

# New Sign for Look Off in Great Village

By Arthur Haskins

There are few places in Nova Scotia that can boast of having a beautiful look off area in their community. Great Village joined that small group of communities recently when the new two lane bridge was constructed last year. The look off was first experienced by local residents who stopped on Station Road to view the bridges progress.

Some residents thought it would make a great attraction, especially for tourist visiting the community as it gives a panoramic view of the whole village. Plans were made to place a picture sign at the site just opposite the Masonic Hall on Station Road and have various points of interest and businesses numbered and labelled on the photo. Thanks to Alva Construction who built the bridge the pull off area has been levelled and gravelled and has ample parking to view the sign.

With support from local residents and backing of various community groups such as Elizabeth Bishop Society, Historical Society and Garden Club the sign was developed and erected. Special thanks to Linda Harrington who supplied the beautiful aerial photograph for the sign and the West Colchester Rural Development Association who provided the funding for this project.



Harold Sharpe and Joe Cooper dug the post holes, and with measuring tape in hand (and support from those looking on) the posts were lined up for the new Great Village sign, installed on Station Road, across from Faith Baptist Church and overlooking the Village (Harrington Photo)



Harold Sharpe, Pat Fleming, Joe Cooper and Arthur Haskins make sure the new Great Village panoramic sign is level before putting in the mounting screws. The installation took place on Friday, July 24th. (Harrington Photo)

## MacCaul Villa Notes

By Hazel Hill

On Saturday July 11th Georgie Currie, her daughter Florence, her husband Roy, and their granddaughter visited with Shirley Ryan. On Sunday July 12th Chad Ryan, of Truro, Shirley's grandson, visited her in the afternoon.

Kevin Fields is celebrating his birthday this month and we wish him a Happy Birthday. Shannon MacAloney attended church service in Bass River on Sunday.

Sharon Roode went to a family reunion in New Brunswick on the weekend. She returned home on Sunday evening having had a wonderful time seeing old friends and family members

and meeting some new ones.

A memorial service was held for Florence Adams on July 18th at the Londonderry School. Florence was a former resident of MacCaul Villa. Our condolences go out to Florence's family.

Visitors with Bernice Kaulback were Jack Kaulback of Bass River, and Art and Barb Muise of Truro.

Sharon Brown is spending a month in the area visiting her family and staying with her aunt Lois Green. On June 27th I had a visit from her. Sharon works teaching ESL in UlganBaatar, Mongolia. Sharon is a former resident of Great Village.

## Wentworth's Important Mural at Ski Wentworth



The mural made at the Wentworth School is now on the wall of the Lodge at Ski Wentworth. The mural shows skiers in 1957 at Wentworth Station arriving on a special train. (Hope Bridgewater Photo)

By Hope Bridgewater

Sadly for the Wentworth students and community, the Chignecto-Central Regional School Board closed down the Wentworth Consolidated Elementary School on June 30, 2015. Too many small rural elementary schools have been closed in Nova Scotia. A new system of education in the near future for small rural and small village schools is needed in Nova Scotia which takes into account long distance education technology and scheduled visits by education experts.

Since 2012 and the CCRSB's Impact Assessment Report, heavily biased towards the closure of the Wentworth School, the education system has not been working well in Wentworth due to the dictatorship style of CCRSB supposedly acting in the framework of a democracy.

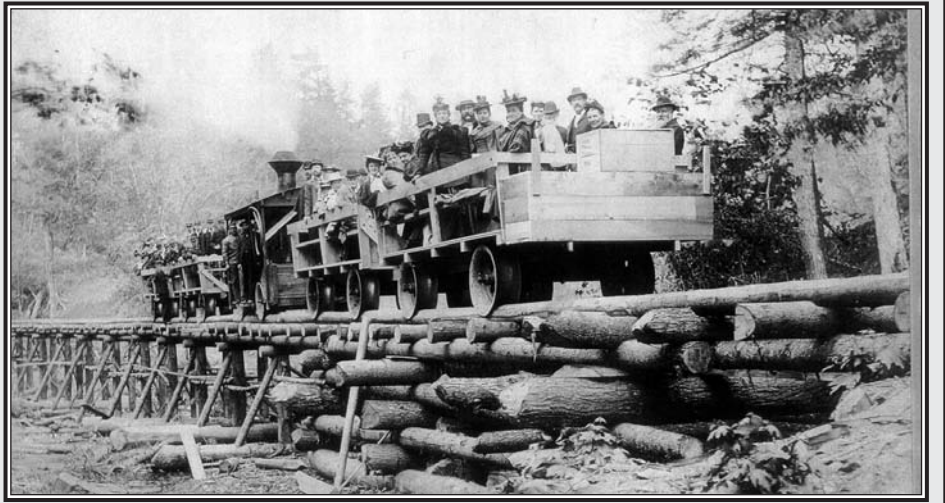
What does the Wentworth community and students have left to feel good about the Wentworth Elementary School? There is a powerful symbol on the white Lodge building at Ski Wentworth which features a large mural done by the Wentworth school and donated to Ski Wentworth. People who come skiing or pass by on Highway 4 can see this large mural measuring 12 feet by 16 feet on the wall of the Lodge facing the road. They should know this mural represents a time in 1998 when the education system was working very well in Wentworth under the leadership of Principal Dale Nogler who initiated the idea of the mural involving school staff, students, community volunteers, artist Eric Mosher, the Nova Scotia Heritage Fair, and Ski Wentworth.

