

**STATE GOAL**

*To preserve the State's historic and archaeological resources.*

**INTRODUCTION**

Introduce yourself to the people of Brownville and you will find their names reflect a rich cultural diversity. Whether descended from Welsh, Swedish, Canadian or old Yankee stock, their names and faces reflect a comfortable mix of cultural roots. From the quarry booms of the 1840's through the turn of the 20th century, the town's need for labor to work the slate quarries, mills and on the railroads attracted workers from Wales, Sweden, Canada and elsewhere. Their influence is found in the commerce of Brownville and in the customs, culture and musical legacy their decedents enjoy today.

Most of Brownville's settlers and early residents came here because of it's geographical location and it's natural resources-water in it's streams and rivers, both for mill power and for drinking; lumber for building homes and for providing work; land for building work sites and farming; slate from it's quarries and iron ore from nearby Katahdin Iron Works.

Brownville still depends a great deal on its natural resources. The jobs of a large portion of Brownville's labor force are based on those resources – harvesting timber, hauling timber to mills, working in the mills that process the timber into value-added products and working for companies which transport the product to customers. Brownville's citizens and visitors use the woods and waters for camping, fishing, hunting, snowmobiling, and for rest and relaxation every season of the year.

There is a growing sense of place and an increasing awareness of history that the people of Brownville and the folks who come to visit feel. This is reflected in a quote, which says, "The history of our country is but the history of its small towns."

**EARLY SETTLERS**

In 1794, when the surface of what is now Piscataquis County was still covered by the growth of giant pine, the Massachusetts Land Office employed Samuel Weston and his brother Stephen to survey and plot into townships the land known as ranges VII and VIII north of Waldo Patent, in order that the townships might be offered for sale and settlement. There is no record of settlement at this time.

In 1803, Park Holland surveyed the land, to lot it out for Joseph Blake, another prospective purchaser. Blake bought the land, but like his predecessors, failed to fulfill the conditions, to wit settlement of the area. In 1805 the township came into the possession of Moses Brown and Josiah Hills of Newburyport, Massachusetts, who became joint proprietors.

Through some error, Weston's survey made Range VIII 7 miles 140 rods in depth, instead of the six miles intended. Holland supposed it to be six miles square, and so plotted it, having a considerable part of his eastern line in Schoodic Lake. Later his random line was mistaken for

the true line, thus making the width 5 miles 162 rods instead of six miles--a grave error and a serious loss to what later would become our town, Brownville.

In 1806, Francis Brown, Brownville's namesake, and his nephew Moses was sent with a crew of men to build a dam and mills on the river. They came during August bringing equipment and supplies up the river from Bangor. By fall they had a sawmill and gristmill in operation. During the first decades new families came to the settlement, up the river by bateau, or through blazed forest trails on horseback, or later, following the rough roads by ox-team. The first settlers received whatever social and cultural advantages the state of Massachusetts afforded. Up until 1828 the settlers lived off the land, woods, and water. In 1828, slate was discovered by Moses Greenleaf of nearby Williamsburg. This vein was under the soil of Brownville, and west of Brownville to Monson. From the quarry boom of the 1840's through the turn of the 20th century, the town's need for labor to work the slate quarries, mills and on the railroads attracted workers recruited from Wales, Sweden, Canada and elsewhere. Their influence is found in the commerce of Brownville and in the customs, culture and musical legacy their descendants enjoy today. In 1889 the arrival of the Canadian Pacific Railroad generated the growth of a village 3 miles north of Brownville, and was called Henderson later to be renamed Brownville Junction.

### **GEOGRAPHICAL FEATURES**

Brownville is sited on both sides of the Pleasant River. Brownville is in a glacial region, as evidenced by the sand hills or "horsebacks" along the river. It is believed that Tannery Hill and Rounding Hill were once the two sides of a gateway through which, in remote ages, the river of ice pushed its way. Underlying the soil of Brownville is a belt of slate, which extends westward through the other townships of this range reaching its highest quality here and contributing to the early development of the town.

