

Hartford Historical Society

The Garipay House
1461 Maple Street
Hartford Village, Vermont

o Hartford o Quechee o West Hartford
o White River Junction o Wilder

Volume 14, No 3

Society Newsletter

February 2002

Upcoming Elections

The Nominations Committee will be meeting soon. Our goal is to find board members who have skills to bring to the society and/or a desire to help our society remain viable and grow. Do you know of any such individuals? If you have any suggestions, please contact Dot Jones [295-2701]

The Society depends on its volunteers to make the Society what it has been and can be. We are anxious to get new people to fill positions being vacated by those people who are moving on.

News from the Sharon Historical Society

The Sharon Historical Society has recently been given the entire collection of THE LANDMARK by Susan Wright Melendy and the family of Alfred T. Wright. The Wrights edited this paper from its inception in 1882 until its sale to the Valley News in 1952. They hope to preserve the fragile papers and make the information available for public use.

This is a major project that will take several years to accomplish, as well as considerable funding. This is great news as it has long been our hope that this collection would be turned over to the public sector and preserved for posterity.

Crossing the White River

Contributed by Pat Stark

From The Old and The New 1893 - 1901

The bridge "was carried away by the ice in 1833. Its successor was not completed till 1836. It is to this period that several stories belong of the difficulties in crossing by ford and ferry.

In those days a large proportion of the young ladies of the village lived on the south side of the river, - the Tildens, the Kneelands, and Harriet Willard. The ferryman went to bed at nine o'clock, and, if any festivity on the north side of the river was prolonged beyond that hour, the beaux of the village had two alternatives before them, either to wake the ferryman and bribe him to carry the young ladies across or to find a boat and row the girls over themselves.

On one occasion Harvey Tracy and a neighbor from the south side drove to church at Hartford village, crossing by the ferry. When they were ready to return, probably late in the afternoon after the second service, the river had frozen so that the ferry could not run. Mr. Tracy shipped up his horse and drove across on the thin ice, it bending and swaying beneath him, and his neighbor followed after, both reaching the opposite bank in safety."

Articles from The Landmark

November 9, 1950

Mr. And Mrs. R. E. Stevens Observe 50th Anniversary

More than 100 friends from this vicinity and surrounding towns attended a reception Tuesday evening at the home of Mr. And Mrs. Roland E. Stevens of Hartford in celebration of their 50th wedding anniversary. The couple were married at their home November 7, 1900 by the Reverend A.J. Lord, then pastor of the Hartford Congregational church, now of Meriden, Conn. He is father of Phillips Lord of movie and radio fame. Still active as an attorney, Mr. Stevens is a graduate of Dartmouth College, class 1895. Mrs. Stevens, the former Annie Louise Morris was graduated from Smith College in 1893. The couples' three sons, Dr. Roland E. Stevens, Jr., and Mrs. Roland Stevens of Rochester, N.Y., Paul Stevens of Boston, and Robert Stevens of Hartford, and two of their eight grandchildren, Paul and Paula Stevens attended.

During the evening, Dr. Roland Stevens, Jr., played two violin selections "The Old Refrain" and "Brahms Waltz in A Major" accompanied at the piano by his mother. Mrs. Merton Nott announced that Mrs. Stevens would tell of a wedding 50 years ago. Mrs. Stevens gave a very interesting account of their wedding and the many humorous incidents that happened that day and their wedding trip.

Mr. Stevens gave a tribute to the honored couple in the form of a pretended broadcast by magnetic tape recording. Burton Shepard presented the couple with a gift of money from their friends and neighbors. A wooden sandwich plate was presented by Richard Miller with dates 1900-1950 pyro-etched on it, included the names of the guests.

Mr. And Mrs. Stevens dressed in the wedding clothes they had worn 50 years ago re-enacted the wedding march, accompanied at the piano by Mrs. Harold Cairnie and led the way to the dining room to a beautifully decorated table, which carried out the gold color scheme. Refreshments of punch, cookies and a beautiful brides cake were served. The brides cake was made by Mrs. Charles Aher. The home was beautifully decorated with huge chrysanthemums and

the couple received many flowers, cards and telegrams.

Mr. And Mrs. B.M. Shepard and Mr. and Mrs. Lockwood Reed assisted as hosts and hostesses. Mrs. Norman Renehan had charge of the guest book. The reception was arranged by members of the Hartford Ladies Aid, the Thomas Chittenden Chapter, D.A.R., and the Hartford Woman's Club. Members of the arrangements committee included: Mrs. Harold Beane, chairman, Mrs. Daniel A. Aher, Mrs. Arthur King, Mrs. B.M. Shepard, Mrs. Annie Dutton, Mrs. Howard Noble, Mrs. Charles Aher, Mrs. Lockwood Reed and Mrs. Harry Gibbs, all of Hartford, and Mrs. R.A. Chase, Mrs. E.A. Domey, Mrs. William Braley, Mrs. Norman Renehan, Mrs. Richard Southgate and Mrs. Merton Nott, all of White River.

