

AIRPORT INN TAVERN DESTROYED BY FIRE IN TOWN OF MAINE

by Nick Griswold, photos provided

Just after 4am on the morning of January 29, 2019, Broome County Communications dispatched the East Maine (56) and Choconut Center (57) Fire Departments to 2166 Airport Road, The Airport Inn Tavern, for a reported building fire. Arriving on scene Chief 56 found smoke showing from the rear of the building and quickly requested a 2nd alarm. Pumper-Tanker 56-11 and Squad 57 were next to arrive on scene.

Crews began laying supply line and attempting to gain a water supply while residents of the two apartments above the fire were accounted for. Responding on the 2nd alarm were Maine Fire (33), Prospect Terrace (63), Chenango Fire (66), Endwell Fire (31), Maine Ambulance (85). Initial attack crews stretched lines and began an interior attack along with a search of the apartments above.

Very cold temperatures, slick road conditions, and high winds all hampered operations throughout the incident. Roughly 45 minutes into the incident, as fire conditions in the structure continued to worsen, Command 56 requested an evacuation of the building. At that point all operations were moved exterior and Quint 63 was used as an elevated waterway. Crews remained on scene into the afternoon working against the weather conditions to get the fire put out. The bar which was well known locally for their chicken wings is a total loss as excavators had to be used to knock the building down in order to fully extinguish the fire.

Placed on standby initially at the 2nd alarm were Chenango Bridge Fire (39), Glen Aubrey Fire (47), and Union Center Fire (53). Additional Engines from 47 and 53 were eventually requested and West Corners Fire (29) was placed on standby. No injuries were reported on scene and the cause of the fire is under investigation. Also assisting on scene were Broome County Fire Coordinators, Broome County Fire Investigators, Superior Ambulance (78), Broome County Sheriffs Department, New York State Police, Town of Maine Highway, Broome County Highway, and the American Red Cross.

Continued below:



Photo provided- Quint 63 being utilized as an elevated waterway.



Photo provided - Side A of the building as fire conditions worsen.



Photo provided- Side A of the building as fire conditions worsen.



Photo provided- Side B of the building with smoke starting to show.



Photo provided- Side B of the building with heavy smoke showing



Photo provided- View of Scene late in the incident with building collapsed.



Photo provided-

View from side C late after building had collapsed and fire was mostly out.