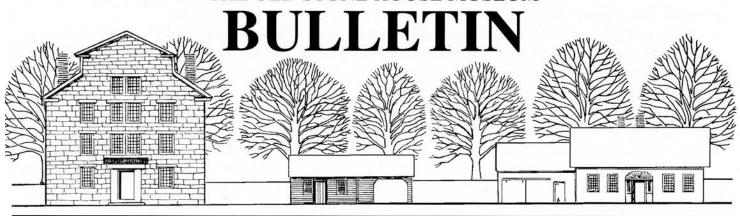
THE OLD STONE HOUSE MUSEUM



Number 125

Orleans County Historical Society, Inc. • Brownington, Vermont 05860

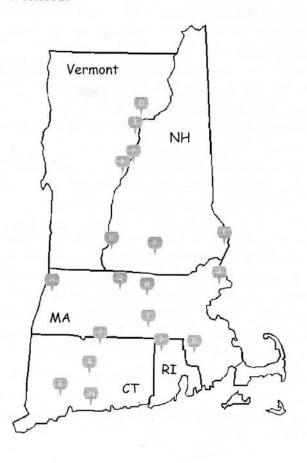
Spring 2014

Map of places in New England where Orleans County settlers originated

According to Abby Hemenway's Vermont Historical Gazetteer, the earliest settlers in Orleans County moved into the area around the beginning of the 19th century. Most moved to Vermont from Massachusetts, with New Hamsphire coming in second. Craftsbury and Greensboro were the first towns settled, and Jay was the last town settled. Many of the settlers' friends or distant family members traveled with the settlers or joined them later on at their new home. Orleans County land was granted by the Vermont legislature to various Revolutionary War sol-

diers as a reward for serving in the military. Only a few of the grantees, such as General William Barton, actually lived on the land they were given. Ten of the towns were originally granted under a different name, but the townspeople voted years later to rename them; Albany was known as Lutterloh, Charleston was Navy, Coventry was Orleans, Craftsbury was Minden, Holland was Elysiana, Lowell was Kellyvale, Morgan was Caldersburgh, Newport was Duncansboro, Troywas Missisquoi, and Westmore was Westford.

- A. Albany Nathaniel Fairfield of Wenham, MA, 1797
- B. Barton Asa Kimball of Glocester, RI, 1795
- C. Brownington Peter Clark of Lyndeborough, NH, 1796
- D. Charleston Abner Allyn of Rehoboth, MA, 1802
- E. Coventry Samuel Cobb of Westmoreland, NH, 1799
- F. Craftsbury Ebenezer Crafts of Sturbridge, MA, 1790
- G. Derby Timothy Hinman of Woodbury, CT, 1794
- H. Glover Hannah Hoyt Parker of Lanesboro, MA, 1798
- I. Greensboro Ashbel Shepard of Newbury, VT, 1789
- J. Holland Eber Robinson of Somers, CT, 1802
- K. Irasburg Capt. Benjamin Burton of Norwich, VT, 1803
- L. Jay Robert Barter of Portsmouth, NH, 1809
- M. Lowell Major William Caldwell of Barre, MA, 1803
- N. Morgan Nathan Wilcox of Killingworth, CT, 1802
- O. Newport Martin Adams of St. Johnsbury, VT, 1793
- P. Troy Samuel H. Hovey of Lyme, NH, 1803
- Q. Westfield Rodolphus Reed of Montague, MA, 1803
- R. Westmore David Porter of Hartford, CT, 1796



EVENTS & PROGRAMS

Antique Engine Show, "Raise the Roof" Barbecue & Blue Grass Jam – Sat, June 14.

Also, Classic Cars, and Postcard Exhibit. Engine Show 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Chicken Barbecue starts at 4 pm. Bring your instrument and join the Blue Grass Jam. Engine Show free, Barbecue \$12 a plate, with proceeds going toward the museum's new roof.

Annual Meeting & Picnic for Members and Volunteers - Sun, June 29, noon to 3 pm.

Join us at the Samuel Read Hall House for family activities, a brief annual meeting and lunch.

Gala Benefit Auction - Thurs, July 17, 6-9 pm

Major fund raiser for the Museum at the Eastside Restaurant in Newport. Tickets \$30. Delicious hors d'oeuvres, live music, live and silent auctions featuring unique gifts, services and experiences. A good time for a good cause!

