

The Early Camps On East Pond: 1910 - 1925



Smithfield

- East Pond Camp
- Camp Somerset
- Rocky Shore Camps
- Clement's Camps
- Camp Musquemooisie/
Sandy Beach Camp
- Camp Norridgewock
- Alden Camps

NOTE: While three of these camps were located in Smithfield, the standard at the time was to use Oakland as their location as this was the train station used by their customers.

BEFORE THE CAMPS

Most of the property surrounding East Pond was farmland.

In the late 1800's & early 1900's the Belgrade Lakes became a popular fishing location for people from away.

In 1900 the Belgrade Hotel opened in Belgrade Lakes Village and Edwin Clement was a Bellhop & Fishing Guide for guests.

In 1904, Edwin opened North Pond Camps. It was located on his father's farm property in Rome and is the present-day location of Pine Tree Camp.

In 1910 Edwin purchased the Green farm in Smithfield and in 1911 opened East Pond Hotel & Camps (now the site of Camp Somerset).

Arthur Fred Alden opened Alden Farm & Camps in 1911 having borrowed money from his father to purchase a 120-acre farm with a farmhouse and barn and then built 6 cottages on the lakeshore.

Tyler Corner

Access to East Pond was primarily from Oakland and this is what visitors would see shortly before arriving at their destination. Where D&L Country Store is now located.



Alden Farm & Camps: 1911 to Present

Opened in 1911 with Six Lakefront Cottages with 2 Bedrooms, a Sitting Room and a porch, but no Bathrooms.

1912 Add from Brooklyn Daily Eagle

1913 Short Article from Boston Transcript

The Alden Farm and Camps
 Situated on the shore of East Lake, headwaters of the famous **Belgrade Chain of Lakes**. Fishing, bathing, tennis, excellent table. For booklet address **A. FRED ALDEN, Oakland Maine.**

The Alden Farm and its camps are at Oakland, Me., on East Pond, the head of a chain which compose Belgrade Lakes and which make an ideal vacation place. Garden, hennery and dairy supply the table and the invigorating air means voracious appetites. All is brightness and good cheer in this place and it would take a column to merely mention the pastimes. Address for illustrated circular and post card, **A. Fred Allen, Proprietor, R. F. D., 34.**

Oakland, ME Camps From the 1913 Brooklyn Daily Eagle Summer Resort Directory

NAME OF HOUSE OR HOTEL.	No. of Guests.	Miles from Depot.	Miles to Nearest Water.	Miles to Golf Links.	NAME OF PROPRIETOR.	Terms per Week.	Season.
OAKLAND, Kennebec Co.		400 miles.		Pop. 2,257.	El. 750.	Ex. Fare, \$17.90.	
North Pond Camps.....	75	7	On	5	E. W. Clement.....	\$11-14	Je-No
Alden Farm & Camps.....	50	5	On	..	A. Fred Alden.....	12 up	Je-Se
East Pond Hotel & Camps	40	5	Near	..	E. W. Clement.....	14-17	Ma-Oc

Alden Farm & Camps: 1911 to Present

By 1920 a Dining Room had been added to the Farmhouse.



Alden Farm & Camps: 1911 to Present

By 1920 There were 17 Cottages & a Multi-room Lodge.



Alden Farm & Camps: 1911 to Present

By 1920 There were 17 Cottages & a Multi-room Lodge.



Alden Farm & Camps: 1911 to Present

Even then, they were dedicated to their motto of "Swim-Fish-Fun"



BATHING SCENE, ALDEN CAMPS, OAKLAND MAINE.

Alden Farm & Camps: 1911 to Present

Even then, they were dedicated to their motto of “Swim-Fish-Fun”



East Pond Hotel & Camps: 1911 thru 1920

Edwin Clement purchased the Green Farm on East Pond in Smithfield in 1910 and opened East Pond Hotel & Camps in 1911

In 1920 he sold the Camps to Joseph Bernstein of New York City, and it was converted into Camp Somerset the following year.

Article From Waterville
Morning Sentinel – July 1915

Ad from 1920 Brooklyn Daily Eagle

HAVING GOOD TIME.

East Pond Camp Guests Enjoy Birthday Party and Ball Game.