### **TOWN GOVERNMENT**

From its beginning in 1824, Brownville has been governed by a Board of Selectmen. In the early days, there were three selectmen elected by the citizens at the annual town meeting. The selectmen were the administrators and overseers of all aspects of town business. In the middle of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, as the governing of towns became more complex, there was a need for a full-time administrator. A Town Manager was hired to supervise the running of the Town under the direction of the elected Board of Selectmen. Two selectmen positions were added, again because of the growing complexity of local government. This is the system by which Brownville is governed today. Since the beginning of the Town, there has been the traditional annual town meeting held in the spring at which the officers are elected and all business of the Town comes before the citizens for their decision. It is at once an informative and lively process in which all citizens can participate. It is an interesting bit of history that in 1845, the annual town meeting was held inside the covered bridge, which then spanned the Pleasant River in the Village.

**TOWN HALL**

Over the history of the Town, governmental meetings were held wherever it was convenient – in private homes, at the church hall, the Grange Hall, school gymnasiums and at the Brownville Junction High School Alumni Building. Now, the official offices of the Town of Brownville are in the Masonic Building in the Village.

**SCHOOLS**

During Brownville’s early history, the settlers depended on the ministers and teachers sent to them for their educational privileges. Brownville was more fortunate than most, in that the men who stood back of the settlement were pre-eminently interested in both the religious and scholarly attainments. They selected and supported university men until such time as the settlers were sufficiently established to care for their own needs.

The first schoolhouse was built prior to 1819, for the first meeting held to organize the plantation was held “at the schoolhouse near the mills.” In 1820, when Maine became a state, there were three school districts, the Village School, the North Brownville School and the Rider Ridge School. Three years later, a new district was opened at East Ridge.

According to Brownville Historian, Susan Merrill Lewis, “the inspiration to learn and teach has never been wanting in this community. As early as 1825, Isaac Wilkins was graduated from the Bangor Theological Seminary...In 1859, Mark Pitman graduated from Bowdoin College, became a teacher and was instrumental in founding the noted Choate School in Connecticut...Eber Davis Thomas, in 1878 was a member of the first graduating class of the University of Maine.”

In 1872, the first Brownville High School was built and the next year the first Superintendent of Schools was chosen to take the place of the committee of the then existing nine school districts. Over the years, these many schools were closed and the students attended more centrally located facilities. Until the 1950s and 1960s there were schools in both the Village and the Junction, with elementary and high school students in both parts of the Town. In the late 1960s, Brownville became a member of the newly formed Maine School Administrative District (MSAD) #41, which currently includes Brownville, Milo, Atkinson, Lakeview and surrounding townships.

MSAD 41 Administrative offices are now located in Milo, including the Superintendent of Schools. The only school facility in the Town of Brownville today, is Brownville Elementary School located between the village and the junction at 744 Main Road. In the 2001-2002 school year, there were 92 pupils and 8 staff members at the School. The school serves students from Kindergarten to Grade 5.

**CARING FOR THE POOR**

As was true of most communities, Brownville, in its past, had what was called a “poor farm,” where those unable to support themselves were given help. The system of caring for the poor has gone by the wayside to be replaced with many Federal, State and Local Programs. The

Town of Brownville can provide assistance and referrals to those in need. The Town of Brownville is fortunate to have a number of local agencies and institutions providing assistance, including a Community Food Cupboard, a Medical Loan Closet, a thrift shop and other services available through local churches and organizations.

### **LIBRARIES**

The Brownville Free Public Library is located in the Masonic building in the Village. It has a small budget supported by municipal funds, interest from an endowment and donations. It is open on Tuesday and Saturday from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. All services, including computer access, are free to the public. A Librarian and Board of Trustees administer the Library.

### **CHURCHES**

#### ***Brownville Village Churches***

The first settlers of Brownville brought strong religious heritage and tradition. The Town fathers furthered this influence by sending, bringing and supporting “ministers of the Gospel” from the very first days. The Rev. Hezekiah May was a graduate of Yale College in 1793. He was sent to Brownville and maintained by the proprietors of the Township for six years; was given one hundred acres of land, which he partially cleared and upon which he built himself a frame house, the first in the Town. It stood where the Francis Brown House now stands. He was the first Congregational preacher to enter Piscataquis County. In 1814, he left and was succeeded by Rev. John Sawyer.

