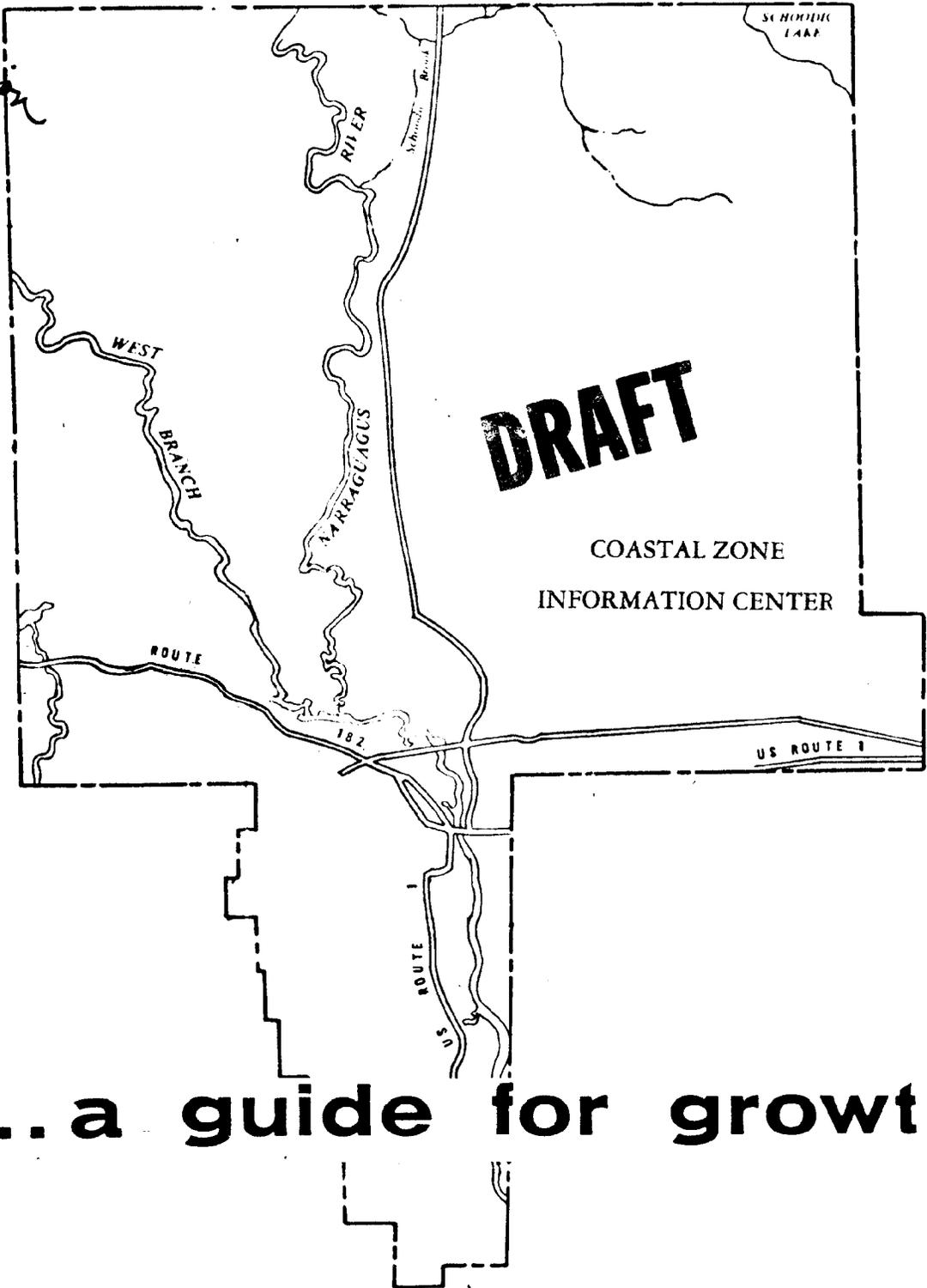


# Town Of CHERRYFIELD COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

*has no  
Zoning  
ordinance  
Recommendation*



*Zone  
enforcement program  
Created*

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... a guide for growth

THE CHERRYFIELD COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

CONTENTS

INTRODUCTION	1
HISTORY	3
THE LAND	5
USES OF THE LAND	9
CARRYING OUT THE PLAN	15
POPULATION	20
ECONOMIC ACTIVITY	26

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INFORMATION CENTER

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CHARLESTON, SC 29405-2413

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The Cherryfield Comprehensive Plan-  
A Guide for Growth

The Planning Board was appointed by the Selectmen to advise them and the Town Manager about the future of the Town. This Comprehensive Plan report describes the Town as it is today and as it may be tomorrow.

1. Introduction

The United States Chamber of Commerce in its publication "City Planning and Urban Development" states:

"City or urban planning in its simplest terms can be defined as intelligent forethought applied to the development of a community. A plan for a town, city, or metropolitan area is an outline which attempts to set down in words, maps, and charts a guide for public officials and private citizens in developing and using land. This plan is commonly known as the comprehensive, general, or "master" plan for the community.

"No business concern today can continue long in business without applying forethought to the efficient development of its physical plant, its financial capacity to improve its operations, and its responsibilities to the public in the form of goods and services. There is no basic difference between the concept of planning for private business and planning for a community."

A comprehensive plan has two basic functions:

1. Policy determination: The plan enables the town through its planning board to consider alternatives and agree upon a definite set of policies that will govern future physical development and a general physical design to be followed in carrying out these policies.
2. Current project review: The plan enables the Selectmen and Planning Board to view all specific projects upon which they must act against a clear picture of desirable future development for the entire town.

Since its settlement in 1757, the Town of Cherryfield has changed greatly. In the future it will also change and grow. This comprehensive plan is a guide for growth. It is a policy framework which will be used by the Planning Board and Selectmen in making decisions concerning the investment of both public and private funds in order to encourage the development of better residential areas, improved commercial and industrial sites and more adequate community facilities such as schools and parks.

The goal of this plan is to make Cherryfield a better place in which to live , work and play.

The town is a grouping of parts that are so closely interrelated that none can be considered separately in making intelligent recommendations. A proposed subdivision can not be reviewed by the Planning Board without considering the roads, sewers, water, schools, and shopping areas in the vicinity, and the effect that the subdivision with its homes and people will have upon them.

Land is one of the town's most valuable resources as well as the property of individuals. When it is put a particular use (civic buildings, factories, streets,etc.) this is generally a long term commitment. Real property is not like worn-out machinery which can be "written off the books" -- it remains as a permanent part of the town. A poorly located use will remain as an "eye-sore" for years. A use without proper road access or adequate water and sewer services will present problems throughout its life. For these reasons, the present and future uses of the land are legitimate concerns of the public as well as of the individual property owners.

This plan is a statement of policy prepared to guide further development. It is not a set on mandatory, hard and fast rules and regulations.

This plan is flexible and will be changed in the light of new conditions and new developments. It is not a rigidly imposed "straight jacket."

This plan is a program concerned with thinking constructively about the future of Cherryfield.

## HISTORY\*

Cherryfield, on the southwestern border of Washington County is situated on both sides of the Narraguagus River. This town was originally No. 11 of the "lottery Townships," fifty of which, situated between the Penobscot and St. Croix rivers, were included in the land lottery of 1786. The town was incorporated in 1816. Its first settlers had come in 1757. Milbridge Village is at the head of navigation on the Narraguagus, although Cherryfield is at the head of the tide five or six miles farther on.

The origin and development of the town of Cherryfield has been chiefly due to the Narraguagus River which divides the village into two nearly equal parts. It was for many years called Narraguagus. Vessels ascended to Milbridge within five and half miles of Cherryfield Village, and lumber was floated to that point in scows and rafts.

Cherryfield was first settled in 1757 by Ichabod Willey and Samuel Colson. Willey, and probably Colson, came from New Hampshire; the former was English born, or born soon after his parents came to this country. His wife, Elizabeth Bumford, was born in Londonderry, Ireland. Mr. Willey was a millwright, who built the first mill on the Narraguagus River. About 1760 two brothers, Thomas and Samuel Leighton, came from Falmouth to the Narraguagus; Joseph Bracy was a very early settler. John Bohannon, Samuel Colson and John Foster had arrived by 1763. John Lawrence came early from North Yarmouth, while Captain Josiah Tucker built a house and lived on the hill east of Samuel Ray's residence.

Alexander Campbell moved to that part of Steuben, now Cherryfield, where he built mills about 1772 or 1773. He first contemplated building on the privilege occupied by Forest Mill, but built a dam and tide mill down below. There was a mill built prior to this, perhaps owned by Joseph Wallace, Deacon Johnathan Stevens and others.

John Archer, an Englishman, a surveyor and teacher, took up a lot on the Beddington Road in the early settlement, was one of the assessors in 1812, and a member of the Committee of Safety. Shubal Hinckley, sometime prior to the Revolution, settled first on the east side of the river and then moved to the intervalle beyond the Archer place. The Fosters came to the river from Cape Elizabeth soon after the close of the Revolutionary War. They were English born and lived at Halifax, but had great sympathy for American independence.

The northeast part of Steuben was annexed to Cherryfield in 1826. Alexander Nickels first settled in Milbridge and then purchased the Todd lot in Cherryfield and built a mansion. He was concerned with the tide mill at the old shipyard. Issac Patten, by trade a tanner, came to Gouldsborough early and then moved to Foster's Island in Narraguagus Bay. Colonel Campbell relinquished some thirty acres of the large lot which he had taken up, and Mr. Patten established a tanyard near the creek. Joseph Bracy, a very early settler, already mentioned, finally bought a piece of land of the Todd or Nickels lot and built a house on the south side of the old County road that led to the bridge at Shipyard Point.

\*From Ava Harriet Chadbourne's Maine Place Names and the Peopling of Its Towns, 1957

The first meeting house was built on the east side of the river near the Campbell Mill. "The Belgrade," a full-rigged bark that carried fifty-six local men around Cape Horn to California during the gold rush, was built in this formerly active shipbuilding community.

Among later Cherryfield settlers was Dr. Benjamin Alline, surgeon in the Continental Army, who settled in Gouldsborough after the war. He moved to Cherryfield about 1790, the first physician in the vicinity. Joseph Adams came about 1807 from Massachusetts to Wiscasset, soon to Cherryfield. He was among the plantation officers in 1809 and from that time was identified with the town and with its interests. He held nearly every town office and was elected several times to the General Court. He often rode on horseback from Narraguagus to Boston and back again after the session. A man of fine personal presence and of genial manners, he was a member of the Committee of Safety in 1812, and a Representative, from 1821 to 1831, to the Legislature of the newly established State of Maine.

The census of 1790 lists the following additional heads of families in No. 11 at that date: John Jordan, Moses Roff, Gawing Wilson, John Anderson, John, Elisha, Ebenezer and John Small, Jr.

Cherryfield's claim to be "The Blueberry Capital of the World" is based upon its extensive blueberry barrens which also support the canning facilities operated by A.L. Stewart and Sons and Wyman Jasper and Son. Both factories also receive and process berries from other parts of the county.

