



# THE WATERBOROUGH

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## WATERBORO CHURCHES

The following articles are the completion of the compilation done by Evelyn Thompson.

### NORTH WATERBORO COMMUNITY BAPTIST CHURCH

by Lucille Woodsome, Clerk, and Mildred Boardman, former clerk, September 28, 1978.

Our church was built in 1920, and although it is comparatively new, it does not mean that the people here were not church minded. Previous to this time an ardent church or organization held their meetings in the old school house here at the cross roads, even though not regularly and not with a regular pastor.

The Ladies Aid was then a very active organization and the late Dennis Johnson Sr. told the members that he would give a plot of land if they would erect a church. The Ladies Aid accepted the challenge and after much work and striving on their part, the church was dedicated in 1921.

Services were not held regularly, only a few Sundays in the summer months.

Then a few met in December 1929 and organized a Sunday School, realizing that the children needed spiritual guidance. We held the Sunday School and soon heard of a lady preaching at South Parsonsfield. We got in touch with the Rev. Katie MacNiel and she was our Pastor for fourteen years.

After being with us for awhile she began to talk about organizing our church. The first preliminary church meeting was held May 28, 1940. A committee of seven was appointed to serve as a board to draft a constitution and by-laws for the acceptance of the new church organization. At this time the name was changed from Community Church to the North Waterboro Community Baptist Church.

It was July of 1940 that Miss Clara McKee joined with Katie in the church work. Sunday morning, September 22, 1940 the constitution and by-laws were accepted and at the evening service our Church was organized with twenty-five members. The following Wednesday we joined the North York Baptist Association.

On April 2, 1941, we held our first Fellowship Supper and annual meeting. At the close of the first year we had an enrollment of thirty-seven.

The Ladies Aid purchased the late Charles Woodward's place for a parsonage. Rev. MacNiel lived here while she was with us, but she was the only pastor to do so. For a few years we shared our minister with the Limerick Baptist Church.

In 1966, the Ladies Aid and church members felt it was time the church owned it's own building, so the deed was given to the church. The church was then incorporated.

Rev. Champion, Rev. Lester Holmes, Rev. Philip Gage, Rev. Richard Hallett have served our church in the past until our present Pastor, Rev. Chandler Holmes took over.

In the early 1970's we began to think about enlarging our church building and in 1977 we broke ground for the addition which we are now completing. The church is now double in size and the number of members is still growing.

## THE BRICK CHURCH – NORTH WATERBORO

by Bessie Bilder, 1971

A deed in Alfred mentions a Meeting House in North Waterboro in 1836, and the description seems to fit the Brick Church. The words Church and Meeting House seem to be interchangeable, as one deed mentions the road leading from the Brick Church in North Waterboro to Clark's Bridge, and another deed reads exactly the same except calling it the Brick Meeting House.

"The Free Will Baptist Repository" for the year 1847, printed in Limerick, makes two mentions of a Brick Church or Meeting House. One speaks of holding a very successful meeting in the Brick Church in North Waterboro. The other is a petition to the Court by Daniel Dam, guardian of Henry Richard Sawyer, to sell a parcel of land bounded by the road leading from the Brick Meeting House to Clark's Bridge.

The minutes of the school board of District 16, mentions posting notices of coming meetings, one on the school house and one on the Meeting House dated February 22, 1861.

This seems to confirm what we have been told of the Brick Church, that it was demolished and parts used in the building of one of the Johnson's Mills, about the time of the Civil War.

Since it was a brick building, we can only conclude that it must have been gutted by fire, as to make it unsafe for use. We have been told that is stood in front of where the Fire House now stands.

Although there was no church, they still held services whenever possible in the various school houses. This must have been uncomfortable for much of the congregation, as the seats, being graduated heights, there were few suitable for adults. To make things more uncomfortable, there were preachers of many denominations and some of them preached sermons of frightening descriptions of Hell Fire and Brim-

stone, the ultimate end for all sinners and everyone was a sinner. Some of the older folk have told us that this so frightened and discouraged them when they were children, that it affects their attitude toward church even now.

