Nor’ by East, Spring 1974

Casco Bay Island Development Association

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"The appeal of islands may increase as a result of the energy crisis," said Jerry Holtenhoff, in his leading remarks at the January Steering Committee meeting of CBIDA. He ticked off dozens of interesting facts and data collected by the Planning Board staff in connection with the new master plan for guiding and controlling orderly growth for Portland's future.

Did you know, for instance, that Portland owns twenty-eight islands in Casco Bay including the Cat's Whiskers and a slice of Hope.
The Master plan for all of Portland with community groups being held to has often been accused of not paying adequate attention to the islands, Jerry pointed to the new effort to policy for new zoning. There is a adoption of the master plan will become June 30 deadline for the community gathering facts and update zoning in the best interests of all concerned. 

Success of the International Ferry Terminal, and a solid movement toward developing a New York-Portland ferry line.

The city has gone on record as limiting any further oil storage expansion on Long Island, or the Waterfront, and a refinery is completely out for any waterfront location.

Another constraint - is the lack of sewers and increased environmental concerns. Most island soils are very poor for septic tanks, and one way of limiting development is to strictly enforce plumbing codes.

73% of island land is vacant and 122 is limited to single family dwellings.

There are three dumps which will have to cease operating in July of 1975.

At the time of the fact gathering there were 305 junked cars on Peaks; 237 on Long and 30 on Cliff.

Factors which will have a positive effect on the islands is the renewal of interest in development of the Waterfront and the "recycling" of the Old Port Exchange area as a historic area with its new and interesting shops.

At its workshop meeting of February 19, 1974, the Planning Board reacted favorably to both of the aforementioned recommendations and directed the Planning staff to prepare an "open space zone" to be mapped on all publicly owned open land and to delineate a new apartment (R-5) zone in the vicinity of Island Avenue on Peaks Island.

After this work is completed, the aforementioned zoning proposals will be submitted to the Planning Board, and your organization for review.

Sincerely,

Assistant Planning Director

Jackson & Casey Plumbing & Heating Corporation, a daily franchised corporation by the State of Maine since 1971, is owned and operated by resident home owners of Peaks Island, Maine.

Edward Casey, President of Jackson & Casey Pl. & Heat. Corp., has been a resident of Peaks Island for fifty (50) years. He and his wife Catherine, own a home located at Evergreen Avenue, Peaks Island. Mr. Casey holds a Master Plumbers license, with both the City of Portland and the State of Maine.

Ralph Jackson, Vice President of Jackson & Casey Pl. & Heat. Corp., has been a resident of Peaks Island, for nine (9) years along with his wife Sharon, and their four daughters. They reside at 129 Brick Street, Peaks Is. Mr. Jackson holds Master licenses in both plumbing and heating and oil burner installation and repair. These licenses also are both with the City of Portland, and State of Maine.

Jackson & Casey is equipped to meet any plumbing work required, whether it be a new installation or repair to your present system. In addition, we are most fortunate to have Mr. Walter Crandall, as superintendant of our carpentering and general construction crew, who is experienced in all phases of top quality construction, from the ground up. We can also supply any wiring fixtures and supplies you require, plus a licensed electrician to do the installations, whether it be a small wiring problem, or in conjunction with any contract work also. Mr. Peter A. Gomez, whose family lives on Chebeague Island, Maine, does all of our electrical work.

Our corporation carries Workmen's Compensation Insurance on its employees, and we are bonded for larger construction jobs, as well as carrying Liability Insurance to cover any unforeseen damage to customer premises, or bodily harm to anyone who might venture onto the job during working hours.

Jackson & Casey Plumbing & Heating Corporation can be reached by mail, at Evergreen Avenue, Peaks Island, Maine. 04108, or telephone Mr. Edward Casey at 766-3617 or Ralph Jackson 766-4086. Free Estimate gladly given. (Advertisement)
BROCHURE

A PROFILE OF CLIFF ISLAND

By Roger Berle
Pres., Cliff Island Association, Inc.

Cliff Island is the last inhabited island away from the perimeter of Casco Bay; with the exception of (State Park) Jewell Island, Cliff is the closest to Halfway Rock, the most northern part of the Bay. Cliff Island constitutes the last stop in the daily passenger runs of the Casco Bay Lines, which services the residents with three trips daily in winter, four in summer. The CBL schedule is such that commutation to a job on the mainland on a daily basis is impossible.

