

From: Diane Schivera [<mailto:foragefarm@gmail.com>]
Sent: Friday, February 7, 2020 1:56 PM
To: Town of Appleton
Subject: Fwd: Meeting next Wednesday

Hi,

Agenda and last voted minutes below.

Thanks

Diane Schivera
2635 Sennebec Rd.
Appleton, ME 04862
207-785-5310

((_))
(oo)_____
(_))\
||-----w| \~
|| ||
Drink Organic Milk!!

Appleton Comprehensive Plan Committee Draft minutes of October 21, 2019 meeting Prepared by Sid Quarrier Oct 25, 2019

Meeting called to order [at 7:10 pm](#) at Appleton Town library

Members present : Diane Schivera, Susan Sherman, Sue Ellen Roberts, Lorie Costigan, Sid Quarrier, Andy Staples

First order of business to approve minutes of [Aug 18th](#) meeting. Minutes were approved with one abstention by a member that was not present at the Aug meeting.

Next item: Discussion of draft 4 of the town survey questionnaire.

Susan Sherman reported that Gary Roberts' and her work was complete with this draft and that others will have to carry the matter forward.

Further discussion about the survey:

* Since the draft does not actually show how respondents will choose among multiple choices, Lorie Costigan volunteered to help with formatting the 'answering' matter , and most importantly, she will look at the choices available for presenting the questionnaire as a computer formatted questionnaire and how that relates to dealing with actual answers. There are several survey programs available for such a questionnaire.

* There was continuation of a discussion about how the questionnaire will be noted to the public and made available to them . It would be noted on and be made accessible on the town website. And after a brief discussion it was suggested that a post card about the survey should be sent out

to the town's people. There were 2 choices for sending this out, one is with a low cost mailing permit that would be delivered to each mail recipient, but it is unclear whether we have access such a permit. Lorie Costigan said the Select Board was looking into this regarding a different town mailing and would get back to our committee about this. The other choice is to use the mailing lists that the town office has for taxpayers, and a separate list for residents. Presumably the lists could be merged, and a post card mailed by regular mail. This would be \$ 0.35 per person, so for 800 or so cards mailed would be \$300 plus or minus.

* As we learned more about the mailing options, the committee would then decide about either the bulk mailing or the addressed cards.

* at this point there was a brief discussion, continued from an earlier meeting, as to whether residents who were renters but not land owners should be included. After a brief discussion it was decided that people on the town's residents-list should rightfully respond to the questionnaire.

So the questionnaire would be accessible by computer through a link on the town web site and people could pick up printed copies at the town office. These printed copies would be returned to the town office.

Diane and Sid agreed to start work on the text and format of a post card for the survey.

one other item: Question 21, answer c., words 'other than your homesite' were deleted. To indicate that the respondent simply owned land in Appleton.

Regarding the next meeting, [Monday Nov 18](#), all committee members should carefully review the current 4th draft of the survey, presumably in preparation for a vote to approve the survey.

Additional future work:

Working out the mechanics of getting the survey out.

And considering the ending aspects of the revised history section, including discussion of Goals, Policies, and Strategies for the section.

CPC Agenda for February 12, 7:00 Appleton Library.

Secretaries Report; minutes from January 8.

Survey Discussion;

What we can do to promote completion by more residents.

View the already complete surveys.

Review change to historical section that Donovan suggests.

Town of Appleton Comprehensive plan

6/12/2007 Rev. Edit 2, August 2019

Section 2 History

Historic Period

The present-day Town of Appleton is a small part of the area granted under the Muscongus Patent on March 2, 1630. The strange-sounding name refers to one corner boundary, a point on the Muscongus River. It was a large grant of well-defined coast and nebulous inland boundaries that encompassed an area estimated at between 700,000 and 1,000,000 acres. The grant had various part-owners-in-common down through the years, such as the first grantees, Thomas Leverett and John Beauchamp, the Ten Proprietors and their Twenty Associates (referred to collectively as the Thirty Proprietors), their heirs or assignees, General Samuel Waldo (son of one of the Twenty Associates and nephew of another) and later General Henry Knox. After General Waldo's death, the unsold portions of the grant owned in common were divided among individual ownerships. Gen. Waldo and his Heirs obtained the largest portion (300,000 acres, in undivided ownership with the 30 Associates.), and which became known as the Waldo Patent; which was most of the part later collected by General Knox. The Twenty Associates acquired a smaller portion of about 200,000 acres. In return for release from the requirement to help settle undefined areas of the original parcel they ceded 100,000 acres to the Waldo heirs. That secured their clear title to their remaining 100,000 acres, including land that is now Appleton as well as Camden, Hope, Liberty, and Montville, and eventually included the mineral rights to the valuable limestone there, under action by the Massachusetts General Court. The original ten associates ended up with 100,000 acres to the north of the rest, which was eventually reduced to about 46,000 acres by action of the Massachusetts legislature. On 4 July 1785, the General Court responded to a request from General Knox to define hard boundaries for the land side of the original nebulous grant, and they pruned off the vaguely defined areas to the west and north, as well as east of Penobscot Bay, leaving 600,00 acres for the whole grant.

A few early explorers came up from the trading posts at Thomaston and Warren, and in the 1700s forest surveyors scouted the area for masts for the British Navy. Actual settlement did not occur until about the beginning of the Revolutionary War, in 1775. Among the first settlers were Fergus and Archibald McLain and William Davis, settling on Appleton Ridge at that time. The eastern part of the general region was settled by people coming in from the coastal area of Camden and became known as Barrett's, or Barrettstown, after Charles Barrett, who contracted with the Twenty Associates to bring in settlers. Later this area was named Hope. These settlers came in first from the coast in Camden, then later along the Medomac River and from Thomaston through Warren and Union along the St. George River.

A large portion of the western part (Appleton Ridge and beyond) became known as Appleton Plantation, named after Nathaniel Appleton, longtime Clerk of the Proprietors' Committee who signed the deeds. (His young relative, Samuel Appleton, worked for Barrett and was for a short time an early settler of Barrettstown.) The eastern border of Appleton Plantation was halfway up the east side of Appleton Ridge, between the St. George River and Appleton Ridge Road.

Barrettstown Plantation incorporated as the Town of Hope in 1804. Appleton incorporated as the 283rd town in Maine on January 28, 1829. Later, families in the St. George River Valley, which was part of Hope, petitioned the Legislature to have their section annexed to Appleton from Hope because they were unable, due to the early spring season, to cross the mountains between the St. George Valley and the other two thirds of Hope to attend the March Town Meetings and say how their taxes were spent. Although the rest of Hope opposed it, the bill succeeded. On February 20, 1843, about eleven and one-half square miles on the western edge of Hope were annexed to Appleton. This included settlements at McLain's Mills (now Appleton Village), and Packard's/Plummer's/Smith's Mills (now North Appleton).

