

Presque Isle's Dr. Storer Boone

Long-time local doctor and snowmobile enthusiast

by **Kimberly R. Smith**

(Presque Isle Historical Society)

Dr. Storer Woodford Boone was born in 1893 and was the fifth of Dr. Sherman and Mrs. Elizabeth Boone's six children. His father had moved to Presque Isle from Fredericton, New Brunswick in 1887 to begin his practice. The elder Boone retired in 1932.

The other Boone siblings included Annis Mary, who became a well-known house mother at the University of Maine; Frank, a civil engineer and contractor who built the Caribou Road; Ralph, a dentist who practiced in Caribou; and Margaret.

Storer grew up on Dyer Street in Presque Isle next door to Arthur Gould, a well-known and respected business-

man. He attended Academy Training School, was a local baseball star, played in the band, and graduated from Presque Isle High School in 1913. Life was not always golden, though. As a young child, he fell through the ice on the river and was rescued by the family dog who dragged him to safety. Also, after graduation from McGill University in Montreal in 1919, Storer contracted tuberculosis and spent two years in a sanatorium in Saranac, New York. In 1900 America, TB was one of the top three causes of death with 1 in every 4 people contracting the disease.

After graduation, Boone married Phebe McGregor, a native of British Columbia and also a McGill graduate.

The Boones settled in Presque Isle, living first on Coburn Avenue before building a stately home on Third Street.

Dr. Storer Boone practiced medicine from the office he shared with his father on the 2nd floor of the Boone Block. The building was owned by Dr. Sherman Boone, Fred P. Stevens, and W.S. Thompson. It was designed by Frank Lucius Boone, his brother, and built by N.W. Downing & Sons in 1925. A "block" during that era referred to a building which housed several businesses as opposed to today's use of the word "block," which typically refers to a stretch of buildings from one side street to the next.

(continued on page 36)

Sleepy Hollow Storage

"An Extra Closet!"

207-764-0585

207-488-6954

Storage Located at 1022 Mapleton Road

Business Office at Aroosta Cast, Inc.

217 Parsons Rd., Presque Isle

sleepyhollowstorage.com

HAINES

MANUFACTURING CO., INC.

Potato Grading &
Packaging Equipment

762-1411



243 Main St. • Presque Isle, Maine

www.pirec.org
Ice Skating • Circuses • Trade Shows
Stage Shows • Family Fun • Etc.
207-764-0491

Mechanic Street
Presque Isle

THE FORUM

Your One Stop
Repair Shop

TA SERVICE CENTER

(207) 768-3360

26 Dyer St.
Presque Isle, Maine 04769

TERRY BERUBE

The Pizza Box

Take-Out • Delivery
Dine In

Pizza ~ Subs ~ Wings
Daily Specials

527 Main Street
Presque Isle, ME

207-760-8344

www.thepizzaboxpi.com

A Name You Can Trust

CLIFFORD L. RHOME

CPA, PA

Specializing in individuals
and small businesses

(207) 764-5800

34 North St., Suite 3
Presque Isle, Maine

(continued from page 35)

Boone provided hospital care at Presque Isle Hospital, which would have been in the second public hospital on Second Street and which now serves as City Hall. By the late 1950s when the City outgrew the facility of Second Street and plans were being made for a new hospital on the east end of Academy Street, Dr. Storer Boone was instrumental in raising the funds necessary to build the new facility. A large portion of those funds came from Mr. and Mrs. W.H. Wildes of Dallas, Texas. Mrs. Wildes was the daughter of Arthur Gould. The new hospital, now The Aroostook Medical Center, was dedicated on January 9, 1960.

In 1962 the Wildes Foundation was formed by Mr. and Mrs. Wildes "in recognition and appreciation of the services rendered by Storer W. Boone to Presque Isle and the State of Maine in the field of medicine and civic endeavors." Funds from the Foundation were used to purchase a Picker Cobalt

60 therapy unit, a piece of new cancer fighting equipment, for the hospital.

Dr. Boone worked hard and enjoyed his down time as well. In fact, he was one of the earliest owners of a "snowmobile" in Aroostook County. He had a local mechanic, Ansel Adams, replicate a vehicle built by Gould Electric Company. The body of the vehicle was a Model T truck, which was equipped with runners on the front and tracks in the back. The vehicle could travel up to eight miles per hour and had no brakes. The Model T was used because the vehicle had to be narrow enough to fit into the horse and buggy tracks in the snow, as country roads were not often plowed in the winter at that time.

