

Hebron Historical Society Gazette

Hebron, NH

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50 cents



East Hebron Schoolchildren's Who's Who of 1936

In our first issue we presented the Who's Who written by the school children of the East Hebron school in 1936. This is a follow-up article to give the current status of these children today.

Girls

Nancy Morse - Deceased

Pauline Patton - lives in Canada

Sarah Smith (Chisolm) - lives in Concord, NH

Barbara Adams - Deceased

Betsy Merrill - lives in Hebron

Dorcas Smith - lives in Pennsylvania

Boys

William Merrill - Lives in Connecticut

George Davis - called by everyone "Joe." Currently active in the "Over the Hill Gang" that meets daily at the Hebron Village Store to solve the world's problems.

Carter Gibbs - lives in Utah

Frank Morse - lives in Wisconsin

Raymond Davis - Deceased

John Merrill - Deceased

Parker Smith - Deceased

Pike's Tavern

The first, and perhaps only, recorded tavern in Hebron was that built at the intersection of the Mayhew Turnpike (Route 3A) and North Shore Road. by Daniel Pike.

The twenty years from 1800 to 1820 saw the people of New England building turnpikes which furnished a mode of speculation to the local investors and also aided materially in the development of the country. The inhabitants of Hebron were not far behind their times for in 1803 a charter was granted for the construction of the Mayhew Turnpike.

At the beginning of the nineteenth century the main pathway to Cockermonth (later Hebron) ran up the west side of the lake. This was not the existing West Shore Road as the Ledges had to be bypassed unlike today's road. It was in 1803 that the Mayhew Turnpike was built on the east side, through East Hebron. The Turnpike was built to shorten the distance between Concord to Haverhill and other Connecticut River towns, and it also served West Plymouth. The Turnpike

was sixteen miles long and started south of Bristol at the Peasley Graveyard on Smith River and ran to the present Route 3A and Route 25 traffic circle in Plymouth.

One of the toll booths on the Turnpike was at the crossing of the Newfound River in Bristol, the other at its termination in West Plymouth. There were certain exemptions to the tolls, such as: those going to church or a funeral; those traveling in the town where they resided; and the militia, under arms, going to or returning from military duty. The toll gates were discontinued in 1840, and the road was given to the towns to maintain. The inhabitants living along the Pike did not pay the toll, but won a free right of way by doing work on the Pike. This work also helped them pay their taxes. The Turnpike greatly facilitated travel from the northern part of the State, for it was one of the direct routes from Montreal to Boston. It was also an aid to business in the region, especially to the tavern keepers. The location of the Turnpike, on the east side of the Newfound Lake, influenced the later settlers' choice of house lots. Thus, the

majority of new farms built at this time were in the hills in East Hebron near the turnpike on Pike Hill, Wade, Favor and Hunt roads, and especially at the intersections of these roads with the turnpike.

There was heavy team traffic on the Mayhew Turnpike from 1803 until about 1850, transporting northern New Hampshire products to the cities and towns further south, and bringing back manufactured products and other goods not produced on northern New Hampshire farms.

Daniel Pike had settled in about 1789 (his daughter Sally Pike was born on June 13, 1789 in Hebron) on land that was along the route the Mayhew Turnpike took in 1803. His home, built between 1789 and 1791, was near the present junction of North Shore Road and Route 3A. He enlarged his house and stable facilities and opened Pike's Tavern around 1804. Putnam Spaulding of Bridgewater bought the property

from Daniel Pike in 1822, together with adjoining land owned by Moody Pike. David McClure of Groton bought the land and buildings from Spaulding in 1837. David McClure carried on the tavern business actively until about 1850, and probably did some tavern business for several years after that but with far fewer customers. The reason he had fewer customers after 1850 was that the traffic on the Mayhew Turnpike declined sharply due to the opening of the Franklin and Bristol railroad which had been completed in 1848; another branch of this railroad was opened for traffic from Concord to Plymouth in 1850, and completed to Woodsville in 1853. With the advent of these railroads, the traffic through East Hebron greatly diminished.

According to Justin McClure (1866-1952), the McClure Tavern had stables which would take care of 50 or 60 horses. Many of the heavy teams were six and eight horse teams. The cost of caring for horses was much greater than the expense of accommodating the drivers. There is an account book of the tavern for the years 1841-1845 in the Hebron Public Library. It shows that, in addition to the accommodations for travelers, the tavern served considerable rum to some residents of Hebron and nearby towns.

Today the old Pike/McClure Tavern is called "Six Chimneys" and still stands where Daniel Pike built it in 1791.