According to the 1859 Waldo County map, mills were also established at the eastern Mill Pond (Later, Shermans Mill), at Pettingill Stream on the road to Proctors Corner (on the Medomak River in the vicinity of Burkettsville Corner), in Fish Town, and at Kirk Brook at the west side of Sennebec Pond. The largest settlement was at McLain's Mills, with many businesses of that day flourishing there. The St. George River Canal, first built by Barrett in 1794, rebuilt soon after by Knox, and again re-built in 1845 to 1848 from Thomaston to Searsmont, carried products to market during its few years of operation, and also provided a route for some of the settlers.

The lumber boom in Maine brought the highest population of 1,727 in 1850. During this productive period there were sawmills, planing, shingle, stave and heading mills; cooper shops making barrels for lime, fish, and local apples; a gristmill, a carriage maker, a tannery, mines, blacksmiths, a hotel and many merchants. Agriculture - in the form of truck gardens, strawberry farms, dairies, cattle and pig farms, and orchards - was carried on in all parts of town, with produce being shipped to Portland, Boston, New York and abroad *via* sailing vessels and, later, the coastal steamers. New businesses took the place of some that were lost. Poultry and egg farms, blueberry cultivation; squash and other crops for canneries; woodcutting for lumber, pulpwood and firewood employed many. Sand and gravel mining provided material for highways and the construction industry. Recreation facilities were also developed. Over 100 deer per year were killed in Appleton. Stocking of fish and game birds has improved fishing and bird hunting. Vacation cottages have been constructed at Sennebec Pond, and the Appleton Campground has operated since 1970. Snowmobile trails have been developed throughout the town for winter sportsmen. Poultry and cattle-raising have decreased for a variety of reasons. Agriculture in general has become less important as more area residents go out of town to earn a living.

Historic Places

The Maine Historic Preservation Commission maintains an inventory of important sites including buildings or sites on the National Registry of Historic Places (NRHP). They record four such listings for the town: the Gushee Family House, 2868 Sennebec Road, the St. George River Canal Locks, the Appleton Union Meetinghouse, and the Whitney Farm on Appleton Ridge. Other locations, such as the Fergus and Archibald McLain houses in Appleton Village, the house at Terra Optima Farm near the Mill Pond, and the Pitman Farm on Appleton Ridge appear eligible for inclusion in the National Register.

As with other Maine areas located near the coast, Appleton's population rapidly increased soon after the Revolutionary War. Remnants of that early settlement period may be seen in old stonewalls, cellar holes, mill foundations, ruins of dams, and in a few more substantial structures such as houses and barns. In keeping with the goal of maintaining the town's rural character, preservation of this cultural heritage should be strongly encouraged. This section lists some of the more prominent or significant landmarks not already mentioned above.

Appleton Mining and Smelting Co.: Located on the east side of the Gurneytown Road, the copper-mine site is overgrown and barely visible from the road, but exists as a reminder of economic activity in the past. It is in no danger now but could be destroyed if the land were developed.

Sherman's Saw and Stave Mill: Run for many years by waterpower from the Mill Pond, formed by a dam across Allen Brook, this historic mill is in reasonably good condition.

John Hall's Lime Kiln: Operated from 1872 to 1903 off the Peabody Road, this site is well-preserved on private land.

Lime Quarries: Several hand-dug quarry sites exist across the road from Hall's kiln. Other than being on private land, they are unprotected. There are also a few on the St. George's River in North Appleton on the east side.

St. George River Canal: The canal was first built in 1794 by Charles Barrett, and is one of the oldest canals in the U.S. (The Erie Canal was built in 1825). It was built to provide transport for products from the interior to the coast. These products included lumber, firewood (for the lime kilns, households and businesses), shingles, staves, hay, lime and farm products including sheep and cattle. Boats of up to 55 feet by 12 feet in size were poled (instead of being towed by animals), and provided with sails to cross ponds. Since it was poorly built, it lasted only several years, despite being rebuilt by Gen. Knox. In 1847 it was rebuilt, connecting Quantibacook Lake in Searsmont to the ocean at Warren. Parts of the canal that ran from Warren to Searsmont can still be seen along the river. Most striking in Appleton are the remains of a canal lock at North Appleton on the west side of the river. Rock walls and remnants of a wooden gate can be seen. The channel of the canal is also traceable along the west side of the river from the bridge south, but time is diminishing its evidence. This section was built in 1848 and used heavily for a short time but it was never a financial success, ceasing operation in 1850. The canal lock is listed in the National Register of Historic Places.

Cattle Pound: Since most of the stones have been removed, there is little remaining except the site itself. The Pound is located on the East side of Appleton Ridge Road adjacent to the former Ira Proctor home.

Appleton Baptist Church: Located on Searsmont Road, the church was built in 1845 and 1846 and has been in use ever since. Its original bell and belfry were removed in ----. It is still maintained by the congregation.

The Old Appleton Library: Built on Sennebec Road as *C. A. Keene's Store* before 1859, the structure served as the Grange Hall of Georges Valley Grange No. ----- from 1875 until 1968. The Mildred Stevens Williams Memorial Library then occupied the building until ---- when the new library was constructed. The building was reduced in size by removal of an addition and is now privately owned.

The former Appleton School: This structure was built in 1920 after the previous school uphill from this building was destroyed by fire. It is now the Appleton Town Hall. In 1989 the townspeople voted to keep and maintain it. Some of the windows were changed in the 1970s to conserve heat, and some interior remodeling has taken place.

Appleton Union Meeting House: This handsome building on Sennebec Road was constructed in 1848 as a non-denominational church. After a period of active use, it was maintained by the Memorial Association (successor to the G.A.R.) and used for Memorial Day services, funerals, and school programs. Before moving into the former Grange, the Mildred Stevens Williams Memorial Library remodeled the balcony to be used as a library. The first Appleton Improvement Committee made an effort to preserve it. The Appleton Historical Society was then organized to restore the building and became the legal owner in the 1970s. Work has been intermittently underway since then. The society raises funds to supplement a restoration endowment left by Hilda Paxman.

Town House: Located on Town Hill Road, this structure, with its sloping upper floor, was built in 1846 after McLain's Mills was annexed from Hope. It is now a privately-owned barn, and its future depends upon the owner's discretion.

Oakes Mansion: Built in 1900, the Oakes Mansion is privately owned, in fair condition and located on the south side of Appleton Ridge Road near Oakes Corner.

Odd Fellows Hall: Built in 1893, this building on Searsmont Road near the center of the village was renovated into two apartments and has been significantly changed.

First Town Hall: Built in 1808, this may be the barn now standing on the Pitman's land on Appleton Ridge Road, or it may have been the one to the rear that was demolished.