Father Sawyer, as he came to be called, was a 1785 graduate of Dartmouth College. He was the first “missionary” to be sent out by the Massachusetts Land Company to the scattered settlements in this newly opened part of Maine. He was instrumental in the founding of the Bangor Theological Seminary, wanting to ensure an educated ministry to the churches being established in this territory.

In 1818, Mr. Welch came from Bangor Theological Seminary to conduct services and as a result of his labors, on August 25, 1819, a church of eleven members was formed. Services were held in the schoolhouse until 1838 when the meetinghouse was built. This was the beginning of what is now the Brownville Community Church in the Village.

In 1834 the Methodist Church in Brownville was organized at the Gerrish farmhouse on the Schoodic Lake Road. In 1839, this Church built its meetinghouse near the site of Merrill Quarry, but shortly after the opening of the quarry, the house was removed to its present location. This building now houses the Brownville/Brownville Junction Historical Society Parish House Museum. These two churches served the needs to Brownville Village for threescore years and more.

***Brownville Junction Churches***

With the arrival of the Canadian Pacific Railroad in Henderson (now Brownville Junction) in 1889, the people who came to build and then work for the railroad desired churches to fill their spiritual needs. At first, missionary priests served them from St. Joseph's Church in Old Town. Around 1888, E. Henderson gave the Catholics a parcel of land where a small building was erected. The membership of the Parish grew until the necessity of a larger permanent sanctuary was evident. St Francis Xavier Roman Catholic Church was built in 1915 and dedicated in 1916. The rectory was built in the early 1930s. This congregation has been an active part of Brownville through its history.

The Brownville Junction United Methodist Church was established when the increasing population of Henderson during the end of the 19<sup>th</sup> Century and beginning of the 20<sup>th</sup> Century showed the need for a Methodist Church in the Junction. Following the usual pattern of church growth, meetings were held in member homes with pastors from the Village Church and supply pastors leading services. The membership grew to the point that, in 1902, a church was built for the cost of \$2,950. It was dedicated on November 23, 1902. In 1916, the parsonage was built, thus providing a comfortable home for the pastor and his family. In 1922, the church was remodeled and enlarged and beautiful stained glass windows were added. The Brownville Junction United Methodist Church has seen many local firsts in its history including the first female pastor, the first Korean pastor, and the first female Korean pastor. The church has always prided itself on its participation in the community and continues in that tradition going into the second hundred years.

“The morning of December 16, 1898 was bright and fair, when at 10:30 a.m., the Bishop, accompanied by Rev. H. Hudson and Rev. W.H. Davis proceeded on consecrate the near little chapel erected at this place.” Thus the establishment of St. John the Baptist Episcopal Church. The arrival of railroad workers from Canada, many of which were members of the English Church in Canada, made necessary this new church. As usual there was quite a bit of time between when the first worshipers were identified and when a permanent house of worship was built. Meanwhile, services were held in an old school building, in private homes, even in a railroad passenger car loaned by the railroad and later in the waiting room of the depot. Finally a church was built during the summer of 1901 and, on December 6, 1901, the Bishop came to Henderson for the opening of the new church.

**CEMETERIES**

There are two cemeteries located in Brownville. The Pine Tree Cemetery (70% full) is on Davis St. in Brownville Jct. and Brownville Village Cemetery (75% full) is on Stickney Hill Road in the village. There was a small cemetery located next to the Grange Hall in the Village. When the water treatment system needed that space, the people were removed and reburied in the Brownville Village Cemetery. There are a number of private family cemeteries on private land, some of which have been inventoried.

**BROWNVILLE POST OFFICE**

Brownville Village has had a post office in the heart of the Village since the founding of the town in 1824. As the town grew, many businesses joined it on the square. The Post Office moved into the Briggs Block when it was built. When that building burned in 1951, it was quickly rebuilt and the Post Office moved back into the space it still occupies. Brownville's first Postmaster, in 1824, was Rev. Nathan W. Sheldon; the current one is William Gallant.

