Bunker’s Harbor Post & Beam
NAMU...Gouldsboro
Oceanfront Estate • Granite Stone Beach
17.5 Acres & 1,130’ Frontage on Bunker’s Harbor

$2,995,000

$1,995,000

$1 Million Price Reduction!

Close to
Schoodic Peninsula
Acadia National Park

Acadia Realty Group
190 Main St., Ellsworth, ME 04605
67 Main St., Bar Harbor, ME 04609

Steve Shelton, Broker/Owner
207.667.7423 / ph • 207.460.4233 / cell

www.acadiarealtygroup.com
Little Red Riding Cape

Portland’s **oldest dwelling** could be yours, for $264,999.

BY COLIN W. SARGENT

Ask any Portlanter what the oldest house in our city is. She’ll likely answer, “the Tate House.”

So much for common knowledge. Built in 1743, two doors north of the Tate House, the David Patrick House, 1288 Westbrook Street, is the more likely title holder, though the nearby Joseph Small House at 1161 Westbrook Street was also built in 1743. (A photo finish!)

So which one is this gem? It’s the red cape on grounds that could be in a Monet masterpiece: a reflective river, lily pads, a charming bridge, and a resident flock of geese. And twelve years older than the Tate House.

This landmark is named for “a mechanic, also a brick maker and a brick mason” who settled here, according to a Portland Evening Express article. (Remember when we had evenings, and an express to pair with them?) In addition to building the massive chimney for the Tate House, Patrick also worked as a lumber surveyor on the mast trade to outfit the King’s ships. According to *This Was Stroudwater* by Myrtle Kittridge Lovejoy, edited by William David Barry, Patrick also dallied as a ‘hog reeve’—a constable tasked with preventing and recording damage from stray swine by impounding them.

Because the property slopes toward the river, Patrick’s resolute cape is more spacious than it seems from its charming façade, which shows off its classic central chimney design. Under the cape’s eaves, “there used to be port holes protected with shutters, supposed to have been arranged for protection in case of an Indian attack,” according to the Evening Express.

A MOVING EXPERIENCE

In 1988, the *Press Herald* treated its readers to coverage of the moving of this “23-ton” house “fifty feet back from the street onto a new [brick] foundation,” away from Congress Street, a bit higher, and closer to the water. It was all part of the “$1 million project to widen the old Stroudwater Bridge.

John Rich, foreman for Woodward Thomsen Co., supervised the house-moving job.” The house was owned by C. Hasty Thompson (1918-1996), the Press Herald columnist and assistant city editor for the *Maine Sunday Telegram.*
“Hasty Thompson was a real stickler,” Debra Winch, the seller in 2018, says. “He traced his ancestry all the way back to David Patrick. When they widened the bridge, Hasty wouldn’t let them move the house to a different location,” so they had to relocate it to a new position on the property. Now that Hasty’s gone, “his son, Tris Thompson, and daughter-in-law, Lois Thompson, live next door to me.

“In 1997, Tris’s sister Joanna owned my house. I think they rented it a few times after it moved. That’s when I bought it. It was a different color outside.”

For Wexler, it was luck on wings to find
With over 42 years of experience, Capozza has built a reputation for excellence in quality, integrity, expertise and impeccable service. We are honored to be the recipients of the 2017 Reny’s Large Business Award from the Institute for Family Owned Business. From your home to your business, we are ready and able to fulfill all your flooring needs.
Roz Siegel
Your Stroudwater Expert
for Over 20 Years!

207-553-7307 direct
207-233-0009 cell
roz@homesinmaine.com
www.shorelineagents.com

“I grew up in Alder Street in Portland. I’m one of six girls. We didn’t have much. My father was a fireman; my mother raised us. She was certified a nurse from Maine General. We say we’re Portland Catholics and Farmington Baptists. I’m a telephone operator at Mercy right now. I worked for Maine Medical Center for 24 years.