Medomak Valley Grange: Built in 1875, this building is cared for by the active grange and located on Burkettville Road near the center of Burkettville.

The former Burkettville Store: Built sometime before 1859, the former Burkettville Store (also the Burkettville Post Office) stood in the center of this small community on what is now Burkettville Road. It closed in 1984 and has since been torn down.

Gushee's Corner Veteran's Memorial Tablet and Flag Pole: This tiny park, located at the intersection of Sennebec Road, Sleepy Hollow Road and Peabody road (called Gushee's Corner), was dedicated in 1929 during the Centennial celebration. Neighbors on behalf of the town maintain the site. The greatest threats to its well-being are vandalism and possible highway widening.

Burkettville Memorial Stone: Located at the intersection of Burkettville Road and Collinstown Road and erected in 1967-67, this tablet was put out by the Appleton Improvement Committee and Medomak Valley Grange. It is in excellent condition and well cared for. Behind it stood the Burkettville School (K-8) until 1963, at which time all students were transferred to the new Village School.

Rehabilitation Grants

The Federal Historic Preservation Tax Incentives program rewards private investment to rehabilitate certified historic structures (a building listed individually in the National Register of Historic Places or a building located in a registered historic district and certified by the Secretary of the Interior as contributing to the historic significance of the district). The building must currently be used or will be used for commercial, industrial, agricultural, or rental residential purposes, but not used exclusively as the owner's private residence. Under PL 99-514 Internal Revenue Code Section 47, tax incentives include:

A 20% tax credit for the certified rehabilitation of certified historic structures.

A 10% tax credit for the rehabilitation of non-historic, non-residential structures built before 1936.

A Maine State taxpayer is allowed a credit equal to the amount of the Federal credit claimed by the taxpayer under section 47 of the Internal Revenue Code for rehabilitation of historic structures located in Maine. The credit is nonrefundable and is limited to \$100,000 annually per taxpayer.

Cemeteries

Cemeteries are a cultural resource providing insight into the history of the community. An inventory of Appleton's larger cemeteries is listed below, and shown on the Public Facilities Map. *See the Public Facilities Section for a summary of cemetery capacity.*

Weymouth Cemetery (West Appleton Road)

Miller Cemetery (Miller Cemetery Road)

Sprague Cemetery (Appleton Ridge Road)

Metcalf Cemetery (Guinea Ridge Road)

Quaker Cemetery (Sennebec Road)

Hart Cemetery (Appleton Ridge Road)

Esancy Cemetery (Fishtown Road)

Pine Grove Cemetery (Pine Grove Lane off Sennebec Road)

Archaeological Sites

There are four known prehistoric archaeological sites located within Appleton, according to the MHPC. They are numbered 40.4, 40.11, 39.2 and 39.23, and are in shoreland areas of the St. George River and Sennebec Pond. These sites were discovered through the collection reports of amateur archaeologists. No systematic professional surveys have been conducted. MHPC recommends such professional surveys for the St. George River Valley, Cedar Swamp and Dead River Swamp, and is now collaborating with the Georges River Land Trust to examine various sites along the river. Dr. Arthur Speis, the senior archaeologist at MHPC, has offered to consider surveying “high priority” parcels in Appleton, as the funds are available to him. The Maine State Museum has studied an artifact found on Appleton Ridge, possibly dating back to the red paint people (2000 – 4000 B.C.).

Significant archaeological sites should be identified and protected. Shore land zoning, floodplain management and land use ordinance performance standards can be used to protect such sites. Owners of significant sites may be asked permission for the nomination of archaeological sites on their property to the National Register of Historic Places, and additionally to donate preservation easements if they so desire. National Register listing extends protection of Federal legislation against actions by Federal agencies, while the combination of National Register listing and preservation easement with posting against ground disturbance extends the protection of State Antiquities Legislation to archaeological sites.

Threats to and Protection of Existing Historic and Prehistoric Sites

Historic Buildings: The historic buildings that have been identified above are not protected within the provisions of existing land use regulations. Without the proper ordinances in place, the loss or conversion of the remaining buildings is possible.

Archaeological Sites: The locations of the above-referenced archaeological sites are protected under shoreland zoning and floodplain management ordinances that have been adopted by the town.

Summary: The history of Appleton is substantially based upon the natural resources that drove the local and regional economy, including forestry and agriculture. Early residents engaged successfully in a variety of businesses, including shingles, staves for barrels, apples, strawberries, dairies, cattle and pig farms and blacksmithing. Many current residents can trace their families back to the town’s early days. Appleton still enjoys many of the benefits from its past, as a small town with a strong sense of community, where people look out for one another. The town should seek to maintain a link to its heritage through the protection of historically significant buildings and support of the Appleton Historical Society. Many of the historic sites are located on private land, leaving their fate in the hands of present owners. Fortunately, most owners respect their antiquity and leave them undisturbed, providing a form of benign protection. Appleton’s few historic structures and sites are subject both to slow deterioration and instances of rapid change such as demolition or remodeling.

Issues of Concern

1. The steady growth rate of the town in recent decades could have an adverse effect on our comparatively few cultural resources, especially historic buildings and sites.
2. Some owners may be unaware not only of the cultural value of historic sites on their property, but perhaps even of their presence and location.

Policy

To preserve important historic and archaeological resources from development that could threaten these resources.

Recommendations/Implementation Strategies

Note: Recommendations, also known as Implementation Strategies, proposed in this Comprehensive Plan are assigned a responsible party and a timeframe in which to be addressed. *Ongoing* is used for regularly occurring activities; *Immediate* is used for strategies to be addressed within two years after the adoption of this Comprehensive Plan; and *Long Term* is assigned for strategies to be addressed within ten years.

1. Awareness of historic structures and artifacts should be promoted, including the consideration of listing additional sites on the National Register of Historic Places for Appleton (Appleton Historical Society) - *Ongoing*
2. Potential areas and artifacts of historical and archaeological significance should be professionally surveyed and documented, and historical and archaeological sites and artifacts should be monitored to ensure their protection and preservation (Appleton Historical Society) - *Long Term*
3. Developers should provide evidence that their proposals will not negatively impact known (or possible) archaeological sites (Planning Board) – *Ongoing*
4. The Town should encourage and assist landowners in preserving the remnants of the St. Georges River Canal, one of relatively few navigation canals in Maine (Appleton Historical Society) – *Long Term*
5. Amend the subdivision ordinance to include preservation of historic and archaeological (prehistoric and historic) resources as part of the subdivision application process (Planning Board, Town Meeting) – *Immediate*

[Consider phrases such as “If the town wishes...” and “If it is the will of the town...” in preparing materials for Select Board/Town Meeting action.]

