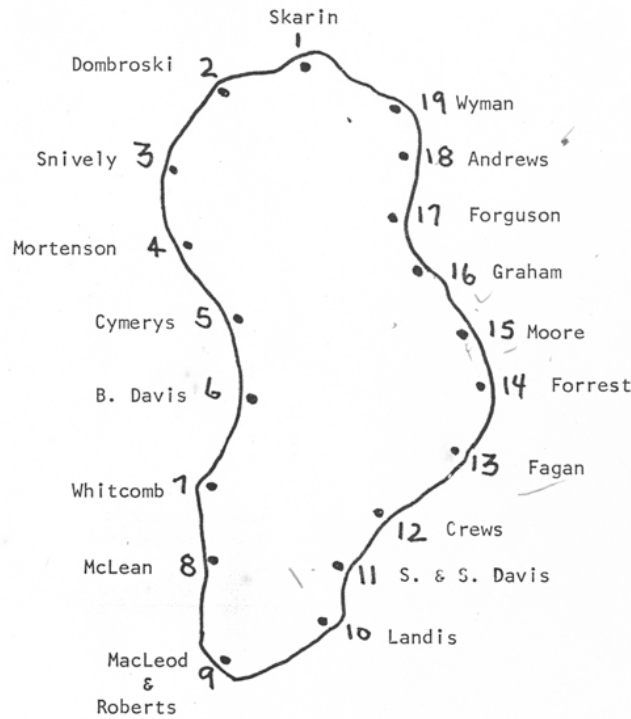


**GREAT ISLAND COTTAGES AND THEIR OWNERS LAKE SUNAPEE
SUNAPEE, NEW-HAMPSHIRE**

OWNERS IN 1980



This second section of our "Great Island History" has been written by ALL of us, most of the present and many of the past cottage owners having responded to my requests for help in getting as many facts as possible. I have tried to acknowledge all quotations and to use my own memory only when there was no other source.

It has been necessary to condense and summarize some of the material received in control the length.

We are indebted to George McLean for getting the manuscript typed and printed for distribution.

This section could not have been done without the cooperation of many people, and I thank them all!

Elizabeth D. Burford
Editor

Cottage #1 Owners: BREEN - AIKEN – SKARIN

From Margaret Fulkerson Hill: "John Breen was born in Tipperary, Ireland, in 1842. The family came to America in 1847, and settled in Lawrence, Mass. John married Nancy Jane Brockett in 1872. He was very active in politics and served as Mayor of Lawrence, in 1882, 1883 and 1884. Earlier, in 1868 with limited capital, he had started an undertaking business." (Please note a correction in the first section of this history that the Breens came from Lowell, MA. It should have been Lawrence).

The following quotation is from an article: "Our Lady of the Lake" - Great Island Lake Sunapee, published in "The Mountaineer", New London, N.H., August 1971: "In the late 1890's the Hon. John Breen, ex-Mayor of Lawrence, Mass. built an imposing summer home on the North end of Great Island, in Lake Sunapee. Several hundred families from Lawrence also spent their vacations at various places around the Lake. Seventy and more years ago transportation was slow and Churches were few. In their steam launch the Breen Family boated over the Lake to Sunapee Harbor, whence they proceeded by dirt road and horse and carriage to attend Sunday Mass in Newport. This arduous round trip took most of the day.

"Therefore, Mr. Breen had a platform tent erected on his Great Island property and arranged for a Sunday Mass to be held in this outdoor setting. Every Sunday morning, the "Lady Woodsum" steamer made her way around the Lake, picking up Churchgoers for the Service at Breens.

Enthusiasm grew, and soon Mr. Breen donated some of his land on Great Island to build a Catholic Church, along with \$100 to start a building fund. Lawrence residents held fund-raising events and decided to name the proposed Church 'Our Lady of the Lake'• The Rev. Father James J. Hogan, pastor of the Catholic Church in Newport accepted charge ••• All told \$17,000 was raised •••(but, before the Church could be built) "ex-Mayor Breen fell ill and died; and legend has it that a person who had played an important part in the fund-raising absconded with all the money. So 'Our Lady of the Lake' never was built."

Margaret Hill continues: "Hon. J.J. Breen had a beautiful canopied launch made to his specifications, with red velour cushions and all brass fittings. During a winter school vacation period while the temperature was 40 below zero, my father Arthur Fulkerson installed a huge brass "Buffalo" engine in the launch, which was named 'The Nancy Jane' for Mrs. Breen. After John Breen's death, the 'Nancy Jane' was not used but was put in dry dock, on the Island, for many years. Not long ago, a man who made a hobby of antique steam launches saw the boat, fell in love with her and purchased her. She is now in the process of being lovingly restored to pristine condition and is berthed at Lake Spofford, N.H.

"The Hon. John and Nancy Jane Breen had 6 children, all now deceased. The youngest daughter, Helena C. Breen married Mr. Herrick Aiken, and inherited the property."

Georgiana Ferguson has sent me a copy of a long memoir written by her mother Helen Wadsworth Harris, entitled "Recollections of Great Island.11 I shall quote from it, frequently. Here is the first quotation: "The Breen house was the grandest one on the Island. They had their own private landing dock" (for the steamers, which brought people to Sunday Mass). "Their launch was one of the largest on the Lake. The big house up on the hill could be seen from far away. It had oak woodwork, hardwood floors, and a billiard room. Also, they had a windmill, to bring up running water ••• When the house was empty, used to climb the windmill to look out over the world. Wild roses used to grow along the path between the Breens and Fu1kersons. Those two families were related."

The second owner, Herrick Aiken, was an inventor. I have no history of that family except that Herrick and Helena Aiken had 5 children: Charles, Margaret, John, Jane and another Helena (Who, at this time, is the only surviving child, named Mrs. William Fleming, and who lives in Texas.)

Herrick's oldest son, Charles, took over the property on Great Island. He married Yvonne, and lived Claremont, N.H. where he owned a construction business along with (I think) his brother John. Charlie and Yvonne had 6 children, all boys. It was a lively family. They all loved the place on the Island and occupied it for long summer seasons. But Char1ies's health failed and for several years he battled bravely to keep his business going, and to care for his large family and the demands of that huge beautiful house on the Island. Yvonne went to work, to help. But it was no use. Charlie died in 1978.

Margaret Hill writes: "The Aiken property was divided into 5 lots, and in 1979 was sold to settle the estate. Mr. James Dombroski of Newport, N.H., a contractor, purchased the entire estate; but shortly thereafter he sold the big house and 3 lots to Mr. and Mrs. Skarin who own the Sunapee Bedding Co. in Newport. As of now, Mr. Skarin is restoring the house, and Mrs. Skarin is re-designing and furnishing the interior."

Cottage #2 Owner: DOMBROSKI

At the time of this writing (1980-1981) this cottage is in the process of being built by its first owner, on two of the lots, which were part of the original Breen property.

Margaret Hill writes: "Mr. Dombroski is building an octagonal shaped house on the point of land opposite the barrel-buoy, where the old canoe-slip is. Incidentally, this canoe-slip is located where, many years ago, the old Great Island Bowling Alley used to be. 'Light lunches served here' - so the old sign read."

Cottage #3 Owners: FULKERSON – SNIVELY

Margaret Fulkerson Hill: "Fulkerson Cottage - Camp NO SHO - is so named because it took a long time to be completed.

"The land was given to Arthur Fulkerson and Mildred Brockett by the Breens as a wedding present in 1897. Mildred Brockett a niece of Nancy Jane Breen, lost her father at age 11 and from that time on lived with the Breens until her marriage to Arthur Fulkerson. He had come to Lawrence Mass. from Indiana three years before at the persuasion of Charles Breen (John and Nancy Jane's son) who was his roommate at Purdue University to introduce Algebra and manual training to the Lawrence High School. So my father, being a teacher of manual training, built the cottage himself. Having only his summer vacation time to work on it, he took 3 years, completing the cottage in 1900. However in the meantime he finished building the boathouse, which was furnished and used as living quarters, with a stove, rugs, and everything necessary.

"There in the boat house one August more than ten years later the youngest Fulkerson child was born - although her birth was registered in Methuen, Mass. the Fulkersons home town. There were 4 Fulkerson children: Clarence 1900-1973; Lewis 1904-1931; Margaret Fulkerson Hill, of Lawrence, Mass.; and Myrtle Roxanne Pattenden, of Sunapee, N.H.

"In 1966 the cottage was sold to Comdr. and Mrs. Snively, present owners Joan (Mrs."Cub") Snively writes: "My first glimpse of the Island was during the weekend of my graduation from Colby Junior College, when my father rented a boat and took my mother and me over to see Aunt Ruth's cottage" - (Mrs. Ruth Davis, Cottage #19) - "where she had not yet arrived for the season. My great grandfather built that cottage!

"After Cub and I were married, we once again rented a boat from George's Mills and came over to the Island. This time Aunt Ruth was there, with Ruth Clements visiting. She took great pride in showing us all around, and Cub and I were very much taken with such a beautiful spot.

"In 1966 we pounced upon the opportunity to purchase the Fulkerson Cottage which we fell in love with immediately. Our first days of living at the cottage were the following June (1967) when we drove up from Annapolis, Md. with our six children. Dianne, our youngest, was only 2 months old. Such happy times we had when the family was all together there! Cub's vacations were always much too short. The summer of 1970 the children and I spent the entire season, as Cub had a change of duty stations and we were in a house hunting stage. That was the Summer when the boys and I attempted to paint the entire cottage.

"Since 1970, we have been able to use it very little except for our annual two weeks vacation, until last Summer (1980) when we were once again living close by (New London, N.H.) and our two married children brought their families to visit quite often.

"During the years we could use the place so little, Mrs. Pattenden's niece spent parts of several summers there. This meant a lot to her as she spent much time there when she was growing up.

