

Three Generations of Spicer Saw Mills

By Peter Spicer

Our Spicer family has a bit of history in the saw milling industry and I thought it was a pretty neat idea to show three generations of Spicer saw mills. The first mill belonged to my grandfather, Isaac Conrad Spicer and before him, his father John Nutting Spicer and John's father, the first Isaac Spicer, as they owned the mill that was part of the Spencer's Island Company that owned the ship yard. That is the shipyard where the famous mystery ship, the Marie Celeste was built. I had a photograph of the Marie Celeste that had been in our family and we donated that several years ago to the Age of Sail Museum in Port Greville.

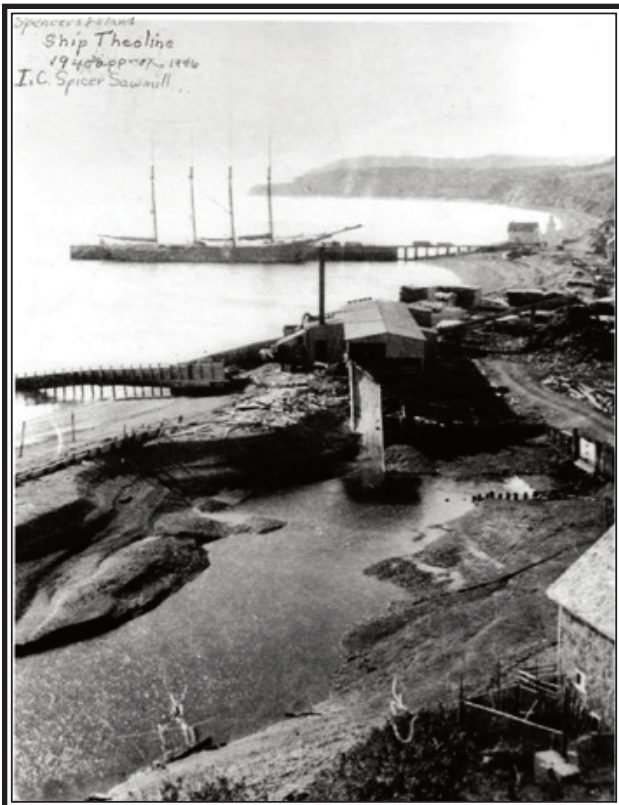
That first mill went out in Hurricane Edna in 1954.

My father, J.L. Maxwell Spicer, and others that worked for my grandfather, manually moved all the equipment from that first mill to a new site, the site where my actual work shed is now, and reconstructed the mill. That mill operated there seasonally until the mid 70's by J.L. Maxwell Spicer and also by C.E. Harrison's and Laurie Hannah for a couple of years. Taxation forced the demolition of the mill. (seems as Canadian as Tim Hortons)

I spent much of my youth playing and working around that second mill and last year, scratched an itch to play around with a mill of my own. Certainly not the employment provider that the previous generations of our family created but still keeping the family tradition alive!



All the equipment from that first mill was manually moved to a new site, the site where Peter Spicer's actual work shed is now (Contributed)



The first mill belonged to grandfather, Isaac Conrad Spicer and before him, his father John Nutting Spicer and John's father, the first Isaac Spicer, as they owned the mill that was part of the Spencer's Island Company that owned the ship yard. (Contributed)



Peter Spicer decked out in all the safety gear saws one of the logs harvested from his woodlot. (Contributed)



The new home for Peter Spicer's sawmill proudly displays the company name, "Seven Glutches Forest Products." (Contributed)

A Rock-Solid Future is NOW

By Craig Johnson

We are Recovering, re-building, & ready for renewal. Over the past two years I have written to you in autumn with a request for support. The Joggins Fossil Institute (JFI) was facing its greatest challenge in the Covid-19 pandemic, and I invited you to invest in a rock-solid future for JFI. This fall, thanks to your generous support, I am writing to say that we are now building that future.

JFI is re-covering, re-building, and ready to celebrate 15 years as a UNESCO World Heritage Site in 2023. We are recovering our tourism numbers.

In the last pre-pandemic season (2019), 13,272 visitors paid to visit the Joggins Fossil Centre and take a tour of the cliffs with JFI interpretive staff. Only 4,643 paid to visit the museum or take a guided tour in 2020, and just 5,269 did the same in 2021. Thankfully, visitors returned in a big way in 2022 with 12,181 paying admission at the centre.

We are re-building our

team. Our long-time Curator and Director of Paleontology, Dr. Melissa Grey, moved on to an academic position in 2020. Due to the uncertainty created by the pandemic we were not in a position to fill the role until this year. Thanks to the support of our donors, visitors, the Municipality of Cumberland, the Government of Nova Scotia, and the Government of Canada, JFI is moving out of the pandemic on rock-solid footing. As a result, this August we were pleased to announce that Dr. Jade Atkins joined our dynamic management team as our new Curator and Director of Paleontology.

We are ready to mark our 15th anniversary with renewal: fresh programming, an enhanced visitor experience, and investments in the Joggins Fossil Centre and grounds.

So, this fall, I ask that you consider making a donation in support of these efforts and help us shape the next 15 years.

As a not-for-profit, charitable organization, JFI's long-term success is reliant upon visitors and donors. Your continued support is shaping the future of the Joggins Fossil Cliffs UNESCO World Heritage Site. Please visit www.joggins-fossilcliffs.net/donate or call 1-888-932-9766.



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