Town of Appleton Comprehensive plan
6/12/2007 Rev. Edit 2, August 2019

Section 2 History

Historic Period

The present-day Town of Appleton is a small part of the area granted under the Muscongus Patent on March 2, 1630. The strange-sounding name refers to one corner boundary, a point on the Muscongus River. It was a large grant of well-defined coast and nebulous inland boundaries that encompassed an area estimated at between 700,000 and 1,000,000 acres. The grant had various part-owners-in-common down through the years, such as the first grantees, Thomas Leverett and John Beauchamp, the Ten Proprietors and their Twenty Associates (referred to collectively as the Thirty Proprietors), their heirs or assignees, General Samuel Waldo (son of one of the Twenty Associates and nephew of another) and later General Henry Knox. After General Waldo’s death, the unsold portions of the grant owned in common were divided among individual ownerships. Gen. Waldo and his Heirs obtained the largest portion (300,000 acres, in undivided ownership with the 30 Associates.), and which became known as the Waldo Patent; which was most of the part later collected by General Knox. The Twenty Associates acquired a smaller portion of about 200,000 acres. In return for release from the requirement to help settle undefined areas of the original parcel they ceded 100,000 acres to the Waldo heirs. That secured their clear title to their remaining 100,000 acres, including land that is now Appleton as well as Camden, Hope, Liberty, and Montville, and eventually included the mineral rights to the valuable limestone there, under action by the Massachusetts General Court. The original ten associates ended up with 100,000 acres to the north of the rest, which was eventually reduced to about 46,000 acres by action of the Massachusetts legislature. On 4 July 1785,

the General Court responded to a request from General Knox to define hard boundaries for the land side of the original nebulous grant, and they pruned off the vaguely defined areas to the west and north, as well as east of Penobscot Bay, leaving 600,00 acres for the whole grant.

A few early explorers came up from the trading posts at Thomaston and Warren, and in the 1700s forest surveyors scouted the area for masts for the British Navy. Actual settlement did not occur until about the beginning of the Revolutionary War, in 1775. Among the first settlers were Fergus and Archibald McLain and William Davis, settling on Appleton Ridge at that time. The eastern part of the general region was settled by people coming in from the coastal area of Camden and became known as Barrett's, or Barrettstown, after Charles Barrett, who contracted with the Twenty Associates to bring in settlers. Later this area was named Hope. These settlers came in first from the coast in Camden, then later along the Medomac River and from Thomaston through Warren and Union along the St. George River.

A large portion of the western part (Appleton Ridge and beyond) became known as Appleton Plantation, named after Nathaniel Appleton, longtime Clerk of the Proprietors' Committee who signed the deeds. (His young relative, Samuel Appleton, worked for Barrett and was for a short time an early settler of Barrettstown.) The eastern border of Appleton Plantation was halfway up the east side of Appleton Ridge, between the St. George River and Appleton Ridge Road.

Barrettstown Plantation incorporated as the Town of Hope in 1804. Appleton incorporated as the 283rd town in Maine on January 28, 1829. Later, families in the St. George River Valley, which was part of Hope, petitioned the Legislature to have their section annexed to Appleton from Hope because they were unable, due to the early spring season, to cross the mountains between the St. George Valley and the other two thirds of Hope to attend the March Town Meetings and say how their taxes were spent. Although the rest of Hope opposed it, the bill succeeded. On February 20, 1843, about eleven and one-half square miles on the western edge of Hope were annexed to Appleton. This included settlements at McLain's Mills (now Appleton Village), and Packard's/Plummer's/Smith's Mills (now North Appleton).

According to the 1859 Waldo County map, mills were also established at the eastern Mill Pond (Later, Shermans Mill), at Pettingill Stream on the road to Proctors Corner (on the Medomak River in the vicinity of Burkettsville Corner), in Fish Town, and at Kirk Brook at the west side of Sennebec Pond. The largest settlement was at McLain's Mills, with many businesses of that day flourishing there. The St. George River Canal, first built by Barrett in 1794, rebuilt soon after by Knox, and again re-built in 1845 to 1848 from Thomaston to Searsmont, carried products to market during its few years of operation, and also provided a route for some of the settlers.

The lumber boom in Maine brought the highest population of 1,727 in 1850. During this productive period there were sawmills, planning, shingle, stave and heading mills; cooper shops making barrels for lime, fish, and local apples; a gristmill, a carriage maker, a tannery, mines, blacksmiths, a hotel and many merchants. Agriculture - in the form of truck gardens, strawberry farms, dairies, cattle and pig farms, and orchards - was carried on in all parts of town, with produce being shipped to Portland, Boston, New York and abroad *via* sailing vessels and, later, the coastal steamers. New businesses took the place of some that were lost. Poultry and egg farms, blueberry cultivation; squash and other crops for canneries; woodcutting for lumber, pulpwood and firewood employed many. Sand and gravel mining provided material for highways and the construction industry. Recreation facilities were also developed. Over 100 deer per year were killed in Appleton. Stocking of fish and game birds has

improved fishing and bird hunting. Vacation cottages have been constructed at Sennebec Pond, and the Appleton Campground has operated since 1970. Snowmobile trails have been developed throughout the town for winter sportsmen. Poultry and cattle-raising have decreased for a variety of reasons. Agriculture in general has become less important as more area residents go out of town to earn a living.

Historic Places

The Maine Historic Preservation Commission maintains an inventory of important sites including buildings or sites on the National Registry of Historic Places (NRHP). They record four such listings for the town: the Gushee Family House, 2868 Sennebec Road, the St. George River Canal Locks, the Appleton Union Meetinghouse, and the Whitney Farm on Appleton Ridge. Other locations, such as the Fergus and Archibald McLain houses in Appleton Village, the house at Terra Optima Farm near the Mill Pond, and the Pitman Farm on Appleton Ridge appear eligible for inclusion in the National Register.

As with other Maine areas located near the coast, Appleton's population rapidly increased soon after the Revolutionary War. Remnants of that early settlement period may be seen in old stonewalls, cellar holes, mill foundations, ruins of dams, and in a few more substantial structures such as houses and barns. In keeping with the goal of maintaining the town's rural character, preservation of this cultural heritage should be strongly encouraged. This section lists some of the more prominent or significant landmarks not already mentioned above.

Appleton Mining and Smelting Co.: Located on the east side of the Gurneytown Road, the copper-mine site is overgrown and barely visible from the road, but exists as a reminder of economic activity in the past. It is in no danger now but could be destroyed if the land were developed.

Sherman's Saw and Stave Mill: Run for many years by waterpower from the Mill Pond, formed by a dam across Allen Brook, this historic mill is in reasonably good condition.

John Hall's Lime Kiln: Operated from 1872 to 1903 off the Peabody Road, this site is well-preserved on private land.

Lime Quarries: Several hand-dug quarry sites exist across the road from Hall's kiln. Other than being on private land, they are unprotected. There are also a few on the St. George's River in North Appleton on the east side.

