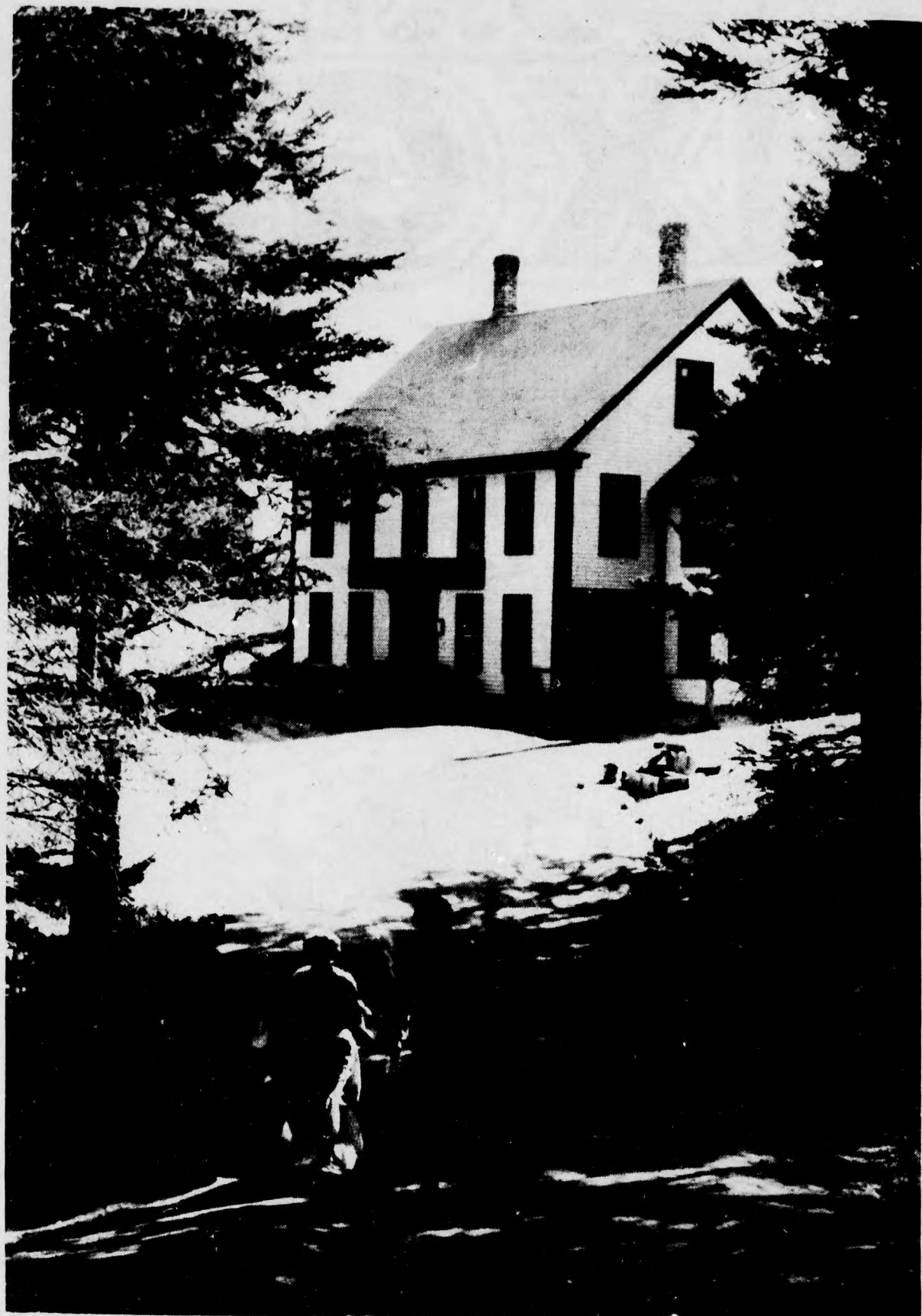
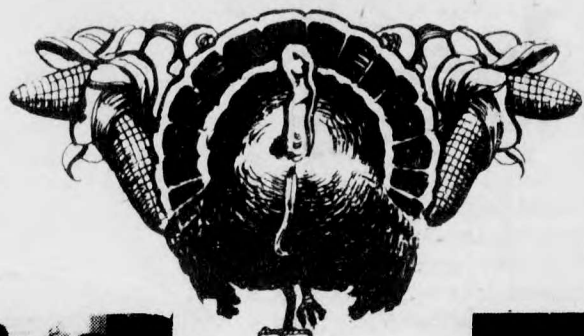
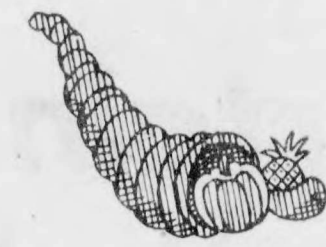
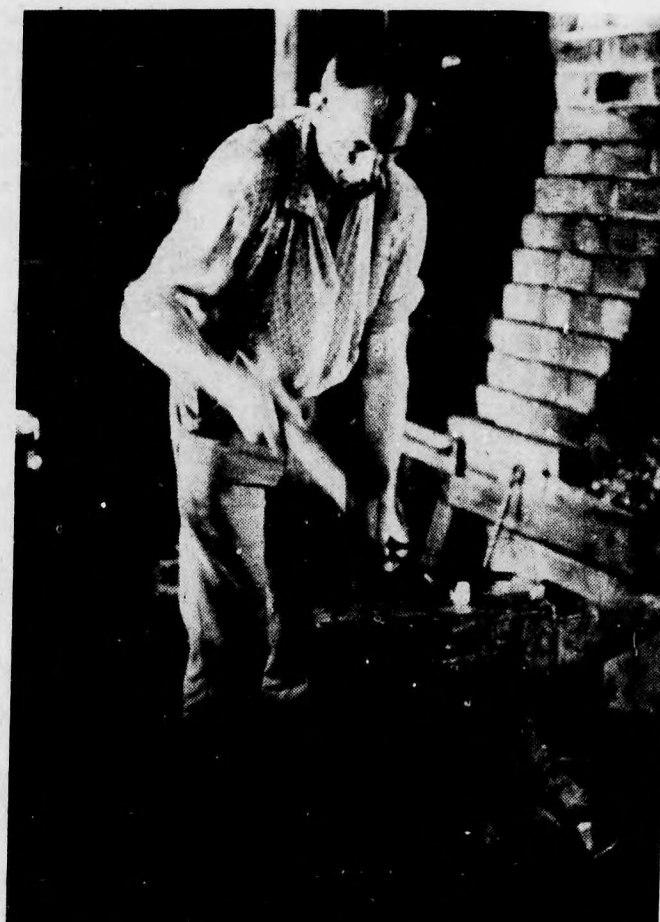


