

McGregors' Poultry Farm



McGregors'
FRESH EGGS

GRADE A

CAPACITY
18,000 LAYERS

MAINE, N. Y.
DIAL 8-9252

RITA DIANE McGREGOR McKEON , VENLEY COBURN McGREGOR, MARTHA
(Marti) McGREGOR DUMAS, MARGARET (Maggie) ANNE McGREGOR REITZ

11.20.2017

Family history -McGregor's, Chauncey's , Durfee's and Murphy's.

- How and when we got to Maine. p. 7 -21
- Before chickens what? P. 33
- How we got into chicken business, why we left the business
(economics of feed price vs. eggs) p. 33, 82

Stories associated with McGregor Family.

The McGregor's

- James B. Sr. p. 23
- Venley and Clara p. 34 - 41
- Garth and Margaret p. 42 - 50
- McGregor Avenue p. 31
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- “The Barn Before the House” including roles of males and
females in the family. p. 57 - 58
- White Leghorns, why them ! p. 59
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- Dane McGregor 67 -70
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- The Church Bible Study Group with names. p. 86 - 87
- Q. Where is the farm now? A. Town Park, Highway garage, Historical Society building,
the triangle (where the school is), Rented farm land (pumpkins and corn). p. 4,31

“Being McGregor”

in

Maine, NY

1851 – 2017

The Impact of One Family!



Dane,

Garth,

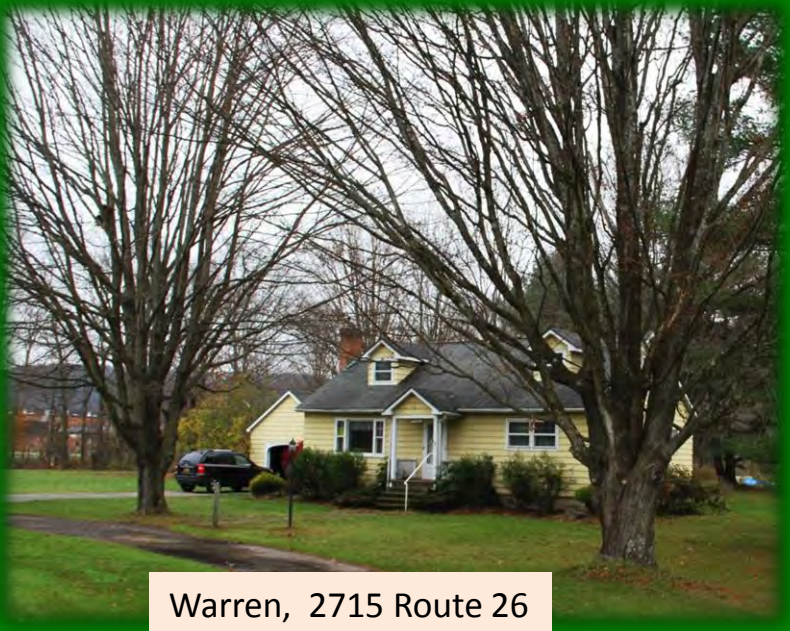
Warren



The Homestead, Venley and Clara's



Dane/Venley, 2746 Route 26



Warren, 2715 Route 26



Garth and Margaret's, 5 Nanticoke Rd.

Dayton, Kenyon, McGregor House in 1900



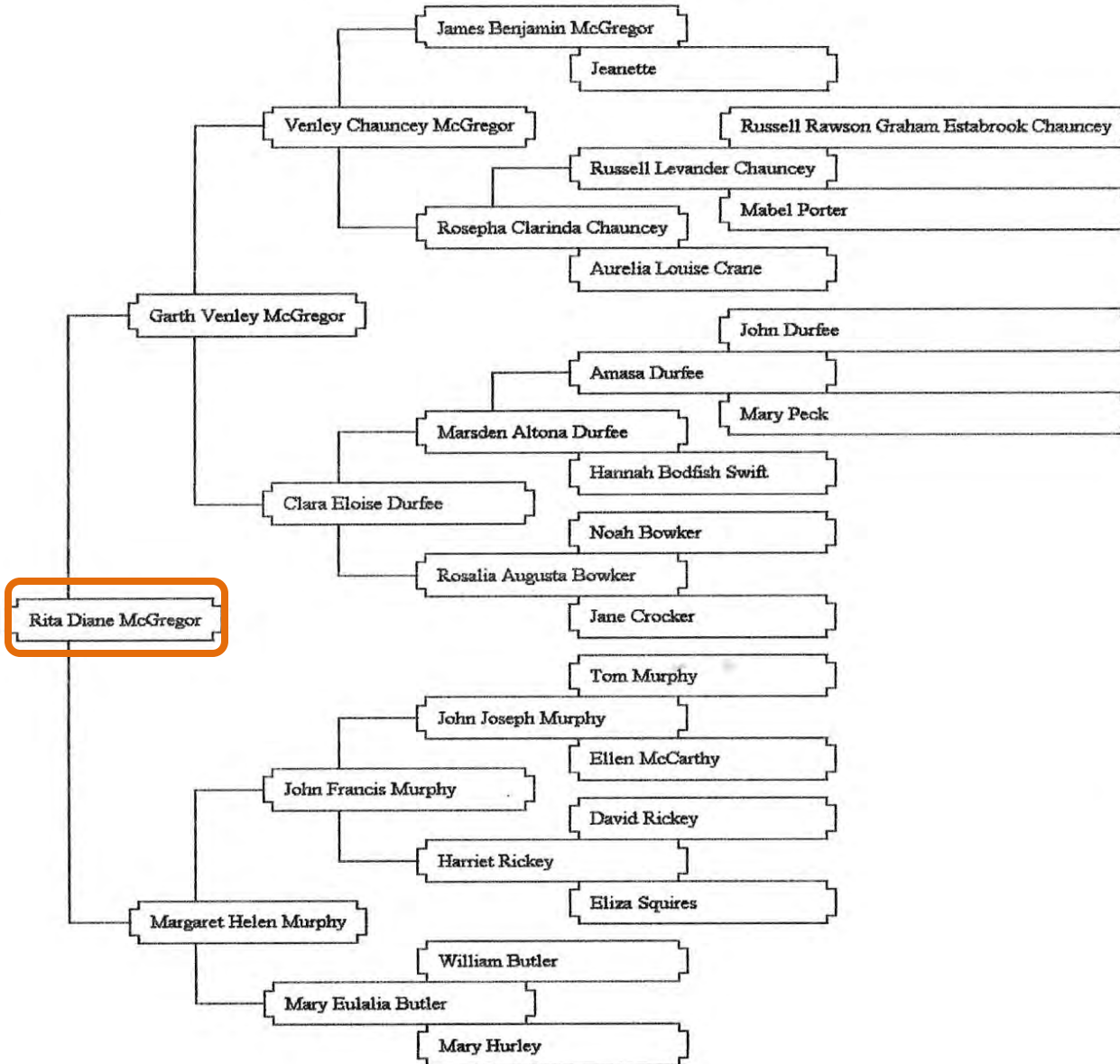
13 Nanticoke Road

Dane's family lived here until they finished their home across the street. 13 Nanticoke was rented to workers until it was sold to the historical society 4.29.1976



Margaret, Garth, Ruth, Dane, Betty, Warren McGregor

Ancestors of Rita Diane McGregor



- McGregor
- Chauncey
- Durfee
- Murphy

- Porter
- Crane
- Peck
- Swift
- Bowker
- Crocker
- McCarthy
- Rickey
- Squires
- Butler
- Hurley

John Durfee

6.16.1762—10.10.1843

m. Mary Peck 12.28.1786 in Dalton NY

12 Children

•John Durfee arrived in Maine from CT
in 1800

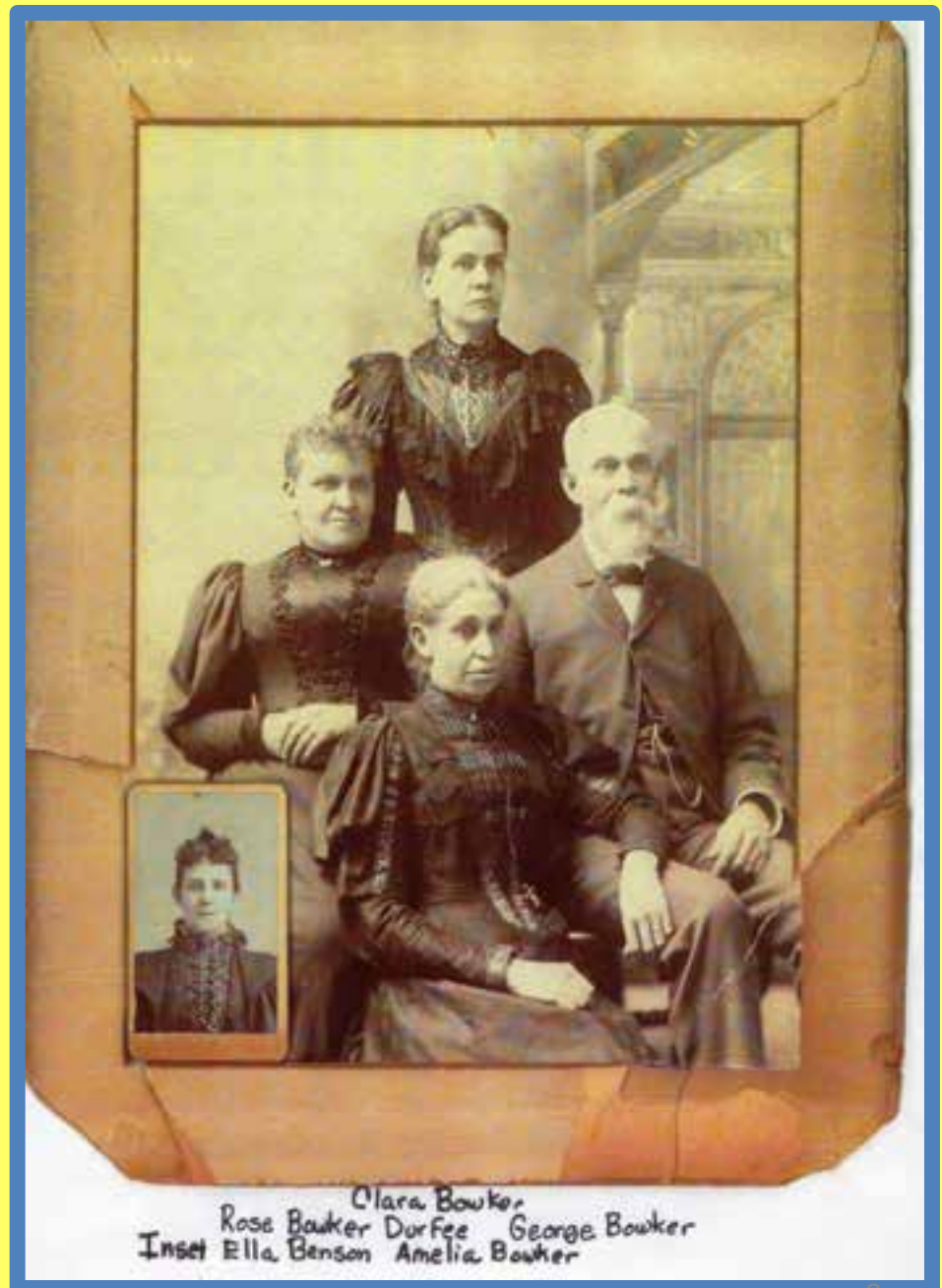
•Served in Revolutionary War in Col.
Ely's Regiment * *

•Ran a sawmill

* *

John Ely of Connecticut served as a captain with the 6th Connecticut Regiment from May to December 1775 and as colonel of a Connecticut militia regiment in 1777. He was taken prisoner on Long Island in December 1777 and not exchanged until December 1780. "

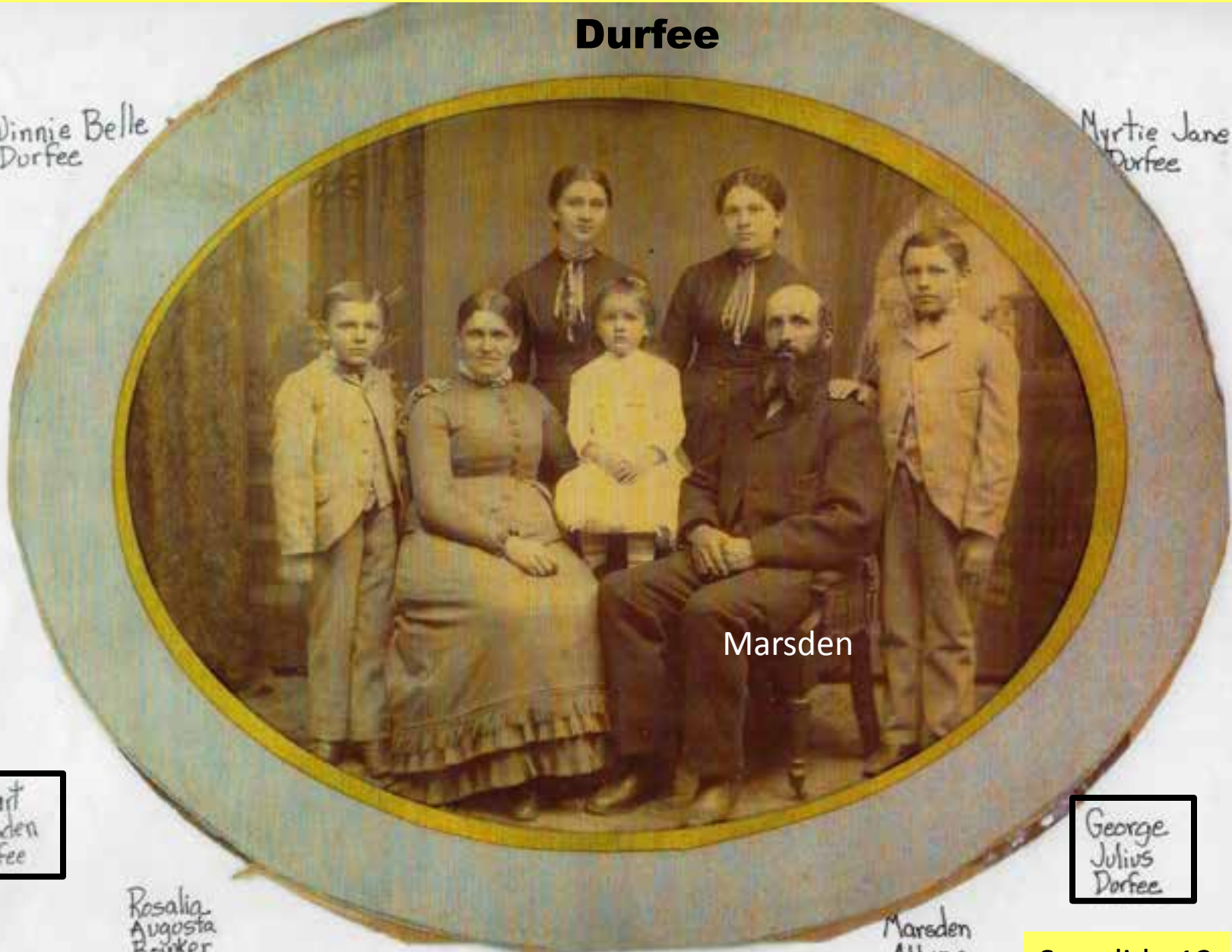
<https://founders.archives.gov/documents/Washington/05-04-02-0313>



Durfee

Winnie Belle Durfee

Myrtie Jane Durfee



Marsden

Herbert Marsden Durfee

George Julius Durfee

Rosalie Augusta Bowker Durfee

Clara Elsie Durfee McGregor

Marsden Altona Durfee

See slide 12



Amsa Durfee
BIRTH 1806
DEATH 9 Jun 1886
BURIAL Maine Cemetery Maine
MEMORIAL ID 77257201

Hannah Durfee
BIRTH 1812
DEATH 2 May 1868



Russell
Fernando
Chauncey

Marsden
Durfee

● **Defenders of the Union**—Maine Howard Post 474 of the Grand Army of the Republic, was an active organization when this photo was taken in front of the Francis Marean store in Maine, site of the present Grange Hall, back in 1890. Clubrooms were upstairs. Today, all are dead and the post is non-existent. Front row, left to right: Aaron Travis, Heeman Gray, John Riordan, Fernando Chancey, William Bronk, Marsen Durfee and William Holbrook. Second row, Horace Butts, Charles Rozelle, James Emerson and an unknown. Third row, James Riddle, Leroy Bostwick, Norman Brown, Joshua Murch, Nelson Baird and Rufus W. Porter. Back, Morgan Yarnes and a Mr. Corwin. Photo is owned by Wesley Rozelle of Maine.



