

To whom it may concern:

This informal history of the house at 195 Corea Road was written that it might be of interest to current and future occupants and to anyone who is interested in the history of the people who have called Prospect Harbor home. I acknowledge that there might be errors and apologize in advance for those. It's a wonderful house and homestead, and has provided shelter, warmth, and a place to be nurtured for many who have lived there. May it continue to do so for many years to come, and may many more pages be added to its story.

Suzanne Chabot

***History of a House
64 Corea Road
Prospect Harbor, Maine***

The big farmhouse at 64 Corea Road in Prospect Harbor, which is located on Route 195, was built for Irving and Iva Whitaker as a wedding gift by Iva's father, Moses Stanley about 1907. They were married in 1906. The first baby born in the house was their daughter, Julia in 1913. Iva's mother was Julia Moore Whitaker Deasy. After her death, the newlyweds lived with Iva's maternal grandfather the colorful Captain Deasy who owned the large farm on the Lighthouse Road. After moving into their own house, the land was farmed by the Whitakers and animals included cows, pigs, fowl, work horses and oxen, which Irving trained. There were also cats, and a dog named "Watch." Hay came from land near the dikes at the West Bay Marsh. This sea hay was gathered in wagons pulled by oxen accompanied by a wagon with a hot box containing hay to keep the baked beans or soup warm for dinner. This hot box also served the purpose of keeping baby Julia warm and comfortable for the trip.

The children of the Merriam family, from across the street, wanted one of the Whitaker's piglets and raised it during the summer while they were in Prospect Harbor. They trained it like a little dog. When they left in the fall to return home, they sold it to Irving who fed it, then butchered it for food. He gave the children a new one in the spring.

Because Iva had asthma, she was chronically ill. It was thought by the village Doctor, Dr. Charles Larrabee, to be caused by the sea air, so the family moved to Washburn, Maine, in Aroostook County where his son had a practice. They found out later that her illness had been caused by allergies to the animals, rather problems from the sea air, so Irving had to sell all of his animals. They stayed there until 1923 when Irving died suddenly of a blood clot. Iva sold the

property in Prospect Harbor in 1930, which then included land on the east and west sides of Rte. 195 all the way to the Sand Beach. Iva and Julia moved back to Prospect Harbor in 1932 and rented the house, "but it was a sad time with too many memories," according to Julia.

This information came from Julia Whitaker Cole who returned to Prospect Harbor in her later years after retiring as a first grade teacher with her husband Wilbur, a retired physician. She visited the house once in her last years, asking if she could see the bedroom in which she had been born, which was the front, or Master bedroom. She did so with some difficulty and expressed pleasure at seeing the many positive changes to the house. We had several nice conversations about her parents, memories of her time there, and she sent me the black and white photographs. In her retirement, she volunteered to read to the students of the first grade and kindergarten and was known and loved as the "hat lady". With her colorful and stylish hats, she lent an air of sophistication to the classroom.

The next owner seems to have been a Mrs. Jenny who was responsible for some extensive remodeling done in the late 30's. Paul Jenny has been mentioned as the "architect." Some information has come from Stephen Jenney, Mrs. Jenney's grandson who expressed fond memories of spending time in the summers in the house. His last memory of the family spending a summer at the house was in 1942. Stephen contributed a map and description of the configuration of the house as he remembered it, after making a brief visit in 2001. Mrs. Jenny was said to have owned the house from the 1920's until "just after the war about 1945."

It seems also that there were several renters during this period. Besides the Whitakers, Lester Phalen, brother of Prospect Harbor resident Elizabeth Chauncy lived in the house for about one year. The John and Daisy Workman family also lived in the house for a time. It seems that John was a lighthouse keeper, probably of the

Prospect Harbor Lighthouse. Their sons Allison and Gordon were born in the house, sometime in the mid 1930's. They also lived in the Prospect Harbor Lighthouse for a time. Two years before he retired as lightkeeper, he purchased a piece of land from Calvin Stinson on Lighthouse Road and built the house now owned by the Runyans.

Mrs. Jenny sold the house in 1945 to Wilson and Jane Francis. Wilson was said to have been a semi-pro baseball player and his wife was a pianist. It might have been during this period when the woodshed was made into a family room, and a bedroom was added above that room.

In 1952 they sold it to Bert Mercier who was stationed at the naval base. Around 1954 the house was repurchased by Wilson and Jane Francis and sold to Arnold and Luanne Francis in 1957. Luanne was the daughter of Calvin Stinson, Sr. who was the founder of the Stinson Canning Company.

