

**“ Apple Weekend ”**

**With**

**John Bunker**

**October, 2007**

Co-sponsored by:

The North Haven Historical Society

And

The North Haven Grange

## Introduction

In the Spring of 2007, the North Haven Grange and the North Haven Historical Society began to plan for a weekend visit from John Bunker. As the plan developed, the groups decided that we would sponsor an evening lecture about old apples and varieties in New England and then the following day we would follow John Bunker around the island as he examined and identified trees from some of the oldest orchards planted here. Before any of this could reasonably happen, Gil Foltz tramped around the island locating and roughly mapping as many spots as he could. Without this extensive preparation, the weekend would not have been nearly as successful as it was.

The following pages try to capture the beauty of the old trees and the pleasure of the walkers who followed John Bunker. Lydia Brown, Nan Lee and Gil Foltz contributed notes on the walk and the following is a compilation of their notes. Any errors of transcription are mine!

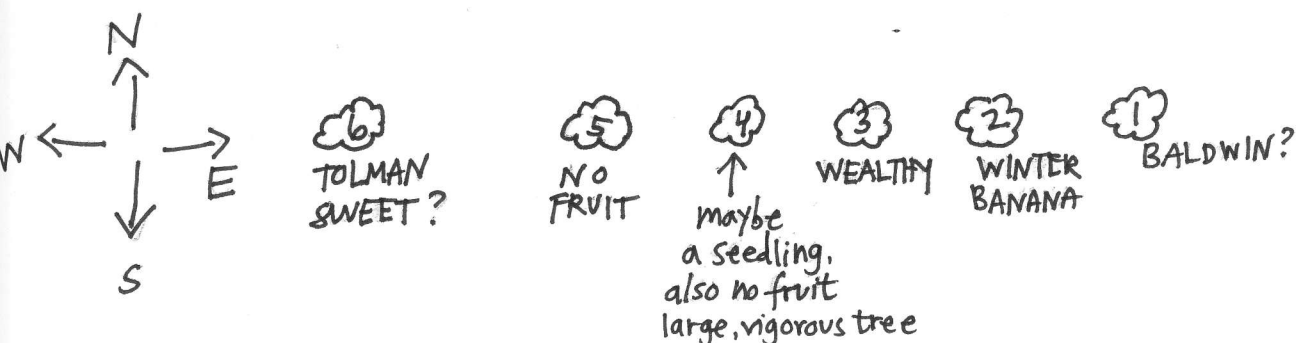
As a final note, it should be mentioned that Bunker was quite pleased with his visit, lecture and walk. It didn't hurt a bit that the Fall of 2007 produced an absolute bumper crop of apples in mid-coast and central Maine.

# NOTES FROM JOHN BUNKER'S VISIT TO NORTH HAVEN ORCHARDS, OCT. 6, 2007

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## 1. GOLF COURSE (FORMER OREN WATERMAN FARM)

Trees at base of hill, looking north  
toward clubhouse on the hill.



#1 - POSSIBLY BALDWIN

#2 - JOHN THINKS WINTER BANANA POSSIBLY

#3 - WEALTHY - Big basin, round regular big shape -  
very stripey - "good pie apple" - not  
super rare

#6 - possibly Tolman Sweet - good for eating - also  
used for livestock feed - almost always entirely  
green - usually has a suture line.

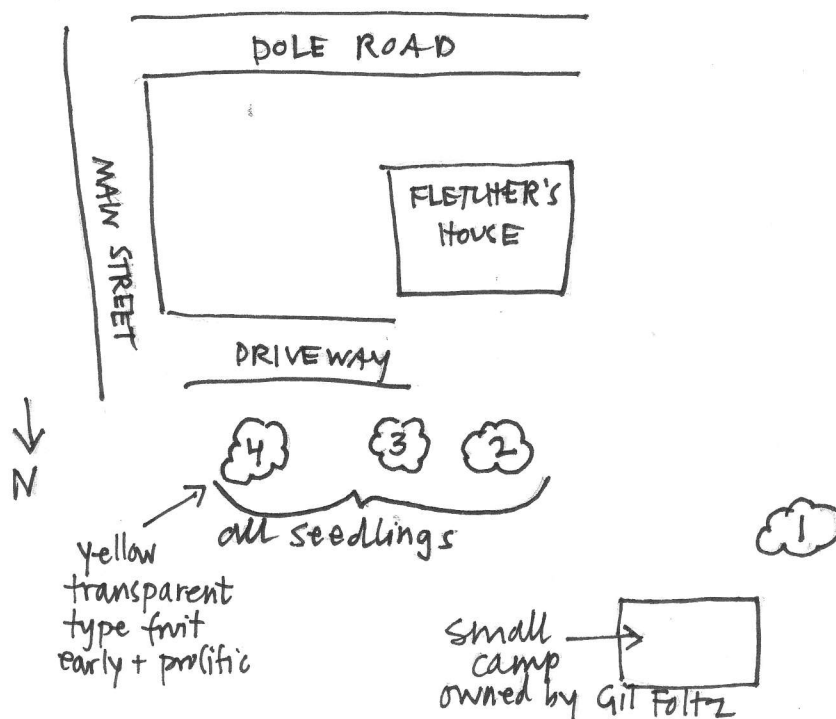
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## 2. DOLE ROAD, Perry Gates house

