

Welcome!

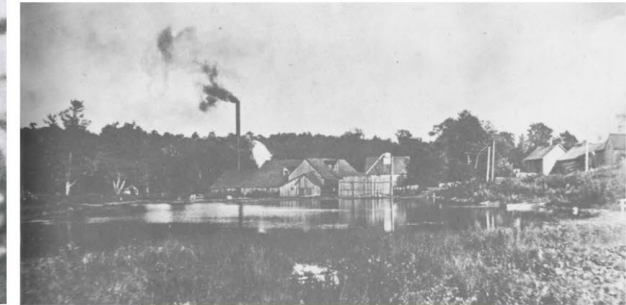
*Our event will
start shortly.*

*Thank you for
joining us today.*



A NYS TUG HILL
COMMISSION HISTORY
PRESENTATION

A CENTURY GONE BY: REVISITING SWANCOTT MILLS



**SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 17, 2022
1:00 P.M. TO 2:30 P.M.
WEST LEYDEN
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
1157 FISH CREEK RD
WEST LEYDEN, NY 13489**

ALSO AVAILABLE VIA ZOOM

**REGISTER FOR EITHER IN-
PERSON OR ONLINE
ATTENDANCE AT**

[TINYURL.COM/SWANCOTT](https://tinyurl.com/swancott)

**OR CALL THE TUG HILL
COMMISSION AT (315) 785-2380**



JAMES BURKE

Author of "A Lifetime on the Hill," musician, and storyteller, Jim will sing and share stories from his family and life experience.