"When Dorcas Thurston had to give up Aunt Ruth's cottage, which she had inherited, we had some desire to sell our place and buy hers; but by that time we had grown to love our side of the Island - our view and the Western exposure so that we decided to 'stay put'.

"It has meant so much to us in particular who have moved so often through the years, because of Cub's military career. The Island and the Sunapee cottage provide the only true "roots" our children have ever known. For that reason alone, amongst others, I could never bear to part with our cottage."

Cottage #4 Owners: SOUTHWICK - TREADWAY - SPILLANE – MORTENSON

The original owners and builders of this large, beautiful home are listed in the "Lake Sunapee Cottage Register", published in 1910 by the Republican Champion, Newport, N.H., as: Mr. and Mrs. George W. Southwick, of Stamford, Conn. Their launch was named "The Geneva", and their cottage was listed as "Lafayette" (which name was later changed to "Gray Rock".) A Mr. Louis Southwick is also named in the "Register", but I do not know his relationship. Grace Spillane writes that the date "1908" was imprinted on the chimney, which may be when the house was built, or at least completed, with the fireplace. Helen Harris wrote in her "Reco1lections": "In 1908 the Andrews family (see cottage #18) visited the Southwicks (both families lived in Stamford, Conn.) and as a result bought two lots of land and built their own house on the other side of the Island. While their own home was being built, they lived in a tent in the grove of pines on the Southwick's place." A later quote from Helen's "Reco1lections" is of interest: "At one time there was a rumor that someone was planning to start a summer camp up in the middle of the Island. So Mr. Southwick, Mr. Kerr and Mr. Riegger went to Newbury and bought up all the unclaimed "back land". Then they put up granite markers to show where each one's land ended. Jim (Wadsworth) remembered Arthur Kerr showing him the granite markers, about 1912."

The Treadways were the next owners. I cannot locate any source of information about them, except my own memory. I believe that they bought the cottage shortly after World War I - perhaps 1920. As I remember, Mr. Treadway had made a considerable amount of money out of manufacturing War materials, and regarded the purchase of the cottage as a real estate investment. The family did not use the place much, and it was empty for a year or two before it was sold to the Spillanes.

Dr. Bernard Spillane was a urologist on the staff of the Hartford (Conn.) Hospital. Their daughter, Grace Spillane, writes: "As understood, the Treadways of Bristol, Conn. were the second owners but their sons Charles and Graham were not interested in the property. So the house, boathouse, boats, all the furnishings and 10 acres of land went on the market. Some time later it was purchased by my parents, in 1928, through a newspaper ad, after a visit to see it. We had been renting on the Sound but the Lake and the Mountains had more appeal. My mother loved the peace and serenity of the Island, the pure air and water, the woods and vistas of Mt. Sunapee. The remoteness of Island life did not bother her although she neither swam nor drove a boat. We three children were born in 1920, 1922 and 1925. Our first summer spent at "Gray Rock" was 1929. The following year we had our own generator and a telephone installed (the first on the Island). 1929 was a cold summer, during which we had to fish Bob (age 4) out of the water several times. He was wearing heavy outer garments which absorbed the water and pulled him down.

"Bob was Papoose of our "Algonquin Tribe" in 1929 and '30. Who can forget the Algonquin Tribe initiations, or the excitement of our "Old Witch" games. Our other Sunapee memories are of an annual steamer ride around the Lake on the "Kearsarge" and at least one climb up Sunapee Mountain, when the boys would sleep over and try to signal us with lights from the Summit. There would be a picnic in

Gardner's pasture among the cows, a swimming race around the Island or to Burkehaven, and much practice for the War Canoe and Canoe Tilt at the annual regattas where our arch-rival was Blodgett's.

"One Summer the polio epidemic forced us to remain at Sunapee until almost November first. We did not come at all during the World War II summers due to gas rationing, except for two weeks the summer of 1943 when mother and I came by train and stayed with Ruth Davis.

"The tranquil nature of things was never the same after W.W. II. The local scene changed as one big landmark hotel after another was torn down. I am so glad that our daughter Grace, now 20 and a Soph. at the University of Wisconsin, had a chance to get to know and love Sunapee, too. For her, a ride on the "Mt. Sunapee" replaced the old steamers.

"My father had his "Top Hatter" group at the cottage over the Memorial Day weekend, in May, annually for years and years. Among was Dr. Wilmar M. Allen (also from Hartford Hospital). This led to the Allens renting the Riegger Cottage (now Ben Davis - #6) and their subsequent purchase of the Smart Cottage (#9).

The Cottage, 'Grey Rock', was sold in 1968. My father died a few months later. Neither Bob nor I feel that we can bear to go back. Bob and I both live in Southwick, MA. Our brother Richard Spillane, M.D. is a urologist (also!) "on the staff of Hartford Hospital."

Mr. John W. McCrillis of Newport writes: "The people on the Island whom we knew were the Spillanes. "Red" Spillane had been a famous catcher on the Dartmouth baseball team. So when our son, John was made catcher on the local American Legion baseball team, "Red" was kind enough to coach him. John would go over to the Island and play ball with "Red", and then "Red" came over to Newport to watch John play in games, after which he would give John pointers. We enjoyed the whole family. Mrs. Spillane was a delightful hostess.

"For a few days around May 30 almost every year, "Red" used to entertain a group of his friends at famous "stag parties" on the Island. I was invited to one of them. It was a most interesting group of men. Two of those who were there, when I was, later became U.S. Senators. One was Tom Dodd; I forget name of the other. The house and upper part of the boathouse were full of cots to take care of the crowd. "Red" brought a professional chef, and boat loads of food and equipment."

In 1968, the property was purchased by Mr. and Mrs. Howard R. Mortenson of Charlestown, N.H., who run the Mortenson Insurance Agency there.

Martha (Mrs. Howard) Mortenson writes: "We learned about the Spillane property through Mr. and Mrs. Ben Davis (Cottage #6) and went over to see it. I shall never forget our first trip to Great Island! The real estate agent loaded Howard and me into a boat no larger than a rowboat, with a little motor tacked onto

the back. It was a windy day, and the water very choppy. We bounced along all the way from the harbor and was completely drenched while holding onto the sides with both hands. We tried to land, first at the dock, then at the boathouse and ended up hanging onto the seawall along the shore, where I somehow managed to disembark. And then - it was love at first sight! When we went into the house the shutters were on and everything was dark, but we just grew more and more excited. This place was just what we wanted!

"But we still had to go through more than simply signing the papers. Dr. Spillane had such regard for the Island that he wanted "to look over and approve" the family who would occupy "Gray Rock". Dr. and Mrs. Spillane met us at the cottage for lunch (picnic) one Sunday, and after gathering information and getting acquainted, he proposed another picnic there the following week, which would include all four of our children.

We had most enjoyable visits both times. And then Dr. Spillane showed up at the bank in Charlestown, N.H., where Howard was then President. After this thorough check on all aspects of our lives, we finally signed the contract, and in August of 1968 became the New owners of Gray Rock.

"We have had happy years at the Lake, being fortunate in living only 40 minutes away, so that we could go easily anytime we were able, all through the years. Some years we spent a great deal of time there, other years only a few weekends. Great Island has been a very special "growing experience" for our youngsters. Now, there are two grandchildren (Heidi's) who have begun their "Sunapee experience."

"There was the weekend when Heidi's "tummy ache" got so bad that we bundled her into the boat and got her to the hospital in Claremont in time for an emergency appendectomy ... There was the adventure, just a Winter ago, when Heather and two college mates from Middleburg decided to do some Winter camping at Gray Rock. With packs on their backs they skied across to the Island from Burkehaven over heavy snow, and found the cottage door ajar, with snow drifting in. They then discovered that the electricity was off - probably because of the storm. Getting wood up from under the house before it was completely dark getting a fire going in the fireplace, dragging down mattresses and blankets to bundle up near the fire, and then cooking over that same fire kept them as busy as the repeated trips for more and more wood. They felt very much alone. There were no lights to be seen anywhere and the wind howled all night. But day did come and with it the sunshine on that beautiful mountain and snow covered lake. They had survived! But one night was enough. (A wood stove will be one of our next purchases)

"This Winter, Howard and I set out one sunny afternoon to hike across the ice to the Island. To our amazement we found a 2-lane highway plowed from Burkehaven all the way to the Island! A neighbor is working on his new home there (Cottage #2) and driving his truck across. On our stroll over the highway we saw 1 car, 2 jeeps, a pick-up truck, several snowmobiles, cross-country skiers, ice fishermen and several people just walking down the middle of the Lake! We were astounded as we contrasted this to the solitude of the girls' trip the previous Winter.

"Oh yes, I must mention the fishing. Howard and our son Steven used to go fishing in Maine each Spring, but after once trying Sunapee just after ice-out, their catch of lake trout and salmon was so much better that now they go our Lake every May. Those are "the Men's days" there.

"Update on Mortenson Family:

Heidi became Mrs. Bruce Hadley upon graduation from Middlebury. (They honeymooned at Gray Rock) The Hadley's live in Maine and are the parents of Ryan born in 1978, and Caitlin, born Sept. 1980. Cynthia, after graduation from Middlebury, did paralegal work for 3 years in Washington, D.C. and will enter law school in 1981. Steven (unmarried) has his own carpentry and construction business in Boston. (He also has a 13 lb. pet rabbit, who loves life on the Island). Heather is graduating from Middlebury in May 1981 and is interviewing for a position in insurance underwriting. Howard left banking some years ago, and now he and I own and operate an Insurance and Real Estate Agency, with offices in Charlestown and Walpole, N.H."