Tall tree by the house - John thinks looks  
like a seedling by the shape of the tree.  
Apples were various and wonderful tasting.

House and surrounding land was once part of the  
Will Dole farm + earlier Brown farm.

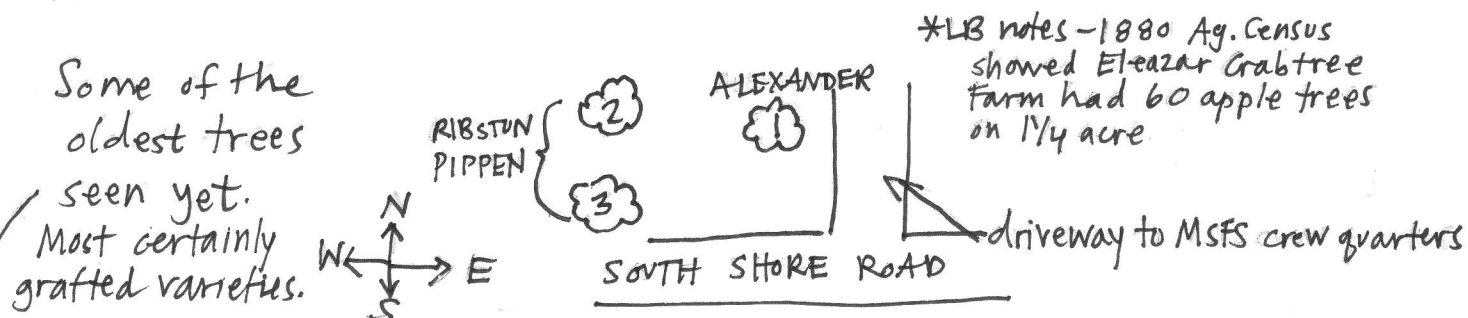
### 3. BORDER OF FLETCHER BURGESS PROPERTY + GIL FOLTZ PROPERTY Upper Main Street



#1 - possibly "Fallawater" - blue green with pink bluish  
a graft from Gil's family in Pennsylvania

#3 - "spitting image of a Duchess" - able to produce  
true to seed - could be a Duchess - very good