Back Roads Readings - Sundays at 3 pm, Brownington Congregational Church, Reception at Hall House.

July 6 - Howard Norman & Ron Padgett

July 20 - Ellen Bryant Voigt

July 27 - Judith Chalmer, Miciko Oishi & Nadell Fishman

Thursday, August 7, 3 pm. At the Statehouse in Montpelier, Galway Kinnell: Celebrating a Life in Poetry Time Travelers Day Camp – Theme-Lilies and Valleys. July 28—August 1. Children 8-12 (See Story on Page 7)

CLASSES - Bring Lunch if it lasts through noon

Learn to Fly-Fish – Wed, June 4 or Sat, June 7, 10 am–2 pm

Doug Swanson will teach two beginner classes. The morning will be an introduction to fly fishing and technique. In the afternoon, we'll go outside to practice on our pond. If interested, students may then proceed to Brownington Pond for more advanced fishing. Cost is \$25 or \$20 for Museum members. Children 10 + years welcome with a parent.

<u>Timber Framing</u> – Sat, June 21 & Sun, June 22 (Two day course)

Join *Makaio Maher*, lead timber framer on our barn project, in building the timber frame for the small shed to be auctioned off at this year's Gala Auction on July 17. The class will include square rule layout, hewing and cutting of timbers with only hand tools. Cost for the weekend course is \$100 or \$85 for members. Please bring a lunch.

Hooks & Hangers - Sat, June 28, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Courtney Mead will offer this blacksmithing class for beginners. Cost \$75, \$65 members, plus \$25 materials **A Taste of Blacksmithing** – Wed, July 16 or Wed, Aug. 2, 4-8 pm

Craig Marcotte will introduce the basics, as students make a simple project. Cost \$50 or \$40 for members.

Tong Making - Sat, July 26, 9 am to 5 pm

Courtney Mead will guide students with previous blacksmithing experience in making this most essential tool. Cost \$75, \$65 members, plus \$25 materials.

Basket Making Classes with Carolyn Starr

All classes are from 10 am-2 pm. Cost is \$25 or \$20 for members plus a \$25 material fee. Bring a lunch.

Sat, June 21 - Beginners Garden Basket

Wed, June 25 - Braided Sea Grass Basket

Sat, July 19 - Brunch Bakery Basket

Wed, July 23 - Bountiful Bread Basket

HERITAGE CRAFT WEEK - July 7-13

For details and registration, check our website www.oldstonehousemuseum.org or phone for a brochure **Painted Floor Clothe** - Mon. – Fri. July 7-11, 9:30–12:00 (Five mornings) Instructor *Martha Kinney*. Cost \$50 or \$40. for members, plus a materials fee of \$85.

<u>Tin Punch</u> - Mon. July 7, 1-4pm Instructor *Martha Kinney*. Cost \$25 or 20 for members, plus a material fee of \$45. <u>Theorem Painting</u> - Tues. July 8, 1–4pm Instructor *Martha Kinney*. Cost \$25 or \$20 for members, plus a material fee of \$25.

<u>Stencil on Slate</u> - Wed. July 9, 1–4pm Instructor *Martha Kinney*. Cost \$25 or \$20 for members, plus a material fee of \$25.

<u>Wooden Handle Making</u> - Wed. July 9, 1–5pm Instructor *Sam Perron*. Cost \$30 or \$25 for members, plus a material fee of \$8.

2

Rug Hooking for Beginners - Thurs July 10, 1:00 pm—3:00 pm Instructor *Carolyn Buttolph*, Cost \$25 or \$20 for members Primitive Rug Hooking - Fri July 11, 9:30 am—4:00 pm, Instructor *Carolyn Buttolph*, Cost \$45 or \$35 for members Handmade Paper - Sat, July 12, 9:30—4:00, Instructor *Martha Kinney* Cost \$30 or \$25 for members, plus a materials fee of \$25

<u>Primitive Rug Hooking</u> - Sat, July 12, 9:30 am – 4:00 pm, Instructor *Carolyn Buttolph*. Cost \$45 or \$35 for members <u>Stone Wall Building Workshop</u> - Sat, July 12, 9:00am–4:00pm, Instructor Charles MacMartin. Cost \$75 or \$50 for members