Dr. Storer Boone was one of four Maine physicians recognized by the Maine Medical Association for 50 years of service to the medical community at a reception at the Samoset Hotel in Rockland, Maine. He served as the President of the medical staff at the

hospital from 1959 to 1960. In addition, he was one of the first doctors in northern Maine to be elected a Fellow of the American College of Surgeons. Boone retired in 1967 after 46 years in medical practice — the same number of years as his father, Dr. Sherman Boone.

Having practiced medicine in one community for over 40 years, several generations in one family often knew Dr. Boone as their physician. On September 19, 1937, Dr. Boone delivered a daughter to Guy and Helen Todd of Easton. For several days, the child went unnamed. Finally, Dr. Boone told the new parents if they did not name her by the following day, he was naming her Elizabeth after his mother, since the child had been born on his mother's birthday. Dr. Boone stayed in touch with young Elizabeth, often calling her to wish her "Happy Birthday." In fact, for her wedding gift in 1968, Dr. Boone gave Elizabeth two engraved silver spoons that had belonged to his

PERCY'S
AUTO SALES
Presque Isle, ME

CHRYSLER DODGE// Jeep RAM

NEW VEHICLE SALES & LEASING
Chrysler, Dodge, Jeep & Ram Brands

PRE-OWNED VEHICLE SALES
All Makes & Models Available

CHRYSLER CERTIFIED SERVICE CENTER
Factory Trained Service Technicians

MOPAR PARTS & ACCESSORIES DEPT.
Great Selection of Apparel & Tires In Stock!

40 Houlton Road, Presque Isle
Toll-Free: 1-888-666-6343
(207) 764-4493

www.percysautosales.com

KEY REALTY

Representing Buyers and Sellers
Residential • Land • Commercial
Recreational

495 Main Street • Presque Isle, Maine
www.keyrealty.net
key@keyrealty.net

207 764 6210

REAL ESTATE
M.L.S.
EQUAL HOUSING
LENDER

Graves'
Shop 'n Save
Superstore

Aroostook's Finest Supermarket

Owned and Operated by the Graves
Family Since 1935!

— Presque Isle —
207-769-2181

BUCK CONSTRUCTION, INC.
Design Build Systems

VP BUILDINGS
VARCO • PRUDEN

K-SPAN
of Maine

Industrial • Commercial • Agricultural
207-764-1857
645 Mapleton Rd. • Mapleton, ME

SERVICE first
Automotive



- Performance Engines
- Air Conditioning
- Suspension
- Exhaust
- Brakes

207-760-8390
6 Griffin Road • Mapleton, ME

Shur
Fine

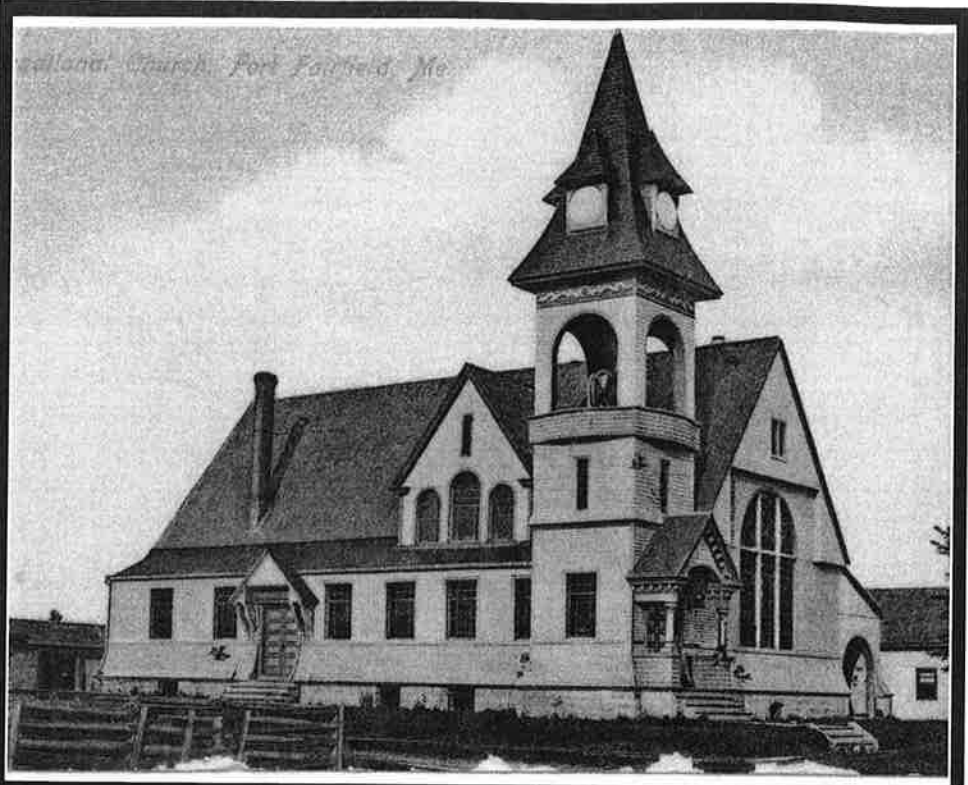
Ashland
Food Mart, Inc.