### 4. "THE STATE PIT" - FORMER ELEAZAR CRABTREE FARM

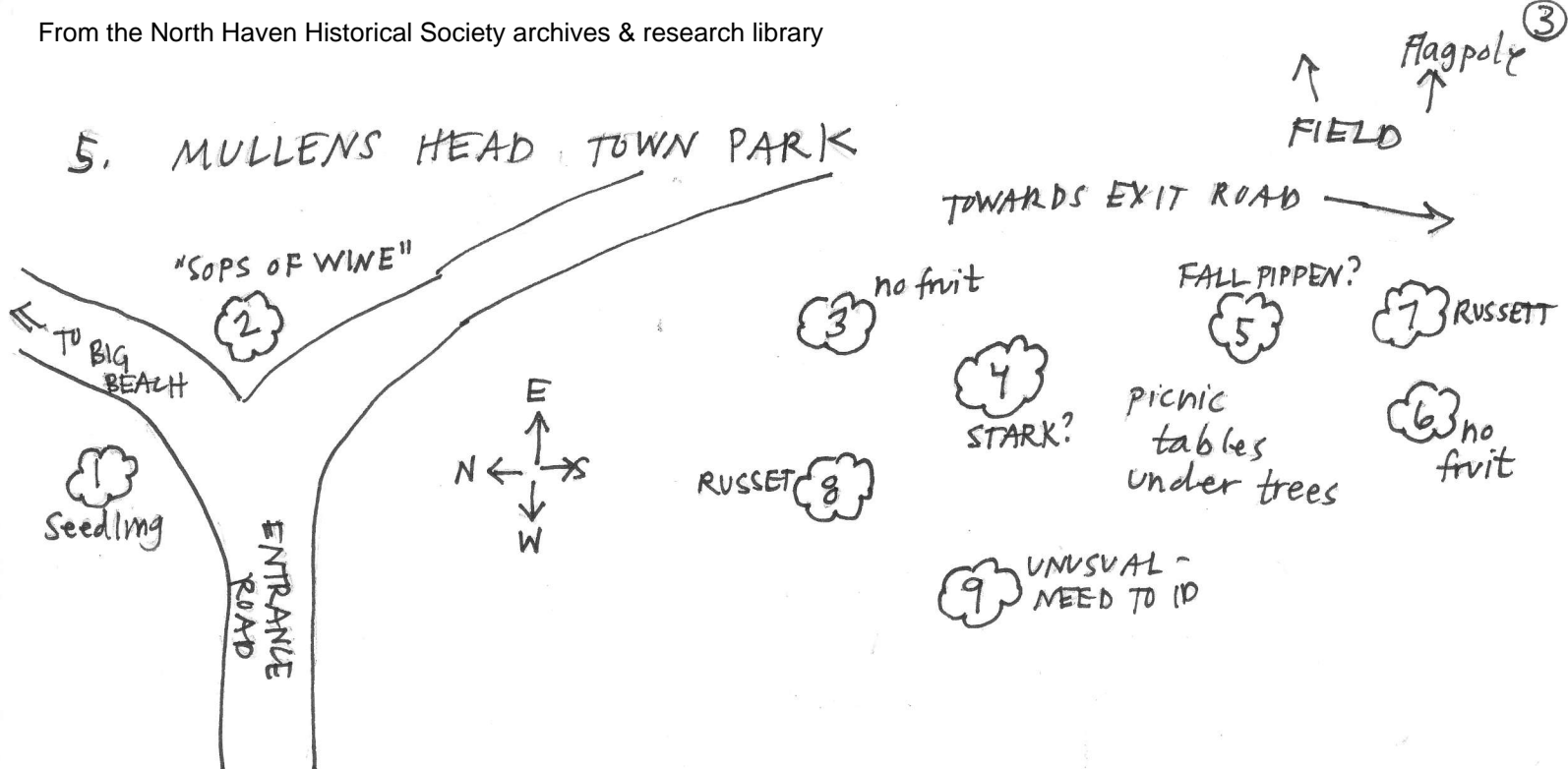


#1 - ALEXANDER - Russian apple - big + round, squished down shape -  
conic - parent to Wolf River variety

#2 + 3 - RIBSTON PIPPEN - characteristic of older varieties, mottled  
and russeted

John suggests we have a "heritage orchard" - oldest island varieties  
+ Renovate old trees + orchards by clearing out dead wood + removing nearby  
shading trees