Marsden Altona Durfee
Feb. 17, 1843—Mar. 4, 1915
m. 10.6.1867

Rose A. Bowker *His Wife*
Rosalia Augusta *Bowker* Durfee
1846 – 3.28.1910
Maine Cemetery;
Find A Grave Memorial
22792470, #22792489

Dads writing

Maternal grandfather drove an ox team from Connecticut to Maine N.Y. I was among the first settlers. Also there is record of a will by which an ancestor back in the same family left his wife a number of slaves"



George Julius Durfee
9 Sep 1872 Maine, New York
31 Mar 1958 Endicott, New York
BURIAL Maine Cemetery
MEMORIAL ID # 22792530

Martha Brown Durfee
1875 - 1909
22792655



Herbert Marsden Durfee
16 May 1875 - 1964
BURIAL Maine Cemetery , Maine
MEMORIAL ID 22792549

Cora Eldred Durfee
1872 — 9.29.1929
22792624



Ellis W. Payne
23 Oct 1902 - 1976
BURIAL Maine Cemetery
MEMORIAL ID 22792583

Mildred Durfee Payne
10 Jun 1901 - 1962
MEMORIAL ID 22792606

Farmers and Relatives who had farms north and south
of the McGregor farm see slide 7 & 31



Clara Eloise *Durfee* McGregor

School House—Across From Maine American Legion.

Clara Durfee McGregor; tallest back row

The school was moved across the street and is part of Sylvia Ward's house.

Garth, Dane and Warren went to the Bowers Corners School House Grades 1-8,

Union-Endicott High School grades 9-12

Garth graduated from Cornell University

Chauncey Family of East Maine

Russell Levander Chauncey

b. 11.18.1810

arrives East Maine 1832

m. Aurelia L. Crane

b.10.17.1807

Farmer, Blacksmith, Sawmill

Operator on Bradley Creek

8 Children

Israel Chauncey

b.4.27.1821

Settled East Maine 1854

m. Charlotte Leadbetter 1826

5 Children

Parents:

Russell Rawson Chauncey b. 1775

m. 1802 Mable Porter b. 1779

15 Children

The Chauncey Family of East Maine, Broome Co., New York

The first settlers of the Chauncey name in the town of Maine were two brothers, Russell Levander and Israel Chauncey, both of whom settled in East Maine - Israel on the section known as Oak Hill, about 2½ miles south of East Maine settlement.

(List)

Russel Chauncey came to Maine area before 1832 when he married Aurelia L. Crane of East Maine. They went back to Maryland, Otsego Co., N.Y., until 1834 when he and his wife and 1 year old son, Joseph^{Whiting} returned to East Maine to settle. Russell was a farmer and blacksmith. He also ran the saw mill on Bradley creek at Brackett Hollow crossroads. In 1866 he was living in East Maine. The house was in the "Y" of the road but is now gone. Russell and his wife joined the ^{Congregational} Methodist Church of Maine in 1840 and were active members. About 1870 he gave land to the ^{City} Methodist Church to build across the street from his house in East Maine.

Israel Chauncey (b. 1821) came to East Maine about 1854. His wife, Charlotte Leadbetter, of East Maine, and their two children were living with her brother, Mortimer Leadbetter, in 1855 census. Israel was not with them then. Their youngest son, Fred, had been born in Ill. or Wisc. Israel and his family had gone west from Maryland (or East Maine) but returned to Maine to settle. Israel was a farmer. His home was located on what is now known as Oak Hill, corner of Harrington Road and Farm to Market Road. The house is gone. He and his family were active members of the Methodist Church and in 1876 Israel gave a piece of his property to the Methodist Church for a cemetery and place to build the church known as Oak Hill Methodist Church.

Russell and Israel Chauncey were the sons of Russell Rawson Chauncey (b.1775) married Sept. 1802 to Mable Porter (b. 1779) who had 15 children in all - only 10 surviving to adulthood. Both Russell and Mable Chauncey were born

Chauncey Family Arrives

Charles Chauncey

1592- 1671

He left England in 1637 and arrived in
Plymouth, MA.

He was a practicing physician as well as
minister.

In 1654 he was offered the position as the
second President of Harvard.

All six of his sons were ministers and
graduates of Harvard.

Find A Grave Memorial# 16733651



Catherine *Eyre* Chaunce

1604- 1667

She was the wife of Charles
Chauncey, minister,
physician, and second
President of Harvard.

She was the mother of nine
children.

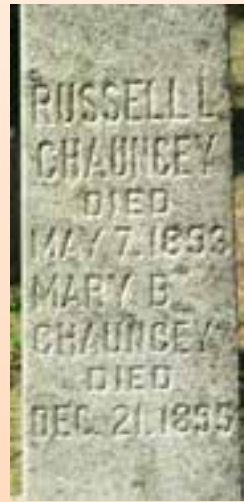
All six of her sons became
minsters.

She immigrated with her husband
to America in 1637.

Find A Grave Memorial# 16733799

Russell Levander Chauncey

B: Nov. 18, 1810
Ghent
Columbia County, NY
D: May 7, 1893
Chenango, NY



Russell Levander Chauncey was the son of Russell Rawson Graham Estabrook Chauncey and Mehitable (Mabel) Porter. He married Aurelia Louisa Crane.

Russell R.G.E. Chauncey left the Shaker colony near the Massachusetts / New York border in New Lebanon shortly after 1800. He moved to an area near the village of Cooperstown in Otsego County.

Two of Mr. Chauncey's children moved to the Southern Tier area. *Russell* Levander Chauncey and his younger brother *Israel* Chauncey. Russell was among the first settlers of East Maine, and Israel was among the first settlers of Oak Hill.

"Chauncey's Hollow", an area known to local residents of *East Maine* was named after Russell L. Chauncey.

Russell Levander and Aurelia L (Crane) Chauncey had at least eight known children. After the death of Russell's wife Aurelia, Russell married a woman named Mary (her maiden name or former married name is unknown). He was 70 and she was 60 when they married so there were no children of the union.

Spouses:

Aurelia Louisa Emeline *Crane* Chauncey (1807 - 1873)

Mary B. Chauncey (____ - 1895)

Find A Grave Memorial# 58008764

East Maine Cemetery

*Israel (Jozzy), Sepha's cousin
 Mother's cousin
 Grandma's ~~uncle~~ brother
 Joseph's*

General Russell F. Chauncey
 (Contributed.) *Jan 21*

Russell Fernando Chauncey, who died Thursday afternoon at the home of his son, Israel O. Chauncey, 49 Arch street, Johnson City, was born in East Maine in 1844. At the outbreak of the Civil War he volunteered in the Fiftieth New York Engineers, Company E. Side by side with his brother Joseph, 10 years his senior, he worked under the enemy's fire to lay the pontoon bridges for the Army of the Potomac, while many a brave engineer fell beside them. Now and again throughout the long night at the forge they shod horses and mended wagons for the next day's march.

Soon after the close of the war he married Louisa Russell. She died in 1913. Their five children survive him.

He was for many years the president of the large Chauncey family reunion which meets yearly in Ideal Park.

The son of Christian parents, he early enlisted as "a soldier of the cross." And always and everywhere he carried high the colors of his Royal Captain. In church and Sunday school and in the prayer meeting he was a leading spirit, and many a person has been uplifted by the example of his unassuming Christian character.

He will be missed by his comrades at their campfires. He will be missed at the prayer meeting and in the church. His kindly greeting and hearty hand-clasp will be missed by friends and neighbors. Most of all his sons and daughters with their families, his one sister, sole survivor of a large family, and the large circle of other relatives, will never cease to mourn the loss of his wise counsel and his loved presence. Nor will their lives ever cease to be influenced by the memory of his Christ-like life.

The funeral will be held at the home of his son, I. O. Chauncey, tomorrow afternoon at 1:30 o'clock and at the Methodist Episcopal Church at 2 o'clock. Rev. J. B. Sweet will officiate. The G. A. R. and Sons of Veterans will attend in a body. Burial will be in Floral Park Cemetery.

H. Clarence Brand

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Russell Fernando Chauncey

B:Feb. 14, 1844

East Maine, NY

D:Jan. 18, 1917

Johnson City, NY

Russell Fernando Chauncey was the son of Russell Levander Chauncey and Aurelia Crane. CIVIL WAR- Enlisted August 12, 1862, Company E, 50th NY Engineers, Army Potomac, served to end of war

Occupation: Farmer, Blacksmith

Russell married Louisa Russell (daughter of Oliver Russell and Esther Van Etten Broas and had six children.

East Maine Cemetery

Find A Grave Memorial# 58008501

The Murphy's

Margaret Murphy (Garth's wife) stated that her ancestors came here from Ireland when the potato famine hit Ireland. [*"The Great Famine or the Great Hunger was a period of mass starvation, disease, and emigration in Ireland between 1845 and 1852. The **Irish famine of 1879** was the last main Irish famine. Unlike the earlier famines, the 1879 famine caused hunger rather than mass deaths, due to changes in the technology of food production, different structures of land-holding ... , income from Irish emigrants abroad which was sent to relatives back in Ireland, and in particular a prompt response of the British government."*]

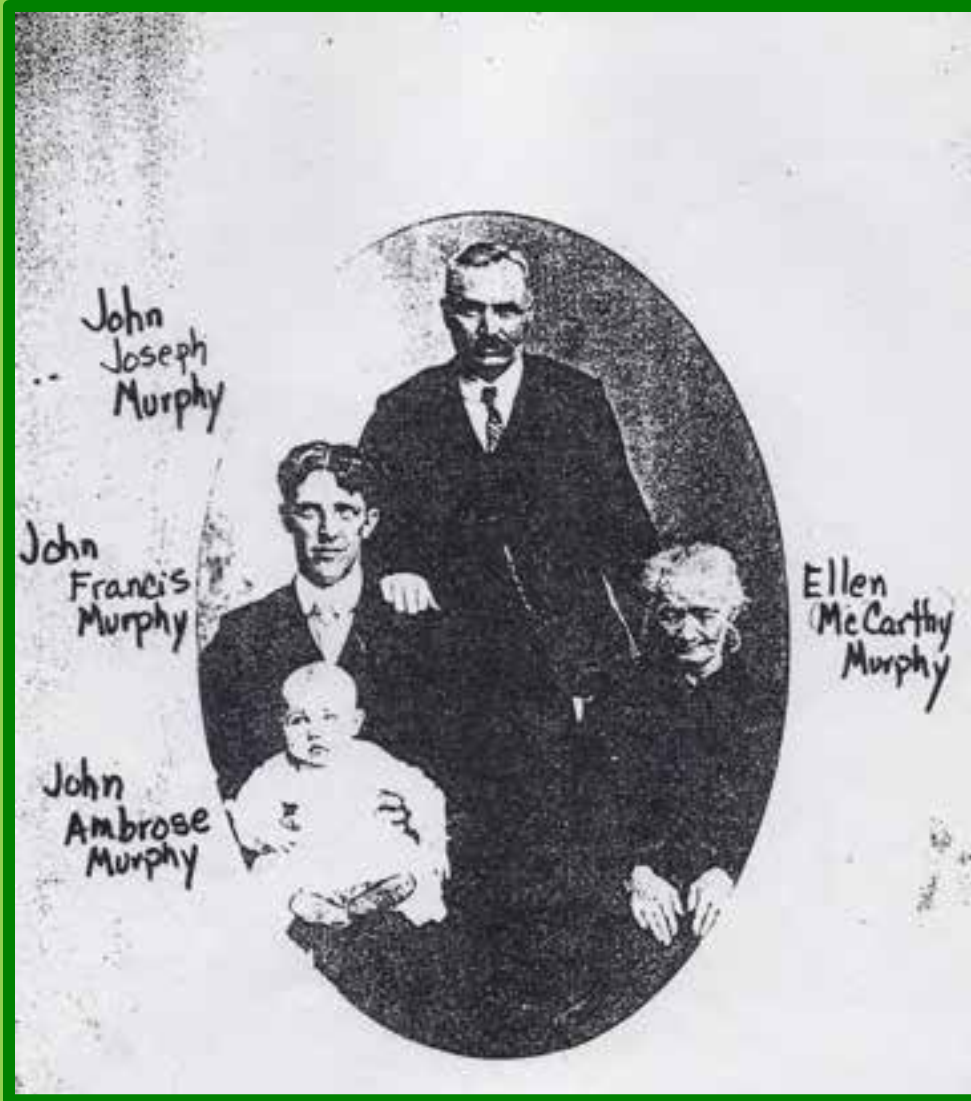
[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Irish_Famine_\(1879\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Irish_Famine_(1879))

They settled in the Little Meadows, PA Irish settlement, moving later to Endicott where employment opportunities were greater. Her father was a carpenter and helped build St. Ambrose Church along with many EJ houses. They lived on McKinley Ave in Endicott. She had five siblings; Ambrose who died in due to complications of Chicken Pox and Shingles and married to Mary Eulalia Butler Murphy 1906 – 1930 see next slide, Tom, Winifred, Harriet and Mary.