## CIVIL WAR ENLISTMENTS

by Philip Brock

On the fourth day of August 1862, the president ordered that a draft be made of 3,000,000 militia to be immediately called to the service of the U.S. to serve for nine months. If any state did not furnish its quota by the 15th of August, the deficiency would be made up by a special draft of the Militia in that state. Maine's quota was 9609. Camp Abraham Lincoln at Portland was the rendezvous for the counties of Cumberland, York, Oxford, and Androscoggin. Col. John Lynch was the commandant. The 17th regiment was organized under this call and was made up but with very few exceptions from the towns of York County. From the 1872 Atlas, I found that the bounties paid to soldiers amounted to \$46,270.61, aid to soldiers' families \$5535.74, contribution to soldiers relief \$900. Total \$52,706. Thirty-five thousand, one-hundred eighty-four men enlisted from this town. The 27th was mustered into Service the 30th day of September, 1862 by Capt. Dana of the 17th U.S. Infantry. It left the state on the 20th day of October for Washington. It was assigned to the 3rd Brigade which was part of defense of Washington. The 27th was then marched to Arlington Heights where it was encamped on the estate of General Robert E. Lee.

The 27th was ordered to Chantelly where large quantities of supplies were stored. They remained here during a severe winter. On the 25th of June, they returned to Arlington Heights. The army of the Potomac had just commenced to advance. Since their term of service was about to expire, the 17th was ordered to report for transportation of Lume. When an appeal was made, 315 officers and men volunteered to remain and did remain until the battle of Gettysburg had been fought and won and the Union saved. They arrived at Portland the 6th of July and were mustered out on the 17th day of July after having been in service 10 months 7 days.

It left the states with 949 men, lost 20 men by death, 8 officers by resignation and 54 men by discharge.

## COAST GUARDS BATTALION

Joseph A. Hobbs, Waterboro 2nd Lt.

1. Ivory Allen
2. John Brady
3. Hozea Buzzell (killed 32 Infantry)
4. William H. Braden
5. Elizah Buzzell
6. Alexander Bradeen (stayed)
7. Benjamin Barnes
8. John C. Brown
9. Nathan Chadbourne (stayed Corporal)
10. James Carpenter
11. John R. Carpenter
12. James Chadbourne
13. Francis Chadbourne
14. Hanson Chick
15. Allen Chadbourne
16. Alonzo Carpenter
17. Paul Chadbourne (promoted to Captain then to Major 1st Regiment Cavalry)
18. Joseph Colby
19. Albert M. Cole
20. Lewis M. Colby
21. William Cummings (died May 10, 1863)
22. Colin Chadbourne
23. George Cutting
24. William Cluff
25. James B. Dudley
26. Samuel Davis
27. Edward Durgin
28. Theodore Day
29. Charles Dearborn
30. Benjamin F. Durgin
31. Joseph Dudley
32. Charles H. Day
33. Samuel Fowler
34. John Fitzgerald
35. Ebenezer Flood
36. Edward Fowler
37. William Gilpatrick
38. Charles Herbert
39. William H. Hall
40. Jeremiah Hill
41. Ivory W. Hamilton (taken prisoner and exchanged)
42. Dilmon Hamilton
43. Charles Hayer (appointed)
44. Charles Henderson
45. Joseph H. Hobbs
46. Noah Hamilton
47. Alonzo Hamilton
48. John A. Hill
49. William H. Johnson
50. Simion Knight
51. John B. Lewis
52. Jacob C. Merrifield

53. Benjamin R. MacKenney
54. Porter Knight
55. John Noonan
56. Isaac Pitts
57. George Pitts
58. James A. Rice (died of wounds)
59. Calvin Robins (killed May 2, 1863)
60. Franklin S. Ricker
61. Watson H. Roberts
62. Benjamin J. Ricker (died of wounds July 11, 1864)
63. Phandius H. Ricker
64. Otis F. Sanford (died February 12, 1862)
65. Augustin Sanford
66. Samuel Strout, Jr.
67. George L. Smith (Sgt. Company K 27th Infantry promoted to First Sgt.)
68. Charles P. Sanborn (promoted Corporal)
69. Asa Smith
70. Rice Smith
71. Joseph C. Spencer
72. Nahin Thompson
73. Oliver G. Tayler
74. Calib Taylor
75. Ham Trofton
76. Charles W. Whittier
77. Royal B. Wakefield
78. Marcellur Well
79. Freedom Warren
80. Senord Wilber
81. William H. Young
82. John Maddox