The winter population currently stands near 80, but July and August swell this total closer to 350. The approximate acreage is 296. There are about 100 houses here with some 25 garages, boathouses, fishhouses, and the like. Cliff lies within the limits of Portland and hence is subject to the City's laws, taxes, and services. For the last thirty years, however, the Cliff Island Association has provided local "governmental" functions; its membership is all the winter and most of the summer residents and its purposes in law include the problems and pleasures of Cliff Islanders. Real and personal property taxes in recent years have provided Portland with some $25,000 annually.

Central Maine Power Co. provides electricity and New England Telephone Company provides phone service here. Gasoline and heating oil are delivered by Harbor Supply Oil Company to Fisherman's Wharf on the island for retail resale. Fisherman's Wharf also maintains a supply of Liquid Propane gas in tanks, and, although small, offers a representative selection of fresh, frozen, canned and packaged goods. Beer and wine are not available.

Martelle purchased the business in 1973. Among the various occupations and talents are enough to provide residents with plumbing and electrical service, auto and boat mechanical repairs, fiberglass boat work, and loader/backhoe excavation work.

The one church is Seventh Day Adventist, but its doors are always open to non-denominational services and community purposes. The school teaches children in grades kindergarten through 8. Subsequently junior high and high-school children commute to Portland. The Cliff Island Fire Department operates on a volunteer basis and is financed and supported by the Portland Fire Department. There is one tank truck and one auxiliary vehicle. The Portland Fire Boat is our link to Portland Hospitals if a fisherman's boat is not available. There are several doctors among the summer residents. There are no public buildings (indeed, no public land!) but a Cliff Island Association Hall is available for any and all functions. There is a community-maintained tennis court with horse-shoe and volleyball accoutrements, as well as a sometimes baseball field.

All the beaches are privately owned but "spatial rights of usage are granted by owners to respectful Cliff Islanders. The wharf and roads are the only public property on the island. All the remaining private property is "jealously guarded" at the same time as it is generously offered for use to any who politely ask admittance. There is, in fact, even a land preserve whose acreage is open to those who respect its uses and purposed by the islanders. On the southeast side lies the "boatcove", an anchorage sheltered to all but southerly gales; on its SE shore lies a small boat yard.

There is no restaurant and but one house of lodging with only a few rooms. Property is generally unavailable here. No "off-islander" has bought land (only) for a long time and perhaps one house per year changes hands.

A population profile finds fishermen as the backbone of the island. There is a representative span of "ages" consisting of all but the twenties, who seem to leave to sample the world's offerings before some of them return to settle here in their thirties. There are maybe two dozen or so "retirees" but most of these are so active as not to be any burden of consequence. The summer residents come from the "eastern megalopolis" area along the seaboard.

The island was settled in the early 1700's and still numbers among its natives the names of the earlier arrivals: Pettingill, Griffin, Cushin; also prominent as long-time residents are the Byers, O'Beilly, and MacVanes.

There are no "historic edifices" and perhaps the only feature to stand out from the general beauty of the island is the area from which the island inherits its present name, the Bluffs - a cliff-like rocky section of land on the southeast wing of the island. The island's zoning is 98% residential and no realistic land use plan can probably alter the make-up presently apparent.

Cliff Island is a more "private" type than some of the other islands, as we cherish our private property and our "independence" (in so far as such is practicably possible) but yet we welcome any friendly visitor. Our reliance on the fishing industry for subsistence makes our way of life unique, and the mix of people makes for a close but interesting family. The island's beauty speaks for itself.

A sixth grade pupil, Laurie MacVane, won the inter-island spelling bee contest at Peaks on March 7. Tashy Flynn of Peaks was runner-up and both will go to Portland April 3, to compete on a larger scale at Longfellow Junior High School.

BRIEFS FROM CLIFF ISLAND

FOR TRANSPORTATION ON LONG ISLAND

766-2554

John and Mary Justice
POSTAL

YOUR POSTAL SERVICE

The origin of the Postal service in America can be traced to colonial times when Richard Fairbanks Tavern in Boston was designed in 1839 as a repository for overseas mail.

Letter rate at that time was:

- ¼ ounce no more than 30 miles...6¢
- ¼ ounce 30 to 80 miles............10¢
- ¼ ounce 80 to 100 miles.........12½¢
- ¼ ounce 150 to 400 miles.......18¢
- ¼ ounce 400 miles or more....25¢

In 1773 Benjamin Franklin became the First Postmaster General under continental Congress.

In 1845 the letter rate was:

- ¼ ounce no more than 30 miles....5¢
- ¼ ounce 300 miles................10¢

Today a (1) ounce letter will go anywhere in the country including Alaska & Hawaii for 10¢ if the person has moved it will be forwarded until it catches up with that person with no extra charge.