The saying that "there is always a jolly party at East pond camps" was amply fulfilled Friday evening when the 30 or more campers there gave a party at the hotel in honor of the birthday of one of their number, Mrs. L. H. Newell of Pawtucket, R. I. Unknown to Mrs. Newell, the ladies at the camp arranged to have the anniversary celebrated right royally and during the afternoon a trip was made to Waterville where all the supplies essential for a thoroughly successful party were secured. When Mrs.



EAST POND CAMPS

Wonderful Fly and Bait Fishing.

COME ON—don't say you're too busy. Spend a month or two and feel the good effects for a year. Everything to delight the enthusiastic angler and his family. REAL food, comfortable cabins with bath, fresh vegetables from our own garden, two automobiles. Situated on one of the famous Belgrade Lakes—enough said about the splendor of the surrounding country, the glorious air, etc. Booklet and rates on request. E. W. CLEMENT, Prop., East Pond Camps, Oakland, Maine.

East Pond Hotel & Camps: 1911 thru 1920

The road (East Pond Road) to East Pond Camps



East Pond Hotel & Camps: 1911 thru 1920

The Main House and Barn



VIEW OF MAIN HOUSE, EAST POND CAMPS, OAKLAND, ME. TX.

East Pond Hotel & Camps: 1911 thru 1920

Boat Landing with Brickett Point in the Background



BOAT LANDING, EAST POND CAMPS, OAKLAND, ME. 1911

Rocky Shore Camps: 1917 - 1980

Asa B. Cayford obtained the property on the south shore of East Pond between East Pond Camps and Brickett Point in 1912 and opened the camps to paying customers in 1917.

Ad from December 22, 1916 Boston Globe

WANTED—A hotel or restaurant wood-burning French range, must be in first-class condition. CAYFORD CAMP CO, Box 12, R. D. 84, Oakland, Me. dSu7t* 622

Ad in Hartford Courant June 6, 1917

Belgrade Lakes, Maine
ROCKY SHORE CAMPS
Delightfully Located on Shore of
BELGRADE LAKE
Everything new and modern, electric light, hardwood floors, etc.; all porches, doors and windows screened; tennis, boating, bathing, automobil-
ing; a cuisine of excellence; products from our 300-acre farm; accommodates 30 guests; booklet on request.
CAYFORD CAMP CO., Oakland, Me.

Article from Morning Sentinel May 3, 1917

Asa Cayford had a big load of furniture arrive yesterday for the Cayford Camp Co., at East Pond.

Ad from Brooklyn Daily Eagle June 19, 1919

ROCKY SHORE CAMPS
Private cabins and central dining room, overlooking lake. Boating, fishing, bathing. Rates \$17.50 per week. Send for booklet.
H. R. CAYFORD, Oakland, Me.

Rocky Shore Camps: 1917 - 1965

It was, and still is, a rocky shoreline



LIVING + DINING ROOMS AT ROCKY SHORE CAMPS, EAST POND, OAKLAND ME, 24.

Rocky Shore Camps: 1917 - 1965

This camp still exists along the shoreline to the right of the main lodge.



Rocky Shore Camps: 1917 - 1965

Is being reconditioned by Hank & Anne Sarazin who are descendants of Asa Cayford.



Musquemoosie/Sandy Beach Camp: 1921 - 1946

Harry & Ellen Tozier purchased the property in November of 1920 and opened Musquemoosie Camp in June of 1921. It was renamed Sandy Beach Camp in 1931/32. It made up what is now Camp Manitou, Ghost Light Theater Camp and most of Benson Cove.

Article from Morning Sentinel May 2, 1921

A large number attended the dance given by Mr. and Mrs. Harry Tozier at Musquemoosie camps on East pond Saturday evening. A large hay-rack conveyed the party from Oakland. Mr. and Mrs. Tozier have just purchased these camps and expect to open for business very soon.

Ad from Morning Sentinel July 3, 1921

CHICKEN and Fish dinner Sunday at Musquemoosie Camp, East Pond, for \$1.00. Harry E. Tozier, Prop., Tel. 35-26.—Advertisement.

Brooklyn Daily Eagle ad, June 1942

SANDY BEACH CAMPS

On Shore of East Lake in Belgrade Lake Region

New, round, modern log cabins, hot and cold showers, central dining hall, excellent bass fishing. Reasonable rates. Special rates for June and Sept. Capacity 70. Tel. 49-23. Write for illustrated booklet.