#### FOREIGN ENLISTMENTS

1. Elisha Allen
2. John W. Allen
3. Francis Brown
4. Gilman Brown
5. William Cook
6. William Dudley
7. Calvin Day, Jr.
8. Moses Eames
9. Horatio B. Gilin
10. Nathan C. Hooper
11. Joseph Hobbs
12. James Kimball
13. Isaac Lord
14. John Lord
15. Asa L. Ricker
16. John Reed
17. John S. Roberts
18. Albion K. Ricker
19. William Woodsum
20. William J. Woodward

## WATERBORO HISTORICAL SOCIETY

(The following report was prepared and read by Esther Smith at the November 4, 1969 meeting of the Waterboro Historical Society.)

Previous to 1768, Waterboro was a dense wilderness, part of a purchase made in 1661 by Major William Phillips of Boston from three Indian Chiefs: Captains Sunday, Fluellen and Hobinowell, the latter a chief of Saco River. The Proprietors of the territory were John Avery, Col. Josiah Waters, and John Wheelright. The first permanent settlement within the borders of the town was made by John Smith in 1768, near the Old Corners. Two years later, there were eight families in town. Those of John Smith, John Scribner, Robert Harvey, Alex Jellison, William Deering, Scamman Hogdon, William Philpot and William Nason. They engaged in lumbering. By 1783, there were 118 people in town. The area was surveyed in 1784 and 1785, and in October 1785, a plan on record was completed by James Warren. At this time, there was a rough logging road running up on the west side of Massabesic Pond (Shaker) to the Old Corners where it forked-one branch running to the present location of Waterboro Center, thence up the west side of Ossipee Pond and on to the ford of Little Ossipee River. The left branch passed on a northwesterly direction east of Middle Branch and Northwest Ponds, until it came to the outlet of the latter, thence down that stream to within a mile of the Little Ossipee River, and from there bore to the northwest to Dams Mills. Prior to its incorporation, the town bore the name of Massabesic Plantation. It was incorporated March 6, 1787, and called Waterborough in honor of Josiah Waters, one of the aforesaid proprietors. The settlers worked hard to be incorporated for various reasons, many of them financial. A courthouse was built south of Old Corners in 1790, the courthouse being removed to Alfred in 1805.

About 1790, Samuel Dam came from Durham, N.H. and settled one mile south of Old Corners, opening the first hotel in town.

The first church was formed in 1782, and the meetings held at Joshua Ricker's house. Afterward, this group divided among the Baptists, Free Will Baptists and Congregationalists. The second church was a Baptist Society at Old Corners organized October 27, 1791, with eight members. Elder Peletiah Tingley was one of the first ministers in town. In 1794, Rev. Henry Smith became pastor and ministered to the Old Corners Baptists for over 40 years.

There were 150 members at one time. The Baptist Churches of Alfred and No. Alfred were both set off from this first Baptist Church. The third organized was a Free Will Baptist by Rev. Henry Hobbs in 1798 on Ossipee Hill. During Elder Hobbs ministry, this was a flourishing church--but was extinct by 1872. A Baptist Church was organized in 1804 in North Waterboro, but was of short duration. However, a Free Will Baptist endured. In East Waterboro, Rev. Jason Grey was pastor of a church organized there. There is record of a flourishing church, a Free Will Baptist, on the Middle Road, according to an 1872 atlas.

A school opened in a barn near Old Corners in 1784, taught by Samuel Robinson. The private schools were continued by Messrs. Denny, Rogers and Kinsman until 1759, at which time the town appropriated money for a Town School with Nathan Hanson as teacher. Among the first teachers were Isaac Deering and Benjamin R. Hamilton.