Below is the list of patrons that kept a running tab at the McClure Tavern in 1841. Notice that there were even a number of women, which is highly unusual for the time period. Many of the people in this list lived within easy walking (staggering) distance of the tavern in East Hebron, but some came from Groton, Bristol, and even Lisbon and Wentworth which makes you wonder why they would come so far for a drink. The author suspects that the patrons from Groton, Bristol, Wentworth and Lisbon were stagecoach drivers or others who traveled to the area on a routine basis. There was a twice daily stagecoach that ran from Bristol, through East Hebron, through Hebron and terminated in Groton (the subject of a future Gazette story).

McClure Tavern Account List from 1841 with any attached notes

- Adams, John Jr.
- Bailey, Jacob
- Bartlett, Samuel
- Bean, Levi
- Beedee, William
- Berry, Nathaniel
- Boardman, John
- Brooks, Peter
- Brown, Dexter (Bristol)
- Burns, Ralph
- Carter, William
- Cawley, James
- Cilley, George
- Cilley, Henry
- Cilley, Job
- Cilley, John W.
- Coburn, Elisha
- Coburn, Hannah
- Coburn, Stephen



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Drake, Thomas
 Emerton, Ira
 Ferrin, Daniel
 Ferrin, Hezekiah
 Ferrin, Zebulon
 Flanders, Noah (Groton)
 Fletcher, Jesse (Groton)
 Fretts, Jacob
 George, Samuel (Nov)
 Gordon, Levi
 Greenleaf, Isaac
 Greenleaf, Richard
 Harriman, Thomas I.
 Hartshorn, Samuel
 Heath, Solomon
 Hobart, Asa
 Hobart, William
 Huckins, Nathan
 Hutchinson, F. I.
 Kendall, Lemuel
 Kidder, Jonathan
 Kidder, Luther
 Kidder, Martha
 Lovejoy, Stephen
 Lucas, Benjamin
 March, Palatiaah
 McClure, Mary
 McClure, Robert
 Merrill, Uriah
 Morse, Jonathan
 Noyes, Jonathan
 Nudd, Benjamin (Oct)
 Nudd, Harrison (Wentworth)
 Orcutt, Hiram
 Page, Carlos
 Perkins, David
 Perry, Allen
 Phelps, Henry (Groton)
 Philips, Noah
 Pike, Areal
 Pike, Daniel
 Pike, Rufus
 Pike, Uriah
 Prescott, Jonathan (Bristol)
 Reed, Thomas
 Richardson, Zethaniah (Lisbon)

Robinson, Richard
 Russell, Phineas
 Sanborn, Peter (Dec)
 Smith, Abraham
 Smith, Benjamin
 Smith, Benjamin H.
 Smith, Jonathan P.
 Smith, R.
 Veasey, Amos
 Walker, James
 Weeks, Daniel
 Whipple, Joseph (one bottle NE
 rum)
 Whipple, Laura (Mar-Apr)
 Whitmore, John
 Wise, Aaron
 Wise, David
 Woodburn, Enoch

***Hebron's Governor
 Nathaniel S. Berry***

Nathaniel Springer Berry was a tanner in Hebron from 1840 until 1857, and continued to live in Hebron until 1888 when he moved into his son's house in Bristol for his remaining years. In 1860 Nathaniel Berry was elected to be Governor of New Hampshire and guided the state through the turbulent Civil War years. This is his story.

Nathaniel Springer Berry was born in Bath, Me. Sept. 1, 1796. His father was one of 3 brothers who came from Scotland and settled in Bath. His mother was Betsy Springer of Swedish descent whose father Nathaniel Springer was in the Revolutionary War and killed in action. Nathaniel's father was a ship builder and was killed while repairing a brig, when Nathaniel was about six years old. This meant a boyhood of hard work

and meager educational opportunity.

When he was sixteen years old he bound himself to work during his minority for \$40 a year and his board. He was to buy his own clothes and to have six months of schooling during the year. He worked as a journeyman after learning his trade and in March, 1818, he came to Bristol and in 1820 he bought the tannery on Central St. for \$800 paying \$300 down and giving his note for the remainder. Mr. Berry continued his tannery in Bristol until 1836 when he sold to Warren White and removed to Hebron in 1840. In Hebron he continued in the tanning business with his son, William A. Berry, until he was burned out in 1857. His house sat between the Hebron Village Store and today's firehouse.

Politically Mr. Berry was highly honored. He was known for many years as "Honest Tanner Berry of Hebron". He was elected to the legislature five different times and Judge of Probate and elected Governor of New Hampshire in 1860 being inaugurated in 1861.

In the spring of 1862 he was one of 22 governors who held a consultation at Altoona on the State of the Union.

At this conference an address was prepared for President Abraham Lincoln and Governor Berry was selected to present it, which he did in a characteristic way, asking if the governors were doing all that they could do to further the Union cause. He was noted for the same

scrupulous honesty in public affairs as in his private business and in an address before the State Prohibition Convention in 1888 he stated he had never asked a man to vote for him or written a letter to secure the influence of any man on his behalf. When he was governor he had West Shore Road built around the west side road of Newfound Lake, which entailed a great deal of blasting at the "Ledges."