## THE LAND

A series of maps has been prepared showing which parts of the town are most suitable (and least suitable) for residences, farms, industry and other activities.. Agreement to use the land in keeping with its capabilities is an important first step on improving property values, preventing adverse conditions which will be expensive to correct, and assuring sound growth of the town.

## ELEVATION

In general, Cherryfield lies predominantly between sea level and 200 feet of elevation, gently sloping upland to higher points on Pineo Ridge and west of the upper reaches of the Narraguagus River. A long ridge of land west of the West Branch of the Narraguagus exhibits a more sudden rise of land. This is an extension of a small band of mountains immediately to the west in Hancock County.

## SLOPES

Slopes are an important aspect of elevation. Whether an area is at sea level or 3000 feet above sea level is less important than knowing how steeply the land rises. Slope is measured as a percentage of the relationship between vertical distance and horizontal distance. If, for example, the ground rises 10 feet for every 100 feet of horizontal distance, the slope of the land is 10 divided by 100, or 10%. Slope is important when a piece of land is being considered for various kinds of development. Economically and physically, it is usually harder to develop a piece of steep land. Bedrock is usually closer to the surface, and runoff of rainwater or snowmelt increases velocity on steep slopes and makes erosion more likely. Development of steep slopes should be considered with care.

Cherryfield has few problems with steep slopes. Except for the western ridge coming in from Hancock County, most steep areas are small and isolated. Probably 90 to 95% of Cherryfield's land has a slope no greater than 8%.

## SOILS

Soil is the ground on which land uses occur. Therefore, the condition of the soil and soil types are important in land use decisions. Most soils in Maine, however, have only been mapped generally. A few areas have been studied intensively to determine their soil types, but most information available is the general soils mapping done by the Soil Conservation Service.

The soils groups mapped on this map for Cherryfield are general associations, mixtures of different types of soils. Their general analysis is dependent not only on the soils themselves, but also on how rocky they are, and on how steep the slopes on which they occur are. Although this map shows what kinds of soils are found in Cherryfield, the boundaries are not strict, and isolated pockets of radically different soils may be found upon closer investigation of a particular site. This is one reason why soils tests are important.

Unfortunately, most of the general soils associations in Cherryfield are not considered favorable for most kinds of development. The term "favorability" can be awkward, as in the case of some soils that are suitable to build houses or stores on, but which are notably unsuitable for sewage disposal. Poor soils do not, however, prohibit development. They can create limitations by which a town must determine what are the best uses for the land. Other-than-conventional uses may be called for. Larger than average lot sizes may be necessary. Other measures can be taken to use the land to its best capacity. The accompanying chart shows some of the constraints for the soils found in Cherryfield.

CHERRYFIELD GENERAL SOILS ANALYSIS

SOIL TYPE	TEXTURE	SLOPE	SEPTIC	COVER	HOUSES	PIPES	BUILD	PLAYG	CROPS	BLUEB
Adams	----	0-15 %	V	V	G-F	V	F-P	P-V	V	
Alluvials	----	0-3	V	V	V	V	V	V	V	
Belgrade	----	0-15	P	F	P	F	P	F-P	F-P	
Berkshire	----	0-15	G-F	F	F	G-F	F-P	F	P-V	
Biddeford	----	0-3	V	V	V	V	V	V	V	
Buxton	----	3-15	V	F	P	F	P	V	P-V	
Buxton-Scantic	----	0-8	V	V	V	V	V	V	V	
Colton	----	0-45	V	V	F	V	P	V	V	
Duane	----	0-15	V	V	F	V	F	V	P	
Elmwood	----	0-15	V	F	P	F	P	F	F	
Hermon	stony	3-45	F-P	V	F-P	P	P	V	P-V	
Leicester	stony	0-8	V	V	V	V	P	V	P-V	
Lyman	----	3-15	P	V	V	V	P	P-V	P	
Lyman	stony	0-45	V	V	V	V	P-V	V	V	
Lyman-Berkshire	stony	0-15	P	V	V	V	P	P-V	V	
Marlow	----	3-15	P	F	F	G-F	F-P	P	F-P	
Marlow	rocky	3-45	P-V	F-P	F	F	P-V	P-V	V	
Organic	----	0-3	V	V	V	V	V	V	V	
Peru	rocky	3-15	V	F	P	F	P	P-V	V	
Ridgebury	rocky	0-8	V	V	V	V	P	V	V	
Rockland	rocky	3-45	V	V	V	V	V	V	V	
Saco	----	0-3	V	V	V	V	V	V	V	
Scantic	----	0-3	V	V	V	V	P	V	P-V	
Scarboro	----	0-3	V	V	V	V	V	V	V	
Suffield	----	15-45	V	P-V	P-V	P-V	V	V	V	
Swanton	----	0-3	V	V	V	V	P	V	P	
Tidal	----	0-3	V	V	V	V	V	V	V	
Waumbek	stony	0-15	P	F	P	F	P	P-V	P-V	
Walpole	----	0-3	V	V	V	V	P	V	P	

- |                |   |
|----------------|---|
| E -- Excellent | SEPTIC -- on-site septic systems                          |
| G -- Good      | COVER -- cover materials for landfills                    |
| F -- Fair      | HOUSES -- residential houses                              |
| P -- Poor      | PIPES -- municipal sewer lines                            |
| V -- Very Poor | BUILD -- commercial buildings no more than 3 stories high |
|                | PLAYG -- playing fields                                   |
|                | CROPS -- cultivated crops                                 |
|                | BLUEB -- blueberry cultivation (no info. as yet)          |

From: "Soil Suitability Guide" Cooperative Extension Service, University of Maine, Orono, Maine, Misc. Publication No. 667 (Revised February 1975).

## SURFICIAL GEOLOGY AND GROUNDWATER FAVORABILITY

This map depicts several kinds of geological conditions found in Cherryfield. These conditions relate closely to the soil types found in the area and may influence the occurrence of groundwater.

The surficial geology underlies (usually) the topsoil and often is of inorganic materials. The exception is swamp deposits, made up of peat and muck, occurring in poorly drained areas. They may release water slowly to groundwater sources or to streams associated with them. They absorb flood waters during high runoff periods.

Marine deposits occur in areas where the sea once inundated the land, usually less than 100 feet above present sea level. The materials are silts, clays, and very fine sands, deposited as sediments. Water may be held in these materials, but it is released very slowly, though it is of good quality.

Outwash is made up of materials deposited as the last glacier retreated. It is described as stratified, or layered, deposits of sand and gravel, with some silt, clay, and cobbles. The areas are generally too small or too thin to be significant water resource areas. The water yielded, however, is usually soft and of good quality.

Ice-contact deposits are also stratified layers of sand and gravel. These can be quite thick and cover broad areas of land. They can serve as important water resource areas (aquifers and aquifer recharge areas holding large quantities of groundwater). The water is soft and of good quality.

Terminal moraines are unstratified, unsorted deposits of clay, silt, sand, gravel, cobbles, and boulders, interspersed with some stratified deposits of sand and gravel. They usually occur as long narrow ridges of materials (not always noticeable in the topography of the land surface as eskers are) that were dropped at the edge of the glacier as it stopped retreating temporarily. When moraines are thick enough, they are a good source of good water that is soft.

Till and bedrock, mapped together, represent the remainder of inorganic geologic materials. Bedrock in this area is mostly igneous rocks (granites) and metamorphic rocks (slate, shale, schist, quartzite, etc.). Bedrock formations are dense and relatively impermeable to water. Water is held and yielded through planes, fractures, and other breaks in the rock. The water is often under pressure and may rise high in wells. It is usually of good quality.

Till is an unsorted mixture of clay, silt, sand, gravel, and boulders. It may resemble ice-contact deposits, except for the lack of stratification; or it may be heavy in clay and boulders. It is a good source for water, though wells dug in till may go dry in summer. The water is soft and of good quality.

## YIELD AND DEPTH OF BEDROCK WELLS

This map shows where particular wells of high yield are located, and also where general high-yield areas are. The depth of these bedrock wells gives an idea of how far down drillers must go to reach sufficient water supplies, especially for industrial, commercial, or municipal purposes. An interesting counterpart to this map would be one showing high-yield wells in non-bedrock areas.

This map may not be entirely accurate in the boundaries and locations of yields areas and wells, because information was transferred from a map at 1:125,000 to this one, which is more than ten times larger. The in-town area was highly congested with information. The information, however, is generally correct and shows trends in well depth and capacity.

#### USES OF THE LAND

Most of the people in Cherryfield are fully aware of the rights of property owners, and the fact that these rights cannot be so unlimited so as to impair or destroy the value of a neighbor's property by water or air pollution, or other nuisance. The people in joining together to form a town, elect Selectmen, and appoint a Planning Board have taken another step toward assuring a bright future for their area. Sound fiscal and physical improvement planning for the future will not only protect the investments of the people, but will improve their tax base. The many kinds of land uses in Cherryfield have been recorded on a series of field maps showing not only general land uses, but also information on points of interest -- boat launching areas, town parks, and historical buildings. A summary of these maps is included in this report.

Cherryfield is currently sparsely populated and its rural character and open space reflect this. It can be generally described as a rural residential community. The existing land use map illustrates this.

As the town grows in the future it will be desirable to encourage expansion from the present center of essential services such as water supply, sewage disposal, retail services and community facilities. By so doing the Town can do much to reduce future servicing costs and at the same time protect the remaining rural open space and other natural resources. The alternative to this is widespread, scattered development and all the disadvantages of costly and extensive services or, as frequently occurs, no services at all.

With the above as a basic concept for future development, there are various means by which it may be realized. This cannot occur overnight since the residents do not have the means or the intention of attempting at once to provide all the services which will be needed in the future. A simple and basic means of encouraging the development of a village pattern, however, is to adopt land use standards which would encourage all the uses to occur in a central location and leave the balance of the community for a variety of uses, but in a less concentrated form. For example, the village area might contain a group of stores, some local office space, recreation facilities, churches, town offices, police station, fire station, and village residences at a higher density than outlying areas. The outlying areas in turn would contain residences on much larger parcels of land, farms, recreation and conservation areas, and here and there an occasional retail convenience outlet or service.

Such standards would also include requirements for potential industry. While no specific locations are currently suggested for industry, such standards would complement the soils data developed for the Town and make both site selection and performance standards very easy should the need arise. Adoption of the following Industrial Policy Statement is recommended.

The Town of Cherryfield is receptive to industrial development provided that:

1. It is a stable, solid enterprise.

2. It adapts itself to the community without disrupting it.
3. It does not create uncontrollable air or water pollution or any other nuisance.

Under these conditions, the Town encourages use of suitable areas for industrial development. Industrial development, in this frame of reference, includes the broad spectrum from production to research.

A further means of encouraging orderly growth is to identify future community needs and recommend ways of providing for them as required. In this way, the community may foresee situations before they become problems and then take the necessary steps.

#### HISTORIC BUILDINGS

The historic buildings of the town are interesting, not only in themselves, but as a link with (and reminder of) the past. The better known of these are:

First Baptist Church: Six individuals established the First Baptist Church in 1796. The original building was erected soon after but burned in 1903. The present structure was built in 1905. During the time of rebuilding services were held in Union Hall in the Cherryfield Academy.

