

Moving the Dog Houses - 1948-49

Arthur Pease February, 2014, May 2017

"This was the old Savage place; Mrs. Savage was a sister to Fred Mack. Dr. William and Mrs. [Ruth] Baer then owned it, as part of the land on both sides of the road. Dr. Baer was a surgeon at Johns Hopkins Hospital in Baltimore, where he pioneered the use of maggots to clean out wounds. During his service in WW I, he had discovered that soldiers who had lain on the field for a day or two and had maggots in their wounds often recovered faster than those without maggots. This became accepted practice until the advent of antibiotics in the 1940s. They harvested apples from the orchards and also raised Chow dogs. Alice Herrin bought the property from Mrs. Baer and later she and Lucy Worthington shared ownership of it.

Opposite the Bischoff driveway was the Doll House [see above] and a house originally built as an apple house. Grey Shelter, as this house was called, had six-inch studding [unusual at that time] because it was intended to be insulated as an apple storage house but was never used for that purpose. The grading of apples was done in the barn on the property. There were several small buildings on the left side of the road, which were built as houses for their Chow dogs. Some of those dog houses were moved to Camp Merriwood to be cabins for the campers. When we moved the biggest one, I got some big skids and we got it pulled out into the road. Then I had Brad Morey come out with the town truck, an old Army truck. I had one end of the skids on a set of big dump-cart wheels that the town had and was hitched on behind the truck. Then Dewey Chase came up with his dozer and got right in between the skids so as to steer the load. When we got to the driveway to Merriwood, I told Brad to cut in where he could and told Dick Sanborn, driving the dozer, to push the skids right around. We got around the corner easily and when we stopped, Gordon Miller said that was where he wanted it, so that was where we left it.

Ralph and Ibbey Bischoff bought Grey Shelter and came there summers for many years before moving to Orford full time. Ibbey was a Fauver, daughter of one of the owner/founders of Camp Pemigewasset. Ralph and Ibbey later bought the Worthington home and have done extensive renovations to the house and grounds."

From - East Orford Homesteads and Residents: Mt. Cube to Gilman's Corner

Memories of Glenn F. Pease and Theda Howard Pease

[Recorded in 1979 and transcribed in 2000 by Arthur S. Pease

Four buildings on the left side of the road were moved from Mrs. Baer's place on East Cemetery Road, just south of the cemetery. These buildings were moved in November and December of 1948 for use at the new Camp Merriwood [opened in 1949] on the Pond Road. Following are the entries from Glenn Pease's 1948 diary which relate to the move:

Sunday 9/5/48 went over and took job to move Mrs. Baer's dog houses for Miller

Tuesday 11/16/48 went over and cut brush to get at dog houses

Thursday 11/18/48 got some skids to move building in am
worked on building pm

Friday 11/19/48 had horses over to building am

Friday 11/26/48 worked on building a little while pm
went down to see Miller [Gordon]

Monday 11/29/48 Rup worked on building 6 hrs
[Rufus Chase, who worked as a 'hired hand' for Glenn for many years in the 1940s & 50s]

Tuesday 11/30/48 worked on building pm

Thursday 12/2/48 moved the white building and went out to Swans and got some blocking

Friday 12/3/48 went down and got some poles ready to slide building off on
got building down by Cemetery

Saturday 12/4/48 took building down and got it all set

Tuesday 12/7/48 Rup worked on building

Wednesday 12/8/48 Rup and Gerald worked on building

Thursday 12/9/48 went down to Wentworth and got 2 big skids with horses
left skids on flat *[field along 25-A between Pond Brook and Pond Rd.]*

Friday 12/10/48 took skids up and got both of them under building
got two more small skids and some poles

Monday 12/13/48 went over and got building out into the road and turned around

Tuesday 12/14/48 got building loaded am
got it down there and out of the road pm

Friday 12/17/48 took the skids and blocking out from under building

Monday 12/20/48 went out and got wheels from Town that go behind tractor
put wheels underneath skids cut some stumps beside road pm

Tuesday 12/21/48 went over and got building started am
went out and got some chains fixed pm

Thursday 12/23/48 snow a little am
went over and got building started pm
broke 5 more chains

Friday 12/24/48 went out and got chains fixed
went out and got building most down to road

Monday 12/27/48 moved building a little pm

Tuesday 12/28/48 got building out into road

Wednesday 12/29/48 stormy snow am rain pm
Brad *[Morey - Orford Road Agent]* came out with Town truck and moved building
Dick Sanborn came up with Dewey's *[Chase]* tractor *[dozer]* and helped steer it
got it down there at 3:30 pm

Friday 12/31/48 Miller *[Gordon]* stopped and payed *[sic]* me for moving buildings \$400.00"

Saturday 1\1\49 Got last building jacked up and some posts under it.

Tuesday 1\4\49 Took skids out from under building and took Swan's blocking home . . Took
Town wheels back

Friday 1\7\49 Paid Henry *[Horton?]* \$88.92 Took his rope and blocks and jacks home.

Following are some estimates of the amount of time and equipment used to move the buildings. I assumed three hours for am work, three hours for pm work, due to time that they would have spent doing farm chores, eating lunch, and the short winter days. I also assumed that Gerald worked during the Christmas vacation days, even if not mentioned. Other people also helped at times, as the one photo we have shows two teams of horses *[Glenn's and Stanley Chase's]* and another man along with Glenn and Rufus. The totals are 228 man-hours, 12 team-hours, 26 hours use of the big set of wheels owned by the Town of Orford, and 5 hours each by an operator with the Orford truck and Dewey Chase's tractor. He also borrowed blocking ropes and jacks from two Orford contractors.

Date	Glenn	Rufus	Gerald	Horses	Other Men/Equipment
11/16	3				
11/18	6				
11/19	3			3 [Dick & Harry]	
11/26	2				
11/29	6				
11/30	3				
12/2	6	6			
12/3	6	6			
12/4	6	6			
12/7		6			
12/8		6	6		
12/9	3	3		3	
12/10	6				
12/13	6		6		
12/14	6				
12/17	3				
12/20	6				Got set of big wheels from Town
12/21	3	3			Used wheels, broke some chains
12/23	3				Used wheels, broke 5 more chains
12/24	3	3			Used wheels
12/27	2	2			Used wheels
12/28	3				Used wheels
12/29	6	6			Used Wheels
1/1	3	3			5 Brad Morey w/Orford truck
1/4	3	3			5 Dick Sanborn w/Dewey's Chase's [dozer]