St. George River Canal: The canal was first built in 1794 by Charles Barrett, and is one of the oldest canals in the U.S. (The Erie Canal was built in 1825). It was built to provide transport for products from the interior to the coast. These products included lumber, firewood (for the lime kilns, households and businesses), shingles, staves, hay, lime and farm products including sheep and cattle. Boats of up to 55 feet by 12 feet in size were poled (instead of being towed by animals), and provided with sails to cross ponds. Since it was poorly built, it lasted only several years, despite being rebuilt by Gen. Knox. In 1847 it was rebuilt, connecting Quantibacook Lake in Searsmont to the ocean at Warren. Parts of the canal that ran from Warren to Searsmont can still be seen along the river. Most striking in Appleton are the remains of a canal lock at North Appleton on the west side of the river. Rock walls and remnants of a wooden gate can be seen. The channel of the canal is also traceable along the west side of the river from the bridge south, but time is diminishing its evidence. This section was built in 1848 and used heavily for a short time but it was never a financial success, ceasing operation in 1850. The canal lock is listed in the National Register of Historic Places.

Cattle Pound: Since most of the stones have been removed, there is little remaining except the site itself. The Pound is located on the East side of Appleton Ridge Road adjacent to the former Ira Proctor home.

Appleton Baptist Church: Located on Searsmont Road, the church was built in 1845 and 1846 and has been in use ever since. Its original bell and belfry were removed in ----. It is still maintained by the congregation.

The Old Appleton Library: Built on Sennebec Road as *C. A. Keene's Store* before 1859, the structure served as the Grange Hall of Georges Valley Grange No. ----- from 1875 until 1968. The Mildred Stevens Williams Memorial Library then occupied the building until ---- when the new library was constructed. The building was reduced in size by removal of an addition and is now privately owned.

The former Appleton School: This structure was built in 1920 after the previous school uphill from this building was destroyed by fire. It is now the Appleton Town Hall. In 1989 the townspeople voted to keep and maintain it. Some of the windows were changed in the 1970s to conserve heat, and some interior remodeling has taken place.

Appleton Union Meeting House: This handsome building on Sennebec Road was constructed in 1848 as a non-denominational church. After a period of active use, it was maintained by the Memorial Association (successor to the G.A.R.) and used for Memorial Day services, funerals, and school programs. Before moving into the former Grange, the Mildred Stevens Williams Memorial Library remodeled the balcony to be used as a library. The first Appleton Improvement Committee made an effort to preserve it. The Appleton Historical Society was then organized to restore the building and became the legal owner in the 1970s. Work has been intermittently underway since then. The society raises funds to supplement a restoration endowment left by Hilda Paxman.

Town House: Located on Town Hill Road, this structure, with its sloping upper floor, was built in 1846 after McLain's Mills was annexed from Hope. It is now a privately-owned barn, and its future depends upon the owner's discretion.

Oakes Mansion: Built in 1900, the Oakes Mansion is privately owned, in fair condition and located on the south side of Appleton Ridge Road near Oakes Corner.

Odd Fellows Hall: Built in 1893, this building on Searsmont Road near the center of the village was renovated into two apartments and has been significantly changed.

First Town Hall: Built in 1808, this may be the barn now standing on the Pitman's land on Appleton Ridge Road, or it may have been the one to the rear that was demolished.

Medomak Valley Grange: Built in 1875, this building is cared for by the active grange and located on Burkettville Road near the center of Burkettville.

The former Burkettville Store: Built sometime before 1859, the former Burkettville Store (also the Burkettville Post Office) stood in the center of this small community on what is now Burkettville Road. It closed in 1984 and has since been torn down.

Gushee's Corner Veteran's Memorial Tablet and Flag Pole: This tiny park, located at the intersection of Sennebec Road, Sleepy Hollow Road and Peabody road (called Gushee's Corner), was dedicated in 1929 during the Centennial celebration. Neighbors on behalf of the town maintain the site. The greatest threats to its well-being are vandalism and possible highway widening.

Burkettville Memorial Stone: Located at the intersection of Burkettville Road and Collinstown Road and erected in 1967, this tablet was put out by the Appleton Improvement Committee and Medomak Valley Grange. It is in excellent condition and well cared for. Behind it stood the Burkettville School (K-8) until 1963, at which time all students were transferred to the new Village School.

Rehabilitation Grants

The Federal Historic Preservation Tax Incentives program rewards private investment to rehabilitate certified historic structures (a building listed individually in the National Register of Historic Places or a building located in a registered historic district and certified by the Secretary of the Interior as contributing to the historic significance of the district). The building must currently be

used or will be used for commercial, industrial, agricultural, or rental residential purposes, but not used exclusively as the owner's private residence. Under PL 99-514 Internal Revenue Code Section 47, tax incentives include:

A 20% tax credit for the certified rehabilitation of certified historic structures.

A 10% tax credit for the rehabilitation of non-historic, non-residential structures built before 1936.

A Maine State taxpayer is allowed a credit equal to the amount of the Federal credit claimed by the taxpayer under section 47 of the Internal Revenue Code for rehabilitation of historic structures located in Maine. The credit is nonrefundable and is limited to \$100,000 annually per taxpayer.

Cemeteries

Cemeteries are a cultural resource providing insight into the history of the community. An inventory of Appleton's larger cemeteries is listed below, and shown on the Public Facilities Map. *See the Public Facilities Section for a summary of cemetery capacity.*

Weymouth Cemetery (West Appleton Road)

Miller Cemetery (Miller Cemetery Road)

Sprague Cemetery (Appleton Ridge Road)

Metcalf Cemetery (Guinea Ridge Road)

Quaker Cemetery (Sennebec Road)

Hart Cemetery (Appleton Ridge Road)

Esancy Cemetery (Fishtown Road)

Pine Grove Cemetery (Pine Grove Lane off Sennebec Road)

Archaeological Sites

There are four known prehistoric archaeological sites located within Appleton, according to the MHPC. They are numbered 40.4, 40.11, 39.2 and 39.23, and are in shoreland areas of the St. George River and Sennebec Pond. These sites were discovered through the collection reports of amateur archaeologists. No systematic professional surveys have been conducted. MHPC recommends such professional surveys for the St. George River Valley, Cedar Swamp and Dead River Swamp, and is now collaborating with the Georges River Land Trust to examine various sites along the river. Dr. Arthur Speis, the senior archaeologist at MHPC, has offered to consider" surveying "high priority" parcels in Appleton, as the funds are available to him. The Maine State Museum has studied an artifact found on Appleton Ridge, possibly dating back to the red paint people (2000 – 4000 B.C.).

