



Readin' Both Pages

A membership publication of the Sail, Power & Steam Museum



**Push-grunt-
Heave-grunt-
again-again-
hold all!**

*Barn raising
April 2013*

*With our
Volunteers*

The new DYNAMITE PAYSON boat shop, just like an old fashioned "barn raising", is erected against the façade of the museum building. During the winter with the gales raging and snow blowing horizontally by the windows, our crew was cutting mortises & tenons on



almost 140 6x6 & 4x6 hemlock timbers. With shavings and chips all over the floors, the slab pored and the permits granted we, ten volunteers, Meg & Captain Jim, project manager, Dennis, were all fiercely ready for the big push-the first nice spring day-April 17,2013

After about three hours of tug and grunt-push and hammer, we were rewarded by a completed frame and were ready for the purlins. Then, with the tree nailed at the peak, and an agglomeration of gourmet pizza handed around, we toasted our progress. Alas, another grand and successful, exciting day at the Sail Power & Steam Museum.

Dynamite Payson was a well know

fisherman, boat builder, model builder, designer, story teller, carver and character. He was also a good friend of the S.P.S. Museum and a great loss to the community when he was gone. He was the inspiration for the building of hundreds of small boats built by both novice and professional builders and we hope to carry on the "Dynamite" motivation with instruction, guidance and fascinating work place for enthusiasts!



Don't be just an artifact--
BUILD YOUR OWN BOAT
 at the **Sail Power & Steam Museum**

*What could be sweeter than
 rowing your own Gull Dory
 across a quiet harbor in the
 wee hours of a new dawn,
 the mew of the gulls,
 splash of a mackerel,
 dip of the oars.*

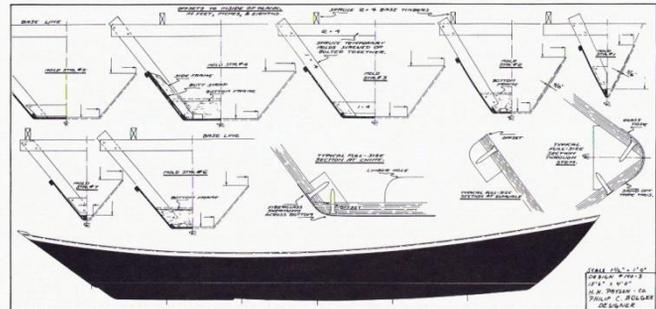
The new Dynamite Payson Boat Shop will feature plans, forms and instruction to build many of the Dynamite instant boats. These boats are designed by Marine Architect Phil Bolger so that you can build and launch a smart and handsome sailer in 40 working hours or less! Take a little longer and create a Lovely Maine Pea Pod or Matinic choppin' tray. There will also be a carving station, wooden lobster trap construction jig, builder's half models and all manner of paraphernalia made of trees.

Among the men who ply the various trades, I have observed that the ones who work with boats—designers, builders, and users—are usually happier than most others, and of these, the very happiest in my opinion are boat builders who use edged tools and work in wood. Such work makes demands on, and seems therefore to satisfy, the whole man—hand, eye, ear, brain, and heart.

— Dynamite Payson

Gloucester Gull rowing dory — 15'6" x 4'0" — 7' oars

Weight 124 lbs. as designed with 3/8" sides and 1/2" bottom.
 Weight 82 lbs. with 1/4" all around and spruce framing.



Easily car tops - or fits in station wagon.

Book Available:
 How To Build The Gloucester Gull Dory
 ... \$10.85 includes postage.

Calling All Volunteers

The Sail Power and Steam Museum salutes, recognizes and celebrates our volunteers at all levels. We encourage anyone interested in learning about volunteering to contact the Museum. America has a proud tradition of neighbor helping neighbor, and this spirit is needed more than ever. Studies show that people who volunteer their time live longer, healthier and happier lives, and the satisfaction of a job well done is always an enjoyable feeling. Many thousands of retired individuals have found that they are not only welcomed, but needed in carrying out of the day to day workings of organizations world wide.



Learn the fine points of boat building- come help complete our 28ft. Friendship Sloop and get her sailing out on the Bay



Sophia

Queen of the Snow Fleet!

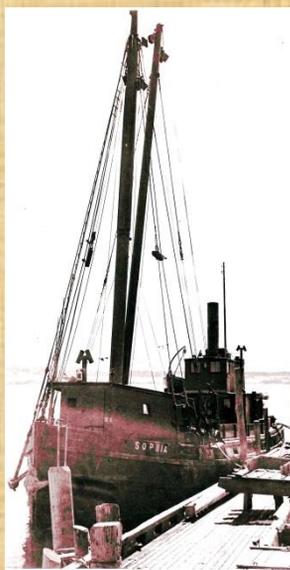
Modeled by

Dynamite Payson

Her name was SOPHIA—but everyone knew her as “lil Sophie”—an 85 foot steam lighter built in East Boston in 1892 and spent most of her working life at the Snow Shipyard in and around Penobscot Bay. It was a long life: when SOPHIA was finally scrapped in 1965, she was the sole survivor of scores of steam-powered vessels that operated out of Rockland and many other New England seaports “She was no speed demon, but sure was a workhorse.”, recalled Bert Snow, whose family owned her for more than a half century “She was one of those vessels everybody loved.”

