said town are hereby vested with all powers, privileges, immunities and liabilities of inhabitants of other towns.

Sect. 2. Any justice of the peace, within the county of Aroostook, is hereby empowered to issue his warrant to some inhabitant of said town, directing him to notify the inhabitants thereof to meet at such time and place as he shall appoint, to choose such officers as other towns are empowered to choose at their annual town meetings.

Sect. 3. The tow hereby created shall take the effects belonging to Presque Isle Plantation and shall also assume all the obligation of said plantation.

Sec. 4. The town of Presque Isle and the Town of Maysville in the county of Aroostook are hereby united and incorporated into a town to be called Presque Isle, and the inhabitants of said town are hereby vested with all the powers, privileges and immunities and subject to all the liabilities of inhabitants of other towns, and the town of Presque Isle thus created shall take the effects belonging to the towns, and the town of Presque Isle and Maysville, and shall assume all the obligations of said towns; provided however, that the provisions of this section shall not take effect unless a majority of the people of each of the towns of Presque Isle and Maysville present at the annual election on the second Monday of September next, shall vote in favor of accepting the same.

Sec. 5. This act shall take effect from and after its approval by the governor.

Approved April 4, 1859

A true copy.

ATTEST:

Secretary of State

Appendix C

STATE OF MAINE PRIVATE AND SPECIAL LAWS OF 1883

An act to annex the town of Maysville to the town of Presque Isle:

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in Legislature assembled, as follows:

Sect. 1. The town of Maysville, in Aroostook County, is hereby annexed to and made a part of the town of Presque Isle.

Sect. 2. All the liabilities of the town of Maysville are hereby assumed by the town of Presque Isle.

Sect. 3. All the personal and real estate owned by the town of Maysville is hereby conveyed to and becomes the property of the town of Presque Isle.

Sect. 4. The collector of taxes of the town of Maysville is hereby authorized and empowered to collect and pay over to the treasurer of the town of Presque Isle all taxes he was directed to pay to the treasurer of the town of Maysville, now assessed and committed to him for collection, not already collected and paid to the treasurer of the town of Maysville.

Sect. 5. All taxes which have been assessed for repairs of highways and committed to highway surveyors in the town of Maysville shall be expended and worked out on the highways under the direction of said surveyors and return of any remaining unpaid shall be made to the assessors of the town of Presque Isle.

Sect. 6. The treasurer of the town of Maysville shall pay over all moneys, and deliver all books, papers, and documents pertaining to his office, to the treasurer of the town of Presque Isle.

Sect. 7. The town clerk of the town of Maysville shall deliver to the town clerk of the town of Presque Isle all reports and books belonging to the town of Maysville, and all papers, records and documents pertaining to his office.

Sect. 8. The selectmen, assessors and overseer of the poor of the town of Maysville, shall deliver all books, papers and documents pertaining to their several offices to the selectmen of the town of Presque Isle.

Sect. 9. This act shall take effect in thirty days after it is approved by the governor.

Approved February 14, 1883.

Appendix D

Agreement Concerning the Road

Dec. 9, 1827- - Ferdinand Armstrong

We the subscribers, inhabitants of the river Aroostook, thinking it expedient that a road for the convenience of ourselves and others who may wish to become settlers of this river should be made from this settlement to the plantation of Houlton as quick as it can be done, and as we understand, there hath been a subscription of forty-five bushels of wheat offered by the inhabitants of the plantation of Houlton toward defraying the expenses of cutting said road, we feeling ourselves willing to contribute towards the making said road our equal proportion of the whole expense that shall necessarily arise in doing the same, we likewise think the most proper method of doing the same is that whosoever shall undertake as a superintendent of said road should keep an exact account of the labor done on said road, together with all extra expenses of his, if any, and when the same proportion in produce, first estimating the labor at some fair price per day and the produce in proportion to labor, and each man and every man to receive their due proportion of the payment made by the plantation of Houlton or other plantations adjoining the same, on the conditions we covenant with each other to pay our proportion in labor or grain and to do the best in our power by all honorable means to forward the cutting said road.