Significant archaeological sites should be identified and protected. Shore land zoning, floodplain management and land use ordinance performance standards can be used to protect such sites. Owners of significant sites may be asked permission for the nomination of archaeological sites on their property to the National Register of Historic Places, and additionally to donate preservation easements if they so desire. National Register listing extends protection of Federal legislation against actions by Federal agencies, while the combination of National Register listing and preservation easement with posting against ground disturbance extends the protection of State Antiquities Legislation to archaeological sites.

Threats to and Protection of Existing Historic and Prehistoric Sites

Historic Buildings: The historic buildings that have been identified above are not protected within the provisions of existing land use regulations. Without the proper ordinances in place, the loss or conversion of the remaining buildings is possible.

Archaeological Sites: The locations of the above-referenced archaeological sites are protected under shoreland zoning and floodplain management ordinances that have been adopted by the town.

Summary: The history of Appleton is substantially based upon the natural resources that drove the local and regional economy, including forestry and agriculture. Early residents engaged successfully in a variety of businesses, including shingles, staves for barrels, apples, strawberries, dairies, cattle and pig farms and blacksmithing. Many current residents can trace their families back to the town's early days. Appleton still enjoys many of the benefits from its past, as a small town with a strong sense of community, where people look out for one another. The town should seek to maintain a link to its heritage through the protection of historically significant buildings and support of the Appleton Historical Society. Many of the historic sites are located on private land, leaving their fate in the hands of present owners. Fortunately, most owners respect their antiquity and leave them undisturbed, providing a form of benign protection. Appleton's few historic structures and sites are subject both to slow deterioration and instances of rapid change such as demolition or remodeling.

Issues of Concern

1. The steady growth rate of the town in recent decades could have an adverse effect on our comparatively few cultural resources, especially historic buildings and sites.
2. Some owners may be unaware not only of the cultural value of historic sites on their property, but perhaps even of their presence and location.

Policy

To preserve important historic and archaeological resources from development that could threaten these resources.

Recommendations/Implementation Strategies

Note: Recommendations, also known as Implementation Strategies, proposed in this Comprehensive Plan are assigned a responsible party and a timeframe in which to be addressed. *Ongoing* is used for regularly occurring activities; *Immediate* is used for strategies to be addressed within two years after the adoption of this Comprehensive Plan; and *Long Term* is assigned for strategies to be addressed within ten years.

1. Awareness of historic structures and artifacts should be promoted, including the consideration of listing additional sites on the National Register of Historic Places for Appleton (Appleton Historical Society) - *Ongoing*
2. Potential areas and artifacts of historical and archaeological significance should be professionally surveyed and documented, and historical and archaeological sites and artifacts should be monitored to ensure their protection and preservation (Appleton Historical Society) - *Long Term*
3. Developers should provide evidence that their proposals will not negatively impact known (or possible) archaeological sites (Planning Board) – *Ongoing*
4. The Town should encourage and assist landowners in preserving the remnants of the St. Georges River Canal, one of relatively few navigation canals in Maine (Appleton Historical Society) – *Long Term*
5. Amend the subdivision ordinance to include preservation of historic and archaeological (prehistoric and historic) resources as part of the subdivision application process (Planning Board, Town Meeting) – *Immediate*

[Consider phrases such as “If the town wishes...” and “If it is the will of the town...” in preparing materials for Select Board/Town Meeting action.]

Town of Appleton Comprehensive plan
6/12/2007 Rev. Edit 2, August 2019

Section 2 History

Historic Period

The present-day Town of Appleton is a small part of the area granted under the Muscongus Patent on March 2, 1630. The strange-sounding name refers to one corner boundary, a point on the Muscongus River. It was a large grant of well-defined coast and nebulous inland boundaries that encompassed an area estimated at between 700,000 and 1,000,000 acres. The grant had various part-owners-in-common down through the years, such as the first grantees, Thomas Leverett and John Beauchamp, the Ten Proprietors and their Twenty Associates (referred to collectively as the Thirty Proprietors), their heirs or assignees, General Samuel Waldo (son of one of the Twenty Associates and nephew of another) and later General Henry Knox. After General Waldo's death, the unsold portions of the grant owned in common were divided among individual ownerships. Gen. Waldo and his Heirs obtained the largest portion (300,000 acres, in undivided ownership with the 30 Associates.), and which became known as the Waldo Patent; which was most of the part later collected by General Knox. The Twenty Associates acquired a smaller portion of about 200,000 acres. In return for release from the requirement to help settle undefined areas of the original parcel they ceded 100,000 acres to the Waldo heirs. That secured their clear title to their remaining 100,000 acres, including land that is now Appleton as well as Camden, Hope, Liberty, and Montville, and eventually included the mineral rights to the valuable limestone there, under action by the Massachusetts General Court. The original ten associates ended up with 100,000 acres to the north of the rest, which was eventually reduced to about 46,000 acres by action of the Massachusetts legislature. On 4 July 1785, the General Court responded to a request from General Knox to define hard boundaries for the land side of the original nebulous grant, and they pruned off the vaguely defined areas to the west and north, as well as east of Penobscot Bay, leaving 600,00 acres for the whole grant.

A few early explorers came up from the trading posts at Thomaston and Warren, and in the 1700s forest surveyors scouted the area for masts for the British Navy. Actual settlement did not occur until about the beginning of the Revolutionary War, in 1775. Among the first settlers were Fergus and Archibald McLain and William Davis, settling on Appleton Ridge at that time. The eastern part of the general region was settled by people coming in from the coastal area of Camden and became known as Barrett's, or Barrettstown, after Charles Barrett, who contracted with the Twenty Associates to bring in settlers. Later this area was named Hope. These settlers came in first from the coast in Camden, then later along the Medomac River and from Thomaston through Warren and Union along the St. George River.

A large portion of the western part (Appleton Ridge and beyond) became known as Appleton Plantation, named after Nathaniel Appleton, longtime Clerk of the Proprietors' Committee who signed the deeds. (His young relative, Samuel Appleton, worked for Barrett and was for a short time an early settler of Barrettstown.) The eastern border of Appleton Plantation was halfway up the east side of Appleton Ridge, between the St. George River and Appleton Ridge Road.

Barrettstown Plantation incorporated as the Town of Hope in 1804. Appleton incorporated as the 283rd town in Maine on January 28, 1829. Later, families in the St. George River Valley, which was part of Hope, petitioned the Legislature to have their section annexed to Appleton from Hope because they were unable, due to the early spring season, to cross the mountains between the St. George Valley and the other two thirds of Hope to attend the March Town Meetings and say how their taxes were spent. Although the rest of Hope opposed it, the bill succeeded. On February 20, 1843, about eleven and one-half square miles on the western edge of Hope were annexed to Appleton. This included settlements at McLain's Mills (now Appleton Village), and Packard's/Plummer's/Smith's Mills (now North Appleton).

