

2006
News letter

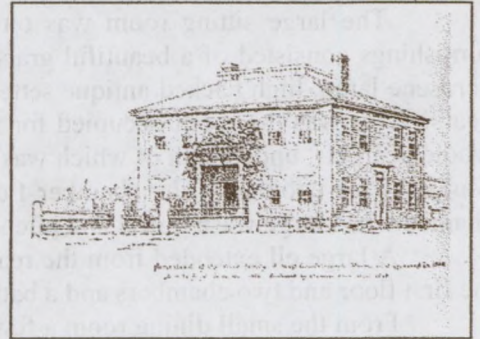
WAYSIDE INN

Harold Campbell

Ebenezer Wood was born in Hollis, New Hampshire in 1784 and as a young man went to Quincy Massachusetts to join his brothers in quarrying granite. Thinking more granite might be found along the coast of Maine he traveled east and ended up in Sullivan Maine. Ebenezer married in 1812 and built himself a home at Waukeag (later Sorrento). He changed trades at this time and became a builder of ships at Trenton and later at Sullivan. When he arrived in Gouldsbrough around 1829 he continued to build ships in West Gouldsboro. He bought a large tract of land between Jones Cove and Jones Pond. Included in the package was a house built by Abijah Jones, which would eventually be known as Wayside Inn. Abijah's father was Natham Jones one of the three original proprietors of the town of Gouldsbrough. Natham Jones home was located across from the Sunset House, where the flagpole is located. Today the Noyes house located North East of the flagpole sits on the site of Abijah's home.

Some time between 1800 and 1810 Abijah built an imposing home. A Mr. Cobb of Boston built the house. Granite came from Baker's Island, for the foundation and cellar. The cellar cost \$1,500 when finished. The wainscoting in the dining room was made of local pine three feet wide. The nails were handmade. The moldings in the larger rooms were ornamented and were all hand made. Examples of Mr. Cobb's work are shown below.

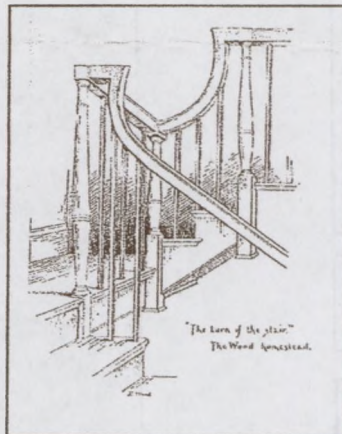
The roof of the house, shown on the right, leaked and after much patching Ebenezer Wood replaced it with a standard pitched roof as shown lower right.



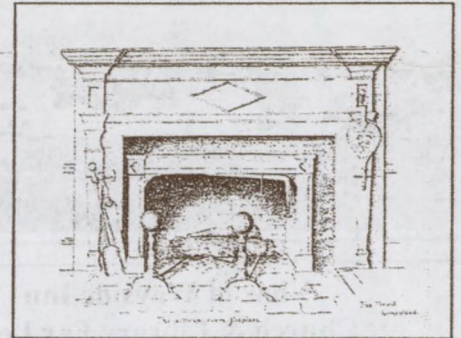
**Abijah Jones Home
Later Wayside Inn**



**Front Door
Wayside Inn**



**Stairs
Wayside Inn**



**Fireplace in Sitting Room
Wayside Inn**



**Wayside Inn With New
Roof and Porch.**

Ebenezer Wood left his home to his son Samuel Wood on the condition he take care of his mother and father in their old age. They passed away in 1874. After his parents died Samuel started taking borders, which he did, except for three years, until 1914 when he sold the Wayside Inn to Frank Crowhurst. Crowhurst ran the inn until January 1936 when it burned to the ground.

In 1943 Jerome Clark wrote a document in appreciation of the life of his late wife, Grace Wood Clark. Grace was the only child of Samuel Wood. In his document he gave a description of Wayside Inn as he remembered it. A summary of his description follows: For many years Ebenezer Wood's son,

Samuel Woods, kept a farm and hotel with summer boarders at Wayside Inn. The Wayside Inn had 22 rooms with seven open fireplaces during this period. On entering the front door a hall ran the width of the house with both front and rear stairs to the second floor. On the north side of the hall was a living room and dining room and on the south side was a front parlor and bedroom. All rooms had open fireplaces. On the second floor were four large bedrooms, three with open fireplaces. From the second floor, stairs led to four small chambers on the third floor. The parlor was finished in pine with white enamel and wainscoted all about with wide pine boards. Around the ceiling was a cornice of some width, at the bottom of which was a finish of fine hand carved beadwork of delicate and beautiful design. A mantel of white enamel enclosed the fireplace with its brass polished andirons. The parlor was little used other than the summer months when guest were present.

The large sitting room was on the left entering the house. The room had a large fireplace. The rooms furnishings consisted of a beautiful grandfather clock of English make, melodeon and later a piano, center table with kerosene lamp, high backed antique settee along one wall as well as a desk on which the hotel register rested for many years. This was the room occupied for rest and leisure. The floors of the living room and parlor were covered with woolen carpets, underneath of which was a layer of straw. The dining room had an open fireplace, which in olden times was used for cooking. The chamber floors were covered with straw matting in strips. There being no bathtub, all chambers had large wash bowls and pitchers to be filled with warm water for guest.

A large ell extended from the rear of the house, which contained the kitchen, pantry and small dining room on the first floor and two chambers and a bathroom, but with no bathtub above.

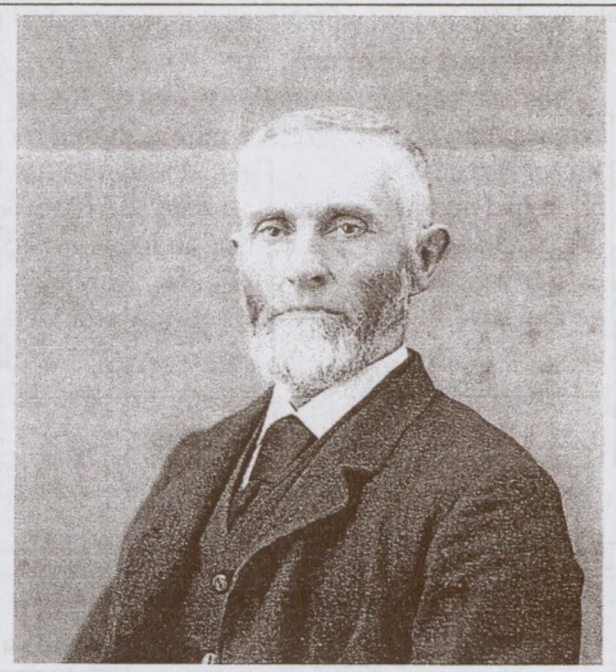
From the small dining room a few steps led to a long shed, for wood stowage, and the barn. The barn had stalls for three horses and several cattle with an attached shed for the pigs and manure. There was also a hen house and a carriage house with a large room above used for sleeping by the help in the summer.



**View of Wayside Inn
Church & Library Far Left**



**Samuel, Grace, Emilene Wood
In Sitting Room of Wayside Inn**



Samuel Wood

Sources: *The Ancestry and Descendents of Ebenezer Wood. Elvira Wood.* No printed date, but last date in book is 1928.

Jerome Clark document on his wife, Grace Wood Clark. Written in 1943