**Harry E. Tozier, Prop.
Oakland, Me.**



Musquemoosie/Sandy Beach Camp: 1921 - 1946



Camp Somerset: 1921 - 1985

At the end of the Summer in 1920, Joseph Bernstein of New York City purchased the East Pond Hotel & Camps and after extensive improvements over the winter it opened as a Summer Camp for Jewish girls in 1921. The camp was run by his wife, Fannie Bernstein.

American Israelite Cincinatti, OH 1921

1926 Summer Camp Guide

Camp Somerset

A SUMMER CAMP FOR GIRLS

Belgrade Lakes • Oakland, Maine

What are you going to do with your daughter during the summer? Hotel life is not the best thing for her. Let us tell you about Camp Somerset, an ideal spot in Maine, equipped in every detail for the health and happiness of your daughter. Ask for our illustrated booklet outlining our scope of educational and athletic activities. **Director, Mrs. Fannie L. Bernstein, 385 Ft. Washington Ave., New York City.**

CAMP SOMERSET, P. O. Oakland, Me. Alt. 300 ft.

Mrs. F. L. Bernstein, 385 Fort Washington Ave., New York City. For girls 8-18 Enr. 105 Staff 24 Est. 1921 Fee \$350.

Somerset is a successful, well organized camp for Jewish girls. Those activities which are not possible during the balance of the year are emphasized. Gardening, woodcraft, arts and crafts are on the program and much attention is paid to water sports and athletics. Esthetic, folk and social dancing, dramatics and entertainments as well as music are featured. There are trips to Mount Kineo and other points of interest.

Camp Somerset: 1921 - 1985

Main Building at Camp Somerset (East Pond Road running in front of it)



Camp Somerset: 1921 - 1985

Two of the Cabins at Camp Somerset



HILLTOP AND COME-INN CABINS, CAMP SOMERSET, OAKLAND ME. 13.

Camp Somerset: 1921 - 1985

Music Room at Camp Somerset



Camp Norridgewock: 1921 - 1932

In 1921, Arthur Condon of Northampton, MA purchased the three large islands located at the North end of East Pond and in the Summer of that year opened Camp Norridgewock.

Ads From Springfield (MA) Daily News June 1921 & 1923

From 1926 Camp Guide

CAMP NORRIDGEWOCK
East Lake, Oakland, Maine. One of Belgrade Lakes
A camp for boys who desire real camp life in the Maine woods. All land and water sports. Fishing, Tutoring. 60 mile canoe trip through the famous Belgrade Chain of Lakes. Boys 8 to 18. Illustrated booklet. **ARTHUR M. CONDON, Northampton, Mass.**



SAILING BOATS AT NORRIDGEWOCK

CAMP NORRIDGEWOCK, P. O. Oakland, Me. Alt. 275 ft.
Arthur M. Condon, 65 New South St., Northampton, Mass.
For boys 7-16 Enr. 35 Staff 10 Est. 1921 Fee \$300.
Much attention is paid to woodcraft, water sports, forestry and nature study. Many canoe and motor boat trips are taken. Tutoring is available.

The fact that there was a motorboat at the camp is highlighted in several articles about the camp.

CAMP NORRIDGEWOCK

For Boys 7 to 18 Years of Age who desire real camp life in the Maine woods, Oakland, Maine. Belgrade Lake section. Canoe trips from one day to three weeks. Modern sleeping bungalows. Camp mother, graduate nurse, trained swimming instructor. Limited to 50 boys who are accepted after an interview with parents and boys. Rate for July and August \$250, or one month \$150. Tutoring school connected with camp. Illustrated booklet.

Arthur M. Condon
Northampton, Mass.

Camp Norridgewock: 1921 - 1932

For the most part, campers used the big island.



19.
BOAT LANDING, CAMP NORRIDGEWOCK, OAKLAND, ME.

Camp Norridgewock: 1921 - 1932

The island in the background had cottages used by the staff and owner.



Camp Norridgewock: 1921 - 1932

Although not confirmed, it appears the camp closed due to the Great Depression



Clement's Camps: 1922 - 1960

In 1922 a corporation called New East Pond Camps, Inc. was formed, and they purchased a portion of what was called the Asa Brickett farm. This included most of what is now Brickett Point as well as the Island off the West shore.

In June of 1922 they opened as New East Pond Camps with 14 Bungalows (w/ bathrooms), a main building with dining hall (including kitchen and icehouse), a pump house, a garage to hold 8 automobiles, two tennis courts, a dock system (with swim float) and a boat house.