SOPHIA had twin screws, a single rudder and flat bottom. Dynamite’s model shows her bluff bow, heavy construction, with a steam derrick forward and boxy cabin aft. A most identifying feature was the large smokestack protruding from the cabin top—usually belching thick black smoke.

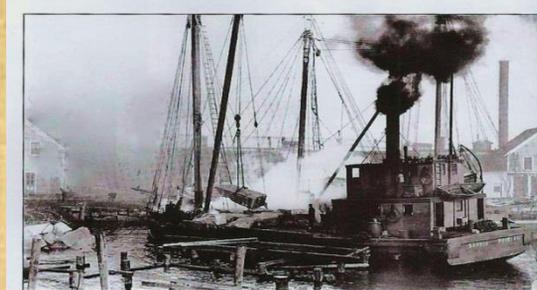
Probably Sophie’s most glamorous assignment was towing the “Spite House” from Phippsburg to Rockport. She was identified with many other highly- visible projects from granite wharf construction, under water cables, and the salvage of numerous wrecked vessels. She remained in the Snow family from 1907 when Captain John I Snow bought her until the end of her career in the 1960s.



Sophie was built in 1892 in the Lockwood Yard in East Boston. She was 81 feet x 23.9 with a 7ft draft. Her two 150 hp engines moved her, but “though she ‘taint no race horse”, Ernest Gamage, builder at the Snow Yard claimed “Blow high-blow low, she’d do 8 knots -4 ahead and 4 sideways.” She was acquired by Snow’s in 1908 and was their workhorse for almost 60 years. She seemed to do the most impossible jobs and think nothing of it. She was ready for any errand or emergency. When disaster struck, Sophie would salvage, when a dock was to be built, she would be there, when a channel was to be dredged..... Part of her reputation named her one of the most unsightly vessels on the coast. Her houses were as if designed by farmers for the livestock. Her bow was so bluff “a fellow could almost put a thortships bunk behind the stem.” However, she always came home, never got into trouble she couldn’t get out of and was loved by all at the Snow Yard., See her working on video at the Sail Power & Steam Museum.



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Rockland’s hardworking steam lighter *Sophia*, shown here in the 1920s building the granite wharf on the south side of Tillson Avenue. R. Waldo Tyler Collection of the Rockland Historical Society

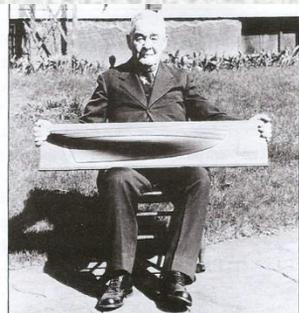


Give 'er a blast, Cap— one they can hear all over town!

And I yanked on the rope whistle pull, a goodly jerk, the air rushed through the valve with a great woosh and the stupendous blast resonated all over town. Oh, it was a musical blast. Our antique whistle is, after all, a three toned, brassy big ship's tooter and is absolutely as authentic a contraption as one would find on one of the Canard Queens. It came from the collection of Captain Bud Hawkins of the Schooner *Mary Day*. He was a great friend, my competition in the schooner business of the 1960s and when he sailed from this life I got his whistle, a perfect keepsake to remember him. With the help of our invaluable volunteers we built a copula for the top of the steam engine house. With a small crane we set the structure on the ridge, installed the monstrous hooter and gave the neighbors a rash of something to talk about.



Speaking about our volunteers, they are some incredible! I was blown away when through the door Joe & Sally Spadaro walked in carrying a magnificent cocktail table that he had lovingly made over the winter in his shop. It is in the shape of an Adirondack Guide Boat and built from rib patterns of 1910. They tell me it's one of 5 such tables in existence. We'll raffle it, with a drawing at the Windjammer Festival in Camden for the benefit of the museum! Then, some lucky, festive skipper will soon grace his main saloon with this extremely unusual, hand made treasure.



In glancing through "Main Beam" the bible of Rockland shipping, I discovered a clipping and photo of John J. Wardwell. He was master builder of the *George Wells*, first six master built and largest sailing vessel in the world at her launch. We have a display of this remarkable man in the museum which includes two schooner half-models he created. I knew he was a prolific designer, master builder and was well recognized but I did not know the full extent of his accomplishments. This man made the half model for 150 big ships and built 83 under his own hand. Most were very large commercial sailing vessels. He, a Rockland resident passed in 1943.

Another thing that grabbed my attention was the fact that Rockland Harbor was, in 19th century the fourth largest seaport in the United States. This port was so busy transporting lime, granite, fish, ice, wood for kilns, wood for shipbuilding, barrels & staves, manufactured goods of all kinds, soup to nuts, shoes to coconuts and even circus animals- that the sailing vessels filled the enormity of this harbor to overflowing. It was a whole forest of masts and rigging. Sailing ships passed Owls Head in numbers so vast it was impossible for the light keeper to count them all. Shipbuilding was conducted all along the shore. Launchings were multitudinous. Documented new vessels included 216 schooners, 44 barks, 44 brigantines, 10 clipper ships, 3 ketches, 30 full rigged ships, 15 sloops and 48 motor vessels. A busy little place, indeed.



