

MAHONE BAY

OUR INCORPORATION HERITAGE



ARTHUR L. ERNST FIRST MAYOR
Photo courtesy of Town of Mahone Bay.



ORREN S. JOUDREY FIRST TOWN CLERK
Photo courtesy of Suzanne Burgoyne Riawetz.

The Town of Mahone Bay was Incorporated in 1919 under Chapter 4 of the Acts of 1918.

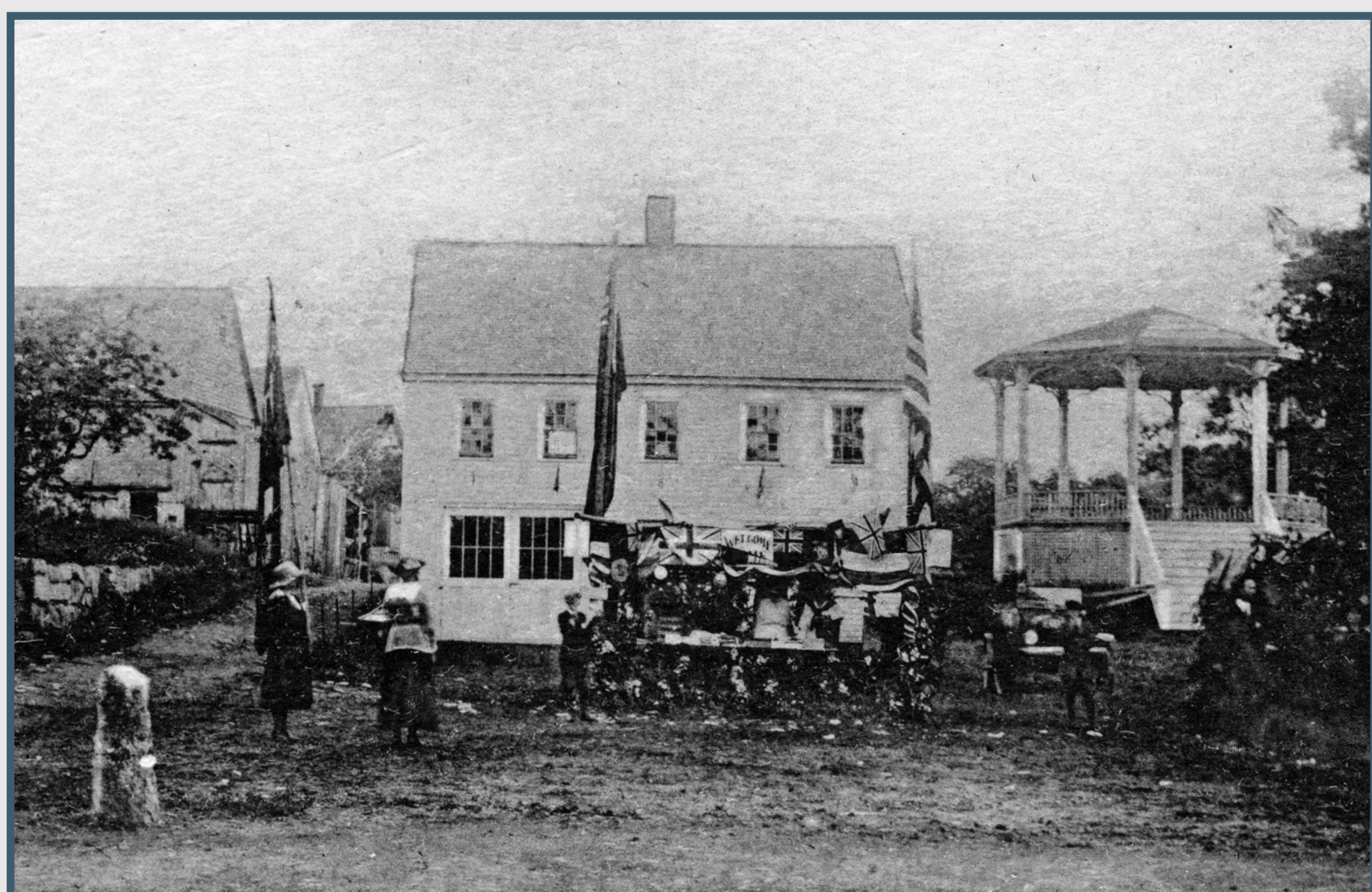
Prior to Incorporation, the community of Mahone Bay was a part of the Municipality of Lunenburg. The townspeople had come together to organize the building of a new, modern school in 1914. This work brought them to the realization that they could also organize to form their own government, complete with local services such as electricity and water. On the 20th of February 1919, a poll was taken. The number of votes cast was 210; 165 were in favour of Incorporation and 45 were not. Mahone Bay would form their first municipal government.

The first election was held on April 30th, 1919 with nine candidates in total. Of these nine, six were elected as Councillors: Wilfred N. Cochrane, Harry H. Smith, Fred A. Penny, Charles B. Begin, William D. MacLean and David A. Fancy. Arthur L. Ernst was elected Mayor by acclamation. The first Council meeting was held on May 9, 1919. The first order of business was the appointment of a Town Clerk. Orren Snyder Joudrey was the successful applicant and would go on to serve as Town Clerk and Treasurer until 1949.



Laurie House then Aberdeen Hotel - Present Day Town Hall
Photo courtesy of the Mahone Bay Museum, ACC #2017.1.19.

Town Council business was conducted in this building (then Aberdeen Hotel) until a building could be purchased; the Aberdeen Hotel was owned by Councillor Fred A. Penney. The Council purchased a property behind the current 534 Main Street (Canada Post) in 1920, which was used as Town Hall until it was deconstructed in the 1930's. Two sections of this original Town Hall building still exist as residential homes in Mahone Bay today. The Council then returned to this building, purchasing it for \$3,400 in 1934. Built in 1848, 493 Main Street served as a Hotel, under many different names, for over 50 years before being purchased by the Town.





ORIGINAL TOWN HALL BUILDING
Photo courtesy of the Mahone Bay Museum, ACC #2017.1.32.

The last 100 years have been very successful ones for the Town of Mahone Bay. Though the population has not grown much over the century, the Town now provides residents with a significant range of services, such as an independent electric utility, municipal water and wastewater services. Traditionally, shipbuilding was the claim to fame for Mahone Bay but over recent decades Tourism has become the key industry as visitors spread the word of the beauty of our little seaside town. 2019 marks the Town of Mahone Bay's Centennial year. This sign was designed and erected as part of centennial celebrations.



TRANSLATION

 Für die deutsche Übersetzung scannen Sie den QR Code.
 Scannez le QR Code pour la traduction française.

WWW.MAHONEBAYMUSEUM.COM/RESEARCH/TOWNHISTORY

For more information about the Mahone Bay area's history, visit the Mahone Bay Museum at 578 MAIN STREET - FREE ADMISSION

