

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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N I N E T Y - S E V E N T H L E G I S L A T U R E

Legislative Document

No. 1234

S. P. 442

In Senate, March 9, 1955

Referred to the Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs, sent down for concurrence and ordered printed.

CHESTER T. WINSLOW, Secretary

Presented by Senator Wyman of Washington.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED
FIFTY-FIVE

RESOLVE, for Support of "Ruggles House" in Columbia Falls.

Ruggles House; appropriation for. Resolved: That there be, and hereby is, appropriated from the unappropriated surplus of the general fund in favor of Ruggles House Society the sum of \$1,000 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1956, and \$1,000 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1957 to aid in the construction of an ell on the "Ruggles House" in Columbia Falls.

STATEMENT OF FACTS

The Ruggles House was built in 1818 in Columbia Falls by Judge Thomas Ruggles, one of the early pioneers and lumber barons, and was continuously lived in by the Ruggles family until the death of Miss Elizabeth Ruggles in 1922. Originally it was one of the finest mansions in the State, containing one of the four real flying staircases in Maine and some of the best hand carving anywhere east of Portsmouth. A few years ago a group of people, now known as the Ruggles House Society, took over the old mansion from the Ruggles family and have been endeavoring to restore it and open it as a historic museum open to the public. They have raised a certain amount of money and did quite a good deal of it, although a great deal still remains to be done. It is rapidly becoming both a historic museum and a real tourist attraction, a benefit to Washington county as over a thousand tourists signed the register last season.