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and kept at the Customs House in Wiscasset from

1799 to 1818, Lincolntonville sent its shipbuilding records to Waldoboro, but those were apparently destroyed in a fire.

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This results in some serious gaps in the historical evidence. Many ships built and launched in this area during those early years are therefore unrecorded, perhaps lost to history. Still, what information has survived provides an interesting glimpse into the maritime culture for this particular stretch of Maine coast. It was way more active than you might think.

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Most Lincolntonville vessels that we know of built in the late 1700s tended to be schooners, but in 1801, the settlement launched its first full-rigged ship.

Joseph & Phebe was 250 tons and 89 feet long, built and owned by Joseph and Ebenezer Perkins of Castine. Its first master was David Dunbar.

In the years immediately following the War of 1812,

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