In September of 1961, it was sold to Stinson Canning Company. Several employees of that company lived in the house after that time. One of these was Willis White, and his family which included his son Ken, who later became a teacher at Mountain View School in Sullivan and daughter Judy and her triplets. The room off the kitchen, originally a dining room was used as a nursery for a short time for the three babies.

Another employee who lived in this "company house" was Robert Leighton, his wife and six children. The names of the Leighton children are written on the inside of the door to a closet in the family room, where they measured their heights. They include Luanne, Leta, Richard and Scotty. A later renter was the Jim Carroll family with four children, including sons James and Jay.

Roland and Suzanne Chabot moved into the house on December 26th, 1978, from Westbrook, Maine. Their children, Jeffrey, Gregory

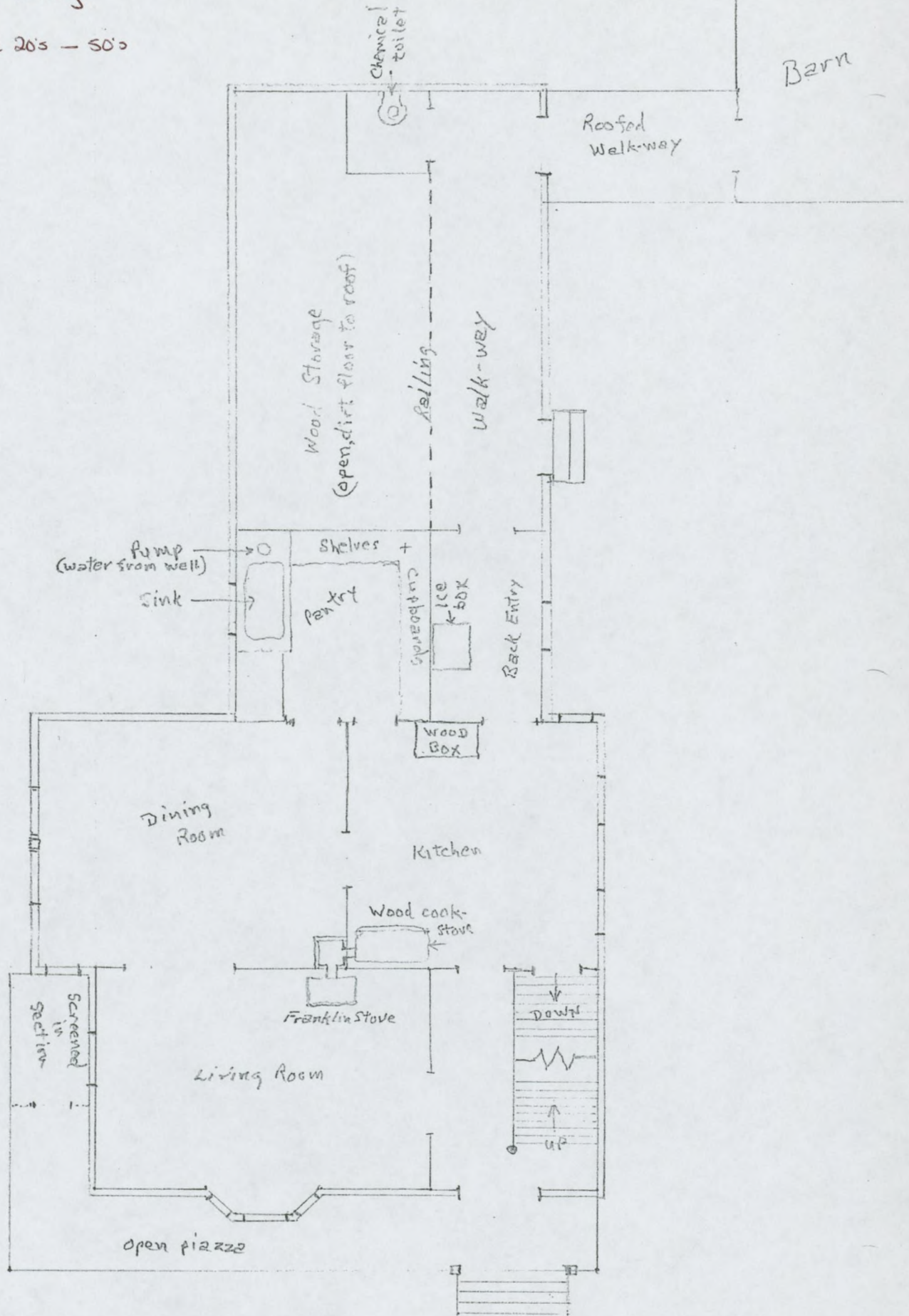
and Rosanne, ages 11, 10, and 8 consecutively at the time of the move are shown on the red fence in front of the house in 1980. Roland was in charge of the accounting department at Stinson Seafood and Suzanne taught at Gouldsboro School and later became a guidance counselor for other Union 96 schools. The family pets included Timmy the cat, Teddy the black lab dog, and Shoshoni the black horse. The names of the Chabot children and grandchildren are also written on the inside of the same closet door as held those of Leighton children.

