Woodside Family Self-Guided Tour: From the River to the Bay

By Barbara A. Desmarais, 8 June 2023

14 Maine St., Brunswick, Maine, approximate site of Fort George

Start at the head of Maine St. at the large brick former factory building overlooking the Androscoggin River and the falls. Known as Fort Andros, this represents the approximate location of Fort George, where William Woodside served as the 2nd of three captains. Be sure to walk around back or onto the bridge to see where the Woodsides fished for salmon.

159 Park Row, Pejepscot History Center

South on Maine St. is our park, which we call the Mall. Pejepscot History Center is on the east side of the Mall, which is called Park Row. Pejepscot has several Woodside artifacts in its collections. Call ahead so they can have everything ready for you. Hours vary by day and season. https://pejepscothistorical.org/visiting-us

360 Maine St., First Parish Cemetery

Continue south on Maine St past downtown, the First Parish Church, and Bowdoin College, past the Seventh Day Adventist Church at 333 Maine St. Continue just past the Appletree subdivision on the left. The cemetery is set back from the road. The First Parish Meeting House previously occupied the frontage of the property, with the cemetery behind it. The settlers started constructing the meeting house after engaging Rev. James Woodside to preach. The accompanying maps will guide you to Capt. William Woodside's final resting place.

Just past 116 Maquoit Rd., Maquoit Cemetery

Continue south to the fork, taking the right onto Maquoit Rd. Proceed south just past the entrance to Brunswick High School; on the right to Maquoit Cemetery. Many from the Woodside family are buried in this cemetery which was associated with an early Baptist church.

382 Maquoit Rd., approximate site of Capt. William Woodside's blockhouse

Continue south to 382 Maquoit Rd, on the right before you go down the hill. This is the approximate location of Capt. Woodside's blockhouse. The view down to Maquoit Bay and along the marshes is what he would have seen every day.

478-498 Maquoit Rd., Wharton's Point Landing

Continue down to the literal end of the road, the landing at Wharton's Point. This is where the Woodsides would have put in their skiff to travel to nearby towns or go fishing and clamming.

77-135 Bunganuc Rd., Maquoit Bay Conservation Land (Trail)

After you've enjoyed the view of a working landing, consider turning onto Woodside Rd. Take the first left (about half a mile) onto Bunganuc Rd., then take another left (about a half mile) onto a gravel parking area with signs. Enjoy the woodland and salt marsh views from the milelong trail, in the place the Woodsides called home.