# 5. MULLENS HEAD TOWN PARK

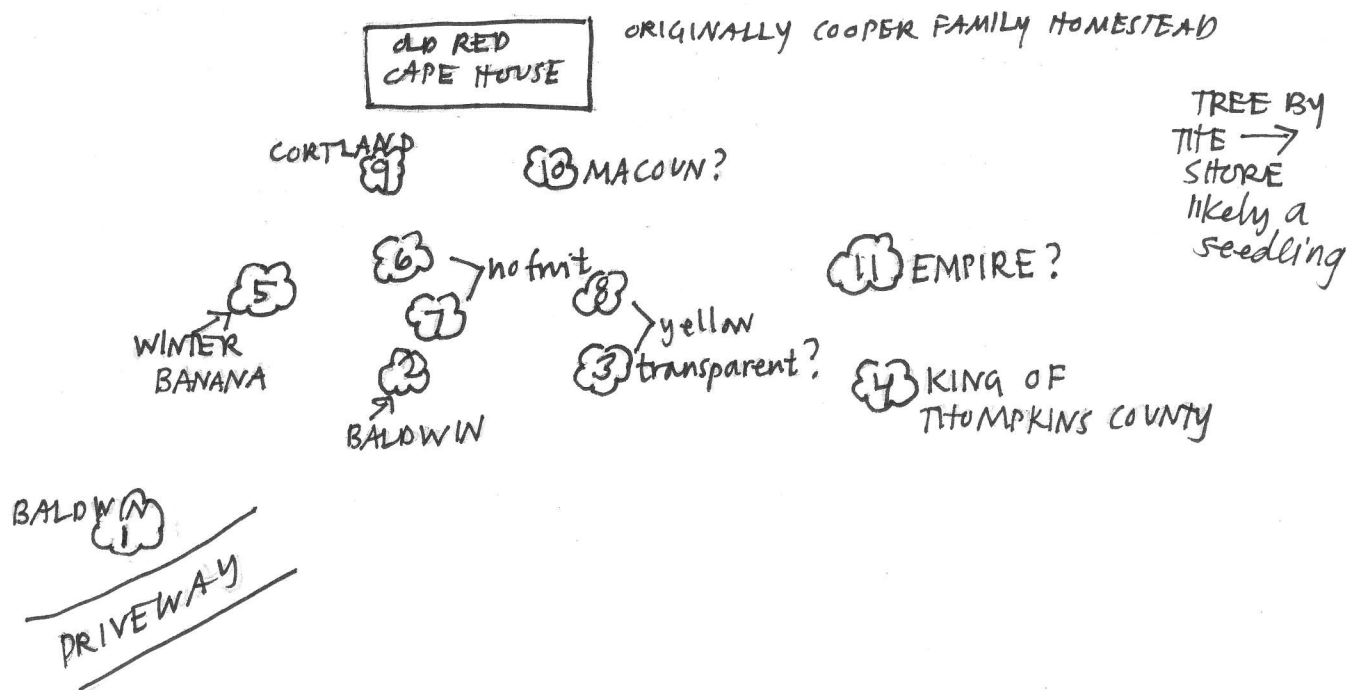


LOCUST TREES  
AND OLD LILACS  
AND FORMER MULLEN HOUSE SITE

★ When collecting apples to ID - John says you need 5 to 6 samples from a tree to get an idea of all the variations possible

- FRUIT VERY DARK RED SKIN WITH PINK BLUSH ON INSIDE
- #2 - SOPS OF WINE - A British variety - one of 2 that did well in New England - Ribston Pippin the other
  - #4 - STARK - A winter apple - sometimes grown as an alternative to Baldwin because it's more hardy
  - #5 - maybe FALL PIPPEN - a local common name - probably originated in Maine. Very ribbed shape
  - #7 - A russett type - not as ovate as #8 russett - perhaps Roxbury Russett - #8 - another russett - perhaps Golden Russett - very ovate
  - #9 - unusual - one to keep track of - most unusual find so far - tart
- [John would like to take several to ID - "not common and incredibly distinctive looking - really tart - very odd"]

# 6. COBBS, off Indian Point Road - overlooking Burnt Island



#1 - BALDWIN - very brick red - sometimes a "lip" around  
and #2 the stem

#4 - KING OF THOMPkins COUNTY - long arching branch to  
the ground - John says it is the oldest tree at this site.  
A beloved fall eating apple - best right now (October)

#5 - WINTER BANANA - A fall all purpose apple - also found at  
the Golf Course (site #1)