November 16, 1900.

Annie Morris and Roland Stevens Wed

A pretty home wedding took place in Hartford Wednesday evening, Nov. 7th, when Miss Annie L. Morris, daughter of Mrs. and Mrs. Ephraim Morris, was united in marriage to Mr. Roland E. Stevens.

Promptly at 6:30 the familiar strains from Lohengrin ushered in the bridal party. Rev. A. J. Lord with the groom and his best man, Prof. John H. Gerould of Dartmouth, took their places awaiting the bride. Alice and Morris Cone, the niece and nephew of Miss Morris, made an aisle with white ribbons. They were followed by the maid of honor, Miss Mary L. Hagar of Burlington, who was gowned in lavender crepe de chine, carrying white chrysanthemums. Last came the bride, who was indeed attractive in her gown of white satin-finish crepe de chine, with veil of tulle and bouquet of lilies of the valley.

The impressive Episcopal service was used. Immediately at its conclusion were heard the ever joyous strains of Mendelssohn's wedding march which proved the signal for the guests of offer to Mr. and Mrs. Stevens their congratulations and good wishes

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which had the ring of cordiality and genuineness. Surely it is the sincere wish of all that a happy and useful life is before them. One of the pleasant features of the occasion was the presence of six of the college friends of Miss Morris, Miss Mary L Hagar and Miss Ada S. Platt of Burlington, Vt., Miss Virginia Lyman and Miss Florence Jackson of Englewood, N.J., Miss Julia Dwight of Boston, and Miss Anna Hazen of Smith College. These young ladies planned and executed the tasteful decorations which consisted mostly of chrysanthemums, carnations and ferns. Mr. Stevens was fortunate in securing as pianist his warm personal friend, Mr. Walter Peck Stanley, the accomplished organist of Dr. Meredith's church, Brooklyn.

Among the other guests from out of town were Mrs. Edward Lyman of Burlington, Mrs. Geo. Munsell from Cape Cod, Mr. and Mrs. E.H. Thompson from Lebanon, N.H., Miss Cate Cone from Boston, Mrs. J. Fiske from Concord, N.H.

A delicious wedding supper was served and an array of beautiful gifts also claimed the attention of the guests. Mr. and Mrs. Stevens left at 8:30 for a short wedding trip, and all were glad to remember that on their return they would still make their home in Hartford."

The Hartford Historic Preservation Commission plays

The Hartford Historic Preservation Commission

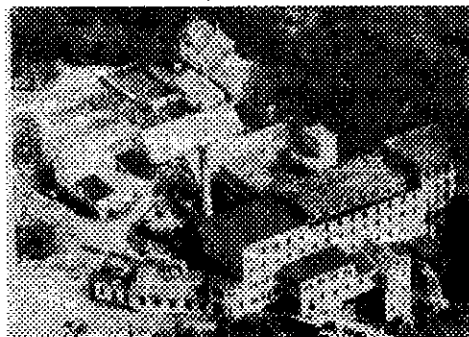
an active role in our town's history. Some of the projects we are currently involved in are a) expanding the White River Junction Historic District, b) establishing a Design Review District for Downtown to help bring in state/federal funds, c) advisory review for the Historic underpass renovation project on Bridge Street, d) creating a Christian Street Historic District between the cemetery and the Hazen farm and e) [recently] advisory review for the telecommunications tower on Runnals Road [having an impact on a Historic District was a factor in the decision to deny the permit].

The Commission is looking for two new members - if you are interested in joining us, or have any questions about it or the projects we are working on, please contact Pat Stark [295-3077] or Lori Hershfield [295-3075]

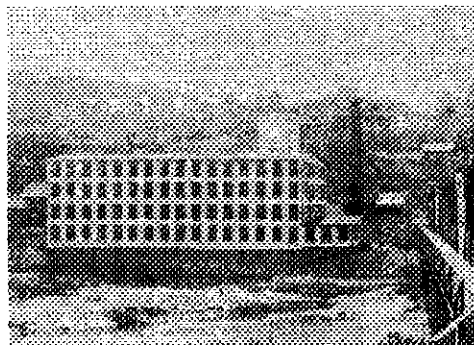
The Special Exhibit at the Garipay House this year is

Woolen Mills Exhibit

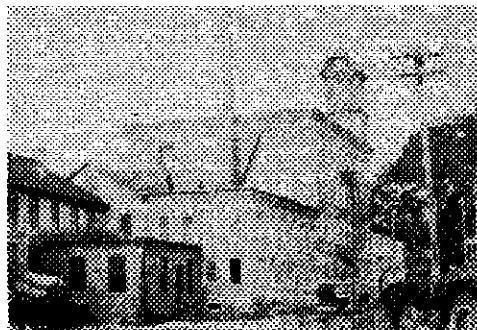
The Woolen Mills of Hartford featuring photos, products, and other artifacts of Deweys Mills, Quechee Mills and the Hartford Woolen Mill. These mills were active from the early 1800's until the 1950's and employed hundreds of workers. To view this exhibit, as well as the permanent collection, come to our open house on the first Sunday afternoon [1:30 - 4] and first Tuesday evening [6-8] of each month, or call Pat for an appointment at 295-3077 [M-F 9-4].