The last years of his life were spent in Bristol with the family of his son William Augustus where he died in 1894 at the good age of 97 years.

***The Hebron-Groton
Baseball Team History.***



This space sponsored by

Betsy & Phil Twombly

by Norton Braley

Down through the years baseball has been a favorite sport in Hebron. Ballplayers and spectators have enjoyed many hours of playing and watching Hebron teams playing various other towns in New Hampshire.

In the 1920's and 30's pickup teams became popular. Fred Barnard, Claude Jesseman, Ned Braley, Frank Hobart and Myron Braley were a few of the old timers.

As years went by into the 40's, 50's and 60's, sons and grandsons of these ballplayers also played. Usually their families were on the sidelines cheering for them.

By the late 1930's and early 40's the Second World War took so many of the young men into the military services that baseball, like so many other things, had to take a back seat.

By 1947 the servicemen had come home and interest in baseball returned. A team was put together with Buck Hobart, Arnold Barnard, Perley Hobart and Harold Hamblett as the nucleus, and with younger guys Everett Hobart, Bob Duchesne, Norton Braley and Bill Merrill helping out.

Hebron didn't have enough players to field a full team so players from Groton joined the team. Denny Matthews, Vernon Matthews, Roland Matthews, Floyd Colby sr., Lewis Albert, Edgar Albert, Ed Dunkerton and George Tansey helped to make up a very competitive team.

In 1948 the Hebron-Groton

Athletic Association was formed and joined the Tri Valley Baseball League. This league included teams from Danbury, Campton, Plymouth, Belmont, Sandwich, Warren and Woodstock.

The Tri Valley League lasted for three years and the Hebron-Groton team won the championship two years out of the three.

In the early 1950's interest in baseball in most of these towns diminished so the league folded.

Hebron-Groton continued to play an independent schedule. They played home and away games with Wolfboro, Lancaster, Boscawen, and other towns. Each Sunday from June through September games were played. For many years the ballgames were played on the Common in front of the Church in Hebron.

First base was on the side of the then dirt road facing the parsonage. Third base was in front of Hugh and Nancy Sycamore's house. Its not surprising that many windows in that house were broken, as well as, in the other buildings down the road to the present Library.

The Town of Hebron had an annual Old Home Day on the Common. Especially in the 1920's and 30's and a few into the 50's. Most of those years the baseball team played a team from a neighboring town. Quite often there was a game in the morning and a game in the afternoon.

After the Hebron-Groton Athletic Association was formed

games were played on the ball diamond on the road to Spectacle Pond across from what is now the Forest Hills development.

After a few years the Association bought land on the Sculptured Rocks Road near the old Groton school house. The team continued to play there.

By the mid 1960's many of the players were getting beyond the baseball playing age, and not enough younger ones were interested. So the Hebron-Groton team went the way of most of the neighboring town teams.

The 1970's and 80's saw a few games played but with mostly pick up teams.

In the late 1960's and later years, the few games played saw some of the second and third generation players. Mike Hobart, Frank Hobart, Mark Braley, Keith Braley, Bruce Barnard, Alan Barnard and Gordon Matthews followed their fathers and grandfathers onto the baseball field.

Now youngsters who want to play baseball join Little League teams in Bristol or Plymouth. Some continue to play in High School. A few in college. Unless they are very talented there are not many opportunities to continue playing.

For many decades baseball has been very enjoyable entertainment for Hebron and the surrounding area. Players and their fans who cheered for them have many pleasant and lasting memories.

Don't forget donations of articles or money to the Hebron

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Queries and Followups

Part of our effort to keep Hebron History alive will be to help you in your own Hebron related research. To help in that regard we will have a regular Queries column an example of which is:

Merrill, Uriah born c June 1803 in Salem, NH died April 21, 1881 in Hebron. Married Sarah Hobart. Trying to find his parents. Contact Ron at 744-1 0 4 8 , e m a i l roncollins@metrocast.net

Responders may send their data directly to the requester or they can send it to the Gazette to be published in the Followup Column.

Queries will be carried in **two** issues for a nominal charge of **\$1.00** per query.

Send your queries with a check made out to the

Hebron Historical Society

c/o

Barbara Brooks
16 Brooks Circle
Hebron, NH 03241

***Tidbits of
Hebron History
Wages and costs in the
early 1800's in Hebron***

The figures below are from the ledger of Samuel Crosby.

