

Hartford Historical Society

The Garipay House • 1461 Maple Street
Hartford Village, Vermont 05047

HARTFORD • QUECHEE • WEST HARTFORD • WHITE RIVER JUNCTION • WILDER

Volume 26, No. 4

SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

July-August 2014

The Jericho School Gets a New House By Leo R. Zacharski Patricia I. Zacharski

April 23, 2014

The year is 1849. Almost three generations have passed since arrival of the first area proprietor, Thomas Hazen, and almost two generations since lessons began in the “old” Jericho school building in 1814. Names of the first school committee signatories, Philemon Hazen, Thomas Savage, Reuben Tenny and William Pixley, have long since disappeared from the frayed brown pages of the schoolhouse ledger. Nothing is known about the original school structure except that it was in the corner of William Pixley’s, later Philo Sprague’s, field (now Jericho Brook Farm). Based on descriptions of early 19th century schoolhouses, it was of simple Federal style architecture that was typical following 1800. It was likely to be relatively small, to be entered through the gable end, be heated by stove rather than fireplace, and have an attached wood house. Some concept of the appearance of the original school may be obtained from the early photo of the Beaver Meadow School in nearby Norwich, Vermont, provided by the Norwich Historical Society. The second

photo is an artist’s conception of life within a one-room school obtained from a web image search.

Selected entries from the Jericho schoolhouse ledger, transcribed with



An early photo of the Beaver Meadow one-room school, Norwich, Vermont Source: The Norwich Historical Society.

spelling and punctuation as in the original, marked a leisurely pace in the district:

March 22, 1819 the Committee Voted to let the school-house bee open for all Sivel meetings.

March 25, 1823 voted to reconsider the vote taken March 22, 1819 to admit into the school house all civil meetings.

September 29, 1824 Voted that the school house be open for all civil meetings

The school has so served ever since. An up-grade came 15 years after opening:

September 8th, 1829 Voted to build a back house for the benefit of the school. Voted to build said house six feet in length and four feet in breadth Voted to set up the building of said house to be built by the one that will bid lowest Capt Sheldon Bartholomew bid off the job of said house at three dollars and fifty-five cents

Ledger entries became more frequent and detailed as the school deteriorated, and repairs were mentioned seven times between 1821 and 1845.

On November 5, 1845 the Vermont legislature passed an “Act...requiring the State Superintendent of Common Schools



An artist's depiction of a one-room schoolhouse interior with class in session

(Continued on page 5)

UPCOMING PROGRAM:

Saturday, August 9, 2014 – 4th Annual Abenaki and Indigenous Peoples Welcoming Day.

Demonstrations of Abenaki basket making and beadwork, information about Abenaki history and culture and a pot-luck feast of wild meat and corn, roasted on site by the presenters.

11 a.m. to 5 p.m. at Lyman Point Park, adjacent to the Municipal Building.

Free and open to the public.

From the Chair . . .

Each time we mail out our newsletters, the post office winds up returning a number of them to us at a significant fee because some of our members failed to notify us that their addresses had changed. The combined cost of paying the return postage on a single newsletter and then re-mailing it is about \$2.00. There were fifteen that came back to us after the last mailing. The \$30 in extra postage and fees could surely have been put to better use by the Society.

Please let us know when your address changes! If you winter away from home, share your temporary address with a starting and ending date so that we may avoid these extra expenses. Another option would be to allow us to email your newsletter while you are away, speeding delivery time and saving us money.

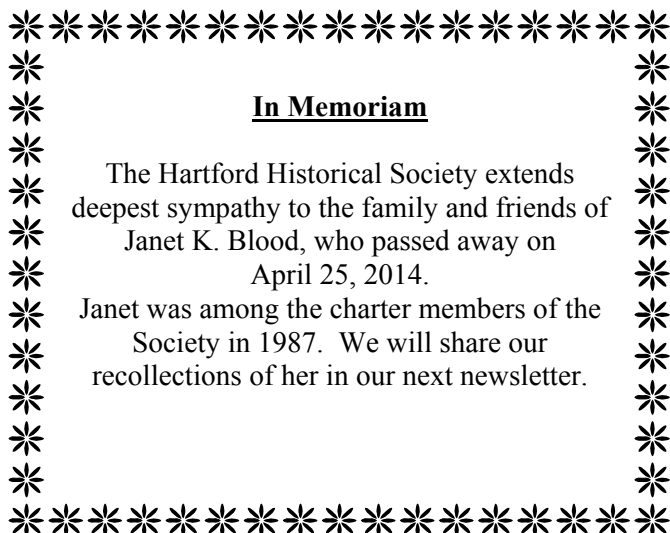
It's important that our members recognize that we make every attempt to keep annual dues in the Society

affordable. In fact, **our membership fees haven't changed since 1988!** It costs far more to publish and mail our newsletter now than it did 26 years ago, and senior memberships no longer cover the cost of the six copies sent out annually.