According to the 1859 Waldo County map, mills were also established at the eastern Mill Pond (Later, Shermans Mill), at Pettingill Stream on the road to Proctors Corner (on the MedomakRiver in the vicinity of Burkettsville Corner), in Fish Town, and at Kirk Brook at the west side of Sennebec Pond. The largest settlement was at McLain's Mills, with many businesses of that day flourishing there. The St. George River Canal, first built by Barrett in in 1794, rebuilt soon after by Knox, and again re-built in 1845 to 1848 from Thomaston to Searsmont, carried products to market during its few years of operation, and also provided a route for some of the settlers.

The lumber boom in Maine brought the highest population of 1,727 in 1850. During this productive period there were sawmills, planing, shingle, stave and heading mills; cooper shops making barrels for lime, fish, and local apples; a gristmill, a carriage maker, a tannery, mines, blacksmiths, a hotel and many merchants. Agriculture - in the form of truck gardens, strawberry farms, dairies, cattle and pig farms, and orchards - was carried on in all parts of town, with produce being shipped being shipped to Portland, Boston, New York and abroad *via* sailing vessels and, later, the coastal steamers. New businesses took the place of some that were lost. Poultry and egg farms, blueberry cultivation; squash and other crops for canneries; woodcutting for lumber, pulpwood and firewood employed many. Sand and gravel mining provided material for highways and the construction industry. Recreation facilities were also developed. Over 100 deer per year were killed in Appleton. Stocking of fish and game birds has improved fishing and bird hunting. Vacation cottages have been constructed at Sennebec Pond, and the AppletonCampground has operated since 1970. Snowmobile trails have been developed throughout the town for winter sportsmen. Poultry and cattle-raising have decreased for a variety of reasons. Agriculture in general has become less important as more area residents go out of town to earn a living.

Historic Places

The Maine Historic Preservation Commission maintains an inventory of important sites including buildings or sites on the National Registry of Historic Places (NRHP). They record four such listings for the town: the Gushee Family House, 2868 Sennebec Road, the St. George River Canal Locks, the Appleton Union Meetinghouse, and the Whitney Farm on Appleton Ridge. Other locations, such as the Fergus and Archibald McLain houses in Appleton Village, the house at Terra Optima Farm near the Mill Pond, and the Pitman Farm on Appleton Ridge appear eligible for inclusion in the National Register.

As with other Maine areas located near the coast, Appleton's population rapidly increased soon after the Revolutionary War. Remnants of that early settlement period may be seen in old stonewalls, cellar holes, mill foundations, ruins of dams, and in a few more substantial structures such as houses and barns. In keeping with the goal of maintaining the town's rural character, preservation of this cultural heritage should be strongly encouraged. This section lists some of the more prominent or significant landmarks not already mentioned above.

Appleton Mining and Smelting Co.: Located on the east side of the Gurneytown Road, the copper-mine site is overgrown and barely visible from the road, but exists as a reminder of economic activity in the past. It is in no danger now but could be destroyed if the land were developed.

Sherman's Saw and Stave Mill: Run for many years by waterpower from the Mill Pond, formed by a dam across Allen Brook, this historic mill is in reasonably good condition.

John Hall's Lime Kiln: Operated from 1872 to 1903 off the Peabody Road, this site is well-preserved on private land.

Lime Quarries: Several hand-dug quarry sites exist across the road from Hall's kiln. Other than being on private land, they are unprotected. There are also a few on the St. George's River in North Appleton on the east side.

St. George River Canal: The canal was first built in 1794 by Charles Barrett, and is one of the oldest canals in the U.S. (The Erie Canal was built in 1825). It was built to provide transport for products from the interior to the coast. These products included lumber, firewood (for the lime kilns, households and businesses), shingles, staves, hay, lime and farm products including sheep and cattle. Boats of up to 55 feet by 12 feet in size were poled (instead of being towed by animals), and provided with sails to cross ponds. Since it was poorly built, it lasted only several years, despite being rebuilt by Gen. Knox. In 1847 it was rebuilt, connecting Quantibacook Lake in Searsmont to the ocean at Warren. Parts of the canal that ran from Warren to Searsmont can still be seen along the river. Most striking in Appleton are the remains of a canal lock at North Appleton on the west side of the river. Rock walls and remnants of a wooden gate can be seen. The channel of the canal is also traceable along the west side of the river from the bridge south, but time is diminishing its evidence. This section was built in 1848 and used heavily for a short time but it was never a financial success, ceasing operation in 1850. The canal lock is listed in the National Register of Historic Places.

Cattle Pound: Since most of the stones have been removed, there is little remaining except the site itself. The Pound is located on the East side of Appleton Ridge Road adjacent to the former Ira Proctor home.

Appleton Baptist Church: Located on Searsmont Road, the church was built in 1845 and 1846 and has been in use ever since. Its original bell and belfry were removed in ----. It is still maintained by the congregation.

The Old Appleton Library: Built on Sennebec Road as *C. A. Keene's Store* before 1859, the structure served as the Grange Hall of Georges Valley Grange No. ----- from 1875 until 1968. The Mildred Stevens Williams Memorial Library then occupied the building until ---- when the new library was constructed. The building was reduced in size by removal of an addition and is now privately owned.

The former Appleton School: This structure was built in 1920 after the previous school uphill from this building was destroyed by fire. It is now the Appleton Town Hall. In 1989 the townspeople voted to keep and maintain it. Some of the windows were changed in the 1970s to conserve heat, and some interior remodeling has taken place.

Appleton Union Meeting House: This handsome building on Sennebec Road was constructed in 1848 as a non-denominational church. After a period of active use, it was maintained by the Memorial Association (successor to the G.A.R.) and used for Memorial Day services, funerals, and school programs. Before moving into the former Grange, the Mildred Stevens Williams Memorial Library remodeled the balcony to be used as a library. The first Appleton Improvement Committee made an effort to preserve it. The Appleton Historical Society was then organized to restore the building and became the legal owner in the 1970s. Work has been intermittently underway since then. The society raises funds to supplement a restoration endowment left by Hilda Paxman.

Town House: Located on Town Hill Road, this structure, with its sloping upper floor, was built in 1846 after McLain's Mills was annexed from Hope. It is now a privately-owned barn, and its future depends upon the owner's discretion.

Oakes Mansion: Built in 1900, the Oakes Mansion is privately owned, in fair condition and located on the south side of Appleton Ridge Road near Oakes Corner.

Odd Fellows Hall: Built in 1893, this building on Searsmont Road near the center of the village was renovated into two apartments and has been significantly changed.

First Town Hall: Built in 1808, this may be the barn now standing on the Pitman's land on Appleton Ridge Road, or it may have been the one to the rear that was demolished.

Medomak Valley Grange: Built in 1875, this building is cared for by the active grange and located on Burkettville Road near the center of Burkettville.

