



Business History

George R. Fuller Law Office

1st Address: 345 Main Street – Elisha B. Crane House

City: Southwest Harbor

State: Main Street

Date Founded: Circa 1893

"An old house stood for many years on this site which was built for Elisha Crane on a lot on what is now the Forest Road, just south of Mrs. Roland Lunt's house. This (building) was purchased by Mr. Sanford and moved to the lot where the theater now stands. Mr. Sanford built a two story addition to the house, using the old part as an ell. It was sold to William Shields, a brother-in-law of Andrew Tarr, who kept a store there. Then John T.R. Freeman lived there and kept the post office. Later it was purchased by Thomas Clark, whose home it was for many years. After he moved to Augusta, the place was rented to various people, including several ministers of the Congregational Church. George R. Fuller had his law office there for some time. Finally it fell out of repair and was used as a storehouse and one calm evening it burned to the ground. The house was of attractive design, with pink old-fashioned roses overgrowing the front yard and great willow trees overshadowing it." - Traditions and Records of Southwest Harbor and Somesville, Mount Desert Island, Maine by Mrs. Seth S. Thornton, 1938, p. 149.

2nd Address: 357 Main Street – The Odd Fellows Building

City: Southwest Harbor

State: Main Street

Date: 1897

The "Geo. R. Fuller, Law Office" occupied the northwest corner facing Main Street on the second floor.

1887: Admitted to the Hancock County Bar

1888-1893: "Geo. R. Fuller, Esq., practiced [Sic] at Centre, Tremont from 1888 until about 1893, when he removed to Southwest Harbor, where he has since been in active practice." - The Island of Mount Desert Register 1909-10, p. 96.

1891: George R. Fuller was one of the founding incorporators of the Maine State Bar Association. – "Acts and Resolves of the Sixty-firth Legislature of the State of Maine, 1891" - Chapter 167, page 270.

1893: George R. Fuller, Esq., practiced at Center in Tremont for a few years after graduating from University of Maine, and came to Southwest Harbor to make his home in 1893 where he built up a wide practice. Mr. Fuller served for many years as first selectman and also as supervisor of schools, was always connected with the welfare organizations of the village and served his community in the State Legislature as Representative and as Senator. His experience as civil engineer gave him a valuable and thorough knowledge of property boundaries all over the western part of Mount Desert Island. He died

during the summer of 1937. His son, David W. Fuller, born in Southwest Harbor, is a practicing attorney in Bangor since completing his studies at University of Maine and at Harvard Law School.” - “Traditions and Records of Southwest Harbor and Somesville, Mount Desert Island, Maine” by Mrs. Seth S. Thornton, p. 107 – 1938.

Author: Charlotte Morrill