Complete Blacksmith Course for Beginners - Sat & Sun, July 12 & 13, 9:00 am–5:00 pm, (Two day course) Instructors Courtney Mead, Wyatt Moseley and Lynn Lang. Cost \$150 or \$125 for members plus a \$25 materials fee. Vinegar Grain Painting - Sun, July 13, 9:30–4:00 pm Instructor Martha Kinney Cost \$30 or \$25 for members, plus a material fee of \$40

HERITAGE CRAFT WEEK PRESENTATIONS

<u>Primitive Rug Hooking Demonstration</u> - Thurs, July 10, 10 am–12pm This traditional folk art originated in New England and Canada over two hundred years ago. *Carolyn Buttolph* will show how simple tools and materials are still used to make hand-hooked rugs for beauty and comfort in the home. Free.

Marble dust and Sand Painting Presentation - Thurs, July 10, 7pm-8:30 pm

Martha Kinney will talk about this technique of ornamental painting that became popular in England and America during the middle 1800's. Several are on display in the museum. Marble-dust drawing was primarily an amateur activity, widely practiced particularly in the northeast. The majority seem to have been done by women although famous artists like Albert Bierstadt also made some drawings. Free.

Stones and Stories, "Stone Walls Past & Present" - Sat, July 12, 5:30pm-7:00 pm

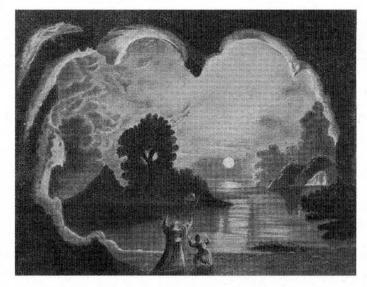
Stone walls are a part of Vermont's agricultural and social history. Charles MacMartin will explain how a wall's structure, location, and condition are all clues to our past as well as evidence of changes in our landscape today. MacMartin will lead discussion and sharing about our state's stone walls and the stories they hold. Free.

Magical dark – Vermont History Expo 2014

The Vermont History Expo 2014 will be at the Tunbridge Fairgrounds on June 21st and 22nd. The theme is "Artists and Artisans: Vermont's Creative Heritage". We will be exhibiting large_reproductions of the five marble dust drawings, sometimes called sandpaper drawings, in the museum's collection as well as a small demonstration of how the "sandpaper" is made.

Ground marble dust, which gives a unique sparkle to the drawing, is sprinkled over a wet surface of gesso, glue or white paint painted on thick paperboard and allowed to dry for a few days. Drawing with white chalk as well as with charcoal to create a marvelous deep black was perhaps one inspiration for the subjects frequently chosen: moonlit nights, magical views with a wizard, romantic castles and rivers in clouds.

The technique became popular in England and America in the mid 1800's. Instruction books were popular and found in the library of every young lady of good breeding. Marble-dust drawing was primarily an amateur activity, widely practiced particularly in the Northeast. The majority seem to have been done by women, although famous



artists like Albert Bierstadt also made some. Images were inspired by popular love stories, poetry, the graves of national heroes and the popular prints of Currier and Ives.

Our display at VT History Expo will also include three reproductions of oil paintings in the museum: a darkly beautiful landscape of Lake Willoughby and two charming primitive portraits of a boy and a girl.

Donations to the Museum April 15, 2013 to April 15, 2014

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Join the Alexander Twilight Legacy Society

by Alan Yale

When I first moved to the area, Zeke Perry was the custodian of the Old Stone House and conducted tours on demand.

I first served on the board of the Orleans County Historical Society (OCHS) between 1979 and 1985, when Ted Alexander was president of the board and Reed Cherington was the museum director. The facilities consisted of the Old Stone House and the Eaton House. There were school group tours of the Old Stone House, public tours, and Old Stone House Day in August. During that period the ell of the Twilight house was given to the society and moved onto the museum grounds between the Old Stone House and the Eaton House. It was a dream of some that eventually the society could acquire the Twilight House across the road from the museum and the Samuel Read Hall House on the corner.

After I left the board, the Society did acquire the Twilight House and farmland from the Perry's, and moved the Lawrence Barn from Albany. In 2005 it acquired the Samuel Read Hall house from the Herrick family and renovated it in 2008. With great support from the community, the society was able to pay off the mortgages and the cost of renovation of these buildings, and raise a respectable endowment.

