FRIENDS OF HINDS PRESENTS
CAMP WILLIAM HINDS:
THE EARLY DAYS
VISIT OUR ONLINE MUSEUM AT
http://FriendsOfHinds.org
Hinds Family Home
27 Chadwick Street
Portland, Maine
Six Year Old Boy Struck Down By Auto And Killed

Son of Charles B. Hinds Was Playing in Vaughan Street When Hit
William B. Hinds
1918-1925
This article from 1927 has a good amount of information:
The dream of a new camp became reality when Charles Hinds, executive board member and Portland business owner decided to make a substantial donation to pay for the new property in memory of his young son, William, who had died in a tragic accident.
The Search
The Search

- Started in March 1927
- Charles B. Hinds and Scout Executive Herbert Patrick visited many sites
- Crossing snow covered roads and trails throughout Cumberland County and neighboring counties
- June 1st they still didn’t have a suitable site
- They asked for another week
The Search

• Site was selected on June 5th
• Berry Farm located on the northern end of Panther Pond
• 125 acres of woodlands and open fields
• Half mile frontage on Panther Pond
• One mile frontage on Tenny River
The Search

- Property Cost $8,200
- With buildings and materials initial investment of $25,000
- Did not purchase property or buildings north of Plains Road or across the Tenny River
CAMP BUILDINGS
Camp was purchased on June 5th and opened for the first time on June 25th.

In those 20 days the first dining hall was erected.

It was 45’ x 24’ and seated 75 Scouts.

The kitchen was at one end.

Window areas were screened in.

Campers constructed shutters later.
• In 1928 an ell was added for the kitchen
• Seating capacity of the main building went from 75 to 125
• It was used for a dining hall for just 4 years
When the new dining hall was announced in the 1931 brochure, it also stated "The old mess hall will be converted into a nature museum where Scouts under expert leadership can study plant and animal life and make their collections."

The original caption under the photo in Merrill's scrapbook read: "Old Mess Hall - Now Museum."
• Although not documented, it would appear that former kitchen was used for the shop and the dining hall end was used as a Nature Museum until the Nature Lodge was later built near the terrarium.
• Until 1951 this building was the craftshop. Then came the big blizzard of 1952 and the weight of the snow caved in the roof.
• In the summer of 1952 the old dining hall/kitchen was on its last legs. The shop section was temporarily rebuilt to last that summer, and the dining hall part was left as an open platform.
ORIGINAL DINING HALL - 1928
Fred Foster at collapsed Shop
1928: The second building erected on the Camp Hinds property was the Recreation Hall. Only building from the first five years still standing. provided space for camp offices, trading post, recreation activities and rainy day programs.
• The Recreation building is a low rambling structure 70’x50’ with a wide covered piazza on three sides.
• Here on rainy days the Scouts gather to play games, read and write letters.
• A massive field stone fireplace heaped high with blazing logs radiates warmth and cheerfulness.
• Pool tables, a library of some 500 boys' books, a piano, and a radio provide ample recreation for the boys.
Over the years the West end served a variety of purposes.
- Stage.
- Trading Post.
- Order of the Arrow storage
- Trading Post
- STEAM/Tech Center.
Rec Hall - 1928
Rec Hall with Trading Post - 1974
Rec Hall with Stage
Rec Hall - 2009
1929: Third building constructed was the Infirmary – later known as the Health Lodge.
Initially it was just the large section nearest to Rec Hall. Was later enlarged with two more sections, a center wing serving as a ward, with four beds, and a further wing serving as the nurse’s quarters. The original section was divided into a waiting area, an examining area, an “isolation” room and a bathroom.
• Was used as the Health Lodge until 1980.
• Was used for staff housing (1980-1985).
• Was used as the trading post and camp office (1986-1989).
• Was used as staff lounge (1990-1999).
• Was torn down and replaced with the present staff lounge over a two year period from 2000 to 2001.
Medical Check at Infirmary
• New Dining Hall built in 1931.
• The main dining room is 72’ long and 33’ wide
• Two double oven ranges, automatic dishwashing machines, modern refrigeration, running hot and cold water, automatic electric pump for drinking water supply are but a few of the modern features to be installed in our new kitchen.
• The Dining Hall was named after Johnny Ring in 1992.
• Ring Dining Hall was used until 2017
• The dining hall was enlarged by 32 feet, adding sixteen more tables to the capacity in 1962.
• The old kitchen was torn down and a new kitchen was opened for the 1990 season, providing a modern kitchen with larger freezer and cooler capacities and newer equipment, based on a concrete floor.
• The fireplace was also added making the dining hall useful for evening campfires and programs.
Inside Dining Hall - 1931
Kitchen 1931
Daily Menu

**Breakfast**
8:00 to 8:30
- Fruit Juice
- Doughnuts
- Oatmeal
- Hot Cocoa
- Milk
- Coffee

**Lunch**
12:00 to 12:30
- Baked Pork & Beans
- Pickled Beets
- Bread & Jelly
- Milk
- Coffee

**Dinner**
6:00 to 6:30
- Baked Sugar Cured Ham Virginia Style
- Pineapple Fritters
- Browmed Potatoes
- Green Peas
- Old Fashioned Bread Pudding
- Milk & Coffee
Dining Hall after 1962 Addition
Ring Dining Hall