Margaret Helen Murphy 1910 – 1998

m. Garth Venley McGregor 1912 – 1995

Murphy Family



Descendants of Thomas Murphy

- 1) Ellen McCarthy Murphy 1821- 1906
m. Thomas 1820 -1880
- 2) John Joseph Murphy 1850 – 1929
m. Harriet L. Rickey 1848 - 1923
- 3) John Francis Murphy 1882 – 1940
- 4) John Ambrose Murphy 1878 – 1926
m. Mary Eulalia Butler Murphy
1906 – 1930
- 4) Margaret Helen Murphy 1910 – 1998
m. Garth Venley McGregor
1912 – 1995



Mary Hurley Butler
Mary Butler died when her
daughter, Mary Eulalia Butler
Murphy, was just two years old.



Mary Eulalia Butler Murphy

1906 - 1930

m. John Ambrose Murphy 1878 - 1926



Mary Murphy Britton
John Ambrose Murphy
Margaret Murphy McGregor (standing)



MURPHY

JOHN J. MURPHY
1850 — 1929
HARRIET L.
HIS WIFE
1848 — 1923

Calvary Cemetery
Johnson City
Find A Grave Memorial
85623865



John J. Murphy was Endicott's police chief from 1908 to 1913. He was succeeded by Daniel Frutiger.

CEMETERY READING OF MAINE VILLAGE CEMETERY,

MAINE, BROOME COUNTY, NY

By [Deborah J. Barnes](#) (updated 1999)

McGREGOR, Betty K	1919		@sh/Warren D McGREGOR. United Methodist Symbol
McGREGOR, Clara E	1880	1961	@sh/Venley C McGREGOR. Nxt James Venley McGREGOR
McGREGOR, Dane H	1914		sh/s Ruth YOUNG McGREGOR @Mason. Mar 02Oct1936
McGREGOR, Garth Venley	1912	1995	sh/s Margaret MURPHY McGRE. @mar. 29NOV1934. Picture of Shield.
McGREGOR, James B	1843	1923	@GAR. Nxt sts Rosepha C McGREGOR
McGREGOR, James R	1885	1924	@btwn sts Rosepha C/Rob Roy McGREGOR
McGREGOR, James Venley	May 26, 1939	May 26, 1939	@only 1 date given in middle. Nxt Clara E/Venley C McGREGOR
McGREGOR, Jennette	41y	07MAR1857	s James McGREGOR @nxt Harriet LINCOLN
McGREGOR, Margaret MURPHY	1910	1998	sh/s Garth Venley McGREGOR @mar. 29NOV1934
McGREGOR, Rob Roy McGREGOR, Rosepha C	1878	1948/43	@btwn sts James R McGREGOR and Mabel A WISWELL.
McGREGOR, Ruth YOUNG	1849	1935	@btwn sts James B/James R McGREGOR.
	1918		sh/s Dane H McGREGOR. @Eastern Star. Mar 02Oct1936.
McGREGOR, Venley C	1880	1955	@sh/Clara E McGREGOR. Nxt James Venley McGREGOR
McGREGOR, Warren D	1917		@sh/Betty K McGREGOR. United Methodist Symbol

James Benjamin McGregor Family

Left to Right
 Mabel McGregor Wiswell
 Rosepha Chauncey McGregor
 Rob Roy
 James B. Jr.
 James B. Sr.
 Venley Chauncey
 Sepha McGregor Tymeson (not included)



James B. Mc Gregor	b. 1843	d. 1928
Rosepha Mc Gregor	1849	1936
Uncle Jim Mc Gregor	1885	1924
Uncle Rob Roy	1878	1943
Aunt Mabel	1881	1956
Aunt Sepha	1888	1965
Uncle Frank	1882	1961
Eltyn Jubbitts	1905	1994
Ethel	1899	1959
Marsden Hurfee	1843	1915
Nore	1846	1919
George	1872	1958

McGregor Ave. got its name from James M. McGregor. He built 3 houses on that street and lived in the house Babcocks now own.

James M. McGregor's widowed Mother moved here from Havertown. His Father died from a lung disease they thought was caused by inhaling felt at a factory he worked at. The widow and children lived on Daugherty Rd. The Mother died shortly after moving here also of lung disease (Consumption is what they called it but other sources state they both died of T.B.)

James fought in the Civil War (3 yrs)
He married Josephine Chauncey - She was a very kind loving woman, short in stature and humped back in old age. They had 5 children - 2 girls - Mabel (Wiswell) Sepha (Symeson) boys, Rob Roy, James B Jr, Venley Chauncey McGregor

James Benjamin McGregor 1843—1923

Residence Maine NY; an 18 year-old Blacksmith.

Enlisted on 8/26/1861 at Maine, NY as a Private.

On 9/7/1861 he mustered into "C" Co. NY 50th Engineers

He was Mustered Out on 9/20/1864 at Elmira, NY

Promotions: * Artificer

Intra Regimental Company Transfers: * 11/1/1861 from company C to company E

He was described at enlistment as:

5' 7", light complexion, blue eyes, black hair

Other Information:

born in Jersey City, NJ

Sources used by Historical Data Systems, Inc.:

- New York: Report of the Adjutant-General

- Research by R. Ross Houston

(c) Historical Data Systems, Inc. @ www.civilwardata.com

He was pensioned, awarded April 26, 1875.

His widow, Rosepha C. McGregor received the pension the 5th of Jan or Jun 1923.

He was born July 15, 1843; enlisted in Maine, Broome, NY; parents James and Jeanette Richardson, discharged Sept 20, 1864 at expiration of term of service

Source: New York, Town Clerks' Registers of Men Who Served in the Civil War, ca 1861-1865

Born: Jul. 15, 1843, Jersey City, Hudson County, New Jersey, USA

Died: Feb. 18, 1923, Maine, Broome County, New York, USA

Spouse:

Rosepha Clarinda *Chauncey* McGregor (1849 - 1935)

Children(5)

Rob Roy McGregor (1878 - 1943)

Venley Chauncey McGregor (1880 - 1955)

Mabel A. *McGregor* Wiswell (1881 - 1956)

James Richardson (1885 – 1924)

Sepha Jeanette *McGregor* Tymeson (1888 - 1965)

Jennette McGregor

-

Mother of James B.
parents James and
Jeanette Richardson

BIRTH 1816

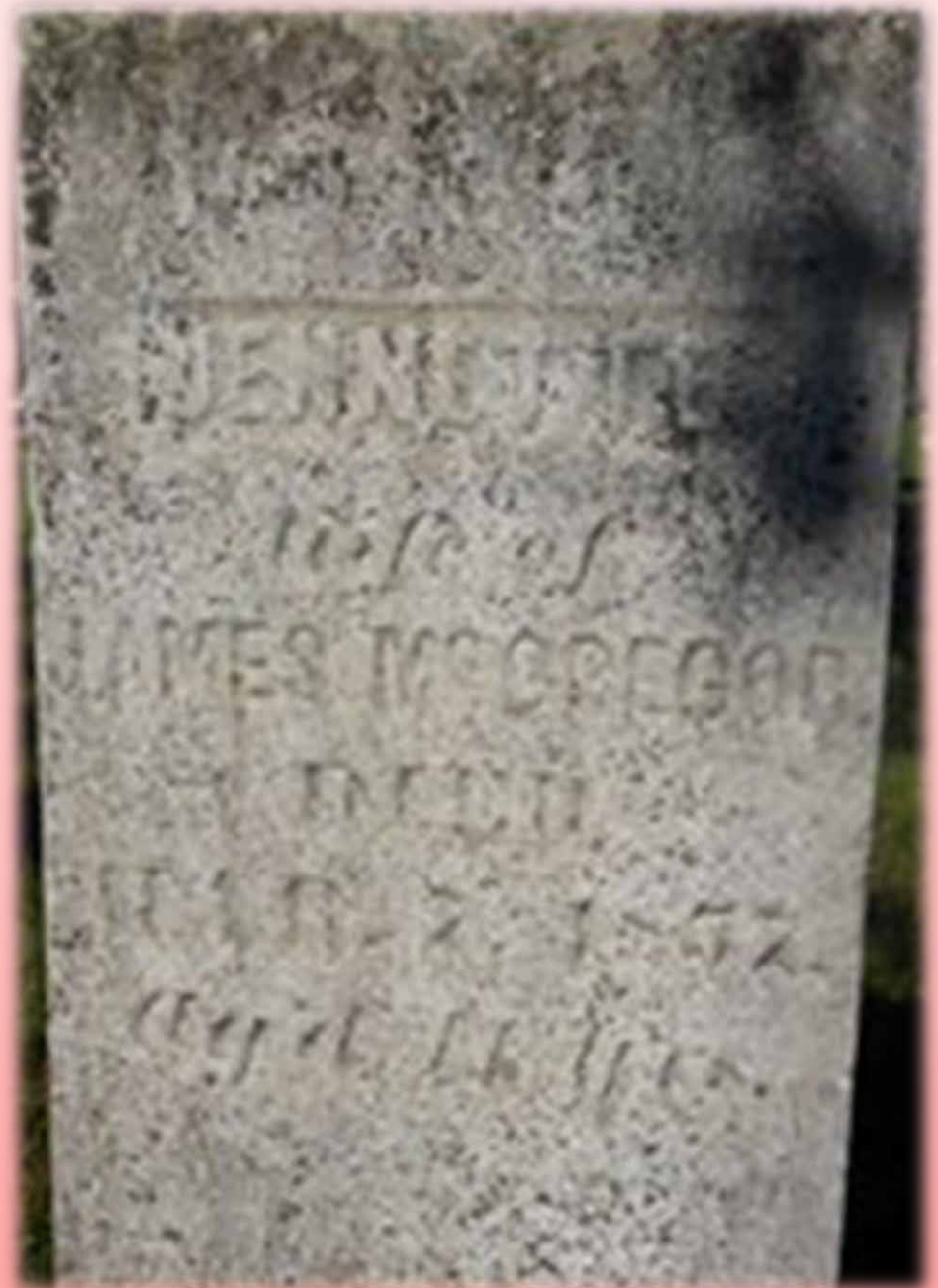
DEATH 7 Mar 1857

BURIAL Maine

Cemetery Maine, Broome

County, New York, USA

MEMORIAL ID 78672435





Jul. 15, 1843
 Jersey City
 Hudson County
 New Jersey, USA
 Feb. 18, 1923
 Maine
 Broome County
 New York, USA

James Benjamin McGregor



Maine Cemetery

Find A Grave Memorial# 70296459

Jan. 23, 1849
 East Maine
 Broome County
 New York, USA
 Nov. 4, 1935
 Maine
 Broome County
 New York, USA



Rosepha Clarinda *Chauncey* McGregor

Parents:

Russell Levander Chauncey (1810 - 1893)
 Aurelia Louisa Emeline *Crane* Chauncey (1807 - 1873)

Siblings:

Infant Chauncey (____ - 1851)
 Joseph Whiting Chauncey (1833 - 1872)
 Jane S. *Chauncey* Updegrove (1836 - 1889)
 Bessie A. *Chauncey* Russell (1839 - 1898)
 Russell Fernando Chauncey (1844 - 1917)
 Louisa Aurelia *Chauncey* Johnson (1846 - 1916)

Find A Grave Memorial# 70296474



“Myra Dudley (left) and Mabel McGregor were good friends and neighbors who grew up on McGregor Avenue. Here, they take time for a visit while they knit. Myra was the daughter of Dr. Dudley, and Mabel was the daughter of James McGregor, a carpenter, whose brother, Venley McGregor, started the family poultry business.” Images of America Maine and The Nanticoke Valley. SL

JAMES B. MCGREGOR OBIT

Boon-1843

1923 MAINE

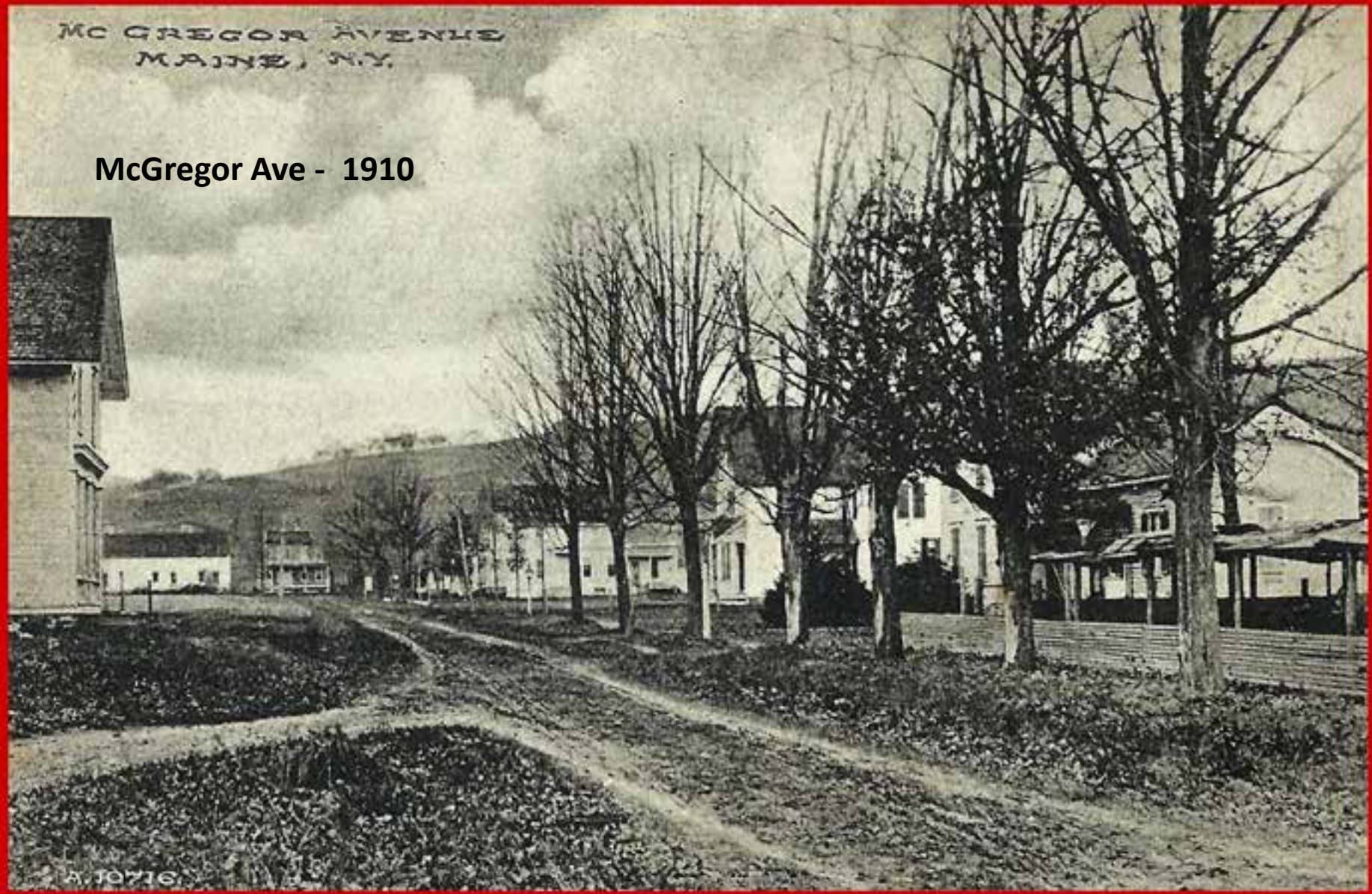
Maine, Feb. 23—The funeral of James B. McGregor, who died Sunday afternoon from an attack of influenza, was held Wednesday afternoon, the Rev. Mr. Flook in charge. Burial was in Maine cemetery. Mr. McGregor, who was a Civil War veteran, was a life long resident of Maine. He is survived by his wife and two daughters; Miss Mabel McGregor and Mrs. F. H. Tymeson of Maine; and three sons, J. C. McGregor of Maine, Robert McGregor of Westover and James McGregor of Albany.