**BROWNVILLE JUNCTION POST OFFICE**

On June 6, 1889, an application was made by Postmaster Charles H. Dunning of Brownville to establish a Post Office at Brownville Jct. The application was counter-signed by Alexander C. Dougherty, storekeeper and proposed Postmaster. The arrival of the Canadian Pacific Railroad in February 1889 had increased the population to 150 people with a projected postal customer base of 400 people.

The mail was brought to town on the Bangor and Katahdin Iron Works Railway from Milo Jct. (now Derby) through Brownville and Brownville Jct. to Katahdin Iron Works. It is interesting that although the original application called for the new Post Office to be located in Brownville Jct., it was to be called Henderson Post Office. This Post Office was officially established on June 26, 1889 and it wasn't until June 10, 1909 that the Henderson Post Office officially became the Brownville Jct. Post Office.

**PREHISTORIC ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITES**

Prehistoric archaeological resources are those associated with Native American archaeology and generally date prior to the 1600s. The MHPC lists seventeen (17) known prehistoric archaeological sites in Brownville, many of which are eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. According to Arthur Spiess at the Maine Historic Preservation Commission, the banks and floodplains of the Pleasant River need a systematic professional survey to further survey, inventory and analyze prehistoric archaeological sites in the Town of Brownville. Map set B-1 from the Maine Historic Preservation Commission shows areas of prehistoric archaeological significance and/or potential areas of prehistoric archaeological significance. Map set B-1 shows areas of identified and/or potential archaeological sites.

**HISTORIC ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITES**

Historic archaeological resources are those associated with the earliest European settlers. The MHPC does not list any historic archaeological sites in Brownville. Robert Bradley, of MHPC, reports that no professional survey for historic archaeological sites has been conducted to date in the Town of Brownville. Future such fieldwork could focus on sites relating to the earliest European settlement of the town, beginning in the early 19<sup>th</sup> century.

**HISTORIC BUILDINGS, STRUCTURES AND OBJECTS**

The National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) is the official list of the Nation's cultural resources worthy of preservation that are significant in American history, architecture, archaeology, engineering, and culture. Authorized under the National Register Preservation Act of 1966, the National Register is part of a national program to coordinate and support public and private efforts to identify, evaluate, and protect our historic and archaeological resources. The National Register is administered by the National Park Service under the Secretary of the Interior. Properties listed in American history, architecture, archaeology, engineering, and culture. These resources contribute to an understanding of the historical and cultural foundation of the nation. Listing in the National Register includes the following results:

- Recognition that a property is of significance to the nation, the state, and the community;
- Consideration in the planning for federal or federally assisted projects;
- Eligibility for federal tax benefits; and
- Qualifications for federal assistance for historic preservation, when funds are available.

The Maine Historic Preservation Commission (MHPC) is the central repository in the state for archaeological and historic buildings survey information and maintains an inventory of important sites including buildings or sites on the NRHP. The standard of what makes an historic or archaeological resource worthy of preservation should normally be eligibility for, or listing in, the National Register of Historic Places. Because the National Register program accommodates buildings and sites of national, state and local significance, it can include local values. As reported by Kirk Mohoney of the Maine Historic Preservation Commission, a comprehensive survey of Brownville's historic above-ground resources needs to be conducted in order to identify other properties that may be eligible for nomination to the National Register of Historic Places. The Town has two properties currently listed in the National register of Historic Places. These properties can be found on Map B-2 and are listed below:

***Brown House***

The Brown House is located on High Street. The Francis Brown House is one of only two houses in Brownville to be listed on the National Register of Historic Places. In 1815 Francis brown came here to build a lumber mill and to oversee the town on behalf of his uncle, Moses Brown. Francis lived for a while in what had been the Rev. Hezekiah May house, while he had a house built for himself and his family. As the town grew, so did Francis Brown's house. It is said to have taken twelve years to complete, and when one looks at the terraced yard, the heavy wood peg construction and the fine woodwork, and remembers that this was a frontier town, that is not difficult to believe.