In honor of

Charles Warren “Johnny” Ring

Eagle Scout 1950
Council President 1975
Long Time
Executive Board Member
Pine Tree Council

Dedicated August 15, 1992
Ring Dining Hall
From the thirties through the late sixties the Nature program at camp was centered around the “Nature Lodge”. It was used as the Nature Lodge until 1967 when the Nature Area was moved to Cadigan Lodge. During the 1970 season it was used for Nature & Conservation displays. In the early seventies it was used as the in camp headquarters for the Order of the Arrow. It was removed in 1975 when rotting logs made it unsafe.
Nature Lodge
Nature Lodge
Nature Lodge
In 1938 Paul Siple, a nationally-known scientist, was the Nature Director, and he took on the project of building this terrarium to provide a spot where aquatic life could be sheltered and studied.

Circulating water was supplied with a line from Harvard latrine, which used lake water, and an underground drainage system took care of the overflow.
The Terrarium
The Terrarium
• This has been a landmark and symbol of Camp Hinds as long as present staff and the camp committee can remember.
• The Blockhouse was built by campers and staff starting in the 1936 and finished in 1939 as a pioneering or axemanship project.
• The oak logs were cut in the denser areas of the camp property behind what is now Dan Beard Campsite and manhandled to the site by boy power.
The Blockhouse
The Blockhouse
- Original Plan called for tents for 35 Scouts
- In 1927 there was one campsite locate near the current council ring
- Had row of 8 Army tents on wooden platforms
- Each tent slept 8 – Patrol Leader and 7 Scouts
- Each person had a metal army cot and a straw mattress
• Within a couple of years, more space was needed
• A second site was built in the area where Ring Hall sits today
• The sites were referred to as Site A and Site B
• By 1930 there were four campsites
• Sites were given Indian names like Sioux and Apache
• We can only find documentation of Pawnee Campsite
• You can see the river end of the original dining hall outside the Pawnee gateway
In 1931 Pawnee was closed to make room for a new dining hall.

Four Sites were named for American Heroes and Explorers: Lindbergh, Byrd, MacMillan, and Peary.
Original Campsite - 1927
Rec Hall and Site A

INSPECTION, CAMP WILLIAM HINDS, BOY SCOUTS, RAYMOND, MAINE.
Lindbergh Campsite
Byrd Campsite
MacMillan Campsite
Peary Campsite
• In the mid 30’s property across Tenny River was purchased
• Senior Camp opened in 1938
• 12 lean-tos for 24 campers
• Also Leader’s Cabin, Rec Hall, and Latrine
• Designed for Scouts 14 years of age or older
• Special program
To access Senior Camp Scouts needed:
• First a rowboat
• Then the Queen Mary
• Finally the Tenny Belle (Shown here)
• Bridge wasn’t built until 1967
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<th>Year</th>
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<tr>
<td>1939</td>
<td>Byrd</td>
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<td>1943</td>
<td>Beard</td>
<td>Boone</td>
<td>Byrd</td>
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PROGRAM

- Eight weeks of camp. Four two-week sessions.
- Cost $7.00 per week. $1.00 reservation fee required to hold your space.
- Week runs from Saturday to Saturday in 1927.
- By 1930 the week was from Tuesday to Tuesday.
 PROGRAM - 1930

CAMP PROGRAM

A. M.

6.30—First Call.
6.40—Reveille
6.45—Calesthenics and Morning Dip
7.30—Breakfast
8.00—Camp Duties
9.15—Inspection
9.30—Scoutcraft Instruction
10.30—Morning Swim—Beginners
11.00—Morning Swim—Advance
12.15—Dinner

P. M.

1.00—Rest Period
2.00—Games, Hikes, Treasure Hunts, Sports, etc.
4.15—General Swim
5.30—Colors
6.00—Supper
7.00—Games
8.00—Council Campfire
9.00—Call to Quarters
9.15—Taps—Lights Out
Lakeside Council Ring
Rec Hall is off to left & MacMillan Campsite is behind
Lakeside Council Ring
Rec Hall is in rear & MacMillan Campsite is off to the right
ARCHERY

Early archery was held at Boone Field
CHIPMUNK POINT - BOATING
Rowboats, Canoes, and Cutters
BOAT SLIDE
WATERFRONT
WATERFRONT
WATERFRONT
CAMP SITE ADVANCEMENT
CHAPEL ROCK
EXPANSION
• In 1947 “Justanold House” was purchased.
• It would be converted into a Training Center and housing for the camp ranger.
JUSTANOLD HOUSE - 1947
ROTARY TRAINING CENTER

After Reconstruction
ROTARY TRAINING CENTER
Back Room Before Remodel
ROTARY TRAINING CENTER
Back Room After Remodel
ROTARY TRAINING CENTER
Memorial Room After Remodel