Thomas Goss	Lewis Johnston
William Pile	Peter Bull
Joseph Arnold	Thomas Teeling
Joshua Christie	John Rafford
James Armstrong	Ferdinand Armstrong

Notes

¹ David E. Kyvig and Myron A. Marty, *Nearby History: Exploring the Pat Around You* (New York: Rowman & Littlefield Publishers Inc, 2000), 1-13.

² Kim Smith, Story on Maysville's Name, Presque Isle, ME.

³ Clark, Charles E. *Maine in the Early Republic: From Revolution to Statehood*. Hanover U.a.: (Univ. Pr. Of New England, 1988), 13-23.

⁴ George M. Park, *The History of Presque Isle* (N.P.), 5.

⁵ Sidney Cook, "Historical Sketches and Romances of Early Days in Aroostook," in *Pioneer Presque Isle: Histories and Reminiscences to 1859 Volume I*, ed. Dale R. Steinhauer (Presque Isle: 125ty Anniversary Committee, 1984), 24-51.

⁶ Marilyn Clark, Wm. Clark Ketcham and Dale Steinhauer, *City of Presque Isle 125th Historical Booklet 1859-1984* (Presque Isle: 125th Birthday Committee, 1984), 28.

⁷ Sidney Cook, "Historical Sketches and Romances of Early Days in Aroostook," in *Pioneer Presque Isle: Histories and Reminiscences to 1859 Volume I*, ed. Dale R. Steinhauer (Presque Isle: 125ty Anniversary Committee, 1984), 25.

⁸ George M. Park, *The History of Presque Isle* (N.P.), 5-10.

⁹ George M. Park, *The History of Presque Isle* (N.P.), 6.

¹⁰ *Ibid.*, 9.

¹¹ Clark, Charles E. *Maine in the Early Republic: From Revolution to Statehood*. Hanover U.a.: (Univ. Pr. Of New England, 1988), 13-23.

¹² George M. Park, *The History of Presque Isle* (N.P.), 9.

¹³ T. W. Ashby, *A Complete History of Aroostook County And Its Early And Late Settlers* Vol. 1 (Presque Isle, N.D.), 90-93.

¹⁴ George M. Park, *The History of Presque Isle* (N.P.), 9.

¹⁵ *Ibid.*, 9.

¹⁶ "Polly Armstrong and her family," *Aroostook County Genealogical Society*, (2013): <https://www.ac-gs.org/this-old-tree-march-2013/>

¹⁷ Certain sources that were brought to this research from the Underwood family, which ancestors are the Ashby's and the Armstrong's, have to do with the location of the island, which is said to be located in the Aroostook river, half way between Presque Isle and Washburn. The island is also mentioned that it was later owned by Col. Charles P. Allen of Presque Isle. Because of their contribution, the exact placement of the island was discovered, and we were able to track the exact movement of the family.

¹⁸ George M. Park, *The History of Presque Isle* (N.P.), 8.

¹⁹ *Ibid.*, 9.