First Congregational Church: The First Congregational Church was organized in 1833 by Rev. Elijah Kellogg under the sponsorship of the American Home Missionary Society. In the 1850's the Society built the present meeting house which remains today little changed. In 1964 the church became affiliated with the United Church of Christ and the Maine Sea Coast Missionary Society.

The Adams House: The Adams House, a home of fine proportions. This colonial house was built in 1793 and is considered to be the second oldest house in the town. It is now occupied by the fourth generation of Adams family.

The Clarence A. and Gladys C. Tucker Home: It has been in 2 states, 2 counties, and 2 towns. Massachusetts included what is Maine until it became a state. Lincoln County was divided to form Hancock and Washington Counties, and before the town lines were finally established the property was located in Steuben, thus placing the property in Massachusetts, then Maine, Lincoln County, then Washington County and the town of Steuben and then Cherryfield.

Not open to the public.

The Patten Building: Entered on the National Register of Historic Places in 1979, this designation indicates that the property is deemed worthy of preservation and protection as part of the Nation's historic and architectural heritage.

The Patten Building was erected in 1865 by Frank W. Patten to be used as a boot and shoe store and manufactory. Over the years it has served at one time or another as a meat market, a pool hall, a photography shop and a barber shop.

The structure is an example of a rural store built in the Italianate style.

The value of these buildings should be kept in mind and future developments not allowed to detract from them.

## HOUSING

The 1970 U.S. Census counted a total of 371 "Housing Units" in Cherryfield. (A housing unit is a detached home or an apartment). Of these, 268 were occupied and 103 vacant.

Two-hundred and sixty of the occupied units were year-round, and eight seasonal. Renters lived in 21 of the 260, 239 being owner occupied.

Only three structures with two or more units were identified. There were 13 mobile homes.

The Regional Planning Commission's 1975 survey counted 385 units -- an increase of 14 or about three new homes a year. That agency's housing element indicated that in the next few years 70 new homes may be built in Cherryfield to accomodate new families formed within the town (the children of residents growing up and moving out of their parents home) and newcomers to the area. This is only as estimate, but is useful for planning purposes.

Most of these homes will be scattered throughout the town, but there is a real possibility of one or more subdivisions being submitted to the Planning Board and a small number of homes being built for sale in the next few years.

The Planning Board's role is to ensure that these subdivisions are designed so as not to become a financial burden on the town.

## PUBLIC UTILITIES

Electric Power: Is available, usually dependable, although relatively expensive. Improved preventive maintenance by the Bangor Hydro-Electric Power Company might enhance dependability although ice storms cannot be controlled.

Telephone Service: At present toll free calls can be made from Cherryfield to Steuben, Milbridge, <sup>Madison</sup> Columbia, Columbia Falls, and Harrington. Improvement of dependability is desirable.

Water: Residents are depending upon their own wells and springs nearly entirely. This requires utmost care in the prevention of pollution that could result in bacterial or toxic infection with resultant disability or even death. It also requires that we designate areas where additional public water supply of good quality could be stored in future years by daming up brooks and springs. It also requires that utmost care be taken not to pollute in any way our water resources. This can be done by not installing inadequate sewage disposal systems and by referring to the Town's soils suitability maps before installing any system whatsoever. The minimum standards for the installation of septic disposal systems established by the State of Maine should be observed. All lots with no public water supply or public sewage disposal systems must now meet the State minimum of 20,000 square feet or, approximately  $\frac{1}{4}$  acre in size. A limited population of Cherryfield (4%) is served by the West Side Aqueduct Company, which supplies from a large well.

Sewage and Waste Disposal: There are only individual disposal units. At this time, we are not aware, at least, of any single major problem. Although the concentration of housing in the village area contributes to the Class SC rating of water quality in the Lower Narraguagus River. It is conceivable that in the future sewage pipes and a treatment plant may

be needed. Designation for a sewage treatment plant now would be an important first step and eliminate uncertainty that might slow development. A location in the vicinity of the proposed village development area would be logical since this would eventually be an area of concentrated service from which further expansion might later occur.

#### COMMUNITY FACILITIES AND SERVICES

Municipal Government: While the administrative facilities of the Town at present appear to be adequate, provision should be made to designate a location where a municipal building might best serve its residents. If and when the time comes that Cherryfield must have full time municipal officers, a treasurer's office, a police department, and others, a building could be constructed without disturbing anyone else and perhaps without having to pay an exorbitant price. The same applies to housing of town owned vehicles (public works) in future years. Again, a site within the village area appears to be a logical and central location most convenient to the residents of the Town.

Fire Protection: Fire protection is hampered by lack of a public water supply system, dependance on ponds and brooks for our pumper, and tank truck of limited capacity. Improvements can be achieved by strengthening regional assistance between the neighboring communities or pooling regional resources in strategic locations. Long range planning should include provisions for a Town water system with adequate numbers of hydrants. This will prove very costly because of the size of the community and dispersal of properties. This fact adds to the desirability of a relatively compact village area which could be economically served by a public system which in turn could be later extended into the outlying areas as the need arose.

Law Enforcement: Currently, State Police, County Sheriff's Department, and Town Constable complement protective services. For the time being, this seems adequate for most occasions. If for any reason an increase in police coverage becomes necessary in the future, an increase in deputized sheriffs on a part-time or project basis is favored over a full-time police force. The Town should plan on setting aside funds for two-way radio transmitters in certain locations as the need for quick communications might become apparent.

Health Services: Cherryfield does not have a resident physician in General Practice. Such services are available in Milbridge, Harrington, Ellsworth and Machias. Ambulance Service is available to Cherryfield residents through the Cherryfield Ambulance Corp.

The closest Hospital Facilities are in Ellsworth and Machias. Cherryfield residents also utilize the hospital in Bar Harbor. More complete medical services are at Eastern Maine Medical in Bangor.

Educational Opportunities: Cherryfield is a member of School Administrative District #37. Elementary education is at the Cherryfield Elementary School for Grades 1-8, and high school education is provided at Narraguagus High School in Harrington.

Adult evening education and college credit courses are available in nearby towns and cities within commuting distance. This is also true in respect to college education at the University of Maine, Machias and the schools in Bangor and Orono.

The need for a day care center for pre-school children and another nursery school should be examined and kept current in the years to come, as such facilities may make a definite difference for many young people when considering living in Cherryfield.

#### HIGHWAYS, ROADS, TRANSPORTATION

Access to Cherryfield is provided by U.S. Route 1 and State Routes 182 and 193.

The Town should consider adding sidewalks to certain existing roads to make pedestrian walking and bike-riding safe.

Attention should be given to the repair and particularly to the reconstruction of existing bridges.

Street lights and signs should be financed similar to the way in which the Town gradually improves roads. Lights tend to deter crime and add to traffic safety.

Width of roads, highways, and intersections should be sufficient to facilitate plowing and snow removal in the winter and to allow safe parking in appropriate locations. Acceptable standards of width are:

- Local roads: 50 feet
- Collector roads: 60 feet
- Arterial highways: 80 to 100 feet

The Town should establish strict acceptance standards for new streets and regulations for subdivision of land and its use.

Public transportation within the Town is presently non-existent. Greyhound's Boston - St. Stephen route schedules four stops daily in nearby Milbridge and Harrington. The buses run through Cherryfield both ways. The Washington-Hancock Community Action Agency provides some service to special groups (elderly and handicapped). Scheduled air service is available at Bar Harbor and Bangor.

The residents of Cherryfield are basically dependent upon private automobiles for transportation. Those without cars must rely primarily upon friends and neighbors.

The Maine Central Railroad maintains track through Cherryfield for freight transport. This railroad carries lumber, wood products and other cargo to and from Washington County. A rail yard is based on a spur on the eastern edge of town.

West's Transportation of Milbridge is currently considering establishing a rural bus service to Ellsworth from Cherryfield, Milbridge, Steuben, Gouldsboro, Winter Harbor, Sullivan and Hancock. This service could be of great value to the people of the Town. Mr. West should be encouraged in his efforts to start it.

#### RECREATION

Recreation facilities presently are limited to hiking, fishing, hunting, horseback riding, and, more recently, snowmobiling. Facilities include:

Indoor recreation: Limited to the second floor of the Town Office Building (the former Cherryfield Academy.)

Narraguagus Park: 5 picnic tables/3 shelters

Narraguagus River: canoeing/fishing (salmon)

Weald Bethel: religious retreat open to public/picnic tables/nature trail

Blueberry Factories: blueberries are processed and packaged/tours are given upon request

Black Woods Road: (Route 182) scenic highway leading to Ellsworth, passes through wooded area with many lakes

Cherryfield Hill Rest Area: 4 picnic tables/3 fireplaces/2 shelters/toilet

Overnight Facilities:

Tennis Courts:

The Selectmen are considering the creation of a Recreation Board. Such a board would be an official body of the town responsible for general leisure development in the community. It would be composed of appointed or elected citizens who are particularly interested in stimulating interest and development of recreation opportunities for the citizens of Cherryfield.

Its function would be:

- To provide information to the citizens of the municipality concerning the functions of the Board and the leisure opportunities available.
- To assist in the development of leisure goals and objectives for the municipality.
- To serve as an individual municipal resource for leisure development.
- To serve as a vital resource to other municipal bodies.
- To provide citizen participation in the process of extending leisure development and improving existing services.
- To assist in the planning and development of leisure facilities and programs.
- To report to the municipal officers of the progress and requirements of the Board.

There are two options open to a town wishing to legally establish a Board.

1) The Town may develop an article for the warrant as follows: *"To see if the Town will vote to establish a Recreation Board - the members to serve 3-year staggered terms and to be appointed by the municipal officers. The duties of the Board to be determined by the legislative body."*

2) An alternative approach would be to draw up an Ordinance outlining the structure, powers and duties of the Recreation Board and have the Town vote on the following article: *"Shall an Ordinance entitled 'Cherryfield Recreation Ordinance be enacted?'"*

A cross representation of the community is a desirable membership ingredient. Youth, adults and special interest people are all helpful. Most important is the desire to become involved and accept responsibility.

When formed, the Board should, among other things, make a study of Town lands to determine if any are appropriate for future development for recreation use. Particular attention should be given to lands along the river.

## CARRYING OUT THE PLAN

Having a planning policy and carrying it out are two different things. The planning policy is advisory only and may be readily changed as the circumstances dictate. Carrying out any policy, however, requires private actions and support and public action

Public action includes a number of steps which most towns take over a period of years. Sensible budgeting to provide for needs in order of priority is one of the best ways of providing needed services. This should be accomplished as a joint effort of the Selectmen, the Budget Committee and the Planning Board -- and, good public relations prior to Town meeting.

Cherryfield has a building ordinance to ensure that buildings are properly and safely constructed. This is the best way of preventing substandard shacks and other structures.