The museum has expanded its public programming tremendously. I returned to the board in 2009. These past five years have been very busy. In 2010 an archival vault was

added to the Twilight house to provide fire-proof and humidity-controlled storage for our priceless paper archives of the county's history. The Society next took on the ambitious project of reconstructing a historic barn that had been attached to the Stone House to accommodate our expanding collection of agricultural implements.

Alan Yale

These last two projects would not have been possible if friends of the society had not remembered the Orleans County Historical Society in their wills. The bequest of Jesse Mitchell underwrote much of the cost of the barn project, with further support from the estates of William Beaudreau and Lora Atherton. Mary Joslyn's bequest helped fund the archival vault.

As treasurer of the board, I well know that the society could not provide the programming it does without a generous withdrawal from the endowment every year. It is because of my love of the history or Vermont and Orleans County that I joined the Alexander Twilight Legacy Society by including the Orleans County Historical Society in my estate planning. A larger endowment will generate more revenue to maintain the buildings and support programming that enriches the community. If you wish to help preserve the history of Orleans County, I would urge you to join the Alexander Twilight Legacy Society.

New special exhibit: Main Street Newport

The Museum's exhibit this summer will include many photos and histories of the buildings on Main Street, Newport. Don Whipple has mounted several large format historic images of Main Street and will pair them with contemporary photos of the same site in the same size. Ernestine Pepin and Sandy McKenny have done extensive

research on the history of each building site along Main Street, and have unearthed many photos of these buildings down through the years.

This exhibit, first thought of several years ago, will be quite interesting, particularly in view of the great changes coming to Newport in the near future.

What's new in OSH Museum Education?

As Museum Education welcomes one new staff member and bids farewell to another it is not the only change planned for the 2014 season. Amy Palaia, Brownington, is taking on the responsibilities for Adult Education ably performed by Reba Korban during 2013. Reba will be moving to Montpelier with her husband. Amy comes to us from the Northwoods Center and Siskin Ecological Adventures education programs. She holds a degree in education from Springfield College and taught middle school in Colorado before settling in the Northeast Kingdom with her family. We can look forward to Amy's help not only in adult ed but with some youth education programs in the future. Amy's first job will be working with instructors, registering participants and facilitating the classes. Amy's e-mail is edassistant@oldstonehousemuseum.org.

Weapplied for and received a Vermont Humanities Council grant this spring to implement the humanities related portions of the 2014 Time Travelers. This includes funding a humanities instructor and an archaeologist. This grant also will make research, lessons and activities developed for Time Travelers Camp more widely available by implementing a web site.

Containing research and methods it will be freely available to teachers and educators on a "permanent" basis. Our teaching methods are engaging. Living history and role playing seem to be effective at communicating issues and information. Our educational mission is to share and make relevant our collection, images, documents and artifacts, along with the skills they imply to the whole community. **Can you help us educate?**

We hope to commission reproductions of two artifacts in our collection to demonstrate the technology and skills they embody. Your contributions could make this happen.

- 1. A reproduction of the handsome wooden Flax Break in museum's collection will be used to demonstrate processing flax plants for spinning. A skutching board and knife were constructed in 2012 which we use frequently to teach this "lost" skill once common in Vermont, \$450. est. cost.
- 2. A replacement stone must be cut and dressed for the "Quern," and a wooden frame built to support the stones. Querns were small scale millstones which could be worked by human or animal power, where no water mills existed. \$700. est. cost.

Staff changes

Our staffhas gone through some changes recently. We have lost our youngest member, Sarah Dumas, who has worked here since 2007 as librarian, administrative assistant, web-site manager, and all around computer troubleshooter. Reba Korban, who has been the education assistant for the past year, organizing adult classes, is also leaving. Both Sarah and Reba are moving because their husbands accepted jobs out of the area. We have hired Amy Palaia as the new education assistant. She and our new collections assistant, Jenny Lauer, will also be giving tours. Our long time tour guide, shop manager and volunteer coordinator Linda Child has retired. We are sad to learn that our wonderful collection manager Liz Nelson plans to retire at the end of July. We added Ben Barnes to our staff as Restoration Carpenter, so that he can keep a constant eye on our buildings and keep up with repairs. The rest of us are still on board, Peggy Day Gibson, director, Susanna Bowman, education coordinator, Shirley Perry, Bookkeeper, and Leslie Rowell, archivist. Alyssa Hamel joins us this summer as our student intern.