An Old Soldier Mustered Out.

Taps have sounded for the last time for Jimmy MacGregor, an old soldier of Maine village in Broome county. The first man we had to do a job for us after we moved to the farm in 1889 was Jimmy. He did some cement work for us on a cistern, and he did it well, as he did everything entrusted to him. When the Civil War came on, Jimmy MacGregor was one of the first to respond, enlisting in the famous 50th New York Engineers. Very few of that organization are left now, but those who know say there was no better soldier in the command than this wiry, active man from Maine. In later years since he has not been able to work at his trade, Jimmy MacGregor has been most interested in his chickens, of which he had a fine flock of White Leghorns. But now he has gone to answer to roll call over yonder. A little handful of veterans and many friends went as far as they could with him last Wednesday. Then they came back to listen for their own call for "Lights Out!" We are glad we ever knew Jimmy MacGregor. He was a good soldier and a man that will be missed.

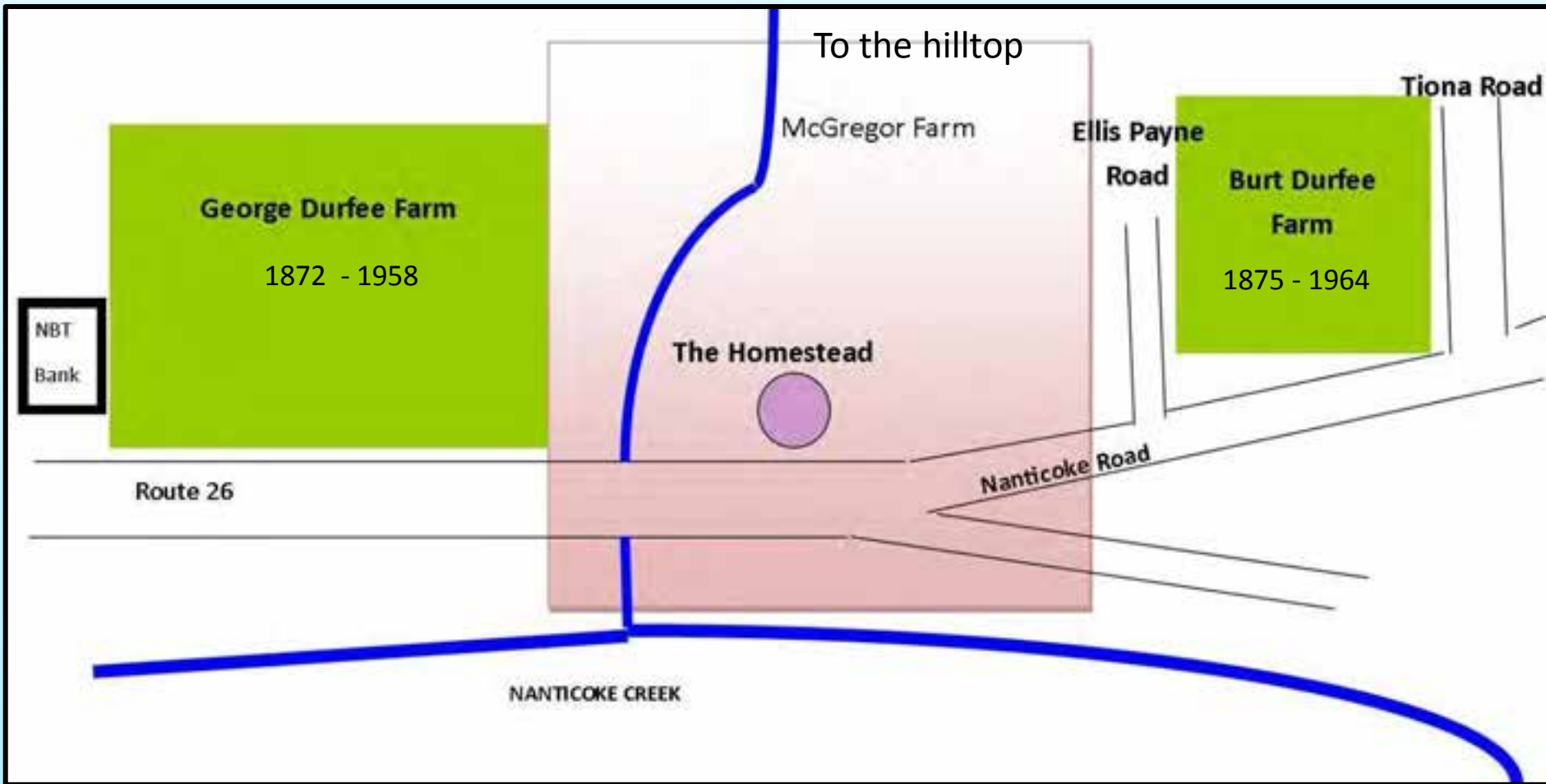
MC GREGOR AVENUE
MAINE, N.Y.

McGregor Ave - 1910



“Using the private road originally laid out in 1816, this road was officially surveyed and designated a public highway in April of 1817. Named after the James McGregor family who settled in Maine in 1851.” SW 14 (1870), 20 (1880) and 24 (1875) on the north side of the street were built by James McGregor.³¹

The McGregor Farm starts with Venley and Clara



**The original Venley McGregor farm started small in 1907 with 54 acres and grew.
The neighboring Durfee farms were relatives.**

Not to scale

Before Chickens - What?

Venley, the second child of James B. and Rosepha Chauncey McGregor was born in 1880 and lived in Maine, NY his whole life. He married Clara Durdee McGregor on March 7, 1901. In 1907 they purchased the *Homestead* on Nanticoke Road along with 54 acres with the intention to be farmers. He was informed that the soil was poor and perhaps the only vegetable that would grow there was horseradish, *they* were wrong. Within a few years he developed a sales route extending from Lisle to Endicott. This route took many days to travel and he sold both vegetables along with products from cows, sheep, chickens and even a few eggs. Slowly the chicken business became the primary use of the farm. By 1935 Venley and Clara were invited to Washington D.C. to meet with President Roosevelt and his wife Eleanor to be honored as a *Master Farmer* from New York State. Other poultry businesses were located in the Nanticoke Valley including those of Coburn Young on Lewis Street and the Woodward's of Union Center however they were much smaller. Venley worked alongside of his three sons and each had their own house and property on the McGregor farm.



Venley and Clara's Family 1919

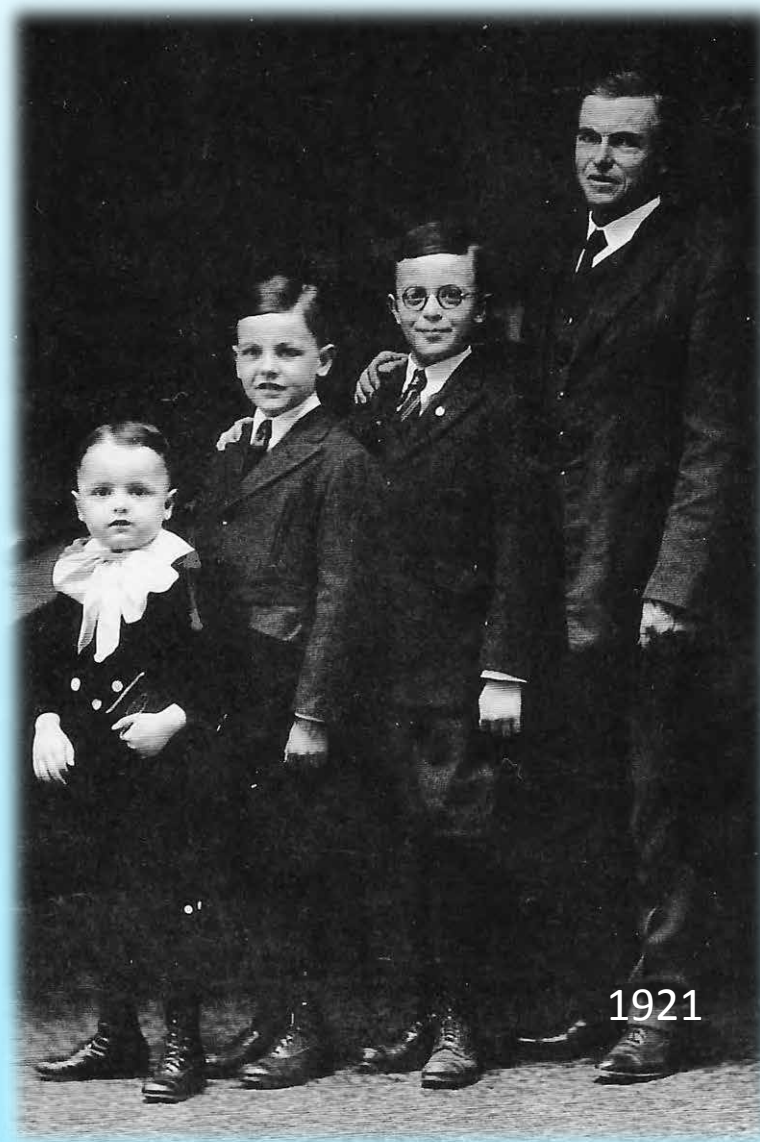


Family of Venley Chauncey McGregor
Dane Herbert McGregor December 10, 1919
Venley Chauncey McGregor
Ruth Tibbits Whittaker
Garth Venley McGregor
Clara Durfee McGregor
Warren Durfee McGregor

1919



Venley
In
1886
Six
years
old



Venley with Garth, Dane and Warren



Clara Elsie
Durfee McGregor
Mar. 9, 1880
Maine New York,
Mar. 21, 1961
Endicott, NY
Find A Grave
Memorial# 78768754



Clara Durfee McGregor
with Garth Venley McGregor
1912

The Homestead

Clara McGregors sister Winifred Tibbitts and her husband were killed when they drove their horse's buggy across railroad tracks and were struck by a train (an express flyer that was a half hr. late.) They left 8 children. The youngest was Ruth Tibbitts at 2 yrs of age. Venley & Clara had no children of their own so they raised Ruth as their own. Soon Garth was born in 1912 then Dane in 1914 then Warren in 1917 -
All 3 were born in the homestead in the bedroom on the first floor. Ruth married the hired hand at age 17.



Venley Chauncey McGregor and Clara Durdee McGregor Married March 7, 1901



“V.C. McGregor was honored as a NYS Master Farmer at Cornell University in **1935**. He and his wife, Clara, later were honored in Washington, D.C. by President Franklin Roosevelt and his wife, Eleanor.” 37

Venley Chauncey McGregor Married
2/22/1880 → 1955 75 yrs Mar. 7 1901

Clara Durfee McGregor
3/6/1880 → 1961 81 yrs

They bought homestead Dec 30 1907 and lived there until they died. Venley died of kidney failure Clara died of old age dementia & a broken heart

Venley and Clara were prosperous farmers and bought more property as time went on. When they purchased the homestead in 1907 it included 54 acres of land, a building behind the house, and the three barns that were connected to each other. The third barn was a cheese factory across the road. It was moved later on ^{to its site} and was torn down in 2000 due to - a wind storm blew part of the roof off and water damage further rotted an already unsafe structure. Mike Mc Killigan's son Jim tore down the barn along with the long hen house. The long hen house came down very easily due to its rotted condition. The 3 story barn took a long time to tear down & it its beam construction & size.



Warren, Dane, Garth and Venley McGregor

Venley
And Clara
with
"special"
birthday
cake



Clara
March 21, 1961

Venley C. McGregor 1955

1955

● State of New York lost one of its key poultry farmers and we lost a good neighbor Saturday night when Venley C. McGregor of Maine died in Ideal Hospital at the age of 75.

Mr. McGregor was a native of our "Little Maine" to distinguish it from the State of Maine and was born of sturdy pioneer Scots stock.

In a recent conversation with a Bulletin representative, Mr. McGregor said his sons were responsible for the success of the McGregor chick and poultry farm. Unusual in country or city living is the fact the four McGregor sons have never worked for anyone but their Dad and on the home farm.

We didn't argue with Mr. McGregor but the thought struck us that the farm

and the sons would not be here today if it had not been for Mr. and Mrs. McGregor.

Mr. McGregor was a quiet man but nothing in the valley escaped his notice. He took a keen interest in everything that went on round him and he, as the old saying has it, "always went his own gait." The farm is operated in common but each son's home is built on a personal plot carved out of the farm. Mr. McGregor knew the history of his ancient clan too well to overlook the McGregor individualism. Hence the completely separate home lots.

We extend our sympathy to his widow and the McGregor children and grandchildren over the passing of the head of the family and a grand man.

McGREGOR — Mrs. Clara E. McGregor, 81, widow of the late Venley C. McGregor, of Maine, N. Y. died at Kuntz Nursing Home, Marie St., Oakdale Tuesday at 6:30 a. m. after a long illness. She is survived by three sons, Garth V. McGregor, Maine, Dane H. McGregor, Maine, Warren D. McGregor, Maine; 15 grandchildren; a great grandson; a brother, Herbert (Burt) Durfee, Maine, a niece Mrs. Richard (Ruth) Whitaker, Greene; also several other nieces, nephews, and cousins. She was a member of the Maine Federated Church and the Missionary Society of the Church, and a lifelong resident of the Maine area. The body was removed to the Allen Memorial Home, 511-513 E. Main St., Eddcott where the funeral will be held at 2 p. m. Thursday. The Rev. John W. Buono, pastor of the Maine Federated Church will officiate. Burial will be in Maine Cemetery, Maine, N. Y. The family will receive friends at the memorial home Wednesday from 7 to 9 p. m.

Our Cousins



Front Row: Nancy, Stan, Mary Lou
Middle Row: Clara and Venley McGregor
Back Row: Garth & Margaret, Ruth & Dane, Betty & Warren

Venley C. McGregor and Clara Durfee McGregor had three sons: Garth, Dane and Warren. Clara wanted her sons to have distinctive names that weren't very common. Each of the sons joined Venley's business, and built homes on the farm property. Garth married Margaret, Dane married Ruth, his sweetheart from the Town of Maine, and Warren married Betty who came from the Endicott area. Garth and Margaret had 8 children who are the authors of this book. Dane and Ruth had 4 children: Nancy, Stanley, Venley and Glenn. Warren and Betty adopted three children: Jimmy, Linda and Brenda. Those 15 children grew up on the farm. Each age group of cousins had a nucleus of a "play group" right there on the farm property.