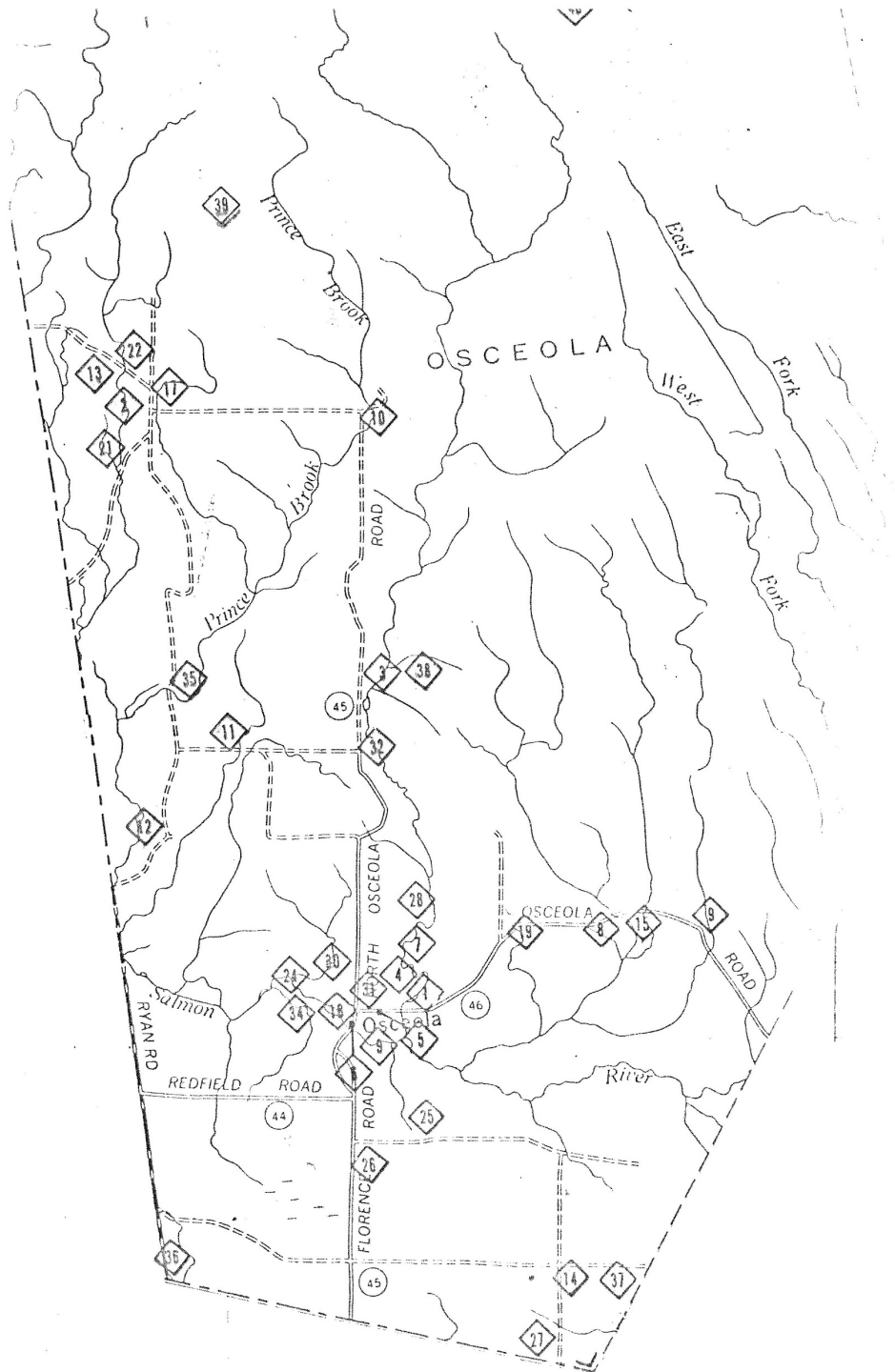
LEIGH PORTNER

Logger, Linn tractor enthusiast and history lover, Leigh will bring artifacts from Swancott Mills and share his recollections.



ROBERT SAUER

Tug Hill Sage, retired Harden forester, NOCCOG chairman and Camden local official, Bob will emcee the event.



SAWMILLS - TOWNSHIP NO. 13 - OSCEOLA

1. Warren Andrews Mill on Salmon River, 1 mile down river, 1838-1841.
2. William Roberts on Fall Brook 1841.
3. Gibbs mill on Fall Brook.
4. Ben Jacksons' Mill at Stones.
5. Cowles Mill on Fall Brook
6. The Rees Witfred Mill on Keyes Brook
7. Albert Brockway on Stoney Brook
8. Cowles Water Mill on Salmon River
9. The Company Mill on Salmon River
10. Elmer Durst, North Osceola
11. Seth Bullock on Fall Brook
12. Campion Widew Mill, Fall Brook Falls
13. Daniel Commins Mill and Broom Handles
14. Commins Mill, southwest corner of Osceola township
15. The Harden Mill on Fall Brook
16. Blount Lumber Co. Mill on Smith Brook
17. Ike Stedman Mill, North Osceola
18. Charles Stuper Mill, South of Osceola
19. William Colvin Mill
20. Charles Payne Mill on Prince Brook