Other steps involve the adoption of standards to make sure that the growth of the Town does not harm the health, welfare, or safety of Cherryfield's residents. It is strongly recommended that the Town consider the development of standards for the following:

- |                                    |  |
|------------------------------------|--|
| <u>Land Use</u>                    | to encourage the development of a central village area and ensure that all future uses develop harmoniously with the environment and each other.   |
| <u>Subdivision</u>                 | to ensure that land is subdivided in a practical and logical way in order to protect the interests of potential buyers and eliminate unnecessary maintenance problems for the Town in the future. This should include mobile home park areas.  |
| <u>Housing</u>                     | to ensure that everybody lives in a decent, safe and sanitary dwelling. This also usually deals with items such as plumbing and wiring. Such standards are in everybody's interest. It is usually areas where no such minimum standards exist that slums develop and where the greatest community costs for health, welfare and fire protection occur. |
| <u>Recreation</u>                  | to ensure that the community provides for the recreational needs of its inhabitants. This can best be done by acquiring recreational easements, by purchasing land with assistance from the State and Federal Government as part of the Open Space Program, and by making the best possible use of existing facilities, especially school plant.       |
| <u>Conservation</u>                | to ensure that wildlife and our precious natural resources are protected from thoughtless development or needless abuse.   |
| <u>Air and Water<br/>Pollution</u> | to ensure that the environment we depend upon for life does not become an instrument of disease and possible death because of our own thoughtless contaminations.  |

ORDINANCE EFFECTIVENESS CHART

Town CHERRYFIELD

Pop. 1030

Date August 16, 1978

Code or Ordinance	Does the Town have one ?	Is the code effective ?	Is it enforced ?	Is the permit process adequately exercised ?	Is improvement in the code needed ?	Is the enforcing agent effective ?	Is improvement in enforcement needed ?	Comments or Suggested Improvements
Building Permit Ordinance	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Partly	Partly	Town has no fine system for violations. Permit system maintained to keep track of growth trends.
Subdivision Review Process	State	Yes	Yes	Partly	Yes	Yes	No	Town would like to set up its own guidelines for subdivisions. Only 2 in town now. Feels present review process not adequate.
Shoreland Zoning Ordinance	Yes	Yes	Yes	--	No	Yes	No	No problems in town.
State Plumbing Code	State	Yes	Partly	Yes	Yes	Partly	Yes	Code effective in new construction No CEO in town; no provision in law for enforcement to handle violations.
Solid Waste Management	Yes	Yes	Yes	--	No	Yes	No	Town questions enforcing individuals to use town dump instead of their back-yard dumps. Town asks how to enforce this.
Shellfish Ordinance	No	--	--	--	--	--	--	No salt water coastline carrying significant amounts of shellfish. Some tidal river influence.

All of the above can be achieved by our willingness to protect and preserve what we now have or what we may have in the foreseeable future. More important is the belief that we should hand on to the generations which follow the best conditions we can create with our limited means. In this way, perhaps, they will not have to wrestle with the problems facing many communities today.

In addition to local regulations, there are many state controls over development. These are summarized on the following pages.

## LAW

## SITUATION

## CONTACT

## Site Location Law

Development of a land or water area in excess of 20 acres; gravel areas over 5 acres if not regulated by Dept. of Transportation; developments with air emissions; developments involving re-shaping of the earth's surface in excess of 60,000 sq. ft. (1.5 acres); and certain subdivisions.

Bureau of Land Quality Control, Dept. of Environmental Protection, Augusta, 289-2111

## Minimum Lot Size Law

Building a single family dwelling with conventional underground sewage disposal on a lot less than 20,000 sq. ft. ( $\frac{1}{2}$  acre). The lot must have at least 100 ft. of frontage if it borders on any body of water. (Lots served by a municipal sewer system are exempt from this law.)

*Local*  
Council, Board of Selectman, or Planning Board. Or Bureau of Land Quality Control, Dept. of Environmental Protection, Augusta, 289-2111

## Subdivision Law

Subdividing a parcel of land into 3 or more lots within any 5-year period (except lots given to relatives, transferred to abutting owner(s), or where one lot is kept by landowner.)

Council, Board of Selectmen, or Planning Board of that municipality.

Also prohibited is the sale of development of lot(s) of a subdivision not approved by the municipality.

## Great Ponds Act

Construction of causeways, bridges, marinas, wharves, other permanent structures; beach construction, filling, and/or dredging, in or on land adjacent to a great pond, including inland wetlands.

Bureau of Land Quality Control, Dept. of Environmental Protection, Augusta, 289-2111. Or any local Fish and Wildlife warden or other law enforcement officers.

## Rivers and Harbors Act

Construction in, alterations to, or obstructions of navigable waters of the U.S., below the mean high water mark.

Army Corps of Engineers, 424 Trapelo Rd., Waltham, MA 02154

## Shoreland Zoning Act

Alteration or construction on shorelands of organized towns within 250 ft. of the mean high water mark, fresh or salt.

Municipal Officers of the town in which offense occurs; or State Planning Office, Augusta, 289-3261

NOTE: Alteration or construction on shorelands or any other lands within the unorganized townships.

Land Use Regulation Commission, Augusta, ME 289-2631

## Coastal Wetlands Act

Construction in or alteration of a coastal wetland, which includes all tidal and sub-tidal lands subject to tidal action or normal storm flowage. Alteration includes dredging, filling, and draining.

Bureau of Land Quality Control, Dept. of Environmental Protection, Augusta, 289-2111. Or local Dept. of Marine Resources Coastal Warden.

## LAW

## SITUATION

## CONTACT

Conversion of Seasonal Dwellings in Shoreland Areas Law

Converting a seasonal dwelling to a permanent dwelling intended for year-round use, without updating the sewage disposal system, providing it to be sufficient, or tying into a public collection system.

Local Plumbing Inspector, or the municipal authorities. Or Dept. of Human Services, Bureau of Health Engineering, Augusta, 289-3826.

Alteration of Rivers, Streams, and Brooks Act

Dredging, filling, or building permanent structures in, on, or over any river, stream, or brook above head of tide, or on the land adjacent to such waters.

Dept. of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife, Augusta, 289-2766. Or any local Fish & Game Warden.

Dam Building Law

Construction of dam or other obstruction of any river, stream, or brook.

Dept. of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife, Augusta, 289-2766. Or any local Fish & Game Warden.

Open Burning

Open burning of any kind. Even with a permit, burning is prohibited during periods of dangerous weather conditions, within 25 ft. of a public way, without sufficient supervision, or without regard to Maine Forestry Dept. or local fire regulations.

Local forest ranger, town fire wardens.

Dumping or Discharging

Depositing or discharging, directly or indirectly, any wastes or refuse into inland or tidal waters, onto the ice, or on the banks such that such refuse may fall, wash, or leach into the waters.

Bureau of Land Quality Control, Dept. of Environmental Protection, Augusta, 289-2111.

Oil Spills

Toll Free Oil Spills Only, 1-800-482-0777.

Solid Waste Management Act

Depositing or dumping refuse or trash within 300 feet of any body of water.

Bureau of Land Quality Control, Dept. of Environmental Protection, Augusta, 289-2111

## POPULATION

Washington County and Cherryfield reached their peak populations in 1900 when the U.S. Census reported that 45,232 persons lived in the County. Rapid advances in transportation systems, though slow in this county, began to affect the economy everywhere. Railroad systems across the country made goods as available or more so than shipping by water. By the 1920's land travel had improved to such a degree that many prosperous towns along the coast, strategically located for trade advantages when travel was predominantly by sea, were bypassed. As this century progressed, inland roadways have become more and more the major trucking route for shipment of goods. Those roads that lead to towns on the sea are basically dead ends. Towns originally separated by only a few minutes' travel by water are now fifty or a hundred miles apart by land. The local economy began to falter in these isolated places and the young people moved away to find fresh opportunities elsewhere. Vessels in formerly bustling harbors lay idle at their moorings.

Another cause for the faltering economy was the development of substitute products, such as concrete in place of granite, and metal ships, requiring less maintenance, in place of wooden ones. As they began to move onto the market, these products disrupted the economy in areas that provided natural products.

World War I precipitated rapid advances in technology and drew young people of Maine to the cities seeking an exciting life and job. The entire nation swung into the irresponsible 1920's. In 1920 the census reported only 41,800 residents in Washington County; in 1930, only 37,800. Then the depression of the thirties set in and the headcount steadied for a decade. Perhaps news of poverty in the cities discouraged those who might otherwise have left their homes.

The decline picked up again in the forties with the Second World War. The entire nation, not just Maine and Washington County, experienced the migration of promising young generations moving from rural areas to the cities. Right up until 1970, residents of this county kept moving to urban areas, where they felt the opportunities were better. Though the state showed an increase in population in the sixties, this county continued to lose. Gloomy predictions, forecasting a continued decline for the county, followed the 1970 census of only 29,859 persons, the lowest it's been since the 1840's. It seemed that there was nothing to attract people to this county that other areas didn't have.

By 1973, however, those gloomy predictions had been proven false. Though only an estimate, the figure for the 1978 population reached 34,000 showing growth in the county for the first time since the turn of the century. This figure was no fluke: population in Washington County since 1970 has increased at an average of 500 -600 persons per year. During the same period, Cherryfield grew from 771 to 980.

No obvious major economic advancements have taken place here in the last seven years; what is it about Washington County that is suddenly attractive? What kinds of people are moving here?

A pattern had begun in the mid-sixties along the southern and mid-coast areas; by the beginning of this decade it had reached this county. Cries for environmental action, loudest in the centers of ecological conflict, the urban centers, brought a new awareness to our people whose nation had

been partly founded on a belief that all growth is good. To an extent this was true, but these centers of conflict showed where we had overstepped our limits. Spurred by a rash of books on natural systems and environmental abuse and by the deterioration of urban and suburban life, people began moving from the cities to less heavily developed areas, first to the well-known areas of the coast, and later inland to the rolling farmlands and eastward to include this county.

The migration is still underway. Though the outflow of Maine residents is still great, the inflow is large enough to show a net increase in population. "Back-to-the-earth hippies" receive perhaps more than their share of attention, for the majority of immigrants are young and middle-aged men and women, some married, some with children, according to a report by Louis A. Ploch of the University of Maine, called "Maine's New Pattern of In-Migration". This large survey in 1976 found that many live on farmland, but do not farm professionally. The majority of immigrants in any one working category are so-called white-collar workers. These include engineers, nurses, physicians, teachers, lab technicians, members of the clergy, artist and artisans, government workers, and other occupations of this type. The jobs require a relatively high level of education. These young, energetic, working-age people may provide new initiative and motivation to municipalities. The emigrants appear to be educated young people, leaving low-skilled workers in the area. The new immigrants, half of whom have completed four years of college, may maintain or improve the quality of the labor force (Ploch, 1976).