Another thing you can do to help is to ensure that your dues are paid each year after January first. Our mailing address is included in each newsletter (see below). We are deeply grateful to those who not only pay their dues on time, but include a little "something extra" to help with the Society's expenses. All gifts are tax deductible.

Please, help us to keep our mailing records updated and accurate. Our budget is very limited, and every dollar saved is significant. Remember to pay your annual membership dues if you haven't already done so!

Mary Nadeau
Chairman of the Board



In Memoriam

The Hartford Historical Society extends deepest sympathy to the family and friends of Janet K. Blood, who passed away on April 25, 2014.

Janet was among the charter members of the Society in 1987. We will share our recollections of her in our next newsletter.



Hartford Historical Society

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***The Mission Statement of the Hartford Historical Society:
To acquire, identify and preserve information and artifacts related to Hartford's past and communicate knowledge of local history through programs, publications, and other interaction with the community.***

Hartford Historical Society to Participate at the Vermont State Historical Expo

By Martha Knapp

The Vermont History Expo 2014 will take place at the Tunbridge Fairgrounds on the weekend of June 21 and 22. Historical societies representing most of Vermont's towns will be taking part in the event. The theme for this year is "Artists and Artisans: Vermont's Creative Heritage." There will be many interesting exhibits offered. Each historical society will have an 8' X 8' space to decorate and fill for the pleasure of the history buffs who will be attending.

When looking for something to fit with this theme, the board members decided to share our Abenaki exhibit, consisting of baskets and historically handmade crafts from the Abenaki people. The name of our exhibit will be, "From Grasses Trees and Bark, Comes Abenaki Art." Added to our good fortune, David Fairbanks Ford of the Main Street Museum has agreed to loan us his museum's collection of Abenaki baskets that will make a very beautiful addition and add additional information.

When I visit local schools to present the history and culture of the Abenaki people, I usually begin with, "Imagine if there were no stores to go shopping in, no businesses to get what you need, no Home Depot, no supermarkets or food stores, no drug stores, no clothing stores, no weapon shops. Where do you get all of the things you would need in life to survive and live here in Vermont?"

That's when I see the wheels start turning in the students' minds. Then as I point to the wilderness, the trees, the forests, the rocks, the animals and birds, the plants, the rivers, lakes and streams, and fish, they soon see that that is the source from which all of our modern conveniences come from as well. Today much of what we require is manufactured on mass assembly lines. However, the source for all of these things is still Mother Earth.

The Abenaki people made everything they needed to survive. They kept busy and were very productive. They also made their items beautiful. They personalized their creations with the things they felt were important as representing them in color and design. They were very in tune with their environment and knew all about the best materials to use for their projects. They also knew how to use these materials without overusing them. We have since learned that the practice of overuse makes the resources suffer. The Abenaki were good stewards of the earth. We could use a few lessons nowadays in that regard. So that is the message this exhibition brings to our visitors as they enjoy the Abenaki art.

On Saturday night a vintage baseball game will be played on the Tunbridge fairgrounds beginning at 6:30 pm., and it will last until it's too dark to see the ball. Dinner at Tunbridge Hall will be at 5:00 pm.

There will be a line up of musicians offering a mix of old favorites and new faces. At the "Instrument" Petting Zoo, kids can explore and play with traditional instruments before marching with them in the parade.

Throughout the weekend there will be a multitude of crafters with scheduled demonstrations, including our friends Jeanne Brink and her students Valerie, Megan and Emily Boles, who have been with us every year at our Annual Welcome Abenaki Day with their demonstrations and stories of Abenaki Culture.

The Vermont Historical Society is continually adding more details to the list of things to see and do at the Expo. It all sounds very entertaining to me! They were successful in securing grants to fund the weekend event, and they envision this to be an exceptional year.

Members of the Hartford Historical Society will be dressed up in vintage clothing and will be prepared to reminisce about the good old days. We would love to see you there, so please, Come to the Fair!



From Grasses Trees and Bark Comes Abenaki Art. "White Birches" painted by Society Founder Fred Bradley.