Clara and Venley
Fifteen Children Grand Children

Garth and Margaret (8):
Mary Louise, Margaret Anne,
Martha Elaine, David Garth ,Rita
Diane, Phyllis Clara, Robert John
And Carol Jean.

Dane and Ruth (4):
Nancy, Stanley, Venley Coburn
and Glenn

Warren and Betty (3):
Jimmy, Linda and Brenda

Descendants of Garth Venley McGregor

Generation No. 1

1. GARTH VENLEY³ MCGREGOR (*VENLEY CHAUNCEY², JAMES BENJAMIN¹*) was born May 16, 1912 in Maine, NY, and died September 09, 1995 in Endicott NY. He married MARGARET HELEN MURPHY November 29, 1934 in Endicott NY, daughter of JOHN MURPHY and MARY BUTLER.

More About GARTH VENLEY MCGREGOR:

Fact 1: 1957, Charter Member of Maine Kiwanis Club

Children of GARTH MCGREGOR and MARGARET MURPHY are:

2. i. MARY LOUISE⁴ MCGREGOR, b. March 22, 1940, Binghamton New York.
3. ii. MARGARET ANNE MCGREGOR, b. November 15, 1942, Binghamton New York.
4. iii. MARTHA ELAINE MCGREGOR, b. March 27, 1945, Binghamton New York.
- iv. DAVID GARTH MCGREGOR, b. June 12, 1946, Binghamton New York; m. JUDY WEILAND, September 09, 1989, Maine, NY.
5. v. RITA DIANE MCGREGOR, b. October 20, 1947, Binghamton New York.
6. vi. PHYLLIS CLARA MCGREGOR, b. April 14, 1949, Binghamton New York.
7. vii. ROBERT JOHN MCGREGOR, b. January 22, 1951, Binghamton New York.
8. viii. CAROL JEAN MCGREGOR, b. August 12, 1954, Binghamton New York.

Margaret Helen Murphy McGregor



Wedding of Garth and Margaret Helen Murphy. Best Man Lester Rawlins, Maid of Honor Harriet Murphy Kelly November 29, 1934

She picked enough black berries to make 17.5 cans. Garth's favorite pie was blackberry pie.

Garth and Margaret – The Beginning

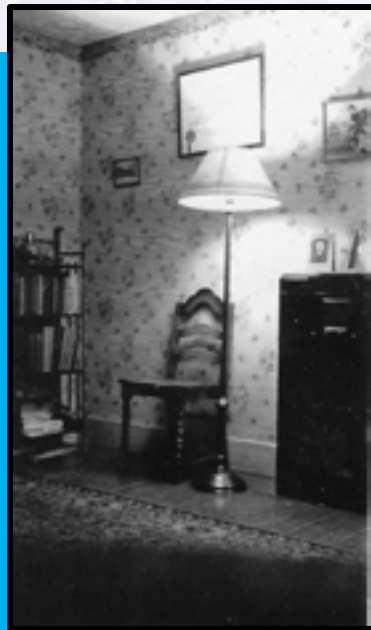
Garth and Margaret Murphy McGregor met at a party. As Mom said, “The Cornell boys were having a party in Maine.” I don’t know how Margaret got invited. Garth was attending the College of Agriculture at Cornell University. His date that night was Alice Pitcher. Alice lived at Pitcher Mills, which has been restored by the Town of Maine’s Historical Society. Alice also attended Cornell and later married Bob Blatchley who worked for many years as a 4-H agent in Cortland County. Uncle Tom (Dumas) succeeded Bob when he retired. Another Maine resident who attended Cornell around that time was Dick Rozelle. Garth’s father, Venley, was one of those people who liked to learn new things. When Garth was taking poultry science classes, Venley occasionally went on field trips with him.

Meeting at that party began Garth and Margaret’s life long romance. Margaret attended Garth’s fraternity parties at Alpha Zeta. Both Garth and Margaret were always eager to return to Cornell whether it was for a Sunday drive, Farm and Home Week or Cornell’s Alumni Weekend. They maintained their friendships with Garth’s fraternity brothers and their spouses. Reunions and meetings at A.Z. were events that were looked forward to. They had great fun meeting old friends and making new acquaintances.

Graduation for Garth was in June of 1934. He and Margaret got married in November. What was that wedding like? Garth was raised Methodist and converted to Catholicism when Mary Lou, his first daughter, made her First Communion. They both received that sacrament on the same day. Couples with “mixed” religious beliefs could not be married in the Catholic Church proper. Garth and Margaret’s wedding took place in the rectory of St. Ambrose Church. Garth wore a suit; Margaret wore a deep red dress. It was common in those days to be married in a dress that you could wear again. For their honeymoon, they took a train to New York City.

For several years they lived on the second floor of the house in which Garth was born and raised. Margaret taught and Garth worked with his dad and two brothers, Dane and Warren on the farm. The farm at that time not only had chickens; there also were some cows. In fact, when Venley C. McGregor first started farming, he thought he would be a “truck” farmer raising vegetables and trucking them to town. As the farm business grew and changed, V.C. McGregor and Sons found producing and delivering eggs to be the best way to earn money in the Triple Cities market. At one time, they had the largest poultry farm in the Triple Cities area.

Margaret said that she learned how to cook and bake many dishes from Garth’s mother, Clara. Clara McGregor wasn’t only a good cook. She loved her flowers and once got a prize at the N.Y.S. Fair for her zinnias. Grandma Clara would be very proud of the flower gardens that her granddaughter, Rita, has developed. Rita now owns the farmhouse that Garth was born and raised in. Her children, Chrissy, Katy, Shaun and Scott kept the McGregor spirit and heritage alive as they grew up on the McGregor homestead.



Second floor
apartment



All the brothers
started their
marriages in this
apartment at The
Homestead

There weren't many pictures of Margaret's family or possessions to be passed on but this much we do know. Margaret was born in Endicott in 1910. Her maternal grandmother was a teacher in an Irish settlement in Pennsylvania. As you trace family careers, you will realize that several McGregor/Murphy descendants have followed in that endeavor.

Margaret had a strong love for learning and also made and kept friends well. Throughout her life, she kept the same close-knit group of girlfriends that she made in elementary school. This bright woman did 7th and 8th grade in one year. After graduating from Union-Endicott High School at the age of 17, she went to Union-Endicott's Training School. At that time you could begin teaching after just one year of Training School if you taught in a rural school and took Extension classes - one per semester-and did coursework each summer. Margaret taught for 3 years at Tracy Creek School (Vestal #5), which was a one-room schoolhouse. Her salary was significant at the time - \$28. per week. Her class consisted of 39 boys (2 were 16) and 2 girls. She taught at least three of Garth's cousins who lived there: Roger, Ralph and Winnie Webster. Margaret completed her teacher's education and earned permanent certification by attending Oneonta State College for one year. After teaching 3 years in Tracy Creek, she taught in Endicott. Jennie F. Snapp was her principal; Margaret had a lot of respect for her.

Martha (Marti) McGregor Dumas

Gardening on the Farm

Summer at our house before Mom went back teaching was three months of gardening, planting, weeding, picking, and canning vegetables and fruits, as well as making jams and jellies from wild strawberries, chokecherries, and Grandma's currants.

Late in spring or in early summer, Dad and Grandpa bought cabbage plants and planted them in the garden with little waxed paper tents over them to protect them from frost. We planted string beans, cranberry beans, carrots, peas, sweet corn, spinach, Swiss chard, kale, leaf lettuce (Bibb), potatoes, tomato plants, cucumbers, beets, radishes, and pumpkins. If we promised to keep weeding those crops, we were allowed to plant a row of flowers, too. I remember marigolds, bachelor buttons, and anemones as some of my favorites.

Grandma had asparagus and rhubarb patches, which came up every year and were kept picked so they would not go to seed. Mom made strawberry and rhubarb pies, while Grandma used rhubarb along with wintergreen in her wintergreen and rhubarb stomach remedy. Early in the summer, we ate the Bibb lettuce with sugar rolled up inside it. We also had the beet greens, cucumbers, carrots, radishes, and new potatoes. We picked and ate the wild strawberries that grew by the "big creek" as well as blackberries and raspberries that grew over in the woods.

Toward the end of the season, we started picking both kinds of beans, the corn, and the pumpkins. The cabbage heads had been tied with string in the middle of the summer when they were heading out. As soon as they were big enough, the heads were cut from their roots.

Growing Up McGregor

Among my earliest memories of growing-up on the McGregor farm is the awesome pride I felt being a McGregor. I always felt totally blessed to have the wonderful parents we had. Mom and Dad never argued and were totally devoted to each other. What a wonderful love they shared to the very end and what a wonderful example they were to all of us in so many ways.

When people would ask Mom how she ever did it with eight children, she would always reply with a smile on her face, "I couldn't have done it without Daddy!" Dad shared in the care giving and the parenting and was always there for us making each of us feel loved and special in our own way. In the beginning years of childrearing Mother was a "stay at home Mom". She breastfed all of us, except for Mary Lou, and she wished that she had breastfed her. That was a time when women were encouraged to bottle-feed instead of breastfeed; Mom wished she had nursed her. Mother also used to comment that she "spoiled us all"...but we didn't think so.



Rita

1958



Garth Venley McGregor

Garth V. McGregor of Maine, N.Y.

Garth V. McGregor, 83, of Maine, N.Y. passed away at Ideal Living Center, Endicott, Saturday, September 9, 1995 at 7:30 a.m. He is survived by his wife of 61 years, Margaret H. (Murphy) McGregor, Maine, N.Y.; six daughters and sons-in-law, Mary Louise and Larry Glave, Weir, Tx., Margaret Anne and Paul Reitz, Barton, N.Y., Martha and Thomas Dumas, Cortland, N.Y., Rita Stanley, Maine, N.Y., Phyllis and John Clossner, Glens Falls, N.Y., Carol Palermo, Marietta, Ga.; two sons and daughters-in-law, David Garth and Judy McGregor, Endicott, Robert John and Pat McGregor, Tully, N.Y.; 16 grandchildren; seven great grandchildren; two brothers and sisters-in-law, Dane and Ruth McGregor, Warren and Betty McGregor, all of Maine, N.Y.; several nieces, nephews and cousins. A member of the Most Holy Rosary Church, Maine, N.Y. where he served as Lector, Trustee and Eucharistic Minister. A charter member and past president and treasurer of Maine Kiwanis Club. Former partner of V.C. McGregor & Sons Poultry Farm of Maine, N.Y. A graduate of Cornell University and a member of Alpha Zeta fraternity. A member of the Shirts and Skirts, and Shuffling Shoes Square Dance Clubs.

Funeral services will be held Tuesday, at 9:15 a.m. at the Allen Memorial Home, 511-513 E. Main St., Endicott followed by a Funeral Mass at 10 a.m. at Most Holy Rosary Church. Burial will be in Maine Cemetery, Maine, N.Y. The family will receive friends at the Allen Memorial Home Monday 2-4 and evening 7-9. Expressions of sympathy in his name may be made to the CHOW Barrel at Most Holy Rosary Church or the Town of Maine Fire Department, Maine, N.Y.

May 16, 1912

Maine
New York

Sep. 9, 1995

Endicott
New York

Find A Grave

Memorial # 78448636

Feb. 1, 1910

Endicott
New York

Feb. 9, 1998

Maine
New York

Find A Grave

Memorial# 78448649

Margaret Helen *Murphy* McGregor

Margaret H. (Murphy) McGregor of Maine, N.Y.

Margaret H. (Murphy) McGregor, 88, of Maine, N.Y. died at Wilson Memorial Hospital after a brief illness on Monday, February 9, 1998. Predeceased by her husband, Garth V. McGregor in 1995. Survived by six daughters and five sons-in-law, Mary Louise and Larry Glave, Weir, Tex., Margaret Anne and Paul Reitz, Barton, N.Y., Martha and Tom Dumas, Cortland, N.Y., Rita Stanley, Maine, N.Y., Phyllis and John Closson, Glens Falls, N.Y., Carol and Timothy Squibb, Blue Ridge, Ga.; two sons and daughters-in-law, David Garth and Judy McGregor, Maine, N.Y., Robert John and Pat McGregor, Fuquay-Varina, N.C.; several grandchildren and great grandchildren; one sister, Harriet Kelly, Binghamton, N.Y.; several nieces and nephews. She was a member of Most Holy Rosary Church, Maine, a retired English teacher at Maine-Endwell Schools, a member of the Shirt and Skirts and Shuffling Shoes Square Dance Clubs, an active bridge player. She enjoyed participating in the Lyceum programs at Binghamton University.

Funeral services will be held Thursday 9:15 a.m. from the Allen Memorial Home, 511-513 E. Main St., Endicott and at 10 a.m. from Most Holy Rosary Church where a Funeral Mass will be offered. Burial will be in Maine Cemetery, Maine, N.Y. The family will receive friends at the memorial home Wednesday 2 to 4 and 7 to 9 p.m. Expressions of sympathy in Margaret's memory may be made to the Chow Barrel at Most Holy Rosary Church.



