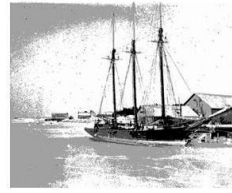


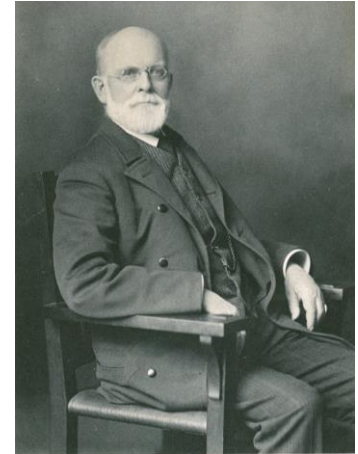
JHS Museum and Meeting Room



*Jonesport
Historical Society*

*"Preserving
Our Heritage"*

**Jonesport Historical Society
P.O. Box 603, Jonesport ME 04649
(207) 497-2395 Cell: 207-747-8228**



Daniel J. Sawyer

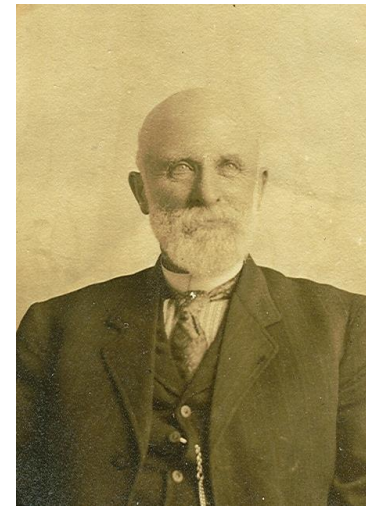


Photo from the Eastern Illustrating & Publishing Co. Collection. Courtesy of the Penobscot Marine Museum.

D.J. & E.M. Sawyer Store (early 1900s)



**JHS Museum & Heritage Center
21 Sawyer Square
Jonesport, ME 04649**



Edward M. Sawyer

NOTE: Any photos identified as from the Eastern Illustrating & Publishing Co. Collection, courtesy of the Penobscot Marine Museum, can be obtained as beautiful reproduction prints from the Penobscot Marine Museum at

<https://penobscotmarinemuseum.org>

Jonesport Historical Society Museum (GPS 44.532268, -67.595747)



The Jonesport Historical Society Museum is in the building of the former D.J. & E.M. Sawyer Store, which was built in 1896. John Vassar Sawyer II donated the building to the Jonesport Historical Society in 2011. The east side of the museum is set up to resemble how the general store once looked. The cubicle behind the counter in this photo was the Jonesport Branch of the Pittsfield Bank.



The oldest object on display is in the east side of the museum. It is the desk that belonged to Manwarren Beal, Jr., the first settler of Beals Island in 1776. During the Revolutionary War, when Manwarren served on the Committee of Safety and Correspondence at Machias, a British officer boarded Manwarren's vessel in search of incriminating papers, which he thought was in the locked desk. The officer tried to open the desk with his sword but could not, so he left in a rage. The sword marks can still be seen on the desk.



The east side of the museum is also where the Heritage Center computer equipment is located. Visitors to the museum have access to three databases with user-friendly menus. A Genealogy database contains information on more than 87,000 people, dating back to ancestors of the first settlers of the Jonesport-Beals area. A Cemeteries database contains information on 4500 graves in the 38 local cemeteries. An Archives database contains all the archival information in the society's collection, including more than 19,000 photos, 4500 pages of newspaper articles, 27,000 pages of documents and other text, and 470 audio/video clips that run a total of 17 hours.



The west side of the museum greets a visitor with a large display board of the Sawyer family that owned and ran the store from 1896 till the 1930's, when the family converted the store to an insurance agency.



The west side of the museum also contains a wide assortment of Jonesport artifacts and information from the shipping era, the sardine factories, the Jaffa Colony, the Seth Parker radio program, Dr. Henry Mansfield's dentist office, and many more items.



In July 2019 the meeting room was dedicated in memory of Donald C. Woodward, past president of the Jonesport Historical Society who died in November 2018.

The Jonesport Historical Society Museum has a meeting room that can seat 60 people. It is equipped with a podium that contains a PC laptop, a combination DVD player, a Bose 5-speaker sound system, and a sound amplifier. The room has a ceiling-mounted digital projector and a wall-mounted 9-foot screen.



The meeting room has windows facing out to the Jonesport Marina in Sawyer Cove. Large annotated photos above the windows depict what that same view looked like during the shipping era in the late 1800s and early 1900s. About 2500 vessels would pass through Moosabec Reach every year.

More than 260 sailing ships were built in Jonesport. Many of the ships were built here at Sawyer's Dock. Daniel James Sawyer and his brother Edward owned 43 wooden vessels during their 16-year business.



An interior window on one wall in the meeting room looks into a room almost untouched since the 1930s. It is probably what the U.S. Customs Office on the 2nd floor resembled around 1905.

The Deputy Collector of the Customs Office had the power to enter, clear, and issue papers to vessels, and was instrumental in the prevention of smuggling. He also had to measure the load capacity of a vessel before it launched. About 1900 Edward Burton Sawyer, son of Edward Mansfield Sawyer, became the Deputy Collector.