That recent jump to 10¢ seemed like a lot but as you can see you are still getting a real bargain. The Postal Service delivers 90 billion pieces of mail annually. This is almost half the worlds total mail volume. More than 475 million parcels were delivered by the US postal service this past year. Americans today receive a average of 428 pieces of mail each annually, contrasted with 6 letters a year in 1847.

Speaking of numbers - do you realize that out of that 90 billion pieces of mail we deliver if only 1% of it had reason for complaint by our customers it would be 90 million complaints. That is why we are trying to give you better service by new and better ways of handling mail. Sometimes there are bugs in our new ways but hang on we will get them ironed out. When there is something wrong with your mail we want to know so don't hesitate to come and talk your problems over with us. Your problems are our problems and can only be corrected when you let us know.

The Islands were well represented at a recent Postmaster work shop session at the Civic Center in Augusta by the attendance of E. Cushing Postmaster Cliff Island, S. Burgess Postmaster at Chebeague Island and myself. We were there for management training and exchange of views to better our service to you.

Your Long Island Postmaster James Coolbrith

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LITTLE DIAMOND ISLAND, MAINE
Lobsters - Groceries - Marine Fuels Boat Storage and Repairs
Tel. 766-2087

ALMOST A HAPPY CHRISTMAS

In the aftermath of much unhappiness over the long drawn out limited service of CBL during labor negotiations to end a strike of pilots, a happy surprise came at Christmas time. CBL management responded to a suggestion of John Backman that he do something in keeping with the season to extend some good will to his patrons. Mr. Peter T. did so, and with a flourish. The waiting room was tastefully decorated with the help of volunteers, and doughnuts and coffee were served each Friday afternoon through the 5:30 commuter boat time. And on Sunday before Christmas who should come aboard but jolly Santa Edward Snow of the flying Santa Claus fame, handing out goodies at each landing for the kiddies. What made things really cheerful was the settling of the strike on November 27 - surely a day of Thanksgiving.

AFS BUS-STOP CONFIRMED

The American Field Service office has confirmed the visit of 32 foreign students and 2 counselors who will arrive from the west coast to visit the East under the auspices of CBIDA before returning to their homelands. They are students completing a school year in an American home in various parts of the Country.

Mrs. Paul Stevens, is general chairman for the event which will take place June 28 to July 1. "Dodo" Stevens is looking for hospitality homes to add to those who have already volunteered. You can offer your help either through this paper or writing to her directly at 32 Pleasant Street, Portland, 04101.

streaking makes it fun

(Excerpt from Maine Times 4/15)

streaking makes it fun

We were saddened last week when we learned that the Portland Press Herald city desk had received scores of protests calling about a photograph of two streakers the paper published on March 9. We thought the picture was one of the finest news feature shots we have seen in any paper; and it was clearly the best the Press Herald has published in many a moon.

The shooting angle (rears in view) was totally minimal, and the inclusion of a co-ed hiding her eyes from the streakers made the picture tell a story that no words could have described. It was fun, and before the streakers made it fun, reading a daily newspaper paper has been definitely unfunny for about the past decade. The revelation that there are citizens of such dour souness that they can object to streaking comes as a shock.

It does not, however, diminish our joy at the continued news reports of Maine streakers. Given the climate of the state's early spring, we are proud of our streakers. What's so great about streaking in Florida or California; most folks there wouldn't know the difference. But here in Maine, where country men don't remove their woolies until after maple syrup season, streaking takes courage as well as acceptance.

We love the innocence of the pastime. The symbolism of running naked through a harsh world is one of elemental truth. If there has been one ray of hope in the darkness of the times, it is reflected from those unfettered white asses streaking down the streets.

Ed. Note: We talked with Jonathan Livingstone Seagull to ask if he had noticed any streakers on the Casco Bay Island. He allowed he hadn't but had not really been looking as he and his kind wouldn't care anyway. Furthermore with no crowds to shock what would be the point? On the other hand, why not? Island folk are noted for doing as they darned please anyway, so if the urge should arise what better place to have a streak or two. But no peeking!
Organizing a child care center is no small task. Especially if you live on an island, or in a small Maine town, where natives are apt to view organized child care as a dumping ground for children so their mothers can go coffee klatching, or worse.

That was but one of the unique problems faced by Peaks Islanders in early 1971. Today they have not only an effectively operating center but "one of the most successful programs I've seen," according to its director Nick McKenney, who tells how it was done.

First the need for a center had to be established. The island's census figures are lumped together with those of other Casco Bay Islands, therefore no data was available as to who or how many people live on Peaks. Estimates place year round population at about 1,000 says the director.