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- ²⁰ Catherine Armstrong Ashby, "Parkhurst," in *Pioneer Presque Isle: Histories and Reminiscences to 1859 Volume I*, ed. Dale R. Steinhauer (Presque Isle: 125ty Anniversary Committee, 1984), 83.
- ²¹ Ferdinand Armstrong, "Deposition," in *Pioneer Presque Isle: Histories and Reminiscences to 1859 Volume II*, ed. Dale R. Steinhauer (Presque Isle: 125ty Anniversary Committee, 1984), 11-18.
- ²² *Ibid.*, 8.
- ²³ Marilyn Clark, Wm. Clark Ketcham and Dale Steinhauer, *City of Presque Isle 125th Historical Booklet 1859-1984* (Presque Isle: 125th Birthday Committee, 1984), 28.
- ²⁴ *Ibid.*, 28-29. The state also reserved one thousand acres for educational purposes.
- ²⁵ George M. Park, *The History of Presque Isle* (N.P.), 101.
- ²⁶ *Ibid.*, 102.
- ²⁷ *Ibid.*, 107.
- ²⁸ *Ibid.*, 48-59.
- The Aroostook War was also called the Bloodless War since there were no casualties and no actual fighting between the two sides
- ²⁹ Charles S. Daveis, "Report on Aggressions Upon the Rights of the State," in *Pioneer Presque Isle: Histories and Reminiscences to 1859 Volume II*, ed. Dale R. Steinhauer (Presque Isle: 125ty Anniversary Committee, 1984), 4.
- ³⁰ *Ibid.*, 7.
- ³¹ Charles S. Daveis, "Report on Aggressions Upon the Rights of the State," in *Pioneer Presque Isle: Histories and Reminiscences to 1859 Volume II*, ed. Dale R. Steinhauer (Presque Isle: 125ty Anniversary Committee, 1984), 8.
- ³² *Ibid.*, 10.
- ³³ Kim Smith, *The Aroostook War*, poster, Maysville Museum, Presque Isle, ME.
- ³⁴ *Ibid.*
- ³⁵ George M. Park, *The History of Presque Isle* (N.P.), 49.
- ³⁶ *Ibid.*, 50.
- ³⁷ *Ibid.*, 56.
- ³⁸ "Map Showing Rival Boundary Line Claims". Map. In *Wikimedia Commons*. Wikimedia, 2013.
- ³⁹ George M. Park, *The History of Presque Isle* (N.P.), 6-7.
- ⁴⁰ *Ibid.*, 7.
- ⁴¹ The Allen family later established a successful and well-known farm in Aroostook County. This farm was later renamed the Henry and Freeman Keirstead farm.

⁴² Ibid., 29.

⁴³ Ibid., 106-107.

⁴⁴ Edward, Wiggin, "Presque Isle," in *Pioneer Presque Isle: Histories and Reminiscences to 1859 Volume I*, ed. Dale R. Steinhauer (Presque Isle: 125th Anniversary Committee, 1984), 13.

⁴⁵ Clark, Charles E. *Maine in the Early Republic: From Revolution to Statehood*. Hanover U.a.: (Univ. Pr. Of New England, 1988), 13-23.

⁴⁶ Marilyn Clark, Wm. Clark Ketcham and Dale Steinhauer, *City of Presque Isle 125th Historical Booklet 1859-1984* (Presque Isle: 125th Birthday Committee, 1984), 29.

⁴⁷ U.S. Census Bureau (1850). *1850 United States Federal Census*, generated by Evan Zarkadas; using Ancestry Library;
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⁴⁸ Edward, Wiggin, "Presque Isle," in *Pioneer Presque Isle: Histories and Reminiscences to 1859 Volume I*, ed. Dale R. Steinhauer (Presque Isle: 125th Anniversary Committee, 1984), 13.

⁴⁹ Marilyn Clark, Wm. Clark Ketcham and Dale Steinhauer, *City of Presque Isle 125th Historical Booklet 1859-1984* (Presque Isle: 125th Birthday Committee, 1984), 30.

⁵⁰ George M. Park, *The History of Presque Isle* (N.P.), 353.

⁵¹ Marilyn Clark, Wm. Clark Ketcham and Dale Steinhauer, *City of Presque Isle 125th Historical Booklet 1859-1984* (Presque Isle: 125th Birthday Committee, 1984), 30.

⁵² George M. Park, *The History of Presque Isle* (N.P.), 28-30.

⁵³ Ibid., 106-107.

⁵⁴ U.S. Census Bureau (1850). U.S. Census Bureau (1870).

⁵⁵ Kimberly R. Sebold, et.al. *A Community Carved from the Wilderness: Easton, Maine 1865-2015*, 30-31.

⁵⁶ The first master of the grange is not known, while among the members were Columbus Hayford, Captain Rolfe, E.E.Parkhurst, Frank Smith, Thomas Harris, John Allen, Edward Wiggin, C.P. Ferguson, Donald Duff, and Mrs. Fannie Forbes. The Maysville Grange formed two days after that of the Aroostook Union Grange. At its height, the Maysville Center Grange had over 200 members, but over time that number decreased.