Phil Bouthillier's Contributions to Hartford Hockey Are Recognized at April 27th Open House

Attendance records for an open house were shattered on April 27th when we paid homage to Phil Bouthillier, the “Godfather of Hartford Hockey” with a display of pictures and hockey artifacts, some dating back to the mid-1960s. Phil’s day job was teaching chemistry to hundreds of students over a 46-year career at Hartford High School. Former hockey players and students, colleagues from the Hartford High faculty, friends and neighbors dropped by to reminisce, as they visited with Mona Bouthillier and her son David. The afternoon’s refreshments included some unique (and delicious) “hockey puck” confections created by our president, Susanne Abetti.



Mona Bouthillier and Nancy Wolf examine the panels that chronicle Phil's many contributions to Hartford's hockey program and to the education of our youth.



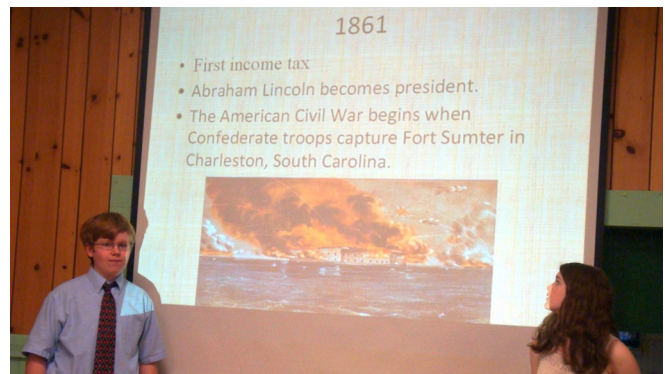
Nelson Fogg, author of the article, “Mr. B”, that appeared in our last newsletter shares a moment with Mona and David. Nelson is the vice principal at Hartford High School.

April Program Featured Student Speakers

By Mary Nadeau

At our April 9th program meeting, Hartford High School freshmen Rachel Loseby and Conor Joyce presented an informative and entertaining program on the Civil War Era. What began as a classroom assignment for them last year as eighth graders, quickly blossomed into a passion for historical research that took them all the way to the battlefield at Gettysburg.

Rachel and Conor began by describing the lives and fortunes of Vermont Civil War soldiers Pliny White and Elmer Dudley before leading us on a guided tour of the 1860s decade. Following an overview of the events of the Civil War, they highlighted significant inventions, innovations and social changes during the period, including the launching of the Pony Express, the invention of the internal combustion engine, the light bulb, dynamite and barb wire, the purchase of Alaska from Russia, the opening of the West for settlement through the Homestead Act and the completion of the Transcontinental Railroad. They continued with a list of the presidents that served during the 1860s and described their achievements (as well as mentioning a few shortcomings!). The pair concluded their talk with an interesting overview of the fashions of the day, including some rather amazing styles of facial hair favored by American men of the era.



Above: Conor and Rachel illustrated their talk with a well-organized Power Point presentation.

Below: Ann Hurley was among many members of the audience who congratulated Conor and Rachel on a job well done!



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to report annually on the conditions of public education in Vermont.” In his 1849 report, Horace Eaton, State Superintendent, wrote about concerns of the day. Facilities in poor condition were described as “Miserable school houses, constituting what a well-known writer not less truthfully than wittily designated as ‘shivering machines;’” and “destitute of all the general facilities for successful instruction.” It was clear to Eaton that only local authority and resources could affect facility improvement. He reported that “Fifteen school houses [had] been built during the past year, in five counties, at an expense of \$6,500; being an average of \$433 each.”

In the same volume, Darius Forbes, Windsor County Superintendent, expressed dismay at the poor moral conditions prevailing in County schools but optimism over the success of “Teachers’ Institutes,” a two-week continuing education program for teachers. He agreed with Eaton that local, not state, officials would best advocate for schools but did not mention conditions in individual districts. Jericho District 7 may have felt his influence when the wisdom of further repairs came into doubt:

October 14, 1845 To see if the district think it best to repair their schoolhouse

Voted to receive Sheldon Bartholomew, Hiram Nott & E W Bartholomew of Norwich as members of this district

Hiram Nott had built his house steps away on the Norwich side of the Hartford-Norwich line in 1820. Hiram was the father of Frank and grandfather of Merton Leslie (“Jim”) Nott pictured in the previous Newsletter in 1914, whose wife, Erminie, taught for three years at the Jericho School.