The hardware came from Boston and the foundation granite from the coast. Clay for bricks that built the massive cellar arches, chimney and top quarter of the foundation was dug 30 miles away in Charleston, brought to the site by oxen and then shaped and fired in a kiln on the property. When it was finally completed, Mr. Brown's house was not only the grandest in town but also somewhat of an architectural wonder.

In the attic of the Francis brown house the entire second story ceilings of 2x4 and 10x10 hand hewn beams are suspended from a 40-foot length of hewn timber, which forms the ridgepole. A visiting architect from Sturbridge Village noted that the building would stand even if all the interior walls were removed.

Another unique feature is found in the wall above the great fireplace between the kitchen and the living room. A cabinet slides out of the wall to reveal a secret hiding place that purportedly gave refuge to runaway slaves in the days of the Underground Railroad. The owners Woody and Susan Higgins have since meticulously restored the Francis Brown House, listed on the National Register of Historic Places since 1985. Mrs. Higgins is a descendant of the Brown family.

### ***Slate House***

The Swallow House, known locally as the Slate House, was built in 1848 and is located at 123 Church Street. It is Italianate in style, noteworthy for its unique use of locally quarried slate. The foundation, entrance steps, as well as the sheathing of its exterior walls are of slate. It is the only known building in Maine that makes such diverse use of this material.

In addition to its architectural significance, the house has an important association with the local quarrying industry, one firm of which originally erected the structure for its superintendent. Thus, it's eligibility and listing on the National Register of Historic Places. The slate for the house came from the Merrill Quarry, just up the road from the house. It is believed it was built to showcase the various uses of slate in house construction. The foundation is made of long slabs of stacked slate. The shingles, which side the house, number in the thousands, each cut and scalloped at the ends by the patient hands of quarry men. Every shingle contains two holes made with a pick. The slate stairs, both at the front and the sides of the house, still bear the tooth marks of the saw used to cut them. Inside, wherever there was a wood stove, there is a mantle made of slate. In keeping with the impressive workmanship exhibited at the home, the original stained dark ash frames the doorways and windows. Ceilings in each room are 12 feet high, and double ornate glass doors adorn the front hall.

### **HISTORIC PLACES AND ARTIFACTS OF LOCAL SIGNIFICANCE**

The Brownville Parish House Museum is located on Church Street in the Village. The Brownville Historical Society operates the Museum. The building is the former Methodist Episcopal Church built in 1839. The Historical Society is in the process of creating an inventory of Brownville's historic buildings and resources.

### **KATAHDIN IRON WORKS STATE HISTORIC SITE<sup>1</sup>**

Today, the skeletons of a blast furnace and charcoal kiln stand silent, lone remnants of the Katahdin Iron Works. In the past, these structures pulsed with activity as part of Maine's only nineteenth century iron works operation. Here the fires of the blast furnace

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<sup>1</sup> <http://www.mainerec.com>

flames non-stop for as long as a year at a time, glowing against the night sky. Smoke poured from this charcoal kiln and many others like it. Mule, oxen or horse-drawn wagons rattled by constantly carrying ore, pig iron or wood.

Such sights and sounds must have seemed out of place in the Maine wilderness. Yet it was the wilderness, with its ready supplies of iron ore, fuel wood and water power that brought the iron works industry to this site.

Katahdin Iron Works operated here for a total of about 25 years between 1843 and 1890. Although isolated, it was tied closely to outside markets and technological advances in the iron industry. Its beginnings, for example, paralleled a growing demand for iron farm tools, machinery and railroad car wheels. In the end, the iron works failed when huge mill in Pennsylvania brought the nation's new age of steel.

The heart of the Katahdin Iron Works was its blast furnace where intense heat separated iron from other materials in the ore. Workers pouted ore, limestone flux and charcoal into the top of the furnace. The charcoal was then ignited from the bottom and the mixture was heated to high temperatures by a blast of air circulated through the base of the furnace.

