

Washington Historical Society Newsletter

SPRING 1998 EDITION

MUSEUM COMMITTEE REPORT

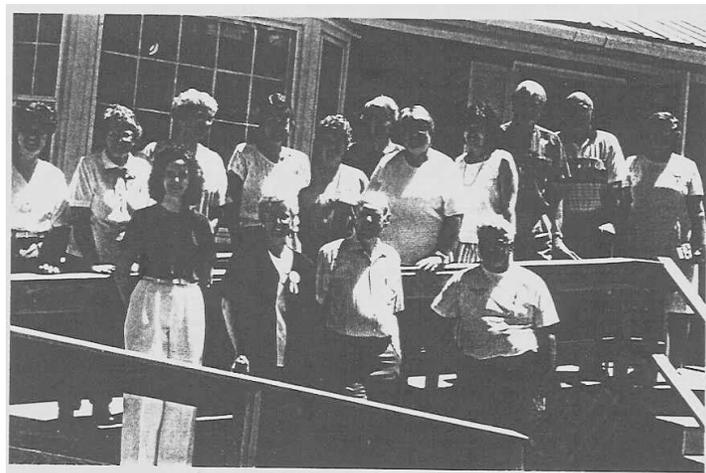
Following a successful 1997, the Museum Committee is looking forward to this year's opening of the museum and our new exhibits. We have been working throughout the winter to be ready for opening day, Saturday, July 4th.

Having help in the Museum is a wonderful help and enables us to be able to get into the building and get started setting up exhibits much earlier than in past years.

We have some interesting exhibits and plans for this season. Our Family Focus this year is the Newman Family, a truly interesting and multi-talented family. We hope you will come and learn some of the interesting things they have done. Of course, our Newman family exhibit would not be complete without exhibits on Tubbs' Union Academy, at which the Newman's taught, and Washington's own Coronet Band.

Our barn loom will be working making rugs for our gift shop and we will also have some smaller looms available for our visitors to try their hands at weaving. We also hope to have other hands-on projects. The gift shop will have many lovely items for sale, and we ask you to keep us in mind when you are looking for a special gift.

We will be inviting the children of our Washington School for a day, as we have done in the past. A program will be specially prepared for them involving the exhibits. They will be joining us at the Museum late September or early October.



Museum Volunteers
at Orientation 1997 on our new ramp and steps

back row: Bonnie Cilley, Betty Talpey, Dorothy Thompson, Ruth Collins, Shirley Siciliano, Mary Krygeris, Sue Bermudez, Nancy Jager, Marvin Jager, Dick Cilley, Gwen Gaskell.

front row: Sheila Taylor, Geri Taylor, Tom Talpey, Phil Barker.

Our volunteers are our most important asset. We could not open outdoors every weekend without them. Anyone can be a volunteer, so please let us know if you are interested in donating a few hours to the Museum. We have seen the interest grow in the amount of people who visit the Museum, and we sincerely hope this interest will continue.

Museum Committee:

Geri Taylor

Mary Krygeris

Vivian Hunter

Shirley Siciliano

CAMP MORGAN REUNION

Over a span of 50 years, hundreds of young people enjoyed a summer camping experience at Worcester, Pond in Washington, NH. In 1998, The Washington Historical Society is assisting the Camp Morgan "Nostalgia" Committee in hosting a "Return to Camp Morgan" Reunion the weekend of August 21 - 23.

We urge all Camp Morgan alumni to reserve this time to get together again and reminisce about a time and place that had such an important role in their lives.

PURLING BECK GRANGE CELEBRATION 100TH ANNIVERSARY

In 1898, Purling Beck Grange #268 was granted their charter with twenty-five original members. Some of their descendants are still active members in the Grange. The Grange is a non-profit organization that works for the good of the community.

This year, a Centennial Celebration is being planned for Saturday, July 11, 1998 in East Washington, NH. The day's events will begin with a parade at 10 am. On hand for the parade will be military units, fire and rescue vehicles, antique cars and trucks, floats, decorated bicycles, horses, etc.

