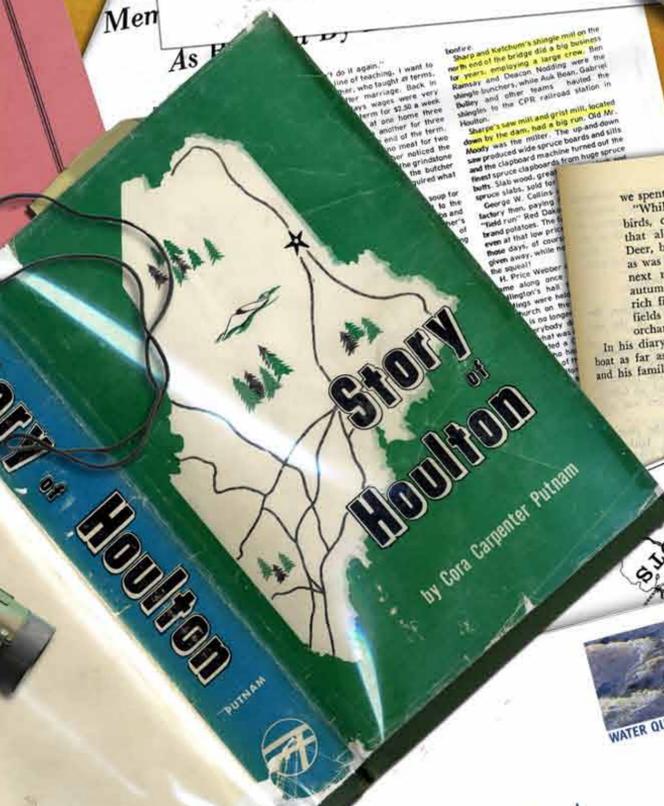


Meduxnekeag Archaeological Project: A Preliminary Assessment of Archaeological Site
 grounds were... on the Meduxnekeag... One of their hunting...
Story of Houlton by Cora Carpenter Putnam, 1958
 "The first fact to remember is that Houlton was surrounded by Indians...
 Maliseet & Micmac, First Nations of the Maritimes. Robert M. Leavitt, 1995
 "They were always able to tap the most plentiful species of fish and game, grains and seeds,
 fruits and vegetables... Maliseets used all the great variety of resources in the woods, lakes rivers
 and oceans around them. If one resource failed... they turned to something else. There isn't even
 a word for scarcity... in Maliseet."
 [Maliseet] made use of stone and clay and virtually every part of plants and animals, roots, bark
 and wood: skin, bone, ivory, antler, shell, hair, fur, feathers, quills and sinew"
 "Houses were built from birchbark, cedar, spruce-root and fir gum"

Meduxnekeag Watershed Coalition Meeting
 When: Thursday Jan. 28, 2000
 Where: **Houlton USDA Service Center**
 Time: 6:30 p.m.
Agenda
 1) Chairperson/Vice-Chair election
 2) Watershed Boundary Signs - Sue Young
 3) Historic Map
 4) 199 Grant update - Tom Berry
 5) B Stream Landfill
 6) Other



MAIN BRANCH MEDUXNEKEAG RIVER WATERSHED AROOSTOOK COUNTY, MAINE FINAL WATERSHED PROTECTION PLAN / ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT
 PREPARED AND SPONSORED BY:
 SOUTHERN AROOSTOOK SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT
 RR 3, BOX 45, HOULTON, ME 04730
 and the
 HOULTON BAND OF MALISEET INDIANS
 (A Federally Recognized Indian Tribe)
 BOX 748, BELL ROAD, HOULTON, ME 04730
 ASSISTED BY:
 UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
 SOIL CONSERVATION SERVICE
 6 GODFREY DRIVE, ORONO, ME 04473
 and the
 UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF FOREST SERVICE
 P.O. BOX 840, HOULTON, ME 04730