The 1840’s witnessed a modest construction boom with a major expansion of a neighboring hillside barn and, in 1845, construction of the new 200 seat Methodist church on the corner of Jericho Street and Sugar Top Road at a cost of \$1,000 (Tucker, p. 254). In the winter of 1874, oxen dragged the church to North Hartland where, according to verbal reports, the building became variously a dance hall, apartment building, the Coutermarsh Store and recently a ceramics shop.

Concern for the condition of the school building in 1845 turned to action in 1848 with an appeal to the Selectmen:

Hartford, Dec. 20th, 1848

*Record, in regard to locating the new schoolhouse
This may certify, that the undersigned selectmen of the Town of Hartford being called upon by district No. 7 to locate a schoolhouse for said district, did on the 20th of Dec., locate said house to be built on one third of an*

acre on the east corner of Philo Sprague’s field, being the same field on which the present house stands.

Benj. Porter, L. Lovering, L.B. Dudley, Selectmen of Hartford

The current Jericho Brook Farm and school building mark the location. From the entry of January 10, 1849 (below), it may be assumed that planning for the new building was well under way.

The Selectmen affirmed the school but deferred financing to the district:

Hartford Dec 26th 1848

Petition for Schoolmeeting

We the undersigned legal voters in district No. 7 in the town of Hartford, respectfully petition the clerk of said district to call a meeting of the legal voters, to be holden as early as practicable, after this date for the purpose of ascertaining if the district will raise money to build a new schoolhouse in said district, and to transact any other business in relation to building said house, thought proper when met

Daniel Hazen, Warren Gibbs, Thaddeus Dutton, T.H. Savage, Chester Richards, Noah Bartholomew

Hartford Jan. 10th, 1849

Met according to warning

Made choice of Chester Richards for moderator

Voted to raise money to defray the expense of building a new schoolhouse in district No. 7 in Hartford Vt. Voted to build said school on one third of an acre located in the east corner of the lot in which the present schoolhouse stands, Voted to adopt the plan for the new schoolhouse as presented at a former meeting by E.P. Sprague, Joseph Savage, and Julius Hazen with the exception of eleven feet posts; instead of 12 feet and to be twenty five wide instead of 28 feet

*Voted to appoint a building committee. Said committee to see that said schoolhouse is built in a thorough, workmanlike manner, according to the plan as presented at a former meeting. Appointed by said committee Daniel Hazen, Julius Hazen, Truman H. Savage
Voted to put up at auction the building of said house to the lowest bidder*

Joseph Savage bid off the building of said house for the sum of \$475.00

Said house to be built by the first day of Nov., next

Voted to adjourn this meeting, sine die

E.P. Sprague, clerk

At a low bid 10% above the state average, Hartford was going first class! The building today measures 11 feet to the ceiling and 25 feet wide.

The “voters” move forward undeterred by cost:

(Continued on page 6)

(Continued from page 5)

Hartford, Vt June 21st, 1849

Petition for a Schoolmeeting

We the undersigners petition the clerk of school district No.7 to warn a school meeting in said district as soon as may be according [to] law to act upon the following articles to wit—

1st To choose a moderator to govern said meeting

2nd To see if the district will paint the new schoolhouse and what color

3rd To see if the district will raise money to defray the expence of painting said house and how

4th To see if the district will raise money to build a Privy for the new schoolhouse

5th To do all other necessary business deemed proper when met

EP Sprague, Clerk

Hartford, June 29th, 1849

Notice

The inhabitants school district No. 7 who are legal voters in said district are hereby notified to meet at the old schoolhouse in said district on Friday, the sixth day of July next at 1 oclock PM to act upon the following articles, viz.

1st To choose a moderator to govern said meeting

2nd To see if the district will sell the old schoolhouse and woodhouse, in said district

3rd To do any other business thought proper when met
E.P. Sprague, clerk

Hartford July 6th 1849

Doings in Schoolmeeting

Met according to warning.

Made choice of Reuben Tenney for moderator

Voted to sell the Old Schoolhouse and Woodhouse in district No. 7 at auction; the sale to commence this afternoon, and continue open until two weeks from tomorrow at four Oclock PM

Voted that the district committee make out a tax to the amount of \$486.50 against district No. 7 to pay for the building of the new schoolhouse in said district and the lot of land it stands on.

Voted that the committee pay Mr. William Newton his share of the publick money

Voted to adjourn this meeting until the 21st day of July next at 4 Oclock PM

E. P. Sprague, clerk

Hartford, July 21st, 1849

Met according to adjournment

Mr. R. Tenney in the chair

Truman H. Savage bid off the woodhouse, adjoining the Old Schoolhouse for the sum of \$9.25 US, to be paid to the committee within ninety days from time of

sale.

