

2001-2002 Annual Report of the Schoodic Scenic Byway Corridor Management Committee

The Corridor Management Committee of the Route 1 / Route 186 "Schoodic Scenic Byway" is pleased to report progress in 2001-2002. The Schoodic Scenic Byway begins at the Hancock/Sullivan bridge, continues onto Route 186 through Winter Harbor and the Schoodic Loop Road in Acadia National park and ends in Prospect Harbor. More information and maps are available on our web site www.schoodicbyway.org. The Corridor Management Committee, composed of representatives from Sullivan, Gouldsboro and Winter Harbor met regularly throughout the year.

This year we have worked implement projects along the byway that will provide recognition for historic and scenic locations and suggest steps for preserving these assets. Equally important are measures to improve safety along the byway such as road rebuilding, shoulder paving, providing adequate scenic turnouts, park-and-ride facilities, and informational signage. Our committee has offered input and assistance in the process of finding new uses for the National Park Service facility in Winter Harbor, improving bus and ferry services to the region and seeking funds for safer bicycle and pedestrian access.

The year began with the successful awarding of a gateway grant to construct a flagpole in Sullivan at the end of the "silent bridge". Delivery of Sullivan's new flagpole was delayed by the September 11th crisis. At this time Sullivan, under the stewardship of Frank Dedmon, has built an impressive granite base on which the flag pole will display U.S., Maine and Downeast Acadia flags this summer.

In June the committee submitted grant proposals to the Federal Highway Administration and the Maine Department of Transportation. The 9/11 crisis and some heated political battles in Washington, DC, delayed decision on grants. In April, 2002 we haven learned that a total of \$81,000 have been awarded to this byway to help construct improvements to scenic turnouts and rest areas, to add byway directional signage including a new state logo and to continue our planning efforts. We have also learned that the coalition of towns on the byway have successfully pursued MDOT to provide maintenance paving along Route 1 to provide smooth roads through the deteriorated section of west Sullivan until reconstruction can begin in 2004 or 2005.

We would like to thank all of the people who have supported our planning efforts, including members of the select boards, planning boards, Town offices, historical societies, Chamber of Commerce and other local organizations. We would also like to thank the Hancock County Planning Commission for their work on implementing the plan and the Maine Department of Transportation and Acadia National Park for their technical and financial support.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara Shanahan, Schoodic Byway Chair