The former Burkettville Store: Built sometime before 1859, the former Burkettville Store (also the Burkettville Post Office) stood in the center of this small community on what is now Burkettville Road. It closed in 1984 and has since been torn down.

Gushee's Corner Veteran's Memorial Tablet and Flag Pole: This tiny park, located at the intersection of Sennebec Road, Sleepy Hollow Road and Peabody road (called Gushee's Corner), was dedicated in 1929 during the Centennial celebration. Neighbors on behalf of the town maintain the site. The greatest threats to its well-being are vandalism and possible highway widening.

Burkettville Memorial Stone: Located at the intersection of Burkettville Road and Collinstown Road and erected in 1967, this tablet was put out by the Appleton Improvement Committee and Medomak Valley Grange. It is in excellent condition and well cared for. Behind it stood the Burkettville School (K-8) until 1963, at which time all students were transferred to the new Village School.

Rehabilitation Grants

The Federal Historic Preservation Tax Incentives program rewards private investment to rehabilitate certified historic structures (a building listed individually in the National Register of Historic Places or a building located in a registered historic district and certified by the Secretary of the Interior as contributing to the historic significance of the district). The building must currently be used or will be used for commercial, industrial, agricultural, or rental residential purposes, but not used exclusively as the owner's private residence. Under PL 99-514 Internal Revenue Code Section 47, tax incentives include:

A 20% tax credit for the certified rehabilitation of certified historic structures.

A 10% tax credit for the rehabilitation of non-historic, non-residential structures built before 1936.

A Maine State taxpayer is allowed a credit equal to the amount of the Federal credit claimed by the taxpayer under section 47 of the Internal Revenue Code for rehabilitation of historic structures located in Maine. The credit is nonrefundable and is limited to \$100,000 annually per taxpayer.

Cemeteries

Cemeteries are a cultural resource providing insight into the history of the community. An inventory of Appleton's larger cemeteries is listed below, and shown on the Public Facilities Map. *See the Public Facilities Section for a summary of cemetery capacity.*

Weymouth Cemetery (West Appleton Road)

Miller Cemetery (Miller Cemetery Road)

Sprague Cemetery (Appleton Ridge Road)

Metcalf Cemetery (Guinea Ridge Road)
Quaker Cemetery (Sennebec Road)
Hart Cemetery (Appleton Ridge Road)
Esancy Cemetery (Fishtown Road)
Pine Grove Cemetery (Pine Grove Lane off Sennebec Road)

Archaeological Sites

There are four known prehistoric archaeological sites located within Appleton, according to the MHPC. They are numbered 40.4, 40.11, 39.2 and 39.23, and are in shoreland areas of the St. George River and Sennebec Pond. These sites were discovered through the collection reports of amateur archaeologists. No systematic professional surveys have been conducted. MHPC recommends such professional surveys for the St. George River Valley, Cedar Swamp and Dead River Swamp, and is now collaborating with the Georges River Land Trust to examine various sites along the river. Dr. Arthur Speis, the senior archaeologist at MHPC, has offered to consider surveying "high priority" parcels in Appleton, as the funds are available to him. The Maine State Museum has studied an artifact found on Appleton Ridge, possibly dating back to the red paint people (2000 – 4000 B.C.).

Significant archaeological sites should be identified and protected. Shore land zoning, floodplain management and land use ordinance performance standards can be used to protect such sites. Owners of significant sites may be asked permission for the nomination of archaeological sites on their property to the National Register of Historic Places, and additionally to donate preservation easements if they so desire. National Register listing extends protection of Federal legislation against actions by Federal agencies, while the combination of National Register listing and preservation easement with posting against ground disturbance extends the protection of State Antiquities Legislation to archaeological sites.

Threats to and Protection of Existing Historic and Prehistoric Sites

Historic Buildings: The historic buildings that have been identified above are not protected within the provisions of existing land use regulations. Without the proper ordinances in place, the loss or conversion of the remaining buildings is possible.

Archaeological Sites: The locations of the above-referenced archaeological sites are protected under shoreland zoning and floodplain management ordinances that have been adopted by the town.

Summary: The history of Appleton is substantially based upon the natural resources that drove the local and regional economy, including forestry and agriculture. Early residents engaged successfully in a variety of businesses, including shingles, staves for barrels, apples, strawberries, dairies, cattle and pig farms and blacksmithing. Many current residents can trace their families back to the town's early days. Appleton still enjoys many of the benefits from its past, as a small town with a strong sense of community, where people look out for one another. The town should seek to maintain a link to its heritage through the protection of historically significant buildings and support of the Appleton Historical Society. Many of the historic sites are located on private land, leaving their fate in the hands of present owners. Fortunately, most owners respect their antiquity and leave them undisturbed, providing a form of benign protection. Appleton's few historic structures and sites are subject both to slow deterioration and instances of rapid change such as demolition or remodeling.

Issues of Concern

1. The steady growth rate of the town in recent decades could have an adverse effect on our comparatively few cultural resources, especially historic buildings and sites.
2. Some owners may be unaware not only of the cultural value of historic sites on their property, but perhaps even of their presence and location.

Policy

To preserve important historic and archaeological resources from development that could threaten these resources.

Recommendations/Implementation Strategies

Note: Recommendations, also known as Implementation Strategies, proposed in this Comprehensive Plan are assigned a responsible party and a timeframe in which to be addressed. *Ongoing* is used for regularly occurring activities; *Immediate* is used for strategies to be addressed within two years after the adoption of this Comprehensive Plan; and *Long Term* is assigned for strategies to be addressed within ten years.

1. Awareness of historic structures and artifacts should be promoted, including the consideration of listing additional sites on the National Register of Historic Places for Appleton (Appleton Historical Society) - *Ongoing*
2. Potential areas and artifacts of historical and archaeological significance should be professionally surveyed and documented, and historical and archaeological sites and artifacts should be monitored to ensure their protection and preservation (Appleton Historical Society) - *Long Term*
3. Developers should provide evidence that their proposals will not negatively impact known (or possible) archaeological sites (Planning Board) – *Ongoing*
4. The Town should encourage and assist landowners in preserving the remnants of the St. Georges River Canal, one of relatively few navigation canals in Maine (Appleton Historical Society) – *Long Term*
5. Amend the subdivision ordinance to include preservation of historic and archaeological (prehistoric and historic) resources as part of the subdivision application process (Planning Board, Town Meeting) – *Immediate*

[Consider phrases such as “If the town wishes...” and “If it is the will of the town...” in preparing materials for Select Board/Town Meeting action.]

Diane Schivera
 2635 Sennebec Rd.
 Appleton, ME 04862
 207-785-5310

((_))
 (oo)_____
 (_) \\
 | |-----w| \~
 | | | |

Drink Organic Milk!!