256 Presque Isle Road • Ashland
435-6451
~ Open 7 Days A Week ~
Leon & Sheila Buckingham

mother. Elizabeth Todd Shaw proudly displayed these spoons in her home for several years as an example of the close relationship that existed between a family doctor and his patients. The spoons are now in the collections of the Presque Isle Historical Society, donated by Mrs. Shaw as a testament to Dr. Boone's long-lasting love and concern for his patients.

The Boone legacy continued. Stor-er's younger son, Alan, followed in his father's and grandfather's footsteps and became a third generation doctor. Incidentally, he also graduated from McGill University. Alan practiced in Bangor, specializing in hematology, internal medicine, and oncology.

His older son, Gary, became a distinguished geologist and professor at Syracuse University. He received his Ph.D. in Geology from Yale in 1959. He also served as a guest lecturer at the University of Maine at Presque Isle. Gary is now retired and lives here in Presque Isle. 📍



Congregational church in Fort Fairfield, ca. 1930. Item # 10599 from the collections of the Maine Historical Society and www.VintageMaineImages.com

Orion
TIMBERLANDS, LLC
Excellence in Practice
 A full-service, sustainable natural resource management company.




10A Main St.
 Ashland, ME
 207-435-4100
www.orientimber.com

ASHLAND DINER
 "Order it your way...but get it ours"



SUN-WED: 6am-1pm | THU-SAT: 6am-8pm
 ~ Take-Out Available ~
 Heather Stokes - Owner
 207-435-8240 | 11 Exchange St., Ashland, ME



The North Maine Woods organization manages the public use of nearly 4 million acres of public and private forest land in northern Maine, including much of western Aroostook County.

For information on outdoor recreational opportunities in this region, please feel free to contact us.
 PO Box 425, Ashland, ME 04732
 207-435-6213
info@northmainewoods.org

NORTH MAINE WOODS
 EXPERIENCE THE TRADITION
www.northmainewoods.org

PORTAGE LAKESIDE CABINS
 ~ Open Year Round ~



Housekeeping Cabins • Modern Bathhouse
 Full Kitchen • Hot Tub • Many EXTRAS
 Hunting, Fishing, & Snowmobiling
 from ITS 85 & ITS 90
 or Enjoy A Family Vacation
 207-227-0021
www.portagelakesidecabins.com

Fort Fairfield Chamber of Commerce

- Agri-Business Trade Fair April 2 & 3
- Maine Potato Blossom Festival July 9 to 17
- County Bluegrass Festival July 21 to 24
- Labor Day Bluegrass Festival Sept. 1 to 4

chamber@fortcc.org
 207-472-3802
 18 Community Center Drive, Fort Fairfield, ME 04742

Hayes Brothers Carpentry
 ~ Hammering since the 1900s ~



Free Estimates
 Specializing In:
 Roofing • Garages
 Painting • Vinyl Siding
 Masonry • Slabs
 Chimneys
 Interior & Exterior Remodeling

Fully Insured
 Ross: 207-227-4971 • Doil: 207-554-0351
 Mike: 207-227-3355
 Fort Fairfield, ME