"Quality of life" seems to be a major motivation for the move to Maine (and subsequently Washington County), according to this survey conducted by the University of Maine at Orono in 1976. Not only the physical deterioration of urban and suburban areas drives people away from them, but also the occupational and social pressures repel them. An abundance of museums, libraries, theater, and other services may provide a cultural atmosphere not always present in rural Maine, but these are not always enough to balance against what is known as the "rat-race" - the 9-to-5 time punch, the apathy among employees for work that offers no challenge, no room for initiative or imagination, the "keeping-up-with-the Joneses" expected of urban and suburban dwellers. Though we like to joke about these things, they present serious physical and mental health problems for people in these areas. They are willing to give up higher paying jobs to move to Maine, to Washington County, to get something better -- fresh, clean water and air, open space, beauty, a more relaxed or more challenging lifestyle, or something they haven't yet defined to themselves.

(Prohibitively high land prices and taxes in more rapidly growing areas surely have been an incentive to move here as well. Land has been consistently low-priced compared to other parts of Maine and New England, making lots available to young families who might not otherwise be able to afford to buy.)

Small towns are particularly popular with these immigrants. Over two-thirds of them originally came from counties of over 200,000 in population. Most immigrants from Maine are from the northeastern region of the United States, especially New England (Ploch, 1976).

Though many immigrants are older persons, returning to their native state or retiring after years of visiting, the majority falls between the ages of 24 - 64 years of age, with 51% under 35 years of age. (Ploch, 1976).

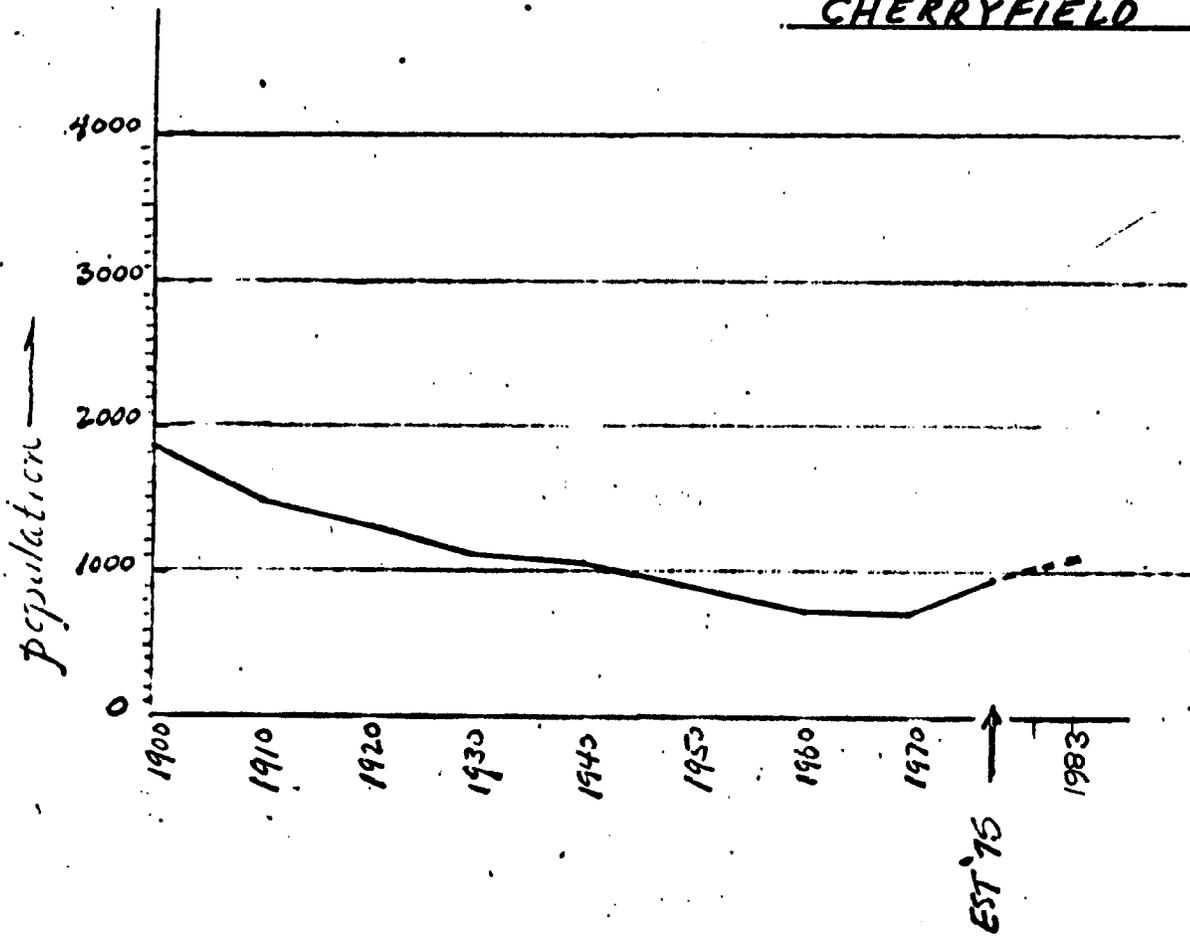
This may seem contradictory to conditions in Washington County, which has a high ratio of retired persons (over 65) to county population.

It appears, however, that many of the wealthier counties are increasing in percent of retired persons to overall population, while the poorer counties are beginning to decrease in percent of retired population. This can be explained in a number of ways. The "richer" south and mid-coastal counties have a greater attraction to retirees: these are the traditional vacation-resort areas. They have well-developed municipal and health care services and, though essentially rural, are close to population centers. The "poorer" northern and eastern counties (including Washington County), extremely rural and distant from service centers or having little commercial and industrial development, fail to attract larger numbers of retirees that "richer" areas do.

The high "over 65" population in these "poorer" areas represents natives who never left, who were living in these areas during the great migrations of young people to urban areas. (Aroostook County, the only county still experiencing population decreases, reflects this theory: its "over 65" ratio is still growing because it is still losing population, its young people, while other counties whose "over 65" ratios are growing are experiencing population increases). Thus it may be safe to say that Washington County is attracting a larger proportion of young immigrants to old immigrants than some other areas of the state. This is supported by the fact that, though in 1970, the "over 65" percent was at 14.9, by 1975 it shrank to 14.5. The state increased from 11.6 to 11.8 percent over that five-year period, according to the Maine Bureau of Vital Statistics, Department of Human Services.

So while it is at present not possible to get accurate statistics on just who is moving to Washington County, the available population breakdown by age and the statewide trend would indicate an increasing population of young to middle-aged persons.

CHERRYFIELD



COMMUNITY PROFILE  
OF  
CHERRYFIELD  
WASHINGTON COUNTY

PREPARED BY THE STATE PLANNING OFFICE  
\*\* DEMOGRAPHIC CHARACTERISTICS \*\*

TABLE 2

YEAR	POPULATION BY AGE				TOTAL	POPULATION DENSITY		
	0-4	5-17	18-44	45-64		65+	ACREAGE 1000 S	SQ MILE
TOWN	51	174	204	191	151	29.3	45.6	16.8 17.7 5.4x
1975	49	179	241	185	155			
% OF TOTAL 1975	6.1x	22.1x	29.8x	22.9x	19.2x			
COUNTY	2232	7045	8630	6344	4260	1074.5	1678.9	16.9 18.8 11.2x
1975	2491	7649	10557	6118	4546			
% OF TOTAL 1975	7.9x	24.2x	33.5x	19.4x	14.4x			
STATE	84175	257777	327279	203123	114002	11337.9	17715.5	55.8 59.4 6.5x
1975	81530	260424	381857	203382	124446			
% OF TOTAL 1975	7.0x	24.8x	36.3x	19.3x	11.0x			

TABLE 3

ELEMENTS OF POPULATION CHANGE 1970 - 1975	ANNUAL AVERAGES					
	POP CHANGE	BIRTHS	DEATHS	NATURL INCRS	NET MIGRT	POP CHANGE
TOWN	38	57	83	-26	64	8
COUNTY	3114	2845	2455	390	2724	623
STATE	64231	97748	64599	33149	31082	12846

SOURCE: U.S. BUREAU OF THE CENSUS AND MAINE DEPT. OF HUMAN SERVICES

MUNICIPAL POPULATION PROJECTIONS  
11/16/78

REGION	1970	1978	1979	1980	1981	1982	1983	PCT CHG
CHERRYFIELD	771	980	1000	1020	1040	1070	1090	41.4x
SPO PROJECTIONS				1980	1981	1982	1983	70-83

TECHNICAL SERVICES DIVISION

PREPARED BY THE STATE PLANNING OFFICE

DATE: 3/ 2/77

COMMUNITY PROFILE  
OF  
CHERRYFIELD  
WASHINGTON COUNTY

SOCIAL CHARACTERISTICS \*\*

TABLE 1

PUBLIC SCHOOL ENROLLMENTS

	TOTAL ENROLLMENTS		ELEMENTARY ENROLLMENTS		SECONDARY ENROLLMENTS	
	1970	1975	1970	1975	1970	1975
TOWN	177	162	120	116	59	66
COUNTY	7034	7130	5057	4905	1977	2145
STATE	241619	247063	174626	173173	67181	73890

SOURCE: MAINE DEPT. OF EDUCATION

TABLE 2

SUMMARY OF MAJOR SOCIAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM ACTIVITY

GENERAL ASSISTANCE

	FY 1976		FY 1977		FY 1977	
	CASES	EXPENSES	CASES	EXPENSES	PEOPLE	EXPENSES
TOWN	173	152	0	\$246	5	\$1716
COUNTY	4625	3849	3164	\$92188	1023	\$72169
STATE	74481	62941	146806	\$3980099	48895	\$3532915

SOURCE: MAINE DEPT. OF HUMAN SERVICES

12/23/77

PROJECTED NUMBER OF HOUSEHOLDS IN

REGION	1970	1975	1977	1980	1982	CHANGE
Cherryfield	260	340	370	410	430	65.4%

## ECONOMIC ACTIVITY

Population growth is all well and good, but for it to be sustained, the number of jobs must increase proportionally. Since 1970, the county's population has increased by about 550 persons per year. Even eliminating those who are not of working age -- children or retirees -- a great number of eligible workers are entering the labor force each year in Washington County, a county with consistently high unemployment rates.

High unemployment is usually indicative of low average income levels, and Washington County is no exception. Two graphs at the end of this chapter, illustrating per capita income levels and household buying income, show how Washington County compares to other counties, to the state as a whole, and to the nation. The low average income (per capita and per household) and its average of increase is surprisingly far behind other Maine counties and the nation, and is falling further behind all the time.

## ECONOMY

Until the 20th Century, Washington County experienced a population growth typical of the nation. An abundance of natural resources and a great demand for the products of these resources encouraged settlement and growth in the area before the American Revolution.

The natural resources of the area, attractive to settlers, contributed highly to growth and prosperity. Deep, protected harbors, lumber available for homes and shipbuilding, and a wealth of fish species guaranteed a living from the sea. Towns were built where access to deep water and to the ocean were readily available, for the seas were the highways. With only a little more than two hundred miles of water, about two or three days' sailing, between the area (known as the Machias District) and Boston, and not much farther to New York and other major cities, a coasting schooner crew could make a handsome profit transporting goods to and from these familiar ports. The elegance of the historical houses throughout the region attests to the prosperity of those times.