Some mothers were already working to supplement the family income, leaving children with grandparents or neighbors. Rumor had it that others would like to work, but were unable to find suitable care for their children. But who were these people, and how would you contact them? Via the Island grapevine, word soon spread, and people came forth.

"It's just a sophisticated babysitting service" - "they just want to take advantage of federal money," was not uncommon talk. But along with suspicion, came positive results. Mothers did want to work, they did need reliable child care, they did want a center. The need was established.

A group was organized, and action taken. Funds were obtained from the Diocesan Human Relations Services, Inc. and the Maine Department of Health and Welfare. Chosen to house the center was the newly built St. Christopher's parish hall with its shiny kitchen and large room. Nick McKenney was hired as director.

A graduate of the University of Maine Portland-Gorham, with a master's degree in counseling, McKenney had worked in a pre-school program for problem children at Maine Medical Center. He was to become the only non-islander working at the center.

The center was classified as a one-room school under city and state fire regulations. All equipment had to be movable so as not to block exits. Temporary partitions were not allowed. In order to overcome the massiveness of the room, movable halfwalls, and blocks were used to designate different areas. Much of the furniture and play equipment, too costly to have transported by boat, was handcrafted by local carpenter, Rick Caron.

There was no resident doctor on the island, but in accordance with Medicaid guidelines, a physician and medical care must be available. Through the Kennedy Park Health Station in Portland arrangements were made for a pediatric nurse to visit once a week.

Children needing hospitalization would be transported by fire boat. Medical care could be given a child at the center until the mother was able to return to the island, sometimes a matter of several hours.

Island residents were hired as teachers and helpers. "We were interested in people who felt comfortable and who had experience working with pre-schoolers," explains McKenney. "We decided to hire only Island residents because they could better understand the child's environment, and because money from the program would then be going back into the community. The island, part of the City of Portland, is designated an economically deprived area. With a population of about 1,000 $25,000 to $30,000 has an impact."

Francine Alves and Lalania Kelso study the workings of these double ended puppets.

PARSONAGE BECOMES CRAFT CENTER AT LONG ISLAND

The Ivy Class of Evergreen United Methodist Church is planning to open the Methodist parsonage in June for a Craft Shop, the library supplied by the Portland Public Library and some children's activities. As there is no longer a resident minister it seemed advisable to make use of the parsonage in other ways. Handmade gifts, stationary, cards and paper napkins will be on sale. Coffee and cookies or muffins can be purchased to enjoy while browsing. Beginning in June the Island Craft Shop will be open Monday through Friday from 11 A.M. to 4 P.M.

E. E. CLARKE GROCERIES
PARSONAGE BECOMES CRAFT CENTER AT LONG ISLAND
CBIDA recommends the following be required of Casco Bay Lines, as resulting from informal conferences with island residents. The below items reflect the vibrations and feelings of the patrons of the CBL some of which have been voiced privately to the PUC through petitions and letters.

1. Only well groomed qualified and responsible captains shall be employed by CBL.
2. All public rest rooms on and off the boats shall be maintained with regular cleaning and shall be open at all times to the public.
3. Public behavior aboard the boats shall be enforced by the boat captains or their assignees by crew circulating and reporting to captain.
4. Scheduling to Long Island particularly on weekends should be more often and on time. (Down the Bay includes other islands en route)
5. Sunday scheduling should be made on time to the designated islands year round.
6. The printing of time schedules should be revised and printed in color and/or in a manner less confusing for the general public.
7. Managers of CBL should ride the boats occasionally for informal dialogue with patrons as a means of improving public relations.
8. CBIDA should work for Radar under the VTS system.

**FLASH**

**LATE NEWS FLASH:** The anticipated rate increase request from CBL has now been announced. CBIDA will participate in the hearing when announced to the public by the Public Utilities Commission. Fact finding will start immediately and information pertinent to the impact of the 62% requested increase will be welcomed from all concerned.

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**HARBOR FISH MARKET**
Fish - Clams - Live Lobster
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**STATE DRUG STORE**
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Drugs Sent By Mail
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**THE HARRIS COMPANY**
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Seashore Ave., Peaks Island
Groceries - Meat - Fish
Fruits - Vegetables - Ice Cubes
Garden Supplies, Fertilizers
Peat Moss - Etc.
Deliveries 766-9701

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Hours: 7:30 A.M. - 3 P.M. (Mon. thru Fri.) — 8 A.M. - Noon (Saturdays)
Golfing on Chebeague

With the mildest winter on record for Maine, Chebeague's lovely golf course will now be ready for its usual busy summer. This only golf course in the Bay welcomes golfers from neighboring islands or even the mainland. It looks good even on a foggy day as shown here.