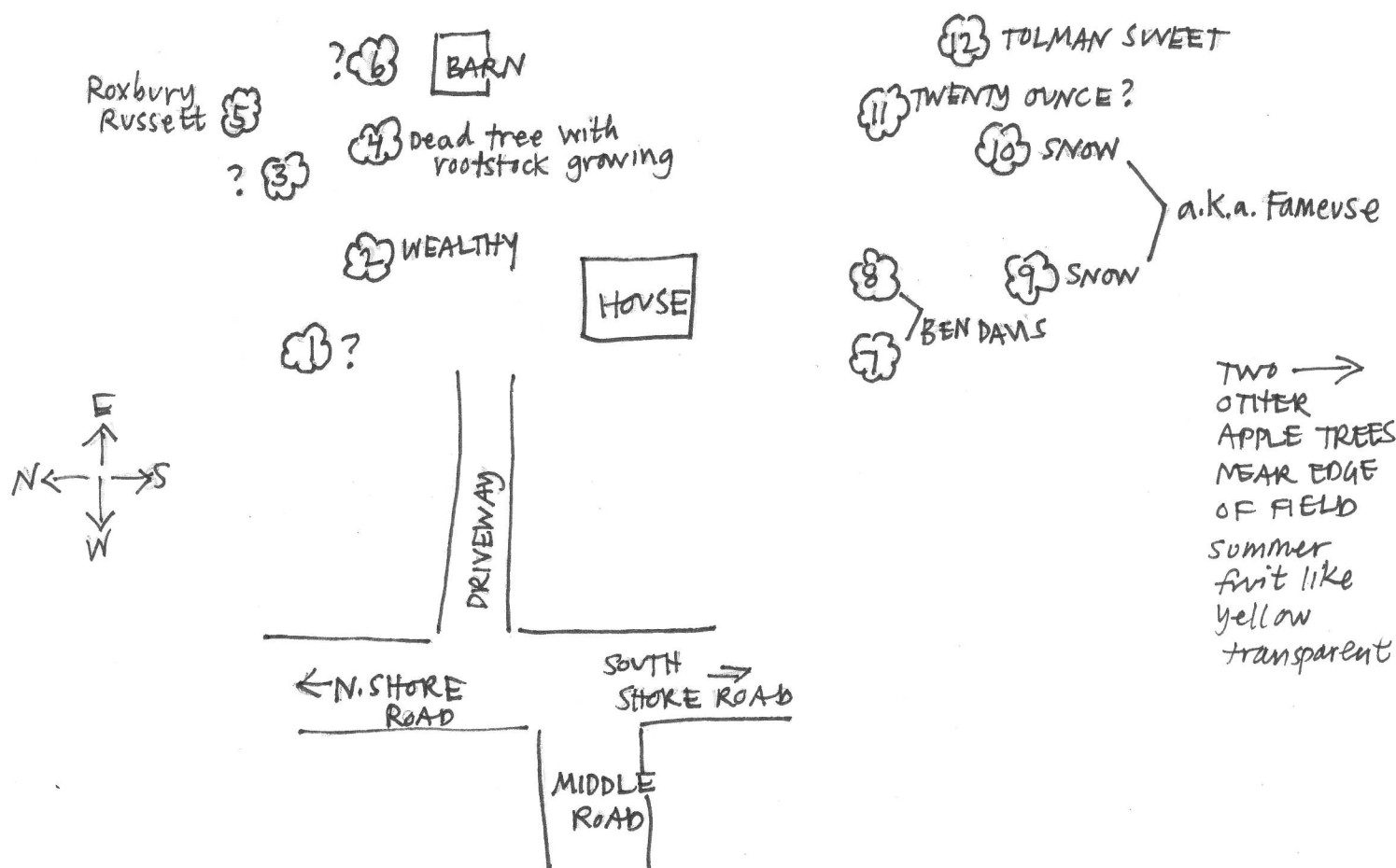
#9 and 10 - younger trees - Cortland and Macoun - planted  
by Don Witherspoon

Nan says Cobbs have map of apple tree  
varieties planted - available at NIHHS

\* JOHN BUNKER REIDENTIFIED SOME TREES ON COBB MAP, DISAGREEING  
WITH SOME OF THE NOTATIONS

See attached map created by Cobbs

# 7. BILL AND JOAN AMORY'S - junction of Middle Road with the N. and S. Shore Roads



## #2 - WEALTHY

#3 - UNKNOWN - an interesting one to ID - unusual - one of significance has a "bloom" - a dusting - also has a suture line - WAGENER?

#4 - main tree is dead but rootstock alive and bearing poor apples

#5 - maybe Roxbury Russett? with blush. Also has rootstock producing fruit - tasty - a very old tree with approx 10% trunk remaining.

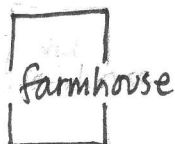
#7 and 8 - BEN DAVIS - a winter apple - hard - keep well - once shoveled into ships

#9 and 10 - SNOW - also known as Fameuse - good fall eating apple - gets scabby easily - called Snow because flesh is snow white

#11 - TWENTY OUNCE? A cooking apple

#12 Another TOLMAN SWEET - seen at Golf course (site # 1)