Captain Jim & Meg Sharp



Readin' Both Pages

Readin' Both Pages is published two or three times a year, if we can get around to it, by The Sail, Power & Steam Museum, a non-profit organization based in South Rockland, Maine on the shores of Owl's Head Bay. The Sail, Power & Steam Museum was founded in 2007 with a mission to enrich the lives of visitors, volunteers, and the general public through hands-on, interactive, and educational experiences with historically significant sailing, power, and steam driven vessels, ships, and small boats while providing instruction as to their origins, construction, and original commercial and recreational purposes.

A subscription to Readin' Both Pages is a benefit of Museum membership. Membership categories include: Individual (\$25), Family (\$50), Contributor (\$100), Sponsor (\$250) and Benefactor (\$500). For further information on these and other membership categories, as well as the Museum's current schedule of events, please see our website or contact the Museum.

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Back issues of Readin' Both Pages are available as PDF files, or in printed format for a small processing fee. Please contact the Museum for further details.

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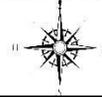
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MISSION STATEMENT

To enrich the lives of visitors, volunteers and the general public of the state of Maine through hands-on, interactive, and educational experiences with historically significant sailing, power and steam driven vessels, ships and small boats while providing instruction as to their origins, construction, and original commercial and recreational purposes.



MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

STUDENT \$15

- Basic Benefits

INDIVIDUAL \$25

(one adult)

- Basic Benefits
- Two free admission passes for guests

FAMILY/SUPPORTER \$50

(two adults and children under 18)

- Basic Benefits
- Four admission passes for guests

CONTRIBUTOR \$100

(two adults and children under 18)

- Basic Benefits
- Six admission passes for guests
- 25% discount on admission for accompanying guests

SPONSOR \$250

(two adults and children under 18)

- Basic Benefits
- Personally autographed copy of "With Reckless Abandon" by Capt. Jim Sharp
- Invitation to special sales and promotions at the Museum Store
- 50% discount on admission for accompanying guests

BENEFACTOR \$500

(for two adults and children under 18)

- Basic Benefits
- Personally autographed copy of "With Reckless Abandon" by Capt. Jim Sharp
- Invitation to special sales and promotions at the Museum Store
- 50% discount on admission for accompanying guests
- Recognition on Plaque in Museum Library

BASIC BENEFITS (ALL LEVELS)

One membership card

(free admission to Museum and special events)
Subscription to the Museum newsletter, Readin' Both Pages, 10% discount at Museum Store
Invitations to special events

TAX TIP--In 2013, individuals who are 70 ½ and older can make a charitable contribution by transferring as much as \$100,000 directly from their IRA to a charitable organization. The IRA distribution is not included in the donor's gross income yet is counted to satisfy minimum required distribution provisions

SAIL POWER & STEAM MUSEUM
75 Mechanic Street
Rockland, Me 04841



FIRST CLASS
POSTAGE
REQUIRED

THE TIME HAS COME FOR MORE OF YOUR HELP

★ THE NEW DORY BUILDING ★

Has been approved by the City of Rockland.

The plans are now congealing and the contractors are perusing the initial site preparation for the new building.

★ The Dynamite Payson Memorial Boat Shop Is Becoming a Reality ★

A post and beam structure – 16x30 is in the works. Much of the effort will be supplied by our incredible volunteers and this will hopefully help to keep the cost to a reasonable level. However, we have the good fortune to have a donor who will match any and all contributions, dollar for dollar. We have to raise half th estimated \$30,000. – We need just 15k.

Your contribution will be necessary, significant and consequential.

All donations are tax deductible and the proceeds will help make this exciting facility both an educational and a demonstrative asset to the ever expanding, fascinating – your community Museum – the

Sail, Power and Steam Museum

Please send your contributions ASAP to
75 Mechanic St. • Rockland, ME 04841

www.sharpspointsouth.com • www.sailpowerandsteammuseum.org

and we thank you!

Sail, Power and Steam Museum's Grand Reopening - May 15th!

Wish List:

First or second generation iPad (pref. Apple) for self-guided virtual tour of Museum. Grant writer or researcher that can scare up donors–private or corporate etc. (possibly get Apple to donate old iPads).

From our Gift Shop

High Fashion Hats
& T-Shirts



Captain Jim's memories of great times gone by.
\$20 donation to SPS Museum-order now! 207-701-7627
Published by Down East Books... A great read!

For Sale



40' 1944 Navy Launch Inland Cruiser.
Fine for living aboard or travel. Good boat-bargain @ \$9500.

26' 1972 Luhrs
Fiberglass Cruiser for sale. Heavy fiberglass hull– good motor.
Museum price \$4500.



62' 1914 Flagship Rekord– very early significant engine– amazingly well built and good for her age– looking for a good home– no price– You offer donation.