



Daniel Sanborn
Assessor

Assessing Department

Paulette Labbe, *Assistant Assessor*
Rita Gannon, *Assessor's Clerk*

Departmental Missions

- » Value all taxable property in a fair and equitable way
- » Maintain information that is timely and accurate
- » Maintain good public relations

Valuation and Taxes

The local economy continued to grow this past year, and property sales transfers totaled \$57,036,500.

As of April 1, 2000, the City's total taxable property was \$838,691.85. Our total property tax levy was \$17,674,815. These two figures resulted in a tax rate of \$21.00 per thousand of assessed value.

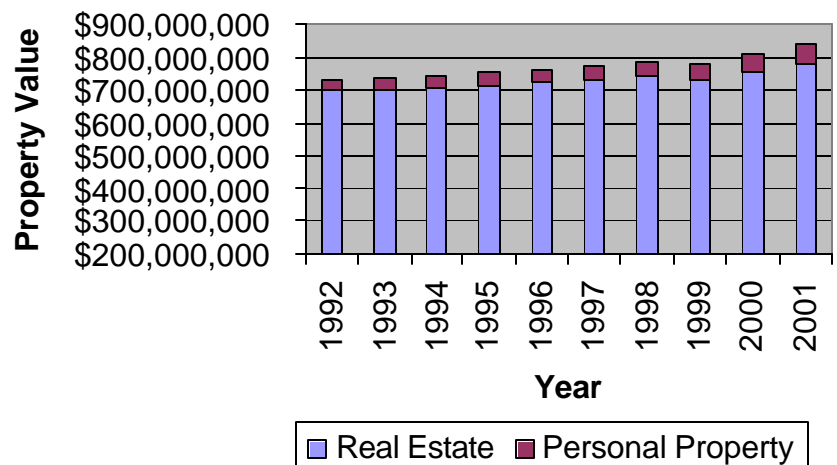
Upcoming Changes

Over the next several years a few changes will occur in the Assessing Department. We are implementing a new advanced appraisal system. We hope to finish the project by April 1, 2003. As part of the new system, we will begin a re-inspection of all properties in the City this summer.

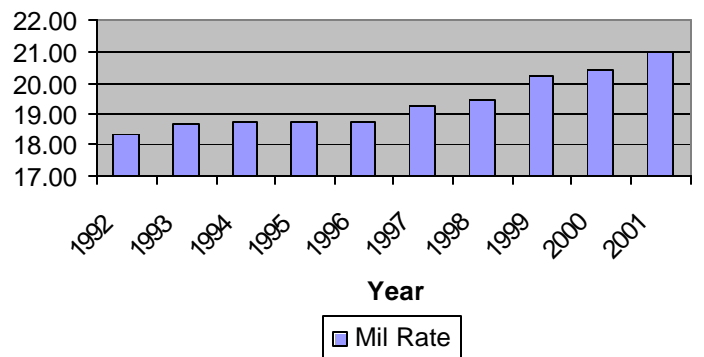
General Information

The Assessing Office is located on the first floor, Room 102, of City Hall. Our office hours are 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Monday through Thursday and 7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. on Friday. Our phone number is 207-282-1611. Our fax number is 207-282-8209. Mail should be directed to Assessing Department, Saco City Hall, 300 Main Street, Saco, Maine 04072. We can also be reached by e-mail at dsanborn@sacomaine.org.

Assessed Real and Personal Property for 10 Years



Property Tax Rates Last 10 Fiscal Years



Public Information

As a result of our work, we have quite a bit of information that may be very useful to our citizens. We have assessor's maps, deeds, plot plans, construction details, aerial photos, sales information and surveys to name a few items available in our office. All of this data is available for public inspection during our regular office hours. There is a photocopy cost associated with some of these public records.

World Wide Web

My department is part of the City of Saco web page and may be found at www.sacomaine.org. We continually post new information on our website. In 2003, we hope to expand the data on our website to include all assessments, and eventually provide a complete interactive GIS system (more on this next year).

Important Filing Deadlines

Applications for Tree Growth, Farm and Open Space, Homestead Exemptions, Veterans Exemptions and Blind Exemptions are all due by April 1, 2002. If you are a war veteran and will be 62 as of April 1, 2002, you may be eligible for a veteran's exemption. As in years past, exemptions will be applied to tax bills and reapplication is not necessary. Applications for all these programs are located in the Assessing Office.

Assessing Department Goals

Goal: To establish assessment ratios.

The State of Maine sets a lower ratio of 70% and a Maximum of 110%. We will develop standards within the States ranges that are acceptable for the City of Saco.

Goal: To develop an operations manual.

What occurs in any assessment office is controlled by state law. There are many day-to-day operations that need to be recorded to explain activities to the public, employees, and other departments.

Goal: To complete a successful data conversion to Vision Appraisal Systems.

Northern Data System (NDS) appraisal system is not going to move the City of Saco forward. They have no plans to update the systems. We have out grown it!