Sheldon Bartholomew bid off the Old Schoolhouse in district No. 7 for the sum of \$20.00 to be paid to the district committee within ninety days from time of sale.

Voted to adjourn this meeting sine die

EP Sprague, clerk

The old woodhouse and school vanished. An undated entry followed:

Doings in Schoolmeeting

Met according to warning

Made choice of Julius Hazen for moderator

Voted to paint the new schoolhouse in school district No. 7 in Hartford, Vt except the floor of said house

Voted to paint the outside of said house an umber color; the umber to be calcined or burned

Appointed Daniel Hazen, Truman H. Savage a committee to paint the inside of said house;

said house to be painted before the first day of Sept., next

Voted to raise money to defray the expence of painting said house inside and out,

Daniel Hazen agrees to be at one third of the expence of painting inside of said house.

Voted to build a privy to the new schoolhouse

Voted to raise money to defray the expences of the same

Appointed Daniel Hazen, Truman H. Savage a committee to build said Privy

Voted to build said Privy at the No[r]th end of the new schoolhouse, close to the line fence,

Said Privy to [be] built in a good, substantial workmanlike manner, to be underpinned on the front side and ends; the Privy to be built with sills and plates with inch and a half or two inch plank spiked on to said sills and plates; inside of said planks to be planed with a plank partition planed and matched across the middle of said Privy

Said building shall be ten feet long by five feet wide and seven feet high with pine clapboards, planed for the out side worth \$12.00 per one 1000 feet

Shinngles to be good pine, sawed or shaved, a window in each gabel end, of four lights of glass with two good planed pine batten doors in the front side, one for each appartment with good handles and bolts to fasten the same and three or four accommodation holes in each apartment and [] against both wind and water. Said Privy to be finished before the first day of Sept., next

Voted to [put] up at auction the building of said Privy to the lowest bidder

Truman H. Savage bid off the building of the said Privy for the sum of fourteen dollors and fifty cts.,

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\$14.50

Voted to adjourn, sine die

EP Sprague, clerk

The school committee met four times during summer and fall of 1849 to vote funds for unspecified, apparently unexpected expenses. An undated entry followed:

Met according to warning and appointed Daniel Hazen Moderator

Voted that the money for the old schoolhouse be received from Philo Sprague and that it be understood that the house is his.

Voted that parents and guardians be accountable for any injury done by their scholar to the house

Voted to raise five feet of wood to the scholar in addition to what was before raised.

Voted to reserve one fifth of the public money for the use of the summer school

Voted to adjourn Sine Die

Julius Hazen, Clerk

Apparently Sheldon Bartholomew didn't pay his winning bid for the "old" schoolhouse within 90 days but Philo Sprague did.

A total budget followed that finished the job:

Noah Bartholomew, March 1850

Expense of the new schoolhouse built 1849

Paid Joseph Savage for building the house including the foundation \$475

Paid for painting including the cost of paints and board \$46.32

For furnishing the house \$16.60

For the school lot \$10.00

For surveying the land and recording the deed \$1.00

\$548.92

For the privy \$14.50

=====

Jan. 8th, 1850 a true bill \$563.42

Julius Hazen, DC

Receive public money from the town \$32.08

From Norwich \$3.30

Paid the same to the committee \$35.38

Noah Bartholomew, March 1850

Joseph Savage and Truman H. Savage were paid exactly what they bid for building the school and privy. The ledger shows return to infrequent entries reflecting business as usual thereafter.

The original transfer of deed on April 26, 1849, as recorded in Vol. 15, pages 296-7 of the Town records, is from the "Prudential Committee of district 7" consisting of Philo Sprague, Julius Hazen and Joseph K. Foss, to the Hartford School District. A "prudential committee" is one that has discretionary or advisory authority. The transfer of deed from the Hartford School District to the Jericho Community Club, Eugene Lyman Trus-

tee, on July 14, 1951, cost "One dollar and other valuable considerations".