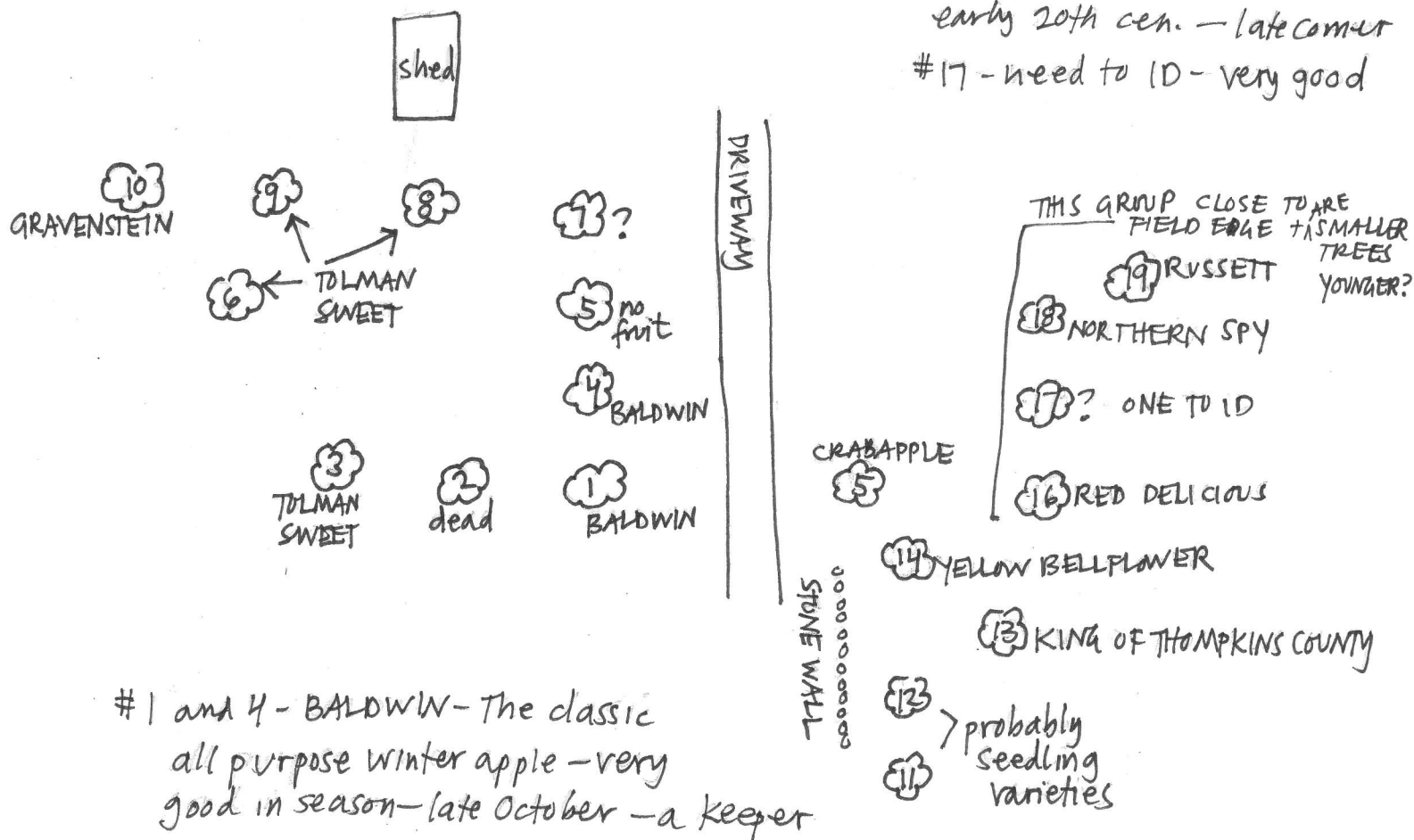
8. BEVERIDGE'S (Eastern Bay Farm) located on Eastern Bay Road off N. Shore Road - near Amory's  
Property now belongs to Don Munroe and Elana Baylis



NEAR FIELD  
EDGE  
OTHER  
TREES  
NOT ID  
POSS. SEEDLINGS?