“I took advantage of a first-homebuyer’s program at the City of Portland where you took a home-ownership class that offered you a forgivable loan. I was approved for $65,000, but I couldn’t find anything I liked. Everything I saw had holes in the roof, etc. I told a friend of a friend of a friend, Roz Siegel, who was working at Re/Max By The Bay, that I was getting discouraged, and she said, ‘I have one more house for you to see.’ I stepped inside, and it took my breath away. This house was made for me. The nine-over-six panes of glass. The double-slate sink. And a full daylight basement with huge windows that opened to the backyard! I loved the story about how oxen pulled the beams into place. It was like I dreamed it.” The price was $79,000.

Features include 110 feet of waterfront, new brick foundation, new electricity, new heating, and new plumbing—all 1990s or younger. The gorgeous slate sink, ancient beams, and exclusive garden privacy frame and showcase a wistful waterfront enclave that has bewitched artists for centuries. In this immediate neighborhood, see the paintings of Walter Griffin (1861-1935), Rupert Lovejoy (1888-1975), and John Swan (b. 1948). As you look toward the arched bridge, which is reflected in the water, the living room and kitchen actually take you closer to the beauty than the other historic homes on the block.

“I changed the bathroom because the clawfoot tub was very high, was hard to get in and out of, and required three shower curtains. The chimneys are lined. I changed this sweet home.
33 Bluff Head, Chebeague
$479,000 | MLS# 1312731

11 Rosewood, New Gloucester
$59,900 | MLS# 1251966

40 Rosewood, New Gloucester
$59,900 | MLS# 1244277

1269 US Route One, Yarmouth
$1,100,000 | MLS# 1328470

39 Harris Road, Cumberland
$347,000 | MLS# 1330564

551 Princes Point Road, Yarmouth
$549,000 | MLS# 1329706

Gilbert D. Eaton III
(207) 491-5150
specseaton@gmail.com

Kelly Wentworth-Lowe
Sales Manager – Freeport Team
(207) 831-4934
kelly@kellywentworth.com

Sherrie Benner
(207) 776-2163
sherrie@thebennergruprealestate.com
About those geese… “Tris’s father raised the geese. When I was a kid, this was just a country ride to the airport. These geese were always here when I was growing up.” They called to her.

“Some people call this the Goose House. I heard that other people call me Mother Goose. I wandered about and realized I do have a goose mailbox and iron geese on the lawn. In the basement right now are the outlines of iron geese feet where I’ve spray-painted them.

“I’ve loved all the geese—Lindsey, Grumpy, and special Bumpy, who just died. Somebody must have dropped off a goose they didn’t want, with a bump on his nose. Part Chinese goose. He stayed on for 23 years. They have ties to this property as much as any human does. They’re here year-round, except for the deepest winter months. The minute this river freezes solid and has no sense of melting, they go to the Fore River. When that freezes, somebody told me they fly all the way out to the ocean. But as soon as we can hear the ice breaking, like a miracle they return. Though not all make it back. We’ve had catastrophes where the flock has been blown into electrical lines.”

Some prospective buyers might ask about rush-hour traffic on Congress Street, but this house is so snug, so nice and quiet when you’re inside, it’s like the reassuring sound of a new Volvo door closing. When we toured the house, it was almost astoundingly quiet.

“It’s not constant,” Winch says of the traffic. “It looks like it is, when you’re in it, but it’s really five o’clock traffic in winter, only till 6:30.”

There’s great parking—at least three spaces, once you drive up the little knoll toward the house along the attractive driveway. Once you’re inside with the ticking clocks, the Colonial decor, all the energy faces the river. You’ll never want to fly away. You’ll be facing the sunset, too, dazzling over the water this spring as the lily pads dapple the river. You’re close to the Mall, the jetport, and downtown. Now there’s an evening express!

Taxes are $4,169.
THE OLD HOUSE PARTS CO.

WWW.OLDHOUSEPARTS.COM
P: (207) 985-1999
1 TRACKSIDE DRIVE, KENNEBUNK, MAINE

RETAIL STORE OPEN 363 DAYS A YEAR