May 18th 1819 to Currier
Barnard and William George
10 oxen and myself one day
mending fences 0.67
altering lambs and calves 0.12
to make 11 barrels cider 1.83
and water cider 6 barrels 0.50
August 3, 1820 to Moses Hull
and Joseph M. Colleston
one day haying 1.17
November 25 to Moses Hull
one day and a part of a day
making cider 0.60
to Joseph M. Colleston one day
making cider 0.33
to my mill to making 10 barrels
cider 1.67
to Water cider 5 barrels 0.42
August 1821 the use of my
grinding stone 0.17

June 1823 Mr. Barnard to Asa
Hobart to two days work 1.17
to my self Charles & Cattle 0.75
Aug to reping half day 0.50
cash paid by Wm Hobart 0.50
to Asa Hobart one day 0.84
Sept to 28 lb of beef 1.30

Based upon these journal entries
it could be concluded that the
average wage for a day of labor
in 1825 was \$0.66. The average
yearly income was \$114.

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***Old Houses and
Barns of Hebron***

Ron Collins is compiling
histories of the remaining old
houses and barns in Hebron.
Below is a list of houses
currently being studied. The
house is named after the earliest
known owner or builder. Can
you guess who owns these
houses today? The answers will
be published in the next Gazette.

House	Date Built
Rueben Hobart	c1782
Uriah Pike	c1782
George Worthen	c1784
Abijah Wright	c1785
Samuel Hazelton	c1790
Daniel Pike	c1791
John Hazelton	c1798
Jonathan K. Pike	c1803
Jonathan Morse	c1803
Enos Ferrin	c1820
Daniel Walker	c1835

If anyone would like to
contribute information for this
book please contact Ron at 744-
1 0 4 8 o r a t
roncollins@metrocast.net.

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ask for Alice or Winnie

Yellow Day - 1881

There is a notebook in the
Hebron Historical Society
archives that includes the
following: "1881 – Sept. 6 was
called 'Yellow Day'. For
several days previous, the smell
of smoke had filled the air.
There were no clouds, but the
sun and sky were red in the
early morning. As noon
approached this changed to a
yellow, and everything to be
seen, buildings, foliage, and the
sky, assumed the same shade. It
seemed strange and weird, and
an unusual soberness rested on
everyone, as though expecting
some coming calamity. Lamps
were necessary in dwellings and
stores, cattle came to the barns
as for the night, and hens went
to roost. 2-3 days passed before
the atmosphere was as clear as
usual."

***This Space Available
for a \$20 contribution
to the
Hebron Historical Society***

Hebron Historical Society Program Events Calendar for 2003.

This calendar will be filled out as the year progresses and will be updated in each issue of the Gazette.

July 26 - Hebron Town Fair - we will have a booth there, come see us.

August - Pot Luck Supper - Program TBA

September - Annual Hebron Historical Society meeting

If you have a suggestion for a program please do not hesitate to tell us. Just call Barbara Brooks at 603-744-3597 and she'll be happy to hear your idea.

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To purchase cards contact Barbara Brooks, 16 Brooks Circle, Hebron, NH 03241, 603-744-3597 or you may buy them at the Hebron Village Store.

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Contact Ron Collins, HHS Archivist at 744-1048 to place an ad in the Gazette.

Hebron Historical Society Gazette
is published twice a year

Donations of money and historical items
are gladly accepted.

Books and Publications from the Hebron Historical Society

The Genealogies of The Early Settlers of Hebron, NH 1761-1800
written by Ronald Collins, archivist of the Hebron Historical Society. The book of 185 pages covers the lives of nearly 1500 people and is completely indexed. Price \$25.00 for non-members, \$22.50 for members.

The "Genealogies of The 19th Century Residents of Hebron, NH
written by Ronald Collins, archivist of the Hebron Historical Society. The book of 178 pages covers the lives of nearly 1600 people and is completely indexed. Price \$25.00 for non-members, \$22.50 for members.

The family names contained in these two volumes are: Adams, Ball, Barnard, Bartlett, Beede, Berry, Blood, Bowers, Braley, Browne, Butterfield, Case, Cheney, Cilley, Clement, Colburn, Colby, Crawford, Crosby, Cummings, Davis, Dustin, Estye, Farley, Farren, Fowler, Fox, George, Gilman, Goodhue, Gould, Greenleaf, Hardy, Hazelton, Heath, Hobart, Hoyt, Huckins, Jesseman, Jewell, Jewett, Johnson, Kelley, Kendall, Keyes, Kidder, Lovejoy, McClure, Melvin, Merrill, Moore, Morgan, Morse, Moses, Murch, Muzzey, Nelson, Nevens, Nevens, Norris, Noyes, Nutting, Ordway, Page, Parker, Perkins, Phelps, Pierce, Pike, Powers, Putney, Rawlins (Rollins), Remick, Roby, Rogers, Sanborn, Sealy (Cilley), Shuttuck, Smith, Vickery, Walker, Ward, Whipple, Whitmore, Wise, and Wright.

These books may be purchased directly from the Hebron Historical Society or at the Hebron Village Store, 7 North Shore Road, Hebron, NH, 603-744-8765.

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