Lumber is perhaps the most well-known of the products of Maine. Older cities and settlements to the west and south had exhausted their supplies of native wood and needed to import lumber to continue growth. "long lumber" (to be cut into necessary dimensions after shipment), planks, and boards constituted the major bulk of the cargo. "Short lumber" included clapboards, laths, fence posts, and shingle bolts. Timber for boatbuilding -- hardwoods, juniper, and hackmatack for knees, and masts and spars of softwoods -- composed another large segment of the shipment. Hemlock bark for tanning, shingles, box shooks for containers, hoops, barrel staves, and ties and posts for the railroads made up the rest of the load. The West Indies made good customers for they were starved constantly for wood products. Though Bangor was most famous as a lumber town, Calais, Machias, Cherryfield, and other towns along the eastern coast held their own in production (Rowe, 1948).

Besides the lumber business, granite and building stone brought income to the people of Washington County. Jonesport was well-known in the Machias District for its high-quality granite, as well as Beals, Calais, Addison, Bucks Harbor, and other towns. Granite blocks were used in the cities for foundations, pillars, and steps of public buildings. Cobblestones from rough beaches paved the city street. In the late 1800's the state enjoyed a brief mining boom. Lubec and Petit Manan contributed silver; Cherryfield,

silver and gold; and Trescott, several different minerals (Maine Bicentennial Atlas, 1976).

Fishing, the initial attraction of the coast, has continued to be a primary industry in most coastal towns. Though never booming the way lumber and shipbuilding did, the fishing industry has remained perhaps the most consistent source of income, in spite of its economic fluctuations. Cod, haddock, menhaden, porgy, herring, and other fish species supplied oils and salt fish not only to the coastal communities of the young nation, but also to other countries whose own fisheries were overworked. Clams, other shellfish, and herring are still packed in a variety of sauces throughout the county, but not to the extent that they were in the past.

Sheer size of numbers in the statistics given for production of these various industries should give an idea of the healthy population of 19th Century Washington County. Nearly two thousand ships were registered in the Machias District in the boom of the 1800's. Harrington alone had eighteen master shipbuilders. Calais boasted 36 sawmills and 272 vessels shipping lumber. Its population doubled between 1810 and 1820, then quadrupled during the next ten years. In 1860, this town shipped out over 85 million feet of long lumber. In two weeks' time in 1857, Machias shipped out nearly two million feet of lumber (Rowe, 1948).

The advent of the railroad hurt neither the shipping nor the lumber industries in this county. These businesses took advantage of the railroad to draw lumber out of the deep woods down to the docks for loading. Two short lines were built in Washington County. One built in 1863 drew lumber from Whitneyville to Machias. The other, between Calais and Milltown, was built in 1839, extended to Baring in 1851, then shortly thereafter it was further extended to serve Princeton. Railroad ties, posts, and other goods were shipped out for use by budding rail companies in other parts of the country. Except for the line that ran through Vanceboro from Mattawamkeag, Maine Central Railroad did not expand its lines into Washington County until early in the 20th Century (Rowe, 1948; Maine Bicentennial Atlas, 1976.)

What are the reasons for this poverty?

Lack of industry is one answer. Washington County has experienced little industrial growth. What growth we've had has been on the small commercial scale -- new stores, motels, shops, and offices. Some government jobs have opened up, and other jobs have opened in the non-manufacturing field. This blue-collar-worker-county with jobs primarily in the manufacturing field is slowly converting into a more non-manufacturing county. In 1970, about 38% of all jobs were in manufacturing; in 1975, only about 31% were in manufacturing. Other than the paper mill in Woodland, we have no industrial centers. With the exception of Calais (pop. 4400), all of our towns are under 4000 in population, and all but seven are under 1000. Industry needs population to support it; population needs industry to support it. In spite of the surprising growth rate over the last seven years, Washington County's population at present isn't big enough to support a large industrial complex.

Most economic activity here is related to natural resource-based industries. Few of the resources have been developed beyond their primary state where they are made into final products ready for use by the consumer. "Value-added" industries bring in people and income. Exporting raw resources is a common practice here, bringing more money to outsiders than to county

residents. A piece of furniture made in Washington County, however, brings money not only to the person who cut the tree, but also the the person who milled the wood and to the person who made the furniture. In addition, higher skilled labor usually means that a worker is employed year-round.

Sustained population depends primarily upon increased economic activity. Economic growth to date has revolved around the use of our natural resources. More extensive development of the following resources would insure economic stability that would support a growing population.

Forestry has always been the major industry in Washington County. Forests cover 92% of Washington County's land area. Pulp and paper and lumber products are the major industrial use of our woodlands. Some value-added industries such as printing, furniture manufacturing, and prefabricated housing could provide added income to Washington County.

In the fishing industry, shellfish brings in the greatest landed value. Many species of finfish are either ignored or underutilized due to the lack of capital to finance harvesting and processing. The Washington County Vocational Technical Institute in Calais provides a positive note: it is developing the Marine Trades Center to be located in Eastport, designed to help local fishermen. The Center plans to offer instruction to experienced as well as to new fishermen. They will help develop techniques for harvest of fish species during the winter, teach equipment repair, and offer instruction in other aspects of the modern fishing trade. Aquaculture is still in its experimental stage in Maine. The possibilities of this industry will become more feasible in the future considering the prevalent bays and harbors along our coast. If shellfish resources, already threatened, become in danger of commercial extinction because of pollution, predators, and overharvesting, aquaculture may become a logical alternative.

Lowbush blueberries are the backbone of agriculture in Washington County. Growing on the barrens and on former cropland, blueberries make up about 80% of the total crop for the state. The Jasper Wyman and Son and A.L. Stewart and Sons, both located in Cherryfield, process a major share of the crop. This industry, though seasonal and low skill, provides many jobs and brings in millions of dollars a year into the county. As new techniques for propagation, fertilization, and increased production are developed and applied, this important cash crop will become increasingly valuable to Washington County's Economy. The seasonal peak is leveled somewhat at the two factories by processing other crops including beans, corn apples, strawberries and cherries.

Peat moss is a little-developed industry, suprisingly so in light of the thousands of tons of harvestable, marketable peat in the county. Only three operations function today in the county. Primitive working conditions limit this industry to mostly seasonal production. The demand for peat is high, and most high-quality peat, such as that found in Maine, is presently imported from Finland, Denmark, Norway, Ireland, and Canada. Popular peat items that could be produced here are pressed pots, strips, and cubes for starting plants indoors. Peat-vermiculite-fertilizer mixes are also popular. Native resources, such as seaweeds, clamshells, fishwastes, manure, granite dust, and sawdust could be added to the peat.

Tourism, a major industry in this county, will probably continue at its present rate. Our county has a great deal to offer in beauty and history that has attracted people for decades. Leisure time has encouraged tourists to spend more time in eastern Maine. The lengthened tourist season brings more income to county residents.

Several major industrial projects have been proposed that could be of economic importance to Washington County. Tidal power projects, deep water ports, and oil refineries have been the most widely-discussed projects. Nowhere on the East Coast are there currents, tides, and deep water like those in eastern Maine.

Development of a deep water port facility, non-existent at present in this county, could provide an important lift to the economy. Eastport is planning such a facility. Deep-water piers and wharves would service large freighter ships, and several ships at a time could be loading potatoes, paper products, fish products, and other locally manufactured goods, and unloading goods necessary to the area's businesses and industries. A well-planned port facility could easily compete with Searsport or Portland.

The Passamaquoddy Tidal Power Project was one of the first major proposals for generating electricity from the tides. This idea has been resurrected many times in the past. As conventional energy production becomes more expensive, the Passamaquoddy project will become more feasible in terms of its cost-effectiveness.

The Pittston Company has proposed an oil refinery for Eastport. Approval for this project is pending. There is little doubt that an industry of this magnitude, and the satellite industries that it would attract, would give the region a much-needed economic boost. The controversy, for the most part, arises from 1) the environmental risks involved and 2) the economic practicality of establishing a refinery in light of dwindling petroleum reserves.

In summary, population growth will probably depend on the development of the county's resources. The long-term benefits and costs of major industrial development from outside the indigenous resource pool are unknown. In any case, it will probably cause major fluctuations in the population growth rate. Native resources, however, if developed, will probably provide a stable base for steady growth in the future.

An important indicator of the economic condition of a community is retail sales of various goods and the "effective buying income" of the residents. Cherryfield does not have a major retail center, but the figures for nearby communities which depend, in part, upon Cherryfield residents give a picture of the situation.

Per capita income in Washington County remains the lowest in Maine, although un-reported income to the many self-employed residents would probably change this (if it could be computed). The County also remains low in retail sales.

While most of the rest of Washington County focuses its commercial, industrial, and personal activities in the Machias and Calais-Woodland growth centers, the Cherryfield-Milbridge area, set nearly exactly between Machias and Ellsworth, divides its attention between these two municipalities. Ellsworth, a city having facilities superior to Machias, draws residents of this area for many jobs and for shopping and other services. Machias, on the other hand, is the county seat, and draws business from this area for that reason.

RC&D office for Washington and Hancock cities is located here and WHCA has its board meetings in Harrington. FmHA maintains an office in Cherryfield. This may promote establishment of continuing office services for the Washington Hancock area, since Cherryfield is midway between the two county seats.

## IMPACT OF NEW WORKERS ON A COMMUNITY

Recent statistics from the United States Chamber of Commerce show that 100 new workers mean the following to a community:

### Increase in Annual Retail Sales

Grocery stores	\$ 70,000
Eating and drinking places	30,000
Department, dry goods, and variety stores	45,000
Clothing and shoe stores	25,000
Automobile dealers	50,000
Gasoline service stations	20,000
Lumber yards and building material dealers	15,000
Other stores	<u>105,000</u>
Total increase in annual retail sales	\$360,000

### Also; 100 New Workers Mean

296 more people  
112 more households  
51 more children  
\$270,000 more bank deposits  
\$590,000 more personal income per year  
107 more passenger cars registered  
4 more retail establishments  
174 more service, trade, and professional workers employed

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This memo series is the joint effort of the Cooperative Extension Services of the States of Maine, New Hampshire, and Vermont. This memo is by Simeon B. Weeks, Extension Economist, University of New Hampshire. Send request for additional copies to your county Cooperative Extension Office or your land grant university Cooperative Extension Service.