21. Latray's Mill on Picken's Brook
22. Amos Barkley
23. Charles Rowell Mill on Lot 104
24. Earl Rowell, Lot 65 Stoney Brook
25. Harold Durgee, Osceola Village
26. Harold Durgee Mill, East Road
27. John Stuper Mill, North Osceola
28. Earl Rowell's Mill, North Osceola, Lot 19
29. Phil Breen Mill, South Osceola
30. Hemingway Mill on Injun Brook
31. Dan Driscoll Mill
32. Homer Chase Mill at Bellinger's Corners
33. Dan Thurston's Mill, Osceola
34. James Adams Mill, Osceola
35. Charles Rowell Mill, Rowell's Corner
36. E. Beebe Mill on Baker Brook
37. Kimber Sawmill on Prince Brook
38. Mike Brazil Mill
39. LaTray's Mill, Lot 86
40. Herb Magee, Lot 81
41. Cris John ~~XXX~~ Shingle Mill
42. Clarence Clemen's Mill

*Done by Hugh Quinn
Osceola, N.Y.
obtained from him
5/83*

HISTORY
OF
LEWIS
COUNTY
NEW YORK

HOUGH

1883

“In 1841, a bridge was built over Fish creek, and a road opened from the town of Lee, near the line of the old road of 1805, ... the bridge was swept off in the winter of 1842-43, and soon rebuilt, and in 1843, a mill was built by Mr. Herron, and afterwards owned by David L. Swancott.”