Axe head Abbe Museum

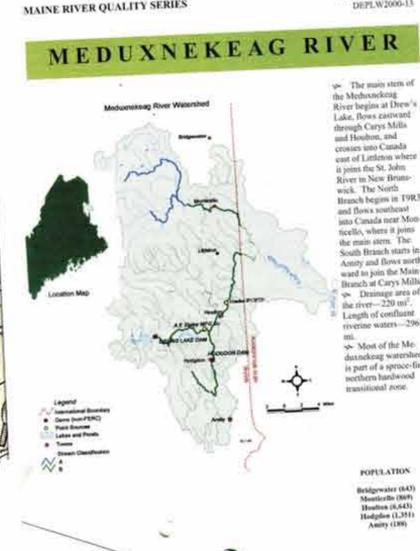
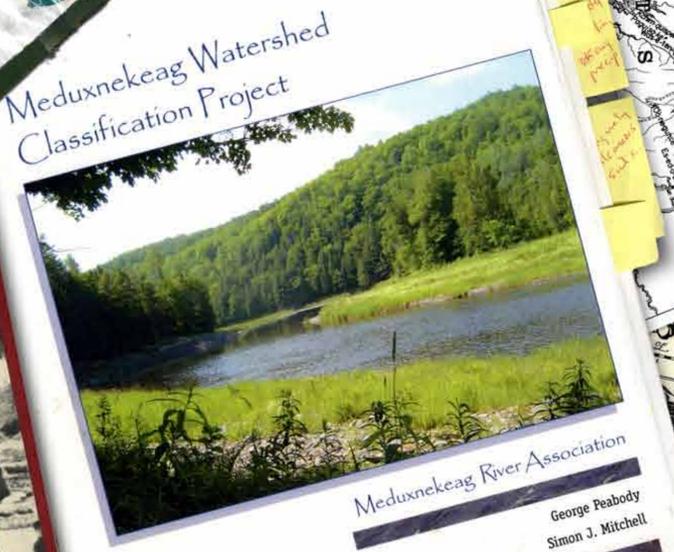
"While supper was preparing, I made inquiry concerning birds, quadrupeds and fishes, and was pleased to hear that all these animals abounded in the neighborhood. Deer, bear, trout, salmon, and grouse were our journey as was the great gray owl. When we resumed our journey next morning nature displayed all her loveliness, and the rich fields of corn, smiled in placid beauty. Many of the orchards hung clustering under us."
 In his diary, Audubon told of coming up the St. John River on a boat as far as Woodstock on his way to Houlton. While in Houlton, and his family arrived at "Uncle Jimmie's" Inn on the hill.

SOILS
 Soils associated with the widespread calcareous bedrock dominate the ecodistrict. Much of the soil in the watershed is of the Calcareous fult. These well drained, deep and fertile soils contain easily crumbled, weathered shale fragments and are among the most erodible (U.S. Department of Agriculture, 1994). Most of the erodible or potentially high erodible soils are currently in agricultural production. The steep, stony, and poorly drained soils are covered in forest.
HUMAN HISTORY
 The Meduxnekeag watershed is part of the Wulustuk watershed inhabited by Maliseet people from a very early period. The first traces of human habitation have been dated to a time soon after the glacial ice withdrew, and there is no reason not to believe that included the establishment of villages at or near the mouth of major Wulustuk tributaries. It is very likely that a Maliseet village long preceded the Town of Woodstock at the mouth of the Meduxnekeag and on the island which lay in the St. John headpond (1967). It is not possible to be certain of the size of the settlement or the length of time it existed, but the earliest surviving written records show that Maliseet settlement there in the 17th century.
 In any event, the Maliseet residents will not have had a significant shaping effect on the ecology of the watershed or the quality of the water. They may have raised corn and other crops on the river banks and in the headponds and may have harvested fish and other forest products. Maliseet hunting and trapping was a major activity. Maliseet hunting and trapping was a major activity. Maliseet hunting and trapping was a major activity.