⁵⁷ George M. Park, *The History of Presque Isle* (N.P.), 167-168; Ibid., 167.

⁵⁸ Ibid., 201.

⁵⁹ Ibid.

⁶⁰ Ibid.

⁶¹ Joseph B. Hall, "Incorporation," in *Pioneer Presque Isle: Histories and Reminiscences to 1859 Volume II*, ed. Dale R. Steinhauer (Presque Isle: 125th Anniversary Committee, 1984), 111.

⁶² Ibid.

⁶³ Marilyn Clark, Wm. Clark Ketcham and Dale Steinhauer, *City of Presque Isle 125th Historical Booklet 1859-1984* (Presque Isle: 125th Birthday Committee, 1984).

⁶⁴ "A timely article: To the taxpayers of the old town of Maysville". *The Star Herald*, May 23, 1916. p. 1. Retrieved from <http://turner.advantage-preservation.com/>

⁶⁵ George M. Park, *The History of Presque Isle* (N.P.), 347.

⁶⁶ "A timely article: To the taxpayers of the old town of Maysville". *The Star Herald*, May 23, 1916. P. 1. Retrieved from <http://turner.advantage-preservation.com/>

⁶⁷ George M. Park, *The History of Presque Isle* (N.P.), 33.

⁶⁸ The fifty-seven Maysville men who participated in the Civil War included, Alexander Alley, Warren S. Armstrong, George H. Akeley, Shepherd B. Bean, Chas. B. Bean, Silas H. Bean, Oscar F. Brann, John Brown, Chas. J. Bean, Chas. C. Bean, Augustus A. C. Bean, Joel Beckwith, Frank Bean, John Beloney, Seth C. Carpenter, George Moshier, Stephen A. Chamberlain, Stillman Cushing, Granville W. Davis, Geo. O. Field, Chas. P. Ferguson, Chas. A. Fields, Robert Grindle, Madison J. Grindle, Lorenzo D. Hatch, Michael Harris, Orlando W. Harlow, Benjamin F. Hines, John Kingdom, Nelson G. Libby, Allen Moran, Alexander Murray, Robert W. Manley, Wm. P. Morris, Chas. P. Pomroy, Geo. E. Pyle, Joseph E. Pelkey, Nelson Powers, Patrick Parker, Chas. Marshall, Solomon F. Pyle, Geo. Roy, James Rand, James C. Rofford, Manley Rann, James Rideout, Wm. H. Sutter, Ansel Smith, James O. Smith, Augustus G. Thomas, Ira D. Toothaker, Daniel O. Todd, Caleb F. Wade, Wm. F. Wade, Samuel B. Wing, Emmons A. Whitcomb, Osgood J. Yates.; "7th Maine Volunteer Infantry Regiment." *The Civil War in the East*. Accessed March 22, 2019. <http://civilwarintheeast.com/us-regiments-batteries/maine/7th-maine/> ;

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⁶⁹ Kimberly R. Sebold, et.al. , *A Community Carved from the Wilderness: Easton, Maine 1865-2015* (Presque Isle: NorthEast Publishing, 2015), 16-22.

⁷⁰ George M. Park, *The History of Presque Isle* (N.P.), 313.

⁷¹ Ibid., 317.; Joseph B. Hall, “The Aroostook Railroad,” in *Pioneer Presque Isle: Histories and Reminiscences to 1859 Volume II*, ed. Dale R. Steinhauer (Presque Isle: 125th Anniversary Committee, 1984), 145-147.

⁷² George H. Collins, “Presque Isle,” in *Pioneer Presque Isle: Histories and Reminiscences to 1859 Volume I*, ed. Dale R. Steinhauer (Presque Isle: 125th Anniversary Committee, 1984), 20.

Ibid., 59.

⁷³ “A timely article: To the taxpayers of the old town of Maysville”. *The Star Herald*, May 23, 1916. P. 1. Retrieved from <http://turner.advantage-preservation.com/>

⁷⁴ Ibid.

⁷⁵ Ibid.

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