Cottage #5 Owners: CRONYN - OLMSTED – CYMERYS

Mr. and Mrs. W.M. Cronyn of New York City are listed in the 1910 "Lake Sunapee Cottage Register" as the owners, with no other information given. I know that Mr. Cronyn was a junior partner of his next-door neighbor, Mr. Constantine Riegger, (See Cottage #6) in the Goode Manufacturing Co. in New York, a concern which made all kinds of bathroom fixtures. Cottage #5 and #6 were built about the same time, but I do not have exact dates. It must have been before 1910. Mr. John McCrillis writes: "I did not know the Cronyns. But I can remember that their boat had a bell, or gong on it rather than a horn."

The Cronyns had two children, Helen and George. George was gifted both as an artist and an author. He painted pictures of the Lake, in oils, setting up his easel at various spots on the shore. As a little, I used to sit and watch him paint, and he did not object as long as I kept absolutely quiet. My father bought one of his paintings, which I still have in my Chicago home. He also wrote books, which I was too young to enjoy. But I remember that one of them became an early choice of "Book of the Month" Club.

Helen was younger than George. She had red hair and dressed in "the latest" styles. She continued coming to the Lake with her parents after George grew up and began to lead his own life. I know that he married and went out to live in California. I never knew what finally happened to him.

Helen married Ray Olmsted and he came to Great Island with her for several years, continuing after the deaths of both Mr. and Mrs. Cronyn. Helen and Ray inherited the property, I believe they had no children. Helen died when she was only in early middle age, of cancer. After that, Ray stopped coming to Sunapee and for years, the Cronyn cottage stood empty, with considerable deterioration due to weather and lack of maintenance.

In 1975 (?) the property was sold, by Ray Olmsted, to Mr. Anthony ("Joe") Cymerys of Windsor, Connecticut.

"Joe" Cymerys writes: "For whatever it may be worth, here is some of what I remember Ray Olmsted telling me about the Cronyn Cottage. Mr. Cronyn worked in some capacity for Constantine Riegger, but I don't think they were partners. According to Ray, for many years before they built their cottages they came from Bronxville, N.Y. summers and camped on the Island. He even mentioned the trip being made by bicycle!

"After they bought their lots (and I do not have a date for that) they built wooden platforms on which they set up the tents. I think that these platforms became the floors of the first little cabins, one of them "the shed" which George Cronyn later used as a study; and the one on the Rieggers lot became the floor of their kitchen.

"The original Cronyn cottage is the part of the house which is now my kitchen. The rest of the cottage and the porches were added in later years.

"George and Helen both spent their childhood summers on the Island. George left and visited occasionally, only, after his marriage. Helen married Ray Olmsted in 1930. This was soon after the "Crash" which ruined the Goode Manufacturing Co. and the financial position of both the Cronyns and the Rieggers.

"The Olmsteds came to the Island pretty regularly for the next 20 years because Helen loved it so much. (Ray never even learned to swim, however!) Helen died of cancer in 1950, but was able to spend that last summer on the Island. That same year, George and his wife Frances sold their share of the property to Helen for \$1100. Helen willed the property to Ray.

"After Helen's death, Ray remarried but returned infrequently to the Island, because Mae didn't like it. His last visit was for only 2 weeks, in 1955. After that, the cottage became "a clubhouse for the Island Kids", until Ray sold it to me, in September, 1972.

"Fate brought me to Great Island, and my tenure has been a pleasant one. On my way over to the Island, in the middle of the Lake, I have been overcome countless times by an almost mystical experience - a sense of absolute peace. God is everywhere but his presence is greater in that little piece of heaven on earth!"

(Enclosed with this was a letter from "Joe" telling of the death of Ray Olmsted on February 14, 1981, of cancer. He is survived by his third wife, Imogin.)

Cottage #6 Owners: CONSTANTINE RIEGGER - BEN DAVIS

For history of the Riegger family I have had to rely chiefly upon my own memory, and can only hope that it is fairly accurate. The "Lake Sunapee Cottage Register" of 1910 lists: Mr. and Mrs. Constantine Riegger, Mrs. Carolina Riegger and Mr. Arnold Riegger as owners, their cottage named "Walhalla", their launch named "Madele", and their residence New York City. I do not know how they happened to come to the Island nor the date they built their cottage.

Mr. C. Riegger was senior partner in the Goode Manufacturing Co. along with Mr. Cronyn (Cottage #5) and brother Arnold Riegger. The Company was doing a good business and the Rieggers were able to live very comfortably. Their launch was a large, canopied affair meticulously maintained. Every summer they brought at least one servant with them from New York.

Mrs. Carolina Riegger was the mother of Constantine and Arnold. They all called her "Grossmutter", German for "Grandmother". Helen Harris wrote: "Grossmutter was a tiny old lady who wore a cap like queen Victoria, spoke only German, and lived like a queen, waited on by all the family. I remember being presented to her, and the ceremony that surrounded her. Arnold looked very like the Crown Prince of Germany, with blue eyes, blond hair and a little blond mustache. "The German-ness of the family was further evidenced by their naming their launch "Madele" which was German for "my little girl", as they also called Eleanor, the only daughter. Mrs. Riegger, however, was not German, but was a Canadian. She was very musical, and they had a piano in their Cottage where Mrs. Riegger spent many hours playing. In the first section of this Great Island History, my mother has described the Sunday night gatherings of all the Islanders at the Riegger home, with the chief emphasis on music, singing and playing instruments.

There were three Riegger children. The oldest son, Wallingford, almost never came to the Island. In fact, I do not remember him at all. He must have been "already grown up". The musical talent of the family was strongest in him, for he became a composer and conductor. Helen Harris noted: "An obituary naming Wallingford Riegger as a well-known composer was in the New York Times of April 6, 1961." The second son was Harold. I remember him vaguely, coming to the lake only once as a young man in his early 20s. He died soon after that in same sort of accident.

Eleanor, the youngest child, was only a year older than I, and, living almost next door for many Summers, we became close friends. Eleanor, too, was musical. She had a beautiful voice, and was accepted as a member of the "Schala Cantorum", the Chorus which sang with the New York Philharmonic. She once took me as her guest to a concert in which she was singing with the Chorus, and at which Toscanini was conductor.

Mrs. Riegger died of cancer in (I believe) 1927. Eleanor lived at home with her father. He had developed Paget's disease and was slowly becoming a cripple. The years of the terrible Depression were upon them, and the Goode Manufacturing Co. began to go to pieces. Mr. Riegger became almost

desperately dependent upon Eleanor the only family he had left, as both his body and his business failed him. They said their house in New York, and moved into a small apartment up over a store, in lower Manhattan, where I went to visit them several times between 1935 and 1939, when Mr. Riegger died. The business had gone bankrupt in 1938, but Eleanor held onto the Sunapee cottage a little longer altho she could not use it and it was empty or rented occasionally. For by that time Eleanor had developed cancer. She died a very few years later. The ending of this brilliant family who had brought joy to their island neighbors was a sad contrast to their early lives among us.

Mr. and Mrs. Ben Davis, of New London, N.H., bought Cottage #6 in 1945. Ben Davis had spent his boyhood summers in Burkehaven where his father managed the Burkehaven Hotel. The daughters of Mr. and Mrs. Davis spent their growing-up summers on the Island, and after they were married they brought their children to be with Grandfather and Grandmother Davis at Sunapee. So, for the past 35 years the Cottage has again become the scene of happy family life.

Last summer, Mrs. Bertha Davis was speculating about how there happened to be such a nice sandy beach beside their boathouse. I was able to tell her that Mr. Riegger had several barge loads of sand brought there. (I don't know whence it came) - and dumped into the little cove to make a nice soft beach for his revered mother and his adored daughter. Grossmutter went swimming until she was 80, which made her family proud. Eleanor was allowed to invite her friends to swim there too- at times convenient for Grossmutter. I used to enjoy that sand! Now, the Davis family is enjoying it, as well as the Whitcombs next door (Cottage #7) because the prevailing West winds are slowly carrying some of it down that way. So - the Rieggers are still bringing pleasure to their neighbors.

The Great Revolution in Island Life-Style, which took place with the Coming of Electrical Power to the Island, should be credited to Mrs. Bertha Davis. She knew about the possibility of getting help from the REA (I think it was called), and spent / most of the summer of 1947 going from cottage to cottage, armed with papers and petitions for us all to sign. It is now hard to believe that there was some demurral from a good many of us who felt nostalgic attachment to the old hand-pumps and wood-burning stoves, and hated to abandon "the simple life". But the pictures painted by Bertha Davis of such joys as indoor plumbing and a "real" refrigerator, along with the eagerness of our young people for a little more night-life than Kerosene lamps and lanterns permitted, won out. Finally, practically everybody signed the petitions, promising to utilize electricity if we could get it! Mrs. Davis took her signed papers to the proper place and did all the other necessary things for us, and suddenly, in 1948, the Island began its modernization! A cable was brought over, under water, on the floor of the Lake; trees were cleared away; transmission poles were set up and wires strung. All around the Island lamps and Electric stoves and refrigerators appeared. During the following several years, the sound of blasting became common as septic tanks were put in and "real flush-toilets" began to replace the out houses. Women could take life easier, as they no longer had to do the family laundry by hand on a scrub-board, in hand-pumped water heated on the wood-stove. People sat up later at night to read or socialize with safe bright electric

lights. Neighbors proudly showed each other their new appliances and even gave an occasional invitation to "try out" the new bathroom. Life was Different, and Easier! We owe a lot to Bertha Davis. Cottage #7 Owners: GALE - A. RIEGGER - C. RIEGGER - LILLIAN RIEGGER – FAITH WHITCOMB - JAMES WHITCOMB

A Title Search, supplied to me by James Whitcomb, gives some exact dates on this piece of property, as follows: The land was sold by Norman Brockway and his sister Louisa Jennison to Annie M. Gale, one lot in 1900, a second lot in 1902 and a third lot in 1906. Annie and George Gale built the original house out on the rocky point at some time, not given, during those six years. The original house was struck by lightning during a storm early one summer and burned to the ground. Fortunately the house was empty at the time so nobody was hurt. Also, the wind was in such a direction that the fire did not spread back into the woods but was confined to the rocky point.