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# Maine Manpower

DEPARTMENT OF MANPOWER AFFAIRS

EMPLOYMENT SECURITY



Joseph E. Brennan  
Governor

MANPOWER RESEARCH DIVISION

NOVEMBER 1978

## LABOR FORCE, EMPLOYMENT AND UNEMPLOYMENT in Thousands

Area 1/	Labor Force 2/			Resident Employed			Unemployment Number			Unemployment Percent of Labor Force		
	This Month	Last Month	Year Ago	This Month	Last Month	Year Ago	This Month	Last Month	Year Ago	This Month	Last Month	Year Ago
	MAINE - Statewide	471.4	473.8	466.9	446.5	449.6	432.4	24.9	24.2	34.5	5.3	5.1
<b>Selected Labor Markets:</b>												
Augusta	27,350	27,320	27,060	25,820	25,950	24,830	1,530	1,370	2,230	5.6	5.0	8.2
Bangor-Brewer	40,100	40,100	39,800	38,200	38,100	36,700	1,900	2,000	1,100	4.7	5.0	7.8
Belfast	11,780	11,670	11,260	10,750	10,730	10,070	1,010	940	1,190	8.7	8.1	10.6
Baldford-Sanford	28,700	28,100	28,300	27,400	27,000	26,600	1,300	1,300	1,700	4.5	4.6	6.0
Bowdoin Harbor-Wiscasset	6,240	6,320	6,060	5,710	5,860	5,290	530	460	770	8.5	7.3	12.7
Canaan-Lanport	14,940	15,040	15,370	13,800	14,020	14,120	1,140	1,020	1,250	7.6	6.8	8.1
Dover-Foxcroft	6,140	6,300	6,470	6,140	6,100	5,960	200	200	510	3.2	3.2	7.9
Ellsworth	17,850	18,520	17,880	16,810	17,610	16,670	1,040	910	1,210	5.8	4.9	6.8
Farmington	12,350	12,250	11,880	11,870	11,740	11,150	480	510	730	3.9	4.2	6.1
Greenville	820	840	900	760	770	820	60	70	80	7.3	8.3	8.9
Lewiston-Auburn SMSA	37,200	36,900	37,000	35,700	35,400	34,600	1,500	1,500	2,400	4.0	4.1	6.5
Lincoln-Howland	4,870	4,910	4,820	4,640	4,630	4,500	230	280	320	4.7	5.7	6.6
Livemore Falls	4,640	4,690	4,450	4,370	4,410	4,060	270	280	390	5.8	6.0	8.8
Maine-Svan Buren	4,360	4,620	4,260	4,030	4,260	3,940	330	360	320	7.6	7.8	7.5
Mechanic Falls	2,440	2,420	2,680	2,330	2,330	2,560	110	90	120	4.5	3.7	4.5
Patten-Island Falls	2,440	2,700	2,340	2,300	2,540	2,210	140	160	130	5.7	5.9	5.6
Portland SMSA	87,000	86,400	84,500	83,500	82,800	79,000	3,500	3,600	5,500	4.0	4.2	6.5
Rockland	16,280	16,470	15,960	15,430	15,690	14,820	850	780	1,140	5.2	4.7	7.1
Rumford	18,250	18,420	18,320	17,190	17,450	17,030	1,060	970	1,290	5.8	5.3	7.0
Southwest Penobscot	6,150	6,100	6,450	5,500	5,470	5,430	650	630	1,020	10.6	10.3	15.8
Waterville	21,460	20,930	20,710	20,540	20,030	19,540	920	900	1,170	4.3	4.3	5.7
<b>Other New England States:</b>												
Connecticut	n/a	1,514.4	1,497.9	n/a	1,447.7	1,416.5	n/a	66.7	81.4	n/a	4.4	5.4
Massachusetts	2,843.0	2,805.0	2,799.6	2,694.4	2,684.0	2,605.8	148.6	121.0	193.8	5.2	4.3	6.9
New Hampshire	n/a	432.2	420.8	n/a	416.6	399.4	n/a	15.6	21.4	n/a	3.6	5.1
Rhode Island	437.5	433.7	443.8	415.1	412.8	412.5	22.4	20.9	31.3	5.1	4.8	7.1
Vermont	n/a	241.0	228.8	n/a	231.4	213.7	n/a	9.6	15.1	n/a	4.0	6.6
New England States	n/a	5,426.3	5,390.9	n/a	5,192.5	5,047.9	n/a	233.8	343.0	n/a	4.3	6.4
United States 3/	101,659	101,555	98,819	96,029	96,095	92,473	5,629	5,460	6,346	5.5	5.4	6.4

**Area Definitions**

LMA - Labor Market Area

SMSA - Standard Metropolitan Statistical Area

**Footnotes**

1/ Labor force, employment, and unemployment data for all areas not seasonally adjusted. Estimates made independently for each labor market area have been benchmarked to and extrapolated from the Current Population Survey estimates for the state. All data adjusted to a place of residence base.

2/ Current figures preliminary; last month and year ago figures revised.

3/ National estimates based on a sample of household visits; state estimates based on enlargements of employment figures reported.

**Note**

n/a indicates that the information was not available at the time of printing. Employment and unemployment may not add to labor force due to rounding.

### MID-MONTH INSURED UNEMPLOYMENT (Less Partial) \*

Item	Statewide			Portland SMSA			Lewiston-Auburn SMSA		
	This Month	Last Month	Year Ago	This Month	Last Month	Year Ago	This Month	Last Month	Year Ago
Number of Continued Week Claimants	9,171	7,849	12,800	1,239	1,093	1,774	521	453	915
Insured Unemployment Rate *	2.4	2.0	3.9	1.6	1.5	2.8	1.6	1.4	3.1

\* Should not be confused with insured unemployment rates as defined in the Employment Security Law.



# Maine Manpower

DEPARTMENT OF MANPOWER AFFAIRS EMPLOYMENT SECURITY COMMISSION



James B. Longley  
Governor

• • • NOVEMBER 1974 • • •

Emilien A. Levesque  
Commissioner

## Labor Force, Employment and Unemployment in Thousands

Area 1	Labor Force 2/			Resident Employed			Unemployment Number			Unemployment Percent of Labor Force		
	This Mo.	Last Mo.	Yr. Ago	This Mo.	Last Mo.	Yr. Ago	This Mo.	Last Mo.	Yr. Ago	This Mo.	Last Mo.	Yr. Ago
	MAINE -- Statewide	419.9	432.9	419.0	389.5	407.4	397.2	30.4	25.5	21.8	7.2	5.9
Major Labor Markets												
Portland LMA (a)	65.4	66.0	65.3	61.5	62.5	62.7	3.9	3.5	2.6	6.0	5.3	4.0
Lewiston-Auburn SMSA (b)	34.0	34.4	34.6	31.6	32.3	32.9	2.4	2.1	1.7	7.1	6.1	4.9
Bangor-Brewer LMA (c)	35.4	35.7	35.4	33.4	33.9	33.7	2.0	1.8	1.7	5.7	5.0	4.8
Biddeford-Sanford LMA (d)	31.8	32.3	31.9	29.2	30.4	30.3	2.6	1.9	1.6	8.2	5.9	5.0
Counties												
Androscoggin	40,220	41,110	41,310	37,340	38,670	38,870	2,880	2,440	2,440	7.2	5.9	5.9
Aroostook	35,490	41,110	35,010	32,690	38,600	32,750	2,800	2,510	2,260	7.9	6.1	6.5
Cumberland	90,140	90,770	87,040	84,500	85,750	83,300	5,640	5,020	3,740	6.3	5.5	4.3
Franklin	10,350	10,660	10,300	9,870	10,140	9,850	480	520	450	4.6	4.9	4.4
Hancock	17,410	18,140	16,270	16,360	17,390	15,530	1,050	750	740	6.0	4.1	4.5
Kennebec	42,150	42,960	41,840	39,730	40,980	39,940	2,420	1,980	1,900	5.7	4.6	4.5
Knox	12,350	12,830	12,220	11,620	12,220	11,870	730	610	750	5.9	4.8	5.9
Lincoln	8,060	8,250	7,770	7,340	7,830	7,230	720	420	540	8.9	5.1	7.0
Oxford	16,900	17,310	17,150	15,240	15,930	16,420	1,660	1,380	730	9.8	8.0	4.2
Penobscot	53,930	54,860	53,280	50,370	51,530	50,300	3,560	3,330	2,980	6.6	6.1	5.6
Piscataquis	7,390	7,360	6,990	6,330	6,400	6,580	1,060	960	410	14.3	13.0	5.9
Sagadahoc	10,680	10,980	9,440	10,000	10,450	9,000	680	530	440	6.4	4.8	4.7
Somerset	17,490	18,150	16,750	15,840	16,720	15,850	1,650	1,430	900	9.4	7.9	5.4
Waldo	10,020	10,290	9,670	9,370	9,580	9,020	650	710	650	6.5	6.9	6.7
Washington	13,170	13,390	12,950	12,060	12,590	11,990	1,110	800	960	8.4	6.0	7.4
York	47,830	48,580	46,630	44,920	46,470	44,850	2,910	2,110	1,780	6.1	4.3	3.8
Other New England States												
Connecticut	1,444.0	1,426.4	1,376.8	1,346.1	1,346.1	1,307.2	97.9	80.3	69.6	6.8	5.6	5.1
Massachusetts	n/a	2,646.5	2,593.2	n/a	2,457.3	2,397.6	n/a	189.2	195.6	n/a	7.1	7.5
New Hampshire	336.5	336.7	329.5	319.5	321.6	317.9	17.0	15.1	11.6	5.1	4.5	3.5
Rhode Island	418.9	417.3	420.1	386.7	389.2	394.7	32.2	28.1	25.4	7.7	6.7	6.0
Vermont	199.6	199.7	200.9	184.5	188.6	189.7	15.1	11.1	11.2	7.5	5.5	5.5
New England States	n/a	5,459.5	5,339.5	n/a	5,110.2	5,004.3	n/a	349.3	335.2	n/a	6.4	6.3
United States 3	91,609	91,891	91,983	85,924	86,847	85,643	5,685	5,044	4,058	6.2	5.5	4.5

### Area Definitions

LMA - Labor Market Area

SMSA - Standard Metropolitan Statistical Area

(a) Includes Cape Elizabeth, Cumberland, Falmouth, Falmouth, Gorham, Portland, Scarborough, South Portland, Westbrook, and Yarmouth.

(b) Includes Auburn, Lewiston, and Lisbon.

(c) Includes Bangor, Brewer, Eddington, Glenburn, Hampden, Hermon, Holden, Old Town, Orrington, Orono, and Veazie.

(d) Includes all of York County except Berwick, Eliot, Kittery, South Berwick, Wells, and York.

### Footnotes

1 Labor force, employment, and unemployment data for all areas not seasonally adjusted. Estimates made independently for each county and should not be expected to add to state totals. All data adjusted to a place of residence basis.

2 Current and last month figures preliminary, year ago figures revised.

3 National estimates based on a sample of household visits, state estimates are based on enlargements of employment figures reported.

### Note

n/a indicates that the information was not available at the time of printing.  
Employment and unemployment may not add to labor force due to rounding.

