

DUBLIN HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Newsletter No. 5

March, 1987

DUBLIN, NEW HAMPSHIRE 03444

FOUNDED 1920

Notice of Meeting

The next meeting of members will be at 7 p.m. on Wednesday, April 8, in the Gowing Room of the Library

PROGRAM

"Through the Eye of the Camera: the Changing Rural World of New Hampshire in the Thirties", a thirty-minute film, will be shown. This film, assembled by Profs. Larry Benaquist and David Leinster of Keene State College from original footage, illustrates changes in the way life was lived in the countryside of Southwestern New Hampshire during the thirties. A sound track has been provided from taped reminiscences of people who lived through that decade.

Profs. Benaquist and Leinster will be present to comment and answer questions. Your Secretary saw this film a couple of years ago, before it was in final form, and recommends it highly.

Schedule of Later Meetings

The Trustees have voted to set a schedule of regular members' meetings for the remainder of 1987 and into 1988:

Wednesday, August 12, at 7:00 p.m.
Saturday, September 12, at 10:00 a.m.
Wednesday, October 14, at 7:00 p.m.
Wednesday, February 10, at 7:00 p.m.
Wednesday, April 13, at 7:00 p.m.

Please mark your calendars. Pat and Mary Egan have kindly invited us to hold the August meeting at French's Tavern. The other meetings, unless otherwise

1798 Dublin Town Plan - Another Welcome Gift

The last Newsletter reported the gift from the Hancock Historical Society of a portrait of the Rev. Edward Sprague. This month, the Society received from the Historical Commission of Gill, Mass., an original 1798 property map of Dublin, showing the ownership of lots and parts of lots in that year. This rare plan - only two others, both from the 1770's are known to exist - may help in the more exact dating of some of the early houses in town.

We are most grateful to the Historical Commission of Gill, Mass., and to its Chairman, Allan D. Adie, for their kindness in sending us this map. Our thanks also to Robert Weis, son of our Life Member, Elizabeth Weis, for putting the Gill Commission in touch with Bill Bauhan. If some necessary conservation work can be completed in time, the map will be on display at the meeting on April 8.

announced, will be in the Gowing Room of the Library.

These are by no means the only activities that are planned. There will, in addition, be special meetings, trips, work parties and perhaps a summer picnic (in a historic spot, of course).

Except for the Annual Meeting, which under the by-laws must be held on the second Saturday in September, each of these meetings falls on the second Wednesday of the month, which was craftily chosen as not conflicting with any other meeting of Town or Community Church organizations.

Help!

The Town Archivist (who, by a most singular coincidence, happens also to be the Society's Archivist) is back at work on the Town records, an all too large proportion of which are simply missing. So far, we have gone through everything that was in the vault at the Town Hall, in the room above the Post Office, and in the Historical Society building

If any member knows the whereabouts of any other records of the Town - in attics, cellars or private hoards - it would be a public service to put us on to them.

We are still trying to complete sets of the Town Annual Reports, even after significant contributions by Harold Clukay, Ruth Hammond and Tom Hyman. Starting with the easy ones, we need 1983, 1980, 1972, 1967, 1964 and 1962. Earlier ones are, of course, more difficult to come by. A \$25 contribution to the Society will be made in the name of anyone who comes up with the Annual Report for 1907, which seems to be something of a rarity.

For anyone who wants Annual Reports, we have a boxful of duplicates

100 Years ago - Dublin in 1887

The following Dublin events of a hundred years ago were culled from the files of *The Peterborough Transcript* as part of the research for the National Register nomination.

Jan. 13, 1887. The ice is 14 inches to 16 inches on the Lake

Feb. 3. Everything is cancelled because of the severe snowstorm.

May 19. Mr. Lewis Randolph is planting foreign and native forest trees upon the grounds of several summer residences.

June 2. Mr. James H. Frothingham and Miss Mary Anne Wales are arranging for the pumping of water to the summit of Snow Hill to their summer residences [now the Pillsbury and Louise Shonk Kelly houses].

June 16. The summer cottages are nearly all occupied. Rents have risen during the year, and 5, 6, 7 and 12 hundred dollars are obtained for well-furnished houses.

June 23. 64 persons breakfasted at the Appleton House [the old Leffingwell Hotel in the upper village].

June 30. A new catalogue of the Juvenile and Social Library has been printed. Many of the volumes antedate the oldest town library in the U.S.

July 14. The largest mail ever to go out - over 350 letters.

July 28. A change to come about: removal of the Tramp House to some more suitable place [now the "Gatehouse" at the Dublin School].

Aug. 11. About 180 persons were at the morning service at the Unitarian Church last Sunday.

Aug. 25. Milk and cream money from summer residences is to exceed \$1,200.00 this season.

Sept. 15. More building projects seem to be in flourishing condition than for a number of years:

- Mrs. Joel Hayden has plans ready for her summer cottage South of the parsonage [now the Bickford house].

- Prof Henry W Rolfe will erect a cottage on the Henry Kendall place [the present site of "Thornehill", Old Harrisville Road].

- Louis Cabot is putting in foundations for a residence upon his purchase East of Horatio Greenwood's [now Taplin house].

- Miss Ellen Mason is getting plans ready for a summer residence on Snow Hill [presently the Pools' house].

- The John Gleason place West of the Lake has been sold to Col. George E. Leighton of St Louis for \$12,000. He plans to erect a summer cottage [later the Brewster place, now Loring Catlin's house].

- The foundation for W F. Browne's third cottage is completed [on Meryman Road].

- The contract for construction of the Episcopal Chapel is nearly finished.

Sept. 29. "Temperance work is needed in Dublin"