Dorothy Gould of Burkehaven writes: "Dad and I saw the Gale place when it was struck by Lightning - just a blue ball of fire came down from the sky and then the house was ablaze, all at once. I can't remember the year, but I was very young."

Helen Harris writes: "The Gales rebuilt their house, living in a tent while this was being done. It was on the same site, but the second house had lightning rods. Later, it was again struck by lightning (proving you can't always believe those adages!) But this time it did not burn, and is still standing."

The Lake Sunapee Cottage Directory of 1910 lists Mr. and Mrs. George Gale from Natick, Mass. Cottage named "Lookout Camp".

I can remember the Gales as middle-aged people, reserved and quiet. So far as I know they had no children. My most vivid memory is that Mrs. Gales was very fond of fishing, and spent long hours sitting out on the steamboat wharf, Auburn, with her bait and pole. I especially remember this because Auburn was where we liked to go swimming, where the big boys could dive off, and we were not allowed to do this while Mrs. Gale was there least we disturb the fish. Helen Harris also remembers and writes: "Mrs. Gale used to fish there, swathed in a voluminous black dress and a hat, tied down with a black veil, against possible sun-burn."

According to Mr. Whitcomb's Title Search, the Gales sold their property to Arnold F. Riegger in 1911. From that time on Arnold and his wife Lillian occupied it, but remained close to their relatives the Constantine Rieggers next-door. On some occasions, Cottage #7 would be used as guest house; or Grossmutter (usually with a paid "companion") would stay over there if things got too lively at the C. Riegger Cottage #6. So, in a way, these two cottages were regarded and used as two parts of the same family estate.

Following Arnold's death the Title Search shows ownership passed in 1930 to Constantine Riegger. Following his death, it passed back to Lillian Riegger (Arnold's widow) in 1939, where it remained until she sold it to Faith R. Whitcomb in 1947.

Faith and Mr. Marciene E. Whitcomb lived in South Hadley, Mass. and were the parents of three grown sons. The whole family loved "their camp", as Mrs. Whitcomb always called it, and proceeded to improve it little by little over long Seasons of constant use. They added some rooms and put in all the modern improvements made possible by the electricity which had just arrived on the Island.

Mr. Whitcomb and his sons owned and operated the Holyoke Die Cut Card Co., in Holyoke, Mass. and their summers had to be divided between the demands of their business and the joys of "camp". Sometimes all the men had to be at work in Holyoke, and Mrs. Whitcomb had her daughters-in-law, the grandchildren, or friends to keep her company at the Lake.

Mr. Whitcomb died in 1957; Mrs. Whitcomb in 1965.

The three sons, in settling the estate, put the entire Island property into the possession of James R. Whitcomb, present owner.

James Whitcomb and his wife Velma have three children - James R. 2nd, Dana, and Meredith; and two grandchildren, Dana and Krista, children of Dana. Mr. James Whitcomb has further enlarged the house and added a back porch. He has built a boat house in the cove just North of the rocky point, and has put wall insulation and a double floor into part of the house which has a wall-heater so that it can be used early and late in the season. This generation, like the one before, loves "camp".

AUBURN LANDING

(Here must be inserted an account of this old landmark, between cottages #7 and #8, for it was an important and necessary place in the early life of the Great Islanders, when the Steamers were our chief means of public transportation)

There were three large wharves on the Island capable of accommodating the Steamers. One was the privately owned wharf on the Breen property, already mentioned. The other two were "Auburn" (which appears on an 1893 map of the Island) on the West side, and "Melrose" on the East side of the Island. These two wharves were built, owned and maintained by the Woodsum Steamboat Company.

I am indebted to Sumner Raymond for an article in "New Hampshire Profile" of August 1962, entitled "Sunapee Steamers", by Richard M. Mitchell, which is too long to be quoted in its entirety, but from which I have extracted the following facts: The Woodsum brothers, Dan and Frank, in 1887 started their fleet of lake steamers with The Lady Woodsum, a 50-foot boat with 75-passenger capacity, and The Armenia White, largest steamer ever to sail Sunapee, 101 feet long, able to carry 650 passengers and a crew of 7. Ten years later, in 1897, another large steamer was added, The Kearsarge, a 250-passenger, 70-footer. The year 1902 saw the launching of the 50-foot Weetamoo, and 1907 that of the 60-foot Ascutney, each of which carried a 3-man crew and could handle 150 passengers. The lake steamers plied the waters on a regular daily schedule on assigned routes making, usually, two round-trips daily from George's Mills to Newbury. They all met the trains at Lake Sunapee Railroad Station, just above Newbury, where it was quite a sight to see them all assembled together, occupying two long wharves, one steamer at each side, surrounded by mountains of baggage and hundreds of scurrying passengers. Between train arrivals the steamers carried the mail, and local passengers back and forth all over the lake.

When we needed to have a steamer stop at Auburn we signaled by pulling a white-painted Keg on a rope over a pulley up to the top of a pole set out on the end of the wharf. Everybody knew the steamers' schedule, and we would get down to the wharf in plenty of time. Because the prevailing wind made it calmer along the opposite shore, Dan Woodsum (who usually piloted the Weetamoo or the Ascutney on the Auburn side of the Island) liked to run along that opposite shore, and did not always look over to see if his steamer was needed at Great Island. So we always got a crowd to go out on the wharf, carrying large white bath towels. If the steamer did not seem to be heading our way, everybody would shout and wave towels. Once, in desperation when the towels brought no response, my brother Sandy ran and got his rifle, and shot it into the air. That brought Dan across, in a hurry, on a course at a right-angle, and, I am afraid, considerably irritated. But it lent spice to travel.

Many colorful stories and pictures accompany the fine article, "Sunapee Steamers", which I hope we can have entirely reproduced at some time as a supplement to this History. It tells of the gradual decline of the steamer business as the private automobile, and the light motorboats, took over from public transportation. "One day just before the first World War, Frank Woodsum was piloting one of the

steamers entering Sunapee Harbor, and saw something unfamiliar on the shore. After a closer look through his spy-glass he discovered that the object was an automobile. The first he had ever actually seen. He handed the glass to one of his crew, saying 'Better take a good look at that thing, Bud. It means the end of Steamboating.' He was correct. All the steamboats have been gone for many years, and the big wharves are now indicated only by the remains of their rock-filled cribs.

Cottage #8 BROCKWAY AND JENNISON - OZORA DAVIS - BURFORD – McLEAN

This, I am sure, is the oldest house on the Island, built by Norman Brockway in 1888. For several years he and his sister Louisa Jennison lived in it, until they built another cottage on the very same plan down at Brightwood, on the Mainland.

Helen Harris wrote: "For us, Norman Brockway started it all. He was a mechanical engineer, from Bellows Falls. My grandfather, James Brady, also a mechanical engineer, knew Mr. Brockway, and my grandparents went to visit him on the Island. They fell in love with the place and later bought property and built on the other side of the Island."

Mr. Brockway rented his Great Island cottage to my parents, Ozora and Grace T. Davis, for a summer or two before they purchased it from him, in 1903. I was born in July of that year, so did not come, myself until 1904.

Ozora S. Davis was a minister in Newtonville, Mass. when he bought the place, and a year later when he moved to a church in New Britain, Conn., Sunapee was still not far away. But, in 1909 he left New England to become President of Chicago Theological Seminary. This move was hard, taking our family away from relatives and exchanging beautiful New England for the flat, dirty city-life of Chicago's West Side. The hardest thing of all was to leave proximity to the Lake! But our firm family resolve was to return to Great Island every summer, at whatever sacrifice to refresh ourselves with beauty and cleanness again. Every year we saved for the carfare. Even my two younger brothers and I learned that we had to do without certain things in order to "get to Sunapee." It taught us to defer pleasures, to learn self-control, to set priorities in our values. Our father could not always stay with us through the entire summer; and when he could be there he had to spend time working up in his study and give his week-ends to summer preaching jobs in the area. But Sunapee was worth it all!
(Please read the first section of this "Great Island History" for my mother's memoir of our lives in Cottage #8. They were wonderful years, full of activity, with relatives and friends constantly coming and going)

In 1930 the older of my two brothers "Sandy" married Josephine Hyde whom he met at the Lake when she was staying with her aunt and uncle, Mr. Fred Fagley at their cottage near Grandliden. In 1931 my father died of cancer. In 1932 I married David Burford of Chicago after bringing him to our cottage for a "trial" visit which was most favorable. My younger brother, "Bill" went out to California to work and fell in love with that state. So he and his wife Hazel (who was visiting us at the time of the 1938 hurricane) have stayed in California. But the rest of us, with our families, have come back to Great Island all through the years.

After the deaths of Sandy and my mother, both them in 1945, Jo and I had to settle their two estates. Bill, remaining in California, sold his interest in the Chicago home to Jo, who had lived there with Sandy for many years; and his interest in Cottage #8 to David and me. David died in 1951 following heart surgery. I continued to come to Sunapee, from Chicago, with our daughter Margot.

In 1959, Margot married George H. McLean youngest son of the Rector of her Church in Chicago. They have five children, and all the McLean's are fervent lovers of our Great Island home. George and the boys have done a great deal of work on the place, restoring the old foundations, building new porches and adding a bedroom and a workshop to the ground-floor.

Wishing to spare Margot the problems Jo and I had in settling an estate, deeded Cottage #8 over to her in 1974. Now I can relax and thoroughly enjoy my children and grandchildren. I hope can continue to come for many more years. As Grace Spillane wrote, my real roots are here.