The cost of constructing the new building was borne primarily by the Jericho families with minor subsidies from the towns of Hartford and Norwich. In 1838 Vermont received an allocation of \$669,086, its share of the surplus [yes!] in the United States Treasury (Tucker p. 274). In 1838 Hartford received the Town's share of \$4780, the interest from which was to be distributed to the school districts. The Hartford office of Superintendent of Common Schools was established in 1846 with Rev. John Dudley (perhaps related to Selectman L.B. Dudley), Superintendent from 1848 to 1850. Possibly this was the source of money referred to as "public" or Town funds in the ledger entries that supported District 7. Beers Atlas of Windsor County (1869) shows 20 farmsteads or household units in school district #7 where "voters" resided that divided up construction costs. This would equate to a tax per household of about \$25 for school construction. The web site, www.measuringworth.com, shows that the per family cost of about \$25 in 1849 translates in terms of basic subsistence cost of living to about \$786 in 2013. The total cost of the building, about \$563, translates to about \$17,700. These figures are far lower than they would be if translated as labor or commodity costs. Construction today would obviously require central heating, electrification, plumbing and high-tech features.

What did the citizens of Jericho get for their investment in 1849? One answer is a well-built structure. Consider the enormous change in construction techniques around the turn of the 19th century. Earlier construction from timber felled by the settler with only a sharp axe, was hand-hewn into beams 10 or more inches square and up to 30 or more feet long. It "took a village" to lift such beams into place. An example of such construction in an early neighborhood barn is shown in the third photo. (see page 9) "Progress" is measured by human need plus the development of technology to meet that need. Thus, Tucker records the first sawmill in the town having been built along the "Water Quechee River" prior to 1769 and a second in 1778. Three sawmills were built in Hartford Village between 1795 and 1803. An experienced blacksmith could make a hand-forged nail in about a minute (Garvin). Development of a device to make cut nails began in the 1780s, and such nails were plentiful by 1800. The first cut nail factory in Hartford was in operation prior to 1800 (Tucker p. 125). Here S.B. Farman made "clasp nails", cut nails with heads hammered into a "T" to increase holding power, while Mrs. Farman made small nails and tacks.

Availability of milled dimension lumber and abundant inexpensive fasteners (nails) changed everything. Now one or two men could carry and assemble individ-

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ual pieces of wood quickly and inexpensively. Joseph Savage could have built the new school with a few helpers during the summer of 1849. This transition is illustrated in the fourth photo (see page 9) showing how an early timber framed hillside barn was enlarged in the 1840's. New milled 2" X 8" rafters were set on an earlier hand hewn 8" X 8.5" framing beam.

The sturdy 1849 schoolhouse was of Federal Style construction with gable-end entry and wide board cornice with returns. Exterior paint that protected and beautified was considered a luxury and was used much more commonly with increasing prosperity on 19th compared to 18th century buildings (Garvin). Umber paint applied to the new Jericho schoolhouse was made from durable red-brown iron oxide pigment (the color of rust). Heated (calcined) paint acquires a more intense red color known as burnt umber (the hotter the paint is heated, the better the color). The ledger does not mention the vehicle in which the iron oxide particles were suspended but this may have been either water or milk. The original color was later covered by even more durable white lead carbonate-based paint, and in the 1950's by modern red paint. Besides the need for repainting and roofing, the cut granite footing set on subterranean boulders was the first construction feature to give way one hundred fifty years later.

The schoolhouse is the most obvious monument to the vision of the Jericho "voters" but certainly not the most important. The distinction between "home" and "house" makes the point. "Home" speaks of elemental civilization—the value of self-discipline, loyalty, work, responsibility and sacrificial love. The person finds rest, nourishment, and a place to rejoice and suffer—at home, where one goes when there is no other place, where mom and dad are found. We speak of residences as "homes" but schools as "houses". "Homes" produced the farmers, the agreeable "voters" that approve unanimously construction of the "house" and willingly paid the price. In this "house", knowledge from the outside world could be extracted by receptive minds to acquire skills needed to realize individual potential. In 1849 the vanishingly thin separation between "home" and "house" was only the minimalist "Hartford School District." Parents are now challenged by our culture in ways unimaginable then.

Christmas Eve of 2014 will mark the two hundredth anniversary of the 1814 founding of the first school in Jericho district 7. The occasion provides opportunity to reflect on the legacy of our treasured landmark. The Miller Ledger (1914 to 1934) reintroduces us 100 years later to student names, dates

