

A Waldo County profile

When Scudge Davis moved to Maine in 1971, she was a pioneer. Like many other refugees of the 1960s — veterans of Civil Rights and anti-Vietnam war activism — she helped launch a third social movement back to the land. "I think we were the second wave people that moved into blue-collar," she says, recalling those early days, while working odd samples of her work in the massive old

farm that houses her pottery studio. "We moved here with another couple," she continues. He was a war veteran, Scudge, her then husband (he and their friends were later to Waldo County in the decade known as counter-culture, Union, Freedom and Liberty. They were of the group. In that time you, as she and Jay made the 7th century house a home, 100 other like-minded young people stayed, many finding their own homes in Waldo County. Scudge built what she believes is the first pottery kiln in Waldo County. Today she teaches at part-time at Union College, works with the Maine Arts Commission, and recently completed a master's degree in fine arts, but still remains her time alone in her two-acre studio that overlooks some of the 100 acres of field and forest which she owns. That space still figures largely in why she has come to live here in Waldo County.

"The people who lived here already had values that were earth-based," she says. "I think the role of the human in the natural world is special here," she continues, trying to explain the sense of mind that is Waldo County. "If people have space to really follow their own principles, they come here their own freedom, their own authenticity."

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