Extensive renovations were done to the house in 1983 by the Stinson Company, including new kitchen cabinets, a new roof on the barn, new floorboards in part of the barn, a foundation under the family room, new carpeting and wallpaper throughout the downstairs, the hallway up and down and the front bedroom. Later the bedroom on the west side was re-carpeted and wallpapered.

The house was sold by the Stinson Company to Roland and Suzanne Chabot in 1990. Improvements at this time included the installation of a new furnace, vinyl siding on the entire house, and vinyl double hung insulated windows throughout the house. Outside work included the building of a stone wall on the west and south sides to create flower gardens, more gardens on the east side, expanding the lawn, and repainting the barn and trim on the house. A parcel of land was added to the property.

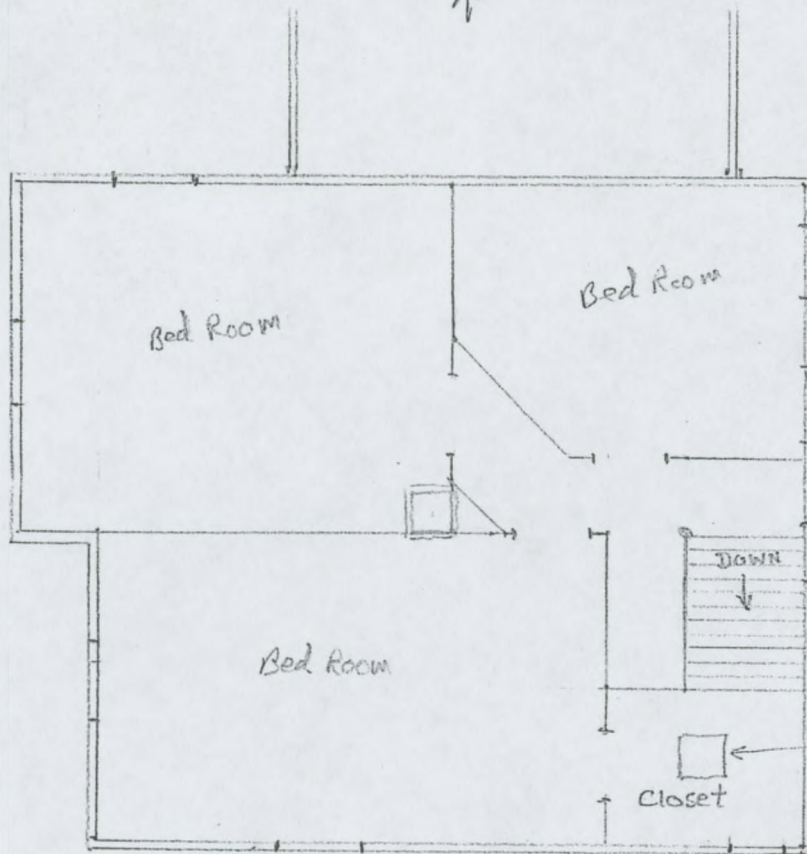
Roland had a small garden in back and west side of the barn which seemed to be close to a former garden spot. He grew tomatoes, green pepper, string beans, cucumbers, squash, pumpkins, onions and zucchini at various times. There was also a raspberry bed beside the barn. There had been plum and apple trees on the land at one time. The 3 maple trees on the west side of the house and the one in front were all planted by the Chabots. The property was sold by the Chabots in April 2008 to Robert and Lezlee Cuda.

from Stephen Jenny
probably from late 20's - 50's



Upstairs

become upstairs, pine bedroom



(Trap door to unused attic space)



STANLEY
 on back of original "Irving Whitaker farm"



"The Whitaker Farm, Prospect Harbor" on back of original



Chobot children and "Teddy" Winter of 1980



Names ~~and~~ heights
of Leighton children
and Chebot family
written on door



Summer 2000



Winter 2000