History of Lewis County by Franklin Hough, 1883, page 251

“Among some of the early sawmills operating in the town of Lewis in 1895-6 were....Swancott's.”

“Swancott's mill in the western part of the town was burned to the ground on February 7, 1907. The mill had employed about thirty men and David Swancott of Lee Center was the owner at that time. It was evidently rebuilt as records indicate that on October 28, 1919, the Tug Hill Lumber Co. with principal offices at Swancott's mill in the town of Lewis, filed a certificate of incorporation with the Secretary of State, for the purpose of dealing in timber and timber lands, stumpage and real estate of every description. Directors the first year were Thomas W. Swancott of Lee Center, F.C. Hopkins, P.J. Jones and C.R. Dewey of Utica, and Frederick E. Beck of New Hartford. In 1965 this property was owned by Joseph and Chester Kwasniewski. A large new mill was built and the business was known as the J. & C. Lumber Company.”

HISTORY OF
LEWIS COUNTY
NEW YORK
1880-1965

Edited by
G. BYRON BOWEN



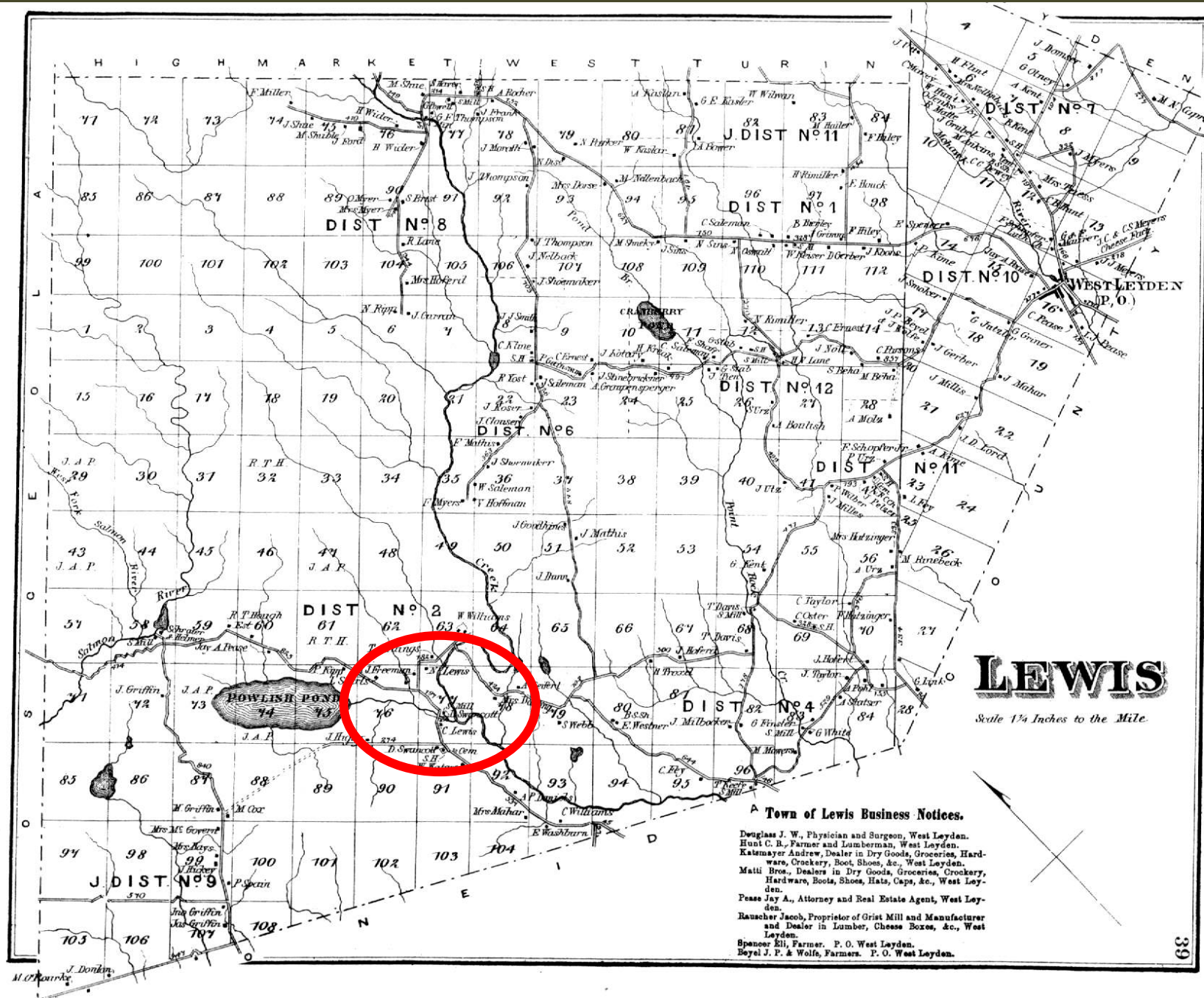
James P. Burke

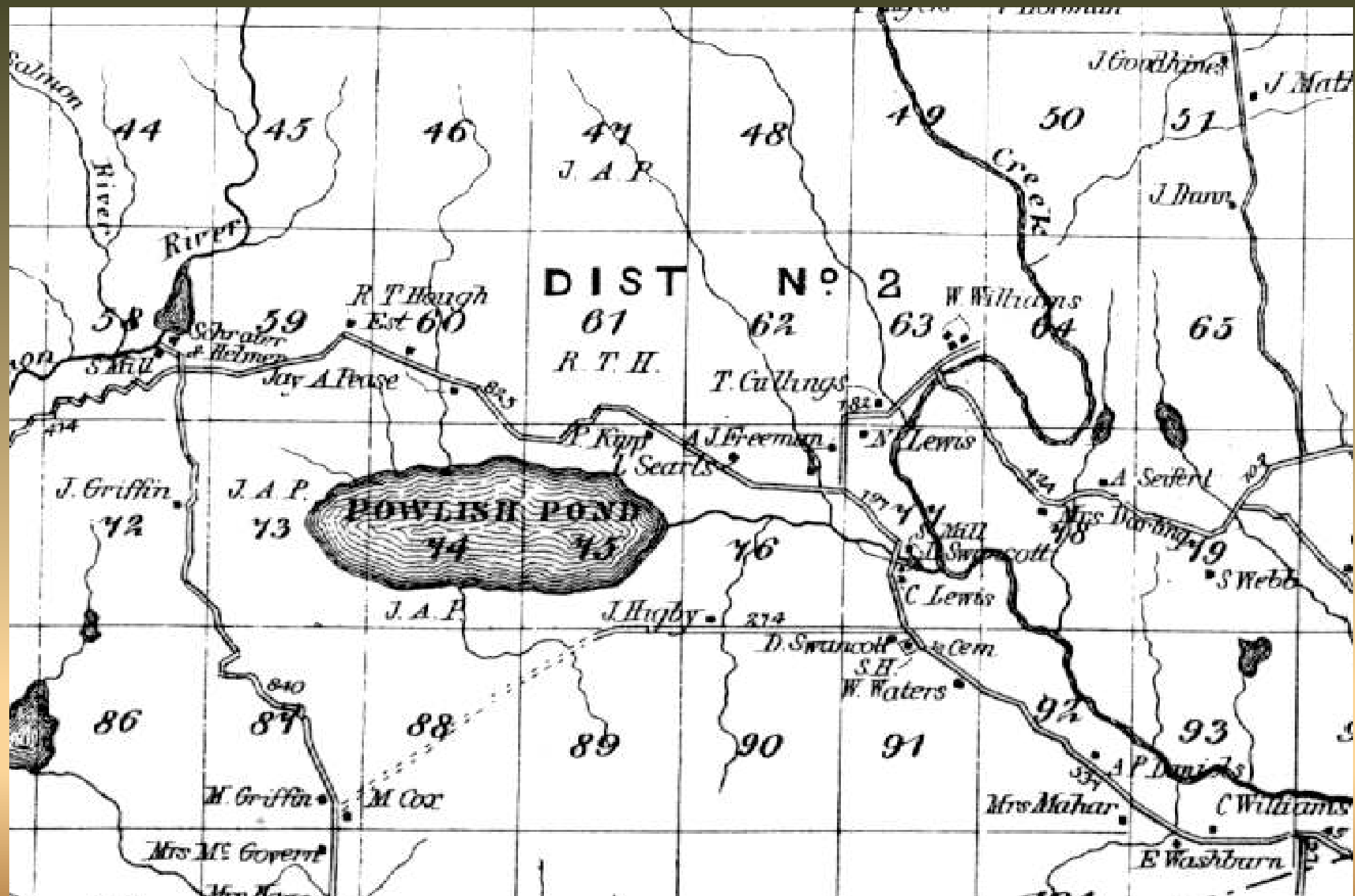


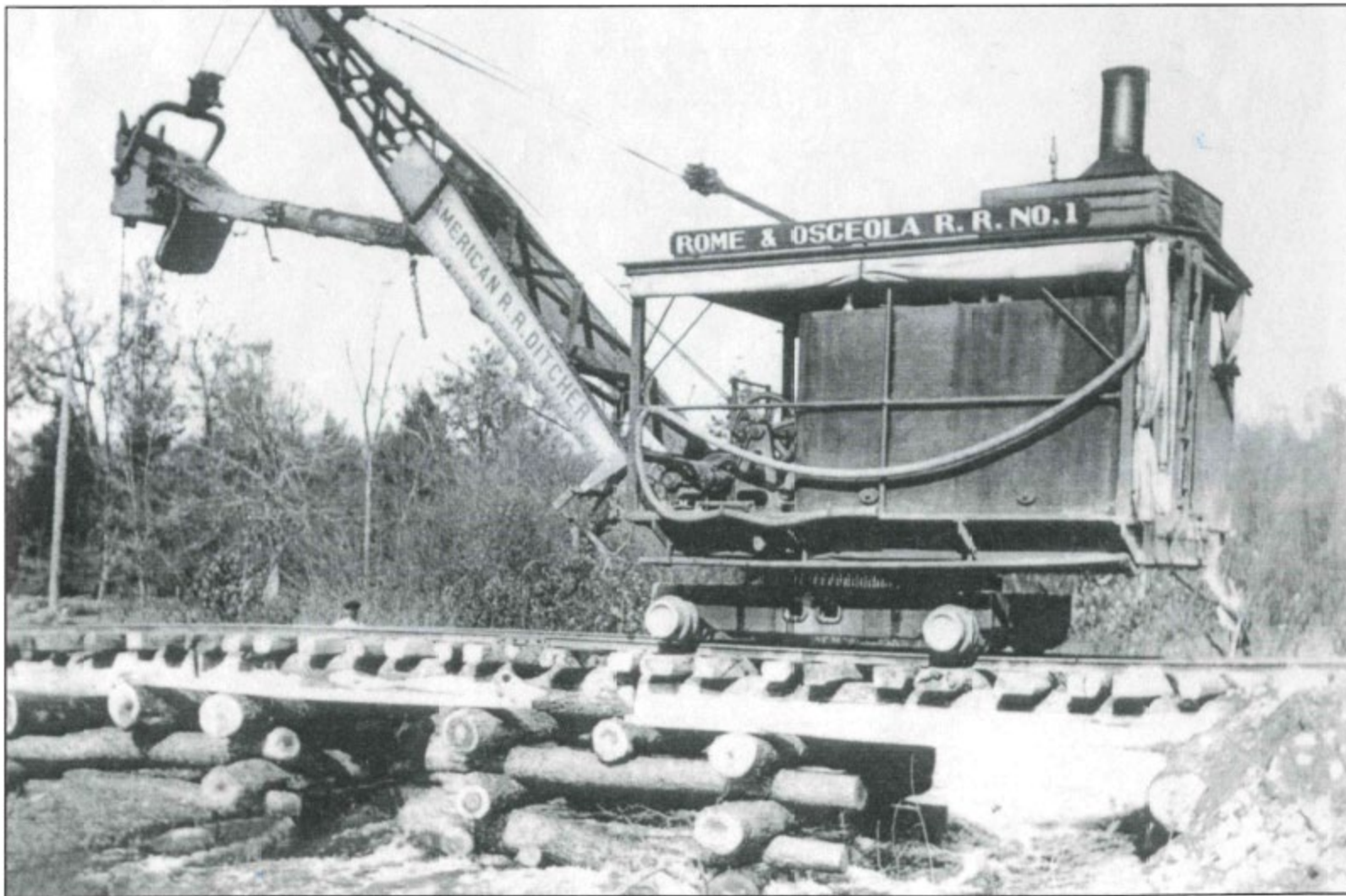
Swancott's Mills looking south on Creek Road