#18 - NORTHERN SPY - all purpose winter keeper  
Came to central Maine in early 20th cen. - late comer

#17 - need to ID - very good



#1 and 4 - BALDWIN - The classic  
all purpose winter apple - very  
good in season - late October - a keeper

#3, 6, 8 and 9 - TOLMAN SWEET - very popular (seen @ Golf Course + Amory's)

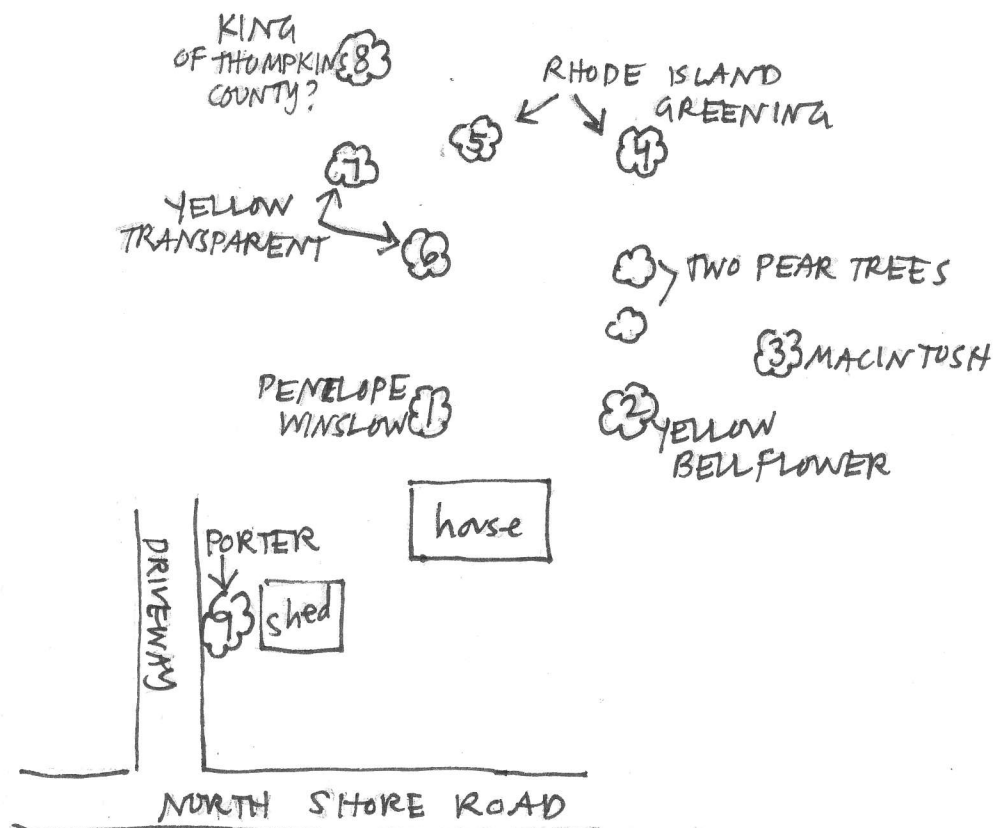
#7 - UNKNOWN - very old tree - something odd - fun to ID - could be a  
cleft graft

#10 - might be a GRAVENSTEIN - beautiful, late summer pie apple

#13 - "exquisite!" - J.B.  
KING OF THOMPkins COUNTY - good fall eating! Also at Cobb's  
(site #6)

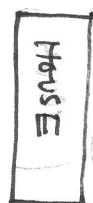
#14 - YELLOW BELLFLOWER - one of the earliest apples - historically  
A classic keeper and all purpose variety - American variety,  
probably originated in New Jersey - came to Maine in the  
18th century

## 9. JIM and CLAIRE BROWN'S, North Shore Road

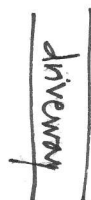


- #1 - PENELOPE WINSLOW - a North Haven variety - from a graft on the original Penelope Winslow tree on Apple Tree Hill, South Shore Road - a later fall apple - good for baking and pies
- #2 - BELLFLOWER - seen @ Beveridge's (site #8)
- #4 and 5 - RHODE ISLAND GREENING - good eating and cooking in winter
- #9 - PORTER - "good all around apple" - Claire Brown

# 10. THATCHER'S @ Deacon Brown's Point

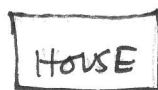


① YELLOW BELLFLOWER



#1. YELLOW BELLFLOWER - very large tree - seen at  
Beveridge's (site #6) and Brown's (site #9) - a classic  
Keeper and all purpose variety

## 11. RILEY'S, West District Road (now TITTMAN'S)



— one of the oldest  
houses on North Haven, dating c. 1780

RUSSETT  
HUNTRESS



BALDWIN ON TOP  
CRABAPPLE ON BOTTOM