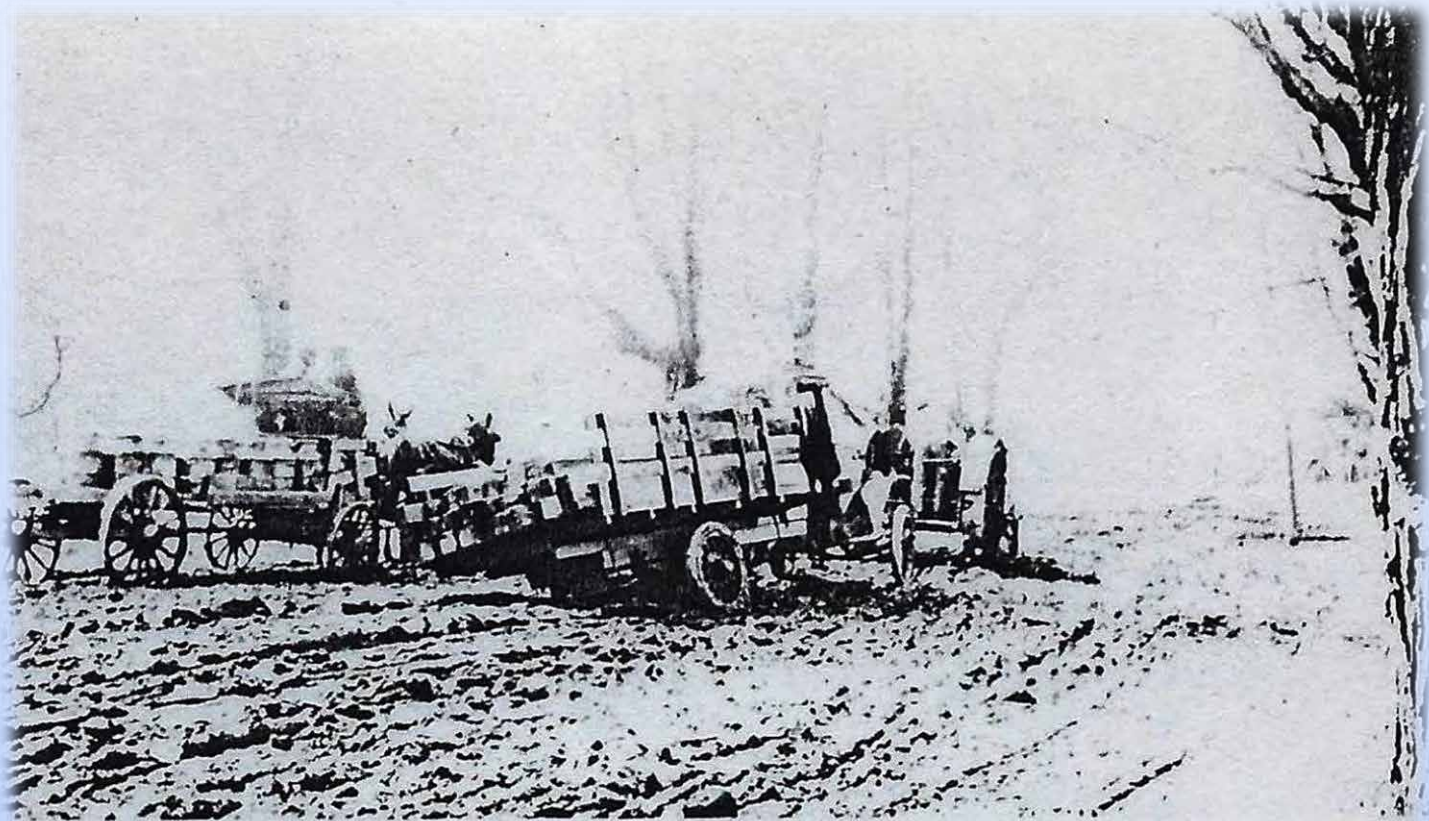


Garth
Venley
and
Dane
Herbert
McGregor



(with
Ruth
Tibbits
Whittaker)





Just south of driveway 1920

Sam Dence's truck stuck in mud on Rt. 26
in front of egg room. Steel wheel tractor
pulling truck out. Notice milk truck
passing by, possibly going to creamery



The Homestead

First house to have electricity in Maine

First bathroom in Maine

Irrigated fields across the road to grow vegetables later to water the many flocks of chickens in small coops across the road from Homestead (pipes under Rt 26)

Huge water storage tank in Homestead cellar (remains there) to supply water for farm - Fire Co. got water from M. Geyers - as did people in Maine whose wells went dry.



Homestead Built Circa 1854

Putting the Barn Before the House

Women and Family Farming
in Early Twentieth-Century
New York



Grey Osterud

Grey Osterud;
*Putting the Barn Before the
House, Women and Family
Farming in Early Twentieth-
Century New York,*
Cornell University Press,
2012,
ISBN 978-0-8014-5028-0
Pages 126 -132

Excerpts pp. 126 & 127
next slide

Stepping Back to Make Room for "Her Boys"

Gender relations in the McGregor family exemplify the shifts that occurred as a family enlarged its farm operation and became an intergenerational partnership. Clara Durfee McGregor, who had grown up on a small farm in the Nanticoke Valley, worked closely with her husband, Venley, during the decade before they had children. Married in 1901 when both were twenty-one, they started out with a diversified farm on a relatively small plot of land near Maine village. They had a market garden and dairy herd as well as a poultry flock, and they peddled their produce in Endicott and nearby towns. Then they specialized in poultry, raising their own hens, selling eggs wholesale, and breeding chicks to supply women with barnyard flocks. The McGregors were recognized as progressive farmers both regionally and nationally. Venley was chosen a Master Farmer in 1934; the next year they went to Washington, D.C., for the award ceremony at the White House. Clara noted in her diary that she was "very proud and happy to be part of it" when she and other wives of Master Farmers had dinner with Eleanor Roosevelt at Cornell in February 1937. Venley emphasized the familial character of their enterprise when he was interviewed by the *American Agriculturist*: "Whatever success we have had looks small to us compared to the joy of having our boys come back and go into business with us."²

When I interviewed two of the McGregors' sons and their wives about Clara's role on the farm, her sons saw the situation differently than her daughters-in-law did.³ The openness with which they debated the matter was equally striking. The middle son, Dane, declared that having children "was the big want of her life" before she took in her orphaned niece and then had three sons of her own.⁴ Margaret, who had married Dane's elder brother, Garth, said that "It was 'her men' that she talked about—her three boys and the father—the men, 'my men,' you know." Ruth, Dane's wife, agreed that Clara always spoke of what "the men" wanted, needed, or would like; she "would do anything for her 'boys.'" When I asked them to describe Clara's work, Dane began, "She helped some with the chores and with the chickens, but primarily she was a housewife and mother." I then inquired what specific farm tasks she performed because I knew that some women who worked alongside their husbands outdoors nearly every day were described by the menfolk as "helping" them. He replied, "Well, I remember her going out, when we had chickens on range, going out and watering the chickens, feeding them, and so on, before we got big enough

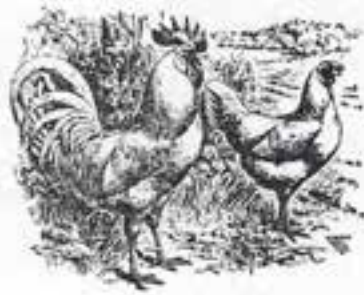


Figure 7. McGregor family, Maine, New York, ca. 1934. Seated in center: Clara Durfee McGregor and Venley McGregor. Standing behind (left to right): Warren McGregor, Ruth Tibbets, Margaret Murphy McGregor, her husband Garth McGregor, Ruth Reese McGregor, her husband Dane McGregor. Seated in front: three McGregor grandchildren. Photographer unknown. (Courtesy of the Nanticoke Valley Historical Society.)

that the men were doing it. She worked with the baby chicks some, when the hatches came off, and helped clean up and so forth. As we got bigger, she didn't do any of the work outside." That is, when the farm expanded and the boys matured, she stopped working outdoors. Ruth then added tactfully, "I think your mother did work hard, worked right along with your father before any children came." Dane conceded that "from what I've heard, I'm sure she did." Later, when her sons were in high school, she again "helped out" more. Margaret concurred that Clara was integrally involved in the poultry operation before the children were born and when they were young. Later "she did a lot of the secretarial work.... She didn't keep the books, but when they'd have baby chick orders come in she would type the letters. She enjoyed that, and did a really good job of it."

Her sons perceived Clara as relatively uninvolved in the operation because she did not tend the incubators and brooders, as the men did, or

V. C. McGregor & Sons
Breeders of Heavy Laying Strain
Single Comb White Leghorns
Maine, New York



WE have been breeding Single Comb White Leghorns exclusively for the last twenty years, and for the last ten years all the new stock used has been pedigree cockerels direct from Cornell, until last year we purchased cockerels from Prof. James E. Rice from his best trapnested pens, direct descendants of his over 300 egg hens and layers of large chalk-white eggs weighing 26 to 28 oz. to the dozen.

Pen 1: Our breeding hens are all from 2 to 5 years old and have been selected by us and Cornell experts for large size, late moulting and heavy egg production, and are mated with large vigorous cockerels from pedigree birds.

Pen 2: Early hatched large vigorous pullets, daughters of pedigree cockerels, and mated to cock birds making this season's chicks carry 75 per cent. blood of what we consider the best pens in New York State.

We sell no chicks except from our own stock, and use an up-to-date Mammoth Newtown incubator.

It pays to buy where you can look over the stock and know the breeding back of your chicks. Visitors welcome.

Our price is \$22 per hundred or \$210 per thousand up to April 15, then drop \$1 per hundred each week till they reach \$15 per hundred.

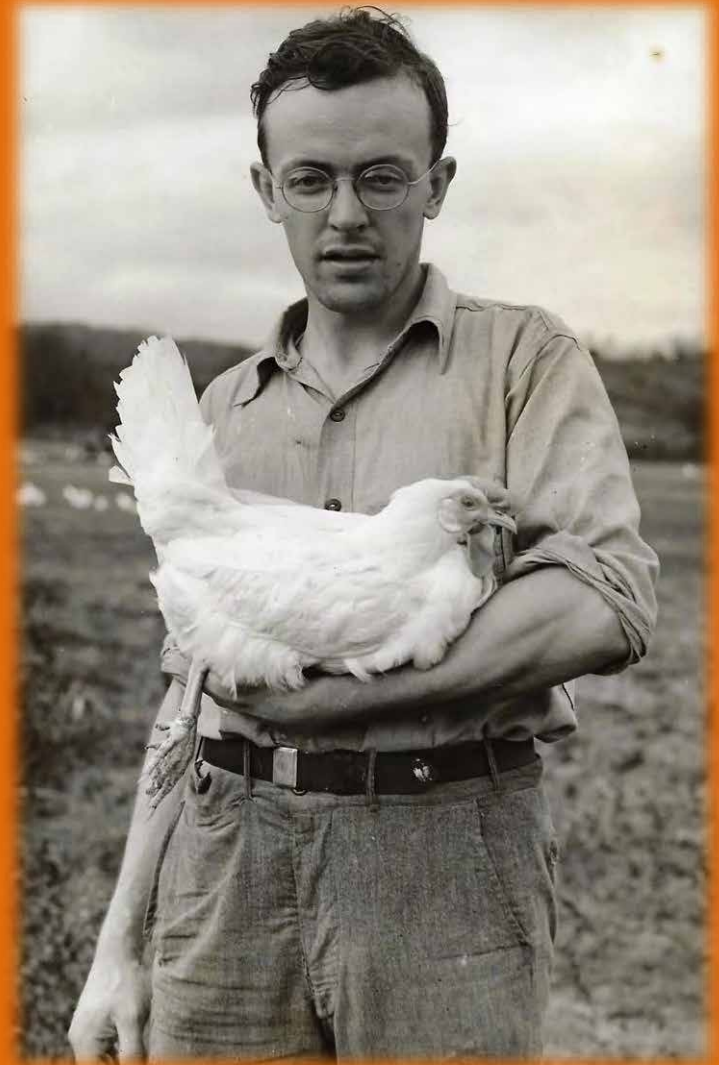
We are located on the Endicott-Whitney Point highway $\frac{1}{2}$ mile north of Maine.

We have for sale 12 Cyphers and Buffalo incubators all in good condition. No business transacted on Sunday.

Order early to be sure you get them when you want them. We aim to please you.