The mural is based on a photograph taken by Ted Jolly in 1957 and published in the Amherst Daily News of skiers of the Halifax Skiing Club coming to Wentworth on a special train car hooked to the Scotian, the train car remaining at the Wentworth Station for the weekend while these skiers began the early start of Ski Wentworth (among these early skiers was Dave Wilson who with the help of others built Ski Wentworth). For the return to Halifax, the train car would again be hooked up to the Scotian. In 1998 the Amherst Daily News republished the photo with an excellent article done by columnist Darrell Cole about a mural being done based on Jolly's photo.

Under the direction of artist Eric Mosher, school staff, students, and community volunteers worked together in the

# Historic Sites

"POLE RAILWAY, CASTLEREAGH, COLCHESTER COUNTY"



In September of 2011, this space was occupied by a story about the 'Fossil Flour' company in Castlereagh, in the Cobequid hills, above Bass River.

In 1890, two men from Great Village, Amos Hill and Leander Corbett found that the material that formed the floor of the local lake at Castlereagh was actually the mineral "Silica" which had good commercial value.

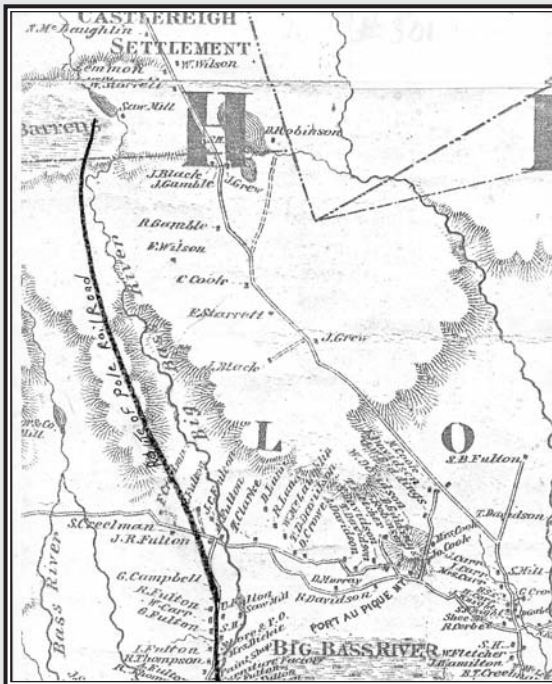
Not having the ways and means themselves to develop a mining project of this sort, they contacted some people in the New England States, who formed a company, with Mr. D. S. Collins as general manager, to extract the material from the lake bottom, refine and dry it in a facility constructed near the site.

To that end, the lake was drained, the material dug out and transport by horse and wagon to the nearby mill. A community developed around the site, boarding houses, blacksmith shops, etc. and the already existing community thrived.

To transport the finished product, in one hundred pound bags from the site in Castlereagh to the shipping point at the wharf at Bass River, a steam powered, pole railway was designed and built, and ran on the west side of the "Bass River", as shown on map #301.

The inaugural run of this rail line was made on June 28, 1895, as shown in the attached photo, from the village of Bass River to the Mill site, with the four little rail cars filled with people going on an excursion.

One of the wheels from this trail is on exhibit at the Bass River Heritage Museum. The steam engine and hardware for this train was built by the Oxford Foundry.



From the archives of the COLCHESTER HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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The Shoreline Journal, in collaboration with the Colchester Historical Society Archives, have inaugurated an ongoing feature utilizing a combination of the digital "A. F. Church Maps" to pin point the circa 1875 location of a Colchester site of historical importance, and connect it to an archival photograph of that site, in that frame.

school gym on making the mural which involved learning art, history, and socializing. Eric Mosher said: "I'm very impressed with the artistic talents of the students at this school." Principal Dale Nogler said: "The School is fortunate to have such a dedicated group of volunteers, and thanked each one who participated in the mural project: Claire Patriquin, Wendy Giddens, Hope Bridgewater, Scott and Janus Henderson, Greta Tratt, Donna Chudobiak, Lester MacKenzie, Pearl Crowley while teachers Linda Patriquin, Nancy Purdy...Ms Nogler (myself) and Linda Moore as well volun-

teered. Principal Nogler continued: "We decided to do something for the ski hill... We wanted to bolster school spirit and community pride. Ski Wentworth played a prominent role in the history of the community and continues to be important today."

In 1998 the education system worked well in Wentworth when school, community, and a business such as

Ski Wentworth cooperated together, and it certainly benefited the local students. At least we now in Wentworth have the symbol of the mural to feel good about and it still stands, hopefully for a long time. I hope you look at it as you drive by. If such a cooperative model was followed today, of course, it would look different, but it would have the same positive impact.

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