of birth, names of parents, dates of enrollment and names of teachers. It tells us whether they passed the "state examination" and were promoted. Course work appropriate for grade included arithmetic, grammar, geography, history, drawing, physiology, spelling, civics, and music. Academic performance is summarized numerically as "daily" and "final exam" scores. Letter grades appear in the 1915-16 school year. Of twelve students in school that year, two moved from the area during the year. Of the remaining ten, one was passed to the next grade on condition and two were asked to repeat the '15-'16 school year. As recipients of high grades in 1934, Elizabeth, Lora, Philip, Norman, Arlene, Bertha, James and Charlotte Lyman were all promoted. "Graduations" began to be recorded in 1922 and included some familiar names: Christina Miller, '22; Edna E. Adams and Ralph H. Adams, '25; Alberta "Bunny" Lyman (Parker), '27; Sumner Lyman, Chester Miller, Marjorie Miller, '29; Hazel Miller, Hester Sornberger, '30; Beatrice Sornberger, Ormand Stetson, '32; and Marian Stetson, '33. Times were tough but glories great then as now. How wonderful it would be to celebrate the school's 200th anniversary by honoring the achievements of our kids today. Now *we* are the "voters" who can make possible preservation of the building and its legacy into its third century.

The Hartford Historical Society has established a fund that is currently receiving tax deductible gifts dedicated to restoration of the Jericho one-room School. Thus far, \$16,790 has been raised toward achieving the first priority, repairing the foundation. Hopefully restoration of the stone wall will soon follow. This is a great start but remains short of the total needed. You are cordially invited to share the vision for schoolhouse preservation and help put us "over the top" in raising funds. Contributors should make checks payable to the Hartford Historical Society, with Jericho Schoolhouse Project in the subject line. Address the envelope to: Jericho Schoolhouse Project, c/o Hartford Historical Society, PO Box 547, Hartford, Vermont 05047-0212.

Source Documents:

1. The Jericho School Ledger, 1814 to 1879.
2. Tucker, William Howard. History of Hartford, Vermont, July 4, 1761 – April 4, 1889. The Free Press Association, Burlington, Vermont, 1889.
3. The Fourth Annual Report of the State Superintendent of Common Schools, made to the Legislature of Vermont, November, 1849. Reprinted from the Collection of the University of Michigan Library.
4. Garvin, James L. A building history of northern New

(Continued on page 9)

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Late 18th century timber framing in a neighborhood Jericho barn.



Milled rafters resting on hand-hewn timber in an 1840's enlargement of an earlier timber framed barn.

England. University Press of New England, 2001.

5. The Miller ledger: A record of students attending the Jericho School and their academic performance from 1914 to 1934. Now in the possession of George Miller of Jericho.

6. http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Education_in_Vermont

7. <http://oneroomschoolhousecenter.weebly.com/>

8. <http://www.preservationdirectory.com/PreservationBlogs/ArticleDetail.aspx?id=161&catid=9>

Curator's Corner

By Pat Stark

I am happy to let you know that a number of old photographs from the Listers' files, taken between 1960 and 2000, have been saved from the recycle bin and filed for future scanning and processing. Some of these are priceless! Here are some examples:



Super Duper



North Elm

4th Annual Abenaki Welcoming Day Coming Up August 9th

The Hartford Historical Society is partnering with the Winter Center for Indigenous Traditions in planning an expanded program for the 4th Annual Abenaki Welcoming Day to be held at Lyman Point Park (beside the Municipal Building) on Saturday, August 9, 2014, from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Donna and John Moody will be the Masters of Ceremony for the event. Jeanne Brink and the Boles Family will be on hand to teach about traditional Abenaki basket making and will be offering examples of their craft for sale. Jesse Larocque will demonstrate the pounding of the log from the black ash tree, providing the materials from which these baskets are made. He will also share with us his wit and wisdom as he regales us with



Rhonda Besaw

truths about the Abenaki culture. Chief Nate Pero of the Koasek Tribe will prepare the wild meat feast and, hopefully, find time from his chores to present us with one of his eye-opening talks about the history of his people. We are very fortunate this year to have Rhonda Besaw, a renowned Abenaki bead worker/teacher, whose beautiful creations are of museum quality. She will demonstrate her bead working techniques and will have some of her items available for purchase. Rhonda has offered to bring extra needles and beads and will offer lessons to interested participants, which she sees as her way of “giving back” to the people.

Don't miss this unique occasion, and, by all means, bring children! The event is free and open to the public.

Are Your Society Dues Up To Date?

Member dues are payable each year after the first of January. Please take a moment to look at the address label on this newsletter. The date in the upper right corner indicates the year that your dues were last paid. If the date is highlighted, your membership isn't up to date. Please help us by sending us a check at your earliest convenience to the Hartford Historical Society: P O Box 547; Hartford, VT 05047. Thank you!