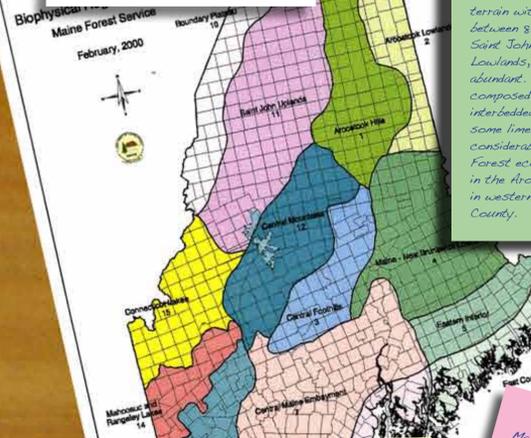


Minutes from the Meduxnekeag Watershed Coalition
 Jan. 21, 1999 Meeting
 Held at the Houlton Water Company
 Attendance: Tom Berry, Tim Peters, Shari Venno, Urban Hughes, Brian Longstaff, Don Collins, Kathy Hoppe, Mark Cassidy, Don Collins, Carol Willette, Angie Reed, Jim Schaub, Hill Grady.
 A. The group reviewed the by-law protocol for electing the Chair and Vice-Chair. Don Collins nominated Shari Venno for Chair and Mark Cassidy for Vice-Chair. Tom Berry seconded the nomination. Don Collins qualified his nomination by saying that his experience would be beneficial during the Coalition's current "growth spurt" and would help with continuity to be taken at the next meeting.
 B. Angie Reed reported on the site and Christy Fitzpatrick reported on the site and education survey results and will have more information next month.
 C. A committee to develop an historic map of the watershed was formed and consists of: Mark Cassidy, Tom Berry, Dave Saunders, Brian Longstaff, and Garry Gooding (if interested). Shari Venno nominated the Coalition's current "growth spurt" and would help with continuity to be taken at the next meeting.
 D. Angie Reed reported that she, on behalf of the SASWCD, applied for a small grant through the New England Forestry Foundation (NEFF) to pay for a map of the watershed and \$1000 and \$1000. The committee will ask Mr. York (of York's Bookstore) for his help and have some samples of historic information for the Coalition to review next month. Shari Venno will also get some samples of historic information for the Coalition to review next month. Shari Venno will also get some samples of historic information for the Coalition to review next month.
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AROOSTOOK A Century of Logging in Northern Maine
 RICHARD W. JUDD



Meduxnekeg Ecodistrict of the Valley Lowlands Ecoregion
 Relief of the gently rolling landscape rarely exceeds 100 metres. Climate is characterized by cold winters and short, warm summers. Precipitation is average for the region, although drier than the adjacent Central Highlands. Soils associated with the widespread calcareous bedrock dominate, well-drained, deep and loamy soils, are among the most fertile soils in New Brunswick. The steep, stony, and poorly drained soils are covered in forest.



Aroostook Hills Region
 Characterized by gently rolling terrain with elevations averaging between 500' and 1000'. Unlike the Saint John Uplands and Aroostook Lowlands, lakes and peatlands are abundant. Bedrock is almost entirely composed of weakly metamorphosed interbedded pelites, sandstones, and some limestone. Climate varies considerably from north to south. Forest ecosystems are more diverse in the Aroostook Hills Region than in western portions of Aroostook County.

Aroostook Lowlands Region
 Elevations are relatively low (approximately 600' to 800') except for a few scattered monadnocks which rise above the gently rolling terrain. Bedrock [clips] represent the most extensive calcareous formations in the state. Igneous rocks are limited to two small granite plutons west of Houlton. The climate is relatively uniform. The frost-free season is longer than other regions in northern Maine. The entire region is covered with till - much of it weakly calcareous. Deep till deposits contribute to the region's undulating topography. A number of calciphiles occur here that are rare or do not occur elsewhere in Maine. A number of woody species reach range limits [both northern and southern] in the region. Woody species richness is the highest of the four northern regions.

Minutes from the Meduxnekeag Watershed Coalition's April 15, 1999 meeting
 held at the Houlton Water Company
 Attendance: Shari Venno, Jessica Schaub, John Clark, Torrey Sylvester, Dave Saunders, Don Collins, Holly Violette, Tom Berry, Brian Longstaff, Tim Peters, Urban Hughes, Andrea Newman
 A. The meeting opened with discussion of quorum criteria and changes to By-laws. It was decided that a vote should be taken when there are more voting members present, perhaps at the next meeting.
 B. It was decided that the Coalition would sponsor a booth at the Houlton Retail Trade Fair on May 1 and 2. Tom noted that he took care of booking a booth and ordering the giveaways for the fair. The fair was listed to help fund the book.
 C. Discussion of the historic map project was tabled pending the return of Angie Reed who was out of town on business.
 D. The project is coming along well. The format needs to be placed in PageMaker before we can do our next run, hopefully in the fall. Education project packets are still in the works and will be ready for use in near future. The packet will be presented at the May meeting.
 E. Coalition's new brochures have been distributed throughout the Southern Aroostook area and the feedback has been excellent.
 F. It was noted that the Coalition's public service announcement, sponsored and coordinated by The Houlton Water Company, is now on the air and it sounds great.
 G. In new business, it was stated that the Forest and Waters Workshop held at the Houlton Sheraton went well and Andrea is looking for volunteers to help with the Northern Regional Environment to be held May 17.
 The meeting was adjourned at 7:57 p.m. The May 20, 1999 meeting will be held at 6:30 p.m. at the Houlton Water Company.