Sincerely yours,

V. C. McGregor & Sons.

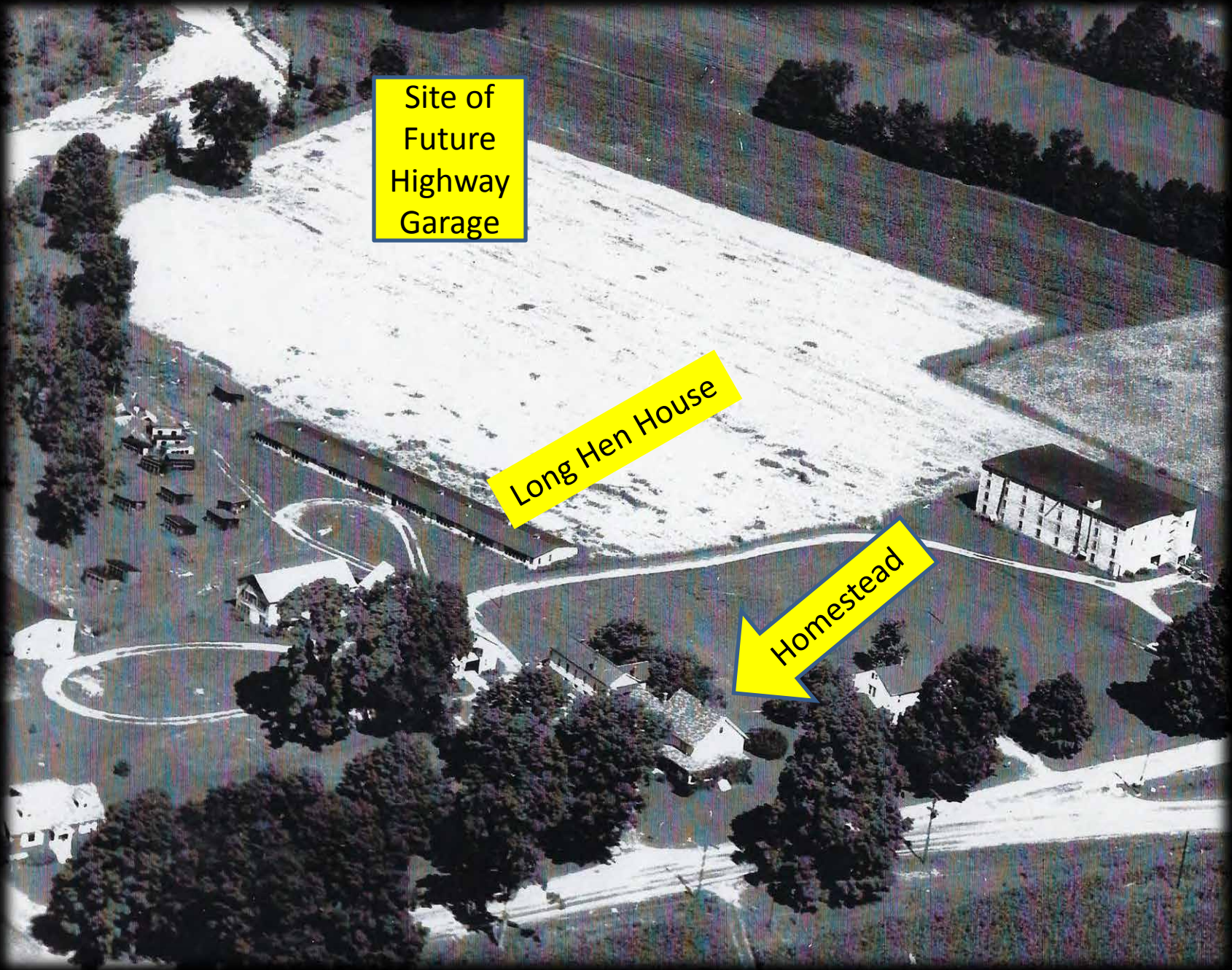


Garth with White Leghorn

Site of
Future
Highway
Garage

Long Hen House

Homestead







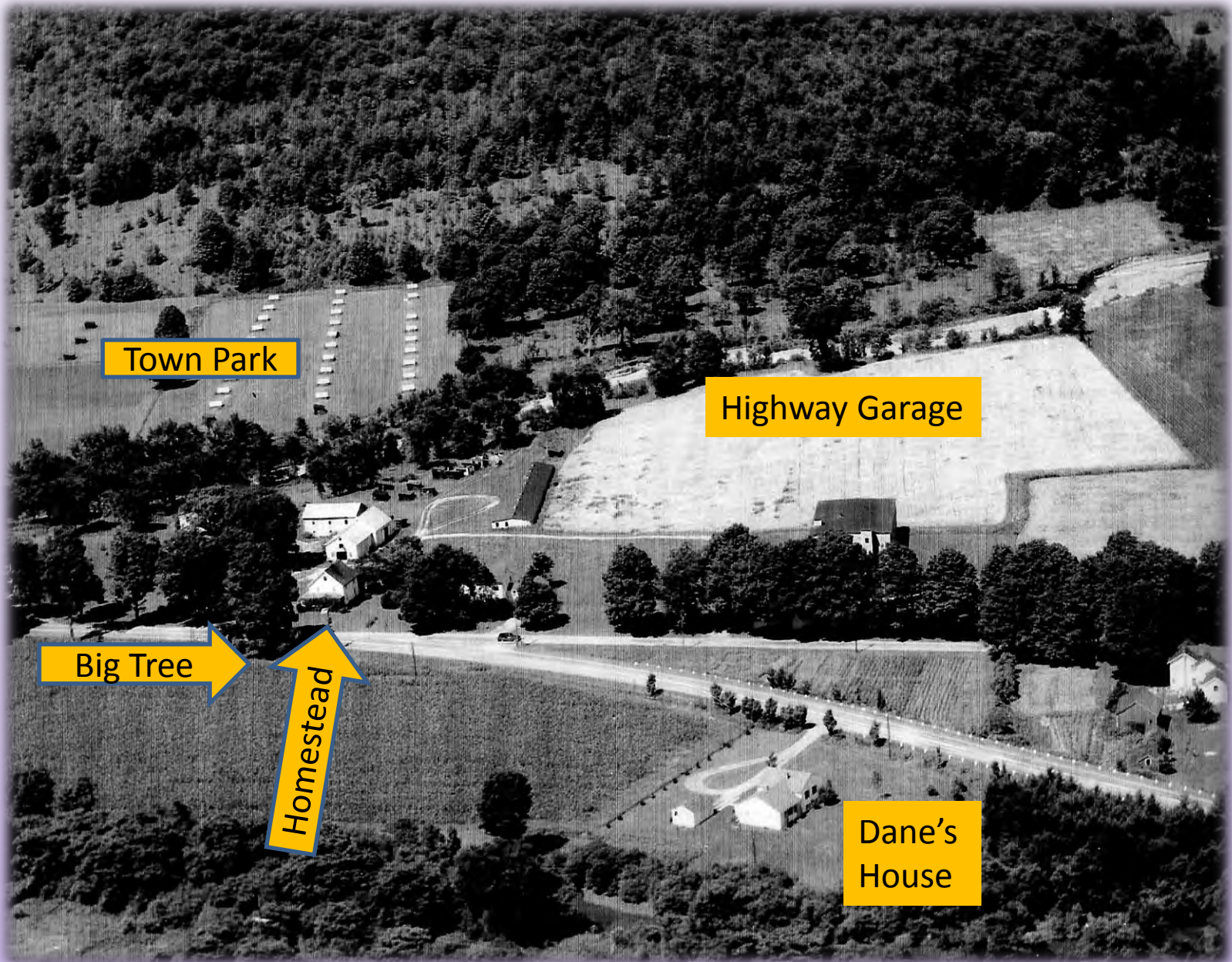
Peanut Shells



Today



**Garth and Margaret's Home
5 Nanticoke Road
Built 1936
Garth scooping out basement with assist of horses.**





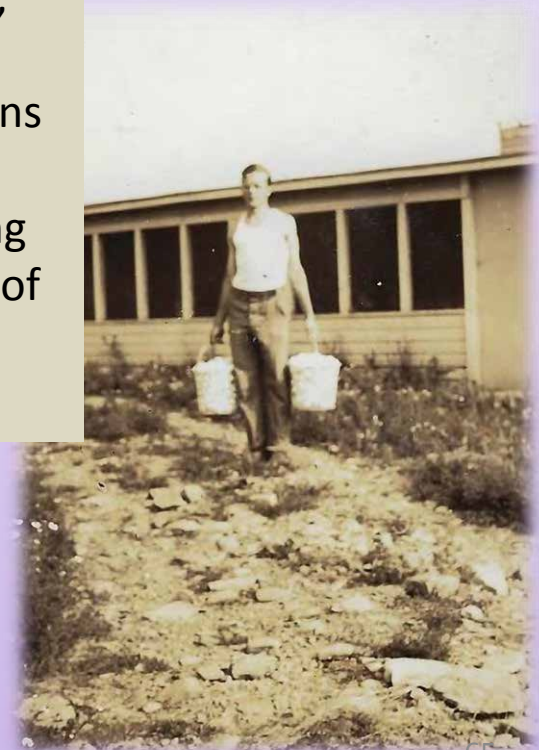
Long Hen House



Above;
White
Longhorns
Right;
Carrying
Buckets of
Eggs



"Homestead" ca. 1860



Workers on McGregor Farm

Dane, Warren, Lena Cornell, Charlotte Cornell Rose,
Garth, Robert Fenton, Clara, V.C., Mr. Van Slyke

Lena Cornell packing eggs in “cellar” of
building behind “Homestead”.



Dane Herbert McGregor

May 19, 1914 Maine

Apr. 17, 2010 Newark Licking County Ohio

Find A Grave Memorial# 78448691

1940; Dane and son Stan

“In 1907, James McGregor started a poultry business with 200 hens. His son, Venley, expanded the operation to 1,000 hens in 1914 with the help of his wife, Clara Durfee McGregor. Later, Venley’s sons - Garth, Dane and Warren – became a part of the family business. The business included the sale of eggs and chicks to other farms; they also sold dressed chickens. As the sons got older and became more involved, business continued to grow. Women were hired to candle-wash and grade the eggs. They also tended the incubator and brooders. Dane McGregor is pictured in this 1940 photograph with his son Stan.”

Images of America Maine and the Nanticoke Valley, 2012





“Dane McGregor in 1940. The McGregor business included the sale of eggs and chicks to other farms; they also sold dressed chickens. As the sons got older and became more involved, business continued to grow.



In today's terminology the chickens were "free range" and they returned to the coops at night. The town park property was part of the McGregor farm and it was where many coops were found.



Dane Herbert McGregor

May 19, 1914 – April 17, 2010



Ruth Eudora *Young* McGregor
29 Oct 1918 Pennsylvania, USA
13 Dec 2006 Johnson City,
Maine Cemetery
MEMORIAL ID 78448704

Children - 4
Nancy, Venley Glenn and **Stanley**

Stanley Dane McGregor
11 Nov 1938 Endicott
20 Nov 2002
Midland City Cemetery Michigan
MEMORIAL ID 119837838

Family Tree of Dane and Ruth McGregor

Dane's parents: Venley Chauncey and Clara Durfee McGregor both deceased

2 brothers: Garth and (Margaret) McGregor – both deceased
8 children: Mary Lou, Margaret, Martha, David, Rita, Phyllis, Robert, Carol
Warren (predeceased) and Elizabeth (Betty) McGregor
3 children: Jim (deceased), Brenda, Linda

Ruth's parents: Coburn and Viola Young both deceased

2 brothers: Nathan and (Barbara Jean) Young - both deceased
4 children: Robert (deceased), Judy, Betty Jane, Tom (deceased)
Donald and Charlotte Young Donald and Chris Young
3 children: Andrew, Deborah, Donald 2 Daughters: Emily, Jennifer

1 sister: Hilda and (Jim) Chilton - both deceased
4 children: Ruth, Sarah, Jim, Mary

Daughter: Nancy McGregor Bittinger and husband Olen

Grandson: William Tereshko and wife Lynne

Great-grandsons: Justin, Brandon

Great-granddaughter: Kelli

Granddaughter: Cathy Dobrzanski and husband Rich

Great-grandson: Joseph

Great-granddaughter: Clare

Sons: Stanley McGregor (deceased 2002) and Barbara McGregor

Grandson: Dane McGregor and wife Beth Rubin

Great-granddaughters: Elinor, Jordan

Granddaughter: Lea Anne McGregor and husband Kurt Von Koss

Great-grandsons: Casey, Lewis, Christopher, Luke

Venley McGregor and wife Kathy

Grandson: Venley McGregor Jr.

Granddaughter: Jennifer Isaacs and husband Vince

Great-granddaughters: Gabrielle, Michaela

Glenn McGregor and wife Diane

Grandson: Matthew McGregor and wife Cara

Great-grandsons: Cullen, Owen

Granddaughter: Tanya Cepek and husband David

Great-granddaughters: Emma, Molly



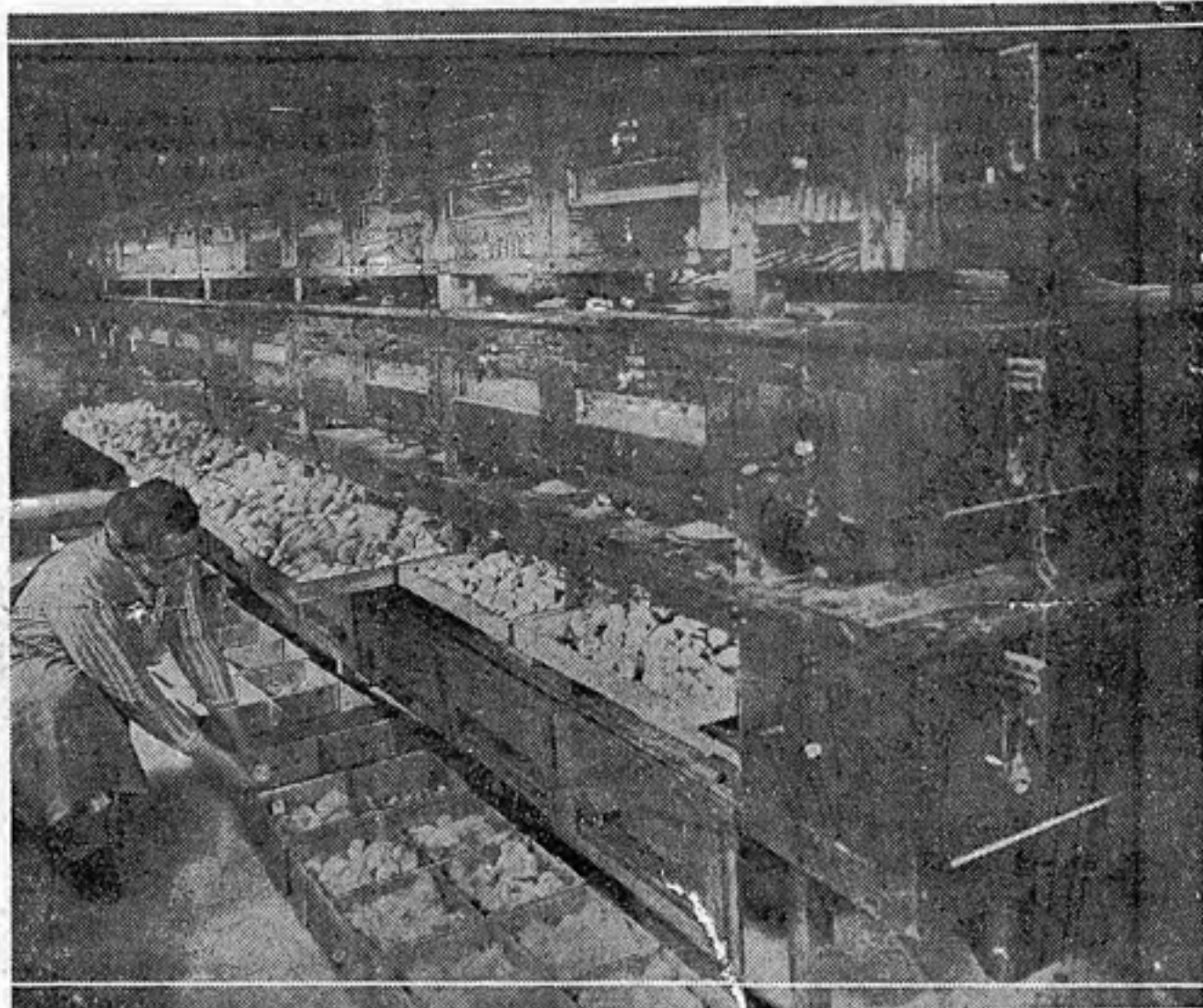
“This 1927 image shows the Dairyman’s League Cooperative Association’s Maine plant. The milk-processing plant was on the northeast side of Maine Street in Maine Village. In 1934, the V.C. McGregor and Sons Company bought the plant to house their egg and poultry business. It burned down in February 14, 1964.” Images of America Maine and the Nanticoke Valley, 2012 Three story ice house, ice was harvested from pond behind mill.



Dairyman's League Cooperative Association's Maine plant before 1964 when it burned down along with 5000 hens.

JRDAY EVENING, MARCH 24, 1928.

McGregor Poultry Plant at Maine Is One of Most Successful in This Section of State



1928

Mammoth Incubator with Capacity of 10,800 Eggs Hatches More Than 20,000 Pedigreed Baby Chicks Every Season

Just on the outskirts of the village of Maine, Broome county, is located one of the most successful poultry plants in this part of the country, owned and operated by V. C. McGregor & Sons. Mr. McGregor comes rightfully by his love for poultry, for his father, James McGregor, kept quite a flock in the village of Maine, and here Venley really got his start. About 20 years ago, however, he branched out for himself and bought a little farm of 54 acres, intending to do some vegetable gardening and make a venture in poultry. For a number of years this was the work carried on, but gradually the trucking end has been giving way to the poultry end, so that this is now practically of universal interest. Not long ago Mr. McGregor took his two boys, Garth, now 16, and Herbert, 14, in as partners. The boys love the work and have mastered it in all its details.

Single comb white leghorns have always been favorite with the McGregors, as they were with the father, and they now have 1,500 hatched from their own stock, and culled by experts from Cornell and by McGregor himself. For the last 10 years all the new stock used has been pedigreed cockerels direct from Cornell. Three years ago cockerels were purchased from a prominent breeder, from his best trap-nested pens, direct descendants of his 300-egg hens, and layers of large chalk white eggs, weighing 26 to 28 ounces to the dozen.

A few years ago Professor Crumb of Cornell and Farm Bureau Agent Hammond of Broome county visited the McGregor plant on a tour of the county. In spite of a pouring rain a largely attended meeting of poultry men was held, at which time Professor Crumb told those present that he knew of no better

poultry in the country than this, a high tribute, indeed. Both the visitors, Professor Crumb and Mr. Hammond, advised the McGregors to take up the baby chick business, sure that they would win with such stock as they had on the farm. This advice was adopted, and so successful have the McGregors been that they have been compelled steadily to increase their incubator capacity. Recently they have purchased one of the largest incubators ever brought into this part of the country, a Newtown Giant, with a capacity of 10,800 eggs, enabling them to bring out about 20,000 chicks a season. These are almost all taken by nearby poultrymen who wish to improve their stock. To what an extent a number have done this may be seen by the fact that they have secured an average of 200 eggs from their flocks. At present the incubator is being run to the limit and about 2,000 baby chicks are taken out each week.

