

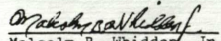
We hope you will enjoy this fifth issue of The Harpswellian.

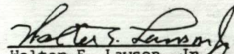
#### CAMP FIRE of CUNDYS HARBOR

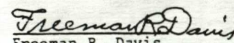
We too hope you will find this booklet about Harpswell interesting and entertaining.

We would like to remind you that our offices, located in the Town House, Harpswell Center, are open on Tuesday and Wednesday from 9 a.m. to 12 noon and 1 p.m. to 2 p.m.; personnel on duty will welcome the opportunity to help you in any way they can.

We selectmen are at the Town House each Thursday from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. to answer questions you may have as well as carry on the regular business of the town.

  
Malcolm B. Whidden, Jr.

  
Walter E. Lawson, Jr.

  
Freeman R. Davis

May 14, 1981

#### CREDITS

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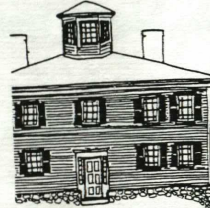
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#### HARPSWELL HOTELS

Although Harpswell currently has only a handful of accommodations for overnight guests, the hotel and boarding house business once thrived here.

Prior to 1800 there were only two places where travelers could obtain food and lodging. The oldest was a sailor boarding house on the east side of Cundys Point; it was operated first by David and Susan Eastman and then by Susan alone for some forty years after David was lost at sea in 1756. During this period she became well known both for her physical prowess and her success in winning acquittal from a charge of being a Tory spy during the American Revolution. The second inn was opened on Bailey Island by Timothy Bailey.

The Mansion House, built on Potts Point in 1835, and the Union Hotel, built in 1862 on a hill in Cundys Harbor across from Watson's Store, were the first buildings to be constructed specifically as hotels. A year later the Seaside Hotel was built on Potts Point. The first two were pretentious for their time. The Union Hotel advertised



Union Hotel (1981)

and offered guests the use of a 17-ton yacht, fishing, beautiful walks... Guests there lunched "tremendously" on "the best fresh fish, vegetables, and berries" as well as milk "straight from the cow." Nevertheless this hotel was sold at a sheriff's sale within approximately one year; later it operated intermittently as a summer hotel until around 1940; at present it is a private residence. Both the Seaside Hotel (in 1866) and the Mansion House (in 1868) burned. After the first fire the young boys were going up and down the road singing their new folk ballad:

One Sunday night when all was still  
A fire broke out on John Smith's Hill;  
The people all came running round,  
To see the Seaside burning down.