Cottage #9 SMART - ALLEN - MacLEOD & ROBERTS

Nancy Roberts writes: "The first occupants of the house were the Smart family, from 1904 until 1932." The 1910 Cottage Register lists: "Rev. and Mrs. George T. Smart, Stephen Bruce Smart, Paul H. Smart. Cottage:Wyndhurst Home:Newton Highlands, Mass" Nancy continues: "The Rev. Dr. Smart knew Dr. Ozora S. Davis, another Congregational minister in nearby Newtonville. After visiting the Davises on Great Island, the Smarts decided to build a house next door, and purchased the lots on the South point. Their sons were both very athletic, and participated in regatta events on the Lake."

I remember the Smart's well. The boys were twelve and fifteen years older than I, and I looked up to them and admired the trophy-cups from the regattas, displayed on the Smart's mantel. Dr. and Mrs. Smart were reserved, very "proper" people. My mother warned by brothers and me to lower our voices and mind our manners when with the Smart's. Helen Harris wrote: "Dr. Smart always wore starched high collars and a straw 'boater' hat when out in his rowboat fishing."

The Smart's never had a launch. They had a rowboat and two canoes for the boys. Whenever one of the boys "dated" a girl on the mainland (both led quite a busy social life) each one had to paddle his own canoe to get there. On stormy nights this sometimes caused a problem. But it developed muscle.

Mrs. Smart enjoyed fishing, but not from a boat. She, like Mrs. Gale, went down to Auburn with a folding camp-chair upon which she sat, holding a pole. She, too, wore a wide-brimmed hat tied on with a veil. One day she and Dr. Smart were both fishing off Auburn and my father went down for a little chat. Mrs. Smart hooked a fish and in the excitement of netting it her chair collapsed and she fell into the Lake. Now in spite of those athletic sons, neither Dr. nor Mrs. Smart could swim at all. Mrs. Smart, buoyed up by a large full skirt, just hung onto the stringers of the crib under the wharf, gasping. Dr. Smart clasped his hands and bent over the edge, exclaiming repeatedly: "Why Lottie, Lottie!" My father ran and picked up a long stick of wood lying on the approach to the Wharf, held one end and persuaded "Lottie" to transfer her grip to the other end. Then he towed her along-side the wharf to shallow water where she climbed out and walked home, assisted by Dr. Smart. Neither of them learned to swim after this event, however.

Nancy writes: "Bruce Smart, the elder son, became the President of the Fruit of the Loom Co., and his son Bruce, Jr. is President of Continental Can Co."

John McCrillis sent me a copy of the obituary of Paul H. Smart in the paper "Starlights" of August, 1979. I quote: "Paul H. Smart, for many years one of the most prominent yachting officials in the world, as president of the Star Class, and as chairman of the United States Olympic Yachting Committee from 1964 to 1972, died recently at his home in Darien, Conn. at the age of 87 ... He won the gold medal as a crew with his son, Hilary, in the 1948 Olympics."

Dr. and Mrs. Wilmar M. Allen were friends of Dr. and Mrs. Spillane (Cottage #4) both families living in Hartford, Conn. where both doctors were on the staff of Hartford Hospital. The Allen's visited the Spillane's on Great Island, and then rented the Riegger Cottage (#6)- for at least one summer before renting and later purchasing the Smart Cottage (#9) in 1932. After purchase, they changed the name of the house to "Isles End."

They had two charming little red-headed daughters, Barbara and Nancy. Six years later, these girls helped me to care for our baby, Margot. Dr. Allen's father, an executive of the DuPont Corp. whom everybody called "Billy", used to spend his vacations at Isles End where his great joy (like the Smarts') was fishing. Sometimes his catch was larger than the Allen's could eat, and we next-door neighbors enjoyed a fish-dinner.

Dr. Allen, who had been a pathologist, subsequently became Director of Hartford Hospital with an increasing burden of responsibility which broke into the vacations at the Island. Mrs. Allen, a Canadian, was a trained nurse. How often she helped us with little physical hurts which were made easier to bear because of her skill! All of the Allen family were helpful, wonderful neighbors who brought us a sense of security on the Island.

Dr. and Mrs. Allen and Billy are all gone, now, and Isles End has passed into the possession of their two daughters.

Barbara, married to Dr. John A. MacLeod, a psychiatrist, living in Cincinnati, Ohio. Children: Jamie - b. 1951; Bill - b. 1953; Nancy - b. 1955 and married in 1980 to Rick DeBlassis; and Cathy - b. 1959.

Nancy, married to Ross R. Roberts, a secondary school mathematics teacher, living in Concord, Mass. Children: Ross Jr. - b. 1954 married to Elizabeth Jordan; and Susan - b. 1956.

Cottage(s) #10 - ROBINSON - DAVIS - BURFORD - MARTIN – LANDIS

Except for my own memory, I have no sources for the first owner and builder of the cottages, Dr. Robinson. Dates are uncertain.

My father, Dr. Ozora Davis, became acquainted with Dr. Benjamin W. Robinson at Chicago Theological Seminary where "Dr. Ben" came to be Professor of New Testament. My father invited Dr. Ben to visit us on Great Island, where Dr. Ben (like so many others) "fell in love with the place"• He purchased two lots on the East Side (I think) about 1912, and began to build houses. While the first one was going up he lived alone in a little tent, and depended on our help to bring building materials, etc. over in our boat. The big beams came via Steamer. He had no experience but found great pleasure in this hobby of carpentering. He completed the one-room house the first year. The next year he brought his bachelor brother, Willard, to help him and together they built a larger house, with an upstairs "bedroom" or loft, reached by a ladder. Then they brought the rest of their family - Their parents and their sister Edna, a spinster. The parents used the larger house, and Dr. Ben built Edna a third very small one-room house right on the shore.

Everyone of the Robinson family had a Ph.D degree, including the women. They cared nothing for fixing up their houses or for housekeeping, but spent their time reading "deep" books, and writing articles. Only Dr. Ben (and, to a lesser extent, brother Willard) had fun building houses. Dr. Ben even built my father's little study, up in the woods on the back-land.

I think it was about 1916 or 1917 when Dr. Ben married Anita Hasbrouck, a glamorous and high-fashion young lady, whom he proudly brought to Great Island Cottages #10. Oh, how she hated it! After only a few days she went over to Burkehaven and stayed at the Hotel, there, where Dr. Ben was allowed to visit her. He tried to persuade her to come back to the Island, but she wouldn't. So he sold the lots and all three houses to my father, and all the Robinson's departed.

My father bought two more lots, just beyond the Robinson's so that he would have plenty of room, and houses, for all his family. In 1918 (approximately) he gave the largest house to me, after building some stairs inside to replace the ladder going up to the loft, and adding a tiny kitchen at one side and a "deck type" porch at the front. He later gave the tiny house on the shore to my younger brother Bill, and my mother was assigned to the Middle-sized house "as her own study, where she could do her writing." However, the two lots of land were deeded to me. When David Burford and I were married in 1932 we moved into "my house" and spent most of our summer vacations there, although we stayed with my mother in Cottage #8 whenever she had to be alone there. Some, or all of the group of Cottages #10 were frequently occupied by guests of the various members of the Davis family, as convenient. They provided great variety and flexibility in our accommodations.

Following my mother's death in 1945, David and I arranged that the Davis family cottage #8 should pass into our possession; and we sold Cottage #10, in 1947, to Judge and Mrs. Robert U. Martin, of

Dayton, Ohio. Mrs. Martin is Jo Davis' sister, Eleanor and it made a happy arrangement for the two sisters to spend their Summers side by side.

The Martin's put a great deal of both capital and labor into improving and enlarging the main cottage, building a beautiful fireplace, making a sea-wall and bathing beach on the shore, and transforming the two smaller houses into attractive sleeping quarters. Very soon, electricity came to the Island and the Martin's the Kitchen, enlarged the living-room, built on a bathroom and covered back porch, and purchased Electrical appliances and comfortable furnishings. A patio was built at the side of the house for out-door barbecues. The woods (all tangled up since the 1938 hurricane) were cleared, resulting in open spaces and big, comfortable fires in the fireplace. The Martin girls had their friends as guests, and the whole Martin family loved their home.

Eleanor Martin Landis writes: "Lois has an August birthday, which we celebrated for some years by going around the Lake in the speed boat which carried the mail. In spite of scarcities after W.W. II we were fortunate enough to find a plasti-craft boat with a motor powerful enough so that we could teach the Island children to water-ski.

"Judge Martin died in May, 1973. Eleanor married Harry Landis, of Dayton, Ohio in 1976.

"Older daughter Janet married Robert Fenwick, lives in Palo Alto, California, and has 3 children: David, Darryl and Lisa.

"Younger daughter Lois Logan lives in Cincinnati, Ohio, and has a son, Hugh. "All spend their vacations here, and are Great Island Devotees."

(I believe that the Fenwick family of Palo Alto, CA, holds the record for travelling the greatest distance to get to the Lake each Summer.)

Cottage(s) #11 A.H. DAVIS - JOSEPHINE DAVIS - STEPHEN & SUSAN DAVIS

The two lots of land were given by Ozora S. Davis, immediately after purchase, to his older son Alexander ("Sandy") in 1918. That same summer Sandy, then only 12 years old, began to build himself a little one-room cabin, perched on some large boulders not far from the shore. He worked on it doggedly; putting in most of his time that summer, and finished it the following summer, without help from anyone. He got furniture from the family's attic, and went over to "Sandy's Shack", (as it was called) to sleep, from that time on, in the place that was most truly his own.

In 1929, in anticipation of marriage to Josephine Hyde, he himself enlarged the cabin. He added a tiny Kitchen; a room at the front jutting out still further over the rocks, with windows on two sides; and on the North side, a good-sized bedroom which is built on a lower level to follow the contour of the ground, with two bunkbeds built up above a jutting rock which could not be removed but is enclosed in the room. He even built a fire-place (which still works well) into the back wall of the bedroom. After their marriage in 1930, Sandy and Jo made this cottage their home, and Jo still uses it as her own private sleeping-quarters.