Sawmill at Swancott's Mills, early 1900's







Investors incorporated the Rome & Osceola Railroad Co. in 1908 with the intention of extracting an estimated 375 million feet of lumber from southwestern Lewis County. The rail line was to run 25.5 miles from Rome to Swancott's Mill in the Town of Lewis. Extensive grading was completed, but the project was finally abandoned in 1924. This photograph shows an American Railroad Ditcher, a piece of equipment that could be used as a steam shovel or as a pile driver. (Town of Osceola.)



Between 1840 and 1860, an estimated two-thirds of the world's bird's-eye maple was cut in Lewis County. Some of it came from the settlement of Swancott's Mill, named for David L. Swancott, who built a sawmill on Fish Creek in 1843. In this photograph, four young men, rifles ready, head off to the hunt. The name "Fish Creek" commemorates the great number of Atlantic salmon that once spawned in the stream and which the Iroquois snagged in their weirs. (Ed Fynmore collection.)

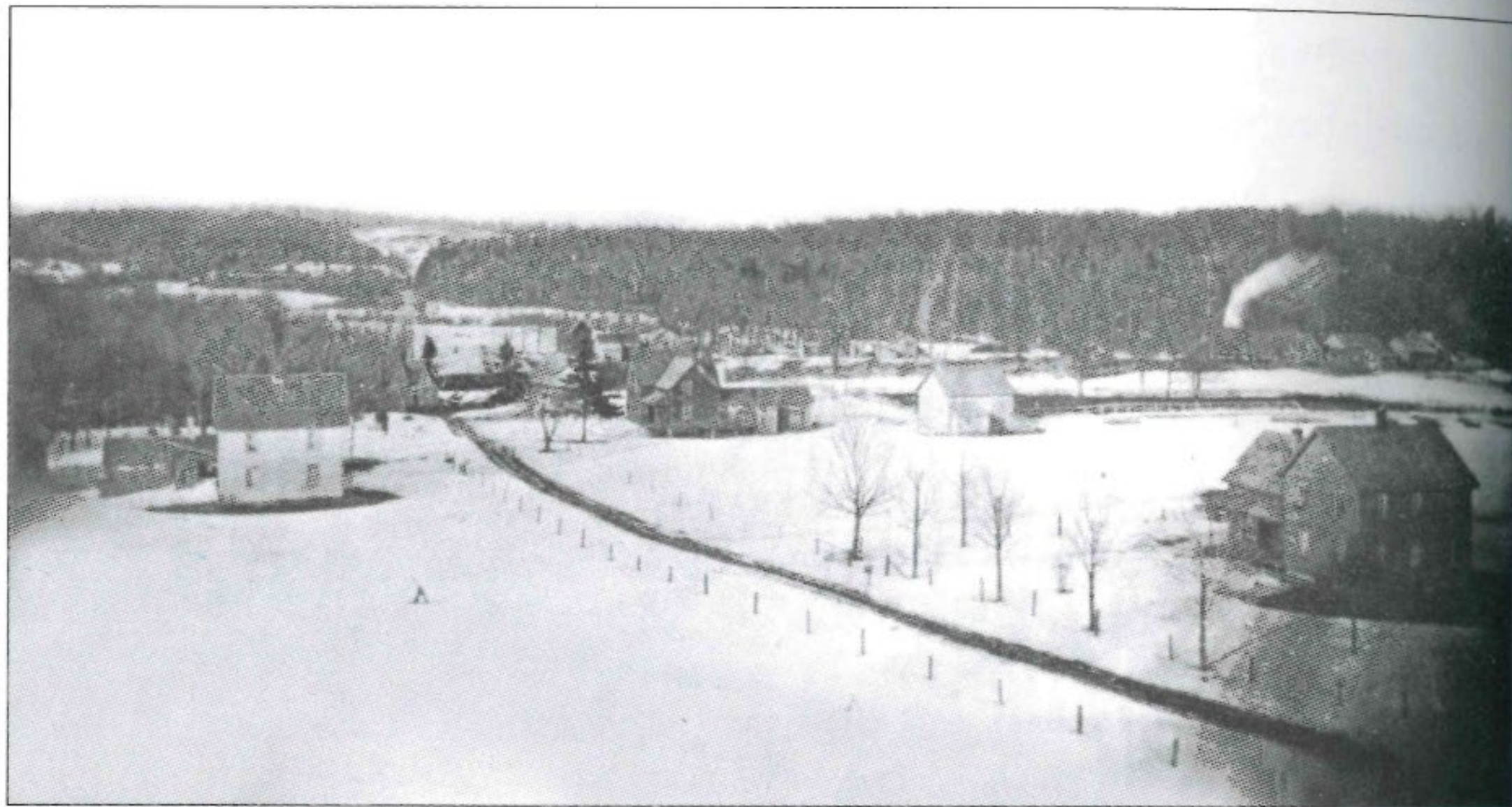


Swancott Mills was once a thriving community. Photo donated by Ed Fynmore. Courtesy Lyons Falls History Association



An unidentified man stands near his Swancott Mills homestead in 1905.

Photo donated by Ed Fynmore. Courtesy Lyons Falls History Association



A panoramic view of Swancott Mills. Photo donated by Ed Fynmore. Courtesy Lyons Falls History Association