!!!!! 2014's Annual Gala Benefit Auction !!!!!

Save the date: Thursday, July17 for The Old Stone House's Gala Benefit Auction. We are continuing the tradition of an evening filled with delicious food, great fun and excellent bargains, all to benefit The Old Stone House Museum. The Eastside Restaurant will host the event again and will be serving the fabulous seafood buffet. Up for bids will be another African safari, generous donations from area businesses and services as well a select group of creations by local artists and craftspeople. Come and enjoy an entertaining evening while supporting your local Museum and go home with some great items.

Tree maintenance this summer

The old sugar maples on the museum grounds took a beating in the ice storm just before Christmas. One entire tree came down on the road, and took out the power and phone lines in the neighborhood for three days.

Now that the snow has finally disappeared, we have been able to clean up the grounds. Members of our board of directors, Jane Greenwood and Dave Sargent, have been cutting and splitting the big limbs for wood raffles this year. If your zip code starts with 058, we have inserted a page of raffle tickets into your bulletin. Tickets are \$5 each, and after 100 tickets are sold, we will draw a winner for one cord, so the odds of winning are a lot better than the lottery. When the next 100 raffle tickets are sold we will draw a winner for the second cord, and so on, until we finish raffling off all of the wood. Delivery is included if the winner lives in Orleans County.

In looking over our many mature 100 year old plus maples at the museum, we see some with major weaknesses and rot, and feel fortunate that no trees have fallen on our buildings. We are planning to do major tree work this summer to prevent future damage. We are consulting with the County Foresters of the

Vermont Agency of Forests and Parks to prioritize hazard tree removal. John Morley, manager of the Orleans Village Electric Company, has offered to use the village bucket truck to take down the high branches on a few trees that we have identified as being hazards to buildings and electric wires. We will hire Aaron Chapdelaine to do the cutting closer to the ground, and our board members will keep bucking up the firewood and splitting and stacking cords for ongoing wood raffles.

We hate to remove these beautiful old trees, but the saving grace is that we are going to replant strong young saplings, with help from community volunteers and school children. We have applied for grant money to fund tree maintenance, replanting, and an education program for elementary students, developed in collaboration with the Northwoods Stewardship Center, on the history of our forests here in the Northeast Kingdom, and forest sustainability.

Intolerance to the salt spread on the roads both winter and summer may be contributing to the declining health of the maples. Near the roads we want to plant salt resistant varieties like red oak and elm, and also plant new roadside trees farther from the road.

New roof for the Old Stone House: \$3000 left to raise....

The Old Stone House Museum will get a new roof this summer. James Maxfield and his company Roofskis, who put the last cedar shingle roof on the building in 1984, will do the work. The Vermont Division of Historic Preservation has awarded the museum a \$16,000 matching grant to pay half of the cost of the new roof and restoration of the exterior of the clerestory, which is the vertical wall with horizontal siding and windows on the fourth floor between the upper and lower sections of the roof. While we have access to the roof, we will also have the chimneys inspected and repointed, if necessary, and the cornices sealed from wind driven moisture that enters the building.

The remaining \$16,000 of the estimated \$32,000 total cost of the project is being raised by donations. One of our board members has pledged \$8,000, <u>IF</u> we can raise the other \$8,000. We are well on our way, with \$2000 donated by supporters with their membership renewals, and \$3,000 donated in memory of our longtime member and friend Carolyn Washburn. We are still looking for the final \$3,000.

Proceeds from the "Raise the Roof" Barbecue and Blue Grass Jam on Saturday, June 14, at 4 p.m., after the Antique Engine Show, will go towards the new roof. Master barbecuer Phil Brown will be grilling chicken at the Hall House, and there will be potatoes and salad to go with it, and sugar on snow for desert. Tickets can be purchased at the door, for a cost of \$12 a person. Additional donations are gladly accepted.

Last season we completed wood, plaster, and window restoration in the Old Stone House, thanks to a generous grant from the Freeman Foundation through Preservation Trust of Vermont. With the new roof this year, the Old Stone House should be in great shape for many years to come. Thanks to everyone who is helping to preserve this spectacular building, which is an integral part of Orleans County history.

THE OLD STONE HOUSE MUSEUM BULLETIN

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