More space was needed when the twins, Steve and Sue, became 2 years old. So in 1940, Sandy and Jo together built "the twins' cabin", not far from "Sandy's Shack."

Then came a few years when both the little houses had to stand empty. World War II came, and Dr. Sandy had to go off with the Navy into the Pacific. He was killed in battle off Okinawa in May, 1945. In the summer of 1946 Jo brought the twins, 8 years old, back to Sunapee and began to put things back together again. She had inherited the place. She made needed repairs, put on shingles and roofing herself, carrying on the tradition.

A few years later, when electricity came, Jo began to plan a larger and more convenient house for her family. She consulted Mr. Ed Williams, a plumber who was then doing a lot of work for people on the Island. "Yes", he said, "he thought he could build her a nice house, himself, with two bedrooms and a bathroom and electric Kitchen" - (even though he had never before built a house!) They sat down and drew some plans on the back of an envelope; decided the best place for the house to be built; and Mr. Williams made an estimate. The deal was made; and Jo departed for Chicago.

The following Summer, with high expectations and a great deal of curiosity the three Davises came to Great Island and saw their new house for the first time. It was just as Mr. Williams had promised, complete with an electric stove and refrigerator! And thus took place the addition of the third cottage to group #11.

Now, there is room for friends and relatives to come and visit. Jo's brother Bob and his family; and sister Kay and her family come for reunions with Jo and sister Eleanor, next-door. Steve, now married to Marilyn, comes with their five children. Aunt Sue drives the boat, and takes care of everybody's needs. Vacations at #11 are happy times.

About four years ago, to avoid "estate problems", Jo deeded the property over to the twins, Steve and Sue Davis, in joint ownership.

Cottage #12 BAILEY - CHAPMAN - BROWN - SCHMITT – CREWS

My information on Cottage #12 is scanty and I have not been able to reach former owners. I can remember that Mr. Ed Bailey of Springfield, VT, was the original owner. This particular parcel of land was very difficult to build upon because huge boulders had tumbled down from the steep ridge behind to the very edge of the Lake. Before anything could be built there, some of the boulders had to be either moved or blasted away to give space. Mr. Bailey and his son did this work themselves, I think around 1920, and with much effort managed to make room and build a small house; which the Bailey's occupied until the 1938 hurricane practically demolished the place. Trees crashed down on the top, and the great waves swept up over the shore line, wrecking the foundations. The house was actually split open so that the snows that winter following, damaged the interior.

Chester Andrews writes: "One incident I recall involved my brother, you and me. It was the summer after the 1938 hurricane, when was 9 and "Toot" was 11. The Bailey house had been split apart by a large tree, and Toot and I found ourselves inside, one day, "just looking around". We came upon a collection of phonograph records which had been exposed to the weather for at least 9-10 months. I can't recall what prompted us to start skimming those records out of the house into the Lake, but skim we did. We were having great fun until you came along! You made us strip down to our undershorts and go into the Lake and retrieve all the records. And you stayed right there supervising until they were all returned. We laugh about it, now, but at the time it didn't seem funny."

The Bailey's were completely discouraged, and sold the whole mess as it was. A young bachelor, Mr. Chapman, bought it after a year or two, cleaned it up and got the house together again. But he lived there only a short time. He sold it to Mr. and Mrs. Brown who made more extensive repairs. They used some kind of heavy machinery to move more boulders and make more space, and enlarged the house a little. They built a patio of sorts - a level area, topped with gravel, on top of some of the boulders, and built a dock for their boat. They lived there several years, but I do not have any dates. (I thank Jo Davis for her recollections of these former owners, above.)

The Schmitt family, with four children, from Concord, MA bought the place (I think) about 1968. They moved more boulders, enlarged the house considerably to accommodate their larger family, and built a larger cement-based dock. Their boat was frequently seen bringing over loads of building materials, and people. Relatives visited a great deal. The visiting men, the Schmitt boys and Mr. Schmitt worked together, and the Cottage was humming with activity for long Summers over the next 8-10 years. Then the children were grown, took Summer jobs, and the Cottage was almost unused for a year or two.

It was purchased in 1978 by Dr. David Crews of Cambridge Mass. David writes: "As one of four children in the family of a career officer in the Air Force, travelled extensively, living throughout the Southeastern United States and in Panama, Norway and Germany". will summarize his biography; after that: As a post-graduate, he did extensive research on snakes and lizards resulting in a Ph.D in

psychobiology in 1973 at Rutgers University. Then he went to the University of California at Berkeley on a post-doctoral fellowship. In 1976 he was appointed lecturer in biology and psychology at Harvard; became an assistant professor there in 1977 and was promoted to associate professor in 1979 ... Along with this biographical material David sent a letter announcing that he will have to sell Cottage #12 in 1981 because he is taking a position at the University of Texas at Austin beginning in 1982 ••• We shall miss him, and wish him well!

Cottage #13 TINKER - DRESSEL - LEIGH - SHATTUCK - RIEL - SLAYMAKER - SHAW FAGAN

This Cottage has the distinction of having had more different owners than any other on Great Island! The original owner and builder was my uncle, the brother of Grace T. Davis (author of Section I of this History) Mr. and Mrs. William H. Tinker, with their two sons, from Charlestown, N.H. came to the Island as members of my "extended family", in 1911 or thereabouts. (They are not listed in the 1910 Cottage Directory.) Uncle Will designed the house, had it put up by a contractor, and then did all the inside finishing and shingled and painted the outside himself with help from the boys. The Tinkers spent the next 20 summers here. In 1932, after the boys were grown, Mrs. Tinker became too ill to come any longer and the cottage was closed for at least two years.

In 1935 (I believe) it was purchased by Mr. and Mrs. Dressel, of Springfield, VT, where Mr. Dressel was a photographer. The Dressel's fixed up the cottage with new furnishings and enlarged the Kitchen. As I remember, they had lots of guests from their nearby home town, and also brought their grandchildren for long summer vacations. I think they occupied the cottage for at least ten years - or more.

I have not been able to find out anything about the three owners who followed, and have only the names of these families, with no dates. The third of these owners, the Riels, were German, and I understand that they gave up Cottage #13 because they returned to Germany to live.

Mrs. Arthur Slaymaker ("Peg") has sent me "The Slaymaker's Great Island History", which I quote in its entirety: "We bought the "Tinker house" in 1962 while renting the "Smith house" (next door) on the Island. Our neighbors in Stamford Conn., Stuart and Glennie Andrews, had told us about the Island and, as we had always wanted to live on an Island, we tried it out by renting the Smith place which was also for sale.

"One very stormy day the Forrest family, dripping wet, arrived at the door with the real estate agent to look at the Smith house, and they bought it that same day! We had heard that the house next door was for sale, and immediately called the agent who was handling that house. He came over and showed it to us. We liked it, made an offer and put down a deposit. But the very next day we received a telephone call from a man who said that he had just bought what we considered was "our" house, the Tinker place! It seems that the owner's mother had sold it, without going through the agent, directly to this man for about half of what we had offered. After a great deal of correspondence between our agent, Mr. Riel, the owner who had gone off to Germany, and both prospective buyers, we were given title to the house.

"Of course it was furnished, but none of the chairs lined up on the porch had seats in them and most of the furnishings inside needed repair. After taking away boat loads of furniture, painting, sewing new curtains, etc. we made the house livable. The first year we made do with our boat. The following winter Mr. Wiggins of Sunapee built a large boat dock for us and the next summer we bought a larger boat which I think is still in use.

"So many memories! The red squirrel invasion, when it took all summer to rid several of the Island homes of their depredations; the winter when we walked over on the ice only to find an electric wire had fallen, on our property, cutting through a tree 2 inches in diameter - and the wire was still sizzling; the children swimming around the Island; the day Slay and Sumner caught six lake trout and we had a big barbeque at the Raymond's.

"When we knew, definitely, that we were moving to California in 1968 we sold to the Shaw family. Some of our happiest days were spent on Great Island and we still feel close to the wonderful people we met there."

The Slaymaker's now live in Santa Rosa, CA. Mr. Slaymaker works part-time as a consultant to the American Bank Note Co. in San Francisco. In 1968 Susie married George Seeley, lives in Massachusetts and has a 4-yr. old daughter. In 1976 Rob married Vicky Boyer and lives near San Francisco where they both work for the Bank of America.

The Shaw family, who purchased Cottage #13 from the Slaymaker's in 1968, had been renting cottages on the main land of Sunapee for a few years and wanted to own their own place. Their home was East Longmeadow, Mass. Where Mr. Shaw worked in the investment department of the Monarch Life Insurance Co. As a keen business man, with much knowledge of real estate, "Rich" Shaw was "a tower of strength" in our Sunapee Islands Corporation, where Joan Shaw also rendered service as secretary. This family contributed much to the Island's community spirit by their outgoing friendliness, during all their 13 years here. Mrs. Shaw and the two girls entertained many friends, especially during the periods when Mr. Shaw had to be at home on business.

Sometime in 1977 (I believe) Mr. Shaw left Monarch Life, taking other employment in Dallas, Texas. It was very hard at first, for the family to leave Mr. Shaw's parents in Mass., and to leave Susan, still in Dartmouth College. For another summer they made the long trip from Texas to see their relatives in New England and their loved cottage on the Island. But distance proved to be too much a barrier and in 1979 they sold the property to the Fagen family, the latest owners.

Mr. and Mrs. Donald Fagan come from Wilton, Conn. where Mr. Fagan is Principal of Shachtman-Fagan, Inc., Marketing Research. They have three children: Brant, b.1966; Karen, b.1969, and Shane, b.1972.