Following the parade, activities, games and festivities will be held around Mirror Lake. A flea market is being planned at the Cobb residence beside the Fire Station.

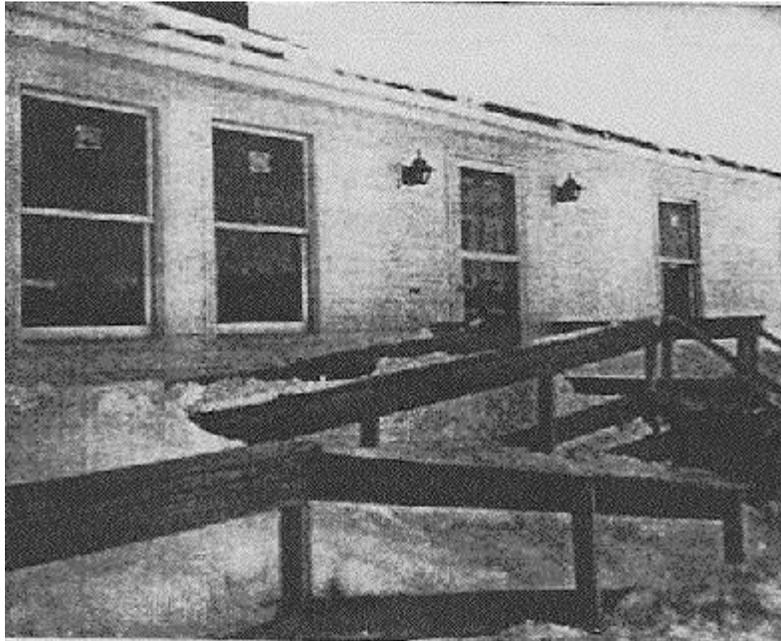
On display at the Grange Hall will be items of memorabilia and history of Purling Beck Grange and East Washington. The District #5 School House will be open that day also. Food and beverages will be available during the events. The day will conclude with a band concert by the Keene Legion Band at 2 pm.

MUSEUM BUILDING UPDATE

Thanks to the generosity and support of Society members and friends, a new heating system was installed in March of last year. Members and visitors can now use the museum in comfort year-round.

In addition, just this Spring, we have enhanced the Museum Building with new siding and front windows. Together with the handicapped accessible entrance ramp added last year, the Museum building presents a pleasing and comfortable home for all of the Society's papers, pictures and artifacts.

We encourage one and all to stop by and visit the museum this season. Check out the new improvements and view all the new displays and acquisitions.



The Museum's new look as of March 1998 with new siding and windows complimenting the ramp that was added in 1997.

GENEALOGY RESOURCE CENTER

Ten years ago or more, some of the original members of the Historical Society started indexing all the cemetery stones in Washington.

About three years ago, a devoted group of Society members began work on the project again.

They began by reviewing the work that had been done before and continued to index each stone.

The indexing includes all the information inscribed on the stone, the type and shape of the stone, and the plot number and cemetery in which it is located.

The volunteers working on this project are in the final stages of putting all the information from the cemeteries into notebooks and acquiring maps.

These notebooks and maps have been indexed to make it easier for anyone to look up people they think may be buried in Washington, and then to the correct cemetery to view the actual burial site.

Special thanks is owed to the volunteers who put so much effort into this project, under the able leadership of Jan Walsh. The volunteers are Pat Bray, Betty Brighton, Charlene Cobb, Joyce Dube, Pat Fallon, Barbara Garvin and Marty Harrion.

Come in and use this newest method to research your family history.

DID YOU KNOW?

100 years ago, in 1898, the Town of Washington paid:

\$209.49 for the care of paupers and tramps

\$8.00 for the Town water tubs

\$205.45 for Town Officers pay

\$16.50 for damage done by dogs