## Mid-Month Insured Unemployment (Less Partial) \*

Item	Statewide			Portland LMA		Lewiston-Auburn SMSA			
	Nov. 1974	Oct. 1974	Nov. 1973	Nov. 1974	Oct. 1974	Nov. 1973	Nov. 1974	Oct. 1974	Nov. 1973
Number of Continued Week Claimants	12,537	8,467	6,671	1,539	1,138	723	1,161	851	580
Insured Unemployment Rate	4.3	2.9	2.3	3.1	2.4	1.5	4.4	3.2	2.1

\* Should not be confused with insured unemployment rates as defined in the Employment Security Law

Published under Appropriation No. 4444

TABLE V. TOTAL EFFECTIVE BUYING INCOME, BY COUNTY  
Maine, 1975 and 1965

County	1975		1965		\$ Change 1965 to 1975	% Change 1965 to 1975
	Total EBI (\$ thousands)	Rank In State	Total EBI (\$ thousands)	Rank In State		
Androscoggin	393,408.0	5	192,642	5	200,766	104.2
Aroostook	352,754.2	6	160,879	6	191,875.2	119.3
Cumberland	1,040,004.1	1	459,698	1	580,306.1	126.2
Franklin	101,908.4	14	34,773	14	67,185.4	193.5
Hancock	158,479.2	9	59,822	9	98,657.2	164.9
Kennebec	476,818.4	4	194,651	4	282,167.2	145.0
Knox	151,811.5	10	51,583	10	100,228.5	194.3
Lincoln	99,743.4	15	33,716	15	66,027.4	195.9
Oxford	173,964.0	7	89,901	7	84,063	93.5
Penobscot	568,724.8	2	264,523	2	304,201.8	115.0
Piscataquis	72,228.0	16	33,317	16	38,911	116.8
Sagadahoc	115,254.0	11	50,403	11	64,851	128.7
Somerset	167,860.0	8	75,239	8	92,621	123.1
Waldo	103,604.3	13	35,236	13	66,368.2	194.0
Washington	112,583.2	12	48,160	12	64,423.2	133.7
York	486,058.3	3	224,177	3	261,881.3	116.8
MAINE	4,052,045.2	--	2,008,670	--	2,043,375.2	101.7

Source: Sales Management Magazine; Survey of Buying Power

TABLE VI. AVERAGE PER HOUSEHOLD EFFECTIVE BUYING INCOME, BY COUNTY  
Maine, 1975 and 1965

County	1975		1965		\$ Change 1965 to 1975	% Change 1965 to 1975
	Avg. Household EBI (\$)	Rank In State	Avg. Household EBI (\$)	Rank In State		
Washington	9,964	16	5,069	16	4,895	96.6

TABLE IV: PERSONAL INCOME, TOTAL AND PER CAPITA  
Maine Counties, 1975

County	Personal Income		
	Total \$ (thousands)	Per Capita	Index (Maine = 100)
Washington	-127,104	-3,875 lowest	-81.0 lowest

**MAINE TOTAL TAXABLE SALES, SEPTEMBER 1977**  
Includes Sales Tax, Rentals Tax, Use Tax  
 THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS

**ECONOMIC DISTRICT**

	CURRENT MONTH				LAST 12 MONTHS		
	1977	1976	77/76	1977	1976	77/76	77/74
BUCKSPORT.....	2,990	2,294	130.3	32,750	27,319	119.9	119.0
ELLSWORTH.....	6,453	4,897	131.8	57,296	48,991	117.0	140.2
BLUE HILL.....	875	831	105.3	8,580	7,631	112.4	122.1
BAR HARBOR...	4,125	3,847	107.2	29,604	26,714	110.8	138.6
EASTBROOK.....	a	a	a	a	a	a	a
JONESPORT.....	1,787	755	236.7	8,442	7,229	116.8	147.8
MACHIAS.....	1,243	1,311	94.8	13,608	12,510	108.8	143.2
EASTPORT.....	820	622	131.8	6,519	5,692	114.5	131.4
CALAIS.....	3,841	3,023	127.1	45,706	41,512	105.0	134.1
ST. CROIX.....	a	a	a	a	a	a	a
<b>EASTERN MAINE</b>	<b>22,486</b>	<b>17,664</b>	<b>127.3</b>	<b>203,738</b>	<b>180,475</b>	<b>112.9</b>	<b>134.2</b>

**MAINE TAXABLE SALES, GENERAL MERCHANDISE, SEPTEMBER 1977**

THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS

**ECONOMIC DISTRICT**

	CURRENT MONTH			1977	LAST 12 MONTHS		
	1977	1976	77/76		1976	77/76	77/74
BUCKSPORT.....	357	286	124.8	3,295	2,972	110.9	127.5
ELLSWORTH.....	1,693	1,273	133.0	16,396	13,550	121.0	137.8
BLUE HILL.....	86	95	90.5	780	688	113.4	106.6
BAR HARBOR.....	546	454	120.3	3,859	3,415	113.0	129.8
EASTBROOK.....	a	a	a	a	a	a	a
JONESPORT.....	171	72	237.5	857	890	96.3	91.4
MACHIAS.....	242	173	139.9	2,369	2,042	116.0	156.3
EASTPORT.....	179	99	180.8	1,275	1,045	122.0	142.9
CALAIS.....	873	740	118.0	10,298	8,152	126.3	162.0
ST. CROIX.....	a	a	a	a	a	a	a
<b>EASTERN ME...</b>	<b>4,178</b>	<b>3,203</b>	<b>130.4</b>	<b>39,281</b>	<b>32,885</b>	<b>118.3</b>	<b>140.2</b>

**MAINE TAXABLE SALES, FOOD STORES, SEPTEMBER 1977**

THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS

**ECONOMIC DISTRICT**

	CURRENT MONTH			1977	LAST 12 MONTHS		
	1977	1976	77/76		1976	77/76	77/74
BUCKSPORT.....	175	171	102.3	1,902	1,755	108.4	134.8
ELLSWORTH.....	507	470	107.9	5,101	4,540	112.4	131.8
BLUE HILL.....	165	148	111.5	1,726	1,519	113.6	155.1
BAR HARBOR.....	324	287	112.9	3,251	2,967	109.6	132.7
EASTBROOK.....	a	a	a	a	a	a	a
JONESPORT.....	139	159	87.4	1,458	1,399	104.2	147.1
MACHIAS.....	142	185	76.8	1,910	1,720	111.0	138.7
EASTPORT.....	90	149	60.4	1,518	1,451	104.6	129.6
CALAIS.....	292	289	101.0	3,181	2,864	111.1	154.6
ST. CROIX.....	a	a	a	a	a	a	a
<b>EASTERN MAINE..</b>	<b>1,863</b>	<b>1,879</b>	<b>99.1</b>	<b>20,277</b>	<b>18,436</b>	<b>110.0</b>	<b>138.6</b>

**MAINE TAXABLE SALES, BUILDING SUPPLY, SEPTEMBER 1977**

THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS

**ECONOMIC DISTRICT**

	CURRENT MONTH			1977	LAST 12 MONTHS		
	1977	1976	77/76		1976	77/76	77/74
BUCKSPORT.....	42	34	123.5	392	367	106.8	94.0
ELLSWORTH.....	1,226	800	153.3	8,348	7,000	119.3	125.3
BLUE HILL.....	252	201	125.4	2,170	1,929	112.5	113.4
BAR HARBOR.....	363	342	106.1	3,692	3,439	105.8	114.4
EASTBROOK.....	a	a	a	a	a	a	a
JONESPORT.....	464	185	250.8	1,914	1,779	107.6	147.0
MACHIAS.....	143	188	76.1	1,604	1,795	89.4	99.0
EASTPORT.....	251	168	155.4	1,350	1,052	128.3	166.7
CALAIS.....	392	350	112.0	3,316	3,128	106.0	105.6
ST. CROIX.....	a	a	a	a	a	a	a
<b>EASTERN MAINE...</b>	<b>3,146</b>	<b>2,269</b>	<b>138.7</b>	<b>22,804</b>	<b>20,555</b>	<b>110.9</b>	<b>119.4</b>

#### E. Capital Improvement Program

The major physical facilities required for providing town services include streets, parks, playgrounds, water, sewage, boat facilities, street lighting, libraries, town garage and fire and police station -- and the necessary major equipment for their operation.

The initial construction or acquisition together with improvements and additions to these facilities are called "capital improvements" regardless of how they are obtained or financed. For example, a park, school, or town hall may be obtained by gift or purchase, or by other methods.

The capital improvement program is a list of capital improvements that will be needed by the town to provide its program of public services.

Priority List of Improvements. As a part of the capital improvement program, the projects to be undertaken are arranged in the order of proposed priority of construction, with estimates of the probable cost of each improvement, the method of financing and other information.

Revenue Program. Not only must there be a proper balance between operating and capital expenditures, but expenditures must in turn be balanced against revenues. This balance is accomplished by forming a tentative revenue policy (including taxes, loans, and other revenue sources) and studying it in relation to expenditure proposals. The two are balanced by adjusting the proposed services and the estimated revenues.

After the proposed projects have been arranged according to need or urgency, adjustments will probably have to be made in allocating the projects to different years of the program. It may be found, for instance, that several large improvements head the priority list, and that not more than one such improvement can be undertaken in any one year. Minor projects appearing farther down on the priority list will be advanced where necessary to balance the program and utilize the funds estimated to be available.

Projects for the later years will necessarily be tentative and subject to considerable change before the time comes for construction. Experience has shown that projects intended for the first five years can be worked out in considerable detail and those for the second five years in somewhat less detail. Projects relegated to the last part of the program are left in outline. But in order to determine what should be done during the first five years, it is necessary to consider land for a given project might be acquired in the first year of the program, with plan preparation coming several years later, and construction or development following. For example, in developing a recreation area a preliminary plan for the area would be made early in the program (or might already be available); land acquisition might start immediately, and proceed over several years and improvements for the area might extend throughout the program.

Such a priority system will result in a definite pattern:

1. The program for the first ensuing year, which is to be implemented by the annual budget, is set forth in detail and is based on preliminary engineering or architectural designs.

2. Less detailed programs for the second, third, fourth, and fifth years contain descriptions of projects and approximate cost estimates. The priority arrangement, though tentative, has been suggested. "Priority A."

3. A more generalized and preliminary program for the next five-year period has descriptions of projects and approximate cost estimates with the

projects arranged in tentative priority order but with no attempt at scheduling by years. "Priority B."

4. The balance of the projects proposed for construction during the remaining years of the program again are grouped in tentative preliminary priority but with no attempt to schedule by years. "Priority C."

The financial aspects of the tentative schedule of improvements should be considered next. The first step is to obtain any missing cost estimates. The next step is to develop a revenue program.

Sources of funds for carrying out the Capital Improvement Program: There are three basic sources of funds available to the town:

1. Local taxes;
2. Revenue sharing;
3. State and federal grants.

In addition, there may be occasional gifts of land or facilities made to the town.

Past town expenditures have been used as the basis for projecting future local funds, and reasonable estimates of state and federal funds have been made based upon past experience of towns in the county.

While specific sources of funds are indicated for each project in the program, the amount actually available from each will vary from year to year. The sources should therefore be regarded only as suggestions.

Execution of the Capital Improvement Program. Putting the capital improvement program into actual operation is a year-by-year process done through the town budget. Each year when the current budget is prepared, one year of the capital budget is included in it.

Periodic Revision and Extension. It is good practice to review, revise, and extend the capital budget every two years. The passage of time may indicate the wisdom of rearranging the order of priorities. It is also important that new estimates of income and operating expenses be prepared.

This does not mean that the entire process of long-range programming for capital improvements need to be repeated each year. The review is primarily for the purpose of adjusting the program to immediately changing circumstances.