Edwin Clement was hired as the General Manager for the 1922 Season.

At the end of 1922, Clement bought out the mortgage and foreclosed on the property. He reopened the next year as Clement's Camps which was in operation through 1938.

It was then sold to E. K. Davey (a longtime customer of Clement's Camps) and operated under the name of Davey's East Lake Camps through 1960.

Davey sold the property to Zipse's East Lake Camps, Inc in 1961 but it was not really operated as a commercial venture and in 1965 it was sold to Annabessacook Lake Shores, Inc. who subdivided it and sold the properties and cottages.

Clement's Camps: 1923 - 1960

Prior to opening in 1923 the existing cottages were "put into first class condition"

Moring Sentinel 5/28/1923

Ad from Hartford Courant: June 6, 1923

Clement's Camps Open On Decoration Day

Clement's Camps, formerly the New East Pond Camps, Inc., and purchased by Ed. Clement from that corporation on May 4 will open for the season on Decoration day. Since the date of the purchase Mr. Clement has had a large crew of men at work putting the camps in first class condition and now everything is ready for the first parties who will arrive on May 30 and will continue to arrive in early June for the fly fishing. Good bookings already have been made for July and August.

Mr. Clement has conducted other camps on the ponds in other years, and has many friends who are glad that he has returned to Maine and the Belgrade lakes, and he extends an invitation to them to drive over and see the up-to-date set of camps that were built last year on the so-called Brickett's Point, East pond, and he will be glad to show them around. Mr. Clement previously conducted another set of camps on the same lake.

CLEMENT'S CAMPS

on the Famous Belgrade Lakes
Fly and bait fishing for Bass. Large and Small cabins with baths and open fire-places. Excellent meals, boats, Bait, Guides etc. Wire for Reservations. Booklet.
E. W. CLEMENT, Oakland, Maine.

Ad from Brooklyn Daily Eagle: May 25, 1924

CLEMENT'S CAMPS

Black bass fishing on famous Belgrade Lakes; fly fishing from May 25 to July 1st, 20 to 60 bass per day; bait fishing during July, August and September. Separate cabins with bath and open fires; guides, boats, bait, tackle, and most excellent table. Send for information and booklet.
E. W. CLEMENT, Oakland, Maine

Clement's Camps: 1922 - 1960

The initial 14 bungalows were pretty rustic looking



WOODEN CABINS, CLEMENT'S CAMPS, OAKLAND, ME., 37.

Clement's Camps: 1922 - 1960

Over the years, an additional 12 Cabins were added for a total of 26



INDIVIDUAL CABINS, CLEMENTS CAMPS, OAKLAND, ME, 310X

Clement's Camps: 1922 - 1960

And they were much nicer inside



Clement's Camps: 1922 - 1960

And they were much nicer inside



Clement's Camps: 1922 - 1960

An extensive Walkway System and Dock System were part of the camps



Clement's Camps: 1922 - 1960

And the Main Building was expanded to be 120' long



MAIN CAMP, CLEMENTS CAMPS, OAKLAND, ME, 31.

Clement's Camps: 1922 - 1960

The Main Building was used for Dining, Entertainment and numerous social events



Clement's Camps: 1922 - 1960

View of Island and updated Dock System – Davey's East Lake Camps



CREDITS

The photos in this presentation are from the Penobscot Marine Museum's, Eastern Illustrating & Publishing Company Collection.

The East Pond Association purchased the rights to use these photos for informational purposes only and they are not available for sale. Some have been cropped for use.

The Eastern Illustrating & Publishing Company of Belfast, ME was founded in 1909 as a producer of post cards. The owner, R. Herman Cassens and his photographers travelled through rural New England and photographed local landmarks and businesses. The exposed glass plate negatives were sent to the factory in Belfast to be printed and the finished postcards were sent to the businesses and sold for 2 to 5 cents. The company went out of business in 1947 leaving over 50,000 glass plates and negatives.

In the late 1980's the glass plates and negatives were acquired by the Rockport Institute for Photographic Education and in 2005 the task of cleaning, identifying, organizing and cataloging them began. But in 2007 a broken pipe flooded the building they were stored in. The collection was saved and ultimately donated to the Penobscot Marine Museum just a few miles from where this story began.

It is interesting to note that the text on each of the postcards had to be applied by workers in a mirror image. Also note that numbers in the text have nothing to do with the year that the photo was taken.