Thanks to those who signed on to help:
 Angie Reed, OWL/MWC
 Brian Stewart, MWC
 Cara O'Donnell, HBMI
 David Lombard, HBMI
 David Putnam, MWC
 David Collins, MWC
 George Peabody, MRA
 Kay Bell, Houlton Historical Society
 Rhonda Jewell-Smart, HBMI
 Simon Mitchell, MRA
 Shari Venno, HBMI
 Susan Young, HBMI

Minutes from the Meduxnekeag Watershed Coalition's Nov. 19, 1998 meeting
 held at the Maliseet housing Authority Building
 Attendance: Dave Saunders, Shari Venno, Tom Berry, Kathy Hoppe, George Peabody, Tim Peters, Andrea Newman
 A. Tom Berry gave an update on how the Watershed Coalition's Fall Tour went. Following a delicious breakfast participants enjoyed a tour of project completion and ongoing work around the watershed. A tour of project completion and ongoing work around the watershed. A tour of project completion and ongoing work around the watershed.
 B. The logo was approved unanimously. A logo for the Coalition was approved unanimously. A logo for the Coalition was approved unanimously. A logo for the Coalition was approved unanimously.
 C. Shari Venno presented the idea of preparing a historical map of the watershed for promotional or fundraising use. Kathy Hoppe suggested putting on a map of the watershed. Kathy Hoppe suggested putting on a map of the watershed. Kathy Hoppe suggested putting on a map of the watershed.
 D. George Peabody presented the idea of preparing a historical map of the watershed for promotional or fundraising use. Kathy Hoppe suggested putting on a map of the watershed. Kathy Hoppe suggested putting on a map of the watershed. Kathy Hoppe suggested putting on a map of the watershed.
 E. The meeting was adjourned on Thursday, Dec. 10, 1998.

This map project was funded by a grant from the US Environmental Protection Agency.
 Front illustration by: Susan J. York
 Graphic Design Courtesy: Brown Dog Ink
 Printing by: Aroostook Printshop Inc., Houlton, ME

The Spruce Era, 1963-1993 107

More than 120,000 feet yearly. In the mid-1870s, however, decks became a staple of the St. John economy. The sawport shipped an average of 90 million feet yearly, peaking in 1872 at 276 million and again in 1894 at 218 million feet. Liverpool took nearly half the city's total exports while Dublin, Belfast, Glasgow and a few continental and South American ports received the rest. Major box shooks, mainly for West Indies markets, comprised a third major outlet for Aroostook timber. Box shooks became an important part of the wood products industry in areas where choice old-growth pine was disappearing, leaving only the smaller, knottier "sapling" pine. Box shooks first appeared in St. John custom house returns in 1849, and in the next decade production increased rapidly as New Brunswick replaced Maine as the region's principal shook supplier. The trade peaked in the 1890s, when a million shooks were sent to market each year from St. John. In the next decade pine logs began replacing wooden boxes, but the shook market continued to flourish. Aroostook's low-quality pine for several more decades. In addition to marketing logs in St. John, Aroostook lumbermen found some outlets in the county itself. Sawing limited but growing local markets and a small export trade occurred by rail connections to New Brunswick. County mills grew in number from twenty-nine in 1860 to fifty-two in 1880, and the value of their product increased by about 11 percent. Given this modest growth, advances in milling technology were slower. In the middle decades of the century the water-powered mills with their cumbersome up-and-down blades capable of saving around 2,000 feet of lumber daily gave way slowly to steam-powered circular saws which produced in some cases up to 100,000 feet of clear-cut lumber a day. The first water-powered circular saws were built in the county in 1840, and by 1860, the county's most advanced lumber manufacturing town in the 1870s, the county's mill industry in the later nineteenth century. Major sawmills included J.R. Leno's steam mill, which turned out 2 million shingles in 1880; two S.H. Snook mills, which produced an aggregate 2.1 million shingles of lumber a day; and Frank W. Titcomb's three steam mills, with a total output of 6.4 million feet of lumber and 22 million shingles. Titcomb's mills in Houlton and in nearby New Brunswick and Leno's employees a combined force of about 11,000 men and 400 to 500 in the woods. His Meduxnekeag River operations, totaling some 10 million feet of lumber a day, were the largest in southern Aroostook County. Titcomb converted to steam power in 1874, shortly after the Open-Brunswick Railroad converted Houlton, and thereafter shipped a carload of shingles to Boston each day. The Houlton mill burned in 1902, 1903, and 1906, and each time the indomitable lumberman built on a more advanced mill.

The unique calcareous soils of the region create suitable conditions for Appalachian Hardwood Forests (AHF), a tolerant hardwood forest type unique to the St. John River.

Water 2000, Issue 2 DEPLW000-12

POPULATION
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