A Kings Landing Thanksgiving



Feature by Nancy Reid

Photos: Kings Landing
and Nancy Reid



The high cost of travelling will keep a lot of students from going home for the holiday weekend and, to many, the smell of roasting goose or turkey with all the trimmings will just be a wistful, mouth-watering memory. But for those who are staying in the Fredericton area, a Thanksgiving dinner just like Mom used to make (or better) is just a short 34 kilometres outside of town. On Thanksgiving weekend the Fall Festival winds up another season at Kings Landing Historical Settlement. This will be the public's last chance to visit the site until May.

If you've never visited the Settlement before, it offers you a vivid view of the life on the St. John River as it was two centuries ago. The entire site gently teaches you about our past by pleasantly stimulating your interest today. On the site are eleven homes, a general store, school, riverboat, forge, farms, a fully operational sawmill and of course, a roadhouse. Once you've turned off the Trans Canada Highway and passed through the gatehouse you will leave the 20th century behind as you ad-

just yourself to the pace of a serene country community of the past, where the only traffic you will hear will be the clop of hooves and the creak of wagon wheels.

Kings Landing is spread over 300 acres and has a large staff all wearing period costumes and living their lives just as they would have in the 18th and 19th centuries. Life moves at a much quieter and slower pace here and visiting Kings Landing can be a soothing way to ease the burdens of 1980 from your soul. Indeed, in the words of Information Officer Ted Eaton, "it is a therapeutic refuge from the world."

This weekend many of the houses will be open to the public and there are special events scheduled for visitors. New Brunswick is particularly beautiful at this time of year; the air is crisp with the smells of apples and burning leaves and the St. John River valley is ablaze with the crimsons, greens and golds of autumn. It is a time for us to pause, rest, give thanks and prepare ourselves for the winter

ahead. This weekend you will see the community busily engaged in getting ready for the colder season. Visit some of the houses and you will be able to watch candle making, pickling and brining, also the women of the community will be doing their usual household activities while the men are busy with the harvest. The fully operational saw mill on the Settlement is a must for visitors. The whole operation is powered by a mill dam and water wheel and the mill itself has become an artists delight, sketched, painted and, photographed many times over.

The Annual Turkey Shoot will be held this weekend where you will be able to try your hand at firing a flint-lock Brown Bess musket and perhaps win yourself a turkey. The Axe and Plough and the Kings Head Inn will be open for meals.

The Kings Head Inn was built about 1940 at Long's Creek, New Brunswick and has served as a coaching stop for many years to serve weary travellers. The Inn is fully licensed and this weekend will be

serving roast turkey with all the trimmings and of course, pumpkin pie. The food is deliciously prepared in a traditional way and served piping hot. This is your last opportunity of the year to sample and savour the delights of the Kings Head Inn and to take refuge in this historical setting. The Settlement won't close down entirely, however, as 3 winter events have been highly successful in the past and visitors can snowshoe, cross country ski and enjoy sleigh rides as well as several other activities and, of course, the Kings Head Inn will be serving a traditional winter meal. The Settlement will reopen in May.

This weekend the Settlement is open from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. for all to experience life first hand, as it was 140 years ago. Visit Kings Landing, lose yourself in the blaze of a glorious New Brunswick autumn, savour the culinary delights of the Kings Head Inn, commune with your past, see how great grandma really lived and enjoy....