As the iron melted, it dripped into a crucible, which held about two tons of liquid. When the crucible was filled, workers broke a clay plug in the tap hole. The liquid ran down a long trench onto the sand floor of the casting room and flowed into shorter trenches. Here, the molten iron cooled into pig iron ingots, each weighing about 80 pounds. In the 1880's when production was at a high, 18-20 tons of pig iron were produced daily. Katahdin Iron works once had 16 charcoal kilns like the one remaining today. These kilns each burned 50 cords of wood (which took 6 days to burn and 10 days to cool) at a time and produced charcoal vital in fueling the blast furnace. Cutting and hauling wood to burn in these kilns was a major activity and employed hundreds of men. One winter, when the iron works was at the height of its operation, 400 men, using 200 horses and oxen, cut and hauled 20,000 cords of wood, a year's supply for the kilns.

From the first firing of the blast furnace in 1844 Katahdin Iron Works had to cope with its remote location and problems in smelting the local iron sulphide ore. Several different owners saw KIW through expansion and lean times. It survived destructive fires and a railroad was built to lower transportation costs. But the iron works which remained a relatively small scale, inefficiently operation, was finally closed due to outside competition. In March 1890, the Piscataquis Observer reported the end of this fascinating and unique chapter in Maine's history.

The people who opened the Katahdin Iron Works in 1843 built an iron works, town and roads in this remote location. By 1884, during the height of the KIW operation, the village had grown to include the homes of 200 workers. The 1880s also marked the beginning of the summer resort business here. Local springs, rich in iron, sulfur and

other minerals, were widely advertised as health-giving and the area's scenery, outdoor sports offerings and Silver Lake Hotel became well-known.

Many townspeople moved away when the iron works and a later spool mill closed. The hotel burned in 1913. In 1927, the General Chemical Company leased Katahdin Iron Works land as a reserve source of the sulfur contained in the iron sulphide ore. General Chemical finally purchased the land in 1952, but has not yet undertaken mining operations.

General Chemical Company donated the land containing the blast furnace and one remaining charcoal kiln to the Maine Bureau of Parks and Recreation. Katahdin Iron Works was first operated as an historic site in 1965. Extensive restoration was done on the furnace and kiln in 1966.

### **KI JO-MARY MULTIPLE USE FOREST<sup>2</sup>**

Much of this forestland was first purchased in the early part of the 19th century. Following the Missouri Compromise, both Maine and Massachusetts were land rich and dollar poor. In Maine, this wild, forested land was usually sold a township at a time. Even though prices were low, purchasing 36 square miles of land, sight unseen, was as much of a gamble then as it would be today. It was, therefore, not unusual for several investors to pool their resources to purchase the land. This type of joint ownership was (and still is) known as common, undivided interest and means each owner owns a percentage of each acre, rather than wholly owning certain acres, in the township. Costs of ownership and management activities were paid from gross income from timber sales. Profits were then divided among owners, according to their percentage of ownership. This unique ownership pattern persisted throughout most of Maine until very recently. The complications of modern tax and anti-trust laws have caused most forest landowners to trade their common, undivided interests for full title. Recent publicity regarding sales of vast forested tracts to developers has caused much public concern in the Northeast. In reality, ownership of most forestland simply changes to another forest landowner - sometimes through sale, but more often through trade.

### **THREATS TO HISTORICAL AND ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESOURCES**

Historical and archaeological resources must first be identified before they can be protected from any potential threats. Protection of identified historic sites in Brownville is the responsibility of the municipality or individual owners of the site(s). Archaeological resources are often threatened by development because their existence is not obvious. Public ownership of historic sites is an option, only if the owners desire to sell their property. The Maine Historic Preservation Commission (MHPC) indicates, after review, that there is need for further survey, inventory and analysis of Brownville's historic aboveground resources in order to identify properties that may be eligible for nomination to the National Register of Historic Places. The MHPC further indicates no prehistoric or historic archaeological sites are known.

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<sup>2</sup> <http://www.northmainewoods.org>

**RESOURCE PROTECTION MEASURES*****Maine Historic Preservation Commission***

The MHPC is the central repository in the state for archeological and historic buildings survey information. Survey files include computer files, map sets, paper data forms, field notes, unpublished reports, photographic archives and published works. Archeological files are exempt from the “right to know” legislation and are accessible only with permission from MHPC staff, to protect sensitive archaeological sites and landowners’ privacy. Summaries of sensitive archaeological information are made available on a case-by-case basis.