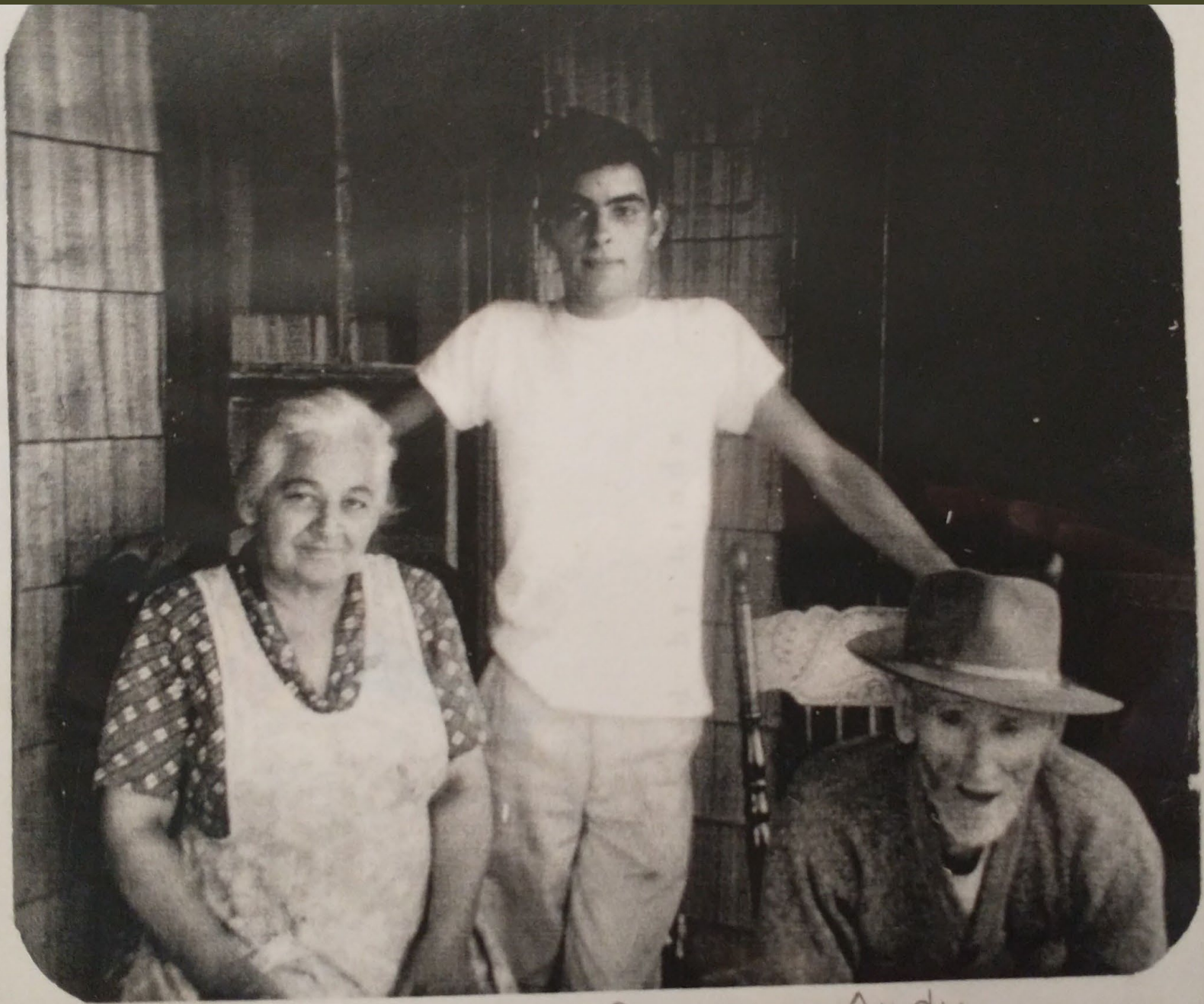
Swancott Mills School, 1905. Photo by Ed Fynmore. Courtesy Lewis County Historical Society









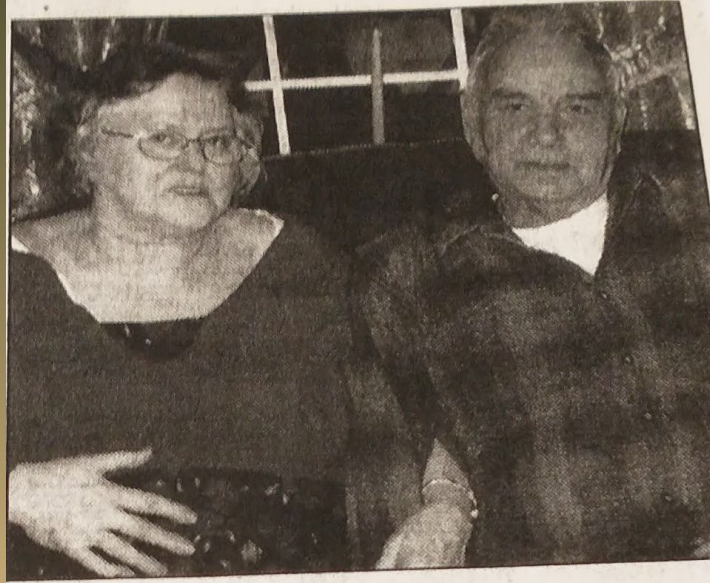


Ninabelle

James P.

Andy

ating 60 years





Andy Burke