Dewey's Mills, Quechee



Hartford Woolen Mill



J.C. Parker Mill

Battle of Hubbardton

On July 6th and 7th, 2002, Hubbardton will be celebrating the 225th Anniversary of the Battle of Hubbardton. More than one thousand participants are expected. Many more will be viewing the reenactment of the battle.

We are asking all Vermont historical organizations to assist us in promoting the role that Vermont played during this time in the Revolutionary War. You can be an important part of a successful program. If you wish to support this effort in any way, please let us know. Your support would be a truly great contribution to this worthy project, which will make Vermont proud. We also suggest you make this request known to your membership who may wish to contribute as individuals. To learn more about activities that are planned, or to offer suggestions to help make this a success, please contact me.

Grace Calvin, President
6514 Monument Hill Road—Hubbardton
Castleton VT 05735

WANTED:

- A copy of FAST LANE ON A DIRT ROAD for our Library. If you have one you can part with, please call Pat [295-3077] or a member of the Board of Directors.
- Treasures from your attic [basement, closet, etc.] Remember that history is happening today and before you throw out that whatever, ask yourself if it has any connection with the people of our town. Of special interest are programs from local events [school, civic events, etc] and photographs. Call Pat if you have any questions.

THANK YOU.

Garipay House Update

The Garipay House projects this winter include further electrical work by Pete Schaal and a new wall & tiles for the shower [hopefully this will be a final fix of that situation, and then the kitchen ceiling can be repaired soon!] New attic windows have been donated and installed as well. Thank you.

Daniel and Olive Hazen

From "The Old and the New", Vol 2

In Jericho lived one of the fore-mothers worthy of remembrance. She lived in the town of Litchfield, Conn., in 1789, and her name was Olive. She married Daniel Hazen, and their wedding journey was taken in winter on horseback to their home in Hartford, VT. The young husband had been before into the wilderness, and with two of his brothers had taken up land in Jericho. There he built a barn, where he lived while building his house. Then he went back to Connecticut for his bride. She carried a little willow riding-whip, and when she alighted at her home she planted it by the corner of the house. There it grew to be a very large willow tree, in whose branches her great-grandchildren often played. Other trees sprang from this one, and these and the old house are still standing. We do not know whether Olive Hazen was homesick and lonely on the far-away Jericho hills, but tradition says that she ruled her household wisely and well. She was known outside her home for her skill in caring for the sick. Doctors were not numerous in those days, and her services were much in demand. In her capacity as midwife she officiated at more than one hundred births. She forded White River at night, when need was, to go to the homes of those living on the south side of the river and at Center of the Town. Her children, a daughter and three sons, lived and died long since, and her grandchildren and great-grandchildren are, many of them, still living in the town of Hartford—as long may they, with their children and grandchildren!

Next Meeting

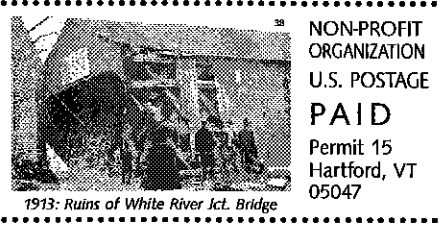
The next meeting will be Wednesday, April 10th. More details will follow in the next newsletter.

Christmas Tea

About 43 people joined officers and directors at the annual Christmas Tea. Pastor Jim Olson led many of us in singing Christmas Carols.

We thank all those who made the sandwiches and cookies and those who prepared the Garipay House for the event.

Hartford Historical Society
PO Box 547
Hartford, Vermont 05047



Partial List of Gifts

- Ice harvesting pole - Twin Pines Housing Trust
- Shepard Co. catalog featuring photos of their plumbing products, etc.—David Ford
- 3 colorful posters [Lyric, as for listen pipe tobacco, St. Anthony's memorial service] - Htfd Housing Authority
- Hartford Hilites - vol 1, Union Agreement with Hartford Woolen Co, and 2
- Lyric movie schedules - Ethel Larabee
- Local business postcards - Priscilla Gadzinski

We are also pleased to have been the recipient of many of the old books from the Gates Memorial Library - these are a valuable addition to our collections. Hartford Library has also received many of them - in particular the genealogy collections from Gates which they hope to make available after the completion of their new addition.

Officers			
Chairman: Mary Nadeau	295-2123	Secretary: David Ford	295-7105
Vice Chairman: Dot Jones	295-2701	Treasurer: Peggy McDerment	295-2357
Your Board of Directors			
Fred Bradley:	295-3819	Mary Nadeau:	295-2123
Bob Follensbee:	295-3649	Alice Hazen:	295-2481
Betty Mills:	603/436-1379	Sue Ellen Shambo:	296-2230
Newsletter:	Muriel Farrington, Editor	John Lutz, Publisher	