Ira Drew commenced the practice of law in this town in September 1842. The first physician was Dr. Chase. Dr. Daniel Smith followed and practiced until his death in 1828. Dr. James Pierce, a graduate of Brunswick Medical School, opened an office in 1825, followed later by his son, James. A record book kept by Dr. Pierce in 1829 through 1834 names many residents, including: Royal Scribner, Noah Ricker, Widow Sally Warren, Joshua Bagley, Peter Smith, Daniel Knight, William Johnson, Benjamin Pitts, Israel Day, Rice Smith, Joseph Downs, John Holmes, James Ferguson, Gideon Ricker, John Bowdoin, Archibald Smith, Humphrey Chadbourne, Phineas Colcord, Nahem Jellison, Phinehas Bagley, Henry Smith and many more.

Some doctors charged \$.13. The average was about \$.25. We find the following on April 8, 1834:

Jacob Smith, Jr. - Dr.  
To visit wife in case of "obstertricks"  
With twins & medicine \$5.00

The last entry was December 30, 1834:

Benjamin Carpenter, Jr., - Dr.  
To visit self & medicine \$ .75

A store account book for 1859 in my possession lists the following prices:

1 barrel flour	\$6.50
1 gallon molasses	.32

1 pound ginger	.13
1 hoe	.60
¼ lb. tea	.11
3 yards sheeting	.26

In 1872, there were seven country stores - three at South, one at the center, one at "Center Depot", one at Ossipee Mills and one at Ross Corners.

The Portland & Rochester Railroad was completed through town in 1869 - the telegraph line was built along the road in 1870. There were two railroad stations in 1872.

During "The Rebellion", the hardy sons of Waterboro forsook the axe and plow and took up the musket, and men of means offered their hard earned money. One hundred and eighty four men enlisted in this town. ( A business directory gives population as 1,825 in 1860.)

In 1872, the outlet of Ossipee Pond offered the best power in town and ran four saws and one planer. There were two powers on Branch Brook capable of running three fourths of the year. Smiths Brook ran two saws the whole year. Colcord Brook ran one saw half the year. Johnson Brook ran two saws half the year. Roberts Brook was occupied by a steam mill.

The Ossipee Manufacturing Co. at Ossipee Mills on the Little Ossipee was incorporated in 1861 with capital of \$17,000. It employed 25 hands, manufactured 18,000 pairs of blankets per year and did a business of \$63,000. The Steam Mill Co. at South Waterboro in the season of 1872, manufactured about one million feet of lumber into boxes, shingles, etc. The Ossipee Pond Co., at the outlet of Ossipee Pond, manufactured 600,000 feet of lumber annually, and 200,000 feet were manufactured annually at other mills in town.

A Subscribers Business Directory published around 1860 gives the following statistics of the town for that year:

Horses	221
Milk Cows	694
Working Oxen	354
Sheep	628
Swine	269

Thus, briefly, we have gone back through some of the history of our beloved town. May I quote John Dewey?

"We who now live are parts of a humanity that extends into the remote past, a humanity that has interacted with nature. The things in civilization we most prize are not ourselves. They exist by grace of the doings and sufferings of the continuous human community in which we are a link. Ours is the responsibility of conserving, transmitting, rectifying, and expanding the heritage of values we have received that those who come after us may receive it more solid and more secure, more widely accessible, and more generously shared than we have received it."

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### HELP WANTED

If the newsletter is to continue for many more publications new material is needed. If you have a short or long article you think would be of interest to the readership please send it to James Carl, East Waterboro, ME 04030. Such things as newly found cemeteries, old ledger items, short genealogies, genealogical inquiries, histories of buildings, areas of town, businesses, etc, would be appreciated.

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### MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

If you are interested in joining the Waterborough Historical Society, please clip and mail the following application form.

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### WATERBOROUGH HISTORICAL SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_  
 ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_  
 PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

Donation: \$2.00 per year, Life Membership, \$15.00.

Mail to:

JEAN GRANT  
 NORTH WATERBORO  
 MAINE 04061

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