The MHPC contains an inventory of sites, yet has no jurisdiction over these sites. The MHPC coordinates funding for inventory and restoration of historic sites. Towns with historic protection ordinances may also be eligible for monies through MHPC. Funding for inventory and restoration is (sometimes) available depending on legislative appropriation.

***National Register of Historic Places***

MHPC also coordinates a National Register of Historic Places. Sites registered by the owner with the National Register of Historic Places are protected through federal legislation, but only protected against any intervention or development by a federal agency. Eligible sites include those with only local significance or value.

Listing a property on the National Register provides protection only when federal funds are used for a project, which would affect the historic property. More complete protection is provided by a local historic preservation ordinance.

***Local Ordinances***

Local adopted ordinances, such as land use and subdivision ordinances, can protect historic area zones from harmful impact and regulate their development.

***Shoreland Zoning Ordinance***

Because archaeological sites are found along shores (99% of Maine's know prehistoric archaeological sites are located near water), shoreland zoning will often provide protection of such sites. To the extent that the future archaeological sites may be identified on the banks of water bodies within the community, they may be partially protected from development by state mandated setbacks in shoreland zones.

***The Site Location Law***

The law requires consideration of impact on historic resources.

*Easement and Initiatives*

Individual landowners, historic societies, or nonprofit agencies may apply a number of development restrictions to their properties on a voluntary basis. These restrictions may be strengthened by deed constraints or easements.

*Public or Nonprofit Ownership*

Public ownership of historic resources is another option for protection of historic buildings or sites.

**POLICY AND IMPLEMENTATION PLAN**

In order to preserve the State's historic and archaeological resources from development that could threaten those resources, the Town of Brownville has developed the following policies and implementation strategies:

**1. Policy:** The Town shall promote awareness of and encourage historic resources, whether large homes, older commercial districts, or farms, to be economically viable without destroying the resources.

**Implementation Strategies:** The Town, in conjunction with the Historical Society, shall educate residents and developers about historical resources and archaeological sites/artifacts within the Town. The Town will also inform residents about special initiatives and financing available for historic preservation projects.

The Town shall encourage that all privately owned historic resources be registered and maintained to the maximum extent feasible through landowner or nonprofit efforts.

**Responsibility:** Planning Board and Historical Society

**Time Frame:** on-going

**2. Policy:** Potential areas and artifacts of historical and archaeological significance shall be documented and historical and archaeological sites and artifacts should be monitored to ensure their protection and preservation. In addition, goals for the protection and preservation of archaeological and historic sites shall be developed.

**Implementation Strategies:** The Board of Selectman, in conjunction with the Historical Society, shall educate the public and highlight the existence of locally significant buildings and sites as reported by the National Register of Historic Buildings and the Maine Historic Preservation Commission.

The Local Historical Society shall inventory and maintain a listing of all locally significant historic artifacts and structures.

**Responsibility:** Planning Board and Historical Society

**Time Frame:** within five to ten years

**3. Policy:** Future ordinances shall include language with respect to preservation of historic and archaeological resources, including land use standards, to better protect historic and archaeological resources.

**Implementation Strategy:** The future land use ordinance shall include language to ensure that historic zones are identified and protected within the ordinance. Developers within an identified area shall be required to sponsor a survey acceptable to the MHPC; and if resources are found, to include a management plan of those resources.

The Planning Board, in conjunction with the Historical Society, shall create a Historic Preservation Ordinance.

**Responsibility:** Planning Board, Historical Society and Code Enforcement Officer

**Time Frame:** within two years

**4. Policy:** A more detailed survey of historic and archaeological resources by qualified professionals shall be performed.

**Implementation Strategy:** The Town shall seek funding sources to conduct a professional survey of historical resources and archaeological sites/artifacts within the Town.

**Responsibility:** Board of Selectmen, Planning Board, Historical Society

**Time Frame:** within five to ten years