Where the Action Is

By Jean Dyer,
Chebeague Island
( Teacher--grades K-3rd )

We hear a lot about making maximum use of school buildings. This concept is alive and well on Chebeague.

Monday and Friday afternoons and Wednesday morning are still library hours in one of the spare rooms at the school--this year a larger one.

Tuesday and Thursday mornings the Chebeague branch of Project Mainstream provides pre-school experience for our three and four-year-olds and the post October 15 fives (Oct. 15 is the cut-off date for school entrance). Eleven children are enrolled in the program which is staffed by Nancy Hopkins, assisted by Pearl Brekett and island mothers. Nancy and Pearl come over from the mainland twice a week to "do their thing". Project Mainstream is presently Federally funded and its primary purpose is working with children with possible learning disabilities and/or physical handicaps so they will be better able to benefit from public school experience.

This is the second year of the program, and the "readiness" exhibited by the present kindergarteners after one day a week for half a year is impressive if somewhat immeasurable.

Brookwood Real Estate
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Cottages for 2-week or monthly rental.
June through September.


Cottages for ages for 2-week or monthly rental, Chebeague Island, Maine, $28,500.


House on 2½ acres of wooded land. Good water supply. House needs extensive repairs. $12,500.

acre-plus wooded lots in cart road acres. Green area, artesian well, r/w to shore. Firm $6600.

Seven acres of woodland bordered by brook. Plenty of room to call your own. $7,000.

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Casco Bay Lines
New 300 Passenger Circle Style

Custom House Wharf
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207-774-7871

PARKING

As a result of meetings held with the Yarmouth Town Council, both towns have agreed to appoint a joint committee to work out a solution to the Chebeague Island parking problems on Cousins Island. The Cumberland Council voted to ask Representative William J. Garsoe to ask the State Department of Transportation to hold Legislative Document 2186 in committee for further study until the next session of legislature. The delay will give the towns time to work out a solution to their problem.

Cumberland's representatives on this joint committee are David R. Higgins, Kenneth H. Hamilton, and Miss Pauline Smith; Yarmouth's representative are Robert C. Hall, David C. Clarke, and Steven Dougherty.

The committee is charged with the responsibility of looking into the feasibility and acceptability of a 400-car parking lot for Chebeague Islanders; purchase of the Blanchard property on Cousins Island now used as a parking lot by Yarmouth with participation in some manner by Cumberland.

On the first and third Wednesdays of the month the Mainstream room becomes a branch of the office. Cumberland Town Manager, Jared Clark, provides two office services and a listening ear.

To about seventeen children from kindergarten to grade 8, Friday is Dance Day. From 2:30 to 4:30 the room becomes a dance studio for Ricky Morrison, who conducts two classes in tap and one each in modern jazz and acrobatics. The children have the experience of taking part in his annual dance recital on the mainland. Their routines provide the nucleus of "PTA Presents", the variety show given in the summer as a fund-raising activity. A PTA committee supervises the school during dance lessons and the parents pay for the lessons. Also the Women's Exercise Group meets at the school just before the dance lessons.

Visitors to the school this year have enjoyed the Hallway Art Gallery. The children's art work has been displayed in the school hall rather than in the classrooms.

An addition to the school program has been monthly visits by John Bancroft of the Cumberland County Sheriff's Dept. In full uniform he visits each class with a film on safety or police work and a friendly presentation to give the children a good feeling toward and about police officers.

Chebeague's school may be an "egg crate" in design, but it is a "beehive" of activity.
NEW HISTORIC DISTRICT PROPOSED

In late 1973, Greater Portland Landmarks prepared nomination papers for an area of the Portland waterfront to be entered onto the National Register of Historic Places in the United States. The boundaries extended from roughly Commercial Street to Federal Street and from Franklin Street to Maple Street. Many historic and architecturally significant buildings important in Portland's history and growth were included.

A series of meetings with the Portland City Council, Old Port Exchange Association, area property owners, and the Maine Historic Preservation Commission left the proposed district somewhat reduced in size, but with all groups agreeing to the compromise.

The Portland City Council has voted to accept the district, and it will now go to the Historic Commission for their vote on March 1. From there it will go to Washington to the National Trust for Historic Preservation for final approval.

A more detailed map is on display at the Landmarks office.

The dotted lines indicate the proposed boundaries of the district.

(Excerpt from the Landmarks Observer)

Official publication of Greater-Portland Landmarks.