

Friends' Atlantic Salmon Museum expansion is moving forward ! ~ Target: \$150K



The Friends of Craig Brook National Fish Hatchery, Inc. is embarked on an ambitious project— to add an expansion to the existing Atlantic Salmon Museum. Tackling a capital campaign during tough economic times is certainly no easy task, and the going has been challenging. But succeed we will! The addition foundation, pictured above left, will expand the museum's capacity by well over 200 %. The existing museum, pictured above right and below, has reached its maximum display capacity. The wide window on the south wall will be removed and a new entrance will open into an 8-foot corridor leading into the new museum addition. It will be in the entrance corridor that the Plank Membership plaques will be placed.

At this writing the Museum capital campaign has raised \$42,000 toward an anticipated need of \$150,000 to complete the project. The Friends of Craig Brook National Fish Hatchery extend their gratitude to the folks who have already contributed generously to the campaign, bringing the project nearly to a third of its target figure. If anyone would like to become a plank member, a form for that purpose is included in this

issue.

FCB

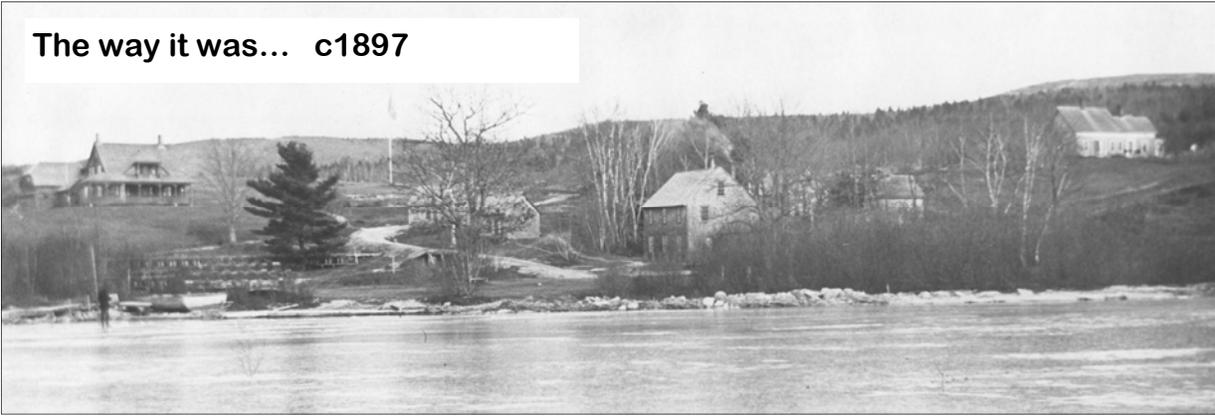


The new museum addition will truly be a link between centuries— the old ice house, now our present museum, is seen in the center of the picture. It was built about 1896. The "Lower Hatchery" is seen at left, the "Upper Hatchery" at right. Craig Brook archives show the Lower Hatchery sustained major flood damage in 1936 and was razed. The Upper Hatchery was razed in 1957. (c1930s photo)



The Friends of Craig Brook Atlantic Salmon Museum is a window on the angling heritage of the King of Sportfish. We hope to know that heritage again!

The way it was... c1897



The Old Ice House— a survivor

The image above shows “Craig Brook Station” as it was called. Superintendent Charles G. Atkins’ residence is seen at left, with a battery of fry rearing troughs near the shore of Alamoosook Lake. Note the man standing on the ice. The road just to the right, leading down to the lake, was known as the “winter road to Bucksport”—on ice! The two small houses on the side of the winter road were barracks,

and the larger building with smoking chimney was the “hatching house”. Just slightly to the right, partially hidden by trees, is the ice house, the only surviving building in this picture— now serving as our present museum. At the far right is the Partridge farmhouse. The federal government purchased the 135-acre property from the Partridge family in 1889, becoming Craig Brook Station and the first Atlantic salmon hatchery in the United States.

The Upper Hatchery was built in 1906. It was a large building, having two floors and plenty of space for fish culturing. Like the Superintendent’s residence, it had an array of fry rearing troughs installed in front of it. The upper hatchery was located on the west side of Craig Brook, and was demolished in 1957 in anticipation of a major expansion project at Craig Brook which began the next year. →



The Lower Hatchery was long— 100’ x 35’, also two story, and was situated directly beside Craig Brook. The building was short-lived. In 1936 a major flooding of Craig Brook caused irreparable damage to the structure, prompting it to be razed. A small fish food preparation building, built in 1908, is seen at center, and our museum ice house, with its attached tool shed, is seen just to the right. ←

A rear view of the museum ice house shows its attached shed, which was added after the building was used for ice storage. This photo, taken in the early to mid 1930s, includes a caption stating “tools were kept in the shed, and gasoline in the brick part”. The water delivery flume, leading to the Lower Hatchery, is seen in the foreground. We’re not sure when the ice house was built, but a guess of 1896 is probably close. The old ice house survives to this day. →