Membership Rates:

Individual:	\$15
Family (same address):	\$20
Senior:	\$10
Senior family:	\$15
Commercial/Institutional:	\$25

The Society was charged \$30 for newsletters returned in April due to incorrect addresses in our database. Martha urges everyone to contact the Society whether you are moving permanently or temporarily. Call us at 802-296-3132, email us at hartfordhistoricalsociety@myfairpoint.net or mail us at P O Box 547; Hartford, VT 05047.



HARTFORD HISTORICAL SOCIETY HONOR ROLL

Robert F. Plattner Georgia F. Plattner

We are pleased to add the names of Robert and Georgia Plattner to the Hartford Historical Society's Honor Roll. Bob and Georgia were selected for their leadership roles in the small group that organized the Hartford Historical Society in 1986.

Bob served as the first Treasurer of the organized Society in 1987 and continued in that capacity until 1993. He was responsible for incorporating the Society, obtaining tax-exempt status from the IRS, designing the Society's seal and publishing the Society's first pamphlet, used to promote membership. Georgia served as Treasurer during the organization of the Society, served as Program Chairman in 1990 and as Membership Secretary from 1992 to 1995.

Both Bob and Georgia were quick to roll up their sleeves when work needed to be done, and each took an active part in the repairing and cleaning of our former space in the Municipal Building and again when the Garipay House became the Society's official home.

Their positive attitudes and enthusiastic spirit were contagious, helping to spark the interest in perpetuating Hartford history that launched the Society and guided it to grow and prosper. The couple had moved to Quechee in 1985, following Bob's retirement as Corporate Controller for a firm in New York City.

Our Wish List

To help stretch our limited budget, the Society is seeking donations of the following items:

- **garden rakes**
- **shop vacuum**
- **flannel sheets and cotton tee shirts (used to create rugs on our antique barn loom)**
- **pails and buckets**
- **shovels**
- **pitchfork**

These may be brought to the Garipay House during our regular business hours.

We greatly appreciate whatever you can do to help out!

Commercial/Institutional Members:

Baker Pottery	Kibby Equipment
CEMMS Family Painting	Main Street Museum
Charlie Brown's Outdoor Equipment	Meeting House Furniture Restoration
Faith Bible Bookstore/WVFA Radio	New England Transportation Institute and Museum
Geobarns	Route 4 Country Store
Hartford High School	Schaal Electric
Hartford Middle School	White River Toyota

Hartford Historical Society

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This newsletter is printed in color through the courtesy of
a generous donation from Susan and Don Foster.

HHS Calendar

Upcoming Programs, Meetings and Events

OPEN HOUSE at the Garipay House

(excepting Holidays and inclement weather) M-F 9-1 pm. or by appointment. To be sure we are open, check for the flag outside the building or contact us mornings at 296-3132 or email us at hartfordhistoricalsociety@myfairpoint.net For an appointment, call or email us or contact Pat Stark at 295-3077 M-F from 9-4 p.m.

Special Summer Hours: 1st Tuesday of the month 6-8 p.m., 2nd Sunday of the month 2-4 p.m.

MONTHLY MEETINGS open to the public

2nd Wednesday – **Hartford Historic Preservation Commission** meeting at the Municipal Offices, 171 Bridge Street (now temporarily located at 35 Railroad Row), White River Junction at 4:30 p.m.

4th Thursday – **HHS Board of Directors Meeting** – at the Garipay House, 6:30 p.m. (Please check for exact date.) For more information, contact Mary Nadeau at 295-2123.

June 21–22, 2014 – Vermont History Expo at the Tunbridge Fairgrounds.

Saturday, June 28, 2014 – Hartford Alumni Day

Saturday, August 9, 2014 – 4th Annual Welcome Abenaki Day at Lyman Point Park

Wednesday, Sept. 10, 2014 – Ken Alton will speak on **The History of the Wilder Dam**. 7 p.m. at the Greater Hartford United Church of Christ, 1721 Maple Street, Hartford Village. Refreshments.

Wednesday, Nov. 12, 2014 – Mike Lyford will speak on **The History of White River Paper Co.** 7 p.m. at the Greater Hartford United Church of Christ, 1721 Maple Street, Hartford Village. Refreshments.

Wednesday, April 8, 2015 - Round table discussion on **Growing Up in Hartford** by local folks. 7 p.m. at the Greater Hartford United Church of Christ, 1721 Maple Street, Hartford Village. Refreshments.

The Genealogy Center, located upstairs in the Hartford Library, is open Monday afternoons from 2-4 p.m. Carole Haehnel will be happy to assist you in exploring the resources we have and in accessing information from *The Landmark*, which we have on microfiche.