Cottage #14 SMITH – FORREST

The Smith family lived in New Britain, Conn., and were parishioners of my father, Ozora S. Davis. There were three teenage sons who had expressed a great desire to go camping. So my father invited the whole family to bring their tents and camp out in the woods near our cottage. They came for at least 2, perhaps 3 years between 1906 and 1909 or 10. I remember best one long cold, very rainy spell when the Smith's tents and all their equipment became so water-logged that my parents invited them, all five, to move into our house for a few days until things could dry out. It was exciting to have such a big family for awhile! The boys were Frank (oldest), Walter and Charlie. Frank and Walter were old enough and strong enough so that they paddled in the regatta canoe races with the Smart boys and Stuart Andrews.

After the camping years, Mr. Smith bought land and, with the help of the boys they built a small cottage, #14.

Helen Harris writes: "There were three Smith boys, but Frank was the one who kept the Cottage, after Walter married one of Dean Andrew's friends and went out to live in Arizona. Charlie went to Arizona, too. Frank got married, and his first wife hated the Island. She used to stay over at the Burkehaven Hotel while Frank spent his vacation on Great Island. They had a daughter, Natalie, who loved the Island. That first marriage broke up. Natalie stayed with Frank, who later married a second wife, Irene. Irene lived the cottage and Great Island.

"The original cabin was demolished by the 1938 hurricane. Frank replaced it with a much larger, more comfortable house, which Irene helped him to finish and furnish. They had one of the first telephones on the Island, and modernized the place as soon as electricity came in. They brought Frank's mother, elderly Mrs. Smith, to the Lake with them for many summers. She was an active, hard-working woman even in her old age. I remember that she spoke with a strong German accent (the family originally named Schmidt, changed their name to Smith during W.W.I.) and that she made wonderful cookies. When Natalie grew up, and got married, she and her husband and children came to the Cottage for vacations."

After many years Frank retired from his work as a City Manager, and they bought a year-round home on Cape Cod. They then put Cottage #14 on the market.

Eleanor Forrest writes: "In 1962, after Ed had retired from the Navy and had completed his first year in Theological Seminary, we went camping and looking all over New Hampshire and parts of Maine for a waterfront property to buy. Our last night before returning to Alexandria, VA we camped at the foot of Mt. Sunapee. What a downpour! It went on all night and the following day. In spite of the rain we decided to talk to any real estate broker whom we could find open. At last we succeeded and, over a cup of coffee, learned of an Island property for sale. At once we were determined to see it! So off to Blodgetts we went, and all piled into a rented boat. Arrived on the Island, we found the Slaymaker's at the house, huddled around the fireplace. When they told us that they were only renting the place for a week, we looked around rather hurriedly not to disturb them, and left with the broker. On the way back to his

office the broker took us to the home of Mr. and Mrs. Ben Davis in New London, who owned a cottage on Great Island. Conversation with Davises made us more eager than ever to buy the place. At the broker's office, that same day, we made an offer to Frank Smith by telephone which he accepted a few days later.

"The following July, 1963 we moved in and have enjoyed 17 terrific summers on Great Island ever since! Having moved 18 times during our marriage it was a wonderful feeling to have a permanent home!

"On our first walk around the Island dear Mrs. Allen and the Robert's were on their porch and we stopped for a chat. They told us that they were wondering, from certain signs, if a bear had ventured over on the Island. That night we heard horrible growling, snarling noises and were sure that there was a bear - only to discover, in the morning, that raccoons could be very noisy, too.

"A few days later we again met the Slaymaker's, and learned that they had purchased the house next-door to us. They remained our neighbors for six years, until they moved to California.

"One day, several years later, the Smith's daughter Natalie appeared at our door, wondering if we would be interested in selling the place back to her and her husband. It goes without saying that our answer was 'NO!'"

Cottage #15 RAYMOND – MOORE

Cottage #15 is built on the site of the old Steamer Landing, "Melrose", on the East side of the Island.

Mr. Sumner Raymond writes: "The land was owned by Leo Osborne and his wife, of Sunapee, who having been the last owner of the then-defunct Woodsum Steamboat Co., had retained it, thinking they might some day build themselves a cabin on the pie-shaped lot.

"They had last used the old stone dock as a loading ramp for trucks salvaging logs from the Island during the winter following the 1938 hurricane. I had tried to buy the dock property earlier for the use of the Group then owning and occupying the adjoining Kerr place (Cottage #16); but Mr. Osborne had refused ••• The winter of 1949-50 we received word that the Osborne's wanted to see us, so one Sunday the whole family drove over from Keene to Sunapee, to see the ice-cutters at work and to visit Leo and his wife. It seems they no longer wanted to build on the Island. Did we want the land? We did! And so the following summer we pitched a tent there, became "Rocky Dockers", and eventually got our cabin built.

"Those were very happy years. There were problems, like the later hurricane that smashed our boat. There were projects, like electric power lines and telephone cables. And there were our Island neighbors, all of whom have contributed to countless memories.

"In 1957 we acquired another cottage on the mainland, across the East Channel, off Bowles Road which we rented to other people for several years. As we grew older and less agile, Ruth and I began to use this place more and more, letting our children stay on Great Island. They had all married, and most of them had families. But it became increasingly difficult for the children, spread out over four States, to make use of, and to maintain Rock Dock. So we reluctantly sold it to the present owners, the Moore family, of New Jersey in 1975. After my retirement and our move to Florida, we sold the Bowles Road property, also."

Mrs. William H. Moore writes: "We are relative newcomers to Great Island, but we have surely grown to love it as you "old-timers" do. My husband and I have not had the opportunity to spend much time there, as yet; but if all goes as planned we shall be spending entire summers starting in 1982.

"Since 1975 the Moores' married daughters with their husbands and small children have occupied Cottage #15 for most of the summers.

Cottage #16 KERR - THE GROUP - CHEEVER – GRAHAM

For the earliest history of this cottage, I am combining information obtained from Helen Harris' "Recollections" with the contents of a letter written by Helen's brother James A. Wadsworth to Georgiana Harris Forguson.

Arthur Kerr was the son of Mrs. Brady's sister, Marietta. (See early history of Cottage #17 for identity of the Brady's.) He obtained from some other relatives named Gallup, who had purchased them from Norman Brockway, 4 lots of land extending North from the Woodsum Steamboat Co.'s "Melrose" dock property. He hired Fred Thompson and Fred's father Aaron, of Edgemont, to build a large summer cottage of two stories with a full attic above and woodshed below; plus a boathouse and dock. I do not have the exact date but it was probably between 1901 and 1905, i.e. "shortly after" the Brady house (built by the same Thompson's according to the same identical plan) had been built on the adjoining property in 1899.

The Kerr's came from Springdale, Conn., just outside Stamford. Mr. Kerr owned and operated rooming-houses on the "The Bowery" in New York City, the famous "flop houses", as they later became known. The Sunapee Cottage Directory of 1910 lists Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Kerr's cottage named "Happy Thought" and their launch named "Marietta". Many years later, after Mr. Kerr retired and they could spend long summers at the Lake, he purchased a second launch, a beautiful canopied custom-built named "The Rippowam". At that time, too, he put in a power plant which furnished electric lights to the house and pumped up water for an indoor bathroom, the first on the Island. This was many years before the electric cable was brought over. He added to his original acreage by purchasing a large amount of back-Land.

In 1939 Mr. Kerr died, leaving everything to his wife. (They were childless.) Mrs. Kerr died not many months afterward. Settlement of the two estates lasted nearly 2 years in Probate Court since there was property in at least 3 States and two different wills were involved.

Sumner Raymond has supplied the following information: "In 1942 a group of six men, all employed by the Fellows Gear Shaper Co. of Springfield, VT, after considerable discussion banded together to acquire a lake shore property to be owned, maintained and used jointly by ourselves and our families. A favored location was Lake Sunapee, and one of the places we had heard about was "the Kerr place". In May, Ruth and I went over and were shown around by Warren Morgan, of Burkehaven. We fell in love with the whole package, discussed it with the group that night, and returned the following day for a further look. But while we were still at Burkehaven, talking to Warren Morgan, another realtor turned up with another interested party, to show the place. On the spot, without going back to see it again, we agreed to buy it, gave Warren a \$50.00 deposit, and he handed us the Keys! We were Great Islanders!

"Upon arrival home we formally organized "The Great Island Group", in order to legally complete the deal. Members of the Group were: Ernest Cheever, Lowell Hemingway, Harry King, Sumner Raymond,

Don Walton, and Bernard Ward. Legal ownership, rights of succession, and relinquishing ownership were carefully delineated and mutually agreed upon, in a co-operative set up.

“As the years went by one by one members left the Group to own other summer properties or to live in other parts of the country. The shares of those who left were bought by the remaining Charter members. It was all done in amity and we are all still friends. Eventually, in 1973, Mr. Ernest Cheever became the last remaining Charter member and sole owner.”

Doris Cheever writes: “The first time I saw “Happy Thought” was a summer day in 1942. Our first ride in “The Rippowam” was a wonderful experience and we at once fell in love with this beautiful spot. Our first vacation there was for 2 weeks in August, 1943.

“Throughout all the years “our” 2 weeks, whenever our turn might come, was the highlight of our family life, looked forward to and planned for all the rest of the year. Friends would come for a day or two, or even for a few hours' visit. Swimming, boat rides, games and parties added to the fun. Many times one of our children celebrated a birthday there. Some of our children spent a part of their honeymoon at “Happy Thought”.

“One by one the other families owning a share left the Group for various reasons, and as they did Ernest bought up their shares. Leroy Graham and Judy, our daughter, bought one share when Don Walton sold out. This was the beginning of their ownership in the Cottage. I think it was our family's dream, almost from the start, finally to become the sole owners.

“This dream became a reality in 1973, and we were looking forward to many years of long summers at “Happy Thought”. But this was not to be, for the Lord called Ernest Home in May, 1975. I have been able to come every summer since then, with Judy and her family, the Graham's.”

Judy Graham writes: “Leroy came to Great Island first in 1954, as my guest. He loved it immediately, and would come over to spend time there with my family even when I was not able to go. After we were married, Dad taught Leroy how to open and close the place, take care of the water pump, window shutters, etc. Our children were born, and they all joined us in our love of “Happy Thought” and of Sunapee.