All feed used in carrying on this plant is bought, little aside from cabbage for green feed being grown on the home place. Mr. McGregor buys as nearly as he can when the price is most favorable and in large quantities. Improvements are being made as fast as the growth of the business warrants and new methods are being adopted from time to time. A large water system is in use on the place, which furnishes water for the hens, for the bathroom and for other purposes.

The accompanying picture shows Mrs. McGregor taking baby chicks from the big incubator, which is a two-face machine, operated with coal. The McGregors use electricity, however, in their poultry houses and are convinced that it adds much to their success. One thing the McGregors insist upon, and that is that no business shall be transacted on Sunday.

1928

Barn Fires

1. “The barn behind the homestead was destroyed by fire when Mary Lou, Stan, Nancy playing with matches. Garth rescued them but the barn was destroyed. Daddy it was just 1 match – we’re going to have a hot dog roast.”
2. Chicken coops behind barn – renters children started – another renter had goats in coops.
3. Homestead fire – Ruth threw pillow over the furnace pipe Sunday before family went to church. Venley put fire out with hose from cellar charred areas noted when re- modeling, - could see from cellar up to attic. VC used hose to put fire out
4. Creamery fire see slide number 61

Tornadoes:

“There was a cyclone in 1929 that carried McGregor’s poultry laying house 500 feet without hurting a bird.” SW p. 69

5,000 CHICKENS DESTROYED

\$25,000 Fire Rips McGregor Egg Outlet

By WILL VAILE

About \$25,000 worth of buildings and 5,000 chickens went up in flames early this morning in a fire which leveled the V. C. McGregor & Sons wholesale egg building in Maine.

Warren McGregor of Glen Aubrey Road, one of the three brothers who own the business said today he estimated it would cost at least \$25,000 to replace the building and the birds.

He added that about 5 tons of feed and several pieces of farm machinery were also lost, including an electric hoist, plows and a mowing machine. He said he was insured.

The fire began at about midnight, according to Wesley

Tyler, assistant chief of the Maine Fire Department.

THE FLAMES were apparently seen by an unidentified pair of volunteer firemen who proceeded to the station.

Before they arrived, however, the alarm was sounded.

It has not yet been determined who actually called in the original alarm.

Mr. Tyler said that the cause of the fire has not yet been pinpointed. The fire might have originated in the rear left portion of the wood and concrete block building, he said.

Late this morning a crew of firemen was still at the scene handling the mop-up operation.

The assistant chief said that firemen were rather appre-

hensive at one point during the fire fight about a service station adjacent to the burning building and another gas station almost directly across the street.

The heat from the flaming structure was so intense that some windows of Dunham's Sunoco Service Station and Supplies, next to the McGregor building, shattered.

THERE WAS ALSO some water damage to the adjacent service station roof, apparently caused by another water screen put up by firemen.

Mr. Tyler added that it was "a good thing" that the service station had just had its gasoline tanks refilled.

"Filled tanks don't explode, empty ones do," he said. "There's no fumes to explode in a full tank."

The service station across the street apparently was not affected by the nearby fire.

The assistant chief said that another McGregor chicken house at the rear of the main building was slightly scorched around the eaves from the heat waves, but otherwise was apparently not damaged.

Mr. Tyler said that three other area fire departments were called in to assist under the mutual aid system. They were the East Maine, Glen Aubrey and Union Center fire departments.

He added that the Maine fire chief, Leonard Bullock, was on his way to a traffic accident call in Route 26 in the hamlet of Maine less than a mile from the fire when the alarm came in.

An injured driver was later taken from the traffic accident to Wilson Memorial Hospital by West Endicott Fire Department ambulance.

Mr. McGregor said that the family firm has been in business for about 35 years, supplying various hotels, diners and grocers with fresh eggs.

The family bought the Maine building in 1934. It used to be the old Dairymen's League plant.

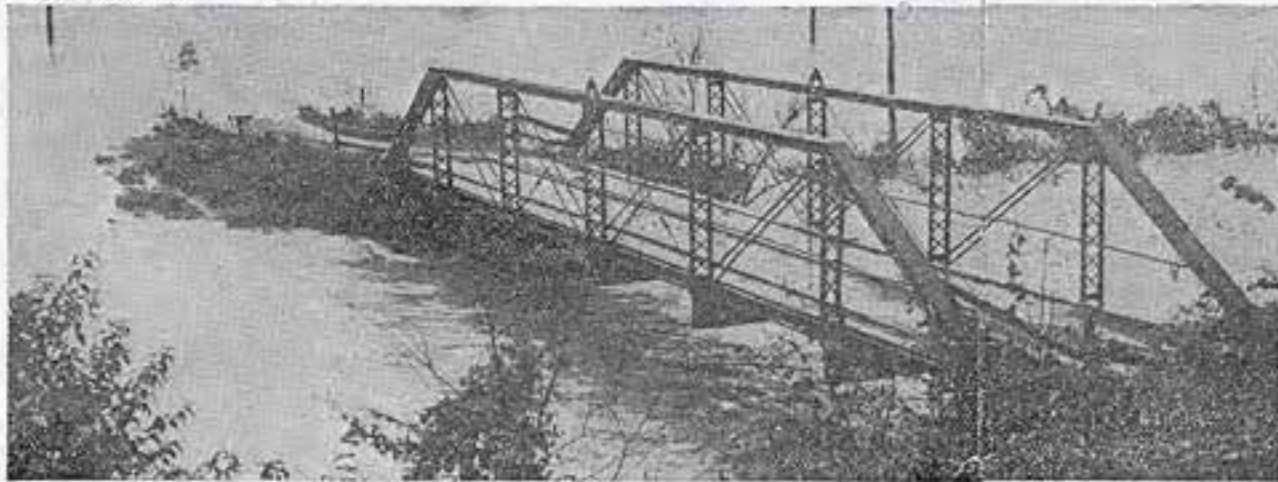
He emphasized today that the wholesale egg route "will continue as usual. We have plenty of eggs," he said.

The other two owners are Dane and Garth McGregor, also of Glen Aubrey Road.

From Small Creeks to Raging Rivers *urs*



Homes a short distance south of Bower's Corners, near Maine surrounded by water from raging Nanticoke creek.



Bridge on dirt road, extending from main highway just south of Maine village, isolated by Nanticoke creek flood waters.

Bridge near Carriage Burne (nortons)

Flooding
of
Nanticoke
Creek



1976

A waterlogged car is pushed toward Route 26 in the Town of Maine

The Big Tree and Mom vs. the Road



Woodsmen, or rather road builders, are going to sweep this tree, located on the farm of C. V. McGregor of Maine. The tree was counted when the alignment of the Maine-Whitney Point road was changed, to eliminate a curve. The plans were revised, however, when an appeal was made to the State Department of Public Works. The tree is 59 inches in diameter near the base and towers nearly 80 feet high. The two men standing by the side of the tree give an idea of its size.

Giant Tree Won't Be Sacrificed for Maine-Whitney Point Road

Surveyors Doomed 80-Foot Maple (but Owners Will Battle When State Engineers Agree It Should Be Saved)

Pines are made by fast like me,
But only God can make a tree.
—Jesse Knauss

It was just another tree to members of the survey party making the most practical route for the reconstruction of the Maine-Whitney Point highway.

What if it did tower nearly 80 feet toward the sky? What if it probably is the largest maple in Brooks county, measuring more than four feet in diameter near the base and more than 11 feet in circumference, and its spread of branches is more than 40 feet? Road building must go on. Curves and grades must be improved.

And so when maps showing the alignment of the new road were completed the tree appeared doomed. It was located almost in the center of the proposed new pavement.

But C. V. McGregor of Maine, owner of the tree, did not feel that way about it. Scientists reported that it had required at least 100 years for the tree to attain its present size, and from its present condition it would live for another 100 years if unmolested.

It must be possible to change the alignment of the road to save the tree, Mr. McGregor argued with the highway committee of the Board of Supervisors when they sought to purchase the right of way.

Members of the committee agreed, and visited the Washington office of the State Department of Public Works.

Engineers there agreed that something should be done to save the tree.

The plans were rechecked. Another alignment was decided upon and new maps were drawn. The tree will not be sacrificed.

Incidentally changing the alignment of the road to save this particular tree also will make it unnecessary to cut down four other maples, each of which is much larger than those usually seen.

I saw it only next to tree cut down (in newspaper articles)
Dad took this picture in the 1970's.
Tree died & returns broke many of the bigger branches



Farm – Four story chicken house...Built in 1949 – torn down in 1970





Long hen house 15' x 200'

Well Drilling on the Farm

The farm sits in a small valley and our land ran from the top of the hill on the west side of the valley across the valley floor to the creek on the east side of the valley. There were two creeks – one on each side of the valley floor and we were blessed with abundant potable water about 10 to 12 feet underground.

My Dad and Uncles found it fitting that a neighbor down the road adjacent to the farm's southern border didn't believe that a well 12 feet deep was reliable so he had a commercial well drilled 80 feet deep that turned out to be a sulfur well.

While I was growing up I was lucky to watch; and then as I grew older to help, drill several wells for the new buildings that we built on the farm. Uncle Warren would make a drill bit out of a 2 inch pipe by making several cuts at 90 degree angles about an inch and a half down on one end of the pipe. He then would pound the four pieces together into a point, welding the gaps to make a solid point. Holes were drilled into the sides of that pipe to let the water in. Because the water was so predictable and abundant we could “drive” a well wherever it was needed and convenient. Therefore it was put in the corner of the buildings where an area was boxed out, and no concrete was poured.

To drive the pipe into the ground we would use the civil war cannon ball that Uncle Warren had. It was solid iron or steel and I recall it weighed about 80 pounds. There was a big ring welded on the top and a steel bar about three feet long welded on the other end. This was used as the weight to drive the pipe into the ground. It was attached to the thickest rope we had on the farm and run through the biggest pulley – an older pulley that had a wooden pulley wheel and a cast iron frame.

Pulling the cannon ball up in the air by hand was hard considering the weight, so that was where the tractor came in but not to pull the cannonball as you might first picture. Instead, the mower was attached to the three-point hitch and the power take-off. The tractor was parked close to the well to be drilled, with the power take-off engaged.

The rope was then looped several times loosely around the shaft running from the power take-off to the mower. To lift the cannon ball you would pull on the loose end of the rope, which would tighten the rope around the spinning shaft, causing the shaft and rope to pull and raise the cannon ball and steel bar about 2 and half feet of the three feet of pipe being driven into the ground. Letting go of the rope allowed it to loosen around the shaft and the cannonball would drop on the well pipe. As you might guess, the pipe would drive quite a distance at first but it slowed as it went deeper into the ground and several lengths of pipe were added.

I think we would drive the pipe down to the depth where we normally hit water and then drive a few feet more to insure the well would not run dry in a dry spell.

When we had finished driving the pipe we would have to prime the well. I recall taking barrels of water out to the “new henhouse” on the tractor and wagon to prime that well. The hand/pitcher pump was screwed to the top of well pipe. Water was then poured into the hand pump which would run down into the pipe to fill it with water and then the hand pump would be able to create a vacuum and start pumping water out of the ground as you pumped the handle up and down. Repeatedly!

I recall in addition to drilling wells for the egg room and the hen houses, we also drilled a well for Dad and Mom’s house. Originally they ran a pipe from Grandpa and Grandma’s house over to Mom and Dad’s house. The pipe eventually failed, and since we used shallow well pumps, the logical place for Mom and Dad’s new well was in the basement. This challenge was overcome by attaching the pulley to the floor joists and running the rope out through the cellar window, out to the tractor and mower in the front yard.

There you have it – a Civil War cannon ball and a lot of that farm attitude - there’s a job that needs to be done and we can do anything if we set our mind to it.

Bob McGregor

Poultry farmers in a squeeze

By ELLEN PERLMUTTER

Eggs may still be in supermarkets in the fall, but they will be selling for chicken feed — and that is not cheap.

In fact, chicken feed has risen from \$80 a ton to \$130-\$140 a ton in the last few months, say poultry farmers and cooperative extension agents.

Since President Richard M. Nixon announced a 60-day freeze on consumer prices June 13, poultry and egg producers have been stuck in the middle.

Egg prices in stores are frozen, but feed prices are not.

The egg producers can charge what they want for their products, but the stores will not pay higher prices than they have been paying, said Timothy D. McEnroe, a spokesman for the Na-

tional Association of Food Chains.

One farmer who has felt the pinch is Garth McGregor, a Town of Maine poultry producer.

Mr. McGregor and his brother Dane own and operate the V. C. McGregor and Sons Poultry Farm on Route 26. Their grandfather started the farm in the late 1800s and their father operated it before them.

Garth McGregor said poultry farmers have not been making money.

"We're still hanging onto our birds," he said, "but we sold off a flock because they were not producing enough."

Although no poultry farmers in Broome County have been known to drown chickens, hatchery workmen across the south have been smothering

their flocks because of the soaring feed grain prices and the 60-day retail price freeze.

Industry spokesmen feared the cut-backs in production will lead to higher prices and perhaps shortages of eggs and chickens.

A hatchery workman from Georgia said the day-old chicks cost 10 cents each to kill, while it would cost twice that amount if they were destroyed after four weeks.

The McGregor farm is one of a dozen poultry farms in Broome County, said Clarence H. Padgham, a Broome County Cooperative Extension agent.

Ten years ago there were about 40 poultry farms in Broome County.

"The number of birds on the farms have been cut in half," Mr. Padgham

said. "There's no money in it. I haven't heard of anybody going out of business, but I haven't heard of anybody going into it."

Mr. McGregor said that in his 40 years of poultry farming this is the worst situation he remembers.

"It's never been this bad. If the government lets the prices of eggs rise compared to the feed prices, maybe it will get better."

Mr. McGregor says he is losing 4 to 6 cents on a dozen eggs. "The extra money we get for eggs now goes for feed."

Mr. Padgham, the cooperative extension agent, said the egg production industry's problems were compounded this year because egg production was down 4 to 6 per cent last year.

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July 2, 1973



Maine Federated Church Sunday School Study Group in the 1940's - taught by Venley

Just
the
same
one

Wesley
McManus
5th
Row

Rev. Charles
Gilbert

Dick
Rozell

Lloyd
Taylor

George
McManus

Joe
Brown

4th
Row

Betty
McGregor

Ruth
Gilbert

Bob
Blatch

Evert
Whittaker

John
Rainhart

Dave
McGregor

Stanley
Appar

Carl
Taylor

Harold
McKenzie

Burton
Zhe

3rd
Row

Ruth
Whittaker

Doris
Cook
Jimmy
Oliver

Elsie
Thompson

Mildred
Rozelle

Ruth
McGregor

Geraldine
Appar

Erabelle
Taylor

Mrs.
McKenzie

Mrs.
Zhe

Leona
Zhe

2nd
Row

Mrs.
Appar

Florence
Payne

Doris
Brigham

William
Appar
Blackwell

Margaret
McGregor

Marion
Taylor

Eldora
Brown

Doris
Nowell

Mildred
Payne

Shirley
Brown

1st
Row

George
Appar

Curtis Frank
Brigham

Blackwell

Ruth
McGregor

Ellis
Payne

Bible Study Group in the 1940's - taught by Venley