“In 1975 we became the owners after my father passed away. In 1976 we closed the former back porch so now we can wash the dishes inside the house; added another porch at the back where we can be protected when the wind swoops down from the North - not as rustic, but definitely an improvement! In 1977, we got a bigger boat, which we have named “The Cracker Box” because it is full of Graham's. (My idea!)

“Now, three of the children, David, Diane and Susan, have grown up and left home, leaving only Nathan with us still. But they all come to spend whatever time is possible “at the Lake”. I know that when we are no longer around, some of our children and grandchildren will still be coming to Great Island.”

Cottage #17 BRADY - WADSWORTH - HARRIS – FORGUSON

From a letter written in 1966 by James Wadsworth to his niece, Georgiana Forguson: "Your great-grandparents, James and Elizabeth Brady, were the original purchasers of the property on Great Island from Norman Brockway. The deeds are dated Sept. 1898 and 1899. During the winter of 1898, a large Summer Cottage, and a boathouse and dock were built by Aaron and Fred Thompson of Edgemont. The cottage was first occupied in the Summer of 1899, at which time additional land was purchased.

"The wedding of Georgiana Brady to Arthur H. Wadsworth took place in the cottage on Great Island in the summer of 1900. At that time, James Brady bought from Norman Brockway 2 more lots on the Island as a wedding present for his daughter.

"James Brady died in the Great Island cottage in the summer of 1904.

"The Wadsworth family, with Mrs. Brady used the cottage every summer thereafter until 1921, when both the house and the boathouse were totally destroyed by fire in early June, while the cottage was being opened for the summer.

"Elizabeth Brady died in 1922, leaving the Great Island property to her grandchildren, James and Helen Wadsworth.

The existing structure near the site of the original Brady cottage, was begun by me (James Wadsworth) in 1922, with later additions in 1926 and 1928."

For more than ten years this small cottage was used each summer by James and Helen Wadsworth in turn. James married and came with his wife Julia, but after their children were born, the cabin became too small and inconvenient. Helen came with various cousins and friends until she married Douglas Harris and went with him to live in India. For a few years the little house was not used.

Then about 1940, Helen returned with her daughter Georgiana. Doug had become too ill to continue his job at the Bombay branch of the bank for which he worked. He died, after a long illness. Helen became a librarian. She loved Great Island and came to the cottage for her vacation every summer for many years, with Georgie.

Georgiana Forguson writes: "In 1966 my mother bought Uncle Jim's share of the property. After that, we added a bathroom and an electric pump. In 1967, the existing dock was built, on the site of the original dock." (In 1960 Georgiana had married Lynd Forguson, who came to the Island, grew attached to the place, and has done the building, enlarging and modernization himself.)

Georgie continues: "In 1970 I received title to all the property. In 1971, Lynd and the boys built an addition to the bedroom.

"Family Facts: Our son Geoffrey was born 1964, in Oxford, England. Christopher was born 1966 in Buffalo, N.Y. The Forguson family has lived in Toronto, Canada since 1968. I teach Special Education in a public school, Lynd is Associate Professor of Philosophy at the University of Toronto. My mother, Helen Wadsworth Harris, died in May, 1980."

Cottage #18 ANDREWS

Georgina Wadsworth sold to Mr. and Mrs. William Andrews, of Noroton Heights, Conn., the two lots of land she had received from her father in 1900 as a wedding present "because they would be such compatible neighbors" (quoted from James Wadsworth letter.) As noted in the history of Cottage #4, Mr. and Mrs. Andrews lived in a tent on the property of their friends, the Southwicks, until their own Cottage #18 was finished. This must have been before 1910, since they are listed in the "Cottage Register" for that year.

In section I of this Great Island History, my mother has already written about the contributions made to our Island community by Mrs. Andrews ("Gabby") and her family.

Chester Andrews writes: "At Aunt Dean's request, I will try to set down the Andrew's family record. Life-styles change as we all know and upon my grandmother Gabby's death in 1946 the house never again had a summer-long resident. In fact, from 1945 to 1948 no one from any side of the family so much set foot on the Island.

"With growing families, summer jobs for the children, other interests, and gas rationing we just didn't get to the lake. Consequently when we did return for one week during the summer of 1949, we found the boathouse had been knocked from its crib by the ice; and that time had finally caught up with the house. It was twisting counter clockwise around the foundation for the fireplace.

"In the summer of 1950 (I believe) Dad" - (Stuart, Gabby's son) - "single handedly started the job of correcting the rotation. He ran a 1/2 inch cable from the N.E. corner through the house, at the ceiling, to the S.E. corner, then down to, and around, a large rock at the water's edge, and back on to the cable at the house. This cable was then joined with a 3-foot turnbuckle, and the job of drawing the house around started. The job took about 5 years because, it could be drawn only an inch or two at a time, without breaking windows and splitting timbers. In the process, Dad at one point had so much pressure on the cable that it parted while he was operating the turnbuckle. When it parted it came slashing back and took Dad's hat off as it passed. Another inch or so lower, and the top of Dad's head would also have come off!

"Electricity came in 1950 and running water a few years later. Our cottage has everything except hot water (I guess we're one of the last without it) but we like to wash as we have for 75 years - in the lake. I like the feeling that we still don't have all conveniences - that the change has not been total.

"After Gabby's death the property went to Aunt Dean and Dad, and remained in their names jointly until Dad's death in 1973. His interest came to me and to my brother "Tootie".

"Tootie, (Stuart, Jr.) became missing in action in Viet Nam in 1966. It was not until 1978 that he was declared legally dead. Then his share in the Island property passed to his widow, Ann Andrews. So at this time the place is in the names of Dean Halliwell, Ann Andrews and Chester Andrews.

"Our family has grown to a point where there are many families now using the cottage. Each of us seems to come and find this a place to unwind and relax from the responsibilities of our regular lives at home. We sit looking at the Lake; we swim, we sleep. Our life-styles are different from Gabby's. But, if one can be here for only one week, how valuable it is just to be alone!

"That's about the story of the Andrews, et al, from 1942 - 1980. We are now in our fifth generation, with Aunt Dean's great-grandchildren using the cottage. I certainly hope that the family will continue in the years to come until we'll be able to note 5 more generations, 75 years from now!

"Here we all are:

Dean's daughters, Eleanor ("Nunnie") and Mary Dean ("Maddie") married, and their children are as follows:

"Nunnie" and Giles Montgomery, parents of:

G. Barrett ("Barry") married Jill Rustin (Deceased); they have one son, Andrew Dean (Son) married Kay Cowin (Divorced); they have one daughter, Laurel Ann married Peter Bjur. They have three children, Kristin, Matthew, and David

"Maddie" and Dr. J. Forbes Rogers, parents of:

J. Forbes, Jr. married Mary White; they have one daughter, Abbie
John married Siobhan (no children)
Deanna - unmarried

Stuart's sons, Stuart ("Toot") and Chester ("Hoke") married, and their children are as follows:

"Toot" and Ann Lowes Andrews, parents of:

Jennifer M. (Unmarried)
Stuart F. ("Sandy") (unmarried)

"Hoke" and Joan Kellogg Andrews, parents of:

Jeffrey D. married Damaris Bigalow
Mark S. (unmarried)
Kim M. (unmarried)
Susan W. (unmarried)

Cottage #19 WHITE - DAVIS - THURSTON – WYMAN

Helen Harris' "Recollections": "Mr. Wallace White was an Englishman living in Lawrence, Mass. He built the cottage himself, completing it in 1897. Before they built on the Island the family had lived down at Bay Point for several summers. Mr. and Mrs. White had two sons, George and Ernest, and one daughter, Ruth. She had a beautiful soprano voice and was given a musical education. I remember when she married Howard Davis, a music teacher from Yonkers, N.Y. He was a handsome, dapper man, with a little "Dewey" mustache. Ruth's brother Ernest was a minister. He had a rustic white birch table on the hill back of their boathouse, where he retired to write sermons. We children were cautioned not to disturb him when we were playing in the sand of their lovely beach or swimming in that delightful cove."

In later years the White's gave the property to Ruth and Howard Davis. After that marriage ended in divorce, Ruth became a house-Mother at Peddie Academy, a residential school for boys. She continued to spend her long Summer vacations at Cottage #19, which had been named "Stonehinge", occasionally bringing some small lonely boy from Peddie; but more often accompanied by faithful friends who became known to us all as regular Summer visitors: Miss Ruth Clements, and the family of Dr. Gorton, I believe from Stamford.

Ruth Davis died around, (I believe) 1965. Her niece, Dorcas Thurston, daughter of Ruth's brother George Vivian White, inherited the property. Dorcas Thurston came to the Island, briefly, every Summer for about five years. She had a business of her own, breeding and raising fine horses, which she could not leave for very long at a time. So, being unable to use the Great Island property, she offered it for sale.

It was quickly purchased in June 1971 by Ronald and Jane Wyman, of Sunapee, N.H. They are the present owners, who with their family of four children have occupied "Stonehinge" for the past ten years. Jane writes: "I am working on information for you, which will be forthcoming."

Editors Comments:

It has been an absorbing and fascinating experience for me to gather this information and learn about our Great Island families and their homes. I anticipate a lot of reactions from everybody: questions, corrections, and especially (I hope!) additions. We need even more to make this section complete. If enough more comes in there can be a "Supplement" to this; and perhaps another section or two, later, such as one containing old photographs, or a complete copy of the "Sunapee Steamers" article.

There has been some dramatic living here on Great Island: a birth, a marriage, a death; destructive fires and storms; much building, and most of all much happiness. The phrase "falling in love" with the Island occurs over and over. We have led rich lives here which we want our children to know about, and to experience, also.

Thank you for trusting me with this search.